

## Media Must Fact-Check False Information Directed at the Hispanic Electorate

Election Day is just weeks away and Latinos are being [bombarded with disinformation](#) online and in news outlets. Below are some of the most common areas of disinformation directed at the Hispanic electorate, alongside the relevant facts. [UnidosUS polling](#) of Latino voters show that Hispanics care about many of the same issues that most voters do, such as the economy and pocketbook issues. We call on journalists and news outlets to ensure that they are fully and completely fact-checking disinformation that may be directed at Latino or other voters.

And given how close the 2024 elections may be, millions of Latino voters could make a difference to the balance of power in American politics. It's in our democracy's interest to ensure that when the Hispanic electorate goes to the polls in November, every voter's decision is fully informed.

The Issue	The Truth
<b>The Safety of our Electoral Process</b>	<p><b>Disinformation alleging our election process lacks safeguards is being used to justify restrictions that impact millions of eligible voters.</b></p> <p>The truth is every state has a robust system of legal checks and balances to ensure that <a href="#">only eligible voters can cast a vote in federal elections</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>81% —8-in-10— Latinos in the U.S. are citizens and therefore eligible voters.</u></b> Yet because of falsehoods and disinformation, Latinos could be wrongly perceived as ineligible voters by poll-watchers and vigilante groups; asked for proof of citizenship even when not required; wrongfully removed from voter rolls or have a ballot questioned, or be targeted for intimidation and harassment on-line, in communities or at poll sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Immigrants and Crime Rates</b>	<p><b><a href="#">Claims about immigrants and crime are not factual.</a></b> Studies show immigration is linked to lower rates of crime, and that neighborhoods with higher rates of immigrant households experience increased <a href="#">social connection</a> and <a href="#">economic opportunity</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undocumented immigrants are <a href="#">33% less likely</a> to be incarcerated than are people born in the U.S.</li> <li>• According to the FBI's September 2024 data, the average homicide rate of 11 border cities was <a href="#">lower than the national average</a>.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Prior record numbers</a> of people crossing the border <a href="#">did not correspond with a crime increase</a>, even in cities that received many immigrants.</li> <li>• Recent national data continue to show that overall crime — including <a href="#">violent crime</a> — is dramatically down.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Immigrants and Disaster Relief</b></p>	<p><b>Allegations that funds have <u>been diverted from disaster relief to immigrant needs are false and threaten to derail these efforts.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster funding comes from dedicated funds that <u>cannot be used for other purposes.</u></li> <li>• Leading conservative media outlets quietly acknowledge <u>these facts.</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Latinos and the Economy</b></p>	<p><b>Latino families have <u>largely</u> bounced back post-COVID — buying homes, creating businesses, accumulating household wealth and making purchases at a far greater rate than the rest of the economy.</b></p> <p><b>Despite high household expenses for housing and food, the overall economic picture for Latino households is mostly positive.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latinos’ real consumption is growing three times faster than that of non-Latinos and are <u>projected to</u> account for 78% of all net new workers this decade.</li> <li>• Latinos pay their way into achieving homeownership like other households do. While Latinos today have the nation’s lowest homeownership rate of any large demographic, they are on track to becoming the largest share of <u>new homeowners by 2040.</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>The Contributions of Immigrant Workers</b></p>	<p><b>Immigrant labor <u>is essential for economic growth,</u> enlarges our tax base and generates opportunities for everyone.</b></p> <p><b>Latino immigrants start businesses at <u>faster rates than any other group</u> – and at twice the rate of the U.S. population generally.</b></p> <p><b>And immigrant labor is also essential to keep the costs of basic foods, <u>like milk,</u> more affordable.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undocumented immigrants contribute nearly \$100 billion in taxes a year, according to a <u>2024 study.</u> At the state and local levels, nearly half (46% or \$15.1 billion) of the <u>tax contributions from undocumented immigrants</u> come from sales and other taxes on their purchases.</li> <li>• Immigrant labor allows others to keep working and care for people. Immigrants make up <u>18.2% of all health care workers.</u> Approximately 1-in-4 direct care workers are immigrants, and nearly 1-in-3 are direct care workers in home health agencies.</li> <li>• Immigrant women are <u>almost a quarter of all child care workers in this country.</u> This is a critical contribution given the <u>national childcare shortage and its effects on productivity.</u></li> <li>• <b>Immigrants are not responsible for the current <u>high cost of housing.</u></b> Latino immigrants are an essential part of the housing supply chain, <u>comprising 31%</u> of the construction labor force. In CA, TX, NV, NM more than half of the construction labor force, including builders, painters, and carpenters.</li> </ul>

## **Key Resources on Latino Voters and Election Integrity**

### **Fact Sheet**

- [American Elections are Secure: Dangerous Anti-Immigrant Falsehoods are Attempts to Suppress Votes by Millions of Latinos and Other Eligible Voters](#)

### **Website**

- [UnidosUS Hispanic Electorate Data Hub](#) contains more than two decades of data and trends on the Latino vote

### **Consensus Statement by Non-Partisan Task Force on Election Crises**

- [The National Task Force on Election Crises | Rebutting Allegations of Widespread Voter Fraud by Noncitizens \(electiontaskforce.org\)](#)

### **Analysis**

- [In this election, the 'big lie' is about Latino voters and suppressing our votes](#)
- [Noncitizen Voting is Vanishingly Rare | Brennan Center for Justice](#)
- [Four Things to Know about Noncitizen Voting](#), Bipartisan Policy Center