CITIZENDETROIT PRESENTS

Distilled Democracy



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DETROIT TRIVIA



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UPDATES ON THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA



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HOW DID WE DO?

2018 ELECTION VOTER TURNOUT

The 2018 United States elections were held Tuesday, November 6, 2018. This election year was called a midterm election because people could vote for their local and state representatives and officeholders, in the middle of the term of the U.S. President. The next time U.S. citizens can elect a president is Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

UNITED STATES: 2018 had the largest general election midterm turnout since the 1914 midterm election: 50.3% (13% higher than the 2014 midterms).

23 states had double-digit percentage-point increases compared with average turnout in midterm elections held between 1982 and 2014. Among the states that saw the highest growth in midterm turnout were Georgia, whose 55% turnout was 21 points higher than previous midterm elections, and Texas, whose turnout of 46% was 14 points higher than the state's midterm average between 1982 and 2014. (Wikipedia)

MICHIGAN: Highest general election midterm voter turnout in nearly 50 years: 57.5% (14.7% higher than the 2014 midterms).

The Detroit Free Press reported that the 2018 midterms had the highest midterm turnout in Michigan since 1970, when it was 67%. The state record for a midterm election was set in 1962 with 75%.

CITY OF DETROIT: Highest general election midterm voter turnout in 56 years: 41% (10% higher than the 2014 midterms).

194,260 of 473,277 (41%) registered Detroiters turned out for the 2018 midterm general election. In the tri-county area, increases in primary voter turnout led to increases in midterm election turnout.

2018 PRIMARY ELECTION REPORT

Electoral engagement and increased turnout for primary elections are signals that show how much the electorate is paying attention to who is running for office. In the 2018 primary election cycle, the tri-county region experienced remarkable increases in voter turnout.

- Overall in the State of Michigan, 11.7% more people showed up to vote in the primary election than they did in 2014.
- Oakland County saw a 13.7% increase in voter turnout.
- Macomb County saw a 12.9% increase in voter turnout.
- In Detroit, 21.5% of registered Detroiters turned out for the 2018 primaries, an increase of 12.6%.

RECENT DETROIT VOTER TURNOUT

2010 Midterm election (Snyder)

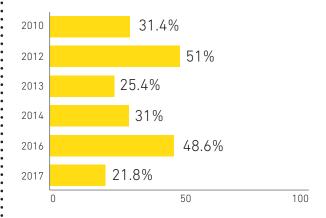
2012 Presidential election (Obama)

2013 Local election (Duggan)

2014 Midterm election (Snyder)

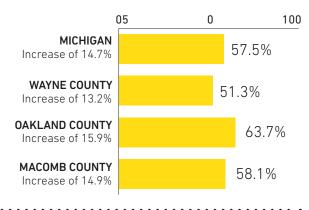
2016 Presidential election (Trump)

2017 Local election (Duggan)



2018 VS. 2014 ELECTION TURNOUT

Michigan & Tri-County General Elections





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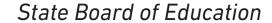
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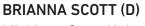
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GREGORY BILL 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2464
KAREN BRAXTON 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 833-1776
JEROME C. CAVANAGH 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 833-4985
KEVIN COV	(0.1.0) 0.0 (0.1.1.1



Judicial Cont'd

	Judicial Cont u	
	PRENTIS EDWARDS, JR. 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-5172
	EDWARD EWELL 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-5195
	TRACEY GREEN 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 833-0667
	ADEL HARB 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2474
	BRIDGET HATHAWAY 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2481
	DANA MARGARET HATHAWAY 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2444
	CHARLES S. HEGARTY 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-5487
	CATHERINE HEIS 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-7084
	QIANA LILLARD 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2391
	KATHLEEN MCCARTHY 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-5481
	LESLIE SMITH 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2427
	DEBORAH THOMAS 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-5210
	REGINA THOMAS 3rd Circuit Court	(313) 224-2491
A ROSE		

Judicial Cont'd

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DAVID PERKINS Probate Court	(313) 224-5708
FRANK S. SZYMANSKI Probate Court	(313) 833-0662
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CHRISTOPHER M. BLOUNT 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-2286
DONALD COLEMAN 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-5678
RUTH ANN GARRETT 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-6569
ALICIA JONES-COLEMAN 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-2404
DEBORAH LEWIS LANGSTON 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-2567
WILLIAM C. MCCONICO 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-2283
DONNA ROBINSON MILHOUSE 36th District Court Justice	(313) 965-2297

Judicial Cont'd

36th District Court

3
3

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DAVID S. ROBINSON, JR. 36th District Court Justice

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ALIYAH SABREE36th District Court Justice

(313) 965-2403

WHO REPRESENTS US?

