

Election Reconciliation – Official Totals

March 2022 Webinar

Secretary of State – Elections Division



Reconciliation

The Texas Election Code now requires that the presiding judge of the central counting station attest to a written reconciliation of votes and voters (127.131f):

- At the close of tabulation on election day
- Again after counting late mail/provisional ballots (canvass)
- For primaries conducted jointly, you may either combine parties or have a form for each
- Post completed forms on your county website
- Only applies to counties with central counting stations



Reconciliation

Compares the number of voters who cast valid ballots with the number of votes counted by your tabulation system



ELECTION RECONCILIATION – OFFICIAL TOTALS

Canvass

Election Reconciliation - Official Totals

County _____ Election Name _____
 Registered Voters _____ Election Date _____

1. Voters <small>(From election returns and lists)</small>		2. Rejected ballots		3. Counted ballots <small>(From tabulation software)</small>	
A. Early voting in person voters				I. Early voting ballots counted	
B. Election day in person voters				J. Election day ballots counted	
C. Mail ballot voters		F. Mail ballots rejected		K. Mail ballots counted	
D. Provisional ballots submitted		G. Provisional ballots rejected		L. Provisional ballots counted	
E. Total voters (A+B+C+D)		H. Total ballots rejected (F+G)		M. Total ballots counted (I+J+K+L)	

4. Comparison of voters and counted ballots	
N. Difference between voters and ballots (E-H+M)	O. Difference as percentage of voters (H+(E-H)*100) %
P. Explanation for difference, if any	

5. Attestation	
Q. "I certify that the information contained in this document accurately reflects the official reconciliation of votes and voters from the above stated election"	
Presiding judge signature _____	Print name _____ Date _____

6. Mail ballots		7. Provisional ballots	
R. Mail ballots sent		U. Provisional ballots deemed incomplete	
S. Mail ballots not returned by voter			
T. Mail ballots surrendered			



Overview

- Top group gathers election statistics

1. Voters (from election rosters and lists)		2. Rejected ballots		3. Counted ballots (from tabulation software)	
A. Early voting in person voters				I. Early voting ballots counted	
B. Election day in person voters				J. Election day ballots counted	
C. Mail ballot voters		F. Mail ballots rejected		K. Mail ballots counted	
D. Provisional ballots submitted		G. Provisional ballots rejected		L. Provisional ballots counted	
E. Total voters (A+B+C+D)		H. Total ballots rejected (F+G)		M. Total ballots counted (I+J+K+L)	



Overview (continued)

- Middle group compares those statistics
 - Voters minus rejected ballots minus counted ballots

4. Comparison of voters and counted ballots	
<p>N. Difference between voters and ballots (E-H-M) _____</p>	<p>O. Difference as percentage of voters (N÷(E-H)*100) _____ %</p>
<p>P. Explanation for difference, if any</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>



Overview (continued)

- Bottom group gathers statistics about mail and provisional ballots

6. Mail ballots		7. Provisional ballots	
R. Mail ballots sent		U. Provisional ballots deemed incomplete	
S. Mail ballots not returned by voter			
T. Mail ballots surrendered			



Election Reconciliation – Official Totals

Section details



1 - Voters

1. Voters (from election rosters and lists)	
A. Early voting in person voters	
B. Election day in person voters	
C. Mail ballot voters	
D. Provisional ballots submitted	
E. Total voters (A+B+C+D)	

Fill in the number of voters who participated in your election

- Separates in person voters into Early Voting, Election Day, and Provisional categories
- Do not include provisional ballots with Early Voting and Election Day



2 – Rejected ballots

2. Rejected ballots	
F. Mail ballots rejected	
G. Provisional ballots rejected	
H. Total ballots rejected (F+G)	

Fill in the number of ballots not accepted for counting

- Provisional ballots
- Mail ballots



3 – Counted ballots

3. Counted ballots (from tabulation software)	
I. Early voting ballots counted	
J. Election day ballots counted	
K. Mail ballots counted	
L. Provisional ballots counted	
M. Total ballots counted (I+J+K+L)	

Fill in the number of ballots counted by your tabulation software

- Boxes I, J, and L may differ from results reports based on how you report provisional ballots
- Box M should match the total number of ballots cast on your results report



4 – Comparison of voters and counted ballots

- Compare the number of voters with the number of ballots counted

4. Comparison of voters and counted ballots	
N. Difference between voters and ballots (E-H-M)	_____
O. Difference as percentage of voters (N+(E-H)*100)	_____ %
P. Explanation for difference, if any	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>



4 - Comparison (continued)

- Box E minus Box H gives you the number of voters who cast valid ballots
- Then subtract box M to compare the number of valid ballots to the number of ballots counted

N. Difference between voters and ballots
(E-H-M)



4 - Comparison (continued)

- Calculate the percentage to put the discrepancy into context
- Start with inner parentheses (Box E – box H)
- Divide Box N by that number
- Multiply by 100

O. Difference as percentage of voters
(N÷(E-H)*100) _____ %



4 - Comparison (continued)

- Explain the difference between voters and votes
 - Clearly distinguish between what you know happened vs. what you think probably happened
 - Attach explanation if you need more space



4 - Comparison (continued)

- Tracking down discrepancies
 - Look at each row to find which category a discrepancy is in
 - Compare votes and voters for each polling location
 - Think about how the parts of your voting system work together



5 - Attestation

- Signed by the presiding judge of central count

5. Attestation		
Q. "I certify that the information contained in this document accurately reflects the official reconciliation of votes and voters from the above stated election"		
_____	_____	_____
Presiding judge signature	Print name	Date



6 – Mail ballots

- Gather statistics about mail ballots
- Box S includes any mail ballots returned as undeliverable

6. Mail ballots	
R. Mail ballots sent	
S. Mail ballots not returned by voter	
T. Mail ballots surrendered	



7 – Provisional ballots

- Provide the number of provisional check-ins that were not completed
- Explains any difference in the number of provisional ballots between election day and canvass reconciliation forms



Questions?

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