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# County of Orange Registrar of Voters



**VOTE EASY.**  
**VOTE SECURE.**

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

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# Community Election Working Group

October 14, 2026

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# Housekeeping

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- Please mute yourself unless speaking or presenting
- Pause for questions
- May submit questions and comments in chat or raise hand



# Welcome & Introductions

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- Lucinda Williams, Chair
- Bob Page, Registrar of Voters
- Registrar of Voters Staff
- CEW member roll call



# Agenda

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- Approve minutes of May 6, 2026 CEW meeting
- Member Recruitments
- Open Forum
- 2026 Statewide Direct Primary Election
- 2026 General Election



# Agenda

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- Voter Education and Outreach
- Urgency Election Law Changes
- Updates from VAAC and LAAC
- Future Business Items
- Adjournment

Approve May 6, 2026 Minutes

# Member Recruitment



# CEW Member Recruitment

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- Asian Community
- Vote Center CSR
- Youth (18-25)

Actively engaging and recruiting



Open Forum



# 2026 Statewide Direct Primary Election

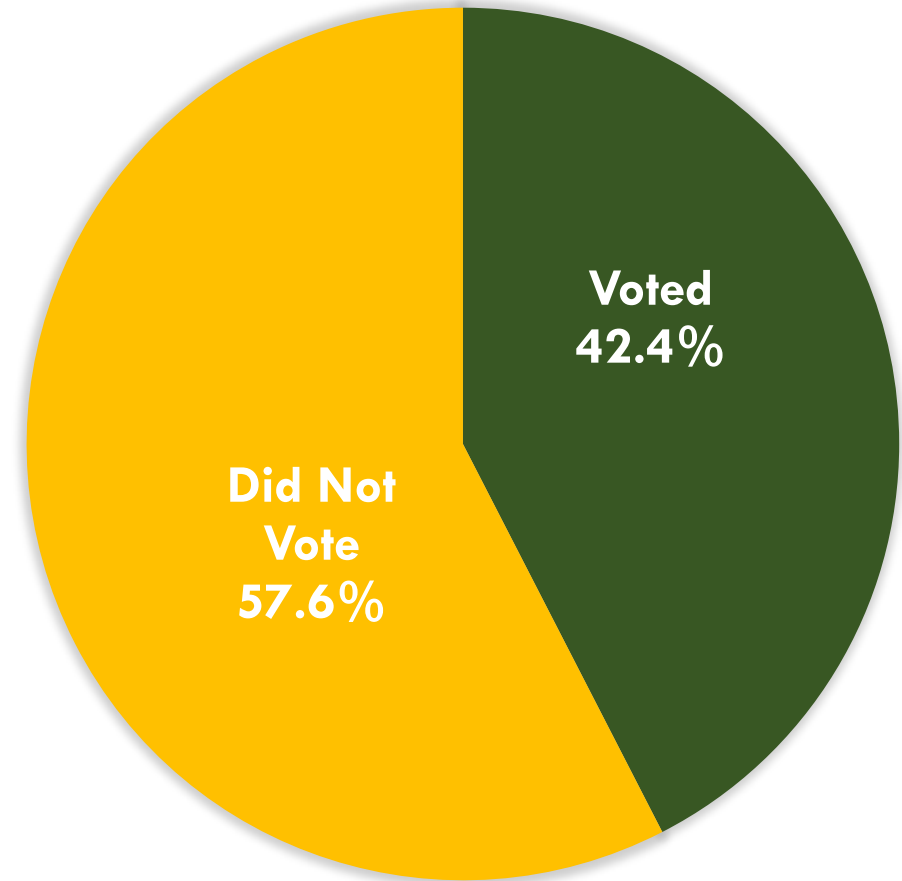


# 2026 Statewide Direct Primary Election

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## Orange County Results

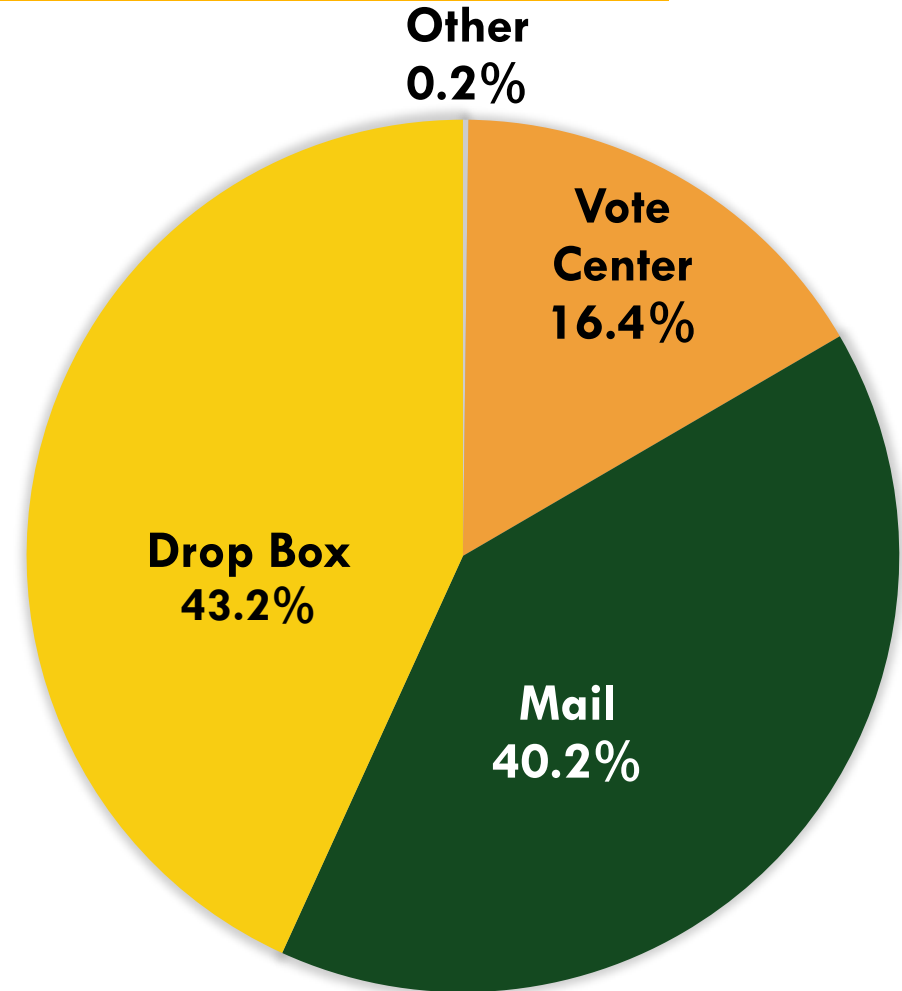
- Active Registered Voters: 1,907,719
- Ballots Counted: 809,748
- Turnout: 42.4%





