ENSURING THE INTEGRITY OF OUR VOTER ROLES

Voter list maintenance is performed on an ongoing basis by the Secretary of State to ensure updated and accurate voter rolls. These initiatives illustrate Ohio's robust voter list maintenance process:

National Change of Address (NCOA) Process

The NCOA process compares the voter rolls with the NCOA database to identify electors who have moved and may need to update their voter registrations. Under state law, the Secretary matches voter records against the NCOA database to compile the data for the NCOA Process.

Data Dashboards

The Secretary of State's Office of Data Analytics and Archives provides data dashboards to the county boards of elections to assist with the individualized list maintenance activities. For example, correcting data entry errors such as incorrect birth dates.

Monthly State and Territorial Exchange of Vital Events

The Ohio Department of Health is a partner jurisdiction in the STEVE database. Use of STEVE provides boards of elections with timely and accurate information on Ohio electors who have died in Ohio or in a jurisdiction participating in STEVE. Boards of elections must remove deceased voters monthly using this data.

Monthly Probate Judge Reports

Each probate judge must file with the board of elections the names and residence addresses of all persons over 18 who have been declared incompetent for the purposes of voting. The board then begins a process to cancel the voter registration of that elector.

ENSURING THE INTEGRITY OF OUR VOTER ROLES – cont.

Monthly Clerk of Common Pleas Reports

Convicted felons are prohibited from voting during their incarceration. The county common pleas clerk of court files with the board of elections the names and residence addresses of all persons who have been convicted during the previous month. The list includes only those names of persons who both have been convicted and incarcerated. The board must promptly cancel the voter registration and notify the person of the cancelation.

Citizenship Verification

Only U.S. citizens are permitted to participate in Ohio elections. To ensure only eligible Ohioans are registered, the Secretary of State conducts an ongoing citizenship verification process by using the Bureau of Motor Vehicles data and the SAVE database.
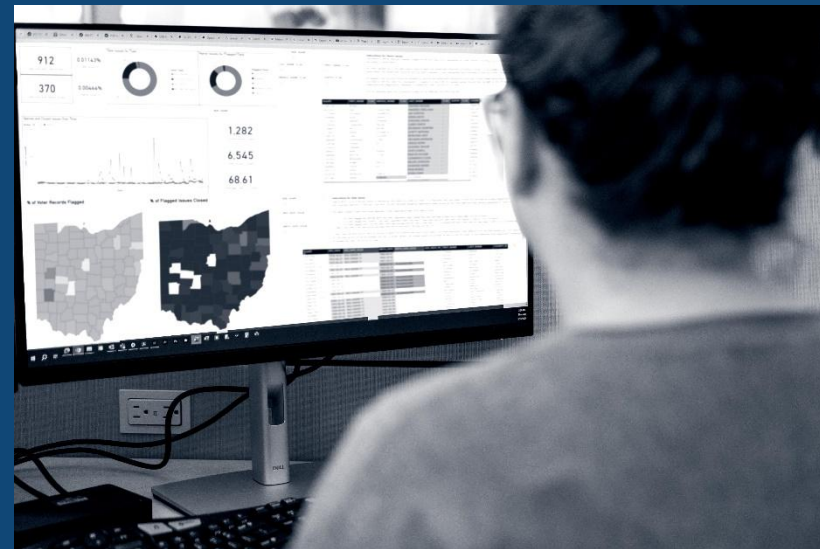
Supplemental Process

Not every Ohio elector who moves files a change of address with USPS. Ohio's general voter records maintenance program uses a second component to identify electors who have moved and may need to reregister to vote. The Supplemental Process seeks to identify electors whose lack of voter-initiated activity indicates they may have moved, even though their names did not appear as a part of the NCOA Process. County boards of elections compile inactivity data for the supplemental process.

DATA DASHBOARDS

With the enactment of the Data Analysis Transparency and Archive (DATA) Act, the Ohio Secretary of State's Office of Data Analytics and Archives created the **Registration Audit Dashboard** for county boards of elections to review and resolve the voter registration data errors such as:

- ☒ Prohibited name characters
- ☒ Placeholder birth dates
- ☒ Registration before birth
- ☒ Registration under 17
- ☒ Unreasonably high age

Instructions for Date Issues:

Date of Birth is one of the key pieces of identifying information provided by voters. It is important that voter dates of birth are recorded accurately. Registration Date now has a standard definition in Revised Code 3503.15(C)(9). Generally speaking, registration dates should be the initial date the voter became registered to vote in Ohio.

