

Bowdoin College

May 11, 2020

Bowdoin received a platinum seal from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for its rate of voter participation (50%+) in the 2018 election. The numbers submitted to ALL IN included a refinement of the numbers contained in the “Student Voting Rates for Bowdoin College” report prepared by the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE).

NSLVE uses a national data set to estimate the percentage of college students that voted in an election. These calculations are complex because each municipality keeps their own voting records. Further, college students may vote in the jurisdiction of their permanent residence or their local college residence. Bowdoin College worked with the Town Clerk to verify the numbers of Bowdoin students who voted locally in the Town of Brunswick. Two discrepancies were found with the 2018 data in the NSLVE report.

On page 3 of the NSLVE report showing student enrollment, the “IPEDS estimated non-resident alien” line which shows 97 should be corrected to be 109. This reduces the Total Eligible Voters (p. 3) from 1838 to 1826.

“IPEDS estimated non-resident alien” ~~97~~ **109**

“Total eligible voters” ~~1838~~ **1826**

The Town of Brunswick records show that 501 Bowdoin students voted in-person on election day in 2018. Thus, on page 5 of the NSLVE report, the 221 number should be corrected as follows. This correction increases the number of students who voted from 743 to 1023.

“In-Person, Election Day” ~~221~~ **501**

Hence, the calculation of overall voting rate (p. 3) should be corrected as follows:

Number of Students who voted ÷ Total Eligible Voters = Voting Rate

~~743~~ ÷ ~~1838~~ = ~~40.4%~~

1023 ÷ 1826 = **56.0%**

Sincerely,

Christina M. Finneran

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Vice President for Institutional Research, Analytics & Consulting

2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for
Bowdoin College

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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, 2016 and 2018 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has helped us build a robust database for research on more than 10 million de-identified student records for each election year.

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. IDHE is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and participation in democracy. IDHE researchers study voting, campus conditions for political learning and discussion, closing equity gaps in participation, and increasing student agency and participation. We accomplish our goals through research, resource development, assisting institutions and the higher education community, 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 voted in the 2014 and 2018 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse and publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. We exclude FERPA-blocked records. (For exceptions for campuses with disproportionately high numbers of FERPA blocked students, see our Campus Reports FAQ.)

The institutional voting rates reported on page 3 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 in subsequent pages of the report, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are ineligible to vote: non-resident aliens (international students), resident aliens (undocumented students), and students who have been disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. As a result, your institution's actual voting rate may be higher than we report. If you have access to more complete data for students who are ineligible to vote, you may recalculate your rates by using the Recalculation Tool - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve-recalculation-tool>.

To read more about NSLVE data, see our Campus Reports FAQ - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/frequently-asked-questions>.

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 and identify your challenges and opportunities. This report provides comparisons between subgroups of your students and with similar institutions. For more comparisons or to see national voter registration and voting rates, read our national report, Democracy Counts 2018. To access our data portals - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/public-data-portal-visualizations>.

❑ Share the report widely and strategically by sharing it with institutional leaders, faculty across disciplines, student government leaders, and other student groups.

❑ Read and implement *Election Imperatives*, ten recommendations for improving your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, equity, and participation - <https://idhe.tufts.edu/electionimperatives>.

❑ Work with us. IDHE can help via virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions, coaching, and in-person workshops.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: <https://idhe.tufts.edu>.

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE).

We appreciate hearing from you! Please email us at NSLVE@tufts.edu.

