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# OHIO VOTER ASSESSMENT

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Prepared for AARP Ohio

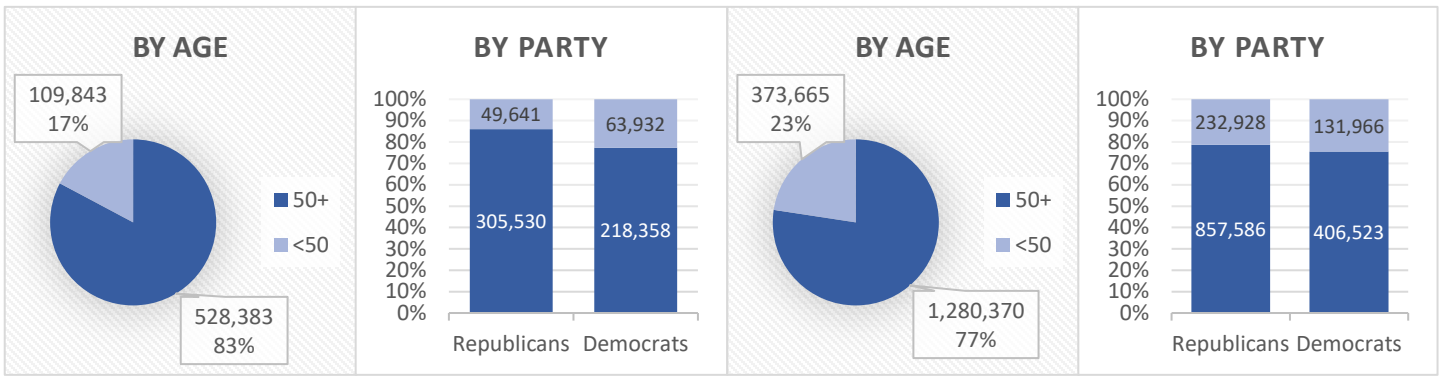


OCTOBER 19, 2022

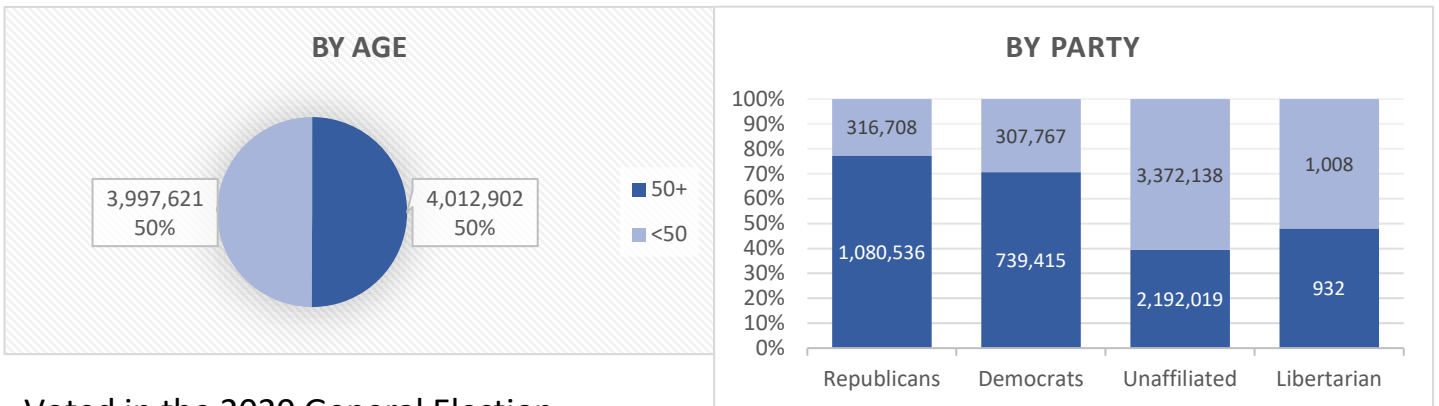
Prepared by GOTHAM GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
1399 Franklin Ave, Garden City, NY 11530

