

**2012 & 2016 CAMPUS REPORT**

Student Voting Rates for  
Ferris State University

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# About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 1,000 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014 and 2016 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of nearly 30 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 2012 and 2016 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (FERPA-blocked records excluded) and publicly available voting files collected by Catalyst.

Institutional voting rates are adjusted by deducting an estimated number of students identified by each institution as non-resident aliens and reported to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). For breakdowns by student characteristics, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are non-resident aliens, resident aliens, or undocumented students. This may result in your institution's actual voting rate being higher than we report. To calculate that percentage, and to read more about NSLVE data, see our [FAQ on Campus Reports](#). Please also see [Creating and Maintaining the NSLVE Database](#) paper for a more detailed study methodology.

## Reviewing the Data

Use the following key to interpret the charts:

- \* = number of students is less than 10
- n/a = no data was collected or calculated for this field.

## What to do next?

- ❑ Review the data. This report provides a baseline measure of your students' engagement in democracy in 2012 and 2016, and compares your institution's voting rates to similar institutions. Visit our website for more comparison data.
- ❑ Share the report widely and strategically, including posting it online.
- ❑ Put your data into practice. Use our IDHE Resources to guide you.
- ❑ Address your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, and participation. Start by bringing the IDHE team to your campus or using the IDHE self-assessment rubric available on our website.
- ❑ Partner with IDHE. We are available with virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions and in-person trainings.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: [idhe.tufts.edu](http://idhe.tufts.edu).

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE) or email us at [NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu).

Warm regards,  
IDHE Team



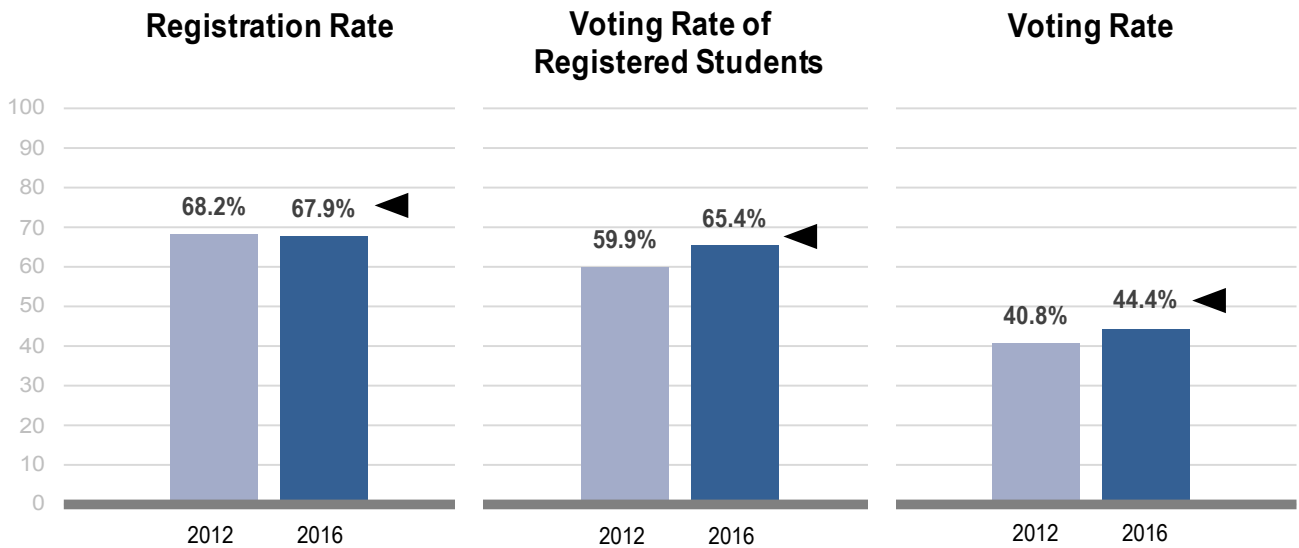
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# Voting and Registration Rates

