



**From the Office of Secretary of State**

**John Gale**

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**Secretary Gale says voter turnout will be high in Nebraska**

Saying that it has been a long, exciting, and engaging process, Secretary of State John Gale predicted that 71 percent of registered voters would cast their ballots in Nebraska in the November 6 election.

"Presidential election years generate the highest voter turnouts in Nebraska, time after time. In 2004, turnout was 68 percent and in 2008 just over 71 percent of registered voters cast their ballots," said Gale. "This year will be strong turnout as well."

The prediction is just shy of the total turnout in 2008. "What we don't seem to have is a surge of new voter registrations. Voter registration is steady and strong, and is holding close to the registration numbers in 2008, but overall there has been some slippage."

In addition to the presidential election, Gale pointed to other contests driving high voter interest. "As in 2008, there's a race for U.S. Senate, three congressional races, and four constitutional amendments to be decided. There are also several close legislative races and the Electoral College vote in the 2nd Congressional District may come into play as it did four years ago."

Gale said there's further evidence that voters are highly motivated in this election. "Most registered voters are ready to vote. We are seeing record numbers for early voting, in-person and by mail-in ballot, all across the state."

"I would be pleased if statewide voter turnout exceeded my expectation," said Gale. "I'm always optimistic that people feel the need to take part in the election process. Every vote counts, so I urge each registered voter to make their mark."

There are 1,164,166 registered voters in Nebraska. The breakdown by party is as follows: 558,170 (Republican), 374,191 (Democrat), 228,563 (Nonpartisan), 3,117 (Libertarian), 125 (Americans Elect). Additional breakdown of registration numbers for individual counties can be found on the [2012 Election page](#) of the Secretary of State's website.

Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on November 6.

"I applaud all our citizens who are voting now and on Election Day," said Gale. "Our precinct voting should go smoothly and quickly for voters, and our election officials and poll workers are trained, ready and eager to help."

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