STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS

Report to the State Board of Elections

Board Meeting
August 24, 2026
4:00 p.m.

Department Report by:
Anthony Albence
State Election Commissioner
& Board Member Ex-Officio

Department County Office Reports by:
Tracey Dixon, County Director, NCC
David W. Gilefski, County Deputy Director, NCC

Doris J. Reed-Young, County Director, Kent County
Ralph A. Artigliere, County Deputy Director, Kent County

Kenneth "Bo" McDowell, County Director, Sussex County
Tracey Wilkerson, County Deputy Director, Sussex County

State of Delaware Department of Elections
August 2026 Budget Information

BUDGET SUMMARY

Bud Ref	Fund	Dept	Approp	Class Description	Account	Budget	Expense	Encumbrance	Available Budget*	Percent Available
2025	100	700101	00412	School Elections	5010	18,553.56	15,994.06	2,559.50	0.00	0
2025	100	700101	08911	Primary and General Elections	5010	2,152,886.25	2,008,297.71	144,565.84	22.70	0
2025	100	700101	08939	Contingency	5010	1,605,925.00	1,341,105.11	264,819.89	0.00	0
2026	100	700101	00150	Contractual Services	5510	2,476,432.23	2,364,651.23	111,781.00	0.00	0
2026	100	700101	00159	Energy	5520	125,400.00	124,450.04	949.96	0.00	0
2026	100	700101	00160	Supplies and Materials	5600	33,275.87	28,489.42	4,786.45	0.00	0
2026	100	700101	00176	Technology	5010	19,989.82	8,776.98	11,212.84	0.00	0
2026	100	700101	00412	School Elections	5010	335,400.00	317,683.80	10,773.35	6,942.85	2.07
2026	100	700101	00413	Voting Mach	5010	1,642,000.00	1,359,602.09	282,397.91	0.00	0
2026	100	700101	08916	Technology	5010	300,000.00	150,000.00	8,103.60	141,896.40	47.3
2027	100	700101	00137	Personnel Costs	5100	4,525,900.00	671,421.50	0.00	3,854,478.50	85.16
2027	100	700101	00140	Travel	5400	8,300.00	40.85	0.00	8,259.15	99.51
2027	100	700101	00150	Contractual Services	5510	2,893,800.00	322,531.68	1,351,108.18	1,220,160.14	42.16
2027	100	700101	00159	Energy	5520	125,400.00	12,615.06	58,408.15	54,376.79	43.36
2027	100	700101	00160	Supplies and Materials	5600	33,300.00	3,914.21	199.96	29,185.83	87.65
2027	100	700101	00176	Technology	5010	289,400.00	0.00	0.00	289,400.00	100
2027	100	700101	00412	School Elections	5010	267,400.00	45.98	0.00	267,354.02	99.98
2027	100	700101	00413	Voting Mach	5010	1,642,000.00	0.00	1,642,000.00	0.00	0
2027	100	700101	00414	Voter Purg	5010	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	0
2027	100	700101	08911	Primary and General Elections	5010	8,412,900.00	745,331.00	2,173,628.86	5,493,940.14	65.3
2027	100	700101	08913	Voting Technology	5010	1,587,100.00	0.00	0.00	1,587,100.00	100
2027	100	700101	08916	Technology	5010	1,900,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,900,000.00	100
						30,410,362.73	**9,474,950.72**	**6,082,295.49**	**14,853,116.52**	

Budget Update

- FY 2027-FY 2028 Budget Planning and Implementation
  - FY 2027 Budget Status (Current Budget: Calendar July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027)
    - Key Points Regarding Department's FY 2027 Budget Request/Allocation
      - Funding obtained for upgrade/replacement of Campaign Finance Reporting System (CFRS)
        - Mid-2027 calendar year deployment
      - Funding obtained for upgrade of Voter Registration and Election Management System
        - Mid-2027 calendar year deployment
      - Expansion of the New Castle County Warehouse
        - To accommodate additional voting equipment obtained for implement early voting (including anticipated expansion)
        - Anticipated completion in calendar year 2027
      - Full replacement of backup batteries in Express Vote XL fleet
      - Continued Funding of Voter Information Efforts
      - Continued Funding of Early Voting (at 2024 Election Cycle Level)

  - Projects Completed or Underway (FY 2026/FY 2027 Budget)
    - Installation of air conditioning at Seaford Warehouse
    - Replacement of backup batteries in Express Vote XL fleet (FY 2025 funding)
    - Obtaining New/Additional Vehicles (Trucks)
    - Training Facility Upgrades (Audiovisual/Technology)
    - Consolidation of Department Budget and Accounting Structure

