

MUNICIPAL ELECTION EXPENSES

held Tuesday May, 9, 2023

EXPLANATION & ANALYSIS PRESENTATION

to the

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

May 20, 2024

Jennifer Kiernan, Municipal Clerk



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK

N.J.S.A. 40:45-5 et. seq. & Title 19

In a Non-Partisan Municipal Election:

The municipality is responsible for all costs involved with a Non-Partisan Municipal Election and the Municipal Clerk is statutorily mandated to perform all the duties required to conduct an impartial and fair election which are typically performed by the County Clerk and the Clerk of the Board of Elections for both the June Primary and November General elections.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK

N.J.S.A. 40:45-5 et. seq. & Title 19

- ❖ **Candidate Packet**
 - **Advertise**
 - **Prepare**
 - **Distribute**
- ❖ **Notify State (ELEC) and County of Election Officials of Election and Offices to be filled**
- ❖ **Quasi-judicial authority to verify signatures**
- ❖ **Conduct Ballot Drawing**
- ❖ **Notify State/County officials & Printer of Names on Ballot**
- ❖ **Publish availability of Vote by Mail Ballot**
- ❖ **Publish names of candidates and polling places**
- ❖ **Proof ballots**
 - **regular/sample/VBM/provisional/emergency**
- ❖ **Arrange with Postmaster for mailing of sample ballots**
- ❖ **Late Night Voter Registration**
- ❖ **Assist with placing poll workers (students)**
- ❖ **Challenger List filed**
- ❖ **ELECTION DAY!**
- ❖ **Certify Election Results**



2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Total Expenses:

\$75,152.47



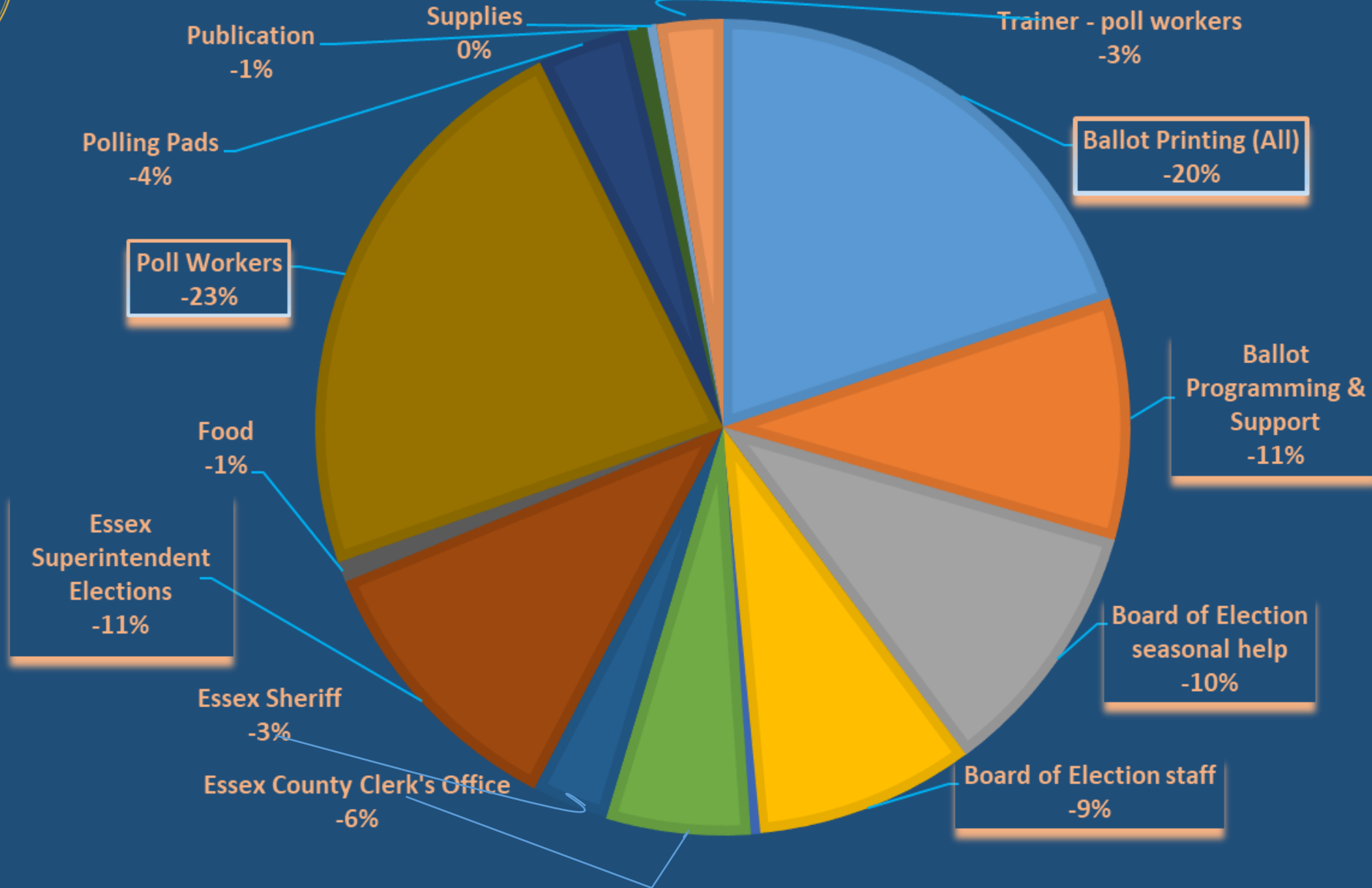
2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION EXPENSES

