

DIVERSITY WITHIN ETHNIC GROUPS: HISPANIC JEWS, COLOMBIANS, CARIBBEAN BLACKS,
AND OTHER ETHNIC SUBGROUPS AMONG MIAMI BEACH VOTERS, 1991

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Electoral data as of: 2/91
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The 37,018 registered voters in Miami Beach, Dade County, Florida, as of February 1991, are of diverse geographical and ethnic origins. Only 57.1% of the voters were born in the fifty states or the District of Columbia, but even these voters represent every one of the fifty states. The District of Columbia and eleven mid-Atlantic and northeastern states account for 38.2% of the voters, eleven southern states (excepting Florida) account for 3.6%, and the twenty-seven other states account for 8.6%. Only 6.8% of the voters were born in Florida, and it is probable that only a small number of these were born in Miami Beach. Another 3.1% of the voters are from areas associated with the United States, mostly Puerto Rico. The foreign-born comprised 39.8% of the registered voters of Miami Beach. Nearly every Latin American and Caribbean area, over nineteen European countries, six Middle Eastern countries, and other areas of the world are represented among the foreign-born voters. Other cities in the metropolitan area have high percentages of foreign-born voters, but Miami Beach is unmatched in the ethnic and national origins diversity of its foreign-born and its reputation as an emerging cosmopolitan city.

The registered voters in Miami Beach are comprised of two major ethnic groups, Jews and Hispanics, a small number of blacks, and small numbers of several other ethnic groups. According to an analysis of the registered voters as of February 1991, 53.2% are Jewish, 27.9% are Hispanic, 2.6% are black, and 18.1% are "Others" (defined as non-Jewish, non-Hispanic, non-black). A small number of voters are counted as both Hispanic and Jewish, or both Hispanic and

black, so that the total is 101.8% when these four groups are treated separately. A very small number of voters probably are both Jewish and black, but the number was too small to analyze separately. The 18.1% of Others also consists of a significant number of ethnic groups, e.g., Irish-Americans and Italian-Americans. Only a small percentage of the city is comprised of nonethnic white Protestants. While the term Anglo is used frequently by the media and informally to refer to all voters who are not black or Hispanic, this report also separates out Jewish voters, so that "Others" includes all voters who are not black, Hispanic, or Jewish. "Other" is used instead of Anglo because of the inaccuracy of the term Anglo.

The overlapping of Hispanics and Jews, and of Hispanics and blacks, suggest that the city can not be analyzed accurately by utilizing only the four "ethnic" groups. But, these overlappings are only suggestive of the diversity within the four groups. Within each of the four major groups, there is much diversity. Most of the Jewish voters are Ashkenazic, but there is also a vibrant Sephardic community. The Ashkenazim are mostly non-Hispanic, but with some Hispanics, and the Sephardim are about equally divided between Hispanics and non-Hispanics, so that four groups exist with clearly different political identities (see Lavender, November 1991, for Sephardic details). There also are Israeli Jews, and recent Russian Jewish refugees referred to as Refuseniks. Among Hispanics, there is tremendous diversity according to area of origin. Cuban-Americans are the largest Hispanic group on Miami Beach, but there are also significant numbers of voters from Puerto Rican and Colombia, and smaller numbers from other countries. There are also almost two thousand United States-born Hispanics, not counted as Hispanics by the electoral board (which defines as Hispanic only those people born in Spanish-speaking countries), but analyzed as Hispanic in this report (see Lavender, February

1991, for the methodology). Blacks are also diverse, including, among others, Southern United States blacks, Northern United States blacks, Hispanic blacks, and Caribbean blacks. Among the "Others" are English-surnamed whites (the only group accurately referred to as "Anglos"), but also Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, Asian-Americans, and small numbers of numerous other ethnic or nationality groups.

