

NEW AMERICANS IN THE VOTING BOOTH

THE GROWING ELECTORAL POWER OF IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

By Walter A. Ewing, Ph.D. and Guillermo Cantor, Ph.D.



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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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The data analyzed in this report was prepared for the American Immigration Council by Rob Paral and Associates.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN IMMIGRATION COUNCIL

The American Immigration Council's policy mission is to shape a rational conversation on immigration and immigrant integration. Through its research and analysis, the Immigration Council provides policymakers, the media, and the general public with accurate information about the role of immigrants and immigration policy in U.S. society. Our reports and materials are widely disseminated and relied upon by press and policymakers. Our staff regularly serves as experts to leaders on Capitol Hill, opinion-makers, and the media. We are a non-partisan organization that neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for office.

Visit our website at www.immigrationpolicy.org and our blog at www.immigrationimpact.com.

GLOSSARY

API: Individuals who self-selected either “Asian” or “Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander” as their race, but did not select “Hispanic or Latino” as their ethnicity.

Black: Individuals who self-selected “black or African American” as their race, but did not select “Hispanic or Latino” as their ethnicity.

Native-Born Children of Immigrants: Native-born Americans who were born to at least one foreign-born parent no earlier than 1965, which is when the current era of large-scale immigration from Latin America and Asia began.

New Americans: Immigrants who are naturalized U.S. citizens, together with native-born Americans who were born no earlier than 1965 to at least one foreign-born parent.

White: Individuals who self-selected “white” as their race, but did not select “Hispanic or Latino” as their ethnicity.

SOURCE OF DATA AND TIME FRAME OF ANALYSIS

Unless otherwise noted, the data in this report is derived from the Voting and Registration Supplement to the Current Population Survey. This survey is conducted in November after the biennial federal elections. The data, and the survey from which it is derived, are subject to two principal limitations. First, actual voter turnout and registration may be overestimated by the CPS because individuals may over-report their electoral participation. Secondly, the CPS is a national survey and estimates derived from smaller sub-groups of the national population may be based on relatively small sample sizes. As a result, the margin of error associated with estimates of voting and registration for these sub-groups is greater than the margin of error associated with the national population.

For the purposes of this analysis, the relatively small Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population is grouped together with the Asian population.

Data for this report spans the period 1996 through 2012.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States is in the midst of a major demographic transformation that has profound political consequences. Over the past couple of decades, the number of voters who are immigrants or the native-born children of immigrants (“New Americans”)—as well as members of the larger communities to which immigrants and their children belong (primarily Latinos and Asians)—has grown dramatically. Between 1996 and 2012, the number of New American registered voters rose by 10.6 million—an increase of 143.1 percent—and the number of registered voters who are Latinos or Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs) increased by 9.8 million. Conversely, fewer and fewer voters are native-born whites.

Immigrants who are naturalized citizens, and the native-born children of immigrants born since the current era of large-scale immigration from Latin America and Asia began in 1965, are referred to in this report as “New Americans.” The U.S.-born children of immigrants in particular occupy a unique position in U.S. society in that they have watched one or both of their parents navigate a new society and culture. As a result, they are personally connected to the struggles of immigrants and to the ways in which U.S. society reacts to and treats immigrants. New Americans are both closely connected to, and many are a part of, the Latino and Asian communities in the United States. Latinos and Asians include not only immigrants and their children, but also families that have lived here for many generations. However, in general, Latinos and Asians have a close connection to the immigrant experience because they are immigrants themselves, or their parents were immigrants, or they live in neighborhoods where friends and extended family members are immigrants.

Together, New Americans, Latinos, and APIs are the fastest growing segments of the electorate. This trend goes far beyond the political dynamics of any particular election. New Americans, Latinos, and APIs constitute a rapidly rising political force with which more and more candidates for public office will have to reckon. In the coming years, politicians who alienate these voters will find it increasingly difficult to win national and many state and local elections—especially in close races.

The electoral power of New American, Latino, and API voters is substantial—and it’s growing fast

There were 18.1 million New Americans registered to vote in 2012, totaling 11.8 percent of all registered voters. This amounts to an increase of 10.6 million (or 143.1 percent) since 1996. As of 2012, 13.7 million Latinos accounted for 8.9 percent of all registered voters, while 4.8 million APIs accounted for 3.2 percent. Between 1996 and 2012, the number of Latino registered voters increased by 7.1 million (an increase of 108.4 percent). API registered voters increased in number by 2.7 million (an increase of 125.5 percent). Between 1996 and 2012, the Latino share of all registered voters increased by 3.8 percentage points and the API share by 1.5 percentage points. In contrast, the non-Latino white share declined by 8.0 percentage points.

New Americans, Latinos, and APIs account for large and growing shares of registered voters in many electorally important states

New Americans

California is home to more New American registered voters (4.7 million) than any other state. This is followed by New York (2.1 million), Florida (1.8 million), and Texas (1.4 million). New Americans comprise just under one-third of registered voters in California—the highest share in the nation. Next

in line is New York, with nearly one-quarter of registered voters being New Americans. In Nevada, New Jersey, and Florida, New Americans make up about one-fifth of all registered voters. The number of New American registered voters increased by the largest margin in California (2.7 million) between 1996 and 2012. The number also grew significantly in Florida (1.1 million) and New York (1.1 million). In terms of percentages, the ranks of New American registered voters increased most dramatically in Nevada: growing by 588.6 percent. Next are Georgia (472.8 percent), North Carolina (423.8 percent), and Arizona (397.6 percent). The New American share of registered voters increased by more than 15 percentage points in Nevada and California during this period. New York experienced an 11 percentage point increase, and both Florida and Arizona registered an increase of nearly 10 percentage points.

Latinos

The largest number of Latino registered voters resides in California (3.7 million). Next in line are Texas (2.7 million), Florida (1.6 million), and New York (1 million). Latinos comprise more than one-third of registered voters in New Mexico, and nearly a quarter in Texas and California. In Arizona and Florida, Latinos account for just under one-fifth of registered voters. The number of Latino registered voters increased the most from 1996 to 2012 in California (2 million), Texas (1 million), and Florida (1 million). The percentage increase in the number of Latino registered voters was greatest in Tennessee (1,063.6 percent), Arkansas (891.6 percent), and North Carolina (779.9 percent). The Latino share of registered voters grew by roughly 11 percentage points in California and Nevada between 1996 and 2012. In Florida there was an increase of 8.2 percentage points, followed by Arizona (5.9 percentage points).

APIs

The greatest number of API registered voters is found in California (1.7 million), followed by New York (400,000), Texas (300,000), and Hawaii (300,000). APIs account for nearly one-half of all registered voters in Hawaii, and more than one out of ten in California. From 1996 to 2012, the number of API registered voters increased by 845,000 in California. Other large increases also occurred in New York (202,000) and Texas (200,000). The most dramatic growth in numbers of API registered voters occurred in Alabama, increasing from virtually nothing in 1996 to 17,235 in 2012. The growth rate in Florida during this time was 1,099.1 percent, followed by the District of Columbia (611.1 percent), Georgia (493.3 percent), and Nevada (457.7 percent). The greatest increase in the API share of registered voters between 1996 and 2012 occurred in Nevada (5.5 percentage points). Close behind were California (4.4 percentage points) and New Jersey (4.1 percentage points).

The Potential Power of the New American Vote

The electoral power which New Americans wield—or can wield, especially in close elections—is evident in the fact that the number of New American voters in 2012 exceeded the margin by which President Obama either won or lost the race in 12 states. Specifically, New American voters were greater in number than President Obama’s margin of victory in California, Colorado, Florida, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Their numbers were greater than Obama’s margin of defeat in Arizona, Georgia, and North Carolina.

INTRODUCTION

The United States is in the midst of a major demographic transformation that has profound political (and economic) consequences.¹ In 2011, the first of the baby boomers—predominantly white, native-born Americans born between 1946 and 1964—turned 65 years old.² There are 77 million baby boomers, comprising nearly one quarter of the total population,³ and their declining numbers are having an enormous impact on all facets of U.S. society—including the political system. Put simply, more and more voters are immigrants and the native-born children of immigrants, as well as members of the larger communities to which immigrants and their children belong—primarily Latinos and Asians. Conversely, fewer and fewer voters are native-born whites.

The U.S.-born children of immigrants occupy a unique position in U.S. society in that they have watched one or both of their parents navigate a new society and culture. As a result, they are personally connected to the struggles of immigrants and to the ways in which U.S. society reacts to and treats immigrants. The native-born children of immigrants born since the current era of large-scale immigration from Latin America and Asia began in 1965 are likely to be the most attuned to the contemporary immigrant experience.

The U.S.-born children of immigrants are personally connected to the struggles of immigrants and to the ways in which U.S. society reacts to and treats immigrants.

Immigrants who have become U.S. citizens (naturalized citizens) and the U.S.-born children of immigrants are both closely connected to, and many are a part of, the Latino and Asian communities in the United States. Latinos and Asians include not only immigrants and their children, but also families that have lived here for many generations. However, in general, Latinos and Asians have a close connection to the immigrant experience because they are immigrants themselves, or their parents were immigrants, or they live in neighborhoods where friends and extended family members are immigrants.

Immigrants who are naturalized citizens, and the (post-1965) native-born children of immigrants, are collectively referred to in this report as “New Americans.” In addition, in this analysis, the relatively small Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population is grouped together with the Asian population. Together, New Americans, Latinos, and Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs) are the fastest growing segments of the electorate. This trend goes far beyond the political dynamics of any particular election. New Americans, Latinos, and APIs constitute a rapidly rising political force with which more and more candidates for public office will have to reckon. In the coming years, politicians who alienate these voters will find it increasingly difficult to win national and many state and local elections—especially in close races.

This demographic shift is apparent in electoral data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). Between 1996 and 2012, for instance, the number of New American registered voters increased by 143.1 percent, while the number of registered voters who are not New Americans grew by only 12.4 percent. Similarly, the number of registered voters who are API increased 125.5 percent during this period, and the number who are Latino went up 108.3 percent—compared to an increase of 8.3 percent among white registered voters.

At the state level, New Americans, Latinos, and APIs constitute a predictably large share of registered voters in traditional immigrant “gateways” such as California, New York, Texas, Illinois, and Florida.

However, some of the fastest growth rates are found in other states. The highest percentage increase in the number of New American registered voters between 1996 and 2012 took place in Nevada, Georgia, North Carolina, Arizona, and Washington. The highest percentage increase in the number of Latino registered voters occurred in Tennessee, Arkansas, North Carolina, Kentucky, and West Virginia. In short, the electoral power of immigrant communities is rising fast, or is already significant, in every part of the country.

THE IMPORTANCE OF IMMIGRATION AS AN ELECTION ISSUE

New Americans, Latinos, and Asians all feel the impact of current immigration policies. The rising number of deportations over the past few years has resulted in an unprecedented number of family members being separated from one another. Because a significant number of New American voters belong to “mixed status” families, or have direct contact with people vulnerable to deportations, they are both directly and indirectly affected by the inequities of the U.S. immigration system.

Nearly 5 million non-citizens were removed from the country between 1996 and 2013. In 2013 alone, 438,421 individuals were deported—up from the 418,397 in 2012.⁴ Because many of those deported have families in the United States, including U.S.-citizen spouses and children, deportations quite often result in family separation. The Pew Research Center estimates that approximately 5.5 million children in the United States as of 2010 had at least one parent who was an unauthorized immigrant.⁵

Not surprisingly, a survey conducted by the Center for American Progress Action Fund and Latino Decisions in June 2014 found that two-thirds of Latino registered voters are paying attention “very closely” or “somewhat closely” to the immigration policy debate that is taking place in Congress right now. In addition, 62 percent said that they knew somebody who was an unauthorized immigrant, and 32 percent knew someone who had faced detention or deportation for immigration reasons.⁶

Along the same lines, a study on public attitudes among Latinos and Asian Americans conducted by the Pew Research Center shows that immigration reform is important to both groups. Nearly 70 percent of Latinos say it is important to them that immigration reform passes this year, and 44 percent of Asian Americans share that view. According to the same survey, 59 percent of Latino immigrants in particular and 46 percent of Latinos in general say they worry “a lot” or “some” that they themselves, or a family member, or a close friend could be deported. The shares of Asian American immigrants and Asian Americans who worry about deportation are 18 percent and 16 percent, respectively.⁷

However, the problems with the immigration system are not limited to the unauthorized population and the effects on families and communities of mass deportations. Significant backlogs in the family immigration system have been a long-standing issue for the Asian American community. Many Asian American individuals in the United States have to wait years and sometimes decades to be reunited with their loved ones overseas. The possibility of Congress passing immigration reform offered New Americans in general, and Asian Americans in particular, hope of being reunited with family members.⁸ Consequently, the lack of action on immigration is clearly an element that informs the political behavior of Asian Americans as well as Latinos.

The problems with the immigration system are not limited to the unauthorized population and the effects on families and communities of mass deportations.

This report uses CPS data to document the rising numbers of New American, Latino, and API registered voters both nationally and at the state level. The report first looks at the numbers of New American, Latino, and API registered voters nationally as of 2012, then examines how much these numbers have grown since 1996. This growth is measured in two ways: increases in the absolute numbers of New American, Latino, and API registered voters; and increases in the New American, Latino, and API shares of registered voters. A similar approach is used at the state level. “Top ten” states are ranked according to the absolute numbers of New American, Latino, and API registered voters as of 2012, and then as shares of all registered voters in the state. Next, the increasing numbers of New American, Latino, and API registered voters since 1996 are measured in three ways: increases in absolute numbers, percentage increases, and increases in shares of all registered voters in the state. Appendix tables at the end of the report provide detailed data for every state in the country.

