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SECRETARY OF THE STATE
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- PRESS RELEASE -

MERRILL RELEASES TURNOUT FIGURE FROM AUGUST 14, 2012 PRIMARIES

SECRETARY OF THE STATE REPORTS TURNOUT OF (28%) AMONG REGISTERED
REPUBLICANS; (19%) AMONG REGISTERED DEMOCRATS

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today released voter turnout figures from last Tuesday's Democratic and Republican primaries in Connecticut. Figures reported by Registrars of Voters show that a total of 113,538 registered Republicans cast ballots out of a total of 409,723 active registered Republicans in the state, for a turnout percentage of 27.7% statewide, and that a total of 138,004 registered Democrats cast ballots out of a total of 717,241 active registered Democrats in the state, for a turnout percentage of 19.2% statewide.

These figures are slightly below normal for Democrats and slightly above normal for Republicans in a statewide primary. Comparatively, the last time a statewide primary was held in September (September 15, 1998), Democratic turnout was only 18.7%. There was no Republican statewide primary contest that year. On August 10, 2010, 24.88% of Democrats and 29.76% of Republicans cast their ballots for a gubernatorial candidate, and on August 8, 2006, 42.64% of Democrats made their choice for a senatorial candidate.

"Democrats and Republicans throughout Connecticut had their voices heard and made a choice about who will represent their parties on the ballot in November," said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut's chief elections official. "As we start down the road to the general election, I urge all those who are eligible to register to vote, research the candidates, and come out on November 6 to cast a ballot."

"Since Connecticut's primaries moved to August, a higher percentage of party members have shown up to vote," Secretary Merrill continued. "Still, the names on the ballot and current events drive turnout more than the date of the election; 2006 was a perfect example of this."

The Fifth Congressional District saw the highest voter turnout, with 32.3% of Republicans and 23.5% of Democrats casting ballots. The town with the highest voter turnout percentage in the primary was Goshen, where 59.4% of registered Republicans voted. The town of Plainfield had the lowest voter turnout, with just 11.3% of registered Democrats casting ballots. A town-by-town listing of the August 14, 2012 primary turnout is attached to this news release.

Historical Primary Turnout

Date	Democrats	Republicans
8/14/2012	19.20%	27.70%
8/10/2010	24.88%	29.76%
8/8/2006	42.64%	n/a
9/15/1998	18.70%	n/a
9/13/1994	25.90%	25.10%
9/15/1992	n/a	22.20%
9/11/1990	20.40%	n/a
9/9/1986	n/a	21.40%

Primary Turnout by Congressional District

	Turnout Democrats	Turnout Republicans	Total Turnout
1st Congressional District Total	19.1%	27.9%	21.7%
2nd Congressional District Total	18.8%	26.2%	21.8%
3rd Congressional District Total	18.0%	24.1%	19.7%
4th Congressional District Total	17.4%	26.9%	21.4%
5th Congressional District Total	23.5%	32.3%	27.2%

Towns with the Highest and Lowest Turnout

Republicans-Highest

Goshen	59.40%
Cornwall	50.80%
Sharon	48.60%
Litchfield	46.40%
Roxbury	45.80%

Democrats-Highest

Cornwall	52.10%
Sprague	45.50%
Kent	43.20%
Sharon	40.90%
Washington	40.50%

Republicans-Lowest

Norwich	17.60%
Plymouth	17.00%
Sterling	15.90%
East Haven	15.50%
North Stonington	13.60%

Democrats-Lowest

East Hartford	12.30%
Sterling	11.80%
New London	11.70%
Naugatuck	11.40%
Plainfield	11.30%

