

Primary Election Results—2026

	Washington State		Whatcom County	
2nd Congressional District¹				
Rick Larsen* (D)	88,708	42.34%	25,989	36.03%
Edwin H. Feller (R).....	68,713	32.80%	25,343	35.13%
Tomas Scheel (D)	29,133	13.91%	12,772	17.71%
Devin Hermanson (D)	22,775	10.87%	7,977	11.06%
Write-In	181	0.09%	52	0.07%

40th Legislative District, Representative #1²				
Debra Lekanoff* (D)	34,514	72.60%	17,576	79.38%
Cindy Carter(R).....	12,966	27.27%	4,533	20.47%
Write-In	59	0.12%	33	0.15%

40th Legislative District, Representative #2²				
Alex Ramel* (D).....	31,216	67.77%	15,974	73.55%
Joseph Segault (NP)	5,988	13.00%	2,297	10.58%
Salomon Mbouombouo (I)	4,903	10.64%	1,979	9.11%
Monte Jay Mahan (I).....	3,833	8.32%	1,422	6.55%
Write-In	121	0.26%	47	0.22%

Supreme Court Justice Postion #01²				
Colleen Melody*	923,965	52.90%	38,233	55.71%
Scott Edwards	513,394	29.39%	17,658	25.73%
Laura Colberg	305,110	17.47%	12,621	18.39%
Write-In	4,081	0.23%	122	0.18%

Supreme Court Justice Postion #03²				
David Stevens.....	612,267	35.19%	24,425	35.73%
Jaime Michelle Hawk	578,979	33.27%	24,380	35.66%
Mike Diaz	543,721	31.25%	19,403	28.38%
Write-In	5,061	0.29	159	0.23%

Supreme Court Justice Postion #05²				
Theo Angelis	623,396	35.84%	25,463	37.27%
Dave Larson	559,629	32.17%	23,209	33.97%
Sharonda Amamilo.....	371,059	21.33%	14,192	20.77%
Greg Miller	181,542	10.44%	5,350	7.83%
Write-In	110	0.16%	110	0.16%

Supreme Court Justice Postion #07²				
Debra L. Stephens*	938,584	54.37%	34,784	51.49%
Todd A. Bloom	468,347	27.13%	21,055	31.17%
Karim A. Merchant	207,603	12.03%	8,668	12.83%
David R Shelvey	107,635	6.24%	2,934	4.34%
Write-In	3,998	0.23%	109	0.16%

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 below statistics are from the Canvassing Board Reconciliation Report.

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022
Empty envelope.....	8	4	6	7	9
ID required	1	2	2	0	0
Late postmark/deposit	615	484	436	388	434
No signature.....	96	55	37	40	59
No signature match	136	75	201	212	283
Envelopes Rejected	856	620	682	647	785
Undeliverable	2,004	1,218	1,690	2,007	1,968
Total Rejected	2,860	1,838	2,372	2,654	2,753

The following only appeared on Whatcom County ballots.

42nd Legislative District, Senator³		
Erika Creydt (R).....	22,125	44.56%
Michael Alvarez Shepard (D) ...	13,125	26.43%
Eamonn Collins (D)	13,121	26.42%
Ryan Bowman (NP)	1,248	2.51%
Write-In	35	0.07%

42nd Legislative District, Representative #1³		
Alicia Rule* (D)	27,934	56.22%
Misty Flowers (R).....	21,655	43.58%
Write-In	102	0.21%

42nd Legislative District, Representative #2³		
Joe Timmons* (D).....	26,802	53.85%
Justin Pike (R)	22,911	46.03%
Write-In	60	0.012%

Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney		
Ryan Swinburnson (NP)	26,874	38.32%
Jesse Corkern (D)	15,228	21.71%
Dona Bracke (D).....	14,723	20.99%
Erik Sigmar (D)	13,201	18.82%
Write-In	109	0.16%

Port of Bellingham Commissioner District 4		
Paul Burrill (N)	4,085	30.25%
Tor Benson (N)	3,257	24.12%
Samantha Cruz-Mendoza (N)	2,679	19.84%
Tim Chartier (N)	1,552	11.49%
Jaden McConnell (N).....	1,149	8.51%
Dean Berkeley (N)	724	5.36%
Write-In	60	0.44%

