# California Secretary of State

# Supplementary Report:

Voter's Choice Act: Understanding Language Access in Voter's Choice Act Counties for the 2022 Primary Election

> University of California, Los Angeles Voting Rights Project

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# Secretary of State's Office Summary

### About the California Secretary of State

The California Office of the Secretary of State is committed to adhering to the highest standards of integrity and transparency, supporting businesses, strengthening democracy, protecting individual rights, preserving our state's history, delivering quality services, and providing accessible resources and trusted information.

The California Secretary of State's responsibilities include:

- Serving as the state's Chief Elections Officer
- Implementing electronic filing and Internet disclosure of campaign and lobbyist financial information
- Maintaining business filings
- Commissioning notaries public
- Operating the Safe at Home confidential address program
- Maintaining the Domestic Partners and Advance Health Care Directive Registries
- Safeguarding the State Archives
- Serving as a trustee of the California Museum

### Background

The Voter's Choice Act (VCA), established by Senate Bill 450 (Allen, Hertzberg, et al., Chapter 832, Statutes of 2016), aims to enhance voting accessibility in California. This legislation introduces a voter-centered model designed to increase electoral participation and provide voters with more flexible options for civic engagement.

Key features of the VCA's modernized election system include:

- Automatic mail-in ballots for all active, registered voters
- Extended in-person early voting periods of up to 10 days
- County-wide vote centers allowing ballot casting at any location within the voter's county
- Convenient, secure ballot drop box locations throughout each county

To implement this system, the VCA mandates that counties develop a comprehensive Election Administration Plan (EAP). This plan serves two primary purposes:

- 1. Informing voters about their expanded voting options
- 2. Outlining strategies for voter education and community outreach

The VCA emphasizes community involvement in the electoral process. It requires county election officials to actively seek and incorporate community input in planning and administering elections, ensuring that diverse voices are heard in shaping local voting systems.

### Introduction

As part of measuring the effectiveness of the Voter's Choice Act (VCA), the Secretary of State's Office commissioned a research report from the University of California, Los Angeles's (UCLA) Voting Rights Project (VRP) to present analysis on language access for voters who reside in VCA counties. This report includes voters who speak English as their primary language and voters who speak a primary language other than English. Aggregate data in the reports include the averages for all VCA counties and VCA counties excluding Los Angeles County. Due to Los Angeles County's position as the county with the largest number of registered voters, it is also viewed separate from the VCA county aggregate.

### Previous Report

In 2021, the Secretary of State commissioned the UCLA Voting Rights Project to complete a research report exploring voting access for language minority voters in VCA counties during the 2020 Primary Election. This report relied on data from California's centralized Voter Registration database, VoteCal, and data collected from counties by UCLA's Voting Rights Project. Comparatively, UCLA's data sources for the current 2022 research report are primarily VoteCal data and Survey data from counties.

The 2020 and 2022 reports both include breakdowns for limited English-speaking voters by age, but the 2020 Primary Election report used the classification of Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP), which groups all from age 18, the 2022 report breaks down age into four categories: 18 to 29, 30 to 49, 50 to 64, and 65 and over. The 2020 report also includes racial demographics for the populations of all VCA counties, while the 2022 report does not include racial demographics.

Both reports include tables to display information about the elections and voters but there are differences. The 2020 Primary election Language Access report tables include categorizations for registered voters' range of English-speaking ability, racial demographics, and tables for individual counties. This report organizes data based on English and Non-English registered voters, languages registered voters across VCA counties, and birthplace of English and Non-English-speaking registered voters.

### Similarities

- Both reports use similar methodologies to analyze VoteCal data and supplementary data provided by counties.
- Both reports analyze voter participation methods by language.
- Both reports include data specific to age and registered voters.

### Differences

- The 2020 report utilizes different types of correspondence from the counties. Whereas the 2022 report utilizes survey results from a survey conducted by the UCLA Voting Rights Project.
- The 2020 report recommendations primarily focus on encouraging VCA counties to track, collect, and maintain information around voter characteristics and participation. The 2022 report emphasizes the importance of community outreach and partnerships, hiring more

- in-office personnel during elections to assist, and evaluate the effectiveness of existing translation services.
- The 2020 Primary election report includes racial demographics, and the 2022 Primary election report does not.
- The 2020 Primary election report breaks down age by CVAP, and the 2022 Primary election report breaks down age across four age ranges.

### Findings

**Voter Registration**: This report found that the registered electorate in VCA counties continues to be largely comprised of English-speaking voters. Voters born outside of the United States are more likely to be registered to vote in a language other than English compared to voters born in the United States. Non-English-speaking registered voters are more likely to belong to older age categories.

**Voter Participation**: Voters in VCA counties, regardless of language preference, generally prefer to vote-by-mail. Approximately 91.3% or 4.8 million of the 5.3 million English-speaking voters in VCA counties utilized vote-by-mail compared to 92.0% or 188 thousand of the 204 thousand non-English speaking voters in VCA counties.

**Voter Turnout**: Voter turnout rates varied based on primary language, with Vietnamese-speaking (35.3%), Korean-speaking (33.7%), and English-speaking (33.4%) voters turnout rates higher than the VCA county average turnout rate of 33.1%.

**Voter Outreach**: VCA counties have designated election staff to assist voters who don't speak English. VCA counties used different methods of outreach to engage voters who needed language assistance, including email and video chat services and a designated staff member.

### Recommendations

- Voter Outreach: Increase community outreach and partnerships to engage with Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Non-English speaking voters through increased engagement with Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC) and community-based organizations.
  - o Recruitment of poll workers who are proficient in required languages.
- **Translation Services**: Ensure that translated materials in required languages are easy to locate and available on county websites.
  - o Make sure County website translations are in all necessary California and Federal law designated languages.

#### Conclusion

The VCA continues to prioritize language access for voters, but additional efforts are needed to expand translation and outreach efforts.

California Voter's Choice Act:

# Understanding Language Access in Voter's Choice Act Counties for the 2022 Primary Election

BY UCLA VOTING RIGHTS PROJECT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

This report was written by the UCLA Voting Rights Project in partnership with the California Office of the Secretary of State.

### **About the UCLA VRP**

The UCLA Voting Rights Project (UCLA VRP) is a nonpartisan, educational project housed within the Latino Policy and Politics Initiative (LPPI) at the University of California, Los Angeles. The UCLA VRP educates undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree students through our flagship voting rights clinic. The UCLA VRP works with experts and election officials across the country to ensure equitable access to voting.

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In this report, the UCLA Voting Rights Project (UCLA VRP) was tasked with providing a comprehensive analysis on language access in Voters Choice Act (VCA) counties. Language access is critical to ensuring that all voters can access the ballot box in accordance with federal and state law.

This report includes data analysis on how voters that speak a primary language other than English cast their ballots during the 2022 Primary Election utilizing VoteCal data and a survey of county accessibility in elections (e.g. translation materials on websites).

Our analysis includes an aggregated total for all VCA counties combined, as well as an aggregate of combined VCA counties that excludes Los Angeles County. We present an aggregated total that excludes Los Angeles County to prevent the skewing of the findings due to the size of the County. Outlined below is the general landscape of language access in VCA counties and individual analysis of each VCA county.

### **Major findings of this report:**

- 1. The registered electorate in VCA counties was largely comprised of English-speaking voters.
  - i. Voters registered in English accounted for approximately 16 million, or 95.1% of all VCA registered voters.
  - ii. The next largest language group was Spanish, which comprised over 507 thousand, or 3.0% of the VCA registered electorate.
  - iii. No other single language group accounted for more than 1% of the overall VCA registered electorate.
- 2. Non-English registered voters were more likely to belong to older age categories.
  - i. Across VCA counties, there were over ten times as many non-English registered voters aged 65 and over (352 thousand), as there were non-English registered voters aged 18 to 29 (32 thousand).
- 3. Foreign-born voters were more likely to register in a language other than English compared to voters born in the United States.
  - i. Across VCA counties, over 747 thousand, or 13.38% of foreign-born voters registered in a language other than English. In contrast, only 72 thousand, or 0.65% of U.S. born voters registered in a language other than English.

### 4. Turnout rates across language groups varied significantly.

- i. Vietnamese-speaking voters had the highest turnout rate at 35.3% compared to the 33.1% overall turnout rate in VCA counties.
- ii. Korean-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 33.7% compared to the 33.1% overall turnout rate in VCA counties.
- iii. English-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 33.4% compared to the 33.1% overall turnout rate in VCA counties.
- iv. Spanish-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 21.4% compared to the 33.1% overall turnout rate in VCA counties.
- v. Hindi-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 20.8% compared to the 33.1% overall turnout rate in VCA counties.
- vi. Khmer-speaking voters had the lowest turnout rate at 19.3% compared to the 33.1% overall turnout rate in VCA counties.

# 5. VCA voters registered in both English and non-English languages largely preferred voting by mail.

- i. More than 4.8 million, or 91.3% of English-speaking voters voting in the 2022 Primary Election utilized vote-by-mail out of the approximately 5.3 million English-speaking voters in VCA counties that voted.
- ii. Over 188 thousand, or 92.0% of non-English speaking voters voting in the 2022 Primary Election utilized vote-by-mail out of the approximately 204 thousand Non-English-speaking voters in VCA counties that voted.

