

■ **OBAMA WINS CALIFORNIA IN HISTORIC LANDSLIDE.**

Sen. Barack Obama and running mate Sen. Joseph Biden won in a landslide victory over the Republican ticket of Sen. John McCain and Gov. Sarah Palin, 61% to 37%, to secure California's 55 electoral votes. Obama enjoyed most support along the more populous coast, while McCain received more support inland. Exit polls show Obama won the votes of more than nine in 10 blacks, three in four Latinos, two in three Asians, and half of whites. Obama is the first presidential candidate since Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936 to win more than 60% support from Californians.

■ **INCUMBENTS RETAIN SEATS IN CALIFORNIA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.**

The composition of California's 53-seat House delegation is unchanged (34 Democrats, 19 Republicans). Only one incumbent did not seek reelection, Republican John Doolittle in District 4. The contest for his seat was close, with Tom McClintock (R) defeating Charlie Brown (D) by a slim margin. Sen. Barbara Boxer and Sen. Dianne Feinstein were not up for re-election this year.

■ **DEMOCRATS PICK UP SEATS IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE.**

All 80 of California's assembly members were up for election; they serve two-year terms. Democrats added to their majority, picking up four seats and losing one, to reach 51. Republicans kept 29 assembly seats. Twenty of California's 40 senators, who serve four-year terms, were up for election. Despite a close race in District 19, no seats changed hands: Democrats held 25, Republicans 15.

■ **VOTERS APPROVED THREE OF FOUR BOND MEASURES.**

Of 12 state ballot propositions, four were bond measures, and three of these were approved by voters; they authorize the state to sell \$12 billion in bonds. Proposition 1A authorizes \$10 billion to begin construction of a high-speed rail system running from Sacramento and San Francisco to Los Angeles and San Diego. Voters also approved Propositions 3 (\$980 million for children's hospitals) and 12 (\$900 million for veterans' home loans). Proposition 10 (alternative fuels) failed.

■ **SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN PASSES.**

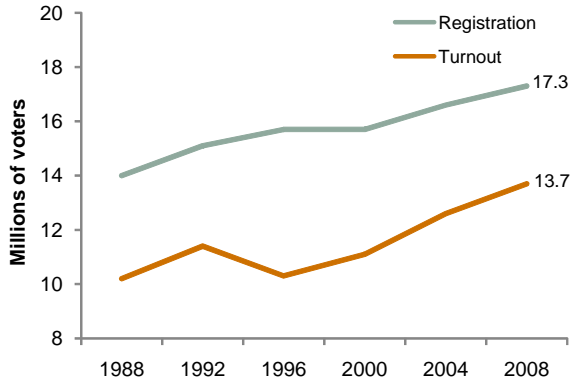
California voters approved Proposition 8, eliminating the right of same-sex marriage, 52% to 48%. Voters also approved Proposition 11, establishing an independent redistricting commission, 51% to 49%; Proposition 2, requiring roomier cages for farm animals; and Proposition 9, a victims' rights and criminal justice measure. For the third time since 2005, voters rejected a measure, Proposition 4, requiring parental notification before a minor's abortion.

■ **VOTER REGISTRATION REACHED RECORD HIGH; TURNOUT MAKES HISTORY.**

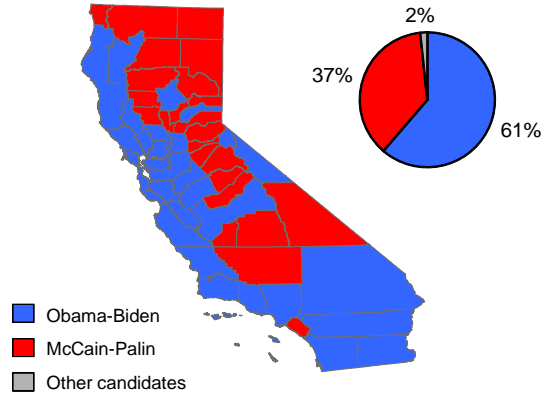
At the 15-day close of registration before the November 4 election, voter registration reached a record high 17.3 million (75% of eligible voters). Turnout also set a record, with 13.7 million voters casting ballots. The percentage of registered voters turning out (79.4%) was the highest since 1976. The number of registered voters increased about 750,000 since 2004 and 1.6 million since 2000. Democrats (44.4%) have a 13-point advantage in registration over Republicans (31.4%). Democrats had an 8.3-point edge in 2004 and a 10.5-point edge in 2000. The number of registered independents reached a record high 3.4 million voters (19.9%), up from 2.3 million (14.4%) in 2000.

