

Hello Students!

Michigan Department of
State



What does the Secretary of State do?

- ★ Leads the Michigan Department of State (MDOS).
- ★ Serves as Chief Election Officer in Michigan.
- ★ Oversees SOS branch offices.



What is voting?

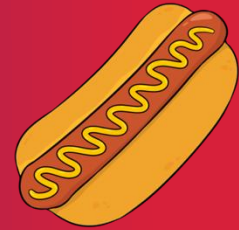
Raise your hand if you know.

**Have you voted in
class before?**

Raise your hand to share.

**Sometimes
you might
vote by
raising
your hand.**

**Let's vote by
raising our
hands.**



**Hotdogs vs
Cheeseburgers**

**Sometimes
you can
vote by
clapping
your
hands.**

**Let's vote by
clapping our
hands.**



Cats vs Dogs



How do people vote in a democracy?

Democracy is a form of government where people have a say in how the government is run.



We do this by voting in elections using a ballot.

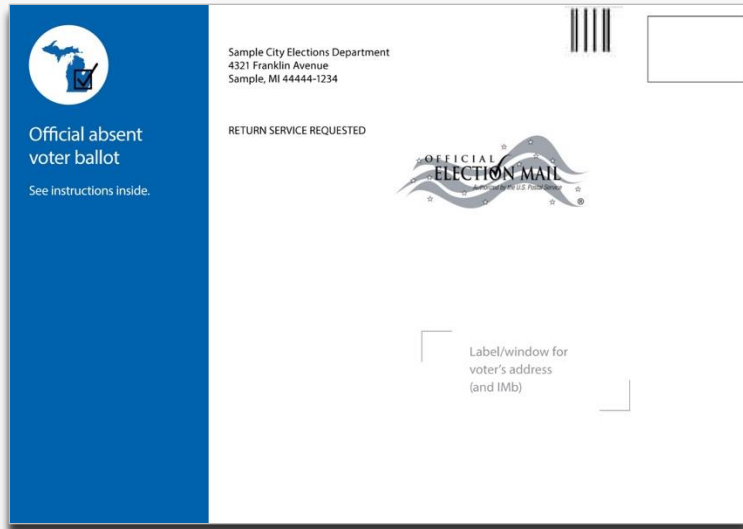
How are elections in MI administered?



1,520 city and township clerks across the state carry out Michigan's elections at a local level.

- **83 county clerks** work with local clerks, helping with election materials, programming election equipment, and providing information to voters.
- **The Michigan Bureau of Elections** is a nonpartisan office within the Michigan Department of State and provides guidance to ensure elections are carried out in accordance with state and federal law.
- **The Secretary of State** is the state's chief election officer and has broad authority over elections.

Options for voting in 2024



Vote Absentee



Vote early in-person



Vote in-person on Election Day

Power of the youth vote!

Why is voting important?

Why does voting matter?

Your day-to-day life is impacted by elections at the national, state, and **local level**.

- Climate
- Social services
- Education
- Voting rights
- Community resources
- Healthcare
- Housing

Voting Myths vs Facts

Common myths about voting

Myth Busters!

Is it a myth or a fact?

**One vote
doesn't matter.**

Myth Busters!

MYTH

**One vote
doesn't matter.**

FACT

One vote does matter!

In Michigan, the 2016 General Election's margin of victory averaged to just two votes per precinct!

Myth Busters!

Is it a myth or a fact?

**Young people don't make
a difference in elections**

Myth Busters!

