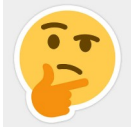


Introduction



Our Elections



Q: How do candidates get on a ballot?



A: Committee Members!

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This webinar is an introduction to committee members, what they are, why they are so important and how to become one.

Most people I talk to, vote, so I'll pose the question, "How do candidates get on a ballot?"

Most don't know. I'll reply, "Committee Members" as a hook to capture their attention. That's a generalization but it starts the conversion.

From there, we need to take a step back and understand some basics about our election process.

And it begins with geography.

Geography: Our Country

- 50 States

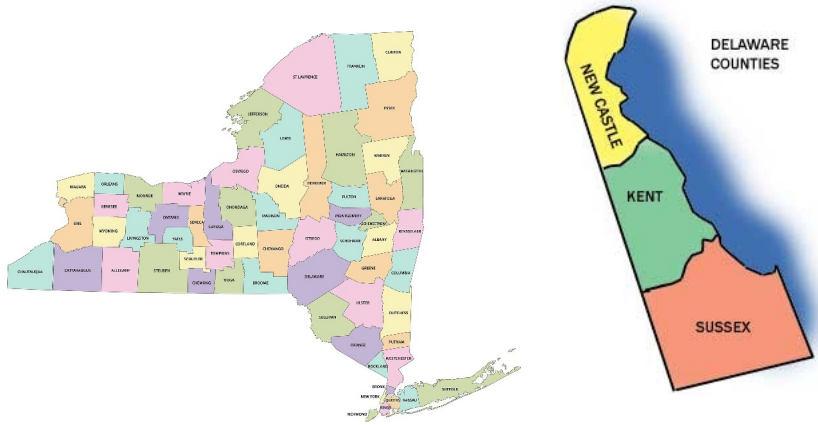


Our country is broken down into 50 states.

But it doesn't stop there.

States → Counties

- New York: 62 Delaware: 3 US: 3K+



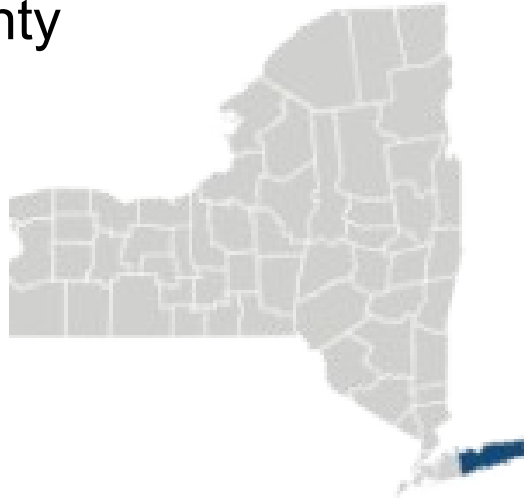
Each state is further subdivided into counties.

The number of counties can vary from state to state.

For instance, NY has 62 counties, whereas Delaware only has 3.

New York Counties

- Suffolk County



Here is an example of 1 county in NY:

Suffolk County is home to Congressional Districts 1, and part of CD 2 and 3.

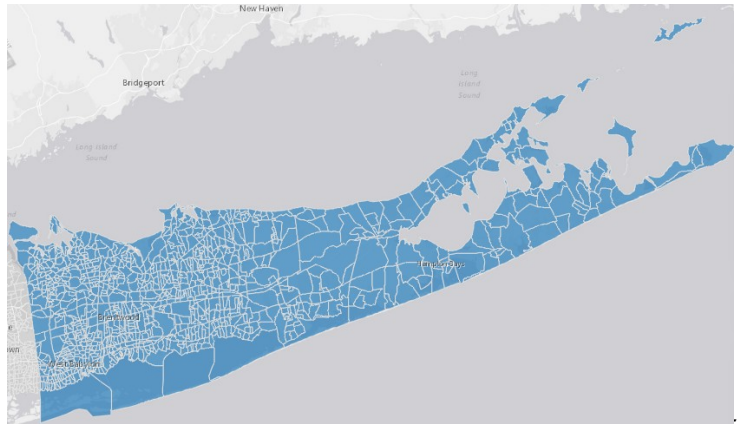
~~(FYI ... NY has 26 Congressional districts.~~

~~And the US has 435 all together.)~~

But the breakdown gets even more granular.

Counties → Precincts/EDs

- Precincts/Election Districts
- A Geographic area to administer elections
- Suffolk (1,070)
- US (170K)



Counties are further subdivided into precincts or election districts.

