



Missouri Elections:

Return to

Hand Counting

SUPPLEMENT

INCLUDES PAGES CHANGED FROM
12/27/2022 VERSION TO 1/31/2023 VERSION



An eManual by Linda Rantz
Prepared for Cause of America - Missouri

"The Cause of America is in great measure the Cause of All Mankind"

~ Thomas Paine

Dedication

When you are surrounded by greatness, you can do great things.

Patriotism – In honor of my late father who convinced his mother to give him permission to join the U.S. Coast Guard when he was 17. He served 22 years, from Seaman to CWO.

My father's love of The Guard taught me to love our Country.

Courage – Mike Lindell is the voice in the wilderness warning us of the threat to our elections.

Mike says, "courage is contagious, so get courageous."

And, "if you're saving your courage for a rainy day, it's pouring out there."

Loyalty – There is no person more loyal than my husband, Craig Rantz.

Craig is quick to sacrifice of himself to care for the needs of others.

There is no stronger or braver warrior whom I would want standing watch over me.

We were once replaced by machines. Learn how to become their replacement.



With appreciation to all who did the work
of Missouri Canvassers, especially LW and MK.
This is where the path began.

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The hand counting process herein and any accompanying commentary are based on the interpretation of Missouri State statutes and rules by a layperson, not a legal authority. Nothing herein is qualified as legal advice, it is not offered as legal advice, and should not be used or considered as a replacement for qualified legal advice. Readers are encouraged to contact a licensed attorney for legal advice or for any assistance understanding the laws, statutes, and rules of Missouri (or any other state).

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Quantity of Ballots per Polling Place

We reached out to Freedom Principle³ to assist with researching polling place registrations and turnout. Andrew Polacek ran some calculations and provided estimates by county class. The estimates averaged the number of registered voters per precinct or polling place and calculated the number of average voters for the 2020 Presidential and the 2022 Midterm elections.

Class 1 County	
Average Registered Voters by Precinct	2,514
Average Voter by Precinct - Midterms	1,302
Average Voter by Precinct - Presidential	1,927
Class 2 County	
Average Registered Voters by Precinct	2,244
Average Voter by Precinct - Midterms	1,104
Average Voter by Precinct – Presidential	1,624
Class 3 County	
Average Registered Voters by Precinct	1,256
Average Voter by Precinct - Midterms	628
Average Voter by Precinct - Presidential	635

UPDATED FROM 12/27/2022 Version of the eManual (some text deleted, and some added here):

A county’s “class” is based on its assessed value rather than the population or number of registered voters. What can be said about Class 1 and 2 counties is that they will have bigger budgets for county expenses than a Class 3 county. And salaries for Clerks in Class 3 counties will be lower than that of their peers in Class 1 and 2 counties.

The voter turnout for Missouri elections held in the past few years shows us that the average number of ballots cast at a polling place is pretty standard between counties, regardless of class or population of the county. The difference comes from how many polling places are required to serve the population of the county.

We have added a new section to this February 2023 version of the eManual. Section 9 is “Teams, Time & Turnout” which may be found on page 251. This new section contains charts and tables for about 15 counties, from the largest population to some of the smallest. It illustrates that the hand counting process can work in any county regardless of the population since it is based on polling places.

Hand Counting Processes for Missouri

Hand Counting Process per Statute

For Missouri, an election process with forms, instructions, and resources has been created by following the details laid out in the statutes. In Section 4 of this eManual starting on page 69, *Step by Step by Statute* outlines the hand counting process steps and identifies the applicable statute.

³ Freedom Principle <https://www.freedomprinciplemo.org/>

Elevator Pitch

Since every good explanation should start with an ‘elevator pitch,’ here’s a quick pitch of the hand-count process.

Ballots

Hand counting is done by bi-partisan teams of Election Judges at the polling place using a simple tally form. Counting is ***NOT*** done by marking 4 tick marks and then crossing through them on the 5th. The Ballots Tally form is designed to be as quick as recording pitches at a baseball game, and as easy as marking numbers called at Bingo.

Counting may begin 1 hour after polls ***open***. A polling place that has 1,400 ballots cast could start at 7am, count 100 ballots per hour, and still be done by 9pm on election night.



In the previous half dozen or so years, very few polling places had 1,400 ballots cast in an election, including the 2020 presidential election.⁴ The average number of ballots cast in a polling place is around 600. We have conservatively timed hand counting at **50 to 100** ballots per hour per counting team. If 600 ballots are cast, the team would need 6 to 12 hours to complete counting. Or, add a counting team so each team works half the number of hours needed.



The current judges checking in voters are not expected to also count ballots (although they may), so more Election Judges will be needed for elections. Collaborating with political parties, schools, and youth organizations will help to grow the election workforce.

Batches

As each batch of ballots is counted, the totals will be tabulated by copying the column totals onto a summary sheet whose layout matches the columns on the tally form. The Batches Summary sheet makes transferring totals quick and easy to double-check for accuracy.

Results

When polls are closed and all ballots are counted and tabulated, the calculations are done and entered on the Results worksheet. The bipartisan team of counting judges reviews and double-checks results again. When the agreement is reached on the results, the Statement of Returns is completed, and the Certification is signed by the Election Judges.



Anyone still at the polling place will see the results, which offers transparency.

One Election Judge returns the Tally Book and forms to the Clerk, another returns the ballots.

All the Clerk needs to do when receiving ballots and results from polling places is to combine the results into county-wide results (probably on a spreadsheet). No more USB drives or flash cards to download into a PC and print results pages. That’s all done.

The final step of the day is sending the county results to the Secretary of State.

⁴ This paragraph has been revised since the 12/27/2022 version.

9: TEAMS, TIME & TURNOUT

The 2 main calculations for scheduling counting **teams** are how long it takes to count ballots (Time) and how many ballots are cast in a polling place (Turnout).

For **Time**, we did practical test runs with counters who were brand new to the process and some who were more experienced. This means our Time recommendation is not based on high-ability counters. Instead, it allows for a mix of counters with different levels of experience in the process.

Time is also going to be affected by variations in the number of races or questions and the type of election. For example, a primary election may have more than 20 candidates for 1 race. The ballot will appear to be longer but that 1 race equals 1 ‘dab’ or tally for each vote or preference. (See pg. 115 for an explanation of dabs.) The number of dabs is more significant to Time than the number of candidates or questions on the ballot.



During a 3-hour webinar in December 2022, a team ran a mock counting of ballots on camera in the background. Click or scan the QR code to view the webinar.

274 Click or Scan
Watch Webinar

Turnout at each polling place is the other number necessary to determine if more than 1 counting team is needed at a polling place. Turnout can be estimated based on the county’s historical data. In the following pages, turnout charts are included for an assortment of counties from the largest to some of the smallest based on voter registration in the county, and quite a few in between.

Time

The myth that it will take days, weeks, or even longer to hand count ballots is discussed on page 53. There is a possibility that other hand count processes take too long to count ballots. For the hand count process in this eManual, which is based on 1977 statutes in Missouri, we have tried and tested it. These are our findings and recommendations.

"French Model"

There have been public statements that France can count all the ballots in the country on election day, announce the winner(s), and get home in time for a late dinner. I have been told that this is because there are not multiple winners because France only votes on one race or issue and that is why they can complete counting on election day.

We ran our first tests on what we call the "French Model": one race on a ballot with 'vote for one.' This means every ballot is one tally or dab. In this case, it takes 1 second per ballot.

1 race with 1 vote on the ballot = 1 second per ballot

Time = 3,600 ballots per hour per counting team

"Missouri Model"

While there are some elections in Missouri, like a municipal or primary, where a Missourian will be voting on a ballot with only one race or question, it is more usual to have "multi-vote" ballots. We created and marked mock ballots similar to the 2022 General election. Compared to other ballots from elections in the past 4 years, this could be considered a 'heavy' or 'complex' ballot.

To establish a base time, we ran the tests without considering write-in candidates, ballot reviews for voter intent, mistakes, etc. We were able to time these ballots at 2 seconds per tally or dab. We refer to this as the "Missouri Model."

Multiple races/questions with Multi-votes per ballot = 2 seconds per tally

A multi-vote ballot could have, as an example, 4 races on it or 24 races. No matter which variations we tried, we found it came down to an hourly range. This range included the considerations mentioned above, plus calculating batch totals, finishing paperwork, etc.

Time = 50 to 100 ballots per hour per counting team

The most conservative approach for Missouri clerks for general and primary elections would be to use the 50 ballots per hour estimate. For municipal and special elections in Missouri, which usually have ballots with few races or questions, the counting teams will likely count as many as, and possibly more than, 100 ballots per hour.

Turnout

The number of ballots cast county-wide in an election in any county in Missouri may make the idea of hand counting seem overwhelming. But it is the number of ballots cast at each ***polling place*** that is significant for hand counting and for scheduling counting teams.

The 2020 Presidential General Election had historic turnout numbers, The pie charts on the facing page illustrate 6 groupings of the number of ballots cast in two previous general elections.⁷

The top pie chart shows that in the 2020 presidential election, 99 counties in Missouri had under 50,000 ballots cast, and the majority of those were under 10,000. In the bottom pie chart, the number of counties under 50,000 ballots cast in the midterms increases to from 99 to 107.

