

POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA

POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA REVEAL A COMPLEX AND EVOLVING LANDSCAPE THAT SHAPES THE STATE'S POLITICAL CULTURE AND ELECTORAL OUTCOMES. ALABAMA, LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES, HAS A RICH HISTORY MARKED BY SHIFTS IN POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE VARIOUS FACTORS INFLUENCING THE POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA, INCLUDING POPULATION COMPOSITION, VOTING BEHAVIOR, PARTY AFFILIATIONS, AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFLUENCES. UNDERSTANDING THESE ELEMENTS IS CRUCIAL FOR GRASPING THE DYNAMICS OF ALABAMA'S POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT. THE ARTICLE BEGINS WITH AN OVERVIEW OF THE POPULATION AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION, FOLLOWED BY INSIGHTS INTO VOTING PATTERNS AND PARTY STRENGTH. IT ALSO EXAMINES THE IMPACT OF URBAN VERSUS RURAL DIVIDES AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ON POLITICAL PREFERENCES. FINALLY, THE ARTICLE ADDRESSES THE ROLE OF RELIGION AND ECONOMIC FACTORS IN SHAPING ALABAMA'S POLITICAL IDENTITY.

- POPULATION COMPOSITION AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY
- VOTING PATTERNS IN ALABAMA
- PARTY AFFILIATIONS AND POLITICAL TRENDS
- URBAN VS. RURAL POLITICAL LANDSCAPE
- SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFLUENCES ON POLITICS
- ROLE OF RELIGION IN ALABAMA POLITICS

POPULATION COMPOSITION AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

THE POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA ARE DEEPLY INFLUENCED BY THE STATE'S POPULATION COMPOSITION AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY. ALABAMA'S POPULATION IS PREDOMINANTLY WHITE, BUT AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES CONSTITUTE A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE STATE'S RESIDENTS. ADDITIONALLY, SMALLER GROUPS SUCH AS HISPANIC, ASIAN, AND NATIVE AMERICAN POPULATIONS CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEMOGRAPHIC MOSAIC. THESE ETHNIC GROUPS OFTEN EXHIBIT DISTINCT POLITICAL PREFERENCES AND VOTER TURNOUT RATES, WHICH AFFECT ELECTION OUTCOMES AND POLICY PRIORITIES.

ETHNIC BREAKDOWN

ACCORDING TO RECENT ESTIMATES, ALABAMA'S POPULATION IS APPROXIMATELY 68% WHITE AND 27% AFRICAN AMERICAN, WITH THE REMAINING 5% COMPOSED OF HISPANIC, ASIAN, NATIVE AMERICAN, AND OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS. THE AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION IS CONCENTRATED MOSTLY IN URBAN AREAS AND CERTAIN RURAL COUNTIES, WHERE THEIR POLITICAL INFLUENCE IS MORE PRONOUNCED.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN ALABAMA SHOW A GRADUAL INCREASE IN HISPANIC AND OTHER MINORITY POPULATIONS, WHICH COULD ALTER THE STATE'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE IN THE COMING YEARS. THESE SHIFTS MAY LEAD TO CHANGES IN VOTING BEHAVIOR AND POLICY FOCUS, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS SUCH AS IMMIGRATION, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

VOTING PATTERNS IN ALABAMA

VOTING BEHAVIOR IN ALABAMA REFLECTS THE STATE'S DEMOGRAPHIC AND CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS. HISTORICALLY,

ALABAMA HAS BEEN A CONSERVATIVE STRONGHOLD, WITH VOTER PREFERENCES LEANING TOWARD THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN RECENT DECADES. HOWEVER, THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND SOME URBAN CENTERS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES, CREATING A DYNAMIC POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT.

HISTORICAL VOTING TRENDS

ALABAMA'S VOTING PATTERNS HAVE EVOLVED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER TIME. DURING THE MID-20TH CENTURY, THE STATE WAS PART OF THE "SOLID SOUTH," PREDOMINANTLY SUPPORTING DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES. SINCE THE LATE 20TH CENTURY, THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED SHIFT TOWARD THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, PARTICULARLY AMONG WHITE VOTERS, DRIVEN BY SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL FACTORS.

