

Bellwether Research

To: Interested Parties
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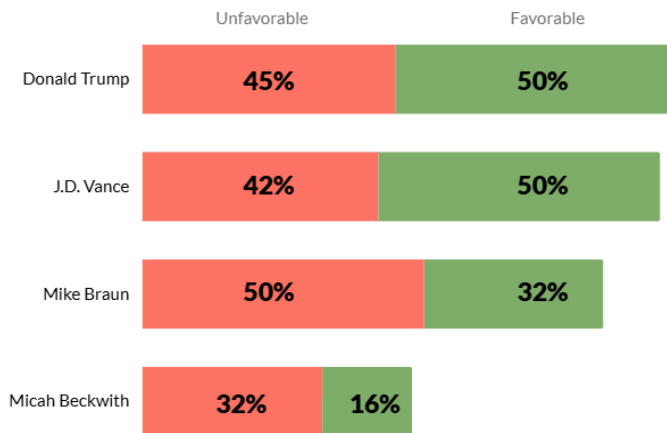
Hoosiers are unhappy with the state's direction and want leaders to focus on lowering costs and improving their lives, not on politically motivated redistricting. In a survey of 800 Indiana voters conducted after Governor Braun called a special legislative session for redistricting, Bellwether Research found a majority of Hoosiers opposed to it.

"We have so many other needs for this state and country. No dumb shit that only pleases a few." Johnson County Republican man who voted for Trump in 2024

- A 50% majority of voters **disapprove** (40% *strongly*) of Governor Braun calling a special session of the Indiana General Assembly "to take up redrawing Indiana's congressional districts," while 30% approve and 21% are unsure.
 - Just 4% of Democrats, 16% of independents and a slim majority (53%) of Republicans approve of the idea.
- More than three-in-five (63%) say they are closely following news about the push to have Indiana legislators redraw the state's congressional districts.
- A 51% majority of voters **oppose** "Indiana legislators redrawing the state's congressional maps this year" while 39% support it and 10% are unsure. The idea of midcycle political redistricting has generated strong intensity from those opposed (45% are *strongly* opposed) while voters in favor don't bring much heat to this debate (23% are *strongly* supportive).
- At a time when 87% of voters say they are concerned (59% *very*) about rising energy costs impacting their household, Hoosiers broadly believe that "instead of calling a special session of the legislature to focus on redrawing congressional maps, state legislators should be spending their time focused on what actually makes our lives better – bringing down property taxes, reducing energy bills and making our communities safe." Fully 72% of those surveyed found this to be a convincing argument against redistricting in Indiana (51% found it *very* convincing). State legislators should have reason to be concerned that opposition groups will deploy this message.
- Majorities also find arguments about accountability to the people and fairness to be convincing reasons to oppose redistricting:
 - "Politicians should be accountable to the people, not the other way around. DC politicians are trying to redraw Indiana's maps so they can decide who wins, not us and that's wrong." **60% find this convincing** (46% *very*).
 - "When Indiana congressional maps were finished in 2021, state legislative leaders emphasized that they were fair and balanced. There is no reason to redo them again now – except for purely political reasons, which is the opposite of fair." **55% find this convincing** (39% *very*).
 - "Hoosiers believe in fairness, not cheating. Right now, DC insiders are trying to cheat and rig the elections to ensure voters can never hold them accountable." **53% find this convincing** (37% *very*).

Bellwether Research conducted a statewide survey of 800 voters in Indiana October 29, 30 and Nov 1, 2025 by phone and text (containing an online survey link). The margin of error is $\pm 3.5\%$. Quotas were set for region and key demographics and post-stratification weighting was applied to age, education, and 2024 presidential vote.

- Perceptions of President Trump are narrowly positive, while a majority of voters in the state view Governor Braun unfavorably and disapprove of the job he is doing as governor.



Governor Braun's job approval rating closely mirrors his personal image: **36% approve** and **50% disapprove** of the job he is doing as governor.

