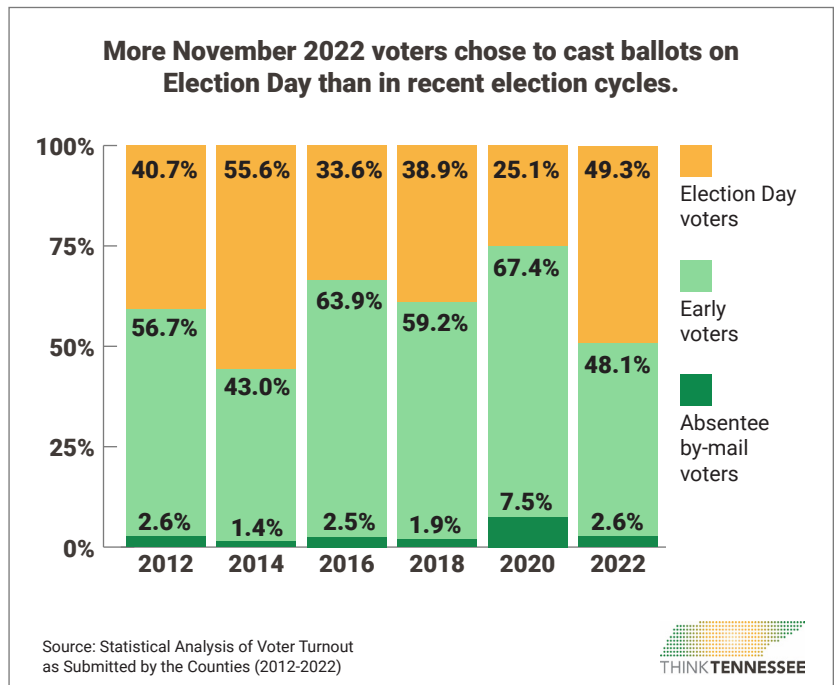
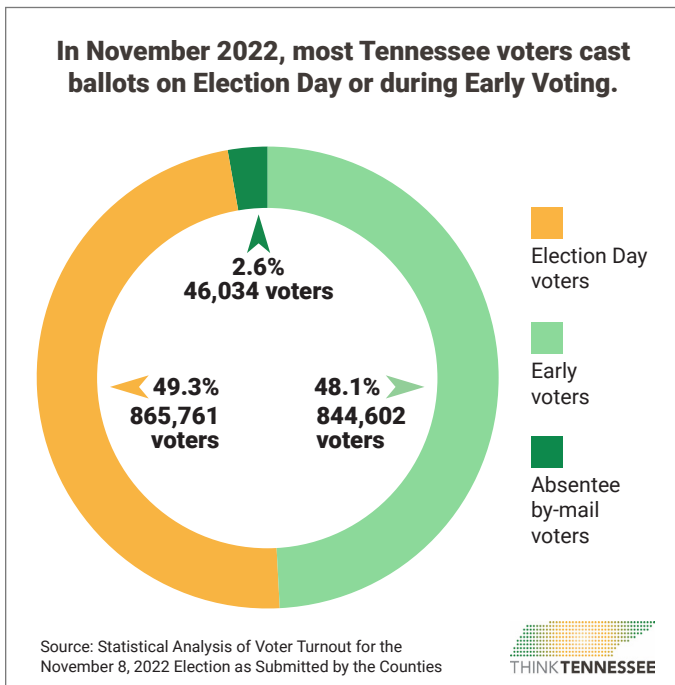


Tennessee's November 8, 2022 midterm election featured races for governor, U.S. House of Representatives, all 99 state House, and 17 state Senate offices. Far fewer Tennesseans cast ballots in this election — **just 38.6% of registered voters** — than in the state's most recent elections. Turnout, however, was slightly higher than the most recent comparable election — 2014's midterm with an incumbent governor on the ballot.¹

Historically, more Tennessee voters have cast their ballots during Early Voting than on Election Day, but this midterm, votes were split nearly evenly between the two — with **49.3% on Election Day** and **48.1% during Early Voting**. After a spike in absentee voting in 2020 during the pandemic, rates returned to their previous trends, with only **2.6% of ballots cast via absentee**.



This after action election report includes three parts:



Part 1 | Voter Turnout and Choice

We look at rates of voter turnout, comparing them to previous elections and other states, and the competitiveness of races — the number of “choices” voters had and the margins of victory in races.



Part 2 | Election Experience

We review survey responses from county election administrators and calls to a national election protection hotline to reflect on how voters and election officials perceived and experienced the election process.



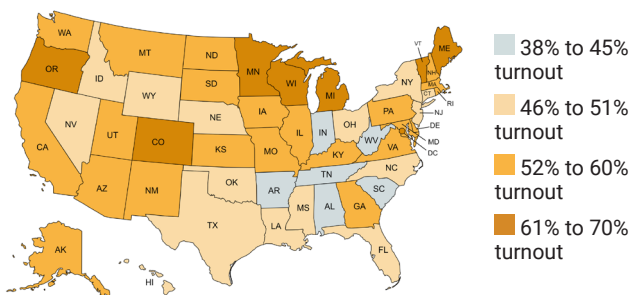
Part 3 | Policy Recommendations

We share recommendations based on best practices and examples from other states for how we can continue to strengthen our state's system and help improve voter turnout.

