



# CALIFORNIA CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

*Research for a Stronger, More Inclusive Democracy*

## The 2016 election: Results and Next Steps

# Talk Summary

1. Breakdown of the 2016 vote?

2. Did California's electorate become more representative?

3. Where do we go from here?

# Study Methodology

## Voter Turnout Data

- Statewide Database, Political Data, Inc.

## Population Data

- Current Population Survey, California Department of Finance

**So What Happened?**

# U.S. Turnout

60% (U.S. Elections Project)  
– higher than 2012

Higher than 2000

# A Majority of America?

- Trump = 63 million
- Clinton = 65 million +
- Nearly a 100 million eligible Americans didn't vote
- Trump – only about a fourth of eligible voters
- Electoral college

# What about California?

# 2016 Surge in Registration

2 million added to registration roles

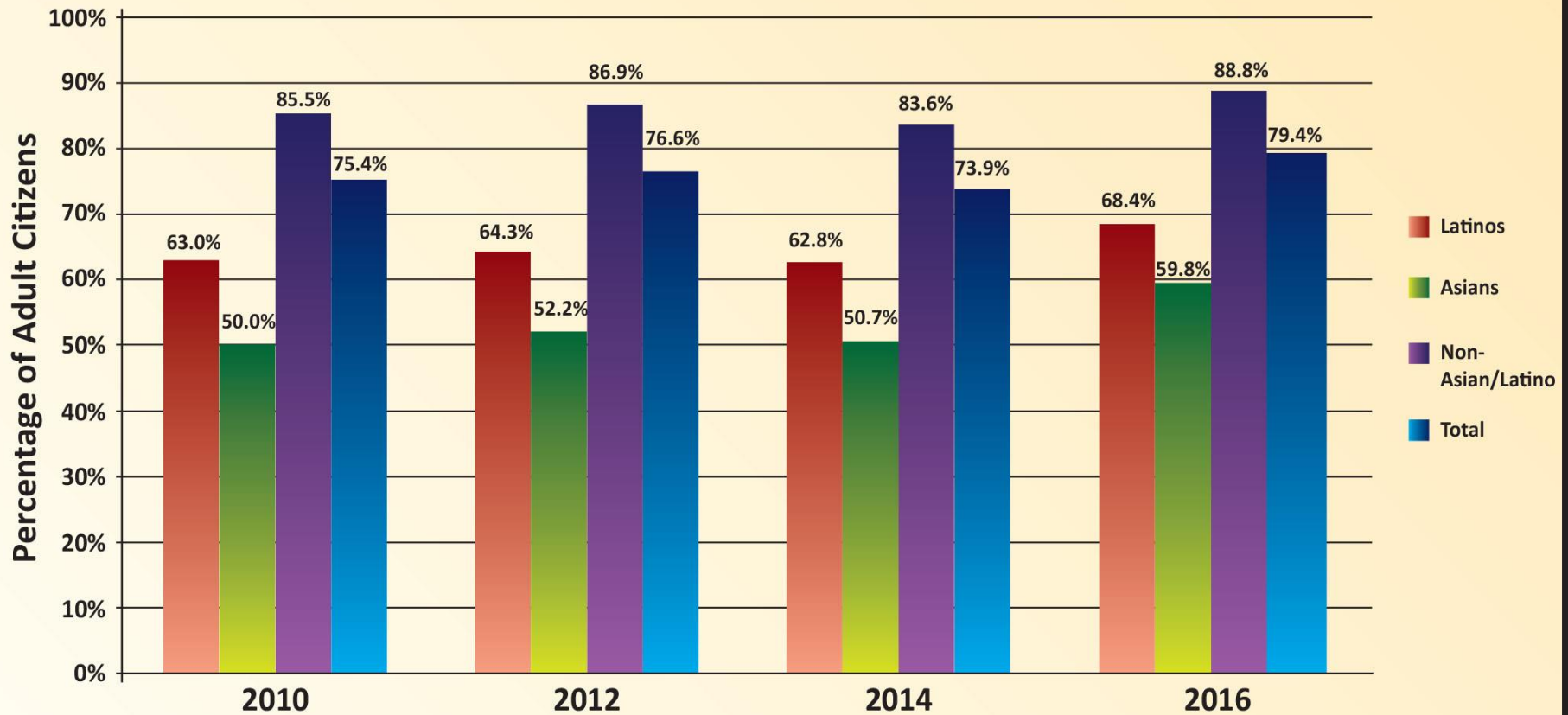
A record 19.4 million total



# 2016 Registration Rates

- Total Registration – 79.4%
- Latino Registration – 68.4%
- Asian-American – 59.8%
- Non-Latino/Asian-American – 88.8%
- Youth (age 18-24) – 62.9%

## Registration Rates: 2010-2016 General Election



Data Source: Statewide Database, Political Data, Inc.  
Current Population Survey, California Department of Finance.

