

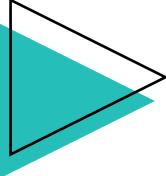
# **NEW FINDINGS ON VOTE BY MAIL**

## **SEPTEMBER 2020**

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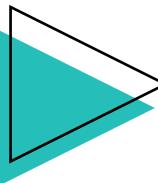


**CITIZEN DATA**



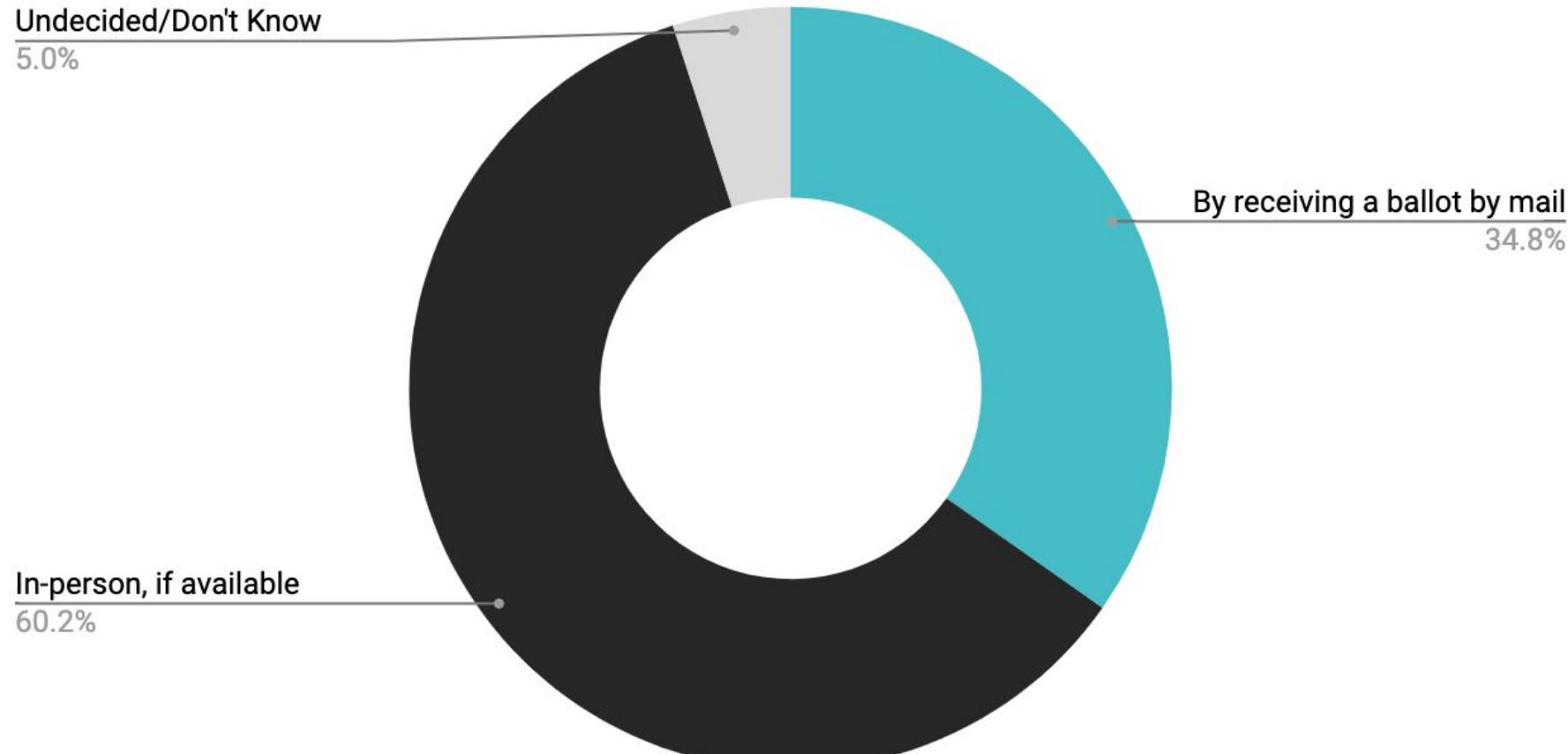
## Survey overview:

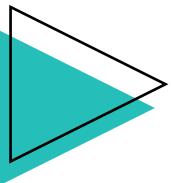
- ▶ Citizen Data surveyed 30,000 likely voters nationally between September 3-8 via IVR/P2P on their vote method intentions and to assess contributing factors to their likelihood to vote by mail for the 2020 general election.
- ▶ This survey data has been matched to Citizen's voter file of all registered voters, weighted, and will be used for more precise modeled projections in key states.



# More voters will vote by mail nationally in 2020; 35% plan to vote by mail and 60% in person, if available.

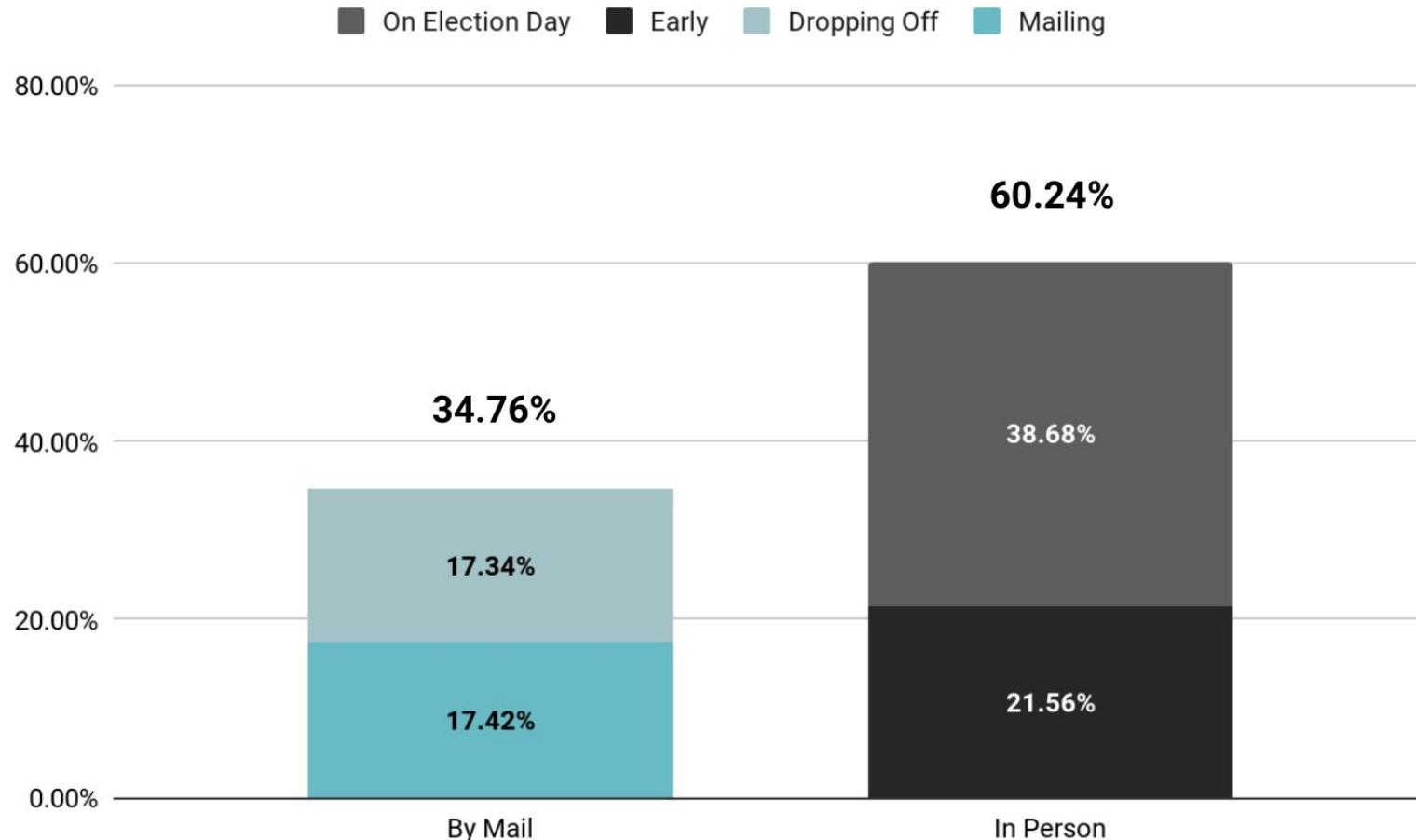
How do you plan to vote in the November general election?





# Voters split on ballot return and in-person timing.

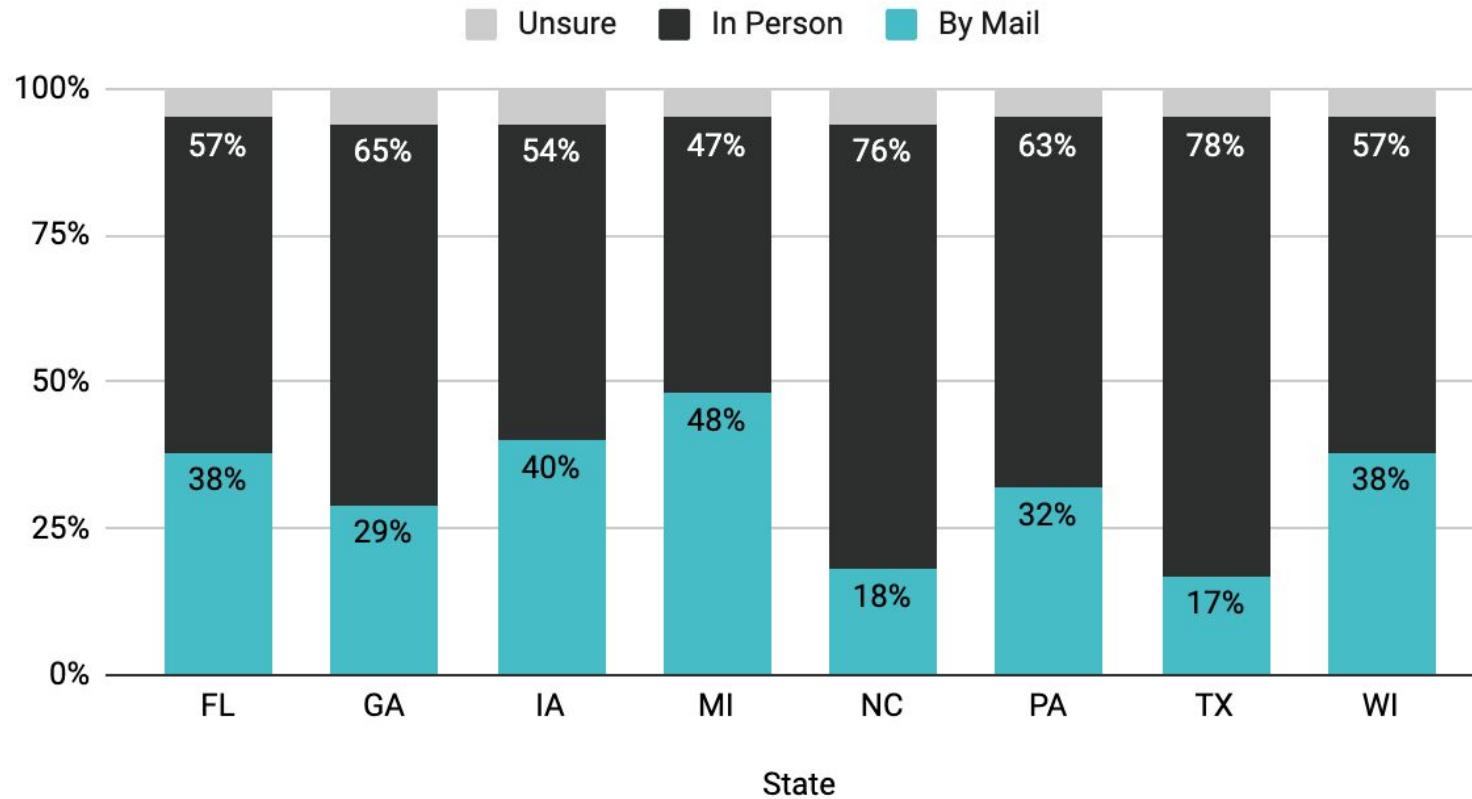
*Dropboxes and early vote critical features of voting behavior.*