NEW AMERICANS, LATINOS, AND APIs AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

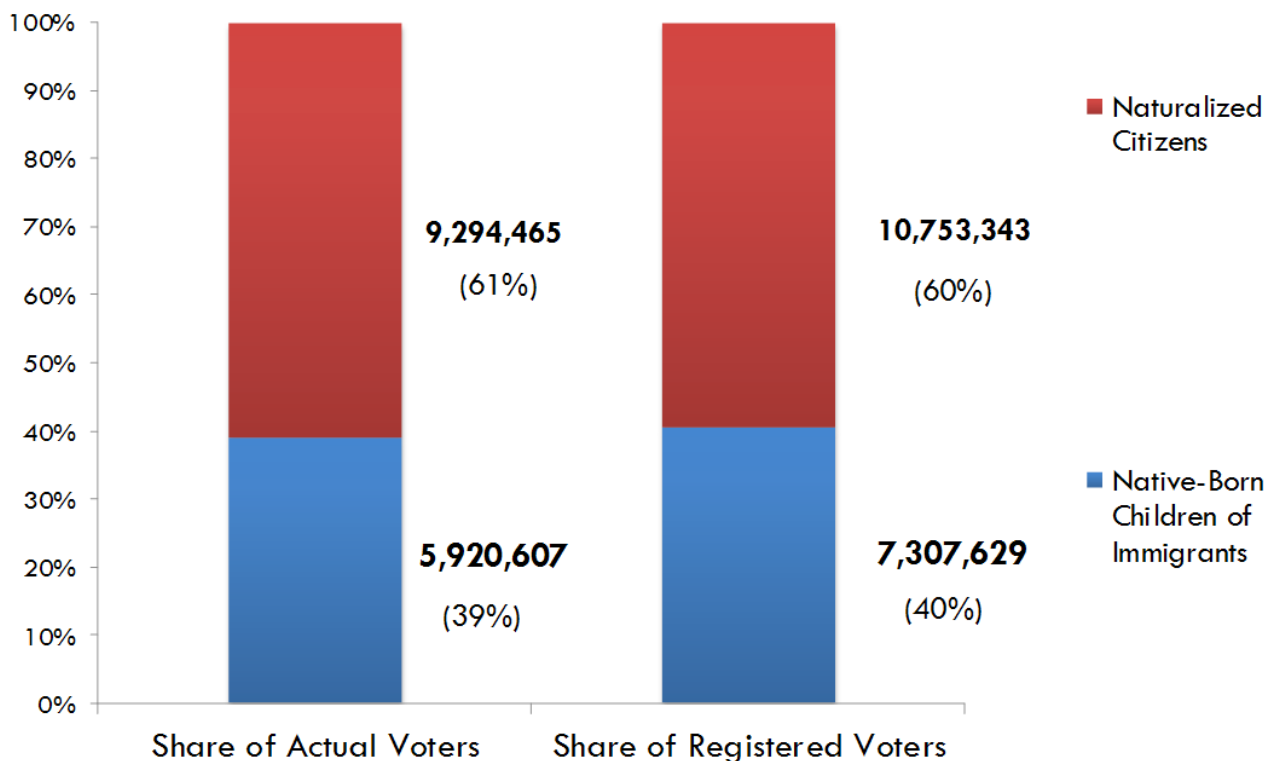
The electoral power of New American voters is significant

There were 18.1 million New Americans registered to vote in 2012, totaling 11.8 percent of all registered voters. Of these, 15.2 million voted in 2012, representing 11.4 percent of all those who voted [Table 1].

Table 1: New American Registered Voters & Actual Voters, 2012	
Registered Voters	18,060,972
Actual Voters	15,215,073

Among New American registered voters, 10.8 million were naturalized citizens and 7.3 million were (post-1965) children of immigrants. Among actual voters, 9.3 million were naturalized citizens and 5.9 million were children of immigrants [Figure 1].

Figure 1: New American Share of Registered Voters & Actual Voters, 2012



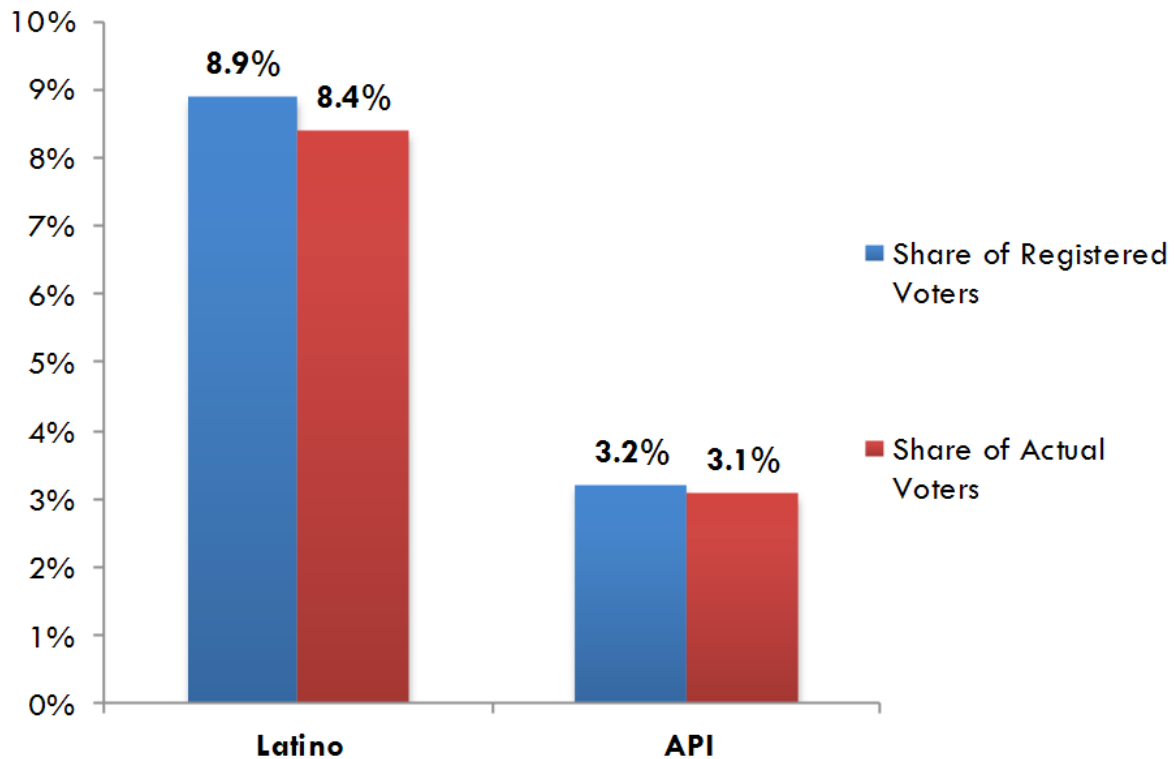
The electoral power of Latino and API voters is significant

Together, Latinos and APIs constituted 18.5 million, or 12.1 percent, of all registered voters in 2012. Separately, 13.7 million Latinos accounted for 8.9 percent of all registered voters, while 4.8 million APIs accounted for 3.2 percent of registered voters [Table 2 and Figure 2].

Table 2: Latino & API Registered Voters & Actual Voters, 2012		
	Latinos	APIs
Registered Voters	13,697,364	4,840,507
Actual Voters	11,187,993	4,057,052

Together, Latinos and APIs accounted for 15.2 million, or 11.5 percent, of all persons who cast a ballot in 2012. Separately, 11.2 million Latinos comprised 8.4 percent of all voters, while 4.1 million APIs comprised 3.1 percent of all voters [Table 2 and Figure 2].

Figure 2: Latino & API Share of Registered Voters & Actual Voters, 2012

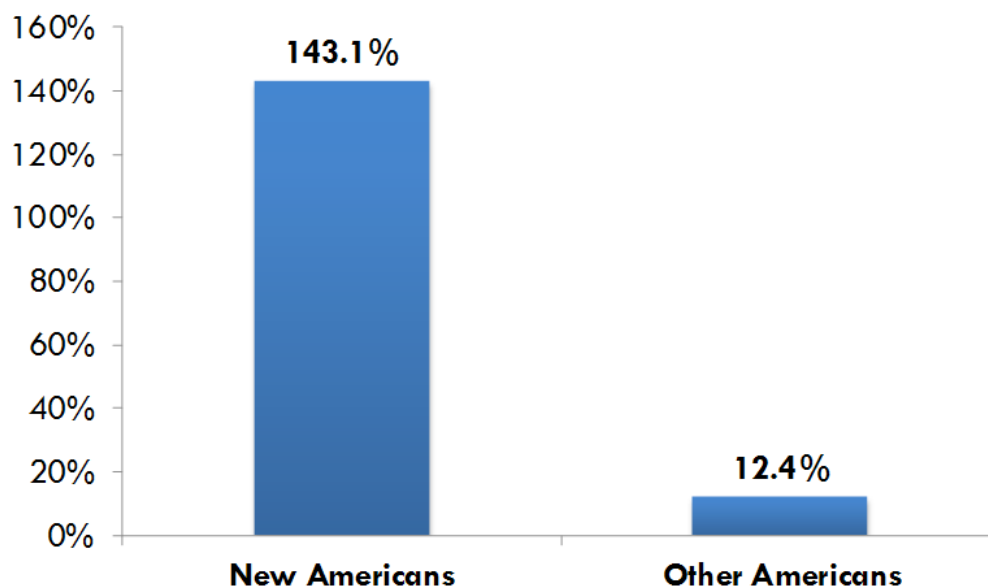


The electoral power of New Americans is growing fast

The number of New American registered voters rose by 10.6 million between 1996 and 2012—an increase of 143.1 percent. Registered voters who were naturalized citizens increased by 5.6 million—an increase of 107.7 percent. Registered voters who were children of immigrants increased by 5.1 million—an increase of 224.4 percent [Table 3 and Figure 3].

Table 3: New American & Other American Registered Voters, 1996 & 2012				
	1996	2012	Number Change	Percent Change
New Americans	7,428,861	18,060,972	10,632,111	143.1%
Naturalized Citizens	5,176,164	10,753,343	5,577,179	107.7%
Native-Born Children of Immigrants	2,252,697	7,307,629	5,054,932	224.4%
Other Americans	120,232,587	135,096,293	14,863,706	12.4%
All Americans	127,661,448	153,157,265	25,495,817	20.0%

Figure 3: Percent Change in Number of New American & Other American



Registered Voters, 1996-2012

During the 16 years between the Presidential elections of 1996 and 2012, the New American share of registered voters increased by 6.0 percentage points. Conversely, the share of registered voters comprised of the rest of the population declined by 6.0 percentage points. In 1996, New Americans were 5.8 percent of those registered to vote. By 2012, they were 11.8 percent of registered voters [Figures 4 & 5].

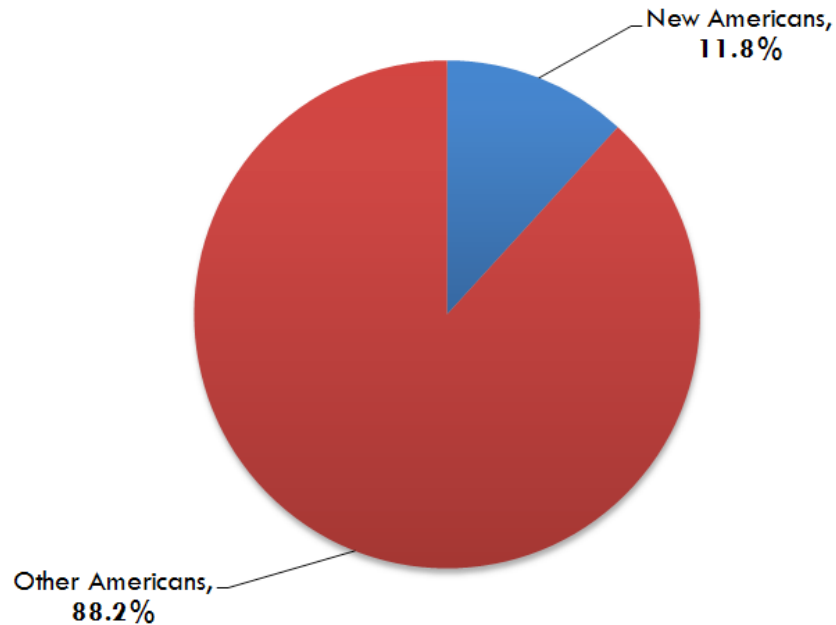
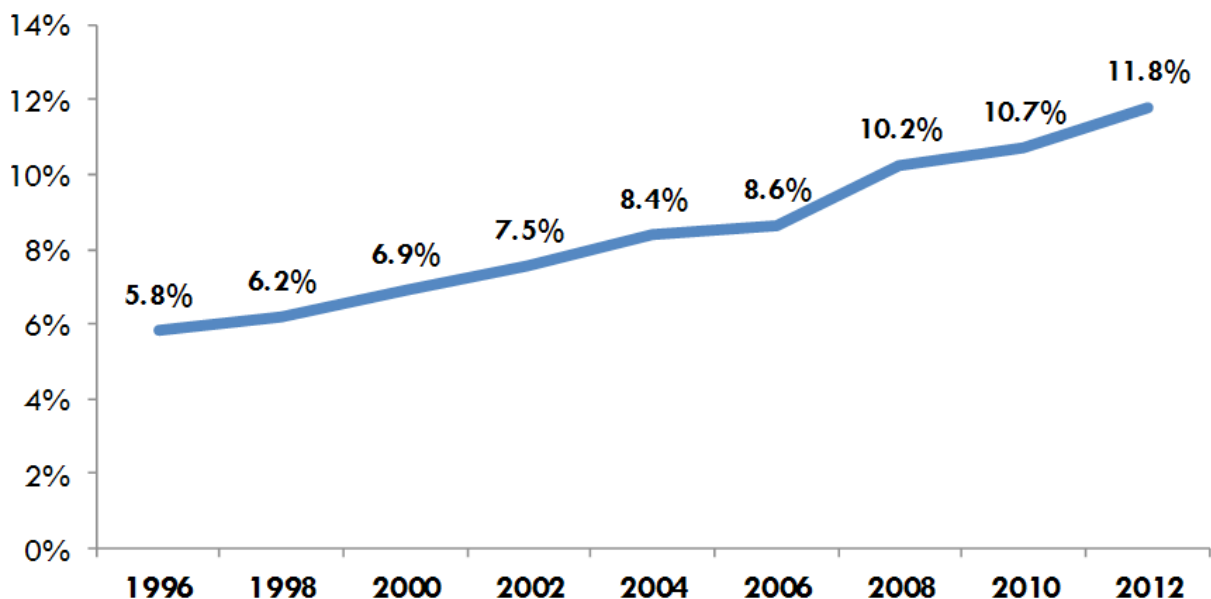


Figure 4: New American Share of Registered Voters, 2012

Since 1996, the number of New Americans registered to vote increased steadily in each election year. Between 1996 and 2012, the number of New American registered voters grew from 7.4 million to 18.1 million individuals [Table 3].

Figure 5: New American Share of Registered Voters, 1996-2012

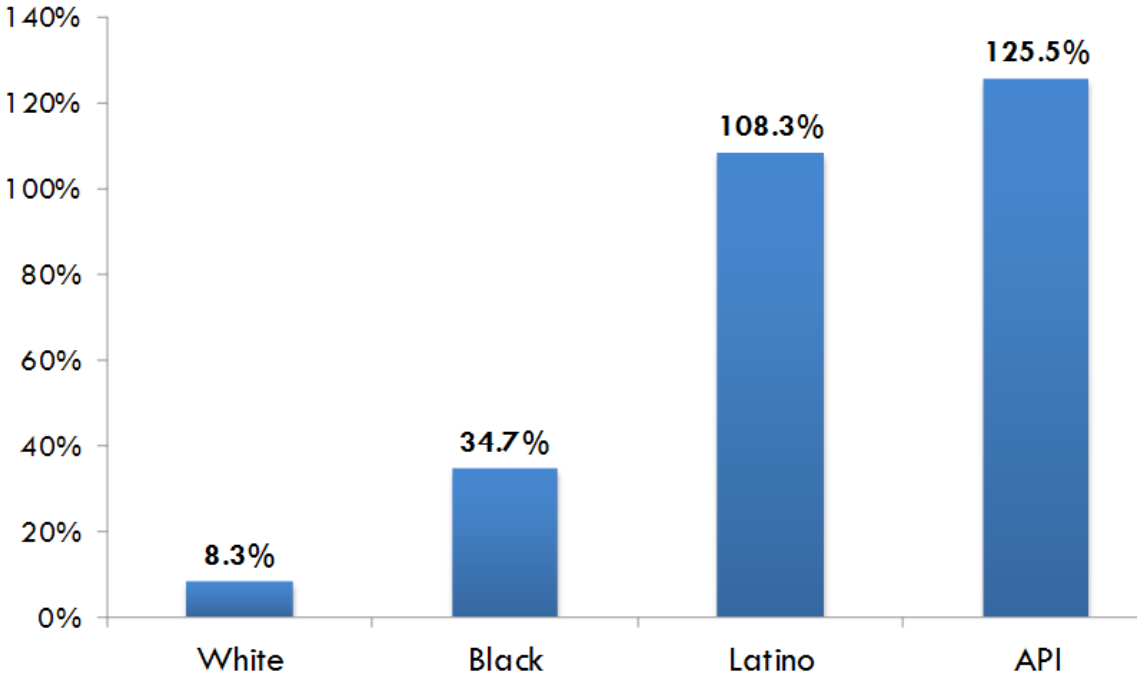


The electoral power of Latinos and APIs is growing fast

The number of Latino and API registered voters increased by 9.8 million between 1996 and 2012. Latino registered voters increased by 7.1 million (an increase of 108.4 percent). API registered voters increased by 2.7 million (an increase of 125.5 percent) [Table 4 and Figure 6].

