

VerifiedVoting

Annual Report

2020

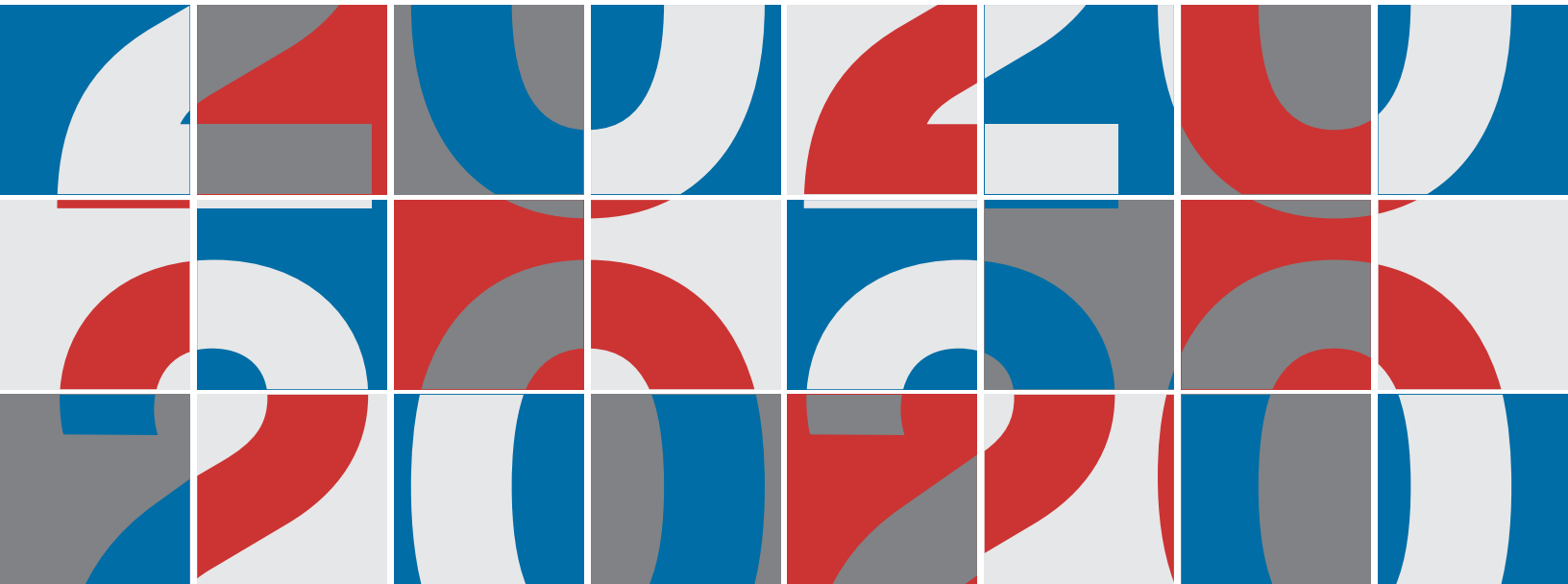


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Letter from the Acting Directors & Board Chair



Verified Voting planned for the November 2020 election with one goal: Validating 2020 by providing strong evidence that votes in key states would be recorded and counted accurately. We knew our goal was challenging. But we also knew success was possible, because we had already made tremendous progress over the past four years.

In many ways, the planning for making the election cycle more secure has been a continuation of Verified Voting's work since our founding in 2004. We've been advocating for paper ballots and post-election audits from the very beginning. At first, our biggest challenge was helping people understand why election security is vital to the health of our democracy.

Then came 2016. For the first time, a significant portion of the public was asking questions about the vulnerabilities of our elections infrastructure against nation-state attacks, in addition to technical malfunctions of aging voting equipment and an increase in disinformation. We knew that

the principles we'd been championing could help address legitimate concerns – but we needed for those best practices to be implemented in time for future elections.

As 2020 drew ever closer, we focused on states where national results would be most closely scrutinized, working with colleagues to replace paperless systems in states like Pennsylvania and Georgia, and helping the public track progress through tools including our Verifier. We steadily built a network of partners, ranging from longstanding national allies to local grassroots organizations. And we assembled a team who not only could advocate for election security best practices, but also could provide direct support to election officials tasked with implementing resiliency measures including risk-limiting audits.

Of course, no plan can cover every contingency. **COVID-19 forced election officials to adapt in record time**, learning from the primaries and ensuring their systems could handle the surge in mail ballot requests. We adapted, conducting

audit training sessions remotely, pushing back against proposals for fundamentally insecure internet voting pilots, and boosting team morale through the adjustment to a fully virtual work environment.

By November 3rd, as we monitored and responded to calls through the Election Protection Hotline, we were ready for anything. But as it turned out, the work that we, together with our partners, had implemented helped stave off the technical disasters we had feared after 2016.

Experts declared the 2020 election cycle the most secure and well-run in recent memory. Those experts also highlighted the safeguards we'd identified and worked hand in hand with election officials to implement as key to success in 2020:

 ***Paper ballots***

 ***Strong chain of custody requirements***

 ***Post-election ballot audits to provide a check on the results***

CONTINUED →

Letter from the Acting Directors & Board Chair *(continued)*

As we've been reminding voters, though, **election night was not the end of the story, but rather just the beginning.** Our hardworking audit team was dispatched to Georgia to assist with an audit process that had taken on even greater urgency amid baseless claims of vote rigging, while our communications and data teams responded to questions about voting equipment usage.

And of course, there are policy and legislative decisions being made now that will shape the next election. Too many jurisdictions around the country, including those in emerging battleground states like Texas, still rely on paperless systems. For all the progress we've made in encouraging voluntary adoption of risk-limiting audits, there still are just two states with mandatory statewide requirements.

In the end, the American mind emerged as one of the most crucial battlegrounds for election integrity – and that battle is still ongoing.

2020 will be remembered as the year that disinformation endangered our democracy. Reaching out to voters concerned about the integrity of our elections with clear and concise information about the nuts and bolts of how elections work will be one of the great challenges for us and our allies going forward.



Cris Landa
Cris Landa
Acting Co-Director



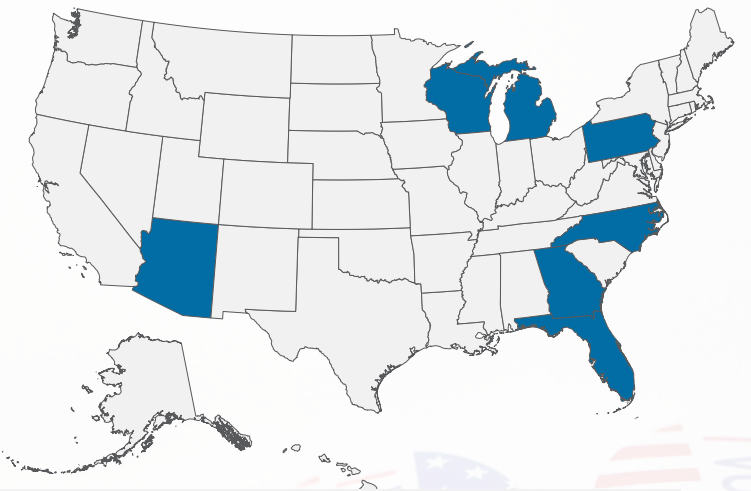
Mark Lindeman
Mark Lindeman, Ph.D.
Acting Co-Director



Barbara Simons
Barbara Simons, Ph.D.
Board Chair

2020: A Watershed Year For Election Security

Voter-marked paper ballots are at the core of Verified Voting's advocacy. Without them, voters can't check that their votes have been accurately recorded, and election officials have no way to go back and check the counts. In November, we saw just how important this step is. After the election, as election results were challenged and voting equipment was being scrutinized, election officials in battleground states could rely on the evidence provided by paper ballots, and in some cases, audits.