### Voted in August 2022 Primary or Special

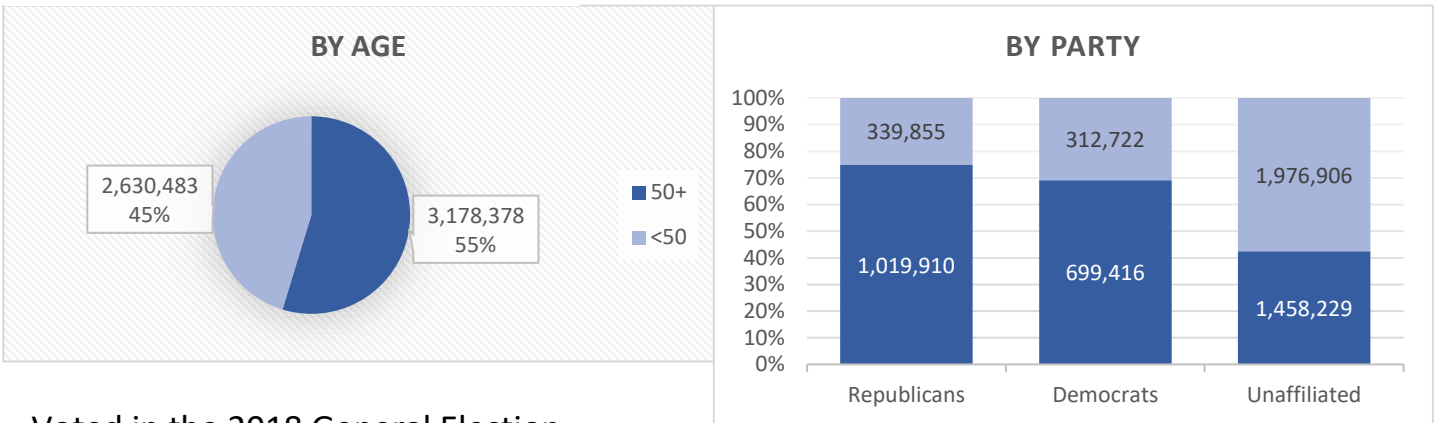
### Voted in any 2022 Election (May or August)



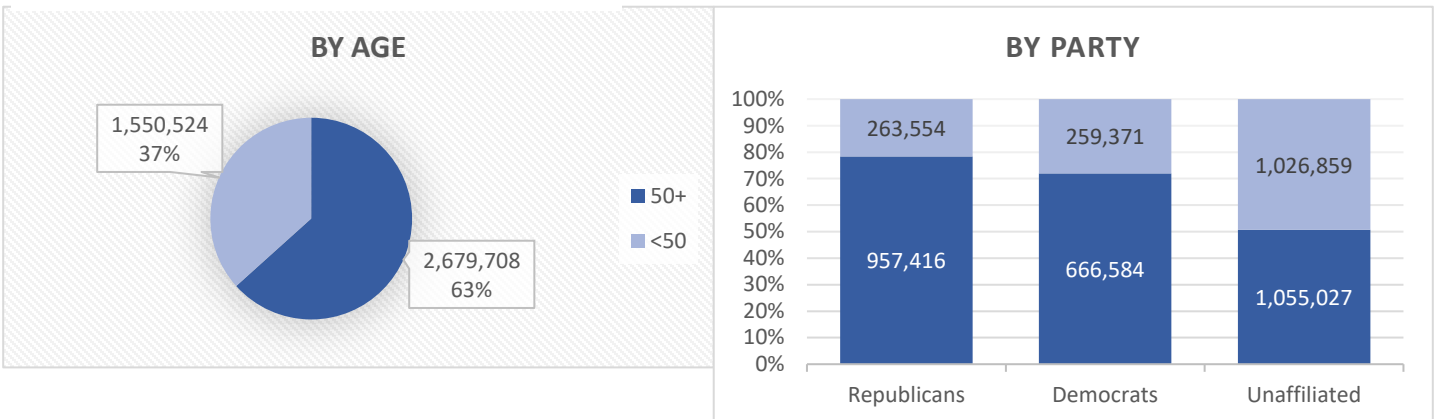
### State Registration



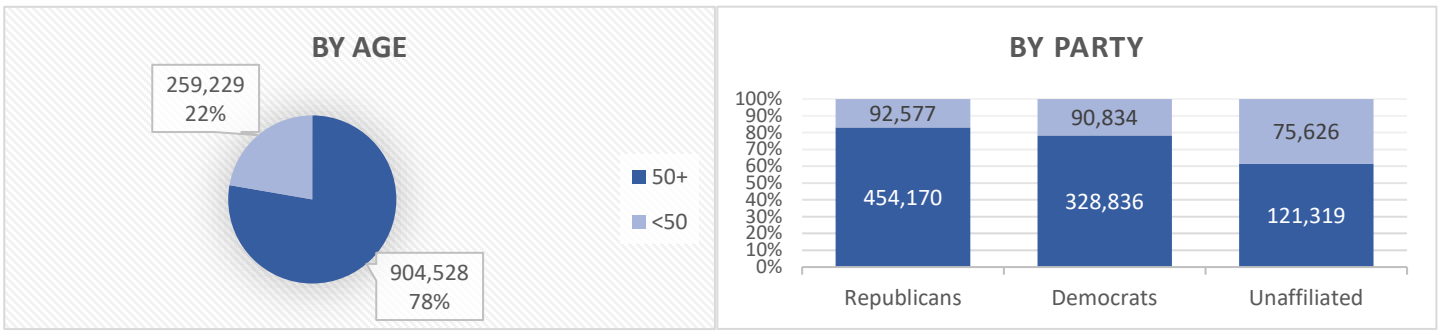
### Voted in the 2020 General Election



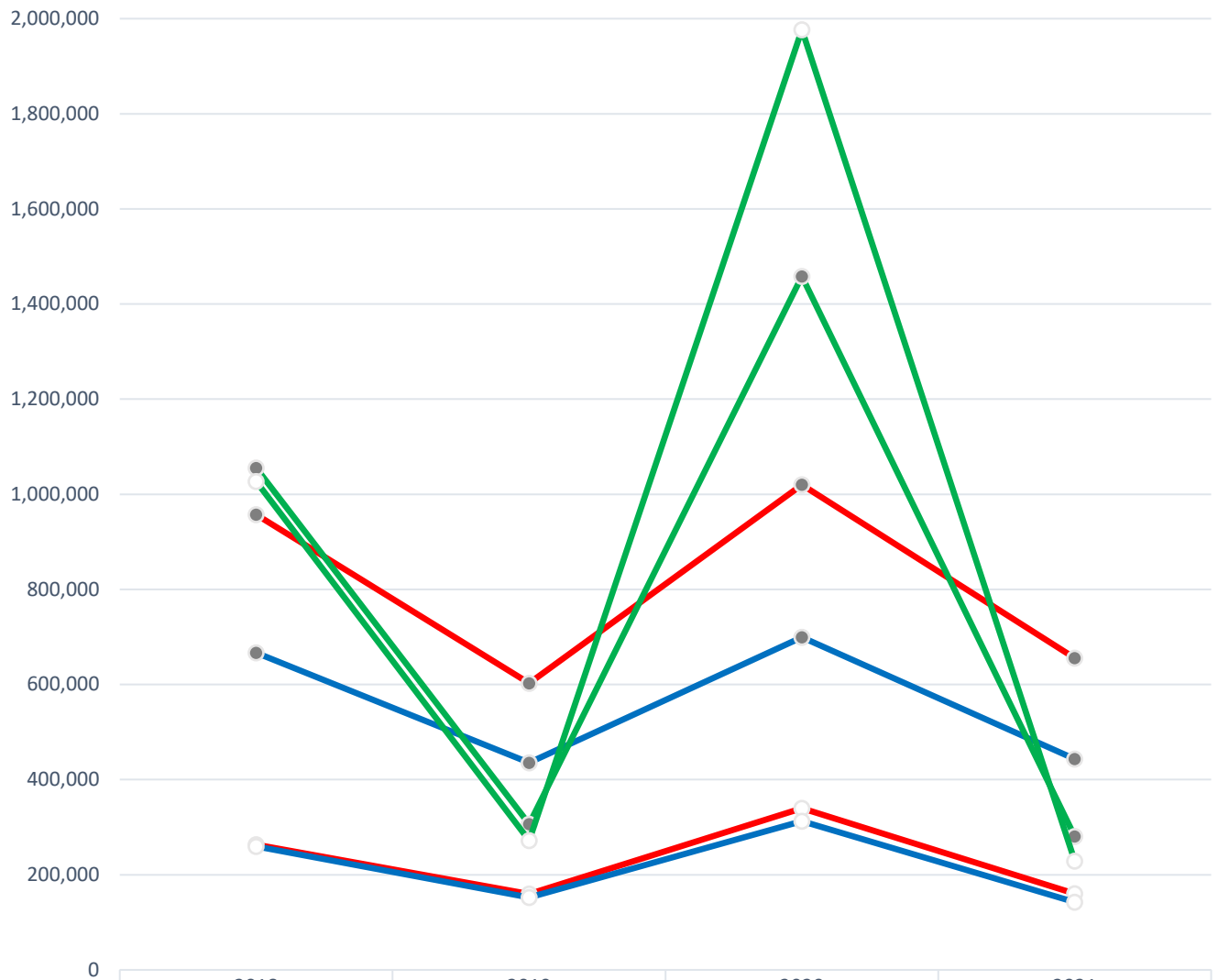
### Voted in the 2018 General Election



# Voted in all of the last 4 General Elections (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)



## Voter Totals in General Elections Across Party and Age Groups



	2018	2019	2020	2021
Rep 50+	957,416	602,808	1,019,910	655,358
Rep <50	263,554	159,598	339,855	160,314
Dem 50+	666,584	435,691	699,416	443,385
Dem <50	259,371	152,199	312,722	142,578
Unaff 50+	1,055,027	306,693	1,458,229	280,571
Unaff <50	1,026,859	272,235	1,976,906	228,967

## Key Observations

- Ohio state currently has 8,010,523 voters on its voter rolls, with an almost even 50/50 split between voters 50 years of age or older and voters under 50. As a corollary, total vote in any election tends to be comprised of a higher number of 50+ voters than younger voters, but especially in off year and primary elections. In Presidential years, the voting patterns are closer to the registration ratio. In primary elections, however, the 50+ tend to comprise over 75% of all voters.
- Ohio has an open primary system, meaning that while a person needs to register to vote beforehand, he or she does not need to register with a political party in order to vote in that party's primary. Under Ohio election law, voters declare their political party affiliation by requesting the ballot of a political party in a partisan primary election. Voters select their preferred party primary ballots at their polling places on Election Day, or when requesting an absentee ballot. Those not desiring to affiliate with a political party in Ohio are considered to be “Unaffiliated” voters.
- Over 69% of registered voters in Ohio are Unaffiliated voters, having not voted in a party primary and thus are not registered with any political party. These voters are substantially younger with only 39% being 50 years of age or older. Those who are affiliated with a political party, however, are overwhelmingly 50+ years of age (77% for Republicans and 71% for Democrats).
