

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & POLICY

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Missoula County November 2020 General Election Experience

Produced by:

Sara Rinfret, Ph.D.
Professor & Chairwoman
Baucus Institute Department of Public Administration & Policy

Christina Barsky, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Baucus Institute Department of Public Administration & Policy

Shane St. Onge, MPA
Juris Doctor Candidate, Alexander Blewett III School of Law
Data Visualization Specialist, UM Data Office

University of Montana
Department of Public Administration & Policy
32 Campus Drive
Missoula, MT 59812

*Questions about this report? Contact Bradley Seaman, bseaman@missoulacounty.us

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Section I: Overview of Demographic Data	3
Section II: Key Findings.....	4
Section III: Aggregate Results per Survey Question.....	14

Executive Summary

In September 2020 the Missoula County Elections Office requested that a research team from the University of Montana's Department of Public Administration (DPAP) conduct a mixed method study examining registered voter experiences and perceptions regarding the November 2020 general election. The DPAP research team (Dr. Sara Rinfret, Dr. Christina Barsky, Shane St. Onge) created a ten-minute survey to be implemented online and via telephone.

The online and telephone survey used the same questions and were administered to a randomly selected sample of 698 Missoula County registered voters from November 9-20, 2020. The margin of error (MOE) is +/- 3.71% at the 95 percent confidence level. Put differently, or in social science terms, if we ran the same survey 100 times, asking the study questions of a different sample of people each time, the overall percentage of people who responded the same way would remain within 3.71 percent of our original results in at least 95 of the 100 surveys.

Although online and telephone surveys are scientifically rigorous, there are limitations. For example, the online and telephone surveys were conducted in English, which could limit the participation of non-English speaking participants. Second, the respondents were registered voters in Missoula County. The data file provided by Missoula County did not include non-registered citizens. We do not believe that these limitations overshadow the quality of information provided in this report.

The analysis of the survey data was conducted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Tableau software was used to visualize survey responses. We highlight some of the findings from the report:

1. Six hundred and ninety-eight Missoula County registered voters participated in the study;
2. Twenty-nine percent of the sample reported they were within the ages of 27-46 years of age;
3. The primary reason why respondents vote is because they believe in their civic responsibility;
4. Approximately eighty percent of respondents were very satisfied with their vote by mail voting experience;
5. Sixty-four percent would vote by mail again if paid postage was provided, but this varies by age and gender; and
6. Eighty-nine percent of respondents believe Missoula County elections are free of fraud.

The following report is divided into three total sections – Section I provides an overview of the demographic data. Section II presents *key* findings regarding participant voting behavior and beliefs and perceptions about Missoula County election practices. Some of this information is examined by age and precinct to offer differentiations in the data. Section III is an appendix, offering an aggregate breakdown of results and cross tabulations per question.

Section I: Overview of Demographic Data

Table 1 presents the demographic data of respondents for this study. For example, more women, than men participated in the study. Thirty-five percent of respondents are 67 or older. Comparatively, twenty-nine percent of participants 27-46 years of age. Most respondents have completed some college education or a bachelor's degree.

Table 1: Respondent Demographics

	<i>Total Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Mode of Survey		
<i>Telephone</i>	606	87%
<i>Online</i>	92	13%
Gender		
<i>Female</i>	373	54%
<i>Male</i>	306	44%
<i>Non-binary</i>	6	1%
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	13	2%
Age Groups		
<i>18-26</i>	53	8%
<i>27-46</i>	200	29%
<i>47-66</i>	176	25%
<i>67 or older</i>	244	35%
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	25	4%
Political Party Identification		
<i>Democrat</i>	274	39%
<i>Green</i>	1	0.1%
<i>Libertarian</i>	30	4%
<i>Republican (GOP)</i>	141	20%
<i>Independent</i>	195	28%
<i>Other</i>	11	2%
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	46	7%
Level of Education		
<i>Some high school</i>	7	1%
<i>High school diploma/GED</i>	85	12%
<i>Some college</i>	162	23%
<i>Technical certification</i>	35	5%
<i>Associates degree</i>	49	7%
<i>Bachelor's degree</i>	197	28%
<i>Post-baccalaureate (Master's, PhD, JD, MD, etc.)</i>	150	22%
<i>Other</i>	1	0.1%
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	12	2%
Household income		
<i>\$0-\$20,000</i>	93	13%
<i>\$20,001-\$37,000</i>	136	20%
<i>\$37,001-\$46,000</i>	72	10%
<i>\$46,001-\$57,000</i>	72	10%
<i>\$57,001-\$88,000</i>	97	14%
<i>\$88,001-\$150,000</i>	104	15%
<i>\$150,001 and above</i>	51	7%
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	73	11%

Section II: Key Findings

Section II of this report illustrates key findings which focus on participants' voting behaviors and beliefs, voter experiences, and perceptions about Missoula County Elections Office practices.

Voting Behaviors & Beliefs

At the beginning of each survey, respondents were asked for their primary reason for voting. Figure 1 demonstrates 36 percent of participants vote because they "believe it is my responsibility as a citizen to vote." Thirty-one percent suggest, "I believe voting is essential to democracy."

