

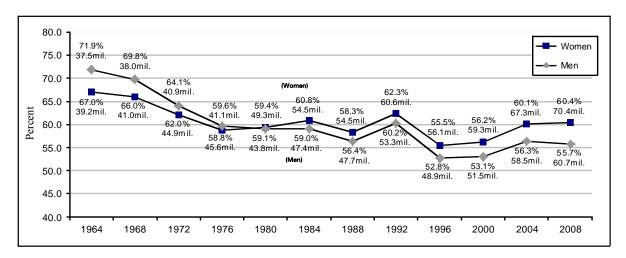
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GENDER DIFFERENCES IN VOTER TURNOUT*

In recent elections, voter turnout rates for women have equaled or exceeded voter turnout rates for men. Women, who constitute more than half the population, have cast between four and seven million more votes than men in recent elections.

VOTER TURNOUT IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

In every presidential election since 1980, the <u>proportion</u> of eligible female adults who voted has exceeded the <u>proportion</u> of eligible male adults who voted. In all presidential elections prior to 1980, the voter turnout rate for women was lower than the rate for men. The <u>number</u> of female voters has exceeded the <u>number</u> of male voters in every presidential election since 1964.



Among younger citizens (18-44), a higher proportion of women than men voted in 2008, 2004, 2000 and 1996; the pattern is reversed among older voters (75 and up).

	% of Voting Age Population Who Reported Voting		Number Who Reported Voting (in millions)			% of Voting Age Population Who Reported Voting		Number Who Reported Voting (in millions)	
2008	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	2000	<u>Women</u>	Men	<u>Women</u>	Men
18-24 yrs.	52.0	45.1	6.7	5.8	18-24 yrs.	34.6	30.0	4.6	4.0
25-44 yrs.	55.3	48.4	22.7	19.6	25-44 yrs.	52.3	47.3	21.8	19.0
45-64 yrs.	66.9	63.0	26.8	23.9	45-64 yrs.	65.3	62.7	20.7	18.6
65-74 yrs.	72.6	72.2	7.7	6.5	65-74 yrs.	68.7	71.2	6.7	5.8
75 yrs. up	64.9	72.2	6.5	4.8	75 yrs. up	60.6	71.7	5.5	4.2
2004	Women	Men	Women	Men	1996	<u>Women</u>	Men	Women	Men
18-24 yrs.	44.9	38.8	6.2	5.4	18-24 yrs.	35.0	29.8	4.3	3.7
25-44 yrs.	55.0	48.8	22.9	19.9	25-44 yrs.	51.5	46.8	21.8	19.2
45-64 yrs.	68.3	65.9	24.9	22.6	45-64 yrs.	65.1	63.7	18.1	16.5
65-74 yrs.	69.4	72.5	6.9	6.1	65-74 yrs.	68.1	72.6	6.8	5.9
75 yrs. up	63.9	71.0	6.4	4.5	75 yrs. up	59.4	68.3	5.0	3.6

^{*} Data are from the U.S. Bureau of the Census Current Population Reports, Series P-20, "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1964" and subsequent reports for all years through 2008. These figures are from post-election responses to supplementary questions in the monthly Current Population Survey for a sample of households in November of each election year. Respondents to the survey report their own voting activity and that of other members of their household. The sample systematically over-reports both voting and registration by several million people.

In years prior to 2000, the U.S. Bureau of the Census listed only three categories under "Race": Black, Hispanic and White. Their figures double-counted some Hispanic individuals who were also included as Black or White; thus, for years prior to 2000, the "number who reported voting" figure in the first table on this fact sheet is lower than the total reached by adding the "number who reported voting" figures for Black, Hispanic and White voters in the second table. Beginning in 2000, the Bureau of the Census separates out non-Hispanic Black voters and non-Hispanic White voters from Hispanic voters; the post-2000 figures also include Asian/Pacific Islanders for the first time. Hence, the pre-2000 numbers are less precise and are not directly comparable to the post-2000 figures.

