



California Senate Committee on Elections Informational Hearing

Ensuring Every Vote Counts: California's Signature Curing Process

March 18, 2025

Mindy Romero, Ph.D.

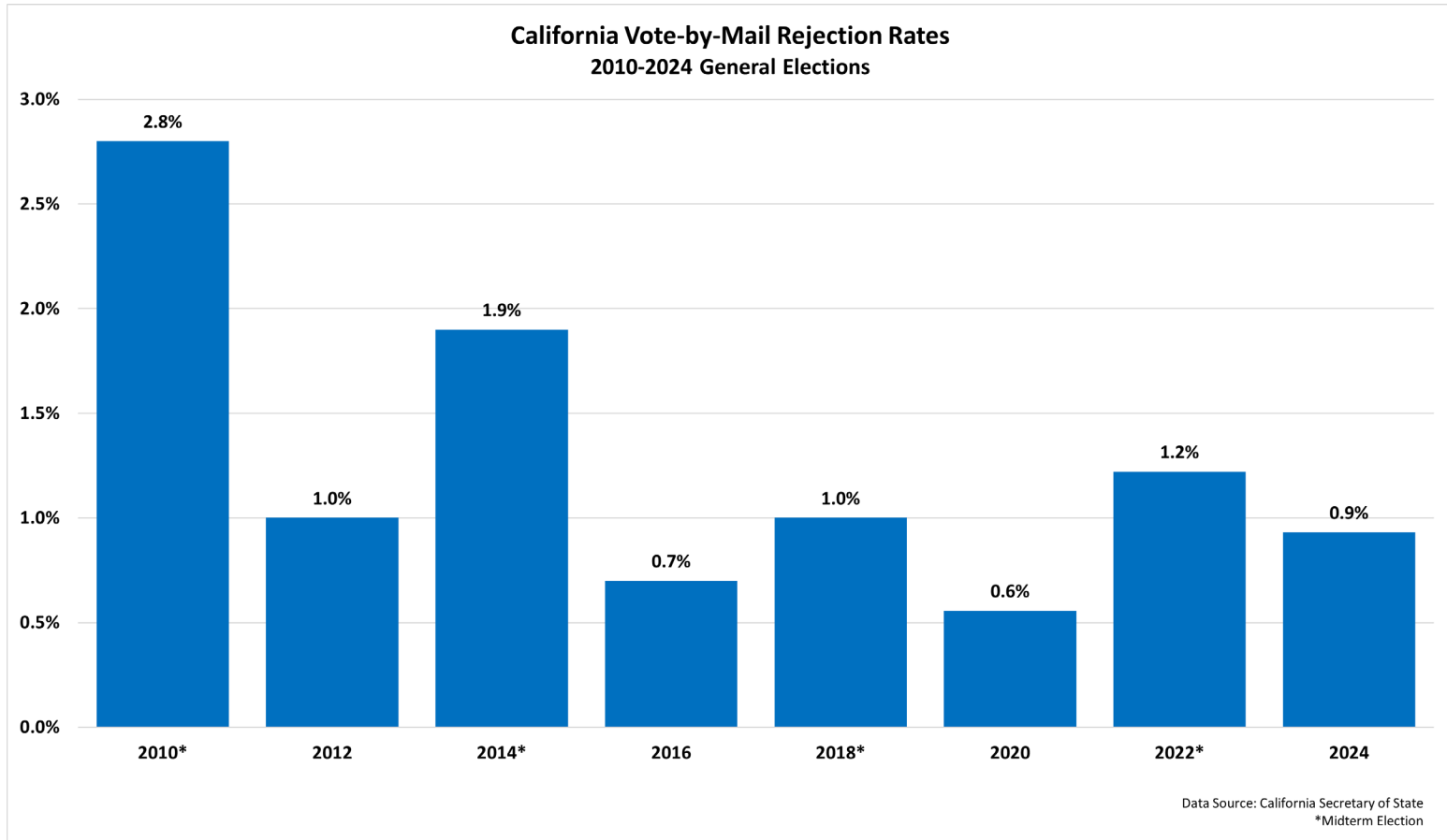


USCPrice

Sol Price School of Public Policy

Rejected Ballot Rates

Fluctuating CA Rejection Rates



117,586 Ballots Rejects in 2024 GE

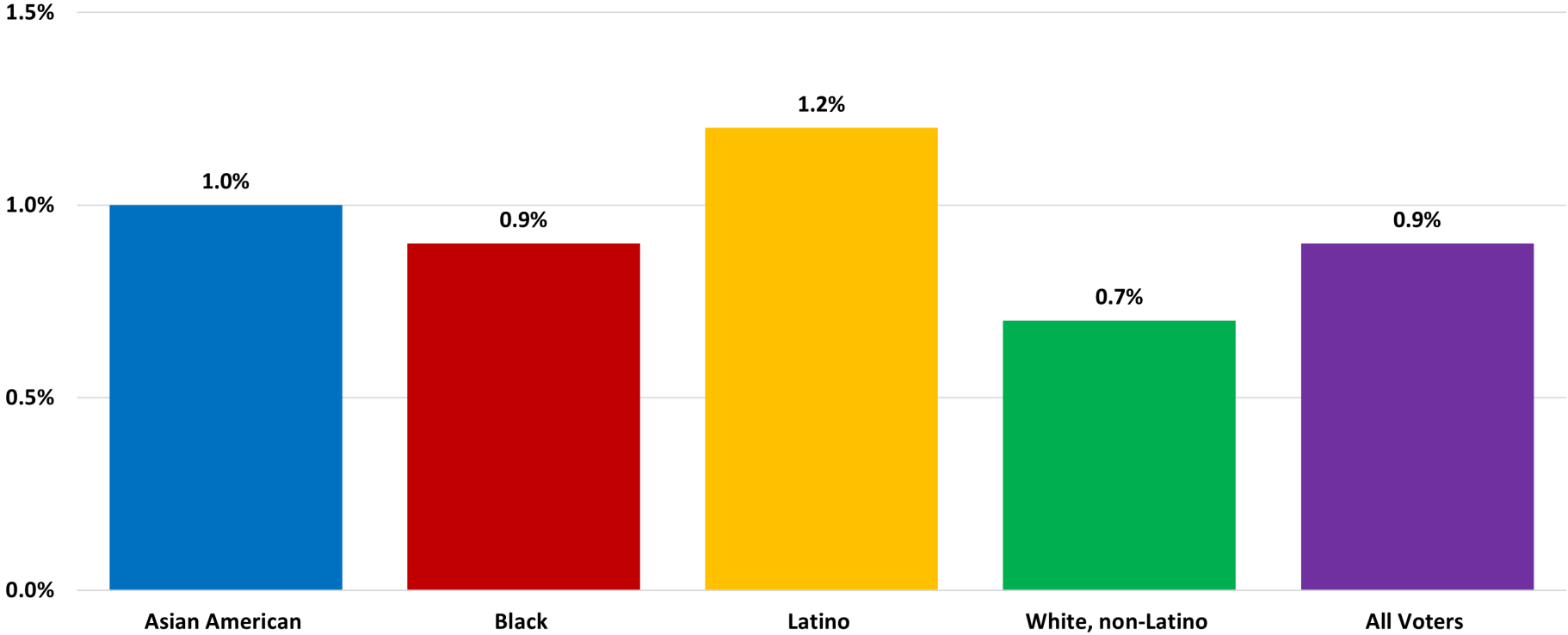
Vote-by-Mail Rejection Rate All Voters California 2024 General Election

Vote-by-Mail Ballots Counted*	Vote-by-Mail Ballots Rejected	Vote-by-Mail Ballots Cast	Vote-by-Mail Rejection Rate
12,947,484	117,586	13,065,070	0.9%

