



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2022

CONTACT: Jeremy Gruber

(609) 610-1602

jgruber@openprimaries.org

Young Voters Just Stood Up for American Democracy in the Midterms New Survey Explains Why

New York, NY –If you’re looking for a key to unlock what just happened in the 2022 midterm elections, look no further than young people. In race after race across the country, young voters showed up in big numbers and decided election outcomes. About 27% of voters between the ages of 18-29 cast a ballot in the midterm election this year, according to [an early estimate](#). It was the second-highest voter turnout among voters under 30 in at least the past three decades.

But who are these voters and what animates them? [A new survey](#) from Students for Open Primaries takes the pulse of American millennials and GenZ voters with some startling findings about their political loyalties and prioritization of democracy reform.

SOP surveyed 1,000 young people across the country. We asked them a series of questions about how they view the current state of American elections, political affiliation, and their support for change. Respondents were roughly split between Millennial voters and Gen Z voters.

Key Survey Findings:

- A supermajority of young people (**65%**) consider themselves independent.
- **69%** of young people feel neither the Republican or Democratic Parties represent them.
- **80%** of young voters believe elected leaders are more loyal to their party than their constituents.
- **80%** of young people believe closed primaries are a problem impacting young voters.
- **85%** of young voters think we need to reform the way we elect our leaders in America today and support a move to nonpartisan open primaries.

[The full survey can be found HERE.](#)

“Gen Z and millennials are now the largest group of voters in the country. We are turning out in big numbers and deciding elections. But there are two things you need to know about us. We’re independent, and we want an election system that allows us to fully express our views. Both the Democratic and Republican parties should be on notice. We’re not going to let you put us in a box.”

Daniel Cruz Rodriguez, Founder of Students for Open Primaries

Available for interview:

Daniel Cruz Rodriguez, Founder Students for Open Primaries (Chicago)

Jeremy Gruber, SVP Open Primaries (New York City)

[Students for Open Primaries](#) educates students about our primary election system and organizing them in support of open primary movements. SOP is a project of the [Open Primaries Education Fund](#), a national, nonprofit organization.