



Post-Election Report

2008 General Election



LETTER FROM THE REGISTRAR



DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

April 2009

Welcome to the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters Post Election Report. The Report contains easy-to-read maps, charts and graphs of voter registration and turnout statistics for the 2008 Presidential Election and historical information compiled from past elections.

Voter participation in the historic Presidential contest was unprecedented in many ways here in Los Angeles County. The number of registered voters, returned Vote by Mail ballots, student poll workers and, of course, more Election Day phone calls surpassed all previous figures. Although voter turnout fell just shy of the record established in 1968, over 3 million voters either headed to the polls or mailed in their ballots. At our Norwalk headquarters, thousands of voters lined up to vote early, beginning two weeks before Election Day. Despite long lines, voters waited patiently and everyone got the chance to cast their ballot.

In my more than 20 years experience of working in elections, this November's election was a proud moment for Los Angeles County. We hope that this report will provide an important snapshot of it. The Registrar's team is proud to be of service to the citizens of Los Angeles County and it is our pledge to uphold an open, transparent and accessible elections process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dean C. Logan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Dean" and "Logan" being capitalized and prominent.

Dean C. Logan
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

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INTRODUCTION

Los Angeles County is unique among the 3,068 counties in the United States. In terms of gross domestic product its economy ranks within the 20 largest in the world. It has a population between 9 and 10 million people living in 88 cities and unincorporated areas that are located from the mountains in the east to the Pacific Coast in the west.

Los Angeles County is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors, elected by voters in the county's five Supervisorial Districts. Along with the Chief Executive Officer, the board oversees the county's \$22.5 billion budget and its 39 agencies.

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) serves as the county's Chief of Elections, responsible for conducting federal, state, and county elections countywide, as well as many local municipal and special district elections. L.A. County is the largest election



jurisdiction in the nation. It has more registered voters – 4.3 million - than 36 states, and its execution of Election Day procedures mobilizes more than 25,000 volunteers and nearly 5,000 polling places in a single day, a logistical feat that can be compared to a “military operation”.

The scope of that operation was clearly evident in the historic November 4, 2008 General Election. During the national primary elections held during the winter and spring of 2008, media and research organizations predicted a record-setting general election. Los Angeles County did not disappoint. The RR/CC recorded almost five hundred thousand new voter registrants from June 6 until October 20, the close of registration for the November election.

After all registrations had been processed the County broke its first record, having over 4.3 million active voters on file.

These record-setting numbers and more are displayed in the following charts, graphs and tables, along with maps of voter turnout and breakdowns of votes by party, gender and age. Further, the enclosed CD contains interactive maps of varying demographics and statistics by congressional and supervisorial districts.

ELECTION PREPARATION

Election Day preparation takes months of precise planning. Well before the November 4, 2008 General Election, supplies were ordered, sample ballot booklets were designed, printed, and mailed, military and overseas voters began receiving their ballot materials, and RR/CC employees were entering what turned out to be over 500,000 new voter registrations since the last election held in June, 2008.

At the newly built Elections Operations Center, hundreds of employees were testing equipment and assembling precinct materials to be transported to the County's 69 distribution centers, where inspectors from 4,394 precincts gathered their Election Day supplies.

In addition to logistics planning and poll worker recruitment and training, the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk took on another project – a massive voter outreach and education campaign. The VOTE – YOU COUNT! campaign focused on multilingual services, voting options for persons with disabilities, and voting equipment demonstrations. The goal of the campaign was to ensure that all voters were prepared to successfully cast a ballot on Election Day.

The RR/CC established a broad-based, multi-media, multicultural partnership with L.A. media companies. Partners included, CBS and KCAL 9, the L.A. Dodgers, the UCLA Bruins and many multilingual media outlets, including Univision KMEX 34 and La Opinion newspaper (the largest Spanish language media companies in Los Angeles). Working together, the department and its media partners educated the public about various voting

options and important deadlines through an intensive effort that involved television, radio, print, and online resources. In the course of a month CBS Outdoor placed over 300 transit posters, highway billboards, and bulletins throughout the county; the L.A. Dodgers and UCLA Bruins sponsored voter registration booths, game-day announcements, and special events; CBS 2, KCAL 9, and KMEX 34 produced public service announcements with local news talent, and KMEX 34 hosted an all day telethon before the close of registration.

Inside the RR/CC's Norwalk headquarters, the Information Technology team completed web site enhancements that allowed voters to track their vote by mail ballots, verify their voter registration status and view the progress of Election Night ballots being delivered from precincts to Check In Centers and, finally, to Norwalk. These enhancements gave visitors important information at the click of a mouse. The RR/CC web site had almost 700,000 visitors during the two weeks before the election and over 60,000 to the registration status look-up function.

Early voting was one indication that the November election was going to be a record breaker. Tens of thousands of early voters trekked to Norwalk to submit their Vote by Mail Ballots before November 4th. Lines formed around the building during extended hours beginning two weeks before Election Day. Over 30,000 voters cast their ballots in-person at Norwalk headquarters during the early voting period - 16,000 in the last three days alone.

Another telling sign was the number of phone calls the RR/CC was receiving. On November 3rd alone, RR/CC, Internal Services Department (ISD) and City of Los Angeles employees fielded over 55,000 telephone calls – a record number - and what one telephone company representative likened to the phone call volume experienced during an earthquake.

All programs and policies were in place and RR/CC staff, poll workers, Inspectors, and Coordinators were trained and ready to participate in one of the most historic elections in United States History.

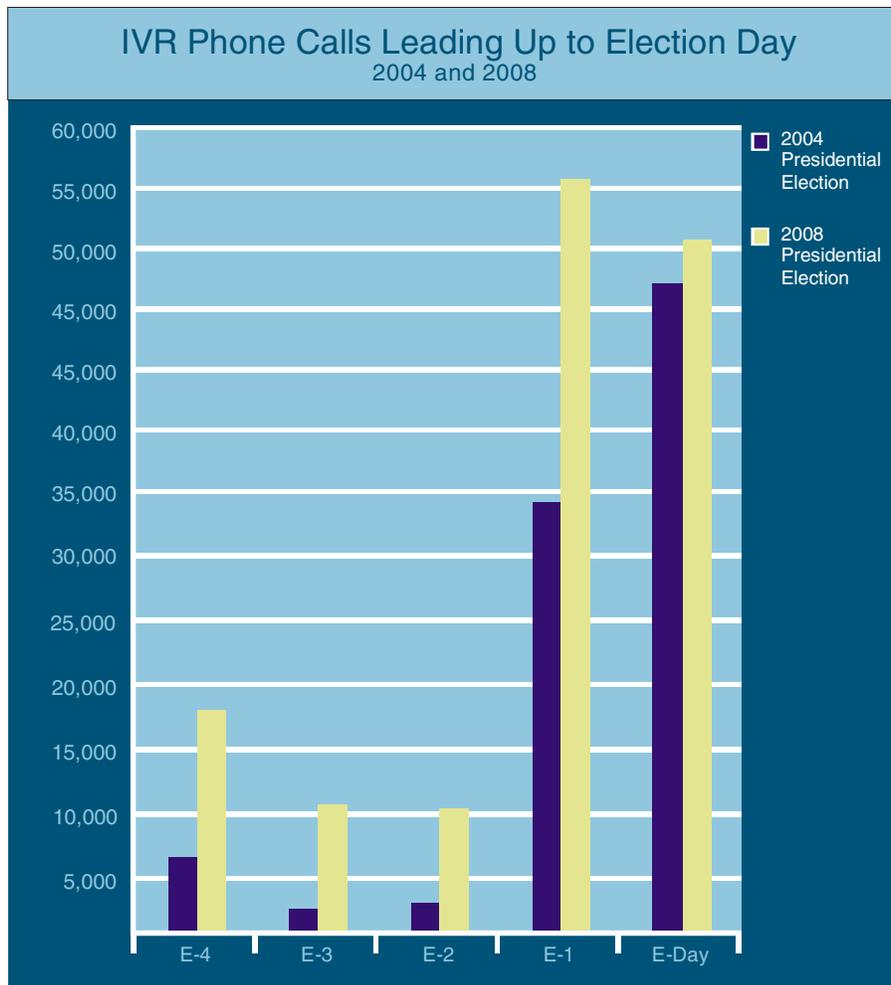
The following descriptive maps, charts and graphs have been created to provide a visual picture of the November 2008 election and, in some cases, its comparison to past elections.

All data were derived from RR/CC files, interpreted and adapted for display in this report.

The Registrar's team trained thousands of poll workers, secured nearly 5,000 polling places, processed hundreds of thousands of voter registrations, undertook a massive voter outreach and education campaign and programmed nearly 10,000 voting machines.

LA COUNTY RECORD

The Registrar's Office experienced a record number of phone calls during the week prior to the election and on Election Day.



Voter Outreach and Education Campaign

The Registrar's Office created innovative partnerships with organizations such as CBS and KCAL 9, the Los Angeles Dodgers, the UCLA Bruins, and multiple television, radio and print media organizations in an effort to educate Los Angeles County citizens about the many voter services available to them. The VOTE-YOU COUNT! outreach and education campaign highlighted the RR/CC's multilingual services, voting options for voters with specific needs, and voting equipment. In addition to the television and radio presence, the campaign included highway billboards, public transportation shelters and posters that alerted the public about Election Day and included Registrar contact information. The campaign reached millions of County residents and engaged local community organizations.

4 Week Period

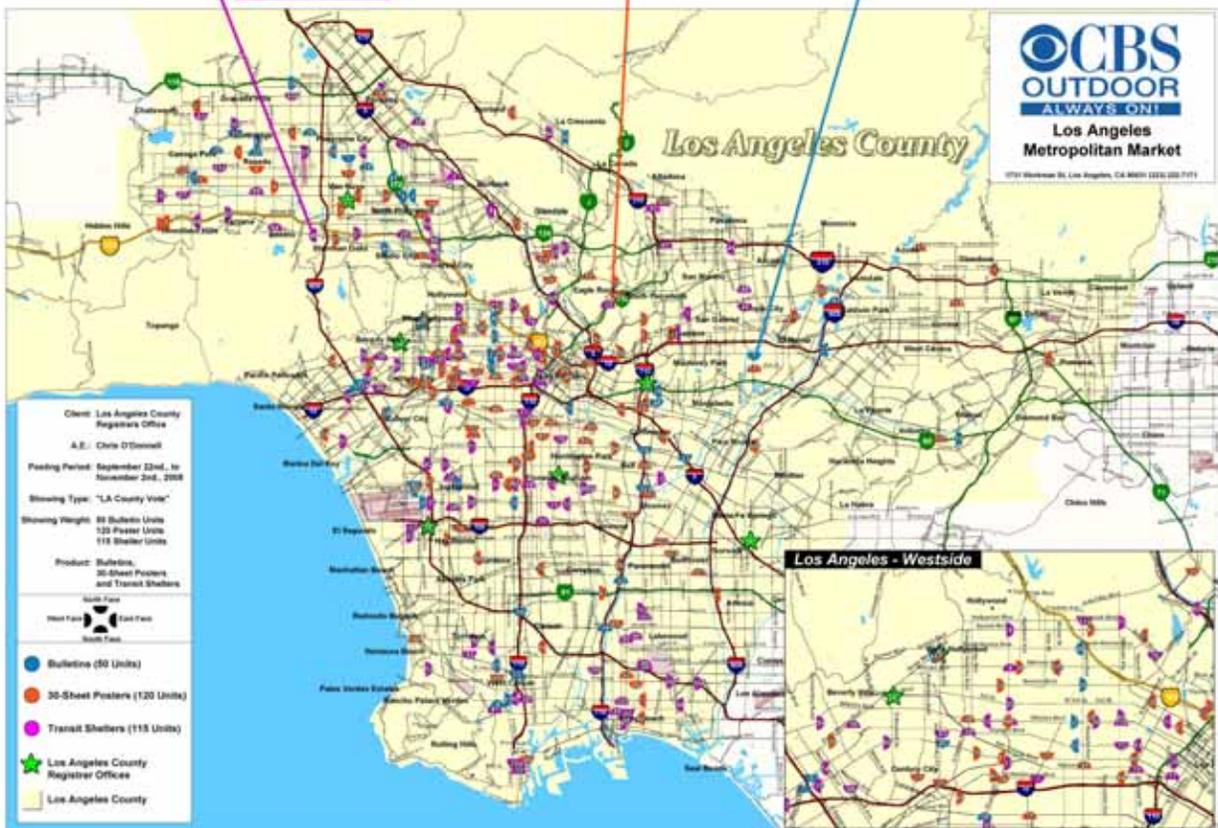
150 Transit Shelters

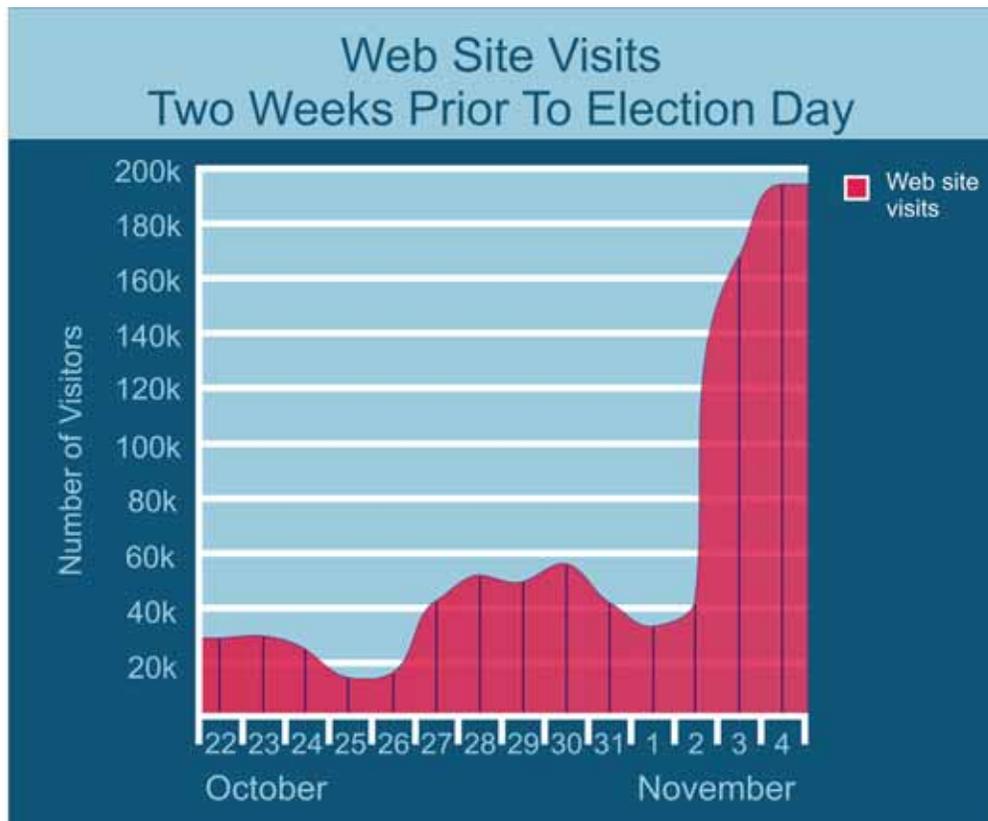


120 Sheet Posters



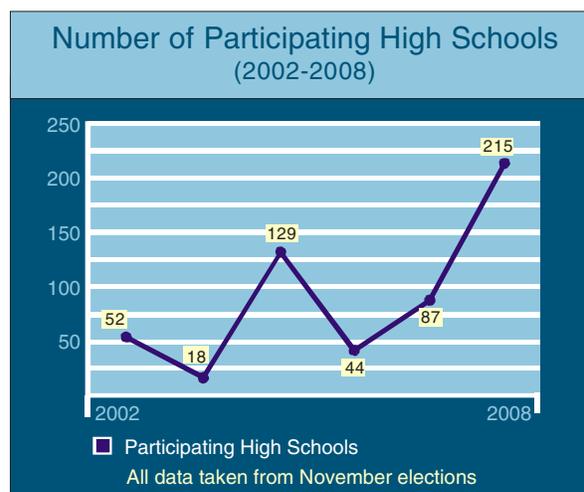
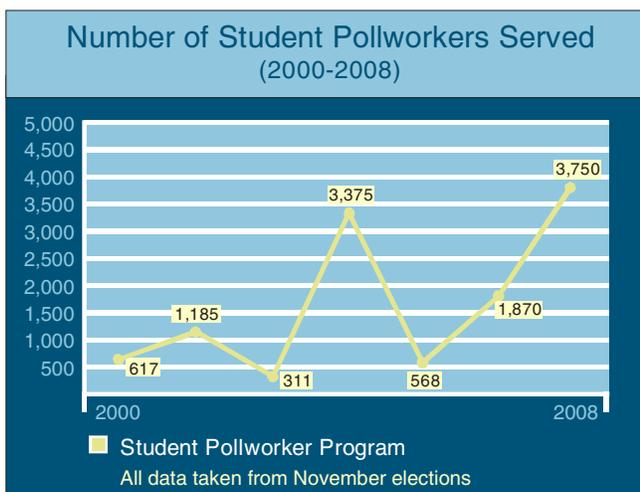
50 Bulletins





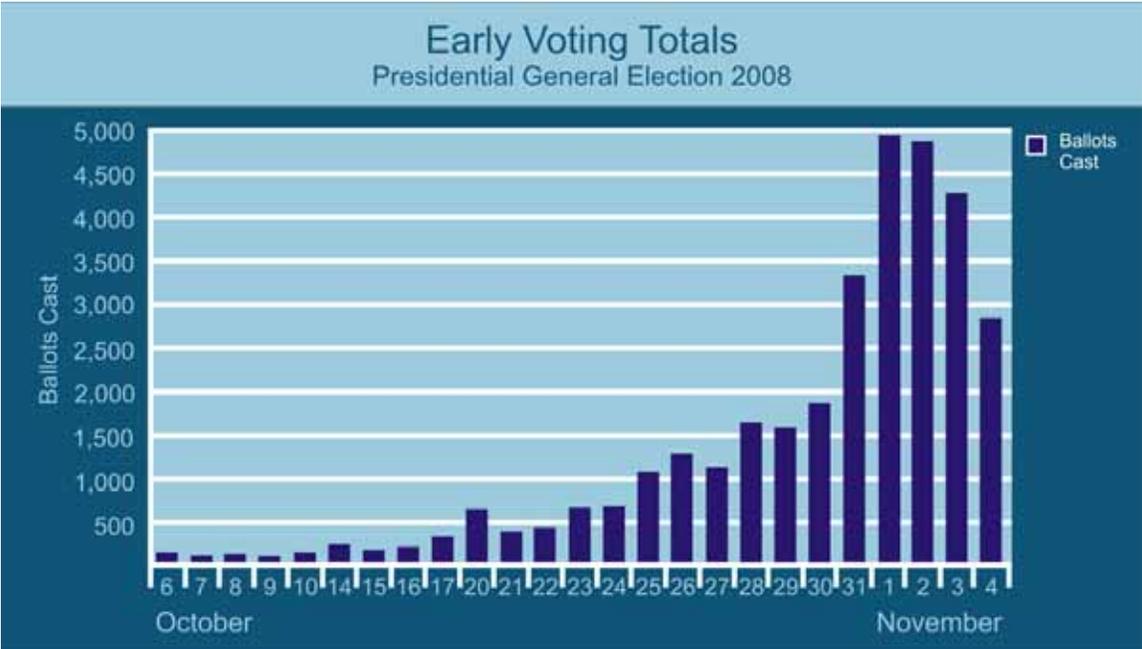
LA COUNTY RECORD

The Registrar's Office recruited more student poll workers for the November election than at any time in the program's eight-year history.