CATEGORY	SUM of Amount	Percentage
Ballot Printing (All)	\$14,952.00	19.90%
Ballot Programming & Support	\$7,196.00	9.58%
Board of Election seasonal help	\$7,788.00	10.36%
Board of Election staff	\$6,561.00	8.73%
Election Materials Pick Up/Return	\$275.00	0.37%
Essex County Clerk's Office	\$4,277.00	5.69%
Essex Sheriff	\$2,287.00	3.04%
Essex Superintendent Elections	\$8,393.00	11.17%
Food	\$607.00	0.81%
Poll Workers	\$17,250.00	22.95%
Polling Pads	\$2,745.00	3.65%
Publication	\$573.00	0.76%
Supplies	\$280.00	0.37%
Trainer - poll workers	\$1,968.00	2.62%
GRAND TOTAL	\$75,152.00	100.00%



2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION EXPENSES

Township of Verona



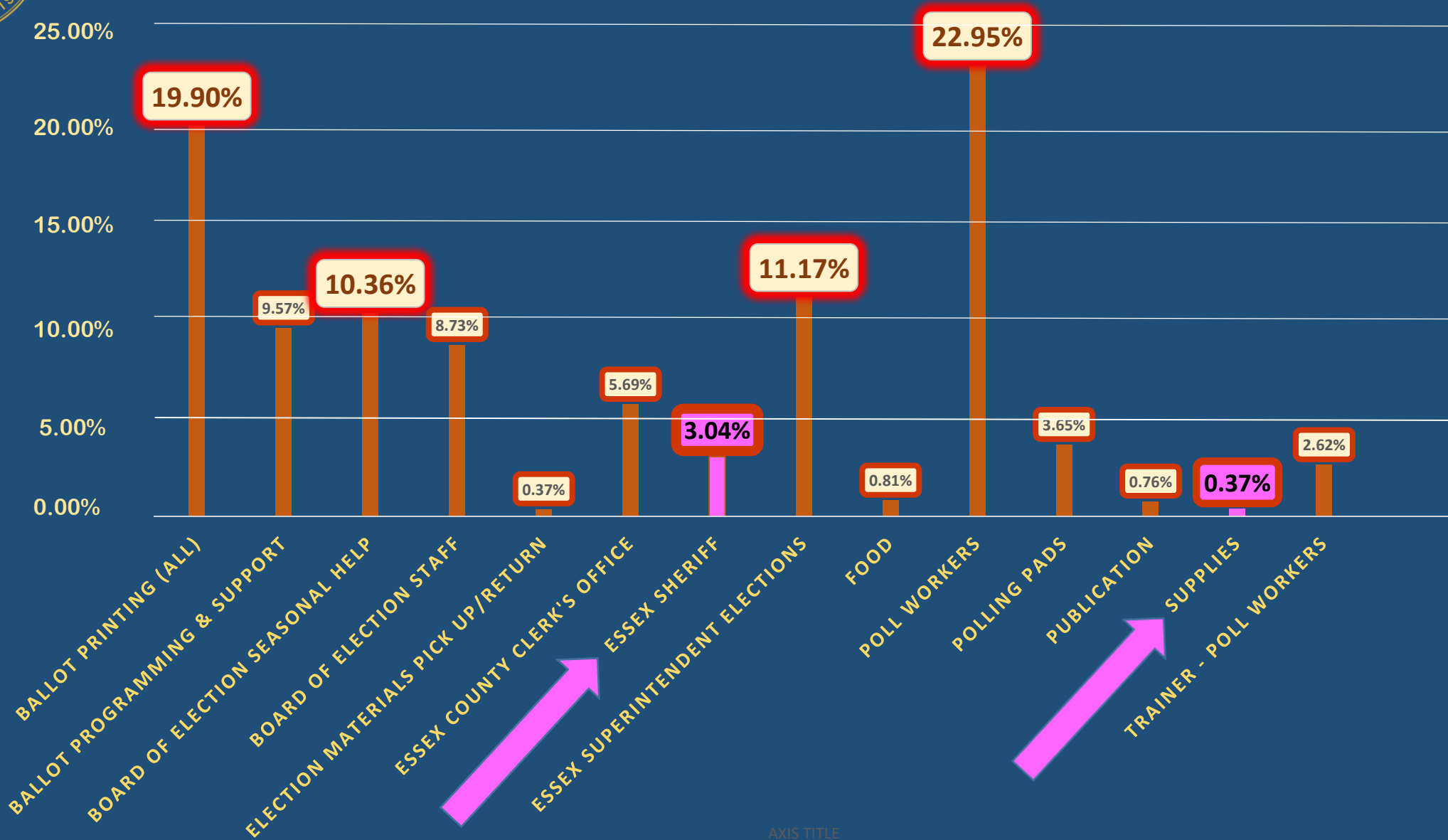


How can Municipal Election expenses be decreased with non-partisan May elections?



Fixed Costs vs. Variable Costs

Cost to Run Election in May Cost to Run Election in November



AXIS TITLE



OTHER COST DRIVING FACTORS...

Verona's municipal elections coincide with Cedar Grove and South Orange.

Some incurred expenses are split three (3) ways by the County officials

It's unclear how much of an increase in costs Verona would bear if one or both of those municipalities moved their elections to November.



MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS CHANGE OF DATE PERMITTED

N.J.S.A. 40:45-7.1

Any municipality governed by the provisions of the "Uniform Nonpartisan Elections Law," may, by ordinance, choose to hold regular municipal elections on the day of the general election, the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.



