

## How Do You Feel About Voting?

Very important

I am willing if I see a person who stands for what I value

I feel that it's among the greatest acts of patriotism we can do.

I think it's incredibly important. We are given the right to have a direct say in our leadership and to throw that away would be to disrespect our civic duty.

It's scripted

I'm very pro-voting but this coming election is understandably difficult  
I feel that it's important but it's hard to do when you can't pick a side.

It's vital

I think it can help change who is in office

I think it is important, but could be much more important in a less corrupted and money driven system. Still voting, particularly at the local level makes a huge difference when people show up.

Positive

I vote in every major election and most primaries

Voting is a duty for all citizens

It is something that the United States prides itself on and I truly believe that it is something not to be tampered with. It is something made for the people by the people and should never be obstructed by outside forces. Everyone who is anyone who is registered should be able to vote and those who are not should be shown how.

Great!

Happy to be able to have the right to vote.

Its a civic duty

It's beneficial

A little nervous

It is one of the most important things I can do as a citizen.

Yes

My vote will help make better strides for this country

I originally thought it was bogus but learned more that you have to focus on the lower levels.

At first, I didn't see the point of voting. I felt that my voice would be lost in the shuffle and that my vote wouldn't have much of an impact. As I have grown and seen ideas come about though, I have seen that it is important to vote for the people and the causes you believe in. It is equally to get the word out and shed light on important topics and ideas that are being brought through a person's platform. Lawmakers control the very institutions of our government. It is extremely important that we the people get our say.

I'm okay with it

While I think the system could use much improvement, I take pride in my ability to vote.

It's a civic duty but also a right

I think it's important to vote

I don't feel strongly about voting. At all. I don't want to vote for bureaucratic politicians for parties that are exactly the same- only difference is that one

is red and one is blue. Real change is made from social action. Perhaps change is made more on a local level with things like governors and mayors, but I have yet to see a substantial change than with that than what the current protests have achieved.

It's important

Lose-lose situation

Wonderful

I think voting in America is one very small part of larger political activism.

It's only use, to me, is in allowing damage control or by providing a platform for more radical messages to spread. Systemically, the way voting works only legitimizes two parties that both support/condone the capitalist, imperialist, white supremacist system we have now and thus, voting cannot be the primary vehicle of systemic change in America.

Passionate about it and trying to get my friends to vote!

i think everyone needs to do it but i also understand why some people don't because the two party system is messed up!

It's a flawed system on the federal scale courtesy of the electoral college, and the delegate process of the primaries. Still important, but still corrupt. Locally, its imperative to vote.

I feel it is vital.

It's necessary if you want any change.

Nervous

It's important and I do it whenever possible.

If there was a good candidate I would vote.

I feel that isn't important but that NJ is a democratic state. I still vote but the vote is decided for us for presidential elections.

What's the point, the government will do what it does  
I think it's a Necessity but it's hard to know all the candidates and be educated on who to vote on.

I always vote. Though I always feel like I could be a more informed voter.

I like voting

It's an important responsibility, however it is very hard when the political parties have monopolized the process and corporations have a voice as well.

We have to vote !

Conflicted. So much misinformation, keeping informed is difficult. How do I know who to vote for if I'm not sure I know all the facts?

I think it's a very important right that should be protected and exercised, but that the voting system also has some critical issues that need to be addressed - such as the restrictions that keep certain populations from being able to vote (specifically felons, poor, and black people)  
it is more fun

I can't vote.

All people should be automatically registered to vote when they are of age, election day should be a holiday, absentee voting should be made easier, the electoral College should be abolished, gerrymandering should be cracked down on

It's is my right. It is a decision that affects many people and how they live their lives.

I like it

Good it's my duty

A little confused honestly, but i still do it

I think it's ones basic civic duty to vote. It's key to a functioning democracy for one to vote. Voting is a way to voice my opinion within the system

It's your duty as an American citizen to vote.

No vote=a vote for the wrong person

Everyone's vote counts

Voting is necessary, everyone should vote. I vote, but sometimes I feel like it doesn't even matter considering the electoral college can ignore the general population's votes and they can vote however they want.

Don't fully agree with the process I feel as if we can do without the electoral college

I feel passionate about voting.

It's important but stressful

It's essential to our democracy

I think it's important

It's my responsibility

Do it

EXCITED

I feel voting is being used as an element of oppression while it is inherently not. Voting is our civic duty to effect change in our country and elect leaders whom we think will better our society. This citizen power is being undermined by the capital of money to act as voting power for policy and

the active effort, politically, socially, economically, and in education to prioritize the voting power of money over that of idealistic grass roots voting.

