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EXCLUSIVE RESEARCH: Youth Vote in Nevada Could be Pivotal in Upcoming Elections

With a diverse youth population and favorable state election laws, Nevada ranked as a top-ten state for potential youth vote impact in 2016

Medford/Somerville, MA –**When it comes to the youth vote, Nevada is a state to watch in 2016.** Young voters in Nevada are poised to have a major influence on the outcome of the 2016 presidential election, as well as on a key United States Senate race, according to the [Youth Electoral Significance Index](#), a data-driven tool developed by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning & Engagement (CIRCLE) – the preeminent, non-partisan research center on youth engagement at Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service.

The [index](#) analyzes a range of data to generate top-ten rankings for 2016 congressional races and states in the presidential contest and offers detailed analysis.

“Young people have the potential to shape elections, and that will certainly be true in Nevada in 2016 with strong and strategic youth outreach,” said Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, Director of CIRCLE. **“Nevada’s young people are racially and ethnically diverse. Also, more than one in five of them work in the leisure and service industry, a little more than the proportion of young people who are currently in college in Nevada. With early caucus dates and an open Senate seat, youth are poised to make an impact. Nevada is definitely a state to watch this year.”**

Immediately following the up-coming Democratic and Republican caucuses, CIRCLE will be releasing exclusive analysis of the youth voter turnout and candidate support data, including:

- Number of under-30 caucus-goers;
- Youth turnout percentage;
- Youth vote choice by party;
- Support for each candidate among under-30 voters;
- Comparisons to previous presidential elections;

This information will be posted as soon as it comes available following each of the Nevada caucuses at www.civicyouth.org.

Important narratives to consider regarding young voters in Nevada:

- Nevada is diverse state with 377,000 young citizens, 10% of whom are Black, 36% Latino, and 2.5% Native American.
- Compared to other states, Nevada has a lower percentage of youth enrolled in college, and 20% of young people have children. This could mean that issues such as early childhood education and the minimum wage are as important to young voters as college affordability and student loan debt.
- State election laws – like pre-registration and online voter registration – may make a difference in Nevada in 2016.
- [A recent analysis](#) found that young voters are increasingly more likely to register as "unaffiliated/Independent," so candidates from all parties have much to do to win their support.

Throughout this election season, [CIRCLE's 2016 Election Center](#) will offer new data products and currently includes [this preview of the Nevada caucuses](#). You can also view trend data on youth turnout via [CIRCLE's interactive maps](#).

CIRCLE youth vote experts also are available for interviews and/or analysis. Media outlets should contact: Brad Luna at brad@lunaeisenlamedia.com or 202-812-8140

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CIRCLE (www.civicyouth.org) is a nonpartisan, independent, academic research center that studies young people in politics and presents detailed data on young voters in all 50 states. CIRCLE is part of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

The Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service (<http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/>) is a national leader whose model and research are setting the standard for higher education's role in civic engagement education. Serving every school of Tufts University, Tisch College creates an enduring culture that prepares students to be lifelong active citizens.

Tufts University (<http://www.tufts.edu/>), located on three Massachusetts campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, and in Talloires, France, is recognized as one of the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.