

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

POLICY RESEARCH CENTER



October 30, 2020

Research Policy Update Native Vote Regional Report: Northeast Region

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Native Vote initiative is a nonpartisan effort to promote American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) voter engagement throughout Indian Country. The purpose of this report is to share bi-weekly updates on the status of competitive elections during the 2020 election cycle for states in each NCAI region where turnout of the Native Vote may make a difference.



NCAI Northeast Region – Voting Age Population

For the 2020 election cycle, a number of close races have the potential to be impacted by the number of voting age AI/ANs who vote, especially if they are a significant percentage of the total population in the state. The NCAI Northeast Region includes the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont, and 18 federally recognized tribes and 18 additional state-recognized tribes have lands located within these states. For the eleven states in the Northeast Region, the AI/AN voting age population number and percentage of the overall population for the each of the states are shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1: AI/AN Voting Age Statewide Population Percentage for States in the Northeast Region

State	2019 State Total Voting Age Population Estimates	2019 AI/AN State Total Voting Age Population Estimates	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage of State Population
Connecticut	2,837,847	31,000	1.09%
Delaware	770 , 192	10,010	1.30%
Indiana	5,164,245	49,323	0.96%
Maine	1,095,370	15,503	1.42%
Massachusetts	5,539,703	55,841	1.01%
New Hampshire	1,104,458	9,672	0.88%

New Jersey	6,943,612	75,474	1.09%
New York	15,425,262	237,150	1.54%
Ohio	9,111,081	80,297	0.88%
Pennsylvania	10,167,376	83,106	0.82%
Rhode Island	854,866	13,443	1.57%
Vermont	509,984	6,336	1.24%

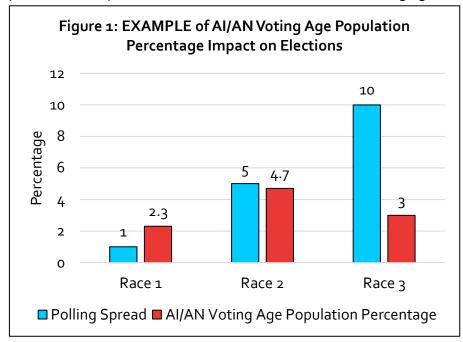
Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5.

The AI/AN voting age population has the potential to impact competitive national, Congressional district, and state legislative races where the margin of victory is estimated to be similar to the AI/AN voting age population percentage.

Figure 1 illustrates an example of how graphs are used in this report to illustrate how the AI/AN voting age population percentage can impact close elections. The polling difference or margin between candidates is represented as a percent in the blue bars, and the AI/AN voting age

population percentage of the total state population is represented in the red bars in the graph.

In Race 1, the AI/AN percentage in the example state (red) is larger than the polling difference between candidates (blue) in Race 1. Here AI/AN voters can clearly impact the outcome of the race.



In Race 2, the AI/AN

voting age population percentage is close to the polling difference between candidates. AI/AN voters in elections like this example can potentially impact the outcome.

In Race 3, the AI/AN voting age population percentage is smaller than the polling difference between candidates. In this example, AI/AN voters may not have a big impact on the outcome.

In this report, data on competitive and potentially competitive elections may change over time and is monitored with the *Cook Political Report*, which is a non-partisan newsletter that regularly analyzes elections at the national and state level. The *Cook Political Report* ranks races as tossups, with either candidate having a possibility to succeed, or as "leaning" or "likely" to result in a specific outcome, Democratic ("D") or Republican ("R").

This report also uses current polling on competitive races as collected by *FiveThirtyEight*, which is a news media source and national polling clearinghouse. Finally, this report uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau on the number and percentage of Al/AN voters in election districts. For national and statewide elections [Electoral College (Presidential), Senate, and Gubernatorial races], the data on Al/AN voting age population is drawn from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 population estimates. For all other elections, Al/AN voting age population data for U.S. Congressional districts and state upper and lower legislative house levels is drawn from the Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) Census Bureau dataset from 2018. These reports are compiled using the NCAI regions, which may differ from other organizational or federal department regional designations for tribal nations. The reports for each state in this NCAI region are illustrated below.

NCAI Northeast Region - Connecticut

Connecticut has no competitive or potentially competitive Senate, Electoral College, gubernatorial, Congressional district or state legislative house races, and no Native candidates are running for office in Connecticut according to *Indian Country Today*.



NCAI Northeast Region - Delaware



In Delaware, the latest *Cook Political Report* ranks Delaware's upper state legislative house as potentially competitive. **Table 2** illustrates the competitive races for Delaware, the *Cook Political Report* ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the AI/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. In Delaware, the upper state legislative house is potentially competitive and ranks likely to result in a Democratic win, or "Likely-D."

