

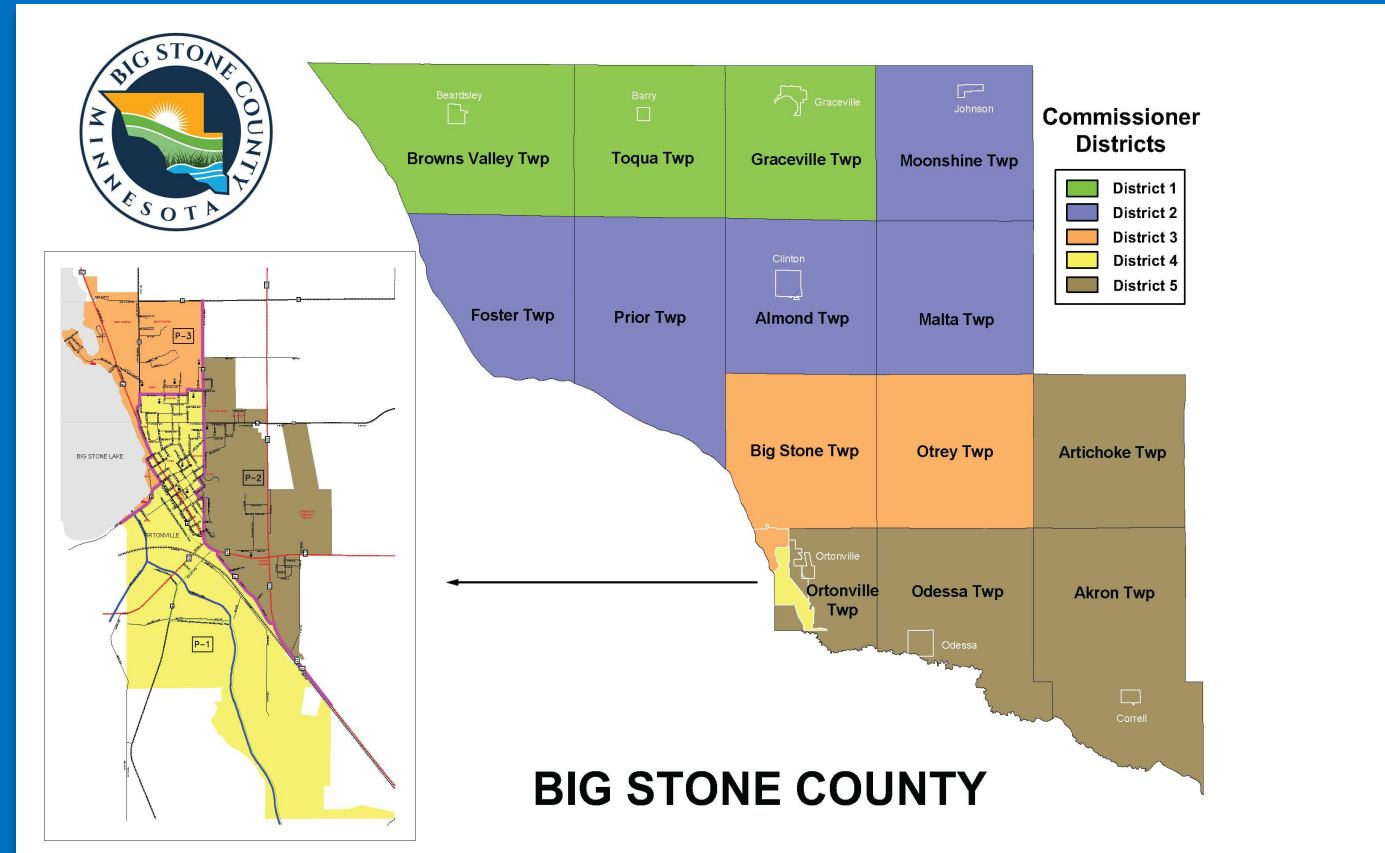
Election Training 2022



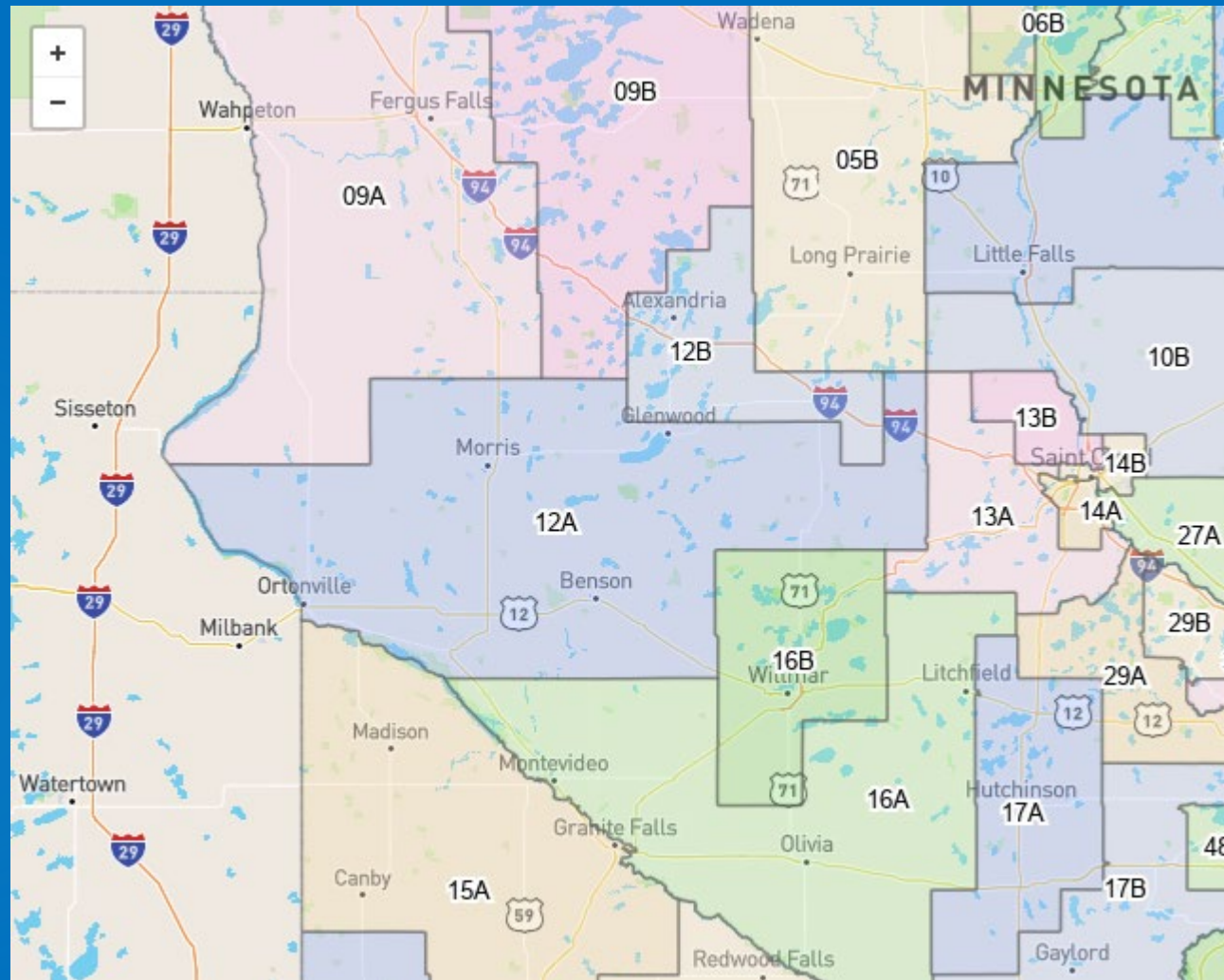
INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS TRAINING SESSION IS BASED ON
CURRENT LAWS AND RULES