Of those who plan to vote by mail, equal numbers plan to return their ballot via the U.S. postal service as plan to drop it off at a secure location, if available. Of those who plan to vote in person, roughly  $\frac{1}{3}$  plan to vote early in person while  $\frac{2}{3}$  plan to vote in person on Election Day.

# Battlegrounds will see significant increases, with few exceptions. NC & TX voters indicate less likelihood given early vote.

## Intended Vote Method by State

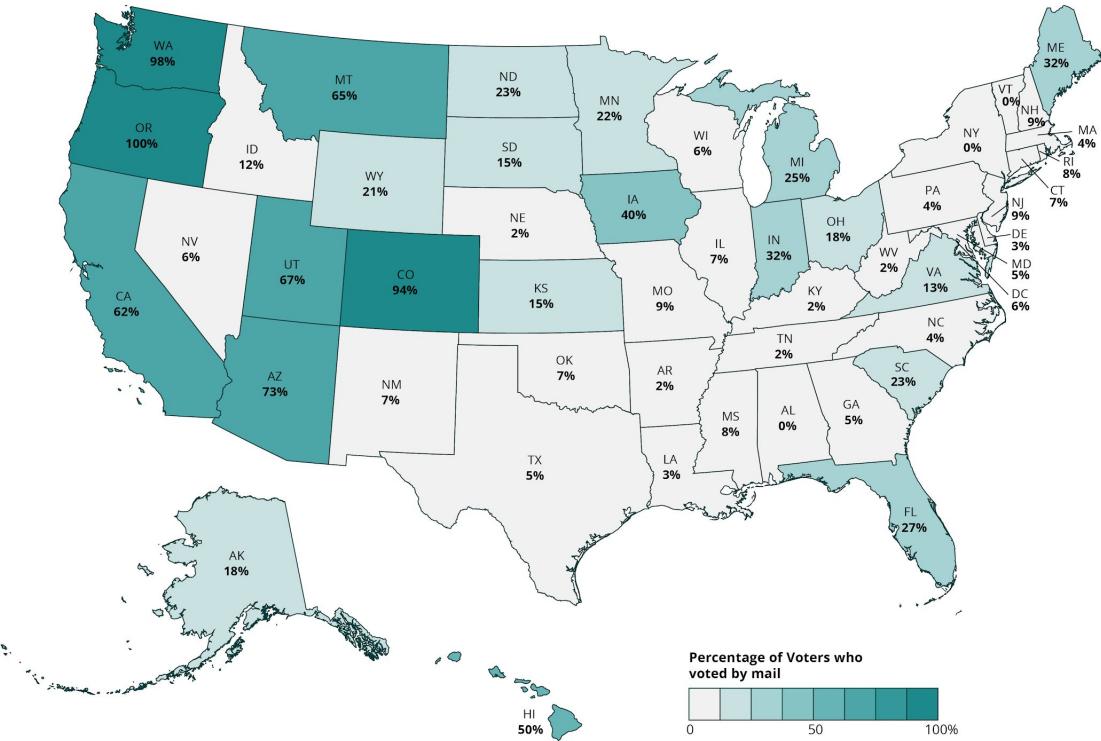


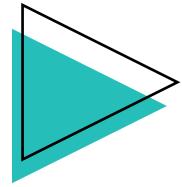
Likely voters surveyed in key states indicate a high propensity to vote by mail. Notably, almost 50% of likely voters in Michigan intend to vote by mail.

# Compared to 2016, more voters will vote by mail, with the increases least pronounced in the south and Indiana...

**2016 Vote by Mail Turnout**

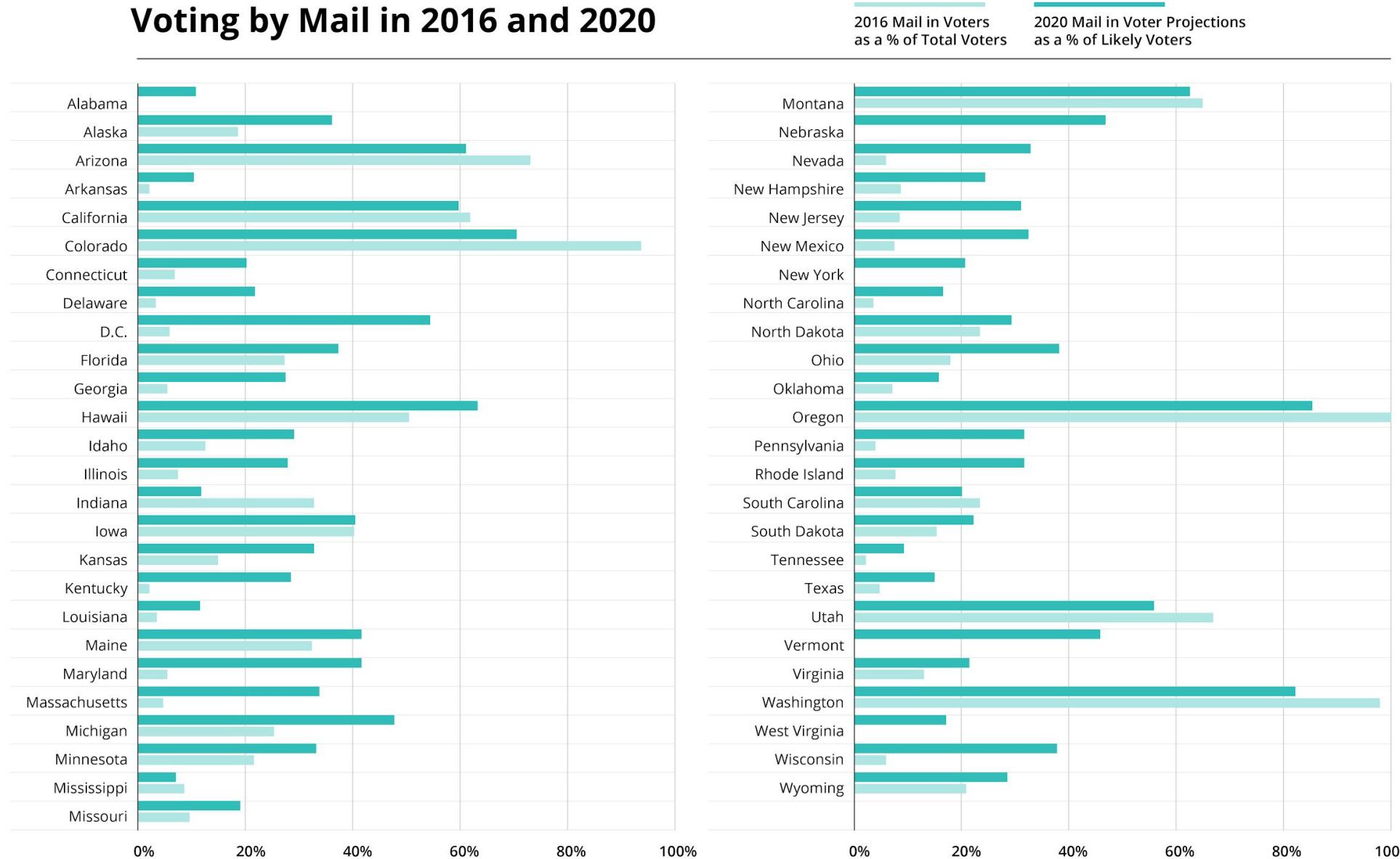
*As a percentage of voters in each state and the District of Columbia*





