

# California's New Motor Voter Law: How Much Impact, And How Fast?

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Supported with funding from the James Irvine  
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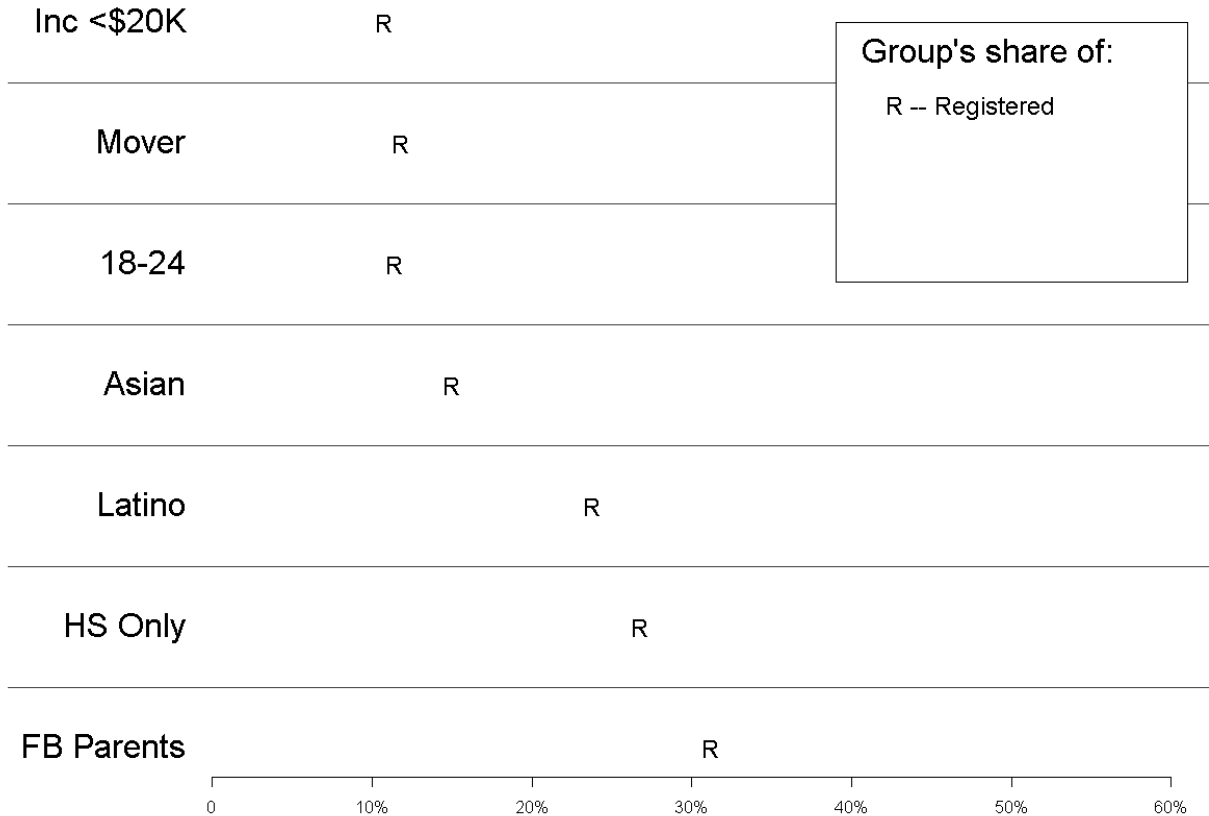
# California's New Motor Voter Act (AB 1461)

- Strengthens DMV → SoS link
  - DMV customers who attest eligibility = registered by default
  - Eligible customers' information transmitted electronically
  - Applies to: new driver's licenses, address updates, possibly renewals
- Key questions
  - How much could the California electorate change?
  - How fast could new registrants be added?
  - How many who can sign up will sign up?