I make it a priority to vote but i know the system is flawed in other states

I'm ok with it

I have a feeling that voting is there to make us feel like we can change the country we live in, but it's just an illusion- the people in control will control all they want.

Good.

I feel like it is important

I think it's important to vote and voice your opinion and press for change, however I personally don't have an issue with abstaining to vote given candidates you don't support

I believe it is crucial for young people to take advantage of this right, but also recognize older generations with outdated views have dominated the polls for far too long, and that there are tactics being used by local and federal governments to protect the corrupt system.

Okay

Our Votes do not matter. The system is rigged.

I feel that it is essential, incredibly important, and constantly undermined and abused by people who want to hold on to their power.

## **If You Haven't Voted Why?**

There is no one that I see who is good enough in my opinion

It doesn't count for the greater good

It's not a priority to me.

I've voted in every election since I could vote, minus one where I never received my mail in ballot in a primary.

Haven't made time to register

I slept on this past primary (the one due a few days ago) because I was confused cuz I dumb :(

I wasn't old enough before.

I didn't know I needed to register to vote again and I didn't register in time, also don't know enough about the candidates or politics in general to make an educated vote

I cant vote during primaries because I'm registered independent in Maryland

I haven't had the time

I am a deployed soldier

Yes vote

I used to not vote, but now I do.

I didn't vote in the 2016 election for the reasons stated above. I also saw the candidates and could not look past them, though now I realize that this was a mistake. I have also learned the important of voting for candidates at lower levels of government.

I wasn't old enough for the last presidential election, and I didn't know voting existed beyond that

I haven't registered yet

I usually vote- despite my feelings- but this term my absentee ballot was accidentally thrown away. I wasn't that heartbroken over it.

None of the candidates are good enough and the house & senate aren't going to help out the candidate if they don't like them

Didnt know how to go on about it or was too busy

I don't like the candidates of this election. And I don't identify as a Republican or Democrat.

I don't believe the people running would make a good president.

Whole system is flawed

The only reason I would leave a place blank on my voting ballad is due to the lack of information in the candidates.

I always research the candidates and vote!

the mva are dumb

I'm not a citizen.

I love voting i do it everytime i can

I didn't send in my voters ballot I just forgot to do it

I didnt vote in the primary this year because it felt fruitless

As registered unaffiliated for the primaries so I couldn't  
I vote

I have always voted



Been underage and now I'm independent, can't vote in primaries.

I voted in 2016 but not for the 2020 primaries since 1. My candidate (Bernie) semi dropped out, and 2. I did not like my alternative options I was unable to vote during the primaries because I was registered as independent.

Our Votes do not matter. The system is rigged.

## **From When You Were Eligible, Did You Vote For All Elections? Yes/No and Why?**

Yes

No, I have not seen a campaign that I can stand behind

All but one, because my absentee ballot didn't arrive in time

Yes!

No, because it wasn't on my mind

Yes because I felt like if I didn't people would be made at me.

Yes

Yes, besides the one where I never received my ballot. I think voting is an important part of making change in policy especially at the local level.

No, I wasn't old enough

No - I missed a few primaries

Yes. I never thought that I would care about politics but because I was able to vote, I took advantage of that opportunity. Any time I could vote, I did

because I felt that I didn't, then what was the point of having this opportunity in the first place.

I voted for local elections last year! I was a day too young for the 2016 election 😞

No, I wasn't able to yet.

Yes for all of the elections I was able to vote in. I voted because I believe it's important to.

Yes because I feel I you don't vote you can't help your society improve. All major elections, yes. I don't think there have been special elections in my district but I don't know on that front.

Yes voted

No. Thought it didnt change anything.

After the 2016 election, I have voted for every available election, unless there was an unopposed candidate whom I did not agree with. While we only see news on many of the larger members of government, it is important to regulate who helps run your local government. Big grandiose ideas don't matter if your mayor is corrupt.

No, didn't know they existed until recently

Yes, I have. However, it wasn't until I got older that I started researching candidates before voting.

Yes because I'm called to as a citizen of this country

Yes- I used to truly believe that voting makes a TRUE difference.

Yes, my voice needs to be heard

No I wasn't registered

Yes because it's important to vocalize my rights

yes because if i can do it i'm going to and i'm trying to bring change one lil vote at a time

Voted for presidential elections, as I got older, I slowly realized the importance of voting on all levels of government.

I voted for some, but not all. I did not vote for all of them because either I was at school and couldn't make it home, I wasn't informed and I didn't have enough time to get myself there.

No, I'm a busy guy I only vote for the major ones

No, because I am not very involved in politics.

Yes, my family had me invested in politics locally and on a higher level at a young age.

No, because there was not one decent person running.

I voted for the primary, president, and local government.

