



Throughout our nation’s history, many people have spoken up for civil rights, including the right to vote. Speaking up was not easy. Sometimes it was even dangerous. But the work of voting rights activists led to important changes. Each time we vote, we acknowledge that past, and honor our rights to ensure they will last.

Your local voting official can help you learn more about voting participation in your community.

Note from Debbie 9/29/19 – this is an incomplete draft of this handout. I plan to talk to some local election officials about what sort of questions a classroom could ask to learn more about voting participation. I welcome any suggestions for this handout.

I learned from my local election official...

My local election office is:

My voting precinct is:

My polling location is located at:

My polling location serves _____ people.

My polling location has _____ voting booths. That’s a rate of _____ people per booth. The national average is _____ people per booth.

The number of poll workers at my polling location is _____. That’s a rate of one for every _____ voters. The national average is one for every _____ voters.

The ballots at my location are _____ [paper or electronic] and are tabulated by _____ [hand or machine].

Voters in my community can register up to _____ prior to an election. To register, an eligible voter needs to _____.

Ways to vote in an election in my community include (e.g. absentee ballot, vote by mail, early voting, same day voting): _____

In my community, to vote in person, a voter needs to: _____

_____.

In my community, _____% of eligible voters are registered to vote. The national average is _____%.

In the _____ election, turnout in my community was _____. The national average was _____.

In the _____ election, wait time for voters in my community was _____. The national average is _____.

Some special issues or concerns about voting in my community are:

Other things I learned from my local voting official: