Index 1: Voter Registration - Confidence level - LOW
Florida closes voter registration 29 days before Election Day. The state does not provide automated or same-day voter registration, but does offer it online. Florida purges voters from lists after nonvoting in the past two general elections and no response to state notice of pending removal. There was a low number of total purges conducted in 2020. Youth can preregister to vote beginning at age 16. Felony disenfranchisement continues until terms of parole or probation are complete. A moderate number of Florida voters contacted the 1-866-OUR-VOTE legal hotline in 2020 during the last week of the election with concerns about voter registration and provisional ballots. Beginning 2023, voting list maintenance will be annual and with expanded interagency data sharing that may lead to more frequent purges.

Index 2: Voter Identification - Confidence level - LOW
Florida has a non-strict photo voter ID law. The state is a member of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) which helps states to improve the accuracy of voter rolls. A moderate number of voters in 2020 reported concerns about voter ID or not being on the voting lists. In 2021, the state enacted harsher voter ID laws and signature requirements for mailed-in ballots. Florida ranked among the bottom five states in this index. 2022 law repeals the existing law prohibiting election workers from asking voters for more information about their address if their voter ID address matches the address on file, and requires the DMV to issue/renew a driver's license or ID card for free to those who present a voter registration card and attest financial hardship.

Index 3: Early Voting - Confidence level - MEDIUM
Florida offers early in-person voting is available 10 days before Election Day, or a few days more at the discretion of the election supervisor, including Sunday, and ends three or two days before the day. County officials may choose to allow Saturday voting as well as on the Sunday immediately before the day. No-excuse required absentee voting is available.
Index 4: Safe Voting - Confidence level - MEDIUM
Florida offers no-excuse absentee ballot voting. State law in 2021 limited ballot drop off sites, banned proactive mailing of applications and ballots without voters’ request, made it harder to stay on permanent absentee voting lists, and increased requirements for voters to provide additional information to request a mail ballot. There is no prepaid postage. Florida offers an online portal for absentee ballot applications, provides accessible electronic absentee or vote-by-mail ballots to voters with disabilities, and has no restrictions on who can return the ballot on behalf of a voter in need.

Index 5: Ballot Acceptance - Confidence level - HIGH
Florida had a moderate percentage of mail-in ballots returned in 2020, with a low rejection rate. There is a statewide ballot tracking program which is statutorily required, but it is not strong. The state allows election administrators to preprocess returned ballots, allows voters to correct for ballot discrepancies, and has a signature verification program. Absentee ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Voters may cure ballots until 5 p.m. on the second day after the election. 2022 law creates a feasibility study for requiring ID numbers for mailed ballots.

Index 6: Logistical Barriers in Voting - Confidence level - MEDIUM
Florida law does not provide employees the right to take paid or unpaid leave to vote. Although there is no curbside voting, there are other provisions that assist voters with disabilities, such as providing high quality accessible voting machine options and allowing a ballot to be delivered to another accessible location. There was a fair ratio of poll workers with polling sites in 2020. However, recent state laws passed criminalize volunteers for assisting voters, create more barriers for the disabled, and limit the voting rights of college students. There was a moderate number of reports from voters about access issues at the polling sites, such as inadequate signage, the handling of ballots, and the delayed openings and early closing of sites.
Index 8: Independent Election Administration - Confidence level - LOW

Although Florida has established the constitutional right to a secret ballot, it does not prohibit election interference by the state legislature. State laws passed in 2021 shift election authority, criminalize the decision-making of elected officials, and interfere with litigation. State bills pending in early 2022 sought to allow interference with local election officials and an audit of the 2020 election results.

2022 state law restricts where litigation challenging new Congressional districts may be filed, increases criminal and civil penalties for election offenses, and expands investigation of election crimes by the secretary of state and governor, including creating an Office of Election Crimes and Security staffed with investigators who are not sworn law enforcement personnel. 2022 law expands the existing prohibition on private funds for election-related expenses to include litigation related to election administration. Additionally, 2022 law prohibits ranked-choice voting for local, state, or federal elections.

Index 7: Equipment, Security, and Auditing - Confidence level - LOW

Florida has a statewide verified paper audit trail. All voting centers use hand marked paper ballots and offer Ballot Marking Devices for voters with accessibility needs. The state does not test its equipment according to federal standards or accreditation. The state’s election security systems received very low overall ratings in 2018. Florida uses traditional audit methods to double-check for recording errors after election certification and during the statutorily required post-election period.
Index 9: External Interference in Voting - Confidence Level - MEDIUM
Public opinion surveys showed that Florida voters had some trust in the 2020 election news coverage, while political scientists gave the state low media integrity ratings. The state had a high number of demonstrations during the last week of the general elections. There was a moderate number of reports from Florida voters about political intimidation and disinformation in-person and online, including voters targeted with robocalls to stay home and not vote. Florida law requires all poll workers to be trained, prohibits weapons at polling sites, criminalizes intimidation and false election speech, and authorizes law enforcement to be present only by request or on official business. The state has passed media literacy laws requiring instruction or standards on how to evaluate trustworthy media services in public education.

Index 10: The Role of Government and Politics – No rating given, informational only
Florida is one of 19 states that has a Republican trifecta, as well as a triplex - the governor, attorney general, and secretary of state are from the same political party. Based on the last two presidential elections, Florida is one of nine states with the most competitive elections (average voting margin under 4%), with a slight tilt toward Republicans. The state has an average GOP voting margin of 2.3% compared to the national average Democratic voting margin of 3%. According to the 2020 U.S. Census, the state’s population grew by 14.6% (tied for 7th fastest with the District of Columbia and Washington) compared to the national average of 7.4%. Florida is one of the nine most racially diverse states. During the past decade, whites gained 216,000 in the state’s population, while Blacks gained 276,000 and Latinos gained 1,473,000. Florida is projected to be one of four states to have a majority minority population in the next ten years (along with Arizona, Georgia, and New Jersey). With the U.S. Census results, Florida will be one of five states to gain a representative in Congress.