

BOE: Early Voting Booms In Primary Despite Fewer Days But Same Hours

By Administrator

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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - The State Board of Elections has authenticated results for the May 6 primary, noting that more North Carolinians voted early and within fewer days compared to 2010, the most recent non-presidential primary year.

Early voting also formed a greater proportion of overall participation. The May Primary was the first election held under a compacted 10-day early voting schedule. Average votes-per-hour at one-stop polling locations increased 34% over 2010.

“Primaries play an increasingly decisive role in our democratic process, and we are encouraged to see greater participation,” said Executive Director Kim Westbrook Strach in a statement.

Statewide participation increased to 15.8% of registered voters compared to 14.4% in 2010. More than 148,000 additional voters cast ballots in 2014 than in 2010.

Second primaries will be held Tuesday, July 15 to decide 19 contests in 37 counties. Early voting begins Thursday, July 3. No statewide ballot item required a second primary.

The State Board unanimously denied the appeal of an elections protest filed by Bruce Davis, former candidate for the Democratic nomination in the Sixth Congressional District. Board members also voted unanimously to reprimand Jerry Wallin of the Madison County Board of Elections regarding a Facebook “like” of a candidate’s page.