# 6. Non-English-speaking voters were nearly 1-point more likely to vote-by-mail than English-speaking voters.

- i. This may suggest that voting by mail is slightly more accessible for non-English-speaking voters than their English-speaking counterparts.
- 7. Generally, VCA counties had election staff that were designated as non-English speakers available for assisting voters for the 2022 Primary Election.
- 8. During the 2022 Primary Election, VCA counties were innovative in engaging with voters seeking language assistance.
  - i. Several counties offered email and video chat or conferencing services for voters.
  - ii. Most counties had a staff member in-person or available via phone in the elections office who was available to speak with voters.
- 9. Voter assistance hotlines were available to help voters in every Section 203 language and the 14201 languages.

### INTRODUCTION

Signed into law in 2016, the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) first ushered in a new election model used by five counties. By 2022, however, that number increased to a total of 27 counties statewide. For the 2022 Primary Election, the following counties were VCA: Alameda, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Merced, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Diego, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Ventura, and Yolo.

Under the VCA, each voter is mailed a ballot that they can then choose to return by mail, to a secure drop box, or at a vote center. Voters may also cast a ballot at any vote center within their county or through other expanded in-person early voting options.

This report, commissioned by the California Secretary of State's office pursuant to California Elections Code Section 4005(g)(1)(A), provides a comprehensive overview of voting access for language minorities in VCA counties during the 2022 Primary Election. This report primarily focuses on VoteCal Data and a county survey, to present research and findings related to minority language access to the ballot in the 27 VCA counties.

### I. Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act

In 1975, Congress Amended the Voting Rights Act by adding Section 203, the requirement to enforce and guarantee the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments. Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act provides that:

"[w]henever any State or political subdivision subject to the prohibition of subsection (b) of this section provides any registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance, or other materials or information relating to the electoral process, including ballots, it shall provide them in the language of the applicable minority group as well as in the English language: Provided, That where the language of the applicable minority group is oral or unwritten or in the case of Alaskan natives and American Indians, if the predominant language is historically unwritten, the State or political subdivision is only required to furnish oral instructions, assistance, or other information relating to registration and voting." 52 U.S.C.A. § 10503(c).

Under Section 203, a language is covered in state or political subdivision using a coverage formula:

"A State or political subdivision is a covered State or political subdivision for the purposes of this subsection if the Director of the Census determines, based on the 2010

American Community Survey census data and subsequent American Community Survey data in 5-year increments, or comparable census data, that--

- (i)(I) more than 5 percent of the citizens of voting age of such State or political subdivision are members of a single language minority and are limited-English proficient;
- (II) more than 10,000 of the citizens of voting age of such political subdivision are members of a single language minority and are limited-English proficient; or
- (III) in the case of a political subdivision that contains all or any part of an Indian reservation, more than 5 percent of the American Indian or Alaska Native citizens of voting age within the Indian reservation are members of a single language minority and are limited-English proficient; and
- (ii) the illiteracy rate of the citizens in the language minority as a group is higher than the national illiteracy rate." 52 U.S.C.A. § 10503(b)(2)(A).

The United States Census Bureau requires the identification of specific language groups to provide those language populations tangible and manifestable voting provisions by state and county jurisdiction based on census data. On December 8, 2021, the Census Bureau updated the Section 203 determinations using the 2015-2019 American Community Survey data (ACS). Based on the 2021 determination, the entire state of California is a covered jurisdiction for Hispanic/Spanish. Table 1 below shows the California counties currently required to provide language assistance under the determinations set by Section 203. While the entire state of California is covered for Hispanic/Spanish, the 2021 release of Section 203 determinations listed specific counties that were required to provide Hispanic/Spanish.

Table 1: All California Counties Under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act as of 2021

Counties	Languages Covered
Alameda	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Filipino, Vietnamese
Colusa	Hispanic
Contra Costa	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese)
Fresno	Hispanic
Glenn	Hispanic
Imperial	Hispanic
Kern	Hispanic

Counties	Languages Covered
Kings	Hispanic
Los Angeles	Hispanic, Cambodian, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese
Madera	Hispanic
Merced	Hispanic
Monterey	Hispanic
Napa	Hispanic
Orange	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Korean, Vietnamese
Riverside	Hispanic
Sacramento	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Vietnamese
San Benito	Hispanic
San Bernardino	Hispanic
San Diego	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Filipino, Vietnamese
San Francisco	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese)
San Joaquin	Hispanic
San Mateo	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Filipino**
Santa Barbara	Hispanic
Santa Clara	Hispanic, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Filipino, Vietnamese
Sonoma*	Hispanic
Stanislaus	Hispanic
Tulare	Hispanic
Ventura	Hispanic

<sup>\*</sup> Counties that did not have previous Section 203 coverage.

Table 2 below shows the California counties and language groups that were previously covered under Section 203 but are no longer federally required as of 2021.

<sup>\*\*</sup>New languages covered for the County

Table 2: California Counties and Languages No Longer Covered Under Section 203 Voting Rights Act as of 2021

Counties	Languages Previously Covered
Del Norte*	American Indian
San Diego	American Indian

<sup>\*</sup> Counties, not on the 2021 determinations

### II. California Elections Code §14201 and §12303

California has additional language access requirements under state law; under California Elections Code § 14201, when 3% of a voting precinct's residents of voting age are members of a single language minority and are limited English-proficient, a covered county must provide a facsimile ballot and related instructions in the language minority group's language in the precinct's polling place and make reasonable efforts to recruit poll workers that speak that language to staff polling places. *See* Cal. Elec. Code § 14201; Cal. Elec. Code § 12303.

Determinations for covered precincts and counties occur on January 1 of each year in which the Governor of California is elected. A full list of counties covered under § 14201 is available here: https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/language-requirements.

### Methodology

As with any data analysis, there are limitations to the various data sources used in this report. The UCLA VRP utilized VoteCal data for our analysis because it provides insights on language preference via the statewide voter file. Even though this dataset is of high quality, it does not contain totally complete information about all voters' racial and ethnic backgrounds. Further, not all voters who might need language assistance requested language assistance when registering to vote. There are potentially thousands of voters across California who might be interested in language services as they become aware and knowledgeable of this option.

Data about voter characteristics and method of voting gathered from county registrars and county election officials varied from county to county. There is no state-mandated standard across VCA counties on how to maintain and report this information, which could be an opportunity for further guidance from the Secretary of State. For example, some counties provided estimates of voting statistics, but not necessarily validated records. While some counties did have better organized data related to language services, there is a need for more consistent and uniform reporting of this information.

**VoteCal Data**: This report utilizes voter data from VoteCal, California's single uniform, centralized voter registration database. This data includes information about voter registration, voter participation, and identifying voter characteristics.

**Survey Data**: The UCLA Voting Rights Project administered a survey to VCA counties in order to gather qualitative data on how county officials were engaging with Limited English Proficient and non-English speaking voters. This survey was administered on the Qualtrics platform, and county officials had two months to complete the survey. These results are detailed in the sections below.

### LANGUAGE ACCESS IN CALIFORNIA AND VCA COUNTIES

Language access has been a cornerstone of ensuring equitable access to the franchise. Federal and California state law governs language access in all counties in California, including VCA Counties. Using self-reported data on registration language, we analyzed registration, voting, and turnout trends for voters that registered in English and non-English languages. These include Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Japanese, Thai, Hindi, and Khmer. We provide data on each of the 27 VCA counties, as well as grouping counties into a combined total category that includes Los Angeles and a combined total category that excludes Los Angeles.

### I. Analyzing Voters by Language Spoken and Nativity Using VoteCal Data

As shown in Table 3 below, the age group with the fewest non-English registrants was those 18 to 29 years, with over 32 thousand, or 0.96%, VCA voters registered in a language other than English. There were more than 132 thousand, or 2.34%, voters in VCA counties that were ages 30 to 49 and registered in a language other than English. More than 301 thousand, or 6.99%, voters ages 50 to 64 registered in a language other than English. The largest non-English age group was voters 65 years and older, which had over 352 thousand, or 8.47% non-English registration.

Table 3: Age Category by English and Non-English Registered Voters Across VCA Counties

Jurisdiction	Age Category	Total Registered Voters	Englis	sh	Non-English		
	18 to 29	3,404,070	3,371,467	99.04%	32,603	0.96%	
Total (Los	30 to 49	5,676,379	5,543,530	97.66%	132,849	2.34%	
Angeles Included)	50 to 64	4,321,644	4,019,724	93.01%	301,920	6.99%	
	65 and over	4,163,242	3,810,673	91.53%	352,569	8.47%	
	18 to 29	2,224,187	2,201,997	99.00%	22,190	1.00%	
Total (Los	30 to 49	3,669,608	3,586,110	97.72%	83,498	2.28%	
Angeles Excluded)	50 to 64	2,895,062	2,726,477	94.18%	168,585	5.82%	
	65 and over	2,801,182	2,622,387	93.62%	178,795	6.38%	
	18 to 29	172,347	170,872	99.14%	1,475	0.86%	
	30 to 49	339,791	332,001	97.71%	7,790	2.29%	
Alameda	50 to 64	242,183	227,715	94.03%	14,468	5.97%	
	65 and over	220,635	203,106	92.06%	17,529	7.94%	
	18 to 29	2,979	2,973	99.80%	6	0.20%	
Amador	30 to 49	6,360	6,345	99.76%	15	0.24%	

Jurisdiction	Age Category	Total Registered Voters	Engli	sh	Non-E	nglish
	50 to 64	6,952	6,924	99.60%	28	0.40%
	65 and over	10,036	10,016	99.80%	20	0.20%
	18 to 29	23,912	23,883	99.88%	29	0.12%
_	30 to 49	37,689	37,584	99.72%	105	0.28%
Butte	50 to 64	27,885	27,745	99.50%	140	0.50%
	65 and over	34,295	34,194	99.71%	101	0.29%
	18 to 29	3,671	3,666	99.86%	5	0.14%
~ .	30 to 49	7,839	7,816	99.71%	23	0.29%
Calaveras	50 to 64	8,742	8,717	99.71%	25	0.29%
	65 and over	11,733	11,711	99.81%	22	0.19%
	18 to 29	19,010	18,951	99.69%	59	0.31%
	30 to 49	39,217	39,074	99.64%	143	0.36%
El Dorado	50 to 64	38,319	38,083	99.38%	236	0.62%
	65 and over	41,662	41,488	99.58%	174	0.42%
	18 to 29	113,795	112,765	99.09%	1,030	0.91%
_	30 to 49	175,206	172,190	98.28%	3,016	1.72%
Fresno	50 to 64	112,300	106,688	95.00%	5,612	5.00%
	65 and over	111,919	106,300	94.98%	5,619	5.02%
	18 to 29	14,420	14,323	99.33%	97	0.67%
	30 to 49	22,177	21,803	98.31%	374	1.69%
Kings	50 to 64	13,969	13,220	94.64%	749	5.36%
	65 and over	12,695	11,992	94.46%	703	5.54%
	18 to 29	1,179,883	1,169,470	99.12%	10,413	0.88%
	30 to 49	2,006,771	1,957,420	97.54%	49,351	2.46%
Los Angeles	50 to 64	1,426,582	1,293,247	90.65%	133,335	9.35%
	65 and over	1,362,060	1,188,286	87.24%	173,774	12.76%
	18 to 29	16,293	16,128	98.99%	165	1.01%
	30 to 49	22,359	21,804	97.52%	555	2.48%
Madera	50 to 64	16,744	15,736	93.98%	1,008	6.02%
	65 and over	18,945	17,964	94.82%	981	5.18%
	18 to 29	22,574	22,474	99.56%	100	0.44%
	30 to 49	44,757	44,387	99.17%	370	0.83%
Marin	50 to 64	48,279	47,723	98.85%	556	1.15%
	65 and over	55,696	55,261	99.22%	435	0.78%
Mariposa	18 to 29	1,300	1,296	99.69%	4	0.31%

Jurisdiction	Age Category	Total Registered Voters	Englis	sh	Non-English		
	30 to 49	2,877	2,873	99.86%	4	0.14%	
	50 to 64	3,177	3,160	99.46%	17	0.54%	
	65 and over	4,306	4,296	99.77%	10	0.23%	
	18 to 29	32,670	32,267	98.77%	403	1.23%	
	30 to 49	42,051	40,696	96.78%	1,355	3.22%	
Merced	50 to 64	28,730	26,398	91.88%	2,332	8.12%	
	65 and over	26,098	24,177	92.64%	1,921	7.36%	
	18 to 29	14,382	14,184	98.62%	198	1.38%	
	30 to 49	24,731	24,050	97.25%	681	2.75%	
Napa	50 to 64	21,820	20,705	94.89%	1,115	5.11%	
	65 and over	25,480	24,670	96.82%	810	3.18%	
	18 to 29	8,505	8,474	99.64%	31	0.36%	
Nevada	30 to 49	21,270	21,224	99.78%	46	0.22%	
	50 to 64	18,439	18,391	99.74%	48	0.26%	
	65 and over	26,972	26,943	99.89%	29	0.11%	
	18 to 29	380,375	376,738	99.04%	3,637	0.96%	
	30 to 49	569,574	553,896	97.25%	15,678	2.75%	
Orange	50 to 64	496,263	455,699	91.83%	40,564	8.17%	
	65 and over	475,026	425,217	89.51%	49,809	10.49%	
	18 to 29	288,760	285,992	99.04%	2,768	0.96%	
	30 to 49	428,487	418,647	97.70%	9,840	2.30%	
Riverside	50 to 64	329,133	307,992	93.58%	21,141	6.42%	
	65 and over	310,663	293,145	94.36%	17,518	5.64%	
	18 to 29	167,598	166,487	99.34%	1,111	0.66%	
<b>a</b>	30 to 49	298,275	293,839	98.51%	4,436	1.49%	
Sacramento	50 to 64	215,352	208,470	96.80%	6,882	3.20%	
	65 and over	202,061	194,687	96.35%	7,374	3.65%	
	18 to 29	7,986	7,883	98.71%	103	1.29%	
a 5 :	30 to 49	12,890	12,573	97.54%	317	2.46%	
San Benito	50 to 64	9,708	9,162	94.38%	546	5.62%	
	65 and over	8,011	7,566	94.45%	445	5.55%	
	18 to 29	381,780	375,652	98.39%	6,128	1.61%	
a . E:	30 to 49	669,681	653,173	97.53%	16,508	2.47%	
San Diego	50 to 64	487,343	460,884	94.57%	26,459	5.43%	
	65 and over	457,849	433,139	94.60%	24,710	5.40%	

Jurisdiction	Age Category	Total Registered Voters	Engli	ish	Non-English		
	18 to 29	74,519	73,971	99.26%	548	0.74%	
0.34	30 to 49	141,867	139,191	98.11%	2,676	1.89%	
San Mateo	50 to 64	116,248	111,028	95.51%	5,220	4.49%	
	65 and over	115,634	108,987	94.25%	6,647	5.75%	
	18 to 29	202,727	200,724	99.01%	2,003	0.99%	
	30 to 49	325,495	314,002	96.47%	11,493	3.53%	
Santa Clara	50 to 64	292,450	265,869	90.91%	26,581	9.09%	
	65 and over	252,345	221,615	87.82%	30,730	12.18%	
	18 to 29	30,849	30,568	99.09%	281	0.91%	
	30 to 49	51,426	50,555	98.31%	871	1.69%	
Santa Cruz	50 to 64	42,448	40,904	96.36%	1,544	3.64%	
	65 and over	47,286	45,829	96.92%	1,457	3.08%	
Sonoma	18 to 29	48,942	48,575	99.25%	367	0.75%	
	30 to 49	87,894	86,714	98.66%	1,180	1.34%	
	50 to 64	76,784	74,945	97.60%	1,839	2.40%	
	65 and over	94,582	93,552	98.91%	1,030	1.09%	
	18 to 29	62,081	61,463	99.00%	618	1.00%	
	30 to 49	96,298	94,108	97.73%	2,190	2.27%	
Stanislaus	50 to 64	68,244	64,881	95.07%	3,363	4.93%	
	65 and over	63,369	60,361	95.25%	3,008	4.75%	
	18 to 29	4,094	4,086	99.80%	8	0.20%	
	30 to 49	8,944	8,934	99.89%	10	0.11%	
Tuolumne	50 to 64	8,820	8,799	99.76%	21	0.24%	
	65 and over	13,345	13,328	99.87%	17	0.13%	
	18 to 29	101,273	100,425	99.16%	848	0.84%	
***	30 to 49	153,597	150,330	97.87%	3,267	2.13%	
Ventura	50 to 64	136,897	129,648	94.70%	7,249	5.30%	
	65 and over	133,176	126,152	94.73%	7,024	5.27%	
	18 to 29	27,345	27,177	99.39%	168	0.61%	
<b>3</b> 7 1	30 to 49	38,856	38,301	98.57%	555	1.43%	
Yolo	50 to 64	27,833	26,991	96.97%	842	3.03%	
	65 and over	27,363	26,691	97.54%	672	2.46%	

Table 4 below shows the total number of registered voters for each of the ten languages we have data on, as well as an "Other" category. As shown in Table 4 below, there were more than 15.9 million VCA voters that registered in English. Of the non-English registered voters, over 507

thousand registered in Spanish. The next largest non-English group was Chinese with over 105 thousand registered voters. The fourth largest language group was Vietnamese with 104 thousand registered VCA voters. Over 62 thousand voters in VCA registered in Korean and more than 13 thousand registered in Tagalog. There were 4,913 Japanese-speaking voters registered at the time of the 2022 Primary Election. Thai, Hindi, and Khmer had 3,919, 2,872, and 2,211 voters registered in each language group, respectively. The remaining 12,427 VCA voters were registered in a language other than those listed in the table.

