

Reproductive Justice is a Top Priority for AAPI 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 AAPI women voters.

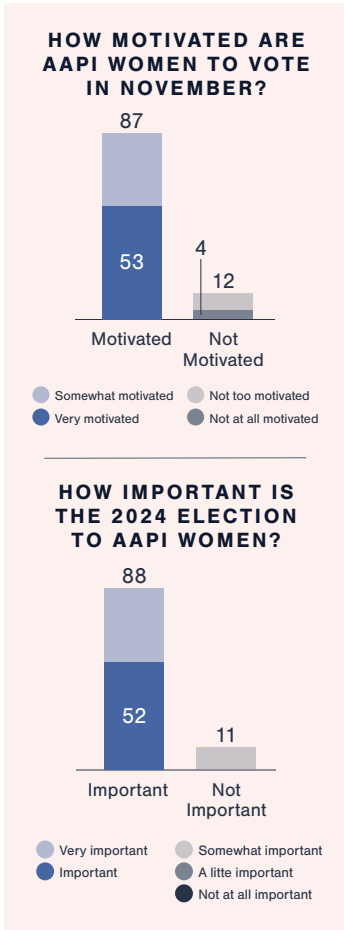
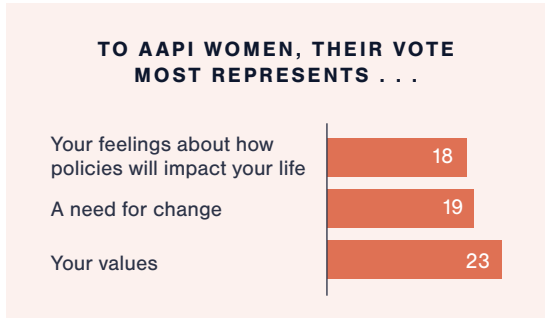
OVERVIEW

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: 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 AAPI women.

THE INSIGHTS

AAPI women are a crucial voting bloc in the 2024 elections and **87%** are somewhat or very motivated to vote. **62%** of AAPI women see voting as extremely important. However, only **52%** see voting as extremely effective in creating the change they want to see. This finding speaks to the disillusionment AAPI women feel from not seeing their experiences and priorities addressed in politics or policy.

For AAPI women, their votes mainly represent their values, a need for change, and feelings about how policies will impact your life.

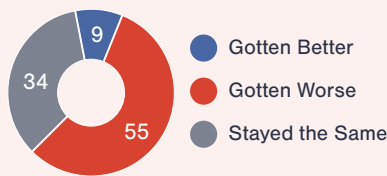


WHAT IS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE?

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 AAPI community is not a monolith and consists of various ethnic backgrounds and lived experiences. This poll accounted for these variations and includes findings on the following ethnic communities: Chinese, Filipina, Indian, Korean, and Vietnamese.

AAPI WOMEN THINK THINGS IN THE COUNTRY OVER THE PAST YEAR HAVE . . .



Among economic issue priorities, AAPI women believe that securing good-paying jobs, access to affordable healthcare and housing, creating more affordable housing options, and guaranteed paid family and medical leave are most important for Congress to address. Maternal mortality among women of color and access to medication abortion are the highest priorities when it comes to reproductive health, with **79%** and **78%** of AAPI women saying it is extremely or very important respectively. **75%** of AAPI women rate abortion access and **77%** rate access to birth control as extremely or very important.

Those who are very motivated to vote are driven primarily by their concerns about national and social issues (**30%** say this makes them feel very motivated to vote). Additionally, a majority (**55%**) of AAPI women say that things have gotten worse in the country.

Rising costs are the major issue that will determine AAPI women's votes this year. Women's rights and rising costs is top for Indian women but women's right and threats to democracy are top for Korean women. Women's rights are the second-most motivating issue for AAPI women overall, and the most motivating when combined with abortion.

