MISSING VOTERS PROJECT:
Young Adults 2016

Elizabeth Pathak PhD, Ellie Margolis JD, Beverly G. Ward PhD, and Janelle Menard PhD

15.3 MILLION YOUNG ADULT CITIZENS

did not vote on November 8, 2016

DESCRIPTION OF MISSING VOTERS

Introduction	page 1	Method of Registration	page 8
Summary of Voting	page 2	Reasons for Not Registering	page 9
Young Adult Citizens State Map	page 3	Top States with Missing Voters	page 10
Women by Race and Hispanic Origin	page 4	Missing Voters State Map	page 11
Men by Race and Hispanic Origin	page 5	Reasons for Not Voting	page 12
Education	page 6	Resources	page 13
Family Income	page 7		

REMARKS

Missing young adult voters were last seen in all 50 states and the District of Columbia on the morning of November 8, 2016. These civilian, non-military, non-institutionalized adults were aged 18 to 24 years at the time of the election.

DETAILS

The Women's Institute for Independent Social Enquiry (WiiSE), a nonpartisan think tank, is issuing this report to alert the public to the millions of young adult voters missing from the November 2016 elections. Concerned individuals interested in locating these USA citizens and aiding their future participation in American elections are urged to share this alert widely.

Publication Information

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the following individuals for their support of the Missing Voters Project: Adam Guth, Amit Pathak, Camila Ozores-Silva, Carles Muntaner, Didier Menard, John Heimburg, Julie Rioux, Kim Wilson, Nina Basu, Phyllis Barnett, Rebecca Garcia, Robert Barnett, and Sarah Projansky.

How to Cite This Report

Pathak EB, Margolis E, Ward BG, Menard J. *Missing Voters Project: Young Adults 2016.* Olney, MD: Women's Institute for Independent Social Enquiry, 2018. https://www.wiise-usa.org/mvp/mvp-2016-national/

About the Authors

Elizabeth Pathak, PhD is the President and Chair of the Board of WiiSE. She is a population health scientist whose research focuses on geographic, socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and gender disparities in health outcomes in the United States. She is a passionate advocate for methodologically rigorous scholarship which seeks to uncover the power relations that perpetuate socioeconomic and health inequalities.

Ellie Margolis, JD is Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of WiiSE. She is Professor of Law at Temple University. Throughout her career, Professor Margolis has worked to advance the rights of women and those underrepresented in the legal system. Her scholarly work considers the impact of technological advances on legal persuasion in a variety of written forms, and is widely cited in legal writing textbooks, law review articles, and appellate briefs.

Beverly G. Ward, PhD is a member of the Board of Directors of WiiSE. She is the Field Secretary for Earthcare for the Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Throughout her career, Dr. Ward has conducted research and provided technical assistance to communities and local, state, and federal agencies on social justice, environmental, housing, and transportation issues. She is deeply involved with the Alternatives to Violence Project as a facilitator and helps to provide community and prison workshops.

Janelle Menard, PhD is the Vice-President of WiiSE. She is an applied anthropologist with expertise in mixed research methods and community-based participatory research strategies in social science and community health research. Dr. Menard advocates for a progressive, socio-ecological research approach to understanding and addressing issues that disproportionately affect disenfranchised groups.

About WiiSE

The Women's Institute for Independent Social Enquiry (WiiSE) is a nonpartisan, progressive think tank whose mission is to foster a just society through independent social science, humanities, arts, and public policy research. We believe that rigorous evidence-based research, when effectively translated for a broad spectrum of audiences, can be a catalyst for transformational social change. We champion the ideas of women by cultivating and supporting women scholars and leaders.

Connect with us!

We welcome your feedback and comments on the Missing Voters Project, as well as on other timely issues relevant to our mission. Please reach out to us online at https://www.wiise-usa.org/connect.

Introduction

Who are America's Missing Young Adult Voters?

Missing voters are voting age citizens who did not vote in November 2016. Missing young adult voters reflect the diversity of the United States as a whole. They are women and men of all races and educational backgrounds, and they live in every state across our nation. Yet, voting participation rates vary considerably across specific groups of young adults. The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the social and demographic characteristics of America's young adult missing voters. Our goal is to inform the widespread grassroots efforts to increase young adult voter participation in the 2018 mid-term and 2020 presidential elections.

What is the Missing Voters Project?

We believe that civic disengagement represents a fundamental threat to the separation of powers in our government, and to American democracy itself. Unfortunately, low rates of voter participation have persisted in the United States for many years, and a culture of complacency has ossified around this political reality. We chose the design motif of an FBI Missing Persons poster for the Missing Voters Project with the goal of eliciting feelings of unease and alarm to fracture this culture of complacency.

Photo by Annie Bolin on Unsplash

The purpose of the Missing Voters Project (MVP) is to present rigorous, impartial data about the demographic characteristics of missing voters in a format that can be easily accessed and used by a wide range of educational, community-based, faith-based, and worker-friendly organizations in their efforts to increase civic engagement.

The MVP voting data are from a special supplement to the Current Population Survey, administered in November 2016 immediately following the election. Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are available at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

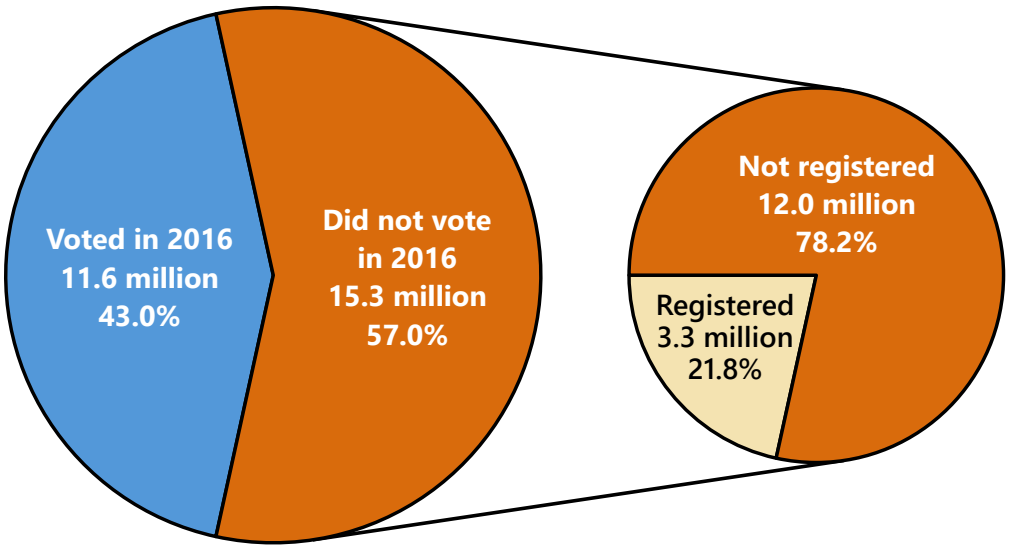
We recognize that there are important voting justice issues that can not be addressed directly through the data analyzed in our report. These issues include voter suppression and intimidation, purging of voter registration rolls, partisan gerrymandering, and other direct and indirect tactics that result in citizen disenfranchisement. Readers are encouraged to consult the Resources at the end of this report (page 13) for links to organizations working directly on these issues.