**Table 4: Language for Registered Voters Across VCA Counties** 

Jurisdiction	Total Registered	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other (Not Listed)	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
Total (Los Angeles Included)	16,742,926	15,925,705	507,200	104,195	105,834	62,812	13,394	12,427	4,913	3,919	2,872	2,211
Total (Los Angeles Excluded)	11,135,051	10,684,006	257,208	91,476	57,933	25,691	7,529	6,618	1,969	1,295	2,312	954
Alameda	933,608	892,443	13,711	4,061	20,395	1,375	846	53	127	123	447	113
Amador	26,255	26,188	46	5	4	2	2	6	3	0	1	0
Butte	123,401	123,030	283	21	22	9	3	16	7	6	6	2
Calaveras	31,909	31,835	58	1	5	1	0	1	2	2	2	3
El Dorado	137,591	136,985	380	32	78	54	18	16	12	9	9	3
Fresno	497,894	482,666	13,390	377	279	121	65	949	0	0	0	94
Kings	61,330	59,414	1,852	16	14	4	25	0	3	2	5	2
Los Angeles	5,607,875	5,241,699	249,992	12,719	47,901	37,121	5,865	5,809	2,944	2,624	560	1,257
Madera	71,617	68,924	2,609	11	19	9	4	29	3	6	18	1
Marin	169,835	168,384	1,016	134	140	86	3	15	32	16	13	6
Mariposa	11,624	11,590	28	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merced	123,522	117,528	5,694	48	46	22	21	81	6	8	81	3
Napa	83,603	80,807	2,632	49	33	20	39	2	6	7	10	5
Nevada	75,024	74,878	124	5	14	1	1	0	2	4	1	2
Orange	1,811,282	1,701,888	39,871	42,940	7,996	16,472	525	477	616	288	274	211
Riverside	1,305,452	1,254,537	44,843	1,502	420	1,568	419	1,943	109	190	150	101
Sacramento	863,351	843,681	9,275	3,811	3,179	821	570	1,421	103	111	457	51
San Benito	37,175	35,773	1,364	12	10	8	9	2	2	2	1	1
San Diego	1,922,582	1,849,041	59,410	7,037	3,013	1,373	2,000	282	314	179	90	104
San Mateo	433,091	418,090	7,874	238	5,589	384	588	135	149	73	48	12
Santa Clara	1,001,970	931,423	17,954	30,351	15,552	2,791	2,143	939	360	108	462	137
Santa Cruz	167,808	163,704	3,920	20	90	43	21	7	16	20	2	14
Sonoma	303,740	299,370	3,778	203	196	75	26	25	18	37	31	27

Jurisdiction	Total Registered	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other (Not Listed)	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
Stanislaus	280,702	271,632	8,441	180	151	31	45	137	5	19	123	47
Tuolumne	35,137	35,091	45	1	3	3	1	0	0	2	1	0
Ventura	506,468	488,180	16,779	372	476	363	143	51	60	74	54	7
Yolo	119,080	116,924	1,831	49	208	49	12	31	14	9	26	8

Similar to Table 4 above, Table 5 shows voters registered in language groups represented as percentages. Shown below, English-speaking voters represent 95.12% of all VCA registered voters. The next largest language group is Spanish, which represents 3.03% of the VCA registered electorate. At the time of the 2022 Primary Election, no other language group comprised more than 1% of the registered voters in VCA counties.

**Table 5: Percent Language for Registered Voters Across VCA Counties** 

Jurisdiction	Total Registered	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other (Not Listed)	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
Total (Los Angeles Included)	16,742,926	95.12%	3.03%	0.62%	0.63%	0.38%	0.08%	0.07%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%
Total (Los Angeles Excluded)	11,135,051	95.95%	2.31%	0.82%	0.52%	0.23%	0.07%	0.06%	0.02%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%
Alameda	933,608	95.59%	1.47%	0.43%	2.18%	0.15%	0.09%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.05%	0.01%
Amador	26,255	99.74%	0.18%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%	-	0.00%	-
Butte	123,401	99.70%	0.23%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Calaveras	31,909	99.77%	0.18%	0.00%	0.02%	0.00%	-	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
El Dorado	137,591	99.56%	0.28%	0.02%	0.06%	0.04%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%
Fresno	497,894	96.94%	2.69%	0.08%	0.06%	0.02%	0.01%	0.19%	-	-	-	0.02%
Kings	61,330	96.88%	3.02%	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%	0.04%	-	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%
Los Angeles	5,607,875	93.47%	4.46%	0.23%	0.85%	0.66%	0.10%	0.10%	0.05%	0.05%	0.01%	0.02%

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Jurisdiction	Total Registered	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other (Not Listed)	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
Madera	71,617	96.24%	3.64%	0.02%	0.03%	0.01%	0.01%	0.04%	0.00%	0.01%	0.03%	0.00%
Marin	169,835	99.15%	0.60%	0.08%	0.08%	0.05%	0.00%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%
Mariposa	11,624	99.71%	0.24%	-	0.01%	0.05%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merced	123,522	95.15%	4.61%	0.04%	0.04%	0.02%	0.02%	0.07%	0.00%	0.01%	0.07%	0.00%
Napa	83,603	96.66%	3.15%	0.06%	0.04%	0.02%	0.05%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Nevada	75,024	99.81%	0.17%	0.01%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%	-	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
Orange	1,811,282	93.96%	2.20%	2.37%	0.44%	0.91%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%
Riverside	1,305,452	96.10%	3.44%	0.12%	0.03%	0.12%	0.03%	0.15%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Sacramento	863,351	97.72%	1.07%	0.44%	0.37%	0.10%	0.07%	0.16%	0.01%	0.01%	0.05%	0.01%
San Benito	37,175	96.23%	3.67%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
San Diego	1,922,582	96.17%	3.09%	0.37%	0.16%	0.07%	0.10%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
San Mateo	433,091	96.54%	1.82%	0.05%	1.29%	0.09%	0.14%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%	0.01%	0.00%
Santa Clara	1,001,970	92.96%	1.79%	3.03%	1.55%	0.28%	0.21%	0.09%	0.04%	0.01%	0.05%	0.01%
Santa Cruz	167,808	97.55%	2.34%	0.01%	0.05%	0.03%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%
Sonoma	303,740	98.56%	1.24%	0.07%	0.06%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Stanislaus	280,702	96.77%	3.01%	0.06%	0.05%	0.01%	0.02%	0.05%	0.00%	0.01%	0.04%	0.02%
Tuolumne	35,137	99.87%	0.13%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	-	-	0.01%	0.00%	-

Jurisdiction	Total Registered	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other (Not Listed)	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
Ventura	506,468	96.39%	3.31%	0.07%	0.09%	0.07%	0.03%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%
Yolo	119,080	98.19%	1.54%	0.04%	0.17%	0.04%	0.01%	0.03%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.01%

Table 6 below shows nativity by English and non-English registered status for voters across VCA counties at the time of the 2022 Primary Election. When an individual registers to vote, they self-report their place of birth by U.S. state or country. The table below cross analyzes this nativity data with English language status.

Shown in Table 6, of the 11.1 million VCA voters born in the United States, 11.0 million, or 99.35%, are registered to vote in English. The remaining 72 thousand, or 0.65%, are registered to vote in a language other than English. In comparison, of the nearly 5.6 million VCA voters born U.S. abroad, 4.8 million, or 86.62% registered to vote in English. The remaining 747 thousand voters born outside the U.S., or 13.38%, were registered to vote in a language other than English.

Table 6: Birthplace by English and Non-English Registered Voters Across VCA Counties

Jurisdiction	Birthplace	Total Registered	English		Non-I	English
Total (Los Angeles	U.S.	11,164,036	11,091,448	99.35%	72,588	0.65%
Included)	Abroad	5,583,278	4,836,078	86.62%	747,200	13.38%
Total (Los Angeles	U.S.	7,774,724	7,722,826	99.33%	51,898	0.67%
Excluded)	Abroad	3,363,316	2,962,220	88.07%	401,096	11.93%
A1 1	U.S.	561,481	559,605	99.67%	1,876	0.33%
Alameda	Abroad	372,349	332,974	89.43%	39,375	10.57%
	U.S.	22,263	22,246	99.92%	17	0.08%
Amador	Abroad	3,994	3,942	98.70%	52	1.30%
D (1)	U.S.	116,663	116,497	99.86%	166	0.14%
Butte	Abroad	6,743	6,534	96.90%	209	3.10%
C 1	U.S.	26,658	26,650	99.97%	8	0.03%
Calaveras	Abroad	5,253	5,186	98.72%	67	1.28%
ELD 1	U.S.	108,163	108,094	99.94%	69	0.06%
El Dorado	Abroad	29,442	28,899	98.16%	543	1.84%
F.	U.S.	356,927	355,456	99.59%	1,471	0.41%
Fresno	Abroad	141,069	127,265	90.21%	13,804	9.79%