  - FY 2028 Budget Planning
    - Monthly meetings with Department's OMB Budget Analyst are ongoing
    - FY 2028 "door openers" are being prepared
    - Department's target meeting with OMB will occur in September
    - Requested “Door Openers”:
      - *Definition: Additions to budget noted as required for operation*
      - Maintenance Fund for Department-maintained vehicles (trucks)
      - Energy Cost Increase: Requested to account for increasing costs of energy and establish a dedicated budget line for these costs.
      - Lease Escalator: Requested to cover anticipated/known increased costs of leased facilities (contractually stipulated increased.
      - Early Voting Expansion: Requested to cover expected increases in volume of early voting for the 2028 Election Cycle
      - Information Technology: Costs for DTI-Related Services
      - IT Hardware: Staged replacement/update plan
      - School Election Funding Increase
      - Dedicated Voter Outreach Funding
      - Upgrades/Enhancements to our Mailing Automation Equipment
      - Additional DAG for Department (fiscal note for HB 444)

August 24, 2026 – December 31, 2026

STATE ELECTIONS	
ELECTION	**DATE**
Primary Election	**September 15, 2026**
Absentee Ballots Sent to UOCAVA Voters on August 1 (at least 45 days prior to the election per federal law)	
Early Voting Sept 2 – Sept 13	
General Election	**November 3, 2026**
Absentee Ballots to be Sent to UOCAVA Voters on Sept. 19 (at least 45 days prior to the election per federal law)	
Early Voting Oct. 22 – Nov. 1	

NEW CASTLE COUNTY ELECTIONS (School & Municipal)		
ENTITY	**DATE**	**TYPE OF ELECTION**

KENT COUNTY ELECTIONS (School & Municipal)		
ENTITY	**DATE**	**TYPE OF ELECTION**
City of Milford	Saturday, September 26, 2026	Municipal

SUSSEX COUNTY ELECTIONS (School & Municipal)		
ENTITY	**DATE**	**TYPE OF ELECTION**
Town of Bethany Beach	Saturday, September 12, 2026	Municipal
Town of Dewey Beach	Saturday, September 19, 2026	Municipal
Town of Delmar	Monday, October 5, 2026	Municipal
Town of Dagsboro	Saturday, December 5, 2026	Municipal

Monthly Statewide Voter Registration Totals 2026	
Date	**Number of Registered Voters**
JAN 1, 2026	801,762
FEB 1, 2026	801,918
MAR 1, 2026	802,531
APR 1, 2026	803,409
MAY 1, 2026	804,516
JUN 1, 2026	805,335
JUL 1, 2026	806,675
AUG 1, 2026	807,896
SEP 1, 2026	
OCT 1, 2026	
NOV 1, 2026	
DEC 1, 2026	

Voter Registration Transactions – New & Updated Records

January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Month	New voters	Updated names	Changed party	New addresses	Pre-Registrations	Total
January	2,996	1,349	4,448	6,313	667	15,773
February	2,775	1,197	4,226	5,631	732	14,561
March	3,727	1,585	5,457	7,097	955	18,821
April	3,906	1,501	6,513	7,098	1,132	20,150
May	3,996	1,291	6,045	6,122	1,023	18,477
June	3,775	1,330	3,671	6,484	1,050	16,310
July	3,917	1,491	3,341	7,015	1,012	16,776
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
2026 Total	**25,092**	**9,744**	**33,701**	**45,760**	**6,571**	**120,868**

Voter Registration Transactions						
Annual Totals						
Year	**New voters**	**Updated names**	**Changed party**	**New addresses**	**Pre-Registrations**	**Total**
2025	**43,190**	**16,363**	**55,225**	**78,504**	**8,353**	**201,635**
2024	56,911	21,433	126,545	95,081	9,481	309,451
2023	35,860	13,795	21,829	70,816	5,909	148,209

Voter Registration Transactions – Removals
January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Month	Deceased*	Moved from State	Address verification	Request by voter	Not a citizen*	AVR Declination	Felon	NVRA**	Total
January	1,338	0***	24	0***	0	96	175	0	1,633
February	596	0***	37	0***	0	91	159	0	883
March	1308	0***	26	0***	0	96	184	0	1,614
April	563	0***	33	0***	0	83	271	0	950
May	1223	0***	55	0***	0	67	142	0	1,487
June	640	0***	16	0***	0	77	217	0	950
July	640	6,396	31	0***	0	60	191	0	7,318
July – August MOS Removal		11,226****							11,226
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									
2026 Total	**6,308**	**11,226**	**222**	**0**	**0**	**570**	**1,339**	**0**	**26,061**

Voter Registration Removals
Annual Totals

Year	Deceased*	Moved from State	Address verification	Request by voter	Not a citizen*	AVR Declination	Felon	NVRA**	Total
2025	**11,562**	**13,053**	**266**	**138**	**1**	**1,687**	**2,102**	**24,790**	**53,599**
2024	9,126	15,427	162	270	4	1,080	2,150	0	28,219
2023	12,322	19,921	1,015	122	0	684	1,604	11,391	47,059

*Deceased, Address Verification, Non-citizen, and Felon records have already been removed. The Board must approve removal of the Moved from State and Request by Voter (Voluntary).

