

Census Bureau Estimates Reveal Whites “over represented” and Hispanics “under represented” in Maryland’s Voting Age Population

Non-Hispanic whites in Maryland make up a greater percentage of those eligible to vote than their share of the overall population, while all other race and Hispanic groups have smaller shares of voter eligible population than their total population shares, according to recently released data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

These differences are due to the fact that a greater share of non-Hispanic whites than other groups are over the age of 18, and also because non-Hispanic whites have the highest citizenship rates.

Estimates for the 2010-2014 period show that non-Hispanic whites make up just under 54 percent of the total population while comprising nearly 61 percent of those eligible to vote¹. (See [Chart 1](#) and [Chart 2](#).)

Hispanics have the largest “under representation” relative to their overall population share, making up just over 4 percent of the electorate compared to nearly 9 percent of the total population, for a difference of 4.6 percentage points. (See [Chart 3](#).)

Since minorities in Maryland make up nearly 55 percent of those less than 18 years of age, over the next decade and beyond, more and more of the State’s electorate will be made up of minorities, reducing the non-Hispanic white voting strength. (See [Chart 4](#).)

For a more detailed look at the overall and voter eligible Hispanic population see **Maryland’s Hispanic Population and Those Eligible to Vote**. County-level total and voter eligible populations can be found in [Table 1](#).

¹ “Eligible to vote” means citizens over the age of 18; it does not represent those that are registered to vote.