



# June 20, 2023

# Post-Election Report

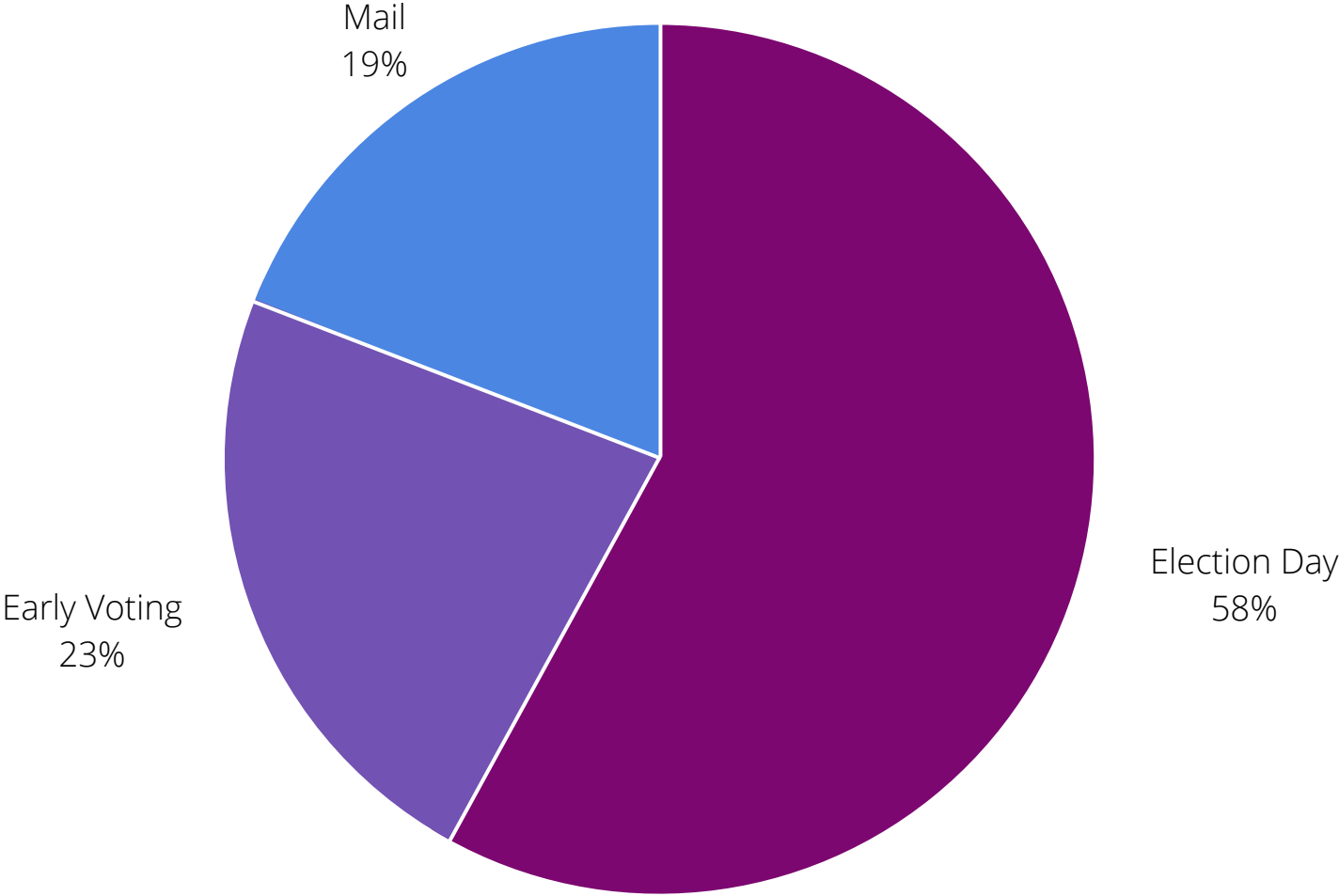


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# Voter Turnout & Method

19% of active voters participated in this Election.



Ballots Cast	28,897
Election Day	16,807
Early Voting	6,659
Mail	5,431

## Historical Comparison

This was a Democratic Primary Election for the offices of State Senate (40th District), House of Delegates (2nd District), Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, and County Board (2 seats). Turnout was similar to the previous Democratic Primary election in 2019 for Commonwealth's Attorney. The last time there were two open seats for a County Board Democratic Primary election was in 2015.

Election	Registered Voters	Total Voting	Percent Voting	Total Before Election	Percent Before Election
2015	136,758	10,824	8%	626	6%
2019	155,690	26,388	17%	2,269	9%
2023	154,320	28,897	19%	12,090	42%

## Vote-by-Mail

Ballots Mailed	10,451
• PAB Mailed	8,936
Counted	5,431
Mail Ballots Exchanged for In-Person Voting	255
Rejected	85

10,451 ballots were mailed to voters who requested one. This includes reissued ballots (ballots reported lost or spoiled) and email ballots (UOCAVA and ADA voters). 8,936 ballots mailed were from the Permanent Absentee (PAB) List. 5,431 ballots were counted. 255 ballots were exchanged so that the voter could vote in person. 85 ballots were rejected.

### UOCAVA

UOCAVA is a special category of mail ballot voters. These are voters who are either in the military or reside overseas. These voters are eligible to receive their ballots by mail or email.

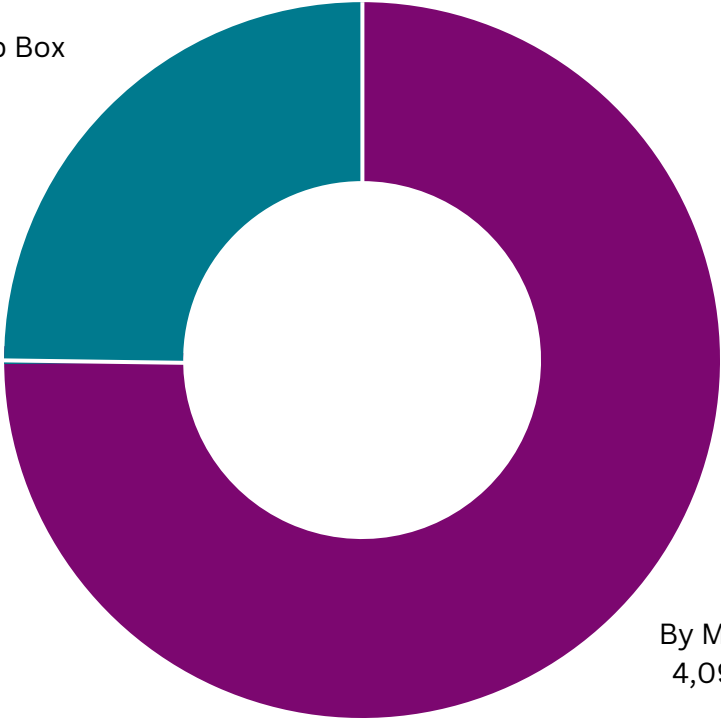
### ADA

In August 2020, Virginia entered into an agreement to allow print disabled voters the ability to use the online tool for UOCAVA voters to mark their ballots from home.

