Executive Summary
SC Safe Elections Group
www.scsafeelections.org
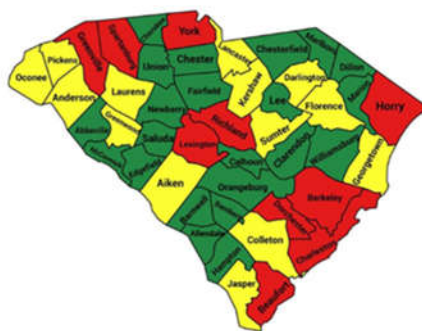## February 5, 2022

About Our Canvass

After members of our team testified in June of 2021 about issues with the South Carolina Election Management System (EMS) and the voter rolls, we were asked to find documented evidence of irregularities. At the same time, other states were providing their canvassing results. We worked with these teams to establish the best protocols, training and procedures to ensure that our canvass results were ethical, safe, and accurate. Our volunteers were recruited locally in each county by trusted team members. Each volunteer had a background check and was trained via Zoom and in person.

We identified and canvassed 8 counties (Charleston, Beaufort, Berkeley, Horry, Lexington, Richland, Spartanburg, and York) over a four-and-a-half-month period based on the heat map analysis conducted by Seth Keshel, a former U.S. military intelligence officer and statistical analyst.

The canvassing of the counties did not start at the same time, so the first counties to start were able to complete more addresses. The number of addresses canvassed in each county also varied based on the number of available volunteers.

Heat map developed by Seth Keshel

Our voter rolls were purchased in August of 2021 and were sent to our data experts who ran them through the National Change of Address (NCOA) database and then prepared walk books based on move dates and recency of vote. In addition, a separate list of multi-person residences and commercial properties was provided to each county to research and canvass.

Before canvassing, we researched properties via each county's tax and property database as well as Google maps so that we could verify the location, who owned the building and when ownership was transferred.

Teams of two to three people canvassed one walk book at a time. Each walk book had about 20-30 stops and took upward of 2 to 2 ½ hours. At the door of each home the canvassers would identify themselves as grassroots nonpartisan volunteers doing voter registration research to ensure the accuracy of the voter rolls. The volunteers would confirm the name of the current resident who answered and ask them if they voted in the 2020 election and by what method they voted (in person or absentee [in person or mail]). The canvasser would then confirm that the list of names of the people listed on the walk book did or did not live at the address during the election of 2020 and 30 days prior as well as currently. At no time did we ask for whom they voted. If there were any voter irregularities, the homeowner was asked if they wanted to write out an affidavit. If they did not have the time to do so, we completed an affidavit documenting the anomaly and had it notarized.

Due to time and resource limitations, we mainly conducted partial canvasses of counties and precincts. Although, Charleston was able to canvass a large sample of two precincts (Mt. Pleasant 13 and Folly Beach 2) and Lexington completed a large sample of one precinct (Emmanuel Church). Each county primarily focused on our walk books (each county had about 30 books), researching commercial properties as well as deceased voters (in our over age 90 voter roll data sort).

Results

Overvotes: Votes outside the parameters or regulations

Our database analysis showed many issues with database hygiene and data that appeared to be out of the range of election registration and vote tallying deadlines. There were thousands of votes across the state that:

1. were counted outside of the legal voting dates for the 2020 election that were specified by our election commission, Per statute 7-13-320(F) H5305/R149. Votes were supposed to be "counted" between October 5th and November 5th. Votes counted outside of these dates were considered potentially invalid.
2. were made from incomplete addresses. For example, a street address with no number or an NA listed as the number or address.

**We observed thousands of recorded votes that were executed prior to registration (we compared date last voted to the date of registration). This could be due to a registrant moving to a different county; however, it is not proper database management protocol to overwrite these dates and makes it difficult to track registrations that correspond to voting histories.
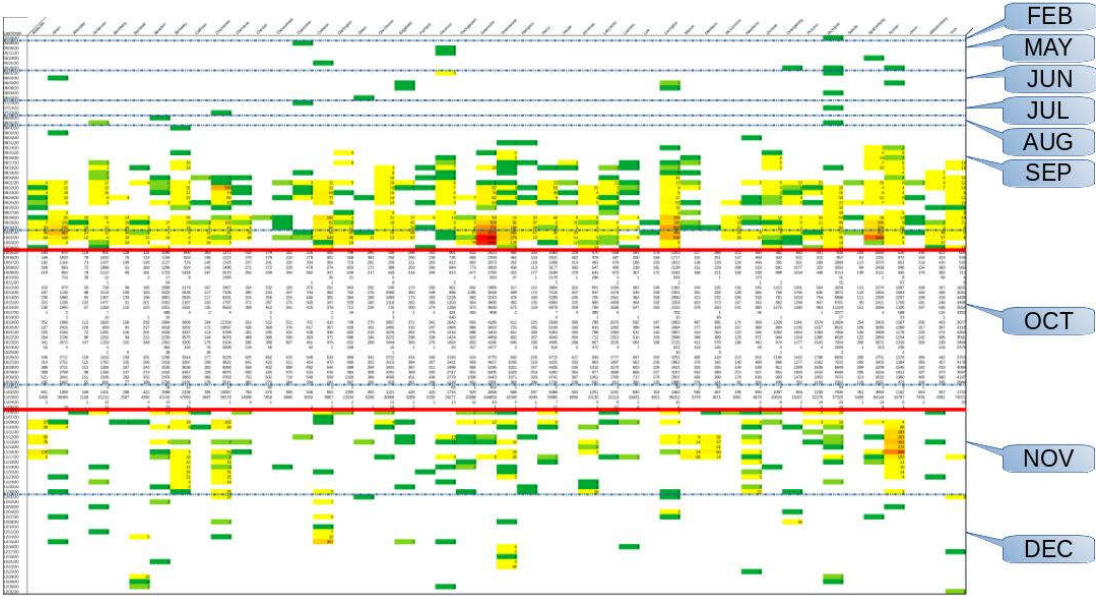
Overvote results summary:

