

# Wisconsin's 2020 Democratic Primary: The Effect of COVID-19 on Voter Turnout



Wisconsin held an election on April 7, 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to local elections, a State Supreme Court seat and the 2020 Presidential primary (competitive for the Democrats, non-competitive for the Republicans) were on the ballot. On April 6, Democratic governor Tony Evers attempted to move the election through an executive order. All other states with in person elections in the month of April, as well as many in March, had already pushed their elections to June. Evers' executive order was blocked by the Wisconsin Supreme Court in a 4-2 vote (Daniel Kelly, who was on the ballot, recused himself). Also on April 6, the Supreme Court of the United States blocked an effort to extend the deadline for absentee ballots in a 5-4 vote. As of election day, many voters reported they had not received absentee ballots that had been requested weeks prior.

This map only considers turnout in the 2016 and 2020 Democratic primaries. Republican totals were not considered because the primary was competitive 2016, but not in 2020, influencing turnout.

