



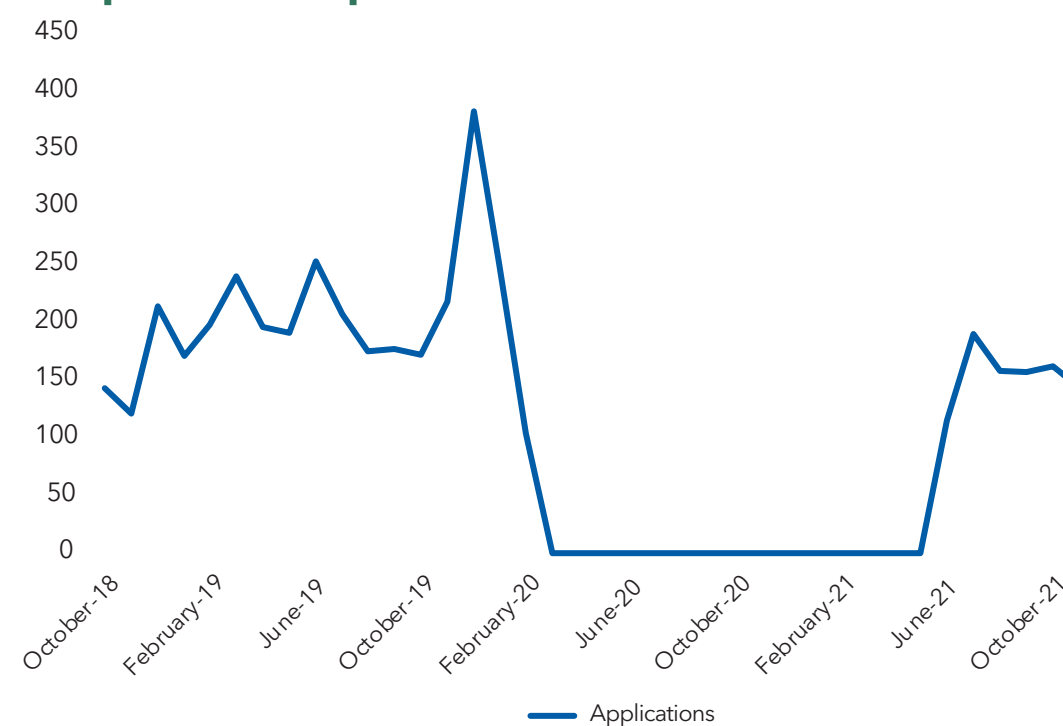
Passport Services

The Thurston County Auditor's Office is the only passport application acceptance facility in the county open full time. Passport services are available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In addition to taking applications for new passports, our staff can also take photos. The State Department has strict requirements about photos that can be submitted for renewals or new applications. Our staff can make sure your photos meet those requirements.

After May 2023, passengers on domestic flights will be required to have a passport or enhanced driver license.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we temporarily suspended Passport Services



Auditor's Office

The Thurston County Auditor's Office is entrusted by citizens, mandated by law, and driven by integrity to provide critical services to Thurston County residents.

These services are:

- Elections
- Financial Services
- Licensing
- Recording
- Passports

Drive-Thru Voter Services

When Thurston County closed its doors to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Auditor's Office needed a new plan to conduct the Presidential Election. Ensuring access to voter services during a public health emergency took creative thinking, planning, and coordination.

The Auditor's Office worked with community partners to set up a drive-thru voting center at South Puget Sound Community College for the high turnout 2020 Presidential election. Thurston County Elections offered the following services on the South Puget Sound Community College campus:

- Voter registration
- Voter registration updates
- Replacement ballots
- Accessible voting services

The Auditor's Office continued drive-thru services at another location in 2021.

Contact Us

Mary Hall, Thurston County Auditor, TCAuditor@co.thurston.wa.us

Elections (Voter Services)

2400 Evergreen Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98502
360.786.5408
elections@co.thurston.wa.us

Elections (Ballot Processing Center)

2905 29th Ave. SW, Suite E
Tumwater, WA 98512
360.786.5408

Financial Services

929 Lakeridge Dr. SW, Room 226
Olympia, WA 98502
360.786.5402

Licensing

2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW
Bldg. 1, Room 106
Olympia, WA 98502
360.786.5406
licensing@co.thurston.wa.us

Recording

2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW
Bldg. 1, Room 106
Olympia, WA 98502
360.786.5405
recording@co.thurston.wa.us

Passports

2000 Lakeridge Dr. SW
Bldg. 1, Room 106
Olympia, WA 98502
360.786.5406

Visit our website: www.thurstonauditor.org



Thurston County Auditor's Office Community Report



The Auditor's Office serves Thurston County by ensuring free, fair, safe, and secure elections, extraordinary recording, licensing, and passport services, financial integrity, accountability, and transparency.

Welcome to the Thurston County Auditor's Office Community Report!

Auditor's staff work every day to ensure free, fair, safe, and secure elections, extraordinary recording, licensing, and passport services, financial integrity, accountability, and transparency.

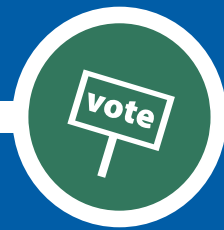
This report is an update on what we are doing and what we've accomplished over the last two years. In the wake of a historic pandemic, we were able to provide services to our community and keep staff working without a pause. The only service we temporarily suspended during the pandemic was passport services. We also:

- Secured stable election funding from the state;
- Successfully protected voters and staff from COVID-19 by standing up a drive-thru voting center during the 2020 Presidential Election year;
- Expanded eRecording to offer convenient online services during a pandemic and conserve public funds;
- Conducted outreach to homeowners impacted by racially restrictive covenants;
- Successfully piloted a countywide expansion of multi-factor authentication that protected cyber resources;
- Guided the massive flow of federal and other COVID-19 funds through county government;
- Continued providing excellent financial oversight by winning our 14th straight Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report; and
- Ensured Thurston County's 6th straight clean audit from the State Auditor's Office.

I hope you enjoy this report and that it helps you better understand how your local government serves you.



Mary Hall
Thurston County Auditor



Elections

The elections team accurately runs local, state and federal elections. We manage every part of the election process, from candidate filing to ballot design, processing, and security. We ensure that elections are free, fair, safe and secure.

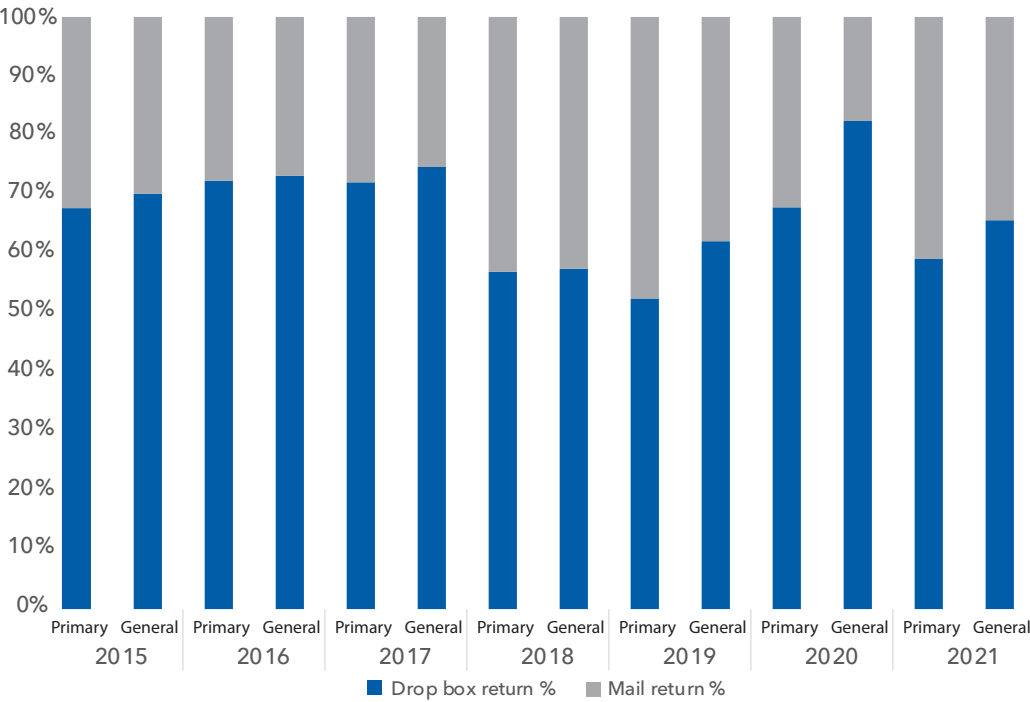
Our services include:

- Ballot processing
- Voter registration
- Voter information
- Candidate filing

We conduct fair and transparent elections with the highest integrity and accuracy. Our dedicated and reliable staff registers voters, makes sure you receive your ballot and counts your vote. We give you accurate and timely election results and information about voting.

Ballots Returned by Drop Box vs. Returned by Mail

Drop boxes remain the most direct way to return your ballot, especially closer to election day. Thurston County has 29 drop boxes, one of the highest per capita in the state. Ballot postage became prepaid in 2018.



Recording

The recording team assists Thurston County residents with document recording services. Our document recording services include:

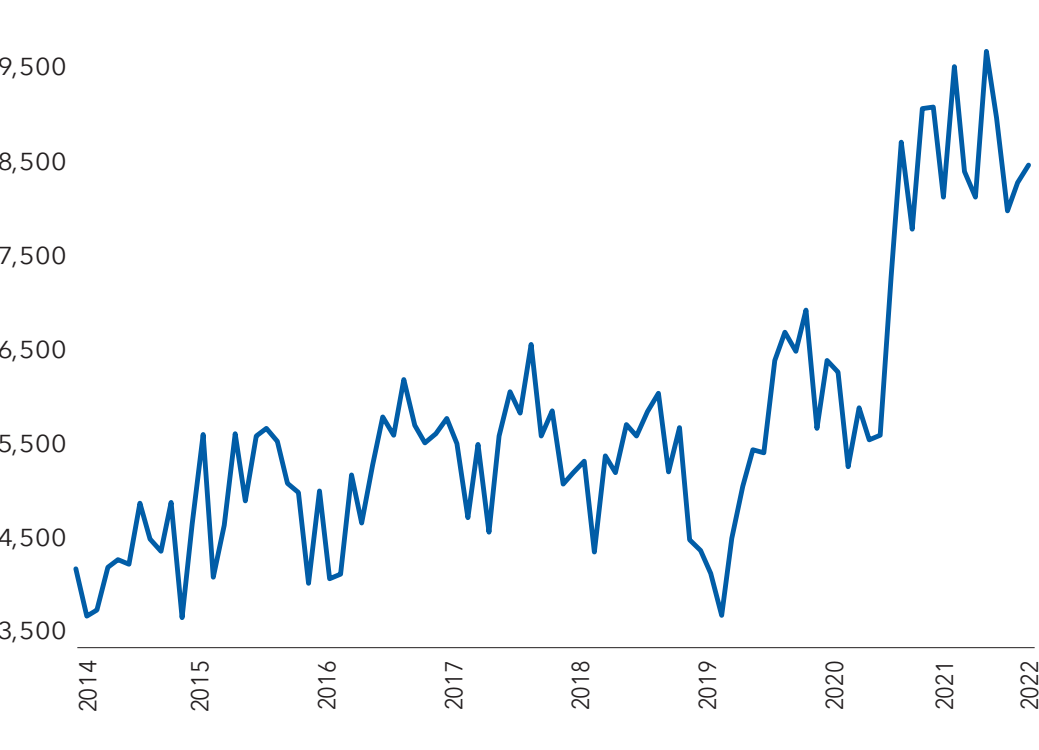
- Customer service for document recording
- Access to maps, land records and other recorded documents
- Maintaining important public records
- Online index for convenient 24/7 public access

Our recording services provide Thurston County residents with access to important personal and community documents. We help you record or research property records, mortgages, easements, and deeds of trust, among others. We also record certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty for veterans.

Our knowledgeable and friendly staff will provide you accurate and timely information to meet all your recording needs.

Record recording numbers reflect hot housing market

Our recording office is busier than ever! A record-breaking housing market means that even more documents are recorded every month.



Licensing

Our professional licensing team assists Thurston County residents with vehicle, boat, marriage, and other licenses. Our knowledgeable and friendly staff will provide you accurate and timely information to meet all your licensing needs.

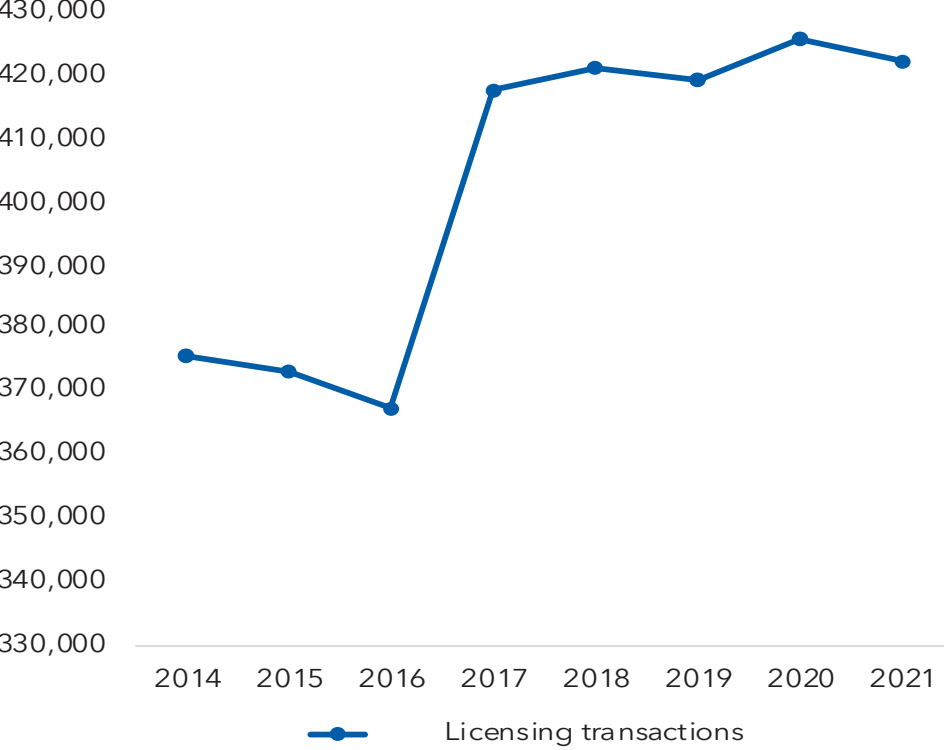
Our licensing services include:

- Vehicle licenses
- Boat licenses
- Marriage licenses
- Some business licenses (unincorporated Thurston County only)
- Pet licenses (unincorporated Thurston County only)

We also oversee eight businesses in Thurston County that provide vehicle and vessel licensing services as subagents. We have increased our monitoring and annual auditing of subagents to ensure compliance and that they continue to provide excellent service to the public.

Licensing Transactions by Year

Vehicle and vessel licensing transactions by the Auditor's Office and our eight subagents continue to hold steady.



Financial Services

We provide financial services and accounting guidance to county offices and departments.

Our services include:

- Accounting
- Financial reporting
- Internal audit
- Payroll
- Grants management
- Budget monitoring

We ensure county government has a strong financial foundation. We process payroll and vendor payments. We compile county financial information for the public, state, and federal agencies. We are a resource for offices and departments in the county. We employ compliance experts for state and federal grants.

In 2021, for the 6th straight year, Thurston County received a clean audit from the State Auditor's Office. A clean audit reflects a strong financial culture and rigorous controls. The Government Financial Officers Association awarded Financial Services with its 14th consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Purchase Card Savings

We encourage offices across the county to change their purchasing practices to take advantage of rebates from vendors, saving taxpayer dollars.

