



Davidson-Davie
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Democratic Engagement Action Plan 2024



Prepared by

Lynne Watts, Director of Student Life & Leadership

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Leadership	6
Commitment.....	9
Landscape	11
Goals.....	14
Strategies	16
NSLVE.....	20
Reporting.....	22
Evaluation	23

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What is this action plan for and what does it seek to accomplish?

The purpose of this action plan is to document Davidson-Davie Community College's efforts to institutionalize and increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voting.

We believe that our democracy works best when more citizens show up and participate, which make election results more representative of society. As an institution of higher education we also know that this is an essential part of our job. Preparing college students for responsible stewardship of a robust democracy has long been the core mission of American higher education.

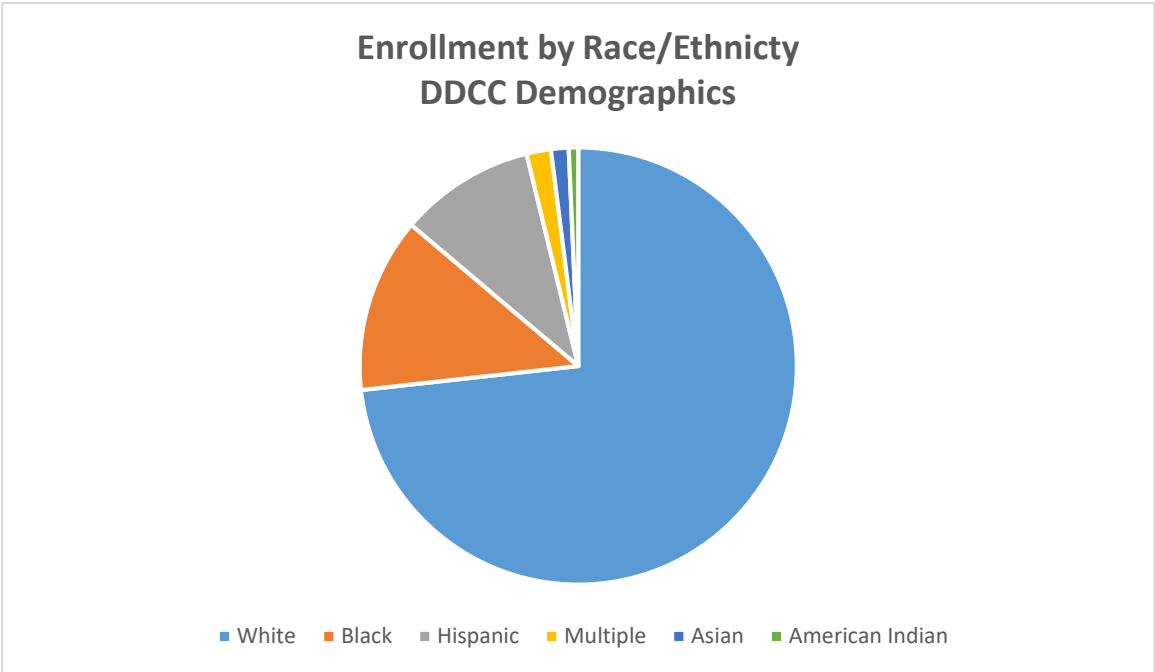
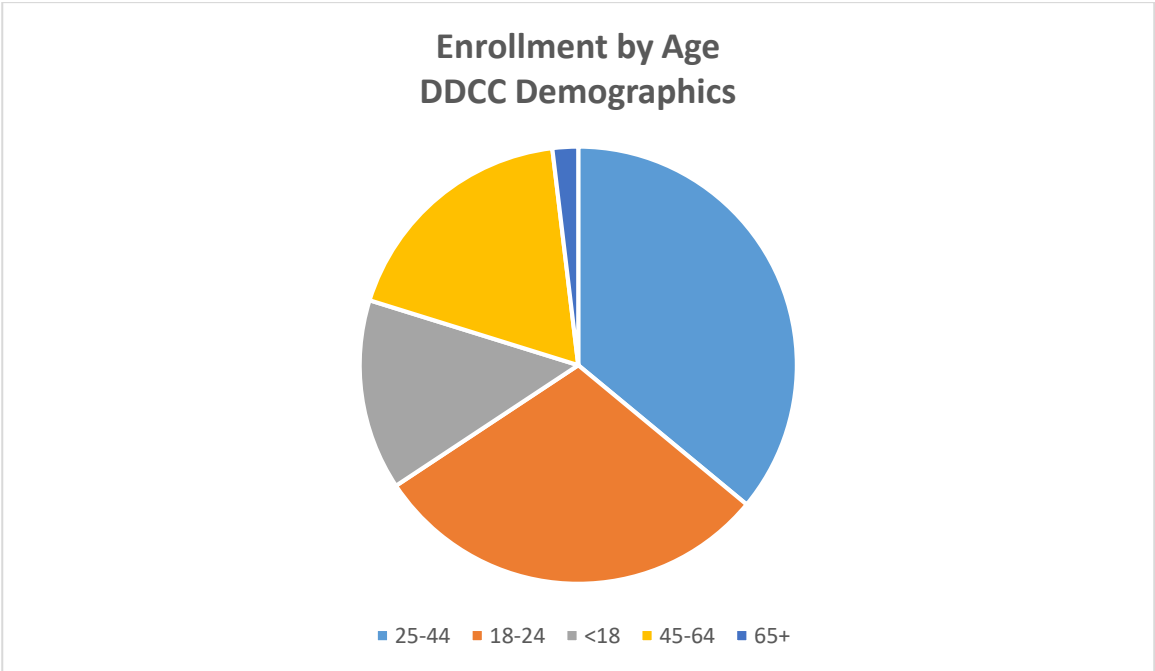
Put simply, we're all better off when our elections reflect everyone in our community. One of the best ways to do that is to ensure that every eligible student is registered to vote, regardless of party affiliation or other views. Community college students are one of the largest and most diverse group of potential voters, with distinct values and ideas. They have the power to elect the next generation of leaders who care about the things they do, and will fight for their shared vision of the future.