# ...with many states showing significant mail increases.

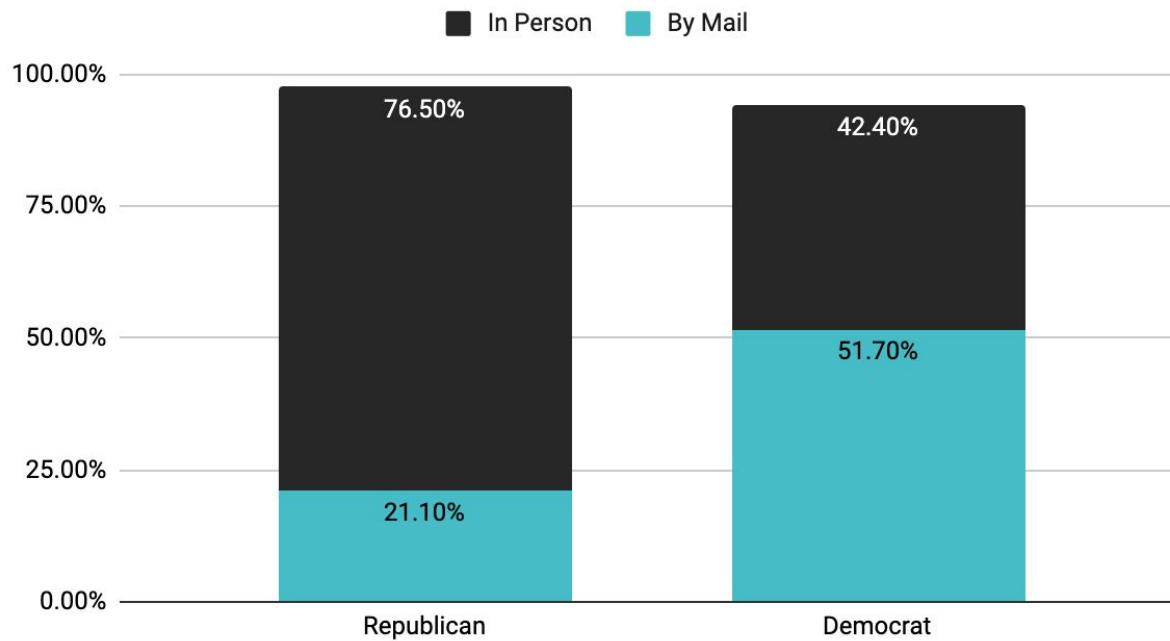
## Voting by Mail in 2016 and 2020



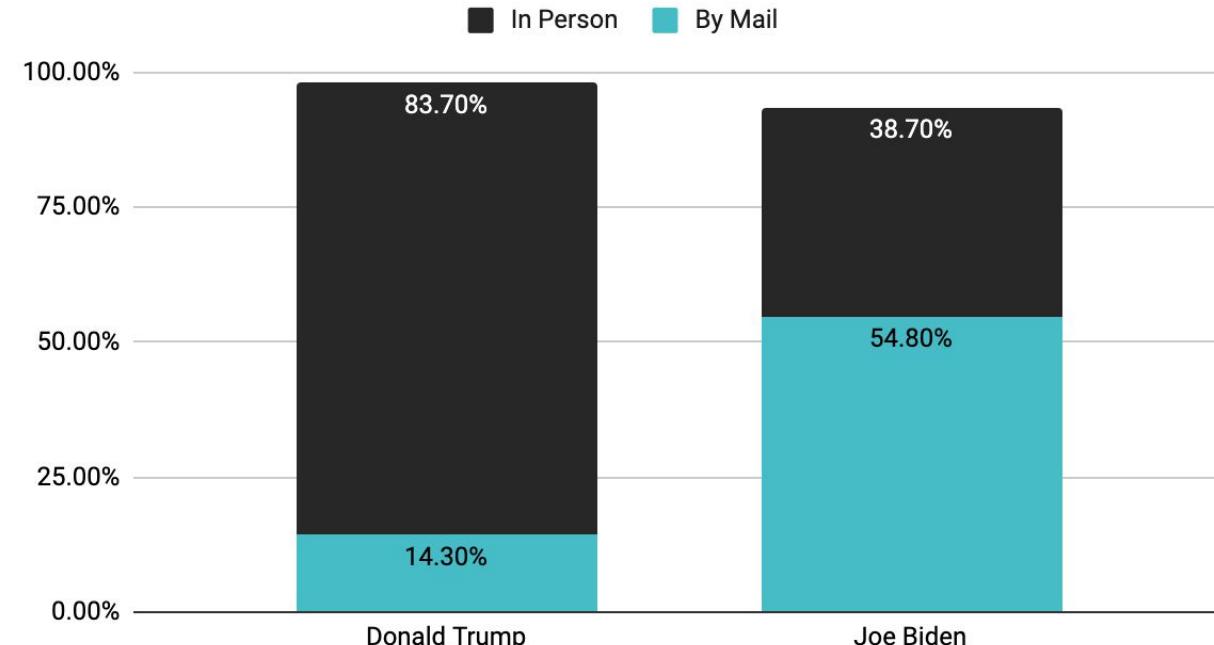
# Partisanship significantly impacts mail vote intent.

Republicans are much more likely to say they'll vote in person, if available.

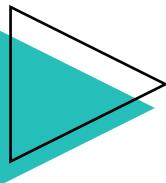
Intended Vote Method by Party



Intended Vote Method by Presidential Preference

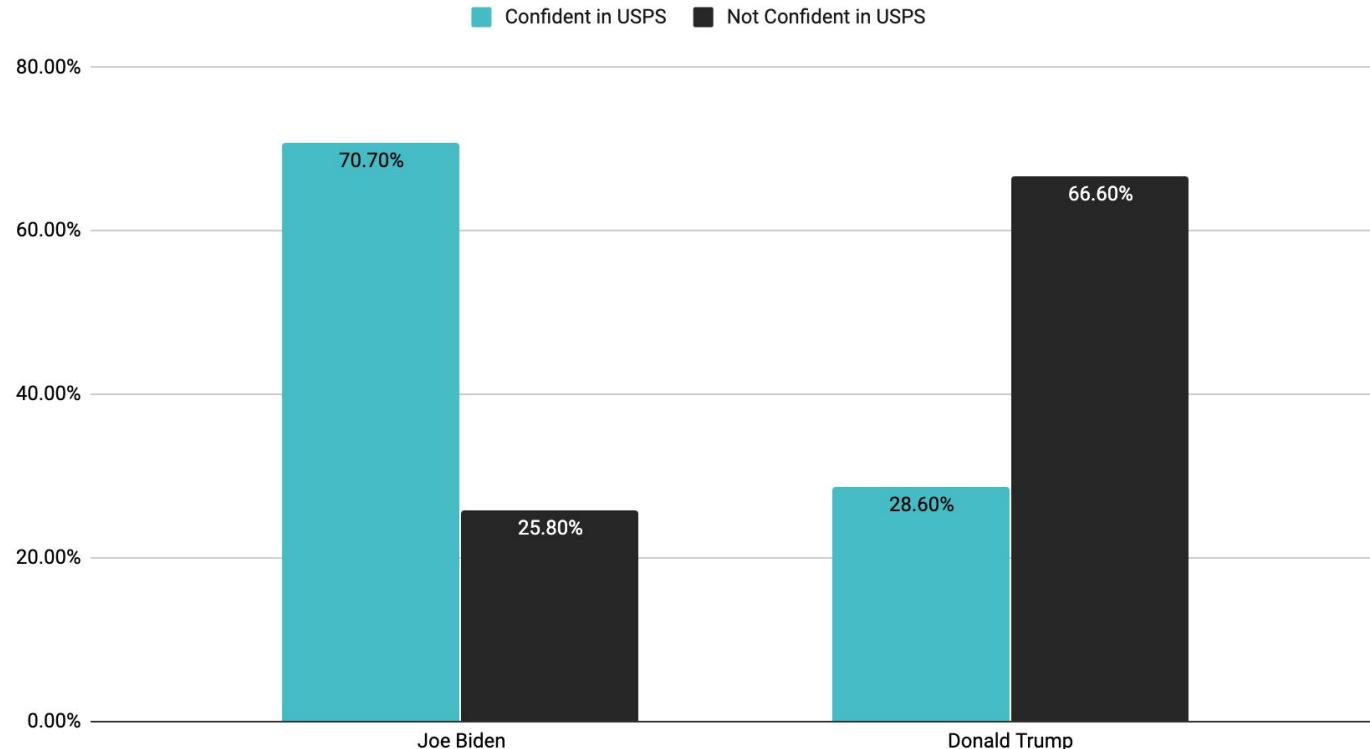


Similarly, Biden voters are more than twice as likely to vote by mail as Trump supporters. There are slight nuances in partisan intent to vote by mail versus presidential preference likelihood to vote by mail.

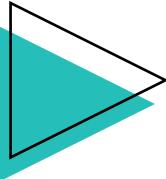


# Majority of likely voters have confidence in the USPS, though confidence in its ability to deliver ballots is split on partisan lines.

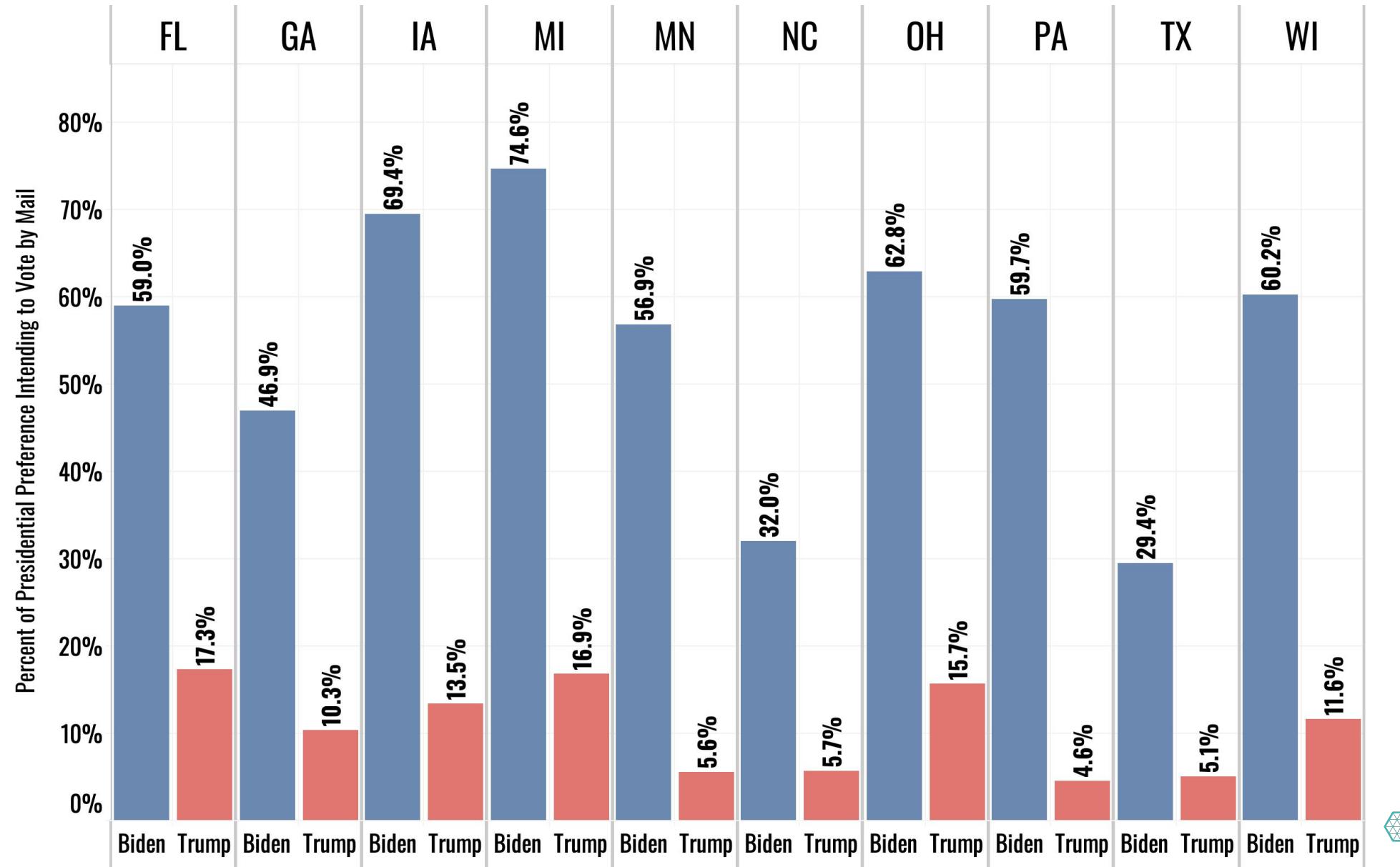
USPS Confidence by Presidential Preference

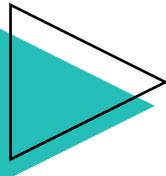


52% total likely voters are confident in the USPS's ability to deliver ballots to voters and to election officials in time, including 89% of voters planning to return their ballot by mail and 68% of voters who plan to drop off.