NON-BINDING REFERENDUM

(BY GOVERNING BODY)

N.J.S.A. 19:37-1

- ❖ All municipalities have the right to a non-binding referendum to gauge the sentiment of the voters
- ❖ Results do not bind the governing body



NON-BINDING REFERENDUM

(BY GOVERNING BODY)

N.J.S.A. 19:37-1

All municipalities have the right to non-binding referenda
to gauge the sentiment of the voters

Results do not bind the governing body

1. Adopt (at any regular meeting) an ordinance or resolution requesting the County Clerk place a question for the voters of the municipality on the ballot of the next general election (November 5, 2024)
2. The request, certified by the Municipal Clerk, shall be filed with the County Clerk no later than 81 days prior to that election – *Friday, August 16, 2024*
(20 day estoppel = July 27th)



IF MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATE IS CHANGED

N.J.S.A. 40:45-5 et seq.

it shall not be permitted to change the day of the election back to the second Tuesday in May until:

1. At least ten (10) years have passed since the adoption of the ordinance changing the date of the municipal election to the day of the general election (*November*)
2. A new ordinance providing for regular municipal elections to occur on the second (2nd) Tuesday in May is adopted by the municipality's governing body.



Township of Verona

IF MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATE IS CHANGED

N.J.S.A. 40:45-5 et seq.