1.	Votes outside the legal dates	22,016

2.	Votes with no complete address	2,244

The chart shown below was derived from the entire state data and summarizes a count of all of the registered voters that cast a vote in the 2020 General Election. The chart shows the County in each column and the Date Last Voted in each row. The red lines in the chart indicate the legal start and end dates for casting a vote based on the South Carolina statutes presented in Figure 1. The highlighted cells in Figure 1 indicate 17,521 votes were cast before October 5, 2020 and 4,495 votes were cast after November 5, 2020. Among the votes that were cast after November 5, 2020, there is the possibility that some of the votes were cast during a Town, City Council, School Board or similar local election because the voter rolls only show the last date when the person voted. A forensic audit of the 2020 General Election and the other local elections is necessary to verify the data.

Out of Bounds Votes

Standard Canvassing Definitions

Phantom Votes-

This is defined as a vote that was cast from an address where the person moved away more than 30 days before the election or was deceased prior to the election and voted (violating statutory residency requirements).

South Carolina Canvassing Results

Ghost Registrations-

These are people who are still registered at an old address and moved or were deceased over 30 days prior to the election but did not vote in the 2020 election.

Moved After Election-

These people may have been eligible voters for the 2020 election but have since moved and need to update their address on the rolls or if moved out of state they need to be removed from the rolls.

Lost votes-

A lost vote occurs when the person states that they did in fact vote in the election but the voter rolls show no record of that.
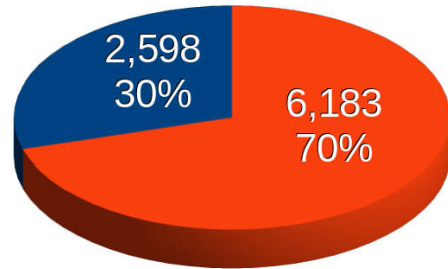
Over vote-

A person didn't vote but the records show they did or a vote that as received outside of the legal counting dates

The affidavit ratio for all counties canvassed was as follows:

Of the registrants analyzed, 71% resulted in affidavits. The number of affidavits fall into 2 primary categories of 30% Phantom votes and 70% ghost registrations.
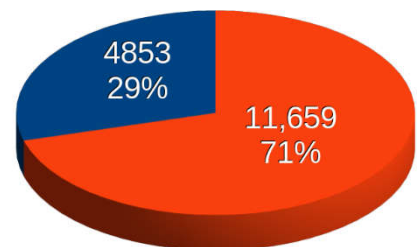
*Note that According to the Voting Systems Standard the allowable machine error rate is 1 in 500,000 or .0002% See para. 3.2.1d Voting Systems Standards Volume.

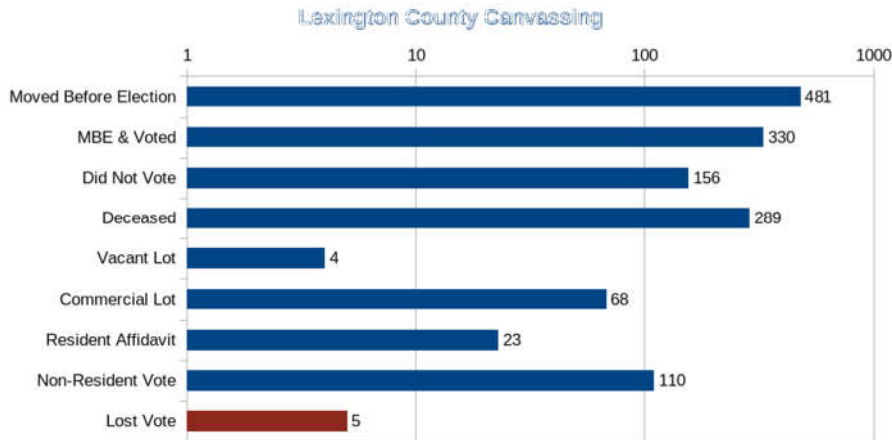**South Carolina Canvassing Results**
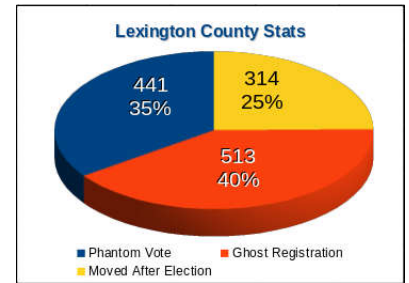
County Topline Results

Lexington County

The Lexington County canvass team found 5 lost votes* and identified 289 deceased voters from a partial review (roughly 2/3) of the over 90-year-old database. Ten percent of the deceased we identified voted post death.

