



Vote in the 2004 Presidential Election

January 2005

Findings in Brief

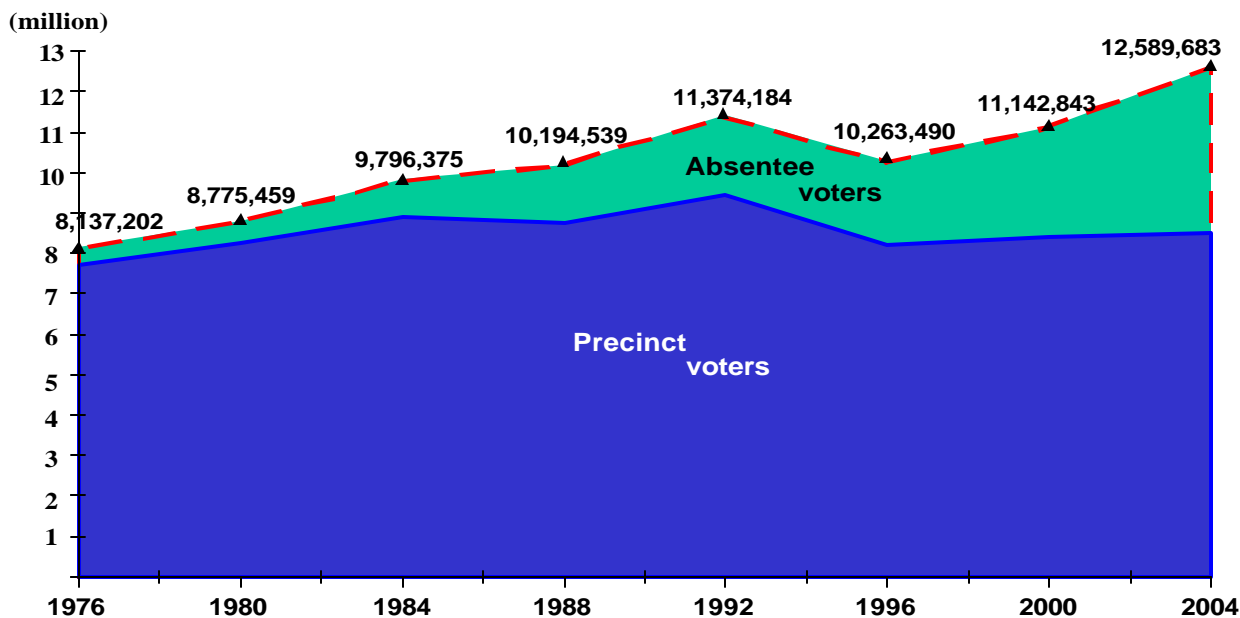
- Voting in the 2004 presidential in California exceeded 12.5 million voters, a record number, and representing 75% of all registrants. There was also a record high number of absentee ballot voting. Over 4.1 million Californians (33%) cast their vote by mail or using an absentee ballot, far exceeding the previous record high of 2.8 million absentee ballots cast in the 2003 recall election.
- The large turnout changed the shape of the electorate from previous presidential elections. Fully one in three voters (33%) were Latino, African-American, Asian or a member of another racial/ethnic minority, a record high. In addition, half (50%) of California voters were under age 45, up significantly from 36% and 41%, respectively, in each of the last two presidential elections.
- Democrat's John Kerry's 10-point victory over Republican George W. Bush represented the fourth consecutive Democratic presidential election win in California. However, the size of Kerry's win was lower than past Democratic victory margins. For example, Al Gore defeated Bush in the 2000 election by 12 points, Bill Clinton bested Bob Dole by 13 points in 1996, and Clinton also carried the state over George H.W. Bush in 1992 by 13 points.
- While overall California is considered a Democratic "blue" state, there are pronounced Democratic and Republican divisions within its borders. Similar to Gore in 2000, Kerry was preferred by a nineteen-point margin among voters living in California coastal counties. But, inland voters preferred Bush by a large fifteen-point margin in 2004, up from eight points in 2000.
- The one-sided nature of Democratic Senator Barbara Boxer's victory appeared to wash away many of the wide subgroup variations of the vote for president. Boxer won a majority across most of the state's demographic subgroups of voters.
- Proposition 71, Stem Cell Research Bonds, received broad support across most of the major regional and demographic subgroups of the state's electorate. By contrast, voters were very divided in their preferences on Prop. 72, the Health Care Coverage Requirements referendum. While majorities of coastal voters, Democrats, women, Latinos, African-Americans, Asians, and younger voters voted in favor of Prop. 72, equally large majorities of inland voters, Republicans, white non-Hispanics, men, as well as voters age 45 or older voted No.

