

Media Kit 2012

Presidential Primary Election

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Los Angeles County
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

www.lavote.net



Message from the Registrar of Voters	5
Introduction	6
Media and Communications Services	7
Rules for Media Observers	8
Statistical Overview	9
Election Statistics	14
What It Takes to Win	15
Measures Appearing on the Ballot	16
Ballot Information	18
Ballot Processing Trends.....	20
Election Costs	22
Voting Options	23
Election Day / Night	24
Finalizing the Official Vote Tally (Canvass)	25
Election Canvass Schedule	27
Requesting a Recount.....	28





May 21, 2012

Dear Voter,

The electorate in Los Angeles County accounts for more than one out of every four registered voters in California. On Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the nearly 4.5 million registered voters in Los Angeles County will have an opportunity to help strengthen our democracy by voting in the Statewide Presidential Primary. This Media Kit provides a detailed overview of the upcoming election in Los Angeles County. The goal of the kit is to provide important statistics on the size and complexity of the county's electorate, the election and the ballot.

As the largest and most diverse county election jurisdiction in the nation, staging an election across 4,000 square miles and assisting nearly half a million voters in twelve different languages requires a high level of coordination. The staff of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is fully committed to providing voters with fair, accessible, and transparent election services.

We look forward to continuing our commitment and working with you to ensure that every eligible voter has an opportunity to exercise his or her fundamental right to an independent and secure voting experience.

For more information regarding Los Angeles County elections please consult our website at www.lavote.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dean C. Logan".

Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk



About the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

The mission of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is serving Los Angeles County by providing essential records management and election services in a fair, accessible and transparent manner.

The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk is responsible for registration of voters; maintenance of registration files; conducting federal, state, local and special district elections; checking initiatives, referenda and recall petitions, filing campaign reports; recording real estate documents and other records; maintaining birth, death and marriage records; issuing marriage licenses; and filing business documents.

About Los Angeles County

The mission of Los Angeles County is to enrich lives through effective and caring service.

Los Angeles County has a population of roughly 10 million residents, which accounts for approximately 30 percent of the total population of the state of California. It has more residents than any other county in the nation. With more than 500 political districts and nearly 4.5 million registered voters, Los Angeles County is the largest and most complex election jurisdiction in the United States.

Connect With Us

www.lavote.net



lavote.net/facebook.html



lavote.net/rss.html



lavote.net/youtube.html



[@lacountyrrcc](https://twitter.com/lacountyrrcc)



About RR/CC Media and Communications Services

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) Media and Communications Services unit is committed to providing members of the public and news media with timely and clear information regarding the RR/CC and its services.

Obtaining Media Information

For members of the media requiring additional information please contact the Media and Communications Services at (562) 462-2726 or (562) 462-2648.

Interview and Filming Requests

Please contact Media and Communications Services to make interview and filming arrangements. This must be done prior to arriving at our office locations to coordinate any interviews or filming.

For requests and additional information, please call: (562) 462-2726 or (562) 462-2648.

Election Night Results and Information

Election Night results are available via our website www.lavote.net. Members of the media with questions should call Media and Communications Services. The first press bulletin with initial Vote by Mail ballot results will be issued after 8 p.m. As precinct ballots arrive during the evening, updated cumulative results will be available and posted on the RR/CC's website www.lavote.net.

Election Night Results are Always Unofficial:

California State Law allows 28 days for the conduct of the official canvass of final election results. All ballots cannot be counted on Election Night.

Semi-Official Election Results:

Initial Vote by Mail tally results will be available after 8 p.m. As the initial precinct bulletin is posted and as ballots are processed, semi-official results will be available approximately every 20 minutes until all precincts have reported.

Online Updates:

Election results will be updated and available in real time at www.lavote.net as the ballots arrive and are tallied.

Twitter Updates:

Some abbreviated result updates will also be available via Twitter at <http://twitter.com/lacountyrrcc>.

Live Streaming:

Live Streaming footage of Election Night activities at RR/CC headquarters in Norwalk will be available at www.lavote.net.



Media Procedures on Election Day

Inside the Polling Place

Media may take pictures or run a television camera inside the polling place providing they respect the voters' privacy and do not interfere with voting. Media may not speak to any voters, election clerks, poll watchers or any other individuals while inside the polling place.

Outside the Polling Place

Clearly identified members of the news media may be within 25 feet of a polling place. Media may only speak with individuals at the prescribed distance of 25 feet from the entrance of the polling place. However, voters may not be photographed, videotaped or filmed entering or exiting a polling place, and may not be filmed inside the polling place without the voter's permission (EC 18541).

Media must follow general observer guidelines provided at each election polling place:

