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School responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic during the 2021-2022 academic year

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Responses by state

Alabama



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students returned to school for the 2021-2022 school year, states set a variety of policies on education and the COVID-19 pandemic, including how schools should open to [in-person instruction](#) and whether students and staff would be [required to wear masks](#). Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance said "safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall [of] 2021 is a priority," and recommended "universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status."^[1] At the beginning of August 2021, Florida, Iowa, South Carolina, and five other states had [school mask requirement bans](#) in place. Florida Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#) (R) said he supported "the rights of parents to make decisions about their children's education and health care decisions."^[2] When New Jersey Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) announced a

statewide mask requirement in the state, he said "I know that by taking this precaution we can keep our schools open while also keeping our children safe."^[3]

This article covers **state education policies related to the coronavirus during the 2021-2022 school year**, including reopening guidance, state-level school mask mandates, and teacher and staff vaccination requirements. To read about state education policies related to the coronavirus in the 2020-2021 academic year, [click here](#).

In this article you will find:

- [The most recent changes](#)
- [School mask requirements by state](#)
- [Teacher and school employee vaccine requirements](#)
- [Student vaccine requirements](#)
- [State education policies related to the coronavirus in the 2021-2022 school year](#)
- [Conflicts in school board elections about responses to the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- [General resources for citizens](#)

Click your state in the map below to read more about its policies for the 2021-2022 school year.

Choose your state... ▼

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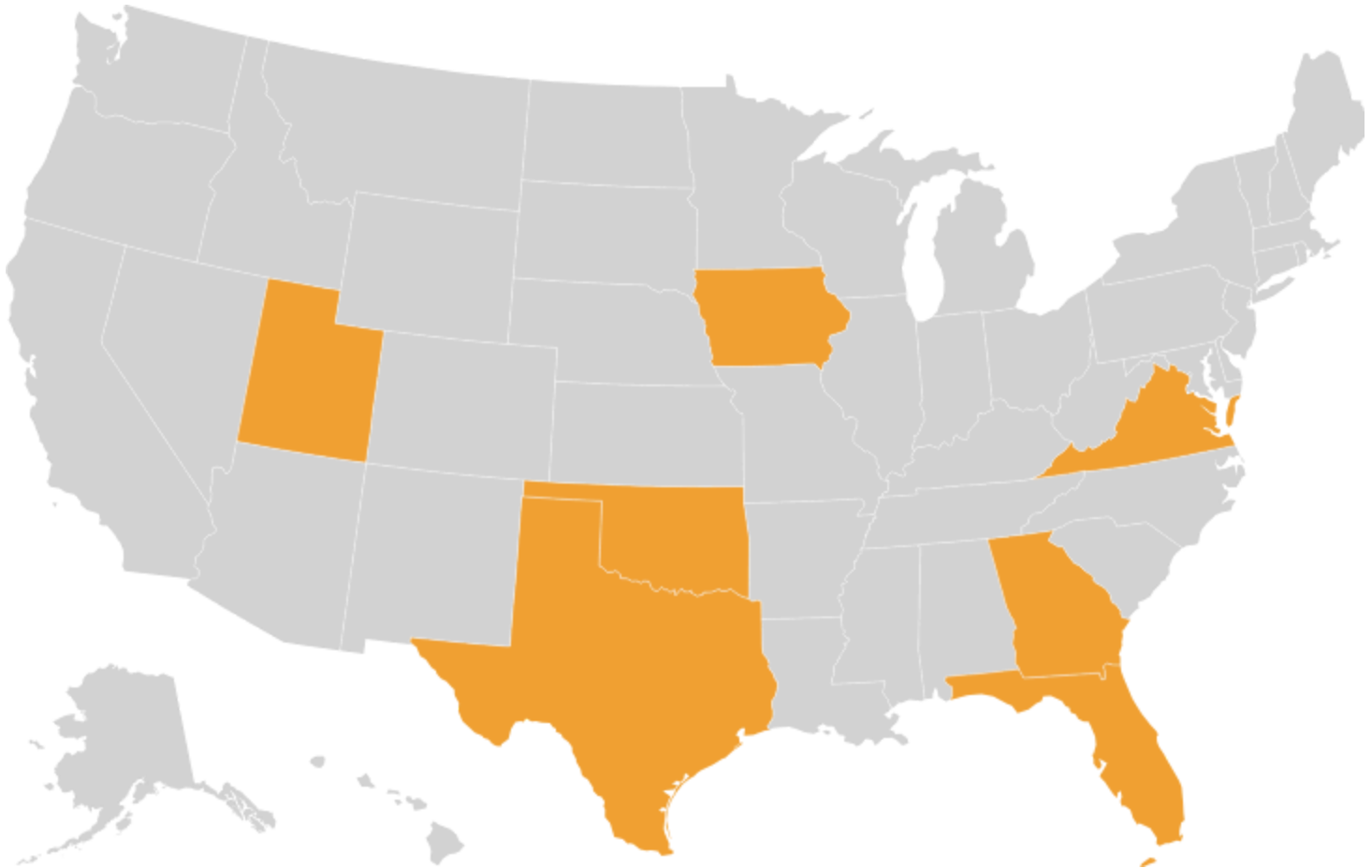
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Mask requirements in schools

As of August 1, 2022, no states had school mask requirements in effect. Forty-two states left mask requirements in schools up to local authorities. Seven states banned school mask requirements.

School face-covering requirements, 2021-2022 school year

Local decision School mask requirements banned



Current as of August 1, 2022

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The table below shows statewide school mask requirement laws and orders in states with school mask requirements or school mask requirement bans in place at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Mask requirement orders			
State	Ban or requirement?	Type of order	Date lifted or altered
Arizona	Ban	Legislative action	N/A
Arkansas	Ban	Legislative action	Sept. 30, 2021 - Suspended by court action

