

# WHO VOTES FOR MAYOR?

## Akron



**Voter turnout is shockingly low in elections for mayor and other local officials across the United States. For the most recent round of mayoral elections in America's 30 largest cities, turnout of eligible citizens in 15 of them was less than 20%.**

Though turnout in Akron, Ohio's November 3, 2015 mayoral election was higher than in many cities, less than one-third of the city's eligible citizens cast a ballot. Akron neighborhoods where voter turnout exceeded the city average had a higher share of residents 65 years and older; a higher share of racial/ethnic minorities; and a higher percentage of owner-occupied homes.

### VOTER TURNOUT

# 28%

In Akron, just 28% of eligible citizens cast a ballot in the most recent mayoral election.

### AKRON RESIDENTS LIVING IN VOTING DESERTS

# 7.9%

In Akron, 7.9% of residents lived in "voting deserts," areas where turnout was half (or less) than the citywide average.

### AGE GAP

# 11 yrs.

The median age of those who voted in Akron was 56 while the median age of Akron's adult population was 45. This gives Akron an "age gap" of 11 years.

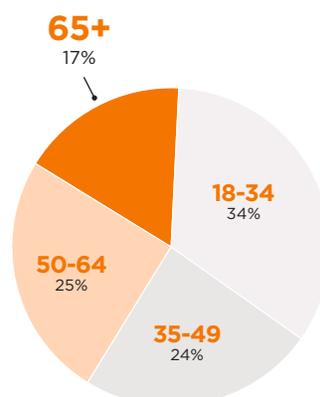
### OLDER VOTERS HAVE MORE ELECTORAL CLOUT

# 6x

A registered voter over the age of 65 in Akron is six times more likely to cast a ballot than a younger registered voter between the ages of 18 and 34, giving older voters much more "electoral clout."

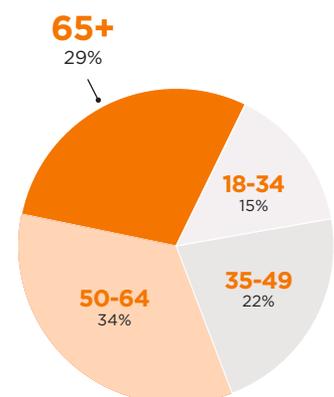
### PERCENTAGE OF VOTING AGE RESIDENTS BY AGE

People who can vote



### PERCENTAGE OF VOTERS IN LAST ELECTION BY AGE

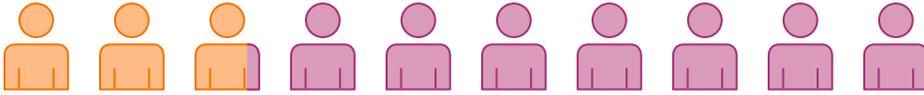
People who do vote





# Who's voting in local elections in Akron?

Only **28%** of eligible citizens voted in the last election



MEDIAN AGE OF VOTERS IN LAST ELECTION VS. ADULT POPULATION: AKRON

Voters

Adult Population

**56** yrs.

**45** yrs.

MEDIAN AGE OF VOTERS IN LAST ELECTION VS. ADULT POPULATION: 30 LARGEST U.S. CITIES

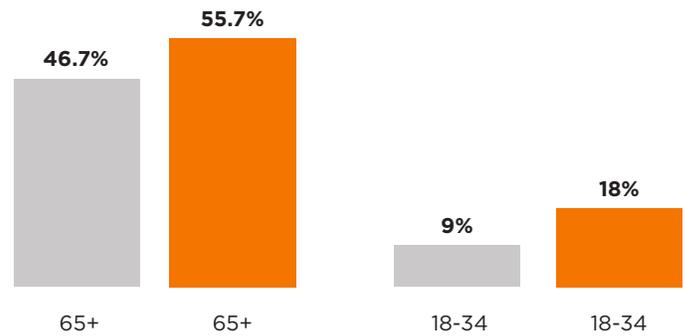
Voters

Adult Population

**57** yrs.

**42** yrs.

TURNOUT OF REGISTERED VOTERS BY AGE GROUP



30 Largest U.S. Cities  
Akron

NOTE: Caution should be used in making city-to-city comparisons of registered voter turnout since cities vary widely in how frequently they update voter registration rolls.

**Explore the data:** Visit [whovotesformayor.org](http://whovotesformayor.org) for an in-depth look at who's voting in local elections in Akron and other cities around the country, including maps comparing voter turnout with factors like age, race, and education.