



VOTING IN 2020: PROFESSIONAL SPORTS STADIUMS & ARENAS AS POLLING PLACES

A Case Study

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INTRODUCTION

T

he 2020 election produced the highest voter turnout in over 100 years, despite taking place during an extremely tumultuous time in American history. This pivotal year included a worldwide pandemic, highly charged presidential election campaign, and reinvigorated movement for racial justice in the wake of the murders of Black Americans by police officers.

Our research explored the impact of major league teams' unprecedented response to these events, as they opened their stadium doors for voting during the 2020 election. At the time, there was an urgent need for safe polling sites during COVID, and athletes and activists were demanding that the sports world reckon with racial justice in response to the murders of George Floyd, Jacob Blake, Breonna Taylor, and others. As a result, 48 MLB, NBA, NHL, MLS, and NFL sports stadiums and arenas were used for early and Election Day voting in 2020.²

The primary findings of this report are that sports facilities make excellent polling sites and team involvement in promoting voting is uniquely helpful in sharing the importance of participation. The positive experiences that virtually all stakeholders had in this undertaking — and the relationships between

teams and election officials developed through these collaborations — strongly suggest that these efforts should not only be replicated but built upon and improved for future elections. Substantial public dollars and resources are provided to franchises to build, maintain, and renovate these facilities. Providing physical space for voting is a valuable way teams can give back to their communities beyond their function as sports and entertainment venues. It is also important to note that while increasing turnout was not the primary goal of providing stadium and arena voting, our best estimate shows that the availability of these facilities did not influence voter turnout.

The primary findings of this report are that sports facilities make excellent polling sites and team involvement in promoting voting is uniquely helpful in sharing the importance of participation.



A VOTER AT FENWAY PARK

Top 3 Takeaways

01 STADIUMS AS POLLING SITES ARE NOT A PARTISAN ISSUE.

Despite preconceptions among some that non-white or Democratic voters would take greater advantage of stadium voting, the data do not show a consistent difference in Democratic turnout and Republican turnout at stadium polling sites. Moreover, stadium voting receives widespread support from voters. Over two-thirds of Democrats, Independents, and Republicans “Strongly” or “Somewhat” support stadium voting and very few members of any group oppose it.

02 STADIUMS ARE TRULY IDEAL LOCATIONS TO DELIVER A SEAMLESS VOTING EXPERIENCE.

Stadiums as polling sites fit large numbers of people and equipment, are built with ample parking and near mass transit, and are accessible for voters with disabilities. Moreover, stadiums have staff with meaningful hospitality and guest services experience, ideal for processing thousands of voters. The impact on vote times was dramatic in several locations: voters waited an average of 26 minutes to vote at the Atlanta Hawks’ State Farm Arena in 2020, while the average wait time in some places in the county was 4 hours. In total, the Hawks’ stadium processed 50,000 voters.³

Election workers and poll workers also had positive experiences facilitating voting at stadiums. Especially against a backdrop of a challenging year, local elections officials across the board welcomed and were grateful for the support and found the partnerships to be great experiences. Having developed experience with voting during trying times and strengthened relationships, there is a great deal of optimism among teams and election officials for continuing to use sporting facilities as polling places and for other civic activities.

03 THERE WERE TANGIBLE BENEFITS TO THE TEAMS THAT COLLABORATED WITH ELECTIONS OFFICIALS TO CONVERT STADIUMS INTO VOTING LOCATIONS.

Stadiums as voting locations grew in popularity amidst athletes and activists demanding sports teams respond to the murder of George Floyd — and COVID heightened the need for larger polling sites. 48 MLB, NBA, NHL, MLS, and NFL sports stadiums and arenas were used as polling sites in 2020. Leadership of teams and leagues we spoke to report a positive reception from athletes, staff, and fans.

In fact, opening the doors to serve as polling sites was an entry point for teams to build broader community engagement: some stadium staff signed up to serve as poll workers. At The Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, the Panthers handed out face masks with the team’s logo on it.

QUALITATIVE FINDINGS



key component of our research was interviewing franchise officials and election administrators to understand the circumstances that led to initiating stadium voting and their experience of the process. The biggest takeaway from our qualitative analysis is that election officials and teams entered extraordinary partnerships that led to the important discovery that sporting facilities make for outstanding vote centers.

Across all efforts, we heard the following:

- These facilities are large and can safely accommodate a lot of equipment and people.
- The size of the facilities allows for shorter wait times and a better voter experience.
- The facilities almost always have a huge amount of parking.
- The facilities are often close to public transportation.
- The facilities are or can easily be made accessible to people with disabilities.
- For teams, organizing the logistics for a day of voting is a lot like preparing for a game day or concert.
- Election Day workers and voters had very positive experiences.
- Community response was positive with very little negative feedback.
- Team staff and ownership, as well as local election officials, are committed to being of service to their communities, which facilitated a working relationship built on trust and respect.
- The enthusiasm and sense of civic responsibility inspired teams and election officials to develop creative responses to the many logistical matters that were involved in converting sports facilities into voting centers.

