

Voting Methods by State
2020 Primary and General Elections
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State	Method (Change?)	State	Method (Change?)	State	Method (Change?)
Alabama	C (Y)	Louisiana	C (N)	Ohio	C (Y)
Alaska	C (N)	Maine	C (N)	Oklahoma	C (N)
Arizona	C (Y)	Maryland	C (Y)	Oregon	C (N)
Arkansas	C (Y)	Massachusetts	C (Y)	Pennsylvania	C (N)
California	C (Y)	Michigan	C (Y)	Rhode Island	C (N)
Colorado	C (N)	Minnesota	C (N)	South Carolina	C (N)
Connecticut	C (Y)	Mississippi	C (N)	South Dakota	C (N)
Delaware	C (Y)	Missouri	C (Y)	Tennessee	C (N)
Florida	C (N)	Montana	C (Y)	Texas	C (N)
Georgia	C (N)	Nebraska	C (N)	Utah	C (N)
Hawaii	M (N)	Nevada	C (Y)	Vermont	C (Y)
Idaho	C (N)	New Hampshire	C (Y)	Virginia	C (N)
Illinois	C (Y)	New Jersey	C (N)	Washington	C (N)
Indiana	C (N)	New Mexico	C (Y)	West Virginia	C (Y)
Iowa	C (Y)	New York	C (N)	Wisconsin	C (Y)
Kansas	C (N)	North Carolina	C (N)	Wyoming	C (N)
Kentucky	C (N)	North Dakota	C (N)	D.C.	C (Y)

Key: C = Combination of Mail-in and In-Person Voting; M = Mail-in Voting Only

Table 1: Voting Methods by State for 2020 Primary Elections

COVID-19 created swift and quick changes to primary elections held during and after March 2020, and with the speed of those decisions due to health and safety of the voting population, threats and vulnerabilities to the process may not have been widely considered. Table 1 identifies the voting methods, by state, for the 2020 U.S. Primary Elections and whether the approach constitutes a change from its previous voting methods in primary elections (NCSL, 2020; Gardner, et al., 2020; Giles & Staff, 2020; Ballotpedia, 2020; Corasaniti & Saul, 2020). Of note, over 40% of all states modified their voting methods since their last primary election (i.e., 2018 or 2019) to include mail voting in some form.

The effects of the pandemic continued for the 2020 General Election. Table 2 identifies the voting methods by state and for the District of Columbia (Kavanagh, et al., 2020; Scanlan, 2020; HowToVote, 2020). Note that 48 of 51 states and D.C. expanded their traditional use of

mail-based voting (94%). Only five states (Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas) did not allow COVID-19 as an excuse to vote by mail (Rabinowitz & Mayes, 2020).

State	Expanded Mail	Early In-Person	Election Day In-Person	State	Expanded Mail	Early In-Person	Election Day In-Person
Alabama	Y	N	Y	Montana	Y	Y	Y
Alaska	Y	Y	Y	Nebraska	Y	Y	Y
Arizona	Y	Y	Y	Nevada	Y	Y	Y
Arkansas	Y	Y	Y	New Hampshire	Y	N	Y
California	Y	Y	Y	New Jersey	Y	Y	Y
Colorado	Y	Y	Y	New Mexico	Y	Y	Y
Connecticut	N	N	Y	New York	Y	Y	Y
Delaware	Y	N	Y	North Carolina	Y	Y	Y
D.C.	Y	Y	Y	North Dakota	Y	Y	Y
Florida	Y	Y	Y	Ohio	Y	Y	Y
Georgia	Y	Y	Y	Oklahoma	Y	Y	Y
Hawaii	Y	Y	Y	Oregon	Y	N	N
Idaho	Y	Y	Y	Pennsylvania	Y	Y	Y
Illinois	Y	Y	Y	Rhode Island	Y	Y	Y
Indiana	Y	N	Y	South Carolina	Y	N	Y
Iowa	Y	N	Y	South Dakota	Y	Y	Y
Kansas	Y	Y	Y	Tennessee	Y	Y	Y
Kentucky	Y	Y	Y	Texas	Y	Y	Y
Louisiana	Y	Y	Y	Utah	Y	Y	Y
Maine	Y	Y	Y	Vermont	Y	Y	Y
Maryland	Y	Y	Y	Virginia	Y	Y	Y
Massachusetts	Y	Y	Y	Washington	Y	Y	Y
Michigan	Y	Y	Y	West Virginia	Y	Y	Y
Minnesota	Y	Y	Y	Wisconsin	Y	Y	Y
Mississippi	Y	Y	Y	Wyoming	Y	Y	Y
Missouri	Y	Y	Y				

Table 2: Voting Methods by State for the 2020 General Election

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