

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag. The top half is a dark blue field with white stars, and the bottom half is a white field with a red diagonal stripe in the bottom right corner. The stars are slightly blurred and have a soft glow.

# 2004 Election Day Survey: A Summary of Findings

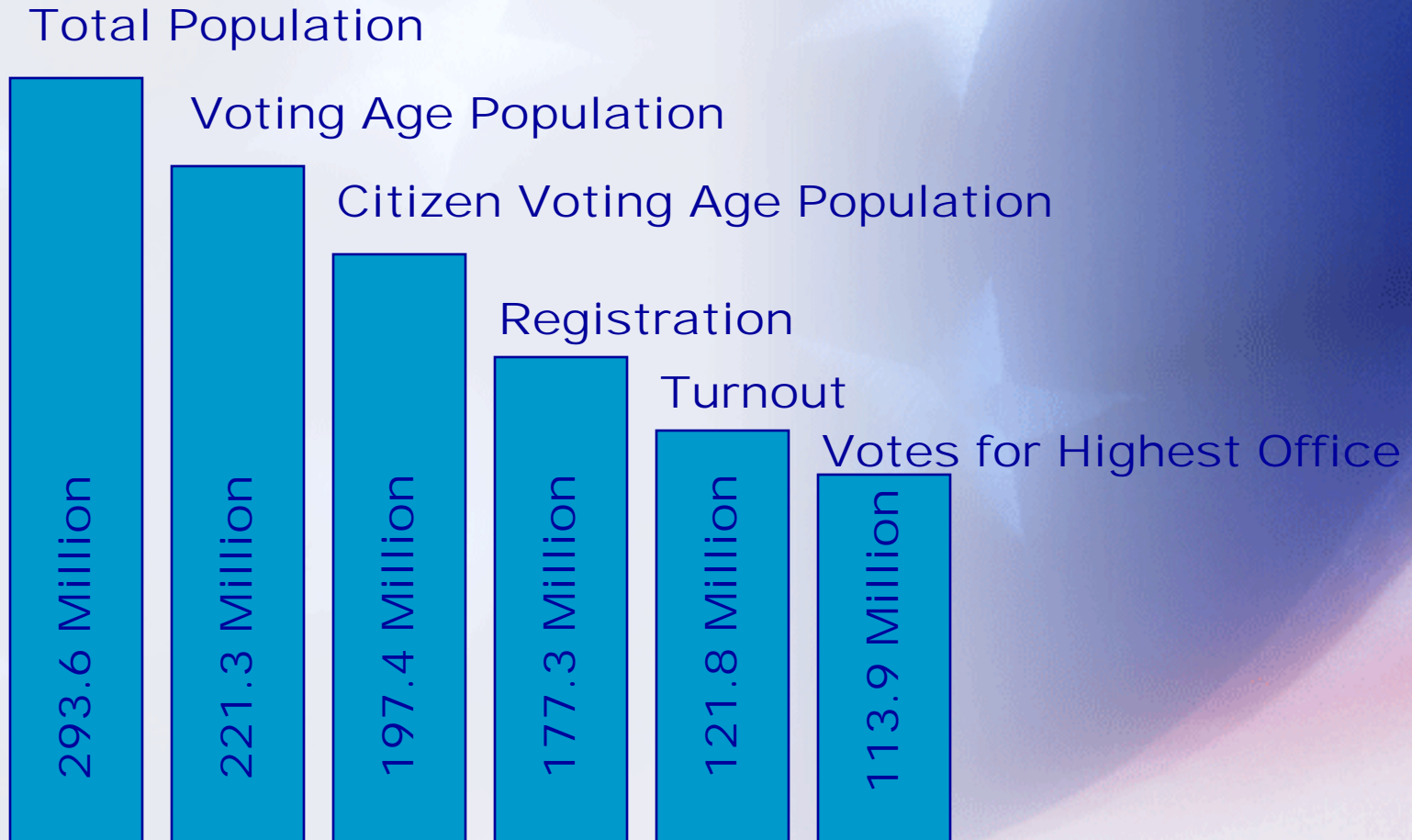
By Kimball Brace, President  
Election Data Services, Inc. September 27, 2005

# Basic Election Administration Facts

- Size is important to remember
  - 1,778 of nations' jurisdictions have fewer than 1,000 registered voters in them.
  - Only 320 jurisdictions have more than 100,000 registered voters
  - Only 18 jurisdictions have more than 1 million voters.
  - Over 26% of election jurisdictions still use paper ballots.



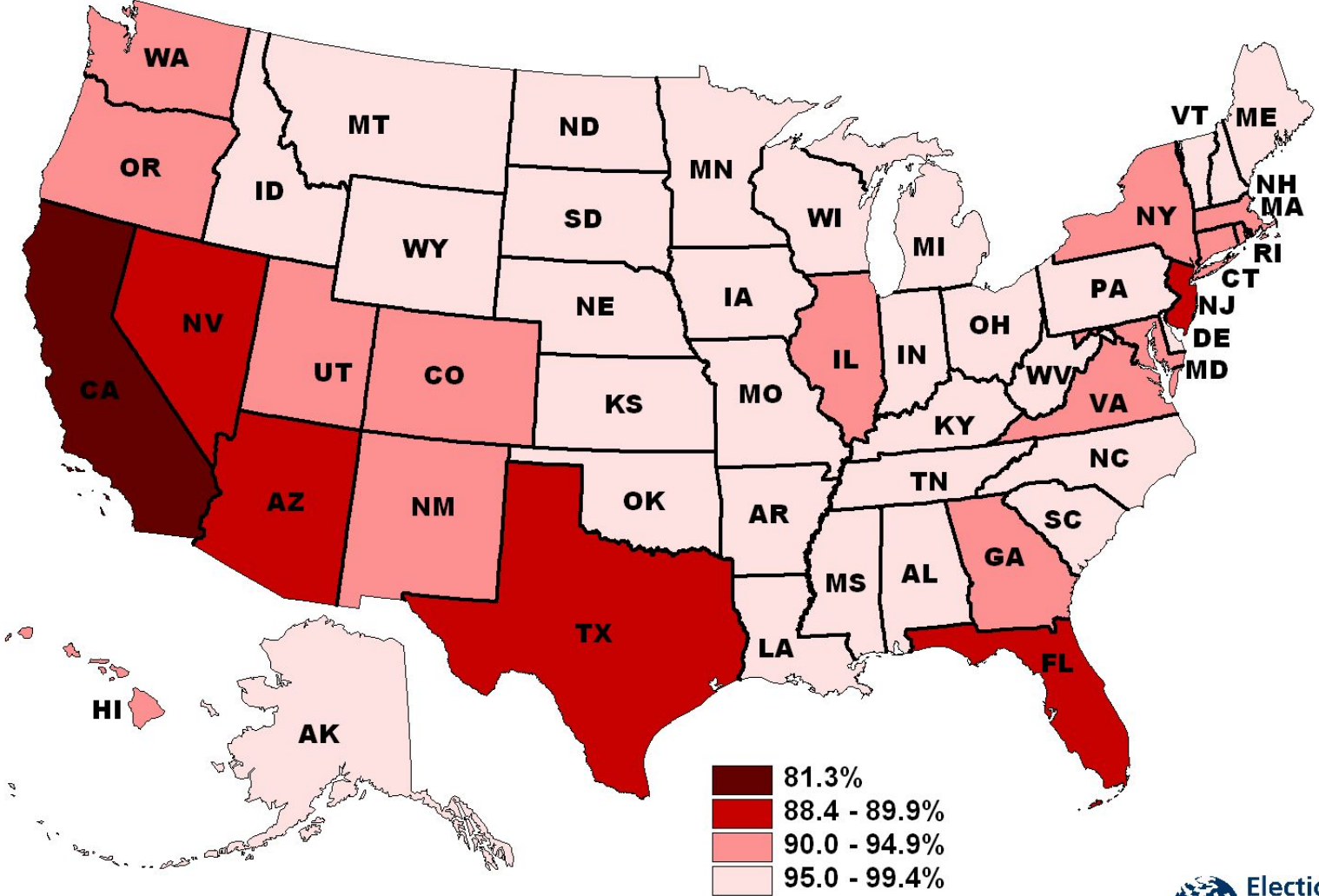
# The Election Process – From a data prospective



