June 2024

Student Voting Rates for Washington State University

NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts | 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

33.7%
2022 Voting Rate

-7.9
Change From 2018

ALL INSTITUTIONS

30.6%
2022 Voting Rate
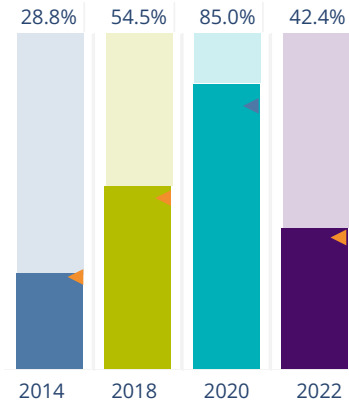
REGISTRATION RATE

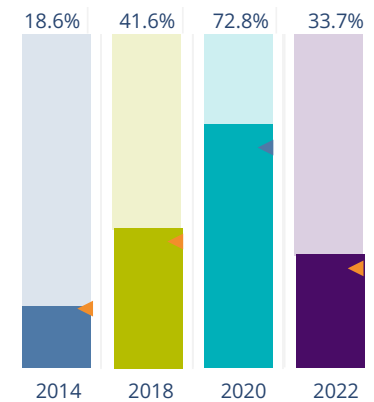| 64.4% | 76.3% | 85.6% | 79.4% |
| 2014 | 2018 | 2020 | 2022 |

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

| 28.8% | 54.5% | 85.0% | 42.4% |
| 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

| 18.6% | 41.6% | 72.8% | 33.7% |
| 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	28,540	30,926	30,831	27,054	⬇ -3,872
Age under 18/Unknown	112	242	265	202	⬇ -40
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	1,891	2,164	1,865	1,485	⬇ -679
Datasource	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	-
FERPA records blocked	191	247	270	-	-
Non-Degree Seeking Students	328	12	-	-	-
Total eligible voters	26,017	28,260	28,430	25,366	⬇ -2,893
Number of students who registered	16,751	21,555	24,345	20,151	⬇ -1,404
Number of students who voted	4,827	11,754	20,690	8,553	⬇ -3,201
Registration Rate %	64	76	85	79	⬆ 3
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	28	54	84	42	⬇ -12
Voting Rate %	18	41	72	33	⬇ -7

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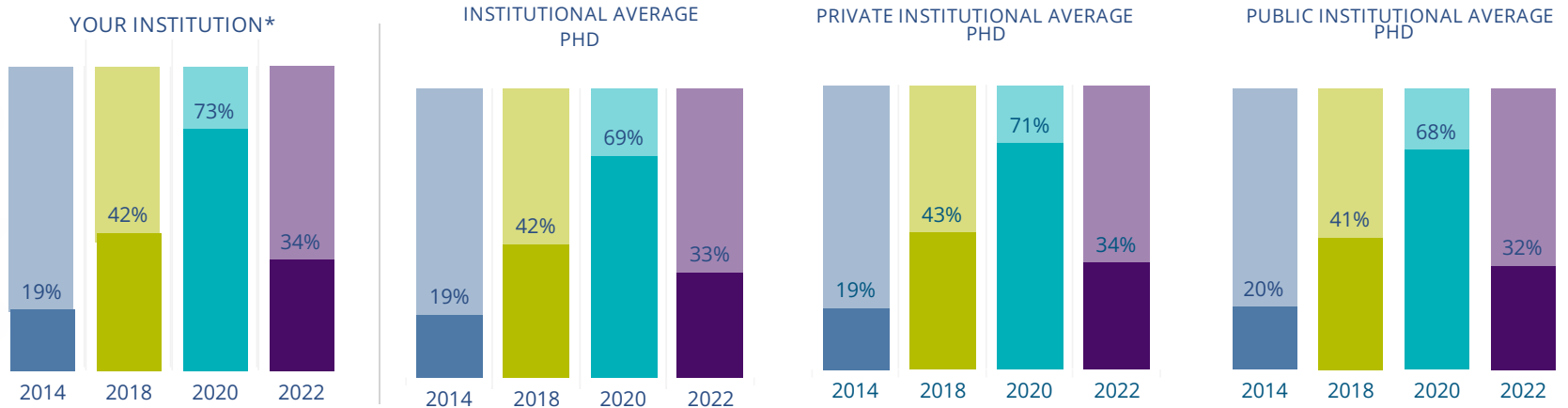
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to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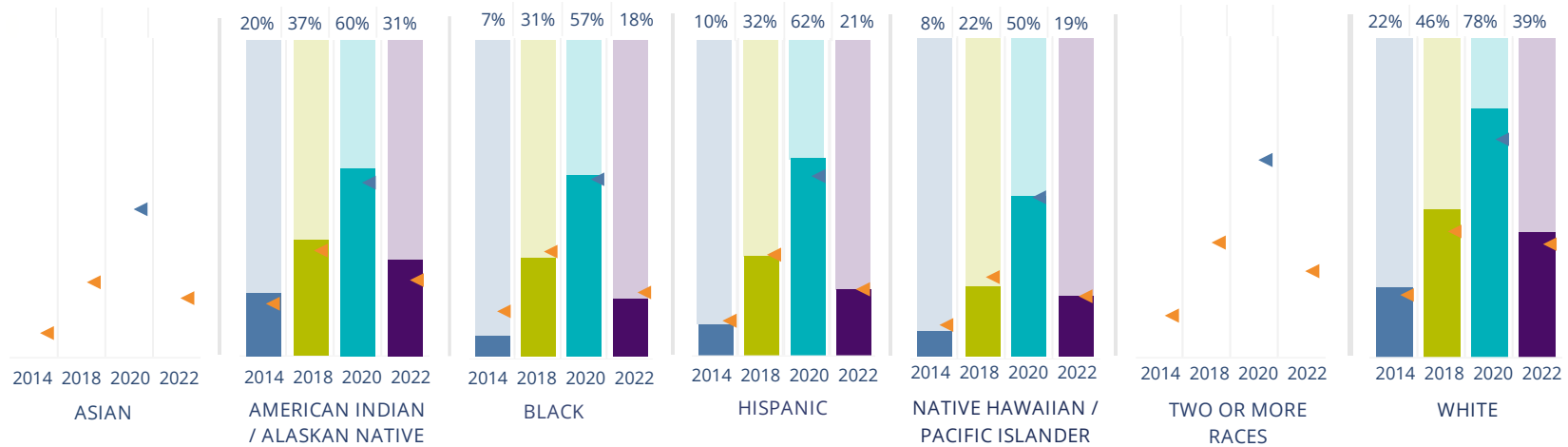
By Institution Types