Key Takeaways

- ▶ **Our elections are secure.** As with past elections, the 2022 midterms were safely and securely administered across the state. Yet, some counties had challenges with placing voters in newly drawn districts following the most recent redistricting process.
- ▶ **The majority of Tennessee's elections were uncontested.** More than half — 53.9% — of November's state legislative races featured only one candidate, leaving voters with no "choice."
- ▶ **Voter turnout remains one of the lowest in the country.** The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 44.5% of Tennessee's *estimated eligible voting population* voted in November 2022.² That is nearly eight points behind the national average (52.2%) and ranks 48th, ahead of only three states — Arkansas, Indiana, and West Virginia. The Census Bureau's estimates are the most reliable data currently available to compare voter turnout across states for the 2022 election.³
- ▶ **Would-be Tennessee voters continue to miss out on casting a ballot.** Calls to the national election protection hotline reveal that some Tennesseans do not have adequate information or struggle with some voting requirements, such as deadlines and returning absentee ballots on time.

In November 2022, Tennessee's estimated turnout among eligible voters of 44.5% was among the lowest in the country.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Voter and Registration in the Election of November 2022.

THINK TENNESSEE

Policy Recommendations

While Tennessee's voter turnout continues to trail other states, policymakers should consider additional opportunities to further strengthen our state's election systems and help encourage participation. Looking to best practices and examples from other states, ThinkTennessee shares four recommendations to consider ahead of our next election cycle that could help improve voter turnout:



Increase support for voter education efforts.

Voters continue to demonstrate a lack of awareness about key rules and deadlines associated with the voting process.

Additional support for county election officials and trusted local partners to share information can help to equip voters with the information they need.



Allow absentee ballots to be returned in person.

Tennessee is one of only two states that requires voters to mail in their absentee ballot. All other states allow voters to return ballots to local election offices or polling places.

Allowing a similar option in Tennessee would maintain election integrity and provide voters with confidence that their ballot has been received.



Consider expanding Convenience Vote Centers.

Nine counties have received permission to implement Convenience Vote Centers on Election Day, giving voters more location options to cast their ballots.⁴

Convenience Vote Centers can help reduce Election Day challenges, such as long lines and voters not being able to cast their ballot when they appear at the wrong location.



Consider extending the voter registration window.

Would-be voters continue to miss the registration window.

Most states — 35 and DC — allow more time to register.⁵ Adopting a similar policy could help more Tennesseans cast their ballot.



Part 1

Voter Turnout and Choice:

In this first election following the decennial redistricting process, turnout continued to trail most other states, few races were competitive, and election administration went well, with the exception of challenges with issuing the wrong ballot in a couple of counties.

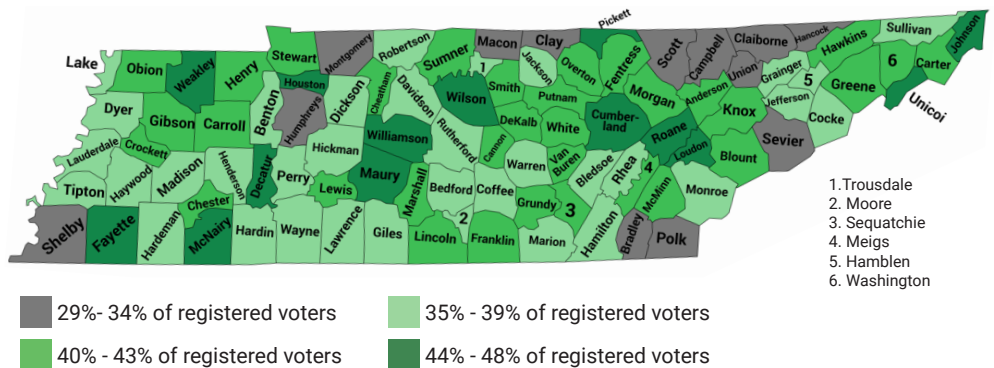
Tennessee's low voter turnout is consistent with past midterm elections but continues to trail other states.

Fewer than half of Tennesseans – both registered voters and estimated eligible voters – cast ballots.

Voter turnout can be measured in two ways: as a percentage of total *registered voters* and as a percentage of the total *eligible voting population* – an estimate of the number of Tennesseans eligible to vote (who may not be registered but could be registered).

According to statistics released by the secretary of state's office in February, **38.6% of registered voters** cast ballots, with turnout in counties ranging from a high of **48.4%** (Loudon) and a low of **29.3%** (Hancock).⁶ The U.S. Census Bureau estimates a higher turnout rate – of **44.5%** – representing the percentage of the estimated eligible voting population.⁷

Tennessee counties saw between 29.3% - 48.4% of registered voters cast ballots in November 2022.



Source: Statistical Analysis of Voter Turnout for the November 8, 2022 Election as Submitted by the Counties

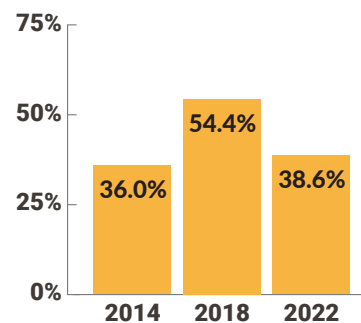


Turnout was lower than the most recent midterm election, but it is consistent with the most recent comparable cycle.

Turnout was far below the most recent midterm elections in **2018**, which saw a turnout rate of **54.4%** of registered voters, and turnout in counties ranged from **68.0%** (Williamson) to **38.2%** (Hancock).⁸ However, 2018's midterm election also included an open gubernatorial race.

Looking at **2014**, a similar midterm with an incumbent governor running for a second term, turnout rates are comparable. In 2014, **36.0%** of registered voters cast ballots, with turnout in counties ranged from **44.9%** (Loudon) to **19.9%** (Hancock).⁹

Voter turnout as a percentage of registered voters was lower than in 2018 but comparable to 2014.