No, false power is not tangible power

I have voted for all the elections. I have been eligible for On presidential election so far.

Yes. To take action. In a small way.

Yes, because it is the right thing to do

Yes! I think it is important, even if it's just one vote to follow through and support folks pushing for change.

Yes because I hate trump

All but the most recent. Civic duty.

Sure

I did, voting is a lot of fun.

No, didnt find my state midterm elections to be urgent

No. Honestly it was a matter of white privilege. There was a sense of “it doesn’t matter because I’ll turn okay ok either candidate.” Now I exercise my vote for people in mind who it really matters to and how the community/nation will need best.

Yes sirr

Yes i did, because i feel like we need change and voting can help  
Yes, i voted when i was 17 in the 2018 primary, (in MD it’s allowed if you turn 18 before the general, which was the case for me). Since then i have voted in two primaries and one general.

Yes, because again it’s your duty as a citizen.

Yes, to use my voice.

Yes, because it’s the right thing to do

No. I registered as independent when I was 16 and didn't realize at the time that it meant I couldn't vote in the primary election. I need to get that changed but I'm not sure how.

I was eligible this year and before that I didn’t vote

Yes because it’s my right as a citizen to find someone with my ideals and beliefs in office.

Yes besides the mentioned primary

I did not vote in the 2016 election because I didn't get my absentee ballot in time

No wasn't old enough

No/ lack of time management

Yes- I need to be heard

Yes because it is important to get your voice heard

Yes because I want my voice to influence the government.

Yes. Even though I see the structures in how my vote is being diminished, it's gerrymandering, Super Delegates, Party Line politics of our bipartisan system, there is still the ability of our system to change itself if we the voters put the right people in power. The system relies on complacency and apathy -- the knowledge that we are not political players as individual citizens. If we take an active part and inspire others to do the same, to stay educated and engaged, we can affect positive change.

No. I wasn't able to make it to more local elections because of work and moving out of my voting zone

Yes. It's very important

I think I did. I vote because maybe I'm wrong about it being an illusion, and maybe I can help change things.

Yes, because I want to make a difference.

No

Besides the most recent presidential primaries, I have voted in the last presidential primaries. Any other elections I haven't been educated enough on or didn't know were happening

No, because I was usually in school at the time or had other commitments that prevented me from getting there before they closed. I am making every effort this year to make sure I can exercise this right.

Yes, bc it is the way for me to be politically active and share my voice

No.

Yes. The first time I could vote was in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election and I wanted to do everything in my power to make sure that Donald Trump would not win the presidency. Though the outcome was obviously discouraging and upsetting, I continue to vote.

## **Did You Vote In The Recent Primary? Yes/No and why**

Yes

No, there is no one I can stand behind

Primaries have not occurred for my state yet (NJ), but I will be voting!

No, I didn't have time

Not yet, mine isn't until next month

No because I forgot

Yes, now more than ever if we don't vote, Policies that no one wants to see passed will and people passing those bad policies will stay in place.

No, I was in training camp

Yes - it's important to turn the Senate and local elections

Yes, voting is my duty

Yes because I wanted my voice and opinions to be heard, especially under the Trump administration.

No because I dumb and misunderstood

No, I am registered as independent.

No, answered why above

I didnt because I'm registered independent so I wasn't allowed

No not yet

I didn't because I'm not in the country

Yes vote

Yes. It's my responsibility as a citizen.

Yes because I believe that Baltimore is on the cusp of seeing major, positive change. I want someone is finally able to make a difference for Baltimore, but not wipe away what Baltimore stands for.

No, wasn't registered

Yes, I did.

Yes because I'm unhappy with the current office holders and all I can do is vote them out

No, I wasn't registered

No, my ballot got thrown away by accident LMAO

Yes, change needs to happen

No was not registered

Yes. Despite the fact I feel that voting is ultimately a rather minor part of political activism, I still wanted to put my voice in for who, of the candidates given, I would like to have in office.

yes, local elections are just as important as the presidential!! it starts local and goes up so i voiced my vote!

Yes. So Sanders can get the numbers he deserves.

I unfortunately did not hit the birthday requirement for the 2016 election. My 18 birthday was that December.

No I did not because of covid

No, because I was still young.

Yes because I wanted to voice my favor for Bernie Sanders as president. I know he isn't the presumed nominee but I'm furious at the current establishment and want change.

No, because there was not one decent person running.

I didn't because my schedule didn't allow for it during the day of the election but I usually vote in the primary.

No, Congress is more important

No I did not. I was nervous about covid and with everything going on I did not educate myself enough on each candidate.

Yes. 1) I always vote. 2) there's a lot at stake right now.