The nomenclature may vary from state to state but they serve a common purpose:

To administer elections.

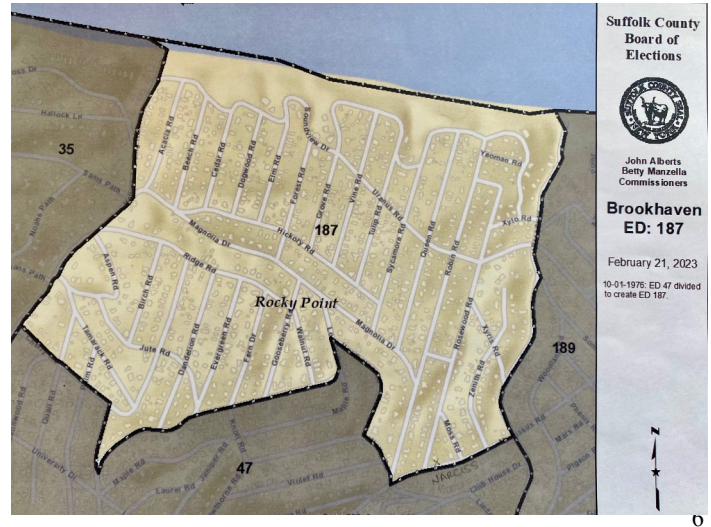
You've probably received a post card prior to an election, identifying your election district and poll location – where you go to vote.

Suffolk County, pictured here, has over 1K EDs.

The US has over 170K in total.

Precinct/Election District (ED)

- A “neighborhood”
- Suffolk County
Brookhaven Town
ED #187



An ED is often a relatively small area or neighborhood with a population of roughly 700 – 3,000 people.

Suffolk County has a large population (1.5M) and is geographically broken down into ten (10) Towns first and then into EDs second.

Pictured here is one ED, approx. one (1) square mile with a voting population of about 1K.

It's important to note, the size and population density of an ED can vary from state to state, county to county and ED to ED.

Governance: Laws & Bylaws

- Subject to Federal and State Election Law



- Political Parties are Private Corporations
- State & County Party Bylaws



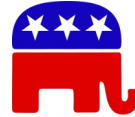
With regard to governance, election administration is subject to federal and state election law.

But a lesser known fact is that political parties, which also play a role in elections, are actually private corporations. And as such they are subject to what is referred to as “bylaws”.

Bylaws are the rules and regulations adopted by organizations to self govern.

Representation: Political Parties

- Democrat
Republican
(Other)



- **Structure:**
2 Representatives
per ED, per Party
at the county level



- Men/Women
Committee Members!

Now, let's take a closer look at Political Parties.
This is where representation is manifested.

The parties we are most familiar with are the Democrat and Republican parties.

NY has 2 other official parties: the Conservative party and the Working Families Party

But this can vary from state to state.

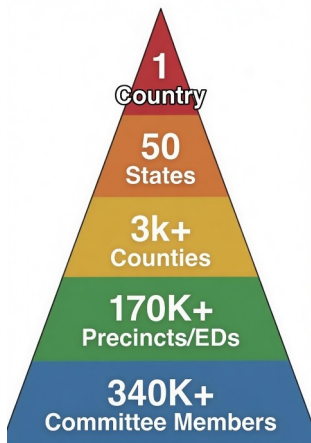
Key: Generally speaking, at the local level, 2 Reps per ED per Party

Reps: Committee Members

- Who are these “Reps”?
- YOU! Or your neighbor!
- “Voting Members” of the Party
- *** Vote for Party Leaders ***
- *** Nominate candidates for local public office ***
- Precursor to Primary & General Elections



Theory: A Representative Government



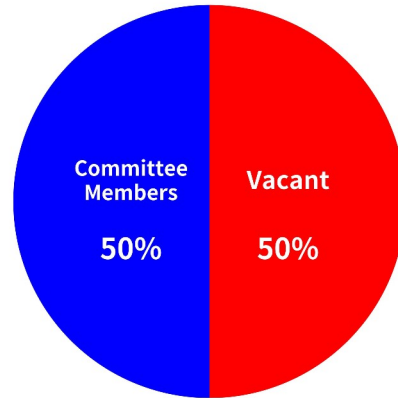
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In theory, this is a fairly decent representation, at the local level, for the overall population at a national level.

With over 170K EDs throughout the county, and 2 representatives each,
That's over 340K representatives per party in the country!

