

Polls for days

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Tue 10/16/2018 11:13 AM

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Crosscut. Elections

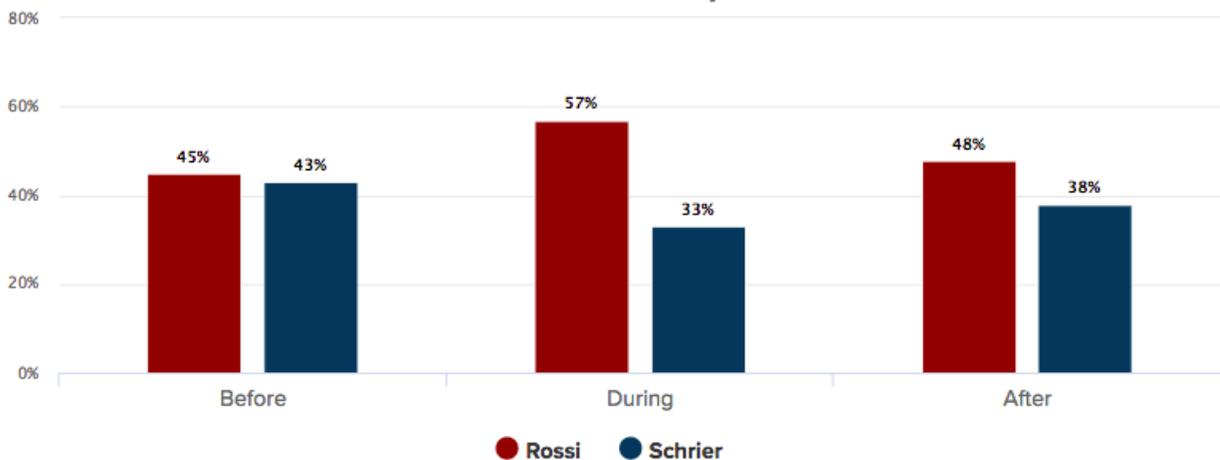
In this edition: The results from the Crosscut/Elway Poll, a review of what's been covered in past newsletters and a look at who's been giving money to campaigns ahead of November's big day.

Crosscut partnered with pollster Stuart Elway to survey Washingtonians in advance of November's midterm elections. We've been releasing the results throughout the past few days, but we decided to do you a favor and sum up the findings. [Here are the full results](#), if you're into that. If not, keep reading. Then forward this email to your friends.

The 8th District race took a shocking turn. The race for Washington's 8th Congressional District was seen by most pundits as a toss-up. So when the Crosscut/Elway poll found Republican Dino Rossi leading Democrat Kim Schrier by 10 points, it was a shock. And it was women who were breaking in large part for Rossi, going against the narrative that suburban women would propel the "blue wave." Still unclear is whether the data show a fundamental shift in the race. The polling was done over the weekend Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed to the Supreme Court. Did we capture a blip in enthusiasm from Republicans or a real turning point? We'll know on Nov. 6. [Read David Kroman's full article.](#)

8th district polling results in relation to the Kavanaugh confirmation

Source: Crosscut/Elway Poll

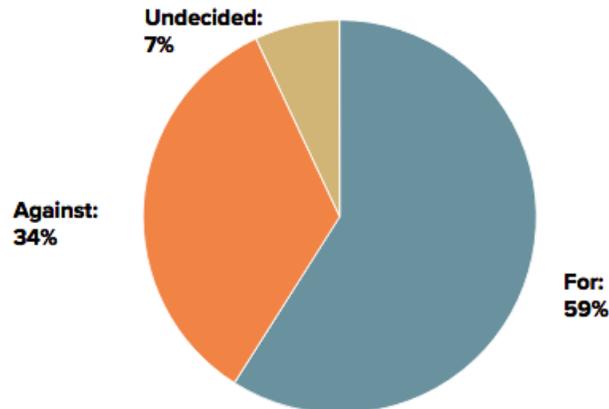


People seem to be fed up with legislative inaction on guns. As gun-regulation efforts have stalled at every level

of government, change in Washington has largely come from grassroots initiatives. For the third election in a row, voters will decide whether to expand gun-related regulations. Initiative 1639 would do a few things, including raising the minimum age for gun purchases and increasing background checks for those who want to buy a semi-automatic rifle. It would also punish gun owners — with a felony, in some cases — if their weapon gets into the hands of someone who shouldn't have one. Turns out, Washington voters for the most part agree: As of a week ago, it was leading by 25 points. [Read David Kroman's full article.](#)

I-1639 polling results

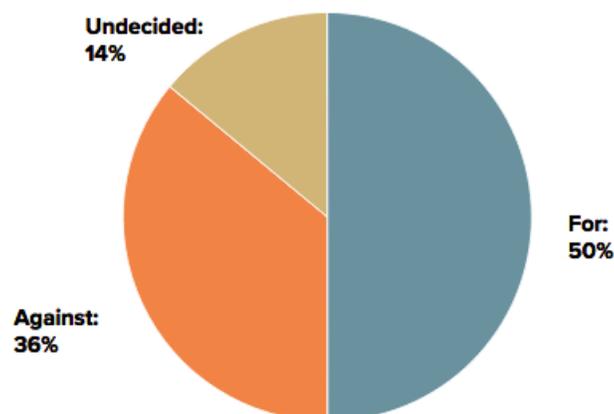
Source: Crosscut/Elway Poll



More Washingtonians support a carbon fee than in 2016. The idea of charging carbon emitters has long been batted around in Washington and with the emergence of a carbon fee — Initiative 1631 — proponents think they might just make that a reality. The initiative would charge large emitters of carbon in Washington and transfer that money to the communities and places most impacted by air pollution. The Crosscut/Elway poll shows no certainty of its passage, but it indicates more statewide approval for the fee than before: a 2016 carbon tax only got 41 percent approval, while the currently-in-question carbon fee has 50 percent. Despite \$20 million in funding from the initiative's opposition, could this be what finally cuts carbon in Washington? According to Stuart Elway, "It's on the cusp." [Read Manola Secaira's full article.](#)

Carbon fee polling results

Source: Crosscut/Elway Poll



Most people aren't worried about their food or soda being taxed. Initiative 1634's grocery tax ban is a response to Seattle's soda tax. Backed by more than \$13 million in campaign contributions — nearly all of it from the soda industry — proponents of I-1634 say it's about stopping the spread of regressive taxes that will raise grocery prices for Washington families. The initiative would ban cities and towns from passing new taxes on food and drink sales or raising existing ones. Despite the big-money backing, the poll found only 31 percent of voters support it, versus 51 percent opposed and 18 percent undecided. Opponents — many of them from the public

health world — see it as a cynical attempt by the soda industry to take away local taxing authority in order to protect their bottom line. The 'No' campaign points out, after all, that nobody in Washington currently taxes food in groceries, and it's unlikely any politician would start given how wildly unpopular it would be. [Read Josh Cohen's full article.](#)

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Miss one of our newsletters?



Have no fear! Here is a round up of what we've written about so far:

What inspired 40 percent of Washington state voters to turnout in the primary election? A look at how prepaid postage and the so-called blue wave had an effect. [Read it](#)

An analysis from Ben Anderstone on 5 things everyone should be watching in the tight 8th District race between Kim Schrier and Dino Rossi. [Read it](#)

What does climate oracle Bill McKibben suggest you read? He just finished "New York 2140" by Kim Stanley Robinson. [Read more about his views on this year's carbon fee.](#)

Maia Espinoza is 29, Latina and running for Washington state representative in the 28th Legislative District — as a Republican. And she is critical of the Washington GOP's efforts to include diverse perspectives. [Read it](#)

Show me the money

Who is giving to which initiatives?

Yes on I-1631, Carbon Fee: Bill and Melinda Gates (\$500,000 each), Bill McKibben (\$500,000), Nick Hanauer (\$250,000), Tableau co-founder Chris Stolte (\$375,000), Tom Steyer (\$100,000), Zillow co-founder Richard Barton (\$25,000), former GOP gubernatorial candidate Bill Bryant (\$1,000). [Search all contributions](#)

No on I-1631, Carbon Fee: BP America (\$6,396,031), Chevron USA (\$500,000), Koch Industries (\$300,000), WA State Tree Fruit Association (\$15,000), WA Association of Wheat Growers (\$1,000). [Search all contributions](#)

Yes on I-1639, Gun Initiative: Paul Allen (\$1,226,036 in cash), Nick Hanauer (\$613,018), Costco CEO James Sinegal (\$25,000), Seattle publication *The Stranger* (\$6,336 in kind), King County Sheriff Mitzi Johanknecht (\$500). [Search all contributions](#)

No on I-1639, Gun Initiative: NRA (\$150,000), Dan Solie, co-owner of gun enthusiast community WAguns.org (\$12,000), Wayne Perry, former national president of the Boy Scouts of America (\$1,000). [Search all contributions](#)



Election 2018 must reads

With Legislature's control at stake, political parties, PACs funding 42nd District races ([Bellingham Herald](#))

Lisa Brown: From legislator to educator to major contender for Congress ([Spokesman Review](#))

Fueling a movement, Don Steinke gathers 2,444 signatures for I-1631 ([The Columbian](#))

Legislative landscape to be decided by Washington voters ([Associated Press](#))

Art and the 5th: Brown and McMorris Rodgers discuss arts and humanities ([Spokesman Review](#))

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