

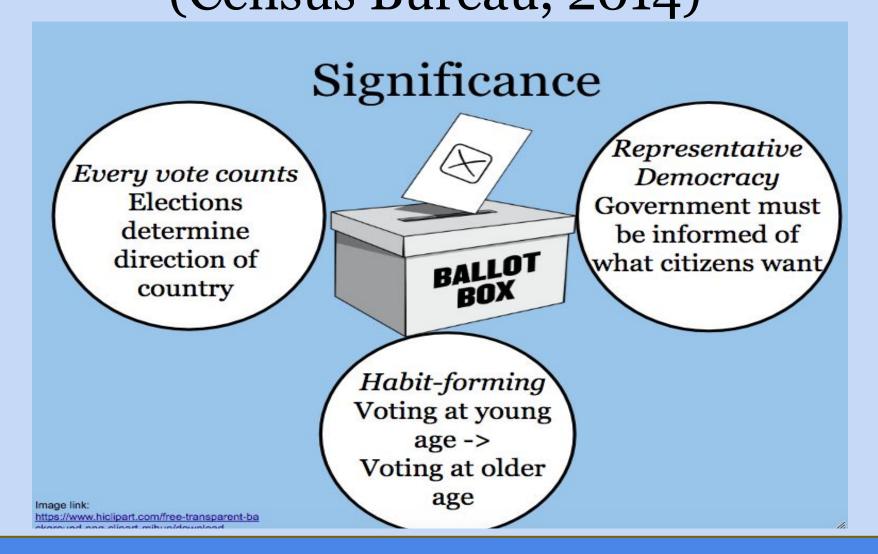
Voter Turnout Among People Aged 18 to 24 In Palo Alto

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Key Question: Why are people aged 18 to 24 less likely than other age groups to vote in local elections?

Introduction

"in every U.S. presidential election from 1964 on, 18- to 24-year-olds voted at lower rates than all other age groups" (Census Bureau, 2014)



Before lesson

70.3%

How likely are you to vote in the first local election that you are eligible?

election they are eligible.

Figure 1 (above): Before the lesson 70.3% of

respondents were not pre-registered to vote

compared to 5.4% of respondents who were.

Figure 3 (above): Breakdown of respondents before the

lesson based on how likely they were to vote in the first local

Are you currently pre-registered to vote?

37 responses

Research Methodologies

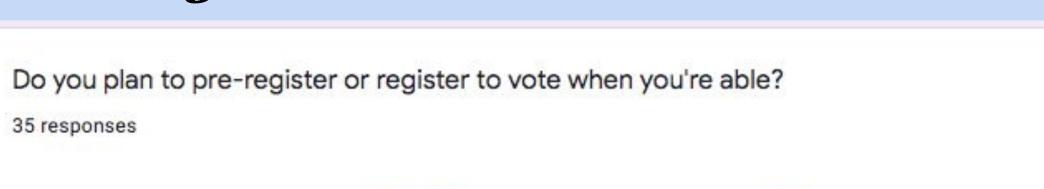
- 1. Randomly select 15 Palo Alto High 12th graders
- 2. Interview students that were willing
- 3. Reach out to Living Skills and Social Studies teachers at Palo Alto High
- 4. Interview teachers that were willing
- 5. Edit lesson plan to incorporate priorities of students and teachers
- 6. Deliver pre-survey to 11th graders in U.S. History

I'm already registered/pre-registered

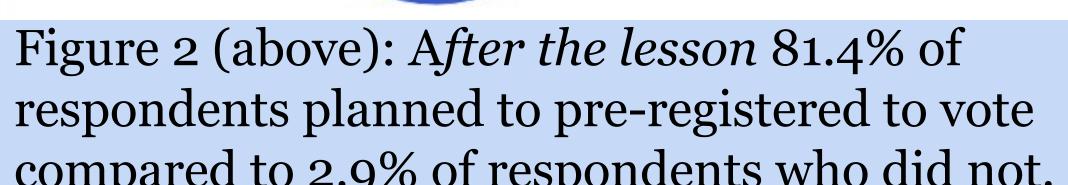
- 7. Show "the Power of the Youth Vote" TEDtalk
- 8. Deliver post-survey to same students
- 9. Guide students through pre-registration process on RocktheVote.org

