

ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE 2022 MIDTERMS

FINDINGS FROM THE VOTER SAMPLE OF THE NATIONAL POLL OF ASIAN
AMERICAN NON-VOTERS AND VOTERS

Key Findings

- Voters were confident that votes were properly counted in 2022 and continued to take advantage of different ways to vote.
 - One-in-six felt threatened when they voted in 2022.
- Voters mostly relied on a variety of mainstream and social media sources for their news and generally trust their news sources.
 - A majority reported encountering what was believed to be misinformation in the 2022 elections.
- Two-in-three favored voting early or absentee rather than on Election Day. Main reasons cited were long lines and limited hours on Election Day, COVID concerns, convenience, and scheduling conflicts.
 - Voting assistance is helpful but not available to everyone.
- Two-in-five were contacted by parties and campaigns; mobilization from community organizations, friends and family, and neighbors and co-workers also important.
- Subgroups were mostly similar in their attitudes and experiences; results by subgroup will be shown where there are interesting differences.

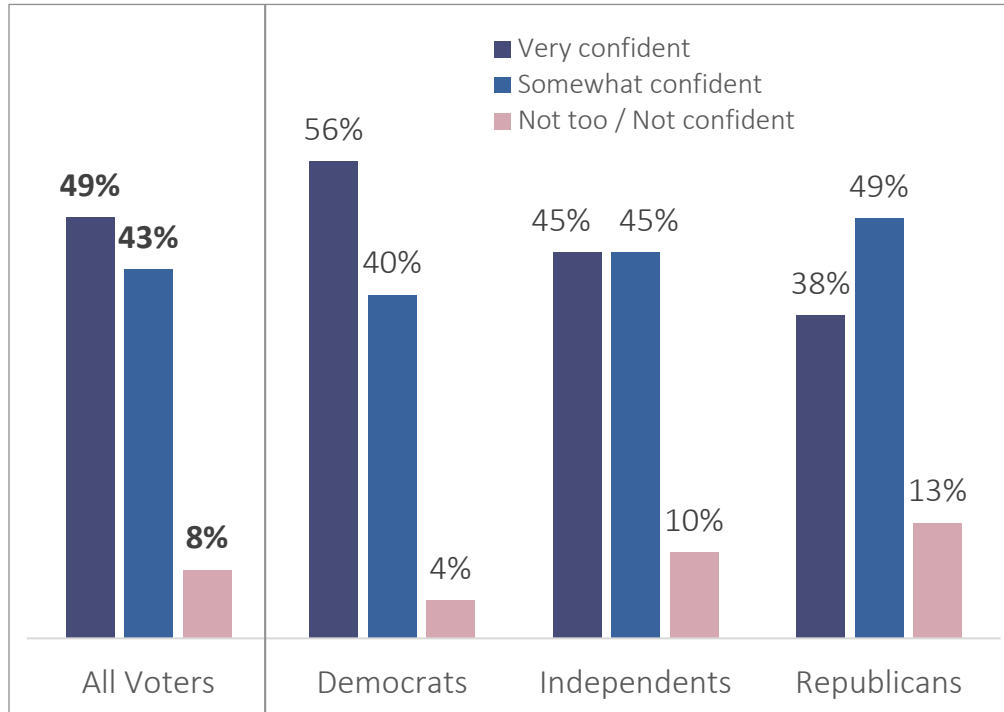
About the Survey

- **Total Sample:** 2,800 Asian American citizens
- **Sub-Samples:**
 - 2,100 Asian Americans who were registered and voted in 2022. Roughly 350 each Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese.
 - 350 Asian Americans who were registered but did not vote in 2022.
 - 350 Asian Americans who were citizens but not registered in 2022.
- **Field Dates:** November 23 - December 16, 2022
- **Interview mode:** 75% online, 25% live telephone interviews
- **Interview languages:** English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese

HOW ASIAN AMERICANS EVALUATED THE 2022 ELECTIONS

Confident that Every Vote Was Counted

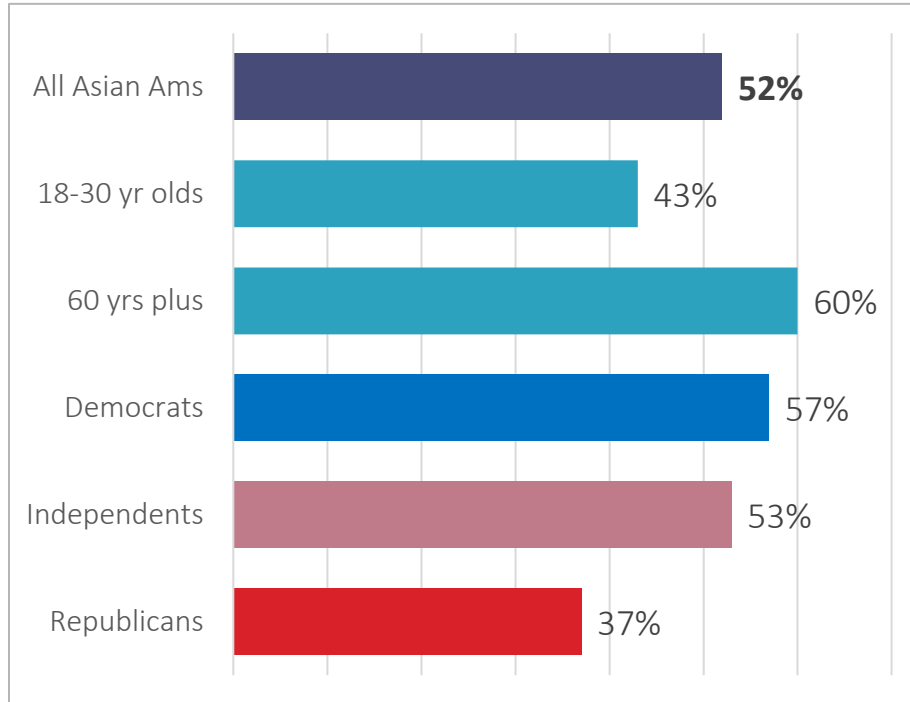
[If **VOTED**] How confident are you that every voter's ballot was counted in your state in this year's election?



- Overall, nearly half of Asian American voters in 2022 were **very** confident that every vote was counted in their state.
- Democrats (56%) were more likely than Republicans (38%) to be very confident.
- Notable subgroup differences: Asian Indians (60%) and those 60 years and older (57%) were more likely to be very confident.

Positive Outlook on How the Elections Were Run

[if **VOTED**] Overall, how well do you think the elections this November in your community were run? [% "VERY WELL"]

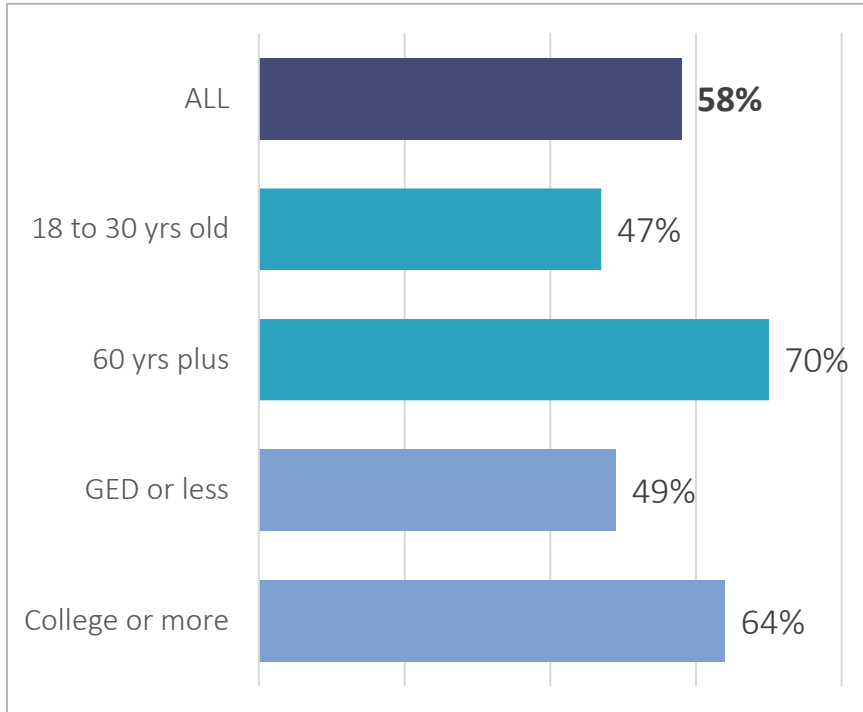


- 52% of voters said the 2022 elections in their community were "very well" run; 42% thought they were "somewhat well" run; only 7% said "not that well" or "not well at all."
- Older voters (60-plus) were more positive than younger voters (18 to 30) on whether elections were run "very well" (60% to 43%).*
- Republicans were far less likely to say the elections were run very well.
- No significant differences by ethnicity, nativity, or language use.

