



Hispanic Margin of Victory Project

The Power of The Hispanic Electorate

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The LIBRE Institute works to elevate the individual and provide policy alternatives to those that would advance government as the default cure to every social deficiency.

The LIBRE Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan and nonprofit organization that raises public awareness and serves as a source of information on pressing issues, primarily to the US Hispanic community. The LIBRE Institute promotes the benefits of a free and open society. We believe these ideas lead to effective solutions that address our nation's fiscal challenges, and improve the overall well-being of our communities.

Through partnerships with community leaders, policy experts, and public officials across the country, the LIBRE Institute is the gateway to get informed about the many challenges that currently face our nation and the Hispanic community. Together, we can work to protect the values that for generations have allowed people everywhere to aspire, take action, and achieve the American Dream—because we know that freedom drives progress.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November, Hispanics will head to the polls to cast their votes in key federal races in one of the most defining election cycles in recent history. The candidates running in these elections have every reason to engage with the Latino electorate, as the number of Hispanics eligible to vote will reach a record high of 27.3 million, according to the Pew Research Center's most recent figures.

This development is no surprise. As the US Hispanic population grows in number, so too does its influence on American politics. And while voter turnout in this community is still below the national average, it is a young population whose ability to change the outcome of elections will only grow stronger as it ages. Latinos are the nation's second-largest population group, making up more than one of every six residents and, perhaps even more remarkably, nearly one-quarter of the of the nation's under-eighteen population. Hispanic millennials this year will make up nearly half of the record 27.3 million Hispanic eligible voters. This data signals to eager politicians across the ideological spectrum that the influence of the Latino electorate is an ever-growing force. The numbers speak for themselves. Candidates who ignore the Hispanic electorate will do so at their own peril.

Due to the large share of Hispanics eligible to vote, the US electorate this year will also be the nation's most racially and ethnically diverse. Nearly one-in-three (31 percent) eligible voters on Election Day will be a racial or ethnic minority group according to Pew's projections—up from 29 percent in 2012. For this reason, both sides of the aisle have a powerful incentive, if not an outright necessity, to reach out to and connect with this growing electorate. Hispanic voters may be a deciding vote this year on a number of races, possibly determining which party controls Congress and the White House.

The 2016 Hispanic Margin of Victory Project (Hispanic MVP) report estimates the likely number of Hispanic voters in 2016 and identifies competitive races where the projected turnout is larger than the previous margin of victory. This is based on US Census voting figures from the last three most recent presidential elections as well as the Cook Political Report's ratings of upcoming House and Senate races.

The 2016 Hispanic MVP report by the LIBRE Institute analyzes thirteen races (eleven in the US House and two in the US Senate) where the Hispanic vote is estimated to largely influence their outcome.

Voter turnout estimates for 2016 are calculated using a forecast model based on the turnout rate over the last three presidential elections for each particular geographical area. Additional details may be found in the report's Methodology section.

This analysis of the Hispanic electorate in 2016 promotes a better understanding of the role that the Hispanic electorate can play in influencing elections and the direction of the nation both this year and in those to come. This report illustrates that not only will Hispanics play a role in selecting the next president, but they will also be critical in deciding who the new president will be negotiating with in Congress.

2016 HISPANIC MVP RACES

U.S. HOUSE	#
Arizona CD-1	6
Arizona CD-2	7
California CD-7	9
California CD-10	10
California CD-21	11
California CD-25	12
Colorado CD-6	14
Florida CD-26	16
Illinois CD-10	19
Nevada CD-4	21
Texas CD-23	24

U.S. SENATE	#
Florida	17
Nevada	22

U.S. PRESIDENCY	#
Nationwide	26



ARIZONA

Arizona—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 1

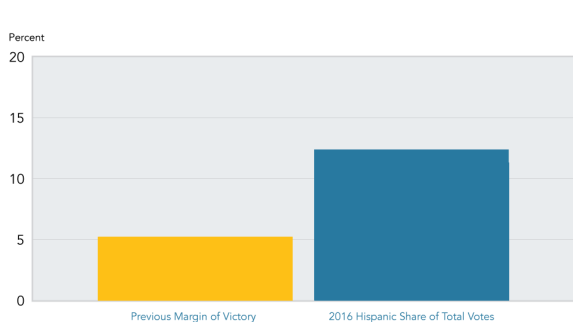
This November, an estimated 34.7 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Arizona. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 35,452 ballots and represent 12.4 percent of the total vote in CD-1. This 12.4 percent is more than two times greater than the previous 5.2 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Tom O'Halleran (D)

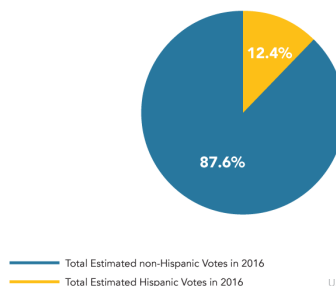
Paul Babeu (R)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 18.6%



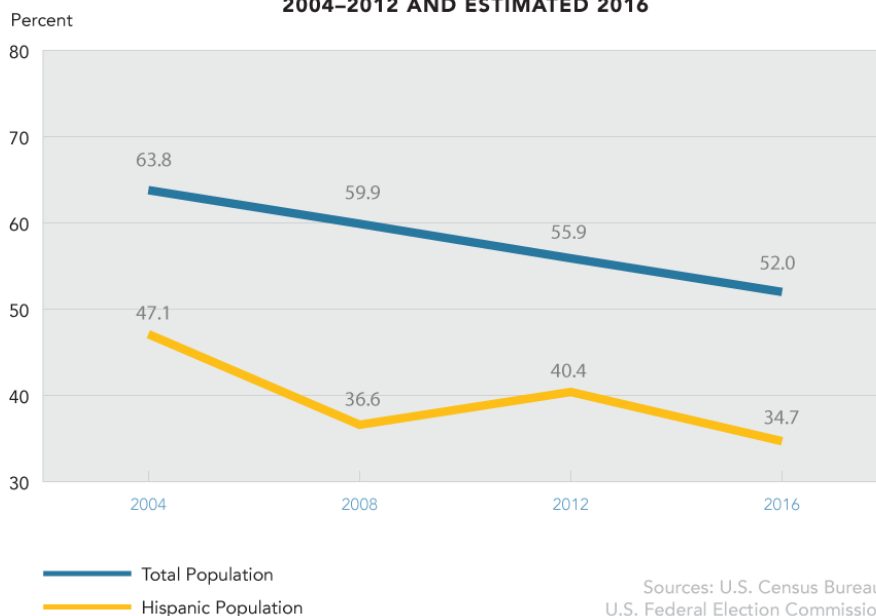
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

PROJECTED VOTES BREAKDOWN



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

STATEWIDE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TURNOUT 2004–2012 AND ESTIMATED 2016



