

**A Discussion with the American
Association of University Women,
Indianapolis Branch**

January 11, 2023



Bill Moreau
Co-Founder & President
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317.370.1505



Beverley Stone
Purdue Dean of Students
1974-1980



Barbara Cook
Purdue Dean of Students
1980-1987



The rankings
are **IN** ...



THE INDIANA CITIZEN

Table 1. Voter Registration and Voting in Indiana: Comparison from 2010-2018

| | | MIDTERM ELECTION YEAR | | | | | | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|----------------------------|-------|------|-------|
| | | 2010 | | 2014 | | 2018 | | 2012 | | 2016 | |
| | | Rank | Rate | Rank | Rate | Rank | Rate | Rank | Rate | Rank | Rate |
| VOTER REGISTRATION | | 43rd | 65.1% | 30th | 64.9% | 37th | 65.3% | 37th | 71.3% | 40th | 68.8% |
| | VOTING | 48th | 39.4% | 47th | 35.1% | 43rd | 49.3% | 38th | 59.3% | 41st | 58.3% |

... and Indiana's in the Bottom 10 again



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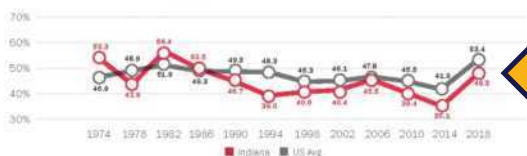
INDIANA'S CIVIC HEALTH: A Deeper Dive

Voter Registration and Turnout

Most recently, in the 2016 Presidential Election and the 2018 midterm elections, Indiana's rankings for voter registration and turnout placed the state in the bottom third of all states. By looking at 44 years of registration and turnout data we can begin to put in context our current status.

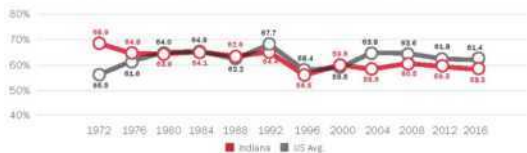
Charts 1 and 2 provide insight on long-term trends in voter turnout in the State of Indiana. The data shows the following: (1) Indiana's rate of voter turnout slightly exceeded national rates for most midterm elections between 1974 and 1986; (2) after 1986 Indiana's midterm voter turnout fell below the national average and remains so today.

Chart 1. Indiana Voter Turnout During Midterm Election Years 1974 - 2018



The highest rate of midterm election turnout (56.4%) occurred in 1982 and was followed by many years of lower participation rates, including a 35.1% rate occurring in 2014 - the lowest in the 44 years. It should be noted that 2014 was a year in which there was no U.S. Senate race at the top of the ballot. Most recently, in 2018—with a contested Senate race at the top of the ballot—the voter turnout rate surged to 49.3%, an increase of 14.2% over the 2014 rate. However, this marked increase in voter turnout only moved Indiana from a rank of 47th in 2014 to 43rd in the nation in 2018, due to the record mid-term turnout across the country.

Chart 2. Indiana Voter Turnout During Presidential Election Years 1972 - 2016



In the most recent Presidential election year (2016), Indiana ranked 41st, placing in the lower 25% of states. Approximately 58% of all eligible Hoosiers came to the polls in the 2016 elections compared to 61.4% of all eligible Americans. Chart 2 reveals a declining average voter turnout rate over time. Indiana's voter turnout rate was the highest (68.9%) in 1972, exceeding the national average of 65.5%. In 2016, Indiana's voter turnout rate was 58.3%, lower than the national average of 61.4%.

2018: 49.3%

Despite a record turnout in 2018, we finished 43rd



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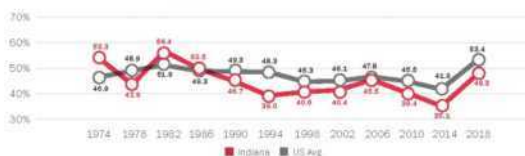
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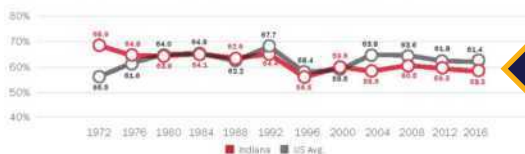
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We weren't much better in 2016, 41st

2016: 58.3%



**We're not showing up,
and we're not well-informed**



THE WOODROW WILSON
National Fellowship Foundation

NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE:
CONTACT:

Friday, February 15, 2019
Patrick Riccards (@Eduflack)
riccards@woodrow.org | (703) 298-8283

