

Report of Election Day Activities

Mississippi Presidential Preference/ Congressional Primary and Primary Run-Off Elections

March 11, 2008
April 1, 2008



DELBERT HOSEMAN
Mississippi Secretary of State

REPORT OF ELECTION ACTIVITIES

MISSISSIPPI PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE AND CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY

MARCH 11, 2008

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OVERVIEW

On March 11, 2008, approximately 577,315 Mississippians cast ballots to select a nominee in either the Democratic or Republican Presidential Preference Primary. (See Appendices 1a and 1b for further information). In addition, all Mississippians had the opportunity to vote for a nominee for the United States Senate and for a nominee in each of the four United States Congressional races. In some counties, nominees for levee board commissioner were also selected.

According to results certified to the Secretary of State, 434,029 people voted in the Democratic Primary. An additional 143,286 voted in the Republican Primary. This voter turnout reflects a break from the trend of decreasing voter participation over the last five Presidential Preference Primaries. (See Appendix 2).

Conducting party primaries is the responsibility of each county's party executive committee. Executive committees may assign some of their statutory responsibilities to their county's election commission; however, the Secretary of State is not aware of any counties where this occurred.

SECRETARY OF STATE ACTIVITIES *PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY*

Prior to Election Day, the Secretary of State coordinated database building and other technical support for those counties who utilize the Diebold Touch-Screen voting equipment. Approximately 6,900 voting machines were deployed throughout the State, with an estimated 6,000 in actual use. Diebold voting machines were in place in 1,972 precincts.

Six counties use some other form of voting technology. In those counties the following voting systems are used: DeSoto, Lee and Yalobusha Counties use the Election Systems &

Software (ES & S) M100 Optical Mark Reader and the ES&S Auto Mark Precinct Scanner; Rankin County uses the ES & S iVotronic DRE; Hinds County uses the Advance Voting Solutions WINvote DRE; and Harrison County uses a combination of the Premier Election Solutions TSx DRE and the ES&S M100 Optical Mark Reader Precinct Scanner.

SECRETARY OF STATE ACTIVITIES

ELECTION DAY

On Election Day, March 11, 2008, the Secretary of State's Office executed a support plan consisting of two types of coverage. First, the Elections Division maintained a support function through the Elections Division in the office in Jackson, Mississippi. Second, personnel from the Secretary of State's Office were deployed throughout the State to observe the election process, by visiting polling locations and courthouses.

A total of ninety-two (92) telephone calls were made to the Elections Division Answerline seeking assistance or information.² Of these, twenty-two (22) pertained to issues regarding the Diebold Touch-Screen voting equipment. The telephone calls came from elections officials, voters, representatives from individual campaigns, press, and members of the public at-large. Regarding voting technology, the issues ranged from machines not working because they had not been plugged in, to the inability to fully operate a voting machine because the voter-verified paper trail printer would not spool. With the assistance of county technicians provided by Premier, the technology issues identified to the Secretary of State's Office were timely addressed in all cases.

The Secretary of State and sixteen (16) additional Secretary of State personnel were deployed into seventeen (17) counties on election day to observe election day activities.³ (See Appendix 3). The counties were selected to create a uniform geographical distribution while maintaining a regard for the travel and time constraints of staff. Observers from the Secretary of State were received well by both election officials and the public. A post-election survey of circuit clerks confirmed the warm reception.

Observers were asked to select randomly the precinct polling places to visit within their assigned counties. Observers were assigned to note the progress of voting at each individual polling location. Observers were also asked to take note of any procedure that appeared to contravene current federal or state election law. Additionally, observers were provided a questionnaire as an informal survey and to guide conversation with poll workers at the individual polling locations. (See Appendices 4a and 4b).

By Friday, March 21, 2008, the Secretary of State's Office had received certified election results from the State Executive Committee of each party.

² All telephone calls were memorialized in writing and bound into a volume maintained by the Secretary of State. This call log is available for inspection.

³ Alcorn, Bolivar, Choctaw, Claiborne, Copiah, Harrison, Hinds, Humphries, Jasper, Jones, Lafayette, Lawrence, Madison, Prentiss, Scott, Simpson, Warren.

OBSERVATIONS⁴

Polling Locations

Generally, our observers felt that for a small, but significant, number of polling locations, it was difficult to determine upon first arrival that the polling location was actually in use. Some of these polling locations did not have any visible, posted signs to indicate the location of the polling locations and the day of the election. Furthermore, it was noted that some of the polling locations were not compliant with federal laws regarding access for the disabled community. There were polling locations that did not have pavement, making entrance difficult for any potential voter in a wheelchair.

Pollworkers

Pollworkers were found to run the gamut in age and experience from student interns to very experienced pollworkers. Several pollworkers were found with greater than twenty (20) years experience. There was also a large number of pollworkers who were experiencing their first or second election. Generally, these pollworkers felt that they received the training they needed; however, when asked to quantify the number of hours spent in training, those numbers were rather low, normally four (4) hours or less. Some pollworkers specifically asked for greater and more standardized training. Specific training requests were received for setting up voting machines, and opening and closing procedures for pollworkers. Also, in some precincts, pollworkers reported that the training they received was not close enough in time to the election to be completely beneficial to them.

Curbside Voting

Although not statutorily codified, curbside voting was noted at a number of precincts. Pollworkers normally understood that two individuals would take the necessary documents to the voter outside the physical voting location structure and allow that vote to occur.

Voting Technology

Some minor problems with voting machines were reported by our observers. Typically, these involved very minor technology related issues that were either resolved within minutes by pollworkers, or expeditiously by county technicians. The most frequent problem was associated with the external printer. There were some locations where issues that appeared technology-related were actually operator error. Importantly, our observers reported that when voting machines were unable to be in use for voting, sufficient numbers of other voting machines were present to handle the flow of voters.

⁴ Several specific findings were made of conduct that should be addressed. Those specific instances are described in Appendix 5.

Voter Rolls

Many pollworkers noted to our observers that pollbooks did not appear to be accurate. A large number of voters appeared on the books who did not present themselves to vote on Election Day. Likewise, affidavit balloting (for those not on the pollbooks) was frequent.

Contingency Response

In one county where paper ballots are used, insufficient ballots were printed. Because of the forward-positioning of Secretary of State personnel, we were able to be on location quickly, providing secure, accurate, and timely information flow between election officials and the Office of the Secretary of State. It was quickly discovered that the actual voter turn-out was much higher than anticipated, leading to a shortage of ballots. A resolution was quickly reached through consultation with local election officials.

Absentee Balloting

Absentee ballots as a percentage of total votes cast varied widely. Some counties had as high as twelve percent (12%) of their votes cast as absentee ballots. Circuit clerks reported a number of these ballots occurred on the Saturday before the election. Statutory criteria for using absentee ballots prior to the election do not appear to justify such a high percentage of absentee ballots.

Please note that some counties did not report absentee ballot numbers. Counties are not currently required to report absentee ballots activity through the Statewide Elections Management System (SEMS). Non-reporting hinders a complete and accurate assessment of absentee balloting in Mississippi.

Voting Percentage

Thirty-two percent (32%) of registered voters exercised their right to vote. However, twenty-four (24) counties, or thirty percent (30%) of all Mississippi counties have more people registered to vote than are in the 2000 Census for that county.

CONCLUSIONS

Despite the unexpectedly-high number of voters, administration of the 2008 Presidential Preference and Congressional Primary was a success. Adequate resources were available for the Elections Division of the Secretary of State to provide the customary level of support throughout Election Day. This function has been utilized in all previous elections in the institutional memory of the agency.

Positioning personnel from the Secretary of State's office around the State allowed the Secretary of State to observe the election process in-person. The vast majority of election officials appeared to be diligent in discharging their duties. By deploying Secretary of State personnel, we were able to verify that election officials were operating in accordance with the training provided by our Elections Division.

The percentage of voters casting absentee ballots varies from county to county greater than a statistical norm. It is problematic that as much as eleven or twelve percent (11% or 12%) of voters who desire to vote would be absent from a county on election day, over age sixty-five, or otherwise meet the statutory requirements for casting an absentee ballots. Secretary of State employees were not present when absentee ballots were cast. Seven (7) counties did not report their absentee ballot activity to the Secretary of State's office.

Affidavit voting appeared to be conducted generally in a lawful manner. Curbside voting was a general practice before implementation of the change in statute passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor this year, to be effective after preclearance by the U.S. Department of Justice. Several issues regarding the selection of polling locations were noted. Acceptance of federally-mandated voting technology is growing. Further, lessons were learned that will make future elections more successful.

MISSISSIPPI PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE AND CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY RUN-OFF

APRIL 1, 2008

OVERVIEW

On April 1, 2008, approximately 121,213 Mississippians cast ballots in the primary run-off. In the First Congressional District (twenty-four counties), a run-off was held in both the Republican and Democratic parties. In the Third Congressional District (twenty-eight counties), a run-off was held to decide the Republican nominee. There were no other races on the ballot, and no election was held in the Second and Fourth Congressional Districts.

According to the certified results in the Office of the Secretary of State, 36,755 people voted in the Democratic Primary. In the Republican Primary, there were 84,458 voters. (See Appendices 6a and 6b for additional information). This turn-out reflects a decrease of 312,816 from the voter participation during the March 11, 2008 primary, when the entire State had races to be decided.

Conducting party primaries is the responsibility of each county's party executive committee. Executive committees may assign some of their statutory responsibilities to their county's election commission; however, the Secretary of State is not formally aware of any counties where this occurred.

SECRETARY OF STATE ACTIVITIES *PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY*

Prior to Election Day, the Secretary of State coordinated database building and other technical support for those counties who utilize the Diebold Touch-Screen voting equipment. Five of the counties participating in this primary used some other form of voting technology. In those counties the following voting systems were used: DeSoto, Lee and Yalobusha Counties use the Election Systems & Software (ES & S) M100 Optical Mark Reader and the ES&S Auto Mark Precinct Scanner; Rankin County uses the ES & S iVotronic DRE; and Hinds County uses the Advance Voting Solutions WINvote DRE.

SECRETARY OF STATE ACTIVITIES *ELECTION DAY*

On the run-off Election Day, April 1, 2008, the Secretary of State's Office executed a support plan similar in nature to the primary election. The Elections Division maintained its

standard support function through the Elections Division in the office in Jackson, Mississippi. Personnel from the Secretary of State's Office were also deployed throughout the State to observe the election process, by visiting polling locations and courthouses.

A total of eleven (11) telephone calls were made to the Elections Division Answerline seeking assistance or information.⁵ None of these pertained to issues regarding the Diebold Touch-Screen voting equipment. Largely, the inquiries regarded the propriety of cross-over voting. There was some confusion about whether voters who voted in one party's primary on March 11 could vote in the April 1 run-off election of the other party.

Eight (8) Secretary of State personnel were deployed into eleven (11) counties on election day to observe election day activities.⁶ (See Appendix 7). The counties were selected to create a uniform geographical distribution while maintaining a regard for the travel and time constraints of staff. Consideration was also given to visit counties that were not visited in the last election. Observers from the Secretary of State were received well by both election officials and the public.

Observers were again asked to select randomly the precinct polling places to visit within their assigned counties, in the event that they could not visit each location. Observers assessed the progress of voting at each individual polling location. Observers also took note of any procedure that appeared to contravene federal or state election law. Specifically, observers were asked to note any potential difficulties for physically disabled individuals, including whether polling locations were compliant with federal law regarding access. Additionally, observers were provided a questionnaire as an informal survey and to guide conversation with poll workers at the individual polling locations. (See Appendices 4a and 4b).

By April 21, 2008, the Secretary of State's Office had received certified election results from the State Executive Committee of each party.

OBSERVATIONS⁷

Polling Locations

Most polling locations were accessible to physically disabled voters. As with the primary election, polling locations were not always clearly marked as a polling location. Because voter turn-out was relatively low, many pollworkers felt that locations could have been consolidated to save funds expended in staffing the polling locations.

In addition, many polling locations were local schools. The selection of schools was questioned by many observers because of safety issues. Particularly among the elementary schools visited, it was apparent that children were being exposed to individuals not ordinarily on

⁵ All telephone calls were memorialized in writing and bound into a volume maintained by the Secretary of State. This call log is available for inspection.

⁶ Amite, Covington, DeSoto, Grenada, Kemper, Lauderdale, Lee, Monroe, Rankin, Tate, and Yalobusha.

⁷ Several specific findings were made of conduct that should be addressed. Those specific instances are enumerated in Appendix 5.

campus. The selection of schools also brought into question the adequacy of parking, especially in anticipation of a very large voter turn-out in the November general election.

Furthermore, concerns over the comfort level of pollworkers were noted. In some polling locations, there was no air conditioning or heating. Again, this concern did not have as great an impact on the election as it might in the November general election.

Pollworkers

Many of the pollworkers had a great deal of experience and training. At least one pollworker was noted who had actively participated as a pollworker for at least twenty-eight years. Of course, several were working in their first or second election. Pollworkers consistently noted that the minimum compensation mandated by state law appeared to be below the federal minimum wage.

Curbside Voting

Curbside voting was seen at a number of precincts. Pollworkers understood that two individuals would take the necessary documents to the voter outside the physical voting location structure and allow that vote to occur. Often, experienced pollworkers knew their potential curbside voters because the voters had voted in previous elections.

Affidavit Voting

Federal law requires that voters who cast affidavit ballots must be informed of their right to contact the appropriate election officials to determine if their ballots were counted, and if not, why their ballots were not counted. This must be a method that is at no cost to the voter.

Although not faced with it on election day, it was apparent in some counties that pollworkers were not prepared to handle such a requirement. Many did not have any information in a printed format, and many of them were not aware of the requirement.

Cross-Over Voting

As noted above, cross-over voting occurs when a voter who voted in one party in the primary election chooses to vote in the run-off election of the other party. The Mississippi Attorney General has opined that this practice is illegal.

This practice seems to have raised the greatest level of confusion during this run-off election cycle. In some locations, pollworkers had no clear understanding of the law itself. For instance, it was noted that some pollworkers attempted to refuse to allow voters to vote unless they had voted in the primary election. They interpreted the cross-over voting prohibition to mean that only voters who voted in the primary could vote in the run-off election, regardless of party.

Another source of confusion was noted in determining how a voter had voted in the primary election. Most counties print two sets of pollbooks; one for the Republican primary and one for the Democratic primary. In some of those counties, the parties exchange books to record

voters in the run-off election. Because the voter turn-out was low, in some counties, it was easy for both parties to look up the potential voter as he or she presented themselves to vote. There were a number of different methods employed by the individual counties.

Use of Cellular Telephones in Polling Locations

In some cases, cellular telephones were being used by voters as they cast votes. In at least one county, there is a policy that cellular telephones may not be used while in the polling location. Concerns were raised about the possibility of intimidation or monitoring through the use of the cellular telephones.

Advance Preparation

Although some of the voting system technology requires security processes that may not be conducted early, it was noted by observers that many activities (such as placing posters on the walls, physically arranging the voting location, etc.) can be undertaken in advance of the election day. Because of the length of the election day, it has become apparent that any advance preparations that can be made, should be made the night before the election. This will reduce, and perhaps eliminate, the possibility that polling places will open later than 7 a.m.

CONCLUSIONS

By placing observers throughout the State, the Office of the Secretary of State was able to note deviations from standard election practices. Local election officials should be trained further on their duties relating to affidavit voting and the law relating to cross-over voting. Consideration should be given to advance preparation of polling locations, including the propriety of the location itself. Cross-over voting can be prevented better by standardized procedures throughout the counties. Further prohibitions on the use of cellular telephones in a voting location should be considered.