The impetus for this historic effort came from two major sources: the need for social distancing due to the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the calls to action from Black athletes following the murder of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement.

Many athletes demanded teams engage in supporting social justice by encouraging voting.

In the report, we provide five case studies that highlight key findings from the interviews. These lessons reflect a common theme across all locations: namely, this was a partnership that worked. We spoke to people involved in the process in Baltimore, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Washington, D.C., Louisville, Tampa, Indianapolis, Phoenix, Boston, Green Bay, Cleveland, and Charlotte.

01

The Atlanta Hawks led the way by deciding to help with elections in June of 2020. The franchise was very active in organizing and helping election officials with early voting and ultimately hosted arena voting for three different elections at State Farm Arena. Many employees volunteered as poll workers, and the teams made the arena accessible by offering free parking and ensuring the local train station, which had been closed for COVID, was re-opened to facilitate access to the facility. Key to the initiative's success was that the work to organize and implement the voting process was consistent with team employees' normal work during game days — it was viewed as especially meaningful hospitality and guest services. On the first day of early voting, voters waited an average of 26 minutes to vote at the arena while the average wait time in some places in the county was over four hours. In the end, more than 50,000 people voted at State Farm Arena.



STATE FARM ARENA, ATLANTA, GA

02

The popularity of the teams in Charlotte was a big asset to the county's attempts to create safe and accessible voting sites during the 2020 election. Like the Hawks staff in Atlanta, the Hornets staff were very active in working with election officials to make voting work. They provided free parking, supplied security personnel who directed voters to the appropriate location to vote, and team staff also gave directions and provided crowd control. Voters took "I Voted" selfies, which were then posted on the arena's jumbotron scoreboard. Similarly, at the Bank of America Stadium, where the Carolina Panthers play, voters received masks with team logos.



SPECTRUM CENTER, CHARLOTTE, NC

03

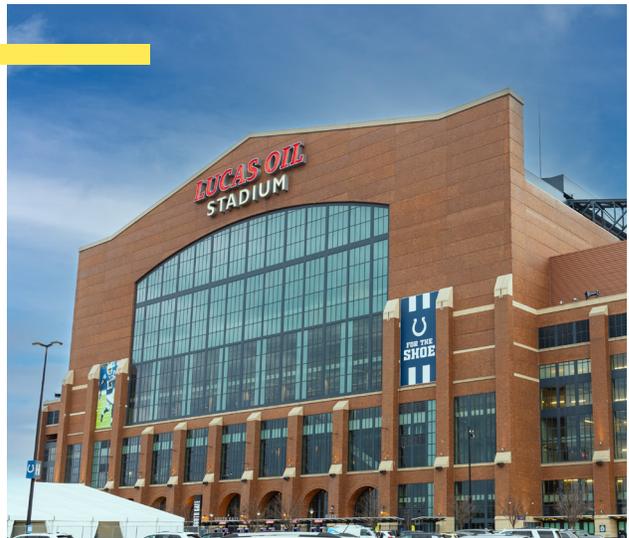
Los Angeles was able to use five different sports facilities for voting in 2020. Dodger Stadium created a particularly festive experience, complete with mariachi bands. While other LA stadiums opted to create more business-like voting environments, all organizers reported enormous enthusiasm among voters and poll workers at stadiums across the region. Thanks to a spirit of collaboration, all participants, from teams and the elections office, felt that the effort to convert these facilities into voting sites had been overwhelmingly successful, not just in terms of creating safe places for Americans to vote, both in terms of creating safe places for Americans to vote and in generating enthusiasm for voters.



DODGER STADIUM, LOS ANGELES, CA

04

In Indianapolis, voters experienced exceptionally long lines during the first two weeks of early voting in October 2020. In a matter of days, elections officials arranged for Lucas Oil Stadium and Gainbridge Fieldhouse to be early voting sites the weekend before the election. Larger than any other site (with 56 machines, eight poll pads, and 1,200 parking spaces), Lucas Oil Stadium reportedly shortened wait times to between 1-2 hours, compared to the 2-7 hour waits experienced the previous weekend.⁴ Players got involved in handing out T-shirts, stickers, and Colts masks.



LUCAS OIL STADIUM, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

05

In Washington, D.C., multiple facilities were used as vote “super centers” in different parts of the district. D.C. government was already engaged in a number of partnerships with the teams, and those preexisting relationships proved very helpful. At Capital One Arena, where the Capitals and the Wizards play, the team and building managers provided staff to help during the voting process, including as poll workers. The Board of Elections gave poll worker training on the floor of the arena. At Nationals Park, voting machines were set up at an indoor restaurant space inside the ballpark, so that voting felt like a stadium experience despite being indoors. Voters could see the field and take photos with the team’s World Series Championship trophy.



NATIONALS PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Throughout our interviews, team and league officials displayed a positive attitude that seemingly reflects sports franchises’ new attitude toward civic engagement. Across the board, local election officials welcomed and appreciated the support and enjoyed these new partnerships. After opening their doors as polling places during trying times and strengthening the relationships between teams and election officials, there is a great deal of optimism for continuing to use sporting facilities for voting as well as other civic activities.

