



August 14, 2025
GOVERNOR'S LOCAL ISSUES CONFERENCE

The Cost of Elections for Counties and The State Board of Elections

2024 Primary and General Presidential Election



Division of Election Administration in Kentucky

- State Board of Elections Independent agency that administers federal and state election laws and disperses pass-through finances to County Clerks and Fiscal Courts for the administration of elections.
- County Clerks and County Boards of Election Conduct local elections, oversight and inspection of voting machines, training of local election officers, public outreach, and direct interaction with voters.
- Secretary of State Chief Election Official/SBE Chair
- □ <u>Kentucky Registry of Election Finance</u> Independent agency that administers campaign finance laws.

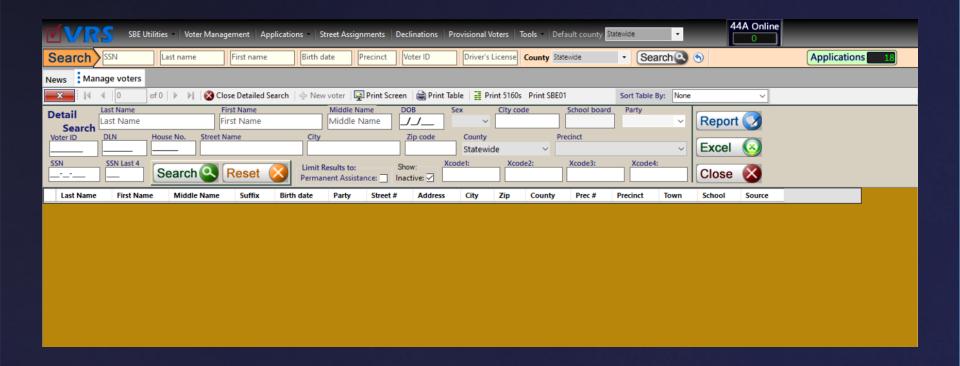


SBE In-House Electronic Services Assisting County Clerk's Offices

- <u>Voter Registration System (VRS)</u> Electronic Election Management System provided by SBE to 120 counties to manage voters
- □ Online Voter Registration (OVR) Online voter registration portal for citizens
 - <u>Electronic Transmission System (ETS)</u> Online portal for military/overseas citizens to register to vote, as, well as, request and receive absentee ballots
- □ <u>Voter Information Center (VIC)</u> Website where voters can check their registration and absentee ballot status in real-time
 - <u>Election Night Reporting (ENR)</u> Statewide repository of unofficial electionnight results received directly from counties and posted for the public/media
 - Absentee Ballot Request Portal (ABR) Secure website used by voters to submit a mail-in absentee ballot request directly to their County Clerk



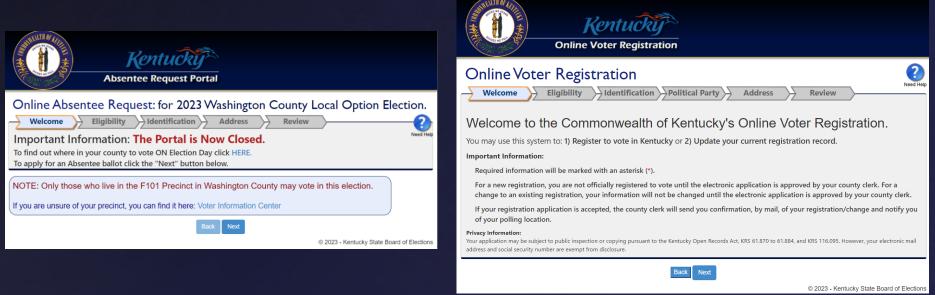
Voter Registration System



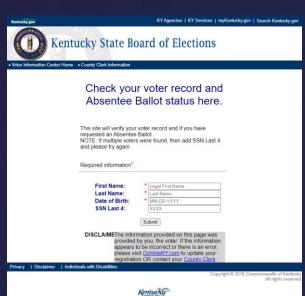
All 120 Counties across the Commonwealth use the VRS System daily.