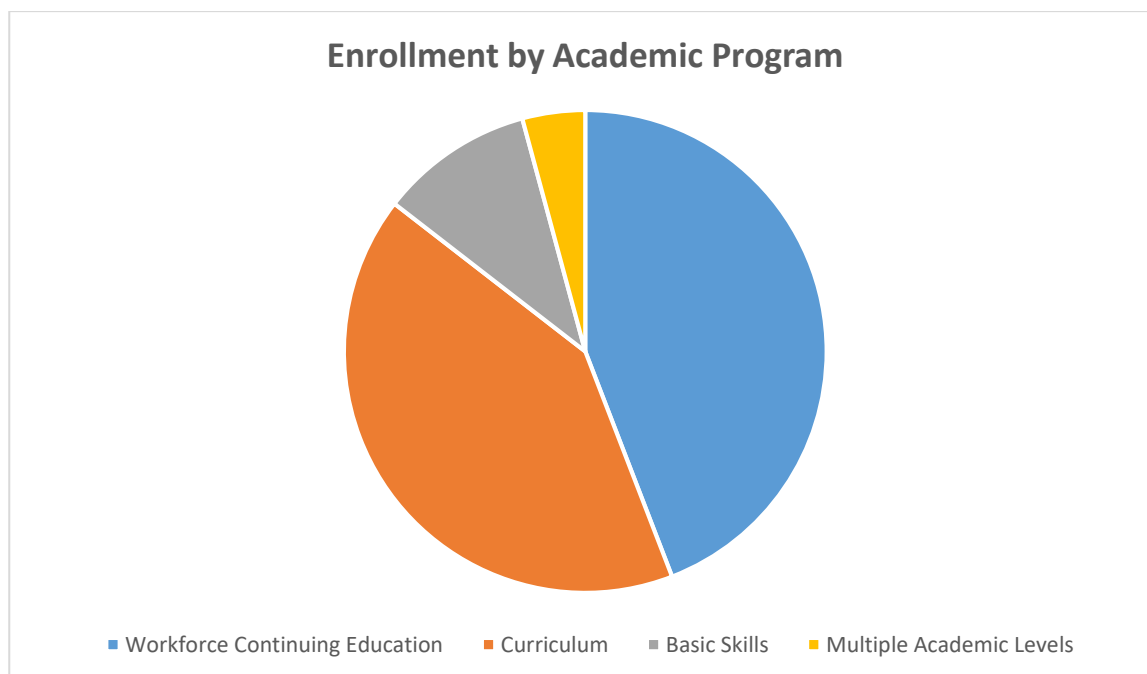
Where will this action plan be implemented? E.g., Situate this work at an institution including the number of campuses and the state the institution is located in.

Davidson-Davie Community College is a 2-year public institution located in Thomasville and Mocksville, North Carolina and is the only institution of higher education in Davidson and Davie counties. We have a total unduplicated headcount of 10,529.

Davidson-Davie offers over 40 degree and diploma programs, including the Associate in Arts, the Associate in Science and the Associate in Applied Sciences degrees. In addition, the college provides a variety of non-credit programs including Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency, and English as a Second Language. Davidson-Davie also offers a variety of Continuing Education and Workforce Development programs. DDCC also is one of the few community colleges nationally to have a zoo and aquarium science program. Both the Davidson and Davie campuses are home to a successful Early College high school program and a robust transfer program. Student clubs and an athletic program contribute to a vibrant campus life, while a successful international education program gives students the opportunity to both travel abroad and be taught by Fulbright Foreign Language Instructors from various countries who come to teach at DDCC.

A Look at Davidson-Davie Community College Demographics
Total unduplicated headcount- 10,529





Why is your institution invested in creating a plan to map out civic learning and democratic engagement efforts? How does this plan tie to broader institutional norms/values/strategic plans?

This action plan was developed because civic engagement is one of the core elements included in what we think defines a successful student experience. Davidson-Davie Community College wants our students to be informed, educated citizens prepared to participate in the civic life of not only our college community, but the region, state and the world. This plan aims to increase voter engagement and participation on campus and create an informed student body that will continue to be civically engaged far beyond their college years.

This perspective is manifested in the mission of Davidson-Davie Community College which is to provide “innovative and equitable learning experiences to empower individuals, transform lives, and prepare students for enhanced career and educational opportunities within a changing global community.”

When does this action plan start and end? When will it be updated?

This action plan will take effect in spring 2024 and continue throughout the academic year. The planned activities outlined here will be carried out over the spring and fall semesters of 2024 and will consistently be evaluated on an as needed basis throughout the year. While election years are the pinnacle of this work, empowering students to raise their voices and contribute to the public discourse beyond elections is the aim. Our ultimate goal is to move away from focusing only on voter registration to year-round civic engagement so that students become stronger agents of democracy.

How will this action plan be implemented? Who's in charge? What unit/office/division will be facilitating the effort? Which individuals (e.g., name(s), title(s), department(s)) and/or organizations developed this plan?