Warm regards,

IDHE Team



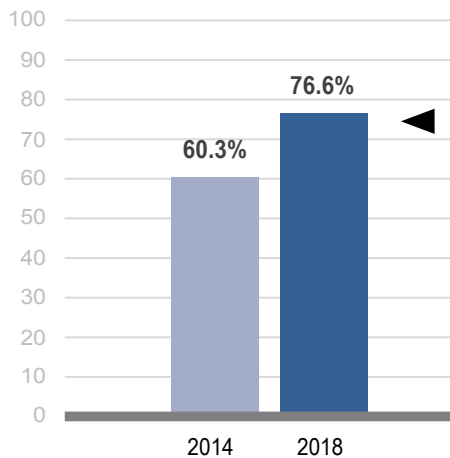
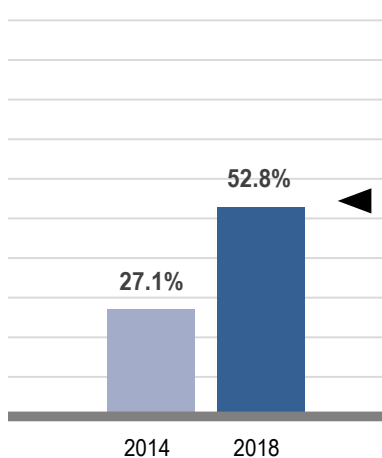
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Voting and Registration Rates

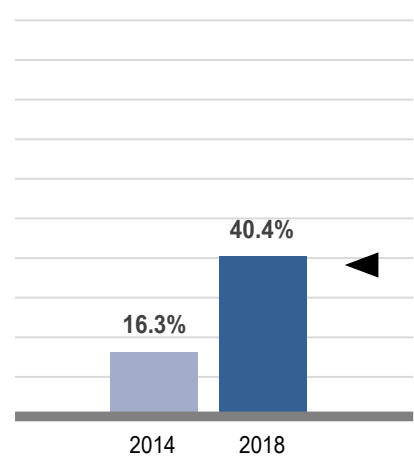
2018 Voting Rate

40.4%CHANGE
FROM 2014**+24.1**2018 VOTING RATE
FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS**39.1%**

Registration Rate

Voting Rate of
Registered Students

Voting Rate



All Institutions, 2018

	2014	2018	Change
Total student enrollment	1,897	1,950	↑ 53
Age under 18/Unknown	(13)	(15)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(102)	(97)	
FERPA records blocked	0	0	
Total eligible voters	1,782	1,838	↑ 56
Number of students who registered	1,075	1,408	↑ 333
Number of students who voted	291	743	↑ 452
Registration rate	60.3%	76.6%	↑ 16.3
Voting rate of registered students	27.1%	52.8%	↑ 25.7
Voting rate	16.3%	40.4%	↑ 24.1
Difference from all institutions	-3.4	+1.3	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Carnegie Classification