Port of Bellingham Commissioner District 5		
Chris Elder.....	5,441	41.33%
Shawn Ensley	2,814	21.37%
Todd Lagestee	2,314	17.58%
Jerry Burns	1,026	7.79%
Spenser R. New.....	855	6.49%
Randall Wood	632	4.80%
Write-In	83	0.63%

Drop Box Return Rate			
	General	Primary	Drop Boxes
2026		76%*	23
2025	75%*	62%*	23
2024	77%*	73%*	23
2023	71%*	66%*	21
2022	70%*	69%*	20
2021	70%*	62%*	21
2020	80%*	65%*	22
2019	63%*	56%*	18
2018	59%*	55%*	18
2017	73%	66%	15
2016	78%	67%	15
2015	66%	52%	14
2014	55%	47%	9
2013	50%	39%	8
2012	41%	42%	8

*Elections with prepaid return envelopes.

Compiled by
Bill McCallum from information on the Washington Secretary of State and the state Public Disclosure Commission websites and information from the Whatcom County Auditor’s website, with thanks to Rebecca Rouse in the Whacom County Auditor’s office for additional information.

Primary Election
August 4, 2026

NA — Not Applicable

*Incumbent

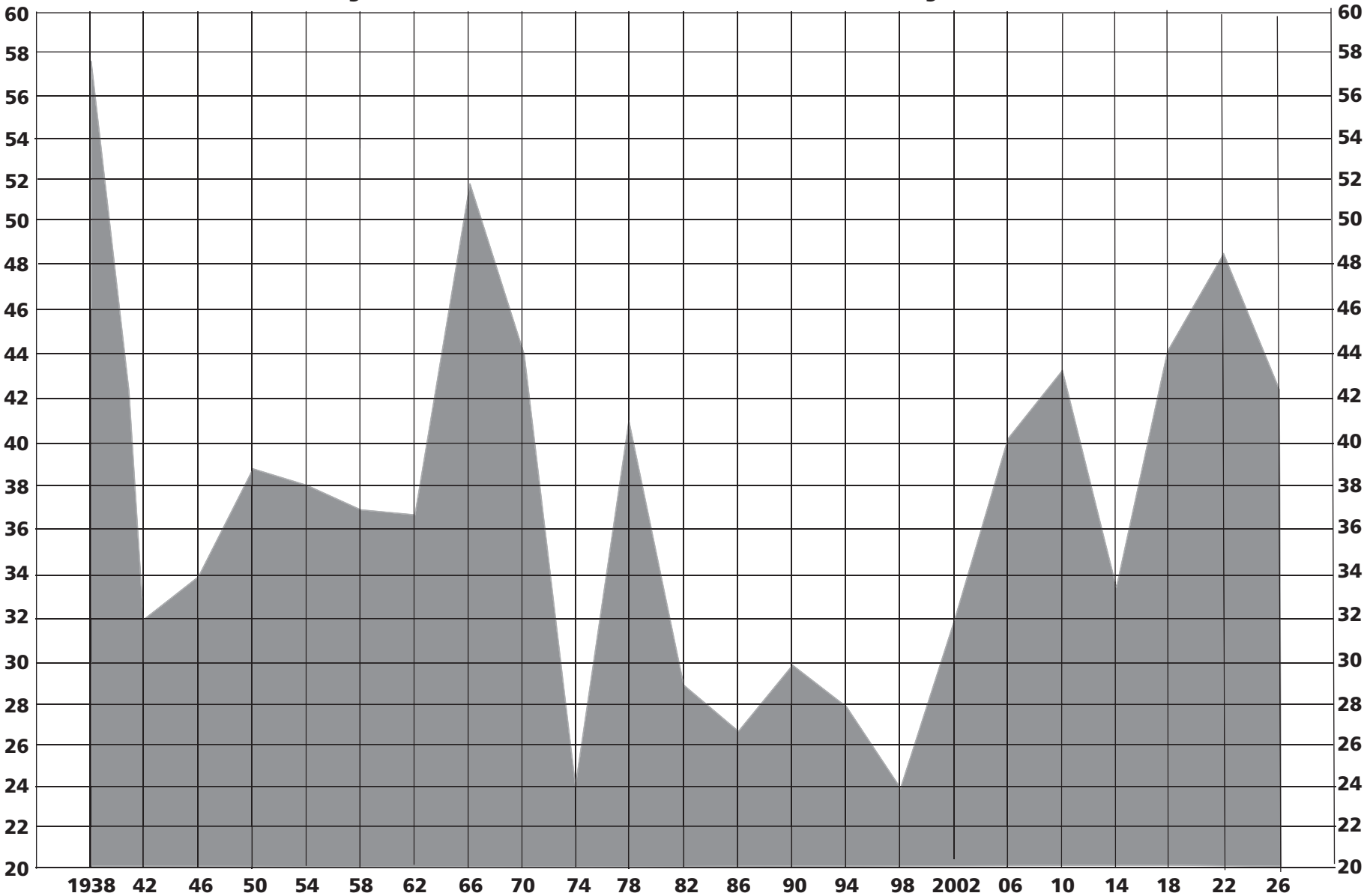
Party Preference
(D) Democratic
(I) Independent
(N) Nonpartisan
(NP) No Party
(R) Republican