# California Turnout?

# California Turnout

14.6 million votes

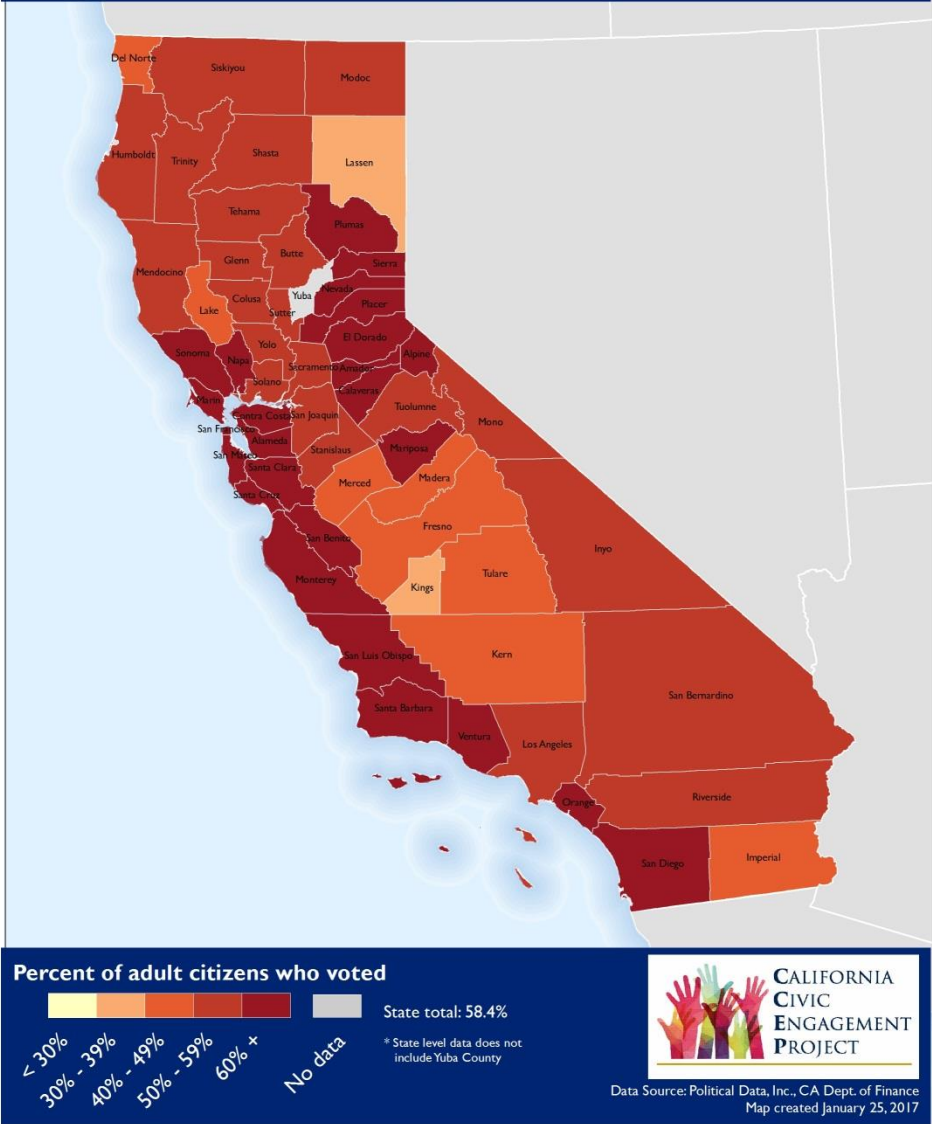
= 58.7% eligible voter turnout

= 75.3% registered voter turnout

= between 2012 and 2008 rates

## 2016 Total Eligible Voter Turnout

### General Election



# 2016 County Total Turnout

	Eligible Turnout	Rank	2012 EVT Change
Marin	79.8%	1st	+5
Sierra	75.9%	2nd	+2.9
San Francisco	67.7%	8th	+8.8
Los Angeles	58.0%	28th	+7.2
Sacramento	56.9%	34th	+3.3
State	58.4 % (CCEP analysis)	-	+5

# California Turnout

What about group turnout?

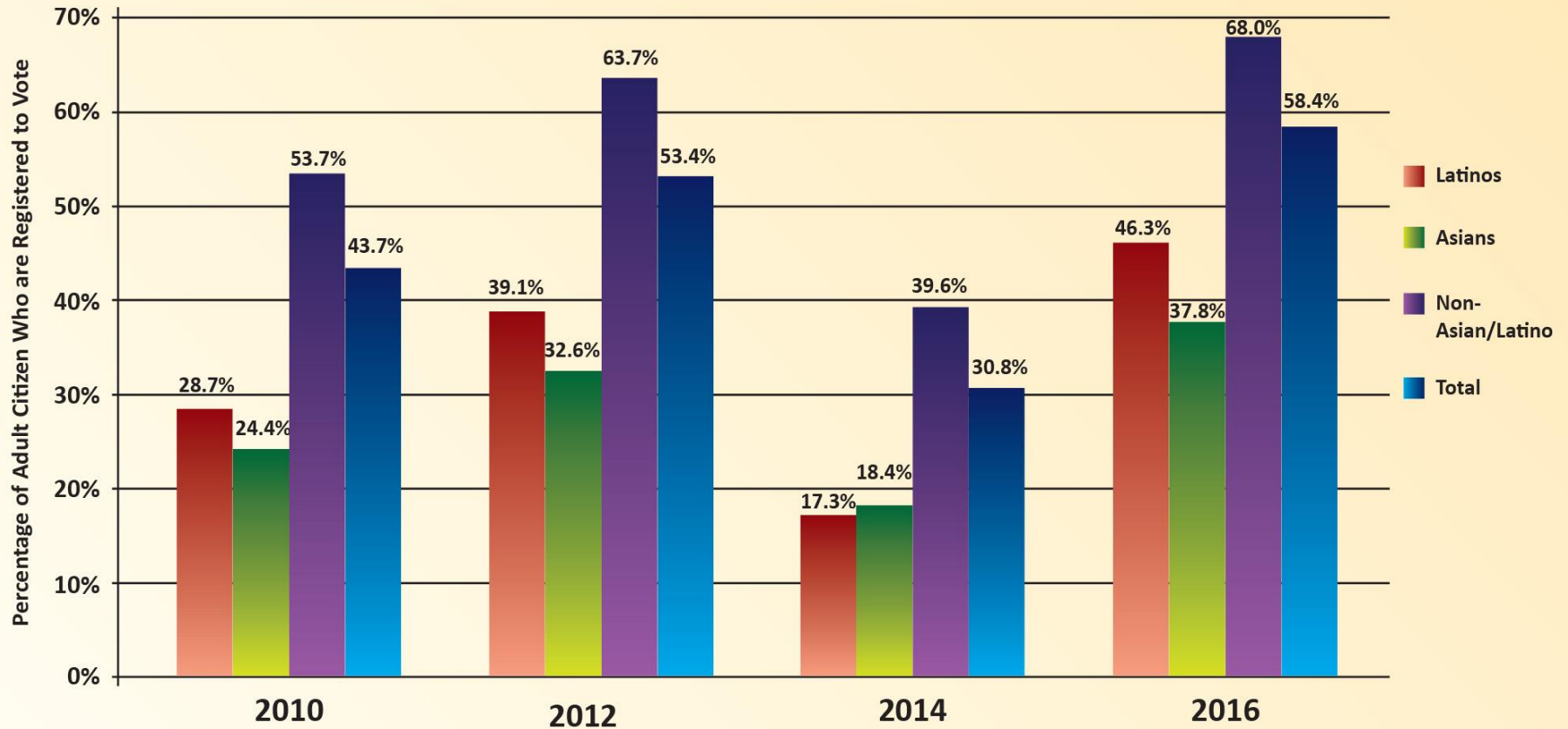
Latino vote?

Latino eligible turnout in 2016?