** The NVRA process is run in the year following each General Election to remove those inactive voters with whom the Department has not had any contact for the period covering the past 2 General Elections.

***Board did not meet in this month, and, therefore, there were no Moved from State nor Requests by Voter records approved for removal by the Board.

****Due to Board vacancies and the Department's authority and responsibility to maintain a current and accurate voter registration list, the Department removed records of voters who had moved out of Delaware, which had been pending removal for months since the last Board meeting. With a fully constituted board, MOS removals will proceed as usual following Board approval of voter names to be removed at each meeting.

Organized Voter Registration Program (OVR)

- OVR program:
  - Staffing Transition in Trainer/Educator Position
  - 2026 OVR monthly trainings continue (virtual format primarily)
  - OVR Group Certification/Recertification:
    - Ongoing outreach to OVR groups to maintain certification (following initial training and certification, recertification occurs after two (2) years
    - 2026 Election Season OVR Planning and Registrar Training Key Points:
      - Continued emphasis on use of approved and provided registration materials and forms, attention to detail, thoroughness/completeness of application, timely submission of materials, nonpartisan approach to all OVR activities
  - Exploring use of online training management system for OVR training management

Online Training Management Platform

- Initial Discussions with Delaware Learning Center (DLC) to leverage this resource to manage:
  - Campaign Finance Training
  - OVR Training
  - Municipal Election Training
  - Options to enhance Election Officer Training

Voting Accessibility Updates

- **2024 General Election Accessibility Report, Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.:**
  - **90% of General Election polling places were surveyed and assessed for accessibility**
    - Parking, entrances/exits, interior routes, voting room set-up
    - Voting equipment availability – Universal Voting Console, an audio tactile voting device with braille legends
  - **Report provided testimonials by persons with disabilities describing their voting experiences, both positive feedback and descriptions of areas for needed accessibility improvement**

- **Department's Ongoing Collaboration With Advocacy Community**
  - **Reevaluation of/mitigation of identified issues at polling places where feasible**
  - **Replacement of Polling Places if Mitigation is Not Feasible**
  - **Developed accessibility improvement plan for 2026 Election Cycle**
  - **Continued dialogue and collaboration with CLASI, Disability Rights Delaware (DRD) on effective solutions for voters**
    - **Collaboration with CLASI/DRD to develop informational poster regarding voter accessibility poster for polling places/early voting sites**
  - **Accessible Parking**
    - **Key focus of 2024 report**
    - **Department works on an ongoing basis to mitigate parking issues with signage/traffic cones/other accommodations based on ADA Checklist for Polling Places**
    - **As polling places are public service buildings in communities (schools, government buildings, community centers, places of worship, etc.) the 54% of facilities with parking issues are also concerns with primary intended use of the facilities.**
    - General Assembly has passed legislation (HS 2 for HB 48 w/HA1) that will add tools and enhance enforcement mechanism to ensure that accessible parking in these facilities meets federal (ADA) standards
    - Department will continue to evaluate, mitigate, and work toward accessible parking solutions for voters
  - **Universal Voting Console (UVC) Assistive Device For Voters**
    - **Additional devices deployed to early voting sites & polling places**
    - **Election Officer training reviewed and revised to emphasize familiarity with and deployment of UVC**
    - **Emphasis on ensuring UVC is available for use by all voters**

Elections Security Task Force Meeting Participation & Presentation
Biennial Voter Information Mailer – direct mailing to all DE registered voters
Notices in Printed and Online Newspapers
Banner and leaderboard advertisements on online news media websites
Billboards
Radio spots
PSAs on Comcast Streaming and Cable
Advertisements on Meta (Facebook), Instagram, Nextdoor

Outreach events: (many more listed on voter outreach webpage)
- 2026 HOPE Conference, Terry Campus, Dover
- 2026 Delaware State Fair
- DHSS Division for the Visually Impaired
- St. Paul UAME Church Community Day, Wilmington
- Community Voter Registration & Outreach Event, Wilmington PAL

University of Delaware Blue Hens Football & Department of Elections Advertising Plan
- UD Home Games:
  - Coastal Carolina, September 19, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.
  - Missouri State, October 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
    - Videoboard messaging
    - Department voter information table (on-site)
    - Student-Athlete PSA about voting

Department social media direct posts & website updates
- permanent absentee litigation
- election information
- voter registration information
- campaign finance information

Voter Information Materials available (Tactile and on Department's Website)
- FAQs & Presentations
- Postcards & Brochures (English and Spanish)

Motor Vehicle Network Video 2026 Voting & Election Information
- DMV, Delaware Courts, state agencies

Collaboration with Department of Correction, Eligible, Incarcerated Voters
- Department of Elections Video for inmate tablets

2027 LIFE Conference (Legislation, Independence, Families, Education)
- Delaware's Premiere Disabilities Conference
- Department Community Relations Officer Cathleen Hartsky-Carter will present with CLASI's Voting Rights Advocate Nina Kegelman on voting accessibility in DE.

