

Resources for Beyond Voting: What You Need to Know 2026

General

U.S. Constitution Article 1, Section 4 On what branches of government have authority for elections

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution-conan/article-1/section-4/clause-1/congress-and-the-elections-clause>

Vote 411 Register, check registration, find out what's on the ballot <https://www.vote411.org/>

Vote.org <https://www.vote.org/>

Ballotpedia https://ballotpedia.org/Main_Page

My Congressional District – Selected statistics from U.S. Census Bureau <https://www.census.gov/mycd/>

Oregon Secretary of State – Voting and Elections Division <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections/Pages/default.aspx>

Washington Secretary of State – Elections Division <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/>

Connecticut Secretary of State – Elections and Voting <https://portal.ct.gov/sots/common-elements/v5-template---redesign/elections--voting--home-page>

National Conference of State Legislatures - Elections and Campaign page “

<https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns>

Election Resource Hub. MIT. <https://electionlab.mit.edu/>

Election Law Blog. Rick Hasan. UCLA School of Law. Director, Safeguarding Democracy Project.

<https://electionlawblog.org/>

Election Innovation and Research Center <https://electioninnovation.org/>

Democracy Docket <https://www.democracydocket.com/>

VoteRiders <https://voteriders.org/staterules/> Informs communities about ID laws.

Campaign Legal Center <https://campaignlegal.org/>

Archaic Election Methods Hurt Democracy. Series. Sightline.

<https://www.sightline.org/series/voting-systems-hurt-democracy/>

Bills and Laws

Brennan Center State Voting Laws Roundup [updated regularly]

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/state-voting-laws-roundup-may-2026>

Voting by Mail / Absentee Ballots

The False Narrative of Vote-by-Mail Fraud. Wendy R. Weiser. April 10, 2020

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/false-narrative-vote-mail-fraud>

Oregon's vote-by-mail system gets more tv attention, on '60 minutes'. June 29, 2020. Includes video.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/entertainment/2020/06/oregons-vote-by-mail-system-gets-more-tv-attention-on-60-minutes.html?fbclid=iwar2q-zlxs6voqvbiwvuoqbywrbxh4zww8byi1wzt-cqp8zlphtbnnl530>

Four Ways States Suppress the Absentee Vote. Sightline. 7/30/2020.

<https://www.sightline.org/2020/07/30/four-ways-states-suppress-the-absentee-vote/?fbclid=IwAR24guCMGSwTMt-zLEoL088C769HZ6zUHOHdCdrFG-cW09-ezseyTmAEEQ40>

The Neutral Partisan Effects of Vote-by-Mail: Evidence from County-Level Roll-Outs. Stanford U. April, 2020.

<https://siepr.stanford.edu/publications/working-paper/neutral-partisan-effects-vote-mail-evidence-county-level-roll-outs>

Universal vote-by-mail has no impact on partisan turnout or vote share. Thompson et al. Democracy & Polarization Lab, Stanford University. May 6, 2020 http://www.andrewbenjaminhall.com/thompson_et_al_vbm.pdf

Voter Turnout

Turnout in U.S. has soared in recent elections but by some measures still trails that of many other countries

Pew Research Center. 11/1/2022.

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/08/02/u-s-voter-turnout-trails-most-developed-countries/>

The U.S. Should Require All Citizens to Vote. Ornstein. July 2012.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2012/07/the-us-should-require-all-citizens-to-vote/259902/>

Voter Registration

Automatic Voter Registration Works Everywhere It's Been Implemented Derek Rosenfeld 4/11/2019

Brennan Center study shows that AVR increased registration rates in every state where the policy has gone into effect.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/blog/automatic-voter-registration-works-everywhere-been-implemented>

Voting Methods – Ranked Choice Voting

Ranked Choice Voting video created for Maine [1:30] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rkx0e2Cduyk>

Where RCV [Ranked Choice Voting] is Used Has helpful 2-minute video about how it worked in a Mayoral election

http://www.fairvote.org/where_is_ranked_choice_voting_used

Fair Vote – Ranked Choice Voting / Instant Runoff <http://www.fairvote.org/rcv#rcvbenefits>

Voting Methods – STAR Voting

STAR Voting <https://www.starvoting.us/>

Electoral College

Electoral College https://ballotpedia.org/Electoral_College

About the Electors. National Archives <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/electors.html>

Much Needed Reform for the Electoral Count Act. Waldman. Brennan Center for Justice. Dec 23, 2022.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/much-needed-reform-electoral-count-act>

