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Preparing for Now (2020): Data & Tools

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MIT ELECTION DATA + SCIENCE LAB

When given options in voting voters move away from Tuesday, Election Day as demonstrated by Charles Stewart, MIT (what I have nick-named the "Snow Globe of Elections").

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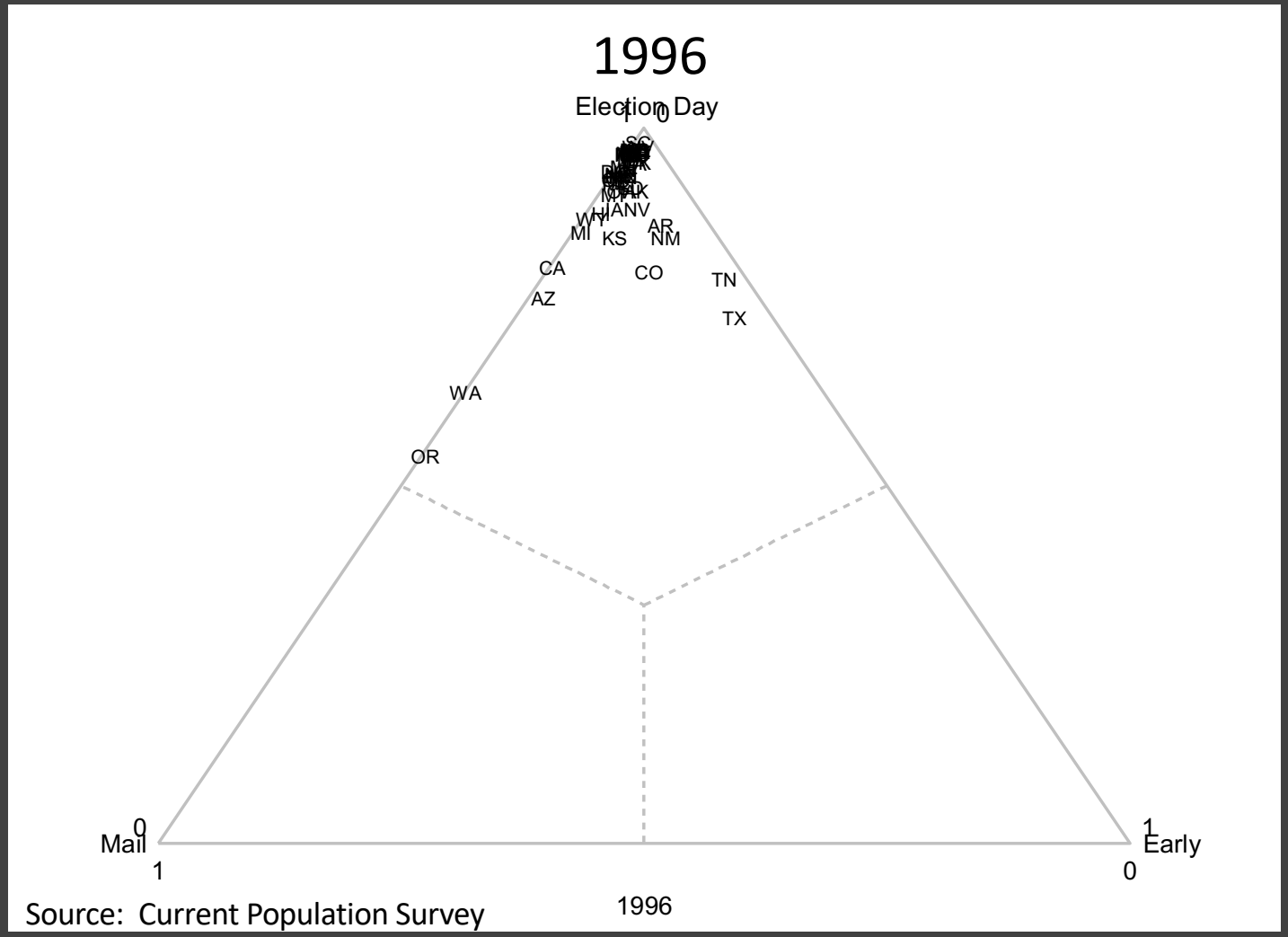
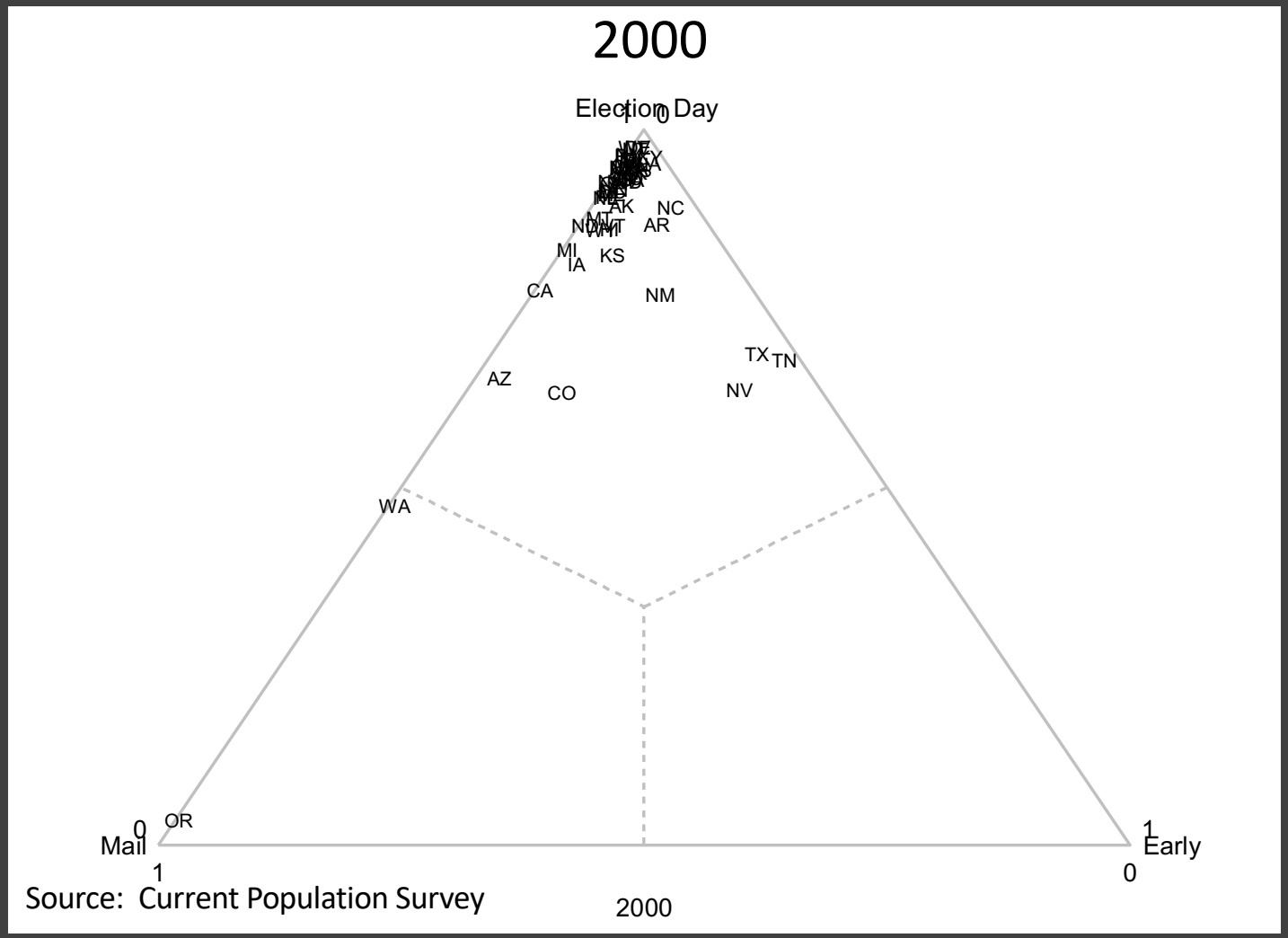


