



NEWS RELEASE

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Election 2016: More than 433,000 Arizona Latinos Expected to Cast Ballots

NALEO Educational Fund's toll-free bilingual 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA hotline will provide Latino voters with information on every aspect of the electoral process in lead up to Election Day

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As Latino voters prepare to head to the polls in Arizona and two caucus states tomorrow, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund released its November turnout projection and primary profile for the Latino electorate in Arizona.

NALEO Educational Fund analysis projects that more than 433,000 Arizona Latinos will cast ballots this November, an expected increase of 8 percent from Election 2012. With neither major political party having a candidate who has reached the necessary number of delegates to earn the nomination at this point in the presidential contest, the Arizona primary election could have far-reaching implications.

More than one of six registered voters (17 percent) in Arizona are Latino, ensuring that the Latino electorate will have a strong voice in the outcome of key state races and both the primary and general elections. Since around 2010, Arizona emerged as “ground zero” in the nation’s debate over immigration policy, with the state enacting some of the most severe anti-immigrant measures in the country, including SB 1070. The 2016 presidential contest has featured a contentious dialogue around immigration issues thus far, with inflammatory rhetoric posed to potentially play a role in mobilizing increased numbers of Arizona Latinos to vote in Election 2016.

Arizona (Full Latino primary profile available [here](#))

- **Election 2016: More than 433,000 Arizona Latinos are expected to cast ballots this November.** This would mark an 8 percent increase in Latino turnout in the state from Election 2012.
- **Election 2012:** Approximately 400,000 Latinos voted in Election 2012, an increase of 109,000 voters – or 37.5 percent - from November 2008. The Latino share of the vote grew from 11.7 percent in 2008 to 16.6 percent in 2012.
- **Voter Turnout Trends:** Latino voter turnout in Arizona Presidential elections grew from 296,000 in 2004 to 400,000 in 2012, an increase of 35 percent.
- **Electoral College Votes:** 11

- **Latino Population:** More than two million Latinos reside in Arizona (2014), comprising 31 percent of the total population.
- **Latino Electorate:** There are more than 625,000 Latino registered voters in the state, accounting for more than one of every six (17 percent) Arizona registered voters (as of February 2016).
- **Party Affiliation:** Arizona's Latino registered voters are far more likely to be registered Democrats than non-Latinos (43 percent compared to 25 percent). Similarly, Latinos are far less likely to be registered as Republicans than non-Latinos (14 percent compared to 37 percent). A significant share of Latinos in Arizona are not affiliated with either major party (43 percent).

“Sadly, Latinos in Arizona are no stranger to the sort of inflammatory rhetoric we are hearing from some of the individuals contending for our nation’s highest office,” stated Arturo Vargas, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund executive director. “Candidates who choose to use the Latino community as a punching bag to score political points in Arizona and nationwide do so at their own peril. With more than 13.1 million Latino voters expected to cast ballots in 2016, the Latino community will throw the knockout punch come Election Day.”

According to NALEO Educational Fund projections, more than 13.1 million Latino voters are expected to make their voices heard at the ballot box in Election 2016, up from 11.2 million in 2012. This would mark a 17 percent increase in participation from Election 2012. Latino turnout could reach even higher numbers, depending on the candidates put forth by the major political parties and whether there is increased investment in outreach to Latino voters in the lead up to Election Day.

As we near Election 2016, NALEO Educational Fund will continue its efforts to ensure that Latino voters have the information necessary to make their voices heard at the ballot box. These efforts include operating the NALEO Educational Fund toll-free bilingual hotline **1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (1-888-839-8682)** that provides Latino voters with information on every aspect of the electoral process, from registering to vote, to voter ID requirements, to finding their polling place.

To view the full Arizona primary profile, click [here](#) or visit the NALEO Educational Fund election website at www.naleo.org/election2016.

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About NALEO Educational Fund

NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates the full participation of Latinos in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.