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

Arizona—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 2

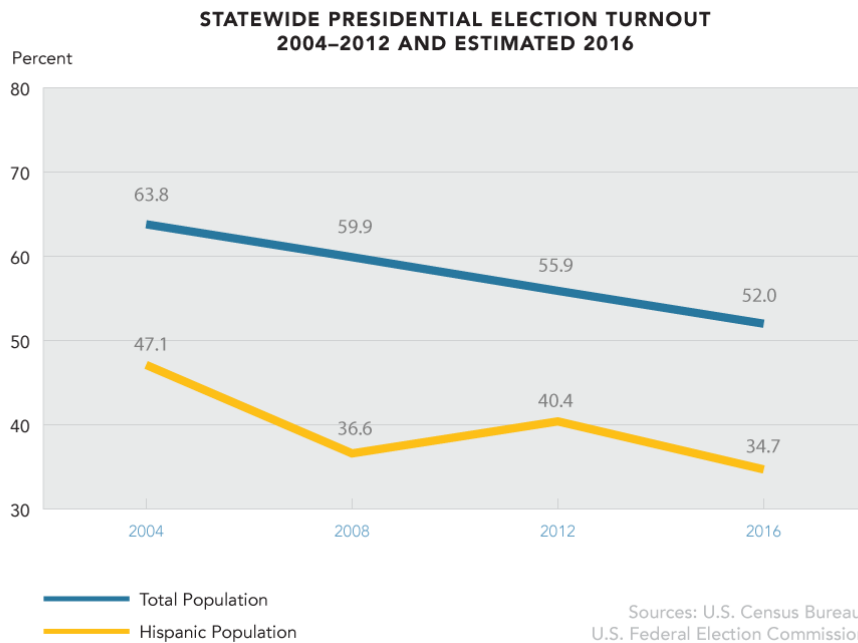
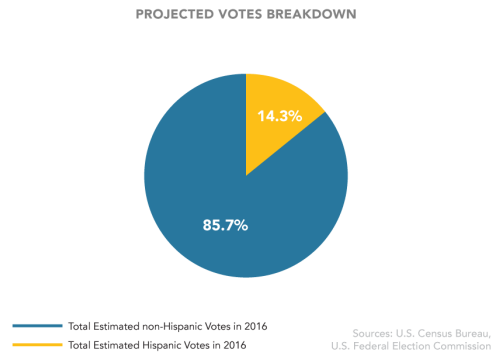
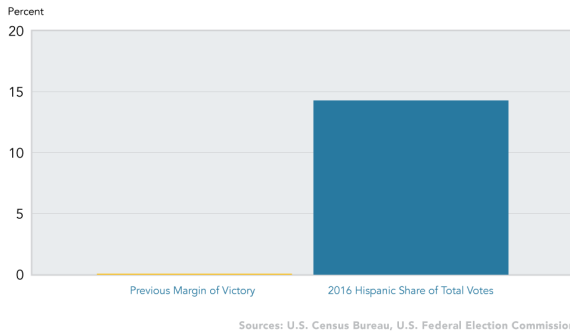
This November, an estimated 34.7 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Arizona. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 39,793 ballots and represent 14.3 percent of the total vote in CD-2. This 14.3 percent is more than 200 times greater than the previous less than one percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Martha McSally (R), incumbent

Matt Heinz (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 21.4%





CALIFORNIA

California—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 7

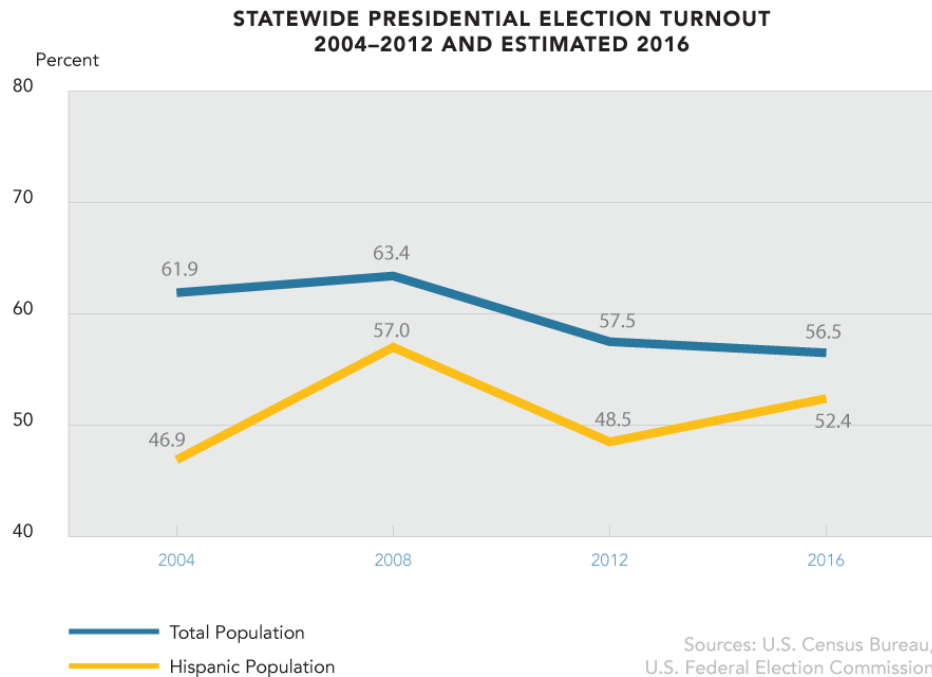
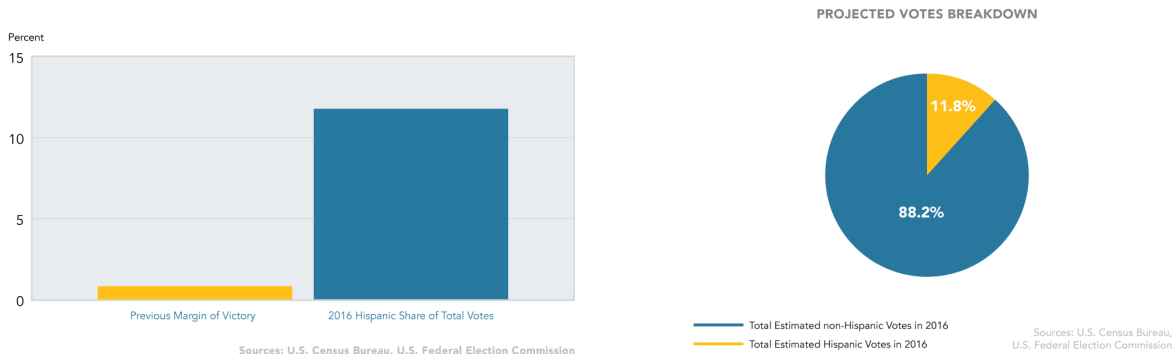
This November, an estimated 52.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in California. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 35,008 ballots and represent 11.8 percent of the total vote in CD-7. This 11.8 percent is more than fourteen times greater than the previous 0.8 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Ami Bera (D), incumbent

