UNITED STATES ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

VOTER REGISTRATION SURVEY

The following form should be completed on-line or in electronic format. Completed forms should be returned to the United States Election Assistance Commission via email to Survey Response@eac.gov on or before March 31, 2005.

Please complete all of the fields below. Specific instructions relative to certain fields are found at the end of this form. If your question or concern is not answered in the instructions section of this form, please contact Brian Hancock at 202-566-3100.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:	
Name of the responding State: Maine	Date response is submitted: 3/30/05
Name of responding official: Hon. Matthew Dunlap	Title of responding official: Secretary of State
Address of responding official: 148 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0148	Email Address: sos.office@maine.gov

	Phone Number: 207 626-8400	Fax Number: 207 287-8598

TOTAL VOTER REGISTRATION:
Please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

1. Total number of registered voters (active) at the time of the close of registration for the 2002 Federal general election

     950,059

2. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of registration for the 2002 Federal general election

     60,275

3. Total number of registered voters (active) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)

    1,025,738

4. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)

    54,750

5. Total number of registered voters who were determined to be eligible to vote in the November 2, 2004 election through the provisional voting process.

    464 challenged (provisional) ballots were issued statewide. All challenged voters were deemed eligible and the ballots counted.

6. Were there any voter registration applications received prior to the deadline for registering to vote in the November 2, 2004 election that were not processed in time for the election?

    ◯ Yes   ◉ No

VOTER REGISTRATION OFFICIALS:
Please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

7. Identify the local election official primarily responsible for registering voters.

    Municipal registrar of voters

8. Identify each and every other state or local government office or agency that conducts voter registration including (a) motor vehicle offices, (b) all offices that provide public assistance that are mandated as registration sites by NVRA, (c) all offices that provide state-funded programs primarily serving persons with disabilities, (d) all Armed Forces recruitment offices, and (e) all other agencies designated by the State.

    Inside agencies including Dept. of Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions, and Bureau of Motor Vehicles; outside agencies including Dept. of Human Services, Bureau of Family Independence, Bureau of Health and Bureau of Rehabilitation; armed forces recruitment offices; public high schools and offices of municipal clerks and registrars.

9. Identify whether voter registration forms are received by local registration officials or state registration officials.

    ○ Local   ○ State   ⊙ Both

10. Identify whether voter registration forms are processed by local registration officials or state registration officials.

    ⊙ Local   ○ State   ○ Both

11. Total number of election jurisdictions conducting voter registration
    501

12. Total number of jurisdictions identified in question 11 that provided information for this survey

    4 municipalities failed to file data reports -- Kingman Twp. (151 registered voters), Prentiss Twp. (128), Webster Plt. (56), Brighton Plt. (71)

VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS:
Please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

13. Total number of voter registration applications received from all sources during the period from the close of registration for the November 2002 federal election until the close of registration for the November 2004 Federal election
    374,923

14. Total number of **mail** voter registration applications (including state, federal, and military or overseas forms that are accepted) received during the period from the close of registration for the November 2002 Federal election until the close of registration for the November 2004 Federal election
    30,217

15. Total number of voter registration applications received **in person in the clerk or voter registrars' office** during the period from the close of registration for the November 2002 Federal election until the close of registration for the November 2004 Federal election
    227,173

16. Total number voter registration applications received from each voter registration agency, including (1) motor vehicle offices, (2) all public assistance agencies that are mandated as registration sites by NVRA, (3) all offices that provide state-funded programs primarily serving persons with disabilities, (4) all Armed Forces recruitment offices, and (5) all other agencies designated by the State (those identified in response to question 8), during the period from the close of registration for the November 2002 Federal election until the close of registration for the November 2004 Federal general election

    Motor Vehicle Offices   100,872

    Offices that provide Public Assistance   6,646

    Offices the provide State-funded programs primarily serving persons with disabilities   257

    Armed Forces recruitment offices   0

    Other agencies designated by the State   1,273   Miscellaneous 8,485

17. Total number of voter registration applications identified in response to questions 14 – 17 that were **changes of address, name or party**

    The State did not require registrars to track or report this information. We will be able to report this starting in 2006, with the implementation of the CVR.