Early Voting

Remote early voting sites were discontinued in 2007 due to voting equipment restrictions imposed by the Secretary of State but early voting at our Norwalk Headquarters during expanded hours two weeks before Election Day saw over 30,000 voters cast their ballots early.



Voter Registration

Voter registration occurs throughout the year. The Registrar's team attends community events, parades, naturalization ceremonies, and many other venues to offer registration services to the citizens of L.A. County. 2008 saw unprecedented numbers of registered voters.

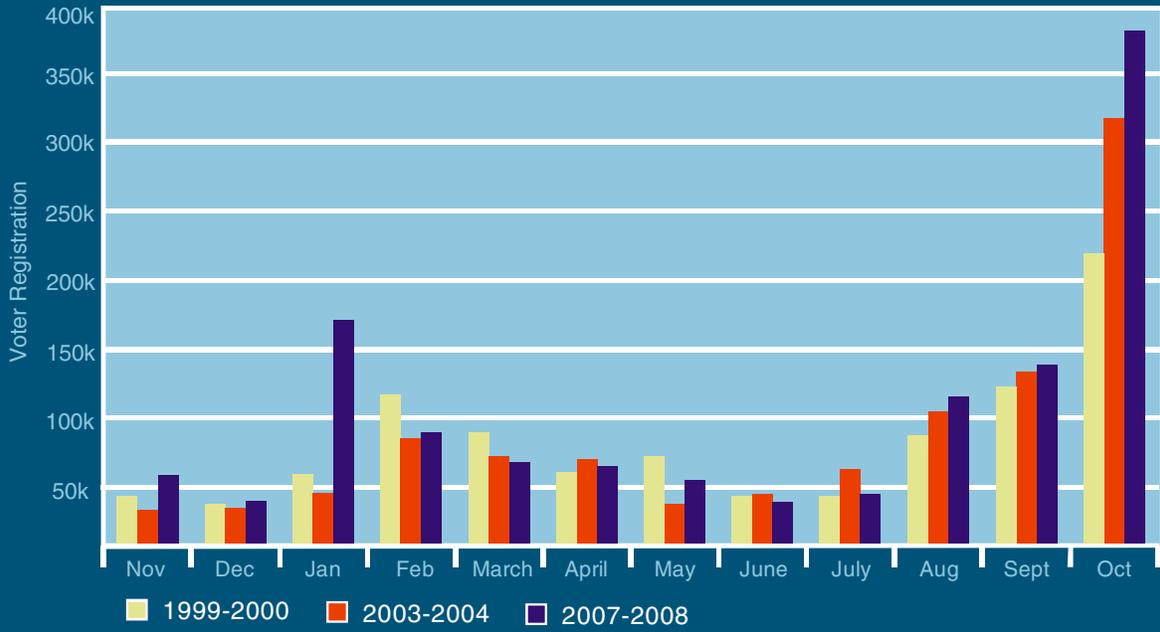
LA COUNTY RECORD

Voter registration was up nationwide and it was no different in L.A. County. In October, voter registration broke an all time record by nearly 200,000 voters, and more voters registered in the last five months than ever before.

Voter Registration by Presidential Election Year (1968-2008)



Monthly Registration Totals By Presidential Election Year

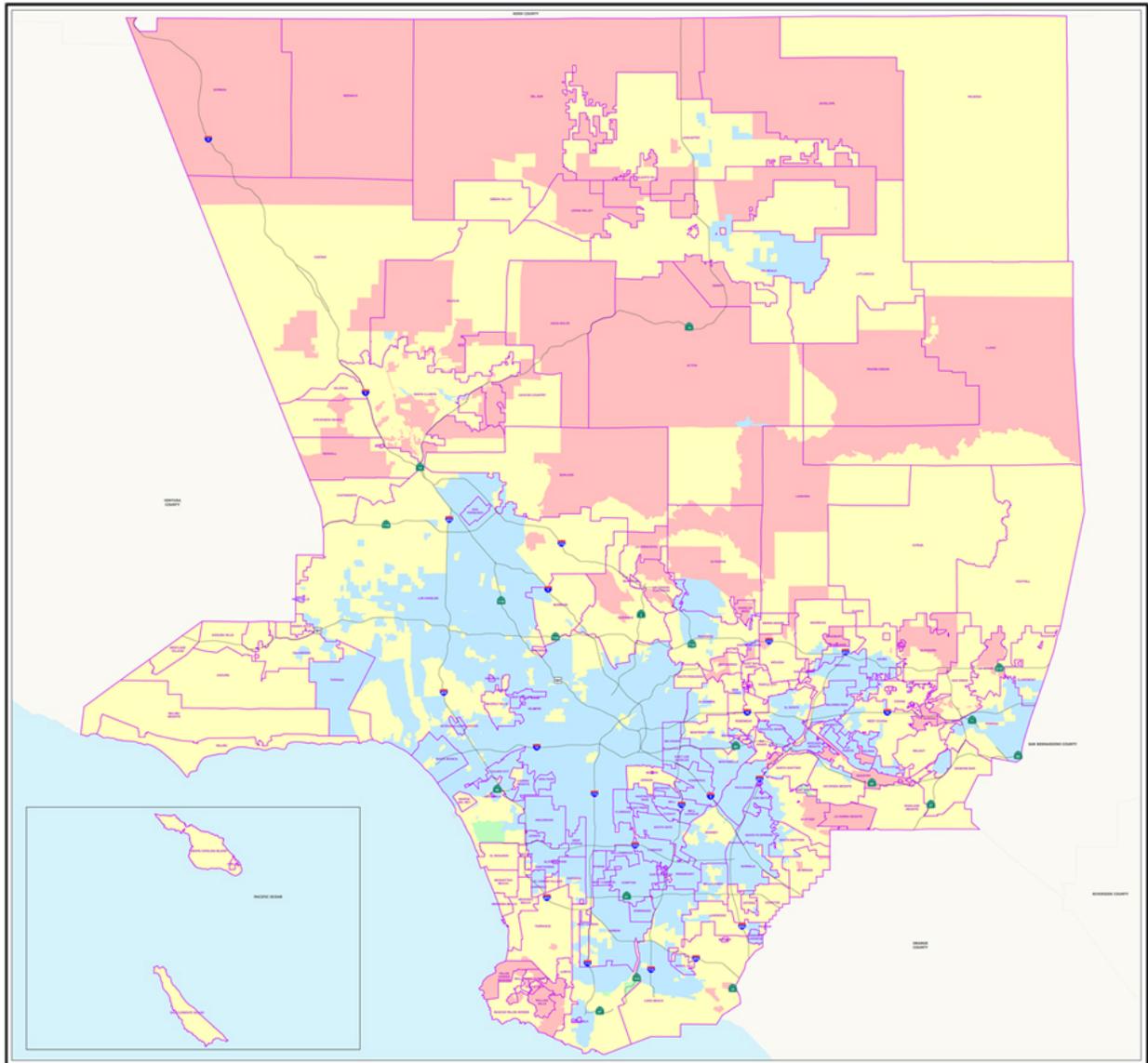


Overall Voter Turnout for Presidential Elections (1968-2008)



PARTY REGISTRATION

The map below shows L.A. County registration by majority party: Democrat, Republican, Decline to State, and Non Partisan.



Legend

 Communities

Voters by Party

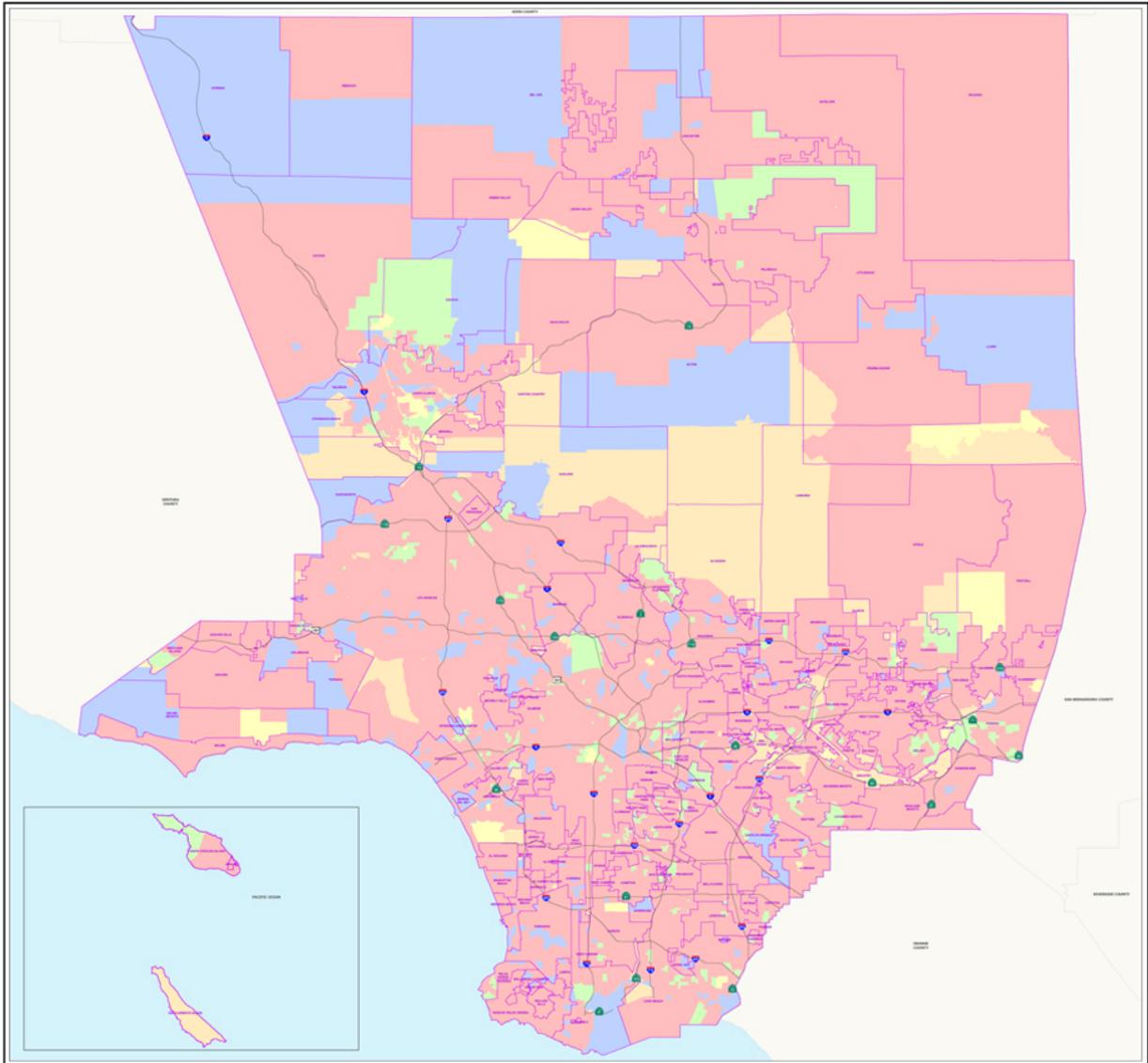
Party

-  No Party Majority in this area
-  Democrat 50%+1
-  Republican 50%+1
-  Decline to state 50%+1

NEW REGISTRANTS

The major story this presidential election was the influx of new voters. In L.A. County 50 percent of newly registered voters were between the ages of 18-29. The maps below show the distribution of voters registering for the first time in Los Angeles County.

