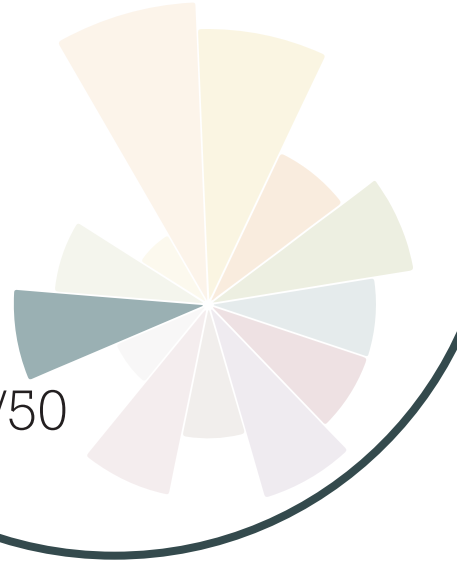


Voter Registration and Voter Turnout



OHIO'S
U.S. RANKING²

28/50



Voter registration and turnout is a proxy measure for community support and cohesion, which is a protective factor for intimate partner violence and other forms of violence. The theory is that in communities where voter registration and participation is high community members will be more connected to one another and provide one another with support.

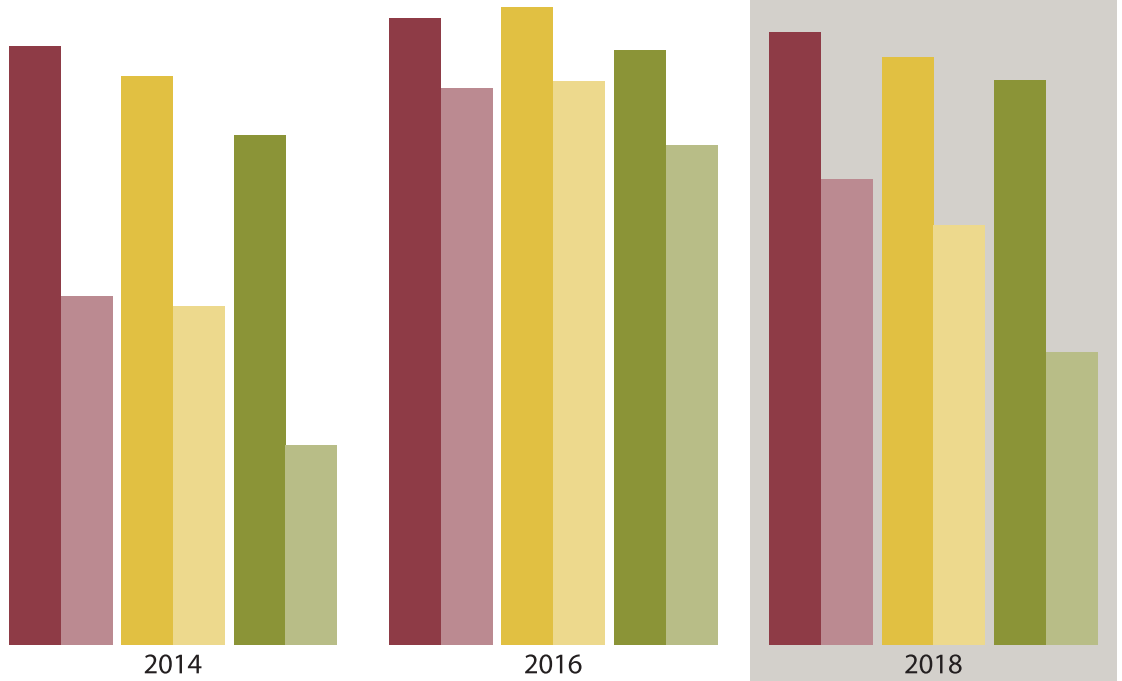
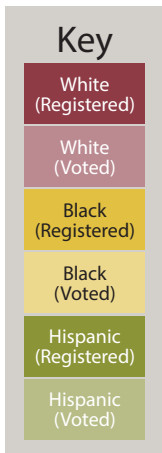
Ohio's voting eligible population that voted during the 2018 midterm election:

55.72%

Race	Registered	Voted
White	70.8%	53.9%
Black	68%	48.6%
Hispanic	65.4%	32.6%

Percentages of Ohio's Voters

Percentages of voters who were eligible to vote who registered and who voted, by race

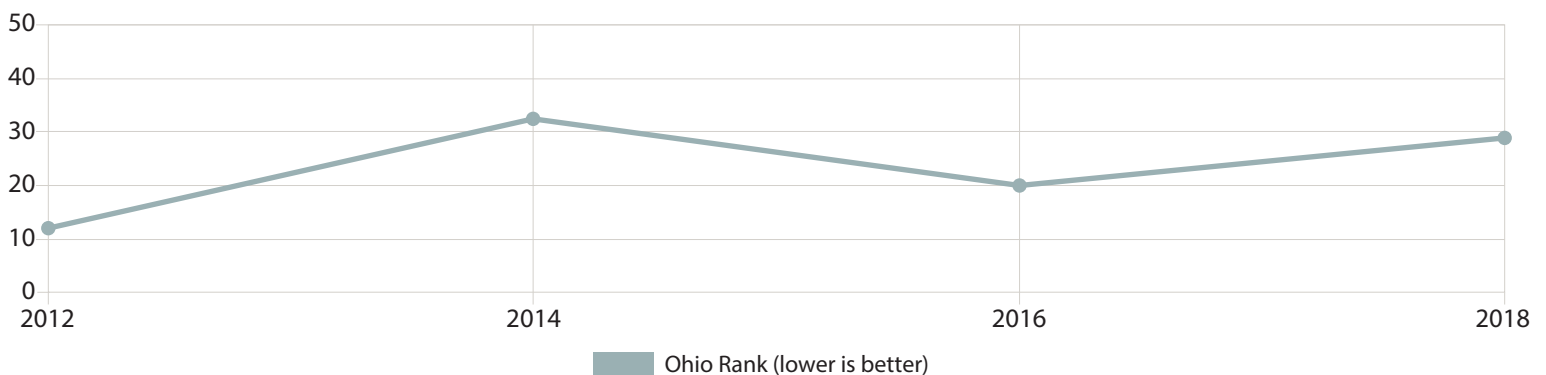


These data indicate that voter participation or turnout is lower during mid-term elections.

Barriers to Voter Registration and Turnout

- Based on the data presented it appears that there are more barriers to voting in Ohio than there are to registering to vote.
- The Ohio legislature continues to pass legislation that requires voters to provide documentation other than their signature to establish their identity when voting. For some eligible voters, especially those who are elderly, poor, homeless, or never held a driver's license, this policy immediately disfranchised them.
- Since the US Supreme Court repealed parts of the Voting Rights Act, polling places across the country have closed including in densely populated urban areas.

Ohio's Ranking of Voter Registration and Turnout



Remedies to Increase Voter Participation

- Increase public awareness and education about the importance of voting in all elections including local elections and mid-term elections.
- Increase public awareness and education about how to register to vote, the importance of keeping voter registration active and updated, and what items can be used for identification when voting.
- Allow voter registration and voting to occur online.
- Allow Boards of Elections discretion to set up mail-in ballot collection at multiple secure sites in each of Ohio's 88 counties.
- The Ohio legislature could pass a bill to require the Secretary of State to mail every registered voter a ballot.
- Employers could make Election Day a paid holiday or a floating holiday to encourage voter participation. Even better, the US Congress could pass legislation to include Election Day as a national holiday.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many polling places were moved out of schools and long-term care facilities to protect against spreading the virus. Many Ohio counties centralized voting with multiple precincts at large venues like county fairgrounds. Ohio Boards of Elections should consider continuing this trend to protect populations and increase access to these locations by providing free or low cost transportation options.