Return Method

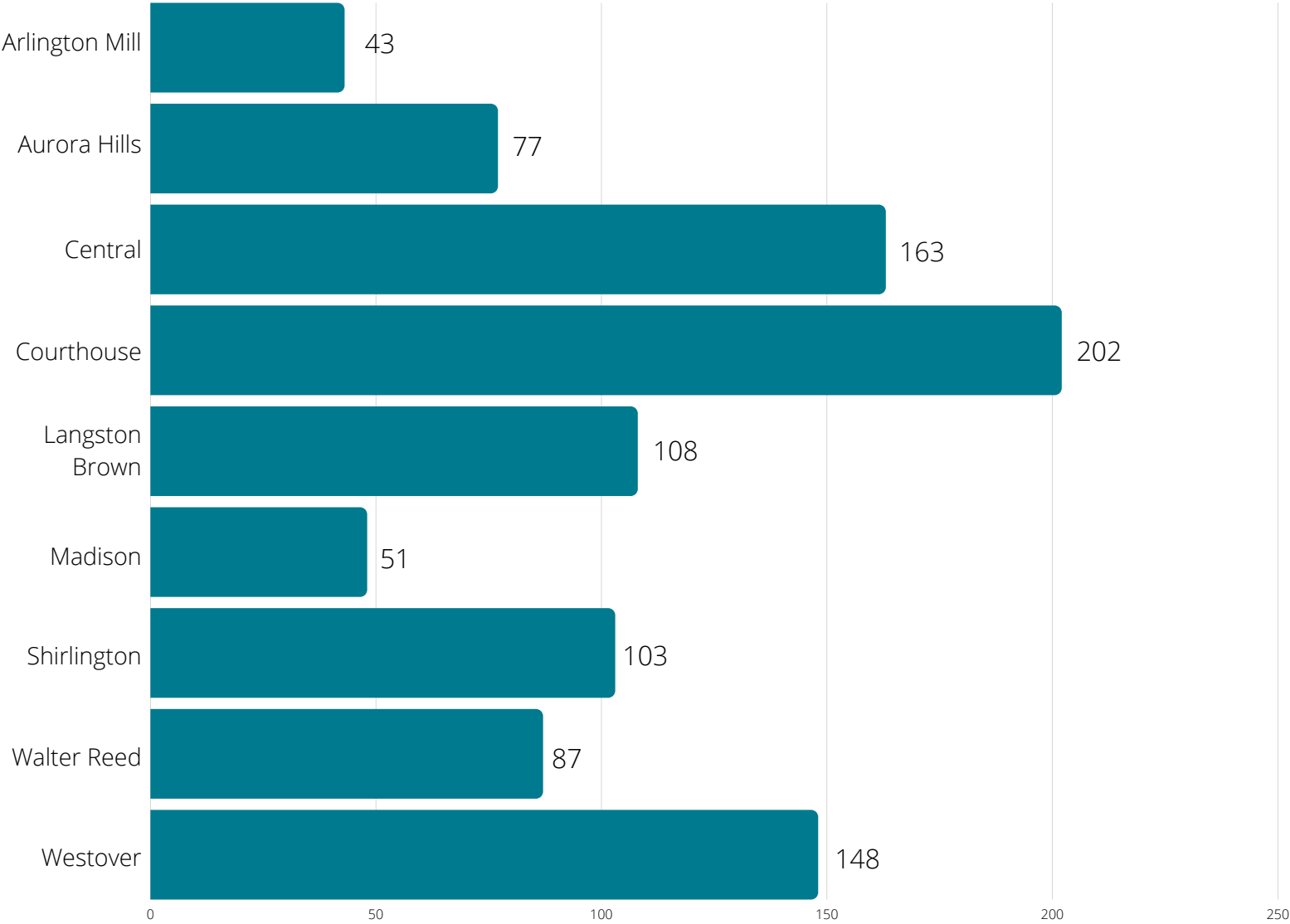
Nine 24-hour drop boxes were available from May 8 to June 20, 2023. Drop boxes were also available at the 3 Early Voting and 54 Polling Locations while the sites were open for in-person delivery. 1,379 ballots were returned using a drop box. This includes 341 returned to polling places on Election Day and 56 returned at Early Voting sites.