¹The 2nd Congressional District represents all of Whatcom, San Juan and Island counties, all of Skagit County except for the southeast portion and the far western portions of Snohomish County.

²The 40th District is all of San Juan County, northwestern Skagit and southwestern Whatcom counties and the northern tip of Island County.

³The 42nd District is most of Whatcom County except for the southwest portion, including parts of Bellingham.

Whatcom County Voter Turnout: Midterm Primary Elections 1938 – 2026



Midterm Elections 1938 – 2026

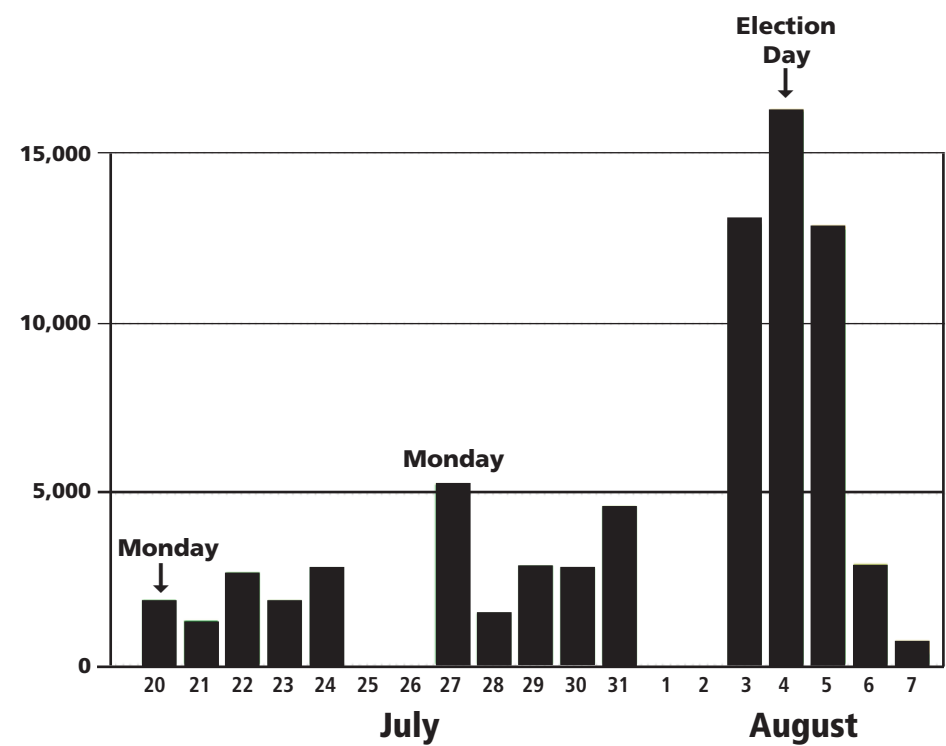
The turnout percentages start with 1938. The totals for cities and counties were listed seperately before 1936.

