

# VEST NE 2020

## Election Results Validation Report

To request a full validation report for this data file, email [info@redistrictingdatahub.org](mailto:info@redistrictingdatahub.org)

**State:** Nebraska  
**Organization:** Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)  
**Summary of Races included:** Presidential, U.S. Senate [General]  
**Date File Updated:** 07/27/2021  
**Date Report Updated:** 11/03/2021  
**RDH Validation Code (Github):** <https://github.com/nonpartisan-redistricting-datahub/pdv-ne>

RDH Criteria	Explanation
<p>Is all raw data available?</p> <p><b>No</b></p>	<p><b><u>Accessible files:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● VEST Nebraska 2020 Data File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accessed: 10/04/21, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse</li> <li>○ <a href="https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4931791&amp;version=21.0">https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4931791&amp;version=21.0</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● VEST Nebraska 2020 Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accessed: 10/04/21, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse</li> <li>○ <a href="https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5206372&amp;version=21.0">https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5206372&amp;version=21.0</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● 2020 Census Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171) Shapefiles for Nebraska <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Date accessed: 10/06/21, Source: U.S. Census Bureau</li> <li>○ <a href="https://www2.census.gov/geo/tiger/TIGER2020PL/STATE/31_NEBRASKA/ALL_ZIPPED/tl_2020_31_all.zip">https://www2.census.gov/geo/tiger/TIGER2020PL/STATE/31_NEBRASKA/ALL_ZIPPED/tl_2020_31_all.zip</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● NE Precinct-Level Elections Results, 2020, Presidential Contest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Date accessed: 10/05/21, Source: NE Secretary of State</li> <li>○ <a href="https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsSW.aspx?text=Race&amp;type=PRS&amp;map=CTY">https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsSW.aspx?text=Race&amp;type=PRS&amp;map=CTY</a></li> <li>○ Note: Precinct-level results are available by clicking the “County Level Results” button in the header of the results table. Click the green “Export Precinct Results to Excel” button on the next page (<a href="#">direct link</a>).</li> </ul> </li> <li>● NE Precinct-Level Elections Results, 2020, Senate Contest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Date accessed: 10/05/21, Source: NE Secretary of State</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- <https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsSW.aspx?text=Race&type=SW&map=CTY>
- Note: Precinct-level results are available by clicking the “County Level Results” button in the header of the results table. Click the green “Export Precinct Results to Excel” button on the next page ([direct link](#)).
- Lancaster County Precinct Maps
  - Date accessed: 10/07/21
  - <https://www.lancaster.ne.gov/494/Individual-Precinct-Maps>
  - Individual maps were downloaded by an automated script.
- Cass County Precinct Maps
  - Date accessed: 10/07/21
  - <https://gis-cass.hub.arcgis.com/datasets/Cass::2020-cass-county-voting-precincts>
  - Precinct boundaries are available on Cass County’s Open Data portal linked above. Note that as of 10/07/21, Cass’s official county website did not link to this resource; I had to reach out to local election officials for the URL.
- Douglas County Precinct Maps
  - Date accessed: 10/06/21, Source: Douglas County
  - <https://www.votedouglascounty.com/maps.aspx>
  - On the linked page, expand the "Polling Places" header under the map of Douglas County drop boxes. Click the “Polling Places” link.
  - (Despite the .com TLD, votedouglascounty.com is the official website of the Douglas County Election Commissioner.)

**Inaccessible files:**

- Harlan County Precinct Maps
  - Notes: Precinct boundaries are not available on their website, and county elections officials did not return our request for precinct maps/shapefiles.

**Election results validated for every candidate statewide?**

**Yes**

At the statewide total level, the election results matched VEST’s. The totals also matched those of Nebraska’s election summary report.

Presidential summary:

<https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsSW.aspx?text=Race&type=PRS&map=CTY>

	<p>Senate summary: <a href="https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsSW.aspx?text=Race&amp;type=SW&amp;map=CTY">https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsSW.aspx?text=Race&amp;type=SW&amp;map=CTY</a></p>						
<p><b>Election results validated for every candidate by county?</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>At the county total level, the election results matched VEST's. The county totals also matched those of Nebraska's election summary reports.</p> <p>Presidential summary: <a href="https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsCTY.aspx?type=PRS&amp;rid=11232&amp;osn=90&amp;map=CTY">https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsCTY.aspx?type=PRS&amp;rid=11232&amp;osn=90&amp;map=CTY</a></p> <p>Senate summary: <a href="https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsCTY.aspx?type=SW&amp;rid=10830&amp;osn=102&amp;map=CTY">https://electionresults.nebraska.gov/resultsCTY.aspx?type=SW&amp;rid=10830&amp;osn=102&amp;map=CTY</a></p>						
<p><b>Election results validated for every candidate by precinct?</b></p> <p><b>No</b></p>	<p>At the precinct level, the election results did not match VEST's (1335 out of 1353* precincts matched).</p> <p>Significant name changes were required in a few counties in order to match source election results to VEST (e.g., Gage, Hall, and Fillmore counties). Trivial/no name changes required for the remaining precincts.</p> <p>Of the 18 unmatched precincts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 are unremarkable single-vote variances in Sarpy County; these are caused by absentee allocation differences between RDH and VEST.</li> <li>• The remaining four discrepancies are in York County. The votes in each of these precincts has been assigned to a VEST boundary that does not match up with NE SOS's vote assignments.</li> <li>• Because NE SOS and VEST both agree on the total number of votes cast in each of these four precincts, this appears to be a clerical error in VEST's results.</li> </ul> <table border="1" data-bbox="406 1608 1523 1822"> <thead> <tr> <th>VEST Precinct Name</th> <th>Source Precinct Name</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LEROY-BAKER PRECINCT</td> <td>ARBORVILLE-MORTON-BRADSHAW-LOCKRIDGE PRECINCT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ARBORVILLE-MORTON-BRADSHAW-LOCKRIDGE PRECINCT</td> <td>BROWN-HENDERSON PRECINCT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	VEST Precinct Name	Source Precinct Name	LEROY-BAKER PRECINCT	ARBORVILLE-MORTON-BRADSHAW-LOCKRIDGE PRECINCT	ARBORVILLE-MORTON-BRADSHAW-LOCKRIDGE PRECINCT	BROWN-HENDERSON PRECINCT
VEST Precinct Name	Source Precinct Name						
LEROY-BAKER PRECINCT	ARBORVILLE-MORTON-BRADSHAW-LOCKRIDGE PRECINCT						
ARBORVILLE-MORTON-BRADSHAW-LOCKRIDGE PRECINCT	BROWN-HENDERSON PRECINCT						

BROWN-HENDERSON PRECINCT	HAYS-MCFADDEN PRECINCT
HAYS-MCFADDEN PRECINCT	LEROY-BAKER PRECINCT

Because NE SOS and VEST both agree on the total number of votes cast in each of these four precincts, this inconsistency is likely due to a clerical error; it does not point to a systematic problem with VEST's data.

\*Precinct validation was not performed on the 26 precincts within Custer County due to inconsistencies between the precinct data from county-level elections officials, NE SOS, and VEST. Custer County changed the names and numbers of their precincts before the 2020 election, and VEST's precinct labels do not account for this, which makes their data difficult to validate. More information from the county level has been requested in order to validate Custer County's precinct-level data.