# Citizen Voting Age Population

- 92.7% of VAP are Citizens
- Highest non-citizens in Calif. & Texas
- Urban areas more non-citizen
- Hispanic areas greatest impact
- Paper ballot jurisdictions lowest non-citizens
- Jurisdictions that changed voting equipment since 2000 have a greater the amount of non-citizens.

# Citizen (CVAP) of the Voting Age Population (VAP)



Results of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission  
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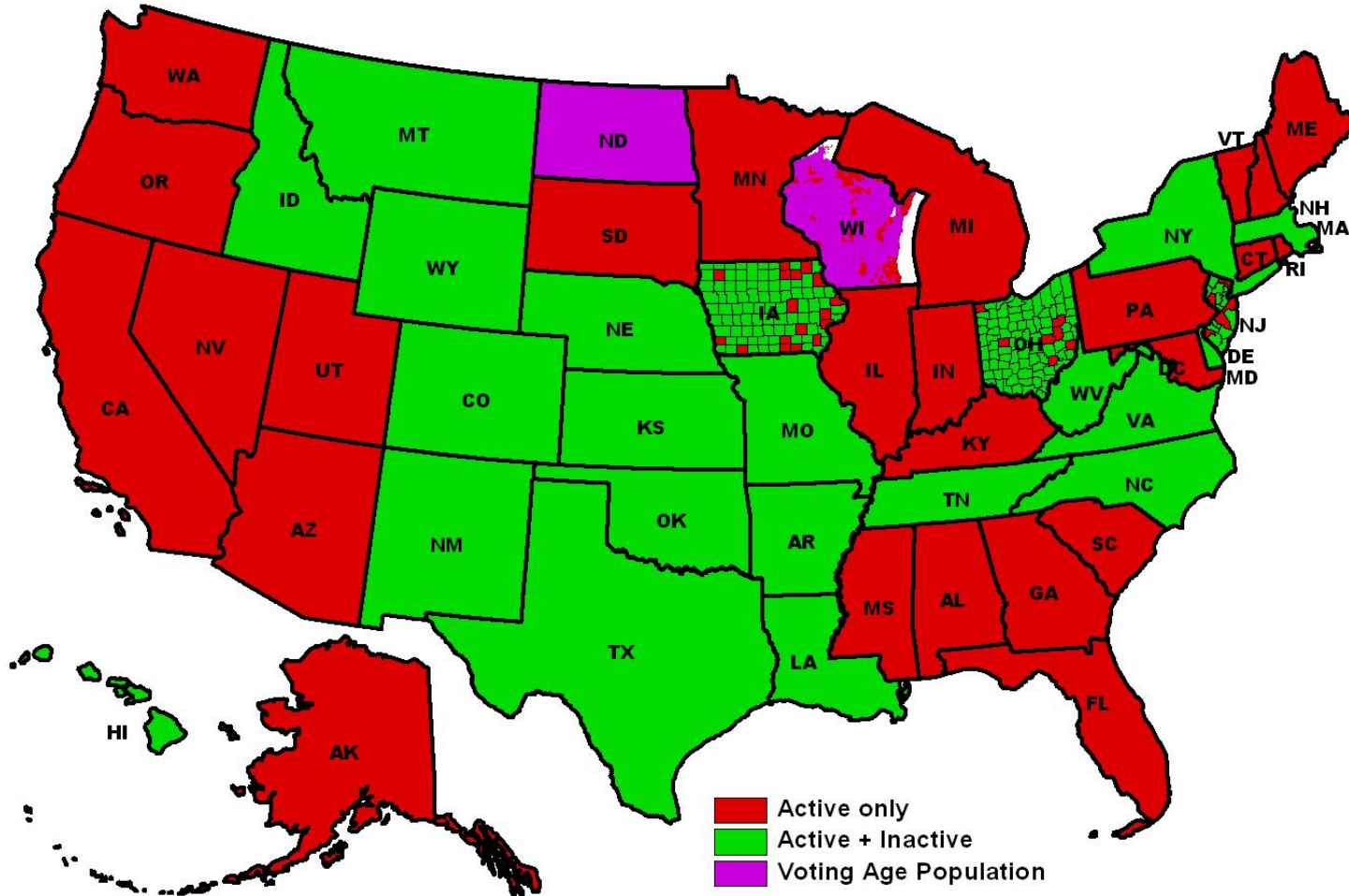




# Registration

- Not all states report registration the same
  - 26 states: “Active” voters only
  - 20 states: Combine “Active” & “In-actives”
  - 4 states: Leave determination to locals

