



September 2022

Student Voting Rates for Ball State University

NSLVE Campus Report

September 2022
Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for several recent election cycles. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2014, 2018, and 2020. In addition to sharing the change between 2014 and 2018 voting rates, we also disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation. Although you have likely seen these numbers before, we find that many report recipients appreciate a refresher heading into another national election.

College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. In 2020, it jumped to 66%. In the last midterm, the student voting rate more than doubled, from roughly 19% in 2014 to around 40% in 2018. These encouraging data points signal that 2022 can be yet another banner year for student participation if we all work together to ensure that lasting, long-term interventions turn this into a *trend* across the nation.

As always, we urge you to share this report widely and strategically, particularly with faculty who, in 2020, were often the most consistent communicators with students about ever-changing voting conditions and deadlines. We also encourage you to review our recommendations for leveraging election seasons to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation, year around: Election Imperatives 2.0 and the more recent Election Imperatives 2020: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action, a report with recommendations for institutional leaders, faculty, and voter coalitions.

Since political dialogue across campus and attentiveness to the campus culture around speech and academic freedom are among our top recommendations, we direct you to our discussion guides on talking about your NSLVE report, on free speech and inclusion, and on how campuses use their NSLVE reports.

Finally, we always encourage you to work with us. Help us help you get better data by reaching out. Email IDHE@Tufts.edu for more information, and as always, watch your inbox (or sign up!) for our periodic newsletter, announcements about upcoming releases, and new resources.

Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student engagement in democracy should not be.

All the Best,
The Team at IDHE

IDHE: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/>

NSLVE: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve>

Election Imperatives: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/publications-and-resources/election-imperatives>
Talking Politics discussion guide (for NSLVE reports): <https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/talking-politics-guide-campus-conversations-about-nslve-reports>

Free Speech & Inclusion on Campus discussion guide: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/free-speech-inclusion-campus-discussion-guide>

In This Report

This report presents data on student voter participation rates for your campus. The topline counts on page 5 tells you how many students voted, but we encourage you to look carefully at the data on subsequent pages to learn who voted. Data are presented in the form of vessel charts, overlapping donut charts, and tables.

Tables

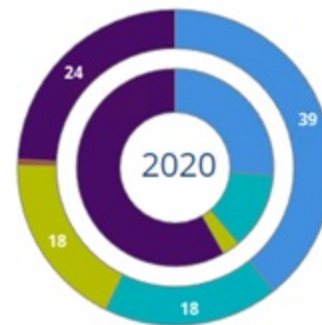
The tables show the numbers of students and the rates from 2014, 2018, and 2020. The change column represents difference between counts and rates. The change in rates are in terms of percentage points. A red down arrow indicates a decrease, a green up arrow indicates an increase, and a yellow arrow pointing to the right indicates no change. "-" in these tables indicates that the data is unavailable/missing, or is available for 10 or less students.

	2014			2018			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p.)
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Vessel Chart

This chart shows rates out of 100%, with arrows to the right of each bar representing relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE's national report Democracy Counts 2018 & 2020.



Overlapping Donut Chart

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 9), with the inner ring showing your campus's method utilization and the outer ring showing the national level utilization. These are described in percentages.

Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

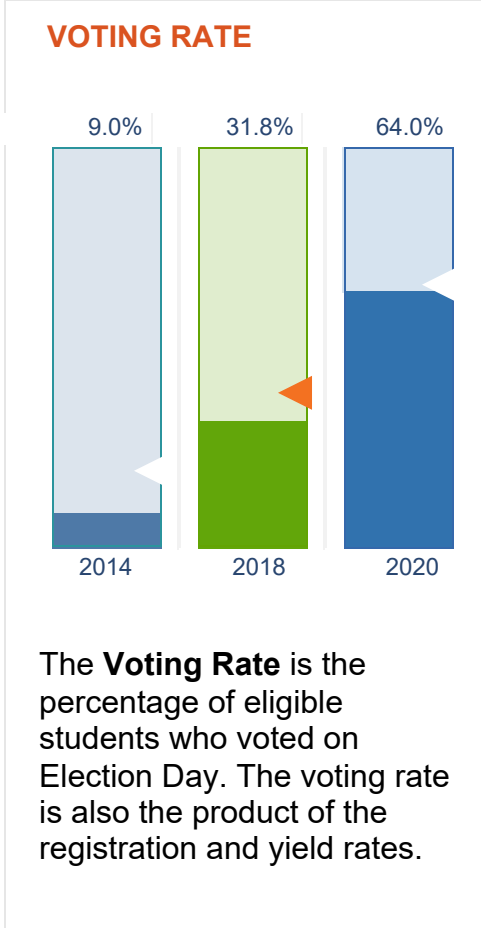
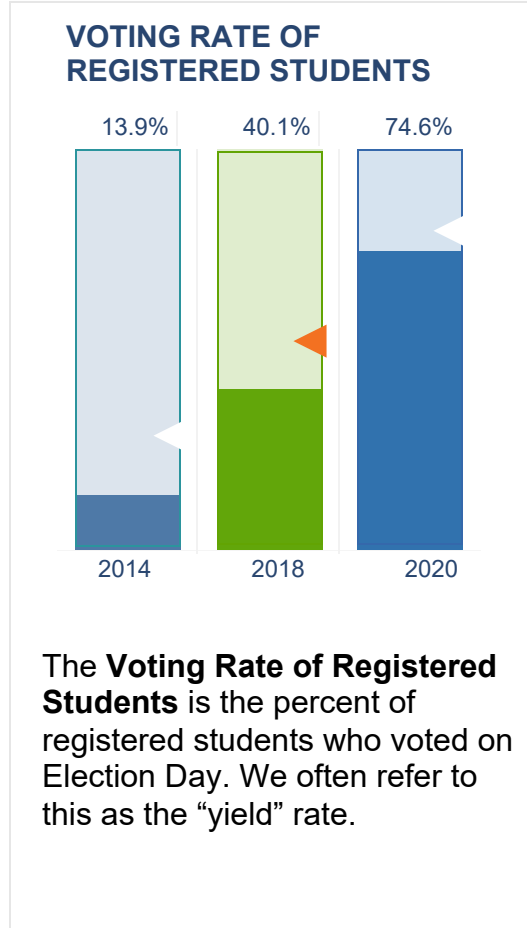
YOUR INSTITUTION

31.8%
2018 Voting Rate

+22.8
Change From 2014

ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%
2018 Voting Rate



Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2014	2018	2020	2014-2018 Change
Total student enrollment per NSC	20,147	20,870	20,534	↑ 723
(Age under 18/Unknown)	152	34	45	↓ -118
(Non-resident aliens)	727	387	276	↓ -340
Non-resident aliens data source	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	
(FERPA records blocked)	19	13	12	↓ -6
(Non-degree seeking students)	1,031	800	901	↓ -231
Total eligible voters	18,218	19,636	19,300	↑ 1,418
Number of students who registered	11,766	15,577	16,572	↑ 3,811
Number of students who voted	1,635	6,251	12,356	↑ 4,616
Registration Rate %	65	79	86	↑ 15
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	14	40	75	↑ 26
Voting Rate %	9	32	64	↑ 23

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This is indicated by IPEDS in the data source.

In the following pages with tables, **Enrolled** represents the eligible voters when we have used NSC as the data source. When we have used IPEDS as the data source, **Enrolled** includes non-resident aliens who are ineligible to vote, and for whom we are unable to account due to the lack of data from your institution.

By Institution Types

2014 Voting Rate for All Institutions

19.7%

HIGH
52%

LOW
2%

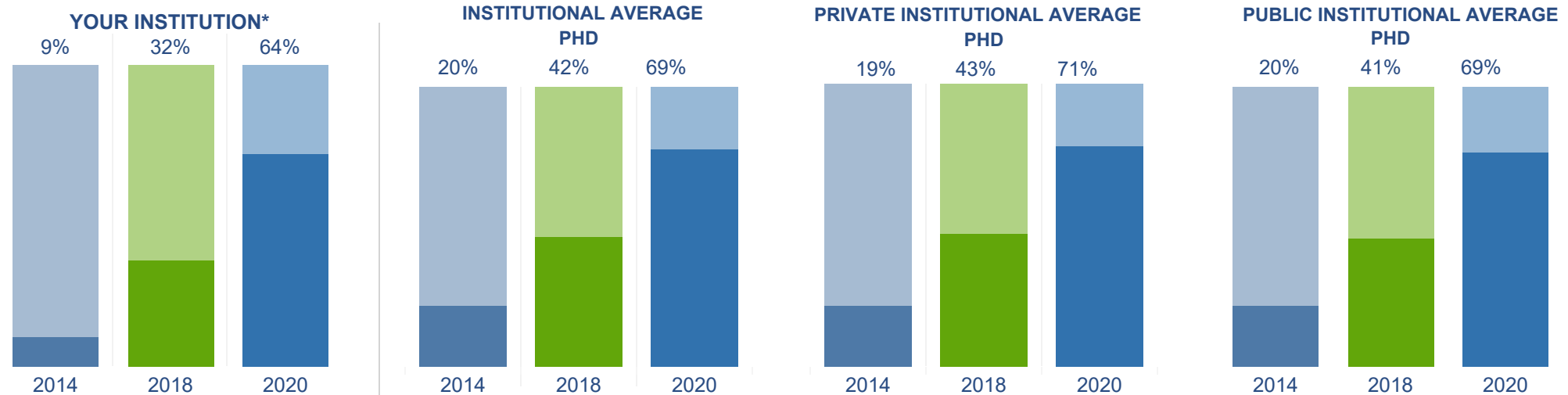
2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions

39.1%

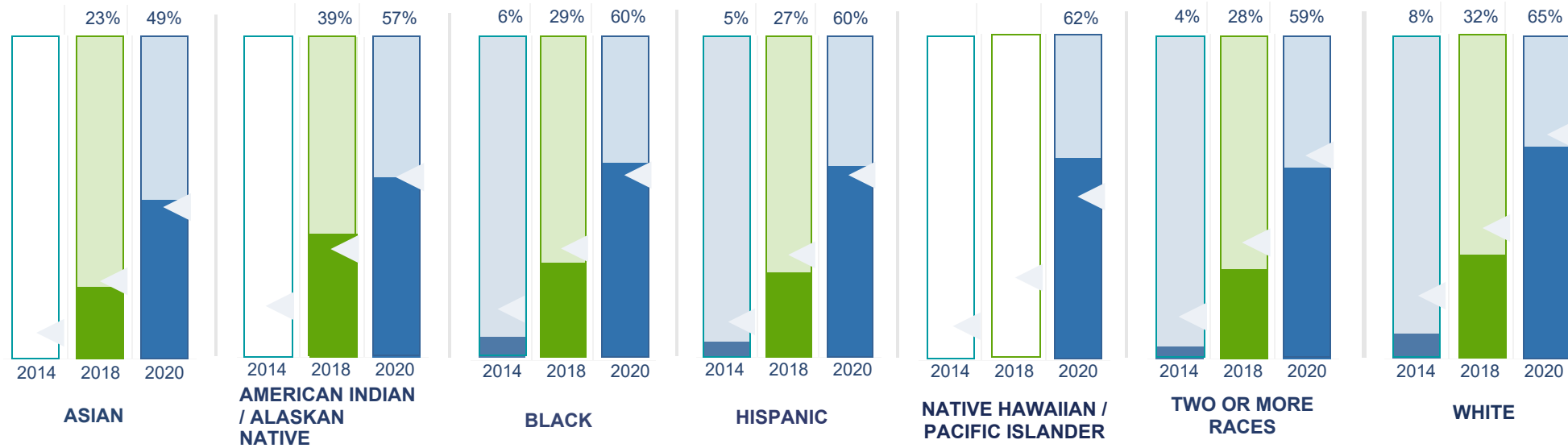
HIGH
76%

LOW
7%

These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. For Associate institutions, we only share public associate institutional averages due to sample size. *"Your Institution" chart is presented at a different scale.



By Race / Ethnicity



These are estimated voting rates for race / ethnicity groups. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following race reporting procedures* defined by the National Center for Education Statistics of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Please see our FAQ for more detail : <https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq>

If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data or reports this data as unknown; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

