



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In Brief

“The Constitution of the United States gave Congress the power to govern Washington... In 1973, Congress granted Washingtonians the right to elect their local officials. However, Washington does not have a voting representative in Congress...After World War II, many Washingtonians began demanding the right to participate in government. Congress and the states passed a constitutional amendment that allowed Washingtonians to vote in presidential elections for the first time in 1964. In 1970, Congress passed legislation permitting Washington to have a delegate in the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time since 1875. The delegate may vote in committees but not in votes of the full House of Representative.

Resource: World Book 2008

Capital: Oklahoma City

Area: 68 sq mi

Population: 581,530

Resource: World Almanac 2008

The District of Columbia, which is holding primaries on Feb. 12, had a 2007 population of about 588,000 that includes a higher percentage of blacks and a lower percentage of Hispanics than the nation as a whole, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. About 69 percent of the voting-age citizens in the nation’s capital cast a ballot in the 2004 general election. That’s above the national rate of 64 percent.

More information at: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html>

Selected Characteristics	D.C.	U.S.
Median age	35.0	36.4
Women	53.1%	50.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	31.7%	66.4%
Black alone	56.5%	12.8%
Hispanic or Latino	8.2%	14.8%
Median household income	\$51,847	\$48,451
Foreign born	12.7%	12.5%
Persons below poverty	19.6%	13.3%
Bachelor’s degree or higher (age 25+)	45.9%	27.0%
Median home value	\$437,700	\$185,200

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Total Population Estimates (2007), State Population Estimates by Characteristics (2006), American Community Survey (2006).

More Resources

Government Information
<p>The official web site for the District of Columbia http://www.dc.gov/</p> <p>Mayor of the District of Columbia http://dc.gov/mayor/index.shtm?portal_link=hr</p> <p>District of Columbia - Elected officials in U.S. House of Representatives http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW_by_State.shtml#de</p>
Elections 2008
<p>Politics 1: District of Columbia http://www.politics1.com/dc.htm</p> <p>The Green Papers: District of Columbia 2008 General elections - General http://www.thegreenpapers.com/G08/DC.phtml</p> <p>DC Voting Rights and Representation http://about.dc.gov/statehood.asp</p>
Statistics
<p>District of Columbia - Quick facts from the US Census Bureau http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/11000.html</p>
Media
<p>Local newspapers http://www.newslink.org/dcnews.html</p> <p>Local radio stations http://www.newslink.org/dcradi.html</p>
General Information
<p>Infoplease District of Columbis http://www.infoplease.com/ce6/us/A0815651.html</p>

Please find more information at
<http://usa.usembassy.de/classroom/electionproject2008/index>