STADIUM VOTERS

U

nderstanding who voted at stadiums and arenas and why formed a core part of our research. This is a challenge because the necessary data is not available in most counties. This is for one of two reasons: 1) local election officials did not record who voted at a stadium, or 2) the release of that information was not permitted. But three jurisdictions where stadium voting was conducted – Los Angeles County, California; Mecklenburg County, North Carolina; and Washington, D.C. – provided data that allowed us to identify stadium voters and compare them to non-stadium voters. In each of these jurisdictions, potential voters could choose any of the voting locations that were open for early or Election Day voting. In Los Angeles County and Washington, D.C., each registered voter was sent a mail ballot, but in-person voting remained an option.

Our analysis of this data resulted in two key insights.

01

Distance to the stadium was the most consistent factor associated with who voted at a stadium. Importantly, this was the case across jurisdictions that differed considerably based on demographics, competitiveness of the election, and electoral rules.

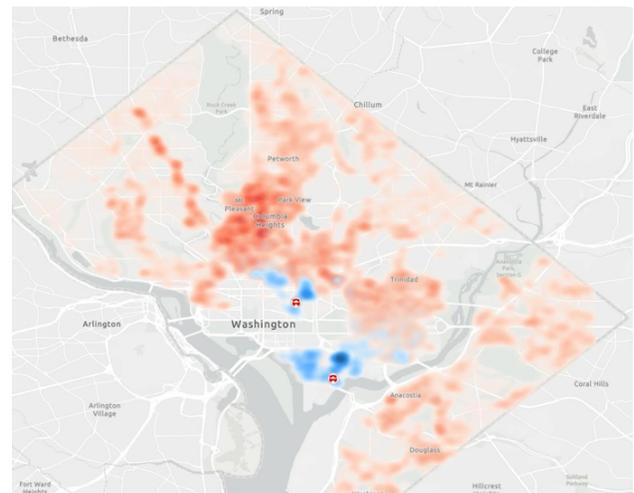
02

There was a great deal of variability across jurisdictions and stadiums with regard to the composition of voters at stadiums relative to those who voted elsewhere. No single demographic or partisan group consistently benefited from or took advantage of stadium voting.

Where Voters Lived Mattered

Distance to the stadium stood out as the most consistent factor predicting where an individual chose to vote. For example, 18% of in-person voters living within 2.5 miles of Nationals Park, home of MLB’s Washington Nationals, voted at the stadium, compared to just 1% of in-person voters living more than 2.5 miles away. The heat map in Figure 1 clearly shows the relationship between distance and voting at a stadium in Washington, D.C. People who voted at Nationals Park or Capital One Arena are shown in blue, and those who did not are shown in red, with darker shading indicating a larger concentration of voters. The preponderance of blue dots surrounding the stadium markers demonstrates that most stadium voters lived close to one of the stadium locations.

Figure 1. Heat Map of Washington, D.C. Stadium Voters

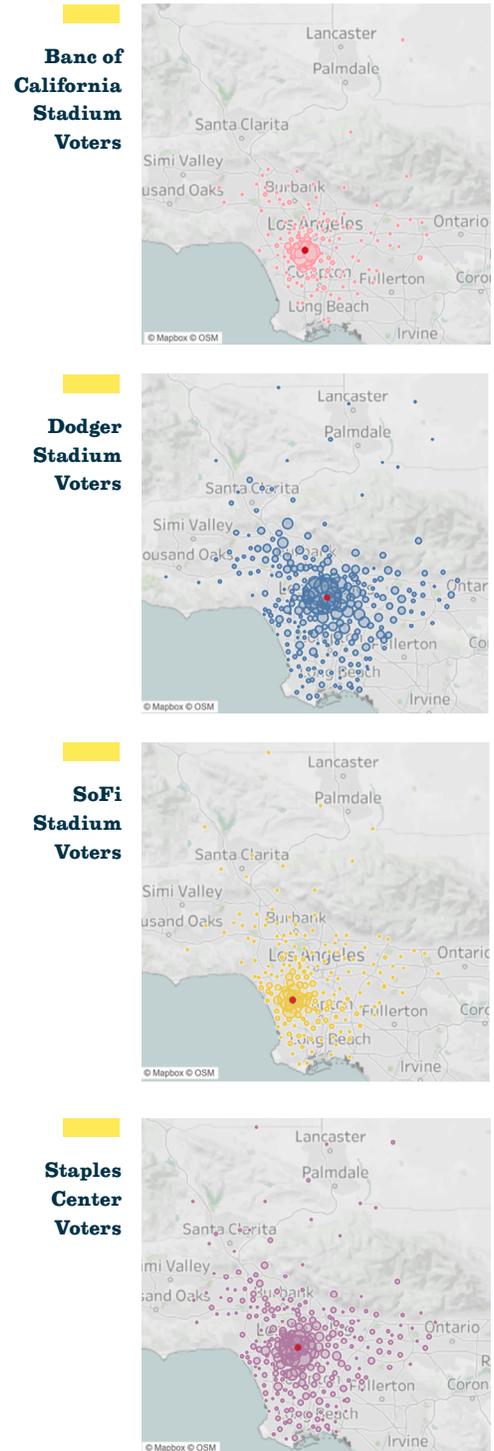


Notes: Stadium voters are shown in blue; non-stadium voters are shown in red. Stadium locations are shown with red icons.

