

# As Ohio goes, so goes the nation

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As the presidential election draws closer, the national spotlight grows brighter on Ohio. The Buckeye state has earned a reputation as being a key battleground state for candidates to win on the road to the White House. As the adage says, "As Ohio goes, so goes the nation."

And that's largely true. Ohio has picked the winner in all but two presidential elections since 1904. Buckeye voters incorrectly picked Republican New York Gov. **Thomas Dewey** — and his running mate, Ohio Gov. **John Bricker** — over President **Franklin D. Roosevelt** in 1944. In 1960, Ohio voters favored Republican Vice President **Richard Nixon**, who lost to Sen. **John F. Kennedy**.

Ohio has had a bounty of homegrown presidents too — eight in total if you count **William Henry Harrison**, who was born in Virginia but spent most of his life in Ohio. While most Ohio presidents served in the 1800s, in many cases, their actions had a lasting effect on the country and the role of the president. Here's a look at some facts and figures about Ohio presidents and presidential elections. ■

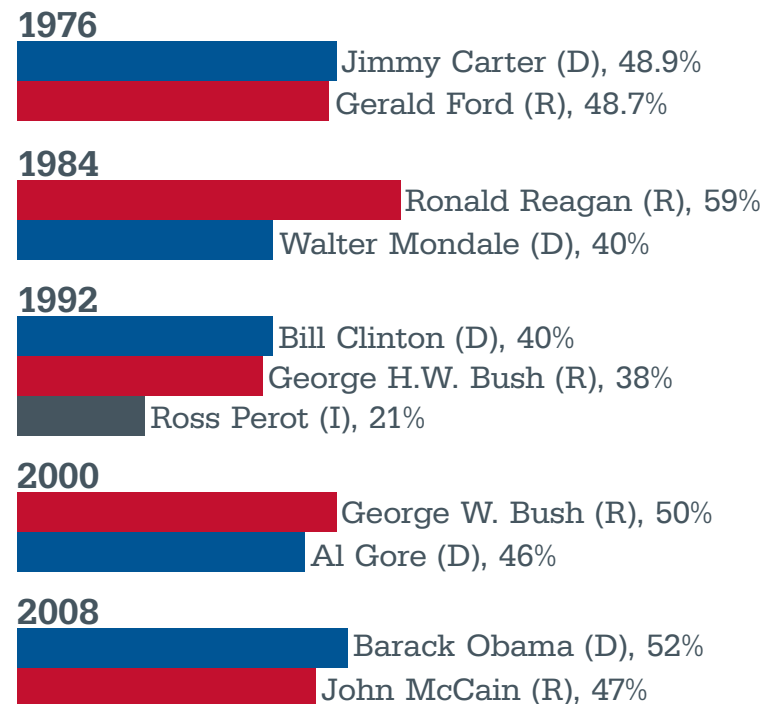
Source: Ohio secretary of state's office

Ohio voter turnout in the November general election is usually **40-50%** lower in non-presidential years.

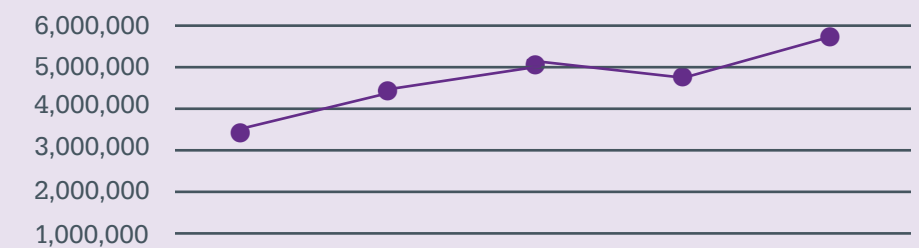
No Republican has ever won the presidency **without carrying Ohio.**

Ohio voters correctly picked the winning presidential candidate in the last **12** elections.