More than 12.5 million Californians voted in November, a record number

According to the Secretary of State's official Statement of Vote, a record 12,589,683 Californians participated in the November 2, 2004 general election. This is almost one and one-quarter million more voters than participated in any previous election in this state.

The vote translates to a turnout of 76.0% of registered voters and 57.0% of citizen-eligible adults living in California. The 76.0% figure is the highest percentage of registrants participating in a California election since 1980, while the 57.0% figure is the highest since 1984.

Table 1
Votes Cast in California Presidential Elections Since 1976



A record 4.1 million Californians voted using an absentee ballot

One of the more significant characteristics of the 2004 vote in California was the increasing popularity of absentee ballot voting. Over 4 million Californians (4,105,179, or 33% of the total vote) chose to cast their vote by mail or using an absentee ballot. This represents a continuation of a twenty-eight year trend of increasing popularity of absentee ballot voting, following the relaxation of absentee voting laws in the late 1970s.

Table 2
Precinct and Absentee Ballot Voting
in California Presidential Elections
(1976-2004)

	Total voters <i>(in 000s)</i>	Precinct voters <i>(in 000s)</i>	Absentee voters <i>(in 000s)</i>
2004	12,590	8,845 (67%)	4,105 (33%)
2000	11,143	8,404 (75%)	2,739 (25%)
1996	10,263	8,185 (80%)	2,078 (20%)
1992	11,374	9,424 (83%)	1,950 (17%)
1988	10,195	8,760 (86%)	1,435 (14%)
1984	9,796	8,883 (91%)	914 (9%)
1980	8,775	8,226 (94%)	549 (6%)
1976	8,137	7,771 (96%)	367 (4%)

Source: California Secretary of State.

Changing shape of the California electorate

The large turnout of California voters in the 2004 presidential election changed the shape of the electorate from previous presidential elections, according to two statewide exit polls of voters conducted in the November 2 election. The most significant changes observed related to the race/ethnicity and the age of voters participating.

- Fully one in three of voters statewide (33%) were either Latino, African-American, Asian or a member of another racial ethnic minority. This percentage is up from 29% in 2000, 23% in 1996 and 21% in 1992. Meanwhile, the proportion of voters who were white non-Hispanic declined to 67%.
- Half (50%) of California voters in the 2004 presidential election were under age 45. This is a significant increase from the last two presidential elections when the share of voters age 18-44 was just 36% and 41%.
- Voters living in counties that touch the Pacific Ocean or the San Francisco Bay outnumbered those living in inland counties 72% to 28%. However, the proportion of state voters living in inland areas has been growing gradually over time, increasing from 26% in 1992 to 28% this year. According to the actual vote count, there has been a corresponding decline in the share of voters living in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, who represented 22% of voters in 2004, compared to 24% in 1992.
- Another difference between the 2004 California electorate and other presidential election turnouts of the recent past related to the education level of voters. According to the exit polls, voters with at least a bachelor's degree in college accounted for 46% of all voters in 2004, up from 35% in 2000.

- Voter turnout in 2004 did not show any significant differences from other recent presidential election turnouts by party. Democrats outnumbered Republican voters by a 43% to 36% margin, while another 21% were independent or nonpartisans. This is similar to the party turnout percentages found in the 2000 presidential election in California.
- The religious affiliation of California voters in 2004 was no different from other recent presidential election turnouts, with 45% of voters identifying themselves as Protestants, 28% Catholic, 12% other religions and 15% having no religious preference.
- The share of the California vote in 2004 by gender was similar to past elections, with 52% of voters being women and 48% men.