How to Use This Report

Each page of this report has been designed with a dual purpose: as an integrated part of the whole report, and as a stand-alone "Fact Sheet." Organizations working to increase young adult voter registration can reproduce and share topic-specific Fact Sheets. On our website (https://www.wiise-usa.org/mvp), readers can download the whole report, or choose to download single page fact sheets on their topics of interest.

Figure 1: Young Adult Voting in the United States

Citizens 18 to 24 years old in 2016
Total = 26.9 million



Voting in 2016

In 2016, there were approximately 26.9 million civilian citizens aged 18 to 24 years old in the United States. The citizen population estimates shown in this report include only the *non-institutionalized* population. This means that prisoners, nursing home residents, and other institutionalized persons are not included in any of the statistics reported here.

However, voting age citizens who may be legally ineligible to vote in their state are still included in the estimates in this report. The specific reasons why a citizen may be legally ineligible to vote vary from state to state. For example, some states bar citizens with a previous felony conviction from voting for life.

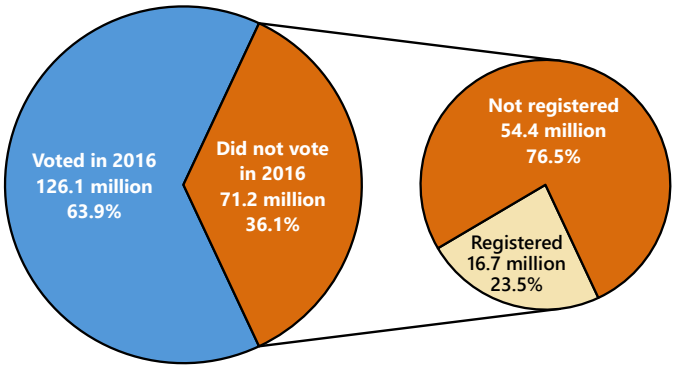
Young Adults Far Less Likely To Vote

In November 2016, only 43.0% of young adult citizens reported voting. This resulted in 15.3 million missing voters, 12.0 million of whom (78.2%) were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 1).

In comparison, the majority (63.9%) of adult citizens aged 25 years and older voted in 2016 (Figure 2). In addition, young adults are greatly outnumbered by adults 25 years and older. There were seven citizens 25 years and older for every single young adult citizen in 2016.

Figure 2: Adult Voting in the United States

Citizens 25+ years old in 2016
Total = 197.3 million



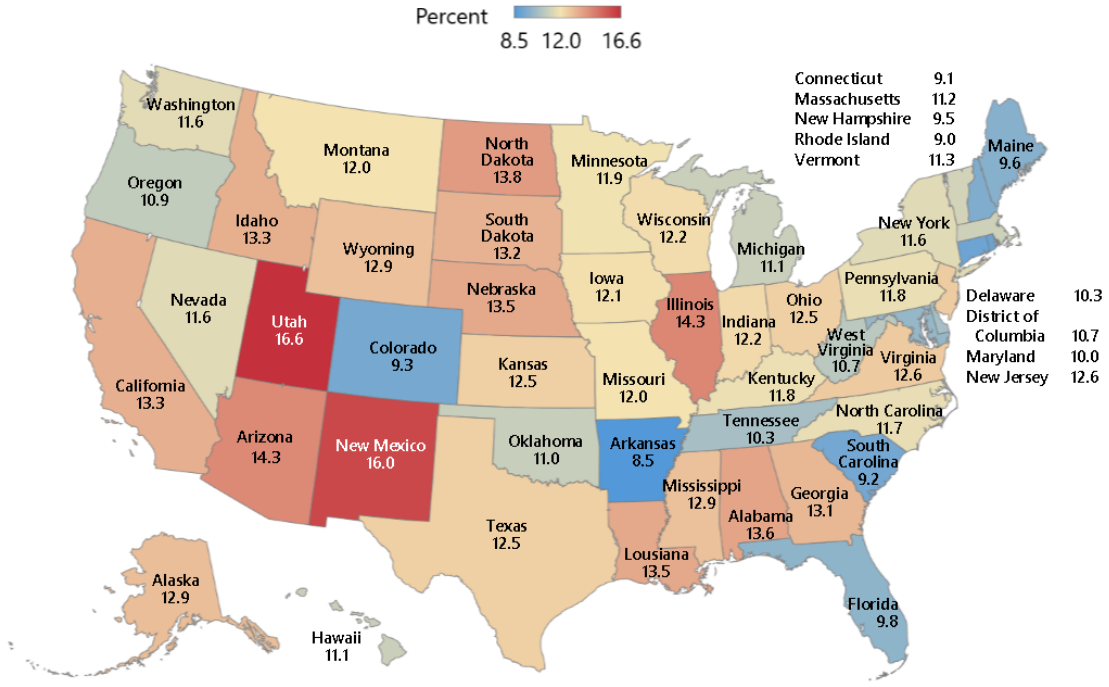
Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from a special supplement to the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, data tables, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Young Adult Citizens State Map

Figure 3: Young Adult Citizens by State

Percent of all adult citizens who were 18 to 24 years old in 2016



What Does This Map Show?

In the nation as a whole, 12.0% of voting age civilian citizens were 18 to 24 years old in 2016. This map shows state variation in the percent of the electorate who were 18 to 24 years old. Above average states (proportionately more young voters) are shown in red, and below average states (proportionately fewer young voters) are shown in blue.

States with Higher than Average Percent Young Adults (Red)

Utah had the highest proportion (16.6%) of all voting age citizens who were 18 to 24 years old in 2016. Other states with higher than average percent young adults included New Mexico (16.0%), Illinois (14.3%), and Arizona (14.3%) (Figure 3).

Average States (Yellow)

States with young voter proportions similar to the national average of 12.0% were found in all regions of the country: in the West (Montana, 12.0% and Nevada, 11.6%), in the South (North Carolina, 11.7% and Kentucky, 11.8%), in the Northeast (Pennsylvania, 11.8% and New York, 11.6%) and in the Midwest (Iowa, 12.1% and Wisconsin, 12.2%) (Figure 3).

