


June 2024



# Student Voting Rates for University of South Carolina-Columbia

## 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](mailto: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

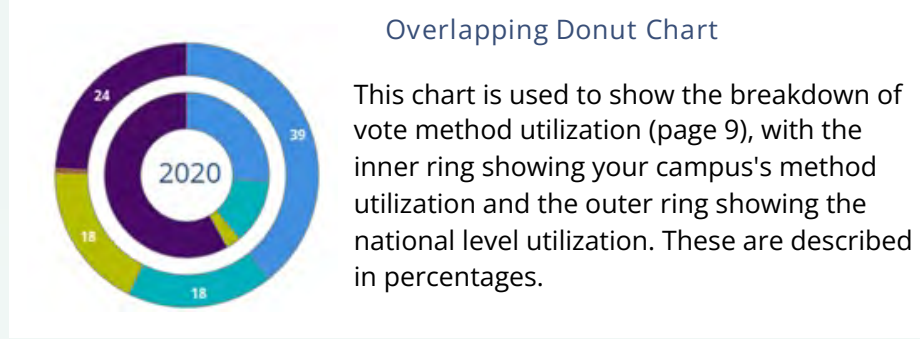
# In This Report

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

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

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.



# Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

## YOUR INSTITUTION

29.8%

2022 Voting Rate

-3.9

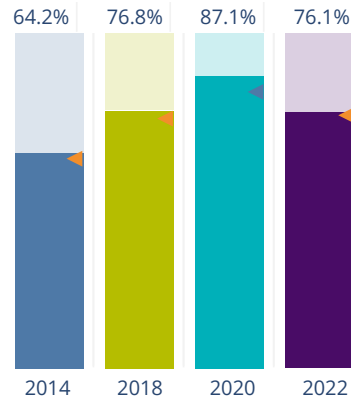
Change From 2018

## ALL INSTITUTIONS

30.6%

2022 Voting Rate

### REGISTRATION RATE



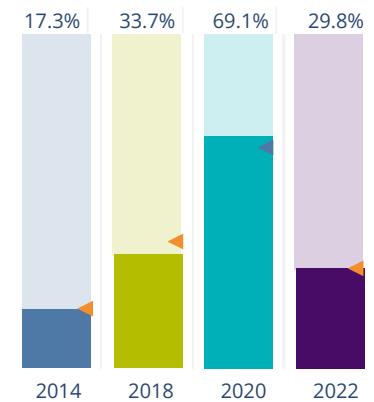
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

### VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS



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



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	32,156	34,781	35,272	35,329	↑ 548
Age under 18/Unknown	103	101	100	129	↑ 28
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	1,364	1,854	1,592	1,771	↓ -83
Datasource	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	-
FERPA records blocked	45	45	47	-	-
Non-Degree Seeking Students	-	191	238	-	-
Total eligible voters	30,643	32,589	33,294	33,428	↑ 839
Number of students who registered	19,681	25,038	29,003	25,441	↑ 403
Number of students who voted	5,312	10,976	22,992	9,969	↓ -1,007
Registration Rate %	64	76	87	76	→ 0
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	26	43	79	39	↓ -4
Voting Rate %	17	33	69	29	↓ -3

**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.

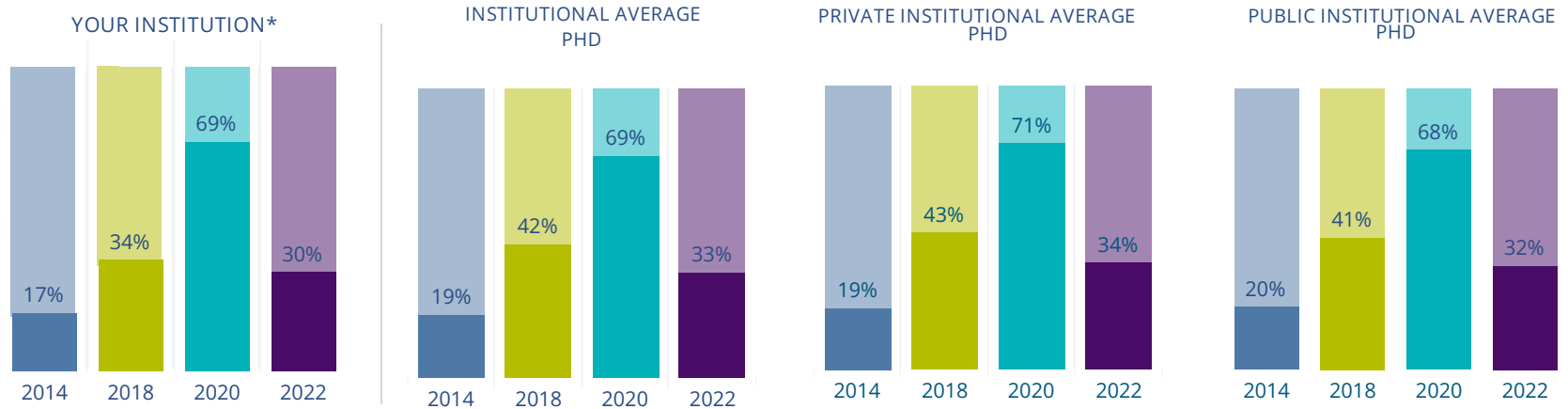
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to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

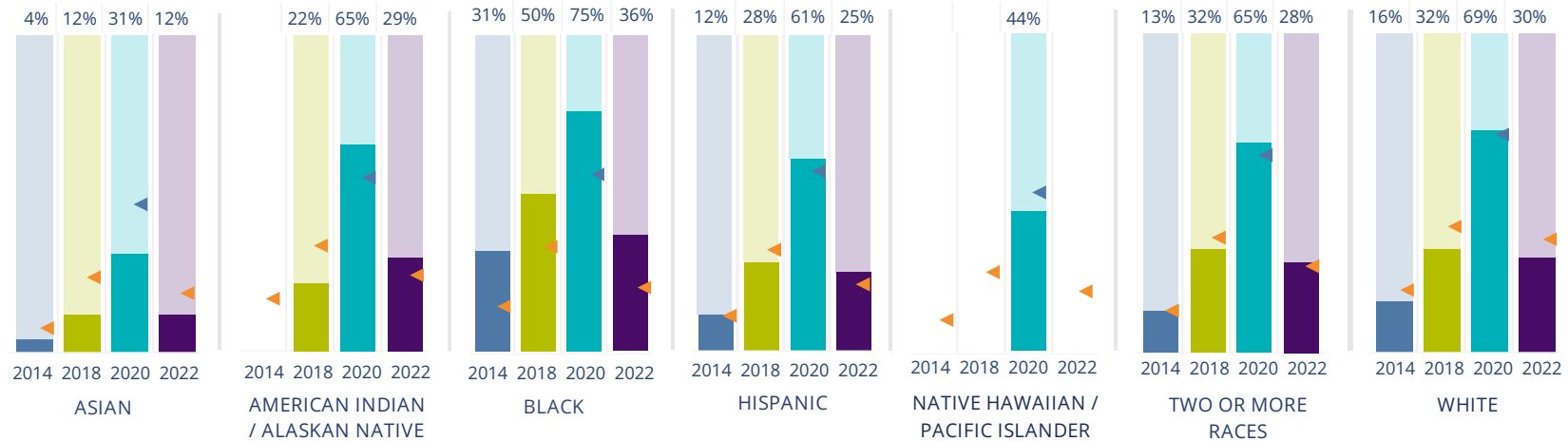
## By Institution Types



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-nsive-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

