



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Shannan Velayas  
(916) 653-6575

### By the Numbers: California's June 2012 Primary

- 17,153,699** Californians registered to vote in the June 5, 2012, Presidential Primary Election
- 21,993** Precincts throughout the state's 58 counties
- 154** Legislative and congressional seats up for election (20 State Senate, 80 State Assembly, 1 U.S. Senate, 53 U.S. House of Representatives)
- 604** Certified federal and state candidates on the ballot
- 7.7 million** Vote-by-mail ballots issued (as reported by county elections officials)
- 62.2%** Highest percentage of ballots that were cast by mail in a statewide election (in 2009)
- 7** Qualified political parties in California
- 3,654,608** Voters registered with no political party preference (21.3% of registered voters)
- 7,442,921** Voters whose political party preference is the Democratic Party (43.4% of registered voters)
- 5,186,492** Voters whose political party preference is the Republican Party (30.2% of registered voters)
- 116** Statewide *initiatives* approved by voters in the 100 years since direct democracy was established in California (Note: initiatives are one type of ballot measure [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_j.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_j.htm))
- 72.6%** Highest turnout percentage of registered voters in a presidential primary (in 1976)
- 41.9%** Lowest turnout percentage of registered voters in a presidential primary (in 1996). The presidential and statewide direct primaries were split in 2008; turnout in the 2008 direct primary was the lowest for any state primary in California: 28.2%.
- 28** Days county elections officials have to complete vote-tallying and auditing

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