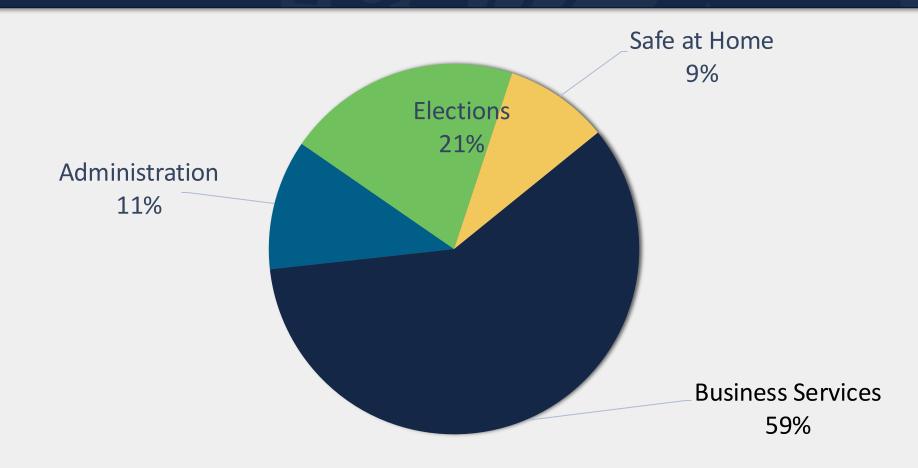
# Office of Minnesota Secretary of State

## Office Overview 2025

Nicole Freeman, Government Relations Director
The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon

## Staffing by Division



### **Business Services**

- Approve and file articles of incorporation and amendments for all business and nonprofit organizations operating in the state
- Provide online and in-person services including:
  - business name filings and searches
  - filing articles and renewals
  - ordering copies and certificates

### Business Services - UCC

- Record documents filed under the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) regarding collateral pledged to secure loans
- Administer the Central Notification System (CNS) for farm product liens
- File and maintain statewide federal tax liens

## Business Services -Notary/Apostille

- Process notary public applications, renewals and changes, and maintain a notary database
- Provide authentication of certain documents for use in another country through Apostille services

### **Business Services - New Laws**

- UCC Bogus Filers (August 2022)
- Structured Settlement Purchase Company Registration (January 2023)
- Corporate Transparency Act Beneficial Ownership Information Requirements (January 2024)

## Total Filings

Total Filings in 2024: 970,193

New Entities in 2024: 68,132

### Contributor to the General Fund

### \$27 million per biennium (net)

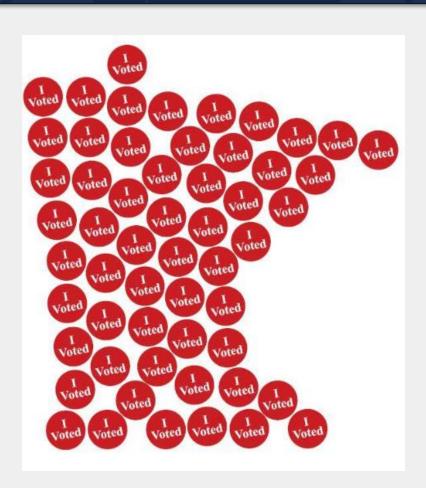
\$13.5 million per year

## **Elections Division**

**Elections Administration** 

Election Security Navigators

Voter Outreach



### **Election Administration**

- Chief state election official
- Train and certify county election administrators
- Administer the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS)
- Administer database of candidates and election results
- Test and certify election equipment
- Post-election audits
- Rulemaking authority
- Develop and support online voter tools

### **Election Administration - Grants**

### Grant and reimbursement programs since 2017

- Voting Equipment Grants: \$11 Million
- HAVA Security and Accessibility Grants: \$3 Million
- CARES Act Grants: \$4.99 Million
- Drop Box Grants: \$2 Million
- Presidential Primary Reimbursement 2020:\$9.5 Million
- Voter Fund: \$3 Million each year starting in 2023
- Presidential Primary Reimbursement in 2024: \$10.7 Million
- Voter Accessibility Grants: \$0.5 Million