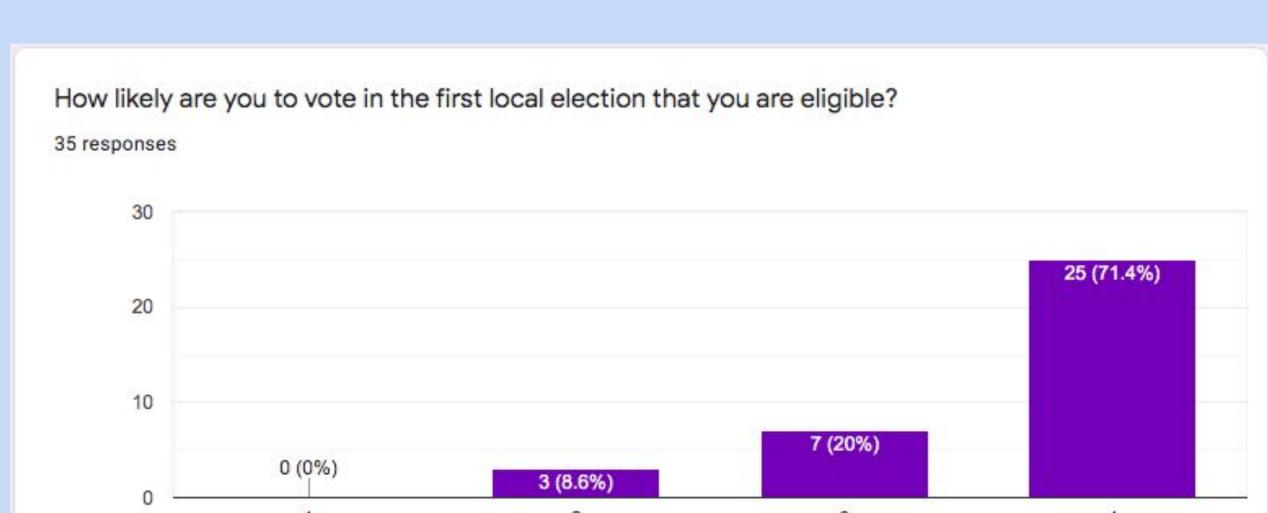
"We do not have a government by the majority. We have a government by the majority who vote." -- Thomas Jefferson

Data and Findings



After lesson





lesson based on how likely they were to vote in the first

Conclusions and Analysis

- Lesson increased voter pre-registration
- More students pre-registering → more students voting
- Lesson increased future participation in local elections
- Lesson generally increased students' likelihood to vote



compared to 2.9% of respondents who did not.

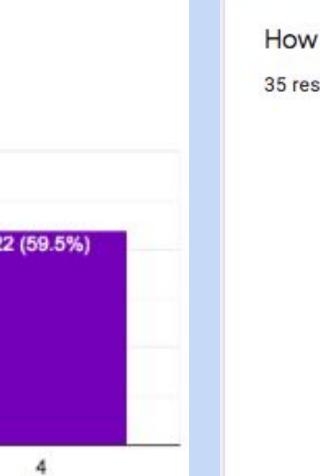


Figure 4 (above): Breakdown of respondents after the local election they are eligible.

Acknowledgements/References

- ***Special thanks to Robert Weiner, Erin Angell and Caitlin Evans for helping make this project possible. ***Works Cited:
- Census Bureau statistics explore voting patterns of young adults (2014). PR Newswire. Retrieved from
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- Government by the majority who participate (spurious quotation). (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.monticello.org/site/research-and-collections/government-majority-who-participate-spurious-quotation
- TEDx Talks (2016, May 17). The Power of the Youth Vote | Mindy Romero | TEDxUCDavis [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T2jwSUhu7ok

Implications and Next Steps

The Power of the Youth Vote | Mindy Romero | TEDxUCDavis

- More engagement with voting → more voter participation
- Broader sample size → more representative results
- Student leading lesson → possibly more engaged students
- Providing class time to register → possibly increases registration
- Fun, interesting, lesson → increased student engagement
- More variables researched → most effective lesson