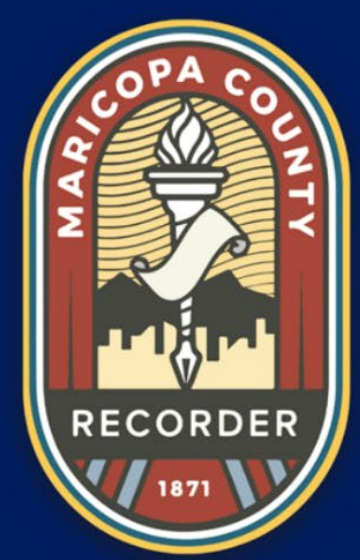




ANNUAL REPORT

January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021



Office of the
Recorder

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Letter from the Recorder

Dear Maricopa County:

I couldn't have possibly predicted my first year in office—a global pandemic, Cyber Ninjas, international media attention, over 350 public records requests, death threats, wild allegations, being named "[Best Republican Politician of 2021](#)" by *Phoenix New Times* and being named an "[Arizonan of the Year](#)" by *The Arizona Republic*.

Despite our frequent encounters with the unpredictable and bizarre, 2021 was an absolute pleasure and a remarkable success. Never has the work of recording public documents, registering voters, maintaining the voter registration database, and administering elections been so meaningful, and I'm very proud that this team has performed at a commensurately high level.

Our successes in 2021 include:

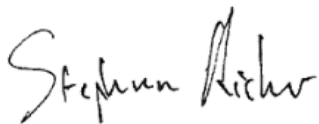
- Navigating a hopefully-once-in-a-lifetime pandemic while keeping our Office open and protecting the health of our employees
- Recording over 1.3 million public documents
- Processing over 140,000 new voter registrations
- Administering three smooth and successful elections, including one for 1.4 million eligible voters
- Implementing the decennial redistricting
- Processing a never-before-imagined number of public records requests while simultaneously reducing our average response time to under seven days
- Launching a new premium poll worker training program
- Publicly providing new statistics on recordings, voter registrations, party affiliation changes, and other facets of the Office
- Partnering with the United States Postal Service to add "Informed Delivery" to our elections
- Beginning the redesign of our voter registration database
- Beginning the redesign of our website
- Hosting tours of our election facility
- Expanding ballot-tracking and vote-history services on [BeBallotReady.Vote](#)
- Providing additional election administration information at [JustTheFacts.Vote](#)
- Processing multiple ballot initiatives and referendums
- Responding to thousands and thousands of constituent phone calls and emails
- Expanding our volunteer deputy registrar program and offering additional informational classes
- Winning multiple federal grants to upgrade our cybersecurity capabilities
- Redesigning and fabricating our recording kiosks 2.0
- Procuring and implementing a new inventory tracking system
- Renewing a contract with a major vendor at a reduced cost to Maricopa County

- Partnering with my excellent elected teammates Assessor Eddie Cook and Treasurer John Allen to improve the county's call center
- Investing thousands of hours into researching questions raised by the Arizona State Senate's contractor "Cyber Ninjas" and producing a [93-page analysis](#)
- Addressing concerns and questions raised by Arizona Republicans in a [38-page open letter](#)
- Enlisting four outside companies to assess various existing equipment and practices
- Enhancing both internal and external security
- Presenting at scores of panels, conferences, hearings, and other events on recording, voter registration, and election administration
- Collaborating with the recognized political parties (Democratic, Libertarian, Republican) to determine the eligibility of prospective precinct committeemen
- Overseeing, and assisting with, the campaign filings for 2022 county candidates (school boards, justices of the peace, constables, clerk of the superior court, community college board members, healthcare districts, and water conservation boards)
- Producing regular reports chronicling the Office's activities and efforts

I'm hopeful that 2022 has fewer curveballs. But even if they come, I'm confident this team can handle them, and I'm confident we'll continue to improve this Office.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Maricopa County.

Stephen

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Richer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen
Maricopa County Recorder

Recording Services Department

The County Recorder is responsible for recording and maintaining public records for Maricopa County and has maintained this permanent public record since 1871. Most recorded documents are real estate related, such as deeds and plat maps. Recently, the Office expanded its services to record military discharge papers free of charge, so that our veterans may have a greater ease of access to these important documents.

As a leader in recording technology innovation, the Office was well equipped to support customers by mail and electronic recording throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, we eagerly reopened our front counter recording services in 2021 at our downtown Phoenix location, and the team welcomes many customers every day to our lobby.

Between October 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, the Office recorded 326,410 documents – an 11.49 percent decrease from the fourth quarter of 2020 with 368,772 documents recorded.¹ Most documents are now recorded digitally – 93 percent through the fourth quarter of this year.

In total for January 1 – December 31, 2021, the Office recorded 1,386,810 documents into the public record. The Office recorded its one-millionth document for the year on September 16, 2021. All documents (except for plats and surveys) are recorded for a flat fee of \$30, regardless of document length. For more recording statistics, see [Appendix A](#).

In addition to entering documents into the public record, the Office indexes documents to be searchable on the Recorder's Office website. There are currently over 52 million searchable documents dating back to 1871. The team indexes on average 5,000 documents a day, with an approximately 72-hour turnaround time for those documents to then be searchable by name on the Recorder's Office website.

Customer Kiosks

In 2021, the Office designed, redeveloped, and started production of the Recording Customer Kiosks 2.0. The Kiosks are physical terminals placed throughout Maricopa County allowing customers to connect live to a Recorder's Office agent who will assist them through the recording process. Pictured here is a sneak peek at the new home screen design.



For more statistics on recording, please see [Appendix A](#).

¹ Statistics do not include same day voided documents, de minimis of the total recorded documents

Voter Registration Department

The Maricopa County Recorder's Office is responsible for voter registration and the maintenance of the county's voter rolls. Maricopa County has approximately 2.6 million active registered voters. This year-round work includes modifications to existing records, cancelations, and corrections, in addition to processing new voter registration applications. It is our mission to maintain the integrity of the voter rolls in accordance with federal and state laws while serving the needs of new and existing registered voters.



The Voter Registration Department remains busy as large numbers of voters continue to move to Maricopa County and new housing developments are mapped into districts. Between October 1 and December 31, we received 31,367 new voter registration applications.

For the entirety of 2021 (January 1 – December 31), the Voter Registration Department processed over 140,000 new voter registration applications.

Voters regularly make updates or changes to their voter registration records such as partisan affiliation, addresses, and active early voting list (AEVL) status. For example, between October 1 and December 31, we received 16,799 political party registration changes.

For the entirety of 2021 (January 1 – December 31), the Voter Registration Department processed almost 85,000 political party changes to voter registration files.

In 2021, the Voter Registration Department began receiving monthly [Electronic Registration Information Center \(ERIC\)](#) Deceased Reports as an additional tool to keep our voter rolls up to date.

The Voter Registration Department reviewed and processed multiple referendums and initiatives at both the state and municipal levels. In addition to processing two small initiatives for the Town of Carefree, the team reviewed petition sheets for two referendums:

- ❖ [Referendum R-06-2021](#) sought to challenge [Senate Bill 1783](#), a bill from this past legislative session that created a new classification of income (“small business income”) and established new income tax brackets and rates for trusts and estates. The referendum required 118,823 signatures from valid voters. The referendum’s committee (“Invest in Arizona”) submitted 123,531 signatures to the Secretary of State. As required by law, the Secretary of State sent sample files to each county for validity checks. The Voter Registration Department reviewed 2,985 signatures and found 2,533 to be from

qualified electors and deemed 452 signatures invalid. Based on this report, and the reports of other counties, the [Secretary of State found that Invest in Arizona did not submit a sufficient number of valid signatures](#) to challenge Senate Bill 1783.

- ❖ [Referendum R-03-2021](#) seeks to challenge parts of [Senate Bill 1828](#) that created “new income tax brackets and rates that apply when state general fund revenue exceeds certain amounts.” The committee (also “Invest in Arizona”) submitted approximately double the number of valid signatures required (118,823). The Voter Registration Department reviewed 6,224 signatures and found 4,702 to be valid and 1,522 signatures invalid. The Secretary of State’s Office has stated the referendum qualified for the 2022 ballot as Prop 307, [pending a current court challenge](#).

Voter Database Redesign

The Office launched the redesign of the county’s voter registration database. The database is a homegrown system that effectively interacts with other components of the Office’s voting system, but it has not been refreshed in many years. This redesign will take advantage of new technologies to improve accuracy and efficiency.

New Voter ID Cards

Congressional and legislative boundaries were updated as a result of the decennial U.S. Census and the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission process. The Commission certified new district maps in late January and sent those maps to the Arizona Secretary of State, who then disseminated the maps to counties to update their systems. Maricopa County made reconfigurations to fit the over 800 voting precincts into the new congressional and legislative districts. As a result of these district boundary changes, the Maricopa County Recorder’s Office will mail out updated voter registration cards to all active registered voters in early March 2022 which will reflect the new districts.

See the [Geographic Information Systems \(GIS\)](#) section for more information on redistricting.

For more voter registration statistics, see [Appendix B](#).

Information Technology (IT) Department

The Information Technology (IT) Department provides technology solutions for both the Maricopa County Recorder's Office and Elections Department. Notable highlights of the IT department include:

- ❖ Beginning the process of better storing and organizing the Office's 52 million recorded documents dating back to 1871. The storage of recorded documents has evolved from handwritten ledgers to microfilm, to M-Discs, to, now, a combination of online/cloud-based storage and physical back-ups.
- ❖ Updates to Maricopa County's SiteBook system. The SiteBook allows voters at physical voting locations to check-in through a closed, secure, real-time connection to the voter registration database. Once the SiteBook confirms that the voter is registered and has not already voted, the SiteBook prints the correct ballot style specific to that person, no matter which voting location in the county the voter uses. The Office developed the SiteBook in-house and has received [national recognition](#) from the National Association of Counties.
- ❖ Transitioning all technology servers and infrastructure to a new redundant datacenter model to provide more consistent quality of service
- ❖ Began the redesign and recording of the Office's voter registration database
- ❖ Began the redesign and recording of the Office's website
- ❖ Improvements to the Recorder's Office and Elections Department webpages to include:
 - Faster searching and access to recorded documents online via a new search application and digital document storage architecture
 - Installation of [new streaming cameras](#) that provide the public 24/7 video access to the Elections Department facility with higher resolution than previously



Did you know?

The Maricopa County Recorder's Office Recording Services and Information Technology divisions received a 2021 National Association of Counties (NACo) [Achievement Award](#) for the development of an innovative process that allows all documents to be searchable by name on the Recorder's Office website within 72 hours of recording, drastically reducing the previous turnaround time of several weeks and increasing customer data security by moving the process in-house. The [Name Indexing Process](#) received the award in the Information Technology Category for making recorded document data entry more efficient, cost-effective, and customer friendly. The developer who helped create and maintain this program was also recognized with an International Association of Government Officials (iGO) Innovator Award in 2021!

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

A geographic information system (GIS) is a collection of spatial information that maps people, places, and things. The Maricopa County Recorder's Office and Elections Department uses GIS for voter registration and election planning.

When a voter registers or changes his registration, the Office searches the voter's address within the department's spatial address database. Once the address is found, the Office uses spatial intersection functions to find voter's districts. For example, in the image to the right, the voter residing at the red pin south of Camelback Road is assigned to the Kaibab Precinct and City of Phoenix in the voter record.

The Office's GIS team answers questions such as: what ballot styles should be created for an upcoming election, where should voting locations be placed, what is the fastest way to route election deliveries, how many voters are within a newly proposed jurisdiction, and how should districts be redrawn after Census results are delivered.

2021 was a big year for the GIS team. The team adds a significant number of new addresses and annexations every day – the 2020 the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that 291 people moved to Maricopa County every day, making it the fastest growing county in the United States.² Additionally, following the 2020 Census, the GIS team worked heavily on the redistricting and reprecincting process. While the [Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission](#) (AIRC) is responsible for redrawing Congressional and Legislative district lines, Maricopa County is responsible for updating voting precincts, justice court precincts, and the Board of Supervisor district boundaries. When the Board of Supervisor district boundaries are updated, the Community College and Special Health Care Districts will be aligned with those boundaries.

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors approved the voting precinct and justice court precinct lines at the end of September 2021 after five public hearings. All the changes, full maps, methodology, and recordings of the public meetings can be found at:

[Reprecincting.Maricopa.Vote](https://www.maricopa.gov/Reprecincting.Maricopa.Vote)



Did you know?

The Maricopa County Recorder's Office GIS team received a 2021 National Association of Counties (NACo) [Achievement Award](#) for a series of [Dot Density Maps](#) based on previous voter activity so that the Elections Department could determine the best locations for 2020 voting location. The project received the award in the Information Technology category as an example of utilizing creative technology to inform data-driven decisions for the election model, and keeping county staff and voters safe during the height of COVID-19.



² Eric Jay Toll, "[Maricopa County No. 1, Metro Phoenix No. 2 for fastest growth](#)," AZ Big Media, 18 June, 2021

Elections Department

The Maricopa County Elections Department is jointly administered by the County Board of Supervisors and Recorder's Office through two election directors authorized to carry out the operations and statutory responsibilities of the respective entities. The partnership is governed by federal and state law, as well as the [Elections Operations Agreement](#) executed in July 2021.

2022 Elections

The Elections Department is in full swing preparing for four elections in 2022. For all election dates and deadlines, visit [Calendar.Maricopa.Vote](#). Voters can visit [BeBallotReady.Vote](#) to verify their registration information.

