

Reproductive Justice is a Top Priority for Latina/x Women Voters

Intersections of Our Lives, a collaborative of Reproductive Justice organizations representing women of color, sponsored a national mixed mode survey of 850 Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) women registered voters, 850 Black women registered voters, and 850 Latina/x women registered voters on their experiences and priorities. The priorities of the three groups often overlapped but certain topics especially resonated with Latina/x women voters.

OVERVIEW

In surveying women of color voters across the country, our poll found that the connections among Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI), Black, and Latina/x women are abundant. Specifically, when it comes to Reproductive Justice, including issues like economic security/opportunity and abortion rights, women of color are on the same page: our policymakers must do better. Elevating these shared priorities is essential, but it is also crucial to acknowledge the nuances of each unique community. Below are findings that pertain to the experiences and attitudes of Latina/x women.

THE INSIGHTS

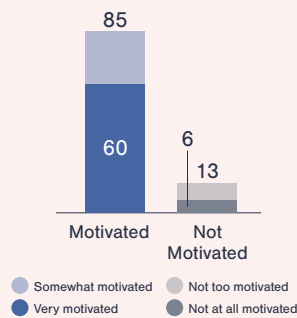
There is no denying that Latina/x women are a crucial voting bloc in the 2024 elections. **64%** of Latina/x women see voting as extremely important and **60%** are very motivated to vote. However, only **51%** see voting as extremely effective in creating the change they want to see. This finding demonstrates how Latina/x women do not see their experiences and priorities addressed in politics or policy.

For Latina/x women, their votes mainly represent a need for change, their values, and their feelings about how policies will impact their lives.

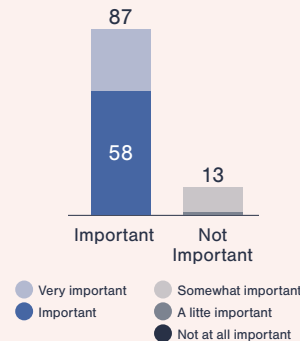
TO LATINA/X WOMEN, THEIR VOTE MOST REPRESENTS . . .



HOW MOTIVATED ARE LATINA/X WOMEN TO VOTE IN NOVEMBER?



HOW IMPORTANT IS THE 2024 ELECTION TO LATINA/X WOMEN?



WHAT IS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE?

At the core of Reproductive Justice is the belief that all women have the right to decide if, when, and how to become a parent and to nurture the children they have in a safe and healthy environment. This includes many intersecting issues, such as securing good-paying jobs, accessing affordable healthcare including abortion care and birth control, improving maternal health outcomes, and lowering the costs of living and housing.

The Latina/x community is not a monolith and consists of various ethnic backgrounds and lived experiences. This poll accounted for these variations with the following ethnic oversamples: Latina Caribbean, Central American, and South American women.

LATINA/X WOMEN THINK THINGS IN THE COUNTRY OVER THE PAST YEAR HAVE . . .



In the eyes of Latina/x women, the most important economic issue priorities for Congress to make progress on are creating good-paying jobs, securing access to affordable healthcare, and creating more affordable housing. Access to birth control is the highest priority when it comes to reproductive health, with **78%** of Latina/x women saying it is extremely or very important. **74%** identified both maternal mortality for women of color and abortion legality, affordability, and access as extremely or very important

A majority (**57%**) of Latina/x women say that things have gotten worse in the country over the past year. For those who are very motivated to vote, changing the direction of the country (**26%**) is **one of the top reasons** driving vote motivation, along with concerns about national and social issues (**24%**).

Rising costs are the major issue that will determine Latina/x women's votes this year. This is true across all ethnic groups surveyed. When combined with abortion, women's rights are an equally important issue among Latina/x women overall.

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES THAT WILL DETERMINE LATINA/X WOMEN'S VOTES IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTIONS ARE . . .