The primary responsibility of voter registration and engagement falls under the responsibilities of the Office of Student Life within the Student Affairs division. The ALL In Democracy Action Plan was developed by Lynne Watts, Director of Student Life and Leadership, who will be the primary person leading this effort.

The Office also consists of Brandon Watt, Coordinator of Student Life and a work-study student. As a small community college we don't have a budget for a Civic Engagement Office devoted solely to civically empowering students. As a result this becomes a challenge for the small Student Life Office. While we as a college recognize the overall importance of civic engagement to better prepare our students, without monetary and human resources, we are limited somewhat as to what we can do, all the while, keeping in mind that the majority of the co-curriculum voter engagement activities fall on the Office of Student Life.

II. LEADERSHIP

Working Group Members

The Office of Student Life within the Student Affairs division will facilitate civic learning, voter registration, and voter education programming leading up to the November 2024 elections. As mentioned before the Office consists of the director, coordinator and a work-study student.

The Office of Student Life will collaborate with student organizations and some faculty to create and implement events and activities outlined in this action plan. Here is a list of stakeholders and their connection to the work:

Office of Student Life

Since the mission of Student Life is to holistically engage students and since civic engagement is student engagement, the overlap of these interests fits well within the area. Student Life sees voting as critical to our democracy and educating student voters as essential. The Office of Student Life led several efforts to achieve these objectives, including but not limited to:

- Partnered with *National Voter Registration Day* (NVRD) and have committed to organizing on campus voter registration drives since 2016
- Partnered with the nonpartisan group *You Can Vote* to host voter registration drives on campus and host Lunch and learn workshops to educate students on the latest voting rules and details about navigating NC Voter ID laws.
- Class Raps-we did 15-20-minute voter registration presentations in classes which included walking students through the registration process and collecting completed registration forms.

- Worked with Marketing to create a *Storm to the Polls* landing page on our college website with “Storm” the cat being our school mascot.
- Welcome Week voter registration drives / Students picked up their FREE Welcome Back Pack and registered to vote.
- Tabling Tuesdays- We held voter registration drives every other Tuesday in the Brooks Student Center Lobby.
- Constitution Day- students stopped by the table, registered to vote, and created an “I Vote because ...”display. These cards were exhibited in the Student Center in an effort to give students the opportunity to consider that others their age recognize the importance of participating and maybe they should, too.
- Yard signs were placed around campus reminding students to vote and included early voting dates as well as the date for the upcoming election.
- Distributed voter registration and education flyers in food pantry bags for students.
- Took students every year to NC College Voter Summit since 2016
- Hosted a Pizza to the Polls event
- Fall Fest & Spring Fling voter registration Tabling

Student Government Association

An important component of Student Government is to promote civic engagement within the student body. The student government officers will receive training from *You Can Vote* on voter registration- how to properly fill out a voter registration form and the voter ID rules for 2024-then immediately put that knowledge into practice by registering voters at various campus events.

Student Organizations

Many students are involved in student organizations, clubs, and other communities focusing on cultural, academic or honors affiliation. All of these groups have consented to hosting voter information events or promoting registration and other election activities:

- Association of Nursing Students
- Human Services Club
- Intercultural Club
- Latino club
- National Society of Leadership and Success
- Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society
- Political Science Club
- SAGA: Sexuality and Gender Alliance

Faculty across Disciplines

We plan to ask certain faculty across disciplines, sociology, psychology, American History, and Humanities, just to name a few, to collaborate on ways to see how they can incorporate voter

and civic engagement in their course material. In particular we plan to reach out to the following instructors and disciplines:

- Gerald Bosch, World History
- Laura Perry, Success and Study Skills
- Michelle Williamson, English
- Lucas Bruff, American History
- Christian Masters, American Government
- Amanda Christian, General Psychology

Equity Champions

The Davidson-Davie Community College Equity Champions are a group of faculty and staff dedicated to ensuring access and opportunity to each individual student to facilitate their success. As effective democratic citizenship requires understanding and tolerating differences, this group will be a valuable partner in co-sponsoring voter and civic engagement events.

Community Partners

Our community partners include the following who have supported our voter registration efforts in the past, through training, supplies, tool kits, voting guides, registration assistance, and many other resources.

- ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge
- ALL IN Community College Community of Practice
- Ask Every Student
- Campus Vote Project
- League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad
- National Voter Registration Day (NVRD)
- NC Campus Engagement
- Nonprofit Vote
- Pizza to the Polls
- You Can Vote

Local Election Office

I have reached out to the Davidson County Board of Elections expressing our desire to collaborate in 2024 to ensure the registration of all Davidson-Davie Community College students who are eligible to vote. In my email I suggested some possible activities might include:

- A campus presentation from the Board of Elections on voter registration
- A candidate forum inviting local candidates from all parties to campus for a town hall discussion of issues with students.
- Increase support for poll worker recruitment and the Student Election Assistant Program through the Office of Student Life
- On campus issuing of free voter IDs to registered voters in the county.

As of this writing, I have not received a response, but my plan is to continue to pursue a possible collaboration for nonpartisan voter engagement on campus.

Leadership Succession Plan

Voter and civic engagement is part of the job responsibilities of the Director of Student Life & Leadership. All areas of the Student Affairs division are required to submit a Standard Operation Plan (SOP) in preparation for inevitable employee changes within each area of Student Affairs. The Office of Student Life & Leadership's SOP includes a general outline of how this work will continue as well as a link to the All in Democracy Action plans and NSLVE reports to help maintain the continuity that is so critical to this work.

