



2022 Washington State General Election Update

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Washington State Legislature Likely to Remain in Democratic Control After November 8 General Election

The **Washington state 2022 midterm election season** saw numerous hotly contested legislative races in the **42nd Legislative District** (Whatcom County), **10th** (Island, Skagit, North Snohomish County), and **26th** (South Kitsap County) legislative districts, all of which are showing Democrats well ahead on election night. While there are many ballots still on-hand left to count, it is unlikely in most of these races that the remaining ballots will shift the direction of some of the races.

We are likely to see **little change** to the **existing Democratic majorities** in both the State House and Senate chambers – in fact it's possible that House Republicans will see a net loss of seats.

In **federal races**, U.S. **Senator Patty Murray** cruised to a significant win over Republican challenger Tiffany Smiley. In two closely-watched U.S. House races, Republican candidates did not perform well, and it appears that incumbent **Rep. Kim Schirer** (D) will retain her seat, and **Marie Gluesenkamp Perez**, a Democratic newcomer may win in southwest Washington's Congressional District 3 – flipping the seat from Republican to Democrat – if her election performance continues in subsequent ballot counts.

Turnout in this election appears to be on par with 2018's election. **County election offices** will **continue to count votes** throughout the week and **updated count information** will be released between **5 – 6 p.m.** every day for the next week. You can view the latest election results at WA Secretary of State [website](#).

STATEWIDE | SECRETARY OF STATE

In a unique special election for statewide office, incumbent and former state senator, **Steve Hobbs** (D), who was appointed to the position after Republican Kim Wyman left to work in the Biden administration last year, is **running a close race** on election night by receiving just under 50% of the vote to challenger and **Independent Pierce County Auditor Julie Anderson** who earned 47% of the vote. Republican write in candidate, Brad Klippert, is receiving 3% of the vote. About 50,000 votes separate Hobbs and Anderson.

STATE HOUSE & SENATE | LD 42 (BELLINGHAM & WHATCOM COUNTY)

All **three Democratic candidates** are currently **running ahead** on election night.

Incumbent **Democrat Representative Alicia Rule** is at **52% of the vote**, the highest of the three Democrats in this district, but still putting her in a tight spot of reelection against her Republican challenger, former police officer **Tawsha Thompson** who is earning **48%** of the vote. There is a 2000 vote difference between the candidates.

In the vacated seat that Rep. Sharon Shewmake held before running against Sen. Simon Sefzik (R), **Democrat Joe Timmons** is earning **52% of the vote** and **Republican Dan Johnson** is earning **48%**. There is a 1700 vote difference between the candidates.

Shewmake's run against recently appointed Sefzik, is earning the least of the three Democrats at **51%** to **Sen. Sefzik's 49%**. There is a 1250 vote difference between the candidates. This race was among the most expensive elections in Washington state this year.

STATE HOUSE & SENATE | LD 47 (SOUTHWEST KING COUNTY SUBURBS)

In this historically **swing district**, Democrats are seeing strong results on election night for their House candidates with incumbent **Representative Debra Entenman** receiving **58% of the vote**. In a unique Democrat versus Democrat race, **Chris Stearns** received **67% of the vote** and is the likely candidate replacing retiring Democrat House Majority Leader Representative Pat Sullivan.

In the Senate race, **Republican Bill Boyce** is keeping the race close receiving **46% of the vote** to Democrat former state **Senator Claudia Kauffman** who is receiving **53% of the vote**. This is a race to keep a close eye on as future vote counts are released.

STATE HOUSE & SENATE | LD 26 (KITSAP COUNTY/BREMERTON)

Incumbent **Senator Emily Randall** (D) is continuing her stronger than expected performances on election night receiving **53% of the vote** to challenger **Republican Representative Jesse Young's** at 47% of the vote. There are 2500 votes separating the candidates, making this election vulnerable to tightening in future vote counts and an election to keep a close eye on. This election was another very expensive race for the parties and the candidates.

In the open seat left by Representative Young in his bid to unseat Senator Emily Randall, **Democrat Addison Richards** is currently ahead **with 51% of the vote** to **Republican Spencer Hutchins** at **49% of the vote**. There are 1000 votes separating the candidates.

STATE HOUSE | LD 10 (SKAGIT AND ISLAND COUNTY, & NORTH SNOHOMISH COUNTY)

In another **swing district**, Democrats are seeing continued strong results on election night for their House candidates with incumbent **Representative Dave Paul** receiving **54%** of the vote, similar to his primary election performance.

His seatmate, **Republican Representative Greg Gilday**, is running behind his Democratic challenger **Clyde Shavers**. **Representative Gilday** is earning **47% of the vote** to **Shavers' 53% of the vote**. This is a race to watch for subsequent vote counts as there are 1700 votes separating the candidates.

OTHER RACES TO WATCH | LDS 17, 18, AND 35 (CLARK COUNTY AND MASON/THURSTON COUNTY)

Four house races in **three legislative districts** are **running surprisingly close** on election night and may be races to keep an eye on.

In **LD 17**, Democrats are running at 49% of the vote in the open seat vacated by Representative Vicki Kraft. The Republican candidate is receiving 51% of the vote with 700 votes separating the candidates, making this among the closest races in the state at the moment. Incumbent Republican Representative Paul Harris is also running closer than expected margins at 53% to the Democrat challenger's 47% of the vote.

In **LD 18**, the open seats left by Representative Brandon Vick and Larry Hoff are likewise seemingly contested on election night with the Republican candidates running at 51% and 52% and their Democratic counterparts running closely behind at 49% and 48%. In the election with Republican Stephanie McClintock and Democrat John Zingale, there are 550 votes separating the candidates, making this among the closest races in the state at the moment.

In **LD 35**, the open seat left by Republican Representative Drew MacEwan seems to be having a competitive race with his potential Republican replacement, Travis Couture, running at 51% of the vote compared to his Democrat counterpart at 49% of the vote. There are currently 1000 votes separating the candidates.

CONGRESSIONAL | SENATE

Incumbent **Patty Murray** (D) leads with **57% of the votes**, while Republican challenger **Tiffany Smiley** has **43% of the vote** on election night. The total vote for all Democrat candidates tracks very closely to President Biden's vote share in the state in the 2020 Presidential election of 58%.

CONGRESSIONAL | HOUSE

District 3

Joe Kent (R), who notably unseated the soon to be former **Representative Jamie Herrera-Bueatler** (R) in the primary, is currently running behind his Democrat opponent, **Marie Gluesenkamp Perez**, with **47% of the vote** to Perez's **53%**. Numbers in this race are likely to change significantly, given the hundreds of thousands of votes left to count in this race.

District 4

Incumbent Dan Newhouse (R), who survived primary challenges from the right for his vote to impeach President Trump, is sailing to victory, receiving **67% of the vote** on election night.

District 8

In the state's sole congressional swing district, **Incumbent Kim Schrier** (D) received **53% of the vote** to her Republican challenger, **Matt Larkin**, who is at **47% of the vote**. However, with hundreds of thousands of votes left to count, this race should be closely monitored for a potential flip.

GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

It is important to note that in **Washington State** we have a **mail in ballot system** which does always give a **clear outcome** on **election night**. Over the **next few days**, we will be able to **identify winners of close races** but those races that are within 5 percentage points are typically in the realm of possibility for a win. Any more than 5 points will be difficult to overcome but nothing is impossible.

We will further update you on the General Election results.

General election results are **certified** by each county on **November 29, 2** and transmits results of the General Election. **Thursday, December 8** is the **last day** for the **Secretary of State** to certify final results.



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