* 30-60 year olds are not significantly different from all voters and not shown
N=2,100 +/-2.1% (Nov 23 - Dec 16, 2022)

Regarded Voting as Easy

[If **VOTED**] Overall, how easy or difficult was voting in this year's elections for you personally? [% "VERY EASY"]

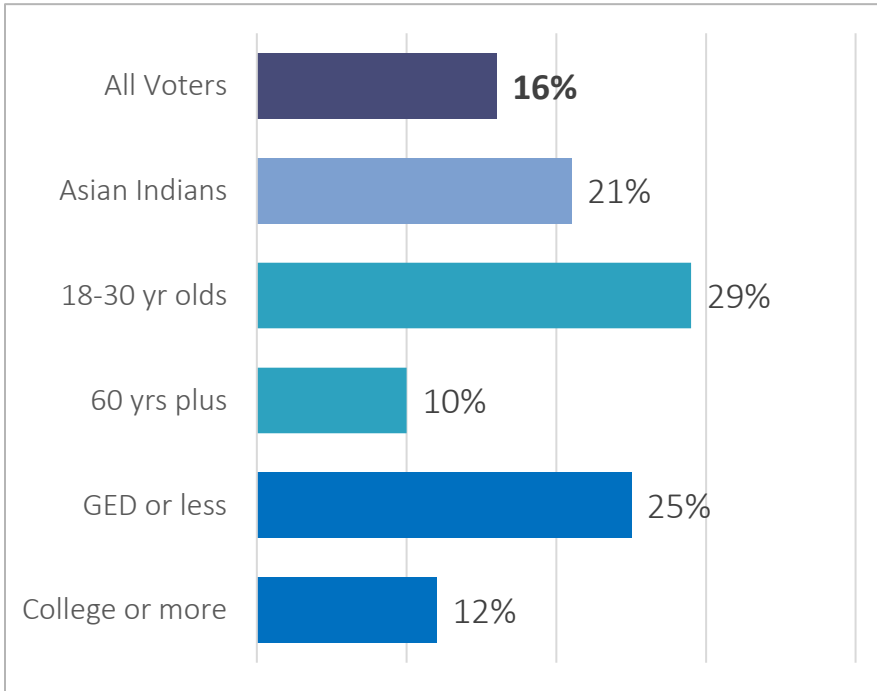


- 58% reported that voting in the 2022 midterms was "very easy"; 36% said "somewhat easy" and only 6% said it was "somewhat" or "very" difficult.
- Voters aged 18 to 30 were less likely to say voting was very easy (47%) than those 60 years and older (70% say "very easy").*
- Voters with higher educational attainment were more likely to find voting very easy.
- No significant differences by partisanship, nativity, or language use to this question.

* 30-60 year olds are not significantly different from all voters and not shown
N=2,100 +/-2.1% (Nov 23 - Dec 16, 2022)

Yet One-in-Six Felt Threatened When Voting

[All **VOTERS**] There have been news stories about efforts to intimidate voters at vote centers, drop boxes and polling places this election year. Did you feel threatened either at your polling place, by your drop box or outside your polling place this year? [% "YES"]



- Combining all three contexts of voter intimidation, 16% of Asian American reported feeling threatened when they voted in 2022.
- Reports of threat were highest among Asian Indians (21%) and voters aged 18 to 30 (29%).*
- Voters with a high school degree or less were also more likely to report feeling threatened when they voted.*
- Democrats, Independents, and Republicans were roughly equally likely to report feeling threatened when they voted.

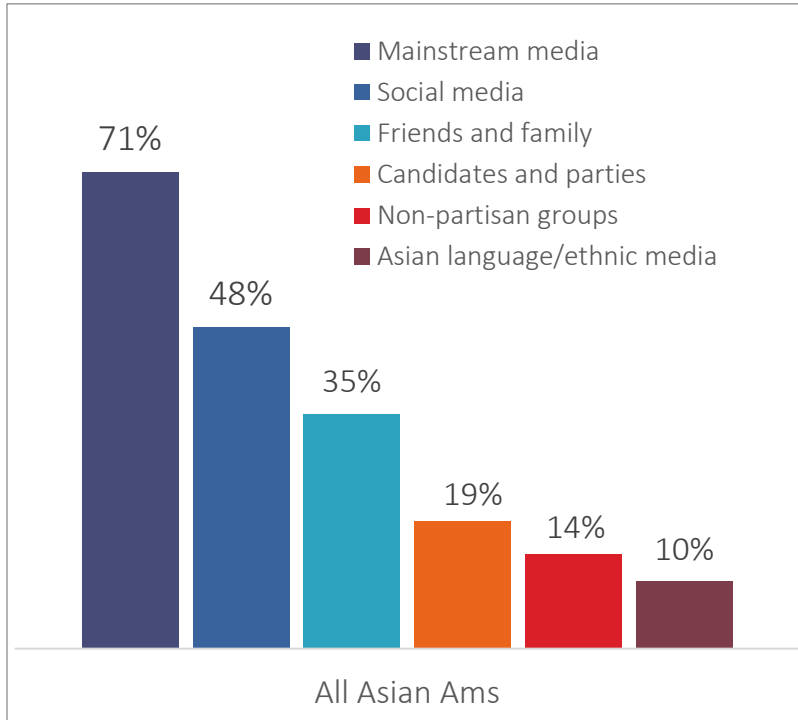
* 30-60 year olds and those between a GED and college degree are not significantly different from all voters and not shown
N=2,100 +/-2.1% (Nov 23 - Dec 16, 2022)

HOW ASIAN AMERICANS WERE INFORMED ABOUT THE ELECTION



Informed by Mainstream and Social Media

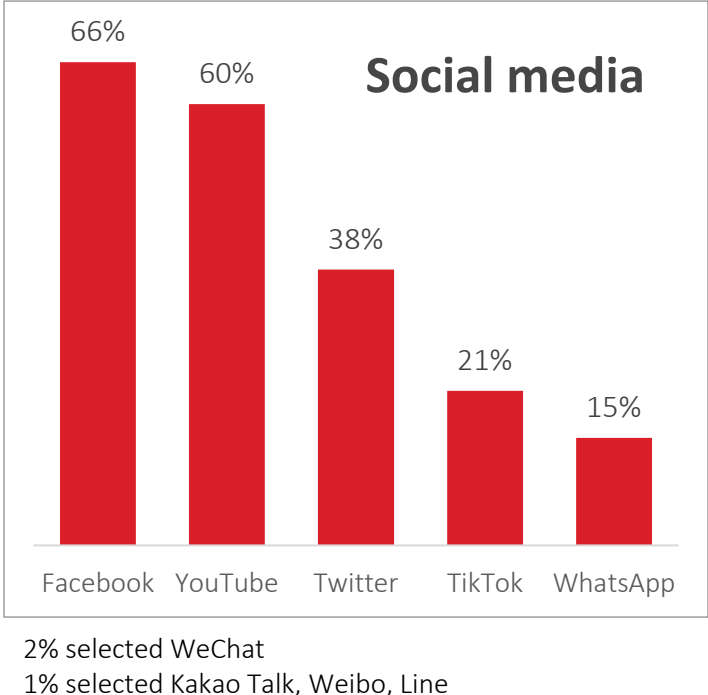
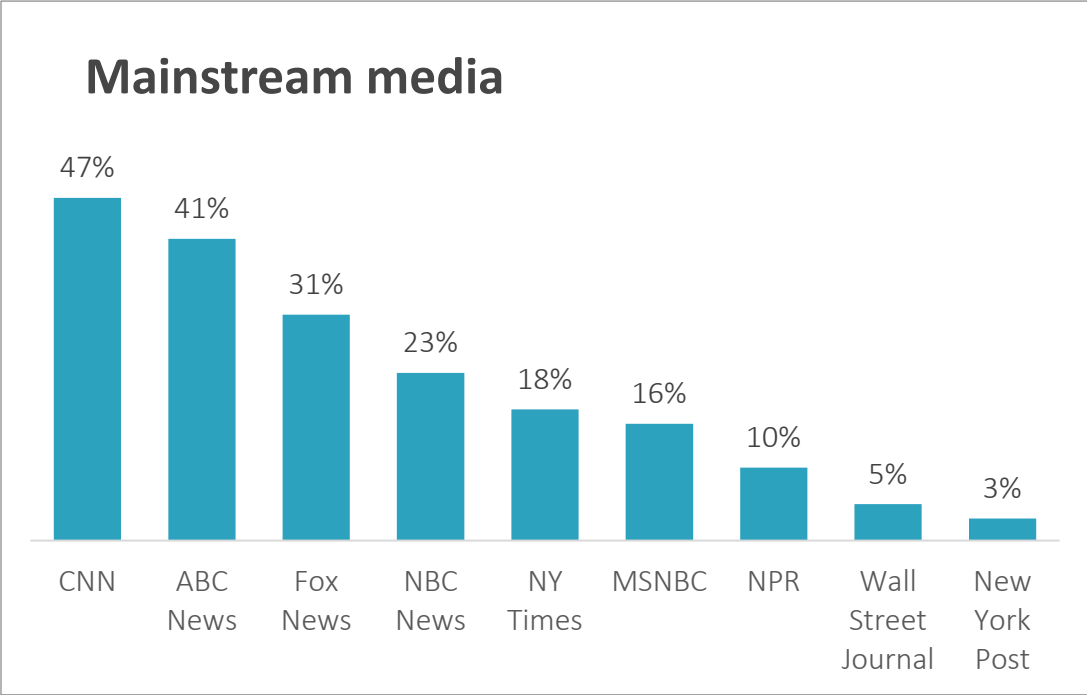
In general, where did you go for news and information about the elections? **[ALL THAT APPLY]**



- Voters were most likely to get their news about the election from mainstream media sources – TV, radio, and newspapers – followed by social media and friends and family.
- A significant minority also reported getting informed by candidates and parties, non-partisan groups, and Asian language/ethnic media (btw. 10-19%).
- 18 to 30 year olds rely more on social media (79%); only 21% of those 60 years and older rely on social media.
- Democrats are slightly more likely to rely on mainstream media than Republicans (76% to 66%).