Appendix 1a
VOTER TURNOUT STATISTICS
for the March 11, 2008 Primary Election

Description	Adams	Alcorn	Amite	Attala	Benton	Bolivar	Calhoun
Total Active Registered Voters	20,979	22,292	10,374	12,783	6,589	27,983	9,927
Democratic County Total	6,363	4,925	2,805	3,554	1,640	6,677	2,735
Republican County Total	1,370	1,279	1,006	688	175	349	825
Total Votes Cast Per County	7,733	6,204	3,811	4,242	1,815	7,026	3,560
Voter Turnout %	37%	28%	37%	33%	28%	25%	36%
Absentee Ballot Cast	222	60	154	134	76	110	154
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	3%	1%	4%	3%	4%	2%	4%

Description	Carroll	Chickasaw	Choctaw	Claiborne	Clarke	Clay	Coahoma
Total Active Registered Voters	7,693	12,374	5,771	8,170	12,056	13,420	15,893
Democratic County Total	2,022	4,020	1,480	2,814	2,792	4,880	5,088
Republican County Total	274	713	611	44	1,081	932	144
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,296	4,733	2,091	2,858	3,873	5,812	5,232
Voter Turnout %	30%	38%	36%	35%	32%	43%	33%
Absentee Ballot Cast	62	169	68	354	163	299	255
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	3%	4%	3%	12%	4%	5%	5%

Description	Copiah	Covington	DeSoto	Forrest	Franklin	George	Greene
Total Active Registered Voters	18,699	13,633	70,543	36,873	6,014	14,619	7,854
Democratic County Total	5,834	3,341	10,058	9,592	1,578	2,288	1,856
Republican County Total	984	806	11,828	1,474	645	701	432
Total Votes Cast Per County	6,818	4,147	21,886	11,066	2,223	2,989	2,288
Voter Turnout %	36%	30%	31%	30%	37%	20%	29%
Absentee Ballot Cast	185	92	842	1	107	83	109
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	3%	2%	4%	0%	5%	3%	5%

Appendix 1a

Description	Grenada	Hancock	Harrison	Hinds	Holmes	Humphreys	Issaquena
Total Active Registered Voters	16,474	26,313	88,113	138,653	13,176	9,625	1,746
Democratic County Total	3,637	4,314	18,683	53,942	5,028	2,387	450
Republican County Total	1,011	1,024	4,312	9,492	168	70	31
Total Votes Cast Per County	4,648	5,338	22,995	63,434	5,196	2,457	481
Voter Turnout %	28%	20%	26%	46%	39%	26%	28%
Absentee Ballot Cast	220	159	787	696	264	166	19
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	5%	3%	3%	1%	5%	7%	4%

Description	Itawamba	Jackson	Jasper	Jefferson	Jeff-Davis	Jones	Kemper
Total Active Registered Voters	15,007	75,404	11,554	7,082	11,081	40,366	7,710
Democratic County Total	3,418	14,737	4,163	2,616	3,394	10,393	2,313
Republican County Total	1,256	5,135	480	51	623	1,730	647
Total Votes Cast Per County	4,674	19,872	4,643	2,667	4,017	12,123	2,960
Voter Turnout %	31%	26%	40%	38%	36%	30%	38%
Absentee Ballot Cast	79	202	99	114	4	n/a	133
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	2%	1%	2%	4%	0%		4%

Description	Lafayette	Lamar	Lauderdale	Lawrence	Leake	Lee	Leflore
Total Active Registered Voters	21,363	27,979	40,306	9,796	16,257	49,556	26,604
Democratic County Total	5,115	5,260	8,764	2,493	3,335	11,679	4,601
Republican County Total	2,441	1,383	7,546	889	952	5,529	355
Total Votes Cast Per County	7,556	6,643	16,310	3,382	4,287	17,208	4,956
Voter Turnout %	35%	24%	40%	35%	26%	35%	19%
Absentee Ballot Cast	535	184	966	102	113	389	145
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	7%	3%	6%	3%	3%	2%	3%

n/a - absentee ballot information not provided by county

Appendix 1a

Description	Lincoln	Lowndes	Madison	Marion	Marshall	Monroe	Montgomery
Total Active Registered Voters	25,404	40,970	70,883	17,616	18,444	23,783	7,958
Democratic County Total							
Republican County Total	4,880	9,146	13,407	4,168	6,266	7,061	2,362
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,369	4,068	10,381	818	1,203	1,750	312
Voter Turnout %	7,249	13,214	23,788	4,986	7,469	8,811	2,674
	29%	32%	34%	28%	40%	37%	34%
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	271	93	486	102	175	n/a	286
	4%	1%	2%	2%	2%		11%

Description	Neshoba	Newton	Noxubee	Oktibbeha	Panola	Pearl River	Perry
Total Active Registered Voters	15,038	11,774	10,174	24,334	19,473	30,558	8,354
Democratic County Total							
Republican County Total	2,866	2,761	2,890	6,235	5,830	4,515	1,937
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,354	2,118	411	2,411	1,244	1,826	207
Voter Turnout %	5,220	4,879	3,301	8,646	7,074	6,341	2,144
	35%	41%	32%	36%	36%	21%	26%
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	n/a	94	n/a	441	263	244	72
		2%		5%	4%	4%	3%

Description	Pike	Pontotoc	Prentiss	Quitman	Rankin	Scott	Sharkey
Total Active Registered Voters	24,567	17,597	17,223	5,890	74,867	22,481	5,042
Democratic County Total							
Republican County Total	6,940	3,741	5,033	2,072	10,737	4,007	1,292
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,261	1,894	839	49	19,137	1,641	76
Voter Turnout %	9,201	5,635	5,872	2,121	29,874	5,648	1,368
	37%	32%	34%	36%	40%	25%	27%
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	195	150	321	230	498	72	64
	2%	3%	5%	11%	2%	1%	5%

n/a - absentee ballot information not provided by county

Appendix 1a

Description	Simpson	Smith	Stone	Sunflower	Tallahatchie	Tate	Tippah
Total Active Registered Voters	17,246	12,122	9,218	14,525	13,399	17,008	18,349
Democratic County Total							
Republican County Total	4,028	2,280	2,258	4,978	3,012	3,694	3,322
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,243	1,247	464	269	206	1,572	1,030
Voter Turnout %	6,271	3,527	2,722	5,247	3,218	5,266	4,352
	36%	29%	30%	36%	24%	31%	24%
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	13	40	52	n/a	103	13	77
	0%	1%	2%		3%	0%	2%

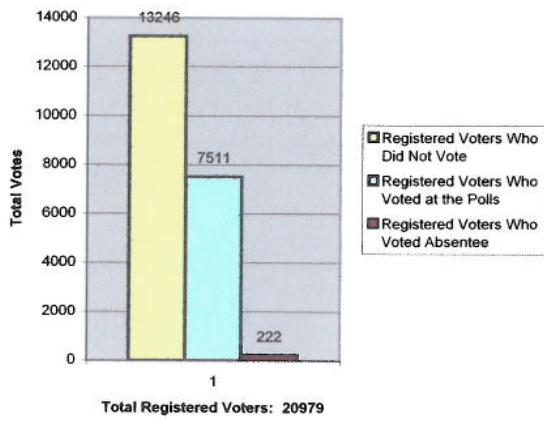
Description	Tishomingo	Tunica	Union	Walthall	Warren	Washington	Wayne
Total Active Registered Voters	12,216	6,581	16,385	13,682	35,510	26,200	13,985
Democratic County Total							
Republican County Total	3,024	1,505	3,669	2,669	7,731	7,816	4,023
Total Votes Cast Per County	847	38	1,536	751	1,533	386	470
Voter Turnout %	3,871	1,543	5,205	3,420	9,264	8,202	4,493
	32%	23%	32%	25%	26%	31%	32%
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	171	32	217	n/a	350	150	n/a
	4%	2%	4%				

Description	Webster	Wilkinson	Winston	Yalobusha	Yazoo	TOTAL
Total Active Registered Voters	7,532	10,154	14,709	9,583	17,910	1,787,448
Democratic County Total						
Republican County Total	1,715	2,148	3,688	2,646	4,742	434,158
Total Votes Cast Per County	977	222	1,345	703	781	145,475
Voter Turnout %	2,692	2,370	5,033	3,349	5,523	579,633
	36%	23%	34%	35%	31%	32%
Absentee Ballot Cast						
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	101	n/a	184	80	141	14,856
	4%		4%	2%	3%	3%

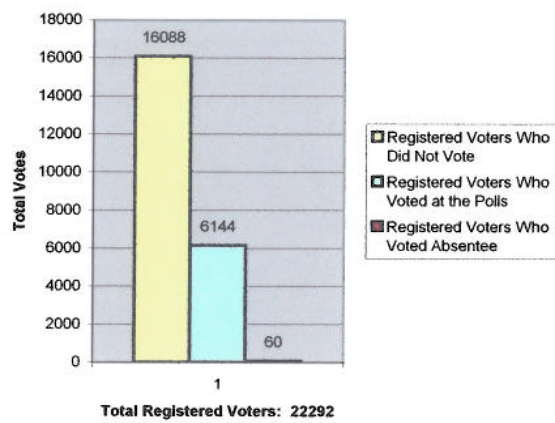
n/a - absentee ballot information not provided by county

Appendix 1b

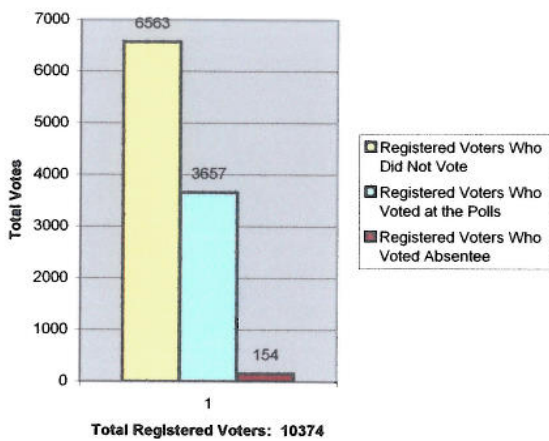
Adams County: Voter Turnout



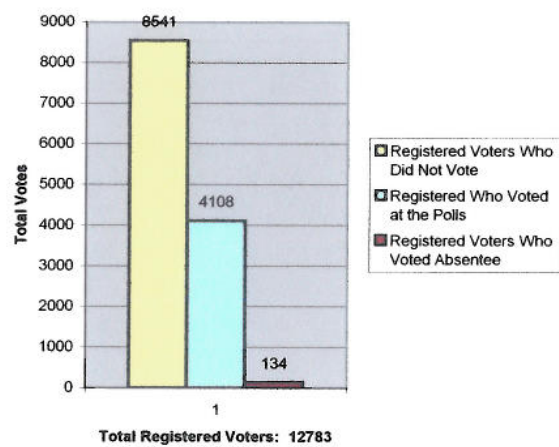
Alcorn County: Voter Turnout



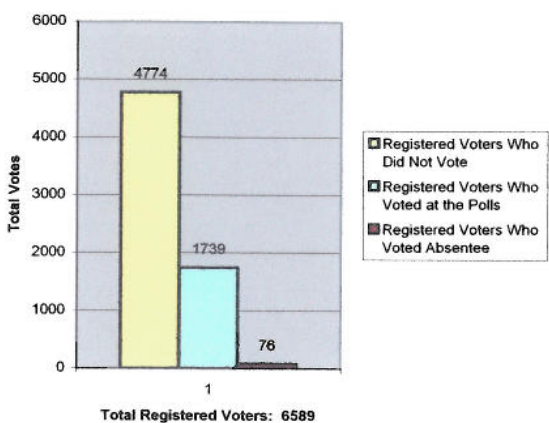
Amite County: Voter Turnout



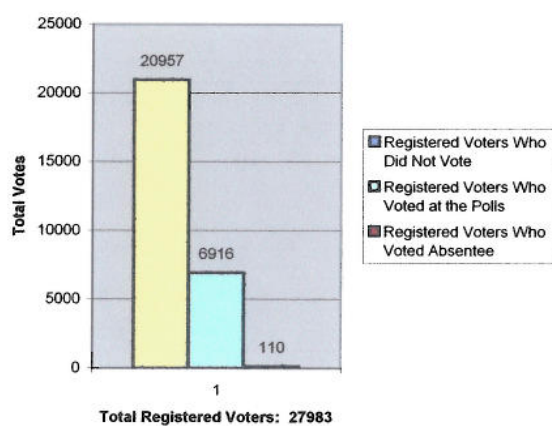
Attala County: Voter Turnout



Benton County: Voter Turnout

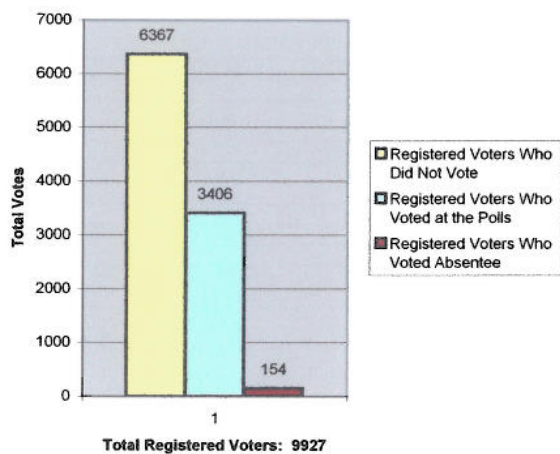


Bolivar County: Voter Turnout

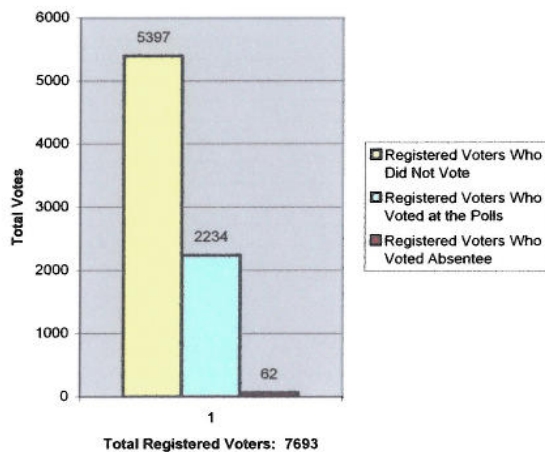


Appendix 1b

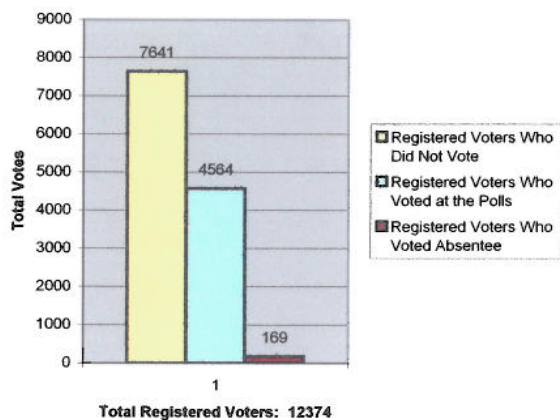
Calhoun County: Voter Turnout



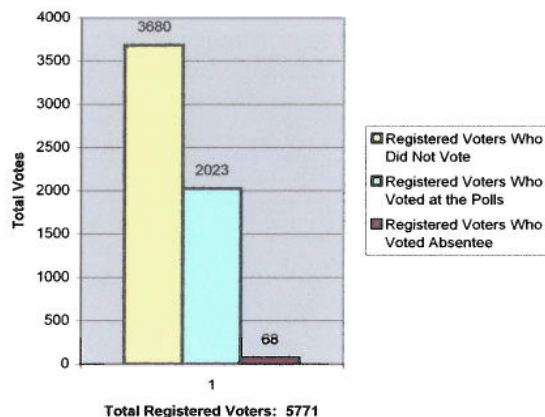
Carroll County: Voter Turnout



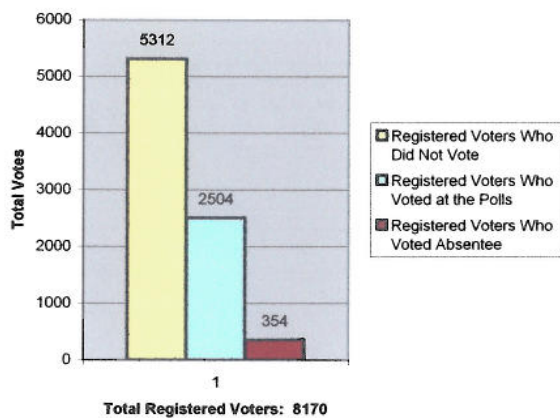
Chickasaw County: Voter Turnout



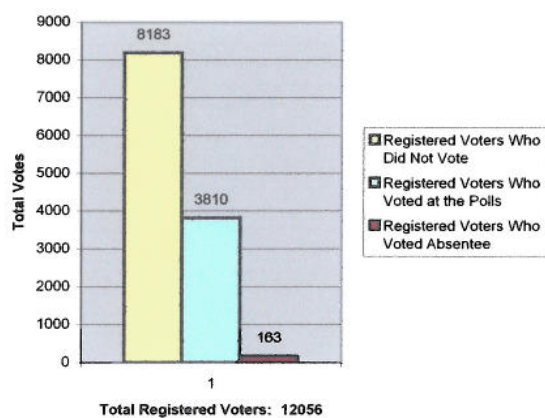
Choctaw County: Voter Turnout



Claiborne County: Voter Turnout

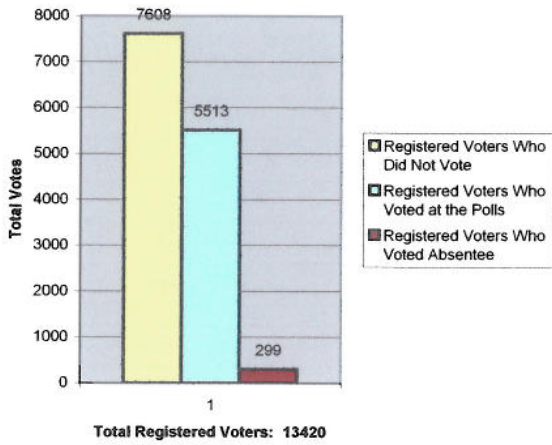


Clarke County: Voter Turnout

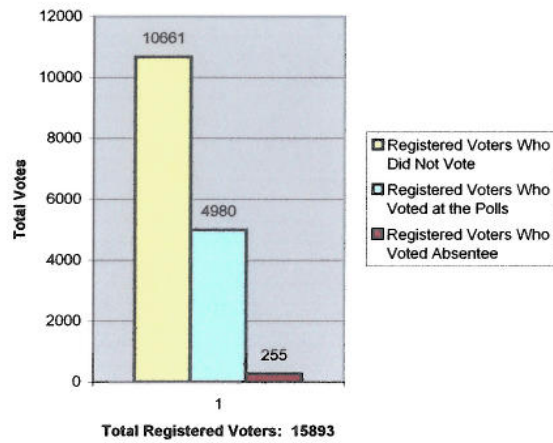


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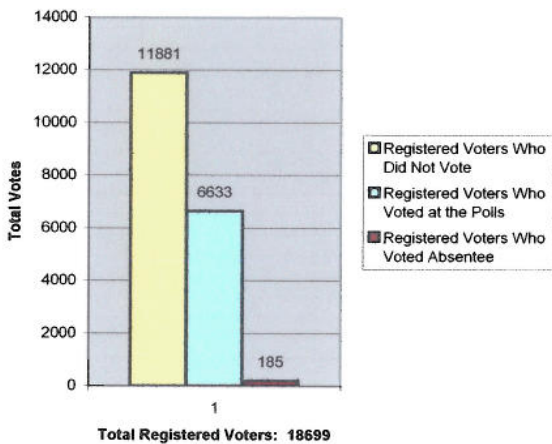
Clay County: Voter Turnout