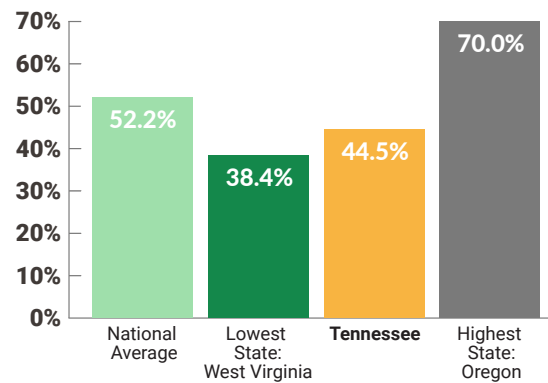
Source: Statistical Analysis of Voter Turnout as Submitted by the Counties (2014-2022)



Tennessee's voter turnout is one of the lowest in the country.

Tennessee's estimated turnout among eligible voters trails the national average and turnout rates in all but three states. At 44.5%, Tennessee's turnout is 25.5 percentage points lower than the state with the highest turnout (Oregon, 70.0%), 6.7 points behind the national rate (52.2%), and is trailed only by Arkansas (43.9%), Indiana (41.9%), and West Virginia (38.4%).¹⁰

November 2022 voter turnout as a percentage of eligible voting citizens is the fourth lowest (48th) in the nation.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, November 2022



The vast majority of the 2022 races were uncompetitive.

The 2022 ballot included races for governor, all nine U.S. House of Representative seats, all 99 state House of Representative seats, and 17 of the 33 state Senate seats. The majority of these races included only one candidate, leaving many voters without a "choice" to make.

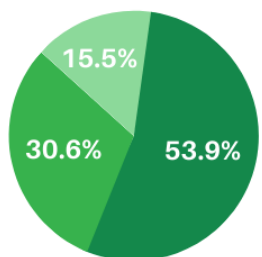
Few candidates ran in August's primary races.

In the August primary elections, both the Republican and Democratic parties may field candidates for each race to compete in the November general election.¹¹ Yet, more than half of the Senate (52.9%) and House (62.6%) primary races featured only one party fielding a candidate.¹²

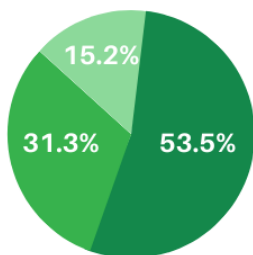
Additionally, only 17.9% of August primary races (45 out of the 252 total possible) for the state legislature, governor, and Congress had more than one candidate running.

The majority of August's primary races included only one choice for voters.

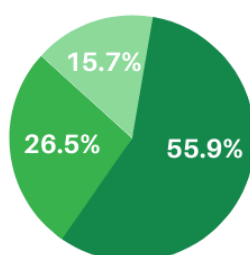
State Legislative Races
(Both House and Senate)



State House



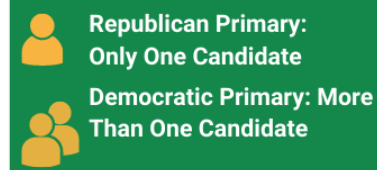
State Senate



U.S. House of Representatives Races



Gubernatorial Race



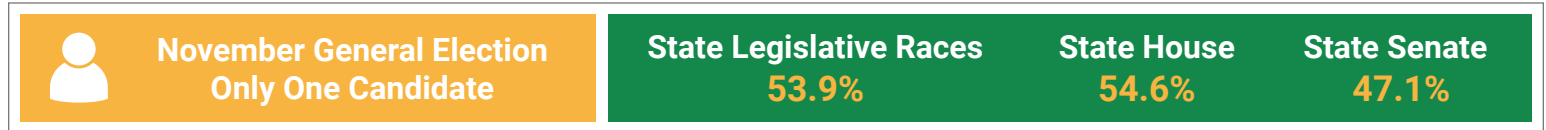
- More than One Candidate Running
- No Candidate Running
- Only One Candidate Running

Source: Ballotpedia



While November races saw more choices for voters compared to August's primaries, nearly half of state legislative races still had only one candidate.

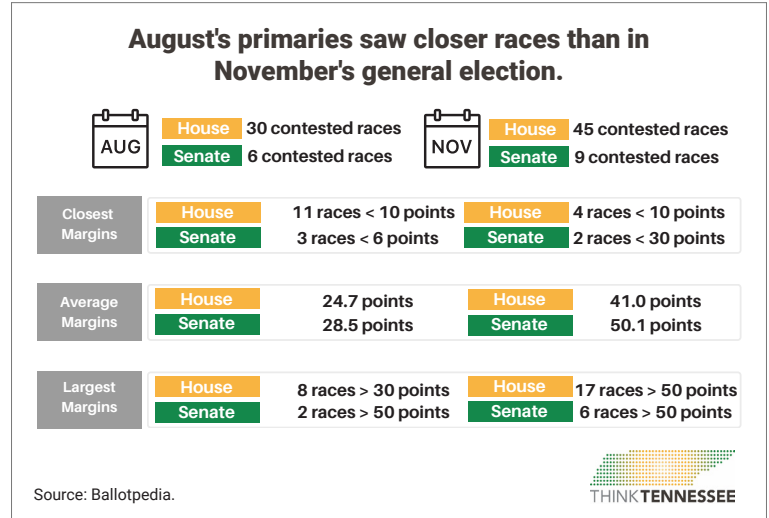
Of the 99 state House and 17 state Senate races on the ballot in November, 53.9% were unopposed, leaving voters with only one "choice" for the seat. Only one candidate ran in 54.6% of state House races and 47.1% of state Senate races.



