

Mobilization,  
Change, and Political  
& Civic Engagement  
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Election 2008 and Beyond, Wave 3

FACT SHEET: PARTICIPATION

**Key Findings Include:**

- Blacks and Whites are the most politically engaged overall as they are most often represented among the most likely to participate in any given form of political engagement.

**General Findings**

Blacks are more likely than all other groups to have gone to any political meetings, rallies, speeches or dinners that support a particular candidate, political party, or elected official.

- 8% of White respondents
- 10% of Black respondents
- 6% of Latino respondents
- 6% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Whites are the most likely to have given money to or helped raise money for a candidate, political party, political cause or elected official.

- 10% of White respondents
- 7% of Black respondents
- 6% of Latino respondents
- 8% of Asian respondents

Blacks are the most likely to have volunteered on a political campaign, political party or for a political cause since the election.

- 5% of White respondents
- 8% of Black respondents
- 4% of Latino respondents
- 2% of Asian respondents

Whites are about twice as likely as others to have contacted or visited a public official or agency.

- 21% of White respondents
- 10% of Black respondents
- 9% of Latino respondents
- 12% of Asian respondents

Whites and Blacks are slightly more likely to have attended a meeting of a local government board or council.

- 7% of White respondents
- 6% of Black respondents
- 5% of Latino respondents
- 4% of Asian respondents

Blacks and Asians are most likely to have signed a paper petition.

- 13% of White respondents
- 17% of Black respondents
- 11% of Latino respondents
- 17% of Asian respondents

Whites and Blacks are slightly more likely to have written and sent an article or letter through the mail or phoned the editor of a newspaper, magazine, or a television station about a political issue, candidate, political party or elected official.

- 7% of White respondents
- 7% of Black respondents
- 5% of Latino respondents
- 6% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are mostly likely to have called in to a radio or television talk show to express your opinion on a political issue, candidate, political party or elected official, even if they did not get on the air?

- 4% of White respondents
- 8% of Black respondents
- 6% of Latino respondents
- 2% of Asian respondents

Latinos are the mostly likely to have taken part in a protest, political rally, demonstration or sit-in.

- 4% of White respondents
- 5% of Black respondents
- 7% of Latino respondents
- 3% of Asian respondents

Whites are most likely to have engaged in boycotting, that is buying a certain product or service because you like the social or political values of the company that produces or sells the product.

- 15% of White respondents
- 8% of Black respondents
- 9% of Latino respondents
- 11% of Asian respondents

All groups are about the same in terms of having been active in or joined a political group, party, organization or club.

- 6% of White respondents
- 6% of Black respondents
- 6% of Latino respondents
- 7% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Whites are most likely to have written or forwarded an email, signed an e-mail petition, or posted a comment to a blog about a political issue, candidate, elected official or political party.

- 28% of White respondents
- 14% of Black respondents
- 11% of Latino respondents
- 19% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are most likely to have written a blog about a political issue, candidate, elected official or political party.

- 2% of White respondents
- 5% of Black respondents
- 3% of Latino respondents
- 3% of Asian respondents

Whites and Blacks are most likely to have e-mailed the editor of a newspaper, a television station, magazine, or website manager about a political issue, candidate, political party or elected official.

- 6% of White respondents
- 6% of Black respondents
- 4% of Latino respondents
- 3% of Asian respondents

Whites are most likely to have talked with family or friends about a political issue, political party, candidate or elected official.

- 71% of White respondents
- 57% of Black respondents
- 53% of Latino respondents
- 56% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are most likely to have worked with the people in your neighborhood on a political issue or problem.

- 5% of White respondents
- 8% of Black respondents
- 6% of Latino respondents
- 6% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are slightly more likely than others to have worked with the people in your community or neighborhood on any issue or problem.

- 15% of White respondents
- 16% of Black respondents
- 13% of Latino respondents
- 15% of Asian respondents

Whites are slightly more likely than others to have engaged in organized volunteer or community service work—that is, worked with others for no pay—such as through your children’s school, your church or neighborhood.

- 30% of White respondents
- 27% of Black respondents
- 26% of Latino respondents
- 28% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are most likely to have been contacted for involvement in some community or neighborhood activity.

- 16% of White respondents
- 20% of Black respondents
- 13% of Latino respondents
- 18% of Asian respondents

Blacks and Asians are most likely to be a member of an organization that is working to improve the status of their race.

- 10% of Black respondents
- 7% of Latino respondents
- 10% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are most likely to have been invited to join a political group or support a political cause on social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace, or Twitter.

- 16% of White respondents
- 18% of Black respondents
- 11% of Latino respondents
- 14% of Asian respondents

Since the election, Blacks are the most likely to have had the groups or places of worship of which they are a member make announcements about, discussed, or encouraged members to participate in political issues or campaigns.

- 9% of White respondents
- 16% of Black respondents
- 11% of Latino respondents
- 9% of Asian respondents