

# 2021 ELECTIONS



## 39 STATES ARE VOTING BEFORE END OF THIS YEAR!

Hey Friends!

**39 states are holding elections between now and end of this year (2021). There are thousands (literally) of races that need our attention and our vote. Like, right now!**

School boards, sheriff's, state legislature, city council, mayors, police commissioners, and judges are all on the ballot. Not to mention, 9 states are voting on ballot measures (aka propositions/initiatives) that will determine things like if your state will allow no-excuse absentee voting moving forward (hey, New York) or if a committee should be formed to make recommendations for reparations for Black residents (hello, Detroit).

Do you live in Denver, CO - whoever gets elected to your school board will oversee efforts to improve education for students of color, redefine school safety & discipline after removing police from some middle & high schools, sign off on spending millions in federal covid relief.

So, needless to say these thousands of races are a BFD (big f\*ing deal!). We created this toolkit to help you navigate your own vote but also how you can help all our peeps get out and vote in these BFD elections.

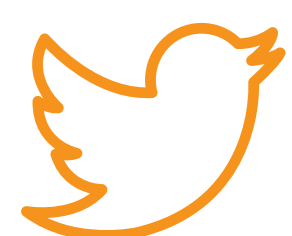
Need more help, resources or just want to chat - we would love to hear from you. You can find us at:



@friendsvotetogether



@friendsvotetogether



@friendsvotetgt



friendsvotetogether.org



### WHAT IS IN THIS TOOLKIT:

- Voting this year? No idea? It's cool, we got you.
- Want to be a helper? Learn about what you can do to take action today through election day.
- Fun friendly tips, tricks, resources and a few surprises throughout the way.

*P.s. Not to be a downer - but voter turnout in odd year & local races is always piss poor. But, it doesn't have to be that way. Will you share this toolkit with your friends, family and communities? Sure would mean a lot, friends. Thanks.*

# 2021 ELECTIONS



## AM I VOTING THIS YEAR? (...PROBABLY)

### ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Regardless of when you voted last, it is always a good idea to **check your registration** from time to time. Things happen (hey, life) and it's better to check and get it fixed proactively vs. panicking at the polls. (Friendly tip: we set a calendar reminder to do 1x a quarter)

### HOW TO CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION?

- Go to [www.vote.org](http://www.vote.org) - type in your name and address to confirm you are registered and all your information is correct.
- If your registration is not correct or it says you're not registered - contact your local election office & ask how to have corrected.

### HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

- Go to [www.vote.org](http://www.vote.org) and follow instructions to register OR go to your local elections page and follow instructions.
- Note: every state has different requirements, processes and deadlines. Many states registration deadlines are coming up - don't wait - register today!

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK YOUR  
REGISTRATION OR  
REGISTER TO VOTE](#)



# 2021 ELECTIONS



## AM I VOTING THIS YEAR? (...PROBABLY)

### GOOD TO GO! NOW, HOW AND WHERE DO I FIND OUT IF I'M VOTING IN '21?

Real talk, friends? We so wish this was as easy as "go to this one website and see your elections calendar and candidates and all your information in one place." If only!

Unfortunately, (and because every state is on a different election cycle and votes differently) there is not 1 place to go that is the same for every state/city across the country. [Here is what we suggest:](#)

#### **TAKE THESE STEPS:**

- Google: <Your City (or town), State> Election Schedule
  - You're looking for your official city/town/county website - "Board of Elections & Voter Registration" website, site will either have calendar on homepage or you will have to click somewhere on the site to be directed to the calendar
- Look for your city/town/municipality (example below for Charleston County, SC)
- **TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING** (write them down!)
  - Election Date(s)
  - Offices (or ballot measures) on Ballot
  - Last Day to Register
- **ADD** these dates / races to your calendar so you don't forget!  
(Friendly tip: we set a reminder in our calendar 15 days from election day; cause you know, we need all the reminders we can get!)



Here is an example for Charleston County, SC. If you live in Charleston County you have elections for Council Seats and CPW (Charleston County Parks) on November 2nd.

Election Name	Last Day To Register	Election Date	Run-Off Date	Legal Notice	Offices On Ballot
City of Charleston Municipal	Oct 2, 2021	Nov 2, 2021	Nov 16, 2021	Notice	2,4,6,8,10,12 Council Seats & CPW

# 2021 ELECTIONS



## AM I VOTING THIS YEAR? (...PROBABLY)

GOOD TO GO! NOW, WHAT THE HEYYYY IS MY COUNTY PARKS RACE?  
WHAT IN THE WORLD DOES MY CITY COUNCIL DO?

Good questions!

(psst...we didn't know what many of our local positions were responsible for till we did some research on our own).

**Spend some time googling** what these roles are and how they impact your day to day life & community. Yah, one more thing on your to do list - but seriously, these votes will decide whether or not critical race theory will be taught to your kiddos, whether or not you will be able vote absentee with no excuses moving forward. Big decisions!

