

## VEST MS 2020

**State:** Mississippi

**Organization:** Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)

**Summary of Races included:** US President, US Senate [General]

**Date File Updated:** 12/30/2021

**Date Report Updated:** 02/07/2022

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

RDH Criteria	Explanation
<p>Is all raw data available?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><b>Accessible files:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● VEST MS 20 data file               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accessed 02/01/22, Source: VEST</li> <li>○ <a href="https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5706487&amp;version=32.0">https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5706487&amp;version=32.0</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● VEST MS 20 documentation file               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accessed: 02/01/22, Source: VEST</li> <li>○ <a href="https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5739923&amp;version=32.0">https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5739923&amp;version=32.0</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● MS Precinct-Level Election Results               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accessed: 02/01/22, Source: Open Elections</li> <li>○ <a href="https://github.com/openelections/openelections-data-ms">https://github.com/openelections/openelections-data-ms</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● MS Voting Precincts 2020 Shapefile               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accessed: 02/01/22, Source: U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Redistricting Data Program Phase 2 release</li> <li>○ <a href="https://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/pvs/partnership19v2/st28_ms.html">https://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/pvs/partnership19v2/st28_ms.html</a></li> <li>○ Note: Up to 5 downloaded at a time</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Processing steps available?</p> <p>Yes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The full processing steps can be accessed at the link above and were accessed on 02/01/22. Part of the documentation is copied below:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Election results from the Mississippi Secretary of State (<a href="https://www.sos.ms.gov/elections-voting/election-results">https://www.sos.ms.gov/elections-voting/election-results</a>). Precinct shapefiles initially from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Redistricting Data Program.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Precinct boundaries were adjusted as appropriate to align with county maps, supervisor districts, or prior versions of the Census VTDs. Precinct boundaries throughout the state were further reviewed with the voter registration file in effect for the November 2020 general election. Voting districts in nearly all counties were edited accordingly to align with reporting units in the 2020 election results. In some counties the resulting boundaries differ substantially from the 2020 Census VTDs. As these boundary revisions were so extensive only splits and merges are specified below by precinct.
- Some Mississippi counties name precincts after polling places and therefore change precinct names when polling places change regardless of whether this involves a change in boundaries. Precinct names were edited wherever necessary to match the November 2020 canvass results.
- In Kemper County an alphabetic name split of Scooba precinct was reported as separate line items. These were merged in the shapefile.
- The following splits and merges were made to align voting district boundaries with reporting units in the 2020 election results.
  - Attala: Merge Northwest/Aponaug
  - Claiborne: Split 2A/2B, 4A/4B
  - Hinds: Merge 12/13, 16/17, 21/24, 26/87, 50/51/52, 67/89/90, 69/75, 94/95, 77/97
  - Itawamba: Split Friendship, Mantachie by supervisor district
  - Jackson: Merge all A/B/C/D splits
  - Jefferson Davis: Split South Prentiss 12/13
  - Jones: Merge George Harrison/County Barn
  - Lauderdale: Merge 4/14, 10/15, 17/18/19, Alamucha/Mt Gilead, Andrews/Prospect as Gracepointe, Center Hill/Obadiah, Center Ridge/E Lauderdale, Clarkdale/Culpepper, Marion/E Marion, Russell/S Russell, Pickard/Sageville/Valley
  - Leflore: Split Morgan City/Swiftown by zip code
  - Simpson: Merge all A/B splits
  - Tallahatchie: Merge Sumner 2/Webb 2
  - Walthall: Merge E Tylertown A/B, W Tylertown A/B, S Knoxo/Tylertown 3
  - Wilkinson: Merge Woodville 5/5A
  - Yalobusha: Merge Two NE/SE as Water Valley; Split Scuna-Vann's Mill N/S

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Yazoo: Merge Carter/Lake City, Deasonville/Harttown, Dover/Robinette as Little Yazoo, Fairview/Holly Bluff, Midway E/W, Tinsley into Mechanicsburg/Valley</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Information not in their processing steps:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● List of all splits and merges.</li> <li>● List of all precinct boundary changes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Able to replicate joining election data and shapefiles?</b></p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Following VEST’s documentation, we were able to join 1676 precincts to shapefiles. There were 89 election results precincts that we were unable to join to a shapefile.</p>
<p><b>Able to replicate joining demographic data to block-level shapefiles?</b></p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>There is no demographic data on the file.</p>
<p><b>Able to replicate joining boundary data?</b></p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>There is no boundary data on the file.</p>

Successfully  
ran validation?

No

**Election results: Yes**

- We validated the election results at the state, county and precinct levels.
- At the state-level, candidate vote totals matched exactly. The statewide race totals also matched the totals from the Election Certified Results report (<https://www.sos.ms.gov/elections-voting/election-results/2020-election-results/2020-general-election>) on the MS SOS website.
- At the county-level, candidate vote totals matched exactly..
- At the precinct-level candidate vote totals matched except for an apparent data entry error where 2 votes for G20PREIWES were assigned to East Fork and East Liberty instead of East Gloster and Gloster in Amite county.

**Geographies: No**

- We were not able to fully validate all of the geographies as we could not fully join election results to the census shapefiles.
- VEST also notes that “Voting districts in nearly all counties were edited”
- Of the 1764 total precincts in VEST’s file we were only able to validate 1612 precincts we compared:
  - 489 precincts w/ a difference of 0 km<sup>2</sup>
  - 692 precincts w/ a difference between 0 and 0.1 km<sup>2</sup>
  - 217 precincts w/ a difference between 0.1 and 0.5 km<sup>2</sup>
  - 68 precincts w/ a difference between 0.5 and 1 km<sup>2</sup>
  - 67 precincts w/ a difference between 1 and 2 km<sup>2</sup>
  - 46 precincts w/ a difference between 2 and 5 km<sup>2</sup>
  - 33 precincts w/ a difference greater than 5 km<sup>2</sup>