ABSENTEE VOTING PROJECTIONS AMONG KEY STATES: OH, GA, WI, MI, & FL

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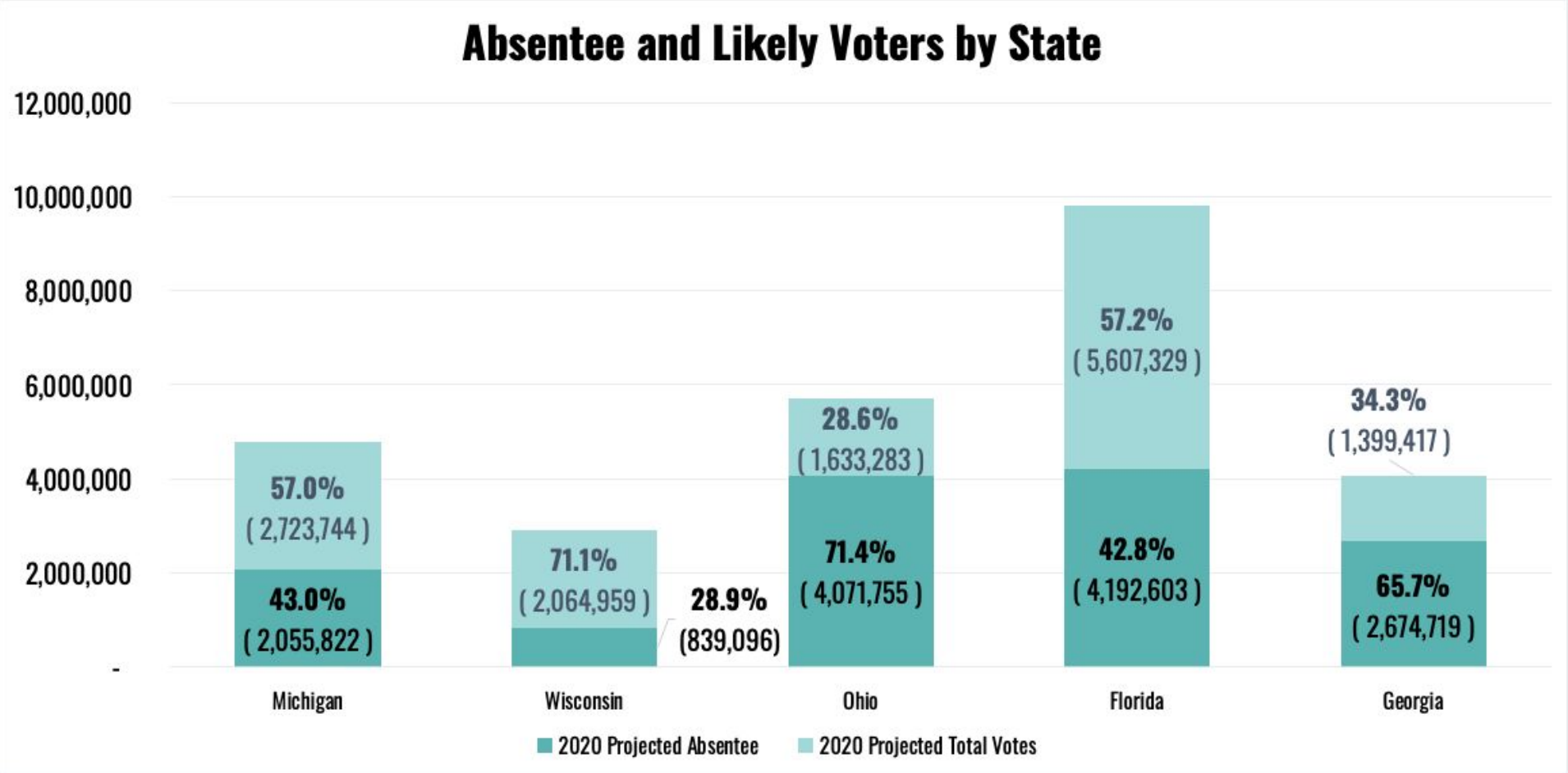
Projections of absentee turnout are high,
though each state's history and rules around absentee voting impact rates.



