



Counting absentee ballots

Many people are choosing to vote using absentee ballots, which can also be called mail-in ballots, rather than in-person this year. Every state can have different terms for absentee ballots, deadlines for returning absentee ballots, and timelines for processing and counting those ballots. **Processing** ballots means checking signatures, checking voter identification, and/or otherwise preparing the ballot to be counted. **Counting** ballots means counting-up the number of votes for each candidate and sharing the totals with the public. It is important to understand that every state has a different timeline for processing and counting absentee ballots because, with more people than ever voting absentee, it may take longer for states to count all of the ballots they receive than in previous years. It also means that votes made with absentee ballots may matter more in the outcome of these elections than in previous years. **Use this tool to learn when to return your absentee ballot in your state, how to track that ballot to make sure it arrived, and when your absentee ballot will be processed and counted.**

State	What is the deadline for the Election Board to receive my ballot?	When can absentee ballots be processed?	When can absentee ballots be counted?	Can I track my absentee ballot online?	How can I learn more about absentee voting in my state?
Alabama	Must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 2 nd and <i>received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 12:00 pm on November 3 rd .	12:00 pm on November 3 rd .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview	https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/absentee-voting
Alaska	Mail-in ballots must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 3 rd . Fax, online, and drop-off ballots must be <i>received</i> by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 27 th .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov/	https://elections.alaska.gov/Core/AKVoteEarly.php
Arizona	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 20 th .	October 20 th .	Yes: https://my.arizona.vote/AbsenteeTracker.aspx	https://azsos.gov/votebymail
Arkansas	<i>Received</i> by mail by 7:30 pm on November 3 rd , or dropped-off by 5:00 pm on November 2 nd .	October 27 th .	8:30 am on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://www.voterview.arizona.org/VoterView	https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/voter-information/absentee-voting
California	Must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 3 rd , or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 5 th .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://california.ballottrax.net/voter/	https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail
Colorado	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	October 19 th .	Yes: https://colorado.ballottrax.net/voter/	https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/FAQs/mailBallotsFAQ.html

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Connecticut	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	No, Connecticut does not have a way to track your ballot online. If you have questions about your ballot, call (860) 509-6100 or email LEAD@ct.gov .	https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Ballot-Process
Delaware	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by November 3 rd .	October 30 th .	October 30 th .	Yes: https://ivote.de.gov/VoterView	https://elections.delaware.gov/services/voter/votebymail/index.shtml
Florida	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 12 th .	October 12 th .	Yes: https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus	https://www.dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/vote-by-mail/
Georgia	<i>Received</i> by mail, fax, email, or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	7:00 am on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do	https://georgia.gov/how-do-i-vote-absentee-ballot
Hawaii	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	As processed ballots are received by the State Election Officials.	Yes: https://ballotstatus.hawaii.gov/	https://elections.hawaii.gov/hawaii-votes-by-mail/
Idaho	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://elections.sos.idaho.gov/ElectionLink/ElectionLink/VoterSearch.aspx	https://idahovotes.gov/absentee-voter-information/
Illinois	Mail-in ballot must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 3 rd , or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Within two days of being received.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	No. For questions, contact your local election authority: https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionAuthorities.aspx	https://www.elections.il.gov/

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Indiana	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 12:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	12:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://indianavoters.in.gov/	https://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2402.htm
Iowa	Mail-in ballots must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 2 nd and received by November 9 th , or dropped-off by 9:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 31 st .	November 2 nd .	Yes: https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/absenteeballotstatus/absentee/search	https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/electioninfo/absenteeinfo.html
Kansas	Mail-in ballots must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 2 nd and received by November 6 th .	Before November 3 rd (no set date).	Before November 3 rd (no set date).	Yes: https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/voterview	https://sos.ks.gov/elections/voter-information.html
Kentucky	Mail-in ballots must be <i>postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by November 6 th , or dropped-off by November 3 rd .	8:00 am on November 3 rd .	After all absentee ballots have been processed (no set date).	No, you cannot track your ballot online. You can check if you requested an absentee ballot at: https://vrsws.sos.ky.gov/VIC/	https://www.sos.ky.gov/elections/Pages/2020-General-Updates.aspx
Louisiana	<i>Received</i> by mail, fax, or dropped-off by 4:30 pm on November 2 nd .	Either November 2 nd or November 3 rd , depending on local election board.	Decided by local election boards, no later than 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/	https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Vote/VoteByMail/Pages/default.aspx
Maine	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 31 st .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/ballot_status.pl	https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/absent.html
Maryland	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 13 th , or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 1 st .	October 1 st .	Yes: https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/votersearch	https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html
Massachusetts	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 6 th , or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/track/trackmyballot.aspx	https://www.sec.state.ma.us/e/e/

