

## **US Election System Worst in the World?**

US election integrity procedures fail when compared to countries in South America, Africa, Europe, and Asia. According to a 37-nation study released today by Illinois-based The Meyers Report (<a href="https://meyersreport.news/electionrules/">https://meyersreport.news/electionrules/</a>), "The US has the worst voting system of the countries studied," said Gary Meyers, project director and one of the authors of the report. "In terms of written

procedures, the US comes significantly behind Kenya,

Mexico, Chile, Ghana, Italy and Rwanda."

"The US is supposed to be the shining beacon on the hill for democracy, yet we are the only country surveyed that uses the honor system in any election process of the countries surveyed," said Jay Delancy, founder of Voter Integrity Project-NC and a co-author of the study.

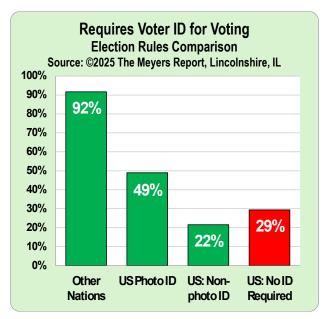
"The key issues of weakness are mail-in ballots and touch screen voting machines which are not secure and do not have hard paper ballots for recounts," said Meyers founder of the 43-year-old group, a national and international collection of subject matter experts.

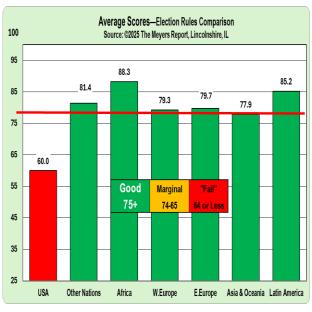
The US was compared to 36 other nations on 17 voting system risk areas. Countries were graded on a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the best.

The average US score is 60 for all 50 states (plus Washington D.C.), which puts the US behind the average of every region studied.

"The top scoring US states are Mississippi (83), Arkansas (78), Kentucky (78), Indiana (76), and Connecticut (73)," said Meyers. "The bottom states are Nevada (30), D.C. (36), Vermont (37), California (38), and Illinois (39) which all are failing grades."

The study allows the comparison of states with each other







and with other nations in general for specific voting rules in 17 areas.

"No other nation studied had wide-spread mail-in ballots. Those few that allow any mail-ins had them tightly restricted to the disabled and people out of the country," said North Carolina-based Delancy. "The only exception was the UK, which allows mail-ins, but only upon request."

"The US is the only country that allows wide-spread unrestricted mail-in ballots for in-country voters," said Delancy. "As a practical matter, a wide-spread mail-in ballot program has no real chain of custody. This and the potential for fraud is why country after country has eliminated mail-in ballots, except the US."

"No other country allows ballot harvesting, which can only be accomplished with mail-in ballots," said Meyers. "Yet, 55% of US states allow ballot harvesting."

"Ballot harvesting reinstitutes practices eliminated by the 1965 Voting Rights Act," said Delancy. "Now the voter intimidation occurs on the front porch or in nursing homes, instead at the polling station where it can be more easily detected and stopped."

Elections machines are another issue. "No computer is completely secure. Touch screen computers have no

verified ballot that can go directly from the voter for recounts or audits, if necessary. The touch screen receipts given to voters are not ballots," said Meyers. "Only 9% of the other countries have touch screen electronic voting, while in the US 13 states have it in at least part of their elections."

For more information and copies of the study and its methodology go to <a href="https://meyersreport.news/electionrules/">https://meyersreport.news/electionrules/</a> Or call Gary Meyers at (224) 715-5555 or Jay Delancy at (919) 429-9039.

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