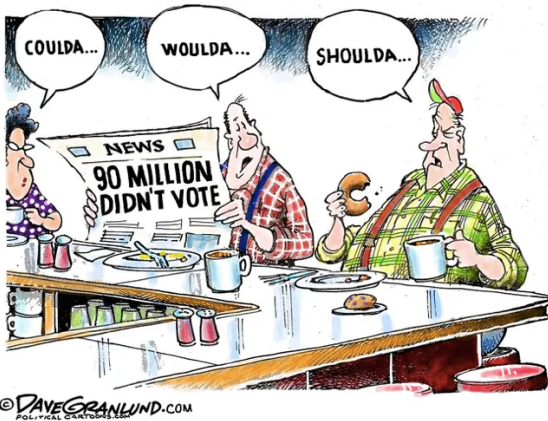


Unit 5 POLITICAL PARTICIPATION
5.2 Voter Turnout

Room 2B HIVE
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ESSENTIALS

Structural barriers, political efficacy, and demographics can predict differences in voter turnout in the U.S., and the following can influence voter turnout among democracies worldwide: National versus state-controlled elections/Voter registration laws and procedures/Voting incentives or penalties or fines/Midterm or presidential election type

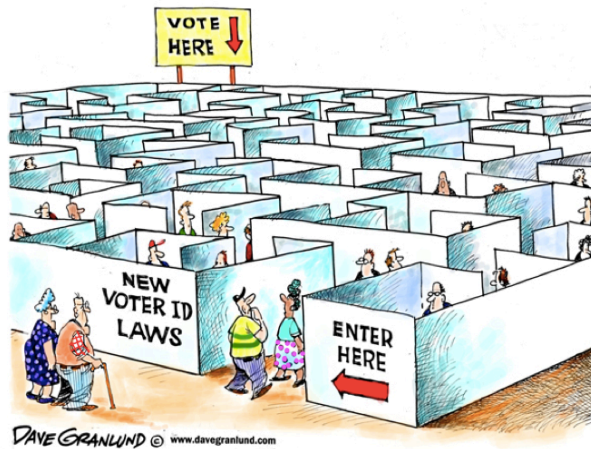
Demographic characteristics and political efficacy or engagement are used to predict the likelihood of whether an individual will vote. Factors influencing voter choice include: Party identification and ideological orientation/Candidate characteristics/Contemporary political issues/Religious beliefs or affiliation, gender, race and ethnicity, and other demographic characteristics

1. What is the underlying idea of this cartoon? [Write your response like a claim statement]
2. Should we make voting easier? If so, how? If not, why?

Complete the following chart: WHO VOTES FOR WHO?

Demographic characteristic	Democrats (liberals)	Republicans (conservatives)
Gender		
Race		
Religion		
Income		
Region		
Education		

What is the difference between “do not voters” and “cannot voters”?



1. Find three (3) different states and assess their voting rules. Why do some critics accuse states of voter suppression? What role does the U.S. constitution play in voting rules?
2. Assess voter turnout in the last three (3) presidential elections.
3. Assess voter turnout in the last three (3) midterm elections.
4. What states use voter ID laws? Investigate what the Supreme Court had to say about these laws.

Quantitative Analysis

Voter Turnout Statistics

Election	Voting Age Population (VAP)	Turnout	% Turnout of VAP
1992	189,493,000	104,600,000	55.2%
1996	196,789,00	96,390,000	49.0%
2000	209,787,000	105,594,000	50.3%
2004	219,553,000	122,349,000	55.7%
2008	229,945,000	131,407,000	57.1%
2012	235,248,000	129,235,000	54.9%
2016	250,056,000	138,847,000	55.5%

Use the information graphic to answer the questions.

- A. Identify the election year with the highest VAP %.
- B. Describe a similarity or difference between voter turnout over the years, and draw a conclusion that explains the similarity or difference.
- C. Explain how federalism can impact voter turnout.