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Michigan	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Either November 2 nd or November 3 rd , depending on local election board.	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index	https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/Home/VoteAtHome
Minnesota	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 10 th , or dropped-off by 3:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 27 th .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx	https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote
Mississippi	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 10 th , or <i>in-person</i> by 5:00 pm on October 31 st .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	No. For questions, contact your county election board office: https://www.sos.ms.gov/Elections-Voting/Pages/County-Election-Info.aspx	https://www.sos.ms.gov/Elections-Voting/Pages/default.aspx
Missouri	<i>Received</i> by mail by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd , or <i>in-person</i> by 5:00 pm on November 2 nd .	October 29 th .	November 3 rd .	No. For questions, contact your local election authority: https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/localelectionauthority	https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/govotemissouri
Montana	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	November 2 nd .	Yes: https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/	https://sosmt.gov/elections/absentee/
Nebraska	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm CT/7:00 pm MT on November 3 rd .	October 26 th .	November 2 nd .	Yes: https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview	https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/early-voting-0
Nevada	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd for mail return, or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	October 19 th .	Yes: https://nevada.ballottrax.net/voter/	https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/voters/absentee-voting
New Hampshire	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 5:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Decided by local election boards.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://app.sos.nh.gov/Public/AbsenteeBallot.aspx	https://sos.nh.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballots/

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New Jersey	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 10 th , or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	October 24 th .	Yes: https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/auth/sign-up	https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/vote-by-mail.shtml
New Mexico	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Either October 20 th or October 30 th , depending on local election board.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/WhereToVote.aspx	https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/
New York	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd by mail, or by dropped-off by 9:00 pm on November 3 rd .	November 3 rd .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	No. For questions, contact your county board of elections: https://www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html	https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html
North Carolina	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 6 th , or dropped-off by 5:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://northcarolina.ballottrax.net/voter/	https://www.ncsbe.gov/voting/vote-mail/absentee-ballot-tools
North Dakota	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by November 2 nd .	November 2 nd .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://vip.sos.nd.gov/AbsenteeTracker.aspx	https://vip.sos.nd.gov/PortalListDetails.aspx?ptlhPKID=53&ptlPKID=7#content-start
Ohio	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 13 th , or dropped-off by 7:30 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	As ballots are received.	Yes: https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/ballot-tracking/	https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-voting/
Oklahoma	<i>Received</i> by mail by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd , or dropped-off by 5:00 pm on November 2 nd .	Decided by local board of elections, with approval of the	Decided by local board of elections, with approval of the state election board.	Yes: https://okvoterportal.okelections.us/	https://www.ok.gov/elections/VoterInfo/AbsenteeVoting/index.html

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		state election board.			
Oregon	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 27 th .	Can start counting as processed, but not report until 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/vr/showVoterSearch.do?lang=eng&source=SOS	https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx
Pennsylvania	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	7:00 am on November 3 rd .	7:00 am on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/BallotTracking.aspx	https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx
Rhode Island	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	October 20 th .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Home/UpdateVoterRecord?ActiveFlag=3	https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/VotebyMail
South Carolina	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	9:00 am on November 3 rd .	9:00 am on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeInfo	https://scvotes.gov/absentee-voting
South Dakota	<i>Received</i> by mail or in-person by 3:00 pm on November 3 rd .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://vip.sdsos.gov/viplogin.aspx	https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/voting/absentee-voting.aspx
Tennessee	<i>Received</i> by mail by close of polls on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://tnmap.tn.gov/voterlookup/	https://www.sos.tn.gov/products/elections/absentee-voting

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Texas	<i>Received</i> by mail by 5:00 pm on November 4 th , or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	October 30 th or November 3 rd , depending on county size.	No. For questions, call (800) 252-8683 or email elections@sos.texas.gov	https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqab/bm.shtml
Utah	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 2 nd if by mail, or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Depends on county election boards.	Depends on county election boards, but no results until polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://votesearch.utah.gov/voter-search/search/search-by-voter/track-mail-ballot	https://voteinfo.utah.gov/learn-about-voting-by-mail-and-absentee-voting/
Vermont	<i>Received</i> by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	November 2 nd .	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://mvp.vermont.gov/	https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/early-absentee-voting/
Virginia	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 6 th , or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	Depends on county election boards.	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://ballotscout.org/partners/5a8f1161-23a0-4fa0-8ec9-3e090e97e9b3/va-search	https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/
Washington	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd if by mail, or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	As ballots are received.	After polls close on November 3 rd .	Yes: https://voter.votewa.gov/WhereToVote.aspx	https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/faq_vote_by_mail.aspx
West Virginia	<i>Postmarked</i> by November 3 rd and received by mail by November 9 th , or dropped-off by November 2 nd .	November 3 rd .	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://services.sos.wv.gov/Elections/Voter/AbsenteeBallotTracking	https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/AbsenteeVotingInformation.aspx
Wisconsin	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 8:00 pm on November 3 rd .	November 3 rd .	November 3 rd .	Yes: https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/TrackMyBallot	https://elections.wi.gov/voters/absentee
Wyoming	<i>Received</i> by mail or dropped-off by 7:00 pm on November 3 rd .	November 3 rd .	November 3 rd .	No. For questions, contact your county board of elections: https://sos.wyo.gov/Elections/State/AbsenteeVoting.aspx	https://sos.wyo.gov/Elections/State/AbsenteeVoting.aspx

