## Using the Policy Survey to Validate 2022 EAVS Data

The 2022 Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) project will require the completion of two surveys. The Policy Survey is completed at the state or territory level and collects information about the election laws and policies that will be in place for the November 2022 general election. The Policy Survey is submitted *before* the November 2022 election occurs. The second survey, the EAVS, is completed *after* the election and collects data on voter registration, voting by citizens covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), mail voting, in-person polling operations, provisional ballots, voter participation, and voting technology at the jurisdiction level.

The Policy Survey provides important context to your EAVS data and will help the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and other data users better understand the EAVS data that you will submit. For instance, knowing states' policies on mail voting (e.g., using all-mail elections, requiring an excuse to vote by mail, the use of drop boxes and ballot curing, and the deadlines for submitting mail ballots) can help explain why the number of mail ballots transmitted, returned, counted, cured, and rejected and the percentage of voters who vote by mail varies widely among states.

In addition, the data collection templates that you will use to submit EAVS data will include validations customized according to your state's Policy Survey responses. These validations will ensure your two data submissions align with each other, will reduce the response burden for states and jurisdictions, and will help your state submit more accurate EAVS data. The validations listed in this newsletter will be programmed into both the online and Excel data collection templates (stay tuned for a future EAVS newsletter that will give you a preview of what these two templates will look like and how they will differ). When a validation dictates that the response "Does not apply" cannot be selected for an EAVS item, template users will see an error message explaining why this response cannot be selected and providing an explanation of which alternate response would be appropriate.

**Reminder**: The Policy Survey closes at the end of this month. It is vital that the project team has every state's response by September 30 so we can correctly program your data collection templates before we release them to you in November. Your state's responses to the 2020 Policy Survey are available to download from the State Files page of the EAVS Portal (you will need to log in with your Portal credentials at https://eavsportal.com/Account/Login) and can be used to assist with your 2022 submission. If you need support with completing the 2022 Policy Survey, please contact our help desk at eavs@forsmarshgroup.com.

