

**2011 is the 100th
anniversary of the
adoption of an
amendment to the CA
constitution that gave CA
women the right to vote.**

**It is also the 40th
anniversary of the 26th
amendment to the US
constitution that gave 18-
20 olds the right to vote.**

**How many of you would
say that those two things
happened a long time ago?**

If the entire history of the United States was represented by a 12 month calendar, Jan 1 being the founding of Jamestown in 1607, on what day do you think women being granted the right to vote in CA would occur?

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October 2

**On what day would 18-20
year olds have been
granted the right to vote?**

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year olds have been
granted the right to vote?**

November 25

**If you are now 20 years
old, on what day would
you have been born?**

**If you are 20 years old, on
what day would you have
been born?**

December 13

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Lincoln</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>CA ballot</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 <i>26th amend</i>
26	27	28	29	30		

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 <i>20 born</i>	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**When looked at from the
point of view of people
your age, they are a long
time ago. But in the history
of the US, they aren't.**

We are celebrating these events not just because men and women fought hard to attain them, but to remind us that the battles they fought aren't finished.

**The men and women we
celebrate fought not only
to get the right to vote
extended, but with the
hope that those who got it
would use it.**

**How many of you are
currently registered to
vote?**

**According to the 2010 Census,
37,253,956 people lived in CA**

**In the November 2010 CA
General Election:**

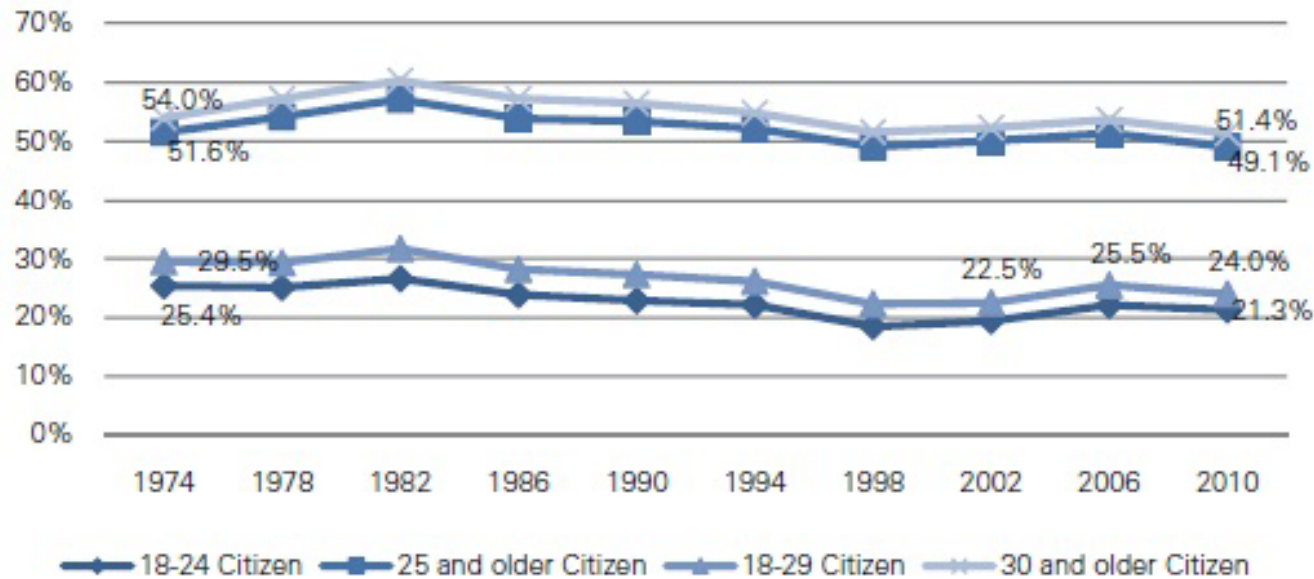
23,551,699 were eligible to vote

17,285,883 registered (70.4%)

10,302,324 voted (43.74% of eligible)

Nationally, young voters turn out to vote at about ½ the rate as older voters in off year elections

