

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Is the Surge to the Left Among Young Voters a Trump Blip or the Real Deal?](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/24/opinion/voting-trends-democrats.html>

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**Tweet:** [.@Edsall provides evidence that younger Americans have shifted to the political left; but given older voters' higher turnout rates, he argues it may take over 20 years for the Democrats to net 3pp on their vote share.](#)

**Summary:** Defying the adage among practitioners and scholars of politics that voters become more conservative as they age — millennials (those born between 1981 and 1996) and Gen Z (those born in 1997 and afterward) have in fact become decidedly more Democratic over time, according to data compiled by the Cooperative Election Study. The graphic below, which is derived from the study, shows a significant increase in voting for House Democratic candidates among millennials and Gen Z. Brian Schaffner, a political scientist at Tufts observed "Because the population is very big and turnout rates tend to be much higher for older adults, these trends can be slow to lead to significant gains. For example, in 2018, I applied a life expectancy model to our C.E.S. data and using that model I calculated that it would take more than 20 years for Democrats to gain just 3 percentage points on their vote share from differential mortality. Those gains could easily be offset by Republicans doing a bit better among other groups. For example, part of what has helped them in recent elections is that even while the share of the population who are non-college white people is in decline, it is still a large group that (1) has come to vote more Republican in the past decade and (2) has seen its turnout rate increase during the same period."

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**Primary Topic:** Politics

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