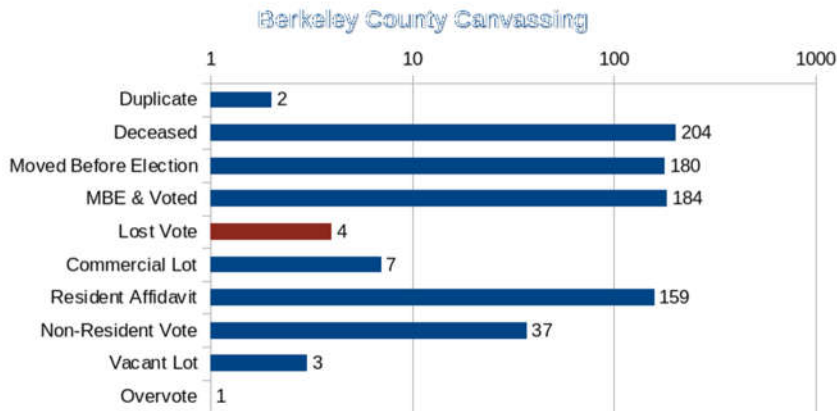We also found that just over 10% of these deceased voters were on the rolls for more than 10 years, 60.8% over 5 years and 93.2 % have been on the rolls for 3 or more years.

In addition, we also had a large percentage of people voting from the identified commercial properties. SC law requires that a resident registers from their physical home address.

*The error rate of 5 lost votes is 17 times the allowable machine error rate.
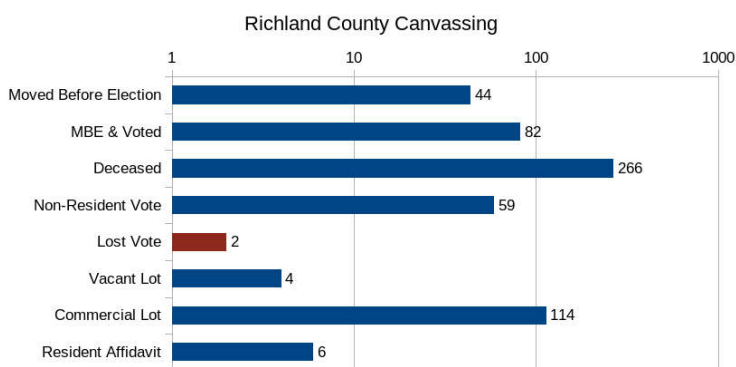
Berkeley County

Berkeley County Canvassing

	1	10	100	1000
Duplicate	2			
Deceased			204	
Moved Before Election			180	
MBE & Voted			184	
Lost Vote	4			
Commercial Lot	7			
Resident Affidavit			159	
Non-Resident Vote		37		
Vacant Lot	3			
Overvote	1			

Berkeley County had 91% of voting age population registered to vote. (National average of people registered to vote is 60-65%.) The Berkeley County canvass team found 7 votes cast from a UPS store address, 3 votes cast from vacant lots and 4 lost votes (people who signed affidavits that they voted but the voter roll indicated N/A for last vote). There were 241 Phantom Voters in Berkeley. Of those, 37 were registered at residences where they never lived; that was 20% of their phantom votes recorded.

We also found 206 deceased on the voter rolls that were age 93 and older. 88% of these died before the 2020 election. Ten Percent of them were on the rolls for more than 20 years. There were 4 people between 20-44 years on the rolls post death.
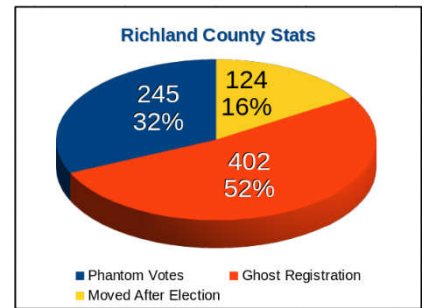
Richland County

Richland County Canvassing

	1	10	100	1000
Moved Before Election		44		
MBE & Voted		82		
Deceased			266	
Non-Resident Vote		59		
Lost Vote	2			
Vacant Lot	4			
Commercial Lot			114	
Resident Affidavit	6			

The Richland County canvass team examined 793 voter records. From these records, 647 affidavits were generated, or a registration error rate of 81.5%. Of the affidavits, 17.6% were registered at a non-residential location such as a postal office, UPS store, or another commercial facility. An additional 266 registrations were found to be deceased (41% of all affidavits). Of the deceased registrations, 5 voted after the date of their death.

In summary, 402 (62% of affidavits) were ghost registration. This means that the registered voter was confirmed to not live at the address of registration. These registered voters did not vote during the 2020 election but should be corrected and removed from the voter rolls. An additional 245 (38% of
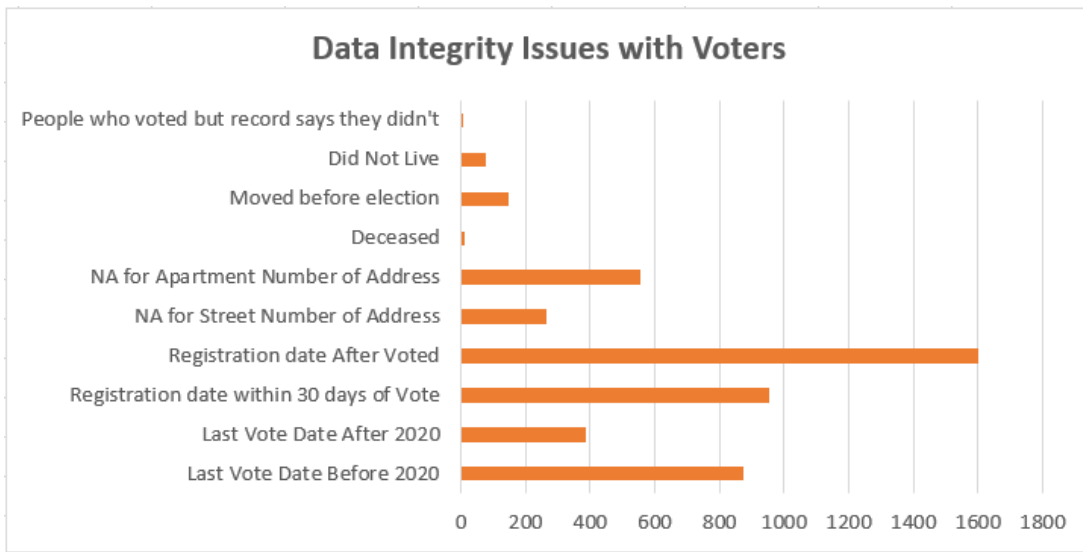
affidavits) were registered at the address in error (no longer resided or never resided at the address) and inappropriately voted during the 2020 election from that address.
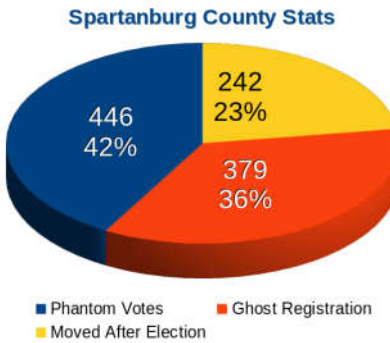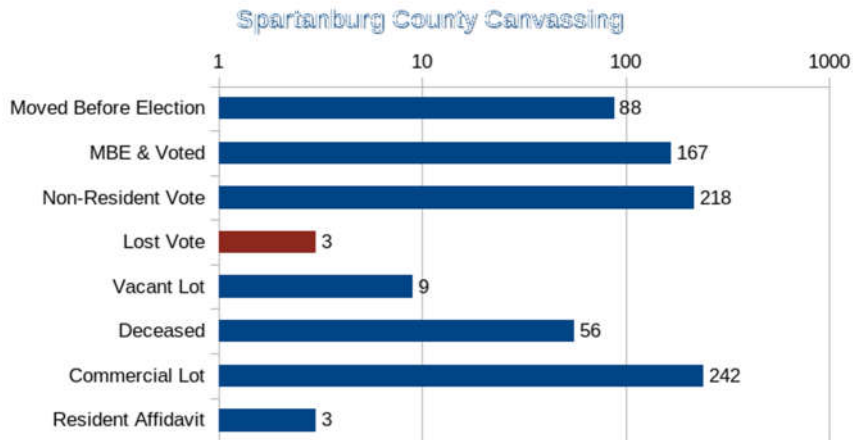

Richland County Stats

Charleston County

The Charleston County canvass team found 10 overvotes and identified 539 deceased voters from (mostly) a review of the over 90-year-old database. We found 3.75% of the deceased that voted post death. We also found that just over 27.5% of these deceased voters were on the rolls for 5 or more years and 48.93% have been on the rolls for 3 or more years.

However, the biggest issue identified was with data accuracy. For example, we found inaccuracies with senior living facilities.   We uncovered multiple residences of senior living facilities (as we did with residential dwellings) with no apartment numbers or no street numbers for a registered voter. Many of these voted in 2020 election. Another area of concern, is that we had a number of senior center employees tell us that the resident was not mentally capable of voting. Many of these employees would not allow us to speak to the residents and would not confirm if the resident on the list even lived at the facility during the 2020 election.
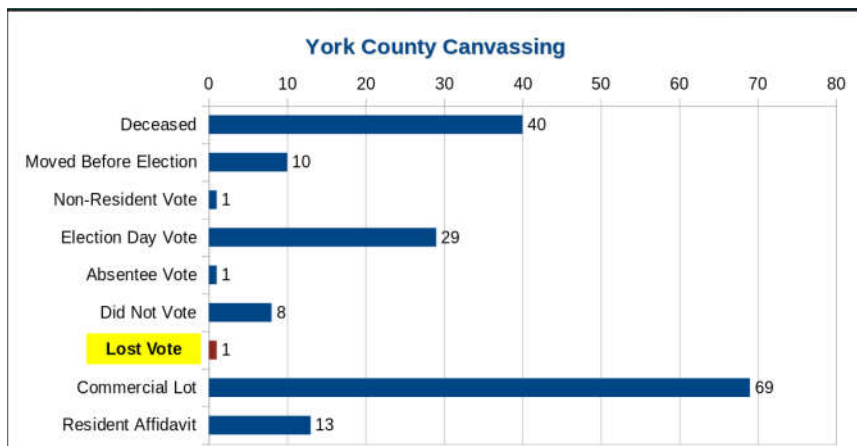
Spartanburg

Spartanburg County Canvassing

Category	Value
Moved Before Election	88
MBE & Voted	167
Non-Resident Vote	218
Lost Vote	3
Vacant Lot	9
Deceased	56
Commercial Lot	242
Resident Affidavit	3

Spartanburg County Stats

- Phantom Votes: 446 — 42%
- Ghost Registration: 379 — 36%
- Moved After Election: 242 — 23%