 2020 Battleground States That Had Paper Ballots

Paper ballots give you the ability to audit, to go back and check the tape and make sure that you got the count right. And that's really one of the keys to success for a secure 2020 election.

Chris Krebs, former Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

60 Minutes, 11/29/20

2020, for many jurisdictions, was a time of multiple massive changes. Pennsylvania and Georgia, for the first time statewide, [were] using paper-based voting systems. So that provided a basis for voters to verify their ballots and know that their votes had been recorded correctly.

Verified Voting Acting Co-Director Mark Lindeman, *Trusting Our Elections: What makes our elections secure?*

Christian Science Monitor, 1/14/21

Our Mission

VerifiedVoting's mission is to strengthen democracy for all voters by promoting the responsible use of technology in elections.

We are a non-partisan organization focused exclusively on the critical role technology plays in election administration. Our staff, Board, and Board of Advisors consist of nationally recognized subject matter experts on the issue of election integrity and the responsible use of technology. Since our founding in 2004 by computer scientists, we have acted on the belief that the integrity and strength of our democracy rely on citizens' trust that each vote is counted as cast. In the ever-shifting world of election security, where new threats or challenges can emerge at any time, we are working to guide elections toward greater accuracy, security, and verifiability.

Our Values

Democracy

In a democracy, the citizens must have the capacity to hold their government accountable, which requires an electoral system that is inclusive and secure for all. Election technology must enable democratic principles.

Effectiveness

We tailor our strategies according to research, data, and analysis, and we share our analysis publicly. We strive to disseminate our work in a timely manner.

Collaboration

We collaborate within our team and with other organizations to build trusting and respectful relationships. Together, we work more effectively to support and protect democracy.

Trustworthiness

We base our work on evidence, technical rigor, and clarity about what is not yet known. Our credibility depends on our ability to find realistic solutions to the problems facing our democracy.

Respect

We value multiple perspectives and viewpoints from diverse constituencies because we recognize that diversity informs more effective solutions. We value the wide-ranging perspectives that our colleagues and collaborators bring to the table, and we create an environment for all voices to be heard.

Citizens must have the capacity to hold their government accountable, which requires an electoral system that is inclusive and secure for all.

Team Snapshot

To support our work, our team added to our expertise across the organization, growing from 7 team members to 15 team members and consultants, including data scientists, mathematicians, and former election officials. Here's a snapshot of some who joined us in 2020:

ON RISK-LIMITING AUDITS

“Whether I’m on the road or advising virtually, I’m providing technical assistance to election officials as they make sure the ballots were counted accurately. As we saw in the 2020 election, this work has never been more important.”



Chrissa LaPorte
Program Associate

REFLECTING ON THE 2020 ELECTION

“Election security experts agree that this was the most secure election in American history, thanks in no small part to the work that election integrity groups like Verified Voting have been advocating for years – to move election officials to use voting systems with voter-marked paper ballots. We’ve made great progress across the country, but there’s still more work to do.”



Cris Landa
Acting Co-Director

ON EDUCATION & OUTREACH

“I worked at all hours with our team, many of whom are considered experts in the election security field, to organize countless briefings, calls, email blasts, and press interviews. Our goal is to get the word out about election security best practices, how votes are counted, and practical ways voters can make sure their votes count.”



Saskia Pilorge
Administrative Assistant

ON MAINTAINING THE VERIFIER

“The heart of our mission is the responsible use of technology and, accordingly, transparency and accurate data is critical. This year we made the Verifier even better with enhanced visualizations, improved features, and new data sets.”



Megan Maier
Research Assistant

2020 By the Numbers

a record-setting year

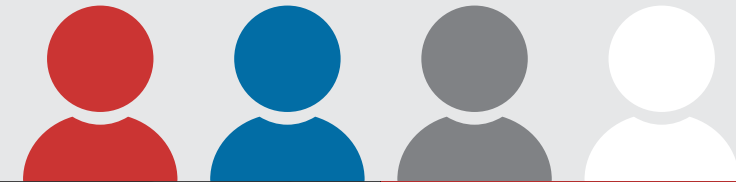
Celebrated that

88%

of jurisdictions used paper-based systems in 2020, compared to just 71% in 2016



Gained **8** new team members and onboarded **4** of them via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic



new!

Created over

20

new voting equipment pages in our database



Tracked that **70%** of registered voters live in jurisdictions using hand-marked paper ballots for most voters in Election Day polling places



Sent more than

100

shout outs on our Slack channel congratulating our team on efforts to make our elections more secure



Provided the tech and security “e-geek” support to the Election Protection Hotline which heard from nearly **200,000** voters this year



Reached new audiences with a record

3,020

media hits

Held **3** education & outreach virtual events in fall 2020



Released **46** publicly available resources, including press statements, blogs, advocacy letters, policies, and reports



Worked with at least **20** state and local election officials directly to assist with their audits and audit pilots



Assisted in **5** statewide post-election audits and audit pilots, and **2** countywide audits

Broadened our outreach with



1 redesigned website



2 new social media channels

Influenced future post-election audit decisions in **4** states



Found that **78.5%** of registered voters live in jurisdictions that used electronic poll books in Election Day polling places



Strategic Priorities

Verified Voting Strategic Priorities



Gaining Support for RLAs in Key States



**Supporting Election Officials With
Implementing Post-Election Audits**



Enhancing Our Tools



Voter Education & Shaping the Narrative



**Stronger Together:
Collaborating With Partners**



Election Security Advocacy Work

99% of ballots in the United States are counted by computers. Election security experts agree that those computers are vulnerable to hacking, malfunction and errors. Paper ballots are necessary for conducting recounts or audits that do not rely on these computers. By advocating for paper ballots and helping to implement and conduct routine, robust post-election audits, Verified Voting supported election officials in verifying election outcomes.



Gaining Support for RLAs in Key States

At the start of our strategic plan, risk-limiting audits (RLAs) were an unknown security protocol for most election officials in the United States. To gain support for RLAs by the officials who would ultimately be conducting them, **we focused on the following strategies:**



Audit Roadshow & Other Speaking Engagements

Meeting election officials where they were. We spoke on a panel at the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS)'s winter conference and with election officials at the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED) about best practices for secure, accessible, and auditable elections. We took our audit materials on the road at various state and local election administration conferences, testified at federal hearings, and raised awareness in community groups like local chapters of the League of Women Voters.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RLA TALLY SHEET		PAGE 1 COPY	
Tallier Initials _____ Caller Initials _____		City Comm 1-2-21 (R) City Comm 1-2-21 (R)	
Presidential Primary (R)		City Comm 1-2-21 (R)	
Ballot ID	Ballot Type	Presidential Primary (R)	City Comm 1-2-21 (R)
1 A0006 #118	Ballot		
2 A0006 #180	Ballot		
3 A0014 #176	Ballot		
4 A0012 #126	Ballot		
5 A0013 #172	Ballot		
6 A0045 #44	Ballot		
7 A0049 #197	Ballot		
8 A0012 #112	Ballot		
9 A0012 #182	Ballot		
10 A0012 #193	Ballot		