Data Source: California Voter Files

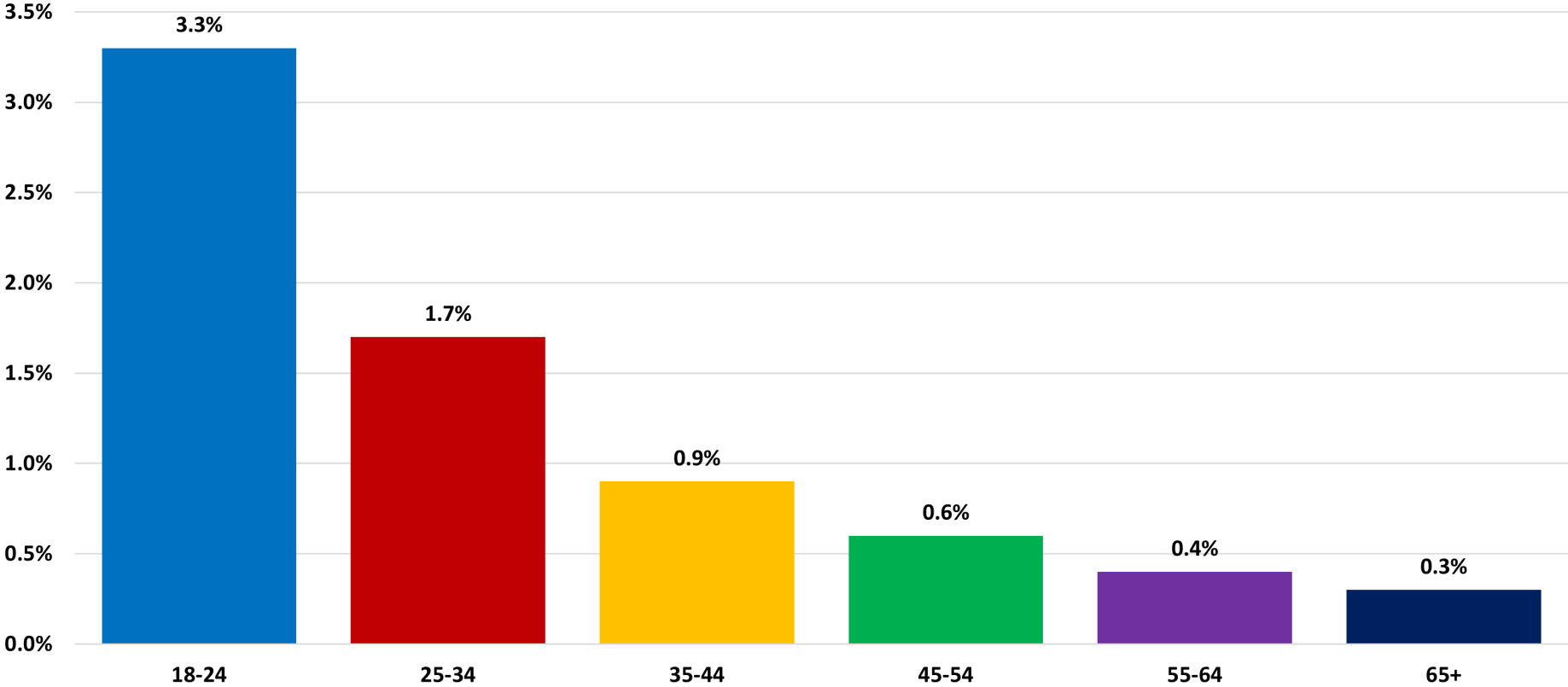
*Ballots cast via fax excluded

**Vote-by-Mail Rejection Rate
Race and Ethnicity
California 2024 General Election**



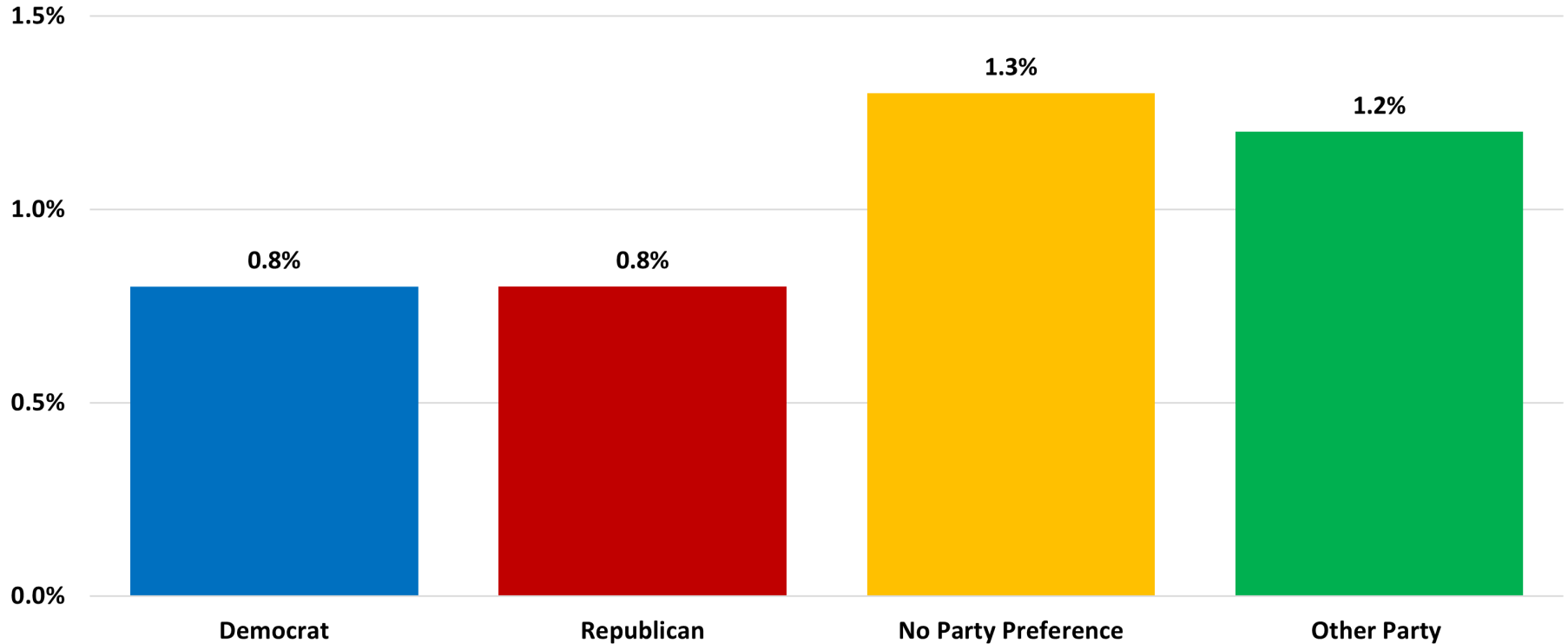
Data Source: California Voter Files
*Ballots cast via fax excluded