**Friends Vote Together will be sharing more information on these roles over the next few weeks - stay tuned!** Be sure to follow our Instagram & Facebook accounts and sign up for our newsletter to get all the information at your fingertips.



[CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW ON  
INSTAGRAM](#)



[CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW ON  
FACEBOOK](#)



[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP  
FOR OUR NEWSLETTER](#)

# 2021 ELECTIONS

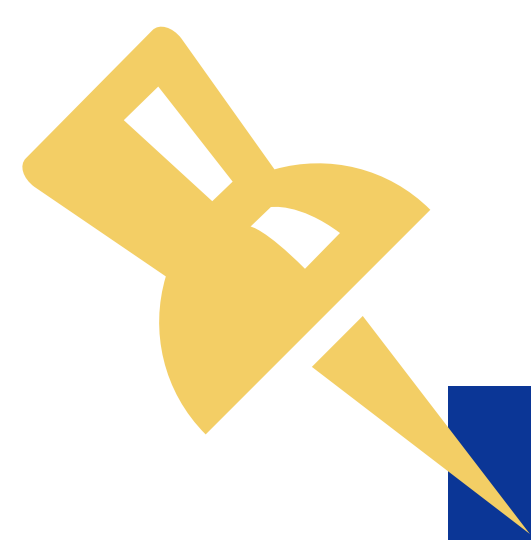


## AM I VOTING THIS YEAR? (...PROBABLY)

### GOOD TO GO! WHO IS RUNNING & HOW DO I KNOW WHO TO VOTE FOR?

We can't tell you who to vote for, that's a personal decision you have to make for yourself. But, **we can help you become a more educated and informed voter!**

- Your County Elections Website should tell you who is on your ballot & who is running. (you can always google too)
- Look up candidate websites to see where they stand on issues that are important to you.
- Are they already in office running for re-election? What have they done while in office, how have they managed the pandemic and issues that face your community?
- Follow candidates on social to see what they are saying & how they will lead your city/state.
- Check out local news sources/articles to see what information they have on candidates.
- Ask your friends, family, neighbors. Is your neighbor actively involved with the school board - ask them what issues are important to your community and where they feel candidates stand on issues.



Ps. We love sites like [Ballotpedia](#). They have information on candidates, stats on your state/districts, where candidates stand on issues and more. It is a great starting point but should not be your only source of information. Note: these larger national websites do not have all information & may not be including some races, candidates needed for your research.

# 2021 ELECTIONS



## AM I VOTING THIS YEAR? (...PROBABLY)

**GOOD TO GO! NOW IT'S TIME TO MAKE A VOTING PLAN.**

Did you know research has shown that thinking through and **making a plan to vote can increase the likelihood of a voter actually voting by almost 10%! Seriously.**

### So, what's your plan?

When will you vote? How will you vote? Does your state allow early in person voting? No excuse absentee voting? Where is the closest drop box location? Where is your local polling location? How are you going to get there? Can you track your ballot?

**Find the best method THAT WORKS FOR YOU and make a plan.**

Share your plan with a friend or family member (accountability, friends!). Ask them if they want to vote with you. Cause, you know, friends don't vote alone - **friends vote together!**

Not sure who to share your voting plan with? **You have US!** Drop us a message, we want to be your cheerleader, send you a reminder if you need it, thank you and congratulate you for voting! Seriously, let's chat!



**SLIDE INTO OUR DMS ON SOCIAL OR EMAIL US AT:  
FRIENDSVOTETOGETHER@GMAIL.COM**

# 2021 ELECTIONS



## HOW CAN WE HELP? THIS IS HOW WE DO IT!

### I WANT TO BE A HELPER, WHAT OH WHAT CAN I DO?

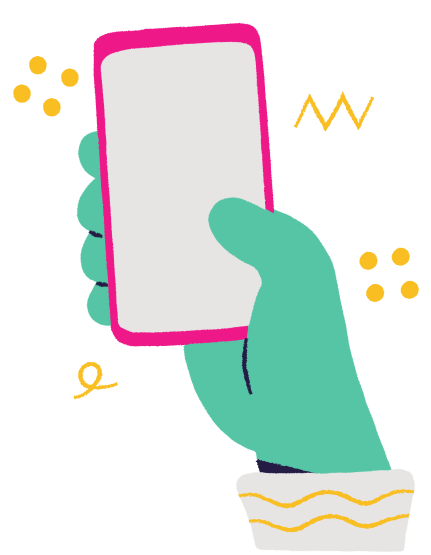
Not to be Debbie Downer (no offense to all our BFF Debbies!) but turn out for local elections is typically smaller than one of those red hat rally's.