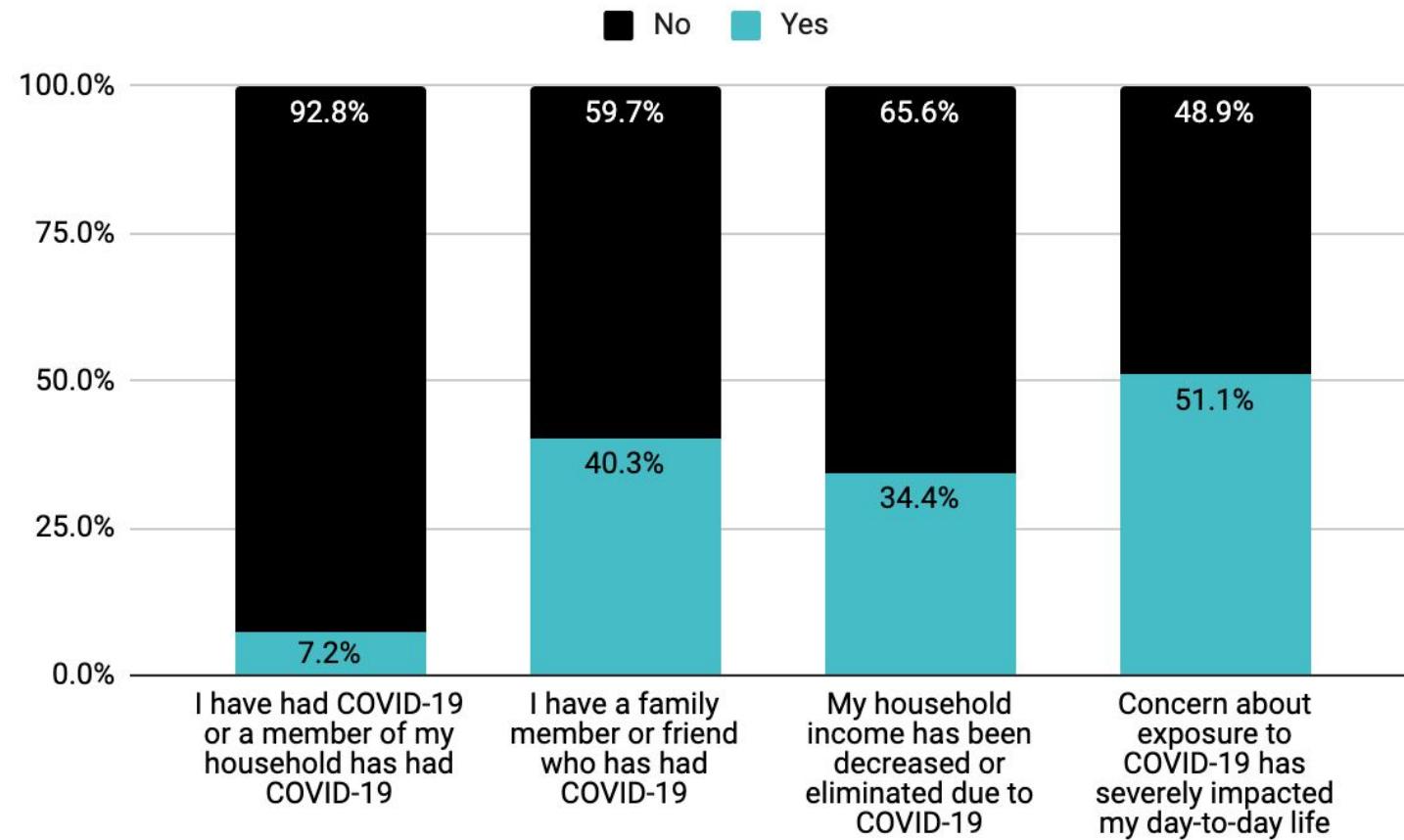


# Biden supporters are much more likely to vote by mail.

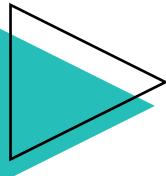




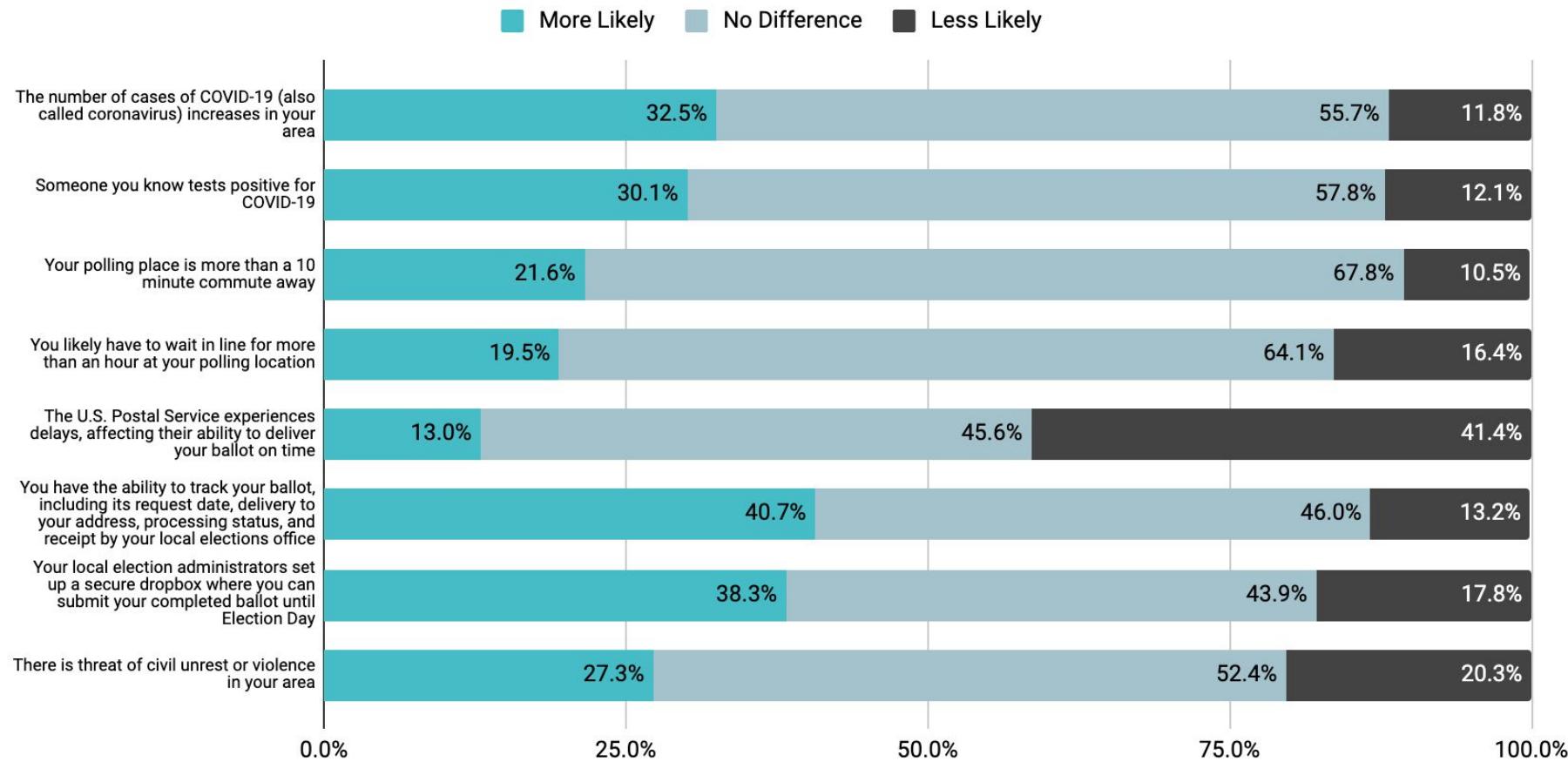
# Concern about exposure to COVID-19 has a higher impact on likelihood to vote by mail than personal experience.



42.4% of those planning to vote by mail have had a family member or friend who has had COVID, as compared to 38.6% of those planning to vote in-person. 69.3% of those planning to vote by mail agree that concern about exposure to COVID-19 has severely impacted their day-to-day life, as compared to 39.3% of those planning to vote in-person.



# Current events and election administration policies have varying effects on vote by mail likelihood.



**24.2% of those planning to vote in-person are more likely to vote by mail if they had the ability to track their ballot, suggesting that concern around ballot receipt and delivery affects likelihood to vote by mail.** Similarly, 22.6% of those planning to vote in-person would be more likely to vote by mail if they had access to a secure dropdown to submit their completed ballot, suggesting that concerns around ballot receipt and delivery sways voters to vote in-person.

