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Nebraska sees record turnout in November election

LINCOLN – The Nov. 4 election produced a record turnout of 814,012 voters in Nebraska, according to Secretary of State John Gale.

That beat the previous record of 792,906 set in the November 2004 election.

The recent election saw 70.3 percent of registered voters cast ballots. Gale had predicted a turnout of 72 percent.

“There was intense interest in the election, driven to a large measure by the historic presidential race,” Gale said. “It’s a credit to Nebraskans and their interest in participatory democracy that we had a record turnout.”

Early voting was widely used in the recent election, as 174,228 people cast early-voting ballots (21.4 percent of the total vote). By comparison, early voting comprised 13.6 percent of the total vote in the November 2004 election and 17.6 percent of the total vote in the November 2006 election.

“In the recent election, county election officials did a great job of managing the high number of voters – those voting early and those going to the polls,” Gale said. “As a result, the election went very smoothly and there were no major problems.”

The Nebraska Board of State Canvassers meets Dec. 1 at the State Capitol to certify the election results.

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