- This trend has significant impact to primary elections. In the August 2022 Primary for Ohio’s state legislature and political party leaders, 83% of the overall vote was comprised of Ohioans 50+. This vote broke down further with 86% of Republican voters and 77% of Democrats being 50+. When the scope is widened to include those who voted in the May primary for US Congress and statewide offices, the ratios are similar with the 50+ comprising 77% of all voters, 79% of Republicans and 75% of Democrats.
- The data also includes a look at voters who had voted in the last four general elections, including the 2020 Presidential, the 2019 and 2021 off-years as well as the Congressional election in 2018, which is most similar to the upcoming election this November. While not at the same levels in the primary, 50+ voters comprised the preponderance of all voters in each election, with the highest rates being in the off-year elections. Even in the Presidential year, where 59% of the voters were Unaffiliated, 55% of the total vote was of those age 50+. However, the gap between younger and older is most pronounced when looking at the 1.1 million+ “super voters” who voted in all four of these general elections, where 78% are in the 50+ group.
- Simply stated, voters age 50+ are the most reliable voting group measured across all party and non-partisan election types. They are the major deciders in local, special and primary races that determine who is on the ballot in large statewide elections. Unaffiliated and younger voters tend to vote only in the Presidential or Congressional races based on candidates that have been largely chosen by those in the 50+ group.
- The data for this assessment was received from the Ohio State Board of Elections with information dated as of October 11, 2022. Registration numbers include active as well as voters requiring confirmation. Election result totals of past elections may not include voters who became inactive and have subsequently been marked as purged from the state database.