The purpose of this report is to (1) show the diversity of birthplaces of the registered voters, (2) show the number of registered voters of different ethnic groups and subgroups, and (3) present the political affiliations of the different ethnic groups and subgroups. The numbers given are obtained where available from the official Board of Elections figures. Numbers enclosed in parentheses () are estimates obtained by using the Distinctive Jewish Names (DJN) Technique as refined by this author, the Distinctive Hispanic Names (DHN) Technique developed by this author, and a list of Sephardic names developed by this author (see Lavender, February 1991, for a discussion of the refined DJN and the DHN techniques; see Lavender, November 1991 for a discussion of Sephardic names). Numbers enclosed in brackets [] are sample sizes obtained by using distinctive names, but where estimates of the total sizes of the groups are not possible.

The diversity of birthplaces are shown in summary form in Table 1a. Tables 1b through 1f show the details for the summary figures. The number of registered voters of different ethnic groups and subgroups, and their political affiliations, are shown in Table 2. Note that the subgroups are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

Table 1a. Birthplaces of Miami Beach's 37,018 Voters, 1991

	Number	Percent of Total
United States (50 states and DC)	21,147	57.1
U.S. areas (Puerto Rico, Guam, VI, CZ)	1,130	3.1
TOTAL U.S. AND AREAS	22,277	60.2
TOTAL OUTSIDE OF U.S. AND AREAS	14,741	39.8
Spanish areas (except Puerto Rico)	7,448	20.1
Puerto Rico	1,007	2.7
TOTAL SPANISH INCLUDING PUERTO RICO	8,455	22.8
Spanish-speaking Caribbean	6,970	18.8
Non-Spanish-speaking Caribbean	222	0.6
TOTAL CARIBBEAN	7,192	19.4
Canada	191	0.5
TOTAL AMERICAS INCLUDING CARIBBEAN	29,991	81.0
Western and Southern Europe	1,183	3.2
Eastern Europe	4,666	12.6
Balkan areas	342	0.9
Middle East	251	0.7
Other Areas and Unspecified Areas	582	1.6
TOTAL OUTSIDE AMERICAS AND CARIBBEAN	7,027	19.0

Table 1b. Number of Voters Born in Each of the Fifty States, February 1991

Alabama	112	Montana	11
Alaska	5	Nebraska	38
Arizona	31	Nevada	7
Arkansas	31	New Hampshire	47
California	263	New Jersey	1,259
Colorado	49	New Mexico	13
Connecticut	301	New York	9,398
Delaware	37	North Carolina	140
District of Columbia	160	North Dakota	15
Florida	2,501	Ohio	584
Georgia	242	Oklahoma	46
Hawaii	12	Oregon	19
Idaho	7	Pennsylvania	1,691
Illinois	909	Rhode Island	103
Indiana	162	South Carolina	91
Iowa	69	South Dakota	17
Kansas	40	Tennessee	119
Kentucky	101	Texas	171
Louisiana	84	Utah	9
Maine	53	Vermont	23
Maryland	271	Virginia	187
Massachusetts	814	Washington	59
Michigan	339	West Virginia	95
Minnesota	101	Wisconsin	111
Mississippi	40	Wyoming	9
Missouri	151	TOTAL UNITED STATES	21,147

Table lc. Number of Voters Born in United States Areas, February 1991

Canal Zone	86	Puerto Rico	1,007
Guam	2	Virgin Islands	35
		TOTAL U.S. AREAS	1,130
		U.S. & U.S. AREAS	22,277

Table ld. Number of Voters Born in Spanish-Speaking Areas, February 1991

Chile	66	Mexico	44
Colombia	370	Spain	110
Cuba	5,842	Venezuela	51
Dominican Republic	121	Other Spanish areas	785
Honduras	59	TOTAL THESE AREAS	7,448
		PLUS PUERTO RICO*	8,455

*People born in these areas, including Puerto Rico, and only these, are classified as Latin or Hispanic by the Board of Elections.

Table 1e. Number of Voters Born in the Americas and the Caribbean

Canada	191
United States	21,147
Bahamas	15
Haiti	78
Jamaica	66
Virgin Islands	35
Other West Indies	28
TOTAL NON-SPANISH CARIBBEAN	222
Cuba	5,842
Dominican Republic	121
Puerto Rico	1,007
TOTAL SPANISH CARIBBEAN	6,970
TOTAL CARIBBEAN	7,192
Canal Zone	86
Mexico	44
Honduras	59
Colombia	370
Venezuela	51
Chile	66
Other Latin America	785
TOTAL LATIN AMERICA (except CZ)	1,375
TOTAL LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN	8,345
TOTAL AMERICANS AND CARIBBEAN	29,991

Table 1f. Number of Voters Born in Foreign Countries
Other than Americas and Caribbean

United Kingdom	242	Yugoslavia	35
Ireland	36	Rumania	247
Spain	110	Greece	60
France	65	TOTAL BALKAN AREAS	342
Italy	157		
Switzerland	14	Turkey	79
Belgium	19	Syria	14
Holland	12	Lebanon	17
Sweden	11	Israel	118
Germany	517	Egypt	23
TOTAL WESTERN & SOUTHERN EUROPE	1,183	TOTAL MIDDLE EAST	251
Austria	391	Japan	11
Czechoslovakia	290	Philippines	49
Hungary	476	Guam	2
Poland	1,821	Unspecified areas	521
Lithuania	113		
Latvia	25	TOTAL FOREIGN-BORN	
Estonia	4	OUTSIDE AMERICAS	7,025
Russia	1,546		
TOTAL EASTERN EUROPE	4,666		

Table 2. Ethnic and Regional Subgroups by Political Affiliation

	Total Number	Percent Democrats	Percent Independents	Percent Republicans
TOTAL JEWS	(19,687)	82.0	6.0	12.0
Ashkenazic Jews	(19,171)	82.9	5.9	11.2
*Sephardic Jews	(516)	46.5	10.1	43.4
Cuban Jews	(680)	43.2	11.8	45.0
Non-Cuban Jews	(19,007)	83.4	5.8	10.8
Israeli-born	(117)	58.1	20.5	21.4
Russian Refuseniks	(27)	85.2	0	14.8
TOTAL HISPANICS	(10,334)	30.8	9.5	59.7
Cuban-born	5,842	21.6	8.9	69.6
Puerto Rican-born	1,007	53.3	10.5	35.2
Colombian-born	370	46.2	9.2	44.6
Dominican Republic-born	121	49.6	1.6	48.8
Other foreign-born	1,115	35.2	11.7	53.0
U.S.-born Hispanics	(1,879)	42.4	10.2	47.5
TOTAL BLACKS	947	74.2	8.5	17.2
Cuban-born	53	28.3	9.4	62.3
Non-Cuban Hispanics	68	58.8	5.9	35.3
All Hispanics	121	45.5	7.4	47.1
Haitians	68	76.4	7.5	16.2
Jamaicans	45	64.4	17.8	17.8
Virgin Islands	29	62.1	13.8	24.1
All Caribbean-born (except Cuba)	170	69.4	11.8	18.8
Southern U.S.-born	353	84.7	5.7	9.6
Northern U.S.-born	178	78.1	9.6	12.4

Table 2 continued. Ethnic and Regional Subgroups by Political Affiliation

	Total Number	Percent Democrats	Percent Independents	Percent Republicans
TOTAL "OTHERS"	(6,850)	48.8	19.7	31.5
Irish-surnamed	[183]	61.2	15.3	23.5
Italian-surnamed	[113]	61.1	10.6	28.3
British-surnamed (Florida-born "Anglos")	[90]	71.1	4.4	24.4
British-surnamed (Southern U.S.-born "Anglos")	[97]	67.0	12.4	20.6
British-surnamed (Northern U.S.-born "Anglos")	[374]	70.6	9.1	20.3
British-surnamed (Other U.S.-born "Anglos")	[173]	57.8	13.9	28.3
Caribbean-born (non-Hispanic non-black)	[154]	53.2	3.9	42.9
Asian-American (Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, etc.)	[77]	36.3	20.8	42.9

*A separate report analyzes Sephardim; work is continuing on expanding the sample size, and final figures are expected to vary slightly.

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