

VREAD+ State Voter Registration and Election Administration Laws Codebook

Jan E. Leighley

2020-02-18

Abstract

This codebook comprises three parts. Part I includes the entire preliminary report of the original data collection for 1972-2008, funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts. Part II documents the expanded and updated data set completed in Summer/Fall 2019. The expanded data set adds new voter registration and election administration variables, as well as additional details regarding the enactment and effective dates of relevant state statutes. Part III provides additional details about the variable names, availability and documentation.

The current version of the data includes 750 rows and 131 variables. These include 50 unique states and 15 unique years, ranging from 1972 to 2018.

Contents

Abstract	1
Codebook Part I. Original VREAD Data	2
Codebook Part II. VREAD+	29
Codebook Part III. VREAD+ Variables, Years, and Names	36

Codebook Part I. Original VREAD Data

Note that data collected on the original data set was collected by Nathan Cemenska and a team of law students, supervised by Dan Tokaji, Ohio State University. Tokaji updated these variables for 2012 using the same procedures. After 2012, data were collected by Austin Rogers, MA, under the supervision of Jan Leighley, American University, who continues to supervise on-going data collection, validation, and updating.

Non-Precinct Voting in the States: An Extensive Dataset of State Laws and Related Resources

Preliminary Report on the 2008 Early and Absentee Voting Dataset

Nathan Cemenska
The Ohio State University

Jan E. Leighley
University of Arizona

Jonathan Nagler
New York University

Daniel P. Tokaji
The Ohio State University

Submitted to The Pew Charitable Trusts

April 30, 2009

1 Introduction

Recent decades have seen a large number of states adopt non-precinct voting procedures, and such reforms have now gained wide public support. In striking contrast, scholars have paid relatively little attention to the impact of alternative procedures, locations and timing in the conduct of elections. One of the reasons for this lack of attention is the absence of a detailed dataset on state laws governing the availability and procedures associated with non-precinct voting laws for federal, state and local elections. With the support of the Pew Foundation, our research team has begun collecting data on state laws governing non-precinct voting from 1972-2008. This preliminary report describes the procedures used to collect these data for 2008 and summarizes our basic findings.

2 Non-Precinct Voting in the States: Absentee and In-Person Early Voting

Federal, state and local elections in the U.S. are governed primarily by state laws and administrative codes, and our data collection for 2008 is guided by this principle. Of course, several notable federal statutes also govern the implementation of elections in the states, including the Voting Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act, and the Help America Vote Act. While this study interpreted state laws in the context of these federal statutes, it primarily reports the content of state law as it is written, *even where state law appears to deviate from federal law and would therefore be void*.

Our documentation of state laws focuses on two types of non-precinct voting available in the states: absentee voting and in-person early voting. These terms are sometimes used interchangeably by policymakers as well as academics, and state legislative statutes governing their availability sometimes overlap as well.

Consequently, it was necessary to first clearly define each term so that states could be accurately categorized on various dimensions of these policies. We define *absentee voting* as the option of requesting, completing and returning (i.e., casting) a ballot prior to Election Day, and being able to do so without being present in person at an election office or precinct.

We define *in-person early voting* as a one-stop transaction where the voter requests a ballot, casts the ballot, and returns the completed ballot. If any portion of this three-part transaction does not occur simultaneously, or if it occurs at another location, it is not in-person early voting by our definition. Therefore, states were only classified as allowing early voting if the relevant statutory language explicitly permits the voter to cast the ballot *in the presence of election officials*. This definition may exclude some states in which early voting takes place, where those operations are not explicitly described in state statutes. For instance, many states allow voters to request absentee ballots in person and return them in person. There may be nothing to stop a local election official working under this regime to permit voters who have requested ballots in person to cast them immediately and return them to the official. However, because this one-stop concept is not explicitly mentioned in state statutes, we did not classify such a state as having “in person early voting.” We use the terms “in-person early voting” and “early voting” interchangeably below. States may vary in numerous respects in how they allow (or require) citizens to complete each of the three required steps (requesting, completing and returning a ballot) and we have documented these variations, as described below. We also code state statutes with respect to details regarding eligibility, timing and identification requirements associated with both absentee voting and in-person early voting.

One case that often causes confusion in the use of the terms *absentee voting* and *early voting* is Oregon, which conducts all statewide elections by mail (delivery and returns). Because voting-by-mail can be done early and is, by definition, not “in person,” the state might be considered as having early and absentee voting. In our data, we code Oregon, as with the other states, based on the definitions of absentee and in-person early voting as described above, and do not equate voting-by-mail as early or absentee voting. For Oregon specifically, we code the relevant statutes or administrative law for

absentee and early voting based on existing specific Oregon statutes relevant to those individuals who cannot vote by the regular vote-by-mail system rules, e.g., those individuals who will be out of the state during the voting period.

We emphasize that the data we have collected are based entirely on state statutes or administrative law. We have no data on how state or local officials implement these state laws. Where possible, we have coded some details as to whether state statutes or administrative law allow for county or municipal level variations. However, for those states that allow such variations, we have no relevant information as to the extent to which local officials take

3 Coding Procedures

The primary research method used to produce this dataset was review of relevant state statutes and administrative codes (hereinafter referred to simply as “laws”) identified using standard search procedures in Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw. The goal was to identify the contours of the laws according to their plain meaning, even if other sources suggested that actual practice may sometimes deviate from that meaning. The review did not take into account any case law that might have interpreted these laws in a way that deviated from their plain meaning.

After identifying the relevant laws, researchers coded each state on 53 variables associated with state absentee and early voting laws. Coding procedures were developed based on discussions and planning sessions conducted by our research team, which consists of both experienced elections attorneys and senior political scientists. We first developed a list of attributes of each type of voting that we expected to be observable in the state laws, and then developed for each of these variables a discrete set of categories to which states could be assigned. Each substantive category was represented by a numerical value, and these coded data were entered into a spreadsheet format, where each row represents a different state, and each column in that spreadsheet represents a different variable. We provide a copy of the codebook documenting the list of variables coded, the values associated with each of their response categories, and how many states are categorized into each category as an appendix.

Work was divided between two experienced elections attorneys and two law students. The attorneys trained, supervised, and reviewed for accuracy the work of the law students, who conducted most of the primary research. The law students relied on the coding procedures the research team had developed initially (and modified as necessary throughout the course of data collection) and reduced to writing in the codebook. When the law students were uncertain as to how to code specific laws, they consulted with the lead election attorneys, who reviewed the primary research, documented the issues involved and made the final coding decisions. The data we have collected on absentee voting includes variables that document:

- Whether individuals must provide an excuse to vote absentee.
- Whether individuals can permanently register as voting absentee.
- How individuals may request absentee ballots.
- How individuals may return absentee ballots.
- Identification requirements for requesting and submitting absentee ballots.
- Deadlines for requesting and returning absentee ballots.
- Restrictions and rules imposed on first-time voters voting absentee

The data we have collected on in-person early voting includes variables that document:

- Whether individuals must provide an excuse to vote early.

- Identification requirements for early voting.
- The time period available for early voting.
- The number of sites and hours of operation for early voting sites.
- Restrictions and rules imposed on first-time voters voting early.

4 Overview of Findings: 2008 Non-Precinct Voting Laws in the States

Based on these data, we find that absentee voting is more commonly and easily available to citizens than is in-person early voting. But “no excuse” absentee voting is available in the same number of states (27) as is “no excuse” early voting. More specifically:

- While all states make available some form of absentee voting, only 27 states allow individuals to cast an absentee ballot without specifying an excuse. Thirty states require election officials to offer some form of early voting, while four states permit it. In 27 states, early voting does not require an excuse.
- State statutes most commonly identify mail (41), fax (25) and in-person (42) requests for absentee ballots; only 17 states explicitly authorize third-party ballot requests, while three states explicitly prohibit this practice.
- Most states allow for mail or in-person return of absentee ballots, while 26 states permit third parties to return these ballots on behalf of the voter; no state allows the return of ballots by email or internet (except for some states that allow those individuals who are covered under UOCAVA to do so).
- Identification requirements for requesting absentee ballots are minimal: 28 states do not require anything. The others have various requirements: ten states require the presentation of an identification number and nine require a signature match; only one state requires absentee ballot requests to be notarized.
- Identification requirements for returning absentee ballots are slightly greater: 15 do not require anything, while 23 states require some form of identification.
- Early voting “periods”—how early relative to Election Day, and for how long—vary substantially by state. Fourteen states require weekend early voting hours.
- The minimum number of early voting sites also varies greatly, with some states limiting early voting sites to one, others allowing local officials to offer more sites at their discretion, and others requiring additional sites based on other criteria (population size, for example).
- Ten states do not require any form of identification for voting early; a handful of states allow for one of several forms of identification to be used; and the other states either require or prohibit the use of specific forms of identification.

For more detailed descriptions of our findings for each variable, see the following section.

5 Detailed Descriptions of State Laws, 2008

V1: Absentee voting

All states have some form of absentee voting, where individuals can request and return a ballot prior to Election Day.

V2: No-excuse absentee voting

Twenty-three states require an excuse to cast an absentee ballot. Sufficient excuses typically include being out of town on Election Day, being sick or bedridden, or not being able to cast an in-person ballot on Election Day for religious reasons. The remaining 27 states allow anyone to cast an absentee ballot.

V3: Permanent absentee voting option

Nineteen states allow at least some voters who meet certain requirements to put their names on a “permanent absentee voting list” that allows them to receive an absentee ballot before every election without having to specifically request one. Typically this option is reserved for voters who are permanently disabled, but the requirements vary. The remaining 31 states do not have any statutes authorizing this kind of program. However, note that a few states allow “semi-permanent” absentee voter status, which allows qualified voters to receive a mail ballot automatically within a certain number of years of the request. This coding scheme did not capture this variation, and states that have such a program were nevertheless coded as having no permanent absentee voting option.

V4.0-4.5: Methods of requesting absentee ballots

Mail-in request (4.0). The laws of 41 states explicitly state that absentee ballots may be requested by mail. The remaining nine states are silent on the issue. There are no laws in any states that explicitly prohibit mail-in requests. The best assumption is that mail-in requests are permitted in every state or virtually every state.

Phone-in request (4.1). The majority of states’ statutes (39) are silent on the issue of whether voters may request absentee ballots by phone. However, the best interpretation of this silence is that such requests generally are not allowed. Only seven states explicitly state that phone requests are permitted. The remaining four states not only do not list phone-in requests as an option, but list the available options in a way that suggests this is an exclusive list (e.g., “absentee ballots may only be requested in the following ways: ...”). Phone-in requests almost certainly are not permitted in these states.

Fax-in request (4.2). The laws of 25 states expressly authorize voters to request an absentee ballot by fax. The remaining 25 states are silent on the issue. There is no state that expressly prohibits faxed requests.

Internet or email request (4.3). The vast majority of states (39) do not have any language either authorizing or prohibiting voters from submitting absentee ballot requests by internet or email. Eight states have statutory language that explicitly authorizes this type of request. The remaining three states not only do not authorize such requests as an option, but also list the available options in a way that suggests this is an exclusive list (e.g., “absentee ballots may only be requested in the following ways: ...”). Internet and email requests almost certainly are not permitted in these states.

In-person request (4.4). The vast majority of states (42) have statutory language that authorizes voters to go into the local election official’s office and request an absentee ballot in person. The laws of the remaining eight states are silent on the issue.

Third-party request (4.5). Seventeen states have laws that explicitly authorize friends, family members, or other individuals to go into the office of the local election official and request an absentee ballot on behalf of another voter. Three states have laws that explicitly prohibit this practice. The remaining 30 states are silent on the issue.

Note: Variables 4.0 to 4.5 describe the laws as they apply to “average” voters, i.e., not the laws that apply to voters in special circumstances such as disability, current military service, etc. Oftentimes

there are laws that allow voters in these special circumstances to request absentee ballots in ways that are not permitted for “average” voters.

V4.6: Special UOCAVA absentee ballot request procedures

The vast majority (47) of states have statutory language that applies specifically to UOCAVA voters (overseas and military voters) and defines the absentee ballot request process for those voters. The remaining three states have no such statutory language.

V5.0-5.5: Methods of returning absentee ballots

Mail return (5.0). The laws in the vast majority of states (48) explicitly state that voters may return completed absentee ballots by mail. In the remaining two states, the statutes are silent on this issue.

Fax return (5.1). The law in the vast majority of states (42) is silent on whether voters may return completed absentee ballots by fax. In three states, however, this practice is explicitly authorized. In the remaining five states, the statutory language precludes fax return as an option by listing the options that are available as an exclusive list (e.g., “absentee ballots may only be submitted in the following ways: . . .”).

Internet or email return (5.2). No state allows “average” voters to return completed absentee ballots over the internet or via email, although some states allow UOCAVA voters (overseas or military voters) to do so. The laws in most states (43) do not speak to the issue. In the remaining seven states, the statutory language precludes internet/email return as an option by listing the options that are available as an exclusive list (e.g., “absentee ballots may only be submitted in the following ways: . . .”) or by making it clear that internet/email return is available only to UOCAVA voters.

In-person return (5.3). The vast majority (40) of states have statutes that explicitly authorize absentee voters to return their completed ballots in-person, while only one (Texas) explicitly prohibits this practice. The remaining nine states are silent on the issue.

Third-party return (5.4). A thin majority of states (26) permit friends, family, or other individuals to return an absentee ballot on behalf of a voter, while only one state explicitly prohibits this practice. The remaining 23 states are silent on the issue.

Note: Variables 5.0 to 5.4 describe the laws as they apply to “average” voters, i.e., not the laws that apply to voters in special circumstances such as disability, current military service, etc. Oftentimes there are laws that allow voters in these special circumstances to return absentee ballots in ways that are not permitted for “average” voters.

V5.5: Special UOCAVA absentee ballot return procedures

The law in 38 states contains special language that defines the absentee ballot return process for UOCAVA voters (overseas and military voters). The remaining 12 states are silent on the issue.

V6.0-6.5: Forms of ID required to request an absentee ballot

Government-issued photo ID. No state requires government photo identification in order to request an absentee ballot. However, a few states (2) that require ID to request an absentee ballot include government-issued photo ID as one of the types of ID that are acceptable for this purpose. The majority of states either do not recognize government photo ID as a valid type of ID for requesting an absentee ballot (19), or do not require any type of identification at all (29).

Non-government photo ID. No state requires non-government photo identification in order to request an absentee ballot. However, two states that require ID to request an absentee ballot include non-government photo ID as one of the types of ID that are acceptable for this purpose. The majority of states either do not recognize non-government photo ID as a valid type of ID for requesting an absentee ballot (19), or do not require any type of identification at all (29).

Documentary (nonphoto) ID. No state requires documentary ID in order to request an absentee ballot. However, one state that requires ID to include documentary ID as one of the types of ID that are acceptable for this purpose. The majority states either do not recognize documentary ID for purposes of requesting an absentee ballot (20), or do not require any form of ID at all (29).

Presentation of ID number. Ten states require voters to submit some form of identification number (typically a driver's license number or the last four digits of a social security number) in order to request an absentee ballot. One state does not require presentation of an ID number, but does require some form of ID, and an ID number is one acceptable form. An additional ten states do require some form of ID, but do not recognize an ID number as an acceptable form. Twenty-nine states do not require any form of ID at all.

Signature match. Nine states require that the voter's absentee ballot request match the one on file (typically contained in the registration records). Twelve states that do require some form of ID do not recognize signature match as an acceptable form. Twenty-nine states do not require any form of ID at all.

Notarized signature or witness. One state requires absentee ballot requests to be notarized or the signing of them witnessed by a non-notary individual in order for the request to be valid. One other state does not require this form of ID, but does require some form, and accepts notarization/witnessing as one valid form. Nineteen states do not recognize notarization as a valid form of ID for requesting a ballot, and 29 states do not require any ID at all.

Note that a few states require presentation of ID *either* at the time of requesting an absentee ballot *or* at the time of submission, but not both. This is also the regime imposed by the Help America Vote Act that requires a certain subset of first-time voters to present ID. In an effort to avoid variable proliferation and have a fairly straightforward coding system, we did not attempt to sort this issue out and instead coded these cases as requiring that type of ID at *both* stages.

V7.0-7.5: Forms of ID required to submit an absentee ballot

Government-issued photo ID (7.0). No state requires submission of a government photo ID in order to submit an absentee ballot. However, there is one state that requires some form of ID, and includes government photo ID as one of the acceptable forms. Thirty-four states require some form of ID but do not recognize government photo ID as an acceptable form, and 15 states do not require any form of ID at all.

Non-government photo ID (7.1). No state strictly requires non-government photo ID in order to submit an absentee ballot. However, one state does require some form of ID, and non-government photo ID is among the types of ID accepted. Thirty-four states require some form of ID but do not recognize non-government photo ID as an acceptable form, and 15 states do not require any form of ID at all.

Documentary (non-photo) ID (7.2). No state strictly requires documentary ID in order to submit an absentee ballot. However, one state requires some form of ID, and documentary ID is among the types of ID accepted. Thirty-four states require some form of ID but do not recognize documentary ID as an acceptable form, and 15 states do not require any form of ID at all.

Presentation of ID number (7.3). Two states require voters to submit some form of identification number (typically a driver's license number or the last four digits of a social security number) in order

to submit an absentee ballot. One state does not require presentation of an ID number, but does require some form of ID, and an ID number is one acceptable form. An additional 32 states do require some form of ID, but do not recognize an ID number as an acceptable form. Fifteen states do not require any form of ID at all.

Signature match. Twenty-four states require that the signature submitted with the voter's absentee ballot match one on file (typically either the signature contained in registration records or the one that was submitted with the absentee ballot request). Two states do not require signature matching, but do require some form of ID, and signature matching is one acceptable form. Nine states do require some form of ID, but do not recognize signature matching as an acceptable form. Fifteen states do not require any form of ID at all.

Notarized signature or witness. Eleven states require absentee ballots submissions to be notarized or the signing of them witnessed by a non-notary individual in order for the submission to be valid. One other state does not require this form of ID, but does require some form, and accepts notarization/witnessing as one valid form. Twenty-three states require some form of ID but do not recognize notarization as a valid form of ID for submitting a ballot, and 15 states do not require any ID at all.

Note that a few states require presentation of ID either at the time of requesting an absentee ballot or at the time of submission, but not both. This is also the regime imposed by the Help America Vote Act that requires a certain subset of first-time voters to present ID. In an effort to avoid variable proliferation and have a fairly straightforward coding system, we did not attempt to sort this issue out and instead coded these cases as requiring that type of ID at both stages.

V8.0-8.3: Deadlines for absentee ballot requests

In-person requests (8.0). The deadline for making an in-person request for an absentee ballot varies greatly. Four states allow voters to make such requests on the actual day of the election, while one state requires voters to make such requests 18 days before the election. The largest group of states (19) allows these voters to make their in-person requests no later than the day before the election.

Mail-in requests (8.1, 8.2 and 8.3). In every state, mail-in requests for absentee ballots are considered timely if they are received prior to a specified date (as opposed to the date they are postmarked). The deadline ranges from the day of the election to 11 days before the election, depending on the state. The most common deadline is seven days before the election (13 states use this deadline). The deadline for seven states could not be determined from looking at statutes.

Note that for variables 8.0-8.3 and 9.0-9.3, when the data indicate that a deadline occurs a certain number of days before an election, this is not necessarily the rule for all elections. Rather, it is the rule for federal elections and may, depending on state law, apply to other types of elections as well. In some states, deadlines vary depending on what type of election is upcoming, but this project ignored those differences to concentrate on the federal elections that affect the most people.

V9.0—9.3: Deadlines for submitting completed absentee ballots

In-person submission (9.0). The deadline for returning an absentee ballot in person to the local election official is almost always the day of the election (37 states) or the day before the election (7 states). A few states require in-person submissions to occur three or four days before the election. The deadline could not be determined in three states.

Mail-in submission (9.1-9.3). Whether a voter has met the deadline for returning a completed absentee ballot by mail depends on either a) whether the ballot was postmarked by a certain date or, more commonly, b) whether the ballot was received by a certain date. However, ten states have a hybrid

system whether they look at both of these pieces of information before determining whether a mailed in ballot was timely submitted. In these states, for instance, a statute might say that in order to be timely a ballot must be postmarked before the day of the election and received within a certain number of days after the election.

In the 11 states that determine timeliness by looking at the postmark, the submitted ballot must be postmarked on either the day of the election (6 states) or the day before the election (5 states).

In the 39 states that determine timeliness by looking at the date of actual receipt, the submitted ballot must be received on the day of the election.

V10.0: Special ID rules that apply to first-time absentee voters

The Help America Vote Act requires voters to present ID either at the time of registration or prior to voting when those voters are first-time voters in a state who registered by mail and whose personal identifying information (e.g., driver's license or social security number) could not be verified by checking it against databases maintained by state departments of motor vehicles or the federal Social Security Administration. Absentee voters who come within the scope of this law may comply by including a copy of certain identifying documents (driver's license, utility bill, paycheck, government check, etc.) with their absentee ballot request or submission of their completed absentee ballot.

The law in 35 states contains special statutory provisions that recognize these additional requirements. However, in 15 states, no such language could be found. However, this does not necessarily mean that states are not actually instructing voters to comply with these requirements. Oftentimes, instructions to comply are printed on absentee ballot request forms or ballot submission envelopes.

V11: Whether all-mail elections are authorized in federal elections

In 38 states, no statutory authorization was found whatsoever that would permit federal elections in a local election jurisdiction to be conducted entirely by mail. In 11 states, local election officials have the option of conducting federal elections by mail if they so choose, although sometimes certain requirements must first be met having to do with notice and other matters. In one state, Oregon, all elections are conducted almost entirely by mail.

V12.0-12.7: The early voting process

Whether early voting is allowed (12.0). Thirty states require all local election officials to conduct some type of early voting, defined as a one-stop transaction where the voter requests a ballot, casts the ballot, and returns the completed ballot. Some of these states allow any voter to participate in this early voting program, while others require some form of "excuse" (see V12.1, below). Four states permit, but do not require, local election officials to make some sort of early voting program available to voters. The laws of the remaining 16 states make no mention of early voting as this project defines it.

No excuse early voting (12.1). Twenty-seven states with statutes authorizing early voting as a one-stop transaction allow any voter to take advantage of early voting, regardless of whether the voter has an "excuse." On the other hand, seven states require some kind of excuse. The remaining 16 states do not have early voting as this project defines it.

Inferred early voting dates (12.2). The laws of many states blend the concepts of early and absentee voting and do not discuss them separately. In many states, early voting appears to be an afterthought, typically just a few words attached to the absentee voting law stating that voters can vote an absentee

ballot in person. Because these states do not treat absentee and early voting as separate processes, there is no language in the statutes to indicate when early voting would begin and end.

However, the most reasonable inference is that early voting would begin at the earliest time absentee ballots may be issued. Inferring the end period for early voting can be more difficult: Does early voting end on the last day absentee ballots can be issued, or on the last day that already issued absentee ballots may be received?

We assume here that the last day of early voting is the last day that absentee ballots may be issued. However, note that this assumption only applies to states that:

1. have no laws authorizing early voting that are distinct from the laws that authorize absentee voting; and
2. have no laws that specify the beginning and end periods of in-person absentee voting (as opposed to absentee voting generally); but
3. do have state laws explicitly authorizing in-person absentee voting.

Using this scheme, we inferred the beginning and/or end period for six states: California, Georgia, Hawaii, Ohio, Vermont and Virginia.

Earliest date for early voting (12.3). The beginning of the early voting period varies greatly among states that have early voting. The largest group of states (15) begins early voting between 14 and 17 days before a federal election. However, early voting may begin as late as four days before the election, or as early as 40 days before the election. In Idaho, Michigan, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin, the first date of early voting could not be determined, even by inference, by looking at provisions of state law.

Note that for variables 12.3 and 12.4, when the data indicate that a deadline occurs a certain number of days before an election, this is not necessarily the rule for all elections. Rather, it is the rule for federal elections and may, depending on state law, apply to other types of elections as well. In some states, deadlines vary depending on what type of election is upcoming, but we focused only on the federal election deadlines.

Latest date for early voting (12.4). The end of the early voting period varies greatly among states that have early voting. Most states end the period either the day of the election (4) or the day before a federal election (13), although some states end the period five or seven days before the election. The end period for Oregon could not be determined, even by inference, by looking at state law.

Hours of early voting (12.5). The laws of most states either do not specify the hours that early voting must be available during the early voting period, or do not authorize early voting at all. However, ten states have explicit requirements that define the number of hours early voting must be available. The minimum number of hours ranges from three in one state to ten in some others. Only two states require a minimum that is fewer than eight hours per day.

Early voting on weekends (12.6). Most states either do not have early voting or have no laws that explicitly state whether it should be offered on weekends. However, 14 states require that local election officials make weekend early voting available. An additional 2 states authorize local election officials to offer weekend early voting if they so choose.

Minimum number of early voting sites (12.7). Two states specify that only one early voting location shall exist in each local election jurisdiction, while 20 states permit locals to have more early voting sites in some circumstances. An additional three states require more than one early voting site in a jurisdiction if certain circumstances are present. Eight states that have early voting did not specify the number of early voting sites that can or must exist.

V13.0-13.5: Forms of ID required to cast an early ballot

Government-issued photo ID (13.0). Only one state strictly requires presentation of a government-issued photo ID in order to cast an early ballot. However, seven states require some form of identification, and include government-issued photo ID as one acceptable form. Fourteen states require some form of identification, but do not recognize government-issued photo ID as an acceptable form. Ten states do not require any form of ID. The ID rules for two states could not be determined. The rest of the states do not have early voting at all.

Non-government photo ID (13.1). No state strictly requires presentation of a non-government photo ID (such as an employee identification card or senior citizen living center identification card) in order to cast an early ballot. However, six states require some form of identification, and include non-government photo ID as one acceptable form. Sixteen states require some form of identification, but do not recognize non-government issued photo ID as an acceptable form. Ten states do not require any form of ID. The ID rules for two states could not be determined. The rest of the states do not have early voting at all.

Documentary (non-photo) ID (13.2). Only one state strictly requires presentation of documentary ID (such as a paycheck, government check, utility bill, etc.) in order to cast an early ballot. However, five states require some form of identification, and include documentary ID as one acceptable form. Sixteen states require some form of identification, and do not recognize documentary ID as an acceptable form. Ten states do not require any form of ID. The ID rules for two states could not be determined. The rest of the states do not have early voting at all.

Presentation of ID number (13.3). Three states strictly require presentation of some form of ID number (e.g., driver's license number, birth date, last four digits of one's social security number) in order to cast an early ballot. An additional 2 states require some form of ID, and include ID number as one acceptable form. Seventeen states require some form of identification, but do not recognize ID numbers as an acceptable form. Ten states do not require any form of ID. The ID rules for two states could not be determined. The rest of the states do not have early voting at all.

Signature match (13.4). Ten states strictly require that officials match a voter's signature against one on file before allowing that voter to cast an early ballot. One other states does not strictly require signature matching, but does require some form of ID and recognizes a signature match as one acceptable form. Eleven states require some form of ID and do not recognize a signature match as an acceptable form. Ten states do not require any form of ID. The ID rules for two states could not be determined. The rest of the states do not have early voting at all.

Notarized signature or witness (13.5). Five states strictly require that voters' signatures be notarized or witnessed in order for those voters to cast an early ballot. These are states where "early voting," defined as a one-stop transaction where the voter requests, casts, and returns the ballot in one transaction, does not have any special authorization to occur but occurs only under the auspices of an absentee voting law that allows absentee ballots to be cast in person. Seventeen states do require some form of ID in order to cast an early ballot but do not recognize notarization/witnessing as a valid form. Ten states do not require any form of ID. The ID rules for two states could not be determined. The rest of the states do not have early voting at all.

V14: Special ID rules that apply to first-time early voters

The Help America Vote Act requires voters to present ID either at the time of registration or prior to voting when those voters are first-time voters in a state who registered by mail and whose personal identifying information (e.g., driver's license or social security number) could not be verified by checking it against databases maintained by state departments of motor vehicles or the federal Social Security Administration. Early voters who come within the scope of this law may comply by presenting a copy

of certain identifying documents (driver’s license, utility bill, paycheck, government check, etc.) at the time of early voting.

The law in 21 states contains special statutory provisions that recognize these additional requirements. However, in 13 states, no such language could be found. However, this does not necessarily mean that states are not actually instructing voters to comply with these requirements at the time of early voting. The remainder of the states do not have early voting.

6 Appendix: Codebook (with Frequencies) for 2008 Early and Absentee Voting Dataset

This appendix provides documentation for using the data set we have constructed. Each entry begins with a variable number, a brief label describing the variable, and the variable name, followed by a longer description of the variable. The numerical value associated with each possible coding category is followed by a colon and value label describing the category. In parentheses, to the left of each value, in bold-face font, is the number of cases in the category. Some entries also have additional notes regarding other coding details. Note regarding missing values: The use of “98” and “99” as missing data for 1972-2008 cases sometimes indicate different reasons for missingness, with 98 sometimes representing “unclear” and 99 typically representing “Not Applicable.” However, in some years these two reasons for missingness are combined into one or the other category. This inconsistency was avoided for 2012 and later years by consistently using “98” to represent “unclear.”

V1: Absentee Voting (abs_vote)

Whether the state allows voters to request absentee ballots and return them either in person, by mail, or otherwise.

(0) 0: no, absentee voting is not allowed in the state
(50) 1: yes, absentee voting is allowed in the state

V2: No-Excuse Absentee Voting (abs_nofault)

Whether the state allows voters to request absentee ballots without an excuse.

(23) 0: no, an excuse is required for voting absentee or there is no absentee voting in the state
(27) 1: yes, anyone can request an absentee ballot in the state without providing an excuse

V3: Permanent Absentee (abs_perm)

Whether the state allows some or all voters to put their name on a list that gives them permanent absentee status.

(31) 0: no, state law does not authorize permanent absentee status for any voter
(19) 1: yes, state law authorizes at least some voters to have permanent absentee status

Note: Voters with permanent absentee status receive absentee ballots automatically before each election without having to submit a request for an absentee ballot. In general, we have coded the variables to reflect rules for the typical voter and not the special circumstances voter. However, this variable is coded “1” in states where permanent status is only available to special circumstances voters.

V4.0: Absentee request by mail (abs_request_mail)

Whether the state allows voters to send in by mail a request for an absentee ballot.

- (0) 0: expressly prohibited
- (41) 1: expressly authorized
- (9) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be requested by mail, we code the other variables that have to do with absentee ballot requests (V4.1-V4.5) as 0 (expressly prohibited) . The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 4.1-4.5 to be coded as “0.”

V4.1: Absentee request by phone (abs_request_phone)

Whether the state allows voters to phone in requests for an absentee ballot.

- (4) 0: expressly prohibited
- (7) 1: expressly authorized
- (39) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be requested by mail, we code this variable as 0 (expressly prohibited). The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 4.1-4.5 to be coded as “0.”

V4.2: Absentee request by fax (abs_request_fax)

Whether the state allows voters to fax requests for an absentee ballot.

- (0) 0: expressly prohibited
- (25) 1: expressly authorized
- (25) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be requested by mail, we code this variable as 0 (expressly prohibited). The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 4.1-4.5 to be coded as “0.”

V4.3: Absentee request by web/email (abs_request_web)

Whether the state allows voters to use the internet to submit requests for an absentee ballot.

- (3) 0: expressly prohibited
- (8) 1: expressly authorized
- (39) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be requested by mail, we code this variable as 0 (expressly prohibited). The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 4.1-4.5 to be coded as “0.”

V4.4: Absentee request in person (abs_request_inperson)

Whether the state allows voters to go to election officials in person to request an absentee ballot.

- (0) 0: expressly prohibited
- (42) 1: expressly authorized
- (8) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be requested by mail, we code this variable as 0 (expressly prohibited). The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 4.1-4.5 to be coded as “0.”

V4.5: Third-party pickup (abs_request_thirdparty)

Whether the state allows voters to send another person on their behalf to go to election officials in person and request an absentee ballot.

- (3) 0: expressly prohibited
- (17) 1: expressly authorized
- (30) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be requested by mail, we code this variable as 0 (expressly prohibited). This variable refers to whether voters under ordinary circumstances may send a third party. It is not meant to capture special procedures that apply only in unusual circumstances (e.g., sickness or immobility). The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 4.1-4.5 to be coded as “0.”