Source: Current Population Survey



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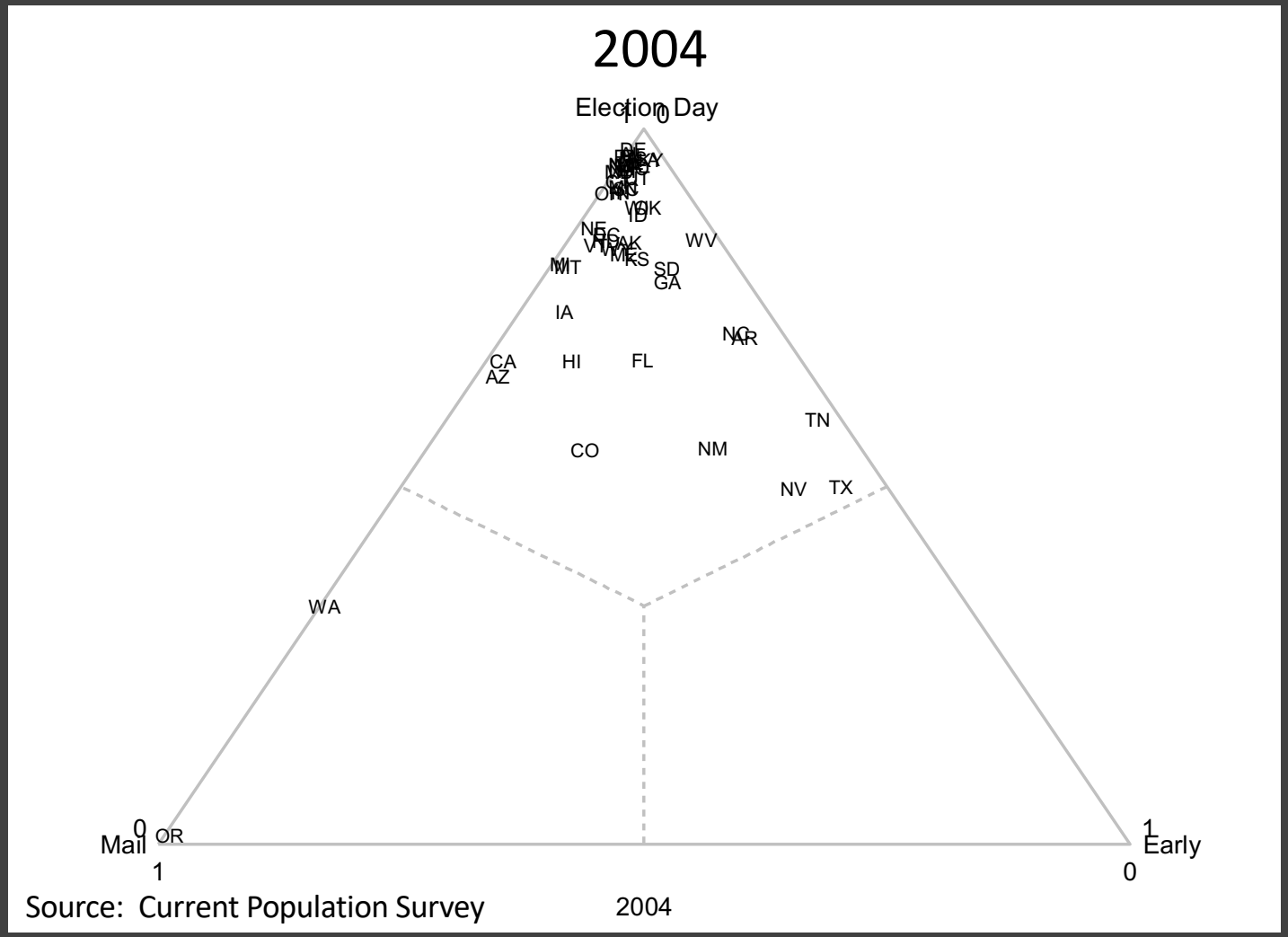

