



NORTH CAROLINA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

What's Ahead for NC Elections in 2023 & 2024?

**Omega Psi Phi Lunch & Learn
September 23, 2023**

Karen Brinson Bell, Executive Director, NCSBE

The State of Elections



Critical infrastructure

More voters voting early

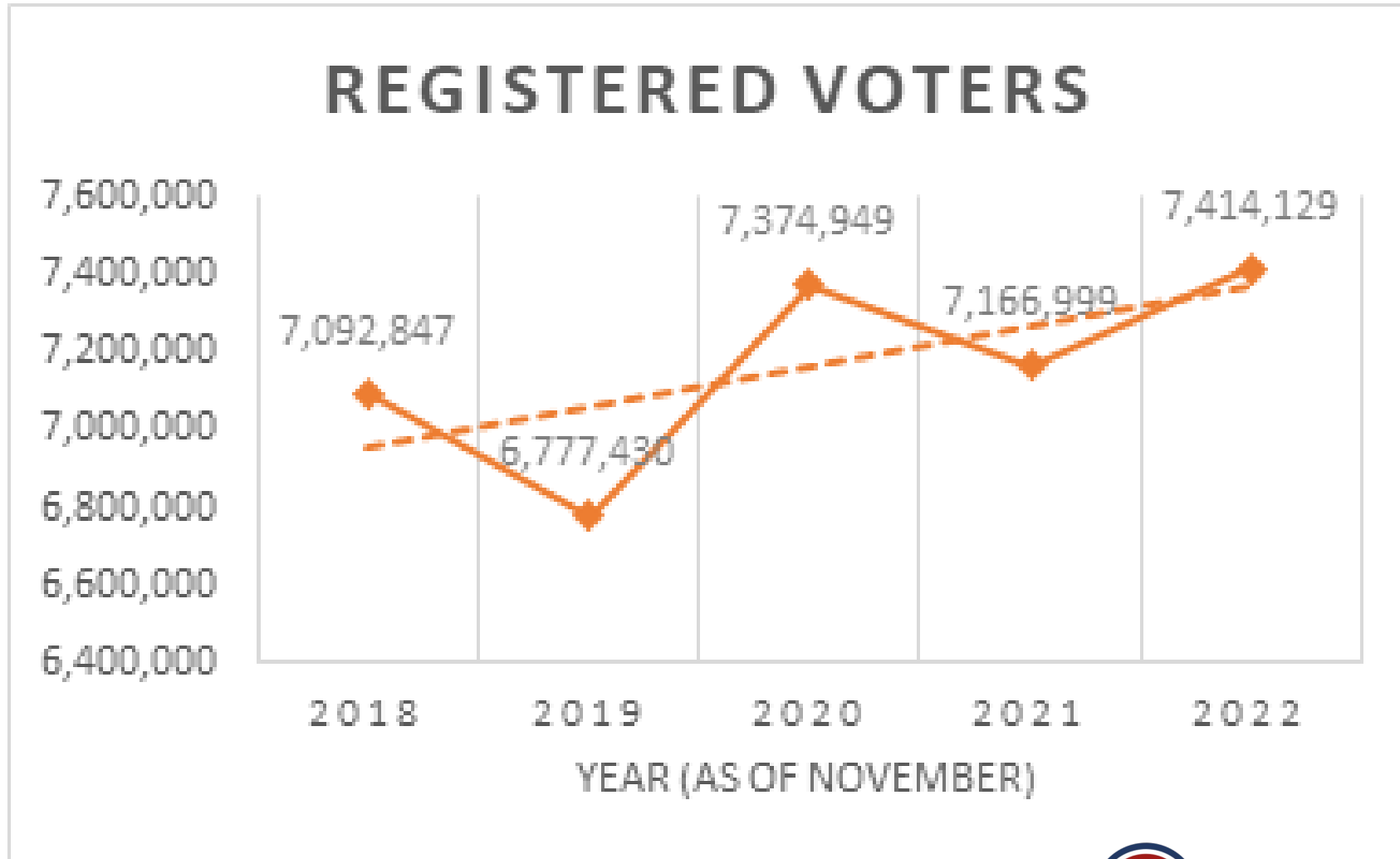
More voters using absentee-by-mail

2020: Largest voter turnout in modern history

More public record requests

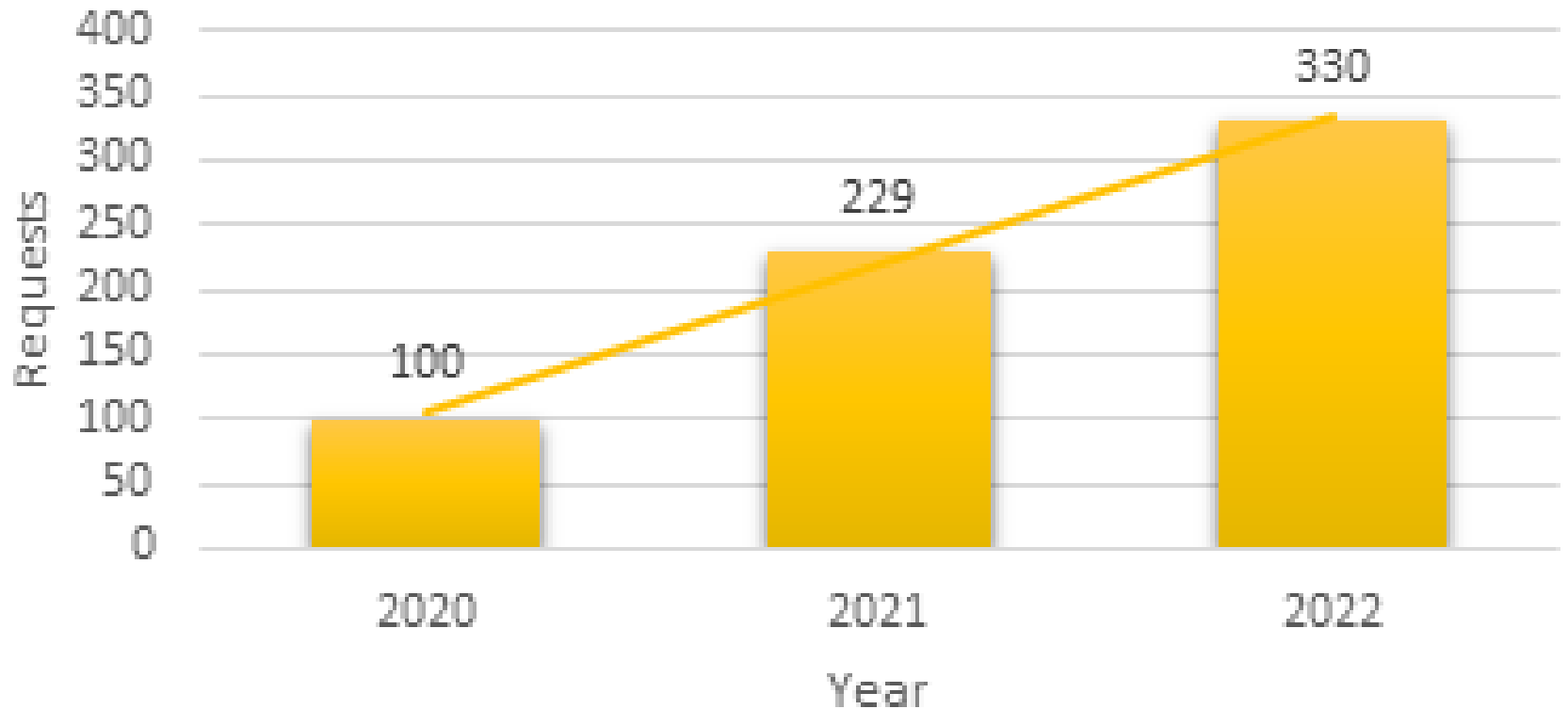
More turnover

The State of Elections



The State of Elections

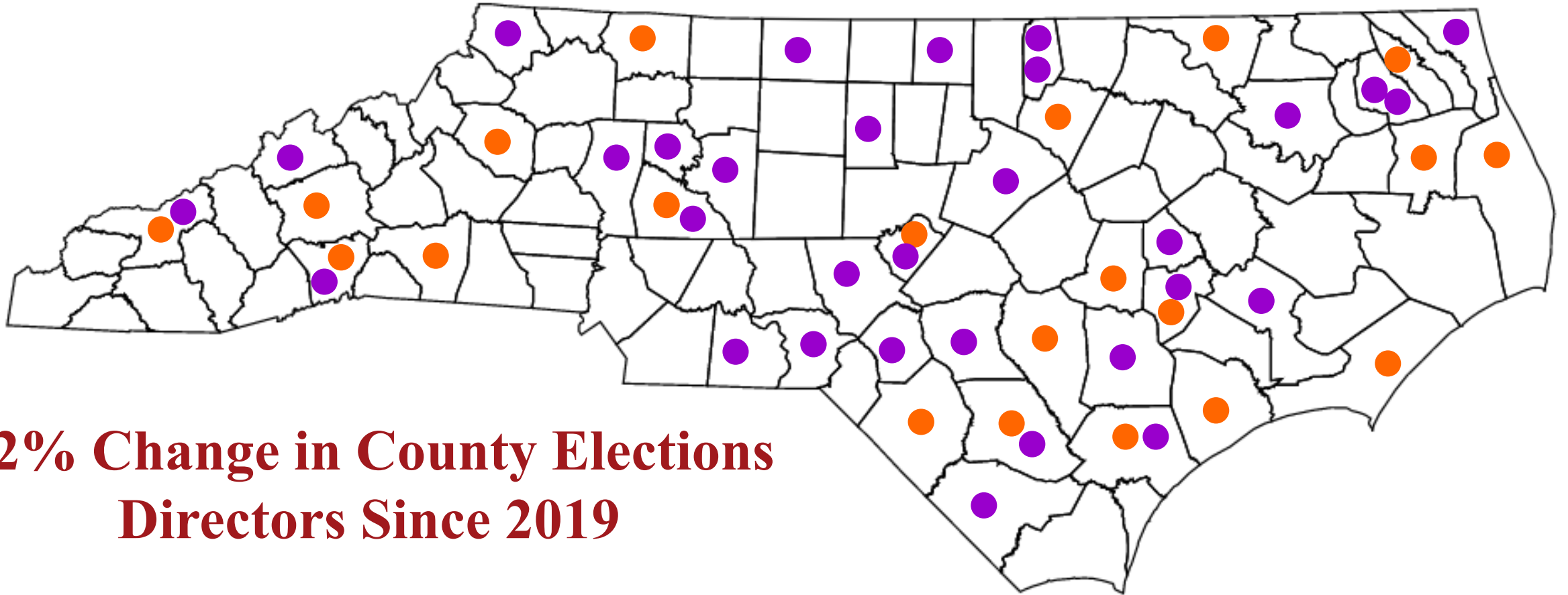
Public Records Requests



**POST-2020,
INCREASE IN
PUBLIC RECORDS
AND DATA
REQUESTS**

*In addition,
nearly 400 data
requests and
questions yearly
on average in
the last three
years.*

The State of Elections



52% Change in County Elections Directors Since 2019

- Director hired between January 2019 – December 2020
- Director hired between January 2021 – April 6, 2023

What's Happening In 2023?

3 MAJOR COURT DECISIONS

- Former Felon Voting Rights
- Redistricting
- Photo ID

What's Happening In 2023?



Weblinks: <https://vimeo.com/853456639> video; ncsbe.gov/voterID general information

What's Happening In 2023?

KEY DATES

- **Municipal Elections: 10/10 & 11/7**