**2016 Voting Rate**  
**44.4%**

CHANGE FROM 2012  
**3.6**

2016 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS  
**50.4%**



◀ All Institutions, 2016

	2012	2016	Change
Total student enrollment	14,002	14,165	↑ 163
Age under 18/Unknown	(282)	(721)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(311)	(389)	
FERPA records blocked	(15)	*	
Total eligible voters	13,394	13,053	↓ -341
Number of students who registered	9,135	8,860	↓ -275
Number of students who voted	5,468	5,797	↑ 329
Registration rate	68.2%	67.9%	↓ -0.3
Voting rate of registered students	59.9%	65.4%	↑ 5.6
Voting rate	40.8%	44.4%	↑ 3.6
Difference from all institutions	-6.1	-6.0	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Carnegie Classification

**2012 Voting Rate for All Institutions**

**46.9%**

HIGH 72.9%

LOW 19.3%

**2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions**

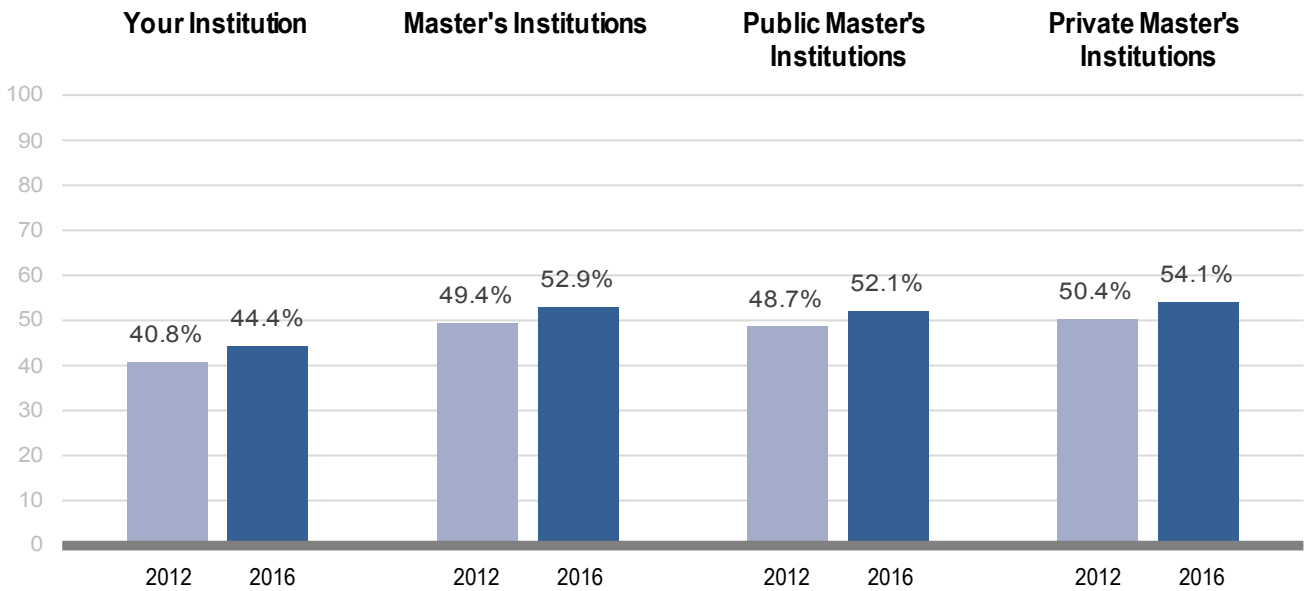
**50.4%**

HIGH 81.4%

LOW 13.1%

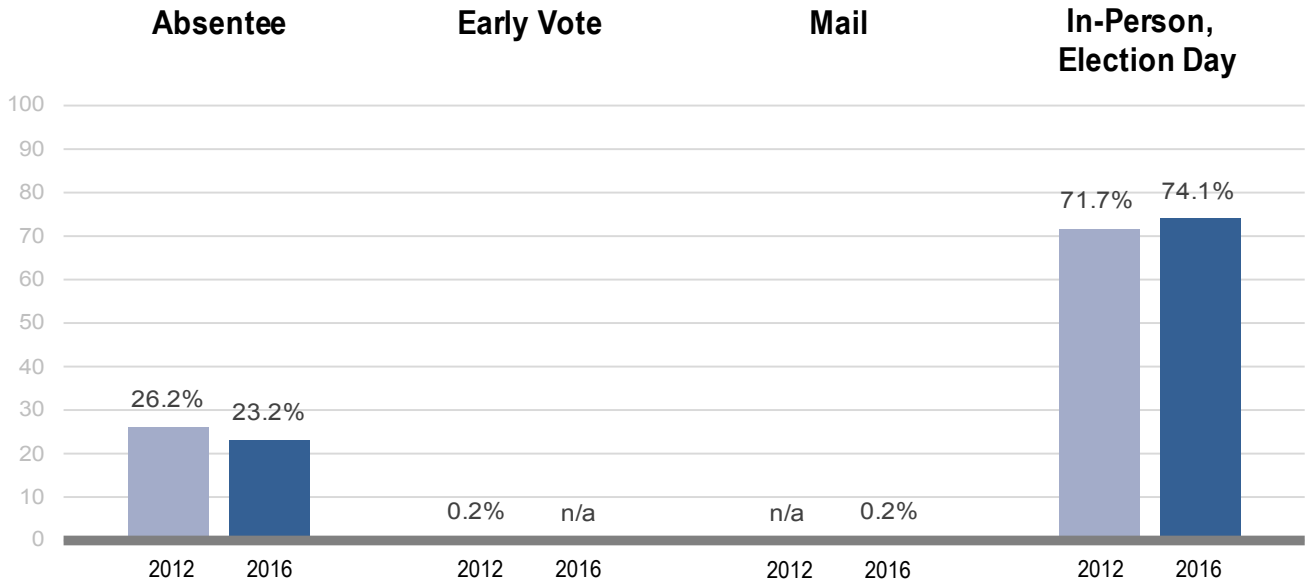
Difference from All Institutions **-6.1**