Georgia and Ohio are projected to see majority absentee voting. Florida and Michigan may see rates nearing 50%, while Wisconsin is likely to have the lowest rate of absentee voting. Each state's rate of absentee voting is driven in partly by the history of absentee voting in that state.

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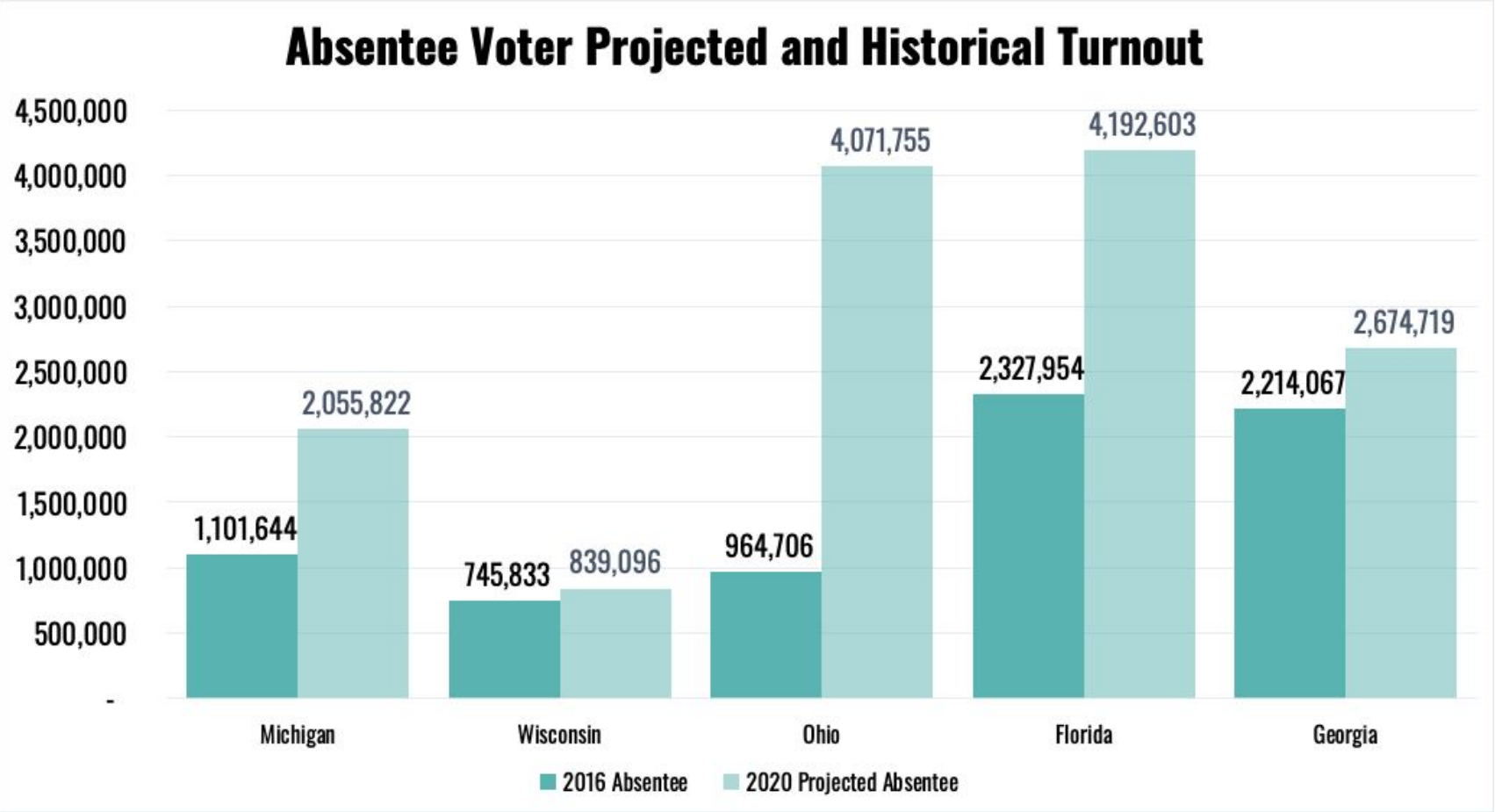
All states Citizen analyzed will see absentee increases, including some some very large jumps in turnout.