The term of any person in office on the date of the adoption of such an ordinance shall be extended until the beginning of the term of the person elected to that office on the day of the general election in November



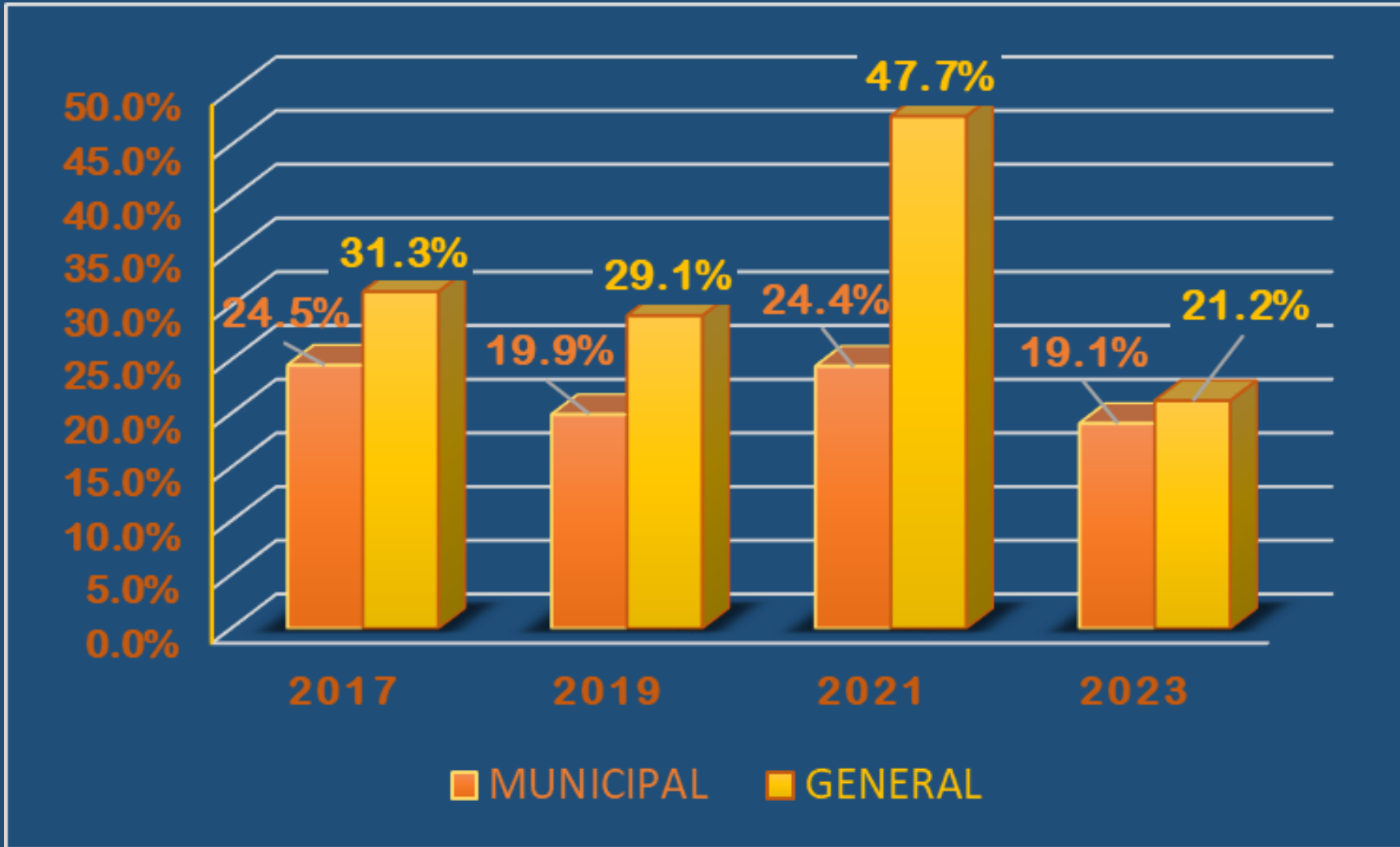
ORDER OF BALLOT FOR NOVEMBER MUNICIPAL ELECTION

N.J.S.A. 19:14-18

The term of any person in office on the date of the adoption of such an ordinance shall be extended until the beginning of the term of the person elected to that office on the day of the general election in November



VOTER TURNOUT





DISCUSSION

