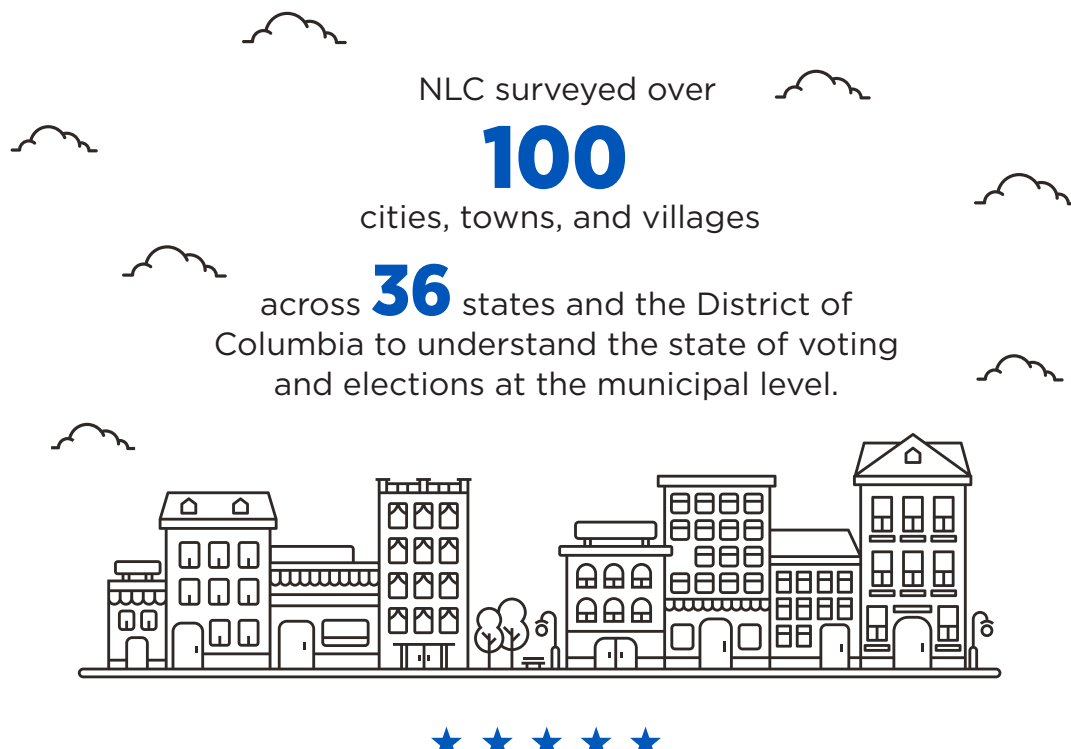




## CITIES LEAD IN IMPLEMENTING ELECTIONS, BUT NEED MORE SUPPORT TO DRIVE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

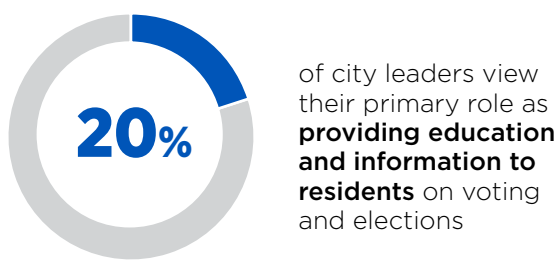
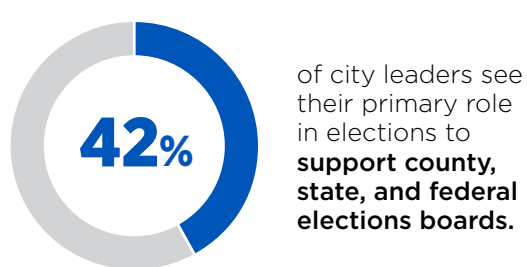
City leaders are residents' most trusted government officials. Yet cities need more resources to support their work and make voting and elections accessible, safe, and secure to achieve 100% voter turnout.



### WHAT IS THE ROLE OF CITIES IN THE 2020 ELECTION?

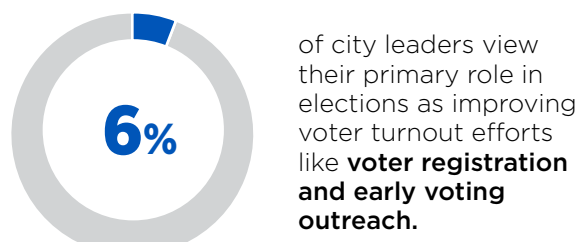
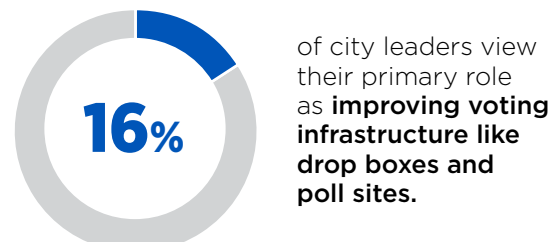
Cities are **ADVOCATES** to other levels of government for civic engagement and 100% voter turnout