Publicly Accessible Websites









SBE Costs Associated with Elections

	FY25	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21
General Administration and Support Allotment	\$2,515,300	\$2,140,200	\$2,089,500	\$1,725,600	\$2.594,300
	FY25	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21
General Funding for Statutory Requirements	\$3,481,400	\$3,615,000	\$3,664,900	\$1,786,900	\$3,610,900
	FY2510	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21
	F12510	F 1 2 4	F123	F122	F121
Federal Funding	\$1,164,000	\$1,194,100	\$3,251,600	\$3,354,600	\$10,159,500
	TN/05	EN/0.4	EN/00	E3/00	E2/04
	FY25	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21
Total Agency Expenditures	\$7,160,700	\$6,949,300	\$9,006,000	\$6,867,100	\$16,364,700

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Kentucky State Board of Elections

SBE Election Administration

SBE acts as a Pass-through for Counties to Receive Statutorily Mandated Election Funds

- □ KRS 117.345: \$255 per precinct for "the cost of any election"
 - □ SBE was allotted \$1,883,000 to distribute to 120 counties during the last biennial budget
- KRS 117.343: \$0.50 per registered voter in the county per year "for the cost of employing office personnel necessary for the conduct of elections, including the registration and purgation of voters in the county"
- □ KRS 116.145: \$0.25 registration fee "for each person registered"
 - □ SBE was allotted \$1,717,800 to be distributed to 120 counties to comply with KRS 117.343 and KRS 116.145 during the last biennial budget

Andrew establishment

Kentucky State Board of Elections

Why are the Cost of Elections Important to County or Consolidated Governments?

117.345 Cost of elections -- Payment.

(1) The cost of all elections held in any county shall be allowed by the fiscal court or legislative body of any urban-county government, charter county, consolidated local government, or unified local government and paid by the county treasurer, except as otherwise provided by law.

Counties are responsible for election expenses.

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Kentucky State Board of Elections

Some of the Costs

Equipment, Supplies, Staffing, and other Services













County Election Expense Worksheet

ELECTION EXPENSES FOR I	PRIMARY 2024 AND GENE	RAL 2024	
*PLEASE COMPLETE YELLOW BOXES			
COUNTY:			
PERSON SUBMITTING:			
ELECTION EXPENSES:			
	P2024	G2024	PRESIDENTIAL YEAR TOTAL
ELECTION OFFICER PAYROLL (EARLY AND ELECTION DAY)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
VOTING MACHINE VENDOR FEE (ES&S OR HARP ENTERPRISES)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
E-POLL BOOK EXPENSES (ES&S, KNOWINK, OR TENEX)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FACILITY RENTAL FEES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ADVERTISING OF ELECTIONS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ADVERTISING OF BALLOT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ADVERTISING OF PUBLIC NOTICES (INSPECTION, ETC)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER ELECTION SUPPLIES (NOT INCLUDED IN VENDOR BILLING)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BALLOT PRINTING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ENVELOPES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BALLOT POSTAGE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SECURITY EXPENSE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
POWER ADAPTERS AND EXTENSION CHORDS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TONERS, CARTRIDGES, AND DRUMS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
POSTERS AND MARKETING EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
WIFI/ DATA EXPENSES FOR E-POLL BOOKS (AT&T, VERIZON, ETC)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PORTABLE POTTIES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TRAINING MANUAL EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR STAFF	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OFFICE SUPPLIES (TAPE, PENS, ETC)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BOARD OF ELECTION PAYROLL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
STAFF OVERTIME	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
,			-
GRAND TOTALS	s -	\$ -	\$ -



2024 County Election Expense Survey

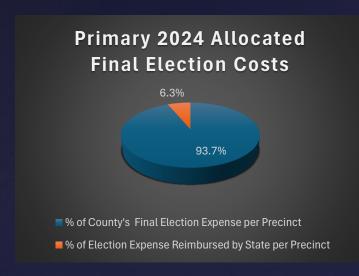
- 72 Counties Responded using data collected from the County Clerk's and County Treasurers
- This group represented 2355 Precincts out of 3221 Total Precincts Voting in the 2024 Primary and General Elections (73.1%)
- These 72 counties also account for 2,671,764 Registered Voters (80.1% of the Commonwealths total registered voter)