**Vote-by-Mail Rejection Rate
Age Group
California 2024 General Election**



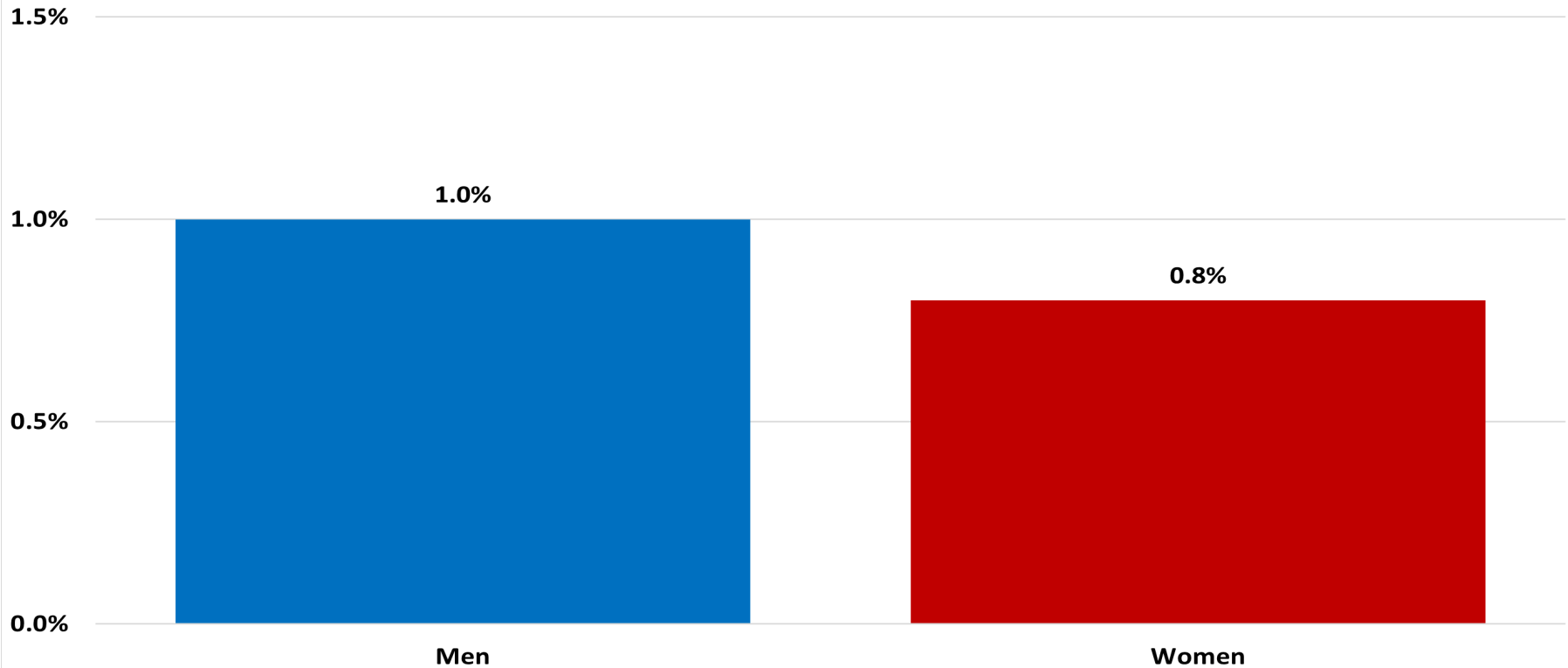
Data Source: California Voter Files
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**Vote-by-Mail Rejection Rate
Party Affiliation
California 2024 General Election**



