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ESTIMATES OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF VOTING AGE, FOR STATES: NOVEMBER 1958

About 104.6 million civilians will be old enough to vote in the general election on November 4, 1958, according to estimates by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. The total includes the civilian population 21 years old and over for all States and the civilian population 18 to 20 years old for Georgia and Kentucky, where persons as young as 18 years are permitted by law to vote. It does not include members of the Armed Forces of voting age, who number approximately 1.9 million.

Women of voting age, estimated at 54.7 million for 1958, outnumber men by about 4.8 million. If members of the Armed Forces of voting age were included, this difference would be only about three-fifths as large.

The number of civilians who will be old enough to vote for the first time in a general election this November amounts to about 4.0 million--1.8 million men and 2.2 million women.

In November 1956, about 102.7 million civilians were of voting age. The increase in this group between 1956 and 1958 is estimated at about 1.9 million, including about 0.8 million men and 1.1 million women.

The total vote cast for United States Representatives in the 1954 "off year" election was 42.6 million, or 42.5 percent of the total of 100.2 million civilians of voting age. The vote cast for United States Representa-

tives in the presidential election year of 1956 was 58.9 million, or 57.3 percent of the total of 102.7 million civilians of voting age.

The proportion of the civilian population of voting age represented by the total vote cast for United States Representatives in non-presidential election years in the last two decades has ranged from a low of 33.9 percent in 1942 to a high of 44.1 percent in 1938. The proportion represented by the total vote cast for United States Representatives in presidential election years in the same period has ranged from a low of 48.6 percent in 1948 to a high of 58.7 percent in 1952. (See table 1.)

According to the estimates, among the four major regions the North Central States have the largest voting potential, with an estimated civilian population of voting age numbering 31,095,000. Not far behind is the South, with an estimated 30,931,000 civilians of voting age. For the Northeast, the estimate is 27,525,000, and for the West it is 15,031,000.

The civilian population of voting age includes a great many persons who, although old enough to vote, cannot do so because they have not satisfied State requirements as to citizenship, residence, registration, or payment of poll taxes. It is estimated that there are about 2½ million aliens of voting age in the United States. Among the citizens of voting age, there are some persons who are not

permitted to vote because they are confined in penal institutions or are inmates of mental hospitals and kindred institutions. In all these cases, eligibility to vote is determined

by State laws, which vary in many respects. Furthermore, there are a substantial number of persons in the District of Columbia who lack voting residence in any State.

Table 1.--CIVILIAN POPULATION OF VOTING AGE, 1938 TO 1958, AND VOTES CAST FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS AND UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES, 1938 TO 1956

| Year (November) | Civilian population of voting age ¹ | Vote cast for presidential electors ² | | Vote cast for United States Representatives ² | |
|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | Number | Percent of civilian population of voting age | Number | Percent of civilian population of voting age |
| 1958..... | 104,582,000 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1956..... | 102,726,000 | 62,027,000 | 60.4 | 58,886,000 | 57.3 |
| 1954..... | 100,223,000 | ... | ... | 42,580,000 | 42.5 |
| 1952..... | 98,133,000 | 61,552,000 | 62.7 | 57,571,000 | 58.7 |
| 1950..... | 97,023,000 | ... | ... | 40,430,000 | 41.7 |
| 1948..... | 94,877,000 | 48,834,000 | 51.5 | 46,142,000 | 48.6 |
| 1946..... | 92,018,000 | ... | ... | 34,398,000 | 37.4 |
| 1944..... | ³ 90,599,000 | ⁴ 47,976,000 | 53.0 | 45,103,000 | 49.8 |
| 1942..... | 82,851,000 | ... | ... | 28,074,000 | 33.9 |
| 1940..... | 84,319,000 | 49,820,000 | 59.1 | 46,951,000 | 55.7 |
| 1938..... | 82,225,000 | ... | ... | 36,236,000 | 44.1 |

¹ Population 21 years old and over plus population 18 to 20 years in Georgia for 1944 to date and Kentucky for 1956 to date.

² A small part of the vote was cast by persons in the Armed Forces. See U. S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1958, tables 435, 436, 440, and 441.

³ Total population including Armed Forces overseas. Civilian population was 81,024,000.

⁴ Vote cast by civilians was 45,285,000. See U. S. Bureau of the Census, Election: 1944, Nos. 3 and 5.

METHODOLOGY

The estimates of the civilian population of voting age for the United States as a whole are based on data from the Censuses of 1950 and earlier years; vital statistics provided by the National Office of Vital Statistics, United States Public Health Service; statistics on immigration and emigration provided by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice; and figures relating to the Armed Forces provided by the Department of Defense.

The State estimates of the civilian population 21 years old and over (Georgia and Kentucky, 18 and over) for November 1958 are based on statistics for the corresponding younger age group in April 1950, adjusted for deaths, net movement of civilians into the Armed Forces, and net civilian migration between April 1950 and November 1958.

The estimates of deaths since 1950 in the age group 21 years old and over (in November 1958) are based on statistics of resident

deaths by age for 1950 to 1956, provisional statistics on total resident deaths for 1957 and 1958, and estimates of deaths of persons in the Armed Forces stationed in each State. The estimated net movement of civilians into the Armed Forces for each State was obtained as the difference between the estimated number of persons 21 years old and over in the Armed Forces in November 1958 and the number at the corresponding younger ages in the Armed Forces in April 1950, adjusted for deaths of persons in this group while serving in the Armed Forces.