*<https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes>

Looking Closer

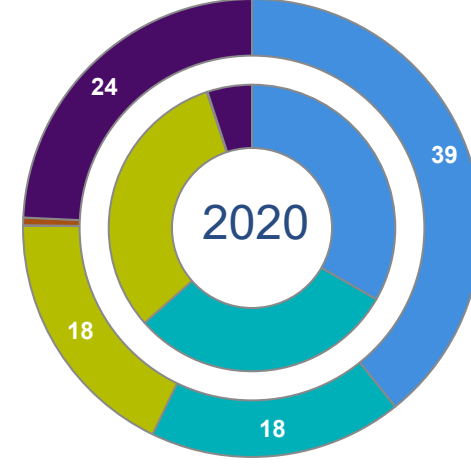
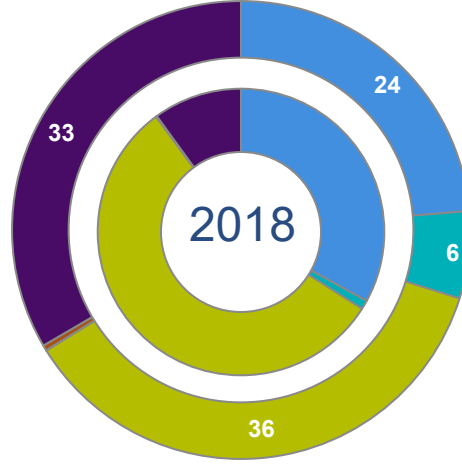
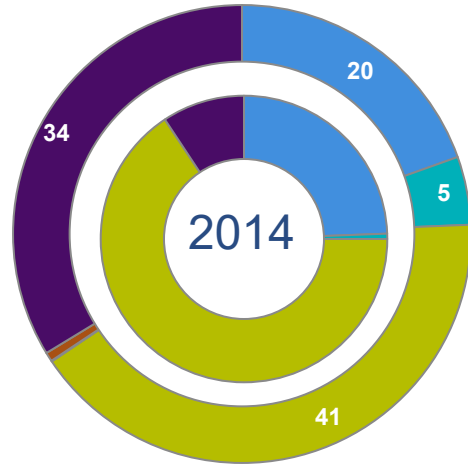
By Race/Ethnicity

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates. We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data or reports this data as unknown; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Asian	134	–	–	279	63	23	393	193	49	–
American Indian/ Alaska Native	33	–	–	36	14	39	23	13	57	–
Black	966	61	6	1,560	458	29	1,747	1,054	60	↑ 23
Hispanic	668	32	5	1,133	302	27	1,341	799	60	↑ 22
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	16	–	–	25	–	–	21	13	62	–
2 or More Races	397	15	4	645	178	28	669	394	59	↑ 24
White	10,990	893	8	15,519	4,997	32	14,754	9,629	65	↑ 24

By Voting Method

■ Not-In-Person
 ■ Early Vote
 ■ In-Person
 ■ Other
 ■ Provisional
 ■ Unknown



	2014		2018		2020		2014-2018	
	Voted	Rate(%)	Voted	Rate(%)	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Early Vote	–	–	60	1	3,736	30	–	–
In-Person	1,074	66	3,494	56	3,877	31	↓	-10
Not-In-Person	399	24	2,060	33	4,115	33	↑	9
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Provisional	–	–	–	–	15	0	–	–
Voting Method Unknown	152	9	632	10	611	5	↑	1

These are estimated rates for vote method utilization, the number of students utilizing each method, and the percent of students utilizing each method. Not all U.S. states provide information on vote method; voting method for voter files from these states are classified “Voting Method Unknown.” For a list of these states, see our FAQ. <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports>. The inner ring in these charts show your campus's method utilization and the outer ring show the national level utilization.

By Age Group

	2014	2018	2020
18-21	5%	25%	62%
22-24	7%	33%	65%
25-29	14%	41%	62%
30-39	26%	50%	66%
40-49	31%	63%	75%
50+	48%	70%	80%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, elected officials and public opinion polls solicit opinions from people they can locate - people in the voter files. In 2020, the youngest students on campuses voted at the highest rates, giving them increasing voice and power. Government officials should take note of this data point, as the viewpoints of young voters may prove influential in future elections. Candidates should be cautious about remaining distant and unresponsive to the perspectives of young voters.

Looking Closer

By Age Group

Here, we provide the numbers of students in each age category and the voting rates for each group. These are based on the student's age on the day of the election, as calculated by the National Student Clearinghouse using data from student enrollment records.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
18-21	11,819	601	5	12,029	2,975	25	11,789	7,263	62	↑ 20
22-24	3,842	280	7	3,644	1,192	33	3,589	2,334	65	↑ 25
25-29	1,508	214	14	2,195	894	41	2,080	1,285	62	↑ 27
30-39	1,093	289	26	1,399	702	50	1,368	899	66	↑ 24
40-49	470	148	31	568	356	63	524	394	75	↑ 31
50+	213	103	48	188	132	70	226	181	80	↑ 22

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Female	11,293	1,013	9	12,762	4,231	33	12,613	8,272	66	↑	24
Male	7,652	622	8	7,258	2,018	28	6,878	4,025	59	↑	20

These are estimated voting rates for sex groups and the numbers we used to calculate their voting rates. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following the reporting procedures defined by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Presently, NCES requires institutions to report students as “Male” or “Female” only.*

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

*<https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11>

Looking Closer

By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018 Rate Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
EDUCATION LEVEL										
Undergraduate	15,764	1,010	6	15,201	4,103	27	14,788	9,220	62	↑ 21
Graduate	3,097	609	20	4,822	2,148	45	4,755	3,110	65	↑ 25
Class Unknown	84	16	19	–	–	–	33	26	79	–
CLASS YEAR										
Freshman	4,302	183	4	3,816	762	20	3,905	2,132	55	↑ 16
Sophomore	3,937	197	5	3,719	895	24	3,451	2,135	62	↑ 19
Upperclassman	7,528	632	8	7,673	2,448	32	7,445	4,962	67	↑ 24
ENROLLMENT STATUS										
Full-time	16,530	1,065	6	15,888	4,406	28	15,488	9,670	62	↑ 21
Part-time	2,415	570	24	4,135	1,845	45	4,088	2,686	66	↑ 21

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level (undergraduate/graduate), Class Year, and Enrollment Status (full-time/part-time), and the numbers we used to calculate these rates.

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Architecture	598	28	5	544	131	24	649	387	60	↑ 19
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	555	39	7	662	166	25	648	378	58	↑ 18
Business, Management, and Marketing	2,649	183	7	3,320	782	24	2,840	1,607	57	↑ 17
Communication and Journalism	2,123	150	7	1,895	625	33	1,677	1,171	70	↑ 26
Communications Technologies/Technicians	–	–	–	–	–	–	56	40	71	–
Computer and Information Sciences	419	22	5	400	110	28	394	222	56	↑ 22

These are estimated voting rates by field of study, and the numbers we used to calculate the field of study rates. For an explanation of CIP codes, please see our FAQ.* There are roughly 8,000 fields of study among U.S. colleges and universities, so we provide rates for condensed categories.

*<https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq>

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Education	3,350	486	15	4,905	1,942	40	4,919	3,236	66	↑	25
Engineering and Engineering Techno..	349	23	7	182	48	26	143	88	62	↑	20
English Language and Literature	285	25	9	297	136	46	228	157	69	↑	37
Family and Consumer/Human Scienc..	715	36	5	129	33	26	120	77	64	↑	21
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and ..	129	–	–	86	24	28	74	45	61		–
Health Professions	2,384	219	9	2,122	537	25	2,012	1,271	63	↑	16
History	123	12	10	125	64	51	138	106	77	↑	41
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and P..	476	27	6	426	105	25	490	283	58	↑	19
Legal Professions and Studies	86	–	–	110	39	35	113	74	65		–
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Huma..	1,002	93	9	769	206	27	640	362	57	↑	18
Mathematics and Statistics	139	16	12	43	11	26	42	21	50	↑	14
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	12	–	–	–	–	–	46	27	59		–
Natural Resources and Conservation	126	–	–	123	48	39	116	73	63		–

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	266	–	–	707	143	20	616	345	56	–
Philosophy and Religious Studies	19	–	–	29	–	–	19	14	74	–
Physical Sciences	265	15	6	282	70	25	277	151	55	↑ 19
Psychology	832	52	6	889	285	32	1,215	759	62	↑ 26
Public Administration and Social Service Profe..	280	38	14	274	84	31	351	247	70	↑ 17
Social Sciences	548	72	13	380	167	44	412	285	69	↑ 31
Visual and Performing Arts	1,197	66	6	1,264	452	36	1,255	863	69	↑ 30
Unknown	–	–	–	38	19	50	78	59	76	–

About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement.

Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, nearly 1,200 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020 and 2022 federal elections.

Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of over 50 million college student records, about 10 million for each election year, that serves 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 2014, 2018, and 2020 elections.

These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and publicly available voting files collected by L2 Political.

Enrollment lists are adjusted by deducting students under age 18 (at the time of the election), people identified as non-degree seeking and those identified by campuses as "nonresident aliens" (NRAs) (the federal government's category for mostly international students). Unfortunately, not all campuses report NRAs to NSC. For those campuses, we use IPEDS to calculate the number of NRA students on each campus and adjust NSC enrollment numbers to estimate the number of students to remove. We also quality check NRA removals by verifying that there is little to no discrepancy between the number of international students reported by the campus to IPEDS and to NSC. We cannot adjust subgroup analyses absent identification of NRAs verified by the process above. We welcome closer partnerships with individual colleges and universities to provide more accurate rates. For more on the data and the matching process, see our FAQ on Campus Reports.

Ball State University

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. (2022). 2014, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.



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