The Spartanburg County canvass team generated 825 signed affidavits. Twenty nine percent of these are commercial properties from which 81 persons voted in the 2020 election. Another 26% were non-resident votes, i.e., registered to vote and voted from said location but DID NOT live at residence. There were 9 vacant lots of which 5 had someone who voted in the 2020 election.
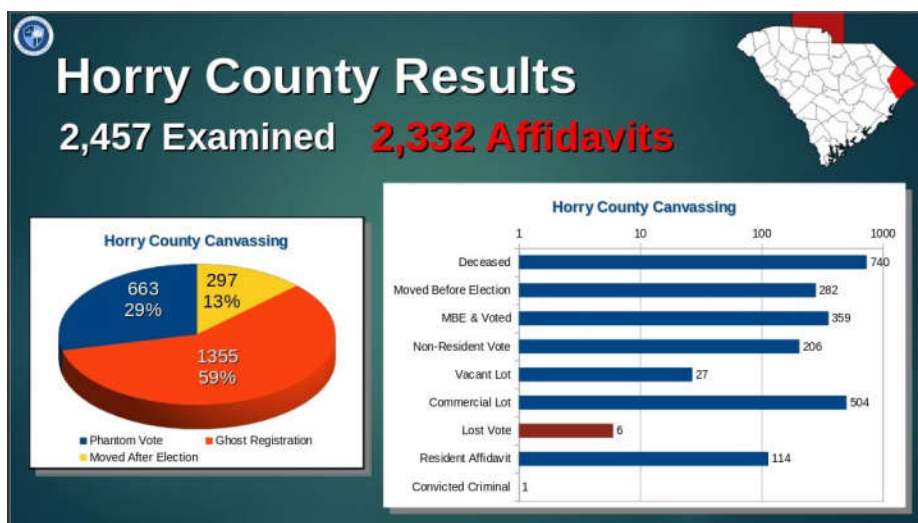
York County

Although York County is one of the largest counties in South Carolina, we only had a few volunteers and they had full time jobs. For this reason, we focused our attention on data analysis. We have a sample size of 164 examined. Out of the 164 registered voters and addresses, we found one lost vote, 44 registered voters with an address that was a UPS store, ten registered voters with a United States Postal Service address, one non-resident vote, and ten registered voters who moved before election day. We also obtained affidavits either signed by the resident or the canvas volunteer that shared of people on the voter rolls who were registered at that address who no longer lived at that address. This is only a sample size of 164. Out of 164 registered voter data examined, there are over 68% with inaccuracies/irregularities in York County.

One team member also noticed over 22,000 registered voters for the state whose vote was cast outside of the legal voting dates for the 2020 General Election. We find this troubling and feel it warrants further investigation.
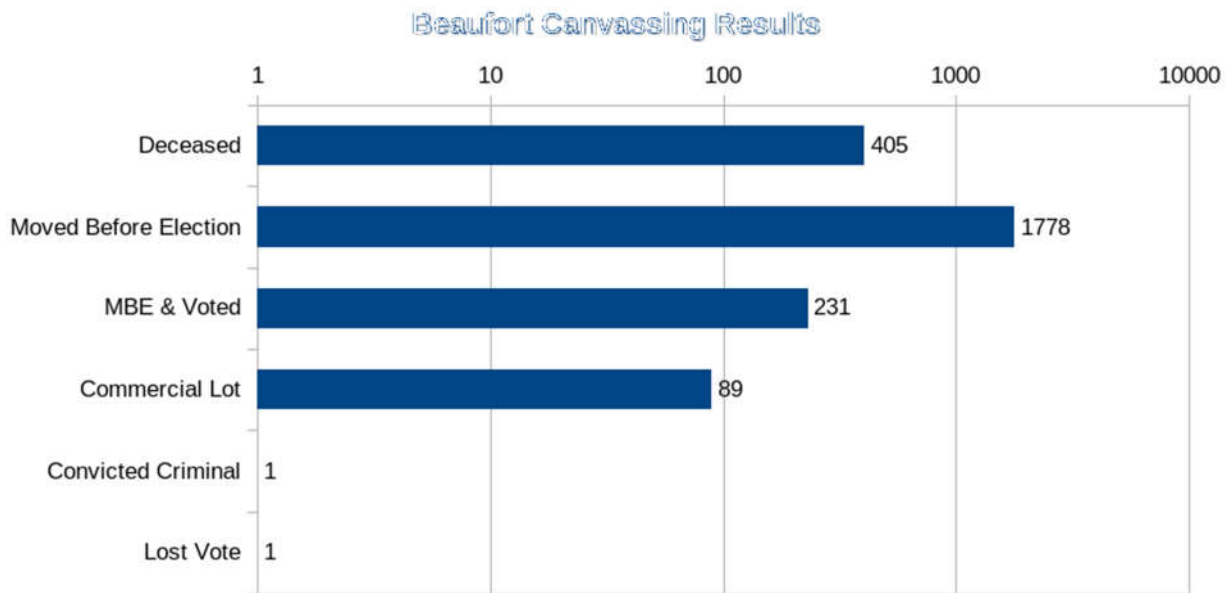
Horry County

Horry County is the largest county in South Carolina by land area at 1,134 square miles. There were 254,651 registered voters in Horry County, as of the 2020 general election. There were 180,508 votes cast in Horry County in the 2020 general election.
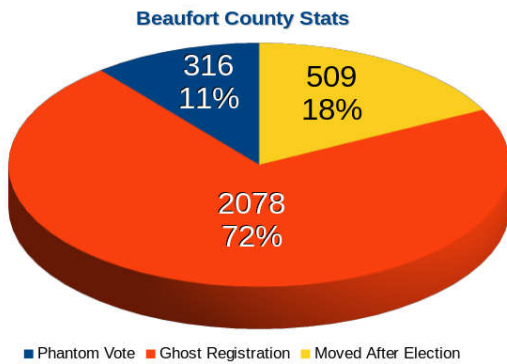
Approximately one percent of registered voters in the county or 2,457 were evaluated. There were 2,332 inaccuracies (just under 95%). Of those, 1,355 (59%) were Ghost Registrations, 663 (29%) were Phantom Votes and 297 (13%) moved after the election.

