It’s Election Day in America

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Every election has a story to tell. Sometimes we don’t know what that story is until long after the ballots are counted.
In this heightened environment, it is easy to think every issue is a cyber attack, but it is important to remember the many moving parts.
It’s Complicated: Election Basics

50 States
3,140 Counties
1,620 NE Townships
5,312 Midwest Townships
10,072 Election Jurisdictions

Statistics from Election Data Services
Voter Registration / Election Management Systems

Voting Systems
Election Terminology...Words Matter!

@NPRlistening to your story on election security. Voting SYSTEMS are not voter registration databases. The difference matters. #semantics

4:28 AM · 21 Mar 18
VR: in all but 1 state is the first step.

(& we have seen this as the first target of adversaries)
Voter Registration

40% of Americans don’t know they have to update their voter registration after moving.
What is official?
What is public?
What is private?
Official vs. Everything Else…

Jeh Johnson hearing: House Russia probe digs into DNC cyberfailings, voter roll hacks

By Tom Lobianco, CNN
Updated 10:02 AM ET, Thu June 22, 2017
HOW WE VOTE

Charles Stewart III, MIT
Performance of American Elections (SPAE) data
Election Day

Source: Current Population Survey
Source: Current Population Survey
Source: Current Population Survey
Source: Current Population Survey
When voters have options in when they vote, in person and by mail, any attacks on the voter registration system would come to light earlier.
We have not had stories of massive registration issues during early voting.
We have not identified greater voter registration issues with ballots mailed out to voters.
Nor have we heard of issues today.
• It is Election Day in America, our “Great Experiment”.

• What have we seen in the past that we should continue to watch, as well as improve by 2020?
Myth Busting: Not all eligible ballots

Sam Mahood @Sam_Mahood · 3h

Elections officials take the time to carefully process and count every eligible ballot. Even if it's a "blowout" election. Even if it's a provisional ballot. It is a sad misconception that elections officials just stop "counting" or arbitrarily "throw out" ballots.

Louie @Mantia

What's something that seems obvious within your profession, but the general public seems to misunderstand?

Show this thread
Provisionals too!

MontgomeryMDVotes · 9h
Doing our part for democracy in the office this Fourth of July. Provisional ballots for the 2018 gubernatorial primary election are ready to begin counting.
#MoCoVotes #mdvotes

Dean Logan, RR/CC @LACountyRRCC · Jun 6
Every vote counts. Our office is working hard this morning preparing provisional ballots from #CAPrimary to be sent to our data team for processing. For more info on how provisional ballots work visit lavote.net/documents/mate...
Critical Infrastructure:
**Vintage**

- Can you hack a dot-matrix printer?
- Some of the technology used in today’s elections was created before many of this generation of hackers were born.
Bug or Feature?

• Much of the voting equipment in the country was produced before the first iPhone.
• You have to “deselect” one choice before making another.
Also,

Remember calibration?

Yup, that’s the technology being used.

Still.
The reality of funding support for elections & election administration is that officials must be resourceful.
Logic and Accuracy testing and proper maintenance protocols will only last so long.
• Documenting security measures and having robust chain of custody notations is ever increasingly important.
• Public confidence rests on our ability to demonstrate nothing was tampered with.
Election officials are in new territory—most have been dedicated to transparency of process, now they realize that security of systems may not mean 100% transparency.

Not all details will be disclosed.
Maricopa County, AZ

Reconciliation Audits
Fighting Misinformation

The picture is photoshopped from a photograph of a voting line outside of a March Arizona primary voting location - used widely by several media organizations - and a Wikipedia Commons picture of an immigration officer making an arrest. The photos are below:
The real Achilles heal in our democratic process is not in the physical- or cyber-security of our voting system, but in the confidence our citizens feel in the electoral process.