



# Newsday

★★★★SPORTS FINAL

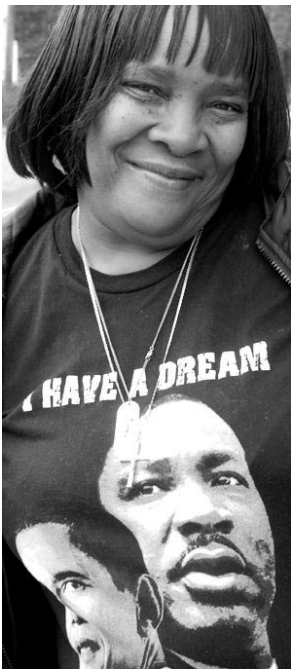
## THE AGE OF OBAMA

HIS TEAM  
HIS FAMILY  
YOUR FUTURE

24-PAGE SPECIAL  
WRAPS MAIN NEWS



# Indisputably



Deborah Meeks said she wished her mother were alive to see the win.



## ■ Local African-Americans ■ McCain backers wary, prideful in one of their own but recognize significance

BY SUMATHI REDDY  
sumathi.reddy@newsday.com

It was almost a foolish question.

"You don't even gotta ask," said Shawn Walker, 37, at work at Unique Cuts Barber Shop in Roosevelt. "EVERYBODY voted for Obama."

An overwhelming 97 percent of voters in Roosevelt turned out in favor of President-elect Barack Obama, according to a Newsday analysis, giving it the highest percentage of Obama supporters on Long Island.

In diners and barbershops yesterday, voters in Roosevelt, a majority black community, expressed pride and optimism that the watershed event will help their own community.

"Roosevelt is dying," said Andre Powell, 30. "Walk down the street; every other house is in foreclosure. And we're supposed to be one of the richest counties?"

Yet Roosevelt voters were jubilant yesterday and excited that they had helped elect someone they viewed as both one of their own and a president for all Americans.

But in the places where voters turned out heavily for McCain, there was a wariness about an Obama presidency,

even as they acknowledged the historic nature of the election.

Roosevelt residents were quick to point out that their votes were not simply to elect the first black president. Obama's message of hope, they said, is for everyone.

"It's not like: He's black, you gotta vote for him," said Joel Ramdwar, 18. "Obama is for everybody. He's about change, that's what we want."

At Joe's Coffee Shop down the street, patrons pored over newspapers as images of former presidential candidate Jesse Jackson tearing up flashed on a television screen.

Deborah Meeks, 55, wore a T-shirt with pictures of Martin Luther King Jr. and Obama. "I have a dream," the shirt read, "that change is gonna come." "I am shocked," Meeks said. "The first African-American president. I wish my mother and a whole lot of other mothers would have lived to see this day."

While Republican nominee John McCain did not receive the type of overwhelming support that Obama did in any Long Island ZIP code, he received a majority of the vote in dozens of areas, including 68.5 percent in Lawrence and 68 percent in Garden City.

Yesterday, the vibe in down-

town Lawrence and Garden City was decidedly different from Roosevelt's.

In Garden City, Blossom Reitman and Ellen Whelan lamented the election results. "I think it will be too much socialism," Reitman said.

Whelan said she was disappointed in the intelligence of the American people. "They voted in someone who is going to raise taxes," she said.

Residents in Lawrence say the results are no surprise given the large Orthodox Jewish population who questioned Obama's degree of support for Israel. "There may have been many people in this community who would have normally voted Democratic, who, because of concerns about Obama, may have gone for McCain," said Rabbi Kenneth Hain of Congregation Beth Shalom in Lawrence.

Mark Schreck, 39, an attorney and Lawrence resident who voted for McCain, said, "I felt that he would be good for Israel. If terrorism was on everybody's mind, then perhaps McCain would have had a better shot."

Still, Schreck, like most other McCain supporters, said he was awed to witness the election of the nation's first black president. "It's a historic election," he said. "It's very nice to see."



