



# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

Sarah Stevenson Tuesday Forum

Michael Dickerson

Director of Elections

May 7, 2024

# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

- Five member local Board of Elections 2 Dems 2 Reps and 5<sup>th</sup> member appointed by the Governor
- Governed by the US Constitution, NC Constitution, Federal legislation and NC General Statute 163
- Funded through the County with funding coming from both Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte (60/40)

# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

## Duties of the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections NCGS 163-33

- Enforce the rules, regulations and directives of the NC State Board of Elections
- Appoint all Chief Judges and Judges of elections
- Investigate irregularities and nonperformance of election officers
- Establish election precincts and voting locations
- Select Early Voting locations for all elections - NCGS 163-227.2(g)
- Receive the returns of primaries and elections and Canvass the results

# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

## Voting-Absentee By Mail

Any North Carolina registered voter may request, receive, and vote a mail-in absentee ballot. Registered voters in North Carolina must request an absentee ballot with an official N.C. Absentee Ballot **Request Form available**

- **Online with “Request an Absentee Ballot” at the Online Absentee Portal available through our website**
- **On paper with the N.C. Absentee Request form available in English and Spanish available through our website**
- **Voters are required to show photo ID to vote**

# Reasonable Impediment

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**1. I cannot get photo ID due to:**

**Lack of transportation**

**Disability or illness**

**Lack of birth certificate or other documents needed to get photo ID**

**Work or school schedule**

**Family responsibilities**

**2. My photo ID is lost, stolen, or misplaced**

**3. I applied for photo ID but have not received it**

**4. Other reasonable impediment to presenting photo ID (you must write the reason if choosing this option):**

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**5. State or federal law prohibits me from listing my reason**

# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

## Voting-Early Voting

- The early voting period for the primary or general election begins on the **third Thursday before election day and ends at 3pm on the Saturday before the election**. All registered voters or eligible individuals in North Carolina may vote in person during this time.
- During early voting, voters may cast a ballot at any early voting site in the county, and would-be voters may same-day register and vote.
- Voters are required to show photo ID to vote

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## Voting-Election Day

- General election sample ballots are available through the [Voter Search Tool](#) on our website
- Vote at your assigned polling location
- Polls are open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. Voters in line at 7:30 p.m. will be able to cast a ballot
- Voters are required to show photo ID to vote