In Person/Drop Box  
1,379

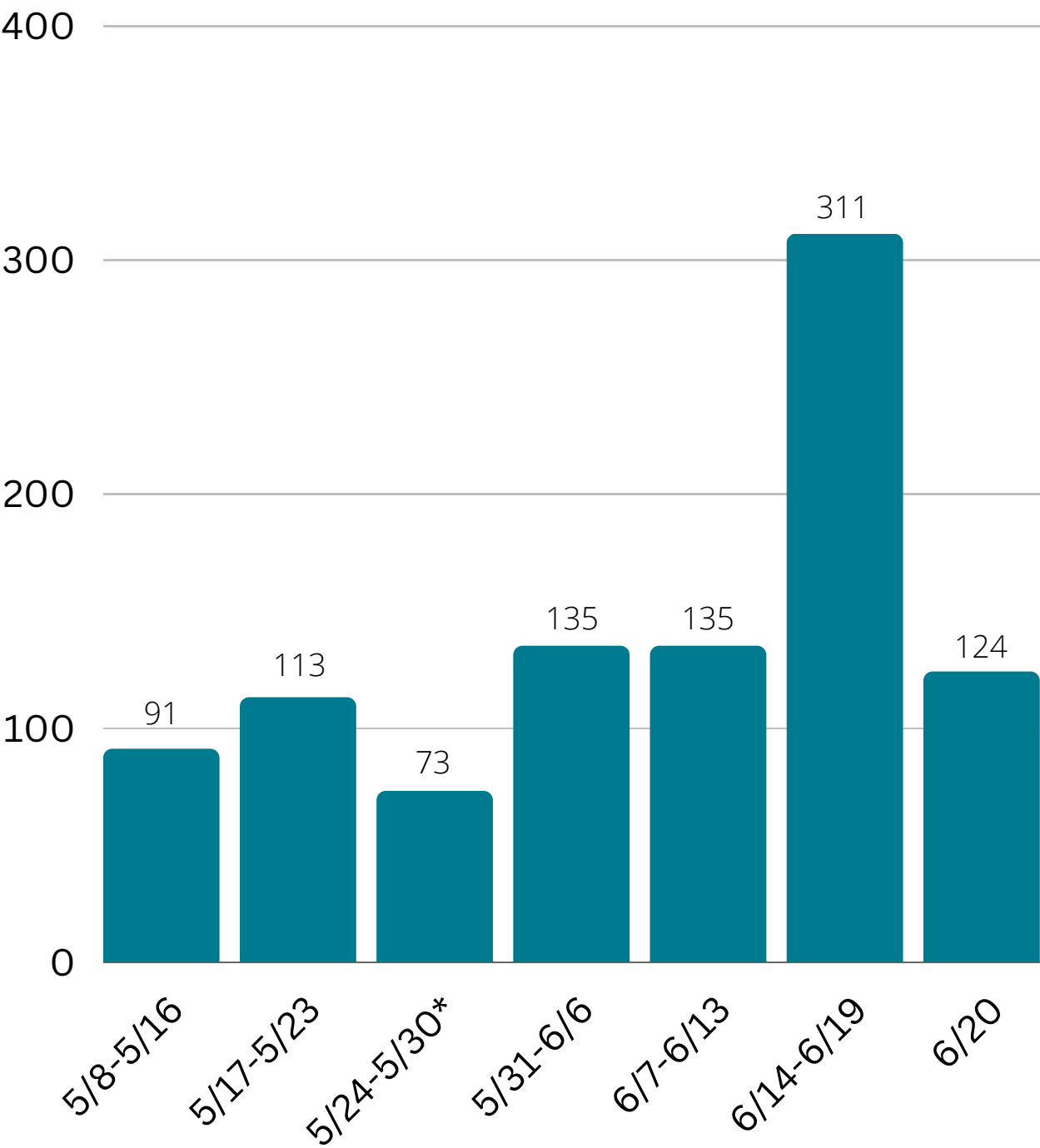


By Mail  
4,098

Ballots Received at 24-Hour Drop Boxes



Mail Ballots Received in Drop Boxes Per Week



\*Memorial Day Weekend

## Mail Ballots Exchanged for In-Person Ballots

A total of 332 voters who requested a mail ballot chose to vote in-person. Voters had several options to change from a mail ballot to an in-person ballot. Voters could exchange their mail ballot for an in-person ballot at Early Voting or their assigned precinct on Election Day, sign a statement authorizing our office to reissue a ballot during early voting, or cast a provisional ballot on Election Day.