While proximity to stadiums was a key predictor of whether someone voted at a stadium, a significant number of voters were willing to travel long distances to vote at stadiums. Figure 2 shows the distribution of voters for four of Los Angeles County's stadium voting locations. The stadium locations are shown in red and the circles represent the concentration of voters in a given area. For each stadium, voters are highly concentrated in the areas closest to the stadium, but the spread across the county is noteworthy. The average distance traveled was greatest for voters at Dodger Stadium. In fact, Dodger Stadium was the only location among these four sites for which a majority of the voters traveled more than five miles to vote. In other words, it seems many Los Angeles County voters made a point of going to Dodger Stadium to vote. With available data, it is not possible to pinpoint exactly why voters chose to vote at Dodger Stadium, but it was likely a combination of the festive atmosphere, the place the Dodgers hold in the hearts of Los Angeles County residents, and the team's 2020 World Series victory.

Overall, the evidence strongly suggests that the convenience of stadium voting was a major force in the decision to vote at a stadium or not. However, it must be noted that the circumstances surrounding 2020 were unique. With more people working from home and fewer people shopping in person, the stadiums, which are often located in downtown areas, were less convenient than usual for most people. In other words, with usual commuting patterns more people might have found a stadium location convenient even if they did not live in that area. For teams wanting to be good civic partners, providing the stadiums and arenas to allow safe voting to their local communities, especially those living in close proximity, was of great value.

Figure 2.
Distribution of Voters at Los Angeles County Stadiums



Notes: The red circle indicates the location of the respective stadium or arena.

No Partisan Advantage

STADIUM VOTING DID NOT ADVANTAGE ANY ONE GROUP OF VOTERS

Despite the preconceptions among some, there is not support for the idea that non-whites and Democrats took greater advantage of stadium voting than other groups.

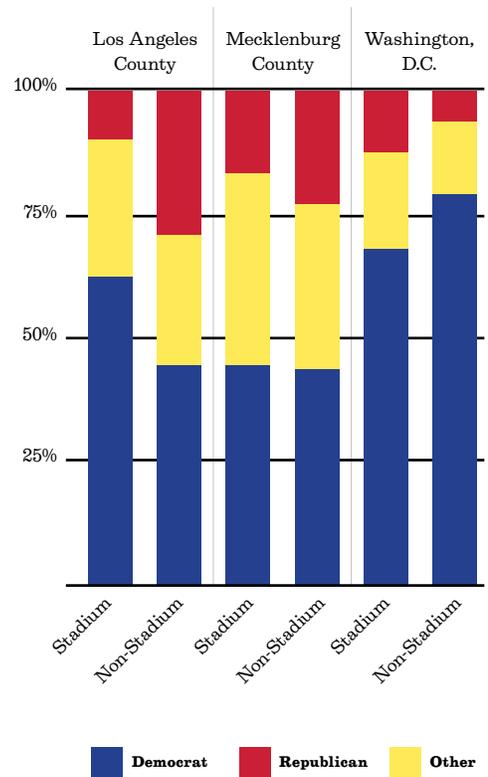
The association between different individual characteristics on the likelihood of voting at a stadium varied considerably across locations, which was to be expected given the differences in these locations, their populations, and the placement of the sporting facilities.

In addition to factors that help predict who voted at a stadium, we examined the composition of voters at stadium and non-stadium locations. The results by party and race are noteworthy.

Democrats make up a majority of in-person voters in Washington, D.C., and constitute a plurality in Los Angeles County, but the pattern of stadium voting differed considerably across these two jurisdictions. In D.C., Democrats made up a smaller proportion of voters at each stadium than at in-person non-stadium locations overall, which meant that Republicans made up a larger share of voters at stadiums relative to non-stadium in-person locations, as did those not affiliated with either party.

In Los Angeles County, Democrats made up over 60% of stadium voters compared to about 44% of in-person voters at non-stadium locations. Republicans made up a much smaller share of stadium voters than they did at non-stadium in-person sites, with those not affiliated with either party making up about an equal share of voters at stadium and non-stadium locations alike. In Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, Republicans comprised only a slightly smaller share of stadium voters than they did of non-stadium voters. The share of Democrats was about even, but the share of voters not affiliated with either party was slightly higher among stadium voters than non-stadium voters. Figure 3 shows the results.