Difference from All Institutions **-6.0**



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Voting Method\*

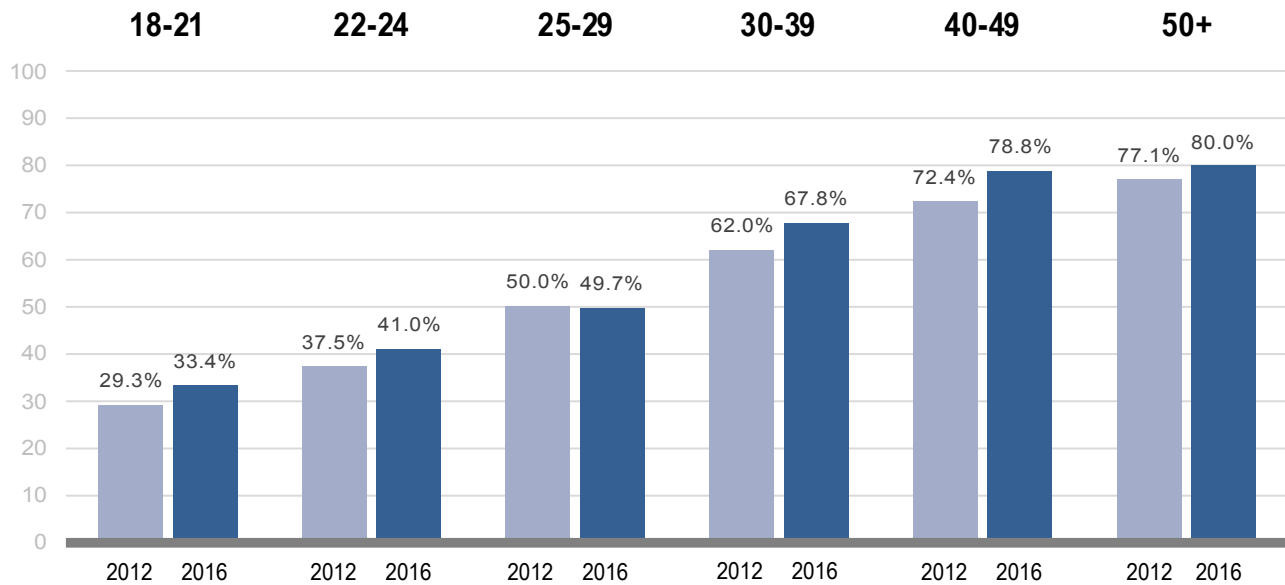


	2012		2016		Change
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	
Absentee	1,432	26.2%	1,345	23.2%	↓ -3.0
Early Vote	11	0.2%	*	n/a	n/a
Mail	*	n/a	12	0.2%	n/a
In-Person, Election Day	3,921	71.7%	4,296	74.1%	↑ 2.4
Unknown	102	1.9%	138	2.4%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,468</b>		<b>5,797</b>		

\* Your students' data broken down by voting method. If your campus has a high number of voting method "Unknown", it means that this information was not reported by local officials where your students voted.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Age Group\*