A note to users of this information: Please credit the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN VOTER TURNOUT (CONTINUED)

Among Asians/Pacific Islanders, Blacks, Hispanics, and Whites, the <u>number</u> of female voters in recent elections has exceeded the <u>number</u> of male voters. While the difference in voter turnout rates between the sexes is greatest for Blacks, women have voted at higher rates than men among Blacks, Hispanics, and Whites in the last five presidential elections; in 2004 and 2008 (but not 2000), Asian/Pacific Islander women voted at slightly higher rates than Asian/Pacific Islander men.

		%Voting Age Pop. Reported Voting		Number Who Reported Voting		
		<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	
2008	Asian/Pacific Islander	32.5	31.7	1.8 million	1.6 million	
	Black	64.4	56.4	9.4 million	6.7 million	
	Hispanic	34.3	29.1	5.1 million	4.6 million	
	White	61.7	57.3	57.8 million	51.3 million	
2004	Asian/Pacific Islander	30.5	29.0	1.5 million	1.3 million	
	Black	59.8	51.8	8.3 million	5.7 million	
	Hispanic	30.9	25.2	4.1 million	3.5 million	
	White	62.0	58.6	56.2 million	50.4 million	
2000	Asian/Pacific Islander	24.9	26.0	1.1 million	1.0 million	
	Black	57.3	50.0	7.5 million	5.3 million	
	Hispanic	29.8	25.1	3.3 million	2.7 million	
	White	61.6	59.2	47.1 million	42.4 million	
1996	Black	53.9	46.6	6.7 million	4.6 million	
	Hispanic	29.3	24.2	2.6 million	2.2 million	
	White	57.2	54.8	48.1 million	43.1 million	
1992	Black	56.7	50.8	6.6 million	4.8 million	
	Hispanic	30.9	26.8	2.3 million	1.9 million	
	White	64.5	62.6	52.9 million	47.6 million	
1988	Black	54.2	48.2	5.9 million	4.2 million	
	Hispanic	30.1	27.4	2.0 million	1.8 million	
	White	59.8	58.3	47.7 million	42.7 million	
1984	Black	59.2	51.7	6.1 million	4.2 million	
	Hispanic	33.1	32.1	1.7 million	1.4 million	
	White	62.0	60.8	47.7 million	42.4 million	

VOTER TURNOUT IN NON-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Since 1986, the <u>proportion</u> of eligible female adults who voted has exceeded the <u>proportion</u> of eligible male adults who voted, reversing the historical pattern of higher turnout rates for men than for women.

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Non-presidential Election Year	% of Voting Age Who Reporte	•	Number Who Reported Voting			
Election real	willo neporte	u voing	who neported voting			
	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	Men		
2010	46.2	44.8	50.6 million	45.4 million		
2006	48.6	46.9	51.0 million	45.1 million		
2002	43.0	41.4	47.1 million	41.8 million		
1998	42.4	41.4	43.7 million	39.3 million		
1994	45.3	44.7	44.9 million	40.7 million		
1990	45.4	44.6	43.3 million	38.7 million		
1986	46.1	45.8	42.2 million	37.7 million		
1982	48.4	48.7	42.3 million	38.0 million		
1978	45.3	46.6	36.3 million	33.3 million		
1974	43.4	46.2	32.5 million	30.7 million		
1970	52.7	56.8	33.8 million	32.0 million		
1966	53.0	58.2	31.8 million	30.7 million		

VOTER REGISTRATION

Women outnumber men among registered voters.

Number Reporting They Are Registered Voters

	Women	Men		Women		
		<u> IVIEN</u>			<u>Men</u>	
2010	66.6 million	63.5 million	1996	67.9 million	59.6 million	
2008	78.1 million	68.2 million	1994	63.7 million	61.2 million	
2006	72.4 million	63.4 million	1992	67.3 million	59.3 million	
2004	75.6 million	66.4 million	1990	60.2 million	53.0 million	
2002	68.7 million	59.4 million	1988	63.4 million	55.1 million	
2000	69.2 million	60.4 million	1986	59.5 million	52.2 million	
1998	63.5 million	60.6 million	1984	62.1 million	54.0 million	