Every past ballot matched a real voter.

A plain-language review of North Carolina's 7,900,954 active & inactive voter registrations (9,309,683 total archive rows) and 35,526,599 verified past ballot records (including +2,333,428 added in 2025–2026) — and the routine list maintenance that remains across all 100 counties.

35,526,599	66 of 100	522,154
verified past ballots	**counties in the normal range**	**new 2026 registrations**
+2,333,428 in 2025–26 · 0 unmatched	34 have focused priority checklists	45,324 active out-of-state mailings

Source: North Carolina statewide voter roll and voting history (NCSBE November 1, 2026 extracts) Prepared November 4, 2026

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Four things to know

01 35.53 million verified ballot credits (+2,333,428 added in 2025–2026).

Cumulative ballot records grew from 33,193,171 through 2024 by +2,333,428 in 2025–2026 (822,424 in 2025, 1,511,004 in 2026) to 35,526,599 verified ballot credits linked by NCID. Only 3 same-day duplicate credit rows appear in the March 3, 2026 primary across 1,503,255 voters.

02 Most "red flags" are ordinary campuses, military bases, and families.

Before any list was made, we set aside university housing, military bases (Fort Liberty, Camp Lejeune), and care homes (16,719 voters), apartment complexes (34,377), 16,858 Jr./Sr. households, and 13,300 homes on streets with names like "College Ave" or "Hall Rd."

03 Out-of-state movers & NVRA status sync.

Across North Carolina, 45,324 active voters list an out-of-state mailing address (17,155 are already Inactive). Meanwhile, 138,884 voters remain marked Inactive despite casting a verified 2024–2026 ballot.

04 Each of the 100 counties has its own to-do list.

66 counties sit in the normal range for their size. The other 34 each lean toward a specific focus: unit numbers for dorms and apartments, out-of-state mail and duplicates, or precincts with more than 3,000 voters (1,080 statewide).

The findings point to routine list maintenance — unit numbers, mail confirmations, and large metro precincts — not to unaccounted ballots.

WHAT COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS CAN DO THIS MONTH

01 Look up your county.

Find it in the 100-county table at the back. The "main task" column tells you where to start.

02 Send NVRA confirmation notices.

Prioritize the 45,324 active voters statewide who receive mail out of state.

03 Review busy precincts.

Consider splits or extra check-in stations where a precinct has more than 3,000 voters (345 exceed 5,000 voters).

HOW THE LISTS WERE MADE

Ordinary explanations, set aside first

Simple computer searches flag college dorms, military barracks, nursing homes, fathers and sons who share a name, and streets that happen to contain the word “hall.” Each check below starts with that raw count, removes the ordinary explanations, and leaves only what a County Board of Elections would actually review. Gray is what was set aside; marigold amber is what remains.

