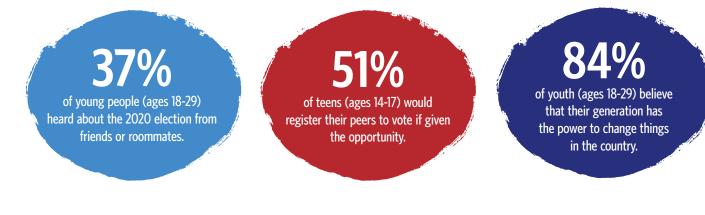
CIRCLE Growing Voters: Young People and Youth Leadership

The CIRCLE Growing Voters framework focuses on the roles and responsibilities of various institutions in ensuring that all youth are ready and excited to participate in democracy. However, young people themselves are still absolutely essential to this work, and youth must partner with and lead in these institutions in order to expand access and opportunities for themselves and their peers.

THE FACTS



The CIRCLE Growing Voters is a paradigm shift to transform how policymakers and many other stakeholders can strengthen young people's equitable engagement in democracy. Learn more, engage in this work, and share it with others at: circle.tufts.edu/circlegrowingvoters





Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

A Generation that Embraces Its Responsibility:

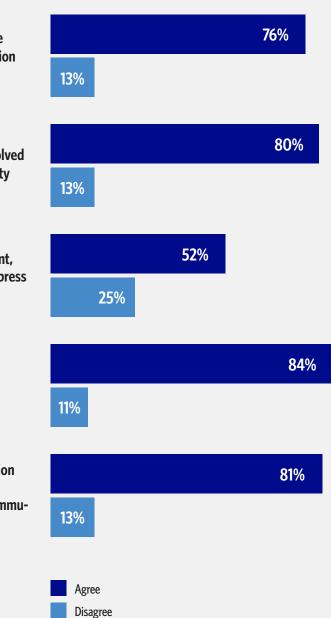
In 2020, more than three quarters of young people said they felt like had the ability and the responsibility to be civically engaged. That belief is a powerful resource for youth and communities to tap into.

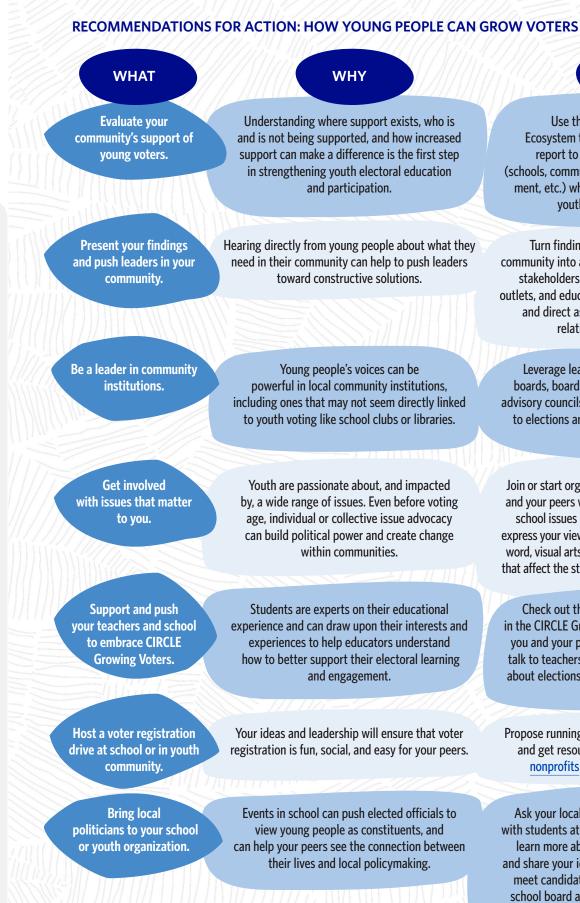
YOUNG PEOPLE'S VIEWS ABOUT THEIR POLITICAL POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY

People like me should participate in the political activity and decision making of our country It is my responsibility to get involved and make things better for society I feel part of a group or movement, and our members will vote to express our views

As a group, young people have the power to change things in this country

The outcomes of the 2020 election will make a significant impact on everyday issues involving my community, such as schools and police





HOW

Use the Mapping Your Community Ecosystem tool in the CIRCLE Growing Voters report to ask a wide range of institutions (schools, community groups, nonprofits, local government, etc.) whether and how their offices support youth participation in elections.

Turn findings from your assessment of your community into a presentation you can share with local stakeholders like election administrators, media outlets, and educators. Make specific recommendations and direct asks, and look to establish strategic relationships in key institutions.

Leverage leadership opportunities (like school boards, boards of directors, youth commissions, or advisory councils) to internally push for more attention to elections and voting or more strategic action to reach young people.

Join or start organizations and events that provide you and your peers with a forum to discuss community and school issues (e.g., Urban Debate League); ways to express your views using multiple mediums (e.g., spoken word, visual arts, videos) or a space to report on issues that affect the student body (e.g., a student newspaper).

Check out the recommendations for educators in the CIRCLE Growing Voters report, and explore how you and your peers can support them. For example, talk to teachers about the kind of teaching you want about elections or what media-making opportunities you find valuable.

Propose running a student-led voter registration drive and get resources and information from election nonprofits and/or your local election office.

Ask your local elected officials to hold a town hall with students at your school so you and your peers can learn more about what your government is doing and share your ideas and concerns. You can also ask to meet candidates running for office—especially for school board and other positions that most directly shape education and other youth-centered issues.

CIRELE

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To view the digital version of this report, please scan the QR code or visit us at circle.tufts.edu/circlegrowingvoters