June 2024

Student Voting Rates for University of Massachusetts-Lowell

NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

NSLVE THE NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGAGEMENT

June 2024
Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for several recent election cycles. For the first time ever, this report contains *four* years of relevant topline data: the midterm elections of 2014, 2018, and 2022, along with contextual data from the 2020 presidential election year. As we build the NSLVE data over time, the additional years of data may help your institution to begin to understand longer-term trends and considerations for practice.

This month, we are also looking forward to the release of Democracy Counts 2022, our national report on our most recent midterm elections. The results from 2022 were mixed – some encouraging trends and some signs of more work to do. We are excited to dive into the results with you and share what we see as the major takeaways in the coming weeks, so stay tuned.

You've heard this from us before: we urge you to share this report widely and strategically across your campus community. NSLVE data is an important resource for not only understanding your institution but also building a culture of political learning in higher education. We also invite you to invite you to lean on our team's resources, including our Election Imperatives report series, which provides data-backed practical recommendations for centering civic and political learning and participation.

Other resources that you might find helpful in your work include our forthcoming national report (keep an eye on our homepage!) , our report on how institutions use NSLVE reports, and our discussion guide on how to talk about your NSLVE reports on campus.

Finally, we always encourage you to reach out to us for support and with any questions that you may have. Email NSLVE@tufts.edu to get in touch with our team, 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 constant effort, requiring year-round strategic building. Elections may be episodic, but student engagement in democracy should not be.

All the Best,
Adam, Duy, Mari, and Victoria
The NSLVE Team

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, 2020, and 2022,when available. The change column represents difference between comparable 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.

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 Democracy Counts, our national report series.

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
27.9%
2022 Voting Rate
-11.5
Change From 2018

ALL INSTITUTIONS
30.6%
2022 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

| 65.1%	75.1%	82.2%	76.9%
2014	2018	2020	2022

The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

36.2%	52.5%	80.7%	36.3%
2014	2018	2020	2022
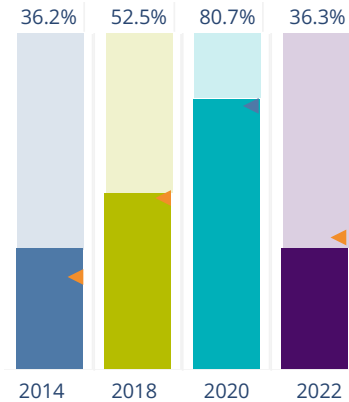
The **Voting Rate of Registered Students** is the percent of registered students who voted on Election Day. We often refer to this as the "yield" rate.

VOTING RATE

23.6%	39.4%	66.4%	27.9%
2014	2018	2020	2022
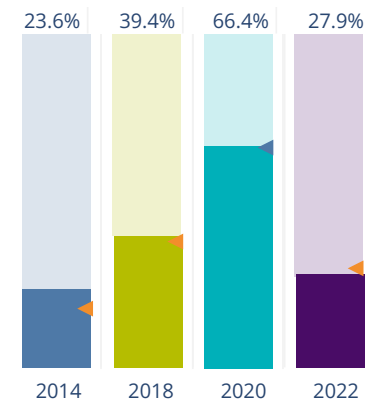
The **Voting Rate** is the percentage of eligible students who voted on Election Day. The voting rate is also the product of the registration and yield rates.

Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2014	2018	2020	2022	2018-2022 Change
Total Student Enrollment	17,818	17,886	18,044	16,926	↓ -960
Age under 18/Unknown	116	86	96	174	↑ 88
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	1,256	1,162	964	1,190	↑ 27
Datasource	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	NSC	
FERPA records blocked	163	40	33	-	-
Non-Degree Seeking Students	-	720	575	-	-
Total eligible voters	16,282	15,877	16,375	15,562	↓ -315
Number of students who registered	10,592	11,929	13,465	11,961	↑ 32
Number of students who voted	3,835	6,257	10,870	4,338	↓ -1,919
Registration Rate %	65	75	82	76	↑ 1
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	36	52	80	36	↓ -16
Voting Rate %	23	39	66	27	↓ -11