Of the races where more than one candidate was running, the more competitive races were in August's primaries.

August's Democratic gubernatorial primary was decided by 0.6 points, whereas in November, Governor Lee won by a 32-point margin. Primary races for state legislative seats saw an average margin of victory of fewer than 30 points compared to 41 (House) and 50 (Senate) points in November's general elections.

Only 30 (15.2%) of the 198 possible state House primary races were contested in August. Of those, the average margin of victory was 24.7 points, with 11 (36.7%) coming within 10 points or fewer. Whereas in November, the average margin of victory among the 45 (45.5%) contested races was 41.0 points. Only four (8.9%) races came within 10 points.

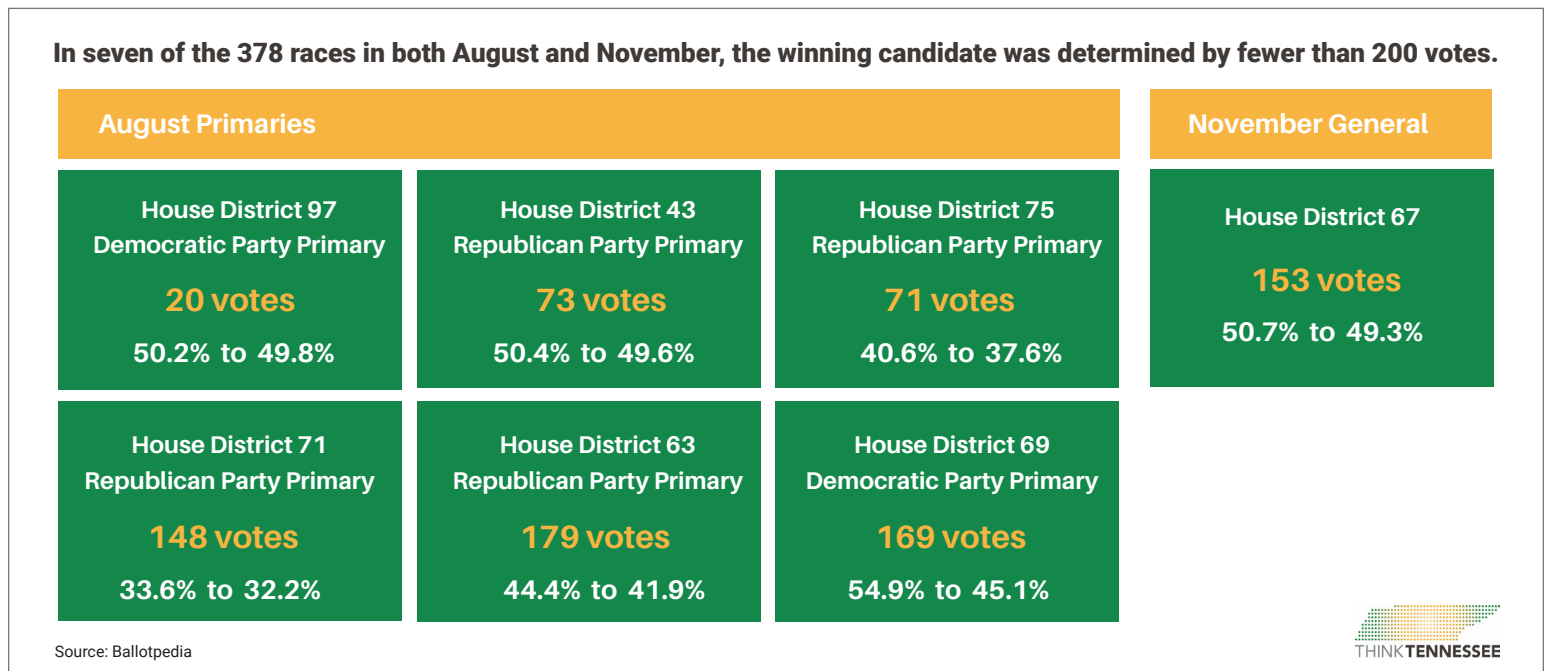


Six (17.7%) of the 34 possible state Senate primaries were contested in August and saw an average margin of victory of 28.5 points – with three (50%) decided by fewer than six points. And in November, the average margin of victory among the nine (52.9%) of the 17 state Senate races contested was 50.1 points, with the closest race determined by 24.6 points.

Only a few races in August and November were determined by close margins of victory.

In total, 18 races (out of 378) were determined by fewer than 10 percentage points: 14 August primaries – the Democratic gubernatorial, 10 state House, and three Senate races – and four November state House general elections.¹³

Six August primaries and one November general election were decided by fewer than 200 votes.





Part 2

Voter Experience

Overall, Tennessee's election administration went smoothly, though voters in some counties received incorrect ballots following the recent redistricting process. Election experiences shared by both election administrators (through surveys) and voters (through hotline calls) demonstrate both positive takeaways and opportunities for further strengthening of our election system.

Tennessee's first election post-redistricting after the 2020 census resulted in some mistakes.

State legislative and congressional districts were redrawn following the once-a-decade redistricting process, with many voters experiencing changes, such as being placed in new districts, assigned to new polling places, or both.

These changes can create confusion for voters, and at least three counties reported ballot issues (for example, voters receiving a ballot for the wrong district), with some voters casting ballots in the wrong U.S. congressional district races.

