



Data Validations in the 2024 EAVS Templates

Both the Excel and online templates for the 2024 Election Administration and Voting Survey (EAVS) are customized to improve the accuracy and quality of your state or territory's data submission and reduce the response burden for state, territory, and local election officials. The validations have been revised since 2022 to run faster in the Excel template, better highlight potential errors, and reduce the incidence of false positive error messages. The following types of validations are used in the templates:

- **Sum validations:** These validations will highlight when subcategories do not sum to the expected total.
 - Example: The total number of absentee ballots transmitted to voters covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) reported in B5a should match the sum of absentee ballots transmitted to Uniformed Services voters (B5b) and overseas civilian voters (B5c).
- **Logic validations:** These validations will highlight when a value is incompatible with a response previously entered in the survey.
 - Example: The total number of voters who cast a ballot that was counted in F1a cannot exceed the total number of registered voters in that jurisdiction in A1a.
- **Policy Survey validations:** These validations will appear when an EAVS item conflicts with the state's Policy Survey data submission.
 - Example: If a state reports not having an online voter registration portal in Q9 of the Policy Survey but provides a numerical response or a response of "Data not available" to items about online registration in EAVS (A4c, A5c, A6c, A7c, A8c, or A9c), then the item will be highlighted and the respondent will be asked to correct it.
- **Missing data validations:** Except for most comment boxes and "Other" subcategories, all items in the survey require a response. An alert will appear if a response to a required item is not provided.
 - Example: If a state reports the total number of registered voters in A1a but leaves the subitems for active and inactive registered voters blank, then A1b and A1c will be flagged. Instead of leaving items blank when you do not have a response to provide, report "Does not apply" (if your state does not have an applicable law or policy), "Data not available" (if your state does not track data for an item), or "0" (if no instance of an item occurred).
- **Skip logic:** Some items in the survey will be automatically filled with a dedicated valid skip code (-77) based on survey responses.
 - Example: If a jurisdiction reports not using ballot marking devices (BMD) in item F5a, then items F5b_1–F5d_5, which collect data on makes and models of BMDs and how they are used, will be filled with the valid skip code (-77).

Errors found in the Excel template will be color coded. The Excel template has a tab named "ColorCodeValidationsGuide" that delineates which error types correspond to each color code. You can also refer to the "Error Checking in the Excel Template" section in the (available on the [Resources page](#) of the EAVS Portal) for more details about these errors.



Errors found in the online template will not be color coded. Instead, when an error is present, a message in red text describing the error will appear above the question grid. Each time a survey user clicks the “Save and Continue” button at the bottom of each page of the survey, the online template will check the data on that page and notify the user whether any errors are present. The “Error Checking in the Online Template” section of the [EAVS Data Collection Template User Guide](#) provides further instructions on how to identify and address errors within the online template.

A1. Total Number Registered and Eligible Persons, Active and Inactive

For question A1, report the total number of people (not votes or ballots) who were registered and eligible to vote in the November 2024 general election. If your jurisdiction differentiates between active and inactive voters, report the number of active voters in A1b and inactive voters in A1c. If your state does not make this differentiation, report the total number of registered voters again in A1b and check “Does not apply” as the response to A1c and A1d. If your state or jurisdiction has other categories of registered and eligible voters aside from active and inactive voters, list them in A1d; otherwise, check “Does not apply” as the response to A1d. The sum of A1b, A1c, and A1d should equal the total number of registered voters reported in A1a.

The sum of active (A1b), inactive (A1c), and other (A1d) registered voters should be equal to the total number of registered voters (A1a).