Table 3
Demographic Characteristics of General Election
Voters in California Presidential Elections
(1992-2004)

	2004	2000	1996	1992
Race/ethnicity	%	%	%	%
White (non-Hispanic)	67	71	77	79
Latino	18	14	11	10
Black/African American	6	7	6	6
Asian/other	9	8	6	5
Age				
18-29	22	15	17	19
30-44	28	21	24	29
45-59	27	34	32	31
60 or older	23	30	27	21
Region				
Coastal counties	72	73	73	74
Inland counties	28	27	27	26
Sub-region				
Los Angeles County	25	25	24	25
San Francisco Bay Area	22	23	23	24
Central Valley	16	16	16	15
Inland Empire	9	8	8	8
San Diego County	9	9	9	9
Orange County	9	9	9	9
Central Coast	6	7	7	7
Other areas	4	4	4	3
Gender				
Men	48	47	47	47
Women	52	53	53	53
Education				
High school graduate or less	20	26	22	26
Some college/trade school	34	39	32	32
College graduate	29	23	26	25
Post graduate work	17	12	20	17
Party				
Democrat	43	43	42	41
Republican	36	35	38	37
Independent/nonpartisan	21	22	20	22
Religion				
Protestant	45	45	47	45
Catholic	28	28	28	28
Jewish	4	5	5	5
Other religions	8	8	7	9
No preference	15	14	13	13

Source: Regional vote percentages are based on the official Statement of Vote as reported by the California Secretary of State. Other percentages from 1992, 1996 and 2000 are based on exit polls conducted in California by Voter News Service, while other percentages from 2004 are the averages of two separate exit polls conducted in California by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International and the Los Angeles Times.

Racial/ethnic differences between voters and all Californians remain large

While the proportion of California voters who were Latinos, African-American, Asian or a member of another racial/ethnic minority reached a record 33% in the 2004 election, this proportion is still significantly less than their 54% share of the state's total population. Latinos and Asians, in particular, account for a significantly smaller percentage of the voting electorate combined than are found in the total population, while white non-Hispanics represent a much larger percentage of voters than of the overall population. For example, while Latinos represent 34% of the state's overall population, they accounted for just 18% of its voters. Similarly, while Asians and Pacific Islanders comprise 12% of the total population, just 7% of the 2004 electorate were Asian or Pacific Islander. On the other hand, while white non-Hispanics now account for less than half (46%) of the state's total population, they still comprised two-thirds (67%) of the state's voters in 2004.

There are three main reasons for these differences:

- (1) The state's ethnic population is considerably younger than the white non-Hispanic population. As such, white non-Hispanics constitute a somewhat larger proportion of the state's adult population (51%) than they do of the overall population (46%).
- (2) A large number of the state's Latino and Asian populations are non-citizens, making them ineligible to register and vote. Because of this, white non-Hispanics' share of the state's total adult citizens increases to 61%, while that of Latinos and Asians declines to 32%.
- (3) White non-Hispanic citizens are also more likely than their Latino and Asian counterparts to be registered to vote. This further expands the weight of white non-Hispanics to 67% of the state's registered voter population.

	Total Population	Adults	Adult Citizens Eligible to Vote	Registered Voters	Voted in Nov. 2004 Election
Statewide - total (in 000s)	35,394	26,300	22,075	16,557	12,590
Race/Ethnicity					
White (non-Hispanic)	46%	51%	61%	67%	67%
Latino	34	31	23	19	18
Asian/Pacific Islander	12	11	9	7	7
Black/African-American	7	6	6	6	6

Differences between 100% and sum of each column's percentages equal the number identifying as another race, a mixed race, or who didn't specify their race. Race/ethnicity estimates for the state's total populations and for adults are from the California Department of Finance. Percentages of adult citizens eligible to vote and registered voters are Field Poll estimates, while estimates of voters in the November 2, 2004 election are the averages of two separate exit polls conducted in California by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International and the Los Angeles Times.

