

Election Night Unofficial Results vs. Official Results

At the end of Election night the Board of Election releases the unofficial results. Unofficial results includes all regular ballots cast (both electronic & paper) on Election Day at the polling places and all absentee & early votes received in the office by 7:30 pm on Election Day.

The Board of Elections must wait 10 days (no more than 21 days) to count and release the Official Results. During this period the Board reviews provisional ballots to confirm the voter was registered in the State of Ohio more than 30 days before the Election and cast a ballot in the precinct in which they currently live.

For the Official Results the Board of Elections counts all the ballots from Election Day as well as: verified Provisional ballots; absentee ballots postmarked on or before the day before Election Day that had not been received by the close of polls, but were received no later than 10 days after Election Day; timely mailed UOCAVA ballots that had not been received as of the close of polls, but were received not later than 10 days after Election Day; and challenged ballots the board has determined are eligible. All of these ballots are totaled to arrive at the Official Results.

Tie Votes

In the event that a candidate race is tied at the completion of the Official Results, the chair of the board of elections, in the presence of a majority of the board members must break the tie by lot and declare a winner. The Wood County Board of Election has traditionally chosen to flip a coin as the method of breaking ties.

All tie votes are eligible for automatic recounts. In the event that races remains tied after the recount, the declared winner from the Official Results is awarded the office.

Automatic Recounts

Automatic recounts are only determined at the time of the Official Results. Races must be less than one half of one percent based on difference between the declared winning candidate and the declared losing candidate. All races eligible for automatic recounts will be announced and scheduled at the Official Results Certification meeting. All candidates involved in an automatic recount will be informed by mail.

*The 2017 General Election Official Results and Certification meeting
will be held November 21 at 8:30 am.*