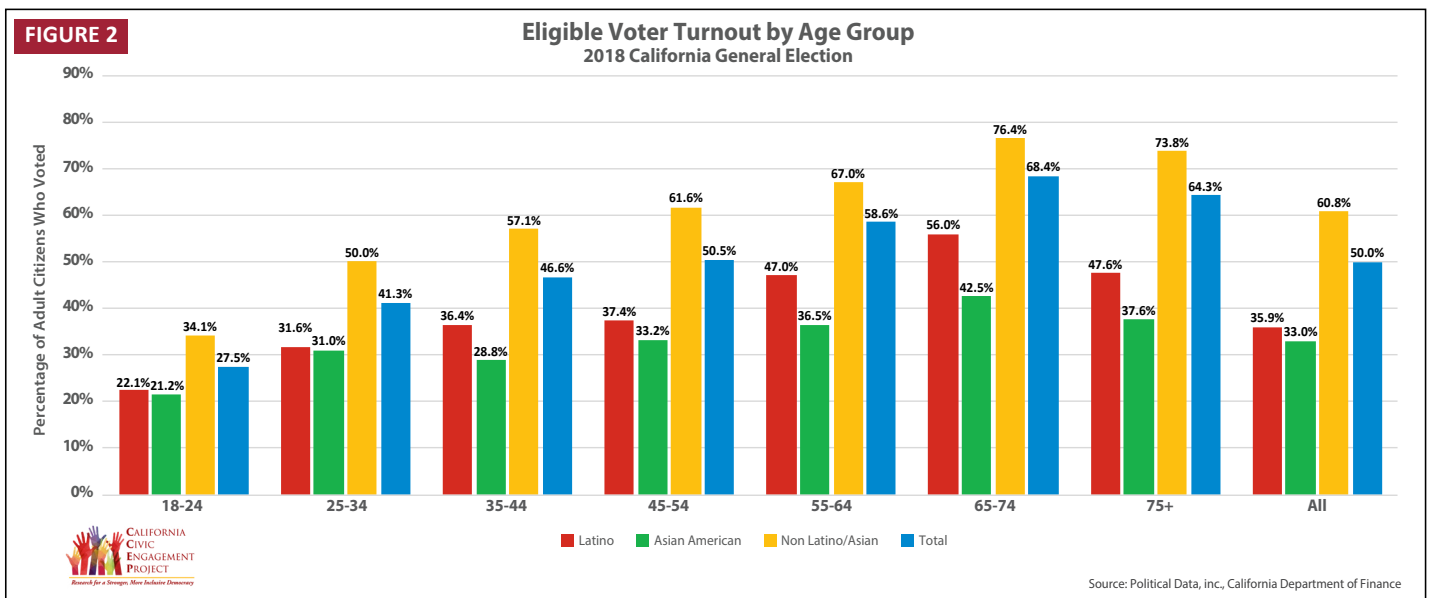
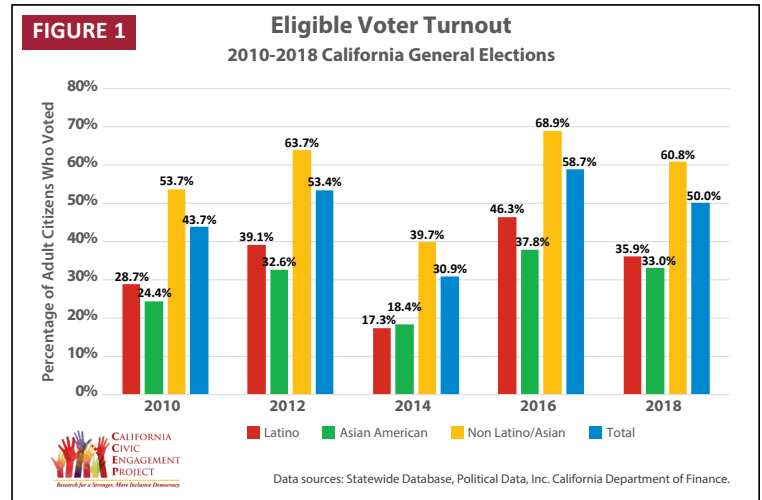