## Election Administration - New Law Implementation

Restore the Vote

Automatic Voter Registration

Early Voting Expansion

Language
Access
Requirements

Pre-Registration for 16/17 Year Olds

Minnesota
Voting Rights
Act

### Voter Outreach

- Year-round communications, resource distribution, and webinars.
- Maintain relationships with non-partisan community partners, including businesses, nonprofits, health care facilities, educational institutions, and the military.
- Develops programs, presentations, and materials to train staff, employees, and organizations, and to educate voters.
- Focus on ongoing youth and civic education.

## Voter Outreach – Students Voting

## Biannual statewide K-12 mock election in partnership with Center for Youth Voice at the YMCA



Windom Community School, Windom



Grand Rapids High School, Grand Rapids

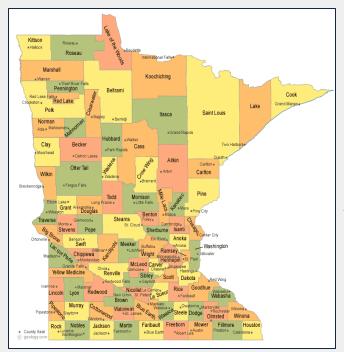


Barnum Elementary, Barnum



Hamline Elementary, St. Paul

## Election Security Navigators

















NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of STATE ELECTION DIRECTORS











## Election Security Navigator Approach



### November 5 State General Election

3,272,414 total ballots cast

76.4% of the voting eligible population

1,304,018 Minnesotans voted before Election Day



### **Administration Division**

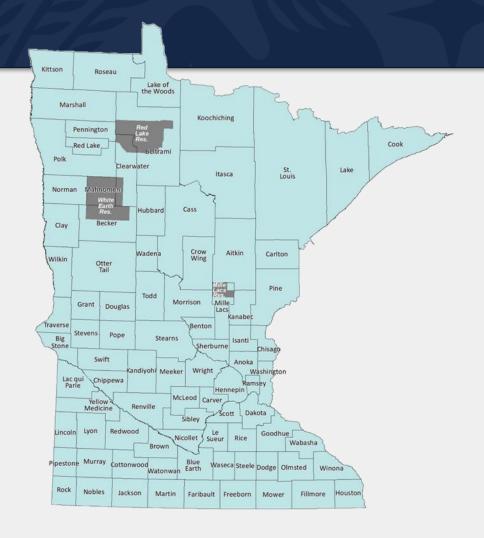
- Administers the Open Appointments process
- Certifies Official Documents (4,743 filed in 2024, a 37 percent increase compared to 2020)
- Supports 314 boards and commissions (46.7 percent increase since FY 15)
- Maintains the Original Chapter Laws
- Serves on the Executive Council and State Board of Investment
- Provides constituent services, working with state, federal, and local elected officials, and constituents on behalf of the Office



- Provide an address participants can use for all purposes—including legal service
- Receive participants' mail, repackage it, and forward it on daily basis.
- Administers absentee balloting for participants
- Partner with 98 social service agencies statewide encompassing 384 application assistants who assist the program by enrolling participants

