

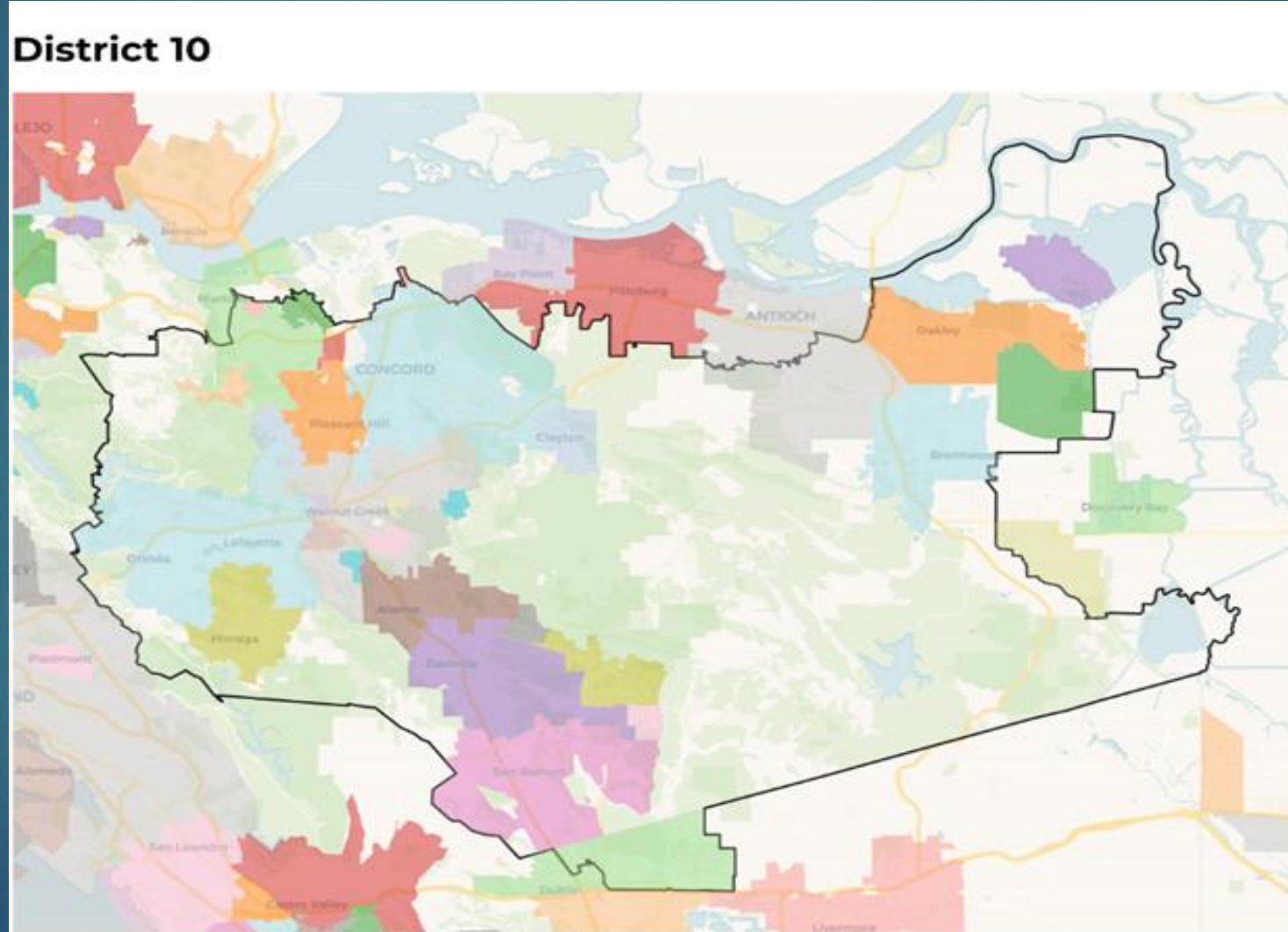


Congressman Mark DeSaulnier Town Hall

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

California's 10th District

- ▶ Includes most of Contra Costa County and a part of Alameda County.



Serving the 10th District

- ▶ Following redistricting, Congressman DeSaulnier now represents more of Antioch as well as Brentwood, Oakley, San Ramon, and parts of Dublin.
- ▶ Since coming to Congress, Mark has:
 - ▶ Hosted 190 town halls;
 - ▶ Assisted over 10,570 constituents with federal issues; and
 - ▶ Responded to over 803,000 constituent inquiries.