VOTER TURNOUT

VOTER TURNOUT IN ALABAMA VARIES BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP, WITH HIGHER PARTICIPATION RATES AMONG OLDER VOTERS AND LOWER RATES AMONG YOUNGER AND MINORITY POPULATIONS. EFFORTS TO INCREASE VOTER REGISTRATION AND TURNOUT CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT FOR SHAPING THE STATE'S POLITICAL FUTURE.

PARTY AFFILIATIONS AND POLITICAL TRENDS

THE POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA ARE CHARACTERIZED BY STRONG PARTY AFFILIATIONS THAT HAVE SHIFTED OVER TIME. THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CURRENTLY DOMINATES STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS, WHILE THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY MAINTAINS INFLUENCE IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS AND AMONG SPECIFIC DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS.

REPUBLICAN DOMINANCE

SINCE THE EARLY 2000S, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS HELD A MAJORITY OF ELECTED OFFICES IN ALABAMA, INCLUDING THE GOVERNORSHIP AND CONGRESSIONAL SEATS. THIS DOMINANCE IS SUPPORTED BY CONSERVATIVE VALUES, RURAL VOTERS, AND A FOCUS ON LIMITED GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL SOCIAL POLICIES.

DEMOCRATIC PRESENCE

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY RETAINS A BASE OF SUPPORT PRIMARILY AMONG AFRICAN AMERICAN VOTERS AND IN URBAN AREAS SUCH AS BIRMINGHAM, MONTGOMERY, AND MOBILE. DEMOCRATS OFTEN EMPHASIZE ISSUES LIKE EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE ACCESS, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE TO APPEAL TO THEIR CONSTITUENCIES.

THIRD PARTIES AND INDEPENDENTS

WHILE THIRD PARTIES AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES HAVE LIMITED IMPACT IN ALABAMA'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE, THEY OCCASIONALLY INFLUENCE LOCAL ELECTIONS AND BRING ATTENTION TO SPECIFIC ISSUES. THEIR PRESENCE REFLECTS SOME VOTER DISSATISFACTION WITH THE TWO MAJOR PARTIES.

URBAN VS. RURAL POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

THE DIVIDE BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS IS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN ALABAMA'S POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS. URBAN CENTERS TEND TO BE MORE DIVERSE AND PROGRESSIVE, WHILE RURAL AREAS ARE GENERALLY MORE HOMOGENEOUS AND CONSERVATIVE.

POLITICAL TENDENCIES IN URBAN AREAS

URBAN AREAS IN ALABAMA OFTEN VOTE DEMOCRATIC DUE TO HIGHER CONCENTRATIONS OF MINORITY POPULATIONS, YOUNGER RESIDENTS, AND INDIVIDUALS WITH HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT. THESE AREAS FOCUS ON ISSUES SUCH AS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

RURAL VOTING BEHAVIOR

RURAL ALABAMA IS PREDOMINANTLY REPUBLICAN, WITH VOTERS PRIORITIZING ISSUES LIKE AGRICULTURE, GUN RIGHTS, AND CONSERVATIVE SOCIAL VALUES. THE RURAL ELECTORATE'S POLITICAL PREFERENCES HAVE PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN MAINTAINING REPUBLICAN CONTROL STATEWIDE.

- URBAN AREAS: BIRMINGHAM, MONTGOMERY, MOBILE, HUNTSVILLE
- RURAL REGIONS: BLACK BELT COUNTIES, APPALACHIAN FOOTHILLS, AGRICULTURAL ZONES

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFLUENCES ON POLITICS

SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT THE POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA. INCOME LEVELS, EDUCATION, AND EMPLOYMENT SECTORS CORRELATE WITH VOTING PATTERNS AND PARTY SUPPORT ACROSS THE STATE.

INCOME AND ECONOMIC STATUS

ALABAMA HAS A DIVERSE ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE, WITH SIGNIFICANT POVERTY RATES IN CERTAIN REGIONS AFFECTING POLITICAL PRIORITIES. LOWER-INCOME POPULATIONS MAY PRIORITIZE SOCIAL SAFETY NETS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFLUENCING THEIR POLITICAL ALIGNMENT.

EDUCATION AND POLITICAL PREFERENCES

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACTOR. HIGHER EDUCATION LEVELS TEND TO CORRELATE WITH MORE LIBERAL POLITICAL VIEWS, WHILE AREAS WITH LOWER EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT GENERALLY SUPPORT CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES AND POLICIES.

