

**CLARK COUNTY WA Voter Research
Project
Canvassing Report: April 2022**

April 27, 2022

Background

According to a December 10, 2021 Rasmussen Reports poll of US National Likely Voters¹:

- 56% say cheating was likely in the 2020 elections
- 60% say preventing cheating is more important than making it easier to vote
- 75% say requiring Photo ID to vote is a reasonable measure to protect the integrity of elections, including 73% of Black voters
- 90% think it is Important to prevent cheating in elections, including 83% who say it is Very Important

The Washington Voter Research Project is a statewide non-partisan organization that was formed in the summer of 2021 by a group of volunteers in Washington State who share a common interest in election integrity and ensuring that our votes count. Our goal is to ensure that our votes are not just “counted,” but also to ensure that they are not “cancelled” by fraud, incompetence, lack of diligence, or other problems which can often occur in any complex, government run, bureaucratic system. Voting integrity is a worthy goal for all people who care about our fundamental right to vote.

- Home - Washington Voter Research Project (wavoterresearch.org)
- WVRP headquarters mailing address is Monroe, WA

Executive Summary

In the late summer and fall of 2021, a small team of 34 volunteers conducted door to door non-partisan canvassing of approximately 590 addresses in Clark County, WA, representing 1750 Voters at these addresses. That team has now grown to 93 volunteers as of this report date.

In this initial phase of canvassing, we obtained information on 1,213 voters and identified a total of 616 voters (50.8%) who have moved but were still registered to vote at their previous address.

We identified 66 voters who moved out more than 30 days before the November 2020 election, and yet still cast a vote in that election from their previous address. We identified 14 voters who moved out more than 30 days before the 2021 elections, and still voted in the election from their previous address. We also identified 2 voters who were deceased but still registered to vote, although they did not vote.

¹ https://twitter.com/Rasmussen_Poll/status/1469354742828740616

Scope

The purpose of this canvassing project is to assess the accuracy of the voter rolls in Clark County, to help facilitate the Clark County auditor in cleaning the voter rolls, and to identify voter anomalies.

Oxford English Dictionary defines an anomaly as “*something that deviates from what is standard, normal, or expected.*” A voter anomaly is a voter registration that appears to deviate from the legal and statutory requirements to be a qualified elector under Washington law and to vote in Washington elections.

In this report, we will use the term “voter anomaly” to refer to

- A voter who cast a vote from an address where they do not reside
- A voter who received multiple ballots for the same person
- A voter who is registered to vote at a non-residential, vacant, or nonexistent address or a virtual mailbox.

It is important to note that a voter anomaly represents *potential* fraud, waste, abuse, or error. We cannot assume that every anomaly is fraudulent. Each anomaly warrants further investigation and inquiry and resolution by the Clark County Election Department. We do not intend to be accusatory. We are bringing these anomalies to light so that they can be further investigated, and corrective action can be initiated as needed to ensure that our voter rolls are clean, and our elections are being conducted accurately and lawfully.

Approach

WVRP identified addresses with a high likelihood of voter anomalies using publicly available information. WVRP obtained the June 2021, the August, 2021 and the November, 2021 voter registration databases from the Washington Secretary of State. They cross checked the databases against other data sources to identify addresses where, for example, voters may have moved but are still registered at their previous address. WVRP then created walk lists for these addresses.

We assembled a small team of volunteers who went door to door. Our volunteers would knock on the door, introduce themselves to the occupant, and explain the reason for the visit. Volunteers never claimed to be Elections Dept. workers or employees. They identified themselves as volunteers with Clark County Voter Research Project. We asked if they had any problems with their November 2020 ballot, showed the occupant(s) the list of voters registered at that address and asked if those registered voters still lived there. We did not ask anyone which candidate they voted for, and we did not ask any questions about citizenship.

When the occupant identified a registered voter who no longer resided at that address, we asked additional questions to try to determine how long ago the nonresident voter moved

out. Our volunteers recorded that information in a signed affidavit. We collected a total of 641 affidavits in this project.