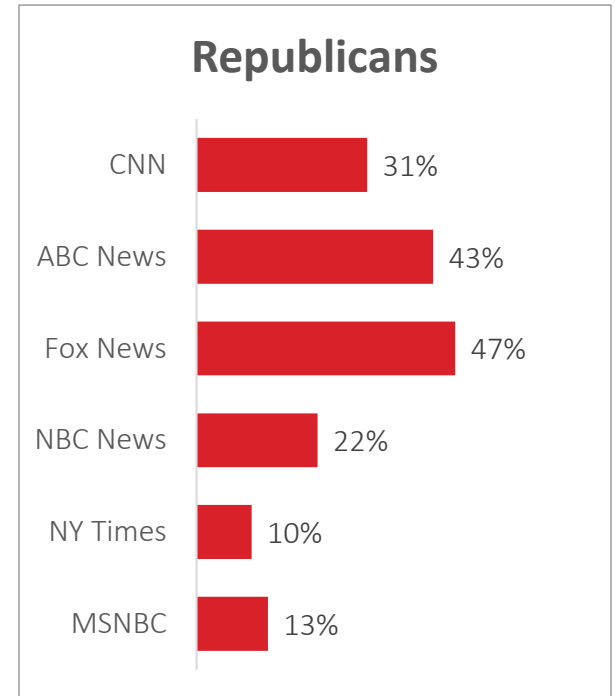
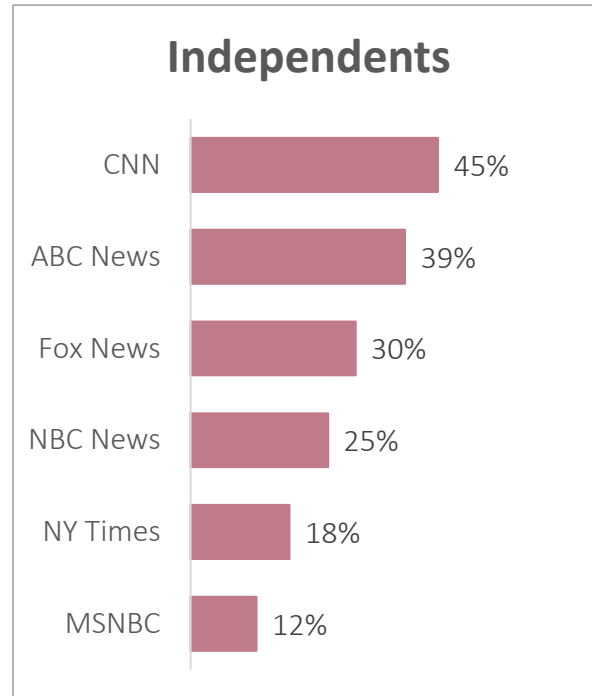
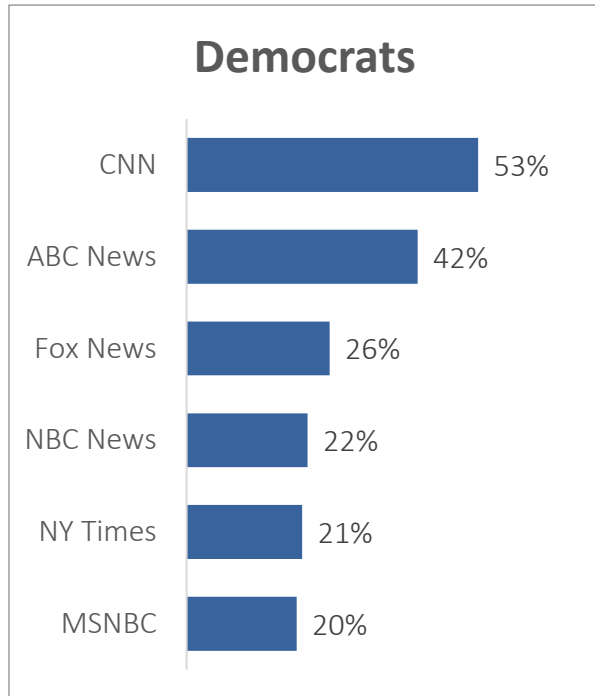
A Diversity of Mainstream and Social Media Sources

[If news source = **MAINSTREAM MEDIA** or **SOCIAL MEDIA**] What was your main source of news and information from mainstream media outlets? **[SELECT UP TO THREE]**



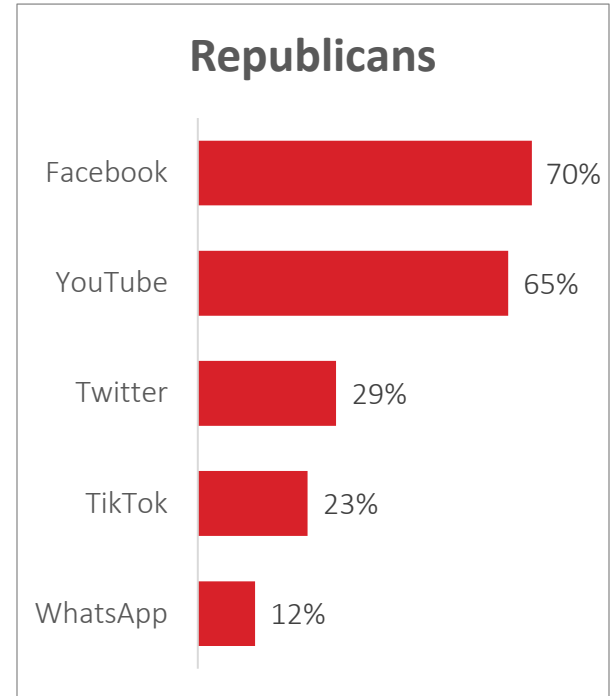
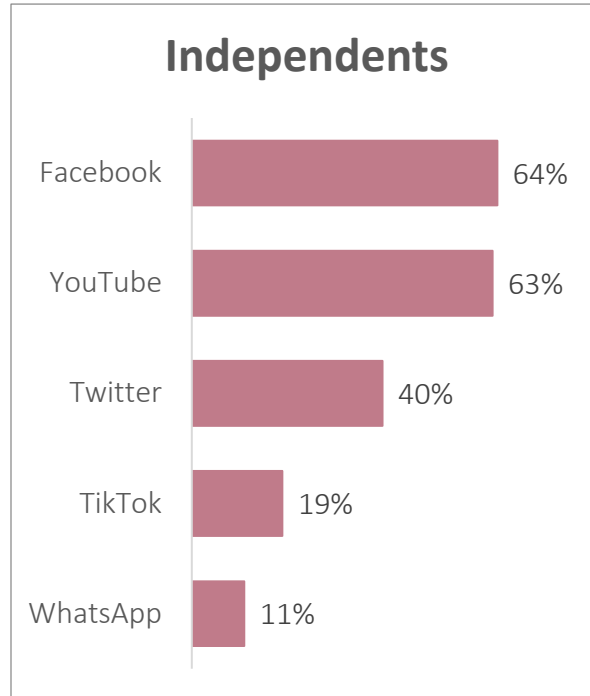
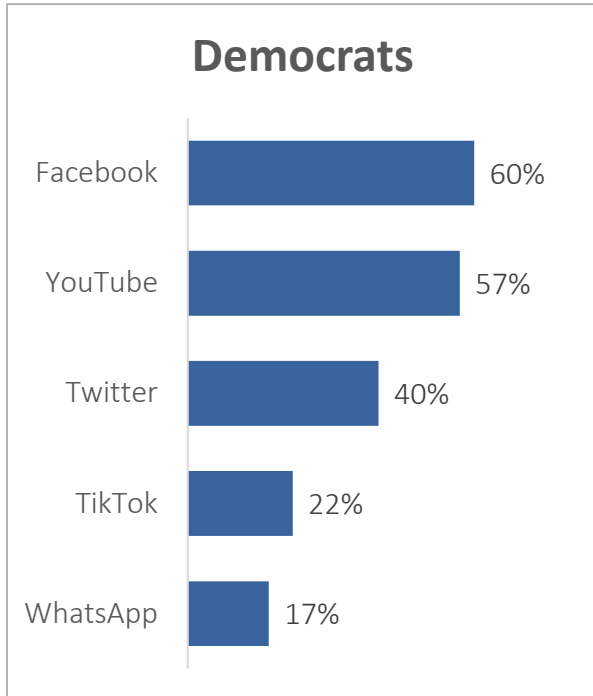
Mainstream News Sources by Partisanship

[If news source = **mainstream media**] What was your main source of news and information from mainstream media outlets?



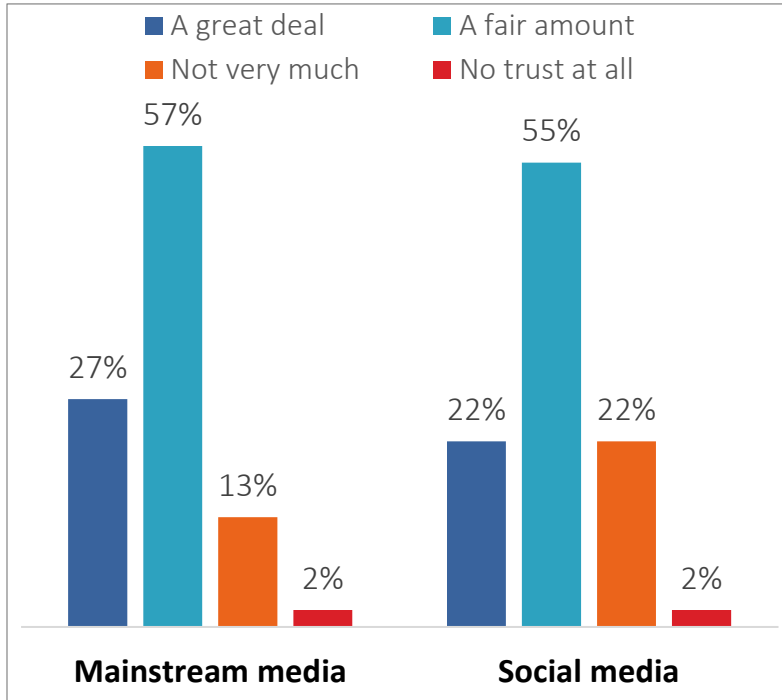
Social News Sources by Partisanship

[If news source = **social media**] What was your main source of news and information from mainstream media outlets?