The *last day to vote* in the 2022 elections are as follows:

❖ **March 8: City of Tempe Jurisdictional Election**

The City of Tempe is holding a city council candidate election to fill [three council seats](#). As a [ballot-by-mail election](#), all eligible voters are mailed a ballot on February 9. Voters may mail back their ballot in its sealed and signed affidavit envelope, drop it off, or vote in person.

❖ **May 17: City of Litchfield Park Jurisdictional Election**

The City of Litchfield Park is holding a land sale election in May of 2022. If a runoff is needed in the March Tempe City Council race, it will also be held in May. Both are designated ballot-by-mail elections.

❖ **August 2: Statewide Primary Election**

Arizona's statewide primary election occurs every two years, always in an even year. This election includes federal, state, county, and local offices. As a primary election serves to narrow down each recognized political party's candidates, there are ballots for Republican, Democratic, and Libertarian voters. Voters registered as an independent or no party preference must select a Republican or Democrat ballot to participate in the election. Some areas may have a non-partisan ballot option.

❖ **November 8: Statewide General Election**

Arizona's statewide general election occurs every two years, always in an even year. This election includes federal, state, county, and local offices. The general election is the final election held between nominees of various parties, as well as non-partisan races, ballot propositions and initiatives.

Are you a facility owner?

The Elections Department is looking for voting locations throughout Maricopa County for the 2022 Primary and General Elections. If you have a site that is at least 1600 square feet, with access to electricity, air conditioning, restrooms, and is ADA compliant, please contact pollplace@risc.maricopa.gov to help voters vote in these upcoming elections.

Are you a candidate or political action committee in Maricopa County?

The team has been busy preparing for candidate and campaign finance filings, including a freshly designed dedicated webpage and portal for candidates and committees. Please visit the [Candidates, Committees & Campaign Finance page](#) if you are looking to run for office or start a Political Action Committee (PAC) in Maricopa County, or need to file campaign finance reports for your candidate or political committee.

Are you ready to get involved as a poll worker?

The Elections Department provides poll workers with both election specific and [premium training](#) to ensure critical election workers have an in-depth understanding of the laws, processes, equipment, and resources necessary to best support voters at the polls. Poll workers are needed for the 2022 Primary and General Elections. Visit [GetInvolved.Maricopa.Vote](#) to join the team!

2021 Elections

The Maricopa County Elections Department administered three elections in 2021, including an election of 1.4 million eligible voters in November 2021. As permitted by state law for 30 years and as selected by the jurisdictions, these elections were conducted all-mail, meaning all eligible voters received a ballot in the mail even if not on the Active Early Voting List (AEVL). In accordance with state law, a ballot replacement center is always available within the voting jurisdiction boundaries for voters to visit should they choose to vote in person. The three 2021 elections took place on:

[March 9, 2021](#) – Goodyear Jurisdictional Election: 9,720 ballots cast out of 57,326 eligible voters at 16.96% turnout.

[May 18, 2021](#) – Cave Creek Jurisdictional Election: 1,595 ballots cast out of 4,385 eligible voters at 36.37% turnout.

A.R.S. § 16-558.02

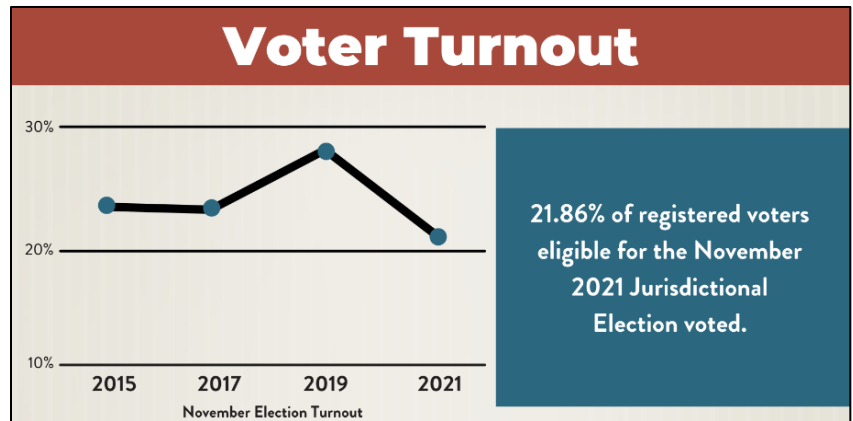
The county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall determine a central location in the district and shall provide for a ballot replacement center that is as near to that location as is practicable for electors to obtain a replacement ballot. The location shall be open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. of the day of the election. An elector may obtain a replacement ballot until 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election on presenting a signed, sworn statement that the ballot was lost, spoiled, destroyed or not received.

[November 2, 2021](#) – Jurisdictional Elections for 21 School Districts and 4 Cities/Towns:

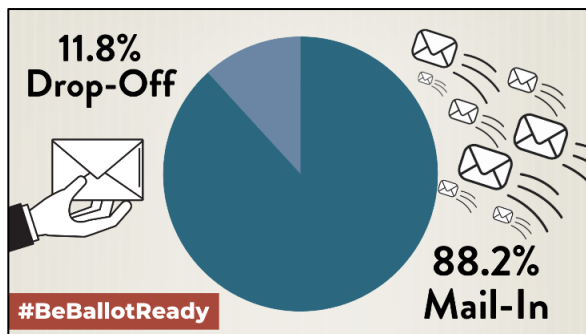
308,268 ballots cast out of 1,410,174 eligible voters at 21.86% turnout.

This turnout was slightly below average for odd-year jurisdictional elections (28% in Nov. 2019, 23.5% in Nov. 2017 and 23.8% in Nov. 2015).

Included below are additional statistics from the November 2021 Jurisdictional Elections:



- ❖ 25 ballot replacement centers served over 2,300 voters in this election. Even in all ballot-by-mail elections, state law requires each jurisdiction to provide a ballot replacement center within its boundaries.
- ❖ We are exceptionally grateful to the 148 poll workers and 111 central board workers who supported this election.



- ❖ Nearly 88% of voters returned their ballot via the United States Postal Service. Approximately 36,400 (11.8%) of ballots were dropped off at ballot drop-boxes.
- ❖ Over 40 appointees from Maricopa County political parties observed the county's election processes throughout the entire election. We appreciate their contributions.

Remember, during an election cycle voters can track their ballots online at [BeBallotReady.Vote!](#)

More historical election results dating back to 2000 are currently available online at [Results.Maricopa.Vote.](#)



Just the Facts

In 2021, the Elections Department debuted a new website for facts about elections in Maricopa County: [JustTheFacts.Vote](https://www.maricopa.gov/JustTheFacts.Vote).

