

# What Do Young Latino Voters Want to Hear on the Republican Debate Stage?

By Sunita Sohrabji Sep 27, 2023

"Young Latinos just want to have normal lives. We don't want to be in crisis mode 24-7 with breaking news alerts going on every two hours." - Santiago Mayer, executive director of Voters of Tomorrow.



(Manny Becerra photo via Unsplash)

Latino youth — predicted to be a major voting bloc in the 2024 Presidential election — are veering from their older family members and shifting hard left on a host of issues, including gun control, reproductive rights, climate change, and immigration policy.

A day ahead of the second Republican Presidential debate, the Brennan Center for Justice hosted a panel discussion Sept. 26, focusing on the rising power of LatinX youth. The panel featured Maria Teresa Kumar, CEO of Voto Latino; Santiago Mayer, executive director of Voters of Tomorrow, which he founded at age 17; and Arizona state Rep. Alma Hernandez, who has been involved in Democratic politics since she was 14. The panel was moderated by Paola Ramos, a correspondent for Vice and a contributor at Telemundo and MSNBC.

Latinos are now the second largest voting bloc in the United States after non-Hispanic white

voters. Latinos are also both the fastest growing and the youngest electorate. In 2022, 34.5 million Latinos were eligible to vote, according to a Pew Research Center study, up almost 5 million since 2018. An estimated 70% of Latinos who vote are registered Democrats. However, candidate engagement with the community is minimal.

Panelists noted that narratives about the Latino vote swinging right to support former President Donald Trump are based on a deep campaign of misinformation, perpetuated through both social and mainstream media.

Maria Teresa Kumar, CEO of Voto Latino.



Kumar said candidates would have to take a stance on immigration, going back to their party's roots. "There was a time when the Republican party was vying for the Latino vote. And not so long ago in 2012, when Newt Gingrich —

former Speaker of the House — was on that stage, he was talking about compassionate pathways to citizenship for people who had been in this country for at least 10 or 20 years."

"But Republican candidates today have failed miserably because instead they've politicized workers, people that want to contribute, who are American: all but a social security number. And as a result, we have been polarized as a country in ways that we never thought possible."

"So what I would look for of individuals going on to that stage is some leadership and adult-

hood and speaking straight. Because it's very easy to demonize the most vulnerable and the most marginalized. But at the end of the day, none of those folks that do that have a pathway to the White House, plain and simple," said Kumar.

The Frat Boy Demographic

"Our job as Latinos is to make sure that we are paying attention and holding people accountable because at the end of the day, we want the same protections every American has, including for our families," she added. "The person that wants to truly have a shot at the White House tomorrow night is going to have to be able to divorce themselves from the dangerous policies that are hurting people in Latino communities."

Santiago Mayer, executive director of Voters of Tomorrow



Mayer discussed the findings of a recent Voters of Tomorrow poll. "Young people care about the economy and jobs. This is number one, which is shocking for a lot of people, but it is really something

that we feel in our day-to-day lives," he said.

"Number two, abortion rights and access to reproductive care. Even some of the groups that you really wouldn't think care about abortion, like the frat boy demographic, for example, they are very concerned about this issue," said Mayer.

"We care about gun violence. We've grown up with the threat of fearing in our own classrooms. We've seen the climate deteriorate, and we are very concerned about the climate crisis," he said, adding that Latino youth are also concerned about LGBTQ rights even if they are not part of the queer community.

'Worlds Exploding'

"The bottom line is young people, especially young Latinos just want to have normal lives. We don't want to be in crisis mode 24-7 with breaking news alerts going on every two hours. We just want to be able to sit down, and have a normal

conversation without something in the world exploding and having to deal with it," said Mayer. "Candidates need to lean on that, especially the Republican candidates who keep in many ways sort of denying reality, especially with regards to like climate and gun violence," he added.

Arizona state Rep. Alma Hernandez

Hernandez, the youngest-ever representative in the Arizona state Legislature, said she would like to see the candidates comprehensively address reproductive rights.

Another Day Older and Deeper in Debt

"Women's health is going to be on the ballot again. And I think it's really critical that these candidates tell us where they stand on this issue. If they're, if they think they're going to win by saying: 'we're going to continue to attack women and their reproductive rights,' well, I'd love to see how that goes."

"Republicans blocked President Joe Biden's efforts for student loan debt forgiveness. And I would like to really hear what their plans are to help so many American students who have gone into so much debt to get educated. What is their plan to help them?"

"We tell people constantly: 'go to school, get an education, you'll get a good job', but what are Republicans' plans for those who have gone to school, but now are barely making enough to cover their loan payments?" queried Hernandez.