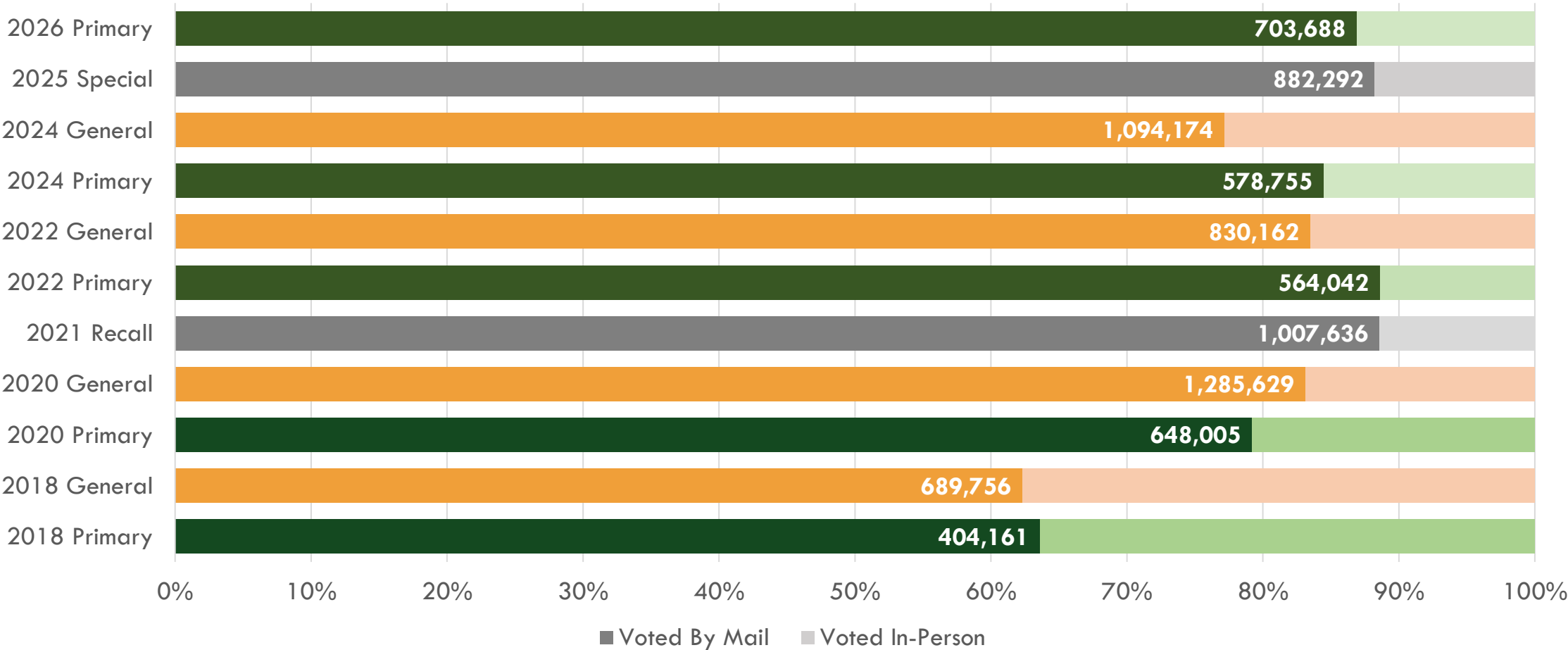
# 2026 Statewide Direct Primary Election

- Vote-By-Mail – 86.9%
  - Mail – 40.2%
  - Drop Box – 43.2%
  - Vote Center – 16.4%
  - Other – 0.2%
- In-Person – 13.1%



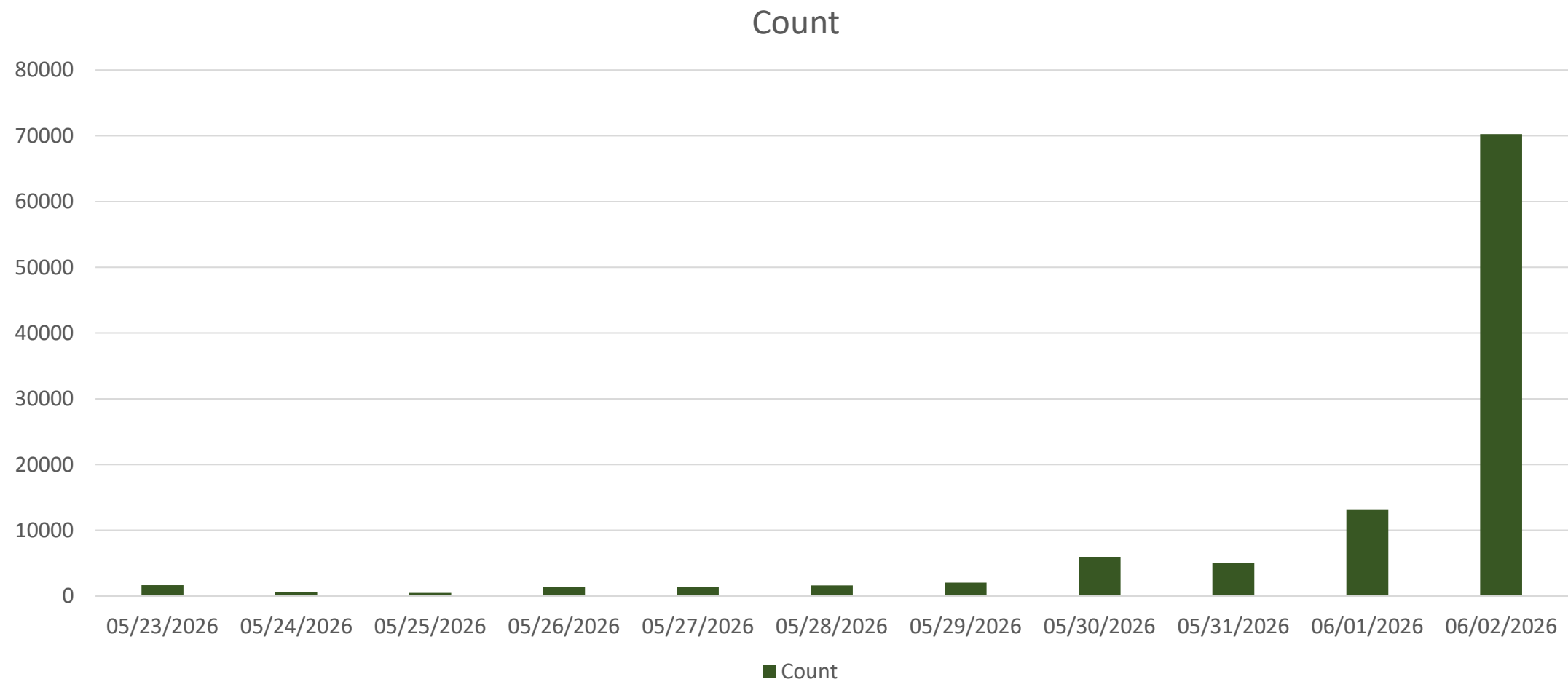


# Vote-By-Mail vs. Vote Center Participation





# In-Person Turnout by Day





# Response to GG Hazmat Incident

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- GKN Aerospace in Garden Grove – Over 50,000 residents evacuated
- One Vote Center and three Ballot Drop Boxes Closed
- Provided multilingual maps of the closest Vote Centers to all shelters
- Supervisors and CSRs were deployed to three emergency shelters to issue replacement ballots to voters



# 2026 General Election



# 2026 General Election – Key Dates

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- Military/Overseas Ballots Issued: Sept. 4 – 19
- County VIG Mailed: Sept. 23 – 24
- VBM Ballot Mailing Started: Oct. 5
- Last Day for Voter Registration: Oct. 19
- In-Person Voting: Oct. 24 – Nov. 3
- Complete Canvass: Nov. 25 – Dec. 3



# Signature Cure Deadlines & Certification

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- 2024 General Election: Assembly Bill 3184 (Berman)
  - set a cure deadline of **E+26**
  - prohibited certification before **E+28**
- 2025 Special Election: Senate Bill 280 (Cervantes)
  - set a cure deadline of **E+26**
  - prohibited certification before **E+28**
- 2026 & Future Statewide Elections: AB 827 (Berman)
  - sets a cure deadline of 5 p.m. on **E+22**



# Four Easy Ways to Vote

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- Return Ballot by Mail
- Place Ballot in a Secure Drop Box
  - 128 (One per 15,000 Voters)
- Drop Ballot Off at a Vote Center
  - 39 open for 11 days (One per 50,000)
  - 152 open for 4 days (One per 10,000 Voters)
  - Will open 1 Vote Center at UCI on Election Day
- Scan Ballot at a Vote Center