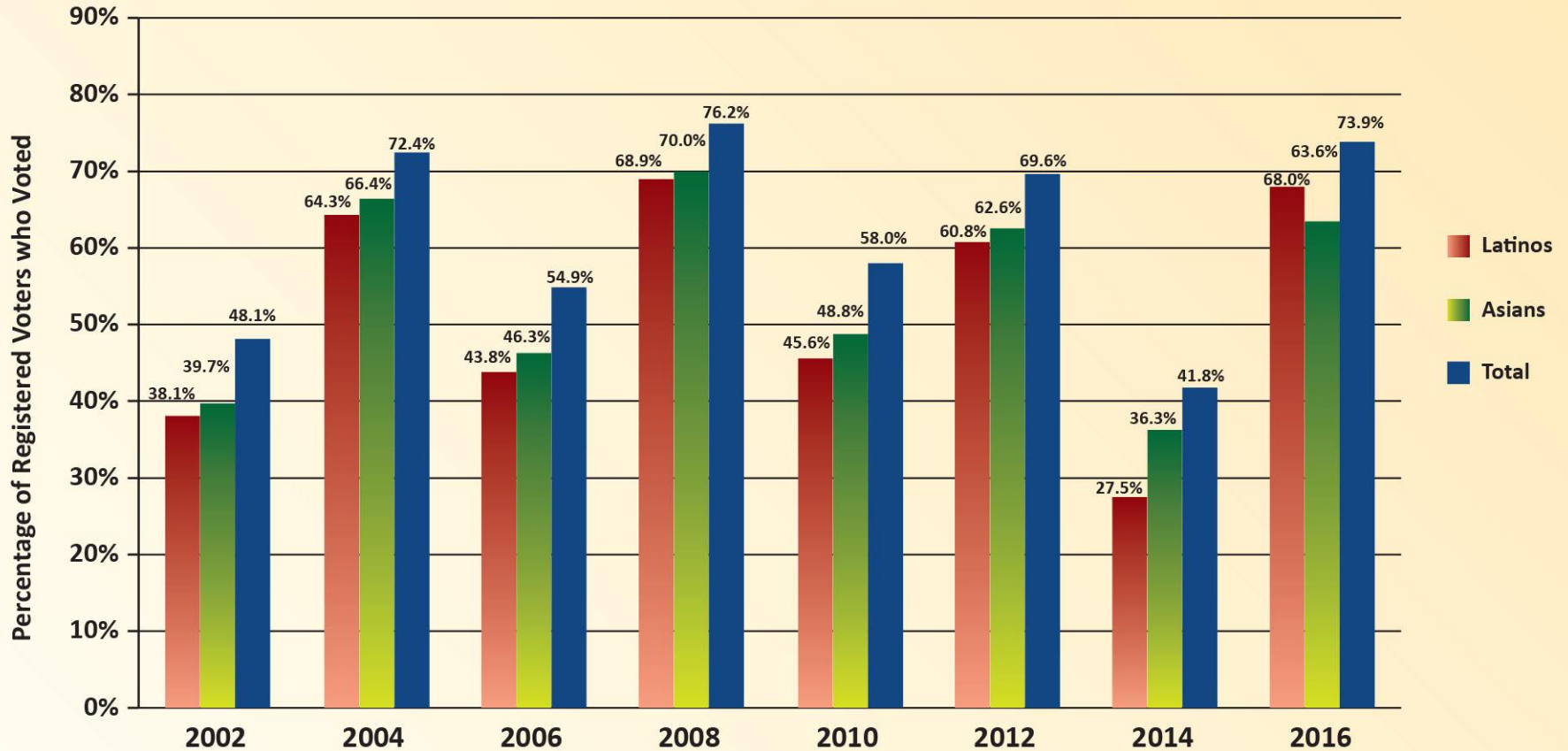
46.3%

## Eligible Voter Turnout 2010-2016 General Elections



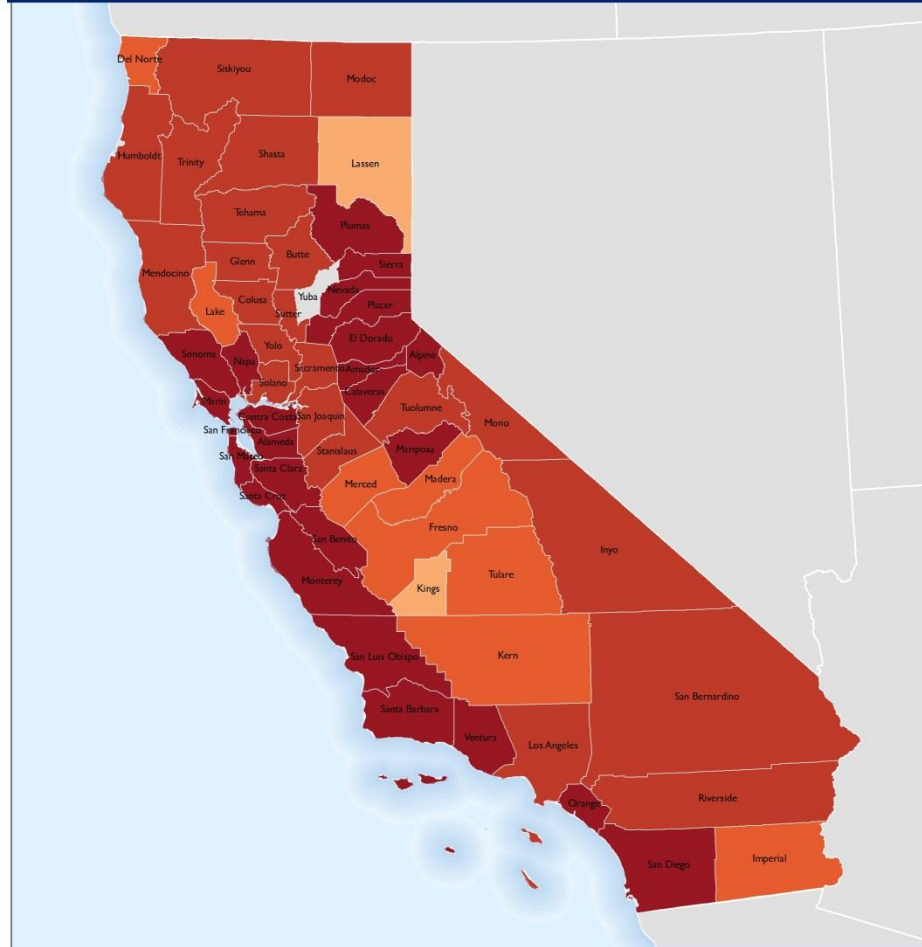
**Data Source: Statewide Database, Political Data, Inc.  
Current Population Survey, California Department of Finance.**

# California Registered Voter Turnout 2002-2016 General Election



Data Source: Statewide Database, Political Data, Inc.

