



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION (EAC)
2018 Election Administration Policy Survey
(Previously known as the Statutory Overview Survey)

In order to better understand state laws governing federal elections, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC), as part of its biennial Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS), is collecting information related to your state's election policies and procedures. These answers will help EAC to better understand the quantitative data relating to the 2018 general election that we are collecting from all U.S. states and territories.

In the past, the EAC asked states to answer open-ended questions related to specific election laws and administrative procedures that governed certain election activities. In order to minimize the staff time required to answer the survey and to provide information that can be used more readily to understand the EAVS findings, we have restructured this survey. All of the questions are now closed-end items, and you should select the option that most closely describes your state's activities. The EAC appreciates that there are often subtle differences in how states administer a specific aspect of their elections; however, these subtle differences should not affect your ability to answer the questions in this survey. We appreciate your cooperation in this very important project.

Information supplied by:

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Answering the Election Administration and Voting Survey

Q1. States are able to answer the questions in the post-election Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) in different ways. For each section of the survey, please select the option that best describes how your state answers the questions in the EAVS.

	Were the questions in the section answered:		
	Entirely by the state election office?	Entirely by local election offices?	In part by the state and in part by local election offices?
Section A: Voter Registration			
Section B: UOCAVA			
Section C: Domestic By-Mail Voting			
Section D: In-Person Voting			
Section E: Provisional Voting			
Section F: Voting Technology			

As a reminder:

- **Section A** covers voter registration, including total registrants, total registration forms processed during the election cycle, the source of those forms, and the final disposition of each form. It also covers notices sent to voters who are thought to have moved and voters removed from the voter registration list.
- **Section B** covers UOCAVA voting, including ballots transmitted to Uniformed Services voters and overseas citizens, the manner in which ballots were transmitted (e.g., by mail, by email, etc.) the number of ballots returned, the manner in which ballots were returned, and the final disposition of each ballot (accepted, rejected). It also covers Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWAB), Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA), and the total number of requests for UOCAVA status received.
- **Section C** covers domestic by-mail voting, including the number of ballots transmitted, the number of ballots returned, and the final disposition of every ballot. It also covers whether any registrants received ballots because they are permanent absentee voters.
- **Section D** covers in-person voting, including the total number of ballots cast in the election, the total number of precincts, the total number of Election Day and early voting precincts, and the total number of poll workers who worked during early voting or on Election Day.
- **Section E** covers provisional voting, including the total number of provisional ballots cast and the disposition of each ballot.
- **Section F** covers election technologies, including voter registration technology, and the type of voting equipment used in early voting, Election Day voting, by-mail voting, and voting by individuals with disabilities.

Voter Registration

Q2. In the November 2018 election, was your state's voter registration database system best described as a bottom-up system, a top-down system, or a hybrid of both?

(Note: A bottom-up system generally uploads information retained at the local level and compiled at regular intervals to form the statewide voter registration list. A top-down system is hosted on a single, central platform/mainframe and is generally maintained by the state with information supplied by local jurisdictions. A hybrid is some combination of both systems described above.)

- Top-down
- Bottom-up
- Hybrid

If response = Top-down, skip to Q3

If response = Bottom-up or Hybrid, skip to Q2a.

Q2a. How often do local jurisdictions transmit registration information to the state voter registration database?

- In real-time
- Daily
- Other (please specify)

Q3. For each of the following items, select the option that best describes how your state's voter registration database (or equivalent) shares information electronically with other government entities to maintain the accuracy of the voter rolls.

Governmental Entity	No Connection	Primarily Real-Time Data Linkages	Primarily Direct Data Linkages, Daily/Weekly/Monthly Sharing	Primarily One-Way Data Sharing from Agencies to Election Office
Motor vehicles agency (e.g., DMV)				
Any state agencies for people with disabilities				
Any state public assistance agencies				
Other state agencies (not NVRA-required)				
Federal agencies (not NVRA-required)				

Military recruiting offices				
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Q4. For each of the following items, select the option that best describes how your state's voter registration database (or equivalent) shares information electronically with other government entities to maintain the accuracy of the voter rolls.

Governmental Entity	No Connection	Primarily Real-Time Data Linkages	Primarily Direct Data Linkages, Daily/Weekly/Monthly Sharing	Primarily One-Way Data Sharing from Agencies to Election Office
Entities that maintain death records (e.g., SSA, state vital statistics)				
Entities that maintain felony/prison records (e.g., state courts, state police, federal courts, pardons/paroles agency)				
Entities that maintain records of individuals declared mentally incompetent				

Q5. Does your state have an automated voter registration process that allows the electronic record transfer between a state agency (state motor vehicle office, state tax office, etc.) and the elections division?