	Registered	Voted	Turnout
1938	31,412	18,020	57.4%
1942	31,605	10,112	32.0%
1946	30,529	10,387	34.0%
1950	34,558	13,314	38.5%
1954	35,850	13,609	38.0%
1958	36,471	13,411	36.8%
1962	35,470	13,007	36.7%
1966	34,880	18,092	51.9%
1970	37,236	16,828	45.2%
1974	48,346	12,204	25.2%
1978	50,553	20,780	41.1%
1982	54,396	15,705	28.9%
1986	59,580	16,203	27.2%
1990	60,364	18,135	30.0%
1994	84,292	23,540	27.9%
1998	89,177	21,450	24.1%
2002	90,104	29,367	32.6%
2006	102,452	41,455	40.5%
2010	114,312	50,015	43.8%
2014	126,961	42,736	33.7%
2018	139,813	62,717	44.9%
2022	155,466	74,914	48.2%
2026	170,162	72,856	42.8%
Mean			37.5%

How Envelopes Are Returned to the Auditor

Bellingham drop boxes		
Courthouse (parking lot)	10,204	18.20%
Barkley Village (theatre parking lot)	6,785	12.10%
Schome Village (parking lot)	5,865	10.46%
WCC (ASB building)	2,942	05.25%
Courthouse (rotunda)	1,509	02.69%
Courthouse (Auditor's office)	548	0.98%
WWU Bond Hall (Red Square)	508	0.91%
WWU Recreation Center (Wade King)	454	0.81%
Total	28,815	51.38%
Lynden drop box (library)		
	7,268	12.96%
Ferndale drop box (Pioneer Pavilion Community Center)		
	5,846	10.42%
Blaine drop box (library)		
	3,140	5.60%
Birch Bay drop box (fire and rescue station)		
	2,547	4.54%
Everson drop box (Whatcom Educational Credit Union)		
	1,989	3.55%
Sudden Valley drop box (security office turnaround)		
	1,692	3.02%
Meridian drop box (Laurel Grange)		
	985	1.76%
Deming drop box (library)		
	913	1.63%
Custer (elementary school)		
	715	1.27%
Kendall drop box (North Fork library)		
	687	1.23%
Sumas drop box (behind post office)		
	500	0.89%
Lummi Nation drop box (administration building)		
	295	0.53%
Point Roberts (Marketplace grocery store)		
	266	0.47%
Maple Falls (post office)		
	226	0.40%
Acme (elementary school)		
	195	0.34%
Drop box total		
	56,079*	76.08%
U.S. Postal Service		
	17,275	23.44%
Email		
	355	0.48%
**Confidential		
	38	0.00%
Fax		
	3	0.00%
Provisional		
	0	0.00%
Total ballots returned		
	73,712	
*Drop box percentages are based on this total.		
**Not included in total ballots returned		

Daily Envelope Returns

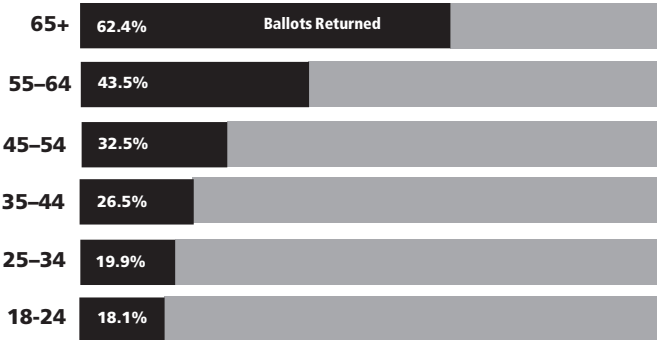


The Whatcom County Auditor’s Office mailed 170,162 ballots to registered voters: 1,968 were undeliverable. A little over half of the ballots cast — 40,729 or 55.25 percent — were returned before election day. Envelopes challenged accounted for a little more than one percent of ballots returned.