People are tired. People are checked out. People have no idea these elections are even happening. **We get it. We feel you.**

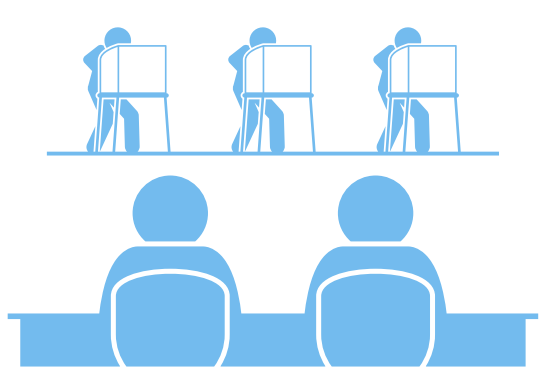
While we may not be able to help with being less tired (if you have any hints - let us know - we are exhausted!), **all of us can take small actions (with big freaking impact) to try and get as many people to vote in these highly important races.** Whether your love language is phone banking/text banking, writing letters to voters, canvassing - there is something for everyone.



**REACH OUT TO YOUR PEEPS!** Friends & family are **22x MORE LIKELY TO VOTE** if asked by a friend, family or someone they know. **Share this toolkit with them**, share information on races & candidates, help them with their voting plan!



**PHONE/TEXT BANK/WRITE VOTERS TO GOTV!** Lots of incredible organizations across the country working to help voters vote. Check out our [Instagram](#) & [Facebook](#) where we're sharing and amplifying opportunities. Also, google and IG searching are brilliant, too.



**WORK THE POLLS (YEEHAW)!** Many places are desperately looking for poll workers (p.s. in many states, you get paid!). Check your local Board of Elections website to sign up.



**BEEP BEEP, HERE WE COME!** One of the greatest barriers to voting is transportation. Can you help drive voters to the polls? **RideShare2Vote** has opportunities in many locations ([www.rideshare2vote.com](http://www.rideshare2vote.com))

# 2021 ELECTIONS



## HOW CAN WE HELP? THIS IS HOW WE DO IT!

### OTHER IDEAS AND WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!



**SHARING IS CARING:** Share information on elections, voting, ways to help, candidates on social media, among community groups, with friends & family, neighbors - anyone!



**ATTEND EVENTS & RALLY'S:** (safely) Town halls, voting information sessions, community meetings are great ways to learn about candidates & issues facing your community.



**THEY SAID WHAT?:** Follow elected leaders & candidates on social, sign up for their newsletters. (Friendly tip: this is a good practice even after they are elected)



**REMOVE BARRIERS:** People don't vote because they can't find someone to watch the kiddos, get time off work or have a ride to the polls. Offer to babysit the kids, help them ask for time off work if possible, drive voters to the polls.



**GET YOUR COMPANY INVOLVED:** Ask to share nonpartisan voting information with the team, ask about PTO to go vote, go vote with your co-workers on your lunch break, what can your company do to incentivize voting?



**DIGITALLY DOOR KNOCK:** We're ALL on our phones more than we want to admit. Meet voters where they are and slide into DMs on social. On Bumble or Tinder - how about going to vote together as your first date - LOVE! For more ways to digitally door knock - head to our website.



**HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD:** Reach out to candidates directly. Ask them where they stand on issues, voice your opinions with them. **Remember, you are electing them to work FOR YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY!**



# 2021 ELECTIONS



## 39 STATES ARE VOTING BEFORE END OF THIS YEAR!

### THANK YOU FOR BEING A VOTER!

We know you're tired, we know you gave it your all in 2020, we know you feel like nothing is happening or changing and you are tired of living in this never ending cycle of doom and gloom, we know some days you don't feel like your vote is making a difference.

We are right there with you. We promise.

Here is the thing we feel strongly about (so much so we will go to every roof top in every city to shout at the top of our lungs if we could) - **we CAN drastically make a difference and have an impact on what is happening in our own backyards.** It won't happen over night, these things take time, but if we don't keep showing up in our communities - nothing is going to change. We have to show up this fall and vote. It is, the very least we can do.

These races have **MASSIVE** impact and consequences on each of our lives.

This toolkit is just a start and we hope it will be helpful to you in figuring out who, what and when to vote this year. We hope it will inspire you to be a helper.

We started Friends Vote Together around the belief that "**when a lot of people take a lot of small actions, big change happens.**" We have seen it happen and we know it will continue to happen. **Together.**

Please reach out if you need more information, have questions, additional resources. We **LOVE** chatting with y'all!

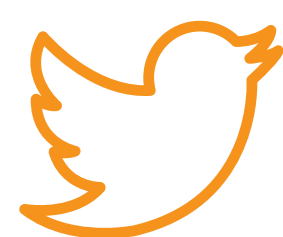
High fives, respect and gratitude,  
Your Friends at Friends Vote Together



@friendsvotetogether



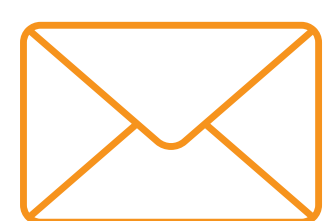
@friendsvotetogether



@friendsvotetgt



friendsvotetogether.org



friendsvotetogether@gmail.com

This toolkit and all content included was created by Friends Vote Together & belongs to Friends Vote Together.