Ages 18-29 Countywide



Legend

 Communities

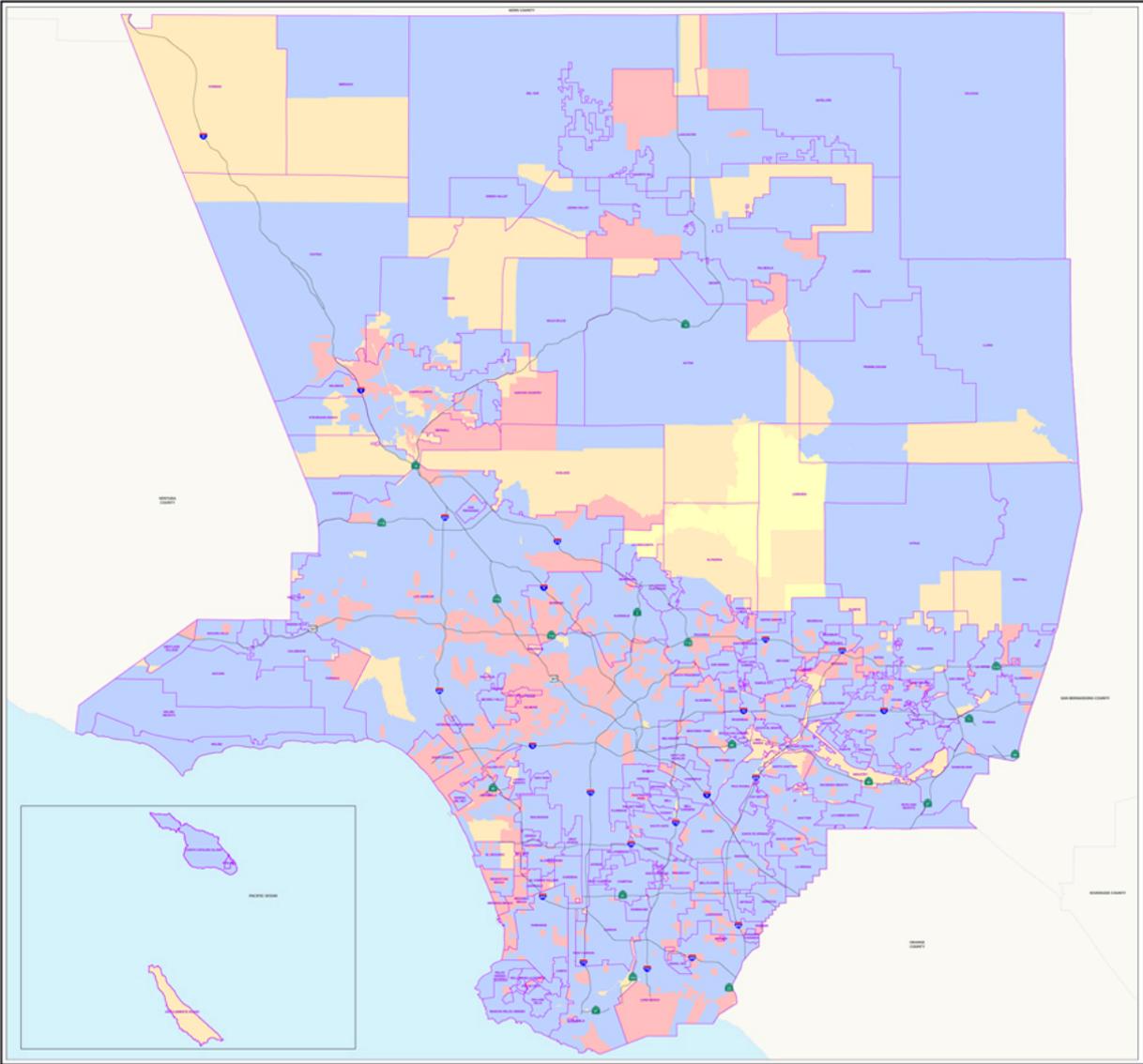
Registered Voters June 6-Oct. 20, 2008

Ages 18-29

- | | |
|---|---|
|  0 Percent |  51-75% |
|  1-25% |  76-100% |
|  26-50% | |

Ages 30-39

Countywide



Legend

 Communities

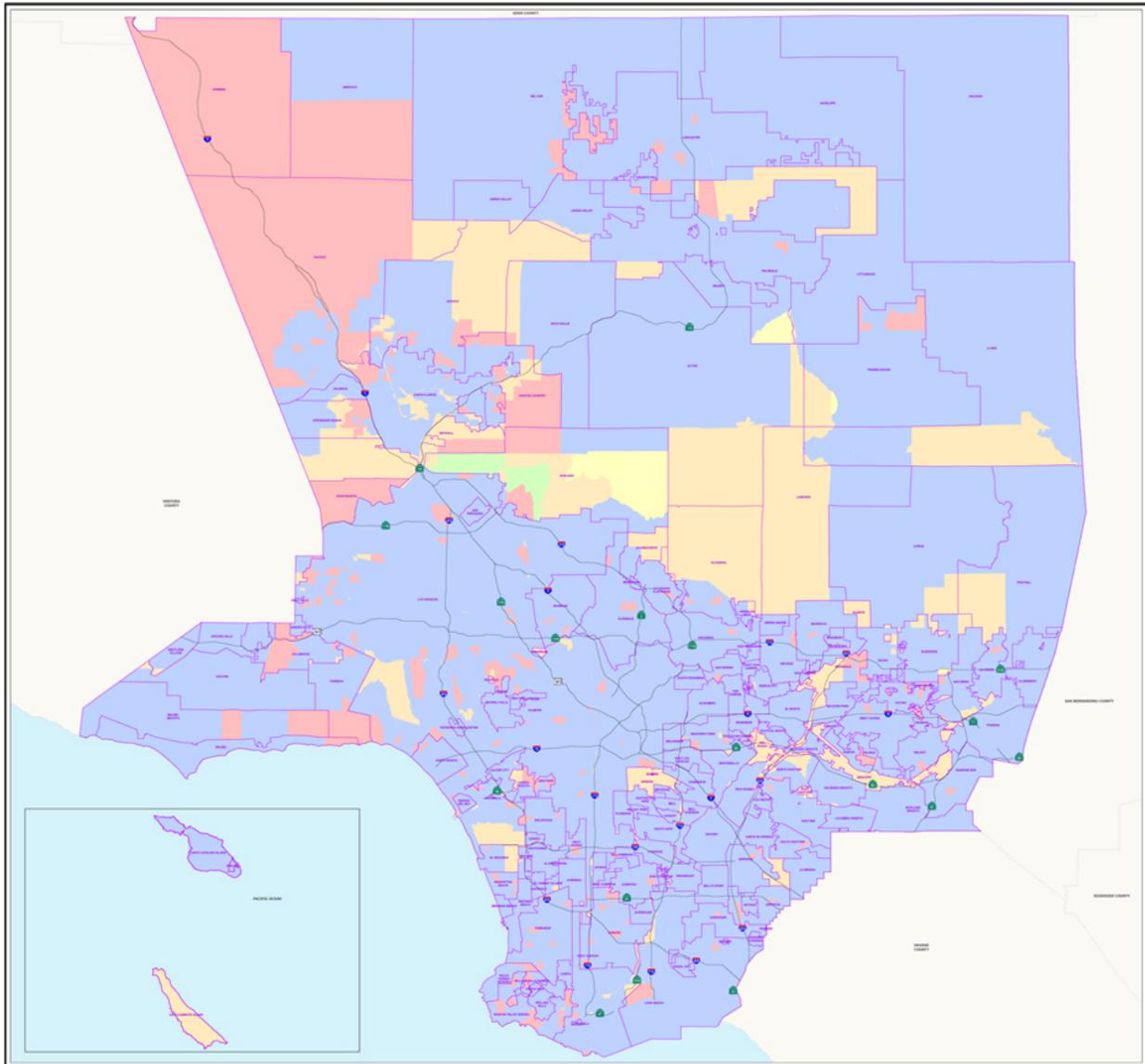
Registered Voters June 6-Oct. 20, 2008

Ages 30-39

-  0 Percent
-  1-25%
-  26-50%
-  51-75%
-  76-100%

Ages 40-49

Countywide

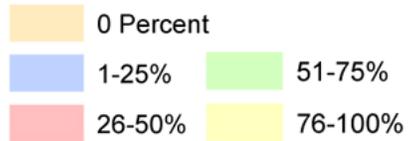


Legend

 Communities

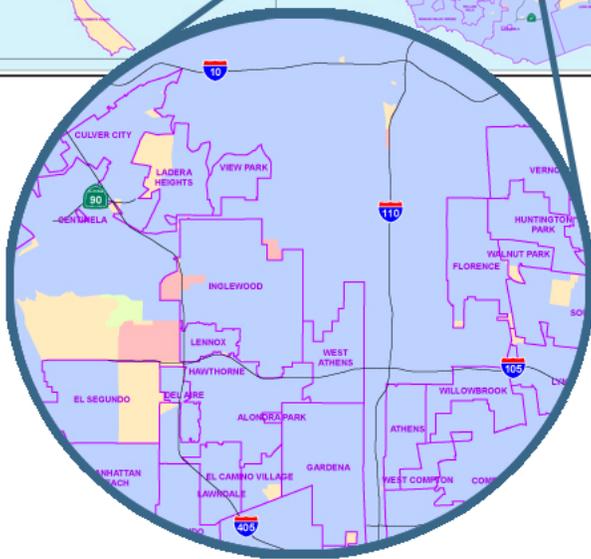
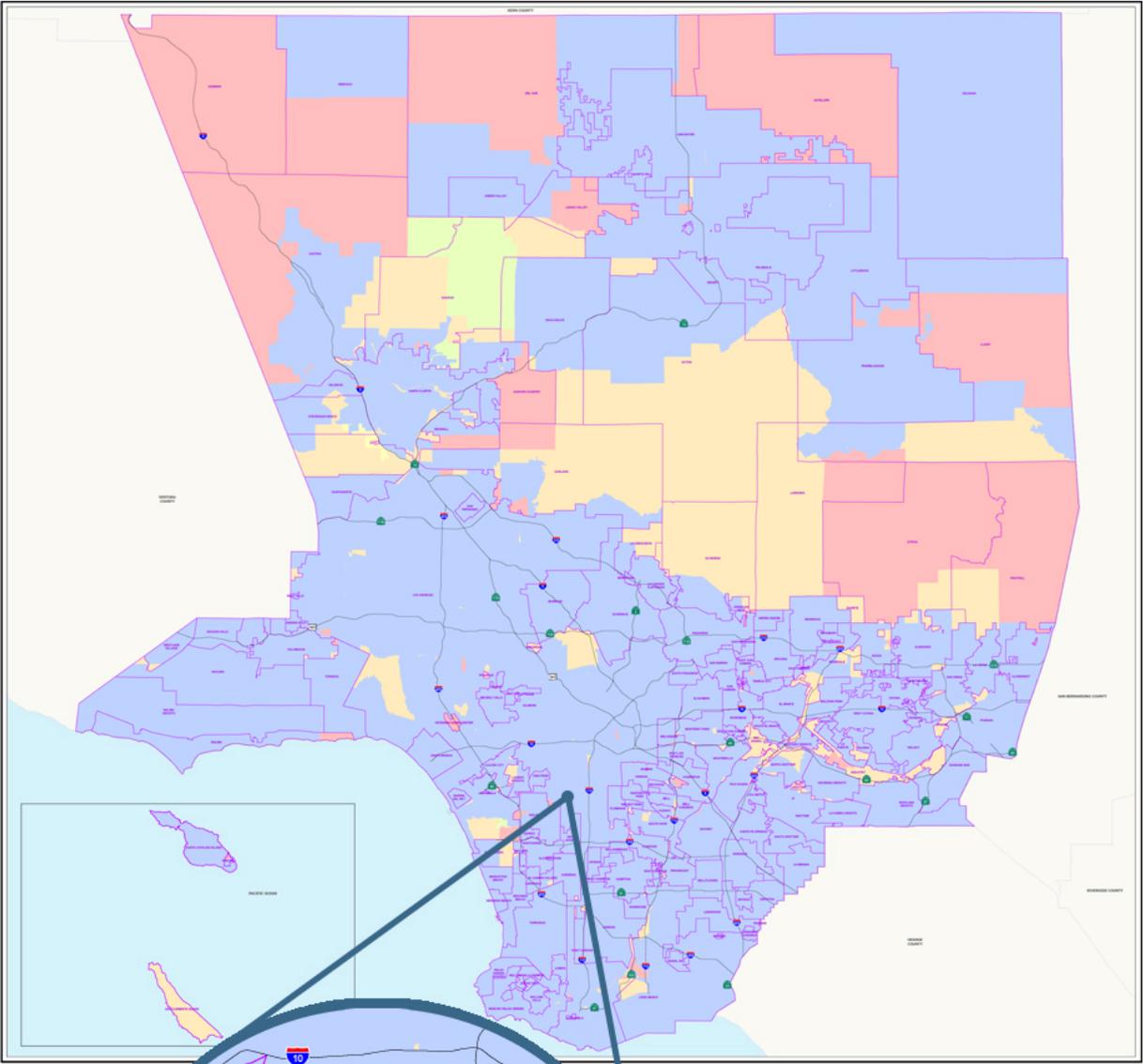
Registered Voters June 6-Oct. 20, 2008

Ages 40-49



Ages 50-59

Countywide



Registered Voters June 6-Oct. 20, 2008

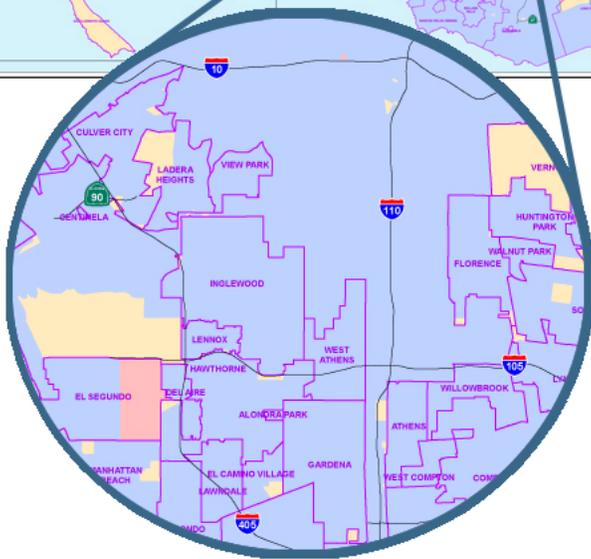
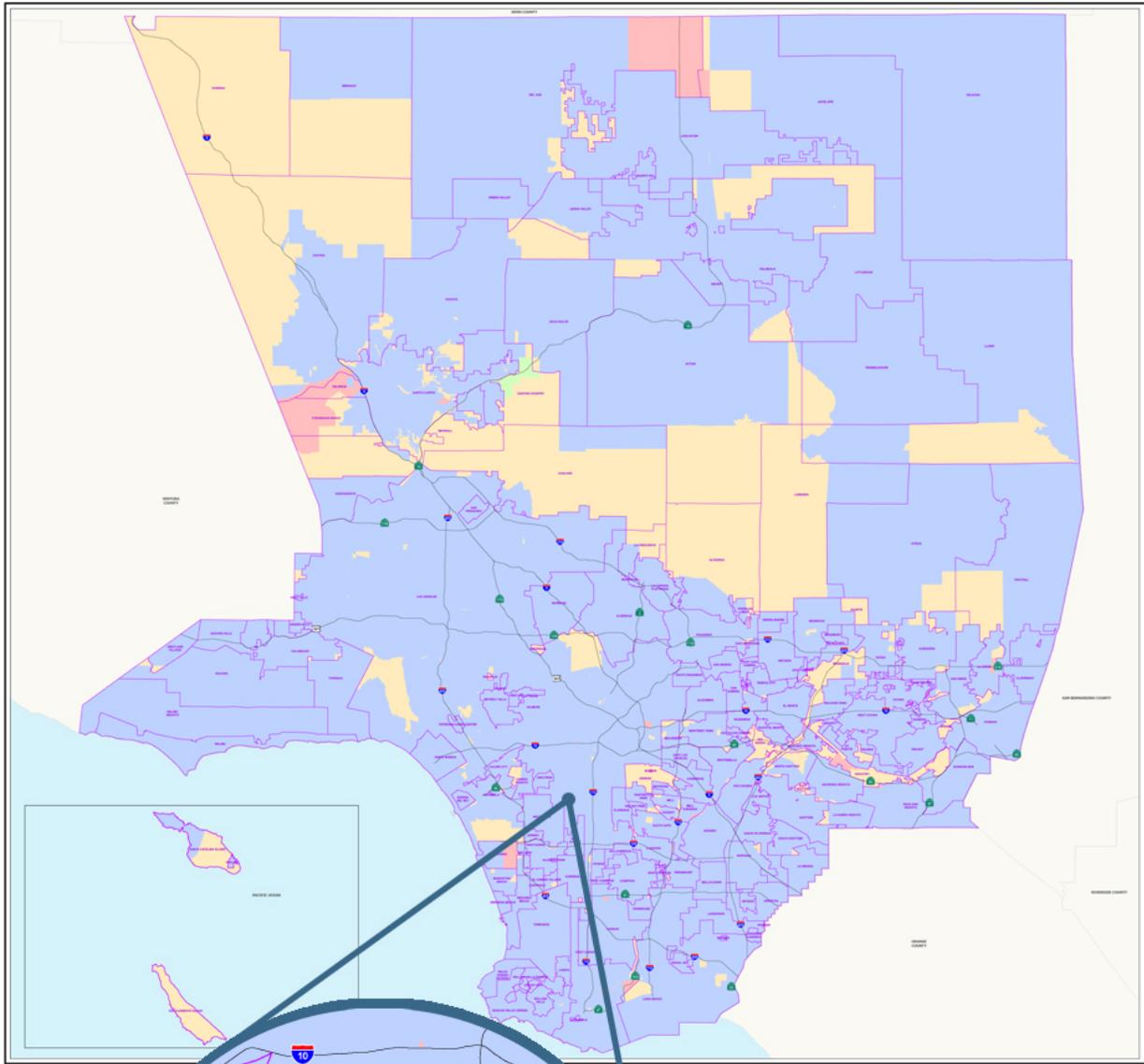
Ages 50-59

- 0 Percent
- 1-25%
- 26-50%
- 51-75%
- 76-100%

Communities

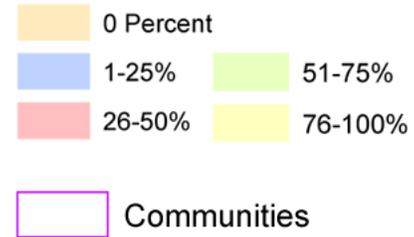
Ages 60-69

Countywide

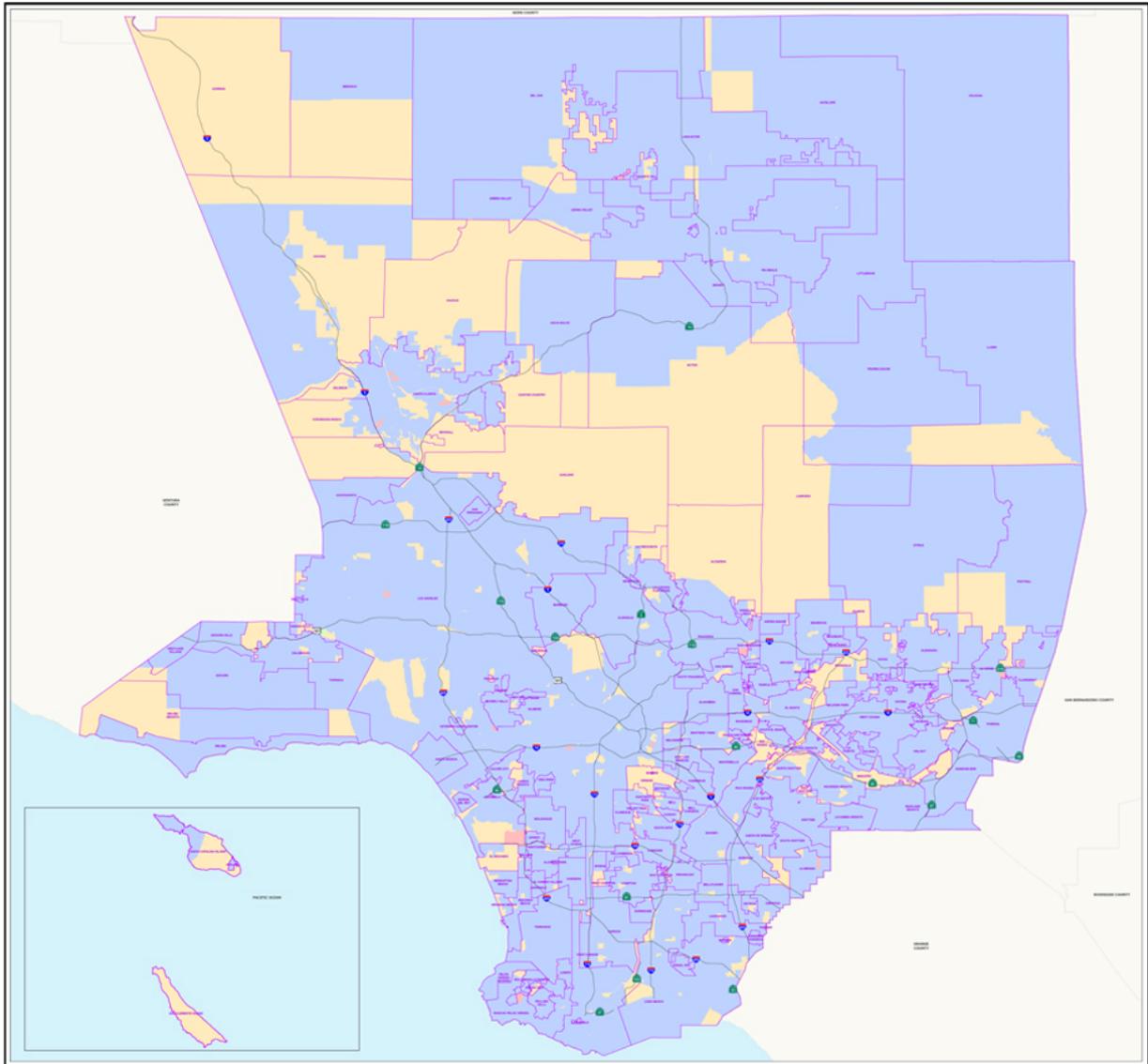


Registered Voters June 6-Oct. 20, 2008

Ages 60-69



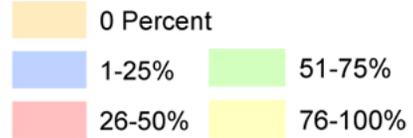
Ages 70+ Countywide



Legend

 Communities

Registered Voters June 6-Oct. 20, 2008 Ages Over 70



ELECTION DAY 2008

Election Day turned out to be what everyone had expected. More Los Angeles County voters participated in the November 4, 2008 election than in the past 40 years, and the election generated the second highest turnout since 1968 - 81.9 percent.