2014 Voting Rate
for All Institutions

19.7%

HIGH
54.0%

LOW
1.5%

2018 Voting Rate
for All Institutions

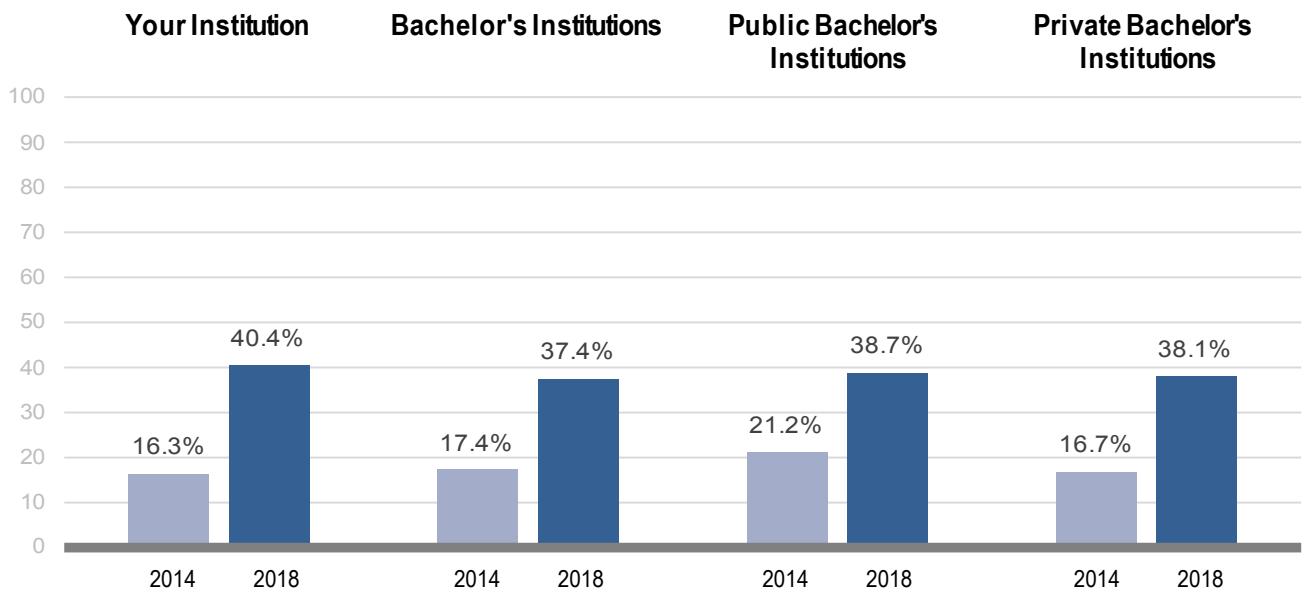
39.1%

HIGH
64.1%

LOW
11.5%

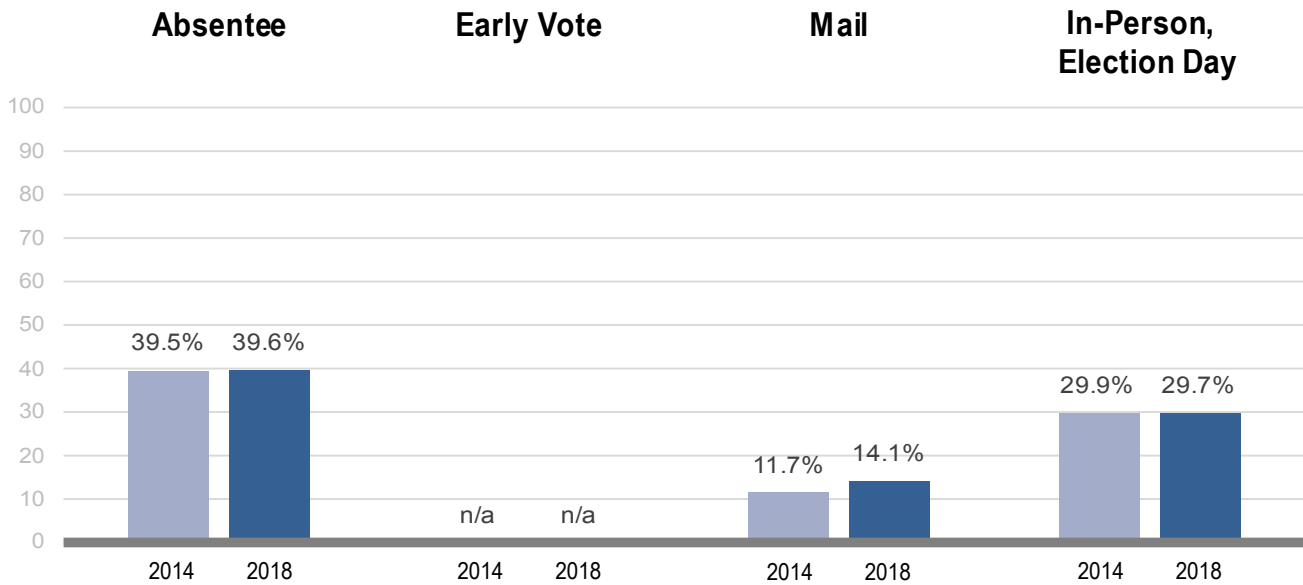
Difference from All Institutions **-3.4**

Difference from All Institutions **+1.3**



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Voting Method*

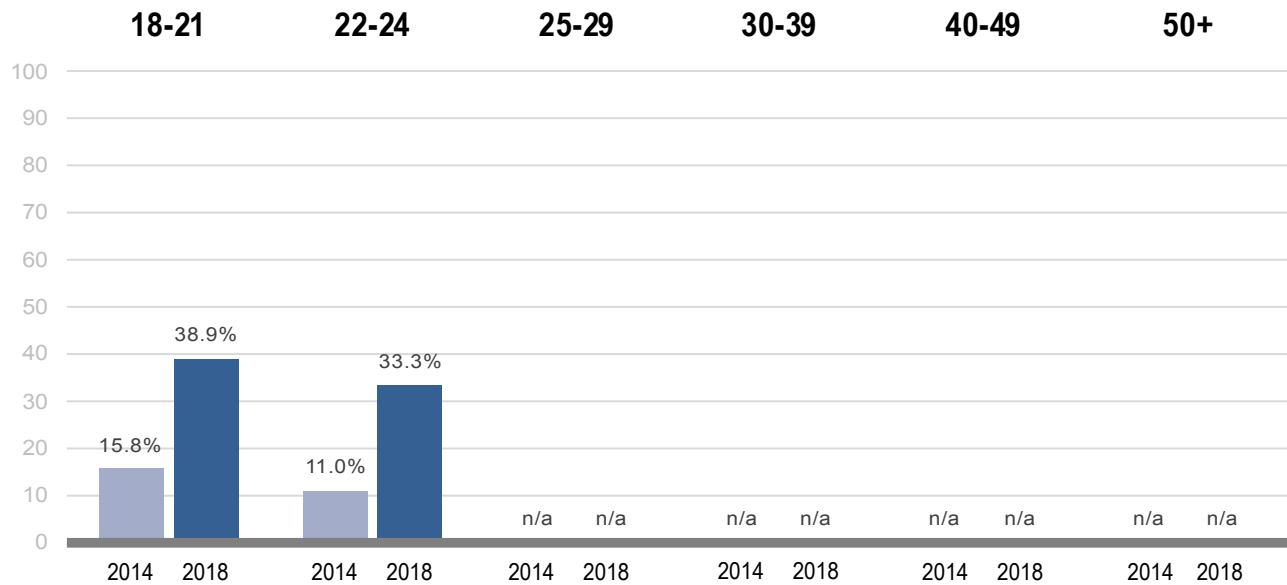


	2014		2018		Change
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	
Absentee	115	39.5%	294	39.6%	➡ 0.0
Early Vote	*	n/a	*	n/a	n/a
Mail	34	11.7%	105	14.1%	⬆ 2.5
In-Person, Election Day	87	29.9%	221	29.7%	⬇ -0.2
Unknown	53	18.2%	115	15.5%	
Total	291		743		

* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Age Group*

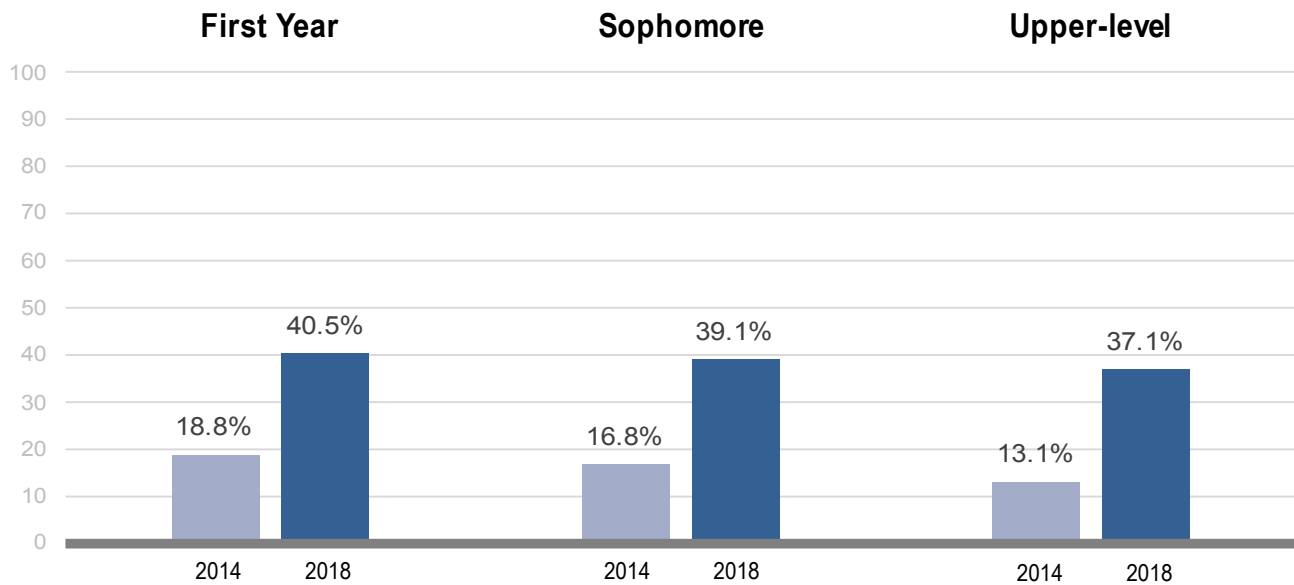


	2014			2018			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
18-21	1,757	277	15.8%	1,770	689	38.9%	↑	23.2
22-24	127	14	11.0%	162	54	33.3%	↑	22.3
25-29	0	0	n/a	*	0	n/a		n/a
30-39	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a		n/a
40-49	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a		n/a
50+	0	0	n/a	*	0	n/a		n/a
Unknown	0			0				

* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Undergraduate Class Year*

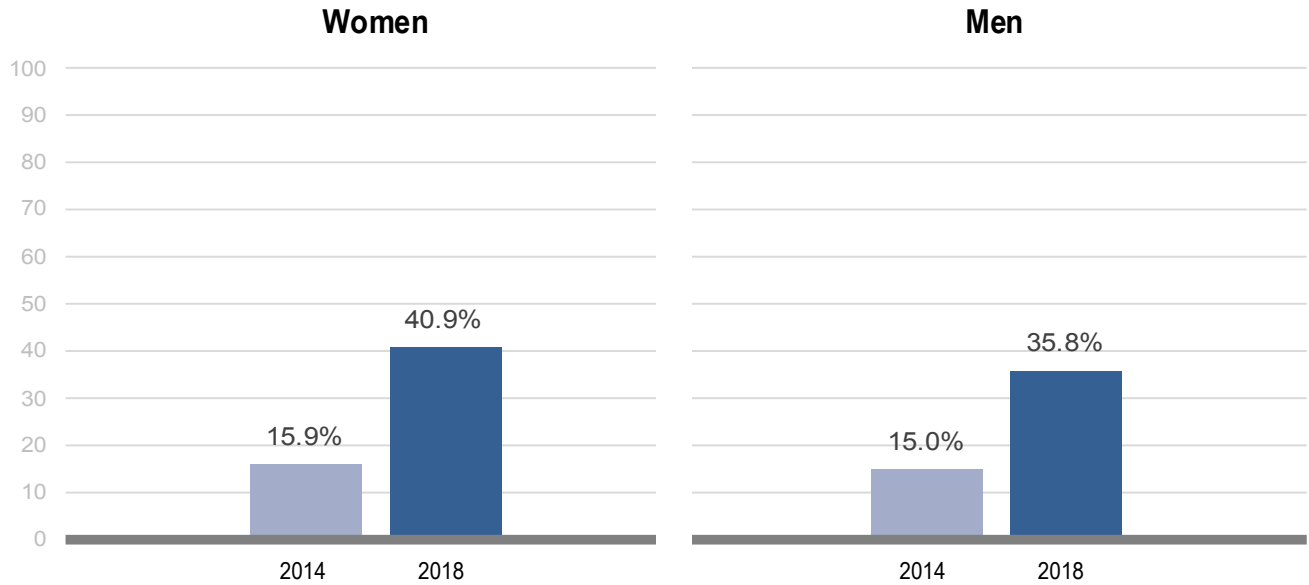


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	468	88	18.8%	482	195	40.5%	↑ 21.7
Sophomore	487	82	16.8%	504	197	39.1%	↑ 22.3
Upper-level	925	121	13.1%	947	351	37.1%	↑ 24.0

* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Gender*

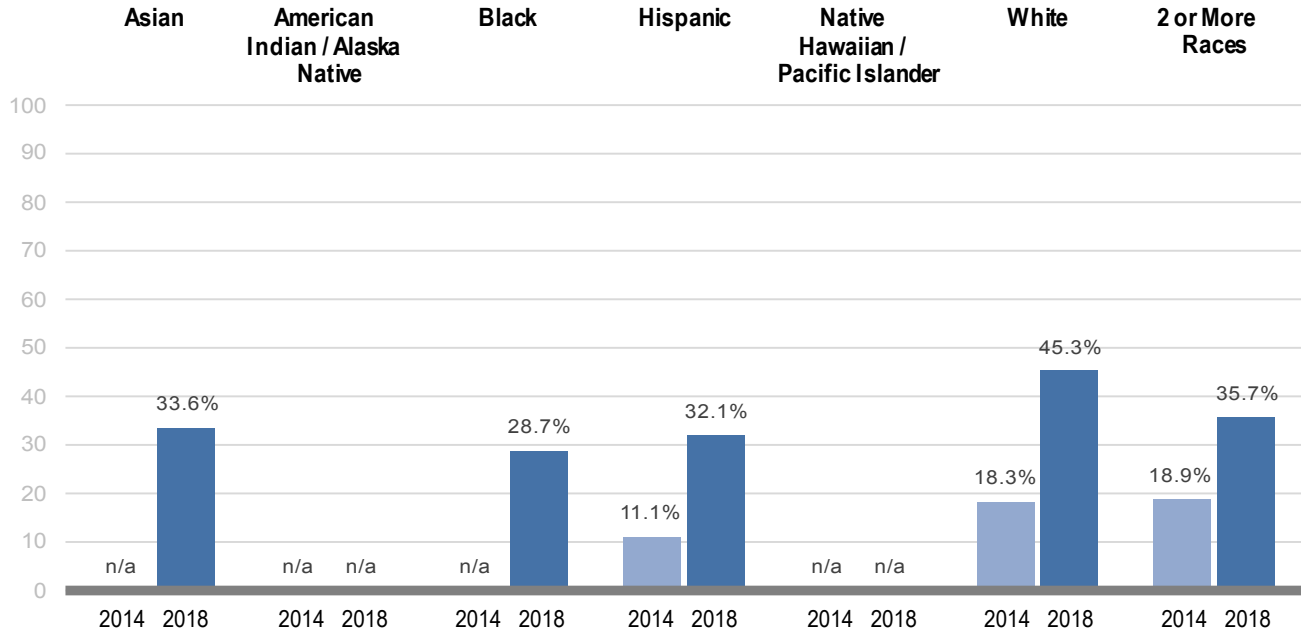


	2014			2018			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Women	948	151	15.9%	990	405	40.9%	↑	25.0
Men	936	140	15.0%	945	338	35.8%	↑	20.8
Unknown	0			0				

* Your students' data broken down by gender. 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Race/Ethnicity*



	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	118	*	n/a	140	47	33.6%	n/a
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0	0	n/a	*	0	n/a	n/a
Black	90	*	n/a	150	43	28.7%	n/a
Hispanic	235	26	11.1%	196	63	32.1%	↑ 21.1
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a
White	1,235	226	18.3%	1,191	540	45.3%	↑ 27.0
2 or More Races	122	23	18.9%	126	45	35.7%	↑ 16.9
Unknown	84			126			

* Your students' data broken down by race. 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. For this page, we consider international students of unknown race/ethnicity.

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: IDHE encourages report recipients to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it on the college or university's website. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2019). *2014 and 2018 report for _____* [name of institution]. Medford, MA.

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