



**The Council
of State
Governments**

“Perspective from the Midwest: A Legislative Recap and 2022 Session Preview”

Midwestern Higher Education Commission

November 9, 2021

Grand Rapids, Michigan

2021 Overview

The Economy

- **Wild ride last 20 months**
- **GDP growing, but slowed in 3rd quarter**
- **Slower growth in Midwest – Lakes outpacing Plains**
- **Steep declines in unemployment**
- **September jobless rates: 2.0% (NE) to 6.8% (IL)**

The Fiscal Picture

- **Mostly good news**
- **Revenue recovery driven by influx of federal funds**
- **Pandemic spending growth**
- **Fund balances still healthy**
- **Challenges ahead**

2021 Legislative Sessions

2021 Legislative Sessions

- **Continuing Pandemic**
- **New biennium; longer sessions**
- **Improved fiscal outlook**
- **Familiar political landscape – change coming**

2021 - Top Issues

- **Pandemic Response**
- **Police/Criminal Justice Reform**
- **Elections and Voting**
- **Redistricting**

Select “Other Issues” – 2021

- **Budgets/Taxes**
- **Legislative Oversight (IN, KS, ND)**
- **Social Issues – Abortion; Transgender Rights**
- **Broadband Access (NE, ND, OH)**

Select “Other Issues” – 2021

- **Clean Water (OH)**
- **Clean Energy (IL)**
- **Guns (KS, MI)**
- **“News and Notes”**

2022
Legislative Session
Preview

Key Issues – 2022

- **Pandemic Response/Mandate Bans**
- **Budgets/Taxes – Deployment of ARP Funds**
- **Criminal Justice - Policing**
- **School Funding/School Choice**
- **Abortion (IN, IA, KS, NE . . .)**

Key Issues – 2022

- **Medical Marijuana (KS, SD)**
- **Elections and Voting**
- **Pensions**
- **Energy**
- **Others: Occupational Licensure, Infrastructure, Human Trafficking, Sports Betting, . . .**

The Political Front: Election Year 2022

2020 Election Results

- **No partisan control swings in Midwest**
- **R's still control 19 of 22 partisan chambers and more than 60% of total seats; MN remains the nation's only divided legislature**
- **No change in gubernatorial mix: 3 Republican incumbents won re-election**

Midwestern State Partisan Control 2021 Legislative Sessions

State	Governor	Governor	House	Senate
Illinois	J.B. Pritzker	D	D	D
Indiana	Eric Holcomb	R	R	R
Iowa	Kim Reynolds	R	R	R
Kansas	Laura Kelly	D	R	R
Michigan	Gretchen Whitmer	D	R	R
Minnesota	Tim Walz	D	D	R
Missouri	Mike Parson	R	R	R
Nebraska	Pete Ricketts	R		NP
North Dakota	Doug Burgum	R	R	R
Ohio	Mike DeWine	R	R	R
South Dakota	Kristi Noem	R	R	R
Wisconsin	Tony Evers	D	R	R



EY 2022 – What's At Stake?

- **Gubernatorial races: 36 states, including 9 of 12 in Midwest (all but IN, MO, ND)**
- **Legislative races: 44 states, including some or all seats in every Midwestern legislative chamber**
- **Ballot measures pending**

76th MLC Annual Meeting



Wichita Kansas

July 10-13, 2022

Please Join Us!



MIDWEST

Thank You, MHEC!

Mike McCabe

Director

CSG Midwestern Office