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AFCI and GFCI Requirements

State-by-State Data

Arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) have been on the market since about the year 2000. They differ from ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs), which were introduced into the NEC in the 1960s. Where GFCIs are designed to protect people from shock if parts of an electric appliance or tool become energized due to a ground fault, AFCIs are designed to protect branch circuit wiring from arcing faults.

NFPA 70, National Electrical Code (NEC), first required AFCIs in the 1999 edition. Subsequent editions added locations which were required to be covered.

1999 NEC: Branch circuits serving dwelling unit bedrooms needed to be covered by AFCIs as of January 1, 2002.

2008 NEC: The use of AFCIs expanded to family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways and similar rooms or areas.

2014 NEC: Kitchens and laundry areas to the list of required areas.

The list has remained unchanged in the 2017 and 2020 editions of the NEC.

The maps and table on the following pages detail the status of AFCI and GFCI requirements in each state. The table includes hyperlinks to state building code agencies as well as relevant documents.

If you have questions or comments about the information in this table, please contact [Dan Buuck](#) at 202-266-8366.

Revised December 2020

AFCI Requirements in Effect

Covered Circuits

Family Rooms, Dining Rooms, Living Rooms, Parlors, Libraries, Dens, Sunrooms, Recreation Rooms, Closets, Hallways and Similar Rooms or Areas AND Kitchen and Laundry Areas	Bedrooms AND Family Rooms, Dining Rooms, Living Rooms, Parlors, Libraries, Dens, Sunrooms, Recreation Rooms, Closets, Hallways and Similar Rooms or Areas	Bedrooms	No Statewide Adoption of AFCI Provisions
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Total: 32

California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Iowa
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Minnesota
Montana*
Nebraska
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Dakota
Ohio

Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Dakota
Texas
Vermont
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin*
Wyoming



Total: 6

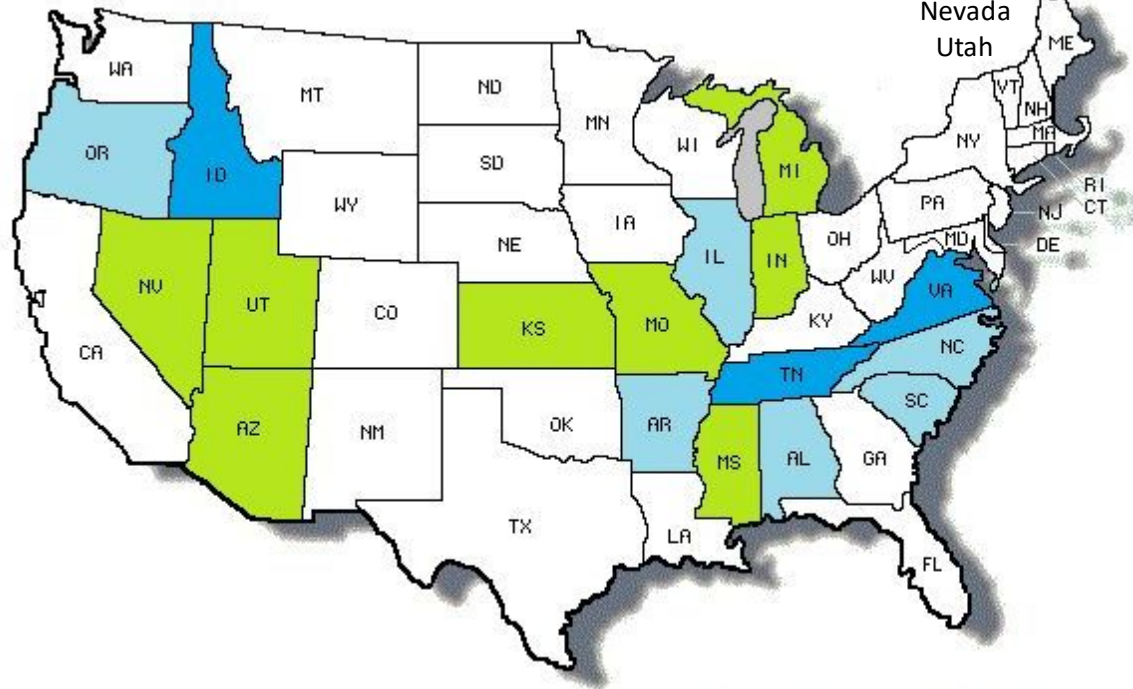
Alabama
Arkansas
Illinois
North Carolina
Oregon
South Carolina