California's Latino and Asian-American Vote: November 2018 General Election



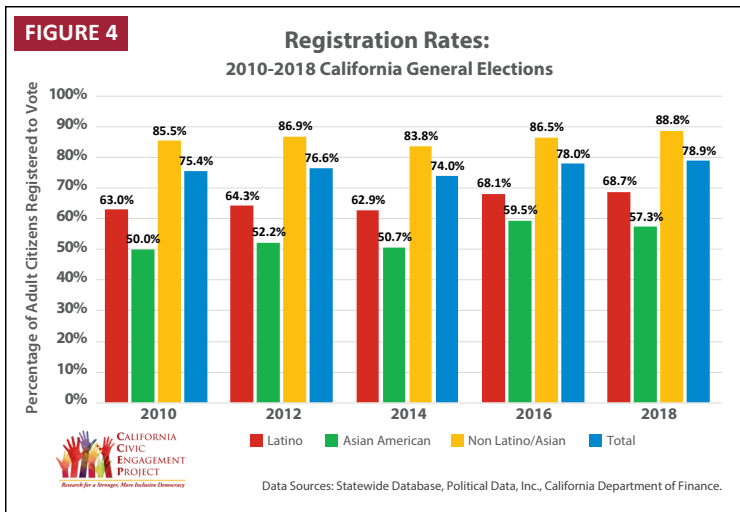
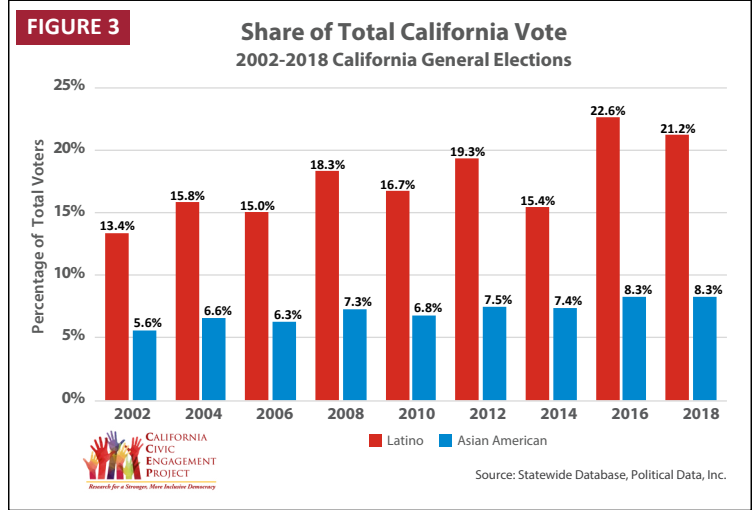
This CCEP fact sheet provides highlights of the participation of Latinos and Asian Americans in California's 2018 midterm general election.*

- According to the California Secretary of State, in the 2018 general election, California saw the highest eligible turnout rate (percentage of adult citizens who voted) in a midterm general election since 1982. The state's official eligible turnout rate of 50.5% was the same as the turnout rate for 1982 general election.
- In the 2018 general election, Latinos and Asian Americans experienced a significant increase in their eligible voter turnout rate compared to the prior midterm general election in 2014. Latino eligible turnout was 35.9% and Asian-American eligible turnout was 33.0% in 2018, compared with 17.3% and 18.4% turnout in 2014, respectively.
- The difference between the eligible voter turnout rates for Latinos and the total population (50.0% as calculated by the CCEP) increased to 14.1 percentage points in 2018 compared to a 13.6 percentage point gap in 2014. The difference between the eligible voter turnout rates for Asian Americans and the total population increased to 17.0 percentage points in 2018 compared to a 12.5 percentage point gap in 2014.



- In the 2018 general election, eligible voter turnout of Latino and Asian-American youth (age 18-24) remained lower than the turnout of youth overall. Both Latino and Asian-American youth had similar eligible turnout rates at 22.1% and 21.2%, respectively. Overall, youth eligible turnout was 27.5% in 2018.
- In the 2018 general election, the difference in the eligible turnout rates between Asian-American youth and older Asian Americans age 65-74 (the age group with the highest turnout rate) was 21.3 percentage points. For Latinos, the difference in eligible turnout rates for the same age groups was 33.9 percentage points. These turnout gaps by age group are considerably smaller than the turnout gap by age group for the rest of California voters (those not Latino and not American) - 42.3 percentage points.

- Due to higher Latino and Asian-American turnout rates in the 2018 general election compared to 2014, the Latino and Asian-American share of California’s voters increased significantly from 15.4% to 21.2% for Latinos, and from 7.4% to 8.3% for Asian Americans.
- The Latino and Asian-American shares of California’s voters in the 2018 general election were the highest of any California statewide midterm general election since at least 2002 (the earliest election data are available).
- Latinos and Asian Americans remain underrepresented among California’s voting electorate compared to their share of the state’s eligible voter population (adult citizens). At 8.3%, the Asian-American share of California’s 2018 general election voters is smaller than the Asian-American share of the state’s eligible voter population at 12.6%. For Latinos, their share of California’s 2018 general election voters was 21.2%, smaller than their share of the state’s eligible voter population at 29.5%.



- The registration rate (percentage of citizens who are registered to vote) reached 68.7% for Latinos and 57.3% for Asian Americans in the 2018 general election – an increase over their registration rates in the 2014 midterm general election (62.9% and 50.7% respectively).
- One significant challenge for Latinos and Asian Americans turning out to vote, is their continuing low registration rates compared to those who are not Latino and not Asian American. In 2018, the difference in registration rates between Latinos and Asian Americans and those not Latino and not Asian American was 20.1 percentage points and 31.5 percentage points comparing Latinos and Asian Americans respectively.

*For a full discussion of the data highlights presented in this CCEP Fact Sheet, please see the CCEP’s forthcoming research report, The Growing Voter Participation of Historically Underrepresented Groups in California: Increased Turnout in 2018 and Expected Impact in 2020, available at ccep.usc.edu

About the California Civic Engagement Project (CCEP)

The California Civic Engagement Project (CCEP) is part of the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy in Sacramento. The CCEP conducts research to inform policy and on-the-ground efforts for a more engaged and representative democracy, improving the social and economic quality of life in communities. The CCEP is engaging in pioneering research to identify disparities in civic participation across place and population. Its research informs and empowers a wide range of policy and organizing efforts aimed at reducing disparities in state and regional patterns of well-being and opportunity. To learn about the CCEP’s research, or review the extensive coverage of the CCEP’s work in the national and California media, visit our website at <http://ccep.usc.edu>



For more information about this research study, contact Mindy Romero, CCEP Director, at msromero@usc.edu.

Data sources: Political Data, Inc. and Statewide Database. For study methodology, see CCEP website.