

# Canvassing Board Informational Reports

November 6, 2018  
General and Special Elections

Final Report - November 27, 2018



**Snohomish County**  
Auditor's Office

**Carolyn Weikel, Auditor**

## Election Summary

The November 6, 2018 General and Special Elections featured races for U.S. congress, the state legislature, the county prosecuting attorney, two public utility district positions, and a City of Everett council vacancy. The election also included statewide initiatives, a funding measure for countywide emergency communication systems, several funding measures for fire, public safety or emergency services, and measures in the City of Everett to move to district based elections for city council.

Midterm general elections have an average turnout of 62% since 2006. The turnout for the November 6, 2018 General Election was 70.56%. 51% of voters choose to return their ballot through one of our drop boxes, up roughly 5% from the 2018 Primary. The state provided grant funds to pay for 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, there is a difference of five between voters credited and ballots counted. This difference can be attributed to five voters that returned empty envelopes that were not identified until after the voter had been given credit and the secrecy sleeve had been separated from the outer return envelope. Voters that returned a ballot from a previous election as the only ballot returned are considered and tracked as an empty envelope.

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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.

**DIMS:** Snohomish County's election management / voter registration database.

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

Election Statistical Summary					
		Total	Percentage	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Voter Registration</b>					
Registered Voters		461,728			
Address Confidentiality Program Voters		70			
Overseas and Service Voters		6,411			Mil, Email, OC categories in DIMS
Federal Write-in Voters		13			
<b>Participation</b>					
Voters credited		325,874			
Ballots counted		325,869			
					5 empty envelopes discovered in during ballot opening after credit had been applied and internal sleeve had been separated from the voters' signature envelope
Difference between voters credited and ballots counted		5		10.47% - 2017	
Overseas and Service voters credited		2,357	36.76%	General	Mil, Email, OC, FWAB categories in DIMS; percentage of voters credited to issued
Overseas and Service voter envelopes rejected		38			Mil, Email, OC categories in DIMS
<b>Mail Ballot Summary</b>					
Mail Ballots Issued		470,968			
Mail Ballots Returned		328,474	69.74%		percent issued that were returned
				61.01% - 2017	
Mail Ballots Returned through AVS, drop boxes, and Auditor's Office		168,370	51.26%	General	percent returned through sites of all mail ballots returned
Mail Ballots Returned through the Post Office		160,104	48.74%		percent returned through post office
Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted		325,781	99.18%		percent returned that were verified and accepted
Mail Ballots Open and Extracted		325,776	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that were opened and extracted
Mail Ballots Tabulated		325,776	100.00%		percent opened and extracted that were tabulated
<b>Provisional Ballot Summary</b>					
Provisional Ballots Issued		298			
Provisional Ballots Verified and Accepted		93	31.21%		percent issued that have been verified and accepted
Provisional Ballots Open and Extracted		93	100.00%		percent verified and accepted that have been open and extracted
Provisional Ballots Tabulated		93	100.00%		percent open and extracted that have been tabulated

Details - Mail Ballots					
Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
<b>Mail Ballots Issued</b>					
1	Number of Mail Ballots Issued	<b>470,968</b>			
1a	Number of ballots issued and tracked DIMS system		470,872		
1b	Number of ballots issued and not tracked in DIMS system		96		Address Confidentiality Program participants
<b>Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned</b>					
2	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned	<b>328,474</b>			
2a	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and reported in DIMS		328,151		
2b	Number of ACP Mail Ballots Envelopes Returned		70		Manually tracked; Not reported in DIMS
2c	Number of Unidentifiable Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned		62		Securities only / Replacements without information / Faxed; Not reported in DIMS
2d	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Returned and Not Accepted by DIMS		191		Manually tracked; Not reported in DIMS
2e	Number of Outbound Mail Ballot Packets Returned by USPS as undeliverable	3,878		0.82%: 1.03% (2017 General)	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>325,781</b>			Sum of line 4a, 4b and 4c
4a	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted in DIMS		325,712		Reported from DIMS
4b	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but not in DIMS		68		Manually tracked (includes ACP/Federal Write-ins) - includes one ballot with voter credit removed
4c	Number of Mail Ballots Verified and Accepted but challenge on record		1		
5	Number of Mail Ballot Envelopes Challenged	2,693		0.82%: 0.89% (2017 General)	DIMS data reconciled with hand counts and augmented with hand counts for non-DIMS ballots (sum of 5a - 5p). Percentages are challenged vs. total returned
5a	2X - Voter returned a second ballot		0		Reported from DIMS and reconciled with hand counts
5b	CAN - Requested to be cancelled		18		" "
5c	DEAD - Notified that the voter has passed away		10		" "
5d	LATE - Returned too late		1,129	0.34%: 0.61% (2017 General)	" "
5e	MISC - Miscellaneous challenge		29		
5f	MULTI - Two ballots in one envelope		0		
5g	NOBAL - No ballot returned in envelope		14		" "

**Details - Mail Ballots**

Line	Description	Total	Subtotal	Comparative Data	Comment
				0.12%: 0.19% (2017 General)	
5h	NOSIG - No signature on the envelope		390		" "
5i	NSWS - No signature or wrong signature on file		0		Reported from DIMS and reconciled with hand counts
5j	OTV - Someone other than the voter signed		27		" "
5k	POA - Signed by power of attorney		0		" "
				0.25%; 0.03% (2017 General)	
5l	SIGPR - Signature does not match		818		" "
5m	STAMP - Signed using a signature stamp		0		" "
5n	WANDA - Ballot was suspended due to ineligibility		5		" "
5o	Gray boxes - Ballot was suspended due to ineligibility		191		Hand Count
5p	Wrong Election		0		" "
5q	Security Envelope Only / No Voter Information on Replacement / Fax Only		62		" "

**Mail Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted**

6	Number of Mail Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation		<b>325,776</b>		
7	Number of Empty Envelopes		5		
8	Number of Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board (credit not removed in DIMS)				
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>325,776</b>		Reported by ClearVote.
12	Number of Mail Ballots Awaiting Tabulation				

**Details - Provisional Ballots**

Line	Description	Total	Subtotals	Comparative Data	Comment
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**Provisional Ballots Issued**

1	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued	<b>298</b>			
1a	Number of Provisional Ballots Issued in Snohomish County	200			
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		13		
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		187		
1b	Number of Provisional Ballots Received from other counties	98			

**Provisional Ballots Verified**

2	Number of Provisional Ballot Accepted	<b>93</b>			
3	Number of Provisional Ballots Challenged	126			
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		4		
3f	Not eligible for election (wrong district)		0		
3g	Not Registered		119		
3h	Registered too late (after cut off)		0		
3i	Signature doesn't match original		0		
3j	Voter voting twice		3		
4	Number of Provisional Ballots Sent to Other Counties	79			

**Provisional Ballot Envelopes Opened and Extracted**

5	Number of Provisional Ballots Opened and Sent to Tabulation	<b>93</b>			
6	Number of Empty Envelopes	0			Unable to remove credit in DIMS
7	Number of Provisional Ballots Rejected by Canvassing Board	0			Unable to remove credit in DIMS
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	<b>93</b>			Reported from ClearVote
11	Number of Provisional Ballots Awaiting Tabulation	0			