The estimates of civilian migration since 1950 in the age group 21 years old and over (in November 1958), by States, are based on estimated rates of net migration for the total population of each State for 1957 (to be published in No. 186 of this series). It was assumed in making the estimates that the rate of net migration for the population 21 years old and over was about 4 percent below that for the population of all ages. This percentage was obtained by analysis of data on annual interstate migration by age for the United States as a whole for the years since the last

census, obtained in the Current Population Survey, the Bureau's continuing national sample survey of population. The assumption made may not apply very well to some States. Hence, the State figures on net migration may vary considerably in accuracy.

The present estimates had to be extended over a current period for which no data are yet available, but they are in line with the estimates of total population for States for 1957 to be published in report No. 186 of Series P-25.

Table 2.--ESTIMATES OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF VOTING AGE FOR STATES, 1958, AND PERCENT CASTING VOTES FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES, 1954

(Each estimate has been independently rounded to the nearest thousand from figures computed to the last digit; hence, the sums of parts shown may differ slightly from the totals shown)

| Region, division, and State | Civilian population of voting age | | Region, division, and State | Civilian population of voting age | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Number, November 1, 1958 ¹ | Percent casting votes for U. S. Representatives, 1954 ² | | Number, November 1, 1958 ¹ | Percent casting votes for U. S. Representatives, 1954 ² |
| United States..... | 104,582,000 | 42.5 | WEST NORTH CENTRAL: | | |
| REGIONS: | | | Minnesota..... | 2,018,000 | 58.9 |
| Northeast..... | 27,525,000 | 51.1 | Iowa..... | 1,730,000 | 49.0 |
| North Central..... | 31,095,000 | 50.7 | Missouri..... | 2,670,000 | 44.3 |
| South..... | 30,931,000 | 21.7 | North Dakota..... | 373,000 | 51.4 |
| West..... | 15,031,000 | 50.9 | South Dakota..... | 401,000 | 59.4 |
| NORTHEAST: | | | Nebraska..... | 894,000 | 47.9 |
| New England..... | 6,253,000 | 56.5 | Kansas..... | 1,263,000 | 49.1 |
| Middle Atlantic..... | 21,272,000 | 49.4 | SOUTH ATLANTIC: | | |
| MIDDLE ATLANTIC: | | | Delaware..... | 271,000 | 63.0 |
| East North Central..... | 21,746,000 | 51.0 | Maryland..... | 1,741,000 | 40.3 |
| West North Central..... | 9,349,000 | 50.2 | District of Columbia..... | 520,000 | ... |
| SOUTH: | | | Virginia..... | 2,186,000 | 17.0 |
| South Atlantic..... | 14,622,000 | 24.0 | West Virginia..... | 1,163,000 | 52.2 |
| East South Central..... | 6,901,000 | 21.2 | North Carolina..... | 2,517,000 | 25.8 |
| West South Central..... | 9,408,000 | 18.6 | South Carolina..... | 1,257,000 | 18.2 |
| WEST: | | | Georgia..... | 2,242,000 | 16.4 |
| Mountain..... | 3,589,000 | 55.4 | Florida..... | 2,725,000 | 14.7 |
| Pacific..... | 11,442,000 | 49.6 | EAST SOUTH CENTRAL: | | |
| NEW ENGLAND: | | | Kentucky..... | 1,883,000 | 39.5 |
| Maine..... | 567,000 | 42.7 | Tennessee..... | 2,038,000 | 17.5 |
| New Hampshire..... | 361,000 | 54.9 | Alabama..... | 1,800,000 | 16.2 |
| Vermont..... | 221,000 | 48.4 | Mississippi..... | 1,181,000 | 8.5 |
| Massachusetts..... | 3,099,000 | 55.4 | WEST SOUTH CENTRAL: | | |
| Rhode Island..... | 542,000 | 61.8 | Arkansas..... | 1,021,000 | 26.8 |
| Connecticut..... | 1,464,000 | 63.9 | Louisiana..... | 1,707,000 | 13.1 |
| MIDDLE ATLANTIC: | | | Oklahoma..... | 1,382,000 | 41.6 |
| New York..... | 10,584,000 | 46.7 | Texas..... | 5,298,000 | 12.6 |
| New Jersey..... | 3,660,000 | 51.2 | MOUNTAIN: | | |
| Pennsylvania..... | 7,028,000 | 52.8 | Montana..... | 399,000 | 59.7 |
| EAST NORTH CENTRAL: | | | Idaho..... | 376,000 | 65.1 |
| Ohio..... | 5,693,000 | 45.1 | Wyoming..... | 183,000 | 62.8 |
| Indiana..... | 2,766,000 | 59.7 | Colorado..... | 997,000 | 54.9 |
| Illinois..... | 6,238,000 | 54.1 | New Mexico..... | 414,000 | 48.8 |
| Michigan..... | 4,662,000 | 49.0 | Arizona..... | 607,000 | 42.4 |
| Wisconsin..... | 2,387,000 | 50.9 | Utah..... | 458,000 | 62.7 |
| | | | Nevada..... | 154,000 | 59.6 |
| | | | PACIFIC: | | |
| | | | Washington..... | 1,642,000 | 52.6 |
| | | | Oregon..... | 1,084,000 | 53.5 |
| | | | California..... | 8,716,000 | 48.5 |

¹ The population figures for all States except Georgia and Kentucky relate to civilians 21 years old and over. For Georgia and Kentucky the figures are for the civilian population 18 years old and over.

² Based on votes cast as shown in Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1958, table 441, p. 352, and on a partial revision of the estimates of the population of voting age in November 1954 shown in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 100.

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