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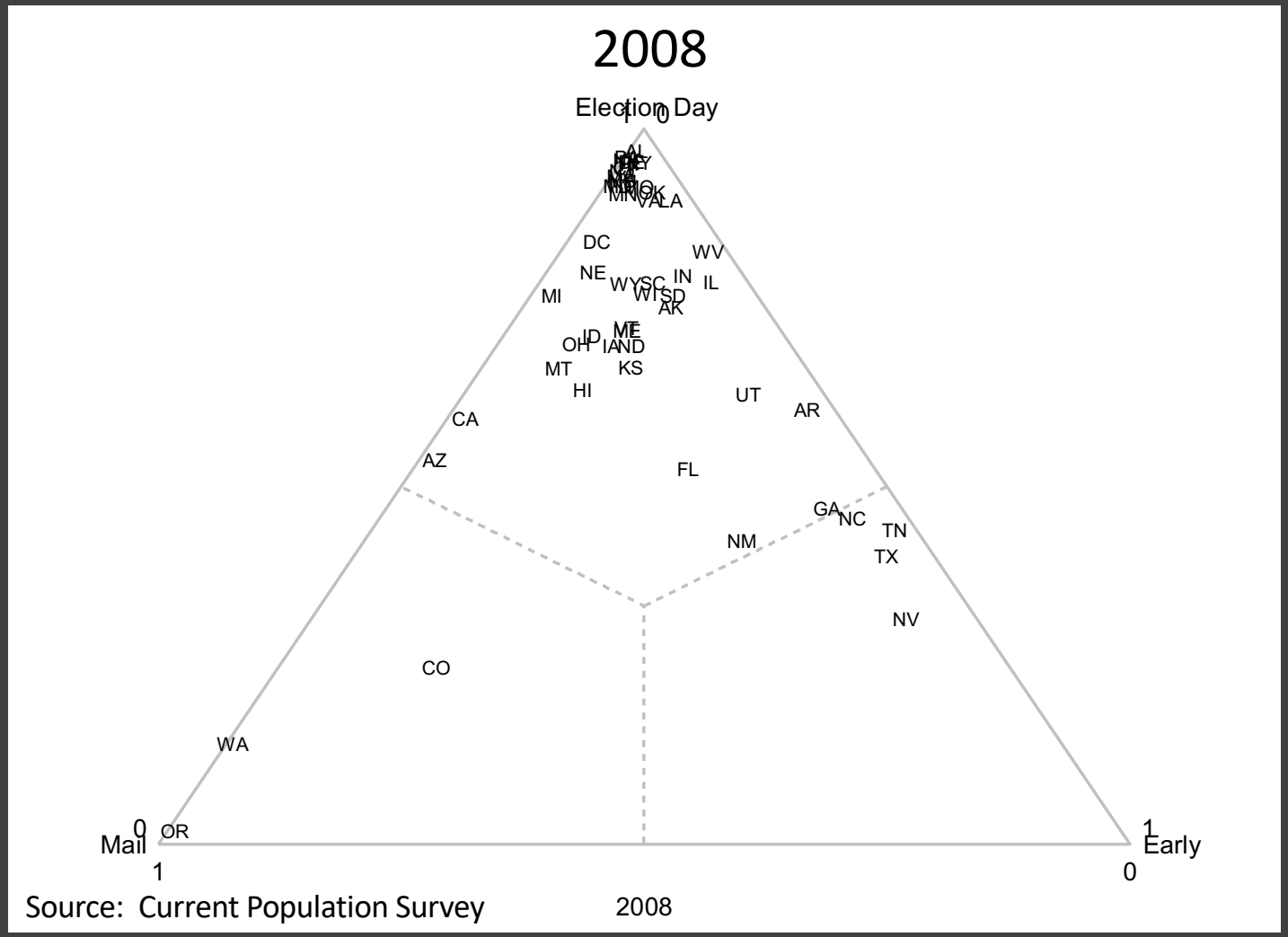
