



# Prop 18: Rocking the Youth Vote

## Team VoTeen

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<https://github.com/stephaniekang/prop18>

# Proposition 18 (Prop 18)

- Proposition 18 amends CA Constitution allows 17 year olds to vote in primary & special elections if they turn 18 by the next general election. If passed, California will join 18 other states along with Washington D.C. in extending suffrage to this age group.

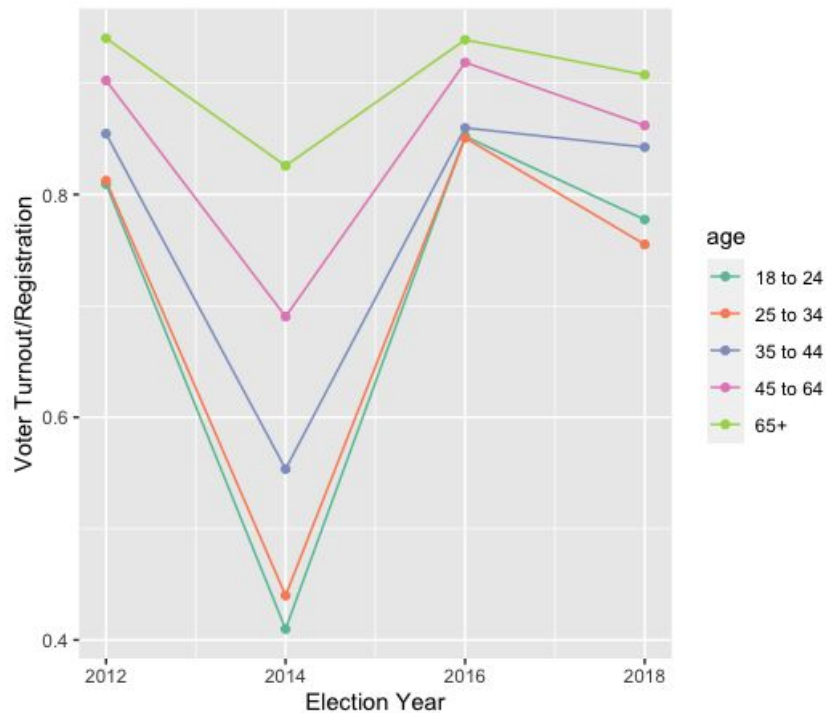
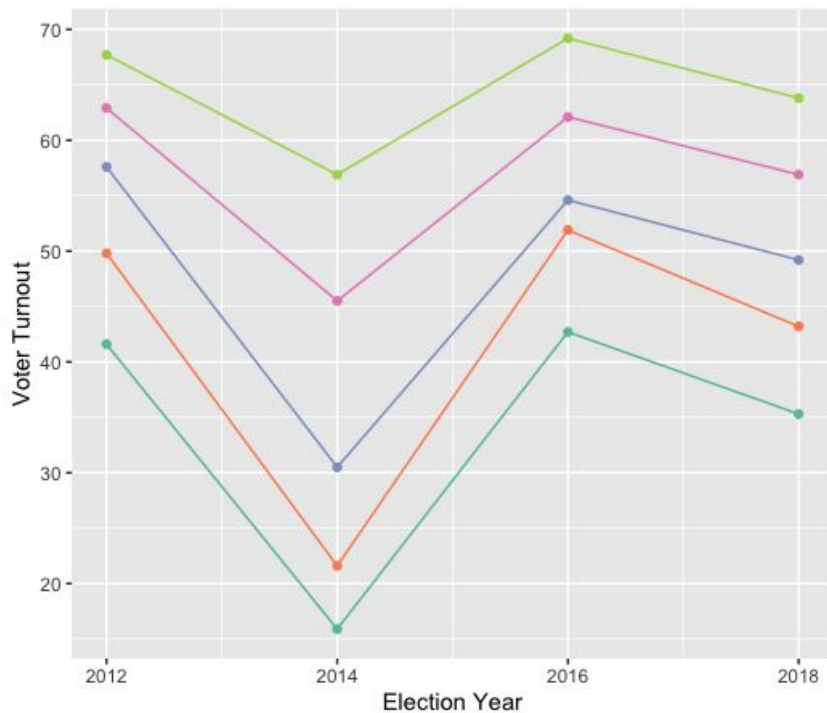
Supporters	Opposition
17 year olds eligible to vote in the primary election will have more exposure to the election process in making an informed choice in the general election.	17 year olds are legal minors under the influence of parents & teachers who do not have the independent thinking to cast an educated vote.



# Research Question

- How does lowering the voting age shape youth voting behavior?
- Goal: To understand how legislation that allows 17-year-old primary voting impacts youth voter turnout and registration
- Future considerations:
  - What are the political considerations of younger voters?
  - Where do they get their sources of information?
  - How large of a role does identity politics play in their voting patterns?