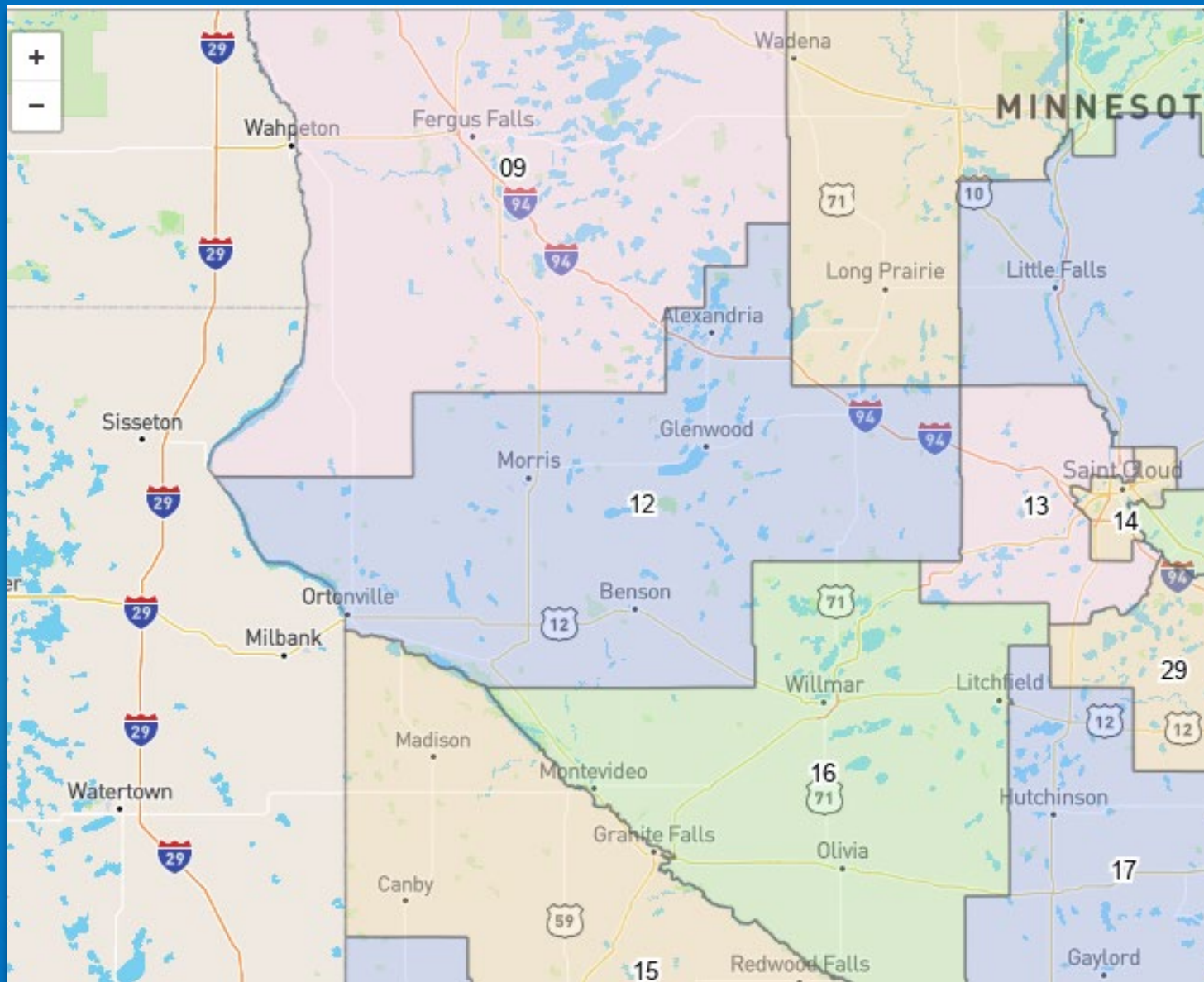
Redistricting

- ▶ Redistricting is the process of redrawing the boundaries of election districts to ensure that the people of each district are equally represented.
- ▶ Redistricting usually happens two years after each census is taken.
- ▶ Big Stone County Commissioner, Legislative, Senate, and Congressional Districts changed for 2022.



Legislative District 12A



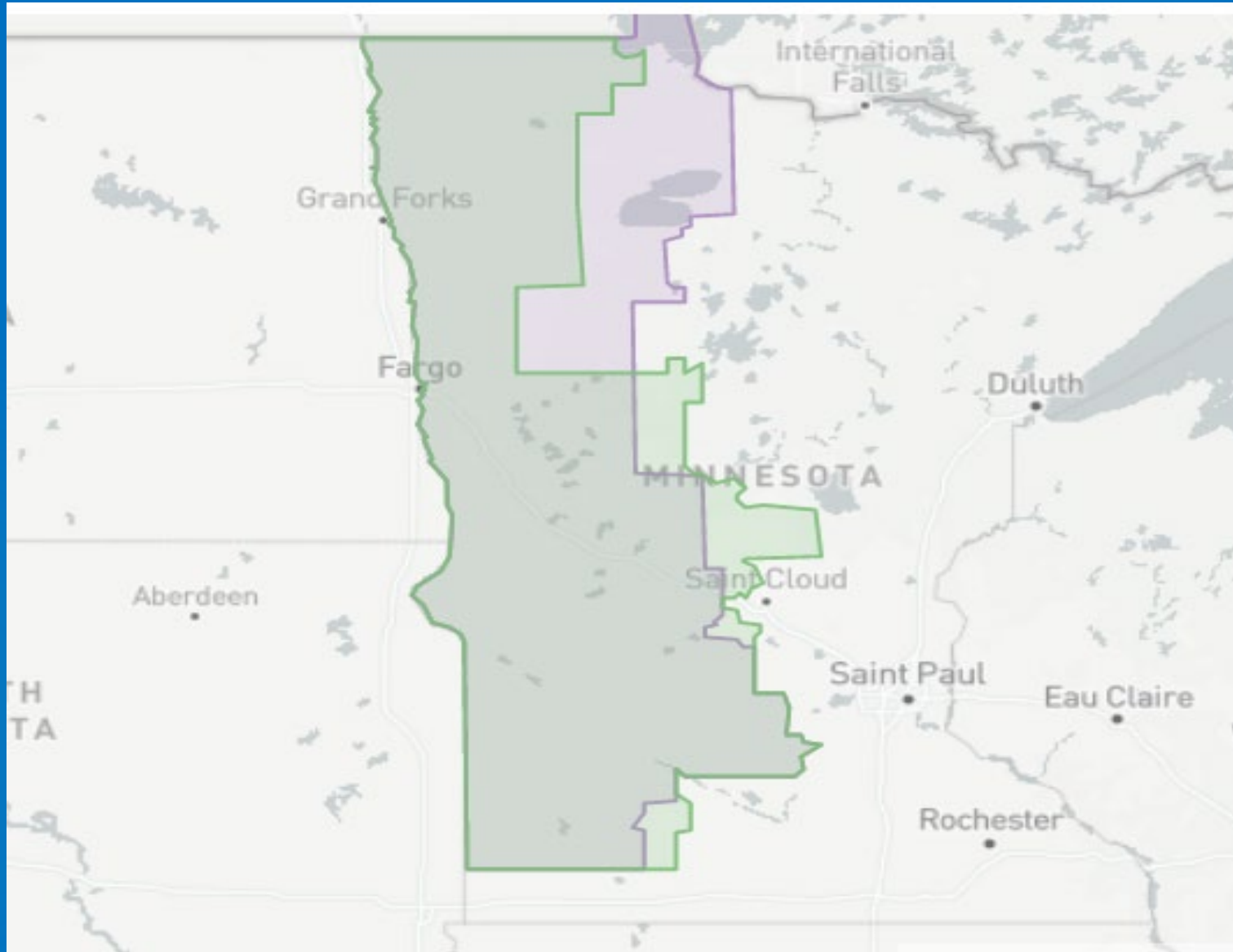


Senate District 12

Seventh Congressional District

The Seventh District lost a fairly large geographic area in north-central Minnesota, including the Northwest Angle, to the Eighth District. But it gained in central Minnesota, including Wadena County and a southern portion of Hubbard County.

Areas in purple were LOST. Areas in green were GAINED. Areas where the colors overlap did not change.



Redistricting PVC Cards



- ▶ Redistricting Notice to Voters
- ▶ Minnesota law requires that congressional, legislative, county, and local election district boundaries be redrawn every ten years after the census. This "redistricting" process may have changed the location of your polling place and the election districts in which you reside.
- ▶ The location of your precinct, polling place, and election districts are provided on the other side of this card. Your polling place is where you will vote for state, county, and municipal elections beginning with the August 9, 2022, Primary Election. If your school district has an independent election, you may vote at a different location.
- ▶ If you have any questions about the information on this card, please contact your county elections office at the phone number listed on the other side of this card.
- ▶ Visit www.mnvotes.org for more voting information.