## 2016 Total Eligible Voter Turnout General Election



Percent of adult citizens who voted



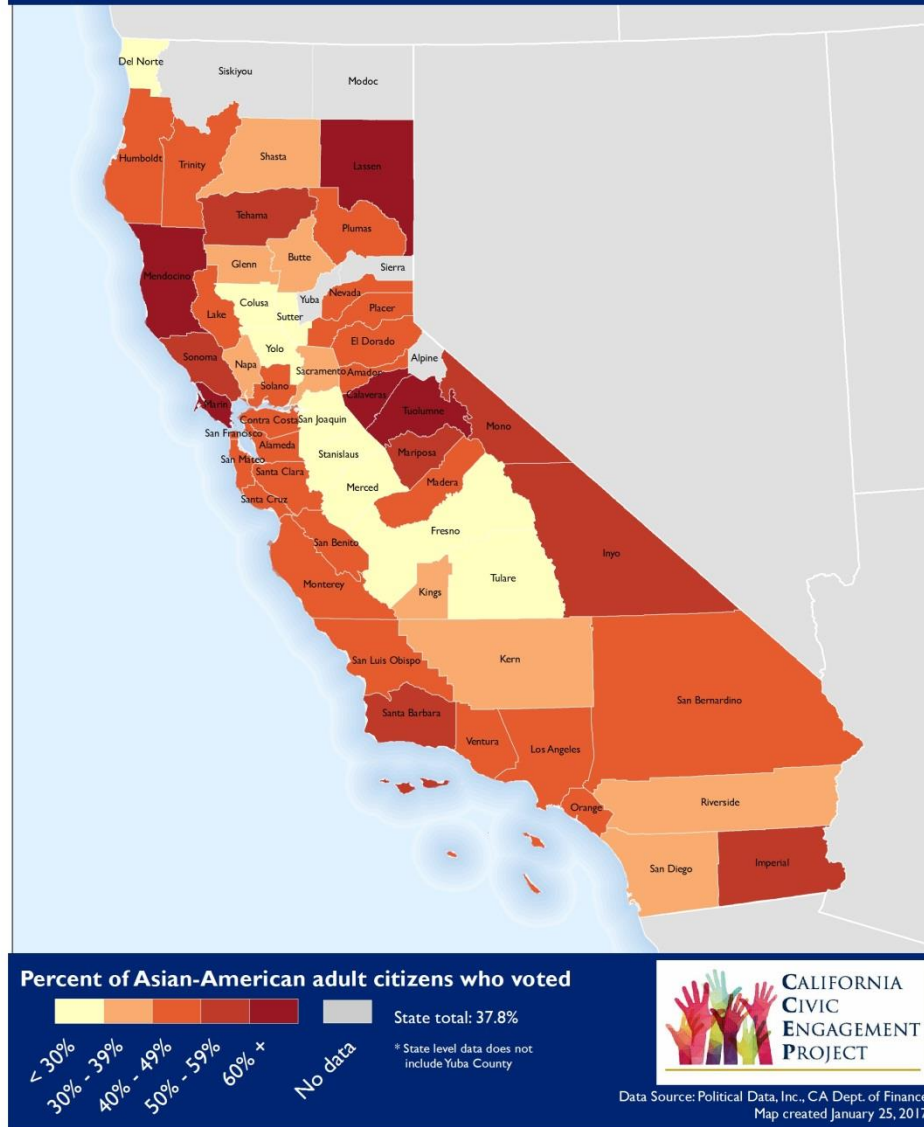
State total: 58.4%

\* State level data does not include Yuba County



Data Source: Political Data, Inc., CA Dept. of Finance  
Map created January 25, 2017

## 2016 Asian-American Eligible Voter Turnout General Election



## 2016 Latino Eligible Voter Turnout General Election



Percent of Latino adult citizens who voted



State total: 46.3%

\* State level data does not include Yuba County



Data Source: Political Data, Inc., CA Dept. of Finance  
Map created January 25, 2017

# 2016 County Latino Turnout

	Eligible Turnout	Rank	2012 EVT Change
San Francisco	54.3%	1st	+5.6
Alpine	52.8%	2nd	+n/a
Alameda	52.2%	3rd	+3.4
Los Angeles	50.1%	4th	+8.6
Sacramento	44.5%	22rd	+4.4
State	46.3%	-	+7.2