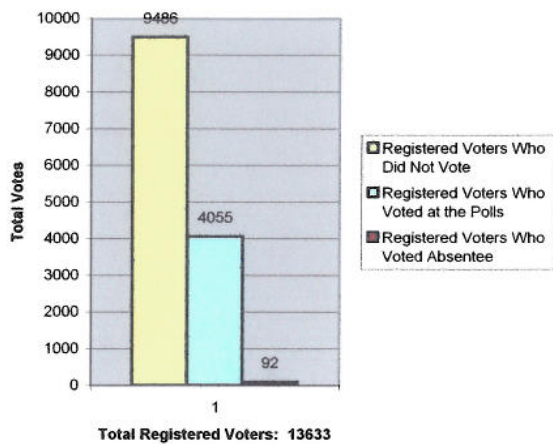
Coahoma County: Voter Turnout



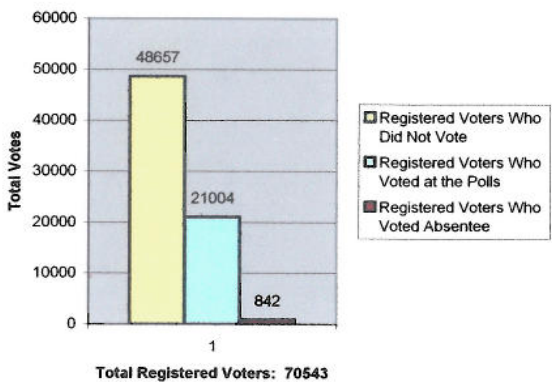
Copiah County: Voter Turnout



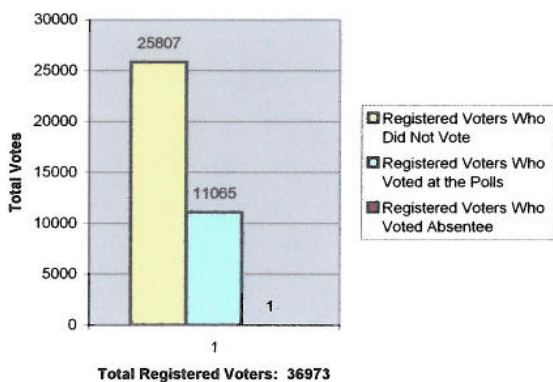
Covington County: Voter Turnout



DeSoto County: Voter Turnout

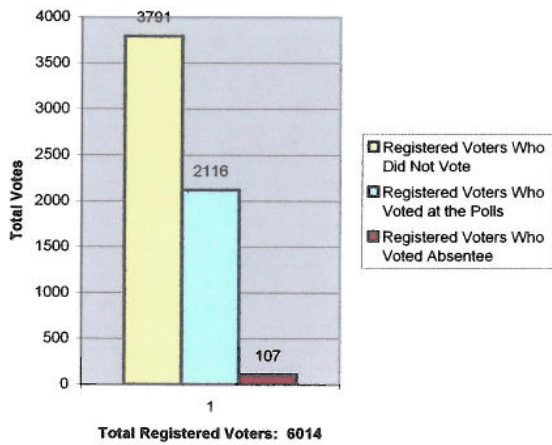


Forrest County: Voter Turnout

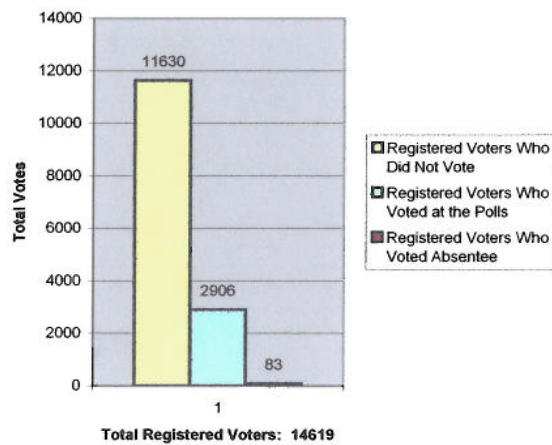


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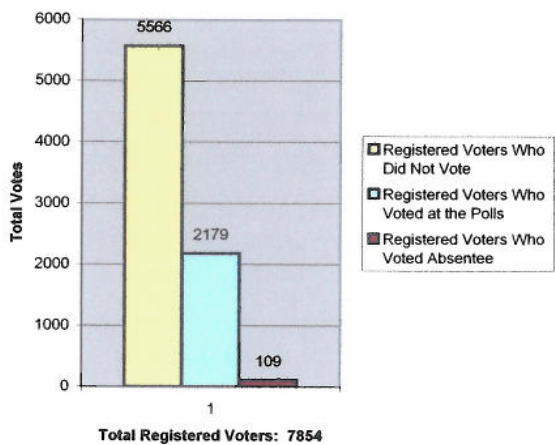
Franklin County: Voter Turnout



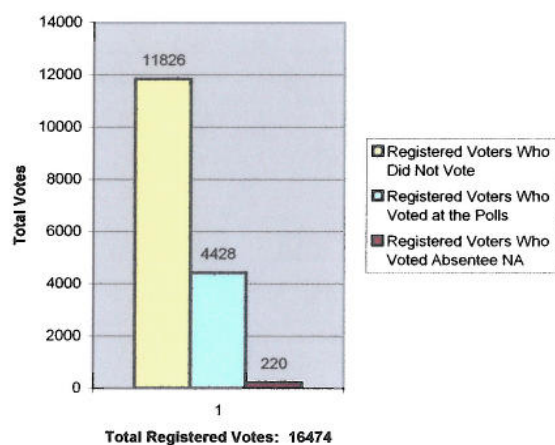
George County: Voter Turnout



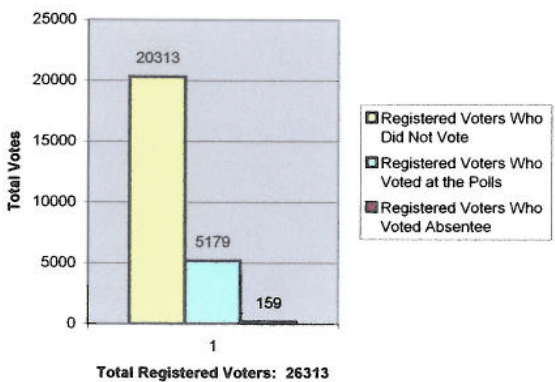
Greene County: Voter Turnout



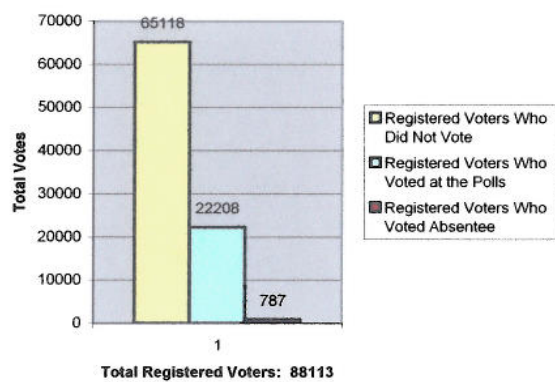
Grenada County: Voter Turnout



Hancock County: Voter Turnout

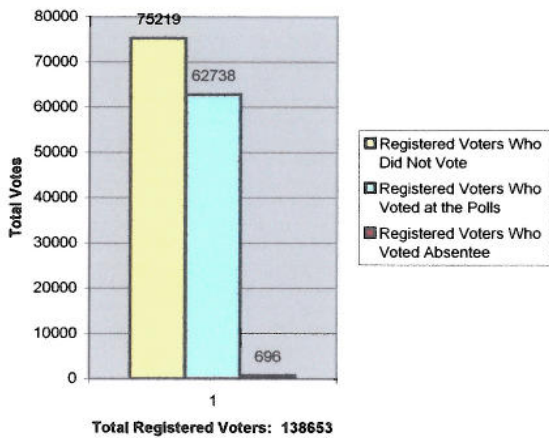


Harrison County: Voter Turnout

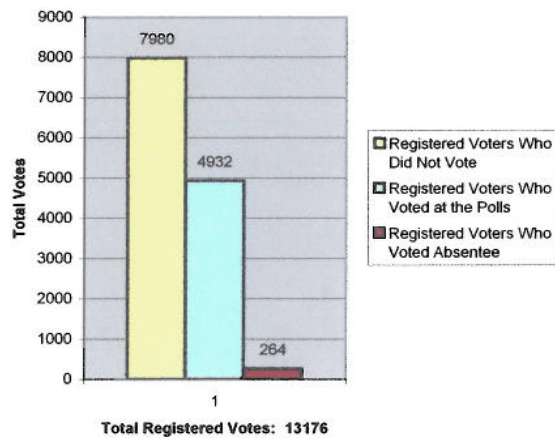


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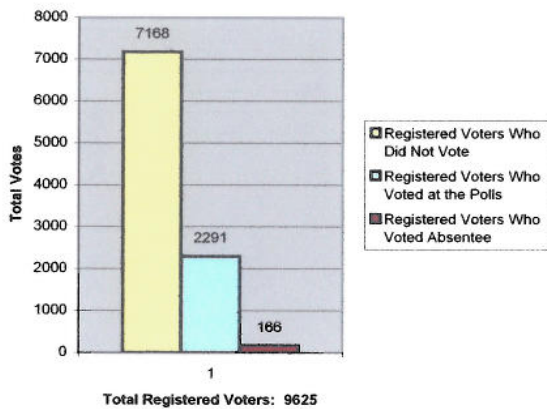
Hinds County: Voter Turnout



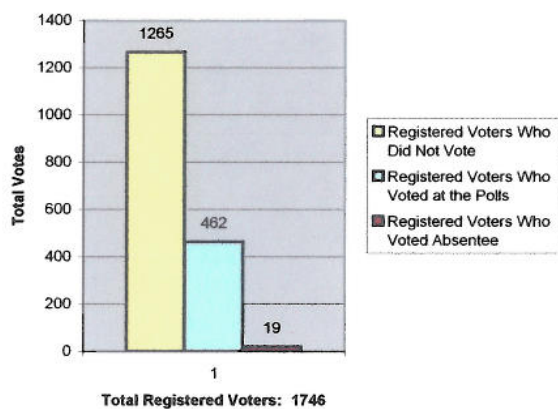
Holmes County: Voter Turnout



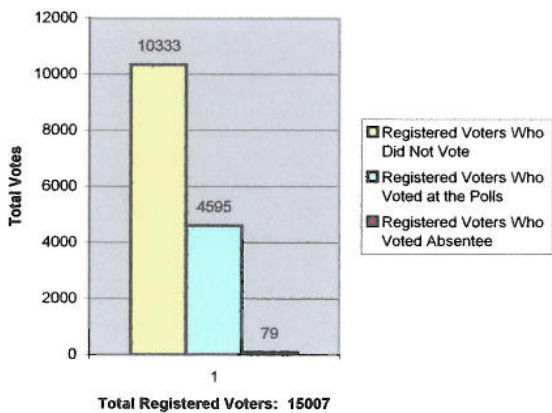
Humphreys County: Voter Turnout



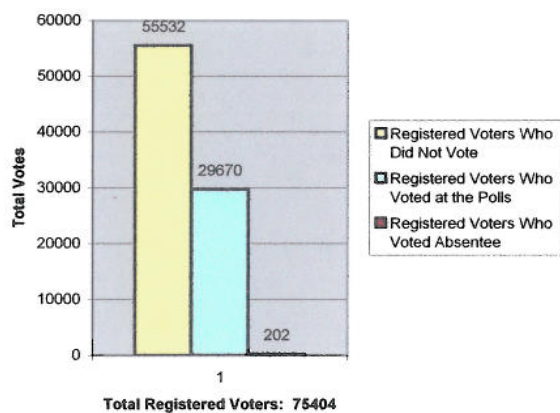
Issaquena County: Voter Turnout



Itawamba County: Voter Turnout

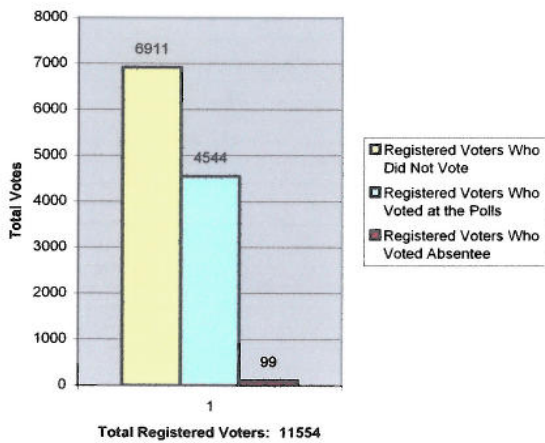


Jackson County: Voter Turnout

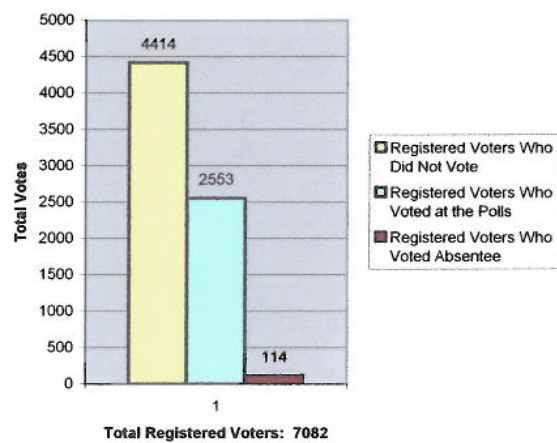


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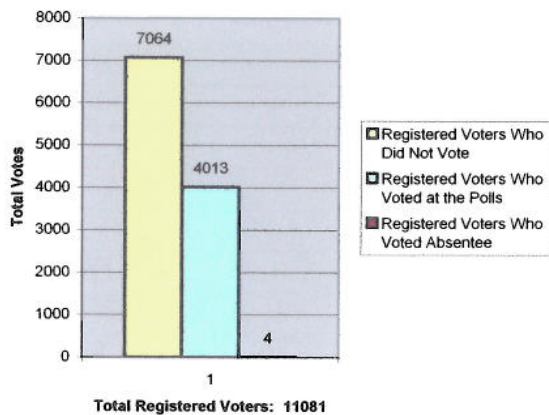
Jasper County: Voter Turnout



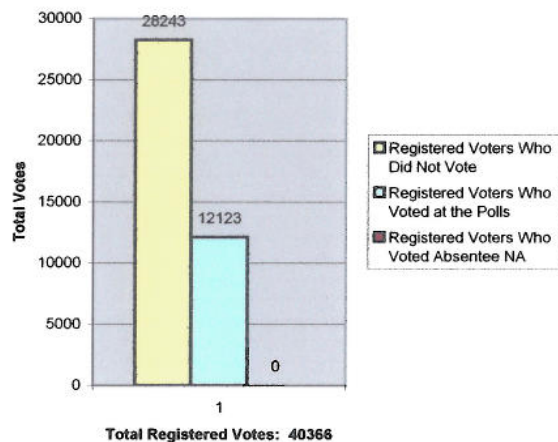
Jefferson County: Voter Turnout



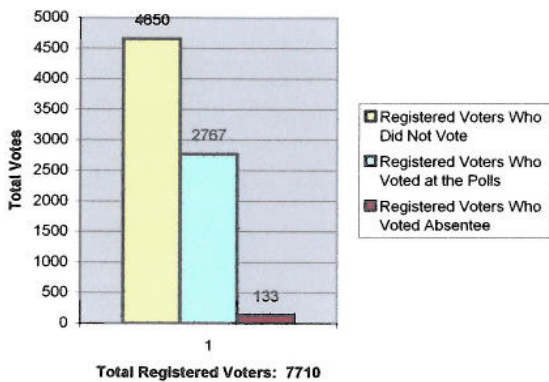
Jefferson Davis County: Voter Turnout



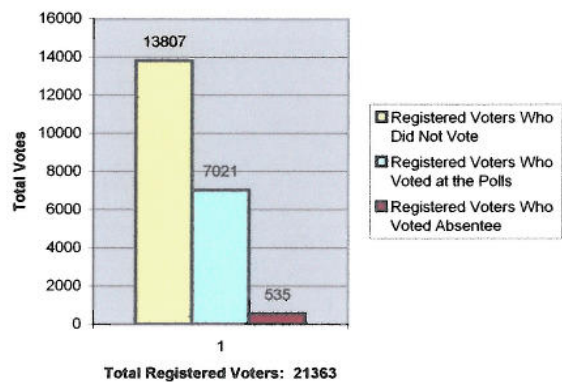
Jones County: Voter Turnout



Kemper County: Voter Turnout

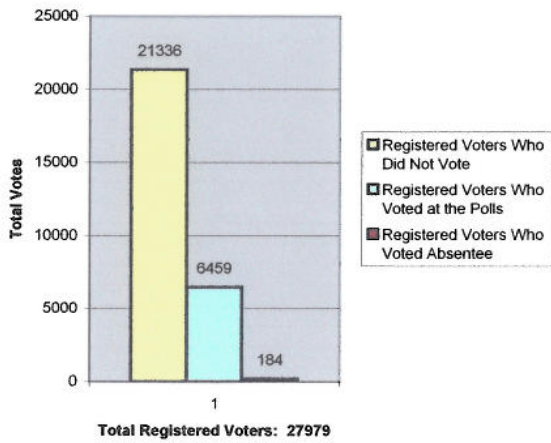


Lafayette County: Voter Turnout

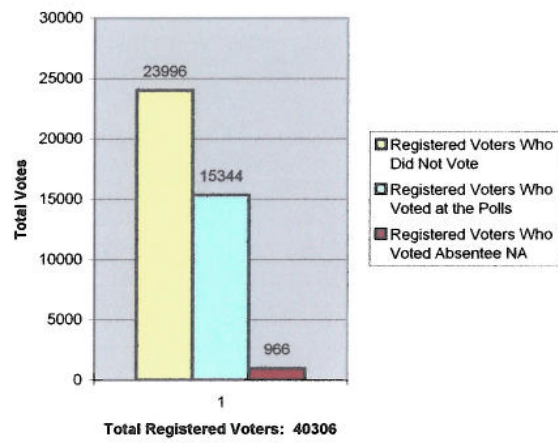


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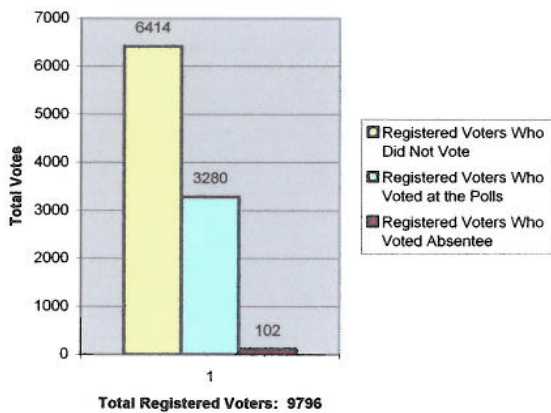
Lamar County: Voter Turnout



