



September 2022

Student Voting Rates for Butler University

NSLVE Campus Report



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College of Civic Life



INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY
& HIGHER EDUCATION

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>

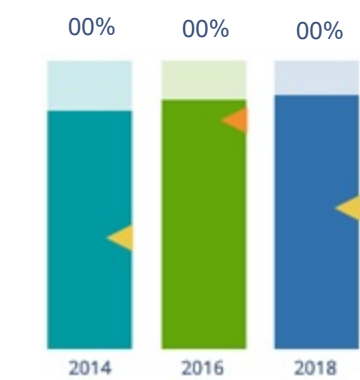
In This Report

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

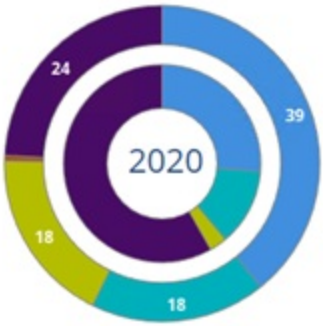
The tables show the numbers of students and the rates from 2014, 2018, and 2020. The change column represents difference between counts and rates. The change in rates are in terms of percentage points. A red down arrow indicates a decrease, a green up arrow indicates an increase, and a yellow arrow pointing 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 Change (p.p.)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
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

36.8%

2018 Voting Rate

+26.7

Change From 2014

ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%

2018 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Rate
2014	65.2%
2018	80.8%
2020	90.0%

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

Year	Rate
2014	15.5%
2018	45.5%
2020	83.2%

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

Year	Rate
2014	10.1%
2018	36.8%
2020	74.9%

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	2014-2018 Change
Total student enrollment per NSC	4,777	5,346	5,532	↑ 569
(Age under 18/Unknown)	33	20	86	↓ -13
(Non-resident aliens)	136	85	45	↓ -51
Non-resident aliens data source	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	
(FERPA records blocked)	—	—	84	—
(Non-degree seeking students)	—	—	—	—
Total eligible voters	4,605	5,240	5,317	↑ 635
Number of students who registered	3,003	4,236	4,784	↑ 1,233
Number of students who voted	465	1,926	3,981	↑ 1,461
Registration Rate %	65	81	90	↑ 16
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	15	45	83	↑ 30
Voting Rate %	10	37	75	↑ 27

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.

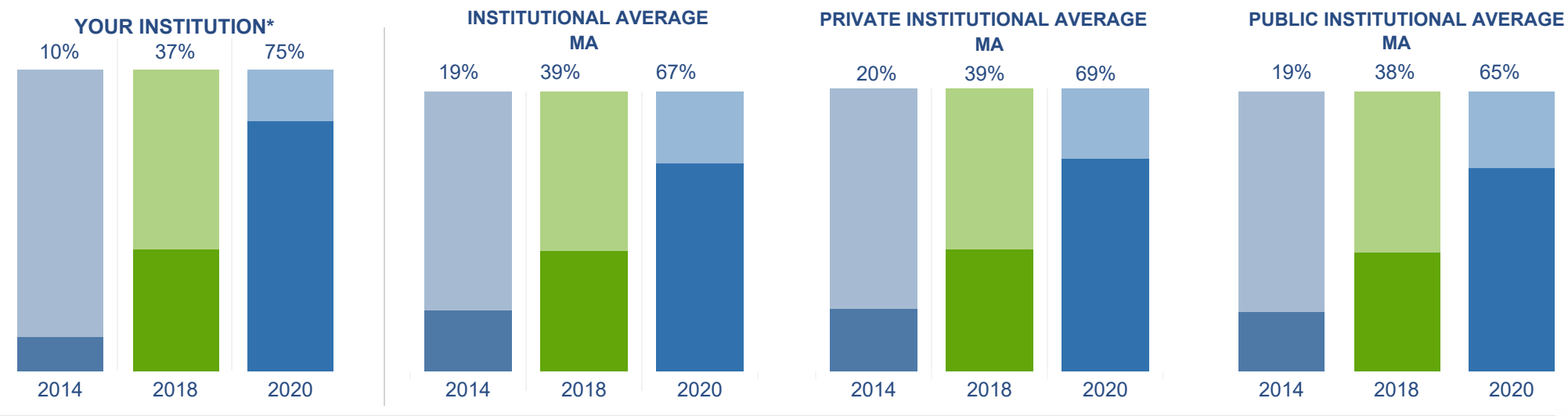
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to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

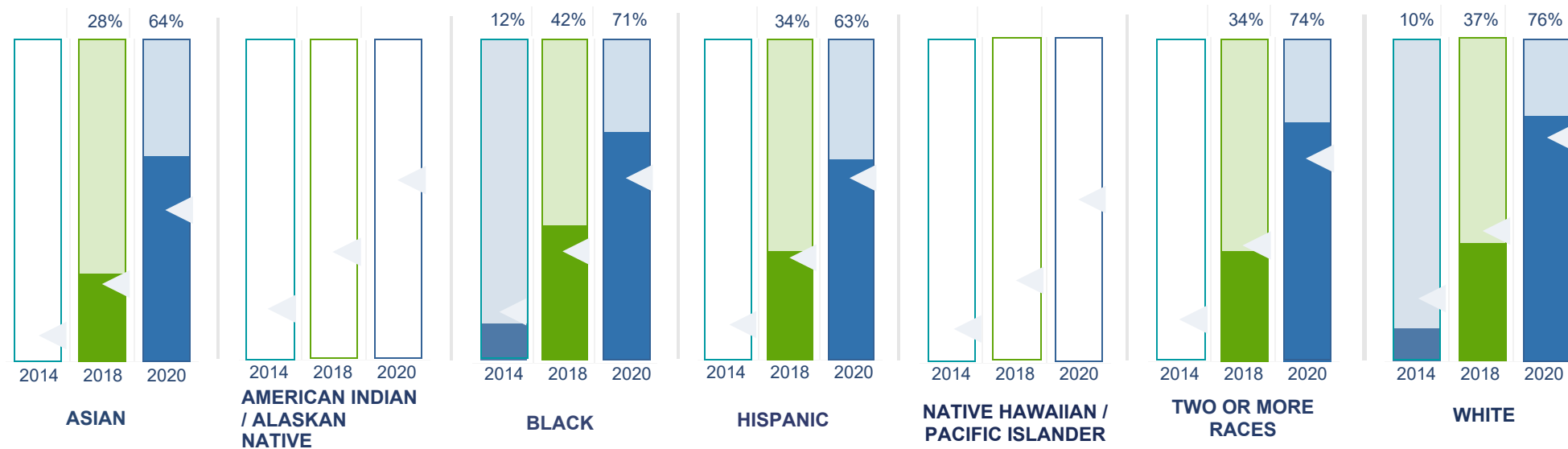
By Institution Types



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

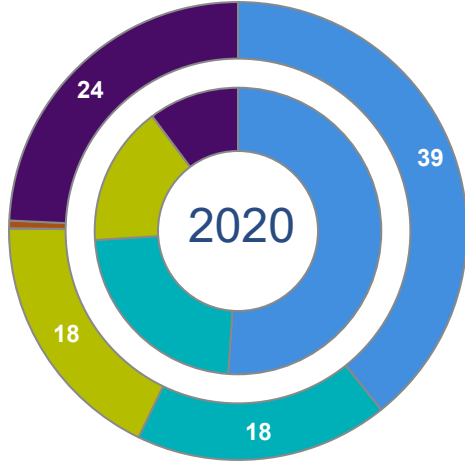
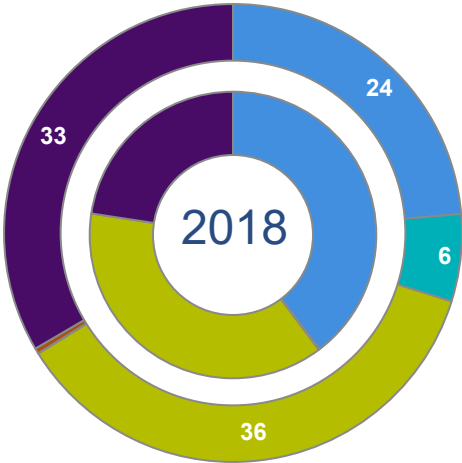
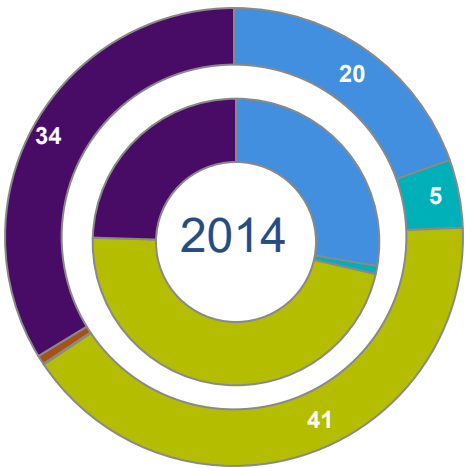
By Race/Ethnicity

