

BE A REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE VOTER.



**TRUST BLACK WOMEN TO MAKE PERSONAL DECISIONS
THAT ARE BEST FOR US AND OUR FAMILIES.**

VOTE ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 5.

**I AM A
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
VOTER**

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BLACKWOMEN.VOTE

BLACK WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE ISSUES

COST OF LIVING — The cost of living is a major concern for Black women voters in Ohio as it impacts their ability to provide for their families and maintain economic stability. With rising prices for housing, healthcare, and basic necessities, many Black women find it increasingly difficult to secure the financial resources needed to support their households. 92% of respondents in the survey indicate that lowering the cost of living and inflation is extremely or very important when thinking about getting out to vote this fall. This concern is not just about financial hardship; it directly impacts their ability to make informed and autonomous decisions about their reproductive lives. Reproductive justice, which includes the right to have children, or not to have children, and parent the children they have in safe and supportive environments, is fundamentally tied to economic stability. When the cost of living rises, it limits the resources available for Black women to exercise these rights freely. Addressing the economic challenges they face is, therefore, not only a matter of financial policy, but it's also a crucial element of ensuring that Black women in Ohio can fully realize their reproductive justice rights. (Source IOOV 2024 Survey)

RACISM / RACIAL JUSTICE — Racism and racial justice are pressing issues for Black women voters in Ohio, with 66% of respondents reporting that they have personally felt the effects of racial and gender bias in the healthcare system. This pervasive discrimination not only affects their access to quality healthcare, but it also undermines their overall well-being and the safety of their families. Reproductive justice is deeply intertwined with racial justice, as it advocates for the right to live in a society free from discrimination, where Black women can make autonomous decisions about their bodies and their families. Addressing systemic racism is essential for ensuring that Black women in Ohio have the freedom to make reproductive choices without the fear of bias or discrimination. For reproductive justice to be fully realized, it is imperative that the structures of racism that continue to harm Black women are confronted and dismantled. (Source IOOV 2024 Survey)

HEALTHCARE — Healthcare is a critical concern for Black women voters in Ohio, with 88% of respondents emphasizing the importance of increasing access to mental health care as an essential issue when thinking about getting out to vote. Additionally, 66% of Black women reported experiencing racial and gender bias within the healthcare system, which further exacerbates their challenges in receiving quality care. These healthcare concerns are closely linked to reproductive justice, which asserts the right to health and bodily autonomy, free from discrimination and bias. Without equitable access to comprehensive healthcare, including mental health services, Black women are hindered in their ability to make informed and empowered decisions about their reproductive lives. Ensuring that healthcare is accessible, affordable, and free from bias is not just a health issue, but it's also a fundamental component of advancing reproductive justice for Black women in Ohio. (Source IOOV 2024 Survey)

QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to prompt candidates to address the key concerns of Black women voters in Ohio while emphasizing the importance of reproductive justice in policy platforms.

- How will you address the rising cost of living in Ohio to ensure that Black women and their families can afford stable housing and basic necessities, recognizing that economic security is crucial for making informed reproductive choices?
- What specific policies will you implement to combat racial and gender bias in Ohio's healthcare system, ensuring that Black women receive equitable and quality care that is essential for their reproductive health and overall well-being?
- How do you plan to expand access to mental health care and other essential healthcare services in Ohio, particularly for Black women, to support their right to make autonomous decisions about their reproductive lives?
- What actions will you take to promote racial justice in Ohio, understanding that addressing systemic racism is critical to ensuring that Black women can live in safe, supportive environments and make reproductive choices free from discrimination?
- How will you protect and expand access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare in Ohio, ensuring that Black women have the freedom to make decisions about their bodies and their futures?

OHIO 2024 VOTING GUIDELINES

This Voter Guide is intended to be used solely for educational purposes and is not meant to support or oppose any candidate or political party. Any use of this Voter Guide should be for 501(c)(3)-compliant purposes only. This Voter Guide shall not be used for any partisan, political, or electioneering activities by any organization or individual.

Your Plan to Vote should include answers to the following questions:

AM I REGISTERED TO VOTE?

CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION STATUS at <https://vote.civiction.org/register/iamarjvoter/> to ensure that you have not been purged from the voter roll in your state.

Voter Registration Deadlines:

- > **Online registration deadline:** Monday, October 7, 2024
- > **Register by mail deadline:** Must be postmarked by Monday, October 7, 2024
- > **In-person registration deadline:** Monday, October 7, 2024

Register to vote or update your voter registration information

HOW WILL I VOTE?

Early Voting:

Early in-person voting in Ohio begins October 8.

Early in-person voting in Ohio ends Sunday, November 3.

Absentee/Mail-in Voting:

Any registered voter in Ohio can request an absentee ballot without a reason.

Absentee ballot application by mail or in person must be received by October 28.

Use an absentee ballot tool to prepare your application.

Find your local election office to drop off or mail your absentee ballot application.

All local election offices will accept mailed or hand-delivered forms.

Request your absentee or mail-in ballot as soon as possible, and return it immediately. We are recommending you mail your ballot in NO LATER than 3 weeks before November 5 to ensure that your vote is counted. Hand-delivered ballots are accepted.

