

Election Education Series

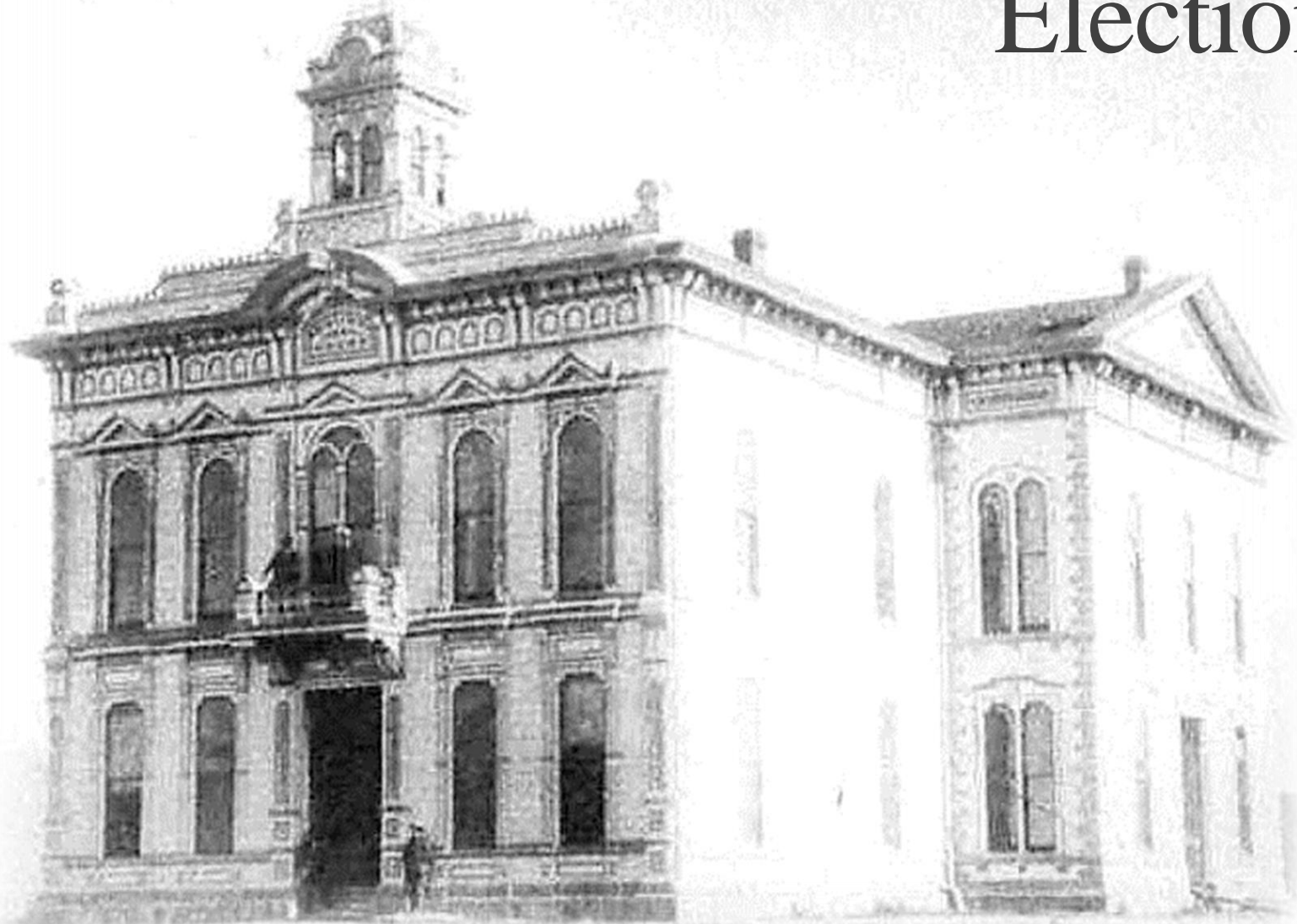
Part 2

Voting In Person at a Poll Place vs
Voting by Mail

Election Technology, Security, and Observers

Results, Canvass/Certification, Recounts, and
Fraud Prevention

October 1, 2024



Election Education Series

<https://monocounty.ca.gov/elections/page/election-education-series>

Election Education Series Part 1	August 20, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voter Registration and General Election Voting
Election Education Series Part 2	October 1, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voting In Person at a Poll Place vs Voting by Mail• Election Technology, Security, and Observers• Results, Canvass/Certification, Recounts, and Fraud Prevention



November 5, 2024, General Election

October 7, 2024: Ballots are mailed to every registered voter

October 8, 2024: Ballot drop boxes are opened throughout the State of California

November 5, 2024: Election Day (Polls Open 7 AM - 8 PM)

