

## Latinos Not Represented in Evers' Cabinet

The U.S. Census' American Fact Finder estimated 380,590 Latinos in Wisconsin in 2017 (6.6% of the state's population). It is the fastest growing population in the state--which means an increase in Latino voting, labor, and economic power. However, this demographic has been excluded from Governor Evers' cabinet.

Inclusion and representation are considered to be two of the cornerstones of the Democratic Party. In fact, the Party's platform contains the following in its preamble:

*Above all, Democrats are the party of inclusion. We know that diversity is not our problem—it is our promise.*

In Wisconsin, our current administration has taken this platform and moved ahead with it - on paper. According to Governor Evers' [campaign website](#), he wants to “treat all Wisconsinites with respect and dignity, giving a seat at the table to voices that too often are unheard” and “make diverse appointments drawn from strong community leaders across Wisconsin to lead state agencies, fill judicial vacancies and serve on boards and commissions.”

Those are promises we have yet to see fulfilled. One of the most impactful steps a governor can take in order to fulfill a promise of inclusion is to install “unheard voices” into her or his cabinet. Governor Evers has not included any Latinos in his cabinet.

With the exclusion of Latinos from his cabinet, Governor Evers should not be surprised that he is being called out, especially considering the fact that Governor Walker appointed at least [one Latino to his cabinet](#) when he was first elected.

Demanding a seat at the table then is only logical for Wisconsin's Latinos. The demographics and economics of Wisconsin's Latinos justifies this outcry.

According to [an article in The Atlantic](#), the Latino vote, along with the African American vote, is considered to be the push that Evers needed to oust Scott Walker. This makes sense given the country's current political climate, coupled with the state's increasing Latino population. In Milwaukee alone, [the Latino population skyrocketed by 213% from 1990 to 2014](#).

It is also significant to note that Latinos are not alone in their grievance with Governor Evers. For International Women's Day, the Governor's office [tweeted a picture](#) of the women working for the administration. Many Twitter users were quick to point out the lack of racial and ethnic diversity in the photo of staffers, particularly the absence of black women.

The fact that this picture was shared without consideration for the lack of diverse representation among staff sends a message to Wisconsin's racial and ethnic minorities: “We're not thinking of

you.” In the same vein, expressing support for issues that impact minorities in a budget that may or may not be adopted does not rectify this offense.

Governor Evers can speak about his support of the Latino community, but his appointments reflect a disregard for Latinos, one of the critical populations for the future of Wisconsin and his reelection.

There is one last position open in Governor Evers’ cabinet: the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Housing & Economic Development Authority (WHEDA). It would be wise to appoint a Latino or Latina to that role.

Consider voicing your support on the Latino Voting Bloc of Wisconsin Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/LVBofW/>.