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PRIMARY ELECTION PROFILE

NEW YORK



**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY
ELECTION:
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024**

**PROJECTED LATINO VOTE
FOR NOVEMBER 2024:
992,900**

ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES: 28

**TOTAL POPULATION (2022):
19,677,151**

**LATINO POPULATION (2022):
3,867,299**



New York has been a Democratic stronghold in presidential elections since at least 1988, with the Democratic candidates' margins of victory ranging from 4 percent to 29 percent. President Ronald Reagan was the last Republican to win the state in 1984.

In the last two presidential elections, exit polling suggests that Hispanic and white voter preferences differed. In November 2016, CNN [exit polling](#) indicated that Latino voters supported Hillary Clinton over Donald Trump by 74 percent to 23 percent, while white voters supported Trump over Clinton by 51 percent to 45 percent. Similarly, in 2020, CNN [exit polling](#) showed Latinos supporting Biden over Trump by 76 percent to 22 percent. Unlike November 2016, where white voters preferred Trump over Biden, the exit polling suggested that whites supported Biden over Trump by 50 percent to 48 percent. Nonetheless, in both 2016 and 2020, Latino support for Biden was greater than white support.

The issues of importance to New York Latinos evolve with every election cycle. For example, according to the Latino Decisions 2016 Election Eve [poll](#), immigration reform (40 percent) and

employment opportunities and economic challenges (36 percent) were the most important issues that New York Latino voters wanted politicians to address. Nearly one-quarter of New York registered voters (23 percent) said that immigration was the top issue of importance in determining whether and for whom they were going to vote in the election, with 39 percent saying it was one of the most important, and 28 percent saying it was somewhat important.

In contrast, according to the NALEO Educational Fund Election 2020 Weekly Tracking [Poll](#), nearly half (48 percent) of New York Latino registered Latinos identified responding to the COVID-19 pandemic as one of the most important issues they wanted the next president to address. Addressing racism and discrimination (27 percent), improving employment opportunities (27 percent), and lowering the costs of health care (26 percent) also ranked as more important issues for the state’s Latinos than immigration reform (17 percent). In [Election 2020](#), New York Latinos turned out in record numbers for the presidential election, with nearly 883,000 casting ballots. The turnout rate of New York Latino voting-age citizens was 55 percent, the highest rate since 2008.

However, immigration issues in New York have gained greater prominence in the public dialogue since 2022, in part due to Texas Governor Gregg Abbott’s policy of [sending migrants](#) from Texas to New York City, which he claims is a self-declared “sanctuary city” for immigrants — as a criticism of the Biden Administration’s immigration policies. One [media report](#) estimates that by mid-February 2024, Texas had sent 37,000 people to the city.

In December 2023, the mayor issued an [executive order](#) requiring charter bus companies to provide 32 hours’ advance notice of the arrival of busloads of migrants in the city. The order also limited the times of day at which migrants can be dropped off. In January 2024, Texas [sent migrants](#) to New Jersey in what appeared to be an effort to circumvent New York City’s order. In that month, New York City [sued](#) 17 bus and transportation companies for taking migrants from Texas to New York, with the city contending that the companies were violating state law by transporting the migrants with the intention of shifting the costs of their care to the city. It is unclear how issues like inflation and global instability or the public policy debate around immigration will play in mobilizing the New York Latino electorate.

Furthermore, the diversity of New York’s Latino population continues to grow. According to [Census 2020 data](#), among all U.S. states, New York is home to the largest Dominican population, which grew from 674,787 in 2010 to 867,304 in 2020, as well as the largest Ecuadorian population, which grew from 228,216 to 277,892 during the same period.¹ New York also has the second-largest population of Puerto Ricans living on the U.S. mainland and Colombians. When assessing the impact of New York’s Latino vote on Election 2024, the increasing diversity of the state’s electorate is a trend that bears watching.