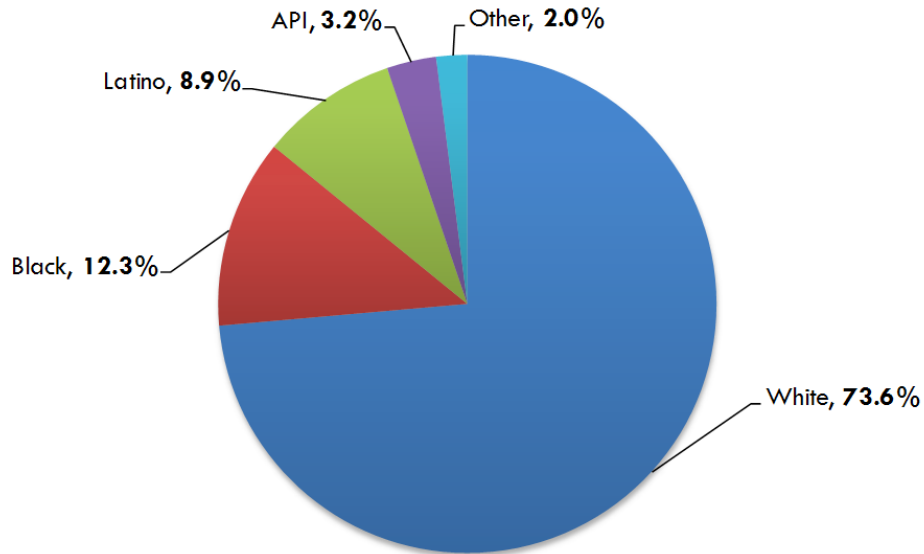
Table 4: Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 1996 & 2012				
	1996	2012	Number Change	Percent Change
White	104,100,691	112,705,704	8,605,013	8.3%
Black	13,990,648	18,852,386	4,861,738	34.7%
Latino	6,572,830	13,697,364	7,124,534	108.4%
API	2,146,468	4,840,507	2,694,040	125.5%
Other	850,811	3,061,305	2,210,494	259.8%
Total	127,661,448	153,157,265	18,64	14.6%

Figure 6: Percent Change in Number of Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 1996-2012



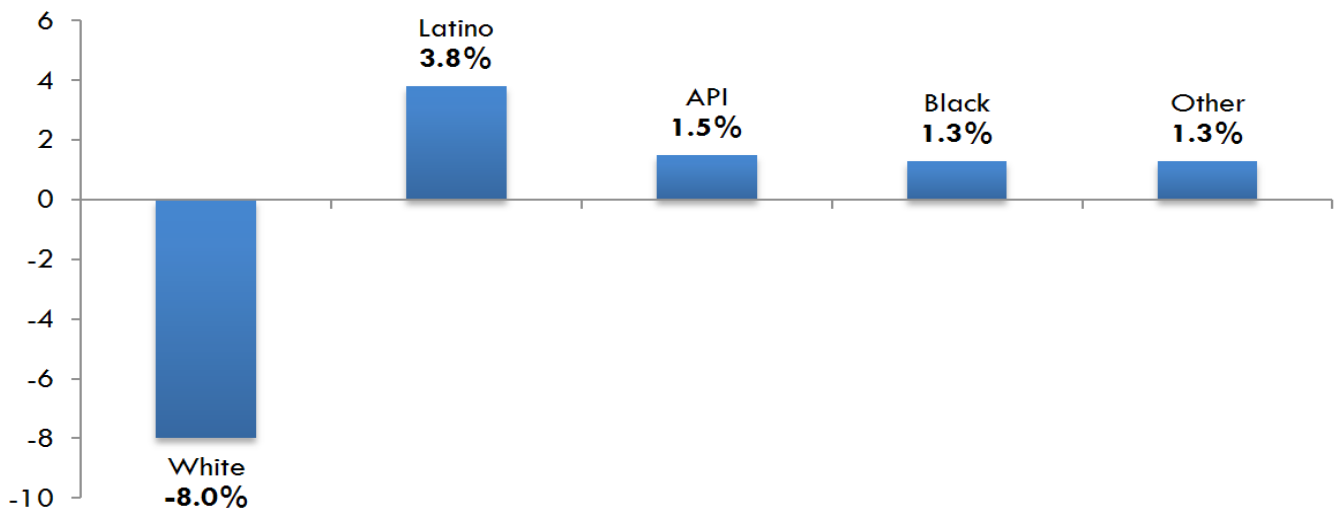
Latinos and Asians combined accounted for 12.1 percent of all registered voters in 2012. Latinos were 8.9 percent of registered voters. APIs were 3.2 percent of registered voters [Figure 7].

Figure 7: Share of Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 2012



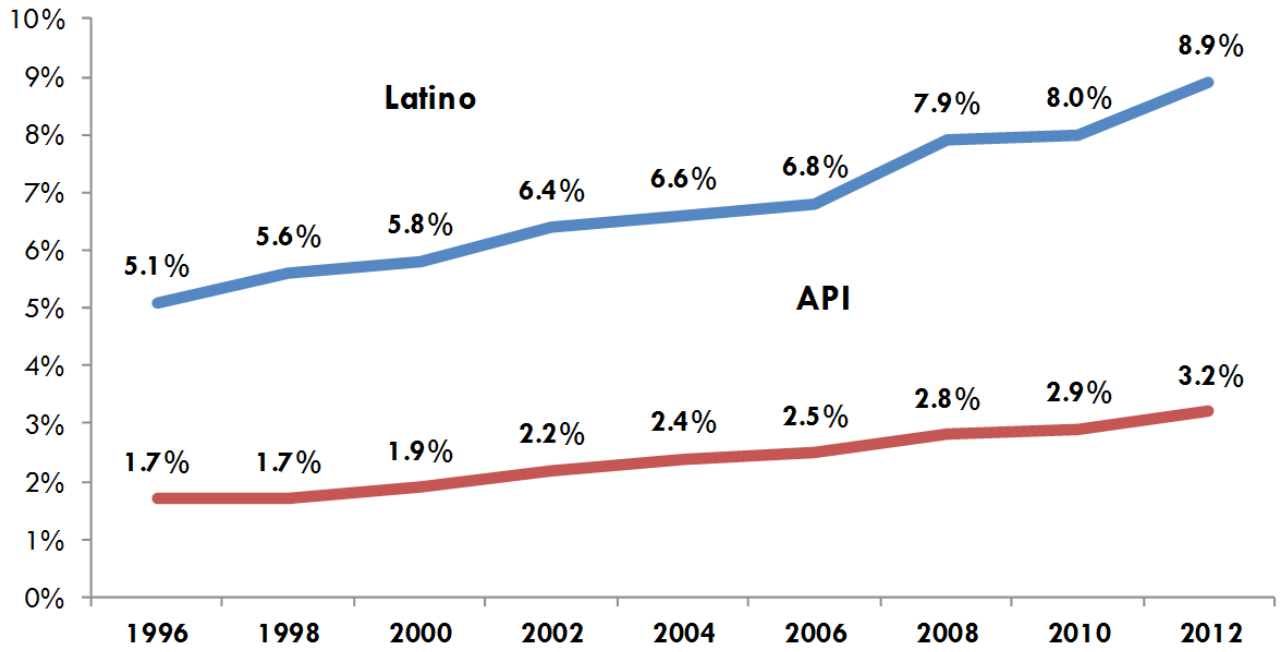
Between 1996 and 2012, the Latino share of registered voters increased by 3.8 percentage points and the API share by 1.5 percentage points. In contrast, the non-Latino white share declined by 8.0 percentage points [Figure 8].

Figure 8: Percentage Point Change in Share of Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 1996-2012



Since 1996, the Latino and API shares of registered voters have increased steadily in each election year [Figure 9].

Figure 9: Latino & API Share of Registered Voters, 1996-2012



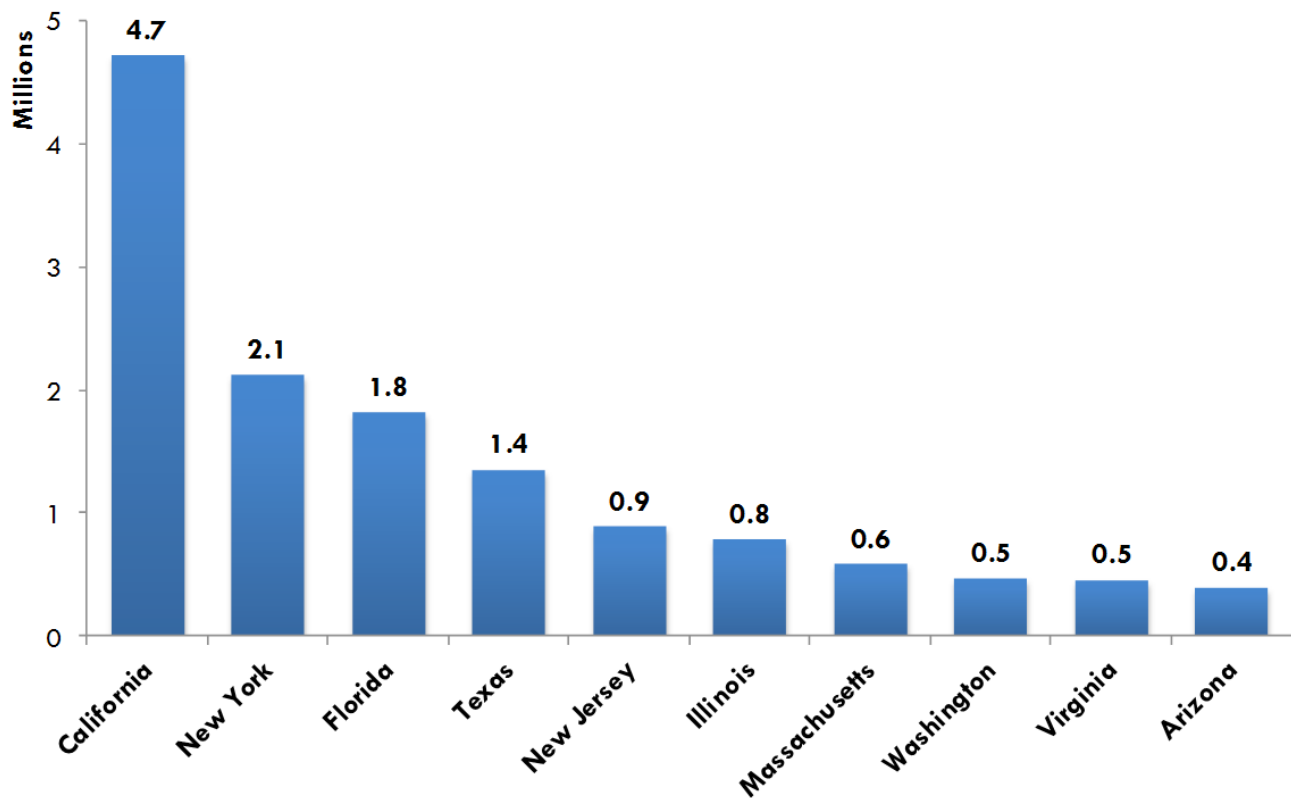
NEW AMERICANS, LATINOS, AND APIs AT THE STATE LEVEL

New Americans, Latinos, and APIs account for large shares of registered voters in many electorally important states

New Americans

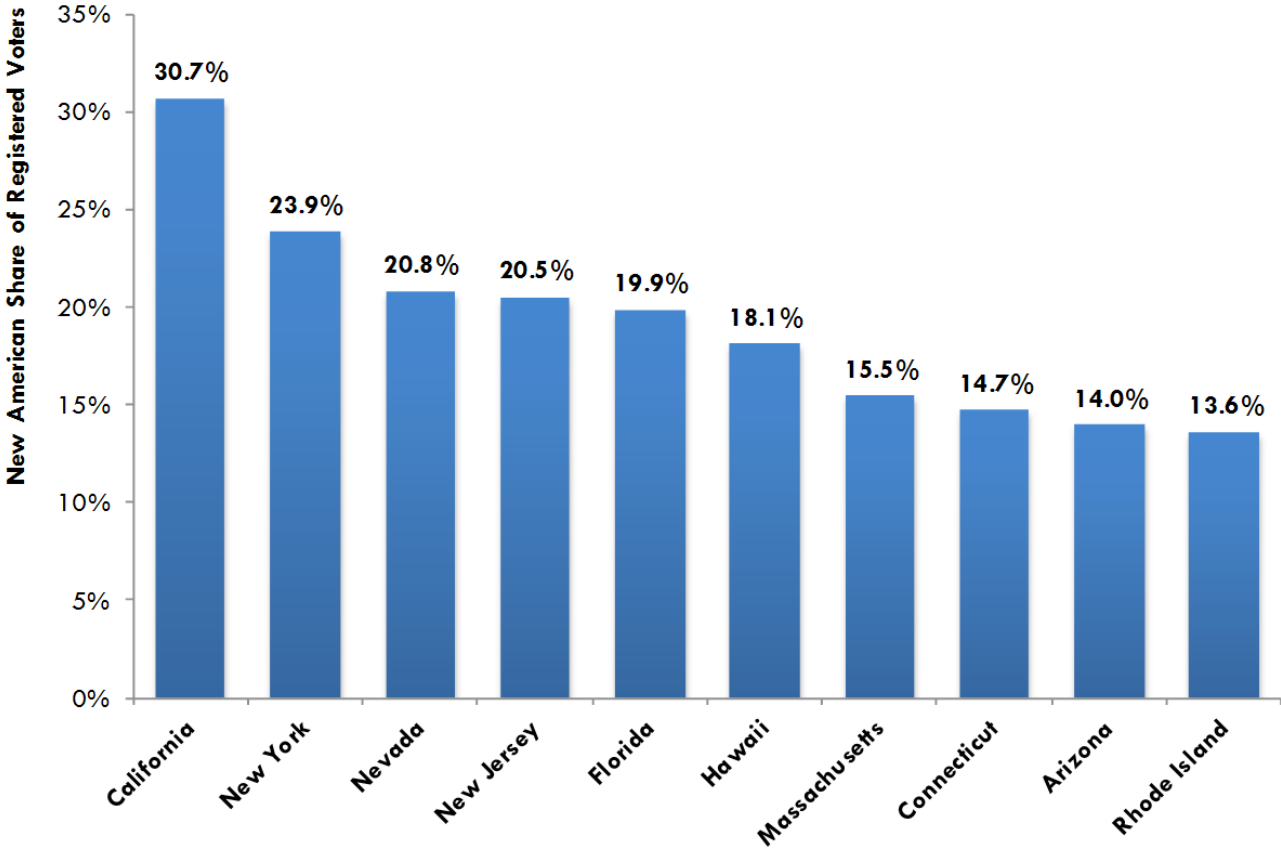
California is home to more New American registered voters (4.7 million) than any other state in the country. This is followed by New York (2.1 million), Florida (1.8 million), Texas (1.4 million), and New Jersey (900,000) [Figure 10 & Appendix Table 1].