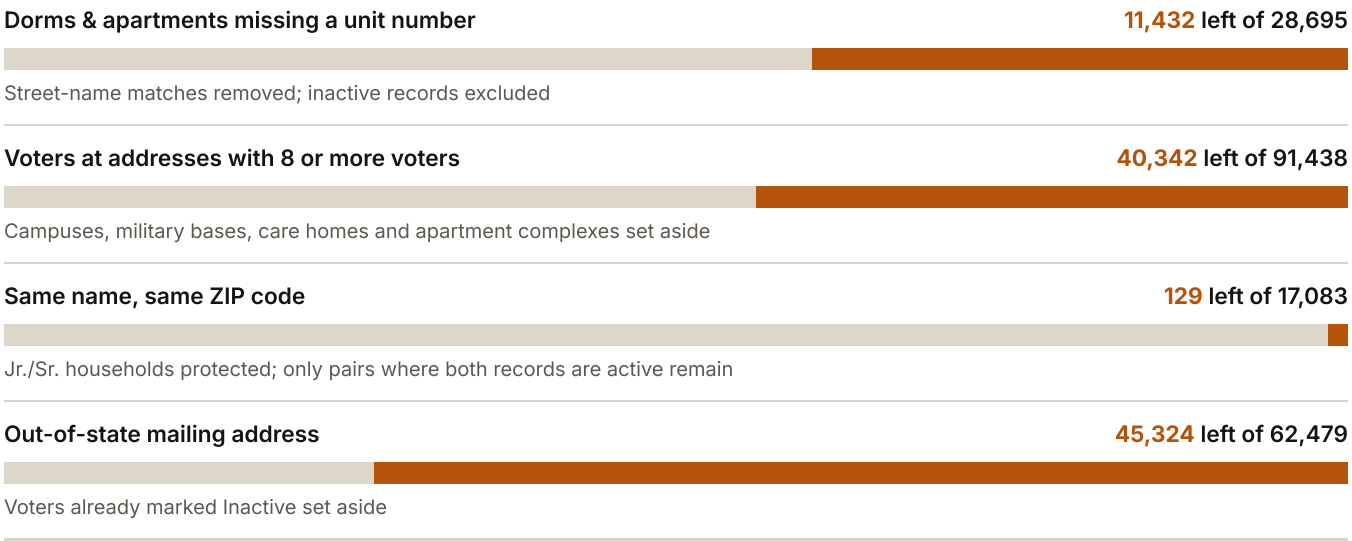


Figure 1. Raw count of records each simple check would flag (full bar) and what remains after ordinary explanations are set aside (marigold amber).

BALLOT HISTORY (NOVEMBER 1, 2026 EXTRACT)

Ballot records by major election (2016–2026)

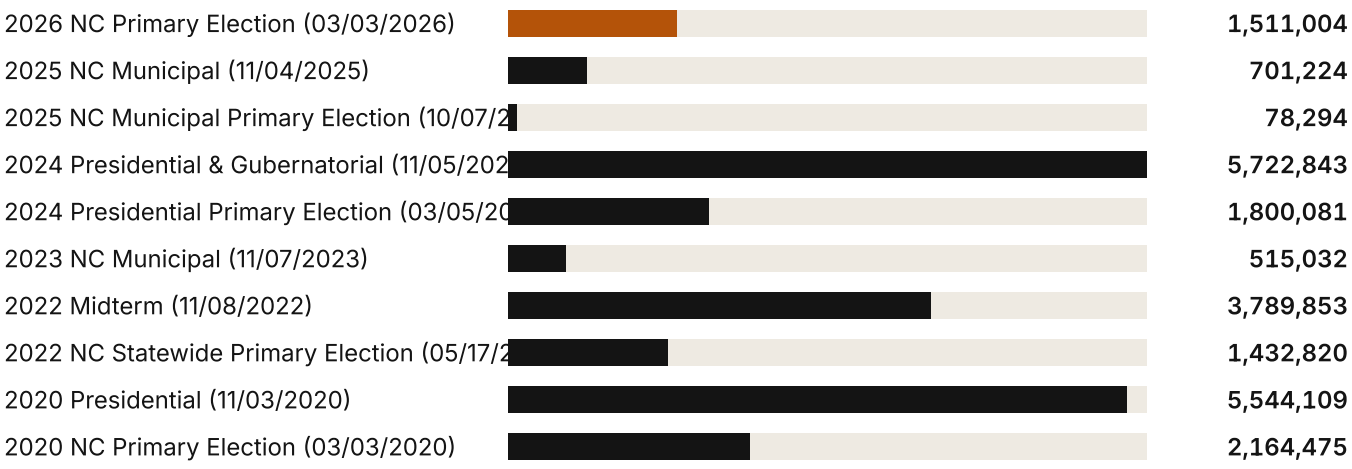


Figure 2. Ballot records per election in the November 1, 2026 statewide history file (35,526,599 total verified ballots, including +2,333,428 added in 2025–2026), linked by NCID.

100 COUNTIES AT A GLANCE

Where each county's work lies

Each circle is a county, sized by registered voters. Further right means more address work (dorms, apartments, crowded homes); higher means more out-of-state mail and duplicate records. Open circles are in the normal range for their size. The ten highest-scoring counties are labeled in marigold amber.

