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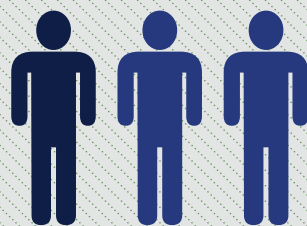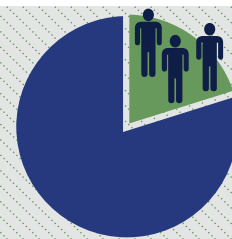
2021 ELECTION DIRECTOR SURVEY
GEO-ENABLED ELECTIONS

GIS in ELECTIONS

AMONG 29 RESPONDENTS, REPRESENTING 53% OF U.S. STATES + WASHINGTON D.C. - ALSO INCLUDING INFORMATION FROM TWO U.S. TERRITORIES

1 in 3
DO NOT USE IT ON A STATE LEVEL

21%
USE IT ONLY FOR REDISTRICTING

THE SYSTEMS DON'T MAKE IT EASY for ELECTION DIRECTORS

76% NO **17% YES**

76% SAY CURRENT **VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM** ISN'T **GIS** ENABLED

VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEMS ARE DIVERSE

OVER HALF APPEAR TO BE BESPOKE, WITH ADDITIONAL FRAGMENTATION AMONG THE REMAINDER

ABOUT 4 IN 10 USE **GIS in Elections** FOR MORE THAN ONE THING, INCLUDING:

Spatial Data Audits to Verify Districts / Precincts	31%
Point Locations for Registered Voters	35%
Election Data Management	35%
Redistricting	59%

No 45%
Yes 28%
Don't Know 10%

28% HAVE USED or WILL USE HAVA FUNDING for GIS IN ELECTIONS

10% have considered using funds from the **American Rescue Plan Act 2021** or the **American Jobs Plan*** to invest in using **GIS IN ELECTIONS**

GIO
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OFFICER

ONLY **1 in 5** WORK WITH A **STATE GIO on ELECTIONS**

ABOUT **HALF KNOW** THEY HAVE A **GIO or EQUIVALENT**

24% SAY THEY DON'T   **17%** DON'T KNOW

@ **2/3** DON'T HAVE or DON'T KNOW IF THEY HAVE A **UNIVERSAL ADDRESS LIST**

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2021 ELECTION DIRECTOR SURVEY
OPPORTUNITIES for ELECTION MODERNIZATION

INVEST IN A NEW VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM THAT INTEGRATES WITH GIS
Avoid errors and needless manual processes by investing in a new VRS. Be sure to choose one that handles GIS data. Consider using HAVA funding, or similar, for a new system.

FIND YOUR GIO
Check here if your state has a GIO or equivalent, as they can help with election modernization; they are the steward for GIS technology and data for the state: **NSGIC.org/states**

BUILD YOUR NETWORK
Geo-enabling elections takes teamwork. Identify the people in your state who can help and start the conversation. **Ask your GIO for assistance.**

USE STATE STATUTE TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR ELECTION MODERNIZATION
Some states have mandated the use of GIS in elections and secured funding through statute. Model statute is available on **elections.NSGIC.org.**

LEARN HOW TO AUDIT VOTER LISTS
Use available address lists and geocoding software. Find errors before they become a problem.

LEVERAGE ADDRESS LISTS TO IMPROVE ELECTION DATA
Sources include 911 data or the National Address Database (NAD).

Background
A ten-question digital survey was distributed to all state election directors, plus the corresponding positions in Washington D.C. and 5 U.S. territories. Twenty-nine election directors, or their offices, completed the survey. This resulted in a 53% response rate among U.S. states plus Washington D.C. For more information, contact NSGIC, info@nsgic.org.

*Survey conducted in June-July 2021. Some items in the AJP may have been incorporated into the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The Geo-Enabled Elections Project
Using geographic information systems (GIS) in elections can save time, reduce the risk of errors, and contribute to transparency in elections. The Geo-Enabled Elections project was created in 2017 to strengthen the accuracy and reliability of America's electoral system and to increase voters' confidence that their voices are being heard in each election.

DOWNLOAD RESOURCES
- Best practices
- Tools for integrating GIS in elections
- Model statute
- Sample RFPs for VRSs
elections.NSGIC.org

NSGIC strives to be the premier state-led forum for developing, exchanging, and endorsing geospatial technology and policy best practices.