



2024 Election Report
Access Matters:
Michigan #3 in Voter Turnout

Michigan Department of State
July 2025

In service of voters

Since taking office in 2019, the Benson administration has worked diligently to ensure that every eligible voter – and *only* eligible voters – are able to participate in every election.

In service of these goals, the department implemented a two-part strategy in the year leading up to the 2024 General Election:

First was implementing voter-mandated changes to our elections under Ballot Proposal 2022-2, which passed with the support of nearly 60% of Michigan voters.¹ Proposal 2022-2 included several provisions to make our secure elections more accessible for eligible citizens. In 2024, for the first time in state history, voters had at least nine days of early in-person voting, secure ballot drop boxes for every 5,000 voters, and the option to join a permanent vote-by-mail list.

Second was a wide-reaching voter education campaign that not only informed voters about the new options to cast a ballot in our state but also raised awareness on the dangers of election misinformation, and empowered trusted community leaders with the facts so they could share reliable election information with their networks.

These strategies built upon work completed in previous election cycles to modernize Michigan's election system and improve election security, including:

- Adding secure ballot drop boxes
- Expanding post-election audits to confirm the accuracy of reported election results
- Joining the Election Registration Information Center (ERIC) - a multistate partnership that helps Michigan verify the accuracy of its voter file
- Hiring the state's first full-time election security specialist
- Establishing statewide election security grants using federal funding

¹ [Michigan Proposal 2, Voting Policies in Constitution Amendment \(2022\) - Ballotpedia](#)

- Improving the Qualified Voter File system (QVF) to include enhanced security and multi-factor authentication

The people have spoken

The results of these efforts were widely successful. The following data illustrates that **when eligible voters have convenient and secure access to the ballot, more of them participate in our elections.** High rates of voter participation strengthen our communities and fortify our democracy for future generations.

Michigan 2024 General Election at a glance



**Total
voters**

5,706,503²



**First-time
voters in
Michigan**

826,688



**Registered but
inactive voters
who voted in 2024**

71,069



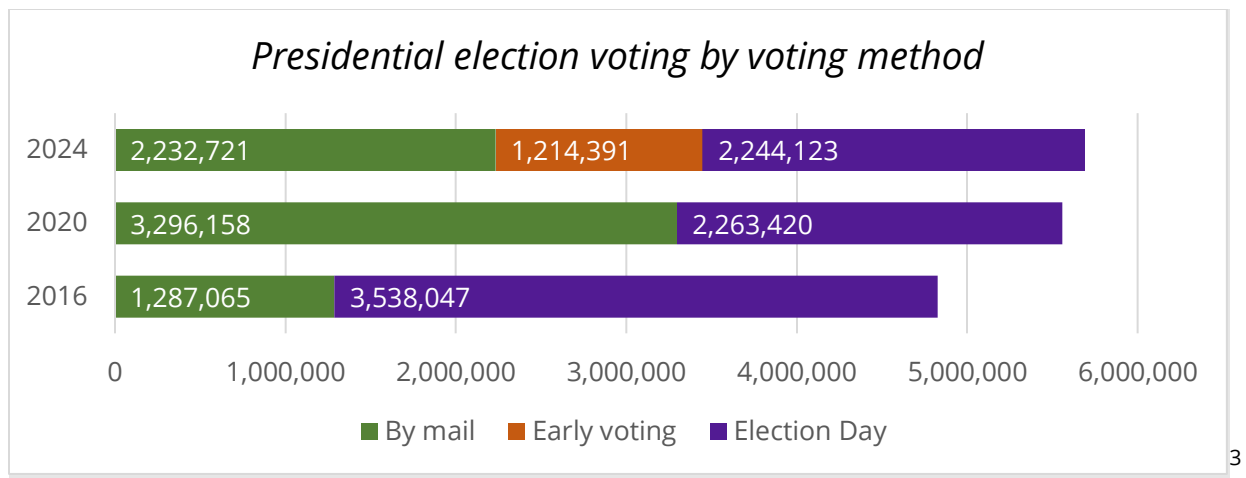
**Voted by mail
or early
voting**

3,447,112



**Ranked #3
nationally
in eligible
voter
turnout**

² This count of total voters comes from official election results using county-by-county tabulator totals. This data is available at <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/votehistory/Index>. Counts from official election results may not match vote totals from voter history data in QVF.