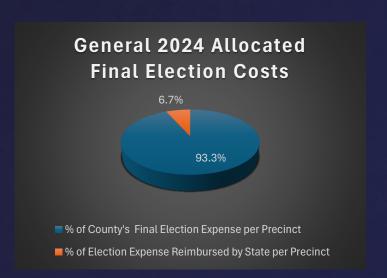
Adair	Cumberland	Lewis	Nicholas
Barren	Daviess	Lincoln	Oldham
Bell	Fayette	Livingston	Owen
Boone	Franklin	Logan	Perry
Bourbon	Gallatin	Lyon	Pike
Boyd	Graves	Madison	Powell
Boyle	Greenup	Magoffin	Pulaski
Bracken	Hardin	Marion	Rowan
Butler	Harlan	Marshall	Scott
Caldwell	Hart	Mason	Simpson
Calloway	Henderson	McCracken	Spencer
Campbell	Henry	Meade	Taylor
Carlisle	Hickman	Mercer	Trigg
Carroll	Jefferson	Metcalfe	Trimble
Christian	Jessamine	Monroe	Union
Clark	Kenton	Montgomery	Warren
Clay	Laurel	Morgan	Washington
Crittenden	Leslie	Nelson	Woodford



Costs for Counties in 2024 Primary and General Elections

Information Based on 72 Counties' Election Expense	Primary 2024	General 2024
State-wide Avgerage Cost per Precinct	\$ 4,033.14	\$ 3,779.37
State Reimbursement per Precinct	\$ 255.00	\$ 255.00
County Average Cost per Precinct	\$ 3,778.14	\$ 3,524.37
% of County's Final Election Expense per Precinct	93.7%	93.3%
% of Election Expense Reimbursed by State per Precinct	6.3%	6.7%
State-wide Average Cost per Registered Voter	\$ 3.55	\$ 3.33





^{*} Amounts do not reflect daily election administration costs.