Poll workers showed up in full force on Election Day. The RR/CC's poll worker recruitment team trained and placed over 26,000 workers in each of the county's 4,394 polling places. Student recruitment resulted in a record-setting number of college and high school students participating in Election Day activities at the polls, and in Norwalk on Election Night.

Polls were operating at 7:00 AM and Election Day ran smoothly. Voters throughout the County and from an extremely diverse range of racial and ethnic backgrounds checked into their polling places and waited to vote¹. Although lines were long in some areas, all voters were processed as quickly as possible and those in line by 8:00 PM got a chance to cast ballots.

2,557,825 voters cast ballots at the polls while over 800,000 cast Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots. Over 1 million voters applied for Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots and 80 percent returned them. This resulted in the most VBMs ever applied for and returned in a Los Angeles County election. Additionally, voters cast almost 300,000 Provisional Ballots of which 85 percent were eventually verified and counted.

¹National media reports and projections predicted record participation of younger voters. In a post-election analysis conducted by RR/CC staff, 19.5 percent of all voters were between the ages of 18-29, regardless of party affiliation. This contrasts with the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections where 18-29 year olds represented 15.8 percent and 18.4 percent respectively. In each of the last three presidential elections, voters under the age of 50 made up nearly 60 percent of all voters.

Election Day activity was not only seen at the polls but on the Internet as well. A total of 195,360 visitors utilized www.lavote.net on November 4th and thousands visited the newly implemented VBM tracking and registration lookup functions.

The RR/CC's IT team developed another web-based project: an enhanced security scanning program that showed the progression of scanned ballots in a mapping format displayed online. Visitors to the RR/CC web site viewed a county-wide map that gave a color depiction and percentage display of precinct ballot boxes from polling places being logged into Check-In Centers, and finally to Norwalk headquarters.

In terms of ballots cast, all ballots were delivered to Norwalk in record time for a presidential election: VBM ballots were inventoried and all voted ballots cast at polling places were scanned, batched and counted by 3:24 AM.

In the weeks after the election, the RR/CC conducted its public 1 percent Post-Election Manual Audit Tally, entered over 670,000 remaining provisional and Vote by Mail ballots returned at polling places, and finally presented its results to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for certification.

The certified totals gave candidate Barack Obama 69.2 percent of the vote in Los Angeles County and total votes represented 14.5 percent of all votes cast in the State of California. The election was successfully completed and RR/CC staff began regrouping for other elections to be held in December, March and May.

When all polling place, Vote by Mail and provisional ballots were tallied and certified L.A. County processed 3,368,057 ballots, more than it ever had before. This number constitutes 14.5 percent of the entire number of ballots cast in the State of California.

Provisional Voting and VBM Trends

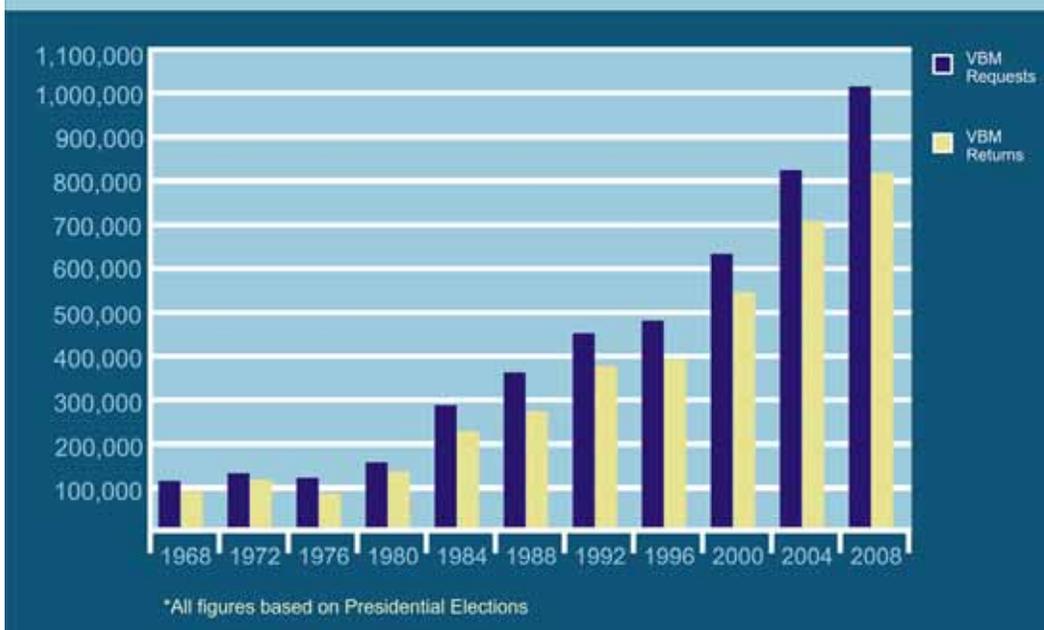
Provisional Voting in Presidential Elections

	Provisional Ballots Cast	Accepted
2008	271,074	85%
2004	204,578	82%
2000	100,168	61%
1996	59,275	57.5%
1992	23,347	60.6%

The Election Code was amended by the State Assembly in 2003. Prior to that time, most provisional ballot contests were not counted. The current Election Code allows provisional voters whose registration status can be verified and who vote outside of their assigned precinct location 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.

Note: The process for provisional voting was added to the California Election Code in 1983, however, statistical information is only available beginning in 1992.

Vote by Mail Requests and Returns (1968-2008)

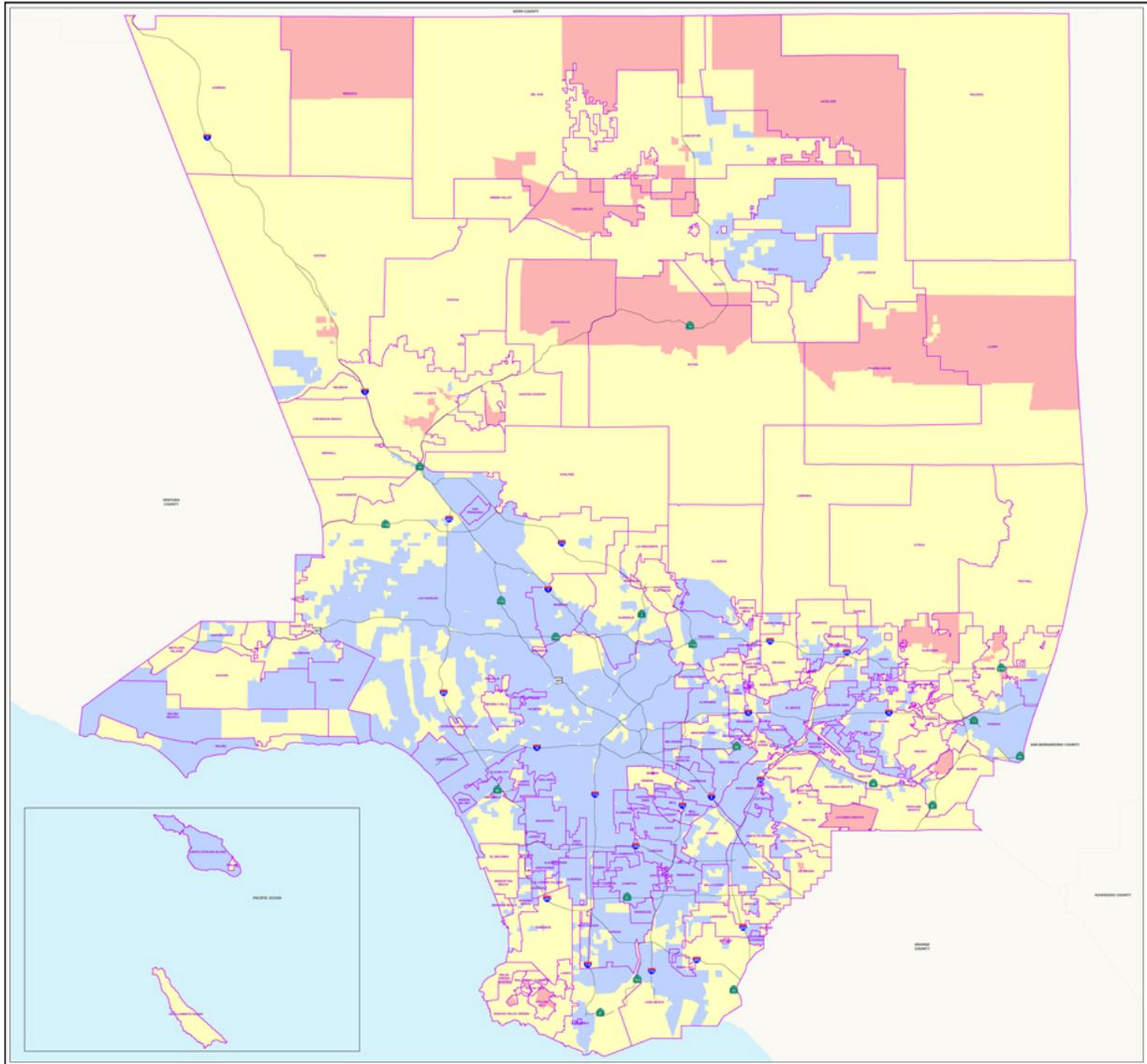


PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST RESULTS

Barack Obama won L.A. County with 69.2 percent of the vote. The following map shows where each Presidential candidate got 50+1 percent of the vote and is followed by maps giving a percentage breakdown for each candidate.

