Executive Summary

Our team chose to measure inequality in democracy across U.S. states by analyzing disparities in voter turnout for each of four different demographic categories: **race, disability status, age, and educational attainment**.

To roughly identify the best and worst performing states from a quantitative perspective, we calculated differences in 2020 turnout between advantaged and disadvantaged groups in each of our four metrics. This form of analysis captured observed differences that were further explored by policy input analysis, which can be seen on the right-hand side of the poster.

To further strengthen our results, we modeled a series of logistic regressions using weighted survey data across the six most recent election cycles. We compared our model’s predictions for turnout likelihood across fifty states along our four dimensions of inequality. By measuring the variance within each state, we roughly approximated how “unequal” their historic turnout trends were. Visualizations from our model can be seen below.

**Team A: Race/Ethnicity**

**Most Equal**
- Pennsylvania
- New York

**Least Equal**
- Wisconsin
- Massachusetts

**Relevant Indicators**: Voter ID Laws, Felony Disenfranchisement, Bilingual Ballots

**Team B: Disability**

**Most Equal**
- Florida
- Vermont
- Colorado

**Least Equal**
- Maryland
- Tennessee
- Wisconsin

**Relevant Indicators**: All-Mail Voting, Curbside Voting, No-excuse Mail-in Voting

**Team C: Age**

**Most Equal**
- Maryland
- Maine
- New Jersey

**Least Equal**
- Nevada
- Oklahoma
- Indiana

**Relevant Indicators**: Absentee Voting, Early Voting, Mail-in ballots sent automatically, Online Voter Registration, Same-day Registration

**Team D: Educational Attainment**

**Most Equal**
- D.C.
- Maryland
- Wisconsin

**Least Equal**
- New Mexico
- Idaho
- Rhode Island

**Relevant Indicators**: Early Voting Flexibility/Period Length, No-excuse Mail-in Voting, Availability of Voting Centers

*Data from 2010 through 2020 CPS Voting Supplement datasets**

Visualizations

Race/Ethnicity: Differences in intrastate turnout
Disability: Differences in intrastate turnout
Age: Differences in intrastate turnout
Education: Differences in intrastate turnout

*Darker colors represent higher variance in turnout (greater inequality) between advantaged and disadvantaged groups*