Yes, I wanted my voice heard

Yes, I wanted to make sure that even if I disagreed with the larger party lines I was able to support the folks I think should be in positions of power in my county (Education)



Yes because I hate trump and need him out of office

No, wasn't informed enough, had just moved and wasn't sure how to.

Yes, because even though the candidate I voted for has suspended his campaign, my voice and support of his platforms should still be recognized

No

I can't and I didn't.

yes, trump bad

Yes. To exercise my right and to ensure communities/ our nation is in the best hands.

Yes sir because it is important for my voice to count for the many elections going up for grabs.

Yes i did, mostly because my parents kept pressing me about it

Yes. I voted because the primary voted on the my district nominee and their was a challenger to the incumbent which i do not support as strongly and this was my opportunity to do so.

Yes, to use my boice

No I forgot to send my ballot in

Yes because I want to see a change in our government.

No because it felt silly with no actual race

Yes, because change is needed at the state and local level

No

Yed

Yes- this is an important year and I really wanted to make sure we picked the right candidate

Yes

Yes because it is important to vote no matter what

I will be once i get my mail in ballot because this country needs a change I did! I voted because I wanted to make a change in the government. Especially after learning of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery's deaths. I would've felt irresponsible if I HADN'T gone.

Yes. I want to see positive change in the world.

No, was registered as independent.

No, for the reasons I said above (Bernie dropper and I didn't like my alternative options).

No, I was registered as independent.

No, I ended up moving for the pandemic and was not able to go back to my old address to get my ballot.

No.

Yes. Especially during this time, I have to. Outside of the protesting and demands for action on the streets, voting is the only other ("legal") option we have. Once again, I need to know that I'm doing any and everything I can to get Trump out of office and to make sure my local and state government are filled with people who will make the reforms that are desperately needed.

## Did You Feel Prepared To Make Your Vote? Yes/No and Why?

Yes

No

N/A

Yes

Yes, I have educated myself on the people who are running

Yes because I'm passionate about service and politics issues and I was relatively informed about the candidates

Right now, I feel pretty prepared. I read the news at least every other day and have been following the presidential race all year.

No I don't really keep up with the candidates

Sort-of, I knew I had to vote for Biden but I really loved Bernie so I didn't want to vote

I felt prepared to vote for federal positions and president, but admittedly felt quite ignorant on my local elections. I had to do research on all the candidates once I got the ballot because I knew nothing about any of them.

Yes, I have a positive outlook on who I wanna vote for.

Yes - I stay informed

Yes, I did my research

Yes because of the mail-in ballots. I felt that I had more time to look over people and look at their policies and how they reflects my views.

Well...lol as prepared as one could be :(

I feel like i need to be more informed

No, I don't know enough about the candidates or politics in general to make an educated vote

Kinda not really

No because I don't see any candidate making a change in the world

No, because I wasn't familiar with all of the possible candidates who align with my ideals

Yes. I try to keep tabs on all elections in my state and on the federal level. Yes, I made sure to do a lot of research ahead of time. I was able to find out a lot of surprising details about certain candidates.

No

Yes, mostly. While I wasn't able find information on all candidates running, I did for most.

For the most part yes, but I was unprepared for the school board section. Did not know that was part of it

Nope. Too many things were a distraction so I didn't have the wherewithal to look up local representatives- as for the presidency, those two men are both foul to me.

Yes, I like knowing who/what I'm voting for

No, I don't follow politics enough

Yes-ish, I had to do research on the people but all the information was easy for me to find

Widely no, the amount of candidates available to choose from for the delegates was too cast to investigate them all.

yes, but i also know it's a lot to research

Yes, because as a person of this nation it is essential to stay informed through the course of the entire political race.

I would've been completely prepared to make that vote, due to research and commonsense.

Yes because I knew who I was going to vote for going in.

No because I did not do any research on the candidates. Only watched the news and social media.

Yes, I was against the initial election of Trump and I'll do whatever I can to stop a second term.

No, media will spread everything bad about both candidates  
Yes and no. I feel as if I need more information On certain candidates but I also know who I do not want.

More so than I have in the past. But I still feel like I could be even better prepared.

Mostly yes, I feel prepared about the big name candidates, but less informed about the smaller/local positions

Yes, I enjoy doing extensive research across a wide variety of media platforms in order to help reduce the likelihood of confirmation bias.

Yes because anyone is better than trump

No.

Yes, because I felt informed and sure of who I supported

I can't vote...

yes, trump bad

Sometimes. I definitely can second guess myself whether I am making the best decision for people who really need it.

Yes i googled and did research on everything i voted fir

Not at all tbh. I feel like when it comes to politics we just don't know a lot.