States with Lower than Average Percent Young Adults (Blue)

Arkansas had the lowest proportion (8.5%) of all voting age citizens who were 18 to 24 years old in 2016. Other states with lower than average percent young adults included Rhode Island (9.0%), Connecticut (9.1%), South Carolina (9.2%), and Colorado (9.3%) (Figure 3).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Women by Race and Hispanic Origin

Over 7 Million Young Women Missing Voters in 2016; One-Fifth Were Hispanic

Overall, 46.3% of young women citizens voted in 2016, resulting in 7.2 million missing voters. Only 1.5 million of those missing voters (20.8%) were registered prior to the election. Voting participation varied somewhat by race and Hispanic origin, but was low among all young women. Fewer than half of young non-Hispanic white women (48.5%) and Black women (44.3%) voted, followed by young Asian women (43.6%) (Figure 4). Young Hispanic women citizens had the lowest rate of voting (40.7%). More than half of missing young women voters were non-Hispanic white, and one-fifth were Hispanic (Figure 5).

White Women

Fewer than half (48.5%) of young non-Hispanic white women citizens voted in 2016 (Figure 4). There were 4.0 million missing voters, including 3.1 million (77.8%) who were not registered to vote prior to the election (Figure 5).

Black Women

Only 44.3% of young Black women citizens voted in 2016 (Figure 4). This resulted in 1.3 million missing voters. Only 24.7% of these missing voters were registered to vote before the election (Figure 5).

Hispanic Women

Only 40.7% of young Hispanic women citizens voted in 2016 (FIgure 4), resulting in 1.5 million missing voters. The majority of missing voters (1.2 million, 80.4%) were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 5).

Asian Women

Fewer than half (43.6%) of young Asian women citizens voted in 2016 (Figure 4). There were 0.4 million missing voters. The majority (85.9%) were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 5).

Figure 4: Young Women Voting by Race and Hispanic Origin

Women citizens 18 to 24 years old in 2016
Total = 13.4 million

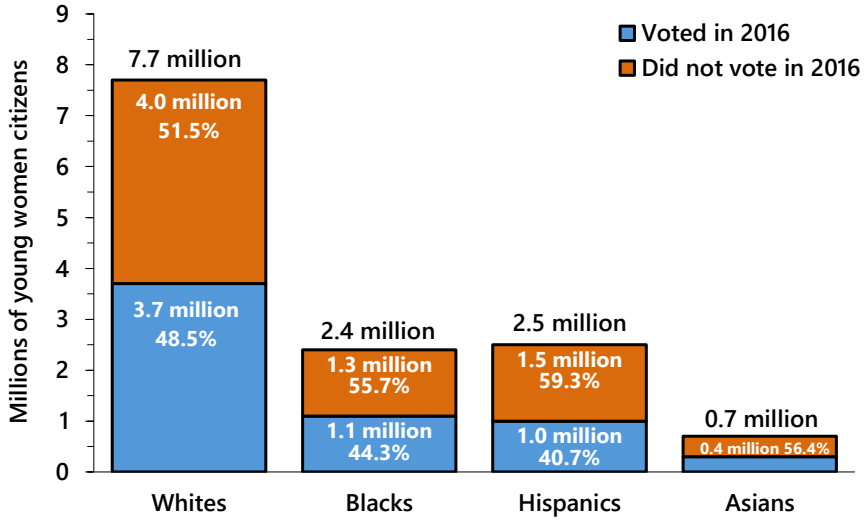
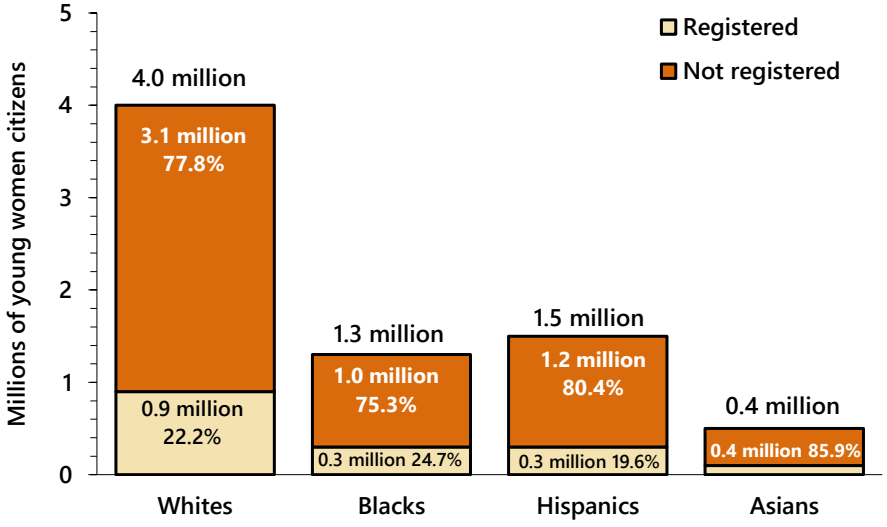


Figure 5: Missing Young Women Voters by Race and Hispanic Origin

Women citizens 18 to 24 years old who did not vote in 2016
Total = 7.2 Million



Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. *Whites* are non-Hispanic, and *Hispanics* may be of any race. *Blacks* and *Asians* include small number of multiracial individuals. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in these charts are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at https://www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Men by Race and Hispanic Origin

Very Low Voting Rates Among Young Men; More Than Half of Missing Voters Were White

Overall, only 40.0% of young men citizens voted in 2016, resulting in 8.1 million missing voters. The lowest voting rates were among young Hispanic men citizens (27.9%), young Asian men citizens (36.4%) and young Black men citizens (38.7%) (Figure 6). Fewer than half (44.8%) of young non-Hispanic white men voted in 2016, and the majority (4.4 million, 54.6%) of missing young men voters were white. Over one-fifth (1.8 million) of missing young men voters were Hispanic (Figure 7).

