

Canvassing Board Informational Report

February 14, 2023

Special Election

Final Report - February 23, 2023



Snohomish County Elections

A Division of the Auditor's Office

Garth Fell, Auditor

Canvassing Board Members

Hon. Garth Fell

Snohomish County Auditor

Hon. Jason Cummings

Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney

Hon. Jared Mead

Snohomish County Council Chair

Election Summary

The Special Election held on February 14 featured three local propositions, including Marysville School District, the City of Arlington Transportation Benefit District, and Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue.

The turnout for this election was 25.47%. More voters returned their ballots by the United States Post Office (57.24%) than by official Snohomish County return ballot drop boxes (42.76%).

In accordance with RCW and WAC a Logic & Accuracy test was performed on January 24 and the official random batch audit on February 15. The political party chairs chose the Marysville School District and six randomly selected batches that were hand-counted. The results of the six hand-counted batches matched the tabulation system's results. Snohomish County also performed an unofficial risk-limiting audit for Marysville School District. The risk limiting audit confirmed the election outcome.

In terms of election accountability and reconciliation, the number of voters credited equals the number of ballots counted.

Milestones

UOCAVA Ballots Mailed	Friday, January 13, 2023
Logic & Accuracy Test Performed	Tuesday, January 24, 2023
Local Voter's Pamphlet Mailed	Thursday, January 26, 2023
Ballots Mailed	Thursday, January 26, 2023
Signature Verification Started	Wednesday, February 1, 2023
Ballot Opening Started	Monday, February 13, 2023
Accessible Voting Sites Opened	Wednesday, January 25, 2023
Random Batch Audit Conducted	Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Risk Limiting Audit Conducted	Tuesday, February 21, 2023
Results Certified	Friday, February 24, 2023

Seals Report

	Date	Prior Seal #	Location	Explanation/ Investigation
Broken / Missing	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

Terms:

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	154,537			
Address Confidentiality Program Voters	43			
Overseas and Service Voters	2,305			UOCAVA category in VoteWA
Federal Write-in Voters	0			
Participation				
Voters Credited	38,991			
Ballots counted	38,991			
Difference between voters credited and ballots counted	0			
Overseas and Service voters accepted	136	5.90%	5.49% Feb. 2022	UOCAVA category in VoteWA; percentage of voters credited to issued
Overseas and Service voter envelopes challenged	2	0.09%	0.08% Feb. 2022	UOCAVA category in VoteWA
Mail Ballot Summary				
Mail Ballots Issued	155,495			Includes reissued ballots
Mail Ballots Returned	39,609	25.47%	30.27% Feb. 2022	percent issued that were returned
Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office	16,938	42.76%	46.54% Feb. 2022	percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office	22,671	57.24%	53.46% Feb. 2022	percent returned through post office
Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted	38,991	98.44%		percent returned that were verified and accepted
Mail Ballots Open and Extracted	38,991	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
Mail Ballots Tabulated	38,991	100.00%		percent opened and extracted that were tabulated
Provisional Ballot Summary				
Provisional Ballots Issued	0	n/a		
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
Mail Ballots Issued						
1	Number of Mail Ballots Issued	155,495				
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked VoteWA system		155,452			Includes replacements and reissurances
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in VoteWA system		43			Address Confidentiality Program participants
Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned						
2		39,609				
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in VoteWA		39,582			
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		16			Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		2			Securities only / Replacements without information / Faxed; Not reported in VoteWA
2d	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and Not Accepted by VoteWA		9			Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA; includes secrecy sleeves, information items, etc.
3	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	714		0.46%	0.60% Feb. 2022	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	38,991				Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in VoteWA		38,975			Reported from VoteWA
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in VoteWA		16			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	618		1.58%	1.67% Feb. 2022	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		1			" "
5c	Empty Envelope		10			" "
5d	ID Required		0			" "
5e	Marked Moved		2			" "
5f	No Signature on File		0			" "
5g	Other Than Voters		2			" "
5h	Signature does not match		181	0.46%	0.78% Feb. 2022	" "
5i	Too late		351	0.90%	0.74% Feb. 2022	" "
5j	Unsigned		60	0.15%	0.10% Feb. 2022	" "
5k	Review		0			
5l	Wrong Election		9			Not reported in VoteWA but hand counted
5m	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only / Informational Items		2			" "

Details - Mail Ballots

Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted					
6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	38,991			
7	Number of Empty Envelopes	0			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	38,991			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	0			
1a	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued in Snohomish County	0			
1a.1	Ballot printing or accessible voting equipment issue		0		
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	0			
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	0			
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	0			Reported from ClearVote
11	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			

Ballot Drop Box Report

Location	# Ballots	Percentage	Note(s)
1 Arlington - Library	778	5%	
2 Bothell QFC parking lot	920	5%	
3 Brier - City Hall		0%	Not open this election
4 Darrington - City Hall/Library		0%	Not open this election
5 Edmonds -Library		0%	Not open this election
6 Everett - Community College		0%	Not open this election
7 Everett - Courthouse Campus	482	3%	*Includes Auditor's Office, AVUs, & County Jail
8 Everett Mall		0%	Not open this election
9 Everett - McCollum Park	92	1%	
10 Gold Bar - Gateway Park		0%	Not open this election
11 Granite Falls- Library		0%	Not open this election
12 Index - Town Hall		0%	Not open this election
13 Lake Stevens - Boat Launch	2118	13%	
14 Lakewood - Middle School		0%	Not open this election
15 Lynnwood - City Hall		0%	Not open this election
16 Lynnwood - Ash Way Park & Ride		0%	Not open this election
17 Lynnwood - Edmonds College Campus		0%	Not open this election
18 Marysville - State Ave.	5062	30%	
19 Marysville - Grove Elementary School	2351	14%	
20 Marysville - Ash Ave. Park & Ride	223	1%	
21 Mill Creek - Near Post Office	1583	9%	
22 Monroe - Library	1781	11%	
23 Mountlake Terrace - Library		0%	Not open this election
24 Mukilteo - Library		0%	Not open this election
25 Silvana - Peace Lutheran Church		0%	Not open this election
26 Smokey Point - Lowe's	740	4%	
27 Snohomish - Centennial Middle School		0%	Not open this election
28 Snohomish - Glacier Peak High School	284	2%	
29 Snohomish - Library		0%	Not open this election
30 Stanwood - Library		0%	Not open this election
31 Startup - Event Center		0%	Not open this election
32 Sultan - City Hall/Sno Isle Library		0%	Not open this election
33 Tulalip - Youth Center	390	2%	
34 Woodinville - Kokanee Elementary	134	1%	
35 Woodway - Town Hall		0%	Not open this election

Ballot Drop Box Usage Snapshot

Average # of ballots per drop box	1210	
Drop Box with the highest # of ballots	5062	Marysville - State Ave.
Drop Box with the lowest # of ballots	92	Everett - McCollum Park