

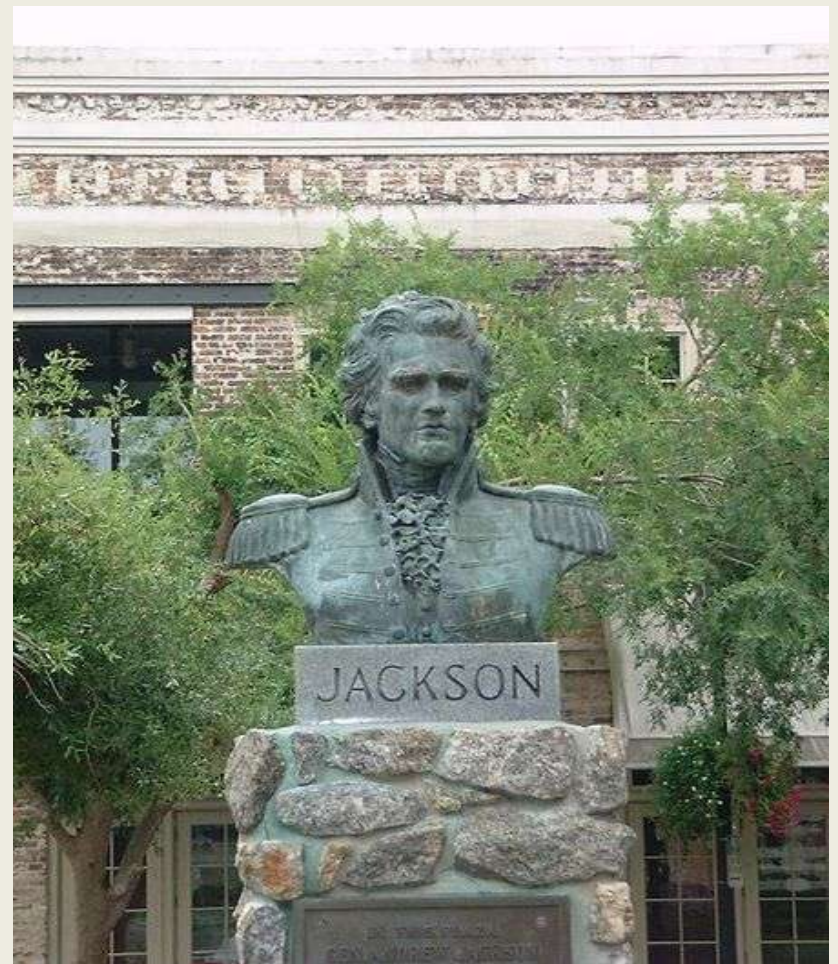
IMPORTANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD



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Brief History of Elections in Florida



Brief History of Elections in Florida

- Canvassing system has roots back to 1821, when Florida became U.S. territory; new Election Code adopted concurrent with statehood in 1845, more resembling modern times
- More changes following disputed 1876 Presidential election; board now county judge, county clerk, and justice of the peace
- Current composition of canvassing board dates back to 1895, first that included “supervisor of voter registration”
- 1937 saw introduction of voter ID and signature requirement and the election protest
- In 1940s, canvassing boards assumed responsibility for counting absentee ballots from military voters that were held by county judge
- 1950s introduced statutory “standard” for use in determining voter intent, and more responsibility for absentee ballots

Brief History of Elections in Florida

- In 1960s, voting machines were mandated for use in all counties
- In 1973, detailed procedures for canvassing returns from “automatic tabulating equipment” were enacted, which began the punchcard era
- In 1977, new provision said that canvassing boards could not disregard ballots “if there is a clear indication of the intent of the voter”...but left that to the discretion of the board
- Also specified replacement process for canvassing board members and mandatory recount provision – for “obvious errors” and $\frac{1}{2}$ percent or less result