Candidates With Majority of the Vote

Countywide



Legend

 Communities

Votes for President Over 50% of the Vote

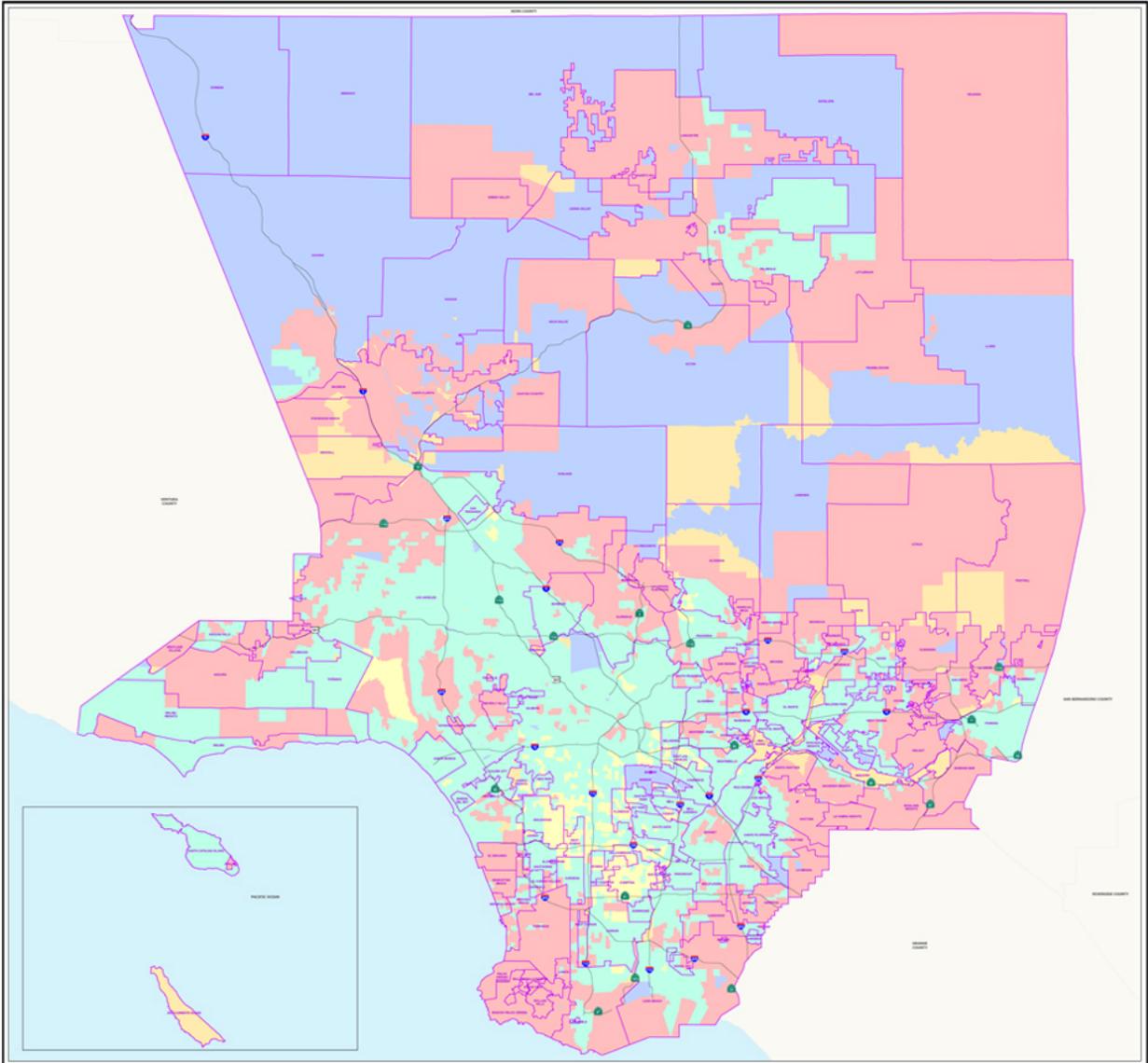
 No Majority

 Obama over 50%

 McCain over 50%

Votes for Barack Obama

Countywide

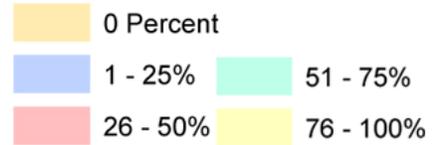


Legend

 Communities

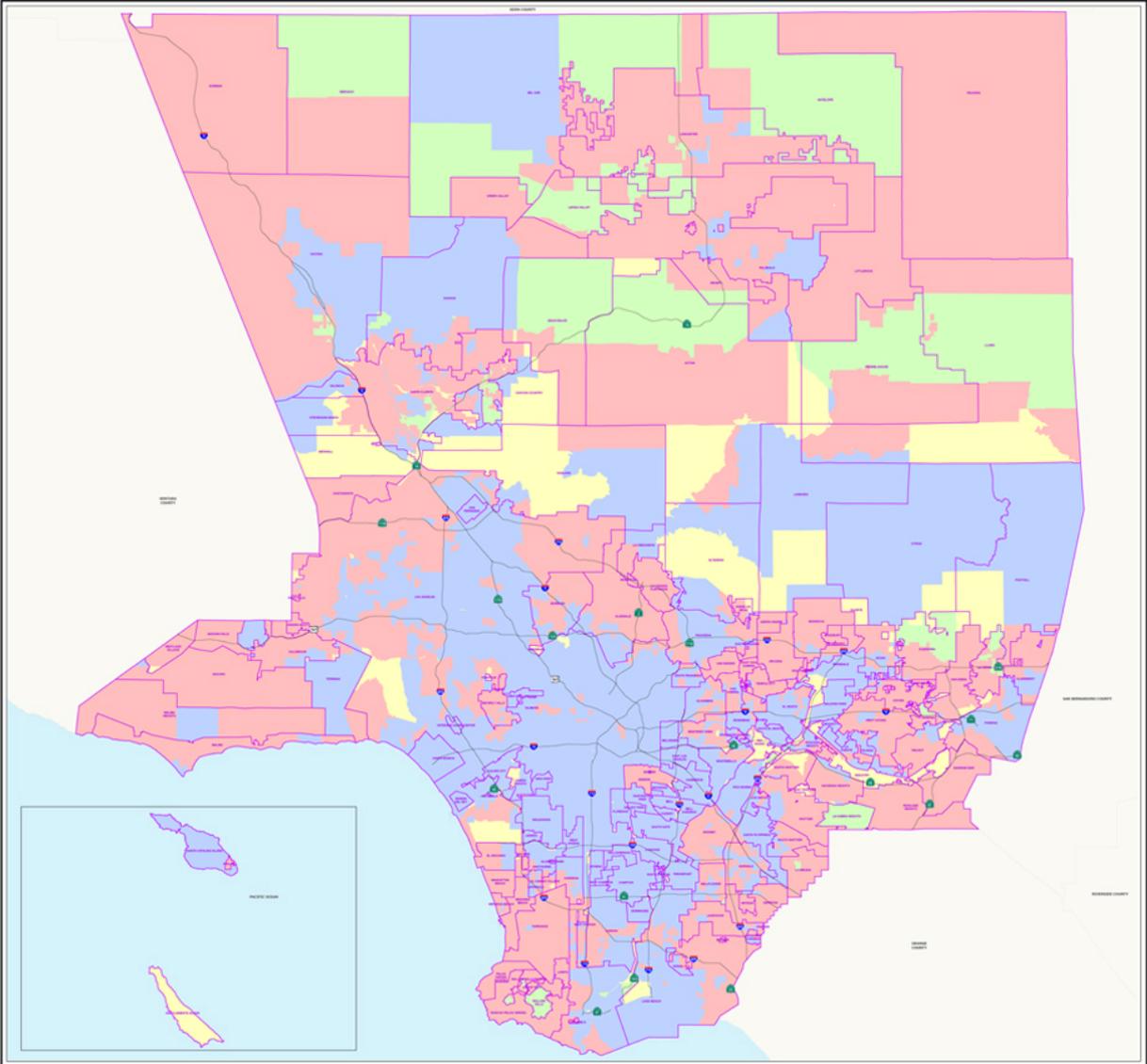
Votes for President

Percent Obama



Votes for John McCain

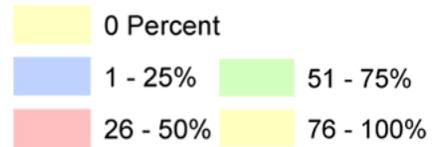
Countywide



Legend

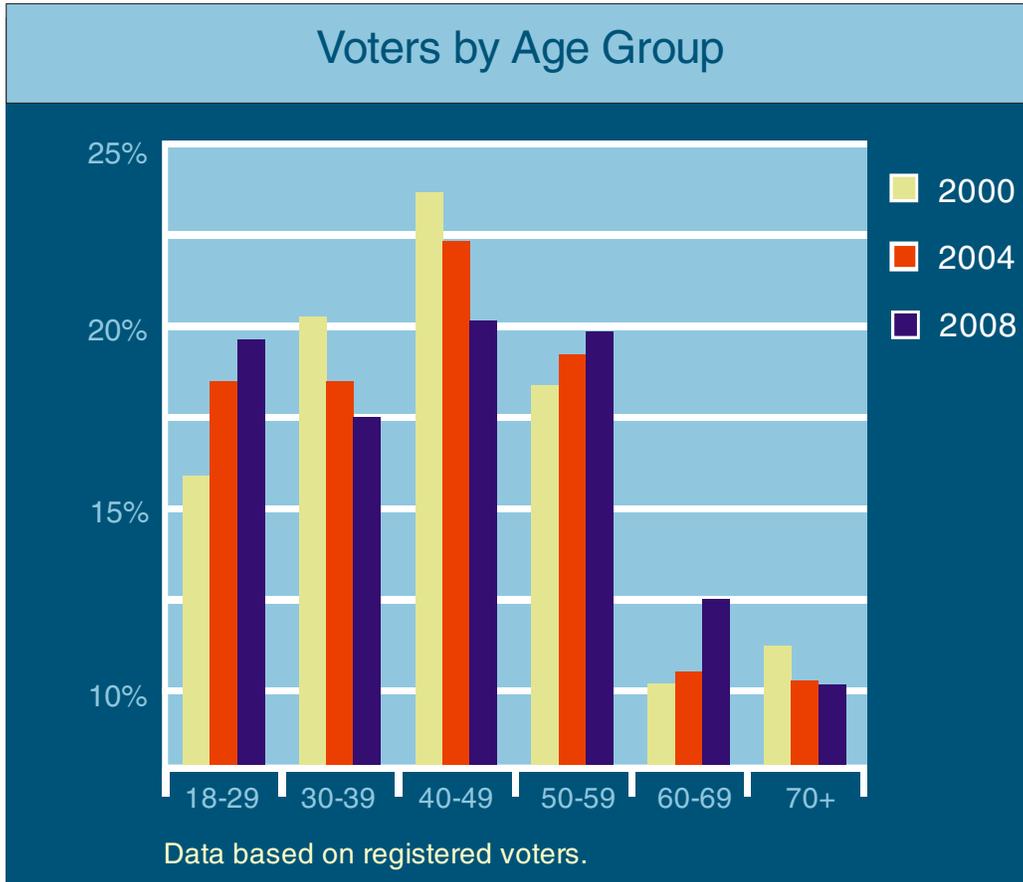
 Communities

Votes for President Percent McCain



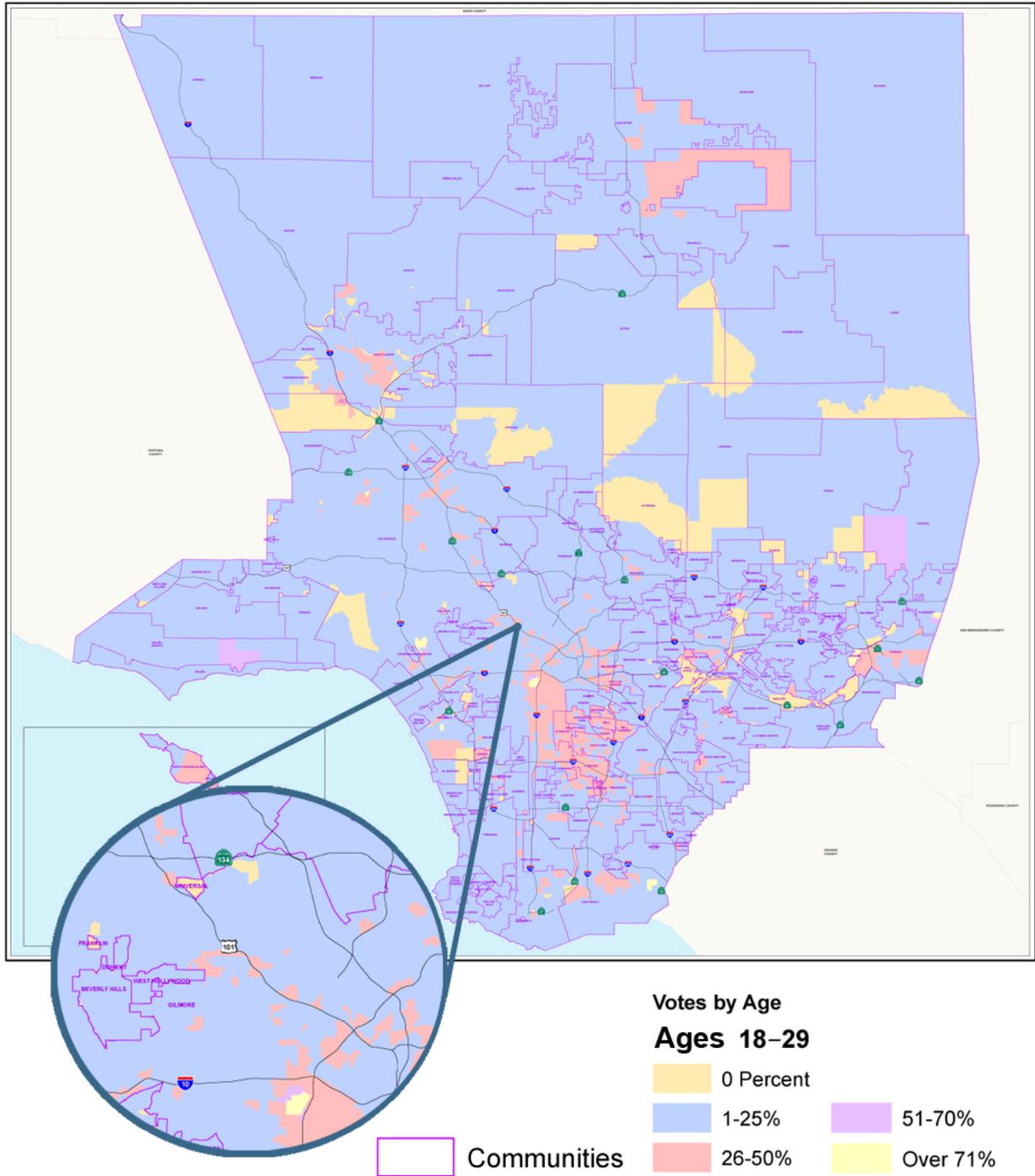
PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST RESULTS BY AGE

Age was a factor in the November presidential contest both nationally and in L.A. County. 50 percent of new registrants were between the ages of 18-29 and of those, more than 56 percent were registered with the Democratic Party, while 15 percent were Republican and 27.9 percent were registered as Decline to State or Non Partisan voters. The following map shows a breakdown of voters by age group.



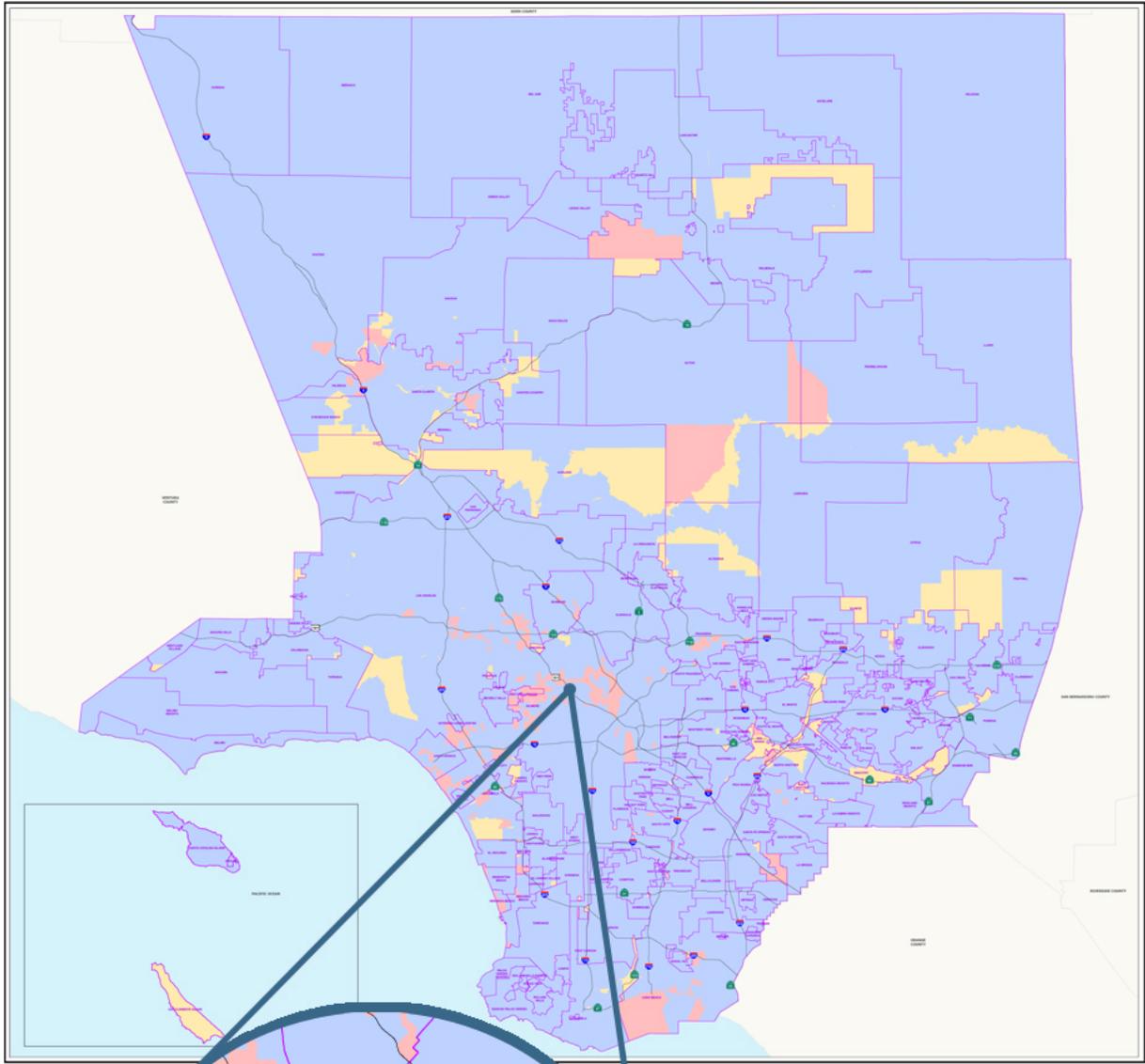
Ages 18-29

Countywide



Ages 30-39

Countywide



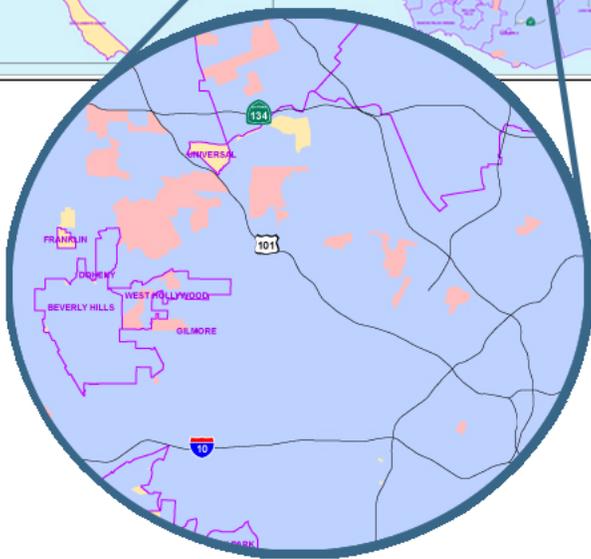
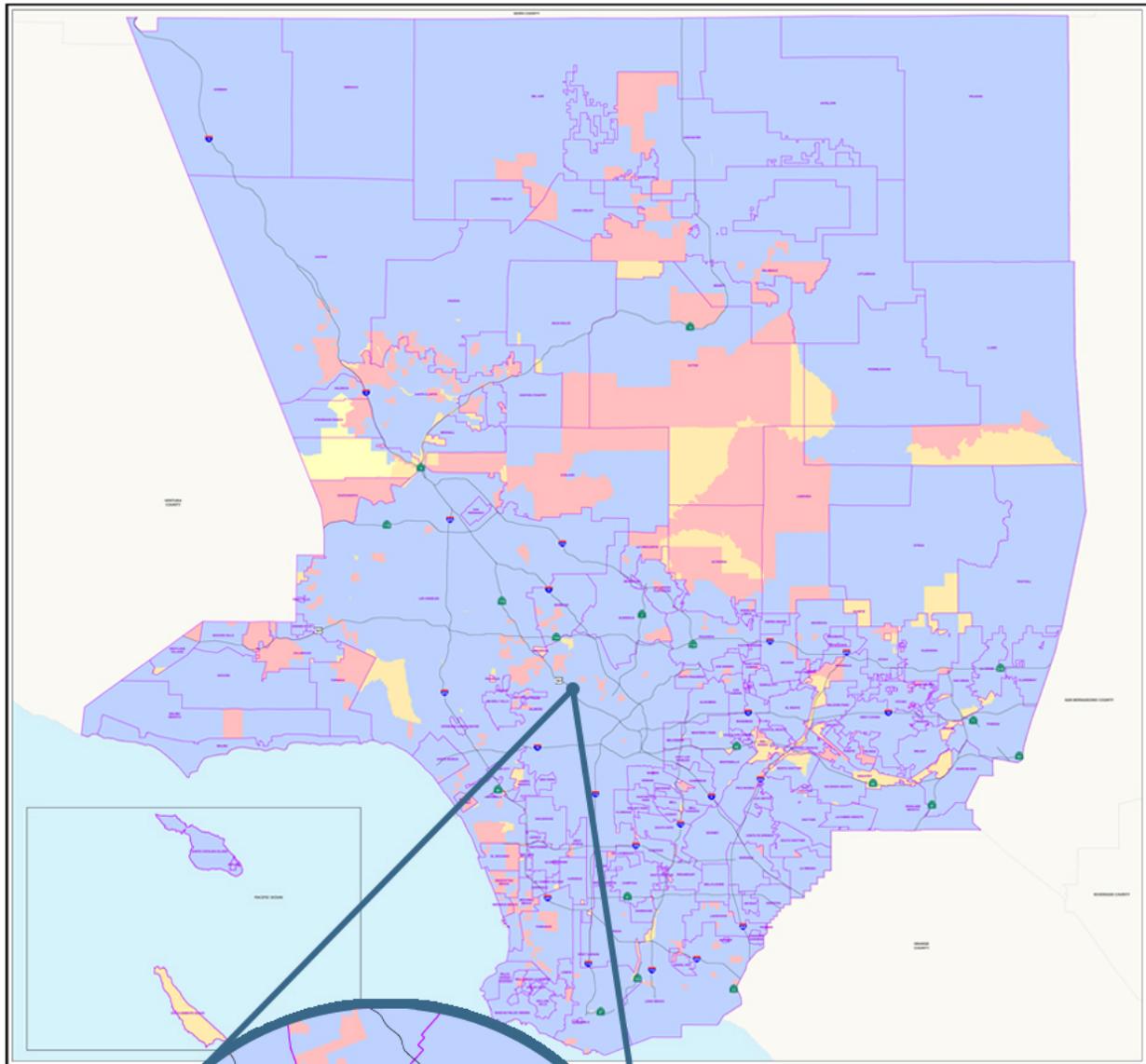
Voters by Age Ages 30-39

