

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: VERMONT	Date response is submitted: 3-31-2005	
Name of responding official: Kathleen S. DeWolfe	Title of responding official: Director of Elections & Campaign Finance	
Address of responding official: Office of the Secretary of State 26 Terrace Street Montpelier, VT 05609	Email Address: kdewolfe@sec.state.vt.us	
	Phone Number: 802-828-2363	Fax Number: 802-828-5171

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
415,733
2. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of registration for the 2002 Federal general election
unknown

3. Total number of registered voters (active) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)
- 444,077
4. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)
- unknown
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.
- 30
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.
- Town or City Clerk (municipal office)
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.
- DMV - Dept of Motor Vehicles
Agency of Human Services (including Dept of Health, Dept of Protection, Assistance, Dept of Aging & Disabilities and subcontractor agencies providing services to individuals)
Armed Forces recruitment offices throughout the state

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

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
63,876
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
11782
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
21,002

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

Offices that provide Public Assistance

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

Armed Forces recruitment offices

Other agencies designated by the State

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

2,958

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

1,535

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

unknown

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)

U.S. Mail

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

A training manual is provided by the Elections Division. We provide additional train the trainer sessions for agencies upon request. We respond to telephone and email questions from employees of voter registration agencies.

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.

The only restriction is that a signed original form must be received

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

61,150

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.

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

Until the statewide checklist is available, the local clerk only checks for duplicates within that jurisdiction.

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

No number is currently used in Vermont. When the statewide checklist is implemented we will use the Vermont Driver's License, if any, or the last 4 digits of SSN, if any, or a unique 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?

27,674

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

14,216

31. How many voters were moved to the inactive list?

8,884

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?

36,499

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**?
3,630
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**?
6,828
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**?
8,176
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**?
None - Vermont allows felons to vote.
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.
377
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.)?
Death certificates, Grand lists, BCA members, returned mail, postal service, small town knowledge, other state notifications.
39. What process is used to perform list maintenance? (e.g., is the process electronic or manual)
Manual and electronic - some towns are both, some are one or the other.

40. Who is responsible for list maintenance (e.g., state or locality)?
Local Board of Civil Authority (Local Election Board) and local clerk.
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
Allowed to vote
- (b) Serving a sentence of incarceration for conviction of a felony
Allowed to vote
- (c) Serving a term of probation following being convicted of a felony
Allowed to vote

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?
Local clerk contacts individuals to have form completed.

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?”

0

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?”

0

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.)?

We cannot implement the verification requirements until we implement the statewide checklist but we are building all required verifications into the system.

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?

Vermont has developed the database to be used and will begin conversion of data from local jurisdictions in April or May. We expect to complete the conversion and training in October.

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 Elections Division distributes applications upon request. We meet with the group leaders and explain the importance of either having the voter return the form or the group returning the form to the local clerk before the deadline.

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?

N/A - Vermont law does not address this issue but we have not heard of anyone ever being paid for voter registration in Vermont.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

Please respond to the following questions in the blanks provided below.

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.