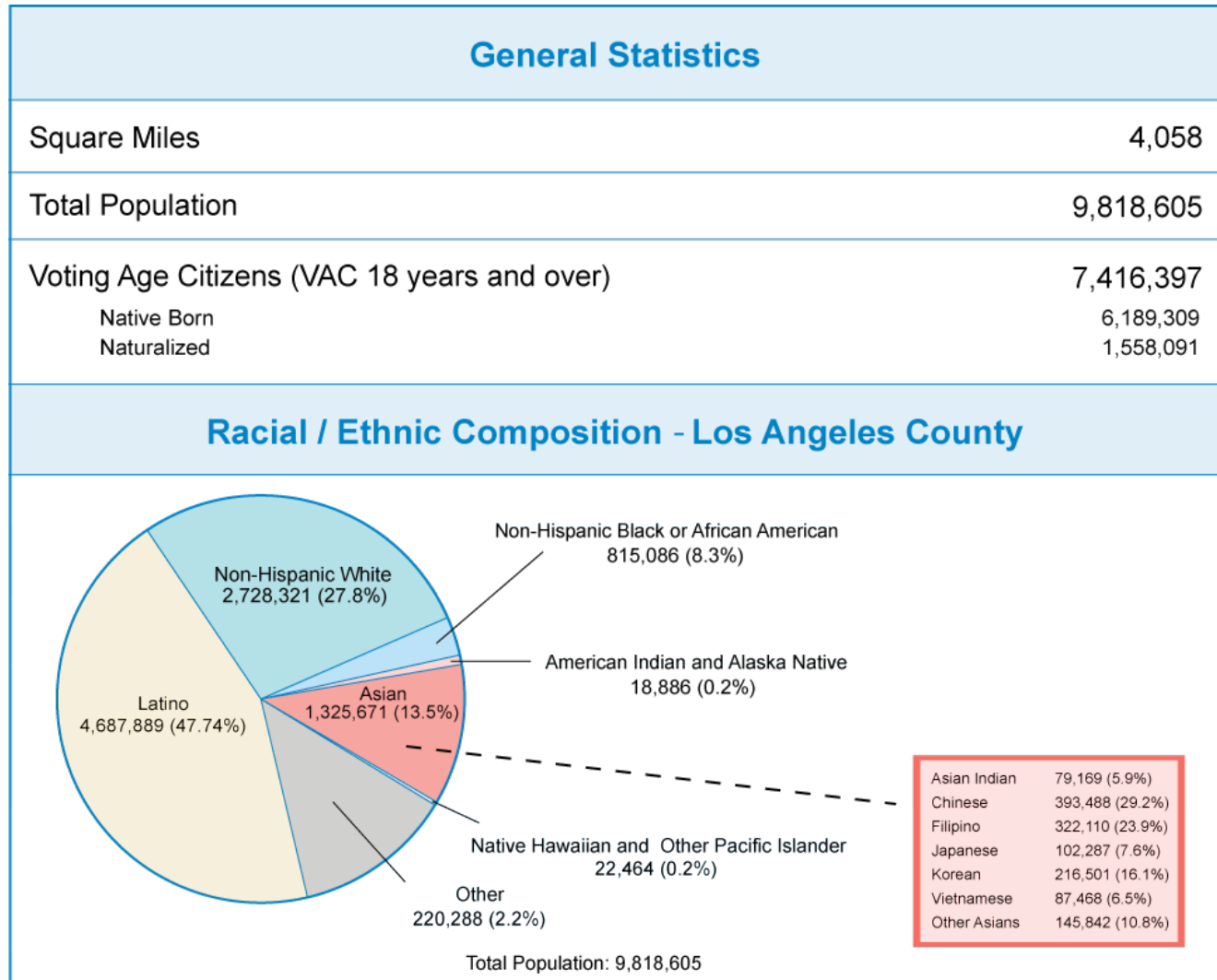
The polling place inspector is responsible for the decorum of the polling place and for ensuring that the polling process is carried out as efficiently and smoothly as possible. News media wishing to observe the polling process should first check in with the polling place inspector. News media should arrange with the polling place inspector as to the location for observing the process without causing any disruption. This includes setups for cameras. Inspectors are not authorized spokespersons for the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

Polling places are not available to the media before the polls open at 7 a.m. to ensure pollworkers have adequate time to properly set up the polling place and prepare for voters.

The hours between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. are when the polls may be busiest and the uncoordinated presence of observers can be most disruptive. Therefore, coordination with the inspector during this time period is essential. If news media wish to observe during this period, they should be respectful of pollworkers' priorities and check in with the inspector first. Cooperation between media and the polling place officials is necessary so that the objectives of public observation, voter convenience and privacy can be achieved.



Los Angeles County Profile



2010 Census U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder <http://www.census.gov>

2006 - 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates <http://www.census.gov>



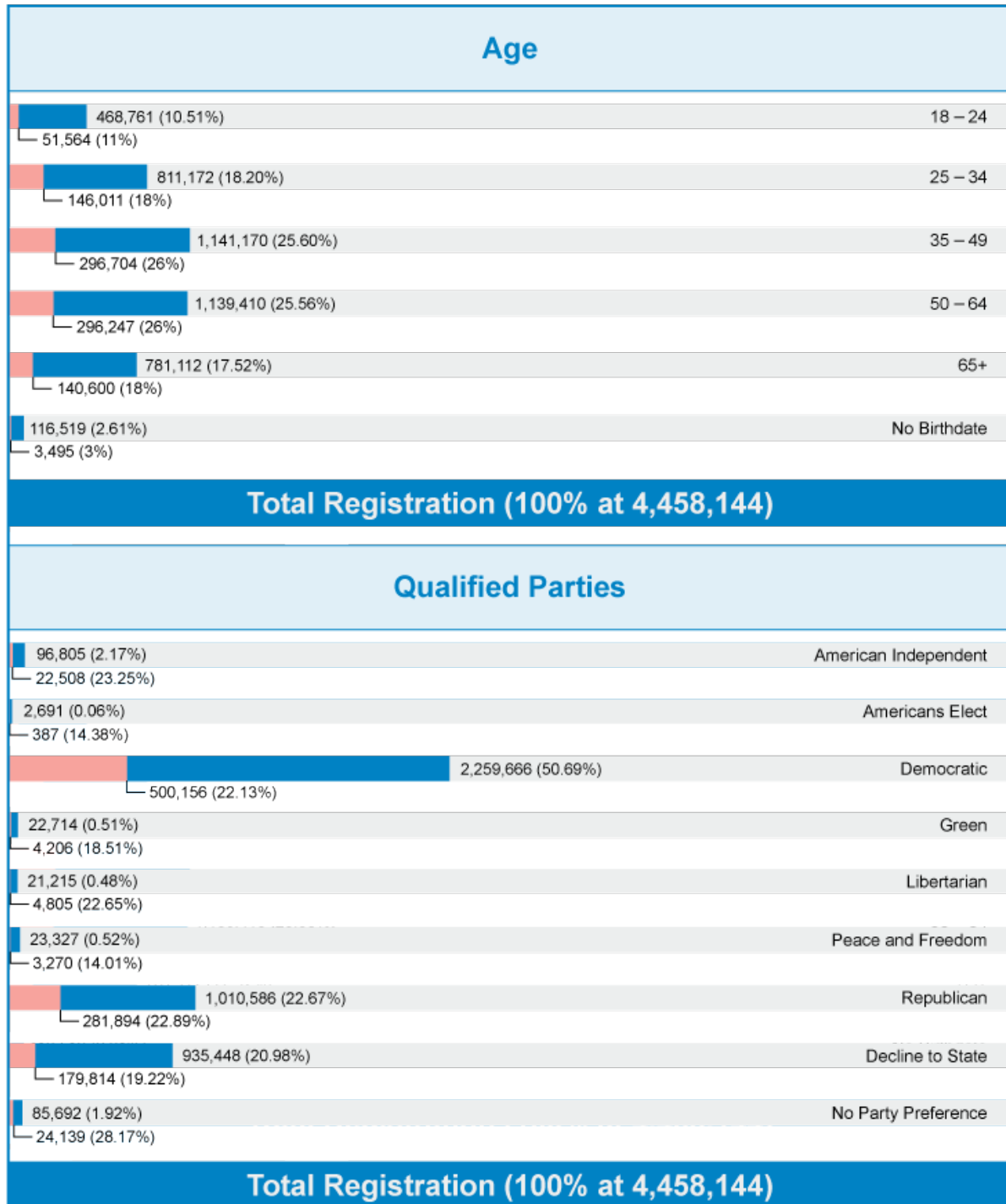
Election Profile

June 5, 2012 Election	
Registered Voters	4,458,144
Permanent Vote by Mail Voters	1,021,179
Languages Supported	12
English Chinese Hindi (Gujarati, Bengali)* Japanese Khmer Korean Spanish Tagalog/Filipino Thai Vietnamese	
<i>*Spoken language assistance provided at Polling Locations in these Asian Indian languages.</i>	
Offices on the Ballot	68
Statewide Measures	2
Local Ballot Measures	6
Election Precincts	4,786
Pollworkers	21,279
Number of Ballot Groups	230

*Figures as of May 18, 2012



Voter Registration Statistics

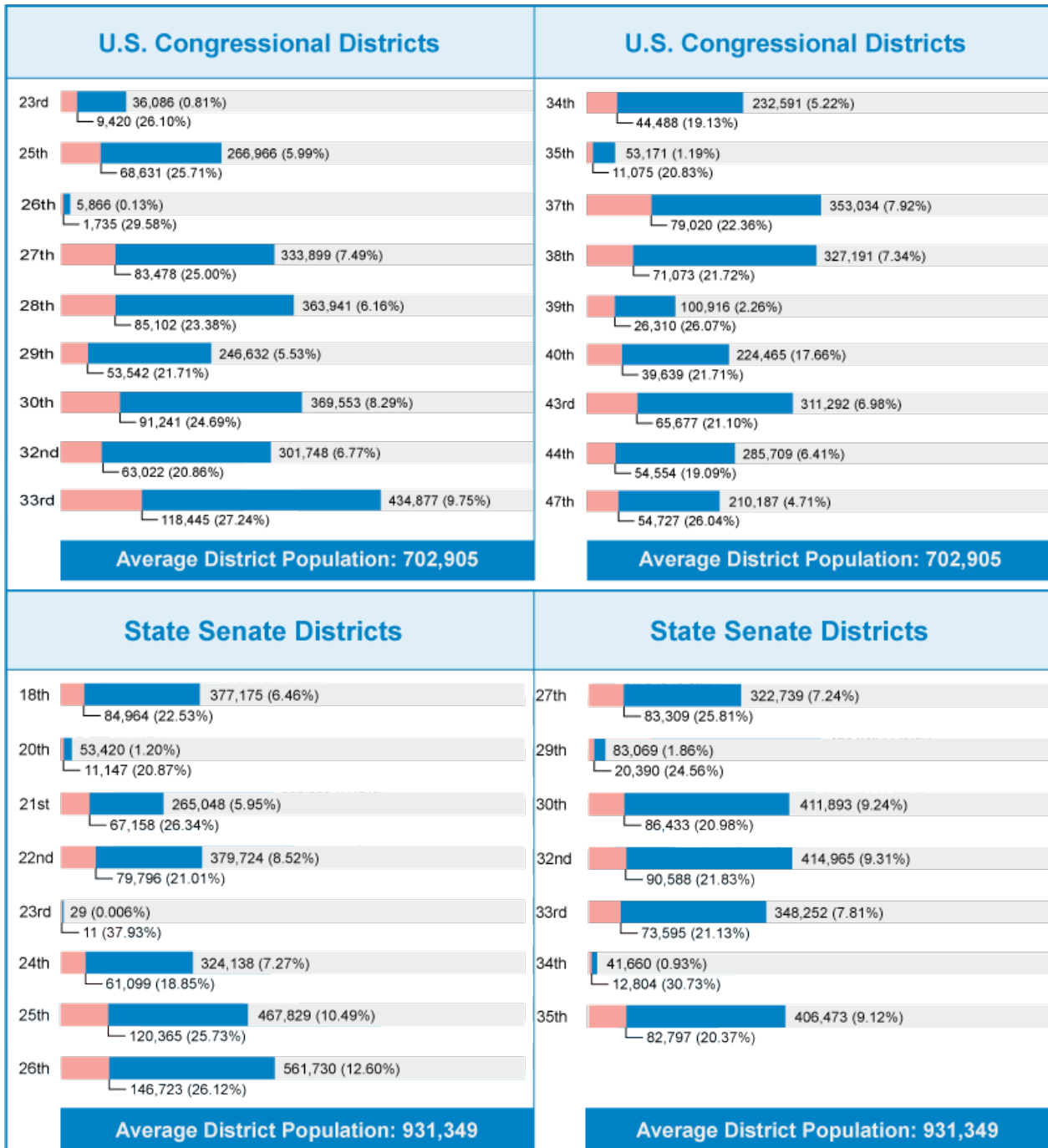


*Figures as of May 18, 2012



Voter Registration Statistics (Continued)

Current voter registration in Los Angeles County is **4,458,144**.

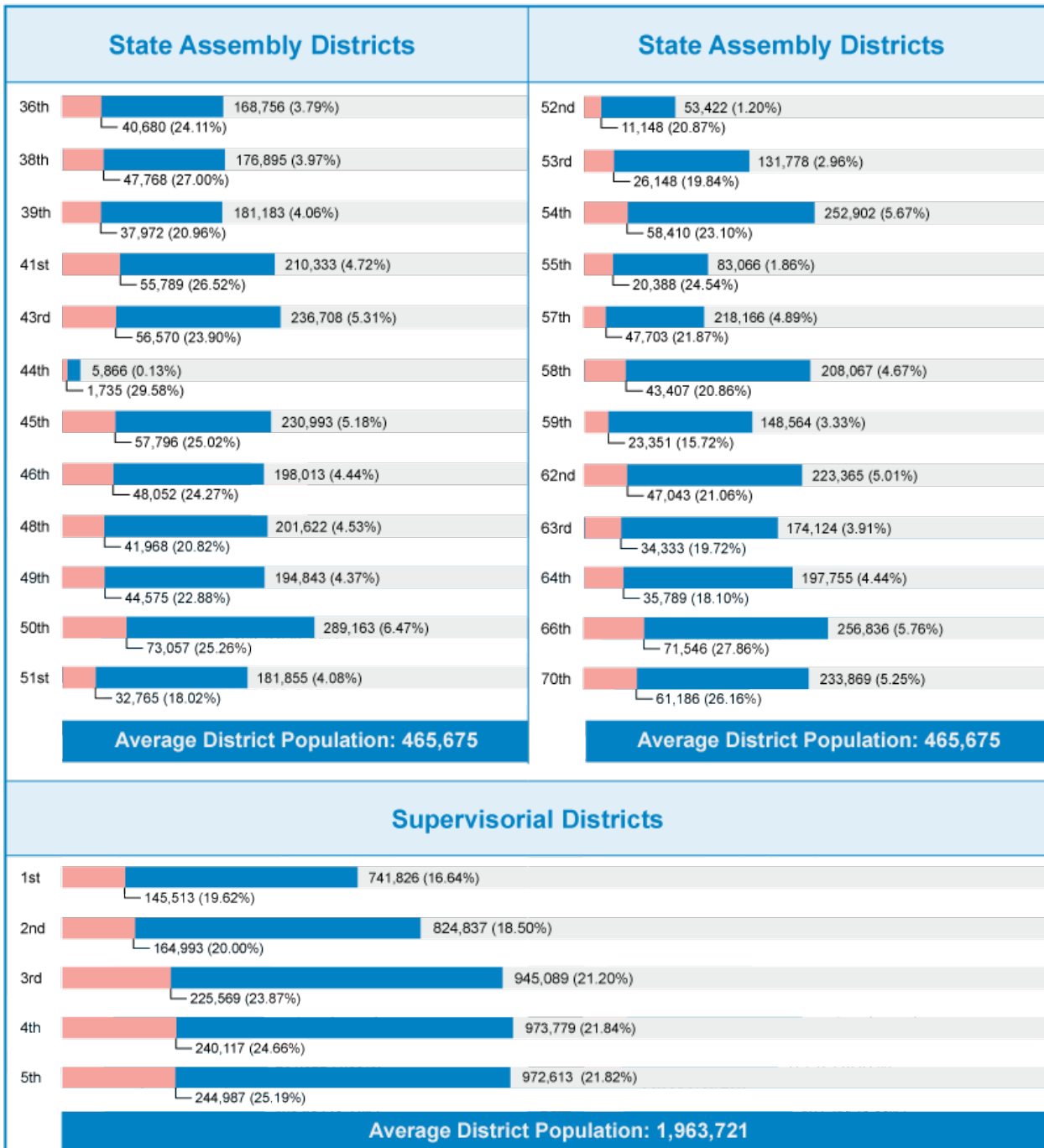


*Figures as of May 18, 2012



Voter Registration Statistics (Continued)

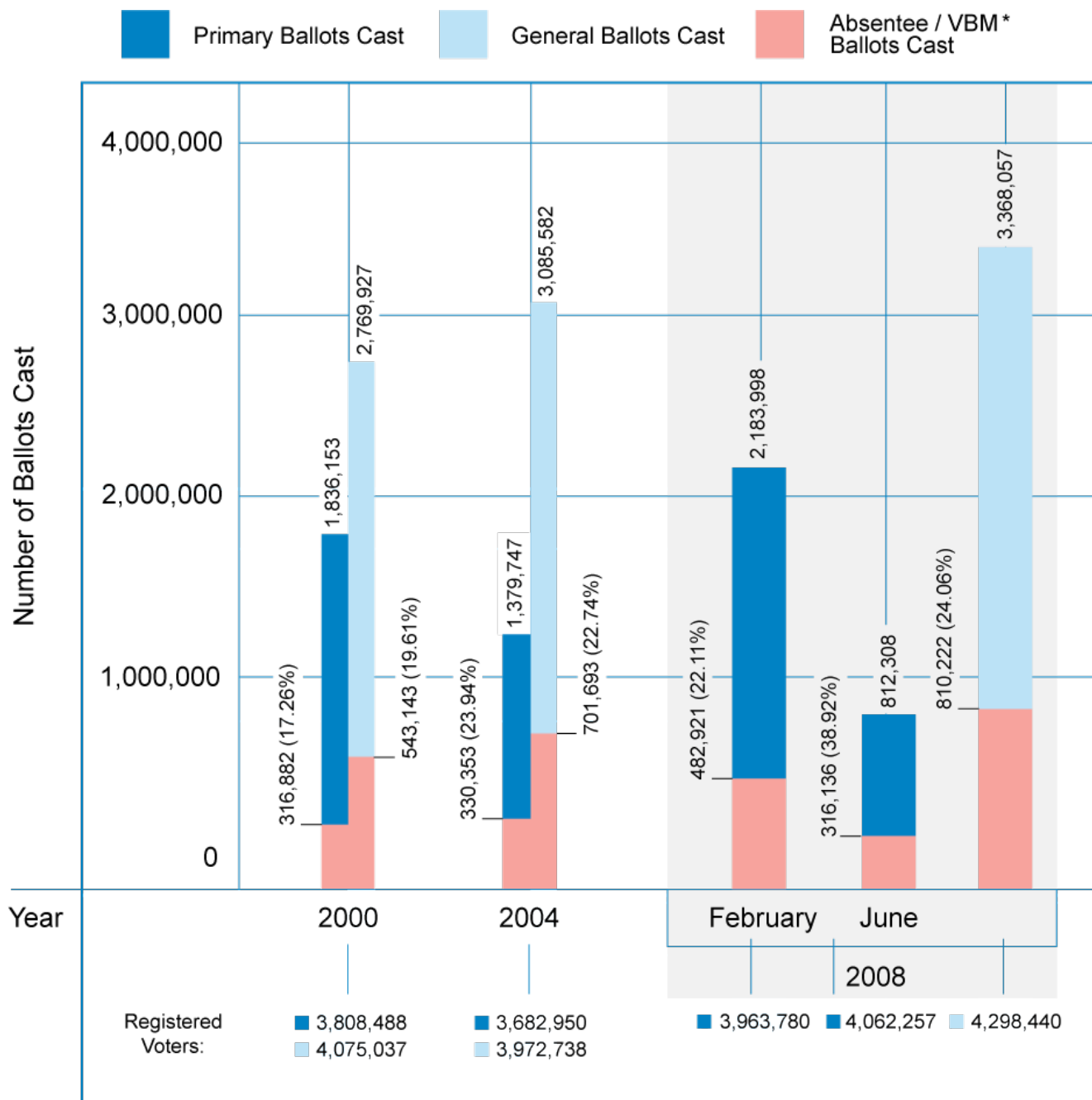
Current voter registration in Los Angeles County is **4,458,144**.



*Figures as of May 18, 2012



Votes Cast in Presidential Elections (2000 - 2008)



*As of 1978, any registered voter can vote by mail in any election. Before 1978, only voters with certified medical reasons or voters who were out of town could vote by mail.



Partisan Office

President of the United States

The United States president is nominated by members of his or her political party through Presidential Primary Elections.

Party Membership (Non-public Officials)

Those candidates equal in number to be elected, receiving the highest number of votes are elected to the membership office.

County Central Committee
Central Committee
County Council

“Top Two” Primary System

The top two vote-getters of the Primary Election advance to the General Election for the voter-nominated office. Both candidates may be of the same party preference. A write-in candidate will only move on to the General Election if the candidate is one of the top two vote-getters in the Primary Election. (California Elections Code section 8121(b)(3))

The following are voter-nominated offices for this election:

United States Senator
United States Representative in Congress
State Senator
Member of the State Assembly

Non-Partisan Offices

A majority of votes cast (50 percent plus one vote) is required to elect a candidate in a primary election for the following offices (if no candidate receives 50% + 1 = run-off):

Judge of the Superior Court
District Attorney
Board of Supervisor
Mayor
City Council
Other Offices



Local Jurisdiction Measures – (6)

CO Charter Oak Unified School District (Registration: 19,843*)

To protect quality local schools with funding Sacramento cannot take away, upgrade classrooms/libraries/science labs/computers/technology, improve energy efficiency to save money to retain qualified teachers and protect core academic instruction, improve access for students with disabilities, improve fire/security systems for student safety, and upgrade/construct/acquire school facilities/sites/classrooms/equipment, shall Charter Oak Unified School District issue \$47,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, with independent oversight/audits and without increasing current tax rate limits?

55% of
Votes Cast

B Compton City (Registration: 41,658*)

Shall the City Charter be amended to provide that each member of the City Council (except for the Mayor) be elected by his or her home district and only by the registered voters of that district?

Majority

H Los Angeles County Hotel Occupancy Tax Continuation Measure (Registration: 4,441,866*)

Shall the existing unincorporated county hotel room tax be readopted to ratify, continue, and update the existing ordinance at the current rate of 12 percent to fund essential County general fund services, such as parks, libraries, senior services, and law enforcement; to continue exempting hotel stays longer than 30 days, to add exemptions for emergency shelter referrals, and for individuals on official government business pursuant to federal law?

Majority

L Los Angeles County Landfill Tax Continuation Measure (Registration: 4,441,866*)

Shall Los Angeles County's existing tax on landfills be readopted to ratify and continue the existing 10 percent tax on landfill operators' gross receipts from waste disposal in landfills in the unincorporated county, to fund essential general fund services, such as parks, libraries, senior services, and law enforcement; and to update the administrative appeal process, and clarify definitions to ensure the tax is properly calculated?

Majority

A Pasadena Unified School District (Registration: 113,133*)

Shall the Charter of the City of Pasadena be amended to provide for the nomination and election of members of the Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education by geographic sub-districts, with geographic sub-districts adopted by the School Board and redrawn after each federal census based upon a citizen Redistricting Commission recommendation?

Majority

CK Sulphur Springs Union School District (Registration: 27,987*)

Without increasing current tax rates to provide quality education in Canyon Country elementary schools, safe, modern classrooms for students, including medically-fragile, disabled students, shall Sulphur Springs Union School District upgrade classrooms, libraries, science labs, old roofs, support classroom instruction in core subjects (reading, writing, math, science) by reducing debt, update technology for 21st century skills, upgrade, acquire, construct classrooms, sites, facilities/equipment by issuing \$72,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, with independent oversight and all funds used locally?

2/3 of
Votes Cast



State Measures – (2)

28 Limits on Legislators' Terms in Office. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

Reduces total amount of time a person may serve in the state legislature from 14 years to 12 years. Allows 12 years service in one house. Applies only to legislators first elected after measure is passed. Fiscal Impact: No direct fiscal effect on state or local governments.

29 Imposes Additional Tax on Cigarettes for Cancer Research. Initiative Statute.

Imposes additional \$1.00 per pack tax on cigarettes and an equivalent tax increase on other tobacco products. Revenues fund research for cancer and tobacco-related diseases. Fiscal Impact: Net increase in cigarette excise tax revenues of about \$735 million annually by 2013-14 for certain research and tobacco prevention and cessation programs. Other state and local revenue increases amounting to tens of millions of dollars annually.



Rotation of Candidate Names on the Ballot

Office	Rotation
Statewide Offices	Candidates' names are arranged in accordance with the random alphabetical drawing beginning with the first Assembly District in the state. The order of candidate names is rotated by Assembly District. Candidates are rotated by moving the candidate's name appearing first on the ballot to the last position
United States Representative	Candidates' names are arranged in accordance with the random alphabetical drawing beginning with the first Assembly District in the state. The order of candidate names is rotated by Assembly District. Candidates are rotated by moving the candidate's name appearing first on the ballot to the last position.
Superior Court Judge	Candidates' names are arranged in accordance with the random alphabetical drawing beginning with the first Assembly District in the state. The order of candidate names is rotated by Assembly District. Candidates are rotated by moving the candidate's name appearing first on the ballot to the last position.



What's on the Ballot

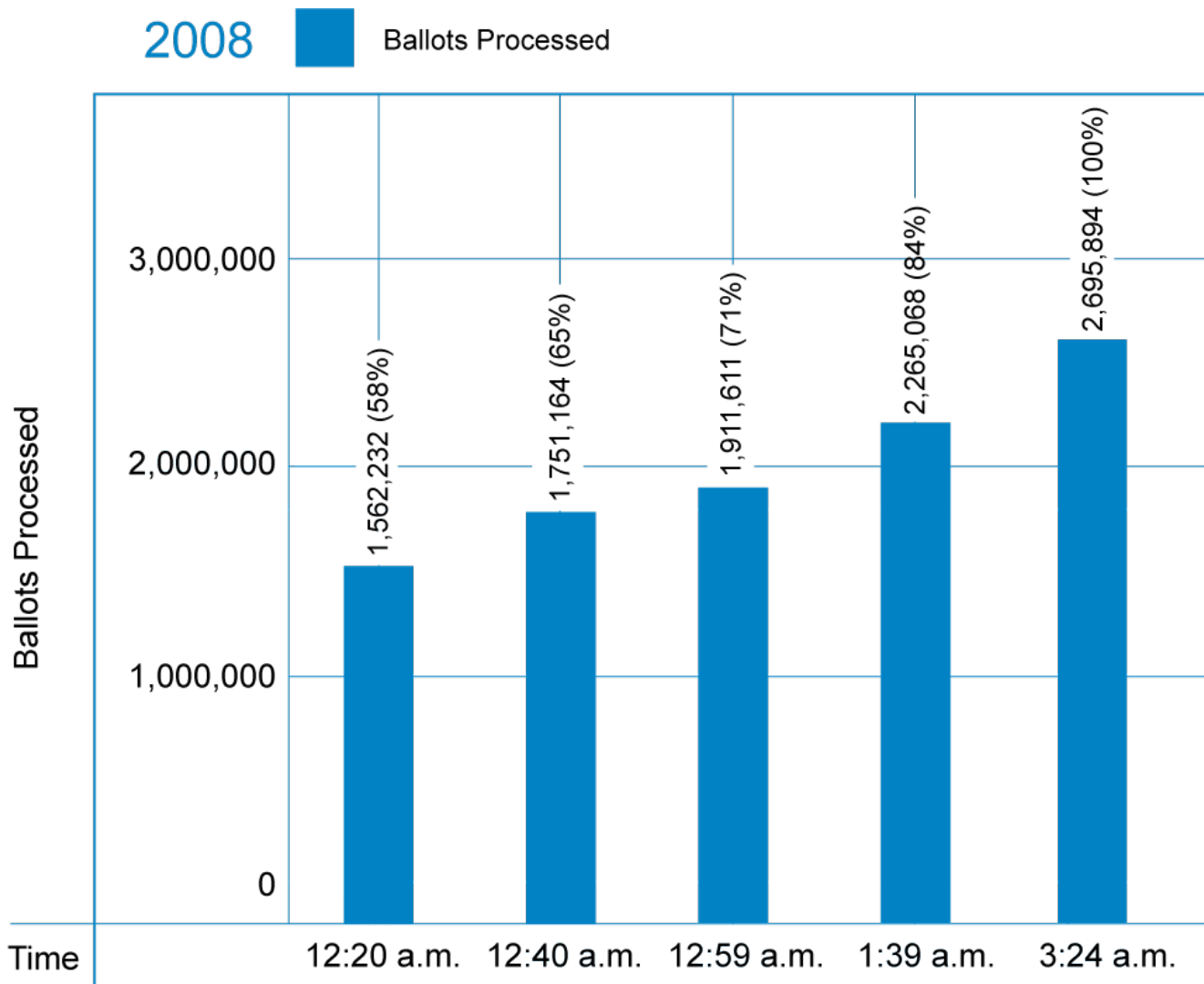
The following chart lists the number of offices involved in this election by jurisdiction.

Office	Number of Offices
U.S. Senator	1
U.S. Representative	18
State Senate	7
State Assembly	24
Judicial Districts	6
Board of Supervisors	3
District Attorney	1
Cities	2
School Districts	3
Special Districts	3
Total	68



Election Night Ballot Process

The following chart provides statistical information on the rate of ballot tabulation from midnight onward.

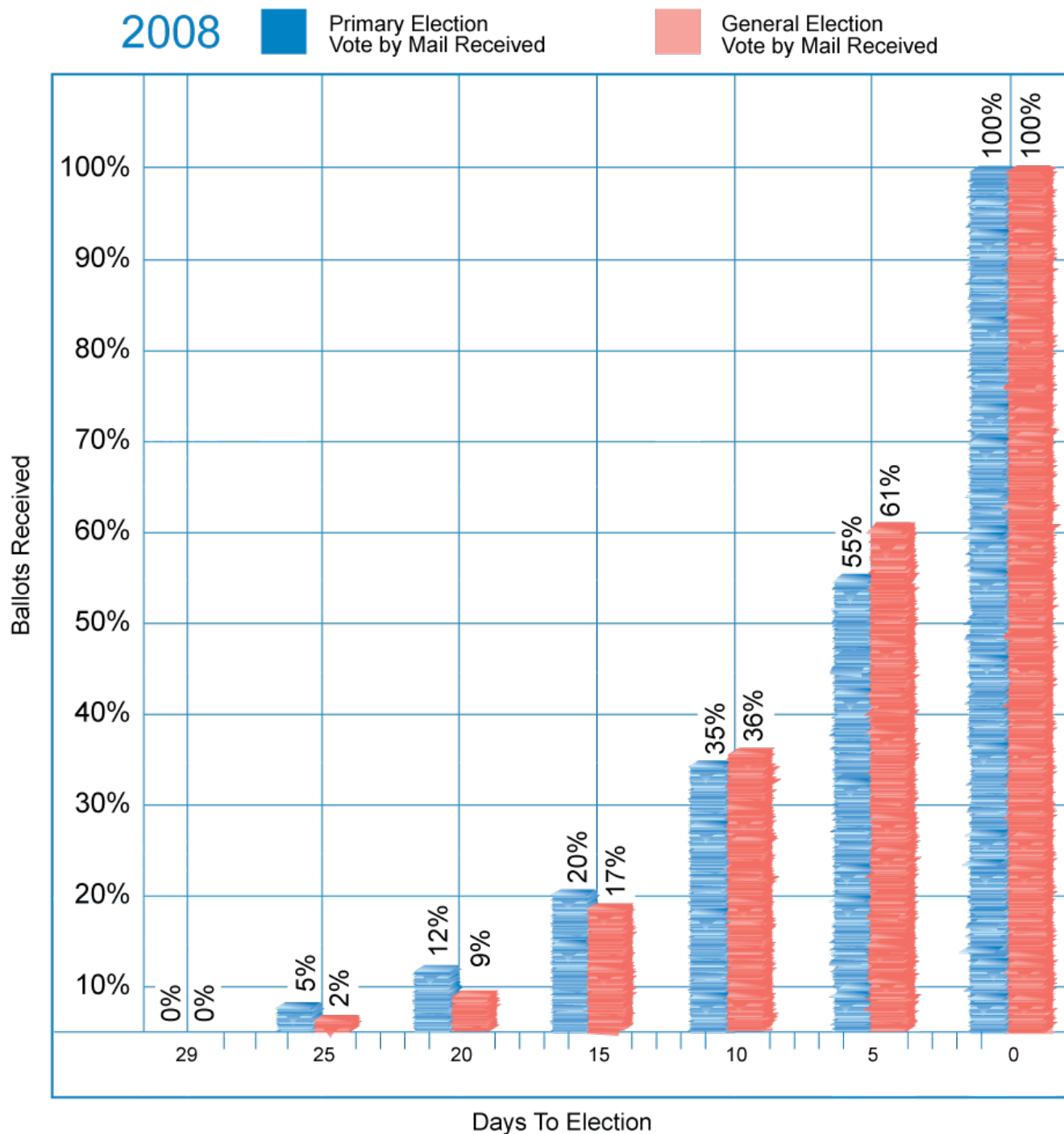


Total Ballots Cast: 3,368,057



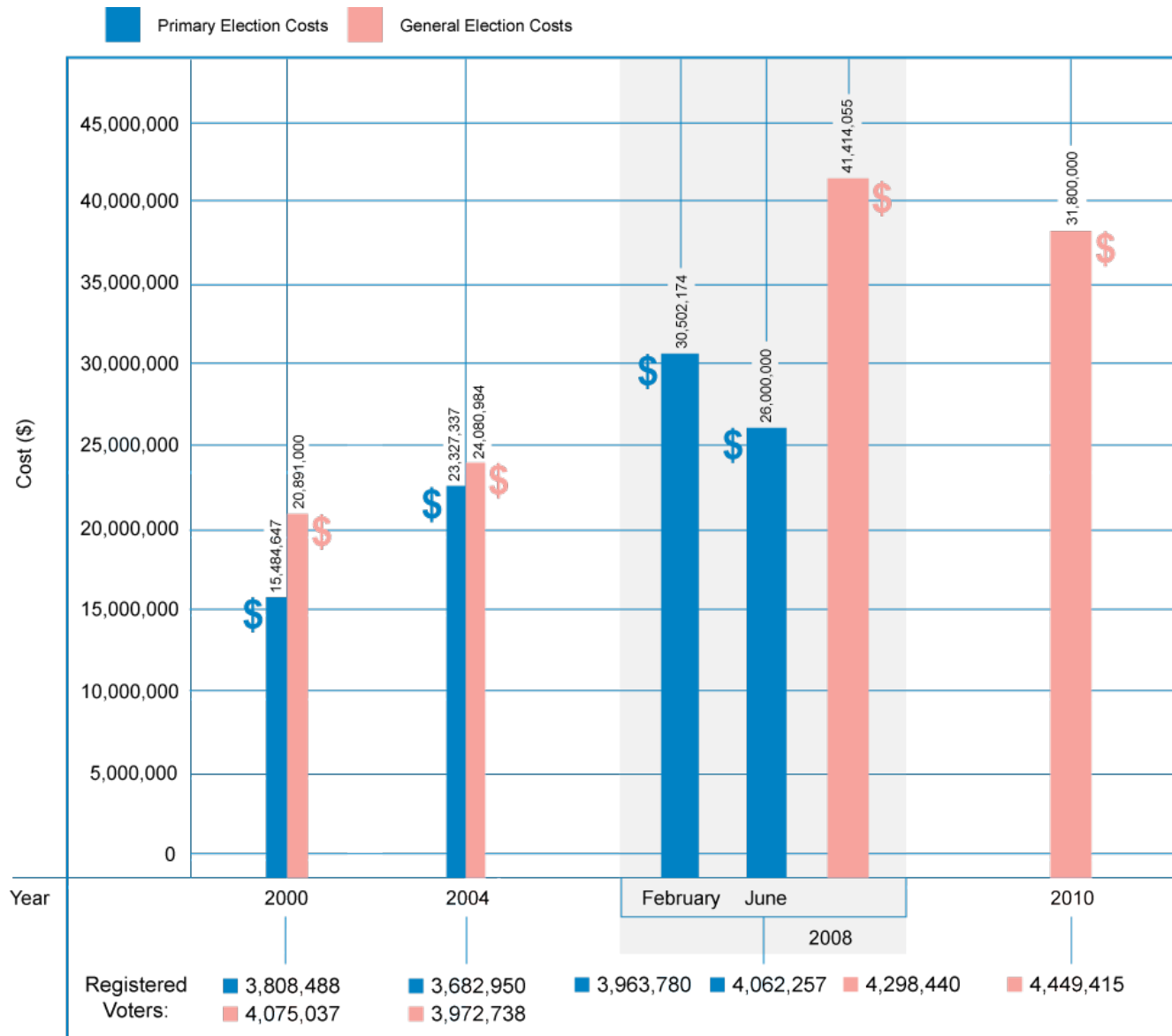
Flow of Vote by Mail Ballots Received

The following chart provides a statistical summary of the Vote by Mail ballots received by Election Day.



Historical Election Costs

Below are the total costs of conducting major elections in Los Angeles County.



Are You Ready to Vote?

Make sure you are registered to vote. Verify your registration status or download a Voter Registration Form at www.lavote.net or call (800) 201-8999.

Review your sample ballot. Every registered voter receives an Official Sample Ballot booklet at least 15 days before every election.

Choose a Voting Option:



Vote by Mail (VBM)

Apply for a VBM ballot using the application printed on your sample ballot or online at www.lavote.net.

Vote your VBM ballot, and insert it into the envelope provided. Make sure you complete all required information.

Return your VBM ballot by mail before Election Day, or drop it off at any polling location on Election Day.



Vote Early

Registered voters can vote up to 29 days before Election Day.

Early voting takes place at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk office located at **12400 Imperial Hwy., Norwalk CA 90650, Room 3002.**

The Registrar's office is open on weekends for early voting beginning 14 days before Election Day.



Vote at a Polling Place

Check in and sign the Roster of Voters.

If needed, the pollworker can show you how to use the voting equipment to cast your vote.

The pollworker will give you an official ballot and direct you to a voting booth.

