

EXPANDING VOTING RIGHTS

States with Voting Restrictions

Since the 2010 election, many states have instituted new voting restrictions. Although these restrictions were reportedly enacted to protect against voter fraud, voter fraud is actually very uncommon and these restrictions disproportionately disadvantage vulnerable members of society. Under these new voter laws, citizens may be restricted from voting

- ➔ If they do not have a government-issued photo identification card. Eleven percent of Americans do not have a photo ID. Many of them are African American, Latino, young and low-income potential voters.
- ➔ If they do not have access to the documents necessary to take advantage of voter registration opportunities. Some states require proof of citizenship upon registration, while others place restrictions on registration drives or same-day registration.
- ➔ If they cannot vote the day of the election and need to vote early. Weekend and evening hours for early voting have been cut back, despite these times being convenient for many minority voters.
- ➔ If they have had a past conviction. People with past convictions will find it more difficult to restore their voting rights in some states under new restrictions.

Look at the map below to see which states have one or more of these new voting restrictions:

States With New Voting Restrictions Since 2010 Election