Total: 3

Idaho
Tennessee
Virginia

Total: 9

Alaska
Arizona
Indiana
Kansas
Michigan
Mississippi
Missouri
Nevada
Utah



* Excludes kitchens

Amendments to AFCL and GFCL Provisions

No Statewide Adoption of Residential Electrical Code	Amendments to Both <u>AFCI</u> And <u>GFCI</u> Provisions	Amendments to <u>AFCI</u> Provisions	Amendments to <u>GFCI</u> Provisions	No Amendments to AFCI or GFCI Provisions
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Total: 6

Alaska
Arizona
Kansas
Mississippi
Missouri
Nevada

Total: 11

Connecticut
Idaho
Indiana
Massachusetts
New Jersey
North Carolina
Ohio
Oregon
South Dakota
Vermont
Wisconsin

Total: 12

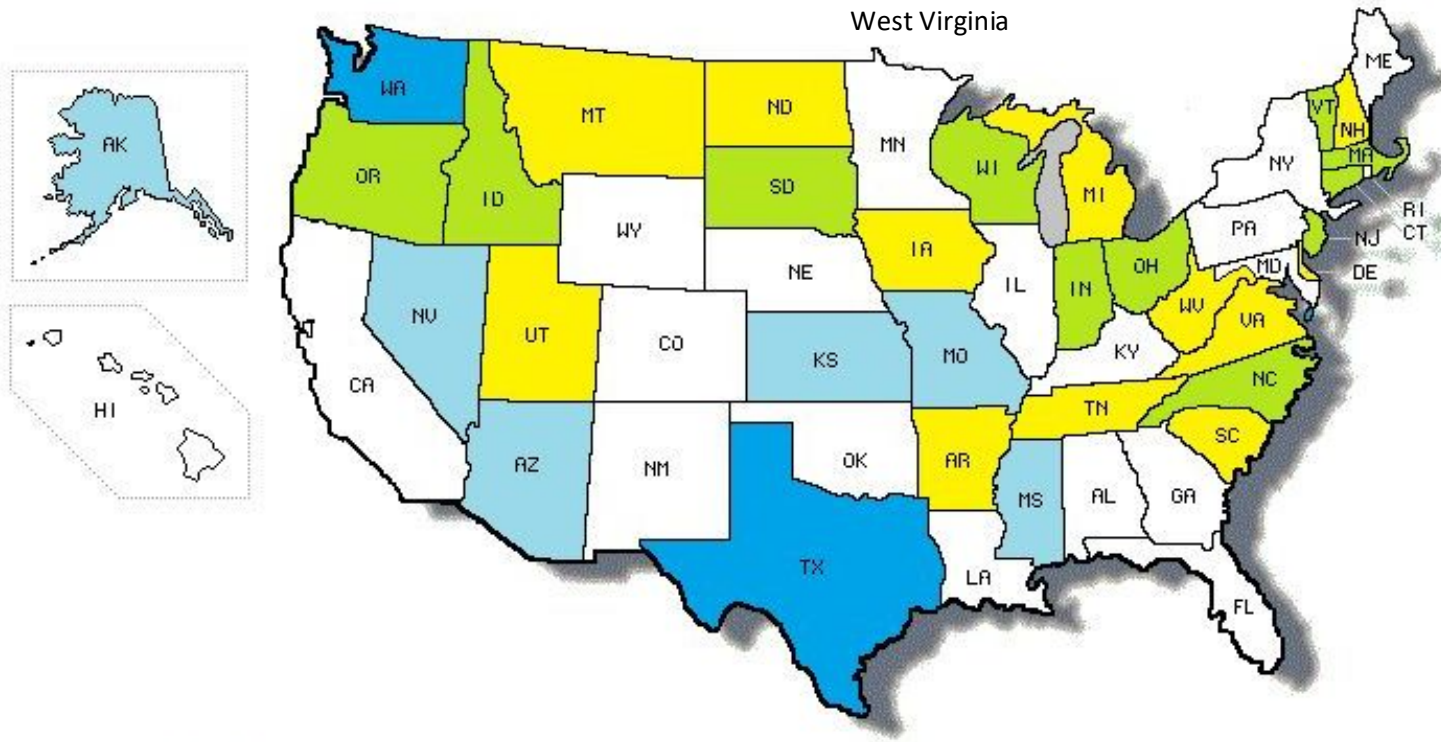
Arkansas
Delaware
Iowa
Michigan
Montana
New Hampshire
North Dakota
South Carolina
Tennessee
Utah
Virginia
West Virginia