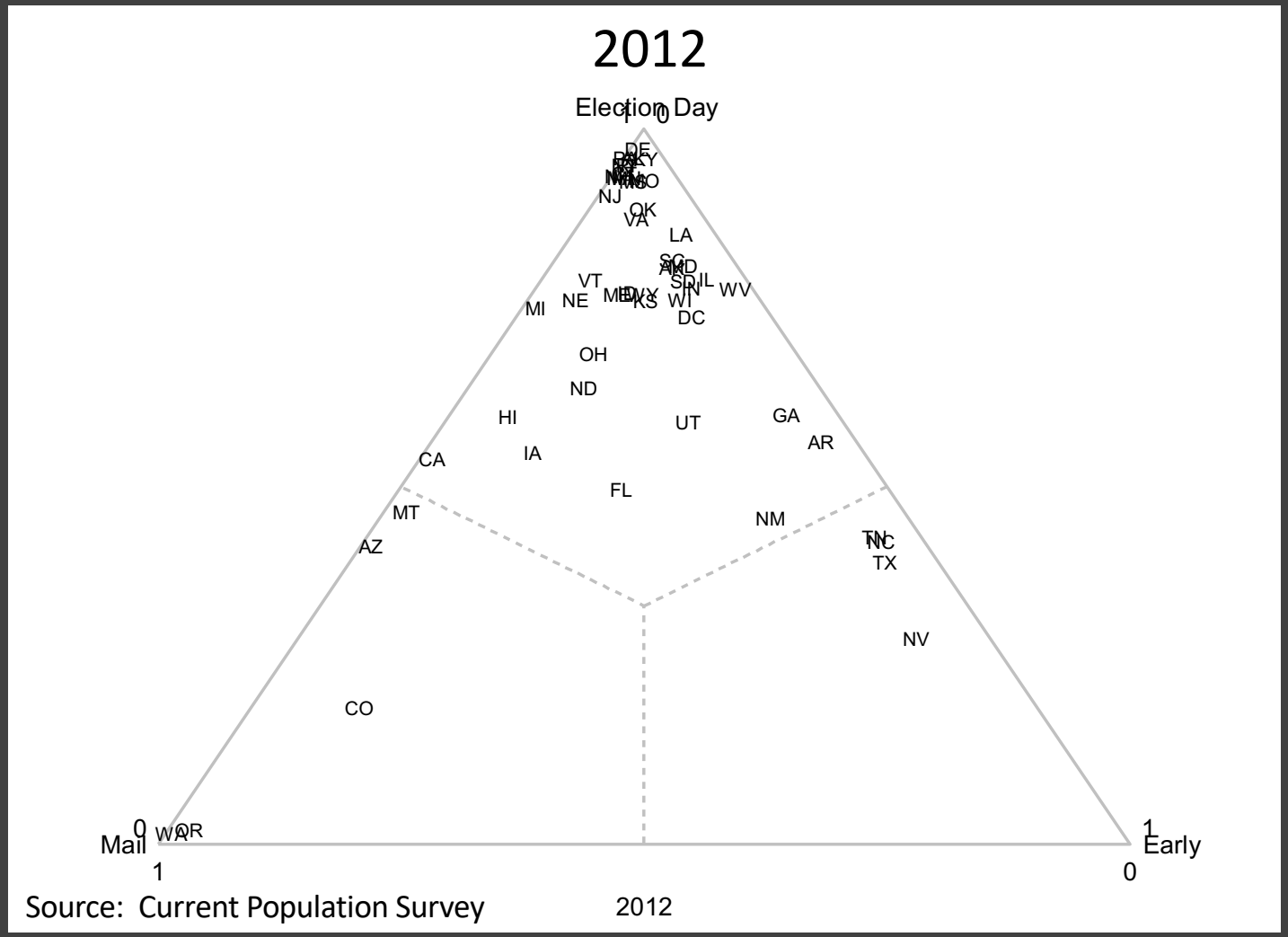
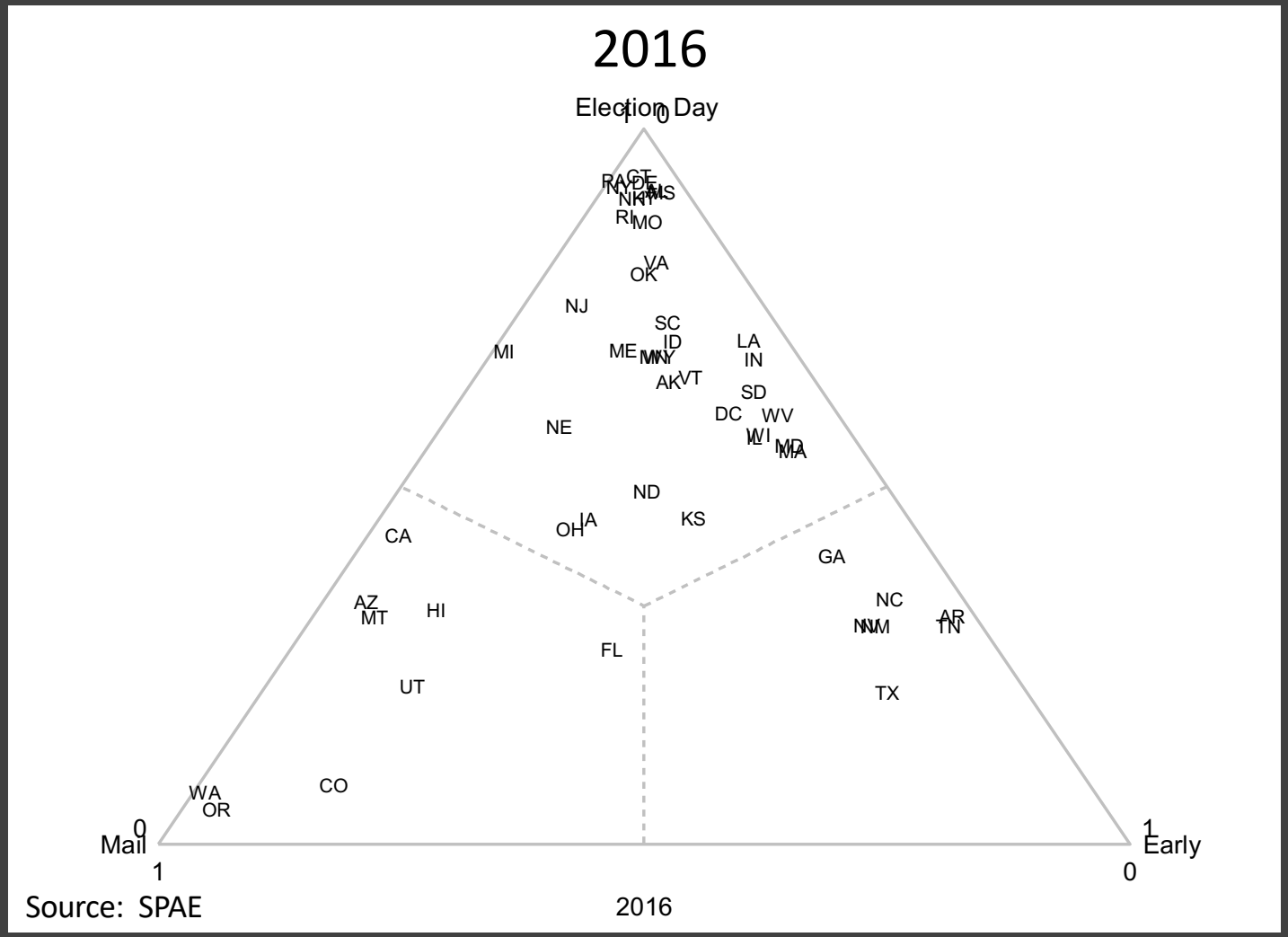
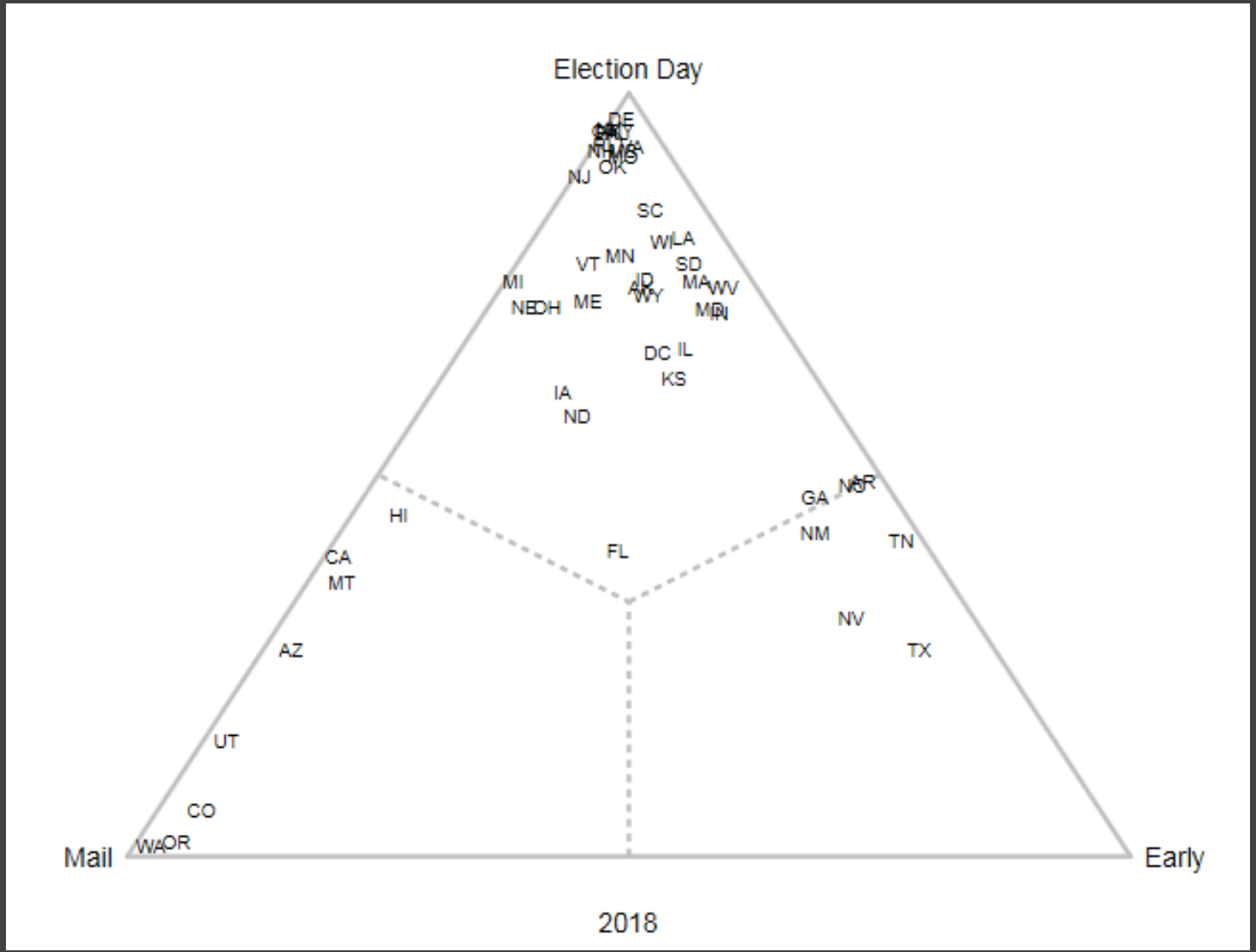

2008
Election Day
1
0
DC
WV
NE
WY
SC
IN
IL
MI
WI
SD
AR
ID
ME
OH
IA
ND
MT
KS
HI
UT
AR
CA
AZ
FL
GA
NC
TN
NM
TX
NV
CO
WA
OR
0
Mail
1
1
Early
0
Source: Current Population Survey
2008

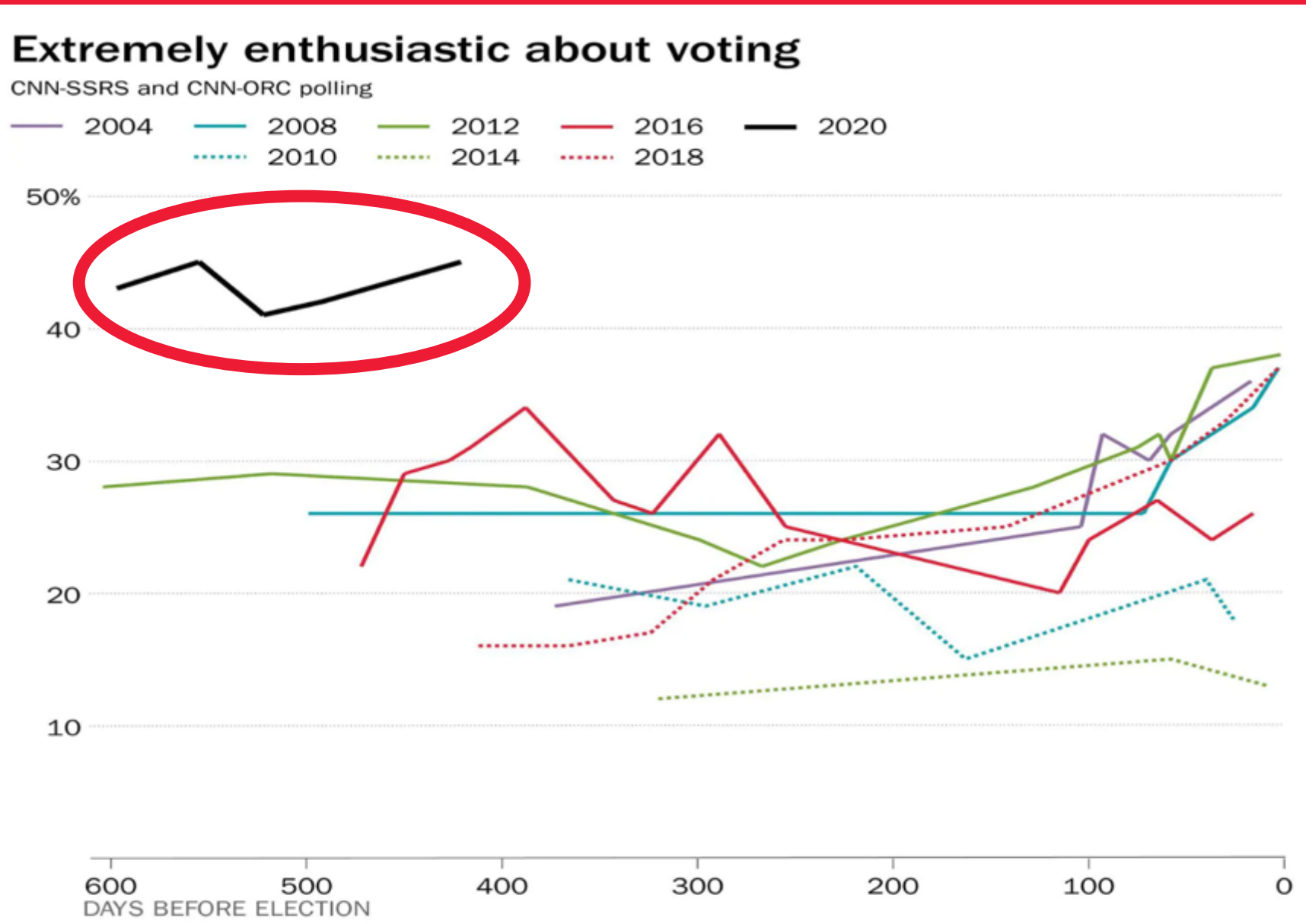


Source: Current Population Survey


2016
Election Day
1
0
RI
MO
VA
OK
NJ
SC
ID
LA
IN
MI
ME
AK
VT
SD
DC
WV
NE
ND
IA
OH
KS
CA
GA
NC
AZ
MT
HI
AR
TN
FL
UT
TX
CO
WA
OR
0
Mail
1
1
Early
0
Source: SPAE
2016

We saw a huge increase nationally from 2014 to 2018 midterms. New voters may only think that Election Day is their only option in voting.

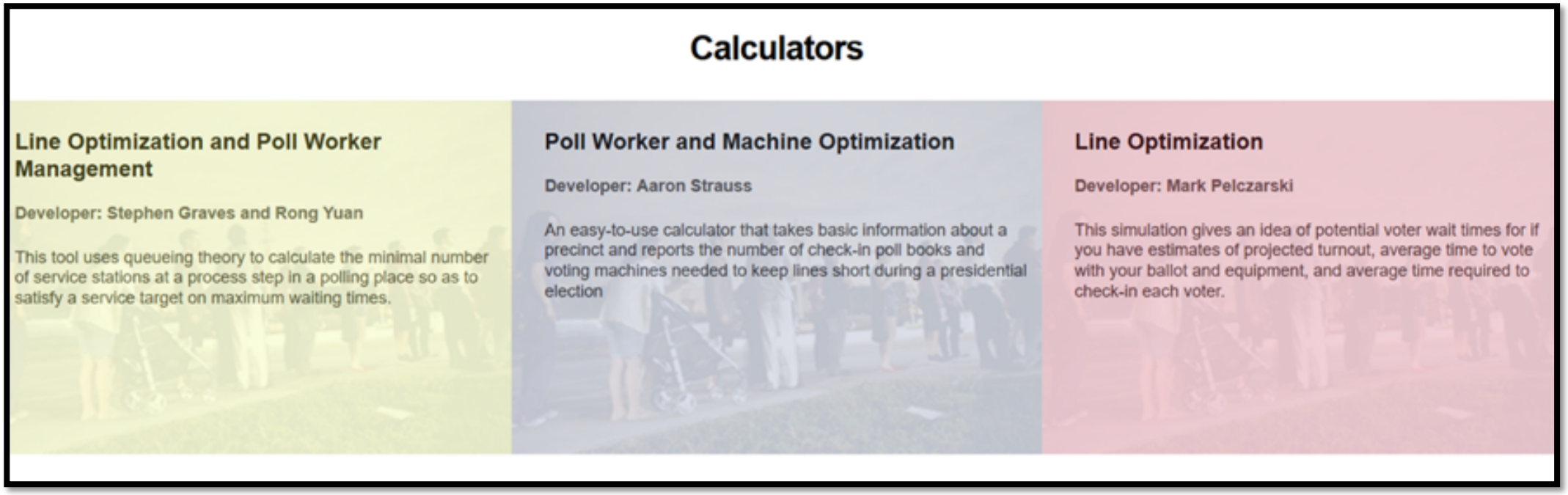



Extremely enthusiastic about voting
CNN-SSRS and CNN-ORC polling
2004
2008
2010
2012
2014
2016
2018
2020
50%
40
30
20
10
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
DAYS BEFORE ELECTION
(Philip Bump/The Washington Post)

Consider:
How we translate this enthusiasm into effectively cast ballots?
Ensure that they know all their options?
(& Keep the lines moving…)

Cal Tech-MIT

Resource Allocation Tools [web.mit.edu/vtp/](web.mit.edu/vtp/)



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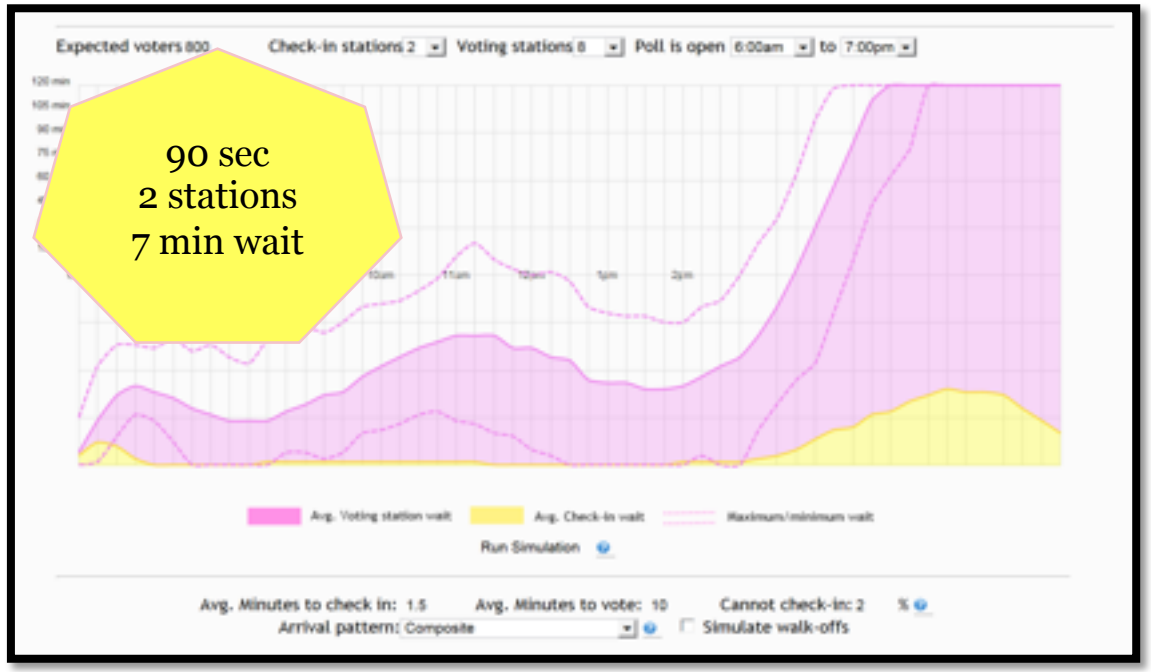
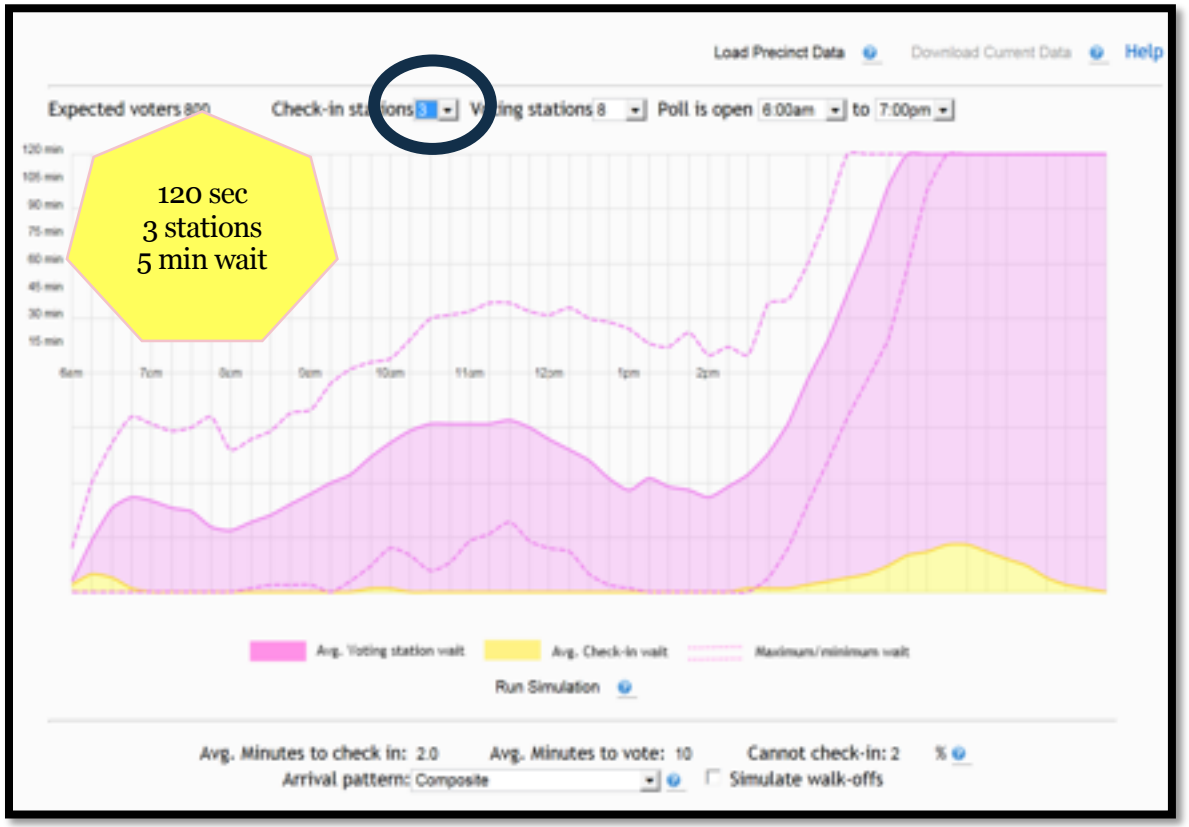
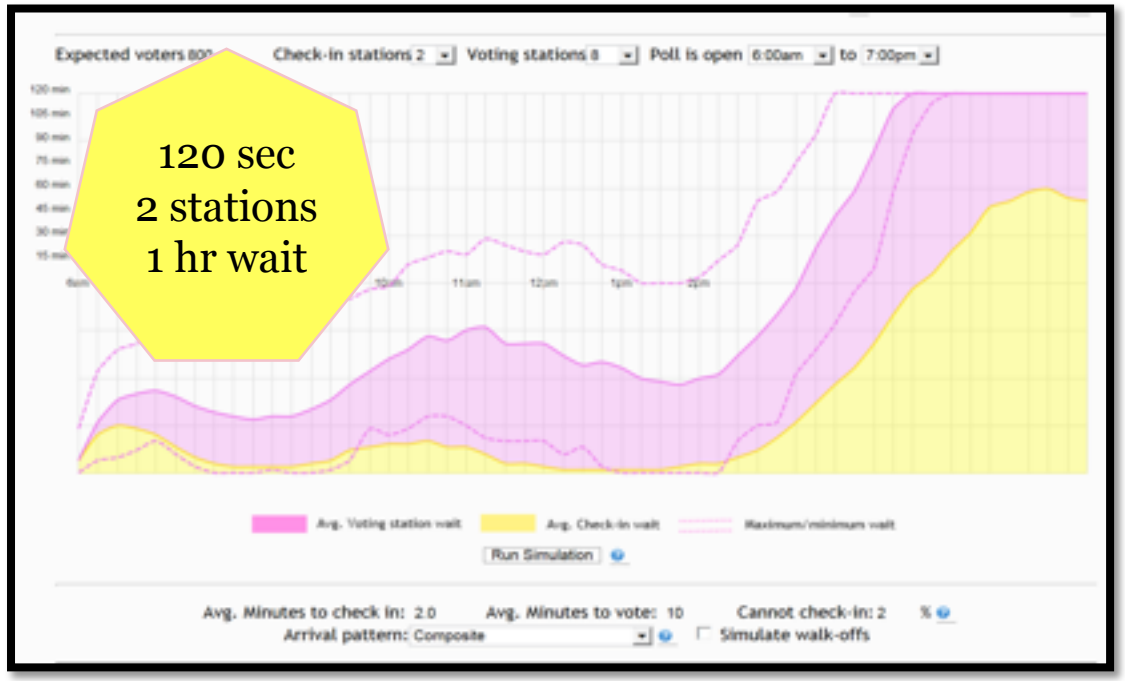






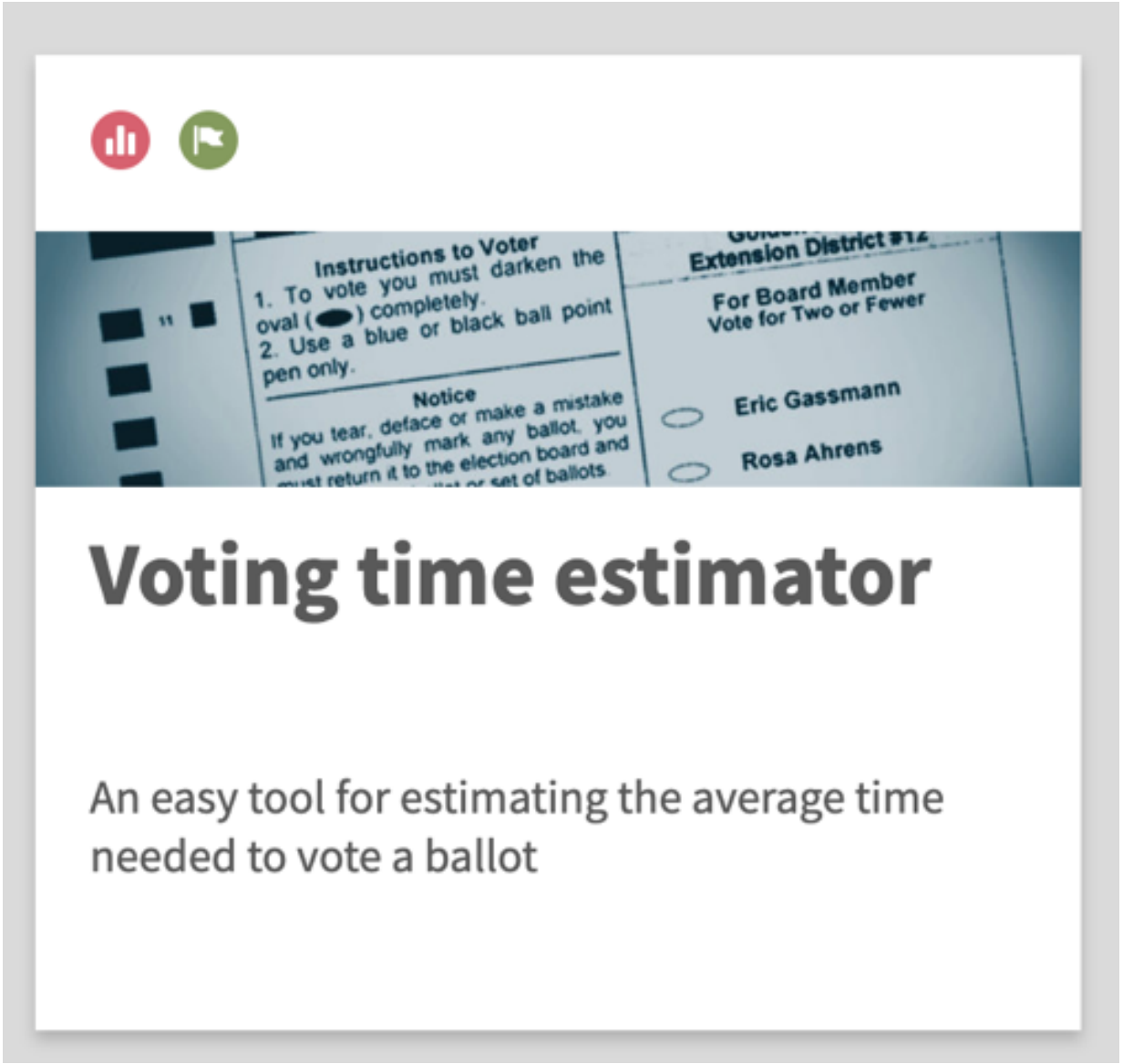
The addition of a single check-in station negates the hour long wait at the end of the day.

CTCL

Center for Technology in Civic Life

Resource Allocation & Timing Tools

https://electiontools.org/



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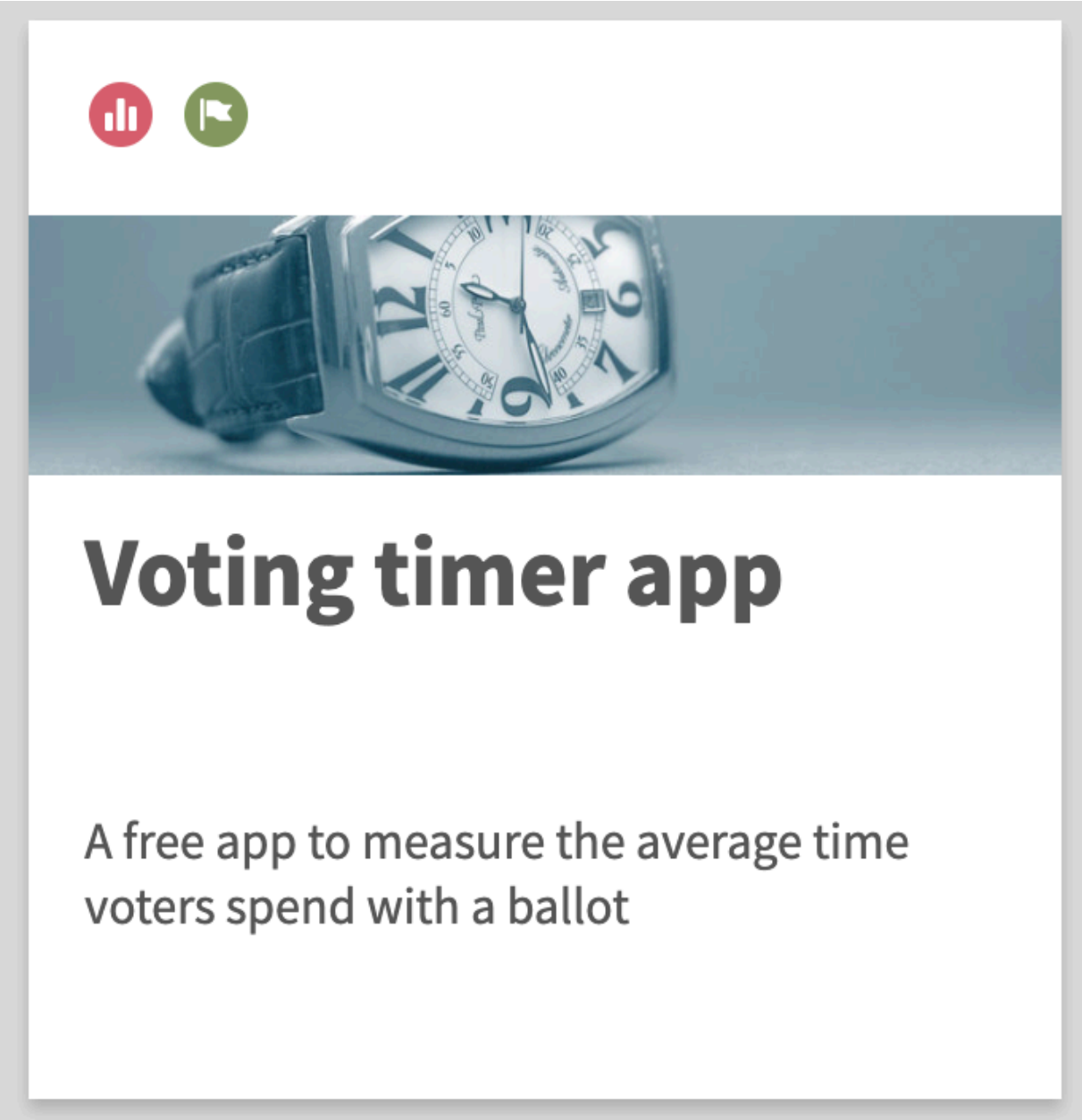
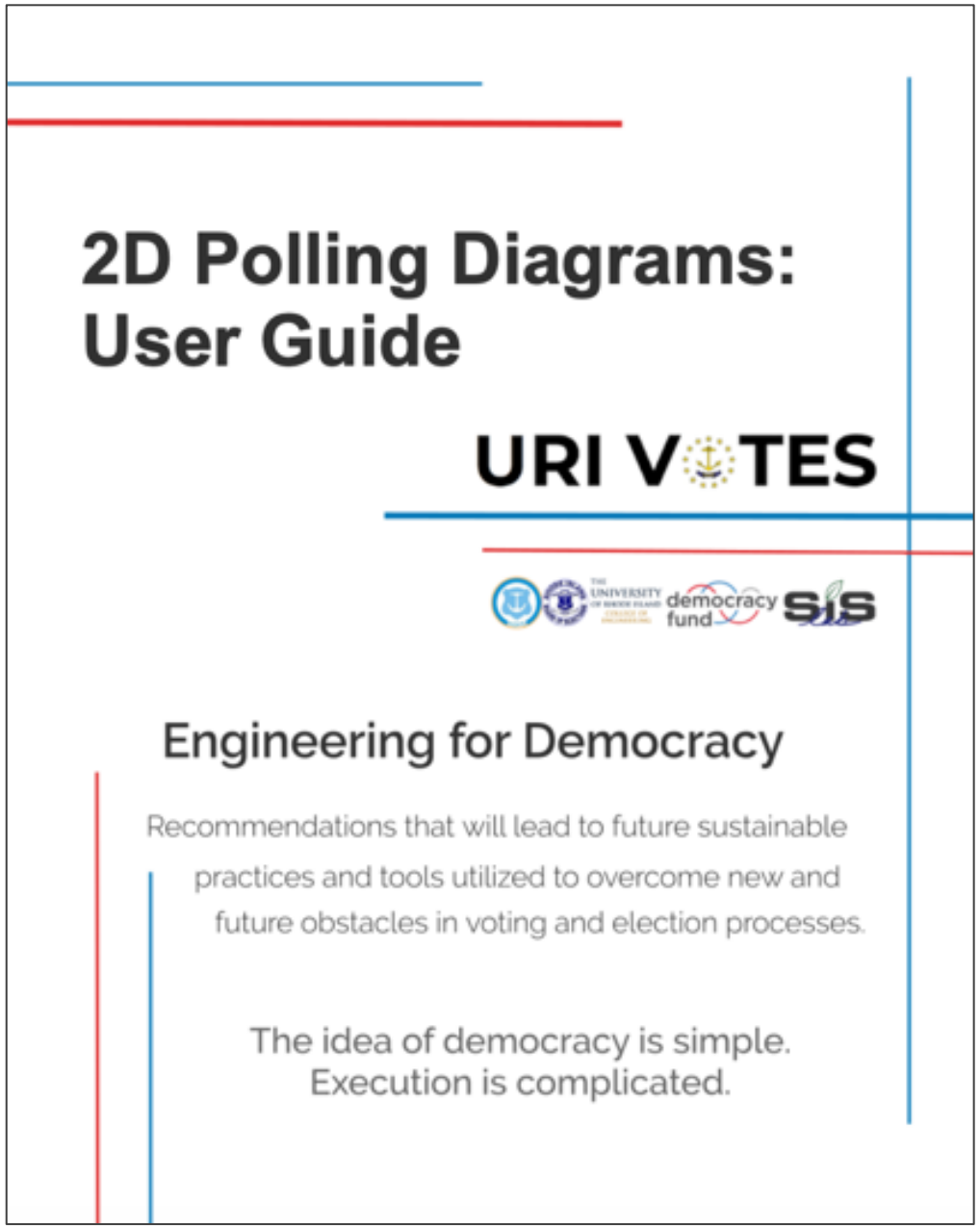


