

Pennsylvania 2021 ballot measures

Elections in Pennsylvania, 2021

- [Election date](#): 11/2/2021
- [Registration deadline\(s\)](#): 10/18/2021
- [Online registration](#): Yes
- [Same-day registration](#): No
- [Start of early voting](#): N/A
- [Absentee/mail voting deadline\(s\)](#): 11/2/2021 (postmarked)
- [Voter ID](#): No ID
- [Poll times](#): 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In 2021, **four statewide ballot measures** appeared on the [ballot](#) for [May 18, 2021](#), in [Pennsylvania](#). **All four were approved.**

HIGHLIGHTS

- **At the primary election on May 18, voters approved two constitutional amendments** on the governor's emergency powers, which had been a point of conflict between the Republican-controlled Legislature and Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf during the coronavirus pandemic.

On the ballot

May 18, 2021:

Type	Name	Subject	Description	Result
LRCA	Question 1	Legislature	Empowers the legislature to extend or terminate a emergency declaration by resolution	
LRCA	Question 2	Executive	Addresses the governor's emergency powers, including requiring legislative approval to continue beyond 21 days	
LRCA	Question 3	Constitutional	Prohibits denial or abridgement of rights on account of an individual's race or ethnicity	
LRSS	Question 4	Budgets	Expands the state's loan program to volunteer fire companies to municipal fire companies and EMS service nonprofits	

Legislature

The [Pennsylvania State Legislature](#) can **refer statewide ballot measures**, in the form of [constitutional amendments](#), **to the ballot in odd-numbered years and even-numbered years**. The Pennsylvania Constitution requires a simple majority vote (50%+1) in each legislative chamber during two successive legislative sessions to refer a constitutional amendment to the ballot. That amounts to a minimum of 102 votes in the [Pennsylvania House of Representatives](#) and 26 votes in the [Pennsylvania State Senate](#), assuming no vacancies. Amendments do not require the governor's signature to be referred to the ballot.

The state legislature can refer a constitutional amendment to the ballot in just one legislative session with a two-thirds vote of each chamber when a major emergency threatens or is about to threaten the state, according to the [Pennsylvania Constitution](#).

Historical facts

See also: [List of Pennsylvania ballot measures](#)

In Pennsylvania, voters last rejected a ballot measure, titled Question 2, in [1993](#). Question 2 was a bond measure that would have authorized \$25 million in bonds to compensate service members involved in the Persian Gulf Conflict. **The last time that a constitutional amendment was rejected in 1989.** The defeated constitutional amendment related to real estate tax rates and personal income tax rates.

Between 1995 and 2019, the following occurred:

- **A total of 18 measures** appeared on statewide ballots.
- An average of one measure appeared on odd-year ballots.
- The number of measures appearing on statewide ballots ranged from zero to three.
- **Voters approved 100 percent (18 of 18) of statewide ballot measures.**

Source: [https://ballotpedia.org/Pennsylvania 2021 ballot measures](https://ballotpedia.org/Pennsylvania_2021_ballot_measures)