

Office of the Governor

October 1, 2021

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

October 1, 2021

Illinois House of Representatives
Office of the Clerk
Illinois General Assembly
420 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Illinois Senate
Office of the Secretary
401 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Re: Gubernatorial Boards and Commissions Act Report

I. Introduction

Section 25 of the Gubernatorial Boards and Commissions Act¹ (the “Act”) requires the Office of the Governor to file a report with the General Assembly detailing the following information:

1. The demographic information (ethnicity, gender, and disability status) of each appointment made by the Governor between July 1 of the prior year through June 30 of the reporting year. Such demographic information shall also include the voluntarily and publicly disclosed sexual orientation of each appointment;
2. The aggregate demographic information for those persons who applied for an appointment with the Governor’s Office, but were not appointed between July 1 of the prior year through June 30 of the reporting year. Such aggregate demographic information shall also include the voluntarily and publicly disclosed sexual orientation of those applicants; and
3. The demographic composition of the gubernatorial appointees on each board, commission, and task force as of June 30 of the reporting year. Such demographic composition information shall also include the voluntarily and publicly disclosed sexual orientation of each appointee.

¹ 15 ILCS 50/25 (2018).

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The Act was originally approved by then-Governor Quinn on August 26, 2014, with an effective date of January 1, 2015. On August 18, 2017, Governor Rauner approved an amendment to the Act, effective January 1, 2018, creating new requirements that the Office of the Governor must provide an opportunity to voluntarily disclose sexual orientation in its online application for appointments and must report that information.

II. Demographic Information of Each Appointment

From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the Governor's Office made 566 total appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces. The demographic breakdown of the appointments is as follows:

Ethnicity²	Number of FY 2021 Appointments	Percentage of FY 2021 Appointments
Asian	42	7.42%
Black or African American	136	24.03%
Hispanic or Latino	67	11.84%
Middle Eastern ³	4	0.71%
Native American ⁴	20	3.53%
White	309	54.69%
No Response/Other/Decline to State	1	0.18%

Gender	Number of FY 2021 Appointments	Percentage of FY 2021 Appointments
Male	253	44.70%
Female	312	55.12%
Intersex	0	0%

² Thirteen FY 2021 appointees reported having more than one ethnicity. These individuals are counted in each reported category for purposes of this table.

³ The addition of a disclosure for those who identify as Middle Eastern was implemented in November of 2020.

⁴ The Governor's Office current definition of Native American is provided on the demographic disclosure as: "A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community." Accordingly, individuals identifying as Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander are included within this category.

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Gender Non-Binary/Genderqueer	1	0.18%
Other	0	0%
Decline to State	0	0%
No Response	0	0%

Transgender	Number of FY 2021 Appointees	Percentage of FY 2021 Appointees
Yes	0	0%

Sexual Orientation	Number of FY 2021 Appointments	Percentage of FY 2021 Appointments
Straight/Heterosexual	496	87.63%
Lesbian/Gay	23	4.06%
Bisexual	7	1.24%
Asexual	0	0%
Pansexual	2	0.35%
Queer	2	0.35%
Other	1	0.18%
Decline to State	29	5.12%
No Response/NA	6	1.06%

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Disability Status	Number of FY 2021 Appointments	Percentage of FY 2021 Appointments
Yes	52	9.19%
No	504	89.05%
No Response/Provided 'NA'/Decline to State	10	1.76%

Please note that the information in these tables relies on appointee self-reporting; it may be limited by what an appointee chooses to report. In compliance with the Act, the online application does not require an appointee to report sexual orientation.

III. Aggregate Demographic Information of Other Applicants

The Governor’s Office received 807 applications from individuals wishing to be considered for appointment to a State Board, Commission, or Task Force during FY 2021. In compliance with the Act, the application is available online and includes “a data field where an applicant shall disclose his or her ethnicity, gender, or disability status for reporting purposes” and “a data field where an applicant may optionally disclose his or her sexual orientation for reporting purposes.” We have compiled the demographic information from all applicants that have disclosed demographic information on their application during this period. The demographic breakdown of applicants who were not appointed in FY 2021 is as follows:

Ethnicity	Number of FY 2021 Applicants	Percentage of FY 2021 Applicants
Asian	54	6.69%
Black or African American	233	28.87%
Hispanic or Latino	50	6.20%
Native American	13	1.61%
Middle Eastern	6	0.74%
White	441	54.65%
Other	10	1.24%

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Gender	Number of FY 2021 Applicants	Percentage of FY 2021 Applicants
Male	510	63.20%
Female	286	35.44%
Intersex	0	0%
Gender Non-Binary/Genderqueer	3	0.37%
Other	1	0.12%
Decline to State	7	0.87%

*Transgender	Number of FY 2021 Applicants	Percentage of FY 2021 Applicants
Yes	15	1.86%

Sexual Orientation	Number of FY 2021 Applicants	Percentage of FY 2021 Applicants
Straight/Heterosexual	630	78.07%
Lesbian/Gay	84	10.41%
Bisexual	8	0.99%
Asexual	0	0%
Pansexual	10	1.24%
Queer	17	2.11%
Decline to State	57	7.06%
Other	1	0.12%
No Response	0	0%

Disability Status	Number of FY 2021 Applicants	Percentage of FY 2021 Applicants
Yes	91	11.28%
No	687	85.13%
Decline to State	29	3.59%

IV. Demographic Composition of Gubernatorial Appointees

Based on the available appointments data kept by the Office of the Governor, including the results of surveys distributed by State agencies, the composition of gubernatorial appointees to Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces as of June 30, 2021 was as follows:

Ethnicity	Number of Serving Appointees	Percentage of Serving Appointees
Asian	97	5.26%
Black or African American	343	18.60%
Hispanic or Latino	172	9.33%
Native American	31	1.68%
Middle Eastern	4	0.22%
White	1181	64.05%
No Response/Other/Decline to State	47	2.55%

Gender	Number of Serving Appointees	Percentage of Serving Appointees
Male	998	54.12%
Female	829	44.96%
Intersex	0	0%
Gender Non-Binary/Genderqueer	7	0.38%

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Other	0	0%
Decline to State	0	0%
No Response/NA	10	0.54%

*Transgender	Number of Serving Appointees	Percentage of Serving Appointees
Yes	7	0.38%

Sexual Orientation	Number of Serving Appointees	Percentage of Serving Appointees
Straight/Heterosexual	907	49.19%
Lesbian/Gay	39	2.11%
Bisexual	9	0.49%
Asexual	0	0%
Pansexual	2	0.11%
Queer	2	0.11%
Other	2	0.11%
Decline to State	37	2.01%
No Response/NA	846	45.87%

Disability Status	Number of Serving Appointees	Percentage of Serving Appointees
Yes	104	5.64%
No	1475	79.99%
No Response/Provided 'NA'/Decline to State	265	14.37%

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Again, please note that this information relies on self-reporting and may be limited by what an appointee chooses to report. The effort to ensure accurate data for the composition of gubernatorial appointees serving during FY 2021 requires the review of the data from the previous year along with the integration of new appointees from FY 2021. Similarly, this review of the data also accounts for removing individuals who are no longer serving in addition to a thorough review of Boards, Commissions and Task Forces that are no longer active or have been subject to elimination, consolidation or the like. The Office of the Governor will continue to provide opportunities for applicants and appointees to Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces to report demographic information.