

THE PORTUGUESE AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP PROJECT
A NON-PARTISAN INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE CITIZENSHIP AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT



**SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**EVALUATION
OF
THE 2006 ELECTIONS**

July 23, 2007

SUPPORTED BY THE
LUSO-AMERICAN
FOUNDATION

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KEY STATISTICS

- **Number of Members in San Joaquin: 1,612**
- **Heads of Household registered to vote in San Joaquin: 743 (46% of San Joaquin parishioners)**
- **All Household Members registered to vote in San Joaquin: 944**
- **Heads of Household voter turnout* in June 2006 – 50% (county-wide turnout 33%)**
- **Heads of Household voter turnout in November 2006 – 78% (county-wide turnout 55%)**

SUMMARY OF WORK

Saint Patrick's Parish has been an active participant in the Portuguese American Citizenship Project since late 2002.

For the June 2006 Primary Elections and the November 2006 General Elections, postcards in Portuguese, Spanish and English were sent to every registered voter in the organization reminding them of the date and polling hours for each election.

* Voter turnout is the number of citizens voting in an election divided by the total number of citizens registered to vote. Voter turnout for each election is based on San Joaquin County residents only.

RESULTS

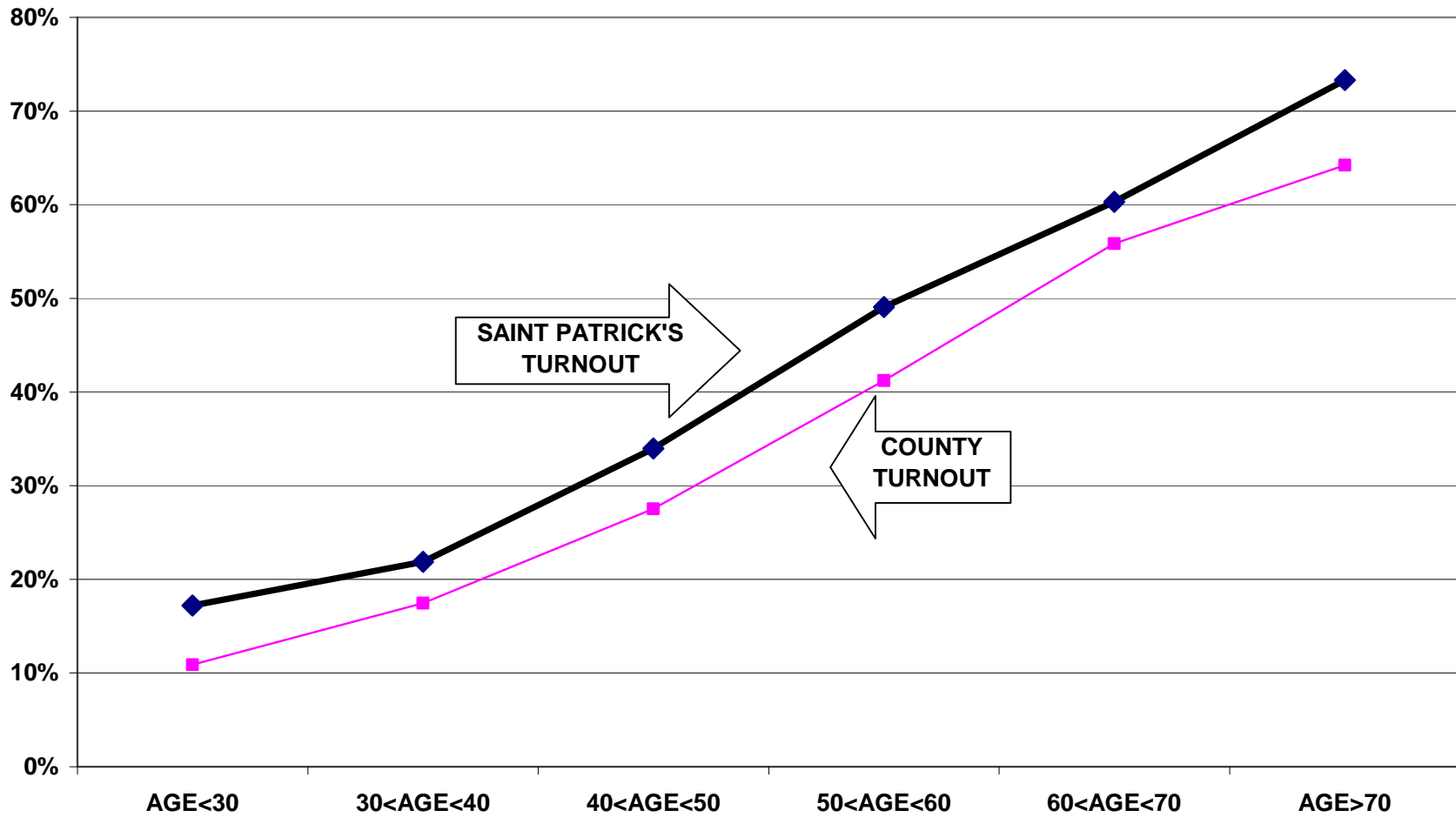
Saint Patrick's Parish voter turnout was higher than the countywide turnout in the June 2006 Primary Election and the November 2006 General Election. Heads of household turnout for the June 2006 Primary Elections was 50%, as compared to the countywide turnout of 33%. St Patrick's heads of household turnout for the November 2006 General Election was 78%, as compared to the countywide turnout of 55%.

