

Getting the facts straight about modems and Kentucky

1. Do ES&S DS200 tabulators in Kentucky have the functionality to modem?

No. Modem components are not resident on the DS200 by default, but rather a separate board that is only installed in DS200s in those jurisdictions where a State may permit their legal use. Additionally, DS200s without a modem component do not include a SIM card, antenna, the application or the network architecture required to support modeming and allow a modem to operate on the machine. No ES&S voting system certified in Kentucky has the functionality to modem, and the certified and fielded equipment does not support the ability to modem.

Also, it's important to note that today's modern cellular modeming technology also requires a private network service provider such as Verizon. None of that technology is currently in use or in place in Kentucky.

2. I've read articles saying DS200s have modems. What are they referencing?

Any articles regarding the DS200 and the presence or use of modems in any state where they are not certified simply are not accurate. ES&S modeming technology has not been certified for use in Kentucky.

Do note that in a few states it is a legal practice to use cellular modems to transmit unofficial election results after the polls are officially closed and all voting has ended. In those states which allow for the use of modems, ES&S uses mobile private network connectivity, industry best practices, and numerous security safeguards to protect the transfer of these unofficial election night results. Final official results are physically uploaded at election headquarters prior to final certification. The physical ballots and printed results tapes are always protected.

Again, modem components are not resident on the DS200, but rather a separate module that is only installed in DS200s in those jurisdictions where the State has certified their use.

3. Do central count tabulators in Kentucky, such as the DS450 and DS850, have modems?

No. Kentucky's central count tabulators do not contain modems.

4. Do ES&S voting systems certified in Kentucky allow for modeming?

No. Kentucky statutes and certification rules prohibits the use of modeming, therefore the functionality has not been certified.