

Citizen's Petition

- Moving the date of the Town Meeting from the 2nd Saturday in March to the 1st Saturday in May

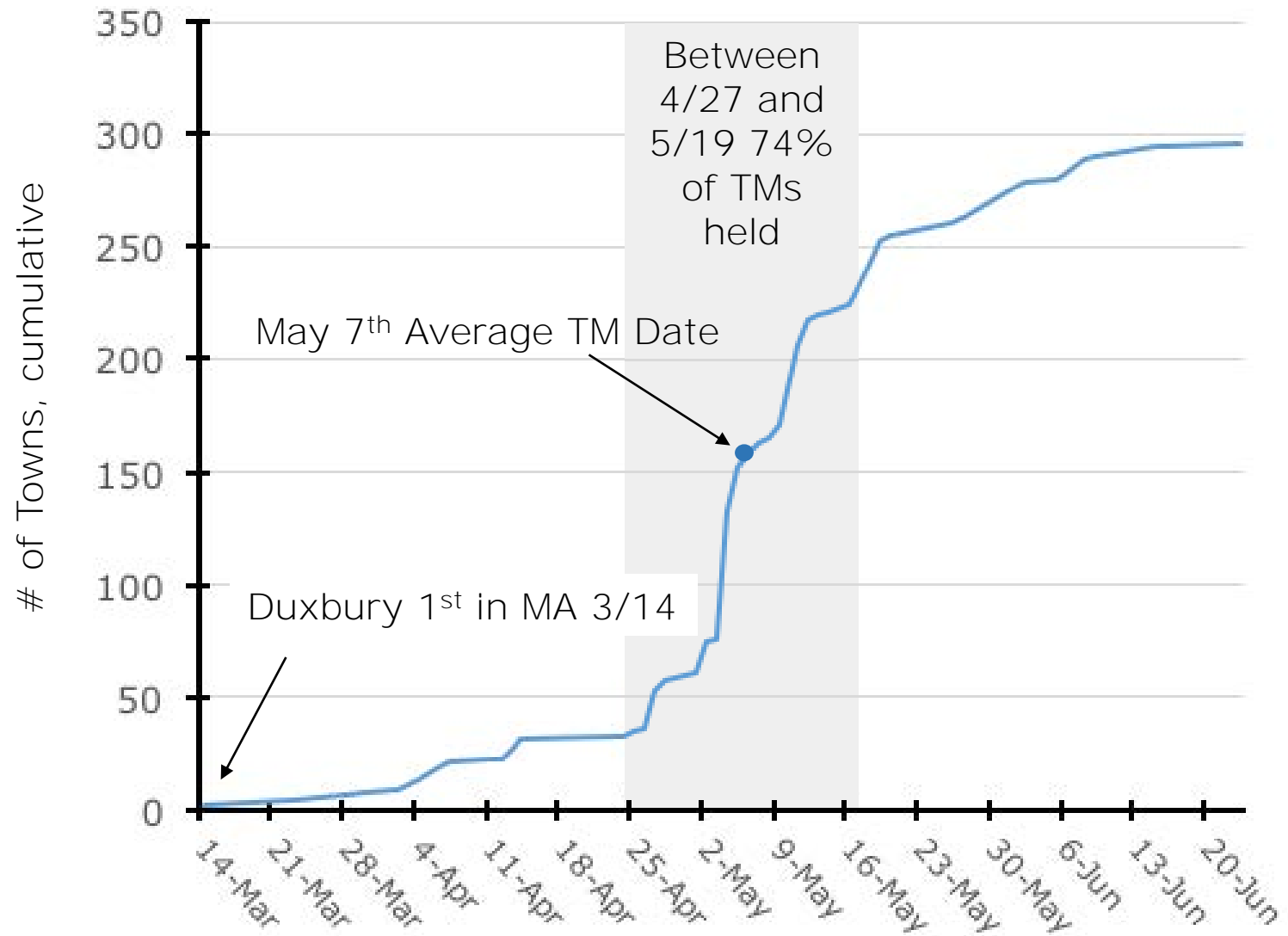
Why?