Figure 6: Young Men Voting by Race and Hispanic Origin

Men citizens 18 to 24 years old in 2016
Total = 13.5 million

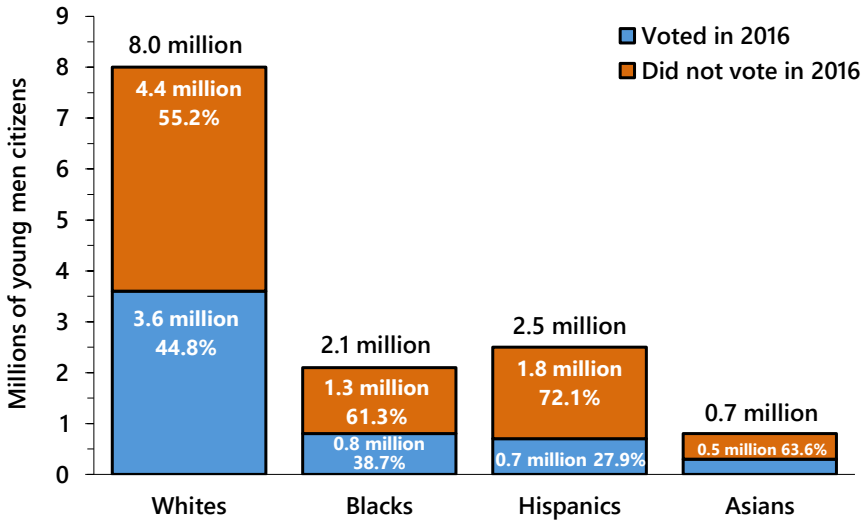
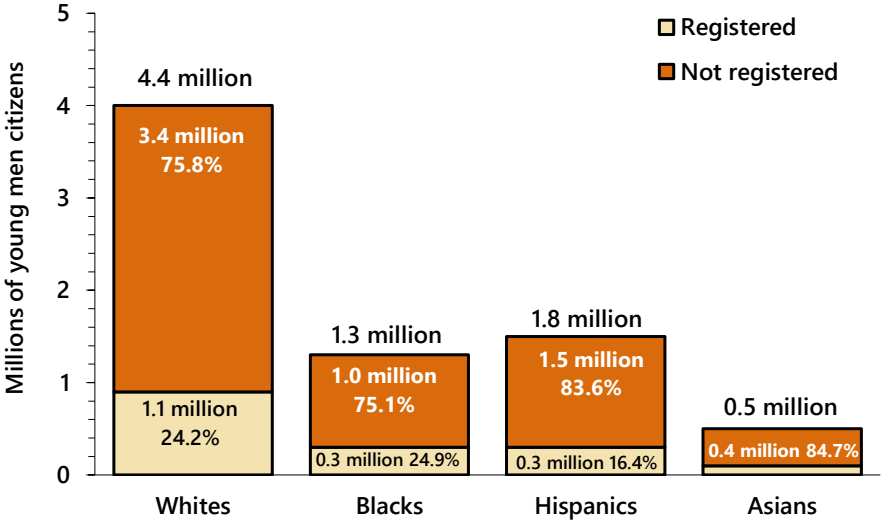


Figure 7: Missing Young Men Voters by Race and Hispanic Origin

Men citizens 18 to 24 years old who did not vote in 2016
Total = 8.1 Million



White Men

Fewer than half (44.8%) of young non-Hispanic white men citizens voted in 2016 (Figure 6). There were 4.4 million missing voters, including 3.4 million (75.8%) who were not registered to vote prior to the election (Figure 7).

Black Men

Only 38.7% of young Black men citizens voted in 2016 (Figure 6). This resulted in 1.3 million missing voters. Only 24.9% of these missing voters were registered to vote before the election (Figure 7).

Hispanic Men

Only 27.9% of young Hispanic men citizens voted in 2016 (FIgure 6), resulting in 1.8 million missing voters. The majority of missing voters (1.5 million, 83.6%) were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 7).

Asian Men

Only 36.4% of young Asian men citizens voted in 2016 (Figure 6). There were half a million missing voters, including 0.4 million (84.7%) who were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 7).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. *Whites* are non-Hispanic, and *Hispanics* may be of any race. *Blacks* and *Asians* include small number of multiracial individuals. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey, (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in these charts are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at https://www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

College Graduates Most Likely to Vote; More Than Half of Missing Voters Had No College

Voting participation among young adults varied dramatically by educational attainment in 2016. Among the 3.5 million young adult citizens who had not graduated from high school, only 20.1% voted (Figure 8). Slightly more than one-third (35.7%) of young adults with a high school diploma voted, while about half (50.5%) of those with some college voted. The highest voting participation (59.5%) was found among young adult citizens with a bachelor's degree or higher. The largest groups of missing voters were young adults with some college (5.8 million) or a high school diploma (5.4 million) (Figure 9).

No Diploma

Only 20.1% of the 3.5 million young adult citizens with no high school diploma voted in 2016 (Figure 8). This resulted in 2.8 million missing voters, 88.9% were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 9).

High School Diploma

Slightly more than one-third (35.7%) of young adults with a high school diploma voted in 2016 (Figure 8). This resulted in 5.4 million missing voters (Figure 9), of whom 4.3 million (80.3%) were not registered to vote before the election.

Some College

About half (50.5%) of young adult citizens with some college education voted in 2016 (Figure 8). There were 5.8 million missing voters, including 4.2 million (72.2%) who were not registered to vote before the election (Figure 9).

Bachelor's or Higher

There were 3.3 million young adult citizens with a college degree and 59.5% reported voting in 2016 (Figure 8). There were 1.3 million missing voters, and only 27.1% were registered to vote before the election (Figure 9).

Figure 8: Young Adult Voting by Education

Citizens 18 to 24 years old in 2016
Total = 26.9 million

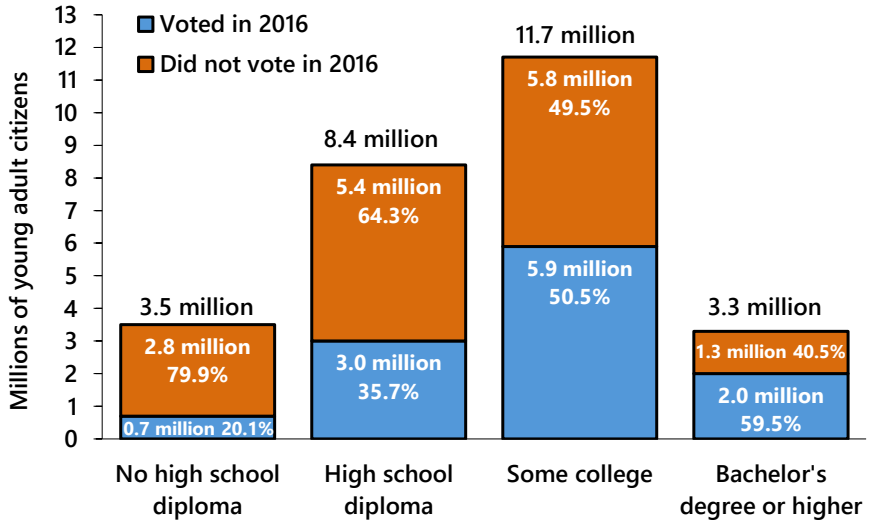
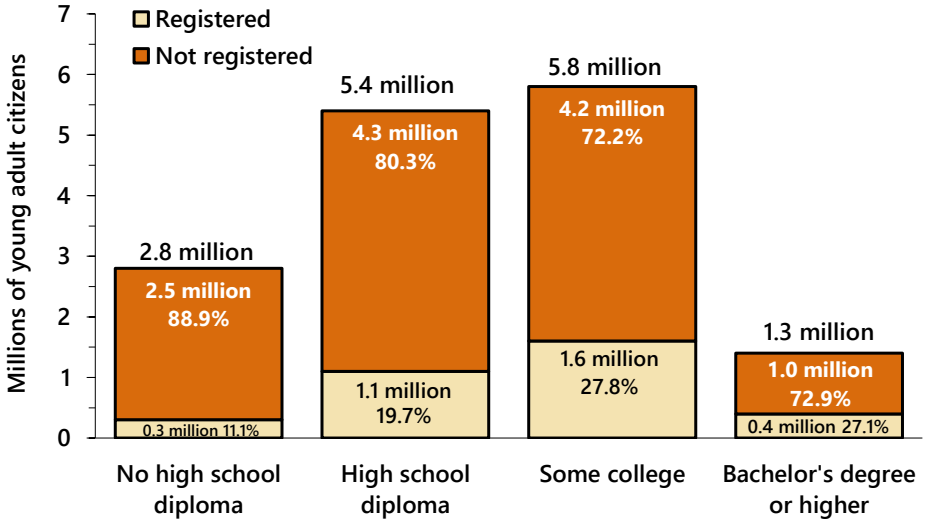