	Ballots Returned	Percent of Total Returned
Primary Election		
June 18.....	(Friday: Military/Overseas Ballots Mailed)	
July 15.....	(Wednesday: Whatcom County Ballots Mailed)	
July 20.....	(Monday)	1,866.....2.56%
July 21.....	(Tuesday)	1,270.....1.74%
July 22.....	(Wednesday)	2,673.....3.67%
July 23.....	(Thursday)	1,850.....2.54%
July 24.....	(Friday)	2,831.....3.89%
July 27.....	(Monday)	5,262.....7.23%
July 28.....	(Tuesday)	1,483.....2.04%
July 29.....	(Wednesday)	2,878.....3.95%
July 30.....	(Thursday)	2,811.....3.86%
July 31.....	(Friday)	4,607.....6.33%
August 3.....	(Monday)	13,198.....17.71%
August 4.....	(Tuesday: Election Day)	16,201.....22.25%
August 5.....	(Wednesday)	12,754.....17.51%
August 6.....	(Thursday)	2,906.....3.99%
August 7.....	(Friday)	307.....0.42%
August 10.....	(Monday)	94.....0.13%
August 11.....	(Tuesday)	108.....0.15%
August 12.....	(Wednesday)	1.....0.00%
August 13.....	(Thursday)	9.....0.01%
August 14.....	(Friday)	6.....0.00%
August 17.....	(Monday)	6.....0.00%
Total	73,712*	

*This is the total number of ballots retuned by mail and drop box.

State of Washington
Ballots Returned by Age Range

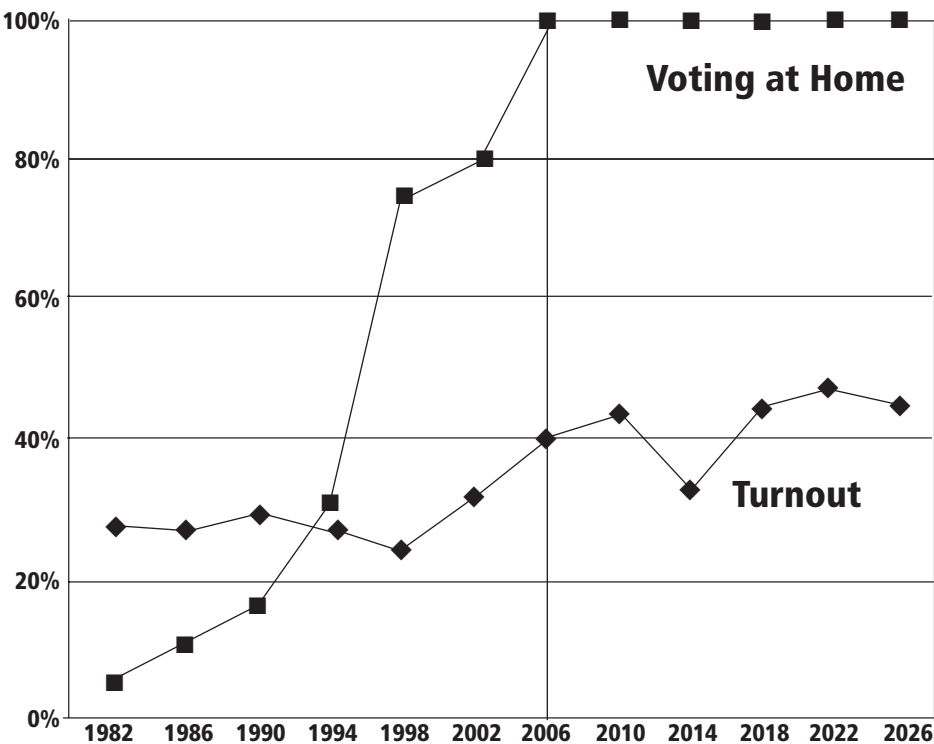


courtesy: state of Washington

State/Local Election Statistics

	Washington State	Whatcom County
Primary		
Total Registered	5,147,877	170,162
Ballots Cast	1,892,873	72,856
Turnout	36.77%	42.82%