# New Vote Center Hours

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- Vote Center Hours
  - Early Voting E-10 to E-1: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  - Election Day: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Election Administration Plan 2026-2029
- Approved by Secretary of State on Dec. 4, 2025

[ocvote.gov/eap](https://ocvote.gov/eap)



# Pop-Up Voting

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- **Sunday, Oct. 25:** Leisure World, Seal Beach
- **Tuesday, Oct. 27:** Braile Institute Anaheim Center, Anaheim
- **Thursday, Oct. 29:** South Coast Chinese Center, Irvine
- **Saturday, Oct. 31:** CREER Comunidad Y Familia, San Juan Capistrano
- **Monday, Nov. 2:** AltaMed Medical Group, Santa Ana



# 2026 General Election

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## What offices are up for election?

- Voter nominated elections for State Constitutional offices including the State Board of Equalization (4th District), U.S. House of Representatives, State Senate, and State Assembly.
- Nonpartisan elections for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Supreme Court and Court of Appeal justices, School District offices, County Board of Supervisors (4th and 5th Districts), City offices, and Special District offices.



# 2026 General Election

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## What measures are on the ballot?

- 14 State Propositions
- 2 School District Bond measures
- 13 City measures

More information: [ocvote.gov/elections](https://ocvote.gov/elections)



# 2026 General Election

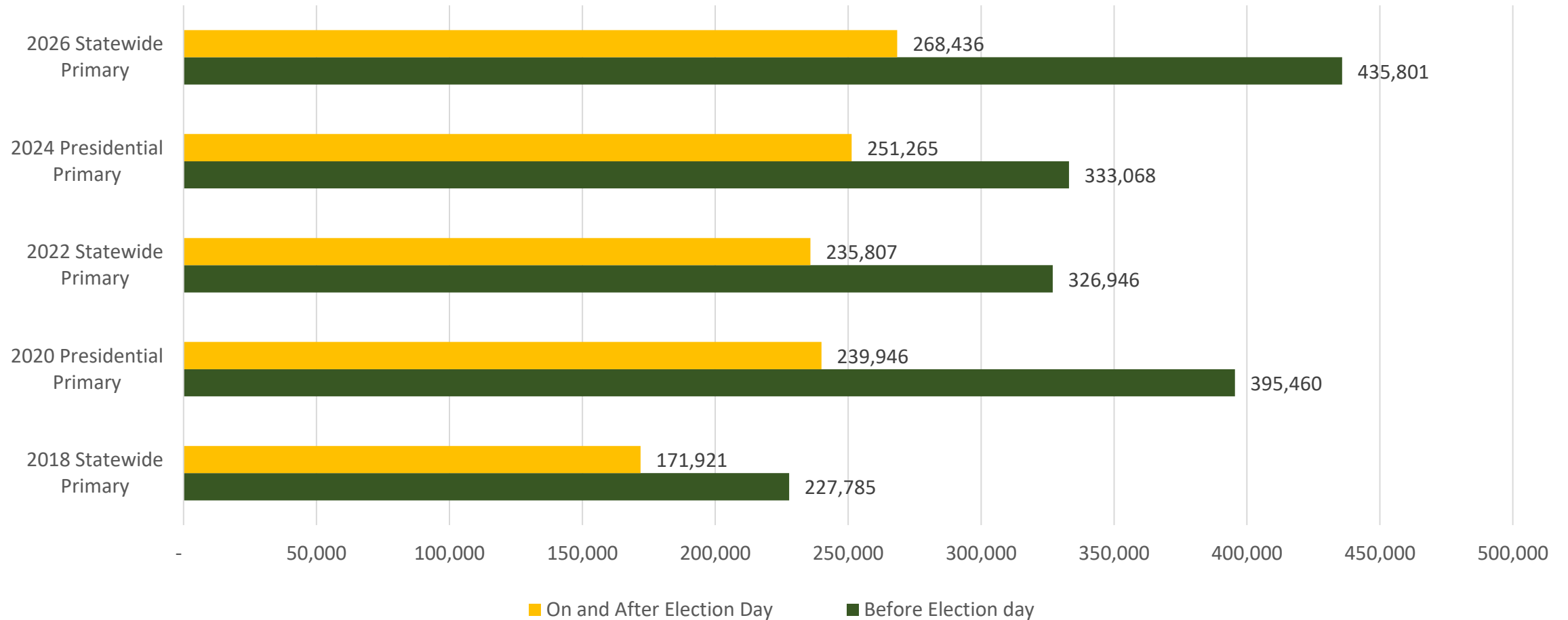
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- 17-inch ballot
- 549 unique ballot styles
- 169 Candidate Contests
- 430 Candidates

# State Funding for Ballot Processing/Voter Education



# VBM Returned Before/After Election Day





# Building Ballot Processing Capacity

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- County invested \$4.1 million in Vote-By-Mail ballot processing equipment in 2023
- Results in 2026 Statewide Direct Primary Election
  - Early ballots in drop boxes started process same-day
  - 94.1% of early ballots in first results (77.5% in 2022 Primary)
  - 77.4% of all ballots in E+3 results (65.4% in 2022 Primary)



# Speed of the Count

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- During 2026 Primary Election, the results from 96.6% of accepted ballots on **E+7**
- Only VBMs that were signature challenged were left to process after **E+8**
- Since 2024, the results from at least 95% of accepted ballots have been published from **E+4 to E+8**
- During 2018 Primary Election, the results from at least 95% of accepted ballots were not published until **E+14**



# Building More Ballot Processing Capacity

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In 2026-27 Budget, California allocated \$34 million to counties to expedite ballot counting and promote early voting.

- Orange County received \$3.2 million on August 27 (E-68)
  - \$2,766,941.18 to expand of ballot processing space, buy equipment and furniture, use automated signature verification software, and hire additional temporary staff
  - \$477,058.82 to conduct voter education and outreach



# Space and Staffing Expansion

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- Expand working space and electrical capacity
- Purchase updated equipment
- Hire additional staff for VBM Boards and Ballot Processors



# Automated Signature Verification Software

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- Testing phase has proven ASV to be extremely accurate
- Removing approximately 30% from manual verification
- The goal is to speed up ballot processing
- ASV cannot reject a voter's ballot



# Instant CVR Implementation

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- Will continue to process registrations through voting period
- Expanding from UCI and five pilot Vote Centers to all Vote Centers
- Reducing provisionals shortens vote counting

# Voter Education and Outreach



# Your Vote, Counted 1<sup>st</sup> Campaign

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- [ocvote.gov/early](https://ocvote.gov/early) includes:
  - Provides resources for How to Vote Early
  - Explains that your early votes get into Election Night results
  - Promotional video encouraging early voting
  - New social media content #Counted1st #VoteEarly #OllieBowl #OllieOC