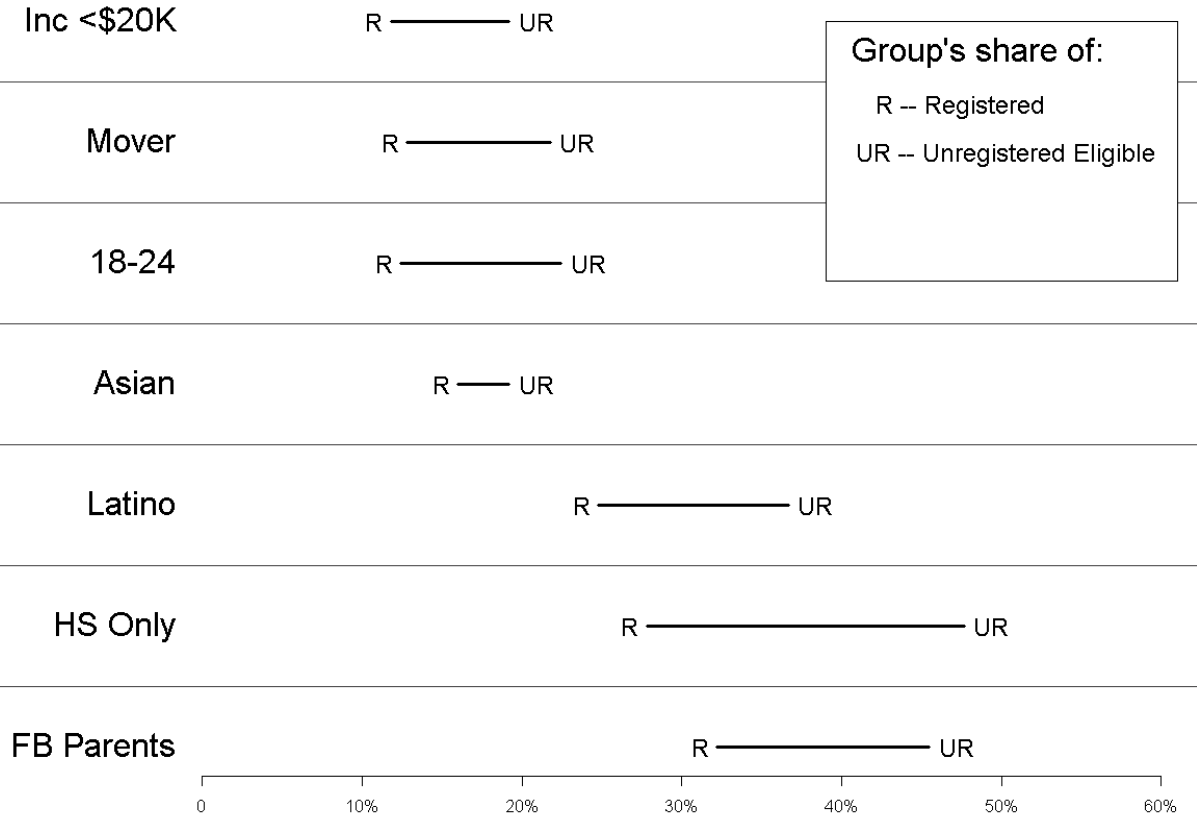
# How much could the California electorate change?

- How different are registered voters from eligible but unregistered residents?
- If we registered all the eligible unregistered, how different would California's electorate be?
- How close would that change get us to representing all adults?

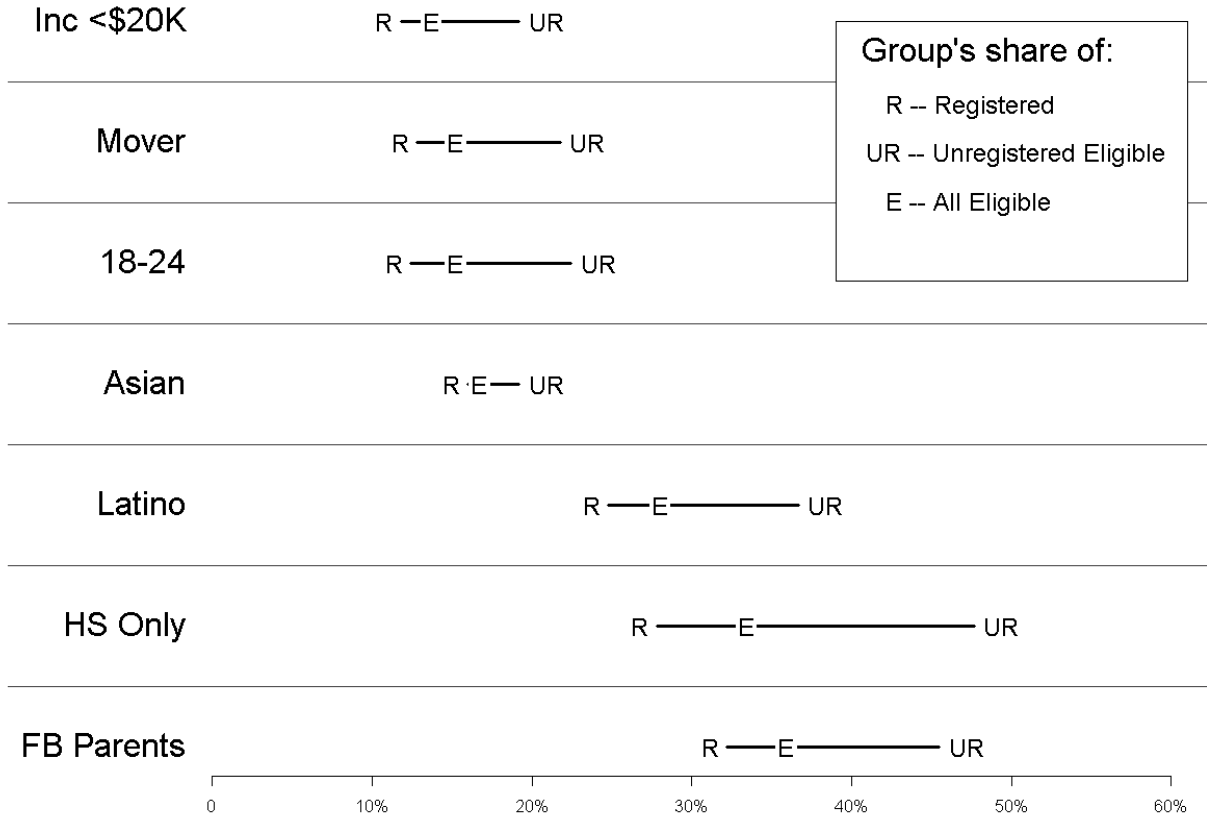
# Underrepresented groups among registered voters



