VEST IL 2016

Election Results Validation Report

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

State: Illinois
Organization: Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)
Summary of Races included: Presidential, U.S. Senate, Comptroller [General]
Date File Updated: 05/26/2021
Date Report Updated: 11/08/2021
RDH Validation Code (Github): https://github.com/nonpartisan-redistricting-datahub/pdv-il

RDH Criteria	Explanation

Is all raw data available?
 	
No
	<u>Accessible files:</u>
	● VEST IL 2016 Data File
	   ○ Accessed: 07/01/2021, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse
	   ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4749661&datasetVersionId=251374
	● VEST IL 2016 Documentation
	   ○ Accessed: 07/01/2021, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse
	   ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4863153&datasetVersionId=251374
	● U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Redistricting Data Program final release
	   ○ Accessed: 07/08/2021, Source: US Census Bureau
	   ○ https://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/pvs/partnership20v2/st17_il.html
	● Precinct Level Election results, 2016
	   ○ Accessed: 07/08/2021, Source: IL State Board of Elections
	   ○ https://www.elections.il.gov/ElectionOperations/ElectionVoteTotalsPrecinct.aspx?ID=KaiJHIgaAjo%3d&T=637614259551200776
	   ○ Note: Selected `Precinct` then `Precinct Downloads by Office` then the 5 offices on the VEST file. At the moment the site does not appear to be working.
	● DuPage County Precinct Shapefile
	   ○ Date accessed: 07/09/2021, Source: DuPage County

- - https://gisdata-dupage.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/election-precincts
  - Note: it is unclear if these were the precincts at the time of the 2016 election.
- US Census County Map
  - Accessed: 10/20/21, Source: US Census
  - https://www.census.gov/geographies/mapping-files/time-series/geo/carto-boundary-file.html
  - Note: This file was used to check VEST's county assignments

Inaccessible files:
- Kane County Precinct Shapefile
  - Accessed: 07/09/2021, Source: Kane County
  - https://www.kanecountyclerk.org/Elections/Pages/Maps.aspx
  - Note: there is an interactive GIS portal but the shapefile is not available to download. Otherwise, there are pdf images of every precinct by township.
- Kendall County Precinct Shapefile
  - Accessed: 07/09/2021, Source: Kendall County
  - https://maps.co.kendall.il.us/mapviewer/?page=page_3
  - Note: there is an interactive GIS portal but the shapefile is not available to download.
- Will County Precinct Shapefile
  - Accessed: 07/09/2021, Source: Will County
  - https://gisapp.willcountyillinois.com/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=Data_Viewer
  - Note: there is an interactive GIS portal but the shapefile is not available to download.

Election results validated for every candidate statewide? No	At the statewide total level, the election results matched VEST's for all races except for G16PREOWRI and G16USSOWRI. The totals also matched those of the IL election results available via Ballotpedia (https://ballotpedia.org/Presidential_election_in_Illinois,_2016, https://ballotpedia.org/United_States_Senate_election_in_Illinois,_2016, https://ballotpedia.org/Illinois_Comptroller_special_election,_2016) for all races except for G16PREOWRI and G16USSOWRI, likely due to which candidates were included among the write-in totals. As VEST notes in their documentation, "the SBOE results do not include write-in votes by precinct for 42 counties. For these counties the write-in votes by

	precinct are transcribed from the official county or city canvass reports." We were unable to locate these county or city canvass reports to validate VEST's totals.
Election results validated for every candidate by county? N/A	IL's precinct-level election results do not include a county field, and due to the many split municipalities in IL, this field is difficult to recreate quickly. However, we were able to visually confirm VEST's county assignments and they appear to be correct.
Election results validated for every candidate by precinct? No	At the precinct level, the election results matched VEST's (10086 out of 10088 precincts matched) for all races except for G16PREOWRI and G16USSOWRI. The two precincts with differences were caused by rounding differences in allocating votes. 2 zero-vote precincts in VEST's file were not included in this allocation. When including all races (where we expect there to be differences for G16PREOWRI and G16USSOWRI in some precincts) 2185 precincts had differences and 7903 precincts matched in all columns. Over 4500 precinct names required minor changes in order to be joined.