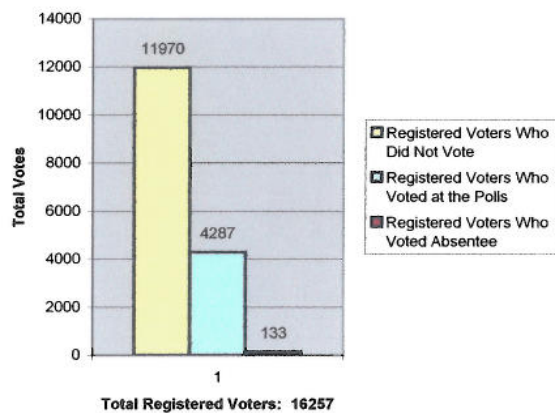
Lauderdale County: Voter Turnout



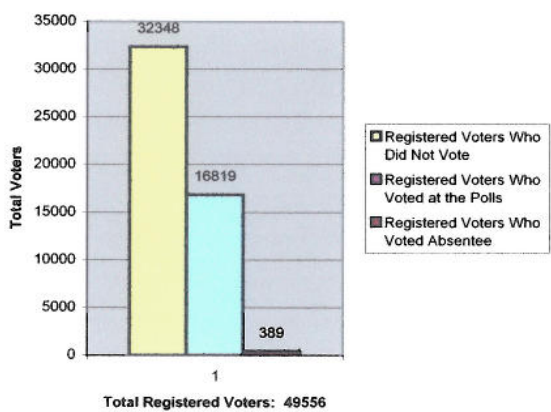
Lawrence County: Voter Turnout



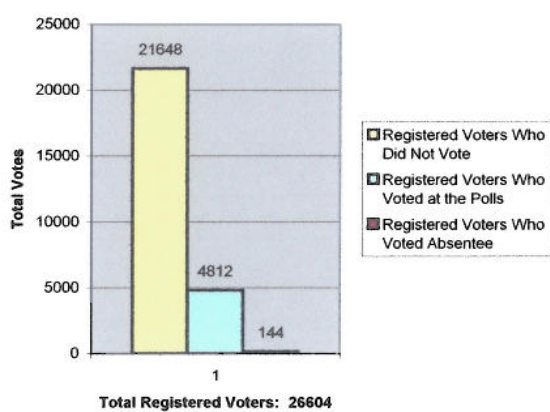
Leake County: Voter Turnout



Lee County: Voter Turnout

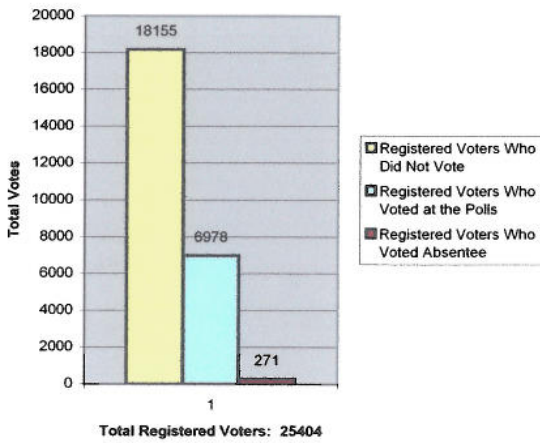


Leflore County: Voter Turnout

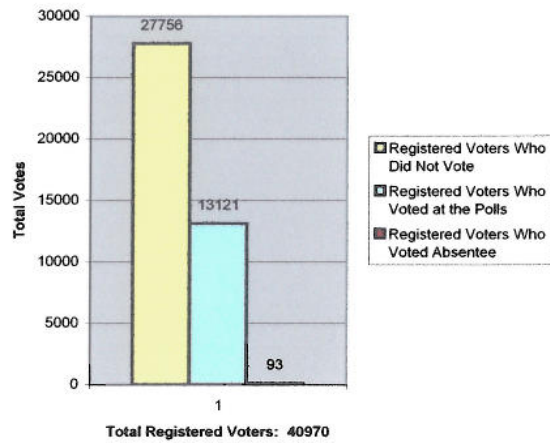


Appendix 1b

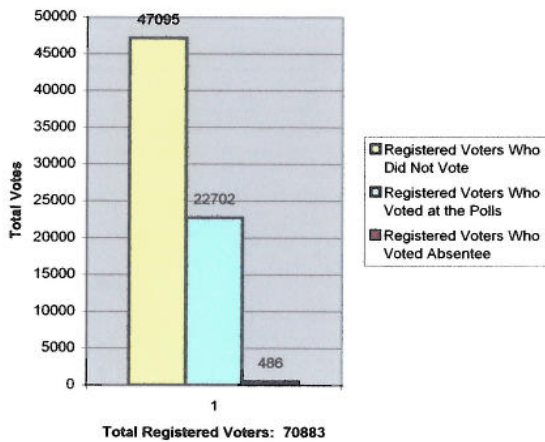
Lincoln County: Voter Turnout



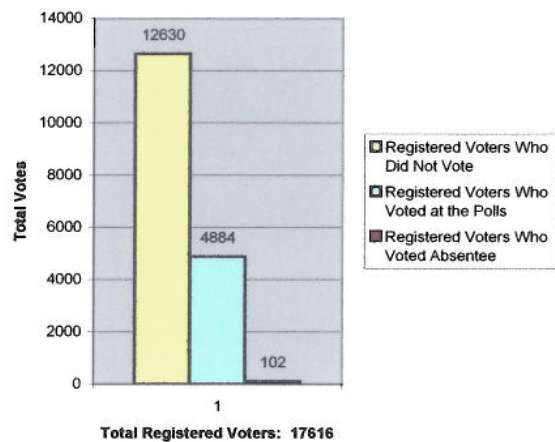
Lowndes County: Voter Turnout



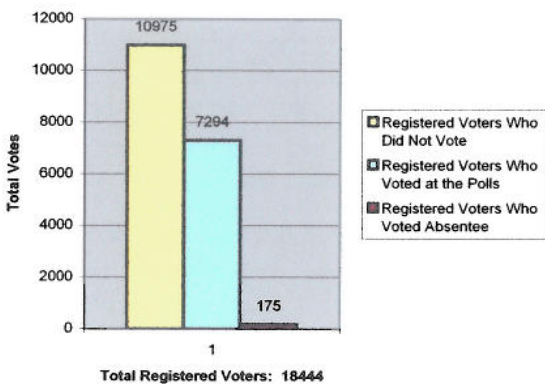
Madison County: Voter Turnout



Marion County: Voter Turnout



Marshall County: Voter Turnout

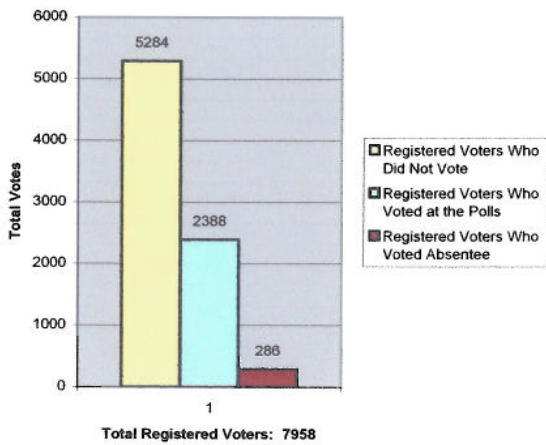


Monroe County: Voter Turnout

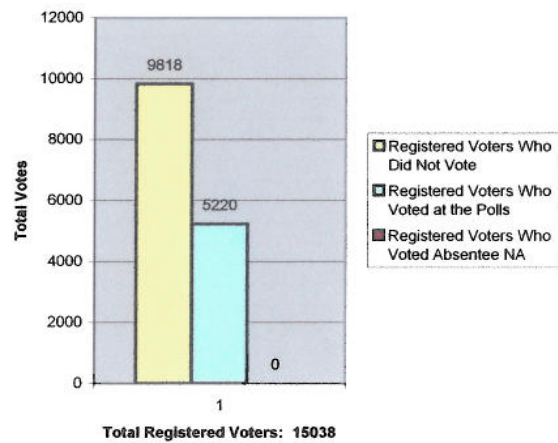


Appendix 1b

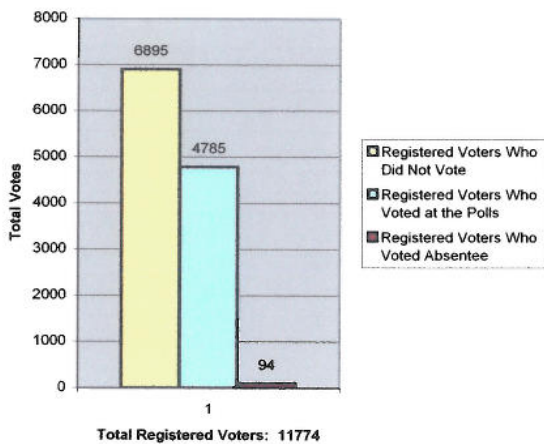
Montgomery County: Voter Turnout



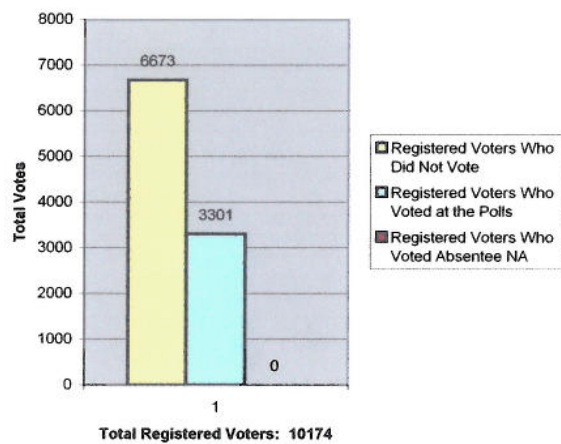
Neshoba County: Voter Turnout



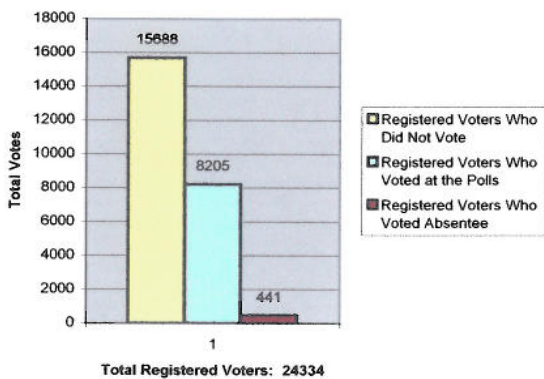
Newton County: Voter Turnout



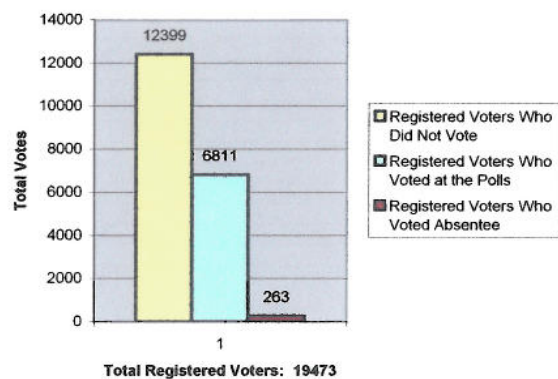
Noxubee County: Voter Turnout



Oktibbeha County: Voter Turnout

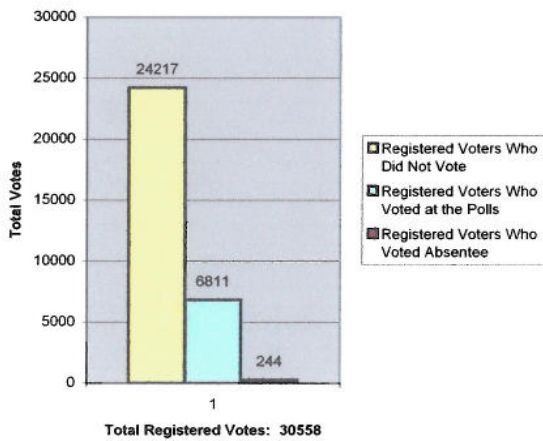


Panola County: Voter Turnout

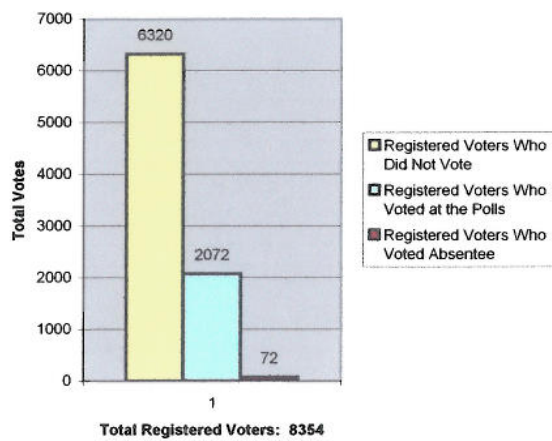


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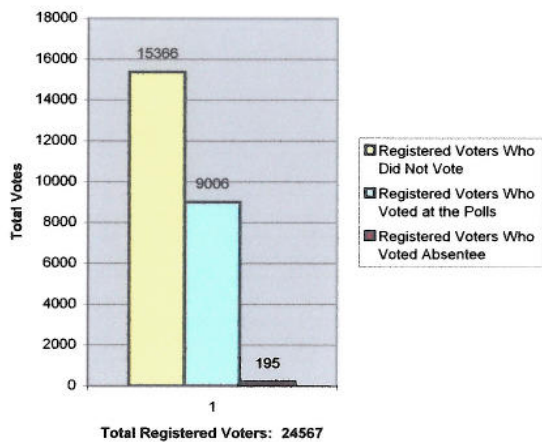
Pearl River County: Voter Turnout



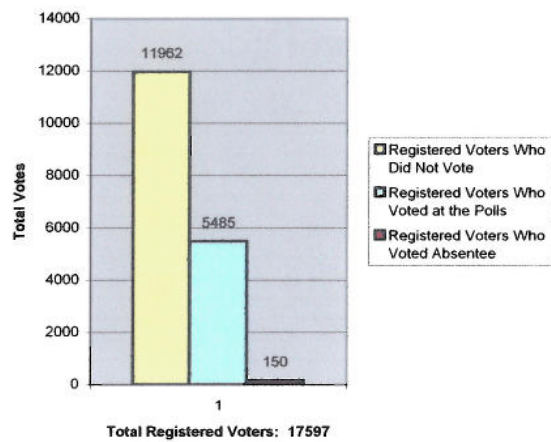
Perry County: Voter Turnout



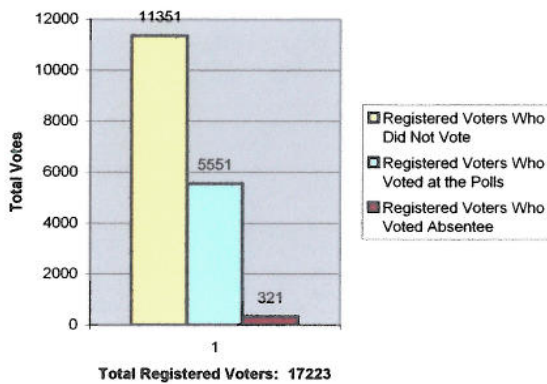
Pike County: Voter Turnout



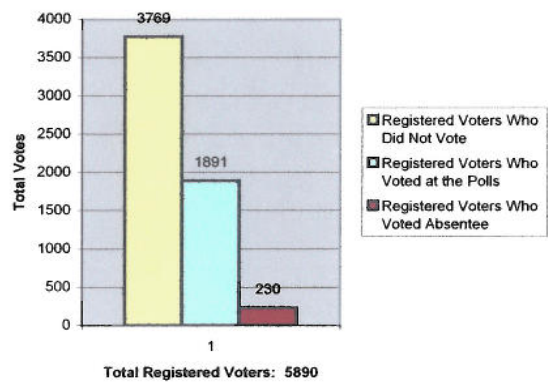
Pontotoc County: Voter Turnout



Prentiss County: Voter Turnout

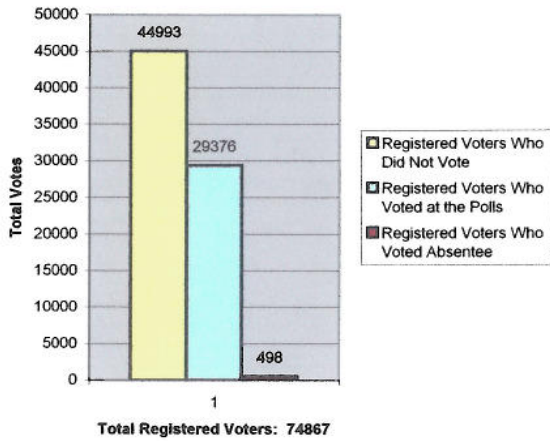


Quitman County: Voter Turnout

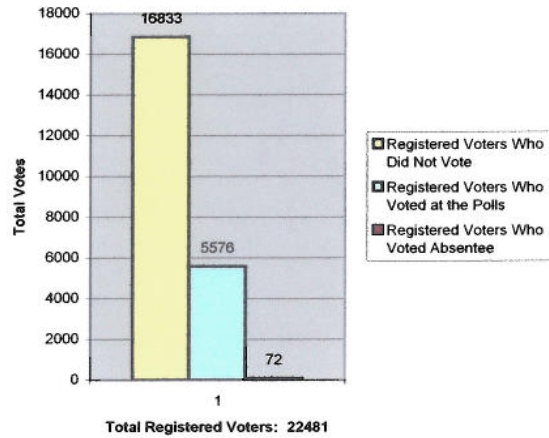


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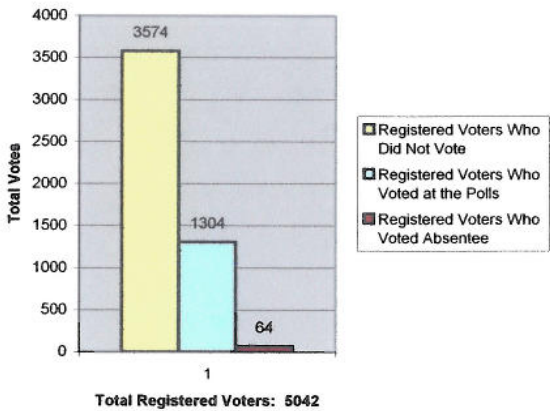
Rankin County: Voter Turnout



