

Table 406. Voting-Age Population—Reported Registration and Voting by Selected Characteristics: 1996 to 2008

[193.7 represents 193,700,000. As of November. Covers civilian noninstitutional population 18 years old and over. Includes aliens. Figures are based on Current Population Survey (see text, Section 1 and Appendix III) and differ from those in Table 408 based on population estimates and official vote counts]

Characteristic	Voting-age population (mil.)							Percent reporting they registered						Percent reporting they voted								
								Presidential election years				Congressional election years		Presidential election years				Congressional election years				
	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	1996	2000	2004	2008	1998	2002	2006	1996	2000	2004	2008	1998	2002	2006	
Total ¹	193.7	198.2	202.6	210.4	215.7	220.6	225.5	65.9	63.9	65.9	64.9	62.1	60.9	61.6	54.2	54.7	58.3	58.2	41.9	42.3	43.6	
18 to 20 years old	10.8	11.4	11.9	11.7	11.5	11.6	11.7	45.6	40.5	50.7	49.3	32.1	32.6	37.0	31.2	28.4	41.0	41.0	13.5	15.1	17.1	
21 to 24 years old	13.9	14.1	14.9	15.6	16.4	16.2	16.6	51.2	49.3	52.1	56.2	35.0	42.5	44.9	33.4	35.4	42.5	46.6	19.2	18.7	21.9	
25 to 34 years old	40.1	38.6	37.3	38.5	39.0	39.4	40.2	56.9	54.7	55.6	56.5	52.4	50.2	50.3	43.1	43.7	46.9	48.5	28.0	27.1	28.3	
35 to 44 years old	43.3	44.4	44.5	43.7	43.1	42.6	41.5	66.5	63.8	64.2	61.4	62.4	60.0	59.3	54.9	55.0	56.9	55.2	40.7	40.2	40.1	
45 to 64 years old	53.7	57.4	61.4	66.9	71.0	75.0	78.1	73.5	71.2	72.7	70.4	71.1	69.4	69.6	64.4	64.1	66.6	65.0	53.6	53.1	54.3	
65 years old and over	31.9	32.3	32.8	33.9	34.7	35.8	37.5	77.0	76.1	76.9	75.0	75.4	75.8	75.4	67.0	67.6	68.9	68.1	59.5	61.0	60.5	
Male	92.6	95.2	97.1	100.9	103.8	106.5	109.0	64.4	62.2	64.0	62.6	60.6	58.9	59.5	52.8	53.1	56.3	55.7	41.4	41.4	42.4	
Female	101.0	103.0	105.5	109.5	111.9	114.1	116.5	67.3	65.6	67.6	67.0	63.5	62.8	63.5	55.5	56.2	60.1	60.4	42.4	43.0	44.7	
White ²	162.8	165.8	168.7	174.1	176.6	179.9	183.2	67.7	65.6	67.9	66.6	63.9	63.1	64.0	56.0	56.4	60.3	59.6	43.3	44.1	45.8	
Black ²	22.5	23.3	24.1	24.4	24.9	25.7	26.5	63.5	63.6	64.4	65.5	60.2	58.8	57.4	50.6	53.5	56.3	60.8	39.6	39.7	38.6	
Asian ^{2,3}	(NA)	(NA)	8.0	9.6	9.3	9.9	10.5	(NA)	30.7	34.9	37.3	(NA)	30.7	32.9	(NA)	25.4	29.8	32.1	(NA)	19.4	21.8	
Hispanic ⁴	18.4	20.3	21.6	25.2	27.1	29.0	30.9	35.7	34.9	34.3	37.6	33.7	32.6	32.1	26.7	27.5	28.0	31.6	20.0	18.9	19.3	
Region: ⁵																						
Northeast	38.3	38.5	38.9	41.1	41.0	41.2	41.5	64.7	63.7	65.3	63.7	60.8	60.8	60.3	54.5	55.2	58.6	57.4	41.2	41.4	42.8	
Midwest	45.2	45.9	46.4	48.8	48.4	49.1	49.4	71.6	70.2	72.8	70.6	68.2	66.5	68.3	59.3	60.9	65.0	63.4	47.3	47.1	50.7	
South	68.1	70.1	71.8	74.2	77.2	80.0	82.4	65.9	64.5	65.5	65.5	62.7	61.6	62.0	52.2	53.5	56.4	57.7	38.6	41.6	40.3	
West	42.1	43.7	45.5	46.3	49.1	50.4	52.2	60.8	56.9	60.1	59.4	56.0	54.0	55.4	51.8	49.9	54.4	54.6	42.3	39.0	42.4	
School years completed:																						
8 years or less	14.1	13.3	12.9	12.3	12.6	12.1	11.1	40.7	36.1	32.5	30.1	40.2	32.4	29.5	28.1	26.8	23.6	23.4	24.6	19.4	17.1	
High school:																						
Less than high school graduate	21.0	21.0	20.1	20.9	20.7	20.2	19.1	47.9	45.9	45.8	43.2	43.4	41.6	39.6	33.8	33.6	34.6	33.7	25.0	23.3	22.8	
High school graduate or GED ⁶	65.2	65.6	66.3	68.9	68.5	70.0	70.4	62.2	60.1	61.5	59.5	58.6	57.1	57.5	49.1	49.4	52.4	50.9	37.1	37.1	37.6	
College:																						
Some college or associate's degree	50.9	52.9	55.3	57.3	58.9	60.2	63.8	72.9	70.0	73.7	72.0	68.3	66.7	68.3	60.5	60.3	66.1	65.0	46.2	45.8	47.3	
Bachelor's or advanced degree	42.5	45.4	48.0	51.0	54.9	58.2	61.1	80.4	77.3	78.1	76.8	75.1	74.4	73.9	73.0	72.0	74.2	73.3	57.2	58.5	59.5	
Employed	125.6	130.5	133.4	134.9	138.8	143.8	143.2	67.0	64.7	67.1	66.4	62.6	61.7	62.7	55.2	55.5	60.0	60.1	41.2	42.1	43.9	
Unemployed	6.4	5.2	4.9	7.7	7.3	6.2	9.5	52.5	46.1	56.3	57.2	48.5	48.1	48.5	37.2	35.1	46.4	48.8	28.4	27.2	28.0	
Not in labor force	61.6	62.5	64.2	67.8	69.6	70.5	72.8	65.1	63.8	64.4	62.9	62.1	60.9	60.7	54.1	54.5	56.2	55.5	44.5	44.2	44.3	

NA Not available. ¹ Includes other races not shown separately. ² Beginning with the 2003 Current Population Survey (CPS), respondents could choose more than one race. 2004 and 2006 data represent persons who selected this race group only and exclude persons reporting more than one race. The CPS in prior years only allowed respondents to report one race group. See also comments on race in the text for Section 1. ³ Prior to 2004, this category was 'Asian and Pacific Islanders,' therefore rates are not comparable with prior years. ⁴ Hispanic persons may be any race. ⁵ For composition of regions, see map, inside cover. ⁶ The General Educational Development (GED) Test measures how well a non-high school graduate has mastered the skills and general knowledge that are acquired in a 4-year high school education. Successfully passing the exam is a credential generally considered to be equivalent to a high school diploma.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Reports*, P20-557, and earlier reports; "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2008" (published 20 July 2009); <<http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html>>; and unpublished data.