November 22, 2024: Registrar of Voters to certify election results

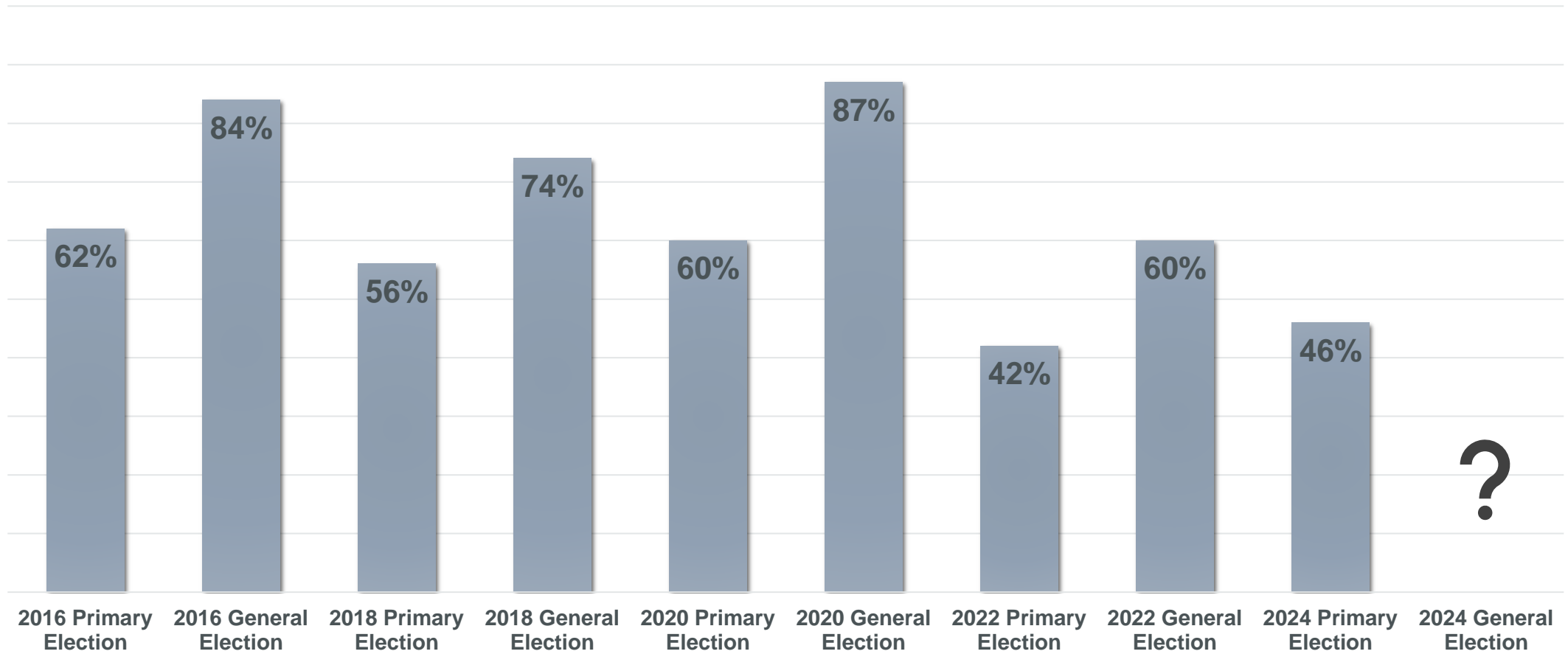


November 5, 2024, General Election

Polling Place Locations		Voting Precinct
All Polling Places are open Election Day 7 am to 8 pm		
Walker Community Center 442 Mule Deer Dr., Walker, CA 96107		01 - Antelope
Bridgeport Memorial Hall 73 School St., Bridgeport, CA 93517		03 - Bridgeport
Chalfant Community Center 123 Valley Rd., Chalfant Valley, CA 93514		04 - Tri-Valley
June Lake Community Center 90 W. Granite Ave., June Lake, CA 93529		05 - June Lake
Crowley Lake Community Center 58 Pearson Rd., Crowley Lake, CA 93546		07 - Long Valley
*** MOVED *** Mono County Civic Center 1290 Tavern Rd., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546		08 - Mammoth Meadow 09 - Mammoth Minaret 10 - Mammoth Pinecrest 12 - Mammoth View 13 - Old Mammoth
Ballot Drop Box Locations (open 10/8/2024)		
All Ballot Boxes are open 24 hours a day and are locked at 8 pm on Election Day		
442 Mule Deer Dr., Walker, CA 96107		73 School St., Bridgeport, CA 93517
123 Valley Rd., Chalfant Valley, CA 93514		90 W. Granite Ave., June Lake, CA 93529
58 Pearson Rd., Crowley Lake, CA 93546		1290 Tavern Rd., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Mono County Elections		
Ballots can be delivered to this office Mon - Fri 8 am - 5 pm, or Election Day 7 am - 8 pm		
74 N. School St., Annex I, Bridgeport, CA 93517		
760-932-5537 - elections@mono.ca.gov		



Voter Turnout in Mono County



Vote-by-Mail Ballot Return Options



Vote-by-Mail Ballot Return Options:

1. By mail using your yellow Postage Prepaid Return Envelope.
2. In person at the Mono County Elections office.
3. Drop off in one of six ballot drop boxes located throughout the County, or any drop box in the State of California.
4. Drop off at any polling place or vote center within the State of California.



Vote Early! Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day and received by our office no later than 7 days after Election Day.

How Often are Ballots Picked Up from Drop Boxes?

Ballots are retrieved from six secure drop boxes located throughout Mono County in teams of two.

On Election Day, Poll workers collect ballots from drop boxes at 8:00 PM and lock the slot door.