Data Source: California Voter Files
*Ballots cast via fax excluded

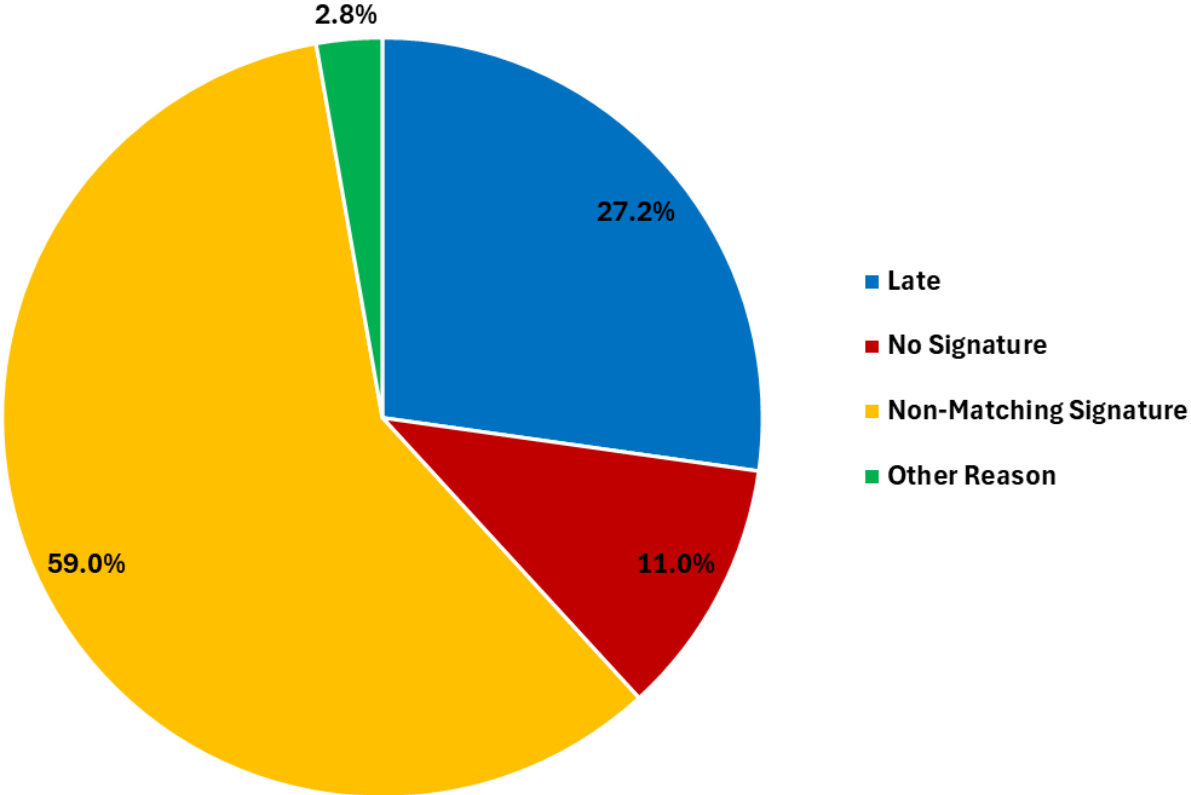
Vote-by-Mail Rejection Rate Gender California 2024 General Election