Scott Jones (R)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 12.7%



California—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 10

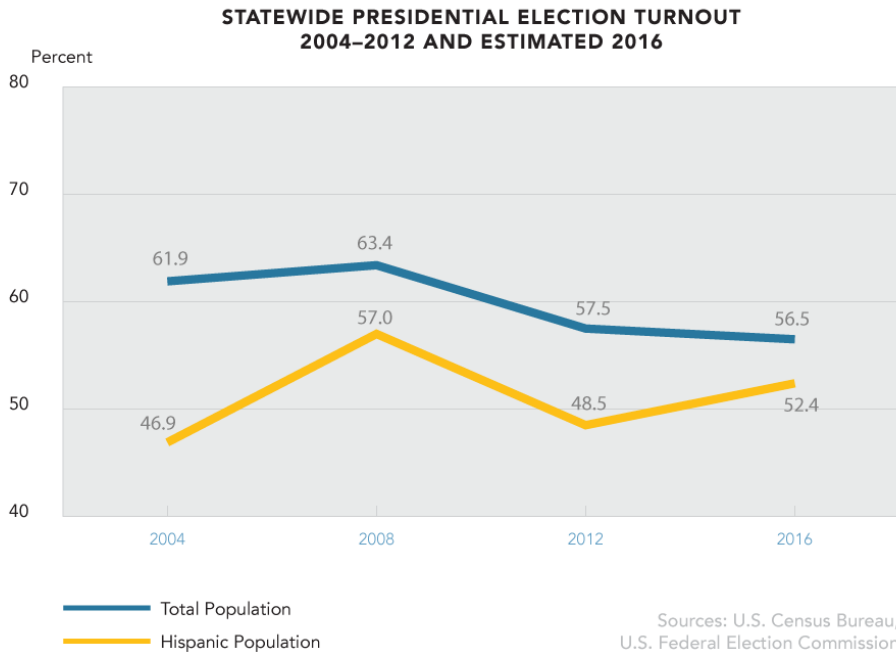
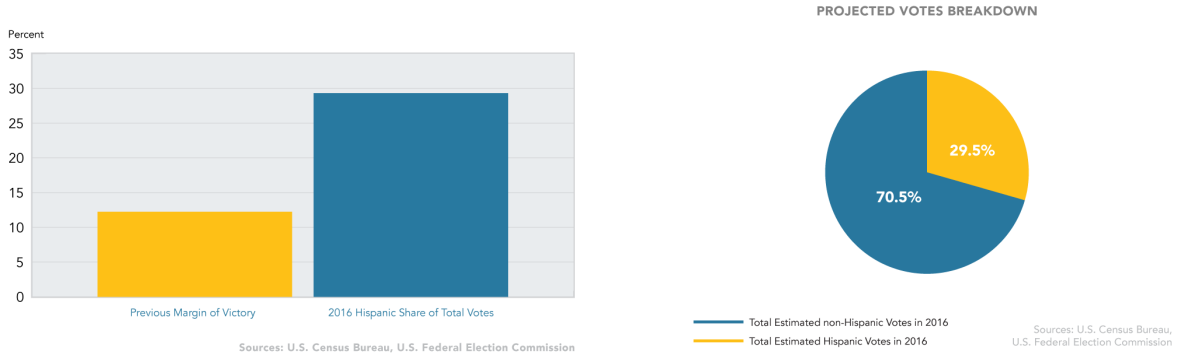
This November, an estimated 52.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in California. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 77,088 ballots and represent 29.5 percent of the total vote in CD-10. This 29.5 percent is more than two times greater than the previous 12.3 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Jeff Denham (R), incumbent

Michael Eggman (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 31.8%



California—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 21

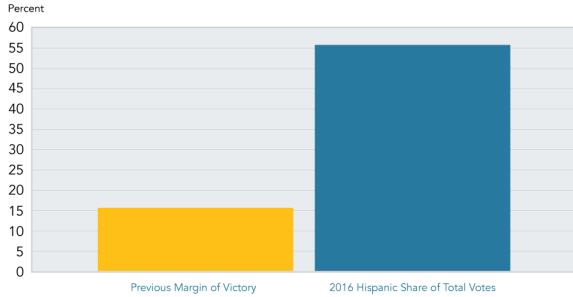
This November, an estimated 52.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in California. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 108,426 ballots and represent 55.8 percent of the total vote in CA-21. This 55.8 percent is more than three times greater than the previous 15.6 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

David Valadao (R), incumbent

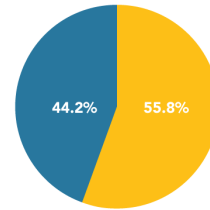
Emilio Huerta (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 60.3%



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

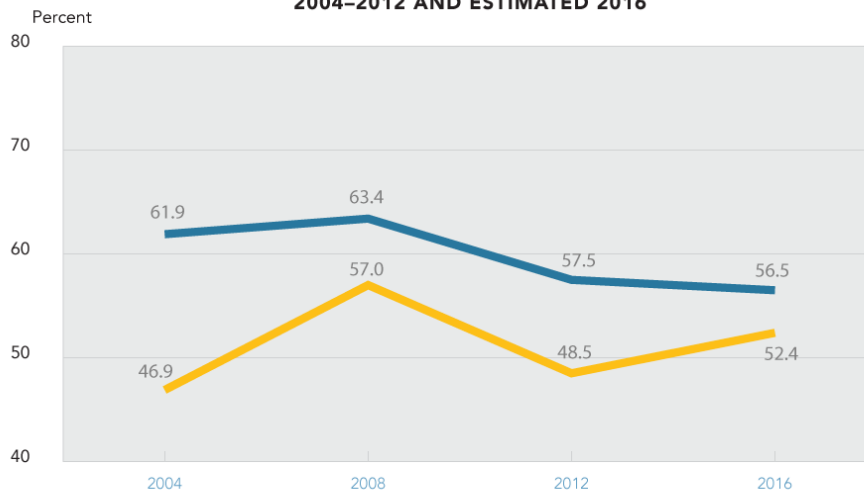
PROJECTED VOTES BREAKDOWN



— Total Estimated non-Hispanic Votes in 2016
— Total Estimated Hispanic Votes in 2016

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

STATEWIDE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TURNOUT 2004–2012 AND ESTIMATED 2016



