

TO: Hope Andrade, Secretary of State sent via email
Ann McGeehan, Director of Elections

FROM: Sharon Rowe, Collin County Elections Administrator

DATE: December 20, 2010

RE: Vote Centers Post Election Report for November 2010

Collin County utilized 72 Election Day Vote Centers for the General and Special Elections held on November 2, 2010. Contract elections were conducted for the following jurisdictions: City of Celina, City of Dallas, City of Lavon, City of Murphy, and the Wylie NE Special Utility District. All jurisdictions were pleased that their voters would have ballot access at all Election Day Vote Centers.

An analysis of turnout trends between general elections in 2006, 2008, and 2010 shows an increase in percentage turnout for the early voting time period. This could indicate a desire by voters for convenience and flexibility in their choice of voting locations.

Collin County Election STATS November 6 8 10									
Year	RV	EV Turnout	EV % of RV	EV % Turnout	ED Turnout	ED % of RV	ED % Turnout	Combined EV/ED	Combined % of RV
2006	381,821	62,365	16.33%	45%	76,321	19.99%	55%	138,686	36.32%
2008	425,994	222,811	52.31%	75%	75,836	17.8%	25%	298,647	70.11%
2010	424,548	91,147	21.47%	58%	66,702	15.71%	42%	157,849	37.18%

Data Source: SOVC (Statement of Votes Cast) Reports included as Exhibits A, B, and C.

There are 179 precincts in Collin County, effective January 1, 2010. Voters were assigned to precinct specific Election Day polling places in 2006 and 2008. The following information is gleaned from the VoteSafe report “Checked In By Voters” from the electronic pollbook. This information reflects the number of Election Day Vote Centers utilized by voters within each precinct.

ED Precincts with Number of Locations	
Precinct	Number of Locations
1	14
2	30
3	16
4	15
5	16
6	36
7	18
8	20
9	20
10	7
11	16
12	30
13	37

ED Precincts with Number of Locations

Precinct	Number of Locations
14	26
15	23
16	18
17	16
18	5
19	23
20	11
21	30
22	20
23	14
24	21
25	27
26	15
27	18
28	29
29	23
30	19
31	24
32	25
33	17
34	26
35	14
36	5
37	14
38	37
39	25
40	17
41	19
42	9
43	27
44	23
45	26
46	19
47	20
48	20
49	21
50	26
51	14
52	24
53	26
54	36
55	19
56	18
57	33
58	36

ED Precincts with Number of Locations

Precinct	Number of Locations
59	25
60	26
61	18
62	27
63	23
64	34
65	17
66	25
67	18
68	16
69	30
70	18
71	20
72	18
73	14
74	10
75	15
76	32
77	40
78	12
79	19
80	31
81	35
82	27
83	19
84	11
85	32
86	27
87	22
88	25
89	33
90	17
91	34
92	18
93	7
94	25
95	22
96	7
97	12
98	7
99	7
100	3
101	18
102	18
103	19

ED Precincts with Number of Locations

Precinct	Number of Locations
104	16
105	13
106	20
107	36
108	28
109	17
110	17
111	17
112	17
113	16
114	25
115	17
116	16
117	20
118	28
119	33
120	30
121	34
122	25
123	20
124	33
125	27
126	36
127	20
128	32
129	22
130	38
131	29
132	18
133	18
134	34
135	36
136	8
137	15
138	12
139	43
140	30
141	24
142	17
143	14
144	16
145	14
146	24
147	16
148	5

ED Precincts with Number of Locations

Precinct	Number of Locations
149	31
150	8
151	16
152	0
153	17
154	4
155	26
156	34
157	31
158	18
159	30
160	3
161	1
162	0
163	41
164	4
165	10
166	17
167	37
168	15
169	31
170	13
171	27
172	20
173	19
174	24
175	19
176	37
177	19
178	27
179	26

Data Source: Exhibit D

- 98% of the precincts were represented at more than 1 Election Day Vote Center
- 90% of the precincts were represented at 10 or more Election Day Vote Centers
- 51% of the precincts were represented at 20 or more Election Day Vote Centers
- 21% of the precincts were represented at 30 or more Election Day Vote Centers
- 2% of the precincts were represented at 40 or more Election Day Vote Centers

These voting patterns seem to indicate a strong desire for flexibility and convenience in the choice of voting locations.

The constraints on implementation and administration of Vote Center locations are not unlike those of precinct specific locations: number of machines, number of laptops to each location, parking, workers, training, size of voting room, handling of lines, etc.

Technical issues with the electronic pollbook involved the ATI video driver conflicts with Windows XP which caused systems to reboot at roughly 15 minute intervals. This non-Vote Center specific issue was identified and a resolution was in place at approximately 8:30AM. The fix was validated for about a half hour and the resolution was communicated to the field at approximately 9:00AM.

Technicians were assigned to 47 Election Day Vote Centers and were available for re-deployment as needed. Additional IT support staff was available in the Command Center based in the Elections Office. Sheriff's Deputies and Constables Deputies were available to transport support staff to locations as needed.

Approximate wait times were posted to the website for each Election Day Vote Center in an effort to guide voters to locations with shorter wait times. It was difficult for some locations to update this information throughout the evening. We did receive positive feedback on this service from voters.

Information was solicited from Election Day Judges and Alternate Judges on things that went well, things that did not, and suggestions for improvement. They were in agreement that the Vote Center concept is great for voters. They relayed specific information on the need for additional resources for their polling place. Responses are included in Exhibit E.

Ultimately, the voter benefits from increased convenience and flexibility in the selection of a Vote Center on Election Day. Efforts to improve the process will continue for future elections.