Jurisdiction	Birthplace	Total Registered	En	glish	Non-I	English
T7.	U.S.	42,253	42,080	99.59%	173	0.41%
Kings	Abroad	19,102	17,352	90.84%	1,750	9.16%
	U.S.	3,389,312	3,368,622	99.39%	20,690	0.61%
Los Angeles	Abroad	2,219,962	1,873,858	84.41%	346,104	15.59%
	U.S.	64,538	63,528	98.44%	1,010	1.56%
Madera	Abroad	7,098	5,399	76.06%	1,699	23.94%
	U.S.	134,631	134,484	99.89%	147	0.11%
Marin	Abroad	35,219	33,905	96.27%	1,314	3.73%
	U.S.	9,548	9,547	99.99%	1	0.01%
Mariposa	Abroad	2,078	2,044	98.36%	34	1.64%
	U.S.	73,334	72,815	99.29%	519	0.71%
Merced	Abroad	50,212	44,721	89.06%	5,491	10.94%
	U.S.	58,269	58,103	99.72%	166	0.28%
Napa	Abroad	25,343	22,706	89.59%	2,637	10.41%
	U.S.	61,265	61,238	99.96%	27	0.04%
Nevada	Abroad	13,791	13,664	99.08%	127	0.92%
_	U.S.	1,179,748	1,173,323	99.46%	6,425	0.54%
Orange	Abroad	631,951	528,706	83.66%	103,245	16.34%
D' '1	U.S.	965,793	957,115	99.10%	8,678	0.90%
Riverside	Abroad	340,332	297,763	87.49%	42,569	12.51%
	U.S.	611,284	609,607	99.73%	1,677	0.27%
Sacramento	Abroad	252,261	234,139	92.82%	18,122	7.18%
G D :	U.S.	25,808	25,676	99.49%	132	0.51%
San Benito	Abroad	11,383	10,104	88.76%	1,279	11.24%
g D:	U.S.	1,306,456	1,298,566	99.40%	7,890	0.60%
San Diego	Abroad	616,414	550,502	89.31%	65,912	10.69%
G . M .	U.S.	270,781	269,646	99.58%	1,135	0.42%
San Mateo	Abroad	162,445	148,490	91.41%	13,955	8.59%
G	U.S.	703,530	687,583	97.73%	15,947	2.27%
Santa Clara	Abroad	298,729	243,873	81.64%	54,856	18.36%
Ct- C	U.S.	133,823	133,425	99.70%	398	0.30%
Santa Cruz	Abroad	34,044	30,289	88.97%	3,755	11.03%
C	U.S.	243,234	242,870	99.85%	364	0.15%
Sonoma	Abroad	60,564	56,512	93.31%	4,052	6.69%
G. 11	U.S.	188,016	187,196	99.56%	820	0.44%
Stanislaus	Abroad	92,814	84,455	90.99%	8,359	9.01%

Jurisdiction	Birthplace	Total Registered	English		Non-English		
Trackers	U.S.	27,790	27,783	99.97%	7	0.03%	
Tuolumne	Abroad	7,358	7,309	99.33%	49	0.67%	
Vantana	U.S.	399,028	396,448	99.35%	2,580	0.65%	
Ventura	Abroad	107,596	91,797	85.32%	15,799	14.68%	
V-1-	U.S.	83,440	83,245	99.77%	195	0.23%	
Yolo	Abroad	35,732	33,690	94.29%	2,042	5.71%	

Table 7 below shows the voter turnout rate by the languages listed on the California voter file. Voter turnout rates are calculated by dividing the number of ballots cast by the number of registered voters for each language group.

As shown in Table 7 below, the total turnout rate for all VCA counties was 33.1%. English-speaking VCA voters had a turnout rate of 33.4%, while Spanish-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 21.4%. VCA voters registered in Vietnamese had a turnout rate of 35.3%, while Chinese-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 26.1%. Voters registered in Korean had a turnout rate of 33.7%, and Tagalog-speaking voters had a turnout rate of 30.3%. Japanese, Thai, Hindi, and Khmer voters had turnout rates of 29.7%, 26.5%, 20.8%, and 19.3%, respectively. Those VCA voters registered in a language other than those listed had a turnout rate of 27.5%.

**Table 7: Turnout by Language Across VCA Counties** 

Jurisdiction	Category	Total	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
T . 1 0	Registered	16,742,926	15,925,705	507,200	104,195	105,834	62,812	13,394	12,427	4,913	3,919	2,872	2,211
Total (Los Angeles	Voted	5,533,542	5,325,849	108,306	36,827	27,673	21,145	4,055	3,413	1,461	1,038	598	427
Included)	Turnout Rate	33.1%	33.4%	21.4%	35.3%	26.1%	33.7%	30.3%	27.5%	29.7%	26.5%	20.8%	19.3%
T + 1 0	Registered	11,135,051	10,684,006	257,208	91,476	57,933	25,691	7,529	6,618	1,969	1,295	2,312	954
Total (Los Angeles	Voted	3,927,891	3,807,239	52,549	33,955	17,476	8,946	2,295	1,534	640	356	511	188
Excluded)	Turnout Rate	35.3%	35.6%	20.4%	37.1%	30.2%	34.8%	30.5%	23.2%	32.5%	27.5%	22.1%	19.7%
	Registered	933,608	892,443	13,711	4,061	20,395	1,375	846	53	127	123	447	113
Alameda	Voted	305,149	295,243	2,545	989	5,406	247	249	12	35	34	99	25
	Turnout Rate	32.7%	33.1%	18.6%	24.4%	26.5%	18.0%	29.4%	22.6%	27.6%	27.6%	22.1%	22.1%
	Registered	26,255	26,188	46	5	4	2	2	6	3	0	1	0
Amador	Voted	14,897	14,871	13	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
	Turnout Rate	56.7%	56.8%	28.3%	20.0%	25.0%	100.0%	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-	-
Butte	Registered	123,401	123,030	283	21	22	9	3	16	7	6	6	2

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Jurisdiction	Category	Total	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
	Voted	48,213	48,120	44	2	6	1	2	2	2	1	2	1
	Turnout Rate	39.1%	39.1%	15.5%	9.5%	27.3%	11.1%	66.7%	12.5%	28.6%	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%
	Registered	31,909	31,835	58	1	5	1	0	1	2	2	2	3
Calaveras	Voted	15,441	15,416	4	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	2
	Turnout Rate	48.4%	48.4%	6.9%	100.0%	20.0%	-	-	-	100.0%	100.0%	50.0%	66.7%
	Registered	137,591	136,985	380	32	78	54	18	16	12	9	9	3
El Dorado	Voted	62,211	62,057	50	5	19	13	2	4	3	3	0	1
	Turnout Rate	45.2%	45.3%	13.2%	15.6%	24.4%	24.1%	11.1%	25.0%	25.0%	33.3%	-	33.3%
	Registered	497,894	482,666	13,390	377	279	121	65	949	0	0	0	94
Fresno	Voted	135,026	131,818	2,703	71	64	14	19	262	0	0	0	11
	Turnout Rate	27.1%	27.3%	20.2%	18.8%	22.9%	11.6%	29.2%	27.6%	-	-	-	11.7%
	Registered	61,330	59,414	1,852	16	14	4	25	0	3	2	5	2
Kings	Voted	17,605	17,224	357	3	4	3	6	0	2	1	2	0
	Turnout Rate	28.7%	29.0%	19.3%	18.8%	28.6%	75.0%	24.0%	-	66.7%	50.0%	40.0%	-
	Registered	5,607,875	5,241,699	249,992	12,719	47,901	37,121	5,865	5,809	2,944	2,624	560	1,257
Los Angeles	Voted	1,605,651	1,518,610	55,757	2,872	10,197	12,199	1,760	1,879	821	682	87	239
	Turnout Rate	28.6%	29.0%	22.3%	22.6%	21.3%	32.9%	30.0%	32.3%	27.9%	26.0%	15.5%	19.0%
	Registered	71,617	68,924	2,609	11	19	9	4	29	3	6	18	1
Madera	Voted	24,663	24,065	565	1	7	3	1	5	2	2	1	0
	Turnout Rate	34.4%	34.9%	21.7%	9.1%	36.8%	33.3%	25.0%	17.2%	66.7%	33.3%	5.6%	-
	Registered	169,835	168,384	1,016	134	140	86	3	15	32	16	13	6
Marin	Voted	83,943	83,544	220	37	34	20	0	6	12	5	1	2
	Turnout Rate	49.4%	49.6%	21.7%	27.6%	24.3%	23.3%	-	40.0%	37.5%	31.3%	7.7%	33.3%
	Registered	11,624	11,590	28	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mariposa	Voted	6,239	6,228	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Turnout Rate	53.7%	53.7%	14.3%	-	-	16.7%	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Registered	123,522	117,528	5,694	48	46	22	21	81	6	8	81	3
Merced	Voted	31,655	30,563	984	13	13	6	9	21	0	2	25	0
	Turnout Rate	25.6%	26.0%	17.3%	27.1%	28.3%	27.3%	42.9%	25.9%	-	25.0%	30.9%	-
	Registered	83,603	80,807	2,632	49	33	20	39	2	6	7	10	5
Napa	Voted	36,262	35,580	614	12	11	5	8	0	2	2	4	3
	Turnout Rate	43.4%	44.0%	23.3%	24.5%	33.3%	25.0%	20.5%	-	33.3%	28.6%	40.0%	60.0%
	Registered	75,024	74,878	124	5	14	1	1	0	2	4	1	2
Nevada	Voted	37,482	37,436	14	2	5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
	Turnout Rate	50.0%	50.0%	11.3%	40.0%	35.7%	100.0%	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	-	-