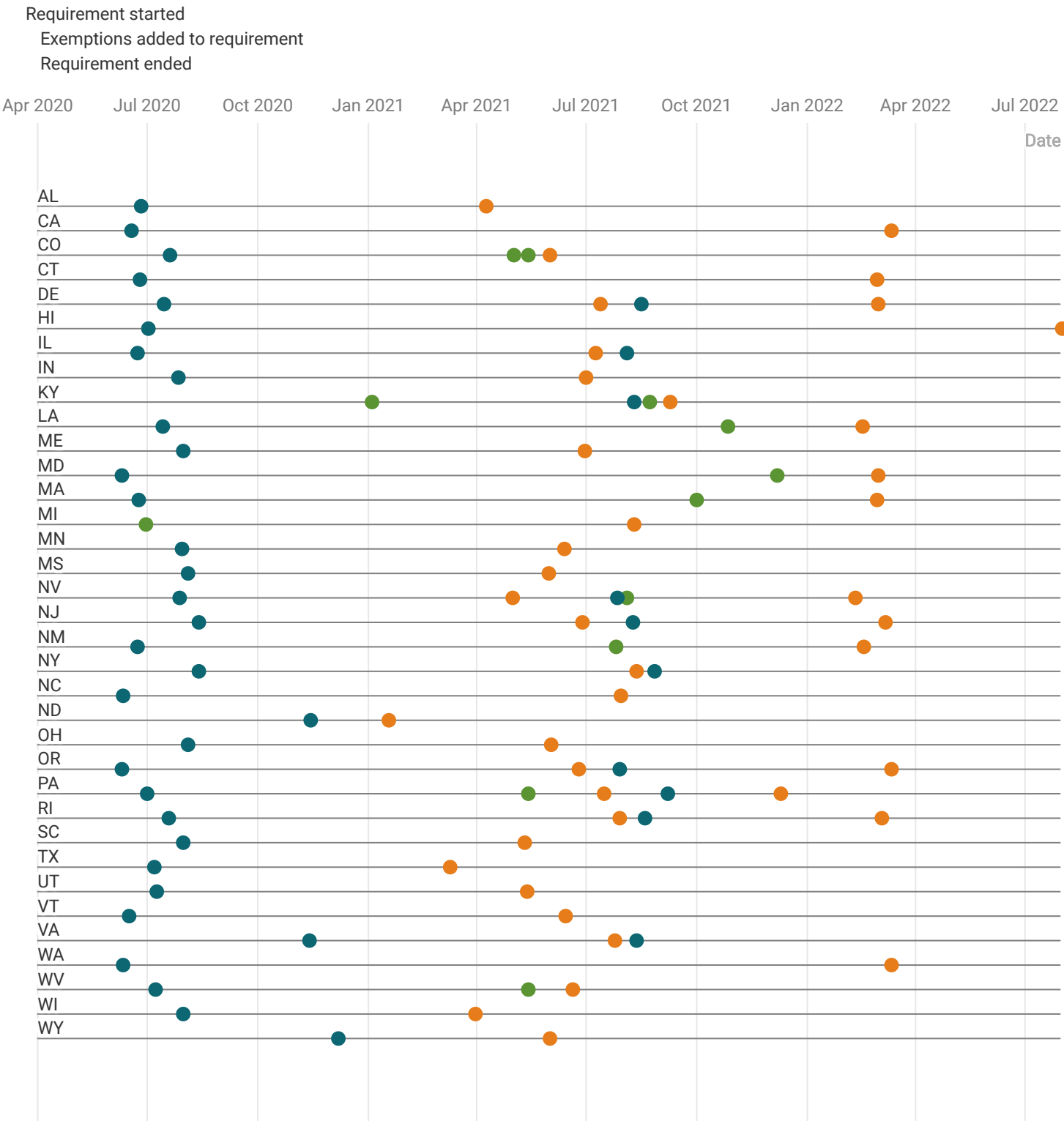
California	Requirement	California Department of Public Health order	March 12, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
Connecticut	Requirement	Executive order	Feb. 28, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
Delaware	Requirement	Executive order	March 1, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
Florida	Ban	Executive order	N/A ^[4]
Georgia	Ban	Legislative action	N/A
Hawaii	Requirement	Executive order	Aug. 1, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
Illinois	Requirement	Illinois Department of Public Health order	Feb. 4, 2022 - Suspended by court action ^[5]
Iowa	Ban	Legislative action	May 16, 2022 - Reinstated by court action ^[6]
Kentucky	Requirement	Kentucky Board of Education order	Sept. 9, 2021 - Suspended by state law
Louisiana	Requirement	Executive order	Feb. 16, 2022 - Lifted by executive action ^[7]
Maryland	Requirement	Maryland State Board of Education order	March 1, 2022 - Lifted by executive action ^[8]
Massachusetts	Requirement	Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education order	Feb. 28, 2022 - Lifted by executive action ^[9]
Nevada	Requirement	Executive order	Feb. 10, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
New Jersey	Requirement	Executive order	March 7, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
New Mexico	Requirement	New Mexico Public Education Department order	Feb. 17, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
New York	Requirement	Executive order	March 3, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
Oklahoma	Ban	Executive order	N/A
Oregon	Requirement	Oregon Health Authority and Department of Education order	March 12, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
Pennsylvania	Requirement	Pennsylvania Department of Health order	Dec. 10, 2021 - Suspended by court action

Rhode Island	Requirement	Executive order	March 4, 2022 - Lifted by executive action
South Carolina	Ban	Legislative action	Sept. 28, 2021 - Temporarily suspended by court action
Tennessee	Ban	Executive order	Dec. 10, 2021 - Suspended by court action
Texas	Ban	Executive order	N/A ^[10]
Utah	Ban	Legislative action	N/A
Virginia	Ban	Legislative action	N/A
Washington	Requirement	Washington State Department of Public Health order	March 12, 2022 - Lifted by executive action

School mask requirements over time

Statewide school mask requirements over time

The chart below shows school mask requirements over time in states that instituted one of those policies. In states that had a statewide mask requirement in place before the 2020-2021 school year, we use the issue date of the 2020-2021 school year guidance as the school mask requirement start date. Note that some school mask requirement end dates may not be exact since they were set to expire on the final day of the school year in individual school districts.

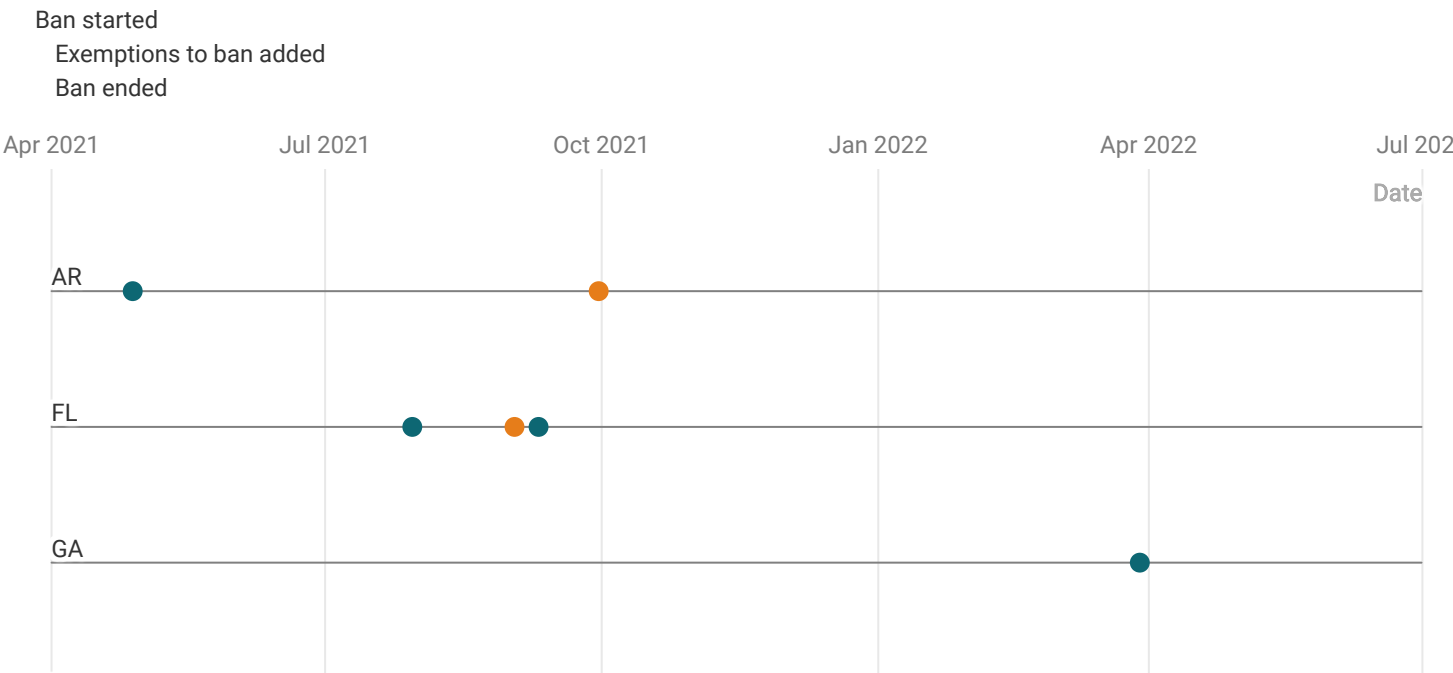


Current as of August 1, 2022

School mask bans over time

Statewide school mask bans over time

The chart below shows school mask bans over time in states where one of those policies took effect.