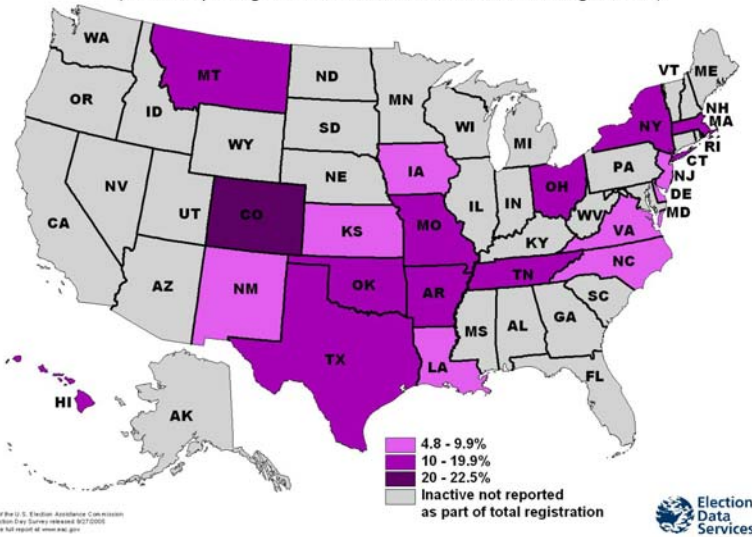
# Reported Registration



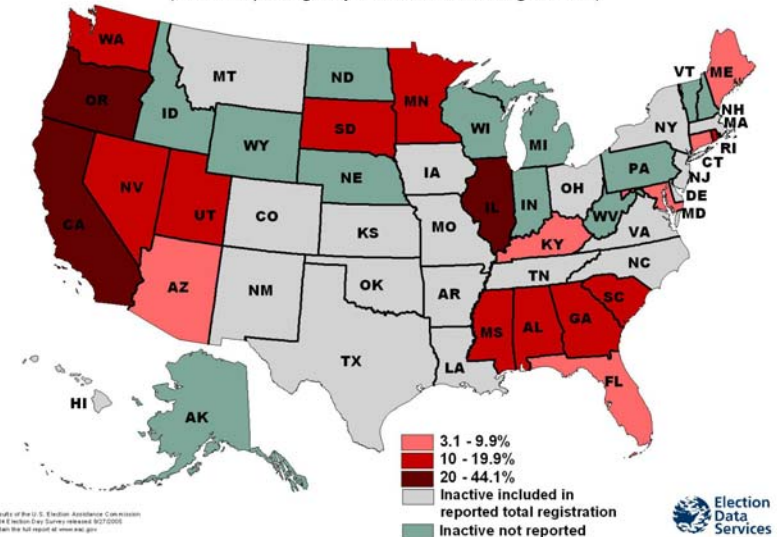


# Impact of "Inactives" on registration file size

**Percent "Inactive" of Reported Registration**  
(States reporting both Active and Inactive as Total Registration)



**Percent Increase in Registration if "Inactive" Reported**  
(States reporting only Active as Total Registration)



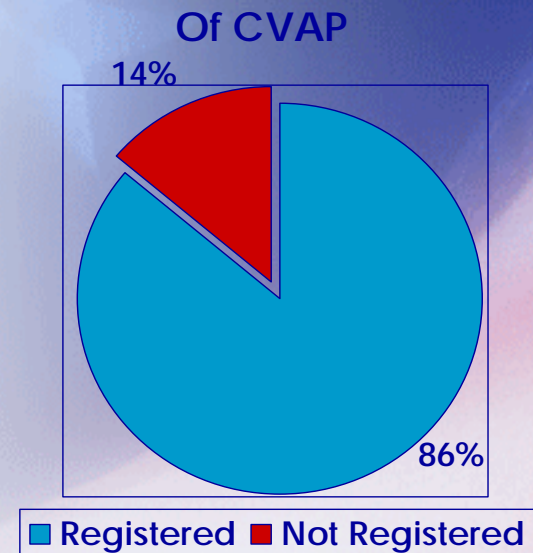
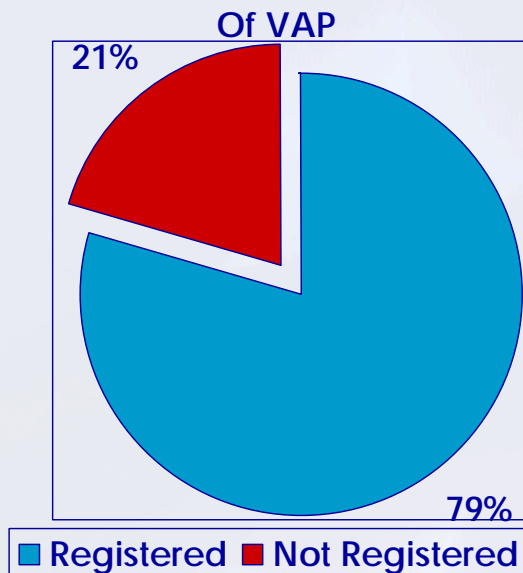


# Impact of “Inactive” voters

- Inactives largest in urban areas
  - Jurisdictions > 1 million voters: 21.6% Inactives
  - Jurisdictions < 1,000 voters: 8.8% Inactives
- Predominately Hispanic areas most affected:
  - Hispanic jurisdictions: 23.7% Inactives
  - African American jurisdictions: 16.4 % Inactives
  - White jurisdictions: 14.9% Inactives
  - Native American jurisdictions: 12.0% Inactives
- No Statewide Voter Registration system in place
  - Yes: 11.0% Inactives      No: 16.5% Inactives

# Registration

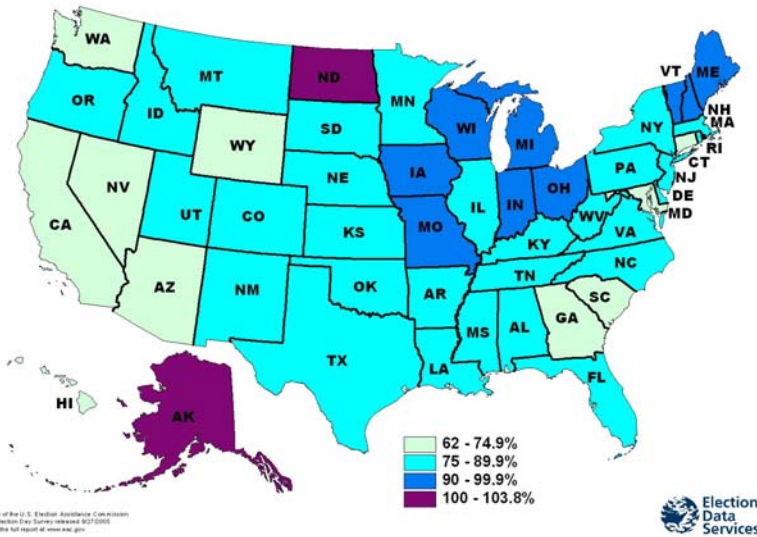
- At least 177.3 million registered for 2004
  - Increase of nearly 15 million from 2002
  - Increase of 14 million from 2000



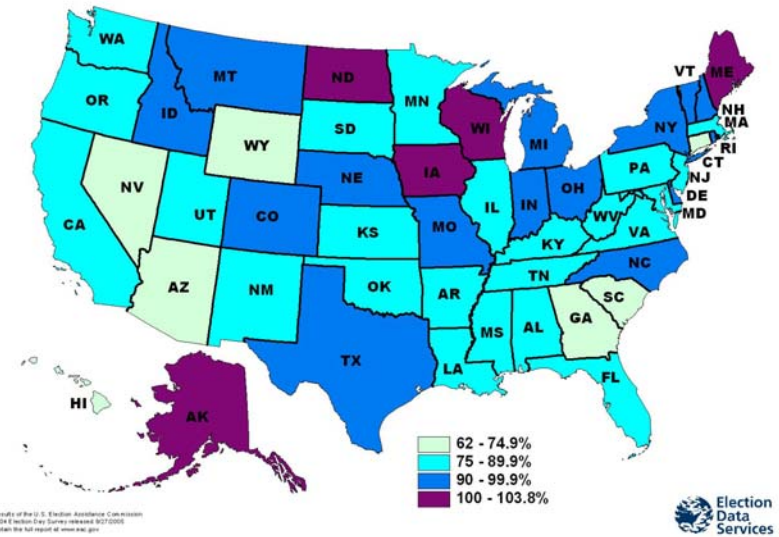


# Registration Rates (For Reported Registration)

Registered of the Voting Age Population (VAP)

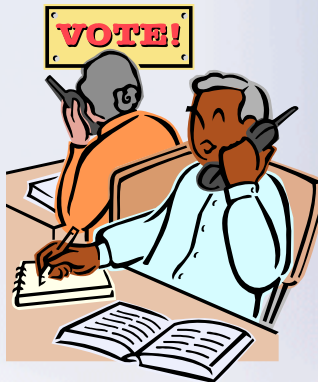


Registered of the Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)



# Registration Rates

- Rural communities have highest registration rates of VAP,
  - But, when non-citizens taken out of calculation, Urban areas have highest registration rate.
- Hispanic registration rates lowest for VAP,
  - But comparable to other groups when non-citizens eliminated.





