



2022

PRIMARY ELECTION PROFILE

ARIZONA



ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022

PROJECTED LATINO VOTE FOR NOVEMBER 2022: 644,600

TOTAL POPULATION (2020):

7,151,502

LATINO POPULATION (2020):

2,192,253



The landscape for the 2022 midterm primary and general elections in Arizona includes several policy and political developments that could affect Latino participation and political progress in the state. These elections will be the first to take place after the Census 2020 apportionment of congressional seats. During the redistricting of Arizona's congressional and state legislative seats, some advocates raised concerns over whether the final state legislative maps provided Latinos with fair electoral opportunities. Arizona's midterm elections will also take place after the state has enacted legislation that would impose severe restrictions on the ability of Arizonans to register to vote and cast ballots. Finally, Arizona will see some of the nation's most competitive statewide and congressional races. Latinos comprise nearly one of every five registered voters in the state, and they are posed to help determine the outcome of these contests.

REDISTRICTING

The state's Independent Redistricting Commission drew the lines for congressional and state legislative districts in Arizona. The members of the Commission include two Democrats, two Republicans, and an independent chair. In the Commission's final congressional maps, two of the state's nine congressional districts had a majority Latino citizen voting-age population (CVAP), the same number of Latino-majority districts that existed prior to redistricting. Some advocates for the Latino community [believed](#) that maintaining two Latino-majority districts in the final maps was the best that could be done to protect Latino electoral opportunities.

Arizona's state legislature has 30 legislative districts, each electing one State Senator and two State Representatives. Advocates for the Latino community proposed a state legislative map that would have increased the number of districts with a very strong Latino presence from seven to eight, but the Commission's final map included only seven districts with a Latino CVAP near or over 50 percent.

RESTRICTIVE VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTING REQUIREMENTS

In 2021 and 2022, Arizona enacted several legislative measures that could impair the ability of Latinos and other underrepresented voters to register to vote and cast ballots. For example, in 2021, the legislature enacted measures that would essentially eliminate the state's permanent early voting list and impose stricter signature requirements for vote-by-mail (VBM) ballots. As a result, the laws would make it more difficult for Arizonans to vote by mail.

In 2022, the legislature enacted HB 2492, which is an effort to expand the state's ability to require proof of citizenship from voter registration applicants. In 2004, Arizona attempted to impose a proof of citizenship requirement for all voter registration applicants, but federal court rulings only permitted the requirement to be imposed for applicants using registration forms from states and localities. Under the rulings, while citizens could register to vote without providing proof of citizenship using a form provided under the federal National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), the state was able to restrict the ability of these voters to cast ballots only in federal elections.

HB 2492 is an attempt by Arizona to circumvent the court rulings and the protection of the NVRA by generally requiring election officials to investigate the U.S. citizenship status of Arizonans who try to register using the federal voter registration form. In fact, the legislature's legal counsel told the legislative Rules Committee that the bill violated the NVRA. If the law goes into effect, it could have a particularly detrimental impact on naturalized citizens and older residents because the databases used for election officials' "investigations" into U.S. citizenship status often lack accurate information about these potential voters. As a result, voting rights advocates and the U.S. Department of Justice have brought suit against HB 2492. While the restrictions imposed by Arizona in 2021 and 2022 will not generally have an effect on Election 2022, they will start having an effect on Election 2024 unless halted by the courts. Nonetheless, they have created an environment that perpetuates the myth of widespread voter fraud and that targets the participation of Latinos and other underrepresented groups.

CONGRESSIONAL RACES

U.S. House of Representatives

Both of Arizona's incumbent Latino U.S. Representatives – Democrats Ruben Gallego and Raúl Grijalva – face no serious opposition in either their primary or general election contests and are likely to win their bids to serve another term.

In Arizona's 6th Congressional District, Latinos are running on both sides of the aisle for a chance to win the seat held by U.S. Rep Ann Kirkpatrick (D), who is retiring at the end of her term. In the

Democratic primary, State Rep. Daniel Hernandez, Jr. is in a competitive contest facing former State Rep. Kirsten Engel. In the Republican primary, Juan Ciscomani, a Senior Advisor to Governor Doug Ducey (R), is the frontrunner in a crowded field of contenders. Some political observers [believe](#) that the 6th Congressional District is a swing seat that either party could win.

