



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Office of Minnesota Secretary of State  
Steve Simon

## Postal Verification Card Report for November 2014 General Election

### Cost of Report Preparation

The total cost for the Office of the Secretary of State to prepare this report was approximately \$471.36. Most of these costs involved staff time in gathering the data and preparing the written report. Incidental costs include paper, copying and other office supplies.

Estimated costs are provided in accordance with *Minnesota Statutes*, section 3.197, requiring the cost for preparing a report to be provided at the beginning of a report to the legislature.

### Required Report

This report was prepared in accordance with *Minnesota Statutes*, section 201.121, subd. 3, which states:

Within ten days after an election, the county auditor shall send the notice required by subdivision 2 to a random sampling of the individuals registered on election day. The random sampling shall be determined in accordance with the rules of the secretary of state. As soon as practicable after the election, the county auditor shall mail the notice required by subdivision 2 to all other individuals registered on election day. If a notice is returned as not deliverable, the county auditor shall attempt to determine the reason for the return. A county auditor who does not receive or obtain satisfactory proof of an individual's eligibility to vote shall immediately notify the county attorney of all of the relevant information and the secretary of state of the numbers by precinct. By March 1 of every odd-numbered year, the secretary of state shall report to the chair and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over elections the number of notices reported

under this subdivision to the secretary of state for the previous state general election by county and precinct.

Whenever voters register to vote for the first time or update their registrations, county auditors send them postcards, called Postal Verification Cards or PVCs. These postcards serve the dual purpose of notifying voters of their polling place and of providing the county with a verification of the voter's address. The postcards are sent as non-forwardable mail, so that if the voter does not reside at the address at which they registered, it is returned to the county auditor as undeliverable.

These postcards are sent for other purposes as well, such as to notify voters that their polling place has changed or to update voters of their new districts after re-districting. The records of voters who have postcards that are returned as undeliverable and which do not provide a forwarding address for the voter are flagged as "challenged." As a result, if these voters try to vote from this address they will be asked questions under oath about where they reside before being allowed to vote.

For voters who register to vote on election day whose postcards are returned as undeliverable, the process is somewhat different. In this case, the county auditor must attempt to determine the reason for the return. For example, was there a typo in the voter's name or address that made the postcard undeliverable? Has the voter moved since election day? The county auditor must also obtain proof that the individual was eligible to vote. If they cannot find satisfactory evidence of the voter's eligibility, the county auditor is required to turn the matter over to the county attorney for further investigation and potential prosecution. Starting with the 2010 general election, county auditors are also required to report the number of notices referred to their county attorneys to the Secretary of State.

After the 2010 general election, counties reported that there were 399 same day registrants whose postcards were returned where the county auditor could not find proof of the voter's eligibility and turned the cases over to their county attorney for further investigation. After the 2012 general election, counties reported that 218 cases have been referred to county attorneys. Now, after the 2014 general election, counties reported that 45 cases have been referred to their county attorneys.

This report is a compilation of the reports that this office received from the county auditors and provides the numbers by county and precinct, as required by statute.

<b>By County</b>	<b>Number</b>
Aitkin	3
Anoka	0
Becker	0
Beltrami	0
Benton	0
Big Stone	0
Blue Earth	0
Brown	0
Carlton	0
Carver	3
Cass	0
Chippewa	0
Chisago	0
Clay	0
Clearwater	0
Cook	0
Cottonwood	0
Crow Wing	0
Dakota	0
Dodge	0
Douglas	0
Faribault	0
Fillmore	0
Freeborn	0
Goodhue	0
Grant	0
Hennepin	23
Houston	0
Hubbard	0
Isanti	1
Itasca	0
Jackson	0
Kanabec	0
Kandiyohi	0
Kittson	0
Koochiching	0
Lac qui Parle	0
Lake	2
Lake of the Woods	0
LeSueur	0
Lincoln	0
Lyon	0
Mahnomen	2
Marshall	0

<b>By County</b>	<b>Number</b>
Martin	0
McLeod	0
Meeker	0
Mille Lacs	0
Morrison	0
Mower	0
Murray	0
Nicollet	0
Nobles	0
Norman	0
Olmsted	0
Otter Tail	0
Pennington	0
Pine	0
Pipestone	0
Polk	0
Pope	0
Ramsey	1
Red Lake	0
Redwood	0
Renville	0
Rice	0
Rock	0
Roseau	0
Scott	0
Sherburne	0
Sibley	0
St. Louis	1
Stearns	0
Steele	0
Stevens	0
Swift	0
Todd	0
Traverse	0
Wabasha	0
Wadena	0
Waseca	0
Washington	0
Watonwan	0
Wilkin	0
Winona	0
Wright	9
Yellow Medicine	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>

**By Precinct Detail**

<b>County</b>	<b>Precinct</b>	<b>Number</b>
Aitkin	Shamrock Twp	2
Aitkin	Workman Twp	1
Carver	Chaska W-1	1
Carver	Cologne	1
Carver	Norwood Young America	1
Hennepin	Bloomington W1 P8	1
Hennepin	Bloomington W2 P16	2
Hennepin	Brooklyn Park WE P6A	1
Hennepin	Crystal W2 P1	1
Hennepin	Dayton P1	1
Hennepin	Eden Prairie P4	1
Hennepin	Edina P1B	1
Hennepin	Edina P9	1
Hennepin	Edina P12	1
Hennepin	Edina P19C	1
Hennepin	Minneapolis W1 P5	1
Hennepin	Minneapolis W5 P9	1
Hennepin	Minneapolis W11 P5	1
Hennepin	Minneapolis W11 P9	1
Hennepin	Minnestricta P4A	1
Hennepin	New Hope P4	2
Hennepin	New Hope P6	1
Hennepin	Plymouth W1 P2	1
Hennepin	Plymouth W3 P14	1
Hennepin	Plymouth W3 P15	1
Hennepin	St Louis Park W1 P1	1
Isanti	Bradford Twp	1
Lake	Silver Bay P-1	1
Lake	Unorg Terr No 2 P-3	1
Mahnomen	Mahnomen	1
Mahnomen	Twin Lakes Twp	1
Ramsey	St. Paul W-1 P-7	1
St. Louis	Babbitt	1
Wright	Albertville	1
Wright	Buffalo P-2	1
Wright	Otsego P-1A	1
Wright	Rockford Twp	1
Wright	St Michael P-1A	1
Wright	St Michael P-1B	2
Wright	Southside Twp	1
Wright	Woodland Twp	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>45</b>