The VIP and ERIC Specifications

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The Voting Information Project (VIP) ensures election information, such as ballot and polling places, is easily available wherever voters look for it.

VIP 5.0 will be released later this year
What is covered under the VIP Specification?

Pre-election information
• Where to vote: polling places, early vote sites, vote centers, and drop boxes
• What’s on the ballot: contests, candidates, and referendum

Static election information
• Election Administration: contact information for state and local officials and their websites
• Relevant links: voter registration, absentee ballots

Political geography
• Street segments
• Precincts and precinct splits
• Electoral districts
How the VIP Specification is used

21 states plus DC format their data in accordance to the VIP specification.

A number of these states are able to provide data in the VIP format because their vendor has built-in VIP export functionality.
How VIP Data is used

1. States collect and package their data
   - Voter registration
   - Election management
   - Vote tabulation

2. VIP processes the data
   - CSV file

3. VIP publishes the data
   - XML file

4. Google Civic Information API
   - Zip file

Google API

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ERIC State Data

All Data
- **Identifiers**: name, date of birth, last 4 digits of SSN, driver’s license, gender
- **Contact**: home and mailing address, phone, email
- **Activity Date**: when was the person last active in your system

Voter Data
- **Last Vote Date**
- **Status**: inactive important in order to work on re-activating with corrections

DMV and other data sources
- **Citizenship confirmed?** (when available)
- **Declined voter registration?**
ERIC Data Flow

State

- Voter
- DMV
- Anonymizer
- Anonymized Voter
- Anonymized DMV

Eligible but Unregistered Report
List Maint Reports: Cross-state Movers, In-state Movers, In-state Duplicates, Deceased

IBM InfoSphere Matching
ERIC InfoSphere

Match Analysis

Access limited by IP address
ERIC Hosted sFTP Server

Validation 2nd Anonymization
12 states plus DC are members of ERIC, providing data at least every 60 days.

We’re seeing voter registration system vendors actively promote the ability to provide data in the ERIC format.

Encouraging conversation about data sharing and standardization with DMV agencies.
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