Figure 3. Share of Voters by Location and Party

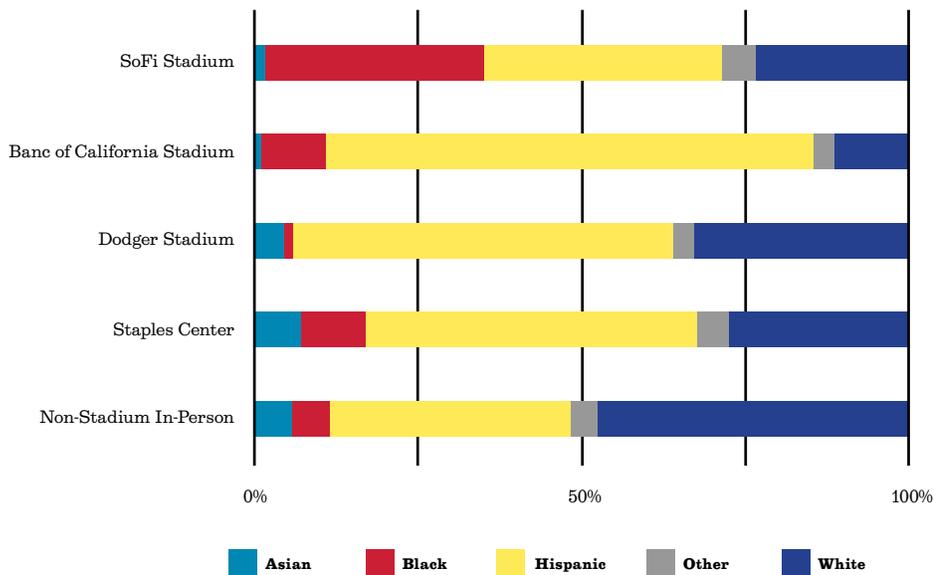


Notes: Mecklenburg County includes in-person and absentee voters among non-stadium voters.

The racial composition of stadium voters varied by jurisdiction. In Washington, D.C., Black voters made up a much smaller share of stadium voters than at non-stadium, in-person polling places; the opposite was true for white voters. In Los Angeles County, the share of Black and Hispanic voters at stadium locations was higher than at non-stadium polling places. And in Mecklenburg County, there were no large discrepancies in the race of people voting at stadiums as opposed to non-stadium polling places or vote-by-mail.

There was also variation in who used particular stadiums to vote within each jurisdiction. For instance, in Los Angeles (see Figure 4), Black residents constituted only 6% of non-stadium voters but 33% of people voting at SoFi Stadium. Similarly, Hispanic voters made up a larger than expected share of people at Banc of California Stadium. In Mecklenburg County, Black residents made up a larger share of voters as compared to non-stadium voters at one stadium, Spectrum Center, while white voters, who made up a slight majority of voters overall, made up a larger share of voters at Bojangles Coliseum and Bank of America Stadium as compared to non-stadium voters. The racial and political composition of those living near each of these stadiums helps explain the differences in stadium utilization across different ethnic groups, which reinforces distance as a critical factor in voting location. Additional research to explore this further is justified.

Figure 4. Racial Composition of Voters by Location in Los Angeles, CA



SURVEY FINDINGS

SURVEY FINDINGS

To understand what people think about stadium voting, we conducted an online survey of a representative sample of 2,104 adults in the United States. In particular, we wanted to know:

01
Whether people support stadium voting and the reasons behind their view

02
What messages can improve views of stadium voting

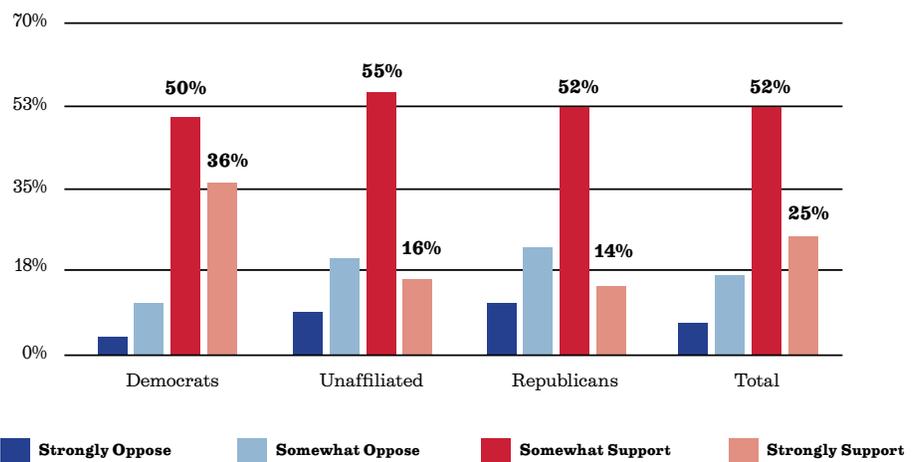
03
What people look for in polling places and whether stadiums meet those preferences

There Is Broad Support for Stadium Voting

Stadium voting enjoys broad support across the political spectrum (see Figure 5). When asked, “Do you support or oppose using sports stadiums as polling places for voting?” 77% of respondents “strongly” or “somewhat” supported voting at stadiums. This number is down slightly from the 85% a Washington Post-University of Maryland poll⁵ found in 2021 but remarkably robust given the limitations several states have placed on how people can vote and political rhetoric questioning election administration.