### Voter's Choice Act Report on the 2022 Primary Election California Secretary of State | October 2024

Jurisdiction	Category	Total	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
	Registered	1,811,282	1,701,888	39,871	42,940	7,996	16,472	525	477	616	288	274	211
Orange	Voted	633,059	597,094	8,536	17,599	2,220	6,692	144	102	178	72	47	38
	Turnout Rate	35.0%	35.1%	21.4%	41.0%	27.8%	40.6%	27.4%	21.4%	28.9%	25.0%	17.2%	18.0%
	Registered	1,305,452	1,254,537	44,843	1,502	420	1,568	419	1,943	109	190	150	101
Riverside	Voted	372,409	362,922	7,852	317	95	375	96	306	33	53	39	26
	Turnout Rate	28.5%	28.9%	17.5%	21.1%	22.6%	23.9%	22.9%	15.7%	30.3%	27.9%	26.0%	25.7%
	Registered	863,351	843,681	9,275	3,811	3,179	821	570	1,421	103	111	457	51
Sacramento	Voted	334,883	328,671	2,506	1,425	972	258	237	448	50	31	114	6
	Turnout Rate	38.8%	39.0%	27.0%	37.4%	30.6%	31.4%	41.6%	31.5%	48.5%	27.9%	24.9%	11.8%
	Registered	37,175	35,773	1,364	12	10	8	9	2	2	2	1	1
San Benito	Voted	12,472	12,165	288	4	5	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
	Turnout Rate	33.5%	34.0%	21.1%	33.3%	50.0%	25.0%	11.1%	-	50.0%	-	-	-
	Registered	1,922,582	1,849,041	59,410	7,037	3,013	1,373	2,000	282	314	179	90	104
San Diego	Voted	667,576	651,449	11,745	2,253	813	295	615	41	99	38	17	27
	Turnout Rate	34.7%	35.2%	19.8%	32.0%	27.0%	21.5%	30.8%	14.5%	31.5%	21.2%	18.9%	26.0%
	Registered	433,091	418,090	7,874	238	5,589	384	588	135	149	73	48	12
San Mateo	Voted	165,509	161,582	1,843	51	1,540	81	168	27	55	21	13	0
	Turnout Rate	38.2%	38.6%	23.4%	21.4%	27.6%	21.1%	28.6%	20.0%	36.9%	28.8%	27.1%	-
	Registered	1,001,970	931,423	17,954	30,351	15,552	2,791	2,143	939	360	108	462	137
Santa Clara	Voted	356,433	332,905	4,424	10,965	5,975	775	668	243	116	29	99	28
	Turnout Rate	35.6%	35.7%	24.6%	36.1%	38.4%	27.8%	31.2%	25.9%	32.2%	26.9%	21.4%	20.4%
	Registered	167,808	163,704	3,920	20	90	43	21	7	16	20	2	14
Santa Cruz	Voted	78,341	77,356	872	4	24	9	7	2	2	5	1	5
	Turnout Rate	46.7%	47.3%	22.2%	20.0%	26.7%	20.9%	33.3%	28.6%	12.5%	25.0%	50.0%	35.7%
	Registered	303,740	299,370	3,778	203	196	75	26	25	18	37	31	27
Sonoma	Voted	137,852	136,933	664	44	58	19	7	3	10	13	2	5
	Turnout Rate	45.4%	45.7%	17.6%	21.7%	29.6%	25.3%	26.9%	12.0%	55.6%	35.1%	6.5%	18.5%
	Registered	280,702	271,632	8,441	180	151	31	45	137	5	19	123	47
Stanislaus	Voted	81,341	79,588	1,558	47	35	10	9	27	4	7	27	7
	Turnout Rate	29.0%	29.3%	18.5%	26.1%	23.2%	32.3%	20.0%	19.7%	80.0%	36.8%	22.0%	14.9%
	Registered	35,137	35,091	45	1	3	3	1	0	0	2	1	0
Tuolumne	Voted	16,937	16,923	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Turnout Rate	48.2%	48.2%	13.3%	-	33.3%	-	-	-	-	50.0%	-	-
	Registered	506,468	488,180	16,779	372	476	363	143	51	60	74	54	7
Ventura	Voted	202,813	198,475	3,779	98	113	102	43	16	23	29	13	0

Jurisdiction	Category	Total	English	Spanish	Vietnamese	Chinese	Korean	Tagalog	Other	Japanese	Thai	Hindi	Khmer
	Turnout Rate	40.0%	40.7%	22.5%	26.3%	23.7%	28.1%	30.1%	31.4%	38.3%	39.2%	24.1%	-
	Registered	119,080	116,924	1,831	49	208	49	12	31	14	9	26	8
Yolo	Voted	49,480	49,011	359	11	54	12	4	5	6	4	4	1
	Turnout Rate	41.6%	41.9%	19.6%	22.4%	26.0%	24.5%	33.3%	16.1%	42.9%	44.4%	15.4%	12.5%

Table 8 below shows the voting methods utilized by voters registered in English and non-English languages. At the time of the 2022 Primary Election, vote-by-mail was widely the preferred method of casting ballots statewide. Below, the table shows that of the 5.3 million English-speaking VCA voters, nearly 4.9 million, or 91.3%, voted by mail. The next most utilized voting method was casting a ballot in-person at a vote center with 455 thousand, or 8.6%, of VCA ballots. The remaining 1,035 (0.01%) and 6,500 (0.01%) ballots were cast using non-provisional CVR and CVR, respectively.

Table 8 also shows that of more than 204 thousand VCA voters registered in a language other than English, over 188 thousand, or 92.0%, voted by mail. The second preferred method for non-English speaking voters was voting in-person at a vote center, with more than 16 thousand, or 7.8%, choosing this method. The remaining 20 (0.01%) and 281 (0.01%) ballots were cast using a non-provisional CVR and CVR, respectively.

**Table 8: Voting Method by Language Across VCA Counties** 

Jurisdiction	Voting Method	English		Non-English		
	Total Voted	5,325,864	-	204,944	-	
T . 1.0	Vote-By-Mail	4,862,961	91.3%	188,608	92.0%	
Total (Los Angeles Included)	Vote Center	455,368	8.6%	16,035	7.8%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	1,035	0.0%	20	0.0%	
	CVR	6,500	0.1%	281	0.1%	
	Total Voted	3,807,241	-	118,450	-	
T-4-1 (I	Vote-By-Mail	3,574,814	93.9%	113,144	95.5%	
Total (Los Angeles	Vote Center	227,679	6.0%	5,124	4.3%	
Excluded)	Nonprovisional CVR	1,035	0.0%	20	0.0%	
	CVR	3,713	0.1%	162	0.1%	
	Total Voted	295,244	-	9,641	-	
Alameda	Vote-By-Mail	284,852	96.5%	9,378	97.3%	
	Vote Center	10,022	3.4%	247	2.6%	

Jurisdiction	Voting Method	Englis	sh	Non-English		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	CVR	370	0.1%	16	0.2%	
	Total Voted	14,871	-	21	-	
	Vote-By-Mail	14,297	96.1%	20	95.2%	
Amador	Vote Center	535	3.6%	0	0.0%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	38	0.3%	1	4.8%	
	CVR	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Total Voted	48,120	-	63	-	
	Vote-By-Mail	48,032	99.8%	63	100.0%	
Butte	Vote Center	78	0.2%	0	0.0%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	CVR	10	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Total Voted	15,416	-	13	-	
	Vote-By-Mail	14,400	93.4%	11	84.6%	
Calaveras	Vote Center	959	6.2%	2	15.4%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	57	0.4%	0	0.0%	
	CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Total Voted	62,057	-	100	-	
	Vote-By-Mail	59,290	95.5%	96	96.0%	
El Dorado	Vote Center	2,684	4.3%	4	4.0%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	53	0.1%	0	0.0%	
	CVR	30	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	Total Voted	131,818	-	3,144	-	
	Vote-By-Mail	121,759	92.4%	2,945	93.7%	
Fresno	Vote Center	9,759	7.4%	180	5.7%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	240	0.2%	10	0.3%	
	CVR	60	0.0%	9	0.3%	
	Total Voted	17,224	-	378	-	
	Vote-By-Mail	16,174	93.9%	353	93.4%	
Kings	Vote Center	1,034	6.0%	24	6.3%	
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	CVR	16	0.1%	1	0.3%	
	Total Voted	1,518,623	-	86,494	-	
Los Angeles	Vote-By-Mail	1,288,147	84.8%	75,464	87.2%	
	Vote Center	227,689	15.0%	10,911	12.6%	

