

# How the EAVS Project Team Reviews Data Submissions

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the project team for the Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) want to ensure the 2024 EAVS data are as complete and accurate as possible. The data validations built into the EAVS online and Excel templates help support this goal by assisting points of contact (POC) as they complete their data entry (see <u>Volume 6</u> of this newsletter for more information about the data validations). In addition, the EAVS project team reviews each state and territory's draft data submission.

This newsletter describes what the EAVS project team looks for in these data reviews, how the results are communicated to state and territory POCs, and how to incorporate the results of the EAVS project team's review into your final data submission.

## Timeframe for Draft Data Reviews

States and territories that submit their draft data by <u>February 3</u> are guaranteed to receive the results of their data review within 10 business days (on or before February 18, allowing for federal holidays). This allows those states and territories another 10 business days to make corrections before final data are due on <u>March 3</u>.

Draft data submissions that are received after February 3 will still be reviewed by the EAVS project team, but the results of the data review may not be ready until after February 18. Final data for these states and territories are still due on March 3.

The 2024 EAVS data will be locked on <u>March 31</u>, and no changes to submissions will be accepted until after the data are published in June 2025.<sup>1</sup>

### What Does the EAVS Project Team Look for in Its Data Review?

Once your state or territory provides the first draft of your 2024 data, the EAVS project team will conduct an intensive review of the submission. The goal of this review is to identify recurring or persistent issues in the data, so state, territory, and local POCs (where applicable) can address the issues before certifying the 2024 EAVS data as complete and final. The EAVS project team will conduct the following checks when reviewing a data submission:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Once the data and the EAC's report have been made public, state and territory POCs may request updates to their 2024 submissions according to the process outlined in the "Post-Reporting Matters" section of the EAVS Policy Guide.



- <u>Template validations</u>: The EAVS project team will run the built-in error checks in the data collection templates to identify math issues, logic issues, conflicts with your state or territory's Policy Survey data, and missing items. Any of these validation issues that remain in the data and are not explained in the comments sections will be flagged for further review.
- <u>Previous EAVS submissions</u>: Your 2024 EAVS data will be compared to your state or territory's 2020 EAVS submission to identify an expected range for each data point. Data points in your 2024 EAVS data that fall outside of this expected range or are unexpected increases or decreases will be flagged for further review. The EAVS project team understands that some of these changes may be due to changes in population or election policy.
- <u>External data sources</u>: The EAVS project team will incorporate data from other sources, such as the U.S. Census Bureau's Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) data sets, to calculate metrics like registration rates and turnout rates. Rates that fall outside of the expected range (e.g., a CVAP registration rate below 50% or above 130%) will be flagged for further review.

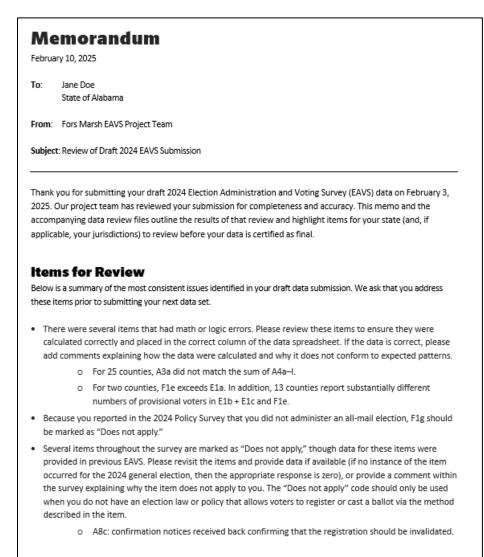
#### How Will I Receive the Results of My Data Review?

Once the EAVS project team completes its review of your draft data, the results will be posted to the State Files page of the EAVS Portal. State and territory POCs will need to log in at <u>eavsportal.com/Account/Login</u> to download the data review results. Results will include two files:

- <u>Memo</u>: This document will highlight the most important issues found in your state or territory's draft data, focusing on recurring issues that appear across multiple EAVS items or in multiple jurisdictions. These issues will be listed as bullet points in the first few pages of the memo. See the next page for an example of what this memo will look like.
- Excel template: This file will contain all of the data you submitted in your initial submission. No data will be edited by the EAVS project team. This file will be named "2024\_EAVS\_Final\_Data\_[postal abbreviation]."

State and territory POCs will be notified by email when these files are available to download.





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### How Do I Address the Issues Highlighted in My Data Review?

We encourage POCs to carefully review every issue highlighted in their data review memo and address them to the best of their ability. If an issue is a result of a data calculation error or a data entry error, it can be corrected by updating the numbers in the data collection template. If the data are correct, we encourage POCs to use the comments space available for each question to provide the EAVS project team with more context about the state or territory's election practices or how they calculated their numbers. This will allow the EAVS project team to review and analyze the EAVS data correctly.

If you used the **online template** to help compile your draft data submission, your jurisdictions may use this template again to make final data corrections. You should share the results of the data review with your jurisdictions to let them know which EAVS items need to be reviewed. The



jurisdictions' POCs can access the online template again at <u>survey.eavsportal.com</u>, using the same password they used to complete their initial data submission. Once jurisdictions have made their data corrections and resubmitted their online templates, your state or territory POC may download the file of online data submissions from the EAVS Portal (see <u>Volume 8</u> of this newsletter for more details on this process), complete final data checks, and submit this file to the EAVS project team as your state or territory's final data submission.

If you used the **Excel template** to compile your draft data submission, you will use the file named "2024\_EAVS\_Final\_Data\_[postal abbreviation]," which you can download from the State Files page on the EAVS Portal, to make modifications to your data. Once your data corrections are complete, you will submit this file to the EAVS project team as your state or territory's final data submission.

Once the EAVS project team receives your final data submission by <u>March 3</u>, the EAVS project team will conduct a final review to determine whether all data issues have been satisfactorily addressed. The EAVS project team will notify you if there are additional issues in your draft data that need further review.

Once your data submission has been accepted as final, the EAVS project team will generate a copy of the analysis of your data that will appear in the appendix tables of the 2024 EAVS report, share it with you, and invite you to provide footnotes to print alongside the analysis. The next edition of the EAVS newsletter, Volume 11, will be published in mid-February and will discuss the final data review and data certification process.