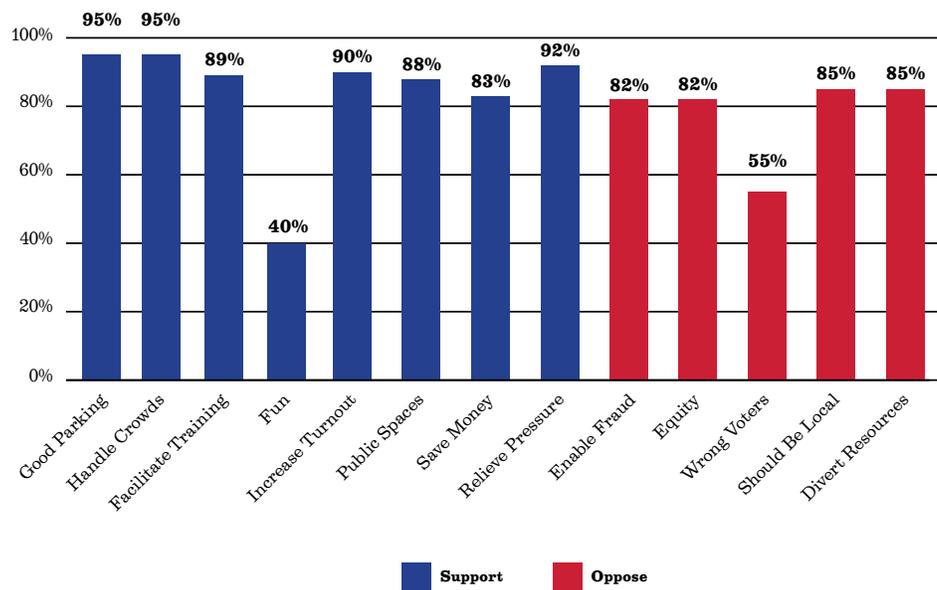
Support for stadium voting is not just confined to Democrats, but Democrats offer the strongest base of support for stadium voting, with 36% strongly supporting and 50% somewhat supporting the use of stadiums as polling places. However, Republican and politically unaffiliated respondents echoed that support, with a clear majority strongly or somewhat supporting stadium voting (66% for Republicans and 71% for unaffiliated). Equally encouraging was the relative lack of opposition from Republicans and the political unaffiliated, with only 11% of Republicans and 9% of unaffiliated voters choosing “strongly oppose.” Thus, we conclude that stadium voting enjoys widespread support in the electorate.

Figure 5.
Support for Stadium Voting by Party



People offered a myriad of reasons for their support or opposition to stadium voting. Respondents were asked to consider different reasons to support or oppose using stadiums as polling places and rate the importance of each reason, from “very important” to “not important.” The green bars on the left of Figure 6, below, show the percentage of stadium voting supporters who deemed the reason “very” or “somewhat” important. Every reason provided except “Stadium voting is fun” was deemed important. This suggests that people find justifications for stadium voting based on logistical practicalities (e.g., “Stadiums have plenty of parking” or “Stadium voting allows staff to be well trained”) or concrete programmatic goals (e.g., “Stadium voting might increase turnout” or “Stadium voting saves money”) more persuasive than steps towards those goals, like “Stadium voting is fun.” Making voting a festive event might serve to increase turnout but should not be the stated reason for using stadiums as polling places.

Figure 6.
“Important” Reasons
to Support or Oppose
Stadium Voting



Over 80% of opponents of stadium voting deemed the statements “Stadiums enable voter fraud,” “Not every community can benefit,” “Voting should be local,” and “Stadium voting will divert resources from traditional polling places” to be “very” or “somewhat” important reasons for their opposition.

The exception to this pattern is “Stadium voting will attract the wrong kinds of voters,” where only 55% deemed that reason important. On the one hand, it is striking that over half of the opponents of stadium voting openly admit that they want specific “kinds” of voters to not vote. Extending the franchise as widely as possible is a hallmark of democratic norms around the world. On the other hand, it received roughly 30 percentage points less support than the other reasons.

Messaging about a Good Voting Experience Is Most Effective

When it comes to the voting process, a lot of people are amenable to cues from elected officials in their party. To better understand the extent to which elite messaging could influence views about stadium voting, we conducted an experiment in which respondents were presented with a news article about the Indiana secretary of state, a Republican, touring the state to meet with all 92 election officials. The article was based on a real article, but the headline, first two sentences, a core quote, and last sentence were all manipulated to provide different rationales for stadium voting. The reasons provided were improved election security, increased turnout, accessibility to voters, and “making owners pay their share.” After reading the article, we asked respondents their opinion on stadium voting, the Indiana secretary of state, and whether stadium voting increases or decreases fraud.