Brief History of Elections in Florida

- Manual recount introduced in 1980s, but was discretionary; no standards for voter intent
- Post 2000 changes for canvassing boards:
 - New requirements for testing of voting equipment
 - Canvassing of provisional ballots
 - All election day tabulation at precinct vs. central
 - New deadlines for certification, no discretion for state to consider late-filed except under “emergency”
 - New recount provisions, including mandatory vs. discretionary manual recounts
- More recent changes include mandatory post-election audits and addition of canvassing board alternates

How We Used to Vote



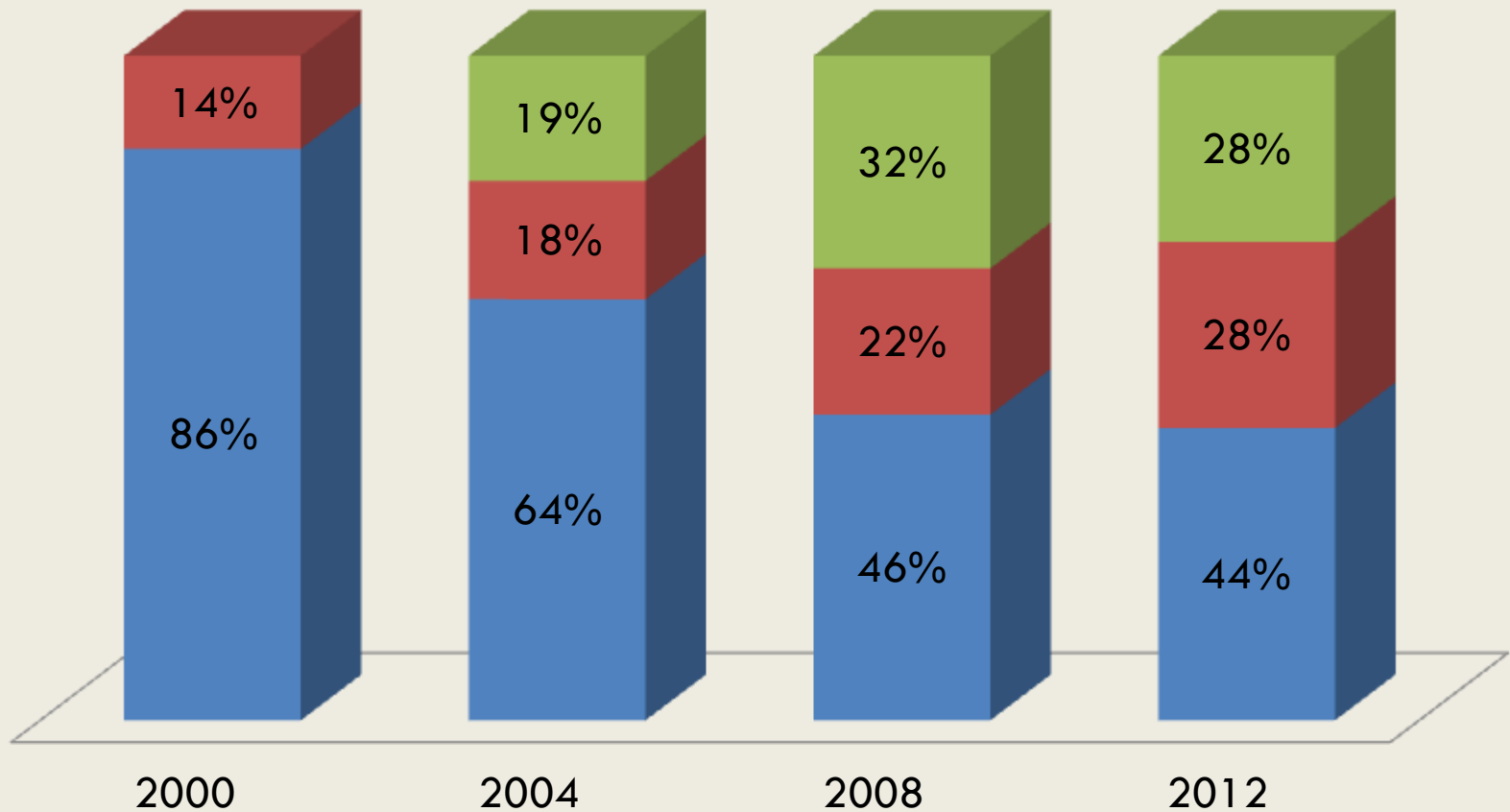
How We Vote Now

NIST Roadmap: The Voter Journey

	Preparing to vote	Choosing how to vote	Checking in/ getting ballot	Marking the ballot	Casting the ballot	Verification & results
Learn	What is on the ballot?	Where do I go to vote				Who won?
	Am I/How do I register?	What are my choices?	How do I get my ballot	How do I mark as I intend?	How do I cast my ballot?	Did my vote count?
Do		Access to 'Polling Place'	Receive 'ballot'	Mark the ballot	Review the ballot	See election results
	Register to vote	Request a VBM (or other)	Authenticate/ Sign-In	Activate or open the ballot	Cast the ballot	Verify ballot was received
Use	Registration Forms/OVR	Online VBM System	Pollbook or Sign-in	Pre-Marked Ballot	Mail Ballot Return	E2E Verification System
	"My Voter" Portals	"My Voter" Portals	Ballot Delivery System	Ballot Marking System	Electronic Casting	VBM/Ballot Tracking
	Elections Web/Phone	Elections Web/Phone	Transportation to Polls	Ballot	Ballot Scanner	Elections Web/Phone
People	Registrar	Elections office	Poll workers	Poll workers	Poll workers	Elections office
	Voter Ed	Voting Options	Voter ID	Sample Ballots	Counting Rules	Ballot Access
Policy	Eligibility	Hours/Places	Provisional	Helper Rules	Helper Rules	Canvass

How Florida Votes Now

■ Election Day ■ Absentee ■ Early



Canvassing Board Composition

