

# Voter turnout is higher in “battleground” states

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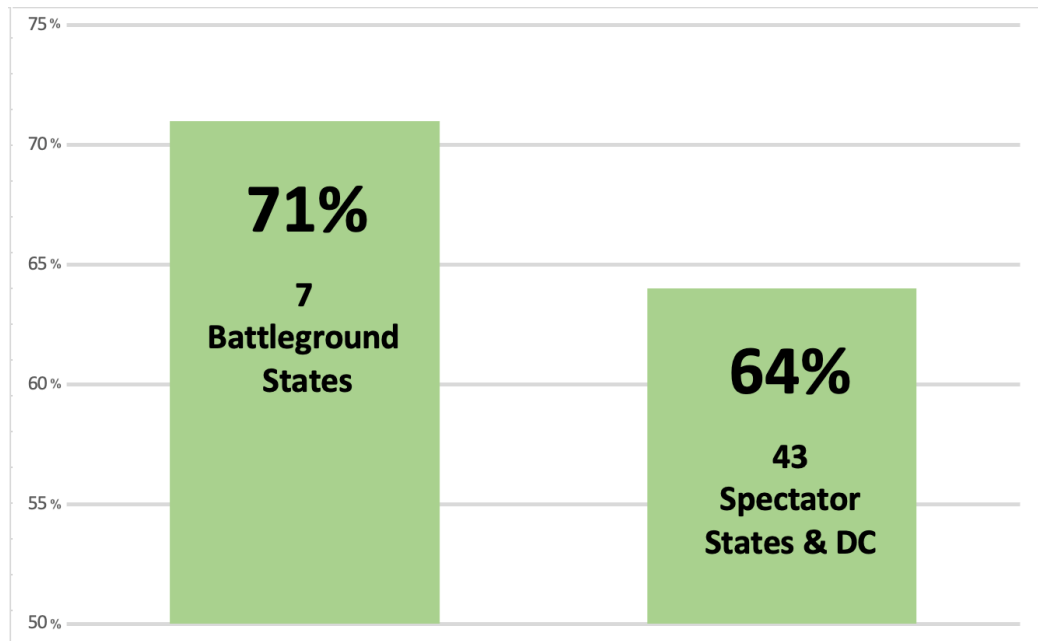
Under the current state-by-state winner-take-all method of awarding electoral votes, voter turnout is consistently higher in closely divided “battleground” states than in non-competitive “spectator” states.

Compared to the rest of the country, voter turnout in the battleground states was

- 11% higher in 2024
- 11% higher in 2020
- 11% higher in 2016
- 16% higher in 2012
- 9% higher in 2008.

## Discussion of voter turnout in the 2024 presidential election

In 2024, 11% more people turned out to vote in the seven battleground states than in the 43 spectator states and DC.



The data behind this bar chart is found below.

Nationally, voter turnout was 65% in 2024 based on the following statistics:

- The civilian voting-age population (CVAP), as computed by the U.S. Census Bureau, was 241,601,029.
- A total of 156,859,092 people turned out to vote in the 2024 presidential election.<sup>1</sup>

Virtually all (94%) of the 2024 general-election campaign events (246 of 262 of the national total) occurred in seven closely divided battleground states. Each of the battleground states received between 15 and 62 campaign events. The other 43 states and the District of Columbia were on the sidelines—with most of these spectator states receiving no visits at all.

The table below shows voter turnout in 2024 in the seven battleground states.

- Column 4 of the table shows the state’s civilian voting-age population (CVAP) as reported by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.<sup>2</sup>
- Column 5 shows the number of people who voted in the state.
- Column 1 shows each state’s voter turnout percentage—that is, column 5 divided by column 4.
- Column 2 shows the number of presidential general-election campaign events for each state.

