



Language Access Tools for California Elections

Using Data Visualization to Assist Voters, Community Organizations, and Elections Officials

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The following two tools were developed to help voters, community organizations, and election officials visualize newly expanded language access coverage under state law starting in 2020.

As of November 2019, **18 counties** (see **Note 1**) in California are now required to provide additional election support in **16 new languages** (see **Note 2**). This assistance includes providing access to translated facsimile (reference) ballots, which voters can use while voting on an English ballot, among other translated voting materials.

[Read more about AAAJ vs. Padilla](#)

Interactive Map: California Language Communities by Precinct

Explore precincts within 18 counties (see Note 1) to discover languages covered on Election Day.

How to Navigate:

1. **Search by Language Filter:** In the upper left corner, toggle languages on and off to see the region(s) covering selected language(s).
2. **Search by County Filter:** In the bottom left toolbar, select the county filter logo on the right end and toggle counties on and off to see a specific county's covered languages. You can combine both filters too! (e.g. Spanish and Santa Clara)
3. **Select a Precinct From the Map:** Zoom into your neighborhood by clicking on the map directly. Select any highlighted region (a precinct), and a pop-up box will appear displaying the covered languages in that precinct under "All Languages."

[Click to use Interactive Map](#)

Note: Merced county functionality is limited. Please check back for updates.

California Voting Language Lookup Tool

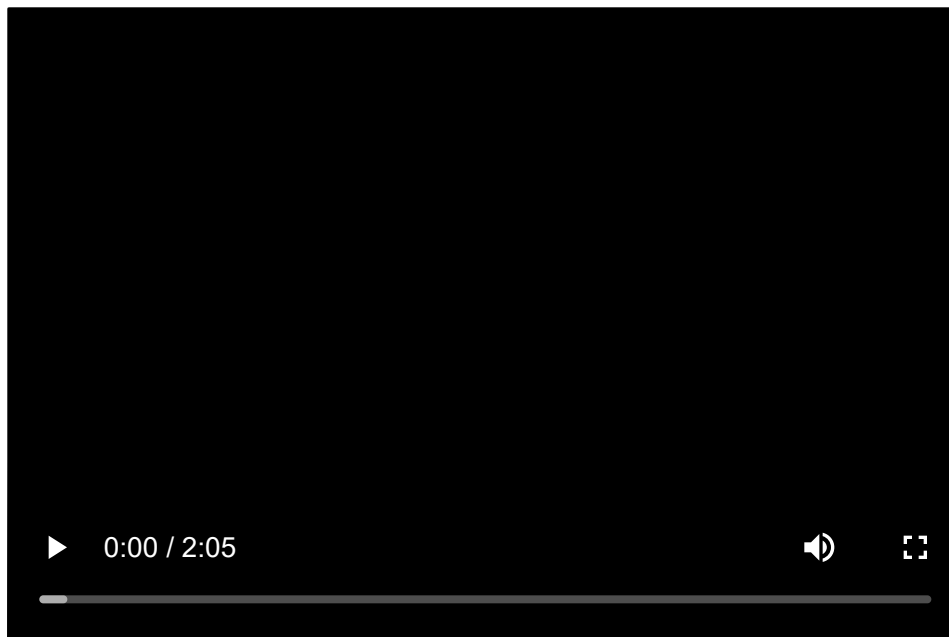
Use this tool to learn more about the covered languages in all 58 counties.

Voters can search in two ways:

1. Discover languages covered in each county.
2. Discover counties offering election materials in a selected language(s).

Click to use Language Lookup Tool

Video: How to use Tools



This short video explains how to use the tool above.

Meet the Creators

Garrett Jensen holds master's degrees in public policy and education (MPP/MA) from Stanford University. He began his career in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) focused on engaging 75,000+ Americas employees to volunteer in their local communities. Before Stanford, he received his bachelor's from Santa Clara University, in the heart of Silicon Valley in accounting and political science. [Learn more here.](#)

Ali Bloomgarden holds a master's in education policy (Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies) from Stanford University's Graduate School of Education. She began her career in applied psychological research implementing and

evaluating a strengths-based, youth-centered advocacy program for girls in contact with the juvenile justice system to target changes in girls' opportunity structures, promote positive and reduce negative outcomes. Before Stanford, she received her bachelor's in applied psychology from New York University. [Learn more here.](#)

Garrett and **Ali** have conducted extensive interviews with elections officials and led research on elections in California ([Voter Signature Verification Report](#)), U.S. safe polling design and vote-by-mail ([Planning for a Healthy Election, SLS Law](#)). They are also leading members of the [Stanford-MIT Healthy Elections Project](#).

Note 1: Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Tulare, Ventura, and Yolo.

Note 2: Bengali / বাংলা, Burmese / မြန်မာ, Gujarati / ગુજરાતી, Hindi / हिन्दी, Indonesian / bahasa Indonesia, Japanese / 日本語, Lao / ພາສາລາວ, Mien, Mongolian / Монгол, Nepali / नेपाली, Tamil / தமிழ், Telugu / తెలుగు, Thai / ไทย, and Urdu / اردو. Additionally, access to translated voting materials will be expanded across these counties in Hmong / kwv tij hmoob and Punjabi / ਪੰਜਾਬੀ.

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[Find your County Elections Office](#)

Stanford University (2020)