This table contains voters with issues detected in their registration date, birth date or both:

- For voters flagged REG BEFORE BIRTH, the voter's registration date is earlier than their birth date. At least one of these dates must be incorrect.
- For voters flagged REG UNDER 17, the voter's registration date is less than 17 years after their birth date. Voters may register to vote at 17 but not before.
- For voters flagged AGE HIGH, the voter's birth date indicates that the voter is older than 110. It is possible that these voters have accurate dates of birth, but it is possible that the date is inaccurate or the voter should have been removed at some point in the past and was not.

In each case, the BOE should check its records to determine whether they have a birth date or an initial registration date different from the date appearing in this table. If so, the voter record should be updated with the corrected value(s). An update packet should then be sent by the VR System to the Statewide Voter Registration Database to update the voter's record on our side.

This list refreshes daily. Any corrections made will be reflected the following day.

BOE_NAME

All

REG_DATE_ISSUE

All

BIRTH_DATE_ISSUE

All

IssueID	REG_DATE	REG_DATE_ISSUE	BIRTH_DATE	BIRTH_DATE_ISSUE	AGE_HIGH_YR	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	COUNTY_ID
	2010-05-22		1900-01-01	PLACEHOLDER		MEGAN	STEINKIRCHNER	212235
21359600-1217	2009-09-16	REG UNDER 17	1993-04-07			SHARVANI	POLAVARAPU	090017122
21369703-2290	2011-05-09		1911-01-01	AGE HIGH	114	UBAH	YUSUF	110007886
21460096-1217	1975-11-25	REG UNDER 17	1975-11-24			ROBERT	WEBER	345802
21502052-1217	2001-08-16	REG UNDER 17	1993-08-02			EMILY	INMAN	10244574
21678091-1217	2010-06-03	REG UNDER 17	1994-07-27			HAYDER	KHALIL	100011114
21680748-1217	2010-09-14	REG UNDER 17	1994-02-13			ESSENCE	GOFF	100024212
21681356-1217	2010-09-09	REG UNDER 17	1994-03-15			OCTAVIA	CARTER	100023106
21681381-1217	2010-09-29	REG UNDER 17	1994-10-27			LENNELL	WASHINGTON	100029045
21686168-1217	2002-01-21	REG UNDER 17	1994-02-06			MARANDA	OSTERHAUS	10251755
21763398-1217	2003-04-18	REG UNDER 17	1994-04-06			CHE	YOUNGBLOOD	10255186
21948870-1217	2012-09-06	REG UNDER 17	1996-06-01			JWAUN	PRESTON	10262467
22115357-1217	2012-10-02	REG UNDER 17	1996-05-02			MARTINEZ	CARROLL	10268040
22131983-1217	2012-10-09	REG UNDER 17	1997-04-16			KEYSEANA	HENSLEY	120063764
22166729-1299	1992-10-09	REG BEFORE BIRTH	1993-03-28			ALEXIS	REHL	120067508
22225750-1217	2002-10-02	REG UNDER 17	1994-01-28			EDWARD	KEICH	471996
22237548-1210	2012-11-06		1900-01-01	PLACEHOLDER		KYLE	COMER	30093437
22239023-1210	2012-11-06		1900-01-01	PLACEHOLDER		DARNELL	ANDREWS	30093908
22261734-2290	2012-11-06		1912-01-01	AGE HIGH	113	MOHAMED	WARSAME	120081454
22345938-1217	2003-01-01	REG UNDER 17	1994-12-07			AJYNAH	THOMPSON	10277041
22509652-1217	1995-07-17	REG UNDER 17	1995-06-19			CHELSEA	SILER	10283243
22660158-1217	2004-01-11	REG UNDER 17	1995-04-27			ISRAEL	GREEN	10289268

Records with Date Issues
489
Records with Date Issues

151
Records with Name Issues

0.00596%
Date Issue %

0.00184%
Name Issue %

Date Issues by Type

17 (3.48%)
157 (32.11%)
306 (62.58%)