In Benton County (Districts 7 and 8), election officials caught the fewer than 10 voters placed in the wrong district before those voters cast their ballots.¹⁴ In Davidson County (Districts 5, 6, and 7), 437 voters cast the wrong ballot along with 50 voters in Shelby County (Districts 8 and 9).¹⁵

Of the 437 affected Davidson County voters, 117 cast provisional ballots for the correct congressional district that would have been counted in the event of a close race.¹⁶

Davidson County Ballot Issue

A December report examining the issues in Davidson County identified "human error" as the root cause. Election commission staff continued to make updates to the voter rolls and files after the final verification stage had been made, leading to some confusion and discrepancies.¹⁷



Election administrators shared positive takeaways from November 2022.

ThinkTennessee sent surveys to all 95 county election administrators to gather their on-the-ground impressions of how the election went. Survey questions asked about the level of voter engagement, what worked well, what was challenging, and what additional measures might help support voter education efforts. We collected responses from 15 counties, for a 15.8% response rate.



Voter Engagement Was as Expected

All 15 respondents answered the question "How do you feel about the level of voter engagement in your county this election cycle?" The majority felt that voter turnout in their counties was "average" or "expected" (73.3%), 20% indicated it was "lower than normal turnout" and 13.3% indicated it was "higher" than normal.



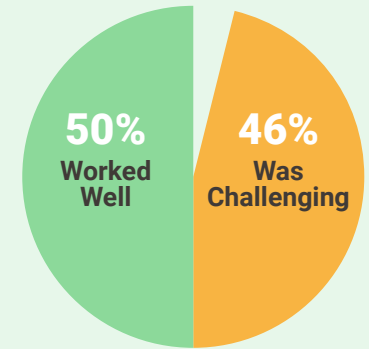
What Worked Well, What Was Challenging

Most of the respondents to the multiple-choice question of what went particularly well this election cycle indicated “**poll worker recruitment and training**” (50%) and “**sharing information with voters, e.g., about new districts or polling locations**” (42.9%).

Some shared additional measures they found particularly helpful, such as voter trainings — including **role-playing** where participants took turns playing the role of voter and poll worker — and **video presentations** about the primary election process shared on the county’s election website and with local media outlets.

In response to the multiple choice question of what they consider to have been the biggest challenges this cycle, most indicated “**poll worker recruitment and training**” (46.2%) and “**updating post-redistricting**” (38.5%). Some respondents shared additional challenges of **voters not updating their address after a move and issues with voters who thought they had registered at other state agencies but officials did not receive those applications.**

Administrator opinion was split on poll worker recruitment and training



Support for Voter Education Efforts

The majority of the nine respondents said “**social media and/or website features sharing information**” (77.8%) would help support additional voter education efforts.

Tennessee voters asked questions and reported challenges to a national election protection hotline.

The Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law operated their national election protection hotline, 866-OUR-VOTE, where voters across the country could seek help and share challenges that they encountered.

Tennessee voters made **221 calls** during November’s election cycle.¹⁸ Most callers (61.1%) **sought information** — on whether they were registered, where their polling place was, or inquiring about the status of their absentee ballot — while the remainder (43.3%) **reported a challenge** — not being able to cast a ballot because they hadn’t registered to vote in time or not being able to cast an absentee ballot because they had registered online.

ThinkTennessee Analysis



Calls were classified as either a “question” or “issue” and categorized into 12 areas based on the reason for the call. These areas included: seven categories of questions, e.g., information on polling place location, confirming voter registration status, and inquiring about the status of absentee ballots, and five categories of issues, e.g., not appearing on the voter rolls, and long lines or ballot issues.



61%
Asked for information
43%
Reported a challenge

Some calls were categorized as both questions and issues, so the total does not add up to 100%.

Calls reflect a gap in voter knowledge leading to some would-be voters falling through the cracks.

Tennesseans’ calls reflect a gap in voter knowledge that can be filled with more targeted voter education efforts, as well as opportunities for additional voting policies to help catch some of the voters currently falling through the cracks. The 2022 election raised questions or concerns around **voter registration, which polling places to use, receiving wrong ballots, and absentee voting.**

Voter Registration (53 calls)

Voter registration calls included those asking whether they were registered or how a recent move would affect their registration status and reporting issues, such as believing that they should be registered despite not appearing on the voter rolls.



At least 29 callers were unable to cast a ballot because they either did not appear on the voter rolls or because they missed the registration deadline.

Some calls appeared to be **administrative errors**, e.g., an incorrect date of birth listed on file, or the voter believed they had registered at a state agency.

But 16 callers **missed the voter registration deadline** either because they weren't aware of it, or they hadn't changed their registration after moving.



Voters who had moved since voting in their last election couldn't cast ballots because they didn't register in time.

Out-of-state moves: One caller thought he would be automatically registered when he received his Tennessee driver's license, and another moved after the 30-day voter registration deadline had passed.

County-to-county moves: Some callers didn't know they had to re-register in their new county, and some had re-registered but had done so after the registration deadline had passed.

Moves within the same county: A handful of callers were not sure if they would be allowed to cast a ballot since they hadn't updated their voter registration record with their new address.



Moving affects voting eligibility differently.

Voters who move from a **different TN county or state** must re-register in their new county.

However, voters who move **within the same county** have two options that allow them to still cast ballots.

- Because voters may use any polling location in their county during Early Voting, they can update their address when voting early.
- On Election Day, voters have a “fail safe” option where they can affirm their new address within the county, and they are able to vote at the precinct assigned to that address.¹⁹

Polling Places (73 calls)

Most of the calls about polling places (56.2%) came from voters looking to find where they could cast their ballot. The remaining calls dealt with polling place procedure – questions about Voter ID and polling place accessibility – while a small handful shared concerns about people outside the polling place and long lines.