Figure 10: States With Largest Number of New American Registered Voters, 2012



New Americans comprise just under one-third of registered voters in California—the highest share in the nation. Next in line is New York, with nearly one-quarter of registered voters being New Americans. In Nevada, New Jersey, and Florida, New Americans make up about one-fifth of all registered voters [Figure 11 & Appendix Table 1].

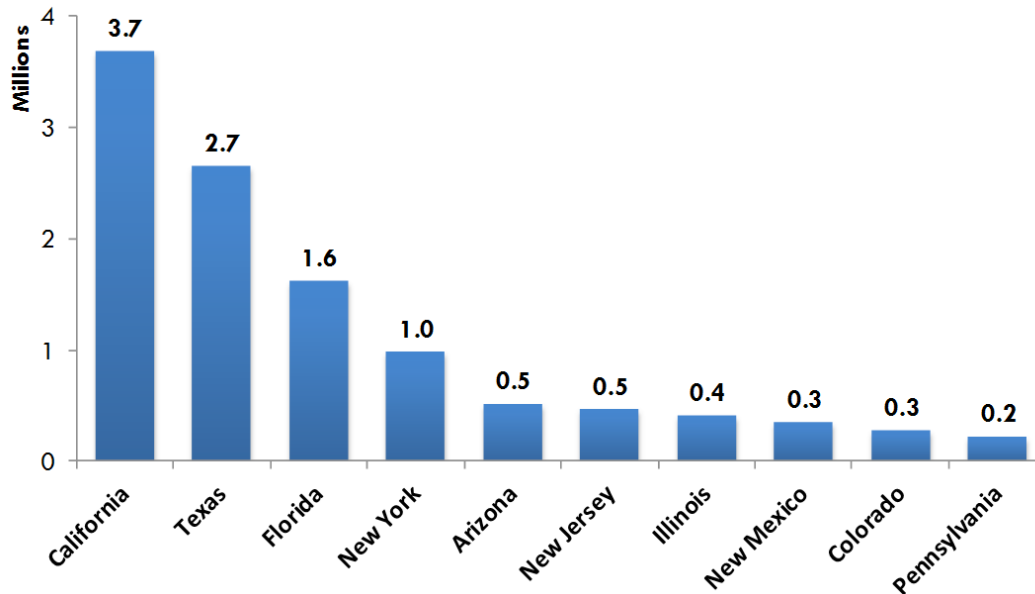
Figure 11: States With Highest New American Share of Registered Voters, 2012



Latinos

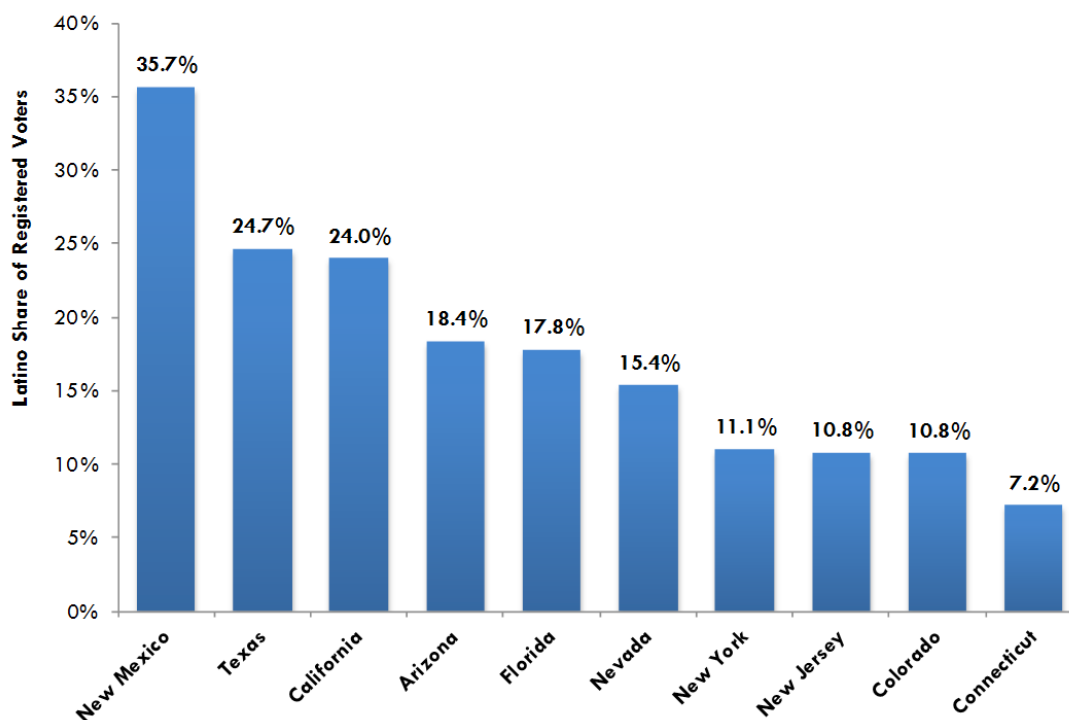
As with New Americans, the largest number of Latino registered voters reside in California (3.7 million). Next in line are Texas (2.7 million), Florida (1.6 million), New York (1 million), and Arizona (500,000) [Figure 12 & Appendix Table 4].

Figure 12: States With Largest Number of Latino Registered Voters, 2012



Latinos are more than one-third of registered voters in New Mexico, and nearly a quarter in Texas and California. In Arizona and Florida, Latinos account for just under one-fifth of registered voters [Figure 13 & Appendix Table 4].

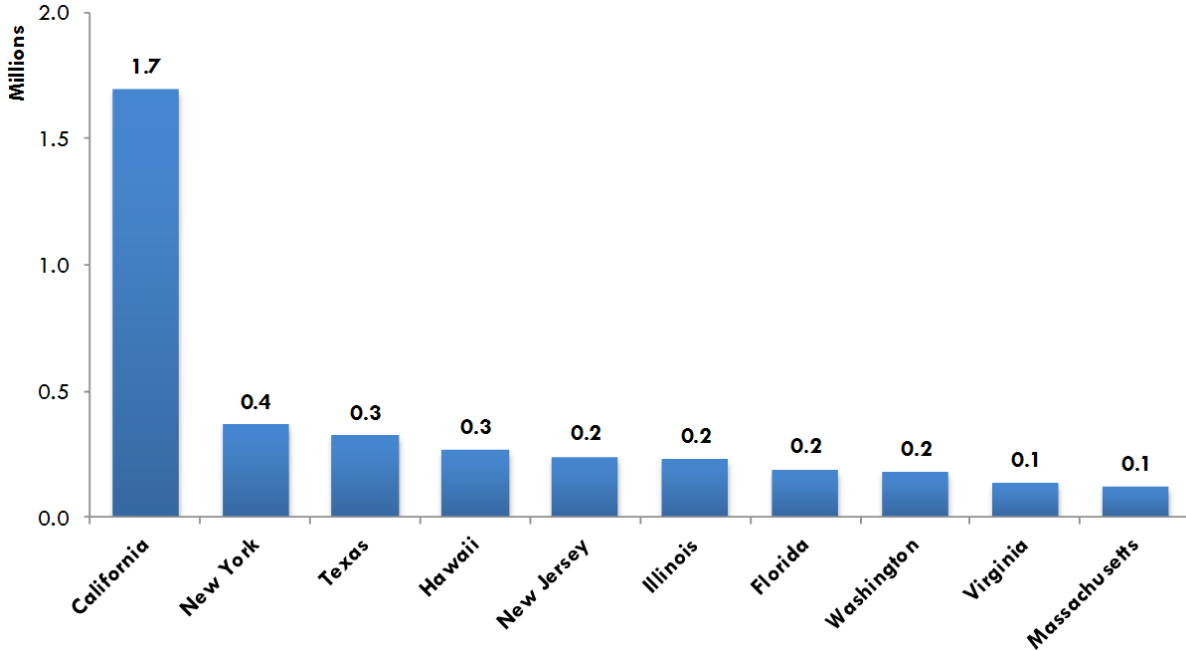
Figure 13: States with Highest Share of Latino Registered Voters, 2012



APIs

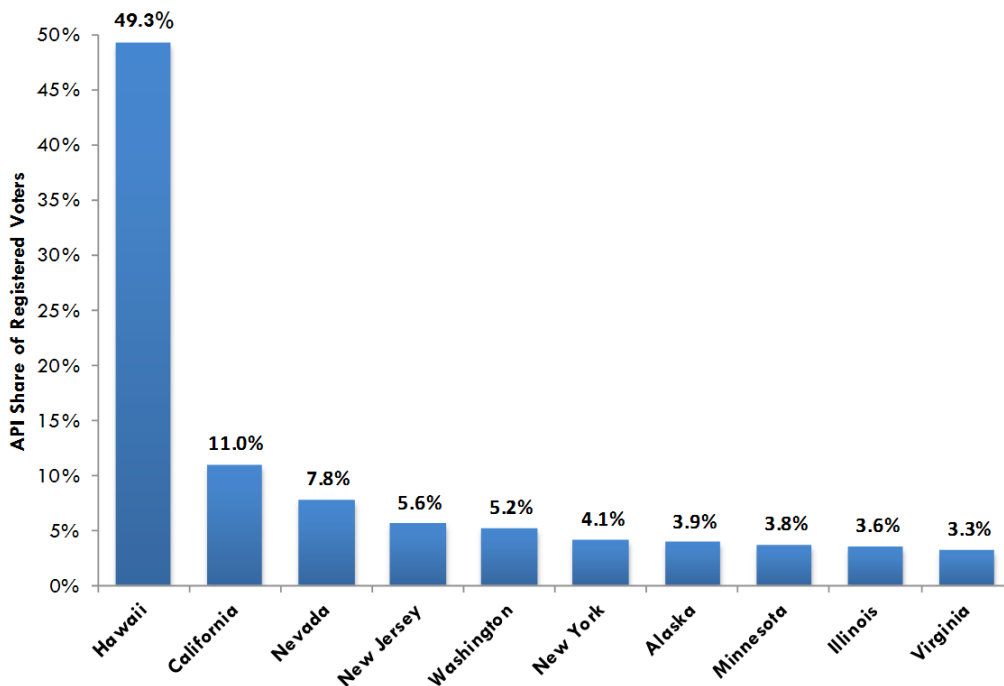
The greatest number of API registered voters by far is found in California (1.7 million). Large numbers also live in New York (400,000), Texas (300,000), Hawaii (300,000), and New Jersey (200,000) [Figure 14 & Appendix Table 4].

Figure 14: States With Largest Number of API Registered Voters, 2012



APIs account for nearly one-half of all registered voters in Hawaii. In California, they comprise more than one out of every ten voters. Next in line are Nevada (one in thirteen) and New Jersey (one in seventeen) [Figure 15 & Appendix Table 4]

Figure 15: States with Highest Share of API Registered Voters, 2012

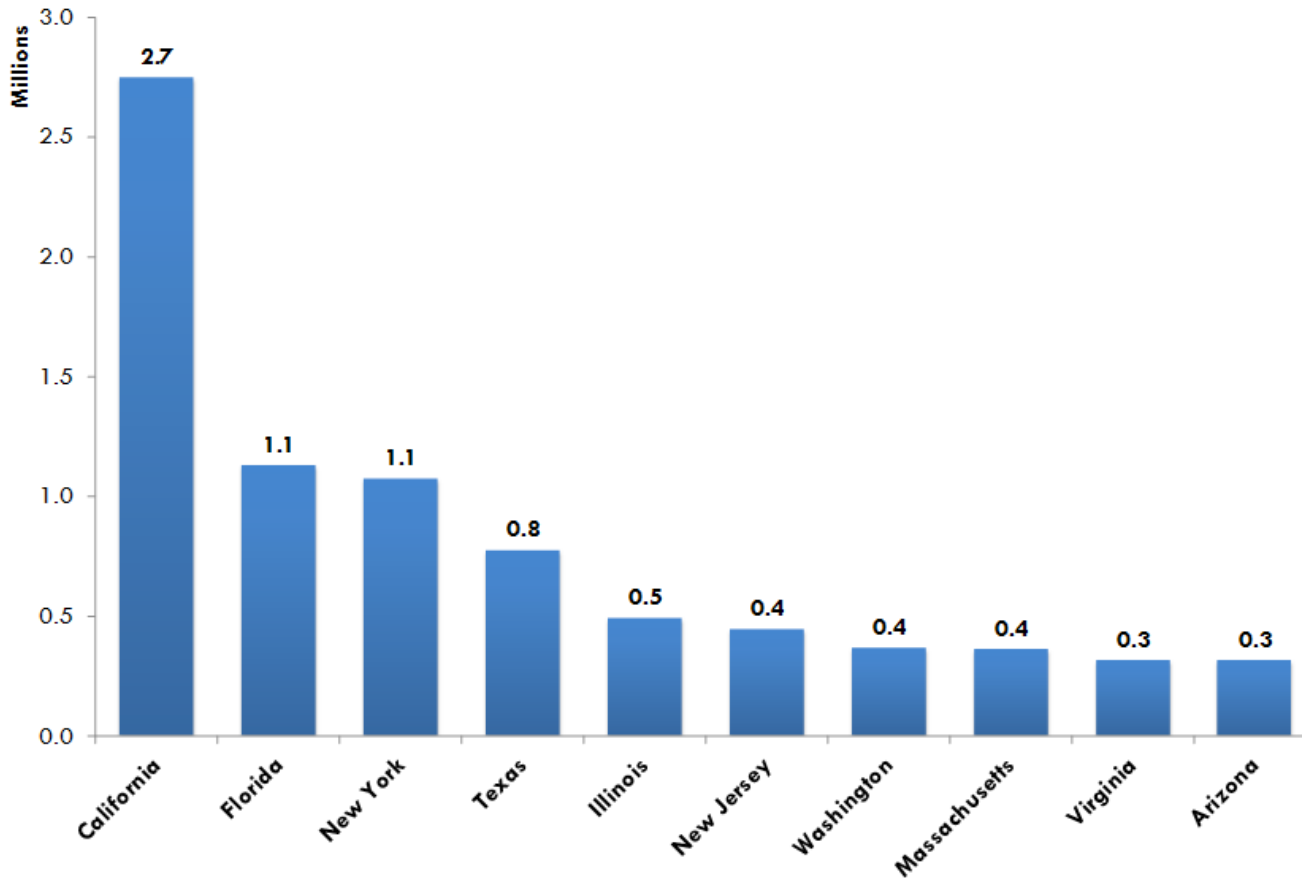


The numbers of New American, Latino, and API registered voters are growing rapidly in many electorally important states