You really have to dig into each person and what they offer. It's not just out there, you don't see it in social media all the time or see a lot of ads about them. I feel like we need to seek it out and really dig. It's not really just out in the open for us to learn about, which is the problem

Yes. I had speakers come to my school and had done prior research.

Yes, because I stay informed

No. I had to do lots of research. I don't feel the information about primary candidates is broadcasted well enough.

Yes, I read a lot and follow the campaigns.

Yes because only a few people represented my beliefs

Yes, although I'm not closed off to possible late in the game contenders.

N/a

Yes for I made sure to learn what I could

For p candidate yes but for all other items on the ballot no- lack on information and knowledge. I googled to find everyone who was on the ballot but it was extremely difficult to find anything about the people running for sherif or judge and those positions. I could find that they were running

but I've never been able to find good information about their views and opinions

No I didn't know lots of names on the ballot

Yes and No. I feel I knew enough information that I wasn't blind but that research is limited to have a basic understanding. I'm fitting it in around my life as to not go in blind and understand basic points of who I'm voting for but all of my research is surface level.

Yes. The country is a mess and needs to be fixed. Older generations can no longer hold the country hostage for themselves.

Yes. I read many articles from both sides to base an accurate assessment A bit. There were some people I was unfamiliar with but for the most part I knew who I wanted to vote for.

No. Don't know a ton of information other than mainstream media, which can change narratives in any direction for any person.

More or less yes. I had a good idea of the two big candidates running's ideals and records. I will admit I did not know anyone else running if there was anyone

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Yes, bc I keep myself politically informed

No. There are so many things to know, so many people to research and consider and even knew people that pop up out of nowhere. The system, especially now, feels too loose and too info-heavy to really make the most widely educated and informed decisions. I did the research I could and feel confident for the votes I cast, but I didn't necessarily feel totally prepared.

## What Did You Do To Prepare?

N/A

Nothing

Researched the people who are running and seeing what they support

Researched and took quizzes to see which candidates I aligned with most

Reading/watching news, doing research on candidates

Research

I didn't

I requested a mail in ballot

I researched the candidates and made sure they were close to my opinions.

I researched all the candidates I didn't already know a lot about by looking at their websites and the policies they stand for.

Research about politics

Reading

I researched all the candidates' platforms on ballot ready  
I studied who was who and made the best choice accordingly.

Well I reckon watch the news and do my own research (scrolling back n forth on social media)

Research

I research candidates and their platforms



Internet research

See what needs to change in our Society

I am what one could call a “politics junky”. I try to be as informed as possible so I can make the best possible decisions with my vote and my voice.

Went to vote

I just go

Researches candidates.

I made sure to do ample research on each of the candidates, particularly the ones who were polling high. I saw what their supposed platform was, whether or not they did things for the people, was there any history of corruption.

N/A

I took the election quiz on isidewith.com, browsed candidate websites, and searched newspapers for information on local candidates.

Talked to people I trust are informed, and fact checked them then filling in any holes with my own research

I do my research

Kept up to date on Twitter.

I look at local newspapers to understand who I am voting for

Nothing

Read their websites

I tried to vet those candidates I could online by reading their policy proposals and Twitter accounts.

Research, talking to other people, prioritizing my values

i just look everyone up and read up on them

Read summaries on the platforms of each candidate. Watch debates, look at their past histories.

I researched online and went through every accusation on either side and the answer was so simple to me.

Nothing.

Kept up with current events

Research about each individual candidate

I looked up every single person on my ballot to research. I read a lot. There were a lot more sources online for this election because social media/internet is becoming an actual tool of the revolution in regards to sharing information/resources/etc.

Read a few "know the candidates" articles

I usually start with <https://www.lwv.org/> the league of women voters has lots of helpful information and asks a lot of interesting questions however they tend to lean towards democratic candidates so if I want more information I make sure to search for reputable news organizations

Vote against trump

I educated myself and made sure I knew how each candidate felt about the issues that are most important to me

Nothing

I CANT VOTE.

look at internet

Read up on candidates. Consider other people's needs that aren't typically met. Talk to others about things I don't understand or know about certain issues/candidates.

Google and looked up the candidates history

Research candidates and my available ways to vote

Nothing to be honest

Research the candidates and their opinions and records.

There is no real preparation for voting. It's not a test. If you're politically aware then you should vote.

Research, research, and more research.

Online research

Read credible articles that were toward the center of the left/right spectrum, followed the candidate(s) I supported campaign (s).

Research my candidates

Study about the candidates

Read through each person's platform and history with issues  
View each platform and stay up to date with news.

Read some articles

Read, listened and talked to people

Google!

