Low Voter Turnout in the United States

By Daniel Chajes, Samantha Frank, Thomas McGalliard and Zachary Seymour
What is voter turnout?

- Percentage of eligible voters who cast a ballot in an election
- United States has a much lower turnout compared to other democracies
Reasons for Low Voter Turnout

- Education & Social Class
- Age
- Accessibility
- Voting Apathy
Consequences

- The people are not fully represented

- Higher level of political inequality

- United States has dropped to 25th in the world in the EIU Democracy Index ratings
History of Voter Disenfranchisement

- Jim Crow Laws
- Elk v Wilkins
- Chinese Exclusion Act
Current Policy

- 1965 Voting Rights Act
  - Shelby County v. Holder, 2013
- 1993 National Voter Registration Act
  - Online Registration by state as of 2002
- States passing an increasing number of bills affecting voting accessibility
  - 34 Restrictive bills in 19 states
  - 62 expansive bills in 25 states
References

Works Cited


6. Economic Intelligence Unit. (2021, February 2). Democracy Index 2020: In sickness and in health?