¹ The Census 2020 data in this *Profile* should be understood in the context of the severe and historic undercount of the Latino population which occurred in that enumeration, where the Census Bureau’s Post-Enumeration Survey estimated a 4.99 percent national net undercount of Latinos. This undercount raises significant concerns about potential undercounts of Latinos by state and in different subgroups, as well as the actual magnitude of growth of these subgroups between 2010 and 2020.

CONGRESSIONAL RACES AND REDISTRICTING²

In February 2024, New York’s contentious and lengthy redistricting process came to an end, with the [legislature enacting maps](#) with new congressional boundaries that will govern the state’s 2024 elections. Under a ballot measure passed in 2014, New York created a State Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) comprised of four Democrats, four Republicans, and two members unaffiliated with either of the major political parties. The Commission could not garner a seven-vote majority in favor of one plan, which, under the ballot measure, [required the submission of proposed plans](#) to the state legislature. The legislature [rejected](#) the first plans submitted, and litigation was brought against the IRC, [contending that it failed](#) to fulfill an obligation to meet again and send a second set of maps to the state legislature.

In December 2023, New York’s highest court ruled that the IRC must redraw the Congressional lines by the end of February 2024. The IRC approved a new map, [which the legislature again rejected](#), leading to the adoption of the legislature’s own map at the end of February.

Much of the debate around the maps is related to [partisan gains and losses](#). However, between 2010 and 2020, New York’s Latino population [increased by over 15 percent](#), accounting for nearly two-thirds (64.5 percent) of the state’s population growth during the last decade. Despite this growth, the [data](#) relating to the voting-age Latino population of the final maps suggest that the new congressional lines did not significantly increase the opportunities for the Latino community to elect the candidates of its choice (although the redistricting also did not significantly decrease those opportunities).

In Election 2024, all six of New York’s Latino incumbent U.S. Representatives are running for re-election: Democrats Adriano Espaillat, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ritchie Torres, Nydia Velazquez, and Republicans Anthony D’Esposito and Nicole Malliotakis. The Democrats and U.S. Rep. Malliotakis face no serious opposition in either the primary or general elections.

In the 4th Congressional District, U.S. Rep. Anthony D’Esposito will likely emerge victorious in the Republican primary, but his general election contest will be one of the most [competitive races](#) in the nation, given his district’s support for Biden in 2020. His challenger is likely to be former Hempstead Town Supervisor Laura Gillen, who is seeking a rematch from the 2022 race against D’Esposito.

In the 6th Congressional District, civic education advocate Kimberly Cruz will face an uphill battle in her bid to unseat incumbent U.S. Rep. Grace Meng in the Democratic primary.

² New York’s Congressional primaries are being held on June 25, 2024. The information in this profile is based on filings with federal and state government agencies, media reports, and other political sources as of March 2024. This information may change before the primary takes place.

NEW YORK LATINO VOTER PROJECTION FOR ELECTION 2024

NALEO Educational Fund projects that nearly one million Latinos will cast ballots in the November 2024 presidential elections in New York. Our projection is based on trends in voter turnout in the past five presidential elections. Considering these trends, we project the New York Latino vote in November 2024 to increase 12.4 percent in November 2024 from 2020 turnout and represent a 13.1 percent increase from 2016.



NEW YORK

PROJECTED LATINO VOTE 2024	LATINO VOTE 2020	% CHANGE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2024	LATINO VOTE 2016	% CHANGE BETWEEN 2016 AND 2024
992,900	883,000	12.4%	878,000	13.1%

In addition, the Latino share of all New York voters in 2024 is expected to be 11.7 percent, which mirrors the Latino share in 2020 and 2016.

Our Election 2024 projection is a floor, and the actual Latino vote could exceed the projection based on the political and policy environments leading into the November election. Furthermore, one of the factors contributing to the turnout of Latinos in Election 2020 was candidate and party investment in Latino voter mobilization. This kind of investment will

continue to be crucial for the New York Latino vote in Election 2024 to match or exceed the vote of 2020. More information about New York Latino turnout can be found in the “Voter Turnout” section below and NALEO Educational Fund’s [2024 National and State Latino Voter Projections](#).

