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# Latinos in the 2016 Election: Tennessee

## *Factsheet*

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# Latinos in the 2016 Election: Tennessee

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters<sup>1</sup> and other major groups of eligible voters in Tennessee.<sup>2</sup> All demographic data are based on Pew Research Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey.<sup>3</sup>

## Hispanics in Tennessee's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Tennessee is the 27th largest in the nation. About 322,000 Hispanics reside in Tennessee, 0.6% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Tennessee's population is 5% Hispanic, the 37th largest Hispanic statewide population share nationally.
- There are 92,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Tennessee—the 30th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 6.9 million.

### Population and Electorate in the United States and Tennessee, 2014

|  | U.S.    | Tennessee | Tennessee state rank |
|--|---------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>Total population (all ages)</b>                                 |         |           |                      |
| All (thousands)  | 318,857 | 6,549     | 17                   |
| Hispanics (thousands)  | 55,251  | 322       | 27                   |
| Percent Hispanic   | 17.3    | 4.9       | 37                   |
| <b>Eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b> |         |           |                      |
| All (thousands)  | 224,963 | 4,870     | 15                   |
| Hispanics (thousands)  | 25,486  | 92        | 30                   |
| Percent Hispanic   | 11.3    | 1.9       | 45                   |
| <b>Eligibility of Hispanic population</b>                          |         |           |                      |
| Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote                    | 46.1    | 28.5      | 50                   |

Note: Percentages calculated before rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2014 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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- Some 2% of Tennessee eligible voters are Hispanic, the 45th largest Hispanic statewide eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 40%.

<sup>1</sup> Eligible voters are defined as U.S. citizens ages 18 and older. Eligible voters are not the same as registered voters. To cast a vote, in all states except North Dakota, an eligible voter must first register to vote.

<sup>2</sup> The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably. References to other races and ethnicities are to the non-Hispanic components of those populations.

<sup>3</sup> This statistical profile of eligible voters is based on the Census Bureau's 2014 [American Community Survey](#) (ACS). The ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with a sample of about 3 million addresses. The data used for this statistical profile come from the 2014 ACS Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), representing a 1% sample of the U.S. population. Like any survey, estimates from the ACS are subject to sampling error and (potentially) measurement error. More information is available on [ACS sampling strategy](#) and [associated error](#).

- Some 28% of Hispanics in Tennessee are eligible to vote, ranking Tennessee 50th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, 79% of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Tennessee and the United States, 2014

% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)

|  | U.S.    |           | Tennessee |           |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|  | All     | Hispanics | All       | Hispanics |
| <b>Total population (thousands)</b>          | 318,857 | 55,251    | 6,549     | 322       |
| <b>Eligible voter population (thousands)</b> | 224,963 | 25,486    | 4,870     | 92        |
| <b>Age</b>                                   |         |           |           |           |
| 18-29  | 21.6    | 32.9      | 20.7      | 36.9      |
| 30-44  | 24.0    | 28.6      | 24.4      | 33.1      |
| 45-54  | 17.6    | 15.9      | 17.7      | 13.5      |
| 55-64  | 16.9    | 11.6      | 17.1      | 9.5       |
| 65 and older                                 | 19.8    | 11.0      | 20.0      | 7.1       |
| <b>Millennial (ages 18-33)</b>               | 28.2    | 41.4      | 27.1      | 46.9      |
| <b>Gender</b>                                |         |           |           |           |
| Male   | 48.4    | 48.9      | 47.8      | 50.7      |
| Female                                       | 51.6    | 51.1      | 52.2      | 49.3      |
| <b>Type of citizen</b>                       |         |           |           |           |
| Citizen by birth                             | 91.4    | 75.2      | 97.8      | 73.4      |
| Naturalized citizen                          | 8.6     | 24.8      | 2.2       | 26.6      |
| <b>Language</b>                              |         |           |           |           |
| Speaks only English at home                  | 85.2    | 31.7      | 96.4      | 44.0      |
| Does not speak only English at home          | 14.8    | 68.3      | 3.6       | 56.0      |
| Speaks Spanish at home                       | 8.5     | 67.8      | 1.7       | 55.8      |
| <b>Educational attainment</b>                |         |           |           |           |
| Less than high school graduate               | 10.9    | 22.0      | 13.0      | 21.4      |
| High school graduate                         | 28.4    | 29.0      | 33.8      | 27.9      |
| Two-year degree/Some college                 | 32.7    | 33.5      | 29.8      | 32.8      |
| Bachelor's degree or more                    | 28.1    | 15.6      | 23.4      | 17.8      |
| <b>Marital status</b>                        |         |           |           |           |
| Married                                      | 49.6    | 42.5      | 51.1      | 48.8      |
| Never married                                | 29.9    | 40.1      | 26.1      | 34.7      |
| Divorced/separated/widowed                   | 20.6    | 17.4      | 22.8      | 16.5      |
| <b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>    | 23.5    | 28.7      | 24.1      | 35.2      |
| <b>Homeownership rate</b>                    | 66.7    | 55.2      | 68.7      | 52.0      |
| <b>Hispanic origin</b>                       |         |           |           |           |
| Mexican                                      | -       | 59.2      | -         | 44.8      |
| Puerto Rican                                 | -       | 14.1      | -         | 17.9      |
| Cuban  | -       | 4.6       | -         | 7.4       |
| Salvadoran                                   | -       | 2.6       | -         | 2.8       |
| Dominican                                    | -       | 3.4       | -         | 1.5       |
| Other  | -       | 16.1      | -         | 25.6      |
| <b>Household income (in 2014 \$)</b>         |         |           |           |           |
| Less than \$30,000                           | 20.7    | 22.8      | 26.9      | 27.4      |
| \$30,000-\$49,999                            | 17.2    | 19.6      | 19.9      | 18.5      |
| \$50,000-\$74,999                            | 18.7    | 20.1      | 19.5      | 23.9      |
| \$75,000-\$99,999                            | 14.0    | 14.4      | 12.6      | 10.4      |
| \$100,000 or more                            | 29.5    | 23.1      | 21.1      | 19.8      |

