

VEST MD 2020

Election Results Validation Report

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

State: Maryland
Organization: Voting and Election Science Team (VEST)
Summary of Races included: Presidential [General]
Date File Updated: 09/09/2021
Date Report Updated: 10/19/2021
RDH Validation Code (Github): <https://github.com/nonpartisan-redistricting-datahub/pdv-md>

RDH Criteria	Explanation
<p>Is all raw data available?</p> <p>No</p>	<p><u>Accessible files:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VEST MD 20 Data File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 10/18/21, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5111331&version=21.0 ● VEST MD 20 Documentation File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 10/18/21, Source: VEST on the Harvard Dataverse ○ https://dataverse.harvard.edu/file.xhtml?fileId=5206372&version=21.0 ● Maryland Election Day Precinct-Level Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 10/18/21, Source: Maryland Board of Elections ○ https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2020/election_data/index.html ○ Note: These can be downloaded by clicking "General" in the "General" column and "By Precinct" row. ● Maryland Precinct Shapefile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 10/19/21, Source: Maryland Department of Planning ○ https://planning.maryland.gov/Redistricting/Pages/2010/precinct.aspx ○ Note: This as a 2010 precinct shapefile. We reached out and they said this was the current shapefile. ● Allegany County Precinct Map <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government ○ https://alleganygov.org/166/Maps-Documents ● Anne Arundel County Precinct Map

- Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
- <https://www.aacounty.org/boards-and-commissions/board-of-elections/electoral-maps-by-district/>
- Baltimore City Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: City Government
 - https://boe.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/ElectionMap_2018.pdf
- Baltimore County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/infotech/GIS/stativiewablemaps.html>
- Calvert County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - https://geocortex.calvertcountymd.gov/Public/Index.html?configBase=http://ccg-gisweb04.ccgext.local/Geocortex/Essentials/Public4120/REST/sites/Voter/viewers/HTML5_4_12_1/virtualdirectory/Resources/Con
- Carroll County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/services/gis-maps/gis-map-gallery/map-gallery/election-districts-and-precincts/>
- Cecil County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.ccgov.org/government/election-board/maps>
- Charles County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/mapping-services/election-district-map-with-commissioner-districts>
- Frederick County Precinct Maps
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/7278/2018-Election---Precinct-and-Polling-Pla>
- Garrett County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.garrettcounty.org/board-of-elections/election-precincts>
- Harford County Precinct Shapefile
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://planning-harfordgis.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/election-precincts/explore>
- Howard County Precinct Map

- Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
- https://data.howardcountymd.gov/MapGallery/Political/Political-VotingPrecincts/22x34/Council_Districts_Election_Precincts2018_Dsize.pdf
- Montgomery County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/Information/oldMaps.html>
- Prince George's County Precinct Shapefile
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://gisdata.pgplanning.org/opendata/>
- Queen Anne's County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.qac.org/DocumentCenter/View/706/CF-8-PDF?bidId=>
- St. Mary's County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.stmarysmd.com/supervisorofelections/maps.asp>
- Washington County Precinct Map
 - Accessed: 10/19/2021, Source: County Government
 - <https://www.washco-mdelections.org/>
 - Note: Click 'Election Districts & Precincts Map

Inaccessible files:

- Wicomico County Precinct Shapefile
 - Note: Unable to find a map on their county website

Election results validated for every candidate statewide?

No

At the statewide total level, the election results did not match VEST's for 2 out of the 6 races, both show below. In both these cases, it seems as if VEST corrected issues in the precinct-level election results to get them closer to the official result totals. VEST totals did not match those of MD's election summary report (https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2020/election_data/index.html) for 1 out of the 6 races. This was a difference of 1 vote for the Other / Write-In votes.

Election Name	RDH Total	VEST Data Total	Board of Elections
G20PRERTRU	976412	976414	976414
G20PREOWRI	20043	20423	20422

<p>Election results validated for every candidate by county?</p> <p>No</p>	<p>At the county total level, the election results did not match VEST's. There was a difference of two votes for G20PRERTRU in Garrett County and differences in 14 counties for G20PREOWRI, ranging from two fewer votes in VEST's file to 119 more votes in VEST's file. Based on the fact that VEST's G20PREOWRI total is closer to the state's official number than ours, it appears as though VEST corrected some mistakes in the precinct-level vote file.</p> <p>VEST's totals also did not match those of MD's election summary report (https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2020/results/general/gen_results_2020_4_001-.html) with a difference of one vote for G20PREOWRI in Calvert County.</p>
<p>Election results validated for every candidate by precinct?</p> <p>No</p>	<p>At the precinct level, the election results did not match VEST's (1806 out of 2035 precincts matched). The differences occurred for G20PRERTRU in Garrett County and G20PREOWRI in those 14 counties mentioned above.</p> <p>There were also 8 no-vote precincts (two of which had duplicate ID's) which were not initially present in the election results file.</p> <p>12 precincts in Washington County required trivial name changes in order to be joined.</p>