When It Comes to American History Knowledge, Woodrow Wilson Foundation Finds Only One State Can Pass U.S. Citizenship Exam

Results of New 50-State Survey Finds Only Four in 10 Can Demonstrate Basic History Understanding, Vermont Only State in Which a Majority Passed

PRINCETON, N.J. — Feb. 15, 2019 — As the nation celebrates Presidents' Day and a number of states advance legislation to increase American history requirements for high school graduation, a new survey of 41,000 Americans conducted by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation demonstrates why a greater emphasis on American history learning is essential to the nation. The Foundation found that in the highest-performing state, only 53 percent of the people were able to earn a passing grade for U.S. history. **People in every other state failed; in the lowest-performing state, only 27 percent were able to pass.**

Among all 50 states and the District of Columbia, Vermonters were the sole group able to pass the multiple-choice test. Even more disturbing, only 27 percent of those under the age of 45 nationally were able to demonstrate a basic understanding of American history. Nationally, only four in 10 Americans passed the exam.

"Unfortunately, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation has validated what studies have shown for a century: Americans don't possess the history knowledge they need to be informed and engaged citizens," WW Foundation President Arthur Levine said.

The survey found only 15 percent of American adults could correctly note the year the U.S. Constitution was written and only 25 percent knew how many amendments there are to the U.S. Constitution. Further, 25 percent did not know that freedom of speech was guaranteed under the First Amendment, and 57 percent did not know that Woodrow Wilson was the commander in chief during World War I.

"American history education is not working, as students are asked to memorize dates, events and leaders, which the poll results shows are not retained in adulthood," Levine said. "Based on our research, this is not an issue of whether high school history teachers are adequately prepared or whether kids study American history in school. The answer to both questions is yes. This is an issue of how we teach American history. Now it is too often made boring and robbed of its capacity to make sense of a chaotic present and inchoate future. Instead, knowledge of American history must serve as an anchor in a time when change assails us, a laboratory for studying the changes that are occurring

National American History Test of Adults:

- ❖ The state of Indiana ranked 41st
- ❖ 64% got an F grade
- ❖ 14% got a D grade



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A Need for a Task Force to Study Ways to Improve Civic Education in Indiana

In recent years many states have formed civic education task forces to examine their state's current policies and how to better provide civic education to promote informed and active citizens. In 2014, Illinois formed the Civic Education Task Force which looked at their policies and recommended requiring civic education in high school, revising Illinois Social Studies Standards, requiring a service-learning project in middle and high school, and involving students in the election process.¹⁴ The 2014 Illinois task force led to the development of the Democracy Schools Initiative which recognizes and supports high schools that are dedicated to expanding civic learning using five common elements, including vision and leadership, curriculum, professional development, community engagement, and a respectful school climate. The California Civic Learning Task Force formed in 2013 came to similar conclusions including revising the California History-Social Science Content Standards, including civic learning in state assessments, and working with community stakeholders to connect education to the community.¹⁵

RECOMMENDATION #1:

To continue to promote civic engagement, we propose convening a civic education task force to study methods of instruction, programs, and educational outcomes to improve civic education opportunities for all ages and prepare specific policy recommendations to improve civic education opportunities and programs in Indiana.

A Need for Increased Voter Turnout in 2020

Many who have read our previous three reports have reacted with surprise and disappointment at Indiana's low rankings for voter registration and turnout. Such low rankings fly in the face of our perception—and some ratifying data in these reports—that Hoosiers are engaged citizens.

With a 2018 ranking of 43rd in voter turnout, once again we find our state ranked in the Bottom 10. A look at the Top 10 states shows Indiana would need to improve turnout by 20% to join their ranks. More specifically, it is estimated that a 20% increase would require approximately 500,000 additional voters in 2020.

We recommend that Indiana sets the goal of moving from the bottom tier of the rankings to the top tier. Achieving such a worthy—but certainly ambitious—goal will require the creation and implementation of the State's first concerted, nonpartisan, statewide campaign to encourage all eligible Hoosiers to register and vote. Every non-governmental organization which has supported the production of the Indiana Civic Health Index looks forward to working with like-minded individuals and organizations to make this goal a reality.

RECOMMENDATION #2:

As we head toward the 2020 elections, Indiana should aspire to increase voting turnout substantially, with the goal of moving from the Bottom 10 to the Top 10 of states.

A Future for Indiana's Civic Health

If there is one overriding theme to take away from almost a decade of studying our civic health, it is that Indiana's commitment to civic engagement is unwavering.