New Americans

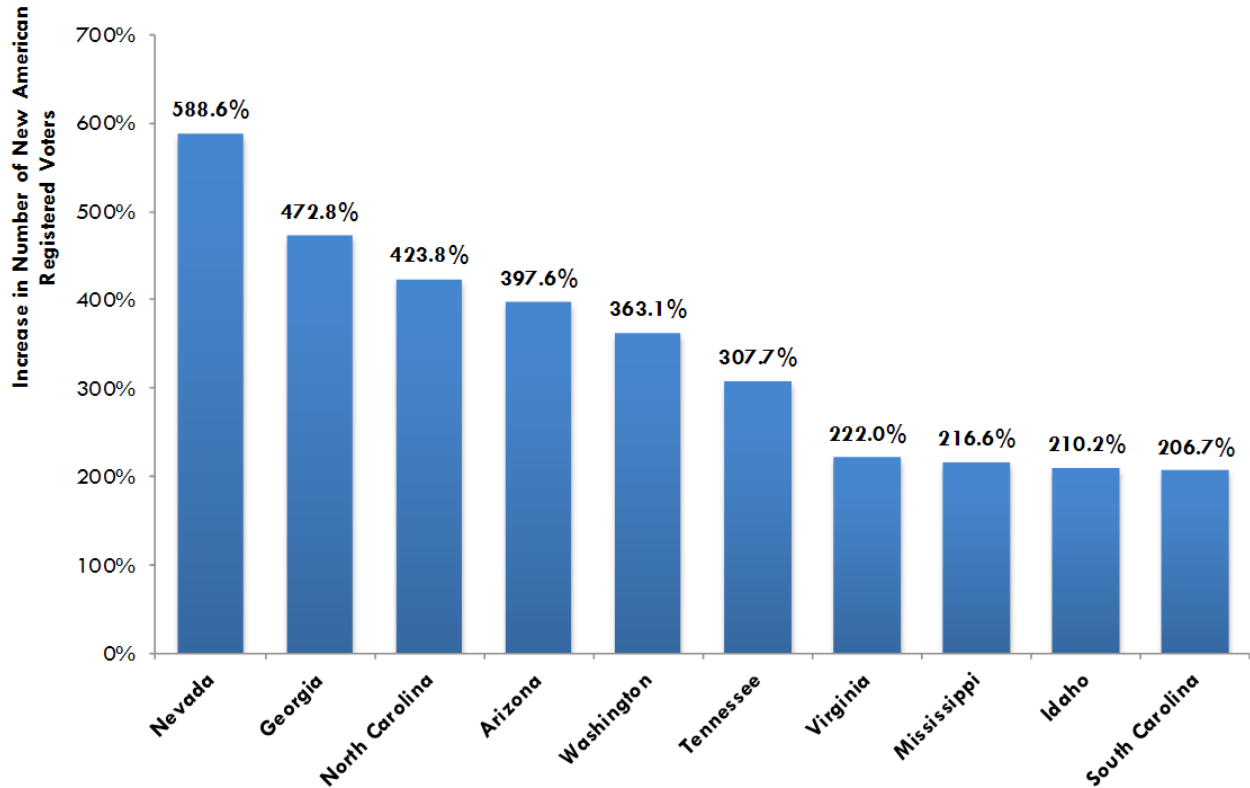
Between 1996 and 2012, the number of New American registered voters increased by the largest margin in California (2.7 million). The number also grew significantly in Florida (1.1 million), New York (1.1 million), Texas (800,000), and Illinois (500,000) [Figure 16 & Appendix Table 2].

Figure 16: States With Greatest Absolute Increase in Number of New American Registered Voters, 1996-2012



From 1996 to 2012, the number of New American registered voters increased most dramatically in Nevada: growing by 588.6 percent. Not far behind are Georgia (472.8 percent) and North Carolina (423.8 percent). Next are Arizona (397.6 percent) and Washington (363.1 percent) [Figure 17 & Appendix Table 2].

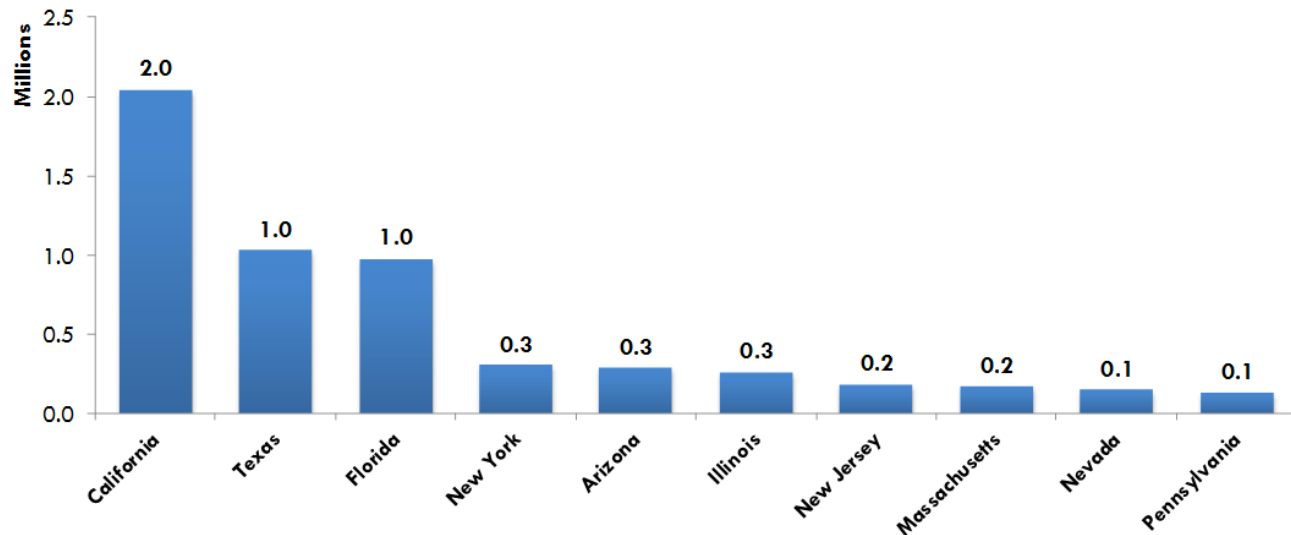
Figure 17: States With Greatest Percentage Increase in Number of New American Registered Voters, 1996-2012



Latinos

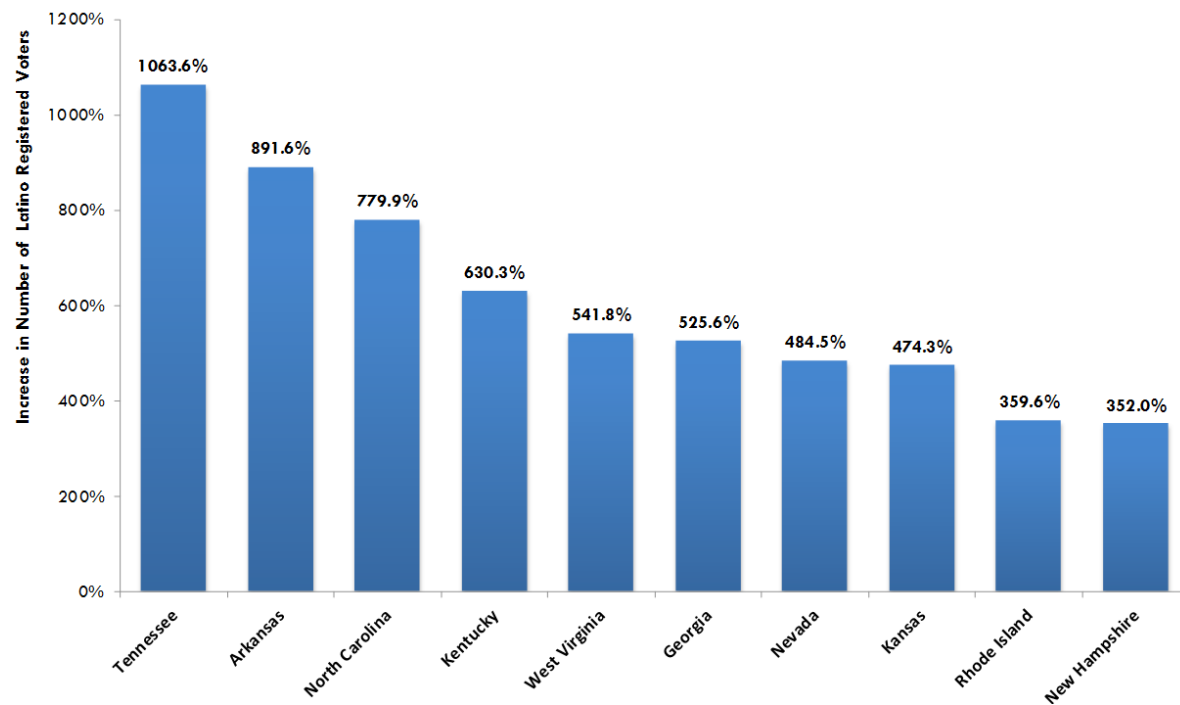
The number of Latino registered voters increased the most from 1996 to 2012 in California (2 million), Texas (1 million), and Florida (1 million). The number also grew markedly in New York, Arizona, and Illinois (300,000 each) [Figure 18 & Appendix Table 5].

Figure 18: States With Largest Absolute Increase in Number of Latino Registered Voters, 1996-2012



The number of Latino registered voters grew by an astounding 1,063.6 percent in Tennessee between 1996 and 2012. Four more southern states made the top five: Arkansas (891.6 percent), North Carolina (779.9 percent), Kentucky (630.3 percent), and West Virginia (541.8 percent) [Figure 19 & Appendix Table 5].

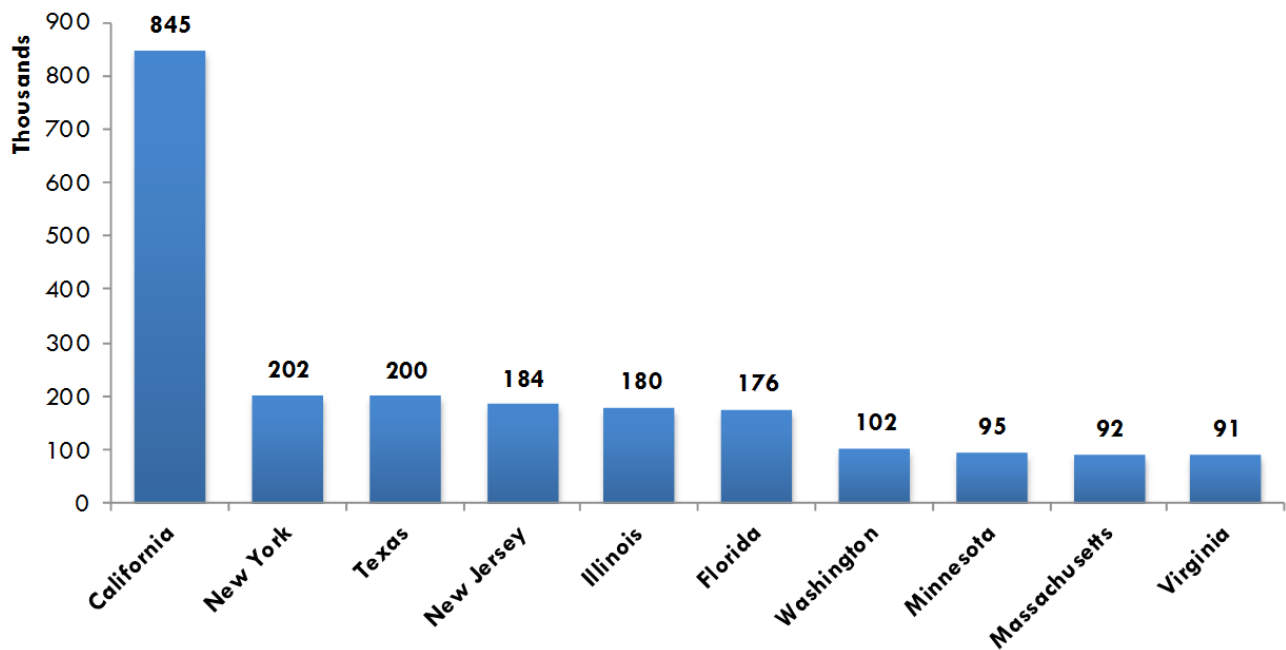
Figure 19: States With Greatest Percentage Increase in Number of Latino Registered Voters, 1996-2012



APIs

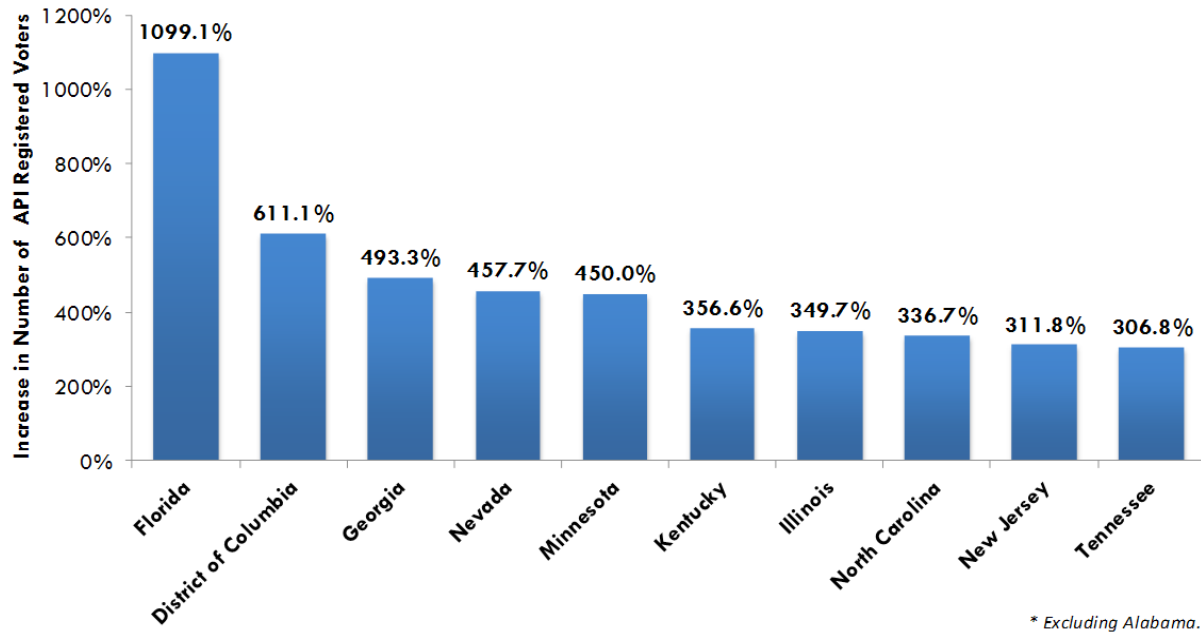
From 1996 to 2012, the number of API registered voters increased by 845,000 in California. Other large increases also occurred in New York (202,000), Texas (200,000), New Jersey (184,000), and Illinois (180,000) [Figure 20 & Appendix Table 5].

Figure 20: States With Largest Absolute Increase in Number of API Registered Voters, 1996-2012



The most dramatic growth in numbers of API registered voters occurred in Alabama, increasing from virtually nothing in 1996 to 17,235 in 2012—a growth rate which cannot be calculated as a percentage because it starts at zero. However, the growth rate in Florida during this time can be expressed as a percentage (1,099.1 percent), followed by the District of Columbia (611.1 percent), Georgia (493.3 percent), and Nevada (457.7 percent) [Figure 21 & Appendix Table 5].

