

VEST RI 2020

Election Results Validation Report

To request a full validation report for this data file, email info@redistrictingdatahub.org

State: Rhode Island
Organization: Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)
Summary of Races included: President, U.S. Senate [General]
Date File Updated: 06/09/2021
Date Report Updated: 08/30/2021
RDH Validation Code (Github):
<https://github.com/nonpartisan-redistricting-datahub/pdv-ri/tree/main/vest-ri-2020>

RDH Criteria	Explanation
<p>Is all raw data available?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Accessible files:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Election results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date accessed: 08/03/2021, Source: Rhode Island Board of Elections ○ https://www.ri.gov/election/results/2020/general_election/data/ ○ Notes: 'Long Format' file is used, 'rigen2016l.asc' ● Data description file <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date accessed: 08/03/2021, Source: Rhode Island Board of Elections ○ https://www.ri.gov/election/results/2020/general_election/data/ ○ Notes: this file is not necessary to run the notebook, but provides background info for the .asc file, '20160902_data_description.pdf' ● VEST RI 2020 Data File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 08/03/2021, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4789406&version=15.0 ● VEST 2020 Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 08/03/2021, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4938251&version=15.0 ● 2020 Redistricting Data Program final release <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date accessed: 07/28/2021, Source: U.S. Census Bureau ○ https://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/pvs/partnership20v2/st44_ri.html

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: not downloading the files for the election results validation, as they are available from the Census. ● US FIPS Codes
<p>Election results validated for every candidate statewide?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>At the statewide total level, the election results matched VEST's.</p> <p>The totals also match those of RI's statewide summary file (https://www.ri.gov/election/results/2020/general_election/).</p>
<p>Election results validated for every candidate by county?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>At the county total level, the election results matched VEST's with the exception of several counties being off by 1-10 votes (with one race/county combo exception of 12 votes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For full list of differences, check the notebook <p>The totals, however, still match up. This difference of mostly less than 10 votes is likely a result of different methods for distributing federal level votes - which may result in some votes being distributed more heavily towards one township as opposed to another.</p> <p>RI does not have a county-level summary file to compare against.</p>
<p>Election results validated for every candidate by precinct?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>At the precinct level, the election results matched VEST's in 191 out of 421 precincts. Of the 230 precincts with vote differences, 210 precincts had a max vote difference of 1 and 20 precincts had a max vote difference of 2, which could be attributed to VEST's specific methodology and rounding for vote allocation.</p> <p>There were also two zero-vote precincts in VEST's file that did not appear in the election results file.</p> <p>No precinct name changes were required - precinct ID's were used.</p>