Key highlights

- **Michigan ranked #3 in the nation for voter turnout, with 74.6% of eligible voters casting a ballot**, according to Ballotpedia.⁴
- Total turnout of active registered voters based on official election results increased by 2.3%, 127,186 more votes than 2020.⁵
- Michigan was one of only five states with higher turnout of eligible voters in 2024 compared to 2020
- New, convenient options to vote allowed thousands of citizens who did not vote in 2020 to cast a ballot in 2024.
- In 2024, the number of Michiganders voting by mail or at an early voting site increased by 150,954 over 2020.
- 255,140 of those who cast a ballot at an early voting site did not vote in 2020 in Michigan.

³ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data for 2016 and 2020 from QVF, pulled on December 5, 2024. 2024 data from Michigan Voting Dashboard which displays data from QVF.

⁴ Election results, 2024: Analysis of voter turnout in the 2024 general election
https://ballotpedia.org/Election_results,_2024:_Analysis_of_voter_turnout_in_the_2024_general_election

⁵ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from
<https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/votehistory/Index>.

- Just over 25% of active registered voters have joined the state’s permanent vote-by-mail list and will receive a mail-in ballot for all elections in which they are eligible to vote⁶.

Voter turnout

Michigan has broken voter turnout records in each of the last three statewide general elections (2020, 2022, and 2024).

In 2024, **5,706,503 active registered voters** cast their ballot – 127,186 more than the then-record turnout of 5,579,317 in 2020 (the most recent presidential election)⁷.

A Ballotpedia analysis of turnout among eligible voters in each state ranked Michigan third in the nation at 74.6%. Michigan was also one of only five states with a higher voter turnout percentage in 2024 than in 2020⁸.

First-time voters

Statewide, 826,688 ballots (14.5%) were cast by first-time voters in Michigan⁹

Registered but inactive voters who voted in 2024

71,069 inactive voters who were eligible and registered to vote cast a ballot and became active voters¹⁰.

- 35.4% (25,147) last cast a ballot prior to 2020
- 9.0% (6,374) last voted in 2020
- 46.7% (33,191) have no previous voting history recorded in Michigan
- 8.9% (6,357) were active sometime between 2021 and 2024

⁶ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from [Michigan Voting Dashboard](#)

⁷ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/votehistory/Index>.

⁸ Michigan Department of State Analysis. Source data from Ballotpedia. [Election results, 2024: Analysis of voter turnout in the 2024 general election - Ballotpedia](#).

⁹ Michigan Department of State Analysis. Source data from QVF, pulled on November 21, 2024.

¹⁰ Michigan Department of State Analysis. Source data from QVF, pulled on December 5, 2024.

Turnout by county

Leelanau County had the highest voter turnout in the state with a turnout of 89.0% of active registered voters¹¹. It was followed by Livingston County (86.4%), Keweenaw County (85.2%), Clinton County (84.7%), and Grand Traverse County (83.6%).

Wayne County had the lowest turnout rate of active registered voters at 70.5%, followed by Calhoun County (71.9%), St. Joseph County (72.3%), Branch County (72.4%), and Clare County (73.1%).

