

Voter Turnout – Town of Oakville 2010 Municipal Election

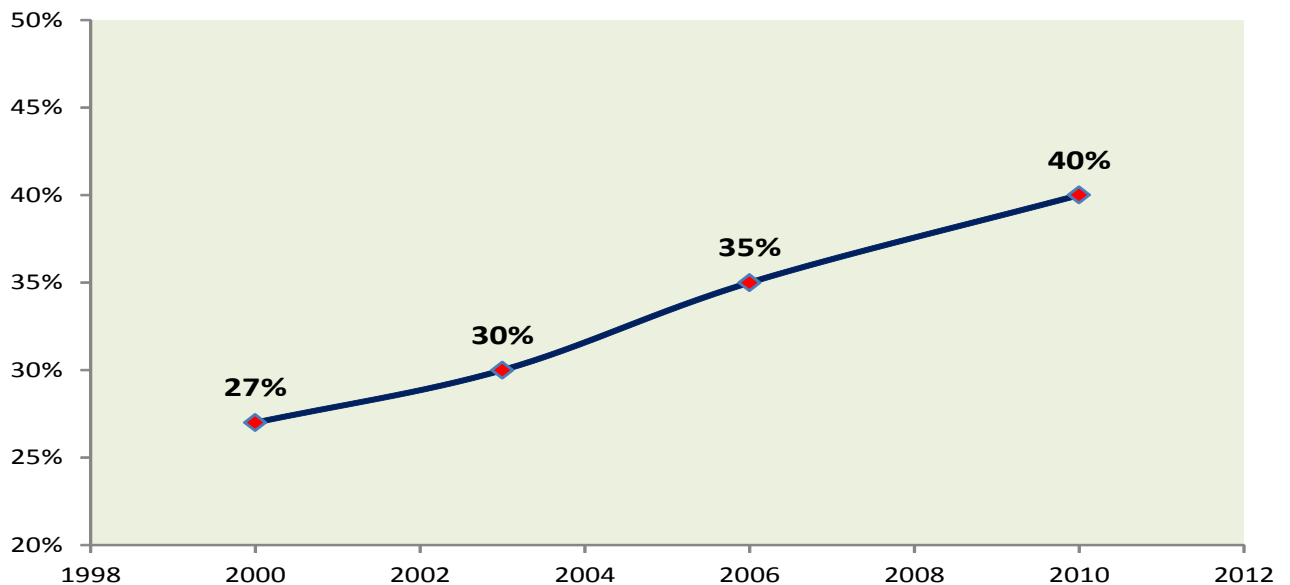


Voter turnout in elections is often used as a measure of citizen's engagement and interest in the political process. In the past few decades, we are witnessing a declining trend in voter turnout at the federal, provincial and municipal elections. In general, the municipal election has the lowest turnout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

However, Oakville is the only local municipality in Halton breaking the downward trend. There is a steady increase in voter turnout rate (number of ballots cast/number of registered voters) in the past four municipal elections between 2000 and 2010.

In fact, between 2006 and 2010, the number of ballots cast increased by 22% while the electoral population (registered voters) increased by 7.8%.

**Voter Turnout, Municipal Elections
Town of Oakville, (2000-2010)**



Source: Town of Oakville

In the 2010 election, the Town was divided into 62 polling subdivisions. The number of registered voters in the polling subdivisions ranged from about 1,000 to 3,000 persons.

The voter turnout rate (number of ballot cast/number of registered voters) ranged from 26% to 47%. The rate at the polling subdivision excludes advanced polls which represent about 9% of the ballots cast.

The lowest voter turnout rate (26%) was recorded for subdivision #101 (Area A), which translates to about one in four registered voters casting a ballot.

Polling subdivisions located south of Royal Windsor Drive/QEW, east of the Sixteen Mile Creek and west of the town border recorded turnout rates above the town's average of 40%. Almost half (47%) of the registered voters in subdivision # 301 (Area B) voted.

Voter turnout, 2010 Municipal Election Town of Oakville

