



## Oakland Mayor and Town Council Elections

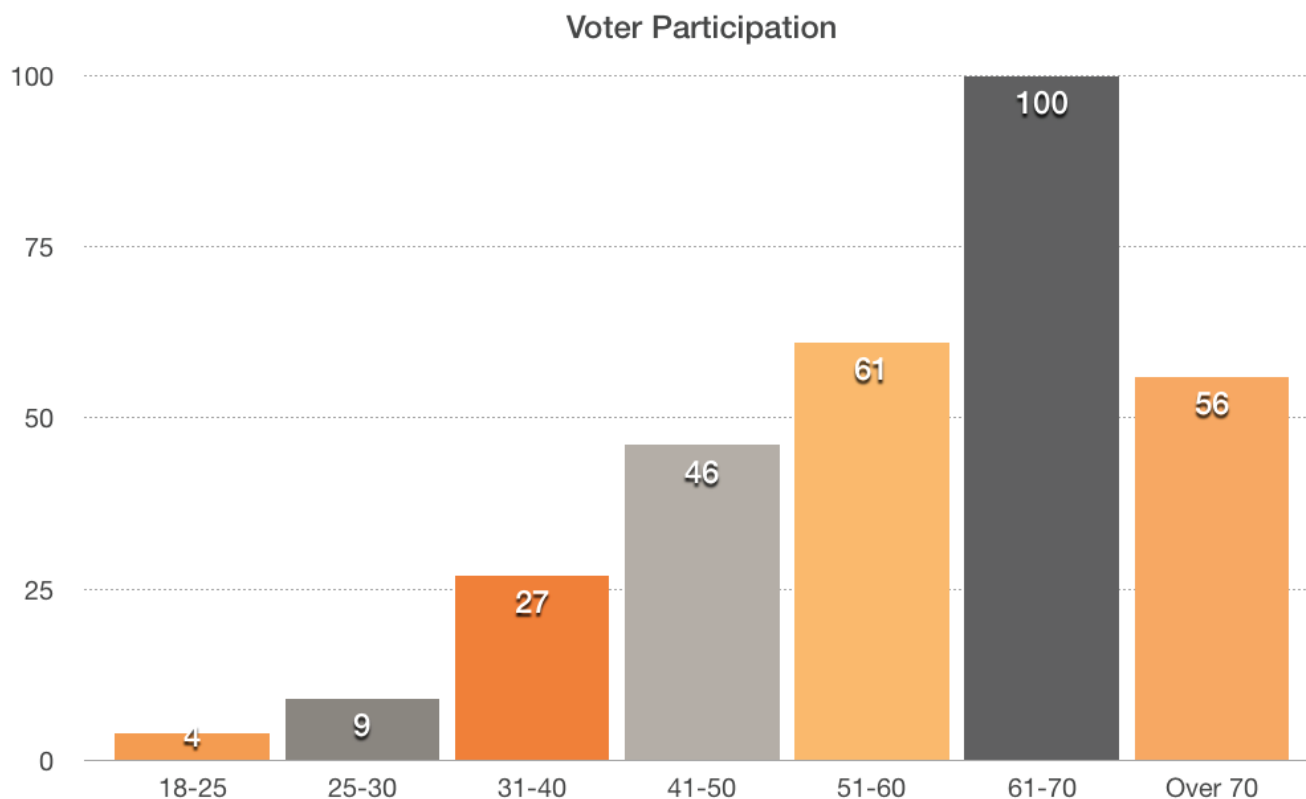
A volunteer group observed at the Oakland Mayor and Town Council election polls throughout the March 12, 2018 Midterm election. Polling hours were between 9:00AM and 6:00PM.

The volunteers recorded ballots as they were cast, noting gender, and estimating voter's ages. A total of 303 ballots were counted by the volunteers, which was less than the final tally (317) from polling officials. Females outranked male voter participation by 6.6%.

They also found roughly one-third of voters were between the estimated ages of 61 and 70 and two-thirds of voters were over the estimated age of 50.

*Young voters had little influence in the election with only 40 ballots cast from residents estimated to be under the age of 40. Those estimated over the Age of 50 are making the decisions for everyone by casting two-thirds of the ballots.*

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## Voter Participation Up 500%



### Mayoral Race

▶ <b>Peggy Jamision</b> (Incumbent)	178
Sue Lisantti	134
Toi Hershman (Withdrawn)	5

It's estimated that voter turnout for the 2018 election was up roughly 5-times that of previous average elections for Oakland offices. Several issues may have contributed to the robust turnout.

The election was highly publicized leading up to the March 12 polling date. You+2 posted online, through social media, and placed posters around the voting district announcing election day. Historically, elections can come and go with residents unaware it has taken place.

Press coverage of candidates weeks prior also raised awareness for voters unfamiliar with incumbents and challengers.

### Town Council Race

▶ <b>Sherwin Teagarden</b> (Incumbent)	171
▶ <b>Wayne Mowbray</b> (Incumbent)	141
Elmer "Butch" Redinger (Incumbent)	127
▶ <b>Terry Helbig</b>	163
Ernie Gregg	135
Dave Arnold	76
Dave Beard	55
Toi Hershman (Write-in)	42

The Oakland Bypass, or Ninth Street Extended (truck route) was also a talked-about issue just weeks before the election. Since the Mayor and Town Council are responsible for any final decision on the proposed bypass, challengers were making it a primary talking point by requesting a new vote and public hearing if they were elected.

