



October 2021

# Student Voting Rates for George Washington University

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

**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.

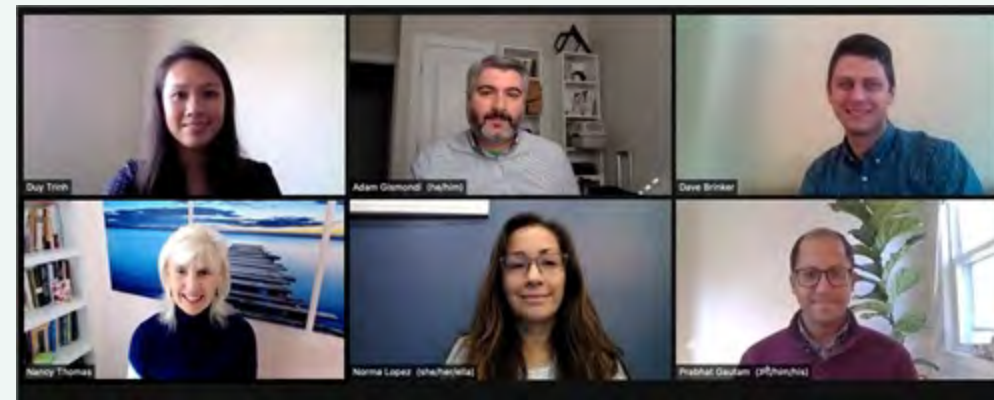
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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](mailto: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.

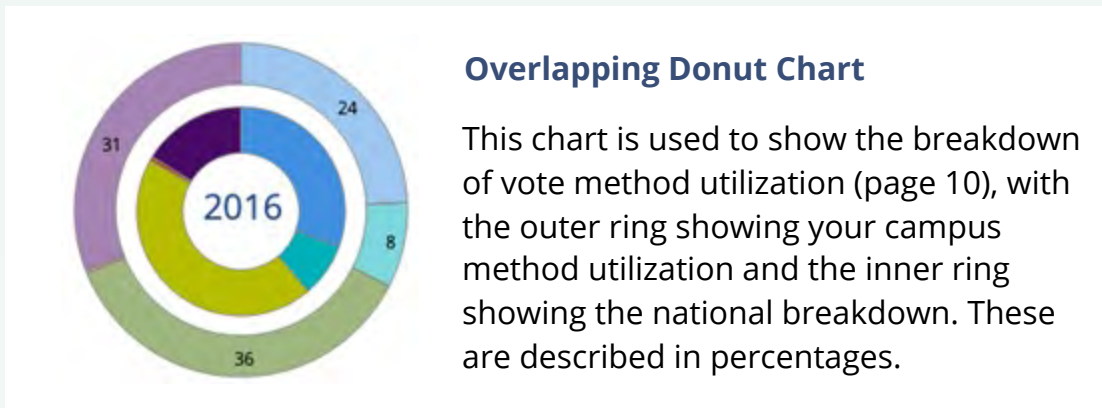
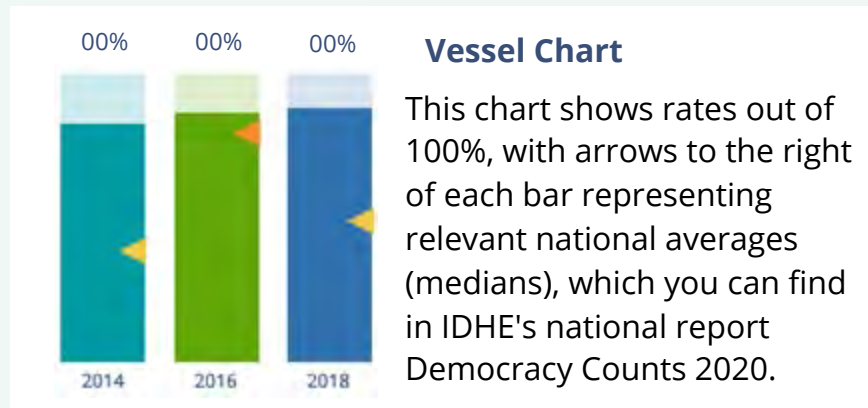
# In This Report

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.

	2014			2018			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.



# Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

## YOUR INSTITUTION

69.0%

2020 Voting Rate

+11.9

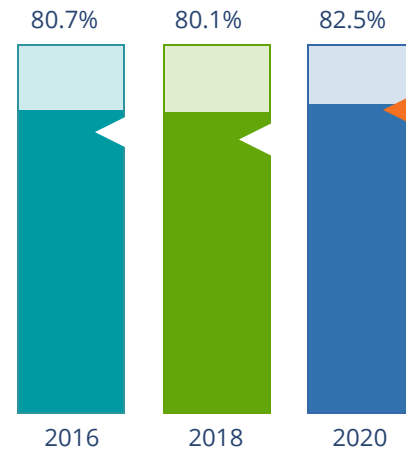
Change From 2016

## ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

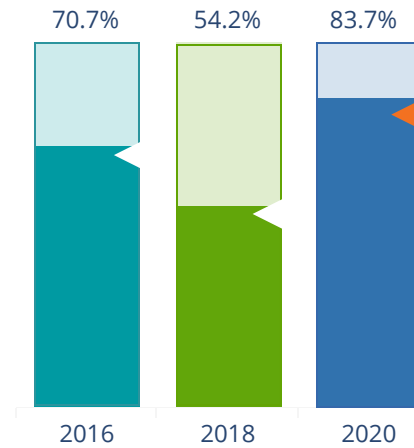
2020 Voting Rate

## REGISTRATION RATE



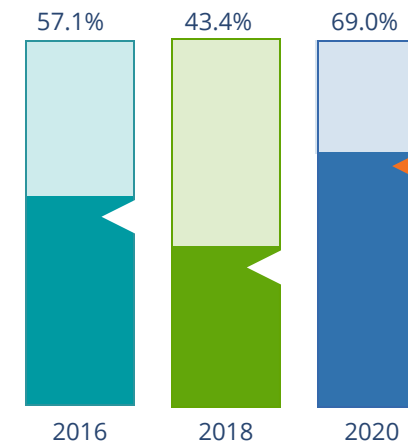
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

## VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS



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



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.)
<b>Total Student Enrollment</b>	27,376	28,233	28,148	↑ 773
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	86	96	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	4,214	3,986	3,419	↓ -796
(FERPA records blocked)	-	13	13	-
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	1,532	1,598	1,942	↑ 410
<b>Total eligible voters</b>	21,613	22,550	22,679	↑ 1,065
<b>Number of students who registered</b>	17,451	18,063	18,716	↑ 1,265
<b>Number of students who voted</b>	12,338	9,787	15,656	↑ 3,318
<b>Registration Rate %</b>	81	80	83	↑ 2
<b>Voting Rate of Registered Students %</b>	71	54	84	↑ 13
<b>Voting Rate %</b>	57	43	69	↑ 12

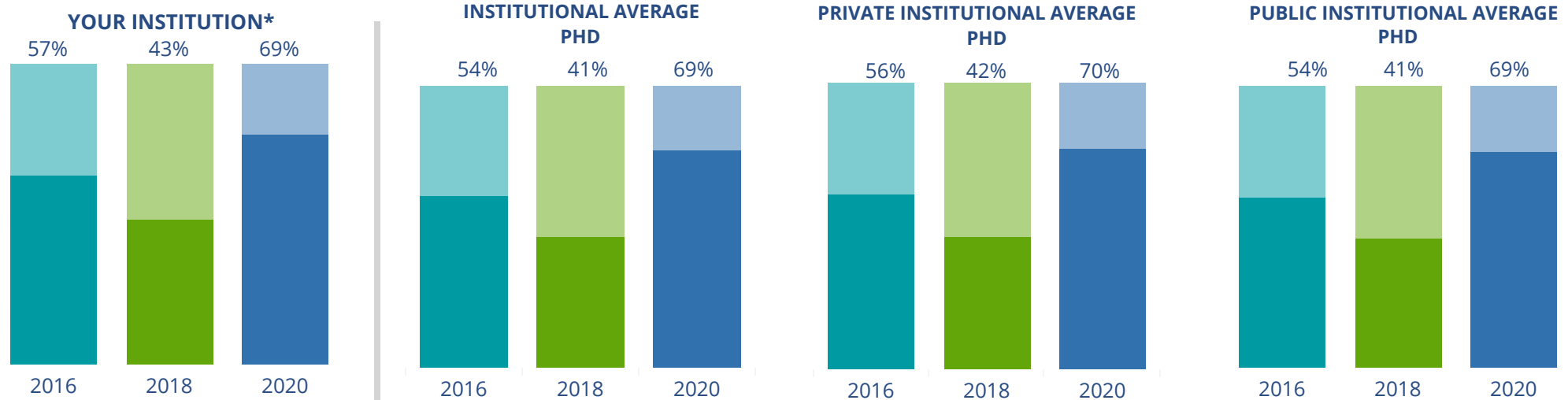
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates.** The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, 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/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool>.

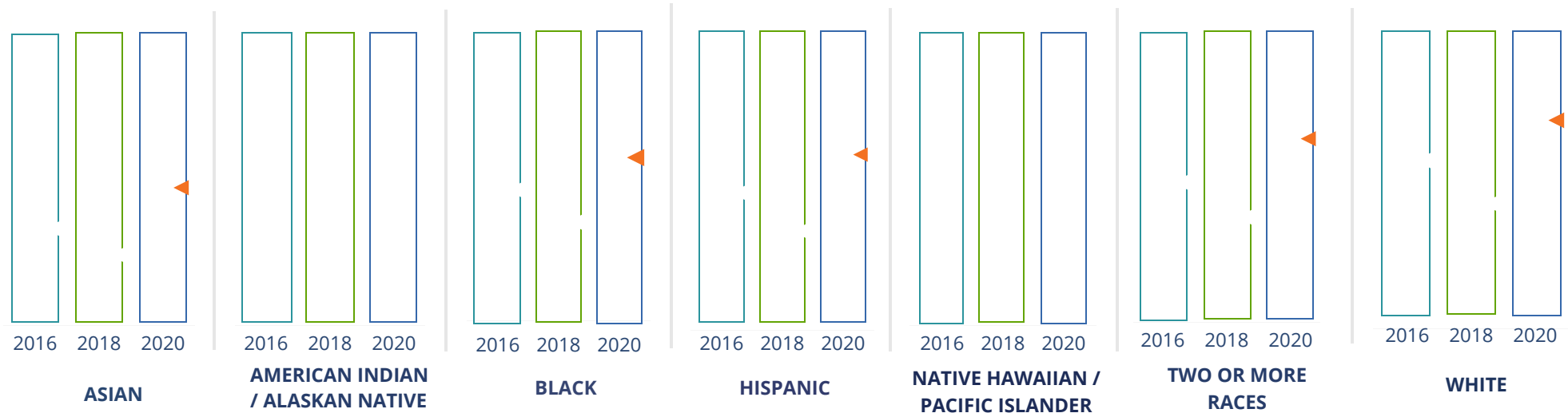
## By Institution Types



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-nslve-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

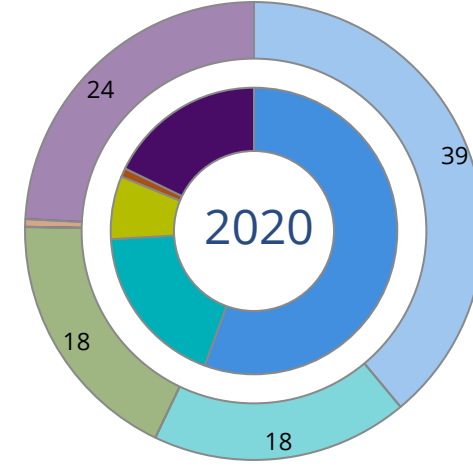
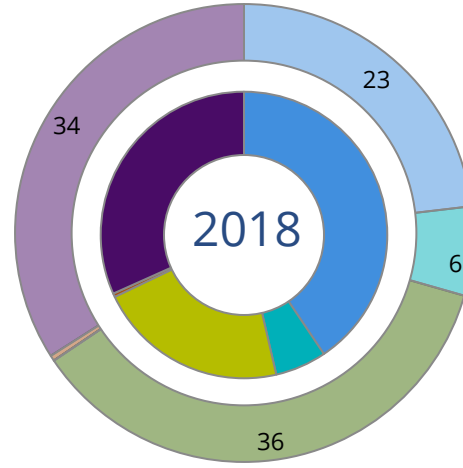
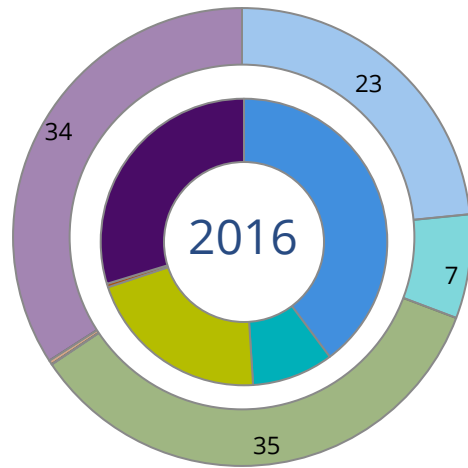
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates.** We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your 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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Race Unknown	25,574	12,338	48	26,291	9,787	37	25,845	15,656	61	↑ 12



# 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	1,134	9	571	6	2,893	19	9	↑
In-Person on Election Day	2,584	21	2,100	22	1,110	7	-14	↓
Not-In-Person	4,915	40	3,970	41	8,708	56	16	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	50	0	43	0	150	1	1	↑
Voting Method Unknown	3,653	30	3,103	32	2,792	18	-12	↓

**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/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports>

## By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	53%	37%	70%
22-24	40%	31%	57%
25-29	42%	35%	52%
30-39	47%	39%	51%
40-49	63%	53%	63%
50+	73%	62%	75%

**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 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
<b>18-21</b>	9,095	4,819	53	9,601	3,598	37	9,299	6,512	70	↑ 17
<b>22-24</b>	5,150	2,041	40	5,401	1,654	31	5,356	3,068	57	↑ 18
<b>25-29</b>	5,323	2,246	42	5,313	1,871	35	5,354	2,783	52	↑ 10
<b>30-39</b>	3,895	1,820	47	3,929	1,513	39	3,845	1,965	51	↑ 4
<b>40-49</b>	1,359	861	63	1,362	723	53	1,363	856	63	↓ -1
<b>50+</b>	752	551	73	685	428	62	628	472	75	↑ 2

# 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)	
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>											
Undergraduate	10,917	5,526	51	11,635	4,219	36	11,126	7,495	67	▲	17
Graduate	14,655	6,812	46	14,568	5,550	38	14,637	8,146	56	▲	9
Class Unknown	-	-	-	88	18	20	82	15	18	-	-
<b>CLASS YEAR</b>											
First Year	2,646	50	1,313	2,913	35	1,017	2,585	67	1,727	▲	17
Second Year	2,571	55	1,417	2,562	39	1,007	2,610	69	1,791	▲	14
Upper Level	5,698	49	2,794	6,169	36	2,196	5,948	67	3,984	▲	18
<b>ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>											
Full-time	-	-	-	18,656	6,353	34	17,659	10,841	61	-	-
Part-time	-	-	-	7,635	3,434	45	8,186	4,815	59	-	-

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	50	25	50	28	11	39	39	29	74	↑	24
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	231	134	58	97	53	55	107	85	79	↑	21
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	806	373	46	999	315	32	1,123	709	63	↑	17
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,408	1,397	41	3,128	861	28	3,008	1,545	51	↑	10
Communication and Journalism	909	579	64	780	411	53	732	536	73	↑	10
Computer and Information Sciences	1,033	267	26	1,446	395	27	1,346	638	47	↑	22
Education	968	589	61	854	434	51	779	490	63	↑	2

**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)	
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,006	911	45	1,926	588	31	1,836	1,002	55	↑	9
English Language and Literature	125	75	60	154	72	47	104	71	68	↑	8
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	36	22	61	31	12	39	17	-	-		-
Health Professions	4,555	2,414	53	5,220	2,135	41	5,500	3,456	63	↑	10
History	160	73	46	152	57	38	159	118	74	↑	29
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	387	196	51	421	180	43	393	274	70	↑	19
Legal Professions and Studies	1,970	898	46	1,794	698	39	1,983	1,217	61	↑	16
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	2,009	1,018	51	2,285	855	37	1,875	1,305	70	↑	19
Mathematics and Statistics	540	51	9	477	37	8	374	58	16	↑	6
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	187	102	55	143	61	43	137	108	79	↑	24
Natural Resources and Conservation	70	35	50	71	35	49	97	79	81	↑	31
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	-	-	-	15	-	-	77	38	49		-
Philosophy and Religious Studies	59	34	58	64	23	36	62	37	60	↑	2
Physical Sciences	156	60	38	145	40	28	161	87	54	↑	16

## By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Psychology	595	298	50	539	192	36	589	365	62	↑	12
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	491	264	54	471	217	46	385	228	59	↑	5
Social Sciences	4,321	2,322	54	4,593	1,942	42	4,490	2,900	65	↑	11
Visual and Performing Arts	350	175	50	329	125	38	362	236	65	↑	15
Unknown	152	26	17	129	32	25	110	37	34	↑	17



# 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.

George Washington University

Thank you for the work you do to improve your students' political learning and engagement. We hope that you find your NSLVE report useful. For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources, and to sign up for our newsletter visit: <https://idhe.tufts.edu>.

References: IDHE encourages report recipients to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it on the college or university's website. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2021). 2016, 2018, and 2020 report for \_\_\_\_\_ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.

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