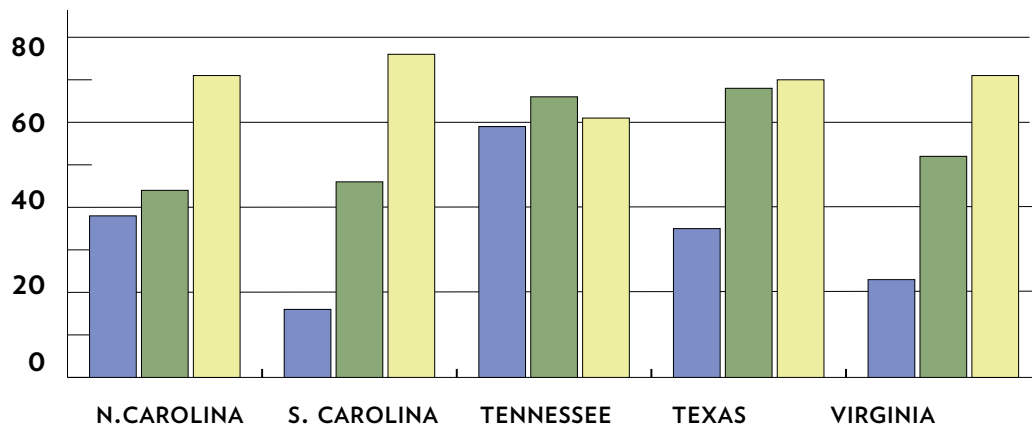
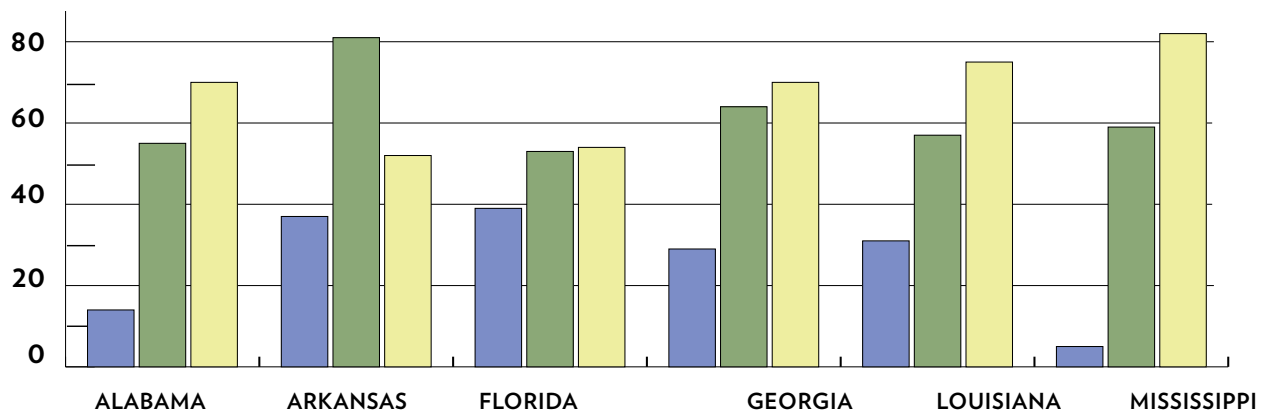




EXPANDING VOTING RIGHTS


Percentage of Registered Voters in Black Voting-Age Population 1960, 1971, 2008

One way to evaluate the success of the Voting Rights Act is to look at the percentages of eligible black voters who registered to vote before the Act passed and after.



 % OF REGISTERED
VOTERS IN BLACK
VOTING-AGE
POPULATION 1960*

 % OF REGISTERED
VOTERS IN BLACK
VOTING-AGE
POPULATION 1971*

 % OF REGISTERED
VOTERS IN BLACK
VOTING-AGE
POPULATION 2008**

*Source: Frazier, et al. (2003). *Out of Many: A History of the American People* (Upper Saddle River, NJ), p. 892.
**Source: Table 4b: Reported Voting and Registration of the Voting-Age Population, by Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin, for States: November 2008. Link through: www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/publications/p20/2008/tables.html

TEACHING TOLERANCE

A PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
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MIDDLE & UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

1. What do the states in the table have in common? Why are these states (rather than others) included here?

2. Look closely at the data in the table. What overall trend do you see? What do you think accounted for the trend?

3. What exceptions to that trend do you see? What do you think might account for the exceptions? After you examine new limits on voter registration, see if your hypothesis was correct.