



# ***2004 VOTER REGISTRATION REPORT***

**June 7, 2005**

***Department of Elections for New Castle County***  
820 N. French Street  
Wilmington DE 19801

JUNE 7, 2005

## **2004 VOTER REGISTRATION REPORT**

This report was reformatted in August, 2007, so that it is similar to the 2005 and 2006 reports. Some prior year data in the tables on pages 3, 4 and 5 was corrected.

The Department of Elections for New Castle County processed a record 125,729 voter registration transactions in 2004. The previous highest number of transactions processed was 83,225 in 1996.

In looking at data over the past 10 years, 2004 saw the highest number of federal mail-in applications – 17,022 as compared to 3,741 in 2000, the highest number of new registrants – 32,278 as compared to 30,564 in 1996, and the highest number of change of addresses – 33,446 as compared to 29,567 in 2000.

The federal mail-in application, mandated by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, had the greatest impact on the Department. These applications were at times illegible, took a significant amount of additional time to process, and the department received over 10,000 of them in September and October of 2004.

There is a lot that we can say about the federal mail-in application process and the lack of guidelines and basic controls. These issues are being addressed in legislation and in recommendations that will be sent to the U. S. Election Assistance Commission.

The report has five charts. The first shows number and type of transactions for each agency/registration source for 2004. The next four charts show data for the each of the past ten years for new registrations, changes of address, total transactions and voter removals.

We hope that this report is useful. Please contact either of us at 302-577-3464 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

ELAINE MANLOVE  
Administrative Director

HOWARD G. SHOLL, JR.  
Deputy Administrative Director

STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

JUNE 7, 2005

**2004 VOTER REGISTRATION TRANSACTIONS**

|  | <b>New Voters</b> | <b>Change Address</b> | <b>Change Name</b> | <b>Change Party</b> | <b>Duplicate</b> | <b>Void</b>  | <b>Decline to Register</b> | <b>TOTAL</b>   |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Dept. of Elections</b>  | 5,157             | 2,709                 | 457                | 1,972               | 1,232            | 199          | 2                          | <b>11,728</b>  |
| <b>Div. of Motor Vehicles</b>  | 13,502            | 22,852                | 3,161              | 530                 | 28,934           | 4,035        | 9,115                      | <b>82,129</b>  |
| <b>Dept. of Health &amp; Social Svcs.</b>                                | 243               | 96                    | 20                 | 59                  | 70               | 15           | 722                        | <b>1,225</b>   |
| <b>Dept. of Labor</b>  | 80                | 21                    | 3                  | 21                  | 16               | 2            | 82                         | <b>225</b>     |
| <b>Other Agencies (State &amp; Federal)</b>                              | 620               | 126                   | 19                 | 157                 | 99               | 12           | 0                          | <b>1,033</b>   |
| <b>Volunteer Persons &amp; Groups</b>                                    | 2,385             | 811                   | 65                 | 748                 | 560              | 115          | 1                          | <b>4,685</b>   |
| <b>Federal Post Card Application (Military &amp; Overseas Civilians)</b> | 298               | 84                    | 29                 | 102                 | 4                | 2            | 0                          | <b>519</b>     |
| <b>Federal Mail Application</b>  | 9,498             | 2,055                 | 276                | 2,304               | 2,505            | 384          | 0                          | <b>17,022</b>  |
| <b>Fail Safe</b>   | 325               | 2,677                 | 292                | 741                 | 333              | 41           | 0                          | <b>4,409</b>   |
| <b>Address Verification</b>  | 0                 | 2,001                 | 3                  | 4                   | 102              | 78           | 0                          | <b>2,188</b>   |
| <b>Provisional Voters</b>  | 170               | 14                    | 0                  | 7                   | 5                | 1            | 0                          | <b>197</b>     |
| <b>Unknown</b>   | 0                 | 0                     | 0                  | 0                   | 0                | 0            | 369                        | <b>369</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>32,278</b>     | <b>33,446</b>         | <b>4,325</b>       | <b>6,645</b>        | <b>33,860</b>    | <b>4,884</b> | <b>10,291</b>              | <b>125,729</b> |

STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

JUNE 7, 2005

**NEW REGISTRATIONS**

|  | <b>1995</b>   | <b>1996</b>   | <b>1997</b>   | <b>1998</b>   | <b>1999</b>   | <b>2000</b>   | <b>2001</b>   | <b>2002</b>   | <b>2003</b>   | <b>2004</b>   |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Dept. of Elections</b>  | 1,920         | 5,801         | 559           | 1,033         | 760           | 5,185         | 413           | 1,117         | 485           | 5,157         |
| <b>Div. of Motor Vehicles</b>  | 19,331        | 19,140        | 17,646        | 17,343        | 14,569        | 12,488        | 11,624        | 10,896        | 10,928        | 13,502        |
| <b>Dept. of Health &amp; Social Svcs.</b>                                    | 1,016         | 907           | 532           | 450           | 149           | 204           | 96            | 164           | 165           | 243           |
| <b>Dept. of Labor</b>  | 353           | 302           | 285           | 210           | 154           | 110           | 64            | 197           | 121           | 80            |
| <b>Other Agencies (State &amp; Federal)</b>                                  | 49            | 116           | 22            | 33            | 141           | 203           | 120           | 81            | 120           | 620           |
| <b>Volunteer Persons &amp; Groups</b>  | 97            | 2,320         | 34            | 244           | 146           | 848           | 8             | 463           | 186           | 2,385         |
| <b>Federal Post Card Application<br/>(Military &amp; Overseas Civilians)</b> | 3             | 205           | 1             | 11            | 3             | 123           | 0             | 12            | 7             | 298           |
| <b>Federal Mail Application</b>  | 11            | 1,593         | 60            | 85            | 183           | 2,087         | 75            | 309           | 385           | 9,498         |
| <b>Fail Safe</b>   | 0             | 178           | 2             | 54            |               | 264           | 4             | 116           | 1             | 325           |
| <b>Address Verification</b>  | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1             | 0             |
| <b>Provisional Voters</b>  | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 170           |
| <b>Unknown</b>   | 0             | 2             | 3             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>22,780</b> | <b>30,564</b> | <b>19,144</b> | <b>19,463</b> | <b>16,106</b> | <b>21,512</b> | <b>12,404</b> | <b>13,355</b> | <b>12,399</b> | <b>32,278</b> |

STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

JUNE 7, 2005

**CHANGES OF ADDRESS**

|  | 1995          | 1996          | 1997          | 1998          | 1999          | 2000          | 2001          | 2002          | 2003          | 2004          |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Dept. of Elections</b>  | 2,199         | 5,235         | 1,160         | 1,981         | 1,036         | 4,810         | 558           | 1,704         | 685           | 2,709         |
| <b>Div. of Motor Vehicles</b>  | 7,643         | 8,410         | 11,512        | 15,938        | 19,940        | 18,799        | 18,804        | 22,255        | 20,833        | 22,852        |
| <b>Dept. of Health &amp; Social Svcs.</b>                                    | 253           | 254           | 226           | 258           | 84            | 133           | 46            | 97            | 93            | 96            |
| <b>Dept. of Labor</b>  | 73            | 74            | 89            | 99            | 58            | 38            | 29            | 76            | 24            | 21            |
| <b>Other Agencies (State &amp; Federal)</b>                                  | 14            | 47            | 17            | 11            | 8             | 43            | 13            | 9             | 7             | 126           |
| <b>Volunteer Persons &amp; Groups</b>  | 3             | 837           | 18            | 135           | 54            | 373           | 2             | 176           | 19            | 811           |
| <b>Federal Post Card Application<br/>(Military &amp; Overseas Civilians)</b> | 0             | 23            | 1             | 1             | 1             | 42            | 0             | 5             | 1             | 84            |
| <b>Federal Mail Application</b>  | 0             | 185           | 13            | 25            | 35            | 504           | 6             | 68            | 70            | 2,055         |
| <b>Fail Safe</b>   | 0             | 4,723         | 115           | 2,086         | 11            | 4,333         | 37            | 1,283         | 0             | 2,677         |
| <b>Address Verification</b>  | 3             | 225           | 168           | 442           | 288           | 492           | 1,225         | 146           | 2,402         | 2,001         |
| <b>Provisional Voter</b>   | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 14            |
| <b>Unknown</b>   | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>10,188</b> | <b>20,013</b> | <b>13,319</b> | <b>20,976</b> | <b>21,515</b> | <b>29,567</b> | <b>20,720</b> | <b>25,819</b> | <b>24,134</b> | <b>33,446</b> |

STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

JUNE 7, 2005

**TOTAL TRANSACTIONS**

|                            | <b>1995</b>   | <b>1996</b>   | <b>1997</b>   | <b>1998</b>   | <b>1999</b>   | <b>2000</b>   | <b>2001</b>   | <b>2002</b>   | <b>2003</b>   | <b>2004</b>    |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>New Voters</b>          | 22,780        | 30,564        | 19,144        | 19,463        | 16,106        | 21,512        | 12,404        | 13,355        | 12,399        | 32,278         |
| <b>Change of Address</b>   | 10,188        | 20,013        | 13,319        | 20,976        | 21,515        | 29,567        | 20,720        | 25,819        | 24,134        | 33,446         |
| <b>Change of Name</b>      | 2,363         | 3,844         | 2,530         | 2,862         | 2,812         | 3,697         | 2,942         | 3,193         | 2,686         | 4,325          |
| <b>Change of Party</b>     | 1,332         | 3,878         | 705           | 1,617         | 1,453         | 4,672         | 776           | 1,524         | 786           | 6,645          |
| <b>Duplicate</b>           | 4,034         | 6,587         | 3,140         | 6,008         | 13,884        | 11,952        | 14,137        | 18,437        | 11,283        | 33,860         |
| <b>Void</b>                | 2,833         | 2,329         | 2,238         | 3,170         | 2,564         | 1,551         | 1,855         | 2,004         | 3,042         | 4,884          |
| <b>Decline to Register</b> | 24,150        | 16,036        | 19,240        | 18,728        | 15,226        | 10,191        | 11,034        | 10,423        | 8,049         | 10,291         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>67,680</b> | <b>83,251</b> | <b>60,316</b> | <b>72,824</b> | <b>73,560</b> | <b>83,142</b> | <b>63,868</b> | <b>74,755</b> | <b>62,379</b> | <b>125,729</b> |

STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

JUNE 7, 2005

**VOTER REMOVAL PROGRAMS**

|                                  | 1995         | 1996         | 1997         | 1998         | 1999         | 2000         | 2001         | 2002         | 2003          | 2004         |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Deceased</b>                  | 2,101        | 2,084        | 2,095        | 2,726        | 2,543        | 2,250        | 2,806        | 3,754        | 2,292         | 2,382        |
| <b>Moved from State</b>          | 700          | 1,197        | 1,580        | 1,314        | 715          | 1,571        | 1,304        | 0            | 970           | 1,572        |
| <b>Board Removal</b>             | 9            | 12           | 14           | 12           | 13           | 13           | 6            | 1,364        | 20            | 21           |
| <b>Address Verification</b>      | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 561          | 520          | 472          | 8            | 1,220         | 127          |
| <b>Department NVRA Program</b>   | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 866          | 0            | 293          | 3,485         | 0            |
| <b>Commissioner Verification</b> | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 6,069        | 79           | 2,947        | 1,216        | 3,770         | 2,249        |
| <b>Commissioner NVRA Program</b> | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 69           | 0             | 0            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>2,810</b> | <b>3,293</b> | <b>3,689</b> | <b>4,052</b> | <b>9,901</b> | <b>5,299</b> | <b>7,535</b> | <b>6,704</b> | <b>11,757</b> | <b>6,351</b> |