

Plan for the Best, Prepare for the Worst this Election Season

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Who's in the room?

- Sector (K-12, HE, NPO, Gov't)?
- Role (instructor, student, staf, other)?
- Geography (urban, suburban, rural)?
- Public or private institution?
- Multiple campuses?
- Polling location on campus?
- Have a relationship with your local election officials?

Context setting

1. HE required to make plans for our best, our ideal dreamy election, our pie-in-the-sky goals-- but we're not required to plan for the hiccups, the challenges, and the stuff that is outside of our control.
2. I'm a worry wart! Maybe that's why you're here, too :-)
1. What's your risk tolerance amidst your context?

Goals for Today

- Name your concerns for this upcoming election season
- Use the hivemind to collectively consider how one might mitigate the concern
- Plan for how respond to a variety of challenges
- Know you're not alone and you don't need all the answers--you just need to know where to look/who to ask!

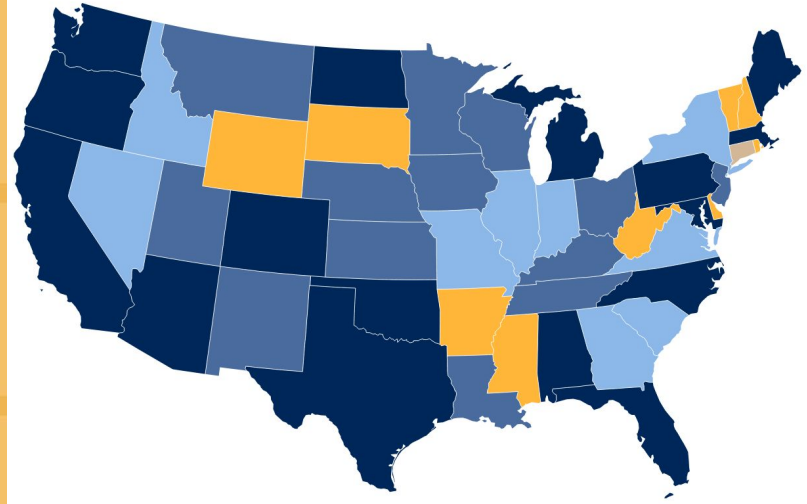
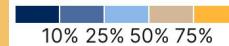
Example 1: USPS Postmark Changes



Eight states face a high risk of postmark delay

Share of ZIP codes facing both RTO post office and cross-state processing

% High Risk



Source: Author's analysis of USPS Service Standards Analysis, Docket N2024-1 (October 2024).

Note: High risk ZIP codes are served by both an RTO post office and an out-of-state processing center.

BROOKINGS

Example 2: SAVE Act

- Different documentation!
- Our campus
Is highly residential
- Possible shift in policy
from spring to summer
--how to message?



PASSPORT



United States
of America



What are your
bad-worse-worst
case scenarios for
this election?

Table Conversations

- Everyone choose a post-it that they REALLY want to talk about
- Bring back to your table
- ~5 minutes per concern
 - Present the concern
 - Talk through and write down possible preventions or interventions for the concern
- Large group share out

Resources

- MN Secretary of State's office (mnvotes.org)
- League of Women Voters (lww.org or lwwmn.org)
- Election Protection (866ourvote.org)

What are some of your go to resources right now?

YOU can plan and
take action *NOW!*