Figure 1: Primary Reason for Voting

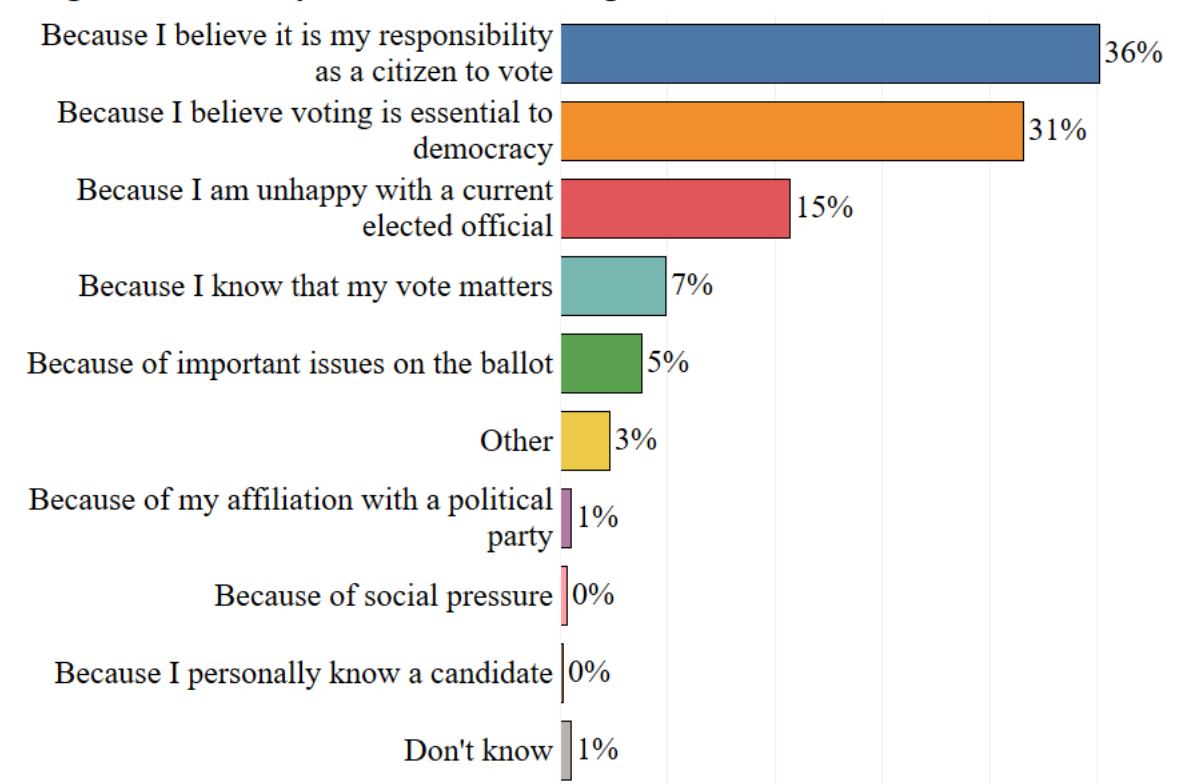
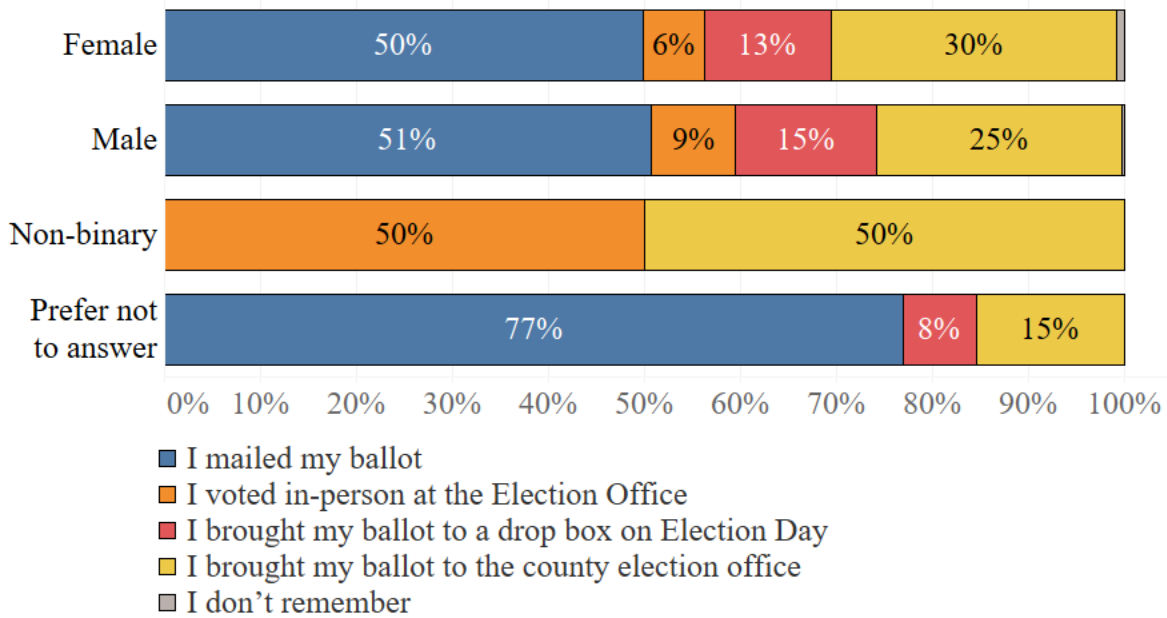


Figure 2 examines how Missoula County respondents cast their ballot for the November 2020 general election. This data compares ballots cast by gender. Fifty percent of women voted by mail. By way of comparison, fifty-one percent of men and fifty percent of non-binary people voted by mail.

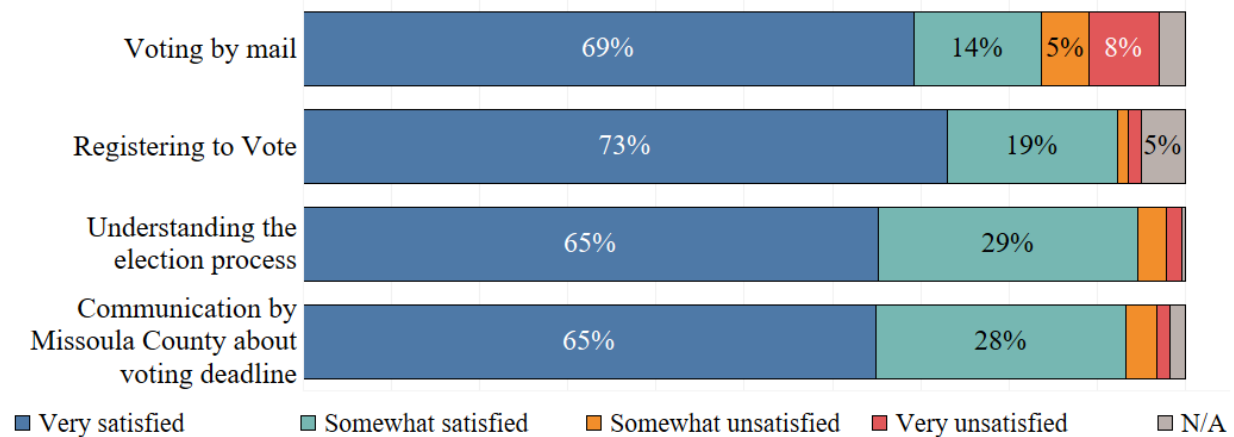
Figure 2: How Ballot was Cast by Gender



Voter Experience

Figure 3 suggests how respondents were very satisfied with their voting experience November 2020. Seventy-three percent, for example, were very satisfied with the voter registration process. Sixty-nine percent were very satisfied with voting by mail.

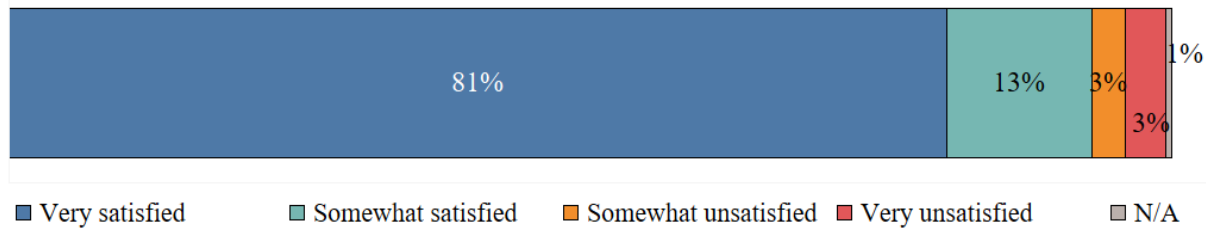
Figure 3: Voter Experience



Perceptions about Missoula County Election Practices

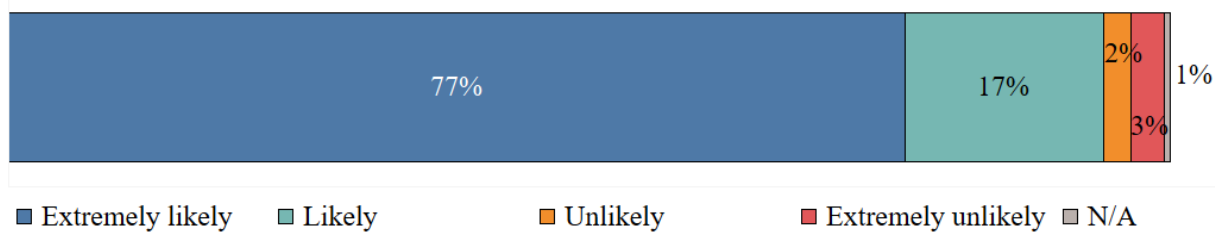
In addition to voting behaviors and beliefs, the surveys focused on perceptions about Missoula County Election office practices. Figure 4 illustrates eighty-one percent were satisfied with the vote by mail process.