Step into the booth and cast your vote.

When you finish voting, insert your ballot into the Precinct Ballot Reader (PBR). The PBR checks your ballot for errors.

Voters can subscribe to the new **E-Sample Ballot** program online and receive their Official Sample Ballot electronically!

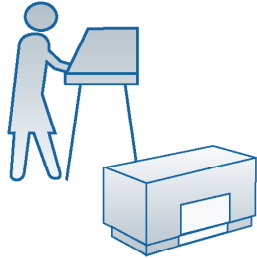
We provide numerous election services for voters with **specific needs**.

Military or overseas voters with questions about elections should visit us online to learn about voting options.

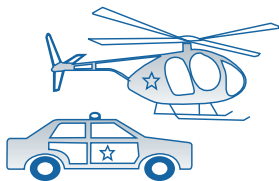


Transporting Ballots for Tabulation

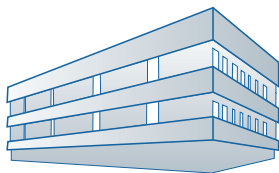
On Election Night, ballots from all 4,786 voting precincts are brought to the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's (RR/CC) headquarters in Norwalk for tabulation.



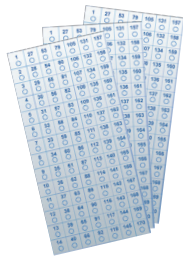
After the polls close at 8 p.m., pollworkers will secure the voted ballots in sealed ballot boxes and account for unused ballots. Pollworkers will also separately package Vote by Mail ballots that were dropped off at the polls and Provisional ballots. All materials and quantities are accounted for in the Official Ballot Statement. Then pollworkers from the 4,786 election precincts bring ballots and supplies to one of 33 designated check-in centers located throughout the County.



Sheriff Deputies transport the voted ballots from the check-in centers by car or helicopter to Norwalk. Ballots come in from as far away as Lancaster, Palmdale and Catalina Island.



Between 10:30 – 11:30 p.m. a large number of ballots begin to arrive at RR/CC headquarters.



Prior to tabulation, all ballots must be checked in, removed from boxes, inspected and prepared for counting.

Ballots are moved to the tabulation center in a continuous flow. There, operators load the ballot cards onto card readers.

There are eight counting stations, each with two card readers, for a total of 16 card readers.

