

## Recommended Process

At a minimum, the Canvass Board needs to develop an independent assessment of:

- A. The number of electors who voted by precinct-style
- B. The number of ballots that were cast by precinct-style
- C. The number of ballots that were counted by precinct-style
- D. The number of votes that were counted for each contest by precinct-style

The **number of electors who voted** comes from different sources depending on how the elector chose to vote: Election Day, early voting, permanent mail, absentee, UOCAVA (mail, fax, email, web), provisional. For in-person voting (including provisional) the elector completes an application to vote form and if authorized to vote their name is recorded in the poll book. Physically counting these forms and the entries in the poll book is a good source for in person voter count. After the polls are closed, the entries in the poll book are scanned and recorded electronically. Data in this file should be verified against the hand count of forms and poll book entries. Each precinct produces a judges report which is very useful.

For mail and absentee voting the elector submits instructions to the Clerk on a voter registration form or an absentee voter request form or a letter, and if authorized to vote they are sent (or handed) a mail ballot packet. The number of electors who voted by mail is the number of ballot return envelopes that were returned. (NOTE: Some of the returned BREs will not result in a cast ballot, and reconciliation reports need to account for any differences between the number of electors who voted and the number of cast ballots.) Each BRE is scanned and the voter-ID is used to update each elector's SCORE record. The number of BREs can be hand counted and verified against the updated SCORE data. Several batch accounting and tracking reports (hand and electronic) are useful. Additional logs are available for analysis of differences.

Provisional and UOCAVA voting is different again.

NOTE: In certain cases, an elector is credited for voting even though their ballot is never cast.

The **number of ballots cast** comes from different sources depending on how the elector chose to vote: Paper or Electronic. The number of electronic ballots cast can be determined by manually counting the number of ballots printed on the VVPAT. This number can be verified against the number of Cast Vote Records recorded on the MBB. A JBC report summarizes these data.

The number of paper ballots cast in polling place and early voting locations can be determined from a hand count of the physical ballots in the ballot box. These numbers can be verified against the ballot inventory maintained at each location. The judges reports are useful.

The number of paper ballots cast by mail or provisional ballot is somewhat more complex.

- A. Assume that each BRE returned contains a valid ballot.
- B. Account for each process showing how many ballots (or assumed ballots) have been rejected by the process.
- C. Account for each process showing how many rejected ballots have been cured and reintroduced to the ballot box.
- D. Physically count the number of ballots in each batch.
- E. Physically count the number of ballots in each ballot box.

While processing paper ballots the SCORE record is updated to reflect the status of each ballot received. This file can be used to verify the other counts of the number of ballots cast.

The number of **paper ballots scanned** by precinct-style is a vital control record. There are as many as 8 scanners. Reports of the number of ballots scanned by batch can be used to verify the ballots cast numbers. Once scanned, votes are interpreted, possibly including resolution board decisions, and eventually the interpreted votes for each ballot (cast vote records) are written to a MBB. Reports from Ballot Now can be used to verify that all of the ballots cast were scanned, and that a cast vote record for every ballot scanned was written to and MBB.

The **number of ballots counted** is the number of cast vote records (both paper and electronic) that were read into TALLY. These numbers can be obtained from the TALLY reports and logs.

The **number of votes counted** for each contest by precinct style is the total number of: (i) votes for contestants, plus (ii) undervotes, plus (iii) overvotes. These numbers can be obtained from the TALLY files including the Abstract of Votes file. These numbers must match the number of ballots cast by precinct-style.

In the end, the Board wants for each precinct-style, Board verified counts of voters, cast ballots, interpreted ballots, and votes.

**Voters <= Cast ballots == Counted ballots == Counted votes.**

The post election audit verifies the secure and accurate interpretation and counting of votes.

The certification of the Abstract of Votes verifies the system vote counts against the board's vote counts.