

# Canvassing Board Informational Report

August 1, 2023

Special Election

Final Report - August 15, 2023



**Snohomish County Elections**

*A Division of the Auditor's Office*

Garth Fell, Auditor

# Canvassing Board Members

**Connie Barndt**

Snohomish County Deputy Auditor

**Hon. Jason Cummings**

Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney

**Hon. Jared Mead**

Snohomish County Council Chair

## Election Summary

The Primary & Special Election held on August 1, narrowed the field of candidates for the November General Election. Races on the ballots included County Executive, County Auditor, County Council, City Mayors, City Councils, and special interest jurisdictions such as School, Fire, Waste Water, Port, and Hospital Districts. Additionally, there were eight ballot propositions that were determined.

The turnout for this election was 27.01%. More voters returned their ballots by the official Snohomish County ballot drop boxes (52.91%) than by United States Postal Service (47.09%).

In accordance with RCW and WAC a Logic & Accuracy test was performed on July 11, and the official random batch audit on August 2. The political party chairs chose the County Council District 2, 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 Snohomish Superior Court Judge Position 17. The risk limiting audit confirmed the election outcome.

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

## Milestones

UOCAVA Ballots Mailed	Friday, June 16, 2023
Logic & Accuracy Test Performed	Tuesday, July 11, 2023
Local Voter's Pamphlet Mailed	Wednesday, July 12, 2023
Ballots Mailed	Thursday, July 13, 2023
Signature Verification Started	Tuesday, July 18, 2023
Ballot Opening Started	Monday, July 24, 2023
Accessible Voting Sites Opened	Saturday, July 29, 2023
Evergreen Fairgrounds - Monroe	
Homage Senior Services - Lynnwood	
Medallion Hotel - Smokey Point	
Random Batch Audit Conducted	Wednesday, August 2, 2023
Risk Limiting Audit Conducted	Tuesday, August 8, 2023
Results Certified	Tuesday, August 15, 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 and voter registration database.

## Election Statistical Summary

	Total	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Voter Registration</b>				
Registered voters eligible to participate	513,786			
Address Confidentiality Program Voters	161			
Overseas and Service Voters	7,138			UOCAVA category in VoteWA
Federal Write-in Voters	0			
<b>Participation</b>				
Voters Credited	136,498			
Ballots counted	136,496			
Difference between voters credited and ballots counted	2			2 empty envelopes discovered after ballot extraction.
Overseas and Service voters accepted	345	4.83%	4.72% Aug. 2021	UOCAVA category in VoteWA; percentage of voters credited to issued
Overseas and Service voter envelopes challenged	3	0.04%	0.13% Aug. 2021	UOCAVA category in VoteWA
<b>Mail Ballot Summary</b>				
Mail Ballots Issued	521,908			includes reissued ballots
Mail Ballots Returned	138,829	27.02%	26.80% Aug. 2021	percent issued that were returned
Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office	73,441	52.90%	49.67% Aug. 2021	percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office	65,388	47.10%	50.33% Aug. 2021	percent returned through post office
Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted	136,498	98.32%		percent returned that were verified and accepted
Mail Ballots Open and Extracted	136,496	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
Mail Ballots Tabulated	136,496	100.00%		percent opened and extracted that were tabulated
<b>Provisional Ballot Summary</b>				
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	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Mail Ballots Issued</b>						
1	Number of Mail Ballots Issued	<b>521,908</b>				
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked VoteWA system		521,747			Includes replacements and reissuances
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in VoteWA system		161			Address Confidentiality Program participants
<b>Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned</b>						
2		<b>138,829</b>				
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in VoteWA		138,780			
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		42			Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		3			Securities only / Replacements without information / Faxed; Not reported in VoteWA
2d	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and Not Accepted by VoteWA		4			Manually tracked; Not reported in VoteWA
3	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	<b>4,726</b>		0.91%	1.00% Aug. 2021	Undeliverable ballots are reviewed for anomalies and voters contacted to update address information per state and federal law
<b>Mail Ballot Envelopes Verified</b>						
4	Number Mail Ballots Envelopes Verified And Accepted	<b>136,498</b>				Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in VoteWA		136,456			Reported from VoteWA
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in VoteWA		42			Manually tracked (includes ACP/Federal Write-ins)
4c	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but voter registration challenge on record		0			
5	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Challenged	<b>2,331</b>		1.71%	1.67% Aug. 2021	VoteWA data reconciled with hand counts and augmented with hand counts for non-VoteWA ballots (sum of 5a - 5j). Percentages are challenged vs. total returned
5a	Canvassing Board		0			Reported from VoteWA and reconciled with hand counts
5b	Deceased		5			" "
5c	Empty Envelope		16			" "
5d	ID Required		0			" "
5e	Marked Moved		6			" "
5f	No Signature on File		0			" "
5g	Other Than Voters		5			" "

### Details - Mail Ballots

Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment
5h	Signature does not match		561	0.41%	0.46% Aug. 2021	" "
5i	Too Late		1,666	1.22%	1.07% Aug. 2021	" "
5j	Unsigned		65	0.05%	0.09% Aug. 2021	" "
5k	Review		0			
5l	Wrong Election		4			Not reported in VoteWA but hand counted
5m	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only / Informational Items		3			" "

#### Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted

6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation		<b>136,496</b>			
7	Number of Empty Envelopes		-2			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		<b>136,496</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	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
<b>Provisional Ballots Verified</b>					
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			
<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			
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			



# Ballot Drop Box Report

Location	# Ballots	Percentage	Note(s)
1 Arlington - Library	2514	3%	
2 Bothell QFC parking lot	4506	6%	
3 Brier - City Hall	1743	2%	
4 Darrington - City Hall/Library	393	1%	
5 Edmonds -Library	6302	9%	
6 Everett - Community College	629	1%	
7 Everett - Courthouse Campus	4960	7%	Includes Auditor's Office, AVUs, & County Jail
8 Everett Mall	2421	3%	
9 Everett - McCollum Park	1709	2%	
10 Gold Bar - Gateway Park	545	1%	
11 Granite Falls- Library	1175	2%	
12 Index - Town Hall	79	0%	
13 Lake Stevens - Boat Launch	3334	5%	
14 Lakewood - Middle School	420	1%	
15 Lynnwood - City Hall	5464	7%	
16 Lynnwood - Ash Way Park & Ride	1132	2%	
17 Lynnwood - Edmonds College Campus	963	1%	
18 Marysville - State Ave.	1275	2%	
19 Marysville - Grove Elementary School	2955	4%	
20 Marysville - Ash Ave. Park & Ride	1029	1%	
21 Mill Creek - Near Post Office	7101	10%	
22 Monroe - Library	3415	5%	
23 Mountlake Terrace - Library	1926	3%	
24 Mukilteo - Library	4334	6%	
25 Silvana - Peace Lutheran Church	447	1%	
26 Smokey Point - Lowe's	1471	2%	
27 Snohomish - Centennial Middle School	802	1%	
28 Snohomish - Glacier Peak High School	1347	2%	
29 Snohomish - Library	4569	6%	
30 Stanwood - Library	2298	3%	
31 Startup - Event Center	88	0%	
32 Sultan - City Hall/Sno Isle Library	727	1%	
33 Tulalip - Youth Center	376	1%	
34 Woodinville - Kokanee Elementary	314	0%	
35 Woodway - Town Hall	677	1%	
	73440		

## Ballot Drop Box Usage Snapshot

Average # of ballots per drop box	2098	
Drop Box with the highest # of ballots	7101	Mill Creek - Near Post Office
Drop Box with the lowest # of ballots	79	Index - Town Hall