All states Citizen reviewed are likely to see increases in absentee voting rates. The greatest increases relative to the 2016 general election will be in Ohio (322%), Michigan (86%) and Florida (80%). The lowest increases are projected to be in Wisconsin (12.5%) and Georgia (20.8%).

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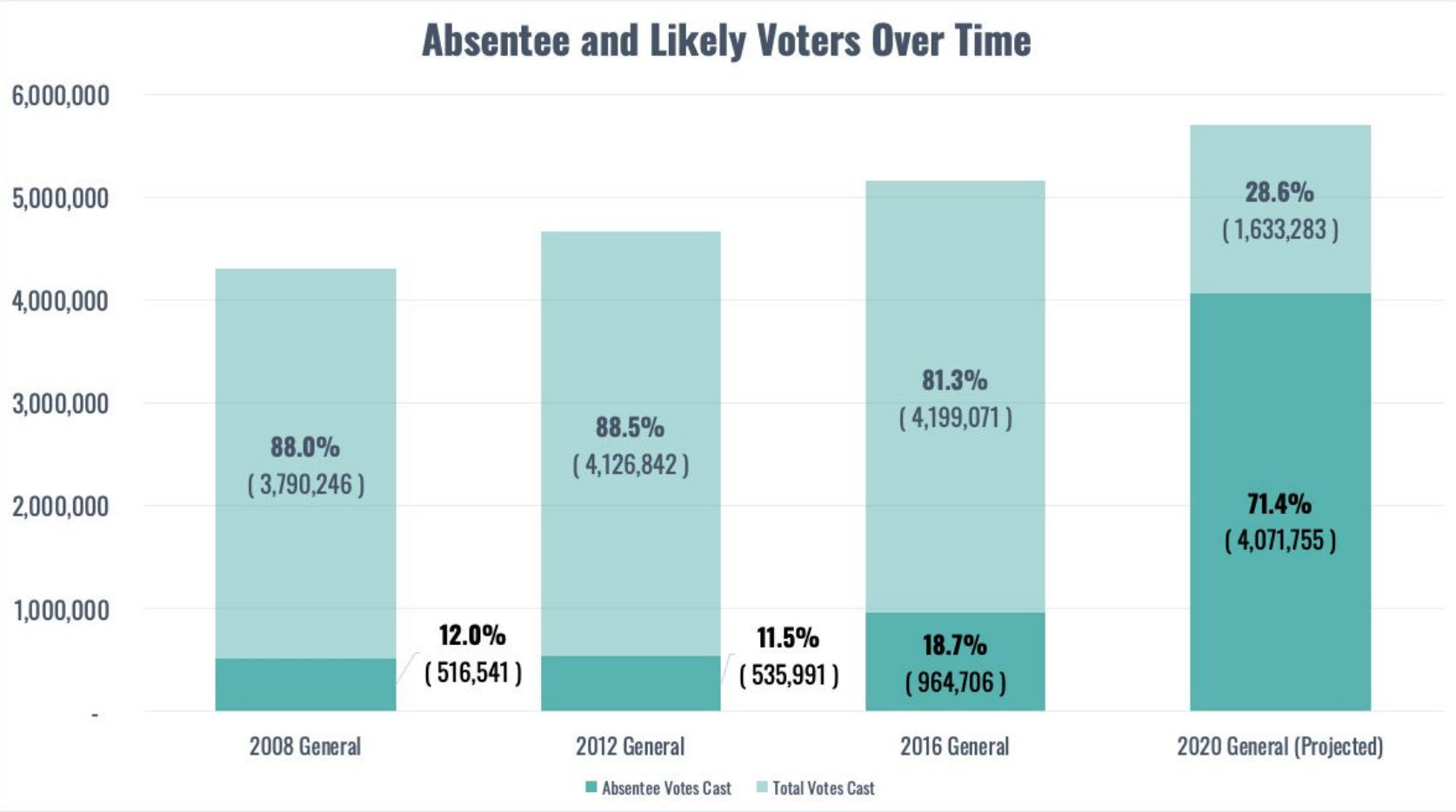
Relative to recent electoral history,