Teacher and school employee vaccine requirements

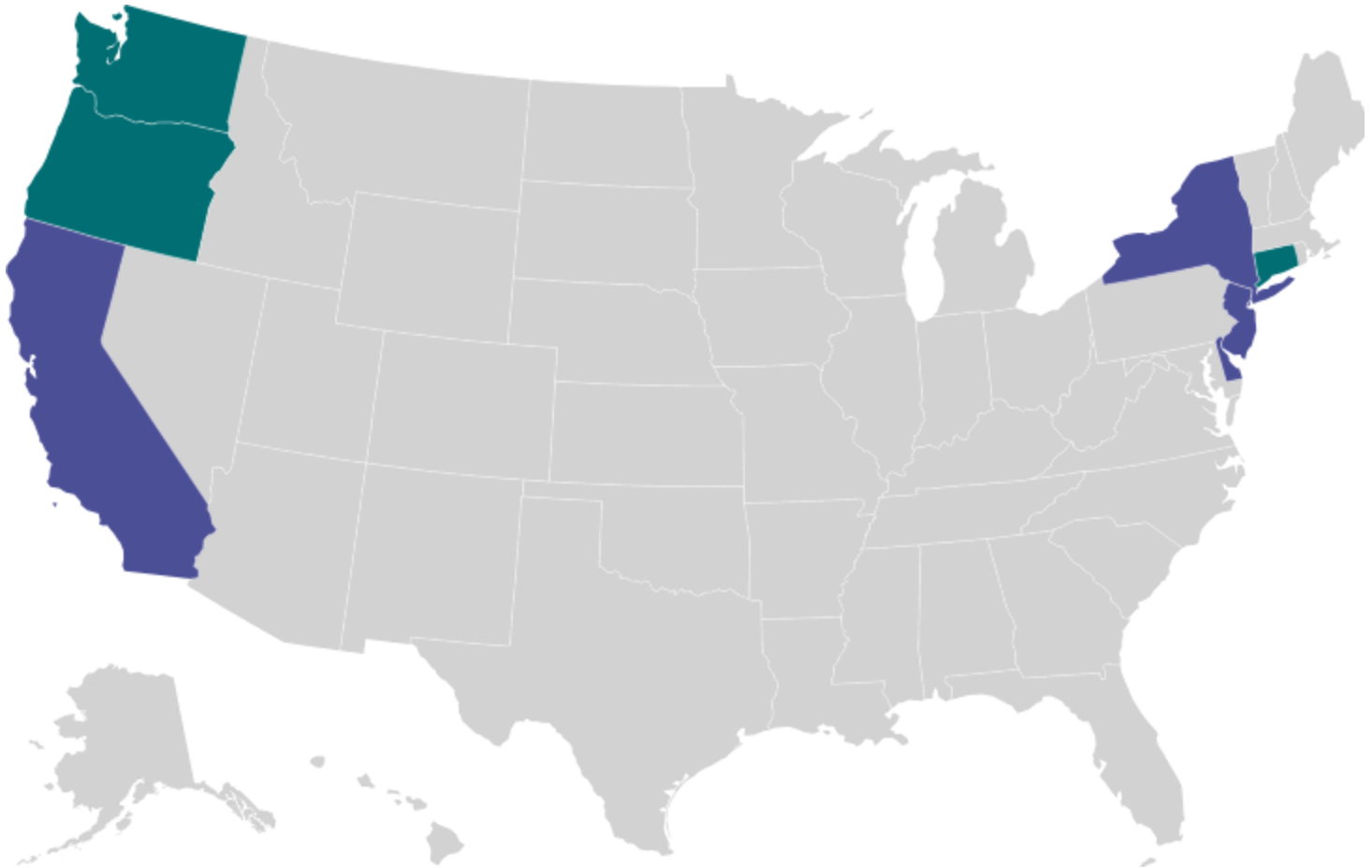
Seven states had issued a statewide requirement for K-12 teachers and staff to be vaccinated against the coronavirus or receive regular coronavirus testing during the 2021-2022 school year.

Teacher and school employee vaccine requirements, 2021-2022 school year

No requirement in place

Vaccination or testing required

Vaccination required



Current as of February 7, 2022

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The table below shows teacher and staff vaccine requirement laws and orders in states that issued such policies during the 2021-2022 school year.

Vaccine requirement orders			
State	Testing instead of vaccination allowed?	Type of order	Date effective
California	Yes	California Department of Public Health order	Oct. 15, 2021
Connecticut	No	Executive order	Sept. 27, 2021
Delaware	Yes	Executive order	Nov. 1, 2021
Illinois	Yes	Executive order	Issued: Sept. 19, 2021 Suspended by court action on Feb. 4, 2022
New Jersey	Yes	Executive order	Oct. 18, 2021
New York	Yes	Executive order	Sept. 19, 2021

[Oregon](#)

No

[Executive order](#)

Oct. 18, 2021

[Washington](#)

No

[Executive order](#)

Oct. 18, 2021

Student vaccine requirements

On Oct. 1, 2021, California was the first state to announce a vaccine requirement for eligible students. Louisiana also announced a vaccine requirement for eligible students on Dec. 14, but then announced the state would be removing the coronavirus vaccine from the list of required immunizations in schools on May 18, 2022.

Student vaccine requirements, 2021-2022 school year

No requirement in place

Vaccine requirement for eligible students

Vaccine requirement rescinded



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State education policies related to the coronavirus in the 2021-2022 school year

The section below provides state timelines of state education policies related to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2021-2022 school year. To notify us of a statewide school response to the coronavirus, [email us](#).

[Alabama](#)

Alabama's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported thirty-two in-person schooling disruptions in Alabama. [\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)
- **July 30, 2021:** The Alabama Department of Public Health released back-to-school guidance for the 2021-2022 school year. [\[13\]](#)

[Alaska](#)

Alaska's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported three in-person schooling disruptions in Alaska. [\[14\]](#)[\[15\]](#)

[Arizona](#)

Arizona's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **April 25, 2022:** Gov. [Doug Ducey](#) (R) signed a bill into law banning schools from requiring masks without parental consent. It was set to take effect 90 days after the legislature adjourned. [\[16\]](#)
- **Sept. 26, 2021:** Arizona Superior Court Judge [Katherine Cooper](#) ruled Arizona's school mask requirement ban was unconstitutional and could not be enforced. The school mask requirement ban had been previously scheduled to take effect on Sept. 29. [\[17\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported four in-person schooling disruptions in Arizona. [\[18\]](#)[\[19\]](#)
- **Aug. 16, 2021:**
 - Gov. [Doug Ducey](#) (R) said he would withhold school grants taken from federal coronavirus relief funds from schools that implemented mask requirements. [\[20\]](#)
 - Maricopa County Superior Court Judge [Randall Warner](#) ruled that a state law banning school mask requirements would not take effect until Sept. 29. [\[20\]](#)

[Arkansas](#)

Arkansas' statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Dec. 29, 2021:** The [Arkansas Supreme Court](#) issued a final ruling against the state's mask requirement ban for schools and other government entities. [\[21\]](#)
- **Sept. 30, 2021:** The [Arkansas Supreme Court temporarily ruled](#) that the state's mask requirement ban for schools and other government entities could not be enforced. [\[22\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Arkansas. [\[23\]](#)[\[24\]](#)
- **Aug. 6, 2021:**
 - The [Arkansas General Assembly](#) adjourned its special session without making alterations to the state's mask mandate ban to allow school districts to impose mask requirements. Gov. [Asa Hutchinson](#) (R) had called for the session on Aug. 3. [\[25\]](#)
 - Pulaski County Circuit Judge [Tim Fox](#) temporarily suspended the state's mask requirement ban. Fox ruled the law discriminated between public and private schools and infringed on the governor's

emergency powers, the authority of municipal officials, and the authority of the state supreme court. [\[26\]](#)