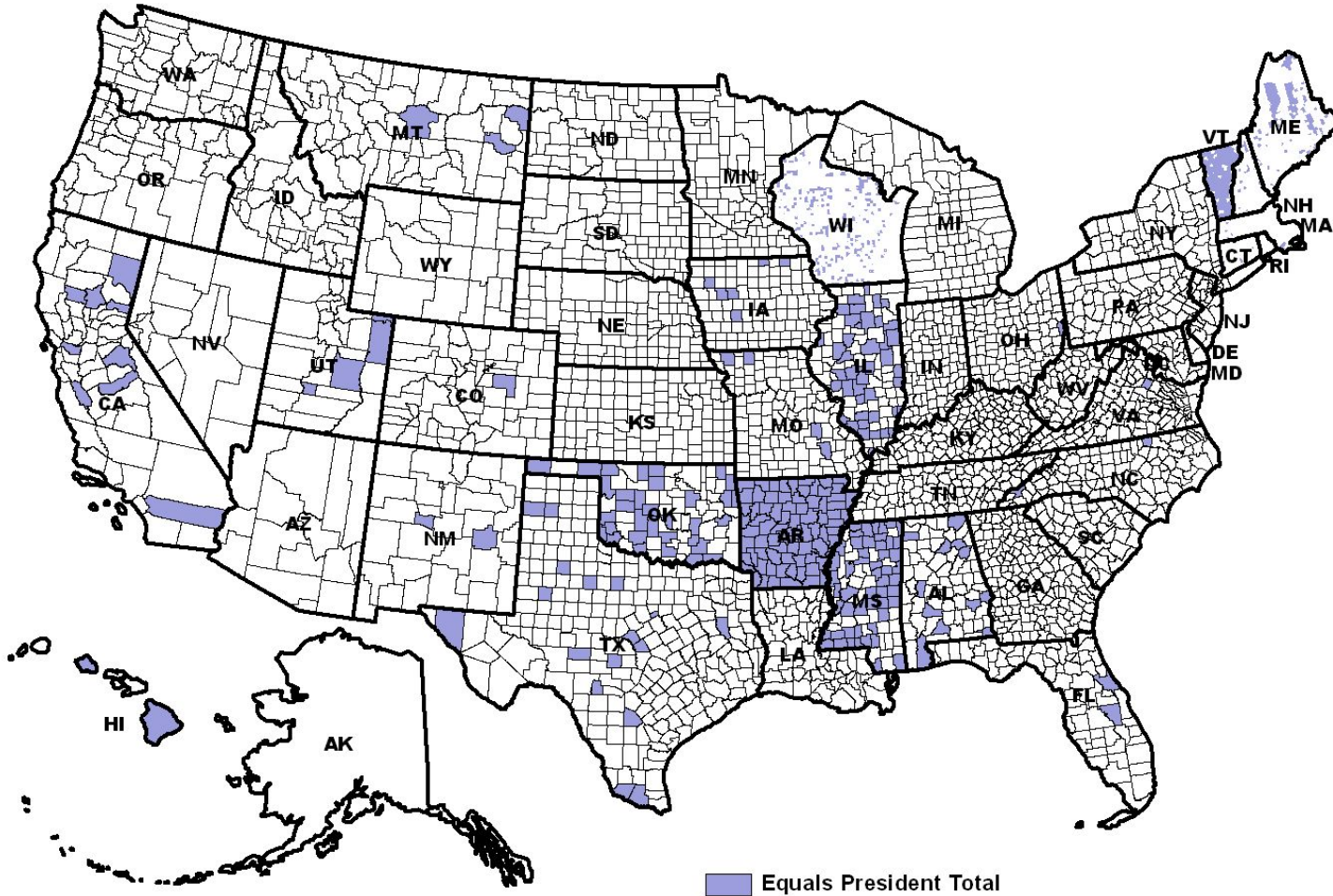
# Turn-out

- Still don't know total number of people who participated in 2004 general election.
  - Definitions of turn-out, ballots cast, ballots counted.

903 Jurisdictions in 21 states have same number of people turning out, as that voted for President of the US



# Turnout Equal to Vote for President



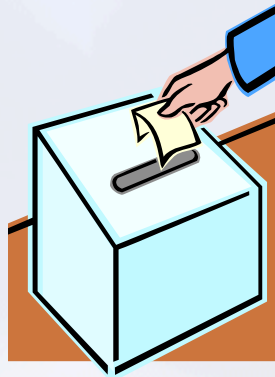
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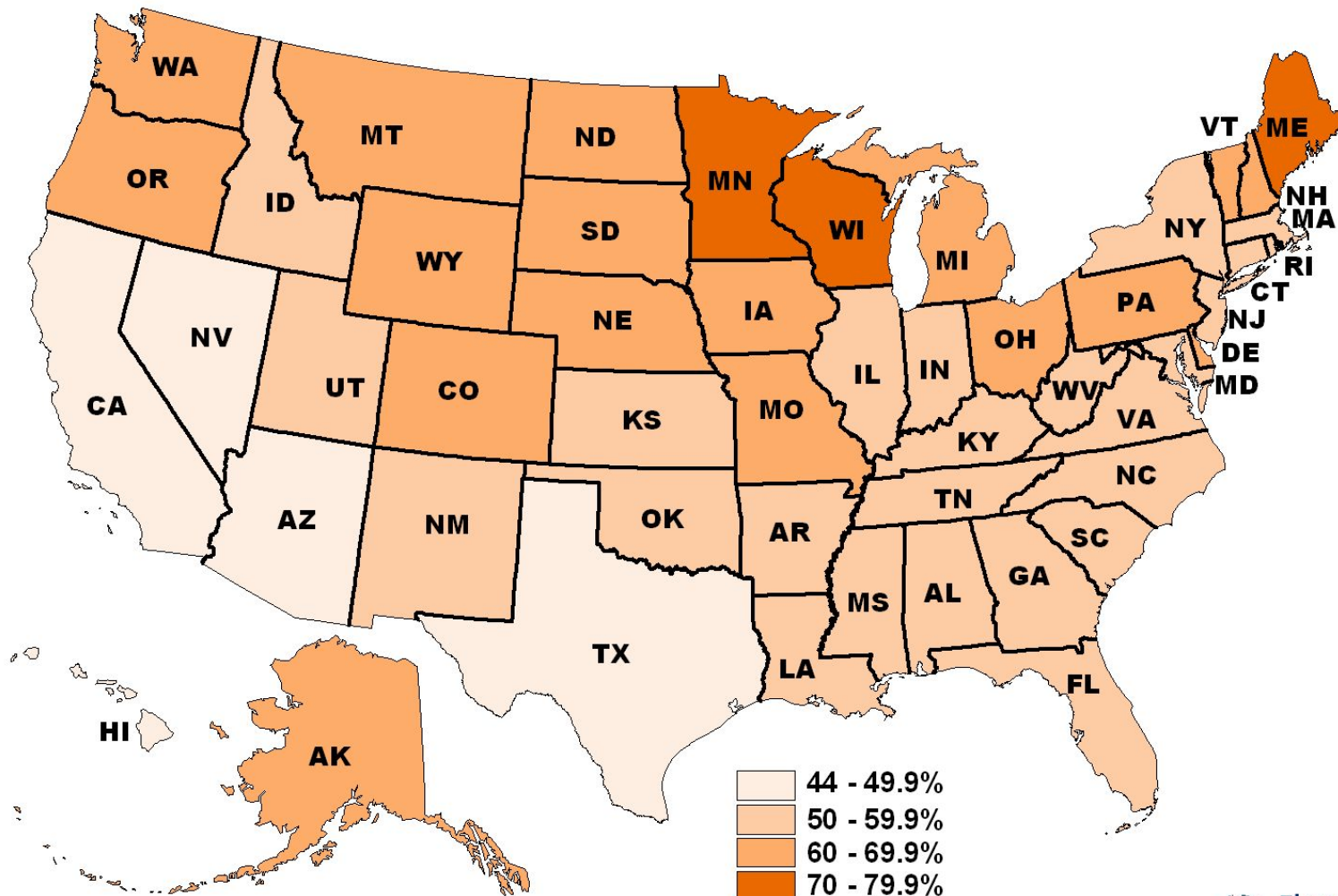