V4.6 Overseas and/or military voter request (abs_request_UOCAVA)

Whether the state specifies particular methods for overseas and/or military voters to request absentee ballots

- (3) 0: No, law makes no mention of request process for overseas and/or military voters.
- (47) 1: Yes, law mentions distinct request process for overseas and/or military voters.

V5.0: Absentee Return (abs_return_mail)

Whether the state allows voters to return their absentee ballots by mail.

- (0) 0: expressly prohibited
- (48) 1: expressly authorized
- (2) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be returned by mail, we code the other variables that have to do with absentee ballot requests (V5.1-V5.4) as 0 (expressly prohibited) . The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 5.0-5.5 to be coded as “0.”

V5.1: Absentee return by fax (abs_return_fax)

Whether the state allows voters to return their absentee ballots by fax

- (5) 0: expressly prohibited
- (3) 1: expressly authorized
- (42) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be returned by mail, we code the other variables that have to do with absentee ballot requests (V5.1-V5.4) as 0 (expressly prohibited) . The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 5.0-5.5 to be coded as “0.”

V5.2: Absentee return by web/email (abs_return_web)

Whether the state allows voters to return their absentees by email or over the internet.

- (7) 0: expressly prohibited
- (0) 1: expressly authorized
- (43) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be returned by mail, we code the other variables that have to do with absentee ballot requests (V5.1-V5.4) as 0 (expressly prohibited) . The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 5.0-5.5 to be coded as “0.”

V5.3: Absentee return in person (abs_return_inperson)

Whether the state allows voters to return their absentee ballots in person.

- (1) 0: expressly prohibited
- (40) 1: expressly authorized
- (9) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be returned by mail, we code the other variables that have to do with absentee ballot requests (V5.1-V5.4) as 0 (expressly prohibited) . The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 5.0-5.5 to be coded as “0.”

V5.4: Third-party return (abs_return_thirdparty)

Whether the state allows voters to have another person return their absentee ballots in person on their behalf.

- (1) 0: expressly prohibited
- (26) 1: expressly authorized
- (23) 2: not specified

Note: If the law says that absentee ballots may only be returned by mail, we code the other variables that have to do with absentee ballot requests (V5.1-V5.4) as 0 (expressly prohibited) . This variable refers to whether voters under ordinary circumstances may send a third party. It is not meant to capture special procedures that apply only in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness, immobility) . The word “only”– or some other indicator of an exclusive list– typically has to appear in the statute for 5.0-5.5 to be coded as “0.”

V5.5: Overseas and/or military voter return (abs_return_UOCAVA)

Whether the state specifies particular methods for overseas and/or military voters to return absentee ballots

- (12) 0: No, law does not mention a distinct return process for overseas and/or military voters
- (38) 1: Yes, law mentions distinct return process for overseas and/or military voters.

V6.0: Government-issued photo ID required to request absentee ballot (abs_request_gov_photoID)

Whether a government-issued photo ID is required to request an absentee ballot.

- (2) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (19) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (29) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V6.1: Photo ID required to request absentee ballot (abs_request_nongov_photoID)

Whether photo ID not issued by the government is required to request an absentee ballot.

- (2) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (19) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (29) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V6.2: Documentary (nonphoto) ID required to request absentee ballot (abs_request_nonphoto_ID)

Whether nonphoto ID such as a utility bill, paycheck, government check, bank statement, etc., is required to request an absentee ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (20) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (29) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V6.3 ID number required to request absentee ballot (abs_request_ID_number)

Whether an ID number (typically driver's license number, state ID number, or last four digits of social security number) is required to request an absentee ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (10) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (10) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (29) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V6.4 Signature match required to request absentee ballot (abs_request_sigmatchID)

Whether election officials must compare the signature submitted on an absentee ballot request form with a signature on file before issuing an absentee ballot.

- (9) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (12) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (29) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V6.5 Notarization or witness required to request absentee ballot (abs_request_notary_ID)

Whether voters must have their signatures on the absentee ballot request paperwork notarized in order to request a ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (1) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (19) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (29) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V7.0: Government-issued photo ID required to submit absentee ballot (abs_submit_govt_photoID)

Whether government-issued photo ID is required to submit an absentee ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (34) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (15) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request submit a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V7.1: Photo ID required to submit absentee ballot (abs_submit_nongov_photoID)

Whether photo ID not issued by the government is required to submit an absentee ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (34) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (15) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request submit a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V7.2: Documentary (nonphoto) ID required to submit absentee ballot (abs_submit_nonphoto_ID)

Whether nonphoto ID such as a utility bill, paycheck, government check, bank statement, etc., is required to submit an absentee ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (34) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (15) 3: signature only (no match required), or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request submit a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V7.3 ID number required to submit absentee ballot (abs_submit_ID_number)

Whether an ID number (typically driver's license number, state ID number, or last four digits of social security number) is required to submit an absentee ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (2) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (32) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (15) 3: signature only (no match required) , or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request submit a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V7.4 Signature match required to submit absentee ballot (abs_submit_sigmatchID)

Whether election officials must compare the signature submitted on an absentee ballot return paperwork with a signature on file before accepting a completed absentee ballot.

- (2) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (24) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (9) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (15) 3: signature only (no match required) , or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request submit a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V7.5 Notarization or witness required to submit absentee ballot (abs_submit_notary_ID)

Whether voters must have their signatures on the absentee ballot request paperwork notarized in order to submit a ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (11) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (23) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (15) 3: signature only (no match required) , or no ID required

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request submit a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V8.0 Number of days before election by which ballot must be requested in person (abs_request_deadline_inperson)

The last day that voters may go in and request an absentee ballot by personally appearing at the office of an election official.

- (4) 0 days
- (19) 1 day

- (3) 3 days
- (3) 4 days
- (1) 5 days
- (4) 6 days
- (7) 7 days
- (1) 18 days
- (1) 99: NA
- (7) 98: Depends

Note: Often the statute will say, e.g., the deadline is 5 p.m. on the Friday before the election. In this case, the proper code is 4, because Friday is 4 days before every federal election (we are concerned only with federal election on this question).

V8.1: Number of days before election by which postal request must be postmarked (abs_request_deadline_postmark)

The last day that postal requests for absentee ballots must be postmarked in order to be honored.

- (50) 99: NA

Note: The law of some states specifies a postmark date, while the law in other states gives a receipt date. Oftentimes the statute will say, e.g., the deadline is 5 p.m. on the Friday before the election. In this case, the proper code is 4, because Friday is 4 days before every federal election (we are concerned only with federal election on this question). Unless the word “postmark” or some similar word is used, a deadline for submission is interpreted to be a receipt deadline.

V8.2: Number of days before election by which postal request must be received (abs_request_deadline_receipt)

The last day that postal requests for absentee ballots must be received in order to be honored.

- (3) 0 days
- (7) 1 days
- (2) 3 days
- (5) 4 days
- (3) 5 days
- (6) 6 days
- (13) 7 days
- (1) 8 days
- (1) 10 days
- (1) 11 days
- (11) 98: NA
- (7) 99: NA

Note: The law of some states specifies a postmark date, while the law in other states gives a receipt date. Note: Oftentimes the statute will say, e.g., the deadline is 5 p.m. on the Friday before the election. In this case, the proper code is 4, because Friday is 4 days before every federal election (we are concerned only with federal election on this question).

V8.3: Law mentions both postmark date and receive date (abs_request_deadline_hybrid)

Whether the state specifies both a postmark and a receipt date for returning absentee ballots.

- (42) 0: no, the law either mentioned a postmark or a receipt-date deadline, but not both
- (0) 1: yes, the law mentions both postmark and receipt-date deadlines
- (8) 99: other

Note: Unless the word “postmark” or some similar word is used, a deadline for submission is interpreted to be a receipt deadline.

V9.0: Number of days before election by which absentee ballot must be submitted in person (abs_submit_deadline_inperson)

The number of days before election by which an absentee ballot must be submitted in person in order for the ballot to count.