— Total Population
— Hispanic Population

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

California—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 25

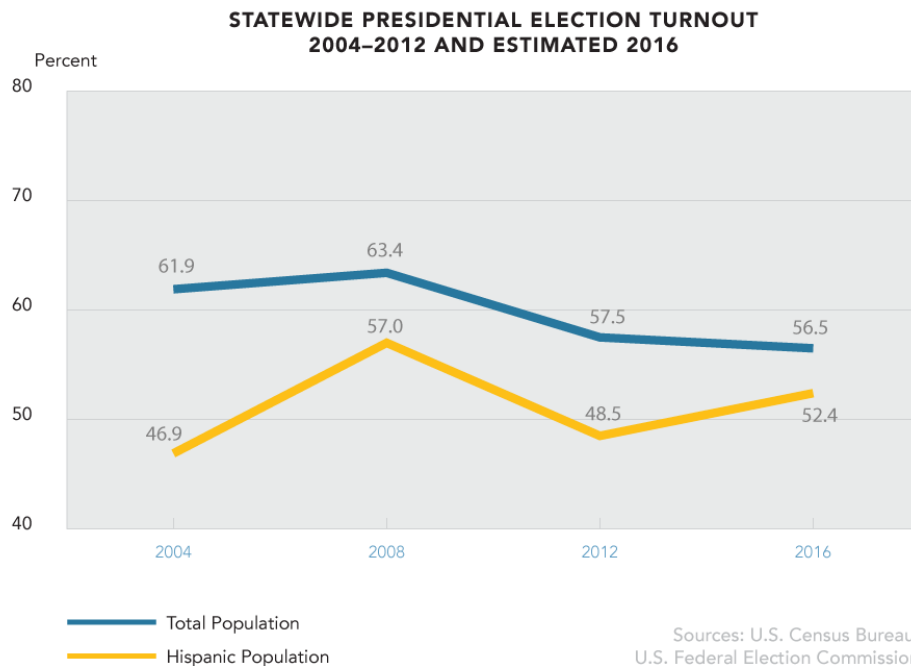
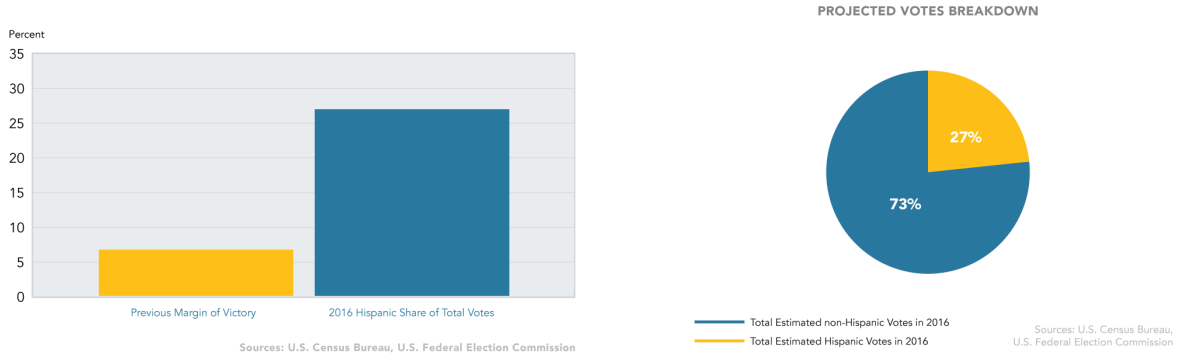
This November, an estimated 52.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in California. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 72,939 ballots and represent 27 percent of the total vote in CD-25. This 27 percent is nearly four times greater than the previous 6.7 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Steve Knight (R), incumbent

Bryan Caforio (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 29.1%





COLORADO

Colorado—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 6

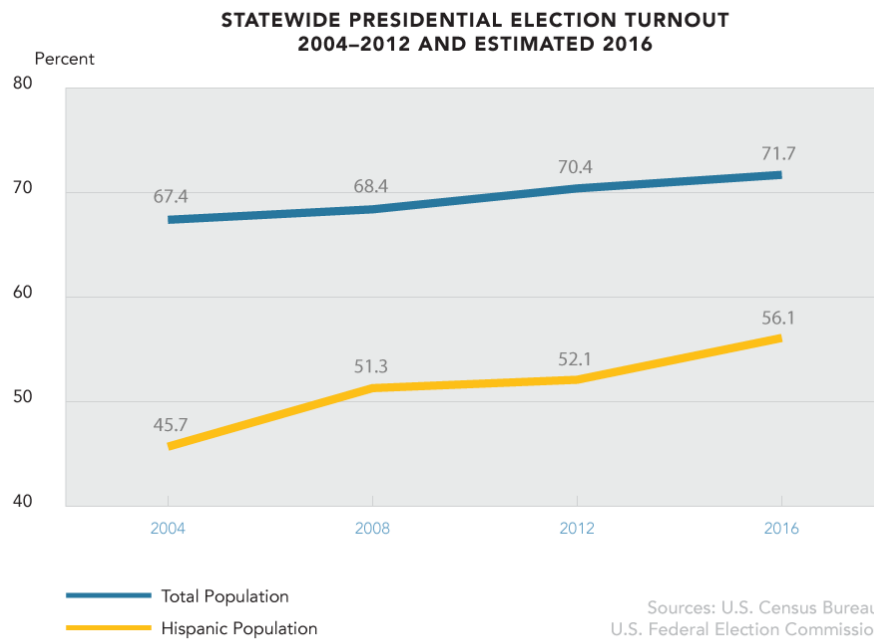
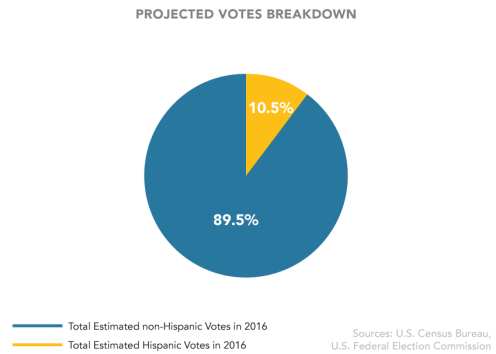
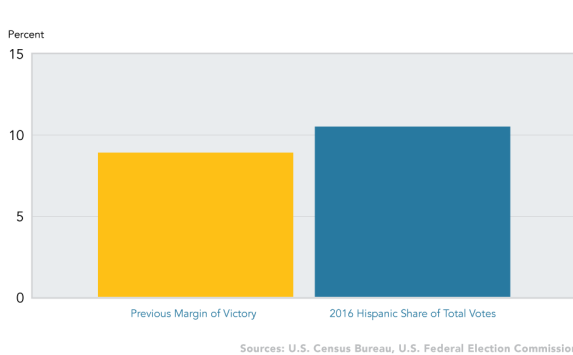
This November, an estimated 56.1 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Colorado. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 40,221 ballots and represent 10.55 percent of the total vote in CD-6. This 10.5 percent is greater than the previous 8.9 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Mike Coffman (R), incumbent

