

# Reading the Tea Leaves of 2021 Voter Turnout



### **CONNECT, LEARN, CHANGE THE WORLD**





# MODERATOR



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# **Reading the Tea Leaves of 2021 Voter Turnout**

### **SPEAKERS**

Molly Murphy Impact Research *@*mollykmurphy

Patrick Stewart Red Oak Strategic @pcstewart1020

Colleen **McCulloch-Learch** KRC Research







Region	Youngkin vs Trump 2020	Youngkin vs Romney 2012
Northern	11.97%	3.04%
Eastern	12.32%	19.40%
Central	10.24%	10.29%
Valley	8.925	16.87%
West Central	10.19%	16.19%
Southside	12.78%	22.64%
Southwest	5.50%	24.54%
Hampton Roads	10.52%	8.05%



- In both major races in Ohio this year, Republicans turned out at a much higher rate than they did in 2018 while Democratic turnout reduced significantly.
  - And in Texas, the vote for a Republican in the gubernatorial primary increased a staggering 410,552 votes from 2018, while the Democratic vote only increased 53,256.



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	Ohio Senate			
	2018	2022	Change	
lica	760,808	1,059,113	+298,305	
rati	613, <b>076</b>	Go <b>√£101,8</b> 62	-103,011	
	2018	2022	Change	
lica	827,039	1,068,817	+241,778	
rati	679 <b>,Texa</b> s	Goyeenor)	-177,638	
	2018	2022	Change	
lica	1,540,296	1,950,848	+410,552	
crati	1,017,940	1,071,196 <sup>#</sup>	<b>2022Pollies</b> +53,256	







	2010	2014	2022
Generic Ballot	R +9.4	R +2.4	R +3.5
Presidential Approval	-0.5	-10.4	-11.5
GOP Seats	242 +63	247 +13	?







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	Economy (General)	Cost of Living/ Inflation
Republican	14%	17%
Independent	13%	20%
Democrat	10%	13%













### **Democrats currently lag far behind Republicans in terms of voter enthusiasm** going into the Midterms.

Please tell me how interested you are in this November's elections, using a scale from one to ten, on which a "ten" means that you are very interested in the elections and a "one" means that you are not at all interested. (High level of interest is either a "9" or "10")









# **Core constituencies of the Democratic Party are also suffering from a lack of enthusiasm.**



Please rate your level of motivation to vote in elections for U.S. Senate and Congress on a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 means you are not at all motivated and 10 means you are extremely motivated.





As polls and recent elections show, Republican enthusiasm is going to be high. We can't change that. But Democrats must meet that enthusiasm. How?



Demonstrators marching through downtown Detroit. Emily Elconin for The New York Times





More than a thousand people attended the rally in Chicago. Jamie Kelter Davis for The New York Times



Regardless of how you plan to vote in November... if the Supreme Court's conservative majority were to overturn Roe v. Wade, would that make you feel more or less motivated to vote?



Nationwide survey of 997 registered voters conducted April 14-April 18, 2022. For more info, visit navigatorresarch.org.





But there is work to do. Voters trust Democrats on the issue of abortion, but before the SCOTUS draft leaked, they didn't think that Roe vs. Wade would be overturned.





How likely do you think it is that the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn Roe v. Wade, the case that made



Enthusiasm and the political environment currently favor Republicans....BUT November is a long way away. How do we maintain voter engagement as the environment shifts?

Republicans need to be prepared to address major shifts in the political environment (Economic Recovery, Roe v. Wade, etc.)











### Messaging needs to be tailored to the voter...not the party. This is how we maintain momentum





Pew Research Center





What's messaging have to do with turnout?

- In 2020 Senator Tillis (NC) needed to close the gap heading into election day
- Increased turnout among those • voters least likely to vote by leveraging relevant messaging
  - Cal Cunningham Affair
  - Supreme Court Opening



# **DIRECT MAIL IS A HELPFUL SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

### **INCREASED AWARENESS**

### REINFORCED INFORMATION



of surveyed voters said direct mail increases awareness of which candidates are running. of surveyed voters said direct mail increased awareness of candidates' positions. of surveyed voters agreed direct mail reinforced information on television and online political ads.

### EFFECTIVE

### **MEMORABLE**

of surveyed voters said direct mail is effective for decision-making purposes. of surveyed voters said direct mail was the most memorable form of political advertising in the past election cycle.



# MAIL ESTABLISHES TRUST WITH VOTERS







of surveyed voters said direct mail is more trustworthy than television or online advertising.

of surveyed voters said direct mail includes more facts than other political advertising of surveyed voters said direct mail is harder to ignore than other political advertising

### National Voters (2020)<sup>2</sup>



of surveyed voters direct mail is more transparent than other political advertising



# **DIRECT MAIL GENERATED MORE ENGAGEMENT IN 2021 THAN 2017**







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# Please provide your feedback about this session





