



OFFICE OF
ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER & ELECTIONS
REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

December 15, 2023

Senator Steve Glazer
1021 O Street, Suite 7520
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: California Voter's Choice Act

Senator Glazer,

Thank you for the opportunity to share our experience in conducting elections under the California Voter's Choice Act. I regret that I cannot attend the upcoming meeting on this topic given the short notice, but I am pleased to provide you with information on our practices.

Attached please find our Election Administration Plan (EAP), which also includes our Voter Education and Outreach Plan. San Mateo County has been a leader in expanding education and outreach efforts, both through our own programs, and in participation with our Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC), which I convened in 2018 in advance of our first VCA election. The VEOAC includes representatives from nonpartisan organizations, such as the League of Women Voters, San Francisco Peninsula People Power and Thrive Alliance. Our office formed the VEOAC as a venue for these groups and others to offer their expertise in community outreach. The VEOAC also played a key role in the creation of our Community Based Organization (CBO) focused outreach program, which brings together a variety of CBOs to serve as trusted messengers of election information in their communities.

I additionally wanted to share some information on how voting has changed in San Mateo County under the VCA. The all-mail election model has been embraced by San Mateo voters, who have cast their ballots by mail or via Drop Box at a rate exceeding 70% in each statewide VCA election. Vote Centers continue to be used for in-person voting, especially by Latino voters and voters aged 18-24. Vote Centers are primarily used on Election Day, but also see a steady rate of use during the Saturday – Monday period before Election Day. I have included several appendices which illustrate this data.

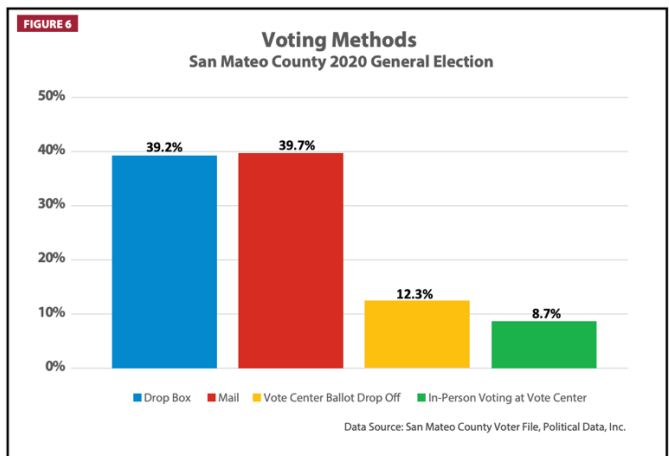
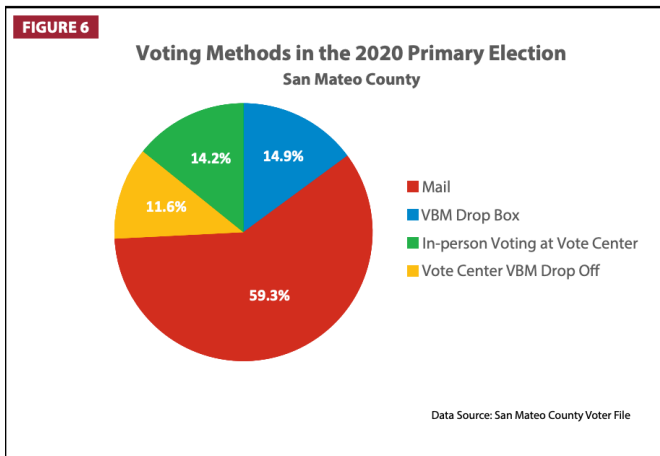
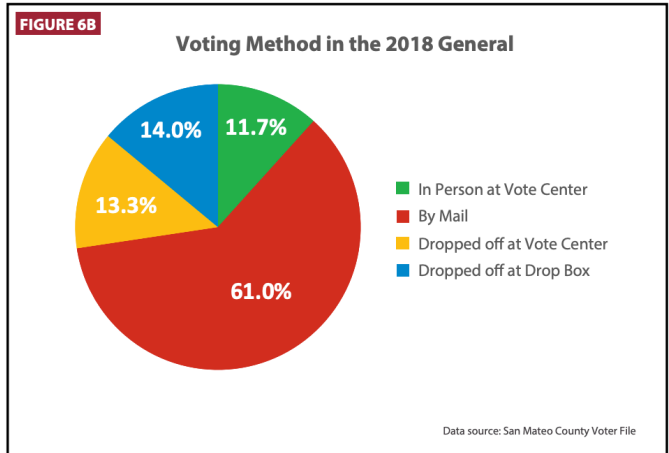
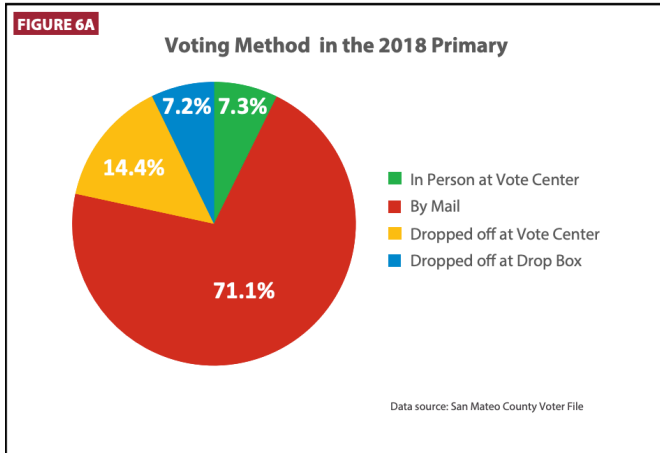
I would be glad to share any additional information you require on our Voter's Choice Act experience. San Mateo County is proud to have been among the first counties to adopt the VCA, a law which itself was informed by the pilot election conducted in our county under Assembly Bill 2028. The VCA has truly provided "more days and more ways" for our voters to make their voices heard, and the growth in turnout and positive public response only further illustrates this model's benefits.

