

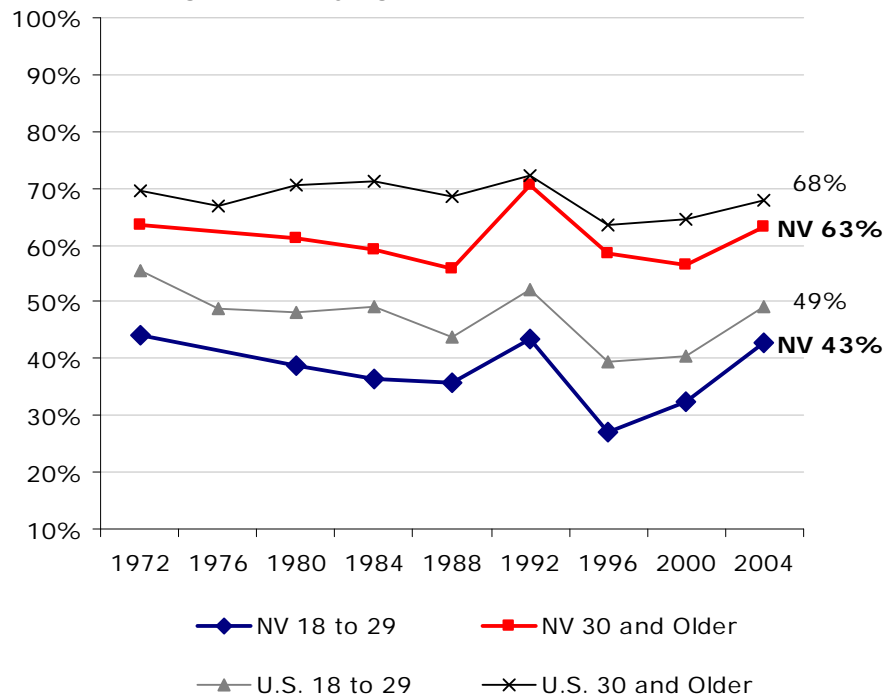
Quick Facts about Young Voters in Nevada: The Presidential Election Year 2008

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This year's general election follows a primary election that nationally witnessed a sharp increase in the youth turnout rate. In the 2004 presidential election, turnout among 18-to-29 year-olds in Nevada ranked 45th among all states and the District of Columbia, and was up 11 percentage points over 2000. Whether the voter mobilization momentum of 2008 primary season—which witnessed a eight percentage point increase in youth voter turnout from nine percent in 2000 to 17 percent in 2008—continues into the general election remains unpredictable.²

This fact sheet reports the characteristics of young voters for the state of Nevada, including estimates of the number of young voters and voter turnout rates in 2004 and 2000 for various sub-groups of young people.

Figure 1: Nevada Voter Turnout in Presidential Years Among Citizens, by Age



Source: Author's tabulations from the Current Population Survey, November Supplements, 1972-2004. No 1976 data for NV.

**Table 1: Summary of Young Voters in the Nevada Primary, 2008 and 2000³
Youth Turnout, Vote Count, and Vote Share**

	<u>Turnout Rate</u>	<u>Number of youth who voted</u>	<u>Youth as Share of All Voters</u>
2008	5 percent	19,848	12 percent
2000	***	***	***

Young Voters by Party

		<u>2008</u>	<u>2000</u>
Democratic	Number of Primary Participants	15,054	***
	Share of Primary Participants	13 percent	***
Republican	Number of Primary Participants	4,794	***
	Share of Primary Participants	11 percent	***

Youth Vote Choice by Party

	<u>Democratic Choice</u>	<u>Republican Choice</u>
Clinton	33 percent	Huckabee 7 percent
Edwards	7 percent	McCain 13 percent
Obama	59 percent	Paul 19 percent
		Romney 50 percent

Estimates of Eligible Young Voters, 2008

In 2008, a Presidential election year, there are an estimated 350 thousand young people in Nevada who are eligible to vote in U.S. elections.

Table 2 shows voting statistics for the years 2004 and 2000.⁴

Nevada's youth voter turnout rate was near the bottom of all states and the District of Columbia in 2004 and 2000.⁵

Table 2 – Nevada Voter Turnout Statistics, 2008, 2004, and 2000

	<u>Young People 18 to 29</u>	<u>Adults 30 and Older</u>
2008		
Number of Citizens Eligible to Vote in 2008	350 thousand	1.3 million
2004		
Number of Votes Cast	126 thousand	745 thousand
Voter Turnout Rate	42 percent	63 percent
Share of all Voters**	14 percent	86 percent
2000		
Number of Votes Cast	73 thousand	567 thousand
Voter Turnout Rate	32 percent	57 percent
Share of all Voters	11 percent	89 percent

Source: Authors' Tabulations, Current Population Survey, March Supplement 2008 and November Supplement 2004 and 2000.

Voter Turnout Rates in 2004 and 2000 Among Eligible Young Citizens

Table 3 – Nevada Voter Turnout Rates Among Young Citizens ages 18 to 29, 2004 and 2000

<u>Voter Turnout Rate</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2000</u>
Hispanics	***	***
Asian NH	***	***
Native American NH	***	***
NV Youth Rate	42 percent	32 percent
Gender		
Women	45 percent	36 percent
Men	39 percent	29 percent
White NH	44 percent	38 percent
Educational		

Table 2 displays voter turnout rates for various groups of young people in 2004 and 2000 in Nevada. 2004 was a year of high voter turnout for all youth groups in Nevada relative to 2000. But relative to the nation as a whole in 2004, youth in Nevada were less electorally engaged.

Attainment		
Less than High School	***	***
High School	32 percent	23 percent
Some College	51 percent	44 percent
BA or more	***	***
College Experience		
No experience	31 percent	23 percent
At least some experience	53 percent	44 percent
Marital Status		
Single Men	39 percent	33 percent
Single Women	44 percent	***
Married Men	***	***
Married Women	47 percent	***

Source: Authors' Tabulations from the 2004 and 2000 November Supplements of the Current Population Survey. '***' indicates a sample size is too small to produce a reliable estimate.

Notes

¹ We thank Mark Hugo Lopez for his 2006 fact sheet series on which this fact sheet is based. We also thank Peter Levine, Abby Kiesa, and Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg for comments on previous drafts of this fact sheet.

² See CIRCLE Fact Sheet ["The Youth Vote in the 2008 Primaries and Caucuses"](#)

³ The share of Caucus attendees is obtained from the 2008 NV Democratic and Republican exit polls conducted by Edison/Mitofsky. The numbers of votes cast are obtained from the www.nvdems.com and www.nvgopcaucus.com (as of 10:12 pm eastern time, 1/20/2008.) Estimated voter turnout is obtained by taking the estimated number of votes cast and dividing it by the estimated population of 18-to 29-year-old citizens and citizens over the age of 30 from the Current Population Survey (2007).

⁴ For a full discussion of the different ways voter turnout can be calculated please see "CIRCLE Working Paper 35: The Youth Voter 2004: With a Historical Look at Youth Voting Patterns 1972-2004." All voter turnout estimates presented in this fact sheet are calculated for U.S. citizens only, and according to the "Census Citizen Method" described in CIRCLE Working Paper 35.

⁵ For state-by-state comparisons of voter turnout rates, see the CIRCLE fact sheet "Youth Voter Turnout in the States during the 2004 Presidential Election and the 2002 Midterm Elections."

⁶ We have defined racial/ethnic groups in the CPS November Supplements by defining anyone with Hispanic background as Latino; individuals who cite a single non-Hispanic race or ethnicity are identified as non-Hispanic white, African American, Asian American or Native American.