Cities are **EDUCATORS** for their residents on how, when, and where to vote



Cities are **IMPLEMENTORS** of voting infrastructure that enables accessible, safe, and secure elections to all eligible voters

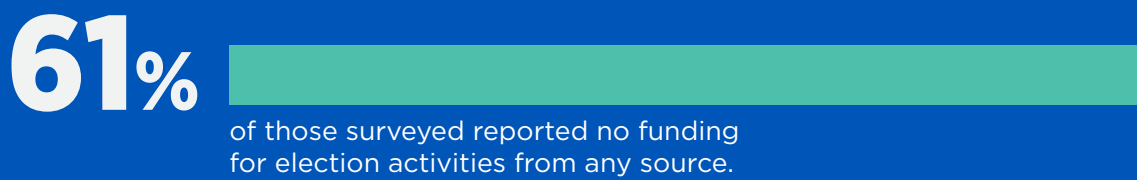
Cities have an opportunity to lead their communities more in civic engagement and healthy local democracy.



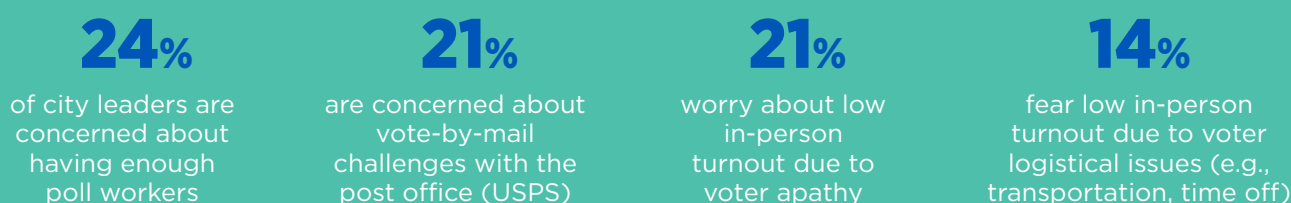
### IN 2020, WHAT RESOURCES DO CITIES HAVE FOR VOTING AND ELECTIONS?



City leaders serve their communities and other government entities during elections. But when asked about their funding sources for election activities, city leaders report that they get most of their funding for voting and elections from their municipal budgets, with minimal funding from other sources. According to survey respondents:

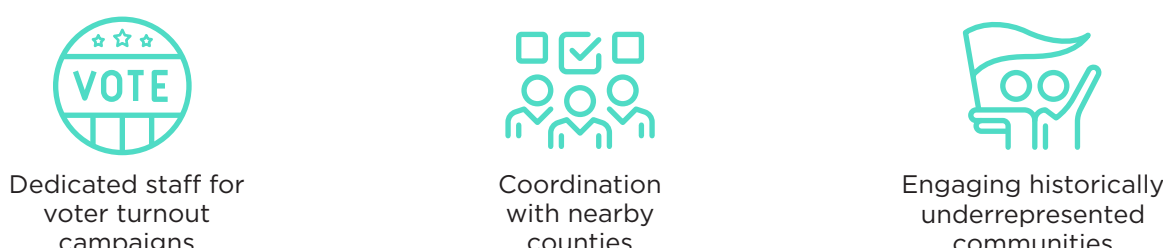


As implementors of voting and elections efforts, city leaders play a critical role in successful elections. Here is what is keeping city elections leaders up at night:



### WHAT DO CITIES NEED FOR FUTURE VOTING AND ELECTIONS WORK?

If given additional resources, city leaders would invest more in these three priority areas:



City leaders have the opportunity to lean into the leadership roles they already play in their communities in order to establish permanent investment and outreach on civic engagement. Cities are uniquely positioned to educate residents, advocate up to other levels of government, and implement elections effectively making the voting process accessible, safe, and secure to all eligible voters. Elections happen more than just every four years—meaning city leaders have regular opportunities to lead with urgency, convey accurate information, and demonstrate responsive leadership on civic engagement.

Local jurisdictions are the ones footing the bill for elections and city leaders know this. The last significant investment from the federal government in election administration was **18 years ago**.

**Municipalities must receive more support from state and federal governments, philanthropies, and civil society to achieve 100% voter turnout in every election.**

\* Methodology: This survey was conducted between September 11-25, 2020. A total of 116 cities, towns and villages from 36 states and the District of Columbia provided information to NLC.