Univ of Rhode Island

URI Votes Project

Tools for analyzing & visualizing data

https://web.uri.edu/urivotes/tools/

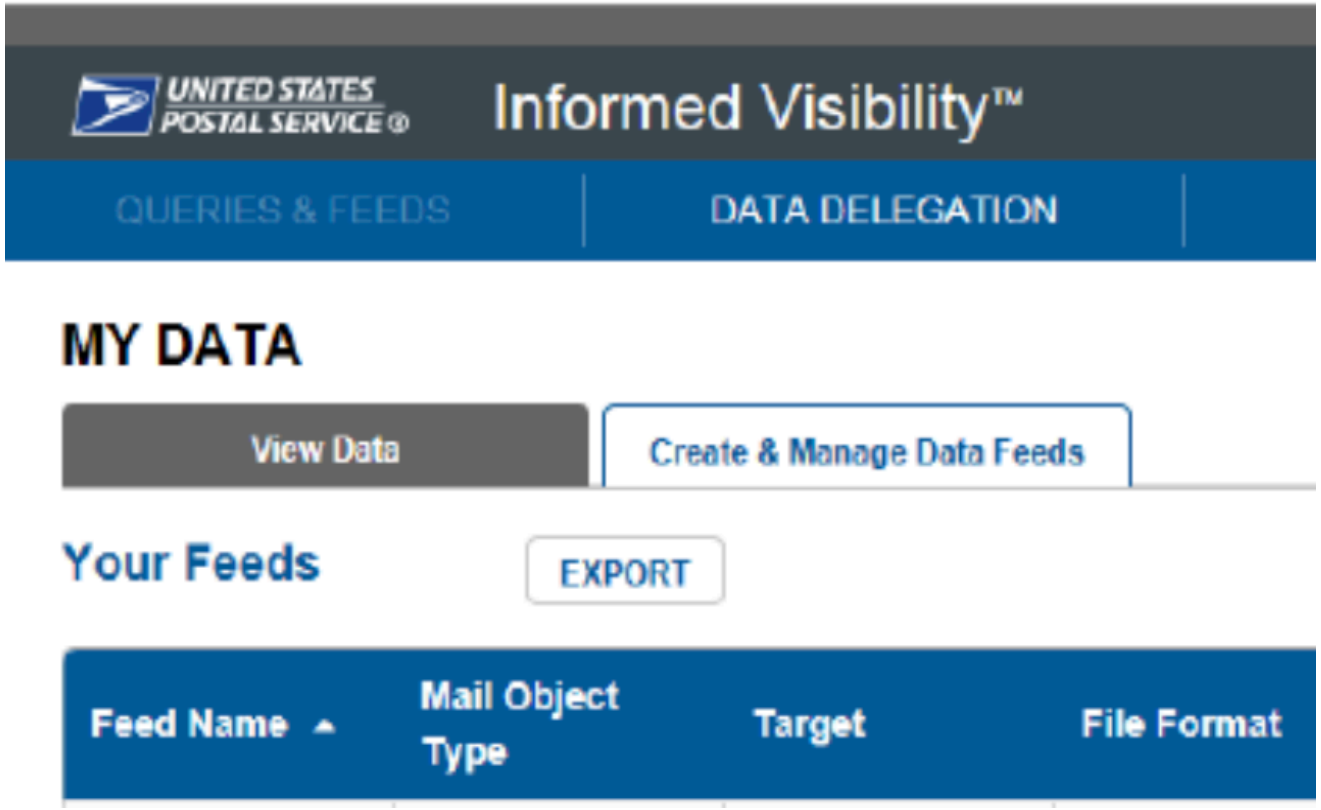


USPS

United States Postal Service

Informed Visibility

Forecasting incoming volumes



https://about.usps.com/gov-services/election-mail/

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Consider:
What policy/law changes have happened that may impact your standard estimation formula? EDR? AVR?

Consider:
Are there now additional options for voters?
How will they know?
No Excuse? Permanent VBM/VAH list?