- County Court Judge (chair), Supervisor of Elections, Chair of Commission, Alternate County Court Judge, Alternate County Commissioner
- Substitutes, if above cannot serve:
 - County Judge – Chief Judge appoints a qualified elector, not candidate or active participant in campaign
 - SOE – Chair of BCC appoints a qualified elector, not candidate or active participant in campaign
 - BCC Chair – BCC appoints another commissioner, or a qualified elector, not candidate or active participant in campaign
 - Substitutes – Chief Judge appoints a qualified elector, not candidate or active participant in campaign

Duties and Responsibilities

- Testing of Voting Equipment
- Canvassing of Absentee Vote
- Canvassing Special Absentee for Certain Voters
- Canvassing of Ballots for Early Voting
- Canvassing Write-In Votes
- Canvassing State Write-In Ballots
- Canvassing Returns from the Polls
- Canvassing Provisional Ballots

Duties and Responsibilities

- ❑ Canvassing Special Provisional Ballots
- ❑ Submitting Preliminary Returns
- ❑ Submitting Unofficial Count
- ❑ Machine Recount
- ❑ Manual Recount
- ❑ Canvassing Ballots from UOCAVA Voters
- ❑ Certifying Returns
- ❑ Audit of Voting System
- ❑ Contest of Election

Suggestions and Best Practices

- Presidential election year = SOE election year
- Consistency, stability is good
- Hold organizational meeting
- Build calendar, block out dates and times
- Be considerate of other canvassing board members
- Plan for recounts from the beginning
- Consider and approve criteria chart on when to count or reject certain ballots

Suggestions and Best Practices

- Public, media, candidates, everyone expects quick results – where possible, accommodate them
- Political activity of members – what's legal is not only consideration
- Always be conscious of public perception
- Public board, public meetings = sunshine
- Have food and snacks available to avoid “hangry”
- Have fun, and be thankful for the opportunity to serve your fellow voters!

Questions

