

Will my vote count?

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The 2026 midterm elections, now less than two months away, will take place under the shadow of an unprecedented attack on the right to vote unleashed by the Trump administration. The president has issued a number of executive orders undermining voting by mail and calling for stricter ID requirements, and he has not ruled out sending federal agents such as ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) personnel or even the military to the polls.

Early this summer, American Oversight, a nonpartisan watchdog organization that uses accesses to public records to identify emerging threats to democracy, released [How Voter Suppression Tactics Prevent Fair Elections](#), a document that outlines the broad range of ways in which an election can be subverted. These include limiting the number of polling sites and hours for voting, purging voter rolls, burdensome ID requirements, intimidating voters at the polls and severely limiting mail-in voting which is critical for persons with disabilities, seniors, rural voters and workers whose schedules provide for little or no flexibility.

One of the major reasons that the Trump administration has put forward [to justify its efforts to undermine voting](#) is the claim that undocumented immigrants have been voting in large numbers. These claims are patently false. For example, a 2024 audit of Michigan's registered voters uncovered just sixteen cases of noncitizens voting. These voters represented 0.00028% of votes cast by Michiganders in the 2024 general election.

An October 2024 audit of Iowa voters identified 2,176 potential noncitizens on the voter rolls, a number that represented only 0.01% of registered Iowa voters. However, in March 2025 Iowa's Secretary of State revised this figure downward to just 277 possible noncitizens, about one eighth of the original number.

Nevertheless, [there are measures voters can take](#) to make sure their vote is counted:

- Research your polling location, what forms of ID you will need to vote, and information about early voting and voting by mail.
- If you have the option of mail voting, pay attention to deadlines. The Postal Service recommends mailing your completed ballot at least 1 week before the deadline.
- Even if you're registered to vote, check your status online or with your local election office. This is especially important if you've recently moved or changed your name.