



2018 Election Update and Results

With all state offices, all 99 House of Representative seats, half of the Senate seats, and all Congressional seats on the ballot, stakes were high for the November election. The campaigns of both parties brought in national heavy hitters to make the case for their ticket. Ohio was visited by President Trump, former Vice President Biden and many others.

With the polls closed and votes tallied we now know the results of those months of campaigning.

About 1.3 million voted before November 6th, much more than did so in the mid-terms 4 years ago. In total over 4.3 million votes were cast. Ohio has about 8 million registered voters.

Below is a summary of the results for all Ohio races. Also included is a list of the winners in all state legislative and congressional races.

Governor

The results of Tuesday's General Election were expected to be a nail biter for months. The match up between Mike DeWine/John Husted and Richard Cordray/Betty Sutton did not end up being as close as expected. Ohio next Governor will be Mike DeWine with Jon Husted serving as Lieutenant Governor. (DeWine – 50.66%; Cordray – 46.45%)

US Senate

Incumbent US Senator Sherrod Brown (D) was able to easily defend the seat from a challenge by Congressman Jim Renacci (R). (Brown – 53.20%; Renacci – 46.80%)

Other Statewide Races

None of these races could be considered an upset, as the polls have showed each of them neck and neck. However, the Republicans swept these races. As this year was also a race to determine the make up of Ohio's apportionment board, which draws district lines, Republican will remain in control of how those lines are drawn.

Attorney General – Dave Yost (R) – 52.42%
Steve Dettelbach (D) – 47.58%

State Auditor – Keith Faber (R) – 49.93%
Zach Space (D) – 46.06%

Secretary of State – Frank LaRose (R) – 50.92%
Kathleen Clyde (D) – 46.73%

State Treasurer – Robert Sprague (R) – 53.53%
Rob Richardson (D) – 46.47%

Ohio Supreme Court – While Supreme Court candidates run without party identification, parties do endorse in these races. Democrats did have victories in these races. Sitting Justice Mary DeGenaro was bested by Melody Stewart. In the second race the Democrat endorsed candidate Michael Donnelly was able to defeat Craig Baldwin, the Republican endorsed candidate.

State Issue 1 - Fails

Ohio voters were asked to vote on State Issue 1. This was proposed as a statewide, constitutional ballot initiative. This means, if issue 1 had passed, the language from the initiative will be added to Ohio's constitution. The title of the initiative was "To Reduce Penalties for Crimes of Obtaining, Possessing, and Using Illegal Drugs"

This proposal garnered wide debate throughout Ohio. Gubernatorial candidate Mike DeWine fiercely opposed to the amendment while Gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray expressed general support for the initiative. The vast majority of newspaper editorial boards urged a no vote on the ballot initiative. The electorate ultimately rejected the proposal by a wide margin. (No – 63.40%; Yes – 36.60%)

Congress

All Ohio congressional seats were on the ballot this year. However, there were few competitively contested races. Because of the way district lines are drawn there are rarely competitive races for Congress. This year Ohio did see a couple. Drawing the most attention was the 12th district. This seat was vacated early by long time Republican Congressman Pat Tiberi. This teed up a very competitive special election in August against Troy Balderson and Danny O'Connor. Balderson was able to win that round, but O'Connor didn't have to wait long for a re-match. This race drew national attention and millions of dollars in spending. At the end of night, Balderson will continue to represent the 12th district.

Also getting much national attention was the race for the 1st District where incumbent Steve Chabot was challenged by Abtab Pureval. Chabot was able to retain the seat by a healthy margin.

Ohio House of Representatives

House Republicans currently hold a 66-33 majority. House Democrats were hoping to ride a blue wave in order to pick up seats and narrow that majority. Democrats fielded candidates in every district and about 12 seats were considered competitive. While Democrats did have some pick ups, Republican will retain a super majority in the House going into 2019.

Democrats fared well in the central Ohio suburbs with several of their candidates about to turn their districts "blue". Franklin County Democrats winning seats that were open, but previously held by Republicans were Mary Lightbody, Beth Liston, and Allison Russo.