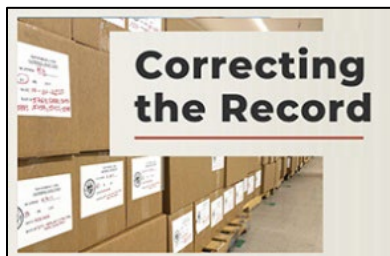
The site is divided into three main sections:

- ❖ [The Facts](#) section explains laws and guidelines that inform how the county conducts elections, and the checks and balances in place to ensure accuracy.
- ❖ [The Myth Busters](#) section addresses inaccurate claims about mail-in ballots, voter registration, the security of the county's election system, and more.
- ❖ [Correcting the Record](#) section provides Maricopa County's in-depth analysis and technical response to the Senate inquiry of the 2020 General Election. Learn more about Correcting the Record [below](#).

The website further demonstrates Maricopa County's commitment to transparency and to educating and empowering voters with timely, accurate information. The Elections Department will continue to update the page with new information as it arises.

Visit [JustTheFacts.Vote](https://www.maricopa.gov/JustTheFacts.Vote) and be sure to subscribe to the "[Just the Facts](#)" newsletter.

Correcting the Record



Maricopa County is committed to providing accessible, reliable, secure, transparent, and efficient elections. The Maricopa County Elections Department and Office of the Recorder issued a report titled [Correcting the Record: Maricopa County's In-Depth Analysis of the Senate Inquiry](#) as the final word to the Arizona Senate's inquiry on Maricopa County's administration of the November 2020 General Election.

The in-depth analysis and review of the reports and presentations issued by the Senate's contractors found that nearly every finding included faulty analysis, inaccurate claims, misleading conclusions, and a lack of understanding of federal and state election laws. Our review of the claims made by Cyber Ninjas, CyFIR, EchoMail, and the Senate's Audit Liaisons found:

- ❖ 22 are misleading. The claims lead the reader to assume a conclusion that is not supported by the evidence.
- ❖ 41 are inaccurate. The claims include flawed or misstated analysis.
- ❖ 13 are false. The claims are demonstrably false and can be proven false using materials provided to the Senate.

The November 2020 General Election results were accurate. This has been proven through statutorily required accuracy tests, nine court cases, hand counts performed by the political parties, and multiple post-election audits. The Elections Department followed all federal and state election laws.

Post-election audits build trust and promote election integrity when they have bipartisan oversight and are conducted by experienced, unbiased professionals who use well-defined, proven processes to provide quantifiable, reproducible proof. These audits can also identify and explain any inconsistencies that arise so processes may be improved, or new laws may be considered.

Unfortunately, the Senate’s election review and its contractors fell far short of those standards and instead promoted disinformation and distrust. This report details those shortcomings and corrects the record.

[Read the Report](#)

[Download the Exhibits](#)

[Read the Press Release](#)

Premium Poll Worker Training

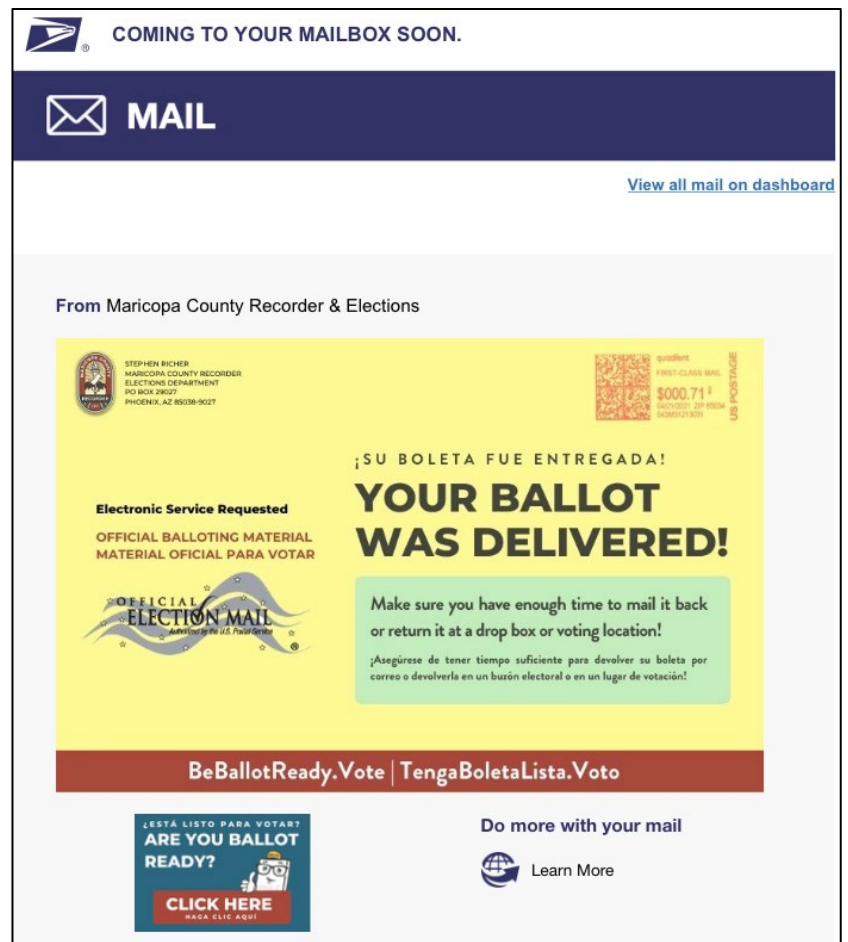
During large election cycles, the Elections Department will hire more than 4,000 temporary staff. In 2021, the Recruitment and Training team launched a new Premium Poll Worker training program designed for leaders of voting locations. Statistics of the program:

- ❖ 12 Premium Poll Worker Trainings held in 2021
- ❖ 170 Premium Poll Workers certified in 2021
 - The 12 classes which certified 170 Premium Poll Workers in 2021 achieved just over a third of the overall goal of certifying two poll workers at each voting location for the 2022 Primary and General Elections.
- ❖ 7 more Premium Poll Worker classes were held in January 2022. The certification window is still active for these trainees’ final exam, but the department estimates that another 100 poll workers will be certified from these classes, which will bring the Elections Department to over half of the 2021 – 2022 goal.
- ❖ The Training Team will offer 15 more Premium classes between March and August 2022 to achieve the goal of certifying two poll workers at each voting location for the 2022 Primary and General Elections.

Informed Delivery

For the November 2021 Jurisdictional Elections, the Elections Department and Recorder's Office added a new tracking feature through [USPS Informed Delivery](#). Voters can sign up for USPS Informed Delivery notifications to access a digital preview of their ballot and the scheduled delivery date. The 2021 pilot was a success: of the approximately 1.4 million ballots mailed, this campaign was applied to over 428,000 individual Informed Delivery email subscribers with over 256,000 emails opened. To promote adoption of this technology, the USPS offers a discount, which decreased postage costs for the Office.