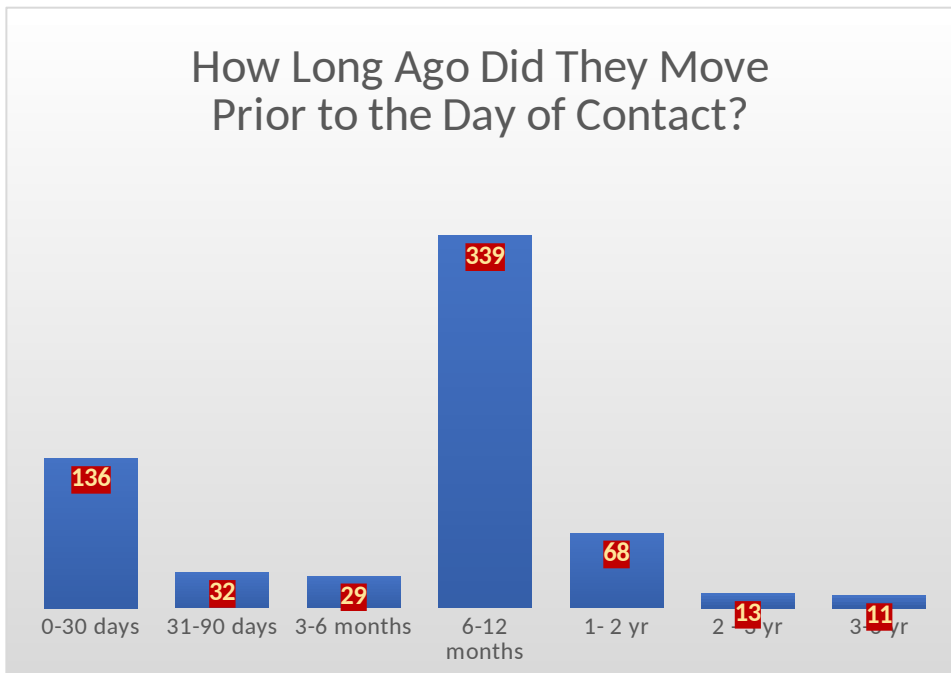
The move date for these voters is the most recent of either

- The date that the occupant with personal knowledge of the voter indicated that the voter moved out. For example, if the occupant said, “He moved out in June 2019”, we recorded a move date of 6/30/2019. Or,
- The date that the current occupant moved in. For example, if the occupant said, “I moved in August 2017 and they haven’t been here since I moved in”, we recorded the move date as 8/31/2017.
- The move date used in this analysis is therefore likely understated, especially if the occupant we spoke to had no personal knowledge of the missing voter.

Findings

616 voters (50.8%) had moved but were still registered at their previous address

We identified 616 registered voters who had changed address but were still registered at their previous address. This is 50.8% of the 1,213 voters that we obtained information about.



Of the 616 voters that had moved, we were unable to estimate a move date for 111 voters, so we used the contact date. There were another 25 that had moved in less than 30 days, with a total of 136 for less than 30 days. There were 32 that had moved between 30 and 90 days, 29 had moved 3 to 6 months before the canvasser contacted that residential address. There were 339 that had moved 6 to 12 months prior, 68 that had moved between 1 and 2 years, 13 that had moved 2 to 3 years prior and 11 that had moved between 3 and 6 years prior.

We found an additional fourteen voters that did not move, but the county or the city of Camas had designated a new street address for the same residence and the voter registration database had not been updated to reflect the new address. These are not included in the 616 total voters that had moved. Others who were not included in the 616 voters are 2 deceased voters who were still registered to vote, one person who said she did not vote in the November, 2020 election, but the county had received a ballot for her and said it was definitely her signature, 3 who had married and changed their last name, one person who tried to register online but never got a ballot, a convicted felon for 8 years who is still listed in the Washington Voter Registration Database as Active but did not vote, one person who moved in October, 2020 and got two ballots from Washington at her previous address and one ballot from Oregon.

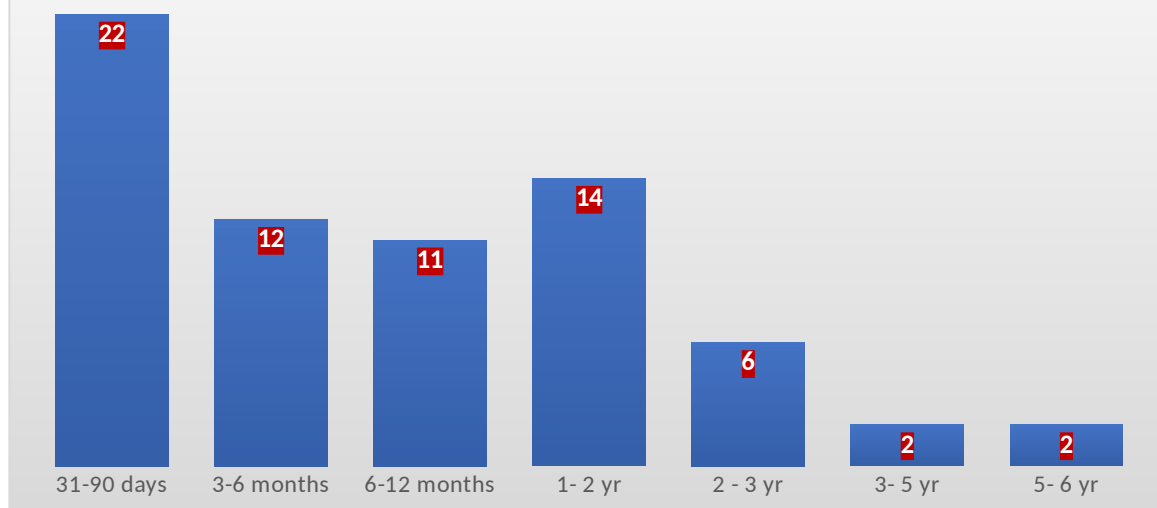
83 voters (6.8%) had not lived at that address for more than 30 days prior to an election, and still voted in that election

Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State Washington requires a qualified voter to establish residency at least 30 days prior to an election. RCW 29A.04.151 further defines a residence as “a person's permanent address where he or she physically resides and maintains his or her abode.”

Voters who move more than 30 days prior to an election, but still vote in that election without updating their residence address, are voter anomalies.

We found 83 voter anomalies who had moved or otherwise had not resided at that address more than 30 days prior to voting in an election. We identified 69 voters who changed residence more than 30 days before the November 3, 2020 election and still voted in that election from that address. We found an additional 14 voters who moved more than 30 days before the November 2, 2021, election and still voted in that election from that address.

How Long Before the November 2020 Election Did They Move and Still Vote?



Of these voter anomalies, 47 had moved more than 90 days prior to the election and still voted from that address. 24 had moved at least one year before the election, and 10 had not resided there for two or more years.

For the sake of simplicity, we are assuming that the voter anomalies actually lived at that address in the past. For some of these, it could be the case that the voter never lived there at all. Several occupants that we spoke to recognized the name of the voter anomaly as someone that they knew and said, “he (she) has never lived here.”

Some of these voter anomalies may indeed be lawful voters. The federal UOCAVA act gives U.S. citizens who live overseas the right to vote by absentee ballot. RCW 29A.04.151 gives four exceptions to the 30 day prior permanent residency requirement:

- (1) *While employed in the civil or military service of the state or of the United States;*
- (2) *While engaged in the navigation of the waters of this state or the United States or the high seas;*
- (3) *While a student at any institution of learning;*
- (4) *While confined in any public prison.*

Of the addresses canvassed, there were 17 Active voters in Clark County that had mailing addresses out of the country. These might meet the residency exception under subsection (1) above. But none of these 17 had an APO address, indicating that further investigation would be needed. The Clark County Election Office has said that the 4 voters that had moved between 3 and 6 years all have a UOCAVA designation.

900 NE 149th Street

There are 3 voters still listed at this address, 2 of them listed as Active and who voted in the November, 2020 election. The property was sold to Clark County, and the home demolished. The final sale date is listed in GIS as 5/4/2021. A permit application was submitted on 11/5/2020 and the permit issued on 1/24/2021 for the demolition of the house.



Renaissance 29 Apartments 16506 29th St. Vancouver, WA

One team of canvassers went to this apartment complex. In the process of finding addresses, they discovered that the mailboxes for the complex had been vandalized and all residents had to go to the office to get their mail. The mailboxes have since been renovated.

‘Virtual Mailboxes – a recent trend’

This is a service that allows a person to have a permanent street address (not a PO Box). Most of the Virtual Mailbox services have an email system to send a picture of the envelope, a scan of the contents and options for how the person wants to have the mail forwarded or shredded. Instead of a PO Box number they have an “Apt” or “Suite” or “Lot” number so it appears to the Department of Motor Vehicles or to the Election office as though it were a valid address. In actuality the person could live in another state or another country and have a virtual mailbox in Clark County. Since RCW 29A.04.151 defines a residence as “a person's permanent address where he or she physically resides and maintains his or her abode.”, these mailboxes would not qualify as a permanent residence and yet they are being used as the residential address of the voter.

D & C Mailboxes and More

2512 E Evergreen Blvd, Vancouver WA 98661.

The Clark County Voter Registration Database has 6 voters with this address for both their residential and mailing address.



Mail Room Plus-6400 NE Highway 99, Vancouver WA 98665

The Clark County Voter Registration Database has 6 voters with this address for their mailing address and "PARKING LOT OF 6400 NE HIGHWAY 99" as their residential address. This may in fact be a legal residential address if they are homeless.



Print-n-Post

15640 NE Fourth Plain Blvd, Vancouver WA 98682 The Clark County Voter Registration Database has 4 voters with this address for both their residential and mailing address.



