



Data Validations in the 2022 EAVS Templates

Both the Excel and online templates for the 2022 Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) are customized to improve the accuracy and quality of your state or territory's data submission and reduce the response burden for state, territory, and local election officials. The validations have been revised since 2020 to run faster in the Excel template, better highlight potential errors, and reduce the incidence of false positive error messages. The following types of validations are used in the templates:

- **Sum validations:** These validations will highlight when subcategories do not sum to the expected total.
 - Example: The total number of voters participating in the 2022 general election, as reported in F1a, should match the sum of the number of voters who used different modes of voting, as reported in items F1b to F1h.
- **Logic validations:** These validations will highlight whether a value is incompatible with a response previously entered in the survey.
 - Example: The number of mail ballots counted, as reported in C8a, should not exceed the number of mail ballots returned by voters, as reported in C1b.
- **Policy Survey validations:** These validations will appear when an EAVS item conflicts with the state's Policy Survey data submission.
 - Example: If a state has an online voter registration system (i.e., responds "Yes" to Q6 of the Policy Survey), then no jurisdiction from that state should respond "Does not apply" to online registrations in items A4c, A5c, A6c or A7c.
- **Missing data validations:** Except for most comment boxes and "Other" subcategories, all items in the survey require a response. An alert will appear if a response to a required item is not provided.
 - Example: If a state reports the total number of registered voters in A1a but leaves the subitems for active and inactive registered voters blank, then A1b and A1c will be flagged. Instead of leaving items blank when you do not have a response to provide, report "Does not apply" (if your state does not have an applicable law or policy), "Data not available" (if your state does not track data for an item), or zero (if no instance of an item occurred).

Errors found in the Excel template will be color coded. The Excel template has a tab named "ColorCodeValidationsGuide" that delineates which error types are associated with each color code. You can also see the section titled "Error Checking in the Excel Template" in the EAVS Template User Guide (available on the [Resources page](#) of the EAVS Portal) for more details about these errors.

Errors found in the online template will not be color coded. Instead, when an error is present, a message in red text with a description of the error will appear above the question grid. Each time a survey user clicks the "Save and Continue" button at the bottom of each page of the survey, the online template will check the data on that page and notify the user if any errors are present. The section titled "Error Checking in the Online Template" in the EAVS Template User Guide provides further instructions on how to identify and address errors within the online template.



C8. Total Number of Mail Ballots Returned and Counted

For question C8a, report the total number of mail ballots returned and counted.

The sum of the amounts you report in C8a and C9a should equal the number of mail ballots returned by voters you report in C1b. Please review your responses or use the comments section to explain why the sum of C8a and C9a do not match the value in C1b.

	(?)	Data not available(?)
C8a.TOTAL returned and counted: Mail ballots that were returned by voters, processed, counted, and included in the canvass of election results	9,656	<input type="checkbox"/>

Although the online template can be used to collect data directly from local jurisdictions ([Vol. 3 of the 2022 EAVS newsletter](#) and the [EAVS Data Collection Template User Guide](#) contain more details on this process), every state and territory will submit its first and final EAVS data submissions to the project team through the Excel template.

Using the EAVSRates Tab in the Excel Template

For the first time, the 2022 EAVS Excel template will include functionality that will use your state or territory’s draft data submission to calculate a range of EAVS percentages (e.g., registration rates; ballot transmission, return, count, and rejection rates; and voter turnout rates). The EAVSRates tab can be used by state EAVS points of contact (POC) to identify potentially erroneous data as their data entry is underway and to better understand how the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) plans to report state 2022 EAVS data in the comprehensive report that will be published in June 2023. These EAVS percentages will be calculated for each jurisdiction in a state’s template and for the state as a whole. Color coding will highlight if a percentage falls outside of the typical range for that calculation.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1				Percent of registrations that were new and valid	Percent of registrations that were duplicates	Percent of registrations that were rejected	Percent of registrations that were within-jurisdiction changes	Percent of registrations received by mail
2	FIPS Code	Jurisdiction Name	State	(A3b/A3a) x 100	(A3d/A3a) x 100	(A3e/A3a) x 100	(A3f/A3a) x 100	(A4a/A3a) x 100
3	9000100000	A COUNTY	TEST	28.0%	9.1%	5.0%	44.8%	33.1%
4	9000300000	B COUNTY	TEST	39.3%	2.0%	2.5%	30.8%	38.5%
5	9000500000	C COUNTY	TEST	35.2%	3.4%	2.8%	34.4%	34.4%
6	State Totals			35.5%	4.1%	3.2%	35.1%	36.1%
7								
8								
9								