### Voter turnout in the seven battleground states in 2024

Turnout percent	2024 events	State	CVAP	Voter turnout
65%	20	Arizona	5,384,019	3,477,975
67%	27	Georgia	7,917,054	5,297,500
75%	45	Michigan	7,646,222	5,706,503
66%	15	Nevada	2,243,354	1,486,297
72%	40	North Carolina	8,017,902	5,756,106
71%	62	Pennsylvania	9,930,217	7,074,875
76%	37	Wisconsin	4,518,555	3,434,185
<b>70.6%</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>45,657,323</b>	<b>32,233,441</b>

As can be seen from the table, turnout in the seven battleground states in 2024 was 32,233,441 people out of a total civilian voting-age population of 45,657,323—that is, turnout was 70.6%.

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<sup>1</sup> The total number of votes cast for President in 2024 was 155,512,532.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Election Assistance Commission. 2025. *The Election Administration and Voting Survey: 2024 Comprehensive Report*. June 2025. Pages vi–vii. [https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/2024\\_EAVS\\_Report\\_508c.pdf](https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/2024_EAVS_Report_508c.pdf)

The table below shows the voter turnout in the 43 spectator states and the District of Columbia. The table is sorted based on the number of general-election campaign events in column 2 (and secondarily by the turnout percentage in column 1).

**Voter turnout in the 44 spectator jurisdictions in 2024**

Turnout percent	2024 events	State	CVAP	Voter turnout
77%	3	Minnesota	4,258,921	3,271,069
74%	2	New Hampshire	1,117,113	829,090
60%	2	New York	13,945,400	8,389,626
74%	1	Colorado	4,390,366	3,240,754
71%	1	Virginia	6,397,071	4,511,853
68%	1	Nebraska	1,420,996	965,145
65%	1	D.C.	508,689	328,871
62%	1	California	26,042,367	16,164,330
61%	1	Kentucky	3,414,611	2,086,090
60%	1	New Mexico	1,552,694	927,923
59%	1	Alabama	3,871,866	2,272,911
57%	1	Texas	20,149,798	11,488,820
75%		Maine	1,126,987	842,447
71%		Oregon	3,212,722	2,269,608
70%		Washington	5,604,117	3,949,810
70%		Iowa	2,387,401	1,674,011
69%		Vermont	523,322	361,604
69%		Montana	888,190	612,423
69%		Maryland	4,411,478	3,028,813
68%		Connecticut	2,660,107	1,820,891
68%		Massachusetts	5,136,750	3,512,930
68%		New Jersey	6,397,695	4,321,921
67%		Florida	16,313,597	10,999,125
67%		Delaware	770,737	514,367
67%		Missouri	4,698,865	3,126,837
65%		Ohio	8,948,378	5,851,625
64%		South Dakota	683,617	435,739
63%		Idaho	1,445,124	917,469
63%		Rhode Island	824,795	522,164
63%		Illinois	9,036,650	5,717,147
63%		South Carolina	4,065,128	2,566,404
63%		Alaska	540,681	340,981
63%		North Dakota	589,860	371,974
63%		Utah	2,327,211	1,466,896
63%		Kansas	2,146,714	1,342,102
61%		Wyoming	442,989	271,123
59%		Louisiana	3,398,688	2,021,588
59%		Indiana	5,058,179	2,986,839
58%		Tennessee	5,329,651	3,090,161
55%		Mississippi	2,222,109	1,225,176
55%		West Virginia	1,404,377	769,206
53%		Oklahoma	2,953,778	1,573,274
50%		Hawaii	1,053,254	522,236
49%		Arkansas	2,270,663	1,122,278
<b>63.6%</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>195,943,706</b>	<b>124,625,651</b>

As can be seen from the table, turnout in the 44 spectator jurisdictions in 2024 was 124,625,651 people out of a total civilian voting-age population of 195,943,706—that is, turnout was 63.6%.

The ratio of 70.6% (the turnout in the seven battleground states) to 63.6% (the turnout in the 44 spectator jurisdictions) is 1.11-to-1.

That is, 11% more people turned out to vote in the seven battleground states than in the 44 spectator jurisdictions in 2024.

For additional information, see section 1.5 of the 2024 edition of the *Every Vote Equal* book at [www.Every-Vote-Equal.com](http://www.Every-Vote-Equal.com)