After the most recent redistricting cycle, many voters were placed into new districts or assigned new Election Day polling places.

Some callers looking for their polling place knew that they might have a new one this year, while other calls came from voters who went to the wrong polling place because they didn't realize it had changed since they last voted.



Which polling place to use depends on when and where you vote.

During the **Early Voting** period, a voter may use any polling location in their county, but on **Election Day**, voters must cast their ballot at the specific polling place based on their address. Voters who show up at the wrong polling place on Election Day will be directed to their correct polling location where they can cast their ballot.

In counties that operate **Convenience Vote Centers** – replicating the Early Voting model on Election Day – voters may use any polling location in their county on Election Day.

Wrong Ballot (30 calls)

Most calls from voters reporting to have received the wrong or incomplete ballots came from those in Davidson County who had been assigned to the wrong congressional district, although another 11 callers reported they believed something had been missing from their ballot.



Early voters in Davidson County who had been assigned to the wrong congressional district were able to cast provisional ballots for the correct district on Election Day.

Over a dozen calls came from Davidson voters either reporting this issue or seeking to verify this information. Two callers — one out of town and the other sick — expressed concern that they were unable to take advantage of this fix.

Additional issues with incorrect ballots included reports that some races — in all categories, state legislative, governor, and congressional races — had been missing from callers' ballots.



Voters should review ballots before casting them.

Once a voter casts their ballot, they cannot go back and make changes. Voters are encouraged to review their choices before the final step — either pushing a button on a screen or scanning a paper ballot — and to flag concerns or questions with poll workers at that time.

Absentee Voting (21 calls)

Most calls about absentee voting were from voters seeking help with applying for an absentee ballot or inquiring about the status of their absentee ballot or application. A few callers flagged concerns, such as whether their absentee ballot would arrive in time and not being able to vote absentee because they registered online.



Some callers worried that their absentee ballot wouldn't arrive on time.

Some callers flagged concerns that they either hadn't yet received their absentee ballot or that it didn't appear that the election commission had yet received their completed ballot.



A voter who had moved to a new county could not vote absentee because they had registered online.

A caretaker of a voter with a disability shared that though the voter had previously been registered and voted in one Tennessee county, he had moved since the last election and re-registered in his new county online. The voter's request for an absentee ballot had been denied because voters who do not register in person must first vote in person before voting absentee in later elections.



Absentee voting requires allowing time for ballots to be received.

Tennessee's absentee voters must allow time for ballots to travel through the mail. Voters who request an absentee ballot from their county election commission receive them by mail.²⁰ Voters must also return their completed ballots by mail. The secretary of state's office now offers an absentee ballot tracking option that allows voters to track whether their ballot was received by their county election office.²¹

Only certain Tennessee voters are eligible to vote absentee.

Tennesseans with a qualifying excuse, e.g., an illness or disability, travel out of town, and aged 60 or older, may vote absentee. However, if a voter registers "by mail" rather than in person (for example, online or with a third-party voter registration drive) they must first vote in person before becoming eligible to vote absentee.²²



Part 3

Policy Recommendations

Voter turnout in Tennessee continues to trail that of most other states.

While some voters may decide not to participate because races are not competitive, some voters may wish to participate but are not able to because of a lack of awareness about how the process works or due to obstacles encountered along the way.

Drawing on lessons learned from three sources: Tennessee calls to the election protection hotline, information shared by county election administrators, and examples from other states, ThinkTennessee shares four recommendations for policymakers to consider ahead of our next election cycle that could help improve voter turnout.

➤ Increase support for voter education efforts.

Based on the questions and issues raised from Tennessee voters in both the 2022 and 2020 election cycles, voters are unaware of key steps of the election process.

While some county election commissions provide voter training and share messages through social media or on their website, **increasing support to expand their capacity and encouraging partnerships with trusted local community members** to help share information could help to reach more voters.



Increase voter education efforts to help inform new and existing voters.

The many rules, steps, and deadlines can be confusing for inexperienced or occasional voters. Educational efforts should include those targeting new voters, e.g., "Register to Vote!" and also reminders to existing voters. For example:



Update your registration if you've moved.



Review your ballot and flag questions or concerns with poll workers before you cast it.



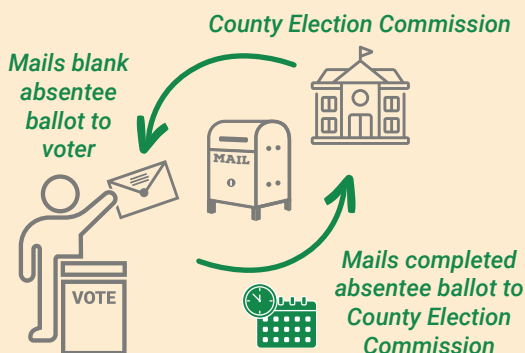
Request an absentee ballot early enough to allow it to travel through the mail.

➤ Allow absentee ballots to be returned in person.

