



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Shannan Velayas  
(916) 653-6575

### Secretary of State Debra Bowen Announces Final Voter Registration Details for June Statewide Primary

**SACRAMENTO** – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today released the final report of registration for the June 8 Statewide Direct Primary Election. The final data show that 20.2 percent of voters have declined to state their party preference, up from 18.5 percent since the close of registration in the 2006 Statewide Direct Primary Election. The Democratic and Republican parties will allow decline-to-state (DTS) voters to cast ballots in their June 8 statewide primaries; the other four qualified political parties will hold closed primaries.

The report also shows 16.9 million Californians are registered voters, up from 15.6 million at this same time four years ago.

“The final numbers are in and show that more decline-to-state voters will be eligible to cast ballots in this primary election than any other gubernatorial primary in California history,” said Secretary of State Bowen, California’s chief elections officer. “Regardless of whether you are affiliated with a party or not, I hope that you exercise your right to vote and make your voice heard on Election Day.”

The final report includes data gathered through the May 24 close of voter registration for the primary election. It reflects updates to voter rolls, including the removal of registrants who have passed away, moved out of the state, or have been determined to be ineligible to vote, as well as the addition of new registrants.

The number of registered voters as a percentage of those eligible has increased from 69.5 percent to 72.4 percent since this same period before the last gubernatorial primary election. During the same four years, the percentage of voters affiliated with a political party decreased two percent. Since 2006, the percentage of people registered with the Democratic Party has increased from 42.7 percent to 44.5 percent, while the percentage of people registered with the Republican Party has decreased from 34.4 percent to 30.8 percent.

The complete May 24, 2010, Report of Registration can be found on the Secretary of State’s website at [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ror/ror-pages/15day-prim-10](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ror/ror-pages/15day-prim-10).

California has a “modified closed primary” system that permits each qualified political party to decide whether it will allow DTS voters to participate in their primary election. Two of the six qualified parties will permit DTS voters to request their ballots in the June 8 primary.

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For a certified list of all candidates in legislative, congressional and statewide contests this June, go to [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/2010-elections/june-2010/june-2010-candidates-list-040910.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/2010-elections/june-2010/june-2010-candidates-list-040910.pdf).

By law, voter registration updates must occur 154, 60 and 15 days before each primary election, and 60 and 15 days before each general election. There is one “off-year” update released in February of years with no regularly scheduled statewide election.

The registration totals for the six qualified political parties and voters who have declined to state their political affiliation are:

	<u>May 24, 2010</u>		<u>May 22, 2006</u>	
<u>Political Party</u>	<u># Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u># Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
American Independent	397,136	2.34 %	311,481	1.99 %
Democratic	7,553,109	44.49 %	6,685,288	42.67 %
Green	112,655	0.66 %	143,573	0.92 %
Libertarian	86,675	0.51 %	83,132	0.53 %
Peace and Freedom	56,587	0.33 %	59,545	0.38 %
Republican	5,228,320	30.80 %	5,387,865	34.39 %
Decline to State	3,423,750	20.17 %	2,890,973	18.45 %
Miscellaneous	118,799	0.70 %	106,582	0.68 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,977,031</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>15,668,439</b>	<b>100 %</b>

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. For Secretary Bowen’s list of key election tips for Californians, go to [www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/2010/db10-064.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/2010/db10-064.pdf).

To sign up for regular election updates via email, RSS feed or Twitter, go to [www.sos.ca.gov/multimedia](http://www.sos.ca.gov/multimedia).

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