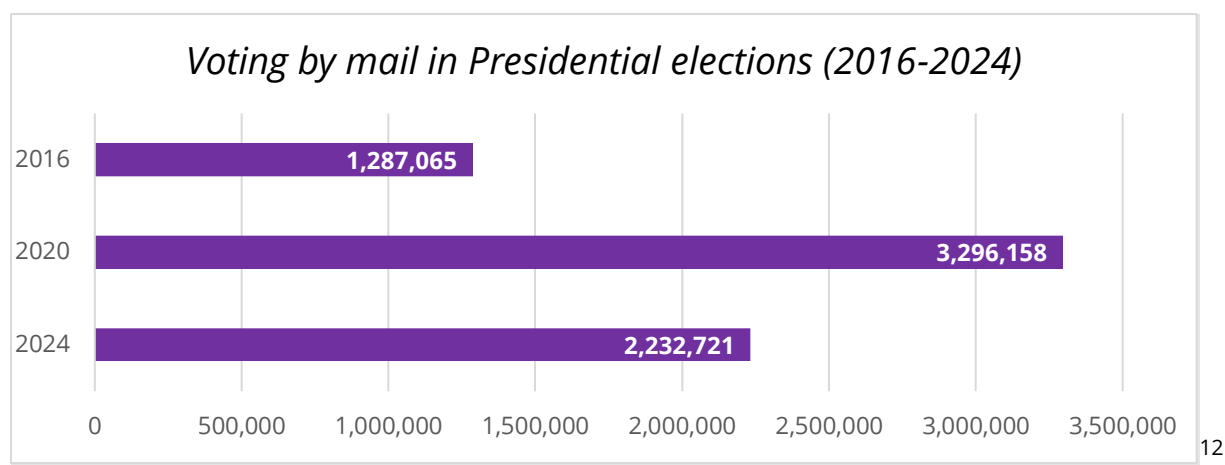
Top 5 Counties	Active Registered Voter Turnout	Bottom 5 Counties	Active Registered Voter Turnout
1. Leelanau	89.0%	79. Clare	73.1%
2. Livingston	86.4%	80. Branch	72.4%
3. Keweenaw	85.2%	81. St. Joseph	72.3%
4. Clinton	84.7%	82. Calhoun	71.2%
5. Grand Traverse	83.6%	83. Wayne	70.5%

¹¹ Active Registered Voter Turnout is calculating taking ballots cast and dividing it by the number of Active Registered Voters on Election Day. Source data is from Michigan Voting Dashboard which utilizes voter history data from the Qualified Voter File (QVF) rather than tabulator totals from unofficial or official election results.

Legend:

- Yellow: 70 - 74.9%
- Teal: 75 - 77.9%
- Grey-blue: 78 - 79.9%
- Brown: 80 - 82.5%
- Purple: Over 82.6%

County	Percentage (%)
Keweenaw	85.2%
Houghton	79.9%
Ontonagon	80.8%
Gogebic	77.0%
Baraga	76.0%
Iron	75.2%
Marquette	80.8%
Dickinson	78.1%
Alger	79.7%
Schoolcraft	75.6%
Lapeer	73.4%
Chippewa	74.5%
Mackinac	78.7%
Delta	76.6%
Alcona	78.3%
Presque Isle	80.5%
Cheboygan	78.3%
Emmet	82.5%
Charlevoix	81.8%
Antrim	81.9%
Otsego	77.3%
Manistowish	78.5%
Alpena	78.8%
Leelanau	89.0%
Grand Traverse	83.6%
Benzie	83.1%
Kalkaska	76.5%
Crawford	76.1%
Oscoda	76.1%
Alcona	78.3%
Manistee	78.6%
Wexford	75.6%
Muskegon	77.9%
Roscommon	78.4%
Ogemaw	75.2%
Ionia	77.4%
Arenac	77.8%
Mason	79.6%
Lake	73.2%
Oscola	76.7%
Clare	73.1%
Gladwin	77.7%
Oceanica	75.3%
Newaygo	77.1%
Mecosta	77.3%
Isabella	74.1%
Midland	81.1%
Bay	78.4%
Huron	80.9%
Tuscola	79.9%
Sandwich	79.5%
St. Clair	78.7%
Macomb	78.4%
Oakland	83.4%
Lapeer	81.5%
Genesee	74.2%
Shiawassee	78.9%
Clinton	84.7%
Ionia	77.1%
Kent	79.9%
Muskegon	74.3%
Ottawa	83.2%
Allegan	80.0%
Barry	81.0%
Eaton	80.7%
Ingham	78.2%
Livingston	86.4%
Washtenaw	82.8%
Wayne	70.5%
Van Buren	75.4%
Kalamazoo	76.4%
Calhoun	71.2%
Jackson	74.8%
Hillsdale	75.6%
Lenawee	78.7%
Monroe	79.0%
Cass	74.0%
St. Joseph	72.3%
Branch	72.4%
Berrien	75.2%



Voting by mail

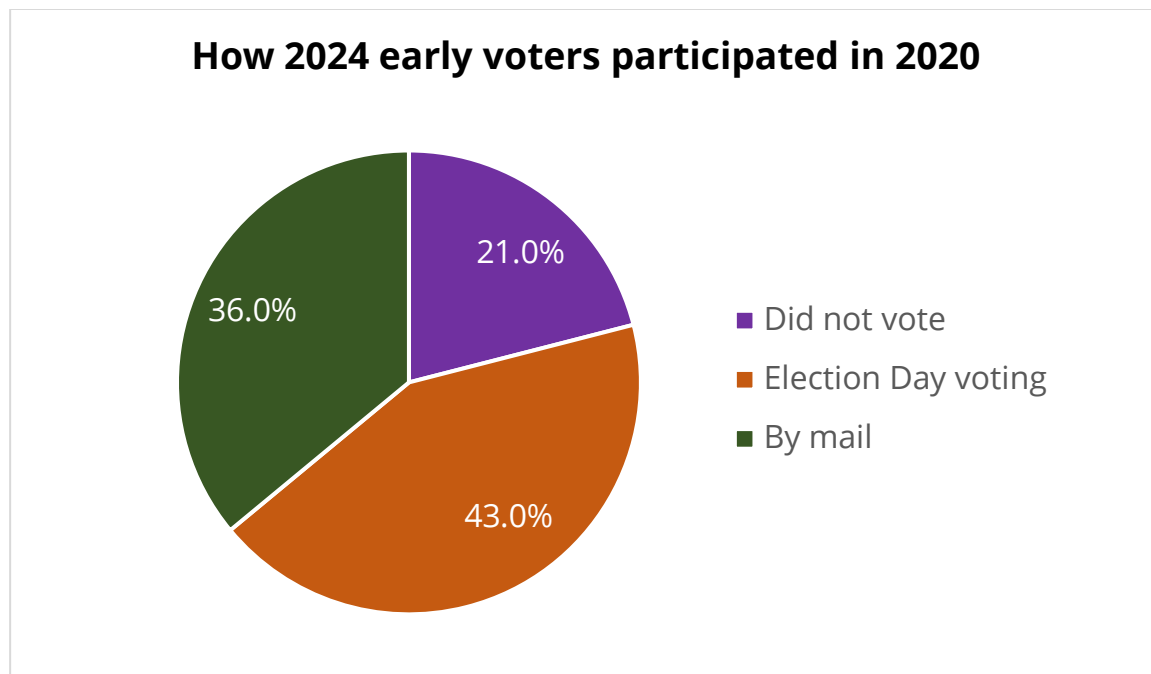
In 2018, Michigan voters approved Ballot Proposal 2018-3, allowing all citizens to vote by mail in every election. This, along with a likely increase in people preferring to vote by mail during the COVID-19 pandemic, led to voters casting 2,009,093 more mail-in votes in 2020 than in 2016.

Voting by mail decreased by 1,063,437 in 2024, compared to 2020 as voters returned to in-person voting – either on Election Day or at one of the new early voting sites.

With the passage of Proposal 2022-2, Michigan voters approved an option for every voter to join a permanent mail-in ballot list. As of Dec. 5, 2024, (30 days after the November election), **1,887,204 voters had signed up to automatically receive a mail-in ballot for every election – over 25% of all active registered Michigan voters**¹³.

¹² Department of State Analysis. Source data for 2016 and 2020 from QVF, pulled on December 5, 2024. 2024 data from QVF, obtained via the [Michigan Voting Dashboard](#).