Total: 3

District of Columbia
Texas
Washington

Total: 19

Alabama
California
Colorado
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Illinois
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Minnesota
Nebraska
New Mexico
New York
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Wyoming



State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
	IRC International Residential Code—Electrical Section NEC National Electrical Code	X Amendments do not include AFCI or GFCI provisions.			
Alabama	2008 NEC Effective 6/4/2017		Div. of Construction Management Dept. of Economic and Community Affairs	Adoption	The 2015 IRC was adopted, but the 2008 NEC is deemed equivalent to the electrical requirements of the IRC. The 2014 NEC only applies to state projects (effective 7/1/2016).
Alaska	No Statewide Adoption		Div. of Labor Standards and Safety	Adoption	"Public structures" and any place of employment are required to be completed under the 2017 NEC (effective 5/9/2018). "Public structures" are buildings such as hotels, resident housing with more than one rental unit, restaurants, taverns, lodging houses, children's homes, auditoriums, town halls, or any structure designed or used for public assembly, whether publicly or privately financed.
Arizona	No Statewide Adoption				
Arkansas	2017 NEC Effective 1/1/2018	AFCI	Department of Labor	Amendments	The 2017 NEC was adopted with an amendment which removes the requirement for arc-fault circuit-interrupters (AFCIs) in kitchens and laundry rooms.
California	2017 NEC Effective 1/1/2020		Building Standards Commission	Adopted Code	The 2019 California Electrical Code, or Part 3 of the California Building Standards Code, incorporates the 2017 edition of the NEC. Local jurisdictions may adopt more restrictive requirements if they are warranted by local conditions.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
Colorado	2020 NEC Effective 8/1/2020		Electrical Board	Adoption	
Connecticut	2015 IRC Effective 10/1/2018	AFCI/GFCI	Office of the State Building Inspector	Amendments	An exception was added for AFCI protection. It is not required for replacement receptacles. The GFCI amendment is editorial and does not affect the requirements of the code.
Delaware	2014 NEC Effective 3/11/2016	AFCI	Fire Prevention Commission	Amendments	The 2014 NEC was adopted in its entirety except for two amendments requiring smoke alarms to be installed on dedicated branch circuits without AFCI protection.
District of Columbia	2014 NEC Effective 5/29/2020	GFCI	Dept. of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs	Amendments	The 2014 NEC was adopted with an amendment requiring the 125-volt receptacle installed within 25 feet of the electrical service equipment in to be a 20-amp receptacle and GFCI-protected. This receptacle is not required in one- and two-family dwellings.
Florida	2017 NEC Effective 12/31/2020		Building Commission	IRC Amendments	Electrical systems, equipment and components are required to comply with the 2017 edition of the NEC.
Georgia	2020 NEC Effective 1/1/2020		Dept. of Community Affairs	Adoption IRC Amendments	The 2020 edition of the NEC was adopted without amendments.
Hawaii	2017 NEC Effective 8/21/2018		Building Code Council	Adoption	
Idaho	2017 NEC Effective 7/1/2017	AFCI/GFCI	Division of Building Safety	Amendments	AFCI protection requirements were amended to include only bedrooms. GFCI protection was removed from laundry areas and outlets supplying dishwashers. GFCI protection is still required within 6 feet of sinks.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
Illinois	2008 NEC Effective 7/1/2011		Capital Development Board	Adoption	Building codes, including the electrical code, may be adopted at the local level. All new construction must comply with the 2008 or later edition of the NEC for those jurisdictions which have not adopted a code locally.
Indiana	2018 IRC Effective 12/26/2019	AFCI/GFCI	Fire Prevention & Building Safety Commission	Amendments	AFCI protection requirements have been completely removed from the IRC, as have the provisions for tamper-resistant receptacles. GFCI protection was modified for spas, hot tubs, and hydromassage tubs.
Iowa	2017 NEC Effective 1/1/2018	AFCI	Electrical Examining Board	Amendments	The AFCI provisions for extending or modifying a branch circuit were deleted, but those for new construction were not amended.
Kansas	No Statewide Adoption		Office of the State Fire Marshal		2008 NEC was adopted by the state for state-owned buildings only.
Kentucky	2017 NEC Effective 1/1/2019		Dept. of Housing, Buildings and Construction	Adoption	
Louisiana	2014 NEC Effective 2/1/2018		State Uniform Construction Code Council	Adoption	
Maine	2014 NEC Effective 7/1/2014	X	Electricians' Examining Board	Amendments	The 2014 NEC was adopted with eight technical amendments which do not affect AFCI or GFCI requirements.
