

1. In 2003, California’s Democratic governor Gray Davis’ popularity was decreasing due to a budget shortfall and an energy crisis that received widespread coverage in the news. As a result, Republicans in the state initiated a recall election of the governor by gathering over one million signatures.

Recall is an electoral process by which citizens can vote to remove elected officials before the end of their term. There are provisions for recall elections of state officials in 19 states. In California, citizens initiate a recall election by collecting a minimum number of signatures on a petition, which puts the issue on a ballot in a subsequent election. If a majority of the voters choose to recall the elected official, then that official is removed from office. In California, the recall ballot asks voters two separate questions: Should the governor be recalled? And if so, who should be the new governor?

The front-running candidate to replace Governor Davis was action movie star Arnold Schwarzenegger, a Republican. Schwarzenegger announced his candidacy on a popular late-night television program, and his celebrity status drew national media attention. During his appearance, he said of Davis, “He’s failing [Californians] terribly, and this is why he needs to be recalled.” With the understanding that California had more registered Democrats than Republicans, Schwarzenegger strategically focused his campaign on his own personal story as a self-made immigrant and distanced himself from national Republican leaders.

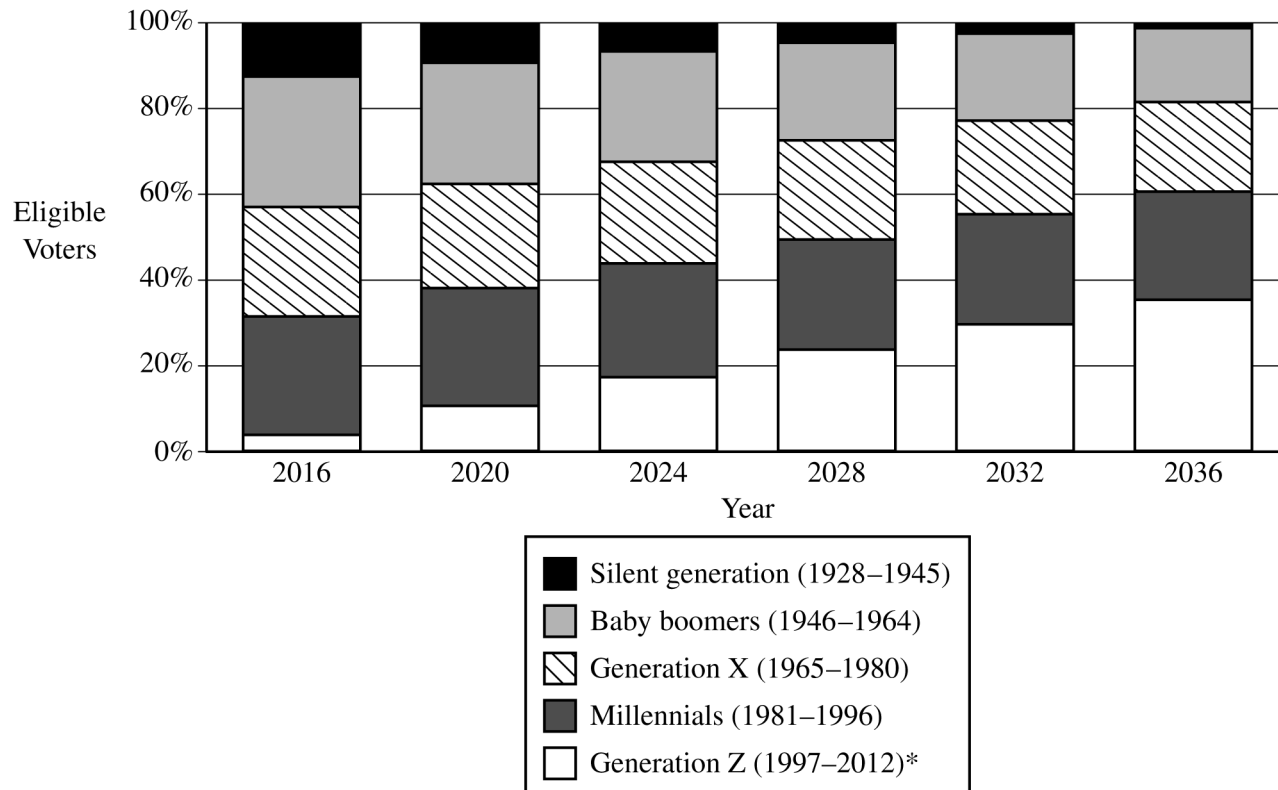
In the final vote, Californians voted to recall Governor Davis, and Schwarzenegger was elected as his replacement. Exit polls showed that most voters who favored recalling Davis cited his recent performance as the basis for their vote.

After reading the scenario, please respond to A, B, and C below.

- A. Describe the model of voting behavior that best reflects most voters’ choice to recall the governor in the scenario.
- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how the media’s role as a linkage institution might have affected the voting behavior described in part A.
- C. Explain how the electoral process for removing Governor Davis is different from the process for removing a sitting president of the United States.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS BY GENERATION, 2016-2036



Source: Pew Research, 2020

*Note: Generation Z data also include those born after 2012.

2. Use the data to answer the following questions.

- Identify the generation that is projected to have the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028, as shown in the bar graph.
- Describe the trend over time in the data, as shown in the bar graph.
- Draw a conclusion about how a trend in the data could affect a 2032 presidential candidate's strategy to mobilize eligible voters.
- Explain how life cycle effects, as shown in the bar graph, could influence a candidate's policy platform.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

Question 1: Concept Application**3 points**

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- A.** Describe the model of voting behavior that best reflects most voters' choice to recall the governor in the scenario. **1 point**

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Most voters used the retrospective model of voting behavior which considers Governor Davis's past performance when deciding how to vote.
- The model takes into account how voters tend to consider elected officials' past performance when deciding how to vote.

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- B.** In the context of the scenario, explain how the media's role as a linkage institution might have affected the voting behavior described in part A. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

The media's reporting on Governor Davis's performance and his responsibility for the bad economy might have persuaded others to vote to recall Davis.

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- C.** Explain how the electoral process for removing Governor Davis is different from the process for removing a sitting president of the United States. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

- In the scenario, a simple majority of voters is required to remove the governor. A sitting U.S. president is removed with a two-thirds majority in the U.S. Senate.
- In the scenario, the process of removing Governor Davis began when citizens initiated a recall by collecting signatures. To remove a sitting president, the House begins the impeachment process by filing formal charges, which must be approved by a majority of the House.
- The process to remove the governor in the scenario is controlled by voters, while the impeachment process to remove a sitting U.S. president is controlled by elected representatives.

Total for question 1 3 points