Jurisdiction	Voting Method	Englis	sh	Non-English			
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	2,787	0.2%	119	0.1%		
	Total Voted	24,065	-	587	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	22,780	94.7%	566	96.4%		
Madera	Vote Center	1,247	5.2%	21	3.6%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	12	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	26	0.1%	0	0.0%		
	Total Voted	83,544	-	337	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	80,177	96.0%	322	95.5%		
Marin	Vote Center	3,319	4.0%	13	3.9%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	48	0.1%	2	0.6%		
	Total Voted	6,228	-	5	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	6,218	99.8%	5	100.0%		
Mariposa	Vote Center	9	0.1%	0	0.0%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	1	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	Total Voted	30,563	-	1,073	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	29,056	95.1%	1,015	94.6%		
Merced	Vote Center	1,487	4.9%	57	5.3%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	20	0.1%	1	0.1%		
	Total Voted	35,580	-	661	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	35,035	98.5%	651	98.5%		
Napa	Vote Center	491	1.4%	9	1.4%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	17	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	37	0.1%	1	0.2%		
	Total Voted	37,436	-	24	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	35,639	95.2%	22	91.7%		
Nevada	Vote Center	1,762	4.7%	2	8.3%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	35	0.1%	0	0.0%		
	Total Voted	597,094	-	35,628	-		
Orange	Vote-By-Mail	526,348	88.2%	33,813	94.9%		
	Vote Center	70,090	11.7%	1,737	4.9%		

Jurisdiction	Voting Method	Englis	sh	Non-English			
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	656	0.1%	78	0.2%		
	Total Voted	362,923	-	9,192	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	340,193	93.7%	8,775	95.5%		
Riverside	Vote Center	22,004	6.1%	397	4.3%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	726	0.2%	20	0.2%		
	Total Voted	328,671	-	6,047	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	317,760	96.7%	5,926	98.0%		
Sacramento	Vote Center	10,375	3.2%	114	1.9%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	536	0.2%	7	0.1%		
	Total Voted	12,165	-	301	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	11,533	94.8%	279	92.7%		
San Benito	Vote Center	603	5.0%	22	7.3%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	20	0.2%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	9	0.1%	0	0.0%		
	Total Voted	651,449	-	15,943	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	608,702	93.4%	15,145	95.0%		
San Diego	Vote Center	42,411	6.5%	796	5.0%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	336	0.1%	2	0.0%		
	Total Voted	161,582	-	3,799	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	155,033	95.9%	3,667	96.5%		
San Mateo	Vote Center	6,416	4.0%	129	3.4%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	133	0.1%	3	0.1%		
	Total Voted	332,905	-	23,322	-		
	Vote-By-Mail	318,392	95.6%	22,289	95.6%		
Santa Clara	Vote Center	14,219	4.3%	1,015	4.4%		
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
	CVR	294	0.1%	18	0.1%		
	Total Voted	77,356	-	931	-		
Santa Cruz	Vote-By-Mail	73,262	94.7%	882	94.7%		
	Vote Center	3,891	5.0%	46	4.9%		

Jurisdiction	Voting Method  Nonprovisional CVR	English		Non-English	
		117	0.2%	2	0.2%
	CVR	86	0.1%	1	0.1%
Sonoma	Total Voted	136,933	-	825	-
	Vote-By-Mail	133,096	97.2%	801	97.1%
	Vote Center	3,749	2.7%	23	2.8%
	Nonprovisional CVR	24	0.0%	0	0.0%
	CVR	64	0.0%	1	0.1%
Stanislaus	Total Voted	79,588	-	1,731	-
	Vote-By-Mail	76,405	96.0%	1,684	97.3%
	Vote Center	3,123	3.9%	46	2.7%
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	CVR	60	0.1%	1	0.1%
Tuolumne	Total Voted	16,923	-	8	-
	Vote-By-Mail	16,537	97.7%	7	87.5%
	Vote Center	375	2.2%	1	12.5%
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	CVR	11	0.1%	0	0.0%
Ventura	Total Voted	198,475	-	4,216	-
	Vote-By-Mail	182,861	92.1%	3,982	94.4%
	Vote Center	15,073	7.6%	226	5.4%
	Nonprovisional CVR	457	0.2%	7	0.2%
	CVR	84	0.0%	1	0.0%
Yolo	Total Voted	49,011	-	460	-
	Vote-By-Mail	46,983	95.9%	447	97.2%
	Vote Center	1,964	4.0%	13	2.8%
	Nonprovisional CVR	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	CVR	64	0.1%	0	0.0%

### **Takeaways**

There were 16.7 million registered voters across California VCA counties at the time of the 2022 Primary Election. The registered electorate in VCA counties was largely comprised of English-speaking voters. Voters registered in English accounted for approximately 16 million, or 95.1% of all VCA registered voters. The next largest language group was Spanish, which comprised over 507 thousand, or 3.0% of the VCA registered electorate. No other single language group accounted for more than 1% of the overall VCA registered electorate.

Non-English registered voters were more likely to belong to older age categories. For example, in VCA counties, there were over ten times as many non-English registered voters aged 65 and over (352,569), as there were non-English registered voters aged 18 to 29 (32,603).

Another key takeaway is that foreign-born voters were more likely to register in a language other than English compared to voters born in the United States. In VCA counties, over 747 thousand, or 13.38% of foreign-born voters registered in a language other than English. In contrast, only 72 thousand, or 0.65% of U.S. born voters registered in a language other than English.

Turnout across language groups varied significantly. VCA voters registered in Vietnamese had the highest turnout rate (35.3%), followed by Korean-speaking voters (33.7%), and English-speaking voters (33.4%). Khmer-speaking voters had the lowest turnout rate (19.3%), followed by Hindi-speaking voters (20.8%), and Spanish-speaking voters (21.4%). While low turnout among immigrant voters is a historical and national phenomenon, the turnout rates discussed above indicate that outreach needs to be targeted to non-English voters – particularly Spanish-speaking voters given that they are the second largest language group in California.

VCA voters registered in both English and non-English languages largely preferred voting by mail. One notable observation is that non-English-speaking voters were nearly 1-point more likely to vote-by-mail than English-speaking voters, suggesting that voting by mail may be slightly more accessible for non-English-speaking voters than their English-speaking counterparts.

### SURVEY RESULTS<sup>1</sup>

In partnership with the California Secretary of State's office, the UCLA Voting Rights Project conducted a survey that polled California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) counties on questions regarding their outreach to limited-English proficient (LEP) and non-English speaking voters during the 2022 Primary Election. The questions focused on the voting materials that counties distributed to LEP and non-English speaking voters, the methods in which they distributed information to LEP and non-English speaking voters, and the expenditures that counties made in efforts to reach LEP and non-English speaking voters.

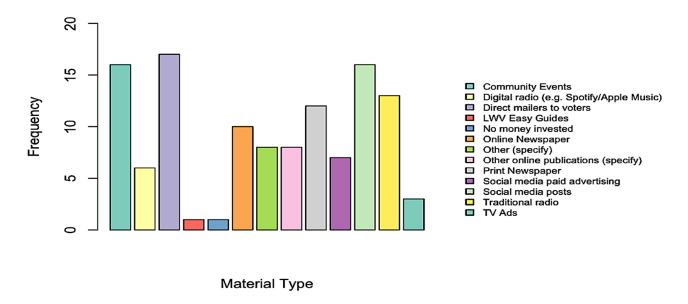
### **Outreach Materials**

The VCA Counties surveyed were asked a variety of questions regarding the types of outreach materials they used to engage LEP, and non-English speaking voters and the amount of money spent on disseminating non-English outreach materials.

For example, one inquiry sent to counties was "[p]lease select all of the non-English language voter outreach materials the county invested in for the 2022 Primary Election." Response choices included community events, digital radio ads (Spotify, Apple Music, etc.), and direct mailers, among others. Counties were asked about their outreach materials and strategies to uncover the ways counties believed they were able to reach LEP and non-English speaking voters. Furthermore, the questions helped determine what methods were most and least utilized when outreaching to these voters. Figure 2 below provides an overview of the responses from counties on the materials utilized for outreach and how many counties used each method.

Figure 2: Responses Regarding the Use of Methods to Distribute Non-English Outreach Materials

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The survey was fielded from January 2023 to February 2023 using Qualtrics, which is a web-based survey platform. Counties self-reported data. Twenty-four of the Twenty-seven VCA counties reported data.



As shown in Figure 2 above, at the time of the 2022 Primary Election, the most common non-English outreach methods were direct mailers, which were used by 17 counties. The second most utilized outreach method was community events with 16 counties choosing this method. The outreach method least utilized was League of Women's Voter (LWV) Easy guides, with only one county selecting this method. Notably, one county surveyed stated that they did not utilize any paid methods to distribute non-English outreach materials.

The highest number of non-English outreach methods utilized by a single county was eleven, including print and online newspapers, traditional radio, digital radio ads, direct mailers to voters, social media posts, and social media paid advertising. Larger VCA counties, such as Los Angeles County and Sacramento County employed between eight to ten different methods of outreach to distribute non-English outreach materials. Furthermore, findings show that most VCA counties utilized more than three outreach tools, all including community events. Three counties stated that they only used one method of outreach to LEP voters – direct online mailers only, social media posts only, or community events only.

Some counties responded that they used "other" outreach materials not listed. These "other" materials included "LanguageLine," an online on-demand translation service.

Based on our analysis of VoteCal data and the survey responses, we urge all VCA counties to employ more than one outreach method to educate LEP and non-English speaking voters. This multiple methods approach should include utilizing a mix of print materials such as direct mailers, online materials (including having a robust social media presence), and community engagement through events that are sponsored by the county registrar or partnerships with

community organizations. In other words, robust outreach campaigns should aim to combine physical media, online media, and in-person events.

