



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for California State University-Northridge

2020 NSLVE Campus Report



Jonathan M. Tisch
College of Civic Life



INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY
& HIGHER EDUCATION

October 2021

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to send this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for 2020. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2016, 2018, and 2020. As always, we disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation.

College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

As in past years, 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 urge you to review our recommendations for engaging elections to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation: Election Imperatives (2019) and the more recent Election Imperatives: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action. Since "pervasive political discussions" 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 hot topics, our Making Sense of ... guides.

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 for our periodic newsletter, IDHE Update, for announcements about upcoming releases and new resources.

Congratulations on engaging your students in the 2020 election. Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student political engagement should not be.

All the Best,
IDHE Team



(Top Row from left) Duy Trinh, Program Administrator; Adam Gismondi, Director of Impact; Dave Brinker, Senior Researcher;
(Bottom Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.

We also want to acknowledge and thank **Syed Golam Mohaimen, M.S. student in Data Science at Tufts University** for his contributions toward the creation of these reports.

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.



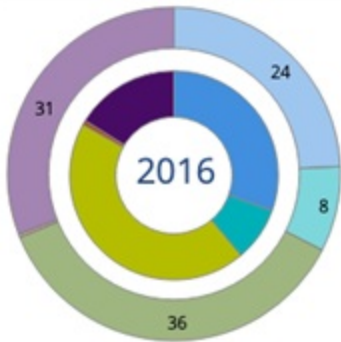
Vessel Chart

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 2020.

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

Tables

The tables show, on the left-side columns, the numbers of students and the rates from 2016, 2018, and 2020. On the left-side, percentage point (p.p.) changes between 2016 and 2020. 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.



Overlapping Donut Chart

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 10), with the outer ring showing your campus method utilization and the inner ring showing the national breakdown. These are described in percentages.

Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

73.2%

2020 Voting Rate

+17.8

Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Registration Rate
2016	80.9%
2018	79.4%
2020	87.8%

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

Year	Voting Rate of Registered Students
2016	68.5%
2018	56.6%
2020	83.4%

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	Voting Rate
2016	55.4%
2018	44.9%
2020	73.2%

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

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	38,689	38,315	38,703	↑ 14
(Age under 18/Unknown)	–	–	–	–
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	3,488	2,974	2,385	↓ -1,104
(FERPA records blocked)	140	142	144	↑ 4
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	736	635	979	↑ 243
Total eligible voters	34,323	34,564	35,194	↑ 871
Number of students who registered	27,759	27,439	30,885	↑ 3,126
Number of students who voted	19,007	15,529	25,764	↑ 6,757
Registration Rate %	81	79	88	↑ 7
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	68	57	83	↑ 15
Voting Rate %	55	45	73	↑ 18

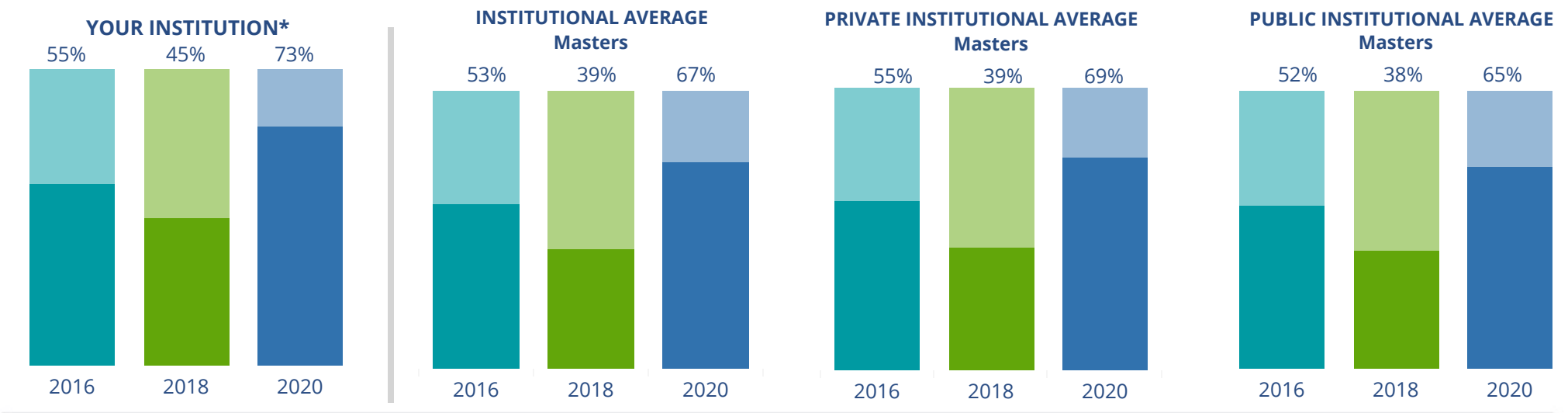
This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

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 estimate is given by "IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens" on this page. If you believe the number of international students reported on this report is incorrect, you can manually adjust your institution's voting rates by using our recalculation tool. <https://id-he.tufts.edu/nsive/nsive-recalculation-tool>.

