

June 2024



# Student Voting Rates for Western Illinois University

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

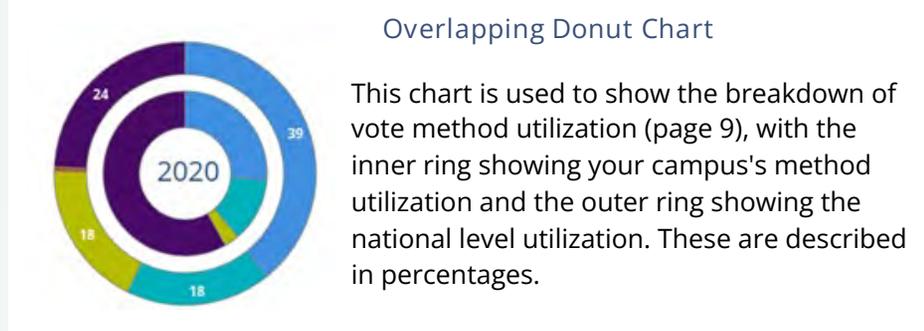
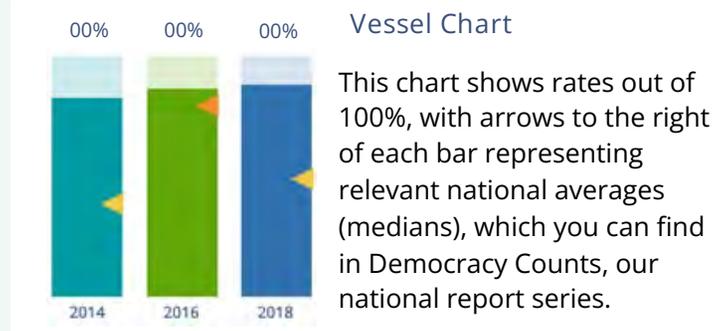
# In This Report

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

26.9%

2022 Voting Rate

-0.6

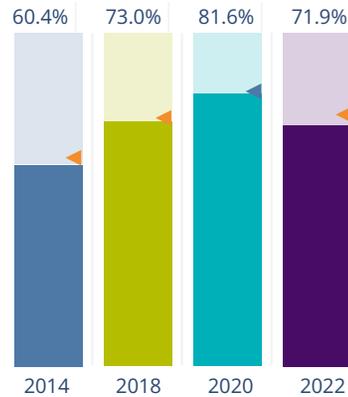
Change From 2018

## ALL INSTITUTIONS

30.6%

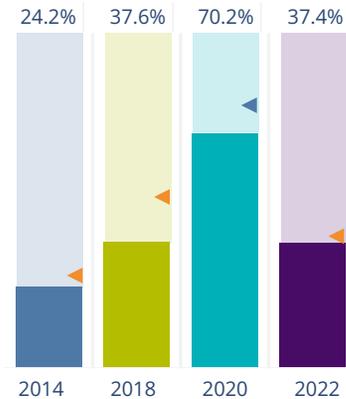
2022 Voting Rate

### REGISTRATION RATE



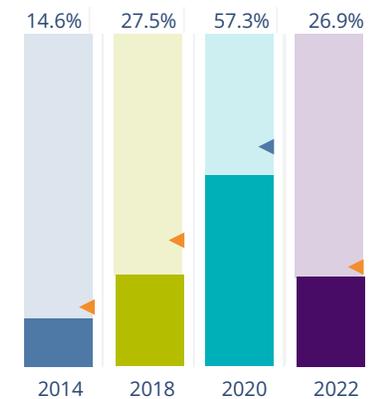
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

### 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	11,258	8,315	7,246	7,370	↓ -945
Age under 18/Unknown	17	-	-	13	-
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	499	359	248	1,094	↑ 735
Datasource	NSC	NSC	NSC	NSC	-
FERPA records blocked	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Degree Seeking Students	152	116	129	-	-
Total eligible voters	10,584	7,828	6,859	6,263	↓ -1,565
Number of students who registered	6,395	5,716	5,600	4,505	↓ -1,211
Number of students who voted	1,546	2,149	3,933	1,687	↓ -462
Registration Rate %	60	73	81	71	↓ -1
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	24	37	70	37	→ 0
Voting Rate %	14	27	57	26	→ 0

**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.

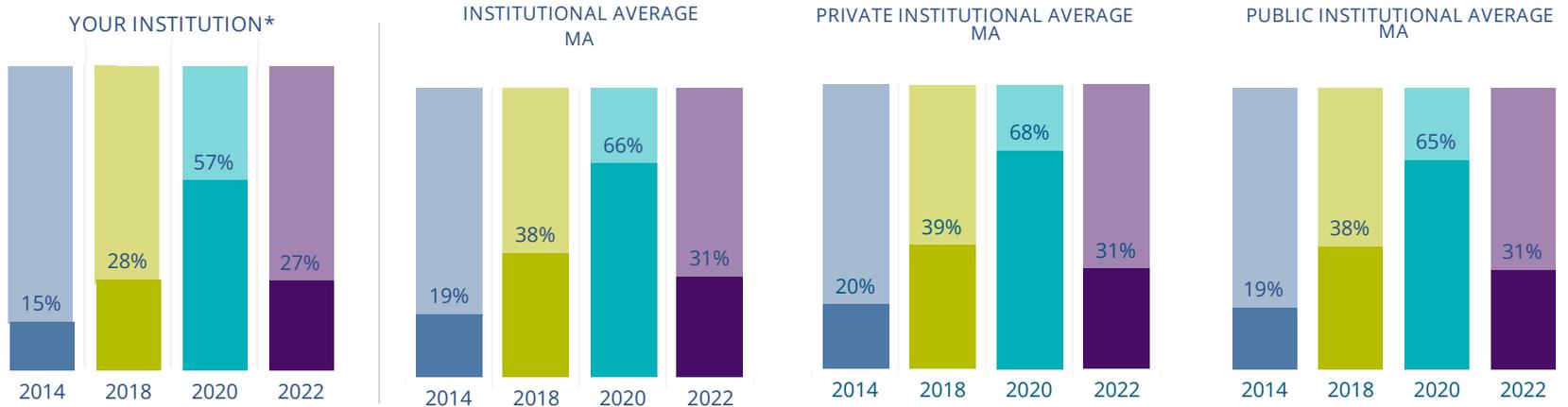
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to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