The table below illustrates how the average of ballots cast at polling places in 5 Missouri counties of different sizes. The 2020 presidential (with historic turnout) is likely to be the maximum number of ballots cast at a polling place. Comparing 2020 to the 2022 midterms, the average per polling place decreases by more than half, except for Boone County which reduced the number of polling places by about half during non-presidential elections.

Ballots Cast and Averages by Polling Place in 2020 General and 2022 Primary

County	2020 Ballots Cast	2020 Avg per Poll	2022 Ballots Cast	2022 Avg per Poll
St. Charles	224K	1,200	70K	570
Greene	143K	1,200	47K	570
Boone	92K	800	30K	600
Cape Girardeau	41K	800	12K	325
Osage	8K	600	3K	290

275 Table: Example of Ballots Cast and Avg by Polling Place in 2020 and 2022

The table above illustrates how the “field” is leveled between large and small counties because the **important number for hand counting is how many ballots are cast per polling place**. Notice that St. Charles always has more ballots cast than Greene County, but their polling place averages are nearly identical. Boone has double the votes cast than Cape Girardeau, but the number of polling places available to voters affects their per-poll number. And Osage County is a good example of ballots cast numbers for smaller counties and polling place averages.

And what about the one county in the pie chart category of “over 300K”? That is St. Louis County. A separate discussion is provided on page 276.

Based on the Time estimate of 50 to 100 votes per hour per team discussed on the previous page, and the number of hours available to count ballots on election day, we recommend 1 team be scheduled for every 600 ballots cast at a polling place. (1 team could also be 2 teams working half days.)

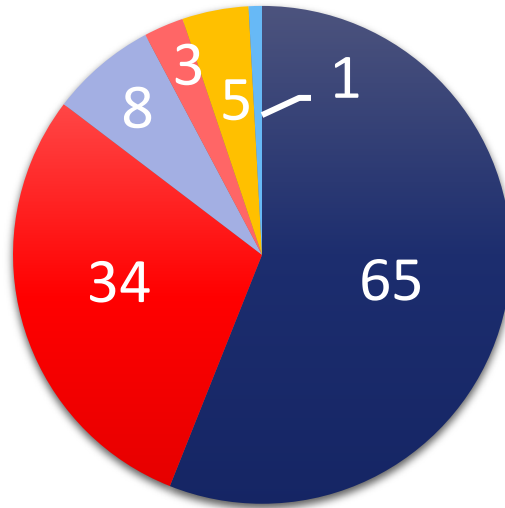
600 ballots cast per polling place = 1 counting team

1,200 ballots cast per polling place = 2 counting teams

1,800 ballots cast per polling place = 3 counting teams

⁷ Data for the 2022 General election were not available when this chart was prepared so 2018 was used.

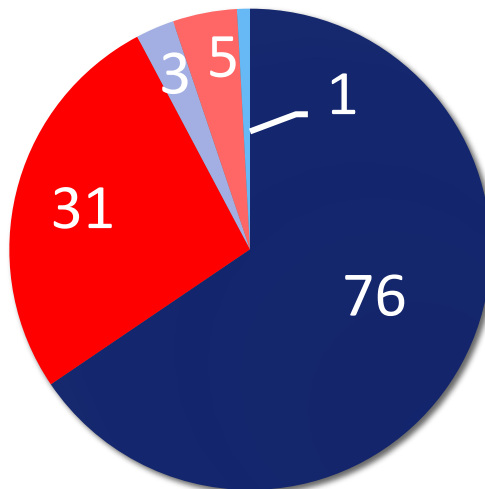
of MISSOURI COUNTIES grouped by # BALLOTS CAST:
Nov 3 2020 Presidential



■ Under 10K ■ 10K to 50K ■ 50K to 100K
 ■ 100K to 200K ■ 200K to 300K ■ over 300K

277 Pie Chart: Nov 2020 Presidential - Counties by Ballots Cast

of MISSOURI COUNTIES grouped by # BALLOTS CAST:
Nov 6 2018 Midterms



■ Under 10K ■ 10K to 50K ■ 50K to 100K
 ■ 100K to 200K ■ 200K to 300K ■ over 300K

276 Pie Chart: Nov 2018 Midterms - Counties by Ballots Cast

St. Charles County

~292K Registered Voters and ~116 to 122 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	291,939	223,533	76.57%
Apr 5 2022	284,909	39,578	13.89%
Aug 2 2022	286,903	69,960	24.38%

278 St Charles County Voting Stats for Comparison

For St. Charles and the counties on the following pages, a table (as above) is provided with stats for 3 different elections: 2020 general/presidential, 2022 municipal, and 2022 primary. These were chosen specifically to have a general election which included a presidential race (and 2020 had a historic turnout), along with the most recent municipal election and a primary. Each of these election types means different ballot configurations which impact calculations for scheduling teams for hand counting.

Also, for each county, the graph on the facing page shows ballots cast in each of these elections. The horizontal lines drawn over the chart indicate 600 ballots cast (purple), 1,200 ballots cast (gold), and 1,800 ballots cast (green). As explained previously, for every 600 voters expected to turn out, an additional counting team should be scheduled for the polling place.

Looking at the St. Charles County chart on the facing page, the municipal election (red lines) is almost entirely under the 600 ballots mark, as are many of the polling places for the primary election (light blue). About half of the polling places for the 2020 Presidential (dark blue) are under 1,200 ballots.

Also, note in the table above that St. Charles goes from being a 200K ballot cast county once every 4 years to a 40K to 70K county at all the elections in between.

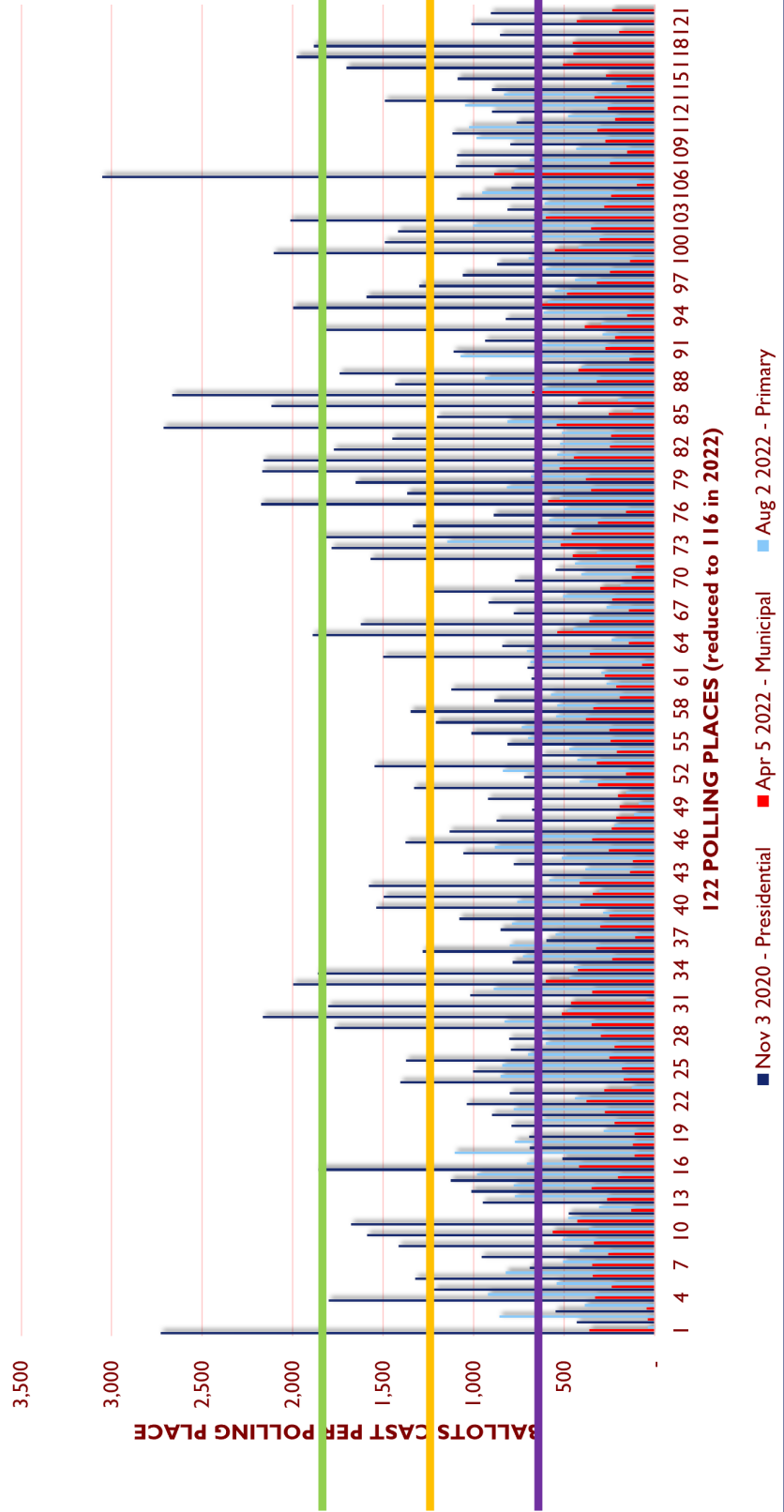
These are manageable numbers for hand counting all elections in this county.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

ST CHARLES COUNTY ~292K Registered Voters



279 St Charles County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Greene County

~168K Registered Voters and 79 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	168,458	142,752	84.74%
Apr 5 2022	170,391	24,961	14.65%
Aug 2 2022	198,911	47,219	23.74%

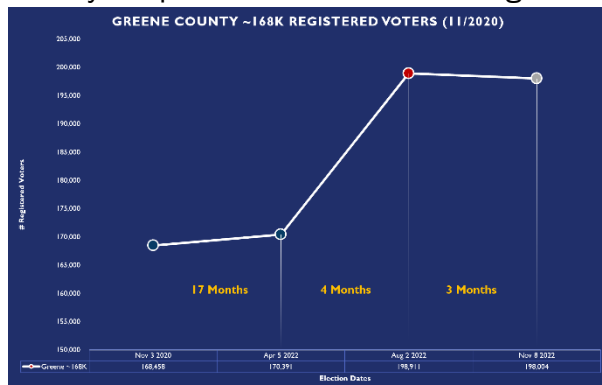
280 Greene County Voting Stats for Comparison

Greene County has results similar to St. Charles County, with some exceptions. All municipal and primary polling places are below the 1,200 mark, but only about a dozen and a half polling places go over 1,200 for the 2020 presidential election.