Voter turnout for all family members associated with the parish is not uniform across age groups. Voters under 30 years of age and even those between 30 and 40 years old had lower turnout rates than the older voters. This is true for the registered voters in the parish and true for the registered voters in the community at large.

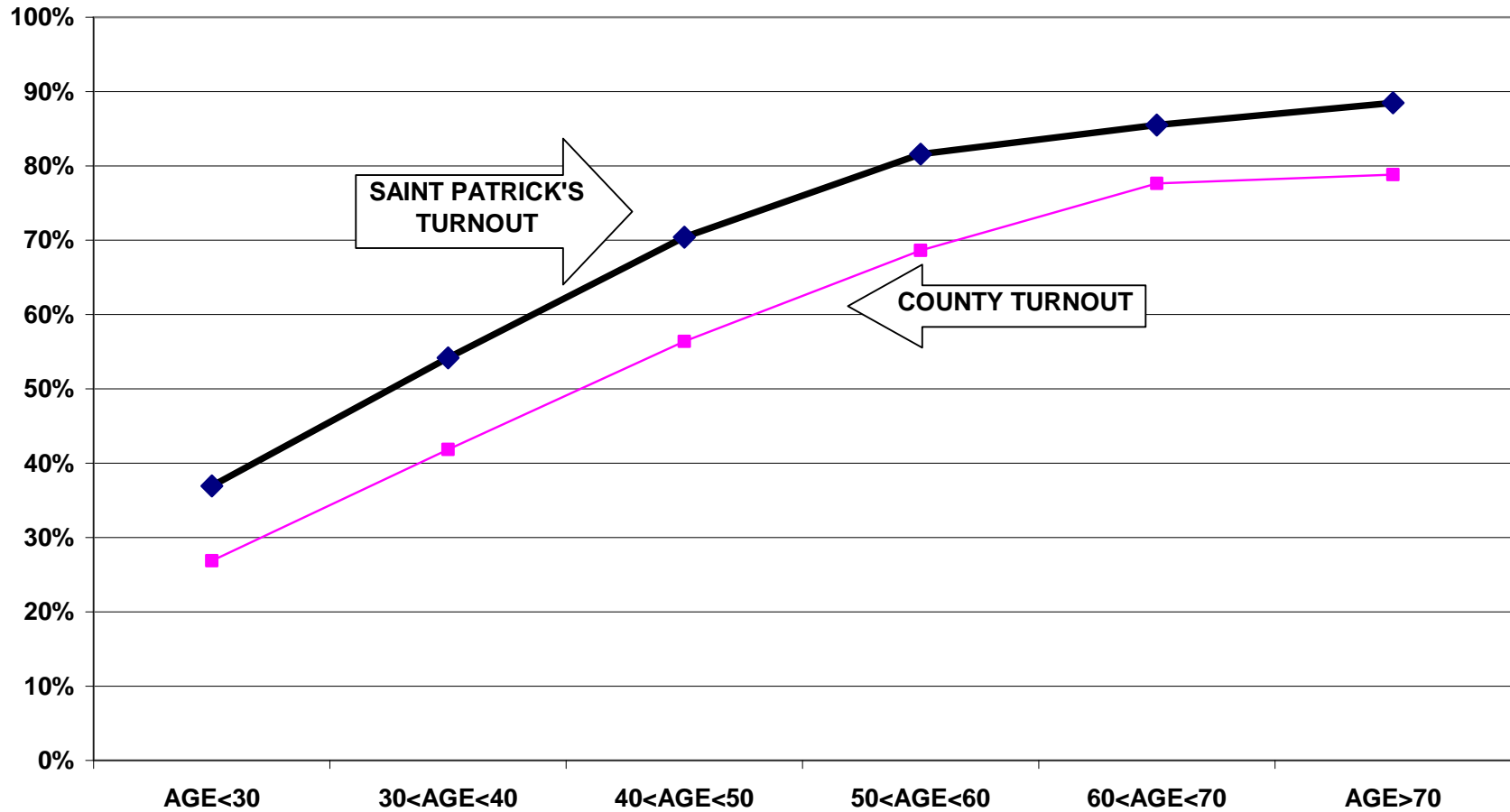
For example, registered voters associated with the parish under 30 years old had a 17% turnout rate in the June 2006 elections, while voters between 60 and 70 years old had a 60% turnout rate. For the November 2006 elections, the under 30 year old associated voters had a 37% turnout rate compared to a 85% turnout rate for voters between 60 and 70 years old.