Campaign Finance

- Consultation with Campaign Finance Reporting System (CFRS) support vendor
  - Monthly call schedule
    - Troubleshooting/conferring on any open items/tickets
    - Revisiting ongoing list of open items, as well as system enhancements related to proposed legislation
- Planned Campaign Finance System Upgrade
  - Current System Status:
    - Approaching 15 years in operation
    - Operationally antiquated with a dated user interface
    - Vendor is experiencing challenges with system maintenance due to its age and structure
    - Due to age and structure of system any enhancements or modifications are extremely difficulty and cost prohibitive
      - Lack of availability of programmers versed in system programming
  - System Upgrade Planning
    - Funding secured in FY2027 budget
    - Planned rollout by mid-2027
    - New system will move system multiple generations ahead
    - Vastly improved user interface
    - Additional tools to promote public transparency
    - User self-service tools available will be available
    - Maintenance options available to Department staff will be significantly enhanced
    - System planning includes integration of Delaware-specific customizations, including requirements of recently-enacted legislation
- Campaign Finance Training
  - Bi-ennial training requirement (starting in mid-2027 per provisions of HB 344)
  - Exploring online training management system and training resources in updates CFRS platform
- 2026 Election Season Filings
  - 30-Day Primary Election report filing deadline has passed (8/18/2026)
  - Next deadline is 8-Day Primary Election report (reporting period ends 9/7/2026; report due 9/9/2026)
- Non-Filer Follow-Up
  - Additional demand letters being sent to committees with unfiled reports
- Working in concert with Department's Deputy Attorney General (DAG) and Delaware DOJ Division of Civil Rights and Public Trust (DCRPT)
- Pursuing action in Justice of the Peace Court system

2026 30-Day Primary Election Report
Tardy and Non-Filers as of August 21, 2026

COMMITTEE TYPE	COMMITTEE NAME	REPORT	FILING PERIOD END	FILING DUE DATE
Candidate Committee	Friends of LaDonna Graham	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Candidate Committee	Friends of Matt Powell	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Candidate Committee	Micheal Miller for State Treasurer	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Back on Track PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Black Caucus PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Citizens for a Better Wilmington	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Citizens for Fair Voting	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Citizens to Revitalize Delaware	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Coalition for Good Government DE	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Colonial Region Republican Committee	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Common Ground Delaware PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Common Sense for Delaware	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	DAPA PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Delaware Foundation For Legislative Action	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Delaware State UAW CAP-PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Delaware Women On The Move	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Delaware Working People Coalition	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	F O P NCC LODGE 5 PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	For the People Delaware	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Genesis Healthcare Corporation State PAC AKA:Genesis Health Ventures State PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Kent County Association of REALTORS REALTOR Political Action Committee	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	NASW DE PACE	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	People for Dover	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026

2026 30-Day Primary Election Report
Tardy and Non-Filers as of August 21, 2026

COMMITTEE TYPE	COMMITTEE NAME	REPORT	FILING PERIOD END	FILING DUE DATE
Political Action Committee	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local No. 74 PAC	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Preserve Sussex	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	The Blue Anchor Project	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	Vision for New Castle County	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Action Committee	We Are Sussex	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	15th District Democratic Committee	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	29th Republican District Committee	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	32nd RD Democratic Committee	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	35 Democratic RD	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	Cohesion Delaware	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	Delaware Colonial Region Republicans	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	Delaware Kent County Young Republicans	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	Green Party of Delaware	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	Tenth RD Democratic Committee	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026
Political Committee	Western New Castle Region Republicans	30-Day Primary	8/16/2026	8/18/2026

3	**Candidate Committees**
25	**Political Action Committees**
10	**Political Committees**
38	**Total Committees**

Voting Equipment and Elections Management System

- Voting Equipment Preventative Maintenance
  - Equipment software upgrade largely complete
  - Department has moved to annual preventative maintenance schedule for all equipment (from an initial bi-annual schedule) and these activities were coordinated
  - Replacement of all voting machine backup power batteries will be completed during the upcoming preventative maintenance period

    - Continuous review of replacement schedule of any consumable items on machines and planning for replacement schedule for these items