Notice, though, that data for the last 15 or so polling places are missing (right side of the chart on the facing page) for the presidential election of 2020. The election results document on the county website did not include these pages.

Another oddity was on the downloaded results for the April 5, 2022, election. The polling place named, “3rd Center,” was not included in the results. That polling place did have results reported for the 11/2020 and 8/2022 elections. So, was it combined with another polling place in the April 2022 election, or just not used during the that election?

Finally, from the table above and illustrated in the chart below, there was a high jump in the County’s reported number of voter registrations between April 5 and August 2 of 2022, an



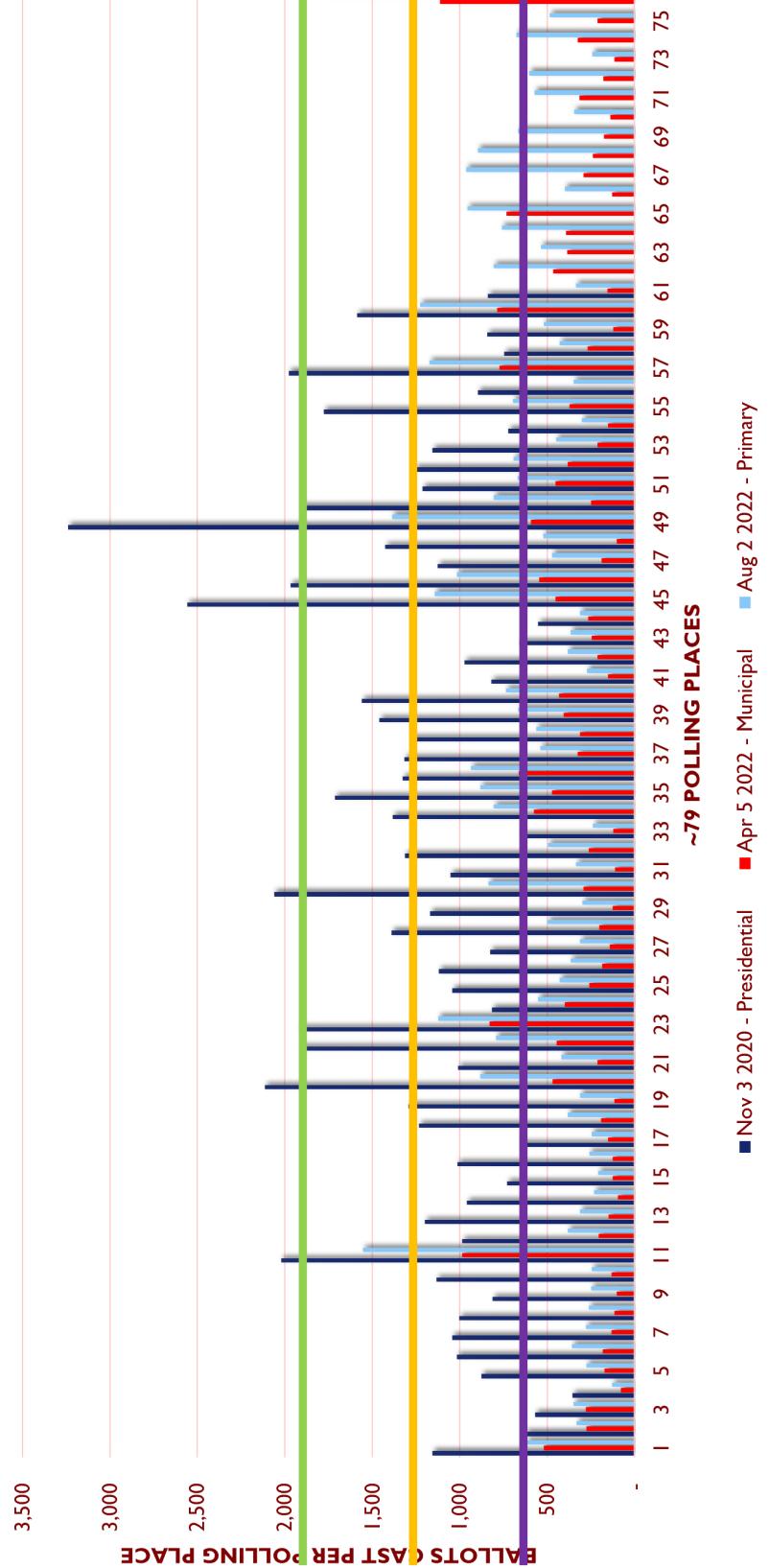
increase of more than 28,000 voters in a 4-month period. Missouri Canvassers reviewed voter rolls from the State for an explanation. It **appears** that the County’s official election results report is showing only active voters up to 4/2022, but both active and inactive voters starting 8/2022. It is a high variance, though, so more research is needed.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

GREENE COUNTY ~168K Registered Voters



281 Greene County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Boone County

~131K Registered Voters and 40 to 80 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	131,022	91,837	70.09%
Apr 5 2022	123,887	29,227	23.59%
Aug 2 2022	125,775	29,539	23.49%

282 Boone County Voting Stats for Comparison

Boone County is interesting. It's about 131,000 registered voters. Looking at election results, it appears they move the precincts around from election to election to create different matchups for polling places. So, the polling place numbers on the chart on the facing page are not direct comparisons.

Also, notice there are twice as many polling numbers for the 2020 presidential election. It appears only half of the county's equipment is used each election and the whole batch is used once every 4 years for a presidential. It is also possible that the county rents equipment for the presidential elections. That is left up to county residents to decide if they want to investigate cost and security.

In any case, for all elections, the bulk of Boone's precincts are coming in at right around 600 ballots cast. Everything else, except about 4 outliers, is within 1,200 ballots cast.

One polling place, in the presidential election, passed 1,800 but did not reach 2,000 ballots cast.

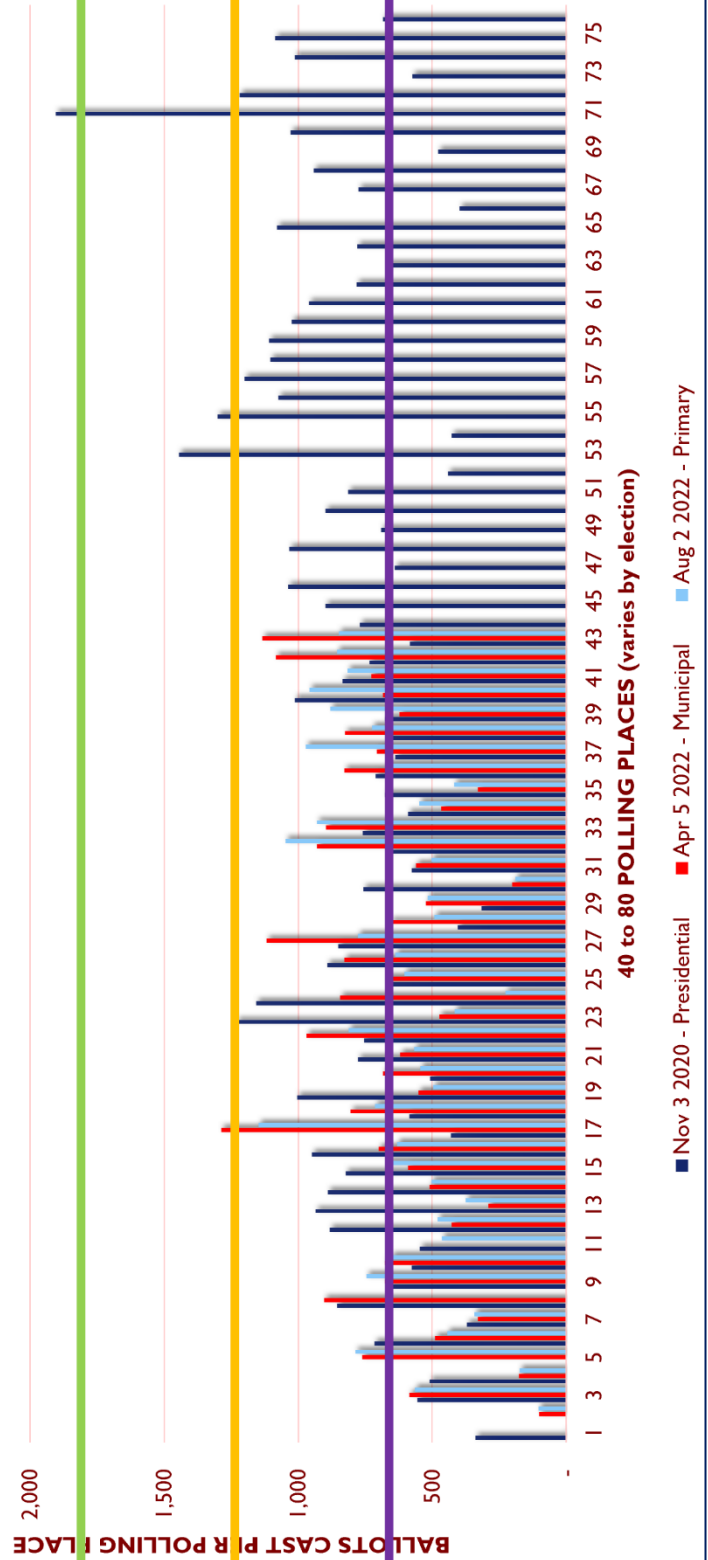
Boone would be easy to return to hand counting.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