The Republican primary frontrunners in Arizona's 4th Congressional District include attorney and sports executive Tanya Contreras Wheelless and Marine Corps veteran and restaurant owner Kelly Cooper, with Chandler City Councilmember Rene Lopez also making a bid for the nomination. The victor of the primary will have a tough but somewhat competitive race against incumbent U.S. Rep. Greg Stanton (D), who faces no primary opposition. In Arizona's 5th Congressional District, attorney Javier Ramos is the only candidate in the Democratic primary but will face an uphill battle in his general election bid to unseat the likely Republican nominee, incumbent U.S. Rep. Andy Biggs.

STATEWIDE RACES

Incumbent Governor Doug Ducey (R) is termed-out, and Arizona's November gubernatorial contest could be one of the most competitive in the nation. In the Democratic primary, former Nogales Mayor and Obama Administration official Marco Lopez is in a tough battle against Secretary of State Katie Hobbs. The leading candidates in the Republican primary include former news anchor Kari Lake, former Arizona Board of Regents member Karrin Taylor Robson, and business owner Paola Tulliani-Zen.

With incumbent Katie Hobbs (D) running for Governor, Arizona may also see a close general election contest for Secretary of State. In the Democratic primary, former Maricopa County Recorder Adrian Fontes is a strong contender facing Reginald Bolding, the Minority Leader of the Arizona House of Representatives. The leading Republican candidates include Arizona State Representative Mark Finchem and advertising firm executive Beau Lane.

State Senator Martin Quezada is running unopposed in the Democratic primary for State Treasurer. He will face a difficult bid to unseat the likely victor of the Republican primary, incumbent Kimberly Yee.

Arizona's two Latina incumbent Corporation Commissioners, Lea Marquez Peterson (R) and Anna Tovar (D), are not up for re-election in 2022.

ARIZONA LATINO VOTER PROJECTION FOR ELECTION 2022

NALEO Educational Fund projects that more than 644,000 Latinos will cast ballots in the 2022 midterm Arizona elections in November. Our projection is based on trends in voter turnout in the past five midterm congressional elections. Between 2014 and 2018, there was a dramatic increase of 61.5 percent in turnout. As described in more detail in NALEO Educational Fund’s [2022 Latino Vote Projections](#), several factors may have contributed to this increase, including the political dialogue around such issues as the migrant caravan crisis along the border, a rise in anti-Latino measures, and comments about immigrants from then-President Trump. Therefore, considering the trends in the past five midterm elections, we project the Arizona Latino vote in November 2022 to increase 9.6 percent from 2018 turnout and represent a 77.1 percent increase from 2014.

In addition, the Latino share of all Arizona voters in 2022 is expected to be 22.8 percent, which mirrors the Latino share in both 2018 and 2014.

Our Election 2022 projection is a floor, and the actual Latino vote could exceed the projection based on the political and policy environments leading into the November election. Furthermore, we note that one of the factors contributing to the groundbreaking turnout of Latinos in Election 2018 was the investment made by candidates and parties in Latino voter mobilization. This kind of investment will be crucial for the Arizona Latino vote in Election 2022 to match or exceed the vote of 2018. More information about Arizona Latino turnout can be found in “Voter Turnout” below and in NALEO Educational Fund’s [analysis](#) of national and state projected turnout in Election 2022.