MYTH

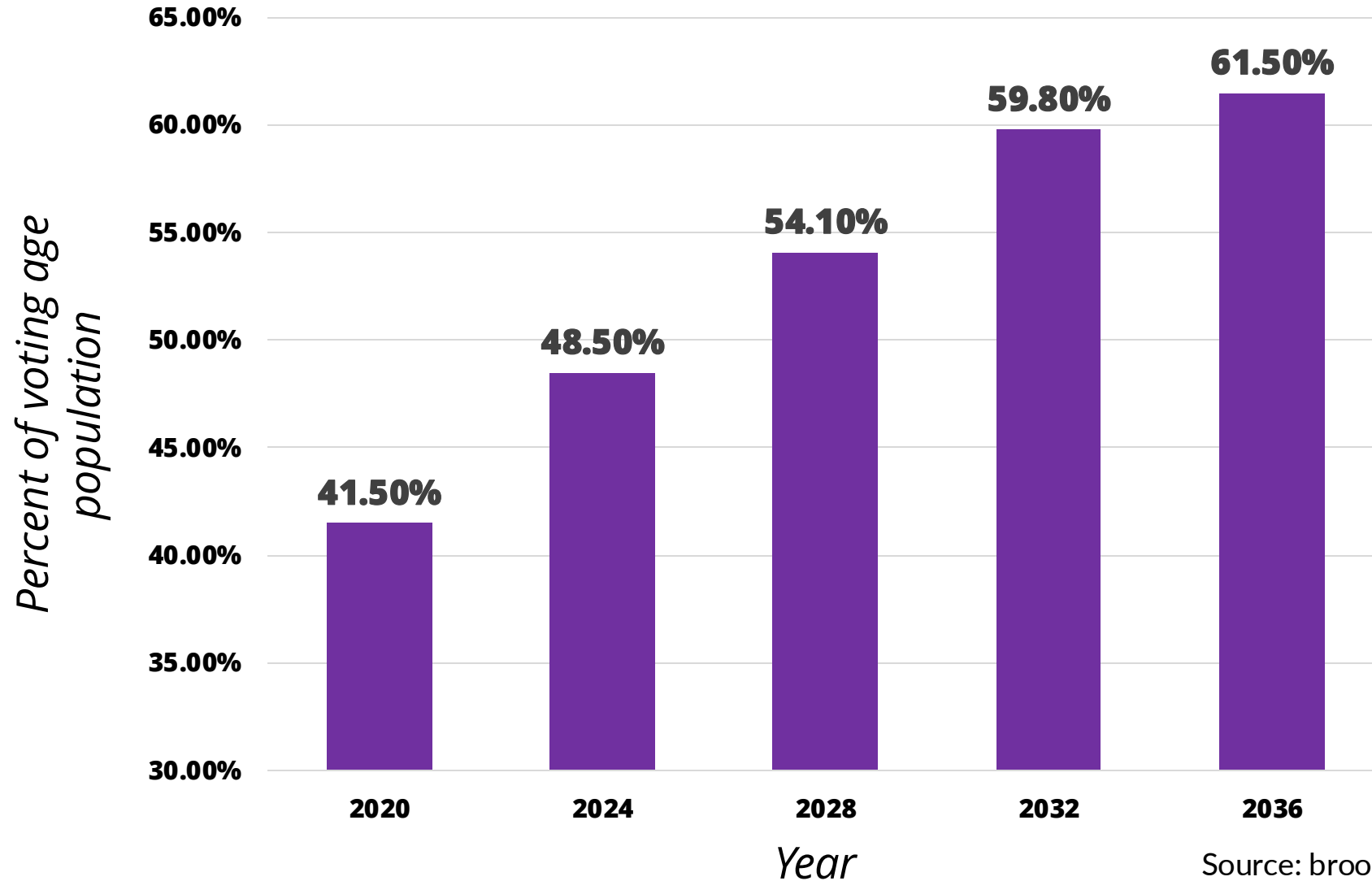
Young people don't make a difference in elections.

FACT

Young people make up almost **50%** of the voting age population in the U.S. and are projected to be a majority in a few years.

Young voters have the power to shape the world around them by registering and voting.