2020 Ohio absentee voting rates are expected to be dramatically higher.



The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic brought lower turnout in the 2020 primary, but we project an increase in turnout in the 2020 general election — consistent with the trend of increased presidential year turnout. The vast majority of that turnout will be absentee.

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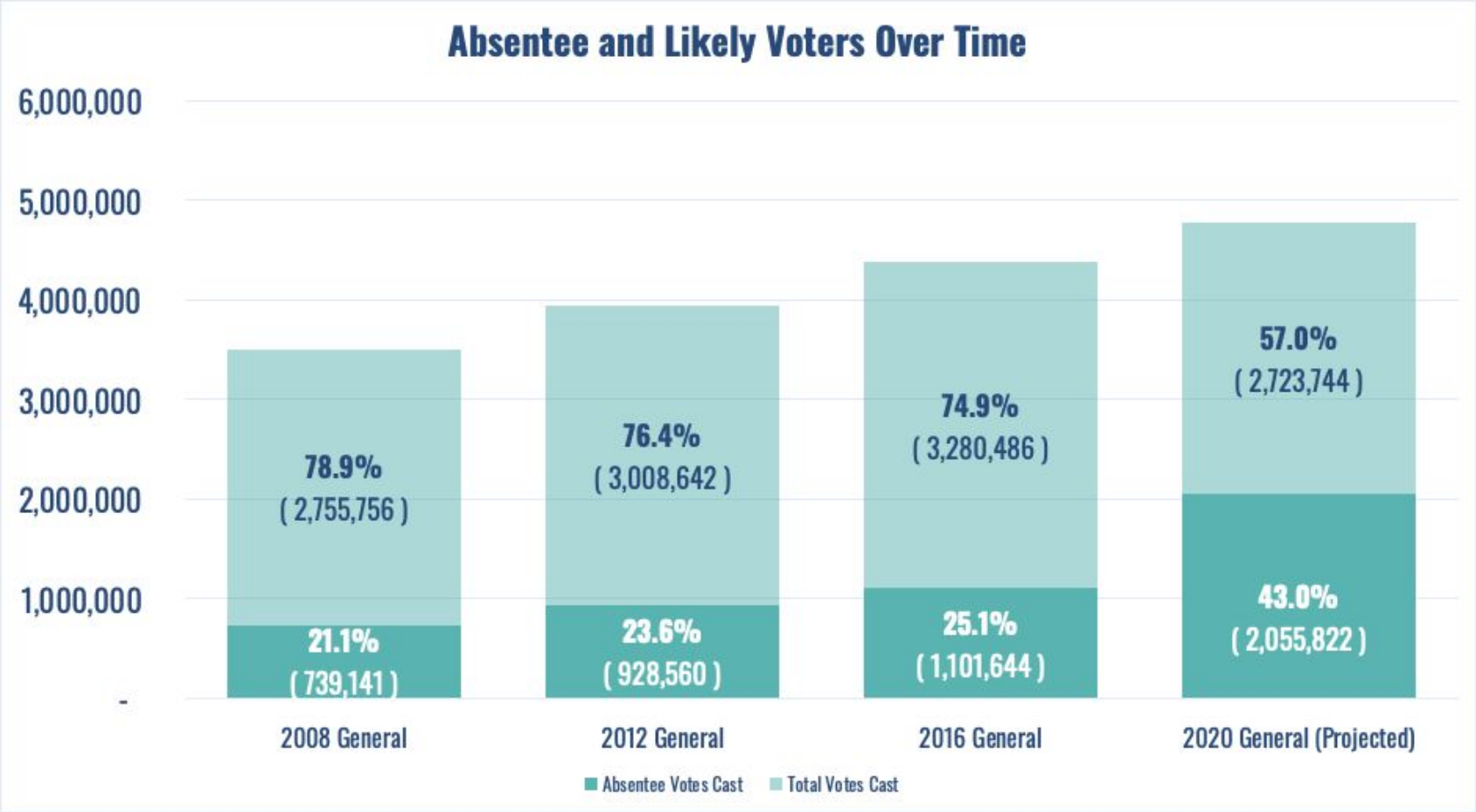
Relative to recent electoral history,