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	2018	2020	2022
19%	42%	73%	34%

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

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

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

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

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

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

By Race / Ethnicity

	ASIAN	AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER	TWO OR MORE RACES	WHITE
2014		20%	7%	10%	8%		22%
2018		37%	31%	32%	22%		46%
2020		60%	57%	62%	50%		78%
2022		31%	18%	21%	19%		39%

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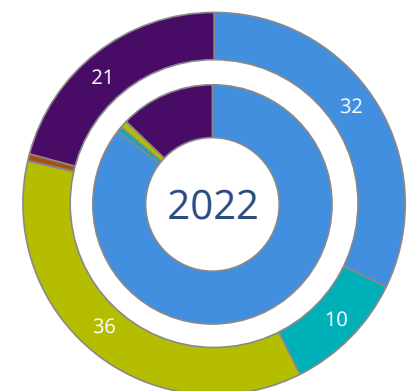age, it could mean any of the 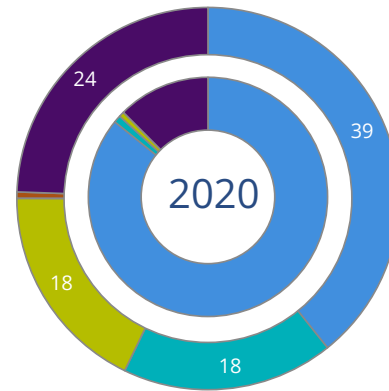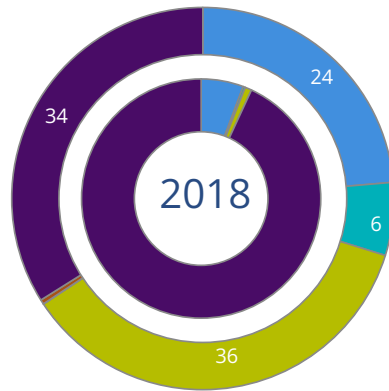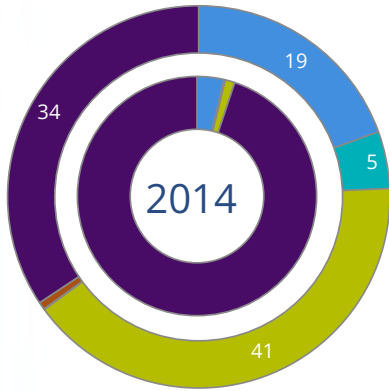following for your institution: (i) does not report this data or reports this data as unknown; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

| | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | 2020 | | | 2022 | | | 2018-2022 |
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	163	33	20	178	65	36	148	88	59	163	50	30	⬇ -5
Black	883	58	6	961	296	30	903	513	56	809	146	18	⬇ -12
Hispanic	3,003	295	9	4,220	1,330	31	4,539	2,827	62	4,016	845	21	⬇ -10
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	1,649	130	7	2,313	502	21	2,441	1,222	50	2,437	456	18	⬇ -2
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	17,555	3,834	21	17,920	8,264	46	18,043	13,992	77	15,901	6,224	39	⬇ -6
Race Unknown	4,631	477	10	4,832	1,297	26	4,222	2,048	48	3,526	832	23	⬇ -3

By Voting Method

Legend: ■ 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	12	0	40	0	213	1	61	0	➡ 0
In-Person	63	1	111	0	154	0	89	1	➡ 0
Not-In-Person	176	3	665	5	17,761	85	7,309	85	⬆ 79
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Voting Method Unknown	4,575	94	10,937	93	2,557	12	1,093	12	⬇ -80

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	12%	34%	70%	27%
22-24	16%	37%	66%	31%
25-29	20%	40%	62%	34%
30-39	28%	48%	64%	41%
40-49	41%	60%	73%	54%
50+	56%	73%	85%	70%

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	14,727	1,862	12	16,337	5,693	34	15,960	11,209	70	14,233	3,901	27	⬇ -7
22-24	5,703	932	16	6,002	2,249	37	5,939	3,954	66	5,444	1,704	31	⬇ -6
25-29	3,475	695	20	3,883	1,577	40	3,961	2,492	62	3,356	1,171	34	⬇ -5
30-39	2,760	784	28	2,872	1,392	48	3,081	1,996	64	2,630	1,080	41	⬇ -7
40-49	887	365	41	1,004	604	60	1,012	746	73	878	477	54	⬇ -5
50+	332	189	56	326	239	73	343	293	85	311	220	70	⬇ -2

Looking Closer

By Sex

| | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | 2020 | | | 2022 | | | 2018-2022 |
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Female	14,284	2,559	17	16,071	6,654	41	16,440	11,845	72	14,478	4,919	33	⬇ -7
Male	13,600	2,268	16	14,353	5,100	35	13,856	8,845	63	12,372	3,633	29	⬇ -6

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	23,102	3,568	15	24,886	9,265	37	24,224	16,783	69	21,589	6,454	29	⬇ -7
Graduate	4,606	1,198	26	5,031	2,228	44	5,491	3,518	64	4,743	1,891	39	⬇ -4
Class Unknown	176	61	34	507	261	51	581	389	66	520	208	40	⬇ -11
CLASS YEAR													
Freshman	5,602	526	9	5,556	1,585	28	4,511	3,061	67	4,274	952	22	⬇ -6
Sophomore	4,104	496	12	4,568	1,593	34	4,724	3,149	66	3,751	988	26	⬇ -8
Upperclassman	13,054	2,423	18	14,440	5,904	40	14,727	10,360	70	13,395	4,423	33	⬇ -7
ENROLLMENT STATUS													
Full-time	22,584	3,443	15	26,496	9,839	37	26,279	17,898	68	23,395	7,042	30	⬇ -7
Part-time	5,300	1,384	26	3,928	1,915	48	4,017	2,792	69	3,457	1,511	43	⬇ -5

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.

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By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Agriculture	464	102	21	1,204	472	39	1,076	738	68	1,418	470	33	⬇ -6
Architecture	132	14	10	347	90	25	299	185	61	293	66	22	⬇ -3
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	15	-	-	42	23	54	27	16	59	36	12	33	⬇ -21
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	896	161	17	2,321	892	38	2,356	1,694	71	2,538	765	30	⬇ -8
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,684	221	13	5,546	1,947	35	5,956	3,861	64	5,316	1,627	30	⬇ -4
Communication and Journalism	965	144	14	1,812	789	43	1,855	1,372	73	1,572	566	36	⬇ -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	278	58	20	1,084	366	33	1,176	688	58	1,220	314	25	⬇ -8
Education	342	108	31	1,183	536	45	1,166	887	76	1,036	411	39	⬇ -5
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	1,277	239	18	3,732	1,322	35	3,685	2,302	62	3,124	916	29	⬇ -6
English Language and Literature	203	46	22	339	175	51	388	296	76	363	139	38	⬇ -13
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	490	64	13	883	322	36	764	551	72	590	189	32	⬇ -4
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	53	11	20	99	34	34	76	57	75	70	19	27	⬇ -7
Health Professions	1,648	385	23	3,600	1,421	39	3,423	2,451	71	2,334	737	31	⬇ -7
History	189	55	29	252	141	55	279	219	78	254	122	48	⬇ -7
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	432	49	11	804	232	28	813	549	67	311	75	24	⬇ -4

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	-	-	-	49	16	32	29	18	62	19	-	-	-
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	221	38	17	304	135	44	226	149	65	164	61	37	🔻 -7
Mathematics and Statistics	96	19	19	264	91	34	276	165	59	268	102	38	🔼 3
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	-	-	-	153	65	42	228	147	64	300	103	34	🔻 -8
Philosophy and Religious Studies	22	-	-	65	33	50	46	37	80	32	-	-	-
Social Sciences	1,074	204	18	2,362	1,001	42	2,538	1,747	68	2,212	705	31	🔻 -10
Visual and Performing Arts	201	25	12	339	117	34	335	245	73	294	101	34	➡️ 0
Unknown	15,836	2,630	16	517	262	50	606	410	67	549	221	40	🔻 -10

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

🌐 nslve.tufts.edu

in The National Study for Learning Voting and Engagement

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