BOONE COUNTY ~131K Registered Voters



283 Boone County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Cape Girardeau County

~55K Registered Voters and 34 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	55,350	40,576	73.31%
Apr 5 2022	53,712	8,097	15.07%
Aug 2 2022	54,135	11,964	22.10%

284 Cape Girardeau County Voting Stats for Comparison

With 55,000 registered voters, Cape Girardeau County could save money and time by giving up its voting equipment.

Look at the line for 600 ballots cast on the chart on the facing page. Nearly everything in the municipal and primary elections comes in under 600. Some polling places are so low, you barely see their mark.

The average number of ballots cast per polling place in the April 2022 election was 221, and 325 in August 2022. In the 2022 Municipal Election, 12 of the polling places averaged 61 ballots cast. Honestly, a counting team could count that those polling places in an hour or two.

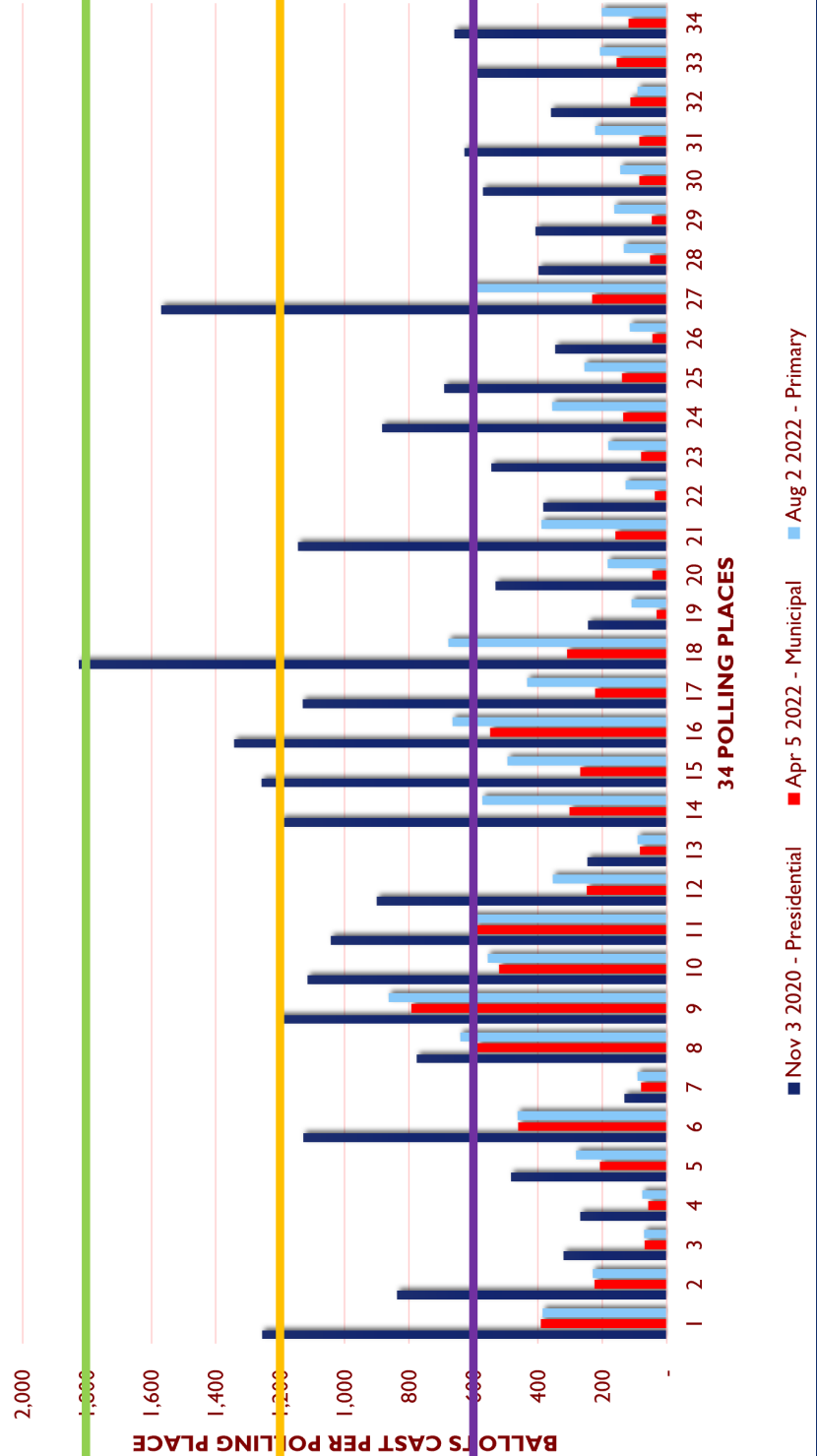
Just like Boone, Cape only has about 4 polling places that reach the 1,200-mark in the presidential election, Cape also has only 1 polling place with 1,800 ballots cast. Nothing higher than that.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY ~55K Registered Voters



285 Cape Girardeau County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Taney County

~38K Registered Voters and ~20 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	38,286	26,445	69.07%
Apr 5 2022	36,772	3,345	9.10%
Aug 2 2022	36,924	9,107	24.66%

286 Taney County Voting Stats for Comparison

In the upcoming pages, we will be looking at counties under 50,000 voter registrations, but with less than 10,000 ballots cast in elections except for the general election that includes a presidential race.

The number of polling places is lower in these counties, which makes it easier to view the bars on the turnout charts.

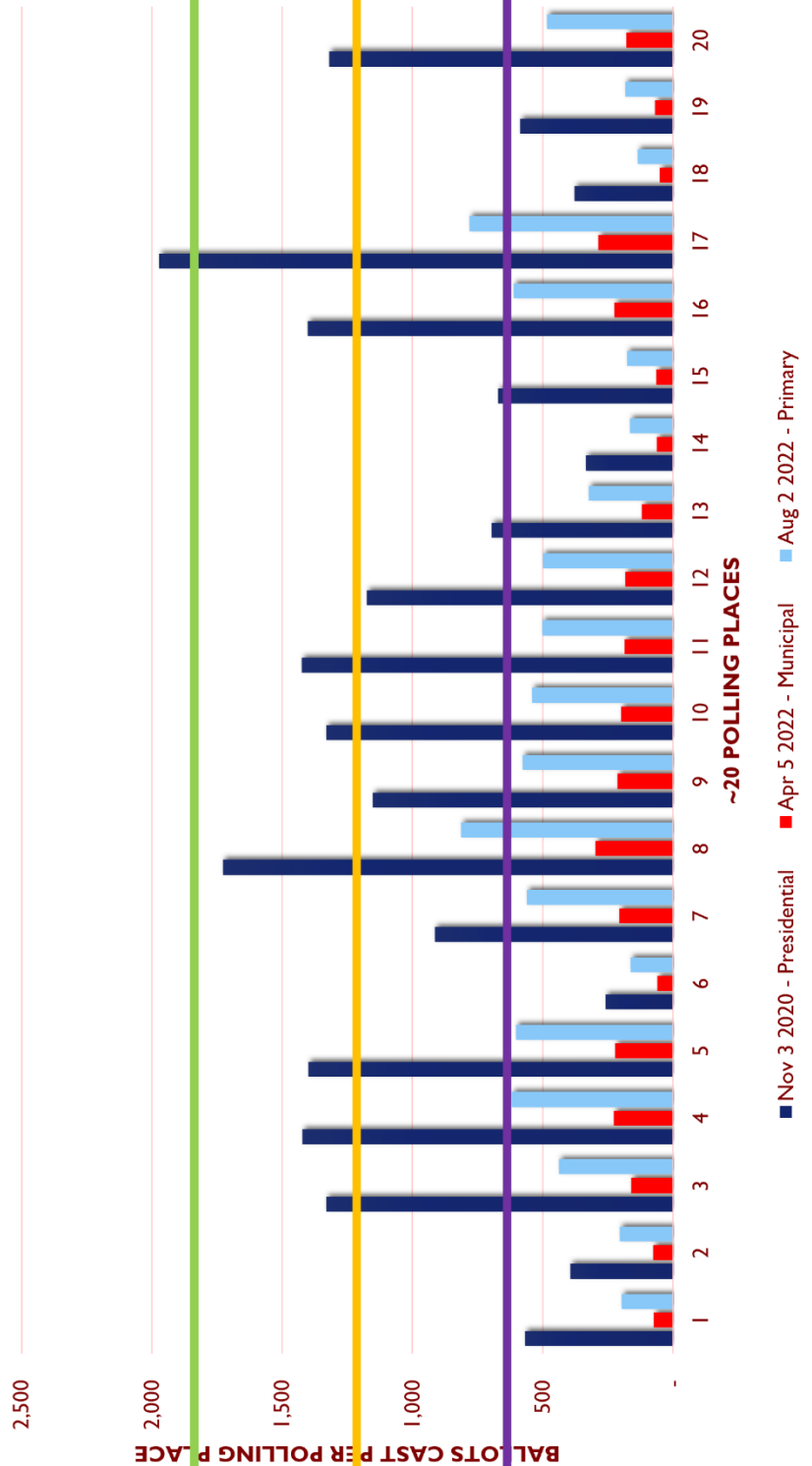
The table above for Taney County shows that all but 2 polling places have 600 or fewer ballots cast in elections other than the presidential. It is likely to be rural areas that come in under 600 ballots in the presidential. The others are all manageable with only 1 polling place exceeding 1,800 ballots cast.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