# Turn-out (Ballots Counted)

- At least 121.8 million ballots counted
  - 70.4% of Registered Voters
  - 60.7% of Citizen Voting Age Population
  - 55.8% of Voting Age Population
- State rates vary widely

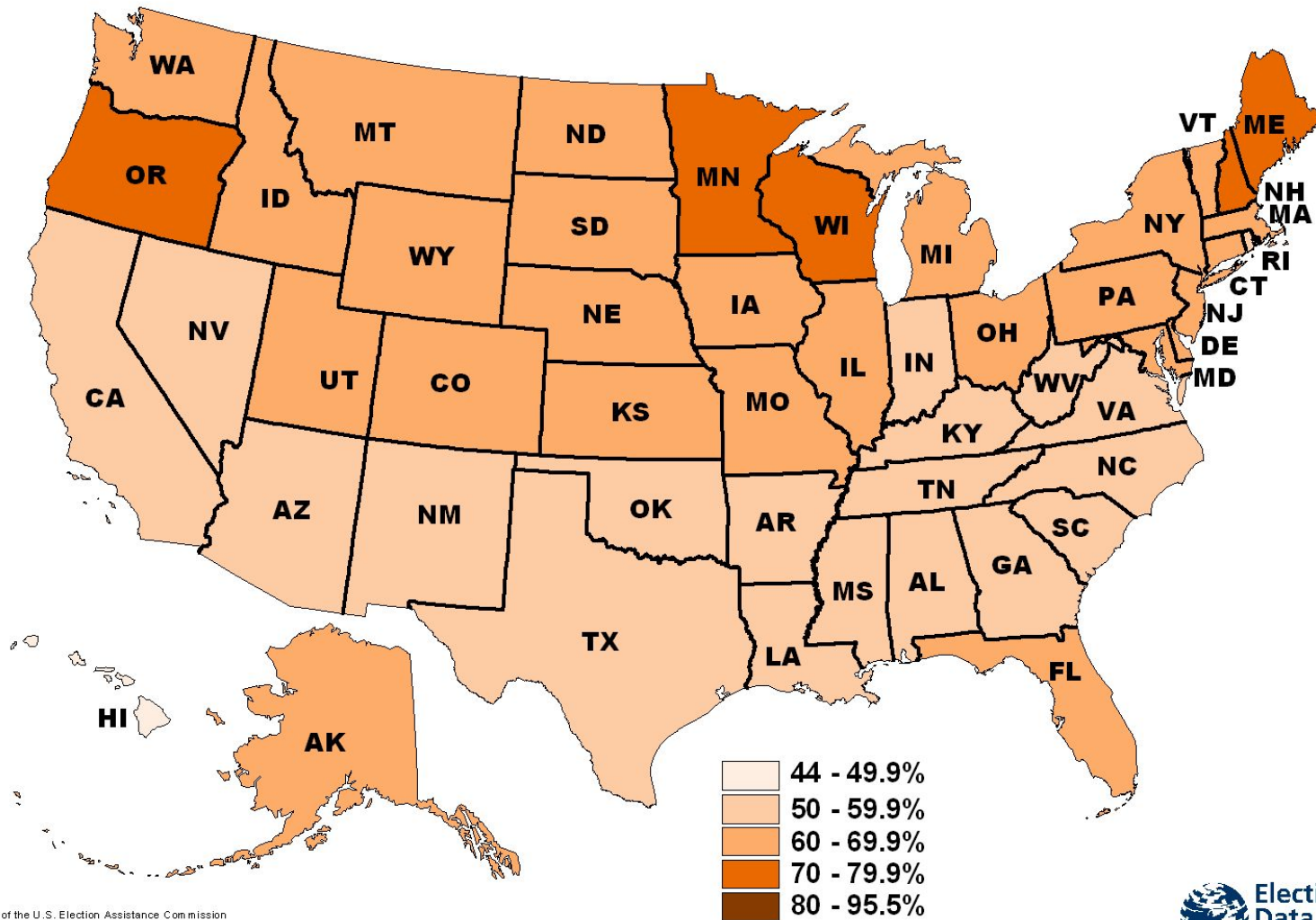


# Turnout of the Voting Age Population (VAP)





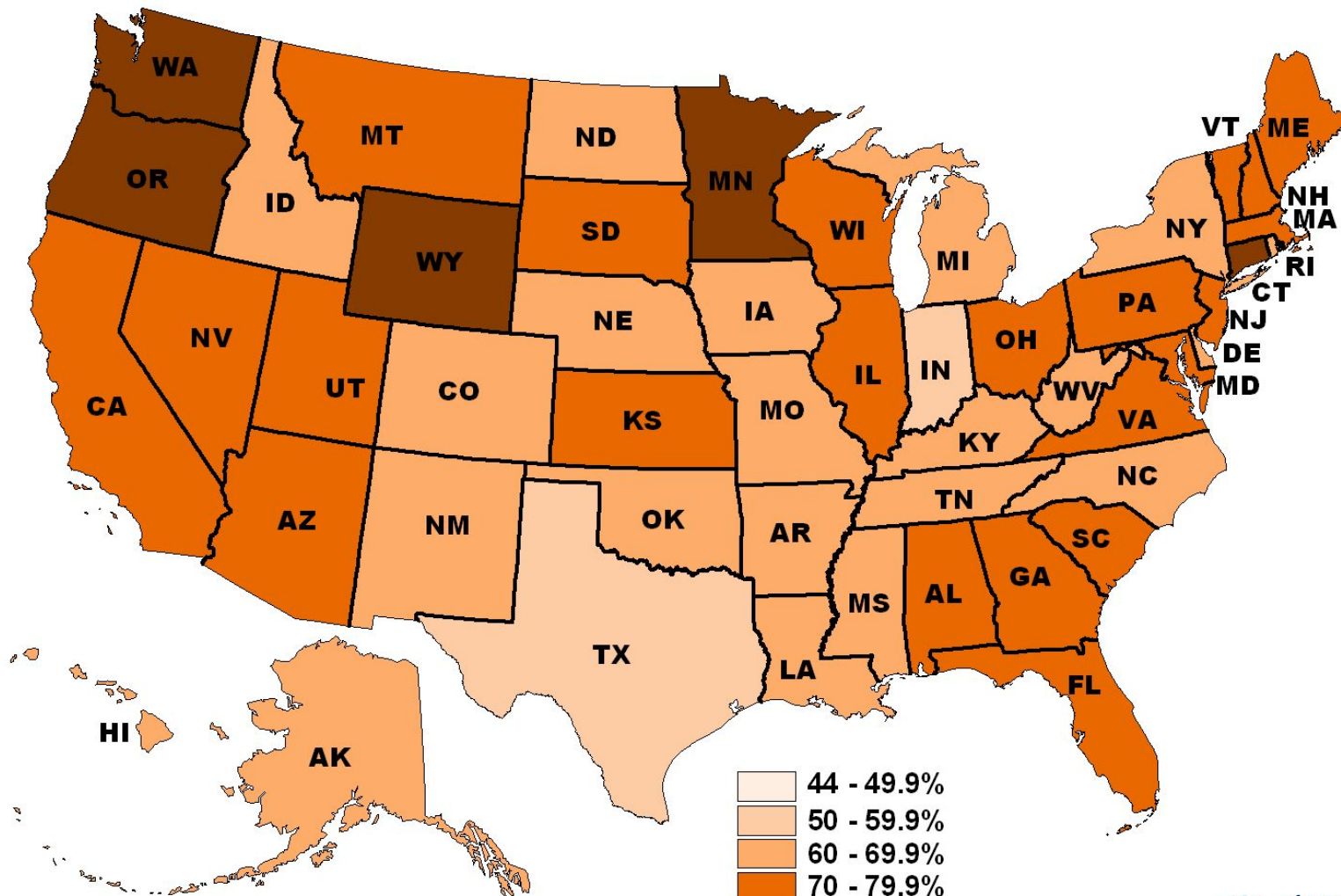
# Turnout of the Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)