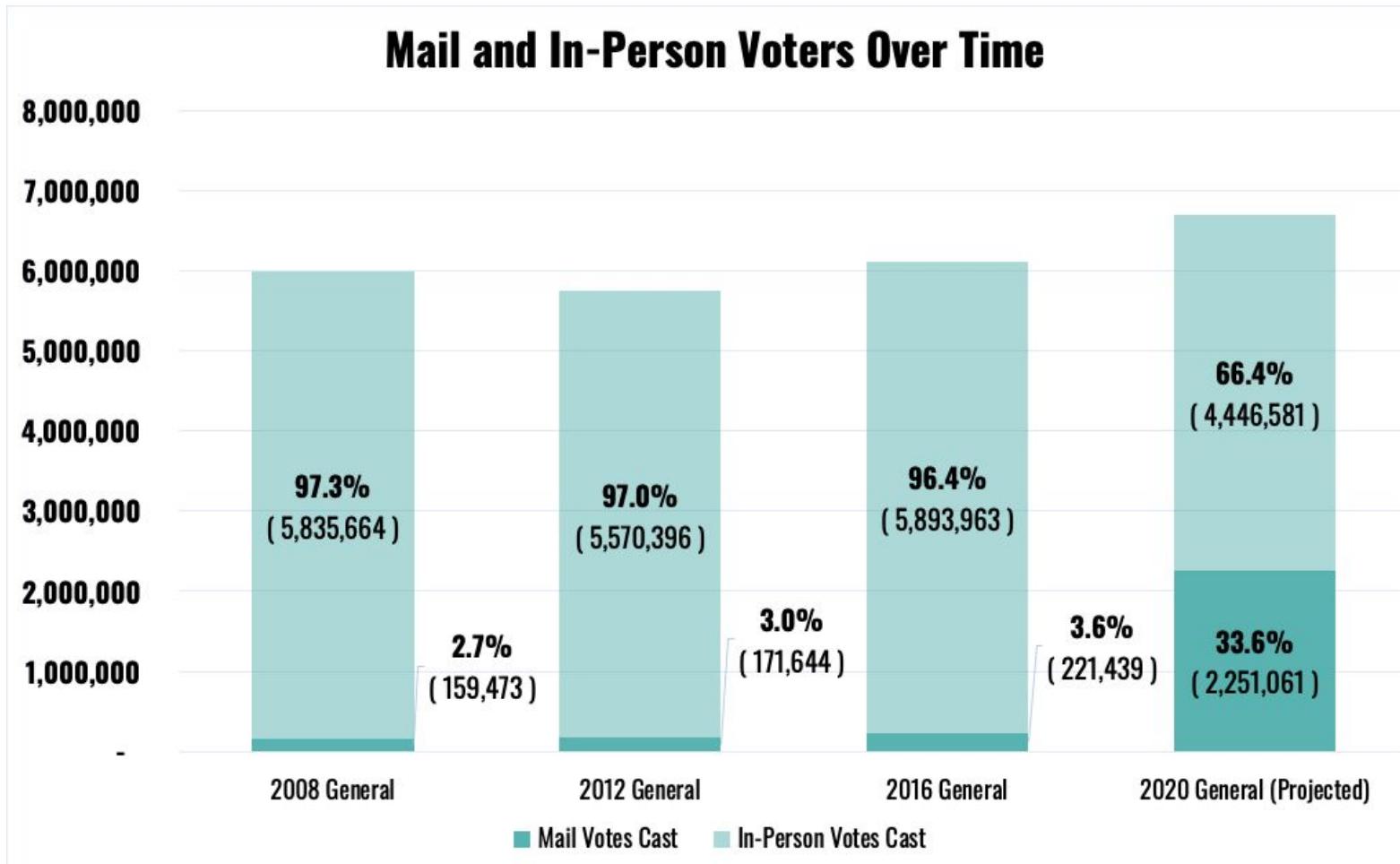
# Modeled Projections: Pennsylvania

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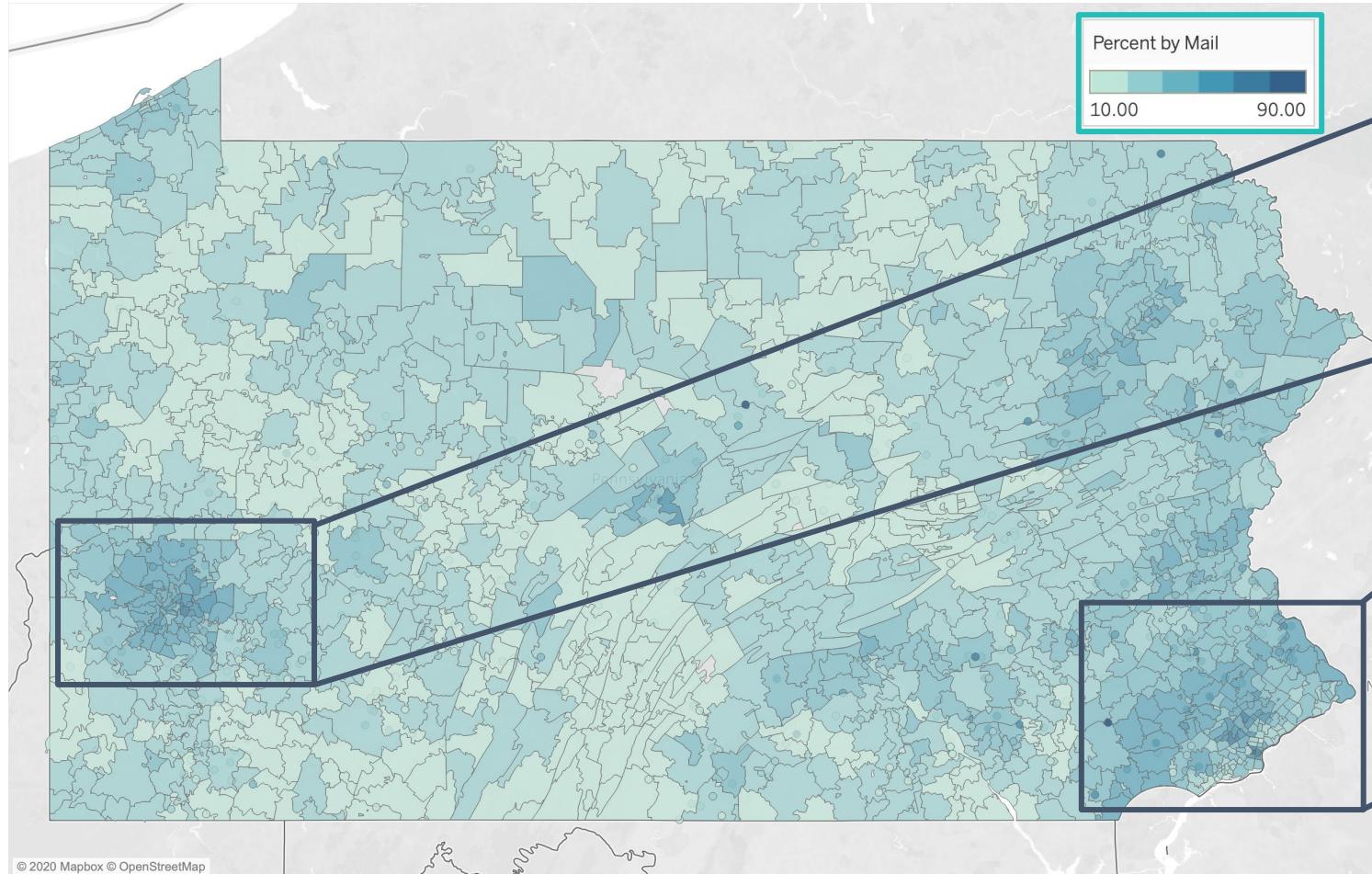
**CITIZEN DATA**

# Relative to recent electoral history, 2020 Pennsylvania turnout and absentee rates are higher.



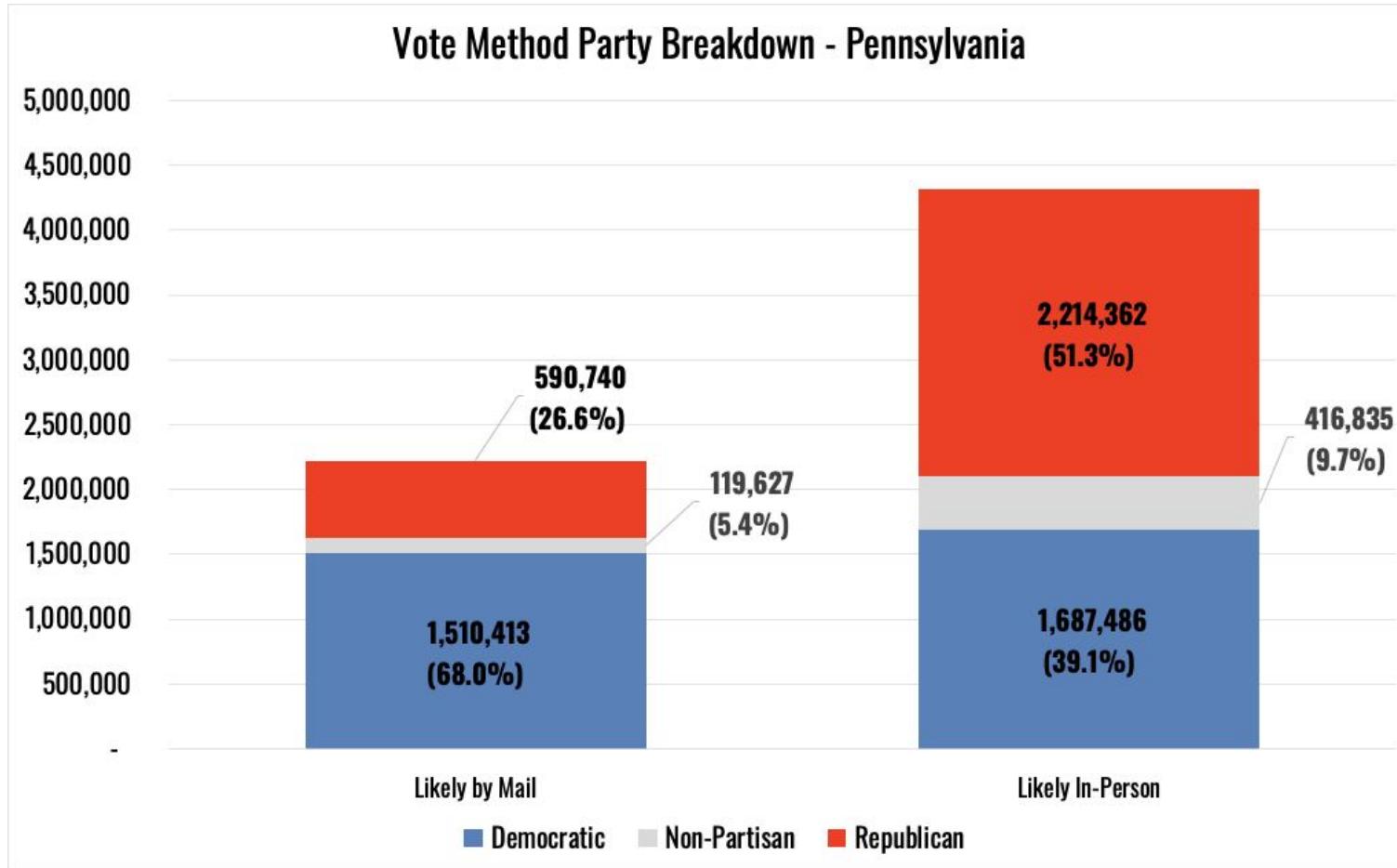
Overall, over 6.7 million voters are expected to turn out in the Pennsylvania 2020 general election. About 34% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. So far, 1.8 million Pennsylvania voters have requested ballots.

# Pennsylvania mail-in voting rates are also divided, though some rural enclaves are projected to have elevated rates.



Pennsylvania is likely to see a significant difference in absentee turnout between densely populated and rural areas. Cities will have the highest rates of voting by mail.

# Democrats more than 2x as likely to vote by mail as Republicans; however, 51% of in-person turnout is likely to be Republican.



Republicans are projected to have much lower mail vote turnout than Democrats in Pennsylvania. This is consistent with the survey results as well. Republican and Democrat turnout will be highly comparable, but Democrats will comprise almost 70% of those voting by mail.

