

**2012 & 2016 CAMPUS REPORT**

Student Voting Rates for  
University of California-  
Davis

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# About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 1,000 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014 and 2016 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of nearly 30 million college student records, about 10 million for each election year, that serve as a foundation for innovative research on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

NSLVE is a signature initiative of the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education (IDHE) at Tufts University's Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life. The mission of IDHE is to shift college and university priorities and culture to advance political learning, agency, and equity. We achieve our mission through research, resource development, technical assistance, and advocacy.

## About the Data

The voter registration and voting rates in this report reflect the percentage of your institution's students who were eligible to vote and who actually voted in the 2012 and 2016 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (FERPA-blocked records excluded) and publicly available voting files collected by Catalyst.

Institutional voting rates are adjusted by deducting an estimated number of students identified by each institution as non-resident aliens and reported to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). For breakdowns by student characteristics, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are non-resident aliens, resident aliens, or undocumented students. This may result in your institution's actual voting rate being higher than we report. To calculate that percentage, and to read more about NSLVE data, see our [FAQ on Campus Reports](#). Please also see [Creating and Maintaining the NSLVE Database](#) paper for a more detailed study methodology.

## Reviewing the Data

Use the following key to interpret the charts:

- \* = number of students is less than 10
- n/a = no data was collected or calculated for this field.

## What to do next?

- Review the data. This report provides a baseline measure of your students' engagement in democracy in 2012 and 2016, and compares your institution's voting rates to similar institutions. Visit our website for more comparison data.
- Share the report widely and strategically, including posting it online.
- Put your data into practice. Use our IDHE Resources to guide you.
- Address your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, and participation. Start by bringing the IDHE team to your campus or using the IDHE self-assessment rubric available on our website.
- Partner with IDHE. We are available with virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions and in-person trainings.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: [idhe.tufts.edu](http://idhe.tufts.edu).

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE) or email us at [NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu).

Warm regards,  
IDHE Team

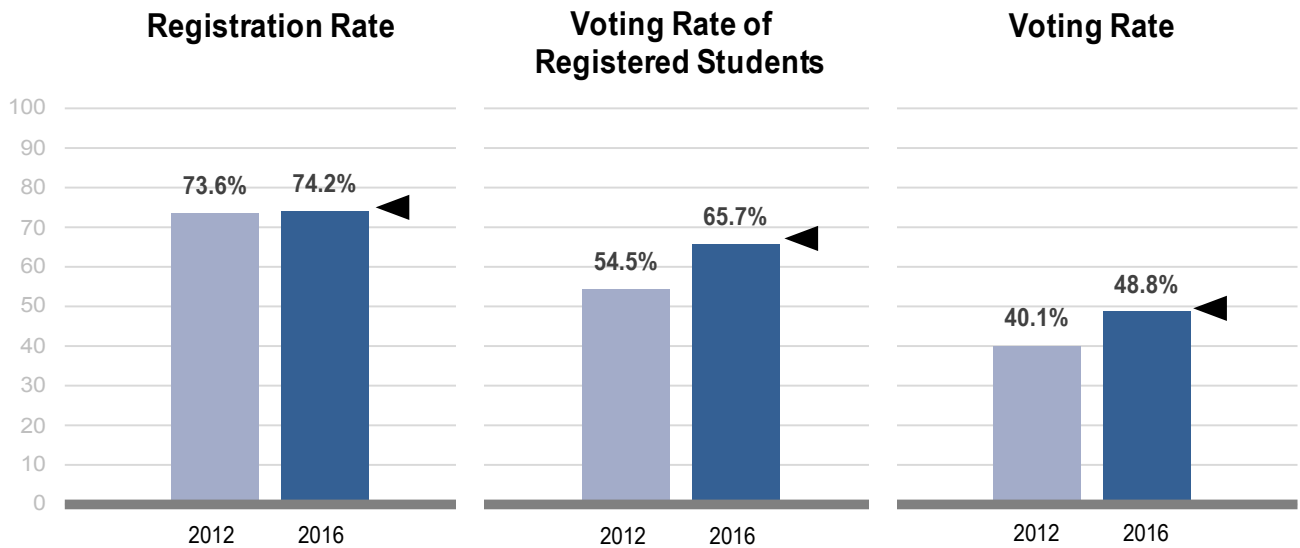
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# Voting and Registration Rates