What's on the Election Day Ballot in 2022?

All Voters will have these races on their General Election Ballot:

- U.S. Representative
- Governor & Lt. Governor
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- Attorney General
- State Senator
- State Representative
- Judicial seats

Voters may have one or more of these races on their ballot:

- County Officials – All 5 Commissioner District will be on the ballot
- City Officers
- School Board Members
- Township Officers
- Local ballot questions

*There are no local races on the Primary ballot for 2022

Elections Performance Index

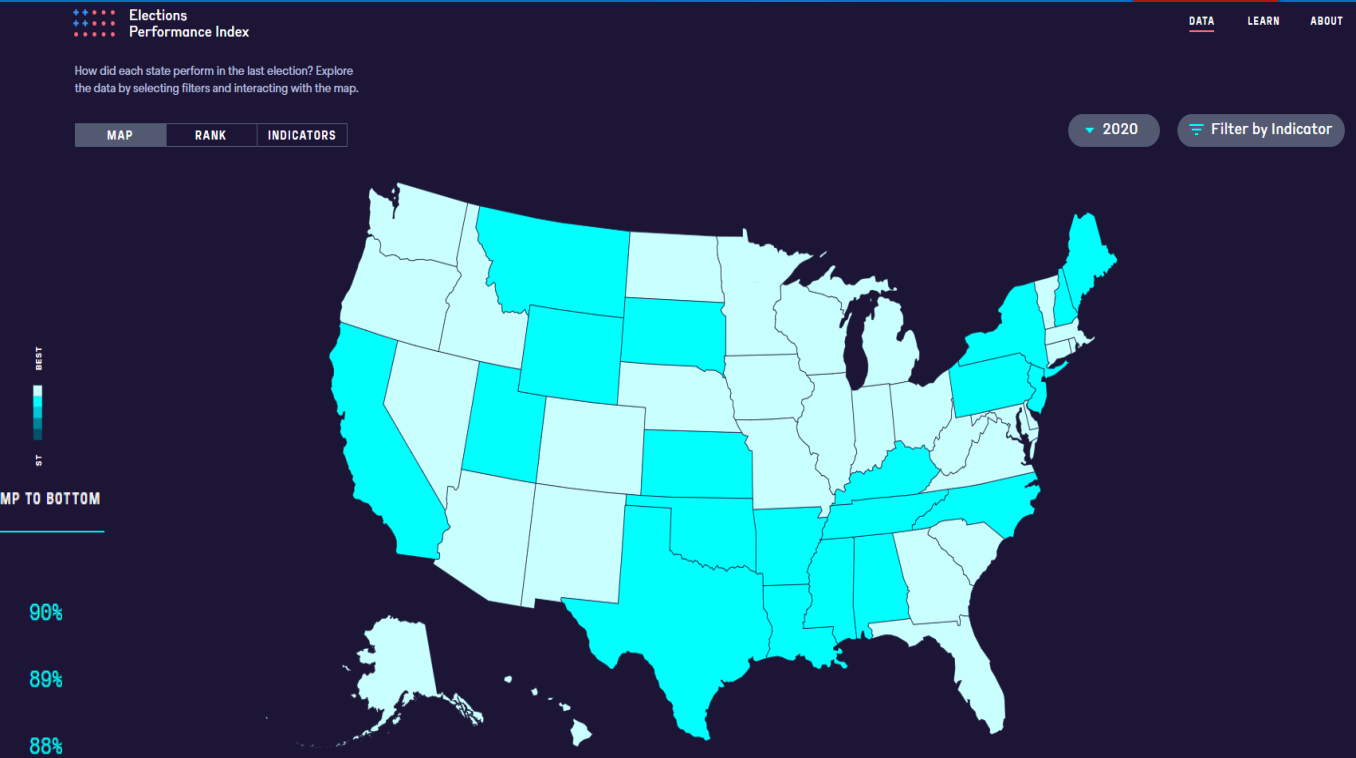
<https://elections.mit.edu/#/data/map>

81% AND ABOVE

JUMP TO TOP

JUMP TO BOTTOM

1	Vermont	90%
2	Minnesota	89%
3	Iowa	88%
4	Wisconsin	88%
5	North Dakota	88%
6	Nebraska	87%
7	Michigan	87%
8	Rhode Island	87%
9	Colorado	87%
10	Massachusetts	86%



Minnesota

in 2020

89% EPI AVERAGE (#2)
2016: 86% (#2)
2012: 80% (#2)
2008: 77% (#3)

SHARE

NOTABLE ACTIVITY

79.96% VOTER TURNOUT

91.91% VOTER REGISTRATION RATE

4 out of 4 VOTING INFORMATION LOOKUP TOOLS AVAILABLE

INDICATOR VALUES

Elections performance index

Indicators:

- ▶ Voter turnout MN 79.96% / National Average 67.87%
- ▶ Voter registration rate MN 91.91% / National Average 87.34%
- ▶ Registrations rejected MN 0.04%
- ▶ Online voter registration Yes
- ▶ Online lookup tools available 4 out of 4
- ▶ Registration/AB issues MN 1.12% / National Average 5.12%
- ▶ Mail ballots unreturned/rejected MN 16.14% / 0.28%
- ▶ Average voting wait time 11 min



Mis-Dis-Mal-Information

- ▶ Misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation(MDM) can present risks to the election infrastructure community, its owners and operators, and the public. MDM can spread quickly, causing rumors to undermine facts.
- ▶ The risks of MDM range from undermining confidence in institutions to activating and inspiring dangerous behaviors and violence

Mis-Dis-Mal-Information

- ▶ “MDM can originate from a variety of sources across digital, social, and traditional media, and new MDM topics emerge continuously. Foreign actors have used MDM to target American voters for decades. MDM also may originate from domestic sources aiming to sow divisions and reduce national cohesion. Foreign and domestic actors can use MDM campaigns to cause anxiety, fear, and confusion. These actors are ultimately seeking to interfere with and undermine our democratic institutions.
- ▶ •Even MDM that is not directly related to elections can have an impact on the election process, reducing voter confidence and trust. Election infrastructure related MDM occurs year-round –It is not just a concern in the months prior to Election Day. False narratives erode trust and pose a threat to democratic transitions, especially, but not limited to, narratives around election processes and the validity of election outcomes.” - CISA (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency)




Security practices



Challenges for Election Officials

Harassment or threats, whether in person, by phone, online, or through other means, affect every corner of society. Unfortunately, election officials are not immune to these threats, and they often face unique challenges that may put their safety at greater risk.

- Unlike private citizens, state and local election officials are public servants. Many election officials are directly elected or are appointed by a public body. This means that personal information, including personal addresses and contact information, may be on official public records.
- The public is less likely to trust the outcome of an election if their preferred candidate(s) loses. Additionally, individual members of the public may blame the system for political losses or distrust. Unfortunately, what the public views as a faceless system is in fact run by real people.
- According to the **Pew Research Center**, women are more likely to report facing extreme harassment or threats online: "Women who have been harassed online are more than twice as likely as men to say they were extremely or very upset by their most recent encounter (34% vs. 14%)." This is especially concerning for election officials since, according to the **Democracy Fund**, women make up 80% of all local election officials.

The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent seal of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The seal is circular, with a rope-like border. Inside the border, there is a detailed illustration of the Department of Justice building in Washington, D.C. The words "DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE" and "WASHINGTON" are visible at the bottom of the seal. In the top left corner of the slide, there is a small orange rectangular bar.

Task Force on Threats to Election Workers

- Report threats, harassment, or intimidation
- FBI—Election Crime Coordinator
- <https://tips.fbi.gov>
- 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324) prompt 1, then prompt 3.
- DOJ—Public Integrity Section
 - John Keller, Principal Deputy Chief
 - Sean Mulryne, Deputy Director, Election Crimes Branch

Security practices
task force on threats to election workers

Security practices

- ▶ Election judges leave for the evening in a group or with someone
- ▶ Election judges to report to the county in teams of two
- ▶ Develop a plan in case someone gets hurt at the polling place
- ▶ Who will render aid and how are the election materials secured?
- ▶ Traffic flow in and out of the polling place.