TANEY COUNTY ~38K Registered Voters



287 Taney County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Stone County

~25K Registered Voters and 17 to 20 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	25,541	18,594	72.80%
Apr 5 2022	24,739	4,415	17.85%
Aug 2 2022	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable

288 Stone County Voting Stats for Comparison

The 2022 primary numbers are not shown for Stone County on either the table above or the chart on the facing page, because the polling place numbers for that election were not available on the county website.

Rather than skipping this county, it seemed important to show that Clerks have enough to do and enough to know without also keeping a website up to date (if they do that themselves). Incomplete websites, or no website at all for a county, illustrate that not all clerks are skilled or capable of “tech” tasks.

Like Boone County, it does not appear that Stone County uses all polling places for every election. Some blue lines are missing for the 2020 election, making it look like zero ballots were cast at those locations. Keep in mind that if polling places were consolidated for the 2020 election, it may explain why some polling places had greater numbers of ballots cast.

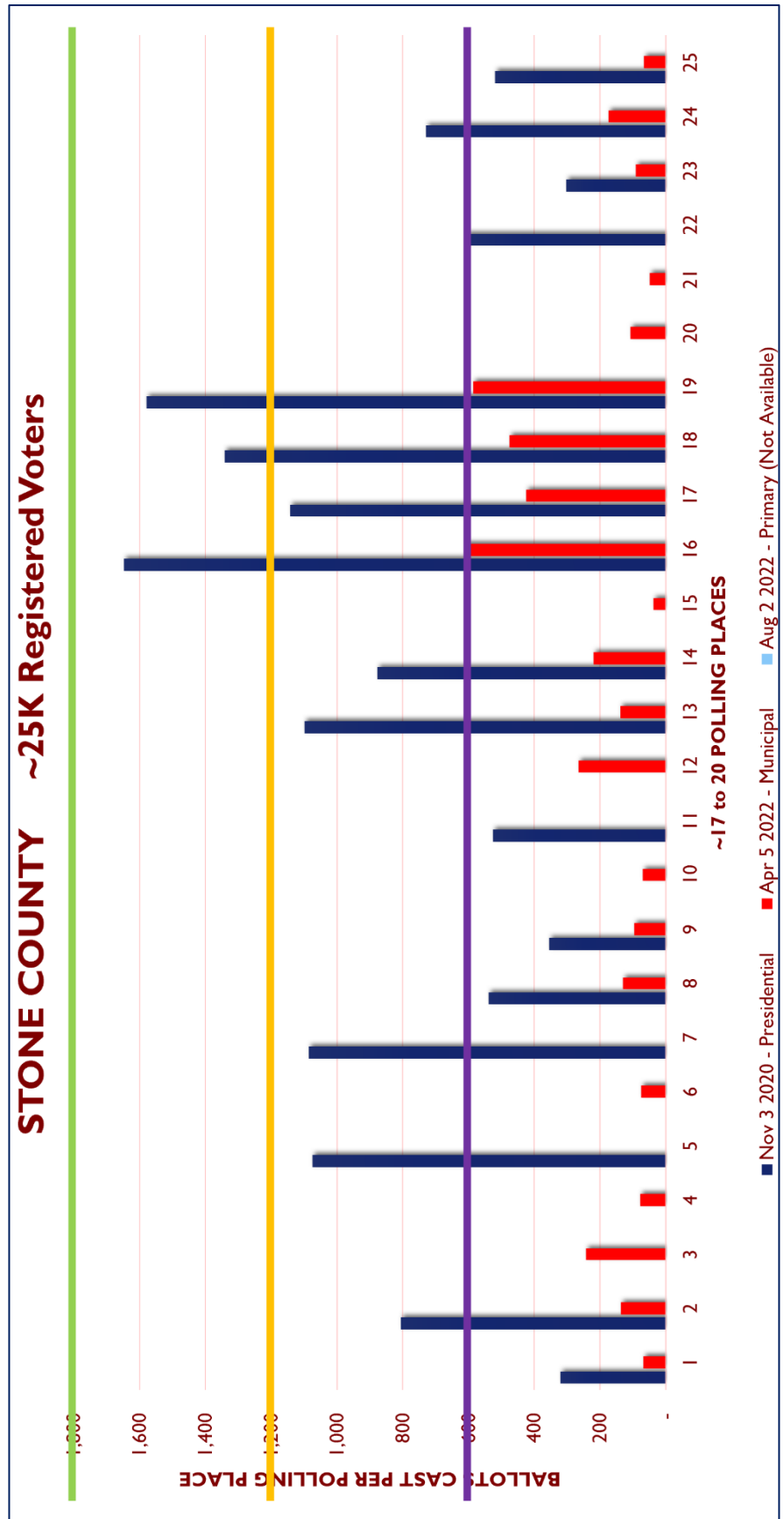
Note that the entire municipal election is beneath 600 ballots cast mark. In the 2020 Presidential election, a few go over 1,200, but overall, Stone County, like so many counties of similar size, does not need machines.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

STONE COUNTY ~25K Registered Voters



289 Stone County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Lawrence County

~25K Registered Voters and ~19 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	24,981	18,005	72.07%
Apr 2 2019	23,585	3,904	16.55%
Aug 2 2022	25,085	7,468	29.77%

290 Lawrence County Voting Stats for Comparison

Lawrence County is very similar to Stone County. Both have about 25,000 registered voters, about 20 polling places, and similar voter turnout.

Another similarity between Stone and Lawrence is that once again, not all election data is available on the website. Election results are posted but sometimes without the individual polling place numbers that are needed for determining the scheduling of counting teams. Certainly, the Clerk will have this data, but it was not available to be downloaded, so a municipal election from 2019 was used instead.

And, of course, the other similarity is that almost all polling places come in below 600 ballots cast, except a few. The average of ballots cast per polling place in 2019 is 193, and the average for 2022 is 369.