Figure 9: Missing Young Adult Voters by Education

Citizens 18 to 24 years old who did not vote in 2016
Total = 15.3 million

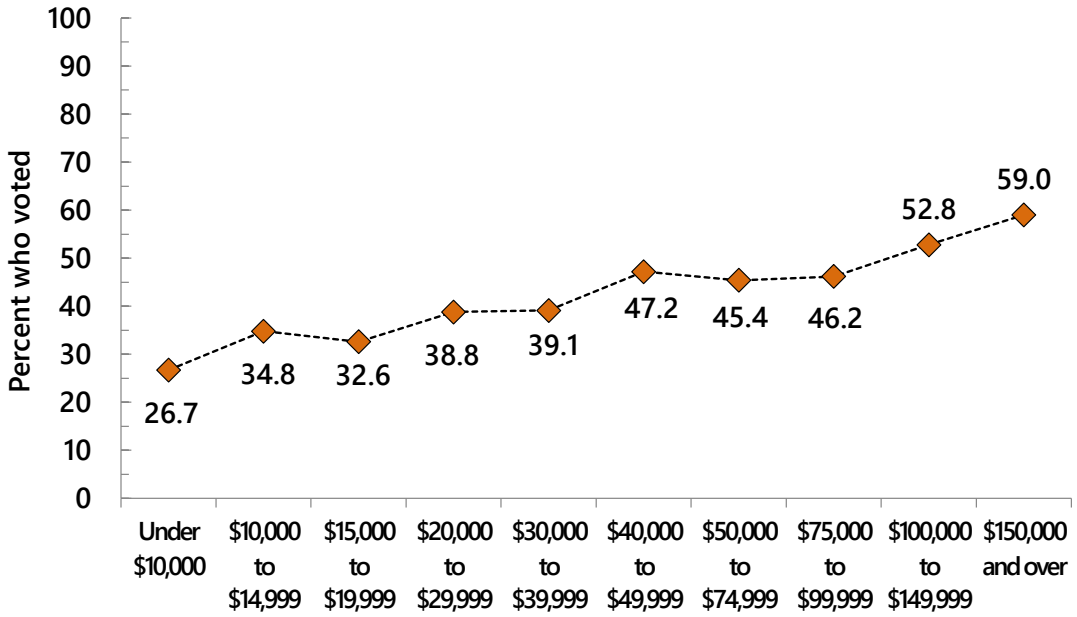


Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households.Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Figure 10: Young Adult Voting by Family Income

Citizens 18 to 24 years old residing in families in 2016
Total = 16.1 million (see text)



Who is Included in the Voting by Family Income Chart?

Family income is the total annual dollar income for all members of a family combined. Family members were defined as people with the following relationship to the householder: spouse, child, grandchild, parent, sibling, or other relative. The data presented here are limited to persons 18 to 24 years old who resided in a family and reported income. The Bureau of the Census excluded foster children, unmarried partners, non-relatives, and roommates from family income tabulations. Voting data for respondents who refused to state their family income or reported not knowing their family income are not shown.

Voting by Family Income

Only about one-third (or fewer) of young low-income citizens voted in 2016: 26.7% of those with family incomes less than $10,000 per year, 34.8% of those with family incomes $10,000 to $14,999 per year, and 32.6% of those with family incomes $15,000 to $19,999 per year. (Figure 10).

In contrast, more than half of young adult citizens with the highest family incomes voted in 2016: 52.8% of those with family incomes $100,000 to $149,999 per year and 59.0% of those with family incomes $150,000 per year and higher. (Figure 10).

Missing Voters by Family Income

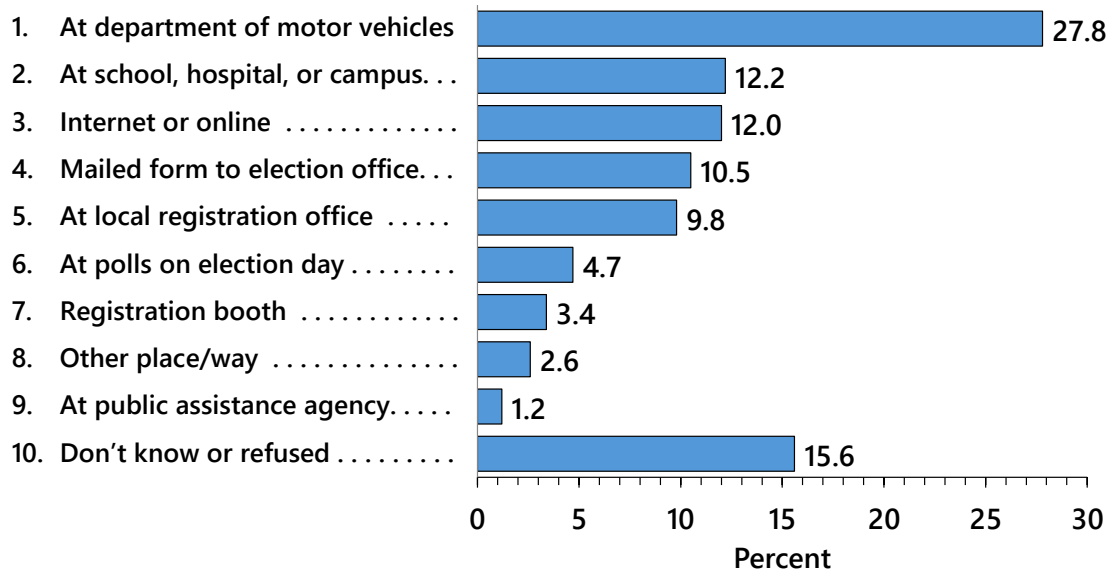
We did not calculate counts of missing voters by family income for young adults because of the substantial number of citizens who were missing family income data (10.8 million out of 26.9 million) in the Bureau of the Census datasets.