The [EAVS Data Collection Template User Guide](#), which is available on the Resources page of the EAVS Portal, has full instructions on how to use this tab to ensure your data submission is as error-free as possible before sending it to the EAVS project team for review.



Pre-Filled Policy Survey Data

[Vol. 2 of the 2022 EAVS newsletter](#) discussed how the 2022 Policy Survey is being used to validate EAVS data. When you access your EAVS templates, you may notice the following items are pre-filled depending on your state's election policies:

- **A1c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not designate voters as “inactive” in your voter registration database.
- **A2a, A2b, and A2c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not have same-day voter registration or Election Day registration.
- **A3c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow pre-registration of people under the age of 18 years old.
- **A4c, A5c, A6c, and A7c** will be pre-filled in the templates as “Does not apply” if your state does not have an online registration system.
- **A8a–A8h** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not send confirmation notices to people who may no longer be eligible to vote in the jurisdiction in which they are registered.
- **A9d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not remove people from the voter registration rolls due to a disqualifying felony conviction.
- **B6a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not transmit blank Uniformed And Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) ballots by postal mail.
- **B7a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not transmit blank UOCAVA ballots by email.
- **B8a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not transmit blank UOCAVA ballots by fax, online, or by another mode.
- **B10a–c and B15a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow UOCAVA voters to return their ballots by postal mail.
- **B11a–c and B16a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow UOCAVA voters to return their ballots by email.
- **B12a–c and B17a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow UOCAVA voters to return their ballots by fax, online, or by another mode.
- **B21a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not require UOCAVA mail ballots to be postmarked.
- **C2a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow voters to register as permanent absentee voters.
- **C3a, C4a–c, C5a–c, and C6a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not use mail ballot drop boxes.
- **C7a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow ballot curing.
- **C9k** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not require mail ballots to be postmarked.
- **D4a–c, D6a, and F1f** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer in-person voting before Election Day.
- **E1a–e, E2a–k, E3a–m, F1e, F5d_3, F6d_3, F7d_3, F8d_3, F9d_3, and F10c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots.
- **E2a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when a voter does not appear on the list of eligible voters at their polling place.
- **E2b** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when a voter does not have proper identification.



- **E2c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when an election official asserts that a voter is ineligible.
- **E2d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when another person asserts that a voter is ineligible.
- **E2e** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when a voter is not a resident of the precinct in which they are attempting to vote.
- **E2f** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when a voter’s registration record has outdated information.
- **E2g** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when a voter does not surrender their mail ballot at their polling place when attempting to vote in person.
- **E2h** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not offer provisional ballots when a judge extends polling place hours.
- **E3d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state either fully counts or partially counts provisional ballots that are cast in the wrong precinct.
- **F1g** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state was not an all-vote-by-mail state for the 2022 general election.
- **F3a–F3e** will be pre-filled as “No” if your state does not use electronic poll books.

Revisiting the 2022 Policy Survey

The data you submitted through the 2022 Policy Survey are crucial to understanding the election landscape and provide important context for the EAVS data that your state or territory will submit in the coming months. Because some states experienced late-breaking changes to their election procedures, whether because of administrative changes or court decisions, we invite all EAVS POCs to review their submissions for accuracy. The report that the EAC will publish in June 2023 will feature a chapter on the Policy Survey, and the data you submitted will also be published alongside that report and the EAVS data.

If your state or territory changed an aspect of its election policy after you completed your Policy Survey submission, please contact the EAVS project team by email at eavs@forsmarsh.com to discuss your update. Your state or territory’s 2022 Policy Survey submission can be found on the [State Files page](#) of the EAVS Portal—you will need to log in with your credentials to access it.