Talk about it

Watched presidential debates

Pursued individual candidates campaign webpages, listen to presidential candidates speeches/debates, spoke with my family (my brother is a policy analyst)

I've been active on social media and gather outside info.

See above

I searched the internet for information about representatives.

I registered to vote and then researched the different candidates.

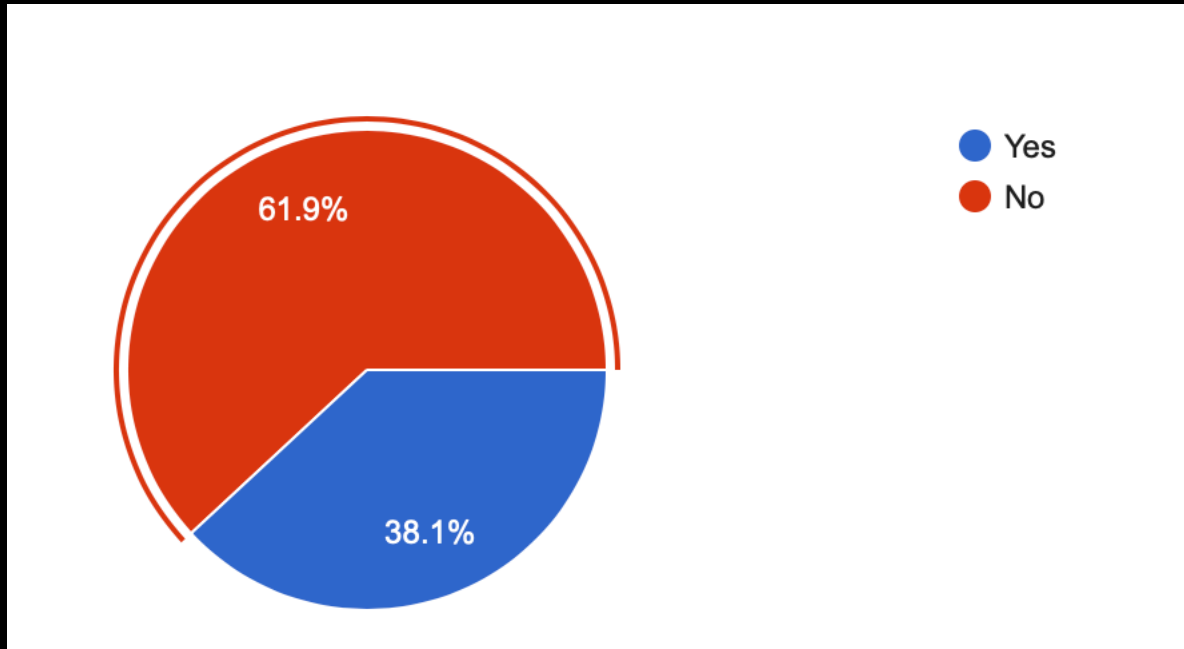
I kept up to date with the news, not as much as I used to, but I did try to know at least some of what is happening.

I have been doing my best to keep up with the candidates, but I'm honestly questioning whether or not I can believe anyone. The government has time and time again failed the people, and it starts to make you feel like it doesn't matter. I haven't given up yet, but I won't shame those who have.

Read news articles and other information on the candidates

A lot of research. Who are these people, what have their previous policies been, what are they now. have they changed, etc.

## Is This The First Year You Are Eligible To Vote For The Presidential Election?



## How Does Voting Make You Feel?

Empowered

Patriotic

Nervous

Scared

Proud

Empowered!

Nothing

Powerful but also helpless at the same time because I understand how the voting system in the American government works

Stressed

More empowered, but also hopeless because the rich will elect who they want since they have money to do that

I think it's important, but in Maryland I know it doesn't make much difference since it already leans very left and doesn't much matter in Dorchester county because local gov leans very right. I still think it is important for everyone to have a voice though.

Positive

I don't feel incredibly optimistic but it's something

I felt empowered and felt calm after who I had chosen.

Happy to help make a difference!

It makes me feel proud to have the right.

Worried, people who don't belong in power could be voted in.

doesn't really illicit an emotional response

Smart

A bit nervous

Powerful

nervous

I still feel sometimes that it doesn't help or it's too slow, but at the same time I've seen a lot of change outside of elections, which in turn makes elections more powerful.

Hopeful, but also nervous. Change will inevitably come, I just hope that it comes sooner rather than later.

Proud.

It doesn't really

Like I'm making a change

Angry.

Wonderful

It doesn't make me feel much tbh.

it's kind of scary but i feel good afterwards

That's a loaded question. Federally, I feel my vote makes no difference, locally, every vote counts.

Empowered. Like I have some sort of a voice; hopefully nothing gets rigged.