III. COMMITMENT

Since the Office of Student Life supports student involvement beyond the classroom, this action plan will focus on ongoing Davidson-Davie Community College commitments to extracurricular civic learning and engagement. We recognize the opportunity to expand to curricular engagement in the future by building more relationships with other academic areas at the College. One of the areas we have to work on is doing more interweaving of civic engagement into the culture of the institution rather than it just existing in silos. However, at this time, we will be focusing primarily on extracurricular programming through the Office of Student Life with possible collaboration from a handful of academic areas.

The College's Commitment

- Davidson-Davie's commitment to the work of civic learning and democratic engagement is evidenced in our Mission, Vision and Values statement.

Mission

Davidson-Davie Community College provides innovative and equitable learning experiences to empower individuals, transform lives, and prepare students for enhanced career and educational opportunities within a changing global community.

Vision

Davidson-Davie Community College is a local and national leader that develops minds, inspires imaginations, and strengthens community.

Values

Community — caring about our students, each other, and the communities we serve and responding to their needs

Responsibility — teaching, modeling, and cultivating an attitude of self-direction for ourselves and our students

Change — embracing collaboration, adaptability, creativity, innovation, and risk-taking

Excellence — committing to excellence in the programs and services we offer

Trust — embodying honesty, integrity, and openness

Equity — valuing diversity and promoting inclusive academic excellence

Passion — pursuing our mission with purpose, joy, and fun

- Since 2005, as part of the college's commitment to civic engagement, DDCC, along with 38 other NC universities and colleges, have been a member of NC Campus Compact (now NC Campus Engagement). The Mission of NC Campus Engagement:

“North Carolina Campus Engagement (NCCE) is a collaborative network of colleges and universities committed to educating students for civic and social responsibility, partnering with communities for positive change, and strengthening democracy. The NC Campus Engagement state office fosters connections between campuses, shares best practice information and resources, recognizes outstanding work, and champions civic and community engagement in higher education.”

- As a member of NC Campus Engagement, DDCC hosted the Engaged Faculty Institute on campus, participated in the Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) conference, NC College Voter Summit, Community Engagement Administrators Conference, MLK Day of Service, and the Collegiate Hunger Challenge.
- The college hosts an annual Day of Service in November that creates opportunities for faculty and staff to feel a sense of responsibility and give back to their communities. Staff and faculty participate in service opportunities in both Davidson and Davie counties at local schools, pantries, Salvation Army, Hospice, and Habit Restore just to name a few.

The Office of Student Life Commitment

- The Office of Student Life committed to and facilitated programs to increase student voting through co-curricular programming and activities, including but not limited to:
 - ✓ Partnered with *National Voter Registration Day* (NVRD) and have committed to organizing on campus voter registration drives since 2016
 - ✓ Partnered with the nonpartisan group *You Can Vote* to host voter registration drives on campus and host Lunch and learn workshops to educate students on the latest voting rules and details about navigating NC Voter ID laws.
 - ✓ Class Raps-we did 15-20-minute voter registration presentations in classes which included walking students through the registration process and collecting completed registration forms.
 - ✓ Worked with our Marketing Department to create a *Storm to the Polls* landing page on our college website, as “Storm” is our school mascot.
 - ✓ Welcome Week voter registration drives / Students picked up their FREE Welcome Back Pack and registered to vote.
 - ✓ Tabling Tuesdays- We held voter registration drives every other Tuesday in the Brooks Student Center Lobby.
 - ✓ Constitution Day- students stopped by the table, registered to vote, and created an “I Vote because ...”display. These cards were exhibited in the Student Center in an effort to give students the opportunity to consider that others their age recognize the importance of participating and maybe they should, too.
 - ✓ Yard signs were placed around campus reminding students to vote and included early voting dates as well as the date for the upcoming election.
 - ✓ Distributed voter registration and education flyers in food pantry bags for students.
 - ✓ Took students every year to NC College Voter Summit since 2016
 - ✓ Hosted a Pizza to the Polls event
 - ✓ One major step toward the work of civic learning and democratic engagement is our partnership and commitment to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) which began in 2020 and has helped us to better understand our students’ voting habits.

- ✓ Our College president made an outward commitment to democratic engagement by signing the **ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation**.
- ✓ Our commitment is further demonstrated by receiving the following recognition and achievements:
 - **Awarded an All in Community of Practice Grant of \$2,000 to support democratic engagement activities, allocated from 2022-2025.**
 - **Best Campus Democratic Engagement Action Plan Award, 2-year Institution, 2020**
 - **Highest Registration Rate: Davidson-Davie Community College-2020 ALL IN Challenge silver seal awarded for achieving a 60 – 69 percent student voting rate in the 2020 Election.**



Commitment to Collaborate with External Groups

Our collaboration with the following community partners further defines our commitment to support student voter education efforts through training, supplies, tool kits, voting guides, registration assistance, and various resources.

- ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge
- ALL IN Community College Community of Practice
- Ask Every Student
- Campus Vote Project
- League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad
- National Voter Registration Day (NVRD)
- NC Campus Compact
- Nonprofit Vote
- Pizza to the Polls
- You Can Vote

IV. LANDSCAPE

Are civic learning and democratic engagement overall campus learning outcomes? If so, what are the learning outcomes and how are they measured?

Civic learning and demographic engagement are imbedded in the overall college campus learning outcomes and strategic plan.

