

Canvassing Board Informational Reports

August 2, 2022
Primary & Special Election

Final Report - August 16, 2022



Snohomish County Elections
A Division of the Auditor's Office

Garth Fell, Auditor

Election Summary

The August 2, Primary & Special Election featured federal, state, and county offices and local propositions. Contests included: US Senate, Members of Congress, Secretary of State, State Legislature, and Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney.

The turnout for this election was 38%. More voters returned their ballots by official Snohomish County return ballot drop boxes (56.61%) than by the United States Post Office (43.39%).

A Logic & Accuracy test was conducted on June 21, in accordance with RCW and WAC.

Snohomish County held the official random batch audit on August 3, in accordance with RCW and WAC. The political party chairs chose the Washington Secretary of State race and six batches to be hand-counted in accordance with RCW and WAC. The results of the six hand-counted batches exactly matched the results from the Clear Ballot tabulation system.

Snohomish County also performed a risk-limiting audit (RLA) on August 9, for Congressional District 1 US Representative for the second and third place finishers. The RLA confirmed the election outcome.

The Audit Summary report details the findings of the random batch and the duplicated ballot audits.

Regarding election accountability and reconciliation, four more voters are credited than ballots counted due to empty envelopes returned and not caught during ballot processing and extraction.

Challenged: Mail ballot envelopes or provisional ballot envelopes that are not processed due to a variety of voter related issues or actions.

ClearVote: Snohomish County's vote tabulation system

Logic & Accuracy Test: an official test of all programming and tabulation equipment to be used in the election

Random Batch Audit: a manual hand recount of all ballots contained in six selected batches on a single race chosen by representatives of each major political party.

Risk Limiting Audit (RLA): a method to verify the election results by using statistical principles and sampling designed to limit the risk of certifying an incorrect election outcome.

UOCAVA: refers to voters who are members of the uniformed armed services, their family members, and US citizens living abroad

VoteWA: Statewide election management/ voter registration database.

Election Statistical Summary				
	Total	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment
Voter Registration				
Registered voters eligible to participate	507,216			
Address Confidentiality Program Voters	148			
Overseas and Service Voters	7,749			UOCAVA category in VoteWA
Federal Write-in Voters	0			
Participation				
Voters Credited	190,573			
Ballots counted	190,569			
Difference between voters credited and ballots counted	4			4 Empty Envelopes Discovered After Ballot Extraction
Overseas and Service voters accepted	524	6.76%	4.72% Aug. 2021	UOCAVA category in VoteWA; percentage of voters credited to issued
Overseas and Service voter envelopes challenged	10	0.13%	0.13% Aug. 2021	UOCAVA category in VoteWA
Mail Ballot Summary				
Mail Ballots Issued	521,711			Includes Reissued Ballots
Mail Ballots Returned	193,581	37.11%	26.80% Aug. 2021	percent issued that were returned
Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office	109,579	56.61%	49.67% Aug. 2021	percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office	84,002	43.39%	50.33% Aug. 2021	percent returned through post office
Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted	190,572	98.45%		percent returned that were verified and accepted
Mail Ballots Open and Extracted	190,568	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
Mail Ballots Tabulated	190,568	100.00%		percent opened and extracted that were tabulated
Provisional Ballot Summary				
Provisional Ballots Issued	1			
Provisional Ballots Verified and Accepted	1	100.00%		percent issued that have been verified and accepted
Provisional Ballots Open and Extracted	1	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that have been open and extracted
Provisional Ballots Tabulated	1	100.00%		percent open and extracted that have been tabulated

Details - Mail Ballots						
Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data		Comment
Mail Ballots Issued						
1	Number of Mail Ballots Issued	521,711				
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked VoteWA system		521,563			Includes Replacements and Reissurances
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in VoteWA system		148			Address Confidentiality Program participants
Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned						
		193,581				
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in VoteWA		193,509			
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		47			Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		5			Securities only / Replacements without information / Faxed; Not reported in VoteWA
2d	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and Not Accepted by VoteWA		20			Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA; includes secrecy sleeves, information items, etc.
3	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	4,367		0.84%	1.00% Aug. 2021	Undeliverable ballots are reviewed for anomalies and voters contacted to update address information per state and federal law
Mail Ballot Envelopes Verified						
4	Number Mail Ballots Envelopes Verified And Accepted	190,572				Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in VoteWA		190,525			Reported from VoteWA
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in VoteWA		47			Manually tracked (includes ACP/Federal Write-ins)
4c	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but challenge on record		0			
5	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Challenged	3,008		1.58%	1.67% Aug 2021	VoteWA data reconciled with hand counts and augmented with hand counts for non-VoteWA ballots (sum of 5a - 5l). Percentages are challenged vs. total returned
5a	Canvassing Board		0			Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts
5b	Deceased		16			" "
5c	Empty Envelope		27			" "
5d	ID Required		0			" "
5e	Marked Moved		11			" "
5f	No Signature on File		1			" "
5g	Other Than Voters		18			" "
5h	Signature does not match		957	0.50%	0.46% Aug. 2021	" "
5i	Too late		1,800	0.94%	1.07% Aug. 2021	" "
5j	Unsigned		152	0.08%	0.09% Aug. 2021	" "
5k	Review		1			

Details - Mail Ballots					
Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
5k	Wrong Election		20		Not reported in VoteWA but hand counted
5l	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only / Informational Items		5		" "
Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted					
6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	190,568			
7	Number of Empty Envelopes	-4			Displayed as a negative number for reconciliation purposes
8	Number of Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board (credit not removed in VoteWA)	0			
9	Number of Additional Ballots Discovered After Signature Envelope Removal	0			
10	Number of Ballots Awaiting Counting or Canvassing Board Decision	0			
Ballots Tabulated					
11	Number of Mail Ballots Tabulated	190,568			Reported by ClearVote
12	Number of Mail Ballots Awaiting Tabulation				

Details - Provisional Ballots

Line	Description	Total	Subtotals	Comparative Data	Comment
Provisional Ballots Issued					
1	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued	1			
1a	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued in Snohomish County	1			
1a.1	Ballot printing or accessible voting equipment issue		1		
1a.2	Site worker could not find or flag voter		0		
1a.3	Voter not registered in our county or in election area		0		
		0			Received provisionals were accepted as on-time mail ballots
Provisional Ballots Verified					
2	Number of Provisional Ballot Accepted	1			
3	Number of Provisional Ballots Challenged	0			
3a	Felony conviction		0		
3b	Incomplete Information on provisional to process		0		
3c	Not eligible for election (wrong district)		0		
3d	Signature doesn't match original		0		
3e	Mail-in ballot was returned / already voted		0		
4	Number of Provisional Ballots Sent to Other Counties	0			
Provisional Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted					
5	Number of Provisional Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	1			
6	Number of Empty Envelopes	0			Unable to remove credit in VoteWA
7	Number of Provisional Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board	0			
8	Number of Provisional Ballots Not Opened	0			
9	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Duplication or Canvassing Board Decision	0			
Provisional Ballots Tabulated					
10	Number of Provisional Ballots Tabulated	1			Reported from ClearVote
11	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			