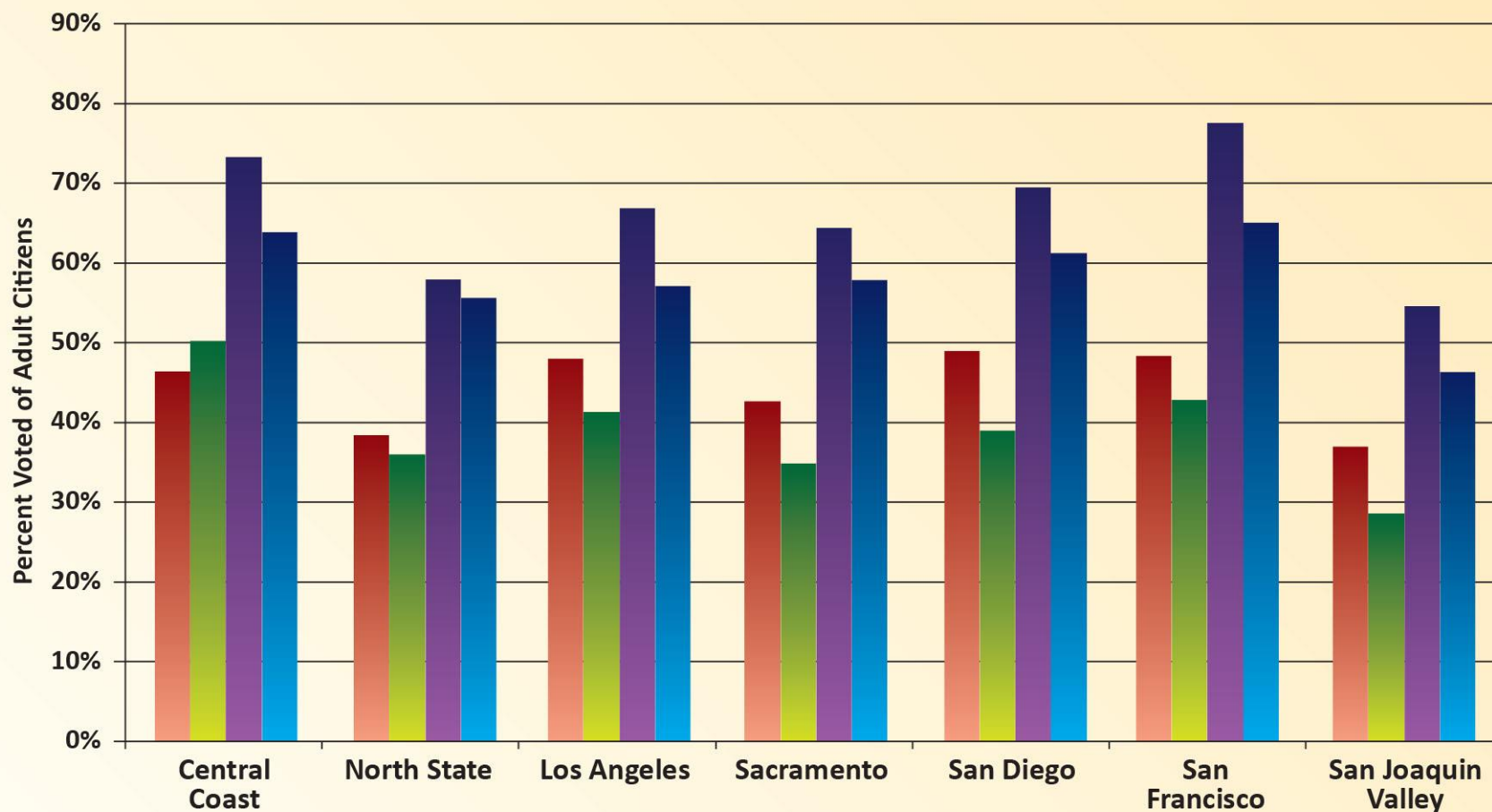
# 2016 County Asian-American Turnout

	Eligible Turnout	Rank	2012 EVT Change
Siskiyou	85.0%	1st	+ 16.9
Calaveras	69.0%	2nd	+2.3
San Francisco	42.6%	30th	+8.5
Los Angeles	40.0%	35th	+10.6
Sacramento	36.6%	40th	+6.5
State	37.8%	-	+5.2



# 2016 Eligible Voter Turnout by California Region

## General Election



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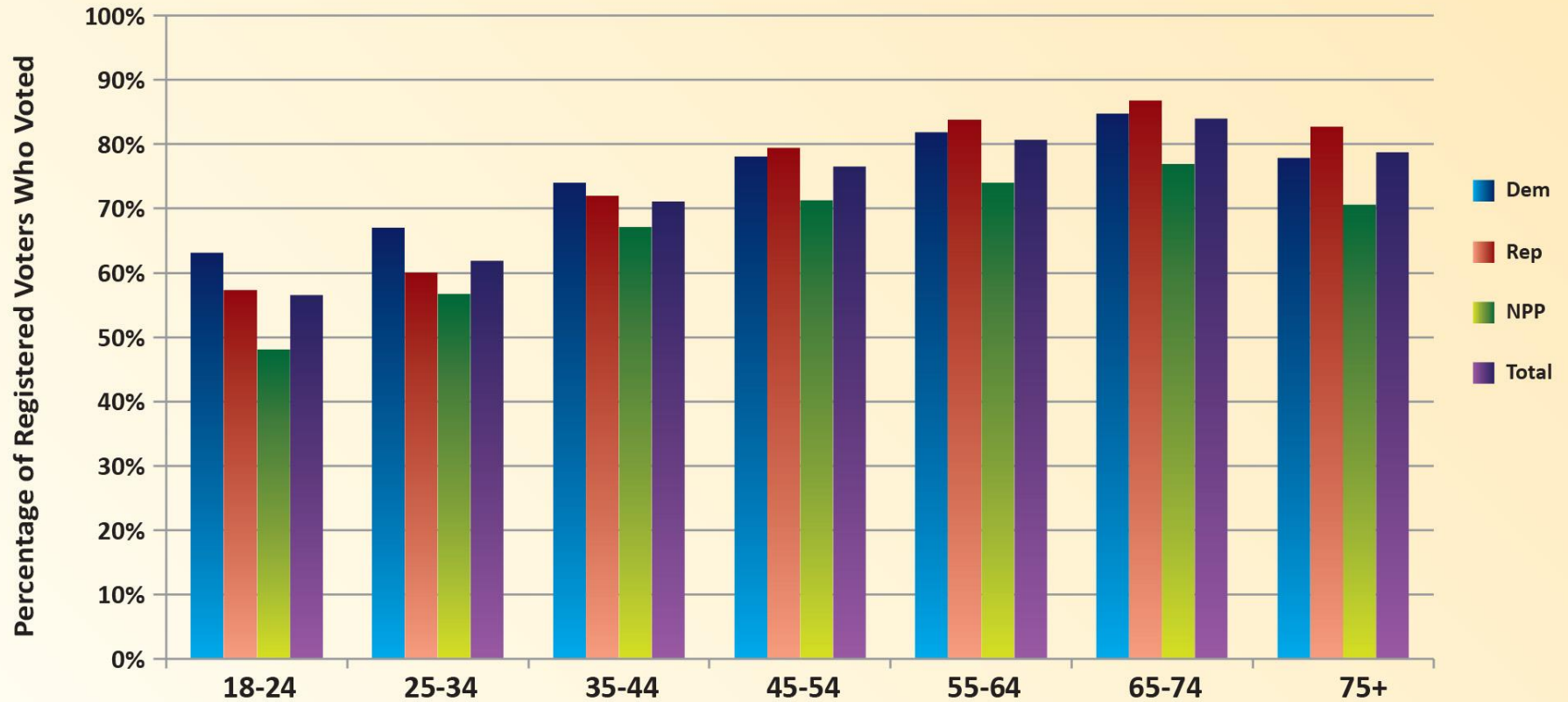
Latinos Asians Non-Asian/Latino Total

Data Source: Statewide Database California Department of Finance

# California Turnout by Party

- Democrat - 75.3%
- Republican - 77.2%
- No Party Preference - 64.4%
- Other Parties - 65.3%
- Total - 73.9%