¹³ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from QVF, obtained via the [Michigan Voting Dashboard](#).



Early voting

Michigan voters approved a minimum nine-day early voting period as part of Proposal 2022-2. This new, convenient voting option for the 2024 elections turned out voters who did not vote in 2020. **1,214,391 Michiganders cast their ballot at an early voting site.**

43.0% of early voters in 2024 voted on Election Day in 2020, 36.0% voted by mail in 2020, and 21.0% did not vote in Michigan in 2020¹⁴.

Methods of voting by county

More than 60% of votes were cast by mail or at an early voting site statewide – the two methods of voting introduced or expanded by Proposal 2022-2. **Voters in 58 of 83 Michigan counties cast more than half their ballots by mail or at an early voting site¹⁵.**

¹⁴ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from QVF, pulled November 21, 2024.

¹⁵ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from QVF, obtained via the [Michigan Voting Dashboard](#).

Counties with the highest percentage of voters casting a ballot by mail or at an early voting site were Benzie County (74.0%), Grand Traverse County (71.3%), Washtenaw County (71.0%), Livingston County (70.7%), and Roscommon County (70.6%).

Leelanau County had the highest percentage of votes by mail (50.5%) and Kalkaska County had the highest percentage of votes cast at an early voting site (37.6%)

Counties with the lowest percentage of votes cast by mail or at early voting sites were Arenac County (42.2%), Missaukee County (42.5%), Oceola County (42.8%), Luce County (43.4%), and Gratiot County (43.4%).

Missaukee County had the lowest percentage of votes by mail (24.4%) and Mackinac County had the lowest percentage of votes cast at an early voting site (8.4%).

Top 5 Counties	% voted by mail or early voting	Bottom 5 Counties	% voted by mail or early voting
1. Benzie	74.0%	79. Gratiot	43.4%
2. Grand Traverse	71.3%	80. Luce	43.4%
3. Washtenaw	71.0%	81. Osceola	42.8%
4. Livingston	70.7%	82. Missaukee	42.5%
5. Roscommon	70.6%	83. Arenac	42.2%

Conclusion

Over the course of the last decade, Michigan voters have chosen to strengthen democracy with election reforms that increased participation, modernized the state's election systems, and established a model for other states to follow. By expanding access through measures like voting by mail and early in-person voting, **Michigan has made voting more convenient and inclusive for eligible voters. As a result, the state has broken voter turnout records in the last two presidential elections.**

Michigan serves as a beacon for other states, showcasing how thoughtful policies can make voting more accessible and strengthen our democracy. But the work continues. In partnership with community organizations and local leaders, **we must**

ensure that no eligible voter is left behind – particularly in communities with historically low voter turnout.

The Michigan Department of State is committed to building on the progress of the last six years with strong engagement and education. Together, Michigan’s voters and leaders can ensure continued turnout growth, and a long-lasting legacy of accessible, secure elections.

Appendix

Turnout by County (% of Active Registered Voters), November 2024 General Election
– Descending Order by Active Registered Voter Turnout¹⁶

	County	Active Registered Voter Turnout
1.	Leelanau	89.0%
2.	Livingston	86.4%
3.	Keweenaw	85.2%
4.	Clinton	84.7%
5.	Grand Traverse	83.6%
6.	Oakland	83.4%
7.	Ottawa	83.2%
8.	Benzie	83.1%
9.	Washtenaw	82.8%
10.	Emmet	82.5%
11.	Antrim	81.9%
12.	Charlevoix	81.8%
13.	Lapeer	81.5%
14.	Midland	81.1%
15.	Barry	81.0%
16.	Huron	80.9%
17.	Ontonagon	80.8%
18.	Marquette	80.8%
19.	Eaton	80.7%
20.	Presque Isle	80.5%
21.	Allegan	80.0%
22.	Houghton	79.9%
23.	Kent	79.9%
24.	Tuscola	79.9%
25.	Alger	79.7%
26.	Mason	79.6%
27.	Sanilac	79.5%

¹⁶ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from QVF, obtained via the [Michigan Voting Dashboard](#).

