

Primary Election Results—2021

Compiled by
Bill McCallum

	Election Results			Contributions	Expenses	Cash on Hand	Liabilities (loans and debts)
Port of Bellingham District 2							
Primary Election August 2, 2021	8,351	47.16%	Ken Bell*	\$ 42,574 ¹	\$ 3,405 ¹	\$ 39,169 ¹	\$184 ¹
	6,318	35.68%	Kelly Krieger	\$ 19,502 ¹	\$15,615 ¹	\$ 3,887 ¹	\$4,731 ¹
*Incumbent	2,997	16.92%	Austin Chapin	\$ 2,078 ¹	\$ 1,301 ¹	\$ 777 ¹	0 ¹
	43	0.24%	Write-In				

All positions on this page are nonpartisan.

¹Receipts and Expenditures Report (C4) ending July 26.

²Pledged not to raise or spend more than \$5,000 and not to receive single contributions above \$500: not required to file reports.

Whatcom County Council At-Large

25,165	47.46%	Barry Buchanan*	\$ 23,527 ¹	\$18,571 ¹	\$ 4,955 ¹	\$5,631 ¹
20,205	38.11%	Kamal Bhachu	\$ 20,461 ¹	\$ 8,437 ¹	\$ 12,024 ¹	\$4,451 ¹
4,796	9.05%	Misty Flowers	\$ 5,057 ¹	\$ 4,320 ¹	\$ 737 ¹	\$30 ¹
2,633	4.97%	Bob Burr	Under \$5,001 ²			
222	0.42%	Write-In				

District 1

5,538	55.06%	Kaylee Galloway	\$ 31,793 ¹	\$17,725 ¹	\$ 14,068 ¹	\$2,146 ¹
2,772	27.56%	Eddy Ury	\$ 15,147 ¹	\$11,294 ¹	\$ 3,853 ¹	0 ¹
1,723	17.13%	Jeremiah Ramsey	6,099 ¹	\$ 4,724 ¹	\$ 1,375 ¹	\$524 ¹
25	0.25%	Write-In				

District 3

4,800	44.40%	Tyler Byrd*	\$ 23,586 ¹	\$ 892 ¹	\$ 22,695 ¹	0 ¹
4,748	43.92%	Rebecca Lewis	\$ 22,999 ¹	\$15,434 ¹	\$ 7,566 ¹	\$4,331 ¹
643	5.95%	Kathy Sabel	Under \$5,001 ²			
576	5.33%	Fred Rinard	Under \$5,001 ²			
44	0.41%	Write-In				

Bellingham City Council At-Large

11,536	55.37%	Kristina Michele Martens	\$ 39,570 ¹	\$26,234 ¹	\$ 13,336 ¹	0 ¹
6,572	31.55%	Russ Whidbee	\$ 10,005 ¹	\$ 8,631 ¹	\$ 1,373 ¹	\$5,800 ¹
2,665	12.79%	Tonja Bozo	\$ 12,481 ¹	\$10,397 ¹	\$ 2,083 ¹	\$947 ¹
60	0.29%	Write-In				

Drop Box Count

Bellingham drop boxes

	Number Returned	Percentage of Total Returned
Courthouse.....	9,168	55.16%
Sehome Village.....	3,854	23.19%
Barkley Village.....	2,341	14.08%
Whatcom Community College.....	867	5.22%
WWU Recreation Center.....	278	1.67%
WWU Bond Hall (Red Square).....	114	0.69%
Total.....	16,622	49.04%
Lynden drop box (library).....	4,755	14.02%
Ferndale drop box (city hall).....	4,033	11.90%
Blaine drop box (library).....	1,939	5.72%
Birch Bay drop box (fire and rescue station).....	1,406	4.15%
Everson drop box (Whatcom Education Credit Union).....	1,315	3.88%
Sudden Valley drop box (security office turnaround).....	1,137	3.35%
Deming drop box (library).....	669	1.97%
Meridian drop box (Laurel Grange).....	558	1.65%
Kendall drop box (North Fork library).....	467	1.38%
Custer drop box (elementary school).....	345	1.02%
Sumas drop box (behind post office).....	298	0.88%
Point Roberts drop box (International Marketplace).....	148	0.44%
Acme drop box (elementary school).....	113	0.33%
Lummi Nation drop box (administration building).....	90	0.27%
Drop box total.....	33,895	61.75%
U.S. Postal Service.....	20,954*	38.18%
Email.....	40	0.07%
Fax.....	0	0.0%
Confidential.....	0	0.0%
AVU (Vision impaired machine).....	0	0.0%
Total ballots counted.....	58,889**	

*does not include 1,957 undeliverable ballots.