- **Aug. 3, 2021:** Gov. [Asa Hutchinson](#) (R) called the Arkansas General Assembly into special session. Hutchinson wanted lawmakers to create an exemption in Act 1002. The existing law banned state and local governments from imposing mask requirements. Hutchinson wanted an exemption that would allow school boards to require masks for students 11 years old and younger who couldn't receive the coronavirus vaccine. The special session began on Aug. 4. [\[27\]](#)

[California](#)

California's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 12, 2022:** Statewide school mask requirements ended in California, Washington, and Oregon. California Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D), Oregon Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D), and Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) jointly announced the change on Feb. 28. [\[28\]](#)
- **February 28, 2022:** California Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D), Oregon Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D), and Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) jointly announced their statewide school mask requirements would end on March 12. [\[28\]](#)
- **Oct. 1, 2021:** Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D) announced the state would require eligible students in public and private schools to be vaccinated against the coronavirus. The deadline for vaccination was set for the start of the term following vaccine approval of the student's age group, with already eligible students required to be vaccinated by July 1, 2022. [\[29\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported eleven in-person schooling disruptions in California. [\[30\]](#)[\[31\]](#)
- **Aug. 11, 2021:** Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D) announced teachers and staff in private and public K-12 schools would be required to show proof of vaccination against the coronavirus or receive a coronavirus test at least once per week. [\[32\]](#)

[Colorado](#)

Colorado's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported eleven in-person schooling disruptions in Colorado. [\[33\]](#)[\[34\]](#)

[Connecticut](#)

Connecticut's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Feb. 28, 2022:** Connecticut's school mask requirement ended. Gov. [Ned Lamont](#) (D) made the announcement on Feb. 7. [\[35\]](#)
- **Feb. 7, 2022:** Gov. [Ned Lamont](#) (D) announced he intended to end the statewide school mask requirement on Feb. 28. [\[35\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in Connecticut. [\[36\]](#)[\[37\]](#)

- **Aug. 19, 2021:** Gov. [Ned Lamont](#) (D) issued an executive order requiring all state employees, staff in childcare facilities, and staff in pre-K through 12 schools to have received at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine by Sept. 27 or receive regular coronavirus testing. [\[38\]](#)

[Delaware](#)

Delaware's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 1, 2022:** Delaware's school mask requirement ended. Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) announced the change on Feb. 28. [\[39\]](#)
- **Feb. 28, 2022:** Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) announced Delaware's school mask requirement would end on March 1. It was previously set to end on March 31. [\[39\]](#)
- **Feb. 7, 2022:** Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) extended the state's school mask requirement, and said it would be lifted on March 31. [\[40\]](#)
- **Dec. 13, 2021:** Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) formally extended the state's school mask requirement until Feb. 8, 2022. [\[41\]](#)
- **Nov. 10, 2021:** Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) announced Delaware would extend the statewide school mask requirement through Feb. 8, 2022. [\[42\]](#)
- **Sept. 28, 2021:** Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) announced a vaccine or testing requirement for teachers, staff, contractors and volunteers in K-12 public and private schools, effective Nov. 1. [\[43\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Delaware. [\[44\]](#)[\[45\]](#)
- **Aug. 10, 2021:** Gov. [John Carney](#) (D) issued an executive order requiring masks indoors in public and private schools, effective Aug. 16. [\[46\]](#)

[Florida](#)

Florida's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Nov. 18, 2021:** Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#) (R) signed House Bill 1B/Senate Bill 2B, which prohibited COVID-19 vaccine requirements in K-12 public schools and state government agencies. [\[47\]](#)
- **Oct. 7, 2021:** The Florida Board of Education voted unanimously to withhold funding from eight school districts that issued mask mandates. The amount of funds withheld varied based on district board member salary and federal funding received. [\[48\]](#)
- **Sept. 22, 2021:** Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#) (R) announced that asymptomatic students in public schools who came into contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 would not necessarily need to quarantine at home. DeSantis said that decision would be left up to parents. [\[49\]](#)
- **Sept. 15, 2021:** U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida Chief Judge [Kevin Michael Moore](#), who was appointed by President [George H.W. Bush](#) (R), declined to block Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#)' (R) executive order prohibiting school mask requirements. A group of parents of disabled children filed the lawsuit, arguing the order violated the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Moore said the parents should have pursued administrative remedies before filing a lawsuit. [\[50\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported twelve in-person schooling disruptions in Florida. [\[51\]](#)[\[52\]](#)
- **Sept. 8, 2021:** Florida Second Circuit Court Judge [John Cooper](#) ruled the state Department of Education could not enforce Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#)' (R) order prohibiting mask requirements in public schools. Cooper ruled against DeSantis' order on Aug. 27, but the ruling did not go into effect because DeSantis appealed

the decision. Following a Sept. 8 hearing on the status of the order pending appeal, Cooper said the government did not present a compelling case for blocking his order. The ban on enforcement would remain in effect until the First District Court of Appeals heard DeSantis' appeal. [\[53\]](#)

- **Aug. 30, 2021:** Florida Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran said he would withhold funding from school districts in Broward and Alachua counties that require students to wear masks. [\[54\]](#)
- **Aug. 27, 2021:** Florida Second Circuit Court Judge [John Cooper](#) ruled the Florida Department of Education could not enforce Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#)' (R) July 30 order authorizing Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran to withhold funding from school districts that require masks. Doing so, Cooper said, would violate a separation of powers statute. [\[55\]](#)
- **Aug. 18, 2021:** The Miami-Dade County Public Schools board voted 7-1 to approve a mask mandate for students, teachers, and staff. On July 30, Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) issued an order allowing parents to decide if their children wear masks at school. Miami-Dade is the largest school district in Florida. [\[56\]](#)
- **July 30, 2021:** Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting K-12 public schools from requiring that students wear masks in schools. [\[57\]](#)

[Georgia](#)

Georgia's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 29, 2022:** Gov. [Brian Kemp](#) (R) signed a bill into law allowing parents to exempt their children from school mask requirements. [\[58\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported sixty-two in-person schooling disruptions in Georgia. [\[59\]](#)[\[60\]](#)

[Hawaii](#)

Hawaii's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **July 12, 2022:** Hawaii announced it would lift its school mask requirement on August 1. [\[61\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in Hawaii. [\[62\]](#)[\[63\]](#)

[Idaho](#)

Idaho's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported eleven in-person schooling disruptions in Idaho. [\[64\]](#)[\[65\]](#)

[Illinois](#)