National Popular Vote <http://www.nationalpopularvote.com/> “Work-around” to the Electoral College

Fake electoral college certificates submitted for the 2020 election:

Filing with NARA [National Archives and Records Administration]

<https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/20493986/nara-records-regarding-invalid-electoral-slates-nara-21-0174-a.pdf>

Voting Rights

Voting Rights Act <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R47520>

Cost of Voting Index. 2024. <https://costofvotingindex.com/>

Democracy Diminished: State and Local Threats to Voting, Post-Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder

Legal Defense Fund, NAACP. 2014 [Report] <https://www.naacpldf.org/wp-content/uploads/Democracy-Diminished-State-and-Local-Threats-to-Voting-Post-Shelby-County-Alabama-v.-Holder.pdf>

Rep Elijah Cummings Gives Fiery Speech on the State of Voting Rights. Feb, 2019.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZC8WNVsDeE>

‘Politics Ain’t the Same’ — How the 19th Amendment Changed American Elections Sherr. 8/28/2016

<http://billmoyers.com/story/politics-aint-19th-amendment-changed-american-elections/>

Without a Whisper. PBS. 2021.

“Explore the untold story of how Indigenous women influenced the early suffragists in their fight for freedom and equality.”

<https://www.pbs.org/video/without-a-whisper-wnpj8u/>

Electoral Dysfunction – The Right to Vote [4 min. video] NYT. 9/4/2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMI0MHFGhE8>

Voting Rights and the Criminal Justice System

FAQ on Felons’ Voting Rights in Oregon

<https://multco.us/elections/faq%E2%80%99s-felon%E2%80%99s-voting-rights-oregon>

Felons Voting Rights in Connecticut

<https://uwc.211ct.org/voting-rights-of-convicted-felons-in-connecticut/>

Maine prisoners organize to protect their rare right to vote

Maine is one of the only places in the country where prisoners keep their right to vote. But logistical barriers to voting still contribute to their larger exclusion from the political process.

Alex Burness. Bolts. August 7, 2026 3:38 pm

<https://mainemorningstar.com/2026/08/07/maine-prisoners-organize-to-protect-their-rare-right-to-vote/>

Can People Convicted of a Felony Vote?

Brennan Center for Justice. June 8, 2026.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/can-people-convicted-felony-vote>

Restoration of Voting Rights for Felons. National Conference of State Legislators. Updated May 21, 2026.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/felon-voting-rights.aspx>

Locked Out 2022: Estimates of People Denied Voting Rights

Sentencing Project. October 25, 2022.

<https://www.sentencingproject.org/reports/locked-out-2022-estimates-of-people-denied-voting-rights/>

Voter Fraud

Trump’s Claims About Noncitizens Voting Are False. We Can Prove It.

Stephen Richer. CATO Institute. February 5, 2026

https://www.cato.org/commentary/trumps-claims-about-noncitizens-voting-are-false-we-can-prove-it?utm_source=hootsuite&utm_medium=facebook&utm_term=&utm_content=&utm_campaign=

Republicans derided Trumps stolen election

Hasan. Election Law Blog. Jan 13, 2026.

<https://electionlawblog.org/?p=153825>

How widespread is election fraud in the United States? Not very

Kamarck. Brookings. October 28, 2024

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-widespread-is-election-fraud-in-the-united-states-not-very/>

Widespread election fraud claims by Republicans don't match the evidence

Averill. Brookings Institution. Nov 22, 2023.

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/widespread-election-fraud-claims-by-republicans-dont-match-the-evidence/>

Trump fraud claims 'like playing whack-a-mole', former Attorney General Barr says

PBS. June 13, 2022. [video]

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/watch-trump-fraud-claims-like-playing-whac-a-mole-former-attorney-general-barr-says> or...<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLUwNwFuzGQ&t=99s>

Read McConnell's remarks on the Senate floor following Trump's acquittal

By CNN. Sat February 13, 2021

<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/02/13/politics/mcconnell-remarks-trump-acquittal>

Lost: Not Stolen. Ginsberg et al. 2022. Examination of the 2020 election cases

<https://lostnotstolen.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Lost-Not-Stolen-The-Conservative-Case-that-Trump-Lost-and-Biden-Won-the-2020-Presidential-Election-July-2022.pdf>

Discussion on 60 Minutes <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/maricopa-election-officials-work-to-restore-belief-in-ballot-60-minutes-transcript/?tag=CNM-00-10aab7d&linkId=614583043>