- **Candidate Filing: 12/4 – 12/15**

What's Ahead For 2024?

PENDING LEGISLATION

- SB 747
- SB 749
- HB 770
- State Budget

What's Ahead For 2024?

SB 747 VOTER-FACING CHANGES:

Vetoed; Plans to override indicated
Effective January 1, 2024 unless noted

- Early voting vs. “One-Stop”
- Observer changes
- Changes to same-day registration
- Longer period for absentee ballot challenges
- Consistency for second primaries
- Semi-open primaries for all parties
- Automatic write-in line for local elections



What's Ahead For 2024?

SB 747 VOTER-FACING CHANGES: *(CONTINUED)*

- Non-voter log
- Absentee voting changes
- New misdemeanors *(effective 12/1/2023)*
- Knowledge requirement for voting during felony sentence
- List maintenance changes
- Photo ID education
- Absentee return deadline notice/education
- Absentee signature matching pilot



What's Ahead For 2024?



SB 749:

Passed House & Senate; now with Governor

Effective January 1, 2024

- Changes State Board from 5 to 8 members; county boards from 5 to 4 members
- Governor no longer appoints
- Appointments by legislative leadership
- Failure to name State Board or county board chair, decision goes to legislative leadership
- Failure to name state executive director, decision goes to legislative leadership
- State Board agency would be administratively located within Secretary of State's office

What's Ahead For 2024?

HB 770 – SBE FEEDBACK:

House passed; Senate referred to Rules

Effective upon becoming law

- Clarification of voting enclosure to protect curbside voters
- Ensure confidentiality of voter selections if cast vote records are made public
- Prevent voted ballots from being released
- Avoid local decision to hand count ballots
- Make effective date July 1, 2024 or no sooner than January 1, 2024



What's Ahead For 2024?

STATE BUDGET IMPACTS

- Personnel needs
- Modernization of election management system
- Cybersecurity funding
- Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funding
- Voter ID education funding
- Funding for implementation of other possible laws

What's Ahead For 2024?

KEY DATES

- Super Tuesday Primary: 3/5/2024
- Presidential/General Election Day: 11/5/2024

Voter Registration Reminders

- If you're eligible, **REGISTER TO VOTE.**
 - Online
 - In person
 - By mail
- If you're already registered, **CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION.**
- If necessary, **UPDATE YOUR REGISTRATION.**



REGISTER

SHOW UP

VOTE

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