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. Homeownership rate and household income excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2014 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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## Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Tennessee, by Race and Ethnicity, 2014

*% of eligible voters (unless otherwise noted)*

|  | Hispanic | White | Black | Asian |
|--|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Total population (thousands)</b>          | 322      | 4,883 | 1,097 | 102   |
| <b>Eligible voter population (thousands)</b> | 92       | 3,858 | 797   | 48    |
| <b>Age</b>                                   |          |       |       |       |
| 18-29  | 36.9     | 18.8  | 27.0  | 24.4  |
| 30-44  | 33.1     | 23.5  | 27.3  | 24.9  |
| 45-54  | 13.5     | 18.0  | 17.0  | 19.8  |
| 55-64  | 9.5      | 17.6  | 16.1  | 16.0  |
| 65 and older                                 | 7.1      | 22.1  | 12.6  | 14.8  |
| <b>Millennial (ages 18-33)</b>               | 46.9     | 24.9  | 34.2  | 29.7  |
| <b>Gender</b>                                |          |       |       |       |
| Male   | 50.7     | 48.2  | 46.0  | 45.0  |
| Female                                       | 49.3     | 51.8  | 54.0  | 55.0  |
| <b>Type of citizen</b>                       |          |       |       |       |
| Citizen by birth                             | 73.4     | 99.1  | 98.5  | 29.5  |
| Naturalized citizen                          | 26.6     | 0.9   | 1.5   | 70.5  |
| <b>Language</b>                              |          |       |       |       |
| Speaks only English at home                  | 44.0     | 98.4  | 97.5  | 25.3  |
| Does not speak only English at home          | 56.0     | 1.6   | 2.5   | 74.7  |
| Speaks Spanish at home                       | 55.8     | 0.5   | 1.2   | 0.3   |
| <b>Educational attainment</b>                |          |       |       |       |
| Less than high school graduate               | 21.4     | 12.4  | 14.7  | 13.1  |
| High school graduate                         | 27.9     | 33.7  | 36.3  | 17.7  |
| Two-year degree/Some college                 | 32.8     | 28.9  | 33.2  | 25.2  |
| Bachelor's degree or more                    | 17.8     | 25.0  | 15.8  | 44.1  |
| <b>Marital status</b>                        |          |       |       |       |
| Married                                      | 48.8     | 56.1  | 27.7  | 59.3  |
| Never married                                | 34.7     | 21.1  | 48.2  | 28.6  |
| Divorced/separated/widowed                   | 16.5     | 22.7  | 24.1  | 12.1  |
| <b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>    | 35.2     | 23.9  | 23.9  | 28.0  |
| <b>Homeownership rate</b>                    | 52.0     | 73.8  | 47.0  | 74.1  |
| <b>Household income (in 2014 \$)</b>         |          |       |       |       |
| Less than \$30,000                           | 27.4     | 24.6  | 38.4  | 15.1  |
| \$30,000-\$49,999                            | 18.5     | 19.5  | 21.9  | 11.5  |
| \$50,000-\$74,999                            | 23.9     | 19.9  | 17.6  | 15.2  |
| \$75,000-\$99,999                            | 10.4     | 13.2  | 10.2  | 12.5  |
| \$100,000 or more                            | 19.8     | 22.7  | 11.9  | 45.8  |

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. High school graduate includes GEDs or equivalent. Whites, blacks and Asians include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race. Homeownership rate and household income excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2014 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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