The race to replace Kristina Roegner (R), who is moving to the Senate, is within a very slim margin. Democrat Casey Weinstein holds a 539 vote lead on Republican Mike Rasor. In another race that is very close in the 59th district, it looks like Republicans picked up a seat with Don Manning (R) having the edge to replace John Boccieri (D) who was unsuccessful in his bid to move to the Senate. Manning currently holds a 409 vote lead over Democrat Eric Ungaro.

Another tight race was in the 43rd district. Todd Smith (R) was appointed to replace Jeff Rezabek who resigned early to take another position. Smith was challenged by sitting County Commissioner Dan Foley (D). Foley was thought to be favored in this race. However, Smith has a 462 vote edge to retain the seat for a full term.

Incumbent Republican Jonathon Dever holds a narrow lead over Jessica Miranda (D) but this race could go to a recount. If his 303 vote lead doesn't hold, Dever would be the only incumbent legislator to not be joining the 133rd General Assembly. And the race in the 6th district to replace term limited Representative Marlene Anielski was also very close with Democrats ultimately able to make this a pick with Phil Robinson (D) pulling out a win over former State Representative Jim Trakas (R)

Republicans will go into the 133rd General Assembly with a 62-37 super majority

Ohio Senate

The Senate Republicans had little to worry about when it came to their super majority of 24-9. The Democrats were able to field competitive challengers in Republican held seats, but their task was difficult. Republicans held a large fundraising advantage and their candidates for open seats were all current House members. At the end of the night Republicans actually picked up a seat in 33rd District. Current State Representative John Boccieri was beat by local business man Michael Rulli. The race to replace term limited Kevin Bacon was an unexpected nail biter. Current State Representative Anne Gonzales (R) holds a very narrow lead over Democrat Tina Maharath who did very little campaigning and was not endorsed by the Democrat party.

Republican will go into the 133rd General Assembly with a 25-8 super majority.

US Congress (* - denotes incumbent)

District	Winner
1	Steve Chabot (R) *
2	Brad Wenstrup (R) *
3	Joyce Beatty (D) *
4	Jim Jordan (R) *
5	Bob Latta (R) *
6	Bill Johnson (R) *
7	Bob Gibbs (R) *
8	Warren Davidson (R) *
9	Marcy Kaptur (D) *
10	Mike Turner (R) *
11	Marcia Fudge (D) *
12	Troy Balderson (R) *
13	Tim Ryan (D) *
14	Dave Joyce (R) *
15	Steve Stivers (R) *
16	Anthony Gonzales (R) replacing Jim Renacci (R)

Ohio House of Representatives (* - denotes incumbent) (races in bold switched parties)

District	
1	Scott Wiggam (R) *
2	Mark Romanchuk (R) *
3	Theresa Gavarone (R) *
4	Robert Cupp (R) *
5	Tim Ginter (R) *
6	Phil Robinson (D) replacing Marlene Anielski (R)
7	Tom Patton (R) *
8	Kent Smith (D) *
9	Janine Boyd (D) *
10	Terrence Upchurch (D) replacing Bill Patmon (D)
11	Stephanie Howse (D) *
12	Juanita Brent (D) replacing John Barnes, Jr. (D)
13	Mike Skindell (D) replacing Nickie Antonio (D)
14	Bride Rose Sweeney (D) replacing Martin Sweeney (D)
15	Jeff Crossman (D) replacing Nicholas Celebrezze (D)
16	Dave Greenspan (R) *
17	Adam Miller (D) *
18	Kristin Boggs (D) *
19	Mary Lightbody (D) replacing Anne Gonzales (R)
20	Richard Brown (D) *
21	Beth Liston (D) replacing Mike Duffey (R)
22	David Leland (D) *
23	Laura Lanese (R) *
24	Allison Russo (D) replacing Jim Hughes (R)
25	Bernadine Kent (D) *
26	Erica Crawley (D) replacing Hearcel Craig (D)
27	Tom Brinkman, Jr. (R) *
28	Johnathon Dever (R) *

