



every vote counts COLLEGE EDITION

Election day November 6, 2018

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting."

~Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Every Vote Counts: College Edition

Am I eligible to vote?

- U.S. citizen
- Meet state requirements
- 18 years old

How do I register to vote? **varies by state*

View detailed voting information by state:

<http://www.brennancenter.org/how-vote-2016>

- Mail the National Mail Voter Registration Form
 - Download form from
https://www.eac.gov/assets/1/6/Federal_Voter_Registration_6-8-18_ENG.pdf
 - Submit form according to the NMVRF "State Instructions"
 - Not accepted by North Dakota, Wyoming, and US territories
- In-person registration
 - State or local voter registration or election offices
 - DMV
 - Public assistance agencies
 - Armed services recruitment centers
 - Other public facility designated by state
- Online
 - Accepted in 38 states
 - Identify at
<https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/voter-registration-modernization-states>
- Updated voter registration deadlines vary by state
<https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>

Students' methods of voting

- Early voting
- Absentee voting
- Changing residency to vote in your college's state

View state guidelines: <http://campusvoteproject.org/studentguides/>

How to acquire an absentee ballot

Available in all 50 states, although 20 states require an excuse

1. From the source below, select your state to find absentee ballot request requirements

<https://www.usa.gov/election-office>

2. Some states require a valid excuse to vote absentee

- Illness, injury, or disability
- Business travel or vacation
- Student at an out-of-state college or university

www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx#a

3. Follow state's instructions for requesting an absentee ballot online or by mail

How to complete an absentee ballot vote

**Each state establishes its own rules and procedures for absentee*

1. Check deadlines for requesting and submitting absentee ballots from state or local election office

2. Receive absentee ballot by mail or complete online

3. Educate yourself on voter information

<https://www.periodicalpress.senate.gov/election-2018/>

<https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/congress-trump-score/>

4. Submit their ballots by mail, return in person, or complete online before the election

How to do early voting

In person voting prior to Election Day

Offered by 27 states: <https://www.vote.org/early-voting-calendar/>

1. Check which states offer early voting

<https://www.vote.org/early-voting-calendar/>

1. Apply for early voting if necessary

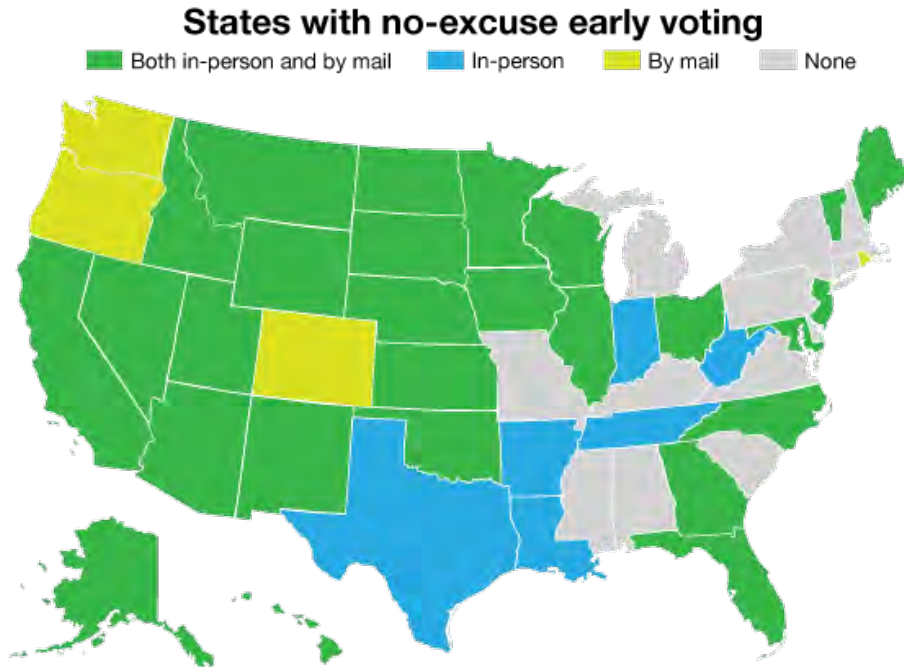
<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm>

1. Visit polls within the state's Early Voting period

<https://www.politico.com/story/2016/09/early-voting-states-228435>

How to change residency to vote in college state

- Update voting registration information
 - Found at the state's Secretary of State website or the board of elections
 - View state specific registration requirements <https://www.usa.gov/election-office>
- Comply with state registration requirements
- Complete voting method of choice in newly registered vote state



<http://ridatahub.org/datastories/young-voters/1/>

How to prepare for election day

- Confirm that you are registered to vote
<https://www.vote.org/am-i-registered-to-vote/>
- Know your voting options offered by state
<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/state-elections/state-voting-laws-requirements.htm>
- Know the voter identification required of you at polling
- Know your assigned polling place, the date, and hours open
<https://www.eac.gov/voters/election-day-contact-information/>
- Educate yourself on the candidates and issues that you will vote on
<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>
<https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/congress-trump-score/>

For more detailed information, visit:

<https://www.eac.gov/assets/1/1/A%20Voter's%20Guide%20to%20Federal%20Elections.pdf>

Why does it matter to vote?

- Every vote can make a difference in an election (local, state or federal)
- By not voting, your support goes to the candidate you're against
- Policies preferred by candidates will affect your future
- Demonstrate concern for future action and generations
- Honor past sacrifices that give you the right to vote today
- Take advantage of all opportunities as a US adult citizen

Top reasons for not voting

1. Too busy
2. Illness or emergency
3. Not interested
4. Did not like candidates
5. Out of town
6. Registration problems
7. Inconvenient

Why do college student votes matter?