If response = No, skip to Q6

If response = Yes, skip to Q5a

- Yes
- No

Q5a. Which state agency or agencies do you conduct the electronic record transfer with?

- State motor vehicle agency
- State tax office
- Other state agency

Q6. Does your state have an online portal in which individuals can register to vote on their own, fully online, without requiring any paper form to be submitted?

- Yes
- No

If response = No, skip to Q7
If response = Yes, skip to Q6a

Q6a. Does a person need to have a driver's license from your state in order to use the online voter registration system?

- Yes
- No

Q7. Does your state either have same day voter registration (SDR) or a period of overlap between the start of early voting and the close of voter registration when people can register to vote and vote on the same day?

- Yes
- No

If response = No, skip to Q8
If response = Yes, skip to Q7a

Q7a. Which of the following best describes same day voter registration (SDR) in your state?

- Our state has SDR on Election Day.
- Our state has SDR but only for early voting.
- Our state has SDR because of an overlap between the start of early voting and the close of voter registration.
- Our state has SDR in very specific cases (e.g., for federal offices only, at the central election office/board of canvassers office).

By-Mail Voting

Q8. In the November 2018 election, did your state require an excuse for by-mail (absentee) voting?

- Yes, an excuse is required
- No excuse required

Q9. In the November 2018 election, did your state—or did any jurisdiction in your state—use an all-vote-by-mail system (i.e., send a mail ballot to every registered voter)?

- Yes
- No

If response = No, skip to Q10
If response = Yes, skip to Q9a

Q9a. Was the all-vote-by-mail system used statewide or only in certain jurisdictions?

- Statewide
- Only in certain jurisdictions

Q10. In the November 2018 election, did your state allow some or all registered voters to request to be a permanent absentee voter?

- No
- Yes, any registrant can request to be a permanent absentee voter.
- Yes, individuals who meet specific criteria can request to be permanent absentee voters.

If response = No, skip to Q11

If response = Yes, any registrant, skip to Q11

If response = If Yes, individuals who meet specific criteria, skip to Q10a

Q10a. Who can be a permanent absentee voter in your state? (Select all that apply)

- Individuals over a specified age
- Persons with disabilities
- Other (please specify)

Q11. What is the deadline for a domestic civilian (non-UOCAVA voter) to return a by-mail ballot? (Select all that apply)

		Election Day
Postmarked by	Before On After	Options are Number of Days or “Election Day”
Received by	Before On After	Options are Number of Days or “Election Day”

In-Person Voting Prior to Election Day

Q12. In the November 2018 election, did your state allow for either in-person early voting or in-person absentee voting prior to Election Day?

- Yes, in-person early voting
- Yes, in-person absentee voting

- No (Note: If you allow persons with disabilities or any other specific population of voters to come to a local election office and vote in person prior to Election Day, do not select this option and make the appropriate selection among the other choices).

If response = No, skip to Q13

If response = Yes, skip to Q12a

Q12a. Is an excuse required for [in-person early voting] [in-person absentee voting]

- Yes
- No

Vote Centers

Q13. For the November 2018 election, on Election Day (not including early voting), did any jurisdictions in the state have the option to allow voters to cast their ballots at any polling place or vote center in their local jurisdiction?

- Yes
- No

If response = No, skip to Q14

If response = Yes, skip to Q13a

Q13a. Which of the following best describes the way vote centers operate in your state?

- Our state requires the use of vote centers statewide.
- Our state has vote centers, but only in jurisdictions that meet specific requirements.
- Our state has vote centers, but jurisdictions have the option not to implement vote centers.

UOCAVA Voters

Q14. Which of the following methods can a UOCAVA voter use to submit a Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)? (Select all that apply)

- Email
- Fax
- Online via your state's Online Voter Registration Portal
- Other (specify)

Q15. When a UOCAVA voter submits an FPCA, is his or her voter registration permanent or temporary?

- Permanent
- Temporary

Q16. When a UOCAVA voter submits an FPCA, for how long does the FPCA remain valid?

[number choices]	Months
[number choices]	Calendar Years
[number choices]	General Elections
[check box]	Until the voter moves (notified via postal service or voter)

Q17. What is the deadline for a UOCAVA voter to return a by-mail ballot? (Select all that apply)

		Election Day
Postmarked by	Before On After	Options are Number of Days or “Election Day”
Received by	Before On After	Options are Number of Days or “Election Day”

Provisional Voting

Q18 In the November 2018 election, would your state count or reject a provisional ballot if the ballot were cast in the wrong precinct by a voter?

