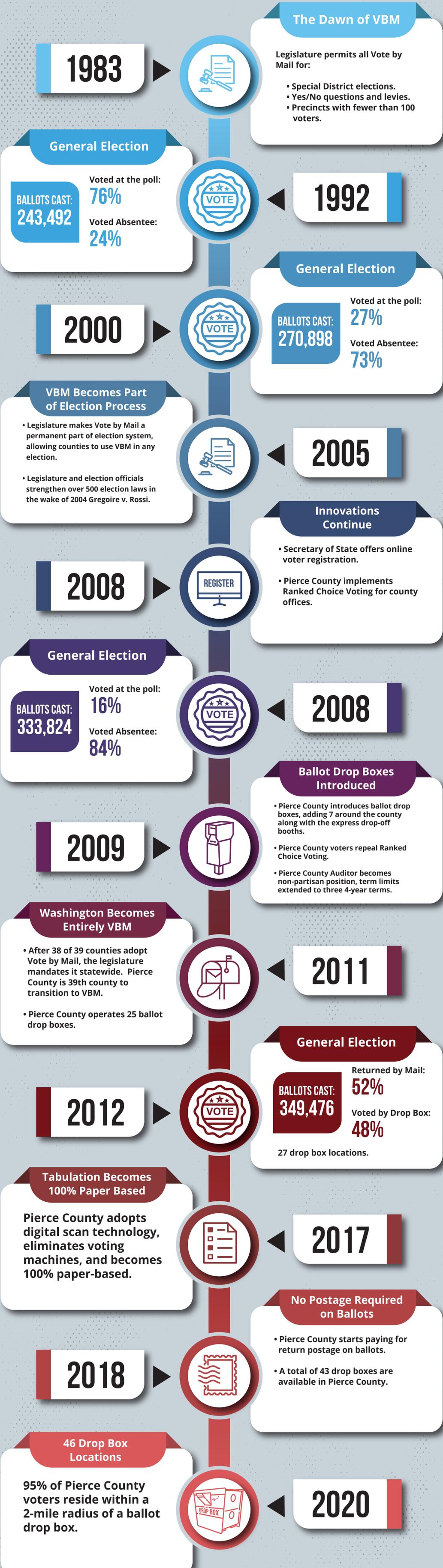


HISTORY OF PIERCE COUNTY ELECTIONS



1983



The Dawn of VBM

Legislature permits all Vote by Mail for:

- Special District elections.
- Yes/No questions and levies.
- Precincts with fewer than 100 voters.

General Election

BALLOTS CAST:
243,492

Voted at the poll: **76%**
Voted Absentee: **24%**



1992

General Election

BALLOTS CAST:
270,898

Voted at the poll: **27%**
Voted Absentee: **73%**

2000



VBM Becomes Part of Election Process

- Legislature makes Vote by Mail a permanent part of election system, allowing counties to use VBM in any election.
- Legislature and election officials strengthen over 500 election laws in the wake of 2004 Gregoire v. Rossi.



2005

Innovations Continue

- Secretary of State offers online voter registration.
- Pierce County implements Ranked Choice Voting for county offices.

2008



General Election

BALLOTS CAST:
333,824

Voted at the poll: **16%**
Voted Absentee: **84%**



2008

Ballot Drop Boxes Introduced

- Pierce County introduces ballot drop boxes, adding 7 around the county along with the express drop-off booths.
- Pierce County voters repeal Ranked Choice Voting.
- Pierce County Auditor becomes non-partisan position, term limits extended to three 4-year terms.

2009



Washington Becomes Entirely VBM

- After 38 of 39 counties adopt Vote by Mail, the legislature mandates it statewide. Pierce County is 39th county to transition to VBM.
- Pierce County operates 25 ballot drop boxes.



2011

General Election

BALLOTS CAST:
349,476

Returned by Mail: **52%**
Voted by Drop Box: **48%**

27 drop box locations.

2012



Tabulation Becomes 100% Paper Based

Pierce County adopts digital scan technology, eliminates voting machines, and becomes 100% paper-based.



2017

No Postage Required on Ballots

- Pierce County starts paying for return postage on ballots.
- A total of 43 drop boxes are available in Pierce County.

2018



46 Drop Box Locations

95% of Pierce County voters reside within a 2-mile radius of a ballot drop box.



2020