



Comprehensive State Constitution Summary – Chart 1



State	Estimated Word Count	Year	Number of Adopted Constitutions	Revision (Amendment)	Revision (Convention)
Alabama	388,882	1901	6	3/5 each house + majority votes Art. XVIII, 284; Amend 24	Majority each house submit question + majority votes s Art. XVIII, 286; Amend 714
Alaska	13,479	1959	1	2/3 each house + majority of votes Art/ XIII 1	Legislature anytime. Ballot referendum every 10 years Art. XXI 3
Arizona	47,306	1912	1	Majority each house OR by Initiative + majority electors Art. IV, 1; Art. XXI, 1	Referendum to call then approval by majority of electors Art. XXI, 2
Arkansas	59,120	1874	5	Initiative OR majority each house + majority of votes at next general election for GA. Limit of 3. Art. V, 1; Art. XIX, 22; Amend 70	N/A
California	67,048	1879	2	2/3 each house OR by initiative + majority of votes. Art XVIII, 1 & 3	2/3 each house submit question to voters. Majority approval = legislative call within 6 months. Art XVIII, 2
Colorado	66,140	1876	1	Initiative OR 2/3 each house (cap of 6 articles) + Majority (if repeal) or 55% of votes at next election for members of the assembly Art. V, 1; Art. XIX, 2	2/3 each house + majority voting. Art. XIX, 1
Connecticut	16,401	1965	2	Majority but less than 3/4 each house = continued to session of GA elected at next general election. 3/4 each house/continued amendments + majority each house + majority voting at next general election in even numbered year. Art. 12 th ; Amendment Art. VI	2/3 each house anytime (max of 1 every 10 years); Submit question to voters every 20 years after last convention/question + majority voters. Art. 13th
Delaware	25,445	1897	4	2/3 each house + 2/3 each house after the next general election. Art. XVI, 1	2/3 each house + majority of votes. Art XVI, 2
Florida	56,705	1969	6	3/5 each house OR initiative + 60% of votes. Revision Commission every 20 years. Art. XI, 2	Petition by the people + majority of those voting. Art. XI, 4
Georgia	41,684	1983	10	2/3 each house + majority of electors qualified to vote at next general election in an even-numbered year. Art. X, I, Para. II	2/3 each house. Art. X, I, Para. II



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Hawaii	21,498	1959	1	2/3 each house with 10 day notice to Gov. OR majority vote at two successive sessions without notice to Gov. + majority all votes Art. XVII, 3	Legislature + majority votes (once every 9 years by Lt. Gov.) Art. XVII, 2
Idaho	24,626	1890	1	2/3 each house + majority electors Art. XX	2/3 each house + majority electors Art. XX
Illinois	16,401	1971	4	3/5 each house + 3/5 of those voting on the question or majority of those voting in the election. Limit of 3 articles. Initiative to amend Article IV (Legislature) Art. XIV, 2	3/5 each house + 3/5 of voting (Every 20 years by SOS) Art. XIV, 1
Indiana	11,476	1851	2	Majority each house + majority each house elected at the next general election + majority of votes Art. 16	N/A
Iowa	11,089	1857	2	Majority each house in two successive General Assemblies + majority of votes Art. X, 1	Legislature at least every 10 years + majority of votes Art. X, 3
Kansas	14,097	1861	1	2/3 each house + majority votes. Limit of 5 amendments. Art. 14, 1	2/3 each house + majority votes Art. 14, 2
Kentucky	27,324	1891	4	3/5 each house + majority votes at next election of legis. 4 amendment limit. Section 256	Majority submit question + next legislature concur + majority votes if they equal 1/4 of the number of qualified voters who voted at the last general election. Section 258
Louisiana	69,876	1975	11	2/3 each house + majority votes Art. XIII, 1	2/3 each house Art. XIII, 2
Maine	16,313	1820	1	2/3 each house + majority votes Art. X, 4	2/3 each house Art. IV, Part Third, 15
Maryland	43,198	1867	4	3/5 each house + majority votes Art. XIV, 1	Every 20 years submit question to voters + majority Art. XIV, 2
Massachusetts	45,283	1780	1	Initiative OR Majority of joint session + referral to next legis + majority of joint session again + majority of votes Art of Amend Art. XLVIII	N/A
Michigan	31,164	1964	4	2/3 each house OR petition + majority votes Art. XII, 1 and 2	Every 16 years submit question to voters + majority Art. XII, 3
Minnesota	11,734	1858	1	Majority each house + majority voters Art. IX, 1	2/3 each house submit question + majority voters Art. IX, 2