- Voting Machine Parts Inventory
  - Orders finalized and placed

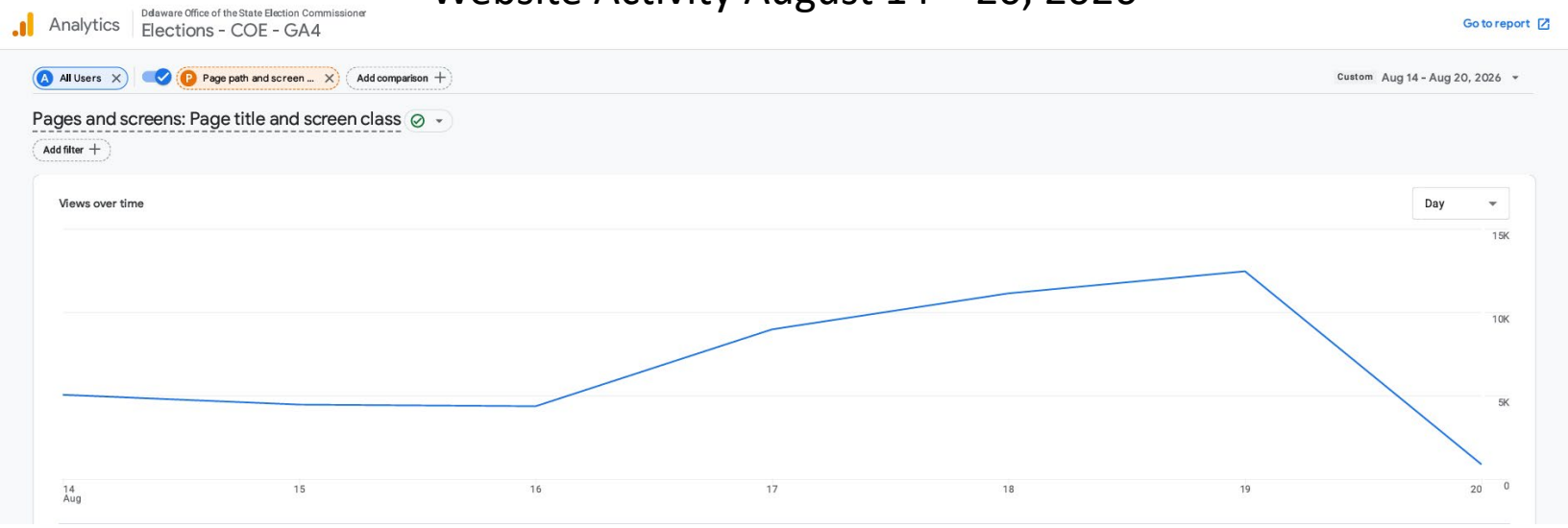
- Pollbooks
  - Department staff participate in sessions discussing planned enhancements to system to increase convenience to voters for use and to staff for equipment preparation for use in elections
  - Continued training and education for staff in ongoing effort to move equipment preparation/elections preparation to an in-house approach
  - Preparing for pollbook upgrades to latest model available
  - Requesting funding for electronic pollbook parts inventory (FY2027 budget)

Website Accessibility

- Full Deployment of State-Designed *Lighthouse* Theme and Design For Department Website Completed
  - Site Comprised of Approximately 600 Pages
  - Common Look & Feel 3 [CLF 3] to Common Look & Feel 4 [CLF 4].
  - Design optimized accessibility features and the latest best practices and trends in how visitors utilizing accessibility technology access the site
- Deployment of Automation Tools For Maximize Efficiency and Standardize Information Delivery
  - Candidate Filing Tables
- Ongoing Accessibility Analysis and conversion of PDF to HTML
- Continued work is underway/ongoing regarding enhancements to the Election Night Reporting site and its compatibility with assistive devices, etc.