Illinois' statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Feb. 28, 2022:** Gov. [J.B. Pritzker](#) (D) ended the statewide school mask requirement. He made the announcement on Feb. 25. Illinois' school mask requirement wasn't in effect at the time since it had previously been suspended on Feb. 4 by state court action. ^[66]
- **Feb. 25, 2022:** The [Illinois Supreme Court](#) denied Gov. [J.B. Pritzker](#)'s (D) appeal of a lower court's ruling overturning the statewide school mask requirement. ^[67]
- **Feb. 17, 2022:** The [Illinois Fourth District Appellate Court](#) dismissed Gov. [J.B. Pritzker](#)'s (D) appeal of a lower court's ruling overturning the statewide school mask requirement. In the ruling, the judges said a decision by a legislative committee denying the renewal of the requirement meant that the policy was null and void. ^[68]
- **Feb. 4, 2022:** Sangamon County Circuit Court Judge [Raylene Grischow](#) issued a ruling overturning Illinois' statewide school mask requirement and teacher vaccine requirement, among other coronavirus-related school policies issued by Gov. [J.B. Pritzker](#) (D). ^[69]
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported six in-person schooling disruptions in Illinois. ^{[70][71]}
- **Sept. 3, 2021:** Gov. J.B. Pritzker (D) extended the first dose vaccination deadline for teachers and school staff to Sept. 19. The original deadline was Sept. 5. ^[72]
- **Aug. 26, 2021:** Gov. [J.B. Pritzker](#) (D) announced a coronavirus vaccine or regular testing requirement for public and private pre-K through 12 teachers and staff, higher education teachers and staff, students in higher education, and healthcare workers, effective Sept. 5. ^[73]
- **Aug. 4, 2021:** Gov. [J.B. Pritzker](#) (D) announced masks would be required in all Illinois public schools for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. ^[74]
- **July 9, 2021:** Illinois Superintendent of Education [Carmen Ayala](#) issued a declaration requiring in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Remote instruction will be available to students who are unable to receive a coronavirus vaccine. ^[75]

[Indiana](#)

Indiana's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported fifteen in-person schooling disruptions in Indiana. ^{[76][77]}
- **Sept. 1, 2021:** Gov. [Eric Holcomb](#) (R) issued an order exempting schools and daycare centers with consistent mask usage from quarantine requirements. The exemption applied to a student, staff member, or teacher who was a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19, but showed no symptoms. ^[78]

[Iowa](#)

Iowa's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **May 16, 2022:** The [United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit](#) lifted an injunction on the state's school mask requirement ban. ^[79]
- **Jan. 25, 2022:** The [United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit](#) upheld and narrowed a lower court's injunction against an Iowa law banning mask mandates in schools. The court ruled that the injunction only applied to schools where students with disabilities who need mask accommodations are in attendance. ^[80]

- **Oct. 8, 2021:** U.S. District Court Judge [Robert Pratt](#) granted a preliminary injunction against an Iowa law banning mask mandates in schools. Pratt's ruling allowed the approximately 20 districts in the state with mask mandates to keep them. The state announced it will appeal the decision. ^[81]
- **Sept. 13, 2021:** U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa Judge [Robert Pratt](#) temporarily blocked a law prohibiting schools from enforcing mask requirements. Gov. [Kim Reynolds](#) (R) said she planned to appeal the decision. ^[82]
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported three in-person schooling disruptions in Iowa. ^{[83][84]}

[Kansas](#)

Kansas' statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported three in-person schooling disruptions in Kansas. ^{[85][86]}

[Kentucky](#)

Kentucky's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:**
 - The [Kentucky General Assembly](#) passed a bill in special session overriding the state's mask requirement policy for public schools. Gov. [Andy Beshear](#) (D) vetoed the part of the bill reversing the school mask requirement, and his veto was overridden 69-24 in the House and 21-6 in the Senate. The bill requires school mask requirement decisions to be left to local authorities. Beshear called for the special session on Sept. 4. ^[87]
 - At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported thirty-nine in-person schooling disruptions in Kentucky. ^{[88][89]}
- **Aug. 23, 2021:** Gov. [Andy Beshear](#) (D) rescinded his executive order requiring masks be worn in schools. Masks were still required in Kentucky public schools due to a separate Kentucky Board of Education order. Beshear's action followed a Kentucky Supreme Court opinion issued Aug. 21 upholding limits the state legislature placed on the governor's emergency powers. ^[90]
- **Aug. 10, 2021:** Gov. [Andy Beshear](#) (D) released an executive order requiring all individuals to wear masks inside of public and private schools. ^[91]
- **July 26, 2021:** Gov. [Andy Beshear](#) (D) recommended that school districts require all students under 12, all other unvaccinated students, and all unvaccinated adults to wear masks indoors. ^[92]

[Louisiana](#)

Louisiana's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **May 18, 2022:** Gov. [John Bel Edwards](#) (D) announced the state would be removing the coronavirus vaccine from the list of required immunizations in schools. ^[93]
- **Feb. 16, 2022:** Gov. [John Bel Edwards](#) (D) allowed the statewide school mask requirement to expire. ^[94]

- **Dec. 14, 2021:** Gov. [John Bel Edwards](#) (D) announced that the Louisiana Department of Health would add the coronavirus vaccine to the list of required vaccinations for students 16 and older, overriding the Louisiana House of Representatives Health and Welfare Committee's Dec. 6 vote against the policy. He said parents could submit a written objection to opt out. [\[95\]](#)
- **Dec. 6, 2021:** The Louisiana House of Representatives Health and Welfare Committee voted 13-2 to reject a Louisiana Department of Health proposal that would have added the coronavirus vaccine to the list of required vaccinations for some students. [\[96\]](#)
- **Oct. 26, 2021:** Gov. John Bel Edwards (D) lifted the statewide indoor mask requirement for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in all settings except for K-12 schools. School districts have the option not to require masks if they follow CDC quarantine guidelines. [\[97\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported four in-person schooling disruptions in Louisiana. [\[98\]](#)[\[99\]](#)

[Maine](#)

Maine's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported six in-person schooling disruptions in Maine. [\[100\]](#)[\[101\]](#)

[Maryland](#)

Maryland's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 1, 2022:** Maryland's school mask requirement ended. The [Maryland State Legislature](#)'s Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive & Legislative Review voted to approve the Maryland Board of Education's resolution to rescind the state's school mask requirement on Feb. 25. [\[102\]](#)
- **Feb. 25, 2022:** The [Maryland State Legislature](#)'s Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive & Legislative Review voted 17-1 to approve the Maryland Board of Education's resolution to rescind the state's school mask requirement. [\[102\]](#)
- **Jan. 5, 2022:** The Maryland State Board of Education extended the statewide school mask requirement by 180 days. [\[103\]](#)
- **Dec. 7, 2021:** The Maryland State Board of Education voted 12-1 to allow local districts to end mask mandates if one of three conditions was met. The conditions were that 1) the county vaccination rate was 80% or higher, 2) 80% of school staff and students were vaccinated, or 3) COVID-19 transmission in the county was considered moderate or low for 14 straight days. [\[104\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Maryland. [\[105\]](#)[\[106\]](#)

[Massachusetts](#)

Massachusetts' statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Feb. 28, 2022:** Massachusetts' statewide school mask requirement ended. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley announced the change on Feb. 9. [\[107\]](#)

- **Feb. 9, 2022:** Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley announced the state would end its school mask requirement on February 28, 2022. [\[107\]](#)
- **Jan. 10, 2022:** Massachusetts Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley extended the K-12 mask requirement through Feb. 28. [\[108\]](#)
- **Oct. 26, 2021:** Massachusetts Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley extended the K-12 mask requirement through Jan. 15, 2022. The requirement applied to all staff and students aged five and older in most indoor public school settings. [\[109\]](#)
- **Oct. 12, 2021:** The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education announced that Hopkinton High School was the first school in the state allowed to lift its indoor mask requirement. Beginning Oct. 1, schools in Massachusetts were able to lift their mask requirements if at least 80% of students were vaccinated. [\[110\]](#)
- **Sept. 27, 2021:** Commissioner of Education Jeff Riley extended the K-12 public school mask mandate through Nov. 1. The mandate applied to students, teachers, and staff. Riley announced that middle and high schools where at least 80% of students and staff are vaccinated could opt out of the mandate after Oct. 1. [\[111\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in Massachusetts. [\[112\]](#)[\[113\]](#)
- **Aug. 24, 2021:** The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) voted to allow Commissioner Jeffrey Riley to implement a mask mandate for K-12 public school teachers, staff, and students. The mandate would apply to vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in middle and high schools through Oct. 1. After Oct. 1, the mandate would only apply to schools with a vaccination rate of less than 80% and unvaccinated individuals in schools with an 80% or greater vaccination rate. [\[114\]](#)

