

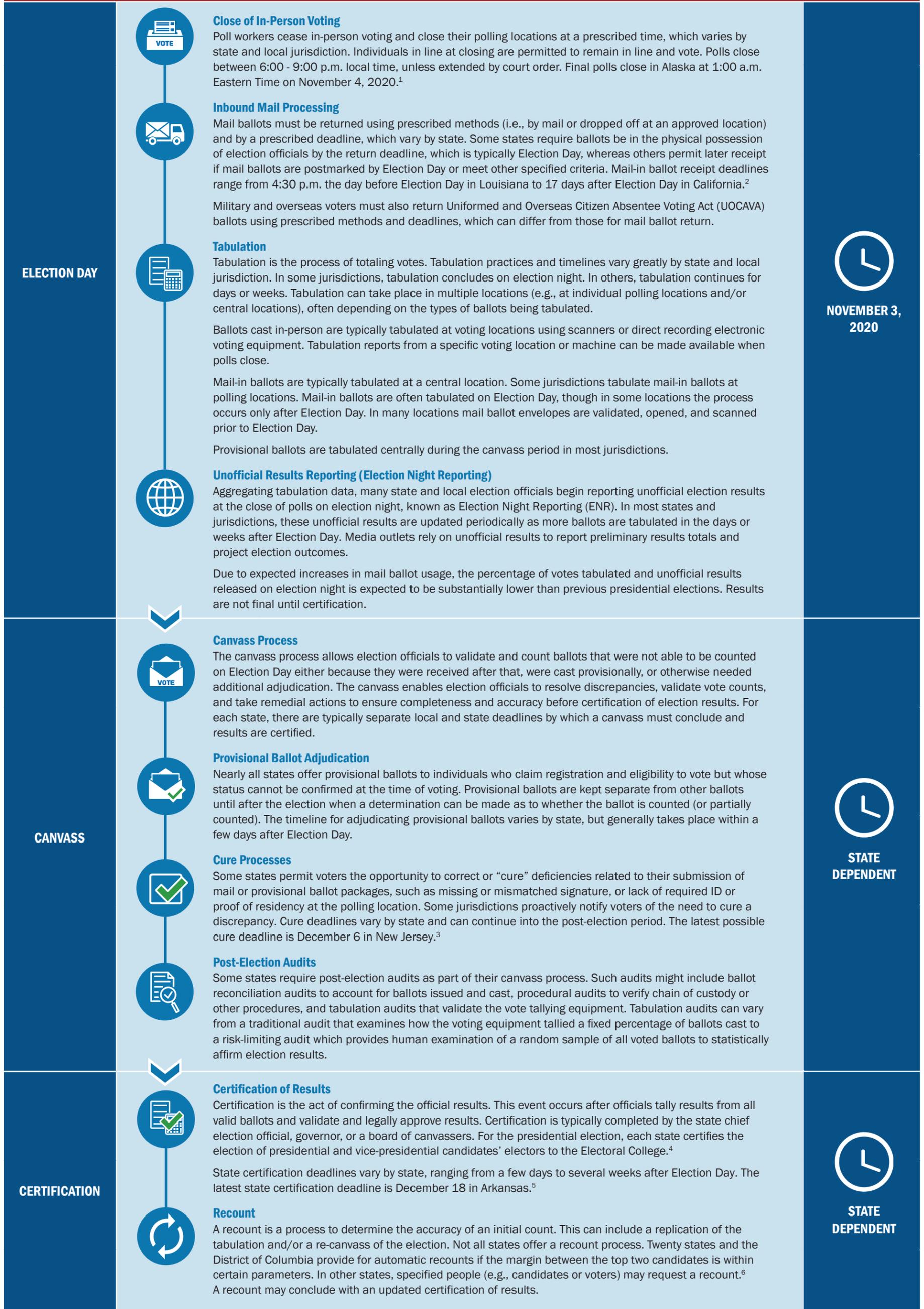


# POST ELECTION PROCESS MAPPING



This infographic provides a timeline of post-election processes for the 2020 presidential election from the close of polls on **Election Day, November 3, 2020, to Inauguration Day on January 20, 2021.**

## ELECTION TIMEFRAME





# POST ELECTION PROCESS MAPPING



## APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT

ELECTORAL COLLEGE	 <p><b>Ascertainment of Electors</b> Per Federal law, each state's chief executive creates and submits a Certificate of Ascertainment listing the persons appointed as presidential and vice-presidential electors to the Archivist of the United States (and others). This certificate must be submitted "as soon as practicable" after the "final ascertainment" of the appointment of the electors, or "as soon as practicable" after the "final determination of any controversy or contest" concerning such election under its statutory procedure for election contests.</p>	 <b>STATE DEPENDENT</b>
	 <p><b>Determination of Controversy</b> Per Federal law, each state makes its final determination of any controversy or contest concerning the appointment of its electors "at least six days before the time fixed for the meeting of the electors."<sup>7</sup></p>	 <b>DEC. 8, 2020</b>
	 <p><b>Meeting and Vote of the Electoral College</b> Per the Constitution and Federal law, each state's appointed electors are required to meet at a place designated by that state on the "first Monday after the second Wednesday in December next following their appointment" and cast their votes for president and vice president.<sup>8</sup></p>	 <b>DEC. 14, 2020</b>
	 <p><b>Certificate of Vote</b> Per Federal law each state's electors, after voting, create Certificates of Vote, listing the electors' votes for president and vice president, and submit them to the President of the Senate, the Archivist of United States, the state's secretary of state, and the federal judge in the district where the electors have assembled.<sup>9</sup></p> <p>If no Certificates of Vote have been received by the President of the Senate or the Archivist from a state's electors by December 23, 2020, ("the fourth Wednesday in December"), Federal law requires the President of the Senate to request immediate submission of the certificates lodged with the state's secretary of state and federal district judge.<sup>10</sup></p>	 <b>DEC.23, 2020</b>
SWEARING IN OF CONGRESS	 <p><b>Swearing in of Congress</b> Per the Constitution and Federal Law, the new congress is sworn in on January 3. Prior any other business, any Member of the House of Representatives administers the oath of office to the Speaker, after which the Speaker administers the oath of office to all the Members present; and to any Members who afterward appear, prior to Members taking their seats.<sup>11</sup></p>	 <b>JAN. 3, 2021</b>
JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS	 <p><b>Joint Meeting of Congress</b> Per the Constitution and Federal law, the U.S. Congress meets in joint session on "the sixth day of January succeeding every meeting of the electors" to count the electoral votes submitted by each state's electors and declare the winners of the presidential and vice-presidential election.<sup>12</sup> Procedures for how Congress counts votes and addresses objections to state vote counts are detailed in the Constitution and Federal law.</p>	 <b>JAN. 6, 2021</b>
INAUGURATION DAY	 <p><b>Inauguration Day</b> The President and Vice President's terms in office end at noon on January 20, 2021, as required by the Constitution.<sup>13</sup> The new terms of the successor or re-elected president and vice president begin at the same time.</p>	 <b>JAN. 20, 2021</b>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/electiondatesandhours.php>

<sup>2</sup> LSA-R.S. 18-1311. CA Elec Code § 3020

<sup>3</sup> Voters have "48 hours prior to the date for the final certification ... to provide a cure." [https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2020/bills/A4500/4276\\_r2.pdf](https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2020/bills/A4500/4276_r2.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Under Federal law, "electors of President and Vice President shall be appointed, in each State" on Election Day, that is, the "Tuesday next after the first Monday in November" every fourth year. 3 U.S.C. §1

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nass.org/resources/2018-election-information/Canvassing-Timeframes-and-Recount-Thresholds>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/automatic-recount-thresholds.aspx>

<sup>7</sup> 3 U.S.C. §5

<sup>8</sup> 3 U.S.C. §7

<sup>9</sup> 3 U.S.C. §11

<sup>10</sup> 3 U.S.C. §12-13

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Constitution, amend. 20, sec 1. 2 U.S.C. §25

<sup>12</sup> 3 USC §15

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Constitution, amend. 20, sec 1