



AAIPP Bulletin

January 2025

Post-Election Survey of AAPI Voters

Commissioned by the Asian American Institute for Public Policy, this post-election survey of Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) voters was conducted in November 2024 to provide detailed understanding of AAPI voter attitudes in the 2024 election. Among the issues examined were how AAPIs voted in the presidential election both nationally as well as in seven battleground states, what issues were important to them in deciding who to vote for, and whether AAPI voters have shifted politically. Below are some key findings:

Harris received a small majority (55%) of the AAPI votes nationally, 15% more than the votes for former President Donald Trump. This finding is consistent with what the [National Election Pool consortium exit poll](#) shows. In the battleground states, Harris' lead narrows to only 5 percent, 50% to 45%.

AAPI voters shifted rightward in the 2024 presidential election. Nationally, among AAPI voters who reported voting in 2020 and 2016, the share of those who voted for Trump was about 5% higher in 2024 than in 2020. However, Trump received about 6% fewer AAPI votes in 2020 than in 2016. In the battleground states, AAPI voters who reported voting in 2020 and 2016 show a similar pattern of political shift, although Trump's shares of the AAPI votes in the battleground states in all three elections were higher than those nationally.

The political shift of AAPI voters in 2024 is apparent in various voter segments by age, gender, college education, income, as well as ethnicity. Trump also did well among first time voters (43%) and independent voters (41%).

The rightward shift is less clear cut in congressional elections. When asked which congressional candidate they voted for, 59 percent of AAPI voters chose the Democratic candidate, compared with 55% who voted for Harris. Similarly, in the battleground states, the share of AAPI voters voting for a Democratic candidate for Congress was about 3% higher than those voting for Harris in their presidential vote choice.

“Inflation & the economy” was most frequently cited by AAPI voters nationally and in the battleground states as an important issue to them in deciding who they voted for. This issue is followed by crime, health care, the character of the candidates, and protecting democracy.

AAPI voters overwhelmingly believe that the 2024 presidential election was free and fair. Close to eight in ten AAPI voters, 77% nationally and 73% in the battleground states, characterize the 2024 presidential election as free and fair.

AAPI voters are overwhelmingly concerned about the United States being a divided country. This is evident both nationally and in the battleground states. About half of the respondents indicated very concerned.

AAPI voters have mixed opinions toward mass deportation of undocumented immigrants. Nationally, 36% of AAPI voters generally support a policy of mass deportation, while 39% oppose and 25% neutral. In the battleground states, except for North Carolina, the share of voters who oppose such policy is greater than those who support it, 44% to 34%.

Here are a few takeaways from the survey:

- AAPI voters are often politically centrist. A plurality (36%) of AAPI voters describes themselves as politically moderate. A combination of the moderate and those who describe themselves as somewhat liberal or somewhat conservative make up a majority of the AAPI electorate nationally (59%) and in the battleground states (58%).
- The rightward shift among AAPI voters in 2024 may reflect more of their dissatisfaction with the Biden Administration and/or certain liberal policies rather than a continued trend of them becoming more conservative in terms of their political ideology.
- The split opinion of AAPI voters on a policy of mass deportation may seem surprising, since AAPIs are generally for immigrants and immigration. However, the fact that a greater proportion of AAPIs voted for Trump in 2024 than in 2020 helps explain the split opinion. This may also reflect AAPI voters’ disapproval of the influx of migrants and the seemingly uncontrolled southern borders in recent years.

Full details of the survey findings can be viewed and downloaded from [AAIPP’s website](#).

This survey has been made possible with funding support from the C.J. Huang Foundation, East West Bank, Nielsen, and TRONEX.

Recent Releases

[The H1B Visa Program and Its Impact on the U.S. Economy](#)
American Immigration Council (January 3, 2025)

Foreign workers fill a critical need in the U.S. labor market—particularly in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. This fact sheet provides an overview of the H-1B visa category and petition process, addresses some of the myths perpetuated about the H-1B visa category, and highlights the key contributions H-1B workers make to the U.S. economy.

[Biden’s Mixed Immigration Legacy: Border Challenges Overshadowed Modernization Advances](#)

Migration Policy Institute (December 10, 2024)

This article reviews the Biden administration’s track record on immigration. It focuses on events at the U.S.-Mexico border and in the U.S. interior, changes to the legal immigration system, and how the administration’s efforts were complemented or impeded by state and local governments.

ABOUT AAIPP

The Asian American Institute for Public Policy (AAIPP) is a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing equality and full participation for Asian Americans. It works to amplify Asian American voice and thought leadership to address community concerns and to contribute pragmatic solutions to vital social, economic, and political issues in America. Through an inclusive perspective and a politically balanced approach, AAIPP seeks to promote reasoned dialogue and informed policy discourse that is guided by empirical research and critical analysis. www.aaipp.org

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