

Quick Facts about Young Voters in Washington

Below are selected characteristics for Washington including estimates of the number of young voters, registration and voter turnout rates both for the state and the nation, and other election- and demographic-related information about citizens age 18-

2014 MIDTERM

2012 PRESIDENTIAL

	WA		US			WA		US	
	18-29	30+	18-29	30+		18-29	30+	18-29	30+
Voter Turnout	16.0%	49.7%	13.0%	42.9%	Voter Turnout	42.0%	71.1%	38.9%	64.2%
Youth Share	8.2%	91.8%	7.6%	92.4%	Youth Share	14.1%	85.9%	11.6%	88.4%
Votes Cast (in thousands)	174	1947	6274	76457	Votes Cast (in thousands)	447	2714	15044	114449

(CIRCLE analysis of Catalyst Voter File and U.S. Census American Community Survey¹)

YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS

(Citizens age 18 to 29– CIRCLE analysis of U.S. Current Population Survey March 2015 Supplement)

Citizen Population	WA	US	Race	WA	US	Gender / Family	WA	US			
	Total (in millions for 18+)	4.9		221	African American		4.9%	14.0%	Women	53.3%	50.3%
Youth 18-29 (in thousands)	975.9	46648.5	Asian American	5.7%	5.8%	Men	46.7%	49.7%			
Youth Share	19.8%	21.1%	Latino	16.6%	21.0%	Married	23.0%	17.1%			
College Experience	WA	US	Native American ^a	2.7%	1.1%	Have Children (under 18)	21.2%	18.5%			
			Native Hawaiian ^b	0.8%	.4%	Immigration	WA	US			
			White	67.2%	55.6%				Born outside of U.S.	4.5%	4.5%
			Other	2.1%	2.1%				Have a parent born outside of U.S.	22.1%	20.6%

^a includes Native Alaskans / ^b includes Pacific Islanders

YOUTH VOTER TURNOUT

(CIRCLE Analyses of CPS Nov. Supplements)

	2014		2012	
	WA	US	WA	US
Voters 18-21 years old	22.2%	15.1%	40.1%	38.3%
African American	**	22.9%	**	53.1%
Asian American	**	12.6%	**	37.1%
White	25.7%	19.8%	47.4%	44.1%
Latino	**	13.8%	**	36.9%
Men	18.2%	18.3%	41.5%	41.5%
Women	25.6%	21.3%	50.3%	48.6%

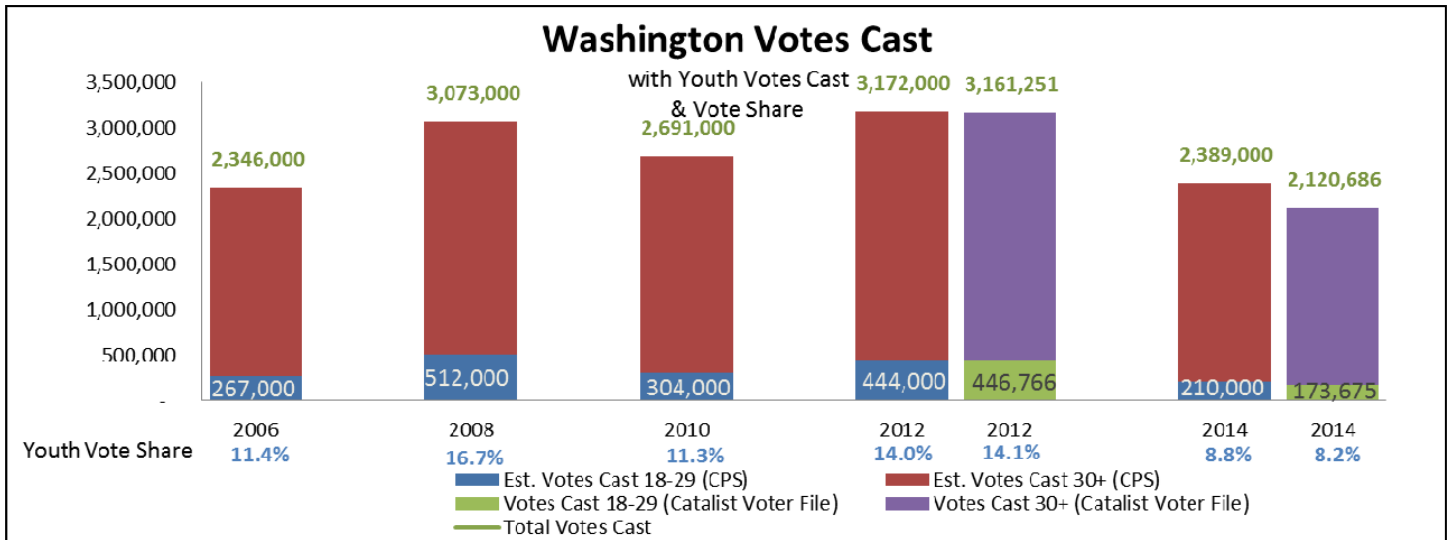
POLITICAL CLIMATE

Governor	
Democrat	
State Senate	State House
Republican Control	Democrat Control
24 (D) / 25 (R) / 0 (O)	50 (D) / 48 (R) / 0 (O)
Battleground State in 2016?	
leaning Democrat	