Davidson-Davie Community College Strategic Plan

CHAMPION LEARNING

Goal 1:

Foster engaging and equitable learning environments to improve student learning and growth

GOAL 2:

Expand postsecondary degree and credential opportunities for adult learners in Davidson and Davie counties

GOAL 3:

Create and sustain strategic professional learning opportunities for all full-time and part-time faculty and staff

PRIORITIZE RELATIONSHIPS

GOAL 1:

Guide students through clear program pathways supported by mentorship networks to improve retention, persistence and completion

GOAL 2:

Advance an inclusive and equity-minded campus culture for students, faculty and staff

BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL 1:

Expand and invest in partnerships in Davidson and Davie counties focused on economic and workforce development

GOAL 2:

Build sustainable pathways between Davidson-Davie and other education opportunities

INVEST IN OUR FUTURE

GOAL 1:

Foster a healthy and engaging working environment for faculty and staff to improve employee retention and culture

GOAL 2:

Grow overall enrollment in curriculum and short-term training programs

GOAL 3:

Build and maintain infrastructure to support campus growth

How is civic learning and democratic engagement present in the curriculum?

Since the Office of Student Life supports student involvement beyond the classroom, this action plan will focus mainly on ongoing Davidson-Davie Community College commitments to extracurricular, *not curriculum* civic learning and engagement activities.

How is civic learning and democratic engagement present in the co-curriculum?

Civic learning and democratic engagement is present in the co-curriculum through a variety of programs and events. Implemented through the Office of Student Life, students participated in several activities and events outside of the classroom related to civic learning and democratic engagement. Some activities included:

National Voter Registration and Vote Early Days at DDCC

The National Voter Registration Day at DDCC focuses on ensuring that all eligible students have an opportunity to complete the application to cast a ballot in an election. We not only registered students to vote, but use the time check voter registration status, discuss voter ID requirements, NC voting rules, and how to request an absentee ballot. Finally we ask students to sign a pledge that they will actually go to the polls and vote.

Lunch and Learns

These events highlighted some of the major issues that are prevalent locally, nationally, and globally. Some of the topics of discussion included racism and immigration, LGBTQ+ rights, student loan debt, and gun control. Each Lunch and Learn educated attendees on the importance of becoming politically engaged beyond voting. Student Life provided free pizza and the Lunch and Learns are attended by students, faculty, and staff.

Constitution Day

As part of the Constitution Day celebration, a table was set up outside the Student Center and students stopped by the table, registered to vote, and created an “I Vote because ...” display. These cards were exhibited in the Student Center in an effort to give students the opportunity to consider that others their age recognize the importance of participating and maybe they should, too.

Community College Legislative Day

Student Government members participate in the NC Community College Legislative Day at the Capitol in Raleigh to advocate on behalf of community colleges. It is a great opportunity for students to get involved and make their voices heard. Through participation in Legislative Day, students gain experience in advocacy work.

For more initiatives, programs, activities and a list of student organizations please see the Leadership section of this Action Plan.

What internal barriers (e.g., limited funding, staff resistance, lack of leadership, declining student life activities) prevent the institution from being successful?

One of the primary internal barriers that prevent us from being successful is that we don't have a budget for a Civic Engagement Office devoted solely to leading this work on campus. As a result this becomes a challenge for a two-person Student Life Office staff on top of all the other programs we operate. While we as a college recognize the overall importance of civic engagement to better prepare our students, without monetary and human resources, we are limited somewhat as to what we can do, so the majority of the co-curriculum voter engagement activities fall on the Office of Student Life. One of the areas the college has to work on is doing more interweaving of civic engagement into the culture of the institution rather than it just existing in silos.

Another barrier that prevents the college from reaching as many students is that we are a commuter school as opposed to having a captive audience with dormitories on campus. Students commute to campus from home and are only on campus when they need to be for class. It is difficult to find times that large groups of students are in different areas of the college and to plan events around those times. In addition efforts to establish Davidson-Davie as an on-campus polling location were denied. Furthermore I'm trying to get our student IDs approved for voting purposes in the 2024 elections, but because our IDs don't have an expiration date on them it probably won't come to fruition.

What external barriers (e.g., election laws, voter ID laws, lack of proximity to polling location) prevent the institution from being successful?

North Carolina is currently facing the most comprehensive attack on voting rights in our state. Our state's election laws are being overhauled in ways that will make it harder for all North Carolinians to vote. For example, registered voters in North Carolina will now have to present a photo identification to vote. The three-day grace period for mail-in ballots postmarked by Election Day is now eliminated, Election Day is the ballot deadline. Mail voters will also have to submit a photocopy of an approved photo ID with their ballot. Under the new rules, a ballot will be rejected if a single address confirmation mailer is returned as undeliverable. This generally unreliable process is dependent on individual postal workers – and incorrect addresses can be caused by election official typos through no fault of the voter.

V. Goals (Short-term and long-term democratic engagement goals).

LONG-TERM GOALS

What is the long-term vision the team hopes to achieve for the institution?

Ultimately, the long-term vision is to graduate civically informed and democratically active students with the knowledge, skills, and values to solve the country's most pressing problems. We want our students to feel empowered to make the changes needed in the society they live in and understand that in order to have a strong and truly representative democracy, they need to participate.

What are the outcomes the team wants to see at the institution over the next 10 years?

- By 2028 create a Voter Engagement Advisory Committee composed of students, faculty, staff and community partners to provide strategic oversight and guidance. Additional partnerships across the institution, such as student organizations and faculty, are critical to this work. This group will meet monthly to share ideas, collaborate on projects and break down student voting barriers.
- By 2028, secure an on-campus polling location in a highly-trafficked area of campus.
- By 2026 have the DDCC student ID cards accepted as NC voter cards by working with the administration to affix a sticker with a printed expiration date on student ID cards.
- By 2026 institutionalize voter engagement efforts through ACA (first year study skills) classes by providing each class with voter engagement presentations and perhaps incorporating it in the foundation of the course.
- By 2026 include information on class syllabi about certain campus resources such as counseling services, Single Stop, and voter registration. Including information about various campus services on syllabi may help to raise awareness of those services.
- Be designated as a Voter Friendly Campus by 2025.