Large County Expenses

ELECTION EXPENSES:					Т
	P2024	G2024	PF	RESIDENTIAL YEAR TOTAL	Τ
ELECTION OFFICER PAYROLL (EARLY AND ELECTION DAY)	\$ 808,873.70	\$ 915,034.13	\$	1,723,907.83	
VOTING MACHINE VENDOR FEE (ES&S OR HARP ENTERPRISES)	\$ 14,485.00	\$ 14,900.00	\$	29,385.00	C
E-POLL BOOK EXPENSES (ES&S, KNOWINK, OR TENEX)	\$ 25,435.00	\$ 29,385.00	\$	54,820.00	C
TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	\$ 39,520.05	\$ 44,845.50	\$	84,365.55	T
FACILITY RENTAL FEES	\$ 119,400.00	\$ 73,825.00	\$	193,225.00	T
ADVERTISING OF ELECTIONS		\$ 7,360.00	\$	7,360.00	T
ADVERTISING OF BALLOT	\$ 26,598.34	\$ 36,485.77	\$	63,084.11	1
ADVERTISING OF PUBLIC NOTICES (INSPECTION, ETC)	\$ 3,958.90	\$ 3,860.93	\$	7,819.83	T
	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	1
OTHER ELECTION SUPPLIES (NOT INCLUDED IN VENDOR BILLING)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	Τ
BALLOT PRINTING (INCLUDES TEST DECKS)	\$ 383,777.05	\$ 260,313.73	\$	644,090.78	Τ
ENVELOPES	\$ -	\$ 14,412.00	\$	14,412.00	T
POSTAGE	\$ 311,427.00	\$ 312,415.00	\$	623,842.00	
SECURITY EXPENSE	\$ 65,327.50	\$ 147,612.00	\$	212,939.50	Τ
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	T
POWER ADAPTERS AND EXTENSION CORDS	\$ -	\$ 491.76	\$	491.76	
TONERS, CARTRIDGES, AND DRUMS		\$ -	\$	-	Ţ
POSTERS AND MARKETING EXPENSES	\$ 3,815.29	\$ -	\$	3,815.29	Ī
WIFI/ DATA EXPENSES FOR E-POLL BOOKS (AT&T, VERIZON, ETC)	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$	37,000.00	
PORTABLE POTTIES	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	Τ
TRAINING MANUAL EXPENSES	\$ 14,133.15	\$ 20,570.79	\$	34,703.94	1
TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR STAFF	\$ 3,411.00	\$ 3,394.00	\$	6,805.00	Ī
OFFICE SUPPLIES (TAPE, PENS, ETC)	\$ 48,390.00	\$ 26,547.00	\$	74,937.00	Т
BOARD OF ELECTION PAYROLL	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$	3,400.00	
STAFF OVERTIME	\$ 1,609.00	\$ 1,571.00	\$	3,180.00	Т
			\$	-	Τ
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): SURVEYOR	\$ 9,349.00	\$ 9,568.00	\$	18,917.00	Τ
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): POLL BOOK PRINTERS	\$ 247,225.00		\$	247,225.00	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): 150 VOTING BOOTHS	\$ 193,660.00	\$ -	\$	193,660.00	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): ES&S POLL BOOK MAINT AGREE	\$ 260,000.00	\$ -	\$	260,000.00	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): ES&S ANNUAL MAINT/WARRANTY	\$ 237,725.50	\$ -	\$	237,725.50	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):I VOTED WRISTBAND	\$ -	\$ 5,693.09	\$	5,693.09	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): PRINTED BACK UP ROSTERS	\$ 5,754.15	\$ 5,462.05	\$	11,216.20	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST): BALLOT STOCK PAPER FOR BOD	\$ 11,698.82	\$ 6,479.55	\$	18,178.37	
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASELIST): EXPRESSVOTE PAPER	\$ 4,336.02		\$	4,336.02	
			\$	-	
			\$	-	
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 2,860,109.47	\$ 1,960,426.30	\$	4,820,535.77	

ONSITE CODING/SUPPORT
DATA CONVERSION AND POLLBOOK DATA LOAD



Daviess County Expenses

ELECTION EXPENSES:			
	P2024	G2024	PRESIDENTIAL YEAR TOTAL
ELECTION OFFICER PAYROLL (EARLY AND ELECTION DAY)	\$ 52,717.00	\$ 59,401.00	\$ 112,118.00
VOTING MACHINE VENDOR FEE (ES&S OR HARP ENTERPRISES)	\$ 25,725.00	\$ 26,100.94	\$ 51,825.94
E-POLL BOOK EXPENSES (ES&S, KNOWINK, OR TENEX)	\$ 6,075.00	\$ 6,075.00	\$ 12,150.00
TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	\$ 2,496.21	\$ -	\$ 2,496.21
FACILITY RENTAL FEES	\$ 9,210.00	\$ 8,700.00	\$ 17,910.00
ADVERTISING OF ELECTIONS	\$ 3,847.94	\$ 6,372.00	\$ 10,219.94
ADVERTISING OF BALLOT			\$ -
ADVERTISING OF PUBLIC NOTICES (INSPECTION, ETC)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OTHER ELECTION SUPPLIES (NOT INCLUDED IN VENDOR BILLING)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BALLOT PRINTING	\$ 3,622.50	\$ 6,825.00	\$ 10,447.50
ENVELOPES	\$ 2,192.00	\$ 1,752.51	\$ 3,944.51
BALLOT POSTAGE	\$ 1,207.00	\$ 5,528.00	\$ 6,735.00
SECURITY EXPENSE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
POWER ADAPTERS AND EXTENSION CHORDS	\$ 206.35	\$ -	\$ 206.35
TONERS, CARTRIDGES, AND DRUMS	\$ 12,210.00	\$ 935.30	\$ 13,145.30
POSTERS AND MARKETING EXPENSES	\$ 113.00	\$ 1,594.80	\$ 1,707.80
WIFI/ DATA EXPENSES FOR E-POLL BOOKS (AT&T, VERIZON, ETC)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PORTABLE POTTIES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TRAINING MANUAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,110.00	\$ 1,110.00	\$ 2,220.00
TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR STAFF	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OFFICE SUPPLIES (TAPE, PENS, ETC)	\$ 808.54	\$ 1,264.07	\$ 2,072.61
BOARD OF ELECTION PAYROLL	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 14,400.00
STAFF OVERTIME	\$ 7,294.00	\$ 7,950.00	\$ 15,244.00
HAND TRUCKS/DOLLIES	\$ 2,730.00	\$ 829.38	\$ 3,559.38
PORTABLE DISABLED PARKING SIGNS	\$ 1,466.55	\$ 829.38	\$ 2,295.93
VOTER REGISTRATION PROCESSING POST CARDS	\$ 719.08	\$ 1,390.31	\$ 2,109.39
NEW VOTING EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ 44,980.00	\$ 44,980.00
LARGE PLASTIC TOTES ON WHEELS TO TRANSPORT LINE QUES	\$ -	\$ 2,101.07	\$ 2,101.07
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 140,950.17	\$ 190,938.76	\$ 331,888.93