- (37) 0 days
- (7) 1 days
- (1) 3 days
- (2) 4 days
- (3) 99: NA

V9.1: Number of days before election by which absentee postal submission must be postmarked in presidential election (abs_submit_deadline_postmark)

The number of days before the election that submitted absentee ballots must be postmarked in order to be counted in a presidential election.

- (6) 0 days
- (5) 1 day
- (39) 99: NA

Note: Because Federal law governs submission of absentee ballots in presidential elections, deadlines attached to other types of elections are ignored. The law of some states specifies a postmark date, while the law in other states gives a receipt date. Unless the word “postmark” or some similar word is used, a deadline for submission is interpreted to be a receipt deadline.

V9.2: Number of days before election by which postal submission must be received in presidential election (abs_submit_deadline_receipt)

The number of days before (or after) the election that submitted absentee ballots must be received in order to be counted in a presidential election. Post-election deadlines are indicated by a negative value (e.g., one day post-election is entered as a negative one).

- (1) 11 days after
- (2) 10 days after
- (1) 2 days after
- (1) 1 day after
- (39) 0 days
- (3) 1 day before
- (1) 4 days before

(2) 99: N/A

Note: Because Federal law governs submission of absentee ballots in presidential elections, deadlines attached to other types of elections are ignored. The law of some states specifies a postmark date, while the law in other states specifies a receipt date. If the deadline is actually after the election, then the value is negative.

V9.3: Law mentions both postmark date and receive date for submitting absentee ballots (abs_submit_deadline_hybrid)

Whether the law mentions both a postmark and a receipt date for submitting absentee ballots.

(39) 0: no, the law either mentioned a postmark or a receipt-date deadline, but not both
(10) 1: yes, the law mentions both postmark and receipt-date deadlines
(1) 99: Other

Note: Unless the word “postmark” or some similar word is used, a deadline for submission is interpreted to be a receipt deadline.

V10: First-time voter voting absentee restrictions and rules (abs_firsttime_restrictions)

Whether the law contains special ID or other provisions for first-time absentee voters beyond the provisions that apply to all voters casting absentee ballots.

(15) 0: no, the law contains no special rules for first-time voters.
(35) 1: yes, the law contains additional requirements for first-time voters
when they vote absentee

Note: In 2004, federal law imposed general ID requirements that all first-time mail-in registrants must satisfy if the information contained on their voter registration applications was not “matched” against information in outside databases. While most states have updated their laws accordingly, this variable shows that the statutes of 15 states do not acknowledge the change with respect to absentee voting. However, this does not necessarily mean that these states are not complying with federal law in actual practice.

V11: All-mail elections (all_mail_authorized)

Whether the law authorizes jurisdictions to to conduct statewide elections entirely by mail.

(38) 0: there is no provision requiring or allowing statewide elections
to be conducted by mail
(11) 1: statewide elections may be conducted by mail at the discretion of
local election officials
(1) 2: statewide election must be conducted by mail

Note: Oregon conducts all elections by mail. For states coded 0, our presumption is that local officials may not conduct elections by mail. This variable is coded as 0 if the law authorizes all mail elections for smaller local or countywide elections, but not for statewide elections.

V12.0: Early voting availability (early_voting_authorized)

Whether the state authorizes in-person early voting.

- (0) 0: in-person early voting is prohibited by state law
- (16) 1: in-person early voting is not mentioned in state law
- (4) 2: state law explicitly authorizes, but does not require, local officials to implement an early voting program at their discretion
- (30) 3: local officials are required to provide in-person early voting

Note: Different states use different terms to refer to in-person early voting. For instance, some states call it absentee voting, while others call it advance voting. The important thing is not the terminology, but the underlying concept of a one-stop transaction.

V12.1: No Excuse Early Voting (`early_voting_no_excuse`)

Whether the state authorizes any person to engage in in-person early voting, or only voters who have an “excuse” (typically something that prevents them from voting at the polls on election day).

- (7) 0: no, early voting requires an excuse
- (27) 1: yes, the state allows early voting without an excuse
- (16) 99: N/A, this state does not have early voting

V12.2: Whether beginning and end dates for early voting are inferences (`early_voting_period_statute`)

Whether the early voting period is explicitly mentioned in state law, or whether it had to be inferred.

- (6) 0: The beginning and/or ending time for early voting listed in 12.3 and 12.4 are not derived from explicit language in state law, but from inference
- (26) 1: The beginning AND ending times listed in 12.3 and 12.4 are derived from explicit language in state law, not from inference
- (18) 99: The beginning and end times for the early voting program could not be determined, even by inference (or this state has no early voting)

Note: The laws of many states blend the concepts of early and absentee voting and do not discuss them separately. Particularly, many states introduce early voting by stating in the absentee voting statute that voters can vote an absentee ballot in person. In these states, because they do not treat absentee and early voting as separate processes, there is no language in the statutes to indicate when early voting would begin and end.

However, the most reasonable inference is that early voting would begin at the earliest time absentee ballots may be issued. Inferring the end period for early voting can be more difficult: Does early voting end on the last day absentee ballots can be issued, or on the last day that already issued absentee ballots may be received?

We assume here that the last day of early voting is the last day that absentee ballots may be issued. However, note that this assumption only applies to a state only where that state:

- 1) has no early voting program with laws authorizing early voting that are distinct from the laws that authorize absentee voting;
- 2) has no laws that pertain specifically to the beginning and end periods of in-person absentee voting (as opposed to absentee voting including in-person absentee voting – generally);
- 3) but nevertheless explicitly authorize in-person absentee voting under state law.

In this narrow circumstance that applied to 12 states, we infer beginning and end periods for early voting using the scheme described above.

V12.3: Early voting begins for federal elections (early__voting__begins)

Coded in number of days before federal general election day that early voting begins.

- (1) 4 days
- (1) 6 days
- (1) 7 days
- (1) 10 days
- (1) 12 days
- (2) 14 days
- (5) 15 days
- (4) 17 days
- (2) 20 days
- (1) 22 days
- (1) 29 days
- (2) 30 days
- (1) 40 days
- (22) 99: N/A, this state does not have early voting, or time is not specified by law

Note: This variable is coded according to the minimum or stipulated number of days before an election that early voting must start.

V12.4: Early Voting Ends (early__voting__ends)

Coded in number of days before (federal general) election day that early voting ends.

- (4) 0 days
- (13) 1 days
- (1) 2 days
- (4) 3 days
- (4) 4 days
- (2) 5 days
- (1) 7 days
- (17) 99: NA, this state does not have early voting, or time is not specified by law

Note: While some states end early voting a few days before the election, most states allow early voting up until the day before or of the election. If the state specifically says that early voting ends the day before an election, this variable is coded 1. If the state does not specify an end to early voting, this variable is coded 0.

V12.5: Early voting hours (early__voting__hours)

Coded in minimum number of hours per day that in-person early voting locations must be open (Monday through Friday only).

- (1) 3 hours
- (1) 4 hours
- (4) 8 hours
- (1) 9.5 hours

- (3) 10 hours
- (40) 99: N/A, this state does not have early voting, or time is not specified by law

V12.6: In-person early voting on weekends (early_voting_weekends)

Whether the state requires, prohibits or makes optional that early voting sites are available on weekends.

- (0) 0: expressly prohibited,
- (10) 1: no provision made,
- (2) 2: expressly allowed at the discretion of local officials,
- (14) 3: local officials are required to provide weekend hours
- (24) 99: no early voting

V12.7: Number of in-person early voting sites (early_voting_sites)

The minimum number of early voting sites that must be established in each jurisdiction by law.

- (8) 0: not specified
- (2) 1: one
- (20) 2: jurisdictions may have more than one site
- (3) 3: some or all jurisdictions must have multiple sites
- (17) 99: N/A; no early voting

V13.0: Government-issued Photo ID required for early voting (early_voting_govt_photoID)

Whether government-issued photo ID is required to request an early ballot.

- (7) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (1) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (14) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (10) 3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
- (2) 98: Unclear
- (16) 99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V13.1: Photo ID required for early voting (early_voting_nongov_photoID)

Whether photo ID not issued by the government is required to cast an early ballot.

- (6) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (0) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (16) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (10) 3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
- (2) 98: Unclear
- (16) 99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V13.2: Documentary (nonphoto) ID required for early voting (early_voting_nonphotoID)

Whether nonphoto ID such as a utility bill, paycheck, government check, bank statement, etc., is required to cast an early ballot.