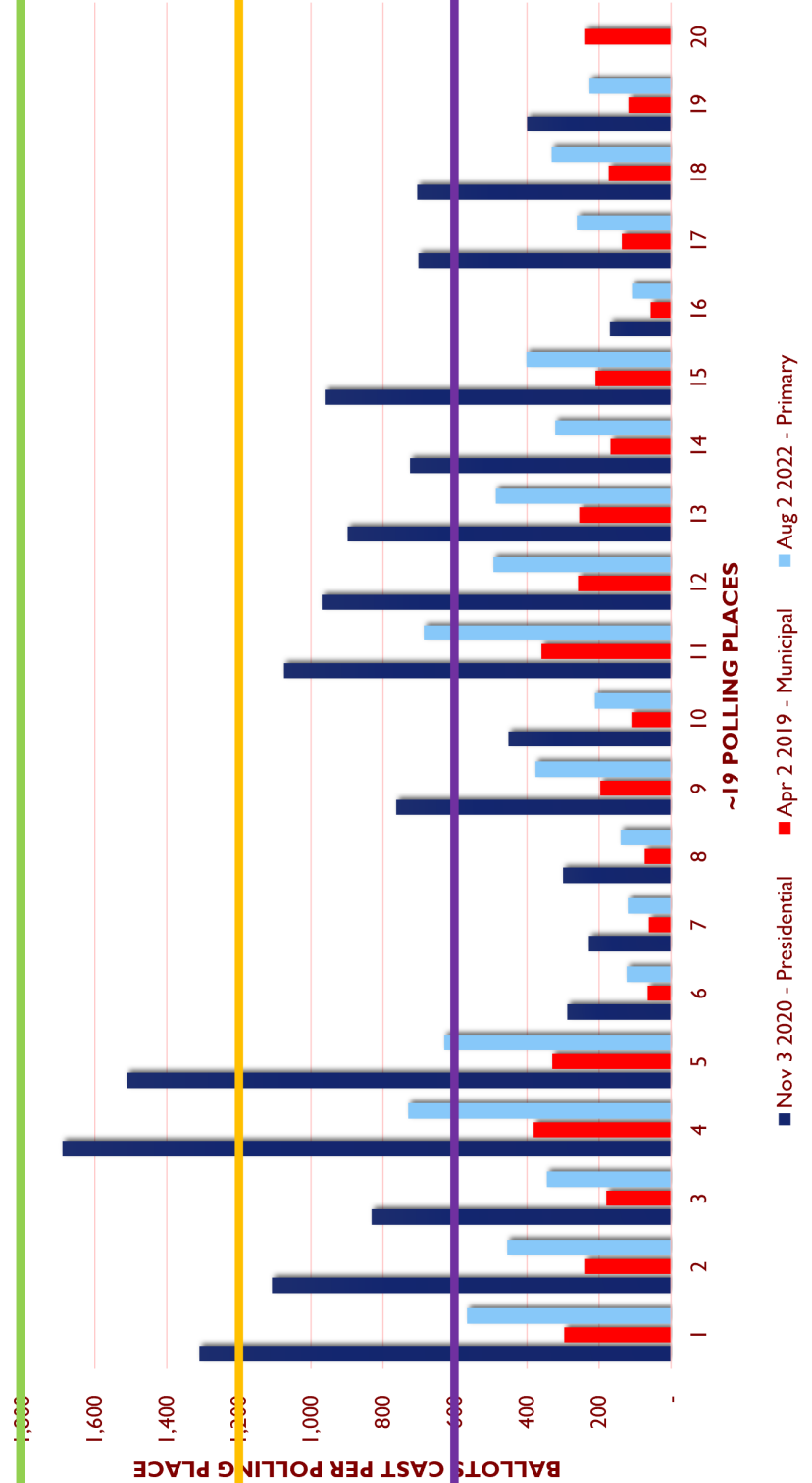
A small county like this is wasting a lot of time on managing machines and all the tasks that go along with them.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

LAWRENCE COUNTY ~25K Registered Voters



291 Lawrence County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Webster County

~23K Registered Voters and ~12 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	23,838	18,854	79.09%
Apr 5 2022	23,762	2,539	10.69%
Aug 2 2022	22,822	7,917	34.69%

292 Webster County Voting Stats for Comparison

Webster County is similar in size to Stone and Lawrence. Why does it look like they have more polling places in the 600 and above range? Because they have fewer polling places. This is just fine and there is no need to change it.

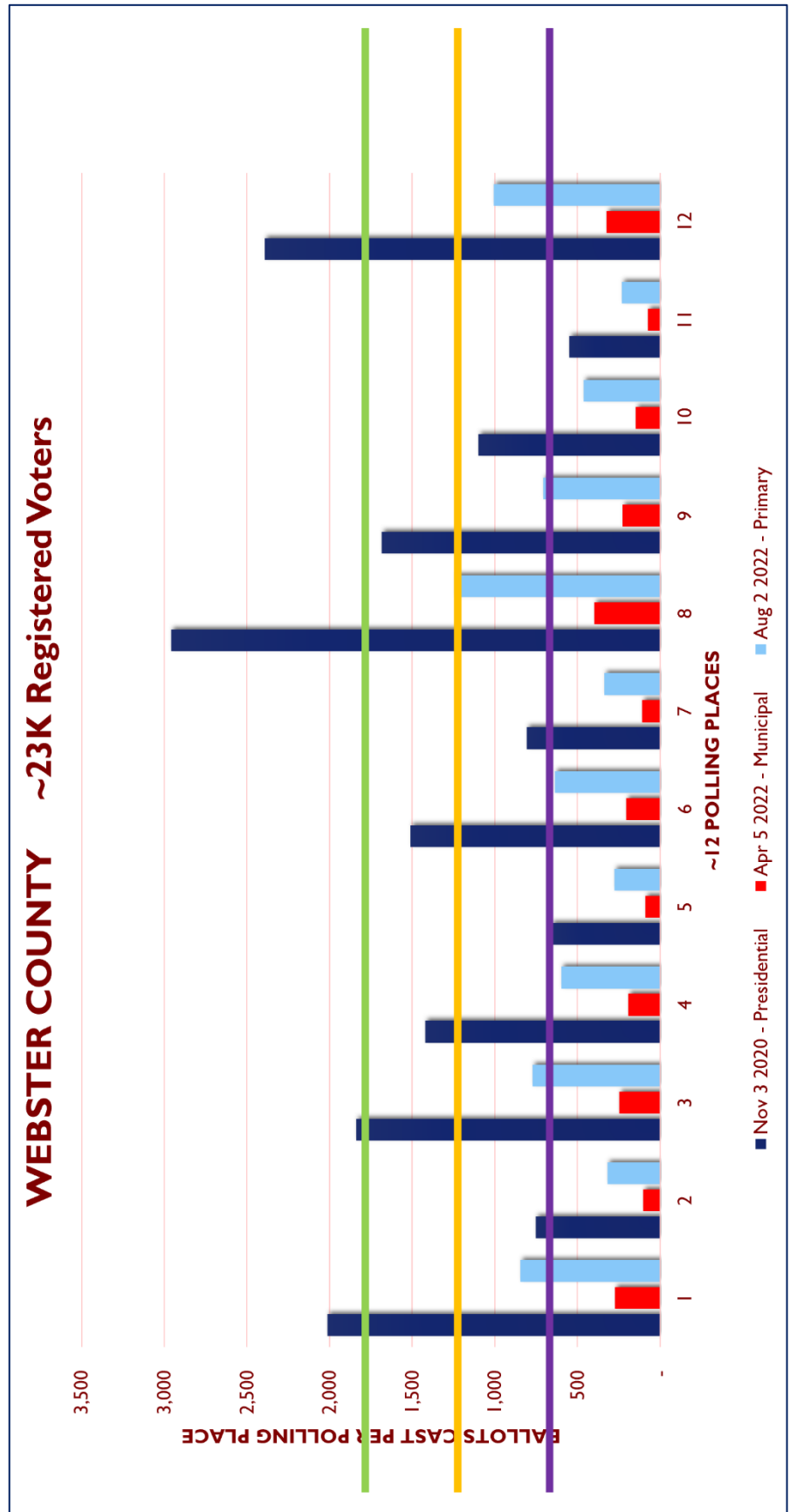
If a polling place is added, a counting team has to be added. To keep it simple for the Clerk and consistent for voters, keep the polling places as they are and add a counting team to the busy polls.

1,800 Ballots Cast
3 Counting Teams

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

WEBSTER COUNTY ~23K Registered Voters



293 Webster County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Perry County

~13K Registered Voters and 14 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	13,033	9,495	72.85%
Apr 5 2022	12,798	2,632	20.57%
Aug 2 2022	13,213	3,240	24.52%

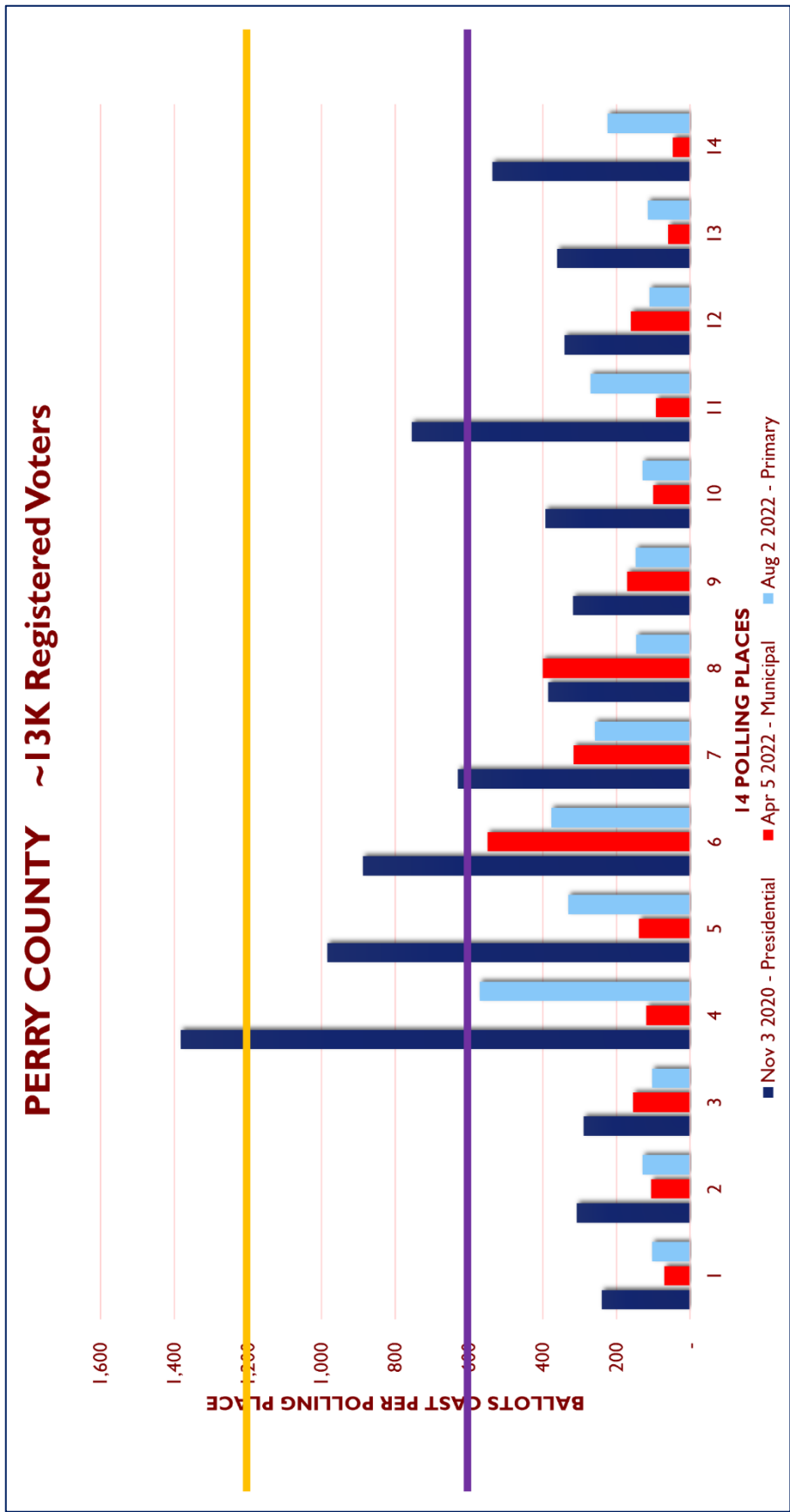
294 Perry County Voting Stats for Comparison