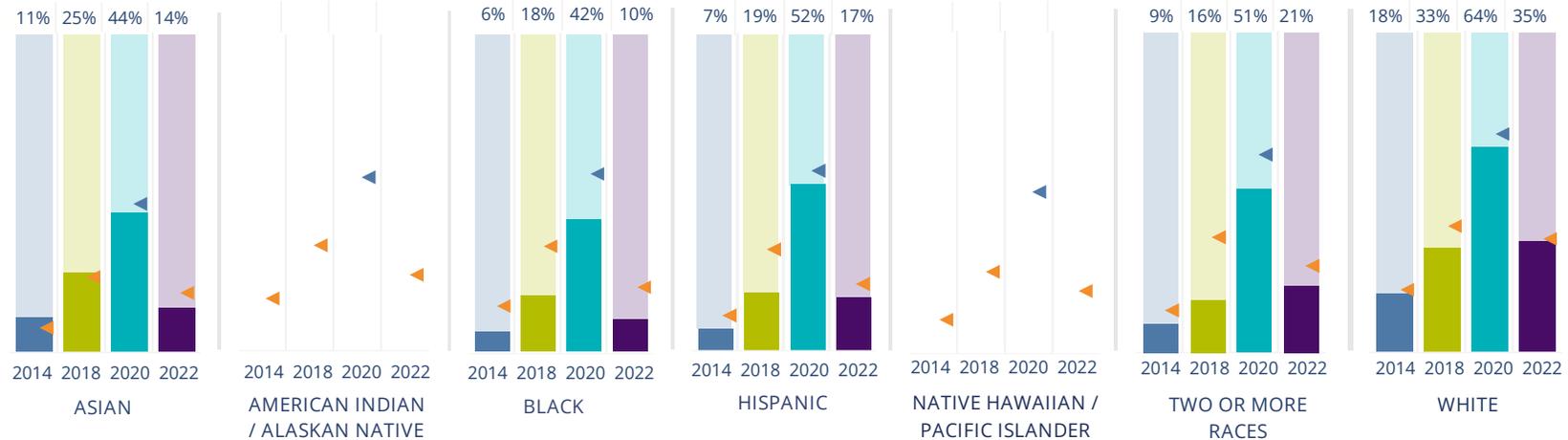
## By Institution Types



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)

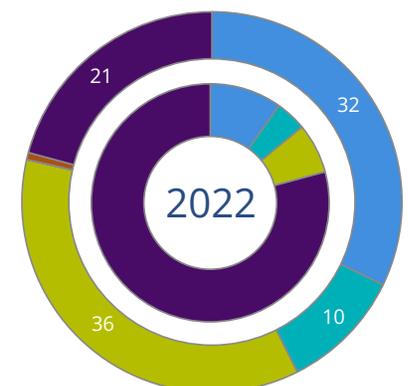
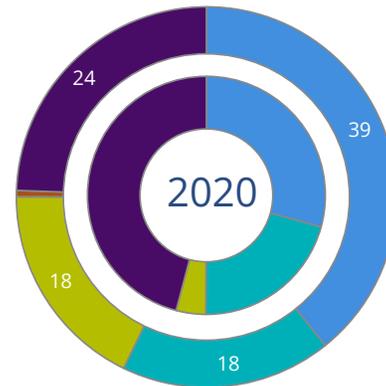
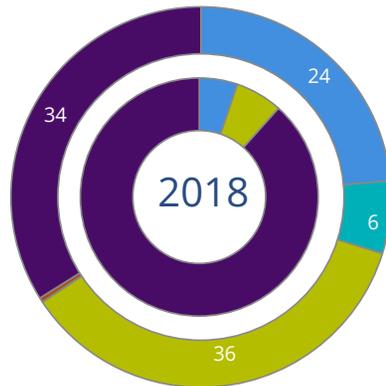
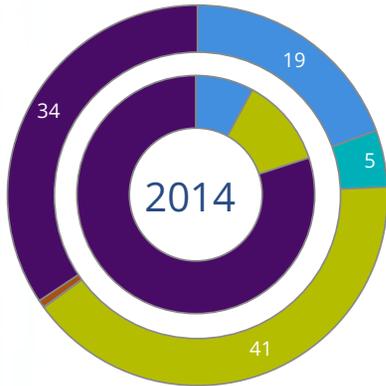
does not report this data or reports this data as unknown; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one

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 (%)	Change									
Asian	103	11	10	93	23	24	96	42	43	85	12	14	↓ -10
American Indian/ Alaska Native	16	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	1,841	111	6	1,527	269	17	1,326	551	41	1,252	126	10	↓ -7
Hispanic	961	65	6	916	171	18	837	439	52	758	129	17	↓ -1
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	243	22	9	227	37	16	180	92	51	179	37	20	↑ 4
White	7,080	1,283	18	4,911	1,599	32	4,261	2,714	63	3,846	1,337	34	↑ 2
Race Unknown	330	50	15	146	47	32	140	87	62	123	42	34	↑ 1

