

**National Gay and Lesbian
Task Force**



Policy Institute
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**SOME KEY SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LESBIAN, GAY
AND BISEXUAL VOTERS AND ALL VOTERS IN 2004**

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<u>ITEM</u>	<u>LGB VOTERS</u>	<u>ALL OTHER VOTERS</u>
<u>Age</u>		
18-29	28%	17%
30-44	34	29
45-59	21	30
60 or over	17	24

(Note that lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) voters remain significantly younger than the electorate at large. It is likely that LGB voters remain undercounted in surveys. Exit polls ask about sexual orientation but not gender identity.)

Attend religious services

More than once a week	15%	16%
Once a week	15	26
A few times a month	13	13
A few times a year	29	28
Never	29	15

(Note that LGB are as likely to attend services *more* than once a week and almost twice as likely *never* to attend services.)

Which characterizes your feelings toward the Bush administration?

Angry	46%	22%
Enthusiastic	9	23

(Other categories omitted.)

Who would you trust to handle the economy?

Bush/neither	21%	55%
Kerry/neither	68	49

Do you have any children under 18 living in your household?

Yes	26%	36%
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How confident are you that votes in your state will be counted accurately?

Very	38%	51%
Not very	19	7
(Other categories omitted.)		
	<u>LGB</u>	<u>OTHER</u>

Is your opinion of George W. Bush:

Favorable	23%	54%
Unfavorable	71	45

Is your opinion of John Kerry:

Favorable	74%	46%
Unfavorable	25	52

Which comes closest to your view of gay and lesbian couples?

They should be allowed to legally marry:	51%	25%
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They should be allowed to legally form civil unions, but (they should not get married):	31%	35%
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There should be no legal recognition of their relationships:	17%	38%
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Did anyone call you or talk to you in person on behalf of either major presidential campaign about coming out to vote?

Yes, for Kerry	15%	11%
Yes, for Bush	8	10
Yes, for both	14	13
No	62	65

Do you or does someone in your home own a gun?

Yes	46%	42%
No	54	58



	<u>LGB VOTERS</u>	<u>ALL OTHER VOTERS</u>
<u>2003 total family income</u>		
Under \$15,000	12%	9%
\$15,000 - \$29,999	16	14
\$30,000 - 49,999	23	22
\$50,000 - 74,999	16	23
\$75,000 - 99,999	13	14
\$100,000 - \$149,999	9	11
\$150,000 - \$199,999	5	4
\$200,000 or more	5	4

Do you think the war with Iraq has improved the long-term security of the United States?

Yes	25%	47%
No	72	51

Compared to four years ago, is the job situation in your area:

Better today	10%	24%
Worse today	60	42
About the same	30	34

Have you or someone in your household lost a job in the last four years?

Yes, I have	19%	14%
Yes, someone else has	27	15
Yes, I have and someone else has	3	3
No one has	51	68

Almost half of LGB voters live in a household where someone has lost a job in the last four years; almost a third of all others do.

Married with children

Yes	13%	28%
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<u>Women with children</u>	14%	20%
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(The preceding two questions refer to children under 18 in the home.)

Currently married

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Yes 30% 64%

	LGB	Other
<u>State of the national economy</u>		
Excellent/good	27%	48%
Not so good/poor	66	51

Do you think of yourself as a:

Democrat	54%	36%
Republican	18	38
Independent	20	23
Something else	8	4

On most political matters, do you consider yourself:

Liberal	47%	20%
Moderate	32	46
Conservative	21	33

In today's election for President, did you vote for:

John Kerry	77%	46%
George W. Bush	23	53
Other	0	1

Are you:

White	80%	80%
Black	14	11
Hispanic/Latino	6	6
Asian	1	2
Other	2	2

National Region

East	19%	22%
Midwest	20	25
South	35	32

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West 26 21

These data indicate a shift away from the East and a surprisingly high percentage in the South.

	<u>LGB VOTERS</u>	<u>ALL OTHER VOTERS</u>
<u>Religion (combining Protestant and other Christian)</u>		
Protestant/Other Christian	49%	54%
Catholic	23	27
Jewish	4	3
Something else	9	6
None	14	10

Are you:

Male	47%	45%
Female	53	55

Population of area:

Over 500,000	15%	11%
50 to 500,000	18	19
Suburbs	45	45
Small City and Rural	22	25

These statistics show a sample of LGB voters more suburban and more rural than previous samples of LGB people.

Do you think that things in this country are:

Generally going in the right direction	26%	51%
Wrong direction	68	45
Omit	7	3

Union Household?

Yes	36%	24%
No	64	76

Did you vote in the presidential election in 2000?

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No, did not vote	17%	17%
Yes, for Al Gore	58	36
Yes, for George W. Bush	25	44

(Note that people generally over-report having voted for the winner.)

	LGB	Other
Married women	25%	37%

A caution on sample size: in a sample of 126, the margin error (2 standard deviations) is 9% for items that are around 50%. It is 5% for items around 10%.

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