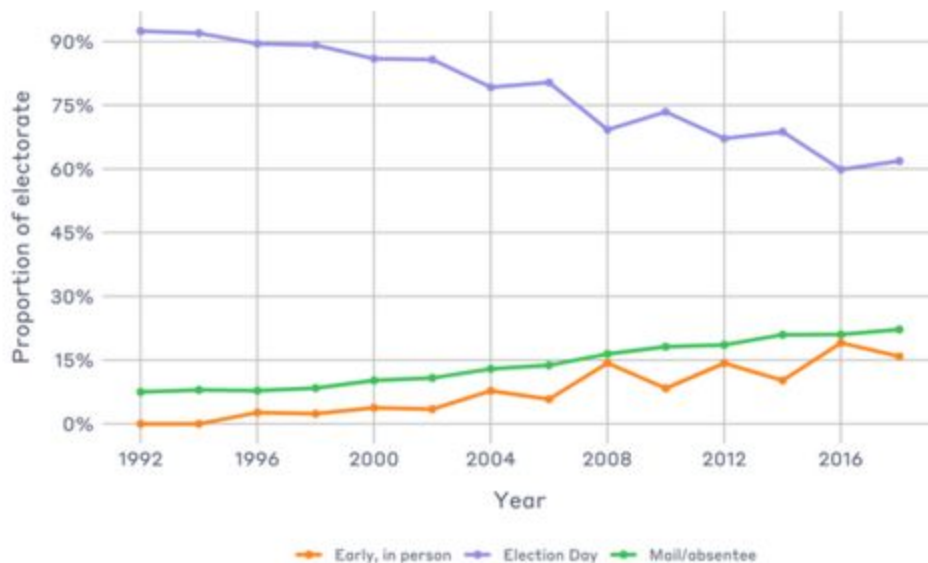


Figure 1: Ballots cast by modes of voting over time



Source: Voting and Registration Supplement of the Current Population Survey
<https://www.census.gov/topics/public-sector/voting.html>

Critical Analysis

1. What percent of votes in the 2018 midterm election were cast by mail?
2. What percent of votes in the 2020 election do you predict will be cast by mail?
3. Based on the data in the chart above, describe one trend in voting by mail (VBM).
4. Why do you think that is?
5. What is one consequence of this trend?
6. Three states do ALL their voting by mail. Which states do you think they are?*
7. Why did the U.S. government first allow absentee voting to begin with?*
8. What does the map below* illustrate about federalism and elections?*
9. Explain whether voting by mail is less or more subject to [fraud](#) than traditional voting?
10. How do you think voting by mail impacts [voter turnout](#)?
11. Imagine that a citizen wanted to get their state to allow no-excuse absentee voting by mail. How would they best go about making that happen?
12. Overall, how do you think the pandemic is going to impact the future of voting by mail?

Learning Extension

Read the [MIT Voting Election Data Science Lab report on voting by mail](#).