How California has voted for President since 1948

Democrat John Kerry received 6,745,485 votes in California, which account for 54.3% of the 12,421,353 votes cast in this state for president. Kerry's total was significantly greater than the 5,509,826 votes cast (44.4%) for Republican George W. Bush. However, the Democrat's 9.9 percentage-point margin of victory in 2004, while sizable, was down from the Democratic candidate's victory margin in each of the past three presidential elections. For example, Al Gore defeated Bush in the 2000 election by 11.8 points, Bill Clinton bested Bob Dole by 12.9 points, and Clinton carried the state over George H.W. Bush in 1992 by 13.4 points.

The recent success of the Democratic Party's candidate in carrying California in each of the last four elections is in sharp contrast to the historical success that Republican Party candidates have had in this state since World War II. For example, in the eleven presidential elections between 1948 and 1988, the Republican candidate carried California in nine of them, while the Democratic candidate prevailed in only two. The increasing share of ethnic voters in the decades of the 1990s and 2000s is one of the main factors responsible for the greater success of Democratic candidates in more recent elections.

	California winner	% of vote	California loser	% of vote	Party of winner	% Margin of victory
2004	Kerry	54.3	Bush (GW)	44.4	Dem.	9.9
2000	Gore	53.5	Bush (GW)	41.7	Dem.	11.8
1996	Clinton	51.1	Dole	38.2	Dem.	12.9
1992	Clinton	46.0	Bush (GHW)	32.6	Dem.	13.4
1988	Bush (GHW)	51.1	Dukakis	47.6	Rep.	3.5
1984	Reagan	57.5	Mondale	41.3	Rep.	16.2
1980	Reagan	52.7	Carter	35.9	Rep.	16.8
1976	Ford	49.7	Carter	48.0	Rep.	1.7
1972	Nixon	55.0	McGovern	41.5	Rep.	13.5
1968	Nixon	47.8	Humphrey	44.7	Rep.	3.1
1964	Johnson	59.1	Goldwater	40.8	Dem.	18.3
1960	Nixon	50.1	Kennedy	49.6	Rep.	0.5
1956	Eisenhower	55.4	Stevenson	44.3	Rep.	11.1
1952	Eisenhower	56.3	Stevenson	42.7	Rep.	13.6
1948	Truman	47.6	Dewey	47.1	Dem.	0.5

Source: California Secretary of State.

Characteristics of the 2004 Vote for President

While Kerry's statewide margin of victory over President Bush was comfortable, an examination of the vote shows significant variations in preferences across different subgroups of the state's electorate. For example...

- Kerry was preferred by a solid nineteen-point margin (59% to 40%) among voters living in coastal counties, while inland voters preferred Bush by a nearly as large fifteen-point margin (57% to 42%). This was a wider gap between coastal and inland voters than was seen in the 2000 presidential election in which Gore was preferred by 20 points among coastal voters, while Bush received the support of inland voters by 8 points.
- The more traditional nature of the state's political demography was also reflected in the 2004 presidential vote. The two large metropolitan centers of Los Angeles County and the San Francisco Bay Area continued to vote strongly for Kerry. Kerry also beat Bush among Central Coast voters. However Bush was preferred over Kerry in all other areas of the state, including the Central Valley, the Inland Empire, Orange and San Diego counties, and the state's other relatively sparsely populated counties.
- Voting preferences were extremely partisan, with 90% of Democrats favoring Kerry and 90% of Republicans supporting Bush. Independent or nonpartisan voters were strongly for Kerry, 57% to 38%.
- The voting preferences of conservatives also contrasted with those of liberals, as 79% of conservatives supported Bush and 83% of liberals favored Kerry. Political moderates supported Kerry by a 58% to 39% margin.
- In contrast to some prior votes in California, there was not a large gender gap between the voting preferences of men and women. Majorities of both men (52%) and women (57%) supported Kerry.
- Similarly, there was not much variation in voter preferences by age, with majorities across each age segment voting for Kerry.
- There were large differences in voting preferences between white non-Hispanic voters and racial/ethnic minority voters. A majority of this state's white non-Hispanics preferred Bush by a 51% to 47% margin. By contrast, very large majorities of California Latinos (66%), Asians (64%) and African-Americans (83%) supported Kerry.
- Wide demographic variations were also seen by the education level of the voter. Bush outpolled Kerry among voters who were not college graduates, while Kerry was strongly preferred among college graduates (57%) and especially those with a post-graduate education (64%).
- A voter's religious affiliation also related to voting preference. Protestants voted solidly for Bush, 60% to 39%. On the other hand, Catholics, voters affiliated with other non-Christian religions, as well as those with no religious preference strongly favored Kerry.
- Clear majorities of voters earning less than \$30,000 or between \$30,000 and \$50,000 supported Kerry, while voters earning more than this were about evenly divided in their preferences.
- First-time voters were somewhat more likely than other voters to have supported Kerry over Bush.

Table 6

Characteristics of the 2004 Vote for President in California

	Kerry (D)	Bush (R)
Statewide total	54%	44%
<u>Region</u>		
Coastal counties	59%	40
Inland counties	42%	57
<u>Sub-region</u>		
Los Angeles County	63%	36
San Francisco Bay Area	69%	29
Central Valley	42%	57
Inland Empire	42%	56
San Diego County	46%	53
Orange County	39%	60
Central Coast	54%	45
Other areas	44%	55
<u>Party</u>		
Democrat	90%	9
Republican	9%	90
Independent/nonpartisan	57%	38
<u>Political ideology</u>		
Conservative	19%	79
Moderate	58%	39
Liberal	83%	11
<u>Gender</u>		
Men	52%	46
Women	57%	42
<u>Age</u>		
18-29	59%	39
30-44	53%	45
45-59	53%	45
60 or older	54%	44
<u>Race/ethnicity</u>		
White (non-Hispanic)	47%	51
Latino	66%	32
Black/African-American	83%	16
Asian/other	64%	34
<u>Religion</u>		
Protestant	39%	60
Catholic	61%	38
Jewish	79%	20
Other religions	73%	25
No preference	65%	32
<u>Education</u>		
High school graduate or less	46%	52
Some college/trade school	49%	50
College graduate	57%	40
Post graduate work	64%	33
<u>Income</u>		
Less than \$30,000	60%	37
\$30,000-\$49,999	56%	42
\$50,000-\$74,999	50%	47
\$75,000-\$99,999	49%	47
\$100,000 or more	51%	48
<u>First time voter</u>		
Yes	61%	36
No	53%	45

Source: Total regional and subregional vote counts are based on the Secretary of State's official Statement of Vote. Other data are the averages of two separate exit polls conducted in California on November 2, 2004, by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International and the Los Angeles Times, except income and education which are based on the Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International exit poll only.

Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of percentages for each candidate equal proportion of votes cast for other candidates.

Voter preferences for U.S. Senate

Democrat Barbara Boxer easily won re-election to a third term in the U.S. Senate, defeating Republican challenger Bill Jones by a comfortable twenty point margin, 58% to 38%.

The one-sided nature of Boxer's victory over Jones appeared to wash away many of the wide subgroup variations witnessed in state's vote for president. For example, there were no large differences between the voting preferences of coastal and inland California voters in the Senate race. In addition, majorities of voters across all age and educational categories supported Boxer.

Partisan differences remained prominent, however. Boxer was the choice of 92% of Democrats, while 82% of Republicans preferred Jones. Independent and nonpartisan voters supported Boxer nearly two to one (60% to 34%).

While conservative voters favored Jones by a 74% to 23% margin, moderate and liberals were strongly supporting Boxer. Among liberals Boxer captured 90% of the vote, while among moderates she was favored more than two to one (64% to 31%).

