Voting Behavior Among African Americans/Blacks Ages 50+

A majority of African Americans/Blacks ages 50+ say they always vote in Presidential and local elections.

- **Presidential Elections**:
  - Always vote: 80%
  - Usually vote: 7%
  - Vote about half the time: 7%
  - Rarely vote: 4%
  - Never vote: 2%

- **Local Elections**:
  - Always vote: 57%
  - Usually vote: 11%
  - Vote about half the time: 17%
  - Rarely vote: 6%
  - Never vote: 9%

African Americans/Blacks ages 70+ vote more frequently in Presidential elections compared to those ages 50-69.

- **Always Votes in Presidential Elections**
  - 50-59 Years: 76%
  - 60-69 Years: 77%
  - 70+ Years: 89%

- **Always Votes in Local Elections**
  - 50-59 Years: 53%
  - 60-69 Years: 62%
  - 70+ Years: 57%

Among African Americans/Blacks ages 50+, men tend to vote more frequently in local elections than women.

- **Always Votes in Presidential Elections**
  - Men: 79%
  - Women: 80%

- **Always Votes in Local Elections**
  - Men: 61%
  - Women: 53%

African Americans/Blacks ages 50+ who perceive themselves as having the ability to influence community problems are more likely to always vote in Presidential and local elections than those who do not hold this perception.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Acting Alone</th>
<th>Joined with Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perceived Amount of Influence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lot/moderate amount of influence</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little or no influence</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Always Votes in Presidential Elections</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always Votes in Presidential Elections</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Always Votes in Local Elections</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** These findings were gathered in August 2016 from a telephone survey of 714 African American/Black adults ages 50+.

Source: Connecting, Serving, and Giving: Civic Engagement Among Mid-Life and Older African American/Black Adults, 2016.

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