

Michigan (MI) (16 votes)

Capital: **Lansing**
 Area: **96,716 sq mi. / 250,493 sq km**
 Population: **10,077,331**
 Nickname: **"The Great Lake State"**
 State motto: **"If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you."**
 Governor: **Gretchen Whitmer (D)**
 U.S. Senators: **Debbie Stabenow (D), Gary Peters (D)**



How will your state vote?

Predicting a vote is a challenging task. Political researchers have different opinions on how to predict an election outcome. Different formulas and methods are used, however none is perfect. Each prediction is a snapshot of the voters' opinion at a certain point in time. But with election issues and current events changing so fast, it is quite a challenge to have an accurate prediction of how the election will turn out. In the 2020 election, most political pundits and polls before Election Day accurately estimated that Democratic candidate Joe Biden would receive more votes than the Republican candidate and former President Donald J. Trump. However, Biden's victory in the Electoral College was narrower than predicted because the polls overstated Biden's support relative to Trump.

What are the most common predictors to determine how citizens will vote? Socio-economic factors are among the most important ones. They include, but are not limited to, citizens' education, income, and ethnicity. While these are often mentioned as decisive, others are important to consider as well. For example, many Americans cast their vote based on a single issue like health care, women's reproductive rights, the economy, or the environment. These voters choose their preferred candidate based on the issue most important to their identity, their social network, or personal biography, for example religious affiliation, ideology, or health. Americans also often cast their vote in a local context and are influenced by political and social issues affecting their own state. Finally, calculating voter turnout is key to an accurate prediction.

Some key variables for predicting the election outcome



Voting history

How have people in the state voted in the past? Is the state solidly red, blue, or purple? What is the expected turnout?



Ethnicity

What ethnic group does a citizen belong to? What is the ethnic make-up of the state?



Religion

How important is religion to the citizens? How often do they pray or attend worship service?



Economy

What's the current economic situation in the state? How many citizens live in poverty? How many are without a job?



Income inequality

How wide is the gap between wealthy and poor people? How much income does the top 1% in the state take home?



Education

How many people graduate from high school in your state? How many have a college degree?

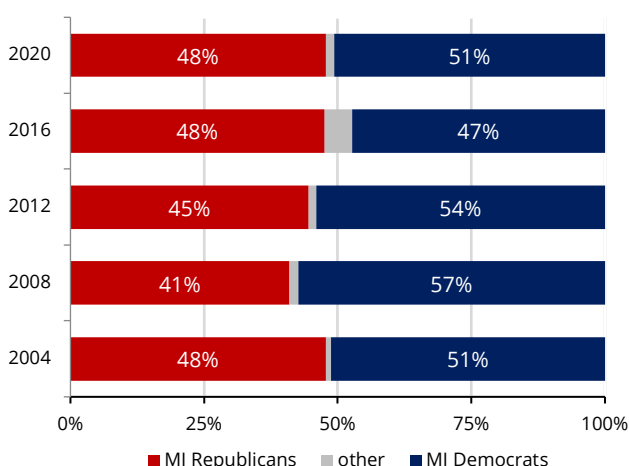


Voting history ^[2]

From 1972 through 1988 Michigan voted exclusively Republican, before becoming part of the 'blue wall' that voted Democratic in six consecutive presidential elections from 1992 through 2012.

Donald Trump narrowly flipped the state in 2016, defeating Hillary Clinton by just 0.2%. This was the closest state by popular vote percentage that year. Joe Biden won by 2.8% in 2020, bringing the state back to the Democratic column. Michigan has experienced significant economic turmoil since the 1970s and has seen slow population growth relative to the rest of the country. It was the only state to actually lose population in the 2010 Census. This trend has resulted in a loss of electoral votes, from 21 in the 1970s to 16 in 2012. A loss of one brings it 15 for the 2024 and 2028 presidential elections.

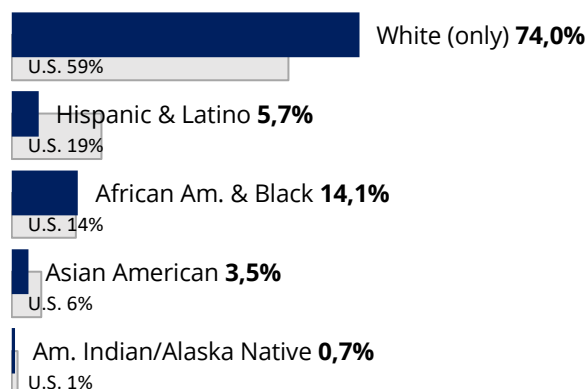
Election results in Michigan (2004–2020): ^[2]



Voter turnout 2020:



Ethnicity ^[3]



(U.S. average in grey)



Religion ^[4]

MI is tied for **27th** most religious state over-

53% of adults in MI are "highly religious," based on an overall index

Religious profile of Michigan

50% (27th) say religion is very important in their lives

33% (33rd) say they attend worship at least weekly

53% (22nd) say they pray daily

63% (25th) say they believe in God w/ absolute certainty



Economy ^[5]

13.4% (12th highest) poverty rate

4.3% (44th lowest) unemployment rate



Income inequality ^[6]

The **top 1%** take home **18 % of all the income in MI.**

(U.S. average: 21%)

1% of the families



18% of the income

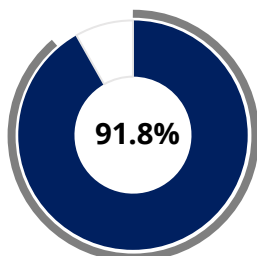


Education ^[3]

High school degree or higher

persons 25+ yrs. old

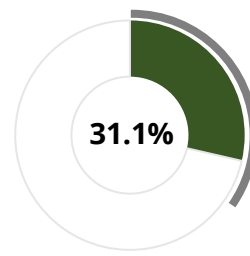
U.S. average (grey): 89.1%



Bachelor's degree or higher

persons 25+ yrs. old

U.S. average (grey): 34.3%



More information on Michigan



State information

Official state website: <http://www.michigan.gov/>



Media



Michigan Political News:

<https://www.politico.com/news/michigan>



Michigan Politics Podcasts:

https://podcasts.feedspot.com/michigan_politics_podcasts/



Democrats and Republicans in the state

Democratic Party



<http://www.michigandems.com/>



www.youtube.com/midemocraticparty



<https://twitter.com/MichiganDems>



www.instagram.com/michigandems/?hl=de



no official site

Republican Party

<http://migop.org/>

www.youtube.com/@MIGOP

<https://twitter.com/MIGOP>

<https://www.instagram.com/migop/>

no official site

* Please note, these are third-party resources, Teach About U.S. is not responsible for this content.

Sources:

1. State map: [Wikimedia Commons](#)
2. Voting history text: adapted from 270towin.com
3. Ethnicity, economy, and education data: [U.S. Census Bureau](#)
4. Religion data: [Pew poll: How religious is your state?](#)
5. Poverty and unemployment rate: [Poverty Rates by State & Unemployment Statistics Map](#)
6. Wealth and income inequality data: [Economic Policy Institute – The Unequal States of America](#)