Bans on Guns in Polling Places

No updates required since March 5, 2024

Background
The 2020 election cycle saw an alarming increase in reports of intimidation against voters and election officials. Currently, no federal law prohibits the possession of firearms in polling places, and therefore this policy choice is left to the states. At present, the majority of states have no clear prohibition on bringing guns into polling places.

Scoring
- State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places, 1/2 point
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places, 0 points

Summary Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places</td>
<td>38 states</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List
- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State has clear prohibition on guns in polling places</th>
<th>12 states &amp; D.C.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona, California, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Washington</td>
<td>Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Alaska (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Arizona (1/2)
- State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (ARS § 13-3102(A)(11)).

Arkansas (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

California (1/2)
- State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (CA Election Code § 18544(a)).

Colorado (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Connecticut (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Delaware (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

D.C. (1/2)
- Has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (DC ST § 7-2509.07(a)(5)).

Florida (1/2)
- State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (FRS § 790.06(12)(a)(6)).

Georgia (1/2)
- State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-127(b)(7)).

Hawaii (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Idaho (0)
- State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

www.mapresearch.org
Illinois (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Indiana (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Iowa (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Kansas (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Kentucky (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Louisiana (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (LRS 18: § 461.7(C)(3)).
Maine (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Maryland (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Massachusetts (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Michigan (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Minnesota (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Mississippi (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (MCA § 45-9-101(13)).
Missouri (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (MRS § 571.107.1(2)).
Montana (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Nebraska (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Nevada (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
New Hampshire (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
New Jersey (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
New Mexico (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (NM SB 5 (2024)).
New York (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places
North Carolina (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
North Dakota (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Ohio (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (ORC § 3505.21(B)).
Oklahoma (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Oregon (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places
Pennsylvania (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.
Rhode Island (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

South Carolina (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (SC ST § 23-31-215(M)(3)).

South Dakota (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Tennessee (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Texas (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition against guns in polling places (Texas Penal Code § 46.03(a)(2)).

Utah (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Vermont (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Virginia (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Washington (1/2)
  • State has a clear prohibition on guns in polling places (WA HB 1630 (2022)).

West Virginia (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Wisconsin (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.

Wyoming (0)
  • State has no clear prohibition on guns in polling places.