[Michigan](#)

Michigan's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in Michigan. [\[115\]](#)[\[116\]](#)

[Minnesota](#)

Minnesota's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Minnesota. [\[117\]](#)[\[118\]](#)

[Mississippi](#)

Mississippi's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported forty-five in-person schooling disruptions in Mississippi. [\[119\]](#)[\[120\]](#)

[Missouri](#)

Missouri's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported three in-person schooling disruptions in Missouri. [\[121\]](#)[\[122\]](#)

[Montana](#)

Montana's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported two in-person schooling disruptions in Montana. [\[123\]](#)[\[124\]](#)

[Nebraska](#)

Nebraska's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Nebraska. [\[125\]](#)[\[126\]](#)

[Nevada](#)

Nevada's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Feb. 10, 2022:** Gov. [Steve Sisolak](#) (D) lifted the statewide school mask requirement, transferring authority for mask decisions to local jurisdictions. [\[127\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported four in-person schooling disruptions in Nevada. [\[128\]](#)[\[129\]](#)
- **Aug. 4, 2021:** Gov. [Steve Sisolak](#) (D) issued an order requiring staff and students at public, private, and charter schools in counties with more than 100,000 people to wear face masks while in school buildings or buses. Sisolak's initial directive applied to schools in all counties. School superintendent objections prompted him to issue an additional order later in the afternoon exempting schools in counties with fewer than 100,000 people. [\[130\]](#)

[New Hampshire](#)

New Hampshire's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in New Hampshire. [\[131\]](#)[\[132\]](#)

New Jersey

New Jersey's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 7, 2022:** New Jersey's school mask requirement ended. Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) announced the change on Feb. 7. [\[133\]](#)
- **Feb. 7, 2022:** Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) announced the school mask requirement would end on March 7. [\[133\]](#)
- **Jan. 11, 2022:** Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) extended the state's school mask requirement for an additional 30 days. [\[134\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in New Jersey. [\[135\]](#)[\[136\]](#)
- **Aug. 23, 2021:** Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) signed an executive order requiring all teachers and staff in pre-K through 12 schools to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18 or receive regular coronavirus testing. [\[3\]](#)
- **Aug. 6, 2021:** Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) issued an executive order requiring masks indoors in private and public schools, effective Aug. 9. [\[137\]](#)
- **May 17, 2021:** New Jersey Gov. [Phil Murphy](#) (D) announced all public schools would have to offer full-time in-person instruction during the 2021-2022 school year. He also said parents would not be able to choose an online option if their child attended public school. [\[138\]](#)

New Mexico

New Mexico's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Feb. 17, 2022:** New Mexico Gov. [Michelle Lujan Grisham](#) (D) lifted the statewide school mask requirement. [\[139\]](#)
- **Feb. 4, 2022:** The New Mexico Department of Health extended the statewide school mask requirement through March 4. [\[140\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported seven in-person schooling disruptions in New Mexico. [\[141\]](#)[\[142\]](#)

New York

New York's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 3, 2022:** New York's school mask requirement ended. Gov. [Kathy Hochul](#) (D) announced the change on Feb. 27. [\[143\]](#)
- **Feb. 27, 2022:** Gov. [Kathy Hochul](#) (D) announced the state's school mask requirement would end on March 3. [\[143\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in New York. [\[144\]](#)[\[145\]](#)
- **Sept. 2, 2021:** The New York Department of Health released a regulation requiring teachers and school staff to be vaccinated or receive regular coronavirus testing. [\[146\]](#)
- **Aug. 27, 2021:** The New York State Department of Health filed an emergency regulation requiring masks be worn in schools. Gov. [Kathy Hochul](#) (D) announced she was directing the agency to implement this policy on Aug. 24. [\[147\]](#)

- **Aug. 24, 2021:** Gov. [Kathy Hochul](#) (D) announced she was directing the Department of Health to institute a universal mask requirement in public and private schools. In a press release, Hochul also said she would “pursue options to mandate vaccines for school employees or require weekly testing in the absence of vaccines.”^[148]
- **Aug. 12, 2021:** The New York State Education Department released school reopening guidance for the 2021-2022 academic year. The guidance included recommendations for mask usage, vaccine promotion, and physical distancing within classrooms.^[149]
- **Aug. 5, 2021:** New York State Department of Health Commissioner Howard Zucker said school districts would have authority over school coronavirus guidance and requirements.^[150]

[North Carolina](#)

North Carolina's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Feb. 24, 2022:** Gov. [Roy Cooper](#) (D) vetoed a bill that would have banned school mask requirements.^[151]
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported sixteen in-person schooling disruptions in North Carolina.^{[152][153]}
- **Aug. 30, 2021:** Gov. [Roy Cooper](#) (D) signed an education bill related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Among other things, [Senate Bill 654](#) allowed school districts to revert to remote learning in response to rising COVID-19 infections. The new law said districts must notify the Department of Public Instruction within 72 hours and return to in-person instruction following a quarantine period.^[154]

[North Dakota](#)

North Dakota's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in North Dakota.^{[155][156]}

[Ohio](#)

Ohio's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported seventeen in-person schooling disruptions in Ohio.^{[157][158]}

[Oklahoma](#)

Oklahoma's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported sixty-three in-person schooling disruptions in Oklahoma.^{[159][160]}
- **Sept. 1, 2021:** Oklahoma County District Court Judge [Natalie Mai](#) temporarily blocked the Oklahoma Department of Education from enforcing [Senate Bill 658](#), which prohibited school mask requirements.

Several Oklahoma parents and the Oklahoma State Medical Association sued to block enforcement of the law on Aug. 12. [\[161\]](#)

Oregon

Oregon's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 12, 2022:** Statewide school mask requirements ended in California, Washington, and Oregon. California Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D), Oregon Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D), and Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) jointly announced the change on Feb. 28. [\[28\]](#)
- **February 28, 2022:** California Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D), Oregon Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D), and Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) jointly announced their statewide school mask requirements would end on March 12. [\[28\]](#)
- **Feb. 24, 2022:** The Oregon Health Authority announced it would end the statewide school mask requirement on March 19. It had initially said the requirement would end on March 31. [\[162\]](#)
- **Feb. 7, 2022:** The Oregon Health Authority announced it would end the statewide school mask requirement on March 31. [\[163\]](#)
- **Jan. 28, 2022:** The Oregon Health Authority issued a school mask requirement that did not have an expiration date. The Oregon Health Authority said it could rescind the rule when it determined it was no longer needed. [\[164\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported six in-person schooling disruptions in Oregon. [\[165\]](#)[\[166\]](#)
- **Aug. 19, 2021:** Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D) announced that all teachers and staff in K-12 schools would be required to be fully vaccinated against the coronavirus by Oct. 18 or six weeks after full FDA approval of a coronavirus vaccine. [\[167\]](#)
- **July 29, 2021:** Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D) announced that masks would be required indoors at K-12 public schools in the state. [\[168\]](#)