Perry County is the first county illustrated in this eManual that does not even have the green line for 1,800 ballots cast. It only has one polling place that reached 1,200 ballots cast. That was for a presidential election and likely will only occur once every 4 years. It can be covered with extra counting teams.

Even if Perry County had a 100% turnout, it could still return to hand counting and save money on the cost of voting machines.

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team



295 Perry County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Osage County

~9K Registered Voters and 11 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	9,741	7,569	77.70%
Apr 5 2022	8,997	913	10.15%
Aug 2 2022	8,827	3,355	38.01%

296 Osage County Voting Stats for Comparison

Osage County is included because it is one of the few counties in the ‘under 10K registered voters’ group that has a website **and** posts election results that include the individual polling place numbers.

In the 2022 municipal election, only 4 of Osage’s 11 polling places **exceeded** 100 ballots cast. The lowest of its polling places in that election only had 26 ballots cast.

In the 2022 primary election, the average of ballots cast per polling place was 290.

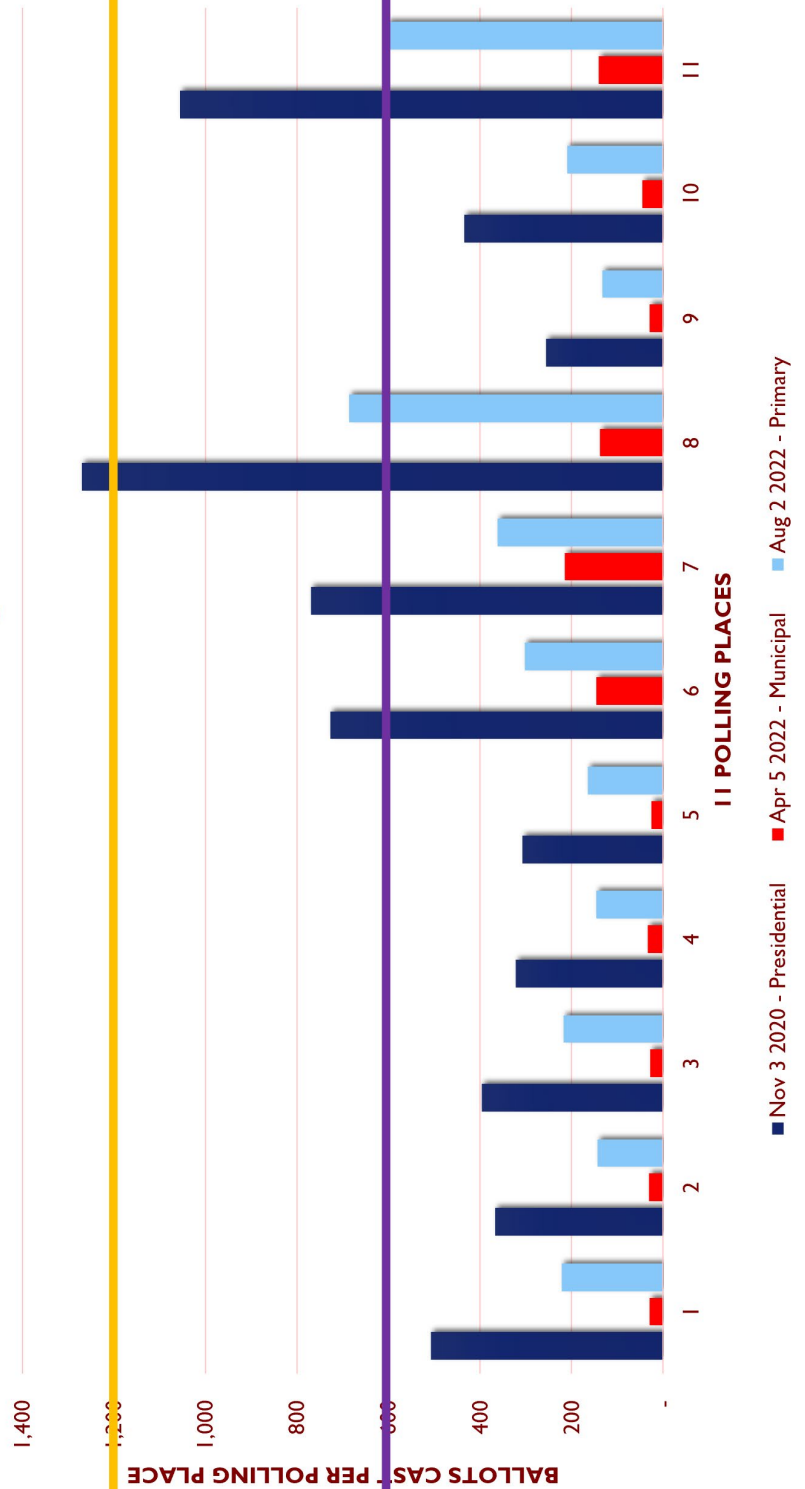
Notice, too, that like Perry County, the green line for 1,800 ballots is omitted. The total number of ballots cast in Osage in April 2022 was 913 – not even enough to reach the 1,200 line if every voter cast their ballots from the same polling place.

During the last election, I was at Osage County as a Challenger and saw firsthand how time-consuming, difficult, and frustrating it was for the Clerk and Election Staff to deal with the voting equipment and software.

1,200 Ballots Cast
2 Counting Teams

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

OSAGE COUNTY ~9K Registered Voters



297 Osage County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

Schuyler County

~3K Registered Voters and 4 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	2,786	2,015	72.33%
Apr 5 2022	2,748	737	26.82%
Aug 2 2022	2,753	759	27.57%

298 Schuyler County Voting Stats for Comparison

Schuyler County was the only county of its size (under 3K registered voters) that had a website *and* had election results posted on its website.

Even though the election results did not give individual polling place numbers, the county only has 4 polling places. So I just averaged the total ballots cast across the 4 polling places.

Before looking at the chart on the facing page, notice in the table above that most of the elections average 700 ballots cast. Even if the ballots cast is not evenly split and ends up a bit lopsided (like 500, 100, 50, 50), it still means only one counting team per polling place.

