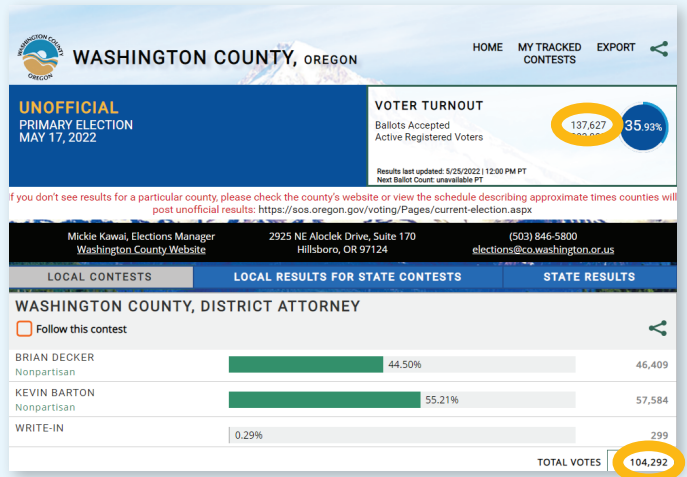# QUESTION ABOUT ELECTION RESULTS:

Why is the "BALLOTS ACCEPTED" number on the Secretary of State's elections results web page different than the TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES for countywide races?

Just after 8 p.m. on election night, Washington County begins posting election results to a webpage supported by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office. The Elections Office then has 27 days to process ballots before submitting certified results to the state. During that time, a frequently asked question is "Why is the total number of ballots accepted shown at the top of the Secretary of State's webpage different than the total number of ballots cast for a countywide contest?" The answer has to do with these key process steps the County must follow under Oregon's vote-by-mail system.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

HOME | MY TRACKED CONTESTS | EXPORT

UNOFFICIAL
PRIMARY ELECTION
MAY 17, 2022

VOTER TURNOUT
Ballots Accepted
Active Registered Voters
137,627 | 35.93%

Results last updated: 5/25/2022 | 12:00 PM PT
Next Ballot Count: unavailable PT

If you don't see results for a particular county, please check the county's website or view the schedule describing approximate times counties will post unofficial results: https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/current-election.aspx

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LOCAL CONTESTS | LOCAL RESULTS FOR STATE CONTESTS | STATE RESULTS

WASHINGTON COUNTY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
☐ Follow this contest

BRIAN DECKER Nonpartisan	44.50%	46,409
KEVIN BARTON Nonpartisan	55.21%	57,584
WRITE-IN	0.29%	299
	TOTAL VOTES	104,292

1. BALLOT ENVELOPES SCANNED AND SORTED

Bar code on ballot envelope is scanned. A total number is communicated to the Secretary of State's Office for publication on the state's webpage as "ballots accepted" **if**:

- Ballots are active for the current election.
- Ballots are from active, registered Washington County voters.
- Signatures on the envelopes match those in the registration file.

2. ENVELOPES PROCESSED

Factors affecting how many ballots get counted include:

- Signature challenges.
- Multiple ballots in envelope.
- No ballot in envelope.
- Ballot from another county in envelope.

3. BALLOTS TALLIED

Ballots are tallied by scanning. These results are uploaded to the Secretary of State's Office and rendered as part of their results web page. The number of ballots counted for countywide contests may be less than the total number of ballots accepted. In addition to the factors mentioned for processing ballots, this is because voters do not always vote on every contest on their ballots.