Mark's Committee Assignments

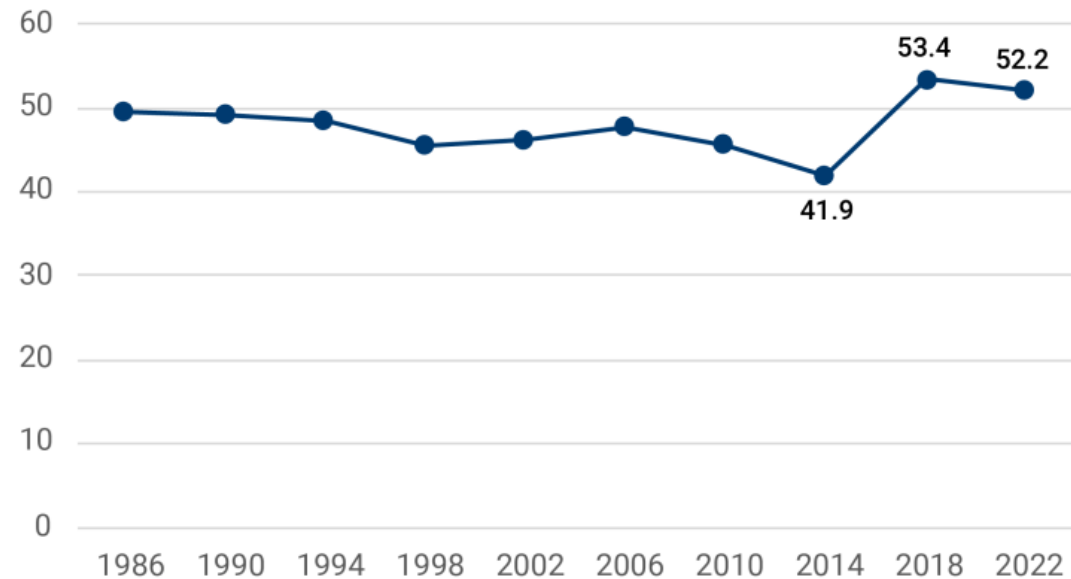
- ▶ Committee on Education and the Workforce
 - ▶ Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions
 - ▶ Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education
- ▶ Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
 - ▶ Subcommittee on Aviation
 - ▶ Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
 - ▶ Subcommittee on Highways and Transit
 - ▶ Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials
- ▶ Committee on Ethics

Voter Turnout

- ▶ Trends in voter turnout in midterm elections, from 1986 to 2022
- ▶ The elections in 2018, 2020, and 2022 were three of the highest-turnout U.S. elections in decades.

FIGURE 1

U.S. turnout rates: Midterm elections 1986-2022*



*Turnout Rates are defined as percent of voting-age citizens who reported voting
Source: U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey Voting and Registration supplements

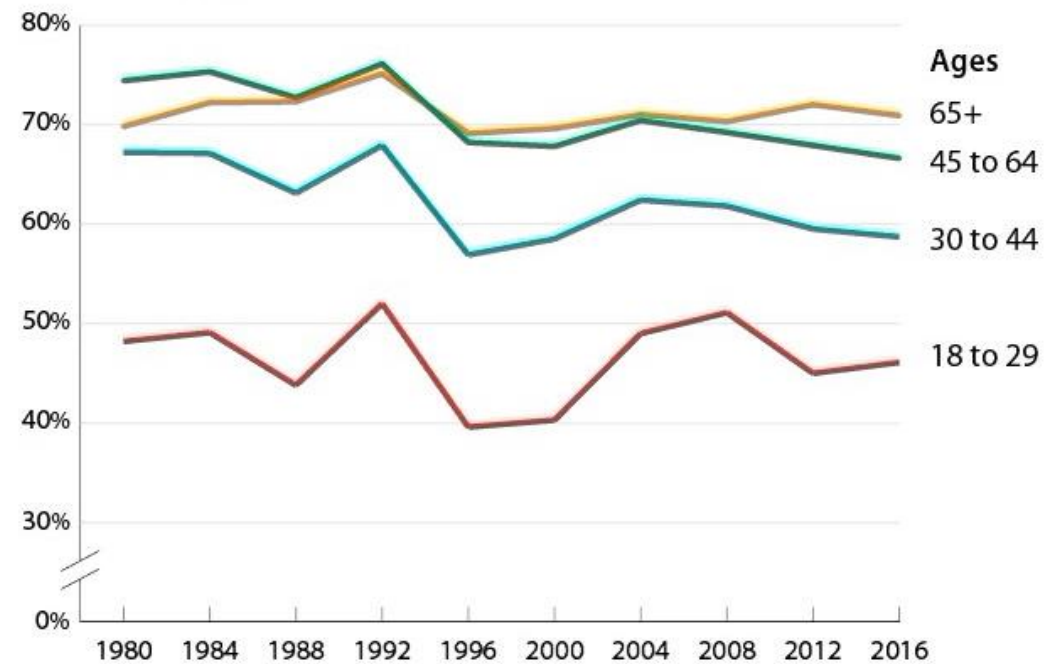
Civic Engagement – Voter Turnout

- ▶ In the 2020 presidential election, about 55% of voters aged between 18 and 29 participated in the election -- a significant increase from the previous election year, when about 44% of eligible youths voted in the election.
- ▶ The highest youth turnout rate was in 1972, when 55.4% of voters between the ages of 18 and 29 voted in the election.
- ▶ In California, just 22.1% of voters aged 18-29 voted in the 2022 midterm election.

