



# May 2023 Post-Election Audit Summary

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## Purpose

Election audits are conducted to ensure that election voting tabulators are operating accurately and complying with regulations or internal policies, and to promote voter confidence in the election administration process. ([United States Election Assistance Commission](#))

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## Process

### Timeline

According to Ohio Secretary of State [Directive 2022-15](#), if a recount is conducted, the post-election audit shall begin immediately after the board certifies the results of the recount. When the Board of Elections certified the results of the May 2, 2023 Special Election on May 23, 2023, it was determined that no recount was required. The post-election audit began on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, with the random selection of ballots to be audited. The counting then began on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, and the audit results were certified on Monday, June 5, 2023.

### Preparations for the Post-Election Audit

The official canvass of the election included 8,654 ballots. To meet the five percent requirement at least 433 ballots had to be included in the audit.

The Board selected, Edgewood City Schools (Issue 1), Ross Local Schools (Issue 2) and Middletown City (Issue 4). There were not any county-wide races on the ballot. During the board meeting on May 23, 2023, it was determined that the audit would be conducted by tabulator. This means the audit will be conducted by counting the votes on individual voting machines. There are five methods a voter in Butler County can cast their ballot,

- in-person at the polls on an electronic voting machine
- in-person at the polls on a paper ballot
- in-person early at the Board of Elections
- by mail
- casting a provisional ballot



Ballots from all five voting methods were included in the audit selection to ensure the election results are correct on different types of tabulators.

The Members of the Board alternated turns randomly pulling tickets from a bin to select tabulators to include in the audit. As each ticket was pulled, the ticket number was entered into a spreadsheet to calculate the total ballots selected. When the 19<sup>th</sup> ticket was pulled, 455 ballots had been selected which accounted for 5.26% of the total votes cast in the election.

May 2, 2023 Special Election Audit		8,654	Total Ballots Cast		
Batch Selection		433	5% of Ballots Cast		
Progress Indication		Batches Selected	Ballots Selected	Percent of Total Ballots	
Enough batches have been selected		19	455	5.26%	
Draw Number	Tabulator Name	Tabulator	Batch	Ballots Cast	Percent of all votes
1186	P@P ICC 1	308	1	8	0.09%
1016	ABS ICC 1	300	17	3	0.03%
1188	PROV ICC 1	304	2	5	0.06%
1020	ABSENTEE 10	299	1	1	0.01%
1082	EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 35	102	1	10	0.12%
1104	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-ICX 1	118	1	128	1.48%
1107	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-ICX 4	121	1	32	0.37%
1187	PROV ICC 1	304	1	27	0.31%
1084	EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 37	104	1	41	0.47%
1246	WILDWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 10	284	1	5	0.06%
1243	WAYNE TWP FIRE DEPT-ICX 8	270	1	87	1.01%
1140	MIAMI UNIVERSITY MIDD - VERITY LODGE-ICX 2	165	1	14	0.16%
1015	ABS ICC 1	300	16	3	0.03%
1190	ROBERT SONNY HILL JR-ICX 1	217	1	2	0.02%
1253	WILDWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 5	279	1	3	0.03%
1010	ABS ICC 1	300	11	7	0.08%
1005	ABS ICC 1	300	6	2	0.02%
1003	ABS ICC 1	300	4	49	0.57%
1002	ABS ICC 1	300	3	28	0.32%



After the audit criteria was selected, election officials began to collect all of the paper ballots from the selected tabulators to be hand counted.

### Conducting the Hand Count

Teams of election officials composed of a member of each of the major political parties counted the votes of the selected tabulators. Teams slowly review either the paper ballots or the Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) and marked each vote on a tally sheet. When the count was complete for each tabulator, the ballots were returned to the appropriate storage area and the tally sheet was given to a separate team for entry into an audit spreadsheet to compare the results of the official canvass to the hand count.

## Results

The results of both the official canvass and the audit (hand count) are listed in the tables below.

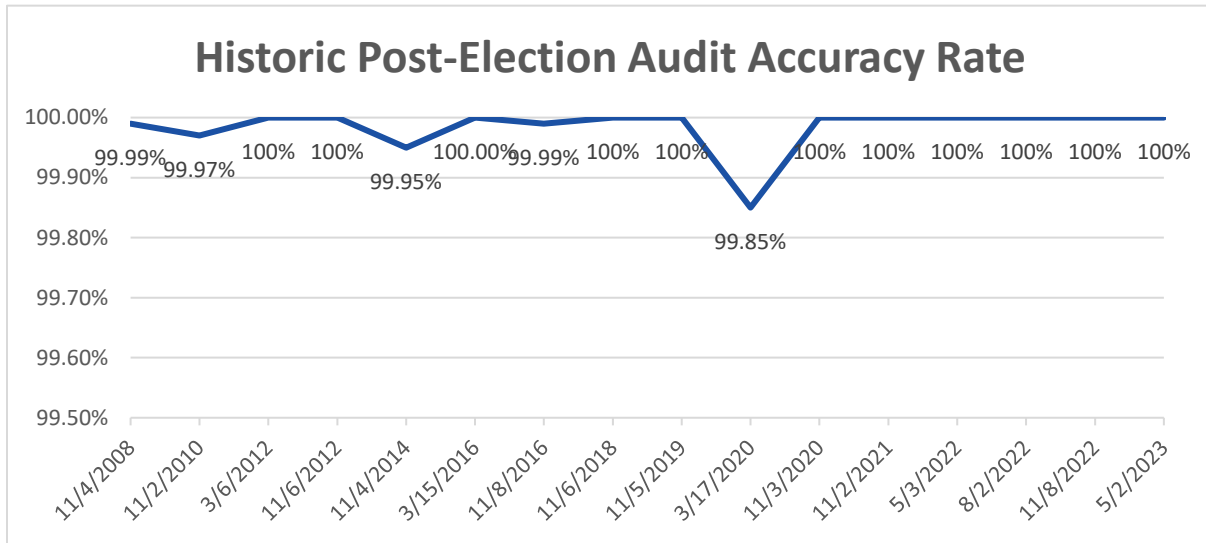
<b>Edgewood City Schools Tax Levy Issue 1</b>				
Candidate Name	Official Certification Vote Total	Audit (Hand Count) Vote Total	Difference	Explanation of difference
For the Tax	64	64	0	
Against the Tax	96	96	0	
Total Votes	160	160	0	

<b>Ross Local School Tax Levy Issue 3</b>				
Candidate Name	Official Certification Vote Total	Audit (Hand Count) Vote Total	Difference	Explanation of difference
For the Tax	102	102	0	
Against the Tax	158	158	0	
Total Votes	260	260	0	

<b>Middletown City Issue 4</b>				
Response	Official Certification Vote Total	Audit (Hand Count) Vote Total	Difference	Explanation of difference
Yes	21	21	0	
No	27	27	0	
Total Votes	48	48	0	

## Historical Results

Below is a graph providing the accuracy rate of each post-election audit conducted in Butler County beginning with the November 4, 2008 Presidential General Election.



## Conclusion

Election Officials completed the post-election audit of the May 2nd Special Election and found no discrepancies in the data from the official canvass to the hand count. The results of the audit show the accuracy rate to be 100%.