2020 Michigan turnout and absentee rates are expected to be notably higher.



Overall, nearly 4.8 million voters are expected to turn out in the Michigan 2020 general election. About 43% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. Of those absentee ballots, Citizen's model projects about 74.7% will be returned by mail, while 25.3% will be returned at a secure dropbox.

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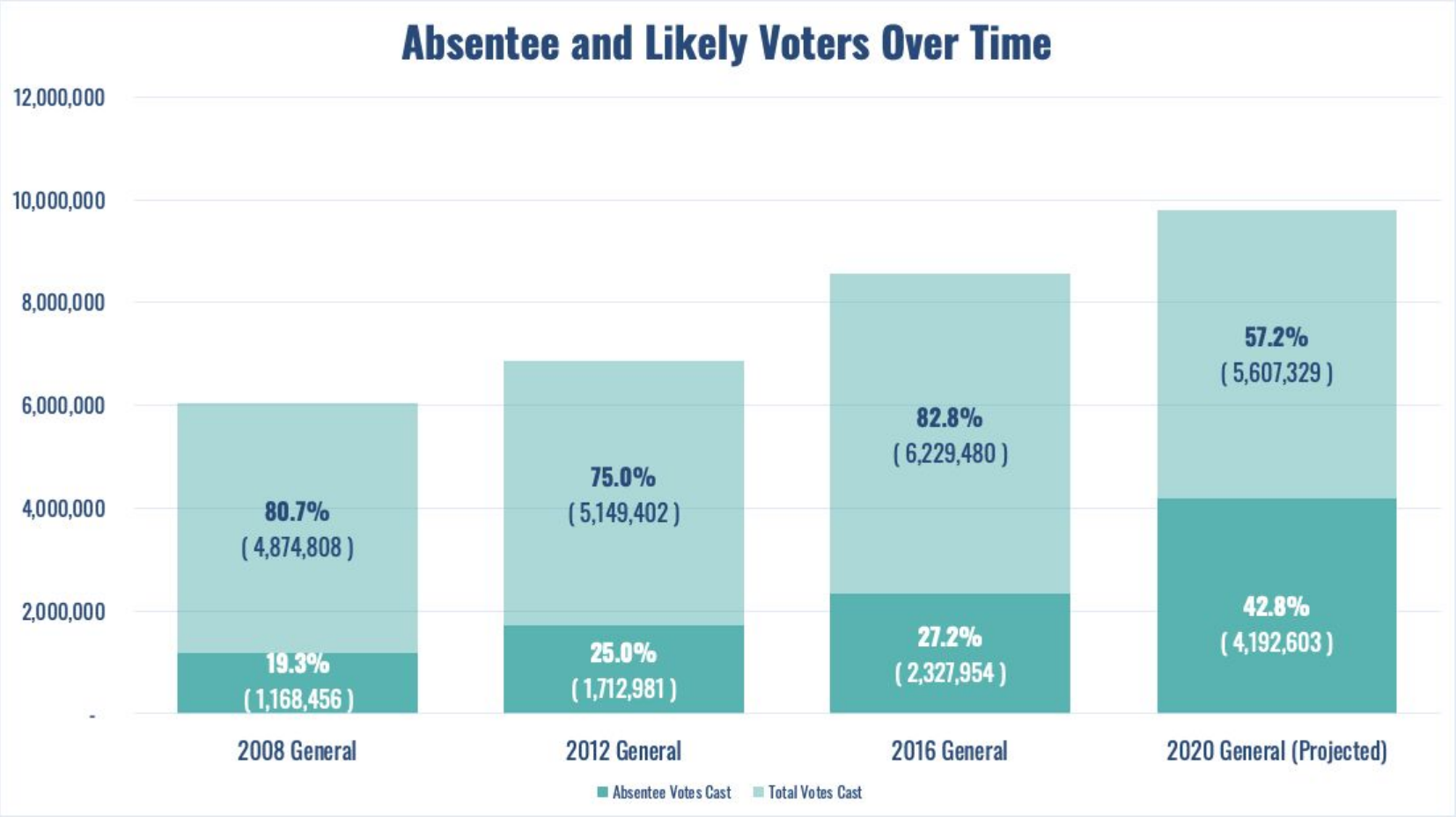
Relative to recent electoral history,

2020 Florida turnout and absentee rates are expected to be notably higher.



Overall, nearly 9.8 million voters are expected to turn out in the Florida 2020 general election. About 43% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. Of those absentee ballots, Citizen's model projects about 88.7% will be returned by mail, while 11.3% will be returned at a secure dropbox.

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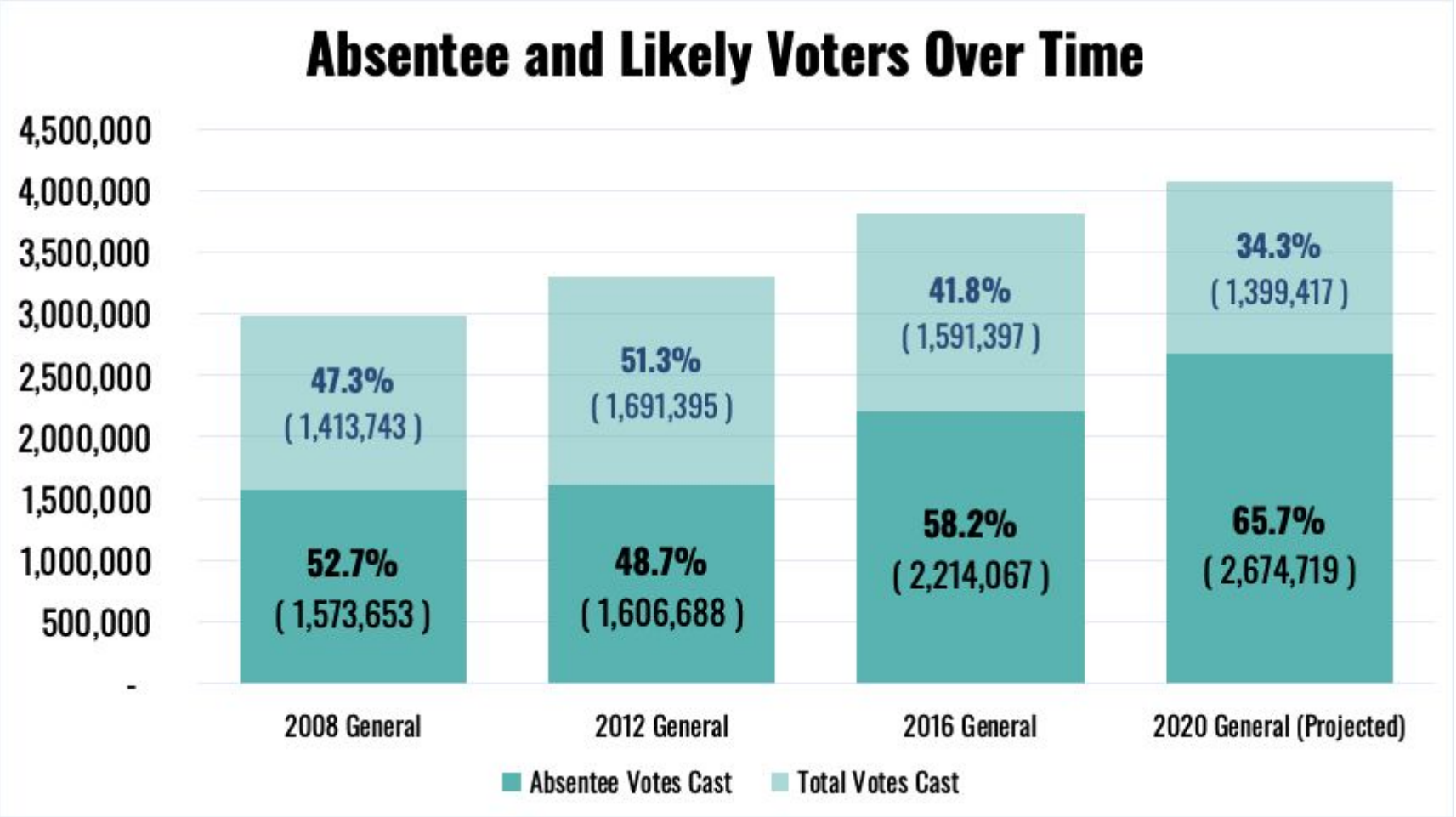
Relative to recent electoral history,