Figure 4: Satisfaction with Vote by Mail Process



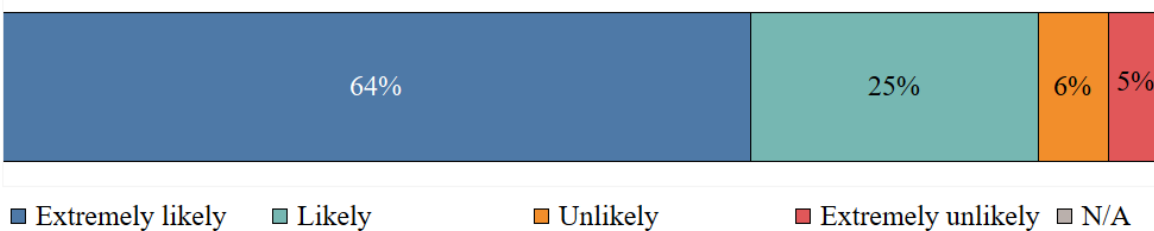
Figures 5-7 examine the likelihood of voters to cast their vote by mail in the future. Figure 5, for example, suggests seventy-seven percent are extremely likely to vote by mail in the future.

Figure 5: Vote by Mail in Future



However, the likelihood to vote by mail in the future drops to sixty-four percent if Missoula County does not include paid postage (see Figure 6).

Figure 6: Vote by Mail if Postage not Paid



To delve more deeply into voter preferences, participants were asked, “What is your preference to cast your vote in the future.” Respondents were provided a list of options – vote by mail, in-person voting at a local polling place, secure ballot box drop off location, or in person at a local centralized polling place. Future preferences vary by age and gender, as identified in Figures 7 and 8.

Although most prefer to vote by mail in the future across age levels, the highest percentage of support (62 percent) is from those within the ages of 67 or older.

Figure 7: Preference for Vote Mode in Future Election by Age

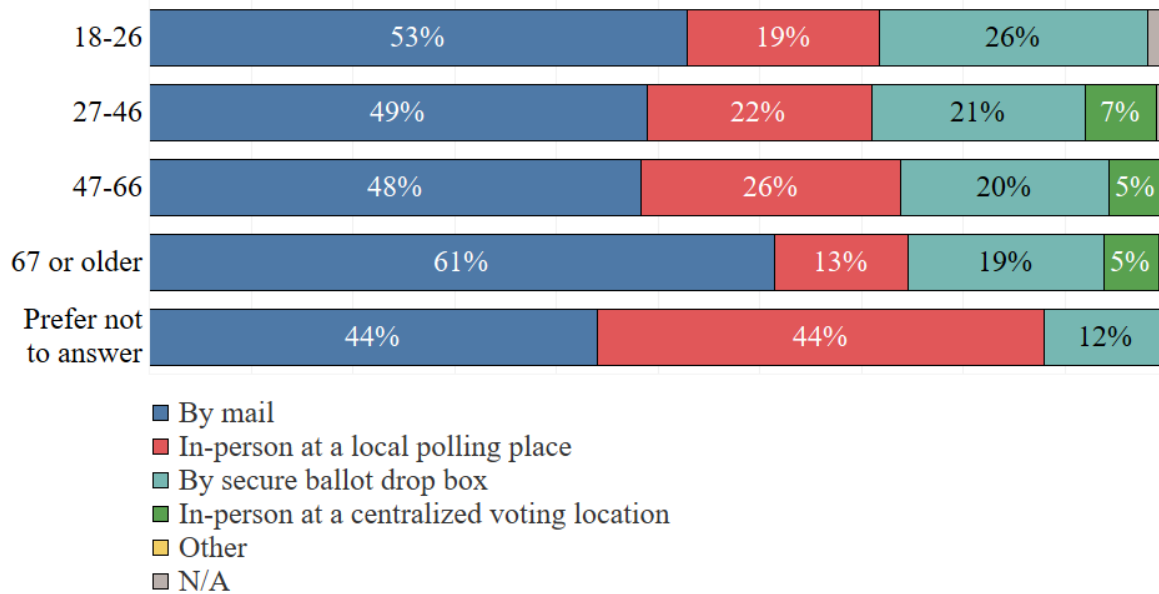
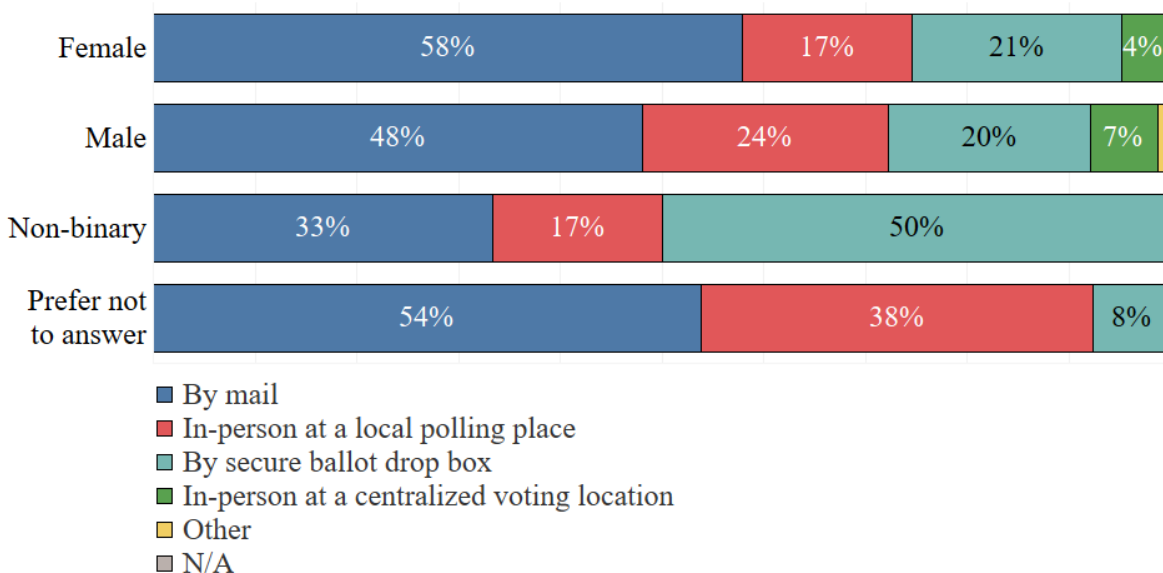


Figure 8 illustrates fifty-eight percent of women, forty-eight percent of men, and 33 percent of non-binary prefer to cast their ballot by mail in future elections.

Figure 8: Preference for Vote Mode in Future Election by Gender



Comparisons

In our final section of key findings, we delve more deeply into comparative data. Specifically, Figures 9-12 examine differences by age. Figure 9 suggests where individuals received information about the 2020 General Election varies by age. We are cautious about this data because only 53 (8 percent) of respondents from this project are within 18-26

years of age. We posit Figure 9 provides a snapshot into how Missoulians receive information. Respondents could select more than one option; therefore, totals do not equal 100 percent. Key takeaways from Figure 9 suggest respondents 18-26 years of age rely the most on their friends for information. By way of comparison, 27-46 years of age receive most information from Missoula County website or Missoula Votes. Another key finding is social media outlets *were not* the most used source for election information.