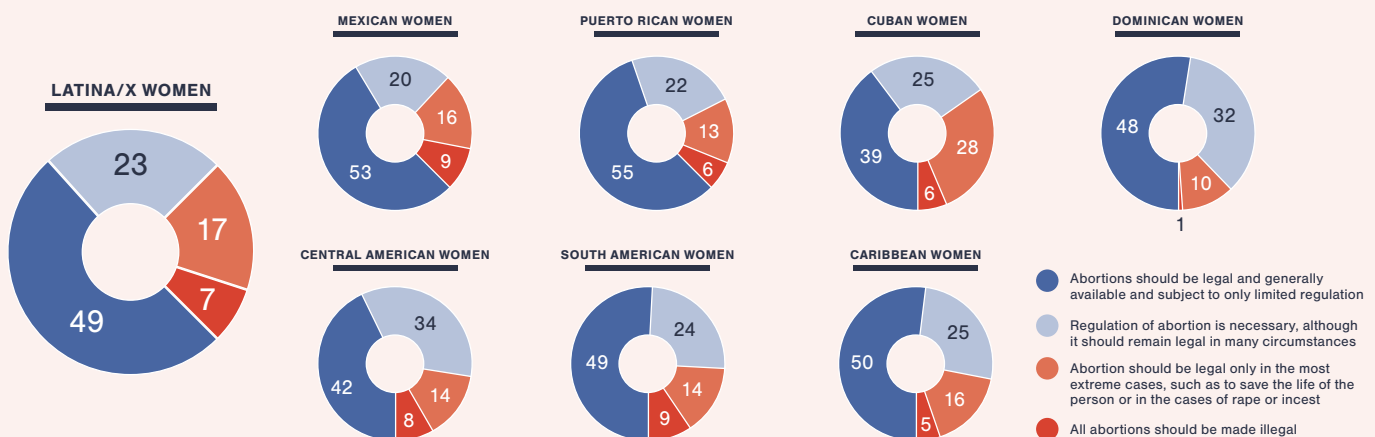
LATINA/X WOMEN	Ethnicity					
	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Dominican [^]	Central American	South American
Rising costs & prices	32	44	47	40	33	33
Women's Rights	21	25	22	15	22	19
Affordable housing	17	20	20	30	18	20
Threats to democracy	19	14	17	10	16	17
Immigration	17	15	23	11	11	18
Abortion	15	13	4	11	12	15
Gun violence prevention	8	11	9	12	9	13
Crime	11	9	4	8	9	10
Taxes	12	7	12	7	6	11

[^]small n size

The main Congressional policy priorities for Latina/x women include concerns like securing good-paying jobs and affordable health care and housing, passing gun violence prevention laws, and making abortion legal, affordable, and accessible.

A strong majority (73%) of Latina/x women overall support abortion rights. While there is some variation in views on abortion across ethnicities, the majority supports abortion rights overall.

LATINA/X WOMEN STRONGLY SUPPORT ABORTION RIGHTS



Notably, when asked about values on abortion, Latina/x women agree with high intensity with statements about politicians not making decisions about abortion, their personal freedom to decide whether or not to have a child and to parent their child in safe and healthy environments, and having the power to control their own bodies and lives.

79% of Latina/x women say that racism has gone on for too long in America and we need leaders who will address it. **52%** of Latina/x women overall, **63%** of Dominican women, and **60%** of Central American women say racism has impacted their lives.

THE TAKEAWAYS

- Like their fellow women of color, Latina/x women see elections as important and are highly motivated by economic and reproductive issues in their votes.
- Latina/x women see their votes as representing a need for change, their values, and their feelings about how policies will impact their lives.
- Rising costs and prices (35%) are the most important voting issue for Latina/x women, followed by women's rights (21%). In the third tier are affordable housing (18%), threats to democracy (17%), and immigration (17%).
- For economic issues, Latina/x women found it most important for Congress to create good-paying jobs (88% extremely/very important), ensure everyone has access to affordable health care (84%), and create more affordable housing options (83%).
- For reproductive health and abortion issues, Latina/x women found it most important for Congress to ensure access to birth control (78% extremely/very important), address the high rates of maternal death among women of color (74%), and ensure that abortion is legal, affordable, and accessible (74%).
- Two-thirds (66%) of Spanish-speaking Latina/x women support abortion rights, and nearly half (47%) believe abortions should be legal and generally available and subject to only limited regulation.
- For racial justice issues, Latina/x women find it most important for Congress to end discrimination against people because of their race, ethnicity, or culture (79% extremely/very important), stop making it harder for certain groups to vote (70%), and end discrimination against people because of their sexual orientation or gender identity (69%).
- Latina/x women plan to vote in person, either on Election Day (31%) or early (31%), with 27% who plan to vote early by mail.
- Among Latina/x women who are very motivated to vote, changing the direction of the country (26%) and their concerns about national and social issues (24%) are making them feel very motivated to vote.
- Among Latina/x women who are less motivated to vote, their main reasons are that they dislike the candidates (36%) or believe the system is corrupt and rigged (30%).
- Only around three in ten (31%) Latina/x women say that they are likely to vote for a third-party candidate (compared to 33% of AAPI women and 24% of Black women).
- Local TV news outlets (34%) and cable news channels like CNN or MSNBC (28%) are the top media sources for news or political information for Latina/x women.
- 12% of Latina/x women turn to Spanish-language TV news, newspapers, or websites for news. 15% do so among Spanish-speaking Latina/x women.



Intersections of Our Lives (Intersections) and its member organizations are experts on what women of color believe and care about. They are acutely aware of the history of racism and discrimination that women of color have faced and continue to face. Their work is focused on elevating the unity and solidarity between all women of color and manifesting the change that their communities desire.