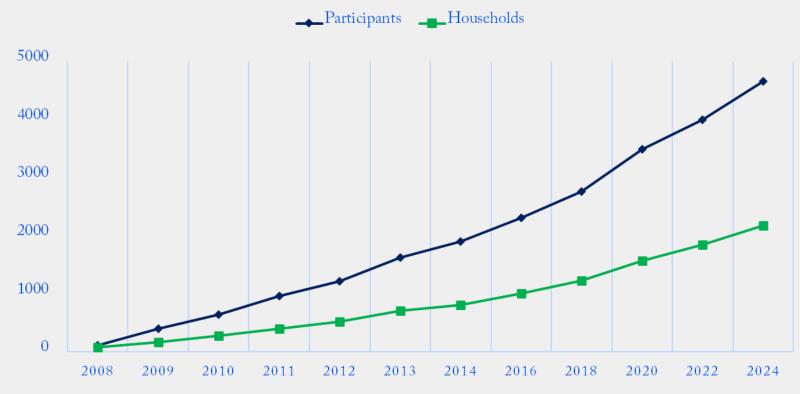


90 Geographical Areas Served by Safe at Home Application Assistants



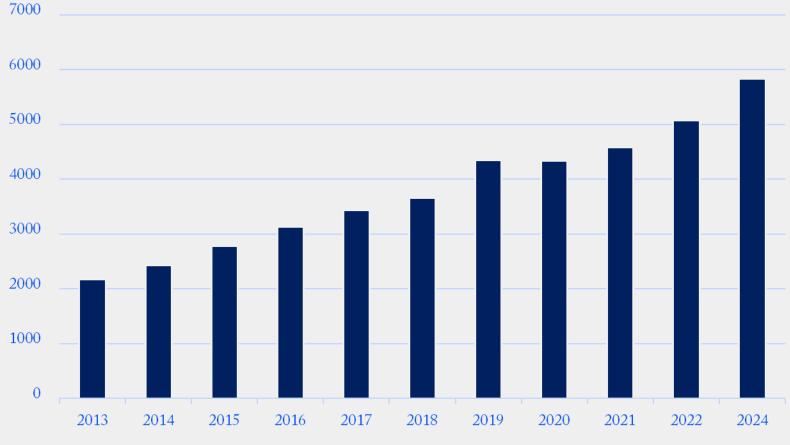


## ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS AS OF DECEMBER 31





#### Total Served Per Calendar Year



The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon



	2022	2024	% Increase
Number of Applications Received	961	1,117	16%
Number of Active Participants as of December 31st	3,992	4,652	16%
Number of Active Households as of December 31st	1,837	2,170	18%
Number of Applicants and Participants Served	5,078	5,835	15%
Postage Costs	\$109,000	\$153,963	41%
Number of Outgoing Envelopes	111,535	137,555	23%



"My children are thriving and are finally able to be stable."

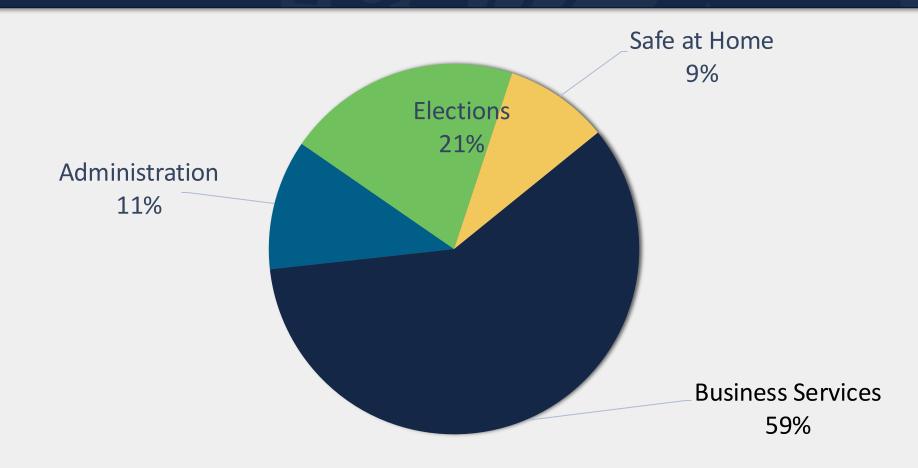
"This program has given my family and I our life back. My abuser has not been able to find us due to this program."

"The program has changed my life. I feel like I can lead a semi-normal life again, and my daughter is safe."

"Although the person that attacked me has tried to find me, he has not been successful due to Safe at Home. Thank you so much for this program."

"Our 'public information'-based society makes it impossible to get away from abusive partners without a program like Safe at Home."

## Staffing by Division



## Questions?

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