Figure 9: How Respondent Received Election Information

	18-26 Years	27-46 Years	47-66 Years	67 Years +	Prefer Not to Answer
Montana SOS Office	21% (n=9)	27% (n=50)	17% (n=27)	17% (n=38)	16% (n=3)
Missoula County Website	16% (n=7)	32% (n=59)	13% (n=21)	8% (n=18)	-
Missoula Votes	21% (n=9)	32% (n=59)	15% (n=23)	16% (n=34)	-
Called Missoula County	12% (n=5)	19% (n=34)	5% (n=8)	3% (n=6)	-
A Political Party	26% (n=11)	30% (n=54)	20% (n=32)	21% (n=45)	16% (n=3)
Friend	37% (n=16)	35% (n=64)	13% (n=20)	15% (n=32)	11% (n=2)
Newspaper	14% (n=6)	34% (n=62)	24% (n=38)	37% (n=81)	11% (n=2)
Radio	23% (n=10)	36% (n=66)	22% (n=34)	18% (n=40)	16% (n=3)
Telephone	-	2% (n=3)	1% (n=2)	-	-
Television	2% (n=1)	4% (n=7)	13% (n=20)	16% (n=35)	11% (n=2)
Text Message	2% (n=1)	2% (n=4)	1% (n=1)	-	-
Internet	2% (n=1)	6% (n=11)	7% (n=11)	2% (n=4)	-
E-Mail	5% (n=2)	1% (n=2)	3% (n=5)	0% (n=1)	5% (n=1)
Facebook	26% (n=11)	26% (n=47)	15% (n=23)	7% (n=16)	11% (n=2)
Twitter	16% (n=7)	14% (n=25)	3% (n=4)	0% (n=1)	-
Instagram	19% (n=8)	14% (n=26)	3% (n=5)	1% (n=3)	-
Mailers	60% (n=26)	81% (n=149)	87% (n=138)	81% (n=176)	79% (n=15)
Other	26% (n=11)	4% (n=7)	5% (n=8)	4% (n=9)	16% (n=3)

Key: Rates > 30% are highlighted. Green = Government; Yellow = friend/political party; Gray = traditional media; Blue = Internet, social media, electronic mail; Red = political mailers; Orange = other

Figure 10 examines, by age, the likelihood respondents would vote by mail in the future if return postage was not paid for by Missoula County. As Figure 10 suggests, most are likely to vote by mail in the future even if the postage is not paid.

Figure 10: Likelihood to Vote by Mail, Future, Postage not Paid by Age

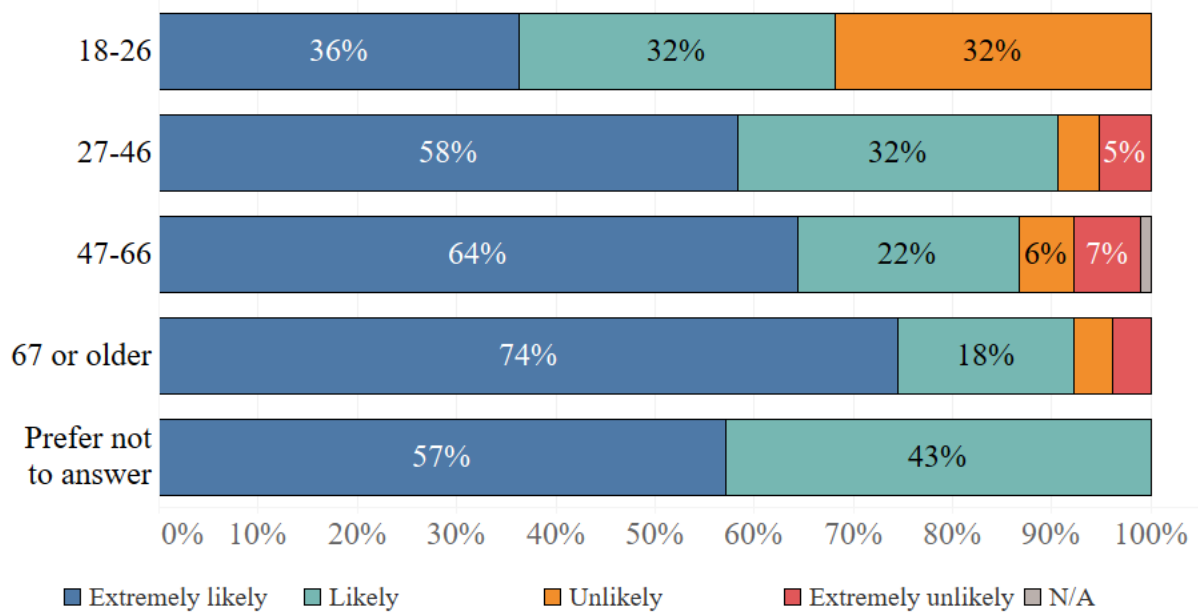
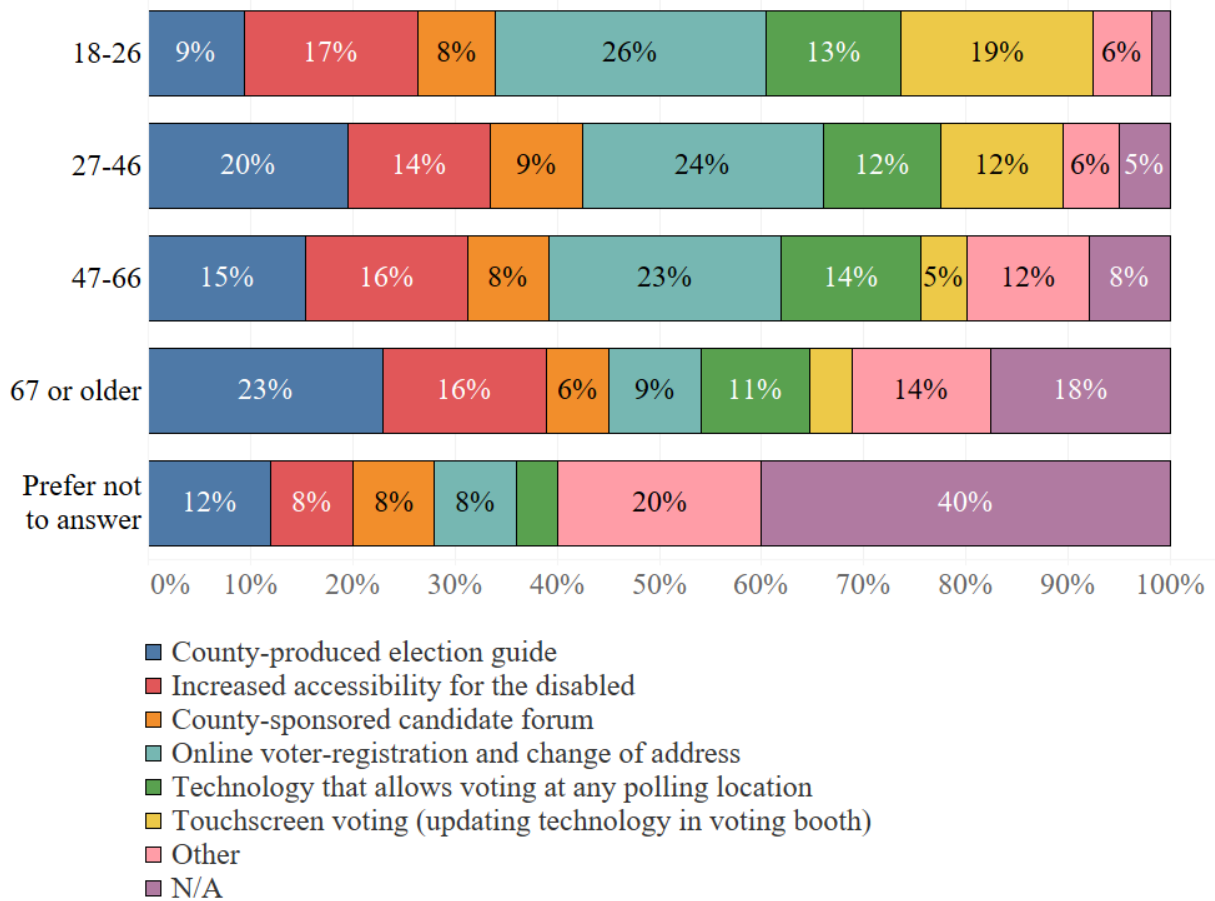


Figure 11, listed below, illustrates the desire for those within the ages of 18-66 for an online registration process. Another key takeaway is that twenty-three percent of those 67 years of age or older prefer a county-wide produced election guide.

