

## Latinos in the 2010 Elections: Hawaii

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

### Hispanics in Hawaii's Eligible Voter Population

- The Hispanic population in Hawaii is the 38th-largest in the nation. Some 109,000 Hispanics reside in Hawaii.
- The population in Hawaii is 8% Hispanic, the 20th-highest Hispanic population share nationally.
- There are 62,000 eligible Hispanic voters in Hawaii—the 30th-largest Hispanic eligible-voter population nationally. California ranks first with 5.4 million.
- Some 7% of eligible voters in Hawaii are Latinos, the 12th-largest Hispanic eligible voter population share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 38%.
- Nearly six-in-ten (57%) of Latinos in Hawaii are eligible to vote, ranking Hawaii fourth nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote. In contrast, 80% of the state's white population is eligible to vote.

**Table 1**  
Population and Electorate in the United States and Hawaii, 2008

	United States	Hawaii	Hawaii State Rank
<b>Total Population (all ages)</b>			
All (thousands)	304,060	1,288	42
Hispanics (thousands)	46,822	109	38
Percent Hispanic	15.4	8.4	20
<b>Total Eligible Voter Population (U.S. citizens ages 18 and older)</b>			
All (thousands)	210,696	910	42
Hispanics (thousands)	19,346	62	30
Percent Hispanic	9.2	6.8	12
<b>Eligibility of Hispanic Population</b>			
Percent of Hispanic population eligible to vote	41.3	57.1	4

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](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf)

## Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- Age.** Some 36% of Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii are ages 18 to 29, greater than the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (31%) in that age range. By contrast, only 22% of all Hawaii eligible voters and U.S. eligible voters are ages 18 to 29.
- Citizenship.** One-in-ten of Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii (10%) are naturalized U.S. citizens, compared with 13% of all Hawaii eligible voters. Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii are more likely to be native-born citizens (90%) than are Hispanic eligible voters nationwide (74%).
- Educational Attainment.** One-in-ten of Latino eligible voters in Hawaii (11%) have not completed high school. That was less than the rate for all Latino eligible voters—26%—and the rate for U.S. eligible voters nationwide—13%.
- Homeownership.** Less than half of Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii (45%) live in owner-occupied homes, compared with 60% of all Hispanic eligible voters nationwide. Somewhat greater shares of all eligible voters in Hawaii (63%) and all eligible voters nationwide (70%) live in owner-occupied homes.

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

	UNITED STATES		HAWAII	
	All	Hispanics	All	Hispanics
<b>Total Population (thousands)</b>	304,060	46,822	1,288	109
<b>Total Eligible Voter Population (thousands)</b>	210,696	19,346	910	62
<b>Age</b>				
18-29	21.7	30.9	22.4	35.7
30-44	25.6	30.9	25.1	31.4
45-54	19.6	16.8	18.1	14.5
55-64	15.3	10.6	14.9	10.0
65 and older	17.8	10.8	19.4	8.4
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	48.3	49.2	50.8	53.0
Female	51.7	50.8	49.2	47.0
<b>Type of Citizen</b>				
Citizen by birth	92.5	74.4	87.2	90.1
Naturalized citizen	7.5	25.6	12.8	9.9
<b>Language</b>				
Speaks only English at home	86.9	30.2	79.3	73.7
Does not speak only English at home	13.1	69.8	20.7	26.3
<b>Educational Attainment</b>				
Less than high school diploma	12.9	25.8	8.3	10.6
High school diploma or equivalent	29.3	28.9	31.0	37.6
Some college	32.0	31.3	33.8	37.0
Bachelor's degree or more	25.7	14.1	26.8	14.9
<b>Marital Status</b>				
Married	52.0	46.5	51.5	41.6
Never married	27.2	34.7	30.1	40.4
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.8	18.8	18.5	18.1
<b>With Child(ren) Younger Than 18 in Home</b>	26.3	32.4	24.6	31.9
<b>Homeownership Rate</b>	70.0	59.8	63.0	44.6
<b>Household Income*</b>				
Less than \$30,000	20.4	22.9	13.0	15.9
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.1	20.4	13.1	13.4
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.9	21.3	17.6	17.3
\$75,000-\$99,999	14.7	14.4	16.9	18.4
\$100,000 or more	26.8	21.1	39.3	35.0

\*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](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf)

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

- **Number of Latino Eligible Voters.** Asian eligible voters outnumber Latino eligible voters in Hawaii by a margin of more than 5 to 1—352,000 Asians compared with 62,000 Hispanic eligible voters.
- **Age.** Latino eligible voters are younger than white and Asian eligible voters in Hawaii. More than one third (36%) of Latinos are ages 18 to 29 compared with 23% of white eligible voters and 13% of Asian eligible voters.
- **Educational Attainment.** Hispanic eligible voters in Hawaii have lower levels of education than do Asians or white voters. A majority 52% of Hispanic eligible voters have attended college or earned at least a bachelor's degree compared with 60% of Asian and 74% of white eligible voters.
- **Homeownership.** Hispanic eligible voters are less likely than white or Asian eligible voters in Hawaii to live in owner-occupied homes—45% versus 53% and 78%, respectively.

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

	Hispanics	NON-HISPANICS	
		White	Asian
<b>Total Population (thousands)</b>			
	109	317	482
<b>Total Eligible Voter Population (thousands)</b>			
	62	255	352
<b>Age</b>			
18-29	35.7	23.4	13.3
30-44	31.4	25.7	21.7
45-54	14.5	18.4	19.6
55-64	10.0	16.5	16.2
65 and older	8.4	16.0	29.2
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	53.0	56.2	46.4
Female	47.0	43.8	53.6
<b>Type of Citizen</b>			
Citizen by birth	90.1	96.3	73.5
Naturalized citizen	9.9	3.7	26.5
<b>Language</b>			
Speaks only English at home	73.7	92.3	66.2
Does not speak only English at home	26.3	7.7	33.8
<b>Educational Attainment</b>			
Less than high school diploma	10.6	3.4	11.5
High school diploma or equivalent	37.6	22.7	28.3
Some college	37.0	37.0	31.1
Bachelor's degree or more	14.9	36.9	29.1
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Married	41.6	50.7	57.1
Never married	40.4	29.8	23.9
Divorced/separated/widowed	18.1	19.5	19.0
<b>With Child(ren) Younger Than 18 in Home</b>			
	31.9	22.6	22.4
<b>Homeownership Rate</b>			
	44.6	53.1	78.0
<b>Household Income*</b>			
Less than \$30,000	15.9	13.7	11.9
\$30,000-\$49,999	13.4	15.7	11.8
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.3	18.8	16.1
\$75,000-\$99,999	18.4	15.5	15.2
\$100,000 or more	35.0	36.4	45.1

\*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: 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](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/accuracy2008.pdf)

**Table 4**  
Population and Electorate in Hawaii, by Congressional District, 2008

Congressional District	ALL (thousands)		HISPANICS (thousands)		SHARE HISPANIC (%)	
	Population	Eligible Voters	Population	Eligible Voters	Population	Eligible Voters
1	641	452	41	25	6.4	5.5
2	648	457	71	38	11.0	8.4

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

- <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 “whites,” “blacks,” and “Asians” are to the non-Hispanic components of those populations.
- <sup>3</sup> This statistical profile of eligible voters in Hawaii 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](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)).