Voter Turnout by Age Group

- ▶ Voters aged 18 to 29 are the only age group to see voter turnout increase since 2012

Voting Rates by Age



United States
Census
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Source: Current Population Survey,
1980-2016 Voting and Registration Supplements
<https://www.census.gov/topics/public-sector/voting.html>

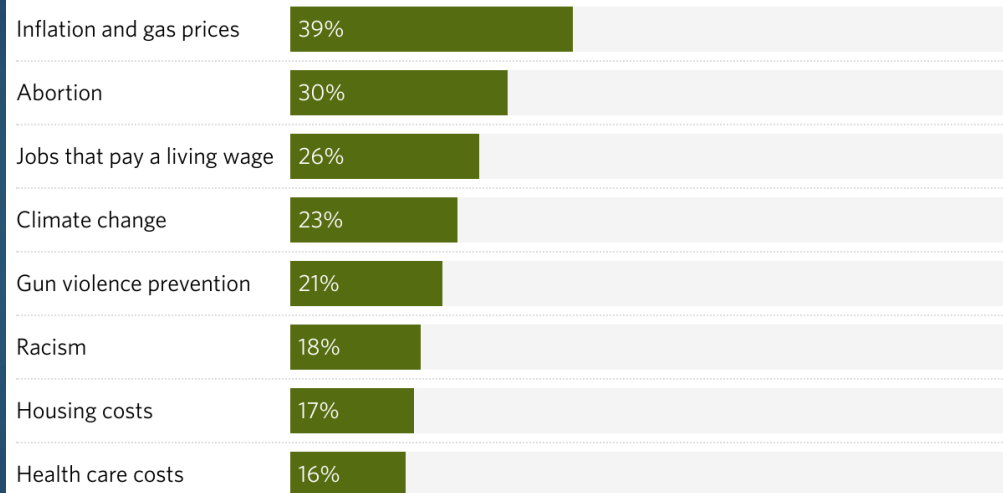
Civic Engagement and Participation

- ▶ 2018 was marked in part by youth-led protests about gun violence after the Parkland school shooting
- ▶ Young people's participation in government and politics has risen in recent years – ongoing trends show that young people are interested in getting involved and understand they have the power to effect change.
- ▶ In a youth survey conducted by Tufts University Tisch College, 76% of respondents believe young people have the power to change the country, and 77% believe there are ways for them to get involved.

Youth Civic Engagement – The Issues

Members of Gen Z Are Concerned about a Wide Range of Economic and Social Issues

The percentage of survey respondents from Gen Z who listed each issue as one of their top three priorities.



CIRCLE Tufts University Tisch College · CIRCLE

Source: 2022 CIRCLE Post-Election Youth Survey

- ▶ The Millennial and Gen Z generations rank jobs and the economy, climate change, and abortion among their top three issues.
- ▶ More young people are reporting mental health issues and mental health among students and young people overall continues to worsen.

Priorities for the 118th Congress

- ▶ Congressman DeSaulnier remains committed to supporting working families by:
 - ▶ Improving transportation systems, easing commute times, and improving quality of life in the Bay Area.
 - ▶ Supporting workers and families, including by prioritizing access to telecommuting, protecting the right to unionize, and fighting corporate greed.
 - ▶ Increasing access to mental health services.
 - ▶ Reducing gun violence.
 - ▶ Improving education and supporting students, teachers, and families.

Climate Change and the Environment

- ▶ Fight the climate crisis by supporting clean energy investment, environmentally friendly vehicles and technology
- ▶ Address the legacy of environmental injustice harming America's low-income communities and communities of color
- ▶ Put the country on a path to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions
- ▶ Support workers transitioning out of the fossil fuel industry
- ▶ Build resilience against the effects of climate change, including more frequent and powerful storms, droughts, wildfires, and other natural disasters

Gun Violence “Not Here”