Data Source: California Voter Files
*Ballots cast via fax excluded

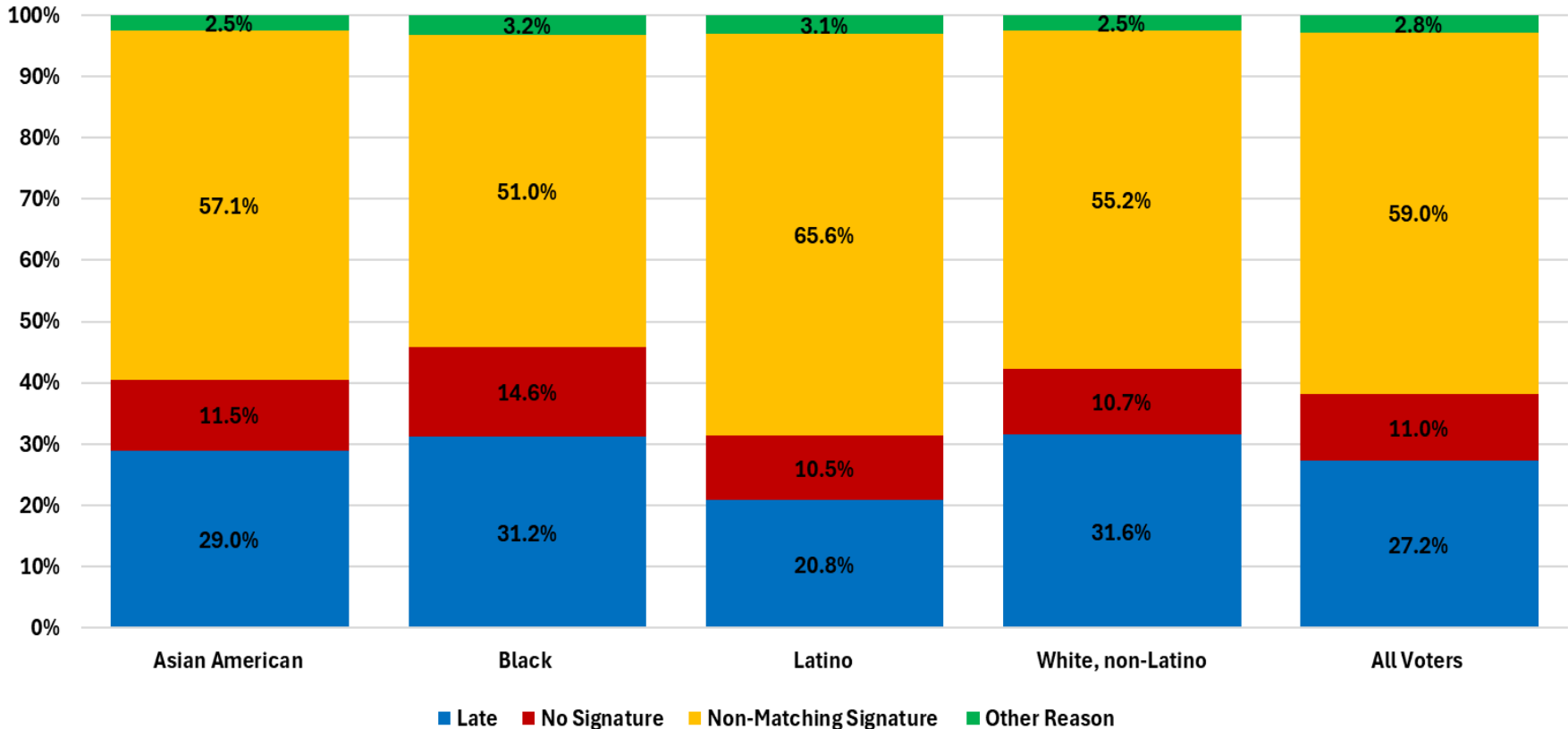
Reasons for Ballot Rejection

**Vote-by-Mail Rejection Reasons
All Voters
