NASS
National Association of Secretaries of State

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NASS Survey: State Laws/Regulations Specifying When Absentee Ballots Are Counted

This information is based upon a NASS staff review of state statutes regarding when absentee ballots are counted

State	When Absentee Ballots are Counted
Alabama	Absentee ballots are counted upon closing of the polls on Election Day. (Code of Ala. § 17-11-10).
Alaska	Absentee ballot counting begins at 8:00pm on the day of the election. (Alaska Stat. § 15.20.010).
Arizona	Tallying of absentee ballots may begin 7 days before Election Day. No results may be released until Election Day. (A.R.S. § 16-550; 16-551; 16-552)
Arkansas	Absentee ballot counting may begin prior to closing of the polls on Election Day (A.C.A. § 7-5-416)
California	Vote-by-mail ballot counting may begin 7 business days before Election Day. No results may be released until Election Day. (Cal Elec Code § 15101)
Colorado	Counting of mail-in ballots may begin 15 days before the election. No results may be released until Election Day. C.R.S. 1-8-302(2)(b)
Connecticut	Counting of absentee ballots begins at the times designated by registrars. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-150a
Delaware	Absentee ballots are counted at any time between the Friday before the election and the closing of the polls on election day. 15 Del. C. § 5510
District of Columbia	Absentee ballot counting begins after the polls close on Election Day. 3 DCMR 808.3
Florida	Absentee ballots may be counted beginning at 7 a.m. on the 15th day before the election. No results may be released until Election Day. Fla. Stat. § 101.68(2)(a)
Georgia	Officials may begin tabulating absentee ballots beginning at 7:00am on Election Day. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-386
Idaho	Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day (Idaho Code § 34-1008; 34-1201)
Illinois	Absentee ballot counting begins 7:00pm on Election Day (10 ILCS 5/19-8(b)
Indiana	Absentee ballot counting begins on Election Day (Ind. Code Ann. § 3-11-10-15; § 3-11-10-16)
Iowa	Absentee ballot counting may begin on the day before the Election (Iowa Code § 53.23)

Kansas	Advance voting ballots are counted on Election Day (K.S.A. § 25-1135)
Kentucky	Absentee ballot counting begins at 10:00am on Election Day KRS § 117.087
Louisiana	Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day no later than 8:00 p.m. (La. R.S. 18:1313)
Maine	Absentee ballots are counted upon closing of the polls on Election Day (21-A M.R.S. § 759)
Maryland	The counting of absentee ballots begins at 10:00am on the Thursday after the Election (COMAR 33.11.04.03A(1))
Massachusetts	Absentee ballots are counted after the polls close on Election Day (ALM GL ch. 54, § 95)
Michigan	Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day (MCLS § 168.765)
Minnesota	Absentee ballots are counted after the polls close on Election Day (Minn. Stat. § 203B.121)
Mississippi	Absentee ballots counted at the close of polls on Election Day (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-639)
Missouri	Absentee ballot counting begins when polls open on Election Day (§ 115.300 R.S.Mo.)
Montana	Absentee ballots counted on Election Day (Mont. Code Anno., § 13-13-241)
Nebraska	Absentee ballots may be counted no earlier than 24 hours before the Election. No results may be released until Election Day. (Nebraska Statutes 32-1027)
Nevada	Absentee ballots counted on Election Day (Nevada Statutes 293.333)
New Hampshire	Absentee ballots counted after the polls close on Election Day (RSA 659:49)
New Jersey	Absentee ballots counted on Election Day (N.J. Stat. § 19:57-1)
New Mexico	Absentee ballots counted following the close of polls on Election Day (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-6-14)
New York	Absentee ballot counting begins on Election Day (NY CLS Elec § 9-209)
North Carolina	Absentee ballot counting begins at 5:00pm on Election Day (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-234)
North Dakota	Absentee ballots counting begins the day before Election Day (N.D. Cent. Code, § 16.1-07-12)
Ohio	Absentee ballot counting begins on Election Day (ORC Ann. 3509.06)
Oklahoma	Absentee ballots counted on Election Day (O.A.C. § 230:26-14-124)
Oregon	Mail ballot scanning begins 7 days before the election (ORS § 254.478)

Pennsylvania	Absentee ballots counted after the close of polls on Election Day (25 P.S. § 3146.8)
Rhode Island	The state board counts the absentee ballots beginning on Election Day. (Rhode Island Statutes 17-20-26)
South Carolina	Absentee ballots may begin to be tabulated at 9:00am on Election Day. (South Carolina Statutes 7-15-410).
South Dakota	Absentee ballots are counted after the polls close (SDCL 12-19-46)
Tennessee	Absentee ballots counted after the polls close on Election Day (Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-6-304)
Texas	Absentee ballot counting may begin after the polls open on Election Day. (Texas Statutes 87.062)
Utah	Absentee ballot counting begins before the date of canvass (Utah Code 20A-3-309)
Vermont	Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day (Vermont Statutes 17-51-2546)
Virginia	Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day (Virginia Code 24-2-712)
Washington	Counting of absentee ballots may begin after 8:00pm on Election Day (Washington Code 29A-40-110)
West Virginia	Absentee ballots counting begins on Election Day (West Virginia Code 3-3-8)
Wisconsin	Absentee ballot counting begins on Election Day (Wisconsin Statutes 6-6.88)
Wyoming	Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day (Wyoming Statutes Chapter 9)