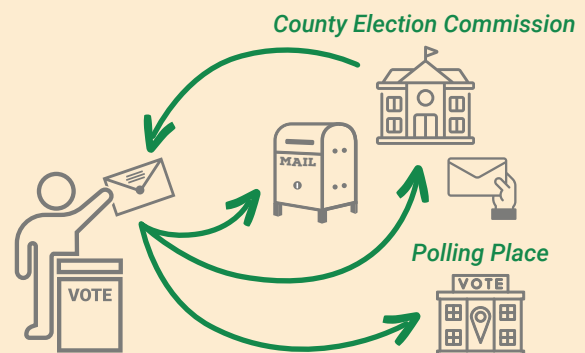
Tennessee absentee voters can only return their absentee ballots by mail. All other states — except Mississippi — allow voters the **additional option of returning an absentee ballot to either an election office or polling place**. Without this option, Tennessee absentee voters must build enough time into the process for their ballot to travel through the postal system and arrive by the close of polls on Election Day. If voters do not receive or return their absentee ballots in time, they will not be counted.

In 2020, the secretary of state's office introduced an alternative delivery option, allowing voters to deliver ballots to a specified post office in their county in the final days leading up to Election Day. Though specifically in response to increased concerns about postal service capacity because of Covid-19, an alternative option to mail delivery could help to increase Tennessee absentee voters' confidence that their ballots will be received.

Absentee ballots in Tennessee can only be returned by mail.



In 48 states and DC, voters may also return absentee ballots in person to election offices or polling places.

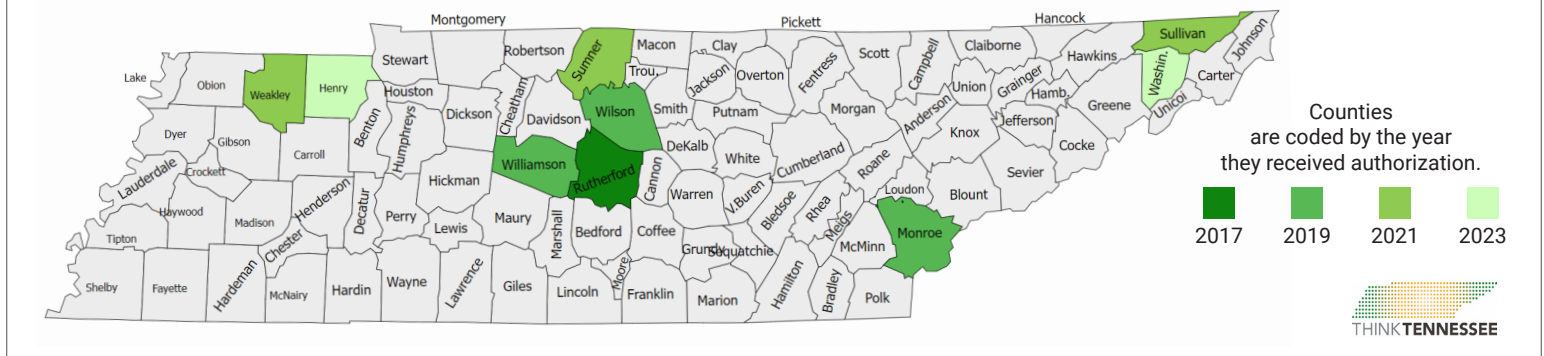


Consider expanding Convenience Vote Centers to more counties.

Establishing a Vote Center model on Election Day could help **reduce the number of voters turned away from casting a ballot because they show up at the wrong polling precinct.** The model has pros and cons and may not be a good fit for all counties – it may involve reducing the overall number of polling places in a county. But it increases convenience by allowing a voter to use any location within their county rather than their specific polling place.

For counties who are able to meet the capacity and technology requirements and who believe the model will help increase rather than limit access for voters, Vote Centers may be a good option to consider to ensure voters can cast their ballots.

Since 2019, nine counties have received authorization to implement Vote Centers on Election Day.



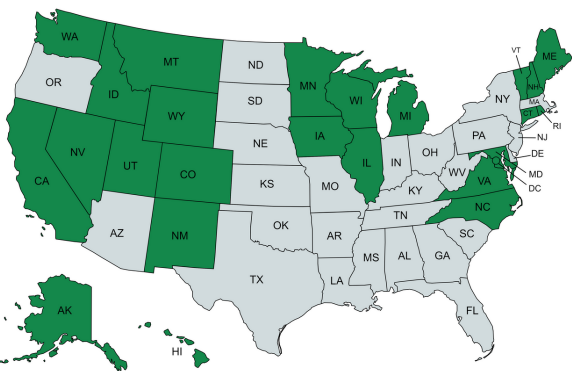
Consider extending the voter registration window.

As we saw in 2020, would-be Tennessee voters were unable to cast ballots because they missed the voter registration window. Tennesseans are **missing the opportunity to participate in elections** because they act too late and are either not registered or their registration is not updated due to a recent move.

Federal law requires voter-registration deadlines be set at no more than 30 days before an election, however many states set it closer to Election Day to allow more voters the opportunity to participate. **Tennessee is one of 14 states with the longest possible window between the deadline and Election Day (28-30 days).**

Other states allow voters more time to register. Half of states – 24 and DC – offer Same Day Registration.²³ The remaining states have voter registration deadlines closer to Election Day.

24 states and DC offer Same Day Registration.