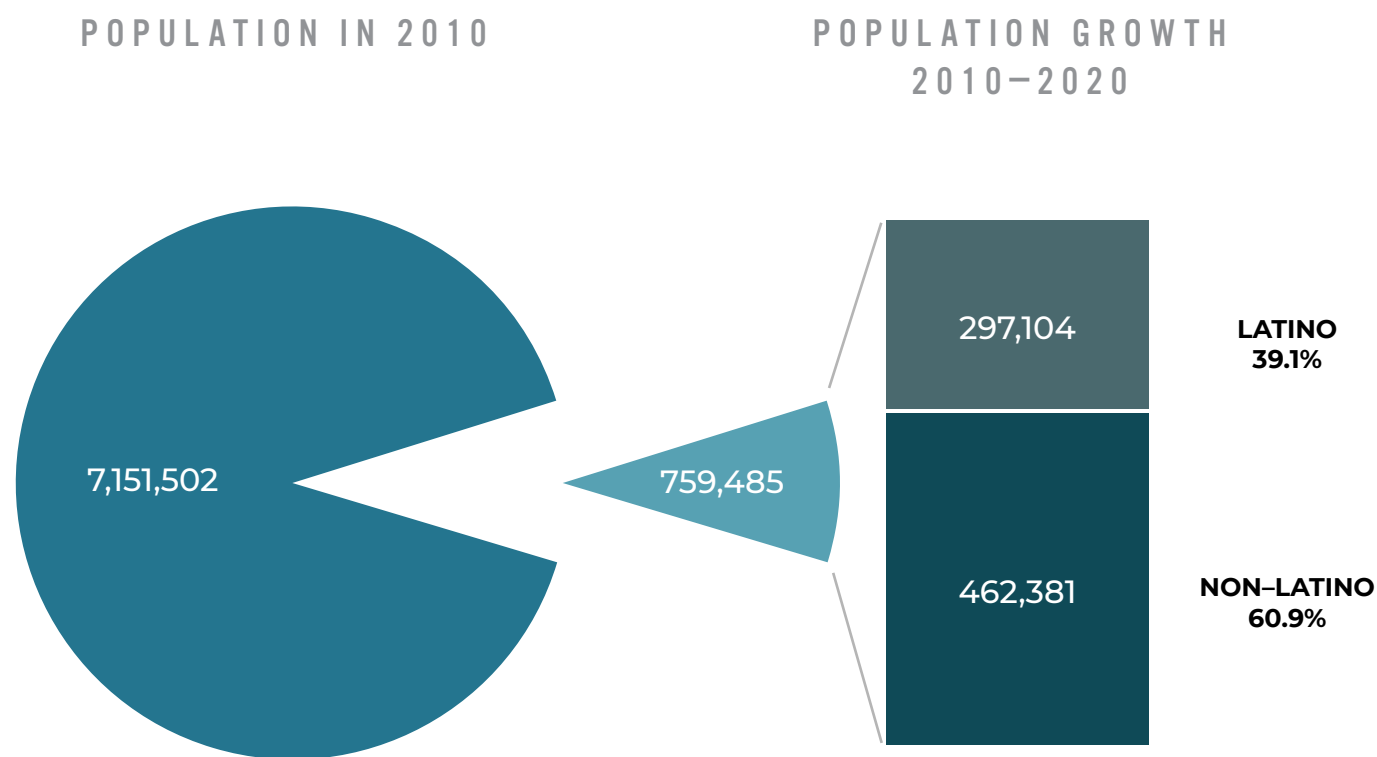


ARIZONA

PROJECTED LATINO VOTE 2022	LATINO VOTE 2018	% CHANGE BETWEEN 2018 AND 2022	LATINO VOTE 2014	% CHANGE BETWEEN 2014 AND 2022
644,600	588,000	9.6%	364,000	77.1%