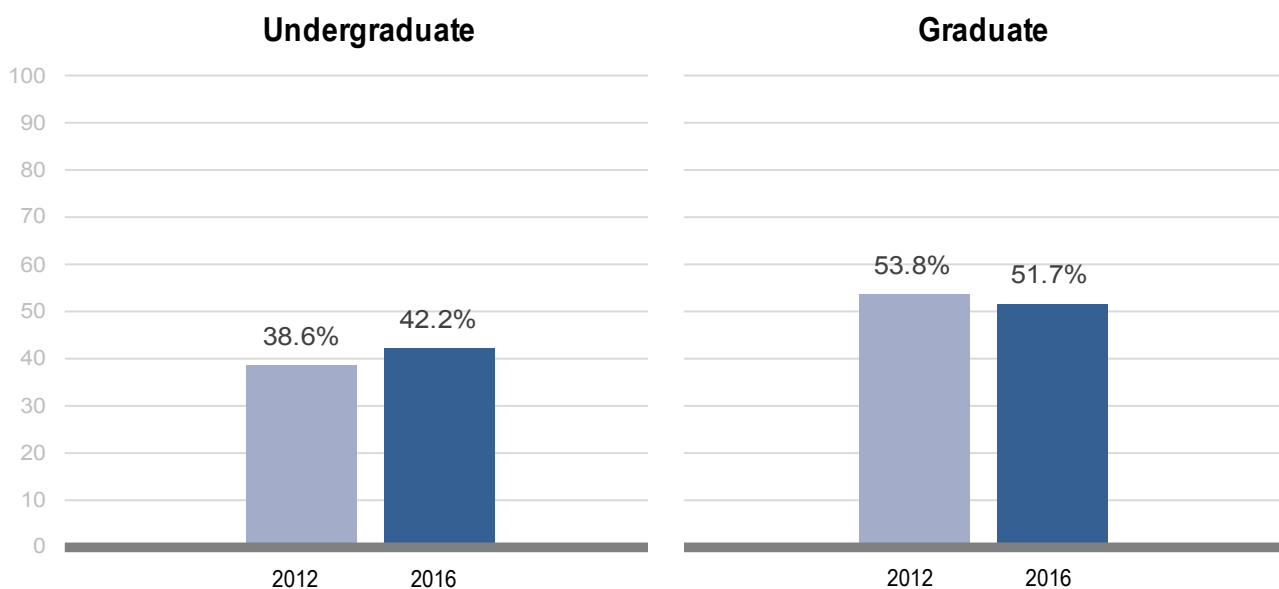


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	6,628	1,939	29.3%	6,562	2,191	33.4%	↑ 4.1
22-24	3,261	1,222	37.5%	3,288	1,348	41.0%	↑ 3.5
25-29	1,497	749	50.0%	1,544	768	49.7%	↓ -0.3
30-39	1,306	810	62.0%	1,154	782	67.8%	↑ 5.7
40-49	703	509	72.4%	619	488	78.8%	↑ 6.4
50+	310	239	77.1%	275	220	80.0%	↑ 2.9
Unknown	*			*			

\* Your students' data broken down by age at the time of the election. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Education Level\*

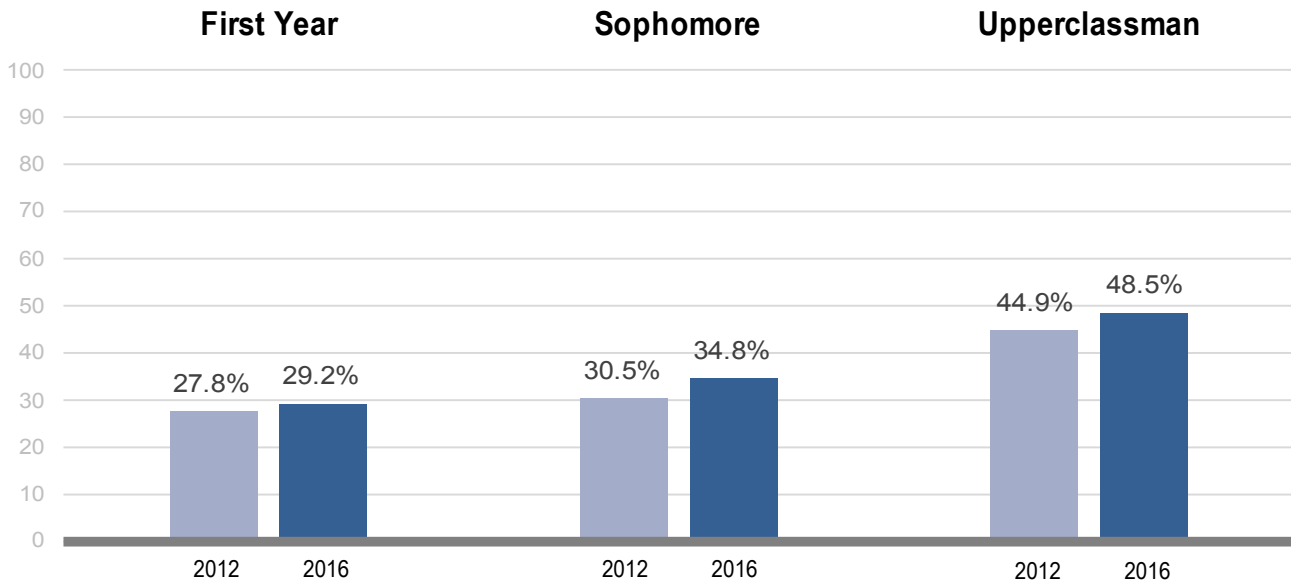


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Undergraduate	12,493	4,816	<b>38.6%</b>	12,138	5,122	<b>42.2%</b>	↑ 3.7
Graduate	1,212	652	<b>53.8%</b>	1,299	671	<b>51.7%</b>	↓ -2.1
Unknown	0			*			