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Figure 11: Where did Young Adults Register to Vote?

Citizens 18 to 24 years old who were registered to vote in 2016
Total = 14.9 million



What Does this Chart Show About Voter Registration?

Respondents to the Voting Supplement of the Current Population Survey were asked in November 2016 about the method and location of their most recent registration to vote. Only people who said that they were currently registered were asked this question. More than one-sixth of registered young adult citizens (15.6%) did not know or remember how they had registered to vote (Figure 11).

Local Government Offices

Taken together, registration at department of motor vehicles (27.8%), local registration offices (9.8%), and public assistance agencies (1.2%) accounted for 38.8% of young adult voter registrations prior to the November 2016 elections. An additional 10.5% of registered citizens reported that they mailed their voter registration form to a government election office (Figure 11).

Voter Outreach Efforts

In total, 15.6% of registered young adult citizens reported registering at either a school, hospital, or college campus (12.2%) or at an unspecified registration booth (3.4%) (Figure 11).

Internet

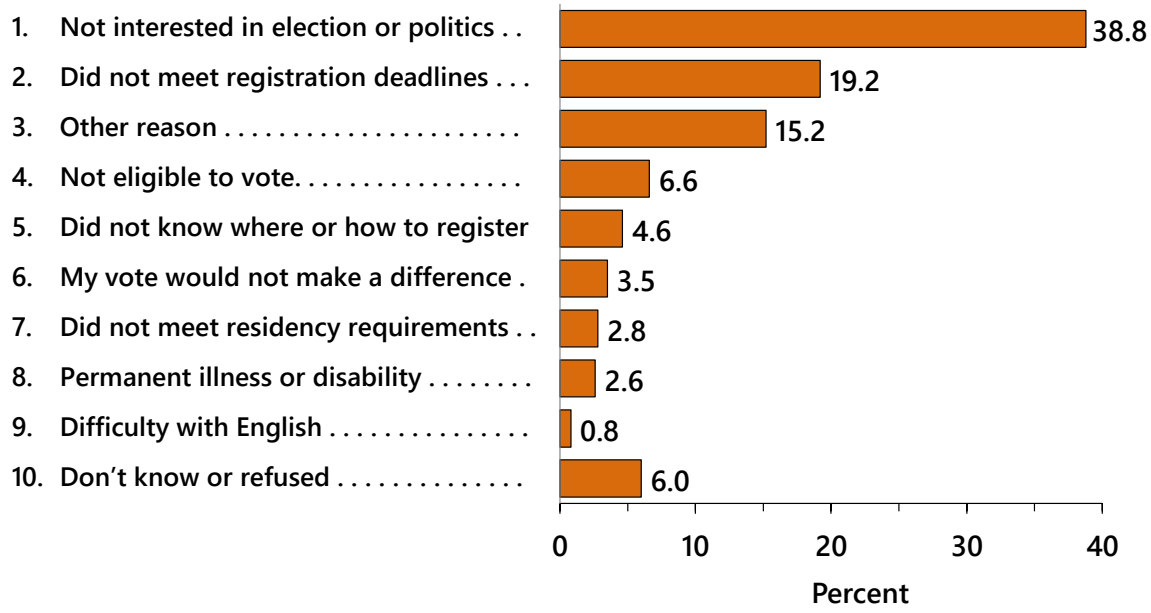
The internet was the third most common method of voter registration. In November 2016, 12.0% of registered young adult citizens reported that they had registered online (Figure 11). According to a recent federal government report, online voter registration is permitted in only 37 states (www.usa.gov/register-to-vote).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from a special supplement to the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, data tables, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Figure 12: Young Adults' Reasons for Not Registering

Citizens 18 to 24 years old who were not registered in 2016
Total = 6.6 million



What Does this Chart Show About Reasons for Not Registering?

Non-voting respondents to the November 2016 Current Population Survey were asked if they had registered to vote. Respondents who replied "no" were asked their reason for not registering. However, respondents who refused to state whether or not they had registered were not included. Therefore, the respondent universe for this question (6.6 million young adults) is smaller than the total number who were not registered (12.0 million young adults). This is because in our analyses, we counted people who refused to say whether or not they were registered as unregistered citizens.

Apathy

The single largest reason (38.8%) that young adult citizens stated for not registering was that they were *not interested in the election or they were not involved in politics* (Figure 12).

Registration Deadlines

Almost one-fifth (19.2%) of young adult citizens stated that they did not register to vote because they *did not meet registration deadlines* (Figure 12).

Logistical Barriers

Additional logistical barriers accounted for 17.4% of young adult citizens not registering to vote (Figure 12). These reasons were: not eligible to vote (6.6%), did not know where or how to register (4.6%), did not meet residency requirements (2.8%), permanent illness or disability (2.6%), and difficulty with English (0.8%).

Beliefs

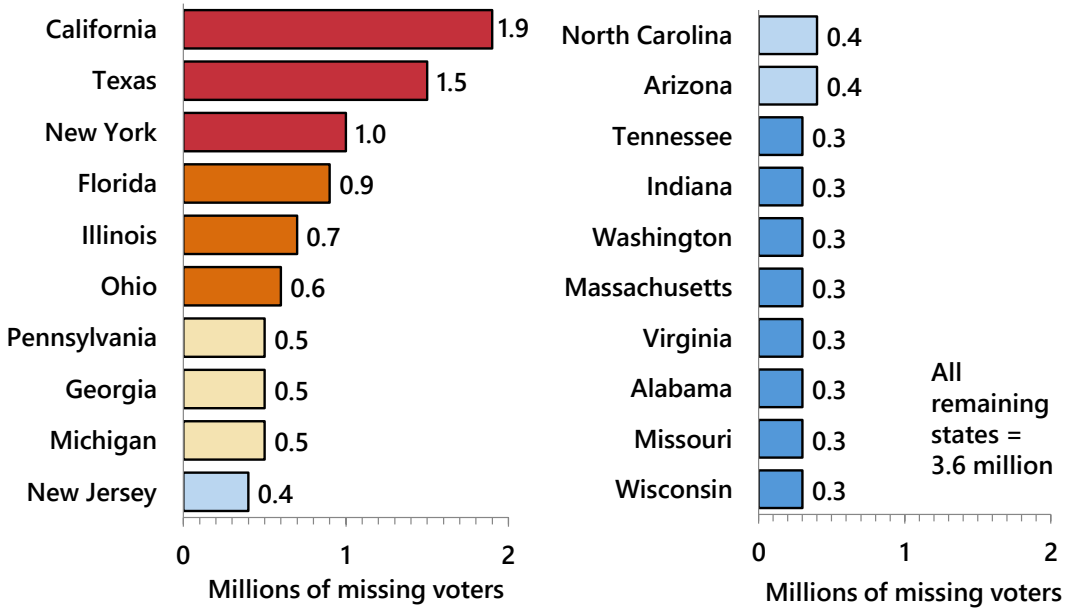
Only 3.5% of young adult citizens stated that they did not register because they believed *my vote would not make a difference* (Figure 12).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Figure 13: Where Do Missing Young Adult Voters Live?