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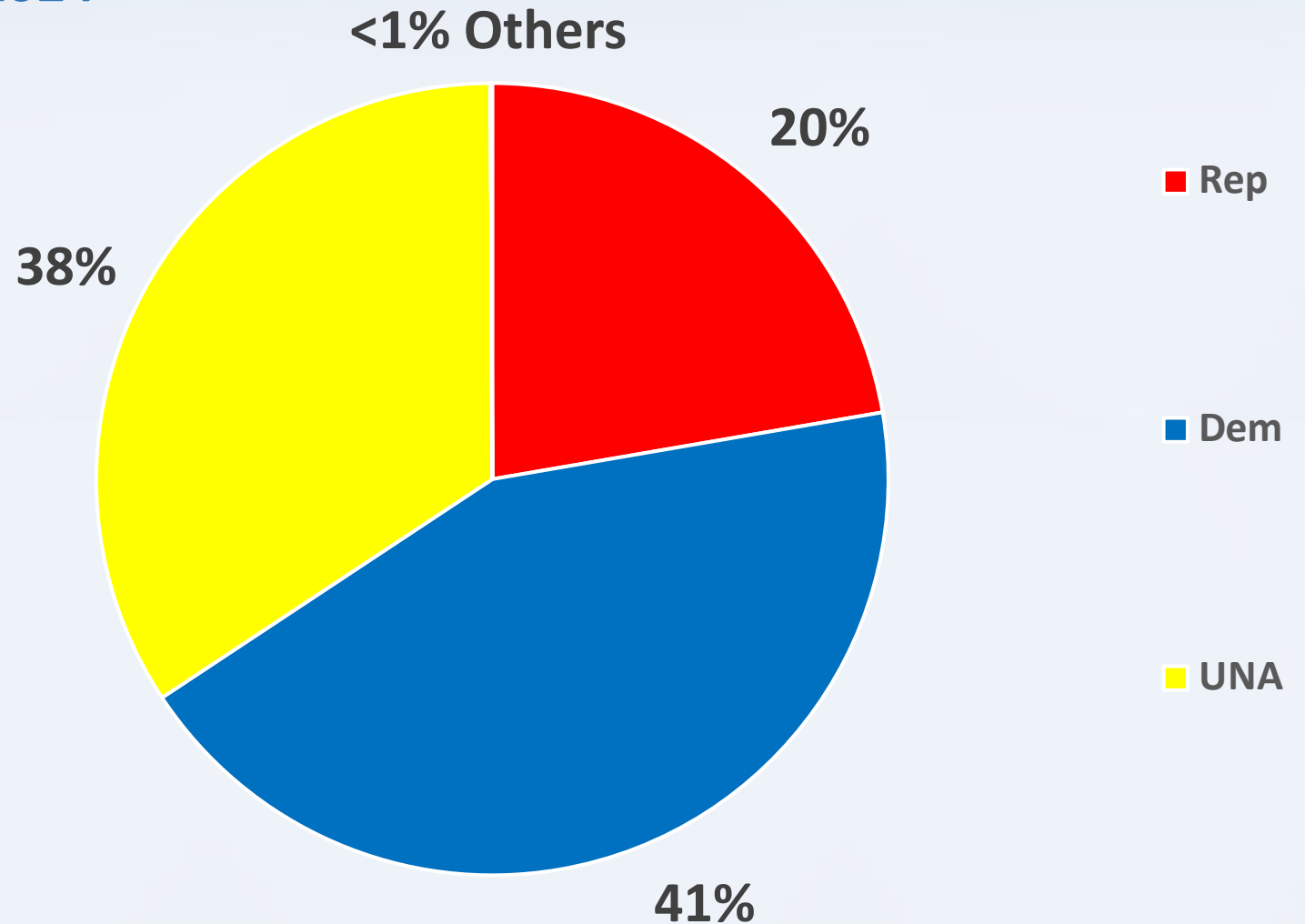
**5. State or federal law prohibits me from listing my reason**

# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

3/16/2024

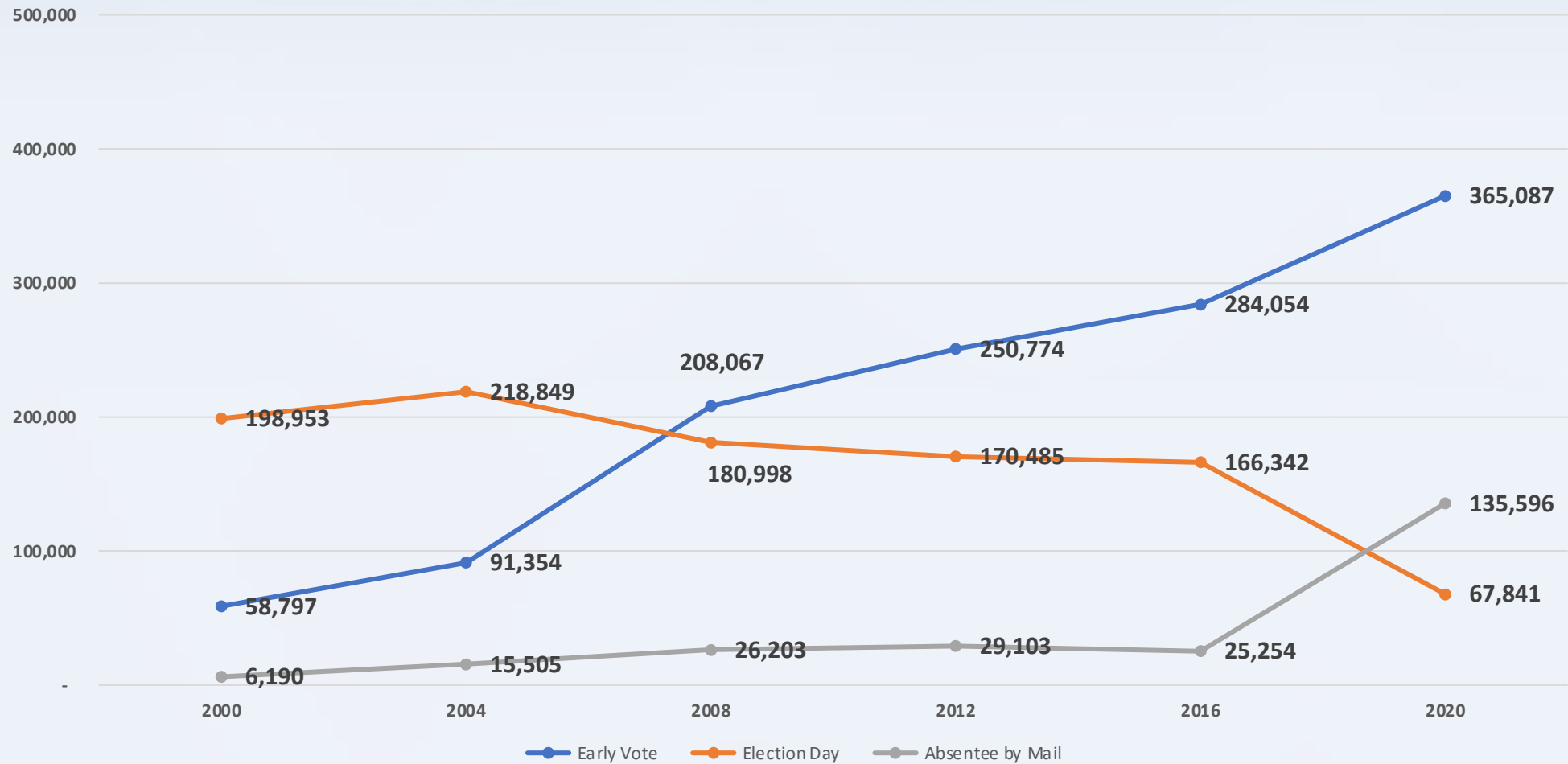
## Party Total

Republican 156,027  
Democratic 322,948  
Unaffiliated 303,179  
Libertarian 5,955  
Green 274  
No Labels 991  
  
Total 789,374



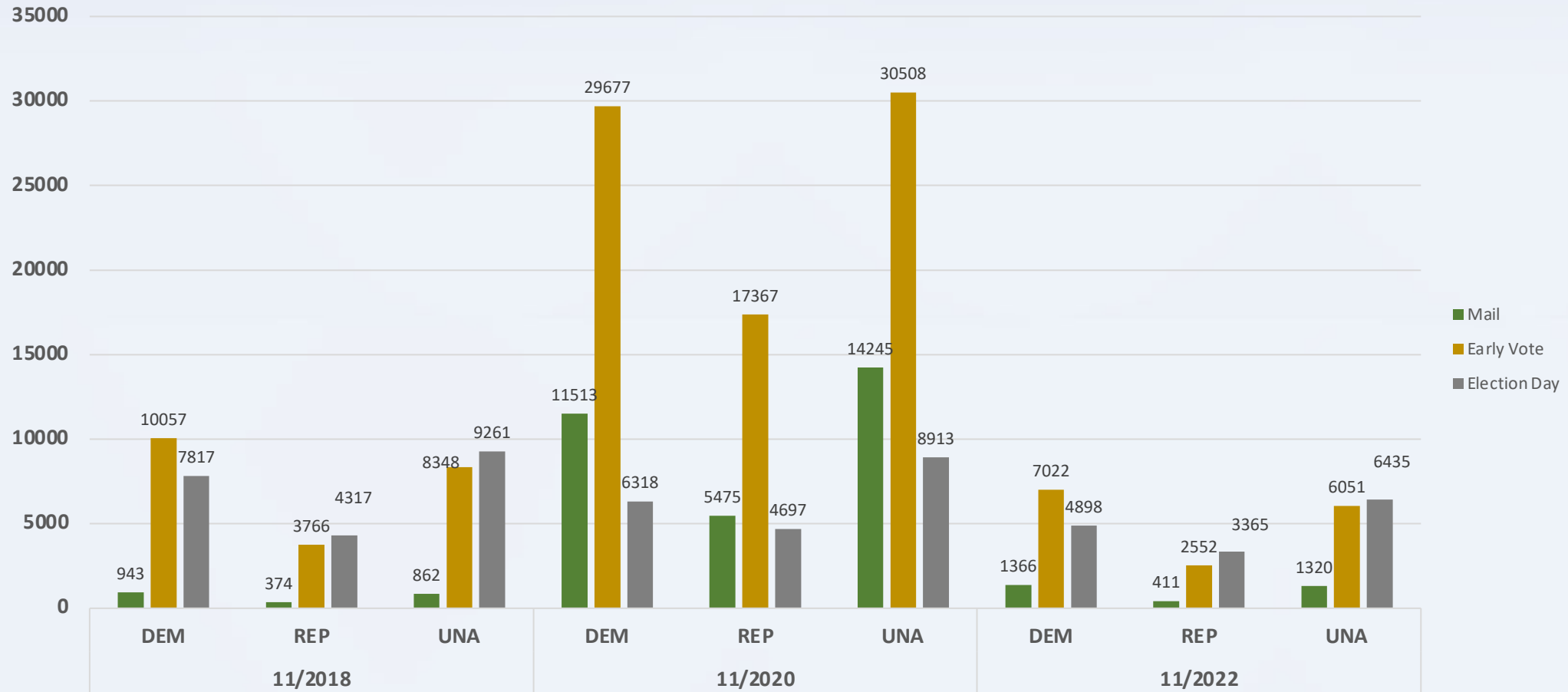
# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