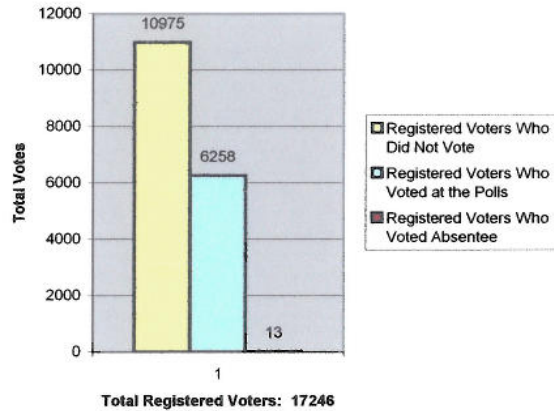
Scott County: Voter Turnout



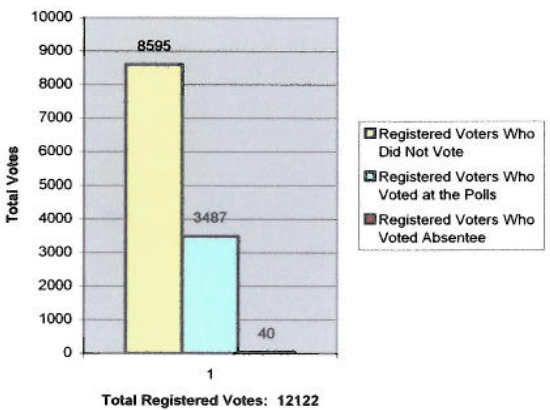
Sharkey County: Voter Turnout



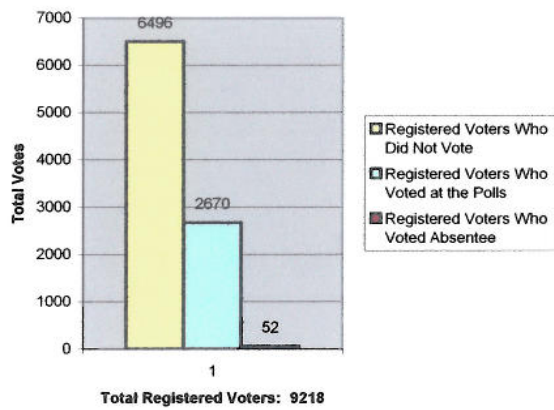
Simpson County: Voter Turnout



Smith County: Voter Turnout

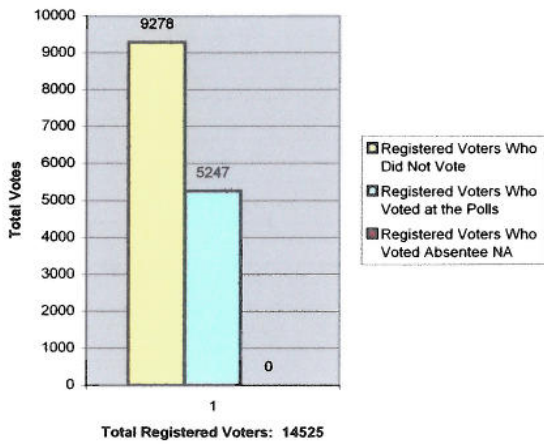


Stone County: Voter Turnout

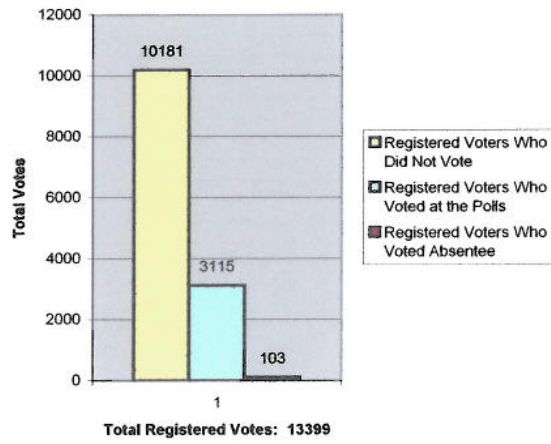


Appendix 1b

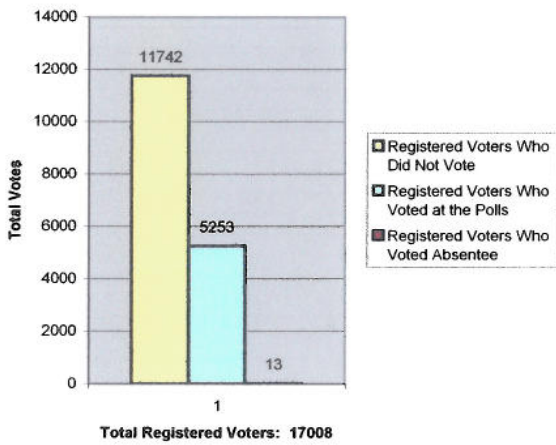
Sunflower County: Voter Turnout



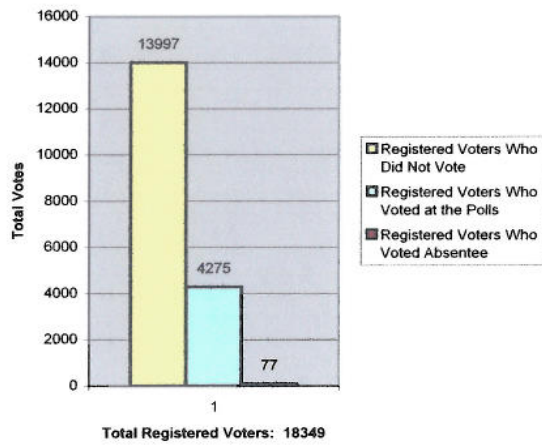
Tallahatchie County: Voter Turnout



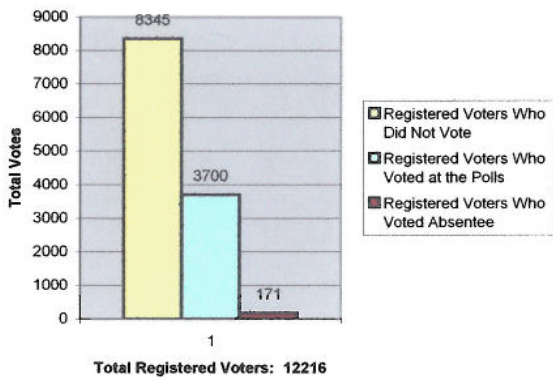
Tate County: Voter Turnout



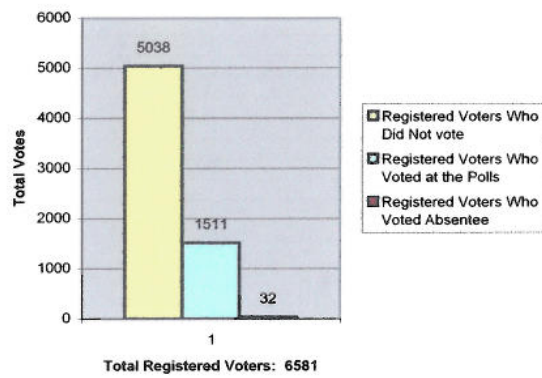
Tippah County: Voter Turnout



Tishomingo County: Voter Turnout

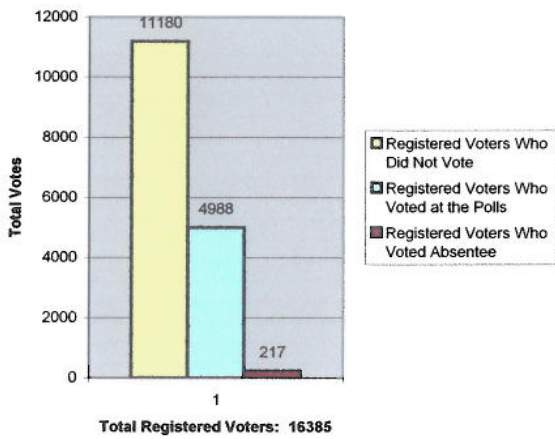


Tunica County: Voter Turnout

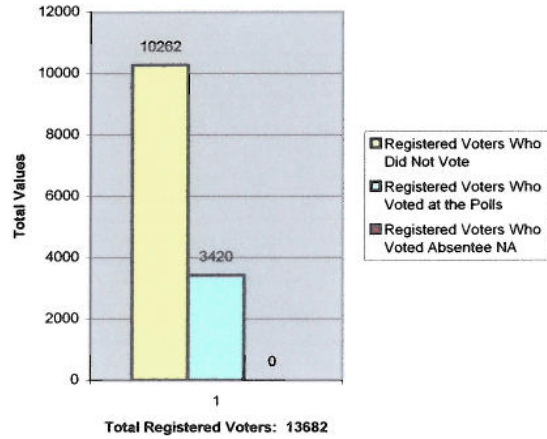


Appendix 1b

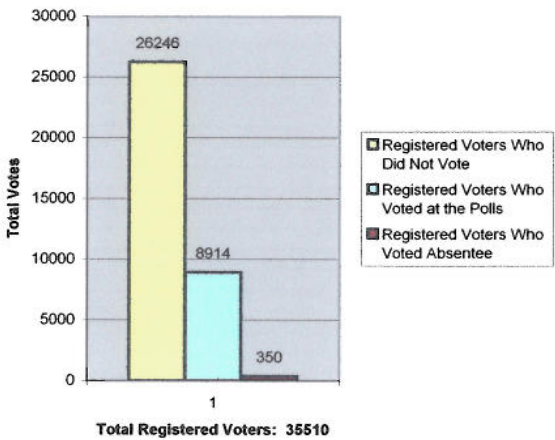
Union County: Voter Turnout



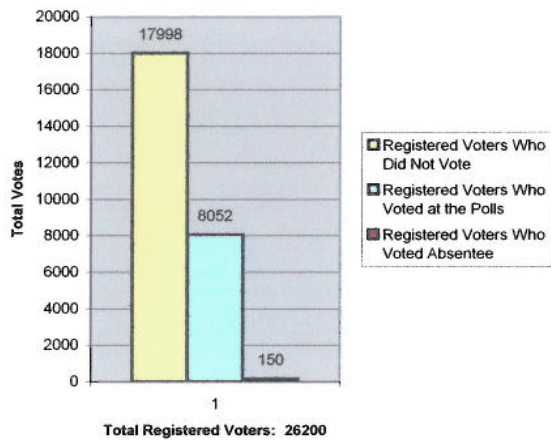
Walthall County: Voter Turnout



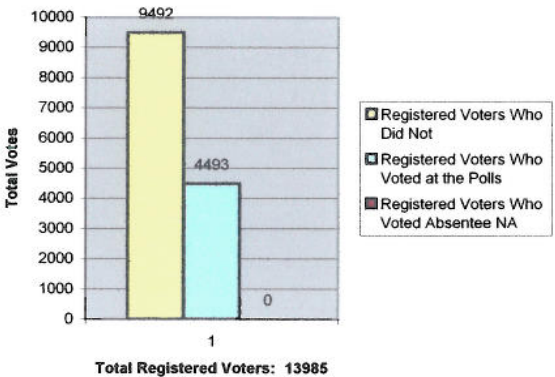
Warren County: Voter Turnout



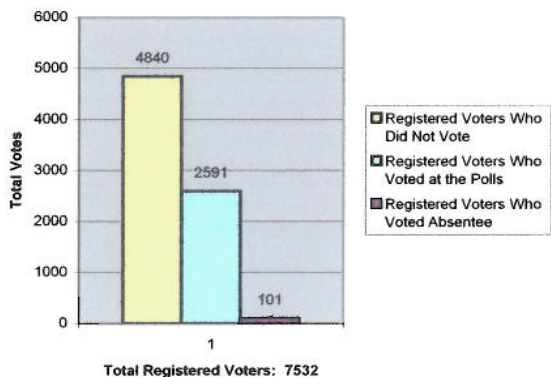
Washington County: Voter Turnout



Wayne County: Voter Turnout

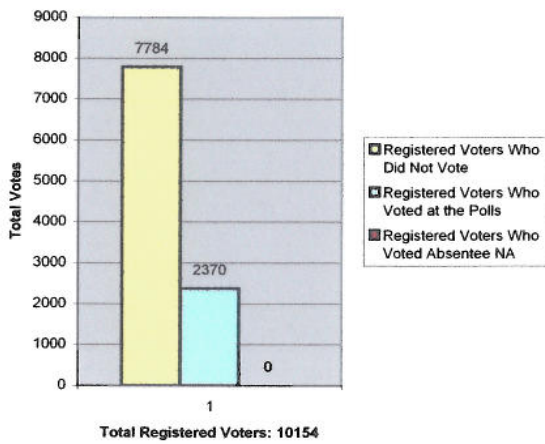


Webster County: Voter Turnout

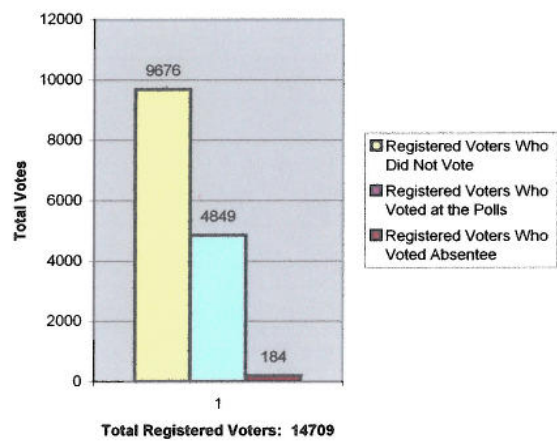


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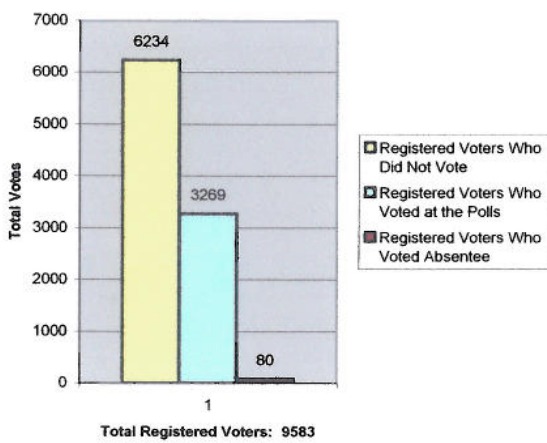
Wilkinson County: Voter Turnout



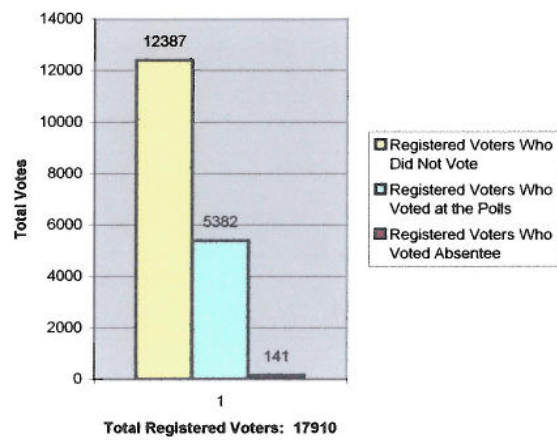
Winston County: Voter Turnout



Yalobusha County: Voter Turnout



Yazoo County: Voter Turnout



APPENDIX 2

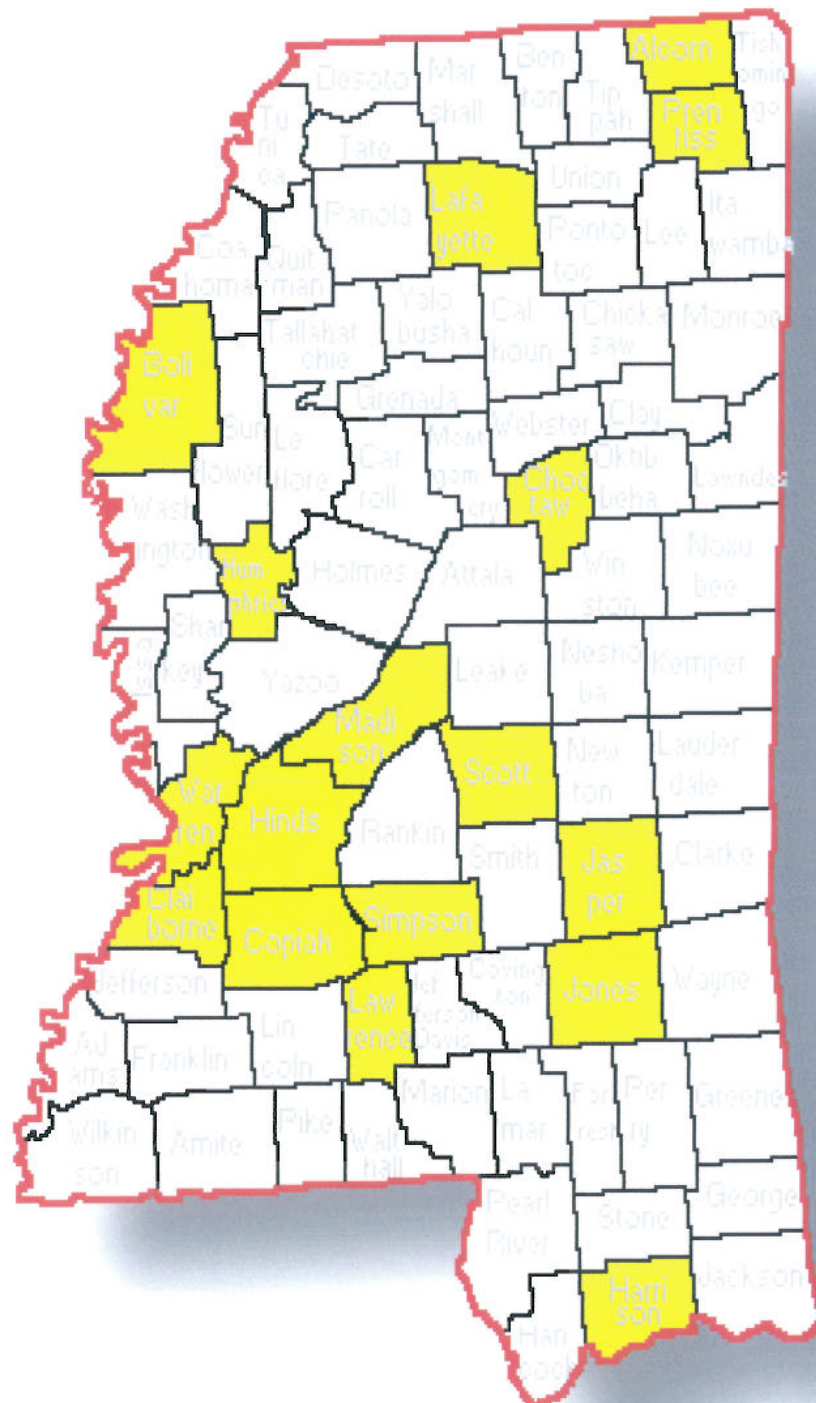
**MISSISSIPPI PRESIDENTIAL
PREFERENCE PRIMARY**

TOTAL VOTERS

	DEMOCRATIC	REPUBLICAN	TOTAL
2008	434029	143286	577315
2004	74928	No primary	74928
2000	88602	114979	203581
1996	93788	151925	245713
1992	191200	180379	371579
1988	357380	158809	516189