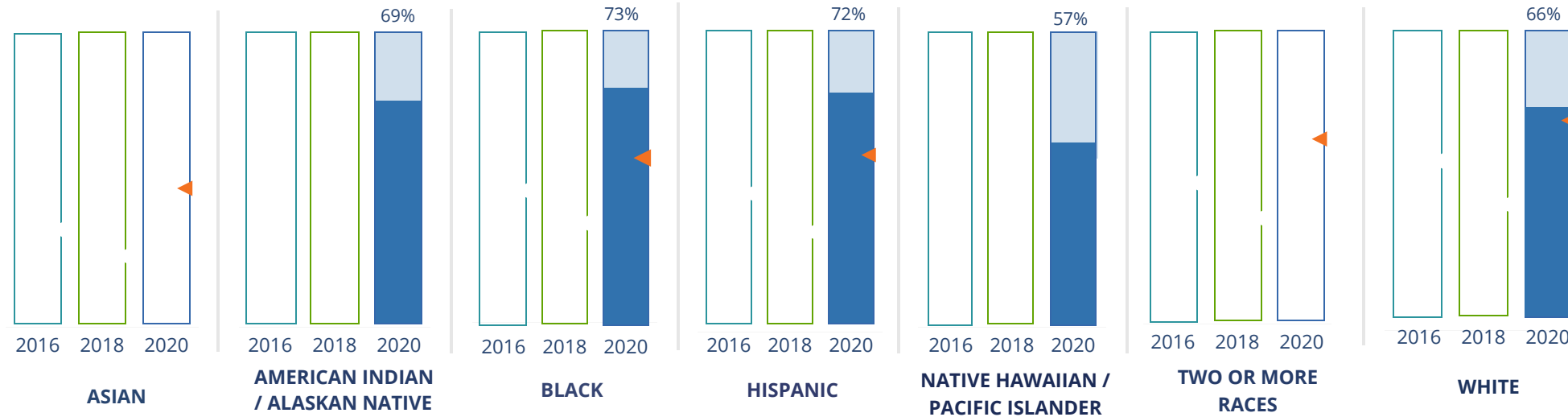
By Institution Types



These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. *"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 on why we cannot report national benchmark for some of the demographic groups:

<https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nsve-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; (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

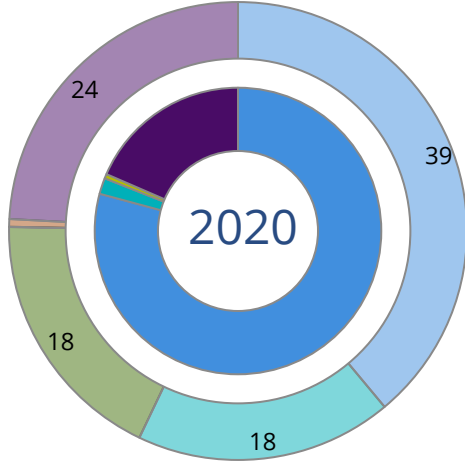
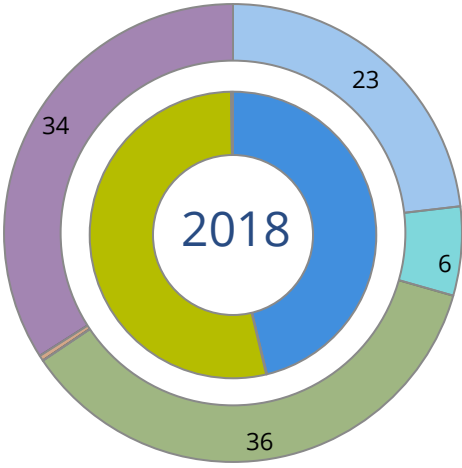
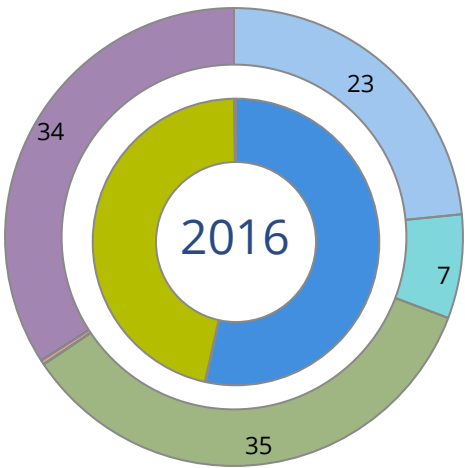
By Race/Ethnicity

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; (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.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	104	72	69	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,129	1,549	73	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,299	13,090	72	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,971	2,263	57	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,131	6,004	66	-
Race Unknown	37,718	19,007	50	37,464	15,529	41	3,868	2,786	72	↑ 22