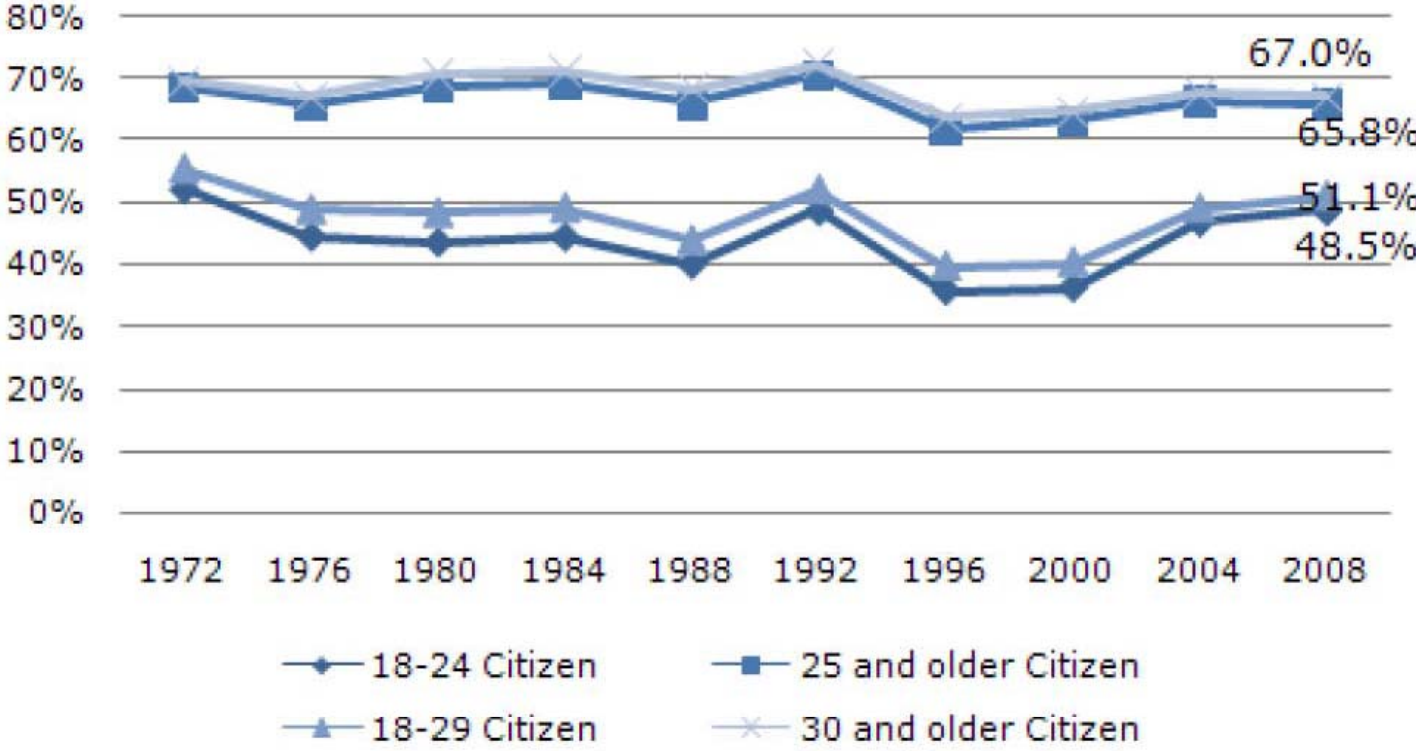
Figure 1: Voter Turnout by Age, 1974-2010



Source: Current Population Survey (CPS) November Supplements, 1974-2010

Turnout is somewhat better in Presidential election years

Graph 1: Voter Turnout by Age, 1972-2008



Source: Census CPS Nov. 1972-2008

Living in CA in 2010 were,

6,667,360 people ages 18-29 (17.9% of pop.)

7,756,178 people ages 30-44 (20.8% of pop.)

7,456,667 people ages 45-64 (20% of pop.)

4,246,514 people ages 65 and over (11.4% of pop.)

According to the CNN 2010 CA exit poll:

18-29 year olds cast 12% of the ballots

30-44 year olds cast 22% of the ballots

45-64 year olds cast 45% of the ballots

those 65 and older cast 21% of the ballots

What might our current economic situation be if more 18-29 year olds registered & cast ballots?

Do you ever think about public officials (either elected or appointed by those elected) as you go about your daily life, or as you plan for your future?

**If not, maybe you should.
Virtually every aspect of
your life is touched by the
decisions they, or the
people they appoint,
make.**

For example:

- This school is here because it was built, paid for and is operated by government employees. You are here because many generations of elected officials and voters determined that you and they would be better off if you had educational opportunities. Do you know of any proof of the benefits for young people from those decisions?

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Full Time Workers in the U.S. age 25 and older, 2009

Number of workers: 92,821,000

Highest Education Attained		Median Income	Difference from previous step	Cumulative difference from 1st step	% of Professional
less than 9th grade	2.52%	\$21,869			21.00%
Grades 9-12, no diploma	4.65%	25,592	\$3,723	\$3,723	24.58%
High School graduate	27.71%	34,228	8,636	10,283	32.87%
Some college, no degree	16.99%	40,386	6,158	16,441	38.78%
Associate degree (AA)	10.51%	42,174	1,788	18,229	40.50%
Bachelor's degree (BA)	24.09%	54,862	12,688	30,917	52.69%
Master's degree (MA)	9.52%	69,524	14,662	45,579	66.77%
Doctorate (Ph.D.)	1.94%	91,770	22,246	67,825	88.13%
Professional degree (Dr., lawyer, dentist, etc.)	2.07%	104,132	12,362	80,187	100.00%

Average annual expenditures per household (2009): \$49,067

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Expectation of Life (in years) at birth, U.S.

