



WOMEN have voted at higher rates than men in every presidential election since 1980. The high turnout has panicked some conservatives. In North Attleborough, Mass., workers set up polling booths on election eve.

Battleground states' rules could complicate final tally

Vote-counting delays are expected in the presidential election but will help ensure accuracy, experts say.

By Seema Mehta

Unless polling that portends a paper-thin margin between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Trump is completely wrong — a possibility because of dizzying changes in how voters cast ballots as well as a pandemic-



WORKERS tabulate ballots in Michigan. Officials are taking precautions to avoid accusations of fraud.

prompted overhaul of election laws — Americans should plan on going to bed Tuesday night without knowing who won the White House.

Election experts argue that a delay in knowing the result, in part because of the patchwork of rules that dictate how votes are counted, notably in battleground states, is proof of ballot-counters' vigilance about accurately tabulating the vote. But they also worry that any delay will feed the growing skepticism many Americans have about the sanctity of the nation's electoral process.

Authorities prepare for election unrest

Metal detectors, snipers among measures taken to ensure safe voting

By Richard Winton and Hannah Fry

Law enforcement officials in California and across the country are preparing for threats against election workers, violence at polling places and voter intimidation

amid skepticism from Republicans about the integrity of the voting process.

Polling places and locations where ballots are counted beefed up security in advance of Tuesday's election, deploying bomb- and firearm-sniffing dogs, metal detectors, panic buttons

and even rooftop snipers to protect workers and voters.

The U.S. attorney's office for the Central District of California has for months been working with voting officials and police and sheriff's departments to prevent threats to election workers and respond to election-re-

lated security issues and violations of voting law in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, U.S. Atty. Martin Estrada said.

"My office will be vigilant in upholding the ability of

Women who vote early may be kingmakers in this election

They have outpaced men in casting ballots. But it's unclear such turnout will guarantee a victory for Harris.

By Jenny Jarvie

ATLANTA — In the final stretch of her battle against former President Trump, Vice President Kamala Harris is counting on female voters as her most reliable path to the presidency. It is a group that has voted, so far, in greater numbers than men.

Nationally, women make up 53% of early voters — a turnout rate 9 percentage points higher than men. And the gender voting gap is even more pronounced in some battleground states, such as Pennsylvania, where women

lead men by 13 percentage points.

"I think women will decide this election," said Katherine Tate, a professor of political science at Brown University, arguing that women have long voted in greater numbers than men and were strongly against Trump. "Trump's aggressive style has put off women."

But robust early turnout among women does not guarantee a Democratic victory.

Women have registered and voted at higher rates than men in every presidential election since 1980, with the gender turnout gap growing slightly larger each time, according to Rutgers University's Center for American Women and Politics.

Whereas Black women are the Democratic Party's

Are there too many Democrats in Sacramento?

The growing supermajority is widening the divide in the Legislature.

By Taryn Luna

SACRAMENTO — Twelve years ago Democrats won a surprising two-thirds supermajority in the state Legislature, giving them the strength to pass any bill without the need for a single Republican vote in California.

Yet, even as they celebrated the first feat of its kind in nearly 80 years, leaders were mindful of their new power.

"The concern is if it's so easy to get a majority, it's easy to become complacent

and not do thoughtful legislating," said then-Assembly Speaker John Pérez. "Sometimes people that you loved had stupid ideas that had no business being law."

Now Democrats hold 93 of 120 seats in the California Legislature, casually dubbed a "super supermajority," and the party's prowess in California is exposing the downsides of extreme one-party rule.

With the election Tuesday, concerns about losing seats have been replaced by whispers among Democrats about whether it's time to temper their dominance.

When lawmakers no longer need to unite, they find themselves more divided.

"I certainly don't think it's good for democracy overall and in the end it's not good

MORE COVERAGE: Many voters worry that if Harris wins, Trump will not accept his loss. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

QUINCY JONES, 1933 – 2024

Legendary producer shaped American music landscape

He helped Michael Jackson attain superstar status, raised millions with the hit 'We Are the World.'

By Steve Marble

Quincy Jones, who expanded the American songbook as a musician, composer and producer and shaped some of the biggest stars and most memorable songs in the second half of the 20th century, has died. He was 91.

Widely considered one of the most influential forces in modern American music, Jones died Sunday at his Bel-Air home surrounded by his children, siblings and close family, according to his publicist, Arnold Robinson. No cause of death was disclosed.

"[A]lthough this is an incredible loss for our family, we celebrate the great life that

he lived and know there will never be another like him," Jones' family said in a statement to The Times. "He is truly one of a kind and we will miss him dearly; we take comfort and immense pride in knowing that the love and joy, that were the essence of his being, was shared with the world through all that he created. Through his music and his boundless love, Quincy Jones' heart will beat for eternity."

The arc of Jones' long career stretched from smoky jazz clubs, where he collaborated with innovators such as Miles Davis, Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie, to his Los Angeles power base, where, like a titan, he watched over his musical empire from a mansion atop Bel-Air.

During his career, Jones helped mold Michael Jackson into a mega-star by producing a trilogy of albums that made the pop singer arguably the best-known musician in the world, raised tens of millions of dollars for Ethiopian famine victims by

[See Jones, A10]



Ricardo DeAratanha Los Angeles Times

'TRULY ONE OF A KIND'

Like other single-moniker stars such as Prince, Madonna and Sting, Quincy Jones — shown here in 2014 — boiled his persona down to a single letter: Q.

Conditioned to living with war

In some parts of Lebanon, people resume normal activities as bomb blasts echo just blocks away. **WORLD, A3**

A park for ... yes, South Park

Residents welcome the possibility of a patch of asphalt becoming a public open space. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Mortgage rates go up. Surprise!

Interest rate cut fails to stop rise. Analysts pin that on strong economic data and Trump. **BUSINESS, A6**

Weather

Mostly sunny. L.A. Basin: 76/54. **B6**

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