Figure 11: Respondent Preference for Missoula County by Age



In addition to examining the data by age group, we offer analysis regarding some findings by precinct. The researchers used information provided by the Missoula County Election Office which categorizes precincts into one of three categories – city, suburban, or rural. Figure 12 illustrates 58 percent of respondents fall within the city, 26 percent suburban, and 16 percent rural.

Figure 12: Precinct Respondent Distribution

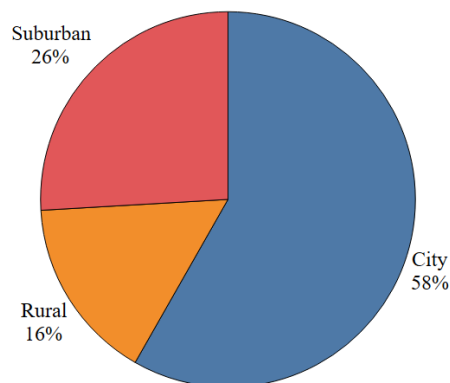


Figure 13 demonstrates how respondents received information by where they reside in the county (e.g. city, suburban, or rural). Respondents could select more than one answer for this question. For the 2020 General Election, respondents, across location, received most information in the mail.

Figure 13: How Respondent Received Election Information by Geography

	City	Suburban	Rural
Montana SOS Office	16% (n=51)	19% (n=26)	12% (n=10)
Missoula County Website	12% (n=38)	9% (n=12)	10% (n=8)
Missoula Votes	17% (n=54)	20% (n=27)	5% (n=4)
Called Missoula County	3% (n=11)	5% (n=7)	5% (n=4)
A Political Party	21% (n=65)	18% (n=24)	14% (n=12)
Friend	21% (n=67)	16% (n=22)	12% (n=10)
Newspaper	30% (n=96)	24% (n=32)	18% (n=15)
Radio	21% (n=65)	25% (n=33)	19% (n=16)
Television	10% (n=31)	12% (n=16)	18% (n=15)
Internet	4% (n=14)	5% (n=7)	7% (n=6)
Facebook	13% (n=40)	12% (n=16)	12% (n=10)
Twitter	3% (n=8)	2% (n=3)	1% (n=1)
Instagram	5% (n=15)	1% (n=2)	2% (n=2)
Mailers	78% (n=246)	85% (n=114)	86% (n=71)
Other	9% (n=29)	4% (n=6)	4% (n=3)

Figure 14 suggests regardless of where they live in Missoula County, respondents are extremely likely to vote by mail in the future even if return postage is not paid.

Figure 14: Likelihood to Vote by Mail Future, Postage not Paid by Location

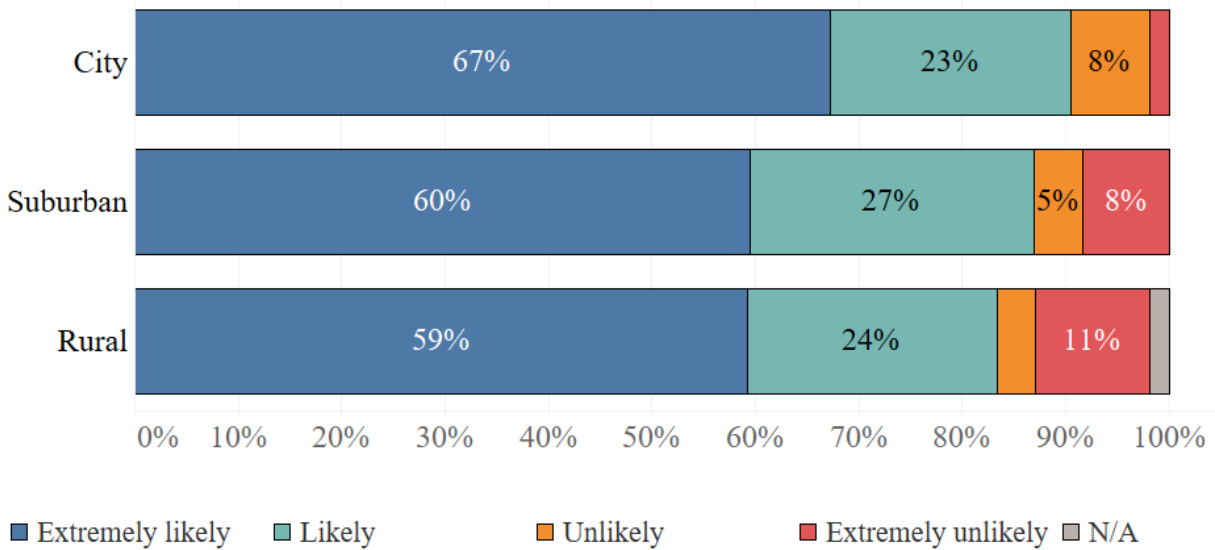


Figure 15 suggests Missoulians overwhelmingly prefer to vote by mail in future elections.