Accomplished I guess?

Nervous

Nervous, but happy to perform my civic duty.

It makes me feel empowered as an American citizen

Like a sheep

Stressed yet a privilege that I have that most other countries do not.

Excited. But as my first presidential election as a voter was our previous...there is also comes a bout of discouragement and sadness. I think that election really effected young voters mindset and just heart when it comes to voting and the power that we hold as young people/voters.

Fulfilled

I get excited to participate however it can be hard to feel like it matters on the large scale

Empowered

Hopeful, but sometimes defeated when I think about the amount of people who either choose not to or cannot vote

Tired

When I could? great.

powerless

Stressed, responsible

Good, it is the most powerful way I can change something

Cool

Like i have the power to help change something

Voting makes me feel confident, gives me a voice to those who are unable to vote.

Proud

Like I have a say, some sort of power, a duty to my community.



Empowered, but tired. The more I learn about corruption the more it makes me feel like my vote doesn't actually matter. It doesn't make sense to me that the electoral college can basically ignore the people's votes. If I remember correctly, Trump had under 50% of the votes in a state (or more, I don't remember) but the electoral college representative there still voted Trump.

I didn't vote

Passionate

Disenfranchised

Like I'm doing the right thing

Strong

At least I feel I am trying to have an affect and if not happy with the results I feel it gives me the right to bi....

That I've done my job

Great

It feels necessary. I would be upset to not vote, then see the election go in a direction I don't support, By taking part I know I'm doing atleast something to make my statement towards where I think our community can improve.

It's a little nerve racking in the booth because god forbid i pick the wrong buttons.

A true citizen

Mostly powerful, but again, I have a feeling that it is supposed to give you a false sense of power.

Strong

Feel like a legal adult.

I do think voting feels empowering, but I also feel a lot of the times I'm not educated enough to vote so I abstain in those instances

As mentioned earlier, we have been failed by our government on all fronts - both federal and local - and it makes it very difficult to believe that the people have any control whatsoever. Corruption is widespread - who do you call upon to fix it if those who are supposed to are the source of corruption??

Excited

Our Votes do not matter. The system is rigged.

Angry. I never know if what I am doing is going to make it to "the polls."

After the electoral college nonsense in 2016, voter suppression in Georgia, and more - I am worried and angry that I have no idea if these votes are going to do their job.

**Do You Feel Pressure To Vote Outside Of Your Own Feeling, Thoughts, Perspectives and Beliefs?**

No

Yes

No

No.

no

There is some pressure and it is good to know that only you know who you vote for, but that being said I am willing to listen why I should vote for one side or the other and rebuttal with my own opinions on that person.

No.

Sometimes I feel pressure to vote the same way as my family, but most of the time our beliefs are the same so it's not often an issue.

You don't want to let down society

I only feel pressure when there are no good options for a position. For example, in the 2016 General election I had no desire to vote for either candidate, but felt pressured because one was obviously worse than the other.

I don't feel that pressure, no! Had I been able to choose between Bernie and Biden, for example, that may have been a different story! My parents were more Biden leaning than Bernie (they find him a bit too radical) so I'm sure they would've had something to say about my desire to be more progressive!

No I do not.

I do. I feel like it's a priority now.

Yes, this presidential election has been rather tricky for me. As an avid supporter of Bernie Sanders, I know that I will have to vote for Joe Biden, a man that I do not agree with very much at all. This is the same problem I had in the 2016 election. That being said, I will not make the same mistake.

I will grit my teeth and vote for Biden.

Nope

Never.

When I was young and couldn't vote yet, yes. But not now  
Yes I feel that I am peer pressured to vote for a popular candidate.

Personally, I don't want to vote. I am just not politically active.

Depends but yes I have felt pressured by friends and family to vote on people who support things I do not.

Nope, you don't have to show anyone your ballot

Eh

It's a very small civic duty with the largest repercussion.

No- when talking to people about voting and their thoughts, it helps me broaden my perspective to make a better choice sometimes.

Yes, I vote for those that cannot whether it be they are undocumented and incarcerated.

Sometimes I vote for lesser of evils

Meh- I always get on the bus going closest to my stop, so even if they aren't exactly my beliefs I feel ok about it. But I have also gone and voted in secret with a friend of mine when I was living in TX we had a feeling that we would be the only one of our friends voting for Obama so we went together to early voting and never made a big todo over it

Honestly no. I believe that pressure exists nowadays in social media, but we culturally are so overloaded by it and the 24hr news cycle, let alone the atrocities occurring in our country from the racism, mass shootings, devaluation of LGBTQ life, and how our broken system empowers a corrupt administration to do so. But we're borderline, if not actually, propagandizing ourselves into inaction or blind fury. We've stopped listening to each other and demand change as instant gratification and retaliate when it's not given rather than understanding the duty and work it takes to create that change. The current social rights movement has me hopeful that this tide is turning, but all of these still exist within it and are inhibiting it.