2020 Georgia turnout and absentee rates are expected to be higher.



Overall, nearly 4.1 million voters are expected to turn out in the Georgia 2020 general election. About 66% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. Of those absentee ballots, Citizen's model projects about 82.6% will be returned by mail, while 17.4% will be returned at a secure dropbox.

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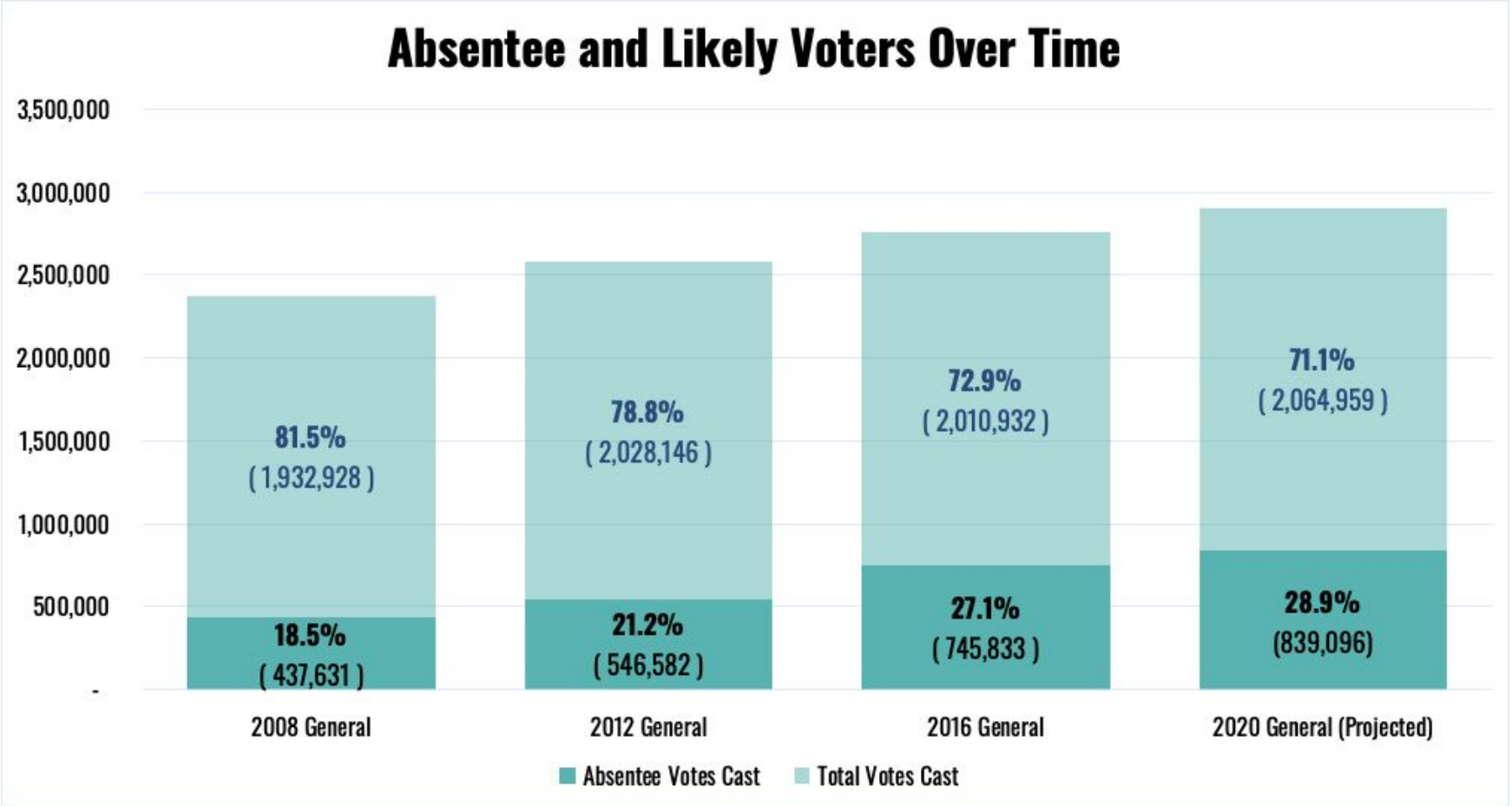
Relative to recent electoral history,