Table 2: Delaware Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
State Legislative Upper House	Likely-D	State Legislative District	Varies by District

In addition to no competitive or potentially competitive Senate, Electoral College, gubernatorial, and Congressional district races, no Native candidates are running for state legislative office in Delaware according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region - Indiana



In Indiana, the latest Cook Political Report shows three competitive and potentially competitive races. **Table 3** illustrates the competitive races for Indiana, the Cook Political Report ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the AI/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. The races include the Electoral College (Presidential) race and the Congressional district race in Indiana's fifth district. The Electoral College race ranks as potentially competitive and likely to result in a Republican outcome, or "Likely-R." The Congressional ranks as a tossup, with a slight lean toward a Republican outcome, or "Tossup-R."

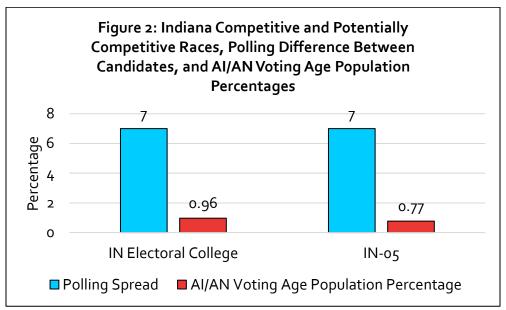
Table 3: Indiana Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Electoral College	Likely-R	Statewide	0.96%
Congressional 5th District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	0.77%

Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; Cook Political Report, Accessed October 30, 2020.

Al/AN voters can impact the outcomes of races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to receive a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of Al/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates.

Figure 2 illustrates the AI/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Senate and Electoral College races in Indiana.



Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; FiveThirtyEight, Accessed October 30, 2020.

In addition to no competitive or potentially competitive Senate and gubernatorial races nor competitive battles for control of state legislative house, no Native candidates are running for state legislative office in Indiana according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region – *Maine*



In Maine, the latest Cook Political Report shows three competitive and potentially competitive races. **Table 4** illustrates the competitive races for Maine, the Cook Political Report ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the AI/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. The races include the Electoral College (Presidential) race, the Senate race between incumbent Susan Collins and challenger Sara Gideon, and the Congressional district race in Maine's second district. Maine is unique in that it "splits" its Electoral College votes. Maine divides two of their electoral votes to the statewide election winner, and this race is ranked potentially competitive and likely to result in a Democratic win, or "Likely-D," while a single Maine Electoral College vote is awarded to the winner of

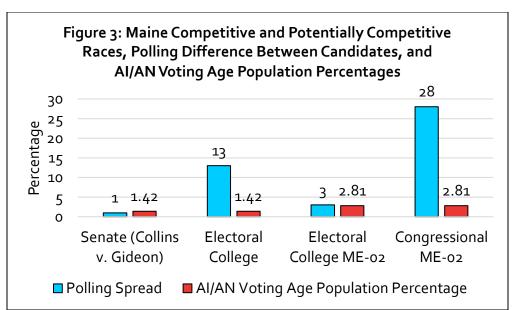
Maine's second Congressional district, which ranks as a tossup. The Senate race also ranks as a tossup. The Cook Political Report also considers control of Maine's upper and lower state legislative houses to be competitive and potentially competitive. Maine's upper state legislative house is considered competitive and ranks possibly to result in a Democratic win, or "Lean-D," while its lower state legislative house ranks likely to result in a Democratic win, or "Likely-D."

Table 4: Maine Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Senate (Collins v. Gideon)	Tossup	Statewide	1.42%
Electoral College (Statewide)	Likely-D	Statewide	1.42%
Electoral College 2nd District	Tossup	Congressional District	2.81%
Congressional 2nd District	Lean-D	Congressional District	2.81%
Upper State Legislative House	Lean-D	State Legislative District	Varies by District
Lower State Legislative House	Likely-D	State Legislative District	Varies by District

Al/AN voters can impact the outcomes of races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to gain a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of Al/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates.

Figure 3 illustrates the AI/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Electoral College and Congressional district races for Maine. The AI/AN voting age population percentage in Maine's second Congressional district is 2.81%, which is close to the current polling difference between candidates, and in the Senate race, the AI/AN population percentage is higher than the current polling difference. AI/AN voters can impact the outcomes of these races.



Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; FiveThirtyEight, Accessed October 30, 2020; 270towin, Accessed September 15, 2020.

