



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Election 2016: More than 13.1 Million Latino Voters to Cast Ballots**

*WASHINGTON, D.C.* – Coinciding with the Nevada Republican Caucus and less than one week before Latinos are expected to make a decisive impact on the outcome of Super Tuesday results, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund released its projection for Latino turnout in Election 2016, as well as turnout projections for key Super Tuesday states (Colo., Texas). The Latino turnout projections and election analysis were released at a press briefing at the National Press Club today.

**According to NALEO Educational Fund projections, more than 13.1 million Latino voters will cast ballots in Election 2016, up from 11.2 million in 2012.** This would mark a 17 percent increase in turnout and an 8.7 percent increase in the Latino share of the vote 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 non-partisan outreach to Latino voters in 2016.

“Early primary results have shown that the Latino vote is still very much up for grabs, even within the nation’s major political parties,” stated Arturo Vargas, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund executive director. “With more than 13.1 million Latinos expected to head to the polls to make their voices heard, no candidate or political party can afford to take our support for granted if they want to win the race for the White House in 2016.”

Latino voters are also expected to play a critical role in battleground states and states with sizeable Latino electorates, including:

#### **Colorado**

- **Election 2016: More than 277,500 Latinos are expected to cast ballots.\*** This would mark a 7.1 percent increase in turnout and 5.6 percent decrease in the Latino share of the vote from 2012. **Full primary profile available [here](#).**
- Election 2012: Approximately 259,000 Latinos voted, an increase of 64,000 voters – or 32.8 percent - from November 2008. The Latino share of the vote grew from 8.5 percent in 2008 to 10.4 percent in 2012.

#### **Nevada**

- **Election 2016: More than 194,000 Latinos are expected to cast ballots.\*** This would mark a 23.6 percent increase in turnout and 4.4 percent increase in the Latino share of the vote from 2012. **Full primary profile available [here](#).**

- Election 2012: Approximately 157,000 Latinos voted, an increase of 38,000 voters – or 31.9 percent - from November 2008. The Latino share of the vote grew from 11.6 percent in 2008 to 14.9 percent in 2012.

### **Texas**

- **Election 2016: More than 2,088,500 Latinos are expected to cast ballots.\*** This would mark a 10.5 percent increase in turnout and 2.1 percent increase in the Latino share of the vote from 2012. **Full primary profile available [here](#).**
- Election 2012: Approximately 1,890,000 Latinos voted, an increase of 193,000 voters – or 11.4 percent- from November 2008. The Latino share of the vote grew from 20.1 percent in 2008 to 21.9 percent in 2012.

*\*Full analysis and NALEO Educational Fund methodology available [here](#).*

Latinos also continue to shape the nation’s political landscape as candidates in Election 2016, accounting for two of the five remaining presidential candidates on the Republican side. U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz made history when he became the first Latino to win a presidential primary, finishing first in the Iowa Republican Caucus (fellow Cuban-American U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio finished in third). Both candidates went on to finish in the top three of the South Carolina Republican primary election held Saturday, February 20, 2016, with U.S. Sen. Rubio edging out U.S. Sen. Cruz for a second place finish.

Latino candidates are also demonstrating their viability as candidates for Congress and statewide office, with several notable races taking place this year across the country.

Vargas concluded, “13.1 million is only the floor for Latino turnout this year, with the possibility of even more Latino voters casting ballots if significant investments in Latino outreach are made by nonpartisan funders, candidates, parties and political donors in the lead up to November.”

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 on Election Day. On Election Day, the hotline is connected to the Election Protection efforts and 1-866-OUR-VOTE, offering Latino voters nationwide a bilingual resource to get assistance and report any problems they may experience at the polls.

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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.*