Most Trust Their Own Sources for News

Thinking about your sources of news about the election from [mainstream/social] media, how much trust and confidence do you have that the information is full, fair, and accurate?

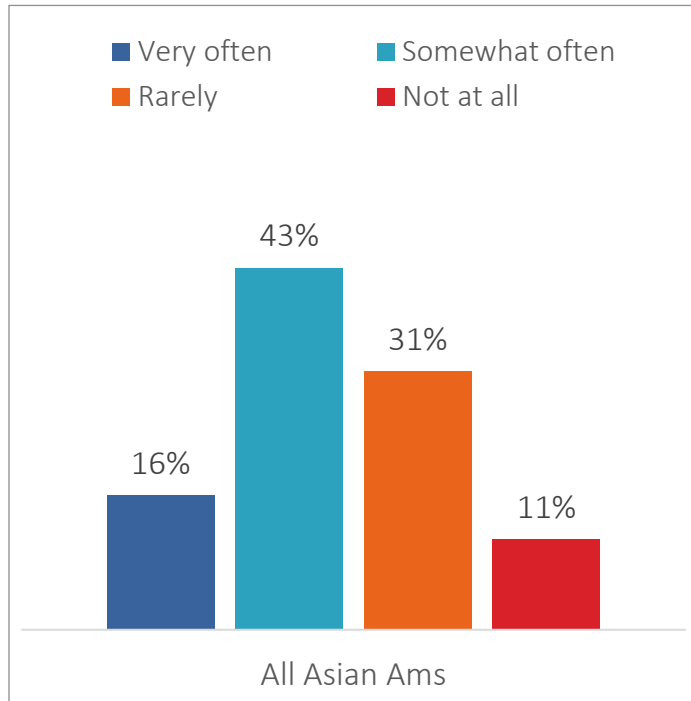


- A large majority of voters (84% and 77%) say they trust mainstream and social media either "a great deal" or "a fair amount." Roughly one-in-four trust their sources "a great deal."
- Democrats are more likely than Republicans to trust both mainstream media (89% to 72%) and social media (79% to 67%) a fair amount or more.
- Voters 60 years and older are more likely than 18 to 30 year olds to trust mainstream news "a great deal" (35% to 26%).*
- US-born voters are more likely than foreign-born to trust mainstream news "a great deal" (28% to 17%).

* 30-60 year olds are not significantly different from all voters and not shown
N= 1,497 +/-2.5% for mainstream media; N= 972 +/-3.1% for social media (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

But Voters Report Encountering Election Misinformation

Thinking about news and information you have seen about this year's elections, how often would you say that you encountered a story that you thought might have been made-up or that included misinformation?

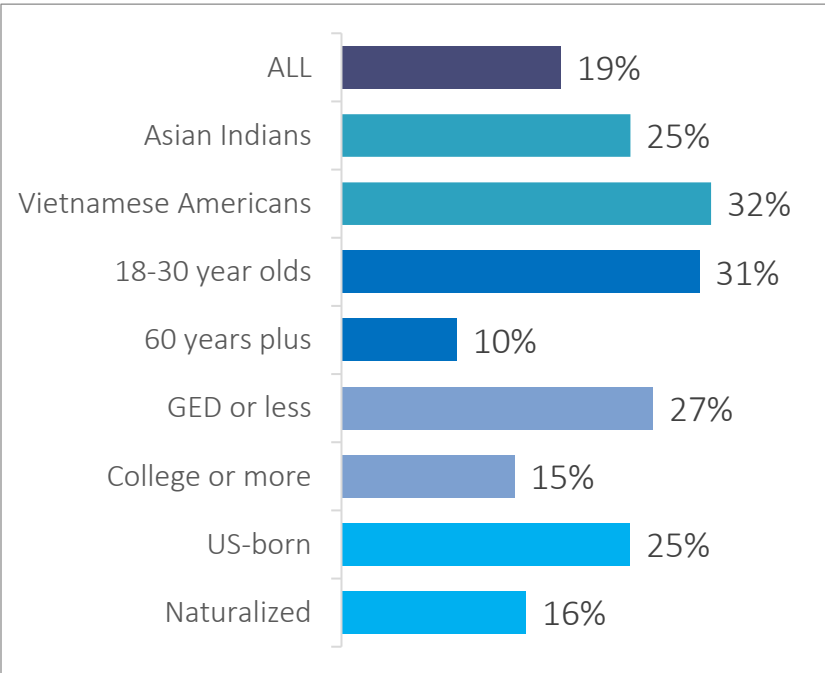


- 59% of voters reported encountering what they believed to be misinformation in election news coverage "very often" or "somewhat often."
- 18 to 30 year olds were likelier to report encountering what they believed to be misinformation somewhat or very often (75% combined) than those 60 years and older (42%).*
- US-born voters were also likelier to encounter made-up news than naturalized voters (66% to 54%).
- 64% Republicans and Independents and 54% of Democrats believed they encountered misinformation or a story that might have been made up.

* 30-60 year olds are not significantly different from all voters and not shown
N= 2,100, +/-2.1% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

Encountered Misinformation about Voting

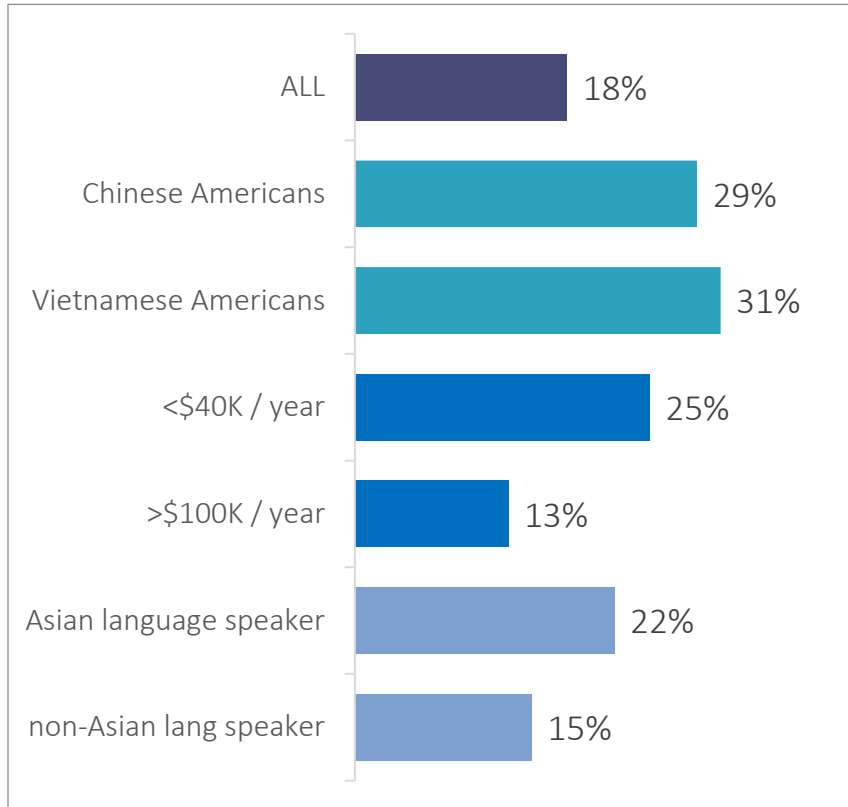
As best as you can recall, did you encounter any of the following in this election? ... Incorrect information about the voting process in this election. For instance, misinformation about voting dates and deadlines, voting locations, qualifications to vote, voting early or absentee, and so on? [% "YES"]



- 19% of voters encountered what they believed to be misinformation about details of voting itself.
- Asian Indians and Vietnamese Americans are more likely to encounter what they believed to be misinformation.
- Large age and education differences between the youngest and oldest age groups and low and high end of education attainment.*
- US-born voters are more likely than naturalized voters to encounter what they believed to be misinformation about voting.

* differences between high and low age and education ranges and all voters are not significant
N=2,100 +/-2.1% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

Encountered Misinformation in an Asian Language

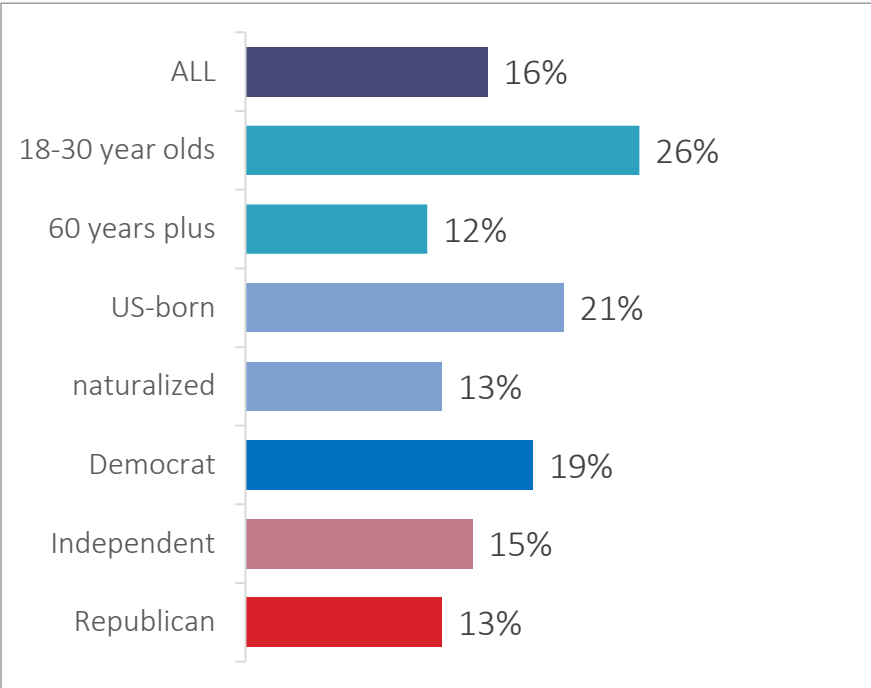


- Of voters who encountered what they believed to be misinformation, 18% said the story was in an Asian language.
- Chinese and Vietnamese Americans are more likely than other subgroups to encounter what they believed to be misinformation in an Asian language.
- Voters who earn less income are more likely than those who earn more income to encounter what they believed to be misinformation.
- Voters who speak an Asian language at home are also more likely than regular English speakers to encounter what they believed to be misinformation in an Asian language.

