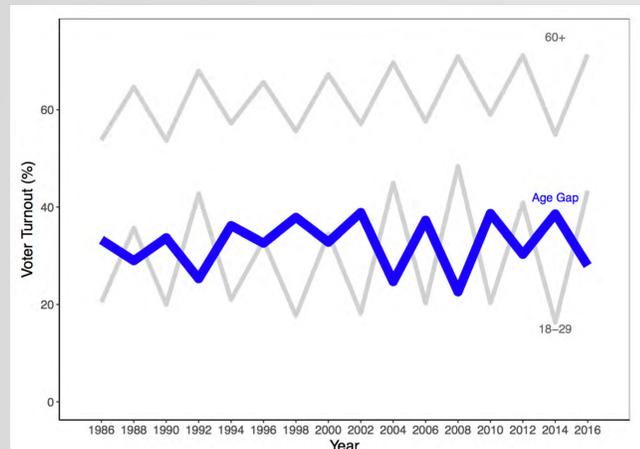


# Making Young Voters: Policy Reforms to Increase Youth Voter Turnout

## Background

- Youth Voter turnout is dismal.
- 20-30 percentage points lower than older citizens.



- Young Americans are civic minded, but institutional obstacles prevent political participation.

## Confusion on College Campuses

- College students have to navigate complex rules surrounding voting on campus.
- Ambiguity about federal and state registration requirements.
- Variation in ID laws by state.
- Some campuses are split across voting precincts.
- At some schools, no individual mailing addresses for students.

## Youth Interviews

- We interviewed 20+ young people.



"I think it can be a little bit confusing especially depending on your living situation, what state you're from."

"Requesting an absentee ballot, since I'm not in my home state, was a little bit confusing... Personally, I was a little bit confused. I had to ask my dad."

Student Testimonials

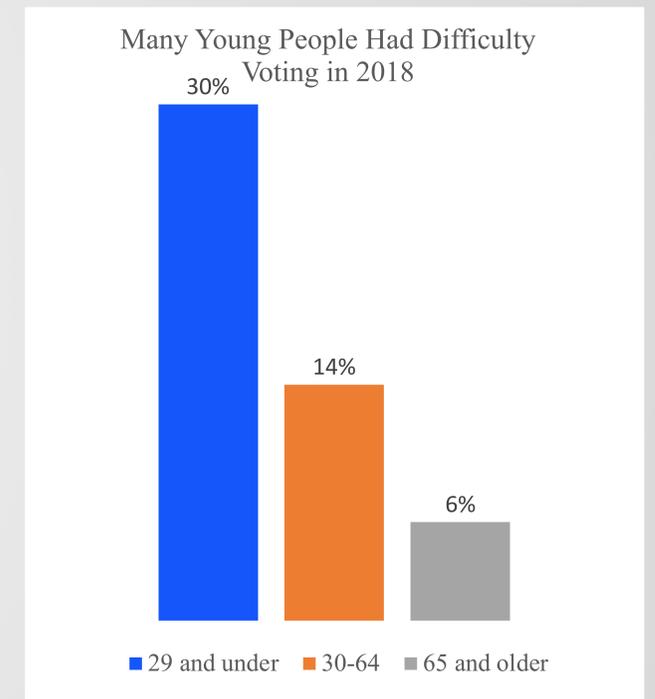
"Our university mail system is notoriously slow, and sometimes I worry that my ballot won't get to my mailbox in time."

"Classes would be very difficult to miss just to go to the polls... voting day is actually on a day that I have my busiest schedule."

## National Survey

- We conducted original analysis of 2018 American National Election Study.
- The top three reasons people under 29 did not vote include:

- Length of wait time
- ID card concerns
- Work schedule



## Conclusion & Next Steps

- Forthcoming Cambridge University Press Book, titled "Making Young Voters: Converting Civic Attitudes into Civic Action."
- Our work has also been selected for the CNSF exhibition on Capitol Hill.
- Next year, expand our focus to political behavior more broadly.