EMPLOYMENT SECTORS

THE DOMINANT EMPLOYMENT SECTORS, INCLUDING MANUFACTURING, AGRICULTURE, AND SERVICE INDUSTRIES, SHAPE THE POLITICAL INTERESTS OF VOTERS. WORKERS IN THESE SECTORS OFTEN FAVOR POLICIES THAT PROMOTE JOB SECURITY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.

ROLE OF RELIGION IN ALABAMA POLITICS

RELIGION PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN SHAPING THE POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF ALABAMA. THE STATE IS PART OF THE BIBLE BELT, WITH A PREDOMINANTLY CHRISTIAN POPULATION THAT INFLUENCES VOTING BEHAVIOR AND POLICY PREFERENCES.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

THE MAJORITY OF ALABAMIANS IDENTIFY AS PROTESTANT, PARTICULARLY EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS, WHICH STRONGLY AFFECTS THE STATE'S CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL ORIENTATION. CATHOLIC AND OTHER RELIGIOUS MINORITIES EXIST BUT HAVE A SMALLER POLITICAL FOOTPRINT.

IMPACT ON POLITICAL ISSUES

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS INFLUENCE POSITIONS ON SOCIAL ISSUES SUCH AS ABORTION, SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, AND EDUCATION. POLITICIANS OFTEN ADDRESS THESE TOPICS TO RESONATE WITH RELIGIOUS VOTERS, REINFORCING ALABAMA'S CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL CLIMATE.

- EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT INFLUENCE ON REPUBLICAN SUPPORT
- RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS' INVOLVEMENT IN VOTER MOBILIZATION
- FAITH-BASED OUTREACH IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE CURRENT POLITICAL PARTY DISTRIBUTION IN ALABAMA?

ALABAMA IS PREDOMINANTLY A REPUBLICAN STATE, WITH THE GOP HOLDING THE MAJORITY OF STATEWIDE OFFICES AND LEGISLATIVE SEATS. THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY MAINTAINS POCKETS OF SUPPORT IN URBAN AREAS AND AMONG CERTAIN DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS.

HOW DO RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS INFLUENCE VOTING PATTERNS IN ALABAMA?

RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCE VOTING PATTERNS IN ALABAMA. AFRICAN AMERICAN VOTERS, WHO MAKE UP ABOUT 27% OF THE POPULATION, TEND TO STRONGLY SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WHILE WHITE VOTERS GENERALLY LEAN REPUBLICAN.

WHAT ARE THE KEY DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS IMPACTING ALABAMA'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE?

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS INCLUDE RACE, URBAN VS. RURAL RESIDENCY, AGE, AND EDUCATION LEVEL. URBAN AREAS AND YOUNGER, MORE EDUCATED POPULATIONS TEND TO VOTE DEMOCRAT, WHEREAS RURAL AREAS AND OLDER VOTERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT REPUBLICANS.

HOW HAS ALABAMA'S POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS CHANGED OVER THE PAST DECADE?

OVER THE PAST DECADE, ALABAMA HAS SEEN INCREASED URBANIZATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS, BUT IT REMAINS LARGELY CONSERVATIVE. THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS SOLIDIFIED ITS DOMINANCE, THOUGH THERE ARE SIGNS OF GROWING DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT IN SOME SUBURBAN AND URBAN COMMUNITIES.

WHAT ROLE DO RELIGION AND CULTURAL DEMOGRAPHICS PLAY IN ALABAMA POLITICS?

RELIGION, PARTICULARLY EVANGELICAL PROTESTANTISM, PLAYS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN ALABAMA POLITICS. THE STATE HAS A LARGE EVANGELICAL POPULATION THAT TENDS TO SUPPORT CONSERVATIVE POLICIES AND REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

How do income and socioeconomic status affect political affiliations in Alabama?

Income and socioeconomic status influence political affiliations, with lower-income voters more likely to support Democrats due to social welfare policies, while higher-income voters in Alabama generally lean Republican, supporting conservative economic policies.

What impact do younger voters have on Alabama's political demographics?

Younger voters in Alabama tend to be more progressive and are more likely to support Democratic candidates, especially in urban areas. However, voter turnout among youth remains lower compared to older demographics, limiting their overall impact.

How do urban and rural populations differ politically in Alabama?