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Undergraduate Class Year\*



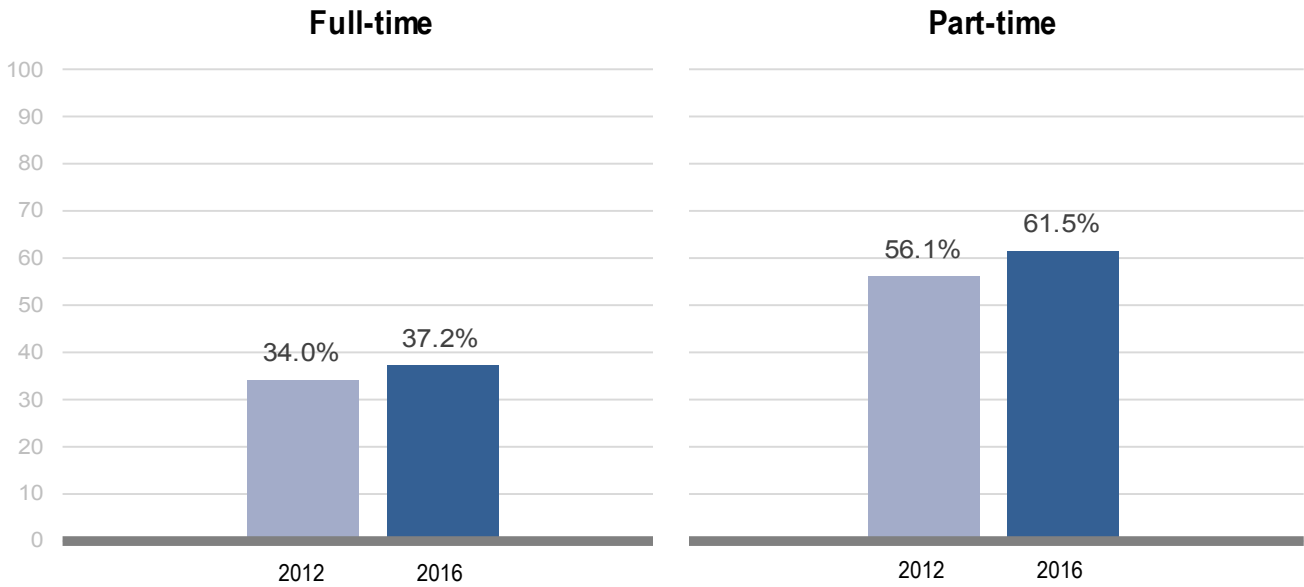
	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	2,683	745	<b>27.8%</b>	2,366	690	<b>29.2%</b>	↑ 1.4
Sophomore	2,395	730	<b>30.5%</b>	2,235	777	<b>34.8%</b>	↑ 4.3
Upperclassman	6,774	3,041	<b>44.9%</b>	7,528	3,648	<b>48.5%</b>	↑ 3.6

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate students' class level. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Enrollment Status\*

