



in association with:
 Oregon Student Association
 Oregon Student Public
 Interest Research Group
 Oregon Community College
 Student Association
 Building Votes

**STUDENT & YOUNG VOTER ORGANIZERS
 POINT TO RECORD TURNOUT IN OREGON**
 Youth Turnout in Targeted Precincts Increases by 42% above 2002 levels

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Young voters in Oregon, specifically in precincts where they were targeted by organizing efforts, turned out at record levels last Tuesday despite monsoon-like weather in the days leading up to and including Election Day. Strong youth turnout in Oregon should at least in part be attributed to the youth-targeted registration and Get Out the Vote efforts of the Student Vote Coalition, led by the Oregon Students Association, OSPIRG, and Building Votes.

- Youth voting groups combined to register over 34,000 new young voters across the state. Statewide, precincts in which youth were targeted had 28% higher youth voter turnout than precincts in which youth were not targeted by organizing efforts.
- Some youth-targeted precincts in Portland reached as high as 66% turnout among registered 18-34 year olds.
- In the three most student and youth-dense precincts in Eugene, turnout was up as much as 43% from 2002. Specific Lane County precinct turnout numbers are listed in the table below:

Precinct	18-34 votes cast (2002)	18-34 votes cast (2006)	% Increase '02-'06
Lane 1313 (West University District)	906	1289	42.27%
Lane 1431 (next to Autzer Stadium at UO)	336	482	43.45%
Lane 1315 (South University District)	947	1077	13.73%

- Students and young people in these targeted neighborhoods easily outpaced the increase in turnout in Lane County overall:

Lane County votes cast of all ages:
 2002: **126,910**
 2006: **141,071**
 Increase in overall Lane County turnout 2002-2006: **11.15%**

- In student-dense Lane precinct 1313¹, a higher percentage of 18-29 year olds voted this election than did the general population in that precinct! 46.3% of registered 18-29 year olds turned out, compared to 44.3% of the general population.

“These turnout numbers make it clear that young people are beginning to find their political footing in a very real way.” said Alex Aronson, Lead Organizer with Building Votes. “Across the country, youth based, peer-to-peer Get Out the Vote programs challenged a generation of young people to claim its democratic voice—and the young people responded.”

“College students know that voting builds our power to win victories on the issues we care about, and this year was no different,” said Oregon Student Association Board Chair and OSU student Megan Driver. “The numbers show that our hard work turned out students at the polls and that is why we’re wasting no time telling our newly reelected governor and our legislators about the issues students care about.”

Founded in 1975, **The Oregon Student Association (OSA)** is a coalition of student governments dedicated to the representation, service, and protection of the collective interests of over 100,000 students in postsecondary education.

The Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG) is a non-partisan, student directed, state-based organization that works to solve public interest problems related to the environment, consumer protection, and government reform. For 30 years, students involved with PIRG chapters on college campuses have had a chance to face up to society's big problems, take action, and win concrete changes that improve the quality of our lives.

Building Votes is the nonpartisan young voter organizing program of the Oregon Bus Project. BV is active on campuses as part of its effort to register and mobilize 15,000 young apartment dwellers in Portland and Eugene.

The Oregon Community College Student Association represents the seventeen publicly chartered community colleges and their locally elected board members as well as the interests of the faculty, staff, administration and nearly 350,000 students in those colleges. Founded in 1962, OCCA is an association whose purpose is to support the colleges before policy-makers and partners whose actions affect the well-being of community colleges across the state.

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¹ This precinct in the West University neighborhood is comprised of 99 percent rentals, the overwhelming majority of which are UO students. It is the most student-dense precinct at the UO (and thus one could assume in all of Oregon).