NEW YORK LATINO POPULATION 2022

	POPULATION	SHARE OF TOTAL POPULATION
All Latinos	3,867,299	19.7%
Latino Adults	2,863,185	18.2%
Latino Voting-Age Citizens	2,173,742	15.4%

NEW YORK LATINO ELECTORATE

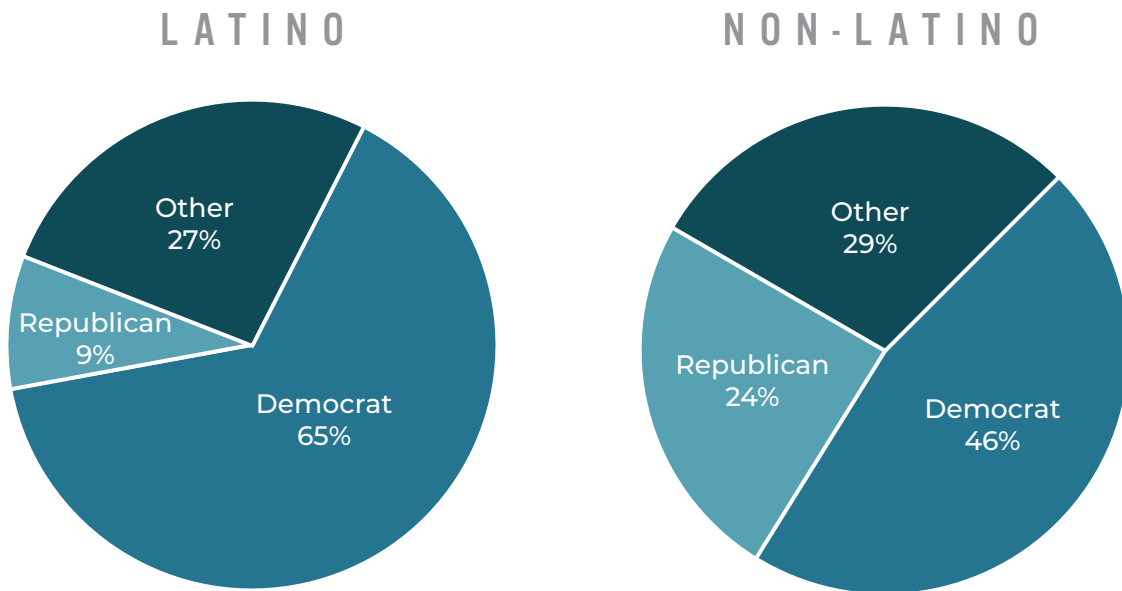
(as of September 2023,
from VAN voter file)

Total Registered Voters	11,885,465
Latino Registered Voters	1,512,402
Latino Share of Registered Voters	12.7%

More than one of every eight (12.7 percent) New York registered voters is Latino.