**includes 655 rejected ballots.

Drop Box Return Rate

	General	Primary	Drop Boxes
2021		62%*	20
2020	80%*	66%*	22
2019	63%*	56%*	18
2018	59%*	55%*	18
2017	73%	67%	15
2016	78%	65%	15
2015	66%	52%	14
2014	55%	47%	9
2013	50%	38%	8

*Elections with prepaid return envelopes.

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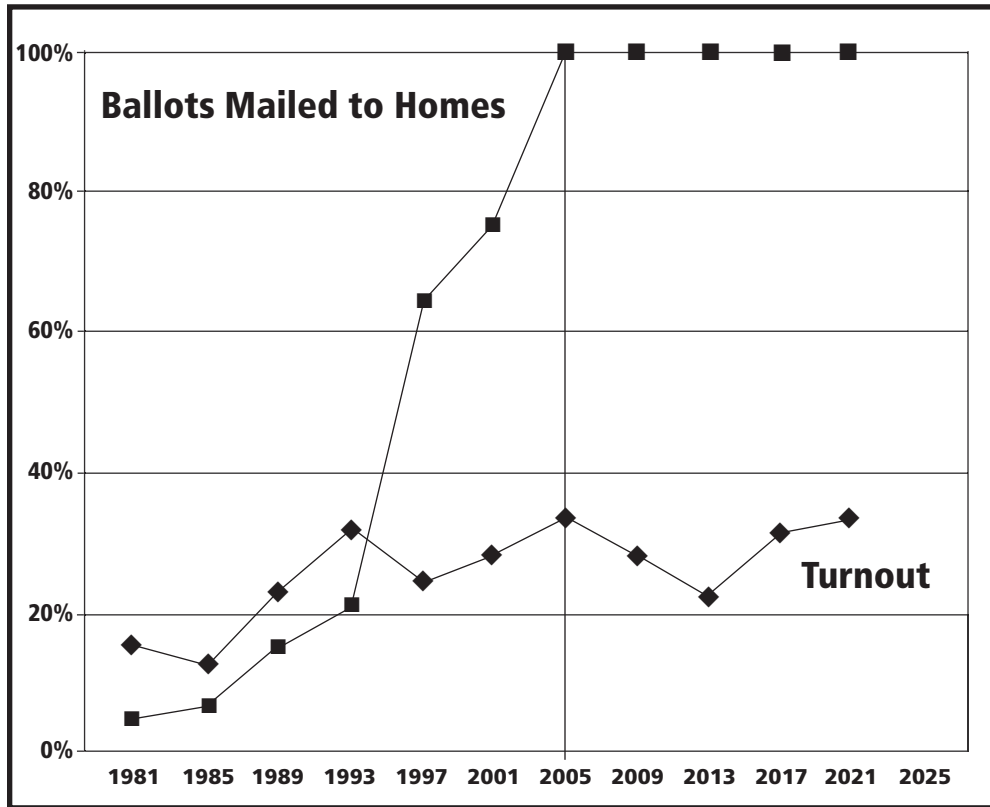
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Whatcom County Primary Elections Turnout and Voting at Home 1981 – 2021



The Whatcom County Home Rule Charter was approved at the 1978 general election. A special primary election was held on February 6, 1979, and a special general election on March 25, 1979. The at-large and position A for districts 1, 2 and 3 first appeared on the 1981 primary and general election ballot. Those positions also appeared on the ballot for the years 1985, 1989, 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2009, 2013. In 2015, voters increased the number of districts from three to five and from one to two at-large positions.

Primary Election	Registered Voters ¹	Ballots Cast	Turnout Percent	Voting by Mail
1981	53,714	8,900	16.6%	5.8%
1985	61,356	8,762	14.3%	8.2%
1989	60,085	13,893	22.0%	16.3%
1993	77,568	24,820	32.0%	21.3%
1997	84,081	20,523	24.2%	63.9%
2001	98,396	26,734	27.2%	75.8%
2005	74,075 ²	25,216	34.0%	100%
2009	116,410	31,980	27.5%	100%
2013	65,325 ³	14,325	21.7%	100%
2017	105,045 ⁴	32,681	31.1%	100%
2021	158,826	54,234	34.2%	100%
Mean			25.9%	

¹Registered voters in precincts that had races on the primary ballot.

²Total number of registered voters on election day was 101,745.

³Total number of registered voters on election day was 126,379.

⁴Total number of registered voters on election day was 137,740.