Return Method	Number
Exchanged at Early Voting	72
Exchanged on Election Day	130
Reissued during Early Voting	53
Provisional	130
Total	385

## Issues or Rejections

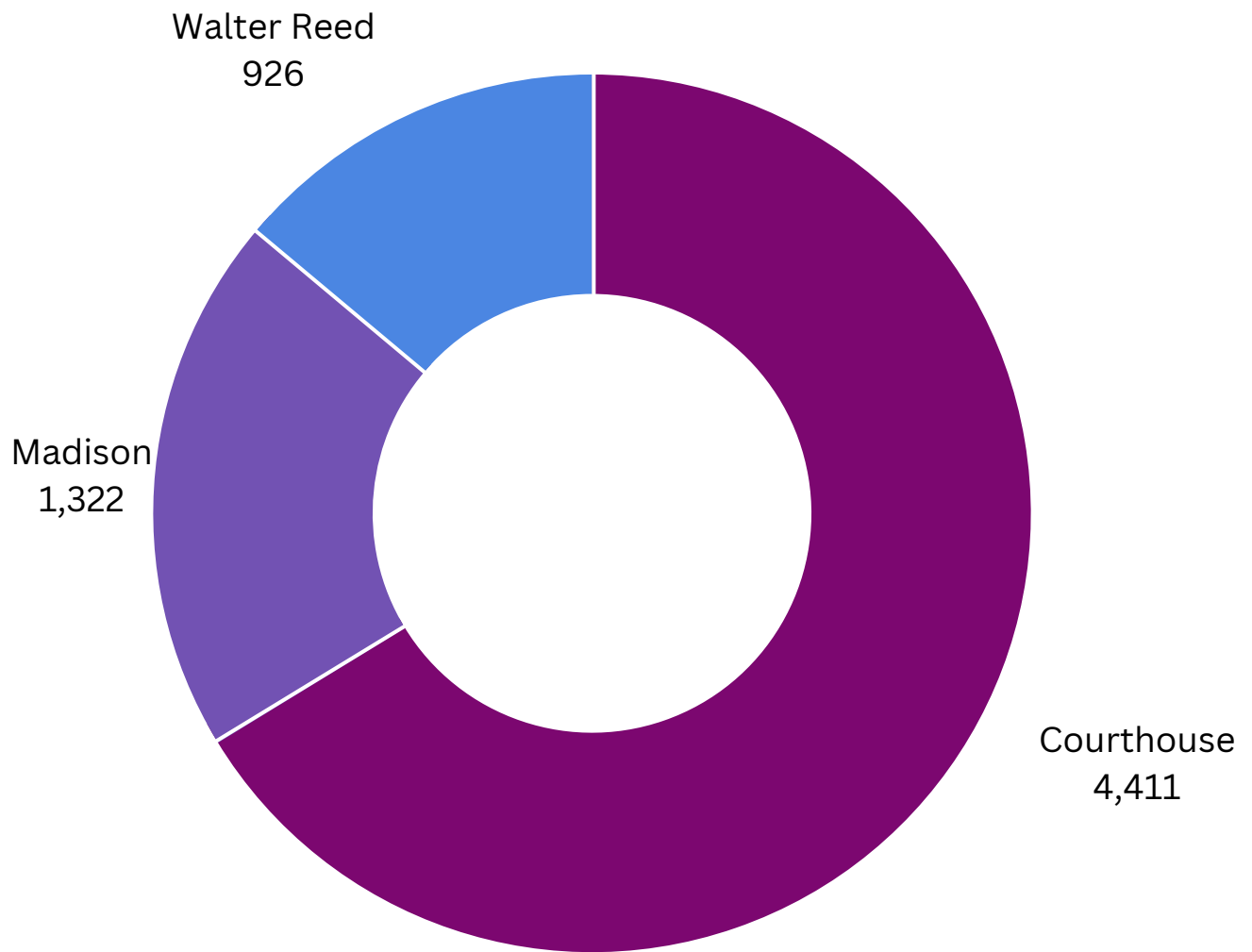
Mail ballots can be 'rejected' in two ways - by the scanner when being tallied or a material omission. A material omission occurs when something is missing on a ballot's return materials, such as the voter's signature.

Voters were permitted to "cure" or correct omissions on their mail ballots up until noon the Friday after the election. 26 of the voters that were contacted cured their ballot.

Ballots that are rejected by the scanner are hand counted by a team of election officers. If voter intent can be determined, these ballots are counted. 228 ballots were rejected by the scanner and transcribed into machine readable ballots.

Issue	Number	% of Mail Ballots
Rejected by scanner/Counted by hand	228	4.1%
Rejected for Omission	85	1.5%
Omissions Corrected	26	0.5%

# Early Voting



## Early Voting Site Turnout

3 Early Voting sites were open for this election. The main site at 2100 Clarendon Blvd was open Mon-Fri May 5 - June 17, with extended hours on June 10, 13, 15, and 17.

Two additional satellite Early Voting sites were opened at Madison and Walter Reed Community Centers on June 10, 13, 15, and 17. 1,322 voters at Madison and 926 at Walter Reed cast ballots during this time.

## Voter Wait Times

Most wait times were 0-5 minutes.

# Election Day

## Election Officers

286 Election Officers worked on Election Day. 100% of Election Officers attended in-person training.

## Election Officer Performance

Election Officer Feedback - A post-election survey of Election Officers revealed some additional findings:

- 100% of all Chief Election Officers rated their staff's skill level as "Excellent" or "Good."
- 80% of Chiefs said their precinct was sufficiently staffed with Election Officers.

## Voter Wait Times

No wait times were reported at any time on Election Day.

# Provisional Data

A provisional ballot is issued when a voter’s eligibility cannot be determined on Election Day.

Provisional Ballots	Number
Issued:	267
• Pollbook Error	2
• Mail Ballots	130
• No ID & Other	9
• Same Day Registration	126
Counted	259
Not Counted	8



# Same Day Registration (SDR)

Beginning with the 2022 General Election, voters who miss the registration deadline may now register or update their name and address in-person during Early Voting or at their polling place on Election Day. All new registrations received after the deadline vote a provisional ballot.

## Early Voting SDRs

Beginning May 31, Arlington residents could register and vote a provisional ballot at any Early Voting location.