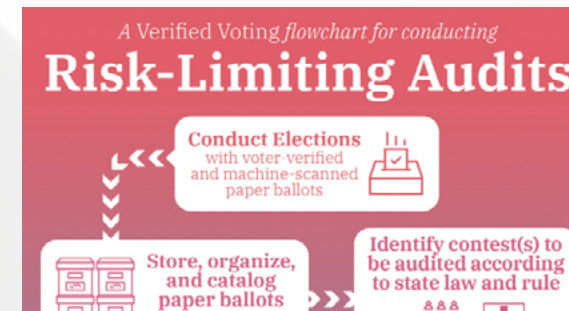
Audit Pilots

Laying the groundwork for local advocates. Our team has attended and helped conduct audit pilots at the local level in many states, forging strong relationships with local election officials. These experiences improve election officials' comfort and confidence with RLAs, making them some of the strongest supporters and advocates for best practices. These individuals then helped raise support amongst their peers or provided leadership on statewide election audit working groups.



Collaborating with Partners

By collaborating with other nonprofit organizations (VotingWorks, Brennan Center, Common Cause, Democracy Fund), we effectively prioritized leadership for audit advocacy in different states, leveraged existing relationship assets, and maximized our impact.



Education Materials

We added a post-election audits page to our website to cover everything from the basics about RLAs to detailed do's and don'ts for election officials.

We Increased Our Audit Team!

We brought on more full-time staff to focus exclusively on gaining support for risk-limiting audits, and advising officials on the audit process. Our team went on the road (safely) amidst the pandemic and also often advised election officials virtually.



Raising Awareness Among Peers

Our consultants, members of our board, and our board of advisors spoke at academic and expert conferences, bringing awareness to the mathematical and computer science communities about the impact of paper ballots and audits, which also keeps us connected to active areas of research in audits.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY



Supporting Election Officials With Implementing Post-Election Audits

In 2020, Verified Voting provided both in-person and virtual support to election officials throughout the country as they conducted risk-limiting audits, often for the first time. We also advised election officials on improving their existing audit practices.



Program Associate Chrissa LaPorte on site at the RI RLA of the 2020 primary election

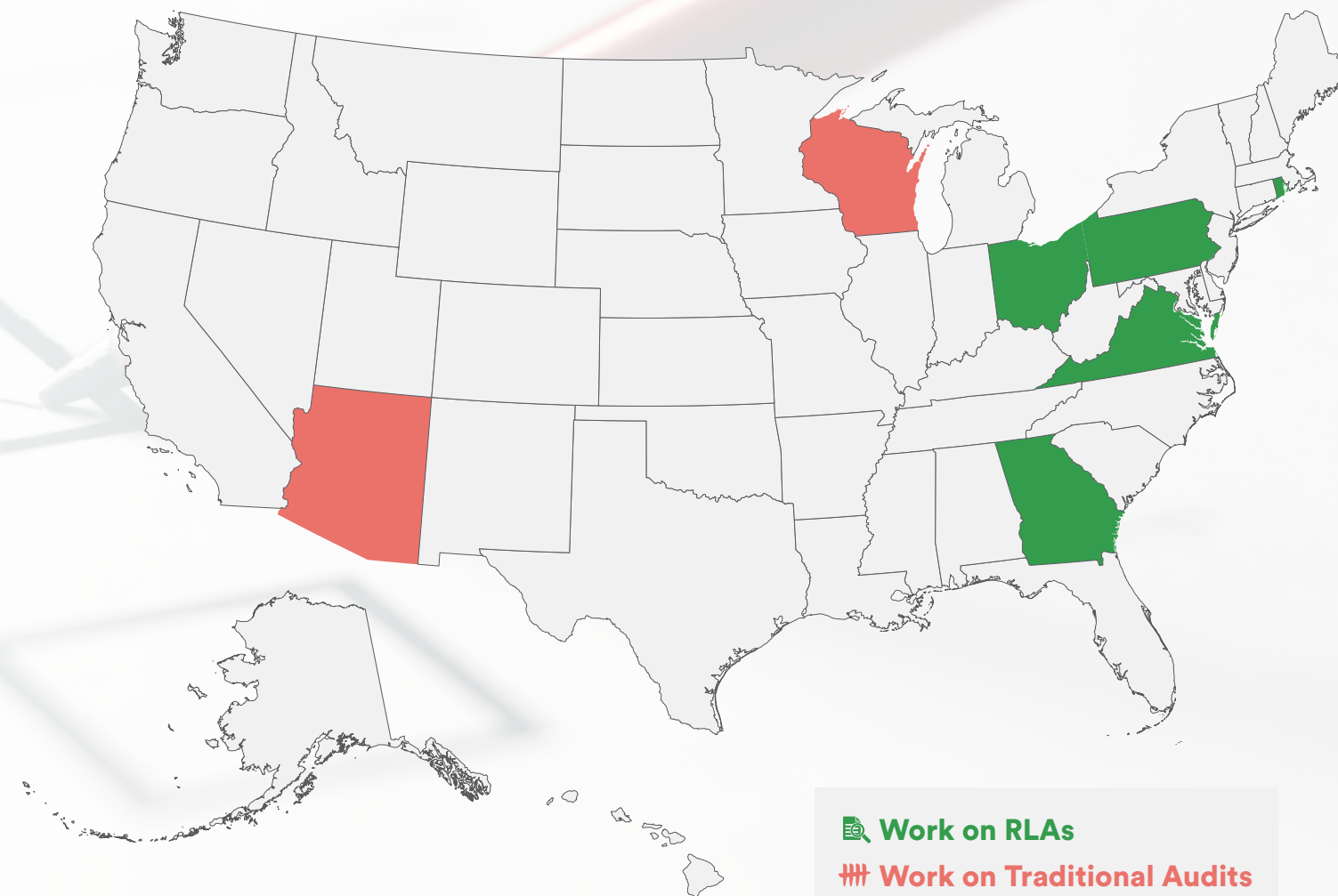
Work on RLAs

- Montgomery County, Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Georgia
- Rhode Island
- Virginia

Work on Traditional Audits

- Arizona
- Wisconsin

Verified Voting's Audit Impact





RLA Countywide Case Study Montgomery County, OH



Montgomery County, Ohio approached Verified Voting in April 2020 for assistance in conducting an RLA of their primary election. Montgomery County election officials had been impressed by what they witnessed during an earlier RLA pilot in another county, and made the decision to conduct their county's mandatory audit as an RLA, despite not having done so before and the ongoing pandemic.



We helped election officials devise procedures for conducting the ballot-polling RLA. A particular challenge was to develop audit protocols that allowed staff to remain socially distant while still able to verify each other's work. Verified Voting Acting Co-Director Mark Lindeman traveled to the county to help train staff and manage the audit.



Building upon that success, the county decided to conduct a RLA of its share of the 2020 presidential election and another statewide contest and a "pure" RLA of a local contest, auditing 1,200 ballots overall. Verified Voting provided virtual support during the two days of the audit. Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose, a noted proponent of RLAs, visited the county during the second day of audit proceedings.