Boxer's presence did foster somewhat larger gender differences in the vote for U.S. Senate than was seen in the vote for president. Almost two-thirds (63%) of women supported the incumbent Boxer, while among men her vote support was 54%

Similar to the vote for president, Boxer was the overwhelming choice of voters in Los Angeles County and the San Francisco Bay Area. Yet, Boxer made further inroads in other areas of the state. She won half or more of the votes of those in San Diego County, the Central Coast and the state's less populated "other" counties. Jones did carry the Central Valley, Orange County and the Inland Empire, but his margins in these areas did not match those of Bush in the presidential contest. And, unlike the vote for president, there were no significant differences between the voting preferences of coastal and inland voters in the U.S. Senate contest.

While Boxer only narrowly won among the state's white non-Hispanic voters (51% to 46%), she was heavily supported by the state's racial and ethnic voters, capturing about three in four of their combined votes.

There were fairly large differences in vote preferences by religion. Protestants support Jones by a 53% to 44% margin. However, Boxer was preferred more than two to one among Catholics and those with no religious preference, and among voters affiliated with other non-Christian religions she defeated Jones four to one.

Boxer was supported over Jones by majorities of voters in all age and education categories.

Greater than six in ten voters earning less than \$50,000 supported Boxer, a somewhat larger proportion than voters earning more than this total.

Seven in ten voters who were voting for the first time cast their ballot for Boxer in the Senate race, a larger percentage than was seen among other voters.

Table 7
Characteristics of Voter Preferences for U.S. Senate

	Boxer (D)	Jones (R)
Statewide total	<u>58%</u>	<u>38</u>
<u>Region</u>		
Coastal counties	58%	37
Inland counties	56%	39
<u>Sub-region</u>		
Los Angeles County	67%	28
San Francisco Bay Area	69%	26
Central Valley	41%	55
San Diego County	52%	44
Orange County	44%	51
Inland Empire	41%	54
Central Coast	56%	39
Other areas	50%	45
<u>Party</u>		
Democrat	92%	5
Republican	15%	82
Independent/nonpartisan	60%	34
<u>Political ideology</u>		
Conservative	23%	74
Moderate	64%	31
Liberal	90%	7
<u>Gender</u>		
Men	54%	42
Women	63%	34
<u>Age</u>		
18-29	63%	31
30-44	57%	39
45-59	57%	39
60 or older	59%	39
<u>Race/ethnicity</u>		
White (non-Hispanic)	51%	46
Latino	72%	23
Black/African-American	84%	13
Asian/other	68%	28
<u>Religion</u>		
Protestant	44%	53
Catholic	65%	30
Jewish	83%	16
Other religions	78%	18
No preference	68%	30
<u>Education</u>		
High school graduate or less	58%	40
Some college/trade school	54%	44
College graduate	61%	37
Post graduate work	65%	33
<u>Income</u>		
Less than \$30,000	69%	27
\$30,000-\$49,999	61%	35
\$50,000-\$74,999	55%	42
\$75,000-\$99,999	56%	43
\$100,000 or more	54%	45
<u>First-time voter</u>		
Yes	70%	27
No	57%	41

Source: Total regional and subregional vote counts are based on the Secretary of State's official Statement of Vote. All other data are the averages of two separate exit polls conducted in California on November 2, 2004, by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International and the Los Angeles Times, except income and education which are based on the Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International exit poll only.

Note: Differences between 100% and the sum of percentages for each candidate equal proportion of votes cast for other candidates.

Characteristics of voting on Propositions 71 and 72

Two of the state's most controversial statewide ballot propositions related to two health-related propositions. Proposition 71, authorizing stem cell research bonds, was approved overwhelmingly on November 2. On the other hand, Proposition 72, the Health Care Coverage Requirements referendum, the No side narrowly prevailed.

An examination of the vote on Prop. 71 shows that it received broad support across most of the state's major regional and demographic subgroups. The only subgroups of which a majority voted No on Prop. 71 were conservatives (66%), Republicans (64%), Central Valley voters (51%) and Protestants (51%). Majorities across all other voting blocs voted Yes on Prop. 71, many by large margins.