Current Schedule (subject to change):

- Friday, October 11, 2024
- Thursday, October 17, 2024
- Wednesday, October 23, 2024
- Monday, October 28, 2024
- Wednesday, October 30, 2024
- Friday, November 1, 2024
- Monday, November 4, 2024
- Tuesday, November 5, 2024



Vote-by-Mail Ballot Reminders

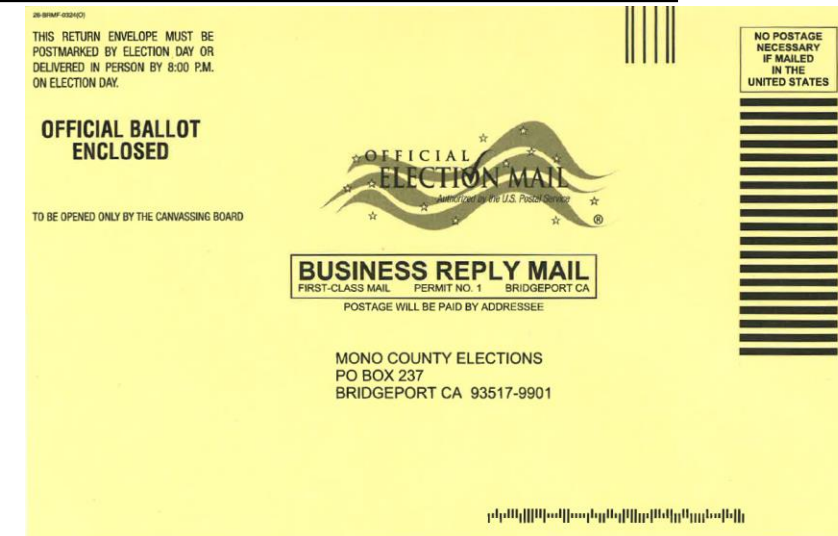
Before You Return Your Vote-by-Mail Ballot:

1. Your ballot must be in the yellow return envelope provided with your ballot.
2. Sign your return envelope and print your residential address. A signature is required in order for your ballot to be counted.

Any Voter may request a Remote Accessible Vote by Mail Ballot (RAVBM).

The RAVBM Ballot is emailed to the voter to download, print, fill out by pen, and mail back to the Mono County Elections office to be counted.

Sign up to track your Vote-by-Mail Ballot on “Where’s My Ballot”: WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov



26-BRMF-0224C1

Complete, sign and date all information:
I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California that I reside in Mono County in this precinct and I am the person whose name appears on this envelope. I have not and do not intend to apply for a vote by mail ballot from any other jurisdiction for this election.

Signature _____ / / _____ Date
If unable to sign, the voter may mark an "X" on the signature line and have it witnessed by one (1) person.

Residence Address (Not P.O. Box) _____
City _____ Zip Code _____

(Print witness's name) _____ (Signature of Witness) _____ Date _____
In case of the voter's inability to sign personally, the voter's mark shall be witnessed by one (1) person.

If someone is returning the ballot for you, complete the section below: I am unable to return my ballot and hereby authorize the following person to return my ballot.

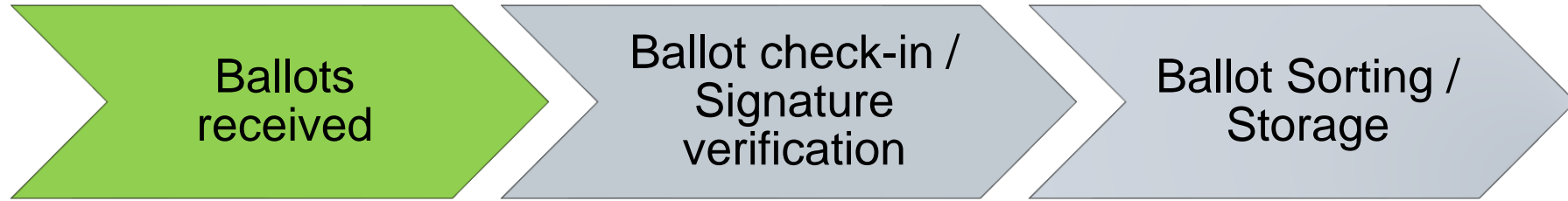
Printed Name and Signature of person returning Ballot: _____

SPOILED
If you have spoiled your ballot and wish to have another sent to you, enclose the spoiled ballot and mark this box.

WARNING: Ballot will not be counted without a signature.
Voting more than once constitutes a crime.

Postmaster: Deliver to address on other side

What Happens When a Vote-by-Mail Ballot is Received?



What Happens When a Vote-by-Mail Ballot is Received?



Enter & Verify

Search by Ballot Issue ID or Voter ID

Reg Number: [036-] Reg Date: [007] Ballot Type: [007]

Voter's Name: [REDACTED] Birth Date: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: [REDACTED] Residence Address: [REDACTED]

Mammoth Lakes CA 93546 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Print: Precinct Label Ballot Issue ID Label

Messages

PermAV - Permanent Absentee
Rcvd Ballot Preference: (none)

Return Information

Ballot Return Status: Good

Return ID: [REDACTED]

Challenge Reason: [REDACTED]

Return Location: (none)

Ballot Remarks: Auto Generated

Envelope Phone #: [REDACTED] Phone # On File: [REDACTED]

Envelope Fax: [REDACTED] Fax # On File: [REDACTED]

Envelope Email Address: [REDACTED]

Email Address On File: [REDACTED]