Sincerely,

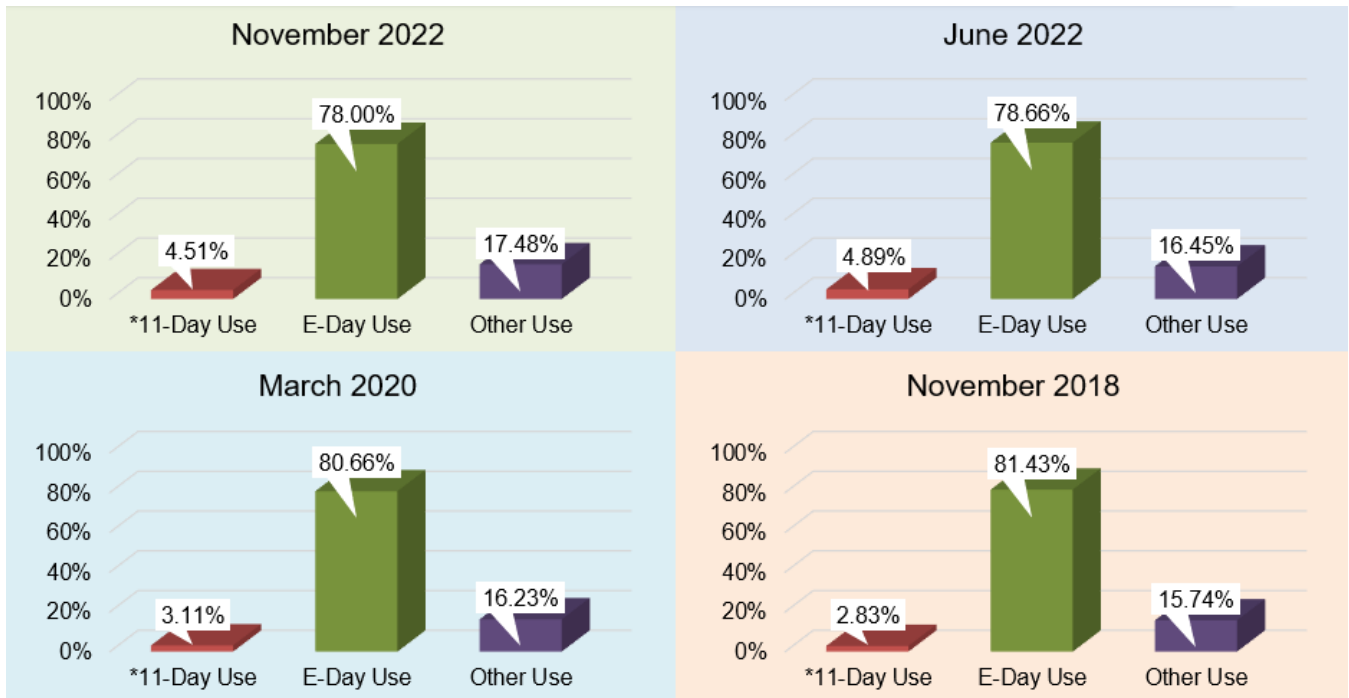
Mark Church
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder and Chief Elections Officer
San Mateo County