Source: Official and Statistical Register
 2008 State Executive Committee Certification of Election Results

Appendix 3



Appendix 4a

Circuit Clerk _____
 Bailiff _____
 Poll Worker _____
 County _____
 Precinct _____

Volunteer Information Checklist

	Yes	No
1. Did the Poll Open on Time?		
2. Did all machines operate when the polls opened? If not, how many failed to operate? _____ How many machines are in your precinct? _____		
3. Do you feel Poll Workers are prepared to answer voter questions concerning when they vote affidavit ballot?		
4. How many hours of training did Poll Workers have for this election in the last year? ____0 ____2 ____4 ____6 ____8 ____More than 8		
5. Was someone allowed to vote in their car at curbside if they cannot come into the polls?		
6. How many years have you served as a poll worker? ____1-4 ____5-8 ____9-12 ____13-16 ____17-20 ____More than 20		
7. Did you witness any challenges to a voter?		
8. Did the Bailiff manage the precinct according to all State laws?		
9. What were best suggestions to improve the voting system or comments?		

Appendix 4b

Circuit Clerk _____
 Bailiff _____
 Poll Worker _____
 County _____
 Precinct _____

Volunteer Information Checklist

	Yes	No
1. Did the Poll Open on Time?		
2. Did all machines operate when the polls opened? If not, how many failed to operate? _____ How many machines are in your precinct? _____		
3. Do you feel Poll Workers are prepared to answer voter questions concerning when they vote affidavit ballot?		
4. How many hours of training did Poll Workers have for this election in the last year? ____0 ____2 ____4 ____6 ____8 ____More than 8		
5. Was someone allowed to vote in their car at curbside if they cannot come into the polls?		
6. How many years have you served as a poll worker? ____1-4 ____5-8 ____9-12 ____13-16 ____17-20 ____More than 20		
7. Did you witness any challenges to a voter?		
8. Did the Bailiff manage the precinct according to all State laws?		
9. What were best suggestions to improve the voting system or comments? _____ _____ _____		
10. Was the polling place ADA compliant? i.e. ramp, paved entrance, etc. _____ _____		

FINDINGS

- Some polling locations were not clearly marked with signs to let the public know that an election was taking place and that the location was a polling location.
- A national media organization was present inside a polling location, filming voters as those voters entered the polling location.
- Some polling locations were too small to accommodate the large voter turn-out.
- One voting machine was not re-set to reflect zero votes at the beginning of the day; it was not used in this election.
- Some polling locations did not open on time.
- Some voters were steered by pollworkers into voting in a primary in which they did not wish to vote.
- It appeared that one voting machine did not work at all, but when a county technician assessed the problem, he plugged it in and the machine began to operate properly.
- Many pollworkers noted that the Diebold voting machines were easier for voters to use, but that they were much more difficult to operate administratively.
- Electors who were otherwise qualified were improperly purged from the voter rolls prior to this election in at least one county. This purging was corrected by the Secretary of State, in cooperation with the local Election Commissioners, within forty-eight (48) hours and prior to the election.
- Some voting machines had paper jams. Some of these required the presence of a county technician to resolve.
- Some voters complained that they were not able to cast ballots for their preferred choice of presidential candidate and also congressional candidate because of prohibitions on cross-over voting.
- Some polling locations had gravel parking lots and were not accessible to wheelchairs.
- Some voters who were not eligible for voter assistance received assistance from pollworkers or other agents.
- Several voters cast their ballot while talking on cellular telephones.

Appendix 5

- Schools were in session at several of the polling locations. This presents issues about safety of the children and logistical issues as well.
- On several occasions, no written information was given to voters who cast affidavit ballots to inform them they could call to verify whether their vote was counted. This practice is required by federal and state law.
- In several locations, individuals were noted to loiter within thirty feet, aggressively offering assistance to voters.
- In several counties, the party executive committees had either assigned by contract or abdicated some or all of their responsibilities for running elections to the county election officials. The Office of the Secretary of State was not notified in writing of any contracts between party executive committees and county election commissioners, as required by statute.
- Several pollworkers felt that they were not trained well enough.
- In some counties, there was no standardized method in place to prevent cross-over voting.

Appendix 6a
VOTER TURNOUT STATISTICS
for the April 1, 2008 Primary Election Run-Off

Description	Adams	Alcorn	Amite	Attala	Benton	Bolivar	Calhoun
Total Active Registered Voters	20,979	22,292	10,374	NO RUNOFF	6,589	NO RUNOFF	9,927
Democratic County Total		1,744			479		971
Republican County Total	877	903	568		124		525
Total Votes Cast Per County	877	2,647	568		603		1,496
Voter Turnout %	4%	12%	5%		9%		15%
Absentee Ballot Cast	21	22	14		24		45
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	2%	1%	2%		4%		3%

Description	Carroll	Chickasaw	Choctaw	Claiborne	Clarke	Clay	Coahoma
Total Active Registered Voters	NO RUNOFF	12,374	5,771	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF	13,420	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total		1,641	494			1,611	
Republican County Total		544	407			773	
Total Votes Cast Per County		2,185	901			2,384	
Voter Turnout %		18%	16%			18%	
Absentee Ballot Cast		98	13			52	
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast		4%	1%			2%	

Description	Copiah	Covington	DeSoto	Forrest	Franklin	George	Greene
Total Active Registered Voters	NO RUNOFF	13,633	70,543	NO RUNOFF	6,014	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total			1,444				
Republican County Total		431	10,315		460		
Total Votes Cast Per County		431	11,759		460		
Voter Turnout %		3%	17%		8%		
Absentee Ballot Cast		6	231		20		
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast		1%	2%		4%		

Appendix 6a

Description	Grenada	Hancock	Harrison	*Hinds	Holmes	Humphreys	Issaquena
Total Active Registered Voters	16,474	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF	20,056	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total	672						
Republican County Total	649			4,236			
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,321			4,236			
Voter Turnout %	8%			21%			
Absentee Ballot Cast	63			60			
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	5%			1%			

Description	Itawamba	Jackson	*Jasper	Jefferson	Jeff-Davis	*Jones	Kemper
Total Active Registered Voters	15,007	NO RUNOFF	4,314	NO RUNOFF	11,081	1,475	7,710
Democratic County Total	1,659						
Republican County Total	816		114		384	59	467
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,475		114		384	59	467
Voter Turnout %	16%		3%		3%	4%	6%
Absentee Ballot Cast	79		2		7	n/a	18
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	3%		2%		2%		4%

Description	Lafayette	Lamar	Lauderdale	Lawrence	*Leake	Lee	Leftlore
Total Active Registered Voters	21,363	NO RUNOFF	40,306	9,796	7,470	49,556	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total	927					6,088	
Republican County Total	1,306		6,679	630	463	4,836	
Total Votes Cast Per County	2,233		6,679	630	463	10,924	
Voter Turnout %	10%		17%	6%	6%	22%	
Absentee Ballot Cast	40		295	21	5	108	
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	2%		4%	3%	1%	1%	

*partial county in election

n/a - absentee ballot information not provided by county

Appendix 6a

Description	Lincoln	Lowndes	*Madison	*Marion	Marshall	Monroe	Montgomery
Total Active Registered Voters	25,404	40,970	45,619	7,156	18,444	23,783	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total		1,524			1,466	3,087	
Republican County Total	1,772	2,826	7,040	215	736	1,373	
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,772	4,350	7,040	215	2,202	4,460	
Voter Turnout %	7%	11%	15%	3%	12%	19%	
Absentee Ballot Cast	46	93	n/a	5	175	n/a	
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	3%	2%		2%	8%		

Description	Neshoba	Newton	Noxubee	Oktoberfest	Panola	Pearl River	Perry
Total Active Registered Voters	15,038	11,774	10,174	24,334	19,473	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total					1,250		
Republican County Total	1,663	1,570	194	1,504	775		
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,663	1,570	194	1,504	2,025		
Voter Turnout %	11%	13%	2%	6%	10%		
Absentee Ballot Cast	n/a	15	n/a	61	101		
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast		1%		4%	5%		

Description	Pike	Pontotoc	Prentiss	Quitman	Rankin	Scott	Sharkey
Total Active Registered Voters	24,567	17,597	17,223	NO RUNOFF	74,867	22,481	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total		1,612	3,878				
Republican County Total	1,448	1,415	575		16,396	1,170	
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,448	3,027	4,453		16,396	1,170	
Voter Turnout %	6%	17%	26%		22%	5%	
Absentee Ballot Cast	39	40	199		256	30	
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	3%	1%	4%		2%	3%	

*partial county in election

n/a - absentee ballot information not provided by county

Appendix 6a

Description	Simpson	Smith	Stone	Sunflower	Tallahatchie	Tate	Tippah
Total Active Registered Voters	17,246	12,122	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF	17,008	18,349
Democratic County Total						746	1,134
Republican County Total	1,517	782				1,074	701
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,517	782				1,820	1,835
Voter Turnout %	9%	6%				11%	10%
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	n/a	15				1	29
		2%				0%	2%

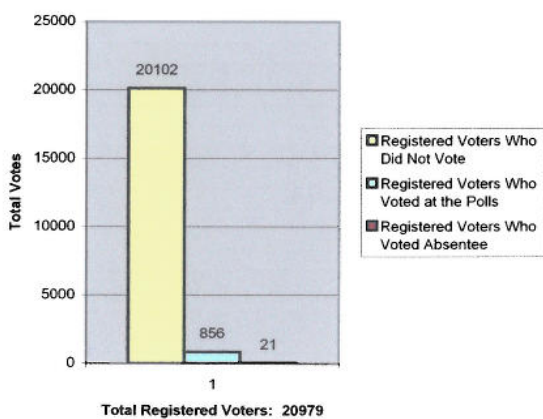
Description	Tishomingo	Tunica	Union	Walthall	Warren	Washington	Wayne
Total Active Registered Voters	12,216	NO RUNOFF	16,385	13,682	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF	NO RUNOFF
Democratic County Total	1,318		1,433				
Republican County Total	578		1,119	402			
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,896		2,552	402			
Voter Turnout %	16%		16%	3%			
Absentee Ballot Cast							
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	54		35	n/a			
	3%		1%				

Description	Webster	Wilkinson	Winston	Yalobusha	Yazoo	TOTAL
Total Active Registered Voters	7,532	10,154	14,709	9,583	NO RUNOFF	944,414
Democratic County Total	448		4	746		36,376
Republican County Total	591	32	913	415		85,362
Total Votes Cast Per County	1,039	32	917	1,161		121,738
Voter Turnout %	14%	0%	6%	12%		13%
Absentee Ballot Cast						
Absentee Ballots % to votes cast	45	n/a	38	n/a		2,521
	4%		4%			2%

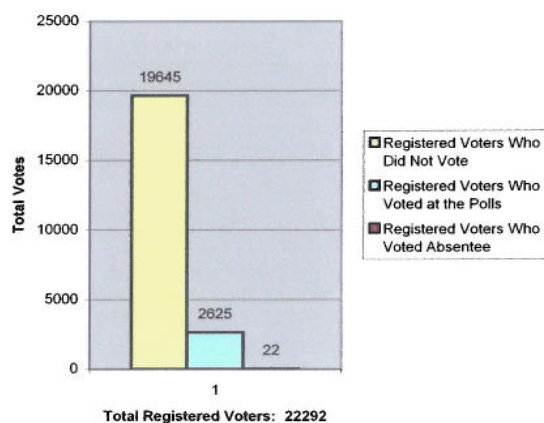
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Appendix 6b

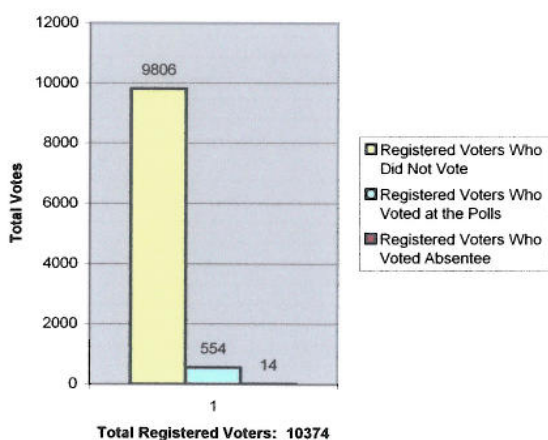
Adams County: Voter Turnout



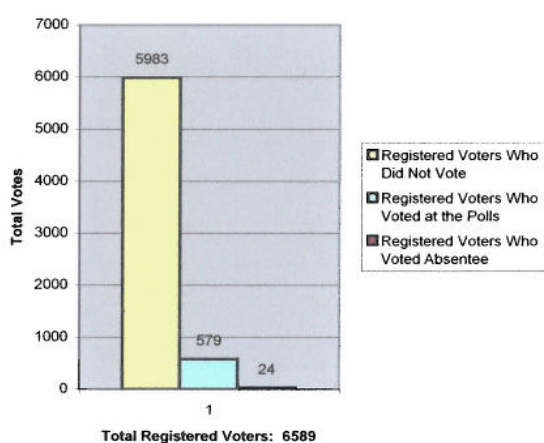
Alcorn County: Voter Turnout



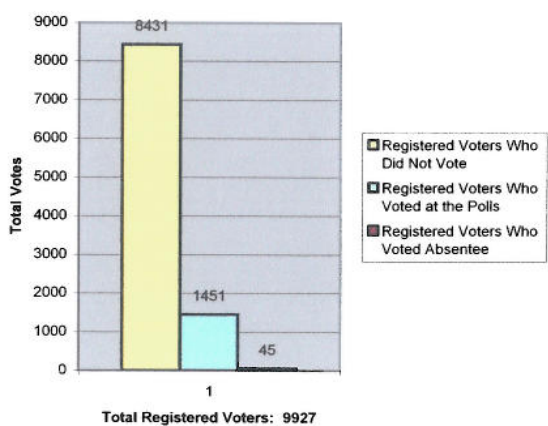
Amite County: Voter Turnout



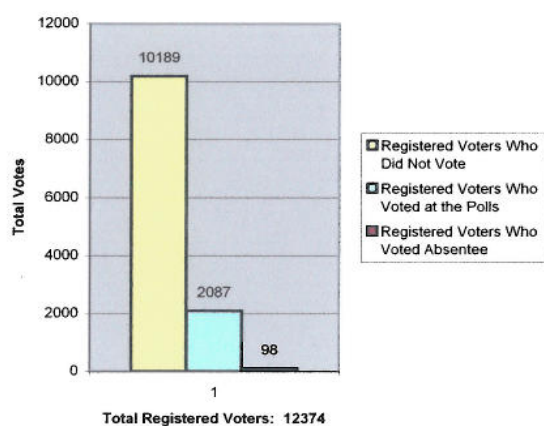
Benton County: Voter Turnout



Calhoun County: Voter Turnout

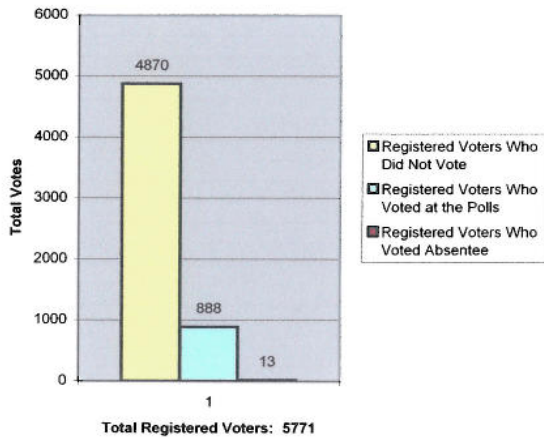


Chickasaw County: Voter Turnout

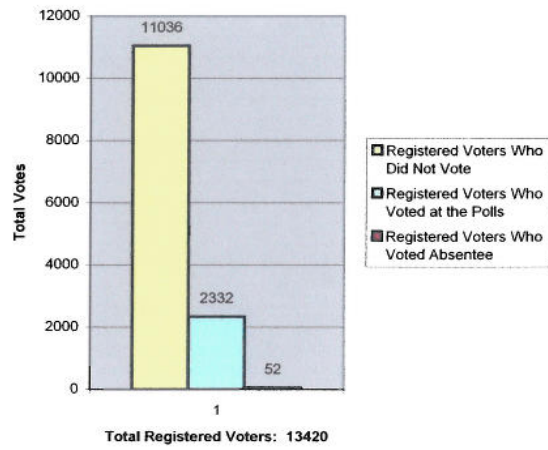


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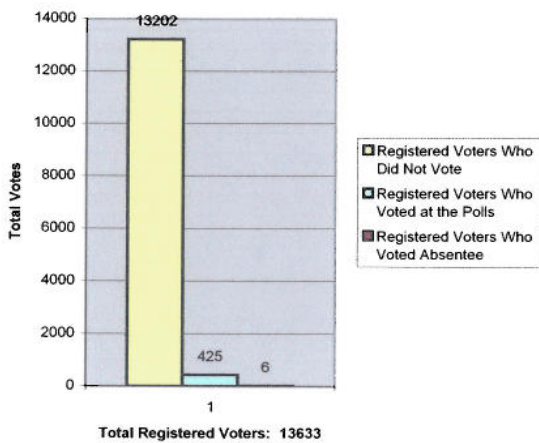
Choctaw County: Voter Turnout