Morgan Carroll (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 13.4%





FLORIDA

Florida—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 26

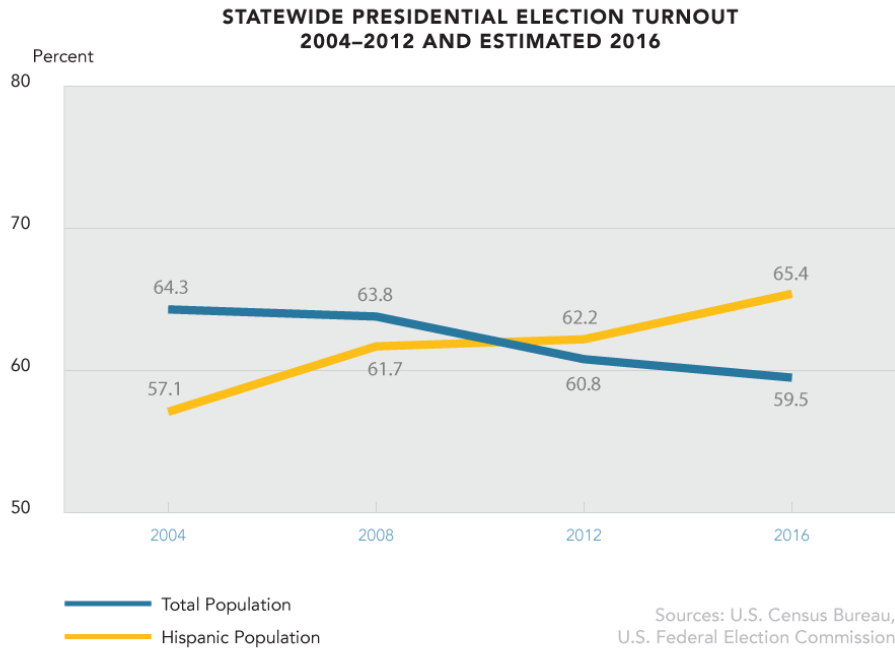
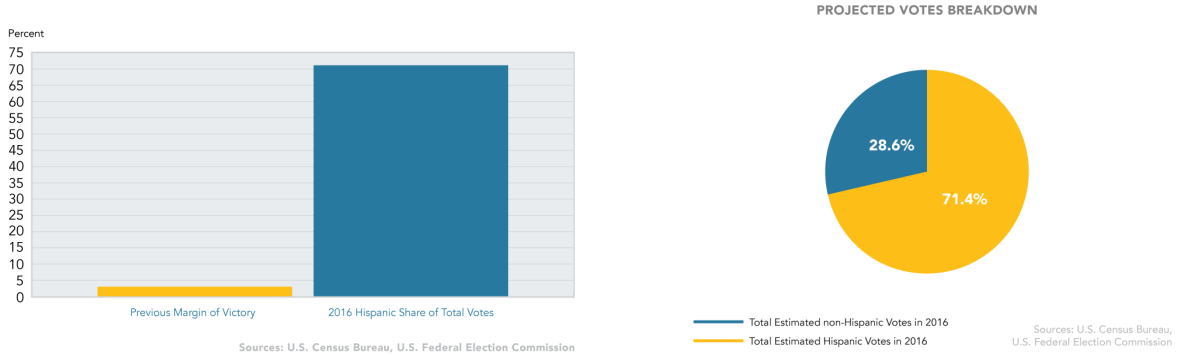
This November, an estimated 65.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Florida. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 203,558 ballots and represent 71.4 percent of the total vote in CD-26. This 71.4 percent is more than twenty-four times greater than the previous 2.9 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Carlos Curbelo (R), *incumbent*

Joe Garcia (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 64.9%



Florida—U.S. SENATE

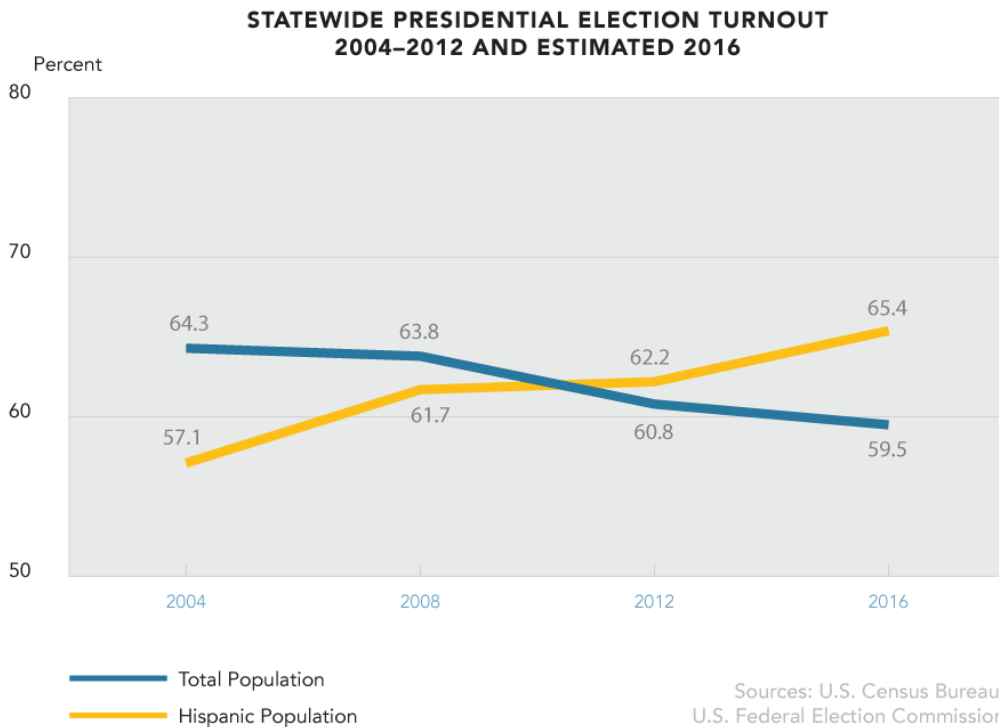
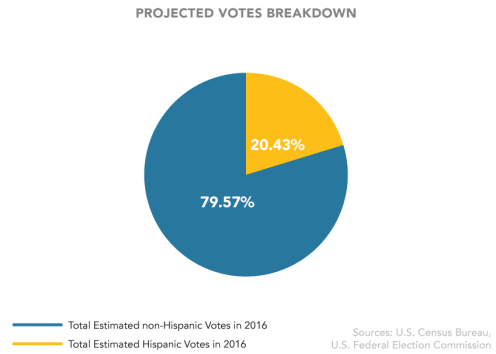
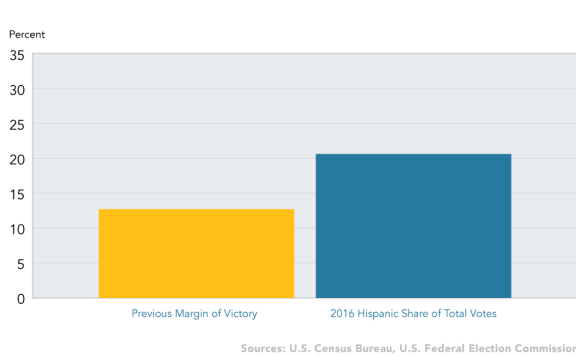
This November, an estimated 65.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Florida. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 1,755,392 ballots and represent 20.4 percent of the total vote. This 20.4 percent is more than the 13 percent margin of victory from 2012.