* differences between high and low income range and all voters are not significant
N=2,100 +/-2.1% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

Encountered Warnings about Election Day Violence

As best as you can recall, did you encounter any of the following in this election? ... Online stories or leaflets and flyers warning about the threat of riots or violence on Election Day? [% "YES"]



- 19% of voters saw stories warning about riots or violence on Election Day.
- Younger voters were likelier than older voters to encounter such warnings about Election Day than older voters.*
- US-born voters are more likely than naturalized voters to see such stories.
- Democrats were only slightly more likely to see warnings about Election Day riots or violence than Republicans.

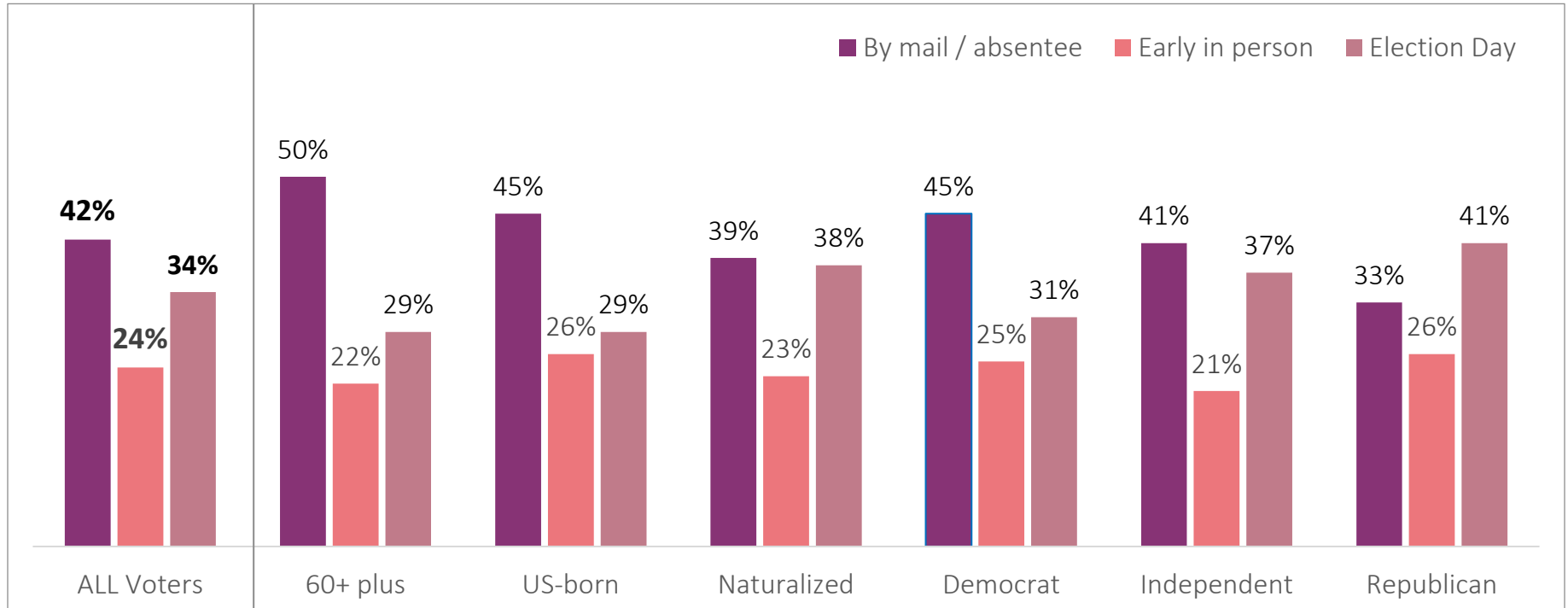
* differences between high and low age ranges and all voters are not significant
N=2,100 +/-2.1% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

HOW ASIAN AMERICANS VOTED



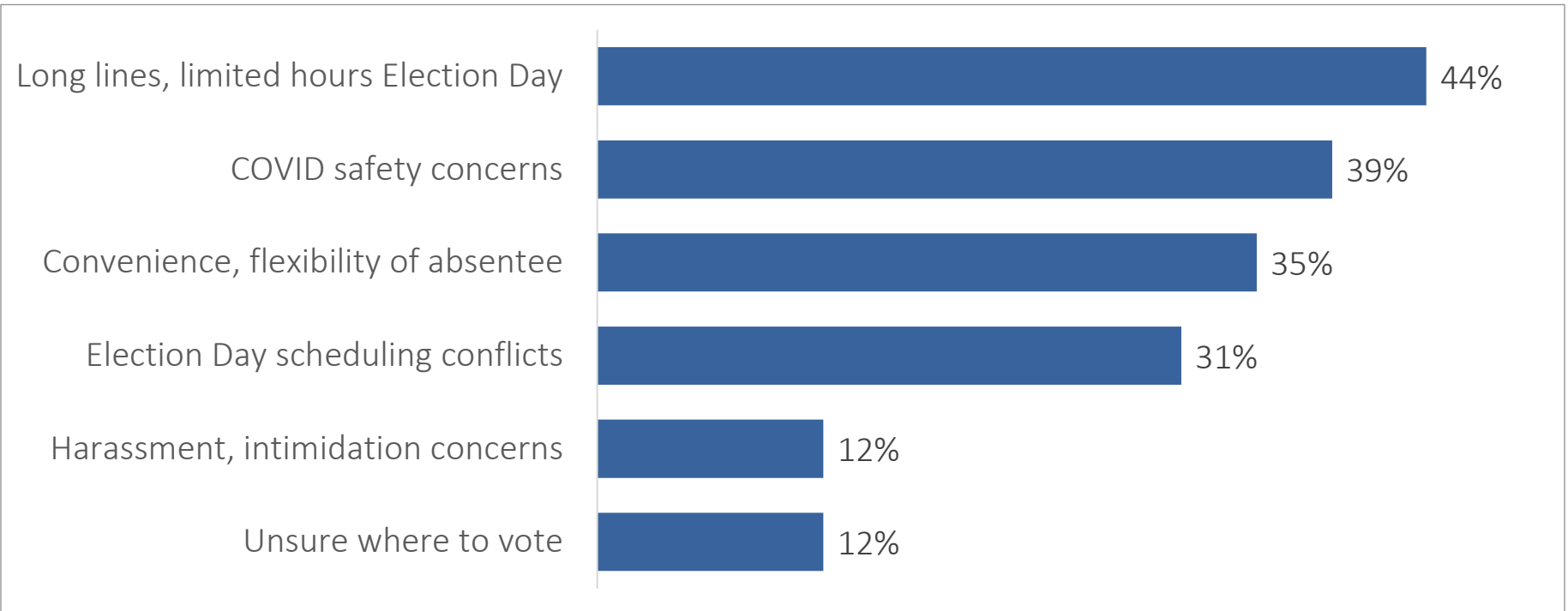
Two-in-Three Voted Early

[if **VOTED**] Many people vote early before election day, through an absentee ballot, a mail ballot, or at an early voting location. Others prefer voting in-person on Election Day. How about you? How did you vote in this last election?



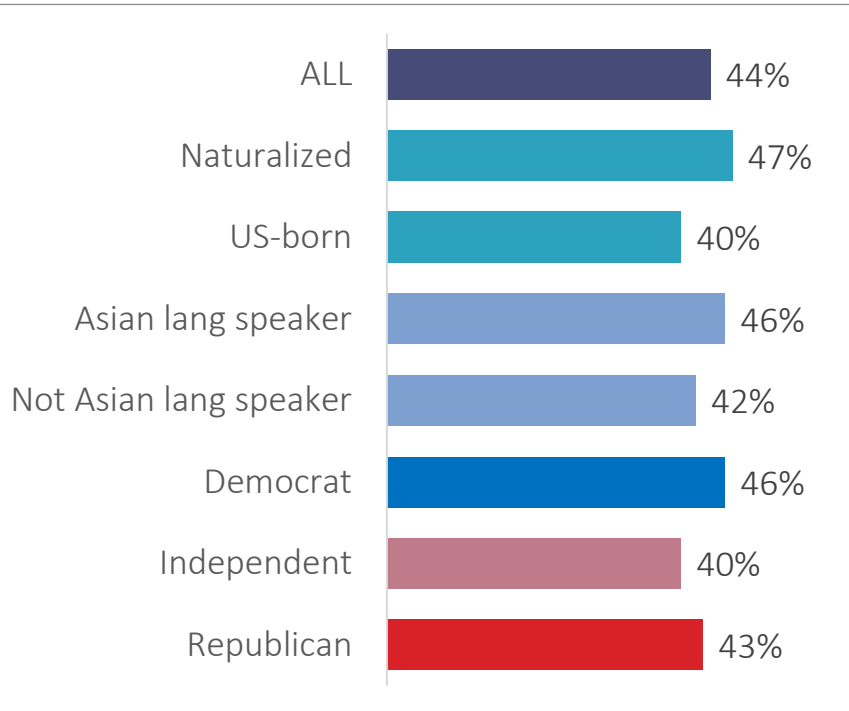
Top Reasons for Voting Early and Absentee