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION

U.S. SENATORS

- Michigan has two U.S. Senators: Debbie Stabenow (D) and Gary Peters (D)
- Sen. Stabenow was re-elected in 2018 (Sen. Peters will be on the 2020 ballot)

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

• There are fourteen congressional districts in Michigan. Detroit communities are split into two districts: 13th and 14th Congressional Districts: Rashida Tlaib (MI-13) and Brenda Lawrence (MI-14)

STATE REPRESENTATION

STATE SENATORS

Five State Senators represent parts of Detroit and surrounding communities. They were elected to their first term in the Senate during the 2018 General Election.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

- **Ten** members of the Michigan House of Representatives represent parts of Detroit and surrounding communities.
- The Detroit Delegation also is known as the Detroit Caucus.
- The Chair of the Detroit Caucus is State Representative Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, District 8.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

The Wayne County Commission and its employees are the primary legislative branch of county government. The chief roles of the commission are to adopt a budget; approve contracts, appointments, rules; and enact ordinances. The Wayne County Commission also focuses on issues related to the roads, jails and the courts, and transportation.

The Wayne County Executive is the head of the executive branch of the county and operates departments such as Public Services and Economic Development. It oversees the departments which are not overseen by other elected County officials such as the County Treasurer or County Prosecutor. The Executive administers the daily operations of the county and sets the budget and certain appointments, which are in turn approved by the Commission.

- Wayne County, the most populous county in Michigan, is divided into 15 districts, and commissioners are elected every two years during even-year elections.
- Detroit neighborhoods are represented by seven of the 15 county commissioners.

DETROIT CITY CHARTER AND THE CHARTER COMMISSION

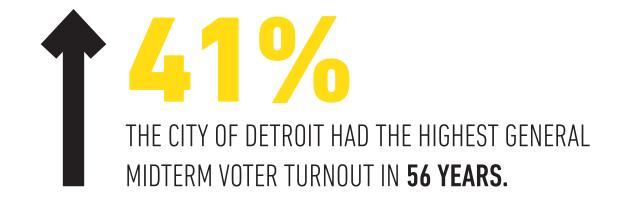
WHAT'S A CITY CHARTER?

A city charter is a legal document that establishes a city or town, and lays out the roles and responsibilities for local government to provide for the health, safety and welfare of its residents. A charter confers rights and responsibilities on residents as well as on elected and appointed officials. In Michigan, city charters originally were written by the state legislature. The first three Detroit charters were written in 1802, 1815, and 1857.

In 1908, Michigan allowed cities to govern themselves, through the Home Rule Cities Act. This act gave Detroit voters the right to create our own charter, approved by the governor. Ever since, Detroit's charter defines how city government is structured and its powers and responsibilities. It established a strong role for the city's mayor, and a city council with nine non-partisan, at-large members. Since 1908, Detroit voters have elected several times to "open" the charter and consider revisions to its contents. Charter commissioners are elected to perform this consideration, but does not mandate that the charter be changed at all.

2019 CHARTER COMMISSION

During the August 2018 primary elections, Detroit voters opted to open the Detroit City Charter for revision. In November 2018, during the midterm general election, Detroit voters went back to the polls to vote for nine charter commissioners. The newly elected charter commissioners' swearing-in ceremony and organizational meeting were held on Thursday, December 20, 2018 at The Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. The body elected officers, i.e. chair, vice chair, and secretary.



BALLOT QUESTIONS AND TAXES WE VOTED ON IN 2018



PROPOSITIONS (BALLOT QUESTIONS)

A ballot measure is a piece of proposed legislation to be approved or rejected by eligible voters. Ballot measures also are known as "propositions" or simply "questions". (Wikipedia)

In 2018, a majority voted YES on the following questions:

State Proposal 18-1 (Recreational Marijuana)

Legislative Initiative: Coalition To Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol (Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana)

YES 56%, NO 44%

State Proposal 18-2 (Gerrymandering)

Constitutional Amendment: Voters Not Politicians (Gerrymandering)

YES 61%, NO 39%

State Proposal 18-3 (Voting Rights)

Constitutional Amendment (Promote The Vote/Voting Rights)

YES 67%, NO 33%



WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (WCCCD) REPLACEMENT OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

In 2018, Detroit and Wayne County voters were asked whether they would support a permanent millage to fund Wayne County Community College's operations.

Answer: Yes 63%, NO 36%

What is a Millage?

A millage is a proposal for a property levy that is expressed in mills per dollar. A mill equals \$1 of tax for every \$1000 of taxable value of a property. As an example, the 2.25 mills passed for Wayne County Community College is a taxable rate of \$2.25 for every \$1000 of the Taxable Value of a property.

States have different definitions of what is the taxable value of a property. For example, the Michigan Constitution caps the taxable value of a property at 50% of estimated market value or "True Cash Value".

Further information can be found on the city of Detroit's website:

https://detroitmi.gov/how-do-i/find-information/property-assessment

COALITION TO REGULATE MARIJUANA LIKE ALCOHOL

ACT OF LEGISLATION PROPOSAL 18-1

YES - 56%, NO - 44%



Implementation of Recreational Marijuana

Marijuana currently is legal in Michigan for residents 21 years or older.

- 2.5 ounces is allowed on your person;
- 10 ounces is allowed at your residence; 2.5 ounces or more must be locked-up and secured;
- 12 plants can be grown at your home, as long as they cannot be seen by the public;
- Retail sales are expected in 2020, following permitting which is to begin by Dec. 2019;
- Licensed medical marijuana retailers will be the only authorized dealers that will be able to sell recreational marijuana during the first 24 months.

It is still illegal in Michigan to

- Sell marijuana
- Drive under the influence of marijuana
- Use marijuana in public
- Smoke or grow marijuana if your landlord restricts it

Employers, per their own policies, can continue to terminate employees for testing positive for marijuana in Michigan.

Marijuana is still illegal under Federal Law, yet authorities have largely refrained from prosecuting citizens in states where it has been allowed medically or recreationally. Recreational marijuana is now legal in ten states, and thirty-three states have allowed medical use of marijuana.

"Weed" In Different Michigan Towns And Cities

Cities and towns are allowed to "opt out" of recreational marijuana establishments by passing an ordinance. Approximately 60 Michigan localities already have done so --including Troy, Livonia, Pontiac and Monroe. Citizens also can start a local ballot initiative to opt-out by collecting signatures greater than 5% of the total number of local votes in the past Gubernatorial Election.

• Cities that refuse recreational marijuana retailers will not receive tax revenues from a 15% portion of the 10% excise tax.

VOTERS NOT POLITICIANS (GERRYMANDERING)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSAL 18-2

YES - 61%, NO - 39%

Implementation of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson has said she will create a citizen redistricting department and host town halls across the state to provide information. According to the initiative, the commission must be funded by December of 2019.

Public Act (PA): Law - a bill approved by legislature and signed by the Governor

Senate Bill (SB) House Resolution (HR)

- Applications for citizens to join the commission will be available no later than the 1st of January, 2020 and will be accepted until June 1st.
- The process to narrow applicants will begin July 1st, 2020 and end with the seating of the Commission on Oct. 15th.
- The five Independent, four Democrat and four Republican Commissioners must adopt a redistricting plan for the U.S. Congress, State House and State Senate by November of 2021.



PROMOTE THE VOTE (VOTING RIGHTS)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMEN PROPOSAL 18-3

YES - 67%, NO - 33%

Promote the Vote's passage enshrined voting rights including:

- No-reason absentee ballots
- Secret ballots
- Straight-party voting
- Election day voter registration
- Automatic voter registration during the issuance of state drivers licenses, identification cards and change-of-address forms
- Absentee ballots sent to military members 45 days before election day

Michigan's Implementation of Expanded Voting Rights

Most of these constitutional amendments will not become evident until the next possible election date in May, 2019. Some, like secret ballots and the right to a statewide election audit, already are state law. The Secretary of State currently is developing a new absentee voter form, as noted on their website.