Regular Pct: 12

Voting Pct: 12

Absentee Pct: 8000012

Remarks: Auto Generated


Request Permanent VBM Status

Request Sample Ballot/VIG Opt Out

Request Signature Update

ID Received

Signature Image on File



Voter Signatures Delete Mode

Household Signatures Select Signature of Record Mode

SIGNATURE OF RECORD from 3/2/2023

[REDACTED]

Voter ID = 19039, Reg ID = , ACTIVE



Signature on File from 8/15/2022

Voter ID = 19039, Reg ID = ,

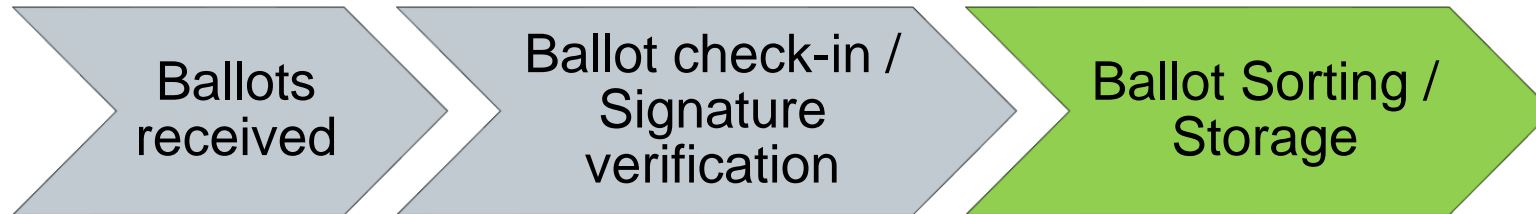


Signature on File from 9/18/2012

Voter ID = 19039, Reg ID = 65BC228389,



What Happens When a Vote-by-Mail Ballot is Received?



Vote-by-Mail Ballot Processing on Election Day

Central Count Ballot Scanner / Tabulator

- Ballots, scanned in batches, are processed based on jurisdictional requirements and preferences.
- Once scanned, ballots meeting certain conditions (e.g. write-in candidate, over vote, etc.) are automatically sent to the Adjudication application for digital ballot review.



Voting in Person at a Poll Place

Voting in Person at a Poll Place:

1. Confirm your polling location:
<https://monocounty.ca.gov/elections/page/mono-county-voting-precincts-polling-places>
2. Vote at your polling location between 7AM-8PM on Election Day.



What Happens to a Ballot Cast at a Polling Place?



After Polls have closed at 8:00 PM on Election Day:

- County IT / Elections Staff shut down voting machines.
- Ballots and CompactFlash memory cards are collected from each voting machine.
- Ballot Transport Teams of two transport Ballots and CompactFlash memory cards from each polling location to the Election Office in Bridgeport.

Results & Tally Reporting

- Initial results will be available after 8:00 PM on Election Day and posted on the Election Results page.
- These semi-official results will include early Vote-by-Mail ballots received.
- Results will be updated as polling place ballots are delivered to our office throughout the evening.
- When all precincts are 100% reporting, then all polling places have returned to our office with their ballots. **This does not mean all ballots have been counted.**
- Results will continue to be updated daily as Vote-by-Mail ballots are received and processed.

SEMI-OFFICIAL RESULTS

[Semi-Official Election Summary Report](#)

(Updated November 7, 2023, 8:35 PM)

Next Update: November 8, 2023, 4:00 PM

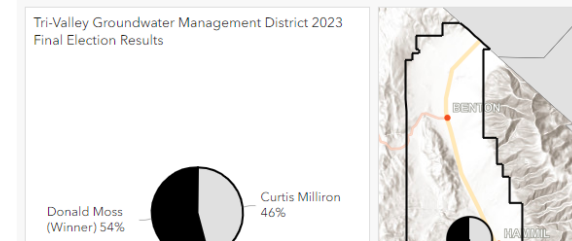
SEMI-OFFICIAL RESULTS POSTED INCLUDE:

- All Vote-by-Mail ballots received by 8 p.m., November 7, 2023.
- All cured ballots with Signature Verification Statements received by 8 p.m., November 7, 2023.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- Ballots postmarked on or before Election Day can be received and counted until November 14, 2023.
- Ballots with Mismatched Signature or Missing Signature can be "cured". Signature Verification Statements must be received by the Mono County Elections office no later than 5 p.m. two (2) days prior to certification of the election, November 20, 2023.
- The Registrar of Voters will certify election results on November 22, 2023. **Results are not final until certified.**

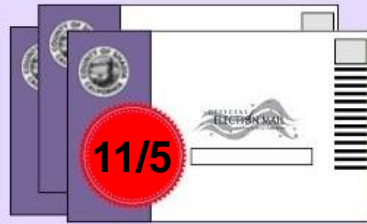
ELECTION RESULTS MAP:



Results & Tally Reporting

BALLOTS COUNTED AFTER ELECTION DAY

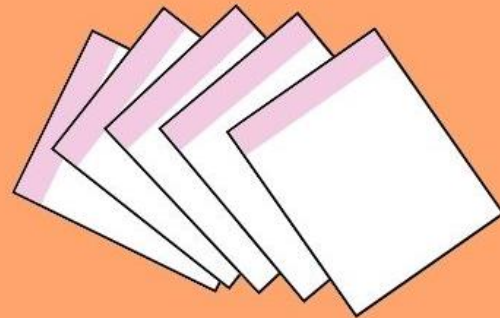
**POSTMARKED
VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS**



**"LAST MINUTE"
VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS**



PROVISIONAL BALLOTS



**DAMAGED/UNREADABLE
BALLOTS**



Results & Tally Reporting

POSTMARKED VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS



- By law we must count ballots received after Election Day if they are postmarked on or before Election Day and arrive by mail no later than 7 days after the election. The number of ballots that arrive by mail after Election Day is unpredictable and varies each election.
- **Ballots postmarked on or before Election Day can be received and counted until November 12, 2024.**
- Ballots received by other counties must be forwarded to Mono County no later than eight days after receipt and will be counted provided they were received by the other county on or before Election Day.

