

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/blog/majority-of-americans-say-voting-rights-should-be-restored-for-people-with-felony-convictions>**

### Public Facing Advocacy Writing

Most Americans believe that people with conviction histories should have their voting rights restored as soon as they've completed their sentences, according to [a new poll](#) from YouGov/Huffington Post.

A solid majority 63 percent of those surveyed agreed that people with felony convictions should not be permanently barred from voting. This consensus spanned the political spectrum.

An estimated [six million people are currently disenfranchised](#), with the process for restoring voting rights differing from state to state. Some states automatically restore rights once someone has completed their sentence. Others restore rights as soon as someone is released from incarceration. In four states Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Iowa regaining the right to vote is extremely difficult, and often means that certain people with histories of justice involvement never vote again. Alabama [recently restored voting rights](#) for thousands of people with felony convictions.

Read the [full poll results here](#). And, read how [more and more states are acting on public support to restore voting rights](#).

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