Return Envelopes Challenged

Below are the reasons ballots were rejected and the number of rejections for the last five primary elections. The most common reason for rejection, by far, was an envelope with a late postmark. The statistics are from the Canvassing Board Reconciliation Report. The statistics represent the difference between envelopes received and ballots counted.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Envelopes returned	54,234	94,131	58,776	63,426	32,963
Canceled	0	0	0	7	0
Deceased	0	5	4	0	0
Electronic	0	0	0	7	0
Empty envelope	5	2	5	1	8
Identification required	1	0	0	0	0
Letter doesn't match envelope	0	0	0	19	14
Late postmark	398	655	356	438	136
No signature	104	156	41	32	27
No signature match	147	340	182	180	86
Power of Attorney	0	0	0	1	0
Second ballot received	0	185	0	21	3
Wrong voter signature	0	0	2	3	7
Other	0	8	1	0	1
Ballots Challenged	655	1,351	592	709	282
Undeliverable	1,957	1,919	2,500	2,847	2,173
Total	2,612	3,270	3,092	3,556	2,455

State/Local Election Statistics

Washington State Whatcom County

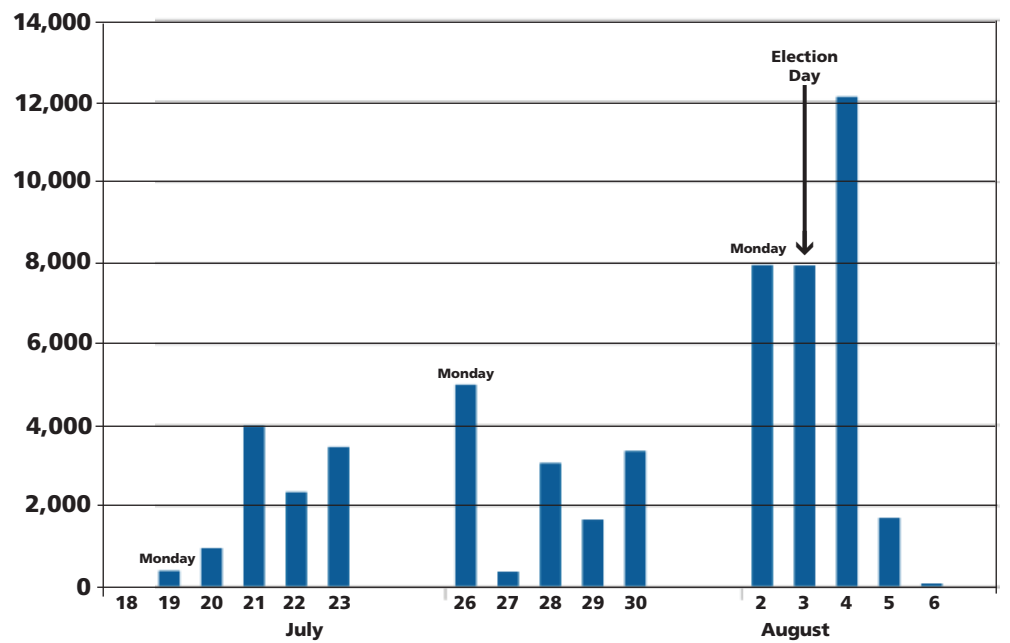
Primary

Total Registered	(No	158,826
Ballots Cast	Statewide	54,234
Turnout	Primary)*	34.15%

*The state of Washington has 39 counties: 37 counties had primary elections for local races. The turnout rate was 29.72 percent.

Primary Election Ballots Returned

The Whatcom County auditor's office mailed 158,826 ballots to registered voters, 1,957 were undeliverable. A little less than 60 percent — 32,353 or 59.6 percent — of the ballots were returned before election day. Last year, 69.5 percent of the primary ballots were returned before election day. Invalidated ballots (655) accounted for 1.2 percent of the total returned.



Primary Election	Ballots Returned	Percent of Total Returned
June 16	(Friday: Military/Overseas Ballots Mailed)	
July 14	(Wednesday: Whatcom County Ballots Mailed)	
July 19	(Monday)	381 0.70%
July 20	(Tuesday)	943 1.74%
July 21	(Wednesday)	3,960 7.30%
July 22	(Thursday)	2,327 4.29%
July 23	(Friday)	3,441 6.34%
July 26	(Monday)	4,979 9.18%
July 27	(Tuesday)	359 0.66%
July 28	(Wednesday)	3,043 5.61%
July 29	(Thursday)	1,646 3.03%
July 30	(Friday)	3,340 6.16%
August 2	(Monday)	7,934 14.63%
August 3	(Tuesday: Election Day)	7,923 14.61%
August 4	(Wednesday)	12,090 22.29%
August 5	(Thursday)	1,688 3.11%
August 6	(Friday)	69 0.13%
August 9	(Monday)	16 0.03%
August 10	(Tuesday)	6 0.01%
August 11	(Wednesday)	68 0.13%
August 12	(Thursday)	1 0.00%
August 13	(Friday)	2 0.00%
August 16	(Monday)	1 0.00%
Total	54,889*	

*This is the total number of ballots returned.

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