



STATE	2021	2022	2023	2024	Opt-Out	Destruction Form	Refusal Form
Alabama	3 mo	3 mo	3 mo	3 mo	Religious	NA	Yes
Alaska	3 yrs	3 yrs	3 yrs	3 yrs	Yes	No	Yes
Arizona ¹	3 mo/ Indefinitely*	3 mo/indefinitely	3 mo/indefinitely	3 mo / indefinitely*	Yes	NA	Yes
Arkansas	2yrs	1 yr/indefinitely	1 yr/indefinitely	1 yr / indefinitely*	Medical, Religious, Philosophical	NA	Uncertain
California ¹	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Religious	Yes	collection card
Colorado	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	Personal/Religious	NA	Uncertain
Connecticut	>2yrs	>2yrs	>2yrs	>2yrs	Religious	NA	Yes
Delaware	3 yrs	3 yrs	3 yrs	3 mo	Religious	NA	Yes - Can't Find
D.C.	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Yes	NA	Uncertain
Florida	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	Yes	NA	Uncertain
Georgia	3 mo/ 2 yrs*	3 mo/ 2 yrs*	3 mo/ 2 yrs*	16wks / > 1 yr*	Religious	Yes - after 12 weeks	No? 511-5-5-.03
Hawaii	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Religious	NA	Yes
Idaho	18 mo	18 mo	18 mo	18 mo	Religious	NA	Uncertain
Illinois	2 mo / 6 yrs*	2 mo / 6 yrs*	2 mo / 6 yrs*	2 mo / 6 yrs*	Religious	NA	Uncertain
Indiana	6 mo / 3 yrs	6 mo / 3 yrs	6 mo / 3 yrs	3 yrs	Religious	Yes	Yes
Iowa	5 yrs	5 yrs	5 yrs	5 yrs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kansas ¹	1 mo / Indefinitely*	1 mo / Indefinitely*	1 mo / Indefinitely*	1 mo / Indefinitely*	Religious	NA	Uncertain
Kentucky ¹	2 mo / Indefinitely*	2 mo / Indefinitely*	2 mo / Indefinitely*	2 mo / Indefinitely*	Strict Religious	NA	Uncertain
Louisiana	1 mo	1 mo	1 mo	1 mo	Yes	NA	Uncertain
Maine ¹	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Religious	Yes	Yes
Maryland	25 yrs	25 yrs	25 yrs	25 yrs	Yes	NA	Yes
Massachusetts ¹	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Religious	Uncertain - Allowed	Yes
Michigan ¹	100 yrs	100 yrs	100 yrs	100 yrs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minnesota ^{1, 2}	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Indefinitely	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mississippi	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Religious	Yes - Request for Card	Yes
Missouri	5 yrs	5 yrs	5 yrs	5 yrs	Religious	Yes - Write Letter	Yes - Just in Writing
Montana	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Yes	Yes - Can't Find	NA
Nebraska	120 / Indefinitely with Parent Consent*	120 / Indefinitely with Parent Consent*	120 / Indefinitely with Parent Consent*	120 / Indefinitely with Parent Consent*	No - Civil Action to Force Compliance	No	No
Nevada	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Personal/Religious	No	Yes
New Hampshire	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	Yes	No	Yes
New Jersey	23 yrs	23 yrs	23 yrs	2 yrs	Religious	No	MR
New Mexico	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Yes	No	Yes
New York	27 yrs	27 yrs	27 yrs	27 yrs	Religious	Yes	Yes
North Carolina	5 yrs	5 yrs	5 yrs	5 yrs	Yes	Unknown	Yes - Can't Find

North Dakota	18 years	18 yrs	18 yrs	18 yrs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ohio	> 2 yrs	> 2 yrs	> 2 yrs	> 2 yrs	Religious	No	Yes
Oklahoma	42 Days	42 Days	42 Days	42 Days	Religious	No	Yes
Oregon	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Religious	Yes	Yes
Pennsylvania	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Religious	Yes	Yes
Rhode Island	23 yrs	23 yrs	23 yrs	23 yrs	Religious	No	Yes
South Carolina ¹	Until Completed Test ~12 mo	Until Completed Test ~12 mo	Until Completed Test ~12 mo	Until Completed Test ~12 mo	Religious	Yes	Yes
South Dakota	Unknown	Until Completed Test	Until Completed Test	Until Completed Test	Yes	No	No
Tennessee ¹	12 mo/ Indefinitely*	12 mo/ Indefinitely*	12 mo/ Indefinitely*	12 mo/ Indefinitely*	Religious	unknown	Yes
Texas ⁴	2 yrs	2 yrs	2 yrs	2 yrs	Religious	Yes	Yes
Utah ⁶	> 90 days	> 90 days	> 90 days	> 90 days	Strict Religious	Yes	Yes
Vermont	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Yes	Uncertain - Allowed	Yes
Virginia ¹	6 mo/ 10 yrs*	6 mo/ 10 yrs*	6 mo/ 10 yrs*	6 mo/ 10 yrs*	Religious	No	Yes
Washington ⁷	21 yrs	21 yrs	21 yrs	21 yrs	Religious	Yes	Back of Card
West Virginia	3 mo	3 mo	3 mo	3 mo	No	No	No
Wisconsin	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	Religious/Personal	No	Unclear
Wyoming	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	6 mo	Yes	Unknown	Yes

1. States that have extended retention for positive results (from 10 yrs to indefinitely) as of 2018.

2. The Minnesota Department of Health was required to destroy all samples collected prior to August 1, 2014.

3. Unless requested for research, blood spots are stored for 90 days and must be destroyed within 30 days of the expiration of the 90 day period.

4. In February 2008, the NNSIS showed Texas retention as 6 mo. in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008. On March 12, 2009, the Texas Civil Rights Project sued the Texas Department of Health after a newspaper in Austin, Texas reported that the Texas Department of Health has been keeping newborn blood indefinitely for the past six yrs. On March 20, 2009 there was no retention data from 2005 – 2009.

5. Blood spots received: before 5/27/2009 were destroyed | 5/27/2009 - 5/31/2012 kept indefinitely | 6/1/2012 or later kept 2 yrs.

6. The blood spot specimens becomes the property of the state of Utah as soon as it is received by the Utah State Public Health Laboratory.

7. The blood spot specimens becomes the property of the state of Washington.

* The first length of time indicates how long samples are kept when nothing unusual is detected. Second length of time indicates how long samples are retained when an abnormality is discovered.

** Chart was not updated in 2020