Urban populations in Alabama generally lean Democratic, influenced by diversity and younger demographics, while rural populations tend to be more conservative and support the Republican Party, reflecting traditional values and economic interests.

Are there significant demographic trends that could shift Alabama's political landscape in the future?

Yes, increasing urbanization, demographic diversification, and changing attitudes among younger voters could gradually shift Alabama's political landscape, potentially making it more competitive for Democrats over the coming decades.

Additional Resources

1. *Alabama's Political Landscape: Demographics and Voting Patterns*

This book explores the intricate relationship between Alabama's diverse demographic groups and their political behavior. It analyzes historical voting trends and how changes in population dynamics have influenced election outcomes. The author provides a comprehensive overview of race, age, and socioeconomic factors in shaping Alabama's political identity.

2. *Race and Representation in Alabama Politics*

Focusing on the impact of racial demographics, this book delves into the role of African American and minority communities in Alabama's political sphere. It examines civil rights movements, voter suppression, and the evolution of minority representation in local and state governments. The book offers a critical perspective on the ongoing challenges and progress in political inclusivity.

3. *Urbanization and Political Change in Alabama*

This work investigates how urban growth and demographic shifts in cities like Birmingham and Huntsville have transformed political allegiances and policy priorities. It discusses migration patterns, economic development, and the rise of suburban political influence. The author highlights the contrast between urban and rural voting behaviors and their implications for state politics.

4. *The Role of Religion in Alabama's Political Demographics*

Examining the intersection of faith and politics, this book explores how religious affiliations impact voting trends and party loyalty in Alabama. It covers the influence of evangelical Christianity, church communities, and religious leaders on political mobilization. The analysis includes how demographic changes affect religious political engagement.

5. *Age and Political Participation in Alabama*

This book analyzes how different age groups in Alabama engage with the political process, from youth activism to senior voter turnout. It looks at demographic data to understand generational shifts in political priorities.

AND PARTY SUPPORT. THE AUTHOR DISCUSSES EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES AND POLICIES AIMED AT INCREASING CIVIC INVOLVEMENT ACROSS AGE DEMOGRAPHICS.

6. *ECONOMIC DEMOGRAPHICS AND POLITICAL POWER IN ALABAMA*

FOCUSING ON THE SOCIOECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF ALABAMA'S POPULATION, THIS BOOK EXPLORES HOW INCOME, EMPLOYMENT SECTORS, AND EDUCATION LEVELS INFLUENCE POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS AND POLICY PREFERENCES. IT HIGHLIGHTS DISPARITIES BETWEEN WEALTHY AND WORKING-CLASS COMMUNITIES AND THEIR IMPACT ON ELECTORAL POLITICS. THE BOOK ALSO EXAMINES ECONOMIC POLICY DEBATES WITHIN THE STATE'S POLITICAL ARENA.

7. *MIGRATION AND ITS POLITICAL IMPACT IN ALABAMA*

THIS BOOK STUDIES INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MIGRATION TRENDS AFFECTING ALABAMA'S DEMOGRAPHIC MAKEUP AND POLITICAL LANDSCAPE. IT EXPLORES HOW NEWCOMERS FROM OTHER STATES AND COUNTRIES RESHAPE VOTING BLOCS AND CULTURAL ATTITUDES. THE AUTHOR ASSESSES THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF DEMOGRAPHIC MOBILITY FOR BOTH URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.

8. *GENDER, POLITICS, AND DEMOGRAPHICS IN ALABAMA*

THIS PUBLICATION INVESTIGATES HOW GENDER DEMOGRAPHICS INTERSECT WITH POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION IN ALABAMA. IT COVERS WOMEN'S VOTING BEHAVIORS, POLITICAL CANDIDACIES, AND GENDER-RELATED POLICY ISSUES. THE BOOK ALSO ADDRESSES THE CHALLENGES AND PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING GENDER EQUITY WITHIN ALABAMA'S POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS.

9. *EDUCATION AND POLITICAL DEMOGRAPHICS IN ALABAMA*

HIGHLIGHTING THE ROLE OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, THIS BOOK EXAMINES HOW EDUCATION LEVELS CORRELATE WITH POLITICAL BELIEFS AND VOTING PATTERNS IN ALABAMA. IT DISCUSSES DISPARITIES IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS AND THEIR POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. THE AUTHOR SHEDS LIGHT ON THE INFLUENCE OF EDUCATION POLICY DEBATES ON THE STATE'S POLITICAL CLIMATE.

