

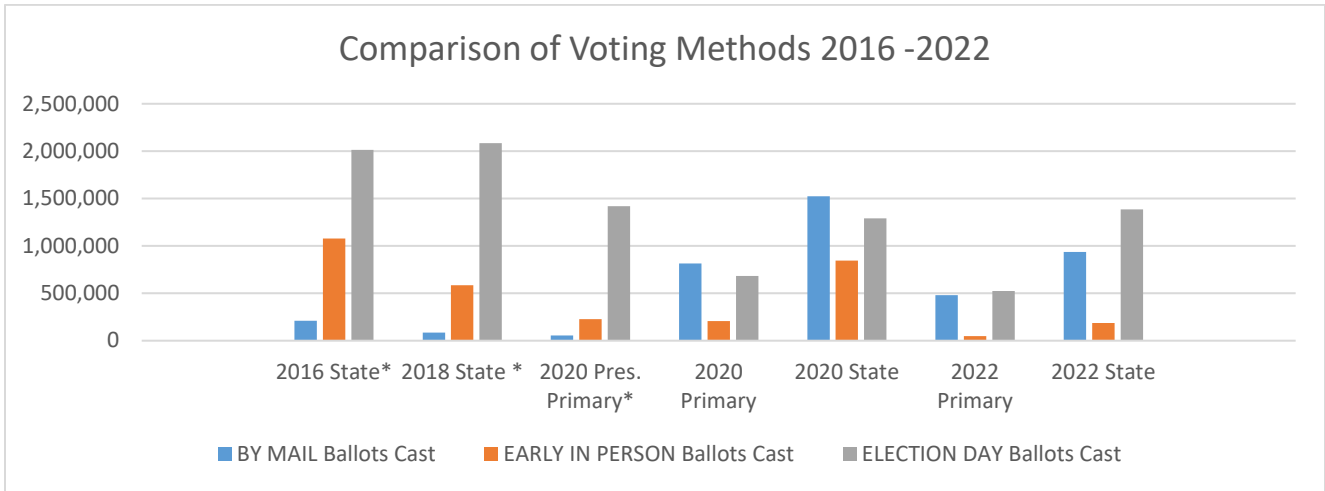
# EARLY VOTING SURVEY RESPONDENTS' DATA 2023

## 332 responses - representing 94.5% of MA Cities & Towns

- 53% - small communities (up to 10,000 registered voters)
- 32% - medium sized (10,001 – 25,000 registered voters)
- 15% - large communities (over 25,000 registered voters)