Results & Tally Reporting

"LAST MINUTE" VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS



- Vote-by-Mail ballots received at the last minute are counted after Election Day. These include:
 - Vote-by-Mail ballots retrieved from drop boxes on November 4, 2024 and Election Day.
 - Vote-by-Mail ballots dropped off at polling locations on Election Day.

Results & Tally Reporting

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS



- Provisional ballots are processed after Election Day and will be counted after elections officials have confirmed the person's eligibility.
- Provisional ballots are cast by voters who arrived at a polling place, but their name was not on the voter list, or their information is incorrect.

Results & Tally Reporting

DAMAGED/UNREADABLE BALLOTS



- Ballots that are torn, damaged, or marked in a way that make tallying by machine impossible will require additional processing. This can include duplication and/or adjudication.
- UOCAVA (Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act) and RAVBM (Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail) ballots also require duplication.

Results & Tally Reporting

Challenged Ballots

Your Ballot Envelope (General Election 2022)

x *Signature*

Your Voter Registration Record (2019)

Signature

Your Voter Registration Record (2017)

Signature

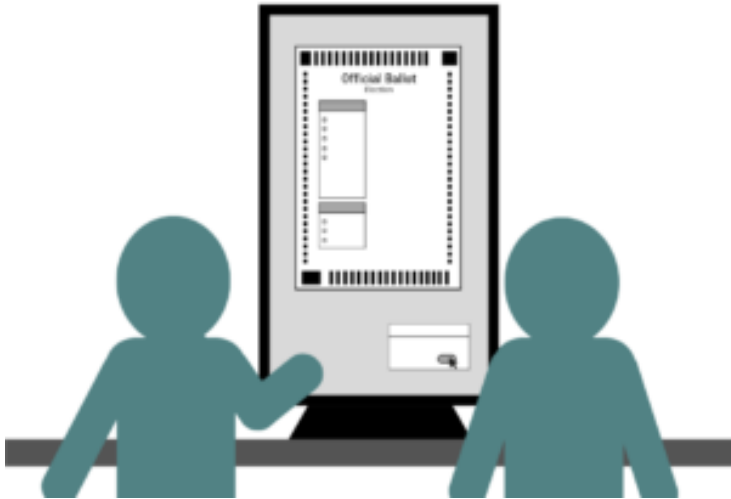
Your Voter Registration Record (2010)

Signature

- A vote-by-mail ballot must be signed by the voter to whom it was printed for and then signature verified by human eyes before they are counted.
- If a ballot envelope is returned with no signature, it will immediately be challenged.
- If a ballot envelope is returned with a signature that does not match the voter's registration record, it will be challenged.
- Voters will be alerted via email (if an email is on file) within 24 hours of their ballot being challenged. Election staff will also mail out letters with instructions on how to "cure" (fix) the ballot.
- Signature Verification Statements must be received by the Mono County Elections office no later than 5 p.m. two (2) days prior to certification of the election, November 20, 2024.

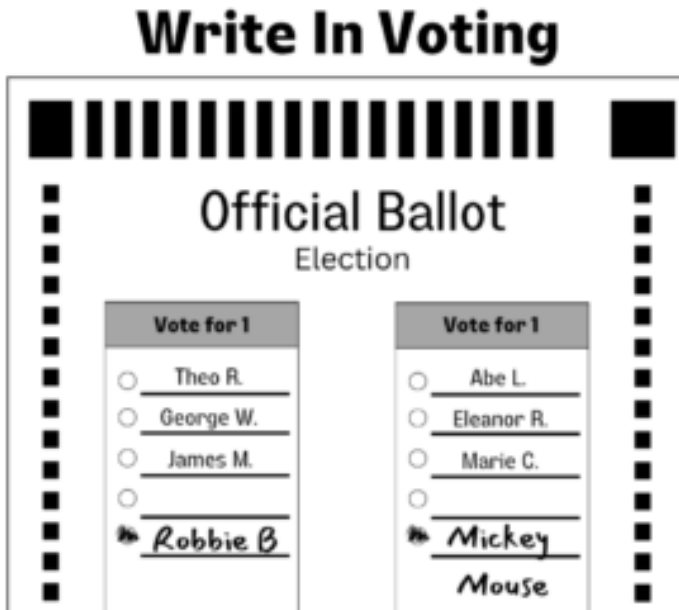
Results & Tally Reporting

Adjudication



- Adjudication is the process of reviewing a ballot that has been flagged during scanning.
- There are many reasons why a ballot is flagged and must go into adjudication.
 - A voter may have written in a candidate (the machine cannot read handwriting).
 - Too many candidates/choices were selected.
 - There are ambiguous marks on the ballot that the scanner cannot read.
- This process must be done in teams of two. Using what they can see on the ballot, the team will confirm the voter's intention before submitting the ballot for tabulation.
- Adjudication is time consuming, requires multiple staff members and can slow down the speed of tabulation if there are large quantities of ballots in need of review.

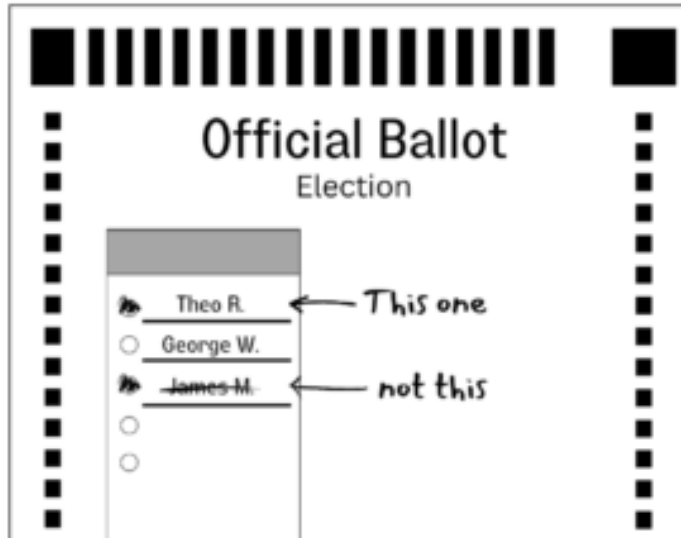
Results & Tally Reporting



- This voter wrote in two candidates not printed on the ballot. Only certified write in candidates (those who have filed paperwork with the elections office to become a write in candidate) will be counted.
- Fictional characters, random names and non-certified candidates for a contest will not be counted.
- In this case, Mickey Mouse must be rejected as a vote because he is not a real candidate. If Robbie B. is a certified write in candidate, that vote will be counted.

Results & Tally Reporting

Mistake Votes



- This voter made a mistake, fixed it themselves and then made notes for the Election Office. A team can clearly see the voter's intention and will reject James M. as a selection.

Results & Tally Reporting

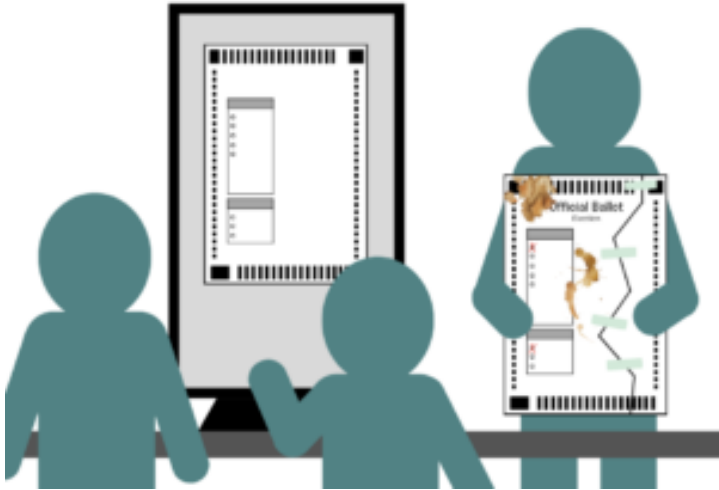
Overvoting & Ambiguous Marks



- This voter overvoted in one contest, wrote a random note at the corner and scribbled something unreadable at the center of the ballot.
- The overvoted contest cannot be counted and the team reviewing the ballot will do nothing because it is impossible to confirm the voter's intention.
- The ambiguous scribble is clearly not a vote and the "Buy milk later" has nothing to do with the ballot. Those marks will be ignored and do not affect the contests.
- The vote for Abe L. will be counted.

Results & Tally Reporting

Duplication



- Duplication is the process of remaking a ballot that has been damaged and cannot be read by a scanner.
- A ballot is considered damaged if:
 - It is torn, cut or ripped
 - It is covered by a substance that makes it impossible to scan (gum, stickers, coffee, etc.)
 - It is marked by a red pen (or other colors besides black and blue)
- UOCAVA (Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act) ballots printed by the voter and submitted by fax or mail must be duplicated.
- RAVBM (Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail) ballots printed by the voter and submitted by mail must be duplicated.

Canvass



- The canvass is a culmination of all the data generated during an election cycle.
- More importantly, it is a process that allows election officials to confirm the accuracy of election data and identify areas for improvement.
- By law, California county elections officials have 30 days, also known as the canvass period, to count every valid ballot and conduct a required post-election audit.

Canvass



- During the official canvass of every election in which a voting system is used, the official conducting the election shall conduct a public 1% manual tally of the ballots tabulated by those devices, including vote by mail ballots.
- If 1% of the precincts is less than one whole precinct, the tally shall be conducted in one precinct chosen at random by the elections official.
- In addition to the 1% count, election officials shall, for each race not included in the initial group of precincts, count one additional precinct. The manual tally in that additional precinct shall apply only to the race not previously counted.

