

Voter Turnout Brief: Maine 2008

Prepared for the Maine Association of Nonprofits.

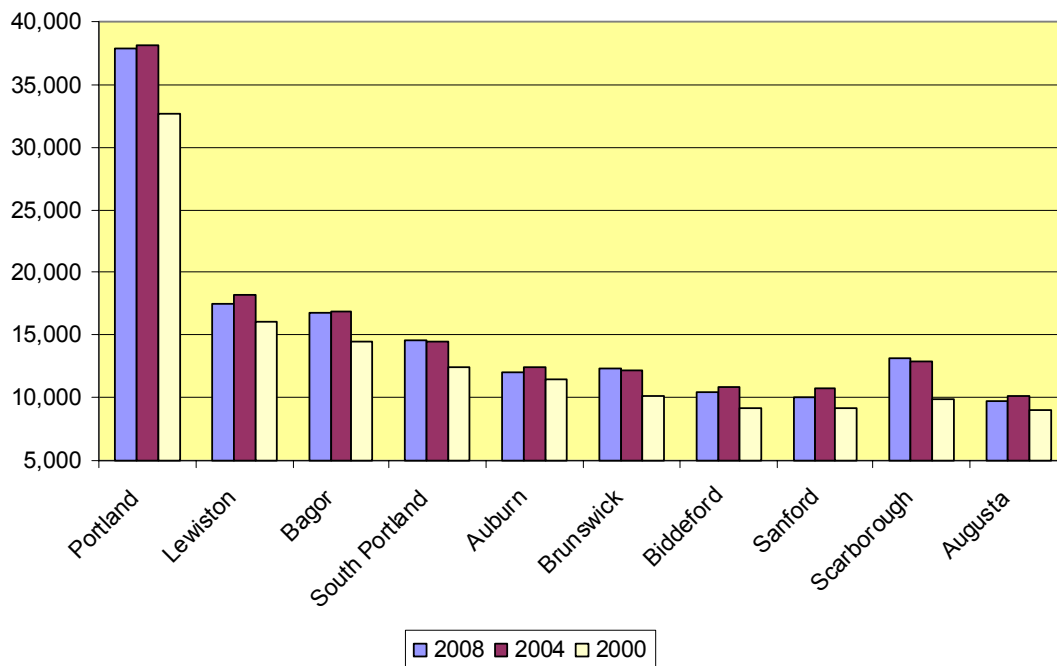
Based on total number of voters casting ballots. Official returns from the Secretary of State.

- ☆ **Maine was once again among the leaders the nation in voter turnout.** The percentage of voting eligible citizens who cast ballot was approximately 72%, placing Maine third in the nation behind Wisconsin for voter turnout. These figures are comparable with 2004 and 2000 when Maine ranked 3 and 4 with turnout rates of 74.9% and 68.5% respectively.

- ☆ **Maine’s no-excuse absentee voting rules were a rousing success.** This rule allows voters to cast an absentee ballot at their convenience without an excuse like illness or absence on Election Day. The number of absentee ballots cast has climbed from 74,000 in 2000 (the inaugural year of no-excuse absentee voting) to roughly 242,000 this year, a 227% increase over three election cycles.

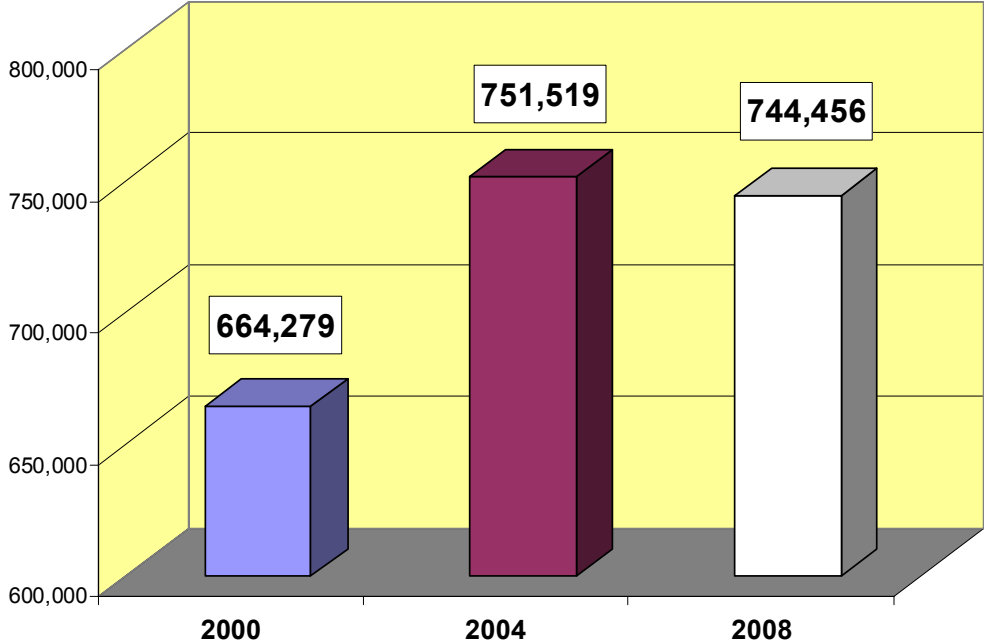
Voter Turnout in Maine's Ten Largest Cities

Adjusted for Population Change



Maine Voter Turnout: 2000, 2004 and 2008

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Maine and U.S. Voter Turnout: 2000, 2004 and 2008

As a percentage of the voting eligible population