[If voted **EARLY** or **ABSENTEE**] There are many reasons why someone might choose to vote early or absentee rather than voting on Election Day. Which of the following are reasons why you chose to vote early and not on Election Day? **[ALL THAT APPLY]**



Voting Early / Absentee: Long Lines, Limited Hours

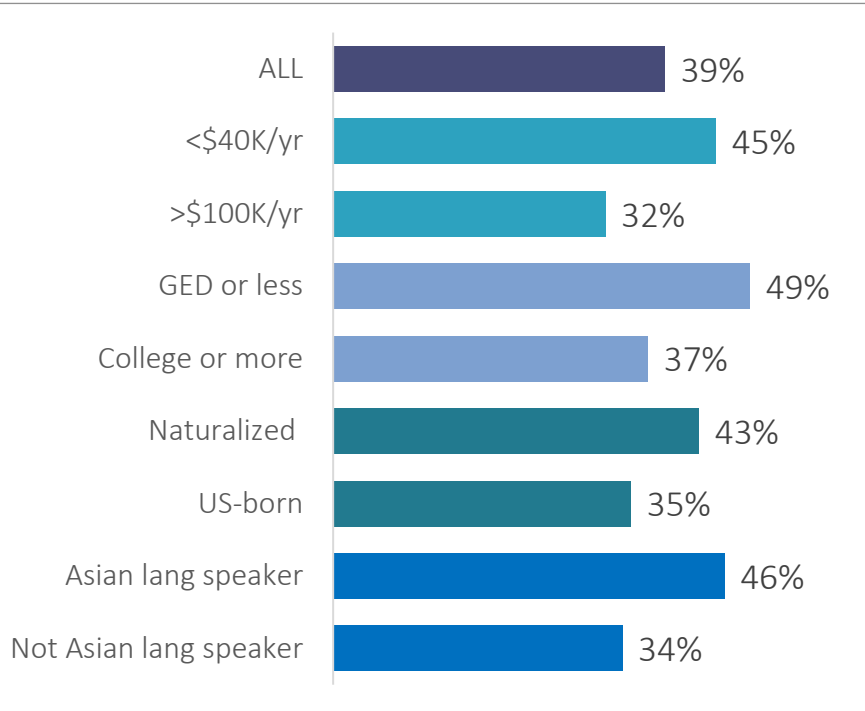
[If voted **EARLY** or **ABSENTEE**] Which of the following are reasons why you chose to vote early and not on Election Day? [% "LONG LINES, LIMITED HOURS ON ELECTION DAY"]



- Naturalized citizen voters were somewhat more likely to cite long lines and limited hours on Election Day as the reason why they voted early or absentee.
- Differences between voters who spoke an Asian language at home every day and those who did not were modest.
- Differences between Democrats, Independents, and Republicans were also modest.
- There were no statistically meaningful differences by age, education, and income.

Vote Early / Absentee: COVID Safety Concerns

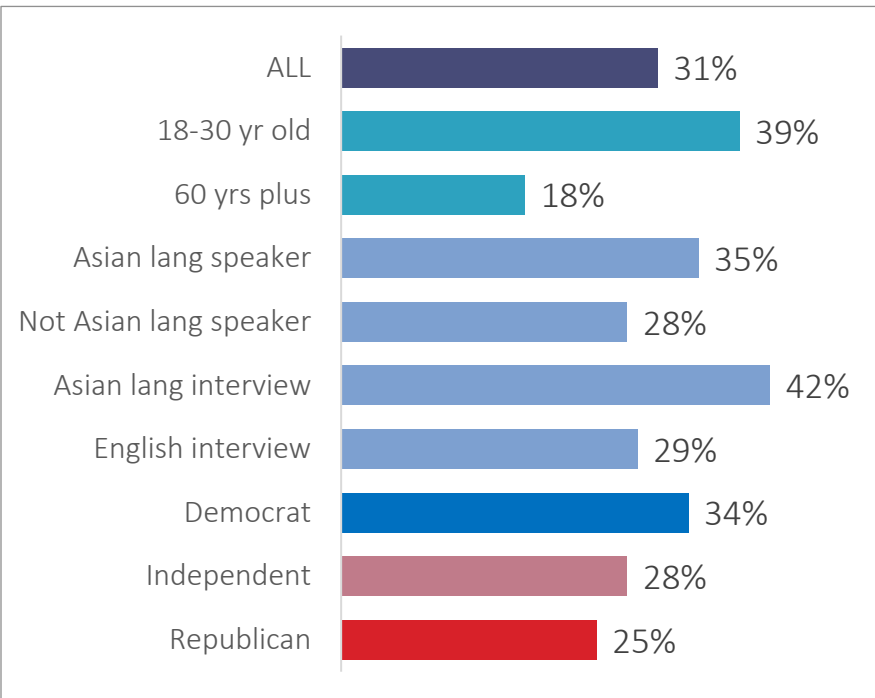
[If voted **EARLY** or **ABSENTEE**] Which of the following are reasons why you chose to vote early and not on Election Day? [% "CONCERN ABOUT COVID SAFETY"]



- Voters whose annual household income was less than \$40K a year and voters with a high school degree or less were more likely to be concerned about COVID safety than those making more than \$100K a year and those with a college degree or higher.
- Naturalized voters were more likely to cite COVID safety concerns than their US-born counterparts.
- Voters who primarily speak an Asian language at home also cited COVID more often than those who primarily spoke English.
- No partisan differences in citing COVID safety.

Vote Early / Absentee: Work, School, Caregiving Conflicts

[If voted **EARLY** or **ABSENTEE**] Which of the following are reasons why you chose to vote early and not on Election Day? [% "WORK, SCHOOL, CAREGIVING SCHEDULING CONFLICT"]

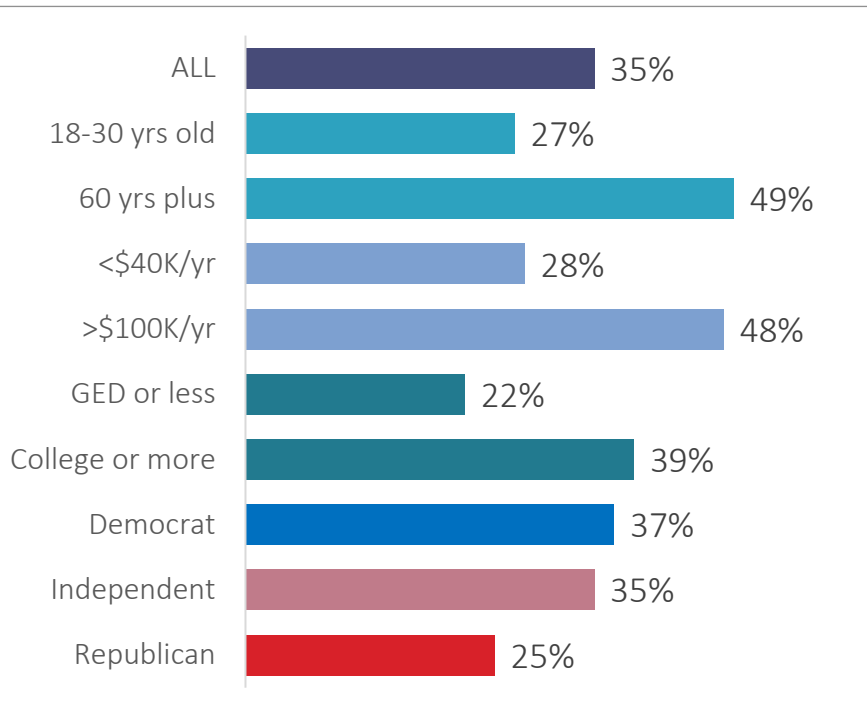


- Voters under 30 years old were much likelier than those over 60 to cite scheduling conflicts as a reason why they voted early.*
- Voters who primarily speak an Asian language at home or who chose to be interviewed in an Asian language were much likelier also to cite scheduling conflicts.
- Democrats were also likelier than Independents or Republicans to cite work, school, and caregiving scheduling conflicts as a reason why they voted early in 2022.

* differences between high and low age ranges and all voters are not notable
N=938 +/-3.2% (Nov 23 - Dec 16, 2022)

Vote Early / Absentee: Prefer Convenience, Flexibility

[If voted **EARLY** or **ABSENTEE**] Which of the following are reasons why you chose to vote early and not on Election Day? [% "PREFER CONVENIENCE AND FLEXIBILITY OF EARLY/ABSENTEE VOTING"]



- Voters aged 60 or older were much likelier than those under 30 to cite the convenience and flexibility of early / absentee voting.*
- Voters earning more than \$100K / year and voters with a college degree or higher were also likelier to cite convenience and flexibility than those earning less than \$40K / year and those with a high school degree or less.
- Republicans were less likely to cite convenience and flexibility than Democrats or Independents.

