

Turnout

Political Science

Who votes, who does not, and why it matters.

Drivers and consequences.

Raises turnout

Close and competitive contests

Compulsory voting where used

Easy registration and voting methods

Strong civic norms

Mobilisation contact by campaigns

Consequences of low turnout

Electorate skews older and wealthier

Policy responds to those who vote

Weaker mandate claims

Volatility from mobilisation swings

Educational reference. Turnout gaps by age and income mean the voting population differs systematically from the population.