POPULATION GROWTH BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020

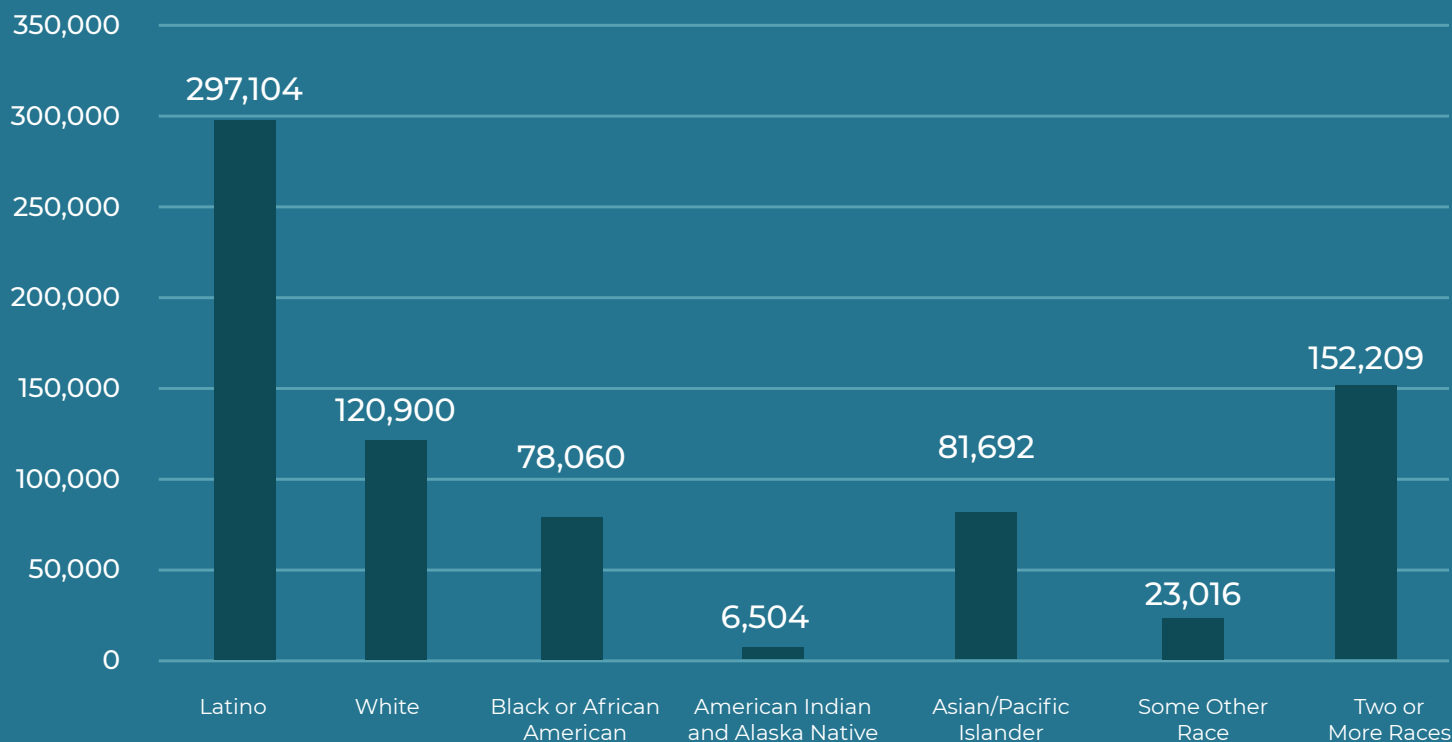
Between 2010 and 2020, Arizona’s total population grew from 6.4 million to 7.2 million, increasing 11.9 percent. During the same period, the state’s Latino population grew from 1.9 million to 2.2 million, increasing 15.7 percent. By comparison, the state’s non-Latino population increased by 10.3 percent. The increase in Arizona’s Latino population accounted for 39.1 percent of the state’s population growth during the past decade.



See “Sources” at the end of this profile for information about the potential impact of the national net undercount of Latinos in Census 2020 on the data in this profile.

GROWTH OF ARIZONA POPULATION GROUPS 2010-2020

The Arizona Latino population increase between 2010 and 2020 exceeded the growth of other population groups.



ARIZONA LATINO POPULATION 2020

	POPULATION	SHARE OF TOTAL POPULATION
All Latinos	2,192,253	30.7%
Latino Adults	1,489,617	26.9%
Latino Voting-Age Citizens	1,196,204	23.7%

See “Sources” at the end of this profile for information about the comparability of data sources for this table.