- Increase our presence with dual credit students in high school programs (Early College & Career and College Promise)

Short Term Goals

What outcomes does the institution want to see during the next three years to stay on track to reach its longer-term vision?

- Create a Student Vote Coalition where students are trained to register, educate and help lead voter engagement efforts on campus. We plan to offer these students a small stipend.
- Increase student participation and consistency in voter education events by creating a new voter education workshop series and incentivizing attendance at the workshops.

Voter Turnout

Based on the data from the 2020 NSLVE report we hope to achieve the following goals in the 2024 elections:

Increase overall voter *registration* and voter *rate* by 10% from 2020.

	2016	2020	2024 Goal
Registration Rate	74.3%	76.5%	86.5%
Voter Rate	54.2%	65.7%	75.7%

Increase students of color voting rates to the same rates as white students from 2020.

Race	2016	2020	2024 Goal
Black	58%	59%	69%
Hispanic	47%	55%	69%
Asian	29%	50%	69%
White	55%	69%	79%

VI. Strategies (voter registration, voter education, and voter turnout activities).

We intend to build a culture and infrastructure that supports nonpartisan civic learning, political engagement, and voter participation. Here is an outline of the strategic plan for this work.

Voter Registration

Action	Who is responsible	Where will it take place	When will it take place	Intended Audience
Post job announcement to hire Student Voting Ambassadors .	Student Life Director	Job announcement will be sent via mass email to students and posted on the student life software platform and Moodle.	Job notice will be posted in January and will remain open until all positions are filled. Reposted again for fall semester.	Any student who is interested in a leadership position and in preparing peers to confidently navigate the democratic process.
Student Voting Ambassador Training Students will be trained to register, educate and help lead voter engagement efforts on campus. We plan to offer these students a small stipend.	Student Life Director and Coordinator, non-partisan group You Can Vote	Training will take place in the Office of Student Life conference room	Throughout both the spring and fall semesters as needed.	Student Vote Ambassadors and Student Government Officers
Tabling Tuesdays / voter registration drives	Student Government/Student Vote Ambassadors	Student Center Lobby	Every other Tuesday in Spring & Fall semesters	Entire campus body
Welcome Week / Voter registration Students pick up their FREE Welcome Back Packs and can register to vote if not registered.	Student Life Director and Coordinator	Spring-Student Center Lobby Fall- Campus Courtyard	Spring- January 8-12, 2024 Fall- August 19-23, 2024	Entire student body
Distribute voter registration and education flyers in food pantry bags for students.	Office of Student Life, Pantry volunteers	Campus Food Pantry	On-going throughout the academic year	Campus pantry users
Class Raps 15-20 minutes	SGA, Ambassadors, Student Life staff	Open to all instructors who sign up	Spring-Jan-April Fall- August - October	Any academic class

Voter Registration (continued)

Action	Who is responsible	Where will it take place	When will it take place	Intended Audience
Create a “ Storm to the Polls ” landing page on our college website, as “Storm” is our school mascot. This will be a one stop shop where students can register, check status, see who’s on the ballot, etc.	Student Life Director in collaboration with the Marketing Dept.	College website	Will begin working with Marketing in the summer with a go live date before the fall semester begins in August	The campus community
Athletic Challenge- visit a practice session of the basketball and volleyball teams to do a 15 minute presentation about voter registration	Student Voting Ambassadors, SGA Officers or Student Life Director or Coordinator	Campus Gym	TBD according to the teams practice schedule	Student Athletes
National Voter Registration Day and Constitution Day combined event-Host a voter registration drive on the yard	Student Voting Ambassadors, SGA Officers	Campus Yard	September 17,2024	Entire campus
Last Day to Register to Vote Communication and Tabling Activity	Student Life Director will send campus-wide email Student Life Coordinator will post on social media Student Voting Ambassadors and SGA Officers will be tabling to register students	Student Lobby and Campus Yard	Primary- Feb. 9, 2024, for the primary election on March 5, 2024. General-Oct. 11, 2024, for the general election on Nov. 5, 2024.	Entire Campus

Voter Education

Action	Who is responsible	Where will it take place	When will it take place	Intended Audience
Kick off National Voter Education Week with an email accompanied by a video from President Varner urging students to vote.	Student Life Director, Marketing, & President's Office	Email	October 1	Entire campus
Student Life will host a Biscuits and Ballots breakfast to discuss concerns voters may have, inform them about who's on the ballot, candidate issues, and registering to vote.	Student Life Director & Coordinator	Reich Auditorium	During National Voter Education Week- October 3, 9 am.	Student body
Hold a Meet the Candidates event. During this event, candidates for local and state races will be invited to campus to talk with students in the style of a Town Hall.	Student Life Director	Reich Auditorium	TBD	Entire Campus
Take students to the NC College Voter Summit sponsored by NC Campus Engagement	Student Life Director & Coordinator	Usually takes place at Elon University in Elon, NC	September 2024	SGA Officers, Student Voting Ambassadors
What's On the Ballot presentation conducted by a political science faculty member	Christin McMasters, POL faculty member	Reich Auditorium	October 2024	Student body
Create an "I Vote because..." display featuring the voices of DDCC students and why they participate in elections. These cards will be exhibited in the Student Center.	Student Voting Ambassadors, SGA Officers, Work-study student	Student Center Lobby	Spring (January) & Fall (September)semesters	Student body