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Mississippi	26,229	1890	4	Initiative (limit of 5) + majority votes but not less than 40% of total votes cast OR 2/3 each house + majority votes Art. 15, 273	N/A
Missouri	69,394	1945	4	Initiative OR Majority each house + majority votes Art. I, 3; Art. III, 49; Art. XII, 2(a)-(b)	Legis. at any time OR Every 20 years SOS submit question + majority votes Art. XII, 3(a)
Montana	12,790	1973	2	Initiative OR 2/3 all members + majority voting Art. XIV, 2 and 8-9	2/3 of all members submit question anytime or at least every 20 years OR Initiative + majority voting Art. XIV, 1-3
Nebraska	34,934	1875	2	3/5 of Legislature + majority of voters at statewide election, provided that votes in favor of amendment are at least 35% of total votes cast at the election (Art. XVI, § 1) (NE also allows citizens to initiate an amendment with signatures from 10% of registered voters (Art. III, § 4)	3/5 of Legislature + majority of voters at statewide election, provided that votes in favor of convention are at least 35% of total votes cast at the election (Art. XVI, § 2)
Nevada	37,418	1864	1	Majority of each legislative chamber + majority of each legislative chamber at the next legislative session + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XVI, § 1) (NV also allows citizens to initiate an amendment with signatures from 10% of registered voters (Art. XIX, § 2)	2/3 of each legislative chamber + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XVI, § 2)
New Hampshire	13,060	1784	2	3/5 vote of each legislative chamber + majority of voters in statewide election (Pt. 2, Art. 100)	Majority of both legislative chamber + majority of voters in statewide election (Pt. 2, Art. 100) (automatic ballot proposal for a constitutional convention every 10 years if the legislature has not already proposed one)
New Jersey	26,360	1948	3	3/5 each house + majority votes. Less than 3/5 but a majority of each house, referred to the next legislative year + majority each house + majority votes Art. IX	N/A



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New Mexico	33,198	1912	1	Majority of both legislative chambers + Majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XIX, § 1) (amendments may also be proposed to the legislature by an Independent Commission established by law) (Note: certain amendments affecting franchise and education require 3/4 vote of each chamber + 3/4 vote in statewide election (Art. XIX, § 1)	2/3 vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XIX, § 2)
New York	44,397	1895	4	Majority of both legislative chambers + Majority of both legislative chambers at next legislative session + Majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XIX, § 1)	Majority vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XIX, § 2) (automatic ballot proposal for convention is put on statewide ballot every 20 years)
North Carolina	17,177	1971	3	3/5 each house + majority votes Art. XIII, 4	2/3 each house submit question + majority voters Art. XIII, 1, 3
North Dakota	18,746	1889	1	Majority of both legislative chambers + Majority of voters in statewide election (Art. IV, § 16) (A constitutional amendment may also be proposed and adopted by referendum (signatures of 4% of population) (Art. III, § 1)	The constitution does not provide for a legislatively called constitutional convention; constitution does allow residents to call for a convention through the referendum process (signature of 2% of voters) (Art. III, § 1))
Ohio	53,239	1851	2	Initiative OR 3/5 each house + majority votes Art. II, 1(a); Art. XVI, 1	2/3 submit question + majority votes. Once every 20 years. Art. XVI, 2 and 3
Oklahoma	81,666	1907	1	Initiative OR majority each house + majority votes Art. V, 2; Art. XXIV, 1	Legis may call if approved by the people on a referendum vote. Question submitted at least once every 20 years. Art. XXIV, 2
Oregon	49,016	1859	1	Single amendment requires majority of each legislative chamber + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XVII, § 1); Revisions that deal with multiple subjects require 2/3 vote of each legislative chamber + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XVII, § 2)	Constitution states that voters must approve any call for a convention but does not state how the question of whether to hold a convention should be approved initially (Art. XVII, § 1)



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Pennsylvania	26,078	1968	5	Majority of each house + majority each house at the next session + majority voting. Limited to amends once every 5 years. Art. XI, 1	N/A
Rhode Island	11,407	1986	2	Majority of both legislative houses + Majority vote of statewide electors (Art. XIV, § 1)	Majority of both legislative houses + Majority vote of statewide electors (Art. XIV, § 2) Note: Bi-Partisan Preparatory Commission required to provide information to electors regarding a convention
South Carolina	27,421	1896	7	2/3 of each legislative house + Majority vote of statewide electors + Majority vote of legislature in next session (Art. XVI, § 1)	2/3 of each legislative house + Majority of electors in next legislative election + legislature calls the convention at the next legislative session (Art. XVI, § 3)
South Dakota	27,774	1889	1	Voter initiative OR majority of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XXIII, § 1)	3/4 of each legislative chamber + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XXIII, § 2)
Tennessee	13,960	1870	3	Majority of both legislative chambers + 2/3 of both legislative chambers (next session) + majority of voters in next gubernatorial election (Art. XI, § 3)	Majority of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (cap of 1 convention every 6 years) (Art. XI, § 3)
Texas	86,936	1876	5	2/3 vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XVII, § 1)	Constitution does not provide for a constitutional convention
Utah	17,849	1896	1	2/3 vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XXIII, § 1)	2/3 vote of each legislative house + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XXIII, § 2)
Vermont	8,565	1793	3	2/3 vote of Senate + majority vote of House + majority vote of both houses at next legislative session + majority of voters in statewide election	N/A
Virginia	21,899	1971	6	Majority of both legislative chambers + Majority of both legislative chambers at next legislative session + Majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XII, § 1)	2/3 vote of each legislative house (Art. XII, § 2)



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Washington	32,578	1889	1	2/3 vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XXIII, § 1)	2/3 vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XXIII, § 2)
West Virginia	33,324	1872	2	2/3 vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XIV, § 2)	Majority vote of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XIV, § 1)
Wisconsin	15,102	1848	1	Majority of both legislative chambers + Majority of both legislative chambers at next legislative session + Majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XII, § 1)	Majority of both legislative chambers + majority of voters in statewide election (Art. XII, § 2)
Wyoming	26,349	1890	1	2/3 of each legislative house + Majority vote of statewide electors (Art. XX, § 1)	2/3 of each legislative house + Majority vote of statewide electors (Art. XX, § 3)