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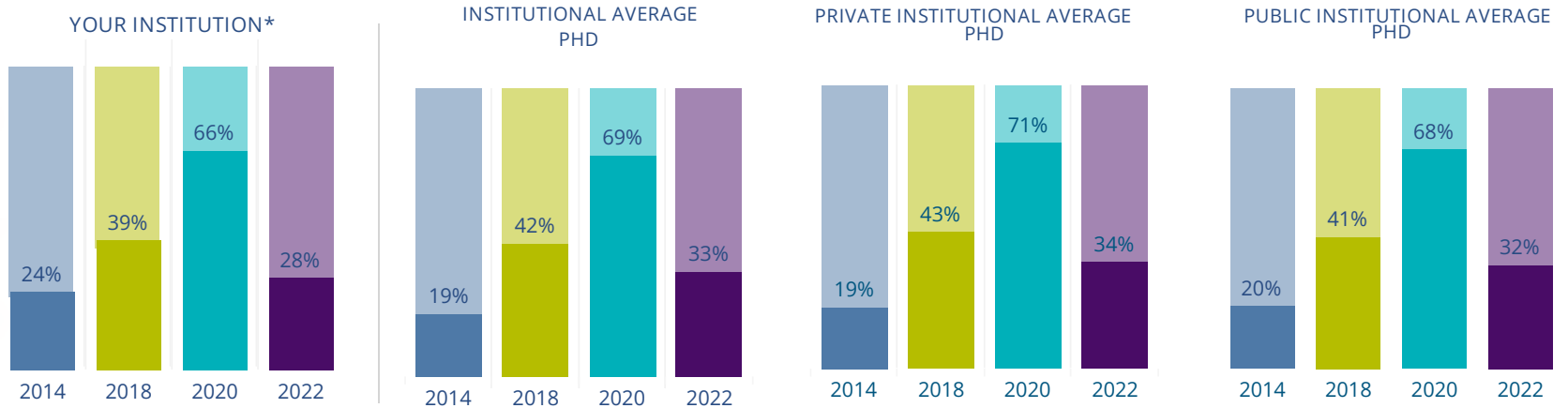
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to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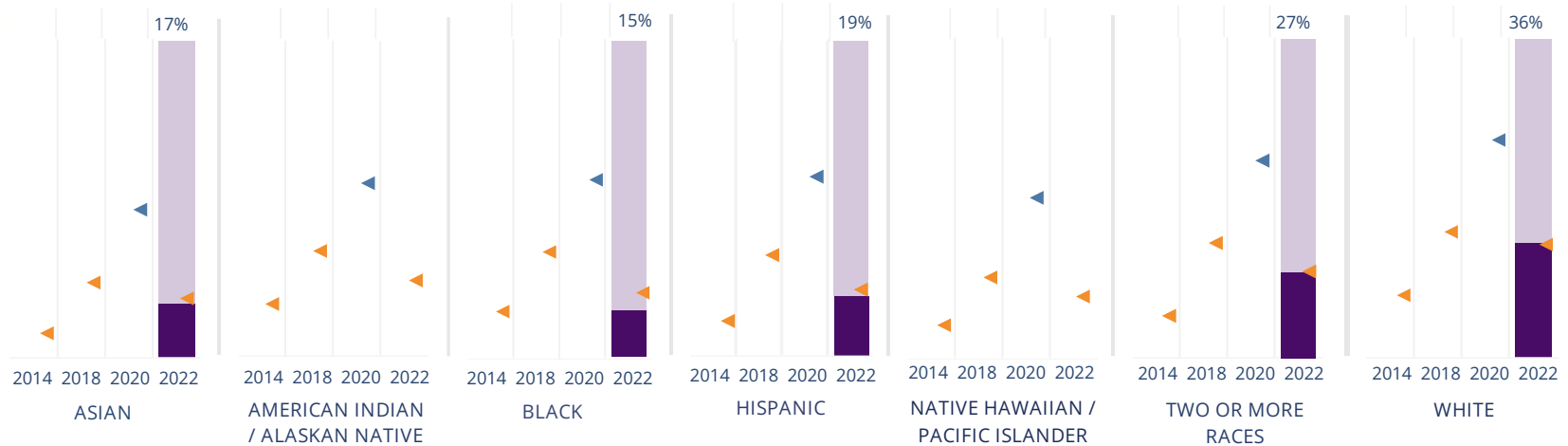
By Institution Types

2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 79%
39.1%	LOW 7%

2022 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 68%
30.6%	LOW 4%

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.