RLA Statewide Case Study Georgia



Prior to 2020, Georgia voters used DREs (Direct Recording Electronic) without VVPAT (Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail) to cast their votes. Without an auditable paper trail there was no opportunity to audit Georgia election results. However, new ballot marking device (BMD) voting machines for in-person voting were introduced statewide in 2020. The new machines did not store votes but rather produced a paper ballot after the voter made their selections, providing an auditable paper trail. Additionally, 2020 marked the first year that Georgia mandated a post-election audit. In the lead-up to the 2020 general election, Verified Voting provided planning and technical assistance to the Georgia Secretary of State's office in preparation for a RLA.



Given the closeness of the presidential election, the state decided to conduct a statewide RLA with a risk limit of 0%, which meant implementing a full hand tally of the nearly five million votes cast statewide.



IMAGES SOURCE: NPR

Verified Voting joined a community of current and former election officials, drawn from throughout the country, providing guidance and support on the ground to county election officials in Georgia as they conducted this historic hand count. The results showed that Georgians and all Americans could have confidence in the certified election results.

A SPOTLIGHT ON ELECTION OFFICIALS

We are privileged to work closely with election officials on a daily basis. Their work to safely and securely administer our elections goes far beyond what voters see on Election Day - and, as we saw in 2020, can at times come at great personal risk. To shine a light on the important role they play in our democratic process, we launched a Q&A series highlighting their work.



Joseph Kirk *Georgia's Bartow County Supervisor*

Here's Joseph Kirk, Bartow County, Georgia's Election Supervisor, who worked with Verified Voting on Bartow County's first risk-limiting audit pilot in November 2019 and on the full hand-count statewide risk-limiting audit following the November 2020 election:

As administrators of our democracy, election officials' work is so important to carry out our democratic process. How does that responsibility shape your approach to your work?

It keeps pressure on me to make sure I'm doing my job to the best of my ability – every election – every day. In big elections the weight of democracy is a tangible thing that I actually feel.

These days, Americans are hearing a lot about the administration of our elections. What don't Americans know about the election process, that you wish they did?

While Americans may be hearing a lot about election administration these days, the information they are receiving may not always be accurate. There is a vacuum of public knowledge about how elections work that is easy for anyone with a keyboard to fill through social media. I wish everyone had a basic knowledge of elections – the rules for voter registration, the different options available to them for casting their ballot, what is available for them to observe, and who to contact with questions. If the public knew this information, it would be a lot harder for misinformation to spread online.

Tell us about your experience conducting a risk-limiting audit (RLA) with Verified Voting. Was there anything that surprised you about the auditing process?

I had a great experience piloting the RLA for Georgia in late 2019. We spent months getting ready for it – attending meetings, reading papers, and trying to learn what exactly a RLA was - and when the time finally came, it ended up being an easy process. We were observed by election officials from other counties as well as the Secretary of State's Office, one of the state parties, and our local media outlets. We audited a small municipal race and did two separate types of audits in about half a day. Having Mark and Monica there for the audit made a huge difference - they explained things in a way that made it easy for everyone to understand the process, even if they weren't familiar with audits. I think the thing that surprised me the most was coming out of a single pilot knowing that I could easily keep doing them, in large part because I had support from the Secretary of State's Office, Verified Voting, and VotingWorks.

There has been an unusual amount of press this year focused on ballot processing and tabulation. What would you like voters to know about how your office implements transparency and accountability? What systems are in place to ensure that every vote is counted?

We take transparency and accountability extremely seriously, and I think anyone

who interacts with us knows that. Having such a good reputation going into 2020 helped tremendously when our office faced massive scrutiny and unwarranted attacks. Transparency isn't a decision – it's a lifestyle choice. We make an effort to accommodate anyone who wants to observe our work as long as they are legally allowed to do so and we also document anything that goes wrong to hold ourselves accountable. I hope that all the folks that were fired up about the results of the 2020 election continue to remain engaged even when things aren't as emotionally charged as they are now.

How can Americans support election officials in their work to implement democracy?

First, voters should understand the steps involved in conducting an election and engage in the process in some way. They can observe a polling place, the logic and accuracy testing, or how we count the absentee ballots. They could even work as a poll worker. Everyone can also help by spreading trusted information rather than misinformation. I realize that sharing posts about election deadlines and legal processes isn't as fun as sharing the latest conspiracy theory about how someone lost. But every questionable theory hurts all of us – the election officials, the candidates, and especially the voters. Information from trusted sources like election officials or federal agencies has to be prioritized.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

Enhancing Our Tools

Transparency about our country's voting systems is critical for the promotion of paper ballots, post-election audits, and other election security best practices. We redesigned our website and made our trusted research, policy, and advocacy tools more accessible and available to the public. Our resources are used by everyone: candidates, election officials, lawyers, academics, journalists, and more.

Redesigned Resources

Verified Voting's resource library (including our latest publications, papers, and press statements) was recategorized and updated to make it modern, searchable, and user-friendly.



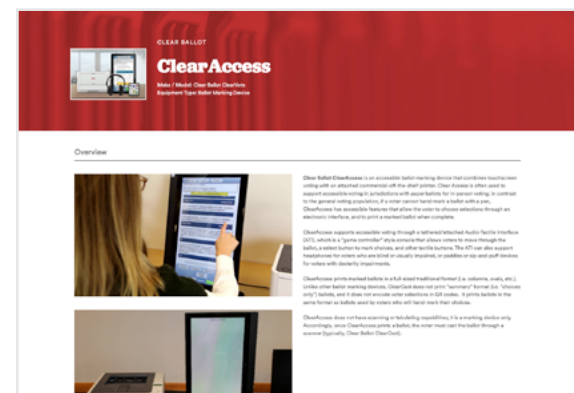
Our issues were organized into five key issue areas so users can easily delve into a topic on paper records, audits, internet voting, election security, or voting equipment.

Verified Voting's Key Issue Areas

- Voting Equipment
- Audits
- Paper Records
- Internet Voting
- Election Security

Voting Equipment Database

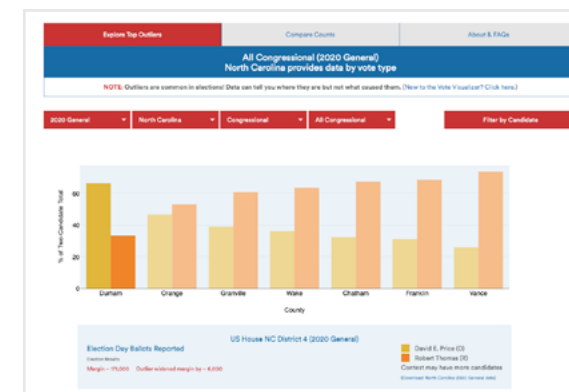
Updated comprehensive database of equipment in use throughout the country, including links to user manuals and training videos, and adding new types of equipment and devices.