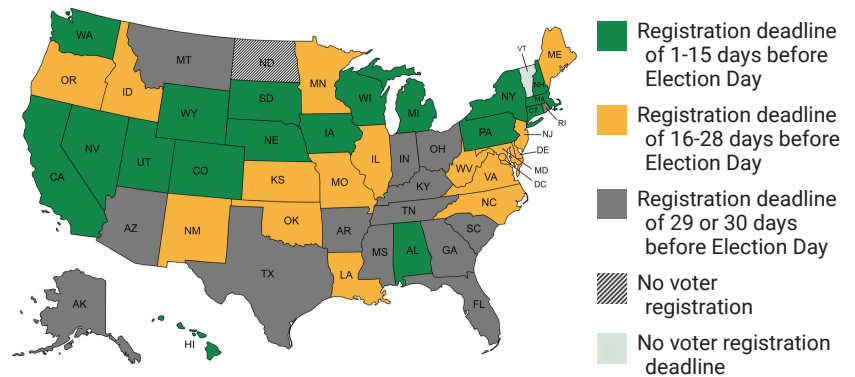
States with Same Day Registration*

*For presidential elections only in Alaska and Rhode Island

During Early Voting only in Montana and North Carolina



Tennessee is one of 14 states with the longest possible window between the registration deadline and Election Day.*



In 24 states and DC, voter registration applications are received until a deadline – there is a period of time before an election where voters may not register – but voters may appear on Election Day and can register and cast a ballot at that time.

Some states have different voter registration deadlines for different methods of registration, i.e., in person or online. The deadline shown here is the one closest to Election Day.

*Two of those states – Alaska and Rhode Island – also offer Same Day Registration only for presidential elections.



References

1. Turnout in presidential elections is typically higher than midterms, particularly when an incumbent governor is running for a second term. Turnout comparisons are best made between similar election cycles.
2. The U.S. Census Bureau calculates voter turnout as a percentage of the estimated citizen voting age population based on survey responses. It is an estimation used to compare turnout rates across states. U.S. Census Bureau. (May 2, 2023). 2022 Voting and Registration Data Now Available. See <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2023/2022-voting-registration.html>. Additional data reflecting turnout rates from the Secretary of State shows that 38.6% of registered voters cast ballots in November.
3. ThinkTN uses an additional data source — the Elections Performance Index — to demonstrate voter turnout rankings for our State of the State Dashboard, but it is not yet available. See <https://elections.mit.edu/#/data/map>.
4. Rutherford, Wilson, Monroe, Williamson, Sumner, Weakley, Sullivan, Henry, and Washington counties.
5. Some states have different deadlines for voters who register online or in person. For example, Nebraska has a voter registration deadline of 18 days for most modes of registration but 11 days for in-person registration. Nebraska Secretary of State. Registering to Vote. See <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/registering-vote>.
6. Tennessee Secretary of State. (2023). Statistical Analysis of Voter Turnout for the November 8, 2022 Election as Submitted by the Counties. See <https://sos-prod.tnsosgovfiles.com/s3fs-public/document/2022%20November.pdf>.
7. The U.S. Census Bureau is estimating turnout based on survey responses and estimating the eligible population. U.S. Census Bureau. (May 2, 2023). 2022 Voting and Registration Data Now Available. See <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2023/2022-voting-registration.html>.
8. Tennessee Secretary of State. (2019). Statistical Analysis of Voter Turnout for the November 6, 2018 Election as Submitted by the Counties. See <https://sos-tn-gov-files.tnsosfiles.com/2018%20November.pdf>.
9. Tennessee Secretary of State. (2015). Statistical Analysis of Voter Turnout for the November 4, 2014 Election as Submitted by the Counties. See https://sharetn-gov.tnsosfiles.com/sos/election/data/turnout/20141104_Turnout.pdf.
10. U.S. Census Bureau. (May 2, 2023). 2022 Voting and Registration Data Now Available. See <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2023/2022-voting-registration.html>.
11. For example, each of the 99 state House seats could feature a Republican and a Democratic primary, totaling 198 possible state House primary races.
12. Only one party fielded a candidate in 62 out of the 99 state House races and nine out of the 17 state Senate races.
13. Races determined by fewer than 10 percentage points include 14 August races: Democratic Gubernatorial, House Districts 71, 32, 63, 64, 69, 75, 24, 43, 52, 97, and Senate Districts 19, 27, and 1; and four November races: House Districts 59, 67, 18, and 41.
14. Friedman, Adam. (November 7, 2022). Multiple Tennessee counties report issues with ballots tied to congressional races. Tennessean. See <https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/politics/2022/11/07/tennessee-election-2022-counties-report-ballot-issues-early-voting/69626568007/>
15. Ibid
16. The ACLU and the League of Women Voters filed a lawsuit seeking an injunction to prevent further incorrect ballots from being distributed. As a result, the state agreed to allow voters who had cast ballots in the wrong district to re-cast a provisional ballot in the correct district. Those provisional ballots would only be counted if any of the races had been contested. Based on the margin of victory, this was not necessary. ACLU Tennessee. (November 4, 2022). See <https://www.aclu-tn.org/aclu-tn-victorious-lawsuit-protect-davidson-county-voters-wake-ballot-errors/>
17. Tennessee Coordinator of Elections. (December 2022). Report of the Coordinator of Elections Regarding Misassigned Voters in Davidson County, Tennessee. See <https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/23559469/tennessee-review-of-nashville-voting-issues.pdf>.
18. The hotline was open for the full election cycle, including the August primary and Early Voting periods in both August and November.
19. Tenn. Code Ann. §2-7-140.
20. Tenn. Code Ann. §2-6-202(e) In most other states (48 and DC), voters also have the option of returning absentee ballots in-person to election offices, polling places, or in some states through a ballot “dropbox.”
21. The tracker is available on the Tennessee Voter’s Lookup Page: <https://tnmap.tn.gov/voterlookup/>.
22. Tenn. Code Ann. §2-2-15(b)(7).
23. This includes Alaska and Rhode Island who offer Same Day Registration only for presidential elections and Montana and North Carolina who offer it only during the Early Voting period.

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Written by:

Dawn Schluckebier, Advocacy and Government Relations Director

For further information, email us at info@thinktn.org.