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q6: Does your state have online registration? | A4c, A5c, A6c, A7c: Number of registration forms submitted online between the close of registration for the 2020 general election and the close of registration for the 2022 general election | Q6 = No | A4c, A5c, A6c and A7c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q6 = Yes | A4c, A5c, A6c, and A7c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q8: Does your state have same-day voter registration (SDR)? | A2a, A2b, and A2c: Number of SDRs received for the 2022 general election | Q8 = No | A2a, A2b, and A2c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q8 = Yes | A2a, A2b, and A2c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q9: Does your state allow pre-registration of individuals under 18 years of age? | A3c: Number of new pre-registrations of persons under the age of 18 received between the close of registration for the 2020 general election and the close of registration for the 2022 general election | Q9 = No | A3c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q9 = Yes | A3c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q10: Does your state differentiate between active and inactive voters? | A1c: Number of inactive voters for the 2022 general election | Q10 = No | A1c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q10 = Yes | A1c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q12: Does your state send confirmation notices? | A8a–A8h: Number of confirmation notices sent to voters between the close of registration for the 2020 general election and the close of registration for the 2022 general election | Q12 = No | A8a–A8h will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q12 = Yes | A8a–A8h cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q15: Does your state (or any jurisdiction within your state) use electronic poll books? | F3a–e: Use of electronic poll books | Q15 = No | F3a–e will be pre-filled in the templates as "No" |
| Q17: Will your state (or any jurisdiction within your state) conduct an all-mail election in the November 2022 general election? | F1g: Number of voters who cast a ballot that was counted in a jurisdiction that conducts elections by mail | Q17 = No | F1g will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| Q17a: Will the all-mail system be used statewide or in certain jurisdictions? | F1g: Number of voters who cast a ballot that was counted in a jurisdiction that conducts elections by mail | Q17a = Statewide | F1g cannot be answered as "Does not apply" |
| Q18: Does your state allow permanent absentee voting? | C2a: Number of mail ballots transmitted to permanent absentee voters | Q18 = No | C2a will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q18 = Yes, any registrant OR Yes, certain registrants | C2a cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q19: Will your state (or any jurisdiction in your state) use drop boxes? | C3a: Total number of drop boxes used<br><br>C4a–c, C5a–c: Number of drop boxes used during Election Day and early voting<br><br>C6a: Number of mail ballots returned via drop box | Q19 = No | C3a, C4a–c, C5a–c, and C6a will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| Q20: Will your state allow ballot curing? | C7a: Number of mail ballots successfully cured | Q20 = No | C7a will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q20 = Yes | C7a cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q21: What is the ballot postmark deadline for domestic civilian mail ballots? | C9k: Number of mail ballots rejected for not having a required postmark | Q21 = Postmark not required | C9k will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| Q25: What terminology does your state use for early voting?<br><br>*NOTE: in-person absentee voting is considered early voting for purposes of the EAVS | D4a–c: Number of early voting polling places<br>D6a: Number of poll workers who assisted with early voting<br>F1f: Number of voters who cast a ballot that was counted through early voting | Q25 = Early voting is not allowed | D4a–c, D6a, and F1f will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q25 = Some form of early voting is allowed | D4a–c, D6a, and F1f cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q27: What methods does your state use to transmit blank UOCAVA ballots? | B6a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots transmitted by postal mail | Q27 ≠ Postal mail | B6a–c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q27 = Postal mail | B6a–c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | B7a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots transmitted by email | Q27 ≠ Email | B7a–c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q27 = Email | B7a–c cannot be answered "Does not apply." |
| | B8a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots transmitted by other modes | Q27 ≠ Fax AND Q27 ≠ Online AND Q27 ≠ Other | B8a–c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q27 = Fax OR Q27 = Online OR Q27 = Other | B8a–c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q28: What methods does your state allow for voters to return UOCAVA ballots? | B10a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots that were returned by postal mail<br><br>B15a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots that were returned by postal mail and counted | Q28 ≠ Postal mail | B10a–c and B15a–c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q28 = Postal mail | B10a–c and B15a–c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | B11a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots that were returned by email<br><br>B16a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots that were returned by email and counted | Q28 ≠ Email | B11a–c and B16a–c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q28 = Email | B11a–c and B16a–c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | B12a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots that were returned by other modes<br><br>B17a–c: Number of UOCAVA ballots that were returned by other modes and counted | Q28 ≠ Fax AND Q28 ≠ Online AND Q28 ≠ Other | B12a–c and B17a–c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q28 = Fax OR Q28 = Online OR Q28 = Other | B12a–c and B17a–c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q33: Does your state use provisional ballots? | E1a–e: Number of provisional ballots submitted and their adjudication<br><br>E2a–k: Number of provisional ballots cast by reason<br><br>E3a–m: Number of provisional ballots rejected by reason<br><br>F1e: Number of voters who cast a ballot that was counted through provisional voting<br><br>F5d_3, F6d_3, F7d_3, F8d_3, F9d_3: Usage of voting machines to support provisional balloting<br><br>F10c: Location of vote tally for provisional ballots | Q33 = No | E1a–e, E2a–k, E3a–m, F1e, F5d_3, F6d_3, F7d_3, F8d_3, F9d_3, and F10c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33 = Yes | E1a–e, E2a–k, E3a–m, F1e, F5d_3, F6d_3, F7d_3, F8d_3, F9d_3, and F10c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q33a: Under what circumstances does your state use provisional ballots? | E2h: Number of provisional ballots cast because a judge extended polling place hours | Q33a ≠ When a judge extends polling place hours | E2h will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = When a judge extends polling place hours | E2h cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | E2c: Number of provisional ballots cast because an election official asserted voter was ineligible | Q33a ≠ An election official asserts voter is ineligible | E2c will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = An election official asserts voter is ineligible | E2c cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q33a: Under what circumstances does your state use provisional ballots? | E2d: Number of provisional ballots cast because another person asserted voter was ineligible | Q33a ≠ Another person asserts voter is ineligible | E2d will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = Another person asserts voter is ineligible | E2d cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | E2a: Number of provisional ballots cast because voter did not appear on list of eligible voters | Q33a ≠ Voter's name does not appear on list of eligible voters | E2a will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = Voter's name does not appear on list of eligible voters | E2a cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | E2b: Number of provisional ballots cast because voter did not have proper identification | Q33a ≠ Voter does not have proper identification | E2b will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = Voter does not have proper identification | E2b cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | E2e: Number of provisional ballots cast because voter was not resident of precinct | Q33a ≠ Voter is not a resident of the precinct in which they attempted to vote | E2e will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = Voter is not a resident of the precinct in which they attempted to vote | E2e cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q33a: Under what circumstances does your state use provisional ballots? | E2f: Number of provisional ballots cast because voter's registration had outdated info | Q33a ≠ Voter's registration has outdated information | E2f will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = Voter's registration has outdated information | E2f cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | E2g: Number of provisional ballots cast because voter did not surrender their mail ballot at the polling place | Q33a ≠ Voter received a mail ballot and did not surrender it at polling place to vote in person | E2g will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33a = Voter received a mail ballot and did not surrender it at polling place to vote in person | E2g cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| | E2i: Number of provisional ballots cast for other reasons | Q33a = Voters may cast provisional ballots for other reasons | E2i cannot be answered "Does not apply" |
| Q33c: How will your state treat provisional ballots cast in wrong precinct? | E3d: Number of provisional ballots rejected because voter attempted to vote in the wrong precinct | Q33c = Fully count or partially count the provisional ballot | E3d will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q33c = Reject the provisional ballot | E3d cannot be answered "Does not apply" |

| Policy Survey Question | EAVS Question(s) | If… | …Then |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q38: Which populations' voting rights are affected by criminal conviction or incarceration? | A9d: Number of voters removed from the voter registration rolls for receiving a disqualifying felony conviction | Q38 = No one; criminal convictions do not limit a person's right to vote | A9d will be pre-filled in the templates as "Does not apply" |
| | | Q38 ≠ No one; criminal convictions do not limit a person's right to vote | A9d cannot be answered "Does not apply" |