California 2024 General Election**



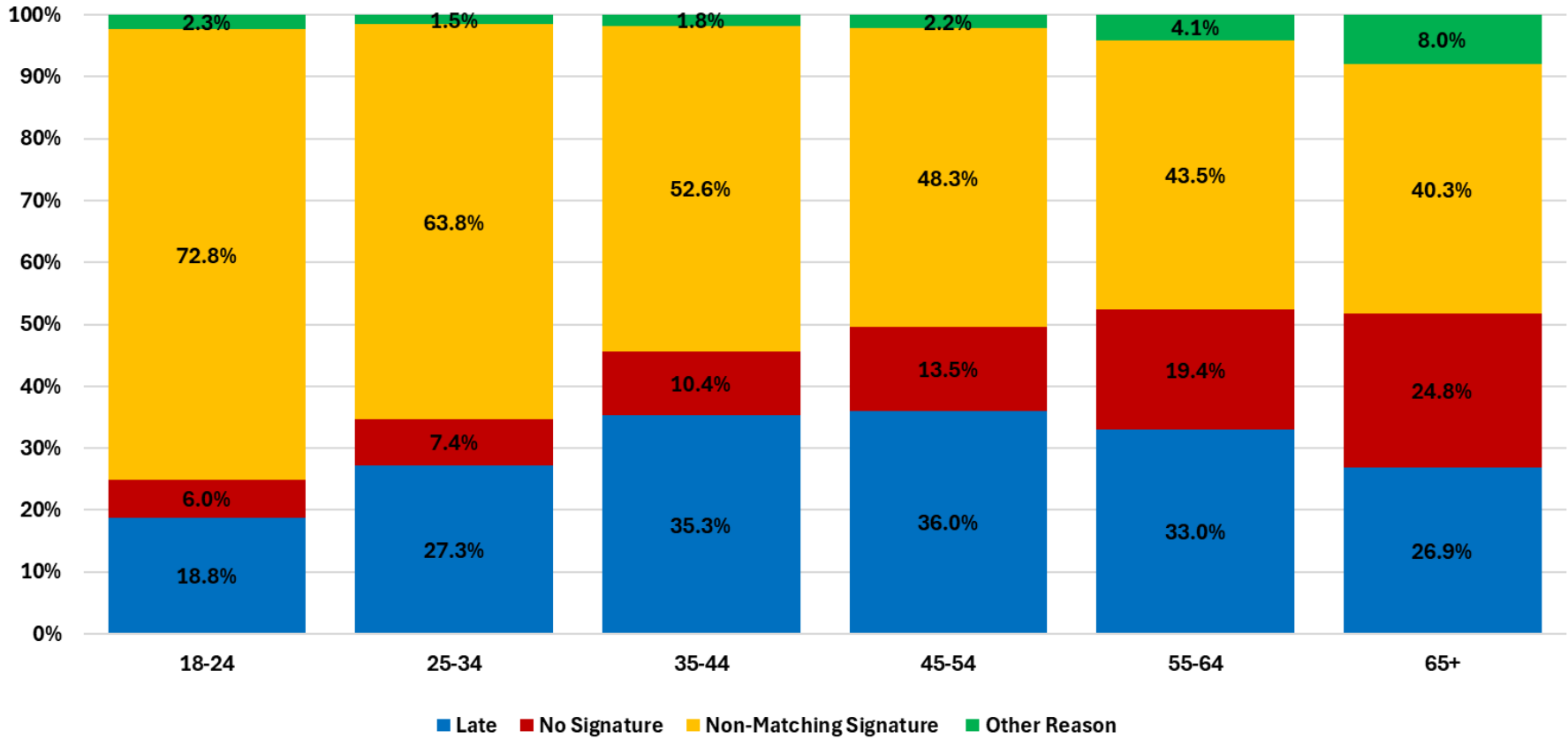
Data Source: California Voter Files

Vote-by-Mail Rejection Reasons Race and Ethnicity California 2024 General Election