Maryland	2017 NEC Effective 3/25/2019		Building Codes Administration	Adoption	For the applicable electrical requirements, refer to the local electrical code and the National Electrical Code as adopted and enforced by the State Fire Marshal, authorized fire officials, or building officials.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
Massachusetts	2020 NEC Effective 1/1/2020	AFCI/GFCI	Dept. of Fire Services	Amendments	The GFCI provisions were amended. When determining the distance from receptacles, the shortest path may not be measured through a door opening or doorway. GFCI protection is specifically called out for receptacles within a cabinet supporting a sink. GFCI protection was removed for outdoor, non-receptacle outlets. AFCI protection requirements were expanded to include all circuits in dwelling units.
Michigan	2015 IRC Effective 2/8/2016	AFCI	LARA Building Division	Amendments	AFCI protection requirements have been completely removed from the IRC.
Minnesota	2020 NEC Effective 11/17/2020		Board of Electricity	Adoption	
Mississippi	No Statewide Adoption		State Fire Marshal	Adoption	Local jurisdictions shall adopt one of the last three editions of the IRC.
Missouri	No Statewide Adoption		Division of Fire Safety		The NEC was adopted by the state for state-owned buildings only.
Montana	2017 NEC Effective 12/7/2019	AFCI	State Electrical Board	Adoption	The requirements for AFCI protection was deleted for kitchens. Cities and counties are not permitted to amend the NEC as adopted by the State.
Nebraska	2017 NEC Effective 8/24/2017		State Electrical Division	Adoption	
Nevada	No Statewide Adoption		State Fire Marshal		The NEC was adopted by the state for state-owned buildings only.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
New Hampshire	2017 NEC Effective 9/15/2019	AFCI	State Building Code Review Board	Amendments	AFCI protection requirements were amended to allow the replacement of an AFCI device after repeated tripping with one without AFCI protection for as long as it takes the manufacturer to resolve the matter. This exception only applies where the branch circuit is not causing the AFCI device to trip. Affected receptacles need to be labelled and notice given to the property owner and occupants.
New Jersey	2017 NEC Effective 9/3/2019	AFCI/GFCI	Dept. of Community Affairs	Amendments	The requirement for AFCI protection on branch circuit extensions or modifications, was deleted. Replaced receptacles also do not need to provide AFCI protection. The NEC was adopted with two exceptions for GFCI protection: receptacles in garages that are not readily accessible, and receptacles dedicated for a specific appliance that is not easily moved.
New Mexico	2017 NEC Effective 2/1/2018	X	Construction Industries Division	Adoption	The amendments do not include any changes to the AFCI and GFCI protection requirements.
New York	2018 IRC Effective 5/12/2020	X	Code Enforcement & Administration	Adoption Adopted Code	The 2020 RCNYS, which is based on the 2018 IRC, was adopted without any changes to the AFCI and GFCI protection requirements. Jurisdictions may adopt more restrictive local standards.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
North Carolina	2017 NEC Effective 6/12/2018	AFCI/GFCI	Office of State Fire Marshal	Amendments Additional Amendments	The 2017 NEC was amended to remove AFCI requirements for kitchens and laundry areas. AFCI protection on branch circuit extensions is not required where existing conductors are not extended more than 50 ft. AFCI protection is not required for replacement receptacles (effective 1/1/2021). A single outdoor outlet receptacle specifically for use by a sewage lift pump was exempted from GFCI protection. The requirement for GFCI protection on kitchen dishwasher branch circuits was deleted. GFCI protection is not required in the garage for a single receptacle or a duplex receptacle for two appliances, which are not easily moved and located within dedicated space.
North Dakota	2017 NEC Effective 7/1/2017	AFCI	State Electrical Board	Amendments	The NEC was amended to exempt AFCI protection for refrigerators on a dedicated circuit and receptacles supplying sewer and sump pumps. GFCI protection was added for receptacles, other than single receptacles, serving garage door openers. The 2020 edition of the NEC goes into effect on 1/1/21.
Ohio	2017 NEC Effective 7/1/2019	AFCI/GFCI	Board of Building Standards	Amendments	AFCI protection was exempted for branch circuits supplying receptacles serving only kitchen countertops. GFCI protection was exempted for a single outlet receptacle serving a garage door opener and for a single receptacle serving a sump pump when a GFCI protected outlet is within 6 feet of the pump.
Oklahoma	2015 IRC Effective 11/2/2015	X	Uniform Building Code Commission	Amendments	The electrical amendments do not include any changes to the AFCI and GFCI protection requirements.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