PARTY AFFILIATION

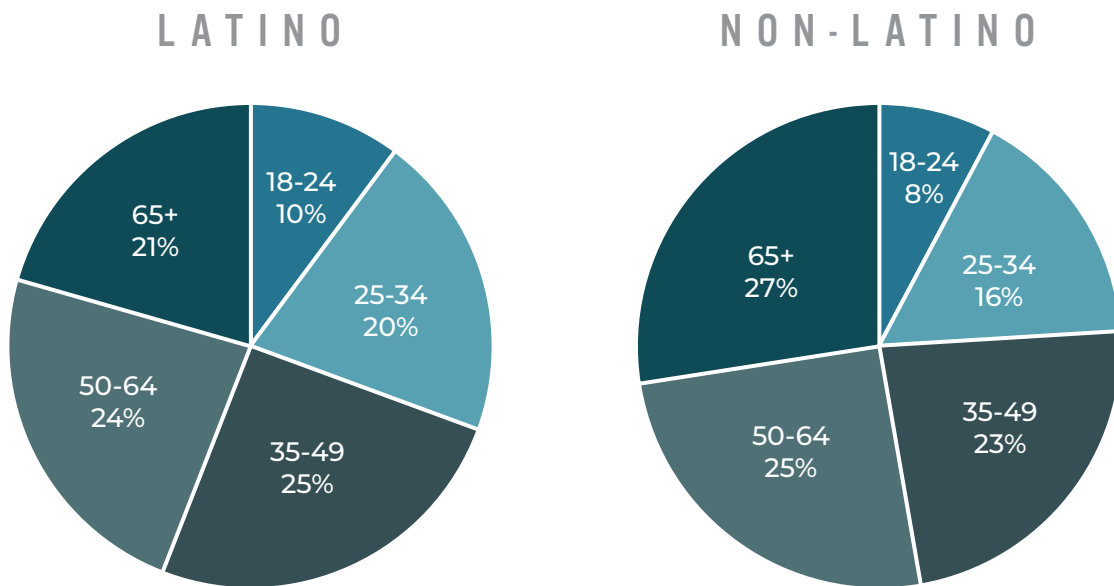
Relatively similar shares of Latinos (27 percent) and non-Latinos (29 percent) are not affiliated with either major political party. Latinos are more likely to be Democrats than non-Latinos, with 65 percent of Latinos affiliating with the Democratic Party, compared to 46 percent of non-Latinos. Latinos are less likely to be Republicans than the non-Latino electorate. Less than one of every ten Latino registered voters (9 percent) is Republican, compared to 24 percent of non-Latinos.



Totals may not add up to 100% because of rounding.

AGE

New York Latino registered voters tend to be slightly younger than non-Latinos, with 18–24-year-olds comprising 10 percent of registered Latinos, compared to 8 percent of non-Latinos. Similarly, 20 percent of Latino registered voters are 25–34-year-olds, compared to 16 percent of non-Latinos. In contrast, 52 percent of non-Latino registered voters are 50 and older, compared to 45 percent of Latinos.