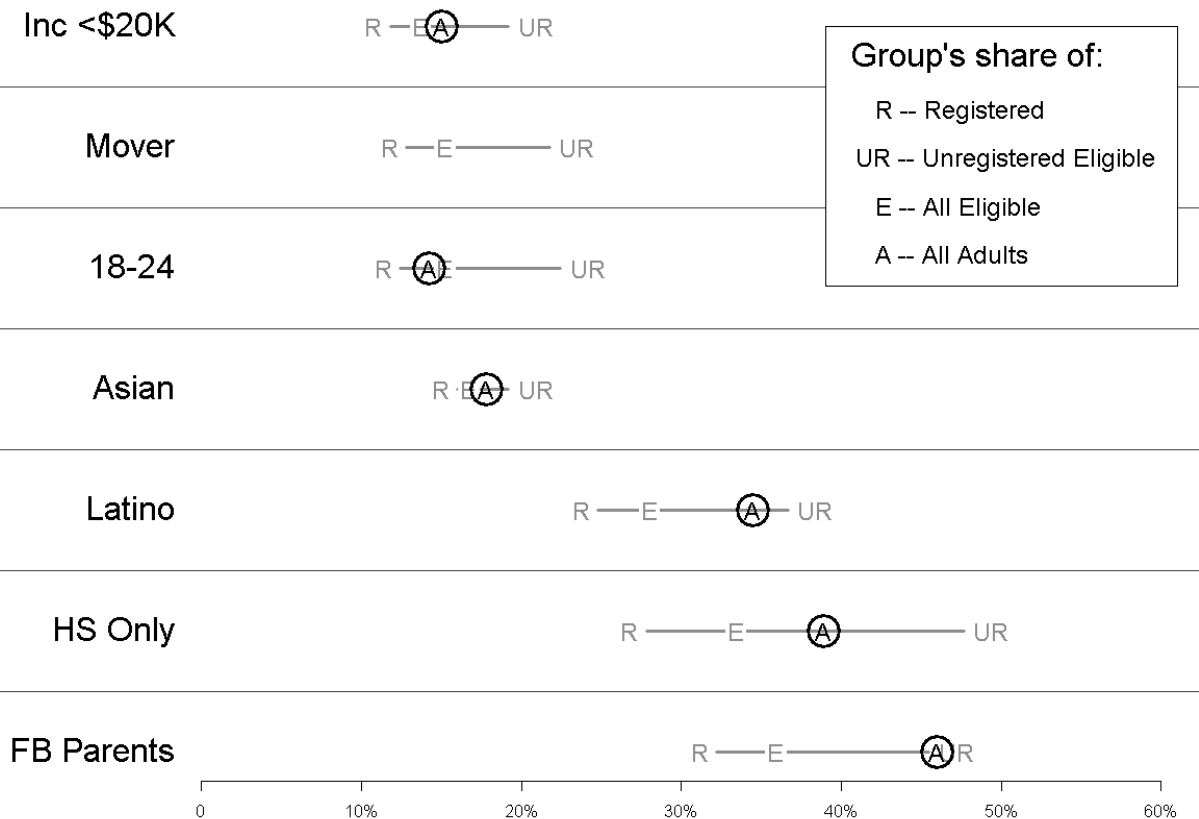
# Registered and unregistered difference varies, but usually large



# Eligible difference varies, but smaller



# Eligible population always more similar to total adult population



# How fast could new registrants be added?

- How many use DMV each year for...
  - ...new driver's license or ID card? ~800,000
  - ...address change? ~2.5 million
  - ...driver's license renewal? ~5 million
- How many of those people are already registered?
  - ~70%-80% of all eligible are registered...
  - ...but those engaging with DMV are young and/or mobile



# How many who can sign up will sign up?

- To be registered under AB 1461...
  - ...attestation of eligibility is *required*
  - ...agreement to be registered is *optional*
- “Opt in” versus “opt out” can have powerful effects on participation
- Key considerations:
  - How hard will it be to avoid the eligibility question?
  - How integrated will the registration portion of the form be with the rest of the form?

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