



News Release

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WOMEN MORE LIKELY TO VOTE THAN MEN IN 9 OF 10 KEY BATTLEGROUND STATES

The four key Midwest battleground states – Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan – are among the top states in getting out the women’s vote, according to the Institute for Women’s Policy Research, in a report to be released November 16th.

Institute President Heidi Hartmann says that women should tell political candidates they have to pay attention to the issues women care about, if they want to win those key states.

“The hard fact is that women are more likely to vote than men in 9 out of 10 key swing states,” according to Hartmann. “Only in Pennsylvania are men more likely than women to enter the polling booth.”

Hartmann also called on women in three key swing states to follow the lead of women in high turnout states. “Women in Florida, Nevada, and Pennsylvania ranked in the bottom third of the country for women’s voter turnout in 1998 and 2000. The eyes of the nation are now on them. They should get out to the polls on Election Day, just like women in top states like Minnesota and Wisconsin,” Hartmann said.

Minnesota is the state with the highest rate of women’s voting in the nation at 68 percent. On average, slightly under half of all American women have voted in recent elections, but seven out of ten key battleground states have higher than average women’s turnout: Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The Status of Women in the States report ranks all 50 states and the District of Columbia in their overall women's political activism using four key measures: voter registration, voter turnout, women in public office, and women's institutional resources. The report also ranks states on women's economic progress, social and economic autonomy, women's health, and reproductive rights.

IWPR is a nonprofit public policy research organization dedicated to informing and stimulating debate on public policy issues of critical importance to women and their families. IWPR focuses on issues that affect women's daily lives, including employment, earnings and economic change; democracy and society; poverty, welfare and income security; work and family policies; and health and violence.

In November, IWPR will publish the fifth round of its *Status of Women in the States* series with comparative data from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since 1996, these reports have served to inform researchers, advocates and policymakers about advances and gaps in women's economic, social, and political rights.

Institute President and CEO Dr. Heidi Hartmann holds a Ph.D. in economics from Yale. She is an expert on women's issues including poverty, employment, and health. She was the recipient of a MacArthur fellowship award in 1994.

Women's Voter Registration and Turnout in Battleground States

State	Percent of Women Registered to Vote, 1998 and 2000		Percent of Women Who Voted, 1998 and 2000	
	Percent t	Rank	Percent t	Rank
Colorado	67.8%	21	53.8%	18
Florida	61.8%	44	46.9%	40
Iowa	75.3%	4	59.6%	8
Michigan	71.9%	13	56.3%	11
Minnesota	81.0%	2	67.9%	1
Nevada	51.6%	49	41.8%	48
New Mexico	62.4%	41	51.7%	27

Ohio	66.3%	30	52.5%	23
Pennsylvania	62.3%	42	47.3%	38
Wisconsin	74.6%	8	60.2%	5
United States	64.6%		49.3%	

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