Figure 15: Respondent Preference for Vote Mode in Future Elections by Location

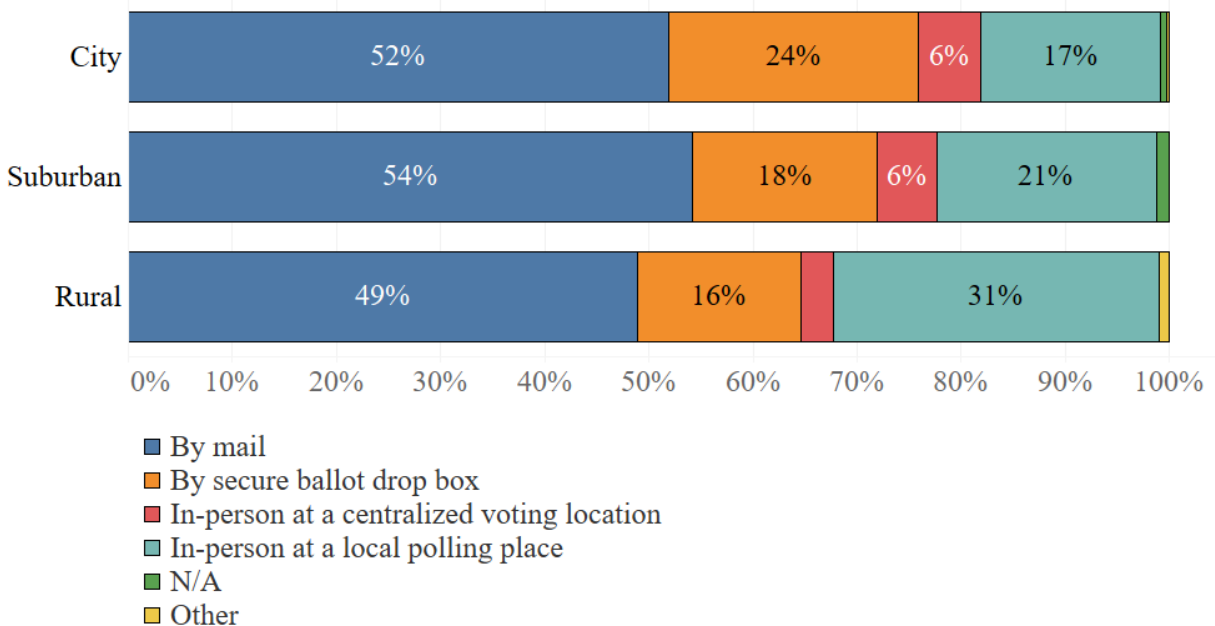
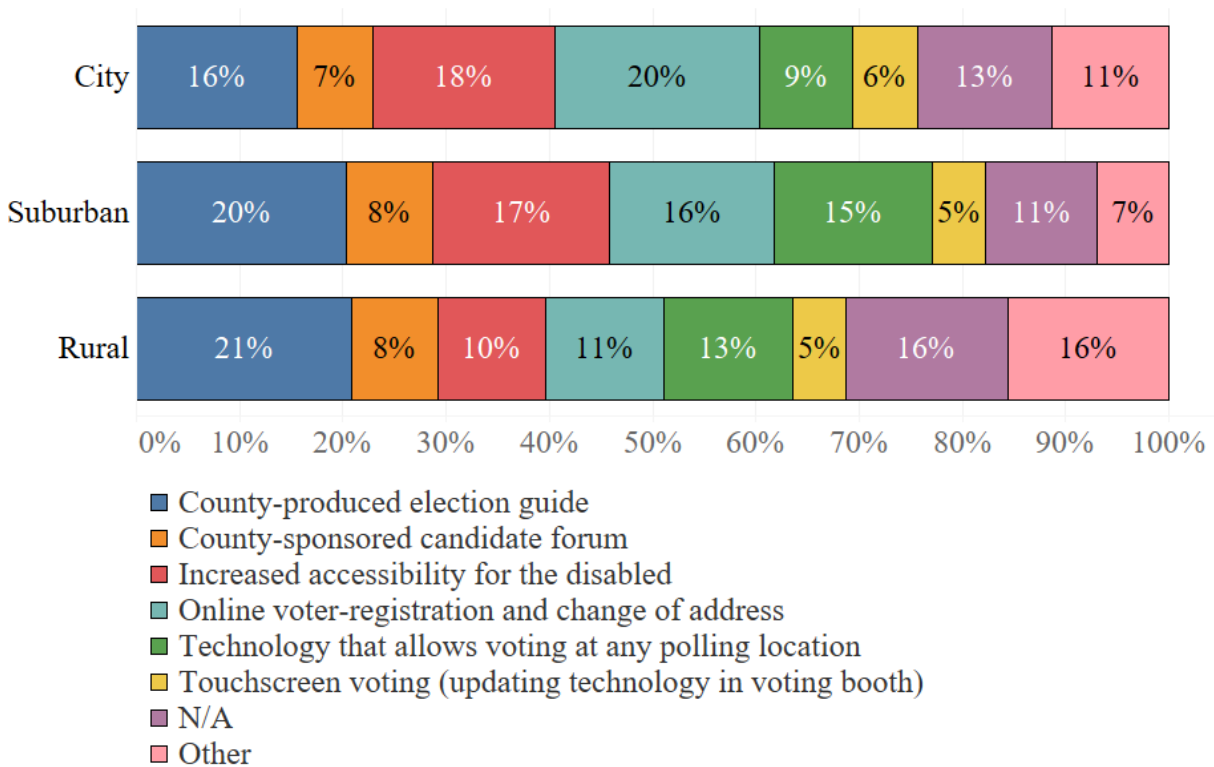


Figure 16 illustrates respondent preferences for future voting experiences. The preference for suburban and rural respondents within the sample is for Missoula County to offer a county-produced election guide. The leading preference for city respondents is for Missoula County to provide online voter registration.

Figure 16: Respondent Preference for Missoula County by Location



Conclusion

The November 2020 election was conducted during the global coronavirus pandemic. This study offers original research for Missoula County Elections or simply put, first-of-its kind for Montana. Based upon the findings here, we suggest three steps for future research:

Longitudinal Research: This project focused on post-election experiences for the November 2020 general election. Missoula County Election Office should consider conducting a post-election survey for primary and general elections, each year, to present a longitudinal data dashboard of user experiences on their website.

Voting Population: In future research, we suggest a separate study of non-registered voters to determine reasons why these individuals do not vote.

Qualitative Insights: This study offers quantitative survey results. To offer additional meaning, consider conducting focus groups of registered and non-registered voters to document the qualitative stories and experiences which can be absent from quantitative research (e.g. surveys).

Section III: Aggregate Results per Survey Question

In the final section of our report, we offer an aggregate breakdown of survey results per question. Due to rounding, not all columns will equal 100.

Participants were asked if they had participated in the November 2020 election. If they answered “yes,” a list of options was provided to indicate their primary reason for voting in the election (Table 2 below).

Table 2: Primary Reason why Respondent voted in November 2020 Election

Reason	# of Respondents	Percent
Because I believe it is my responsibility as a citizen to vote	251	36
Because I believe voting is essential to democracy	216	31
Because I’m unhappy with a current elected official	107	15
Because I know my vote matters	49	7
Because I personally know a candidate	1	0
Because of important issues on the ballot	38	5
Because of my affiliation with a political party	5	1
Because of social pressure	3	0
Other	23	3
Don’t know	5	1

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

In the following set of questions, respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with a series of statements. Response options included: strongly agree, agree, disagree, and strongly disagree.

Table 3: I know that in an Election my Vote Counts

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	272	39
Agree	363	52
Disagree	43	6
Strongly disagree	14	2
N/A	6	1

(N=698)

Table 4: I am Confident that my Mail Vote is Counted

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	343	49
Agree	267	38
Disagree	43	6
Strongly disagree	20	3

N/A	25	4
(N=698)		

Table 5: I am Confident that Provisional Votes are Accurately Counted

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	232	33
Agree	315	45
Disagree	70	10
Strongly disagree	33	5
N/A	48	7

(N=698)

Table 6: I Believe that Ballots are Secure and Unchanged

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	301	43
Agree	275	39
Disagree	75	11
Strongly disagree	36	5
N/A	11	2

(N=698)

Table 7: I am Confident that my Confidential Information is Kept Secure

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	205	29
Agree	352	50
Disagree	93	13
Strongly disagree	35	5
N/A	13	2

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 8: I Believe that Voter Rolls are Accurate

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	185	27
Agree	337	48
Disagree	98	14
Strongly disagree	35	5
N/A	43	6

(N=698)

Table 9: I Believe the Media is Accurately Reporting on Issues

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	83	12
Agree	229	43
Disagree	173	25
Strongly disagree	122	18
N/A	21	3

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 10: I Believe the Media is Accurately Reporting on Candidates

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	86	12
Agree	283	41
Disagree	176	25
Strongly disagree	127	18
N/A	26	4

(N=698)

Table 11: I Believe the Media is Accurately Reporting Election Results

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	195	28
Agree	311	45
Disagree	86	12
Strongly disagree	93	13
N/A	13	2

(N=698)

Table 12: I can Access the Information that Helps me Make an Informed Vote

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	292	42
Agree	342	49
Disagree	46	7
Strongly disagree	12	2
N/A	6	1

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 13: I Believe that Technology is Useful in Conducting Elections

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	223	32
Agree	361	52
Disagree	66	10
Strongly disagree	25	4
N/A	23	3

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 14: I am Confident that Missoula County is Free of Voter Fraud

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	329	47
Agree	291	42
Disagree	46	7
Strongly disagree	17	2
N/A	15	2

(N=698)

Table 15: I am Confident in the Vote by Mail Process

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	338	48
Agree	218	31
Disagree	65	9
Strongly disagree	67	10
N/A	10	1

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 16: I am Confident that Election Results are Accurate

Level of agreement	# of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	305	44
Agree	252	36
Disagree	72	10
Strongly disagree	61	9
N/A	8	1

(N=698)

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with a variety of elements of the electoral process. Response options included: very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat unsatisfied, very unsatisfied, and N/A.