The following graphs for the June and November 2006 elections illustrate the relationship between turnout rates and age. These graphs refer to all family members associated with the parish, not just heads of household.

**TURNOUT BY AGE JUNE 2006
SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**



**TURNOUT BY AGE NOVEMBER 2006
SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**



RECOMMENDATIONS

- The parish should examine ways to increase its overall voter turnout rate. While Saint Patrick's Parish has generally outvoted the county overall, and the difference between the parish turnout and the San Joaquin county turnout has remained consistent, an effort should be made to further increase voter turnout. Also, among voters associated with the parish, voters in the older categories consistently outvote the younger voter categories. This issue should be addressed to increase turnout for the younger age groups.
- In order to encourage increased voter registrations and revive commitment to strong voter turnout, Saint Patrick's Parish should consider its Faithful Citizenship ministry by sending letters to every parish family reminding them of the parish's commitment to civic involvement and encouraging voter registration for members who are citizens but have not yet registered.

APPENDIX

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- Difference in Voter Turnout Bar Graph 11
- Registered Voters vs. Actual Voters June 2006 Bar Graph 12
- Registered Voters vs. Actual Voters November 2006 Bar Graph 13

**HISTORICAL DATA: SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH
REGISTRATION - VOTING**

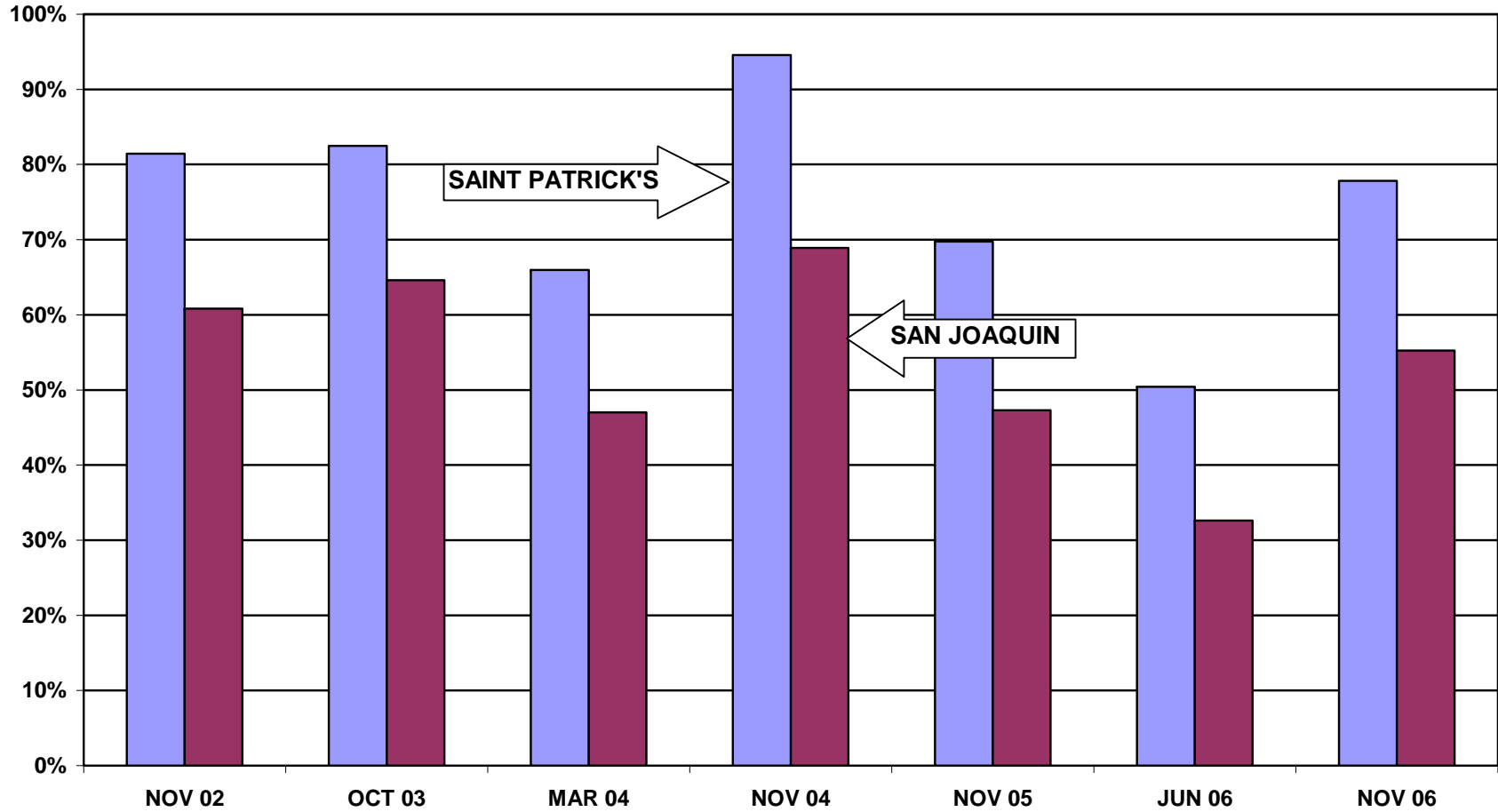
MEMBERS	1,612
PARISHIONERS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY	743 HEADS-OF-HOUSEHOLD
	944 ALL FAMILY MEMBERS