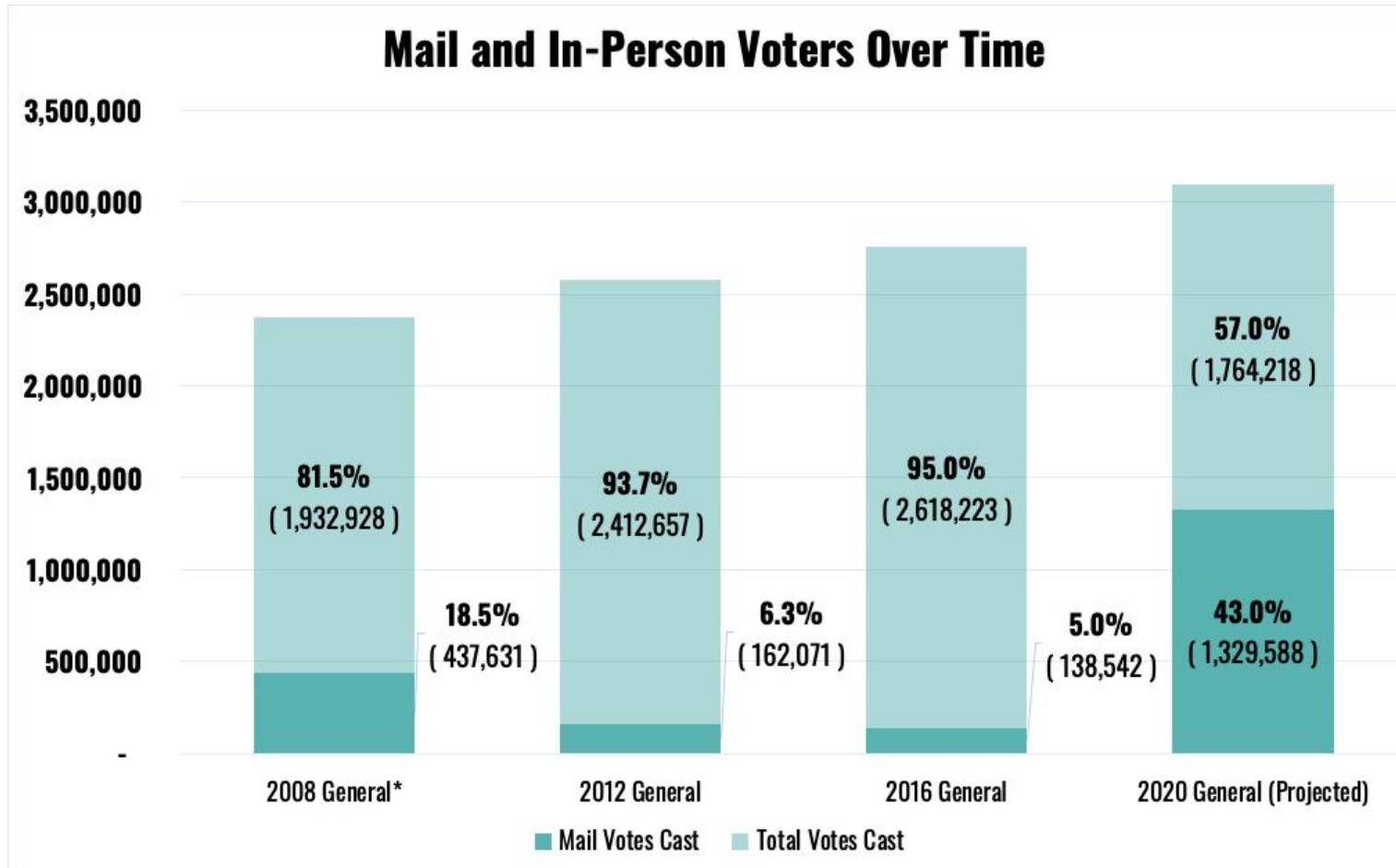
# Modeled Projections: Wisconsin

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**CITIZEN DATA**

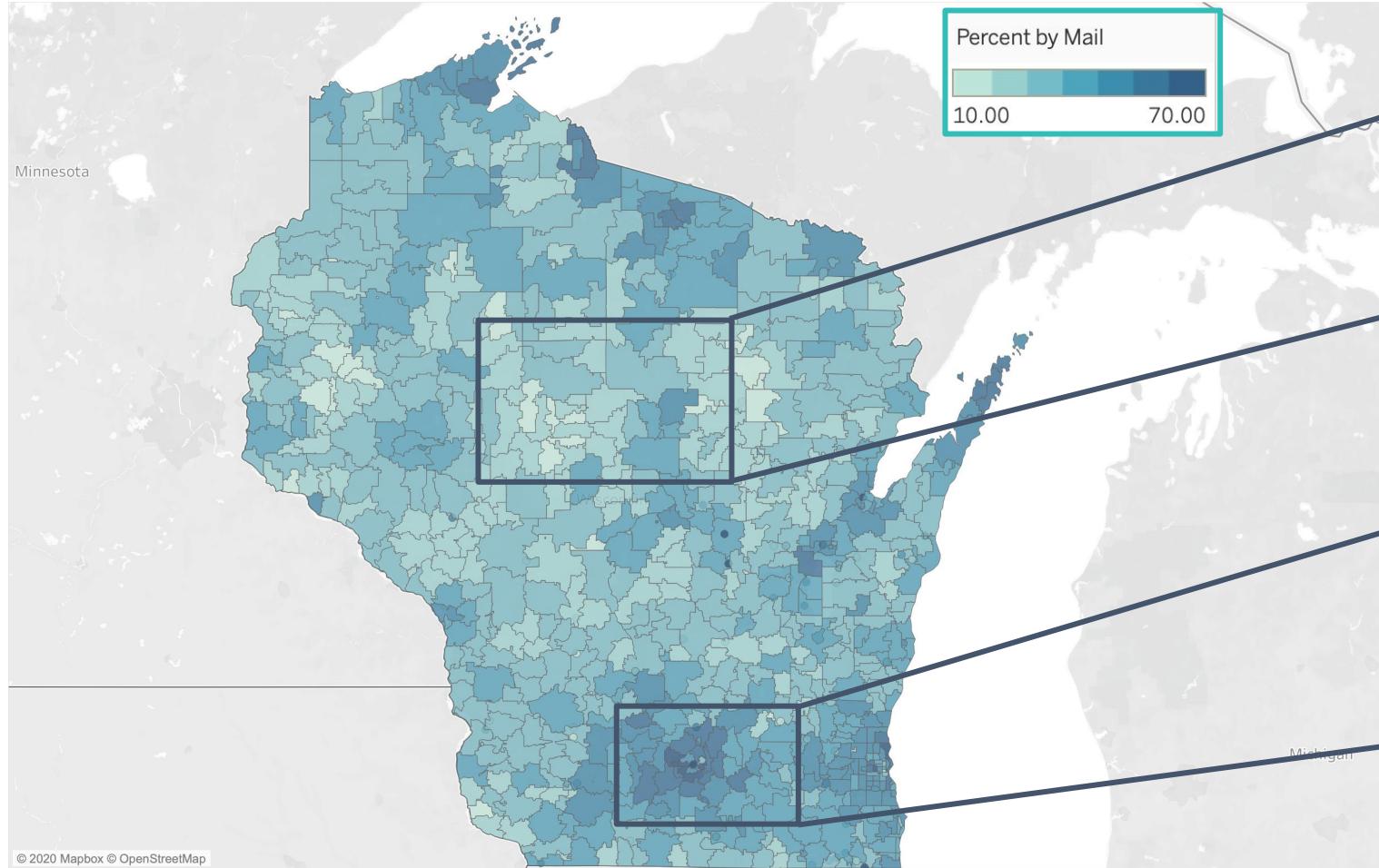
# Relative to recent electoral history, 2020 Wisconsin turnout and absentee rates are higher.



\*In 2008, the Wisconsin Secretary of State included both early in-person votes and mail-in votes in the same statistic, explaining the higher rate.

Overall, over 3 million voters are expected to turn out in the Wisconsin 2020 general election. About 43% of those votes are projected to be cast by an mail-in ballot. So far, 1.1 million Wisconsin voters have requested ballots.

# Absentee voting rates vary by population density, with greater proportions of urbanites voting absentee than rural voters.



In rural parts of Wisconsin, in-person turnout will occur at higher rates.

Election administrators near Madison should expect rates of absentee voting nearing 70%.

Wisconsin is likely to see a big difference in absentee turnout between densely populated and rural areas. In urban areas, mail voting turnout rates may be as high as 70%, while rural areas may see almost all likely voters vote in-person.

