Index 1: Voter Registration - Confidence level - LOW
Indiana closes voter registration 29 days before Election Day. The state does not provide automated or same-day voter registration, but does offer it online. Although Indiana does not purge voters from lists for not voting, it had the highest unnecessary purge rate of voters among all states in 2020. Voting rights are automatically restored to those incarcerated for felonies upon release. A high number of Indiana voters contacted the 1-866-OUR-VOTE legal hotline in 2020 during the last week of the election with concerns about voter registration and the handling of provisional ballots.

Index 2: Voter Identification - Confidence level - MEDIUM
Indiana has a strict photo ID law. The state is NOT a member of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) which helps states to improve the accuracy of voter rolls. A moderate number of voters in 2020 reported concerns about voter ID or not being on the voting list/database. State law enacted in 2021 eased some previous restrictions regarding voter ID for Native Americans.

Index 3: Early Voting - Confidence level - HIGH
Indiana offers early in-person voting 28 days before Election Day, ending by noon the day prior. State legislation was passed in 2021 to further improve access. Weekend voting is Saturday only. Excuse-required absentee voting is available.

Index 4: Safe Voting - Confidence level - LOW
Absentee ballots in Indiana are excuse-only and mailed to the voter only by request, with prepaid postage to return the ballot. State law in 2021 restricted the availability of ballot drop off options and set the absentee ballot application deadline for voters with print disabilities who intend to vote by email or fax to 12 days before Election Day. Indiana offers an online portal for absentee ballot applications. There are no restrictions on assisting the return of a ballot for a voter in need.
Index 5: Ballot Acceptance - Confidence level - MEDIUM
Indiana had a high percentage of mail-in ballots returned in 2020, with a low rejection rate. There is a statewide ballot tracking program, but it is not strong nor statutorily required. The state allows election administrators to preprocess returned ballots, provides prepaid postage on return envelopes, allows voters to correct for ballot discrepancies, and has a signature verification program. Absentee ballots must be received by noon on Election Day.

Index 6: Logistical Barriers in Voting - Confidence level - LOW
Although Election Day in Indiana is a state holiday, there is no specific law allowing employees to take paid or unpaid leave to vote. The state does not offer curbside voting nor high quality accessible voting machines options, but new state laws in 2021 were enacted to protect the rights of voters with disabilities. There was a moderate number of reports from voters about access issues at polling sites, such as long lines, mishandling of ballots, voting equipment problems, concerns with COVID-10 protocols, and delayed openings and early closing of sites.

Index 7: Equipment, Security, and Auditing - Confidence level - LOW
Indiana has a voter-verified paper audit trail for some counties. The state uses a combination of hand marked paper ballots and electronic voting machines, offers Ballot Marking Devices for voters with accessibility needs, and tests the equipment according to federal standards and accreditation. The state's election security systems received very low overall ratings in 2018. Indiana uses risk limiting audit methods to double-check for recording errors after election certification and during the statutorily required post-election period.
Indiana

Index 8: Independent Election Administration - Confidence level - LOW

Although Indiana has established the constitutional right to a secret ballot, it does not prohibit election interference by the legislature. State laws passed in 2021 shift election authority and increase the reporting, investigation, and prosecution of election crimes. 2022 law expands the existing ban on local governments accepting private funds for conducting elections to include donations for employing temporary election workers and creates new election-related offenses.

Index 9: External Interference in Voting - Confidence Level - MEDIUM

Public opinion surveys showed that Indiana voters had no trust in the 2020 election news coverage, while political scientists gave the state low media integrity ratings. There was a moderate number of reports from Indiana voters about political intimidation and disinformation in-person and online, including voters targeted with robocalls to stay home and not vote. State law does not prohibit obstructing or hindering voters at polling sites nor criminalizing voter intimidation and false election speech. There is no mandate for all poll workers to be trained nor a ban on weapons at polling sites. Indiana law does authorize law enforcement to be present only by request or on official business.

Index 10: The Role of Government and Politics – No rating given, informational only

Indiana is one of 19 states that has a Republican trifecta, as well as a triplex - the governor, attorney general, and secretary of state are from the same political party. Based on the last two presidential elections, Indiana is a solid Republican state, with an average GOP voting margin of 17.5% compared to the national average Democratic voting margin of 3%. According to the 2020 U.S. Census, the state’s population grew by 4.7% compared to the national average of 7.4%. Indiana is less racially diverse than the rest of the country. During the past decade, the white population dropped from 84% to 77%. With the U.S. Census results, the state will neither gain nor lose any representatives in Congress.

Learn more about how to vote and voting rights in Indiana: VOTE411
Learn about voting laws recently passed or enacted in Indiana: State Voting Rights Tracker by Voting Rights Lab
If you or anyone you know encounters problems while voting, call the Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE or 866-687-8683
Learn how to take action to protect voting rights in Indiana: DemocracyMovement.us