## Long Island voter turnout was near

BY ELIZABETH MOORE  
elizabeth.moore@newsday.com

After all the hoopla about the inspirational impact of Barack Obama's candidacy — and despite dramatic morning lines at polling places Tuesday — the final returns analyzed yesterday showed Nassau voters went to the polls Tuesday in almost exactly the same 70 percent rate as they did in choosing between Democrat John Kerry and Republican George W. Bush in 2004.

Suffolk's turnout in the Obama-John McCain election also was about 70 percent as well, which was below its 2004 turnout.

And in news that really gave the blues to local Democrats hopeful of riding the Obama coattails on Long Island, minority communities did not deliver the huge boost in turnout that some had expected. Although minority turnout showed modest gains over previous elections, it still trailed the countywide average.

Of the national predictions of record turnout, Curtis Gans, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, concluded: "Too much hype."

The numbers tell a surprising story:

Where was the highest turnout? In Nassau County, it was Sea Cliff,

with 75 percent of voters showing up, and in Suffolk, it was Jamesport, which delivered 93 percent to the polls, according to a Newsday analysis.

Just 58 percent of Hempstead's voters cast ballots at their polling places Tuesday, returns show. In Roosevelt, it was 59 percent; Westbury, 62 percent. Uniondale had the county's lowest turnout, 54.63 percent.

Never mind that two of these communities gave Obama 97 percent of their vote. For Nassau Democratic chairman Jay Jacobs, who had been banking on record minority turnout to unseat incumbent Republican state Sen.

Kemp Hannon of Garden City, the abrupt drop-off in the pace of voting Tuesday night was a bitter disappointment. Hannon won by about 4,300 votes.

"If people don't come out to vote in this election, why do you bother registering?" Jacobs said last night. "It's amazing to me that after all that early voting, all that business about crowded polls, it added up to the same damn thing. . . . You would think people would show up."

Nevertheless, drill down to a finer layer of detail, and a distinct pattern appears: Turnout in minority areas, while not meeting expectations, was still higher than in past years.



# historic

THE LI  
TURNOUT



NEWSDAY PHOTO / ARI MINTZ

Wilton Robinson of Roosevelt cheers at Westbury Manor on Tuesday night as Barack Obama is declared the victor.

## 2004's

There was reduced turnout in other districts, generally those that went for McCain.

The pockets of enthusiasm include 99 percent turnout in one Amityville district and 93 percent in a Patchogue neighborhood. Boosted turnout could be seen in some pockets of Port Jefferson, Gordon Heights, Huntington Station, Sag Harbor and Wheatley Heights. Dwindling enthusiasm was seen in parts of Smithtown, Medford, Copiague, East Farmingdale, Hampton Bays and Commack.

But in general, the McCain-friendly areas that saw reduced turnout tend to vote in larger numbers anyway.

## Race was closer on LI

BY BART JONES  
bart.jones@newsday.com

A day after Barack Obama's historic victory in the presidential race, unofficial results showed he took Long Island, too, but by a narrower margin than the nearly 2-1 split exit polls initially indicated.

In Suffolk County, Obama won the race against John McCain by 52 percent to 47 percent, with 1 percent for other candidates, according to unofficial results from the Suffolk County Board of Elections.

In Nassau, Obama had a slightly larger margin of victory — 53 percent to 46 percent, with 1 percent for other candidates. Both counties had about a 70 percent voter turnout.

Exit polls conducted by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International on Tuesday initially placed Obama ahead by a 64 percent to 35 percent advantage on Long Island. The margin of error was plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The polling firm noted that the sampling pool for Long Island was only 253 voters at the time, so it was not extensive.

The unofficial results from the counties showed some predictable results — Obama did well in areas with large minority populations or with generally liberal reputations. For instance, he took 96 percent of the vote in Wyandanch, 76 percent in Central Islip and 87 percent in Hempstead — communities made

### The breakdown

A map details how each community in Nassau and Suffolk voted in the presidential election.

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up largely of African-Americans or Latinos.

He also took 69 percent in Bridgehampton, 64 percent in East Hampton, and 63 percent in Port Washington.

McCain, on the other hand, did well in more conservative areas such as Smithtown (58 percent), St. James (60 percent), Garden City (68 percent), Bohemia (57 percent), and Cedarhurst (63 percent).