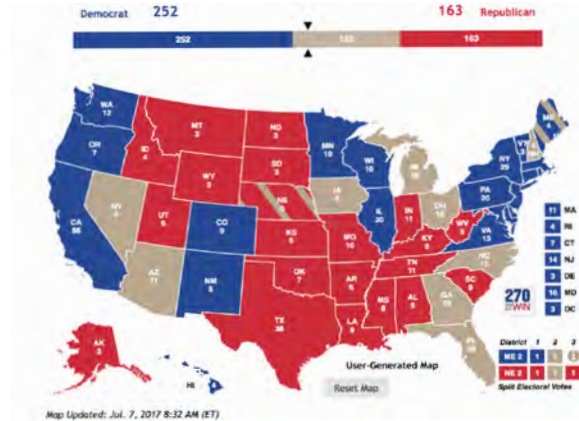
- Comprise large portion of eligible voting population
- College students are most vulnerable to economic and social policy changes
- Represent the most diverse age group eligible to vote
- Hold the power to influence election outcomes

For more reasons, visit: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/03/us/students-voter-turnout.html> and <https://www.thebestcolleges.org/9-reasons-we-need-young-voters-more-than-ever/>

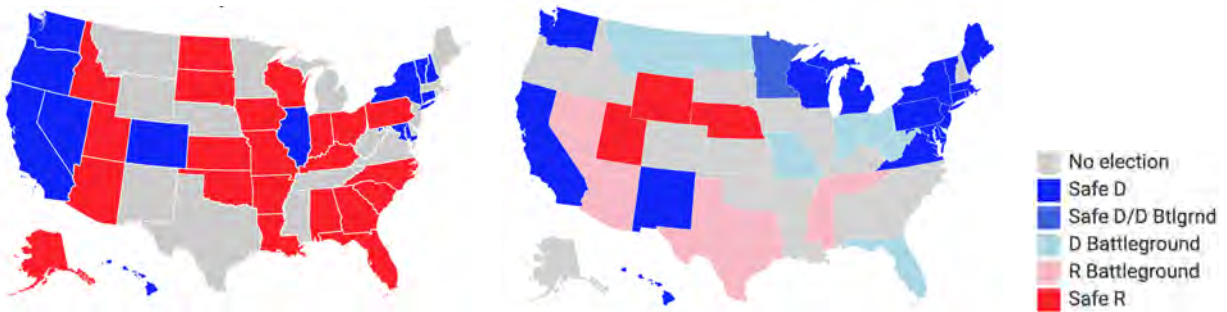
Ok, so it's important to vote...but who is it most important for?

- Those who live or go to school in swing states/swing districts
- Consider changing your voting registration to your college state/district if it is a

swing state/district or you support a different party than typically elected in that area



2016 general election battleground map
(www.270towin.com)



2016 Senate election results
Senate election battlegrounds
(www.270towin.com)

2018
(www.ballotpedia.org)

US citizens between ages 18 and 30 comprise the lowest voting rate of the eligible voting population. Much of this is attributed to their characteristic low income, single relationship status, lacking homeownership, and being focused elsewhere. In fact, only 49% of college students voted in the last general election.¹ Despite their low voting rates, college student election votes matter enormously because young people account for a huge portion of the voting population, young people are most affected by

Number of Millennials eligible to vote now roughly equal to Boomers

Eligible voters by generation, 1996-2016



¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/03/us/students-voter-turnout.html>

² <https://www.thebestcolleges.org/9-reasons-we-need-young-voters-more-than-ever/>

changes in economic and social policy, they represent the most diverse age group, and have the ability to swing election outcomes.²

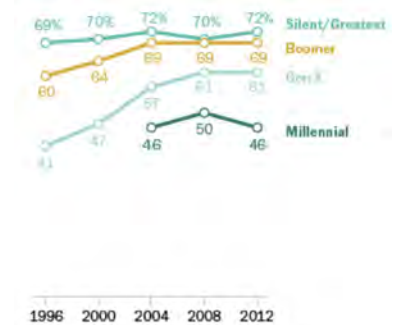
Now, more than ever, is the time to exercise our right to vote. We must amplify our voices and strengthen our stance in the polarized political climate of today.

Millennials today hold the largest proportion of voting potential than any other generation eligible to vote, yet, millennials have the lowest voter turnout rate. The National Public Radio reports:

Millennials are now as large of a political force as Baby Boomers...Baby Boomers reached their peak voting power in 2004. But since then, that population has been dying and declining; while, at the same time, millennials have been aging (turning 18) and increasing as a percent of the voter pool.

Voter turnout rates in presidential elections, by generation

% of eligible voters who say they voted



Thus, the youngest eligible and most influential generation is not taking full advantage of the influence they have and the weight they hold in the current political climate, primarily characterized by polarization.

Upcoming elections to look out for in 2018

November 6. Senate Midterm Elections

November 6. House of Representatives Midterm Elections

& Hundreds of congressional, state and local primaries throughout the year

How to engage your campus

<https://campuselect.org/voter-registration-2/register-students-to-vote/>

- Spread information across campus
- Establish social platform to increase engagement
- Register students
- Re-register students for college state or provide absentee ballot forms

Resources for voter information

- Voter related information: <http://www.vote411.org/>
- Voter registration tool:

³ <https://www.npr.org/2016/05/16/478237882/millennials-now-rival-boomers-as-a-political-force-but-will-they-actually-vote>

⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/us/elections/calendar-primary-results.html>