Though control of Maine's state legislative houses is considered competitive, the state does not have any Native candidates running for state legislative office according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region – *Massachusetts*

Massachusetts has no competitive or potentially competitive Senate, Electoral College, gubernatorial, Congressional district or state legislative house races, and no Native candidates are running for office in Massachusetts according to *Indian Country Today*.



NCAI Northeast Region - New Hampshire

New Hampshire
Competitive & Potentially
Competitive Races

1 Electoral
College Race
1 Congressional
Race
Both Upper and
Lower State
Legislative
Houses

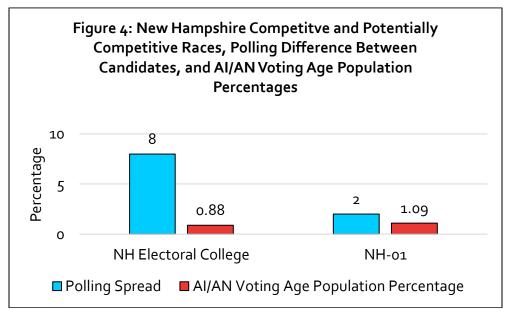
In New Hampshire, the latest *Cook Political Report* shows two competitive and potentially competitive races. **Table 5** illustrates the competitive races for New Hampshire, the *Cook Political Report* ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the Al/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. The races include the Electoral College (Presidential) race, and New Hampshire's first Congressional district race. The Electoral College race ranks competitive and potentially to result in a Democratic outcome, or "Lean-D." New Hampshire's first congressional district ranks potentially competitive and likely to result in a Democratic outcome, or "Likely-D." In addition, *Cook Political Report* considers control of the upper state legislative house to

rank as a tossup, while the lower state legislative house ranks as likely to result in a Democratic win, or "Lean-D."

Table 5: New Hampshire Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Electoral College	Lean-D	Statewide	0.88%
Congressional 1st District	Likely-D	Congressional District	1.09%
State Legislative Upper House	Tossup	State Legislative District	Varies by District
State Legislative Lower House	Lean-D	State Legislative District	Varies by District

Al/AN voters can impact races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to gain a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of Al/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates. **Figure 4** illustrates the Al/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Electoral College and Congressional district races for New Hampshire. If the race tightens in New Hampshire's first Congressional district, Al/AN voters could potentially impact the race as the population percentage is close to the polling difference.



Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; FiveThirtyEight, Accessed October 30, 2020.

While *Cook Political Report* ranks New Hampshire's state legislative houses competitive, no Native candidates are running for office in New Hampshire according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region - New Jersey



In New Jersey, the latest *Cook Political Report* shows four competitive or potentially competitive races. **Table 6** illustrates the races for New Jersey, the *Cook Political Report* ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the AI/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. The races include New Jersey's second, third, fifth, and seventh Congressional districts. The second Congressional district ranks competitive and a tossup, with a slight lean toward a Republican outcome, or "Tossup-R." The third and seventh Congressional districts rank competitive and possibly to result in Democratic outcomes, or "Lean-D." The fifth Congressional district ranks potentially competitive and likely to result in a Democratic outcome, or "Likely-D."

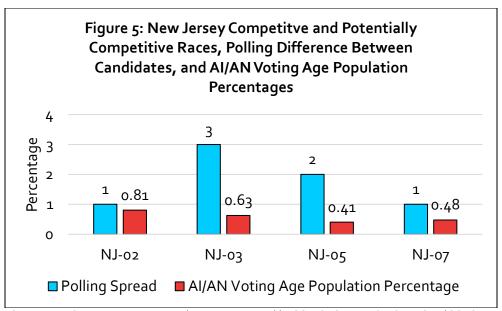
Table 6: New Jersey Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Congressional 2nd District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	0.81%
Congressional 3rd District	Lean-D	Congressional District	0.63%
Congressional 5th District	Likely-D	Congressional District	0.41%
Congressional 7th District	Lean-D	Congressional District	0.48%

Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; Cook Political Report, Accessed October 30, 2020.

Al/AN voters can impact the races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to gain a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of Al/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates.

Figure 5 illustrates the AI/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Congressional district races for New Jersey. In both the second and seventh districts, if the races continue to tighten, AI/AN voters could potentially impact the outcome, as the AI/AN voting age population percentage is close to the polling difference.



The Cook Political Report does not consider control of New Jersey's upper and lower state legislative houses to be competitive, and no Native candidates are running for state legislative office according to Indian Country Today.