Cc: Tricia Webber
Enclosure

Appendix 1. Voting Method by Election



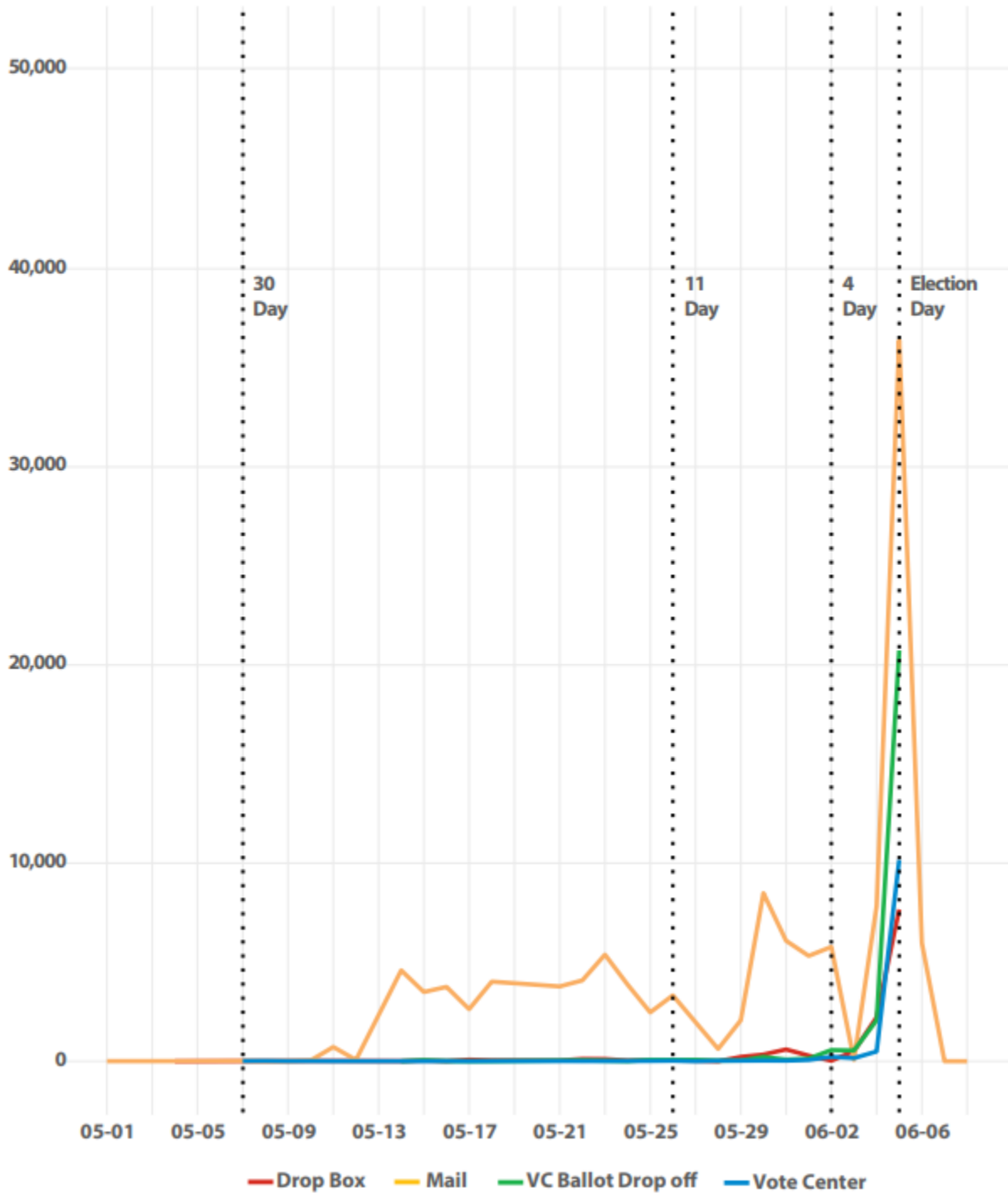
Appendix 2. Vote Center Use Rates, Comparative