Issue Type
- REG UNDER 17
- PLACEHOLDER
- AGE HIGH
- REG BEFORE BIRTH
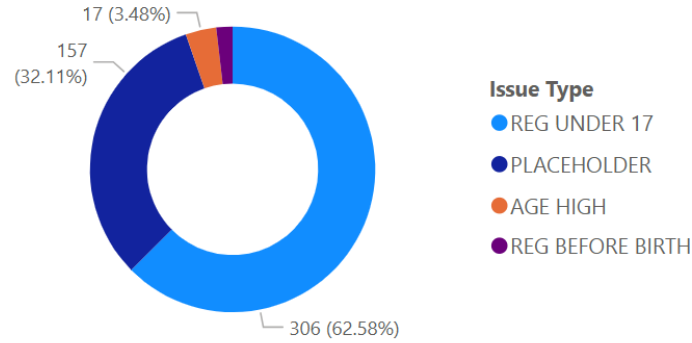
Name Issues by Flagged Field

10 (6.62%)
25 (16....)
35 (23.18%)
73 (48.34%)

Flagged Field
- Last
- Middle
- First
- Multiple Fields
- Suffix
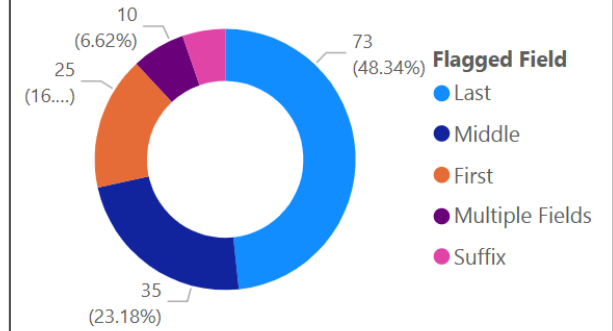
Opened and Closed Issues Over Time