https://elections.delaware.gov

Website Activity August 14 – 20, 2026

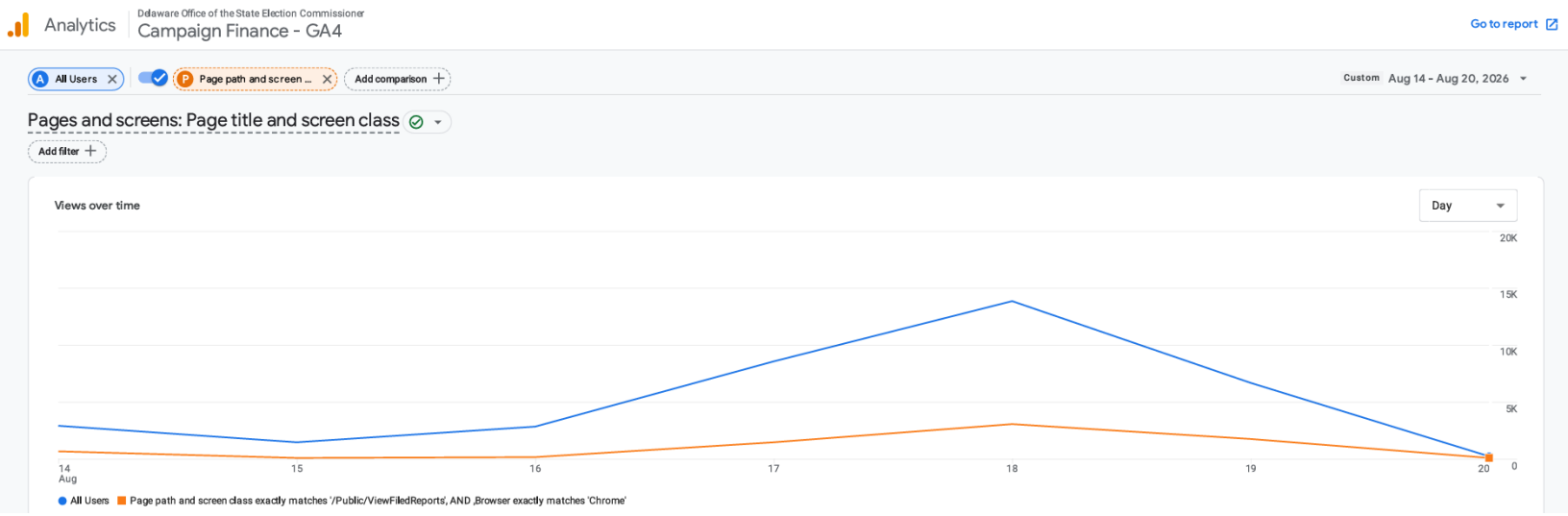


Total number of views on August 19, 2026 = 12,445

Between August 14th and 20th, 23,304 users visited the Department's website

https://cfrs.elections.delaware.gov

Website Activity August 14 – 20, 2026



August 18, 2026 Campaign Finance 30-Day Primary Report Deadline

- **13,858 total visitors to CFRS**
- **3,065 visitors viewed reports**

Department Facilities

- All Facilities:
  - Reviewing current security hardware installed and determining items in need of replacement and/or upgrades
- State Election Commissioner's Office
  - Comprehensive repair of water intrusion/leaking
  - Full repainting and replacement of carpet
- Kent County Office/Warehouse
  - No facility upgrades to report at this time
- New Castle County
  - Carvel Building Office
    - Building system upgrade/replacements (sprinklers, etc.) completed
      - Additional adjustments following return to the office being completed (e.g. realignment of security cameras)
  - Warehouse
    - Planning continues on expansion project
    - Permitting with New Castle County Land Use Office is underway
    - Work with contractor retained by landlord to finalize design of expansion
- Sussex County
  - Office
    - Installation of interior security door complete
    - Working on installation of security monitoring equipment for door
  - Georgetown Warehouse
    - Upgrades to presentation hardware/technology in the training center
  - Seaford Warehouse
    - Air conditioning project
      - Installation completed
      - System operating as expected during summer season

Staffing

- Trainer/Educator Position: New staff member has started
- Exploring Additional Staffing Needs
  - FY 2028: Planned Budget "Door Openers" included this item as a requested funding priority

Conferences/Meetings Attending

- Delaware Artificial Intelligence (AI) Commission: Appointed Member
  - Quarterly Meetings
    - House Joint Resolution (HJR 7 w/HA 1) directing Commission to work with Secretary of State to create a framework to test "innovative and novel technologies that utilize artificial intelligence"
      - Department is continuing work (IT team) on tools to assist the public and staff more efficiently access quantity of data available and to assist with automated tasks (e.g., checking website to ensure all pages and links are active

- Election Center (EC) Committees:
  - Postal Committee:
    - Upcoming committee meeting at the Joint Election Official Liaison Committee (JEOLC) meeting in Arlington, VA
    - Ongoing communications with elections community/stakeholders
  - Program Development and Awards Committee
    - Review of Hall of Fame/Lifetime Achievement Award nominees

- USPS Mailers Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) [USPS Industry Stakeholder Committee] Quarterly Meetings
  - Latest meeting: July 2026
  - Ongoing dialogue with USPS leadership and Postmaster General
  - Review of Election Mail efforts for 2026 election season
  - Daily communication with regional Election Mail liaison at UPS
  - Continued service on MTAC Informed Delivery Workgroup

Permanent Absentee Voting Status Litigation

- Delaware's permanent absentee voting statute is being challenged in the Delaware courts.
- The Department does not comment on the merits of pending litigation.
- The Department is working to inform permanent absentee voters of the situation, so that they can submit a new absentee voting application for the 2026 General Election now.
- More information is available on the Department's website, https://de.gov/absnotice

General Assembly Legislation (House)