## Registered Voter Turnout by Political Party and Age 2016 General Election

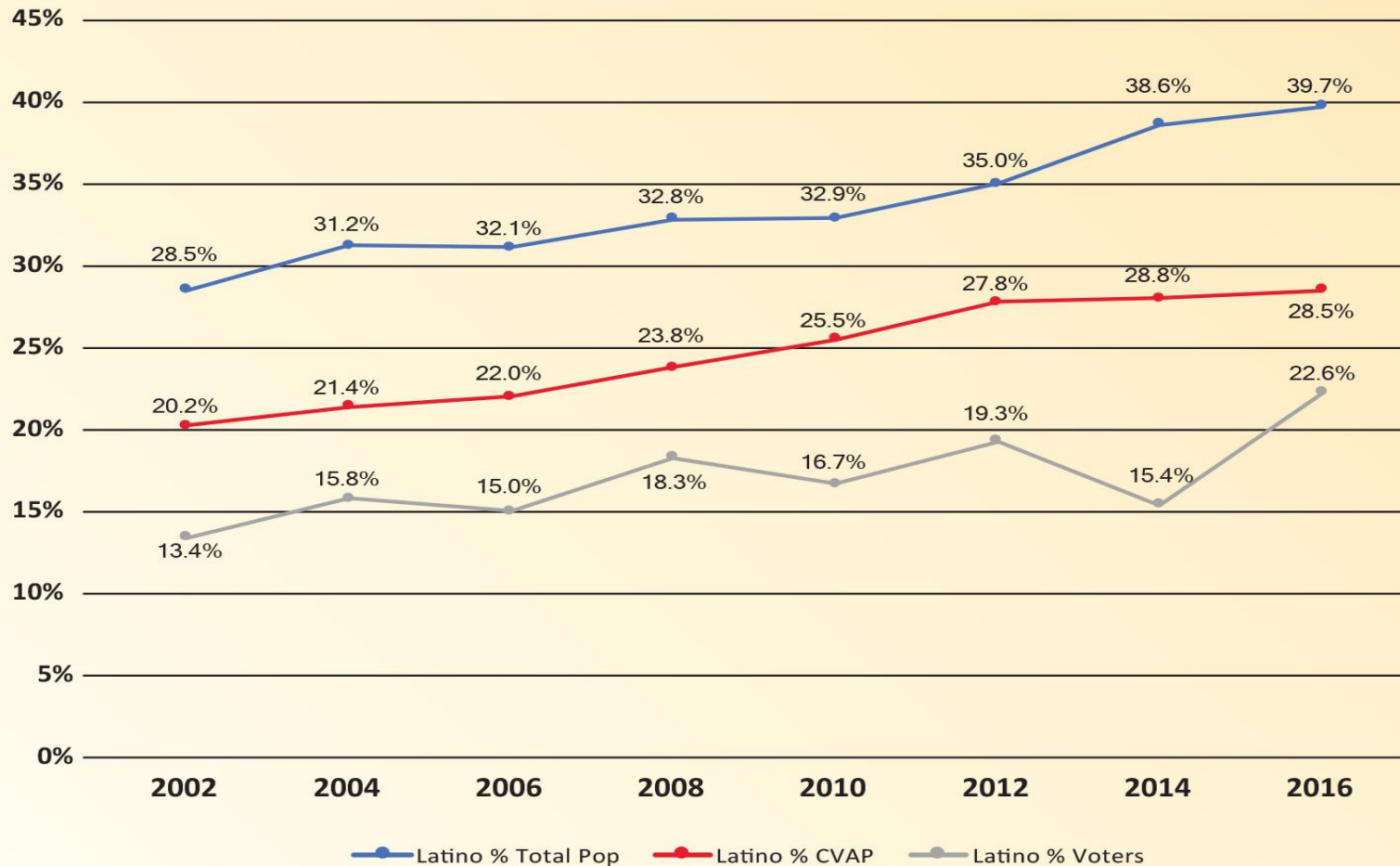


# Consequences of Disparities in Voter Turnout

# **Latino Underrepresentation**

- 22.6% of the 2016 Vote
- 28.5% of eligible voter population
- 39.7% of total population

## Underrepresentation of Latinos in California 2000-2016 General Elections



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Data Sources: Statewide Database, Political Data, Inc.  
Current Population Survey, California Department of Finance.

# Projecting Latino Voters

By 2016:

If Latinos maintained their 2012 eligible turnout rate - percent of the vote would rise to 21.2%

# Asian-American Underrepresentation

- 8.1% of the 2016 Vote
- 12.4% of eligible voter population
- 13.3% of total population



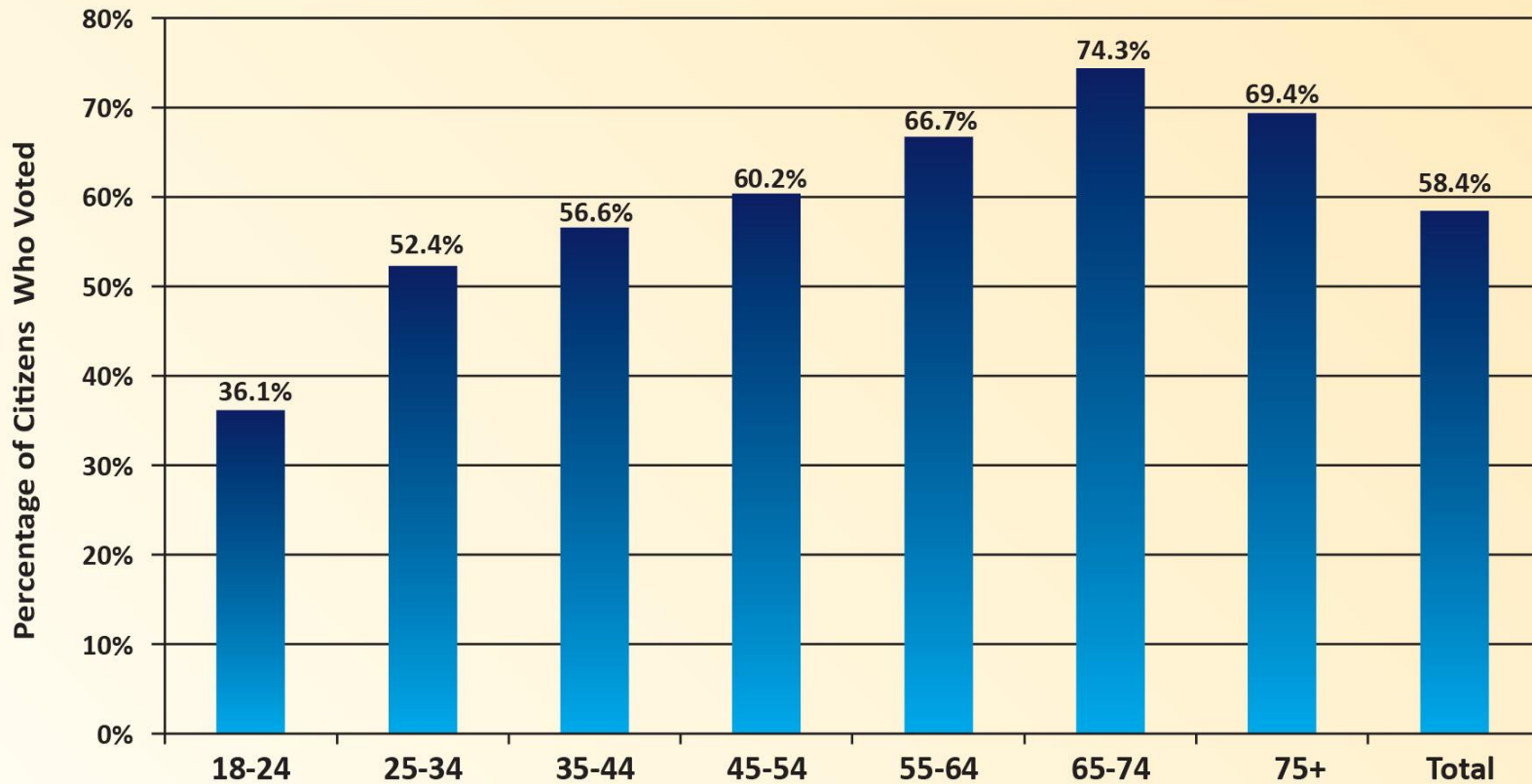
# California Turnout

Youth vote?