29	Louis Blessing III (R) *	
30	Bill Seitz (R) *	
31	Brigid Kelly (D) *	
32	Catherine Ingram (D) *	
33	Sedrick Denson (D)	replacing Alicia Reece (D)
34	Emilia Sykes (D) *	
35	Tavia Galonski (D) *	
36	Anthony DeVitis (R) *	
37	Casey Weinstein (D)	replacing Kristina Roegner (R)
38	Bill Roemer (R)	replacing Marilyn Slaby (R)
39	Fred Strahorn (D) *	
40	Phil Plummer (R)	replacing Michael Henne (R)
41	Jim Butler (R) *	
42	Niraj Antani (R) *	
43	J. Todd Smith (R) *	
44	Paula Hicks-Hudson (D)	replacing Michael Ashford (D)
45	Lisa Sobecki (D)	replacing Teresa Fedor (D)
46	Michael Sheehy (D) *	
47	Derek Merrin (R) *	
48	Scott Oelslager (R)	replacing Kirk Schuring (R)
49	Thomas West (D) *	
50	Reggie Stolfus (R)	replacing Christina Hagan (R)
51	Sara Carruthers (R)	replacing Wes Retherford (R)
52	George Lang (R) *	
53	Candice Keller (R) *	
54	Paul Zeltwanger (R) *	
55	Gayle Manning (R)	replacing Nathan Manning (R)
56	Joe Miller (D)	replacing Daniel Ramos (D)
57	Dick Stein (R) *	
58	Michele Lepore-Hagan (D) *	
59	Don Manning (R)	replacing John Boccieri (D)
60	John Rogers (D) *	
61	Jamie Callender (R)	replacing Ron Young (R)
62	Scott Lipps (R) *	
63	Glenn Holmes (D) *	
64	Michael O'Brien (D) *	
65	John Becker (R) *	
66	Doug Green (R) *	
67	Kris Jordan (R)	replacing Andrew Brenner (R)
68	Rick Carfagna (R) *	
69	Steve Hambley (R) *	
70	Darrell Kick (R) *	
71	Scott Ryan (R) *	
72	Larry Householder (R) *	
73	Rick Perales (R) *	
74	Bill Dean (R) *	
75	Randy Clites (D)	replacing Kathleen Clyde (D)
76	Sarah LaTourette (R) *	
77	Tim Schaffer (R) *	
78	Ron Hood (R) *	
79	Kyle Koehler (R) *	
80	Jena Powell (R)	replacing Stephen Huffman (R)

81	Jim Hoops (R) *	
82	Craig Riedel (R) *	
83	Jon Cross (R)	replacing Robert Sprague (R)
84	Susan Manchester (R)	replacing Keith Faber (R)
85	Nino Vitale (R) *	
86	Tracy Richardson (R)	replacing Dorothy Pelanda (R)
87	Riordan McClain (R) *	
88	William Reineke, Jr. (R) *	
89	Steven Arndt (R) *	
90	Brain Baldridge (R)	replacing Terry Johnson (R)
91	Shane Wilken (R) *	
92	Gary Scherer (R) *	
93	Ryan Smith (R) *	
94	Jay Edwards (R) *	
95	Don Jones (R)	replacing Andy Thompson (R)
96	Jack Cera (D) *	
97	Brian Hill (R) *	
98	Brett Hillyer (R)	replacing Al Landis (R)
99	John Patterson (D) *	

Ohio Senate (Only Odd Numbered Districts up for election) (* - denotes incumbent) (races in bold switched parties)

District Winner

1	Rob McColley (R) *	
3	Anne Gonzales (R)	replacing Kevin Bacon (R)
5	Steve Huffman (R)	replacing Bill Beagle (R)
7	Steve Wilson (R) *	
9	Cecil Thomas (D) *	
11	Teresa Fedor (D)	replacing Edna Brown (D)
13	Nathan Manning (R)	replacing Gayle Manning (R)
15	Hearcel Craig (D)	replacing Charleta Tavares (D)
17	Bob Peterson (R) *	
19	Andrew Brenner (R)	replacing Kris Jordan (R)
21	Sandra Williams (D) *	
23	Nickie Antonio (D)	replacing Mike Skindell (D)
25	Kenny Yuko (D) *	
27	Kristina Roegner (R)	replacing Frank LaRose (R)
29	Kirk Schuring (R)	replacing Scott Oelslager (R)
31	Jay Hottinger (R) *	
33	Michael A. Rulli (R)	replacing Joe Schiavoni (D)