Hoosiers of all income levels living in all geographic areas participate in civic life in meaningful and valued ways. Harnessing Hoosiers' energy and ideas, engaging in informed decision making and dialogue at all levels, and taking actions that support civic participation will ensure that all communities grow together.

By taking what we have learned and building upon our strengths, we can accomplish our goal. We recognize that one formula may not be best suited to all areas of civic health in Indiana and in that spirit recommend an aspirational goal and an opportunity to come together to determine how best to ensure it is accomplished. One thing is certain: with the Indiana Civic Health Index as a foundation for dialogue and action, we can enhance our civic lives.

RECOMMENDATION #2:

As we head toward the 2020 elections, Indiana should aspire to **increase voting turnout substantially**, with the goal of moving from the Bottom 10 to the Top 10 of states.

Mobilize a statewide effort to increase turnout by **20%**, connected to a digital registration platform that will provide as much unbiased information about the 2020 candidates and issues as we can put there.



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THE CROSSROADS OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

For Immediate Release
Monday, Feb. 10, 2020

Contact: Ty Gerig
Phone: 317-514-7963

Veteran Journalist to Lead *Indiana Citizen* Voter Content Development

INDIANAPOLIS – *The Indiana Citizen* announced today the hiring of veteran journalist Kevin Morgan to lead its efforts to connect Hoosier voters to unbiased information about the candidates who will appear on their 2020 general election ballots.

Morgan, who spent nearly three decades as a writer and editor at *The Indianapolis Star*, began today as director of digital content.

“We are excited to have Kevin join *The Indiana Citizen* to take on the key role in our efforts to increase the number of informed, engaged Hoosier voters,” said Bill Moreau, president and co-founder of the Indiana Citizen Education Foundation with his wife, Ann. “Kevin has a wealth of experience that will add greatly to our organization’s aspirations to provide Indiana voters vital information when making their electoral decisions.”



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MORE
VOICE**

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FIVE MINDSETS TO ADDRESS

1. Today's Issues Demand My Voice
2. I Matter and So Does My Vote
3. Voting is Easy and Efficient
4. When I Vote, I'm Part of Something Bigger
5. The Country Depends on My Vote



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Snapchat Image Primary Audience



