



# ELECTION SECURITY IN IOWA

Office of the Iowa Secretary of State

Voter confidence is at historically low levels across the country and here in Iowa. Important elections are taking place in our state this year, and some voters might have questions about what the State of Iowa is doing to ensure Iowans their vote counts.

**Here are some important points you should consider relaying to them:**

- **The State of Iowa has numerous protections in place to help ensure the integrity of the vote.** This includes conducting all elections on paper ballots, requiring Voter ID at the polls and on absentee ballot request forms, and mandating post-election audits following each election.
- **Iowans vote on paper ballots.** You can't hack a paper ballot.
- **Iowa has pre-election and post-election audits.** Every ballot tabulator undergoes a Logic & Accuracy test to ensure it is functioning properly and that each candidate and ballot measure receives the accurate number of votes. These tests take place in view of the public ahead of the election, and both political parties are invited to observe.
- **Every vote tabulator in Iowa produces a paper receipt** of the vote totals that can be matched to the paper ballot totals to ensure accuracy.
- **Iowa's vote tabulators are air gapped, which means they're not connected to the internet.** The physical protection of each piece of voting equipment is accounted for in all 99 counties.



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- **Post-election audits take place for a randomly selected precinct in all 99 counties following the election.** A bipartisan team hand-counts the ballots to ensure they match the totals from the voting tabulators. Following the 2020 general election, the hand-count audits matched perfectly, 100% in every county.
- **The Iowa Secretary of State works closely** with the state OCIO, the Iowa National Guard, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, the Iowa Department of Public Safety, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other agencies to protect our election cybersecurity and ensure voters and poll workers are safe in all 99 counties.
- **There is zero evidence of any unauthorized intrusions into Iowa's election systems.**
- **The Iowa Secretary of State works with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and private sector vendors to update and test counties' written incident response plans regularly.** They conduct multiple training sessions and tabletop exercises for our county election officials.
- **The State of Iowa's voter registration system, I-Voters, resides in a secure facility with the same standards of protection the FBI uses for sensitive law enforcement information.** I-Voters has multiple intrusion detection and protection systems in place, as well as other safeguards.
- Election cybersecurity remains a race without a finish line. It's more important than ever that we relay this message to every citizen: **The State of Iowa is dedicated to protecting the integrity and security of your vote.**



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