Used by the Election Protection Hotline to troubleshoot Election Day voting equipment issues

Vote Visualizer

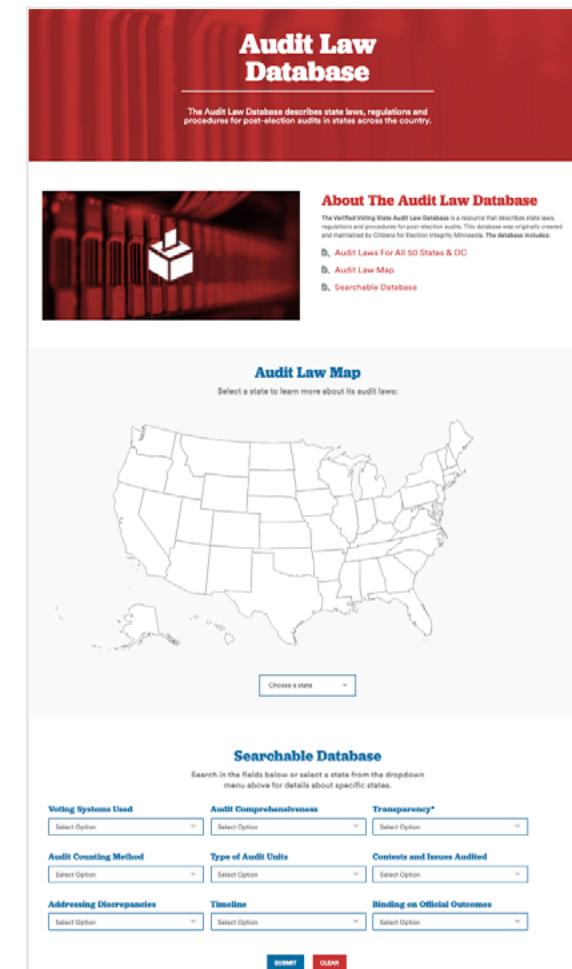
A neutral, scientific tool designed to help people understand patterns in election results that includes analyzable results through the 2020 election. Developed by Data Scientist Stephanie Singer with a team at the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University, and funded by the National Science Foundation.



Verified Voting
VOTE VISUALIZER

State Audit Law Database

We redesigned the state audit law database and updated the audit laws in all 50 states before the 2020 election.



Used by election integrity advocates and lawmakers to check and compare post-election audit laws by state as legislative and procedural election code changes are considered.

Redesigning THE Verifier

VerifiedVoting.org/Verifier



The only comprehensive data set of voting equipment down to the precinct level in the United States, going back to 2006.



Verified Voting's most popular tool was a go-to resource for journalists, researchers, lawmakers, Election Protection, and the public.



New for 2020: Redesigned platform. Updated search capabilities. New data & information.



Described as “a national treasure.”



The Verifier – Pre-Redesign

Without paper, the voter is completely dependent on the machine technology to count accurately. The vast majority of DREs flunk the paper test, according to data collected by Verified Voting.

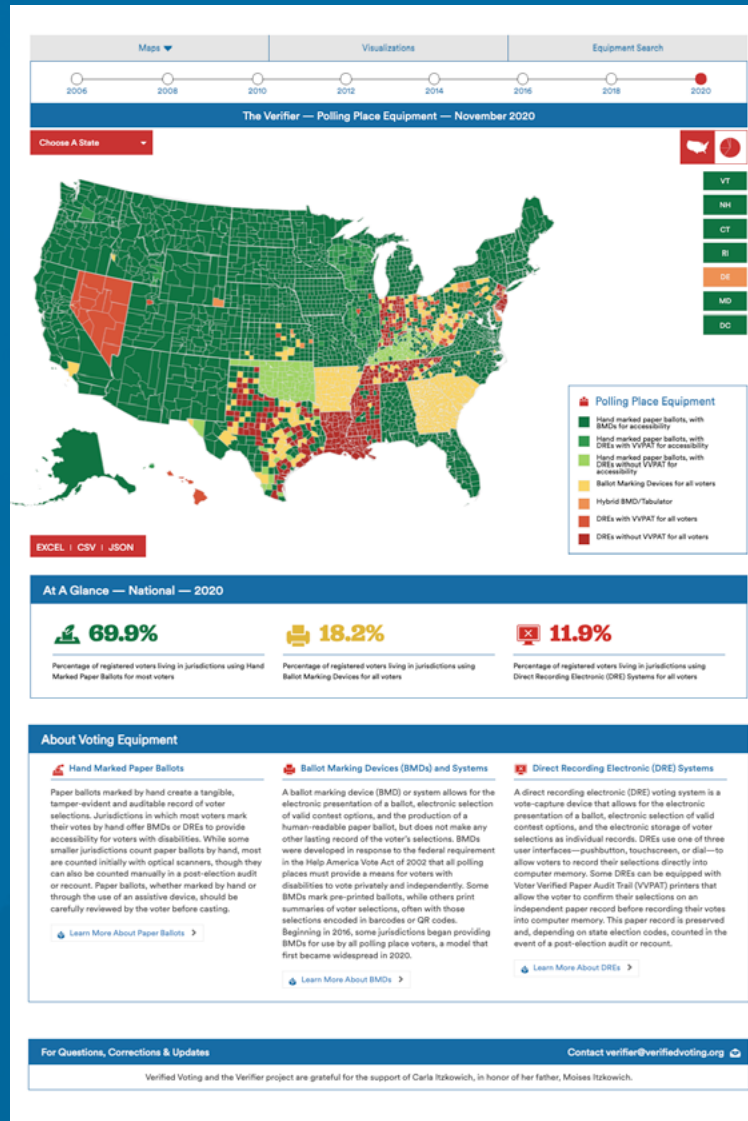
Will your ballot be safe? Computer experts sound warnings on America's voting machines
USA Today, 11/2/20

Verified Voting, a nonprofit organization that has long tracked voting machine usage by jurisdiction, has for the first time begun compiling electronic pollbook usage data and made it available online.

The Election Security Hole Everyone Ignores
Politico, 8/31/20



The Verifier on HBO's "Last Week Tonight"



Poll Books Map



Data Visualizations



Voter Education & Shaping the Narrative

After the 2016 election, we knew that we needed to combat the destructive narrative around our elections with trusted, evidence-based information. Our 2020 strategy focused on leveraging our team's election security expertise and lifting up our coalition partners' work to publish accurate, timely information and collectively push back against disinformation.

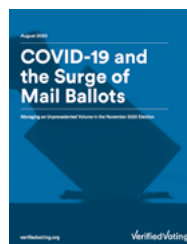
Select Publications

 **T-90 Days: Recommendations for Voting During a Pandemic**

 **Audits vs. Recounts: What's the Difference?**

 **We Won't Have the Official Results on Election Night... and That's Normal!**

 **Verified Voting Condemns Insurrection on Capitol Hill; Reaffirms a Legitimate, Free and Fair Election**



COVID-19 and the Surge of Mail Ballots



Verified Voting Releases Post-Election Statement

Media Highlights



Total media hits in 2020:

3,020

Total impressions

36.63 Billion

A snapshot of some of the publications we appeared in:

The New York Times

WSJ

POLITICO

The Washington Post

AP Associated Press

npr

USA TODAY

The Boston Globe

WIRED

REUTERS

Bloomberg

government technology

Vox

MIT Technology Review

“The country is making distinct progress toward an election system in which every voter is able to verify that their ballot is marked correctly and election officials are able to verify that ballots are counted correctly,” Mark Lindeman, interim co-director of Verified Voting, told me. He added that ‘2020 is by no means the promised land, but we’re certainly much closer.’”

The Cybersecurity 202: More states now have paper trails to verify votes were correctly counted

The Washington Post, 11/5/20

Social Media

Total social media impressions

461,000





Stronger Together: Collaborating With Partners

We work alongside partners who focus on various aspects of voting rights because ensuring every voter's vote is counted as cast is the final step in voter enfranchisement.