**2016 Voting Rate**  
**48.8%**

CHANGE FROM 2012  
**8.7**

2016 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS  
**50.4%**



◀ All Institutions, 2016

	2012	2016	Change
Total student enrollment	30,763	36,234	↑ 5,471
Age under 18/Unknown	(315)	(350)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(2,045)	(4,713)	
FERPA records blocked	*	0	
Total eligible voters	28,402	31,171	↑ 2,769
Number of students who registered	20,893	23,119	↑ 2,226
Number of students who voted	11,377	15,198	↑ 3,821
Registration rate	73.6%	74.2%	↑ 0.6
Voting rate of registered students	54.5%	65.7%	↑ 11.3
Voting rate	40.1%	48.8%	↑ 8.7
Difference from all institutions	-6.8	-1.6	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Carnegie Classification

**2012 Voting Rate for All Institutions**  
**46.9%**

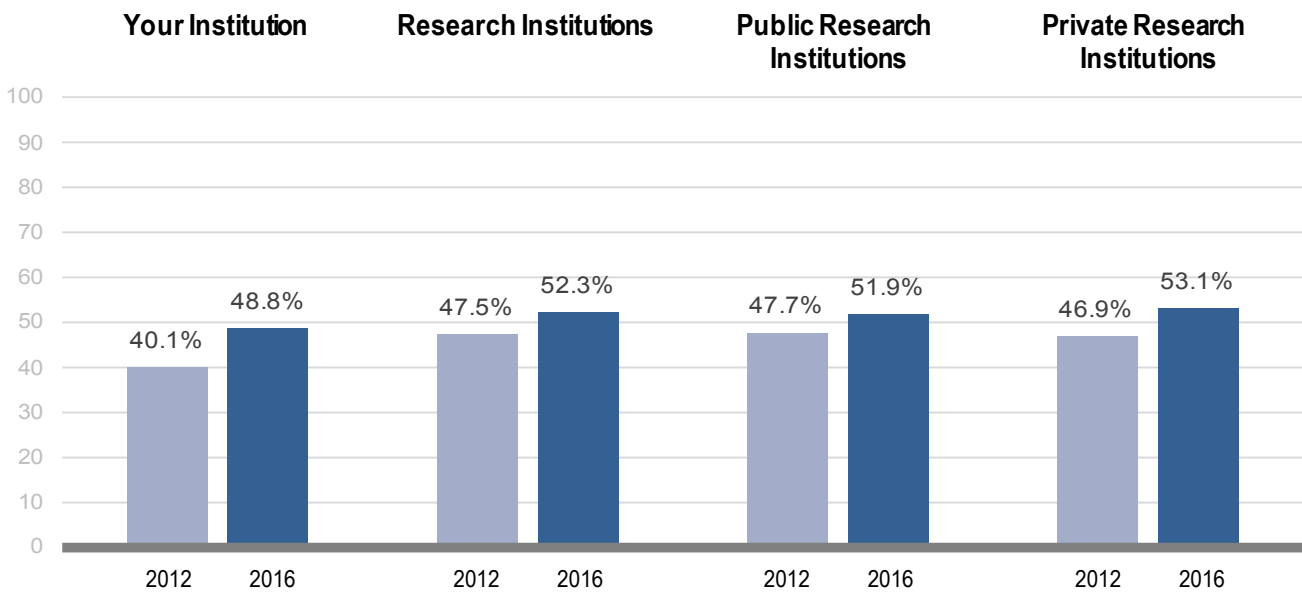
HIGH 72.9%  
 LOW 19.3%

**2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions**  
**50.4%**

HIGH 81.4%  
 LOW 13.1%

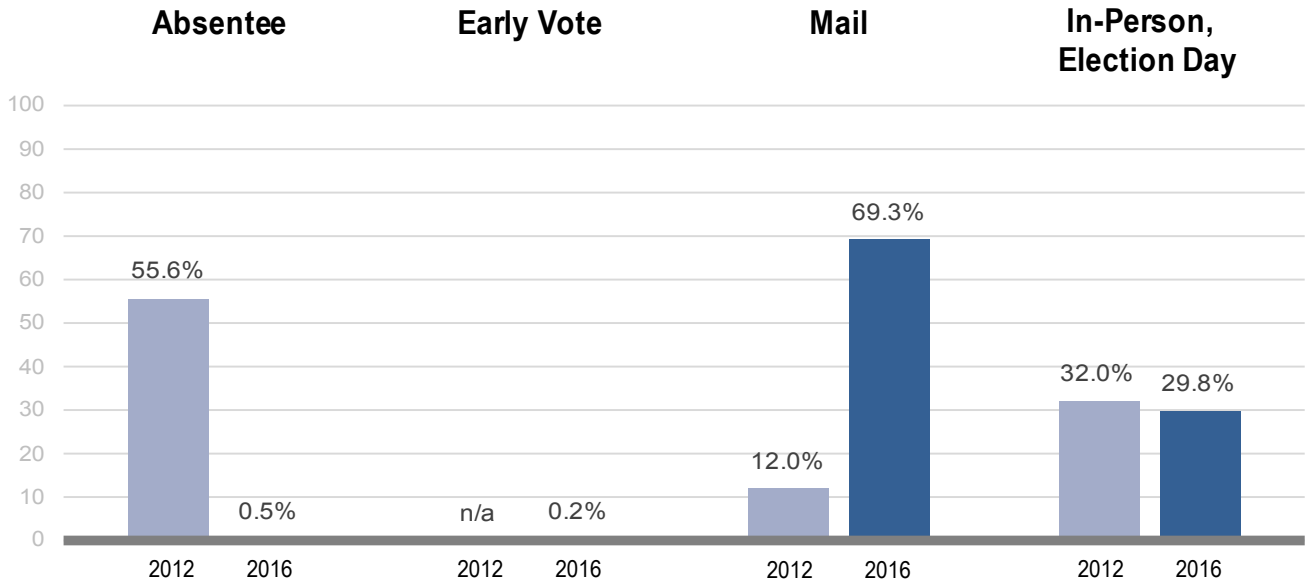
Difference from All Institutions **-6.8**