## At a glance Ohio presidential election results



## Ohio presidential election voter turnouts



Year	1976	1984	1992	2000	2008
Voters	3,402,200	4,664,200	5,043,100	4,800,000	5,774,000
Turnout %	Data n/a	74%	77%	64%	70%

## Longest streaks of picking the correct president by county

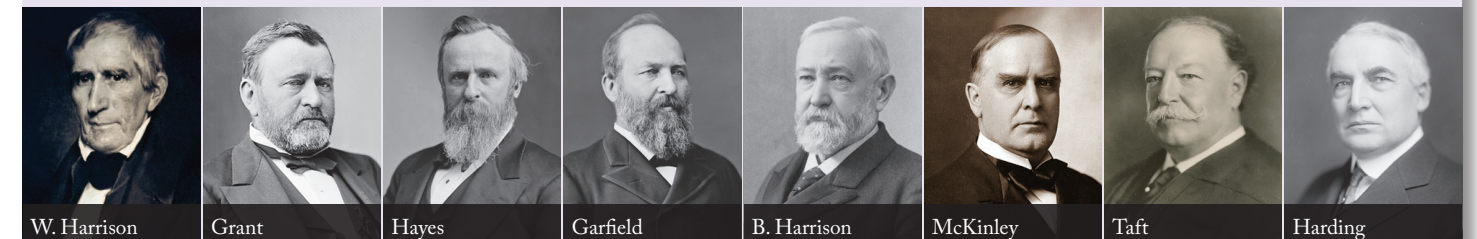
★ = one election

Lake and Sandusky: ★★★★★  
 Ottawa: ★★★★★★★★  
 Tuscarawas: ★★★★★★★★★★  
 Wood: ★★★★★★★★★★★★



Though most Ohio counties typically vote **Republican** the outcome tends to be closer because the state's largest county, Cuyahoga, has gone **Democratic** in every election since 1972.

## Ohio's eight presidents



- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>A. William Henry Harrison</b><br/>                     Party: Whig<br/>                     Ninth U.S. president (March-April 1841)<br/>                     Birthplace: Berkley Plantation, Va. (lived in North Bend, Ohio when elected)</p> | <p><b>C. Rutherford B. Hayes</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     19th U.S. president (1877-1881)<br/>                     Birthplace: Delaware, Ohio</p>                         | <p><b>E. Benjamin Harrison</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     23rd U.S. president (1889-1893)<br/>                     Birthplace: North Bend, Ohio</p> | <p><b>G. William Howard Taft</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     27th U.S. president (1909-1913)<br/>                     Birthplace: Cincinnati, Ohio</p>             |
| <p><b>B. Ulysses S. Grant</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     18th U.S. president (1869-1877)<br/>                     Birthplace: Point Pleasant, Ohio</p>   | <p><b>D. James A. Garfield</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     20th U.S. president (March-September 1881)<br/>                     Birthplace: Orange (Moreland Hills), Ohio</p> | <p><b>F. William McKinley</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     25th U.S. president (1897-1901)<br/>                     Birthplace: Niles, Ohio</p>       | <p><b>H. Warren G. Harding</b><br/>                     Party: Republican<br/>                     29th U.S. president (1921-1923)<br/>                     Birthplace: Corsica (Blooming Grove), Ohio</p> |

## How well do you know Ohio's presidents? Take the quiz!

- Lost the popular vote, but won Electoral College by one vote after a ruling by an Electoral Commission.
- First peacetime president to approve \$1 billion in appropriations.
- First sitting president to have his picture taken.
- Hosted the Washington Naval Conference, the first international strategic arms limitation talks.
- First president to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at a baseball game.
- Signed legislation establishing Yellowstone National Park as America's first national park.
- Annexed Puerto Rico, Guam, the Philippines and Hawaii.
- Began prosecution of post office employees and private mail carriers who attempted to defraud the government.

Answers: 1. C 2. E 3. A 4. H 5. G 6. B 7. F 8. D