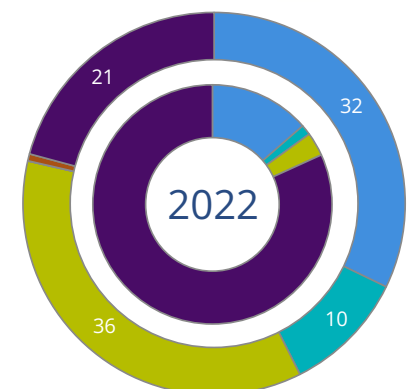
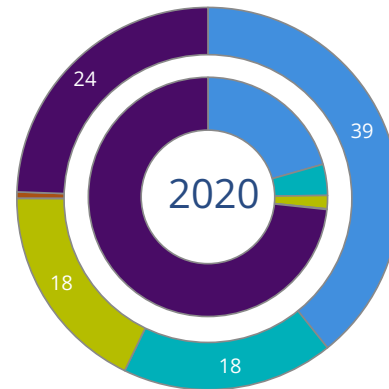
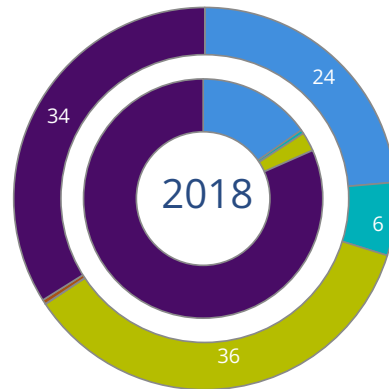
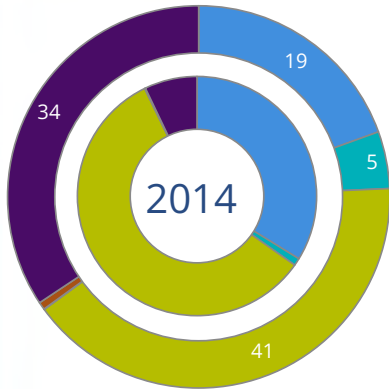
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates.** We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your 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	1,422	59	4	2,074	250	12	2,251	695	30	2,298	274	11	→ 0
American Indian/ Alaska Native	79	-	-	60	13	21	66	43	65	51	15	29	↑ 7
Black	3,444	1,080	31	3,135	1,559	49	3,334	2,511	75	3,575	1,303	36	↓ -13
Hispanic	1,317	154	11	1,546	432	27	1,751	1,062	60	1,955	484	24	↓ -3
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	30	-	-	35	-	-	25	11	44	24	-	-	-
2 or More Races	1,073	140	13	1,233	394	31	1,365	889	65	1,395	390	27	↓ -3
White	24,251	3,789	15	25,528	8,176	32	25,337	17,512	69	24,700	7,324	29	↓ -2
Race Unknown	392	80	20	823	144	17	747	269	36	1,202	178	14	↓ -2



# By Voting Method

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



	2014		2018		2020		2022		2018-2022	
	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Change	
Early Vote	53	1	54	0	967	4	143	1	→	0
In-Person	3,080	58	286	2	422	1	316	3	→	0
Not-In-Person	1,794	33	1,674	15	4,730	20	1,357	13	↓	-1
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provisional	-	-	-	-	19	0	-	-	-	-
Voting Method Unknown	382	7	8,959	81	16,854	73	8,150	81	→	0

**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	10%	26%	66%	23%
22-24	16%	34%	63%	29%
25-29	22%	42%	63%	35%
30-39	34%	47%	62%	42%
40-49	51%	63%	76%	61%
50+	61%	77%	84%	71%

**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	19,116	2,023	10	22,119	5,782	26	23,111	15,329	66	23,271	5,492	23	↓ -2
22-24	6,004	993	16	5,710	1,950	34	5,484	3,506	63	5,574	1,659	29	↓ -4
25-29	3,221	739	22	3,163	1,341	42	2,995	1,898	63	2,958	1,059	35	↓ -6
30-39	2,269	782	34	2,167	1,034	47	2,004	1,249	62	2,039	873	42	↓ -4
40-49	864	446	51	824	520	63	856	652	76	864	534	61	↓ -1
50+	534	329	61	451	349	77	426	358	84	494	352	71	↓ -6