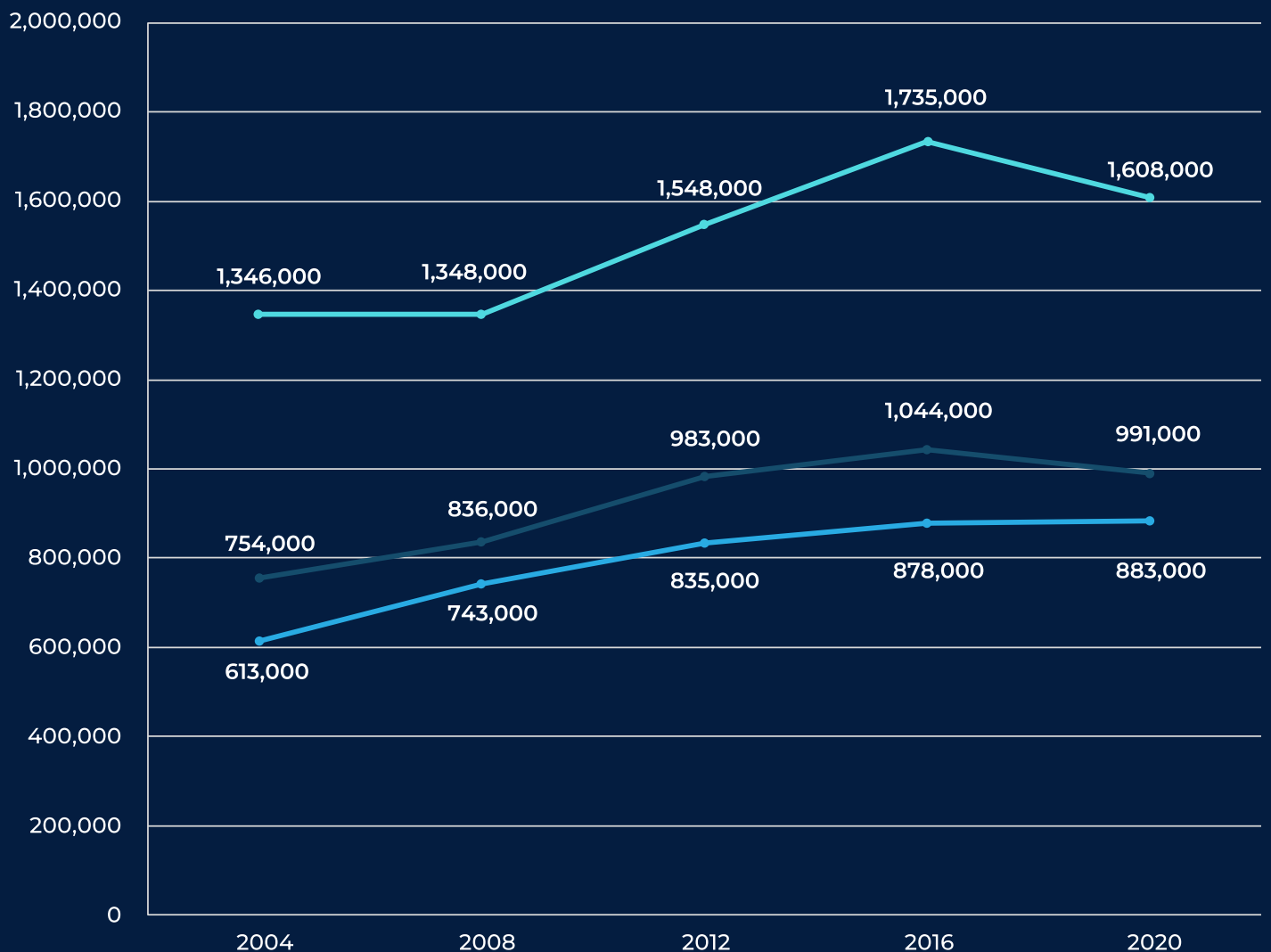


Totals may not add up to 100% because of rounding.

LATINO VOTER TURNOUT

Between 2004 and 2020, the New York Latino vote increased by 44 percent, growing from 613,000 to 883,000. Latino registered voters also have consistently high turnout rates through these presidential elections.

● VOTING AGE CITIZENS ● REGISTERED VOTERS ● ACTUAL VOTERS



LATINOS IN NEW YORK ELECTED OFFICES 1996–2021

In 2021, 186 Latinos served in elected office in New York, with 84 percent serving at the local level, including county, municipal, school board, and judicial or law enforcement officials.

NEW YORK	1996	2001	2007	2013	2021
U.S. Representatives	2	2	2	2	6
State Legislators	10	12	17	20	23*
Local Officials	65	62	45	137	157
TOTAL	77	76	64	159	186

**As of this writing, there is one Latino serving in statewide office in New York, Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado, and there are 28 Latinos serving in the New York state legislature.*

SOURCES

NALEO Educational Fund, National Directory of Latino Elected Officials, 2016–2021.

This report uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2022 American Community Survey (ACS), 1-year estimates. The ACS is conducted every year and is an ongoing survey of a sample of the population, which produces estimates of various population characteristics.

Unless indicated otherwise, the source of the voting and registration data in this profile is the Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey (CPS) and its *Voting and Registration in the Elections of November: 2000–2020* report. The CPS data used in this profile and the survey from which they are derived are subject to certain limitations. First, actual voter turnout and registration may be overestimated by the CPS because individuals may tend to over-report electoral participation. Additionally, the CPS is a national survey, and estimates derived for smaller subgroups within the national population may be based on relatively small sample sizes. Consequently, the margin of error associated with estimates of voting and registration for these subgroups is greater than the margin associated with the national population or larger population subgroups.

NGP Voter Activation Network (VAN) voter file data, September 2023: VAN data are subject to some limitations regarding collecting, entering, maintaining, and analyzing voter file records. All estimates are of Registered Active Voters.

For more information about NALEO Educational Fund’s publications about the Latino population or Election 2024, please contact Dorian Caal at dcaal@naleo.org or (213) 765-9450.