The governor's approval rating among Republicans is just 58%, with only 17% saying they strongly approve.

- By a 51%-27% margin, Hoosiers say the state is on the wrong track rather than heading in the right direction.
- Those most likely to base their vote on the issue of redistricting are against it. When asked, "If your state legislator voted in the special session to redraw the congressional maps, how would you feel about it?"
 - 43% say "I would disapprove and be less likely to vote for them."
 - 27% say "I would approve and be more likely to vote for them."
 - 12% say "I probably wouldn't pay much attention either way."
 - 6% say "I would disapprove but it wouldn't change my vote."
 - 12% are unsure
- (Question asked only of Republicans)
 Republicans are mixed on how they see legislators who oppose redistricting.
 - 38% say Republican legislators who oppose redistricting are standing up for fairness and keeping politics out of drawing the maps.
 - 37% say Republican legislators who oppose redistricting are betraying President Trump and helping Democrats keep power.
 - 26% are unsure
- Republicans who oppose redistricting think it is unneeded, unfair and the wrong focus:
"It's premature and not necessary." Allen County Republican woman who voted for Trump

"There's absolutely no need for it aside from a Republican power grab which is disgusting given the current shitshow they've created." Noble County Republican man who voted for Trump

"Follow the rules. It's been after the Census, so leave it. That's cheating." Lake County Republican man who voted for Trump

"I'm not a fan of gerrymandering for either party. Especially since they passed such a failure known as SB1 on property taxes. Any special sessions should be addressing real issues like this." Howard County Republican man who voted for Trump

"Voters should be making this choice, not the politicians. This should be done after the Census with the accurate population data. It appears to be a way to circumvent democracy." Wayne County Republican man who voted for Trump

"It's out of the normal. Republicans just want another seat. They're already getting paid but will get more bonuses to get a seat. I call BS." Allen County Republican woman who voted for Trump

Composition of the statewide survey sample

100% registered to vote in Indiana. Sample drawn from a list of registered voters.

Gender

46% Male
54% Female

Age

11% 18-29
28% 30-44
34% 45-64
27% 65+

Race/ethnicity

83% White
9% Black
3% Hispanic or Latino
1% Asian
2% Mixed Race
3% Other

Education

32% High school graduate
12% Vocational/technical training
19% Associate Degree
23% Bachelor Degree
13% Post bachelor degree (graduate/professional degree)

Party ID

35% Republican
14% Independent, lean Republican
16% Independent
13% Independent, lean Democrat

Oversample in Lake and Porter Counties

- We conducted additional interviews in Lake and Porter counties (CD1) to examine separately since this region would be directly impacted if midcycle redistricting were to move forward. In total, we have 224 interviews between Lake and Porter counties. Key findings include:
 - By more than a 25-point margin, voters in this region are opposed to Indiana legislators redrawing the state's congressional maps now.
 - Lake County voters are opposed by a 59%-32% margin.
 - Porter County voters are opposed by a 52%-24% margin.
 - Nearly half (47%) of voters in this region say they would disapprove if their state legislator voted to do this and would be less likely to vote for them, compared to 23% who would approve and be more likely to vote for them.
 - Six-in-ten Porter County residents oppose splitting their county into different congressional districts (50% *strongly*) while 26% would support it.
 - And by a 25-point margin (57% oppose – 32% support) Lake County residents oppose combining Lake County with rural counties because of redistricting.
 - Residents of the region also don't want to see communities that have shared economic or cultural interests divided – 57% oppose this, while 25% support it.
 - Like voters elsewhere in the state, residents of the region think legislators should be focusing on things to improve their lives rather than redrawing congressional maps.

77% find convincing “Instead of calling a special session of the legislature to focus on redrawing congressional maps, state legislators should be spending their time focused on what actually makes our lives better – bringing down property taxes, reducing bills and making our communities safe.” Just 16% said this is not a convincing statement.