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			2014-2018 Rate Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	
Asian	143	—	—	200	55	28	179	114	64	—
American Indian/ Alaska Native	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	179	21	12	190	80	42	189	134	71	↑ 30
Hispanic	132	—	—	195	66	34	253	158	62	—
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 or More Races	122	—	—	215	73	34	207	153	74	—
White	3,979	410	10	4,380	1,600	37	4,467	3,377	76	↑ 26

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	—	—	—	—	911	23	—	—
In-Person	218	47	725	38	629	16	↓	-9
Not-In-Person	129	28	764	40	2,035	51	↑	12
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Provisional	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Voting Method Unknown	114	25	436	23	405	10	↓	-2

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/nsive/nsive-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	8%	33%	74%
22-24	9%	40%	73%
25-29	20%	56%	70%
30-39	26%	61%	81%
40-49	39%	69%	90%
50+	54%	69%	88%

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	3,434	265	8	4,023	1,310	33	3,871	2,852	74	↑	25
22-24	834	76	9	812	322	40	848	618	73	↑	31
25-29	235	48	20	227	126	56	237	167	70	↑	35
30-39	158	41	26	176	108	61	226	183	81	↑	35
40-49	54	21	39	52	36	69	130	117	90	↑	30
50+	26	14	54	35	24	69	50	44	88	↑	15

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Female	2,816	275	10	3,214	1,318	41	3,284	2,637	80	↑	31
Male	1,922	190	10	2,110	608	29	2,063	1,334	65	↑	19

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	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Rate Change	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	3,416	265	8	3,963	1,347	34	3,937	2,898	74	↑	26
Graduate	1,244	180	14	1,235	504	41	1,236	917	74	↑	26
Class Unknown	81	13	16	127	21	17	189	29	15	→	0
CLASS YEAR											
Freshman	933	60	6	1,252	361	29	1,066	761	71	↑	22
Sophomore	961	62	6	975	313	32	963	703	73	↑	26
Upperclassman	2,043	190	9	2,229	823	37	2,282	1,694	74	↑	28
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	4,486	391	9	5,082	1,770	35	5,049	3,721	74	↑	26
Part-time	255	74	29	243	156	64	313	260	83	↑	35

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
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	239	11	5	270	86	32	285	214	75	↑ 27
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,179	114	10	1,336	396	30	1,341	894	67	↑ 20
Communication and Journalism	307	33	11	399	132	33	406	315	78	↑ 22
Computer and Information Sciences	51	—	—	93	24	26	93	58	62	—
Education	462	52	11	552	288	52	596	504	85	↑ 41
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	—	—	—	18	—	—	11	—	—	—

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-nsive-report-faq>

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
English Language and Literature	126	22	17	119	69	58	130	86	66	↑	41
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and ..	17	—	—	16	—	—	17	12	71		—
Health Professions	1,096	110	10	1,183	390	33	1,184	893	75	↑	23
History	37	—	—	54	32	59	42	38	90		—
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Huma..	137	—	—	152	43	28	167	118	71		—
Mathematics and Statistics	29	—	—	42	17	40	45	34	76		—
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	46	—	—	32	15	47	11	—	—		—
Natural Resources and Conservation	—	—	—	28	11	39	22	21	95		—
Philosophy and Religious Studies	16	—	—	13	—	—	16	12	75		—
Physical Sciences	167	16	10	131	45	34	118	79	67	↑	25
Psychology	134	—	—	161	58	36	147	114	78		—
Social Sciences	253	30	12	300	133	44	315	234	74	↑	32
Visual and Performing Arts	346	22	6	315	122	39	353	281	80	↑	32

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Unknown	55	16	29	71	29	41	57	51	89	<div><div></div>↑12</div>

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.

Butler 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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