

FINAL COUNT

Most ballots in a provincial election are counted on election night. This count is called initial count.

Some ballots are counted a few days later. This count is called final count.

Ballots counted at final count require additional integrity checks before being counted. These integrity checks ensure that only eligible voters vote, and that they only vote once.

Final count starts on a date specified by the Chief Electoral Officer. It must not start before the 4th day after Final Voting Day.

Ballots counted at final count are placed in certification envelopes during voting. Certification envelopes include information about the voter who cast the ballot, which helps election officials ensure the voter was eligible and only voted once.

To prepare for final count, election officials at district electoral offices and headquarters assess certification envelopes to ensure they are completed in accordance with legislation. Ballots are then separated from certification envelopes before being counted in a way that preserves the secrecy of the vote.

The final results of an election are determined at final count based on the votes accepted at initial count and final count. At the end of final count, a candidate is officially declared elected.

For more information about final count, see the [Guide for Campaigns](#).