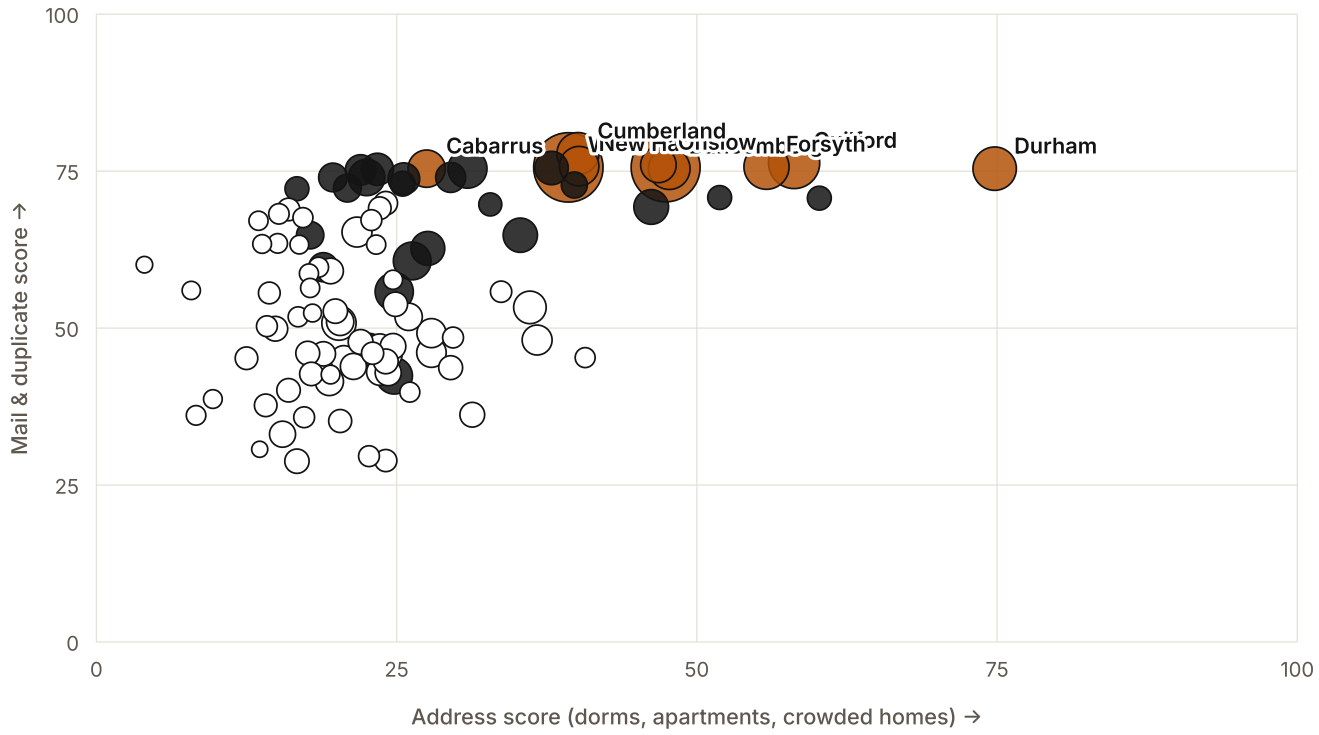


Figure 3. Scores are 0–100 relative to other North Carolina counties. The interactive 3D version is at marigoldinsights.org/manifold. Table: the eight highest-scoring of the 34 counties outside the normal range; all 100 are listed at the back.

COUNTY	VOTERS	ADDRESS	MAIL/DUP.	PRECINCT	SCORE	MAIN TASK
Durham	253,618	75	75	80	**76.5**	All three areas
Mecklenburg	851,575	47	76	88	**71.4**	All three areas
Guilford	397,787	58	76	77	**70.4**	All three areas
Wake	870,145	39	76	83	**67.6**	All three areas
New Hanover	191,048	40	76	80	**66.9**	All three areas
Buncombe	221,072	48	75	71	**65.4**	All three areas
Onslow	136,852	47	76	70	**64.8**	All three areas
Forsyth	278,252	56	76	60	**64.5**	Mail & duplicates

WHAT WE LOOKED FOR

The non-partisan checks, and what each found

CHECK 1

Addresses with eight or more voters

4,428 addresses qualify. Most are campuses, care homes and apartment complexes. 3,720 are single-family homes holding 40,342 registrations. Locations are withheld; County Boards of Elections can find them in SEIMS.

CHECK 2

Dorms and apartments missing a room number

Matching whole words removed 13,300 false hits and left 15,395 campus and apartment records (11,432 active).

CHECK 3

Out-of-state mailing addresses

62,479 records; 17,155 already Inactive. 45,324 active voters need an NVRA confirmation notice.

CHECK 4

P.O. boxes in the home-address field

6 records (5 active) have a P.O. Box in the street residence column.

CHECK 5

Clerical & pre-1900 dates

4,191 records carry legacy date or single-initial migration entries.