Voter
Access

Voter
Turnout

Election
Security

Effective Democracy

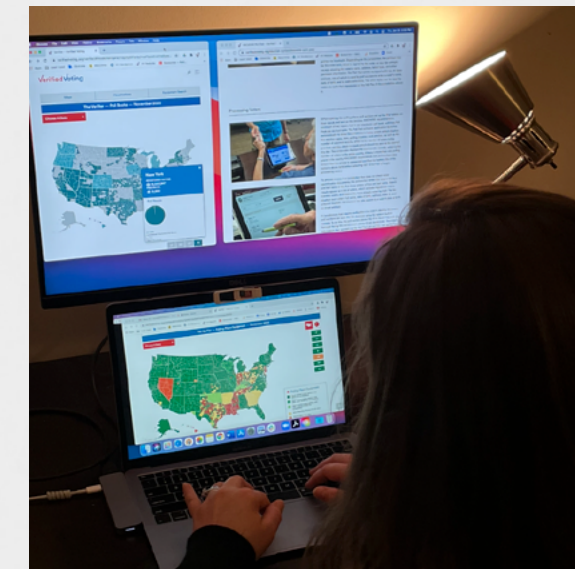
When one leg falters,
we all fall.

ELECTION PROTECTION



Election Protection

We co-chaired the Election Protection Election Security Working Group to help partners with election security concerns throughout the 2020 election season. We also led the “e-geeks” program, where trained experts helped state command centers with monitoring and responding to election technology concerns.



The command center leveraged the Verifier and Voting Equipment Database to respond to problems including multi-state e-poll book outages, high-speed scanners jamming while counting mail ballots in Wisconsin, and problems with equipment causing long lines for voters in Georgia, Louisiana, and Ohio.

BRENNAN
CENTER
FOR JUSTICE



Election Security Coalition

We partnered with Common Cause and The Brennan Center to promote election security best practices in key swing states in 2020. Common Cause's in-state leadership and grassroots mobilization, The Brennan Center's federal and state policy experts, and our technical expertise on equipment and post-election audits allowed us to collectively advocate for paper ballots and election security funding, help officials make contingency plans for technical failures (such as emergency paper ballots and poll books), and provide technical support on Election Day itself. We also successfully advocated for and worked alongside election officials to complete a statewide risk-limiting audit in Georgia and statewide RLA pilots in Virginia, Michigan, and Pennsylvania.

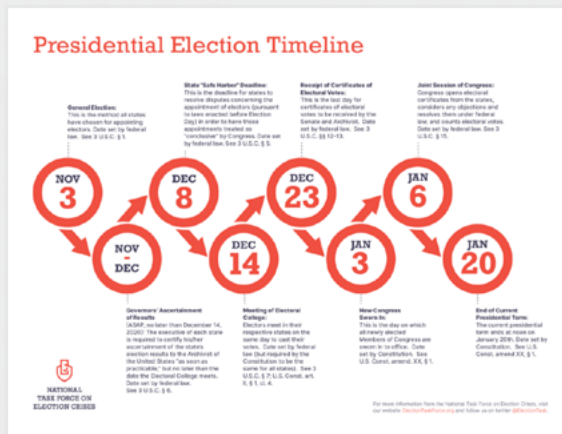
“Mark Lindeman, the acting co-director of the nonprofit advocacy group Verified Voting, called the absence of unusual or malicious problems **'a tremendous accomplishment amidst harrowing challenges'** and commended government partners for **'historic levels of cooperation.'**”

Initial signs point to surprisingly hack-free election, but risks remain

Politico, 11/4/20

National Task Force on Election Crises

As members of the National Task Force on Election Crises, we supported its mission to ensure a free and fair 2020 presidential election by recommending responses to a range of election crises. This diverse, cross-partisan group of more than 50 experts in election law, election administration, national security, cybersecurity, voting rights, civil rights, technology, media, public health, and emergency response produced recommendations, policy papers, press statements, and education materials responding to crises related to the global pandemic, electoral college process, widespread disinformation campaigns, and the violent insurrection at the Capitol.



Voting Rights Task Force

As members of the Voting Rights Task Force, we join forces with organizations like The Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights, American Civil Liberties Union, The Brennan Center for Justice, and more to strengthen the advocacy for necessary voting rights protections.

Election Assistance Commission (EAC)

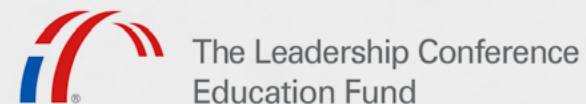
We are a resource for the EAC and continue to build relationships with the federal agency by speaking at panels like the 2020 Elections Disability, Accessibility and Security Forum. We've also participated in working groups and submitted public comments as the EAC develops the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines 2.0. These guidelines will be crucial for election security for years to come as states decide which voting systems to certify.

Secure Our Vote

Secure Our Vote Coalition

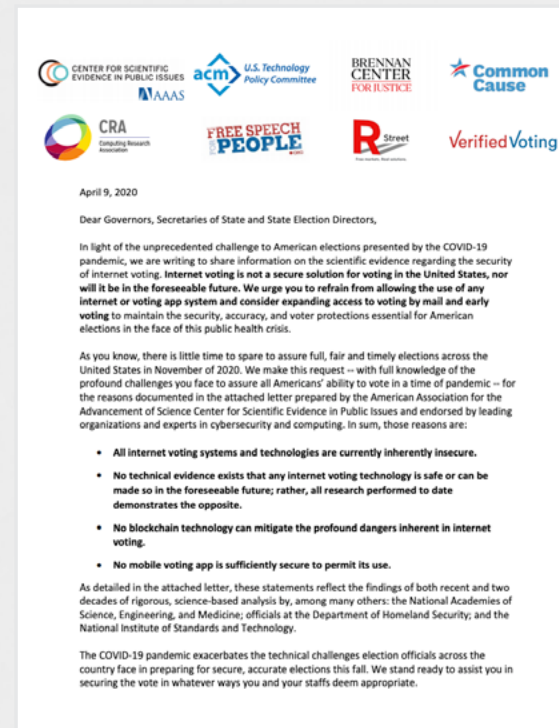
This grassroots organization is led by Public Citizen and includes the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Common Cause, Free Speech for People, Secure Elections Network, and OSET. We've worked on joint advocacy efforts that have:

- Helped block legislation permitting the use of internet voting in Puerto Rico.
- Advocated for bans on wireless connectivity in the VVSG 2.0.
- Raised collective awareness about the vulnerabilities of different remote accessible vote by mail systems.



The Leadership Conference Education Fund

We partnered with the Leadership Conference Education Fund to conduct data analysis to study if voting equipment type correlated with the disproportionate wait time that voters of color experience at the ballot box.



Institutional Rapport

Our Board of Advisors and Board of Directors include top cybersecurity and election experts from across the country. By activating our network, we've been able to partner with leading expert organizations like the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to gain support for election security best practices and to push against policy decisions that introduce more vulnerabilities into our election infrastructure.