- Fully count
- Partially count
- Reject

Election Recounts and Audits

There are several ways of conducting election audits and recounts, and several reasons why they would be conducted. The following questions ask about various types of election audits and whether your state requires such audits through statute, administrative requirements, or standard state practice.

Recounts

Q19. For the November 2018 election, which of the following reasons describes a reason why a jurisdiction in your state would conduct a post-election recount of ballots? (Check all that apply)

- Recounts are conducted automatically in all elections for all races.
- Recounts are conducted if the result in any race is within a specified margin (e.g., the top two candidates are within one percentage point).
- Recounts are conducted if the losing candidate or party requests a recount.
- Recounts are conducted if an interested person—such as a voter or group of voters—requests a recount.
- Recounts are conducted if a court orders a recount to be conducted.

Audits

Q20. Which of the following reasons describes a reason why a jurisdiction in your state would conduct a post-election audit?

- Post-election audits are required by statute.
- Post-election audits are required by formal administrative rule or guidance.
- Our state does not require any type of election audit.

If 20 = the state has any type of election audit, skip to Q20a

If 20 = the state does not require an election audit, skip to Q21

Q20a. In the 2018 election, will your state require any local jurisdictions to conduct an audit to determine if every polling place followed the processes and procedures required in the election, such as signing all forms, testing and securing all vote tabulation equipment, sealing and securing ballot materials correctly, and documenting the chain of custody of all key election materials?

- Yes, this type of audit is conducted in every election.
- Yes, but only if certain conditions are met to trigger an audit.
- No, this type of audit is not conducted.

Q20b. In the November 2018 election, will your state require any jurisdictions to conduct a post-election audit of voting machines that consists of comparing a hand-count of votes on paper records to the corresponding vote counts originally reported, as a check on the accuracy of election results?

- Yes, this type of audit is conducted in every election
- Yes, but only if certain conditions are met to trigger an audit
- No, this type of audit is not conducted

If 20b = No, skip to Q21

Q20c. For the audit conducted in your jurisdiction, which of the following types of ballots are included in the post-election audit?

- Ballots cast on a DRE voting machine on Election Day
- Ballots cast in-person on paper on Election Day but electronically counted (e.g., optical scan voting)
- Ballots cast on a DRE voting machine during in-person early voting
- Ballots cast in person and on paper during in-person early voting but electronically counted (e.g., optical scan voting)
- Ballots cast by mail on paper but electronically counted (e.g., optical scan voting)
- Provisional ballots

Voter Identification

Q21. For in-person voting (not including first-time voters), please select all of the options that are appropriate for your state:

In order to establish their identity, a voter:

- Is required to show a government-issued form of photo identification
- Can show a non-photo government-issued form of identification
- Can show a non-government form of identification, such as a lease or a power bill
- Can have a person registered to vote in the precinct/jurisdiction formally vouch for his or her identity (including but not limited to signing an affidavit)
- Can sign an affidavit affirming his or her identity (with no other action required for the voter to vote)
- Can sign an affidavit affirming his or her identity, but the voter must later present appropriate identification to the election officials before his or her provisional ballot is counted

Criminal Convictions and Voting

Q22. Some states require that individuals who are convicted of certain crimes be removed from the voter registration rolls. Which of the following best describes your state's policy for removing individuals from the voter rolls?

- Individuals who are convicted of any felony
- Individuals who are convicted of certain felonies
- Individuals who are convicted of certain felonies and other crimes, such as election-related crimes
- Individuals who are convicted and incarcerated
- No one; criminal convictions do not limit a person's right to vote

If Q22 = No one, skip to End

Q23. For how long does a person with a felony conviction lose his or her right to vote?

- During the period of incarceration
- During the period of incarceration and during any period of probation and parole
- During the period of incarceration, probation/parole, plus additional time

Q24. What is required for a person with a felony conviction to become an eligible voter again after losing the right to vote due to criminal activity?

- Nothing, a person is automatically eligible to register to vote again.
- Nothing, a person's previous registration is automatically restored.
- A person must present documentation showing that he or she has completed the requirements for registering to vote.
- A person must have his or her voting rights restored by the state through a formal administrative process (e.g., gubernatorial restoration or action by the state pardons and paroles board).