		Data not available ^(?)	Does not apply ^(?)
A1a. TOTAL number of registered and eligible voters: Do not include any individuals who registered to vote after the 2024 deadline for registration, individuals whose registration applications were not processed in time for them to vote in the 2024 general election, or individuals who registered under a pre-registration program but were not yet eligible to vote in the 2024 general election.	159,638	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A1b. TOTAL number of active voters: ^(?) Fully eligible voters who had no additional processing requirements to fulfill before voting.	128,963	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A1c. TOTAL number of inactive voters: ^(?) Voters who were eligible to vote but required address verification under the provisions of the NVRA.	23,690	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A1d. TOTAL number of other registered and eligible voters (please describe): If your state or jurisdiction had another type of registered and eligible voter aside from active and inactive (such as provisionally registered voters, voters whose registration applications are still being processed, or voters whose registration status is pending), report them here. <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Although the online template can be used to collect data directly from local jurisdictions ([Vol. 4 of the 2024 EAVS newsletter](#) and the [EAVS Data Collection Template User Guide](#) contain more details on this process), states and territories must submit final EAVS data through the Excel template.

Pre-Filled Policy Survey Data

[Vol. 2 of the 2024 EAVS newsletter](#) discussed how the 2024 Policy Survey is being used to validate EAVS data. When you access your EAVS templates, you may notice the following items are pre-filled depending on your state’s election policies:

- **A1c and A1d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not designate voters as “inactive” in your voter registration database, or if your state does not have a different designation for voters other than active and inactive.
- **A2a, A2b, and A2c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not have same-day voter registration or Election Day registration.
- **A3c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow pre-registration of people under the age of 18 years old.



- **A3d, A3f, A6a–n, and A8a–n** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not track data on duplicate or invalid registrations.
- **A4c, A5c, A6c, A7c, A8c, and A9c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not have an online registration system.
- **A4d, A5d, A6d, A7d, A8d and A9d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if no automatic registration processes are available in your state.
- **A10a–i and A11a–n** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not send confirmation notices to voters.
- The subitems collecting information about reasons for sending confirmation notices in **A11** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not send confirmation notices for that reason.
- **A12d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if criminal convictions do not affect voting rights in your state.
- The subitems collecting information on the method of ballot transmission to UOCAVA voters in **B6–B10** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow a method of UOCAVA ballot transmission.
- The subitems collecting information on the method of ballot return for UOCAVA voters in **B12–B16 and B19–B23** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow a method of UOCAVA ballot return.
- **B27a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not have a postmark requirement for UOCAVA ballots.
- **C2a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow permanent absentee voting.
- **C3a, C4a–c, C5a–c, and C6a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not use drop boxes.
- **C7a–c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not allow ballot curing.
- **C9k** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not require a postmark for mail ballots.
- **D4a–c, D6a, and F1f** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not conduct any form of early voting.
- **D5a, D6a, D7a–g, D8a, and D9a** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not use poll workers to assist with in-person voting.
- **E1a–e, E2a–l, E3a–m, F1e, F3d_3, F4d_3, F5d_3, F6d_3, F7d_3, and F12c** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not use provisional ballots.
- The subitems collecting information on reasons for casting provisional ballots in **E2a–l** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not use provisional ballots for that purpose.
- **E3d** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state does not count provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct.
- **F1g** will be pre-filled as “Does not apply” if your state did not conduct all-mail elections for the November 2024 general election.
- **F8a and F9a–g** will be pre-filled as “No” if your state does not use electronic poll books.

Revisiting the 2024 Policy Survey

The data you submitted through the 2024 Policy Survey are crucial to understanding the U.S. election landscape and provide important context for the EAVS data that your state or territory will



submit in the coming months. Because some states experienced late-breaking changes to their election procedures due to administrative changes or court decisions, we encourage all EAVS points of contact (POC) to review their submissions for accuracy. The report that the EAC will publish in June 2025 will feature a chapter on the Policy Survey, and the data you submitted will be published alongside the report and the EAVS data.

If your state or territory changed an aspect of its election policy after you submitted your 2024 Policy Survey, please contact the EAVS project team by email at eavs@forsmarsh.com to discuss your update. Your state or territory's 2024 Policy Survey submission can be found on the [State Files page](#) of the EAVS Portal—you will need to log in with your credentials to access it.