NCAI Northeast Region - New York



In New York, the latest Cook Political Report shows seven competitive and potentially competitive races. **Table 7** illustrates the competitive races for New York, the Cook Political Report ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the Al/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. The races include the first, second, eleventh, eighteenth, nineteenth, twenty-second, and twenty-fourth Congressional district races. The first Congressional districts ranks competitive and possibly to result in a Republican outcome, or "Lean-R." The second and twenty-fourth

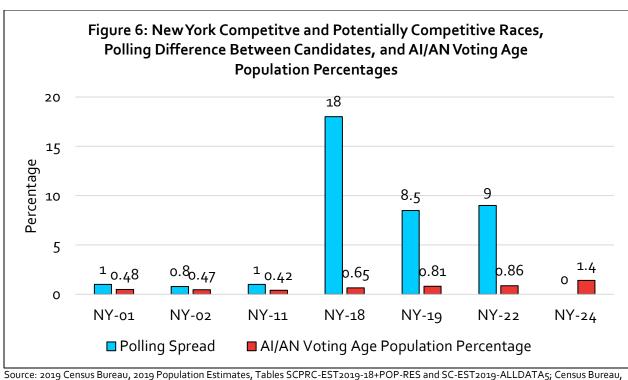
Congressional districts rank competitive and as tossups, with slight leans toward a Republican outcomes, or "Tossup-R." The eleventh and twenty-second districts rank competitive and as tossups, with slight leans toward a Democratic outcome, or "Tossup-D." Finally, the eighteenth and nineteenth districts rank potentially competitive and likely to result in Democratic outcomes, or "Likely-D."

Table 7: New York Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Congressional 1st District	Lean-R	Congressional District	0.48%
Congressional 2nd District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	0.47%
Congressional 11th District	Tossup-D	Congressional District	0.42%
Congressional 18th District	Likely-D	Congressional District	0.65%
Congressional 19th District	Likely-D	Congressional District	0.81%
Congressional 22nd District	Tossup-D	Congressional District	o.86%
Congressional 24th District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	1.40%

Al/AN voters can impact the outcomes of races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to gain a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of Al/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates.

Figure 6 illustrates the AI/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Congressional district races for New York. Polling is not available for all the competitive races in New York, but projections for the expected margin of victory are available. For the second, the projection for the margin of victory was used for comparison. For New York's nineteenth district, neither polling nor projections were available, but the previous margin of victory was available for comparison to the AI/AN voting age population percentage (*Real Clear Politics*, 2020). In the twenty-fourth district, the AI/AN population is larger than the current spread between candidates, and in the first, second, and eleventh districts, the AI/AN population is close to the current spread between candidates. AI/AN voters can possibly impact the outcome in these races if they tighten or stay close.



The *Cook Political Report* does not consider control of New York's upper and lower state legislative houses to be competitive, and no Native candidates are running for state legislative office according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region - Ohio



In Ohio, the latest *Cook Political Report* shows four competitive races. **Table 8** illustrates the competitive races in Ohio, the *Cook Political Report* ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the Al/AN voting age population percentage in the district. The Electoral College (Presidential) race ranks competitive and as a tossup. The first Congressional district ranks competitive and a tossup, with a slight lean toward a Republican outcome, or "Tossup-R," while the tenth and twelfth districts both rank potentially competitive and likely to result in Republican outcomes, or "Likely-R." The *Cook Political Report* also considers control of both of Ohio's upper and

lower state legislative houses to be potentially competitive and ranks them as likely to result in a Republican win, or "Likely-R."

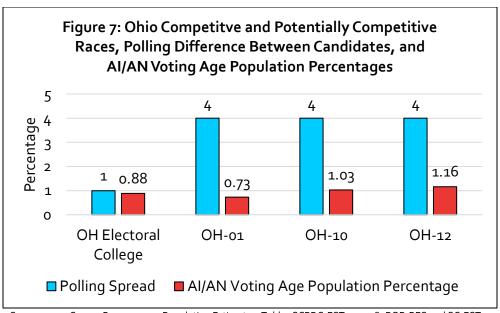
Table 8: Ohio Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	AI/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Electoral College	Tossup	Statewide	0.88%
Congressional 1st District	Lean-R	Congressional District	0.73%
Congressional 10th District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	1.03%
Congressional 12th District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	1.16%
State Legislative Upper House	Likely-R	State Legislative District	Varies by District
State Legislative Lower House	Likely-R	State Legislative District	Varies by District

Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; Cook Political Report, Accessed October 30, 2020.

Al/AN voters can impact races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to gain a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of Al/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates.

