



## 2013 Spring Primary Debriefing for the Madison Election Advisory Committee

### **Overview**

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The City of Madison had a voter turnout of 11.1 percent on February 19, 2013. There were 21,044 votes cast. For comparison, the City of Madison had a voter turnout of 11 percent in February 2012.

Election officials registered 263 voters at the polls on Election Day.

### **Election Official Recruitment**

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Of the 1,014 individuals who worked at the polls, 3 were ages 16-17 (0.3 %), 24 were ages 18-25 (2.4 %), 82 were ages 26-40 (8 %), 304 were ages 41-60 (30 %), 374 were ages 61-70 (36.9 %), and 227 were ages 71 or older (22.4 %). 674 election officials were female and 340 were male. For comparison, 9.6 percent of Madison residents are age 65 or older.

Of our 1,014 election officials, 6 reported that they were of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity (0.6 %). Twelve reported that they were Asian (1.2 %), and 95 reported that they were African-American (9.4 %). For comparison, 6.8% of City of Madison residents are of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 7.4% are Asian, and 7.3% are African-American.

### **Training**

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The Clerk's Office offered 28 training sessions for election officials from February 5 through February 18.

Training took place at the City-County Building, Madison Police East District, The Jefferson, Olbrich Gardens, Madison Water Utility, Sequoya Branch Library, and Lakeview Branch Library.

### **Absentee Ballots Issued**

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The City Clerk's Office issued 3,895 absentee ballots for this election. There were 387 absentee ballots issued to voters at the counter. 1,996 absentee ballots (51.2 percent) were returned to be counted.

For comparison, the City Clerk's Office issued 4,861 absentee ballots for the February 2012 Primary, including 221 absentee ballots issued to voters at the counter. 1,806 absentee ballots were returned to be counted.

### **Absentee Ballots Rejected**

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Twenty absentee ballots were rejected at the polls: 10 had no voter signature, 3 had no witness signature, 2 had no signatures at all, 4 absentee voters moved without registering at their new address, and 1 absentee voter had died since casting their absentee ballots. Of the ballots sent to the polls to be counted, 1.2 percent were rejected.

Three hundred fifty absentee ballots arrived in the mail after Election Day but by 4 p.m. the Friday of election week. The Board of Canvassers met that Friday from 4 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. They counted 343 absentee ballots and rejected seven (three had no voter signature, three had no witness signature, and one indicated that the voter was not registered at his current address).

### **Challenges**

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Between illness and vacations, the City Clerk's Office has never had so many Chief Inspector vacancies to fill. There were countless last minute election official cancellations as well, most of them due to the flu.