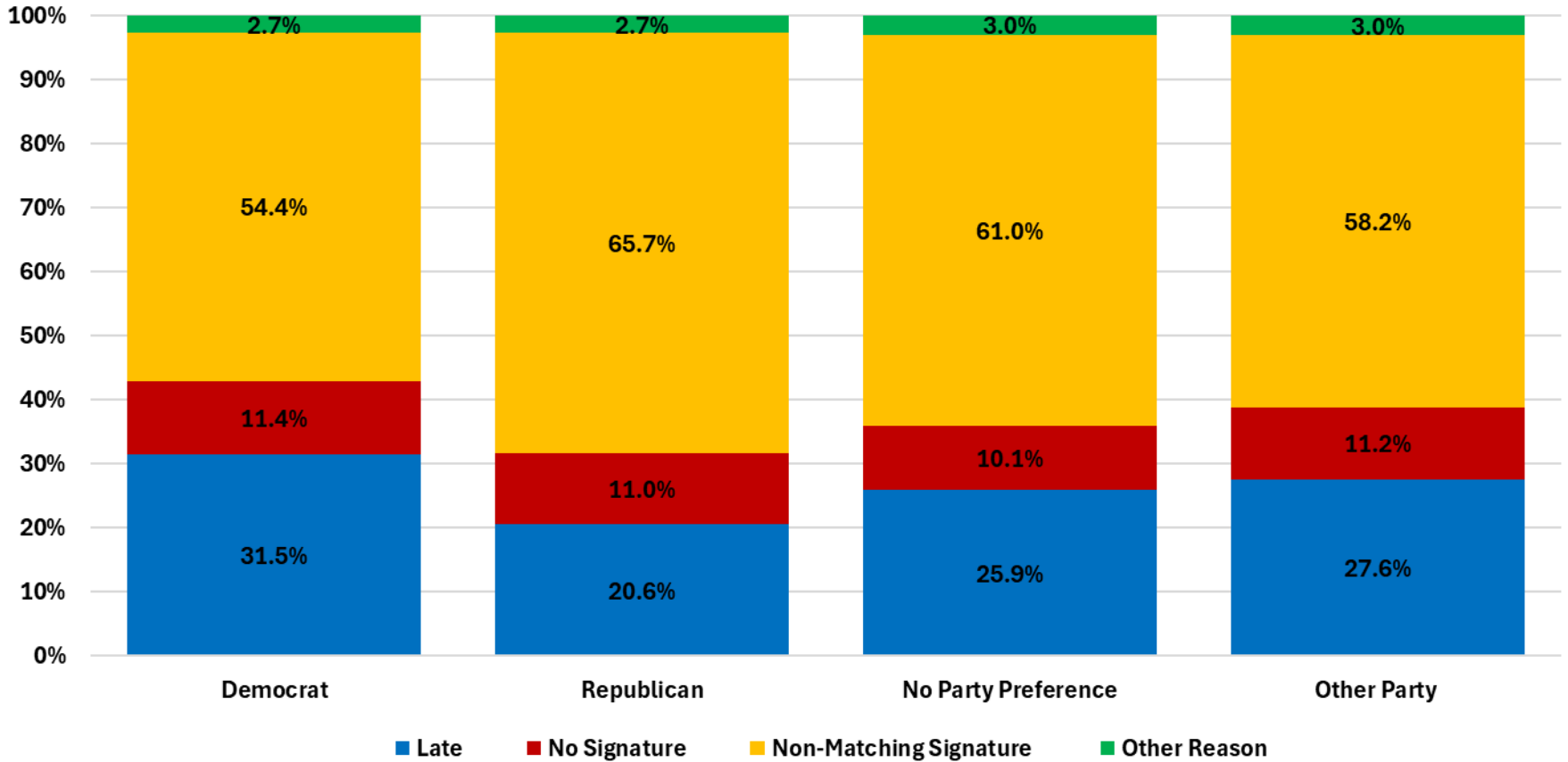
Data Source: California Voter Files

**Vote-by-Mail Rejection Reasons
Age Group
California 2024 General Election**



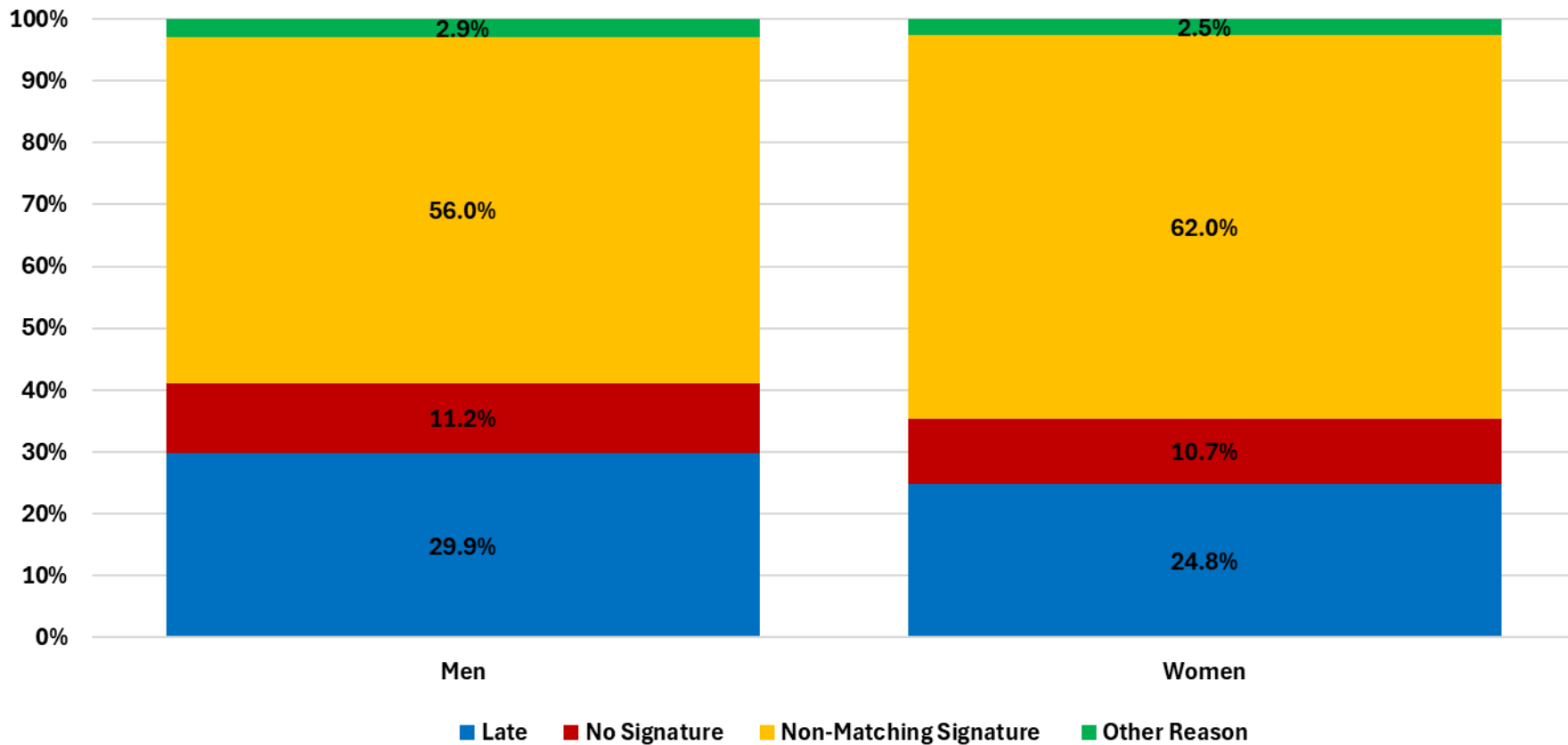
Data Source: California Voter Files

**Vote-by-Mail Rejection Reasons
Party Affiliation
California 2024 General Election**



Data Source: California Voter Files

Vote-by-Mail Rejection Reasons Gender California 2024 General Election



Data Source: California Voter Files

California Ballot Tracking Service

Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot locator and notification systems are intended to inform voters of the status of their VBM ballots regarding when they were mailed, received, and either accepted or rejected

Possible increased levels of confidence in the voting process

Impact on rejections and cure rates

CA BallotTrax Users

- In the 2022 primary and general elections, the VBM rejection rate was at least fifty percent higher among non-BallotTrax users than among BallotTrax users
- Rejected ballots cast by BallotTrax users had lower rates of signature issues than those cast by non-BallotTrax users
- The majority of curable vote-by-mail ballots cast by BallotTrax users were corrected and counted in the 2022 primary election

BallotTrax Sign Ups in CA

- Currently, approx. five million Californians are signed up for BallotTrax out of 22 million registered voters.
- Numbers of accounts stayed stable since 2020 and 2022.

Thoughts

1. How can we help more voters to avoid rejection and cure their signatures?
 2. How can we avoid signature rejection at county election offices?
- Context of no evident of any tangible level of voter fraud in CA

Questions?

Thank you!

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