

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.

<b>RESPONDENT INFORMATION:</b>		
Name of the responding State: WASHINGTON	Date response is submitted: JUNE 2, 2005	
Name of responding official: HAL LYMUS JR.	Title of responding official: RESEARCH ANALYST	
Address of responding official: 520 UNION AVE. SE P.O. BOX 40237 OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0237	Email Address: hlymus@secstate.wa.gov	
	Phone Number: 360.902.4177	Fax Number: 360.664.4619

**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  
3,209,648
2. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of registration for the 2002 Federal general election  
555,350

3. Total number of registered voters (active) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)  
3,508,208
  
4. Total number of registered voters (inactive) at the time of the close of polls for the 2004 Federal general election (November 2, 2004)  
468,147
  
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.  
3,976,355
  
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.  
County Auditors of 38 counties and the Director of King County Records, Elections, and Licensing Services.
  
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.  
  
 Motor Voter Registration - The Department of Licensing (DOL) Agency-Based Voter Registration (ABVR) is comprised of: Department of Services for the Blind Department of Veteran Services Department of Social and Health Services - Division of Aging & Adults Services - Division of Community Service Offices - Division of Developmental Disabilities - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Department of Health - Women – Infants & Children United States Armed Military Forces Disability Service Offices (Colleges/Universities) HR-6 (State Colleges/ Technical/Universities) \* Department of Labor & Industries and Intercity Transit, participate on a voluntary basis.

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  
39
12. Total number of jurisdictions identified in question 11 that provided information for this survey  
39

**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  
1,064,458
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  
454,497
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  
224,281

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 193,533

Offices that provide Public Assistance 14,771

Offices the provide State-funded programs primarily serving persons with disabilities 270

Armed Forces recruitment offices 184

Other agencies designated by the State 578

17. Total number of voter registration applications identified in response to questions 14 – 17 that were **changes of address, name or party**  
303,263

18. Total number of voter registration applications identified in response to questions 14-17 that were **duplicates** of other valid voter registrations  
60,921

19. Total number of voter registration applications identified in response to question 13 that were invalid or rejected (other than duplicates)  
39,746

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 applications are transferred from DOL both electronically and paper to the Office of the Secretary of State. The OSOS sorts and sends to individual counties on both disk and paper by mail. All other agencies transfer applications by mail.

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

The Office of the Secretary of State does training for the 39 counties' election offices. The OSOS is in the process of developing training for other state agencies, other than written instructions.

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.

Washington State does not accept electronic registrations, except when authorized by law to participate in special projects. Registrations may be accepted by fax, when the original is received within 7 days following transmission. Third party delivery of registrations is accepted

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

669,370

**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.

Currently, all counties keep a paper file of the registration forms. Most of the counties are scanning the documents and maintaining an electronic file as well. In 2006, all counties will upgrade their registration systems

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

Currently, each county searches their database for duplicates upon entry of any new registration. The state conducts a comparison between counties once a year to identify duplicates within the state.

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

Currently, voter registration numbers are issued by the county voter registration system. This number is usually a sequential number generated upon entry of a new registration. When the statewide database comes on line in 2006, a random number will be generated as

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?

454,729

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

82,853

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

185,908

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?

332,949

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**?  
30,962
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**?  
108,944
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**?  
28,859
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**?  
4,165
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.  
79,776
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.)?  
List Maintenance is conducted through returned election mail, jury summons, and NCOA information.
39. What process is used to perform list maintenance? (e.g., is the process electronic or manual)  
Larger counties use an electronic process to scan the barcode of returned mail. Smaller counties use a manual process of data entry.

40. Who is responsible for list maintenance (e.g., state or locality)?  
County Auditors' Election Offices
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  
If the notice is from a court, the registration is canceled.
- (b) Serving a sentence of incarceration for conviction of a felony  
If the notice is from a court, the registration is canceled.
- (c) Serving a term of probation following being convicted of a felony  
If the notice is from a court, the registration is canceled.

**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 citizenship is not answered, it is treated as incomplete and the voter is contacted for the missing information, according to state law. If the age question is not answered, the date of birth is checked. If the date of birth is given and the voter is eligible, the registration is processed.



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?”

Unknown, this specific information was 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?”

Unknown, this specific information was 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.)?

Currently, all mail in registration come to the state where each one is manually matched against drivers licenses. If a registration is in person, it is not currently subject to being matched. In 2006, all new registrations will be matched.

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?  
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 limits forms based on the size of the organization. A statewide group may get 10,000 forms, while a more local group may get 1,000 forms. All groups are required by law to submit completed forms once a week.

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?

RCW 29A.84.130 (6) (7) refer to this type of voter violation as a class C felony, punishable by five years in prison, \$10,000 fine, or both.

**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.