

State	Separately Elected Executive Branch Officials	Tenure Potential	Appointment Powers	Budgetary Powers	Veto Powers	Party Control	Total Score	Rank
Idaho	1	5	2	1	2.5	5	16.5	32
Kansas	3	4	2.5	5	2.5	4	21	32
Kentucky	2.5	4	3	4	2.5	3	19	32
New Hampshire	5	2	2.5	4	0	3	16.5	32
Texas	2	5	1.5	2	2.5	4	17	32
Virginia	2.5	3	3.5	5	3	3	20	32
Wyoming	2	4	3	2	5	5	21	40
Nevada	2.5	4	2.5	5	0	4	18	41
South Carolina	1	4	2.5	2	2.5	4	16	41
South Dakota	3	4	3	5	3	4.5	22.5	41
Indiana	3	4	3.5	5	0	4	19.5	44
Mississippi	3	4	2	5	5	3	22	44
North Carolina	3	4	2.5	2	1.5	2	15	44
Alabama	1.5	4	2.5	4	4	4	20	47
Oklahoma	1	4	1.5	2	2	4	14.5	47
Rhode Island	4	4	3	2	0	1	14	49
Vermont	2	2	2.5	5	0	4	15.5	50

Source: Thad Beyle and Margaret Ferguson, “Governors and the Executive Branch,” in *Politics in the American States*, 10th edition, eds. Virginia Gray and Russell L. Hanson (Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2012).

Separately elected executive branch officials: 5 = only governor or governor/lieutenant governor team elected; 4.5 = governor or governor/lieutenant governor team, with one other elected official; 4 = governor/lieutenant governor team with some process officials (attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer, auditor) elected; 3 = governor/lieutenant governor team with process officials, and some major and minor policy officials elected; 2.5 = governor (no team) with six or fewer officials elected, but none are major policy officials; 2 = governor (no team) with six or fewer officials elected, including one major policy official; 1.5 = governor (no team) with six or fewer officials elected, but two are major policy officials; 1 = governor (no team) with seven or more process and several major policy officials elected. **Source:** Council of State Governments, ed., *The Book of the States 2007* (Lexington, KY: Council of State Governments, 2007).

Tenure potential: 5 = 4-year term, no restraint on reelection; 4.5 = 4-year term, only three terms permitted; 4 = 4-year term, only two terms permitted; 3 = 4-year term, no consecutive election permitted; 2 = 2-year term, no restraint on reelection; 1 = 2-year term, only two terms permitted. **Source:** Council of State Governments, ed., *The Book of the States 2007* (Lexington, KY: Council of State Governments, 2007).

Appointment powers: In six major functional areas, including corrections, K–12 education, health, highways/transportation, public utilities regulation, and welfare. The six individual office scores are totaled and then averaged and rounded to the nearest 0.5 for the state score. 5 = governor appoints, no other approval needed; 4 = governor appoints, a board, council, or legislature approves; 3 = someone else appoints, governor approves or shares appointment; 2 = someone else appoints, governor and others

approve; 1 = someone else appoints, no approval or confirmation needed. Budgetary power: 5 = governor has full responsibility, legislature may not increase executive budget; 4 = governor has full responsibility, legislature can increase by special majority vote or subject to item veto; 3 = governor has full responsibility, legislature has unlimited power to change executive budget; 2 = governor shares responsibility, legislature has unlimited power to change executive budget; 1 = governor shares responsibility with other elected official, legislature has unlimited power to change executive budget. **Sources:** Council of State Governments, ed., *The Book of the States 2007* (Lexington, KY: Council of State Governments, 2007); National Conference of State Legislatures, “Limits on Authority of Legislature to Change Budget,” 1998.

Veto power: 5 = governor has item veto and a special majority vote of the legislature is needed to override a veto (three fifths of legislators elected or two thirds of legislators present); 4 = has item veto with a majority of the legislators elected needed to override; 3 = has item veto with only a majority of the legislators present needed to override; 2 = no item veto, with a special legislative majority needed to override a regular veto; 1 = no item veto, only a simple legislative majority needed to override a regular veto. **Source:** Council of State Governments, ed., *The Book of the States 2007* (Lexington, KY: Council of State Governments, 2007).

Party control: The governor’s party—5 = has a substantial majority (75% or more) in both houses of the legislature; 4 = has a simple majority in both houses (under 75%), or a substantial majority in one house and a simple majority in the other; 3 = has split control in the legislature or a nonpartisan legislature; 2 = has a simple minority (25% or more) in both houses, or a simple minority in one and a substantial minority (under 25%) in the other; 1 = has a substantial minority in both houses. **Source:** National Conference of State Legislatures website, <http://www.ncsl.org>.

Score: Total divided by six to keep 5-point scale.