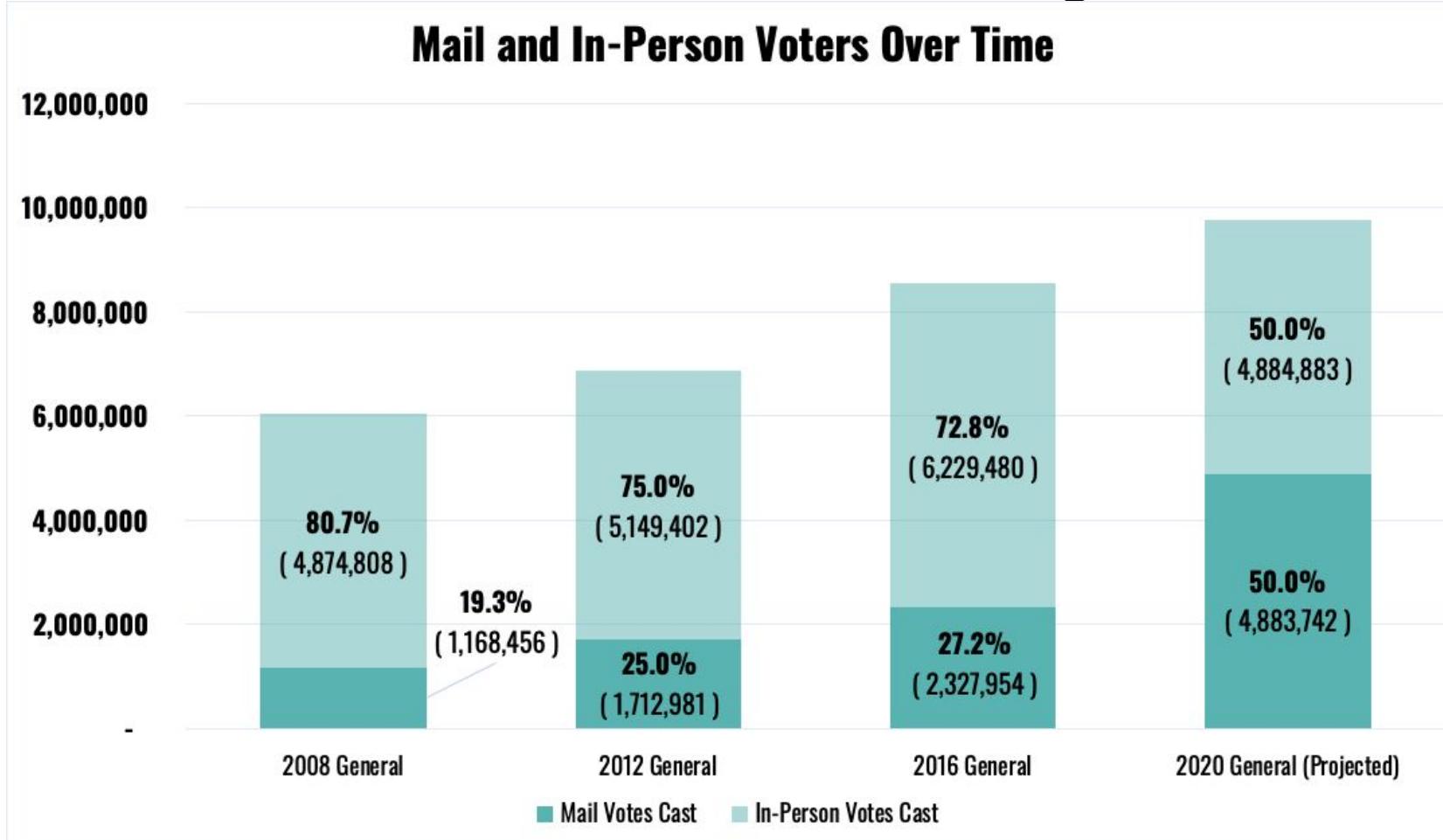
# Modeled Projections: Florida

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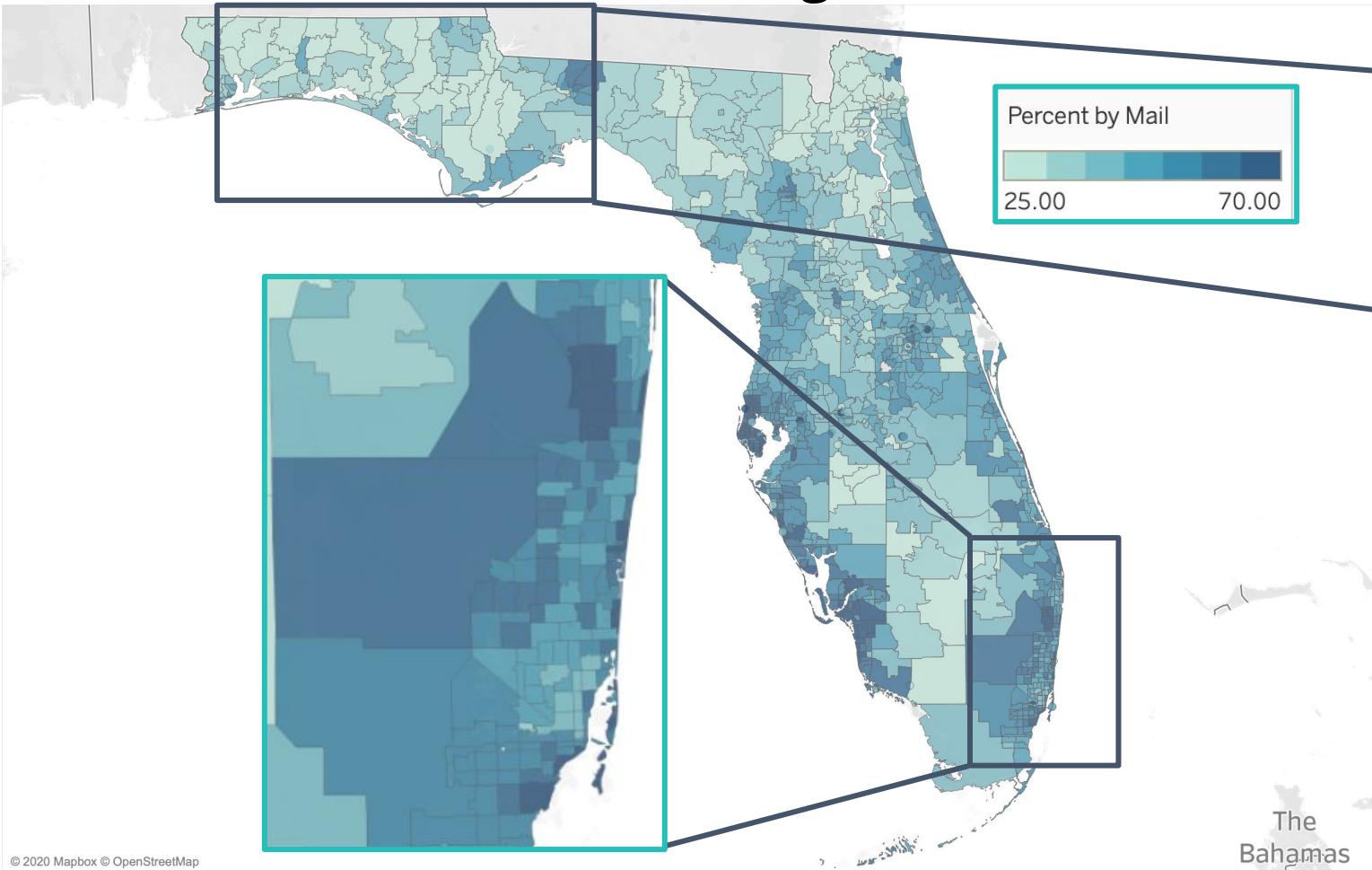
**CITIZEN DATA**

# Relative to recent electoral history, 2020 Florida turnout and absentee rates are higher.



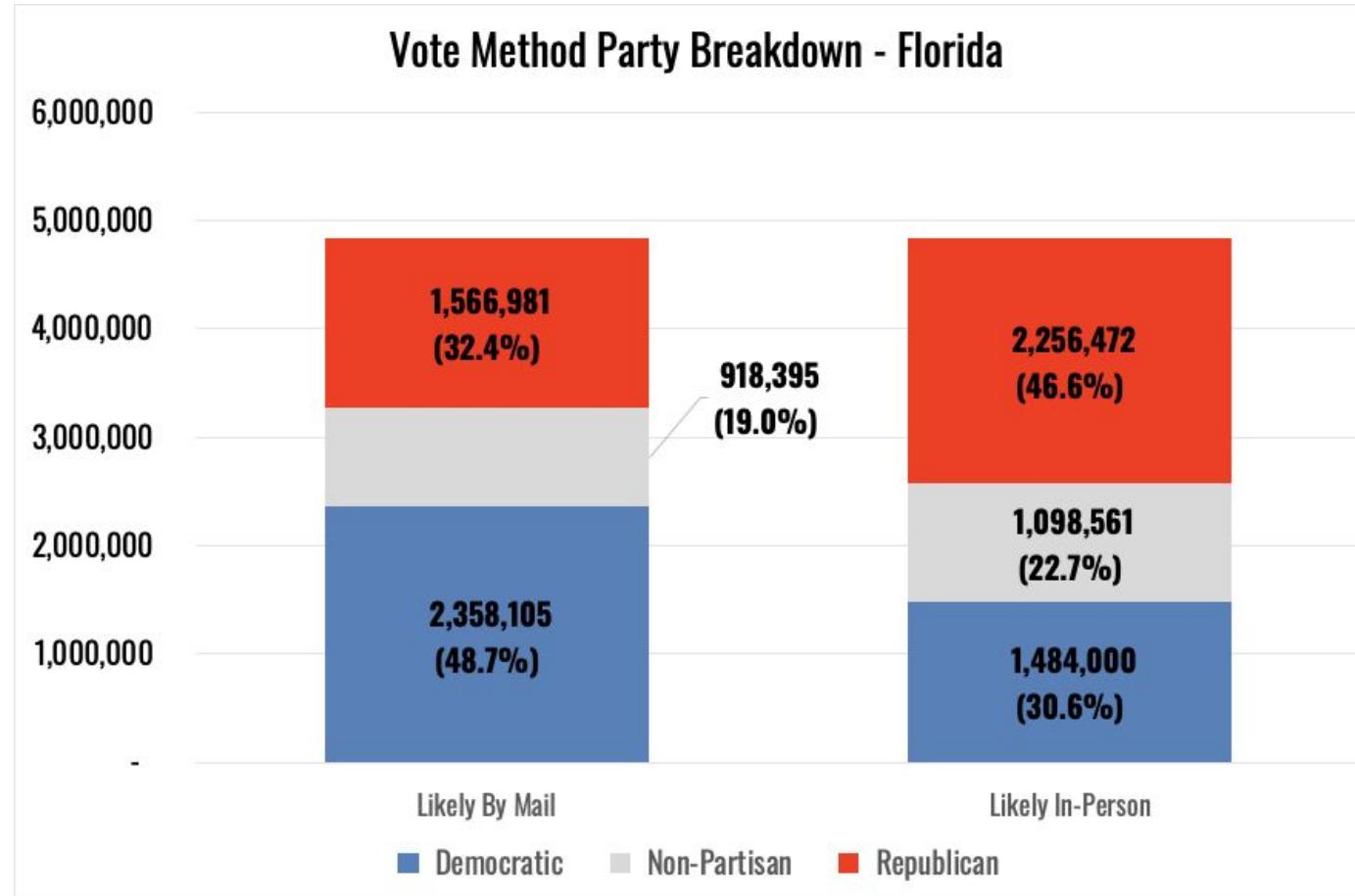
Overall, over 9.5 million voters are expected to turn out in the Florida 2020 general election. About 50% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. So far, 4.9 million Florida voters have requested ballots.

# Panhandle & Central Florida to see most in person, while the coasts will see the highest concentration of mail-in turnout.



We expect disparity in the geographic distribution of mail voting rates in Florida. The panhandle and Central Florida are expected to have lower vote-by-mail rates, while the coasts will see higher rates. Even within each locality, there will be geographic differences. Zooming into the Miami-Dade area, we see that Boca Raton and Delray Beach will have high mail-in rates, while Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood will have slightly higher in-person rates than the surrounding area.

# Democrats make up nearly half of mail votes, and Republicans make up close to half of likely in-person votes.



Republicans are projected vote much less by mail than Democrats in Florida. Like in most states, Democrats will drive absentee turnout, but partisan differences are less pronounced than other states.