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# Turnout of Registration



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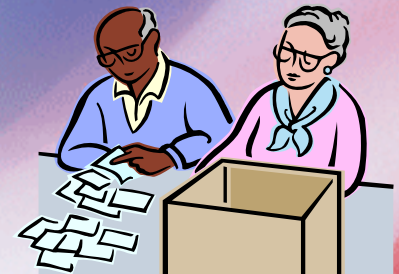
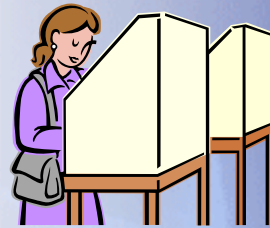
# Turn-out

- Suburban communities had highest turn-out
- Smaller the size of a jurisdiction, the higher the turn-out rate.
- Lowest in predominately Hispanic jurisdictions
  - Impacted by citizenship rates
- Election Day Registration jurisdictions had higher turnout: 79.2% compared to 69.9%
- Early voting jurisdictions had slightly lower turn-out



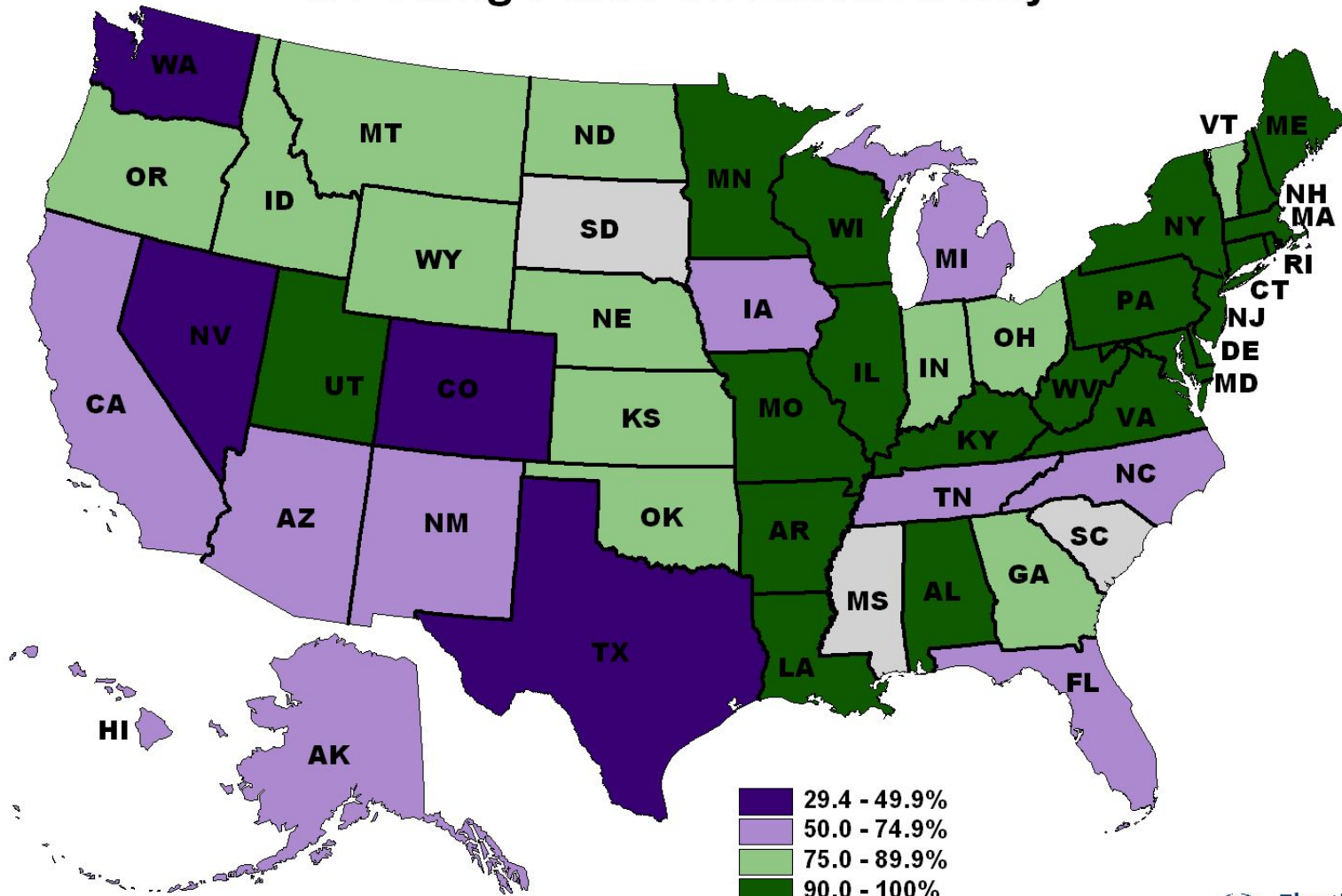
# How are votes cast? (Turn-out Source)

- EAC identified four possible sources of votes:
  - Cast in polling places: between 55% & 72% of votes
  - Absentee ballots: 12-13% of votes
  - Early voting: between 8% and 23% of votes
  - Provisional ballots: 1.0% of votes
- Again, state variation great