- (5) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (1) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (16) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (10) 3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
- (2) 98: Unclear
- (16) 99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V13.3: ID number required for early voting (early_voting_IDnumber)

Whether an ID number (typically driver's license number, state ID number, or last four digits of social security number) is required to cast an early ballot.

- (2) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (3) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (17) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (10) 3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
- (2) 98: Unclear
- (16) 99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V13.4: Signature with match required to cast an early ballot (early_voting_sigmatchID)

Whether polls workers must compare the voter's signature to one on file before allowing the voter to cast an early ballot.

- (1) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
- (10) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
- (11) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
- (10) 3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
- (2) 98: Unclear

(16) 99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V13.5: Witness required to cast an early ballot (early_voting_witnessID)

Whether voters may use the sworn statement of a witness to prove their identity to meet ID requirements for casting an early ballot.

(0) 0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit,
but there are others they can submit instead
(5) 1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
(17) 2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
(10) 3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
(2) 98: Unclear
(16) 99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V14: First-time voter restrictions and rules for early voting (early_voting_firsttime_restric

Whether the law contains special ID or other provisions for first-time early voters beyond the provisions that apply to all voters casting early ballots.

(13) 0: no, the law contains no special rules for first-time voters
(21) 1: yes, the law contains additional requirements for first-time
voters when they vote early
(16) 99: This state has no early voting

Note: In 2004, federal law imposed general ID requirements that all first-time mail-in registrants must satisfy if the information contained on their voter registration applications was not “matched” against information in outside databases. While most states have updated their laws accordingly, this variable shows that the statutes of 13 states do not acknowledge the change with respect to early voting. However, this does not necessarily mean that these states are not complying with federal law in actual practice.

Codebook Part II. VREAD+

The variables below represent the new variables added to the original Voter Registration and Election Administration data set (described above). The data collection process for these new variables (as well as the original variables in 2012 and after) was conducted using Lexis/Nexis, generally following the procedures used for 1972-2008. To ensure reliability over time, we have two versions of the original variables for 2012, the original collected by OSU and the replication variable collected at AU.

For 2012 and years thereafter, we relied on and documented the specific state statute(s) on which the variable coding was based in each year, relying on the statutes provided in the original data set. For new variables, we searched using keywords through the use of the Lexis Nexis suite of products; in cases where we could not identify a statute, we consulted the National Conference of State Legislatures data base on state election laws, Vote.org and other similar resources, as well as a general online search to locate information relevant to any state legislation. Once the relevant statute(s) was identified, the substantive content of the legislation was coded, along with the enactment and effective dates of the legislation. Details on these processes for each variable are available upon request.

Variables are coded based on how they have been used in scholarly publications, as well as in consultation with election law experts and researchers, with the goal of providing maximum detail for users. Any specific issues with individual states are detailed in supplementary documents for each of the variables as well as the coding rationale for each code. Unlike the original VRead variables coding, these new variables will only be coded back to 1992.

Inter-Coder Reliability

The original (V1-V14) VREAD variables were coded by a team of law school students, who referred questionable coding decisions on a case by case basis to the team leader, Nathan Cmenska. During early summer of 2019, we began re-coding the values we extended to 2018 for the original variables, as well as for all the new variables (back to 1992). This work is on-going. For the new variables, a different coder coded the variable independently, documenting issues/questions/concerns and important details on the summary document for each variable. Differences observed between the two codings are identified on the re-coding spreadsheets in several different colors:

- Red: different value coded
- Orange: different statute cited
- Yellow: identified same statute but a different bill as the origin of the statute
- Blue: identified different enactment and/or effective dates of the bills
- Green: where there was no previous reference to a statute, one is provided
- Purple: coded with value that isn't in the codebook
- Brown: Identified more than one statute while original code only identified one

A third coder reviewed the Red and Blue-coded conflicts and independently coded the variable. Details about resolving the conflict are documented in the summary memos for each variable. In most cases a resolution to the conflict was identified, but we continue to work on resolving any remaining differences. Interested users should consult the re-coding files for more details; these files will be regularly updated. Additional reliability and validity checks will be completed soon.

V15.0: Government-issued Photo ID required for early voting (election_day_govt_photoID)

Whether government-issued photo ID is required to request a ballot on election day .

0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit, but there are others
1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
98: Unclear
99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V15.1: Photo ID required on election day (election_day_nongov_photoID)

Whether photo ID not issued by the government is required to cast a ballot on election day.

0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit, but there are others they can submit instead
1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
98: Unclear
99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V15.2: Documentary (nonphoto) ID required on election day (election_day_nonphotoID)

Whether nonphoto ID such as a utility bill, paycheck, government check, bank statement, etc., is required to cast a ballot on election day.

0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit, but there are others they can submit instead
1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
98: Unclear
99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V15.3: ID number required on election day (election_day_IDnumber)

Whether an ID number (typically driver's license number, state ID number, or last four digits of social security number) is required to cast a ballot on election day.

0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit, but there are others they can submit instead
1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
98: Unclear
99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V15.4: Signature with match required to cast a ballot on election day (election_day_sigmatchID)

Whether polls workers must compare the voter's signature to one on file before allowing the voter to cast a ballot on election day.

0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit, but there are others they can submit instead
1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
98: Unclear
99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V15.5: Witness required to cast a ballot (election_day_witnessID)

Whether voters may use the sworn statement of a witness to prove their identity to meet ID requirements for casting a ballot.

0: This is one type of ID that voters may submit, but there are others they can submit instead
1: yes, voters must submit this type of ID
2: no, this type of ID is not accepted
3: signature only sufficient (no signature match requirement)
98: Unclear
99: NA

Note: Typically there are several forms of acceptable ID, any one of which is sufficient to request a ballot. In these cases, all forms of acceptable ID that are identified are coded as 0. If multiple forms of ID must be submitted together to request a ballot, each form that is identified as acceptable (but in combination) is coded as 1.

V16.1 Presence of Same Day Registration (SDR):

Whether there is a one day transaction where a voter could register and vote early on the same day.

0: SDR does not exists
1: SDR does exist
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.2 Presence of Election Day Registration (EDR):

Whether there is a one day transaction where a voter could register and vote on election day.

0: EDR does not exists
1: EDR does exist
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.3 Presence of Same Day Registration at one location (SDR_Location):

Whether a voter can vote using SDR at one location.

0: No SDR cannot be done at one location
1: Yes SDR can be done at one location
2: Yes, but the location is not the polling place
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.4 Presence of Election Day Registration at one location (EDR_Location):

Whether a voter can vote using EDR at one location.

0: No EDR cannot be done at one location
1: Yes EDR can be done at one location
2: Yes, but the location is not the polling place
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.5 Separate laws for both SDR and EDR (SDR_EDR_Hybrid):

Whether state has separate laws for both SDR and EDR

0: Both EDR and SDR are present
1: Either SDR or EDR are allowed while the other is not.
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.6 SDR in Primaries (SDR_Primary):

Whether there is SDR in the primaries?

0: SDR is available for primaries
1: SDR is available for primaries
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.7 EDR in Primaries (EDR_Primary):

Whether there is EDR in the primaries?

0: EDR is available for primaries
1: EDR is available for primaries
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.8 Last day to vote through SDR (SDR_Closing_Days)

When is the last day a voter can vote through SDR?

0-30: Number of days before election with 0 being election day.
98: Unclear
99: NA

V16.9 First Time Restriction (first_time):

Does a first-time voter have special restrictions for utilizing SDR and EDR.

0: There are no first time restrictions for EDR or SDR
1: Yes there are first time restrictions for EDR or SDR
98: Unclear
99: NA

V17.1 Last Day to Register to Vote on Election Day (closing_days)

When is the last day to register to vote on election day?

0-30: Number of days before the election that registration is available
98: Unclear
99: N/A

V18.0 Felon Disenfranchisement (felon_disfranc)

Whether there is felon disenfranchisement in a state?

0: No disenfranchisement is not present
1: Yes disenfranchisement is present for all felonies and offenders
2: Yes, disenfranchisement does exist for certain felonies and offenders

98: Unclear
99: N/A

V18.1 Permanent Felon Disenfranchisement (felon_perm)

Whether there is permanent felon disenfranchisement in a state?

0: No disenfranchisement is not permanent
1: Yes permanent disenfranchisement does exist for all felonies and offenders
2: Yes, permanent disenfranchisement does exist for certain felonies and offenders
98: Unclear
99: NA

V18.2 Restoration of Voting Rights (felon_restoration)

If restoration is available, when does a felon become eligible for restoration?

0: Voting rights are never lost
1: They are restored immediately after the end of incarceration
2: Restored after the end of sentence (including post-release sentences such as probation or parole)
3: Restored after a period of time after end of sentence
4: Can be restored by additional action such as petition or pardon
5: Can not be restored
98: Unclear
99: N/A

V18.3 Automatic Restoration (felon_automatic)

Whether there is automatic restoration of felon voting rights if restoration is available

0: There is no automatic restoration
1: There is automatic restoration
2: There is automatic restoration for certain felonies or offenders
98: Unclear
99: NA

V18.4 First Time Offender Policies (felon_first_time)

Whether there is a different policy for first time offenders.

0: First time felons' voting rights are treated the same as repeat offenders
1: First time offenders' voting rights are treated differently than repeat offenders
99: NA

V19.1 Pre-Registration Age (prereg_age)

Age at which a person can pre-register to vote

16: earliest pre-registration can begin is at 16
17: earliest pre-registration can begin is at 17
17.5: earliest pre-registration can begin is at 17.5
18: registration can occur so long as voter will be 18 by election day
98: Unclear
99: N/A

V19.2 Pre-Registration for Primaries (prereg_primary)

Can individuals younger than 18 vote in a primary if they will be 18 by the election?

0: No
1: Yes
2: Unspecified
98: Unclear
99: N/A

Codebook Part III. VREAD+ Variables, Years, and Names

Note the following details regarding current availability of variables and source details. References to variables by variable number can be linked to variable names in the current data set by referring to the Variable Names/Numbers table attached on the next page.

Original Variables:

Variables 1-14 (without the final suffix .02) are coded from 1972-2012.

Original Variables Extended:

Variables 1-14 that are suffixed .02 (or .2 if there wasn't multiple variables coded in the election law category) are now coded for 2012-2018. The year 2012 overlaps with the original variable coding to bridge across different data collection teams as a reliability check. The data for these extended variables for 2012 is included in the data set as the year 2012.5.

New Variables:

Variables 15-19 are coded from 1992-2018. Reliability checks on this coding are on-going.

Alerts Sheet:

Alerts are set through Lexis/Nexis only by most recent relevant statute (2018). These alerts will be used to extend coding into future years.

Dates Sheet:

Data on the effective and enactment dates of each election reform statute is available for most variables from 2012-2018, and for some variables back to 1992.

Variable Names/Numbers

The names and numbers assigned to different variables across different versions of the data set (or referred to in documentation) follows on the next page.

List of Variable Names and Numbers

Variable Numbers	Variable Names
1	abs_vote
2	abs_nofault
2.2	abs_nofault_post_2012
3	abs_perm
4	abs_request_mail
4.02	abs_request_mail_post_2012

Variable Numbers	Variable Names
4.1	abs_request_phone
4.12	abs_request_phone_post_2012
4.2	abs_request_fax
4.22	abs_request_fax_post_2012
4.3	abs_request_web
4.32	abs_request_web_post_2012
4.4	abs_request_inperson
4.42	abs_request_inperson_post_2012
4.5	abs_request_thirdparty
4.52	abs_request_thirdparty_post_2012
4.6	abs_request_UOCAVA
4.62	abs_request_UOCAVA_post_2012
5	abs_return_mail
5.02	abs_return_mail_post_2012
5.1	abs_return_fax
5.12	abs_return_fax_post_2012
5.2	abs_return_web
5.22	abs_return_web_post_2012
5.3	abs_return_inperson
5.32	abs_return_inperson_post_2012
5.4	abs_return_thirdparty
5.42	abs_return_thirdparty_post_2012
5.5	abs_return_UOCAVA
5.52	abs_return_UOCAVA_post_2012
6	abs_request_gov_photo_ID
6.02	abs_request_gov_photo_ID_post_2012
6.1	abs_request_nongov_photo_ID
6.12	abs_request_nongov_photo_ID_post_2012
6.2	abs_request_nonphoto_ID
6.22	abs_request_nonphoto_ID_post_2012
6.3	abs_request_ID_number
6.32	abs_request_ID_number_post_2012
6.4	abs_request_sigmatch_ID
6.42	abs_request_sigmatch_ID_post_2012
6.5	abs_request_notary_ID
6.52	abs_request_notary_ID_post_2012
7	abs_submit_govt_photo_ID
7.02	abs_submit_govt_photo_ID_post_2012
7.1	abs_submit_nongov_photo_ID
7.12	abs_submit_nongov_photo_ID_post_2012
7.2	abs_submit_nonphoto_ID
7.22	abs_submit_nonphoto_ID_post_2012
7.3	abs_submit_ID_number
7.32	abs_submit_ID_number_post_2012
7.4	abs_submit_sigmatch_ID
7.42	abs_submit_sigmatch_ID_post_2012
7.5	abs_submit_notary_ID
7.52	abs_submit_notary_ID_post_2012
8	abs_request_deadline_inperson
8.02	abs_request_deadline_inperson_post_2012

Variable Numbers	Variable Names
8.1	abs_request_deadline_postmark
8.12	abs_request_deadline_postmark_post_2012
8.2	abs_request_deadline_receipt
8.22	abs_request_deadline_receipt_post_2012
8.3	abs_request_deadline_hybrid
8.32	abs_request_deadline_hybrid_post_2012
9	abs_submit_deadline_inperson
9.02	abs_submit_deadline_inperson_post_2012
9.1	abs_submit_deadline_postmark
9.12	abs_submit_deadline_postmark_post_2012
9.2	abs_submit_deadline_receipt
9.22	abs_submit_deadline_receipt_post_2012
9.3	abs_submit_deadline_hybrid
9.32	abs_submit_deadline_hybrid_post_2012
10	abs_firsttime_restrictions
10.02	abs_firsttime_restrictions_post_2012
11	all_mail_authorized
11.2	all_mail_authorized_post_2012
12	early_voting_authorized
12.02	early_voting_authorized_post_2012
12.1	early_voting_no_excuse
12.12	early_voting_no_excuse_post_2012
12.2	early_voting_period_statute
12.22	early_voting_period_statute_post_2012
12.3	early_voting_begins
12.32	early_voting_begins_post_2012
12.4	early_voting_ends
12.42	early_voting_ends_post_2012
12.5	early_voting_hours
12.52	early_voting_hours_post_2012
12.6	early_voting_weekends
12.62	early_voting_weekends_post_2012
12.7	early_voting_sites
12.72	early_voting_sites_post_2012
13	early_voting_govt_photo_ID
13.02	early_voting_govt_photo_ID_post_2012
13.1	early_voting_nongov_photo_ID
13.12	early_voting_nongov_photo_ID_post_2012
13.2	early_voting_nonphoto_ID
13.22	early_voting_nonphoto_ID_post_2012
13.3	early_voting_ID_number
13.32	early_voting_ID_number_post_2012
13.4	early_voting_sigmatch_ID
13.42	early_voting_sigmatch_ID_post_2012
13.5	early_voting_witness_ID
13.52	early_voting_witness_ID_post_2012
14	early_voting_firsttime_restrictions
14.2	early_voting_firsttime_restrictions_post_2012
15.2	election_day_voting_govt_photo_ID
15.2	election_day_voting_nongov_photo_ID

Variable Numbers	Variable Names
15.2	election_day_voting_nonphoto_ID
15.2	election_day_voting_ID_number
15.2	election_day_voting_sigmatch_ID
15.2	election_day_voting_witness_ID
16.1	SDR
16.2	EDR
16.3	SDR_location
16.4	EDR_location
16.5	SDR_EDR_hybrid
16.6	SDR_primary
16.7	EDR_primary
16.8	SDR_closing_days
16.9	SDR_EDR_firsttime_restrictions
17	closing_days
18	felon_disenfran
18.1	felon_perm
18.2	felon_restoration
18.3	felon_automatic
18.4	felon_firsttime
19.1	prereg_age
19.2	prereg_primary