ARIZONA LATINO ELECTORATE

(as of April 2022, from VAN voter file)

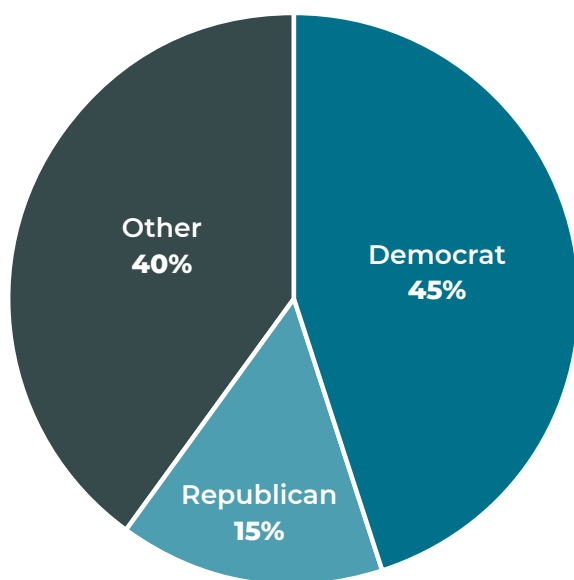
Total Registered Voters	4,192,279
Latino Registered Voters	803,157
Latino Share of Registered Voters	19.2%

Nearly one of every five Arizona registered voters (19.2 percent) is Latino.

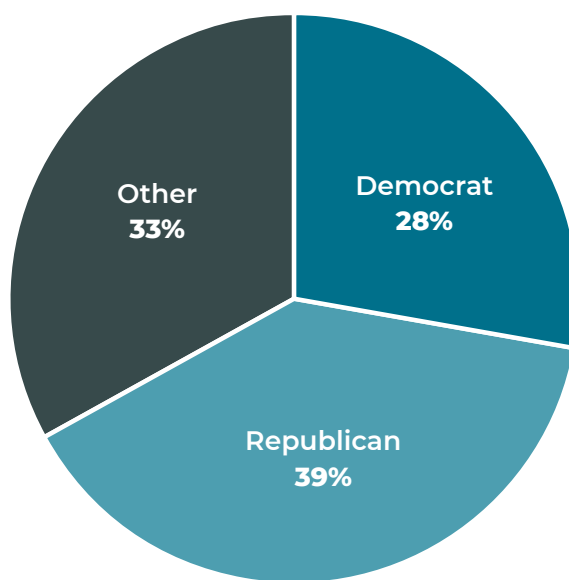
PARTY AFFILIATION

Latinos are more likely to be Democrats than non-Latinos, with 45 percent of Latinos affiliating with the Democratic Party, compared to 28 percent of non-Latinos. Latinos are less likely to be Republicans than the non-Latino electorate and more likely not to be affiliated with either major political party. Less than one of every six Latino registered voters (15 percent) is Republican, compared to 39 percent of non-Latinos. Two of every five Latino registered voters (40 percent) are not affiliated with either major party, compared to 33 percent of non-Latinos.

LATINO



NON-LATINO



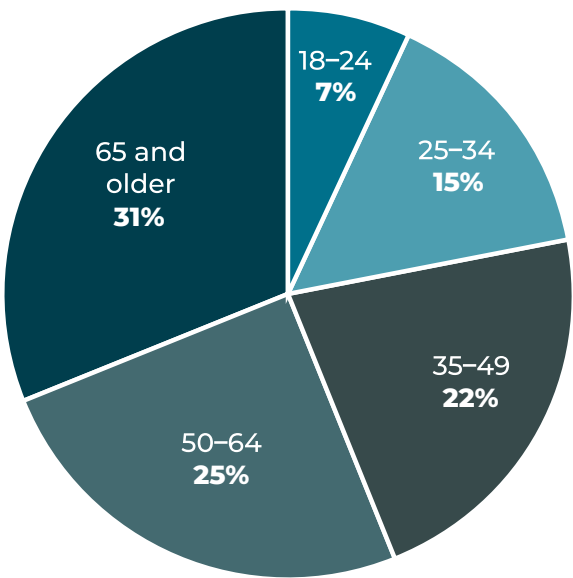
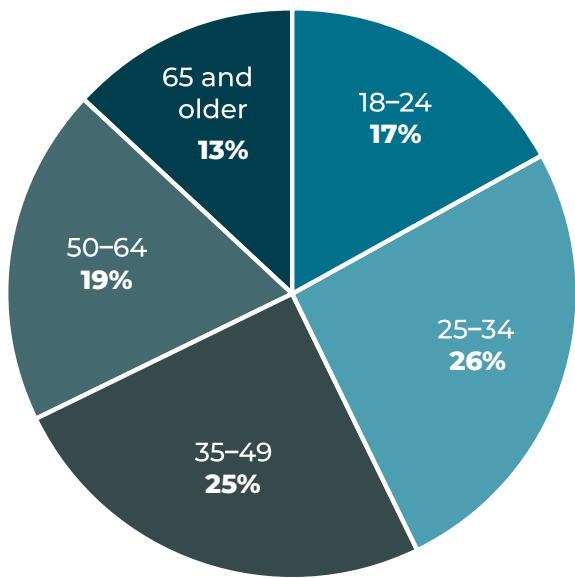
Totals may not add up to 100% because of rounding.

AGE

Arizona Latino registered voters tend to be younger than non-Latinos, with 18–24-year-olds comprising 17 percent of registered Latinos, compared to 7 percent of non-Latinos. Similarly, 26 percent of Latino registered voters are 25–34-year-olds, compared to 15 percent of non-Latinos. In contrast, 56 percent of non-Latino registered voters are 50 and older, compared to 32 percent of Latinos.

LATINO

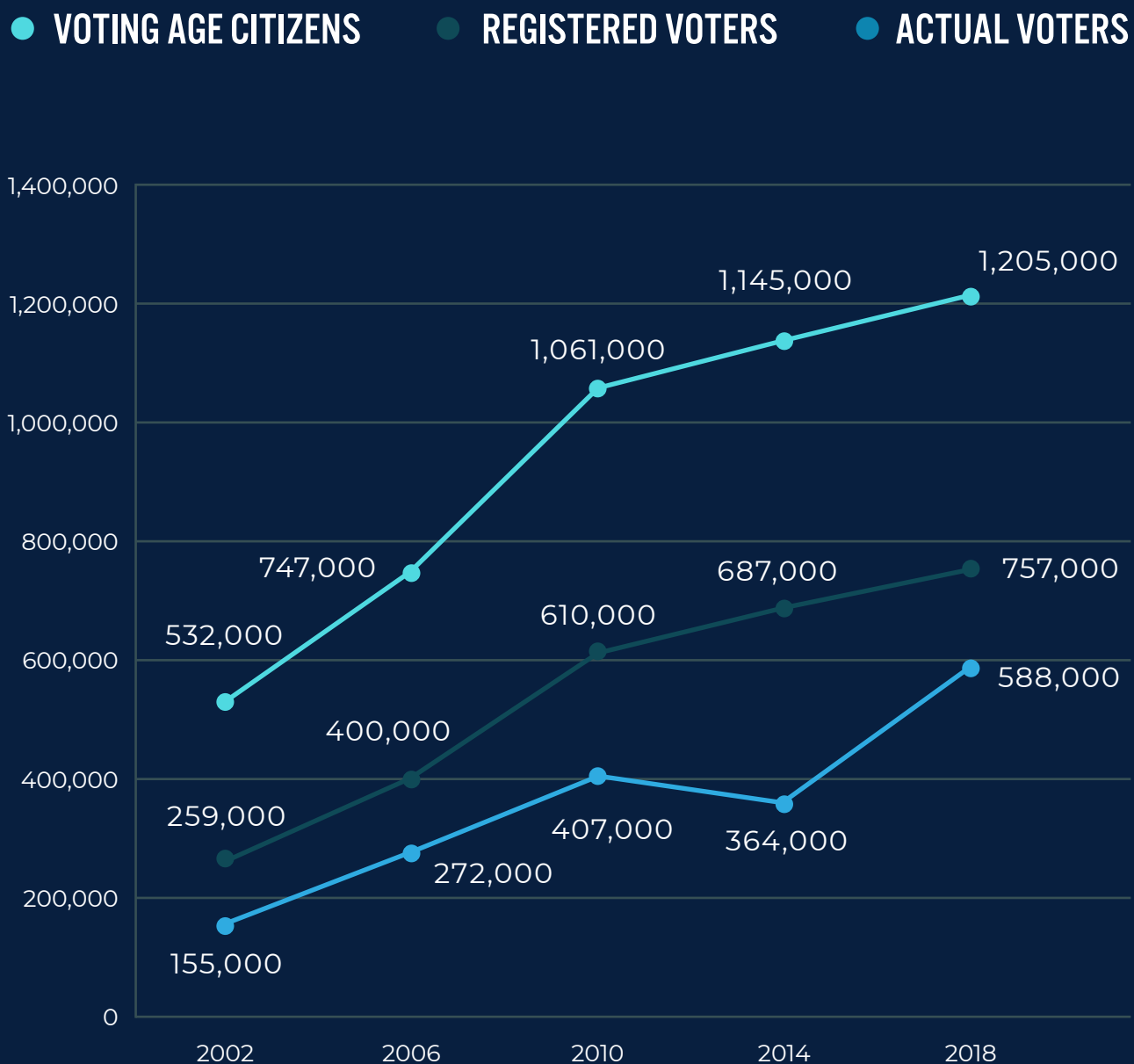
NON-LATINO



Totals may not add up to 100% because of rounding.

LATINO VOTER TURNOUT

Latino voter turnout in Arizona midterm elections decreased 10.6 percent from 407,000 in 2010 to 364,000 in 2014. Between 2014 and 2018, there was dramatic growth in the number of Latino voters from 364,000 to 588,000 — an increase of 61.5 percent.



LATINOS IN ARIZONA ELECTED OFFICES 1996–2021

In 2021, 358 Latinos served in elected office in Arizona, with 92 percent serving at the local level, including county, municipal, school board, and as judicial or law enforcement officials.

ARIZONA	1996	2001	2007	2013	2021
U.S. Representatives	1	1	2	2	2
State Officials	0	0	0	0	2
State Legislators	8	13	17	17	24
Local Officials	289	242	335	320	330
TOTAL	298	256	354	339	358

SOURCES

NALEO Educational Fund, National Directory of Latino Elected Officials, 2016–2021.

Generally, data on the overall Arizona and Latino populations for 2020 are from the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Summary Files. However, because these data do not include information on residents' citizenship, data on the 2020 citizen voting-age population of Arizona overall and Latinos are from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2016–2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year data. Therefore, this should be taken into account when making comparisons between population data in this profile.

Additionally, in March 2022, the Census Bureau released its first official estimate of the accuracy of Census 2020, which revealed national net undercounts of the Latino population (4.99 percent), the Black or African American population (3.30 percent), and the American Indian and Alaska Native population living on reservations (5.64 percent). The national net undercount of Latinos raises significant concerns about an undercount of Latinos in Arizona. NALEO Educational Fund is advocating that the Census Bureau provide disaggregated data by levels of geography lower than at the state level and that it conducts additional evaluation and assessments to enhance our understanding of the accuracy of the Census 2020 counts of Arizona.

The source of the voting and registration data in the profile, unless indicated otherwise, is from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS) and its *Voting and Registration in the Elections of November: 2002–2020* report. The CPS data used in this profile and the survey from which they are derived are subject to certain limitations. First, actual voter turnout and registration may be overestimated by the CPS because individuals may tend to over-report electoral participation. Additionally, the CPS is a national survey, and estimates derived for smaller sub-groups within the national population may be based on relatively small sample sizes. Consequently, the margin of error associated with estimates of voting and registration for these sub-groups is greater than the margin associated with the national population or larger population sub-groups.

PROJECTION METHODOLOGY

For Arizona, NALEO Educational Fund derived its projection of the Latino vote in Election 2022 by using a statistical modeling approach that takes into account trends in Latino voter turnout over the past five midterm election cycles. We determined Latino voter turnout in those cycles from U.S. Census Bureau CPS data and *Voting and Registration in the Elections of November: 2002–2018*. Because the projections are based on past voting trends, they do not take into account the potential increase or decrease in Latino turnout that could result from current circumstances, including challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, more robust voter engagement efforts, naturalization trends, changes in voter registration and voting laws and practices, or other factors.

NGP Voter Activation Network (VAN) voter file data, April 2022: VAN data are subject to some limitations regarding collecting, entering, maintaining, and analyzing voter file records. All estimates are of Registered Active Voters.

For more information about NALEO Educational Fund's publications about the Latino population or Election 2022, please contact Dorian Caal at dcaal@naleo.org or (213) 765-9450.