



THE
ELECTIONS
GROUP

Post-Election Audit Landscape in the United States

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NASS 2021 Summer Conference

Jennifer Morrell

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“A valid audit is the audit that
your state is required to
conduct.”

Post-Election Audits Validation



- **Arizona:** 2% of precincts or vote centers and 1% of early ballots with escalation
- **Colorado:** RLAs
- **Michigan:** Traditional and procedural audit
- **New Mexico:** Sample size based on the margin of victory with escalation
- **North Dakota:** Post-election logic and accuracy testing
- **West Virginia:** 3% of precincts; discrepancies of more than 1% lead to full manual recount

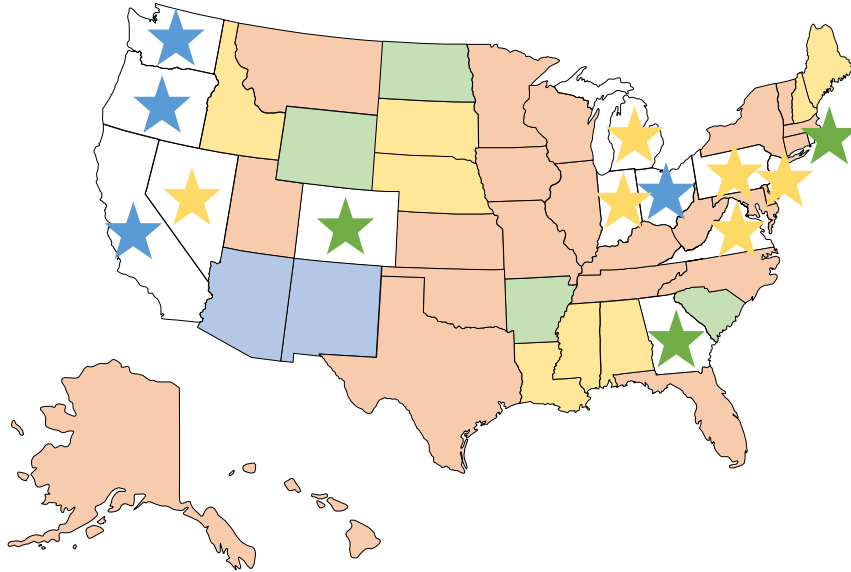
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Audit

“A **s**ystematic, independent and **d**ocumented process for obtaining audit evidence and evaluating the evidence **o**bjectively to determine the extent to which the audit criteria are fulfilled.”

Election Auditing: Key Issues and Perspectives, MIT Election Data + Science Lab and CalTech/MIT Voting Technology Project

Post-Election Tabulation Audits



- ★ Optional RLA or Fixed % Audit
- ★ Implementing or Pilot RLA
- ★ Statewide Official RLA

Traditional/Fixed %

Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin

Hybrid

Arizona and New Mexico

Other

Arkansas, North Dakota, South Carolina and Wyoming

None

Alabama, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska*, New Hampshire, and South Dakota

Risk-Limiting Audit States



Implementing or Pilot Program

Indiana, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia

Official Option (RLA or Fixed %)

California, Ohio, Oregon and Washington

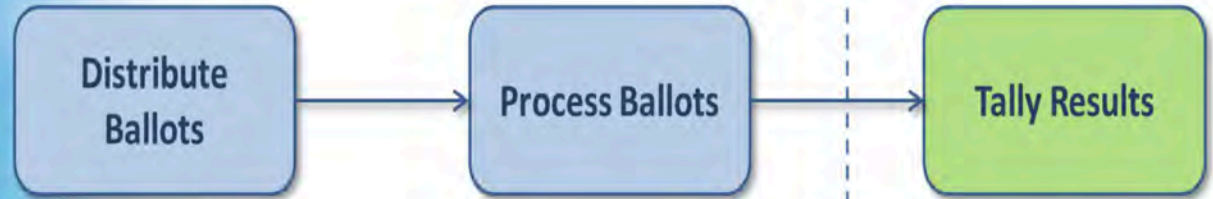
Official Statewide

Colorado, Georgia and Rhode Island

Compliance Audits



Reconciliation Overview for Canvass Process



Reconciliation

Audit

Canvass & Certification

Forensic Audits





Forensic

adjective: relating to or denoting the application of scientific methods and techniques to the **investigation of crime**

noun: scientific tests or techniques used in connection with the **detection of crime**

Oxford English Dictionary

- What are you auditing?
- Where are your audit procedures outlined?
- When will the audit take place and when will it be completed?
- Who runs the audit?
- Who can access paper ballots and voting equipment?
- Who can observe the audit?
- How are discrepancies handled?

Professional Code of Conduct

- Exercise sensitive professional and moral judgments in all activities.
- Act in a way that serves the public interest, honors the public trust, and demonstrate commitment to professionalism.
- Perform all responsibilities with the highest sense of integrity.
- Maintain objectivity and be free of conflicts of interest.
- Be independent in fact and appearance when providing auditing services.



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“We are at our best when we
face challenges together.”

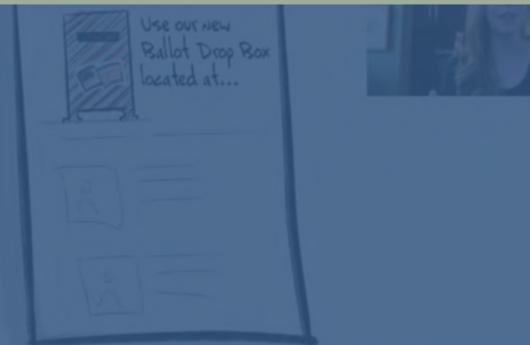


Healthy Polling Places Guidebook



Ballot Box Retrieval Process

Jennifer Morrell walks us through the detailed step-by-step process of how a team retrieves ballots from a drop box during an election.



Will voters use a Ballot Drop Box?

In this installment of Ask an Elections Expert, we ask Jennifer Morrell what advice she gives to elections administrators when they ask her if people will use the ballot drop boxes that they install.

ElectionsGroup.com

Return your voted mail ballot to any of 40 ballot boxes by 7 p.m., Nov. 6. No postage necessary.

Or return your ballot by mail with paid postage by Oct. 30 to ensure it arrives on-time.

Visit any of 21 Polling Centers request or return in-person on

VOTER SERVICE & POLLING CENTER

FOR A SECURE VOTING SYSTEM

Paper Ballots
Voters cast a paper ballot, either by mail or in-person, ensuring that the ballot record is secure.

Voting Tablets
Votes are not cast on our accessible tablets. Instead, a printer produces a paper copy for the ballot box.

Ballot Scanning
Ballots are scanned using desktop scanners, which are not networked to the internet or other networks.

Results
Results are captured, tabulated, computed and not networked to the internet.

Scenario 3: Voters are arguing

Check in with another poll worker and ask for support.

How Does Coronavirus Spread?

Airborne transmission
Occurs when virus in the air gets into the body.

- Reduce risk of spread by:
 - Practicing physical distancing
 - Wearing face coverings and masks

Surface transmission
Occurs when virus on an object or surface gets into the body.

- Reduce risk of spread by:
 - Washing or sanitizing hands
 - Disinfecting objects and surfaces

Pollworker Training: Working Elections During COVID-19

- Work at least 6 feet apart from other staff
- Use partitions if 6 feet separation is not possible
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- Wear gloves (when appropriate)



Running a Safe Election in a Pandemic—Start to Finish



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