Candidate Filing Period

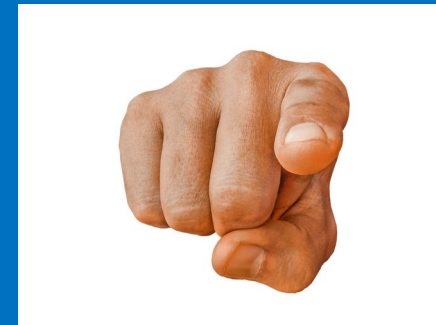
Before an election, there is a **two-week filing period** during which candidates can submit their affidavit of candidacy to the **filing officer**. Prospective candidates should contact the filing officer to learn which offices will be on the ballot at the upcoming election—some offices may only be up for election every two, three, four, or six years.

*Special Elections to fill vacancies may have filing periods of different lengths.

Who is the Filing Officer?

- U.S. Representative
 - Office of SOS
- Governor & Lt. Governor
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides (if they both live in the same county)
- Secretary of State
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides
- State Auditor
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides
- Attorney General
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides
- State Senator
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides
- State Representative
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides
- Judicial seats
 - Office of SOS or the county Auditor of the county in which the candidate resides
- County Officials
 - BSC Auditor's Office
- City Officers
 - City Clerk
- School Board Members
 - School Business Mgr or District Admin Assistant
- Township Officers
 - Township Clerk

► Is that YOU?





Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
AFFIDAVIT OF CANDIDACY

Filing #	_____
Cash/Check #	_____
Amount \$	_____

Instructions

All information on this form is available to the public. Information provided will be published on the [Secretary of State's website](#). If filing for partisan office and not a major party candidate, you must file both an affidavit of candidacy and a nominating petition. (Minn. Stat. 204B.03)

Candidate Information

Name and Office

Candidate Name (as it will appear on the ballot) _____
Office Sought _____ District # _____
For Partisan Office, Provide Political Party or Principle _____
For Judicial Office, Provide Name of Incumbent: _____

Residence Address

Do not complete if residence address is to be private and checkbox below is marked. All address and contact information is optional for federal, judicial, county attorney, and county sheriff office candidates.

Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

☐ My residence address is to be classified as private data. I certify a police report has been submitted or I have an order for protection for my (or my family's) safety, or my address is otherwise private by Minnesota law. I have attached a separate form listing my residence address.

Campaign Address and Contact

Candidate Phone Number (Required) _____

Campaign Contact Address (Required for those who have checked the box above):

Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Website _____ Email _____

Affirmation

For all offices, I swear (or affirm) that this is my true name or the name by which I am generally known in the community.

If filing for a state or local office, I also swear (or affirm) that:

- I am eligible to vote in Minnesota;
- I have not filed for the same or any other office at the upcoming primary or general election (except as provided in M.S. 204B.06, subd. 1 (2));
- I am, or will be on assuming office, 21 years of age or more;
- I will have maintained residence in this district for at least 30 days before the general election; and
- If a major political party candidate, I either participated in the party's most recent precinct caucuses or intend to vote for a majority of that party's candidates at the next general election.

If filing for one of the following offices, I also swear (or affirm) that I meet the requirements listed below:

- **United States Senator** – I will be an inhabitant of this state when elected and I will be at least 30 years old and a citizen of the United States for not less than nine years on the next January 3rd, or if filled at special election, within 21 days after the election.
- **United States Representative** – I will be an inhabitant of this state when elected and I will be at least 25 years old and a citizen of the United States for not less than seven years on the next January 3rd, or if filled at special election, within 21 days after the election.
- **Governor or Lieutenant Governor** – I will be at least 25 years old on the first Monday of the next January and a resident of Minnesota for not less than one year on election day. I am filing jointly with _____
- **Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals Judge, District Court Judge, or County Attorney** – I am learned in the law and licensed to practice law in Minnesota. My Minnesota attorney license number is _____ and a copy of my license is attached.
- **State Senator or State Representative** – I will be a resident of Minnesota not less than one year and of this district for six months on the day of the general or special election.
- **County Sheriff** – I am a licensed peace officer in Minnesota. My Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training license number is _____ and a copy of my license is attached.
- **School Board Member** – I have not been convicted of an offense for which registration is required under Minn. Stat. 243.166.
- **County, Municipal, School District, or Special District Office** – I meet any other qualifications for that office prescribed by law.

Candidate Signature _____ Date _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary public or other officer empowered to take and certify acknowledgement

(Notary stamp)

White Copy – Filing Officer

Yellow Copy – CFPD Board

Pink Copy – Public Information

Goldenrod Copy – Candidate

Rev. 5/2015

Affidavit of Candidacy

Residence Address

Do not complete if residence address is to be private and checkbox below is marked. All address and contact information is optional for federal, judicial, county attorney, and county sheriff office candidates.

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

☐

My residence address is to be classified as private data. I certify a police report has been submitted or I have an order for protection for my (or my family's) safety, or my address is otherwise private by Minnesota law. I have attached a separate form listing my residence address.

This section **MUST** be completed unless address is to be private. The box should then be checked and proof of this will need to be provided to you.

Equipment Testing



- ▶ Minnesota election administrators use a number of procedures to ensure equipment will accurately record valid votes. Equipment is approved by the state, tested locally before elections, and the results audited after elections.

CERTIFICATION

- ▶ Before being certified for use in Minnesota, all voting equipment must be tested and certified by test labs accredited by the **U.S. Election Assistance Commission** and undergo detailed additional testing by the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State.

PRE-ELECTION TESTING

- ▶ Before every election, local election officials test all equipment to be used in that election. For the preliminary testing, ballots are marked with assistive voting devices, a set of pre-marked ballots is fed into the ballot tabulators, and the machine's totals are compared with the pre-determined results. Some equipment is also tested at a Public Accuracy Test shortly before the election. Public Accuracy Tests are open to the public—contact the Auditor's office to find the time and location of their next scheduled test.



POST-ELECTION REVIEWS

- ▶ After each state general election, counties randomly draw a set of precincts where they audit the results from the ballot tabulators. In the audit, votes for certain offices are counted by hand, and that total is compared with the machine-counted results from election night.



What are the ways people vote in Big Stone County?

- ✓ In person – if your precinct has an actual polling place
 - ✓ City of Ortonville and City of Graceville
- ✓ Mail Ballot – if you are an active registered voter in a mail ballot precinct you will receive your ballot automatically
 - ✓ All Townships in BSC are Mail Ballot
- ✓ Absentee (Also known as early voting) – you will need to complete an application either online or at the Auditor's office

Code of Conduct

All election judges take and sign this oath:

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will perform the duties of election judge according to law and the best of my ability and will diligently endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit and abuse in conducting this election. I will perform my duties in a fair and impartial manner and not attempt to create an advantage for my party or my candidate."

M.S. 204B.24

Code of Conduct

What does this oath look like in practice?

- ✓ Be impartial, courteous and professional
- ✓ Maintain your polling place's accessibility, neutrality, and efficiency
- ✓ Enjoy assisting and serving diverse populations





Incident Log and Party Balance

Incident Log

Document where any unusual events or problems are recorded

Party Balance

To ensure fairness, two judges of differing major political parties must do certain tasks together

Discussion Question

Have you ever had a difficult voting experience? What made it difficult?



WHO CAN VOTE?