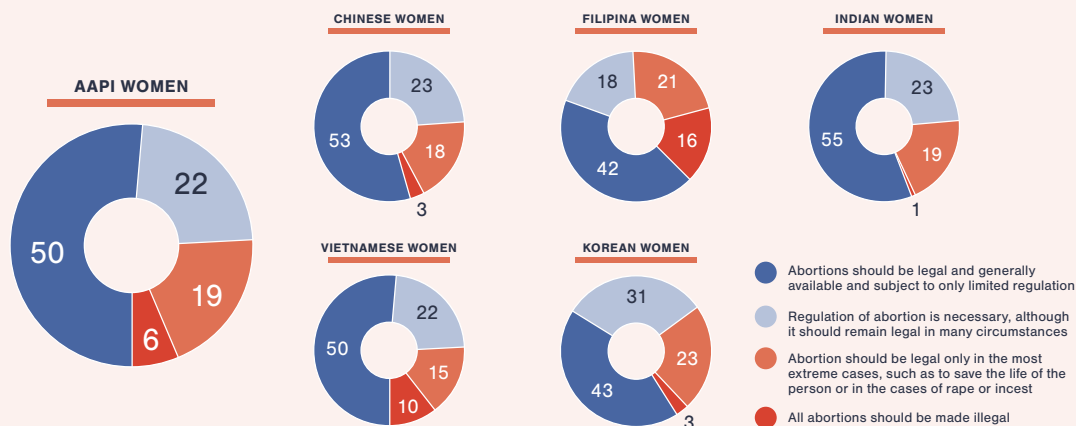
MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES THAT WILL DETERMINE AAPI WOMEN'S VOTES IN THIS YEARS ELECTIONS ARE . . .

Issue	AAPI WOMEN				
	Chinese	Filipina	Indian	Vietnamese	Korean
Rising costs & prices	31	44	24	30	22
Women's Rights	23	12	22	19	28
Threats to democracy	15	15	18	19	24
Abortion	19	10	18	16	15
Affordable housing	15	14	19	15	21
Immigration	13	22	13	15	9
Health care & prescription drugs	14	22	10	11	10
Crime	15	12	4	10	15

The main Congressional policy priorities for AAPI women include safety concerns like criminal justice reform, and gun violence prevention, as well as economic concerns like creating good-paying jobs and access to affordable health care and housing.

Overall, **72%** of AAPI women strongly support abortion rights. While there is some variation in views on abortion across ethnicities, the majority believe that abortions should remain legal in many or all circumstances.

AAPI WOMEN STRONGLY SUPPORT ABORTION RIGHTS



Notably, when asked about values on abortion, AAPI women speak to their individual decision-making, the importance of a safe, affordable, and judgment- and punishment-free abortion, and the power to control their own bodies and lives.

84% of AAPI women say that racism has gone on for too long in America and we need leaders who will address it. **83%** of AAPI women think it is important for Congress to address racial/ethnic discrimination and anti-AAPI, hate-related violence. **54%** of AAPI women feel that they do not see people like them fighting for the issues they care about.

THE TAKEAWAYS

- AAPI women found every issue tested – ranging from economic security issues to safety issues and discrimination issues to reproductive health care issues – important for politicians to address and advance in the next two years. AAPI women require a broad agenda that recognizes their lived experiences and priorities.
- Like fellow women of color, AAPI women see elections as important and are highly motivated by economic and reproductive issues in their votes.
- More than any other group, AAPI women are motivated by their values when it comes to voting.
- Rising costs and prices (33%) are the most important voting issue for AAPI women overall and for most ethnic groups, followed by women's rights (23%). In the next tier are threats to democracy (16%), abortion (15%), affordable housing (14%), and immigration (14%).
- For economic issues, AAPI women found it most important for Congress to create good-paying jobs (89% extremely/very important), ensure everyone has access to affordable healthcare (85%), pass a program that guarantees paid family and medical leave (85%), and create more affordable housing options (82%).
- For reproductive health and abortion issues, AAPI women found it most important for Congress to address the high rates of maternal death among women of color (79% extremely/very important), ensure that medication abortion is available to all women no matter where they live (78%), and ensure access to birth control (77%).
- For racial justice issues, AAPI women found it most important for Congress to end discrimination against people because of their race, ethnicity, or culture (83% extremely/very important), address anti-AAPI, hate-related violence (83%), and stop making it harder for certain groups to vote (79%).
- At the intersection of healthcare and immigration issues, AAPI women found it important for Congress to guarantee access to healthcare for people regardless of their immigration status (74% extremely/very important).
- AAPI women plan to vote in person, either on Election Day (34%) or early (28%).
- Among AAPI women who are very motivated to vote, concerns about national and social issues (30%), making their voices heard (19%), and changing the direction of the country (17%) are the most motivating factors.
- Among AAPI women who are less motivated to vote, their main reported reasons are that they believe the system is corrupt and rigged (30%) or they dislike the candidates (29%).
- Only about a third (33%) of AAPI women answered that they are likely to vote for a third-party candidate (compared to 24% of Black women and 31% of Latina women).
- Cable news channels like CNN or MSNBC (32%) and local TV news outlets (31%) are the top media sources for news or political information for AAPI women. About 1 in 20 AAPI women (5%) frequently turn to in-language community newspapers for information.



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.