



2008 PRIMARY ELECTION PROFILES TEXAS

TEXAS PRIMARY: MARCH 4

ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTES: 34

TOTAL POPULATION (2006): 23,507,783 LATINO POPULATION (2006): 8,385,118

In the last two Presidential elections, Texas handed decisive victories to its former Governor, George W. Bush, who won 59% of the state’s vote in 2000, and 61% in 2004. During the 2008 Presidential primary season, Texas is now a key battleground for the Democratic candidates U.S. Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, who are running “neck and neck” in the contest to win their party’s nomination. Texas is home to the nation’s second largest population of Latino registered voters, and political observers estimate that Latinos have historically comprised about 25% of Texas voters in Democratic primaries.

Senators Clinton and Obama have recognized the key role Latino voters will play in the Texas Democratic primary. They have both actively pursued the endorsements of prominent Texas Latino elected officials and civic leaders, and these supporters are campaigning vigorously for their candidates throughout the state. The Democratic contenders have made or are planning personal appearances in areas with large Latino communities, including Austin, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Houston, the Lower Rio Grande Valley, and San Antonio. Additionally, both candidates are running campaign ads on Spanish-language radio and television.

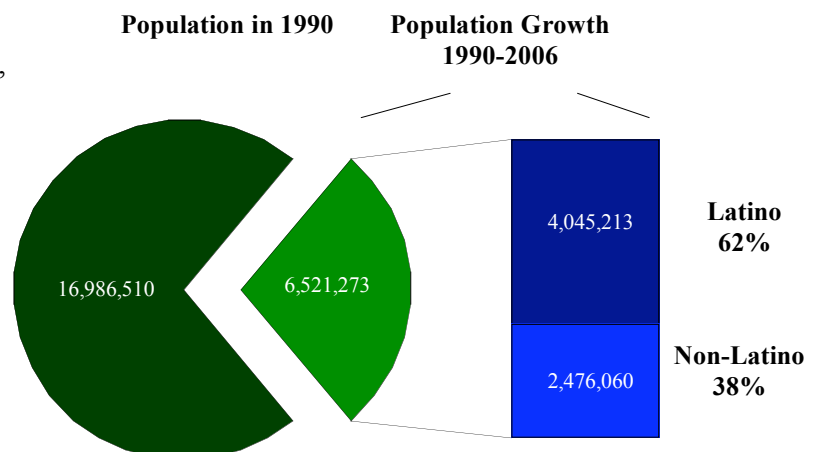
THE LATINO POPULATION IN TEXAS

In 2006, Latinos accounted for over one-third of Texas residents (36%). Between 1990 and 2006, the state’s Latino population nearly doubled, growing from 4.3 million to 8.4 million an increase of 93%.

Texas’ Latino Population: 2006

	Population	% of Total Population
Latinos	8,385,118	36%
Latino Adults	5,462,072	32%
Latino Adult U.S. Citizens	3,620,127	25%

Texas Population Growth: 1990-2006



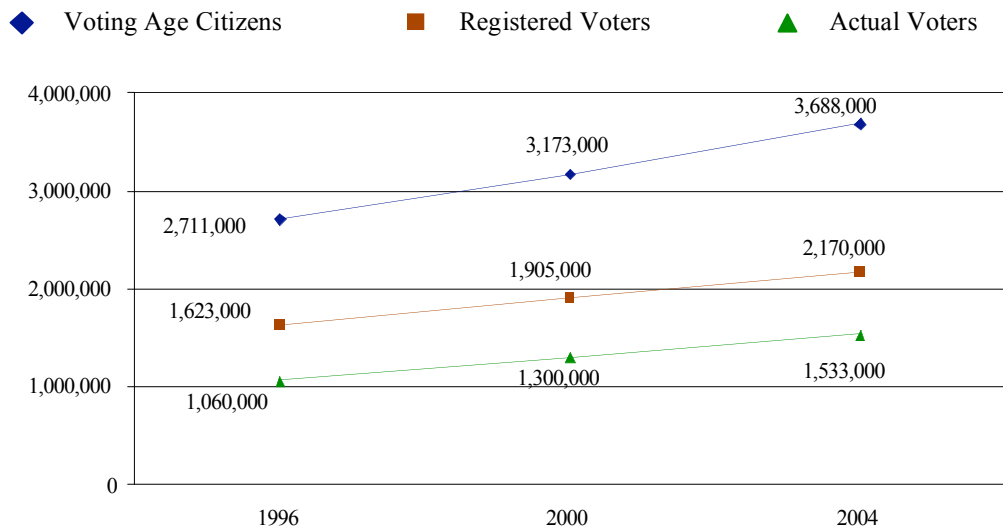
THE LATINO ELECTORATE

In the last three Presidential elections, the number of Latino voters in Texas has grown steadily, from 1.1 million in 1996 to 1.5 million in 2004, an increase of 45%. In 2007, there were close to 2.7 million Latinos registered to vote in Texas, and they comprised about one out of five of Texas registered voters (21%).

Texas' Electorate (2007)

Total Registered Voters	12,435,613
Latino Registered Voters	2,660,628
Latino Share of All Registered Voters	21%

Texas Latino Registration and Voting in Past Presidential Elections



See "Sources" for information regarding the limitations of the foregoing data.

LATINO ELECTED OFFICIALS IN TEXAS

- The number of Latino elected officials in Texas grew from 1,689 in 1996 to 2,171 in 2007, an increase of 29%.
- Texas has more Latino elected officials than any other state, and most serve at the local level (98%).

Latinos in Texas Elected Office: 1996-2007

	1996	1998	2000	2002	2007
Members Of Congress	5	6	6	6	6
Statewide Officials	2	1	1	1	1
State Legislators	33	36	35	35	37
Local Officials	1,649	1,706	1,813	1,923	2,127
Total	1,689	1,749	1,855	1,965	2,171

For more information about the NALEO Educational Fund's 2008 Election publications, please contact Rosalind Gold at rgold@naleo.org or (213) 747-7606, ext. 120.

Sources

NALEO Educational Fund, 2007 *National Directory of Latino Elected Officials*.

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2006), General Information and Custom Tables.

U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), *Voting and Registration in the Elections of November: 1996-2004*.

The CPS data used in these reports 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 sub-groups 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 sub-groups is greater than the margin associated with the national population or larger population sub-groups.

U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census, 1990 and 2000.

Voter Contact Service, *National Political DataBase*.