The Importance of Get Out the Vote in 2024

Aliya Bhatia
Executive Director
Vot-ER

Ben Fulgencio-Turner
Director
Climate for Health

Nathaniel Stinnett
Founder and Executive Director
Environmental Voter Project

The Medical Society Consortium on CLIMATE & HEALTH
LET’S INTEGRATE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INTO HEALTHCARE

For our patients and the planet!

Join the movement at vot-er.org/badge
Voting

STRUCTURAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH
The upstream causes of the causes

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH
The causes of poor health

HEALTH-RELATED SOCIAL NEEDS
Effects of the causes

Join the movement at vot-er.org
Demographic Overlap

- Unregistered eligible voters
- Patients most marginalized by our current health system
- Young, low-income, and patients of color

Join the movement at vot-er.org
Interconnections
The following maps show the complex relationship between voting, social determinants of health, and community health outcomes.
Gerrymandering to limit collective power of EJ communities in Cleveland. These maps were ruled unconstitutional but were still used in the 2022 midterms.

Join the movement at vot-er.org
Southwest Detroit

• 24+ industrial sites
• Residents live 7 years less than the US as a whole
• Asthma hospitalization is 2–3x MI and 5x US
About 4,800 election precincts in Michigan
41 of the 100 lowest-turnout precincts in Michigan are in Detroit
Of those, 19+ precincts are in Southwest Detroit

Source: Michigan Secretary of State Voting Matters Report, a list of 100 lowest turnout precincts in Michigan, data is through 2018

*Note: Definition of Southwest Detroit varies, this analysis focuses on zip code 48217 and immediate surroundings
Similar relationships occur with states on the Health & Democracy Index.
The American Medical Association recognizes the link between voting and health. In June 2022, the American Medical Association passed Resolution 422 that recognized voting as a social determinant of health.

Join the movement at vot-er.org
INTERVENTION
When our patients vote, government officials are more likely to address their needs.

Healthcare providers promote voting
Labeled as a likely voter
Campaigns make contact
People vote

Join the movement at vot-er.org
Direct Health Benefits from Voting

Connections between voting and adolescent health including less-risky health-related behaviors and fewer depressive symptoms

Empirical Article

Impacts of Adolescent and Young Adult Civic Engagement on Health and Socioeconomic Status in Adulthood

Parissa J. Ballard, Lindsay T. Hoyt, Mark C. Pachucki

First published: 23 January 2018 | https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12998 | Citations: 18

This research was supported in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under Cooperative Agreement UAGMC27378 for the Adolescent and Young Adult Health Research Network. Information or content and conclusions are those of the authors and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by, HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. We would like to thank the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for their financial support. We would like to thank Kara Rudolph for fielding analytical questions and sharing R code for generating Figure 1. This research uses data from Add Health, a program project directed by Kathleen Mullan Harris and designed by J. Richard Udry, Peter S. Bearman, and Kathleen Mullan Harris at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and funded by Grant P01-HD31921 from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, with cooperative funding from 23 other federal agencies and private foundations.

Join the movement at vot-er.org
Direct Health Benefits from Voting

Higher levels of personal well-being connected to higher civic engagement levels.

Some Benefits of Being an Activist: Measuring Activism and Its Role in Psychological Well-Being

Malte Klar, Tim Kasser

First published: 09 September 2009 | https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9221.2009.00724.x | Citations: 78

Abstract

Do activists lead happier and more fulfilled lives than the average person? Two online surveys using a sample of college students ($N = 341$) and a national sample of activists matched with a control group ($N = 718$) demonstrated that several indicators of activism were positively associated with measures of hedonic, eudaimonic, and social.
THE PATHWAY TO A HEALTHIER DEMOCRACY

The 2024 elections will impact the health of our patients, communities, and their environments.

- Hospital mergers or closures
- Industrial siting and zoning decisions
- Climate resiliency plans
- Laws about reproductive health
- And more...

Join the movement at vote-er.org
WHAT CAN WE DO TO MAKE A HEALTHIER DEMOCRACY?
Get your Vot-ER badge to turn voting into a health multiplier

Is your organization all-in? They can join at vot-ER.org/join

Get your badge

vot-er.org/aliya

Spread the word
Apply to be a Civic Health Fellow

Priority deadline: March 8th. Starts in April. Train with Vot-ER and a Nobel-nominated faculty for 6 months and make a dent on 2024.