2020 Wisconsin turnout and absentee rates are slightly higher.



Overall, nearly 3 million voters are expected to turn out in the Wisconsin 2020 general election. About 29% of those votes are projected to be cast by an absentee ballot. Of those absentee ballot, Citizen's survey suggests about 86.6% will be returned by mail, while 13.4% will be returned at a secure dropbox.

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Citizen's projections vary by state,
but similar trends emerge across each.

- **States that Citizen reviewed will see an average 104% increase in absentee turnout**, driven largely by a 322% increase in Ohio absentee turnout.

- Although both parties will see increases in absentee voting volumes and rates, **Democrats are projected vote absentee at an average of 67.9%, while Republicans are projected to vote absentee at an average of 37.6%**.

- Only in Ohio are white voters more likely to vote absentee than other racial minorities. In most states reviewed, **greater shares of the Black and Hispanic voting populations will vote absentee than white voters**.

Classic electoral divides emerge in absentee voting, across geography, age, income, and education.

- Most **metropolitan areas will experience much higher rates of absentee voting** than less densely populated areas in each state.
- **Older voters are much more likely to both vote and vote absentee** than younger generations.
- **Groups with the highest income and education** are generally projected to have the highest absentee voting rates**.** The lowest income and education groups are generally predicted to have the lowest.

Methodology:

- *Our first step was to gather historical data. We used voter data from the 2016 primary election as well as the 2020 presidential primary when available for Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.*

- *Next, we conducted large-sample surveys. Our surveys (N=4,000 via IVR/P2P) were conducted between June 29 to July 2 for Ohio and between July 21 to July 26 for Florida, Georgia, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Voters in the samples were required to have voted in at least one election since and including the 2016 general election, or to have been newly registered. The survey respondents were selected to closely match the age and other demographic distribution of their respective state electorate, and were sampled evenly across Congressional Districts. After the survey was completed, we matched each respondent to our national voter file.*

Methodology:

- *Then, we combined results with the historical data referenced above to model likelihood to vote by any method. We then trained statistical models to predict voter likelihood in the 2016 election using an ensemble of machine learning methods, applied those predictive models to the 2020 voter file, and generated a likelihood between 0 and 1 that each voter would vote.*

- *As a final step, we modeled likelihood to vote absentee on top of our likely voters model. Specifically, we accepted individual's survey answers that they were "Likely" or "Very Likely" to vote absentee by mail or dropbox as an intention to vote absentee and considered all other voters as unlikely to vote absentee. We then eliminated all individuals from the survey file who responded that they had voted in the preceding primary election, but in fact had not. Using an ensemble of machine learning methods, we then trained statistical models to predict whether an individual would vote absentee against the dataset resulting from the survey.*

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