**VOTING PERFORMANCE OF SAN JOAQUIN
COUNTY RESIDENTS**

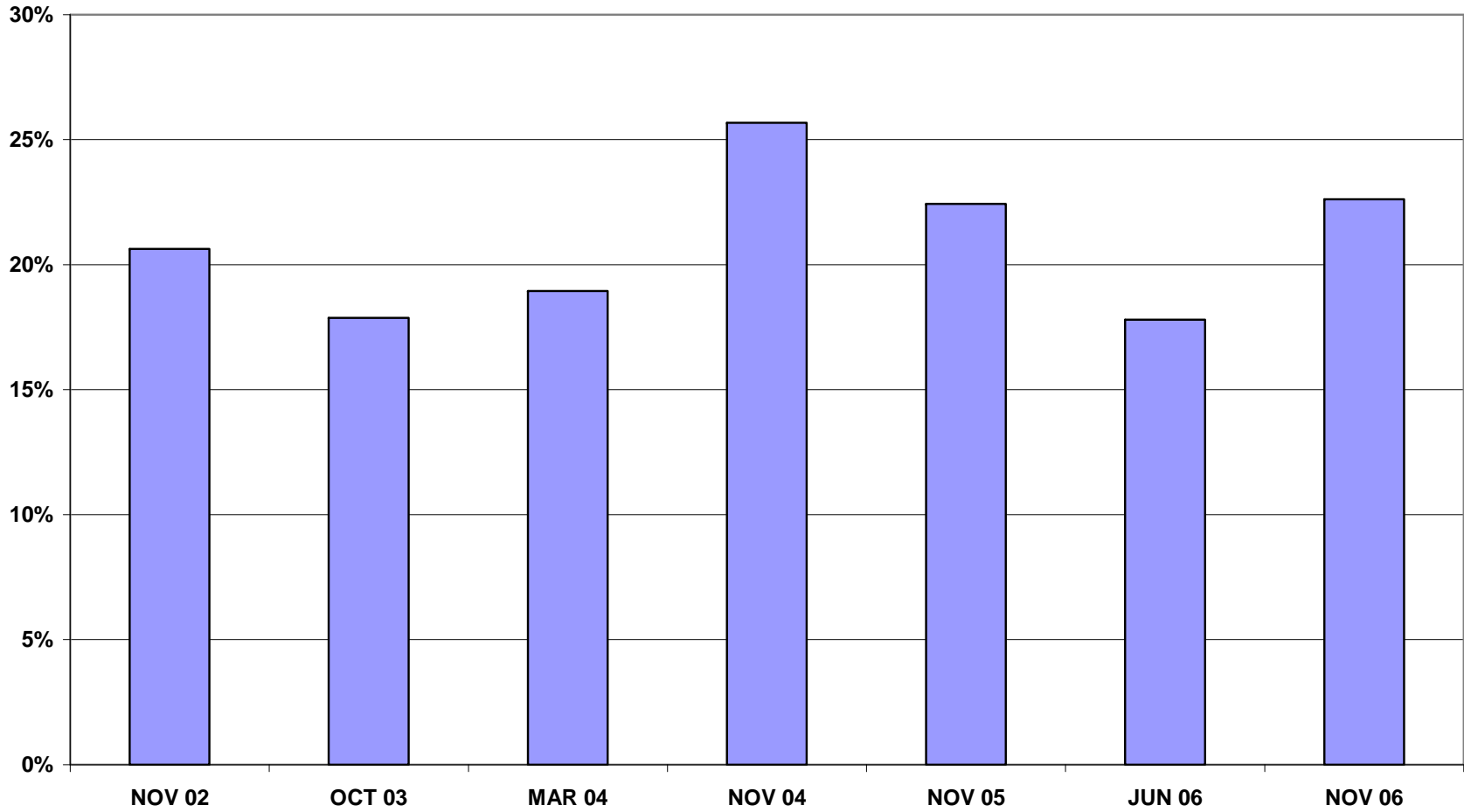
	HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD	AS PERCENT OF ALL REGISTERED PARISHIONERS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE	COUNTY WIDE VOTING HISTORY AS PERCENT OF ALL REGISTERED VOTERS
		COMPARABLE STATISTICS	
VOTERS NOV 2002	605	81.4%	60.8%
VOTERS OCT 2003	640	85.5%	64.6%
VOTERS MAR 2004	521	65.9%	47.0%
VOTERS NOV 2004	663	94.6%	68.9%
VOTERS NOV 2005	507	69.7%	47.3%
VOTERS JUN 2006	371	50.4%	32.6%
VOTERS NOV 2006	576	77.8%	55.2%