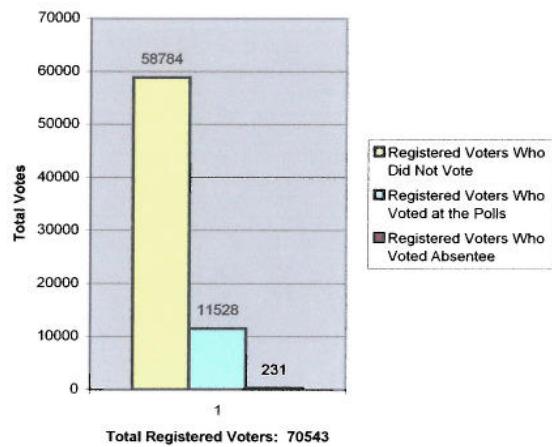
Clay County: Voter Turnout



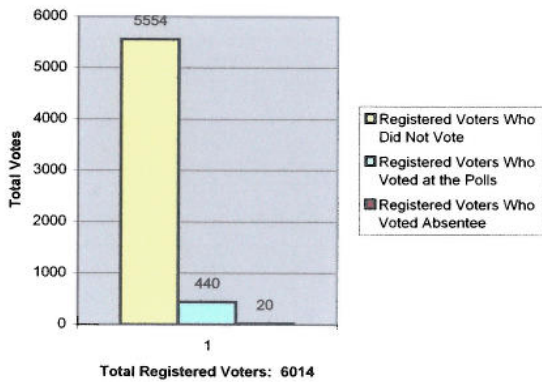
Covington County: Voter Turnout



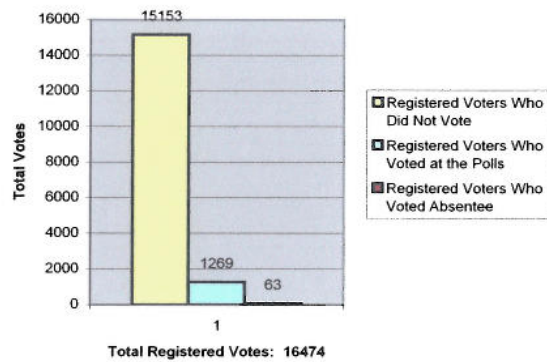
DeSoto County: Voter Turnout



Franklin County: Voter Turnout

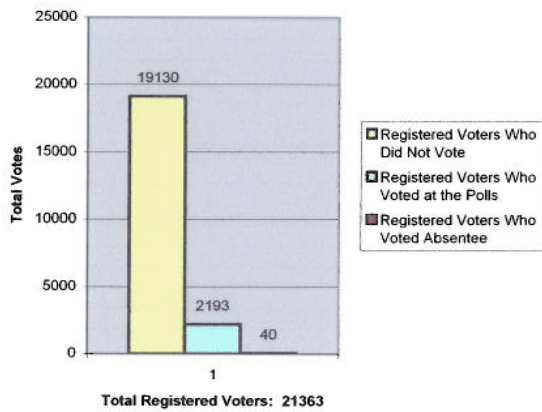


Grenada County: Voter Turnout

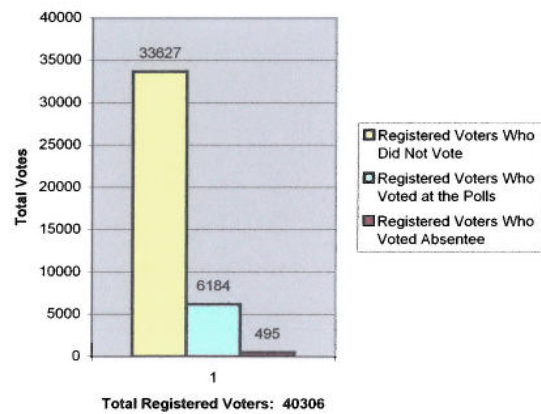


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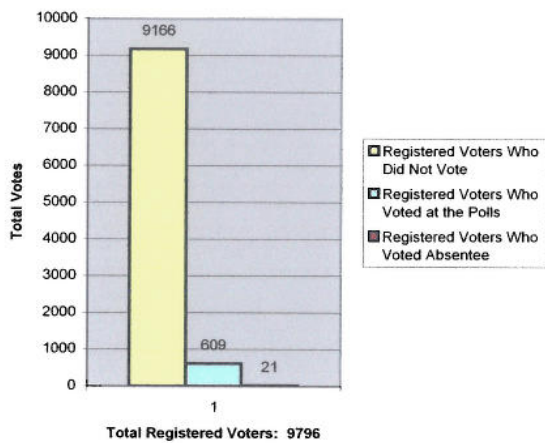
Lafayette County: Voter Turnout



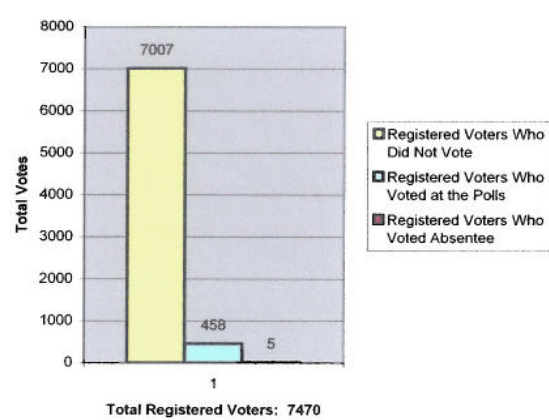
Lauderdale County: Voter Turnout



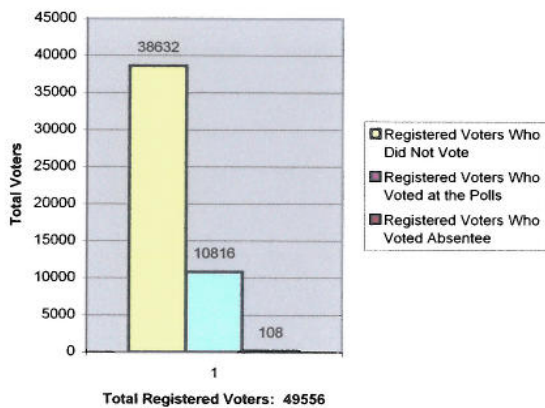
Lawrence County: Voter Turnout



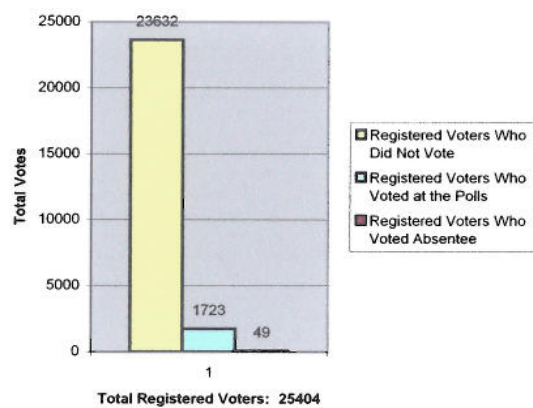
Leake County: Voter Turnout



Lee County: Voter Turnout

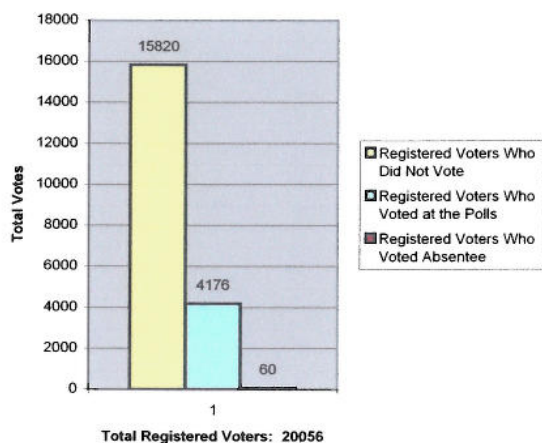


Lincoln County: Voter Turnout

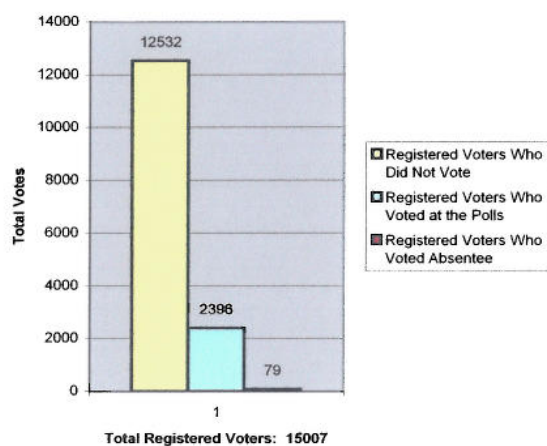


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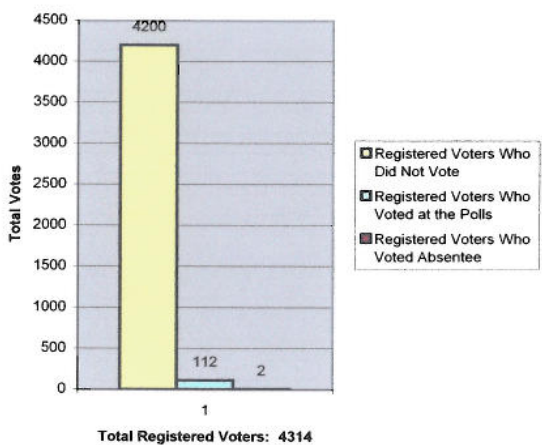
Hinds County: Voter Turnout



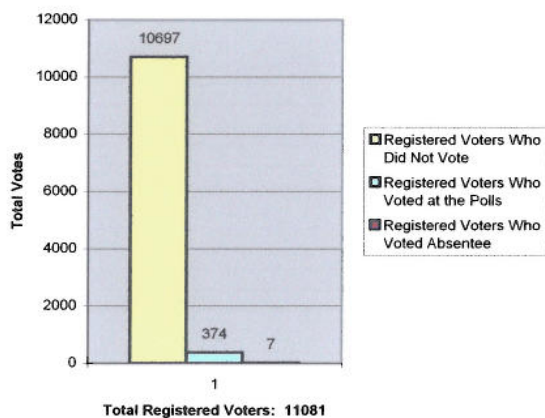
Itawamba County: Voter Turnout



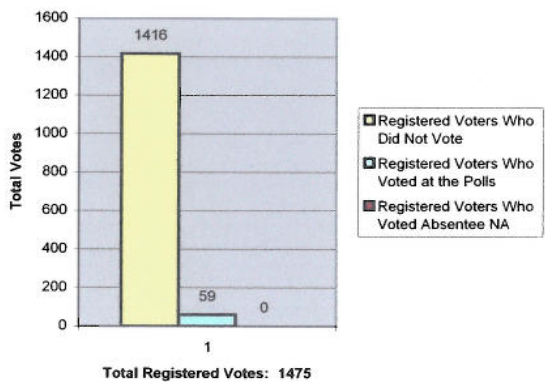
Jasper County: Voter Turnout



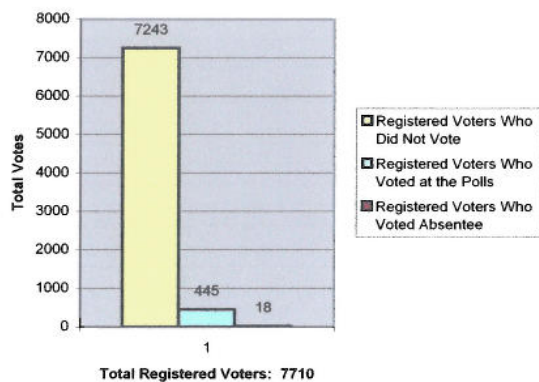
Jefferson Davis County: Voter Turnout



Jones County: Voter Turnout

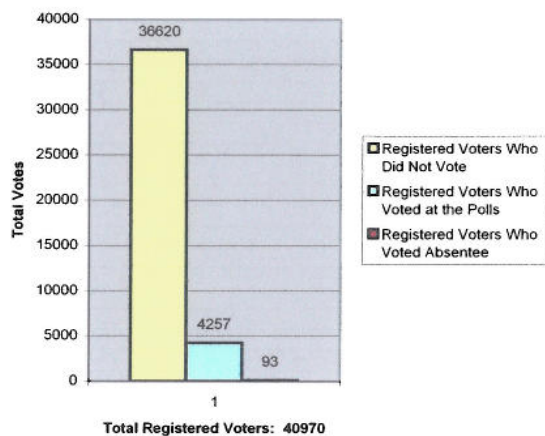


Kemper County: Voter Turnout

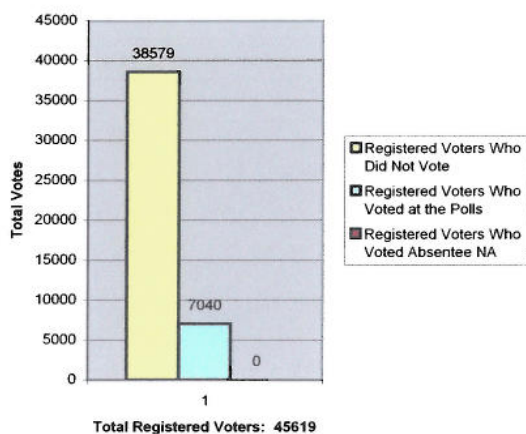


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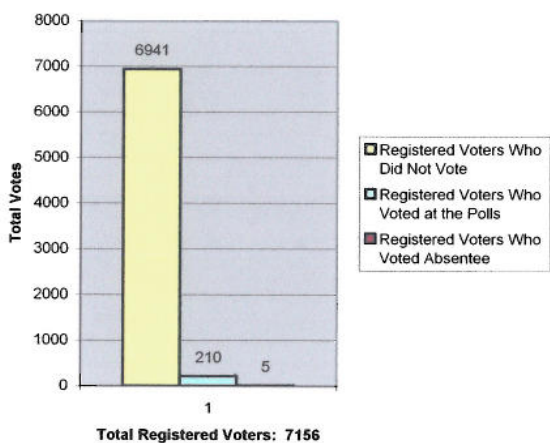
Lowndes County: Voter Turnout