1900	47.3
1910	50.0
1920	54.1
1930	59.7
1940	62.9
1950	68.2
1960	69.7
1970	70.9
1980	73.7
1990	75.4
2000	77.0
2004	77.8
2010 (projection)	78.5
2015 (projection)	79.2

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- Most of the food you eat, the fluids you drink, and the medicines you take are inspected by government agents, and are approved for sale only when shown to be safe.
- The streets on which you travel were built and paid for, and are maintained by people working for constitutionally elected officials. Suppose roads were privately owned, and you had to stop every mile or two to pay a toll to a different owner in order to use that stretch of roadway? Or, what if police and fire services were all private, and would only appear when you needed them if you could pay what they asked? Suppose your neighbor's house was burning and s/he couldn't afford to pay for fire protection?

Government has the power to make life and death decisions



Washington Post, April 29, 2005

- In 2002, the United States government took us to war in Afghanistan. In 2003, it took us to war in Iraq. To date, 4,474 U.S. soldiers have returned from Iraq in flag draped coffins on flights like the one pictured above; while 1,752 have come back that way from Afghanistan.

Government has the power to make life and death decisions



- Those decisions affect others besides U.S. citizens.

Government has the power to make life and death decisions



New York Times, September 11, 2007

- Those decisions affect other species too.

Government has the power to make life changing decisions



Photo by Nina Berman

- Ty Zeigel and Renee Kline prior to Ty's deployment to Iraq in 2003.

Government has the power to make life changing decisions



Photos by Nina Berman



- Marine Sgt. Ty Zeigel and Renee Kline on their wedding day in late 2006.

In 2004, Ty's tour was cut short when a suicide bomber blew up near his truck during a routine patrol. The searing heat melted most of the skin off his body and left him blind in one eye. His skull was so badly shattered that doctors had to replace it with plastic. Ty was taken to Brooke Army Medical Center, where he underwent 19 surgeries.

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- After the Constitution was finished, and as he was leaving Independence Hall, Benjamin Franklin is reported to have been asked, “Well, Doctor, what have we got—a Republic or a Monarchy?” His reply, “A Republic, if you can keep it.”

The Constitution has been amended 27 times during the 222 years since it went into effect.

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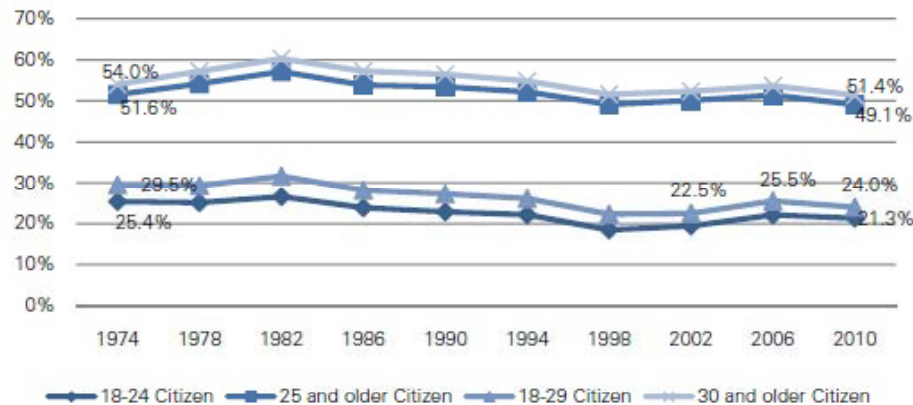
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- The 24th amendment (1964) abolished the use of poll taxes (which were used to keep African-Americans from voting in the south) by any state.
- **The 26th amendment (1971) specified that the right to vote by citizens 18 years old and over shall not be denied or abridged.**

To celebrate the two centennial anniversaries this fall (granting CA women the right to vote and the founding of our local League), the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville is sponsoring and participating in several events. We hope that as many of you as possible will join with us to remember those whose struggles gave us voting rights, and help us in our ongoing efforts to boost these numbers.

Figure 1: Voter Turnout by Age, 1974-2010



Source: Current Population Survey (CPS) November Supplements, 1974-2010

**THE 1ST ACTIVITY IN WHICH WE HOPE YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO JOIN IS THE SOLANO STROLL PARADE
ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.**

Details are in the flyers we're distributing.

NEXT UP IS THE OPENING OF THE BERKELEY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXHIBIT AT 3 PM ON
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

THE EXHIBIT WILL REMAIN OPEN THROUGH
MARCH 30, 2012, AND IS TITLED

**BERKELEY WOMEN VOTE: CELEBRATING
CALIFORNIA SUFFRAGE 1911-2011**

The Berkeley Historical Society is located
one block west of BCC at 1931 Center St.

FINALLY, ON OCTOBER 30 FROM 2 TO 3:15 PM IN
THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER AT OLD CITY HALL,

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BERKELEY,
ALBANY AND EMERYVILLE IS THROWING A
PARTY TO COMMEMORATE**

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING
OF OUR LEAGUE ON OCTOBER 30, 1911.

PLEASE COME CELEBRATE WITH US!