By contrast, voters were very divided in their voting preferences regarding Prop. 72. For example, coastal voters voted Yes 52% to 48%, while inland voters were opposed 57% to 43%. While voters living in heavily Democratic Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area were supportive by similar 57% to 43% margins, majorities of voters in all other regions of the state were opposed.

Democrats voted Yes on Prop. 72 by a large 72% to 28% margin. However, Republicans opposed it by an even wider margin, 79% to 21%. Independent and nonpartisan voters, reflected the overall statewide vote disposition, voting No by a 51% to 49% margin.

Conservatives voted No on Prop. 72 by a nearly three to one margin (74% to 26%). This was enough to offset Yes side advantages among moderates (53% to 47%) and liberals (70% to 30%).

There was a sizeable gender gap in the Prop. 72 vote. Men voted No by a 54% to 46% margin, while women favored it 52% to 48%.

Younger voters age 18-29 were strongly supportive of Prop. 72, voting Yes 64% to 36%. On the other hand, majorities of voters in all other age segments voted No.

White non-Hispanics voted heavily on the No side of Prop. 72 (58% to 42%). By contrast, large majorities of Latino, African-American and Asian voters voted Yes.

There were also striking differences between Protestants and voters affiliated with other religions on Prop. 72. Protestants voted No overwhelmingly (61% to 39%). On the other hand, large majorities of voters affiliated with other religions, as well as those with no religious preference, voted Yes.

Voters who lived in households where one or more persons was a union member voted Yes on Prop. 72 by a 55% to 45% margin. However, voters whose household was not affiliated with a labor union voted No 54% to 46%.

First-time voters were heavily supportive of Prop. 72, voting Yes by a 65% to 35% margin. However, the much larger numbers of voters who had voted in previous statewide elections voted on the No side, 53% to 47%.

Table 8
Characteristics of Voter Preferences for Props. 71 and 72

	Prop. 71 Stem Cell Research		Prop. 72 Health Care Coverage Requirements	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Statewide total	59%	41	49%	51
<u>Region</u>				
Coastal counties	61%	39	52%	48
Inland counties	56%	44	43%	57
<u>Sub-region</u>				
Los Angeles County	65%	35	57%	43
San Francisco Bay Area	67%	33	57%	43
Central Valley	49%	51	42%	58
Inland Empire	53%	47	45%	55
San Diego County	59%	41	44%	56
Orange County	52%	48	38%	62
Central Coast	56%	44	47%	53
Other areas	55%	45	44%	56
<u>Party</u>				
Democrat	79%	21	72%	28
Republican	36%	64	21%	79
Independent/nonpartisan	60%	40	49%	51
<u>Political ideology</u>				
Conservative	34%	66	26%	74
Moderate	64%	36	53%	47
Liberal	80%	20	70%	30
<u>Gender</u>				
Men	59%	41	46%	54
Women	60%	40	52%	48
<u>Age</u>				
18-29	63%	37	64%	36
30-44	57%	43	48%	52
45-59	58%	42	44%	56
60 or older	60%	40	42%	58
<u>Race/ethnicity</u>				
White (non-Hispanic)	57%	43	42%	58
Latino	62%	38	75%	25
Black/African-American	65%	35	64%	36
Asian/other	62%	38	59%	41
<u>Religion</u>				
Protestant	49%	51	39%	61
Catholic	60%	40	55%	45
Jewish	82%	18	63%	37
Other religions	70%	30	} 60%	40
No preference	68%	32		
<u>Education</u>				
High school graduate or less	55%	45	} 49%	51
Some college/trade school	60%	40		
College graduate	59%	41	} 49%	51
Post graduate work	66%	34		
<u>Union affiliation</u>				
Yes	60%	40	55%	45
No	59%	41	46%	54
<u>First-time voter</u>				
Yes	64%	36	65%	35
No	58%	42	47%	53

Source: Total regional and subregional vote counts are based on the Secretary of State's official Statement of Vote. Data for Prop. 71 are the averages of two separate exit polls conducted in California on November 2, 2004, by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International and the Los Angeles Times, while data for Prop. 72 are based on the Los Angeles Times exit poll only.