

# OLDER ADULTS KNOW YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE



As Election Day approaches, this voting season provides an opportunity to reflect on the major role of older voters play in elections. Since the 1980s, adults aged 65 and older have turned out in large numbers, surpassing any other age group tracked by the U.S. Census Bureau in both presidential and midterm elections by the nineties. In the last presidential election, nearly 72% of older American citizens cast their ballots, demonstrating the importance of our voices in choosing the elected officials that will impact our lives through the

policies and laws they enact.

Older voters, a critical voice in determining the country's direction, have become an even more powerful force in shaping national, state, and local outcomes, including decisions that affect healthcare, transportation, and financial security.

According to the Census Bureau, in 2020, 68% of eligible New York State voters aged 65+ voted, and in the 2022 election cycle, adults over 65 comprised more than 30% of

America's voters. I trust you plan to join the millions of older adults who will cast their ballots around the country this November. Now, more than ever, with the rise of artificial intelligence and bad actors trying to influence the outcome of our elections, it's essential to stay vigilant against disinformation. False narratives and alternative facts have flooded the internet. They've targeted voters to create confusion and discourage turnout. Deceptive claims about voting procedures, candidate positions, or critical policy proposals can quickly spread, misleading voters.

To steer clear of false information, consider these fact-checking standards used by various outlets.

1. Always verify the source of your information—ensure the platform or site is credible.
2. Check the date of the information to make sure it's current, as old stories can be recycled to create confusion.
3. Look out for content designed to evoke an emotional reaction rather than present objective facts.

4. Stay cautious, and always cross-check information with other reliable sources to ensure you make decisions based on facts, not fiction.

This November, the power of your vote comes from focusing on the issues that directly affect you and your community. Social Security, Medicare, prescription drug prices, family caregiving costs, transportation, and long-term care are all critical to the well-being of older New Yorkers. These issues are deeply personal, affecting your ability to age in place, maintain financial stability, and access critical care.

New Yorkers can register to vote until October 26. Make sure to check if your voter registration is still valid. When you head to the polls, support candidates who prioritize the issues most important to our generation and have a proven track record of advocating for policies that benefit older adults. It's essential to choose leaders who are committed to delivering the results we need to continue building a more

age-inclusive nation.

The stakes for the upcoming election couldn't be higher. Make sure your voting-age children and grandchildren get out and VOTE!

For more information about voting in New York City, visit [nycvotes.org](https://nycvotes.org). We'll also be posting voting-related information on our social media platforms.

Make sure your voice is heard this November, VOTE for the future you want for yourself and your loved ones—the future you and they deserve.



*NYC Department for the Aging  
Commissioner  
Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez*