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Early Voting Ends With 7,113 Ballots Cast Ahead of Saturday's Primary Election

Early voting for the 2026 Primary Election concluded with 7,113 ballots cast, representing 34 percent of active registered Democrats. Voting centers open Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., while the Board of Elections seeks volunteers for the Aug. 6 audit.

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Ernice Gilbert **July 29, 2026**

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Early voting for the 2026 Primary Election has concluded with 7,113 ballots cast across the territory, representing 34 percent of active registered Democrats, according to the Elections System of the Virgin Islands. Voters who did not participate during the early voting period may cast their ballots on Election Day, Saturday, August 1.

St. Croix recorded 3,461 early voters, while 3,444 ballots were cast on St. Thomas and 208 on St. John.

Voting centers will operate Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Unlike traditional neighborhood-based precincts, voting centers allow electors to cast their ballots at any center of their choice within their district.

Supervisor of Elections Caroline F. Fawkes thanked Elections System staff, Board of Elections members, election officials and supporting agencies for their work during the early voting period and for helping to ensure the safety of electors who came to vote.

Fawkes also reminded voters who are unable to vote during early voting or on Election Day that they or their representative may obtain an absentee ballot by email or from an Elections System office.

She closed the early voting announcement with a quotation from Charles B. Rangel:

“The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was indeed a vital instrument of democracy, ensuring the integrity and reliability of a democratic process that we as a Country hold so dear.”

Questions about voting may be directed to the St. Croix Elections Office at 340-773-1021 or the St. Thomas Elections Office at 340-774-3107. Updated election information is also available at vivote.gov.

Board Seeks Volunteers for August 6 Audit

Separately, the Board of Elections is seeking active registered voters to serve as volunteer talliers during the August 6 audit of the 2026 Primary Election.

The appeal is directed particularly to fraternities, sororities and University of the Virgin Islands accounting majors in both the St. Croix and St. Thomas-St. John districts.

Volunteers will be responsible for accounting for all votes cast on randomly selected DS-200 voting machines. The process could require several days of community service, beginning at 9 a.m. each day.

Those interested must email Richard.Wilson@boel.vi.gov no later than August 3. Additional information is available by calling or texting 340-423-4293.

Lunch and snacks will be provided to volunteers. The Board described the work as a civic responsibility supporting fair and transparent elections.

The volunteer announcement identifies Richard Muhammad, executive assistant, as the contact and also lists 340-773-1021 as the office number.