Smaller County Expenses

ELECTION EXPENSES:				
	P2024	C	92024	PRESIDENTIAL YEAR TOTAL
ELECTION OFFICER PAYROLL (EARLY AND ELECTION DAY)	\$ 4,975.00	\$	4,935.00	\$ 9,910.00
VOTING MACHINE VENDOR FEE (ES&S OR HARP ENTERPRISES)	\$ 7,836.00	\$ 2	7,893.00	\$ 35,729.00
E-POLL BOOK EXPENSES (ES&S, KNOWINK, OR TENEX)	\$ 2,090.00	\$	-	\$ 2,090.00
TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
FACILITY RENTAL FEES	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
ADVERTISING OF ELECTIONS	\$ 361.25	\$	392.50	\$ 753.75
ADVERTISING OF BALLOT	\$ 361.25	\$	392.50	\$ 753.75
ADVERTISING OF PUBLIC NOTICES (INSPECTION, ETC)	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER ELECTION SUPPLIES (NOT INCLUDED IN VENDOR BILLING)	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
BALLOT PRINTING	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
ENVELOPES	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
BALLOT POSTAGE	\$ 132.00	\$	691.00	\$ 823.00
SECURITY EXPENSE	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
POWER ADAPTERS AND EXTENSION CHORDS	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
TONERS, CARTRIDGES, AND DRUMS	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
POSTERS AND MARKETING EXPENSES	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
WIFI/ DATA EXPENSES FOR E-POLL BOOKS (AT&T, VERIZON, ETC)	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
PORTABLE POTTIES	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
TRAINING MANUAL EXPENSES	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR STAFF	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OFFICE SUPPLIES (TAPE, PENS, ETC)	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
BOARD OF ELECTION PAYROLL	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
STAFF OVERTIME	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES (PLEASE LIST):	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 15,755.50	\$ 3	4,304.00	\$ 50,059.50



Totals For Each County Responding

Totals for 72 Counties	
Total Election Expenses for the Primary	\$ 9,498,051.23
Total Election Expenses for the General	\$ 8,900,428.01
Total Election Expenses for 2024 Cycle	\$ 18,398,479.24

County	Total	2024 Election Cycle Cost
Adair	\$	124,780.18
Barren	\$	207,120.27
Bell	\$	177,630.08
Boone	\$	600,148.21
Bourbon	\$	130,708.94
Boyd	\$	316,245.86
Boyle	\$	130,090.00
Bracken	\$	84,905.57
Butler	\$	94,118.76
Caldwell	\$	92,752.27
Calloway	\$	114,812.90
Campbell	\$	431,857.65
Carlisle	\$	31,803.68
Carroll	\$	163,594.85
Christian	\$	452,869.00
Clark	\$	142,748.60
Clay	\$	128,779.00
Crittenden	\$	65,319.99
Cumberland	\$	51,750.47
Daviess	\$	331,888.93
Fayette	\$	1,142,819.58
Franklin	\$	169,973.71
Gallatin	\$	58,564.56
Graves	\$	115,045.40

