

DON'T BE PLAYED

**A Claim Your
Voter Power
FACT Brief**

**V
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T
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Summer 2026

**ELECTION
FRAUD
&
SECURITY**

Know the Facts

Reality Check

Election Fraud & Security

What is the ISSUE?

Americans disagree about how much confidence to place in election administration. Even so, the strongest available evidence shows that U.S. elections are generally secure, highly decentralized, and backed by multiple layers of verification, canvassing, and post-election review.

What does the evidence show?

- Documented voter fraud does occur, but it is rare compared with the hundreds of millions of ballots cast over time. [1][2]
- Brookings' review of Heritage Foundation prosecuted fraud incidents found 36 Arizona cases out of 42,626,379 ballots...” or about 0.0000845% — roughly 1 case per 1.2 million ballots. [1]
- The Brennan Center has cited incident-rate estimates for voter fraud between 0.0003% and 0.0025%. [2]
- An Associated Press review found fewer than 475 potential fraud cases in six disputed 2020 battleground states out of more than 25 million ballots cast. [3]
- MIT and Stanford's Healthy Elections Project reported that the recounts, audits, lawsuits, and contests they reviewed in battleground states did not change the 2020 presidential result. [4]
- The American Immigration Council found fewer than 70 proven noncitizen voting cases in Heritage's database over roughly 40 years, describing such cases as extraordinarily rare. [5]
- Federal law prohibits noncitizens from voting in federal elections. [6]
- U.S. elections rely on decentralized local administration, bipartisan oversight, canvasses, paper records in most jurisdictions, and post-election audits to strengthen accuracy and public confidence. [2][4][7][8]

One place to keep checking the facts as they evolve

- [MIT Election Data and Science Lab](#) — a nonpartisan research lab partly funded by the Heritage Foundation, that collects and shares data, displays it in interactive maps. Focus: how U.S. elections are run state by state, so readers can review evidence about election performance and administration over time. [9][10][11]

Prepared for educational purposes from publicly available sources believed reliable at the time of publication. Readers are encouraged to consult the original sources.

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Sources and Links

- [1] Elaine Kamarck, Brookings, [How widespread is election fraud in the United States? Not very](#) (October 27, 2024).
- [2] Brennan Center for Justice, [Debunking the Voter Fraud Myth](#) (January 30, 2017); see also [The Myth of Voter Fraud](#) (March 28, 2007).
- [3] Associated Press, [AP review finds far too little vote fraud to tip 2020 election to Trump](#) (December 14, 2021).
- [4] MIT Election Data and Science Lab and Stanford Healthy Elections Project, [Vote Recounts and Election Contests in Battleground States](#) (March 9, 2021). Focus 2020.
- [5] American Immigration Council, [Unpacking Myths About Noncitizen Voting — How Heritage Foundation Data Are Misused](#) (July 31, 2024)
- [6] U.S. Code, Title 18, §611, Voting by Aliens. Federal law prohibiting noncitizens from voting in federal elections. Text available at [Cornell Legal Information Institute](#)
- [7] Verified Voting, [Audit Law Database](#) and [Verified Voting homepage](#).
- [8] Bipartisan Policy Center, [Bipartisan Principles for Election Audits](#), Nov. 8, 2021.
- [9] MIT Election Data and Science Lab, [Welcome to the Lab](#).
- [10] MIT Election Data and Science Lab launch announcement, [Election Data and Science Lab Launches at MIT](#) (January 9, 2017).
- [11] MIT Election Data and Science Lab, [Elections Performance Index](#).

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### Our Process

- Discover issues voters care about
- Do expert research, interacting with three AIs. Continually cross-check for objectivity and quality
  - Create a 2-page Fact Brief; checking again
  - All principal factual claims in this version have been matched to a directly relevant source.

**Develop a curious mind. Decide based on facts.**

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