Here are the two major findings:

01

First, tying stadium voting to improved election security improved people’s view that stadiums can lessen voter fraud. Unfortunately, this effect was observed only among Democrats, who are less likely to oppose stadium voting and worry about voter fraud overall. Republicans were unpersuaded by this message, even from a Republican secretary of state.

02

Second, tying stadium voting to “making owners pay their share” caused Republicans to think less of the secretary of state. These results suggest that efforts to persuade voters that stadium voting is a worthwhile idea should focus on logistics and goals.



A VOTER BRINGS THEIR DOG TO DODGERS STADIUM TO VOTE EARLY

Stadiums Have What Voters Want in Polling Places (When They Live Nearby)

If election officials and stadium operators are to meet the needs of the electorate, they need to understand what voters look for in polling places. To measure voters' preferences regarding various polling place characteristics, we conducted an experiment in which respondents were asked to choose between two polling places with six different traits:

BUILDING USED:

Stadium, mall, church, or school.

WAIT TIME:

0 to 25 minutes.

TRAVEL TIME:

5 to 30 minutes.

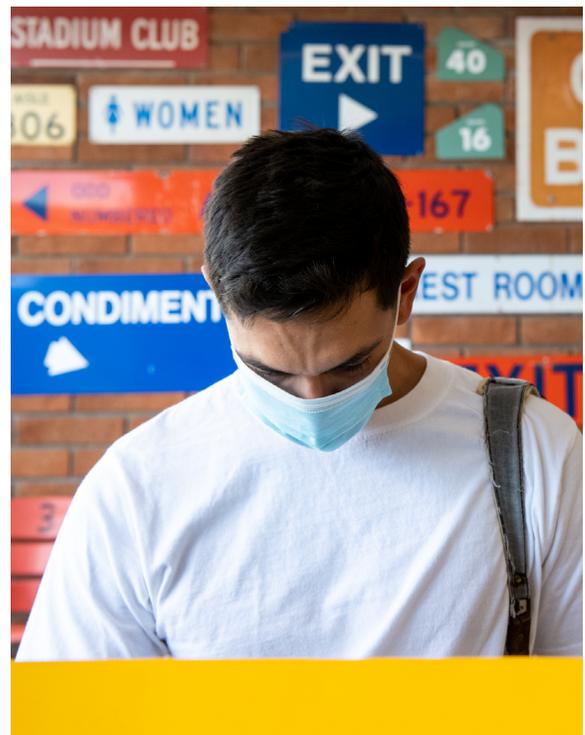
PROXIMITY TO HOME VS.
SOMEWHERE THEY TRAVEL,
SUCH AS WORK OR SCHOOL.

PARKING AVAILABILITY:

Ample or limited.

ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Yes or no.

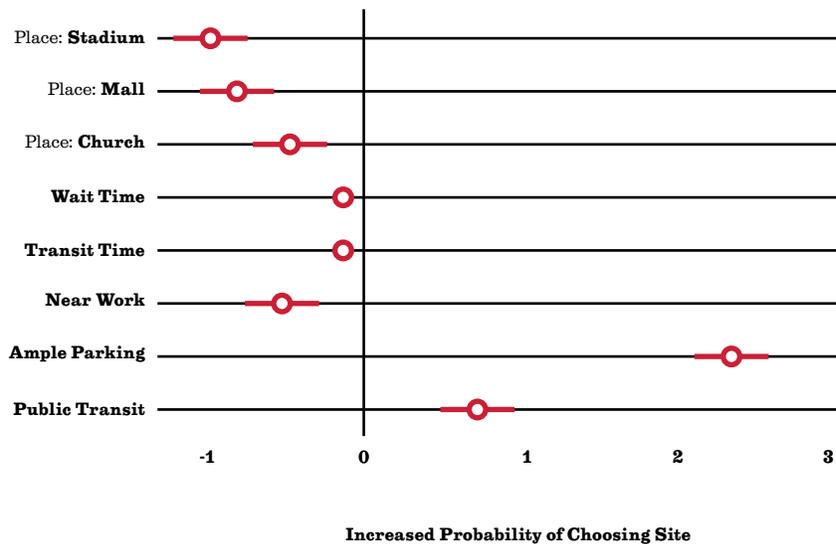


AN EARLY VOTER CASTS THEIR BALLOT
AT DODGER STADIUM IN LOS ANGELES

Figure 7 depicts how different characteristics affect the probability of a respondent preferring that polling place. Unsurprisingly, the biggest drivers of people’s preferences were wait and transit times, where every additional minute decreased a person’s likelihood of selecting the location by one percentage point. Voters also showed a clear preference for voting near home and were six percentage points less likely to select polling places near a different place.

Another clear result was that voters had a strong preference for sites with “ample” parking, which boosted selection by 22 percentage points over sites with “limited” parking. Public transit options led to a seven-percentage-point increase in probability, which is meaningful but not as critical as parking.

Figure 7. Preference in Polling Place Characteristics



The clearest takeaway here is that stadiums make very desirable polling locations for the people who live near them, suggesting that stadiums be used for polling places but not at the expense of traditional polling locations for Election Day voting.