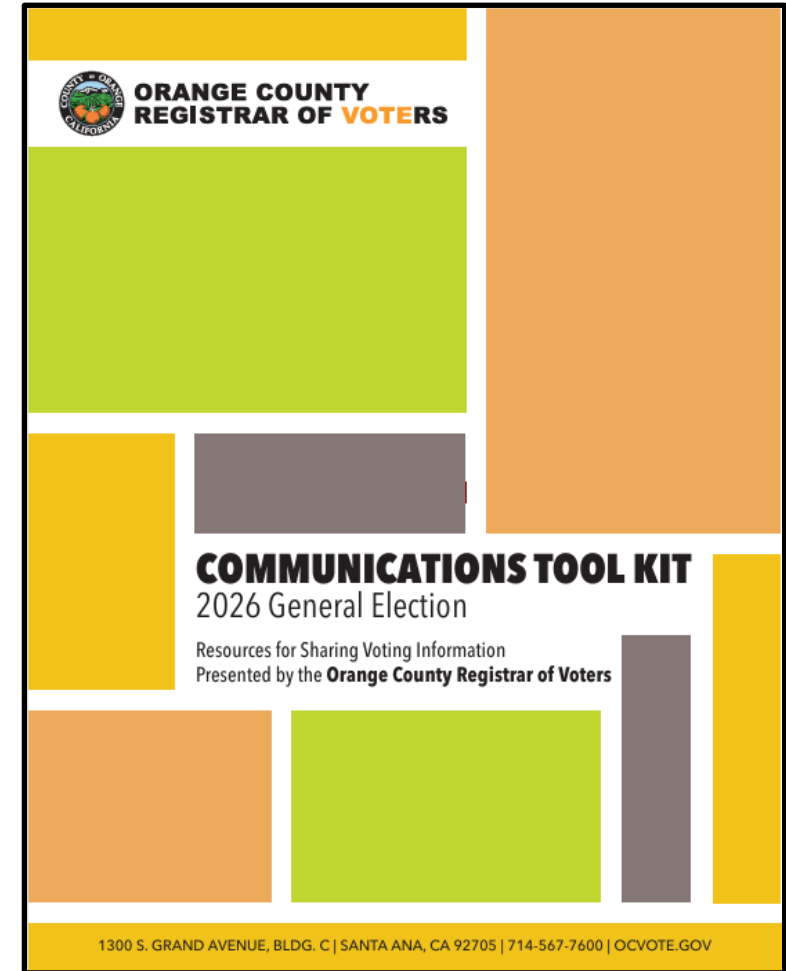




# Communications Tool Kit

- Infographics
- Videos and PSAs
- Presentation Slides
- Social Media Posts and Graphics
- Newsletter and Email Articles
- FAQs and QR codes

Visit [ocvote.gov/community](https://ocvote.gov/community)



# Open House Recap

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Attendees: 44 members of the public

Program Highlights:

- Short presentations on election processes

Outcome:

- Increased public awareness of election integrity measures
- Positive community engagement and transparency efforts

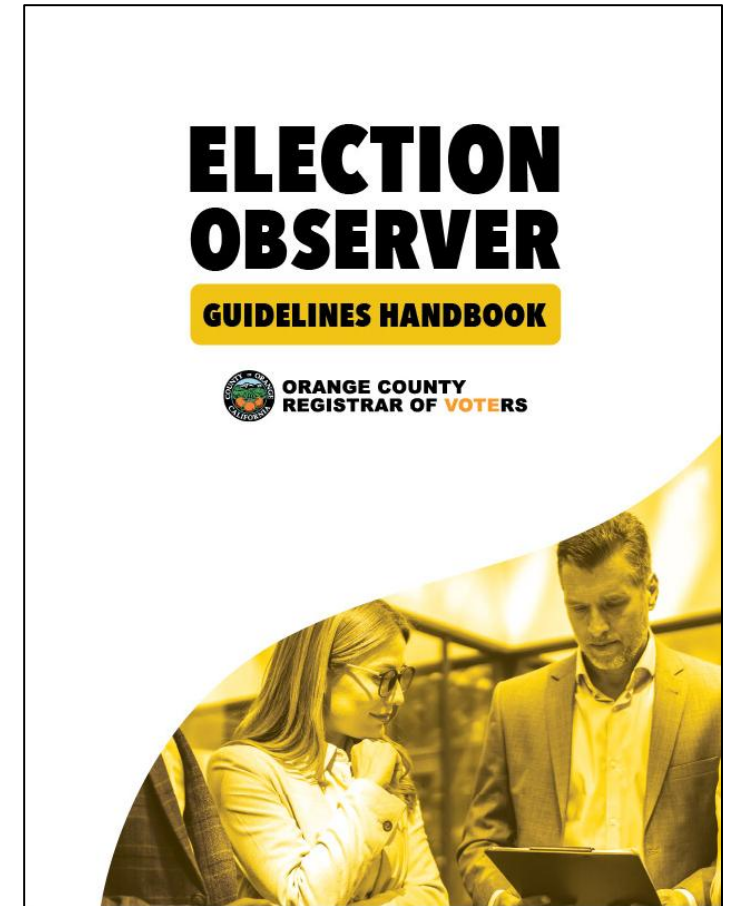




# Observation Open Through Certification

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- Observation Schedule Public Notice
- Handbook & Brochure
- Ambassador Program
- Observation opened September 29
- Expanded Observation Area