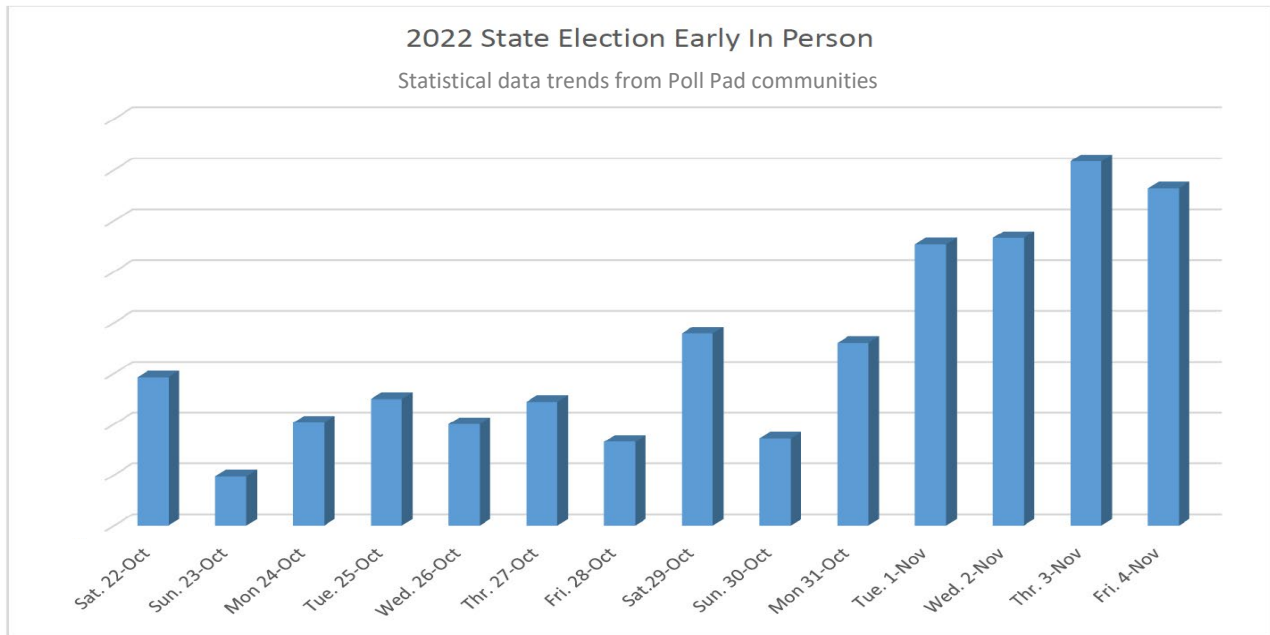
### Major Findings

- Sharp decrease in Early Voting In-Person
- 53% of Clerk's reported significant to major impacts to office operations due to robust Vote by Mail participation – reducing other services to residents



## MTCA LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES FOR CHANGES

- **Reducing the number of days required for Early Voting In-Person Period**
  - Highest Turn out occurs during the last 4 days of Early Voting in-Person - 51.4%
  - Only 13% of voters chose to vote Early Voting in-Person on Saturdays
  - Significant decrease in voters using Early Voting In-Person from 21% in 2016 to 7.5% in 2022



- **Vote by Mail Post Cards - The MTCA is advocating for a provision that would allow Voters to opt in/opt out of Vote by Mail, thus eliminating multiple post card mailings**

**Major Concerns with Handling Vote by Mail and Postcards**

- 32.6% clerks expressed concerns about hostility from the voters regarding the receipt of postcards
- 44.7% clerks reported voter confusion regarding the postcards
- 39.3% clerks reported errors made on the postcards by voters
- 55% clerks reported excessive time spent ensuring voters were not unintentionally disenfranchised by confusion on postcards, missing signatures, address issues.

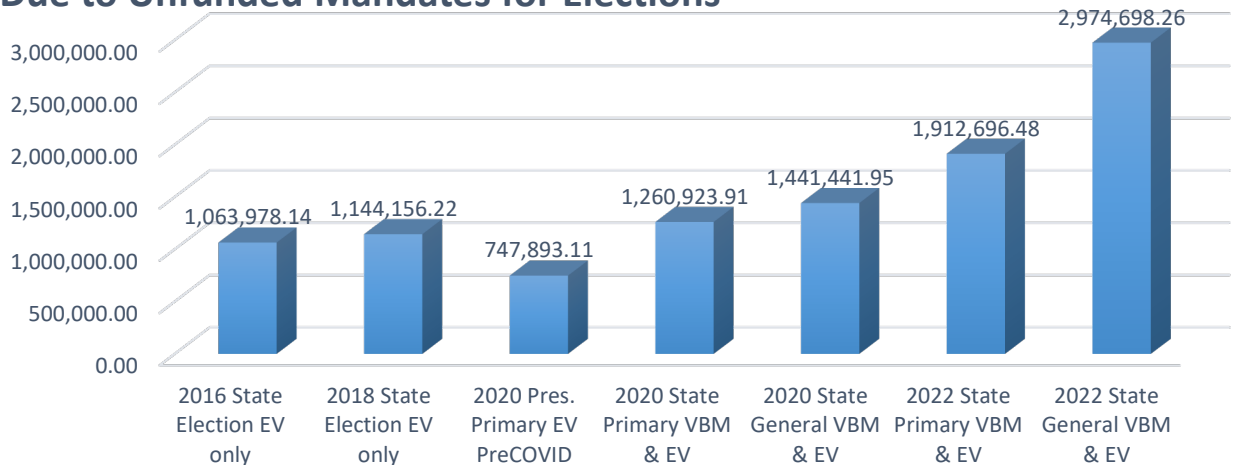
**Effectiveness of the Vote by Mail Postcards**

- 66% clerks expressed a desire for voters’ ability to Opt-out of future mailings during the year
- 49.5% clerks expressed a need for clarification on the election types (local vs state)

- **Costs – The MTCA is advocating to fully fund the mandated costs associated with Early Voting**

- Increase of 46% in State reimbursements for Unfunded Mandate from 2016 to 2022 State Elections
- Reimbursements averaged \$2,697 for (1-20K); \$15,500 for (20- 50K) and \$51,523 for (over 50K)
- Auditors’ reimbursements account for hired staff additional hours, other than the Clerk; clerks are reporting over time hours worked 37% 1-20 hours; 13% 21 -30 hours; 21% 31-60 hours

**Reimbursements Made to Cities and Towns Due to Unfunded Mandates for Elections**



**Unfunded Mandate Cost breakdowns for State 2022 Election\***