LESSONS LEARNED FOR THE FUTURE

Lesson 1: THE KEY TO SUCCESS IS THE RELATIONSHIP

Local election officials (LEOs) and team representatives should respect each other's work and respective areas of expertise. LEOs communicated the requisites of voting and their specific needs, and they also recognized the teams' expertise in line management, moving big numbers of people, hospitality, and (sometimes) security.

Success required clear and ongoing communication; mutual respect for each other's needs, skills, and expertise; a willingness to be flexible and creative in developing solutions; and a readiness to make course corrections as needed.

Lesson 2: COLLABORATE ON LOGISTICS EARLY

The logistical arrangements varied by facility, but, in virtually every case, it was an easy, smooth, and collaborative journey, with goodwill on both sides. Teams and election officials almost universally agreed this benefited them and voters tremendously.

In reviewing the facility and coordinating logistics, LEOs and teams must consider whether voting can occur outside or must be inside (or a combination of both); how to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities; where lines can move effectively; and how to position parking and/or public transportation as close as possible to the facility entrance.

One of the key benefits of stadium voting is that teams know how to handle lines. Team staff should take the lead on planning the line flow and, if possible, have staff actually manage lines during voting.

Finally, and very importantly, teams should provide free parking. In both the qualitative interviews and the surveys, parking came up as a critical feature.

Lesson 3: GET TEAM STAFF INVOLVED

Team and facility staff can and should be used in several different ways.

Most commonly, staff worked as poll workers – and from what we heard, they very much enjoyed it. This means teams should allow staff to be poll workers and encourage them to do so as a team-building activity. Similarly, team staff can work as “greeters,” welcoming people to the site and directing them to check-in.

The operations staff of the facilities should be involved from the beginning to help determine the best uses of space. Stadium security staff can assist with security issues.

And of course, community relations and communications staff should be doing as much outreach and publicity around the opportunity to vote at the stadium as possible.

Lesson 4: MAKE IT A POSITIVE COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

When team officials feel like it is appropriate given their individual circumstances, stadiums should have a festive atmosphere, including, for example, providing music and team swag. Additionally, they should consider providing spaces for voters to take pictures and selfies outside of the voting booth, but in the facility, that they can share on social media. In many places this seemed to attract voters and their families and made for a positive voter experience that can carry over into a propensity to vote in the future.

Lesson 5:

MAKING THE MOST OF SPORTS FACILITY VOTING REQUIRES OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

In addition to spreading the word more broadly about voting at stadiums, LEOs and teams should provide voter education on such matters as who is eligible to vote at the stadium, days and hours of voting, the change in poll site location, and general accessibility.

Teams should capitalize on their special appeal and celebrity in communities. The most common modes of communication were announcements on websites, posts on social media, and digital press releases. In the future, teams should unleash the full arsenal of their publicity tactics, especially given their huge expertise in marketing. Corporate sponsors could also assist in publicity efforts. While some stadium voting attracted free media, teams could be more intentional about getting press coverage from traditional news outlets as well as from sports reporters.

Lesson 6:

PROVIDE AS MANY VOTING OPPORTUNITIES AS POSSIBLE

If at all possible, LEOs should not close any other polling sites on Election Day because the stadium is being used. If it is absolutely necessary to close any neighborhood sites, this must be undertaken with great care, transparency, and intentionality.

Here are some specific recommendations:

- Make sure there is plenty of community input.
- Make sure the site is convenient and accessible to everyone in the relevant population.
- Only close the polling stations closest to the stadiums used as polling places.
- Conduct major voter education campaigns in affected communities.

Lesson 7:

THERE IS MORE THAT TEAMS AND LEAGUES COULD DO

01 Make Election Day a black-out day, when no games are played.

That way, more facilities can be used, and all staff members can participate.

02 Encourage teams that can't or won't provide their stadium to provide transportation to other voting locations.

03 Teams should work and coordinate with teams in other leagues within their cities to make spaces available.

For example, if a team's facility cannot be used, they might be able to provide transportation to another stadium voting site. Teams across leagues should also do cross-promotion. In other words, the baseball, basketball, football, soccer and hockey teams should all should work in the spirit of being in service to the city's sports fans.

04 Make this another community activity that teams and players engage in.

It could be a part of player community service.

Final Lesson:

STADIUM VOTING IS VIABLE GOING FORWARD

Multiple interviewees, especially stadium operators, expressed confidence that some variation of stadium voting was “operationally feasible,” even in the midst of a normal sports schedule, with proper planning time.

ENDNOTES

1. Institutional affiliations are for identification purposes only.
2. For the purposes of this report, we will be using the term “stadium” to refer to all types of sporting facilities.
3. As reported by the team.
4. Amelia Pak-Harvey & Chris Sikich, “Lucas Oil Stadium to be Early Voting Site,” Indianapolis Star, 31 Oct 2020.
5. <https://ropercenter.cornell.edu/ipoll/study/31118327>