

ARIZONA VOTING CHART

NO LABELS

KEY

- More restrictive than other states
- Roughly in line with other states; unclear

Arizona has been atop the national of late, both for its controversial recount of its 2020 election results as well as for the U.S. Supreme Court's 6-3 decision upholding Arizona voting laws pertaining to the collection of absentee ballots and the treatment of votes cast in the wrong precinct. As we did previously with state voting and election reforms in Texas and Georgia, No Labels dove into Arizona's law to see how its provisions stack up to other states. Unlike many other states' voting and election reforms efforts—which have focused on undoing or reforming processes implemented during the 2020 election to accommodate voters nervous about voting in person amid the pandemic—the Arizona provisions that were challenged at the Supreme Court pre-date COVID.

CATEGORY	PREVIOUS AZ LAW*	CURRENT AZ LAW**	CONTEXT***
EARLY VOTING	In-person early voting begins 27 days before Election Day, and ends the Friday before Election Day. Hours are not mandated.	No recent changes.	43 states allow early voting, ranging from 4 to 45 days. Some Democratic-controlled states offer fewer early voting days than Arizona's 18, including NY and NJ at 9.
EARLY VOTING DROP BOXES	Drop boxes for mail-in ballots are placed statewide outside tribal, federal, state or local government buildings, with state-mandated security measures.	No recent changes.	40 states (and Washington, D.C.) have ballot drop boxes available in one or more locations, while 10 states do not have drop boxes.
REQUESTING ABSENTEE BALLOTS	Voters may request an early ballot for a single election or be placed on the Permanent Early Voting List to receive a mail ballot for every election. Voters may join this list at any time.	Arizona will now purge infrequent voters from the Permanent Early Voting List.	Arizona is one of many states with no limit on how early a voter can request an absentee ballot. It is one of 5 states (plus DC) with a permanent vote-by-mail list. Other states offer this option for certain groups (elderly, disabled, etc.). Before the 2020 election, only 9 states purged infrequent voters from their voter rolls.
MAILING ABSENTEE BALLOTS AND APPLICATIONS TO VOTERS	Arizonans can find absentee ballots in their mailbox beginning 27 days before Election Day. Arizona does not automatically mail ballots to voters unless they are on the Permanent Early Voting List. Third parties may mail applications to voters.	No recent changes.	36 states mail ballots to voters 30+ days before Election Day. 14 states (including AZ) mail absentee ballots fewer than 30 days before the election. Only five states automatically mail ballots to all voters. Elsewhere, voters must request the ballots.
RETURNING ABSENTEE BALLOTS	Absentee ballots may be requested up until two Fridays before Election Day, and absentee ballots will be accepted through 7 p.m. on Election Day.	No third party may return a voter's absentee ballot, unless the third party is a relative, a member of the same household, or a caregiver.	Most states accept mail-in ballots through Election Day; some accept them past Election Day. 36 states allow someone to return a voter's ballot on their behalf, though only 12, including AZ, regulate who the voter may ask to return the ballot.

*Previous law is the law on the books as it existed prior to the 2020 election. **Law as it exists now. ***Comparative provisions from other states.

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VOTE-BY-MAIL ID REQUIREMENTS	Arizona matches the voter signature on file with a signature provided on the mail-in ballot's affidavit, but does not require a witness signature.	No recent changes.	30 states match the signature on the ballot with the voter's signature on file. 6 states require a ballot signature but don't verify them; 9 states require voter's signature and that of a witness; 2 states require copy of voter's ID to be submitted; 3 states require driver's license or ID number to be submitted with ballot.
IN-PERSON VOTER ID	To vote in person, AZ requires either one photo ID or two non-photo IDs (such as utility bills). Voters who don't present such IDs can cast a provisional ballot but must produce an ID within 5 business days after a federal election.	No recent changes.	Arizona is 1 of 11 states where voters must present ID to vote and may cast a provisional ballot if they fail to do so. 7 states require photo ID, another 4 require photo or non-photo ID, and most others ask for ID but provide ways to vote without one (such as signing a document under oath attesting to the voter's identity).
INCORRECTLY CAST BALLOTS	Arizona does not allow voters to cast ballots outside their precinct and will not count the voter's ballot.	No recent changes, though this provision was part of the Supreme Court case against Arizona.	25 states do not count ballots cast in the wrong precinct.
SELECTION OF THE CHIEF ELECTION OFFICIAL	Voters elect the Secretary of State, who is the chief elections official. The Secretary oversees all election-related matters, including technology, vote certification, and campaign finance.	The Arizona legislature recently delegated all election litigation to the Attorney General rather than the Secretary of State.	Three states allow their legislatures to choose the chief election official.
FOOD AND DRINK AROUND POLLING STATIONS	Arizona allows food distribution around polling places. In November, some restaurants offered free meals to voters near polling places.	No recent changes.	All states limit campaigning near polling places. Federal law forbids providing money or gifts in exchange for a vote. Providing food or drink at election sites is allowed so long as it not conditioned on how voters cast their ballots.
CONTESTING ELECTION RESULTS	To invalidate election results, a party must prove there were enough irregularities to render the outcome uncertain, which the AZ Supreme Court seems to determine through ballot sampling and math.	No recent changes.	Laws on contesting elections vary by state. No comprehensive data set available.
POLL WATCHERS	There can be one poll watcher from each party at each site. They are not allowed inside voting booths. They may challenge a voter's eligibility to officials, but may not engage with the voter.	No recent changes.	The 50 states have various requirements regarding partisan poll watchers' rights, responsibilities, and conduct.