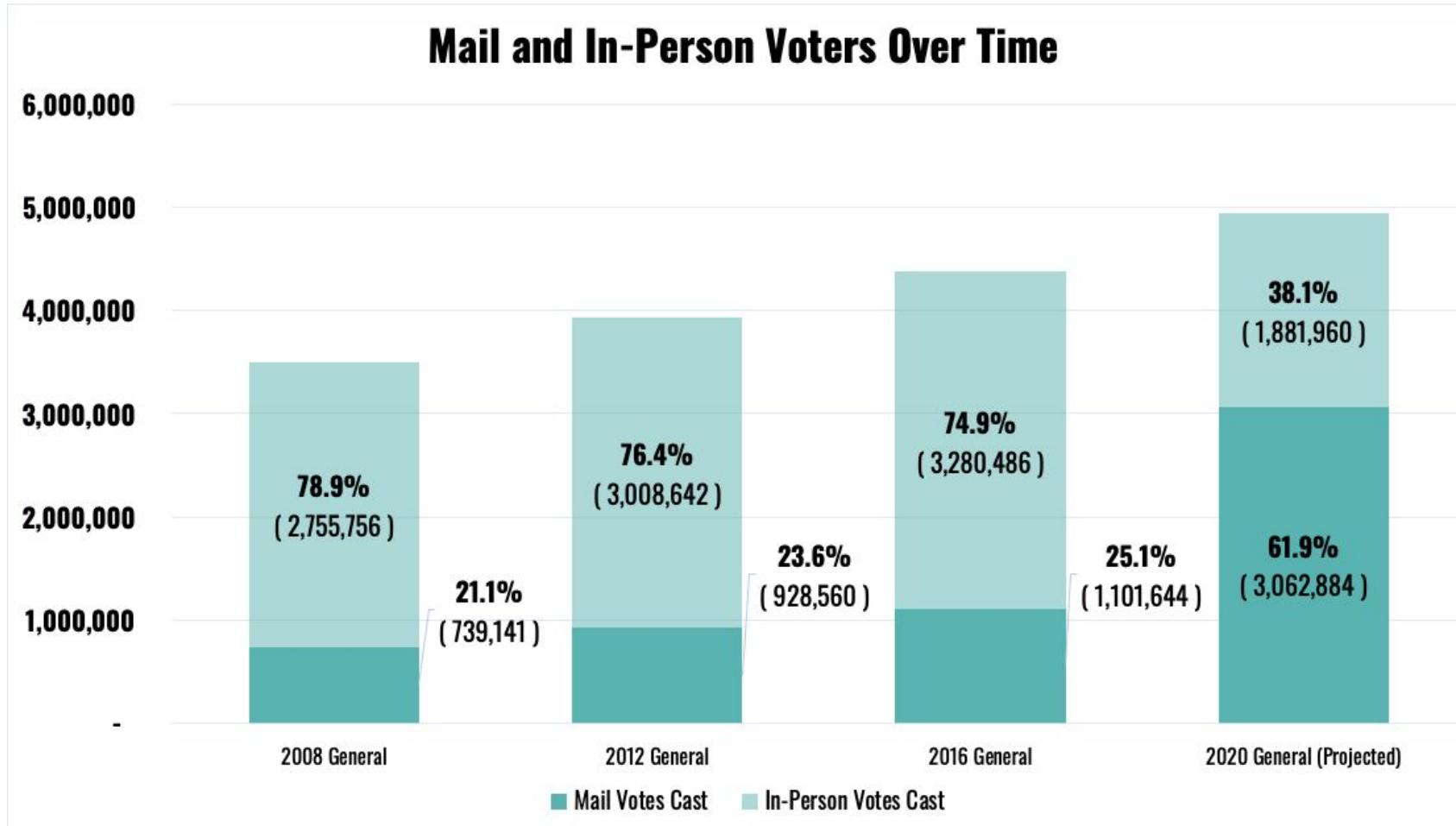
# Modeled Projections: Michigan

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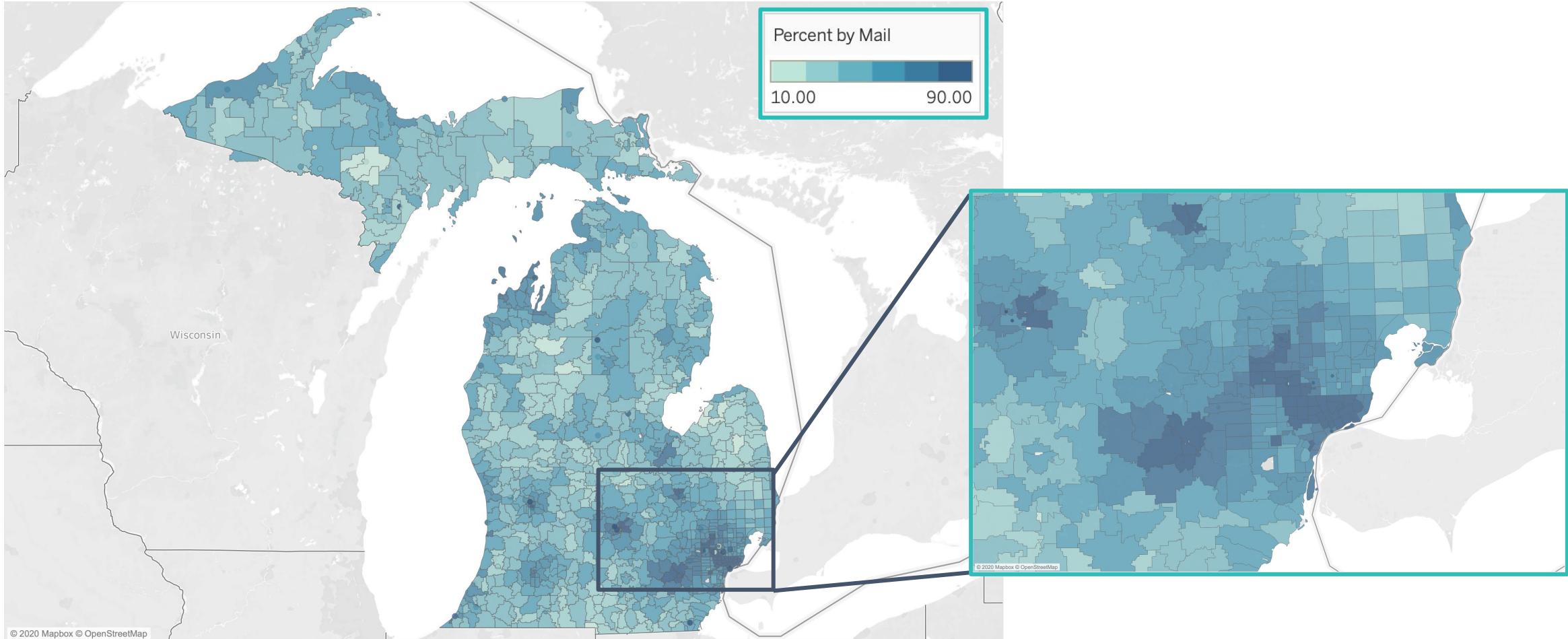
**CITIZEN DATA**

# Relative to recent electoral history, 2020 Michigan turnout and absentee rates are much higher.



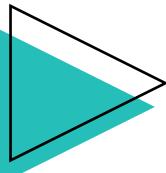
Overall, nearly 5 million voters are expected to turn out in the Michigan 2020 general election. About 62% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. So far, 2.5 million Michigan voters have requested ballots.

# Michigan mail-in voting are high in cities, with lower rates up north and in the Upper Peninsula.

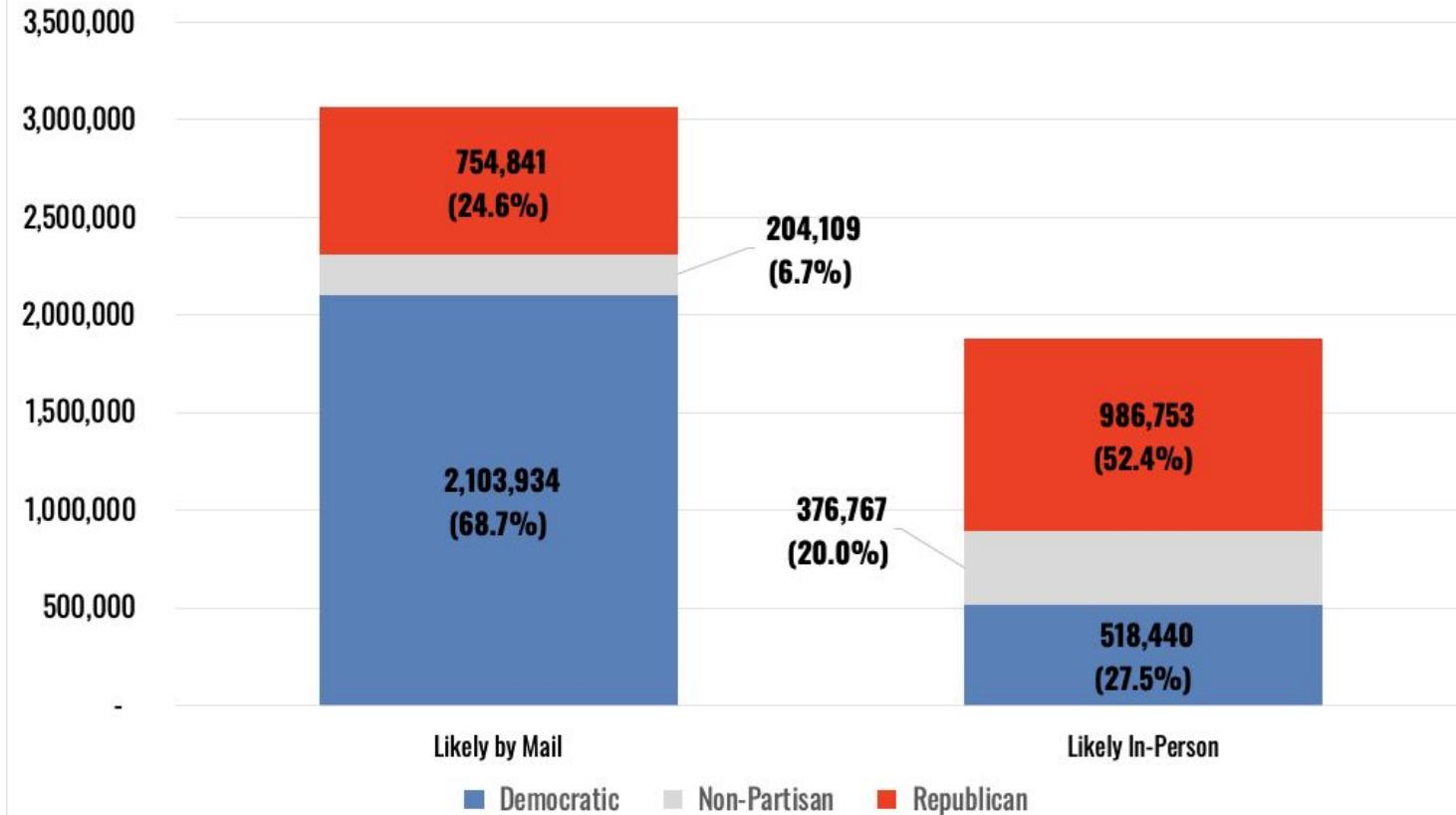


Cities in Michigan will see higher rates of mail-in voting than rural areas. Detroit and the surrounding suburbs will see the highest rates of mail-in voting, followed by the Lansing, Flint, and Kalamazoo areas. The zoomed-in area around Detroit and Ann Arbor display the densest areas will see the highest rates of voting by mail, though the suburbs will see elevated rates as well.

# Michigan Democrats are more than twice as likely as Republicans to vote by mail, with Republicans nearly twice as likely to vote in-person.



Vote Method Party Breakdown - Michigan



Democrats will drive the majority of mail votes, with Republicans comprising only a quarter of all votes by mail. However, Republicans comprise more than 50% of in-person votes, and are nearly twice as likely to vote in-person as Democrats.



CITIZEN DATA