Difference from All Institutions **-1.6**



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Voting Method\*

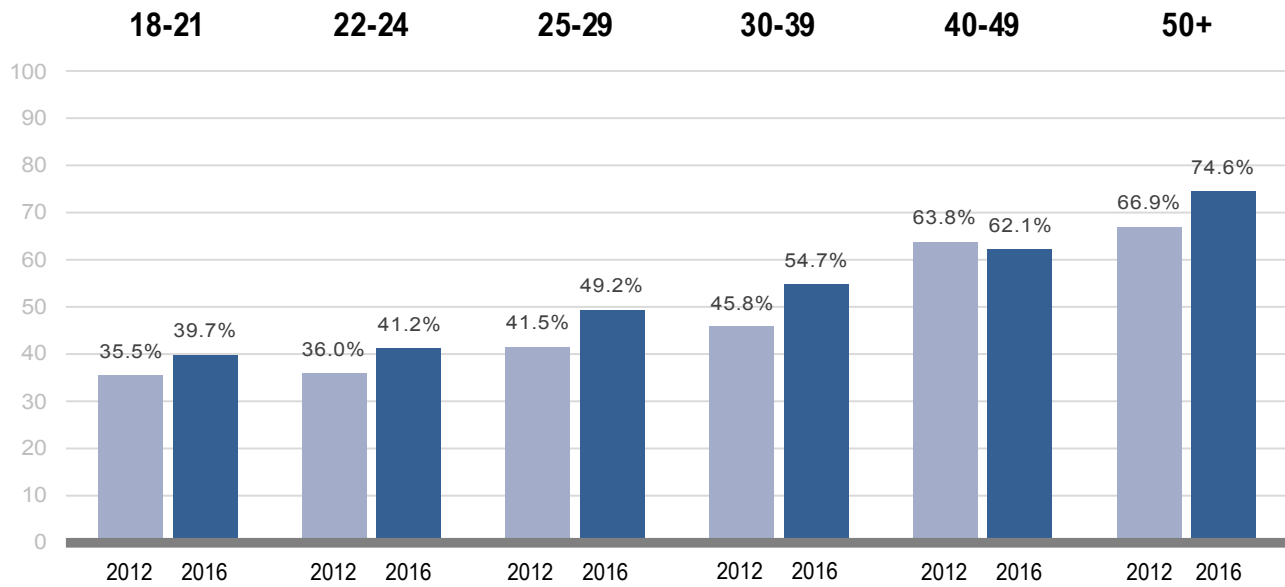


	2012		2016		Change	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate		
Absentee	6,327	55.6%	74	0.5%	↓	-55.1
Early Vote	*	n/a	25	0.2%		n/a
Mail	1,365	12.0%	10,535	69.3%	↑	57.3
In-Person, Election Day	3,642	32.0%	4,521	29.8%	↓	-2.3
Unknown	34	0.3%	43	0.3%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,377</b>		<b>15,198</b>			

\* Your students' data broken down by voting method. If your campus has a high number of voting method "Unknown", it means that this information was not reported by local officials where your students voted.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Age Group\*

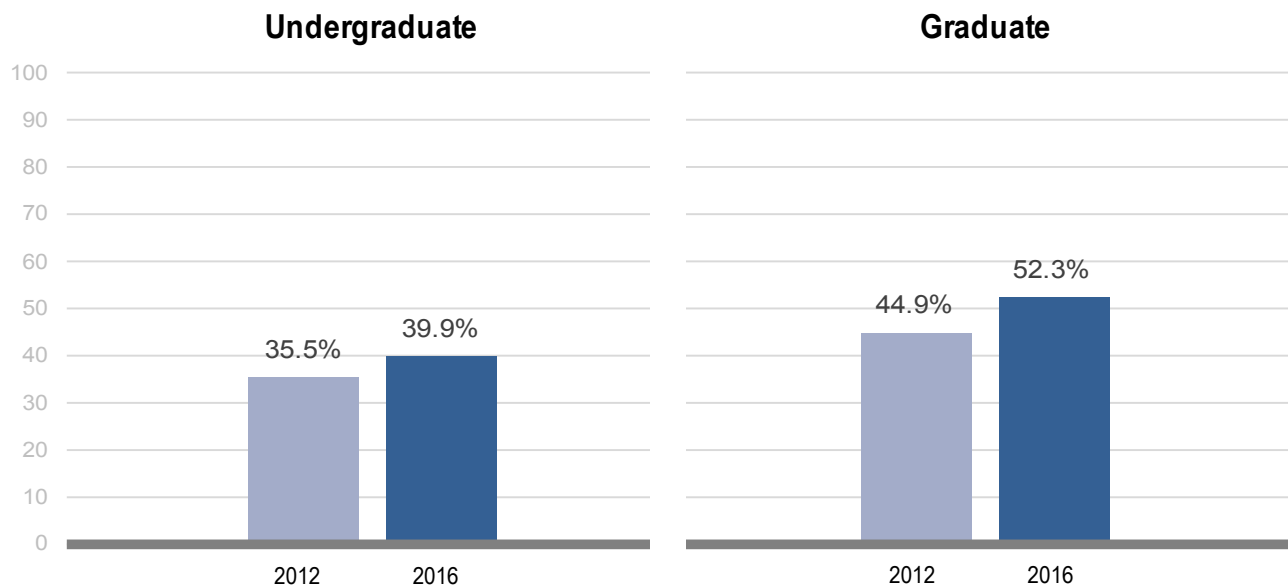


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	18,488	6,560	35.5%	21,818	8,668	39.7%	↑ 4.3
22-24	5,984	2,152	36.0%	7,200	2,965	41.2%	↑ 5.2
25-29	3,657	1,517	41.5%	4,355	2,142	49.2%	↑ 7.7
30-39	1,860	852	45.8%	2,059	1,127	54.7%	↑ 8.9
40-49	331	211	63.8%	330	205	62.1%	↓ -1.6
50+	127	85	66.9%	122	91	74.6%	↑ 7.7
Unknown	0			0			

\* Your students' data broken down by age at the time of the election. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Education Level\*