"We're hearing that a recession is coming again. And I think that people around my age and people who have gone to school are really, really starting to get nervous and really want to know what, what are people going to do to help them? And those are two of the important issues that I believe is going to really change the minds of voters and the way that they're going to see these folks who want to be elected officials," she said.

All three panelists agreed that candidates need to reach out to LatinX voters consistently throughout the election cycle, not just two weeks before the polls open.

## 俄亥俄州立大學教授榮獲 2023 諾貝爾物理學獎

本周二,10月3日,俄亥俄州立大學退休教授皮埃爾-阿戈斯蒂尼(Pierre Agostini)因其研究電子運動的工作,成爲三位獲得2023年諾貝爾物理學獎的科學家之一。



諾貝爾獎網站發佈的消息稱,阿戈斯蒂尼與費倫茨-克勞斯(Ferenc Krausz)和安妮-勒惠利爾(Anne L'Huillier)因使用極短的光脈沖測量電子如何運動或改變能量而獲獎。電子是原子的基本組成部分,其運動速度

爲每秒43英里。三人利用以五億分之一秒爲單位的快速光脈沖來檢測電子的運動,這與頻閃燈可以說明物體如何改變位置的原理類似。

諾貝爾獎新聞稿稱,2001年,阿戈斯蒂尼產生了一系列光脈沖,每個脈沖僅持續250阿秒。

據該新聞稿稱,瞭解電子的運動有助於電子學的研究,而阿秒脈沖可以被醫療技術人員用來識別不同的分子。

阿戈斯蒂尼於2005年成爲OSU物理系教授,2018年年成爲OSU名譽教授。據俄亥俄州立大學網站介紹,他是該校第四位個人命名的諾貝爾獎獲得者。

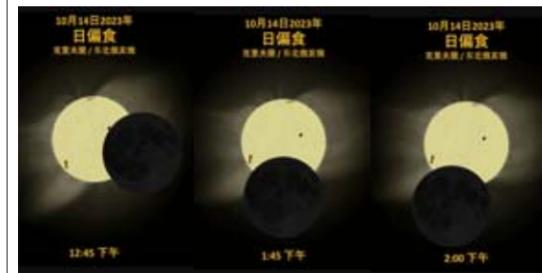
克勞斯和勒惠利爾分別是慕尼黑路德維希-馬克西米利安大學實驗物理學教授和瑞典隆德大學原子物理學教授。

俄亥俄州立大學代理校長彼得-莫勒(Peter Mohler)在一份聲明中說:"諾貝爾獎是科學成就的巔峰。我們俄亥俄州立大學全體師生都爲皮埃爾一生的研究和學術成就得到認可而慶祝。"

俄亥俄州州長邁克-德懷恩(Mike DeWine)也對阿戈斯蒂尼獲獎表示祝賀。

德懷恩說:"俄亥俄州是創新和研究的中心,這裡的天才科學家們取得了國際公認的發現,在我們引以爲豪的改變世界的發明遺產的基礎上再接再厲。" 俄州亞太聯盟

## Partial solar eclipse in Cleveland 日偏食 / 日全食在克利夫蘭



Hello!

On October 14, 2023, Cleveland and Northeast Ohio will experience a partial solar eclipse.

Later, on April 8, 2024, the Cleveland area will experience a total solar eclipse.

As part of our outreach work, we wanted to make sure that Chinese-language materials are available for your readers.

Here is some helpful information about the upcoming October eclipse:

A screenshot of a video of a solar eclipse. Description automatically generated

And, here is a helpful image about the total

solar eclipse of April 8, 2024:

A black circle with yellow text. Description automatically generated

I have also attached a PDF with a map showing where in Ohio the total solar eclipse will be visible.

Feel free to use and share any of these resources, and please let me know if there's any additional information that would be helpful for you and your readers.

Many thanks, and have a nice day!

Chris Mentrek

Astronomy Naturalist, Geauga Park District cmentrek@geaugaparkdistrict.org



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ASIA-AMERICA LAW, LLC  
美亞律師事務所  
Daniel Conneen, Esq.  
丹紐·柯恩律師  
Attorney at Law 法學博士

移民法與商業法

Te: 215-259-3072 Cell: 215-908-6688

WeChat: 215-432-2530

Web: www.AsiaAmericaLaw.com

Email: dconneen@asiaamericallaw.com

1237 Lancaster Avenue, Berwyn, PA 19312, USA

美國費城西郊柏文市蘭卡斯特大道 1237號

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