

U.S. ELECTIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW ARE WISCONSIN ELECTIONS SAFEGUARDED TO ENSURE FAIR AND ACCURATE RESULTS?

WISCONSIN'S ELECTIONS WORK BECAUSE WE HAVE TRIED-AND-TESTED SYSTEMS IN PLACE TO MAKE SURE VOTES ARE CAST FAIRLY AND COUNTED CORRECTLY. Our elections have many built-in safeguards in place before, during and after a vote is cast to ensure that the final results will be accurate and reflect the voice of Wisconsinites.

WERE THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS ACCURATE?

YES, MULTIPLE REPORTS HAVE PROVEN THAT THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS WERE FAIR AND ACCURATE. In Wisconsin specifically, a yearlong investigation into the 2020 election confirmed that the votes were counted properly.

WHAT CHECKS AND BALANCES ARE CARRIED OUT IN WISCONSIN ELECTIONS?

CHECKS AND BALANCES ARE CARRIED OUT IN WISCONSIN AND EVERY OTHER STATE ACROSS AMERICA SO WE CAN REST ASSURED THAT THE FINAL VOTE COUNT REFLECTS THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. This includes things like:

- Public inspections of voting machines before AND after elections;
- Confirming voter eligibility and identity when casting ballots; and
- Bringing in people from all political parties to observe the the voting, tabulation and canvassing process.

DO ELECTION OFFICIALS AND POLL WORKERS RECEIVE ANY TRAINING PRIOR TO AN ELECTION?

YES, ELECTION OFFICIALS AND POLL WORKERS IN WISCONSIN – OUR OWN FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND COWORKERS – RECEIVE TRAINING TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE STATE'S ELECTION PROCESS, RULES AND LAWS. It's these everyday Wisconsinites who keep our elections fair—and they take this responsibility seriously.

Secure Elections WI, a nonpartisan project of the <u>Campaign Legal Center</u>, is a public education campaign focused on affirming trust in our elections.

Interested in learning more about the election process?

Contact Mueller Communications at *info@secureelectionswi.org* or (414) 390-5500.



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HOW DOES ELECTION EQUIPMENT WORK TO ENSURE OUTCOMES ARE SAFE AND ACCURATE?

OUR ELECTIONS HAVE MANY BUILT-IN PROCESSES FOR VERIFICATION AND REVIEW BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A VOTE IS CAST SO THAT EACH OF US CAN TRUST THAT OUR VOTES ARE PROTECTED AND ELECTION RESULTS ARE ACCURATE.

Voting machines are publicly inspected and tested before and after elections. In fact, <u>Wisconsin statutes</u> require a postelection audit of voting systems used in Wisconsin after each general election. This audit assesses the accuracy and performance of each voting system approved for use in the state.

It's important to know that the Wisconsin Election Commission (WEC) <u>has found no evidence</u> that Wisconsin's election systems have ever been compromised.

HOW DO ELECTION OFFICIALS ENSURE THAT ONLY REGISTERED VOTERS AND CITIZENS VOTE?

EVERYDAY WISCONSINITES SERVING AS ELECTION WORKERS AND POLL WORKERS ENSURE THAT EVERY VOTER MEETS REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY AND IDENTITY REGARDLESS OF HOW VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOT (PAPER BALLOTS, SCANNERS, VOTING MACHINES, MAIL-IN BALLOTS AND EARLY VOTING).

Ahead of Election Day, election officials regularly update voter registration lists based on voter requests and data indicating if a voter has died, moved, registered elsewhere, changed their name or otherwise become ineligible.

Additionally, the state of Wisconsin works with state election officials from other states around the country to keep voter registration lists up to date by identifying voters who have moved in or out of the state or have passed away, as well as identifying those who are eligible to vote but are unregistered.

As an additional built-in safeguard, anyone besides a candidate running for office has the <u>right to observe</u> the election and/ or an election administration event.

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WHAT SYSTEMS ARE IN PLACE TO ENSURE THAT THE ABSENTEE VOTING PROCESS IS SAFE AND SECURE?

BALLOTS FROM EARLY VOTING, ELECTION DAY AND MAIL ARE VERIFIED AND COUNTED BY YOUR LOCAL, IMPARTIAL ELECTION OFFICIALS FROM ALL POLITICAL PARTIES. THEY ARE TRAINED TO ENSURE EXACTLY ONE VOTE PER ONE ELIGIBLE VOTER IS COUNTED – AND COUNTED ACCURATELY.

All ballots, including mail-in ballots, are counted on Election Day. Election inspectors verify the absentee ballot envelope meets all requirements (voter signature, witness signature and witness address), and then open the envelope and place it in the tabulator. <u>Tabulators</u> have modernized the vote counting process by providing a way for election officials to count voter selections from paper ballots quickly and accurately.

There are numerous protections to ensure that each ballot matches an eligible voter and is counted accurately. Protections include:

- · Ballots are paper and hand-marked. Any changes to how they have been filled out would be apparent.
- · Ballots are sealed, and the seal can be examined for any suspicion of tampering.
- Ballots have secure drop-off locations.
- · Ballots are handled securely by bipartisan teams with video surveillance when mail-in ballots are processed and counted.

HOW ARE VOTES IN WISCONSIN COUNTED?

IMPARTIAL OFFICIALS CAREFULLY FOLLOW ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES TO ENSURE EXACTLY ONE VOTE PER ONE ELIGIBLE VOTER IS COUNTED.

All ballots (including absentee ballots) are counted on Election Day and every vote stays at the polling place until the polls close. Each state has observers and watchers from all political parties to keep an eye on the ballots.

In fact, a team of trained poll workers never lets the ballots leave their sight as they are transported to a secure counting location. They also ensure no unofficial deliveries are added and no ballots are dropped off anywhere else.

The vote count is checked and rechecked until all officials agree on a final tally. Then, every state in every election double-checks and sometimes triple-checks their final vote count to ensure they are accurate.

After the election, local election officials review the poll book and manually update the voter registration system with who voted in the election. Following these updates, voters can visit MyVote.WI.gov to verify that their vote has been recorded.

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