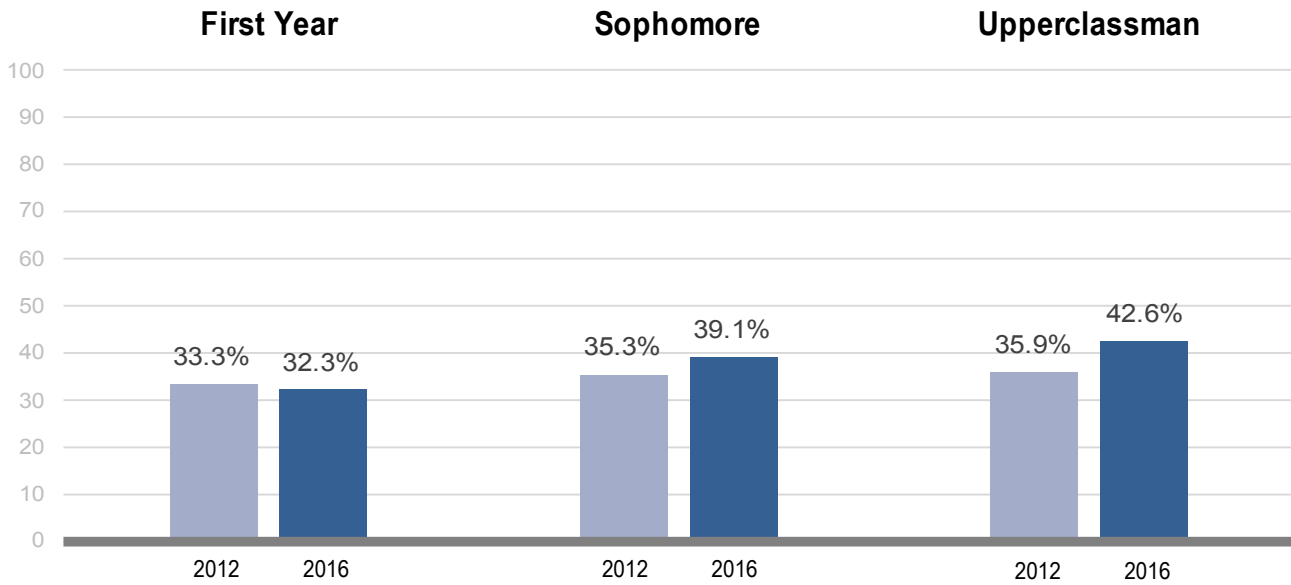


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Undergraduate	24,260	8,601	35.5%	28,832	11,510	39.9%	↑ 4.5
Graduate	6,187	2,776	44.9%	7,032	3,679	52.3%	↑ 7.5
Unknown	0			20			

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Undergraduate Class Year\*



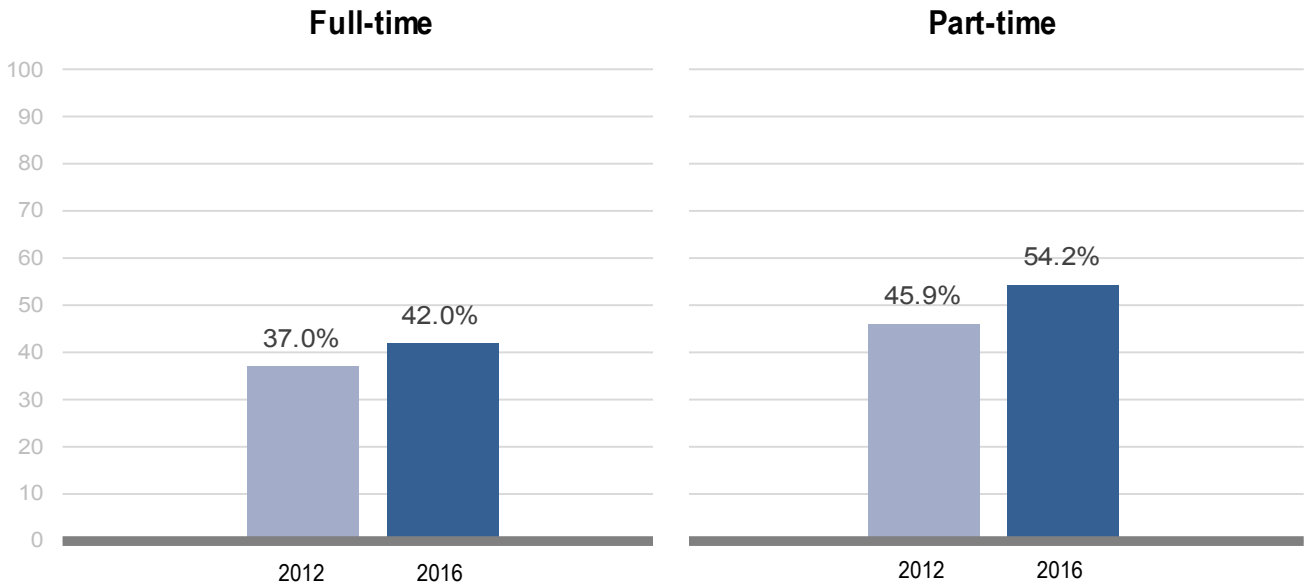
	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	4,778	1,592	<b>33.3%</b>	5,759	1,860	<b>32.3%</b>	↓ <b>-1.0</b>
Sophomore	4,106	1,451	<b>35.3%</b>	4,909	1,918	<b>39.1%</b>	↑ <b>3.7</b>
Upperclassman	14,556	5,225	<b>35.9%</b>	18,141	7,721	<b>42.6%</b>	↑ <b>6.7</b>