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political demographics of alabama: Political Encyclopedia of U.S. States and Regions

Donald P. Haider-Markel, Michael A. Card, 2009 Providing expert analysis of government and politics in all 50 states and the U.S. territories, this innovative two-volume reference fills the critical need for information and analysis of the roles and functions of state government through accessible state-by-state and regional overviews of government and politics.

political demographics of alabama: *The Almanac of Latino Politics 2010* , 2010

political demographics of alabama: *The New Politics of the Old South* Charles S. Bullock III, Mark J. Rozell, 2025-08-26 Now in its eight edition, *The New Politics of the Old South* is the best and most comprehensive analysis and history of political behavior and shifting demographics in America's southern states. Edited by leading scholars Charles S. Bullock III and Mark J. Rozell, this book has been updated through the 2024 elections to provide the most accurate and useful snapshot of the state of southern politics, and the ways in which they have developed over time. The southern electorate is a fascinating, dynamic body politic, and the study of its evolution is paramount to understanding the broader political developments occurring at a national level. While accessible to any interested reader, this edition illuminates the South's essential and growing role in the study, and the story, of American politics. This new edition addresses the most recent round of statewide

contests from the 2024 election-from gubernatorial, congressional, and state legislative races to the presidential race, especially significant in Georgia and North Carolina. A major theme in this eighth edition is the increasing population diversification, especially in the Growth States. Texas is now a plurality Hispanic state. Georgia may well be a majority-minority state today. The growing diversification in Georgia has recently become manifest within the General Assembly. In 2023 two new caucuses were created, one for Hispanics and the other for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The latter, with 11 members, is the largest of its kind in the nation. Even as Asians and Hispanics begin to enter southern legislatures, a few of them are Republicans. Republicans have also made some gains among Black voters and Black officeholders. These themes will also be explored in states as appropriate.

political demographics of alabama: *Politics in the American States* Virginia Gray, Russell L. Hanson, Thad Kousser, 2017-03-10 Winner of the 2017 Mac Jewell Enduring Contribution Award of the APSA's State Politics and Policy Section. *Politics in the American States*, Eleventh Edition, brings together the high-caliber research you expect from this trusted text, with comprehensive and comparative analysis of the 50 states. Fully updated for all major developments in the study of state-level politics, including capturing the results of the 2016 elections, editors Virginia Gray, Russell L. Hanson, and Thad Kousser bring insight and uncover the impact of key similarities and differences on the operation of the same basic political systems. Students will appreciate the book's glossary, the fully up-to-date tables and figures, and the maps showcasing comparative data.

political demographics of alabama: *The Oxford Handbook of Southern Politics* Charles S. Bullock III, Mark J. Rozell, 2012-02-17 The unique political history of the Southern United States is rooted in the fact that it is the only region to have ever taken up arms against the national government. While the resources of the North prevailed after the four bloody years of the Civil War, the consequences of the practice of slavery and the bitter loss experienced by the South continue to shape southern politics a century and a half later. The twenty-three essays included in *The Oxford Handbook of Southern Politics* present a definitive view of the factors that contribute to this region's distinctive politics, examining these factors in the context of the South's political development since World War II. Following an introductory essay by editors Charles Bullock III and Mark Rozell, five chapters survey the past seventy-five years of the region's political history, looking in particular at the Civil Rights Movement, urbanization of the South, and the area's economy and changing demographics. Four chapters will then take a closer look at the influence of particular demographics, including religious conservatives, women, and Latinos. This will be followed by chapters on the rise of the Republican Party, southern political attitudes, and political and economic development in the Southern Black Belt. Subsequent chapters will examine political parties, voting and elections, including party organizations and activists, the mainstreaming of the Republican Party, realignment, party building, and Deep South politics. The five chapters of the final section will look at the South's impact on national politics, at the executive and congressional levels, legislatively and on the nation more generally.

political demographics of alabama: *Politics in the American States* Thad Kousser, Jamila Michener, Caroline Tolbert, 2024-11-07 *Politics in the American States*, Twelfth Edition, brings together the high-caliber research expected from this trusted text, with comprehensive and comparative analysis of the fifty states. Fully updated for all major developments in the study of state-level politics, the editors and chapter contributors keep pace with the transformation of American states and their study.

