Quick Facts about Young Voters in Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI¹: The Midterm Election Year 2006

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The 2006 midterm election was the second major election in a row that saw an increase in the electoral participation of young people ages 18-29. Between 2002 and 2006, the percentage of eligible young people who voted increased by 3 percentage points to 25 percent, the single largest increase among all age groups nationally.³

In Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI, the voter turnout rate among young people was 39 percent, one percentage point below Wisconsin’s state average but fourteen points above the national average.

There was a 29 percentage point gap between young people and adults in the U.S., and this gap was the same (22 percentage points) at the more local level of Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI.

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¹ Source: Author’s tabulations from the Current Population Survey, November Supplement, 2006
² CIRCLE was founded in 2001 with a generous grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts and is now also funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.
³ CIRCLE is based in the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy.
Notes

1 Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI, includes the counties of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha, as well as the principal cities of Milwaukee, Waukesha, and West Allis.

2 I thank Mark Hugo Lopez and Peter Levine for comments on previous drafts of this fact sheet. All errors in fact or interpretation are my own.

3 See “Youth Voter Turnout Increases in 2006” by Mark Hugo Lopez, Karlo Barrios Marcelo, and Emily Hoban Kirby for a longer discussion of youth voter turnout trends in 2006. www.civicyouth.org