



DEBRA BOWEN

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Secretary of State Debra Bowen Reports 33% Voter Turnout in June 8 Statewide Primary

SACRAMENTO – California Secretary of State Debra Bowen today certified the results of the June 8 Statewide Direct Primary Election, showing 5,654,813 total voters participated throughout the state.

“The low voter turnout was somewhat surprising given some of the high-profile primary and initiative contests on the ballot,” said Secretary Bowen, the state’s chief elections officer. “I expect many more voters will go to the polls in the November General Election.”

The 33.3% turnout on June 8 was higher than the last statewide direct primary in 2008, when 28.2% of registered voters cast ballots, an all-time low for a statewide primary in California. In 2006, 33.6% of registered voters participated in the statewide primary, and in the March 2004 statewide primary turnout was 44.3%.

For this June 8 election, counties with the highest voter turnout as a percentage of registered voters were Sierra (73.3 %), Modoc (64.2%) and Alpine (63.9%). Countywide turnout was the lowest in Los Angeles (23.5%), San Bernardino (27.2%) and Merced (27.5%).

Ballots cast by mail comprised 57.9% of the total votes cast in the June 8 primary. More than 58% of voters cast their ballots by mail in the June 2008 Statewide Direct Primary Election and 46.9% in the June 2006 primary. The highest percentage of vote-by-mail ballots ever cast in a statewide election was 62% in the May 19, 2009, Statewide Special Election.

The certified election results, including county-by-county numbers and historical statistics on voter eligibility, registration and turnout, are available on the Secretary of State’s website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/sov/2010-primary/>.

The Secretary of State’s office will release a Supplement to the Statement of Vote by November 13. It will include more details on how votes were cast by each Senate, Assembly, Board of Equalization and county supervisorial district, as well as by city.

The deadline to register to vote in the November 2 General Election is October 18, 2010. More information about state elections is available at www.sos.ca.gov/elections.

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