political demographics of alabama: *Whose Black Politics?* Andra Gillespie, 2010-01-29 The past decade has witnessed the emergence of a new vanguard in African American political leaders. They came of age after Jim Crow segregation and the Civil Rights Movement, they were raised in integrated neighborhoods and educated in majority white institutions, and they are more likely to embrace deracialized campaign and governance strategies. Members of this new cohort, such as Cory Booker, Artur Davis, and Barack Obama, have often publicly clashed with their elders, either in campaigns or over points of policy. And because this generation did not experience codified racism,

critics question whether these leaders will even serve the interests of African Americans once in office. With these pressing concerns in mind, this volume uses multiple case studies to probe the implications of the emergence of these new leaders for the future of African American politics. Editor Andra Gillespie establishes a new theoretical framework based on the interaction of three factors: black leaders' crossover appeal, their political ambition, and connections to the black establishment. She sheds new light on the changing dynamics not only of Black politics but of the current American political scene.

political demographics of alabama: *The Changing Political South* Charles S. Bullock, III, Susan A. MacManus, Jeremy D. Mayer, Mark J. Rozell, 2024 The phenomenal growth of minority populations in the South, particularly Latinos and Asians, is quickly transforming the region's politics. Some argue that demography is destiny, and yet the analyses presented in *The Changing Political South* demonstrate little such certainty about the future competitiveness of the two major parties in the South. This volume substantiates the strong and persistent Democratic leanings of Black voters and a majority of women, yet it finds that the rising minority populations' votes are increasingly up for grabs by the two major parties. How the two parties fare in the future of Southern politics will be driven largely by their abilities to reach these new voters.

political demographics of alabama: Voting and Political Representation in America Mark P. Jones, 2020-02-24 Examines voting trends and political representation in the United States today—with a special focus on debates over voting rights, voter fraud, and voter suppression—and election rules and regulations, including those related to gerrymandering, campaign fundraising, and other controversial subjects. Do average Americans have a voice in Washington? Are they well-represented, or are they marginalized? Do elections reflect fundamental democratic institutions and values, or are they tarnished by voter suppression, voter fraud, gerrymandering, or other factors? To what extent do America's elected officials reflect the diversity of race, religion, gender, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, and political views of the wider American population? This encyclopedia explores all these questions and more. It examines important mechanisms and laws shaping political representation in America in the 21st century, such as term limits, gerrymandering, the Electoral College, and direct democracy (ballot initiatives and referendums); and the degree to which various demographic groups are represented in state and federal legislatures, from Latinos and senior citizens to atheists and residents of rural states. It also explains the basis for escalating concerns about both voter fraud and voter suppression.

political demographics of alabama: Gay Politics, Urban Politics Robert C. Bailey, 1999-01-05 Drawing from surveys of political attitudes and voting patterns among gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, Bailey's study is a revealing window into how sexual identity has fostered political alliances. The book investigates mayoral voting patterns in America's three largest cities—New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

political demographics of alabama: George C. Wallace and the Politics of Powerlessness Jody Carlson, 2023-04-14 This is the only complete study of the Wallace phenomenon. It covers all of the presidential campaigns and views Wallace from a variety of vantage points: historical context, content analysis of speeches, and analysis of election data, including voting statistics and attitudinal patterns of supporters. *Politics of Powerlessness* examines nationwide support for George C. Wallace in the presidential campaigns of 1964, 1968, 1972, and 1976. A number of election and candidate preference surveys are used as sources of data on supporters. An understanding of Wallace's appeal is provided through an examination of themes noted throughout his speeches and an analysis of his political history from biographical sources, personal interviews, and newspaper accounts of the time. The picture of Wallace that emerges is one of a man who saw himself as a crusader for his supporters' interests, while deliberately heightening and intensifying their feelings of powerlessness as a means of getting votes. Carlson shows that Wallace voters were not marginal. They did not reflect a loss of status, nor were they simply outside the mainstream of political life. They were very much like major party voters, with the exception of their feelings of political powerlessness that came about by increased government participation in state politics. This work

informed not only by a careful analysis, but by interviews with Wallace, many of his followers, and people active in his campaigns. The work has the additional advantage of having follow-up analyses and interviews as late as 1978. In this sense, it represents not only a scholarly analysis of the Wallace phenomenon, but the most up-to-date analysis as well.