Candidates:

Marco Rubio (R), *incumbent*

Patrick Murphy (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 18.6%





ILLINOIS

Illinois—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 10

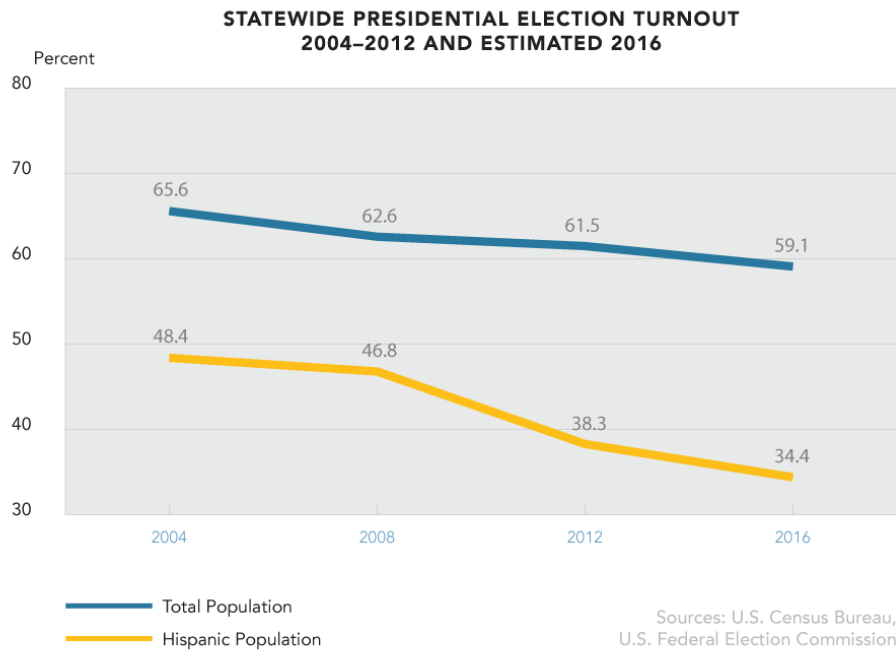
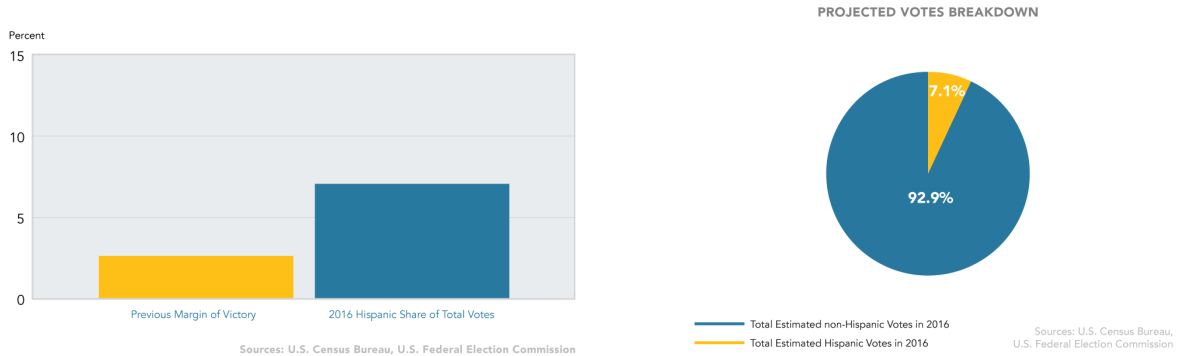
This November, an estimated 34.4 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Illinois. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 19,008 ballots and represent 7 percent of the total vote in CD-10. This 7 percent is more than two times greater than the previous 2.6 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Robert Dold (R), *incumbent*

Brad Schneider (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 12.1%





NEVADA

Nevada – U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 4

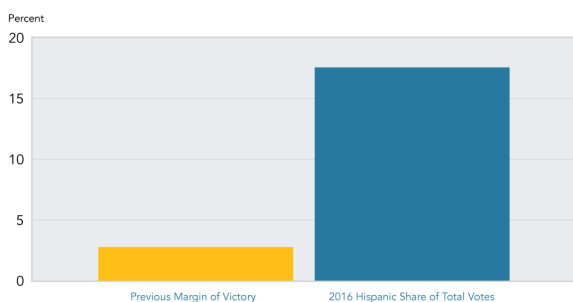
This November, an estimated 54.9 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Nevada. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 49,481 ballots and represent 17.6 percent of the total vote in CD-4. This 17.6 percent is more than six times greater than the previous 2.7 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Crescent Hardy (R), incumbent

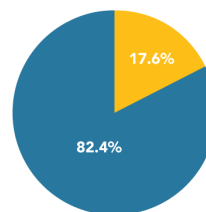
Ruben Kihuen (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 18.6%



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

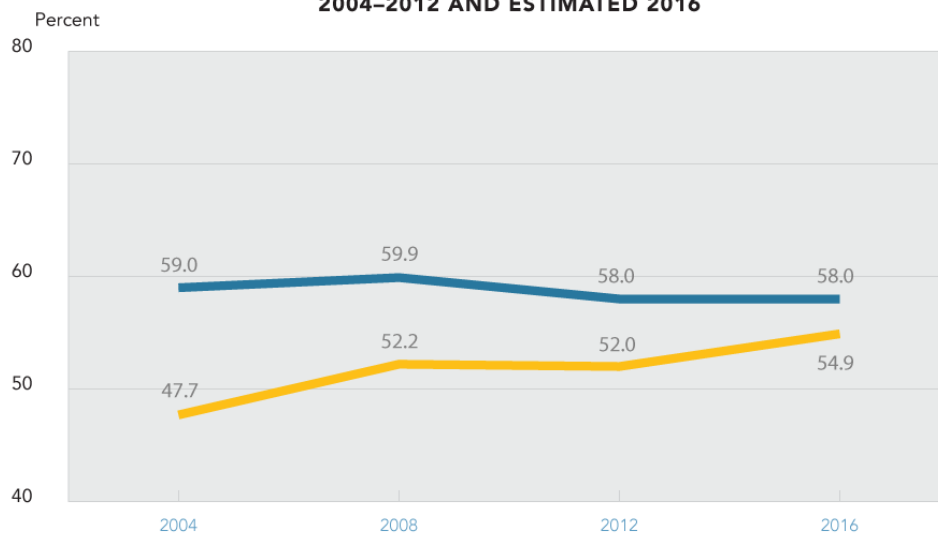
PROJECTED VOTES BREAKDOWN



— Total Estimated non-Hispanic Votes in 2016
— Total Estimated Hispanic Votes in 2016

