

Provisional Ballot Survey

Connecticut

Provisional Ballots Cast: 1,573
Provisional Ballots Counted: 498
Percent Counted: 31.7%
Percent of Vote: 0.03%

DESIGN

Who designs the provisional ballot, the state or county?

The state designs the provisional ballot.

Is the entity responsible for designing the provisional ballot designated by statute or rule?

Not reported.

Does Connecticut have a provisional ballot that also serves as a voter registration application?

No, Connecticut does not have a combined provisional ballot/voter registration application.

Is Connecticut's provisional ballot visually distinguishable from a regular ballot?

Yes, provisional ballots are distinguishable from a regular ballot. Provisional ballots are paper ballots and only have federal races listed on them. Towns use lever machines or optical scanners in the polls. Provisional ballots are not currently scan able.

AVAILABILITY AND STANDARDS

Are there a required number of provisional ballots at polling places?

Yes, the state requires a minimum of 1 percent of registered voters, and generally supplies more.

What to do poll workers do if the polling place runs out of provisional ballots?

The procedure is the same as if voting machines had broken down. A poll worker would photocopy emergency ballots and would put the town seal on them.

Are provisional ballots tracked through distribution to polling sites through counting?

Provisional ballots may be tracked in any way that the local jurisdiction prefers. Local jurisdictions are responsible for counting ballots; they are not counted at the state level but their results are reported to the state.

COUNTING PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

Who determines whether or not a provisional ballot is valid?

The city or town Registrar of Voters is responsible for determining the validity of each provisional ballot.

What is the time frame for counting provisional ballots?

The state requires that provisional ballots be counted by six days after the election.

What is the process for determining the eligibility of a provisional ballot?

Registrar of Voter staff research election records to determine the validity of the provisional ballot. There are two registrars in each town, and both must agree on the status of the provisional ballot.

Who can observe the process?

N/A

Is a provisional ballot counted if it is cast in the wrong precinct?

No, by state law, a provisional ballot is counted only if cast in the correct precinct. There is a very thorough process before a voter is given a provisional ballot to ensure that they are voting in the correct precinct, or else direct them to their appropriate polling location.

What information must voters provide on the provisional ballot?

The voter must provide his name, date of birth, polling place location, his residential address, any previous voting address, any name which he had been registered to vote under, the reason for the provisional ballot, and the voter must sign an assertion that he is only voting by this ballot, that he is eligible to vote in the given district.

May a voter remedy a provisional ballot that may be rejected?

No, voters do not have the opportunity to remedy a provisional ballot that may be rejected.

If voters remedy a flawed provisional ballot, how are they notified of this opportunity?

Voters do not have the opportunity to remedy a provisional ballot.

What can voters do if they failed to bring ID to the polls?

The voter may return to the polling place with identification before the close of the polls.

NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

What is the state's Free Notification System to inform voters whether their provisional ballot was counted?

Voters call their town registrar.

Who administers the Free Notification System?

Towns administer the system.

What is the timeline for posting information to the Free Notification System?

The town has six days to make the decision for each provisional ballot. Information is available by phone after the six days.