Election Security Advocacy Work

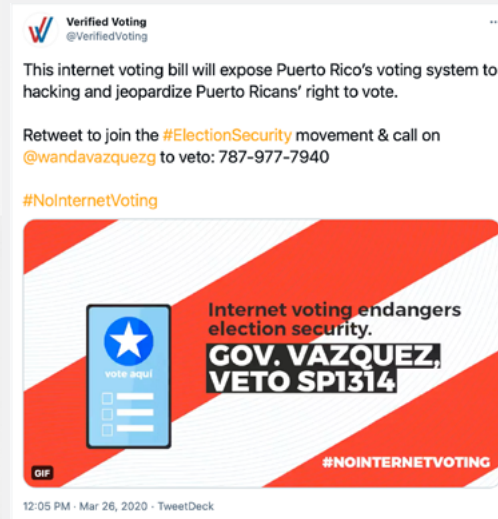
State Advocacy

Because every state runs its elections differently, each one requires a targeted approach. And because some of the most important decisions that impact elections are made in years without any major elections, careful planning and engagement are required from the start. In Pennsylvania, for example, it took 18 months of calls, briefings, op-eds, and grassroots organizing before we were able to secure funding for replacing paperless voting machines in 2019.

In 2020, while many of our legislative victories were rapid response efforts, we also laid the groundwork for long-term improvements, such as:

In **Virginia**, we worked closely with military and veterans advocacy groups to support a deadline extension for receipt of properly postmarked mail ballots, increasing safe options for all voters during the pandemic.

In **New Jersey** and **Puerto Rico**, we successfully fought back fundamentally insecure internet voting proposals through letters, targeted outreach, and social media campaigns.



In **California** and **Oregon**, we advised officials on proposed RLA regulations, resulting in meetings and opportunities to help shape legislation.

Federal Advocacy

Verified Voting works hand in hand with our partner organizations to support federal election security provisions that provide states and local jurisdictions with the funding and assistance they need to implement best practices like paper ballots and RLAs. From letters and press statements to conversations with lawmakers, we've spent 2020 fighting to get election officials the resources to deal with unanticipated challenges – and with a new Congress and Administration taking up these issues, we'll do the same in 2021.

'But money must come soon,' [Cris] Landa said, 'or jurisdictions won't have time to implement changes. Elections are woefully underfunded as is,' she said. 'The need is there for more election funding. It's hard not to paint such a stark, worrisome picture.'

Election Experts Warn of November Disaster

Stateline, 9/8/20

On HEROES Act HR 6800:

COVID-19 created a new landscape for conducting elections and election officials need sufficient funds to ensure that voters can vote safely and know that their votes were counted accurately. We support the security measures that accompany the \$3.6 billion in funding such as signature verification with opportunity to cure, ballot tracking and risk-limiting audits. Verified Voting also applauds the provisions preventing federal funding from being spent on dangerously insecure online voting systems.



What's Next

Disinformation and conspiracy theories following the 2020 election have shaken voters' confidence in election outcomes. While experts may agree that the 2020 election was the most secure in modern history, the general public does not share in this understanding. Voters deserve to know that their vote is safe and that the results are credible. Verified Voting is in a unique position to lift up evidence-based, nonpartisan practices that promote justified confidence in election outcomes.

WHAT'S NEXT

As we prepare for future election cycles, we will prioritize:



Promoting secure voting systems that require paper ballots and support voter verification, enabling election officials to conduct rigorous post-election audits.



Working with election officials to demonstrate the credibility of election outcomes by increasing the transparency of processes such as voter eligibility checks, a strong chain of ballot custody, and post-election audits.



Preventing election security measures from being misused for the purpose of voter suppression and disenfranchisement.



Educating the public on the nuts and bolts of voting, to restore confidence in election outcomes.

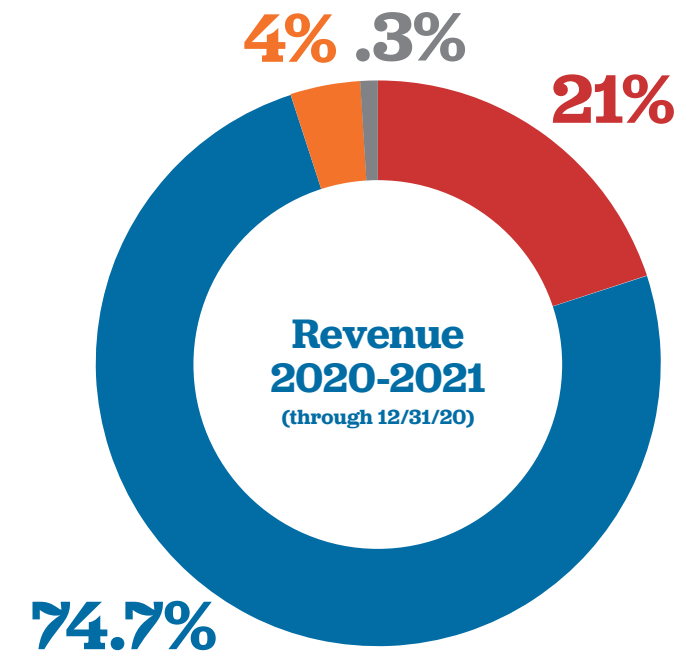
Increasing Our Capacity

Our 2020-2021 fiscal year ends on June 30, 2021. Halfway through the fiscal year, Verified Voting's financials are strong – and we have many, many supporters to thank for helping get us here. Even if your name does not appear on these lists, know that you have played a vital role in making the work detailed throughout this report possible, and we are truly grateful for each and every one of you.

However, as these figures show, we still need additional resources to advance our mission through the next five months. And these projections merely cover our current workplan and capacity. If we want to expand our work to states like Texas, where we'll need to work jurisdiction by jurisdiction to root out paperless machines, or build out collaborative efforts to tackle disinformation, or simply ensure we're prepared to respond to unexpected developments in the election security space, we can't afford to lose momentum.

To learn more about how to support us:

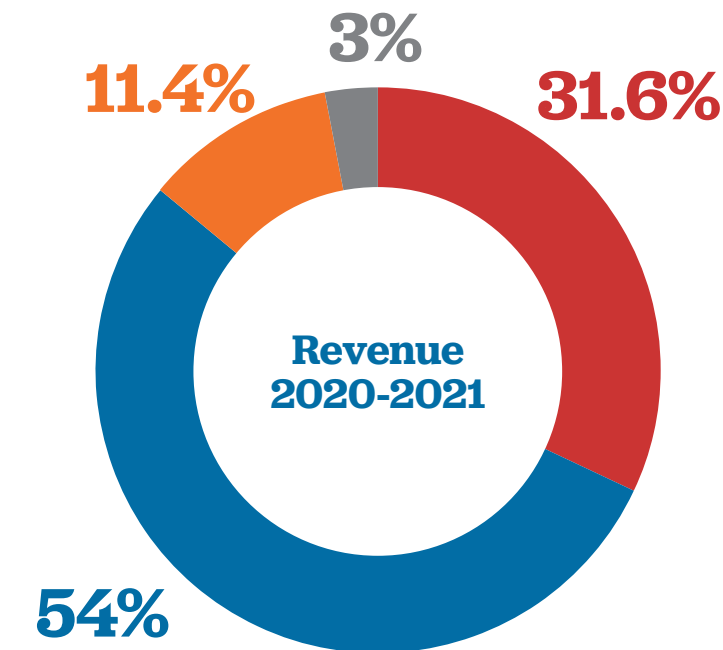
-  **Website:** verifiedvoting.org/donate
-  **Call:** 760.804.VOTE (8683) x702
-  **Email:** development@verifiedvoting.org



Revenue 2020-2021

(through 12/31/20)

