



New Delhi: More than 5 percent of American population comprises of Asian-Americans, including Indians, in 145 congressional district and 600 cities. The vast minority group, numbering 18 millions, could shift the balance of November 6 elections in either of the two candidate's favour. Both the presidential candidates, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney, are neck-to-neck in the run-up to the US presidential election.

Indian community is approximately 1 % of the total US population (3,183,063). Both the candidates, under intense pressure to stabilize a dwindling economy, would be compelled to bring back jobs to Americans.

Indian Americans are the most leaning of the Asian groups. They tend to favour Democrats in general and Barack Obama in particular, according to [National Asian American Survey \(NAAS\)](#).

53% of the American Indians are independent. 3% Republican and 46% are Democrats.

Barack Obama is the most favoured choice of most of the Indians living in US. Barack Obama enjoys approval of 88% Indians, much higher than Obama's national approval rating.

Some attribute the lack of support to Republican Party's staunch Christian and "vitriol of angry white men", quoted the [NAAS](#) survey.

(To read the complete report of NAAS survey click [here](#).)

However, pundits question the "illogical" support for Obama by the Indians. They believe that Republican Party has been more representative of business and conservative values typically associated with the Indian-American professional class. Consequently Republican Party should enjoy the support of Indians rather than anyone else.

The other Asian American community, in undecided states like Nevada and West Virginia, Asian Americans could prove to be the deciding factor in elections.

However, it is normally perceived that Asian American community is bound to favour the Democrats. However, there is still hope for the Republicans; polls predicted more than 31 to 34 percent of Asian Americans are neither Democrats nor Republican.

More than 6, 00,000 voters entered electorate after the 2008 elections. A similar number is expected in 2012 according to National Survey of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The Democrat took 62 percent of the Asian American vote in the last election of 2008. The recent recession has hit the community hard and it could be sign of concern for the Democratic Party.

The role of the community in the upcoming US presidential election becomes even more crucial, considering both the candidates are tied in Wisconsin and Virginia; Barack Obama has fallen behind Romney in Florida; and remains ahead in Ohio, reported [Philstar.com](#).

Both the parties cannot afford to ignore this important section of the US population. Immigration policy, relaxation in visa norms are some of the important issues that needs to be addressed. Both the parties are aggressively trying to side the community in their favour.

To read the complete report, click [here](#).

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