Presidential Mecklenburg



# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

Voting Method 2018 - 2022



# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

Session Law 140 SB747

- Mail-in absentee ballots to be returned to the county board by 7:30 P.M. on the day of the election.
- Require that jurors be citizens of the United States and create a process for voter list maintenance removal of non-citizens reported as disqualified from jury duty.
- Allow chief judges and judges at a precinct to leave the voting place prior to the completion of all duties for an election, and Party to allocate precinct officials for early voting sites, other than the office of the county board, in the same manner as at precincts on election day.
- Require precinct officials to maintain a log of anyone who is not a near relative of the voter who goes into the voter booth to assist the voter in marking that voter's ballot.

# Mecklenburg County Board of Elections

## Session Law 2023-139 SB749

- Three-judge panel of superior court issued a decision striking down the provisions of the law passed last year that would change the composition and appointment of State Board and county boards, and the appointment of the State Board's executive director.
- "Session Law infringes upon the Governor's constitutional duties." (3 Judge Panel Ruling)
- The legislative leadership, who are defendants in the case, can appeal.

# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

## Keeping the vote safe

1. North Carolina elections officials have **no evidence** that any election system or voting system in the state has ever been the target of a successful cyberattack.
2. Elections officials are in regular contact and have strong and growing relationships with **partners in federal and state governments, who assist with cyber and physical security**, share information, plan election events and respond to incidents
3. Under state law, all N.C. voting systems **must use paper ballots**, producing a paper trail that can be audited. In 2020, all 100 counties will use paper ballots.

# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

4. All voting machines used in North Carolina are **certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission after testing by certified laboratories**. They are also certified by the State Board of Elections after additional testing, and all systems certified in North Carolina are certified, used and audited in other states.
5. By state law, **voting machines may not be connected to the internet**, limiting the possibility of cyber interference.
6. Before every election, County Boards of Elections conduct **“logic and accuracy” (L&A) tests of all voting and tabulation equipment** to ensure proper coding of ballots and counting of votes for every contest on the ballot.



# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

7. Every polling place is **staffed with bipartisan, trained officials from the local community who take an oath to uphold state elections laws** and work together to ensure election security. Bipartisan State and County Boards of Elections oversee all aspects of elections.

8. After every election and before results are certified, the State and County Boards of Elections **conduct audits designed to detect irregularities**, such as equipment tampering, ballot stuffing and voting machine or tabulation errors.

9. **North Carolina** is one of a few states with a **dedicated Investigations Division that investigates** reports of fraud and other irregularities and refers cases to prosecutors when warranted by evidence.

# Mecklenburg County Board of Election

Questions?