- 0 Percent
- 1-25%
- 26-50%
- 51-70%
- Over 71%

Communities

Ages 40-49

Countywide



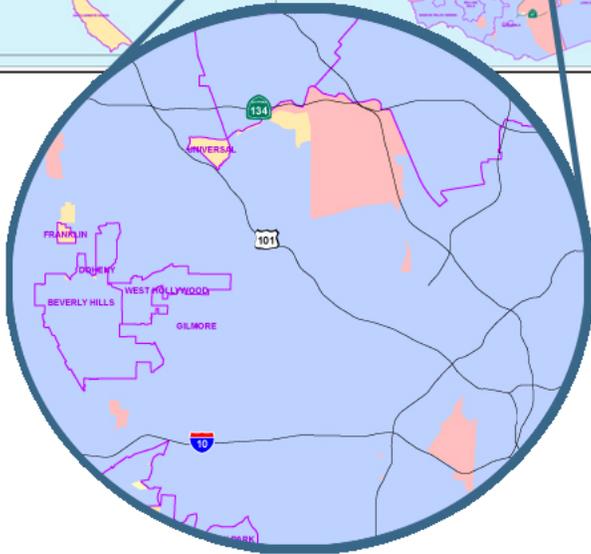
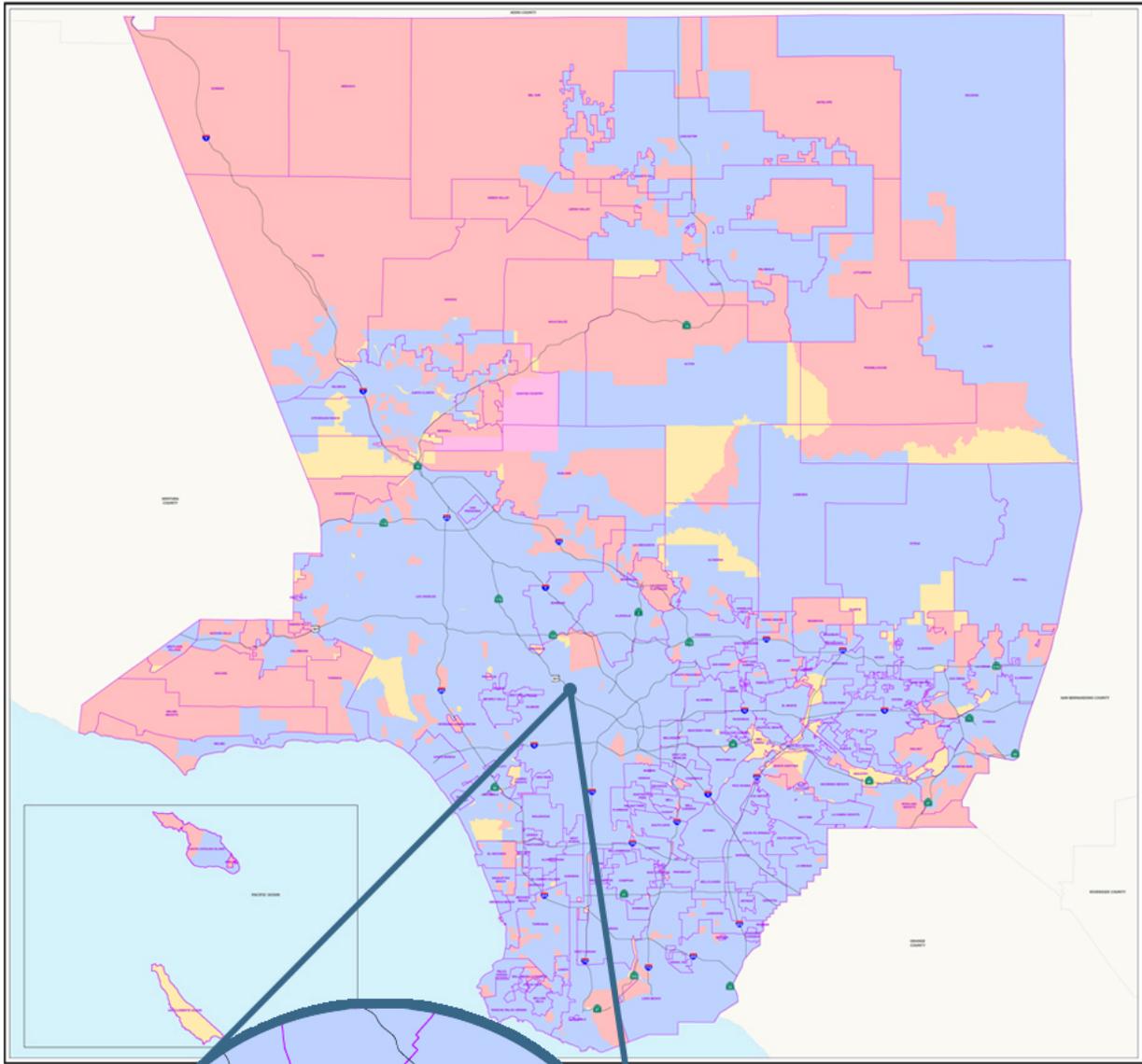
Voters by Age Ages 40-49

- 0 Percent
- 1-25%
- 26-50%
- 51-70%
- Over 71%

Communities

Ages 50-59

Countywide



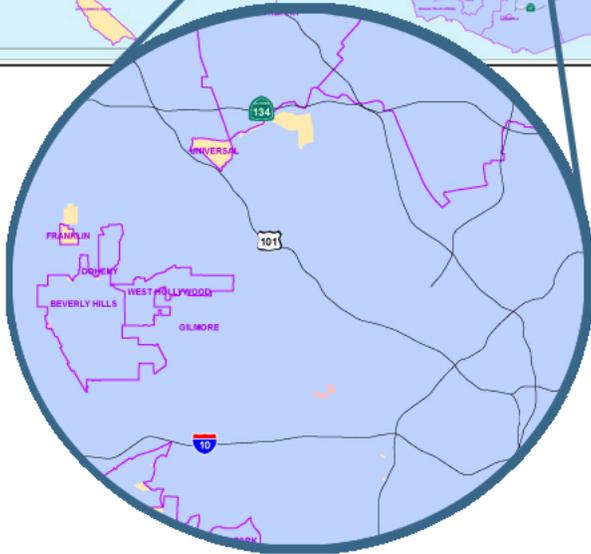
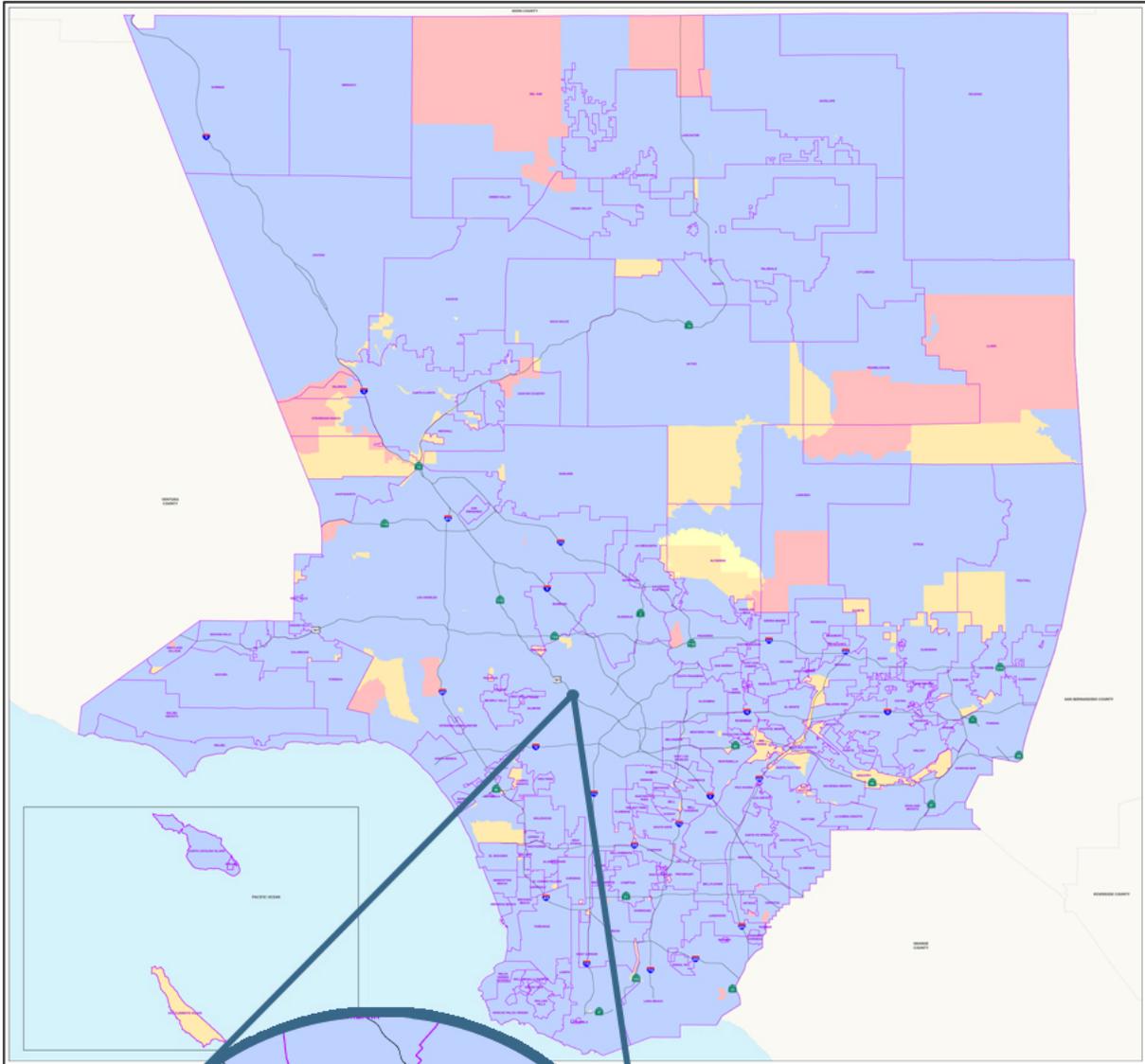
Voters by Age Ages 50-59

- 0 Percent
- 1-25%
- 26-50%
- 51-70%
- Over 71%

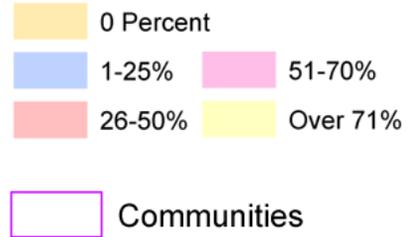
Communities

Ages 60-69

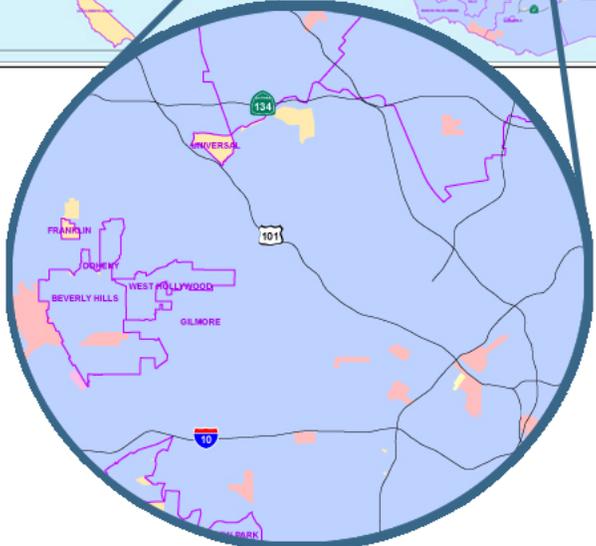
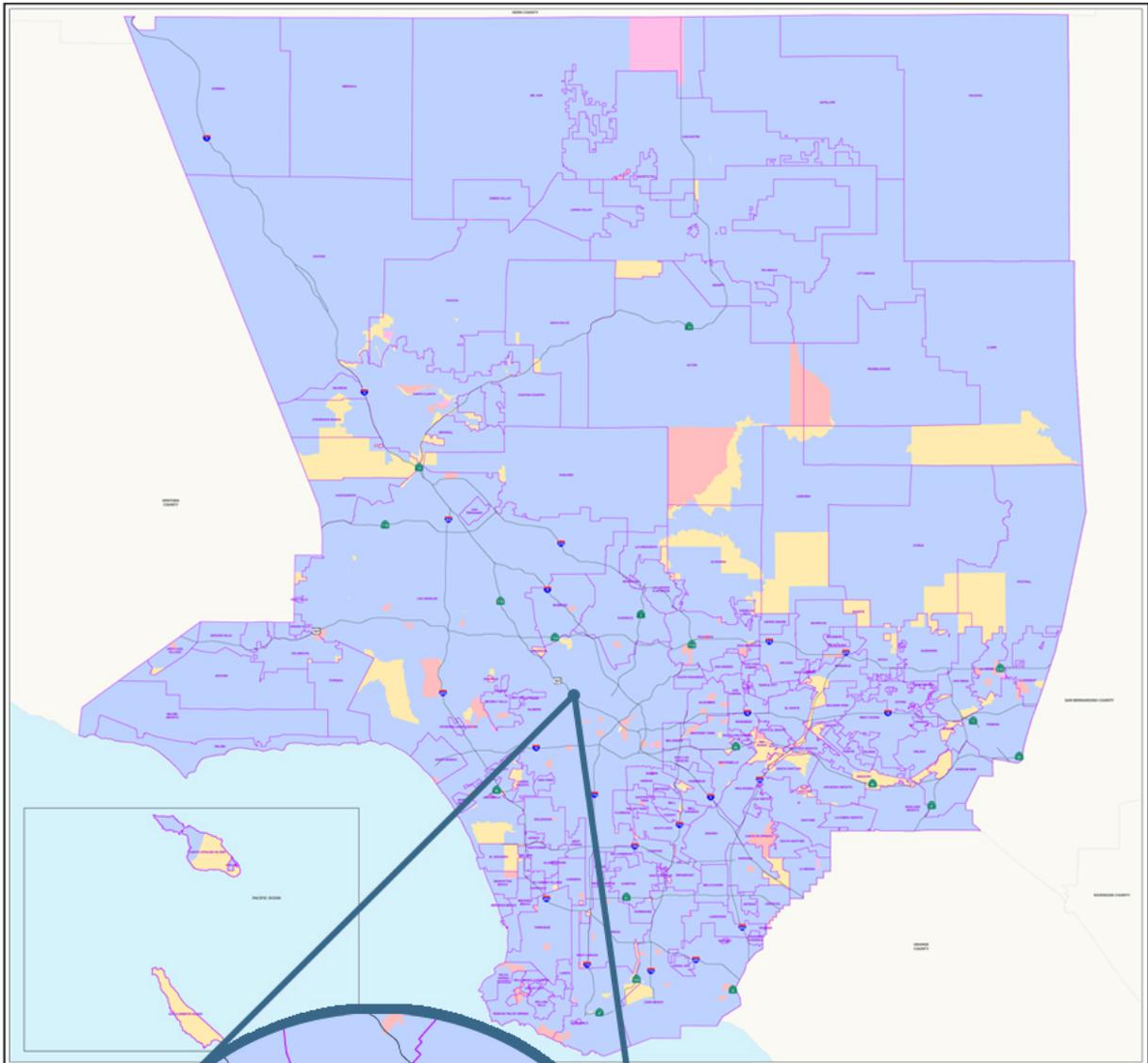
Countywide



Voters by Age Ages 60-69



Ages 70+ Countywide



Voters by Age Ages Over 70

- 0 Percent
- 1-25%
- 26-50%
- 51-70%
- Over 71%

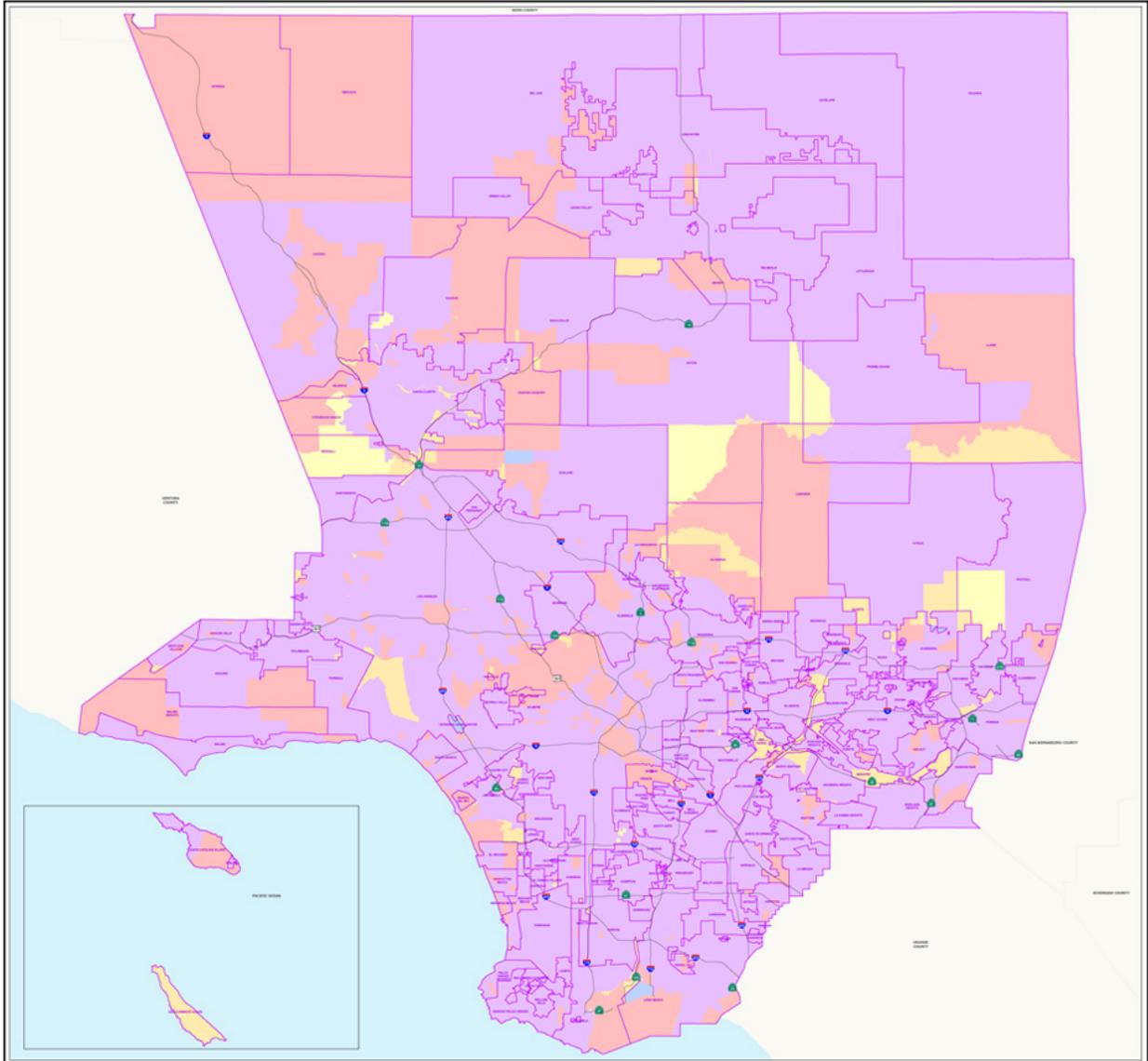
Communities

PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST RESULTS BY GENDER

More females went to the polls than males in the November election. The following map shows the communities where over 50 percent of voters were male or female.