California's 2008 General Election

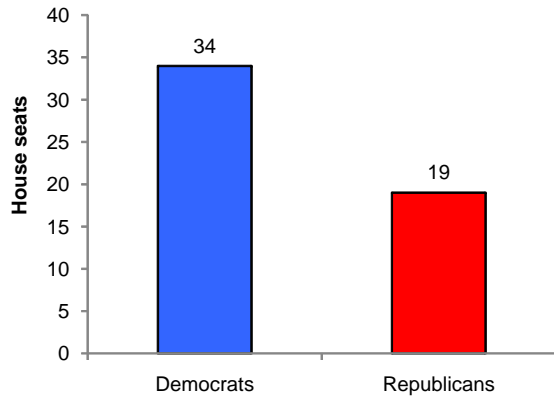
Historic Registration and Turnout



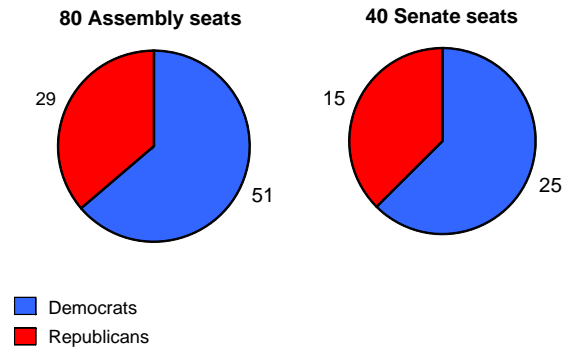
Presidential Election



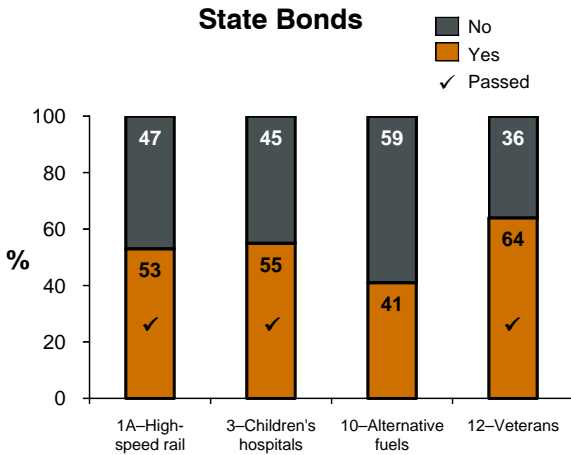
California's Congressional Delegation



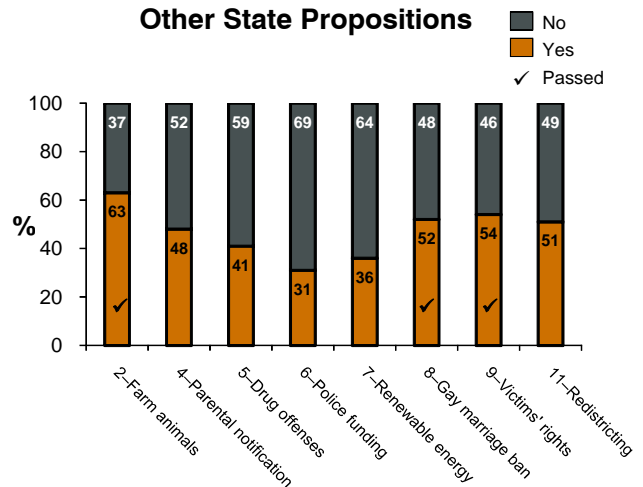
California State Legislature



State Bonds



Other State Propositions



Sources: California Secretary of State: Statement of Vote, November 2004 and November 2008; California exit polls by Edison Media Research and Mitofsky International, for the National Election Pool.

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