

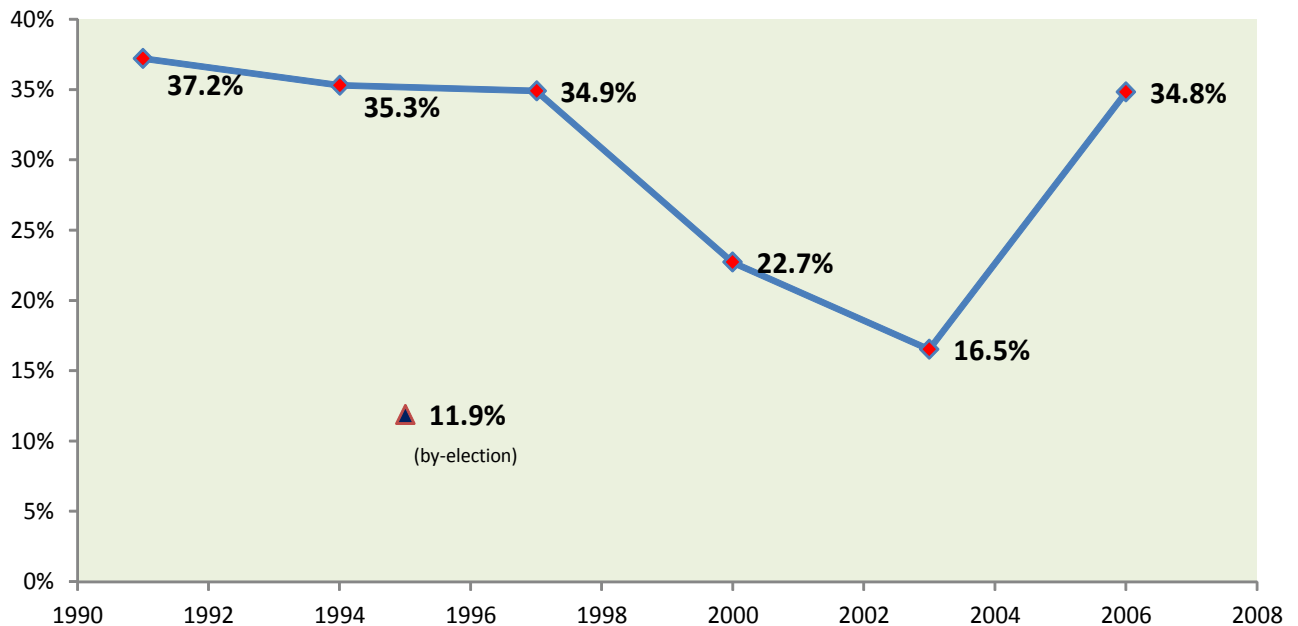
Voter Turnout – City of Burlington 2010 Municipal Election



Voter turnout in elections is often used as a measure of citizen's engagement and interest in the political process. In the past few decades, we are witnessing a declining trend in voter turnout at the federal, provincial and municipal elections. In general, the municipal election has the lowest turnout rate. Efforts are being made to engage more citizens to exercise their rights and responsibilities to vote.

In Burlington, the voter turnout rate after hitting a low point of 16.5% in 2003 begins to climb and reaches 37.6% in the most recent election (2010). This rate is slightly higher than that recorded in 1991 – the highest rate among the past six elections.

Voter Turnout, Municipal Election, City of Burlington (1991-2007)



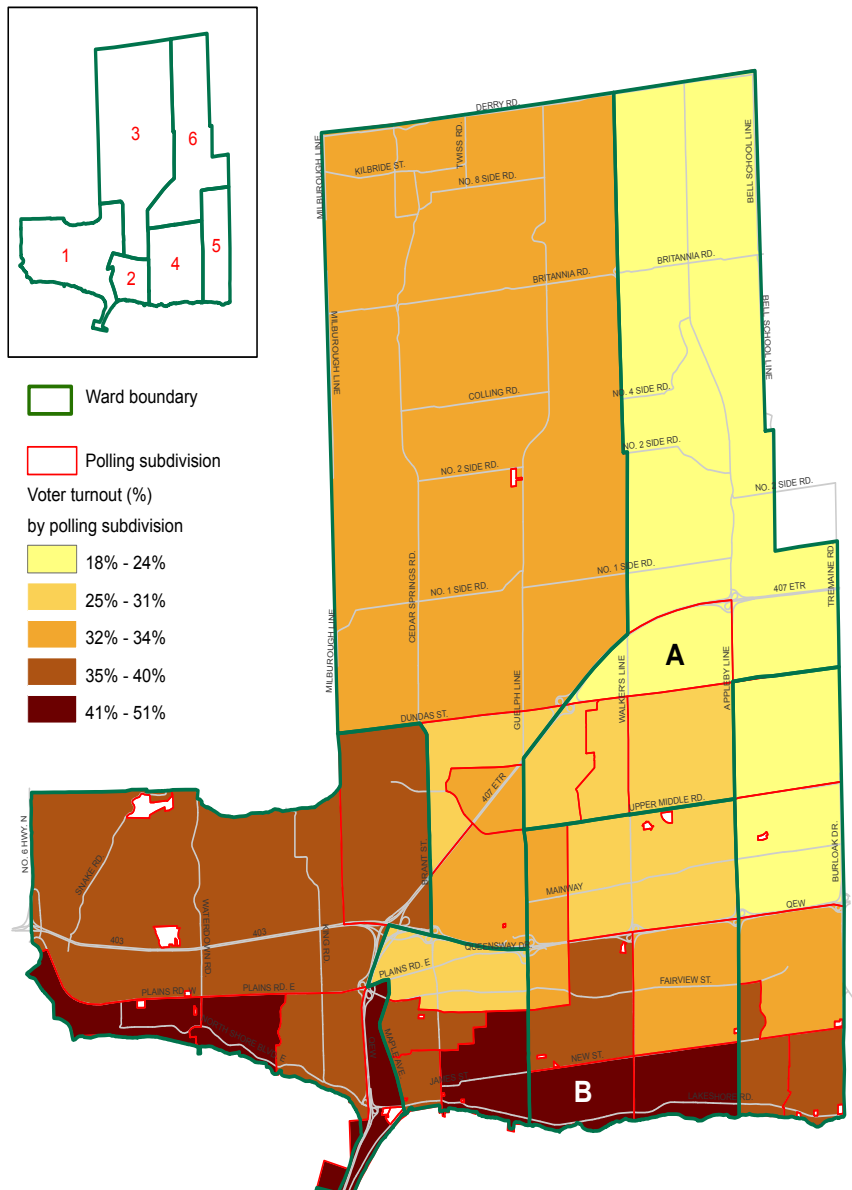
Source: City of Burlington

There were about 121,000 registered voters of which 3% cast their ballot in advance polls. The city was divided geographically into 30 polling subdivisions with the number of voters ranging from 500 to over 7,000. The voter turnout rate varied between 18% to 51%.

There is one polling subdivision (polling subdivision 602 in Ward 6- Area A) with a turnout rate below 20% - less than one in five eligible voters voted. In 2006, there were three subdivisions with a rate below 20%.

On the other hand, there were six polling subdivisions with turnout rates over 40%. Polling subdivision # 405 (Area B) in Ward 4 had the highest turnout rate at 51% - more than half of the registered voters voted.

Voter Turnout, 2010 Municipal Election City of Burlington



Source: City of Burlington

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