Votes by Females

Countywide



Legend

Communities

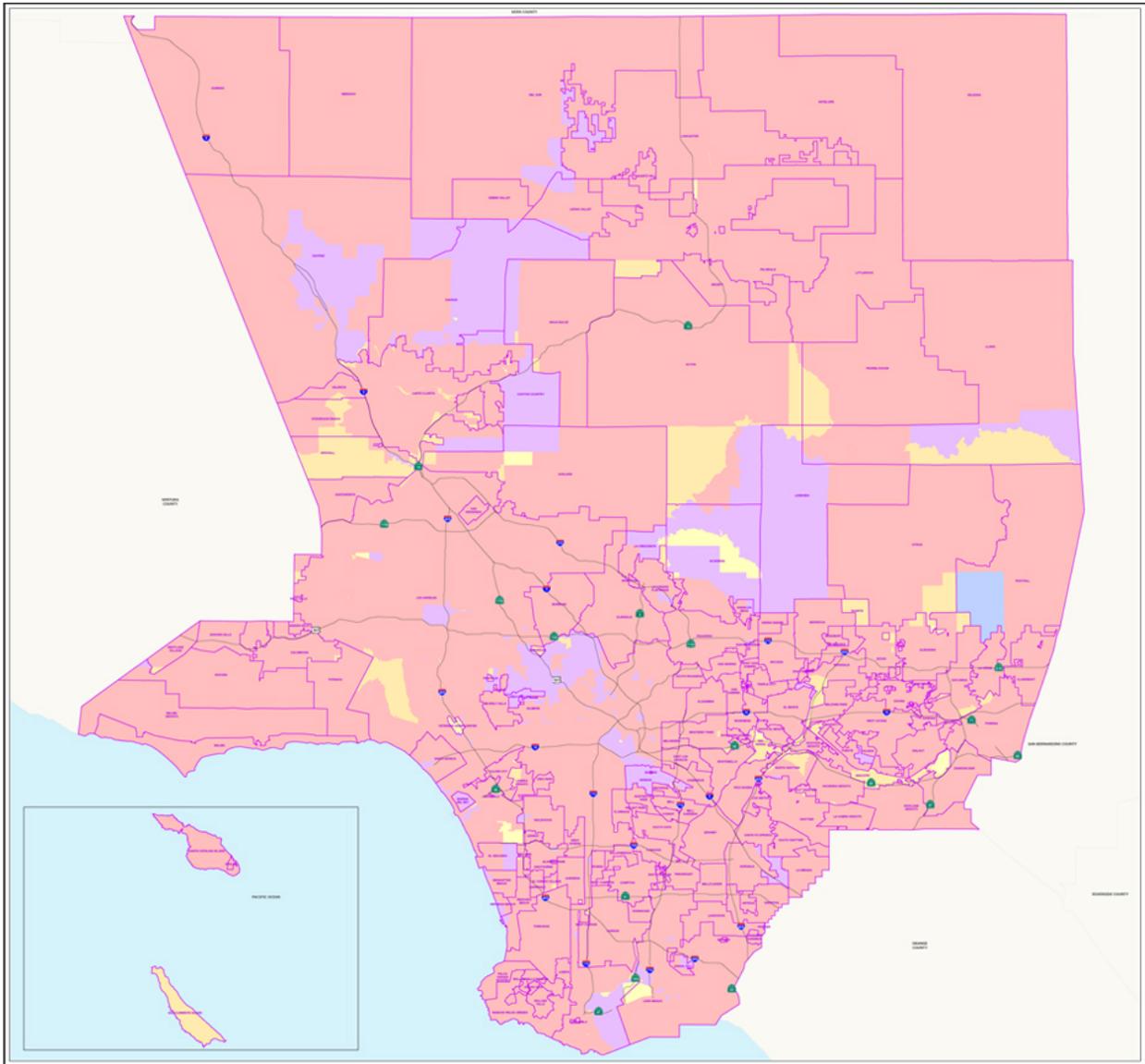
Voters by Gender

Percent Female

0 Percent	51-70%
1-25%	Over 71%
26-50%	

Votes by Males

Countywide

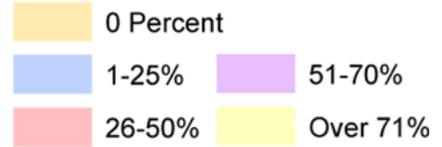


Legend

 Communities

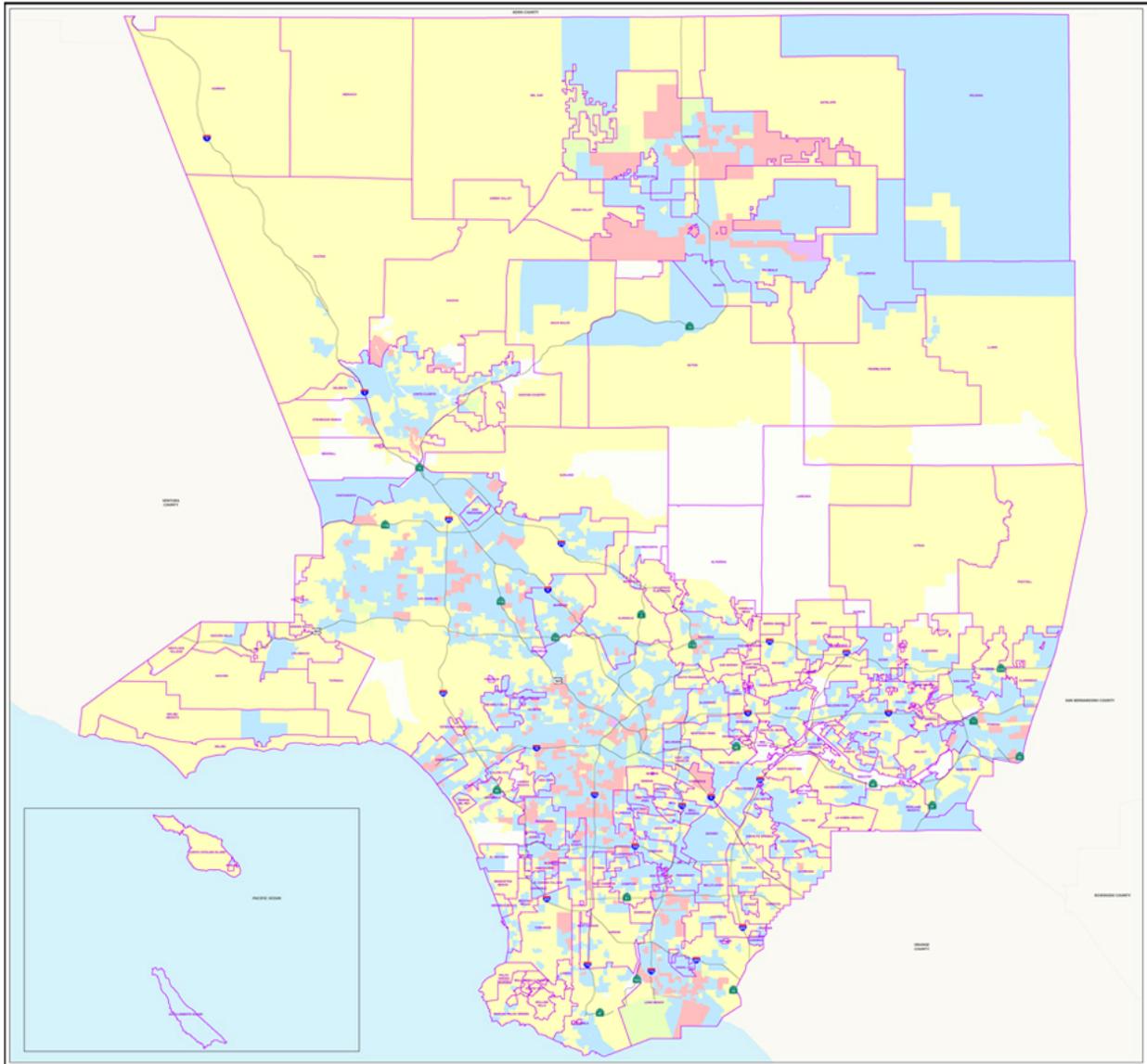
Votes by Gender

Percent Male



PROVISIONAL VOTES CAST

Provisional voters are those whose names do not appear on the Roster of Voters at the polls. These voters cast provisional ballots which are verified after the election and counted if their registration can be confirmed. Voters cast 271,074 provisional ballots in the November election and 85 percent of these were verified and counted. The map below shows where these provisional voters cast ballots.



Legend

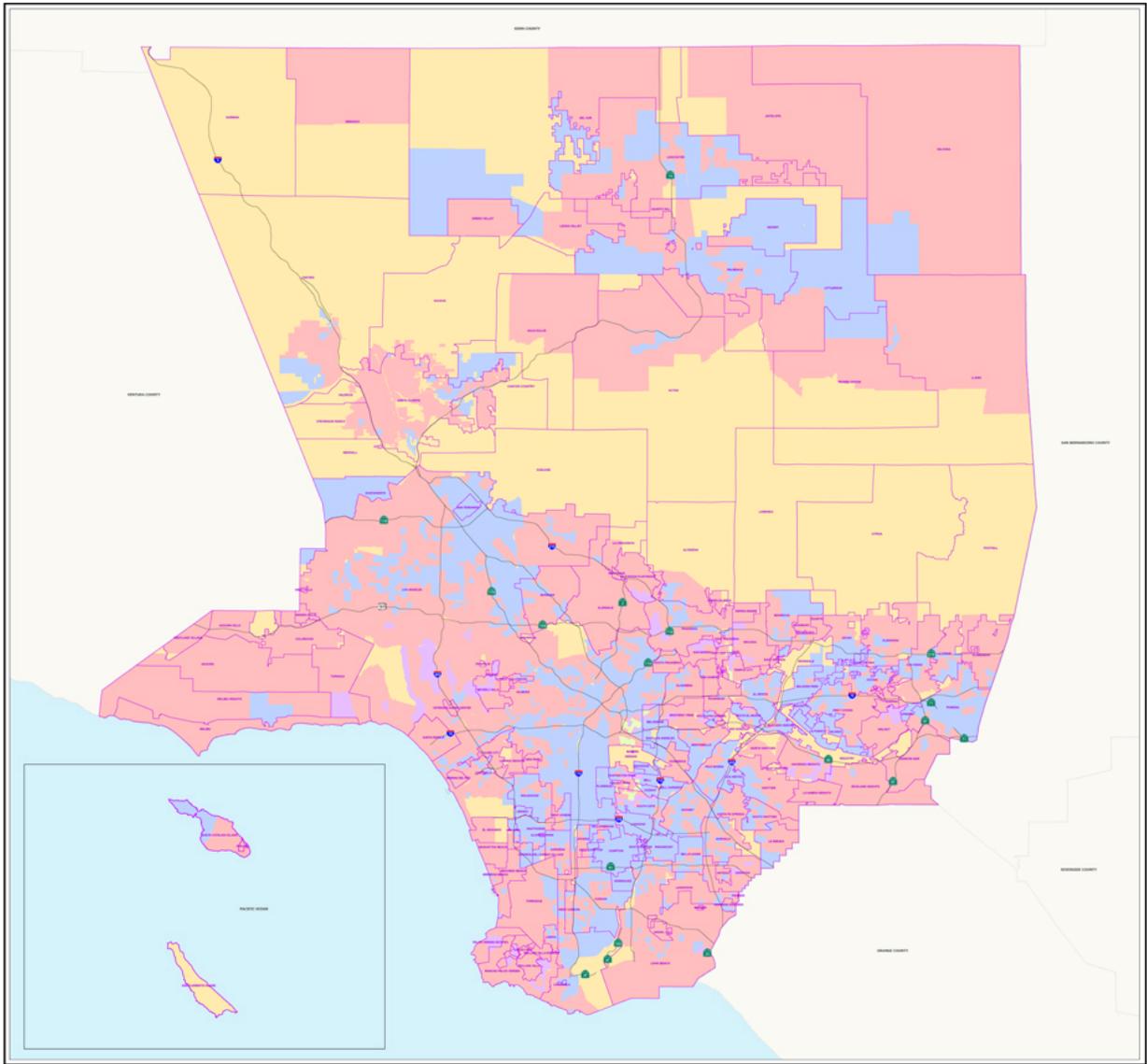
 Communities

Provisional Votes

Number of Provisional Ballots Cast

 1 - 50	 151 - 200
 51 - 100	 Over 200
 101 - 150	

LA COUNTY RECORD
VOTE BY MAIL VOTES CAST
Over 1 million voters requested Vote by Mail ballots and over 81 percent returned them to be counted- another record breaking event. The map below shows where mail-in votes were submitted.