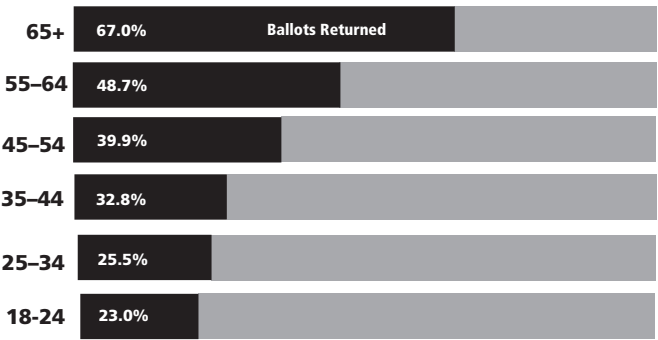
Whatcom County Primary Elections
Turnout and Voting at Home Percentages
for Midterms From 1982 – 2026



Starting in 1915, Washington voters were allowed to vote at home if they were unable to be present at a polling site on Election Day. In 1974, the Washington Legislature allowed voters to request a ballot for the next election without stating a particular need. Beginning in 1985, voters over the age of 65 and those with disabilities were eligible to receive all future ballots mailed to their home. In 1993, the Legislature allowed all registered voters to request all future ballots be sent to their home. By 2002, five rural counties were conducting every election by mail. Whatcom County adopted sending all ballots to voters’ home in 2005. Since 2011, all of Washington’s 39 counties have been mailing ballots to voters’ homes. The dates in the above chart and the below list are for midterm elections.

Primary Election	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout Percent	Voting at Home
1982.....	54,396.....	15,705	28.9%	6.2%
1986.....	59,580.....	16,203	27.2%	13.4%
1990.....	60,364.....	18,135	30.0%	18.9%
1994.....	84,292.....	23,540	27.9%	31.5%
1998.....	89,177.....	21,450	24.1%	76.6%
2002	90,104.....	29,367	32.6%	81.1%
2006	102,452.....	41,455	40.5%	100%
2010	114,312.....	50,015	43.8%	100%
2014	126,961.....	42,736	33.7%	100%
2018	139,813.....	62,717	44.9%	100%
2022	155,466.....	74,914	48.2%	100%
2026	170,162.....	72,856	42.8%	100%
Mean.....			37.4%	

Whatcom County
Ballots Returned by Age Range



courtesy: state of Washington

Primary Election Results—2026

NA — Not Applicable

*Incumbent

Party Preference

(D) Democratic

(NP) No Party

(R) Republican

1

This statistic is from the Federal Election Commission website.

2

This statistic is from the C4 financial summary report filed with the state Public Disclosure Commission seven days before the primary.

3

Candidates that pledge not to spend over \$7,000 or receive more than \$500 from a single contributor are not required to file financial disclosure forms.

Liabilities

4

Loans and debts owed \$17,037

5

Loans and debts owed \$5,041

6

Loans and debts owed \$2,591

7

Loans and debts owed \$35,765

8

Loans and debts owed \$44,275

9

Loans and debts owed \$1,655

10

Loans and debts owed \$18,919

11

Loans and debts owed \$6,228

12

Loans and debts owed \$4,190

13

Loans and debts owed \$2,200

14

Loans and debts owed \$2,000

15

Loans and debts owed \$5,000

16

This candidate opted for full reporting. As of 9/20/2026, no disclosure forms are on the Public Disclosure Commission website.

