

VEST NJ 2017

State: New Jersey

Organization: Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)

Summary of Races included: Governor. [General]

Date File Updated: 01/15/2021

Date Report Updated: 11/29/2021

RDH Validation Code (Github): <https://github.com/nonpartisan-redistricting-datahub/pdv-nj>

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"> ● VEST NJ 17 data file <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed 11/27/21, Source: VEST ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=4302284&version=6.0 ● VEST NJ 17 documentation file <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 11/27/21, Source: VEST ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5431952&version=7.0 ● NJ Municipal-Level Election Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 11/23/21, Source: Open Elections ○ https://github.com/openelections/openelections-data-nj ● NJ Municipal Wards 2021 Shapefile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 11/18/21, Source: New Jersey Geographic Information Network ○ https://njogis-newjersey.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/election-districts-for-new-jersey
<p>Processing steps available?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Description of processing steps:</u></p> <p>The full processing steps can be accessed at the link above and were accessed on 11/27/21. Part of the documentation is copied below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Election results from individual county canvass reports or election reporting websites (https://nj.gov/state/elections/vote-county-election-officials.shtml).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note that the precinct results from Warren County include 5 votes for Phil Murphy (D) and 23 votes for Kim Guadagno (R) that are not in the official state results. These 28 votes total are from Liberty Township. • Precinct shapefile from New Jersey Geographic Information Network (https://njogis-newjersey.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/election-districts-for-new-jersey). Naval Weapons Station Earle in Monmouth County was added as an unassigned district. • All counties except Middlesex, Sussex, and Warren report mail votes and provisional votes at the municipal and/or ward level. Essex County further subdivides these vote types by other districts on the same ballot. All votes were distributed by candidate to precincts based on their share of the precinct-level reported vote of the respective reporting unit. • The following modifications to the shapefile were made to reverse changes in precinct boundaries enacted since 2017: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Hudson: Merge Jersey City Ward E 9/24, 6/25; Realign Union City Ward 9 precincts ◦ Passaic: Merge Pompton Lakes 3/6 <p><u>Information not in their processing steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of precinct name changes from Election Results. • Exact changes to Hudson and Union precincts.
<p>Able to replicate joining election data and shapefiles?</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>We did not attempt to join election data and shapefiles at this time due to the work required to obtain precinct level results and filter out the absentee results from the precinct-level election results prior to the join.</p>
<p>Able to replicate joining demographic data to block-level shapefiles?</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>There is no demographic data on the file.</p>

<p>Able to replicate joining boundary data?</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>There is no boundary data on the file.</p>
<p>Successfully ran validation?</p> <p>No</p>	<p><u>Election results:</u> No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We validated election results at two different levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Statewide candidate vote totals ○ Countywide candidate vote totals ● At the statewide total level, the election results did not match VEST's. Our totals matched those of NJ's election summary report (https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/assets/pdf/election-results/2017/2017-official-general-election-results-governor.pdf). ● VEST explains these differences "Note that the precinct results from Warren County include 5 votes for Phil Murphy (D) and 23 votes for Kim Guadagno (R) that are not in the official state results. These 28 votes total are from Liberty Township." At the statewide total level we did not find any other differences other than those explained in VEST's documentation. ● At the countywide total level, the totals also did not match VEST's due to the differences VEST mentions in their documentation. Our countywide totals matched those of NJ's election summary report (https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/assets/pdf/election-results/2017/2017-official-general-election-results-governor.pdf). ● We did not attempt to validate precinct level results at this time. <p><u>Geographies:</u> Yes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Although we did not join the shapefiles to election results, we were able to join and compare the source shapefile against VEST's. We were able to validate geographies for 6343 of the 6344 precincts. The precinct we were unable to validate was the Naval Weapons Station Earle in Monmouth County that was added by VEST. ● Out of 6343 total precincts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6337 precincts w/ a difference of 0 km² ○ 6 precincts w/ a difference between 0 and 0.1 km² ○ 0 precincts w/ a difference between 0.1 and 0.5 km² ○ 0 precincts w/ a difference between 0.5 and 1 km² ○ 0 precincts w/ a difference between 1 and 2 km² ○ 0 precincts w/ a difference between 2 and 5 km²

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- 0 precincts w/ a difference greater than 5 km²