

Early vote light in Maryland

BALTIMORE (UPI) — The assassination attempt on George Wallace had no measurable impact on the early voting turnout Tuesday in Maryland's presidential primary in which the Alabama governor was a strong favorite in a three-way race.

Wallace had planned to spend Tuesday night in Baltimore and celebrate his expected victory at a downtown hotel Tuesday night. His supporters vowed his campaign would continue despite the assassination attempt.

Maryland's 1.2 million registered Democrats were choosing between 11 Democrats on the presidential preference ballot.

THE DEMOCRATIC race was seen as mostly a contest between Wallace and Sen. Hubert Humphrey with Sen. George McGovern believed to be running third.

The 300,000 registered Republicans had three choices in their balloting.

A spot check of several suburban and rural counties as well as the city of Baltimore showed no unusually heavy voting or polling place problems. Mild spring weather was forecast for most of the state with some showers later in the day.

State officials had predicted a turnout of 30-35 per cent of the Democrats prior to Monday's shooting.