Furthermore, 740 were found to have been DECEASED, 504 were located at commercial addresses or lots, 359 moved before the election AND VOTED, 282 moved before the election, 206 were Non-Residents, 114 residents provided affidavits, 27 were vacant lots, 6 were lost votes and was 1 from a convicted criminal.

Twenty two percent of the discrepancies were from commercial addresses. Of those 504, 175 were USPS addresses, 99 were UPS addresses and one was a Fed Ex address.

Beaufort County

Beaufort County Stats

316
11%

509
18%

2078
72%

■ Phantom Vote ■ Ghost Registration ■ Moved After Election

Beaufort County is one of the South's fastest-growing counties, and is part of the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort metropolitan area. As of the 2020 United States census, there were 187,117 people residing in the county. From 2018 to 2020, there was a 13% increase in the number of registered voters in the county. In 2018 there were 122, 816 registered voters, and in 2020 there were 138,735 registered voters. Out of those registered in 2020, 98,623 people voted, representing approximately 71% of registered voters.

Like other counties, we found numerous irregularities and errors with voter rolls. For instance, we were surprised to discover seven people registered to vote from the address for the Hilton Head Island Beach Patrol. Of the seven people registered at this location, two people voted in the 2020 election. One of our canvassers talked with a gentleman at the Beach Patrol and was able to receive confirmation that there are no living quarters at the location and that the beach patrol is closed part of the year.

A common theme in our results of our phantom votes is the amount of people who move and do not update their voter registration status with the Board of Elections. We found one man who sold his home in 2013, yet still voted in the 2020 General Election.

Database hygiene or something else?

In addition to overvotes from votes counted outside of regulatory ranges, there were other database hygiene issues that were worrisome.

Invalid or NA addresses

There were 2,035 addresses that weren't complete and contained a street number of NA. Many of these registrants voted as well. We are unsure how this occurred and how these people were mailed absentee ballots with incomplete addresses.

Date of registration prior to date of birth

South Carolina voter rolls include over 1300 registrations where either the Date of Birth (DOB) is wrong, the Date of Registration (DOR) is wrong, or both such that the registrant would have been between 15 years old and negative 82 years old at the time of registration. About 780 simply have identical DOBs and DORs. There are also a few registrants between 114 and 2060 years old at the time they registered.

Other findings include:

- 1353 people on our voter roll that have a date of registration that is well before the person's date of birth.
- 11 people have registration dates that are over 100 years after their DOB

- <u>1,284 are registered within 15 days of their DOB!</u>

There also appear to be large swaths of registrations on certain dates and counties with hundreds moving on the rolls in a certain day. Additionally, there are excess registrations based on last name typos, identical names and appended names.

Possible in-state excess voting, multi-state voting, and residency violations due to OSSR.

These were reported by independent researchers

Possible in-state excess voting via excess registration:

There were approximately four in-state excess registrations/duplicate votes on our rolls that appear to be made from a person with the same exact name, DOB, address but with differing Voter IDs.

Example:

Name	Address	Reg 1	Reg 2	Last voted 1	Last voted 2
Lxxxxn Jxxxxn	1xxx Hxxxx Dr Beaufort 29906	700000000	7111111111	11/3/20	11/3/20

In addition, 813 additional voters were found to have two active records.

The method of detecting these duplicates is straight-forward. Two voter records are considered duplicates if their first, middle, and suffix of their names match, as well as their address and their date of birth.

Possible Multi-state votes

Multi-state votes occur when a person registers to vote in more than one state (usually due to a residence move) and a vote is recorded in more than one state in the same election for that person.

We found over 70 possible multi-state voting instances in SC.

Example (hypothetical):

Name	DOB	Address	Registered Date	Date voted SC	Date Voted Fl
Emily A.	2-6-1944	123 Main St Columbia SC	9/21/20	11/3/20	
Emily A.	2-6-1944	123 Main St. Columbia SC	6/13/95		11/3/20

Possible residency violation due to Out-of-State Subsequent Registration (aka wrong-state voting):

This occurs when a SC registrant subsequently registers to vote in another state, but still votes in SC rather than their new state.

In order to register in another state, the registrant must have established residency in that other state, thereby losing residency (as well as their legal entitlement to vote) in SC.

Sample Case: NY/SC voter

State	NY	SC
Voter ID	11111	222222
Voter Name	John E Doe	John E Doe
Legal Residence	1 Some St, City, NY	1 Main St BEAUFORT, SC 29906
Ballot Mailing Address	1 Main St BEAUFORT, SC 29906	
Date of Birth	1/1/1955	1/1/1955
Date of Registration	1985	2018
Voted in 2020	Yes 11-3-2020	Yes 10-15-2020

We found examples like the anonymized one above: a person is registered in two states, and lists their ballot mailing address as their residence in the other state.

So far, we have found **60** examples like this, including states FL, NC, NY, GA, WA, VT, MI.

In the case of multi-state votes, we civilians have no idea who submitted the extra vote, or which state/county got the extra vote vs. the real one, or if both of them might be fraudulent. We only know a crime is *likely* to have occurred.

