

PEW SURVEY TRANSCRIPT

Q: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE TREND LINES THAT YOU SEE FROM 2008 UNTIL NOW THAT WE SHOULD BE LOOKING AT?

A: ONE OF THE BIG THINGS YOU'LL SEE IS JUST BECAUSE OF POPULATION GROWTH, MORE LATINOS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN 2010 THAN WERE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN 2008 OR IN 2006. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT'S CLEAR IS THAT IT'S RELATIVELY YOUNG GROUP OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS COMPARED TO ALL AMERICANS AND WHEN WE TALK ABOUT MOTIVATIONS TO VOTE, LATINOS WHEN TAKING A LOOK AT THE LAST FEW ELECTION CYCLES AS A SHARE OF ALL LATINOS WHO ARE ACTUALLY ELIGIBLE THAT TURN OUT TO VOTE, THOSE SHARE HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY LOWER THAN WE'VE SEEN WHITES AND BLACKS FOR EXAMPLE

Q: BECAUSE IMMIGRATION HAS COME UP, IS THERE ANY SIGN THAT THIS IS GOING TO BE A MOTIVATING FACTOR IN THE 2010 ELECTION AND PARTICULARLY IN CERTAIN STATES LIKE ARIZONA?

A: WE FOUND THAT AMONG LATINO REGISTERED VOTERS, THOSE THAT HAD SAID THEY HAD TALKED ABOUT IMMIGRATION AND POLICY DEBATE IN THE PAST YEAR WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY WERE ACTUALLY MORE LIKELY OR MORE MOTIVATED TO VOTE SO CERTAINLY DISCUSSION OF THE POLICY DEBATE AROUND IMMIGRATION AND AROUND ARIZONA IS RELATED TO THE MOTIVATION OF HISPANIC VOTERS TO TURN OUT TO VOTE

Q: WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT THE US AND THE LATINO POPULATION, WHAT ARE THE STATE OR AREAS WITH THE MOST GROWTH IN POPULATION, PARTICULARLY AT VOTING AGE ELIGIBLE POPULATION?

A: 2/3RDS ACTUALLY LIVE IN FOUR STATES, CALIFORNIA, TEXAS, FLORIDA AND NEW YORK. THOSE FOUR ALONE HOLD 2/3RDS OF ALL HISPANIC ELIGIBLE VOTERS, BUT THERE ARE SOME STATES WHERE IF YOU TAKE A LOOK AT WITHIN THOSE STATES THAT HISPANIC ELIGIBLE VOTERS REPRESENT A LARGE SHARE OF ALL VOTERS IN THOSE STATES, STATES LIKE NEW MEXICO FOR EXAMPLE WHERE 38% OF ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN THAT STATE ARE LATINO, THAT'S A RELATIVELY HIGH SHARE.

BUT THAT REFLECTS THE POPULATION OF NEW MEXICO WHICH ALSO HAS A VERY LARGE SHARE THAT IS HISPANIC. SO STATES LIKE NEVADA, ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO, ALL HAVE RELATIVELY HIGH SHARE OF THEIR ELIGIBLE VOTER POOL BEING LATINO.

SOME OF THE FASTEST GROWTH GENERALLY HAS OCCURRED IN STATES LIKE GEORGIA, STATES LIKE ALABAMA, STATES LIKE NORTH CAROLINA, STATES LIKE MINNESOTA, WISCONSIN, IN THE UPPER MIDWEST, NEBRASKA, ETC.

Q: SO WHAT BESIDES IMMIGRATION IS MOTIVATING LATINO VOTERS THIS YEAR?

IN A SURVEY WE DID OF HISPANIC ELIGIBLE VOTERS WHAT WE FOUND WAS THE TOP ISSUES THAT THEY POINTED TO WERE EDUCATION JOBS AND HEALTH

CARE. IMMIGRATION WAS NUMBER 5 ON THAT LIST AND ABOUT A 3RD OF LATINO REGISTERED VOTERS IDENTIFIED IMMIGRATION AS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO THEM. IT'S NEVER RATED AS THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE AMONG LATINOS WHEN WE HAVE ASKED ABOUT IT.

Q: WHAT SORTS OF TRENDS AND DEBATES SHOULD WE BE LOOKING AT AS THE LATINO VOTING POPULATION GROWS, PARTICULARLY IN STATES WITH CONFLICTS OVER SPECIFIC ISSUES OF INTEREST TO LATINO AMERICANS.

LATINOS ARE A GROWING POPULATION AND A RELATIVELY YOUNG POPULATION, SO AS YOU MOVE FORWARD IN TIME YOU'RE GOING TO SEE MORE AND MORE HISPANICS WHO TURN 18, WHO ARE US CITIZENS AND THEN ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND WE'VE ACTUALLY SEEN THAT IN ELECTION CYCLES OVER THE LAST FIFTEEN OR SO YEARS WHERE IN EACH AND EVERY ELECTION CYCLE MORE LATINOS VOTE, EACH AND EVERY ELECTION CYCLE MORE ARE REGISTERED AND EACH AND EVERY ELECTION CYCLE LATINOS REPRESENT A LARGER SHARE OF ALL VOTERS THAN THEY DID IN THE PREVIOUS CYCLE.

THE ONE OTHER THING THAT WE DID OUR SURVEY IS WE ALSO ASKED THEM ABOUT WHICH PARTY HAS MORE CONCERN FOR HISPANICS, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, OR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, OR IS THERE NO DIFFERENCE.

47% IDENTIFIED THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AS THE BETTER PARTY FOR HISPANICS AND ONLY 6% IDENTIFIED THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AS THE BETTER PARTY FOR HISPANICS.