Get Out the Vote

Action	Who is responsible	Where will it take place	When will it take place	Intended Audience
Yard Signs displayed around campus reminding students to “Don’t Forget to Vote” with early voting and election dates	Student Life Director & Coordinator	Signs will be placed at every main campus entrance as well as the campus yard.	October 1- November 5, 2024	Entire Campus Community
Vote Early Day Celebration with “Stormy” the cat mascot and Pizza to the Polls event	Student Life staff, SGA and Student Voting Ambassadors	Campus Yard	October 24, 2024	Entire campus
Use Student Life and SGA Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook accounts for regular social media vote reminders	Student Life Coordinator	Social Media	October 1- November 5, 2024	Student body
Use the Office of Student Life’s Presence software & DDCC’s Moodle page as well as the digital display screens across campus to post voting reminders.	Student Life Coordinator	Moodle, Digital display screens, student Life software platform across campus	October 1- November 5, 2024	Student body

Important NC Voter Dates

- The **voter registration deadline** is 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, for the 2024 general election.
- The **in-person early voting period** for the 2024 general election begins Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, and ends 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024.
- The **absentee ballot request** deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024 for the primary election on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024.
- The **absentee ballot return** deadline for the 2024 general election is 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024.
- The **2024 general election** is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. Polling places will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **Presidential general election debates** are scheduled between Sept. 16 and Oct. 9, 2024

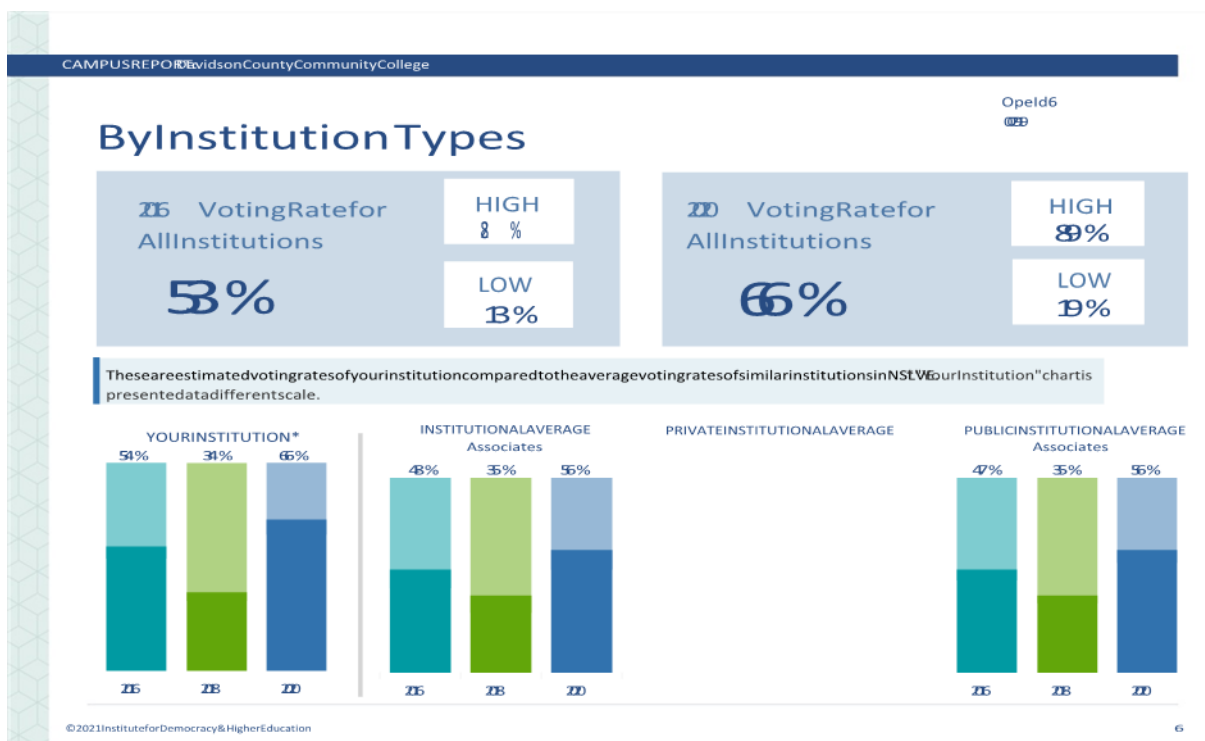
VII. NSLVE National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement

Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

According to the 2020 NSLVE report our overall voting rate improved by 11.5% from a rate of 54.2% in 2016 to 65.7% in 2020. This indicates that some of the strategies and activities we used for voter engagement in 2020 were successful. We plan to continue some of those same strategies for the 2024 elections.

By Institution Types

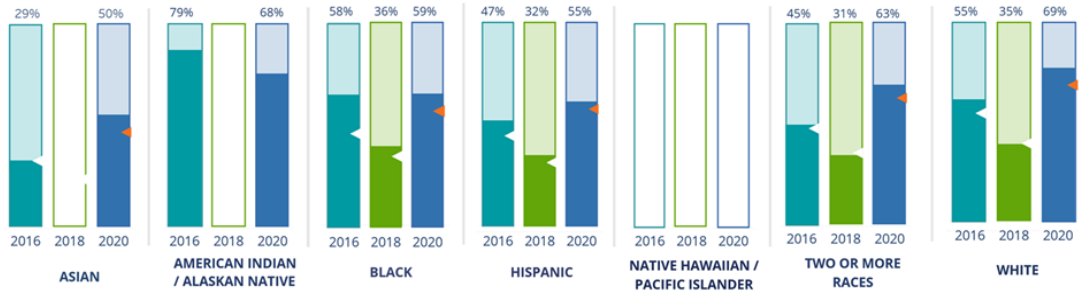
Davidson-Davie's 65.7% percent voter turnout rate in 2020 was higher than other Associate institutions with the average being 56%.



By Race/Ethnicity

Of particular interest in the college's 2020 NSLVE results was the gap between students of color voting rates and those of white students. The voting rate for White students was 69% compared to 59% for Black students, 55% for Hispanic students and 50% for Asian students. We plan to reach out to the Intercultural student organization as well as the Latino club to host voter information events and promote voter registration to try to close the gap.

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-nsive-report-faq>

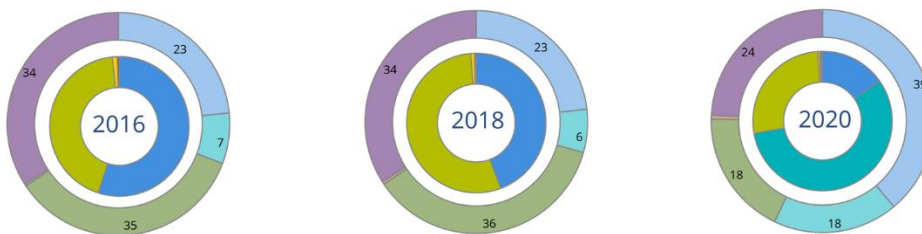
If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for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

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

By Voting Method

We were pleased to see that the majority of students early voted in the 2020 election as that is what we pushed students to do so that they could vote at any early voting site in the their county and if there was a problem with their registration it could be resolved during the early voting period.

By Voting Method



	Voted	2016 Rate	Voted	2018 Rate	Voted	2020 Rate	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Early Vote	-	-	-	-	890	57	-
In-Person on Election Day	650	44	490	54	418	27	-17 ↓
Not-In-Person	821	55	399	44	239	15	-40 ↓
Other	16	1	-	-	-	-	-
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Voting Method Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

In terms of age, it's interesting to note that each of the age groups voter rates increased from the 2016 elections to the 2020 elections. So we know the voter engagement message is working for all age groups. We are particularly glad to see that the voter rate has increased among the 18-21 age group from 52% in 2016 to 68% in 2020. This is a group that has historically had low voter turnout rates in the past. However, we will need to focus on the 25-29, 22-24, and the 30-39 age group as they had the lowest voter rates of all categories.

CAMPUS REPORT: Davidson County Community College

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 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	1,162	606	52	1,220	424	35	1,172	793	68	↑ 16
22-24	363	164	45	326	84	26	266	161	61	↑ 15
25-29	443	213	48	421	103	24	327	186	57	↑ 9
30-39	427	254	59	401	145	36	387	249	64	↑ 5
40-49	261	178	68	202	96	48	167	124	74	↑ 6
50+	111	80	72	87	48	55	63	50	79	↑ 7

This is our first NSLVE report and it has already served as a great tool to guide our voter engagement programs and activities for 2024. Thanks to this report, we have identified a couple of underrepresented groups and plan to focus our efforts on those groups.

VIII. REPORTING

This Action Plan will be shared internally with all of the stakeholders, identified under the Leadership section of this plan- Office of Student Life, Student Government Association, Student Organizations, Faculty across Disciplines, the Equity Champions group and the Presidential Leadership Team.

We plan to have both the NSLVE report and this Action Plan posted on our college's website (on the *Storm to the Polls* landing page) and on the intranet in both the student affairs division section and the academic affairs division section.

We will share the Action Plan externally by allowing the All in Campus Democracy Challenge and Voter Friendly Campus to publish our action plan and share it with any of the other Community Partners listed in the Leadership section who request it as well as the Davidson County Board of Elections.

Finally, Student life uses the event platform Modern Campus Presence where we will also post the Action Plan.

IX. EVALUATION

The purpose of the evaluation is to assist us in knowing if our democratic engagement efforts are effective in increasing student participation in the areas of voter registration, education, and participation. It will also help us to know whether or not we are achieving our short-term and long-term goals.

We want to know that our voter engagement strategies are working and are effective. We want evidence that students are registering to vote and voting on Election Day and ultimately graduating as better informed and engaged citizens.

The audience for the evaluation is all the stakeholders listed in the Leadership section that are involved in this work.

The efforts to evaluate are limited to one area of our campus; the Office of Student Life will carry out the evaluation. The work described in this plan will be evaluated periodically; if the evaluation determines we are falling short of meeting the goals identified, adjustments to strategies will be made.

Through the Student Life software platform *Presence* we are able to electronically track attendance via our phones. We plan to track how many students attend the voter and civic engagement events and activities outlined in this Action Plan. The data is collected by the system so we can break down the results by whichever demographics we desire. This will give us a better insight into who we are not reaching. It may mean revisiting the Action Plan's strategies and creating new ones to reach these groups.

In addition we can use the polling feature on *Presence* so when we scan students into an event with their ID cards, we have the option of displaying a quick poll to ask each participant. This is a convenient way to get a large number of immediate responses. Questions will comprise of

whether or not students were introduced to available resources to ensure an understanding of the voting process and include questions centering on voter engagement. We will use this data to make sure the information we provide to students and the methods we use are reaching our goals.

Finally since 2020 was our first NSLVE report we will rely on the upcoming NSLVE report to assess if we reached our goal of increasing voter registration and voter turnout in 2024.