Millennials and Gen-Z will be a majority of potential voters by 2028

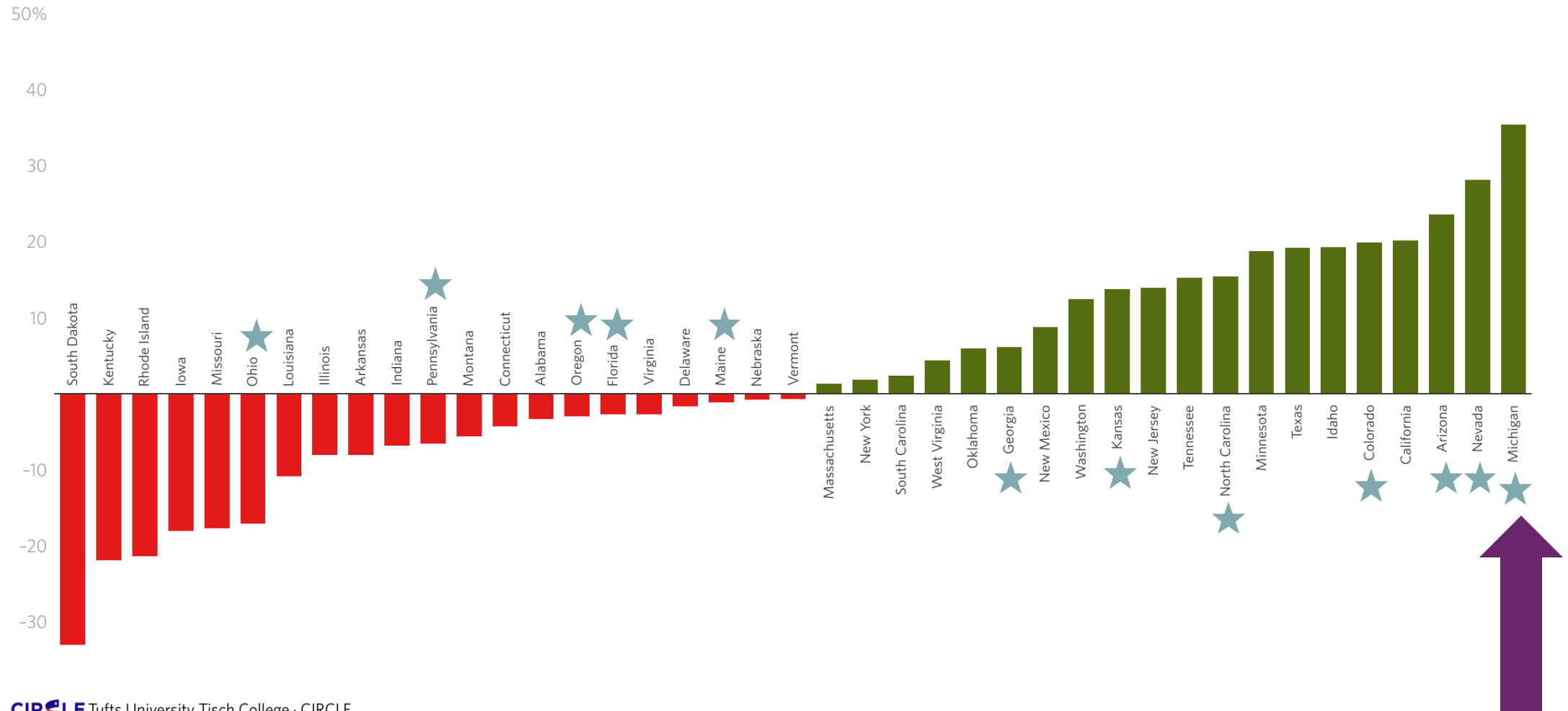


Source: brookings.edu (Brookings Institute)

Michigan leads the nation in youth voter registration and turnout!

Ages 18-24: Youth Voter Registrations in June 2022 Compared to June 2018

The difference (%) in the number of young people, ages 18-24, who were registered to vote in each state in June 2022 vs. in June 2018.



Mock Elections



Mock Election Overview

Help ensure registered voters in your community do the same

1

Primary Election

- Nominate candidates
- Narrow down the field of candidates

2

General Election

- Vote between the final two candidates

3

Vote!

- Q&A while the votes are tallied

Election Category

—

**Raise your hands to nominate a
candidate!**

Primary Election

The election category is

—

Nominees

Q&A