Bill Number	Purpose	Status
HB 65	Moves date of State Primary to date of Presidential Primary (all years)	Passed House/Released From Senate Elections & Government Affairs Committee/Assigned to Senate Executive Committee
HB180 (Constitutional Amendment)	Amends Article V of the Delaware Constitution related to voting/eliminates or updates archaic or obsolete terms and provisions and brings DE constitution into compliance with provisions of the US Constitution/eliminates list of felonies resulting in permanent removal of the right to vote/Defines terms related to imprisonment and community supervision/Limits the time of the loss of the right to vote to the period during which an individual convicted of a felony to the time the individual is imprisoned or is pardoned.	Passed House & Senate/Must pass both houses in identical form in 154th General Assembly
HB188 w/HA 1	Allows "No Party" voters to vote in a party Primary Election but does not change the voter's party affiliation	Passed House
HS 1 for HB 301 w/HA 1	Updates to existing crime of "breach of peace or violence on election day"; extends to Department office, Board of Canvass meeting, any location where voted ballots or election results are stored/read/tallied	Signed by Governor

General Assembly Legislation (House)

Bill Number	Purpose	Status
HB344 w/HA 1	"This Act clarifies and streamlines the disclosure and enforcement provisions of Delaware's campaign finance laws. Among other things, this Act does the following: (1) Requires a political committee to submit written documentation of all loans provided to the committee and requires that proceeds of a loan are deposited into the committee's account within 3 business days. (2) Prohibits candidates from charging interest on personal loans to a candidate committee. (3) Requires political committees to retain records for 5 years, rather than 3 years. (4) Requires the State Election Commissioner to provide the Division of Civil Rights and Public Trust (within the DOJ) with a monthly list of alleged violations of campaign finance laws and further clarifies that the Division must investigate and prosecute violations of campaign finance laws. (5) Expands the 1-time extension permitted for filing tardy reports from 24 hours to 48 hours after the reporting deadline. (6) Requires the Division of Civil Rights and Public Trust to submit an annual report of its activity to the Governor and the General Assembly. (7) Authorizes the Commissioner to create regulations relating to political committee audits. (8) Requires the Commissioner to create a mandatory biennial training program for candidates and treasurers. (9) Prohibits political committees from engaging in campaign finance activities 30 days after the issuance of a citation if the citation has not been resolved in that time."	Signed by Governor
HB 430 (Constitutional Amendment)	Limits voting to "natural persons" and not artificial entities	Passed House & Senate/Must pass both houses in identical form in 154th General Assembly
HB 437	Technical Corrections to Municipal Charters of Dewey Beach, Harrington, Houston, Milford, Millsboro	Passed House & Senate
HB 444	Delaware John Lewis Voting Rights Act "Democracy Canon" to instruct those interpreting statutes & rules in favor of protecting and making accessible the right to vote; Provisions to prevent vote dilution & suppression; Updated provisions regarding language assistance.	Passed House & Senate
HB 448	Adds additional authorized campaign expenditure category for security expenses	Passed House & Senate

General Assembly Legislation (Senate)

Bill Number	Purpose	Status
SB 264 (Constitutional Amendment)	Establishes a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor	Passed House & Senate/Must pass both houses in identical form in 154th General Assembly
SB 266	Comprehensive update to Title 15, codifying longstanding elections practices, reflect modernization in voting procedures & updated voting technology and organization of Department of Elections; adds definitions for additional terms and clarifies terms previously defined/adds additional structure and detail regarding residency definition/updates requirements for adoption of electronic voting systems regarding system certification and updates/adds clarity and additional detail regarding post-election audits/clarifies practices regarding use of provisional ballots.	Signed by Governor
SB 306 w/HA 1	Charter updates for Rehoboth Beach regarding candidate qualifications, procedures related to Commissioners, and Mayor's authority	Passed House and Senate
SB 329	Updated Board of Canvass provisions to reflect modernization in voting procedures & updated voting technology and provisions of SB 266	Signed by Governor
SS1 for SB 3 w/HA 1 (Constitutional Amendment)	Removes reasons for voting by absentee ballot from State Constitution/HA 1 eliminates provisions regarding permanent absentee voting from bill	Passed House & Senate/Must pass both houses in identical form in 154th General Assembly

Department of Elections
New Castle County Office

Report to the Board
August 24, 2026

Tracey Dixon, County Director | **David Gilefski, Deputy County Director**

- Continued preparation for 2026 Primary and General Elections
  - 1300 Election Officers for Primary
    - Training 8/22 – 9/10
  - 155 Election Day polling places
  - 6 Early Voting Sites
  - Finalizing in-office staffing needs
  - 10,239 Absentee ballots requested, 2,124 returned (8/19)

- Warehouse
  - Approved for expansion. Work will not begin until 2027

Department of Elections
Kent County Office

Report to the Board
August 24, 2026

Doris Reed-Young, County Director | **Ralph Artigliere, Deputy County Director**

The Department has been very busy since the last meeting of November 2025, including Outreach Events, School and Municipal Elections as well as preparing for the current 2026 Election Season.

