

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Secretary of State Debra Bowen Reports Voter Registration Continues to Increase

SACRAMENTO – The number of registered voters in California has increased by nearly 100,000 since this time before the last statewide primary election held during a presidential election year, according to the Secretary of State's latest Report of Registration released today.

The report, with data gathered 154 days before the statewide primary election, reflects updates to voter registration rolls, 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.

“Californians will select the party nominees for Congress and the state Legislature in June, as well as vote on two statewide ballot initiatives,” said Secretary of State Debra Bowen, the state's chief elections officer. “This year, Californians have three elections, and I'm pleased to see voter registration continue to rise as we head toward the June 3 primary.”

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

	<u>Jan. 1, 2008</u>		<u>Sept. 30, 2003</u>	
<u>Political Party</u>	<u># Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u># Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
American Independent	323,876	2.08 %	298,963	1.94 %
Democratic	6,636,067	42.71 %	6,735,349	43.63 %
Green	131,185	0.84 %	166,740	1.08 %
Libertarian	81,548	0.52 %	89,760	0.58 %
Peace and Freedom	57,199	0.37 %	77,734	0.50 %
Republican	5,197,897	33.45 %	5,448,469	35.29 %
Decline to State	3,011,371	19.38 %	2,484,275	16.09 %
Miscellaneous	97,903	0.63 %	136,080	0.88 %
TOTAL	15,537,046	100 %	15,437,370	100 %

By law, voter registration updates must occur 154, 60, and 15 days before each primary election, and 60 days and 15 days before each general election. There is one off-year update released in February of non-election years.

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The complete January 1, 2008, Report of Registration is on the Secretary of State's website at http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_u.htm. Hard copies are available to the media upon request through the Secretary of State's Communications Office at (916) 653-6575.

The last day to register to vote in the June 3, 2008, Statewide Direct Primary Election is May 19. The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot is May 27.

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