Certification



- Election certification refers to the process of election officials attesting that the tabulation and canvassing of the election are complete and accurate and that the election results are a true and accurate accounting of all votes cast in a particular election.
- County elections officials must finalize their official results to the Secretary of State by 30 days after the election. The Secretary of State will then certify the results 38 days after the election.
- The Registrar of Voters will certify election results on November 22, 2024. **Results are not final until certified.**

Recounts



- In local contests, it is common for a handful of votes to determine the outcome of the election.
- A recount is the actual retabulation of voted ballots to confirm the certified election results.
- Any registered California voter can request a recount.
- The request for a recount must be filed within five calendar days after the completion of the official canvass.
- The Registrar starts the recount no later than seven calendar days following the receipt of the request.
- The party requesting the recount pays the actual costs to conduct the recount.

Fraud Prevention



- Ballot reconciliation is a routine part of the official vote counting canvass that happens after the election.
- Every signature on a vote-by-mail ballot envelope is compared against the signature on the voter's registration form. If it does not match the ballot, it is not counted.
- "First in wins." If a voter was issued more than one ballot, whichever ballot is received by our office first is the one that is counted.
- All voting systems are tested and certified by the Secretary of State. Counties are required to perform logic and accuracy testing on voting systems prior to each election.
- Report any suspected illegal voting to the Secretary of State's Election Fraud Investigation Unit at (916) 657-2166 and to Mono County Elections immediately.

Election Security

It is a felony for any person to possess a firearm at a voting location or in the immediate vicinity of a voting location. Similarly, it is illegal for any uniformed peace officer, private guard, or security personnel or any person who is wearing a uniform of a peace officer, guard, or security personnel from being stationed at or in the immediate vicinity of a voting location. (*Elec. Code, § 18544.*)

We contact our local law enforcement agencies to inform them of polling and drop box locations in the event there is a situation where law enforcement is needed.

Election Security

Mono County IT and Elections take cybersecurity very seriously. We follow industry best practices for securing election systems.

- Software and patch management
- Log management
- Network segmentation
- Credential management
- Organization-wide IT guidance and policies
- Security Incident Response Plan

Election Observers

Elections are a public process, and transparency is an important part of ensuring voters have confidence in the accuracy and integrity of the election results.

Below are some of the aspects of elections activities that are open for the public to observe. Please note some dates are subject to change.

- Touch Screen Ballot Marking Device Preparation and Testing (Oct 7-11)
- Central Count Ballot Scanner/Tabulator Preparation and Testing (Oct 7-11)
- Returned Vote by Mail Ballot Processing (Oct 7-Nov 20)
- Polling Place Locations (Election Day)
- Election Night Ballot Receipt and Counting (Election Day)
- Official Canvass (Nov 6-22)



California Trusted Information

Mono County and the Secretary of State's Office is committed to ensuring that elections are free, fair, safe, secure, accurate, and accessible. Misinformation and disinformation continues to confuse voters and sow distrust in the electoral process. The Secretary of State's Rumor Control page is designed to provide clear and accurate information in response to some of the most widespread rumors about elections.

www.sos.ca.gov/elections/election-cybersecurity/trusted-information



California Trusted Information

Reality: You can vote for as many or as few contests as you choose.

Rumor: If I leave something blank on my ballot, my ballot will not be counted.

Facts: A blank contest on a ballot is known as an undervote. An undervote occurs when a voter intentionally or unintentionally does not vote in a specific contest. Properly marked votes on the ballot will then be counted. Democracy happens one contest at a time and every vote matters.

In addition, you can sign-up at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov to receive automatic email, SMS (text), or voice call notifications about your ballot's status.

Sources:

- [Do you have to vote for everything on your ballot](#), Ballotpedia
- [Uniform Vote Counting Standards](#), California Secretary of State
- [Undervote](#), Ballotpedia
- [Rumor Control](#), CISA



SIMPLE. SAFE. SECURE. COUNTED.

California Trusted Information

Reality: Voting rights are restored after a jail sentence is served.

Rumor: Californians with a felony background are prohibited from voting in the state's election.

Facts: A person with a criminal history can register to vote if the following applies: if they are on parole, probation, mandatory supervision, under post-release community supervision, federal supervised release, or in a local detention facility. A person with a criminal history cannot vote if they are currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony. Once the prisoner is released, their right to vote is automatically restored and they should visit [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](https://www.register-tovote.ca.gov) or fill out a paper registration form to register to vote.

Sources:

- [Voting Rights: Persons with a Criminal History](#), California Secretary of State
- [California Penal Code section 2910](#), California Elections Code
- [Restore Your Vote](#), California Secretary of State



CALIFORNIA
TRUSTED INFO

SIMPLE. SAFE. SECURE. COUNTED.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