By Voting Method

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



	2016		2018		2020		2016-2020	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)	
Early Vote	20	0	14	0	456	2	2	↑
In-Person on Election Day	8,808	46	8,307	54	119	1	-46	↓
Not-In-Person	10,156	53	7,167	46	20,409	79	26	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Voting Method Unknown	23	0	41	0	4,778	19	18	↑

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>

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	48%	38%	70%
22-24	51%	42%	67%
25-29	51%	43%	67%
30-39	55%	48%	68%
40-49	67%	54%	70%
50+	71%	69%	79%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, young voters are more likely to be contacted by campaigns and are visible, and therefore significant, to elected officials. While in the past, we have seen voting rates increase across age groups, in recent cycles, the most significant increases have been among first-time and the youngest voters. Some colleges serve primarily young students, traditionally viewed as students in the 18-21 or 22-24 categories here. Others have much higher numbers of enrolled older undergraduate or graduate students.

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.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
18-21	16,648	7,927	48	16,550	6,271	38	16,571	11,624	70	↑	23
22-24	10,378	5,247	51	10,095	4,223	42	9,752	6,512	67	↑	16
25-29	6,183	3,173	51	6,306	2,723	43	6,334	4,258	67	↑	16
30-39	3,110	1,707	55	3,067	1,470	48	3,451	2,355	68	↑	13
40-49	934	624	67	1,014	546	54	980	688	70	↑	3
50+	465	329	71	432	296	69	414	327	79	↑	8

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	33,028	16,207	49	32,927	13,056	40	32,814	22,276	68	↑	19
Graduate	4,045	2,433	60	4,085	2,236	55	4,020	3,001	75	↑	15
Class Unknown	645	367	57	452	237	52	668	487	73	↑	16
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	5,052	44	2,219	5,180	31	1,614	4,055	66	2,658	↑	22
Second Year	5,125	49	2,502	4,669	37	1,715	4,573	71	3,225	↑	22
Upper Level	22,951	50	11,506	22,884	42	9,612	24,212	68	16,384	↑	18
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	28,831	14,256	49	29,365	11,835	40	29,530	20,278	69	↑	19
Part-time	8,883	4,748	53	8,098	3,693	46	7,972	5,486	69	↑	15

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	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Architecture	35	26	74	26	12	46	30	26	87	↑ 12
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	700	391	56	733	354	48	692	499	72	↑ 16
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	2,158	1,017	47	1,689	634	38	1,604	1,049	65	↑ 18
Business, Management, and Marketing	6,210	2,572	41	5,959	2,014	34	5,992	3,654	61	↑ 20
Communication and Journalism	2,696	1,524	57	2,294	1,130	49	2,399	1,861	78	↑ 21
Computer and Information Sciences	1,188	548	46	1,383	486	35	1,683	1,000	59	↑ 13
Education	865	586	68	972	573	59	763	617	81	↑ 13

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	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,725	1,171	43	3,167	1,018	32	2,869	1,756	61	↑ 18
English Language and Literature	574	364	63	602	308	51	679	517	76	↑ 13
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	1,721	916	53	1,709	771	45	1,808	1,260	70	↑ 16
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	202	105	52	214	91	43	247	160	65	↑ 13
Health Professions	3,616	1,849	51	2,975	1,247	42	2,882	2,026	70	↑ 19
History	319	213	67	328	180	55	386	288	75	↑ 8
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	–	–	–	1,108	400	36	1,611	1,142	71	–
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	2,247	1,117	50	2,428	906	37	1,692	1,172	69	↑ 20
Mathematics and Statistics	299	135	45	310	113	36	334	222	66	↑ 21
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	–	–	–	29	12	41	32	28	88	–
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	2,121	911	43	1,775	631	36	1,678	1,129	67	↑ 24
Philosophy and Religious Studies	132	64	48	104	42	40	102	74	73	↑ 24
Physical Sciences	325	176	54	408	159	39	390	266	68	↑ 14
Psychology	2,568	1,356	53	2,330	993	43	2,691	1,874	70	↑ 17

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	1,354	915	68	1,315	810	62	847	687	81	↑ 14
Social Sciences	3,163	1,686	53	2,672	1,220	46	2,789	1,968	71	↑ 17
Visual and Performing Arts	2,223	1,206	54	2,524	1,203	48	2,623	1,993	76	↑ 22
Unknown	271	155	57	410	222	54	679	496	73	↑ 16

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, and 2020 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 serve 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 2016, 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.

California State University-Northridge

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. (2021). 2016, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.



Barnum Hall
163 Packard Ave.
Medford, MA 02155

tischcollege@tufts.edu
617.627.3453



Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:
National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement
Barnum Hall, Medford, MA 02155

Follow Us on Twitter: @TuftsIDHE
NSLVE@tufts.edu
617.627.0620