YOUR INSTITUTION*

- 2014: 24%
- 2018: 39%
- 2020: 66%
- 2022: 28%

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

- 2014: 19%
- 2018: 42%
- 2020: 69%
- 2022: 33%

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

- 2014: 19%
- 2018: 43%
- 2020: 71%
- 2022: 34%

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

- 2014: 20%
- 2018: 41%
- 2020: 68%
- 2022: 32%

By Race / Ethnicity

	ASIAN	AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER	TWO OR MORE RACES	WHITE
2022	17%		15%	19%		27%	36%

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			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,070	351	16	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,255	184	14	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,965	374	19	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	488	131	26	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,690	3,102	35	-
Race Unknown	17,539	3,835	21	16,991	6,257	36	17,308	10,870	62	1,071	192	17	⬇-18

By Voting Method

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

Donut charts: 2014, 2018, 2020, 2022
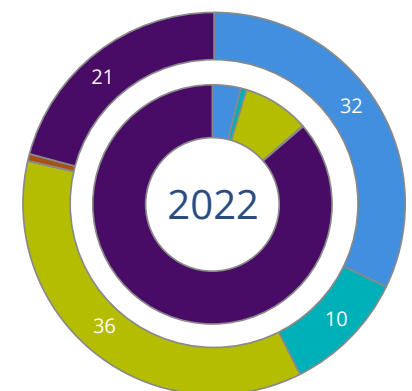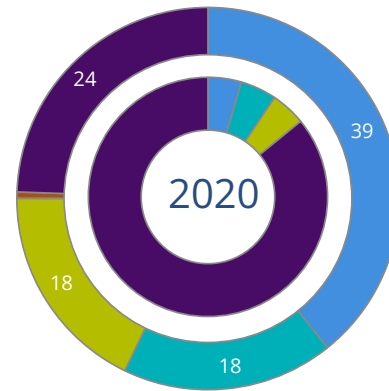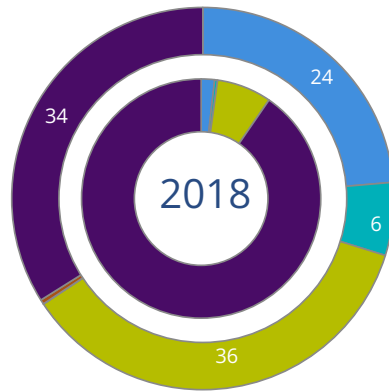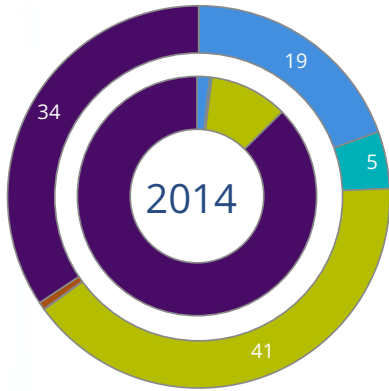
	2014		2018		2020		2022		2018-2022	
	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Change	
Early Vote	13	0	28	0	533	4	34	0	⇨	0
In-Person	407	10	465	7	516	4	390	9	⬆	1
Not-In-Person	66	1	112	1	487	4	163	3	⬆	2
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Voting Method Unknown	3,348	87	5,651	90	9,330	85	3,748	86	⬇	-4

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	2022
18-21	14%	32%	67%	20%
22-24	18%	37%	63%	30%
25-29	19%	35%	54%	32%
30-39	27%	39%	52%	32%
40-49	43%	52%	60%	41%
50+	64%	67%	72%	59%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will often 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. Our 2020 data showed a surge among the youngest voters on college campuses, yet 2022 saw a return to past trends, with older students voting at higher rates than their younger counterparts. This change underscores the importance of continued need for institutionalized learning -- working with students to help them understand their political voice and power as they arrive on campus.