	County	Active Registered Voter Turnout
28.	Monroe	79.0%
29.	Shiawassee	78.9%
30.	Alpena	78.8%
31.	St. Clair	78.7%
32.	Lenawee	78.7%
33.	Mackinac	78.7%
34.	Manistee	78.6%
35.	Montmorency	78.5%
36.	Bay	78.4%
37.	Macomb	78.4%
38.	Roscommon	78.4%
39.	Kalamazoo	78.4%
40.	Alcona	78.3%
41.	Cheboygan	78.3%
42.	Ingham	78.2%
43.	Dickinson	78.1%
44.	Missaukee	77.9%
45.	Arenac	77.8%
46.	Gladwin	77.7%
47.	Iosco	77.4%
48.	Mecosta	77.3%
49.	Otsego	77.3%
50.	Newaygo	77.1%
51.	Ionia	77.1%
52.	Gogebic	77.0%
53.	Osceola	76.7%
54.	Delta	76.6%
55.	Kalkaska	76.5%
56.	Saginaw	76.5%
57.	Oscoda	76.1%
58.	Crawford	76.1%
59.	Baraga	76.0%
60.	Montcalm	75.9%
61.	Menominee	75.8%
62.	Hillsdale	75.6%

	County	Active Registered Voter Turnout
63.	Schoolcraft	75.6%
64.	Wexford	75.6%
65.	Van Buren	75.4%
66.	Gratiot	75.4%
67.	Oceana	75.3%
68.	Berrien	75.2%
69.	Iron	75.2%
70.	Ogemaw	75.2%
71.	Jackson	74.8%
72.	Chippewa	74.5%
73.	Muskegon	74.3%
74.	Genesee	74.2%
75.	Isabella	74.1%
76.	Cass	74.0%
77.	Luce	73.4%
78.	Lake	73.2%
79.	Clare	73.1%
80.	Branch	72.4%
81.	St. Joseph	72.3%
82.	Calhoun	71.2%
83.	Wayne	70.5%

Methods of Voting by County, November 2024 General Election¹⁷

County	% Absentee Voting (AV)	% Early Voting (EV)	% Election Day Voting (ED)	% AV + EV
Alcona	26.7%	19.3%	53.9%	46.1%
Alger	32.0%	14.5%	53.5%	46.5%
Allegan	33.4%	34.9%	31.7%	68.3%
Alpena	33.2%	18.8%	48.0%	52.0%
Antrim	37.4%	33.2%	29.4%	70.6%
Arenac	27.4%	14.8%	57.8%	42.2%
Baraga	33.6%	26.5%	39.9%	60.1%
Barry	31.7%	34.2%	34.1%	65.9%
Bay	39.1%	14.8%	46.2%	53.8%
Benzie	41.1%	32.9%	26.0%	74.0%
Berrien	38.5%	18.9%	42.5%	57.5%
Branch	28.3%	24.2%	47.5%	52.5%
Calhoun	31.8%	19.9%	48.3%	51.7%
Cass	31.1%	26.1%	42.8%	57.2%
Charlevoix	41.3%	16.0%	42.7%	57.3%
Cheboygan	35.4%	16.9%	47.7%	52.3%
Chippewa	33.9%	15.5%	50.6%	49.4%
Clare	33.8%	15.1%	51.1%	48.9%
Clinton	41.5%	18.7%	39.8%	60.2%
Crawford	35.0%	25.5%	39.5%	60.5%
Delta	33.9%	18.9%	47.2%	52.8%
Dickinson	34.3%	23.9%	41.8%	58.2%
Eaton	41.1%	17.6%	41.4%	58.6%
Emmet	42.7%	17.6%	39.7%	60.3%
Genesee	37.5%	24.1%	38.4%	61.6%
Gladwin	34.1%	16.2%	49.7%	50.3%
Gogebic	30.8%	12.8%	56.4%	43.6%
Grand Traverse	46.6%	24.7%	28.7%	71.3%
Gratiot	28.0%	15.4%	56.6%	43.4%
Hillsdale	26.7%	18.4%	55.0%	45.0%

¹⁷ Michigan Department of State analysis. Source data from QVF, obtained via the [Michigan Voting Dashboard](#).