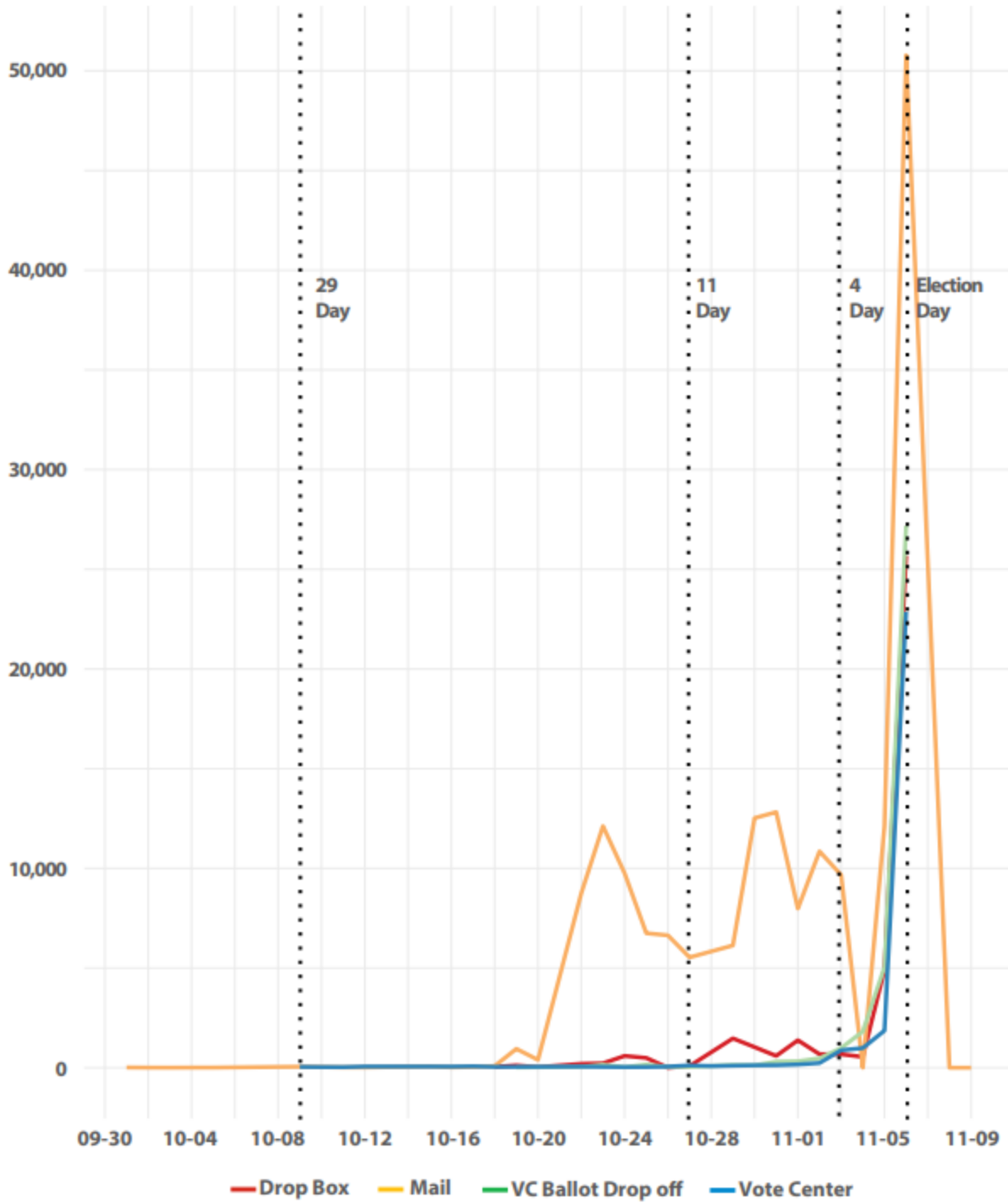
*In-person votes cast at any location during period of E-10 through E-5
November 2020 data not included due to temporary COVID-related process changes.

