

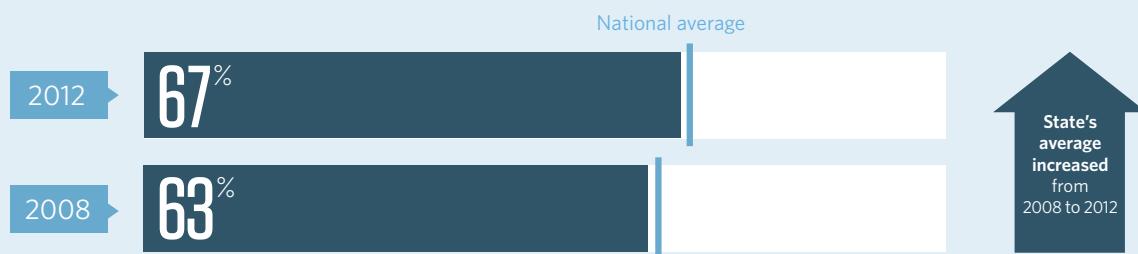


# Tennessee

## Elections Performance Index

This profile reports important trends for Tennessee that emerged from the 2012 update to The Pew Charitable Trusts' Elections Performance Index, or EPI. The EPI analyzes 17 key indicators of election administration and scores each state's performance by indicator and overall. For more information and to view the full interactive index, visit [www.pewstates.org/epi](http://www.pewstates.org/epi).

### Overall EPI Average\*



Key indicators	2008	2012
Data completeness	88.4%	99.0%
Mail ballots rejected out of all ballots cast	0.10%	0.02%
Postelection audit required	No	Yes
Registration or absentee ballot problems	10.3%	6.8%
Voting information lookup tools	2 of 2	2 of 5

\*The overall EPI average is a simple average of all 17 indicators.

### Beyond the numbers

Tennessee's overall EPI average improved by about 4 percentage points from 2008 to 2012, just below the average change across all states. The improvement was driven primarily by the addition of a postelection audit requirement, better data completeness, and a drop in the mail ballot rejection rate, which was the second-lowest in the country, behind neighboring Georgia.

But low turnout, along with offering just two of five voting information lookup tools, prevented Tennessee from breaking into the top half of performers.

## **Room for improvement**

Tennessee can improve its election performance in several ways. For instance, the state could make all five voting information lookup tools available on its elections website for the 2014 election. This would improve voters' experience by providing them with the information they need about an election where they are most likely to look for it—online.

Tennessee could further improve its overall performance by adding online voter registration. Not only would this raise the state's score for the online registration indicator, but it could also have a positive impact on other metrics, including the voter registration rate, wait time, nonvoting due to registration and absentee ballot problems, and provisional ballots cast.

The [Presidential Commission on Election Administration](#) also recommended online voter registration.

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**For further information, please visit:**  
[pewstates.org/epi](http://pewstates.org/epi)

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