* differences between high and low age ranges and all voters are not significant
N=938 +/-3.2% (Nov 23 - Dec 16, 2022)

Summary: How Asian Americans Voted in 2022

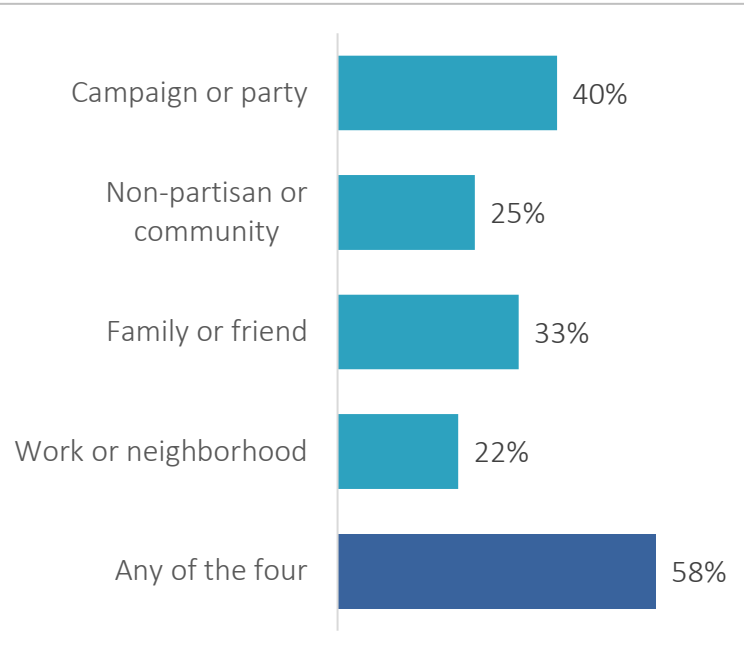
- Voters preferred to vote early, either absentee (42%) or early in-person voting (24%). One-in-three voted on Election Day voting (34%).
 - One-in-two Asian Americans aged 60 and older reported voting absentee.
 - Naturalized voters were more likely to vote on Election Day than US-born.
 - Democrats favor voting by mail (45%) and Republicans voting on Election Day (41%).
- Main reasons for voting early were: Concern about long lines and limited hours on Election Day; concern about COVID safety; the convenience and flexibility of voting early; and work, school, caregiving scheduling conflicts.
 - One-in-eight also mentioned concerns about harassment or intimidation at the polls and uncertainty about where to vote on Election Day.

HOW VOTERS WERE MOBILIZED



Sources of Voter Contact and Mobilization

[If **VOTED**] Thinking back on the 2022 election, did any of the following people or organizations contact you about registering to vote? Someone from a campaign or political party? ... from a non-partisan or community-based organization? ... in your family or a friend? ... from work or your neighborhood?

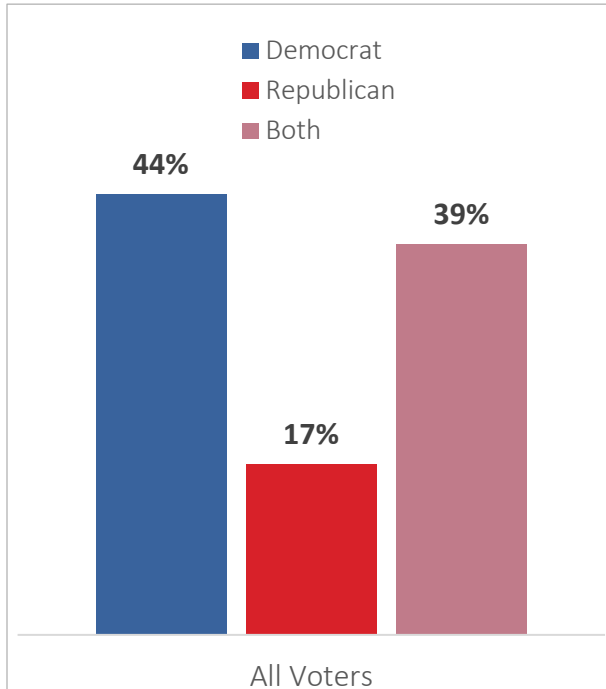


- Overall, 45% were contacted by a campaign or party or a non-partisan or community organization. If informal contact from friends and family, or at work in neighborhood are included, 58% were mobilized.
- Asian Indians were likeliest among ethnic subgroups while Japanese Americans were least likely (47% to 32%).
- 18 to 30 year olds were twice as likely as those 60 years and older to be contacted.*
- US-born were much likelier to be contacted by a campaign or party than their foreign-born counterparts (47% to 35%).

* differences between high and low age ranges and all voters are not significant
N= 2,100+/-2.1% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

Voter Mobilization by Party

[If contacted by political party or campaign] Was it from a candidate or campaign from the Democratic party, the Republican party, both parties, or some other party?



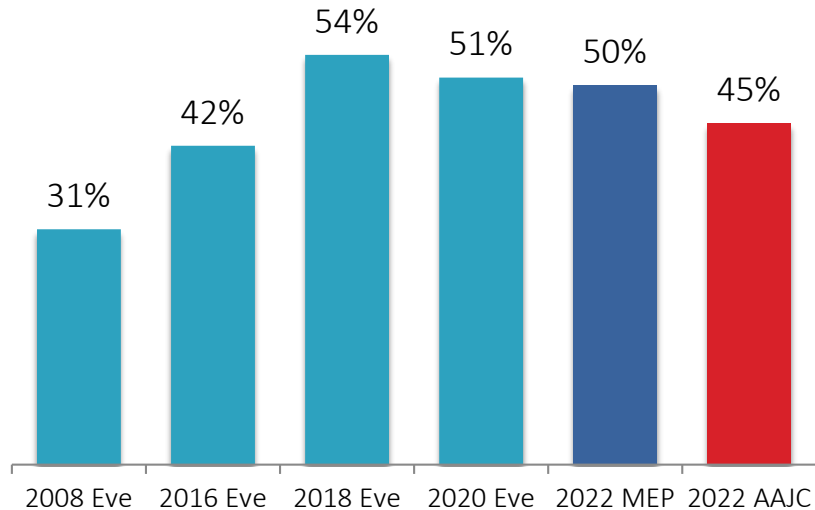
- Asian Americans were most likely to be mobilized by Democrats (44%), followed by contact from both parties (39%). Only one-in-six were only contacted by a Republican candidate or campaign.
- Foreign-born are likelier to be contacted by both parties than US-born Asian Americans.
- The majority of Democrats and Republicans were only contacted by a candidate or campaign from their party (60% and 52%, respectively).
- The majority of Independents and unaffiliated voters were contacted by both parties (56%).

Mobilization Compared to Other Surveys

N.B.: the AAJC poll asked about "registering to vote" only while other polls shown below asked about both registering to vote and voting.

Contacting AAPIs, 2008-2022

Other Polls Compared to the AAJC Poll

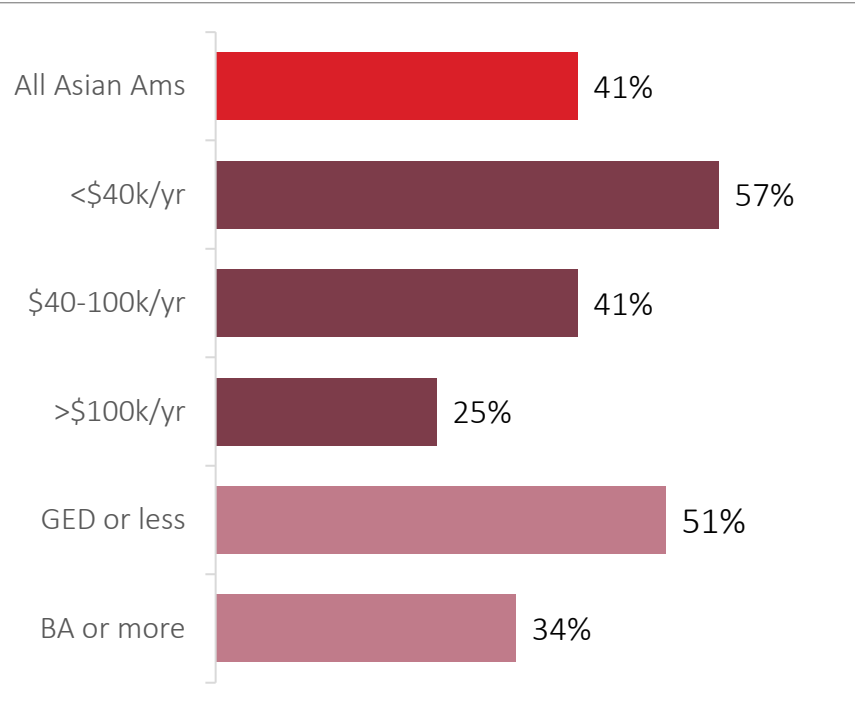


- Rates of contact from **parties and campaigns or non-partisan organizations** have increased since 2008.
- 2022 mobilization rates in the AAJC poll are likely lower than the 2022 Midterm Election Voter (MEP) poll due to the broader scope of mobilization in the MEP poll.
- In the 2022 MEP poll, African Americans and Latinos reported slightly higher rate of contact by a party or campaign than AAPIs (56% and 51%, respectively).

