



YOUR X IS YOUR SAY

OVER 770 000 VOTERS TO CAST SPECIAL VOTES

30 APRIL 2019

Centurion – 774 094 voters have been granted permission to cast a special vote on 6 and 7 May 2019.

This is almost double the number of special voters in 2014 (393 516) and is close to the number of special voters in 2009 (743 609).

Of those whose applications for a special vote in 2019 were approved, 452 418 (58.4 percent) will cast their votes during a home visit by election officials accompanied by party agents and observers. Voters granted permission for home visits are only those who cannot visit a voting station due to physically infirmity, disability and pregnancy.

The remaining 321 676 voters (41.6 percent) will cast their special votes at their voting station between 09H00 and 17H00.

Of the total applications approved:

- 440 863 were submitted manually (57 percent)
- 197 133 were submitted online (25 percent)
- 136 098 were submitted via SMS (18 percent)

The province with the highest number of home visits is the Eastern Cape (85 252) and the province with the highest number of voting station visits is Gauteng (71 921).

Province	Home Visits	Percentage of total	Voting Station Visits	Percentage of total
Eastern Cape	85 282	20.0%	25 348	7.8%
Free State	34 127	7.5%	32 560	10.1%
Gauteng	55 136	12.0%	71 921	22.3%
KwaZulu-Natal	70 672	15.6%	31 781	9.8%
Limpopo	64 906	14.3%	16 687	5.2%
Mpumalanga	30 470	6.7%	54 658	17.3%
North West	39 398	8.7%	25 429	7.9%
Northern Cape	31 797	7.0%	38 136	11.8%
Western Cape	40 630	8.9%	25 156	7.8%
Total	452 418	100	321 676	100

The special voting process involves using a double envelope system in which the marked ballot of the voter is placed in an unmarked envelope which is then placed inside a second envelope which contains the voters' ID.

The outer envelope is used to ensure an accurate register and verification of special votes – and is removed when the envelope is opened at the close of voting on Election Day 8 May 2019. Once it's removed from larger envelope, the inner envelope is placed in a ballot box to ensure secrecy of vote and de-link the marked ballot from the details of the voter on the outer envelope.

Special votes are transported and stored securely overnight at municipal warehouses and other secure locations including local police stations on Monday 6 May and Tuesday 7 May 2019 before being transported back to the voting station on Election Day for inclusion in the count. The overnight security facilities are vetted by the State Security Agency to ensure adequate security arrangements.

Voters who applied for a special vote can check the status of their application on the website at <https://www.elections.org.za/IECOnline/Check-My-Special-Vote-Application-Status> or SMS your ID number to 32711 (charged at R1).

ISSUED BY THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Ensuring free and fair elections

For media queries please contact Kate Bapela on 082 600-6386

For media interviews with Electoral Commission officials please email requests to spokesperson@elections.org.za

Also find the IEC on -

- **Facebook: www.facebook.com/IECSouthAfrica**
- **Twitter: [@IECSouthAfrica](https://twitter.com/IECSouthAfrica)**
- **You Tube: www.youtube.com/user/IECSouthAfrica**
- **Contact Centre: 0800 11 8000**
- **Join the conversation: #SAElections2019 #Xse2019**