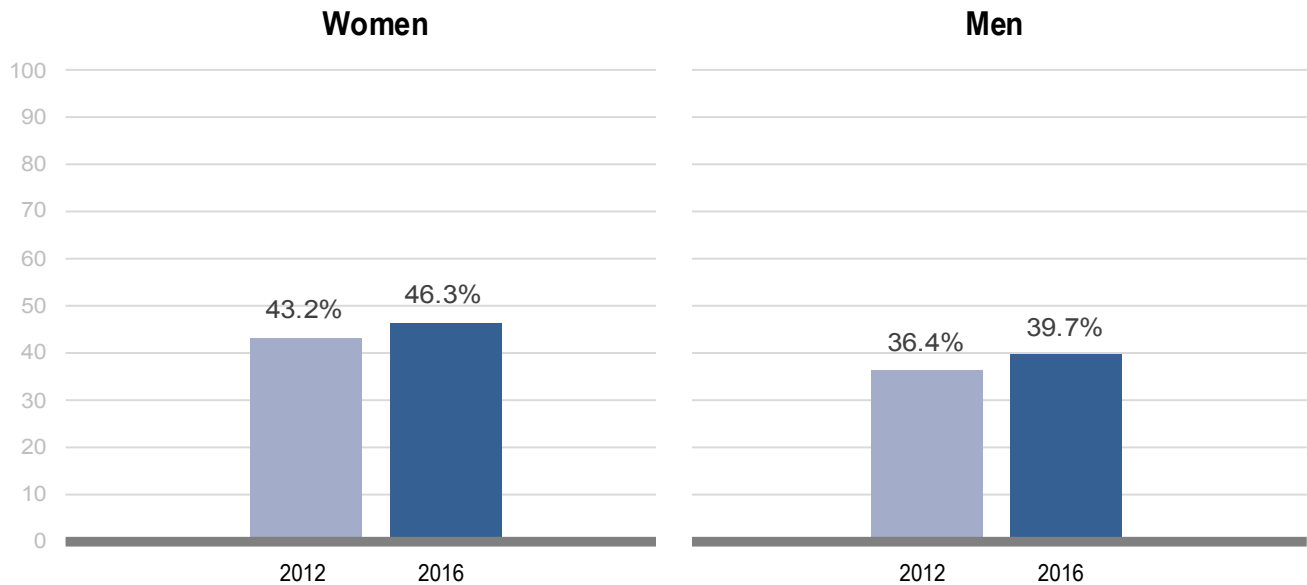


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	10,059	3,424	<b>34.0%</b>	10,169	3,783	<b>37.2%</b>	↑ 3.2
Part-time	3,646	2,044	<b>56.1%</b>	3,269	2,011	<b>61.5%</b>	↑ 5.5
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

\* Your students' data broken down by part-time and full-time students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Gender\*

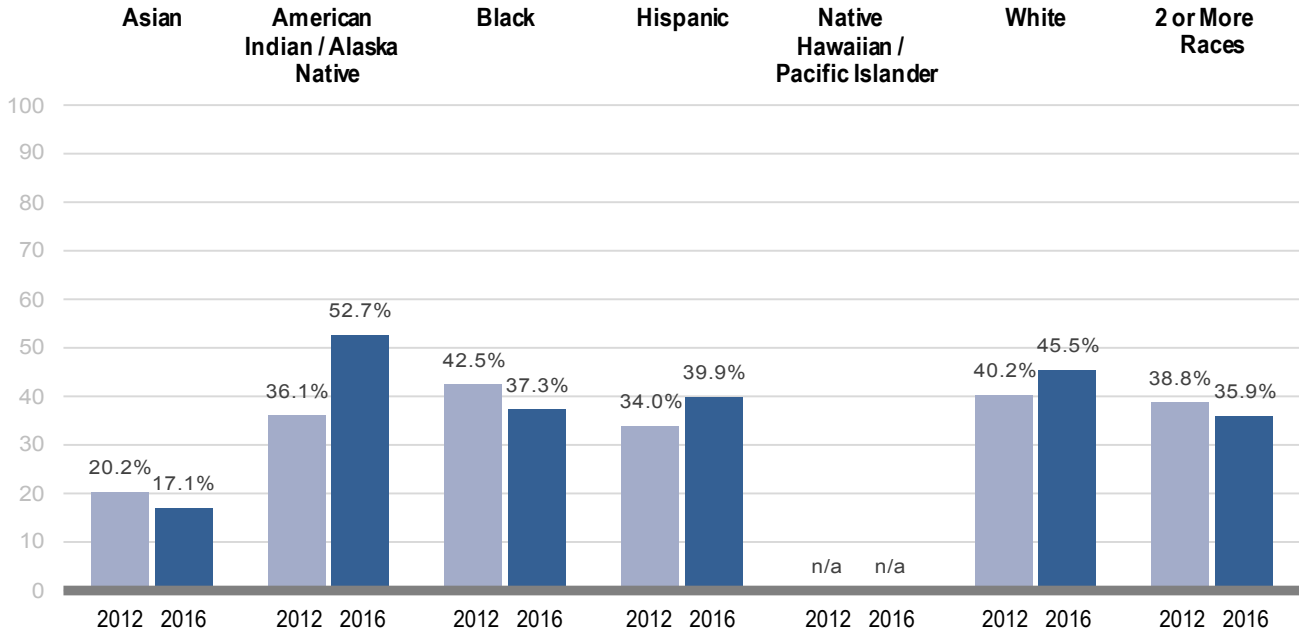


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Women	7,051	3,049	43.2%	7,028	3,254	46.3%	↑ 3.1
Men	6,654	2,419	36.4%	6,413	2,543	39.7%	↑ 3.3
Unknown	0			*			