Snapchat Story Primary Audience





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Billboard



30 Second Radio Spot: Register

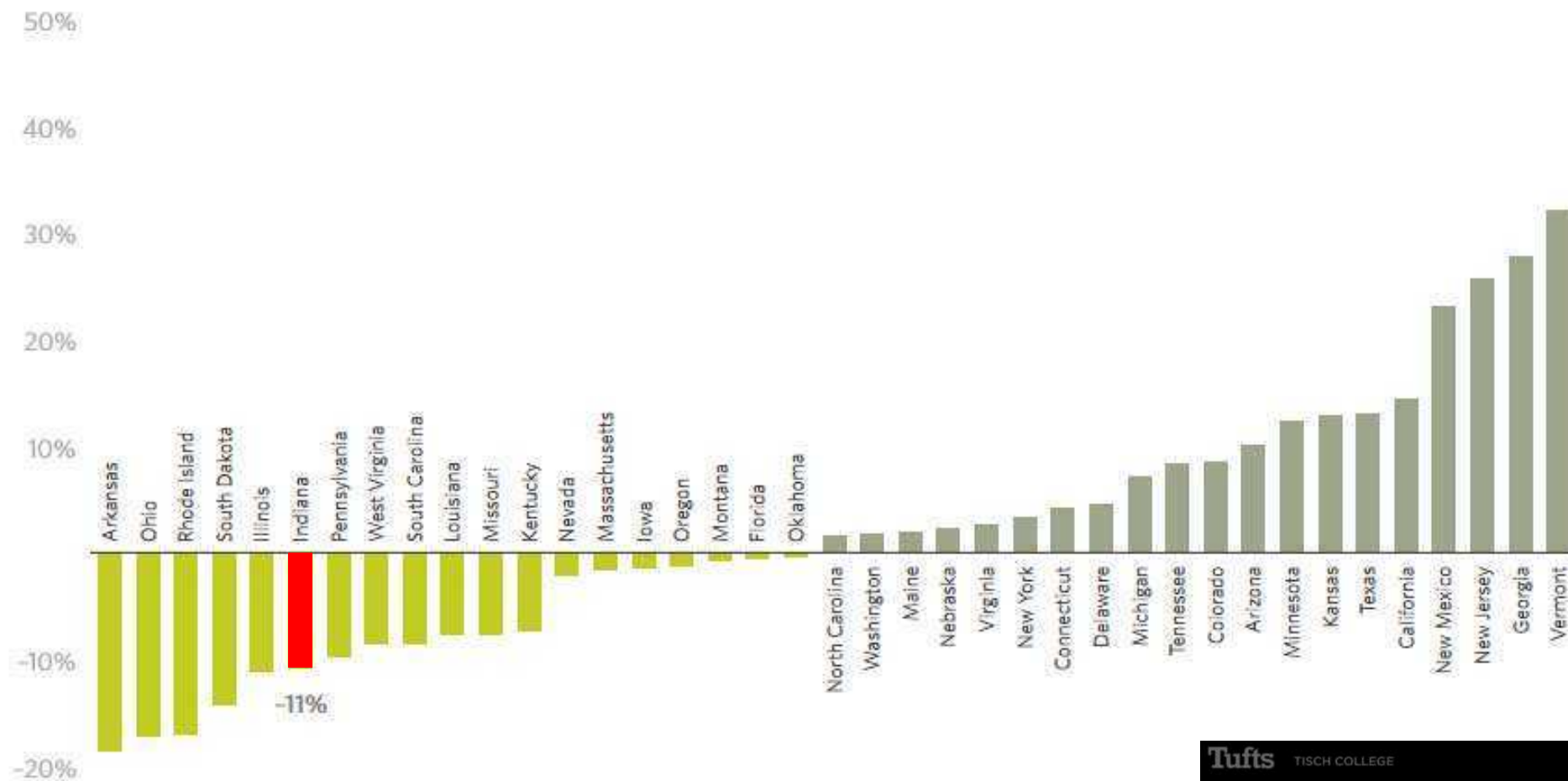




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In 20 States, Youth Voter Registration (Ages 18-24) Is Already Higher than in November 2016

The difference (%) in the number of young people (ages 18-24) who were registered to vote in each state in August 2020 vs. in November 2016



Tufts TISCH COLLEGE

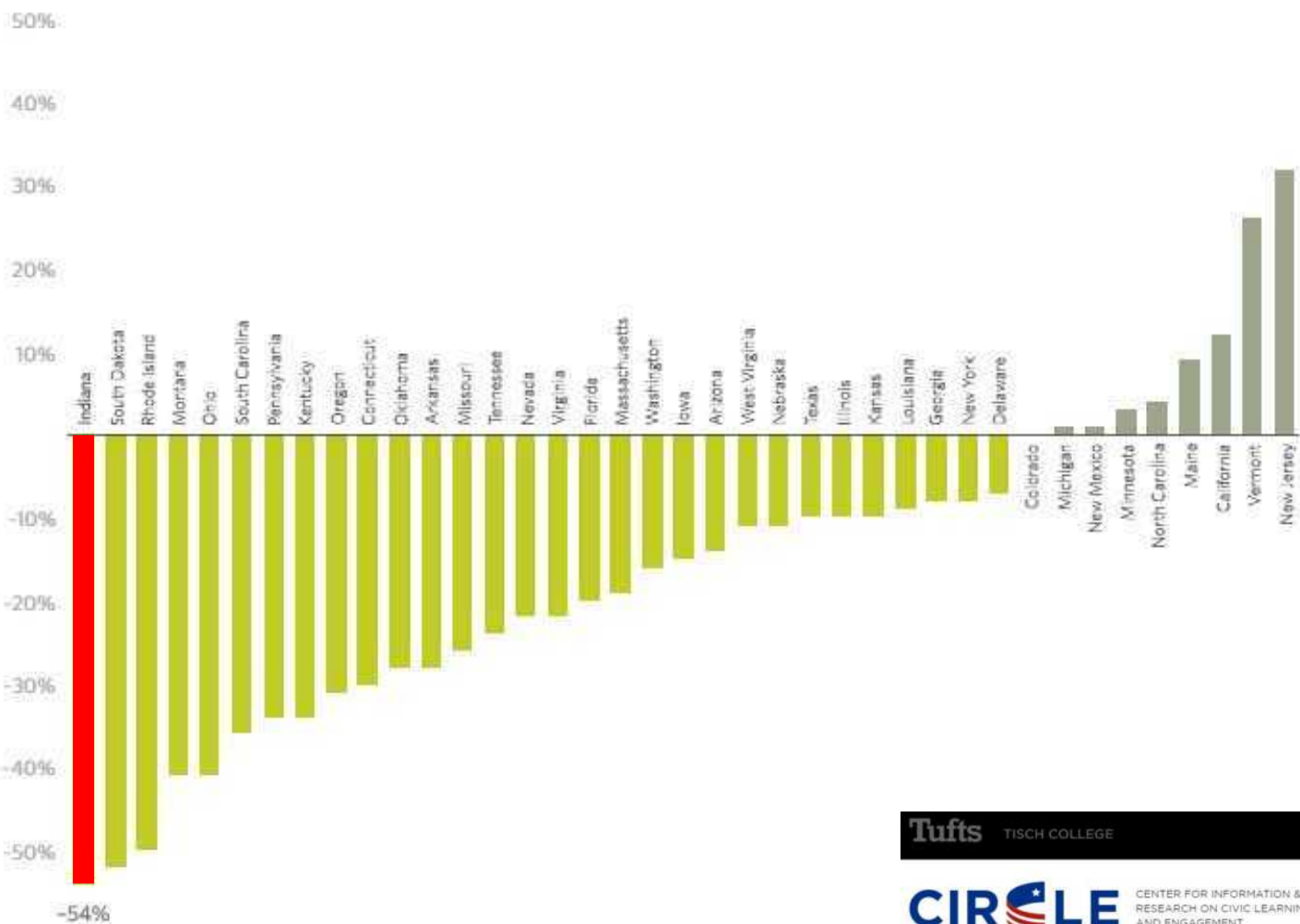
CIRCLE CENTER FOR INFORMATION & RESEARCH ON CIVIC LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT



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Most States Have More Work to Do to Catch Up to November 2016 Registration Levels for Newly Eligible Voters (Ages 18-19)

The difference (%) in the number of young people (ages 18-19) who were registered to vote in each state in August 2020 vs. in November 2016.



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Is this how democracy dies?

Despite These Headwinds

- We raised more than \$500,000 during 2020
- Our OMV campaign ads were shown more than 9 million times across Facebook, Snapchat and connected TV
- Created first-of-its kind virtual ballot with candidate profiles from Governor to the school board level

Our Future

With no elections in 2021, how do we contribute?

Answer: accountability journalism



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NEW FROM THE INDIANA CITIZEN: Redistricting process begins to take shape

Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray are tentatively planning on completing new congressional, state House and state Senate districts...

**THE ROOM WHERE IT
HAPPENED: A decade after
Indiana's 2011 redistricting, those
on the inside still aren't talking.**

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NEW FROM THE INDIANA CITIZEN: Redistricting process begins to take shape

Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray are tentatively planning on completing new congressional, state House and state Senate districts by Oct. 1, using so-called “legacy” data from the U.S. Census Bureau that will become available in mid-August.

The Republican legislative leaders laid out their ideas to their Democratic counterparts, House Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta and Senate Minority Leader Greg Taylor, in a meeting held late Wednesday afternoon in the Senate Republican Caucus meeting room in the Indiana Statehouse.

Two people who attended the meeting provided the following information on background because they were not authorized to speak for Huston or Bray.

The U.S. Census Bureau data from the 2020 census, delayed by the coronavirus pandemic, will come in a format similar to that used in the redistricting processes in 2001 and 2011. The Legislative Services Agency will reformat the legacy data so that map-drawing can begin by Sept. 1.

The House and Senate election committees will hold public hearings in early August—weeks before proposed new maps are released. The dates, number and locations of the hearings have not been determined.

House and Senate members were asked to provide the exact locations of their homes to LSA, consistent with past practice.

Popular Posts

NEW FROM THE INDIANA CITIZEN: Redistricting process begins to take shape

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*Bill Theobald, Janet Williams
& Kevin Morgan with
1st place award*



How does gerrymandering
impact Hoosiers of color?

Racial Justice Requires Fair Maps (RJRFM) campaign

- HSFF \$75k grant, plus Mills \$5k challenge, Ann Stack \$20k
- mix of paid and earned media

RJRFM campaign (cont'd)

Paid media

- billboards: 247,000/day
- TV ads/social media: 1,461,589 impressions
- radio ads: 528,665 impressions
- *Indianapolis Recorder*/WISH town hall meeting



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**Racial Justice
Requires Fair Maps.**

Learn about racial gerrymandering at IndianaCitizen.org

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RJRFM campaign (cont'd)

Earned media

- radio, TV, print interviews

The Indiana Citizen TV Appearances (September, 2021)



**INDY STYLE
APPEARANCE**
SEPTEMBER 14,
10:20AM



**WISH-TV
APPEARANCES**
SEPTEMBER 13,
5PM & 6PM
SEPTEMBER 14,
5AM



VIRTUAL TOWN HALL ON WISHTV.COM
SEPTEMBER 15 - 150 PAGEVIEWS



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TODAY'S NEWS



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REDISTRICTING, ROUND 2: At the local level, another chance for openness and fair maps

October 21, 2021 The introduction, passage and enactment of new congressional and state legislative district maps by the 148 state legislators in attendance and the...