- ▶ Introduced *Local Gun Violence Reduction Act (H.R. 9227)*, which would create a local gun violence prevention effort database at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sharing evidence of policies that work
- ▶ Using evidence-based policies, Congressman DeSaulnier piloted this work in Contra Costa County. The efforts were shared statewide, turning California from a state that was #3 for rate of gun homicides to becoming a leader on gun safety.
- ▶ Introduced the *Gun Safety Board and Research Act (H.R. 5273)*, a bill he introduced to establish a board of experts at the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for conducting research, evaluating federal and state policy proposals, and recommending best practices for reducing firearm deaths.
- ▶ Longtime advocate for gun violence prevention, Congressman DeSaulnier has authored several bills to reduce gun thefts and increase community safety and is a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force.
- ▶ Proud recipient of an F rating from the NRA

Mental Health

- ▶ **Co-Chair of bipartisan Trauma-Informed Care Caucus**
- ▶ **Secured \$2.96 million for 3 community projects that support mental health access in Contra Costa County**
- ▶ **Suicide Prevention Assistance Act (H.R. 2648)** – Would create a grant program to help integrate mental health screenings as part of primary care visits. The legislation was developed after research showed that approximately half of all individuals who die by suicide had visited their primary care doctor within a month prior to death.
- ▶ **Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act (H.R. 5569)** – Would increase access to mental health services for young children enrolled in Head Start and early childhood education centers. This legislation was developed based on estimates that one in five children have a diagnosable mental disorder, and evidence of better outcomes in children who receive earlier treatment.
- ▶ **Mental Health Matters Act (H.R. 7780)** – Series of mental health policy priorities that would help support the behavioral health of students and school staff, strengthen school-based behavioral health care, and ensure access to mental health and substance use disorder benefits for workers and their families.
- ▶ **Supported amendment to Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act (H.R. 7666)** – Would authorize NIH to conduct independent research into the effects of technology and social media on children's cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional development.

Educational Listening Tours

- ▶ 1st Educational Listening Tour
 - ▶ Took place in 2015-16
 - ▶ Visited at least 1 school from every school district in CA-11
- ▶ 2nd Educational Listening Tour
 - ▶ Started in February 2023 and is continuing
 - ▶ With redistricting, goal is to visit at least 1 school in each new part of the Congressional District
- ▶ Gathering input from education stakeholders, especially teachers and students, is a top priority and continues to inform the way I vote and the bills I introduce.

Education Work in Congress

- ▶ Advocating for a quality education for all students, from preschool to higher education and beyond, and ensuring schools, students, and parents have the tools they need to succeed
- ▶ Cosponsor of a wide variety of education bills, including:
 - ▶ **Rebuild America's Schools Act** (H.R. 5049) – to invest \$130 billion to address physical and digital infrastructure needs in public schools.
 - ▶ **No Hungry Kids in School Act** (H.R. 3112) – to expand the federal program that helps schools provide no-cost meals to students
 - ▶ **College for All Act** (H.R. 4117) – to eliminate tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities for families making up to \$125,000 and make community college tuition- and fee-free for all.
 - ▶ **Student Loan Borrower Safety Net** (H.R. 644) – to direct the U.S. Department of Education to offer specific supports for borrowers as repayment of federal student loans approaches.

Mark's Education Bills

- ▶ School Food Modernization Act
- ▶ Funding Early Childhood is the Right IDEA Act
- ▶ Protection & Advocacy for Student Success Act
- ▶ Constitutional Amendment to Guarantee a Quality Education for All Students
- ▶ Mental Health Matters Act

Education Legislative Successes

- ▶ Over 60 bills passed into law, including:
 - ▶ A measure to allow Head Start programs to run more efficiently.
 - ▶ Created Statewide Family Engagement Centers which allow families and communities to play an active and positive role in a child's education
 - ▶ Funding for 25 community projects totaling over \$30 million
 - ▶ Community College Funding (4CD) for creating cost-free textbooks
 - ▶ Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) to expand programming for former foster youth and connect them with mental health supports.

Upcoming Must Pass Legislation

▶ Spending Bills

- ▶ The House must pass 12 separate appropriations bill to prevent a government shutdown
- ▶ The Majority in the House only passed one bill before the August District Work Period, and there will need to be a consensus on a path forward to prevent a shutdown
- ▶ There are only 12 working days to pass the remaining 11 bills before Sept. 30

▶ Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization

- ▶ The House passed H.R. 3935, the bill to reauthorize the FAA for five years but action in the Senate has stalled
- ▶ 7 provisions that Rep. DeSaulnier authored, including 4 to prevent near-miss aircraft incidents, were included in the House-passed legislation

▶ National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (H.R. 2670)

- ▶ Each year, Congress must pass a bill to authorize defense spending and policies at the Department of Defense
- ▶ This year, the first draft of the bill had harmful and partisan measures. Typically, it is passed in a bipartisan fashion
- ▶ The Senate-passed version did not include such provisions and those differences will need to be reconciled before December

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