

THE FACTS:

Minority participation in voting is higher than any other point in America's history, and in several states, black participation is higher than that of white voters.

Catalist: *Voters in the 2020 elections represented the most diverse electorate in history.*

- Black voter turnout increased by 14% just between 2016 and 2020
- Hispanic voter turnout increased by 31% just between 2016 and 2020

Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, 2019: *"Self-reported turnout among black Southerners exceeded their white counterparts in four of twelve presidential elections following the Voting Rights Act"*

- Southern states voter turnout in 1960: 75% white / 25% black
- Southern states voter turnout in 2012: 64% white / 78% black

- 15% black voter registration (southern states) in 1950 / 67% in 1970 / 75% in 2010
- 75% white voter registration (southern states) in 1950 / 73% in 1970 / 72% in 2010

Pew Research / Pew Research 2021; National political leadership gains for black Americans

- Black House members 1965: 5 / black Senators: 0
- Black House Members 2021: 59 / black Senators: 3
- Hispanic House Members 2011: 19 / Hispanic House Members 2021: 46

America does not need a federal takeover of elections to enhance minority voting.

THE VIEWS:

Americans Oppose the Federal Takeover of America's Election Systems

The Constitution confers primary responsibility for elections on the states. A federal takeover of elections would be an unconstitutional usurpation of rights of each states' citizens and lead to federal control and corruption of elections by partisan ideologues in the Department of Justice Voting Section.

Foundation for Government Accountability Center for Excellence in Polling, July 2021:

- 66% less likely to support changes that transfer local and state election control to the federal government
- 69% less likely to support new voting laws if they give the White House political power over elections

West Virginians Oppose the Federal Takeover of Election Systems

Cygnal, May, 2021

- 59% of West Virginians agree it is wrong for a federal takeover of elections "no matter what the reason."
- 50% of West Virginians are less likely to vote for Sen Joe Manchin if he votes for a federal takeover of West Virginia's elections

Americans Support making it Easier to Vote and Harder to Cheat

EASIER TO VOTE:

Reuters/Ipsos Poll, May 2021

- 82% wanted the government to "make it easier for people to vote"
- 75% felt it was important that "the government place new limits on voting to protect elections from fraud"

HARDER TO CHEAT:

Americans Support Photo ID for In-person and Absentee Voting

Americans support photo or government-issued ID laws for all in person voting and know it is a significant factor to ensuring fair elections. They recognize absentee ballots are most vulnerable to fraud and support protections for these ballots, including the accompanying photo ID.

Honest Elections Project, March 2021:

- 77% believe voters should show ID to vote (92% R / 63% D / 75% I)
- Respondents reject the idea that ID is a “burden” (64% Black / 77% Hispanic / 76% low-income)
- Voters favor absentee ballot ID laws (64% ages 18-24 / 58% Black / 68% Hispanic / 62% low-income)

Rasmussen Reports, April 2021:

- 64% of white voters, 59% of Blacks and 58% other minorities reject the idea that voter ID discriminates
- 69% of black voters / 82% of “other minorities” / 74% white voters support photo ID

Echelon Insights Poll, July 2021:

- 82% in favor of photo ID for in-person voting and 79% for photo ID for mailed ballot

Americans Support Regular Cleaning and Maintenance of Voter Rolls

Voter rolls must be systematically reviewed by election officials in accordance with the National Voting Rights Act: all non-citizens, deceased voters or those who have moved to a different address must be identified on voter rolls and moved to non-active status or removed altogether to maintain updated, accurate rolls.

FreedomWorks/Rasmussen Poll, March 2021

- 85% believe there should be a system to ensure registrations are removed when a voter moves.

Foundation for Government Accountability Center for Excellence in Polling, 2021

- 78% support verifying voter rolls twice a year to help people who moved update their voter registration
- 73% support verifying voter rolls twice a year if it helped prevent voter identify theft.

Americans Support Meaningful Transparency and Poll Observers for all Voting, Processing and Counting of Ballots

Echelon Insights Poll, July 2021

- 71% favor more poll watchers
- 61% want to end ballot harvesting
- 71% favor video recording of ballot counting

Foundation for Government Accountability Center for Excellence in Polling, 2021:

- 64% of voters support live streaming of ballot counting if it helps stop ballot tampering

Voters Support Election Integrity / Recognize “Voter Suppression” is Not a Problem or Threat

Foundation for Government Accountability: 47% of Americans were more concerned with vote fraud than with voter suppression (v. 46%)

Scott Rasmussen.com, July 2021: 59% of Americans say “voting is a fundamental right for every adult US citizen and should not be restricted in any way”, but even among those, **69% favor photo ID** and **70% believe all ballots should be received by Election Day.**