# Observation Participation

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- Participate: Roll the dice for the One Percent Manual Tally and Risk Limiting Audit Random Draws
- Attend: Post-Election Logic and Accuracy Test and Tabulation Audits
- Share: Encourage your organization to observe
- Visit [ocvote.gov/observe](https://ocvote.gov/observe)

# Urgency Election Law Changes



# Senate Bill 73

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- Signed by Governor on May 27, 2026
  - Requires AG to publish guidance regarding how counties should respond to law enforcement requests to access to voting and ballot processing areas
  - Prohibits law enforcement from interfering or anyone from authorizing law enforcement to interfere with an election
  - Allows SOS and AG to object to counties using law enforcement to provide security and logistical support



# Assembly Bill 282

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Makes it a felony to seize or assist in seizure of ballots, election records or voting equipment before election results are certified by the election official.
  - Makes it a felony for someone with authority to direct others under their supervision to seize ballots election records or voting equipment before election results are certified by the election official.



# Assembly Bill 502

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Expands restrictions on materially deceptive election advertisements/media that could influence voter decisions or undermine public confidence in elections.



# Assembly Bill 1664

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Requires that election officials provide notice to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General immediately, but no later than one calendar day after becoming aware of any warrant, subpoena or active law enforcement investigation related to any election records or voting equipment.



# Senate Bill 259

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Imposes misdemeanor penalties for interfering with the delivery of Vote-By-Mail ballots to voters.
  - Imposes felony penalties on individuals in positions of authority who direct others to interfere with the delivery of ballots to voters or the return of ballots to election officials.



# Senate Bill 884

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Requires ballot drop boxes to now be open during regular business hours no later than E-30 for all elections held or called through December 31, 2029.
  - Prohibits law enforcement from making arrests within 200 feet of a polling place on Election Day, except for crimes involving polling-place disruption or crimes against persons or property.



# Senate Bill 884

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Authorizes county board of supervisors to extend prohibition on electioneering activities to up to 200 feet of the specified voting locations.
  - Authorizes county elections official to extend the time for closing the polls at a polling place if they determine that voting was disrupted as a result of a violation of the prohibitions on arrests or electioneering activities near polling places.



# Senate Bill 1418

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Makes taking election materials or voting technology from election officials' custody a crime and expands preservation requirements when an election contest or criminal proceeding is pending.
  - Clarifies electronic data storage requirements and requires stored data to be kept in sealed container.



# Senate Bill 1420

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- Signed by Governor on September 19, 2026
  - Requires the Secretary of State to establish regulations that standardizes procedures for voters who would like to cast their Vote-By-Mail ballot at a Vote Center without the ballot's identification envelope.
  - Requires the procedures to be developed in consultation with county election officials and included in State Voter Information Guide.

# CEW VAAC and CEW LAAC Updates



# VAAC Meeting Update

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- Messaging voting early - emphasizing alternative ways to return your ballot, RAVBM, Emergency Ballots
- Communications Toolkit – ready to use materials
- Website Accessibility Review
- [ocvote.gov/accessibility](https://ocvote.gov/accessibility)



# LAAC Meeting Update

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- Election Saecurity and Emergency Preparedness
- Language Assistance and Accessibility
- Community Outreach and Education
  - Voter Registration
  - Early Voting – Your Vote, Counted 1st Campaign
- Communication Resources and Post-Election Analysis

# Future Business Items



# Next Meeting Dates

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- VAAC and LAAC
- Next regular CEW meeting

TBD after General Election

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Next  
Time



**THANK  
YOU!**