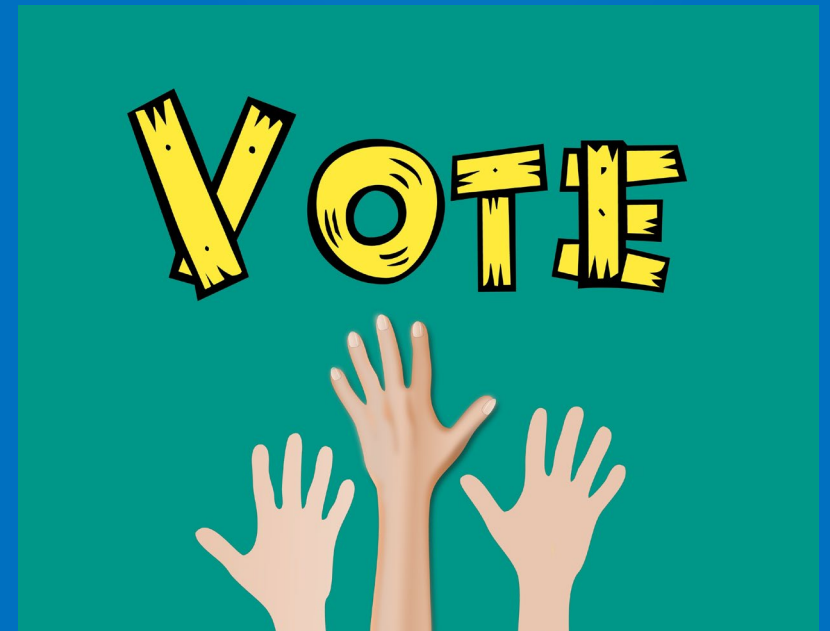
To vote in Minnesota, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old on Election Day, and a resident of Minnesota for at least 20 days. If you had a felony conviction, you can vote after you finish all parts of your sentence, including any probation, parole, or other conditions such as restitution. You can vote while under guardianship, unless a judge has revoked your right to vote

To register and vote on Election Day you must:

- Be eligible to vote

- Register and vote within your precinct

- Provide proof of residence



REGISTER TO VOTE

- You can register online
 - Will need MN Driver's License or MN ID card # or the last four of your social security #
- You can register at the County Auditor's office.
 - You must show proof of your name and current address.
- You can also register at your polling place on Election Day.
 - You must show proof of your name and current address.
- [Master Factsheet.indd \(state.mn.us\)](#)



Proof of Residence

There are 7 possible ways for a voter to provide proof of residence. Some of those ways involve a voter showing an ID, others do not.

Please note:

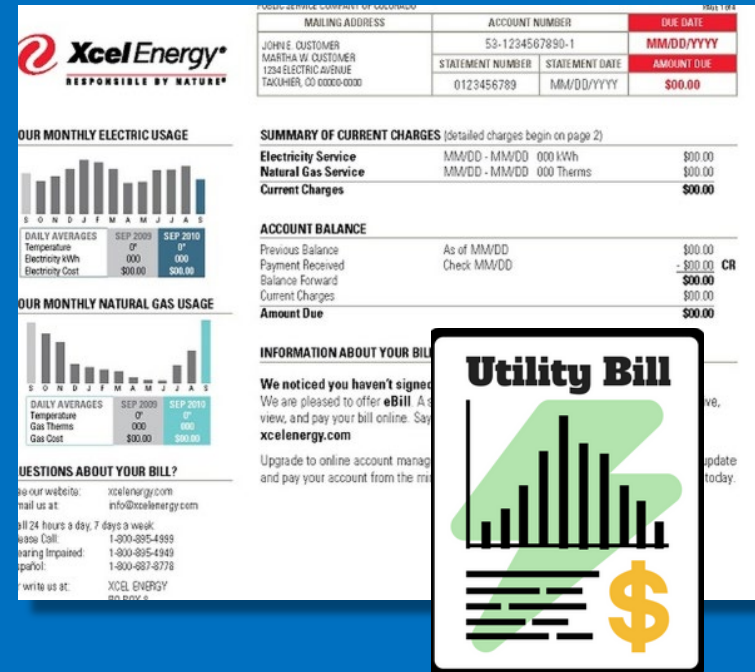
We always ask voters for “proof of residence” *not*: “Can I see your ID”.



Option 1: ID With Current Name And Address

- Current Minnesota driver's license, learner's permit or ID card – or a receipt for any of these
- Tribal ID with name, current address, signature and picture.

Option 2: Photo ID and a Document with Current Name and Address





Option 2: ID and a Document with Current Name and Address

Can this bill or document be dated at just any date?

No. It must be due or dated within 30 days of Election Day.

Can a voter show you this document on their phone?

Yes!

Can the ID be expired, or have an old address listed?

Yes!

“Temporary” or “Status Check” Notification on IDs

- If there is a notation of “temporary” or “status check” on the ID...
 - it *could* mean that the person holds a visa and is not a US citizen



- Talk with the person, in a respectful manner, about the notification.
 - Do not assume that this, “for sure” means that the person is not a citizen...
 - The person *might* have obtained citizenship since the issuance of the ID?

Option 3: Vouching

If you don't have a document to serve as proof of residence... you can bring a person!

- A voucher must know the voter personally
- Vouchers must live in the same precinct, and either be preregistered to vote or register on Election Day.
- A person who is vouched for on Election Day cannot then vouch for someone else

Voucher Form

Use this form only if you are registering to vote with a voucher as your proof of residence.

I, _____ swear or affirm that (Check one):
(Name of Voucher)

☐ I am pre-registered to vote in this precinct Voter ID # : _____
(to be completed by the election judge)

☐ I registered in this precinct today and did not have another person vouch for me

☐ I am an employee of a residential facility _____
(Name of residential facility)

Residential Address of Voucher or Address of Residential Facility

Street Address	City
----------------	------

Telephone number:	E-mail address (optional)
-------------------	---------------------------

I personally know that _____ is a resident of this precinct.
(Name of person registering)

Signature of Voucher

Election Judge Official Use Only

Subscribed and sworn to before me

_____/_____/_____
Date

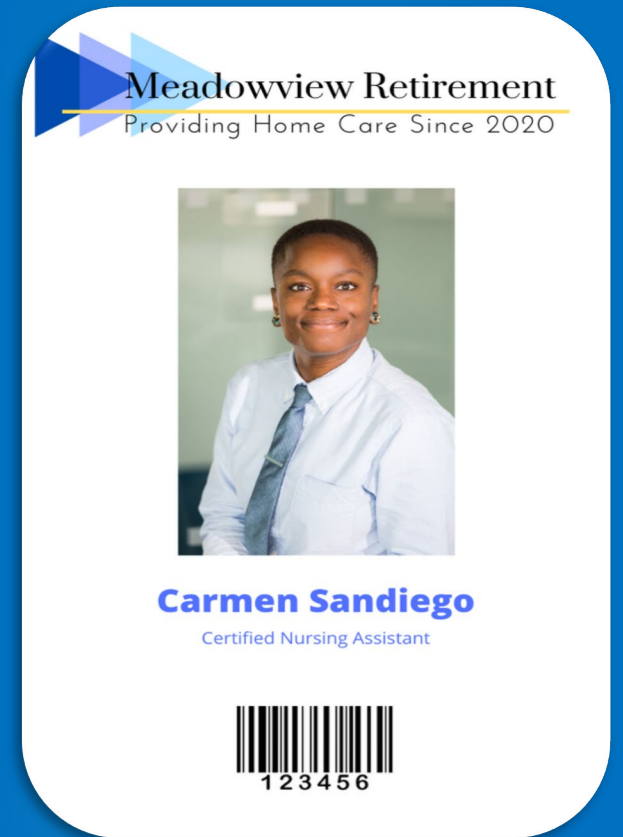
Signature of Election Judge

Option 4: Residential Facility Vouching

If a voter lives in a residential facility, a staff person of that facility can vouch for them.

The staff person must provide proof of employment, which could be either:

- an employee badge
- a letter of employment on the company letter head.