Trump's judicial campaign to upend the 2020 election: A failure, but not a wipe-out

Russell Wheeler Brookings. November 30, 2021 *Tallies all the court cases*

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/trumps-judicial-campaign-to-upend-the-2020-election-a-failure-but-not-a-wipe-out/>

In Their Own Words: Officials Refuting False Claims of Voter Fraud 4/2017

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/their-own-words-officials-refuting-false-claims-voter-fraud>

Myth of Voter Fraud. A section on the Brennan Center site.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/voter-fraud>

Voter Suppression

Third-Party Ballot Collection Explained. Democracy Docket. September 14, 2020

<https://www.democracydocket.com/analysis/third-party-ballot-collection-explained/>

Why are Americans OK with voter suppression? We asked more than 1,200 voters—and they failed to appreciate the impact of restrictions on their own turnout. Tomaino et al. Fortune. 11/8/2022.

<https://fortune.com/2022/11/08/americans-midterms-suppression-turnout-voters-impact-restrictions-turnout-politics-behavior-tomaino-carmon-mazar-wood/>

Election Security and Threats to Election Process

Election Security Funding: Cost Estimates Breakdown. Brennan Center. 8/15/2019

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/what-does-election-security-cost>

Threats to Election Officials and Actions to Protect Them

Local Election Officials Survey The Brennan Center for Justice. March, 2022.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/local-election-officials-survey-march-2022>

Election Officials Legal Defense Network

<https://eoldn.org/>

A Texas county's entire elections board resigned after being stalked and getting threats over the 2020 election

Katie Anthony. Business Insider. Aug 17, 2022

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/a-texas-county-s-entire-elections-board-resigned-after-being-stalked-and-getting-threats-over-the-2020-election/ar-AA10Ma9h?ocid=msedgntp&cvid=7289baabd63643888eba57b23812e8fa#image=AA10L>

[AA10Ma9h?ocid=msedgntp&cvid=7289baabd63643888eba57b23812e8fa#image=AA10L](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/a-texas-county-s-entire-elections-board-resigned-after-being-stalked-and-getting-threats-over-the-2020-election/ar-AA10Ma9h?ocid=msedgntp&cvid=7289baabd63643888eba57b23812e8fa#image=AA10L)

Elections officials in Arizona county leave positions under criticism and threats from Trump supporters

Associated Press. Jul 16, 2022

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/other/elections-officials-in-arizona-county-leave-positions-under-criticism-and-threats-from-trump-supporters/ar-AAZEzIH?ocid=msedgntp&cvid=5424cf733a7b491c8e1abb2327930540>

Death Threats Are Creating a Mass Exodus of Election Officials. Madeleine May, October 21, 2021.

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/pkpez7/election-officials-receiving-death-threats-causing-mass-exodus>

Campaign of Fear: The Trump world's assault on U.S. election workers. Reuters. 2021.

A series of investigative reports documenting more than 900 threatening or hostile messages aimed at election officials.

<https://www.reuters.com/investigates/section/campaign-of-fear>

Harassing election workers could lead to prison under Oregon bill. VanderHart (OPB) 2/15/2022. PASSED

<https://www.opb.org/article/2022/02/15/harassing-election-workers-could-lead-to-prison-under-oregon-bill/?s=09>

Maine passes law protecting poll workers facing increased threats since the 2020 election. PBS Newshour.

4/13/2022. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/maine-passes-law-protecting-poll-workers-facing-increased-threats-since-the-2020-election>

Redistricting and Gerrymandering

Legal Defense Fund Redistricting Watch

<https://www.naacpldf.org/redistricting-by-state/>

What is Redistricting? Levitt. Loyola Law School <http://redistricting.lls.edu/what.php>

Fair Vote – Gerrymandering http://www.fairvote.org/gerrymandering#gerrymandering_key_facts

Gerrymandering and Fair Representation. Brennan Center <https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/gerrymandering-fair-representation>

People-Powered Fair Maps. League of Women Voters. “national redistricting program of the League of Women Voters focused on creating fair political maps nationwide in all 50 states + D.C”

https://www.lwv.org/peoplepoweredfairmaps?utm_source=NationalChapter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=September2021Highlights&utm_id=9.30.21

Supreme Court's 'catchy' ruling may signal 'death' of a key right: analysis [\[Louisiana v. Callais](#)

case]

Hampton. Raw Story. June 22, 2026.