Citizens 18 to 24 years old who did not vote in 2016
Total = 15.3 million



West

There were 3 western states among the top 20 states with missing young adult voters in 2016 (Figure 13). These states were California (1.9 million missing voters), Arizona (0.4 million missing voters) and Washington (0.3 million missing voters).

South

There were 7 southern states among the top 20 states with missing young adult voters in 2016 (Figure 13). These states were Texas (1.5 million missing voters), Florida (0.9 million missing voters), Georgia (0.5 million missing voters), North Carolina (0.4 million missing voters), Tennessee (0.3 million missing voters), Virginia (0.3 million missing voters), and Alabama (0.3 million missing voters).

Northeast

There were 4 northeastern states among the top 20 states with missing young adult voters in 2016 (Figure 13). These states were New York (1.0 million missing voters), Pennsylvania (0.5 million missing voters), New Jersey (0.4 million missing voters), and Massachusetts (0.3 million missing voters).

Midwest

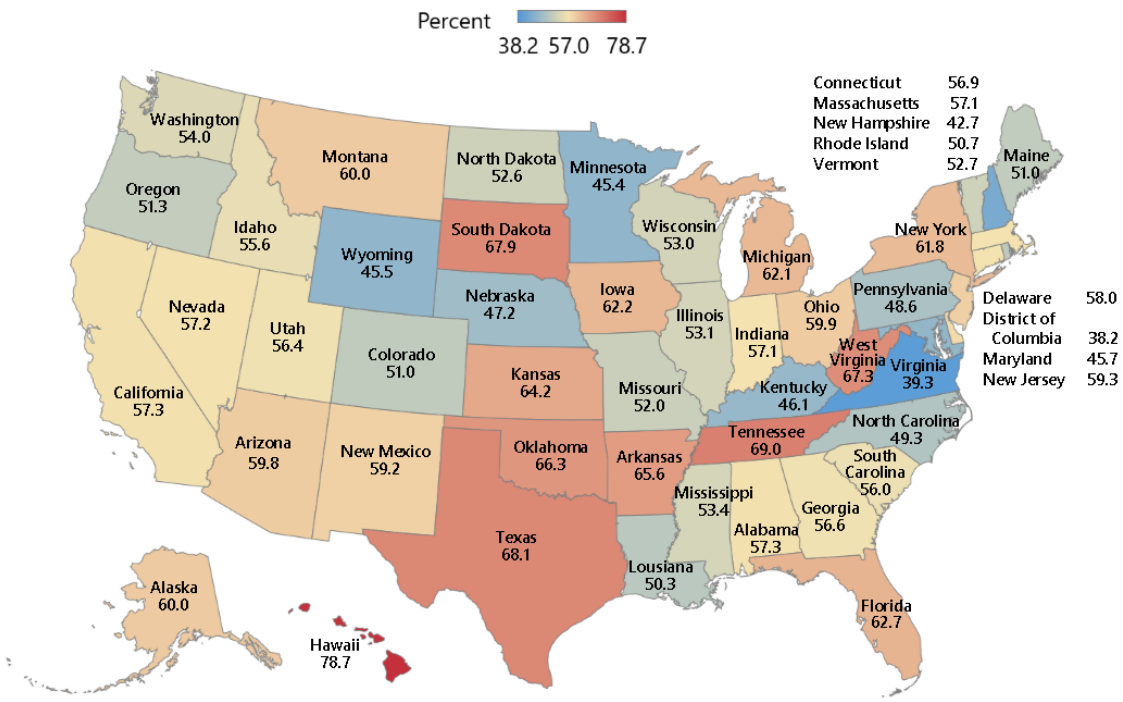
There were 6 midwestern states among the top 20 states with missing young adult voters in 2016 (Figure 13). These states were Illinois (0.7 million missing voters), Ohio (0.6 million missing voters), Michigan (0.5 million missing voters), Indiana (0.3 million missing voters), Missouri (0.3 million missing voters) and Wisconsin (0.3 million missing voters).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Figure 14: Missing Young Adult Voters by State

Percent of citizens 18 to 24 years old who did not vote in 2016



What Does this Map Show?

In the nation as whole, 57.0% of young adult citizens were missing voters in 2016. This map shows state variation in the percent of young adults who were missing voters, with worse than average states shown in red, and better than average states shown in blue.

Worse than Average States (Red)

Hawaii had the highest proportion (78.7%) of young adult citizens who were missing voters in 2016 (Figure 14). There were 13 additional states with missing young voter percentages greater than 60%: Tennessee (69.0%), Texas (68.1%), South Dakota (67.9%), West Virginia (67.3%), Oklahoma (66.3%), Arkansas (65.6%), Kansas (64.2%), Florida (62.7%), Iowa (62.2%), Michigan (62.1%), New York (61.8%), Montana (60.0%), and Alaska (60.0%).

Average States (Yellow)

States with missing voter proportions similar to the national average of 57.0% were found in all regions of the country: in the West (California, 57.3% and Nevada, 57.2%), in the South (Alabama, 57.3% and Georgia, 56.6%), in the Northeast (Massachusetts, 57.1% and Connecticut, 56.9%) and in the Midwest (Indiana, 57.1%) (Figure 14).