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

STATEWIDE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TURNOUT 2004–2012 AND ESTIMATED 2016



— Total Population
— Hispanic Population

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Federal Election Commission

Nevada – U.S. SENATE

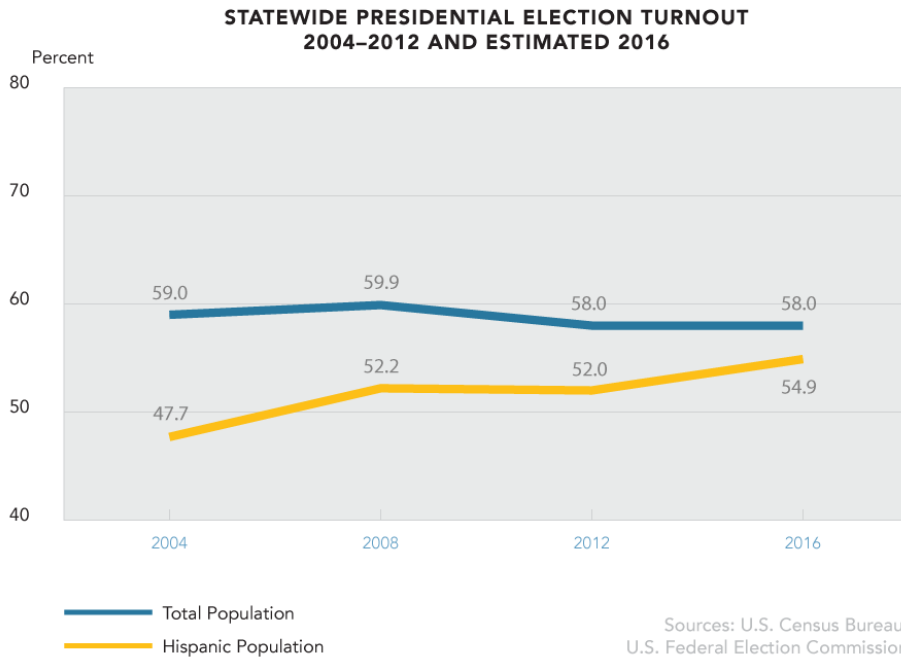
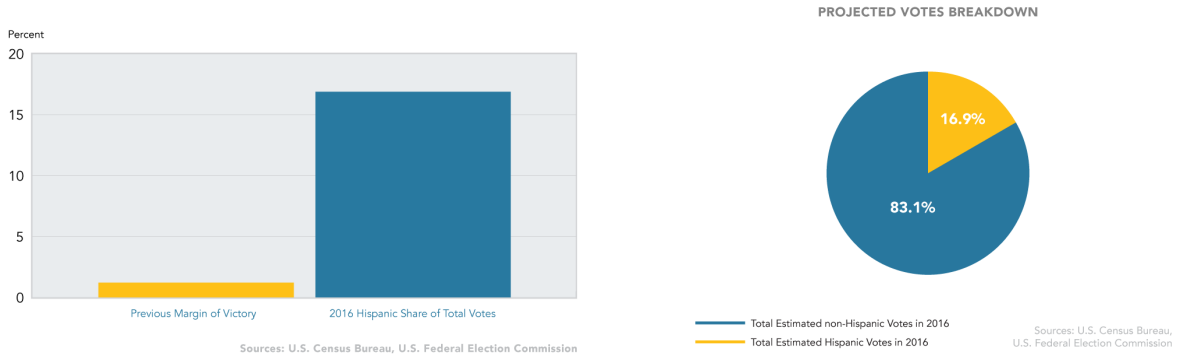
This November, an estimated 54.9 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Nevada. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 190,099 ballots and represent 16.9 percent of the total vote. This 16.9 percent is nearly fifteen times greater than the previous 1 percent margin of victory from 2012.

Candidates:

Catherine Cortez Masto (D)

Joe Heck (R)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 17.8%





TEXAS

Texas—U.S. HOUSE Congressional District 23

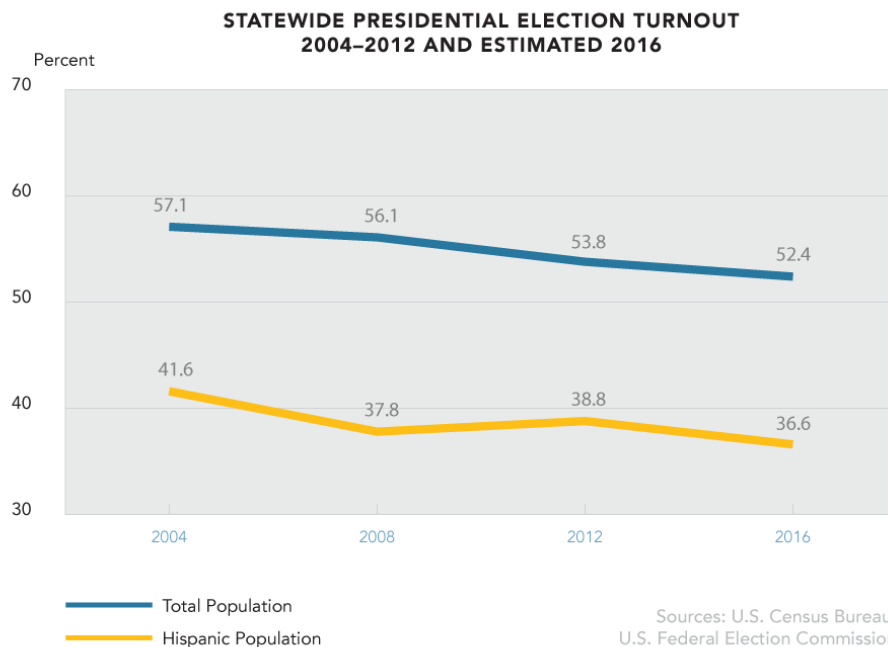
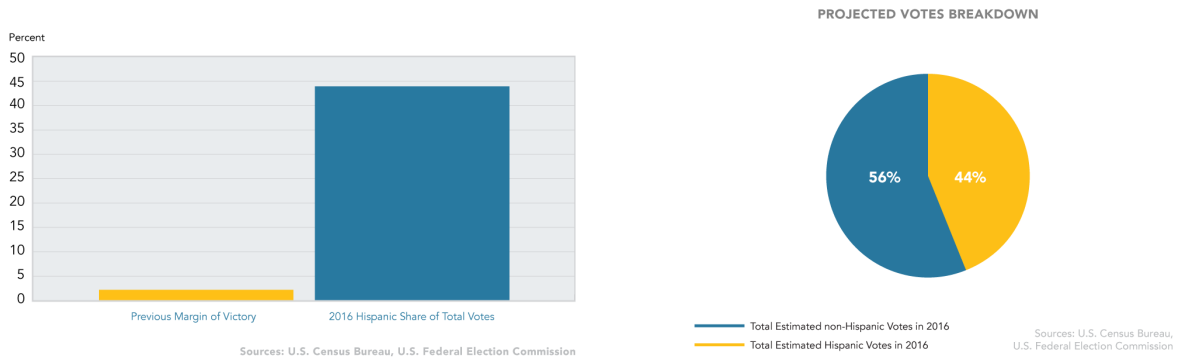
This November, an estimated 36.6 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in Texas. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 107,059 ballots and represent 44 percent of the total vote in CD-23. This 44 percent is more than twenty times greater than the previous 2.1 percent margin of victory from 2014.

