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Factsheet

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## Latinos in the 2012 Election: Hawaii

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## Latinos in the 2012 Election: Hawaii

This profile provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters<sup>1</sup> and other major groups of eligible voters in Hawaii.<sup>2</sup> All demographic data are based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 American Community Survey.<sup>3</sup>

### Hispanics in Hawaii's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Hawaii ranks 39th in the nation.<sup>4</sup> About 121,000 Hispanics reside in Hawaii, 0.2% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- Hawaii's population is 9% Hispanic, ranking 21st in Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 71,000 Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii—ranking 31st in Hispanic eligible voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.9 million.

Table 1

#### Population and Electorate in the United States and Hawaii, 2010

	U.S.	Hawaii	Hawaii state rank
<b>Total population (all ages)</b>			
All (thousands)	309,350	1,364	40
Hispanics (thousands)	50,730	121	39
Percent Hispanic	16.4	8.9	21
<b>Total eligible voter population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b>			
All (thousands)	214,972	965	42
Hispanics (thousands)	21,509	71	31
Percent Hispanic	10.0	7.3	12
<b>Eligibility of Hispanic population</b>			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	42.4	58.4	2*

Notes: Percentages calculated before rounding. \*Rankings for "Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote" are based on the District of Columbia and the 46 states whose Hispanic samples in the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) are large enough to generate reliable estimates. All other rankings are based on the District of Columbia and the 50 states.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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<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 2010 [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 2010 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](#).

<sup>4</sup> Rankings for "Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote" are based on the District of Columbia and the 46 states whose Hispanic samples in the 2010 ACS are large enough to generate reliable estimates. All other rankings are based on the District of Columbia and the 50 states.

- Some 7% of Hawaii eligible voters are Hispanic, the 12th largest Hispanic eligible voter share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 39%.
- Nearly six-in-ten (58%) of Hispanics in Hawaii are eligible to vote, ranking Hawaii second nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. By contrast, more than more than eight-in-ten (84%) of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- Age.** More than one-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii (35%) are ages 18 to 29, similar to the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (33%) in that age range. By contrast, only 21% of all Hawaii eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship and Nativity.** Among Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii, 11% are naturalized U.S. citizens. This compares with 25% of Hispanic eligible voters in the U.S. and 14% of all eligible voters in Hawaii, but just 8% of eligible voters in the U.S. overall.
- Hispanic Origin.** Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii have a different Hispanic origin profile from Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Fewer than three-in-ten (28%) Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii are of Mexican origin, 34% are of Puerto Rican origin, and 38% claim other Hispanic origin. Among all

**Table 2**  
**Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Hawaii and the United States, 2010**

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	U.S.		Hawaii	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	309,350	50,730	1,364	121
<b>Total eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	214,972	21,509	965	71
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	21.6	32.8	21.3	34.7
30-44	24.6	29.3	24.3	28.7
45-54	19.4	16.7	18.3	17.3
55-64	16.3	10.9	16.9	10.9
65 and older	18.2	10.4	19.2	8.5
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	48.2	48.3	50.4	49.9
Female	51.8	51.7	49.6	50.1
<b>Type of citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	92.2	74.9	86.1	88.8
Naturalized citizen	7.8	25.1	13.9	11.2
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	86.2	30.7	77.8	74.2
Does not speak only English at home	13.8	69.3	22.2	25.8
<b>Educational attainment</b>				
Less than high school diploma	12.3	24.7	8.4	12.1
High school diploma or equivalent	29.1	28.6	29.8	37.2
Some college	32.4	32.5	34.8	35.7
Bachelor's degree or more	26.3	14.3	27.0	15.0
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	50.9	44.7	50.4	40.4
Never married	28.1	37.4	30.4	37.7
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.9	17.9	19.2	22.0
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	25.0	31.1	23.1	28.5
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	68.8	58.2	63.0	44.6
<b>Hispanic origin</b>				
Mexican	---	59.1	---	28.2
Puerto Rican	---	14.4	---	34.1
Cuban	---	4.8	---	0.5
Salvadoran	---	2.4	---	0.8
Dominican	---	3.1	---	0.3
Other	---	16.2	---	36.2
<b>Household income</b>				
Less than \$30,000	22.9	25.3	14.0	20.2
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.6	20.7	14.0	20.2
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.6	21.0	17.5	14.8
\$75,000-\$99,999	13.8	13.3	16.2	15.1
\$100,000 or more	25.1	19.7	38.3	29.7

Notes: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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Hispanic eligible voters nationwide, six-in-ten (59%) are Mexican, only 14% are Puerto Rican, and about a quarter (26%) are of some other Hispanic origin.

- **Educational Attainment.** About one-in-ten Latino eligible voters in Hawaii (12%) have not completed high school, slightly more than the 8% of all Hawaii eligible voters who have not completed high school.
- **Homeownership.** Less than half of Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii (45%) live in owner-occupied homes, less than the share of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (58%). Greater shares of all eligible voters in Hawaii (63%) and all eligible voters nationwide (69%) live in owner-occupied homes.

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Hawaii, by Race and Ethnicity

- Number of Eligible Voters.** Asian eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii by more than 5 to 1 and white eligible voters outnumber Hispanics by more than 3 to 1.
- Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white and Asian eligible voters in Hawaii. Some 35% of Latinos are ages 18 to 29, compared with 21% of white eligible voters and 14% of Asian eligible voters.
- Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do white eligible voters in Hawaii. Some 12% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained a high school diploma, compared with 4% of white eligible voters. A similar share of Asian eligible voters (11%) has not completed high school.

### **Homeownership.**

Hispanic eligible voters (45%) are less likely to live in owner-occupied homes than white (54%) or Asian (76%) eligible voters in Hawaii.

Table 3

### Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Hawaii, by Race and Ethnicity, 2010

(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanic	Asian	White
<b>Total population (thousands)</b>	121	517	310
<b>Total eligible voter population (thousands)</b>	71	381	260
<b>Age</b>			
18-29	34.7	13.9	21.0
30-44	28.7	21.7	22.7
45-54	17.3	18.5	18.3
55-64	10.9	18.4	20.5
65 and older	8.5	27.5	17.5
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	49.9	46.6	54.5
Female	50.1	53.4	45.5
<b>Type of citizen</b>			
Citizen by birth	88.8	71.2	96.3
Naturalized citizen	11.2	28.8	3.7
<b>Language</b>			
Speaks only English at home	74.2	62.5	92.2
Does not speak only English at home	25.8	37.5	7.8
<b>Educational attainment</b>			
Less than high school diploma	12.1	11.0	3.8
High school diploma or equivalent	37.2	27.1	20.5
Some college	35.7	31.7	38.5
Bachelor's degree or more	15.0	30.2	37.2
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Married	40.4	55.3	51.0
Never married	37.7	26.4	26.8
Divorced/separated/widowed	22.0	18.4	22.3
<b>With child younger than 18 in home</b>	28.5	20.6	19.8
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	44.6	75.7	53.8
<b>Household income</b>			
Less than \$30,000	20.2	10.9	17.2
\$30,000-\$49,999	20.2	12.0	14.1
\$50,000-\$74,999	14.8	17.1	17.7
\$75,000-\$99,999	15.1	15.9	17.1
\$100,000 or more	29.7	44.1	33.9

Notes: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Hispanics are of any race. Asians and whites include only non-Hispanics.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS sample)

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