# Eligible Youth Voter Turnout

36.1%

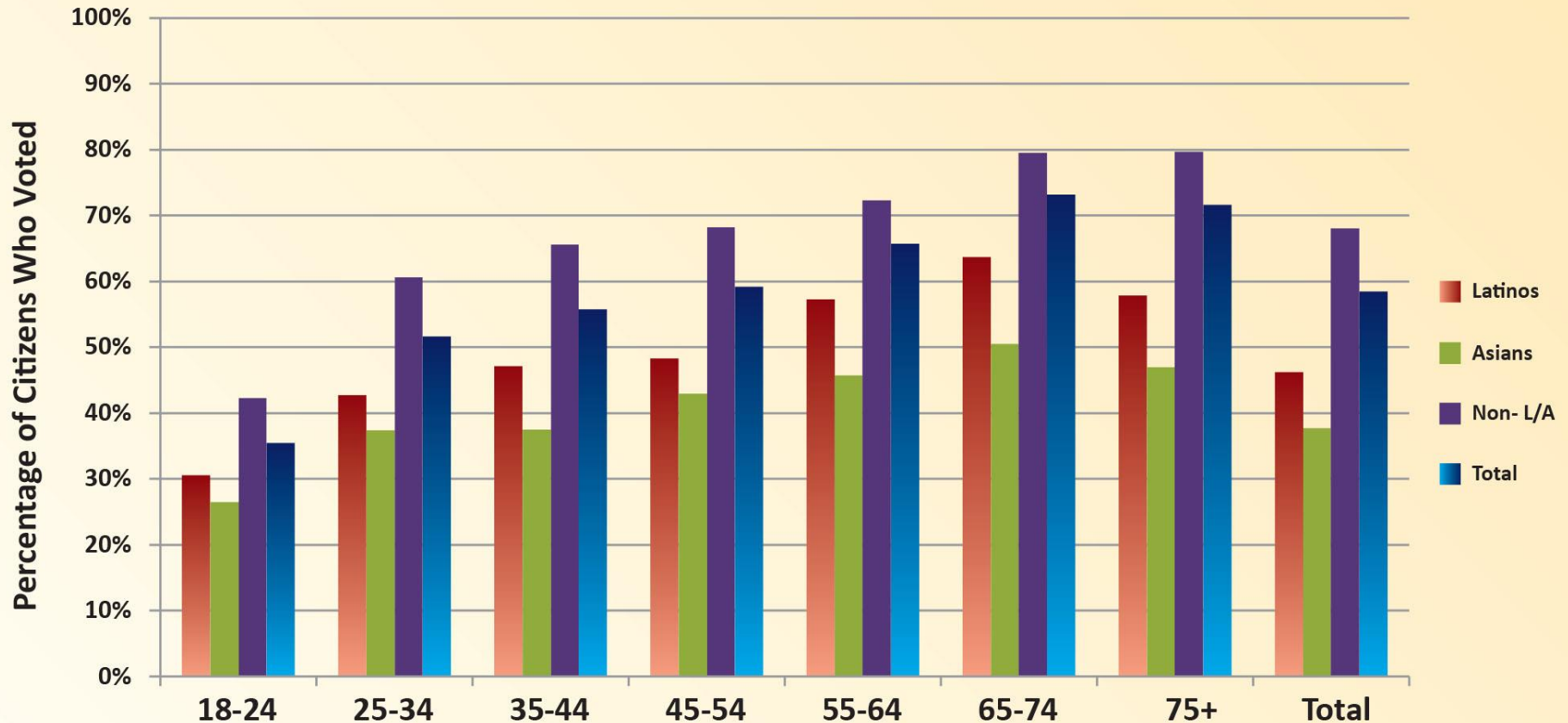
## California Eligible Voter Turnout by Age Cohort 2016 General Election



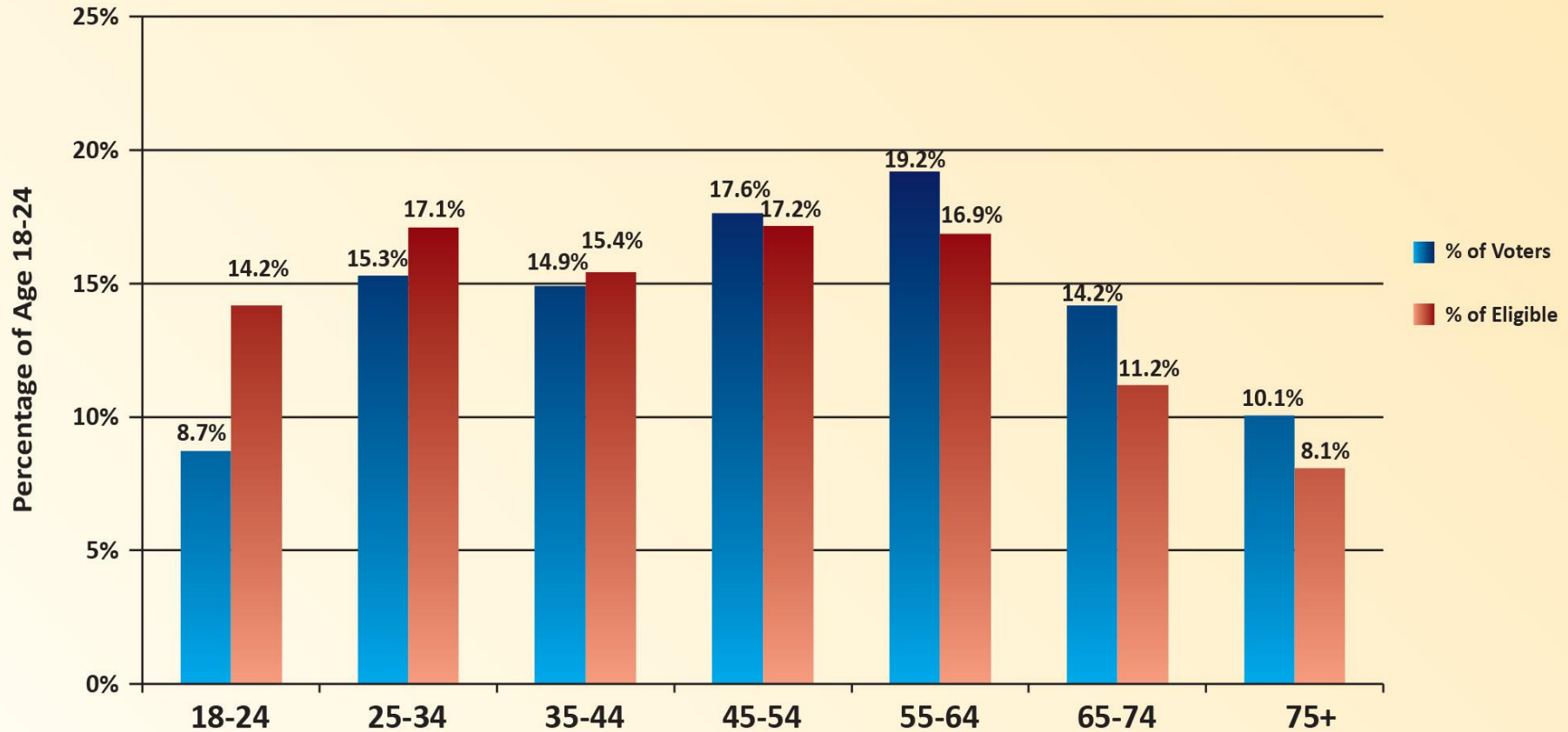
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Data Sources: Political Data, Inc. California Department of Finance