Candidates:

Will Hurd (R), incumbent

Pete Gallego (D)

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 63%



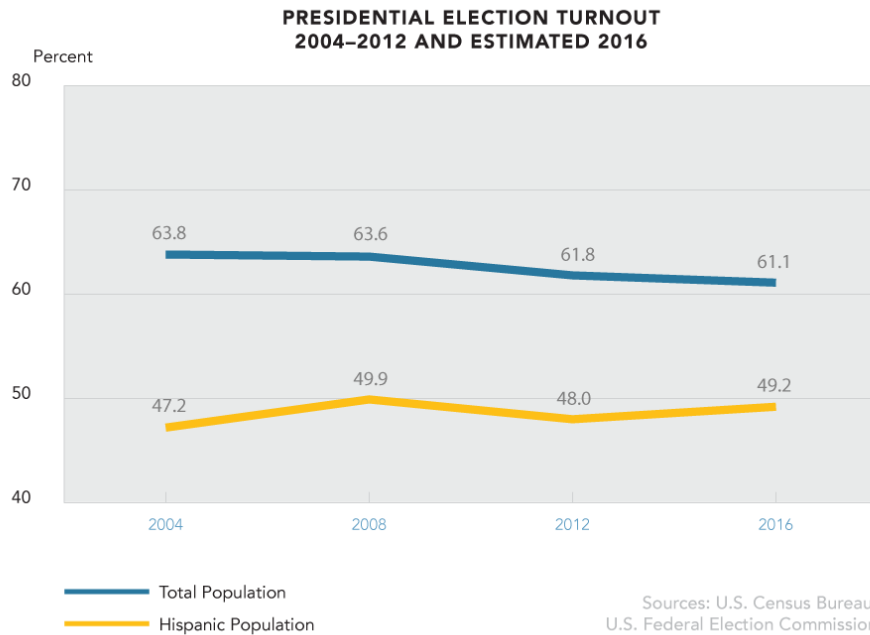
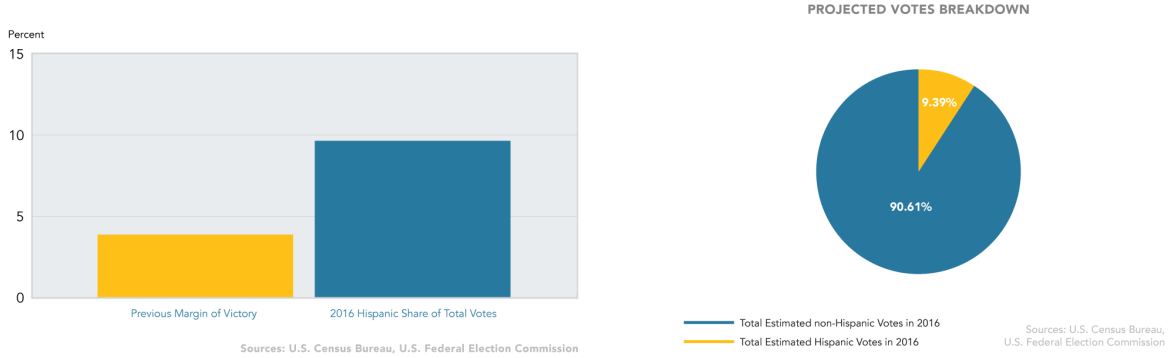


NATIONWIDE

NATIONWIDE

This November, an estimated 49.2 percent of Hispanic eligible voters will head to the polls in the US presidential election. At that rate, Hispanics will cast 13,028,298 ballots and represent 9.39 percent of the total vote. This 9.39 percent is more than two times greater than the previous 3.9 percent margin of victory from 2012.

Hispanic Share of Total Eligible Voters: 11.7%



METHODOLOGY

The 2016 Hispanic Margin of Victory Project (2016 Hispanic MVP) focuses on close House and Senate races identified by the Cook Political Report in which the Latino share of the total eligible voters is greater than 10 percent and where that share will likely be greater than previous margins of victory in each race. This report aggregated general and Hispanic state voting turnout rates in each voting region using census information for presidential elections from 2004 to 2012 to estimate the 2016 turnout rate for each particular state.

The estimated state voter turnout rate was then applied to the 2015 census population figures for the corresponding regions using the 2015 American Community Survey 1-year population estimates. This provided an estimated number of votes for both the general population and Latinos. Based on the resulting figures, the projected Hispanic share of votes for each race was then calculated.

For each of the fourteen races (US House and US Senate), past margins of victory from the immediate previous election for that position were aggregated using federal sources.

The previous margin of victory was then compared to the respective estimated Hispanic vote share. Races in which the projected Hispanic share of the total vote is greater than the previous margin of victory were selected as races in which Latinos will likely have a large influence in determining the outcome.

In this report, the terms “Latino” and “Hispanic” are used interchangeably. “Eligible voters” refer to US citizens who are eighteen years and over. The “previous margin of victory” refers to the results from the last election for a particular race in the corresponding geographical voting area.

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- US Census Bureau. (2015). *2015 Populations in States and Congressional Districts*: Table B05003, Sex by Age by Citizenship Status (Total Population) American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates