Native Vote 2016:
Getting Out the Vote with Native Youth & Families

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Priority States

- Alaska (17%)
- Oklahoma (11%)
- New Mexico (10%)
- South Dakota (8%)
- Montana (7%)
- North Dakota (5%)
- Arizona (5%)
- Wyoming (3%)
- Washington (3%)
Native Vote Focus States*

- Alaska
- Arizona
- Colorado
- Florida
- Iowa
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Montana
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- South Dakota
- Washington
- Wisconsin

*Determined by American Indian/Alaska Native population and impact of Native vote on congressional, state, and local races.
Place Matters

American Indians and Alaska Natives as a Share of the Total Population, by State, 2009-2011

Total: 2.5 million = 1% of U.S. Population

American Indian and Alaska Native includes people of Hispanic origin.
SOURCE: KCMU analysis of 2009 - 2011 ACS.
Top 10 States with the Highest Populations of Voting-Age Natives

The power of the Native Vote has been significant in state races and important national races.

Every Native Vote Counts

Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) credits her victory in the 2010 election to the significant power of the Alaska Native vote. With over 100,000 write-in votes, she was only the 2nd successful US Senate write-in candidate.

In 2006, Senator John Tester (D-MT) won his election by 3,562 votes, over 17,000 voters cast ballots on Indian reservations.

Senator Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) won the 2012 election by a 1% margin. Heitkamp noted that her only road to Washington, DC was through Indian Country.

Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD) was re-elected by 500 votes in 2002, with the final votes counted coming from the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Map Key
- Eligible AIAN Voters in 2010
- AIAN population as % of state’s total population (18 and over)
Who is Voting?

Native Women or Men?

Young Natives (18-35)?
Mid-Range Natives (36-54)?
Elder Natives (55+)?
In Montana and New Mexico, *Native Americans are registered to vote at a higher rate* than that of any other racial/ethnic group:

- MONTANA: Native American 64.1%; Caucasian 63.6%; Middle Eastern 58%; African American 56%; Hispanic 54%; Asian 54%
- NEW MEXICO: Native American 77%; African American 73%; Caucasian 70%; Hispanic 68%; Middle Eastern 63%; Asian 62%

In Montana and New Mexico, **young Native men** (aged 18-24) are registered at the highest rate of all groups of Native American registered voters.
Elected Representation in US Government

If representation in Congress was proportional to the US Native population, we would have 2 Native Senators and 7 Native Members of the House.

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<th>Actual</th>
<th>Proportional</th>
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<tr>
<td>House</td>
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64 Native State Legislators

- **Oklahoma**: 22 Native Legislators
- **New Mexico**: 9 Native Legislators
- **Montana**: 8 Native Legislators
- **Arizona**: 5 Native Legislators
- **Alaska**: 5 Native Legislators
- **Maine**: 3 Native Legislators
- **South Dakota**: 3 Native Legislators
- **Washington**: 2 Native Legislators
- **Illinois**: 1 Native Legislator
- **Kansas**: 1 Native Legislator
- **Maryland**: 1 Native Legislator
- **Minnesota**: 1 Native Legislator
- **North Carolina**: 1 Native Legislator
- **North Dakota**: 1 Native Legislator
- **Wyoming**: 1 Native Legislator

17 Senators

- 31% Female
- 69% Male

47 Representatives
Native Candidates Running for Office in 2016 Election

• 8 Native Congressional Candidates
  ➢ 4 won primaries

• 90 Native State Legislative Candidates
HOT TOPICS

Key Issues that Bring Native People to the Ballot Box

- Tribal Government Sovereignty
- Indian Child Welfare
- Education
- Water
- Energy
- Gaming
- Environmental Impact Issues
- Federal Budget & Spending
CTUIR Youth GOTNV

Rock the Native Vote Video YOUTH COUNCIL 4.16.mp4