Outreach:

January 2026	21st assisted life Conference Premier Disability Conference 21st Noble's Pond Secure Your Vote Event
February 2026	19th Modern Maturity enter 100yrs of Vlack History Month Event
March 2026	18th Independent Living HOPE program Event 26th Healing Pathways – Wyoming Methodist Church Event
April 2026	1st Lake Forest College and Career Fair 2nd Delaware State University Student Government Election 6th YMCA Youth and Government Election 18th Coffee and Donuts – Election Officer Appreciation/Recruitment Event 22nd 4-H Legislative Hall Day 23rd Polytech Career Fair
May 2026	19th Milford High Student Government Election 20th DHSS Division of Visually Impaired – Milford Event
June 2026	23rd Delaware Girls State Election
July 2026	Delaware State Fair-Staff Assisted with Set –Up, Take Down and worked the booth as needed

County Directors' Report: Kent County Office

Municipal Elections

FEBRUARY 2026	28th Camden
MARCH 2026	7th Frederica 31st Cheswold
April 2026	28th Clayton 28th Smyrna
August 2026	1st Bowers Beach

School Referenda and School Boards

Caesar Rodney School Referendum
February 9, 2026

School Board Elections
May 12, 2026
For districts: Caesar Rodney and Milford

Both Elections have been certified and no issues presented.

Kent County is actively preparing for the Primary Election September 15, 2026

Preparations completed,
-Proofing of all ballots
-System Test of Equipment to be used for Voting, Scanning and Tabulation. Test Results have been Reviewed and Verified
-Machines, pollbooks and DS450 Scanners have been Tested, prepared and ready for Certification
-All Polling Locations including EV have been notified and available for Delivery of voting machines and Election Day materials.
-UOCAVA absentee ballots were sent and we met the Federal mail deadline of August 1, 2026, all other absentee ballots were sent August 7, 2026, and will continue daily as requested until the mail out deadline.

Department of Elections Sussex County Office

Report to the Board August 24, 2026

Kenneth A. McDowell, County Director | **Tracey L. Wilkerson, Deputy County Director**

- All election officers have been hired, assigned to a polling location, and have attended training for both Early Voting (EV) and Election Day for the 2026 Primary.
- All election officers for the 2026 General have been hired and assigned to a polling location. Training will begin on September 21, 2026.
- Our team has completed all preliminary Logic and Accuracy (L&A) testing for the Early Voting XL voting machines, EV tabulating equipment (DS450), and Absentee DS450s.
- Nine EV locations have been contracted for the 2026 Primary. This includes the Fairfield Inn by Marriot which is a new location located in Rehoboth Beach.
- We are still searching for an EV location at the beach for the 2026 General. We currently have eight locations due to the Fairfield Inn being booked for the 2026 General. The site that we were contracting with (Cambria) had a scheduling conflict and pulled out. If anyone has any ideas, please send them our way- Kenneth.McDowell@delaware.gov and Tracey.Wilkerson@delaware.gov.
- All election day polling locations have been contracted with for both the 2026 Primary and 2026 General.
- We removed two polling locations due to accessibility issues- Sports at the Beach and Millville Volunteer Fire Company Station #2. Voters that previously went to Sports at the Beach are now going to Mariner Middle School (Now has RD/EDs 20-02, 20-10, and 37-12). Voters that previously went to Millville Fire Company Station #2 will be split between Millville Community Center (Now has RD/EDs 38-08, 38-09, and 41-14) and Millville Fire Company (Now has RD/EDs 38-01 and 38-02). Mariner Middle School will now have 3,065 possible voters for the 2026 Primary and Millville Community Center will now have 2,852 possible voters for the 2026 Primary.
- Tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. we will be conducting a public meeting to randomly select the machines that will be audited after the election on September 18, 2026, beginning at 11 a.m.
- This Thursday, on August 27, 2026, beginning at 10 a.m. we will be preparing and scanning the absentee ballots that have been received thus far for the 2026 Primary. As of August 20, 2026, we have sent 5,900 absentees and received back 1,341.
- The voting machines that will be used on Election Day for the 2026 Primary will undergo L&A Testing and Certification on Saturday, September 5, 2026, beginning at 10 a.m.
- The 200 XL voting machines that had failed batteries have now been replaced and are holding a charge.
- All XL voting machines, pollbooks, and other voting equipment have been bar coded so that we can easily scan them into spreadsheets to greatly streamline many of the repetitive and tedious tasks.
- We have two possible municipal elections scheduled for September. Dewey Beach is scheduled for September 19, 2026, and Milford is scheduled for September 26, 2026.