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Dec. 10, 2021:** The [Pennsylvania Supreme Court](#) struck down the statewide school mask requirement, upholding a lower court's ruling that acting Health Secretary Alison Beam lacked the authority to require masks in schools. [\[169\]](#)
- **Nov. 30, 2021:** The [Pennsylvania Supreme Court](#) voted 5-1 to temporarily block a lower court ruling that would have ended the state's school masking requirement on Dec. 4. [\[170\]](#)
- **Nov. 16, 2021:** Cannon issued an additional ruling saying Pennsylvania's school mask requirement would expire Dec. 4 barring a successful appeal to the state supreme court. [\[171\]](#)
- **Nov. 10, 2021:** Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court Judge [Christine Fizzano Cannon](#) ruled that Acting Secretary of the Pennsylvania Health Department Alison Beam's school mask requirement was issued without proper authority. [\[172\]](#)
- **Nov. 8, 2021:** Gov. [Tom Wolf](#) (D) announced he planned to return school mask requirement authority to local school officials on Jan. 17, 2022. [\[173\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported five in-person schooling disruptions in Pennsylvania. [\[174\]](#)[\[175\]](#)

- **Aug. 31, 2021:** Gov. [Tom Wolf](#) (D) announced masks would be required in all public and private K-12 schools starting Sept. 7. [\[176\]](#)

[Rhode Island](#)

Rhode Island's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 4, 2022:** Rhode Island's school mask requirement ended. Gov. [Dan McKee](#) (D) announced the change on Feb. 9. [\[177\]](#)
- **Feb. 9, 2022:** Gov. [Dan McKee](#) (D) announced that, if the legislature votes to extend his emergency powers, he would end the school mask requirement on March 4. [\[177\]](#)
- **Dec. 13, 2021:** Gov. [Dan McKee](#) (D) extended the state's school mask requirement through Jan. 8, 2022. [\[178\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Rhode Island. [\[179\]](#)[\[180\]](#)
- **Aug. 19, 2021:** Gov. [Dan McKee](#) (D) issued an executive order requiring masks be worn in K-12 public schools. [\[181\]](#)

[South Carolina](#)

South Carolina's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 28, 2021:** U.S. District Judge [Mary Geiger Lewis](#), who was appointed to the court by former President Barack Obama (D), ruled South Carolina could not enforce its school mask requirement ban because it prevented students with disabilities from attending public schools. [\[182\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported thirty-eight in-person schooling disruptions in South Carolina. [\[183\]](#)[\[184\]](#)
- **Sept. 2, 2021:** The [South Carolina Supreme Court](#) rejected a challenge to the state's school mask requirement ban brought by the City of Columbia. In the [opinion](#), the court found that the mask requirement ban, which was established in an amendment to the state's budget, was related to budgetary concerns and therefore did not violate a South Carolina rule requiring state laws address a single primary subject. [\[185\]](#)
- **Aug. 26, 2021:** The [South Carolina Department of Education](#) announced masks would be required on school buses, in accordance with CDC guidance, starting Aug. 30. [\[186\]](#)
- **April 26, 2021:** Gov. [Henry McMaster](#) (R) signed a law requiring that districts offer full-time, in-person instruction five days a week for the 2021-2022 school year on April 22. The legislature passed the requirement on April 21. [\[187\]](#)

[South Dakota](#)

South Dakota's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in South Dakota. [\[188\]](#)[\[189\]](#)

Tennessee

Tennessee's statewide guidance for schools as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Dec. 10, 2021:** U.S. District Judge Waverly D. Crenshaw blocked Tennessee's school mask requirement ban from being enforced. [\[190\]](#)
- **Oct. 30, 2021:** The [Tennessee General Assembly](#) passed Senate Bill 9014, which limited when public schools can require students and staff to wear masks. If the bill were to become law, school boards could require masks for up to 14 days if the state were under a COVID-19 state of emergency, county COVID-19 cases had reached 1,000 for every 100,000 people, and the school's principal asked for a mask mandate. [\[191\]](#)
- **Sept. 30, 2021:** Gov. [Bill Lee](#) (R) extended an order allowing parents to opt their children out of school mask mandates. Throughout the month of September, three separate federal judges blocked Lee's order in Knox, Shelby, and Williamson counties in response to lawsuits that alleged the order violated the Americans with Disabilities Act. Attorney General [Herbert H. Slatery](#) (R) said he would appeal two of the three lawsuits. [\[192\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported twenty-nine in-person schooling disruptions in Tennessee. [\[193\]](#)[\[194\]](#)
- **Sept. 3, 2021:** United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee Judge [Sheryl H. Lipman](#) ruled in favor of two students who sued Gov. [Bill Lee](#) (R) after he issued an order allowing students to opt out of school mask mandates. Lipman ruled Lee's order violated the students' rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). [\[195\]](#)
- **Aug. 16, 2021:** Gov. [Bill Lee](#) (R) issued an order allowing parents to send their children to school without masks in K-12 public schools that enacted mask requirements. [\[196\]](#)

Texas

Texas' statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Dec. 1, 2021:** The [United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit](#) reversed a lower court's injunction on Gov. [Greg Abbott](#)'s (R) school mask requirement ban, allowing the executive order to be enforced. [\[197\]](#)
- **Nov. 10, 2021:** U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas Judge [Earl Yeakel](#) blocked Gov. [Greg Abbott](#)'s (R) July 29 executive order prohibiting mask requirements in K-12 public schools. Yeakel's ruling meant that Attorney General [Ken Paxton](#) (R) could not sue school districts in violation of Abbott's order. [\[198\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported seventy-eight in-person schooling disruptions in Texas. [\[199\]](#)[\[200\]](#)
- **Aug. 15, 2021:** The [Texas Supreme Court](#) temporarily blocked court orders in Dallas County and Bexar County that allowed school districts to disregard Gov. [Greg Abbott](#)'s (R) executive order banning school mask requirements. [\[201\]](#)
- **Aug. 10, 2021:** 57th District Court Judge [Antonia Arteaga](#) allowed officials in [San Antonio](#) and [Bexar County](#) to require masks in schools, temporarily overriding Gov. [Greg Abbott](#)'s (R) order prohibiting mask mandates. Judge Arteaga paused enforcement of Abbott's order until Aug. 16, when San Antonio and Bexar County officials were scheduled to return to court to argue for an extension. [\[202\]](#)

Utah

Utah's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported one in-person schooling disruption in Utah. [\[203\]](#)[\[204\]](#)

Vermont

Vermont's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported two in-person schooling disruptions in Vermont. [\[205\]](#)[\[206\]](#)

Virginia

Virginia's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 1, 2022:** A law banning school mask requirements in Virginia took effect. Gov. [Glenn Youngkin](#) (R) signed the bill into law on Feb. 16. [\[207\]](#)
- **Feb. 16, 2022:** Gov. [Glenn Youngkin](#) (R) signed a bill into law that would ban school systems from enacting mask requirements. The bill was set to take effect March 1. [\[207\]](#)
- **Feb. 4, 2022:** Arlington Circuit Court Judge [Louise DiMatteo](#) suspended the statewide school mask requirement ban. [\[208\]](#)
- **Jan. 15, 2022:** Gov. [Glenn Youngkin](#) (R) issued an executive order rescinding the state's school mask requirement and banning school mask requirements that do not allow for parents to opt out. [\[209\]](#)
- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported twenty-three in-person schooling disruptions in Virginia. [\[210\]](#)[\[211\]](#)
- **July 21, 2021:** The Virginia Department of Health and Education released guidance for the 2021-2022 school year. The K-12 mask mandate, which applied to both public and private schools, expired July 25, at which point local districts would decide their own mask policies. The guidance said schools should require elementary students to wear masks, but that middle and high schools should only require masks for unvaccinated students. [\[212\]](#)

Washington

Washington's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **March 12, 2022:** Statewide school mask requirements ended in California, Washington, and Oregon. California Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D), Oregon Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D), and Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) jointly announced the change on Feb. 28. [\[28\]](#)
- **February 28, 2022:** California Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) (D), Oregon Gov. [Kate Brown](#) (D), and Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) jointly announced their statewide school mask requirements would end on March 12. [\[28\]](#)

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Washington. [\[213\]](#)[\[214\]](#)
- **Aug. 18, 2021:** Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) announced that all public and private K-12 educators, staff, and volunteers would be required to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18. [\[215\]](#)

[West Virginia](#)

West Virginia's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported seventeen in-person schooling disruptions in West Virginia. [\[216\]](#)[\[217\]](#)

[Wisconsin](#)

Wisconsin's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported two in-person schooling disruptions in Wisconsin. [\[218\]](#)[\[219\]](#)

[Wyoming](#)

Wyoming's statewide guidance for the 2021-2022 school year as of Aug. 6, 2021, can be found [here](#).