Note: Data for 2006 elections are based on registration from May 2007

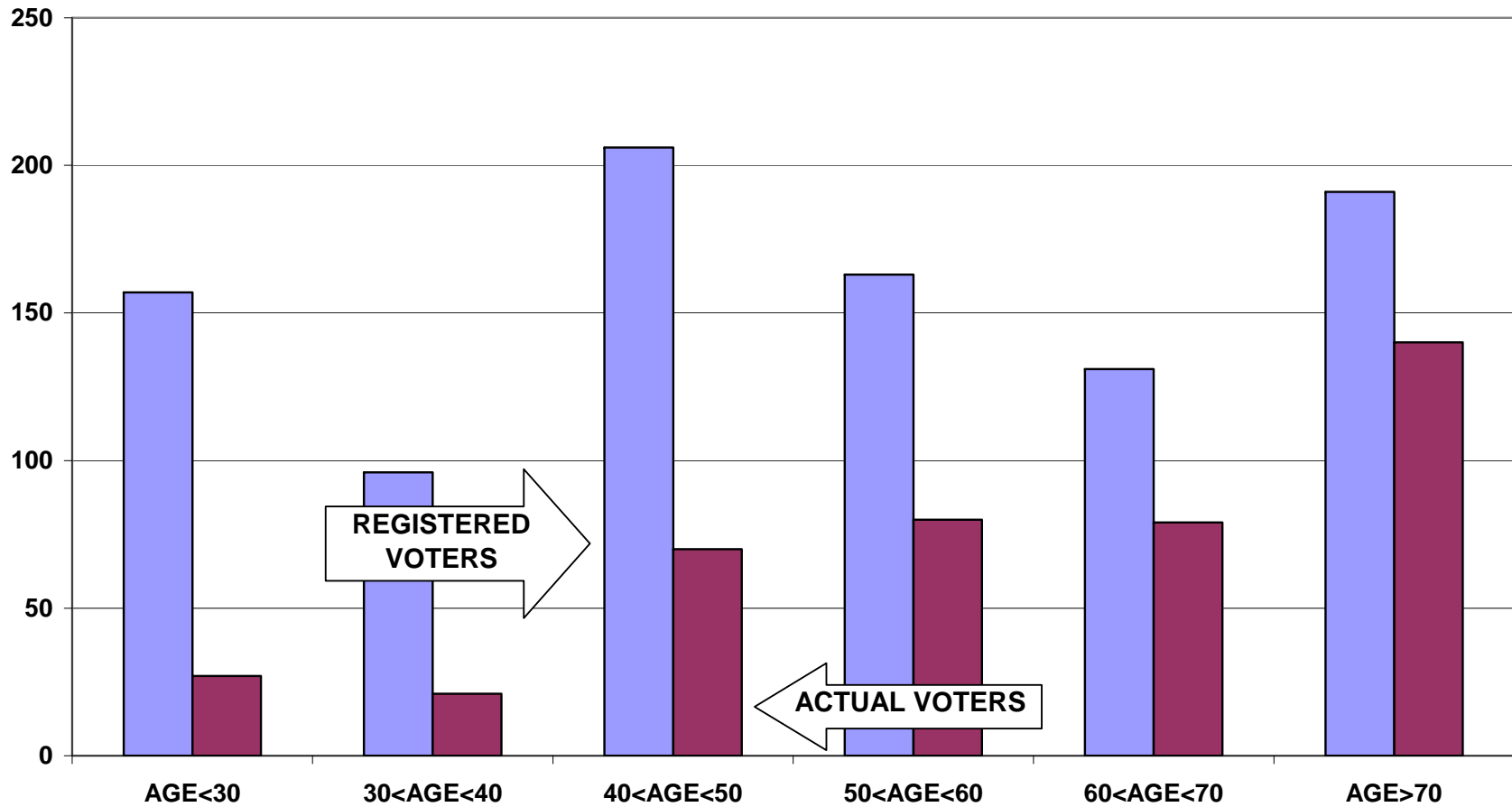
REGISTERED VOTER TURNOUT COMPARISON OF SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AND SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD



**DIFFERENCE IN VOTER TURNOUT BETWEEN
SAINT PATRICK'S VOTERS AND SAN JOAQUIN VOTERS
HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD**



**REGISTERED VOTERS VERSUS ACTUAL VOTERS JUNE 2006
SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**



**REGISTERED VOTERS VERSUS ACTUAL VOTERS NOVEMBER 2006
SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

