

Hispanics in the 2008 Election: New York

New York's Hispanic population is the fourth-largest in the nation. More than 3 million Hispanics reside in New York, 7% of all Hispanics in the United States. There are 1.5 million eligible Hispanic voters in New York, 8% of all U.S. Hispanic eligible voters.¹ This fact sheet provides key demographic information on Latino eligible voters.² It also contains data on other major groups of eligible voters in New York, with comparative data for the U.S. All data are from the Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey.³

Hispanics in New York's Eligible Voter Population

- New York's population is 16% Hispanic, the eighth-highest Hispanic population share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 45%.
- 12% of eligible voters in New York are Latinos, the eighth-largest Hispanic eligible voter population share nationally. New Mexico ranks first with 38%.
- 48% of Latinos in New York are eligible to vote, ranking New York 16th nationwide in the share of the Hispanic population that is eligible to vote.

	U.S.	New York	New York State Rank
Total population (thousands)	299,398	19,306	3
Percent of the population (all ages) that is Hispanic	14.8	16.3	8
Percent of all eligible voters (citizens ages 18 and older) who are Hispanic	8.7	11.6	8
Percent of the Hispanic population (all ages) that is eligible to vote	40.6	47.8	16

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations from the 2006 American Community Survey (IPUMS 1% sample)

Characteristics of Eligible Voters

- 27% of Hispanic eligible voters in New York are ages 18 to 29, a somewhat greater share than the 21% of all New York eligible voters who are in that age range.
- A greater share of Hispanic eligible voters in New York (31%) are naturalized U.S. citizens compared with all New York eligible voters (16%). The share of New York Hispanic eligible voters (70%) who are citizens by birth is less than the share of all U.S. Hispanic eligible voters (74%) who are citizens by birth.
- 29% of Latino eligible voters in New York have not completed high school, similar to the share of all Latino eligible voters nationwide (27%). By contrast, 14% of all New York eligible voters and 14% of all eligible voters nationwide have not completed high school.
- Only 33% of New York Hispanic eligible voters live in owner-occupied homes compared with 62% of all New York eligible voters. Hispanic eligible voters in New York are less than half as likely to live in an owner-occupied home as are all eligible voters in the U.S.—33% versus 71%.

Table 2
Characteristics of Eligible Voters
in New York and the United States

	NEW YORK		UNITED STATES	
	Hispanics	All	Hispanics	All
Population (in thousands)				
Total population	3,140	19,306	44,299	299,398
Eligible voters (citizens ages 18 and older)	1,501	12,957	17,975	206,329
Percent of Eligible Voters				
Age				
18-29	27.1	21.0	31.1	21.5
30-44	30.9	26.4	31.6	26.8
45-59	24.0	27.9	22.5	28.0
60 and older	18.0	24.7	14.9	23.8
Gender				
Female	54.2	52.9	50.8	51.8
Male	45.8	47.1	49.2	48.2
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	69.5	83.9	73.6	92.7
Naturalized citizen	30.5	16.1	26.4	7.3
English-speaking ability				
Does not speak English *very well*	31.6	8.6	24.3	4.3
Speaks only English or English *very well*	68.4	91.4	75.7	95.7
Educational attainment				
Did not complete high school	29.2	13.8	27.3	14.0
Completed high school	29.9	29.9	31.6	31.2
Some college	25.3	26.7	27.8	29.8
Bachelor's degree or more	15.6	29.6	13.3	25.0
Marital Status				
Married	38.1	48.1	47.8	52.7
Never Married	39.8	32.1	33.5	26.3
Other	22.1	19.8	18.7	20.9
With child(ren) younger than 18 in home				
	28.0	25.0	33.4	26.8
In owner-occupied homes				
	32.9	61.7	60.2	70.8
Household income*				
Less than \$30,000	31.4	21.4	26.1	22.9
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.1	17.0	21.7	19.4
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.5	19.0	21.5	20.7
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.4	14.1	13.5	14.1
\$100,000 or more	18.6	28.4	17.1	22.9

*Persons in households with zero or negative income excluded (less than 1% of all eligible voters in the U.S.)
Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations from the 2006 American Community Survey (IPUMS 1% sample)

Characteristics of Eligible Voters in New York, by Race and Ethnicity

- Black eligible voters in New York slightly outnumber Hispanic eligible voters—1.8 million blacks compared with 1.5 million Hispanics.
- Latino eligible voters outnumber Asian eligible voters in New York by more than 2 to 1.
- More Latino eligible voters (29%) in New York did not complete high school compared with white (10%), black (21%) and Asian (15%) eligible voters.
- Asian eligible voters in New York are 2.5 times more likely to be naturalized citizens compared with Latino eligible voters—78% versus 31%.
- 61% of Asian eligible voters in New York live in owner-occupied homes compared with 33% of Hispanic and 40% of black eligible voters in New York.

Table 3
Characteristics of Eligible Voters in New York, by Race and Ethnicity

	Hispanics	NON-HISPANIC		
		White	Black	Asian
Population (in thousands)				
Total population	3,140	11,627	2,844	1,327
Eligible voters (citizens ages 18 and older)	1,501	8,851	1,766	635
Percent of Eligible Voters				
Age				
18-29	27.1	18.7	25.0	23.9
30-44	30.9	25.0	28.1	30.1
45-59	24.0	28.9	26.3	27.4
60 and older	18.0	27.4	20.6	18.6
Gender				
Female	54.2	52.2	55.9	50.9
Male	45.8	47.8	44.1	49.1
Type of citizen				
Citizen by birth	69.5	92.5	77.0	22.4
Naturalized citizen	30.5	7.5	23.0	77.6
English-speaking ability				
Does not speak English "very well"	31.6	3.6	2.7	40.6
Speaks only English or English "very well"	68.4	96.4	97.3	59.4
Educational attainment				
Did not complete high school	29.2	9.7	20.8	15.4
Completed high school	29.9	30.0	32.7	20.5
Some college	25.3	27.0	28.3	20.3
Bachelor's degree or more	15.6	33.4	18.2	43.8
Marital Status				
Married	38.1	53.0	28.7	59.1
Never Married	39.8	27.6	47.6	30.9
Other	22.1	19.4	23.7	10.0
With child(ren) younger than 18 in home				
With child(ren) younger than 18 in home	28.0	24.6	23.2	28.6
In owner-occupied homes				
In owner-occupied homes	32.9	71.3	40.0	60.7
Household income*				
Less than \$30,000	31.4	18.3	29.8	19.0
\$30,000-\$49,999	18.1	16.2	19.7	16.0
\$50,000-\$74,999	19.5	19.1	18.6	17.1
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.4	14.7	13.3	12.7
\$100,000 or more	18.6	31.7	18.6	35.1

*Persons in households with zero or negative income excluded (less than 1% of all eligible voters in the U.S.)

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations from the 2006 American Community Survey (IPUMS 1% sample)

Endnotes

- ¹ In this fact sheet, 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 The specific data set used to derive estimates contained in this fact sheet are from the University of Minnesota’s Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) for the 2006 American Community Survey (1% sample). Information can be found on the following Website: <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/>. The estimates in this fact sheet are subject to sampling error. Also, estimates in this fact sheet will differ from estimates that may be published by the Census Bureau because of differences between the data used by the Census Bureau and the data it has released for public use. Further information on Census data and on sampling error in the data is available at <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2006/AccuracyPUMS.pdf>.