34 Provisional Ballots were cast during Early Voting.

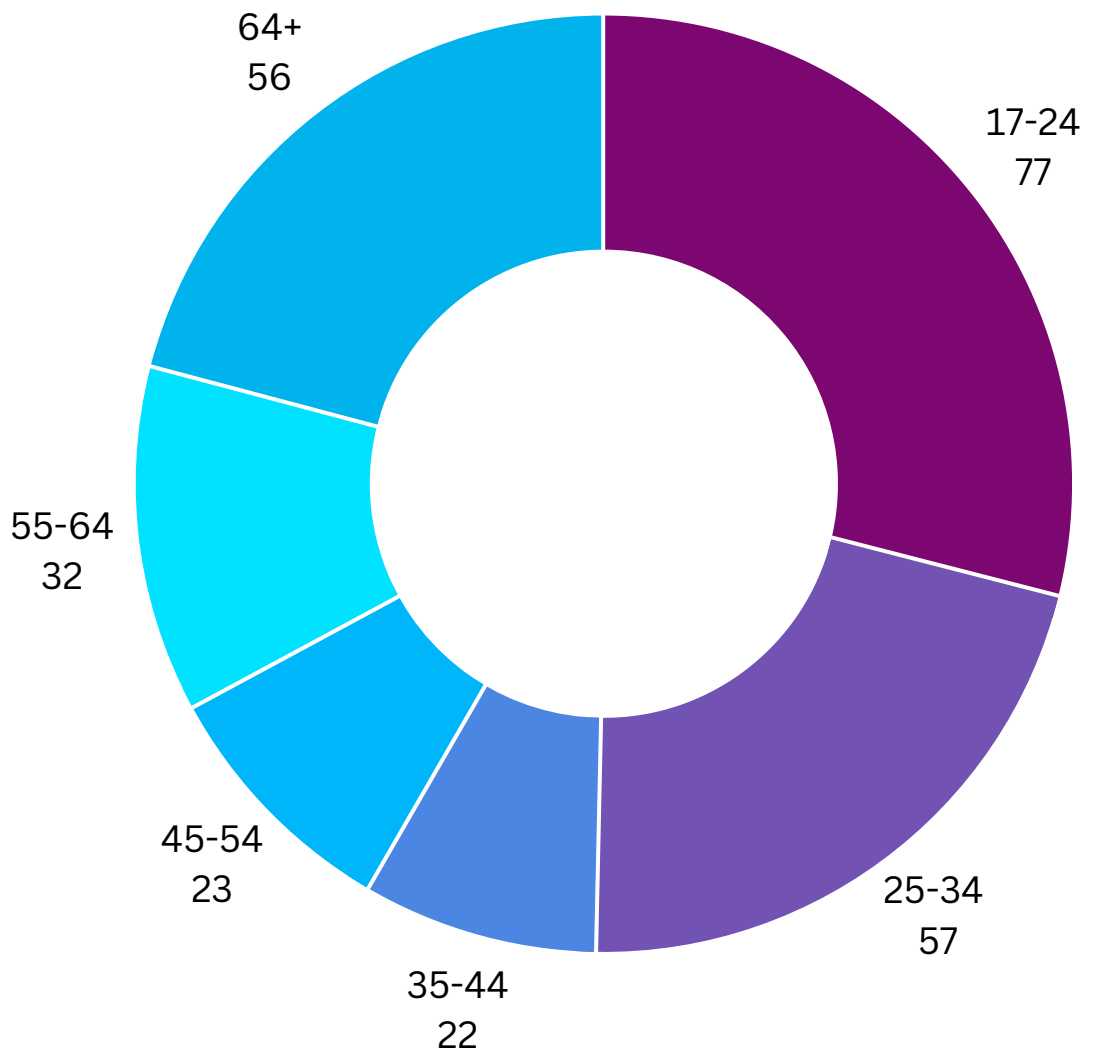
## Election Day SDRs

On Election Day, voters must register to vote at the polling place in the precinct in which they reside.

92 Same Day Registration Provisional Ballots were cast on Election Day.

## Age Ranges

Voters under 35 accounted for 50% of provisional votes cast.



# Ranked Choice Voting

Arlington implemented ranked choice voting for the first time in the June 20, 2023 Democratic Primary Election for the office of County Board (2 seats).

Ranked choice voting (RCV) is a voting method in which voters rank candidates in order of preference (1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice). Ranked choice voting allows a voter's vote to count towards another candidate if their 1st choice candidate receives the least amount of votes and is eliminated during tabulation.

Data showing how each individual ballot is marked is not available to the Office of Voter Registration and Elections, limiting the analysis we can run. Based on available data, between 85-92% of ballots cast contained a vote for either of the two winning candidates in the County Board race.

We are unable to determine what, if any, impact the three-candidate ranking limitation had on the race.

## RCV Outreach

Arlington's Office of Voter Registration and Elections had three full-time staff members that conducted 20 RCV outreach events with local organizations, civic associations, and political parties. In addition to the RCV outreach events, 16 Election Officer trainings were conducted, which also included RCV training.

Outreach materials such as tabulation toolkits, RCV explanation flyers, and handouts in multiple languages were posted on [vote.arlingtonva.gov](https://vote.arlingtonva.gov) as well as Virginia's Department of Elections website, [elections.virginia.gov](https://elections.virginia.gov).