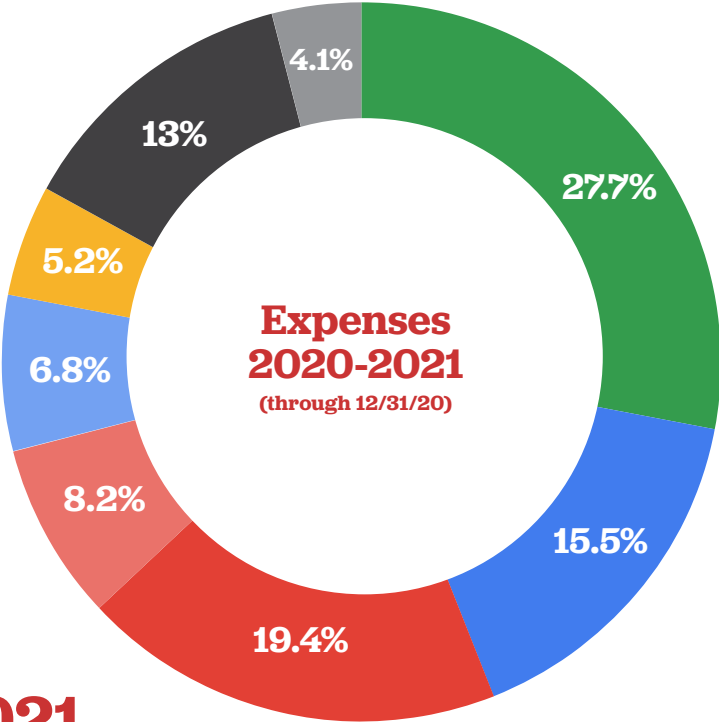
	(full year)	
	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Major Donors	\$362,341	\$593,125
Foundations and Institutional Funding	\$1,284,740	\$1,127,000
Small Donors (<\$1,000)	\$68,395	\$112,500
Other	\$4,463	\$80,173
TOTAL	\$1,719,939	\$1,912,798



Revenue 2019-2020

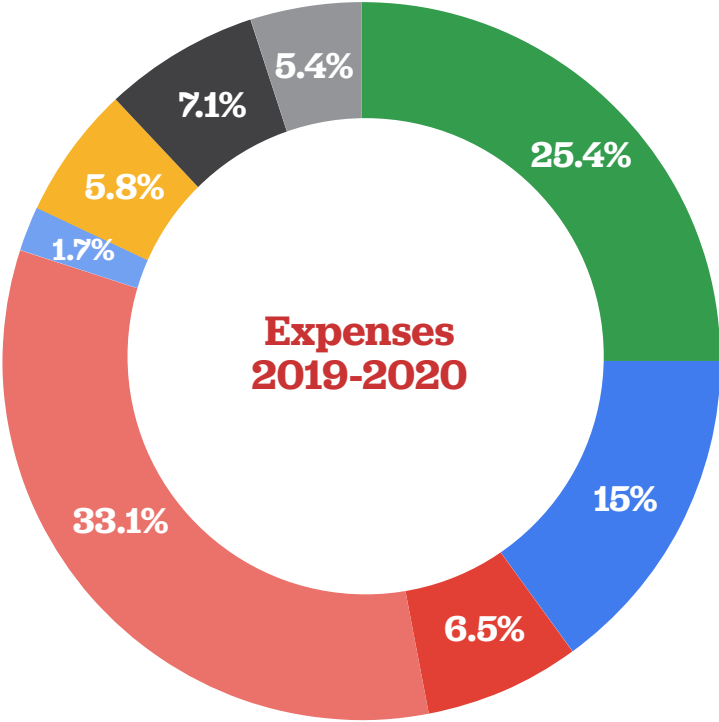
	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Major Donors	\$640,035	\$850,000
Foundations and Institutional Funding	\$1,094,986	\$620,000
Small Donors (<\$1,000)	\$232,127	\$325,000
Other	\$61,837	\$115,913
TOTAL	\$2,028,985	\$1,910,913

Verified Voting's fiscal year runs from July 1-June 30



Expenses 2020-2021
(through 12/31/20)

	ACTUAL	(full year) BUDGETED
Policy, Education & Outreach	\$270,934	\$642,026
Audits	\$151,867	\$309,959
Data & Research	\$189,309	\$211,426
Advocacy	\$79,993	\$280,655
Organizational Development	\$66,443	\$102,699
General Program Management	\$50,990	\$119,887
Development	\$127,400	\$235,380
Management & General	\$40,184	\$10,208
TOTAL	\$977,119	\$1,912,240



Expenses 2019-2020

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Policy, Education & Outreach	\$415,797	\$471,710
Audits	\$245,592	\$258,936
Data & Research	\$107,095	\$302,936
Advocacy	\$541,096	\$436,258
Organizational Development	\$27,015	\$58,756
General Program Management	\$94,678	\$76,286
Development	\$116,354	\$136,040
Management & General	\$87,977	\$32,897
TOTAL	\$1,635,604	\$1,773,820

Thanking Our Supporters

2020-2021 Major Donors & Institutional Supporters

\$250,000 and up Patti and Everett B. Birch Foundation	\$10,000- \$24,999 Anonymous Barbara Simons Carla Itzkowich Chase Family Foundation Jim Bidzos Laurie Schechter Monardella Fund Paula Rantz Robert and Cheryl Gilhooley Charitable Fund Ron Rivest RSF - Gratitude in Motion
\$200,000 - \$299,000 The Heising-Simons Family Fund Women Donors Network	
\$100,000 - \$199,999 Anonymous Deer Creek Foundation Katherine Randolph N EO Philanthropy State Infrastructure Fund The Richard W. Goldman Family Foundation	
\$50,000-\$99,999 Betsy Krieger Charlie Courie Wallace Global Fund Willow Tree Fund	\$5,000 - \$9,999 Eileen Segall Frank and Mimi Slaughter Karen Cooper and Bruce Schneier Minneapolis Foundation
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2019-2020 Major Donors & Institutional Supporters

\$300,000 and up Anonymous Women Donors Network	Ellen Spertus and Keith Golden Ron Rivest Steve Silberstein Triskeles Foundation Terry and Carol Winograd William Kennedy and Deborah Kennard	Martin and Dorothe Hellman Family Fund Matt Hillman Michael R. Hansen Nancy Kurtz Richard Kayne Robert Haines Rosemary Heil
\$200,000 - \$299,000 Barbara Simons NEO Philanthropy Action Fund		
\$100,000 - \$199,999 Anonymous Deer Creek Foundation	\$5,000 - \$9,999 Abby Rockefeller and Lee Halprin Brian Arbogast and Valerie Tarico Bruce Schneier and Karen Cooper Chandra Frieze Eileen Segall Fran Rodgers Laurance Rockefeller Michael Olson Pam and George Schneider Philippe and Kate Villers	
\$50,000-\$99,999 Arca Foundation David Dill Katherine Randolph WhyNot Initiative		
\$25,000 - \$49,999 Allegra Dengler Anonymous FJC- A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds Grace and Laurance Hoagland The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights Wallace Global Fund	\$1,000-\$4,999 Bob Epstein Chris Karlin Eacho Family Foundation Federico Minoli Fenton Wurtz Family Fund Georges Saab Jennifer Thomas Joan Mazzotti Judith Thompson Kevin Shelley Linda Blackstone Linda Steinberg	
\$10,000 - \$24,999 Anonymous Anonymous Carla Itzkowich Cohn Charitable Fund		

February 3, 2021



Verified Voting

Strengthening Democracy For All Voters