Oregon	2017 NEC Effective 10/1/2017	AFCI/GFCI	Building Codes Division	Amendments Adopted Code	AFCI protection was added to alcoves, but was removed for hallways, kitchens and laundry areas and GFCI-protected receptacles in dining rooms. AFCI protection was also exempted for optional, dedicated outlets supplying equipment known to cause unwanted tripping, or on branch circuits supplying receptacles for appliances which are not easily moved or fastened in place. AFCI protection was also not required for extensions or modifications of existing circuits or when replacing or upgrading a service or panelboard. Exceptions for GFCI protection include single receptacles for appliances that are not easily moved or fastened in place, receptacles serving dishwashers and single receptacles for sewage or sump pumps. Such receptacles need to be labeled “not GFCI protected.”
Pennsylvania	2015 IRC Effective 10/1/2018	X	UCC Review and Advisory Council	Adoption	The 2015 IRC was adopted with several technical amendments which did not affect AFCI or GFCI protection.
Rhode Island	2017 NEC Effective 8/1/2019	X	Building Code Commission	Amendments	The 2017 NEC was adopted with several technical amendments which did not affect AFCI or GFCI protection.
South Carolina	2018 IRC Effective 1/1/2020	AFCI	Building Code Council	Adoption Amendments	The AFCI provisions were amended to exclude kitchens and laundry rooms.
South Dakota	2020 NEC Effective 7/1/2020	AFCI/GFCI	Electrical Commission	Amendments	The 2020 NEC was adopted with amendments. GFCI protection for receptacles does not include 250-volt receptacles. The requirement for GFCI protection for outdoor outlets was deleted. The AHJ may determine that AFCI and GFCI protection is not required for life support or similar equipment.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
Tennessee	2017 NEC Effective 3/19/2018	AFCI	State Fire Marshal	Amendments	AFCI protection requirements were amended to include only bedrooms.
Texas	2020 NEC Effective 11/1/2020	GFCI	Dept. of Licensing and Regulation	Adoption	The Texas Occupations Code § 1305.201 provides municipalities the authority to make local amendments to the NEC.
Utah	2015 IRC Effective 7/1/2019	AFCI	Uniform Building Code Commission	Adoption Amendments	AFCI protection requirements have been deleted for new construction. AFCI protection is also not required for extensions of existing circuits or an added outlet which does not significantly increase the existing electrical load—not including changes which are part of a remodel or addition. Codes are adopted by the Utah legislature, with the Building Code Commission making recommendations.
Vermont	2017 NEC Effective 10/1/2017	AFCI/GFCI	Building Code and Safety Services	Amendments	AFCI protection is not required where a branch circuit is extended solely for the purpose to hardwire single station smoke and or CO alarms in an existing dwelling. Amendments limit GFCI protection in laundry areas to those receptacles installed within 6 feet of a washing machine or sink.
Virginia	2015 IRC Effective 9/4/2018	AFCI	Dept. of Housing and Community Development	Adopted Code	The 2015 IRC was amended to limit the AFCI protection requirement to bedrooms.
Washington	2020 NEC Effective 10/29/2020	GFCI	Dept. of Labor & Industries	Amendments Significant Changes	GFCI protection is not required for a fire alarm system in a garage or unfinished basement. The receptacle and cover plate must be red and labeled. All fixed electrical equipment with exposed grounded metal parts within an enclosed shower area or within five feet of a bathtub must have GFCI protection. Cities might have separate electrical ordinances but must be at least as stringent as the State.

State	Residential Electrical Code Adopted and Effective Date	Technical Amendments (AFCI/GFCI/X)	State Agency	Documents	Notes
West Virginia	2017 NEC Effective 8/1/2020	AFCI	Office of the State Fire Marshal	Amendments	AFCI protection is not required for renovations which do not add square footage, except for in bedrooms. AFCI protection is not required for additions where no electrical service is installed.
Wisconsin	2017 NEC Effective 1/1/2020	AFCI/GFCI	Dept. of Safety and Professional Services	Amendments	AFCI protection is not required on branch circuits serving kitchens or branch circuit extensions or modifications. GFCI protection is not required due to a receptacle being within 6 feet of a kitchen sink, bathtub or shower stall. GFCI protection is also not required for receptacles in laundry areas or for a single receptacle serving a sump, sewage or condensate pump when a GFCI receptacle is within 3 feet of the non-GFCI receptacle.
Wyoming	2020 NEC Effective 7/1/2020		Dept. of Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety		Local jurisdictions may amend the electrical code.