If you do not vote your absentee ballot and instead decide to go to your assigned polling place on Election Day, you must vote a provisional ballot.

No voted ballot may be returned to a board of elections by fax or email. If a voted ballot is returned by fax or email, it will not be accepted, processed, or counted.

Please contact your local election office if you have any further questions about the exact process.

In-Person Voting on Election Day: If you are voting in person on November 5 from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., make a plan that allows time for longer lines than usual. Stay in line until you vote, no matter what time it is, and no matter what anyone tells you. By law, you have the right to vote if you are in line at the polling place when the polls close.

Find your local polling location, map out your route to get there, including parking, and (whenever possible) go vote with other members of your community. Wear comfortable shoes and bring snacks and water.

HOW TO VOTE IN OHIO

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO VOTE IN OHIO?

You are qualified to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

- > You are a citizen of the United States
- > You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the next general election. (If you will be 18 on or before the general election, you may vote in the primary election to nominate candidates, but you cannot vote on issues or party central committees until you are 18.)
- > You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote
- > You are not incarcerated (in prison or jail) for a felony conviction under the laws of this state, another state, or the United States
- > You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court
- > You have not been permanently disenfranchised for violating the election laws

You are eligible to vote in elections held in your voting precinct 30 days after you are duly registered to vote in this state. You may request an absentee ballot during that 30-day period.

Find more information on voting rights restoration in Ohio and from the National Conference of State Legislators.

Check Voter Registration – You can look up your voter registration record and verify that your information is correct using Ohio's voter registration lookup tool or through <https://weall.vote/iamarjvoter> How to Vote

Absentee/Vote by Mail

1. Request your mail-in ballot with a mail ballot application.
2. Fill out the application completely.
3. Submit the request to your local election office. You should request your ballot as far in advance of the election as possible. The deadline to request a ballot by mail is October 28.
4. When your ballot arrives, read it carefully and follow the instructions to complete it and return it.

No voted ballot may be returned to a board of elections by fax or email. If a voted ballot is returned by fax or email, it will not be accepted, processed, or counted.

In Person – What to Bring

In-person voters in Ohio will need to show ID. There are several types of valid photo identification:

- > Ohio driver's license; State of Ohio ID card; Interim ID form issued by the Ohio BMV; U.S. passport; U.S. passport card; U.S. military ID card; Ohio National Guard ID card; or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID card

All photo IDs must have the following:

- > An expiration date that has not passed, a photograph of the voter; and the voter's name, which must substantially conform to the voter's name as it appears in the Poll List or in the Poll Book

NOTICE: An unexpired Ohio driver's license, state ID card, or interim documentation with your former address IS an ACCEPTABLE form of ID when your current address is in the pollbook.

Voters without ID: If you do not have any of the above forms of identification, you may provide either your Ohio driver's license or state identification number (which begins with two letters followed by six numbers) or the last four digits of your Social Security number and cast a provisional ballot. Once the information is reviewed and verified by the board of elections, your ballot will be counted.

If you do not provide one of the above documents or your driver's license/state identification number or the last four digits of your Social Security number at the precinct, you will still be able to vote using a provisional ballot. However, in order for that ballot to be counted, you must return to the board of elections no later than 7 days following Election Day to provide a qualifying form of identification.

Polling locations and times may vary during Early Vote and Election Day.

Check with your County Clerk and Secretary of State for information, including locations and times.

RECENT VOTING CHANGES IN OHIO

Laws that took effect in 2023 may change how you vote in the 2024 elections:

- > Voters must show a valid photo ID, such as an Ohio driver's license or U.S. passport, when voting at the polls. Other documents, such as a paycheck, utility bill, or Social Security card, are no longer considered valid. If you do not have a valid photo ID, you can obtain a free state ID card at any Bureau of Motor Vehicles deputy registrar license agency in Ohio. More information is available at the BMV website.
- > The deadline to request an absentee ballot is 7 days before an election. Previously, it was 3 days.
- > Your county board of elections must receive your absentee ballot by mail no later than 4 days after an election. But your absentee ballot still must be postmarked by the day before an election.
- > Early in-person voting is no longer offered on the Monday before Election Day.
- > Redistricting has changed the boundaries of some U.S. congressional and state legislative districts and may affect which candidates appear on your ballot. Locate your district on the state elections website, where you can find the latest congressional and state legislative maps.

HOW IS MY COMMUNITY VOTING?

Share Your Plan to Vote with your family, friends, and community. Help them develop a Plan to Vote. Support each other and vote together, no matter which way you are voting. Send in your ballots on the same day, vote early together, or plan on getting in line as a community on November 8.

IMPORTANT DATES

- > Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.
- > The early voting period runs from Tuesday, October 8 to Sunday, November 3, but dates and hours may vary based on where you live.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- ➔ **Ohio Secretary of State:**
<https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/>
- ➔ **Voter Protection Hotline/ACLU:**
<https://www.acluohio.org/vote-center>
Email: contact@acluohio.org and
Phone: (614) 586-1958