

# Voter Participation in Texas

The table below shows the voter turnout in Texas for presidential elections, as statistics are available.

The column second from right gives the estimated number of persons of voting age; before 1971 that was those 21 years of age or older and only males until the election of 1920 when women were allowed to vote.

The column second from left gives the number

of registered voters for each election. From 1902 to 1964, these were the poll-tax payers plus an estimate of the number of persons qualified to vote who were exempt from the poll tax, e.i., 60 years old and over.

The next column gives the total number of votes cast, with other columns giving the percentage of registered voters and voting-age population that voted.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TURNOUT						
YEAR	REGISTERED VOTERS	TOTAL VOTES CAST	% of REGISTERED that Voted	VOTING AGE POPULATION*	% of VOTING AGE that Voted	
1872	-	116,441	-	242,124	48.1	
1876	-	149,555	-	319,217	46.9	
1880	-	241,726	-	396,225	61.0	
1884	-	325,305	-	460,225	70.7	
1888	-	357,513	-	524,285	68.2	
1892	-	422,447	-	592,597	71.3	
1896	-	526,693	-	665,142	79.2	
1900	-	423,706	-	737,768	57.4	
<i>Poll tax instituted in December 1902 as requirement for voting.</i>						
1904	503,072	281,188	55.9	844,007	33.3	
1908	646,113	305,357	47.3	950,245	32.1	
1912	657,755	301,778	45.9	1,059,545	28.5	
1916	702,858	372,461	53.0	1,171,921	31.8	
<i>Woman suffrage amendment ratified August 1920.</i>						
1920	811,104	486,641	60.0	2,430,715	20.0	
<i>Texas constitutional amendment in 1921 limited voting to citizens.**</i>						
1924	1,370,402	660,453	48.2	2,526,813	26.1	
1928	1,368,044	708,999	51.8	2,817,509	25.2	
1932	1,199,931	863,392	72.0	3,076,157	28.1	
1936	1,348,866	843,482	62.5	3,428,499	24.6	
1940	1,448,860	1,041,168	71.9	3,710,374	28.1	
1944	1,566,783	1,150,331	73.4	4,061,138	28.3	
1948	2,033,571	1,231,998†	60.6	4,411,902	27.9	
1952	2,456,169	2,075,946	84.5	4,741,647	43.8	
<i>Texas constitutional amendment in 1954 lifted ban on voting by members of U.S. Armed Services.***</i>						
1956	2,640,221	1,955,168	74.1	5,050,371	38.7	
1960	2,798,986	2,311,670	82.6	5,534,277	41.8	
<i>Poll tax eliminated for 1964 federal elections and for all elections in 1966.</i>						
1964	3,014,597	2,626,811	87.1	6,193,963	42.4	
1968	4,073,576	3,079,406	75.6	6,858,649	44.9	
<i>Voting amendment ratified July 1971 standardized the voting age at 18 years.</i>						
1972	5,212,815	3,471,281	66.6	7,731,571	44.9	
1976	6,281,149	4,071,884	64.8	8,824,677	46.1	
1980	6,639,661	4,541,637	68.4	9,971,392	45.5	
1984	7,900,169	5,397,571	68.3	11,352,126	47.5	
1988	8,201,856	5,427,410	66.2	12,239,280	44.3	
1992	8,439,874	6,154,018	72.9	12,916,937	47.6	
1996	10,540,670	5,611,644	53.2	13,698,284	41.0	
2000	12,365,235	6,407,637	51.8	14,479,609	44.3	
2004	13,098,329	7,410,749	56.6	16,071,153	46.1	
2008	13,575,062	8,077,795	59.5	17,735,442	45.6	
2012	13,646,226	7,993,851	58.6	18,279,737	43.7	

\*Voting Age Population figures are furnished by the U.S. Census for 1970 and each year thereafter. For earlier years, the decennial figures from the U.S. Census are used for 1900, 1910, etc., and estimates were then figured for each year of the decade by averaging the total increase over the ten years. For years before 1900, the increase of the general population was used. Voting Age Population refers to the total number of persons of voting age regardless of citizenship, military status, felony conviction or mental state. \*\* After 1921, when citizenship was made a requirement for voting, figures shown in italics are the Voter Eligible Population, until 1960 when the question of citizenship status was no longer asked in the decennial census. \*\*\*Exemption was made in 1944.

†In 1948, 37 counties did not report on the presidential race within the time prescribed by law and were not included in the official state total, 1,147,245. The total here includes the 37 counties as reported by the Texas Election Bureau, a non-governmental group.