

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](mailto:SurveyResponse@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: Ohio	Date response is submitted: 03-31-2005	
Name of responding official: Patricia A. Wolfe	Title of responding official: Director of Elections	
Address of responding official: Office of the Ohio Secretary of State Elections Division 180 East Broad Street, 15th Floor Columbus, OH 43215	Email Address: pwolfe@sos.state.oh.us	
	Phone Number: 614.466.2585	Fax Number: 614.752.4360

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
6,504,231
2. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of registration for the 2002 Federal general election
None; Ohio does not maintain an "inactive" voter file.

3. Total number of registered voters (active) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)
- 7,981,478
4. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)
- None; Ohio does not maintain an "inactive" voter file.
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.
- 119,033
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.
- The Board of Elections in each of Ohio's 88 counties.
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.

All deputy registrars of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles.
 All offices of the following public agencies: Ohio Department of Human Services, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Mental Health, Ohio Department of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disability, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission.
 All public high schools and public vocational schools.
 All public libraries.
 All state-supported colleges and universities.
 The offices of Ohio's 88 County Treasurers.
 The Office of the Ohio Secretary of State.
 U.S. Armed Forces Recruitment offices, to the extent they choose to do so.

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
88.
12. Total number of jurisdictions identified in question 11 that provided information for this survey
88.

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
2,834,685
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
1,035,780
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

Unable to answer question as presented, because Ohio does not have any "clerk or voter registrar's" offices. However, 997,632 voter registration applications were received in person in the offices of Ohio's 88 county boards of elections during the prescribed period of time.

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 555,965

Offices that provide Public Assistance 38,821

Offices the provide State-funded programs primarily serving persons with disabilities 2,185

Armed Forces recruitment offices 2,045

Other agencies designated by the State 202,257

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

937,026 changes of name and/or address. ("Changes of party" inapplicable, because the Ohio voter registration process excludes identification of the applicant's political party affiliation.)

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

329,814

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

36,251

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)

In person or via U.S. Mail.

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

All have been provided training under a program established by the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State.

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.

Paper weight: State law requires the secretary of state to prescribe the voter registration application. Federal law requires the States to provide a voter registration form that is a self-mailer. The form prescribed by the Ohio Secretary of State complies with the federal self-mailer mandate and, consequently, with the U.S. Postal Services' mandatory regulations regarding self-mailers.
Fax: Members of the U.S. Armed Forces may fax an FPCA to election officials to register to vote. Electronically transmitted applications are not acceptable. Third parties must deliver in person voter registration applications entrusted to them.

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

1,531,594

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?

Each voter registration is checked automatically when a board of elections submits the registrant's information to be added to the State data base.

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

Each voter is assigned a unique identifier containing 12 characters: the two letters "OH" plus 10 randomly selected numbers generated by the computer.

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?

1,173,677

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

317,197

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

None; Ohio does not maintain an "inactive" voter list.

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?

718,389

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**?
Data unavailable; information not tracked.
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**?
None. However, 382,645 were removed because they failed both (a) to respond to a confirmation notice and (b) thereafter failed to vote in two consecutive federal general elections.
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**?
Data unavailable; information not tracked.
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**?
Data unavailable; information not tracked.
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.
Data unavailable; information not tracked.
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.)?
Returned election notices and jury summons, U.S.P.S.'s NCOA information, independently corroborated obituaries, notices from public health officials and court officials, notices from out-of-state election officials, secretary of state duplicate lists.
39. What process is used to perform list maintenance? (e.g., is the process electronic or manual)
Electronic.

40. Who is responsible for list maintenance (e.g., state or locality)?
State and local election officials are jointly responsible.
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
In accordance with state law, a board of elections must cancel the voter registration of a person upon receiving notice from the appropriate court that the person has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this state, any other state or the United States.
- (b) Serving a sentence of incarceration for conviction of a felony
Pursuant to Section 2961.01 of the Revised Code of Ohio, a convicted felon is disfranchised while incarcerated on a felony conviction.
- (c) Serving a term of probation following being convicted of a felony
A felon on probation or parole (or after receiving a final discharge) may register to vote and vote, unless the conviction constituted a second conviction for violating the election laws, in which case the person is permanently disfranchised.

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?
Ohio followed the "Best Practices" procedures announced by the EAC for the November 2004 general election, encouraging election officials to process an otherwise valid voter registration application if the applicant signed an affirmation statement containing the requisite age and citizenship statements. However, the EAC should clarify how the States are to utilize the "Best Practices" document in the event the "Best Practices" do not conform to all HAVA compliance requirements.

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?”

Data unavailable; information not tracked.

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?”

Data unavailable; information not tracked.

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.)?

Checks against drivers license and social security administration records.

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?

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?

A reasonable number of applications is provided upon request, and when those applications are submitted, the group is given more applications, if so requested. Anyone helping with voter registration outside an official registration place must return any registration form entrusted to that person to election officials by the voter registration deadline. (See R.C. 3599.11(B).)

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?

Does not apply.

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.