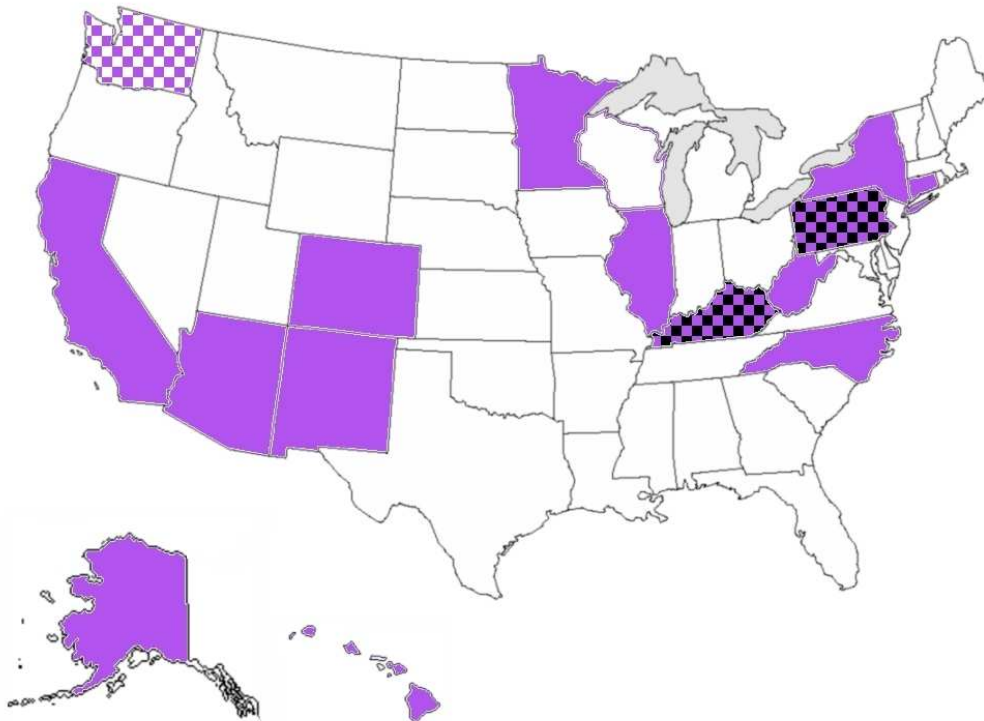


## Securing Our Elections: States Requiring Manual Audits

Today most votes are tallied by electronic voting systems (either DRE<sup>i</sup> voting machines or optical scan voting systems). To verify that the electronic voting systems are accurately recording and counting the votes, election officials must hand count a percentage of the votes, randomly selected, and compare the manual count of the voter-verified paper records<sup>ii</sup> to the machine tallies. Yet only ¼ of our states can perform this simple safeguard effectively.

**Only fifteen states<sup>iii</sup> require such manual audits to check machine tallies for accuracy.** Two of those states (KY, PA) do not require voter-verified paper records, and thus lack legitimate records to audit. One state (WA) does require DREs to produce voter-verified paper records and requires those to be audited – but does not mandate audits of optical scan ballots (which are widely used in the state).



<sup>i</sup> DRE = direct recording electronic

<sup>ii</sup> Voter-verified paper records can be a paper ballot marked by the voter or a paper printout verified as correct by the voter at the time his/her ballot is cast

<sup>iii</sup> AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, HI, IL, KY, MN, NM, NY, NC, PA, WA, WV – for details, see <http://www.verifiedvoting.org/downloads/ManualAudits-06-06.pdf>