County	% Absentee Voting (AV)	% Early Voting (EV)	% Election Day Voting (ED)	% AV + EV
Houghton	32.3%	13.4%	54.3%	45.7%
Huron	29.0%	23.0%	48.1%	51.9%
Ingham	45.8%	22.0%	32.2%	67.8%
Ionia	30.8%	15.5%	53.7%	46.3%
Iosco	41.4%	13.6%	44.9%	55.1%
Iron	30.4%	27.2%	42.4%	57.6%
Isabella	33.3%	19.8%	46.9%	53.1%
Jackson	36.6%	19.7%	43.7%	56.3%
Kalamazoo	43.0%	17.7%	39.3%	60.7%
Kalkaska	26.9%	37.6%	35.5%	64.5%
Kent	37.9%	25.8%	36.2%	63.8%
Keweenaw	36.1%	14.9%	49.0%	51.0%
Lake	30.3%	15.6%	54.1%	45.9%
Lapeer	31.5%	34.1%	34.3%	65.7%
Leelanau	50.5%	18.2%	31.3%	68.7%
Lenawee	36.7%	12.8%	50.5%	49.5%
Livingston	40.5%	30.1%	29.3%	70.7%
Luce	27.5%	15.9%	56.6%	43.4%
Mackinac	37.5%	8.4%	54.1%	45.9%
Macomb	38.0%	23.9%	38.1%	61.9%
Manistee	38.7%	20.6%	40.7%	59.3%
Marquette	40.4%	20.3%	39.4%	60.6%
Mason	29.0%	22.2%	48.8%	51.2%
Mecosta	34.1%	20.1%	45.8%	54.2%
Menominee	32.7%	13.6%	53.7%	46.3%
Midland	36.8%	19.4%	43.8%	56.2%
Missaukee	24.4%	18.1%	57.5%	42.5%
Monroe	34.7%	27.2%	38.1%	61.9%
Montcalm	31.1%	15.3%	53.6%	46.4%
Montmorency	32.6%	18.3%	49.1%	50.9%
Muskegon	39.7%	15.1%	45.2%	54.8%
Newaygo	27.8%	16.1%	56.1%	43.9%
Oakland	45.7%	19.8%	34.5%	65.5%
Oceana	33.0%	16.1%	50.9%	49.1%
Ogemaw	31.5%	17.5%	51.0%	49.0%

County	% Absentee Voting (AV)	% Early Voting (EV)	% Election Day Voting (ED)	% AV + EV
Ontonagon	36.8%	14.7%	48.5%	51.5%
Osceola	24.8%	18.0%	57.2%	42.8%
Oscoda	32.1%	22.4%	45.5%	54.5%
Otsego	32.6%	23.4%	43.9%	56.1%
Ottawa	40.2%	18.1%	41.7%	58.3%
Presque Isle	31.0%	28.0%	41.1%	58.9%
Roscommon	41.8%	28.8%	29.4%	70.6%
Saginaw	39.0%	9.2%	51.8%	48.2%
St. Clair	34.4%	28.6%	37.0%	63.0%
St. Joseph	31.0%	18.7%	50.3%	49.7%
Sanilac	30.9%	13.0%	56.2%	43.8%
Schoolcraft	30.0%	22.5%	47.6%	52.4%
Shiawassee	32.9%	17.4%	49.7%	50.3%
Tuscola	28.4%	25.0%	46.5%	53.5%
Van Buren	36.4%	15.9%	47.8%	52.2%
Washtenaw	47.9%	23.1%	29.0%	71.0%
Wayne	40.3%	20.3%	39.4%	60.6%
Wexford	26.1%	19.3%	54.6%	45.4%