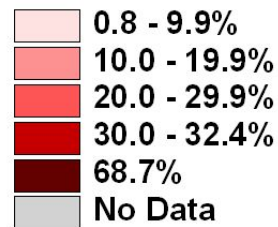
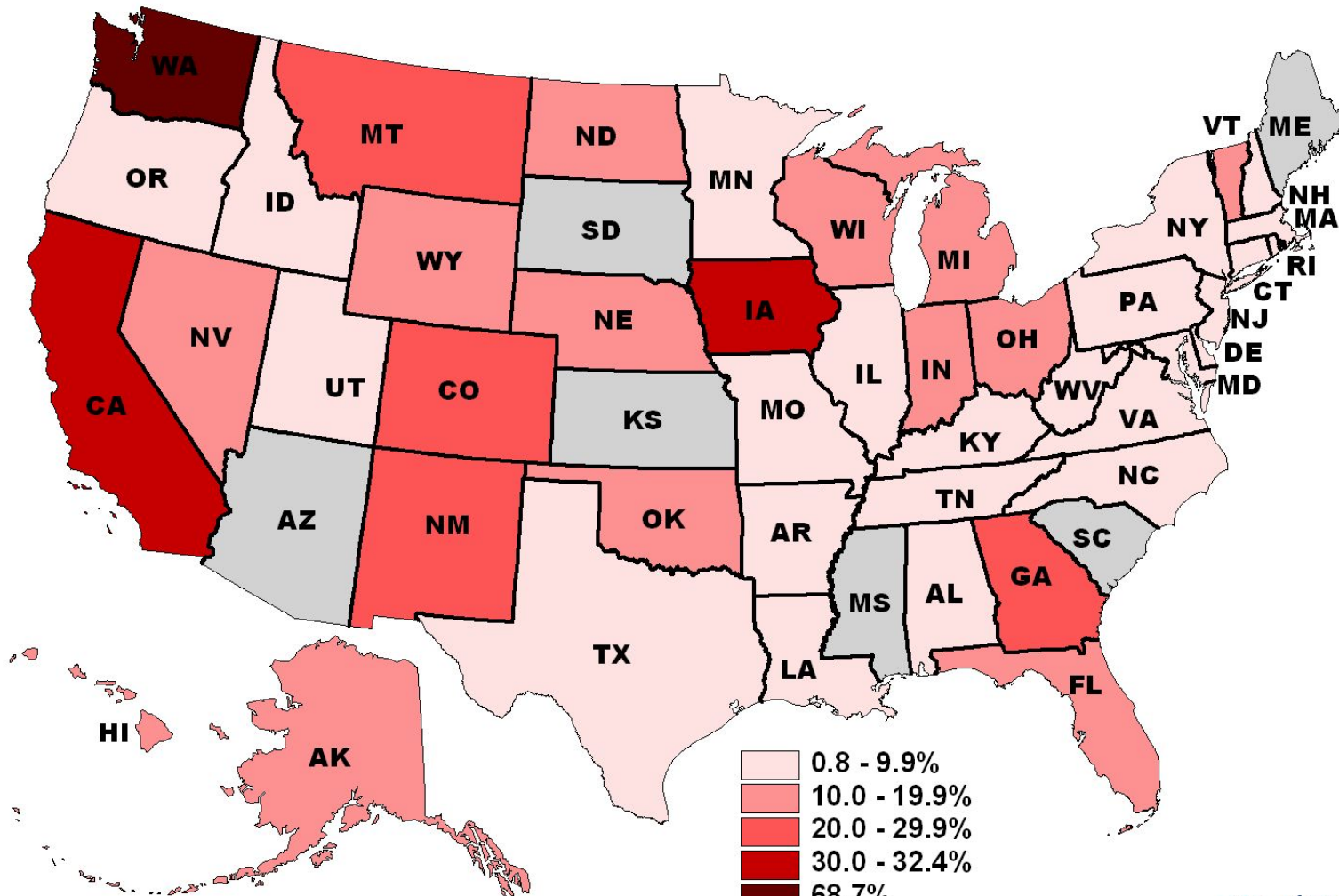




# Percent of Persons Who Voted in a Polling Place on Election Day

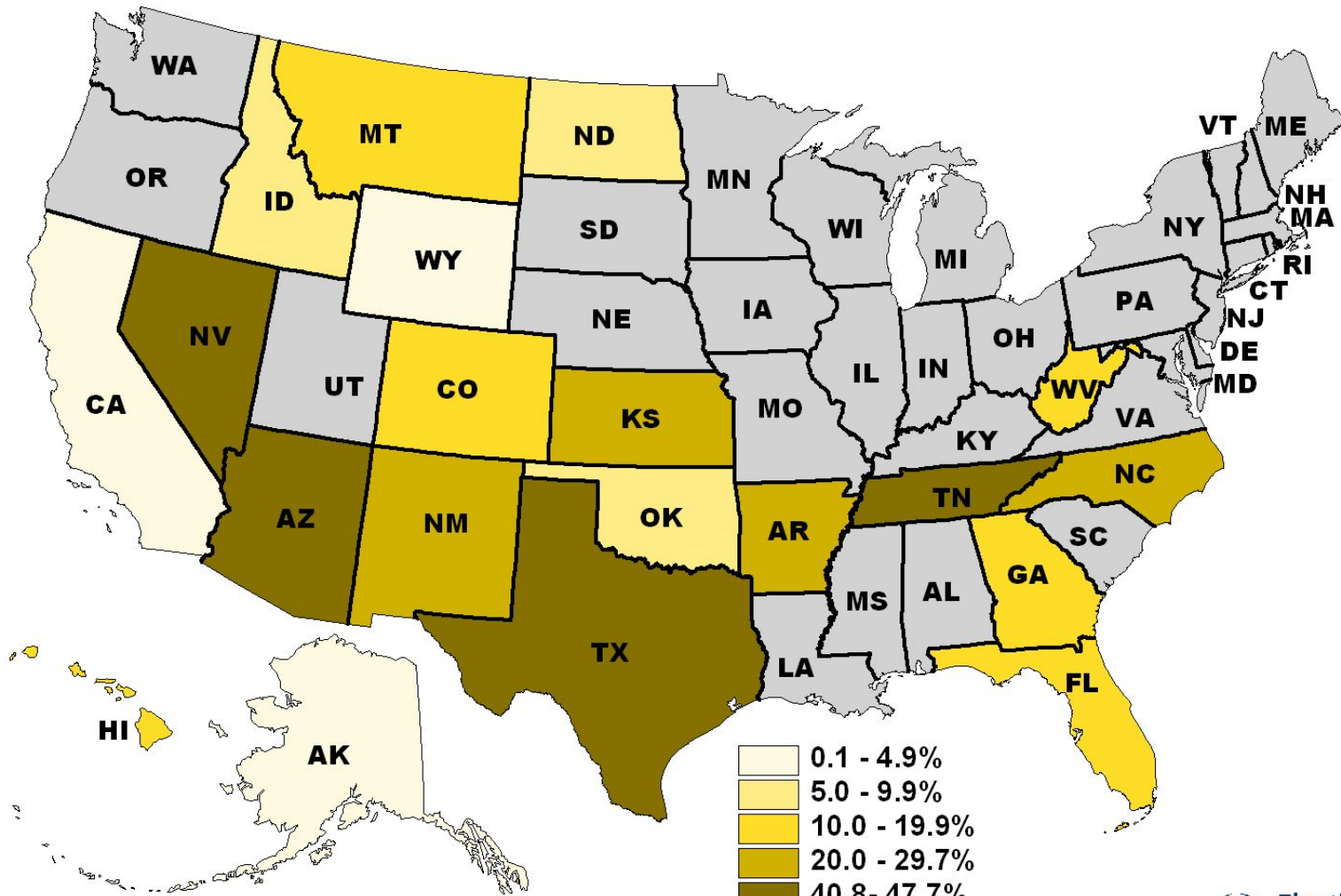


# Persons Who Voted Absentee





# Persons Who Voted Early

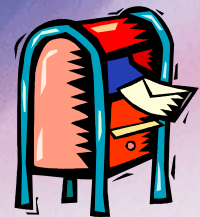


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# How are votes cast? (Turn-out Source)

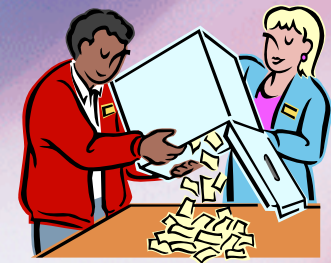
- Provisional Ballots
  - Over half came from urban jurisdictions
    - Particularly the 25 jurisdictions with > 1 million voters
  - Existence of statewide voter registration system:
    - Cut rate of provisionals more than half
  - Jurisdictions allowing provisionals cast anywhere:
    - 4 times the rate of provisionals being cast.
- Absentee Ballots
  - Jurisdictions allowing “No Excuse” absentee:
    - 3+ times the rate of absentees being cast.





# Absentee balloting

- 16.8 million voters requested absentee ballots
  - 10.8% of registered voters
- 14.8 million ballots returned
  - 88.7% of requested
- 14.7 million absentee ballots counted
  - 96.9% of returned
- Reasons for rejecting absentee ballots:
  - No voter signature (11 states)
  - Ballot not timely received (9 states)
  - No matching signature (8 states)



# Absentee balloting

- Greater the rate of requested,
  - the lower the rate of returning the ballot.
    - Is there too much automatic sending of ballots?
- Lower the rate of requested,
  - the higher the rate of returning the ballot.
    - Are fewer people more committed?
- Hispanic jurisdictions – highest request rate of all racial/ethnic groups, but lowest return rate.





# Provisional Ballots

- Over 1.9 million sought to cast a provisional ballot.
  - 2.56% of all persons voting in polling places.
- Over 1.2 million provisional ballots were counted.
  - 64.5% were counted.
- Reasons for rejecting provisional ballots:
  - Not registered (18 states)
  - Wrong precinct (14 states)
  - Improper ID ( 7 states)



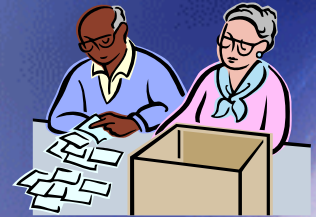
# Provisional Ballots – great state variation

	<u>Highest</u>	<u>Lowest</u>
Provisional Ballots Cast	WA – 11.3%	VT – 0.05%
	AK – 10.6%	WY – 0.05%
	AZ – 8.9%	WI – 0.06%
Provisional Ballots Counted	ME – 100.0%	DE – 6.3%
	AK – 96.6%	HA – 7.2%
	OR – 85.3%	OK – 7.7%



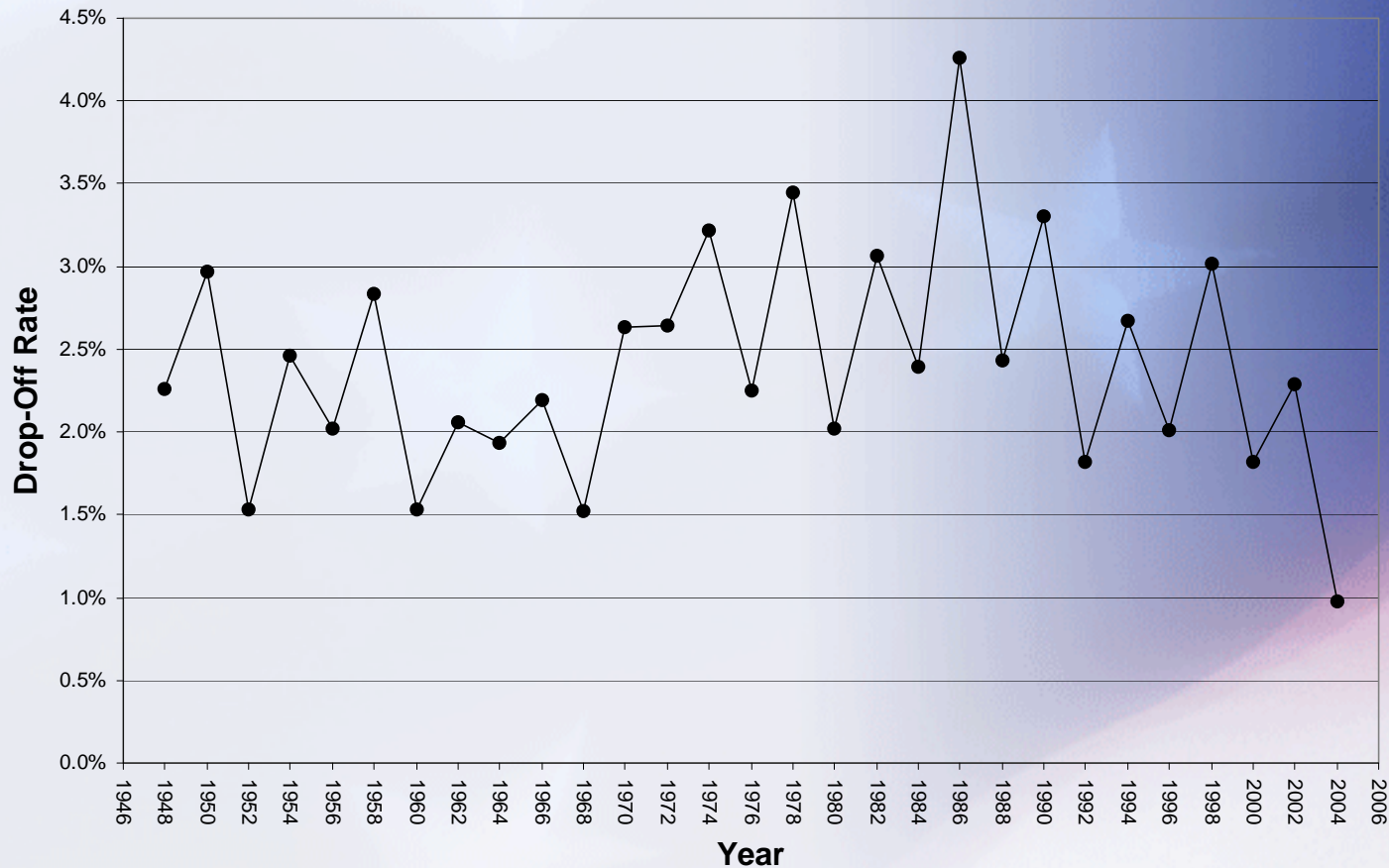
# Provisional Ballots -- Areas of note

- Counting of Provisionals varied by race:
  - Jurisdictions that are predominately –
    - Hispanic – 79.3 % of provisionals counted
    - White -- 62.6%
    - African American -- 58.6%
    - Native American -- 48.7%
- Whether provisional balloting allowed in whole jurisdiction or just home precinct impacted results.
  - Cast: 4.7% vs 1.2%
  - Counted: 71.5% vs 52.5%



# Drop – off (or Residual Votes)

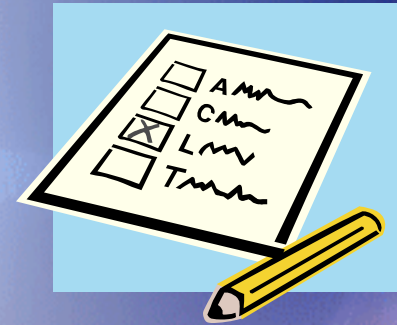
- 2004 was lowest rate in post WWII history.





# Drop – off

- Competition reduces drop-off
  - Closer margin of victory lead to lower drop-off rates.
- Lower income & education areas had higher rates of drop-off.
- Drop-off highest in predominately Native American jurisdictions.
- Paper and punch card jurisdictions had twice the drop-off rate of electronic system communities.



# Further Information Available at:

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