



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
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Mail Ballot Deadlines, 2012-2022

Table 1 tracks the mail ballot deadlines across six election cycles from 2012 to 2022. The sources for the data were NASS (2012-2016) and the EAVS Policy Survey (2018-2022). The EAVS did not ask states for mail ballot return deadlines before 2018. Thirty-seven states and territories (66%) saw no change in their mail ballot return/received by deadlines between 2012-2022. The remaining 19 states, territories, and the District of Columbia (34%) saw at least one change in their deadlines across the same period.

Table 2 highlights the 19 states, territories, and federal district, that saw changes over time. Ten states (53%) changed their dates for the first time in 2020, and three states (16%) changed their dates for the first time in 2016 and 2022, respectively. Two states changed their dates for the first time in 2014 (11%) and one state in 2018 (5%). Overall, the 19 states changed their dates an average of two times between 2012-2022.

Table 1: Mail Ballot Return Deadlines, 2012-2022

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
Alabama	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by Noon on Election Day	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by Nov 4	Ballot must be delivered in person by 11/7 or postmarked by 11/7 and received by 11/8.	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received by Election Day	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Alaska	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Nov 16th	Postmarked by Nov 4; Received by Nov 14	Deadline to return an electronic transmission ballot is 11/8. Mail absentee ballots must be postmarked	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 calendar days after Election Day

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
			no later than 11/8 and received by 11/18.			
Arizona	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Arkansas	7:30 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day, Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
California	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8. Mail absentee ballots must be postmarked no later than 11/8 and received by 11/11.	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 17 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 calendar days after Election Day
Colorado	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Connecticut	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received by Election Day
Delaware	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
District of Columbia	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Nov 16th	Postmarked by Nov 4; Received by Nov 14	11/8	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 days after Election Day
Florida	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Georgia	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Hawaii	6:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Idaho	8:00 PM Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Illinois	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by Nov 20 th	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by Nov 18	Ballot must be postmarked by 11/8 or have certification date prior to 11/8 and be received by 11/22.	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 14 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 14 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 14 calendar days after Election Day
Indiana	6:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Iowa	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by Noon on Nov 13 th	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by Nov 10	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/7. Mail absentee ballots must	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received 7 days after Election Day	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day; Received 6 days after Election Day	Received by Election Day

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
			be postmarked before 11/8 and received by 11/4.			
Kansas	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 business days after Election Day
Kentucky	6:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Louisiana	4:30 PM on November 5 th	Nov 3	11/7	Received 1 day before Election Day	Received by 1 day before Election Day	Received 1 day before Election Day
Maine	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Maryland	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by 10:00am on Nov 16th	Postmarked by Nov 4; Received Nov 14	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8. Mail absentee ballots must be postmarked by 11/8 and received no later than 11/18.	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 calendar days after Election Day
Massachusetts	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day;	Postmarked by Election Day;

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
					Received 3 days after Election Day	Received 3 calendar days after Election Day
Michigan	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Minnesota	3:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Mississippi	5:00 PM on Nov 5 th	Nov 3	Deadline to receive absentee ballots is 11/7. Mail absentee ballots received on 11/8 will be counted for Presidential race only.	Postmarked 30 days before Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 5 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 5 business days after Election Day
Missouri	7:00 PM Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Montana	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Nebraska	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Nevada	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 4 calendar days after Election Day
New Hampshire	5:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
New Jersey	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 6 calendar days after Election Day
New Mexico	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
New York	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by Nov 13 th	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by Nov 11	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8. Mail absentee ballot must be postmarked by 11/7 and received no later than 11/15.	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received 7 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 calendar days after Election Day
North Carolina	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by 5:00 PM on Nov 9 th	Postmarked by Nov 4; Received by Nov 7	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8. Mail absentee ballot must be postmarked by 11/8 and received no later than 11/11.	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 9 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 business days after Election Day
North Dakota	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by county	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by county canvass	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day;	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day;	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day;

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
	canvassing meeting		received by 11/7. Mail absentee ballots must be postmarked no later than 11/7 and received by county canvass (11/14).	Received 6 days after Election Day	Received by 6 days after Election Day	Received 13 calendar days after Election Day
Ohio	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by Nov 16th	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by Nov 14	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8. Mail absentee ballots must be postmarked by 11/7. and received by 11/18.	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day; Received by 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received 10 calendar days after Election Day
Oklahoma	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Oregon	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	N/A (all mail)	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 7 calendar days after Election Day
Pennsylvania	Received by November 2 nd	Received by Oct 31	11/4	Received 4 days before Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Rhode Island	9:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by 7 calendar days after

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
						Election Day
South Carolina	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
South Dakota	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Tennessee	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Texas	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 1 day after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 1 day after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 1 business day after Election Day
Utah	Postmarked by Nov 5 th ; Received by Noon on the date of canvass	Postmarked by Nov 3; Received by canvass	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8. Mail absentee ballot must be postmarked by 11/7 and received by canvass (11/22).	Postmarked 1 day before Election Day; Received 14 days after Election Day	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day; Received 13 days after Election Day	Postmarked by 1 day before Election Day; Received 13 calendar days after Election Day
Vermont	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Virginia	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 calendar days after Election Day

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
Washington	Postmarked by Election Day	Postmarked by Nov 4	N/A (all mail)	Postmarked by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 20 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 20 calendar days after Election Day
West Virginia	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Nov 13 th	Postmarked by Nov 4; Received by Nov 10	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/7. Mail absentee ballot must be postmarked by 11/8 and received by canvass (11/14).	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 3 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 5 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 6 calendar days after Election Day
Wisconsin	8:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	Absentee ballot delivered in person must be received by 11/8 Mail absentee ballots must be postmarked by 11/8 and received by 11/11.	Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Wyoming	7:00 PM on Election Day	Nov 4	11/8	Postmarked by Election Day; Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
American Samoa	-	-	-	Postmarked by Election Day;	Postmarked by Election Day;	Postmarked by Election Day;

State	2012: (Election Day Nov 6)	2014: (Election Day Nov 4)	2016: (Election Day Nov 8)	2018: (Election Day Nov 6)	2020: (Election Day Nov 3)	2022: (Election Day Nov 8)
				Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day	Received by Election Day
Guam	-	-	-	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 business days after Election Day
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	Postmarked 30 days before Election Day; Received by Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 14 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 10 days after Election Day	Received 10 calendars after Election Day
Northern Mariana Islands	-	-	-	-	Postmarked by Election Day; Received 14 days after Election Day	Received by Election Day

Table 2

State	Years when Mail Ballot Received by Date Changed
California	Received by date changed in 2016, 2020, and 2022
District of Columbia	Received by date changed in 2016, 2020, and 2022
Iowa	Received by date changed 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, and 2022
Massachusetts	Received by date changed in 2020
Mississippi	Received by date changed in 2020
Nevada	Received by date changed in 2020 and 2022
New Jersey	Received by date changed in 2020 and 2022
North Carolina	Received by date changed in 2020 but went back to the previous deadline in 2022
North Dakota	Received by date changed in 2022
Oregon	Received by date changed in 2022
Pennsylvania	Received by date changed in 2020
Rhode Island	Received by date changed in 2022
Texas	Received by date changed in 2018
Utah	Received by date changed in 2020
Virginia	Received by date changed in 2020
West Virginia	Received by date changed in 2014, 2018, 2020, and 2022
Wisconsin	Received by date changed in 2016 and 2018
Puerto Rico	Received by date changed in 2020
Northern Mariana Islands	Received by date changed in 2020 and 2022