The totals for Obama and McCain in Suffolk were 318,920 versus 289,236. In Nassau, it was 316,523 for Obama and 272,765 for McCain.



# How LI voted

NEWSDAY has compiled local results of Tuesday's presidential race, using returns from the Nassau and Suffolk boards of elections. The map is divided by election districts. A typical village or community is composed of multiple

election districts, and since district boundaries do not always follow village lines precisely, the data are estimates. Figures in the tables are based on returns from polling place locations.



Barack Obama (D)

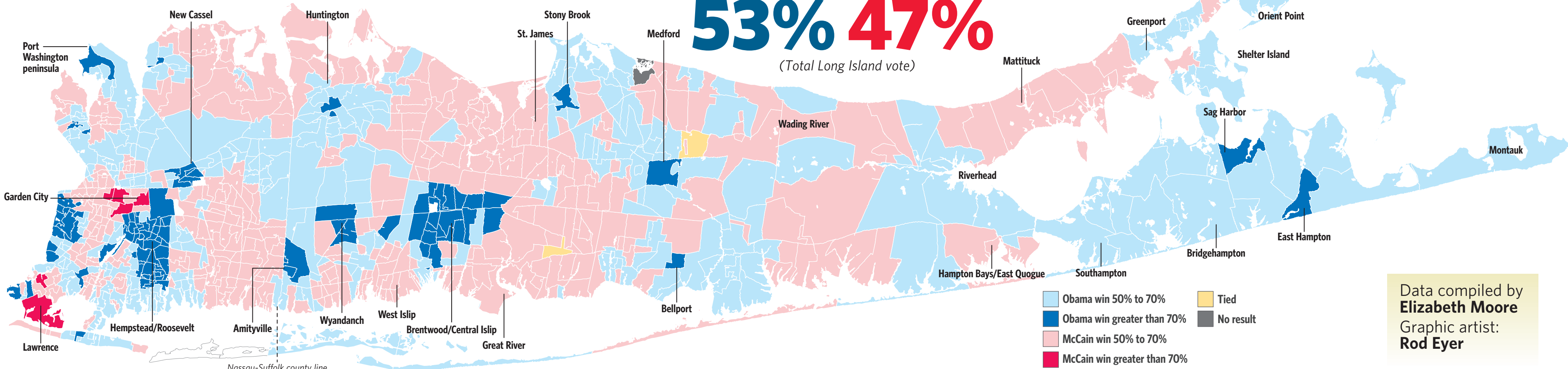


John McCain (R)

**53% 47%**  
(Total Long Island vote)

For an interactive map showing a breakdown of the vote by your community and polling place, go to [newsday.com/politics](http://newsday.com/politics)

## RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE



Data compiled by **Elizabeth Moore**  
Graphic artist: **Rod Eyer**

Community	Obama	McCain
<b>NASSAU</b>		
Albertson	51%	48%
Atlantic Beach	47	52
Baldwin	67	33
Bayville	40	60
Bellerose	57	42
Bellmore	49	51
Bethpage	41	58
Carle Place	45	55
Cedarhurst	36	63
East Atlantic Beach	47	52
East Williston	37	62
East Hills	54	46
East Meadow	52	47
East Norwich	42	57
East Rockaway	43	57
Elmont	77	23
Farmingdale	44	55
Floral Park	41	58
Franklin Square	40	59
Freeport	77	23
Garden City	31	68
Garden City Park	53	46
Garden City South	42	57

Community	Obama	McCain
Glen Cove	57%	43%
Glen Head	46	53
Great Neck	57	42
Hempstead	87	7
Herricks	55	44
Hewlett	54	45
Hicksville	49	50
Inwood	64	36
Island Park	48	52
Island Trees	45	55
Jericho	59	41
Lake Success	61	39
Lawrence	31	68
Levittown	46	53
Lido Beach	59	40
Locust Valley	43	56
Long Beach	61	38
Lynbrook	47	52
Malverne	47	52
Manhasset	45	54
Manorhaven	61	39
Massapequa	40	60
Massapequa Park	41	58
Merrick	53	46
Mineola	50	50