(Sources: MultiState.com and average of Cook Political Report (8/12/15), Rothenberg & Gonzales (3/6/15), and Sabato Crystal Ball (5/12/15))

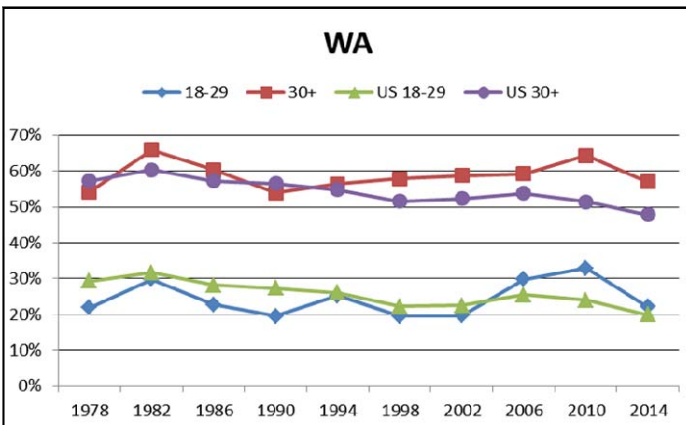
¹We calculate voter turnout by dividing the estimated number of votes cast by estimated total citizen population. We gather data from three sources: **Exit Polls** to estimate the youth vote share, which is in turn used to calculate the number of youth votes cast (% youth share x total votes cast, based on **Federal Election Commission** reporting); **The American Community Survey** to estimate youth citizen population.

The bar graph below shows vote 2006-2014. For 2012 and 2014, we can provide youth vote counts tallies from Catalist (which aggregates voter file information) and we include them here because the voter file is the most accurate data source about vote counts than any survey measure. For the states that have age-related data available, the bar graph also displays the youth vote counts. Other estimates in the graph are from Census Current Population Survey (CPS). The line graphs track the CPS-based voting and registration trends by age over time and how they track with the national average. We recommend only using line graphs to understand trends and calculating or estimating or specifying the percentage estimates by looking at the line graph.

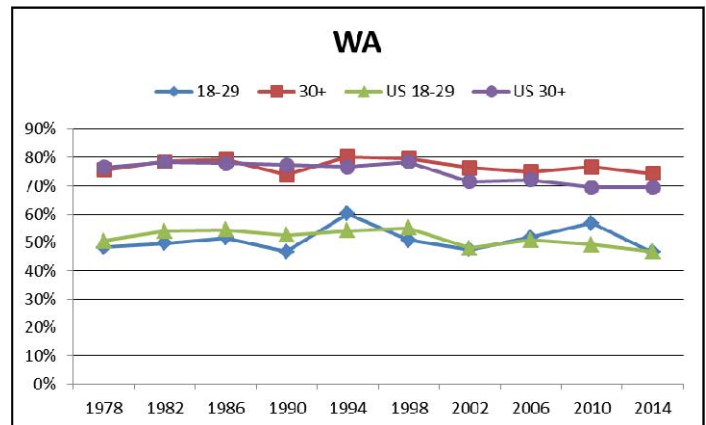


MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Voter Turnout Rate

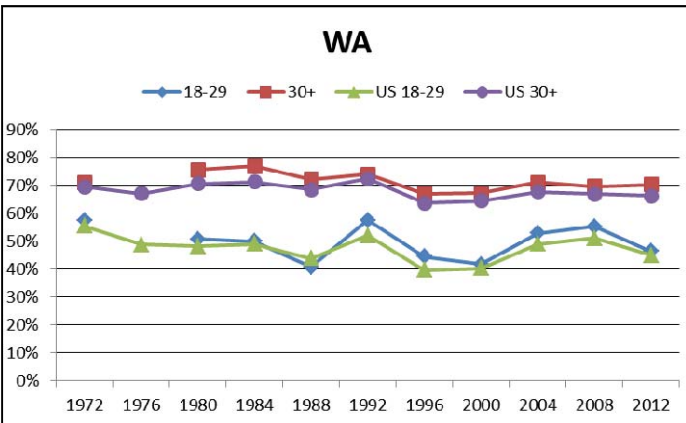


Voter Registration Rate

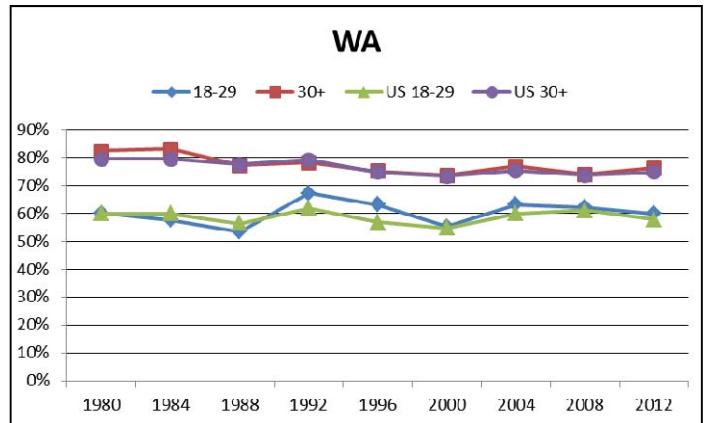


PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Voter Turnout Rate



Voter Registration Rate



CIRCLE (The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning & Engagement) is the leading source of authoritative research on the civic and political engagement of young Americans, especially those who are marginalized or disadvantaged. It is housed at the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