18. Total number of voter registration applications identified in response to questions 14-17 that were **duplicates** of other valid voter registrations

    13,199

19. Total number of voter registration applications identified in response to question 13 that were invalid or rejected (other than duplicates)

    The State did not require registrars to track or report this information. We will be able to report this starting in 2006, with the implementation of the CVR.

20. How are voter registration applications transferred from other voter registration agencies (see question 16) to the official responsible for voter registration? (i.e. email, VPN, tape, disk, mail, fax)

    Voter registration agencies mail or transmit via inter-office mail all applications to the Division of Elections. The Division of Elections then sorts the applications based on the registrant's residence and mails the applications to the appropriate municipality.

21. What, if any, training is provided to employees of voter registration agencies on the voter registration process?

Written training materials have been provided to all voter registration agencies, with periodic updates provided as changes dictate. The Secretary of State Division of Elections has provided annual training to BMV staff during the last two years.

22. Identify any restrictions on the acceptance of voter registration applications such as paper weight, fax, electronic, mail (for non-NVRA states), batch, third-party delivery, etc.

Applications must be submitted with an original signature. An application that also serves as an absentee ballot application can be faxed, but must also be mailed.

23. Total number of new valid registrations added to the voter registration lists between the 2002 and 2004 Federal general elections

279,562

PROCESSING VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS:
Please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

24. How are voter registration applications maintained (e.g., paper or computerized)?

◯ Paper   ◯ Computerized   ⦿ Other

If Other is selected, please specify the method of maintaining records.

Each jurisdiction currently maintains its own voter list. Most jurisdictions maintain lists using a variety of electonic systems, however a few still use paper lists.

25. How does the registration official check for duplicate registrations?

Currently, there is no system to check for duplicate registrations across jurisdictional lines. Statutes do require local registrars to send cancellation notices to the registrant's municipality of previous registration.

26. Does your State check for duplicate voter registrations across state lines?

◯ Yes   ⦿ No

27.   What type of number is used as a voter registration number (e.g., social security number, unique identifier)? If a unique identifier is used, please identify what method is used for assigning the identified (e.g., random, combination of county number and other number)

⊙ Social Security Number (4 digits)   ○ Driver's License Number

○ Social Security Number (9 digits)   ○ Unique Identifier

⊙ Other

None used at this time. When CVR implemented, state will begin using driver's license number or last 4 digits of social security number when DL not available. Voters with neither will be assigned unique number as an identifier.

28.   Are applicants who are rejected notified of the rejection and reason for rejection?

⊙ Yes   ○ No

LIST MAINTENANCE:
Please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

29.   How many removal notices (Section 8(d)(2) confirmation notices) were sent between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004?
81,546

30.   How many responses were received to the confirmation notices identified in response to question 29?
21,930

31.   How many voters were moved to the inactive list?
Registrars are only required to report the number of voters on the inactive list as of each election day. We will be able to report this starting in 2006

32.   How many voters were ultimately removed from the voter rolls between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004?
153,507

33. How many voters were removed from the voter rolls between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004 because of the **death of the voter**?

Maine does not require registrars to report the reason for deletion -- only the total number of voters deleted. We will be able to report this starting in 2006.

34. How many voters were removed from the voter rolls between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004 due to **failure to vote in two consecutive federal general elections**?

See question 33

35. How many voters were removed from the voter rolls between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004 because the **voter requested to be removed**?

See question 33

36. How many voters were moved from the voter rolls between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004 because of **disqualifying felony convictions**?

Maine does not restrict persons convicted of a felony from voting, either while the felon is incarcerated or after release of all sentences.

37. How many voters were removed from the voter rolls between the close of registration for the November 2002 election and November 2, 2004 for reasons other than those set forth in questions 33 – 36? Please specify the reason for the removal.

See question 33

38. What sources of data are considered in performing list maintenance (e.g., returned election notices, returned jury summons, Postal Service NCOA information, house-to-house canvasses, etc.)?

