

**SOS**

Michigan Department of State review confirms instances of noncitizen voting are extremely rare

April 03, 2025

15 credible cases identified – 0.00028% of more than 5.7 million total ballots cast in 2024 General Election; 13 referred to Attorney General for potential prosecution

LANSING, Mich. – Today, the Michigan Department of State (MDOS) released the results of a review of Michigan motor vehicle records compared to voting records in the state's Qualified Voter File (QVF), confirming that credible cases of noncitizens casting a ballot in Michigan elections are extremely rare.

The review, which began in December 2024, identified 15 people who appear to be non-U.S. citizens and cast a ballot in the 2024 General Election. Of these 15, 13 were referred to the Michigan Attorney General for potential criminal charges, one apparent noncitizen voter has since died, and one case is still being investigated by the MDOS Office of Investigative Services. These cases, along with the single case identified in October 2024 of a Chinese national

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who allegedly voted illegally, represent 0.00028% of the more than 5.7 million votes cast by Michiganders in the presidential election.

“This is a serious issue, one we must address with a scalpel, not a sledgehammer,” **Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said.** “Only U.S. citizens can legally register and vote in our elections. Our careful review confirms what we already knew – that this illegal activity is very rare. While we take all violations of election law very seriously, this tiny fraction of potential cases in Michigan and at the national level do not justify recent efforts to pass laws we know would block tens of thousands of Michigan citizens from voting in future elections. Instead of those failed policies, we will continue to work with lawmakers on reasonable, data-driven efforts to improve security while ensuring that eligible citizens can always make their voice heard.”

This initial review compared more than 7.9 million active driving records for Michiganders of voting age to over 7.2 million active registered voters in the QVF. MDOS has established an ongoing review process to identify possible cases of noncitizens improperly registered to vote so those records can be cancelled in accordance with the National Voter Registration Act.

In February, [Secretary Benson announced she is working with partners in the Michigan Legislature to introduce the Michigan Election Security Act](#), a plan which would codify this review procedure for all future administrations and provide additional tools to help election officials more effectively identify and remove ineligible voter registrations from the voter file.

For more information on election security, or how voter rolls are maintained in Michigan, visit [Michigan.gov/ElectionSecurity](https://www.michigan.gov/ElectionSecurity).

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Mohawk Secretary of State office will now exclusively be open on Tuesdays

The Secretary of State office at 3616 US-41 in Mohawk will transition from a one-day-a-week service on Thursdays to Tuesdays starting Nov. 10.

Early in-person voting begins statewide Saturday, Oct. 24 for the 2026 General Election

Starting tomorrow, Michigan voters can cast their ballot for the Nov. 3 General Election in person at their early voting site.

More than 780,000 Michigan voters have cast their ballot two weeks before Election Day; active registered voter

turnout reaches 10.7%

Two weeks ahead of Election Day, Nov. 3, more than 780,000 Michigan voters have returned their absentee (mail) ballot or voted at an early voting site, bringing the active registered voter turnout rate to 10.7%.

Oct. 23 meeting of Board of State Canvassers canceled

The Board of State Canvassers regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 23, 2026 is CANCELED.

Public testing of election equipment now underway statewide for Nov. 3 General Election

County, city, and township election commissions in Michigan have started testing their voting machines to ensure they are working properly in advance of the Nov. 3 General Election.

Coldwater Secretary of State office to close for one week for move to new location

The Coldwater Secretary of State office will close for one week later this month as it moves back to its original remodeled location, but residents can go online to mi.gov/sos instead for most of their transactions.

Three weeks before Election Day, 6% of Michigan's active registered voters have already cast their ballot

With three weeks until Michigan's Nov. 3 General Election, more than 440,000 Michigan voters – 6% of all active registered voters – have already returned their completed ballot at a drop box, to their clerk's office, or by mail.

Four weeks before Election Day, mail ballot returns are up 30% over same point in 2022

With four weeks to go before Election Day on Nov. 3, more than 201,000 Michigan voters have already cast their ballot by mail, secure ballot drop box, or at their local clerk's office – a 30% increase over the number of ballots returned at this point before the 2022 General Election.

Board of State Canvassers to meet Sept. 25 in Lansing

The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 25, in room 1100 of the Binsfield Office Building, 201 Townsend St. in Lansing.

Trenton Secretary of State office to close for one week for move to new location

The Trenton Secretary of State office at 3040 Van Horn Rd. will close for one week as it moves to a new location, but most residents can go online to mi.gov/sos instead for their transactions.



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