

Provisional Ballot Overview

According to California Election Code (secs. 14310,14311) registered voters whose voter registration or Vote By Mail status cannot be determined may vote a provisional ballot on Election Day. Provisional voters are voters who typically move to a different residence address within the same county and fail to reregister to vote or who otherwise fail to notify the county elections official and who attempt to vote at a polling location. They may also be voters whose Vote By Mail status cannot be determined. Provisional voters may vote at polling locations, county election offices, or at designated central locations if they fill out and sign a provisional ballot envelope and provide proof of residency such as a drivers license or an item containing their name and current address. A government issued photo ID is not required.

Assigned precincts for registered voters are determined by a voter's residence as referenced on their voter registration form. All voters who choose to vote at the polls are encouraged to visit their assigned precinct polling place location. However, voters who choose to vote at a location other than their assigned precinct may vote a provisional ballot. All polling place staff are trained to notify voters of their voting options, including their eligibility to vote a provisional ballot. After a provisional ballot is voted a voter's registration status must be determined at Election Headquarters before the provisional ballot is counted and added to the overall election tally. If a voter's registration status cannot be determined his/her provisional ballot is not counted.

The Election Code was amended by the State Assembly in 2003. Prior to that time, most provisional ballot races were not counted. The current Election Code allows provisional voters whose registration status can be verified and who vote outside of their precinct location but within their assigned electoral jurisdictions (such as school board or state assembly districts) to have their vote counted. Votes for statewide or presidential candidates and ballot measures will also be counted if they are cast outside of a voter's electoral jurisdiction.

To facilitate this process, staff at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office segregate all provisional ballot envelopes to determine the registration status and precincts of provisional voters. Then, staff determines the eligible contests in those precincts and the contests marked on the ballot. If a contest or contests on a voted ballot do not represent those contests offered on the precinct ballot, the ballot is remade to include only those votes cast that correspond with those contests offered in the precinct. Then, eligible ballots are counted and added to the final tally. All provisional ballot envelopes are marked and entered into the system as "count".

If you have questions regarding your registration status or provisional voting you are encouraged to call the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk at 562-466-1310



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK
ELECTION PREPARATION BUREAU**

**PROVISIONAL VOTING STATISTICS
February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary Election**

TOTAL BALLOTS RECEIVED			176,479
COUNTS			153,675
	TouchScreen	20	
	Applied VBM-Voted at Polls	15,671	
	Different Pct/Same Ballot Group	22,674	
	Registration OK	23,734	
	Registration- With Prior Address	604	
	Address Chg-Same Pct / BG	20,631	
	Different Pct / Ballot Group	16,156	
	Wrong Party – NP counted only	36,682	
	HAVA ID Pended Voter	37	
	Address Chg- Diff Pct-Diff BG	9,202	
	Address Chg- Diff Pct-Same BG	8,284	
NO COUNTS			22,804
	Not Registered	14,298	
	Out-County Residence Address	2,068	
	Registered Too Late	672	
	Fatal Pended/Insufficient Information	636	
	Empty/Void Envelopes	2,536	
	No Signature Envelope/Roster	838	
	Different Signature	638	
	Fatal Pended/Invalid Address	868	
	Blank Envelopes	178	
	Duplicate Ballot	72	
MISCELLANEOUS (not included in canvass count)			387
	Voted VBM & Provisional Ballot	387	
Comments:	Miscellaneous Category – additional conditions resulting in some Provisional voters' ballots not being counted.		



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK
ELECTION PREPARATION BUREAU**

Provisional Ballot Statistics

Year	Election	Voted At Polls	Ballots Cast	% Cast	Counts	% Counts	No Counts	% No Counts
1992	Primary	1,612,673	16,811	1.0%	11,370	67.6%	5,441	32.4%
	General	2,442,282	25,347	1.0%	15,355	60.6%	9,992	39.4%
1993	Special Statewide	927,155	8,078	0.9%	5,212	64.5%	2,866	35.5%
1994	Primary	1,128,308	7,347	0.7%	4,462	60.7%	2,885	39.3%
	General	1,775,001	29,779	1.7%	18,097	60.8%	11,682	39.2%
1996	Primary	1,346,358	18,271	1.4%	10,367	56.7%	7,904	43.3%
	General	2,109,757	59,275	2.8%	34,059	57.5%	25,216	42.5%
1998	Primary	1,450,126	18,214	1.3%	12,937	71.0%	5,277	29.0%
	General	1,651,086	38,821	2.4%	25,080	64.6%	13,741	35.4%
2000	Primary	1,519,271	55,809	3.7%	38,496	69.0%	17,313	31.0%
	General	2,226,784	100,168	4.5%	61,521	61.4%	38,647	38.6%
2002	Primary	1,070,651	21,006	2.0%	13,327	63.4%	7,679	36.6%
	General	1,424,638	46,906	3.3%	32,441	69.2%	14,465	30.8%
2003	Special Statewide	1,688,701	121,595	7.2%	106,085	87.2%	15,510	12.8%
2004	Primary	1,379,747	44,112	3.2%	41,552	94.2%	2,500	5.7%
	General	2,383,889	204,578	8.6%	166,894	81.6%	37,684	18.4%
2005	Special Statewide	1,331,269	72,726	5.5%	64,337	88.5%	8,389	11.5%
2006	Primary	735,252	39,308	5.3%	36,501	92.9%	2,807	7.1%
	General	1,501,736	110,915	7.4%	98,259	88.6%	12,656	11.4%
2008	February Primary	2,183,998	176,479	8.1%	153,675	87.1%	22,804	12.9%
	June Primary							
	General							