We look forward to continuing to provide this feature for voters! [Sign up for USPS Informed Delivery notifications here.](#)



Awards and Recognition

U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) 2020 Clearinghouse Awards



In March 2021, the Elections Department was nationally recognized for its creation of [Locations.Maricopa.Vote](#) – a website that allows voters to find nearby voting locations and see the wait times at each location. The U.S. Election Assistance Commission named the Maricopa County Elections

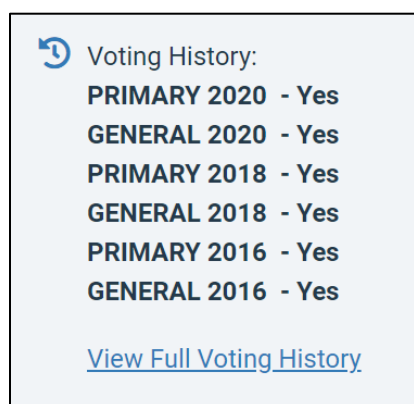
Department a 2020 Clearinghouse [‘Clearie’ Award winner](#) in the [Outstanding Innovations in Elections](#) category for creatively improving election administration while advancing new and innovative concepts.


Maricopa County Risk Management

Maricopa County's Risk Management Department awarded the Elections Day Services Manager and Vote Center Lead with safety recognition pins to acknowledge the Office's successful safety practices. Over the past two years, the Office has managed 50 truck drivers and 58 ballot courier drivers that drove an estimated 54,000 miles with zero moving violations, zero major accidents, and zero injuries.

Be Ballot Ready – Tenga Boleta Lista

Voting History



 Voting History:
PRIMARY 2020 - Yes
GENERAL 2020 - Yes
PRIMARY 2018 - Yes
GENERAL 2018 - Yes
PRIMARY 2016 - Yes
GENERAL 2016 - Yes

[View Full Voting History](#)

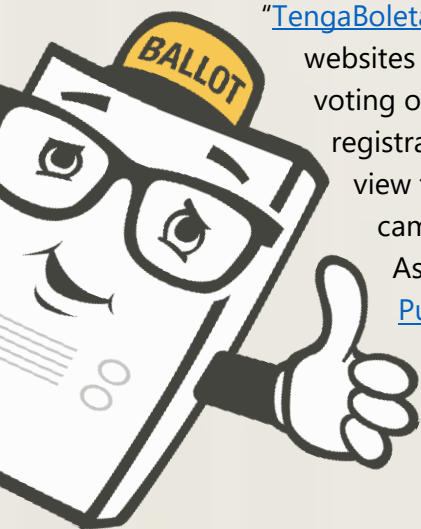
The personalized voter dashboard at [BeBallotReady.Vote / TengaBoletaLista.Voto](#) continues to add new features to help voters #BeBallotReady. Voters can use this dashboard to check and update their voter registration status, view important election deadlines, track their ballot during an election, and learn more about the elections process. Now voters can view their own voting history for the past 10 years as seen in the image on the left.

Phil in the Blanks

In addition to checking or updating their voter registration status on the [BeBallotReady.Vote](#) dashboard, voters can learn more about the elections process through the "Phil in the Blanks" video series.

Did you know?

The Maricopa County Elections Department created the "[BeBallotReady.Vote](#)" and "[TengaBoletaLista.Voto](#)" voter outreach campaign and the corresponding websites in English and Spanish to inform voters about their 2020 voting options and provide voters a one-stop-shop to check their voter registration status, update their information, find voting locations, view their sample ballot, track their early ballot and more. The campaign and corresponding websites received the 2021 National Association of Counties (NACo) [Achievement Award](#) in the [Civic & Public Information Category](#) as an example of using creative marketing and communications tools to reach Maricopa County voters and inform them on how they could #BeBallotReady for #Elections2020. The Department continues to develop and utilize the Be Ballot Ready portal for voters to use as their one-stop location for voting and elections information.



External Affairs Department

Constituent Relations Team

Throughout 2021 the Constituent Relations Team responded to media requests, participated in local, national, and international interviews across print, radio, and television outlets, and collaborated on panels and events in efforts to educate voters and defend the fidelity of our election system. The team provides information to the public through quarterly³ and annual reports, by directly assisting constituents day-to-day, fulfilling public records requests, and managing the Deputy Registrar program for the Maricopa County Recorder's Office.

Constituent Correspondence

In addition to calls transferred to the team from the Maricopa County STAR Center, constituents contact the Office through multiple email inboxes and social media channels. The Recorder's Office Constituent Relations Team directly handles constituent requests and escalates issues as needed to the appropriate subject matter experts throughout the Recorder's Office and Elections Department. The Office receives hundreds of emails weekly from constituents. The highest inquiries include voter registration requests, questions about the reprecincting process, and questions about election administration.

Public Records Requests

The Office greatly improved the organization of public records requests and response time in 2021, despite a significant increase overall in the number of records requests. With the adoption of the [Maricopa County public records request portal](#) (search for Recorder **By Department**), a requestor can directly submit a non-commercial or commercial purpose public records request online, which streamlines the process and assigns a number to the request for tracking purposes. Requests received through other methods with the appropriate completed form are entered into this portal by the Custodian of Public Records for consistency in numbering and tracking.

During the fourth quarter of 2021, October 1 – December 31, the Office received 96 public records requests. Records requests from the media accounted for 18 of the 96. Staff worked hard to complete these requests, and all but 6 of the 96 have been entirely resolved.

October 1 – December 31, 2021 Figures:

Extensive Research	51
Voter Data	20
Voter Information	25
Total:	96

³ See [Publications](#) page for: [2021 Quarter 1 Report](#), [2021 Quarter 2 Report](#), [2021 Quarter 3 Report](#). This report serves as both the fourth quarter and 2021 Annual Report.

From January 1 to December 31, 2021, the Office received 368 public records requests. Records requests from the media accounted for 71 of the 368. Staff worked hard to complete these requests, and all but 24 of the 368 have been entirely resolved.

January 1 – December 31, 2021 Figures:

Extensive Research	169
Voter Data	92
Voter Information	107
Total:	368

Deputy Registrar Program

The Recorder’s Office Deputy Registrar program trains and certifies volunteers to provide voter registration and election information in their communities. In addition to the introductory training and certification class, the program expanded its curriculum in 2021 to offer continuing education courses to these volunteers.

In the fourth quarter of 2021, the Office certified 30 new Deputy Registrars. The Office also presented three continuing education courses during this timeframe covering topics such as Proposition 200. We are excited by the turnout for these classes and look forward to expanding the series in 2022. Here is the 2021 annual recap of the Deputy Registrar program figures:

- ❖ 141 new Deputy Registrars were certified and added to this corps
- ❖ 820 total Deputy Registrars with the Office as of December 31⁴
- ❖ 13 Deputy Registrar Introduction Classes offered in 2021
- ❖ 8 Continuing Education Classes offered in 2021, covering topics such as:
 - 2 “Deputy Registrar Refresher” courses
 - 2 “2021 Arizona Legislative Updates” courses
 - 3 “Proposition 200” courses
 - 1 “Top Voter Issues of 2020” course

We’ve had increased interest from corporations around topics of election laws, voter registration, and election administration. The Recorder’s Office is now partnering with corporations to provide non-partisan, fact-based information to the corporation’s employees. If you represent an interested company, please contact Ilene at voterinfo@risc.maricopa.gov.



Did you know?

The Maricopa County Recorder’s Office Constituent Relations Team received a 2021 National Association of Counties (NACo) [Achievement Award](#) in recognition of the [Deputy Registrar Program](#) providing critical voter registration, election, and voter education information in the country’s second largest voting jurisdiction. The program received the award in the Volunteers category for highlighting how county residents engage and empower their community.

⁴ Total also reflects maintenance and removal of 62 individuals from the program due to death, a move out of county or self-separation from program, or outdated contact information

Legislative Affairs

The Legislative Affairs teams monitor legislations affecting the Maricopa County Elections and Recording Departments. This team reviews proposed bills, estimates needed resources to implement and comply with new laws, responds to inquiries from state legislators, proposes solutions, and partners with Recorders from all 15 Arizona counties, the National Association of Counties (NACo) and Arizona Association of Counties (AACo).

The process of this team with respect to election and voter registration laws is guided by the following principles:

- ❖ Arizona election administration can and should be improved.
- ❖ Legislative reforms are an important component of improving Arizona's elections.
- ❖ Proposed legislative reforms should address real, material, verifiable needs or weaknesses in election administration.
- ❖ Real, material, verifiable needs or weaknesses in election administration should be addressed by effective solutions—as defined by scientific studies or credible material evidence.
- ❖ Proposed legislative reforms should impose no larger burden to voters than is necessary to address a real, material, verifiable need or weakness.
- ❖ Ex-post assessments and penalties should be favored over ex-ante regulatory burdens imposed on all voters. In other words, reforms should favor post-election assessments to determine the functionality of systems and identify and punish any election felonies rather than a system that imposes additional burdens on every voter, the vast, vast majority of whom are complying with the law.
- ❖ Those who administer elections are necessary and important contributors to the creation of election laws.

In addition to the actions of the legislative team, the Recorder has taken an active role in legislative affairs by proposing legislative ideas to state lawmakers. These suggestions include reviewing the voter registration database to ensure that it remains clean and up-to-date, making tabulation faster and more transparent, and conducting periodic audits by qualified parties. The Recorder shared these ideas and others in an [opinion piece for *The Arizona Republic*](#).

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please contact the team at voterinfo@risc.maricopa.gov.

Appendix A – Recording Services Statistics

Appendix A – Recording Services Statistics – Infographic Figure A1

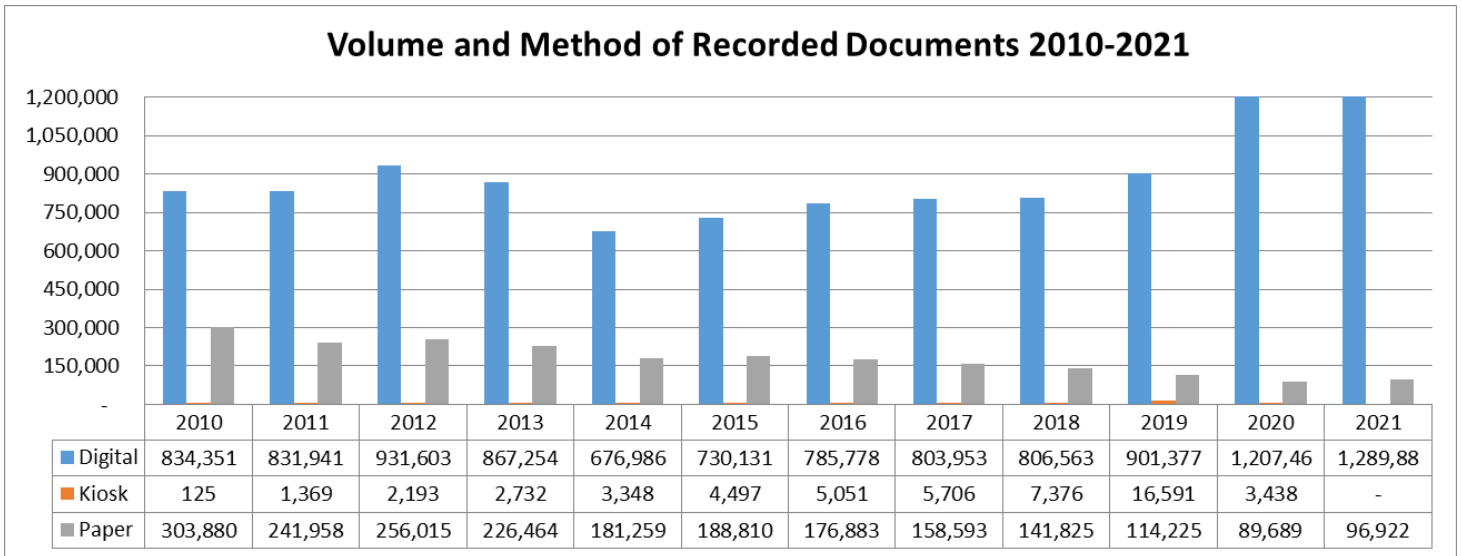


Figure A1 graphs the documents recorded and method recorded (digital, paper, or kiosk) by year from 2010 – 2011.

The Recording Services department accepts documents for the creation of a permanent public record. These documents are often real property related (ex. deeds, titles, liens) and include any encumbrances placed on real property. Approximately 93% of all documents are now recorded digitally through the Recorder's Office online portal, and the Office continues to process documents mailed in and serve customers in-person at the public counter in downtown Phoenix.

Appendix A – Recording Services Statistics – Infographic Figure A2

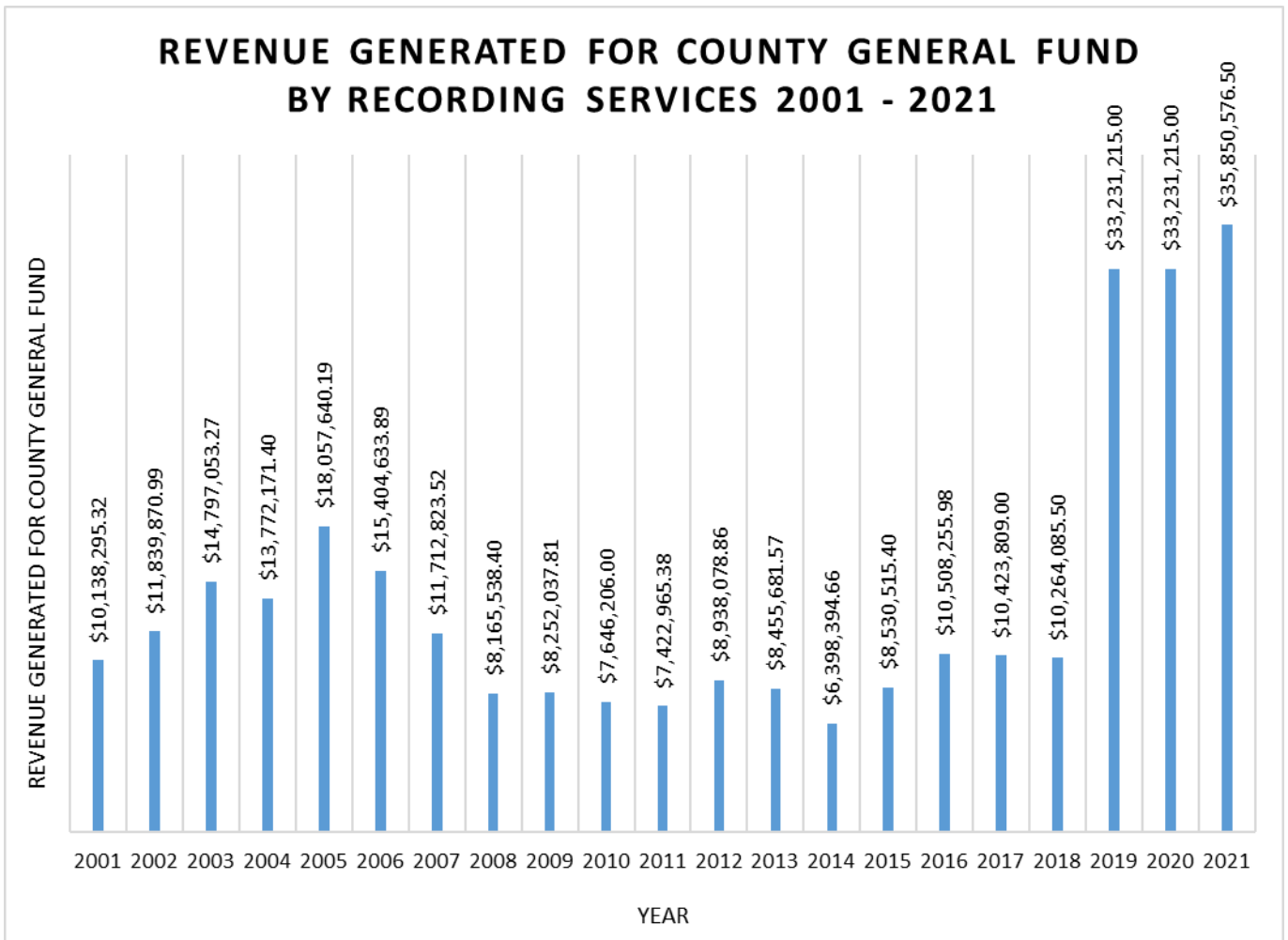


Figure A2 pictured above graphs the revenue generated for the Maricopa County General Fund by the Recording Services Department broken down by calendar year from 2001 – 2021.

Appendix A – Recording Services Statistics – Infographic Figure A3

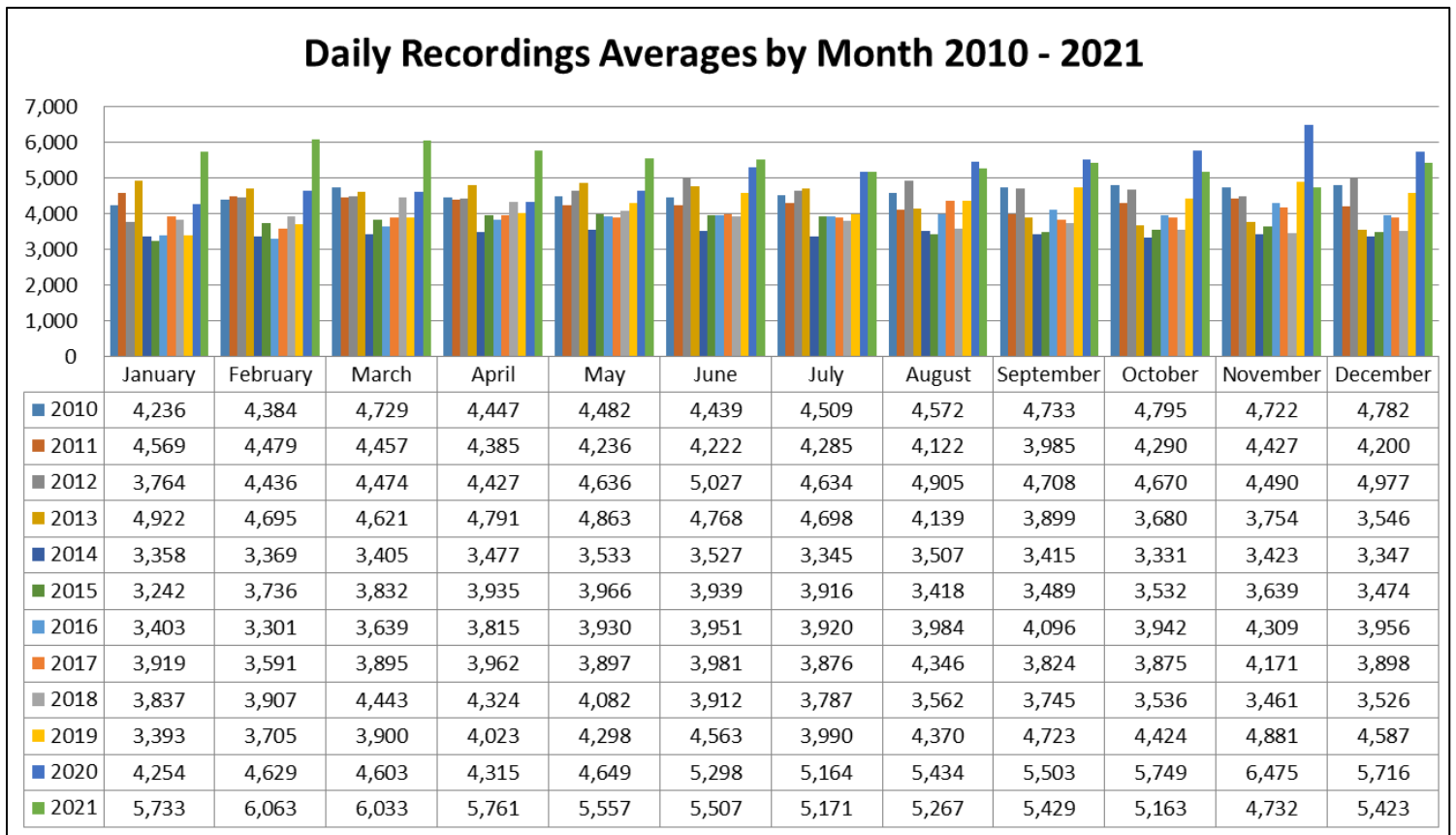


Figure A3 pictured above graphs the average number of documents recorded daily by month and year from 2010 – 2021.

Appendix B – Voter Registration Figures

See Voter Registration totals updated in real time [on our website](#).