That's the theory. But wait ...!

Reality: Vacancies!



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In reality ... there are many vacancies!
Why?

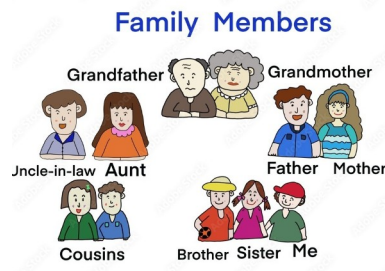
Problem1: Lack of Public Awareness

- Not Publicized 🤔
- Lack of Civics Education 😞
- Lack of Transparency 🧐



Problem2: Selective

- Appointments 
- Selective (Town, County, State employees, friends & family)



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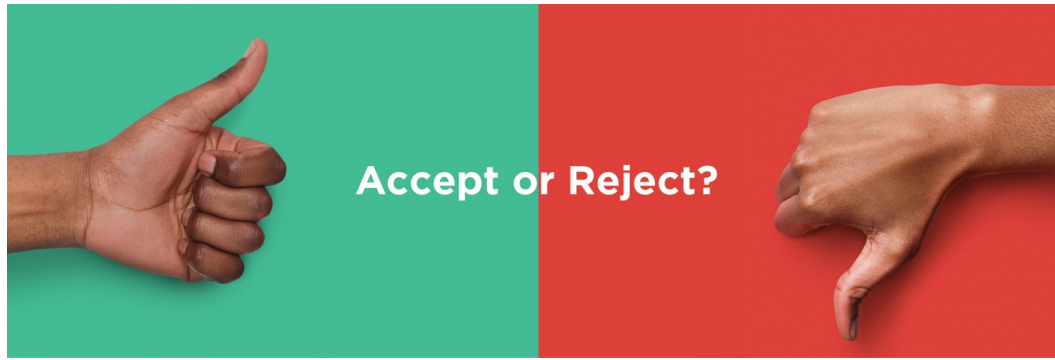
In some cases, County Committee Members are temporarily hand-picked and appointed.

They may have a personal relationship with existing members.

In some cases, they are government employees, at the town or county level.

Problem3: Verification Inconsistencies

- Approval Bias

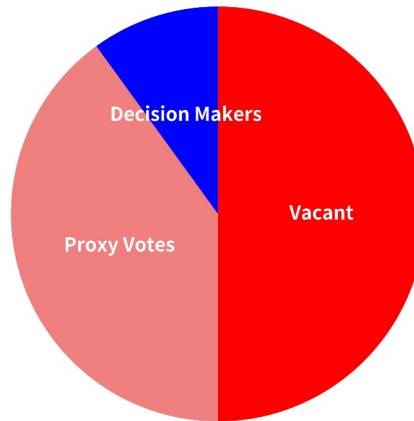


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In some cases, individuals seeking to become committee members may be challenged and/or rejected.

Sometimes, unfairly or unlawfully.

More Problems4: Proxy Votes!



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In some cases, individuals may be appointed or added to a slate petition without their knowledge.

They may be unaware of the Committee Member purpose and meaning.

And they may be asked to turn in their proxy vote to committee leaders.

This results in a consolidation of power and undermines the fundamental bedrock of our government: representation by “We the People”.

Nomination Convention

- The precursor to elections
- “A few hundred” Committee Members out of 2K+
- 3 Congressmen, 1 Party Leader



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Example: Suffolk County Republican Nomination Convention Feb, 2026

The Party Leader and the Executive Committee appoint a Nominating Committee who recommend a slate petition and a floor vote was taken.

By the Committee Members – NOT the general public as mentioned earlier.

A precursor to an election.

Think about that ... 3 potential Congressional seats and a Party leader were unchallenged and secured the nomination.

~~Left to Right: Andrew Garbarino (CD2), Nick LaLota (CD1), Jesse Garcia (Chairman), Mike Lipitri (CD3)~~

Problem/Consequences: Public Apathy

- Disillusioned
- Disenfranchised
- “My vote doesn’t matter”
- Low voter turnout
- **LACK OF TRUE REPRESENTATION!**
- **Lose our country!**



The Solution!

- The Precinct Project
- Get involved at the local level
- Become a Committee Member
- Represent your election district
- Spread the word!



Empowerment

- Become a “Voting Member” of your Party
- Elect Party Leaders
- Nominate Candidates for Office
- Engage & Represent Your Community
- **TAKE BACK YOUR COUNTRY!!!**

