

Antone White, Director
Franklin County Board of Elections
1700 Morse Road
Columbus, OH 43229

Anthony W. Perlatti, Director
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH, 44115

Jeff Rezabek, Director
Montgomery County Board of Elections
451 W. Third St.
Dayton, OH 45422

Oct 12, 2021

Dear County Board Directors:

All Voting is Local Ohio is writing to request the County Boards initiate an investigation into [The National Voter Registration Act Of 1993 \(NVRA\) and Non-NVRA agencies](#) (hitherto “agency”) due to the number of accepted and rejected submissions for the purposes of voter registration reporting. O.R.C. 3501.11 grants the boards authority to exercise all powers to investigate irregularities and disparities transpiring with voter registrations submitted by various agencies.

Ohio law requires that every designated agency¹, public high school and vocational school, public library, and office of a county treasurer provide “in each of its offices or locations voter registration applications and *assistance in the registration of persons qualified to register to vote.*”² According to Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) data, the different means by which people registered to vote varied drastically, but the vast majority of registrations made online or in-person were accepted while those registering through the DMV, mail, NVRA, and non-NVRA agencies were more likely to be rejected.

While agency registration ranks as a low form of voter registration in the state, the number of rejections are not. Our data analysis has found a rate of 18% - over 48,000 registration forms statewide - were rejected from NVRA and non-NVRA sources in 2019 and 2020. Franklin County accounted for more than 12,000 of these rejections, Montgomery had over 9,500, and Cuyahoga rejected over 8,000. (see *appendix* for Franklin, Cuyahoga, and Montgomery).

¹ ORC 3501.01: Department of Job and Family Services; Department of Health; Department of Human Services; Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Department of Developmental Disabilities; Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities; and Ohio’s four-year state-supported colleges and universities.

² ORC 3503.10

These numbers strike us as a high number of people whose registrations are being outright rejected rather than being assisted by the trusted government agencies who are submitting them.

Federal agencies have begun comprehensive pro-voter programmatic reforms. Prompted by an [Executive Order 14019](#), issued by President Biden, agencies have submitted strategic plans to White House Domestic Policy Advisor Susan Rice outlining ways in which the agency can promote nonpartisan voter registration and voter participation. Some 14 agencies have already submitted proposals. We need to make sure that our state and local agencies are also keeping with the trend.

Please provide us:

- 1) A list of the voter registration approvals and rejections for all NVRA and non-NVRA agencies,
- 2) Insights that you have on the disparities of numbers,
- 3) Demographic information of the people whose voter registration has been rejected, and
- 4) Contact information for the person(s) or department that submits voter registrations.

Our hope is that we can help rectify issues within government agencies so that access to the ballot is not impeded by something as simple as increased training or a process adjustment. We would like to remain a trusted partner in the election process for all those who do election administration.

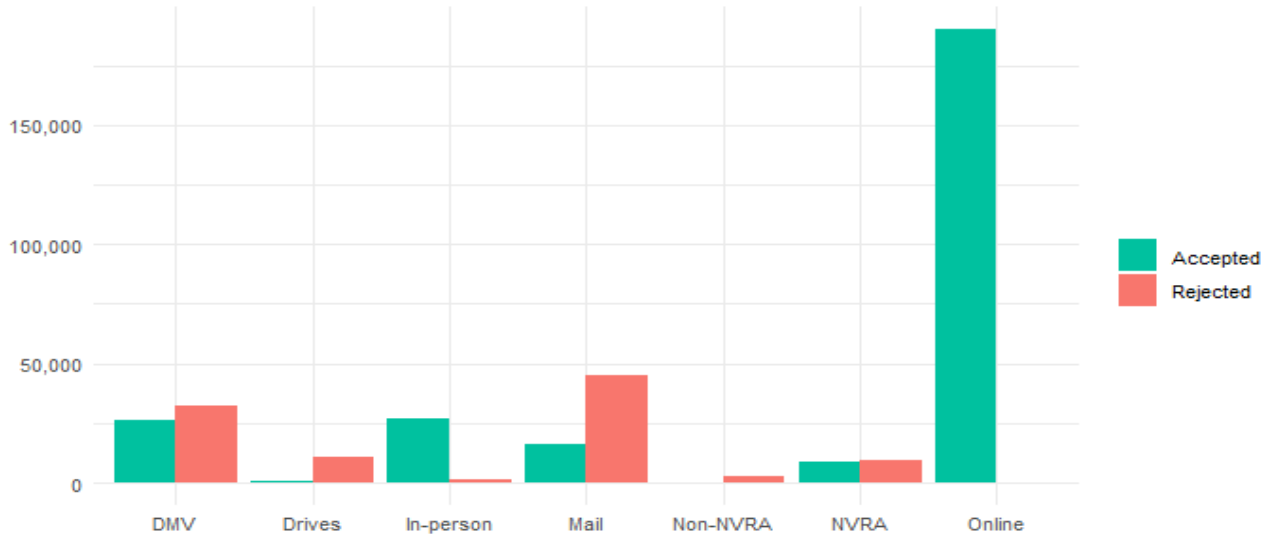
Sincerely,

Kayla Griffin,
Ohio State Director
All Voting is Local
330-402-2427
Kayla@allvotingislocal.org