Figure 21: States With Greatest Percentage Increase in Number of API Registered Voters, 1996-2012*

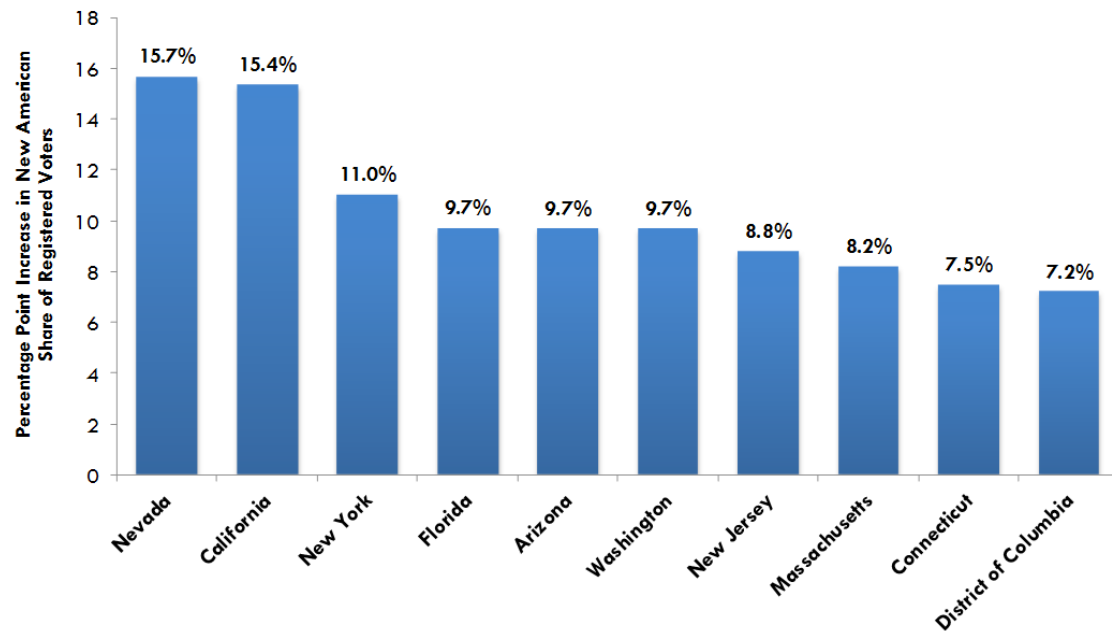


The New American, Latino, and API share of registered voters is growing rapidly in many electorally important states

New Americans

Between 1996 and 2012, the New American share of registered voters increased by more than 15 percentage points in Nevada and California. New York experienced an 11 percentage point increase, and both Florida and Arizona registered an increase of nearly 10 percentage points [Figure 22 & Appendix Table 3].

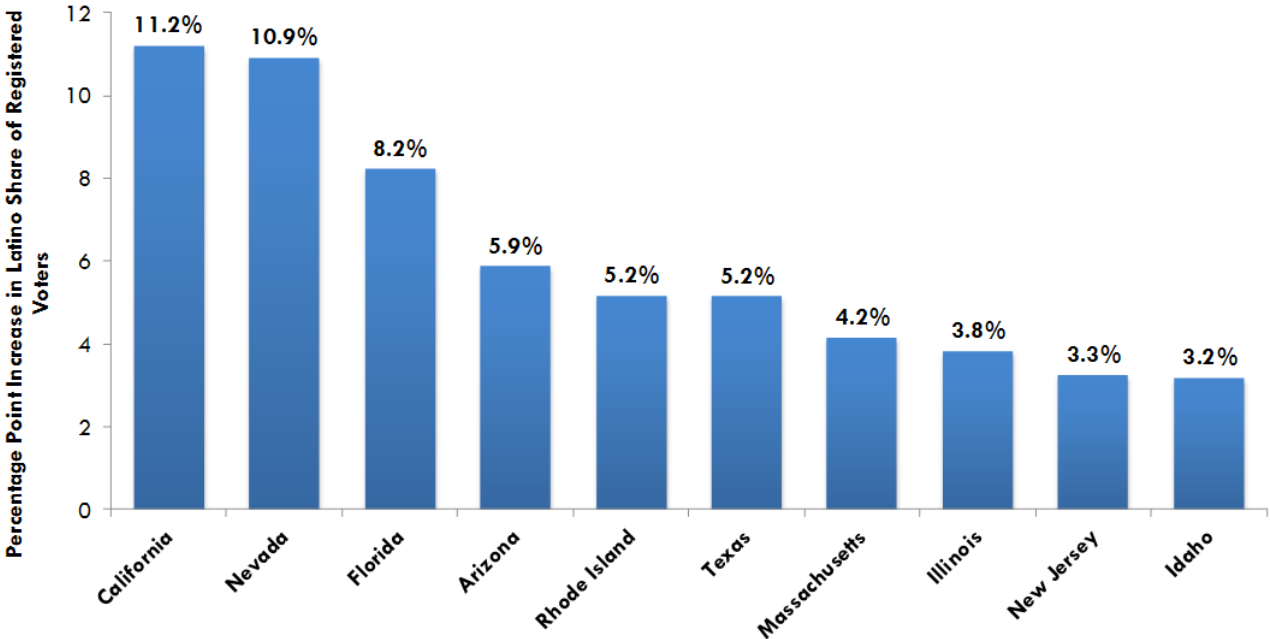
Figure 22: States With Greatest Increase in New American Share of Registered Voters, 1996-2012



Latinos

The Latino share of registered voters grew by roughly 11 percentage points in California and Nevada between 1996 and 2012. In Florida there was an increase of 8.2 percentage points, followed by Arizona (5.9 percentage points) and Rhode Island (5.2 percentage points) [Figure 23 & Appendix Table 3].

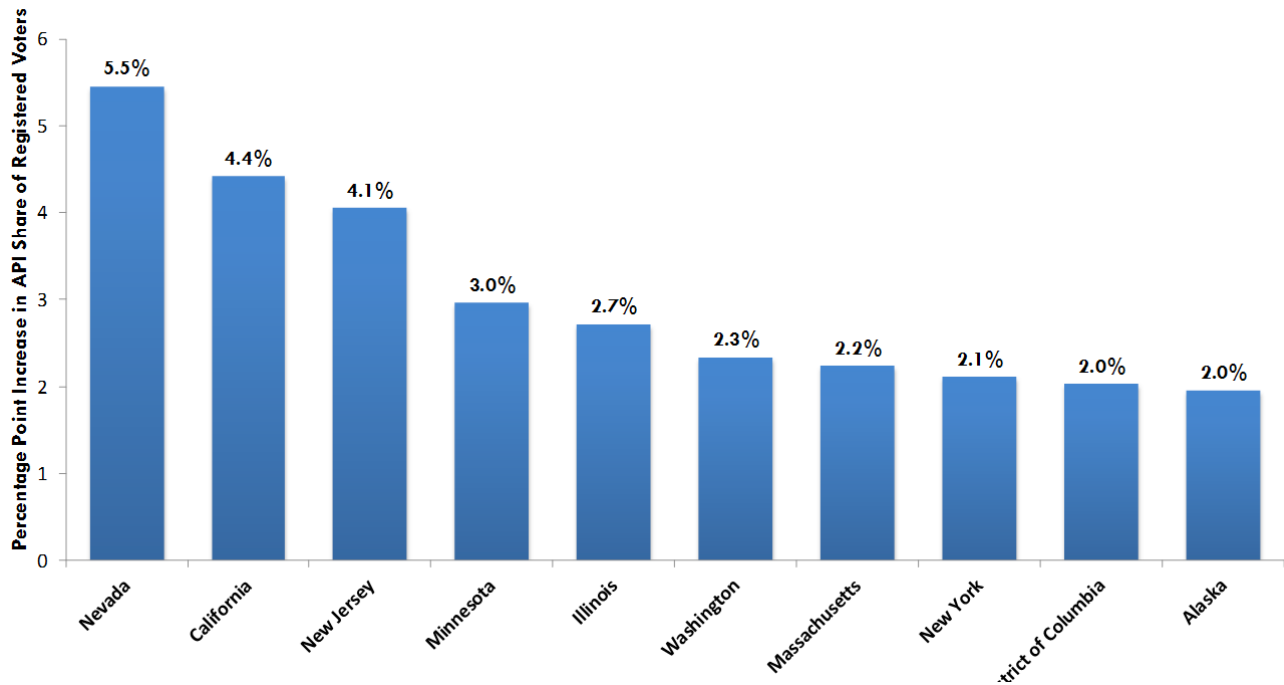
Figure 23: States With Greatest Increase in Latino Share of Registered Voters, 1996-2012



APIs

The greatest increase in the API share of registered voters between 1996 and 2012 occurred in Nevada (5.5 percentage points). Close behind were California (4.4 percentage points) and New Jersey (4.1 percentage points). Next were Minnesota (3 percentage points) and Illinois (2.7 percentage points) [Figure 24 & Appendix Table 3].

Figure 24: States With Greatest Increase in API Share of Registered Voters, 1996-2012



POTENTIAL POWER OF THE NEW AMERICAN VOTE

The electoral power which New Americans wield—or can wield, especially in close elections—is evident in the fact that the number of New American voters in 2012 exceeded the margin by which President Obama either won or lost the race in 12 states. Specifically, New American voters were greater in number than President Obama’s margin of victory in California, Colorado, Florida, Nevada New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Their numbers were greater than Obama’s margin of defeat in Arizona, Georgia, and North Carolina [Table 5].

	Number of Votes by Which Obama Won/Lost	Number of New Americans Who Voted
Arizona	-208,422	307,076
California	3,014,327	3,946,975
Colorado	137,858	164,151
Florida	74,309	1,585,927
Georgia	-304,861	309,302
Nevada	67,806	214,199
New Jersey	644,698	700,825
North Carolina	-92,004	242,615
Ohio	166,214	211,942
Pennsylvania	309,840	313,704
Virginia	149,298	426,953

CONCLUSION

While future elections cannot be predicted with any accuracy, one thing is certain about the evolution of the U.S. electorate: the number of eligible, voting-age New Americans, Latinos, and Asians is rising fast, and will continue to rise for quite some time. This is a long-term trend which shows no signs of abating any time soon. Politically, this means that candidates for public office will have to be responsive to the needs and interests of these voters if they hope to win elections. Race-baiting and immigrant-bashing are unlikely to appeal to voters who are non-white and who are immigrants, children of immigrants, or grandchildren of immigrants.

APPENDIX

Appendix Table 1: New American Share of Registered Voters, 2012

State	Total Registered Voters	Total New Americans	Naturalized Citizens	Post-1965 Children of Immigrants
Alabama	2,555,558	1.2%	0.3%	0.9%
Alaska	360,662	7.3%	4.3%	3.0%
Arizona	2,812,130	14.0%	6.2%	7.8%
Arkansas	1,376,285	2.0%	1.4%	0.6%
California	15,355,984	30.7%	17.5%	13.2%
Colorado	2,635,014	7.0%	2.4%	4.7%
Connecticut	1,760,422	14.7%	9.1%	5.6%
Delaware	469,515	5.8%	4.3%	1.5%
District of Columbia	384,500	12.7%	5.4%	7.3%
Florida	9,102,155	19.9%	14.0%	5.9%
Georgia	4,766,671	7.4%	4.4%	3.0%
Hawaii	547,479	18.1%	11.7%	6.4%
Idaho	744,518	4.8%	1.6%	3.1%
Illinois	6,424,609	12.2%	7.1%	5.1%
Indiana	3,269,735	2.6%	1.3%	1.3%
Iowa	1,744,682	3.6%	2.2%	1.4%
Kansas	1,467,112	4.1%	2.3%	1.8%
Kentucky	2,303,231	2.3%	1.7%	0.6%
Louisiana	2,497,598	1.9%	0.7%	1.2%
Maine	786,904	3.1%	1.6%	1.5%
Maryland	2,888,287	12.2%	8.1%	4.1%
Massachusetts	3,758,651	15.5%	10.1%	5.4%
Michigan	5,619,901	6.2%	3.9%	2.3%
Minnesota	3,084,645	7.7%	4.9%	2.8%
Mississippi	1,794,488	1.5%	0.9%	0.6%
Missouri	3,383,882	2.1%	1.1%	1.0%
Montana	552,642	1.9%	1.1%	0.8%
Nebraska	900,825	4.3%	2.7%	1.6%
Nevada	1,176,031	20.8%	12.6%	8.2%
New Hampshire	751,691	5.7%	2.8%	2.8%
New Jersey	4,326,005	20.5%	14.1%	6.4%

State	Total Registered Voters	Total New Americans	Naturalized Citizens	Post-1965 Children of Immigrants
New Mexico	978,474	5.9%	1.9%	3.9%
New York	8,887,355	23.9%	16.0%	7.9%
North Carolina	5,294,986	5.6%	3.6%	2.0%
North Dakota	382,946	2.0%	1.1%	1.0%
Ohio	6,076,295	4.0%	1.9%	2.0%
Oklahoma	1,805,548	2.6%	1.8%	0.8%
Oregon	2,085,769	7.6%	3.9%	3.7%
Pennsylvania	6,794,571	5.3%	2.8%	2.5%
Rhode Island	552,010	13.6%	6.6%	7.0%
South Carolina	2,478,560	4.5%	2.6%	1.9%
South Dakota	454,080	1.3%	0.4%	1.0%
Tennessee	3,210,430	3.0%	1.4%	1.6%
Texas	10,748,748	12.6%	6.5%	6.0%
Utah	1,137,806	6.6%	3.1%	3.5%
Vermont	357,063	5.7%	2.2%	3.5%
Virginia	4,210,090	10.8%	7.0%	3.9%
Washington	3,532,801	13.2%	6.4%	6.8%
West Virginia	981,908	1.1%	0.4%	0.7%
Wisconsin	3,318,155	3.5%	2.0%	1.5%
Wyoming	267,862	2.3%	0.6%	1.8%

Appendix 2: Change in Number of New American Registered Voters, 1996-2012

State	Year	All Registered Voters		All New American Registered Voters	
		Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage change
Alabama	1996	2,317,995		22,777	
	2012	2,555,558	10.2%	31,396	37.8%
Alaska	1996	305,209		12,092	
	2012	360,662	18.2%	26,395	118.3%
Arizona	1996	1,843,787		78,987	
	2012	2,812,130	52.5%	393,051	397.6%
Arkansas	1996	1,186,903		11,858	
	2012	1,376,285	16.0%	27,906	135.3%
California	1996	12,827,281		1,966,786	
	2012	15,355,984	19.7%	4,713,898	139.7%
Colorado	1996	2,001,144		78,641	
	2012	2,635,014	31.7%	185,346	135.7%
Connecticut	1996	1,684,687		121,215	
	2012	1,760,422	4.5%	258,917	113.6%
Delaware	1996	343,063		13,170	
	2012	469,515	36.9%	27,253	106.9%
District of Columbia	1996	293,473		15,988	
	2012	384,500	31.0%	48,711	204.7%
Florida	1996	6,727,269		683,542	
	2012	9,102,155	35.3%	1,811,358	165.0%
Georgia	1996	3,505,904		61,879	
	2012	4,766,671	36.0%	354,448	472.8%
Hawaii	1996	462,552		70,746	
	2012	547,479	18.4%	99,209	40.2%
Idaho	1996	570,772		11,434	
	2012	744,518	30.4%	35,468	210.2%
Illinois	1996	5,819,266		295,034	
	2012	6,424,609	10.4%	784,042	165.7%
Indiana	1996	2,903,766		69,366	
	2012	3,269,735	12.6%	86,164	24.2%
Iowa	1996	1,542,838		21,385	
	2012	1,744,682	13.1%	63,266	195.8%

