



January 14, 2020

Preparing for Now (2020): Data & Tools

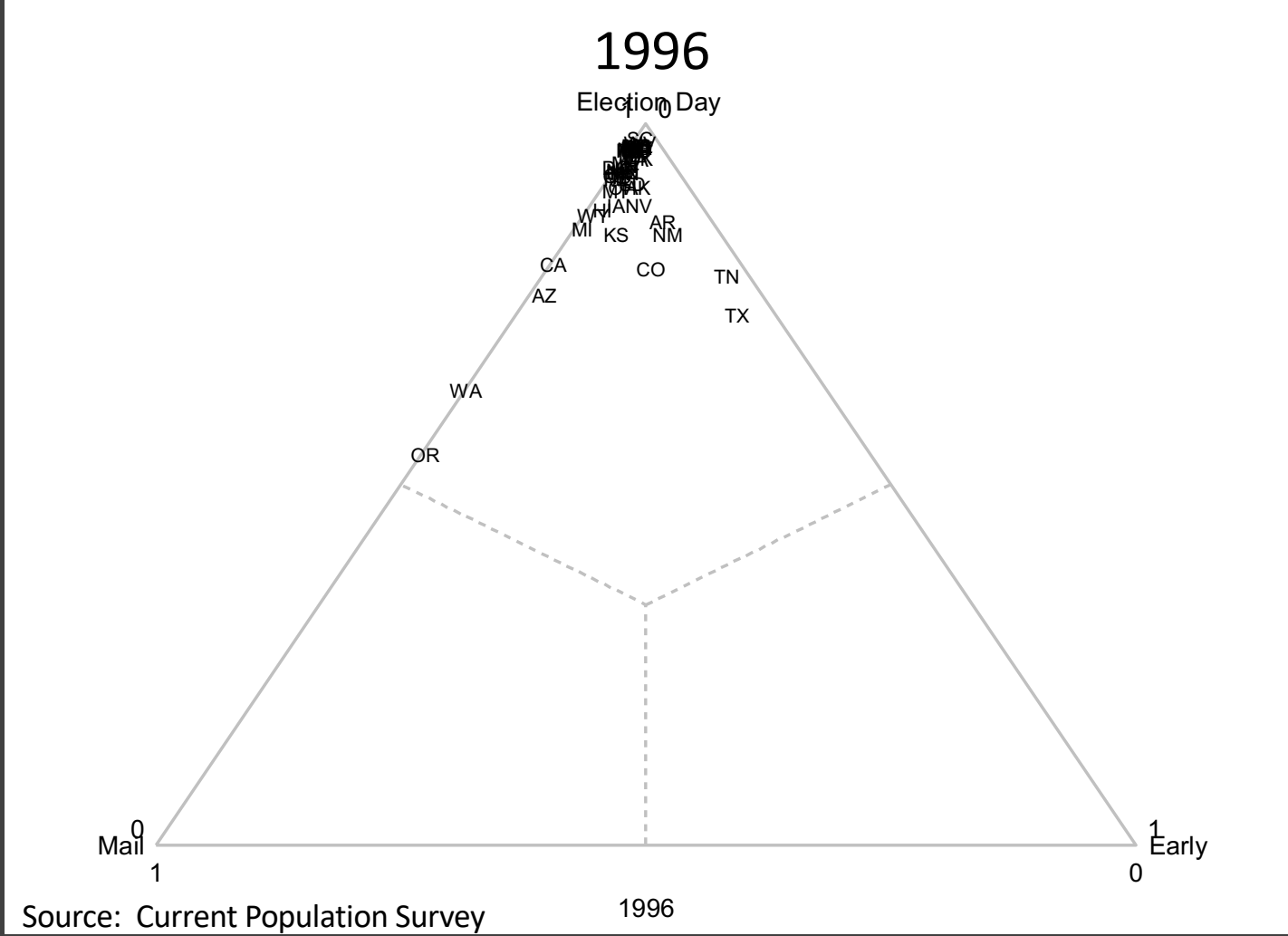
Tammy Patrick

Senior Advisor to the Elections Team



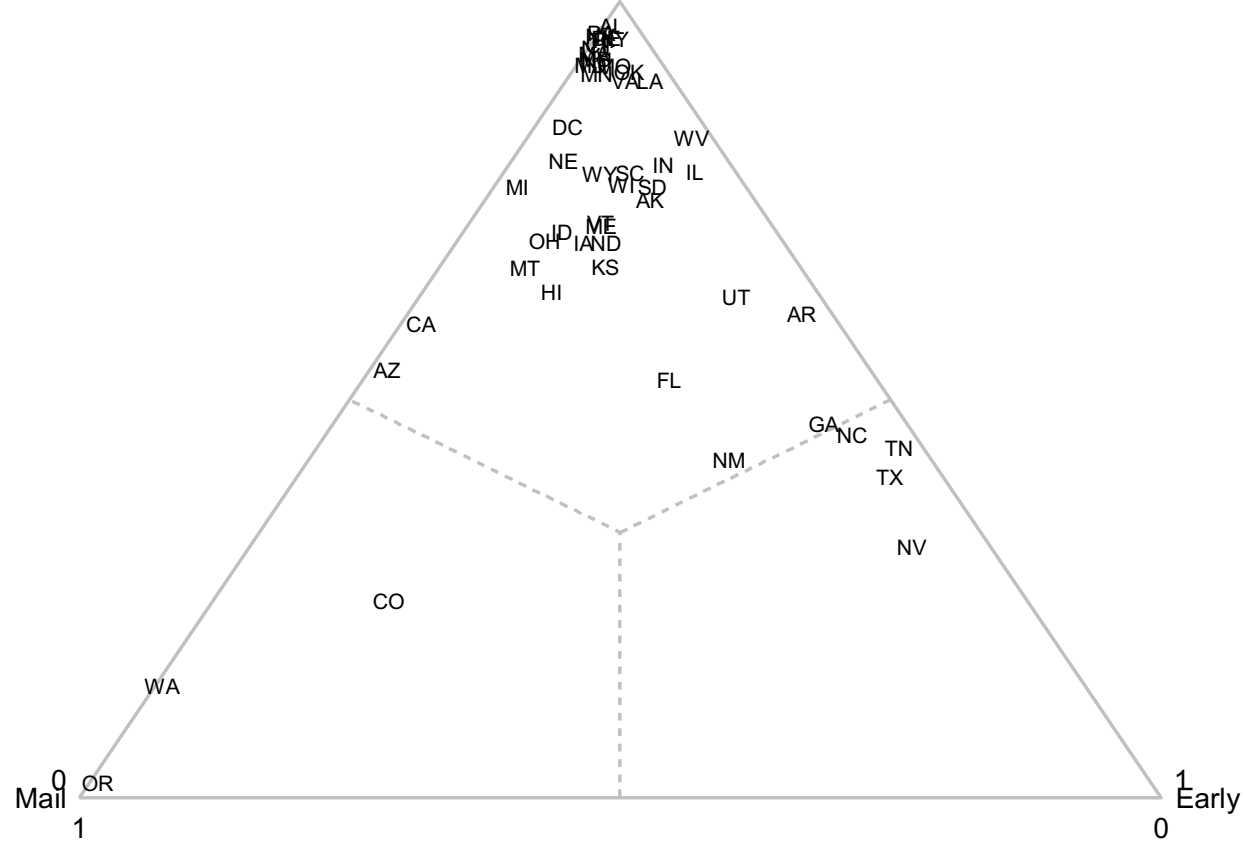
When given options in voting voters move away from Tuesday, Election Day as demonstrated by Charles Stewart, MIT (what I have nick-named the “Snow Globe of Elections”).





2008

Election Day

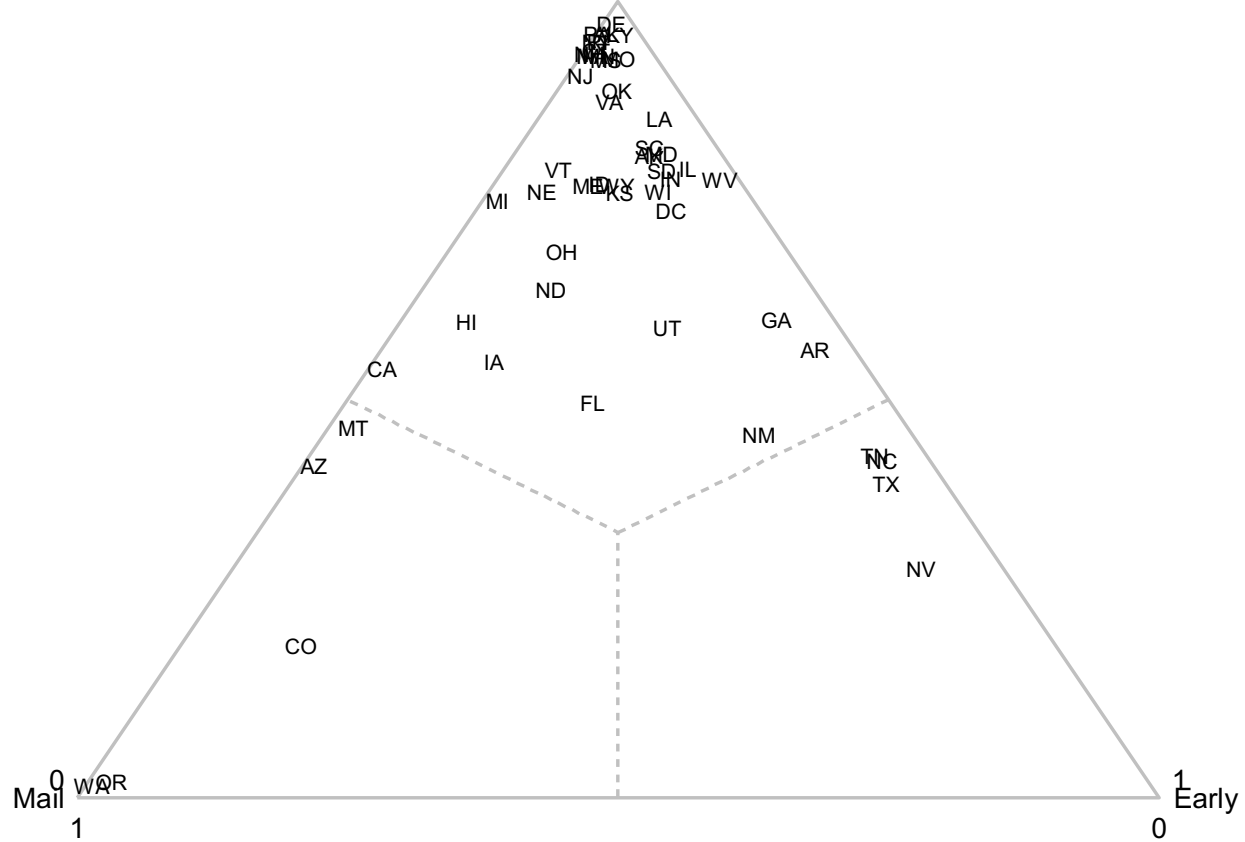


Source: Current Population Survey

2008

2012

Election Day

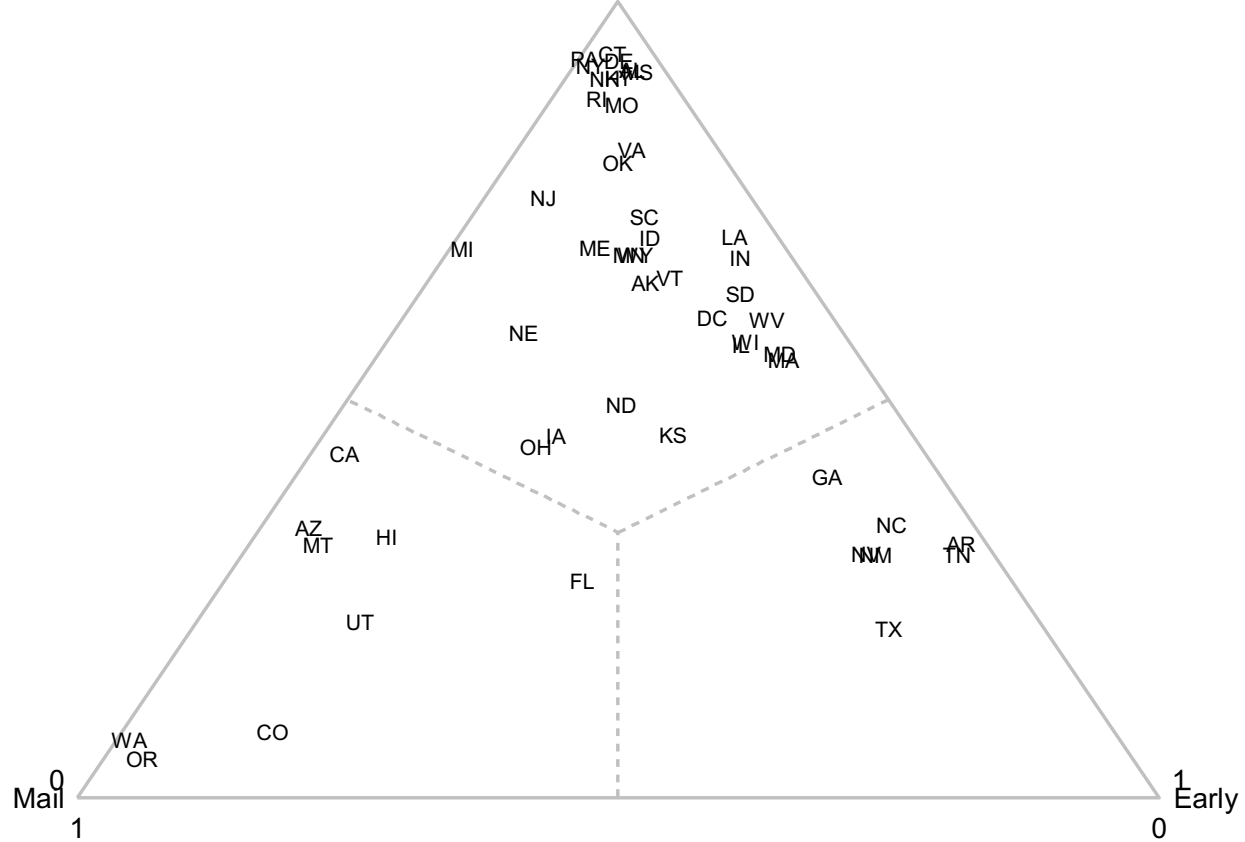


Source: Current Population Survey

2012

2016

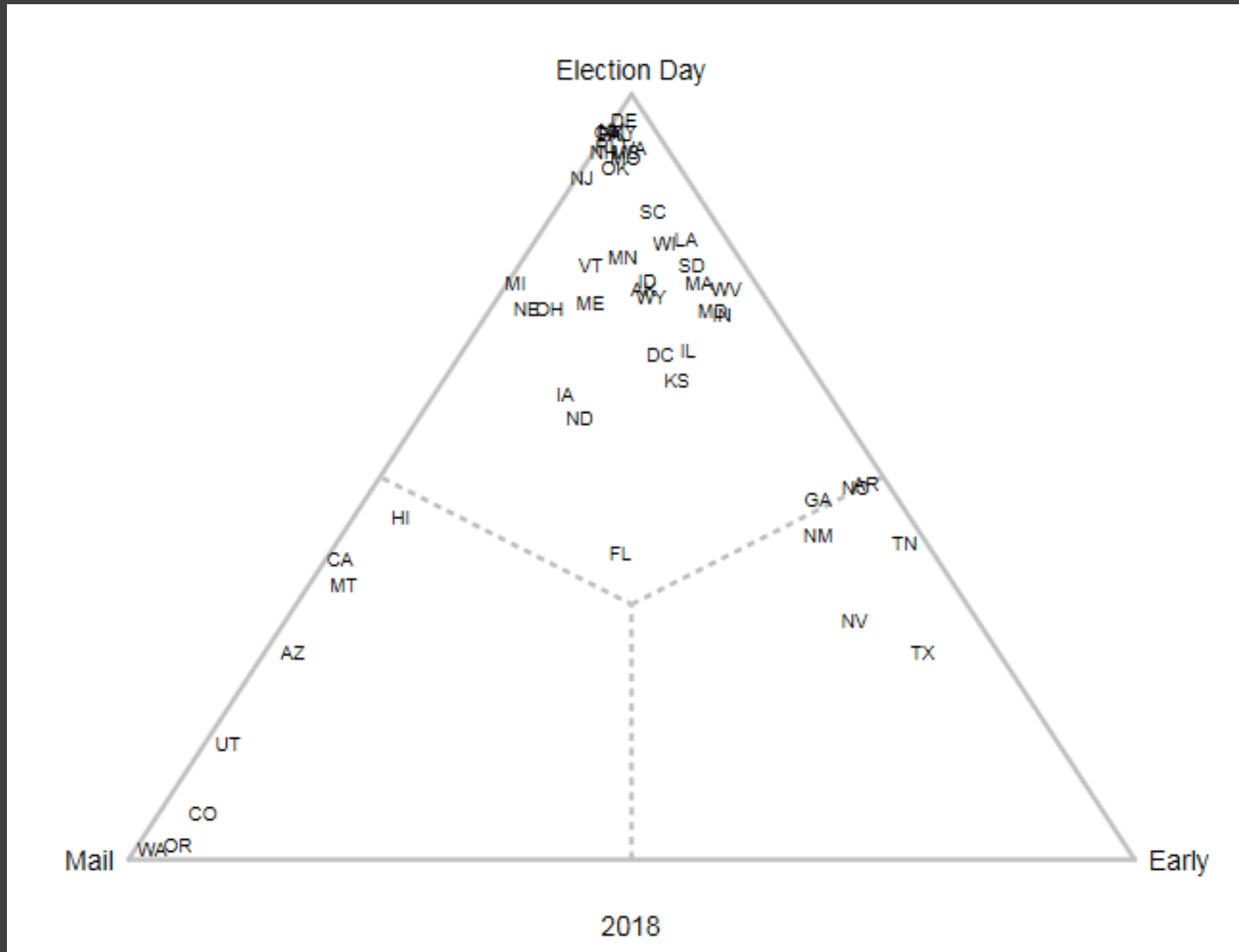
Election Day



Source: SPAE

2016

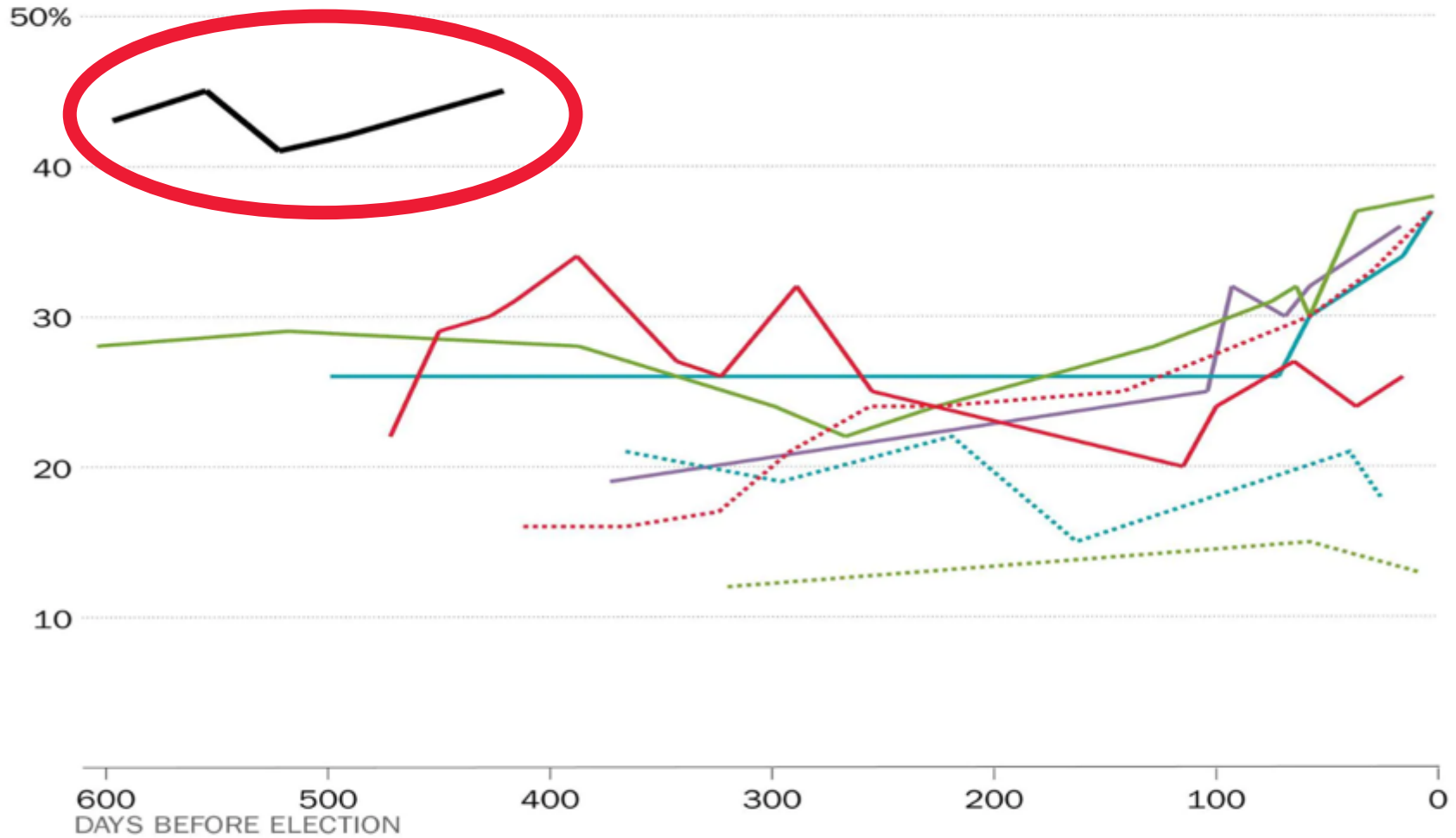
We saw a huge increase nationally from 2014 to 2018 midterms. New voters may only think that Election Day is their only option in voting.



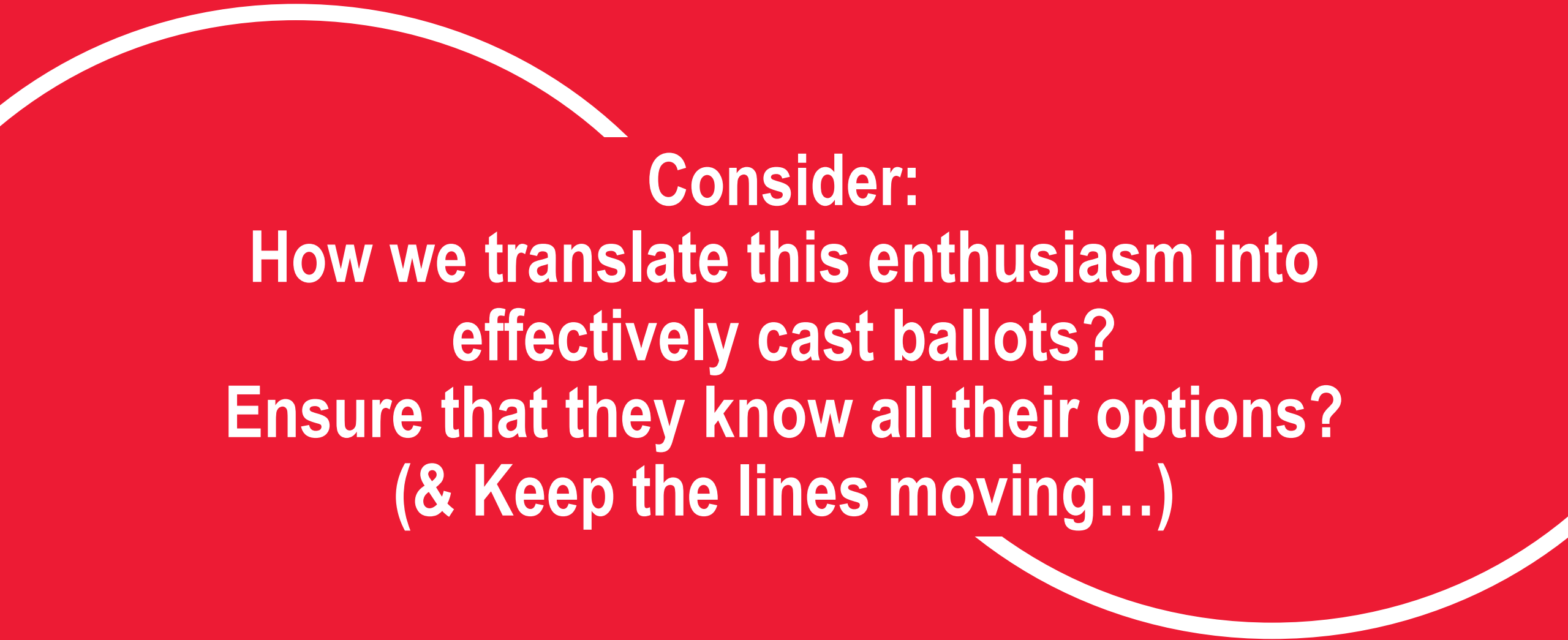
Extremely enthusiastic about voting

CNN-SSRS and CNN-ORC polling

— 2004 — 2008 — 2012 — 2016 — 2020
····· 2010 ····· 2014 ····· 2018



(Philip Bump/The Washington Post)



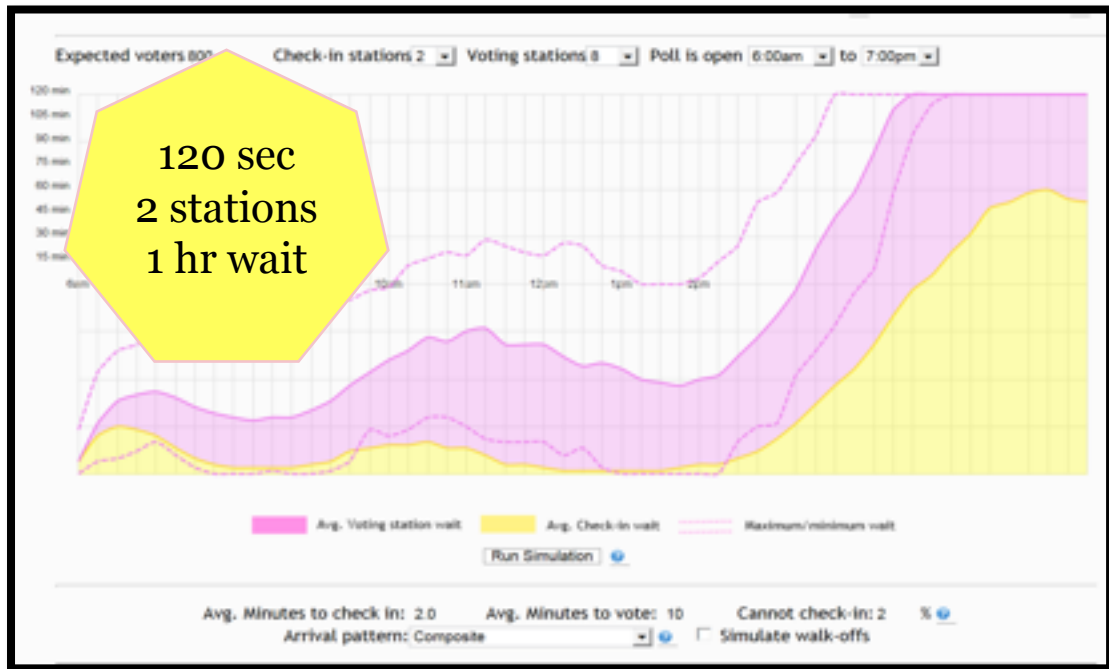
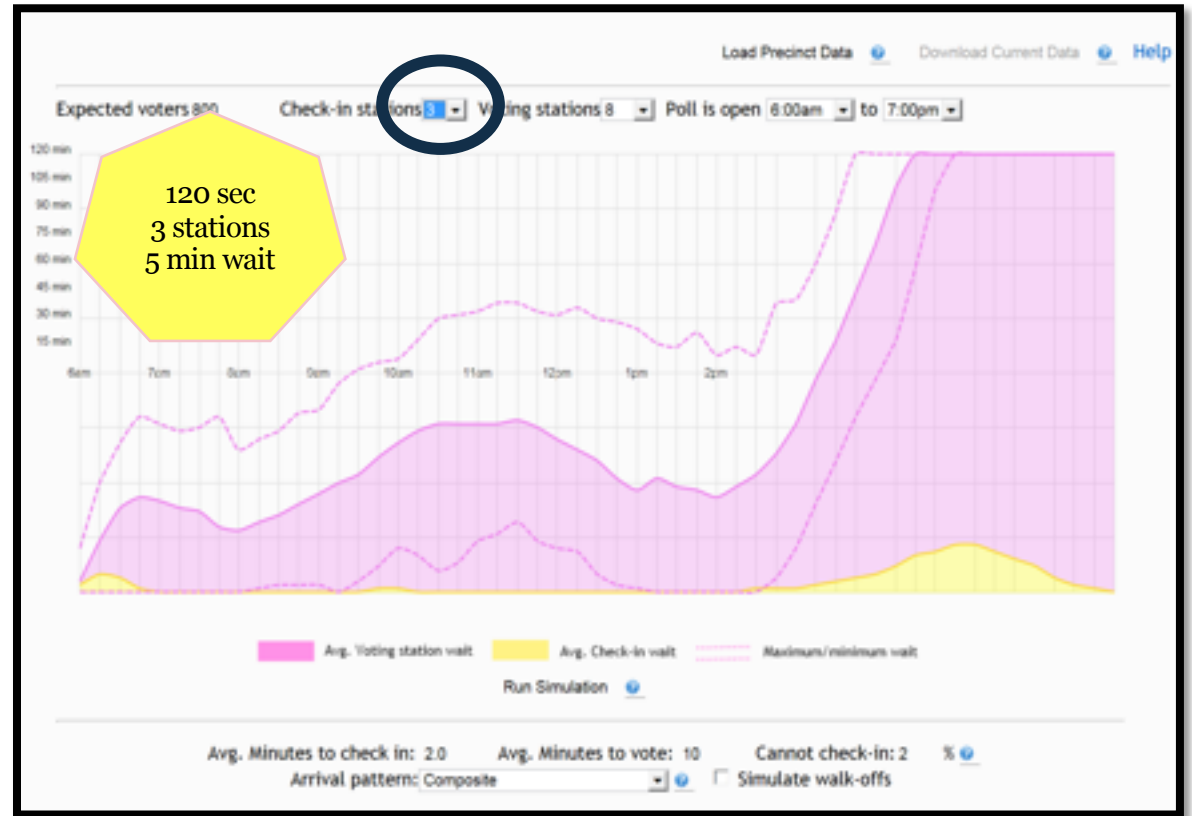
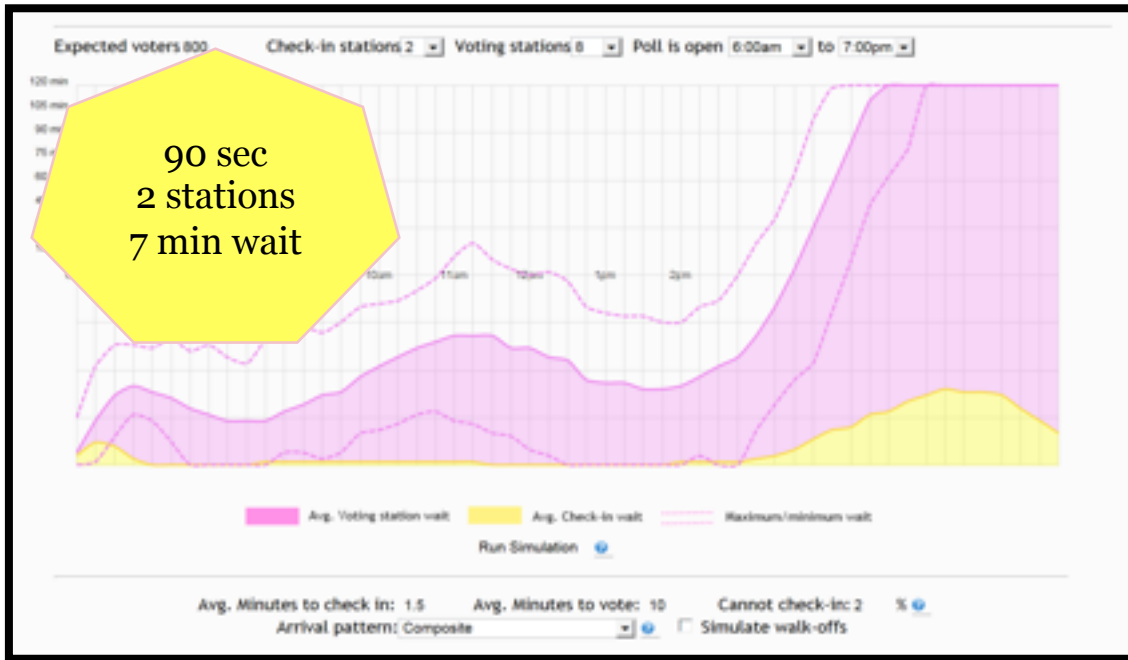
Consider:
**How we translate this enthusiasm into
effectively cast ballots?**
Ensure that they know all their options?
(& Keep the lines moving...)

Cal Tech-MIT

Resource Allocation Tools web.mit.edu/vtp/

Calculators

<h3>Line Optimization and Poll Worker Management</h3> <p>Developer: Stephen Graves and Rong Yuan</p> <p>This tool uses queueing theory to calculate the minimal number of service stations at a process step in a polling place so as to satisfy a service target on maximum waiting times.</p>	<h3>Poll Worker and Machine Optimization</h3> <p>Developer: Aaron Strauss</p> <p>An easy-to-use calculator that takes basic information about a precinct and reports the number of check-in poll books and voting machines needed to keep lines short during a presidential election</p>	<h3>Line Optimization</h3> <p>Developer: Mark Pelczarski</p> <p>This simulation gives an idea of potential voter wait times for if you have estimates of projected turnout, average time to vote with your ballot and equipment, and average time required to check-in each voter.</p>
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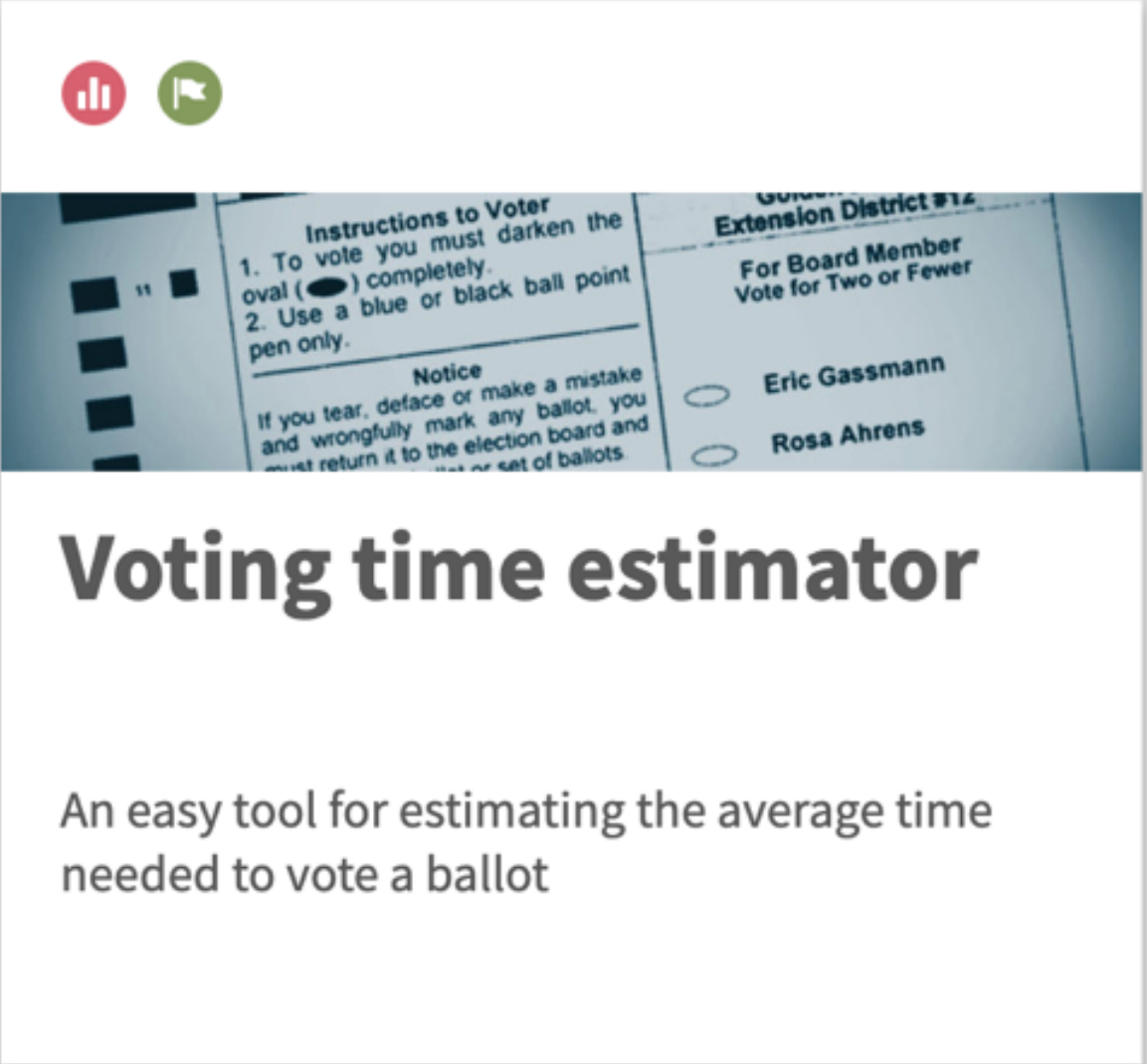


The addition of a single check-in station negates the hour long wait at the end of the day.

CTCL

Center for Technology in Civic Life
Resource Allocation & Timing Tools

<https://electiontools.org/>



The screenshot shows the top portion of a web browser. At the top left, there are two circular icons: a red one with a white bar chart and a green one with a white flag. Below these is a close-up image of a ballot paper. The ballot text includes "Instructions to Voter" with two numbered steps: "1. To vote you must darken the oval (●) completely." and "2. Use a blue or black ball point pen only." Below that is a "Notice" section: "If you tear, deface or make a mistake and wrongfully mark any ballot, you must return it to the election board and not a set of ballots." To the right, it says "Extension District #12" and "For Board Member Vote for Two or Fewer", followed by two candidate names: "Eric Gassmann" and "Rosa Ahrens", each with an oval next to it.

Voting time estimator

An easy tool for estimating the average time needed to vote a ballot

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Voting timer app

A free app to measure the average time voters spend with a ballot

Univ of Rhode Island

URI Votes Project

Tools for analyzing & visualizing data

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



2D Polling Diagrams: User Guide

URI VOTES



Engineering for Democracy

Recommendations that will lead to future sustainable practices and tools utilized to overcome new and future obstacles in voting and election processes.

The idea of democracy is simple.
Execution is complicated.


USPS

United States Postal Service
Informed Visibility
Forecasting incoming volumes


The screenshot shows the USPS Informed Visibility interface. At the top, there is a dark grey header with the USPS logo and the text "UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®" on the left, and "Informed Visibility™" on the right. Below this is a blue navigation bar with two tabs: "QUERIES & FEEDS" and "DATA DELEGATION". Underneath the navigation bar, the text "MY DATA" is displayed. Below "MY DATA" are two buttons: "View Data" (highlighted in dark grey) and "Create & Manage Data Feeds". Below these buttons is the text "Your Feeds" followed by an "EXPORT" button. At the bottom, there is a table header with four columns: "Feed Name", "Mail Object Type", "Target", and "File Format".


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





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?