Is your organization all-in? They can join at vot-ER.org/join

vot-er.org/fellowship
Together, we can create a healthier democracy.

Thank you

Join the movement at vot-er.org

@vot_er_org
We turn non-voting environmentalists into consistent voters.

Twitter: @Enviro_Voter
Instagram & Threads: @EnvironmentalVoter
WHY CAN'T WE CONSISTENTLY ENACT PROGRESSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Top Priority of Likely 2022 Midterm Voters in Battleground States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inflation &amp; cost of living</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy &amp; jobs</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect abortion &amp; repro rights</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventing gun violence</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime &amp; public safety</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voting rights, protect democracy</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border security</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter fraud, election integrity</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate &amp; environment</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration policy</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting gun rights</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce abortion, protect fetal life</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public education</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat security &amp; foreign policy</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronavirus</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beacon Research Poll of 2,016 likely voters, July 5-20, 2022
Environmentalists aren’t voting.
The Big Potential of Low Propensity Environmental Voters

Focus on Turnout

2016
10.1 million environmentalists did not vote

2018
12.4 million environmentalists did not vote

2020
8.1 million environmentalists did not vote

2022
13+ million environmentalists did not vote
In many states, unlikely voters are twice as likely to list climate change as a top priority as likely voters.

Importance of Climate When Choosing a Candidate, Beacon Research Battleground State Poll, July 5-20, 2022

- **Nevada**
  - Likely Voters: 5% Single most important factor, 49% One of many important factors, 17% Only somewhat important, 12% Not sure, 17% Not very important, 8% Not important at all
  - Unlikely Voters: 10% Single most important factor, 41% One of many important factors, 23% Only somewhat important, 13% Not sure, 13% Not very important, 8% Not important at all

- **Pennsylvania**
  - Likely Voters: 3% Single most important factor, 43% One of many important factors, 19% Only somewhat important, 15% Not sure, 18% Not very important, 9% Not important at all
  - Unlikely Voters: 7% Single most important factor, 35% One of many important factors, 30% Only somewhat important, 14% Not sure, 9% Not very important, 9% Not important at all
A long-term electorate building approach
Focus on the non-voting environmentalists ignored by others

1 IDENTIFICATION
With data analytics and predictive modeling, we identify millions of environmentalists by name and street address. We then focus only on those environmentalists who are the least likely to vote.

2 MOBILIZATION
Using proven voter-turnout messaging that relies on the latest behavioral science, we canvass, call, mail, and send digital ads to our target environmentalists in the lead-up to every election (federal, state, and local).

3 HABIT REINFORCEMENT
You can’t change someone’s voting behavior if you only talk to them every 2 or 4 years, so we work year-round in every election, regularly checking public voter files and following up with our targets until they become consistent super voters.

4 CHANGING THE ELECTORATE
As EVP helps build an ever-growing bloc of consistent environmental voters, politicians will increasingly “go where the votes are” because nothing motivates a politician more than the prospect of winning or losing an election.
EVP’S PROVEN IMPACT IN SPECIFIC ELECTIONS
(through June 2023)

Last 4 Years of Randomized Controlled Trials

2020 2021 2022 2023

EVP’s Impact in Local Elections
EVP’s Impact in Primary Elections
EVP’s Impact in General Elections
Of the 9,542,183 low propensity voters EVP has mobilized since 2015, 1,487,733 of them are now consistent super voters.
Targeting 4.8 Million Voters across 19 States

All targets are (a) registered to vote, (b) highly likely to list climate/environment as top priority, and (c) unlikely to vote in Presidential elections.
Sample of EVP States in 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Competitive Elections</th>
<th>Target Voters</th>
<th>Margin in 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>President, US Senate, 2 US House, State Senate, State House</td>
<td>229,311</td>
<td>10,457 votes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>President, US Senate, 5 US House</td>
<td>642,096</td>
<td>371,686 votes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>President, Public Service Commission</td>
<td>491,369</td>
<td>11,779 votes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>President, US Senate, 3 US House, Las Vegas Mayor</td>
<td>108,694</td>
<td>33,596 votes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>President, Governor, 1 US House, State Senate, State House</td>
<td>266,227</td>
<td>74,483 votes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>President, US Senate, 5 US House, State Senate, State House</td>
<td>245,206</td>
<td>80,555 votes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>President, US Senate, 3 US House</td>
<td>710,076</td>
<td>631,221 votes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VOLUNTEERING WITH EVP

