

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Final Registration Numbers Show Decline-to-State Voters at All-time High

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today released the final Report of Registration for the November 2, 2010, General Election showing a record high 3.5 million voters have declined to state their party preference. The report also shows that nearly 300,000 Californians have registered to vote since September 3, bringing the state's total number of registered voters to nearly 17.3 million, up from 15.8 million at this same time four years ago.

The report reflects updates to voter registration rolls in California's 58 counties, including the removal of registrants who have passed away, moved out of state, or have been determined to be ineligible to vote, as well as the addition of new registrants.

The registration report shows 3,500,696 or 20.3 percent of voters have declined to join a political party. These numbers are greater than the previous record raw-number high of 3,465,345, set in February 2009, and the previous record percentage high of 20.18 percent, set in January 2010. Since the close of registration in the 2006 General Election, the percentage of eligible people registered to vote has increased from 69.9 percent to 73.4 percent.

"I am thrilled to see so many people registered to vote for this important election. Now every person has to take the next, most important step and vote," said Secretary Bowen, California's chief elections officer. "Remember: every single ballot must be turned in by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Postmarks do not count. If you're a vote-by-mail voter who still has not mailed your ballot, you should play it safe and deliver it to any polling place in the county in which you are registered."

The complete October 18, 2010, Report of Registration can be found on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ror/ror-pages/15day-gen-10.

For a certified list of all candidates in legislative, congressional, judicial and statewide contests, go to www.sos.ca.gov/elections/2010-elections/2010-election-information/november-2010/certified-list.pdf.

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By law, statewide voter registration updates must occur 60 and 15 days before each general election, and 154, 60 and 15 days before each primary 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 follow.

	<u>October 18, 2010</u>		<u>October 23, 2006</u>	
<u>Political Party</u>	<u># Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u># Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
American Independent	413,032	2.39 %	315,151	1.99 %
Democratic	7,620,240	44.08 %	6,727,908	42.48 %
Green	113,835	0.66 %	141,451	0.89 %
Libertarian	91,111	0.53 %	84,093	0.53 %
Peace and Freedom	57,776	0.33 %	59,139	0.37 %
Republican	5,361,875	31.02 %	5,436,314	34.33 %
Decline to State	3,500,696	20.25 %	2,968,489	18.74 %
Miscellaneous	127,318	0.74 %	104,563	0.67 %
TOTAL	17,285,883	100 %	15,837,108	100 %

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. For more information visit www.sos.ca.gov/elections.

To sign up for election news and trivia via Twitter, go to <http://twitter.com/CASOSvote>.

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