

Canvassing Board Informational Reports

March 10, 2020
Presidential Primary

Final Report - March 20, 2020



Garth Fell, Auditor

Election Summary

The March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary featured two races. The Democratic Party Presidential nominee race featured 13 candidates and a response to send delegates uncommitted to the party national convention. The Republican Party Presidential nominee race featured one candidate.

Prior Presidential Primaries have an average turnout of 33%. The turnout for the March 10, 2020 Presidential was 48%. Of the 241,013 ballots returned, 44% were returned through one of our drop boxes. The State continues to provide return postage for ballots returned through the U.S. Postal Service.

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 are reported to the Canvassing Board in a separate report.

In terms of election accountability and reconciliation, there is 2,036 difference primarily due to voters who did not vote consistently with their party. Additional detail can be seen in the summary.



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		481,615			
Address Confidentiality Program Voters		103			
Overseas and Service Voters		6,572			Mil, Email, OC categories in VoteWA
Federal Write-in Voters		2			
Participation					
Voters credited		234,074			
Ballots counted		232,038			
Difference between voters credited and ballots counted		2,036			8 empty envelopes discovered at ballot opening; 2,032 cross party or both party voted ballots; 2 extra ballots discovered at ballot opening; an unknown difference of two
Overseas and Service voters accepted		1,021	15.54%	23.00% - 2016 Pres. Primary	Mil, Email, OC, FWAB categories in VoteWA; percentage of voters credited to issued
Overseas and Service voter envelopes rejected		9			Mil, Email, OC categories in VoteWA
Mail Ballot Summary					
Mail Ballots Issued		491,826			
Mail Ballots Returned		241,013	49.00%		percent issued that were returned
Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office		105,531	43.79%	44.01% - 2016 Pres. Primary	percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office		135,482	56.21%		percent returned through post office
Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted		234,074	97.12%		percent returned that were verified and accepted
Mail Ballots Open and Extracted		232,036	99.13%		percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
Mail Ballots Tabulated		232,038	100.00%		percent opened and extracted that were tabulated
Provisional Ballot Summary					
Provisional Ballots Issued		11			
Provisional Ballots Verified and Accepted		0	0.00%		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	491,826			
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked VoteWA system		491,723		
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in VoteWA system		103		Address Confidentiality Program participants

Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned

2	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned	241,013			
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in VoteWA		240,877		
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		64		Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		72		Securities only / Replacements without information / Faxed; Not reported in VoteWA
2d	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and Not Accepted by VoteWA		0		Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2e	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	5,114		1.04%: 2.01% (2016 Pres 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	234,074			Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in VoteWA		234,009		Reported from VoteWA
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in VoteWA		64		Manually tracked (includes ACP/Federal Write-ins)
4c	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but challenge on record		1		Suspended in VoteWa but counted
5	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Challenged	6,939		2.88%: 5.09% (2016 Pres 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	Canvassing Board		156		Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts
5b	Deceased		8		" "
5c	Empty		43		" "
5d	Hold		15		" "
5e	Invalid		133		" "
5f	Marked Moved		2		" "
5g	No Party No Sig		4,174	1.73%: 4.09% (2016 Pres Primary)	" "
5h	No Signature On File		2		
5i	Power Of Attorney		1		Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts

Details - Mail Ballots					
Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
5j	Review		3		" "
5k	Signature Does Not Match		1,108		" "
	Suspended		2		
5l	Too Late		1,220		" "
5m	Wrong Election		0		" "
5n	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only / Informational Items		72		" "

Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted

6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	232,036			
7	Number of Empty Envelopes	8			5 empty, 3 prior election ballots
8	Number of Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board (credit not removed in VoteWA)	2,032			1,031 crossparty votes and 1,001 both party votes
9	Number of Additional Ballots Discovered After Signature Envelope Removal	2			2 batches had an additional envelope
10	Number of Ballots Awaiting Counting or Canvassing Board Decision	0			

Ballots Tabulated

11	Number of Mail Ballots Tabulated	232,038			Reported by ClearVote.
12	Number of Mail Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			

Details - Provisional Ballots

Line	Description	Total	Subtotals	Comparative Data	Comment
Provisional Ballots Issued					
1	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued	11			
1a	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued in Snohomish County	11			
1a.1	Voter has already returned a ballot		2		
1a.2	Voter is registered in another county		8		
1a.3	Voter is not registered and does not live in Snohomish County		1		
1a.4	Voter is not registered in the election area		0		
1b	Number of Provisional Ballots Received from other counties	0			
Provisional Ballots Verified					
2	Number of Provisional Ballot Accepted	0			
3	Number of Provisional Ballots Challenged	3			
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 in our county		1		
3h	Registered too late (after cut off)		0		
3i	Signature doesn't match original		0		
3j	Voter voting twice		2		
4	Number of Provisional Ballots Sent to Other Counties	8			
Provisional Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted					
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			
Provisional Ballots Tabulated					
10	Number of Provisional Ballots Tabulated	0			Reported from ClearVote
11	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			