### **Translation Services and Assistance**

In the survey conducted, VCA counties were asked various questions about the types of translation services and assistance provided for the 2022 Primary Election.

### Below are examples of survey questions asked to VCA counties:

- "In which languages did the County have a designated non-English speaker available in the Elections office during the 2022 Primary Election? Please select all that apply."
- "How were designated non-English translators made available to assist voters during the 2022 Primary Election? (e.g. available at the front desk, email, phone)."
- "In which languages, other than English did the county provide a voter assistance hotline during the 2022 Primary Election?"
- "What languages did the bilingual staff speak at polling locations during the 2022 Primary Election?"
- "Please tell us how you determined where to place bilingual poll workers during the 2022 Primary Election."
- "Please select the translation services provided during the 2022 Primary Election."
- "How much money for translation services (staffing, support, print media, social media, community events, hotlines) did the county invest in during the 2022 Primary Election? If no money was spent, please provide that information."
- "Did the county partner with any Community- Based Organizations to fulfill language needs during the 2022 Primary Election? If so, Which organizations?"
- "Were there any other language access services provided by county elections officials in the 2022 Primary Election that were not asked about in this survey? If so, please include what services were provided below."
  - I. Additional Findings on Translation Services and Assistance:

Generally, VCA counties had election staff that were designated as non-English speakers available for assisting voters for the 2022 Primary Election. For example, twenty-four counties had designated Spanish-speaking staff in election offices. Twelve counties had designated Tagalog/Filipino speakers, nine counties had Chinese speakers in elections offices, and eight counties had designated Vietnamese-speaking staff available to assist voters.

Furthermore, survey responses suggest that VCA counties were innovative in engaging with voters seeking language assistance. Several counties offered email and video chat or conferencing services for voters who contacted them for translation services. Most counties stated that they had a staff member in-person or available via phone in the elections office who was available to speak with voters. One county stated that, "[e]ach voting location had at least one person who spoke Spanish, staff in Election Office [that were] bilingual (Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog - Chinese and Tagalog were former 14201 languages), specific phone lines for languages published in the VIG and on website, access to SOS language line."

In VCA counties, voter assistance hotlines were available to help voters in every Section 203 language and 14201 languages for the 2022 Primary Election. Twenty-one counties provided Spanish language voter assistance hotline services; twelve provided the service in Chinese, ten provided the service in Tagalog/Filipino, ten in Vietnamese, seven in Korean, six in Hindi, six in Japanese, five in Panjabi, five in Telugu, and five in Gujarati.

VCA counties also showed innovation in the physical placement of bilingual poll workers for the 2022 Primary Election. For example, one county stated that:

"[p]lacement of bilingual workers at vote centers is determined by using a three-tiered assessment. The first tier looks at the Federal and state requirements and ranks them as the top priority to fill. The second tier is based on our VCA outreach and community feedback. These targeted spots are filled after the tier one slots are filled. The final tier is based on actual voter registration in a service area. These are filled after the other two tiers. Finally, any additional available bilingual workers are placed wherever vacancies exist because any added language support is a bonus."

Some counties engaged in "Precinct Language Analysis" to aid in poll worker placement, while other, more resourced counties were able to ensure bilingual poll workers at every vote center. In the majority of VCA counties, demographic information largely informed the placement of bilingual poll workers for the 2022 Primary Election.

Based on survey responses, reviewing demographic information of areas with LEP and non-English voters for placement of bilingual poll workers can be considered a common and/or best practice among VCA counties.

### **Website Accessibility**

The UCLA VRP also surveyed each VCA county website that provides election materials to determine whether counties were providing election information and materials online in required designated languages. Overall, while counties did meet requirements for translation materials and services, this report finds that county election websites could be more robust and include bilingual links and substantive translated text.

Some counties provide translated website information in all necessary languages, while others provide only Spanish translation. Some counties utilize language translation tools, that allow a website viewer to translate their entire election website page in certain languages. However, translation tools did not always cover all languages and were not easily found on some websites.

All VCA counties should have translated materials on their elections website to ensure that all voters can easily obtain election information. Further, counties that do provide some translation services should endeavor to make those translated services and tools easier to find and use so that voters can access the information they need during election time.

### **CONCLUSION**

With nearly one million VCA voters registered in a language other than English, it is imperative that California continues to accommodate LEP and non-English speaking voters and furthers outreach efforts. Federal and state law requires that counties provide all manner of election materials in the languages mandated by federal and state coverage formulas. To increase outreach, we recommend hiring, spending, and civic partnership plans that improve accessibility in voting.

### Below are suggestions for improving language assistance outreach:

- 1. All counties should increase community outreach and partnerships to engage with LEP and non-English speaking voters before, during, and after elections.
  - i. This includes increased engagement with Language Accessibility Advisory Committees (LAAC), which most VCA counties are currently utilizing to advise and assist county registrars with implementation of state and federal law. More than half of the surveyed counties cited community partnerships/LAAC as a pathway towards improving language accessibility.
  - ii. Furthermore, there is evidence in social science literature that community-based organizations boost civic participation among minority groups particularly when directly partnering with local government. In one study, the authors write: "Immigrant-serving organizations are uniquely positioned to aid in the political incorporation of their constituents by understanding and framing their concerns and articulating these concerns to the political establishment" (2008, p. 603). LAAC is an excellent example of how civic partnerships can boost voter accessibility.
- 2. All counties must assure they meet the Public Service Announcement requirements and providing translated materials.
  - i. This includes providing translated materials in required languages on county websites and ensuring that these translations are easy to locate and accurate for each election.
- 3. Counties should hire more in-office personnel during elections to assist LEP and non-English speaking voters.

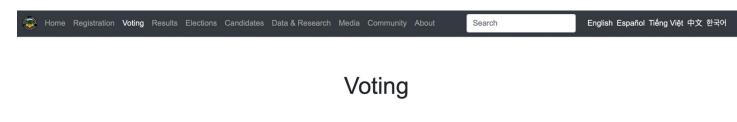
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> LeRoux, K. (2007). Nonprofits as Civic Intermediaries: The Role of Community-Based Organizations in Promoting Political Participation. *Urban Affairs Review*, *42*(3), 410-422; Cordero-Guzmán, H., Martin, N., Quiroz-Becerra, V., & Theodore, N. (2008). Voting With Their Feet: Nonprofit Organizations and Immigrant Mobilization. *American Behavioral Scientist*, *52*(4), 598-617.

- i. Personnel hired, even if temporary, should be proficient in the languages that the county is required to provide and advertised as available to voters during elections.
- 4. Recruitment of poll workers that are proficient in required languages should be a priority for VCA counties.
  - i. Counties should continue to explore where LEP and non-English speaking voters are likely to vote to adequately staff high-volume vote centers.
- 5. Counties should translate their elections websites in their respective California and Federal law designated languages and research providing online audio translations in covered languages for candidate statements and ballot measures.
- 6. Counties should investigate the efficacy of their translation contractors.
  - i. For several counties, their contract with LanguageLine was the difference between meeting language service needs. For example, when asked about the non-English language material used in outreach (newspaper/television ads, social media, etc.) one county simply responded that LanguageLine was used for outreach. Other counties relied on LanguageLine over in-person staff at polling places and election offices. Counties should critically evaluate whether a contract with LanguageLine is itself enough to meet the county's language assistance needs.

### **APPENDIX A**

An example of a VCA county that provides full language access translations on their website is Orange County. When a voter navigates to the Orange County elections page, all covered languages are displayed on the right-hand header. When a website viewer selects a specific language, the entire website is translated. Figures 1 and 2 below show the Orange County elections page in English and Vietnamese.

Figure 1: Orange County Voting Website Page – English



### **Voting Options**

More choices. More options.

Vote Centers mean many more options for voters. Elections are no longer a one-day event. Voting begins the month before any election day when every voter will receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Take advantage of the alternatives available to avoid congestion – from voting at home, drive-thru ballot drop-off, in-person options, returning your ballot via the United States Postal Service, or personally deliver your ballot to us – the choice is yours.

Figure 2: Orange County Voting Website Page – Vietnamese



# Việc Bỏ Phiếu

### Lựa Chọn Bỏ Phiếu

Nhiều Sự Chọn Lựa Hơn. Nhiều Cách Hơn.

Trung Tâm Bầu Cử có nghĩa là nhiều sự lựa chọn hơn cho cử tri. Bầu cử không còn là sự kiện một ngày. Việc bỏ phiếu bắt đầu một tháng trước bất kỳ ngày bầu cử nào khi mà mỗi cử tri sẽ nhận được phiếu bầu-qua-thư. Hãy tận dụng các lựa chọn sẵn có khác để tránh sự tắc nghẽn – từ việc bầu phiếu tại nhà, lái xe ngang qua để bỏ phiếu bầu vào thùng phiếu, các lựa chọn đích thân đến bỏ phiếu, gửi trả phiếu bầu qua Dịch Vụ Bưu Điện Hoa Kỳ, hoặc đích thân giao phiếu bầu của quý vị đến cho chúng tôi – sự lưa chọn là của quý vi.