\* Your students' data broken down by gender. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Race/Ethnicity\*



	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	257	52	<b>20.2%</b>	392	67	<b>17.1%</b>	↓ -3.1
American Indian/ Alaska Native	72	26	<b>36.1%</b>	74	39	<b>52.7%</b>	↑ 16.6
Black	922	392	<b>42.5%</b>	935	349	<b>37.3%</b>	↓ -5.2
Hispanic	433	147	<b>34.0%</b>	611	244	<b>39.9%</b>	↑ 6.0
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	*	*	<b>n/a</b>	*	*	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
White	11,023	4,432	<b>40.2%</b>	10,479	4,765	<b>45.5%</b>	↑ 5.3
2 or More Races	325	126	<b>38.8%</b>	443	159	<b>35.9%</b>	↓ -2.9
Unknown	667			494			

\* Your students' data broken down by race. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Field of Study\*

\* Your students' data broken down by field of study. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students. The green and red highlighted values below represent your campus's top three and bottom three voting rates by field of study.

	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Architecture	0	0	n/a	12	*	n/a	n/a
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	491	147	29.9%	524	179	34.2% ↑	4.2
Business, Management, and Marketing	2,121	875	41.3%	2,135	945	44.3% ↑	3.0
Communication and Journalism	107	29	27.1%	131	38	29.0% ↑	1.9
Communications Technologies/Technicians	423	166	39.2%	563	238	42.3% ↑	3.0
Computer and Information Sciences	410	209	51.0%	498	247	49.6% ↓	-1.4
Education	759	403	53.1%	610	338	55.4% ↑	2.3
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	1,244	390	31.4%	1,562	601	38.5% ↑	7.1
English Language and Literature	87	43	49.4%	92	34	37.0% ↓	-12.5
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	118	64	54.2%	139	59	42.5% ↓	-11.8
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	0	0	n/a	25	*	n/a	n/a
Health Professions	3,638	1,467	40.3%	3,000	1,315	43.8% ↑	3.5
History	26	15	57.7%	25	12	48.0% ↓	-9.7
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	1,250	573	45.8%	1,150	570	49.6% ↑	3.7
Legal Professions and Studies	26	10	38.5%	19	*	n/a	n/a
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	578	164	28.4%	809	302	37.3% ↑	9.0
Mathematics and Statistics	48	20	41.7%	27	12	44.4% ↑	2.8
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians	194	68	35.1%	188	58	30.9% ↓	-4.2
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	100	21	21.0%	119	41	34.5% ↑	13.5
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	39	*	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a
Personal and Culinary Services	33	*	n/a	21	*	n/a	n/a
Physical Sciences	32	*	n/a	26	*	n/a	n/a
Precision Production	143	38	26.6%	188	62	33.0% ↑	6.4

Psychology	166	56	33.7%	145	57	39.3% ↑	5.6
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	218	117	53.7%	320	158	49.4% ↓	-4.3
Science Technologies/Technicians	0	0	n/a	*	*	n/a	n/a
Social Sciences	27	10	37.0%	32	15	46.9% ↑	9.8
Visual and Performing Arts	1,284	458	35.7%	1,015	440	43.4% ↑	7.7
Unknown	143	100	69.9%	59	36	61.0% ↓	-8.9

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:**

NSLVE encourages to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2018). *2012 & 2016 NSLVE Campus Report*. Medford, MA.

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