

Latinos in the 2010 Elections: Nevada

This statistical profile provides key demographic information of Latino eligible voters in Nevada.¹ It also contains data on other major groups of eligible voters in Nevada.² All data are based on Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the Census Bureau's 2008 American Community Survey.³

Hispanics in Nevada's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Nevada is the 12th-largest in the nation. Some 672,000 Hispanics reside in Nevada.
- The population in Nevada is 26% Hispanic, the fifth-highest Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 224,000 eligible Hispanic voters in Nevada—the 12th-largest Hispanic eligible-voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.4 million.
- One-in-seven (14%) of eligible voters in Nevada are Latinos, the sixth-largest Hispanic eligible voter population share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 38%.
- One-third (33%) of Latinos in Nevada are eligible to vote, ranking Nevada 38th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. In contrast, 78% of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

Table 1
Population and Electorate in the United States and Nevada, 2008

	United States	Nevada	Nevada State Rank
Total Population (all ages)			
<i>All (thousands)</i>	304,060	2,600	35
<i>Hispanics (thousands)</i>	46,822	672	12
<i>Percent Hispanic</i>	15.4	25.9	5
Total Eligible Voter Population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
<i>All (thousands)</i>	210,696	1,655	35
<i>Hispanics (thousands)</i>	19,346	224	12
<i>Percent Hispanic</i>	9.2	13.5	6
Eligibility of Hispanic Population			
<i>Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote</i>	41.3	33.3	38

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2008 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- Age.** Nearly one-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Nevada (31%) are ages 18 to 29, equal to the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (31%) in that age range. By contrast, only 21% of all Nevada eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship.** Three-in-ten of Hispanic eligible voters in Nevada (30%) are naturalized U.S. citizens, compared with 11% of all Nevada eligible voters. Hispanic eligible voters in Nevada are less likely to be native-born citizens (70%) than are Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (74%).
- Educational Attainment.** Three-in-ten of Latino eligible voters in Nevada (29%) have not completed high school. That was greater than the rate for all Latino eligible voters—26%—and the rate for U.S. eligible voters nationwide—13%.
- Homeownership.** Six-in-ten of Hispanic eligible voters in Nevada (58%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 60% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Greater shares of all eligible voters in Nevada (64%) and all eligible voters nationwide (70%) live in owner-occupied homes.

Table 2
Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Nevada and the United States, 2008
(% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	UNITED STATES		NEVADA	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total Population (thousands)	304,060	46,822	2,600	672
Total Eligible Voter Population (thousands)	210,696	19,346	1,655	224
Age				
18-29	21.7	30.9	20.5	31.1
30-44	25.6	30.9	26.9	33.2
45-54	19.6	16.8	19.3	16.6
55-64	15.3	10.6	16.3	10.0
65 and older	17.8	10.8	17.1	9.1
Gender				
Male	48.3	49.2	50.1	50.7
Female	51.7	50.8	49.9	49.3
Type of Citizen				
Citizen by birth	92.5	74.4	89.3	70.1
Naturalized citizen	7.5	25.6	10.7	29.9
Language				
Speaks only English at home	86.9	30.2	83.2	37.0
Does not speak only English at home	13.1	69.8	16.8	63.0
Educational Attainment				
Less than high school diploma	12.9	25.8	12.6	28.6
High school diploma or equivalent	29.3	28.9	29.4	31.9
Some college	32.0	31.3	36.6	28.8
Bachelor's degree or more	25.7	14.1	21.4	10.7
Marital Status				
Married	52.0	46.5	50.2	47.9
Never married	27.2	34.7	25.8	31.9
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.8	18.8	24.0	20.2
With Child(ren) Younger Than 18 in Home	26.3	32.4	25.3	35.4
Homeownership Rate	70.0	59.8	63.6	57.6
Household Income*				
Less than \$30,000	20.4	22.9	15.7	16.0
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.1	20.4	17.7	21.3
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.9	21.3	22.0	24.6
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.7	14.4	16.9	18.3
\$100,000 or more	26.8	21.1	27.7	19.8

*Persons in households with zero or negative income excluded (less than 1% of all eligible voters in the U.S.)
 Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total due to rounding.
 Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2008 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Nevada, by Race and Ethnicity

- Number of Latino Eligible Voters.** White eligible voters outnumber Latino eligible voters in Nevada by more than 5 to 1—1.1 million whites to 224,000 Latinos.
- Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white eligible voters in Nevada. Three-in-ten of Latino eligible voters in Nevada (31%) are ages 18 to 29 compared with 18% of white eligible voters.
- Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do white eligible voters in Nevada. Some 29% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained at least a high school diploma compared with 10% of white eligible voters.
- Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters in Nevada are less likely than white eligible voters to live in owner-occupied homes—58% versus 67%.

Table 3
 Characteristics of Eligible Voters in Nevada, by Race and Ethnicity, 2008
 (% of eligible voters, unless otherwise noted)

	Hispanics	NON-HISPANICS
		White
Total Population (thousands)		
	672	1,470
Total Eligible Voter Population (thousands)		
	224	1,148
Age		
18-29	31.1	17.6
30-44	33.2	24.9
45-54	16.6	19.9
55-64	10.0	18.1
65 and older	9.1	19.5
Gender		
Male	50.7	50.7
Female	49.3	49.3
Type of Citizen		
Citizen by birth	70.1	96.4
Naturalized citizen	29.9	3.6
Language		
Speaks only English at home	37.0	94.8
Does not speak only English at home	63.0	5.2
Educational Attainment		
Less than high school diploma	28.6	9.5
High school diploma or equivalent	31.9	29.3
Some college	28.8	37.9
Bachelor's degree or more	10.7	23.3
Marital Status		
Married	47.9	52.2
Never married	31.9	22.8
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.2	24.9
With Child(ren) Younger Than 18 in Home		
	35.4	22.4
Homeownership Rate		
	57.6	67.2
Household Income*		
Less than \$30,000	16.0	14.9
\$30,000-\$49,999	21.3	17.0
\$50,000-\$74,999	24.6	21.2
\$75,000-\$99,999	18.3	16.8
\$100,000 or more	19.8	30.1

*Persons in households with zero or negative income excluded (less than 1% of all eligible voters in the U.S.)
 Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older. Percentages may not total due to rounding.
 Source: PewHispanic Center tabulations of the 2008 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf

Table 4
Population and Electorate in Nevada, by Congressional District, 2008

Congressional District	ALL (thousands)		HISPANICS (thousands)		SHARE HISPANIC (%)	
	Population	Eligible Voters	Population	Eligible Voters	Population	Eligible Voters
1	823	461	292	77	35.4	16.6
2	811	557	160	56	19.7	10.0
3	967	641	217	91	22.5	14.2

Note: Eligible voters are citizens ages 18 and older.
Source: Pew Hispanic Center compilation from U.S. Census Bureau, American Factfinder Tables B05003 and B05003I

Endnotes

- ¹ 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.
- ² The terms “Hispanic” and “Latino” are used interchangeably. References to “whites,” “blacks,” and “Asians” are to the non-Hispanic components of those populations.
- ³ This statistical profile of eligible voters in Nevada is based on the Census Bureau's 2008 [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 2008 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. Information on the ACS sampling strategy and associated error is available at http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf. An example of measurement error is that citizenship rates for the foreign born are estimated to be overstated in the Decennial Census and other official surveys, such as the ACS (see Jeffrey Passel. “[Growing Share of Immigrants Choosing Naturalization](#),” Pew Hispanic Center, Washington, D.C. (March 28, 2008)).