

Voting Then and Now

The following table represents the difference in our Voting Rights in the 1800's and the present. It is intended to show how much our Civil Rights and the Voting System has changed over the years. Citizens who vote elect the people who run our government; therefore, it is important to understand the changes that have occurred in the last 200 years. Questions and answers follow.

	1800's	1990's
Who votes?	Any white male citizen over 21 who has resided for 2 years in a State and 1 year in a local area	All citizens 18 years of age or over who are residents of the State
Where are votes cast?	At county seat	At precinct polling location
How are votes cast?	On a paper ballot placed in a ballot box	On voting machines in most localities

1. Only _____ citizens could vote in the 1800's.
2. In the 1800's, a citizen had to be _____ years old to register to vote.
3. Prior to voting, the voter had to live in the state for _____ years in the 1800's.
4. In the 1800's voters would have to cast their vote at _____.
5. All votes were cast on _____ in the 1800's.
6. These ballots were placed in _____.
7. In the 1990's, voters have to be _____ years old to register to vote.
8. Votes are cast at _____ in the 1990's.
9. _____ are used to cast ballots in the 1990's.

Presented by:

Voter Registrar's Office
City of Virginia Beach
Telephone: (757) 385-8683 TDD Only: 711
Email: voter@vb.gov
Website: www.VBgov.com/voter

Answers:
 1. (white male) 2. (21) 3. (2) 4. (county seat) 5. (paper ballots)
 6. (ballot box) 7. (18) 8. (precinct polling location) 9. (voting)