

Asian Pacific American Votes Matter

Quick Overview

Asian Pacific Americans (APA) represent the fastest growing population in the United States. Totalling 13.5 million, the APA community has increased by close to 90 percent since 1990. APAs are also increasing in non-traditional regions, growing at a rate of over 100 percent in the Midwest and close to 150 percent in the South. APALA is continuing Every Vote Counts, our national program directed at strengthening voter registration, education, mobilization and protection efforts of APAs.



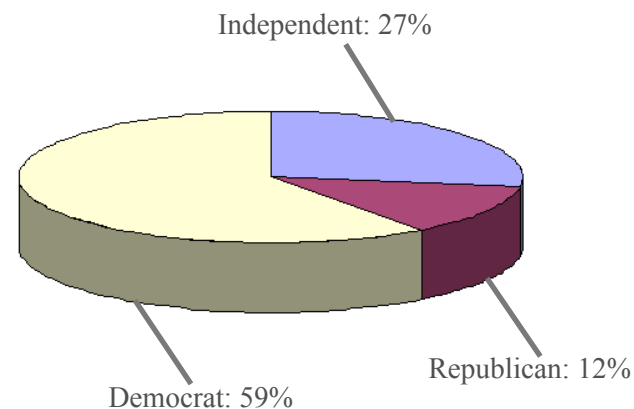
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An investment in the APA electorate represents a long-term investment that will yield short-term benefits. Often referred to as the Sleeping Giant of electoral politics, the APA vote has increasingly determined the outcome of several elections across the country. For example, in 2006, the APA vote exceeded the vote differential in 52 Congressional elections, five Senatorial elections and three Gubernatorial elections. APAs are poised to be the critical swing vote in numerous local, statewide and national elections in the 2008 election.

Type of Race	State	APA Vote	Vote Difference	Winner
Senate	VA	162,679	7,231	Democrat
Governor	NV	75,649	22,935	Republican
Congress	PA-8	10,801	1,521	Democrat
Congress	IL-6	33,569	4,275	Republican
Congress	WA-8	36,431	3,095	Republican

Asian Pacific American Electorate

The APA electorate trends Democratic with a high proportion of Independents and a minority of Republicans. Furthermore, APAs have displayed a tendency to vote by issue as opposed to adhering to strict party loyalties. And although APAs have the lowest voter registration and mobilization rates of all groups, once APAs are registered, they turn out and vote on par with their White counterparts.



Did You Know...

APAs will comprise 10 percent of the entire US population by 2050

Three million APAs voted in 2004, a 45 percent increase from 2000

In 2004, APAs would have added 200,000 voters if turnout was as high as White voters

In 2004, APAs would have 500,000 additional voters if they registered at the same rate as White voters