<https://www.rawstory.com/supreme-court-race/>

Aftermath of Callais Update. Legal Defense Fund. June 25, 2026. LDF updates this report regularly.

<https://legaldefensefund.substack.com/p/redistricting-watch-110-continuing>

We Aren't Paying Enough Attention to What the SCOTUS VRA Decision Means for State Legislatures

Gaby Goldstein. Talking Points Memo 5/6/2026 [Important article]

<https://talkingpointsmemo.com/cafe/we-arent-paying-enough-attention-to-what-the-scotus-vra-decision-means-for-state-legislatures>

Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act at the Supreme Court

Li. Brennan Center for Justice. April 29, 2026.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/section-2-voting-rights-act-supreme-court>

Only a fraction of House seats are competitive. Redistricting is driving that lower

Lopez. NPR. February 22, 2026

<https://www.npr.org/2026/02/22/nx-s1-5707254/power-trump-congress-house-representatives-voters-control>

The GOP Targets State Legislatures; He who controls redistricting can control Congress.

Rove, Karl. Wall Street Journal. Mar 4, 2010.

Primaries

Open Primaries <https://www.openprimaries.org/>

Can Primary Reform Solve the Primary Problem?

Laurel Harbridge-Yong. Democracy Project, NYU Law. July 7, 2026.

<https://democracyproject.org/posts/can-primary-reform-solve-the-primary-problem>

Initiative to open Oregon primaries may have stalled, but work to end election injustice continues

Kulongoski et al. Oregon Capitol Chronicle. June 29, 2026.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/06/29/initiative-to-open-oregon-primaries-may-have-stalled-but-work-to-end-election-injustice-continues/>

Inside the 2026 Primaries: Rules, History, and What's Changed

Ambar Zobairi. U.S. Vote Foundation. June 2026

<https://www.usvotefoundation.org/fellows-program/2026-primary-season-explained>

How single-party primary elections are reshaping Congress

McDaniel and Lopez. NPR. May 30, 2026.

<https://www.npr.org/2026/05/30/nx-s1-5839201/party-primaries-polarized-congress>

What You Need to Know About Primaries, the Elections That Decide Most of Congress Before Anyone Votes
Singer. Unite America. March 2, 2026.

<https://uniteamerica.org/articles/primary-season-will-decide-congress-before-most-americans-vote>

More Places Should Do What Alaska Did to Its Elections. Pildes. New York Times. 2/15/22. [or via your library]

Implications for Top-Four/Five Voting. Drutman. New America. 6/2021.

<https://www.newamerica.org/political-reform/reports/what-we-know-about-congressional-primaries-and-congressional-primary-reform/implications-for-top-fourfive-voting/>

From report: What We Know about Congressional Primaries and Congressional Primary Reform. Drutman. New America Foundation. 7/2021. [Accessed from link above]

Running for Office / Women Running for Office

Center for American Women in Politics. <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/>

Women Elected Officials. <https://cawpdata.rutgers.edu/>

Proportional Representation

Proportional Representation Voting Systems

<https://fairvote.org/archives/proportional-representation-voting-systems/>

Announcing Proportional Representation Oregon

<https://theoregonway.substack.com/p/announcing-proportional-representation?justPublished=true>

Proportional Representation Oregon

<http://proregon.org/>

How to fix democracy: Move beyond the two-party system, experts say

Author: Ingraham, Christopher Publication info: The Washington Post. Mar 1, 2021.

Campaign Finance and Public Financing of Campaigns

Related to the Supreme Court Ruling June 30, 2026.:

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN SENATORIAL COMMITTEE ET AL. v. FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION ET AL. https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-621_h315.pdf

Justices Strike Down Campaign Finance Law

Howe. SCOTUSblog. June 30, 2026

<https://www.scotusblog.com/2026/06/justices-strike-down-campaign-finance-law/>

Supreme Court strikes down coordinated campaign spending limits

Melissa Quinn. CBS News. June 30, 2026

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/supreme-court-nrsc-v-federal-election-commission-coordinated-spending/>

End Citizens United president says U.S. Supreme Court decision already impacting midterms

Anna Kaminski. Kansas Reflector. August 17, 2026

<https://kansasreflector.com/2026/08/17/end-citizens-united-president-says-u-s-supreme-court-decision-already-impacting-midterms/>

New Efforts by states to counter Citizens United:

Two States are Making the Case that Money Isn't Political Speech. Bloomberg. Klas. July 16, 2026.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2026-07-16/campaign-finance-reform-s-new-odd-couple-is-hawaii-and-montana>

Addressing Questions Surrounding Hawaii's Bold Move To Undo Citizens United

Center for American Progress. April 29, 2026

<https://issueone.org/press/hawaiis-pioneering-bipartisan-effort-to-fight-corporate-and-dark-money-spending-in-elections-is-a-model-for-rest-of-country/>

Hawaii's pioneering, bipartisan effort to fight corporate and dark money spending in elections is a model for rest of country. Issue One. May 08, 2026

<https://issueone.org/press/hawaiis-pioneering-bipartisan-effort-to-fight-corporate-and-dark-money-spending-in-elections-is-a-model-for-rest-of-country/>

Hawaii enacts law modeled on 'Montana Plan'. Micah Drew. Daily Montanan. June 17, 2026

<https://dailymontanan.com/2026/06/17/hawaii-enacts-law-modeled-on-montana-plan/>

Other:

Oakland just passed a bill to give residents \$100 to donate to local campaigns. Here's why it matters. Visram. Fast Company Magazine. 11/11/2022.

CIVICS FOR ADULTS: TO ENHANCE CIVIC KNOWLEDGE AND INSPIRED POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT DONNA L COHEN, MEd, MLIS
<https://www.fastcompany.com/90809021/oakland-just-passed-a-bill-to-give-residents-100-to-donate-to-local-campaigns-heres-why-it-matters>

Money in Politics. League of Women Voters.

<https://www.lwv.org/voting-rights/money-politics>

Citizens United Opinion [Be sure to check out the dissenting opinion, too. Starts on page 88.]

<https://www.citizen.org/wp-content/uploads/citizens-united-v-fec.pdf>

Secret Spending in the States. Brennan Center. 2016. Shows the importance of state/local campaign finance laws!

https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/analysis/Secret_Spending_in_the_States.pdf

A 28th Amendment to Restore the American Promise [video] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6igolnTvqA>

Attempt to get a Constitutional Amendment to override Citizens United.

Questions about 527 and 501(c) 4 orgs.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/faq.php>

Chart of Disclosure Rules from the Campaign Legal Center [federal]

http://www.campaignlegalcenter.org/sites/default/files/CLC_501c_disclosure_chart.pdf

Public Financing of Presidential Elections brochure

<http://www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/pubfund.shtml>

Public Campaign Financing: Why It Matters. Brennan Center.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/reform-money-politics/public-campaign-financing>

Here's a **research guide** from Harvard University on **Campaigns and Elections**.

https://guides.library.harvard.edu/hks/campaigns_elections

Portland Open and Accountable Elections. Portland's program to help support candidates for Mayor and Council.

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/oea/article/736089>

Multnomah Votes! Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNPj72cdX9g> Explains campaign finance rules for Multnomah County, Oregon.

Campaign Finance Tracking

Oregon Campaign Finance Information - ORESTAR System Public Search

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/gotoPublicTransactionSearch.do>

Washington State Campaign Finance Information. Public Disclosure Commission - Follow the Money.

<https://www.pdc.wa.gov/>

Connecticut Campaign Reporting Information System

<https://seec.ct.gov/portal/ecris/eCrisSearch>

Center for Responsive Politics – Open Secrets All things federal \$ in politics including “dark money” groups.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/> Info on non-profits acting in the political realm

Money Line. Another approach to tracking campaign money. Federal level. <http://pml.cq.com/>

Misc

Lessons for Our Elections from the January 6 Hearings. Miller et al. Brennan Center for Justice. Dec 16, 2022

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/lessons-our-elections-january-6-hearings>

Washington Post: Trump campaign commissioned research that failed to prove 2020 election fraud claims

By Kaanita Iyer, Jamie Gangel and Zachary Cohen, CNN. February 11, 2023

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/02/11/politics/trump-2020-election-fraud-researchers-wapo/index.html>

Elections, Speech, and Political Disinformation. Discussion. Video. National Constitution Center. 3/10/2022.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jpm0LvnaU>

A Democracy Crisis in the Making: How State Legislatures are Politicizing, Criminalizing, and Interfering with Election Administration. United States Democracy Center, Protect Democracy and Law Forward. 6/10/2021.

<https://statesuniteddemocracy.org/resources/democracy-crisis-in-the-making-how-state-legislatures-are-politicizing-criminalizing-and-interfering-with-elections/>