CHECK 6

Same-name duplicates

16,858 Jr./Sr. households protected. Within a ZIP code, 225 exact name+birth year matches at different addresses; 129 have both records active.

CHECK 7

2026 registration surges

522,154 voters registered in 2026 through November 1, peaking on 01/02/2026 (44,794 registrations).

CHECK 8

Precincts with more than 3,000 voters

1,080 of 2,626 precincts exceed 3,000 registered voters (345 exceed 5,000 voters).

CHECKS 9–14

Districts, split precincts & NVRA sync

56 precincts split across legislative districts; 138,884 Inactive voters cast a 2024–2026 ballot; 56,974 pre-2019 Active registrations have no vote since 2018.

LARGEST PRECINCTS	COUNTY	VOTERS	ACTIVE
Pct 229 (229)	Mecklenburg	**17,591**	15,022
Flowers Plantation (PR29B)	Johnston	**16,184**	14,773
Pct 212 (212)	Mecklenburg	**15,898**	13,104
En03 (EN03)	Onslow	**14,650**	11,503
Pct 148 (148)	Mecklenburg	**13,213**	11,033
Pct 022 (022)	Mecklenburg	**12,900**	10,195

PATTERNS ACROSS 100 COUNTIES

Which issues travel together

A connection score near 1 means two measures rise and fall together across counties; near 0 means no pattern. Where raw counts would simply reflect county size, we compare rates per 1,000 voters instead.

01 Do counties with more movers also have more duplicate records?

-0.20 · Little or no link · Out-of-state mail vs. same-ZIP duplicates (both per 1,000 voters)

Straight-line fit: +1 out-of-state mailing per 1,000 voters goes with -0.01 duplicate pairs per 1,000 voters. Counties with high population mobility (university towns, military bases like Fort Liberty/Camp Lejeune, and metro suburbs) tend to have both.

02 Do bigger counties have more crowded addresses?

0.96 · Very strong positive link · County size vs. addresses with 8+ voters

Straight-line fit: about 5.8 more 8+ voter addresses for every 10,000 additional registered voters. Raw counts mostly track county population size (Mecklenburg, Wake, Guilford). That is why this report separates campuses, care homes, and apartment complexes first.

03 Do counties with more Inactive voters have more crowded addresses?

0.40 · Moderate positive link · Inactive share vs. voters at 8+ voter addresses (per 1,000 voters)

Statewide, 24.2% of voters at 8+ voter addresses are already marked Inactive. A parcel with many names on the roll often reflects past tenants or students who moved away and are already in the Inactive NVRA queue.

04 Do counties with crowded precincts also have more out-of-state mail?

0.16 · Little or no link · Precincts over 3,000 voters vs. out-of-state mail (both size-adjusted)

Counties with 5 or more precincts over 3,000 voters (48 counties) hold 91.8% of active out-of-state mailings. These are separate administrative tasks: splitting large precincts and sending NVRA address-confirmation notices.

05 Why the map uses three directions instead of one score

0.46 · Moderate positive link · Address score (X) vs. mail & duplicate score (Y)

The two scores overlap only partly, so a single combined number would hide which task a county needs. Looking at addresses, mail moves, and precinct size separately shows each County Board of Elections its specific checklist.