State	Year	All Registered Voters		All New American Registered Voters	
		Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage change
Kansas	1996	1,256,626		27,109	
	2012	1,467,112	16.8%	59,888	120.9%
Kentucky	1996	2,017,416		17,388	
	2012	2,303,231	14.2%	52,602	202.5%
Louisiana	1996	2,274,878		32,544	
	2012	2,497,598	9.8%	48,090	47.8%
Maine	1996	754,527		21,475	
	2012	786,904	4.3%	24,030	11.9%
Maryland	1996	2,481,020		151,117	
	2012	2,888,287	16.4%	351,225	132.4%
Massachusetts	1996	3,040,479		220,228	
	2012	3,758,651	23.6%	581,698	164.1%
Michigan	1996	5,052,127		181,197	
	2012	5,619,901	11.2%	347,174	91.6%
Minnesota	1996	2,643,760		77,452	
	2012	3,084,645	16.7%	236,640	205.5%
Mississippi	1996	1,389,482		8,751	
	2012	1,794,488	29.1%	27,708	216.6%
Missouri	1996	2,964,352		50,028	
	2012	3,383,882	14.2%	72,286	44.5%
Montana	1996	487,125		9,760	
	2012	552,642	13.4%	10,532	7.9%
Nebraska	1996	874,546		15,262	
	2012	900,825	3.0%	38,869	154.7%
Nevada	1996	693,546		35,513	
	2012	1,176,031	69.6%	244,551	588.6%
New Hampshire	1996	617,504		30,768	
	2012	751,691	21.7%	42,780	39.0%
New Jersey	1996	3,765,149		442,278	
	2012	4,326,005	14.9%	888,411	100.9%
New Mexico	1996	748,935		25,460	
	2012	978,474	30.6%	57,438	125.6%
New York	1996	8,176,170		1,048,859	
	2012	8,887,355	8.7%	2,121,443	102.3%

State	Year	All Registered Voters		All New American Registered Voters	
		Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change
North Carolina	1996	3,672,577		57,109	
	2012	5,294,986	44.2%	299,149	423.8%
North Dakota	1996	412,210		5,120	
	2012	382,946	-7.1%	7,805	52.4%
Ohio	1996	5,603,573		137,889	
	2012	6,076,295	8.4%	241,073	74.8%
Oklahoma	1996	1,651,912		33,752	
	2012	1,805,548	9.3%	46,438	37.6%
Oregon	1996	1,745,975		55,241	
	2012	2,085,769	19.5%	158,800	187.5%
Pennsylvania	1996	5,901,637		166,228	
	2012	6,794,571	15.1%	361,630	117.6%
Rhode Island	1996	519,225		37,657	
	2012	552,010	6.3%	75,047	99.3%
South Carolina	1996	1,851,260		36,198	
	2012	2,478,560	33.9%	111,032	206.7%
South Dakota	1996	390,792		3,346	
	2012	454,080	16.2%	6,122	83.0%
Tennessee	1996	2,647,227		23,277	
	2012	3,210,430	21.3%	94,902	307.7%
Texas	1996	8,316,395		578,285	
	2012	10,748,748	29.2%	1,353,636	134.1%
Utah	1996	860,615		34,762	
	2012	1,137,806	32.2%	74,536	114.4%
Vermont	1996	312,679		9,369	
	2012	357,063	14.2%	20,403	117.8%
Virginia	1996	3,293,642		141,714	
	2012	4,210,090	27.8%	456,250	222.0%
Washington	1996	2,840,052		101,005	
	2012	3,532,801	24.4%	467,799	363.1%
West Virginia	1996	921,040		9,699	
	2012	981,908	6.6%	10,556	8.8%
Wisconsin	1996	2,899,723		63,642	
	2012	3,318,155	14.4%	117,334	84.4%
Wyoming	1996	247,362		4,476	
	2012	267,862	8.3%	6,272	40.1%

Appendix 3: Change in New American Share of Registered Voters, 1996-2012

State	Year	Total Registered Voters	New American Registered Voters		
			Total	Share of Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference
Alabama	1996	2,317,995	22,777	1.0%	
	2012	2,555,558	31,396	1.2%	0.25
Alaska	1996	305,209	12,092	4.0%	
	2012	360,662	26,395	7.3%	3.36
Arizona	1996	1,843,787	78,987	4.3%	
	2012	2,812,130	393,051	14.0%	13.98
Arkansas	1996	1,186,903	11,858	1.0%	
	2012	1,376,285	27,906	2.0%	1.03
California	1996	12,827,281	1,966,786	15.3%	
	2012	15,355,984	4,713,898	30.7%	15.36
Colorado	1996	2,001,144	78,641	3.9%	
	2012	2,635,014	185,346	7.0%	3.10
Connecticut	1996	1,684,687	121,215	7.2%	
	2012	1,760,422	258,917	14.7%	7.51
Delaware	1996	343,063	13,170	3.8%	
	2012	469,515	27,253	5.8%	1.97
District of Columbia	1996	293,473	15,988	5.4%	
	2012	384,500	48,711	12.7%	7.22
Florida	1996	6,727,269	683,542	10.2%	
	2012	9,102,155	1,811,358	19.9%	9.74
Georgia	1996	3,505,904	61,879	1.8%	
	2012	4,766,671	354,448	7.4%	5.67
Hawaii	1996	462,552	70,746	15.3%	
	2012	547,479	99,209	18.1%	2.83
Idaho	1996	570,772	11,434	2.0%	
	2012	744,518	35,468	4.8%	2.76
Illinois	1996	5,819,266	295,034	5.1%	
	2012	6,424,609	784,042	12.2%	7.13
Indiana	1996	2,903,766	69,366	2.4%	
	2012	3,269,735	86,164	2.6%	0.25
Iowa	1996	1,542,838	21,385	1.4%	
	2012	1,744,682	63,266	3.6%	2.24
Kansas	1996	1,256,626	27,109	2.2%	
	2012	1,467,112	59,888	4.1%	1.92

State	Year	Total Registered Voters	New American Registered Voters		
			Total	Share of Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference
Kentucky	1996	2,017,416	17,388	0.9%	
	2012	2,303,231	52,602	2.3%	1.42
Louisiana	1996	2,274,878	32,544	1.4%	
	2012	2,497,598	48,090	1.9%	0.49
Maine	1996	754,527	21,475	2.8%	
	2012	786,904	24,030	3.1%	0.21
Maryland	1996	2,481,020	151,117	6.1%	
	2012	2,888,287	351,225	12.2%	6.07
Massachusetts	1996	3,040,479	220,228	7.2%	
	2012	3,758,651	581,698	15.5%	8.23
Michigan	1996	5,052,127	181,197	3.6%	
	2012	5,619,901	347,174	6.2%	2.59
Minnesota	1996	2,643,760	77,452	2.9%	
	2012	3,084,645	236,640	7.7%	4.74
Mississippi	1996	1,389,482	8,751	0.6%	
	2012	1,794,488	27,708	1.5%	0.91
Missouri	1996	2,964,352	50,028	1.7%	
	2012	3,383,882	72,286	2.1%	0.45
Montana	1996	487,125	9,760	2.0%	
	2012	552,642	10,532	1.9%	-0.10
Nebraska	1996	874,546	15,262	1.7%	
	2012	900,825	38,869	4.3%	2.57
Nevada	1996	693,546	35,513	5.1%	
	2012	1,176,031	244,551	20.8%	15.67
New Hampshire	1996	617,504	30,768	5.0%	
	2012	751,691	42,780	5.7%	0.71
New Jersey	1996	3,765,149	442,278	11.7%	
	2012	4,326,005	888,411	20.5%	8.79
New Mexico	1996	748,935	25,460	3.4%	
	2012	978,474	57,438	5.9%	2.47
New York	1996	8,176,170	1,048,859	12.8%	
	2012	8,887,355	2,121,443	23.9%	11.04
North Carolina	1996	3,672,577	57,109	1.6%	
	2012	5,294,986	299,149	5.6%	4.09

State	Year	Total Registered Voters	New American Registered Voters		
			Total	Share of Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference
North Dakota	1996	412,210	5,120	1.2%	
	2012	382,946	7,805	2.0%	0.80
Ohio	1996	5,603,573	137,889	2.5%	
	2012	6,076,295	241,073	4.0%	1.51
Oklahoma	1996	1,651,912	33,752	2.0%	
	2012	1,805,548	46,438	2.6%	0.53
Oregon	1996	1,745,975	55,241	3.2%	
	2012	2,085,769	158,800	7.6%	4.45
Pennsylvania	1996	5,901,637	166,228	2.8%	
	2012	6,794,571	361,630	5.3%	2.51
Rhode Island	1996	519,225	37,657	7.3%	
	2012	552,010	75,047	13.6%	6.34
South Carolina	1996	1,851,260	36,198	2.0%	
	2012	2,478,560	111,032	4.5%	2.52
South Dakota	1996	390,792	3,346	0.9%	
	2012	454,080	6,122	1.3%	0.49
Tennessee	1996	2,647,227	23,277	0.9%	
	2012	3,210,430	94,902	3.0%	2.08
Texas	1996	8,316,395	578,285	7.0%	
	2012	10,748,748	1,353,636	12.6%	5.64
Utah	1996	860,615	34,762	4.0%	
	2012	1,137,806	74,536	6.6%	2.51
Vermont	1996	312,679	9,369	3.0%	
	2012	357,063	20,403	5.7%	2.72
Virginia	1996	3,293,642	141,714	4.3%	
	2012	4,210,090	456,250	10.8%	6.53
Washington	1996	2,840,052	101,005	3.6%	
	2012	3,532,801	467,799	13.2%	9.69
West Virginia	1996	921,040	9,699	1.1%	
	2012	981,908	10,556	1.1%	0.02
Wisconsin	1996	2,899,723	63,642	2.2%	
	2012	3,318,155	117,334	3.5%	1.34
Wyoming	1996	247,362	4,476	1.8%	
	2012	267,862	6,272	2.3%	0.53

Appendix 4: Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 2012

State	White	Latino	API	Black	Other
Alabama	73.0%	0.5%	0.7%	23.9%	2.0%
Alaska	75.6%	2.8%	3.9%	2.8%	14.8%
Arizona	69.8%	18.4%	1.8%	3.8%	6.2%
Arkansas	82.7%	1.2%	0.6%	13.9%	1.6%
California	55.6%	24.0%	11.0%	6.9%	2.4%
Colorado	83.7%	10.8%	1.4%	2.6%	1.6%
Connecticut	80.7%	7.2%	2.0%	8.5%	1.6%
Delaware	75.7%	2.4%	2.5%	18.9%	0.5%
District of Columbia	44.4%	3.7%	2.5%	48.3%	1.1%
Florida	66.4%	17.8%	2.1%	12.9%	0.9%
Georgia	63.1%	2.9%	2.0%	30.8%	1.2%
Hawaii	29.2%	6.0%	49.3%	2.1%	13.3%
Idaho	92.8%	4.7%	0.2%	0.0%	2.2%
Illinois	74.1%	6.5%	3.6%	15.3%	0.5%
Indiana	87.5%	2.2%	0.5%	9.5%	0.4%
Iowa	94.2%	1.9%	1.3%	1.8%	0.8%
Kansas	88.2%	3.7%	0.7%	4.2%	3.2%
Kentucky	90.4%	0.9%	0.6%	6.9%	1.3%
Louisiana	65.8%	2.3%	0.3%	29.9%	1.7%
Maine	96.8%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	1.7%
Maryland	63.7%	4.0%	2.9%	28.3%	1.1%
Massachusetts	84.1%	5.7%	3.3%	5.2%	1.7%
Michigan	82.4%	3.4%	1.5%	11.6%	1.1%
Minnesota	91.0%	1.8%	3.8%	2.9%	0.5%
Mississippi	60.7%	0.3%	0.3%	37.6%	1.2%
Missouri	84.4%	2.1%	0.5%	11.0%	1.9%
Montana	90.5%	1.5%	0.4%	0.0%	7.6%
Nebraska	91.4%	3.0%	0.8%	3.3%	1.5%
Nevada	66.7%	15.4%	7.8%	8.6%	1.5%
New Hampshire	95.1%	2.0%	0.7%	0.9%	1.3%
New Jersey	70.2%	10.8%	5.6%	12.5%	0.9%
New Mexico	55.7%	35.7%	0.3%	2.5%	5.9%
New York	68.4%	11.1%	4.1%	15.4%	1.0%
North Carolina	70.9%	2.2%	0.6%	23.7%	2.5%
North Dakota	90.5%	1.8%	0.1%	0.6%	6.9%

State	White	Latino	API	Black	Other
Ohio	84.3%	1.9%	0.7%	11.5%	1.6%
Oklahoma	73.7%	2.9%	1.5%	6.4%	15.4%
Oregon	88.7%	3.3%	2.1%	1.4%	4.5%
Pennsylvania	85.1%	3.3%	1.1%	9.7%	0.8%
Rhode Island	85.5%	6.7%	0.9%	5.6%	1.4%
South Carolina	69.5%	0.9%	0.7%	27.9%	1.0%
South Dakota	88.1%	1.2%	0.2%	0.6%	9.9%
Tennessee	79.7%	3.3%	0.4%	14.9%	1.7%
Texas	56.8%	24.7%	3.0%	14.1%	1.4%
Utah	90.5%	5.3%	2.1%	0.8%	1.2%
Vermont	95.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	2.2%
Virginia	74.1%	2.7%	3.3%	18.2%	1.7%
Washington	81.4%	4.9%	5.2%	2.7%	5.9%
West Virginia	96.2%	0.8%	0.3%	2.2%	0.5%
Wisconsin	89.4%	2.3%	0.5%	5.4%	2.4%
Wyoming	93.1%	3.8%	0.1%	0.6%	2.4%

Appendix 5: Percentage Change in Number of Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 1996-2012