Pursuant to our rules for list maintenance, a registrar can use any indication of an address change to send a removal notice (Section 8(d)(2) confirmation notice under NVRA) Voters' names can only be deleted from the voting list with written confirmation from the voter or by first utilizing inactive designation for a period of 2 federal general elections

39. What process is used to perform list maintenance? (e.g., is the process electronic or manual)

Each municipality performs its own list maintenance. Most use electronic systems; however some still use paper for the list.

40. Who is responsible for list maintenance (e.g., state or locality)?

Each municipality is responsible for its own list maintenance.

41. How does your State treat voters who (a) have been convicted of a felony, (b) are serving a sentence of incarceration for conviction of a felony, and (c) are serving a term of probation following being convicted of a felony?

(a) Convicted of a felony

Maine does not place any limitations on voters who have been convicted of a felony, including felons who are serving a sentence of incarceration or who are serving a term of probation.

(b) Serving a sentence of incarceration for conviction of a felony

(c) Serving a term of probation following being convicted of a felony

NVRA AND HAVA PROVISIONS:
Please respond to the following questions in the space provided below.

42. Is your State subject to the National Voter Registration Act?

◉ Yes ○ No

43. Has your State revised its state voter or mail voter registration form to include the citizenship and age questions required by HAVA?

◉ Yes ○ No

44. How does your State treat applications where one or more of the HAVA mandated questions (citizenship and age) are not answered?

If the citizenship question is left blank or answered with a "No", the application is rejected. If the age question is answered with a "No" or left blank, the registrar uses the date of birth to confirm the registrant's actual age.

45. Total number of voter registration applications that were accepted and processed without the applicant completing the question "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?"

    While municipal registrars were not required to report this information, we have advised registrars to reject applications that were missing this information.

46. Total number of voter registration applications that were accepted and processed without the applicant completing the question "Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day?"

    The State of Maine does not ask registrars to track or report the reason for rejection. We will be able to report this starting in 2006, with the implementation of the CVR.

47. Has your State implemented the verification requirements of HAVA for new mail registrations?

    ⦿ Yes   ◯ No

48. Has your State implemented the verification requirements of HAVA for all new registrations?

    ⦿ Yes   ◯ No

49. How does your State verify voter registration applications (e.g., tracking the return of disposition notices, checks against drivers license and social security administration records, etc.)?

    Currently, registrars use only return of disposition notices. When the State's CVR is implemented, we will begin also using checks against drivers licenses, social security records and state vital statistics record.

50. Has your State implemented a statewide voter registration database?

    ◯ Yes   ⦿ No

    If the answer is no, when will your State implement a statewide voter registration database and what progress has been made toward achieving that implementation?
    A vendor is now under contract. The State and vendor are currently working to customize the core system. All 501 municipalities will be online by January 1, 2006.

Does the database or any solicitation for such a database include linking disability and social service agencies to the database in a similar manner as the state department of motor vehicles?

○ Yes   ◉ No

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES:
Please respond to the following questions in the blanks provided below.

51. Does your State allow outside groups to conduct voter registration drives and submit the voter registration applications to the local registration official for processing?

◉ Yes   ○ No

52. How does your State manage the number of applications given to the outside group and the number and timing of the return of those forms by the outside registration group?
The State will provide an any group with applications and instructions for completing and returning the applications either to the State or to the appropriate municipal registrar. These instructions include the deadline for municipalities receiving 3rd party applications.

53. Does your State use serial numbers on voter registration applications given to outside groups and organizations in order to be able to identify which group or organization handled completed applications that are received by State and local officials?

○ Yes   ◉ No

54. Does your State permit agents of outside groups to be paid compensation for registering voters?

◉ Yes   ○ No

If so, may the agent be paid on the basis of the number of voter registrations submitted?

◉ Yes   ○ No

If payment of a voter registration is prohibited, what is the penalty for violating the prohibition?

55.   Are voter registration records public information?

   ⦿ Yes   ◯   No

56.   Are voter registrations available for sale to the public?

   ⦿ Yes   ◯   No

Instructions:

Please answer every question. Do not leave any questions blank. The appropriate answer may be "0", "none", or "N/A". This survey seeks information only from the State level.