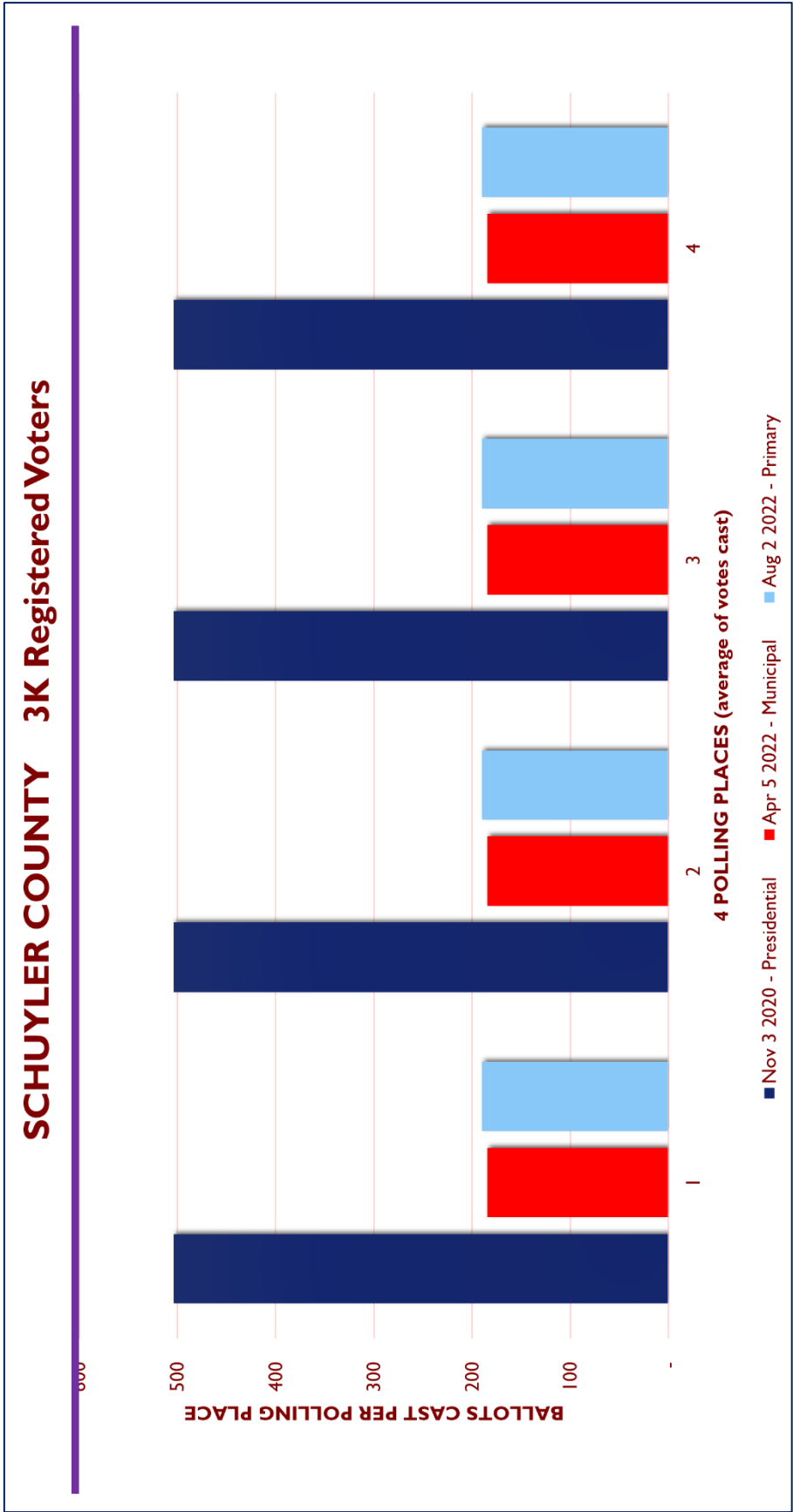
Next, look at the chart on the facing page and notice that not only does it not have the 1,800-ballots cast line (green), but neither does it have the 1,200-ballots line (gold).

Schuyler County is also, I believe, representative of roughly 30 counties that had less than 5,000 ballots cast in the 2020 presidential election.

Whoever is selling these Clerks on the need for voting equipment in their county is being as honest as someone selling them oceanfront property in Arizona.

600 Ballots Cast
1 Counting Team

SCHUYLER COUNTY 3K Registered Voters



299 Schuyler County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

St. Louis County

~680K Registered Voters and 225 Polling Places

Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout
Nov 3 2020	681,869	540,597	79.28%
Apr 5 2022	636,252	121,437	19.09%
Aug 2 2022	635,059	178,261	28.07%

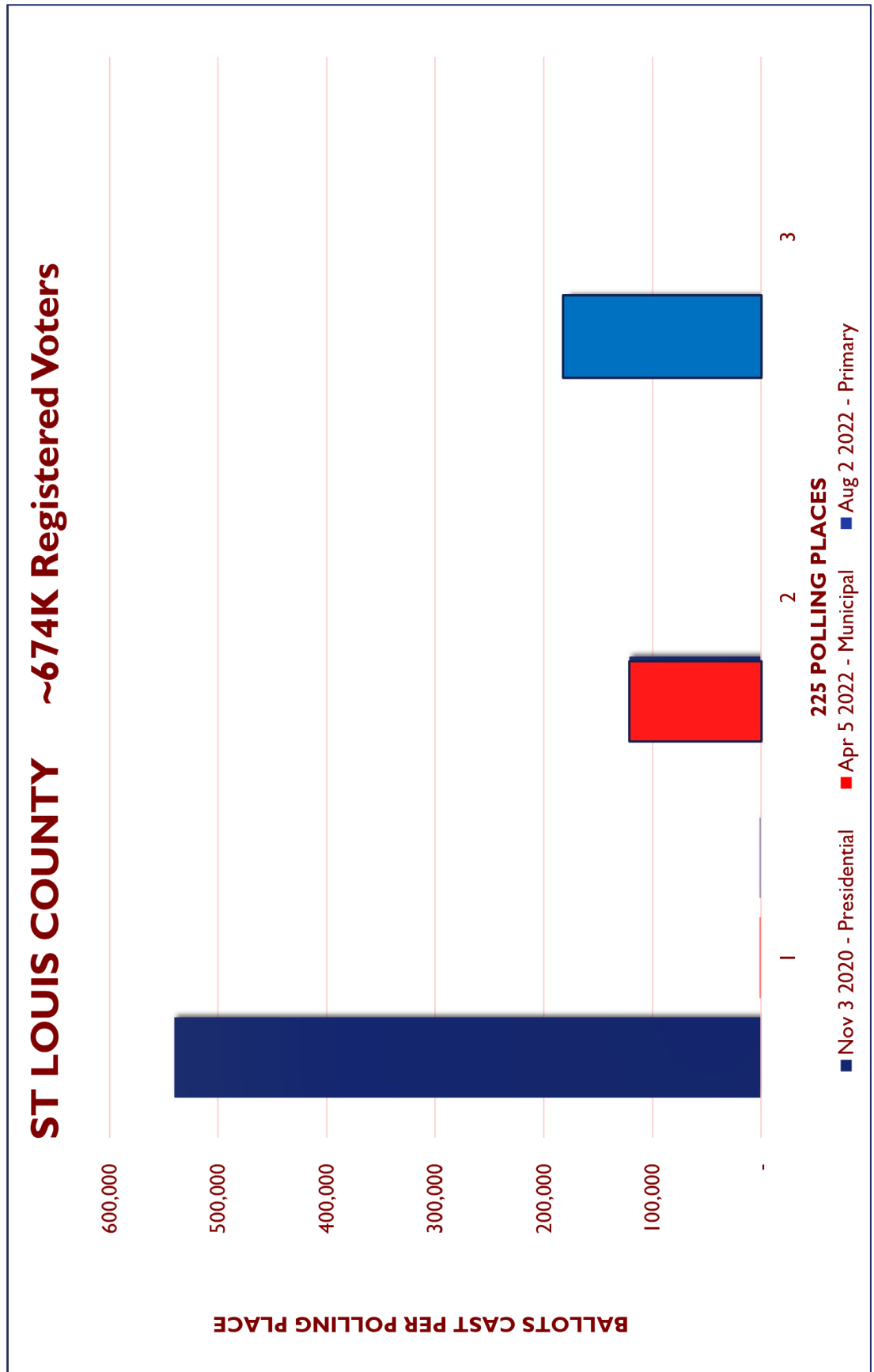
300 St. Louis County Voting Stats for Comparison

It is the largest county with the most registered voters and highest turnout, but we put it last in our county examples because you have to understand the other 115 voting jurisdictions to understand St. Louis County. An uninformed person talking about hand counting will assume, “it can’t be done in St. Louis.” Our question is, on which hand count method are you basing that statement?

St. Louis County had more than 500,000 ballots cast in the 2020 presidential election. Of that number, a huge amount of the ballots are early voting and absentee voting – I believe as many as half. This means ballots cast at polling places on election day are going to be diminished by half. The County has 231 polling places, which averages to about 1,080 ballots each. We’ve already shown how that is a manageable number – 2 counting teams.

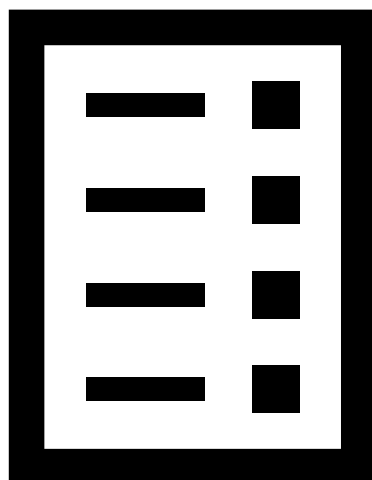
What about all the absentee and early votes? How do those get counted? The same way – hand counting. St. Louis County has lots of space for setting up counting teams, and, yes, a couple of hundred teams will be needed to get it all done! But consider the population of this county. Surely the political parties can recruit a few hundred from a population of hundreds of thousands.

Keep in mind, the biggest election effort in St. Louis County is for presidential elections. For other elections, as shown in the table above, the number of ballots cast is close to other large counties, like St. Charles. Even though we are unable to see how many ballots are cast at individual polling places in St. Louis, we know this county has 230 polling places while St. Charles has about 120. And St. Charles is managing twice as many ballots at half the number of polling places.



301 St. Louis County Polling Places Turnout Bar Chart

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