Appendix 3. Vote Center Use Rates by Day

San Mateo County 2018 Primary Election: Total Ballots By Day

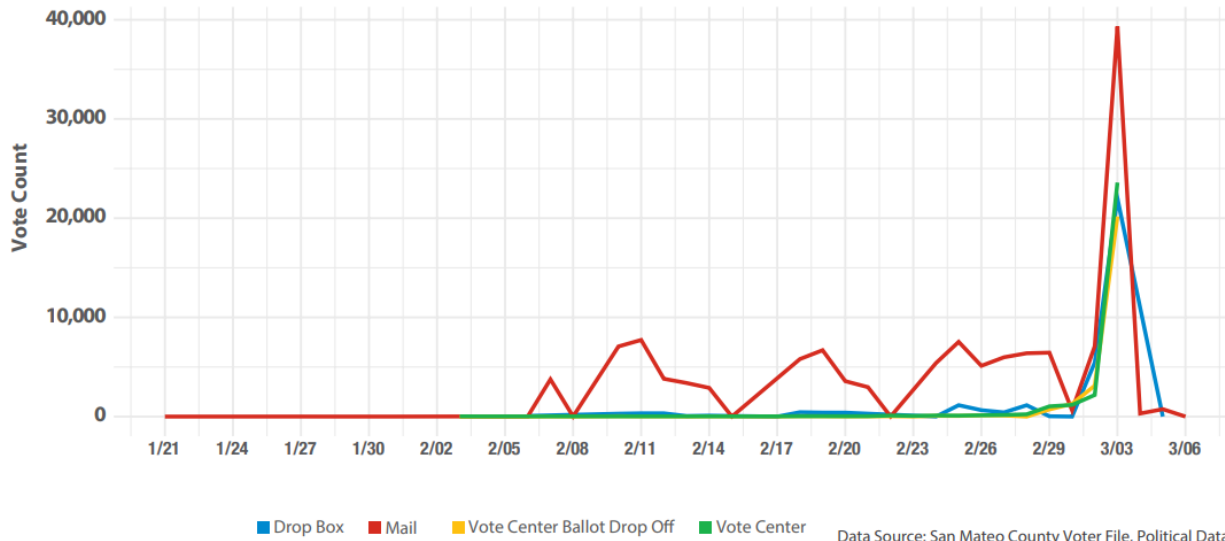


San Mateo County 2018 General Election: Total Ballots By Day



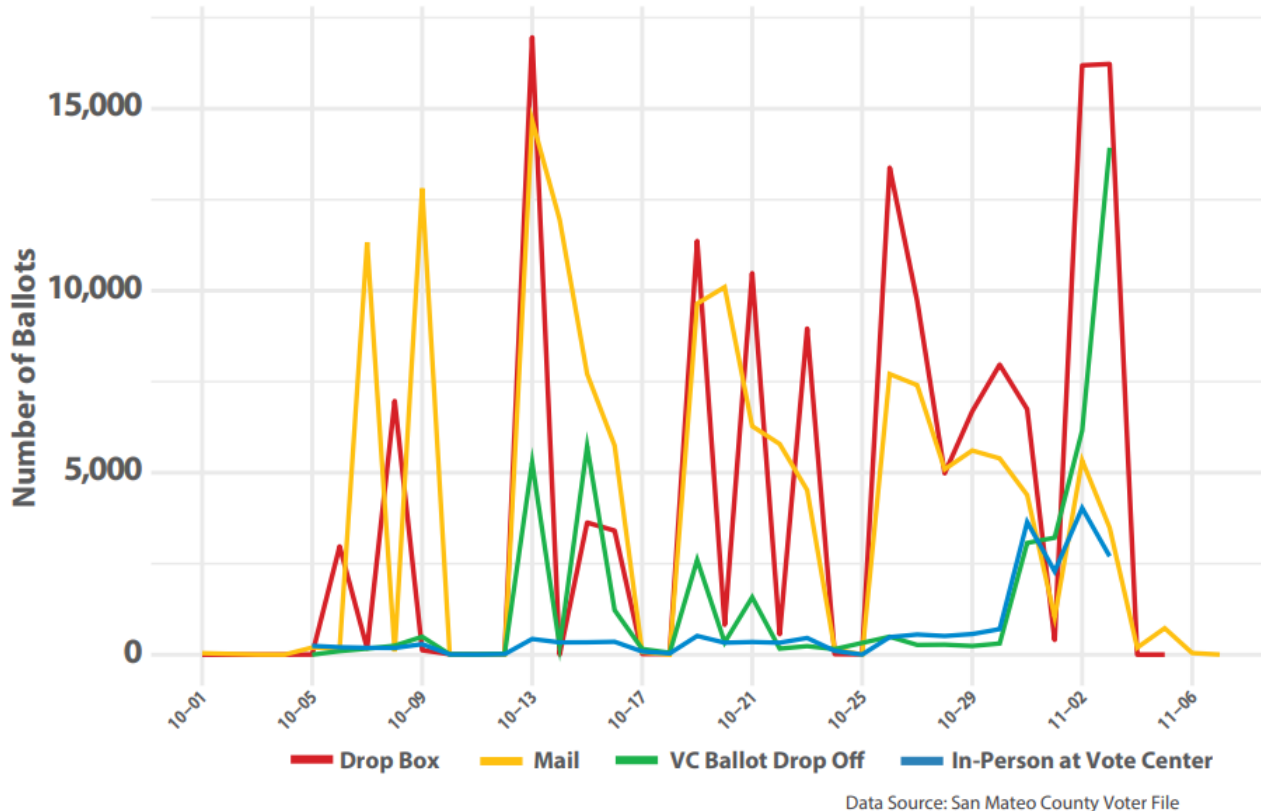
Count of Ballots Received During the 2020 Primary Election

January 21, 2020 to March 6, 2020



San Mateo County 2020 General Election: Total Ballots by Day

October 1, 2020 to November 6, 2020



40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

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Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC)

The San Mateo County Chief Elections Officer established the Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC) to advise and assist the Chief Elections Officer on matters relating to education and outreach in 2018. The VEOAC is not a membership committee, but regularly has 20 meeting attendees.

✓ **Mission:**

The mission of the San Mateo County VEOAC is to advise and assist the Chief Elections Officer on the matters relating to voter education and outreach and to enhance outreach opportunities and compliance with all federal, state and local laws.

✓ **Responsibilities:**

- Provide expertise and advice on voter education and outreach issues
- Gather feedback from local communities on voter education and outreach issues
- Propose recommendations on how to better assist voters
- Monitor new laws and regulations on elections voter education and outreach issues

✓ **Organization**

The VEOAC welcomes both individual San Mateo County voters and representatives of organizations working in the county. Meeting participants should be interested in or active in voter education and outreach. Below you will find a roster of regular attendees. We encourage you to join one of our meetings if you would like to provide input on voter education and outreach. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. (subject to change) – check our [calendar](#) for upcoming dates, or contact the Registration & Elections Division at 650.312.5222, registrar@smcacre.gov, with any questions or comments.