



William C. Velásquez Institute

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For More Info:

Antonio Gonzalez

323-222-2217

11 Million Latinos Cast Votes in Record Turnout in US Elections While Latino votes increased in 2012, non-Latino voting declined

Los Angeles, Cal. (November 7, 2012)— The William C. Velasquez Institute (WCVI) released its analysis of turnout and exit poll data today congratulating the Latino community for casting a record 11 million votes out of 14.2 million registered.

“WCVI estimates that Latinos comprised 9% of all votes cast in 2012 (including Election Day, absentee, and early voting), a significant improvement over the 7.43% share of the national vote that Latinos represented in 2008.

“The Latino vote was the only major electorate to improve its performance over 2008, as both white (74% in 2008, 72% in 2012) and African American (13% in both 2008 and 2012) voters cast significantly fewer votes,” said WCVI President Antonio Gonzalez.

According to estimates approximately 122 million votes were cast nationally in 2012 or 9 million fewer than in 2008 (131 million).

Latino turnout efficiency was down however (78% in 2012 compared to 84% in 2008) reflecting a pattern consistent across all US voter subgroups. However Latino registration grew to 60% of eligible -the highest ever recorded and some 2.6 million net new Latino voters registered since 2008. This represents both a record numerical growth and a robust rate of increase (22.3%).

WCVI is a paramount national think tank founded in 1985 that analyzes Latino voting and demographic trends.

Basic Facts on the U.S. Latino Vote in 2012

Estimated National Latino VR	Estimated National Latino VC	Estimated Latino % Registered	Estimated Latino % Turnout	Estimated National VC	Estimated Latino Share of National Vote
14.2 million	11 million	60%	78%	122 million	9%

Estimated Share of Latino Vote (for Obama)	Estimated Share of Latino Vote (for Romney)	Estimated Share of Latino Vote (for Other)
71 %	27 %	2%

Share of National Vote

	Latino	Black	Non-Latino, White
2008	7.43%	13%	74%
2012	9%	13%	72%

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