- To increase the number of registered voters participating at the Annual Town Meeting

Data

- Information on TM dates for 2015 obtained from the Massachusetts Municipal Association website.
 - There are 296 towns in Massachusetts w/TM
- Request for information on TM attendance and number of registered voters for the years 2013 through 2015 sent to 277 out of 296 Town Clerks via e-mail.
 - Information on TM attendance and number of registered voters received from 109 towns, of which 88 held Open Town meetings

Town Meeting Dates, 2015

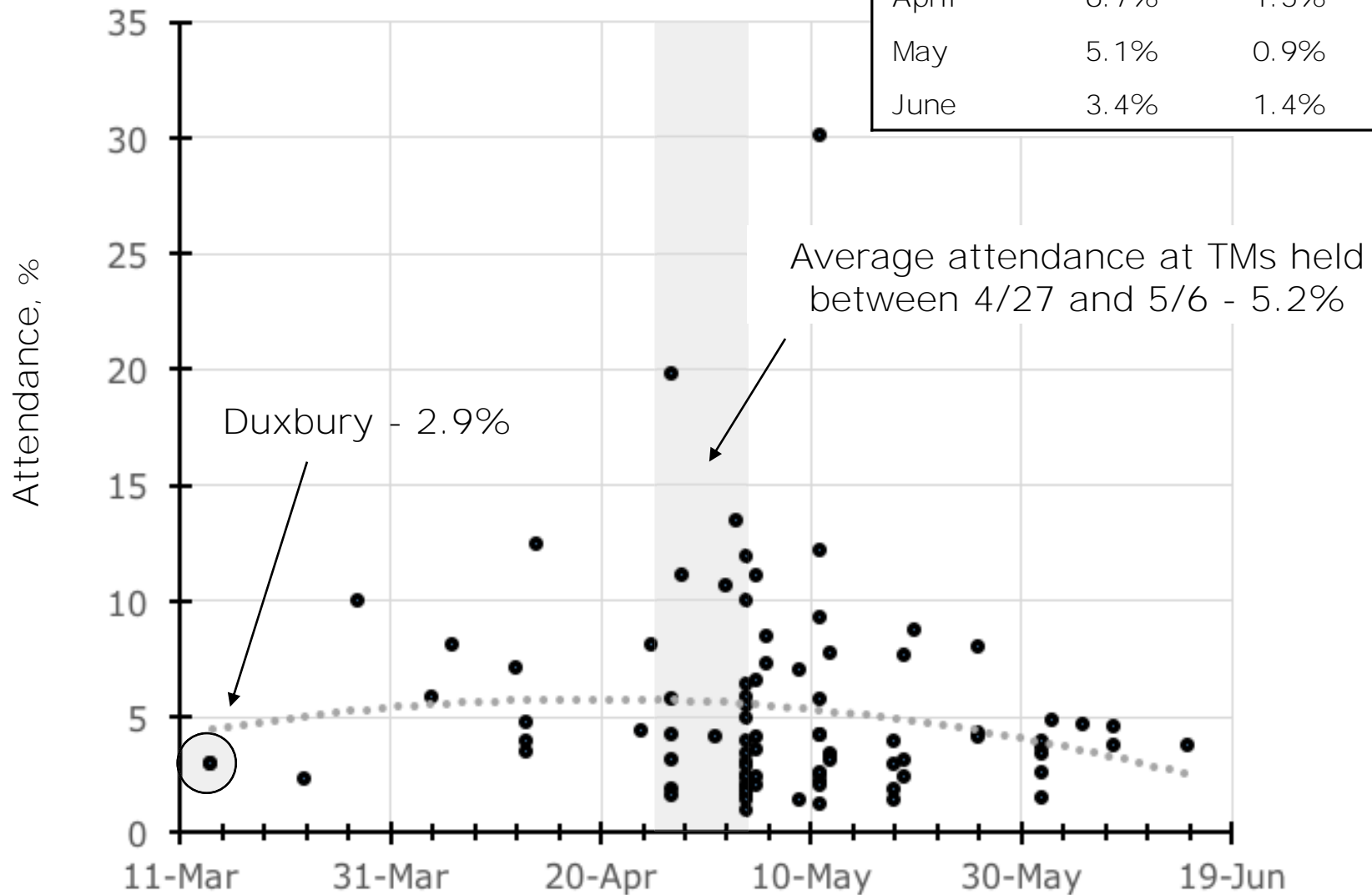


Average Town Meeting Attendance 2013 - 2015

TM Attendance

% Attendance - 88 Towns, 2013 to 2015

	Average	Min	Max
March	4.5%	2.2%	9.9%
April	6.7%	1.5%	19.7%
May	5.1%	0.9%	30.0%
June	3.4%	1.4%	4.8%



Conclusion

- Data obtained on Annual Town Meeting Dates and Attendance supports the move from March to May
 - **The intent of the Citizen's Petition: To increase registered voter participation at the Annual Town Meeting**

Other Benefit

- Provides additional time to prepare, review and comment on the Annual Town Budget