County	Total 202	4 Election Cycle Cost
Greenup	\$	221,141.37
Hardin	\$	274,614.21
Harlan	\$	136,642.51
Hart	\$	167,733.68
Henderson	\$	212,767.85
Henry	\$	81,664.00
Hickman	\$	49,879.70
Jefferson	\$	4,820,535.77
Jessamine	\$	254,980.32
Kenton	\$	739,223.63
Laurel	\$	228,212.16
Leslie	\$	116,214.23
Lewis	\$	51,085.00
Lincoln	\$	96,092.44
Livingston	\$	96,740.54
Logan	\$	170,837.54
Lyon	\$	47,367.68
Madison	\$	248,694.56
Magoffin	\$	101,679.17
Marion	\$	111,536.53
Marshall	\$	188,165.83
Mason	\$	104,385.39
McCracken	\$	289,918.32
Meade	\$	218,693.78

County	Total 2024 Election C	ycle Cost
Mercer	\$ 10	2,232.19
Metcalfe	\$ 7	2,954.30
Monroe	\$ 9	2,757.95
Montgomery	\$ 10	9,896.31
Morgan	\$ 3	8,000.00
Nelson	\$ 15	4,305.05
Nicholas	\$ 5	0,059.50
Oldham	\$ 28	32,984.00
Owen	\$ 6	3,347.08
Perry	\$ 33	6,358.33
Pike	\$ 43	0,184.93
Powell	\$ 5	6,807.50
Pulaski	\$ 31	6,257.40
Rowan	\$ 10	2,104.27
Scott	\$ 24	1,192.65
Simpson	\$ 8	9,265.20
Spencer	\$ 25	2,404.66
Taylor	\$ 10	2,882.00
Trigg	\$ 6	6,251.66
Trimble	\$ 17	9,708.34
Union	\$ 10	6,311.42
Warren		37,712.39
Washington	\$ 5	5,027.00
Woodford	\$ 27	70,340.44



KY County-level Election Administration

Duties that fall on County Clerks and County Boards of Election include:

The Obvious

- ☐ Follow federal and state laws to ensure our elections are safe, accessible, and secure
- Voter registration and coding voters for the correct ballot face
- ☐ Selecting voting locations that meet all the requirements of a voting location
- ☐ Creating and approval of election plans for each election
- ☐ Staffing election offices and voting locations

- ☐ Providing voting locations with sufficient voting equipment
- ☐ Local candidate filings
- ☐ Submission of unofficial election night results
- ☐ Production of post-election reports and certifications
- ☐ Availability and accountability to voters of our counties
- ☐ Organizing and ordering supplies to ensure accurate inventory for elections
- ☐ Delivery of Election Equipment

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Kentucky State Board of Elections

KY County-level Election Administration

Duties that fall on County Clerks and County Boards of Elections include:

The Not So Obvious

☐ Printing of ballots and other election Working with Fiscal Courts to materials such as signage ensure adequate funding Voting location and security ☐ Voting machine accuracy testing, oversight/planning inspections, and security ☐ Complying with DOJ ☐ Open and close all polling locations requirements for ADA each day of in-person voting Workflow and election security ☐ Daily documentation of election management equipment during voting hours ☐ Responding to open records ☐ Secure voting materials requests ☐ Continuous training of election ☐ Ongoing communication with our laws, changes, and updates election vendors ■ Publication of notices in ☐ Annual report to receive state funding newspapers





Shared Election Administration Objective

The State Board of Elections, County Clerks, and the County Boards of Election work to ensure secure, accurate, and accessible elections during each election cycle through the administration of federal and state election laws.



July 19, 2023

Interim Joint Committee on General Government, Finance, Personnel, and Public Retirement

Questions?