The following pages contain information about Voter Registration figures in Maricopa County for both the fourth quarter of 2021 and the 2021 calendar year in review.

Infographic B1 (*Appendix B Page 2*) contains figures on*:

Newly registered voters by party in Maricopa County between October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021
Political Party Voter Registration changes in Maricopa County from October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Infographic B2 (*Appendix B Page 3*) contains figures on*:

Totals of active registered voters by party in Maricopa County as of January 31, 2022
Total of newly registered voters by party in Maricopa County between January 1, 2021 – January 1, 2022
Political Party Voter Registration changes in Maricopa County between January 1, 2021 – January 1, 2022

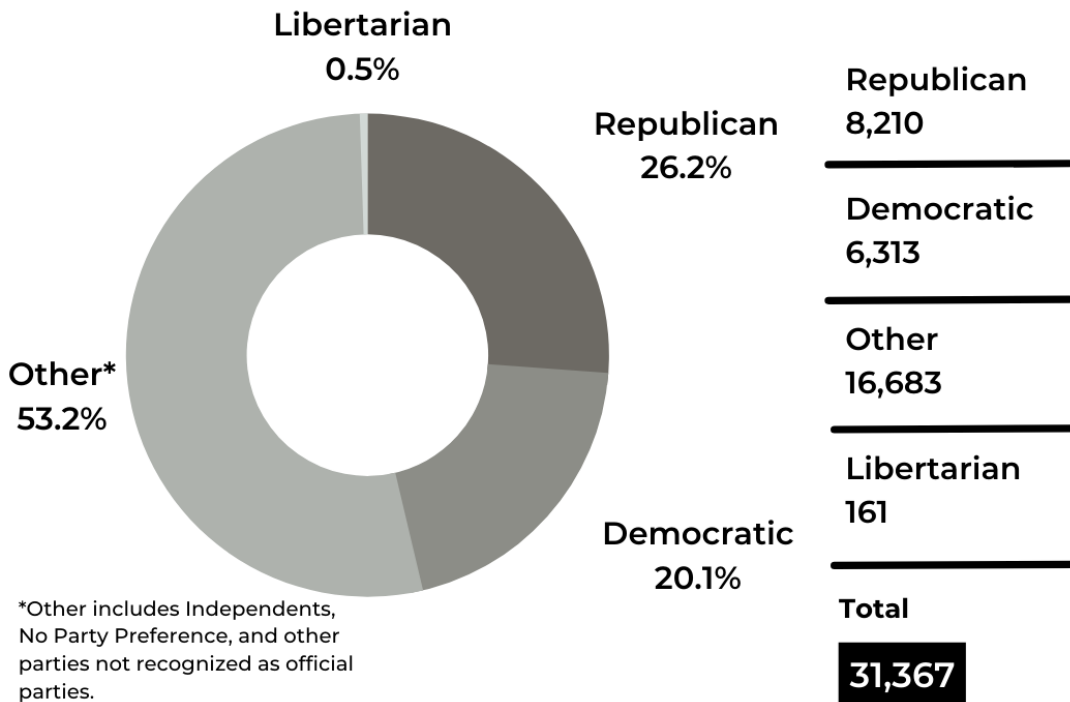
**All data retrieved January 31, 2022. Voter registration figures may fluctuate in real time due to ongoing voter list maintenance*



Voter Registration Figures

Quarter 4: Oct 1, 2021 - Jan 1, 2022

Total New Registrations



Party to Party Changes

Changed to Democratic

Republican	495	Total 2,544
Libertarian	68	
Other	1,981	

Changed to Libertarian

Republican	93	Total 232
Democratic	37	
Other	102	

Changed to Republican

Democratic	840	Total 3,497
Libertarian	127	
Other	2,530	

Changed to Other*

Republican	3,837	Total 10,526
Democratic	4,365	
Libertarian	345	
Other	1,979	

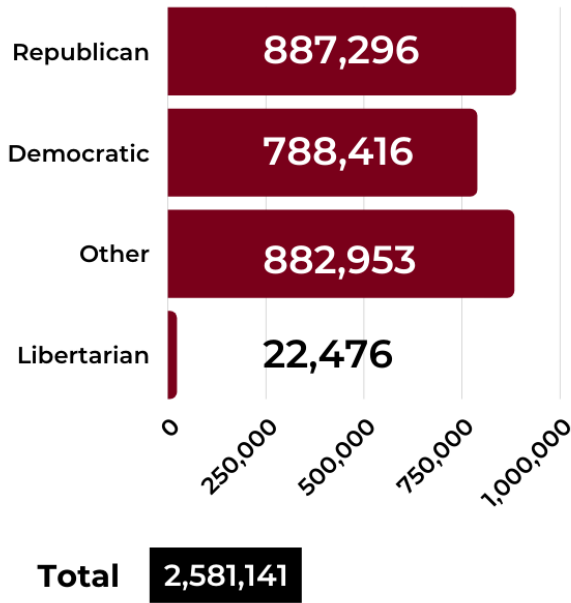


Voter Registration Figures



Calendar Year Jan 1, 2021 - Jan 1, 2022

Current Party Active Totals



Party to Party Changes

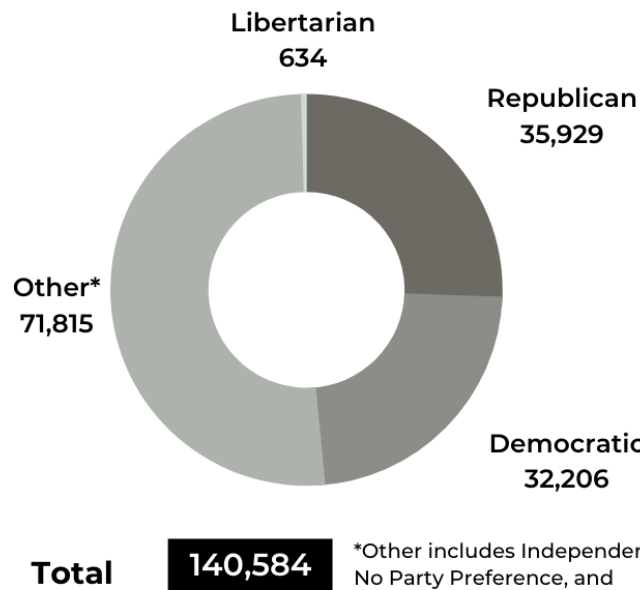
Changed to Democratic

Republican	4,556
Libertarian	369
Other	10,329
Total	15,254

Changed to Republican

Democratic	3,539
Libertarian	544
Other	10,532
Total	14,615

Total New Registrations



*Other includes Independents, No Party Preference, and other parties not recognized as official parties.

Changed to Libertarian

Republican	841
Democratic	174
Other	396
Total	1,411

Changed to Other*

Republican	24,671
Democratic	18,524
Libertarian	1,791
Other	8,647
Total	53,633