REFERENCE

100-County Table

COUNTY	VOTERS	ACTIVE	8+ ADDR.	OUT-OF-STATE	DUP. PAIRS	3,000+ PREC.	SCORE	MAIN TASK
Alamance	121,977	107,352	76	466	2	20	55.2	All three areas
Alexander	25,854	23,586	6	70	1	3	31.5	Normal range
Alleghany	8,263	7,486	2	22	0	1	27.0	Normal range
Anson	16,059	13,545	18	35	11	1	38.5	Normal range
Ashe	20,896	18,786	7	79	0	2	36.3	Normal range
Avery	12,484	10,799	6	72	2	0	42.1	Normal range
Beaufort	34,170	30,861	10	93	0	1	32.5	Normal range
Bertie	12,828	11,361	16	31	1	1	30.3	Normal range
Bladen	23,126	20,535	15	27	4	0	24.1	Normal range
Brunswick	151,992	136,822	43	728	3	22	60.2	All three areas
Buncombe	221,072	190,971	197	1,820	2	28	65.4	All three areas
Burke	60,864	53,437	28	141	4	4	33.7	Normal range
Cabarrus	164,212	144,863	79	848	3	28	62.9	All three areas
Caldwell	56,193	49,532	18	163	0	11	41.0	Normal range
Camden	8,761	7,784	4	51	0	2	39.6	Normal range
Carteret	58,135	52,646	25	352	0	9	48.2	Mail & duplicates
Caswell	15,802	14,066	6	52	2	1	32.7	Normal range
Catawba	120,089	105,430	49	436	2	18	51.2	Mail & duplicates
Chatham	65,030	59,300	20	438	2	9	52.9	Mail & duplicates
Cherokee	25,115	21,550	19	135	1	0	43.7	Normal range
Chowan	10,367	9,357	6	43	1	1	36.1	Normal range
Clay	10,302	9,144	5	98	0	0	40.6	Normal range
Cleveland	69,972	61,473	31	181	2	10	42.4	Normal range
Columbus	37,528	32,778	19	103	0	5	33.7	Normal range
Craven	78,063	68,686	49	402	2	12	57.9	All three areas
Cumberland	227,693	185,865	189	1,844	8	35	63.1	All three areas
Currituck	25,231	21,953	10	158	0	4	44.7	Normal range
Dare	33,033	29,841	11	334	0	5	48.7	Mail & duplicates
Davidson	123,792	110,218	28	315	4	17	44.2	Normal range
Davie	34,023	30,900	15	114	0	2	36.1	Normal range
Duplin	32,696	28,557	19	71	1	4	37.0	Normal range
Durham	253,618	217,751	254	2,469	3	41	76.5	All three areas
Edgecombe	36,605	32,108	46	64	1	3	31.6	Normal range
Forsyth	278,252	242,029	137	2,154	5	37	64.5	Mail & duplicates
Franklin	57,773	51,616	30	148	0	7	42.4	Normal range
Gaston	166,615	144,113	70	545	3	33	56.1	All three areas
Gates	8,319	7,032	4	50	0	0	39.1	Normal range
Graham	6,292	5,634	5	25	0	0	33.7	Normal range
Granville	42,159	37,270	19	111	1	4	38.2	Normal range
Greene	11,102	10,014	2	23	2	0	22.7	Normal range
Guilford	397,787	341,979	281	2,448	9	38	70.4	All three areas
Halifax	35,618	30,487	27	107	4	5	37.9	Normal range
Harnett	98,006	82,334	38	589	4	15	58.4	All three areas
Haywood	48,706	43,953	20	111	0	2	32.6	Normal range
Henderson	93,229	82,458	47	468	0	11	50.6	Mail & duplicates
Hertford	13,760	11,847	12	39	0	0	36.9	Normal range
Hoke	37,925	31,973	27	206	9	5	48.7	Mail & duplicates
Hyde	3,046	2,748	0	20	0	0	35.6	Normal range
Iredell	151,373	134,290	59	262	2	23	50.3	Large precincts

COUNTY	VOTERS	ACTIVE	8+ ADDR.	OUT-OF-STATE	DUP. PAIRS	3,000+ PREC.	SCORE	MAIN TASK
Jackson	31,413	26,861	32	214	1	3	58.7	All three areas