Table 17: Voting by Mail

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	483	69
Somewhat satisfied	101	15
Somewhat unsatisfied	38	5
Very unsatisfied	55	8
N/A	21	3

(N=698)

Table 18: Voting at a Polling Place

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	275	39
Somewhat satisfied	153	22
Somewhat unsatisfied	36	5
Very unsatisfied	31	4
N/A	203	29

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 19: Registering to Vote

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	510	73
Somewhat satisfied	134	19
Somewhat unsatisfied	9	1
Very unsatisfied	10	1
N/A	35	5

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 20: Updating Voter Registration

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	457	66
Somewhat satisfied	151	22
Somewhat unsatisfied	14	2
Very unsatisfied	7	1
N/A	68	10

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 21: Information Available about the Candidates on the Ballot

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	259	37
Somewhat satisfied	320	46
Somewhat unsatisfied	82	12
Very unsatisfied	27	4
N/A	10	1

(N=698)

Table 22: Information about the Issues on the Ballot

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	299	43
Somewhat satisfied	318	46
Somewhat unsatisfied	54	8
Very unsatisfied	25	4
N/A	2	0

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 23: Understanding the Election Process

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	455	65
Somewhat satisfied	205	29
Somewhat unsatisfied	23	3
Very unsatisfied	12	2
N/A	3	0

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 24: Time to Receive Election Results

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	275	39
Somewhat satisfied	275	39
Somewhat unsatisfied	66	10
Very unsatisfied	73	11
N/A	9	1

(N=698)

Table 25: Information about Voting Options

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	413	59
Somewhat satisfied	218	31
Somewhat unsatisfied	36	5
Very unsatisfied	19	3
N/A	12	2

(N=698)

Table 26: Communications from Missoula County about Voting Deadlines

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	453	65
Somewhat satisfied	198	28
Somewhat unsatisfied	24	3
Very unsatisfied	11	2
N/A	10	1

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

To provide comparative data, respondents were asked if they voted in the November 2018 midterm election in Missoula County. Those that indicated they had (79 percent) were asked to compare their November 2020 experience to their 2018 experience.

Table 27: Voted in November 2018 Midterm Election

Response	# of Respondents	Percent
No	138	20
Yes	551	79
N/A	9	1

(N=698)

Table 27a: Comparing 2020 to 2018 Voting Experience

Response	# of Respondents	Percent
Better	85	15
Worse	42	8
About the same	415	75
N/A	9	2

(N=551)

Respondents were asked if they received communication from Missoula County about the November 2020

Table 28: Receipt of November 2020 Election Communication from Missoula County

Response	# of Respondents	Percent
No	72	10
Yes	556	81
Unsure	60	9

(N=698)

*Then, respondents were asked to indicate in which ways they received information about the November 2020 election, from a broad list of sources. **Respondents could select more than one response to this question.***

Table 29: How Respondent Received Information about the November 2020 Election

Source	# of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Montana SOS Office	128	21
Missoula Co. Website	105	17
Missoula Votes	125	20
Called Missoula Co.	53	9
A Political Party	145	24
Newspaper	189	30
Radio	153	25
Facebook	99	16
Twitter	36	6
Instagram	42	7
Friend	134	22
Other	38	6
Mailers	504	81
Internet	27	4
Telephone	9	1
Television	65	10
Text	6	1
e-Mail	11	2

(N=621)

Respondents were asked the vote mode used in the November 2020 election. The instrument employed skip-logic, so that those that responded, “by mail” were asked specific follow-up questions not seen by those who responded “in-person.”

Table 30: November 2020 Vote Mode

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
I brought my ballot to a drop box on Election Day	95	14
I brought my ballot to the county election office	194	28
I don't remember	4	1
I mailed my ballot	351	50
I voted in-person at the election office	54	8

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

If by mail:

Table 31a: Satisfaction with Vote by Mail Process

Level of Satisfaction	# of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	283	81
Somewhat satisfied	44	13
Somewhat unsatisfied	10	3
Very unsatisfied	12	3
N/A	2	1

(N=351) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 31b: Likelihood to Vote by Mail in the Future

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	271	77
Likely	60	17
Unlikely	8	2
Extremely unlikely	10	3
N/A	2	1

(N=351)

Table 31c: Likelihood to Vote by Mail in the Future, if Return Postage not Paid

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	226	64
Likely	87	25
Unlikely	21	6
Extremely unlikely	16	5
N/A	1	0

(N=351)

If in-person:

Table 32: Main Reason Respondent Voted In-Person

Reason	# of Respondents	Percent
I am a new resident of the County (late registration)	5	9
I like voting in person	15	28
I lost my ballot	3	6
I needed a provisional ballot	2	4
I never received a ballot in the mail	5	9
I was not confident that my mail ballot would arrive on time	5	9
I was not confident that my mail ballot would be counted	13	27
Other	6	11

(N=54) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 33: Respondent Preference for Vote Mode in Future Elections

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	372	53
By secure ballot drop box	142	20
In-person at a centralized voting location	36	5
In-person at a local polling place	142	20
N/A	4	1
Other	2	0

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

Table 34: From List, Respondents' Preference for Missoula County

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	130	19
County-sponsored candidate forum	53	8
Increased accessibility for the disabled	106	15
Online voter registration and change of address	125	18
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	81	12
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	52	7
N/A	78	11
Other	73	11

(N=698) *percent ≠ 100 due to rounding

How Respondent Received Information about the November 2020 Election

Table 35a: Age Group 18-26

Source	# of Respondents	Percent
Montana SOS Office	9	6
Missoula Co. Website	7	5
Missoula Votes	9	6
Called Missoula Co.	5	4
A Political Party	11	8
Newspaper	6	4
Radio	10	7
Facebook	11	8
Twitter	7	5
Instagram	8	6
Friend	16	11
Other	11	8
Mailers	26	18
Internet	1	1
Telephone	0	0
Television	1	1
Text	1	1
e-Mail	2	1

Table 35b: Age Group 27-46

Source	# of Respondents	Percent
Montana SOS Office	50	7
Missoula Co. Website	59	8
Missoula Votes	59	8
Called Missoula Co.	34	5
A Political Party	54	7
Newspaper	62	8
Radio	66	9
Facebook	47	6
Twitter	25	3
Instagram	26	4
Friend	64	9
Other	7	1
Mailers	149	20
Internet	11	2
Telephone	3	0
Television	7	1
Text	4	1

e-Mail	2	0
--------	---	---

Table 35c: Age Group 47-66

Source	# of Respondents	Percent
Montana SOS Office	27	6
Missoula Co. Website	21	5
Missoula Votes	23	5
Called Missoula Co.	8	2
A Political Party	32	8
Newspaper	38	9
Radio	34	8
Facebook	23	5
Twitter	4	1
Instagram	5	1
Friend	20	5
Other	8	2
Mailers	138	33
Internet	11	3
Telephone	2	0
Television	20	5
Text	1	0
e-Mail	5	1

Table 35d: Age Group 67 or Older

Source	# of Respondents	Percent
Montana SOS Office	39	7
Missoula Co. Website	18	3
Missoula Votes	34	6
Called Missoula Co.	6	1
A Political Party	45	8
Newspaper	81	15
Radio	40	7
Facebook	16	3
Twitter	1	0
Instagram	3	1
Friend	32	6
Other	9	2
Mailers	176	33
Internet	4	1