Community	Obama	McCain
North Bellmore	50%	49%
North Massapequa	39	61
North Merrick	49	50
North Valley Stream	64	35
New Cassel	97	3
New Hyde Park	48	52
North Bellmore	49	51
North Merrick	44	55
Oceanside	49	50
Old Bethpage	56	43
Old Brookville	40	60
Old Westbury	53	47
Oyster Bay	47	52
Plainview	58	42
Plandome	38	61
Point Lookout	43	56
Port Washington	63	36
Rockville Centre	56	44
Roosevelt	97	3
Roslyn	59	40
Roslyn Estates	61	39
Roslyn Harbor	52	46
Roslyn Heights	62	37
South Floral Park	88	12

Community	Obama	McCain
<b>SUFFOLK</b>		
South Hempstead	58%	42%
Sea Cliff	61	38
Seaford	39	60
Stewart Manor	32	66
Syosset	52	47
Uniondale	88	12
Valley Stream	60	40
West Hempstead	62	38
Wantagh	41	59
West Hempstead	42	58
Westbury	66	34
Williston Park	44	55
Woodbury	55	44
Woodmere	36	64
Amagansett	60%	39%
Amityville	73	25
Aquebogue	48	52
Babylon	49	50
Bay Shore	62	37
Bayport	48	51
Belle Terre	49	49
Bellport	60	40
Blue Point	48	51

Community	Obama	McCain
Bohemia	42%	57%
Brentwood	79	20
Bridgehampton	69	31
Brightwaters	49	50
Brookhaven	52	47
Calverton	44	55
Center Moriches	45	53
Centereach	52	47
Centerport	48	51
Central Islip	76	23
Cold Spring Harbor	46	53
Commack	47	53
Copiague	51	48
Coram	57	42
Cutchogue	49	50
Deer Park	51	48
Dix Hills	51	49
East Farmingdale	59	40
East Hampton	64	35
East Islip	41	58
East Marion	72	27
East Moriches	44	54
East Northport	47	52
East Patchogue	58	41
East Quogue	48	51

Community	Obama	McCain
East Setauket	49%	50%
Eastport	43	56
Eatons Neck	46	53
Farmingville	48	51
Fishers Island	70	29
Flanders	61	37
Great River	37	62
Greenlawn	58	41
Greenport	60	39
Halesite	48	52
Hampton Bays	48	51
Hauppauge	45	54
Holbrook	47	52
Holtsville	47	52
Huntington	52	48
Huntington Station	56	44
Islip	47	53
Islip Terrace	44	55
Jamesport	40	59
Kings Park	42	58
Lake Grove	45	54
Lake Ronkonkoma	48	51
Lindenhurst	47	52
Manorville	46	52

Community	Obama	McCain
Mastic	58%	42%
Mastic Beach	53	44
Mattituck	60	40
Medford	59	40
Melville	55	45
Middle Island	54	45
Miller Place	47	52
Montauk	57	42
Mount Sinai	44	56
Nesconset	44	55
North Babylon	51	48
North Haven	54	46
North Lindenhurst	56	44
Northport	48	51
Oak Beach	53	47
Oakdale	43	56
Ocean Beach	63	35
Orient	61	38
Patchogue	52	47
Peconic	49	51
Port Jefferson	58	41
Port Jefferson Station	52	47
Quogue	54	45
Remsenburg	47	52
Ridge	44	54

Community	Obama	McCain
Riverhead	53%	46%
Rocky Point	50	49
Ronkonkoma	47	52
Sag Harbor	69	30
Sayville	46	53
Selden	52	47
Setauket	53	46
Shirley	53	44
Shoreham	50	49
Smithtown	41	58
Sound Beach	52	46
Southampton	59	37
Southold	47	51
St. James	39	60
Stony Brook	63	36
Wading River	47	52
Wainscott	67	32
Water Mill	54	44
West Babylon	49	50
West Islip	39	60
West Sayville	46	52
Westhampton Beach	54	45
Wheatley Heights	85	14
Wyandanch	96	4
Yaphank	49	50