Footnote: Details changed to preserve anonymity.

A cursory voter roll analysis was done by Jeff O'Donnell, an independent election integrity researcher, here is an abbreviated report of his findings:
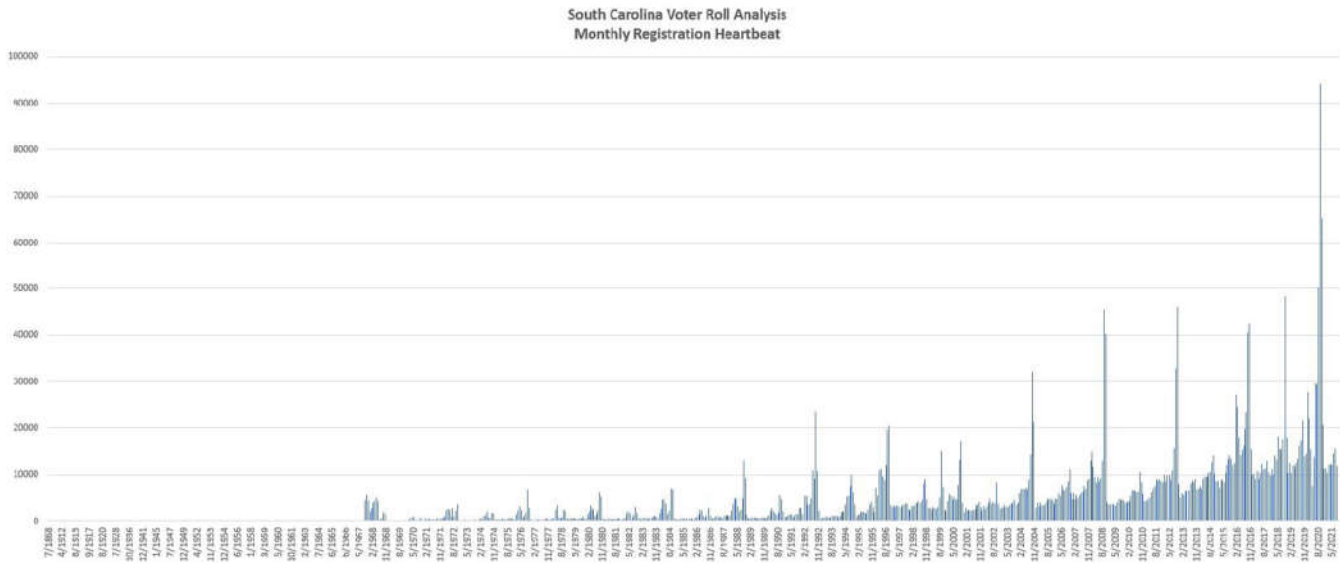
GENERAL ANALYSIS
According to the voter rolls, 2,478,217 people have voted in either the 2020 General Election or afterwards. The official South Carolina results state the ballots received as 2,533,010. This is a difference of over 50,000 ballots and must be explained. If these have been purged from the voter rolls so soon after having voted, there should be a "purge list" which matches this number. If it does not, then this is a serious Red Flag.

Observations: As expected, registrations spike right before elections, particularly General Elections. Of note is that the 2020 spike was intense**. In September 2020 alone, more than 90,000 voters were registered. This was about twice the previous month high of 48,000 in November 2018. 8,471 people were registered on September 22nd alone.**

225,912 voters were registered between June 1 and election day 2020. This represents more than 6% of the total South Carolina registration. 179,502 of these new registrants subsequently voted (79%), accounting for over 7% of all voters.
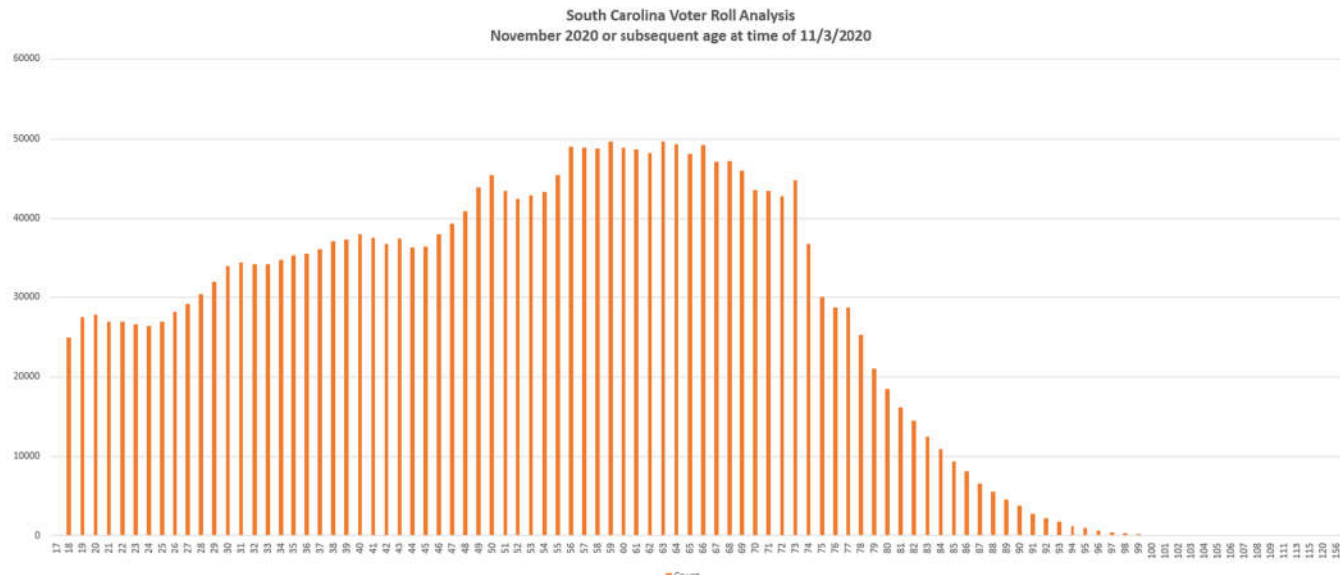
REGISTRATION DATE ANALYSIS

