



# THE REGISTRAR'S REPORT

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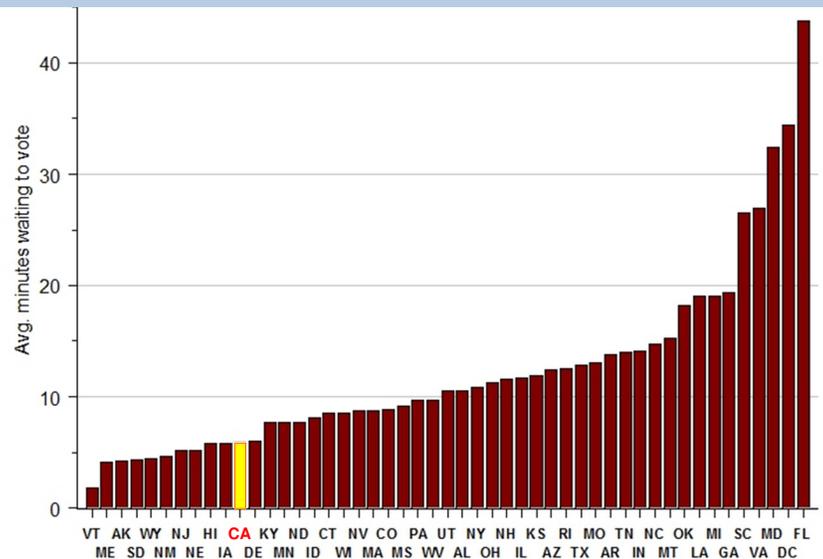
Solano County Registrar of Voters  
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## 2012 General Election Issues

After each election it's common in our office to reflect on the unique challenges we experienced in the past election, how we overcame those challenges, and what we need to address in the future. There are often a small number of items that distinguish one election from the next, and some of these issues in the 2012 Election are still being discussed around the country.

Long lines at polling places have come up in multiple discussions since the election. Although California is on the lower end of the spectrum for waiting time to vote (an average of 14 Minutes), our office will continue to evaluate processes, procedures and technology that helps us to understand, improve, and respond to queuing issues moving forward. We will look for specific methods to provide scalability at polling places to meet the wait time need in real time. Some examples of scalability include increasing the number of voting booths, or increasing the number of check-in points during the day to meet the higher demands.

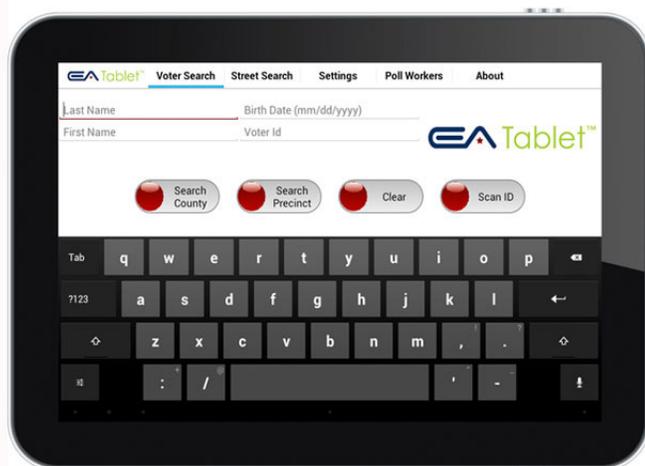
We will also be listening to poll workers, voters, and neighboring counties—listening to better understand the problem to be able to implement the best solution possible. We encourage you to contact our office if you have a suggestion on how to better improve service to our citizens.



Source: Charles Stewart III, 2012. "A Voter's Eye View of the 2012 Election." Wait times in the 2012 November Presidential Election by State.

## Introducing Electronic Check-in.

The Registrar of Voters is pleased to announce a new partnership with Election Administrators, to provide a new, efficient, and scalable electronic roster for voter check-in at the polling place. The new tablet-based roster will provide better information for poll workers, election observers, and election administrators with detailed voter information, reports of voters who voted, and monitoring the volume of voters at the polls.



The new electronic rosters provide a solution to delays at the check-in process. Poll workers will be able to search for voters by name or date of birth. Additionally, if a voter is not located at the precinct, the poll worker can search the county-wide database to identify the correct polling place for voters.

Finally, the tablet will provide information for the Provisional envelope in the event the voter is directed to vote provisionally reducing wait times in other areas of the polling place.

The Registrar of Voters will be hosting an open-house on June 25th to display the new devices and provide a hands-on demonstration.

## Finalization of Ballot Printing On Demand

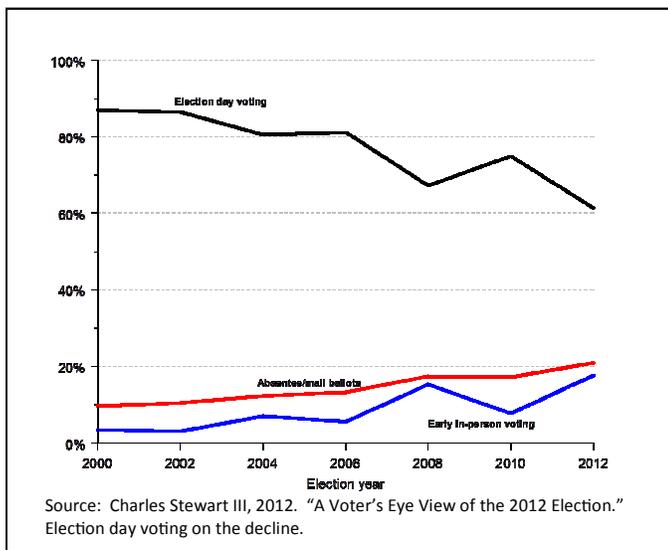
During both the Primary and General Elections of 2012, the Registrar of Voters office coordinated with the California Secretary of State's Office to become a certified ballot printer. This effort allowed our office to print ballots using a "Ballot on Demand" printer.

By utilizing these printers in a Primary Election our office was able to maximize efficiencies and procedures to provide better customer service, faster processing, and printing only the ballots necessary for the conduct of the election. The ROV estimated saving over \$14,000 in the General Election by not over-printing a stock of ballots for in-person early voting. Additionally, the printers were used for printing test ballots to help with poll-worker training, and providing a critical supply of provisional ballots on Election Days for exceptionally busy locations.



In March of 2013, the Board of Supervisors approved a contract with Election Systems and Software (ES&S) to provide printers, folders, and software necessary to operate the ballot on demand system for a five year contract and use of the system for future elections.

## Monitoring Election Trends



Over time we've observed the administration of elections change from in-person voting to higher percentages of vote by mail and pre-election voting (early voting). This trend continues to take place nationally and is particularly common in the western states. Solano County currently has 55% of all voters requesting to receive vote by mail ballots.

As we look for ways to improve and find efficiencies in election administration in Solano County, we consider this trend and have implemented features such as curb-side and use of city clerk's offices for ballot drop-off purposes.

We will continue to provide these services, plus look for ways to increase early voting availability

and possibly locations. Each of these programs come with a cost, which must also be considered before implementation.



### Staff Notes:

During the odd year cycle, staff are focusing on updating procedures, implementing new processes, and training. Our four coordinators are involved in training at the National Election Center's Professional Education Courses. We are all working on additional cross training to help with providing backup support to each area.

During the first quarter, we celebrated anniversaries for the following staff: Cathy Cooper (24 years), Theresa Ives (18 years), and Maria Teller (5 years).