Option 5: Notice of Late Registration

**Crow Wing County Voter Registration Office**

Crow Wing County Auditor's Office

326 LAUREL ST - COURTHOUSE STE 22

BRAINERD, MN 56401

Phone: (218) 824-1045 FAX: (218) 824-1046 www.co.crow-wing.mn.us Elections@crowwing.us

NOTICE OF LATE REGISTRATION

January 1, 20XX





Option 6: Valid Registration in the Same Precinct

If the voter was preregistered in the precinct, but:

- Has changed their name

- Has moved, but within the same precinct

Then the voter's previous registration serves as their proof of residence

Option 7: Student ID with College List

- Precinct may be provided with a list of students housed at a Minnesota college or university
- Students on list can register by showing a current, valid student photo ID

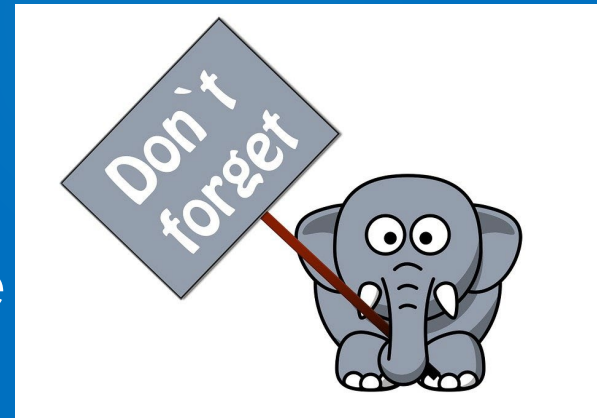


'Official Use Only' Section

Election Judge Official Use Only			
W <u>8</u>	ID with Current Name & Address ID Number:	Photo ID + Document with Current Name & Address Document Type: <u>Bank Statement</u>	Other
P <u>5</u>		Photo ID Number: <u>Wisc. #W30045454</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Vouched For
SD <u>650</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> MN Driver's License, Learner's Permit, MN ID Card, or Receipt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driver's License, Learner's Permit or State ID Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Late Registration
Initials <u>JN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal ID Card	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Passport <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Military or Veteran ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Valid Registration in Same Precinct
		<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal ID <input type="checkbox"/> Student ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Student ID with College List
			ID Number: _____

Don't Forget to...

- Document proof of residence provided on bottom of voter registration application (now done on the poll pad)
- Have voter complete and sign new registrant roster page (Now done on the poll pad)
- Give the voter a voter receipt and direct to demonstration or ballot judge





Instructions for Partisan Primary Elections

- No space for write-in votes
- On partisan races, only vote for candidates from one political party. If you vote for candidates from both political parties, your votes will not count.

Instructions for Ballot Questions

- Do not interpret what a ballot question means or what impact there would be if it passed or failed

Ballot Marking Errors

- Machine will beep and return the ballot if there was a ballot marking error
- Voter may choose to spoil their ballot and get a new one, or they can cast it as is.





Who is Allowed in the Polling Place?

Largely, only election judges, voters, and voter assistants should be in the polling place.

Other common authorized visitors are:

- Challengers
- The Media
- Observers with written authorization

Appointed Challengers

- Challenger must have personal knowledge that a voter is not eligible
- Suspicion is **not** a basis for making a challenge

Challengers cannot:

- Speak to voters and must speak to election judges
- Inspect or handle any election materials
- Make a list of who has voted
- Be disruptive
- Take photos
- Go within 6 feet of the tabulator or influence voters

Polling Place Rules

- ▶ Do not enter a polling place unless you are authorized
- ▶ Do not campaign in or near the polling place
- ▶ Do not wear campaign materials
- ▶ Do not initial or sign your ballot, or mark it with a sticker
- ▶ Taking photos is discouraged
 - ▶ There is no law that strictly prohibits taking photos or videos in the polling place to record your own voting experience. However, the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State discourages this activity for the following reasons:
 - ▶ Voters have a right to privacy, both as to how an individual has voted as well as whether or not an individual has voted. Either or both of these could be compromised by pictures or video. In addition, other voters' objections to being photographed could lead to disruptions within the polling place.
 - ▶ When voter turnout is high there may be lines and polling places may be crowded. Voters have a right to take the time they need to vote, but should not take extra time to take pictures.
 - ▶ In addition, [Minnesota Statutes 204C.17](#) and [Minnesota Statutes 204C.18](#) prohibit voters from showing their marked ballot to others. Taking photographs or video of your own marked ballot could violate this prohibition.

****An Election Judge or Head Judge should address these issues immediately**

Prohibition on Campaigning

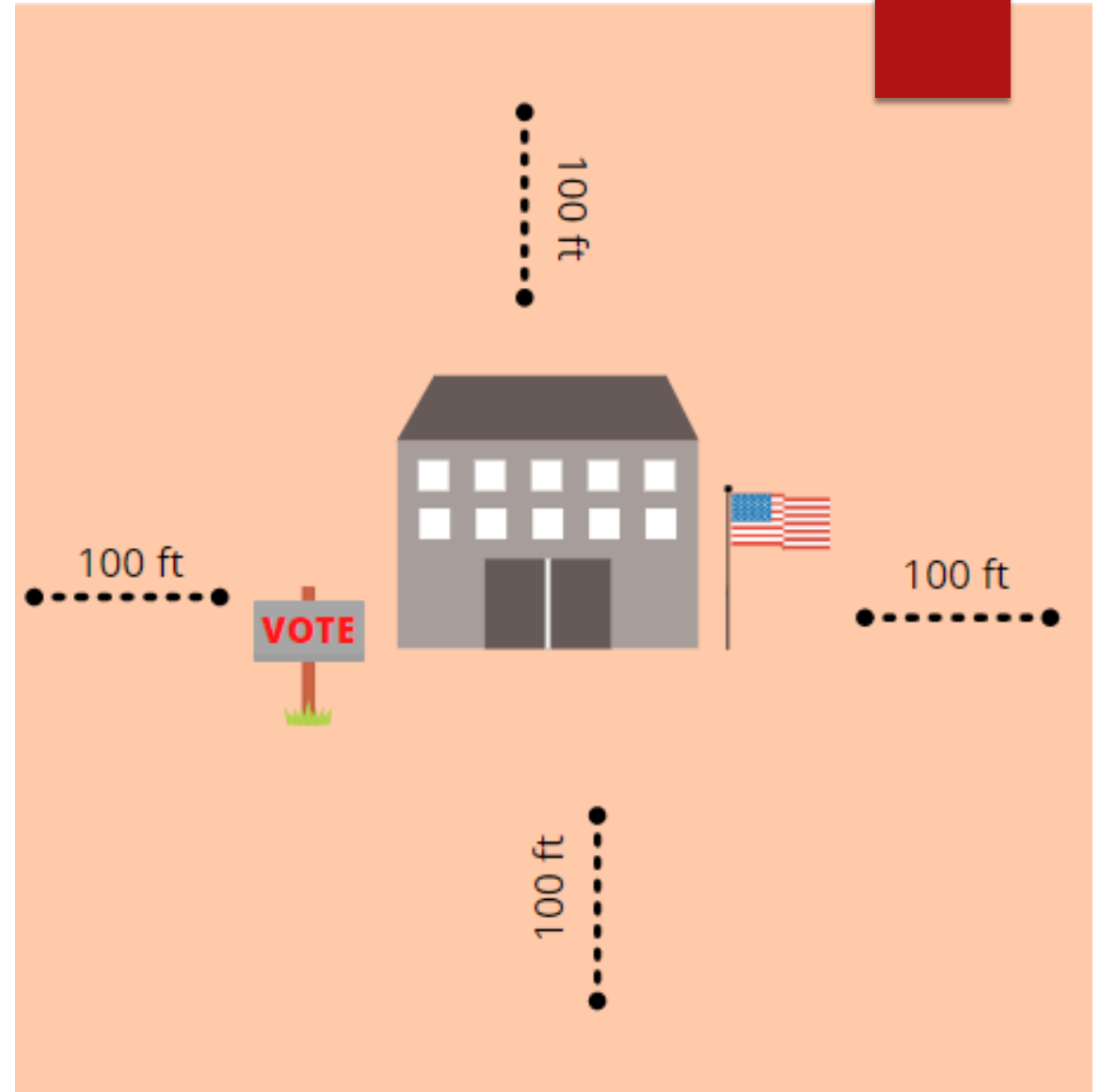
Voters may not wear or display campaign materials:

- If it is on the ballot, it cannot be displayed in the polling place.
- A voter may wear or display political material that is not on the ballot.

Election judges may not wear or discuss anything political

Prohibition on Campaigning

► No campaigning or lingering within 100 feet of the polling place



Security Practices

EJs are the 1st Line of Defense for physical & cyber security of Minnesota's elections!

Watchful throughout election day:

- All voting equipment

- Removable memory devices

- Ballots

- Supplies

Anything suspicious & all incidents, communicated to the local election official **immediately**

Security Practices

Good practice to:

View & inspect seals on all port plugs on all equipment & ballot storage containers.

Take seriously voter reports of email, text, social media, phone or other communications attempting to disrupt or spread misinformation about the voting process.

If you observe any suspicious activity of anyone in the polling place, including other election judges, report your concerns immediately to the local election official

Report to the local election official, immediately, all items related to election security!