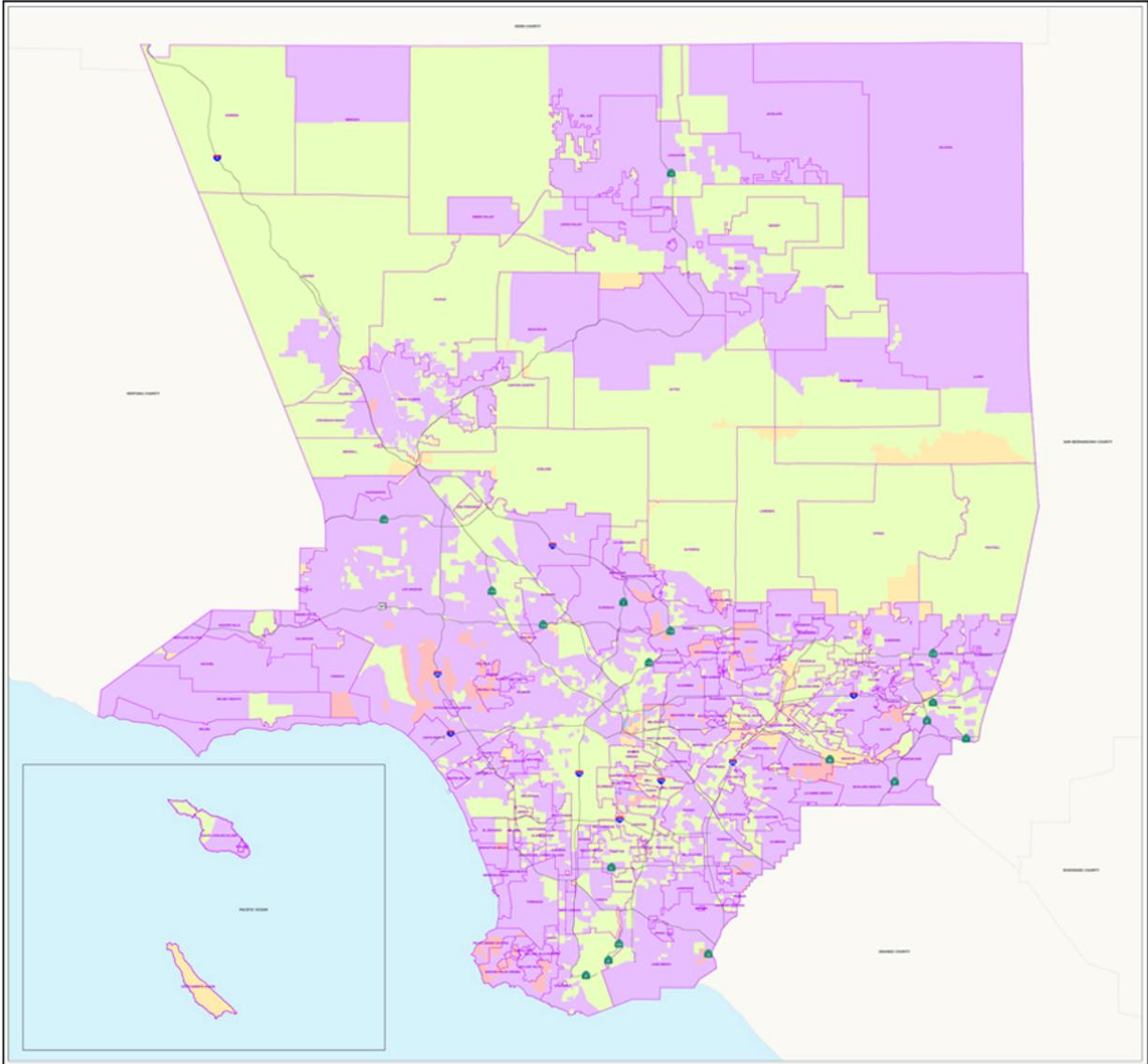
Legend
[Purple outline] Communities

Mail-in Votes as a Percentage of All Votes Cast

- 0 Percent
- 1-25%
- 26-50%
- 51-75%
- 76-100%

Votes Cast at Polling Places

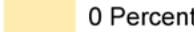
Countywide



Legend

 Communities

Votes at Polls as a Percentage of All Votes Cast

 0 Percent

 1-25%

 26-50%

 51-75%

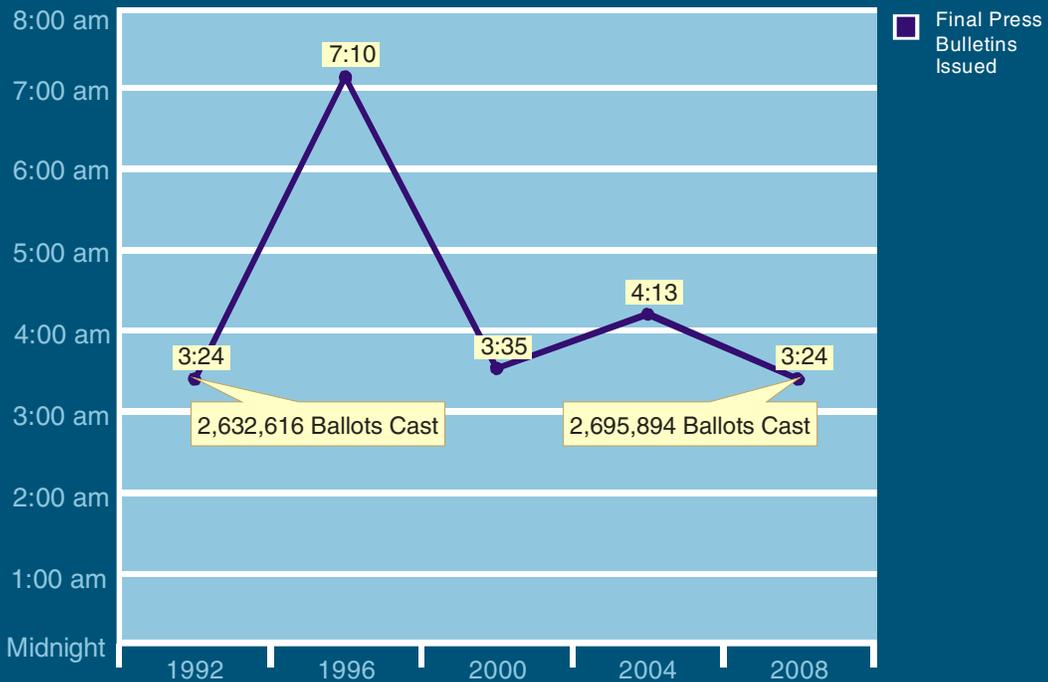
 76-100%

Election Night is a spectacular event in L.A. County. Ballots are driven and flown into its Norwalk Headquarters from every corner of the county, including Catalina Island. Thousands of secured and sealed “red boxes” are delivered and millions of ballots are inspected and prepared for counting.

LA COUNTY RECORD

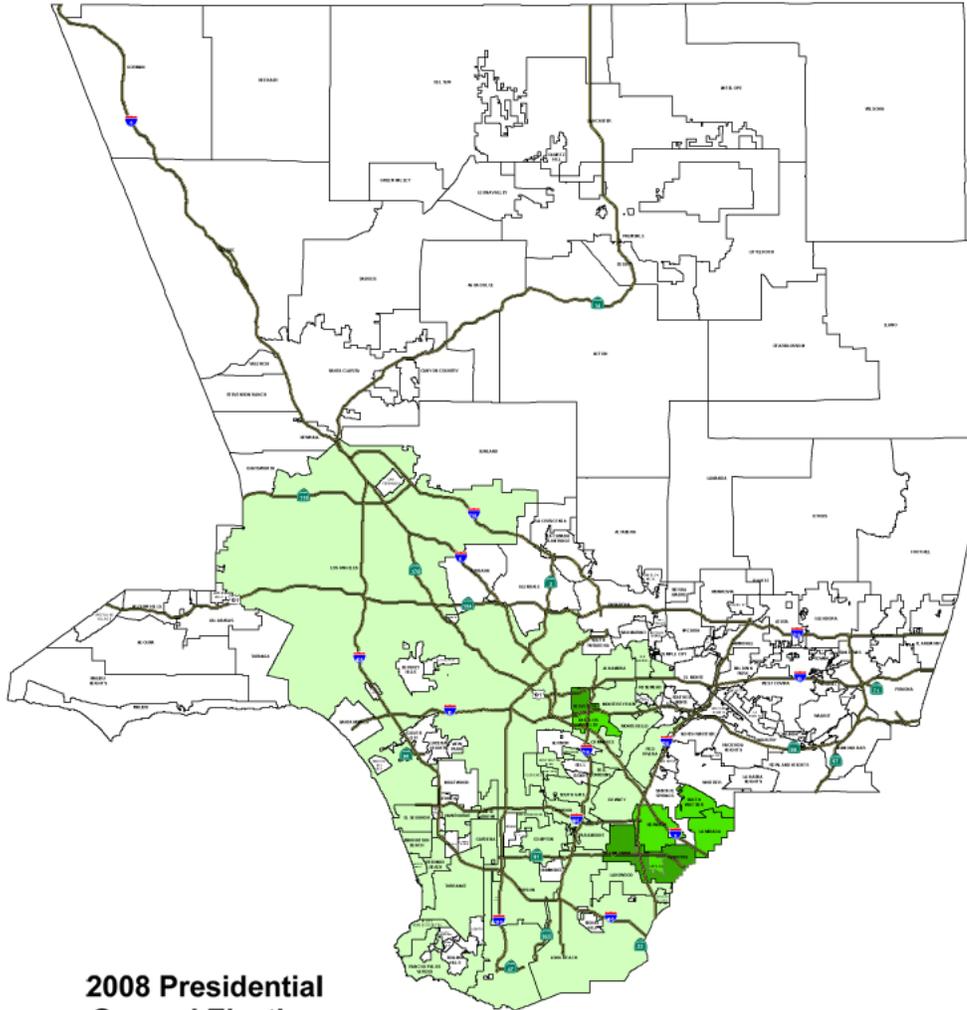
The Registrar's team collected, scanned and processed more ballots than ever and finished counting in record time for ballots cast in a presidential election. They also implemented an online ballot box tracking program that allowed internet users to view the progress of collecting and transporting ballot boxes from the precincts to Norwalk Headquarters.

Final Press Bulletin Reporting Times (1992-2008)



Ballot Box Tracking

10pm

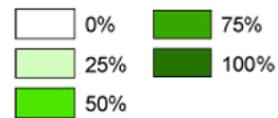


2008 Presidential General Election

Total Polling Places: 4394
Polls Not Checked In: 4147
Polls Checked In: 247 5.62 %

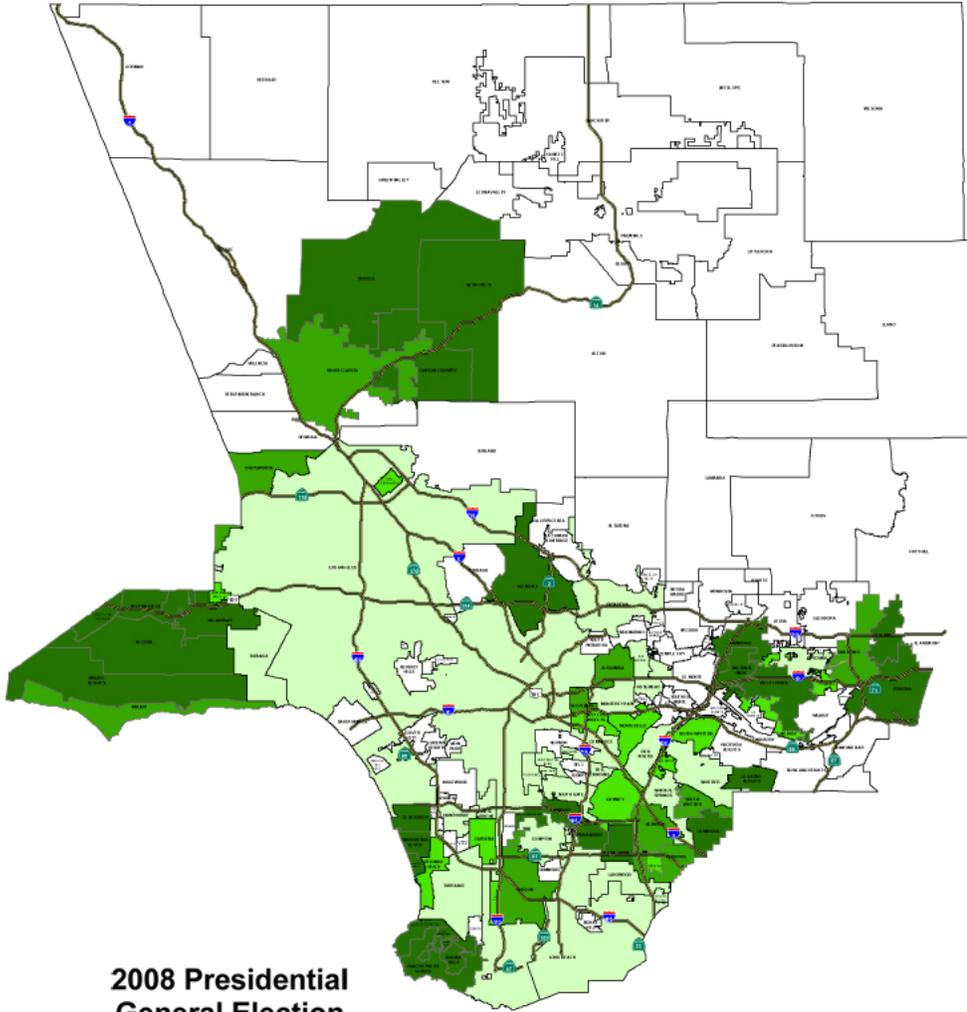
As Of 10:00 PM

Polls Checked In



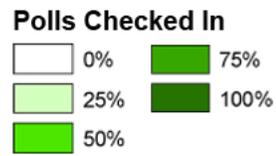
Ballot Box Tracking

11pm



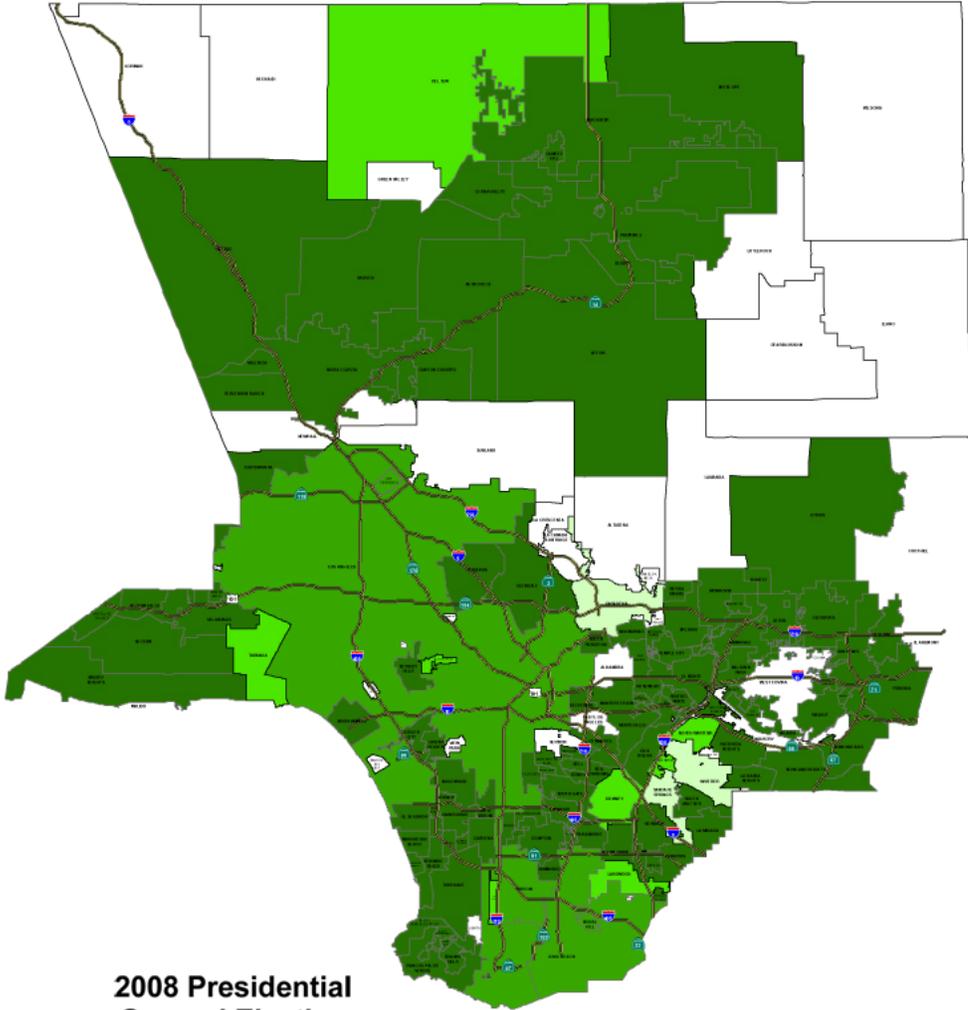
2008 Presidential General Election

Total Polling Places: 4394
Polls Not Checked In: 3123
Polls Checked In: 1271 28.93 %
As Of 11:00 PM



Ballot Box Tracking

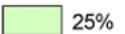
12am



2008 Presidential General Election

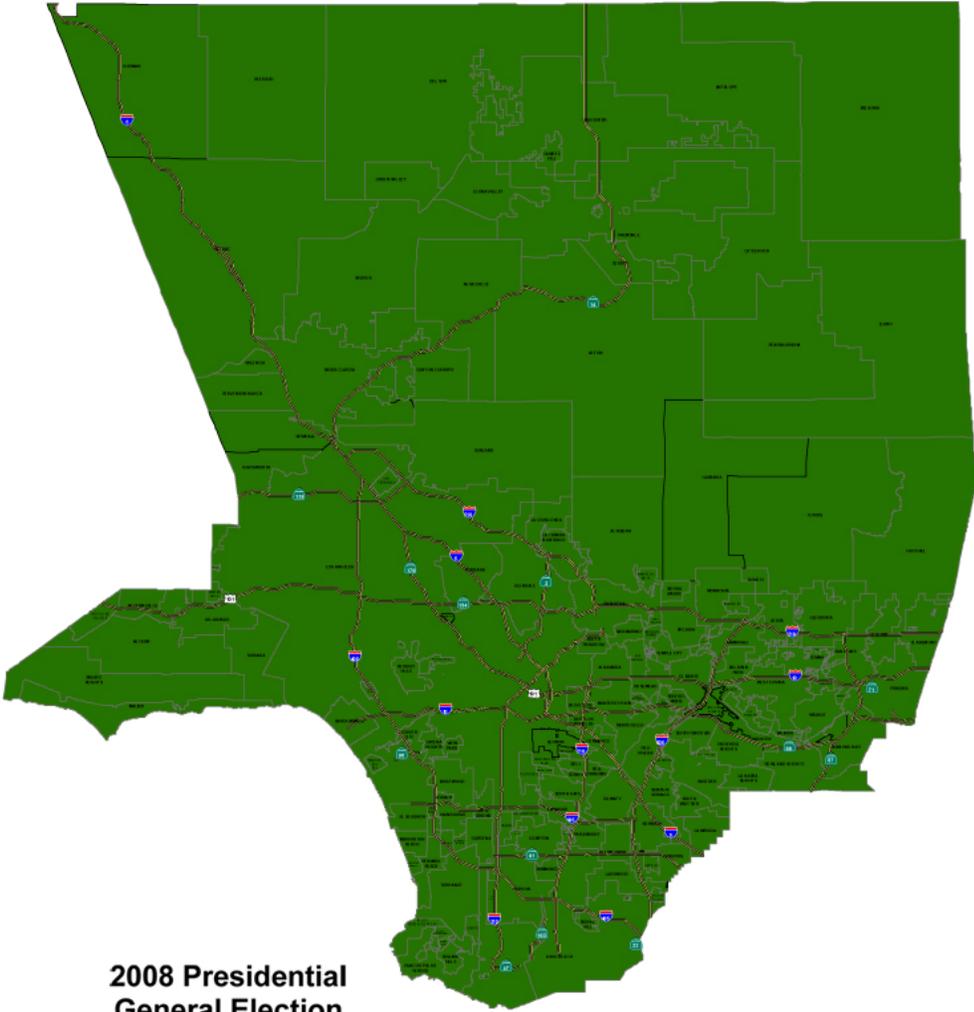
Total Polling Places:	4394	
Polls Not Checked In:	1015	
Polls Checked In:	3379	76.90 %
As Of 12:00 AM		

Polls Checked In

	0%		75%
	25%		100%
	50%		

Ballot Box Tracking

1am



2008 Presidential General Election

Total Polling Places:	4394	
Polls Not Checked In:	0	
Polls Checked In:	4394	100.00 %
As Of 1:00 AM		