# Looking Closer

## By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Female	17,779	3,165	17	18,866	6,684	35	19,360	13,799	71	20,336	6,393	31	↓ -3
Male	14,210	2,145	15	15,566	4,291	27	15,471	9,157	59	14,762	3,539	23	↓ -3

**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(%)	
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>													
Undergraduate	24,120	3,097	12	26,632	7,418	27	26,969	17,784	65	26,942	6,565	24	↓ -3
Graduate	7,795	2,176	27	7,802	3,558	45	7,901	5,207	65	8,105	3,324	41	↓ -4
Class Unknown	93	39	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	153	74	48	-
<b>CLASS YEAR</b>													
Freshman	5,075	383	7	6,063	1,289	21	5,555	3,354	60	6,579	1,138	17	↓ -3
Sophomore	5,653	549	9	6,450	1,554	24	6,473	4,199	64	6,360	1,410	22	↓ -1
Upperclassman	13,414	2,169	16	14,132	4,579	32	14,956	10,238	68	14,019	4,021	28	↓ -3
<b>ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>													
Full-time	28,078	3,847	13	31,102	9,149	29	31,427	20,503	65	31,726	8,175	25	↓ -3
Part-time	3,930	1,465	37	3,332	1,827	54	3,449	2,489	72	3,474	1,794	51	↓ -3

**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			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	36	19	52	147	60	40	154	114	74	103	40	38	 -1
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	3,476	394	11	3,495	892	25	3,633	2,385	65	3,778	903	23	 -1
Business, Management, and Marketing	4,393	646	14	5,946	1,512	25	6,051	3,743	61	5,965	1,333	22	 -3
Communication and Journalism	1,541	181	11	1,683	551	32	1,751	1,263	72	1,525	450	29	 -3






**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	614	97	15	1,078	343	31	1,214	723	59	1,283	308	24	↓ -7
Education	2,011	659	32	1,742	904	51	1,844	1,413	76	1,959	1,004	51	→ 0
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,390	293	12	2,662	674	25	2,463	1,406	57	2,204	517	23	↓ -1
English Language and Literature	472	108	22	395	176	44	334	245	73	299	116	38	↓ -5
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	217	47	21	192	89	46	201	133	66	140	53	37	↓ -8
Health Professions	3,797	591	15	5,314	1,846	34	5,595	3,980	71	5,775	1,707	29	↓ -5
History	404	92	22	320	154	48	323	236	73	253	104	41	↓ -7
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	743	114	15	685	202	29	815	529	64	852	223	26	↓ -3
Library Science	304	145	47	304	221	72	348	290	83	403	286	70	↓ -1
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	854	67	7	1,207	219	18	1,445	816	56	1,414	245	17	→ 0

## By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Legal Professions and Studies	620	181	29	613	308	50	617	464	75	599	276	46	 -4
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	4,462	669	14	3,214	789	24	2,445	1,414	57	2,971	596	20	 -4
Mathematics and Statistics	349	46	13	368	133	36	353	213	60	299	92	30	 -5
Philosophy and Religious Studies	100	21	21	101	48	47	95	67	70	70	30	42	 -4
Social Sciences	1,422	319	22	1,450	568	39	1,441	997	69	1,401	498	35	 -3
Visual and Performing Arts	1,112	153	13	1,083	399	36	1,064	716	67	1,103	335	30	 -6
Unknown	30	-	-	11	-	-	15	11	73	36	13	36	-



## 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.

### Contact us to get more info

 [nslve@tufts.edu](mailto:nslve@tufts.edu)

 [nslve.tufts.edu](https://nslve.tufts.edu)

 The National Study for  
Learning Voting and  
Engagement

 TuftsNSLVE