

Redistricting and the 2020 Census

Every 10 years, following the U.S. Census, district lines for all political offices must be redrawn in states across the country to accurately reflect their population. In Michigan, a randomly selected commission of residents will be responsible for drawing U.S. Congressional and Michigan House and Senate district lines.

Voters amended the state Constitution in November 2018 to give Michigan residents — not legislators or special interest groups — the responsibility to redraw district lines, called “redistricting.” This commission will be composed of 13 randomly selected Michigan registered voters: four affiliated with the Democratic Party, four affiliated with the Republican Party, and five who do not affiliate with either major political party.

This year is also a Census year, and it has never been easier to participate. By returning your completed Census form, you are helping Michigan to be represented in Congress and determining how much funding we get for Head Start, health care, schools, roads, and our local communities.

Visit **My2020Census.gov** to complete your questionnaire. Your login information is a 12-digit number located on the packet sent to you earlier this year. If you do not have a number or cannot locate those materials, the website also has a link to redirect you. If you want to complete your Census form via phone, call **1-844-330-2020**.

Important note: Census workers will never ask for any personally identifiable information, such as your bank account or social security numbers.

The novel coronavirus pandemic has changed the dates of when certain phases of the Census will take place, but all you need to do is remember to fill out and return your form.

Census Date Changes

Activity	Pre-COVID-19	Post-COVID-19
Data gathering begins	January 2020	January 2020
Data gathering ends	July 31, 2020	Oct. 31, 2020*
Data for congressional reappointment due	Dec. 31, 2020	April 30, 2021**
Data for redistricting by the states due	March 31, 2021	July 31, 2021**

* Date change made by the Census Bureau **Changes the bureau requested from Congress



My2020Census.gov

Please visit the website above for more information on the Census, the questions it asks, and who it counts per household.

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- Michigan COVID-19 Hotline**
1-888-535-6136 | Michigan.gov/Coronavirus
- Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA)**
1-866-500-0017 | Michigan.gov/UIA
- Pure Michigan Talent Connect**
1-888-522-0103 | MITalent.org
- Michigan Works! Association**
1-800-285-9675 | MichiganWorks.org
- Michigan COVID-19 Mental Health Hotline**
1-888-733-7753 | Michigan.gov/StayWell
- Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration (MIOSHA)**
1-800-866-4674 | Michigan.gov/MIOSHA
- Michigan Secretary of State**
1-888-767-6424 | Michigan.gov/Elections
- Oakland County Clerk**
248-858-0581 | OakGov.com /Elections
- Election Protection Hotline**
866-OUR-VOTE or 866-687-8683 | MichiganVoting.org



STATE SENATOR JEREMY MOSS MICHIGAN ELECTION GUIDE

An incredibly important election will take place this year and I want you to have the information you need to be prepared to vote, even during this health pandemic. Coronavirus has changed so much around us but we must count on local and state officials to conduct fair and free elections.

Fortunately, due to recent changes in Michigan’s election law, you can now safely and reliably vote from home. Now more than ever, we need your participation at all levels of government to help us navigate through what’s next and come together for the best interest of our state and nation.

Included in this newsletter are local and state resources on voting. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Working for you,

Jeremy Moss

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Important Election Dates

As it currently exists, Michigan law states the following as deadlines for this year’s November general election:

October 19

Last day to register in any manner, other than in-person, with the local clerk for the November general election.

October 20 through 8:00 p.m. November 3

In-person registration, with proof of residency, at the local clerk’s office.

November 3

Statewide general election.

Who is on the Ballot?

While the specific names of individuals — especially in the state House and local elections — vary by district, the following offices are up for election in 2020:

- U.S. President/Vice President
- U.S. Senator (1 seat)
- U.S. Representative in Congress (all 14 districts)
- State Representative (all 110 districts)
- State Board of Education (2 seats)
- University of Michigan Regents (2 seats), Michigan State University Trustees (2 seats), and Wayne State University Governors (2 seats)
- Justice of the Supreme Court (2 seats)
- Judge of the Court of Appeals, the Circuit Court, the District Court and Probate Court, respectively
- County and some local offices
- Specified school district positions

ELECTION 2020: Voting from Home Essentials

Many of us have seen the pictures of our fellow Americans heading to the polls during this pandemic, and, unfortunately, exposing themselves to the possibility of contracting COVID-19 while doing so. Here in Michigan, we continue to plan our next steps in ensuring we fulfill our constitutional right without putting ourselves — and others — at risk.

Fortunately, recent changes to Michigan’s election law mean you don’t even have to leave your home to vote, and if you do, poll workers will be wearing personal protective equipment and engaging in proper health protocols.

Ways to complete your absent voter ballot application

BY MAIL

On Tuesday, May 19, 2020, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson announced that all registered voters in Michigan will receive an application to vote by mail. By now, you should have received that application to vote absentee from either your local clerk or the Secretary of State. This form gives you the option to receive an absentee ballot in order to vote by mail. Once a voter signs their application, they can mail or email a photo of it to their local clerk, whose contact information is included on the application.

The application is also available for download at Michigan.gov/Vote, where you can register and join the permanent absent voter list, so you always have the option to vote from home if you so choose.

ONLINE

On Friday, June 12, 2020, the Secretary of State’s office announced a new, online absentee voter application platform. **By visiting Michigan.gov/Vote, you can:**

- **Check your voter registration status.**
All eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absent voter ballot without providing a reason.
- **NEW! Complete and return an absent voter ballot application online.**
You can now fill out and return your absent voter ballot application online at Michigan.gov/Vote. To use the online application, you need to be registered to vote in Michigan and have a valid Michigan driver’s license or state ID.

Returning your completed ballot

Once you have received your official ballot, be sure you have affixed proper postage before putting it in the mail. You also have the option of returning your ballot in person. There is often a drop box available, but check with your local clerk’s office for available days/times to return your ballot in person. Ballots must be received by your local clerk’s office no later than 8 p.m. on election day.



Not sure where your polling location is or who your city or county clerk are? **Michigan.gov/Vote*** can help you find that answer. Some jurisdictions provide a sample ballot so you can know who — and what — you’re voting on before you head to the polls or complete your absentee ballot.

Available information on Michigan.gov/Vote

- **Who/where your clerk is;**
- **Online voter registration;**
- **Online absent voter ballot application;**
- **Military and overseas voters;**
- **Working at the polls;**
- **Voting equipment;**
- **Statewide ballot proposals;**
- **Candidate information links;**
- **Acceptable voter identification at the polls*;** and,
- **Registered voters by county.**

**As the website also indicates, while it is strongly encouraged, you are not required to have identification when you go to the polls so long as you are prepared to sign a legally binding affidavit attesting to your identity.*

To date, of the **7.7 million registered voters** in the state, about **1.3 million are on the permanent absent voter list**, and their local election clerk mails them applications ahead of every election.