cc: Frank LaRose, Secretary of State

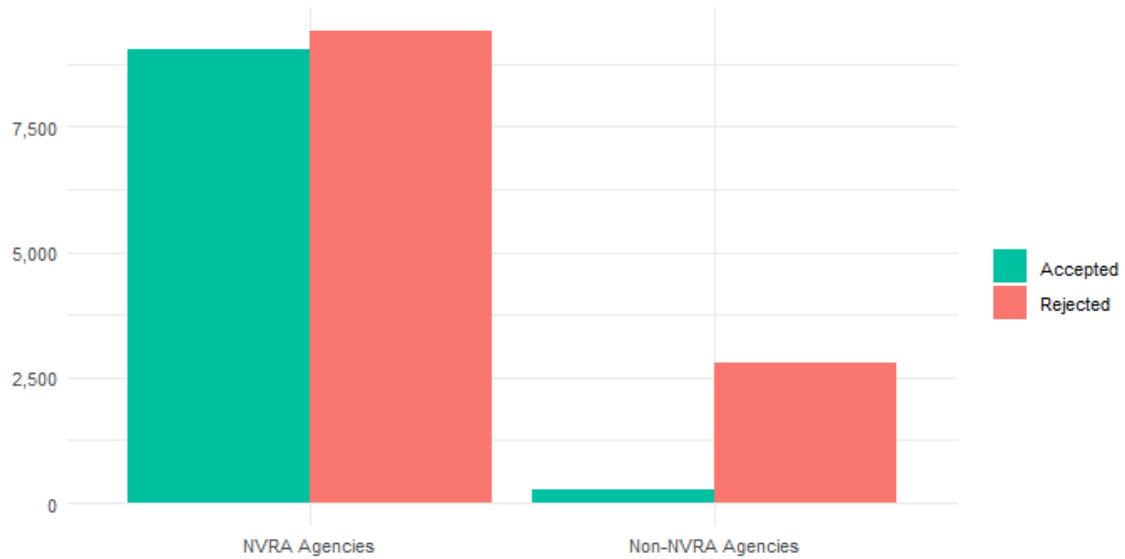
Appendix

Franklin County: Accepted and Rejected Registrations by Source



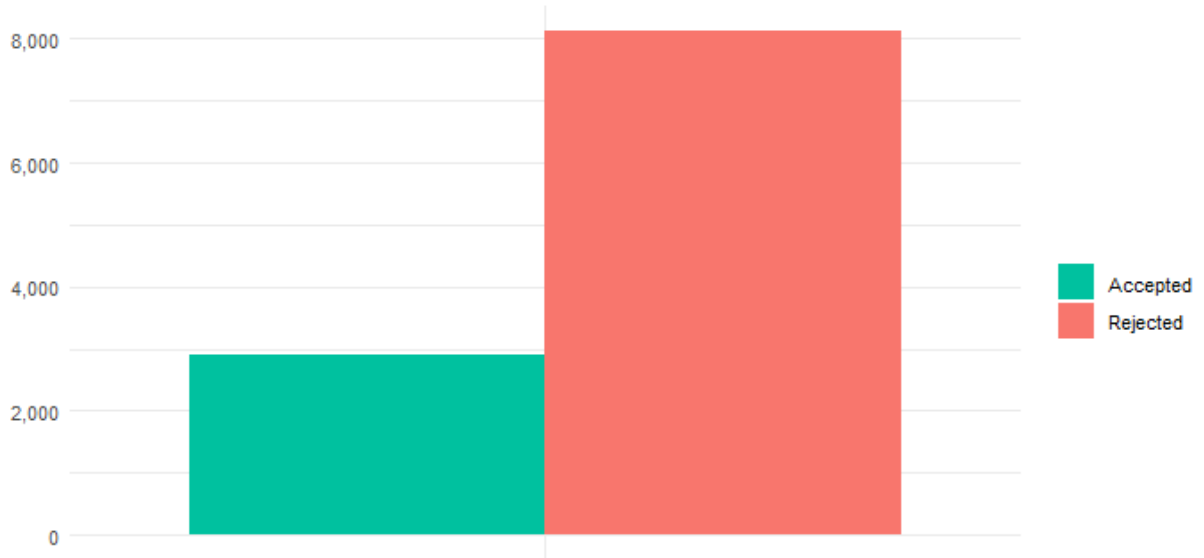
Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission 2020 EAVS Dataset

Franklin County: Accepted and Rejected Registrations



Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission 2020 EAVS Dataset

Cuyahoga County: Accepted and Rejected Registrations from NVRA Agencies



Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission 2020 EAVS Dataset

Montgomery County: Accepted and Rejected Registrations from NVRA Agencies



Source: U.S. Election Assistance Commission 2020 EAVS Dataset