# Motivation



Make this plot by running the R markdown [code](#)

# Data

- Data from:
  - Tufts University Center for Information Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), [Youth Voting and Civic Engagement in America](#)
  - [U.S. Census Bureau Voting and Registration Data](#)
- Data was collected by hand from websites as Excel or CSV files
- Limitations of data
  - Limited fine-grained data at state level (e.g. age and sex, age and race, etc.)
  - Survey data (i.e. self-reported)
  - Limited time period with standardized data

# Approach



Search for voter data with focus on age group and at state level

Collect data

Clean data in R using tidyverse package

Data formatting into state-year observations

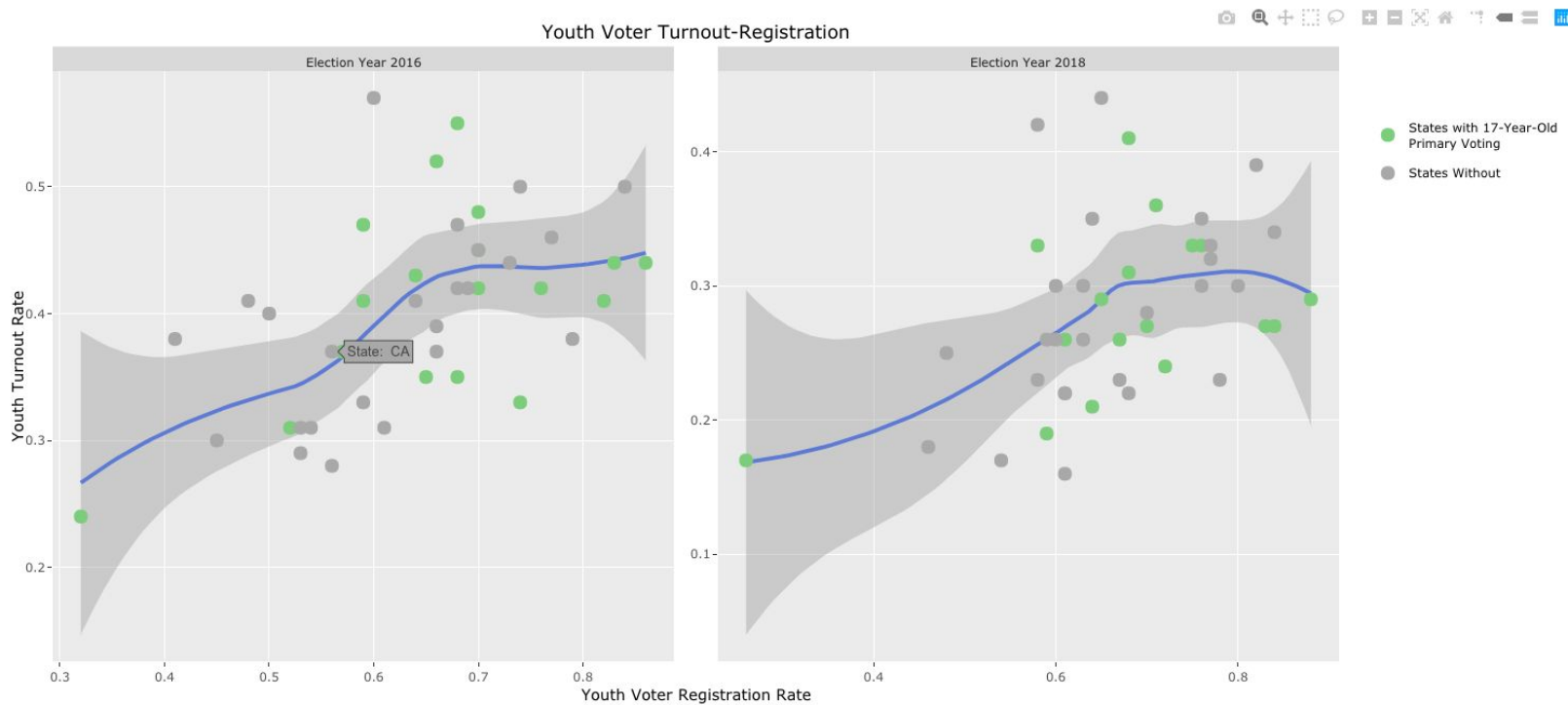
Generate shape files for US map using leaflet in R

Subset data to focus on youth population and compare states that allow and do not allow 17 year old primary voting

Interactive maps and plots using leaflet and plotly/ggplot2

# Data Visualization

Youth Voter Turnout-Registration



Make this interactive plot by running the R markdown [code](#)



# Conclusion

- No clear relationship between 17-year-old primary voting legislation and youth voting behavior
  - Other factors are probably driving youth voting behavior, such as race, sex, political leaning, civic engagement, education, socioeconomic status, etc.
- Challenges with finding fine-grained data over a long time period
- Achievements and next steps
  - Use of diverse data visuals (line plot, choropleth, interactive line plot) to tell a story
  - Team work!
  - Designing an R Shiny app so that users can explore different sets of variables

# Acknowledgements

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