Better than Average States (Blue)

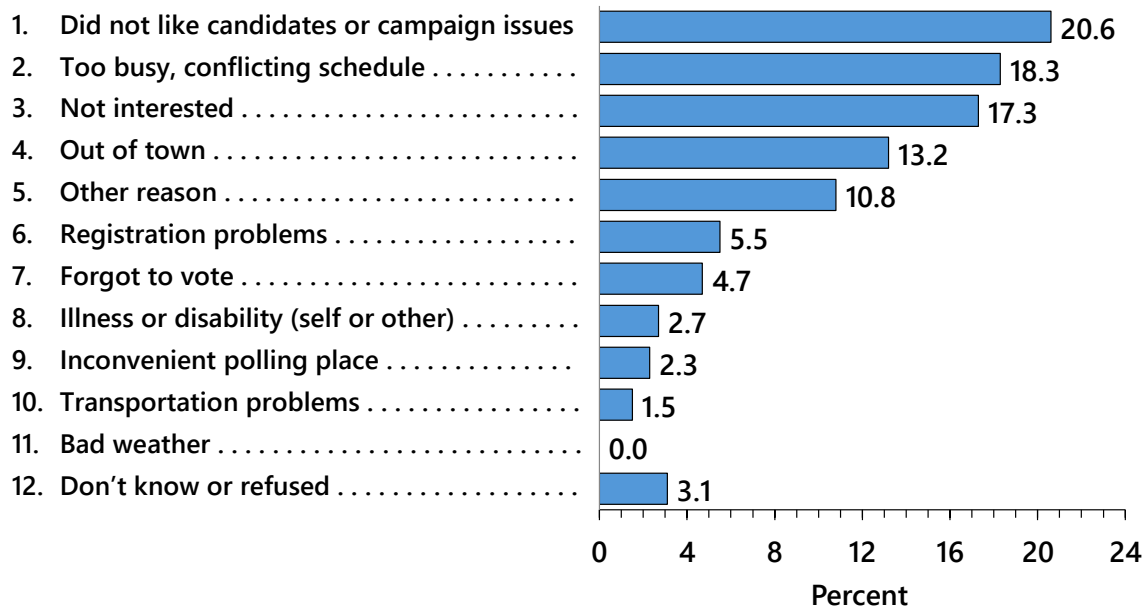
States for which the young adult missing voter proportion was less than 50% in 2016 were predominantly found in the northern half of the country (Figure 14). The District of Columbia had the lowest percentage of missing young voters (38.2%), followed by Virginia (39.3), New Hampshire (42.7%), Minnesota (45.4%), Wyoming (45.5%), Maryland (45.7%), Kentucky (46.1%), Nebraska (47.2%), and Pennsylvania (48.6%).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Figure 15: Young Adults' Reasons for Not Voting

Citizens 18 to 24 years old who were registered but did not vote in 2016
Total = 3.0 million



What Does this Chart Show About Reasons for Not Voting?

Non-voting respondents to the Voting Supplement of the Current Population Survey were asked in November 2016 about their reasons for not voting. Only people who said that they were currently registered were asked this question. Only 3.1% of young adult respondents refused to answer this question (Figure 15). However, respondents who refused to answer the question about whether they voted are not included here, although in this report we have counted those individuals as missing voters.

Personal Barriers

The four reasons for not voting that can be considered personal-level barriers accounted for 38.9% of young adult registered citizens not voting in 2016 (Figure 15). These reasons were: *too busy, conflicting schedule* (18.3%), *out of town* (13.2%), *forgot to vote* (4.7%), and *illness or disability* (2.7%).

Aversion and Apathy

Aversion and apathy together accounted for 37.9% of registered young adult citizens not voting in 2016 (Figure 15). *Did not like candidates or campaign issues* was the leading reason (20.6%), followed by *not interested* (17.3%).

Structural Barriers

The four reasons for not voting that can be considered structural barriers accounted for 9.3% of registered citizens not voting in 2016 (Figure 15). These reasons were: *registration problems* (5.5%), *inconvenient polling place* (2.3%), *transportation problems* (1.5%), and *bad weather* (<0.1%).

Notes

Please note that some numbers may appear not to add up correctly due to rounding. Voting data are from the Current Population Survey (November 2016). Population counts and percentages in this report are statistically-weighted estimates derived by the Bureau of the Census from a national sample of over 90,000 respondents in 54,000 households. Full technical details for the Missing Voters Project, links to the original census data, and other valuable resources are at www.wiise-usa.org/mvp.

Resources

Community-based, faith-based, and worker-friendly local organizations can use the resources listed below to aid in efforts to motivate citizen involvement, expand voter registration, combat voter suppression, eliminate election day logistical barriers to voting, and monitor local election procedures. The webpage links in the listings below were active as of September 2018. Please visit our website for an expanded resources list: (https://www.wiise-usa.org/mvp-resources)

FREE Resources for Local Organizations

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
https://naacp.org/campaigns/fighting-for-democracy/
The NAACP's Civic Engagement focus, Turn Out 2018, is a voter registration and mobilization program designed to reach voters and convey the message "Defeat Hate. Vote!" Extensive FREE resources for local organizations and individuals are available for download.

National Voter Registration Day
https://nationalvoterregistrationday.org/
National Voter Registration Day is September 25, 2018. Find extensive FREE resources to help your local organization hold voter registration drives. Register as a partner and receive FREE posters and stickers.

Vote411.org
http://www.vote411.org/
VOTE411.org is a FREE "one-stop-shop" for election related information. A very popular component of VOTE411.org is the polling place locator. Users type in their street address and retrieve their poll location.

Voter Identification Requirements for Every State
https://www.voteriders.org/get-voter-id/voter-id-info-cards/
Vote Riders will print and mail FREE state info wallet cards to any non-profit organization in any state. These cards summarize the forms of voter ID required to vote for each state.

Youth Organizations

Alliance for Youth Action
https://www.allianceforyouthaction.org/campaign/democracy-done-right/
Alliance for Youth Action is a nationwide network of organizations building political power of young people. The Democracy Done Right campaign supports automatic voter registration for all citizens.

March for Our Lives
https://marchforourlives.com/vote-for-our-lives/
Led by the students of Parkland High School, the mission of March For Our Lives is to assure the timely passage of legislation to effectively address the gun violence issues that are rampant in our country.

Rock the Vote
https://www.rockthevote.org/voting-information/
Rock the Vote is a nonpartisan nonprofit dedicated to using pop culture, music, art, and technology to engage young people in politics. They provide extensive state-level information on voting requirements.

Voting Rights Organizations

Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)
https://www.splcenter.org/our-issues/voting-rights
The SPLC is dedicated to fighting hate and bigotry and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of our society, using litigation, education, and other forms of advocacy for equal opportunity.

Voter Participation Center
https://www.voterparticipation.org/
The Voter Participation Center's mission is to increase civic engagement among the Rising American Electorate: unmarried women, people of color, and millennials.

Voto Latino
http://votolatino.org/election-center/election-center/
Voto Latino is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to civic engagement, issue advocacy, and leadership development. They provide extensive resources to promote voter participation among young Latinos.