Figure 7 illustrates the AI/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Electoral College race and Congressional district races in Ohio. In the Electoral College race, the AI/AN population is close to the current spread between candidates. AI/AN voters can possibly impact the outcome in this races if it tightens.



While the *Cook Political Report* does consider control of Ohio's upper and lower state legislative houses to be potentially competitive, no Native candidates are running for state legislative office according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region – Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Competitive &
Potentially Competitive Races

1 Electoral College Race
6 Congressional Races
Both Upper and Lower
State Legislative Houses

In Pennsylvania, the latest Cook Political Report shows seven competitive and potentially competitive races. **Table 9** illustrates the competitive races for Pennsylvania, the Cook Political Report ranking, the voting electorate or district, and the AI/AN voting age population percentage in those districts. The races include the Electoral College (Presidential) race and six Congressional district races. The Electoral College race ranks competitive and potentially may result in a Democratic outcome, or "Lean-D." Pennsylvania's first Congressional district ranks competitive and potentially to result in a

Republican outcome, or "Lean-R." The seventh district ranks potentially competitive and likely to result in a Democratic outcome, or "Likely-D." The eighth and seventeenth districts rank competitive and potentially may result in Democratic outcomes, or "Lean-D." The tenth district ranks competitive and a tossup with a slight lean toward a Republican outcome, or "Tossup-R." The sixteenth district ranks potentially competitive and likely to result in a

Republican outcome, or "Likely-R." Cook Political Report also considers control of Pennsylvania's upper and lower state legislative houses to be competitive, ranking as potentially to result in a Republican win, or "Lean-R."

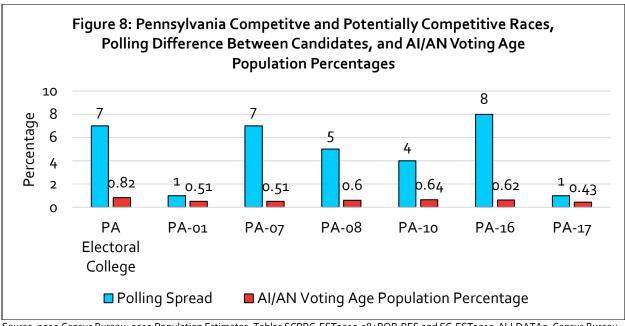
Table 9: Pennsylvania Competitive and Potentially Competitive Elections

Race	Cook Political Report Ranking	Electorate	Al/AN Voting Age Population Percentage
Electoral College	Lean-D	Statewide	0.82%
Congressional 1st District	Lean-R	Congressional District	0.51%
Congressional 7th District	Likely-D	Congressional District	0.51%
Congressional 8th District	Lean-D	Congressional District	0.60%
Congressional 10th District	Tossup-R	Congressional District	0.64%
Congressional 16th District	Likely-R	Congressional District	0.62%
Congressional 17th District	Lean-D	Congressional District	0.43%
State Legislative Upper House	Lean-R	State Legislative District	Varies by District
State Legislative Lower House	Lean-R	State Legislative District	Varies by District

Source: 2019 Census Bureau, 2019 Population Estimates, Tables SCPRC-EST2019-18+POP-RES and SC-EST2019-ALLDATA5; Census Bureau, 2018 Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) by Race and Ethnicity, Table CVAP 2014-2018 t Year ACS Data; Cook Political Report, Accessed October 30, 2020.

AI/AN voters can impact races where the current polling shows the candidates are expected to gain a similar percentage of votes and in areas where the percent of AI/AN voters is larger than the difference in polling percentages between the candidates.

Figure 8 illustrates the AI/AN voting age population percentages and recent polling spread or percent margins for the Electoral College and Congressional district races for Pennsylvania. In the first and seventeenth Congressional districts, the AI/AN population percentage is close to the current polling difference between candidates. AI/AN voters can impact the outcome in these races.



While the *Cook Political Report* does consider control of Pennsylvania's upper and lower state legislative houses to be competitive, no Native candidates are running for state legislative office according to *Indian Country Today*.

NCAI Northeast Region - Rhode Island

Rhode Island has no competitive or potentially competitive Senate, Electoral College, gubernatorial, Congressional district or state legislative house races, and no Native candidates are running for office in Rhode Island according to *Indian Country Today*.



NCAI Northeast Region - Vermont

Vermont has no competitive or potentially competitive Senate, Electoral College, gubernatorial, Congressional district or state legislative house races, and no Native candidates are running for office in Vermont according to *Indian Country Today*.



For more information, email $\underline{research@ncai.org}$ or visit NCAI's Native Vote website at: $\underline{http://www.nativevote.org/}$

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