Washington State	Candidate		Whatcom County		Receipts	Expenditures	Cash on Hand
2nd Congressional District							
88,708	42.34%	Rick Larsen* (D)	25,989	36.03%	\$2,038,788 ¹	\$1,996,522 ¹	NA
68,713	32.80%	Edwin H. Feller (R)	25,343	35.13%	0	0	0
29,133	13.91%	Tomas Scheel (D)	12,772	17.71%	\$10,409 ¹	\$10,409 ¹	NA
22,176	10.09%	Devin Hermanson (D)	7,977	11.06%	0	0	0
181	0.09%	Write-In	52	0.07%			
40th District Representative — Position 1							
34,514	72.60%	Debra Lekanoff* (D)	17,576	79.38%	\$75,189 ²	\$17,392 ²	\$57,797 ²
12,966	27.27%	Cindy Carter (R)	4,533	20.47%	\$6,565 ²	\$1,065 ²	\$5,500 ²
59	0.12%	Write-In	33	0.15%			
Representative — Position 2							
28,855	73.22%	Alex Ramel* (D)	14,598	77.93%	\$64,673 ²	\$23,683 ²	\$40,990 ²
9,308	23.62%	Joseph Segault (NP)	3,672	19.60%	Mini Reporting ³		
4,903	10.64%	Salomon Mbouombouo (I)	1,979	9.11%	Mini Reporting ³		
3,833	8.32%	Monte Jay Mahan (I)	1,422	6.55%	Mini Reporting ³		
		Write-In	47	0.22%			
42nd District Senator							
		Erika Creydt (R)	22,125	44.56%	\$182,773 ²	\$172,578 ²	\$10,195 ⁴
		Michael Shepard (D)	13,125	26.43%	\$96,954 ²	\$86,123 ²	\$10,830 ⁵
		Eamonn Collins (D)	13,121	26.42%	\$73,448 ²	\$55,904 ²	\$17,585 ⁶
		Ryan Bowman (NP)	1,248	2.51%	\$1,390 ²	\$1,340 ²	\$50 ²
		Write-In	35	0.07%			
Representative — Position 1							
		Alicia Rule* (D)	27,934	56.22%	\$140,724 ²	\$46,161 ²	\$94,563 ⁷
		Misty Flowers (R)	21,655	43.58%	\$16,326 ²	\$8,331 ²	\$7,995 ²
		Write-In	102	0.21%			
Representative — Position 2							
		Joe Timmons* (D)	26,802	53.85%	\$110,241 ²	\$56,682 ²	\$53,559 ⁸
		Justin Pike (R)	22,911	46.03%	\$118,546 ²	\$104,798 ²	\$13,748 ⁹
		Write-In	60	0.012%			
Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney							
		Ryan Swinburnson (NP)	26,874	38.32%	\$24,904 ²	\$19,782 ²	\$5,122 ²
		Jesse Corkern (D)	15,228	21.71%	\$66,720 ²	\$62,238 ²	\$4,482 ¹⁰
		Dona Bracke (D)	14,723	20.99%	\$32,978 ²	\$26848 ²	\$6,130 ¹¹
		Erik Sigmar (D)	13,201	18.82%	\$36,420 ²	\$32,112 ²	\$4,808 ²
		Write-In	109	0.16%			
Port of Bellingham District 4 — Nonpartisan Office							
		Paul Burrill	4,085	30.25%	\$8,683 ²	\$6,129 ²	\$2,554 ¹²
		Tor Benson	3,257	24.12%	\$11,639 ²	\$8,446 ²	\$3,193 ¹³
		Samantha Cruz-Mendoza	2,679	19.84%	\$15,002 ²	\$13,346 ²	\$1,656 ²
		Tim Chartier	1,552	11.49%	\$4,175 ²	\$2,903 ²	\$1,272 ²
		Jaden McConnell	1,149	8.51%	Mini Reporting ³		
		Dean Berkeley	724	5.36%	Mini Reporting ³		
		Write-In	60	0.44%			
District 5 — Nonpartisan Office							
		Chris Elder	5,441	41.33%	\$11,018 ²	\$8,323 ²	\$2,696 ²
		Shawn Ensley	2,814	21.37%	\$8,204 ²	\$6,648 ²	\$1,555 ¹⁴
		Todd Lagestee	2,314	17.58%	\$5,217 ²	\$592 ²	\$4,625 ¹⁵
		Jerry Burns	1,026	7.79%	Mini Reporting ³		
		Spenser R. New	855	6.49%	¹⁶ 0	¹⁶ 0	¹⁶ 0
		Randall Wood	632	4.80%	Mini Reporting ³		
		Write-In	83	0.63%			

12

Whatcom Watch

October 2026