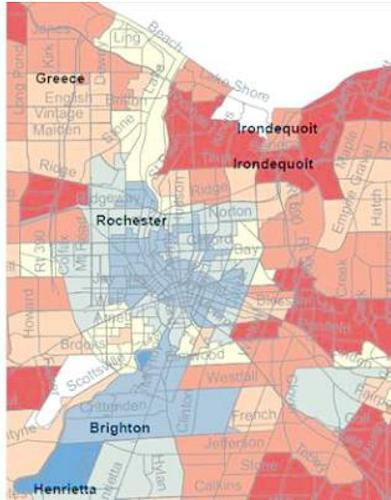
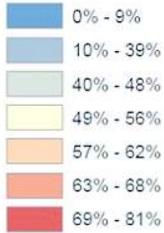


# The ballot box is a great place for Rochester to unite

Jul. 26

democratandchronicle.com

Registered voters/ adult population



## To register

Contact the Monroe County Board of Elections at (585) 753-1500 or online at [www2.monroecounty.gov/elections-index.php](http://www2.monroecounty.gov/elections-index.php).

As election season heats up, it is not only the candidates who need to be mindful of preparations and deadlines — voters, after all, play the most important role.

Nowhere is this more true than in the city of Rochester, where [two solid candidates](#) will face off in a Sept. 10 primary for the Democratic nomination for mayor. As the victor will likely win the Nov. 5 general election in the heavily Democratic city, this important election will affect every city resident. So every eligible voter needs to be sure their voice is heard.

*This graphic illustration shows local percentages of registered voters. / Courtesy the Rochester League of Women Voters*

There is no shortage of pressing issues facing city residents. The Editorial Board’s ongoing [Unite Rochester](#) campaign recently identified three top areas: Housing, education and jobs. Economic development, city finances, public safety and many other issues will be explored in the months ahead.

Yet voter turnout for city primaries is disappointingly low — even in fiercely contested races. The 2005 primary between [Robert Duffy](#) and [Wade Norwood](#), for example, lured just 35 percent of registered voters to the polls. Worse, only 40 percent of eligible city voters were even registered. That’s sad.

City residents who want a say in the future of Rochester need to take part in the system. And there’s not much time. The deadline to register to vote in this year’s primary — not only in the city but in all local races in New York — is Aug. 16.

To help, the [local chapter](#) of the League of Women Voters will focus on registering city residents the week of Aug. 3. Volunteers will be at numerous locations including Tops supermarkets and most branch libraries. Those 50-plus percent of city residents still unregistered must take advantage.

But registering is only the first step. All citizens, city and suburban, in all elections, primary and general, must follow through, turn out and VOTE.

To register

## To register

Contact the Monroe County Board of Elections at (585) 753-1500 or online at [www2.monroecounty.gov/elections-index.php](http://www2.monroecounty.gov/elections-index.php).