



NEWS RELEASE

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Election 2018

Nearly Half a Million Latino Voters Expected to Cast Ballots in Arizona

Latino voter turnout in Arizona mid-term Congressional elections grew from 120,000 in 1998 to 364,000 in 2014, an increase of 203 percent

Washington D.C. – Less than one week before Latino voters head to the polls in Arizona, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund released its Latino [primary election profile](#) of the Grand Canyon State. The primary profile includes key demographic information on the Latino population in Arizona, including an overview of the electorate, key races involving Latino candidates, and more.

NALEO Educational Fund projects a Latino turnout of 490,000 in Arizona in Election 2018, an increase of 34.6 percent from November 2014.

“Latino voters and candidates are poised to shape the political landscape of Arizona this year,” stated Arturo Vargas, NALEO Educational Fund chief executive officer. “With Latino voters preparing to turn out in historic numbers and a bipartisan group of Latino candidates running for office in competitive contests, the Latino community is leaving no doubt that it is the political future of Arizona.”

Latinos are set to play a critical role in Arizona’s 2018 primary. As candidates, Latinos with diverse political perspectives are mounting competitive campaigns in federal and statewide contests this year. Latinos also account for more than [one of every six Arizona registered voters](#) (18 percent) in the state, ensuring that the Latino electorate will play a decisive role in the primary and general elections.

Key Findings from the Arizona Latino Primary Election Profile include:

- **Latino Population:** More than 2.1 million Latinos reside in Arizona (2016), comprising 31 percent of the total population.
- **Latino Electorate:** There are more than 650,000 Latino registered voters in the state, accounting for more than one of every six (18 percent) Arizona registered voters (as of April 2018).
- **Voter Turnout Trends:** Latino voter turnout in Arizona mid-term Congressional elections grew from 120,000 in 1998 to 364,000 in 2014, an increase of 203 percent.
- **Party Affiliation:** Arizona’s Latino registered voters are far more likely to be Democrats and less likely to be Republicans than the non-Latino electorate. Nearly half of Latino registered voters are Democrats, 47 percent, compared to 26 percent of non-

Latinos, and 14 percent of Latinos are Republicans, compared to 40 percent of non-Latinos. Significant shares of both Latino and non-Latino registered voters are not affiliated with either major political party, 39 percent and 34 percent, respectively.

- **Age:** Arizona's Latino registered voters tend to be younger than non-Latinos, with 18-24 year-olds comprising 16 percent of registered Latinos, compared to 7 percent of non-Latinos. In contrast, over half of non-Latino registered voters are 50 and older, 57 percent, compared to 35 percent of Latinos.
- **Latinos in Elected Office:** In 2017, 377 Latinos served in elected office in Arizona, with 93 percent serving at the local level, including county, municipal, school board, judicial and law enforcement, and special district officials. This is up from the 299 Latino elected officials who served in 1996.

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 in 2018. These efforts include operating the NALEO Educational Fund toll-free bilingual hotline 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (1-888-839-8682) which 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. The hotline will be in operation for Election Day from 4 a.m. - 7 p.m. MT on Tuesday, August 28, 2018.

The full NALEO Educational Fund Arizona Latino Primary Election Profile is available for download [here](#).

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About NALEO Educational Fund

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