



MEMORANDUM

Date: December 10, 2018

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **2018 General Election Statistics**

The 2018 General Election had a turnout of approximately 71 percent. Below is a list of eligible voters, number of ballots cast, early ballots and ballots cast at the polls.

2018 General Election Statistics

Eligible Voters	557,532
Number of Ballots Cast	393,352 (70.55 percent turnout)
Number of Early Ballots Cast	312,400 (79.4 percent)
Number of Ballots Cast at the Polls	80,952 (20.6, includes provisional ballots)

Nearly 80 percent of all ballots cast for this election occurred through the early ballot process.

In addition to a large number of early ballots dropped-off at the polls, there were also a large number of provisional ballots that must be evaluated since the voter may have a record of receiving an early ballot, but may not have cast the early ballot. Hence, the individual is eligible to cast a provisional ballot subject to confirmation that the early ballot has not been received or counted.

In total, 18,359 provisional ballots were cast in the 2018 General Election, of which 88 percent were validated and counted. The Elections Department also introduced iPads at the polls so poll workers were able to find the correct polling location for voters who appear at a precinct where they are ineligible to vote. In 2016, there were 1,150 wrong precinct ballots uncounted, in 2018 this number was reduced to 671.

Voters can also track the process of their early ballot via the Recorders website. However, the tracking ability ends once the Recorder sends the ballot to the Elections Department. The voter then has to go to the Elections website to track the ballot through the tabulation process. We hope, prior to 2020, to develop a tracking system that can be seamless and used by both departments.

For your information, attached is a table that shows the growth in early ballots cast.

Attachment

c: The Honorable F. Ann Rodriguez, Pima County Recorder
John Voorhees, Assistant County Administrator
Brad Nelson, Director, Elections Department

Pima County stats for general elections from 2008 until present

Date	#of precincts	# of eligible voters	%of turnout	# of ballots cast at the polls	#of early ballots cast	% of ballots cast via early ballot
2008	417	498,777	79.7%	169,977	227,526	57%
2010	417	486,697	65.5%	117,070	201,925	63%
2012	288	494,630	78.0%	124,178	261,547	68%
2014	248	497,542	55.16%	67,839	206,578	75%
2016	248	544,270	78.40%	103,077	324,025	75%
2018	249	557,535	70.55%	80,952	312,400	79%

As one can see, the number of voters casting ballots at the polls has fallen for the past several general elections. It is projected that for the coming November 2020 general election less than 20% of the ballots cast for the election will come from the polls.