Security Practices

Law Enforcement:

May be requested to arrest or remove from the polling place any individual who, despite a warning to desist, engages in disorderly conduct, to include tampering with voting equipment.

Security Practices

Law Enforcement Officers:

Shall not otherwise interfere in any manner with voters.

Law Enforcement cannot remain in or within 50 feet of the entrance of the polling place once peace has been restored.

Note the details of all security concerns & how they were addressed on the incident log

Precinct Boxes

The head judge will pick up the precinct boxes the day before the election. They will contain all of the forms and supplies that will be needed on election day.

*New in 2022 – These boxes will be locked when transporting to and from the polling place



Equipment Setup

The Auditor's office will deliver and set up the equipment to the polling place the Monday before the election.

AB Voting

- Ballots can be sent starting June 24 for the 2022 Primary Election and September 23 for the 2022 General Election.
- You can apply for a ballot any time during the year, except the day of the election. Leave time for election officials to mail your ballot if need be. Your returned ballot must be received by Election Day.
- You can return your ballot in person no later than 3 p.m. on **Election Day** to the election office that sent your ballot.
- You can drop off ballots for up to three other voters. You will need to show identification with name and sign a form when returning a ballot for someone else.
- You may **not** drop your ballot off in a drop box or at your polling place on election day.

Track Your Ballot

Voter Information Portal (state.mn.us)


MENU

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA
SECRETARY OF STATE STEVE SIMON

< Elections & Voting

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[Register to Vote](#) [Election Day Voting](#) [Other Ways to Vote](#) [What's on My Ballot?](#) [Election Results](#) [Find County Election Office](#) [Secure and Fair Elections](#) [Get Involved!](#) [How Elections Work](#)

 WHAT IS THE STATUS OF MY ABSENTEE OR MAIL BALLOT?

To find out where your absentee or mail ballot is in the process, enter all of the information requested below.

Name:

Date of birth:

January

1

2005

Identification number:
Provide the same ID number that you provided on your absentee ballot application by selecting the type of ID and then enter the number in the box below.

Minnesota Driver's License/ State ID

CONTINUE


Helpful Search Tips

- **Allow for application-processing time** – If you submitted your absentee ballot application within the last several business days, election officials may still be processing your request. Until a request is processed, a record of your absentee ballot will not be available through this service.
- **Match your name** – Enter your first and last name exactly as they appeared on your voter registration or absentee ballot application.
- **Last name includes punctuation**
 - If you have a hyphenated last name, such as Anderson-Smith, also try searching under Anderson Smith, Smith, or AndersonSmith.
 - If your name includes an apostrophe, such as O'Brien, also try searching under OBrien or O Brien.
- **Name has a suffix** – If your name includes a suffix (Jr., Sr., III, etc.) do not include your suffix in the Last Name field.
- **Match ID number**
 - If you are not sure which ID number you used on your absentee ballot application, try separate searches for each ID type.
 - If you did not provide an ID number on your absentee ballot application, you cannot use this service to check the status of your absentee ballot. Instead, please contact your [county election office](#).

Voting by Mail Ballot

For your ballot to count, remember this important information:

1. **Read the instructions** that come with your ballot carefully.
2. **You will need a witness** to sign after you vote your ballot and enclose it in the envelope. The witness can be either a registered Minnesota voter or a notary.
3. **Return the ballot and forms right away** after you finish. Your ballot will not count if it is received after Election Day.

Put the Ballot Envelope in here, then seal flap 

Signature Envelope

Voter must complete this section please print clearly

Voter name

Voter MN address MN

ID number (MN driver's license #, MN ID card #, or last four digits of SSN)

☐ I do not have a MN-issued driver's license, MN-issued ID card, or a Social Security Number.

I certify that on Election Day I will meet all the legal requirements to vote.

Voter Signature X

Witness must complete this section

Witness name

MN street address (or title, if an official or notary) MN

City

I certify that:

- the voter showed me the blank ballots before voting;
- the voter marked the ballots in private or, if physically unable to mark the ballots, the ballots were marked as directed by the voter;
- the voter enclosed and sealed the ballots in the ballot envelope; and
- I am or have been registered to vote in Minnesota, or am a notary, or am authorized to give oaths.

Witness Signature X

If notary, must affix stamp

For Official Use Only
☐ Accepted ☐ Rejected (reason:)

Signature Envelope- Registered

Common Mail Ballot Questions:

What is the difference between mail ballot voting and absentee by mail?

In Minnesota, there is not much difference. If you are an active registered voter in a mail ballot precinct, you will be sent a mail ballot to your residence without having to complete an absentee ballot application. Absentee voting requires the voter to affirmatively request a ballot with an application form.

Can a mail ballot voting have their ballot mailed to an address that is not their residence?

If, for whatever reason, the mail ballot voter wants a ballot sent to a different address than the residence, the mail ballot voter may complete an absentee ballot application and write on that application the location they would like their absentee ballot sent to.

You can be a registered, absentee voter in a mail ballot precinct. We encourage you to complete the absentee ballot application long before the mail ballots are sent out to registered voters. That way you will only be sent an absentee ballot to the address you requested. And a mail ballot will not be sent to your address of residence.

When are mail ballots sent out?

The earliest a mail ballot can be sent to a registered voter in a mail ballot precinct is 46 days before the election date. This would be June 24 for the Primary and Sept 23 for the General.

However, the county elections office has a time period between 46 days and 14 days before the election to send a mail ballot to a registered voter in a mail ballot precinct.

What happens if someone votes by mail-in ballot or absentee ballot and subsequently passes away before Election Day?

How absentee/mail-in ballots are processed and counted varies from state to state. In the case of a voter who casts a valid absentee/mail-in ballot, but then dies prior to election day, state laws are split. **Eleven** states specifically allow those ballots to be counted, **16** states prohibit counting those ballots, and the remaining **23** states have no specific laws on the topic, according to research from the National Conference of State Legislatures.¹

Several factors complicate state laws on the question. Sometimes, by the time death records are updated and election officials can be notified of those updates, the short window to count ballots has passed. Additionally, once a ballot has been removed from its envelope it cannot be traced back to an individual voter.²

States that allow these ballots to be counted

- Arkansas
- Connecticut
- Idaho
- Florida
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- Montana
- New Mexico
- North Dakota

States that do not allow these ballots to be counted

- Colorado
- Delaware
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Mississippi
- Missouri

- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Virginia
- Wisconsin



Can voters in a mail ballot precinct still “Track Their Ballot” for state elections?

Like absentee voters, once the county has sent out the mail ballots to registered voters, that information can be tracked. The mail ballot voter can go online and view that the mail ballot has been “sent,” “received,” or “accepted.”

What are options for mail ballot voters on Election Day?

Mail ballot voters on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. can:

- Return their voted mail ballot to the Auditor's office.
- Have an agent return their voted mail ballot to the Auditor's office (limit of three others' ballots can be returned as an agent).
- Take their unvoted ballot packet to the Auditor's office, vote it and turn it in. We can be your witness!
- Go to the Auditor's office and inform them that their mail ballot was spoiled, lost, thrown away, etc. and:
 - Have a replacement ballot issued
 - Vote the replacement ballot
 - Turn it in
- Vote an absentee ballot because they are currently not an "active" registered voter on Election Day
 - May have to produce Election Day Registration documents

Are there more mail ballot precincts in MN than there used to be?

More and more municipalities have opted to vote by mail. The list below shows the number of mail ballot precincts in recent state general elections:

- 2020: 1345
- 2018: 938
- 2016: 739
- 2014: 588

What happens to my ballot when I mail it or drop it off?

- ❑ The bar code on the ballot is scanned into the state system telling it that it has been received.
- ❑ The envelopes are reviewed by 2 people
- ❑ All information must be complete on the envelope in order for it to be accepted.
- ❑ If information is incorrect or missing, every effort is made to contact the voter to fix or verify it.
- ❑ Signatures are compared with AB applications
- ❑ DL #'s or last 4 of SS#'s are compared to make sure they match.
- ❑ The ballots are scanned in as accepted.
- ❑ The ballots are kept unopened until 7 days prior to the election

Put the Ballot Envelope in here, then seal flap

1308091 STP 08/09/2016 ML PCT R B1527517
C 18 0080-CROW WING TWP P-1 181

MN address MN

I certify that on Election Day I will meet all the legal requirements to vote.

