

Notes about ballot return data provided:

Each of Washington's 39 counties uses one of 3 vendors for their Election Management System (EMS): DFM, DIMS, or Votec.

The 3 systems handle ballot return data slightly differently.

More than one record might be included for a single voter.

- A voter may have a record indicating that their ballot was received
- Then another record might be included indicating the ballot was accepted or challenged

DIMS only sends the latest status for each voter at the end of each day.

- There would be only one record for a ballot that was flagged as received and accepted in the same day.
 - Only the "Accepted" record would be sent.
- If a ballot was received on one day and accepted on another, there would be two records for the two different days.
- For DIMS, ballots are not flagged as "Rejected" until the election is finalized.

"Rejected" category really means "challenged".

- The problem that caused the ballot to be challenged could be resolved, and a record indicating the ballot was accepted would come in later.

"Returned" appears to be the DFM equivalent to "Accepted" in the other 2 systems.