# By Voting Method

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



	2014		2018		2020		2022		2018-2022	
	Voted	Rate (%)	Change							
Early Vote	-	-	-	-	817	20	71	4	-	-
In-Person	187	12	138	6	159	4	115	6	→	0
Not-In-Person	122	7	111	5	1,152	29	165	9	↑	4
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Voting Method Unknown	1,237	80	1,899	88	1,804	45	1,336	79	↓	-9

**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	5%	17%	52%	16%
22-24	13%	26%	55%	22%
25-29	24%	36%	60%	30%
30-39	41%	51%	66%	46%
40-49	50%	66%	79%	63%
50+	64%	76%	78%	72%

**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 (%)	Change									
18-21	5,746	337	5	3,968	681	17	3,416	1,793	52	3,155	521	16	↔ 0
22-24	2,520	333	13	1,937	505	26	1,582	874	55	1,257	288	22	↓ -3
25-29	963	235	24	776	280	36	724	439	60	609	185	30	↓ -5
30-39	758	312	41	619	316	51	601	401	66	647	299	46	↓ -4
40-49	401	202	50	368	245	66	365	291	79	398	252	63	↓ -3
50+	196	127	64	160	122	76	171	135	78	197	142	72	↓ -4

# Looking Closer

## By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change									
Female	5,432	818	15	4,181	1,218	29	3,879	2,335	60	3,674	1,027	27	 -1
Male	5,152	728	14	3,647	931	25	2,980	1,598	53	2,589	660	25	 0

**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(%)										
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>													
Undergraduate	9,263	1,066	11	6,474	1,487	22	5,559	2,999	53	4,868	1,043	21	↓ -1
Graduate	1,321	480	36	1,354	662	48	1,300	934	71	1,319	605	45	↓ -3
Class Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	20	26	-
<b>CLASS YEAR</b>													
Freshman	2,228	79	3	880	99	11	1,022	454	44	1,019	89	8	↓ -2
Sophomore	1,526	107	7	1,004	169	16	798	429	53	743	151	20	↑ 3
Upperclassman	5,510	880	15	4,600	1,224	26	3,741	2,117	56	3,110	803	25	→ 0
<b>ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>													
Full-time	8,643	838	9	6,338	1,373	21	5,359	2,915	54	4,637	876	18	↓ -2
Part-time	1,941	708	36	1,490	776	52	1,500	1,018	67	1,626	811	49	↓ -2

**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 (%)	Change									
Agriculture	333	42	12	276	58	21	238	152	63	222	70	31	 10
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	467	38	8	369	75	20	271	135	49	201	36	17	 -2
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,344	220	16	1,113	279	25	1,002	539	53	925	212	22	 -2
Communication and Journalism	543	61	11	348	87	25	326	169	51	242	47	19	 -5
Communications Technologies/Technicians	68	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**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 (%)	Change									
Communications Technologies/Technicians	68	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer and Information Sciences	267	28	10	196	56	28	161	73	45	163	40	24	-4
Education	1,091	320	29	874	398	45	865	612	70	995	452	45	0
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	259	52	20	237	66	27	214	107	50	165	49	29	1
English Language and Literature	154	29	18	116	47	40	86	58	67	95	30	31	-8
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	29	-	-	20	-	-	14	-	-	19	-	-	-
Health Professions	511	41	8	500	69	13	461	253	54	398	51	12	0
History	146	34	23	87	33	37	86	56	65	59	20	33	-4
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	1,626	131	8	1,296	243	18	1,027	532	51	788	171	21	2
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	629	48	7	398	70	17	280	147	52	221	29	13	-4

## By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change									
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,136	310	27	672	303	45	493	307	62	448	191	42	 -2
Mathematics and Statistics	52	-	-	39	17	43	29	16	55	38	17	44	 1
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	45	-	-	37	19	51	32	25	78	38	13	34	 -17
Social Sciences	264	35	13	200	71	35	226	126	55	232	70	30	 -5
Visual and Performing Arts	401	34	8	314	93	29	344	233	67	330	75	22	 -6
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-

## 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