Moving to GIS

An Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

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What is GIS?
GIS
Geographic Information Systems
Why GIS and elections?
An electoral system with integrity has never been more important.
Resources
Relationships

Keep the channels of communication open, get to know a “map expert.”
Oregon

Statewide Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) with Esri for software acquisition

ArcGIS Online Organization for all state employees and local governments

Statewide Framework data coordination and downloads

Statewide geocoding service

Esri training access and coordination

Massachusetts

Master address database (statewide or municipal level files)

Statewide mapping of address points on structures (statewide or municipal level files)

Municipal boundary mapping

School district boundaries

*Secretary of the Commonwealth Office maps statewide voting precincts (data not generally available)

Arkansas

State GIS Clearinghouses

State geocoding service

*Find My District Map-lication

Technical guidance and coordination
GEE

Bringing greater accuracy and transparency to elections through the power of GIS.
Survey Results

Q1/Q2 2018
Two-thirds of states responded

NSGIC State Representatives Share How Elections Systems Work in Their States
in the Q1/Q2 2018 survey with 31 state respondents

VOTER ADDRESSES
55% of responding states verify voter registration addresses against a database of known addresses such as a driver’s license or state ID database, a statewide point address set, a master address database used for 911 call routing, or a commercially available address database.

Confirmation of voter registration addresses is important, as it is a voter’s physical address that determines his or her voting precinct, where his or her vote will be tallied, and the candidates or questions on the voter’s ballot.

ELECTION PRECINCTS
50% of states indicated they maintain statewide mapping of precincts. Within this group, 40% also maintain a GIS layer of sub-precincts.

Statewide voting precinct information in a GIS format is essential to geo-enabling elections. It is noteworthy that the majority of states do not have a content standard for attributes of statewide voting precincts.

OTHER DATA
82% of responding states keep up-to-date GIS layers of city and county boundaries, essential for computer-based mapping of precincts.

State-wide GIS data layers - especially city, county, school, and special district boundaries - are essential to map precinct boundaries across the state. The survey reflected, however, that accuracy of current city and county boundary mapping varies considerably.

Download the full report at www.NSGIC.org/geo-enabled-elections
Thank you!

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