South Carolina Voter Roll Analysis
Monthly Registration Heartbeat

In September 2020 alone, more than 90,00 voters were registered. This was about twice the previous month high of 48,000 in November 2018. 8,471 people were registered on September 22nd alone.
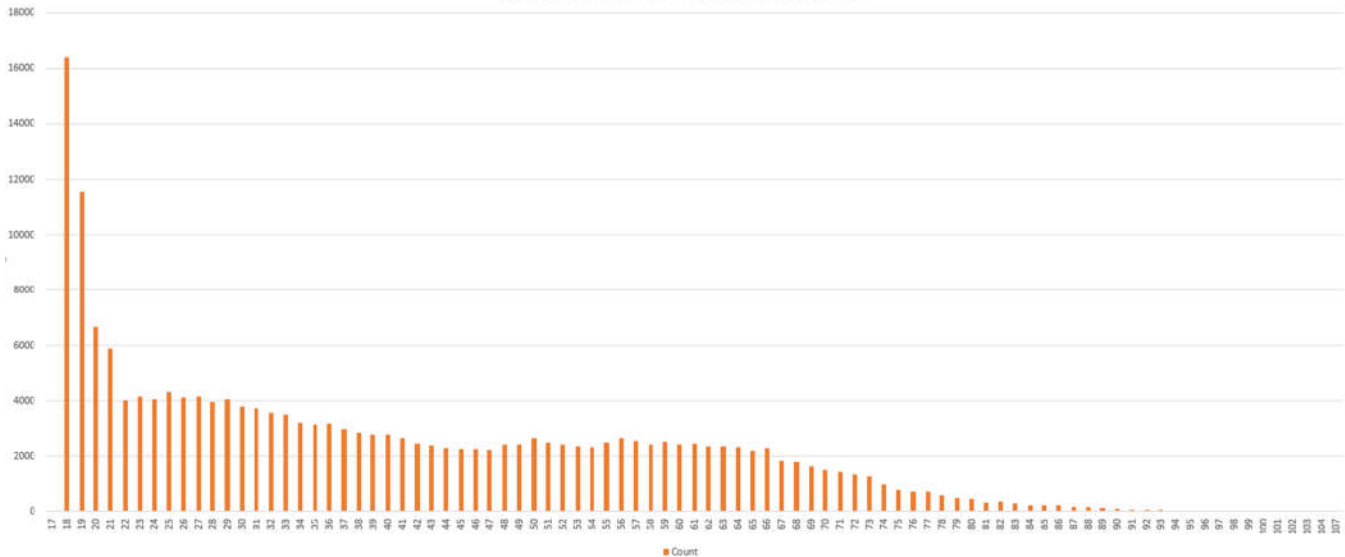
VOTER AGE ANALYSIS
The following chart shows the distribution of ages of the voters who voted in November 2020 or after.

South Carolina Voter Roll Analysis
November 2020 or subsequent age at time of 11/3/2020

This is the same chart, but for just the voters who registered between June 1st and November 3rd, 2020.

South Carolina Voter Roll Analysis
Age Distribution of Voters Registered since 6/1/2020

Observations:

These charts show that a large number of 18-year-old citizens were registered in the 6 months before the election and they voted at a higher rate than any other age. In fact, the "direction" of the curve of the recently registered runs counter to the overall trend. This is a definite red flag. In particular, please note the 18, 19, 20, and 21 age bars.

Other: 15 voters were missing a first or last name. There were registration number length inconsistencies indicating that multiple sources are entering records without the same standards.

Registration Number Sequence Issues The 9-digit voter registration numbers appear to be in logical sequence over time and are largely consecutive. The 8-digit numbers, however, have no logical sequence based upon the registration dates and have large gaps between the numbers. This is a red flag because new registrations can be "hidden" in the middle of old ones with no way of detecting it. The differences between the 9-digit and 8-digit voters should be investigated and demystified in order to gain confidence in the registration system.

Conclusions

- Registrations appear unusually high and to be a source for phantom votes
- Database management seems lacking
- Our voter rolls are not being properly maintained or purged of ineligible voters
- There is sufficient suspicion for a compliance study of our state's 2020 election and preservation of evidence (paper ballots and images of servers)

Recommendations

1. Return to paper poll books where every <u>registered voter is validated annually</u>
2. Return to paper ballots which are serial numbered.
   - use the same ballots for mail in absentee early voting and election day
3. Go to single-day, in-person elections with strong ID-photo and signature.
4. Establish rare exceptions for absentee voting <1%.
5. Hand count the ballots and votes.
6. Voter records need to be completely transparent and accessible to all individuals.
   - Voter rolls should be free for those who wish to audit the outcome
7. Find an alternative to ERIC and a process that properly cleans the rolls.
8. The SEC needs more accountability; impose fines and penalties for noncompliance.
9. Fund a compliance study that looks into the 2020 election (analysis of the paper ballots).