

Latinos in the 2010 Elections: Georgia

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

Hispanics in Georgia's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Georgia is the 10th-largest in the nation. Some 780,000 Hispanics reside in Georgia, 2% of all Hispanics in the United States.
- The population in Georgia is 8% Hispanic, the 23rd-highest Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 178,000 eligible Hispanic voters in Georgia—the 17th-largest Hispanic eligible-voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.4 million.
- Some 3% of eligible voters in Georgia are Latinos, the 29th-largest Hispanic eligible voter population share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 38%.
- One-quarter (23%) of Latinos in Georgia are eligible to vote, ranking Georgia 50th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. In contrast, 76% of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

	United States	Georgia	Georgia State Rank
Total Population (all ages)			
<i>All (thousands)</i>	304,060	9,686	9
<i>Hispanics (thousands)</i>	46,822	780	10
<i>Percent Hispanic</i>	15.4	8.1	23
Total Eligible Voter Population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)			
<i>All (thousands)</i>	210,696	6,606	9
<i>Hispanics (thousands)</i>	19,346	178	17
<i>Percent Hispanic</i>	9.2	2.7	29
Eligibility of Hispanic Population			
<i>Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote</i>	41.3	22.8	50

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.** One-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Georgia (32%) are ages 18 to 29, similar to the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (31%) in that age range. By contrast, only 23% of all Georgia eligible voters and 22% of all U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship.** One-third of Hispanic eligible voters in Georgia (34%) are naturalized U.S. citizens, compared with 4% of all Georgia eligible voters. Hispanic eligible voters in Georgia are less likely to be native-born citizens (66%) than are Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (74%).
- Educational Attainment.** Two-in-ten of Latino eligible voters in Georgia (22%) have not completed high school. That was less than the rate for all Latino eligible voters—26%—but greater than the rate for U.S. eligible voters nationwide—13%.
- Homeownership.** More than six-in-ten of Hispanic eligible voters in Georgia (63%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 60% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Seven-in-ten (70%) of all eligible voters in Georgia and eligible voters nationwide live in owner-occupied homes.

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

	UNITED STATES		GEORGIA	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
Total Population (thousands)	304,060	46,822	9,686	780
Total Eligible Voter Population (thousands)	210,696	19,346	6,606	178
Age				
18-29	21.7	30.9	22.6	31.9
30-44	25.6	30.9	28.3	36.9
45-54	19.6	16.8	19.9	16.9
55-64	15.3	10.6	14.7	7.7
65 and older	17.8	10.8	14.5	6.6
Gender				
Male	48.3	49.2	47.7	52.1
Female	51.7	50.8	52.3	47.9
Type of Citizen				
Citizen by birth	92.5	74.4	95.6	66.4
Naturalized citizen	7.5	25.6	4.4	33.6
Language				
Speaks only English at home	86.9	30.2	93.8	30.9
Does not speak only English at home	13.1	69.8	6.2	69.1
Educational Attainment				
Less than high school diploma	12.9	25.8	15.1	21.9
High school diploma or equivalent	29.3	28.9	30.3	28.6
Some college	32.0	31.3	29.6	30.1
Bachelor's degree or more	25.7	14.1	25.0	19.5
Marital Status				
Married	52.0	46.5	51.2	53.6
Never married	27.2	34.7	27.5	31.1
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.8	18.8	21.2	15.3
With Child(ren) Younger Than 18 in Home	26.3	32.4	28.4	39.7
Homeownership Rate	70.0	59.8	70.2	62.6
Household Income*				
Less than \$30,000	20.4	22.9	21.6	16.3
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.1	20.4	18.7	21.7
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.9	21.3	20.7	24.7
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.7	14.4	14.2	16.3
\$100,000 or more	26.8	21.1	24.8	21.0

*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 Georgia, by Race and Ethnicity

- Number of Latino Eligible Voters.** Among the total population in Georgia, whites outnumber Hispanics by a margin of 7 to 1. However, white eligible voters outnumber Hispanic eligible voters in Georgia by 24 to 1.
- Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than black and white eligible voters in Georgia. More than three-in-ten (32%) of Latinos are ages 18 to 29 compared with 27% of black eligible voters and 20% of white eligible voters.
- Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters have lower levels of education than do white eligible voters in Georgia. Some 22% of Hispanic eligible voters have not obtained at least a high school diploma compared with 13% of white eligible voters.
- Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters are less likely than white eligible voters in Georgia to live in owner-occupied homes—63% versus 77%.

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

	Hispanics	NON-HISPANICS		
		White	Black	Asian
Total Population (thousands)	780	5,620	2,849	275
Total Eligible Voter Population (thousands)	178	4,260	1,971	116
Age				
18-29	31.9	19.9	27.0	23.2
30-44	36.9	26.7	31.0	31.1
45-54	16.9	19.9	20.0	22.1
55-64	7.7	16.3	12.1	13.8
65 and older	6.6	17.2	9.9	9.8
Gender				
Male	52.1	48.6	45.4	47.9
Female	47.9	51.4	54.6	52.1
Type of Citizen				
Citizen by birth	66.4	98.5	96.4	24.4
Naturalized citizen	33.6	1.5	3.6	75.6
Language				
Speaks only English at home	30.9	97.2	96.6	20.0
Does not speak only English at home	69.1	2.8	3.4	80.0
Educational Attainment				
Less than high school diploma	21.9	12.9	19.5	12.0
High school diploma or equivalent	28.6	29.4	33.1	19.7
Some college	30.1	29.2	30.4	24.2
Bachelor's degree or more	19.5	28.4	17.0	44.0
Marital Status				
Married	53.6	59.0	33.5	66.6
Never married	31.1	20.3	42.9	23.9
Divorced/separated/widowed	15.3	20.7	23.6	9.5
With Child(ren) Younger Than 18 in Home	39.7	28.2	27.8	34.4
Homeownership Rate	62.6	77.3	55.3	80.9
Household Income*				
Less than \$30,000	16.3	17.7	31.1	14.5
\$30,000-\$49,999	21.7	17.3	22.2	13.3
\$50,000-\$74,999	24.7	20.5	20.6	18.0
\$75,000-\$99,999	16.3	15.0	11.9	17.3
\$100,000 or more	21.0	29.4	14.1	36.9

*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

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

Congressional District	ALL (thousands)		HISPANICS (thousands)		SHARE HISPANIC (%)	
	Population	Eligible Voters	Population	Eligible Voters	Population	Eligible Voters
	1	685	489	32	9	4.7
2	633	462	18	7	2.8	1.6
3	795	567	30	12	3.7	2.1
4	688	423	115	21	16.8	4.9
5	677	488	48	11	7.0	2.3
6	835	528	82	17	9.8	3.3
7	901	558	94	21	10.4	3.8
8	710	509	28	9	3.9	1.7
9	803	539	106	20	13.2	3.6
10	712	527	38	14	5.3	2.6
11	780	537	64	15	8.2	2.8
12	682	488	25	6	3.7	1.3
13	786	503	91	20	11.6	3.9

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 Georgia 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)).