WELCOME TO MONROE COUNTY: Where citizens will be in charge of redistricting

Oct. 25, 2021 Continuing our coverage of this year's redistricting process, the following report was written by veteran Bloomington journalist Steve Hinnefeld for The Indiana Citizen. Bloomington...

From Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism: A Profile of The Indiana Citizen



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A MOMENT OF TRUTH FOR INDY DEMOCRATS: Will the City-County Council's redistricting follow the example of Bloomington or the Statehouse?

The story might be familiar by now: The once-a-decade duty of redistricting rests with a legislative supermajority, and calls for an independent, nonpartisan redrawing of district lines are ignored. It's a story that just played out in the Indiana Statehouse, with a Republican-led juggernaut resulting in congressional and legislative districts [already criticized](#) as some of the most gerrymandered in the nation.

Six blocks east on Market Street in the City-County Building, the story has a twist: It's a Democratic supermajority that will be in charge of redistricting, and its plans remain unclear. Will the City-County Council — which went on record four years ago in support of an “independent citizen-led commission” to redraw the 159 congressional and state legislative districts — take that approach in redrawing its own 25 council districts?

The answer to the simple yes/no question from the council's Democratic leadership, at least for now, seems to be: Too soon to talk about it. Council districts will be up for election in 2023, setting up a process that will unfold in 2022.

Brandon Herget, the council policy director to whom the leadership referred questions about redistricting, noted in an email that the council only recently approved funding for redistricting, set to take effect on Jan. 1.

“Those dollars will become available at the beginning of next year and over the coming weeks and months I anticipate the beginning of a conversation that will determine how our community and our Council will move forward with our process,” Herget wrote.



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2021 INDIANA CIVIC HEALTH INDEX™

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST

INDIANA CITIZEN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

INDIANA UNIVERSITY CENTER ON REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

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NCoC National Conference on Citizenship Connecting People. Strengthening Our Country.



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Elective administrative policy changes

Indiana ranks among states with the most restrictive voting laws. For example, it is the only state with no person voting, less than a 24-hour in-person voting period, no in-person absentee voting, no mail-in absentee voting, no early voting, no voter ID law, and no ballot secrecy. The Indiana Senate recently was among the first to accept a voter ID law, which was signed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 2020, Indiana passed one of the nation's most restrictive absentee voting provisions, despite the bipartisan support of 70% of the voters, which was raised from 65% to 70%.

Policy changes made by states with consistently high voter turnout

States which consistently score in the top 25 for turnout have made policy changes which resulted in higher turnout. To ensure statistically soundness has been achieved, if the top-performing states in voting and registration are listed, the states that have consistently performed in the top 10 of states over the last ten years (from 2010–the 2018 year) are listed. The states that have consistently performed in the top 10 for turnout, top states, they are presented in alphabetical order.

Comparing Indiana's Voting Rights to Other States Across the Country

| | Automatic Registration | Same-day Voter Registration | Unrestricted Absentee Voting | Election Day Voting Hours Exceeding 12 Hours | Redistricting Process | Mail-In Voting | Time Off Requested? |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------|---------------------|
| ALABAMA | N | N | N | N | Legislative/Congressional Redistricting Commission | N | N |
| ALASKA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| ARIZONA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| ARKANSAS | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| CALIFORNIA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Legislative/Congressional Redistricting Commission | Y | Y, 2 hours |
| COLORADO | Y | Y | Y | Y | Legislative/Congressional Redistricting Commission | Y | Y, 2 hours |
| CONNECTICUT | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| DELAWARE | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| FLORIDA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| GEORGIA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| HAWAII | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| ILLINOIS | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| INDIANA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| IOWA | N | Y | Y | Y | Non-Partisan Staff (Legislative Services) | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| KANSAS | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| KENTUCKY | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| LOUISIANA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| MAINE | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature (advised by Maine Apportionment Commission) | N | N |
| MARYLAND | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| MASSACHUSETTS | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| MICHIGAN | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| MINNESOTA | N | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | N | Y |
| MISSISSIPPI | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| MISSOURI | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| MONTANA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| NEBRASKA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| NEVADA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| NEW JERSEY | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| NEW MEXICO | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| NEW YORK | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| NORTH CAROLINA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| NORTH DAKOTA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| OHIO | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| OKLAHOMA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| OREGON | Y* | N | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | N |
| PENNSYLVANIA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| RHODE ISLAND | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| TENNESSEE | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| TEXAS | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| UTAH | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |
| VIRGINIA | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| WASHINGTON | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| WEST VIRGINIA | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| WISCONSIN | N | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| WYOMING | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |

| | Automatic Voter Registration | Same-day Voter Registration | Unrestricted Absentee Voting | Election Day Voting Hours Exceeding 12 Hours | Redistricting Process | Mail-In Voting | Time Off Requested? |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------|---------------------|
| COLORADO | Y | Y | Y | Y | Legislative/Congressional Redistricting Commission | Y | Y, 2 hours |
| DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA | Y | Y | Y | Y | N/A | Y | N |
| IOWA | N | Y | Y | Y | Non-Partisan Staff (Legislative Services) | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| MAINE | Y | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature (advised by Maine Apportionment Commission) | N | N |
| MINNESOTA | N | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | N | Y |
| OREGON | Y* | N | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | N |
| WISCONSIN | N | Y | Y | Y | State Legislature | Y | Y, 3 hours |
| INDIANA | N | N | N | N | State Legislature | N | N |

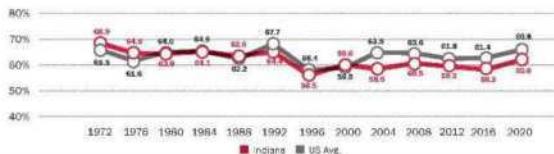


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The highest rate of midterm election turnout (56.4%) occurred in 1982 and was followed by many years of lower participation rates, including a 35.1% rate occurring in 2014 - the lowest in the 44 years. In 2018, the voter turnout rate surged to 49.3%, an increase of 14.2% over the 2014 rate. This increase in voter turnout moved Indiana from 47th in 2014 to 43rd in 2018. Despite the improvement in rank, Indiana remained in the bottom 15% of all states on the measure of voter turnout.

Chart 2 reveals a pattern of below national average voter participation rates in Presidential year-elections in the 45 years since 1972. Indiana's voter turnout rate fell below the national average during six (6) of the ten (10) election years, approximated the national average in two (2) election periods, and exceeded the national average in 1972 and 1976 only.

Chart 2. Indiana Voter Turnout During Presidential Election Years 1972 - 2020



2020: 60.6%



Despite a record turnout in 2020, we dropped from 41st to 46th



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Chart 2. Voting and Registration in Presidential Election Years in Indiana

| | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| | 2012 | | 2016 | | 2020 | |
| | Rank | Rate | Rank | Rate | Rank | Rate |
| VOTER REGISTRATION | 37th | 71.3% | 40th | 68.8% | 39th | 69.3% |
| VOTING | 38th | 59.3% | 41st | 58.3% | 46th | 60.6% |

Voter Registration and Turnout and Related Factors: Age, Education, and Income

A closer look at factors related to voting and voter registration rates suggests that these behaviors differ by age group, residents' educational attainment, and household income level during the presidential election years. Charts 3, 4, and 5 show that the rates of eligible voter participation increase with age, educational attainment, and household income levels.

Chart 3. Age and Voting in Indiana

| | Age of Voter | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | 75+ |
| VOTING (2012) | 36.4% | 44.5% | 52.4% | 68.2% | 71.6% | 76.2% | 89.6% |
| VOTING (2016) | 43.0% | 50.2% | 59.7% | 60.2% | 63.7% | 68.4% | 86.6% |
| VOTING (2020) | 38.8% | 52.8% | 58.0% | 58.6% | 71.1% | 77.8% | 70.8% |
| REGISTRATION (2012) | 48.2% | 57.7% | 68.6% | 74.7% | 78.6% | 79.9% | 78.7% |
| REGISTRATION (2016) | 57.6% | 62.5% | 69.0% | 68.2% | 73.3% | 77.0% | 79.0% |
| REGISTRATION (2020) | 48.3% | 64.8% | 68.8% | 67.8% | 76.0% | 81.4% | 78.9% |

In Indiana, among 65 to 74-year-olds, 77.8% voted in the 2020 Presidential Election compared with 48.2% of 18- to 24-year-olds. The voter turnout rate rose over 2012 levels for all but two age groups – the 45-54 and the 55-64 age groups.



VOTING (2012)

18-24

36.4%

VOTING (2016)

43.0%

VOTING (2020)

38.8%

REGISTRATION (2012)

48.2%

REGISTRATION (2016)

57.6%

REGISTRATION (2020)

48.3%

Plans for 2022

- Candidate profiles connected to virtual ballot
- Funding for racial justice reporter (\$75,000)
- Cover local government redistricting
- Produce short “your vote matters” videos for HS students through Humanities grant
- Most extensive coverage of Secretary of State race
- Continue Statehouse coverage w/StatehouseFile
 - special focus on anti-democracy legislation, e.g., “election security” bills
- Build investigative reporting team (\$100,000)



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THE CROSSROADS OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

✓ **Am I registered to vote?**

Being an Indiana Citizen starts with registering to vote. Register here or confirm registration.