Get Involved

1. CALLING VOTERS
   - Multiple phonebanks each week
   - Every phonebank begins with a training
   - Once trained, you can call on your own
   - Proven scripts, proven results

2. CANVASSING VOTERS
   - The most effective way to mobilize voters
   - Currently canvassing in Austin, TX, Tucson, AZ, and Pittsburgh, PA
   - Possibly launching canvassing in Philadelphia, PA
   - Each canvassing shift begins with a training session
   - Once trained, you can canvass on your own
   - Proven scripts, proven results

3. POSTCARDS TO VOTERS
   - 4-6 campaigns per year
   - Online training webinars
   - Postcards, text, and voter lists shipped to you. Stamps available
   - Proven designs, proven results

www.environmentalvoter.org/get-involved
Volunteer with the Environmental Voter Project
Who We Are
The Health Voice Matters
Health Professionals: Highly Trusted Messengers

Percentage responding ethical standards and honesty are high or very high

- **Nurses**: 89%
- **Medical Doctors**: 77%
- **Grade School Teachers**: 75%
- **Pharmacists**: 71%
- **Police Officers**: 52%
- **Judges**: 43%
- **Clergy**: 39%
- **Nursing Home Operators**: 36%
- **Bankers**: 29%
- **Journalists**: 28%
- **Lawyers**: 21%
- **Business Executives**: 17%
- **Advertising Practitioners**: 10%
- **Car Salespeople**: 8%
- **Members of Congress**: 8%

Source: Gallup "Honesty/Ethics in Professions" 2020
More Americans Are Concerned About Climate Than You May Think

75% TOTAL Are Very or Somewhat Concerned

51% TOTAL Say Those Around Them Are Very or Somewhat Concerned

Source: ecoAmerica's 2022 American Climate Perspective Survey
Health is a Major Motivator for Climate Action

The majority of Americans support climate change solutions that protect health
Survey question: “Would you support climate solutions if they benefited any of the following? (Please select all that apply).” 1,029 national respondents. +/- 3% margin of error.

- Protecting personal and public health: 76%
- Increasing good paying jobs in the US: 71%
- Strengthening resilience in our communities: 53%
- Advancing justice and equity: 48%
- None of the above: 12%

Source: ecoAmerica American Climate Perspective Survey
Climate Ambassador Impact in 2023

- **Ambassadors Trained**: 1,223
  - Completed Ambassador training in 2023

- **Pledged to Take Action**: 885
  - Completed training & signed the pledge in 2023

- **Total Ambassadors**: 2,061
  - Everyone who has signed the pledge since the program launched in 2019

- **Actions Reported**: 500+
  - Total actions reported by Ambassadors in 2023

- **Total Reach of Actions**: 500,000+
  - The number of people reached through public actions including presentations, op-eds, letters to the editor, social media & more!
Action Starts Before Election Day

Not Just the Big One in November
Primaries matter. Local races matter.

Reinforcing Commitments
The more you vote, the more you vote. Visible, public commitments drive longer-term behaviors.

Persuasion is a Process
Multiple touches in different contexts. The health context/frame is powerful.
Monthly Themed Prompts

Learn It
Connect with resources & education related to theme

Act On It
Productive action focused on increasing awareness and turnout.

Track It
Visibility and Spread.
How to Engage

Use the Election Earth Resources
Prompts and actions come with customizable social toolkit.
Email me: ben@ecoamerica.org

Build your Army
Talk to your colleagues.
Free training (with 3 CME) at www.ClimateforHealth.org
Use badges, resources, prompts, etc. as conversation starters.
Thank you

Ben Fulgencio-Turner
Climate for Health Director, ecoAmerica

Ben@ecoamerica.org