Voter Signature ☒

Witness must complete this section

Witness name

MN street address (or title, if an official or notary) MN

City

I certify that:

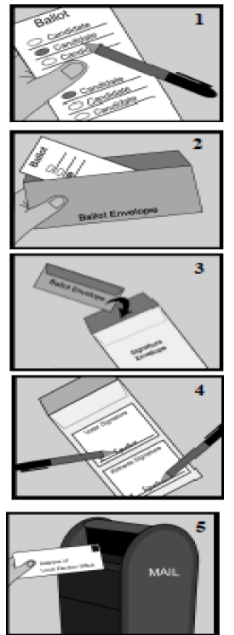
- the voter showed me the blank ballots before voting;
- the voter marked the ballots in secrecy or, if physically unable to mark the ballots, the ballots were marked as directed by the voter;
- the voter enclosed and sealed the ballots in the ballot envelope; and
- I am or have been registered to vote in Minnesota, or am a notary, or am authorized to give oaths.

Witness Signature ☒

If notary, must affix stamp

For Official Use Only
☐ Accepted ☐ Rejected (reason:)

Signature Envelope- Mail



Polling Place Activity



EJs are the 1st Line of Defense for physical & cyber security of Minnesota's elections!

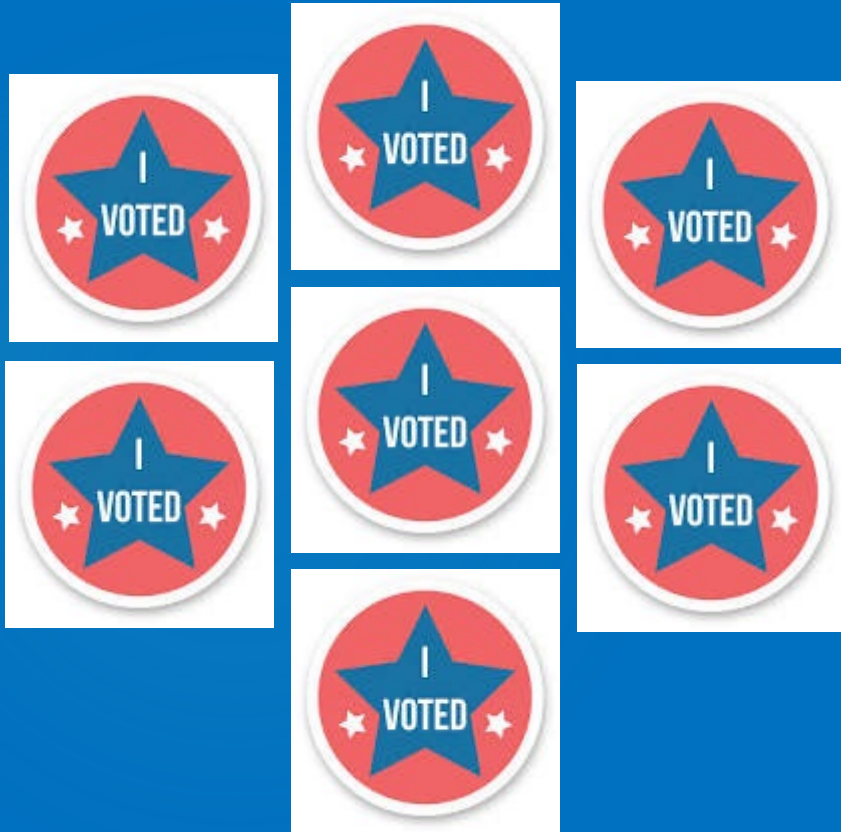
Be watchful throughout election day:

- All voting equipment
- Removable memory devices
- Ballots
- Supplies

Anything suspicious & all incidents, communicated to the local election official **immediately**



Closing the Polls



Polls Close at 8 p.m.

- Anyone in line at 8 p.m. can vote!
- Once the last voter has left, then begin the take down of signs and equipment
- Your head judge will lead closing duties, work with them to make sure required documents are properly completed



Generalized closing procedures for polling places and Auditor's office will include:

Members of the public and/or media folks might be present during closing procedures

Counting signatures on the roster or counting voter receipts

Running results tape from the equipment

Counting write-in votes (following instructions of local election officials)

Counting unused ballots

Removing voted ballots from voting equipment

Closing Procedures

Counting	Counting the number of voted ballots and placing them into locked storage cases/envelopes
Making	Making sure that the number of those who voted at the polls... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• matches the number of ballots noted on the results tape• matches the number of voted, paper ballots in the voting equipment
Completing	Completing summary statements and other forms
Closing and securing	Closing and securing equipment
Transporting	Securely transporting ballots and documents to local election officials

Minnesota Elections **Fact and Fiction**

Fiction: Absentee ballots are only counted when there is a close race.

FACT: All absentee ballots are counted if properly executed, which includes making sure that the return envelope is signed and that the signature matches the voter's signature on record.



Fiction: Registering to vote takes too long

Fact: What do registering to vote and brushing your teeth have in common? They both take 2 minutes to complete! Making your voice heard as you register to vote is a speedy process that only takes 2 minutes to complete

Fiction: Once I register to vote, I am set for all future elections

Fact: Even after you've registered to vote in the past, it is important to make sure your registration is up to date. If you have failed to vote in multiple elections, it is possible that you may become inactive in the system





Fiction: Presidential elections are the only ones that really matter

Fact: Where does your water come from? How are local police officers trained? State and local elections decide who answers these questions and more.

Fiction: Voter I.D. fraud is a big problem in the United States

Fact: According to the Brennan center for Justice, Americans are more likely to be struck and killed by lightening than to impersonate another voter





FACT: Every ballot cast in Minnesota is associated with a registered, eligible voter.

When someone registers to vote in Minnesota, they must prove that they are who they say they are and that they live where they say they live. There are many ways provided in state law to be able to show that proof. All voter registrations are verified with records from DVS (driver's licenses), the Social Security Administration, and other data.

Before any ballot goes to a voter -- whether by mail or in person -- they must swear an oath that they are eligible to vote and acknowledge that it is a felony to falsify information on their registration.



Fiction: There are discrepancies and mismatches between cast and registered voters.

One of the most common forms of disinformation claims to use voter data to show that somehow the numbers of ballots and voters don't add up. These claims are entirely false. They're all based on misuse of data and are intended to destroy faith in our election system.

FACT: I got an application for an absentee ballot in the mail.

As part of encouraging Minnesotans to vote from home during a pandemic, the Secretary of State's office - as well as many other voter outreach and political organizations - sent absentee ballot *applications* to voters. These applications were in most cases identical to the official state application and served the same purpose.



FICTION: Voters received multiple ballots without requesting them.

There have been many accounts of Minnesotans mistaking ballot applications for actual ballots. Ballots are only ever issued to eligible, registered voters who have requested them, and voters who live in mail-only areas.

FACT: Ballot-counting machines are tested, verified for accuracy, and certified before every election.

Elections equipment, as a key component of the voting system, is carefully scrutinized in public testing before any election takes place. This testing is required under law and is open to the public for observation.





FICTION: Voting machines were faulty, hacked, or compromised

There is no evidence showing that any voting machines were faulty, hacked, or compromised in any way in 2020 or any other election. Numerous conspiracy theories regarding voting machines have been spread, all without any evidence to back them up. Post-election reviews have always shown accurate and reliable performance from the equipment used in Minnesota. All equipment used in elections is verified through federal and state certification processes.

FACT: Minnesota cooperates with other states to make sure our voter rolls are clean and up-to-date

Minnesota is part of a network of states called the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), which is a member-run organization that shares public information about voters to make sure people aren't registered in more than one state or are removed from the rolls when they move. Minnesota's participation is authorized by the legislature, and ERIC's leadership is made up of elections officials from the member states. ERIC's current membership of 32 is divided almost evenly between states led by a Republican and states led by a Democrat, excluding states where the position is nonpartisan. Funding comes exclusively from annual membership dues paid by the states.



FICTION: More people voted than are registered.

Voters can only receive a ballot once they complete the voter registration process. Other claims about the number of votes, registered or eligible voters are entirely false.



THANK YOU!