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			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
18-21	6,583	937	14	7,739	2,533	32	8,032	5,428	67	7,240	1,504	20	⬇-11
22-24	3,536	640	18	3,640	1,347	37	3,454	2,196	63	3,043	919	30	⬇ -6
25-29	2,867	552	19	2,283	819	35	2,341	1,270	54	1,896	608	32	⬇ -3
30-39	2,585	713	27	2,006	799	39	2,169	1,136	52	1,927	623	32	⬇ -7
40-49	1,283	553	43	898	471	52	918	554	60	989	406	41	⬇-11
50+	685	440	64	425	288	67	394	286	72	467	278	59	⬇ -8

Looking Closer

By Sex

| | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | 2020 | | | 2022 | | | 2018-2022 |
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,757	1,941	28	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,803	2,397	27	-

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			2022			2018-2022 Rate Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
EDUCATION LEVEL													
Undergraduate	11,257	2,100	18	13,037	4,659	35	12,892	8,376	64	11,313	2,681	23	▼ -12
Graduate	3,191	825	25	3,144	1,264	40	3,711	2,042	55	3,377	1,283	37	▼ -2
Class Unknown	3,091	910	29	810	334	41	705	452	64	872	374	42	▲ 1
CLASS YEAR													
Freshman	1,639	190	11	2,304	593	25	2,215	1,410	63	2,093	311	14	▼ -10
Sophomore	184	46	25	2,686	840	31	2,777	1,831	65	2,285	467	20	▼ -10
Upperclassman	9,265	1,819	19	7,878	3,150	39	7,842	5,106	65	6,820	1,875	27	▼ -12
ENROLLMENT STATUS													
Full-time	10,683	1,649	15	12,025	3,998	33	11,888	7,561	63	10,482	2,428	23	▼ -10
Part-time	6,856	2,186	31	4,966	2,259	45	5,420	3,309	61	5,080	1,910	37	▼ -7

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level (under-graduate/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			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	-	-	-	718	233	32	655	409	62	532	115	21	⬇ -10
Business, Management, and Marketing	-	-	-	3,314	1,011	30	3,706	2,018	54	3,666	834	22	⬇ -7

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			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Computer and Information Sciences	-	-	-	1,648	619	37	1,751	1,014	57	1,530	429	28	⬇ -9
Education	-	-	-	420	263	62	455	376	82	483	237	49	⬇ -13
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	-	-	-	3,836	1,174	30	3,824	2,223	58	2,917	784	26	⬇ -3
English Language and Literature	-	-	-	300	143	47	334	257	76	274	94	34	⬇ -13
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	-	-	-	26	-	-	22	16	72	18	-	-	-
Health Professions	-	-	-	1,680	697	41	1,236	874	70	1,320	374	28	⬇ -13
History	-	-	-	118	75	63	112	90	80	105	42	40	⬇ -23
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	-	-	-	874	354	40	1,041	755	72	1,002	333	33	⬇ -7
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	351	254	72	302	63	20	-

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	-	-	-	604	237	39	463	295	63	446	114	25	▼ -13
Mathematics and Statistics	-	-	-	273	105	38	210	137	65	170	62	36	▼ -1
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	-	-	-	129	54	41	137	85	62	106	27	25	▼ -16
Philosophy and Religious Studies	-	-	-	32	14	43	25	15	60	17	-	-	-
Social Sciences	-	-	-	398	197	49	398	277	69	356	134	37	▼ -11
Visual and Performing Arts	-	-	-	450	213	47	468	372	79	450	143	31	▼ -15
Unknown	17,539	3,835	21	803	328	40	718	461	64	406	157	38	▼ -2

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 representing an average of well over 10 million students for each election year, that serves as a foundation for innovative research on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

The National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (NSLVE, "en-solve") is a service offered to colleges and universities that provides a tailored report on their students' voting rates and other metrics. Launched in 2013 at Tufts University's Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, NSLVE represents more than 1,200 campuses in all 50 states + D.C. and now serves as a widely impactful resource for the work of understanding and fostering student political learning.

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, 2020, and 2022 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.

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://nslve.tufts.edu.

References: NSLVE 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: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2024). 2022 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.

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in The National Study for Learning Voting and Engagement

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