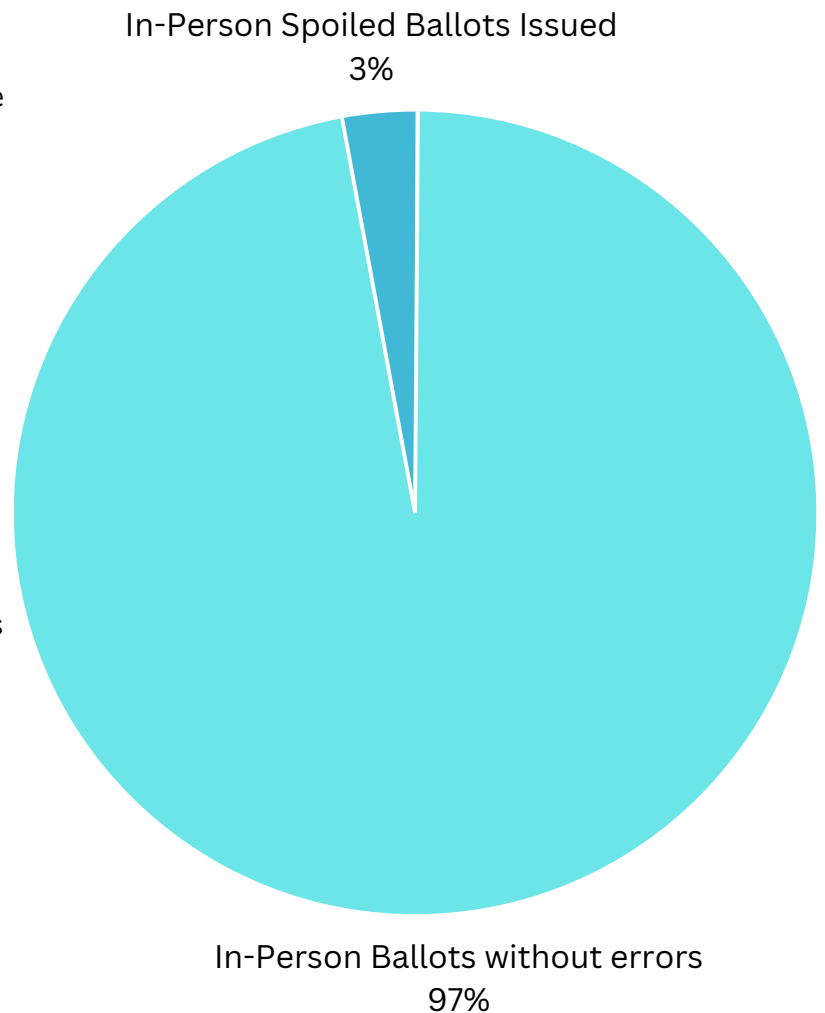


## **Spoiled Ballots**

A spoiled ballot is when a voter makes a mistake marking their ballot. All voters who make an error while voting at an Early Voting site or a polling place on Election Day have a chance to request a new ballot to mark correctly. 720 ballots were spoiled by voters between Early Voting and Election Day.

Some voters spoiled several ballots, so this rate should not be interpreted to mean 3% of voters experienced issues.

Election Officers observed voters spoiling ballots for several reasons. Some voters were confused. Some voters understood the instructions, but marked their ballot incorrectly anyway. Some voters made a mistake and requested a new ballot. We believe improved ballot design will help reduce errors.



## **Spoiled Mail Ballots**

228 mail ballots contained errors. Election Officers could determine voter intent and count the County Board race on 187 of these ballots.

We believe voters realized they made an error and marked their ballot in such a way the Election Officers could determine their intent.

## **Overvote**

44 voters made more than the allowable selection when voting.

## **Undervote**

721 voters did not make any selection in the County Board race.

## **RCV Feedback**

Election Officer Feedback - A post-election survey of election officers revealed:

- 94.5% of Election Officers rated the training they received on RCV as either "excellent" or "good"
- 92.2% of Election Officers said that "most voters were aware of RCV" when asked to rate their precinct's voters overall awareness of RCV
- 89.1% of Election Officers strongly agreed or agreed with the statement "Once voters were instructed on how to mark their ballot, they had little to no questions."

# Administration

## **Staffing**

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The office has 8 permanent employees. Between May 5 and June 23, these employees worked a combined total of 191.25 hours of compensatory and overtime.

A total of 45 temporary employees were hired from May 5 – June 23. They worked a total of 54.75 overtime hours during this time.

26 Election Officers and temporary and permanent employees, noted above, staffed and managed the early voting locations and Central Absentee Precinct.

286 Election Officers worked on Election Day.