IndianaProSPJ
2021 Award Winner

COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS

TODAY'S NEWS



In Partnership with
TheStatehouseFile.com



John Krull commentary:
Holcomb, neither poetry
nor prose

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DID REDISTRICTING MAKE A DIFFERENCE? Amid Democratic strength elsewhere, Indiana's deep red election returns leave reformers discouraged.

The following report was written by Indiana journalist Mary Dieter for The Indiana Citizen, November 16, 2022. While Republicans across the country scored fewer electoral victories...

BIG STATEHOUSE WINS FOR REPUBLICANS: Secretary of State-elect Morales and continuing supermajorities in redrawn Senate and House districts

Republicans kept their lock on the Indiana Statehouse Tuesday as Secretary of State nominee Diego Morales (above, center) dashed Democratic hopes of a statewide win...



WHY YOUR VOTE MATTERS: MINI-DOCUMENTARIES FROM THE INDIANA CITIZEN AND INDIANA HUMANITIES



WHY YOUR VOTE MATTERS: THE TELL CITY MAYOR'S RACE

FOLLOW

★ ROKITA WATCH

**How did we do in the 2022
midterm elections?**



Indiana midterm election turnout drops 20%, with Marion County near bottom

December 7, 2022 | Leslie Bonilla Muñiz, Indiana Capital Chronicle

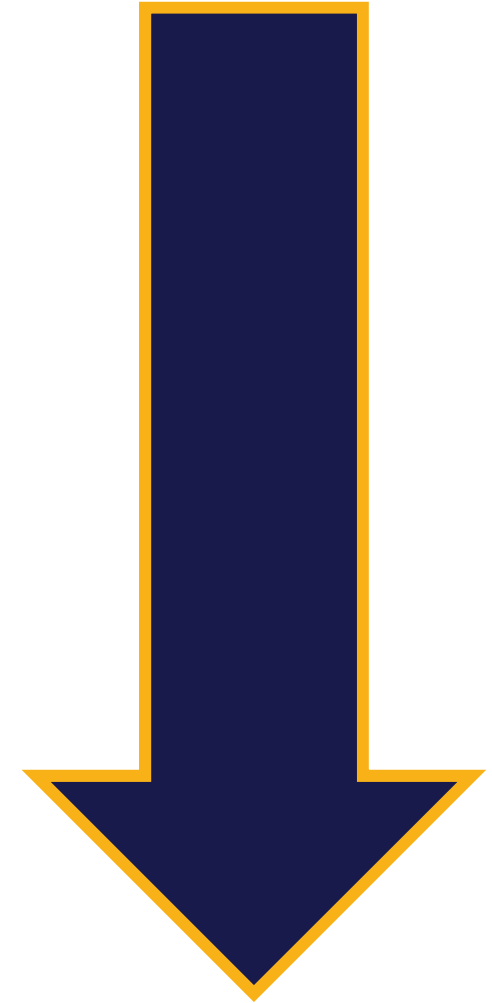
Indiana **DROPPED**

from 43rd to 48th

37.4% v. 46.5% (national)

1,880,755 ('22) v.

2,308,258 ('18)



2023 is a Municipal Election Year

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Evansville | 20% |
| Ft. Wayne | 30% |
| Indianapolis | 24% |
| South Bend | 22% |

What happens when very low turnout and a very close election coincide?

- Mayors hold office with fewer than 15% of voters, or worse
- Citizens don't accept the outcome

What Can Be Done?

“Knowledge/information is power”
- *(Bacon/Jefferson)*

Support local journalism

What Can Be Done Through Public Policy Choices?

- End gerrymandering
- Voting policies
- Should office be elected? If so, partisan?
- Move municipal elections to presidential year



End gerrymandering by
enacting independent
redistricting commissions

Voting Policies

- Automatic voter registration
- Same-day voter registration
- No-excuse absentee voting
- Vote centers
- Longer voting hours

Should office be elected? If so, partisan?

- County surveyor, coroner
- State and county treasurer, auditor
- Why are judges, sheriffs and prosecutors partisan?
- Why should elections be controlled by a partisan?
- For goodness sakes, don't make school board elections partisan!



**Move municipal elections
to presidential year**

**We're watching democracy die.
So what are we going to do
about it?**