State	Year	All Registered Voters		Latino Registered Voters		API Registered Voters	
		Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change
Alabama	1996	2,317,995		8,070		0	
	2012	2,555,558	10.2%	12,308	52.5%	17,235	N/A
Alaska	1996	305,209		4,414		6,052	
	2012	360,662	18.2%	10,079	128.4%	14,226	135.1%
Arizona	1996	1,843,787		230,303		17,131	
	2012	2,812,130	52.5%	516,438	124.2%	51,071	198.1%
Arkansas	1996	1,186,903		1,634		3,156	
	2012	1,376,285	16.0%	16,200	891.6%	8,907	182.2%
California	1996	12,827,281		1,641,052		847,281	
	2012	15,355,984	19.7%	3,684,449	124.5%	1,692,540	99.8%
Colorado	1996	2,001,144		163,167		24,346	
	2012	2,635,014	31.7%	284,086	74.1%	36,556	50.2%
Connecticut	1996	1,684,687		70,716		15,425	
	2012	1,760,422	4.5%	126,750	79.2%	34,933	126.5%
Delaware	1996	343,063		10,579		3,061	
	2012	469,515	36.9%	11,233	6.2%	11,651	280.6%
District of Columbia	1996	293,473		8,362		1,345	
	2012	384,500	31.0%	14,222	70.1%	9,562	611.1%
Florida	1996	6,727,269		645,611		15,993	
	2012	9,102,155	35.3%	1,622,175	151.3%	191,778	1099.1%
Georgia	1996	3,505,904		22,429		15,964	
	2012	4,766,671	36.0%	140,320	525.6%	94,708	493.3%
Hawaii	1996	462,552		14,236		291,069	
	2012	547,479	18.4%	33,080	132.4%	269,832	-7.3%
Idaho	1996	570,772		8,920		5,245	
	2012	744,518	30.4%	35,343	296.2%	1,512	-71.2%
Illinois	1996	5,819,266		152,430		51,419	
	2012	6,424,609	10.4%	415,122	172.3%	231,249	349.7%
Indiana	1996	2,903,766		37,848		7,705	
	2012	3,269,735	12.6%	70,633	86.6%	16,665	116.3%
Iowa	1996	1,542,838		12,208		9,270	
	2012	1,744,682	13.1%	32,289	164.5%	22,758	145.5%

State	Year	All Registered Voters		Latino Registered Voters		API Registered Voters	
		Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change
Kansas	1996	1,256,626		9,417		18,491	
	2012	1,467,112	16.8%	54,087	474.3%	10,667	-42.3%
Kentucky	1996	2,017,416		2,701		3,169	
	2012	2,303,231	14.2%	19,723	630.3%	14,469	356.6%
Louisiana	1996	2,274,878		24,379		6,746	
	2012	2,497,598	9.8%	56,591	132.1%	6,298	-6.6%
Maine	1996	754,527		1,575		2,722	
	2012	786,904	4.3%	4,187	165.8%	2,913	7.0%
Maryland	1996	2,481,020		60,957		45,605	
	2012	2,888,287	16.4%	115,266	89.1%	82,465	80.8%
Massachusetts	1996	3,040,479		47,878		32,011	
	2012	3,758,651	23.6%	215,512	350.1%	123,664	286.3%
Michigan	1996	5,052,127		86,899		49,842	
	2012	5,619,901	11.2%	193,410	122.6%	83,641	67.8%
Minnesota	1996	2,643,760		12,378		21,093	
	2012	3,084,645	16.7%	54,167	337.6%	116,022	450.0%
Mississippi	1996	1,389,482		2,801		2,086	
	2012	1,794,488	29.1%	4,933	76.1%	5,321	155.1%
Missouri	1996	2,964,352		29,786		4,558	
	2012	3,383,882	14.2%	71,310	139.4%	17,056	274.2%
Montana	1996	487,125		5,039		3,865	
	2012	552,642	13.4%	8,375	66.2%	2,211	-42.8%
Nebraska	1996	874,546		7,908		2,751	
	2012	900,825	3.0%	27,435	246.9%	6,849	149.0%
Nevada	1996	693,546		30,933		16,526	
	2012	1,176,031	69.6%	180,792	484.5%	92,172	457.7%
New Hampshire	1996	617,504		3,349		2,898	
	2012	751,691	21.7%	15,137	352.0%	5,377	85.6%
New Jersey	1996	3,765,149		284,360		59,023	
	2012	4,326,005	14.9%	467,903	64.5%	243,086	311.8%
New Mexico	1996	748,935		251,795		1,116	
	2012	978,474	30.6%	348,840	38.5%	3,034	171.9%
New York	1996	8,176,170		678,549		165,671	
	2012	8,887,355	8.7%	983,084	44.9%	367,685	121.9%

State	Year	All Registered Voters		Latino Registered Voters		API Registered Voters	
		Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change	Total	Percentage Change
North Carolina	1996	3,672,577		13,091		7,715	
	2012	5,294,986	44.2%	115,187	779.9%	33,689	336.7%
North Dakota	1996	412,210		1,588		442	
	2012	382,946	-7.1%	6,907	334.9%	503	13.9%
Ohio	1996	5,603,573		34,649		26,963	
	2012	6,076,295	8.4%	115,869	234.4%	45,131	67.4%
Oklahoma	1996	1,651,912		12,822		11,011	
	2012	1,805,548	9.3%	52,923	312.8%	26,560	141.2%
Oregon	1996	1,745,975		31,283		20,775	
	2012	2,085,769	19.5%	69,125	121.0%	43,338	108.6%
Pennsylvania	1996	5,901,637		94,898		26,072	
	2012	6,794,571	15.1%	225,172	137.3%	76,097	191.9%
Rhode Island	1996	519,225		8,059		4,775	
	2012	552,010	6.3%	37,042	359.6%	4,834	1.2%
South Carolina	1996	1,851,260		5,767		8,681	
	2012	2,478,560	33.9%	21,372	270.6%	16,709	92.5%
South Dakota	1996	390,792		1,479		704	
	2012	454,080	16.2%	5,571	276.6%	1,090	54.9%
Tennessee	1996	2,647,227		9,193		3,105	
	2012	3,210,430	21.3%	106,979	1063.6%	12,634	306.8%
Texas	1996	8,316,395		1,622,864		124,368	
	2012	10,748,748	29.2%	2,651,659	63.4%	324,133	160.6%
Utah	1996	860,615		33,472		9,459	
	2012	1,137,806	32.2%	60,599	81.0%	23,767	151.3%
Vermont	1996	312,679		2,538		949	
	2012	357,063	14.2%	2,819	11.1%	3,709	291.0%
Virginia	1996	3,293,642		33,973		47,685	
	2012	4,210,090	27.8%	113,717	234.7%	138,722	190.9%
Washington	1996	2,840,052		53,603		81,014	
	2012	3,532,801	24.4%	172,469	221.8%	183,494	126.5%
West Virginia	1996	921,040		1,277		1,855	
	2012	981,908	6.6%	8,193	541.8%	2,586	39.4%
Wisconsin	1996	2,899,723		32,945		17,082	
	2012	3,318,155	14.4%	76,084	130.9%	15,094	-11.6%
Wyoming	1996	247,362		6,648		1,180	
	2012	267,862	8.3%	10,197	53.4%	307	-74.0%

Appendix 6: Change in Share of Registered Voters by Race/Ethnicity, 1996-2012

State	Year	Total Registered Voters	Latino Registered Voters			API Registered Voters		
			Total	Share of All Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference	Total	Share of All Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference
Alabama	1996	2,317,995	8,070	0.3%		0	0.0%	
	2012	2,555,558	12,308	0.5%	0.1	17,235	0.7%	0.7
Alaska	1996	305,209	4,414	1.4%		6,052	2.0%	
	2012	360,662	10,079	2.8%	1.3	14,226	3.9%	2.0
Arizona	1996	1,843,787	230,303	12.5%		17,131	0.9%	
	2012	2,812,130	516,438	18.4%	5.9	51,071	1.8%	0.9
Arkansas	1996	1,186,903	1,634	0.1%		3,156	0.3%	
	2012	1,376,285	16,200	1.2%	1.0	8,907	0.6%	0.4
California	1996	12,827,281	1,641,052	12.8%		847,281	6.6%	
	2012	15,355,984	3,684,449	24.0%	11.2	1,692,540	11.0%	4.4
Colorado	1996	2,001,144	163,167	8.2%		24,346	1.2%	
	2012	2,635,014	284,086	10.8%	2.6	36,556	1.4%	0.2
Connecticut	1996	1,684,687	70,716	4.2%		15,425	0.9%	
	2012	1,760,422	126,750	7.2%	3.0	34,933	2.0%	1.1
Delaware	1996	343,063	10,579	3.1%		3,061	0.9%	
	2012	469,515	11,233	2.4%	-0.7	11,651	2.5%	1.6
District of Columbia	1996	293,473	8,362	2.8%		1,345	0.5%	
	2012	384,500	14,222	3.7%	0.8	9,562	2.5%	2.0
Florida	1996	6,727,269	645,611	9.6%		15,993	0.2%	
	2012	9,102,155	1,622,175	17.8%	8.2	191,778	2.1%	1.9
Georgia	1996	3,505,904	22,429	0.6%		15,964	0.5%	
	2012	4,766,671	140,320	2.9%	2.3	94,708	2.0%	1.5
Hawaii	1996	462,552	14,236	3.1%		291,069	62.9%	
	2012	547,479	33,080	6.0%	3.0	269,832	49.3%	-13.6
Idaho	1996	570,772	8,920	1.6%		5,245	0.9%	
	2012	744,518	35,343	4.7%	3.2	1,512	0.2%	-0.7
Illinois	1996	5,819,266	152,430	2.6%		51,419	0.9%	
	2012	6,424,609	415,122	6.5%	3.8	231,249	3.6%	2.7
Indiana	1996	2,903,766	37,848	1.3%		7,705	0.3%	
	2012	3,269,735	70,633	2.2%	0.9	16,665	0.5%	0.2
Iowa	1996	1,542,838	12,208	0.8%		9,270	0.6%	
	2012	1,744,682	32,289	1.9%	1.1	22,758	1.3%	0.7

State	Year	Total Registered Voters	Latino Registered Voters			API Registered Voters		
			Total	Share of All Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference	Total	Share of All Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference
Kansas	1996	1,256,626	9,417	0.7%		18,491	1.5%	
	2012	1,467,112	54,087	3.7%	2.9	10,667	0.7%	-0.7
Kentucky	1996	2,017,416	2,701	0.1%		3,169	0.2%	
	2012	2,303,231	19,723	0.9%	0.7	14,469	0.6%	0.5
Louisiana	1996	2,274,878	24,379	1.1%		6,746	0.3%	
	2012	2,497,598	56,591	2.3%	1.2	6,298	0.3%	0.0
Maine	1996	754,527	1,575	0.2%		2,722	0.4%	
	2012	786,904	4,187	0.5%	0.3	2,913	0.4%	0.0
Maryland	1996	2,481,020	60,957	2.5%		45,605	1.8%	
	2012	2,888,287	115,266	4.0%	1.5	82,465	2.9%	1.0
Massachusetts	1996	3,040,479	47,878	1.6%		32,011	1.1%	
	2012	3,758,651	215,512	5.7%	4.2	123,664	3.3%	2.2
Michigan	1996	5,052,127	86,899	1.7%		49,842	1.0%	
	2012	5,619,901	193,410	3.4%	1.7	83,641	1.5%	0.5
Minnesota	1996	2,643,760	12,378	0.5%		21,093	0.8%	
	2012	3,084,645	54,167	1.8%	1.3	116,022	3.8%	3.0
Mississippi	1996	1,389,482	2,801	0.2%		2,086	0.2%	
	2012	1,794,488	4,933	0.3%	0.1	5,321	0.3%	0.1
Missouri	1996	2,964,352	29,786	1.0%		4,558	0.2%	
	2012	3,383,882	71,310	2.1%	1.1	17,056	0.5%	0.4
Montana	1996	487,125	5,039	1.0%		3,865	0.8%	
	2012	552,642	8,375	1.5%	0.5	2,211	0.4%	-0.4
Nebraska	1996	874,546	7,908	0.9%		2,751	0.3%	
	2012	900,825	27,435	3.0%	2.1	6,849	0.8%	0.4
Nevada	1996	693,546	30,933	4.5%		16,526	2.4%	
	2012	1,176,031	180,792	15.4%	10.9	92,172	7.8%	5.5
New Hampshire	1996	617,504	3,349	0.5%		2,898	0.5%	
	2012	751,691	15,137	2.0%	1.5	5,377	0.7%	0.2
New Jersey	1996	3,765,149	284,360	7.6%		59,023	1.6%	
	2012	4,326,005	467,903	10.8%	3.3	243,086	5.6%	4.1
New Mexico	1996	748,935	251,795	33.6%		1,116	0.1%	
	2012	978,474	348,840	35.7%	2.0	3,034	0.3%	0.2
New York	1996	8,176,170	678,549	8.3%		165,671	2.0%	
	2012	8,887,355	983,084	11.1%	2.8	367,685	4.1%	2.1
North Carolina	1996	3,672,577	13,091	0.4%		7,715	0.2%	
	2012	5,294,986	115,187	2.2%	1.8	33,689	0.6%	0.4

State	Year	Total Registered Voters	Latino Registered Voters			API Registered Voters		
			Total	Share of All Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference	Total	Share of All Registered Voters	Percentage Point Difference
North Dakota	1996	412,210	1,588	0.4%		442	0.1%	
	2012	382,946	6,907	1.8%	1.4	503	0.1%	0.0
Ohio	1996	5,603,573	34,649	0.6%		26,963	0.5%	
	2012	6,076,295	115,869	1.9%	1.3	45,131	0.7%	0.3
Oklahoma	1996	1,651,912	12,822	0.8%		11,011	0.7%	
	2012	1,805,548	52,923	2.9%	2.2	26,560	1.5%	0.8
Oregon	1996	1,745,975	31,283	1.8%		20,775	1.2%	
	2012	2,085,769	69,125	3.3%	1.5	43,338	2.1%	0.9
Pennsylvania	1996	5,901,637	94,898	1.6%		26,072	0.4%	
	2012	6,794,571	225,172	3.3%	1.7	76,097	1.1%	0.7
Rhode Island	1996	519,225	8,059	1.6%		4,775	0.9%	
	2012	552,010	37,042	6.7%	5.2	4,834	0.9%	0.0
South Carolina	1996	1,851,260	5,767	0.3%		8,681	0.5%	
	2012	2,478,560	21,372	0.9%	0.6	16,709	0.7%	0.2
South Dakota	1996	390,792	1,479	0.4%		704	0.2%	
	2012	454,080	5,571	1.2%	0.8	1,090	0.2%	0.1
Tennessee	1996	2,647,227	9,193	0.3%		3,105	0.1%	
	2012	3,210,430	106,979	3.3%	3.0	12,634	0.4%	0.3
Texas	1996	8,316,395	1,622,864	19.5%		124,368	1.5%	
	2012	10,748,748	2,651,659	24.7%	5.2	324,133	3.0%	1.5
Utah	1996	860,615	33,472	3.9%		9,459	1.1%	
	2012	1,137,806	60,599	5.3%	1.4	23,767	2.1%	1.0
Vermont	1996	312,679	2,538	0.8%		949	0.3%	
	2012	357,063	2,819	0.8%	0.0	3,709	1.0%	0.7
Virginia	1996	3,293,642	33,973	1.0%		47,685	1.4%	
	2012	4,210,090	113,717	2.7%	1.7	138,722	3.3%	1.8
Washington	1996	2,840,052	53,603	1.9%		81,014	2.9%	
	2012	3,532,801	172,469	4.9%	3.0	183,494	5.2%	2.3
West Virginia	1996	921,040	1,277	0.1%		1,855	0.2%	
	2012	981,908	8,193	0.8%	0.7	2,586	0.3%	0.1
Wisconsin	1996	2,899,723	32,945	1.1%		17,082	0.6%	
	2012	3,318,155	76,084	2.3%	1.2	15,094	0.5%	-0.1
Wyoming	1996	247,362	6,648	2.7%		1,180	0.5%	
	2012	267,862	10,197	3.8%	1.1	307	0.1%	-0.4

ENDNOTES

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