

# Canvassing Board Informational Reports

August 6, 2019

Primary and Special Elections

Final Report - August 20, 2019



**Snohomish County**  
Auditor's Office

**Carolyn Weikel, Auditor**

## Election Summary

The August 6, 2019 Primary and Special Elections featured local partisan races for County Executive and County Council as well as nonpartisan races featuring 3 or more candidates. In addition there were eight local ballot measures in fire districts on a range of topics including funding, board size and district merger.

Primaries in years ending in odd numbers have an average turnout of 24.5% since 2006. The turnout for the August 6, 2019 Primary was 24.33%. 42% of voters choose to return their ballot through one of our drop boxes. The State provided return postage for ballots returned through the USPS.

A random batch audit of mail ballots was performed. The results of the six hand-counted batches exactly matched the results of the tabulation system tally for those same batches. In addition an audit was performed of all duplicated ballots. The audit results were reported to the Canvassing Board in a separate report.

In terms of election accountability and reconciliation, the number of voters credited is twenty less than the total number of ballots counted. Elections staff identified twenty voters where a second, re-issued ballot was accepted and processed due to reporting and processing issues with the new VoteWA system. The twenty additional ballots did not impact the outcome of any race or issue. The County remains committed to working with the State VoteWA team to ensure reporting and processing accuracy of the system moving forward.

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**AVU:** Accessible Voting Unit used to allow voters with a variety of disabilities to cast an independent, private, secure ballot.

**Challenged:** Mail Ballot Envelopes or Provisional Ballot Envelopes that are not processed due to a variety of voter related issues or actions.

**Comparative Data:** Column containing data from previous years or at other points during the election that can provide perspective to the number or percentage to which it is related. Clarification of what the data represents will be listed in parenthesis or in the comments field.

**VoteWA:** Statewide election management / voter registration database.

**ClearVote:** Snohomish County's vote tabulation system.

Election Statistical Summary					
		Total	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment

**Voter Registration**

Registered Voters	473,495				
Address Confidentiality Program Voters	97				
Overseas and Service Voters	6,574				Mil, Email, OC categories in VoteWA
Federal Write-in Voters	0				

**Participation**

Voters credited	115,145				
Ballots counted	115,165				
Difference between voters credited and ballots counted	-20				Two ballots accepted for 20 voters due to VoteWA Reporting Issue
Overseas and Service voters credited	434	6.60%		8.29% - 2017 Primary	Mil, Email, OC, FWAB categories in VoteWA; percentage of voters credited to issued
Overseas and Service voter envelopes rejected	8				Mil, Email, OC categories in VoteWA

**Mail Ballot Summary**

Mail Ballots Issued	483,997				
Mail Ballots Returned	116,970	24.17%			percent issued that were returned
Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office	49,565	42.37%		53.92% - 2017 Primary	percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office	67,405	57.63%			percent returned through post office
Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted	115,165	98.46%			percent returned that were verified and accepted
Mail Ballots Open and Extracted	115,165	100.00%			percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
Mail Ballots Tabulated	115,165	100.00%			percent opened and extracted that were tabulated

**Provisional Ballot Summary**

Provisional Ballots Issued	0				
Provisional Ballots Verified and Accepted	0	N/A			percent issued that have been verified and accepted
Provisional Ballots Open and Extracted	0	N/A			percent verified and accepted that have been open and extracted
Provisional Ballots Tabulated	0	N/A			percent open and extracted that have been tabulated

**Details - Mail Ballots**

Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
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**Mail Ballots Issued**

1	Number of Mail Ballots Issued	<b>483,997</b>			
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked VoteWA system		483,900		
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in VoteWA system		97		Address Confidentiality Program participants

**Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned**

2	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned	<b>116,970</b>			
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in VoteWA		116,878		
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		30		Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		42		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
2e	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	6,924		1.43%: 1.62% (2017 Primary)	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	<b>115,165</b>			Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in VoteWA		115,115		Reported from VoteWA
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in VoteWA		30		Manually tracked (includes ACP/Federal Write-ins)
4c	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but challenge on record		20		2nd ballot issued also accepted due to VoteWA reporting issue
5	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Challenged	1,805		1.55%: 1.01% (2017 Primary)	VoteWA data reconciled with hand counts and augmented with hand counts for non-VoteWA ballots (sum of 5a - 5p). Percentages are challenged vs. total returned
5a	Deceased		40		Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts
5b	Empty Envelope		11		" "
5c	Marked Moved		34		" "
5d	Miscellaneous (Hold/Review)		0		" "
5e	No signature on file		1		" "
5f	Other than voter		5		" "
5g	Power of attorney		5		" "

5h	Signature does not match		201	0.17%: 0.06% (2017 Primary)	Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts
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**Details - Mail Ballots**

Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
5i	Too late		1,271	1.07%: 0.68% (2017 Primary)	" "
5j	Unsigned		194	0.17%: 0.20% (2017 Primary)	" "
5k	Witness signature missing		1		" "
5p	Wrong Election		0		" "
5q	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only / Informational Items		42		" "

**Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted**

6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	<b>115,165</b>			
7	Number of Empty Envelopes	0			
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 Duplication or Canvassing Board Decision	0			

**Ballots Tabulated**

11	Number of Mail Ballots Tabulated	<b>115,165</b>		Reported by ClearVote.	
12	Number of Mail Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			

**Details - Provisional Ballots**

Line	Description	Total	Subtotals	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Provisional Ballots Issued</b>					
1	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued	0			
1a	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued in Snohomish County	0			
1a.1	Voter did not want to use AVU		0		
1a.2	AVU Equipment Issue (resulting in no ballot cast)		0		
1a.3	Site worker could not find or flag voter		0		
1a.4	Voter did not have proper ID to vote in person		0		
1a.5	Voter needed paper for accessibility reason		0		
1a.6	Voter not registered in our county or in election area		0		
1b	Number of Provisional Ballots Received from other counties	0			
<b>Provisional Ballots Verified</b>					
2	Number of Provisional Ballot Accepted	0			
3	Number of Provisional Ballots Challenged	0			
3a	Cancelled registration		0		
3b	Can't read (or no) name/address		0		
3c	Felony conviction		0		
3d	Incomplete Information		0		
3e	No signature on envelope		0		
3f	Not eligible for election (wrong district)		0		
3g	Not Registered		0		
3h	Registered too late (after cut off)		0		
3i	Signature doesn't match original		0		
3j	Voter voting twice		0		
4	Number of Provisional Ballots Sent to Other Counties	0			
<b>Provisional Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted</b>					
5	Number of Provisional Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	0			
6	Number of Empty Envelopes	0			Unable to remove credit in VoteWA
7	Number of Provisional Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board	0			Unable to remove credit in VoteWA
8	Number of Provisional Ballots Not Opened	0			
9	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Duplication or Canvassing Board Decision	0			
<b>Provisional Ballots Tabulated</b>					
10	Number of Provisional Ballots Tabulated	0			Reported from ClearVote
11	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			