Voter Registration and Absentee Voting Reform Laws

PA 603 - 607 **V**



Laws passed during lame duck session include:

- Ask for citizenship on all Driver's License, State ID and Enhanced ID applications, which will be used for automatic voter registration.
- Require proof of residency from those registering in-person 14 days prior to Election Day.
- Require that the processing of election day voter registration at the clerk's main office, be conducted by a clerk or assistant clerk.

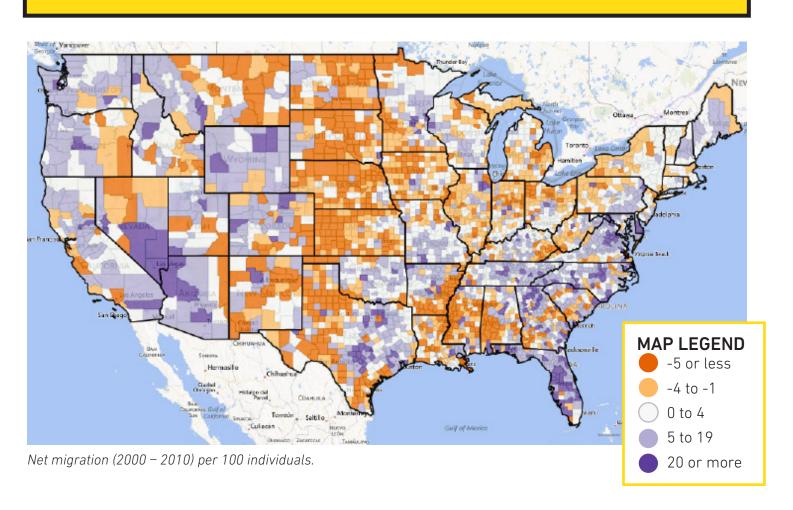


WILL MICHIGAN LOSE A CONGRESSIONAL SEAT?



ALERT

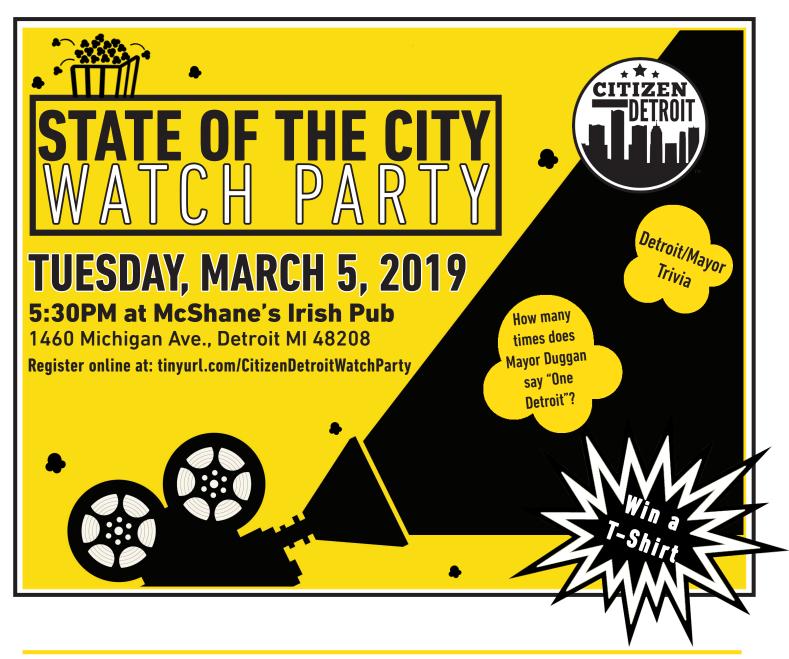
Estimates from the Citizens Research Council of Michigan predict that Michigan's Congressional Delegation will decline from 14 to 13 legislators due to 2020 Census results, revealing that the state has grown more slowly than those in the West and South.





2020 Census - Be Counted!

"The Census Bureau's mission is to serve as the nation's leading provider of quality data about its people and economy." Facts matter! Do your part during the 2020 Census.



DISTILLED DEMOCRACY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: *





The League of Women Voters of Detroit is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not endorse candidates or political parties. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We invite you to join us as we make democracy work in our communities. lwvdetroit.org

Envisioning Detroit as the most informed and engaged city in the nation.

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