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate students' class level. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Enrollment Status\*



	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	29,137	10,775	<b>37.0%</b>	34,730	14,573	<b>42.0%</b>	↑ 5.0
Part-time	1,309	601	<b>45.9%</b>	1,154	625	<b>54.2%</b>	↑ 8.3
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

\* Your students' data broken down by part-time and full-time students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

## YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

## By Field of Study\*

\* Your students' data broken down by field of study. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students. The green and red highlighted values below represent your campus's top three and bottom three voting rates by field of study.

	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Agriculture and Agriculture Operations	2,085	795	38.1%	2,593	1,132	43.7% ↑	5.5
Architecture	121	41	33.9%	198	87	43.9% ↑	10.1
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	284	108	38.0%	367	171	46.6% ↑	8.6
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	6,444	2,257	35.0%	6,656	2,871	43.1% ↑	8.1
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,282	472	36.8%	1,909	677	35.5% ↓	-1.4
Communication and Journalism	475	175	36.8%	740	282	38.1% ↑	1.3
Computer and Information Sciences	516	155	30.0%	1,004	328	32.7% ↑	2.6
Education	452	271	60.0%	507	342	67.5% ↑	7.5
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	3,896	1,293	33.2%	4,411	1,599	36.3% ↑	3.1
English Language and Literature	743	316	42.5%	707	383	54.2% ↑	11.6
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	56	20	35.7%	54	19	35.2% ↓	-0.5
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	433	156	36.0%	540	256	47.4% ↑	11.4
Health Professions	1,352	623	46.1%	1,738	994	57.2% ↑	11.1
History	323	159	49.2%	342	202	59.1% ↑	9.8
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	0	0	n/a	76	39	51.3%	n/a
Legal Professions and Studies	550	279	50.7%	586	310	52.9% ↑	2.2
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	219	79	36.1%	213	88	41.3% ↑	5.2
Mathematics and Statistics	566	193	34.1%	1,132	271	23.9% ↓	-10.2
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	1,180	382	32.4%	1,371	530	38.7% ↑	6.3
Natural Resources and Conservation	757	343	45.3%	948	499	52.6% ↑	7.3
Philosophy and Religious Studies	173	74	42.8%	144	73	50.7% ↑	7.9
Physical Sciences	1,412	467	33.1%	1,464	605	41.3% ↑	8.3
Psychology	2,177	779	35.8%	2,410	1,094	45.4% ↑	9.6

Public Administration and Social Service Professions	187	80	42.8%	180	90	50.0% ↑	7.2
Social Sciences	3,809	1,516	39.8%	4,241	1,676	39.5% ↓	-0.3
Visual and Performing Arts	909	325	35.8%	1,224	518	42.3% ↑	6.6
Unknown	46	19	41.3%	129	62	48.1% ↑	6.8

Thank you for the work you do to improve your students' political learning and engagement. We hope that you find your NSLVE report useful. For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources, and to sign up for our newsletter visit: <https://idhe.tufts.edu>.

**References:**

NSLVE encourages to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2018). *2012 & 2016 NSLVE Campus Report*. Medford, MA.

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