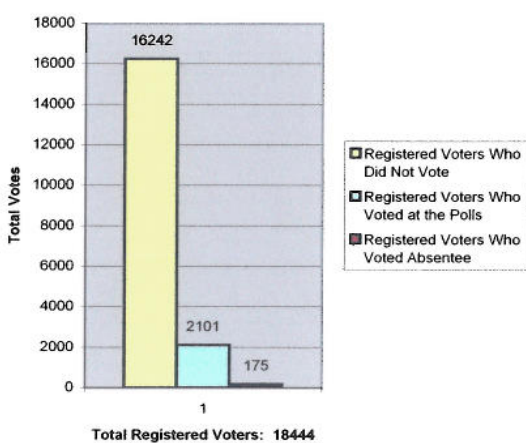
Madison County: Voter Turnout



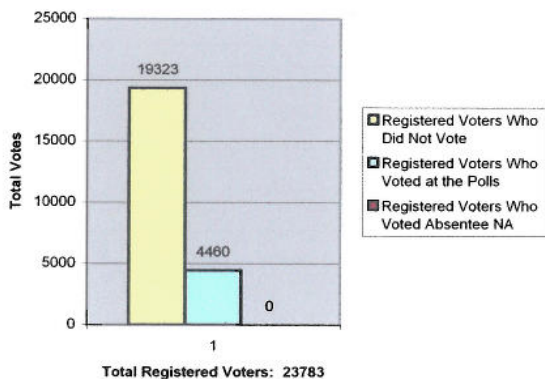
Marion County: Voter Turnout



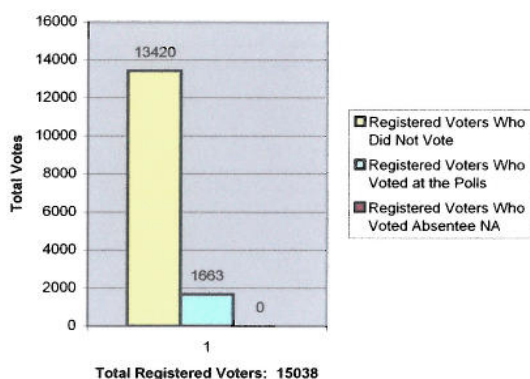
Marshall County: Voter Turnout



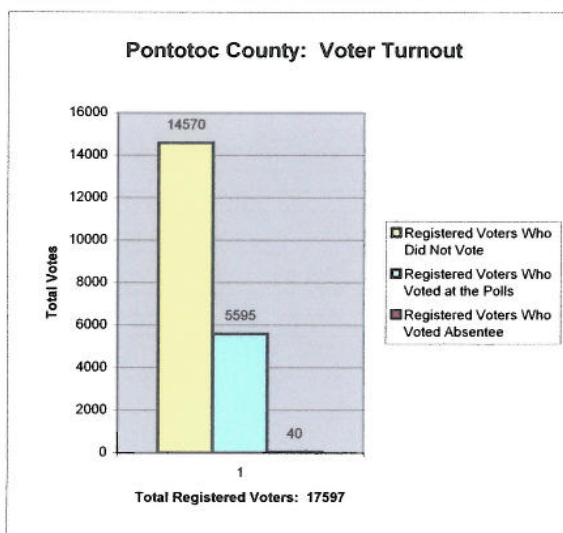
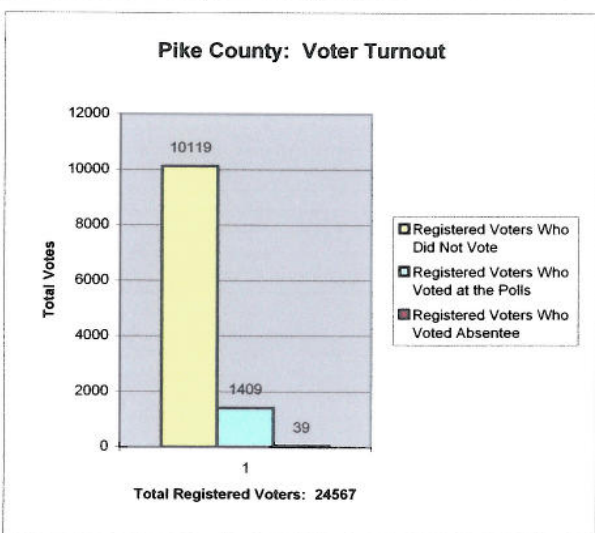
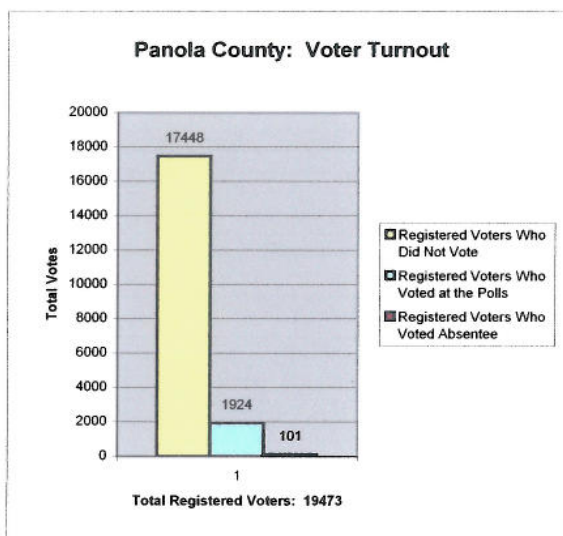
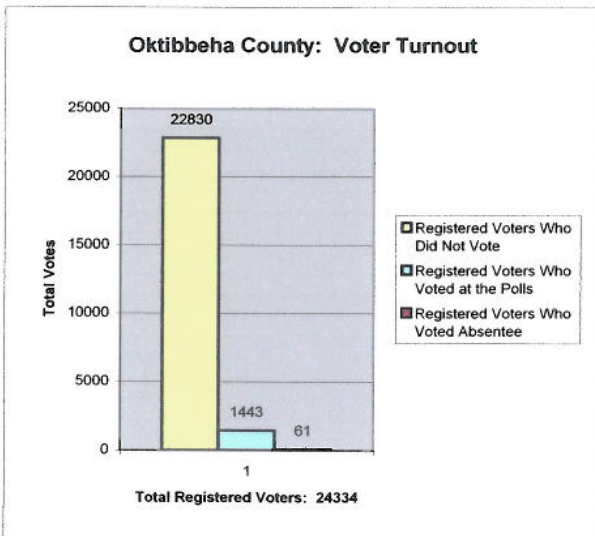
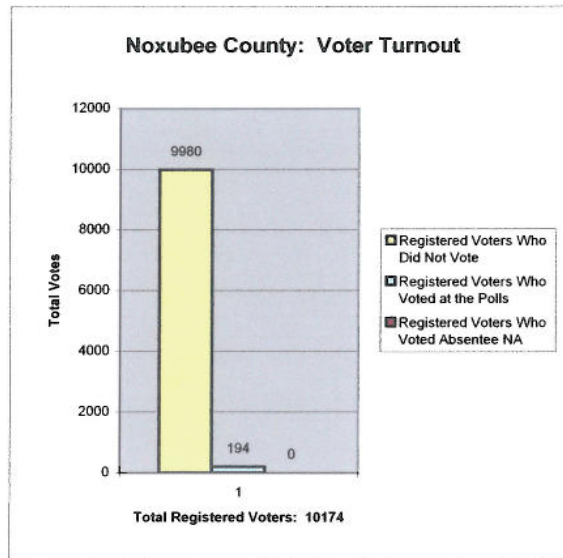
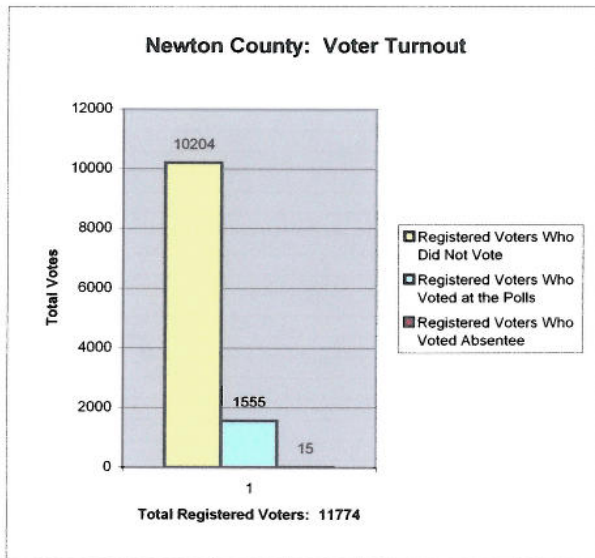
Monroe County: Voter Turnout



Neshoba County: Voter Turnout

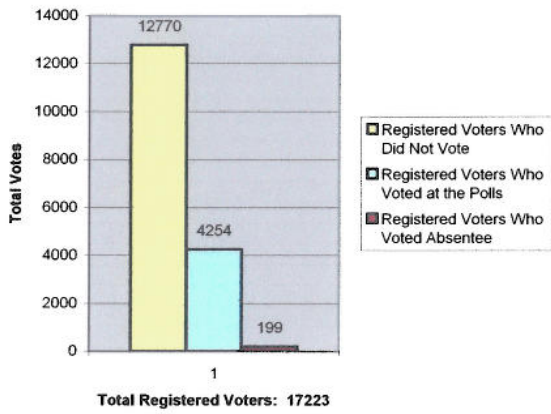


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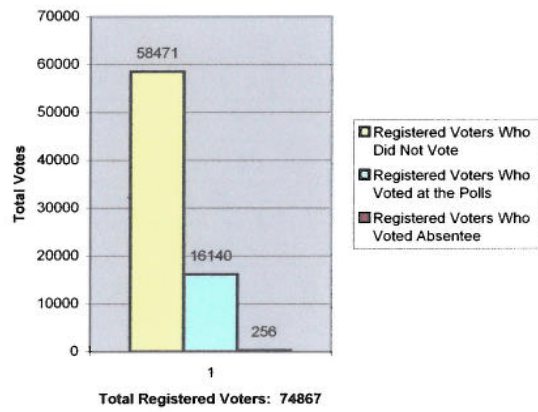


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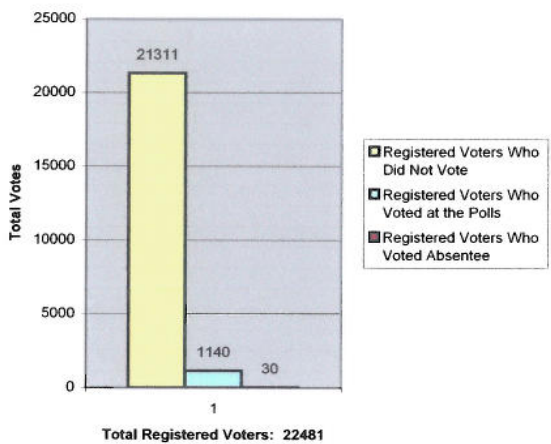
Prentiss County: Voter Turnout



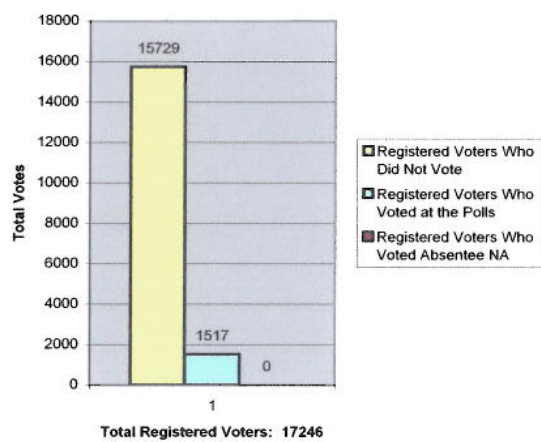
Rankin County: Voter Turnout



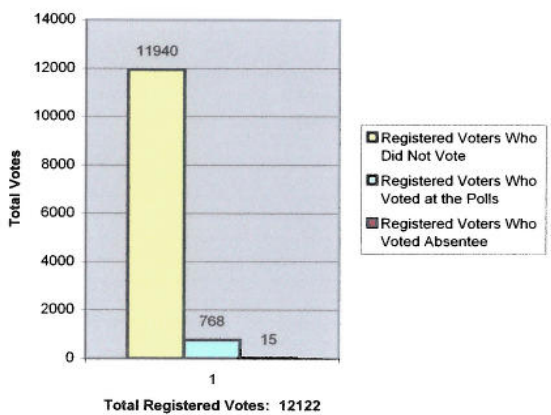
Scott County: Voter Turnout



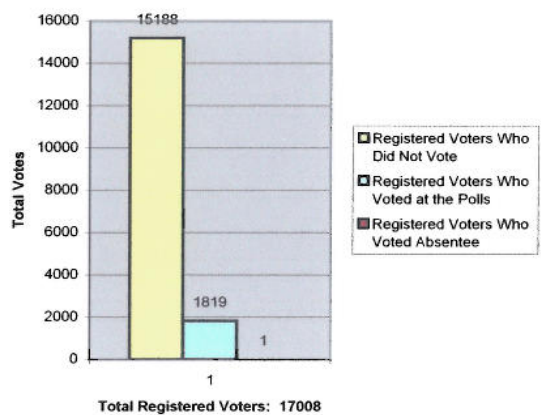
Simpson County: Voter Turnout



Smith County: Voter Turnout

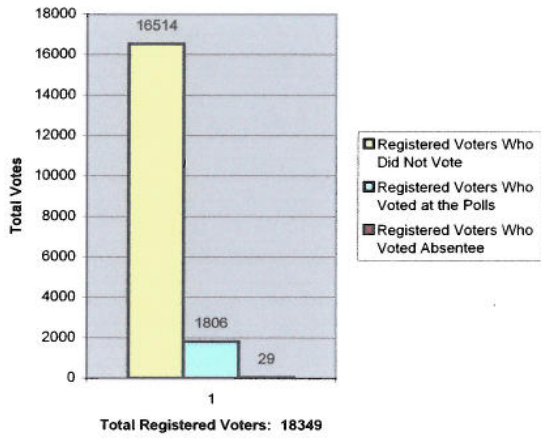


Tate County: Voter Turnout

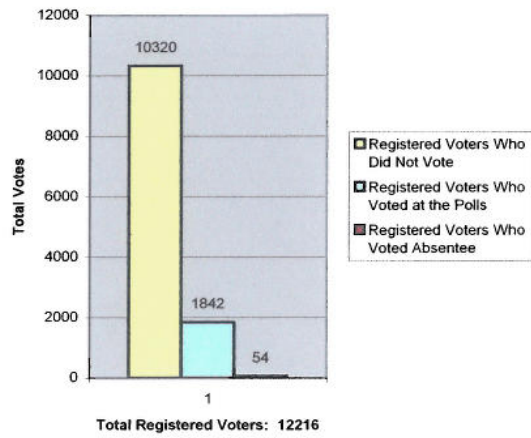


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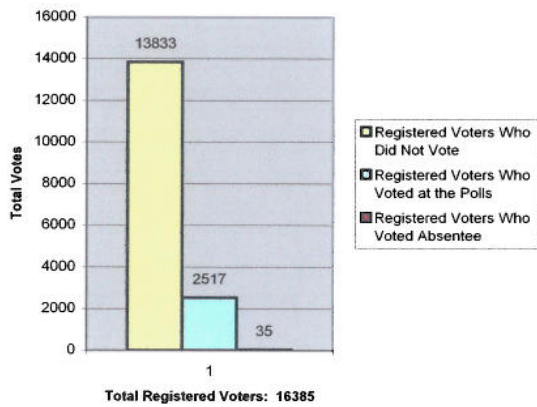
Tippah County: Voter Turnout



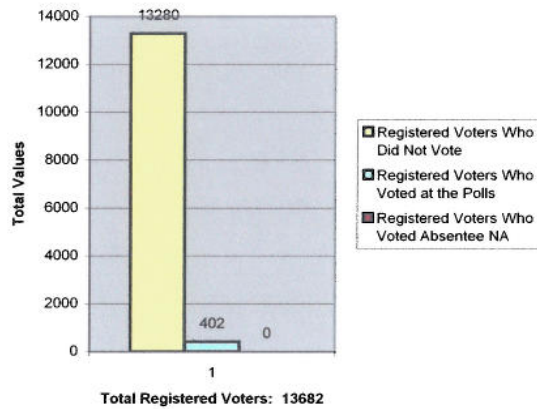
Tishomingo County: Voter Turnout



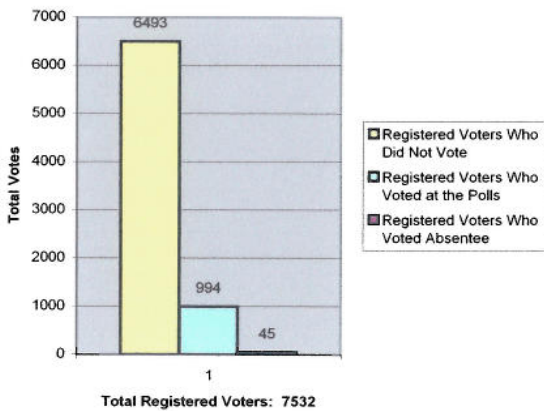
Union County: Voter Turnout



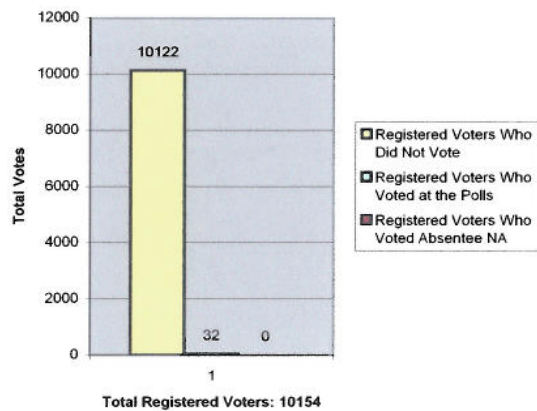
Walthall County: Voter Turnout



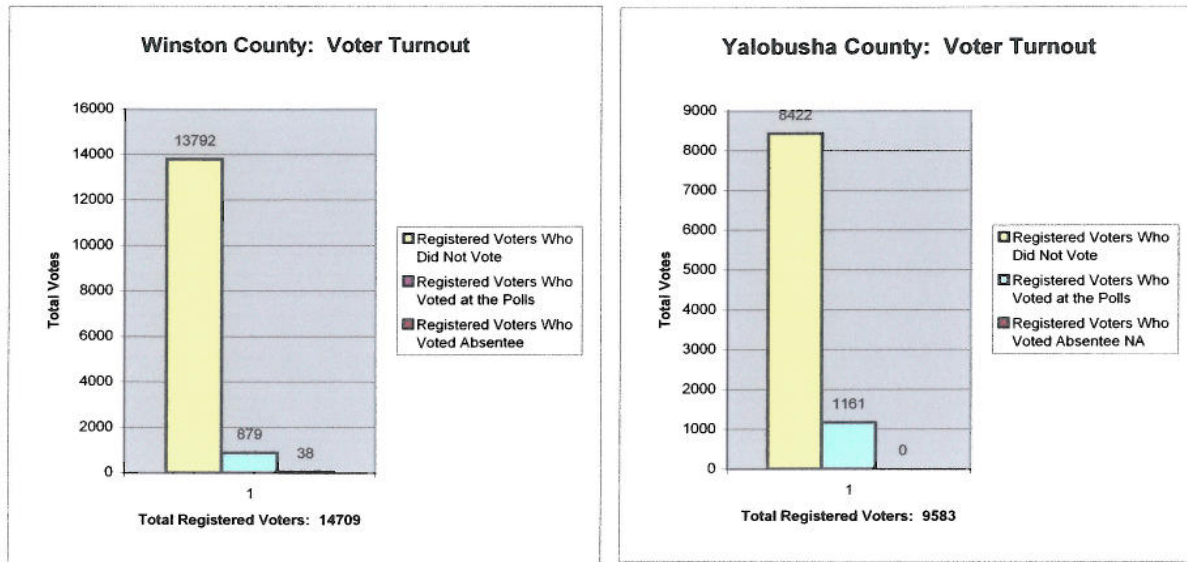
Webster County: Voter Turnout



Wilkinson County: Voter Turnout



Appendix 6b



Appendix 7