political demographics of alabama: *US Commission on Civil Rights* Barry Leonard (ed), 2006-10

political demographics of alabama: Highway 80: A Drive -through Alabama's Civil Rights Corridor Robert O. White II, This book highlights some of the unique geography of civil rights history that took place in Alabama along US highway 80 in hopes of having the region designated as a National Heritage Area.

political demographics of alabama: Race, Religion, and Politics Stephanie Y. Mitchem, 2018-09-06 This book examines race, religion, and politics in the United States, illuminating their intersections and what they reveal about power and privilege. Drawing on both historic and recent examples, Stephanie Mitchem introduces readers to the ways race has been constructed in the United States, discusses how race and religion influence each other, and assesses how they shape political influence. Mitchem concludes with a chapter looking toward possibilities for increased rights and justice for all.

political demographics of alabama: Political Power in Alabama Anne Permaloff, 1995 Political Power in Alabama is the sequel to Anne Permaloff and Carl Grafton's *Big Mules and Branchheads*, a biography of the populist governor Big Jim Folsom. Encompassing the years from 1958 to 1970 and the gubernatorial terms of John Patterson, George Wallace, Lurleen Wallace, and Albert Brewer, the present volume offers a full account of the breakup of the Big Mule Alliance, the elite coalition of Alabama's largest industrial and agricultural interests, and the subsequent effects on the state's political environment. Political Power in Alabama covers an extraordinarily complex set of issues and events, including the civil rights struggle, urban-rural disparities, the lack of party competition, the structure of the tax system, and the economic and cultural gaps separating Alabama and the rest of the South from the nation.

political demographics of alabama: State and Local Politics Jayme Renfro, 2021-05-03 This book is the first of its kind to take concepts directly from the most commonly used textbooks in state and local politics and apply them directly to current events. It presents twelve chapters of case studies, richly detailing key topics ranging from how the comparative method can be used to understand the similarities and differences between diverse places, to a look at how state governments have taken the lead on COVID-19, environmental policy, civil rights, gun control, college tuition regulation, cybersecurity and elections, sex offenders, and many more subjects of contemporary interest. It devotes a complete chapter to local-level politics in Nevada, Florida, and Iowa, and wraps up with a unique chapter on regional governance bridging between states and localities. This detailed and highly readable book is designed to complement traditional state and local textbooks. It is also of interest to students of public administration, public policy, urban politics, and intro to American politics.

political demographics of alabama: Research Handbook on Law and Political Systems Robert M. Howard, Kirk A. Randazzo, Rebecca A. Reid, 2023-11-03 This Research Handbook is a multi-faceted, comparative analysis of how law and political systems interact around the world. Chapters include analyses of judicial deference, congressional support, democratic representation, politicization of courts, public support, and judicialization across multiple jurisdictions in the United States and abroad. Chapters also investigate transnational courts and the linkages between international and domestic law and politics.

political demographics of alabama: Politics and Religion in the White South Glenn Feldman, 2005-09-30 Politics, while always an integral part of the daily life in the South, took on a new level of importance after the Civil War. Today, political strategists view the South as an essential region to cultivate if political hopefuls are to have a chance of winning elections at the national level. Although operating within the context of a secular government, American politics is

decidedly marked by a Christian influence. In the mostly Protestant South, religion and politics have long been nearly inextricable. *Politics and Religion in the White South* skillfully examines the powerful role that religious considerations and influence have played in American political discourse. This collection of thirteen essays from prominent historians and political scientists explores the intersection in the South of religion, politics, race relations, and southern culture from post-Civil War America to the present, when the Religious Right has exercised a profound impact on the course of politics in the region as well as the nation. The authors examine issues such as religious attitudes about race on the Jim Crow South; Billy Graham's influence on the civil rights movement; political activism and the Southern Baptist Convention; and Dorothy Tilly, a white Methodist woman, and her contributions as a civil rights reformer during the 1940s and 1950s. The volume also considers the issue of whether southerners felt it was their sacred duty to prevent American society from moving away from its Christian origins toward a new, secular identity and how this perceived God-given responsibility was reflected in the work of southern political and church leaders. By analyzing the vital relationship between religion and politics in the region where their connection is strongest and most evident, *Politics and Religion in the White South* offers insight into the conservatism of the South and the role that religion has played in maintaining its social and cultural traditionalism.

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