Action ● CLOSE ● OPEN
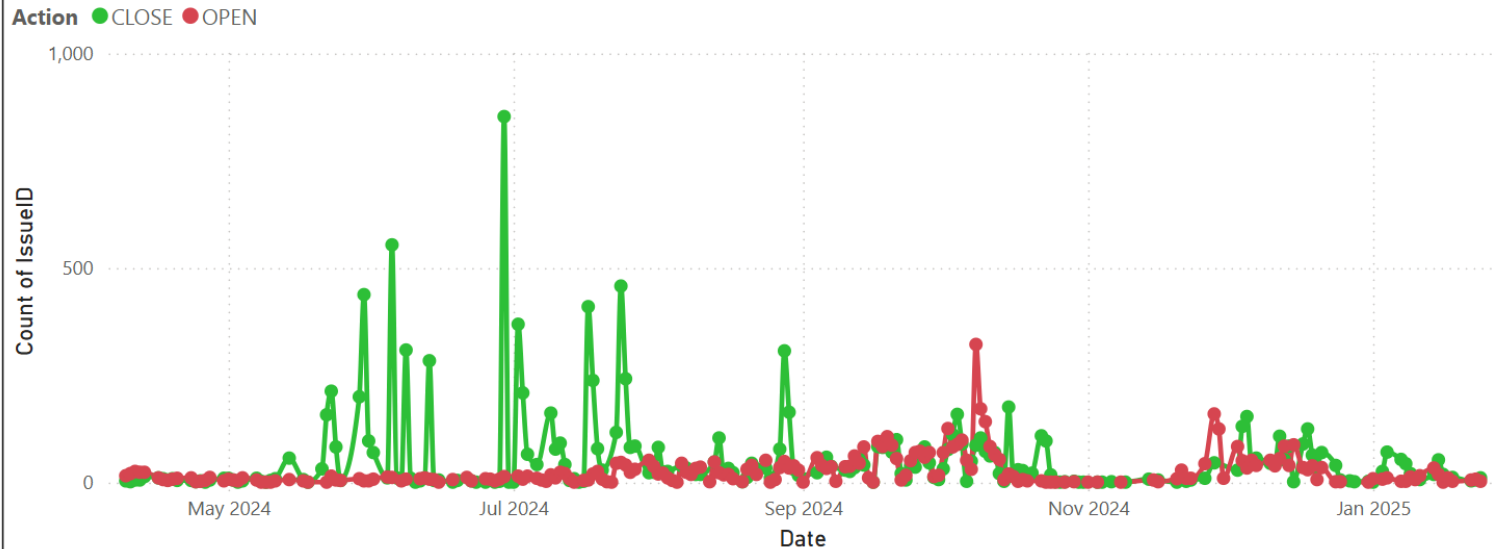
BOE_NAME

All

640
Current Issues Open

11,885
Total Issues Closed

52.74
Average Days to Close

OHIO'S SUPPLEMENTAL PROCESS

Ohio's supplemental process has been in place for decades and has been carried out by Republican and Democratic Secretaries of State. It is required by state law and allows county boards to clean up inaccurate and out-of-date registrations that cannot be updated using other methods.

→ After two years of inactivity, a registration is flagged and receives a mailed notice.

→ If, after an additional period of four years a registration still has no activity, boards of elections are required to send a final "last chance" notice to the registration address.

→ Our office compiles a list of registrations flagged for cancellation, checks them for accuracy, and publishes the data as part of our **Registration Readiness** initiative – before any cancellations occur.

NONCITIZEN CHECKS

Ohio law requires an annual review of the voter rolls for noncitizens. In 2024, utilizing State Bureau of Motor Vehicle and federal SAVE data, Ohio began additional individualized checks to ensure every new registration is checked for citizenship status prior to an election.

→ Every Ohioan must present evidence of their legal status before being issued a state ID or driver license.

→ This allows our office to conduct a four-year bookend check of registered voters using BMV data to identify individuals who are noncitizens.

→ Additionally, any newly-registered voter flagged by BMV as being a noncitizen is checked against SAVE.
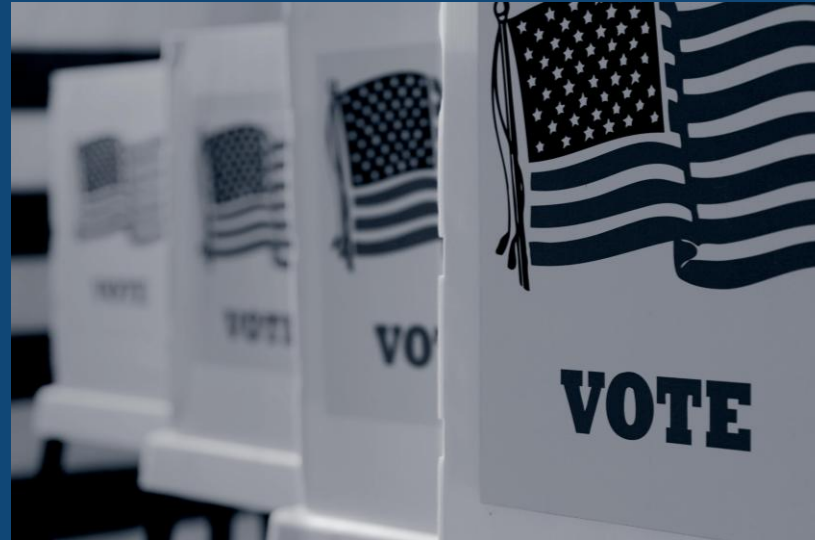
ADDITIONAL LIST MAINTENANCE TOOLS

In addition to the previously-mentioned list maintenance tools, Ohio has recently taken additional steps to increase data quality and ensure the accuracy of the state's voter rolls.

Electronic-Only BMV Registration Submission

During the states 2024 Lame Duck legislative session, our office successfully fought for legislation that requires all registrations submitted by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to be sent to our office electronically. This will increase convenience for voter registrants and for elections officials and cut down on errors caused by incorrectly read or incorrectly entered registrations.

State-to-State Data Sharing Agreements

Upon withdrawing from ERIC, Ohio and several other states began the process of executing state-to-state data sharing agreements to prevent double voting and increase voter list accuracy. Working carefully with IT and cyber security teams, Ohio has been able to successfully share data with other states. We are currently working on additional data-sharing agreements.

Acquiring Additional Federal Data

Utilizing the SAVE database is time-intensive, costly, and requires an Alien Identification Number to conduct a search. Ohio has been seeking additional datasets from DHS that would allow states to conduct citizenship checks using name, date of birth, and social security number.

Questions