HOW VOTER ASSISTANCE WAS AVAILABLE AND USED

Language Assistance Use by Education and Income

[If **VOTED** and **IN-LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE** was **AVAILABLE**] Did you use that Asian in-language assistance? [% YES]

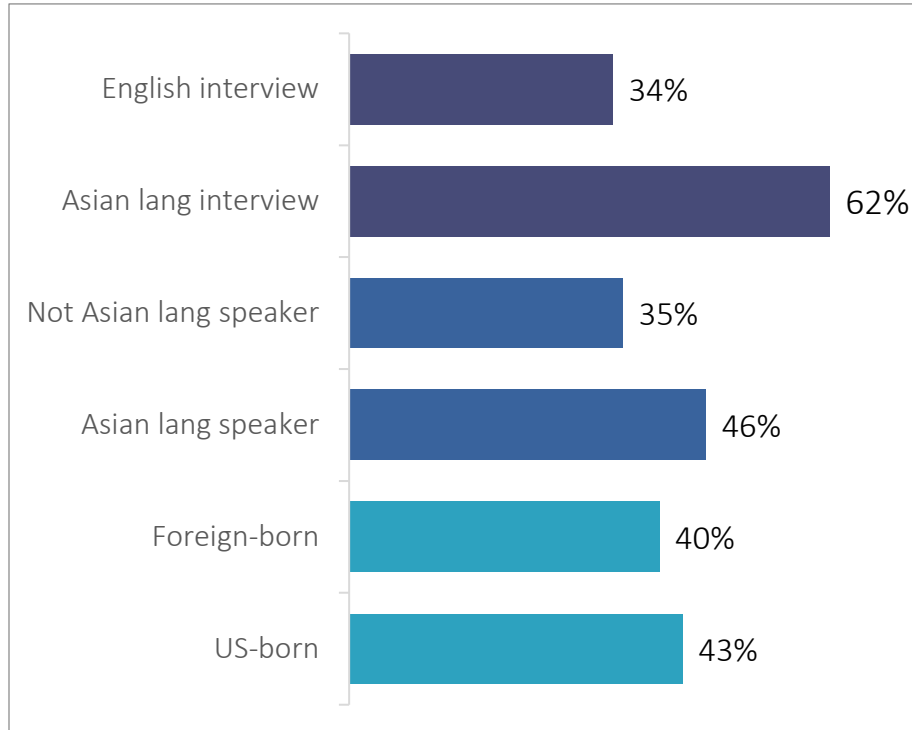


- Overall, of those Asian American voters in 2022 who reported that Asian in-language assistance was available to them, 41% used that assistance.
- Voters with a high school degree or less were likelier to use Asian in-language assistance if available than those with a college degree or more (51% to 34%).*
- Asian Americans who earned less than \$40,000 in annual household income were much likelier to use Asian in-language assistance if available than those earning more than \$100,000 (57% to 25%).*

* differences between high and low education ranges and income and all voters are not significant
N=1,019 +/-3% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

Language Assistance Use by Language and Nativity

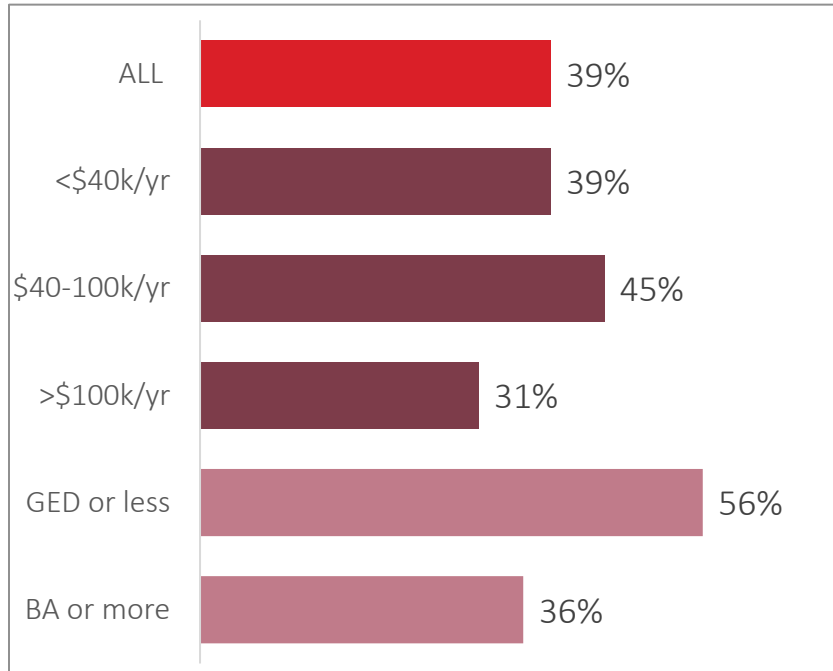
[If **VOTED** and **IN-LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE** was **AVAILABLE**] Did you use that Asian in-language assistance? [% YES]



- Voters who chose to be interviewed in an Asian language were much likelier to use in-language assistance if available to them than those interviewed in English (62% to 34%).
- Voters who primarily speak an Asian language at home were likelier to use in-language assistance if available to them than those who did not (46% to 35%).
- Voters born in the US are roughly equally likely to use Asian in-language assistance if available to them as naturalized citizens.

Benefits of In-Language Assistance if Made Available

[If **VOTED** and **IN-LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE** was **NOT AVAILABLE**] How helpful would Asian in-language assistance have been to help you vote in this year's elections? [% **SOMEWHAT** or **VERY HELPFUL**]

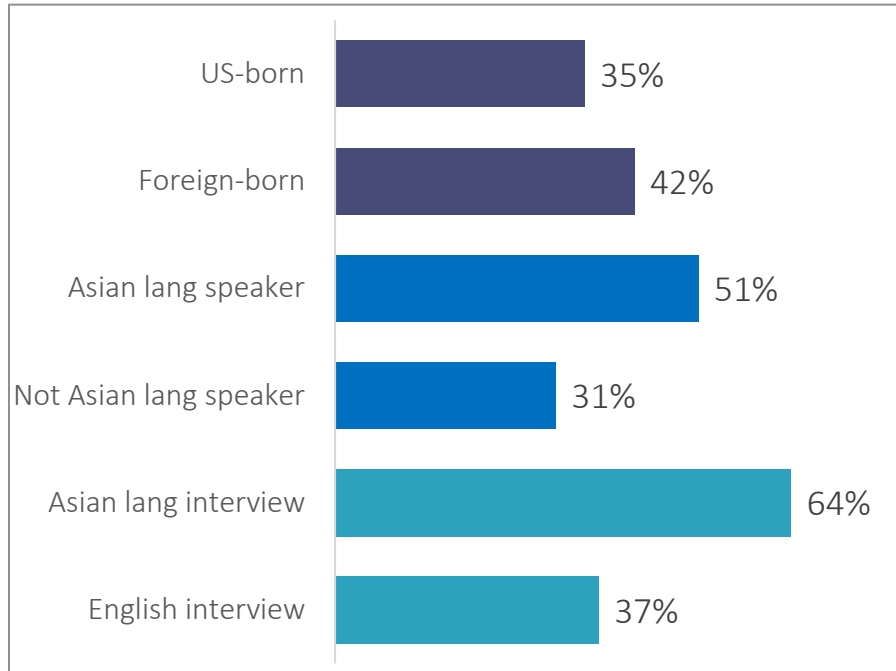


- Among voters for whom Asian in-language assistance was **not** available, 39% said such language assistance would have been "somewhat" or "very" helpful.
- 45% of those earning between \$40-100K in annual household income and only 31% of those earning more than \$100K said language assistance would be at least "somewhat" helpful.
- Those with a high school degree or less were much likelier than those with a college degree or higher to say language assistance would be at least "somewhat" helpful (56% to 36%).*

* differences between high and low education ranges are not significant
N=1,081 +/-3% (Nov 23-Dec 16, 2022)

Benefits of In-Language Assistance if Made Available

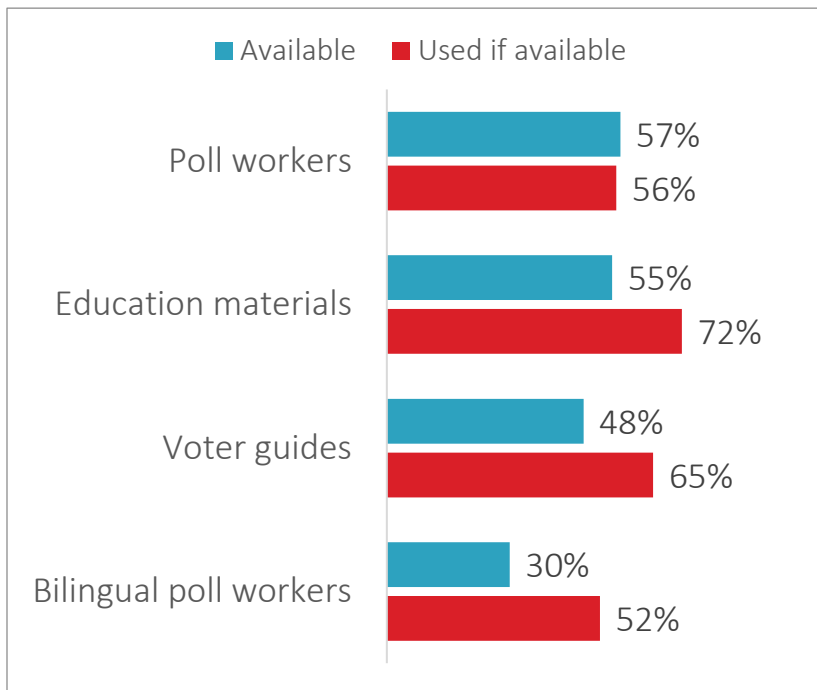
[If **VOTED** and **IN-LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE** was **NOT AVAILABLE**] How helpful would Asian in-language assistance have been to help you vote in this year's elections? [% **SOMEWHAT** or **VERY HELPFUL**]



- Naturalized voters were slightly likelier than US-born voters to say language assistance would have been helpful.
- A majority of those who spoke an Asian language at home every day said that language assistance would have been helpful.
- Voters who chose to be interviewed in an Asian language were much likelier to say assistance would have been helpful than those interviewed in English.

Availability of Other Voter Assistance

[if **VOTED**] "Were any of the following forms of voter assistance available to you when you voted?" / [if **ASSISTANCE WAS AVAILABLE**] "Did you use the available assistance?"



- More than half of voters reported that poll workers and education materials were available to them; nearly half said voter guides were available.
- Less than one-in-three (30%) reported that bilingual poll workers were available when they voted.
 - Even among those who spoke an Asian language at home every day, only 35% said that bilingual poll workers were available.
- Across the board, a majority of voters reported using voter assistance if available. Education materials and voter guides were especially likely to be used.