Telephone	0	0
Television	35	6
Text	0	0
e-Mail	1	0

Table 35e: Age Group Prefer not to answer

Source	# of Respondents	Percent
Montana SOS Office	3	8
Missoula Co. Website	0	0
Missoula Votes	0	0
Called Missoula Co.	0	0
A Political Party	3	8
Newspaper	2	5
Radio	3	8
Facebook	2	5
Twitter	0	0
Instagram	0	0
Friend	2	5
Other	3	8
Mailers	15	41
Internet	0	0
Telephone	0	0
Television	2	5
Text	0	0
e-Mail	1	3

Likelihood to Vote by Mail in the Future, if Return Postage not Paid

Table 36a: Age Group 18-26

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	8	36
Likely	7	32
Unlikely	7	32
Extremely unlikely	0	0
N/A	0	0

Table 36b: Age Group 27-46

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	56	58

Likely	31	32
Unlikely	4	4
Extremely unlikely	5	5
N/A	0	0

Table 36c: Age Group 47-66

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	58	64
Likely	20	22
Unlikely	5	6
Extremely unlikely	6	7
N/A	1	1

Table 36d: Age Group 67 or Older

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	96	74
Likely	23	18
Unlikely	5	4
Extremely unlikely	5	4
N/A	0	0

Table 36e: Prefer not to answer

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	8	57
Likely	6	43
Unlikely	0	0
Extremely unlikely	0	0
N/A	0	0

*Respondent Preference for Vote Mode in Future Elections***Table 47a: Age Group 18-26**

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	28	53
By secure ballot drop box	14	26
In-person at a centralized voting location	0	0
In-person at a local polling place	10	19
N/A	1	2
Other	0	0

Table 47b: Age Group 27-46

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	98	49
By secure ballot drop box	42	21
In-person at a centralized voting location	14	7
In-person at a local polling place	44	22
N/A	2	1
Other	0	0

Table 47c: Age Group 47-66

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	85	48
By secure ballot drop box	36	20
In-person at a centralized voting location	9	5
In-person at a local polling place	45	26
N/A	0	0
Other	1	1

Table 47d: Age Group 67 or older

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	150	61
By secure ballot drop box	47	19
In-person at a centralized voting location	13	5
In-person at a local polling place	32	13
N/A	1	0
Other	1	0

Table 47e: Age Group Prefer not to answer

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	11	44
By secure ballot drop box	3	12
In-person at a centralized voting location	0	0
In-person at a local polling place	11	44
N/A	0	0
Other	0	0

*From List, Respondents' Preference for Missoula County***Table 48a: Age Group 18-26**

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	5	9
County-sponsored candidate forum	4	8
Increased accessibility for the disabled	9	17
Online voter registration and change of address	14	26
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	7	13
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	10	19
N/A	1	2
Other	3	6

Table 48b: Age Group 27-46

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	39	20
County-sponsored candidate forum	18	9
Increased accessibility for the disabled	28	14
Online voter registration and change of address	47	24
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	23	12
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	24	12
N/A	10	5
Other	11	6

Table 48c: Age Group 47-66

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	27	15
County-sponsored candidate forum	14	8
Increased accessibility for the disabled	28	16
Online voter registration and change of address	40	23
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	24	14
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	8	5
N/A	14	8
Other	21	12

Table 48d: Age Group 67 or older

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	56	23
County-sponsored candidate forum	15	6
Increased accessibility for the disabled	39	16
Online voter registration and change of address	22	9
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	26	11
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	10	4
N/A	43	18
Other	33	14

Table 48e: Age Group Prefer not to answer

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	3	12
County-sponsored candidate forum	2	8
Increased accessibility for the disabled	2	8
Online voter registration and change of address	2	8
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	1	4
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	0	0
N/A	10	40
Other	5	20

How Respondent Received Information about the November 2020 Election

Table 49a: Precinct Location City

Source	# of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Montana SOS Office	51	16
Missoula Co. Website	38	12
Missoula Votes	54	17
Called Missoula Co.	11	3
A Political Party	65	21
Newspaper	96	30
Radio	65	21
Facebook	40	13
Twitter	8	3
Instagram	15	5
Friend	67	21
Other	29	9

Mailers	246	78
Internet	14	4
Telephone	2	1
Television	31	10
Text	6	2
e-Mail	5	2

Table 49b: Precinct Location Suburban

Source	# of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Montana SOS Office	26	19
Missoula Co. Website	12	9
Missoula Votes	27	20
Called Missoula Co.	7	5
A Political Party	24	18
Newspaper	32	24
Radio	33	25
Facebook	16	12
Twitter	3	2
Instagram	2	1
Friend	22	16
Other	6	4
Mailers	114	85
Internet	7	5
Telephone	2	1
Television	16	12
Text	0	0
e-Mail	4	3

Table 49c: Precinct Location Rural

Source	# of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Montana SOS Office	10	12
Missoula Co. Website	8	10
Missoula Votes	4	5
Called Missoula Co.	4	5
A Political Party	12	14
Newspaper	15	18
Radio	16	19
Facebook	10	12
Twitter	1	1

Instagram	2	2
Friend	10	12
Other	3	4
Mailers	71	86
Internet	6	7
Telephone	1	1
Television	15	18
Text	0	0
e-Mail	2	2

Likelihood to Vote by Mail in the Future, if Return Postage not Paid

Table 50a: Precinct Location City

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	107	67
Likely	37	23
Unlikely	12	8
Extremely unlikely	3	2
N/A	0	0

Table 50b: Precinct Location Suburban

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	50	60
Likely	23	27
Unlikely	4	5
Extremely unlikely	7	8
N/A	0	0

Table 50a: Precinct Location Rural

Level of likelihood	# of Respondents	Percent
Extremely likely	32	59
Likely	13	24
Unlikely	2	4
Extremely unlikely	6	11
N/A	1	2

*Respondent Preference for Vote Mode in Future Elections***Table 51a: Precinct Location City**

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	183	53
By secure ballot drop box	85	24
In-person at a centralized voting location	21	6
In-person at a local polling place	61	17
N/A	2	1
Other	1	0

Table 51b: Precinct Location Suburban

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	47	49
By secure ballot drop box	15	16
In-person at a centralized voting location	3	3
In-person at a local polling place	30	31
N/A	0	0
Other	1	1

Table 51c: Precinct Location Rural

Vote mode	# of Respondents	Percent
By mail	85	54
By secure ballot drop box	28	18
In-person at a centralized voting location	9	6
In-person at a local polling place	33	21
N/A	2	1
Other	0	0

From List, Respondents' Preference for Missoula County

Table 52a: Precinct Location City

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	55	16
County-sponsored candidate forum	26	7
Increased accessibility for the disabled	62	18
Online voter registration and change of address	70	20
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	32	9
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	22	6
N/A	46	13
Other	40	11

Table 52b: Precinct Location Suburban

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	32	20
County-sponsored candidate forum	13	8
Increased accessibility for the disabled	27	17
Online voter registration and change of address	25	16
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	24	15
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	8	5
N/A	17	11
Other	11	7

Table 52a: Precinct Location Rural

Options	# of Respondents	Percent
County-produced election guide	20	21
County-sponsored candidate forum	8	8
Increased accessibility for the disabled	10	10
Online voter registration and change of address	11	11
Technology that allows voting at any polling location	12	13
Touchscreen voting (updating technology in the voting booth)	5	5
N/A	15	16
Other	15	16