





#### 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; (Botton 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.

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

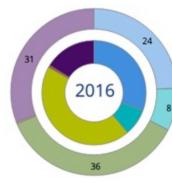
#### Tables

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.



#### Vessel Chart

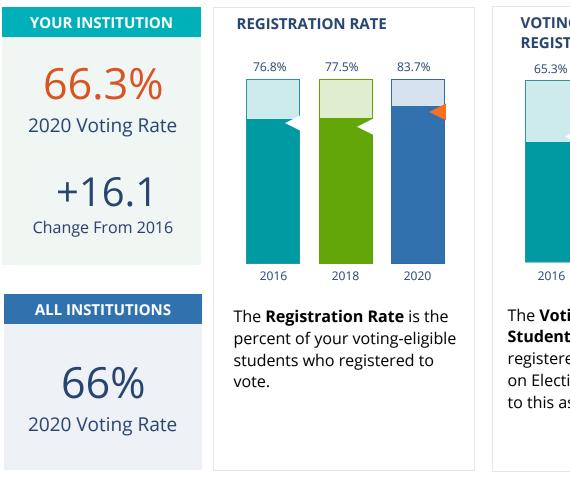
This chart shows rates out of 100%, with arrows to the right of each bar representing relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE's national report Democracy Counts 2020.

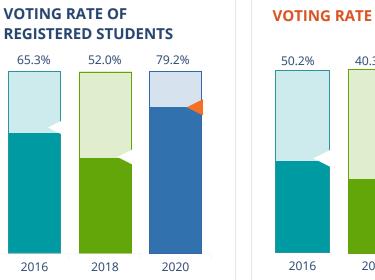


#### **Overlapping Donut Chart**

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**





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.

2018 2020 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.

40.3%

66.3%

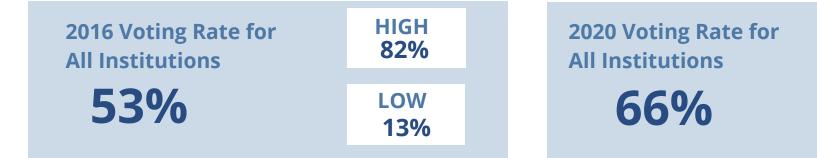
**Voting and Registration Rates** 

	2016	2018	2020	2016-202 Change (p	
Total Student Enrollment	4,885	4,835	4,421	+	-464
(Age under 18/Unknown)	_	-	-		-
(NSC reported non-resident aliens)	16	22	17	+	1
(FERPA records blocked)	-	-	-		-
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	391	490	422	+	31
Total eligible voters	4,475	4,318	3,977	+	-498
Number of students who registered	3,437	3,345	3,327	+	-110
Number of students who voted	2,245	1,741	2,636	+	391
Registration Rate %	77	77	84	+	7
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	65	52	79	+	14
Voting Rate %	50	40	66	+	16

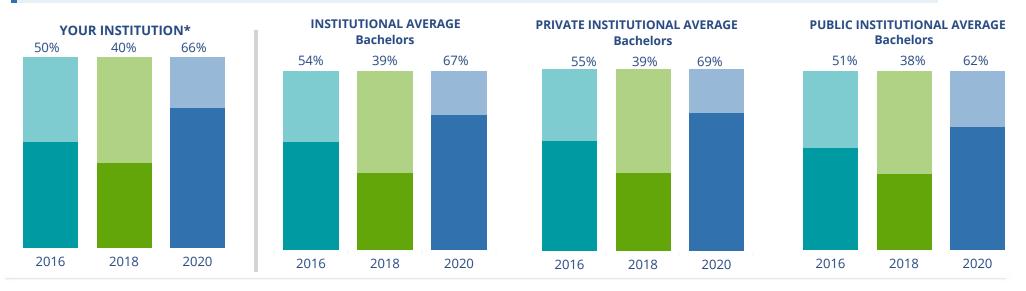
This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged,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

We have removed non-resident aliens (international students) based on your institution's enrollment submission to the National Student Clearinghouse. This is indicated by "NSC reported non-resident aliens" on this page.

### **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.



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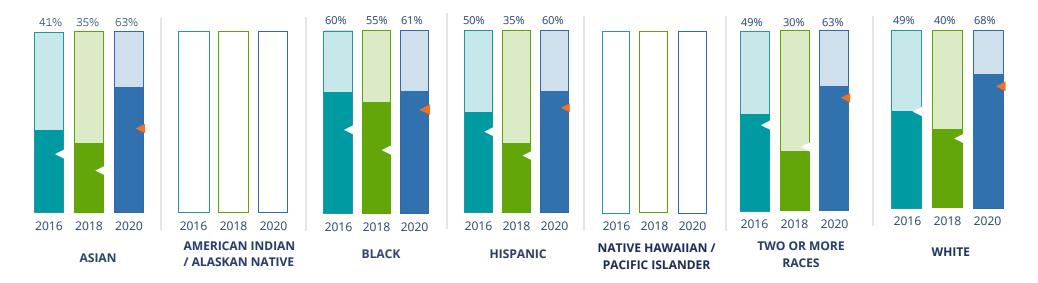
HIGH

89%

LOW

19%

### 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-nslve-report-fag

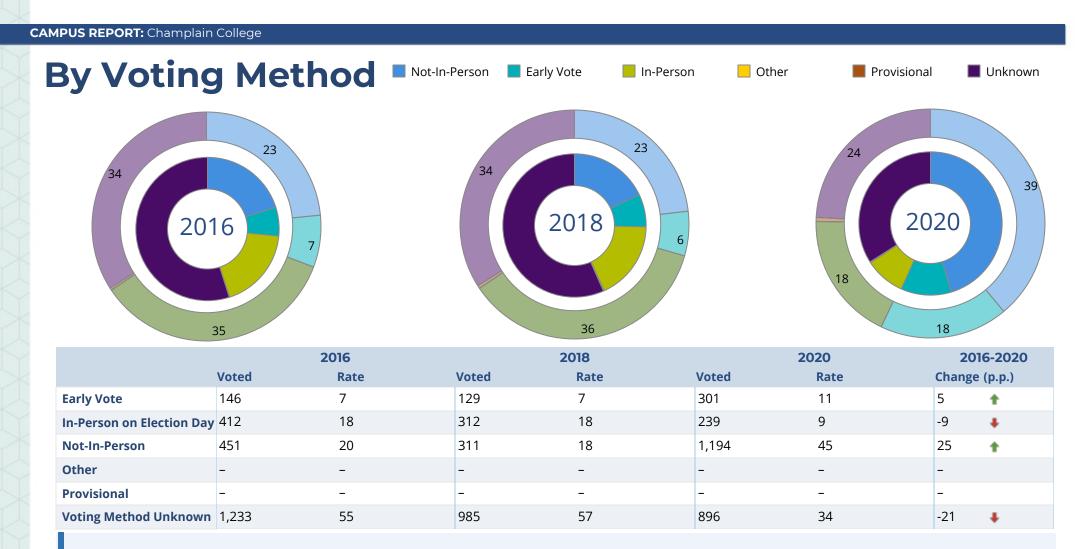
If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

\* https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes

#### 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		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)		
Asian	124	51	41	150	52	35	150	94	63	122		
American Indian/ Alaska Native	15	-	-	17	-	_	15	-	-	-		
Black	331	199	60	346	191	55	271	164	61	<b>1</b> 0		
Hispanic	326	163	50	376	131	35	359	216	60	10		
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	_		
2 or More Races	122	60	49	133	40	30	147	93	63	<b>1</b> 4		
White	2,906	1,431	49	2,889	1,158	40	2,758	1,869	68	19		
Race Unknown	651	333	51	402	164	41	277	191	69	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. <u>https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports</u>

#### By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	38%	30%	69%
22-24	35%	32%	58%
25-29	53%	36%	54%
30-39	62%	45%	65%
40-49	70%	58%	71%
50+	75%	72%	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.

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			20	2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
18-21	1,991	749	38	1,790	536	30	1,645	1,133	69	<b>1</b> 31	
22-24	356	126	35	393	127	32	366	213	58	1 23	
25-29	408	215	53	449	160	36	444	238	54	<b>†</b> 1	
30-39	815	507	62	811	363	45	744	481	65	<b>1</b> 2	
40-49	602	420	70	554	323	58	518	366	71	<b>†</b> 1	
50+	303	228	75	321	232	72	260	205	79	<b>1</b> 4	

#### By Sex

		2016		2018		2020			2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p	p.p)
Female	1,994	1,145	57	1,818	833	46	1,617	1,121	69	+	12
Male	2,480	1,099	44	2,500	908	36	2,360	1,515	64	+	20

**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.

\*<u>https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11</u>

#### By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2018 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2020 Enrolled	Voted I	_	0 <b>16-20</b> 2 nange (		
EDUCATION I	EVEL											
Undergraduate	3,718	1,734	47	3,753	1,415	38	3,452	2,267	66	1	19	
Graduate	586	393	67	429	240	56	380	255	67	1	0	
Class Unknown	171	118	69	136	86	63	145	114	. 79	1	10	
CLASS YEAR												
First Year	1,135	45	513	1,020	36	366	1,062	64	684	+	19	
Second Year	930	49	453	890	38	339	751	65	487	t	16	
Upper Level	1,703	48	813	1,942	40	778	1,667	68	1,130	t	20	
ENROLLMENT STATUS												
Full-time	3,078	1,363	44	2,768	968	35	5 2,586	1,707	66	t	22	
Part-time	1,397	882	63	1,550	773	50	1,391	929	67	+	4	

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)	
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,154	647	56	1,063	480	45	783	515	66	<b>1</b> 0	
Communication and Journalism	195	85	44	139	53	38	120	85	71	1 27	
Computer and Information Sciences	956	443	46	1,178	442	38	1,281	793	62	16	
Education	142	72	51	128	53	41	94	59	63	12	
English Language and Literature	89	42	47	101	44	44	78	57	73	126	
Health Professions	227	132	58	143	67	47	134	102	76	18	
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	523	267	51	532	220	41	475	296	62	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-nslve-report-faq

# **By Field of Study**

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Legal Professions and Studies	72	36	50	41	21	51	40	26	65	🛧 15
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	138	92	67	90	46	51	80	59	74	<b>†</b> 7
Mathematics and Statistics	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natural Resources and Conservation	29	13	45	22	11	50	18	13	72	<b>1</b> 27
Psychology	94	34	36	81	21	26	64	43	67	🛧 31
Public Administration and Social Service P	32	20	63	35	16	46	53	32	60	<b>4</b> -2
Visual and Performing Arts	633	232	37	615	174	28	605	438	72	<b>†</b> 36
Unknown	184	125	68	150	93	62	147	115	78	🛧 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, 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 guality 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.

Champlain College

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.



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