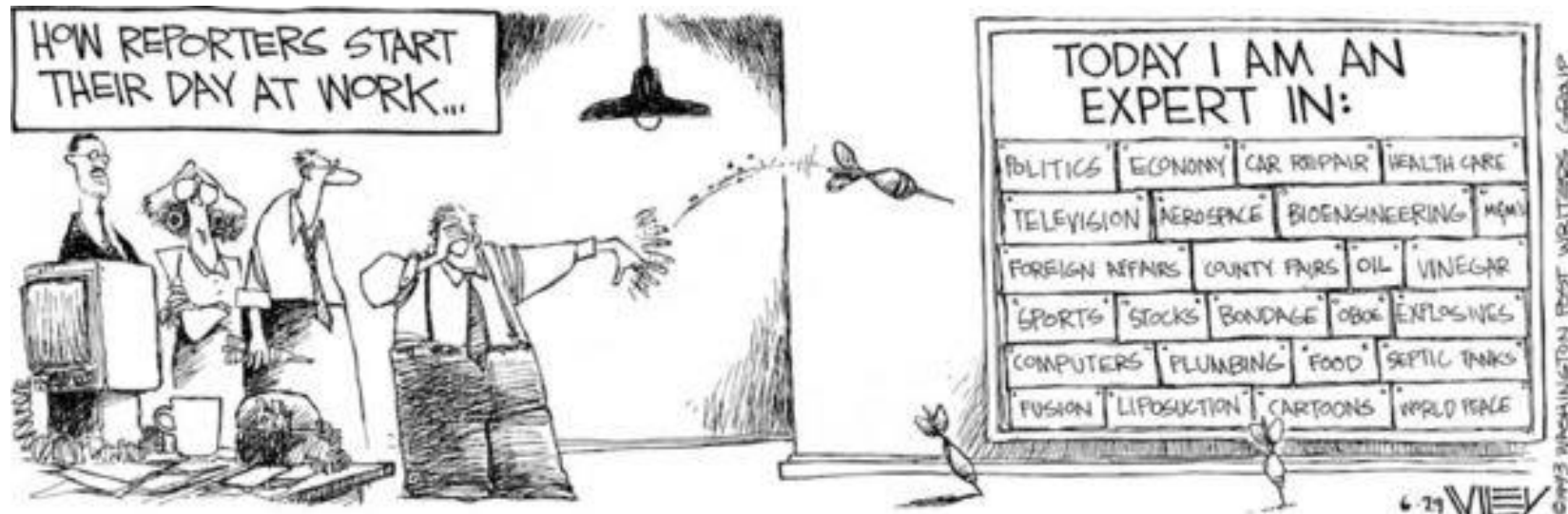
Visit <https://monocounty.ca.gov/elections/page/frequently-asked-questions-faqs>

<p>Q1: When are ballots mailed out?</p>	<p>A1: October 7, 2024.</p>
<p>Q2: When are the drop boxes opened and how often are ballots picked up?</p>	<p>A2: October 8, 2024. Ballots shall be retrieved from drop boxes in teams of two at times determined by the elections official, but shall be subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballots shall be retrieved from drop boxes at least every 96 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, between the 29th day before the election and the 10th day before an election. • Ballots shall be retrieved from drop boxes every 48 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, hours after the 10th day prior to an election through the closing of the polls on Election Day. <p>Current Schedule (subject to change):</p> <p>Friday, October 11, 2024 Thursday, October 17, 2024 Wednesday, October 23, 2024 Monday, October 28, 2024 Wednesday, October 30, 2024 Friday, November 1, 2024 Monday, November 4, 2024 Tuesday, November 5, 2024</p>
<p>Q3: Where are drop boxes located in Mono County?</p>	<p>A3: Look up drop box locations in Mono County HERE.</p> <p><i>Note: Ballots can be dropped off in any drop box in the State of California by 8:00 PM on Election Day.</i></p>
<p>Q4: I never received my ballot / I lost my ballot. Can you issue me a new one?</p>	<p>A4: Yes! You can call our office or email us to request a replacement ballot. You can also complete and return a Replacement Vote-by-Mail Ballot Application to our office in person, by mail, email, or fax.</p>
<p>Q5: When is the last day you can mail me a new ballot?</p>	<p>A5: The last day we can mail you a new ballot is October 29. After that date, you will need to come to our office in Bridgeport or go to your polling place on Election Day to be issued a new ballot.</p>
<p>Q6: Can you email me a ballot?</p>	<p>A6: Yes! We can email you a ballot up until Election Day. A Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail (RAVBM) Ballot is emailed to you to download, mark selections, print, fill out and sign, and mail back to our office to be counted.</p>
<p>Q7: Can I track my ballot?</p>	<p>A7: Yes! The California Secretary of State is now offering Where's My Ballot? — a way for voters to track and receive notifications on the status of their vote-by-mail ballot.</p>



Misinformation / Disinformation Resources

- **Cornell University Library - Misinformation, Disinformation, and Propaganda:**
https://guides.library.cornell.edu/evaluate_news
- **Understanding Bias:**
<https://newslit.org/tips-tools/understanding-bias/>
- **How to speak up without starting a showdown:**
<https://newslit.org/tips-tools/how-to-speak-up-without-starting-a-showdown/>
- **Reliable Fact-Checking Sites:**
[FactCheck.org](https://www.factcheck.org/)
[PolitiFact](https://www.politifact.com/)
[Snopes.com](https://www.snopes.com/)
[Washington Post Fact Checker](https://www.washingtonpost.com/fact-checker/)



Keep Up to Date on Elections!



Visit monocounty.ca.gov/elections for more information.

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Candidates
- Measures
- Where to Vote
- Ways to Vote
- Election Results
- Subscribe to Election Updates



Questions?

Phone: (760) 932-5537

Email: elections@mono.ca.gov

Website: <https://monocounty.ca.gov/elections>

Office: 74 N. School Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517

Mailing Address: PO Box 237, Bridgeport, CA 93517