- **Sept. 9, 2021:** At the beginning of the school year, [Burbio](#), a school data aggregator, reported no in-person schooling disruptions in Wyoming. [\[220\]](#)[\[221\]](#)

Education policies by state

To read about a state's education policies related to the coronavirus from 2019 through 2022, click one of the following links:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Alabama | • Illinois | • Montana | • Rhode Island |
| • Alaska | • Indiana | • Nebraska | • South Carolina |
| • Arizona | • Iowa | • Nevada | • South Dakota |
| • Arkansas | • Kansas | • New Hampshire | • Tennessee |
| • California | • Kentucky | • New Jersey | • Texas |
| • Colorado | • Louisiana | • New Mexico | • Utah |
| • Connecticut | • Maine | • New York | • Vermont |
| • Delaware | • Maryland | • North Carolina | • Virginia |
| • Florida | • Massachusetts | • North Dakota | • Washington |
| • Georgia | • Michigan | • Ohio | • West Virginia |
| • Hawaii | • Minnesota | • Oklahoma | • Wisconsin |
| • Idaho | • Mississippi | • Oregon | • Wyoming |
| | • Missouri | • Pennsylvania | |

Conflicts in school board elections about responses to the coronavirus pandemic

See also: [Conflicts in school board elections about responses to the coronavirus pandemic, 2021-2023](#)

Ballotpedia tracked school board elections where candidates took a stance on responses to the coronavirus, including mask requirements, vaccine requirements, and school re-opening or distance learning plans. Between 2021 and 2023, Ballotpedia had identified **1,399 school board elections** where candidates took a stance on responses to the coronavirus pandemic.

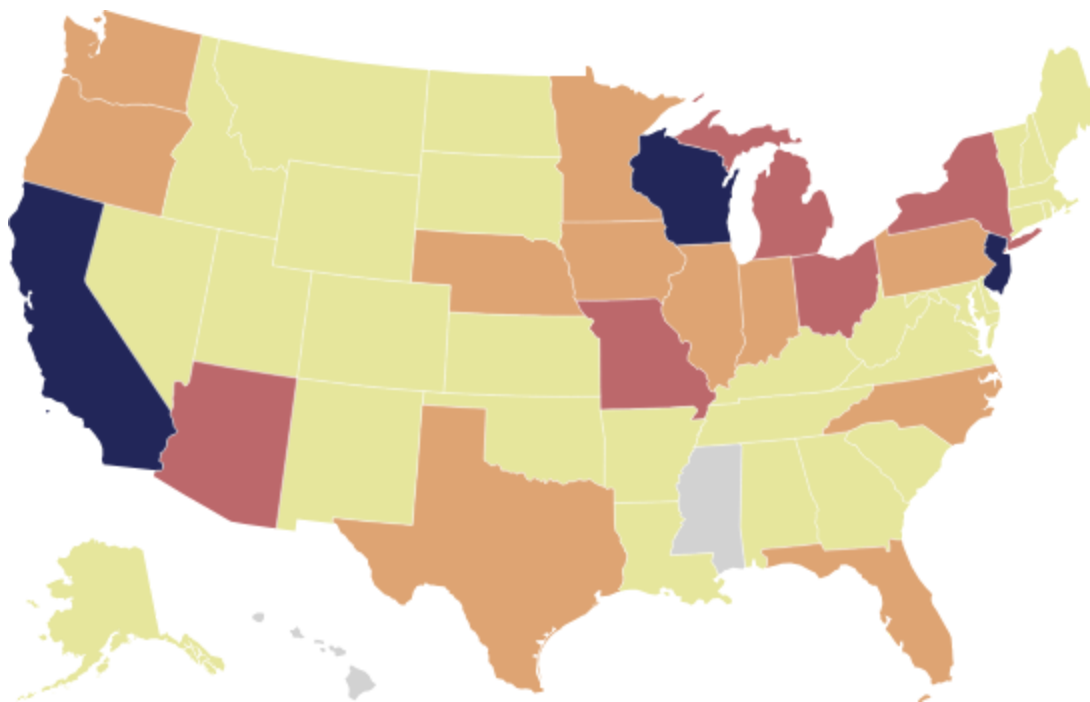
The map below provides an overview of where these districts are located. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Conflicts in school board elections, 2021-2023 Coronavirus responses

Showing each state by the number of school board elections it held between 2021 and 2023 where Ballotpedia identified conflicts relating to responses to the coronavirus pandemic.

Number of conflict elections identified:

1 - 25 26 - 50 51 - 75 100 +



Source: [Ballotpedia](#)

BALLOTPEDIA

The spreadsheet below lists all school district elections identified by Ballotpedia where candidates took a stance on responses to the coronavirus pandemic. [Click here](#) to read more about Ballotpedia's methodology.

Ballotpedia: School board issues and elections research (coronavirus responses) [ARCHIVED]	
District	State
Anchorage School District	Alaska
Essex-Westford Educational Community Unified School District	Vermont
Red Clay Consolidated School District	Delaware
Brandywine School District	Delaware
Cape Henlopen School District	Delaware
Greater Albany Public Schools	Oregon
Beaverton School District	Oregon
Fayetteville School District	Arkansas
Centennial School District	Oregon
Corvallis School District	Oregon
Districts	Topline

General resources

The chart below shows coronavirus statistics from countries across the world. The information is provided by [Real Clear Politics](#).

Click the links below to explore official resources related to the coronavirus outbreak.

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
- [National Institutes of Health](#), [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
- [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#), [U.S. Department of Labor](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in the US Reported to CDC, by State/Territory](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Vaccinations, Our World in Data](#) (Number of vaccines administered)
- [Coronavirus Vaccine Tracker, New York Times](#) (Progress of vaccine trials)

See also

- [Documenting America's Path to Recovery](#)
- [School responses to the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic during the 2020-2021 academic year](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine distribution](#)

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) travel restrictions](#)
- [Officeholders and candidates diagnosed with, dead from, or quarantined because of coronavirus](#)
- [Federal government responses to the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic](#)

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6. ↑ *On Sept. 13, 2021 the ban was temporarily suspended by court action for all schools. On Jan. 25, 2022, the ban was partially reinstated.*
7. ↑ *Oct. 26, 2021 - School districts could be exempt from the school mask requirement if they followed CDC quarantine guidance*
8. ↑ *Dec. 7, 2021 - School districts could be exempt from the school mask requirement if they met one of the three following criteria: 1) the county vaccination rate was 80% or higher, 2) 80% of school staff and students were vaccinated, or 3) COVID-19 transmission in the county was considered moderate or low for 14 straight days.*
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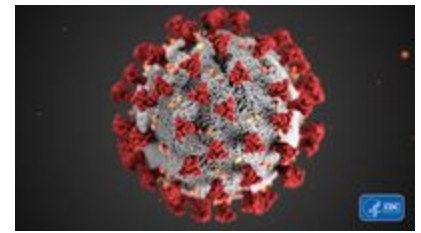
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