Postal Connections
7720 NE Highway 99 D, Vancouver WA 98665

The Clark County Voter Registration Database has 1 voter with this address for both their residential and mailing address.



Postal Annex 13023 NE Hwy 99, Suite 7, Vancouver WA 98686

The Clark County Voter Registration Database has 1 voter with this address for both their residential and mailing address.



Selected Quotes

The following are actual quotes from some of the occupants that we interviewed. They are widely representative

of the types of comments that we received and captured in affidavits.

"She was a renter but has not lived here for several years."

This person "only lived here a short time. They flipped the house and moved"

On 10/15/21 Jaimie's sister said "Jamie moved out 3 years ago"

"Don't know who this person is."

"He is a friend of my grandson, but he does not live here."

He "moved out years ago and is homeless"

"She's in a nursing home in hospice since February 2021"

That person “ moved to some place in Oregon and did not leave a forwarding address and I keep getting their mail”

He moved out "a couple years ago"

“We moved here 10/24/2020. This person moved to Idaho before that.”

New owners purchased this home on 9/11/19 and this person moved back east before that.

The Current renter said” I have been here for a year and this person moved out before that.”

The apt manager said *“I don’t know if this person ever lived here but she does not live here now”*

As these quotes illustrate, these anomalies warrant further investigation and resolution.

On October 15, 2021, and November 23,2021 and again on February 28,2022 we requested the current voter registration spreadsheet from the Clark County Election Office. The Clark County Election office has a process of receiving change of address information from the NCOA (National Change of Address) and the USPS. This information along with obituaries and information from Social Security help them to update our voter registration lists. We only wanted to submit voters records that had not already been corrected. We compared the latest Clark County Voter Registration Excel spread sheets with our canvassing list.

After comparing our lists, on November 17, 2021 a list of 129 voter anomalies were given to the Clark County Auditor. We have now compared the voter registration list from 2-18-22 and there are now 67 of those 129 that remain unresolved. The Election office has contacted these voters either by phone or by mail and 62 of the voter anomalies have been corrected. On March 8, 2022 another list of 47 voter anomalies were given to the Clark County Auditor. This is a continuing process in helping to clean up our voter rolls.

Other Issues with the Clark County Voter Registration Database

58 voters who were on our list of anomalies had a blank “Last Voted Date”. Of these 58, 25 were listed as Active and 33 Inactive. One of these Last Voted in 2004 and had an effective date of change of 1/16/1998, but is still listed as Active.

3 people who last voted between 2012 and 2015 are still Active. According to the Clark County Auditor, a ballot must be returned as “Undeliverable” in order for the voter to move from Active to Inactive.

Only one person in the 354,982 voters listed as of 2-18-22 had a Status of “Failed the ID check”

It appears from our canvassing that several of the issues with the Voter Registration Database may be due to the online portal of VoteWa.gov that allows voters to change their mailing address without changing their residential address. This is needed to allow citizens to enter a separate seasonal or temporary mailing address where they can receive their ballots. The portal is the responsibility of the Secretary of State. The design of the portal was poorly done, allowing voters to make a change to their mailing address without any follow up question or prompt to also change their residential address when it is appropriate. The questions on the portal are so unclear that it is very likely that many voters think they are updating their residential and mailing address when they are only updating the mailing address. Whether on purpose or inadvertently does not matter. The result is inaccurate voter rolls with voters’ voting from addresses that they no longer live at. The unsecured nature of this portal is a huge exposure to voter fraud.

The WA voter registration card states: “If you knowingly provide false information on this voter registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.” This notice does not appear on the VoteWa.gov portal and it should.

There is also no security on this portal, no password protection and no two factor authentication. All you need to enter a person’s voter profile is a name and date of birth to update/edit the mailing information.

Conclusion

The findings detailed in this report are a tiny slice of the entire Clark County VRDB of ~ 355,000 registered voters and yet it suggests that there is much room for improvement in the maintenance of the voter registration database in Clark County. The data suggest that in many cases, updates to voter registration data are not being made in a timely manner.

616 of 1,213 voters (50.8%) had moved but their residence address in the voter registration database had not been updated. 92 (7.5%) moved more than one year ago.

We identified 83 voter anomalies (6.8%) who had not resided at that address for more than 30 days prior to an election, failed to update their residence address, and still voted from their old address. There are 114 of these that have still not been resolved as of the February 18, 2022 Clark County Spread Sheet.

Our volunteers plan to continue scrutinizing the maintenance of the voter registration database in Clark County, and we appreciate that the Clark County Auditor’s Office has been willing to engage in a collaborative effort to ensure that the voter registration database is kept accurate and up to date, and that only lawful votes are counted.