Because there is no specific order of processing/counting, ballots from locations closer to Norwalk are combined with ballots from more distant destinations. Therefore, ballots from locations close to Norwalk are not necessarily counted first.

Thousands of dedicated individuals are involved in ballot transportation, preparation and tabulation. Los Angeles County is the largest county electoral jurisdiction in the U.S.



There are three categories of ballots that cannot be process on Election Night:

1. Vote by Mail ballots (those turned in at voting locations and those received by mail just before or on Election Day).
2. Provisional ballots voted at the polls.
3. Write-in ballots.

Vote by Mail Ballots Turned in at Polling Locations

Many Vote by Mail voters drop off their ballots at a polling place or at RR/CC headquarters on Election Day. The RR/CC receive these ballots very late on Election Night. All Vote by Mail ballots must be pre-processed before they are counted. The RR/CC must verify every Vote by Mail voter's signature prior to opening the Vote by Mail ballot envelopes to remove the ballots in preparation for counting.

Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots are issued at the polls when a voter's name is not listed on the poll roster, uncertainty about party affiliation or when our records indicate the voter was already sent a Vote by Mail ballot. Provisional ballots are sealed in special envelopes at the polls and must be individually researched and verified at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office before ballots are counted or rejected in accordance with election laws. Once a Provisional voter's eligibility to vote is verified, the ballot is counted.

Ballots with Write-in Votes

When a voter chooses to vote for a write-in candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, that ballot cannot be counted on Election Night. Each ballot containing a write-in vote must be individually reviewed to determine whether the write-in vote is for a qualified write-in candidate and whether the voter over-voted (example: voted for a candidate on the ballot and also voted for a write-in candidate for the same office). When an over-vote occurs, neither vote can be counted, the rest of the ballot selections will be counted. Due to the individual scrutiny involved, no portion of any ballot containing a write-in vote is counted on Election Night. **(Vote tallies for write-in candidates are not available until the conclusion of the official canvass because each ballot containing a write-in vote is processed and tallied manually.)**



1% Manual Tally Audit

By law, a random sample of ballots from every election must be manually tallied to verify election night machine counts. A minimum of all votes cast in one percent (1%) of the precincts is included in this process. The Vote at Polls and Vote by Mail ballots must include all contests and measures on the ballot. The Automatic Manual Tally is open to the public. (E.C. 15360)

Summary

Ballot counting after Election Night includes Vote by Mail, Provisional, Write-In, and damaged ballots. These ballots are processed and counted during the Official Election Canvass period. Ballot counting of Vote by Mail, provisional and ballots with write-in votes occurs in sequential order after the election, but before certification of official results (For example, all Vote by Mail ballots must be verified and cleared prior to verifying provisional ballots in order to ensure there are no duplicates among these categories). These ballots are not segregated by district prior to counting. Therefore, the number of outstanding ballots for any specific electoral district is unknown until after these ballots are tabulated.

California State Law requires election authorities to complete and certify results within 28 days. This provision of the law recognizes the complexity of completing the ballot count and conducting a thorough audit of the election results to ensure accuracy.

Outstanding ballot counting is every Friday and Tuesday throughout the canvass period. The first update of the count will begin on Friday, June 8 at 1 p.m. We anticipate the majority of the outstanding Vote by Mail ballots to be included by the Tuesday, June 12 update. Due to the extra research required to validate Provisional ballots, these ballots are usually the last to be tallied prior to the completion of the official canvass. Please note that the 8 p.m. time indicates the start of ballot tabulation. Depending on the number of ballots to be tabulated, updated results may not be available until half past the hour.

Candidates and the public are invited to observe supplemental ballot counting and the manual tally of ballots from the randomly selected 1% of the voting precincts. After Election Night, the schedule of supplemental ballot counting will be posted on the entrance door of our office in Norwalk and on the RR/CC website www.lavote.net.

The RR/CC realizes it is difficult for candidates/campaigns involved in close contests to wait for results of the election. The legally mandated processes described above are utilized to guarantee that every vote is counted and included in the official final election returns.



The following provides the canvass schedule of events for supplemental ballot counting.

June 5, 2012 Local and Municipal Consolidated Elections Scheduled Tally Updates

Friday, June 8 – 1 p.m.*
First Ballot Counting Update

Tuesday, June 12 – 1 p.m.*
Second Ballot Counting Update

Friday, June 15 – 1 p.m.*
Third Ballot Counting Update

Tuesday, June 19 – 1 p.m.*
Fourth Ballot Counting Update

Friday, June 22- 1 p.m.* (as needed)
Fifth Ballot Counting Update

The Board of Supervisors declares official results on July 3, 2012.

*Scheduled times represent the start of ballot processing and are subject to change. Election results will be updated and posted after ballot processing is completed. For updated election results visit www.lavote.net.

Public Observation

The official election canvass will take place at RR/CC Headquarters in Norwalk beginning Wednesday, June 6, 2012 through Tuesday, July 3, 2012. The canvass is open for public observation. If you wish to observe the process, please visit RR/CC and check in at the first floor.



Who Can Request a Recount?

Any voter of the state may file a request. (E.C. 15620)

Timing of Request

The request must be filed within five (5) calendar days after the completion of the official canvass. The canvass is complete when the elections official signs the Certification of the Election Results. (E.C. 15620)

Exceptions

For statewide contests, the request must be filed within five (5) calendar days beginning on the twenty-ninth (29th) day after the election.

Notice of Recount

A notice as to the date and place of recount will be posted by an elections official and shall notify the following persons of it in person or by any regulated overnight mail service. (E.C. 15628).

Notices are issued to the following parties:

All candidates for the office being recounted.

Authorized representatives for gubernatorial candidates, if the race for gubernatorial delegates is to be recounted.

Proponents of any initiative of referendum or persons filing ballot arguments for or against any initiative, referendum or measure to be recounted.

Secretary of State if the recount is for candidates for any federal or state office, delegates to a national convention, or any state measure.

A copy of the results of any recount conducted shall be posted conspicuously in the office of the elections official. For a current cost breakdown, please contact the Election Coordination Section at (562) 345-3183.





Providing Los Angeles County essential records management and election services in a fair, accessible and transparent manner.

Services and information available at www.lavote.net

Register to Vote

Vote by Mail

Become a Pollworker

Find Your Polling Location

Election Results

Birth and Death Certificates

Sample Ballot Look-Up

Marriage Licenses and Ceremonies

Property Records

Military Discharge Records

Fictitious Business Names

Notary Public Oath and Bond

Domestic Partnership

Election Calendar

Process Server

Legal Document Assistance

Professional Photocopier

Unlawful Detainer Assistance

Notary Authentication

Certification of Registered Translators/
Interpreters Information

Campaign Finance

Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk