

ELECTION FACTS

Jeffco Voters:

- Approximately 430,000 active registered voters who will be sent a ballot
- Approximately 470,000 total registered voters
- Active Registered Voter turnout in most recent similar election (2021): 43.29%

Ballot Content:

- 9 Municipalities and school boards with candidate contests (all nonpartisan)
- 2 statewide ballot measures
- 17 local jurisdictions coordinating with Jeffco
 - 8 Municipalities
 - 1 School District
 - 1 Park & Rec District
 - 2 Water & Sanitation District
 - 4 Fire Protection Districts
 - 1 Metro District
- 11 jurisdictions are asking a total of 16 TABOR questions
 - 39,785 households were mailed a TABOR booklet (separate from the Blue Book)

Countywide Voting Access:

- 37 Ballot drop boxes
- 6 in-person voting centers (5 open 10/30, 1 opens 11/6)
- Spanish sample ballots on website and at in-person voting centers
- ADA accessible ballot marking devices at all in-person voting centers
- 380 bipartisan election judges; 95 working at voting centers

Important Election Dates:

- September 19 – National Voter Registration Day
- September 23 – Ballots mailed to military and overseas voters
- October 2-6 – National Voter Education Week
- October 16 – Ballots mailed locally, drop boxes open
- October 26 – National Vote Early Day
 - Metro area county clerk's offices are planning a joint press conference for 11AM
- October 26-November 1 – I Voted Sticker Promotion
 - Jeffco businesses are invited to offer discounts to customers wearing their I Voted sticker to celebrate civic pride
- October 30 – In-person voting centers open
- November 7 – Election Day
- November 15 – Deadline for curing ballots and for military/overseas votes to be counted
- November 29 – Election results certified

KEY MESSAGES

1. **VOTE EARLY:** Returning your ballot early avoids having an accident or emergency prevent you from voting, gives you more time to correct any issues if your ballot isn't accepted, and also ensures faster, more complete results on Election Night.
2. **VOTE LOCAL:** The ballot questions and candidates that will be decided in this year's election will impact your life, your family, and your community in direct ways.
3. **VOTE JEFFCO:** Your vote is at its most powerful in a local election. Your neighbors are counting on you to weigh in!

GENERAL SOCIAL CONTENT

1. If you haven't returned your ballot yet, today is a great day to do so. Early voting ensures there's plenty of time to cure your ballot if there are any issues and will help election officials deliver results faster on election night.
2. "[QUOTE FROM YOUR OFFICIAL/OFFICE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING EARLY AND/OR VOTING LOCAL]," says [OFFICIAL'S NAME]. "I encourage everyone to complete their ballots and get them in the mail or your nearest drop box as soon as possible."
3. Show your civic pride, return your ballot today! Don't forget, if you're going to mail it back, you'll need one Forever stamp and should mail it by October 30.
4. Local elections have big impacts. Want a say in your community's leadership, spending, and priorities? Cast your vote in this November's election.
5. Your vote is at its most powerful in local elections! Now is your best chance to have your voice heard! Return your ballot as soon as possible.

Hashtags:

#VoteJeffco #VoteLocal #VoteEarly #Election2023 #Jeffco

ELECTIONS EDUCATION CONTENT

1. **What is a "coordinated" election?**

A coordinated election, like this November's, is one that the County Clerk conducts on behalf of two or more cities, school districts, special districts, or other jurisdictions. These elections are when we choose city council members, school board directors, and other local officials, as well as vote on issues affecting our immediate community. Odd-year elections are generally coordinated elections.

2. **Why are some ballot questions named with letters, while others are numbered?**
Ballot questions that come from the state legislature or other political body are listed by a letter. Ballot questions that come from petitions and voters themselves are listed by a number. For example, Proposition A would be referred to the ballot by your elected officials, whereas Proposition 100 would be placed on the ballot by a citizen group. This year, both statewide questions were referred by the state legislature.
3. **What is the difference between a Proposition and an Amendment?**
An amendment is a change to the state constitution, whereas a proposition is a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes. Constitutions are a framework of government and its powers that set the basic rules of a legal system, whereas statutes are the laws, enacted by a legislative body, that address specific issues and provide detailed rules and regulations.
4. **What does my "YES" or "NO" vote mean on a ballot issue?**
Regardless of the question, a YES/FOR vote means you are in favor of changing the current law or situation from what it is now. A NO/AGAINST vote means you are opposed to a change and want to keep the law or situation the same.
5. **What does it mean to "cure" a ballot?**
Some ballots are returned without signatures, with signatures that don't match their voter file, or from new voters who haven't been verified yet. They will be rejected before they are counted, and the elections team will reach out so voters can "cure" their ballots. Curing is the process of verifying your eligibility to vote when your ballot has originally been rejected.
6. **How many people vote by mail vs in-person?**
95-98% of Jeffco ballots are returned by mail or drop box. The remaining 2-5% are ballots voted at in-person vote centers. Colorado is primarily a vote by mail state, but you can always vote in-person if you prefer!
7. **Local ballots will mail out on October 16**
All registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail. If you do not receive yours, contact Jeffco Elections. You can find your registration and track your ballot at GoVoteColorado.gov.
8. **Mail your ballot back by October 30**
All ballots must be received by 7:00PM on Election Day, November 7. **Postmarks DO NOT count.** Make sure you affix one Forever stamp to your ballot envelope before mailing. If you are returning your ballot by mail, do so by October 30. After that, drop it at a drop box or voting center. If you accidentally mail your ballot after October 30, visit a voting center to vote in-person and have your mail ballot voided.

9. Jeffco has 37 ballot drop boxes

The easiest way to return your ballot is at one of Jeffco's 37 drop boxes. They're open 24/7 starting October 16. Ballots have to be dropped off by 7PM on November 7 to be counted.

10. Jeffco has 6 in-person vote centers

While most people vote by mail in Colorado, you can still vote in-person at any vote center. They're open starting October 30, 8AM-5PM on weekdays, 9AM-1PM on Saturday, and 7AM-7PM on Election Day. Identification IS required in order to vote in person.

11. ADA-accessible voting devices and language assistance is available at all vote centers

Accessible voting devices for use with adaptive equipment, as well as English/Spanish voting devices, are available at every vote center. All vote centers are ADA-accessible.

ELECTION SECURITY CONTENT

1. Elections are conducted by bipartisan teams of background-checked, trained officials and judges

Republicans, Democrats, and Unaffiliated voters team up to test equipment, transport and count ballots, verify signatures, and audit and certify each election. Every important election process is overseen by bipartisan teams to ensure elections are fair.

2. All votes are cast on paper ballots

Paper ballots create a physical paper trail that help keep elections secure. Even legal ballots that are not submitted on paper (such as a ballot emailed by a military voter, or a ballot submitted through an ADA-accessible voting device) are converted into paper ballots so there is exactly one paper record for every vote cast.

3. All election records, from ballots to video surveillance are kept for 25 months

If there's ever a question about an election, the records are there for reexamination, and Jeffco conducts audits and recounts to ensure results are always accurate. Those records are housed for over two years after each election.

4. Ballot drop boxes, voting centers, and election headquarters are all under video surveillance

Every room that houses election equipment, the ballot processing center, every ballot drop box, and any other space where ballots might be found have cameras watching to make sure there are no attempts to tamper with anything. Those video records are kept for 25 months after each election.

5. Ballots are all protected with clearly documented chains of custody

From the moment ballot envelopes are removed from a drop box by a bipartisan team, they are logged and tracked in sealed containers that ensure they cannot be lost, stolen, or tampered with. Through every step of the transport, sorting, signature verification, and counting process, ballots are tracked and logged, with all hand offs from one bipartisan team to the next documented.

6. Every single voter signature is verified before their ballot is counted

Ballot envelopes have to be signed, and each of those signatures is verified using high-tech software and trained, bipartisan teams. Any signatures that don't match will be rejected and voters will be contacted to correct (or "cure") their ballots so they can be counted. This process also ensures a voter cannot vote more than once in each election, or in more than one state.

7. Voting equipment is all stored securely and inspected and certified by bipartisan teams

Our voting machines are never connected to the internet. They're kept in locked rooms with extremely limited access and 24/7 surveillance. Before every election the equipment is tested with representatives of each major party to ensure they are functioning accurately.

8. Your vote is anonymous, but your envelope is not, which keeps your vote secure and confidential

Your ballot envelope that arrives in the mail has a bar code assigned to you to track its location and verify your signature. However, there is no identifying information on any ballots, ensuring how you vote is never tracked.

9. Voter lists are updated regularly

The list of registered voters in Colorado is updated regularly with information from other state and federal agencies regarding address changes, deaths, felony incarcerations, and other life events that may impact voter registrations.

10. Attempted fraud, which is very rare, is investigated and prosecuted

Fraud is extremely rare and easily identified, and then prosecuted. Colorado's voting processes are designed to prevent fraud and ensure votes are accurately counted. All ballots flagged for potential fraud, including those with mismatched or missing signatures, are referred to the District Attorney's office for investigation. State records show fewer than .01% of ballots require investigation.

JEFFCO CLERK SOCIAL ACCOUNTS

- **Facebook:** /JeffcoClerk
- **Instagram:** @JeffcoClerk
- **Twitter/X:** @JeffcoClerk

TOUR INFORMATION

- **Social post:** Always wanted to learn more about the election process? Jeffco's election center is now open for public tours! Sign up today to get a behind-the-scenes look at how your ballot is processed and your vote is counted. <https://www.jeffco.us/FormCenter/Clerk-Recorder-9/Elections-Center-Tour-Signup-381>
- **Details:** Tours are available at set times each week between now and the election. They are free and open to the public. All election center tours begin in the lobby of the Laramie Building on the Jefferson County campus, at 3500 Illinois Street, Golden, CO 80401. Tours last approximately 40 minutes but can run longer if there are a lot of questions. Reservations are required. For the security of our staff and election judges, we require attendees to sign in; we do not allow photography, videos, or recording of any kind; and we limit the size of tour groups. Some spaces may not be open or may not be in-use during a tour depending on the day and time.

PHOTOS & GRAPHICS



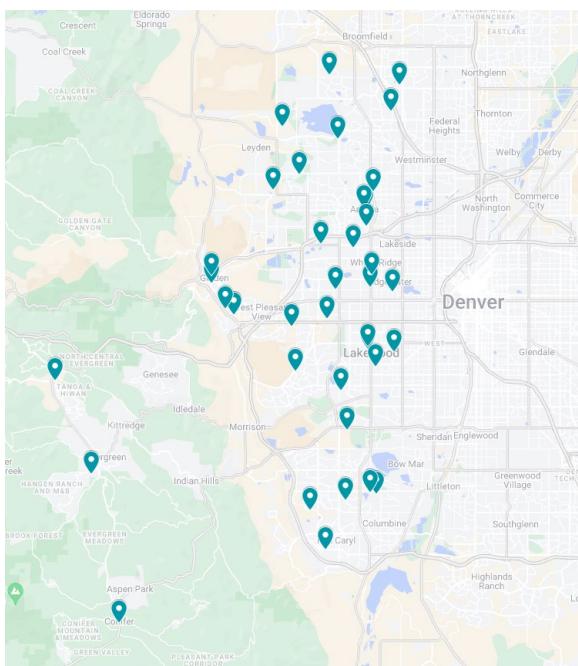
JEFFERSON COUNTY COLORADO

Clerk and Recorder
Elections

2023 Coordinated Election Communication Toolkit



Drop box locations



Vote center locations