With a 2 party system yes. It's hard to want to vote in a person you don't support just because the part closes to your beliefs chose them by cheating and rigging the system.

Yes. Even knowing that Biden and Trump are running for president, I still checked Sanders' box because I (like many others) can't stand either Biden or Trump.

Yes, I see a lot of posts and friends telling each other to vote, and if this counts, the current state of the US and it's government is encouraging me to vote more

No, I do my own research and vote according to my conclusions and needs.

Sometimes, but I've recently felt very comfortable in my own views, even if they don't match everyone around me.

Yes and no. Personally, the issues we are facing and the changes that are being pushed are things I believe in and are long overdue - especially for the black communities. As of this point in time, the only thing I feel pressured on is voting for Joe Biden. He's a candidate I don't believe in, but we are forced between a (incredibly) lack-luster candidate and an authoritarian-monster-baby and I think there's still a clear winner there.

## Is There Anything Else You Would Like To Tell Us About Voting And Your Relationship To Voting

No

Nope

no

I feel like my voice won't get heard

F\*\*\* Donald Trump

No

Not really

Voting is fun

It's not glamorous, but it needs to be done!

I believe it's an important right that shouldn't be taken for granted.

I feel as if I've articulated my feelings well enough, but I will say that there could be a chance to change my mind if voting is reformed and the electoral college is abolished.

It's complicated

Everyone should vote!

For the past two primaries, the decision was made before my ballot was even cast. The winner take all system of the electoral college is garbage. If every American voted who was eligible, we wouldn't have the president we have now. So everybody needs to be voting.

most people who vote are older millennials need to start voting if they want their voices heard

Voting is a fundamental right to all citizens of a democracy.

Voting is the illusion of being in control when it's in reality a way to control you

I feel as if I haven't fully supported any candidate in a long time.

The 2016 election deeply effected the political and voting mindsets of young people. Especially first time voters or just any young people who

witnessed that election and this presidency. It motivates many to be even more politically active but for many it's obviously traumatic and discouraging. It's hard to explain.

N/a

My family taught me voting is important because while you might not notice just one brick in the building you would notice if it was missing.

We have to continue to be active because when we don't we allow the system to act on its own intuition when it should be working for the communities they serve

not really

I feel it's important, and that once upon a long time immigrants were able to do so without an obscene amount of red tape, but were curtailed from doing so to appease one of the many xenophobic movements that came through the country.

That people are dumbasses and believe they shouldn't vote. Voting is one of the few ways we can change things.

I just feel like we need to be more openly educated on who candidates are and what they stand for. Instead of having to dig deep to find out about the person. We should be able to see their name and automatically link a face, voice and ideas to that person

I support voting, and am grateful to do so. As an individual who participates and encourages others to do so, I also continuously remind the disenfranchisement and voting suppression that takes place. That when I vote I am voting for communities that are being undermined.

Not at the moment

I make sure to vote, even if it requires an absentee ballot while I'm at school

No.

I believe in voting wholeheartedly

The current system of voting is really bad because it makes people feel as if they get one choice. A better system like ranked votes would be better.

Glad for electoral college

This is the first year of voting where I am dispassionate about who I am voting for. I am concerned that in this import year we don't have a strong enough candidate and he will ostracize those who would have voted for him by saying something off the cuff that will alienate those who didn't vote for him in the primaries. I'm scared for this election like I haven't before. Up until 2016 I believed that the American people would pick the right candidate and I was shaken to my core.

The 2 party system needs to be abolished so we can actually move forward as a country. I have a great experience with voting because i am white and live in a blue state so i have access to so many options but minorities in red states and red states in general have their people waiting hours on end to vote and until that is changed the president will never be chosen by the people not that it is now because of the electoral college which also needs to go. At the end of the day we need to reform the entire voting system because like everything else it is made for the rich white people of the country.

N/A

I think there should be more vigorous efforts to facilitate accessible voting stations - the situation in Georgia was absolutely horrendous and unconstitutional. If innocent people are not given the ability to vote, it is not a fair or just system.

I struggle with the use of the electoral college, it makes my vote feel less valuable and valid.

Our Votes do not matter. The system is rigged.



It's such an ethereal and ambiguous system that is hard to really learn about. It's been so twisted, manipulated, and abused throughout this country's history and even now, with all the research and attempts to understand it, I just don't. At the end of the day, I feel like I'm doing the best that I can but I don't know if it's enough.

## What Is Your Age

