

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Nearly 12,000 Virgin Islanders Voted Early, Setting New Record

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ELECTION 2018

The Election System of the Virgin Islands said on Monday that 11,829 Virgin Islanders voted early between October 15 and the 29. The final tally represents a more than doubling of the 5,000 people or so who voted early in 2016.

Virgin Islanders have been sharing their thoughts on the voting process as well, with many expressing satisfaction with the ease of voting, a development that must be pleasing to Election System officials and Board of Election members.

Relative to turnout, St. Thomas held the lead in early voting, with 6,191 individuals casting their ballots early, followed by 5,251 on St. Croix, and 387 on St. John (early

voting ended on Saturday in St. John).

The turnout represents 23 percent of all registered voters in the U.S. Virgin Islands," Supervisor of Elections Caroline Fawkes said.

"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," Mrs. Fawkes said in her closing remarks.

Voters who did not get a chance to vote early will have an opportunity to do so on election day, which is November 6. Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

The Consortium will be at the Election System headquarters on St. Croix bringing live coverage back to a panel in our studio hosted by Ashley Scotland. We will be bringing instant results as they come in, as well as analysis.

This week represents the final push for teams vying for the gubernatorial seat ahead of November 6. Some teams plan motorcades on Saturday, while others plan major concert events. Machel Montano, the Caribbean's biggest Soca artist, will be performing in St. Thomas on Saturday and St. Croix on Sunday at Donastorg-Hansen events. And Mapp campaign officials have said Kassav, the biggest Zouk band in the world, will perform Saturday on St. Croix.