

Final Election Results – 2009

Election Statistics

Washington State Whatcom County

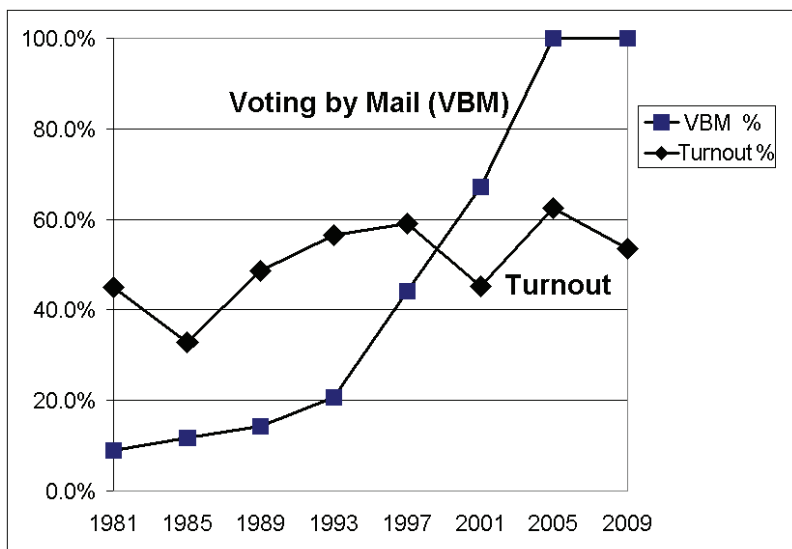
General

Total Registered	3,583,278	114,292 ¹
Ballots Cast	1,823,328	61,288
Turnout	50.88%	53.62%

Primary

Total Registered	No	116,410
Ballots Cast	statewide	31,980
Turnout	primary	27.47%

Whatcom County General Election Turnout and Voting by Mail Percentages



The Whatcom County Home Rule Charter was approved at the 1978 general election. The above chart represents the years since charter approval that council seats for at-large and position A in district 1, 2 and 3 have appeared on the general election ballot.

	Registered Voters	Ballots Cast	Turnout Percent	Voting by Mail
1981	54,564	24,591	45.1%	9.0%
1985	61,928	20,313	32.8%	11.7%
1989	60,874	29,530	48.5%	14.3%
1993	79,513	44,911	56.5%	20.7%
1997	85,538	50,593	59.2%	44.2%
2001	97,828	44,163	45.1%	67.1%
2005	102,118	63,716	63.4%	100.0%
2009	114,292	61,288	53.6%	100.0%
Mean			50.5%	

Whatcom County General Election

The first column is the total number voting in the general election. The second column is the number voting on ballot measures, legislative or judicial positions. The third column is second column subtracted from the first column and reflected as a percent.

Whatcom County	Total Voting	Voted On	Not Voting
Referendum 71 (domestic partners)	61,288	59,318	3.8%
Initiative 1033 (limit on taxes)	61,288	58,477	4.6%
County Council, At-Large	61,288	55,985	8.7%
County Council, District 2	61,288	55,391	9.6%
Rural Library Proposition 1 ²	38,554	34,710	10.0%
County Council, District 1	61,288	55,033	10.2%
County Council, District 3	61,288	54,752	10.6%
Port of Bellingham, District 1	61,288	51,823	15.4%
Port of Bellingham, District 2	61,288	49,648	19.0%

City of Bellingham

City Council, District 6	22,734	18,258	19.7%
City Council, At-Large	22,734	17,738	22.0%
City Council, District 2*	22,734	15,185	33.2%
City Council, District 4*	22,734	14,821	34.8%
Municipal Court Judge*	22,734	14,750	35.1%

*Unopposed

Washington State Ballot Measures

Initiative 1033 (limit state and local taxes)

	Washington State	Whatcom County
Yes	729,918 42.10%	26,130 44.71%
No	1,003,943 57.90% ✓	32,317 55.29%

Referendum 71 (expand domestic partner rights)

	Washington State	Whatcom County
Yes	951,822 53.15% ✓	31,720 53.47%
No	838,842 46.85%	27,598 46.53%

Whatcom County

Rural Library District Proposition No. 1²

Approved	17,843 51.41% ✓	Increase the property tax levy for library operations and maintenance from \$0.338 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$0.44 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.
Rejected	16,867 48.59%	

General Election Turnout

	Registered	Voted	Percentage
Whatcom County	114,292	61,288	53.6%
Unincorporated Whatcom County	51,609	28,104	54.5%
City of Bellingham	43,693	22,734	52.0%
City of Blaine	2,713	1,379	50.8%
City of Ferndale	5,781	2,945	50.9%
City of Lynden	7,380	4,663	63.2%

Primary Election Ballots Returned

The Whatcom County auditor's office mailed 114,292 ballots to registered voters on October 14, 2009; 1,517 were undeliverable. Almost 60 percent of the ballots — 36,839 or 59.8 percent — were returned before election day. Envelopes challenged (itemized below) accounted for less than one percent of ballots returned.

October 14	(Wednesday: Ballots Mailed)	
October 16	(Friday)	164 0.27%
October 19	(Monday)	3,623 5.88%
October 20	(Tuesday)	4,198 6.81%
October 21	(Wednesday)	2,764 4.49%
October 22	(Thursday)	1,884 3.06%
October 23	(Friday)	2,095 3.40%
October 26	(Monday)	3,504 5.69%
October 27	(Tuesday)	3,733 6.06%
October 28	(Wednesday)	2,416 3.92%
October 29	(Thursday)	2,494 4.05%
October 30	(Friday)	2,908 4.72%
October 31	(Saturday)	752 1.22%
November 2	(Monday)	6,304 10.23%
November 3	(Tuesday: Election Day)	4,135 6.71%
November 4	(Wednesday)	10,066 16.34%
November 5	(Thursday)	8,634 14.01%
November 6	(Friday)	1,863 3.02%
November 9	(Monday)	37 0.06%
November 10	(Tuesday)	8 0.01%
November 11	(Wednesday: Veterans' Day – Courthouse closed)	
November 12	(Thursday)	14 0.02%
November 13	(Friday)	5 0.01%
November 16 through 19		19 0.03%
Total		61,620

Envelopes Challenged

The statistics below are from the Canvassing Board Reconciliation Report. Of the 61,620 envelopes returned, 1,863 were challenged.

Cancelled	3
Contain no ballot	8
Deceased	3
Late postmark/deposit	204
No signature	23
No signature match	100
Power of Attorney	2
Second ballot received	3
Undeliverable	1,517
Total Challenges	1,863

Compiled by
Bill McCallum

Chart by
Marian Beddill

General Election
November 3, 2009

Primary Election
August 18, 2009

¹This number is smaller than the total number of registered voters in the primary because some voters whose primary ballots could not be delivered were removed from the voter rolls.

²The city of Bellingham has a separate library system; Bellingham voters were not eligible to vote on Proposition 1.

Final Election Results — 2009

	General Election			Primary Election		Contributions	Expenses	Surplus Deficit	Cost Per Vote
*Incumbent									
All positions on this page are nonpartisan.	Port of Bellingham								
	District 1								
	27,125	52.34%	Scott Walker*	3,462	34.93%	\$40,325 ²	\$34,998 ²	\$5,327	\$1.14
	24,489	47.26%	John Blethen	5,080	51.25%	\$31,838	\$31,838	0	\$1.08
			Ham Hayes	1,228	12.39%	Under \$5,001 ¹			
	209	.40%	Write-In	142	1.43%				
	District 2								
	26,848	54.08%	Mike McAuley	3,694	37.45%	\$7,422 ²	\$7,403 ²	\$19	.24
	22,587	45.49%	Douglas G. Smith*	3,655	37.05%	Under \$5,001 ¹			
			Doug Karlberg	2,352	23.84%	Under \$5,001 ¹			
	213	.43%	Write-In	142	1.65%				
	Whatcom County Council								
	At-Large								
	29,925	53.45%	Bill Knutzan	14,161	45.04%	\$44,704 ²	\$43,620 ²	\$1,084	.99
	25,722	45.94%	Laurie Caskey-Schreiber	13,698	43.56%	\$28,831	\$28,745	\$86	.73
			Dave Pros	3,239	10.30%	Under \$5,001 ¹			
	338	.60%	Write-In	345	1.1%				
	District 1 — Position A								
	27,605	50.16%	Kathy Kershner			\$45,748 ²	\$43,795 ²	\$1,953	\$1.59
	27,298	49.60%	Dan McShane			\$29,268 ²	\$28,408 ²	\$860	\$1.04
	130	.24%	Write-In						
	District 2 — Position A								
	28,751	51.91%	Ken Mann			\$50,712 ²	\$44,930 ²	\$5,783	\$1.56
	26,551	47.93%	Mary Beth Teigrob			\$45,126 ²	\$42,002 ²	\$3,124	\$1.58
	89	.16%	Write-In						
	District 3 — Position A								
	27,747	50.68%	Carl Weimer*			\$29,042 ²	\$28,515 ²	\$526	\$1.03
	26,912	49.15%	Michelle Luke			\$44,225	\$44,225	0	\$1.64
	93	.17%	Write-In						
	Bellingham City Council								
	At-Large								
	13,542	76.34%	Seth Fleetwood			Under \$5,001 ¹			
	4,009	22.60%	Orphalee Smith (write-in)			\$29,072	\$28,823	(\$929.59) ³	\$7.19
	187	1.06%	Write-In						
	Ward 2								
	14,915	98.22%	Gene Knutson*			\$3,933	0	\$3,933	0
	270	1.78%	Write-In						
	Ward 4								
	14,565	98.27%	Stan Snapp*			Under \$5,001 ¹			
	256	1.73%	Write-In						
	Ward 6								
	10,255	56.17%	Michael Lilliquist	1,173	47.56%	\$22,031 ²	\$21,993 ²	\$39.21	\$1.92
	7,878	43.15%	Catherine Chambers	670	27.11%	\$13,587 ²	\$13,490 ²	(\$1,560) ³	\$1.58
			Christopher Morrison	607	24.47%	\$4,987	\$4,987	0	\$8.21
	125	.68%	Write-In	21	.85%				

¹Pledged not to spend more than \$5,000 and not to receive single contributions above \$200; not required to file disclosure reports.

²Not the final report.

³Liabilities: Loans and debts owed.

Thanks to Election Supervisor Pete Griffin for the information on general election write-in votes.



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