COUNTY	VOTERS	ACTIVE	8+ ADDR.	OUT-OF-STATE	DUP. PAIRS	3,000+ PREC.	SCORE	MAIN TASK
Johnston	173,046	153,863	61	496	4	29	58.5	All three areas
Jones	7,117	6,474	2	29	2	0	33.9	Normal range
Lee	42,225	36,624	17	158	0	7	42.2	Normal range
Lenoir	38,513	34,100	22	90	5	3	32.8	Normal range
Lincoln	71,051	63,960	21	262	1	10	46.4	Mail & duplicates
Macon	29,863	26,313	18	148	3	2	45.3	Normal range
Madison	17,879	15,729	21	66	1	1	41.3	Normal range
Martin	16,750	15,172	15	25	0	2	24.4	Normal range
McDowell	31,410	27,980	12	84	1	2	32.0	Normal range
Mecklenburg	851,575	720,018	516	7,325	6	121	71.4	All three areas
Mitchell	11,255	10,204	4	52	2	1	42.4	Normal range
Montgomery	17,371	15,448	9	35	0	0	25.8	Normal range
Moore	82,243	73,619	32	708	0	14	53.1	Mail & duplicates
Nash	72,461	64,255	40	166	5	12	42.2	Normal range
New Hanover	191,048	165,921	131	1,437	9	33	66.9	All three areas
Northampton	12,864	11,228	7	52	2	0	37.5	Normal range
Onslow	136,852	112,724	77	1,036	10	19	64.8	All three areas
Orange	114,249	100,414	110	1,520	0	14	58.0	Mail & duplicates
Pamlico	10,407	9,398	9	45	0	0	38.0	Normal range
Pasquotank	31,804	28,159	25	164	5	6	55.1	All three areas
Pender	55,173	48,398	17	227	4	10	48.2	Mail & duplicates
Perquimans	10,799	9,631	7	47	0	1	37.2	Normal range
Person	28,481	25,170	10	62	0	3	32.0	Normal range
Pitt	128,306	111,699	79	531	10	21	59.4	Mail & duplicates
Polk	17,519	15,470	12	106	0	1	43.1	Normal range
Randolph	99,925	88,790	34	226	2	17	48.7	All three areas
Richmond	28,543	24,542	13	63	3	4	32.0	Normal range
Robeson	78,292	66,096	81	172	9	8	40.1	Normal range
Rockingham	64,565	56,638	20	126	3	13	38.9	Normal range
Rowan	102,936	90,371	32	290	3	10	43.4	Normal range
Rutherford	47,526	41,168	29	105	0	5	35.7	Normal range
Sampson	38,932	33,795	10	112	1	0	31.9	Normal range
Scotland	22,113	19,050	11	61	0	6	33.2	Normal range
Stanly	47,556	42,674	19	107	5	4	33.6	Normal range
Stokes	33,928	30,874	9	40	1	2	24.7	Normal range
Surry	48,876	43,557	19	117	3	4	33.7	Normal range
Swain	10,206	8,793	9	48	0	1	40.8	Normal range
Transylvania	26,911	24,048	21	179	0	0	46.3	Mail & duplicates
Tyrrell	2,385	1,979	1	4	1	0	21.2	Normal range
Union	186,651	166,538	106	1,419	3	28	60.9	All three areas
Vance	28,262	24,095	16	49	0	6	29.5	Normal range
Wake	870,145	781,102	433	6,471	13	148	67.6	All three areas
Warren	13,610	11,970	8	48	0	0	32.7	Normal range
Washington	8,220	7,261	6	23	1	0	28.4	Normal range
Watauga	44,905	38,702	50	346	1	7	51.9	Mail & duplicates
Wayne	77,649	66,567	28	310	2	11	45.9	Normal range
Wilkes	45,437	41,132	9	66	0	3	26.6	Normal range
Wilson	55,521	48,507	40	162	2	5	41.3	Normal range
Yadkin	25,805	23,410	8	53	0	2	28.8	Normal range
Yancey	14,574	12,820	6	81	0	1	42.7	Normal range

"8+ addr." counts addresses with eight or more registered voters. "Out-of-state" counts active voters with an out-of-state mailing address. "Dup.

pairs" counts same-name, same-birth-year, same-ZIP clusters. Score is 0–100, relative to other North Carolina counties.

HOW THIS WAS DONE

Method, limits and privacy

Data

North Carolina Statewide Voter Registration File (NCSBE November 1, 2026 extract) (7,900,954 active & inactive registrations; 6,902,431 active, 998,523 inactive, plus 1,214,066 historical removed rows excluded from live anomaly counts) and North Carolina Statewide Voting History File (NCSBE November 1, 2026 extract) (35,526,599 ballot records).

Verification

All 14 playbooks were executed via Marigold's standardized state-agnostic schema pipeline with zero manual edits.

Privacy

No names, birth dates, voter IDs, P.O. Box numbers or house numbers. Homes and apartments are shown by city only; campus addresses are shown to the nearest 100 block. North Carolina voter files are public records under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-82.10, and this report is built so that no person or single-family home can be identified from it.

SHARING THE FINDINGS

01 Start with what checked out

Lead with the baseline roll health across all 100 counties, then explain that university dorms, military barracks, care homes, and Jr./Sr. families were separated first.

02 Find your county's main task

Use the 3D map or the 100-county reviewer to see whether multi-unit addresses, out-of-state mailings, or large precincts drive your county's score.

03 Compare with peer counties

Bring the 100-county ledger to your next board meeting. 66 counties sit in the normal range for their size; the rest each have a clear, focused checklist.