## California Eligible Voter Turnout 2016 General Election



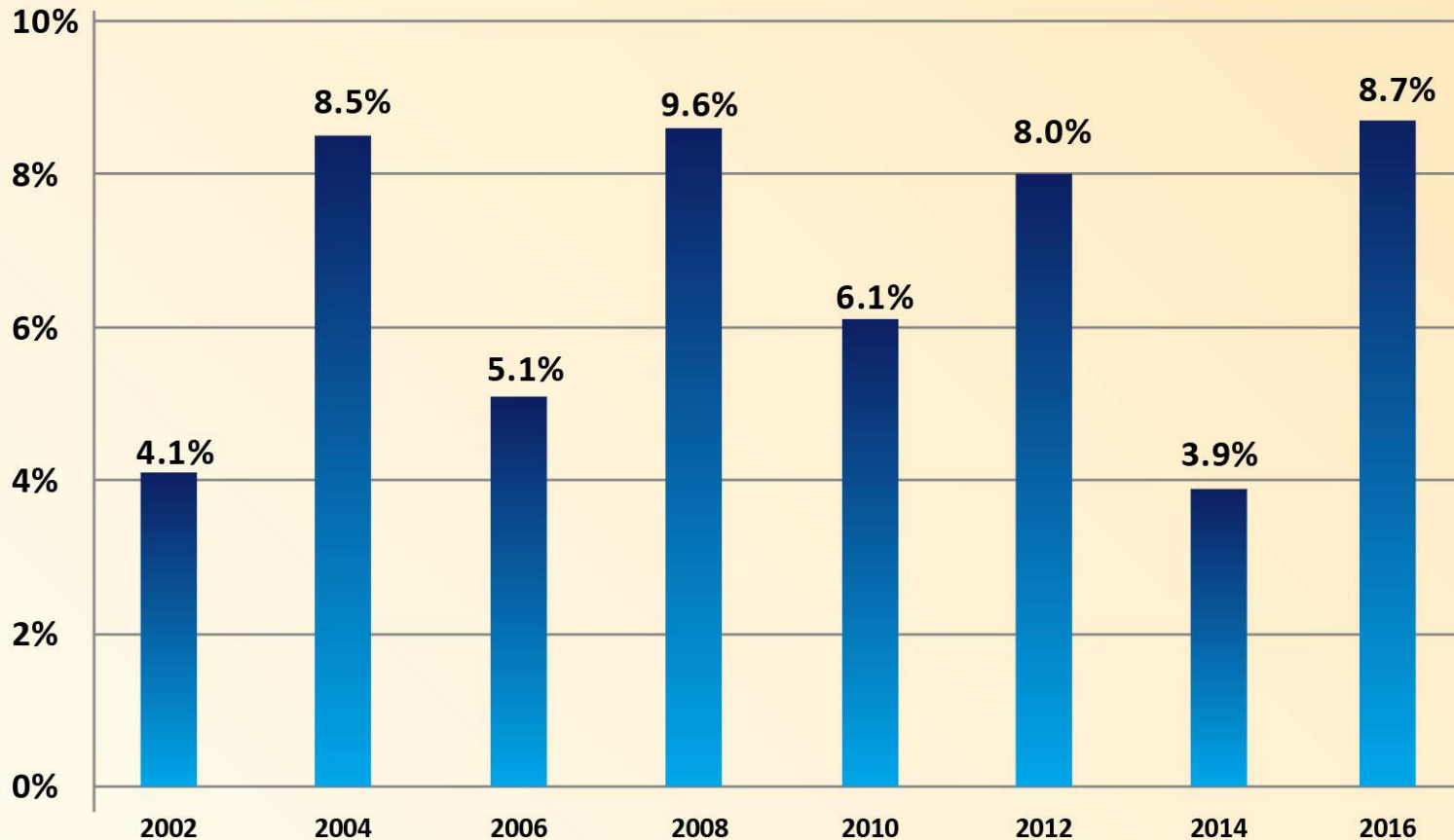
## Underrepresentation of Youth 2016 General Election



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Data Sources: Political Data, Inc.  
California Department of Finance

## Youth Representation Among California Voters 2004-2016 General Elections



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Data Source: Statewide Database, Political Data, Inc.

# Turnout Summary

- Second highest total eligible turnout in 30 years
- Highest Latino share of total voters – 22.6%
- Asian-Americans increased turnout - but not as high as Latinos
- Youth increased their electoral representation despite declining population numbers
- = **increased turnout from underrepresented groups but still significant disparities**

# Factors for November Turnout

This election...

- It's a presidential general election!
- 17 ballot initiatives!
- Senate race
- Trump effect?



# Factors for November Turnout

Always present...

- Voter apathy
- Institutional barriers
- Lack of full mobilization
- Demographic change

= increased turnout from underrepresented groups  
but still disparities

**Where do we go from here?**

# Future Reforms?

1. Voter Turnout and Representation
2. Civic Engagement – Voting Connection
3. Civics Education/Democratic Norms

# **Voter Turnout and Representation**

## **Make It Easier to Vote**

- Electoral reforms: Same-day, Automatic registration
- 16 yr old pre-registration
- Vote centers
- Outreach and education

## **Make Them Want to Vote**

- Disconnection and trust
- Impact of vote
- Culture of voting

# Civic Engagement – Voting Connection

- Long-game connection
- Move beyond the election cycle
- Start now!

# Civics Education/Democratic Norms

- K-12 civics
- What? How? Why?
- Civil norms of dialogue/debate/tolerance/  
and media literacy!

# Thank you!

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*View my Tedx Talk on the Power of the Youth Vote!*