Student Voting Rates for Georgia State University

NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

idhe INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY & HIGHER EDUCATION

September 2022
Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for several recent election cycles. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2014, 2018, and 2020. In addition to sharing the change between 2014 and 2018 voting rates, we also disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation. Although you have likely seen these numbers before, we find that many report recipients appreciate a refresher heading into another national election.

College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. In 2020, it jumped to 66%. In the last midterm, the student voting rate more than doubled, from roughly 19% in 2014 to around 40% in 2018. These encouraging data points signal that 2022 can be yet another banner year for student participation if we all work together to ensure that lasting, long-term interventions turn this into a *trend* across the nation.

As always, 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 encourage you to review our recommendations for leveraging election seasons to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation, year around: Election Imperatives 2.0 and the more recent Election Imperatives 2020: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action, a report with recommendations for institutional leaders, faculty, and voter coalitions.

Since political dialogue across campus 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 how campuses use their NSLVE reports.

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 (or sign up!) for our periodic newsletter, announcements about upcoming releases, and new resources.

Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student engagement in democracy should not be.

All the Best,
The Team at IDHE

IDHE: https://idhe.tufts.edu/
NSLVE: https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve
Election Imperatives: https://idhe.tufts.edu/publications-and-resources/election-imperatives
Talking Politics discussion guide (for NSLVE reports): https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/talking-politics-guide-campus-conversations-about-nslve-reports
Free Speech & Inclusion on Campus discussion guide: https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/free-speech-inclusion-campus-discussion-guide
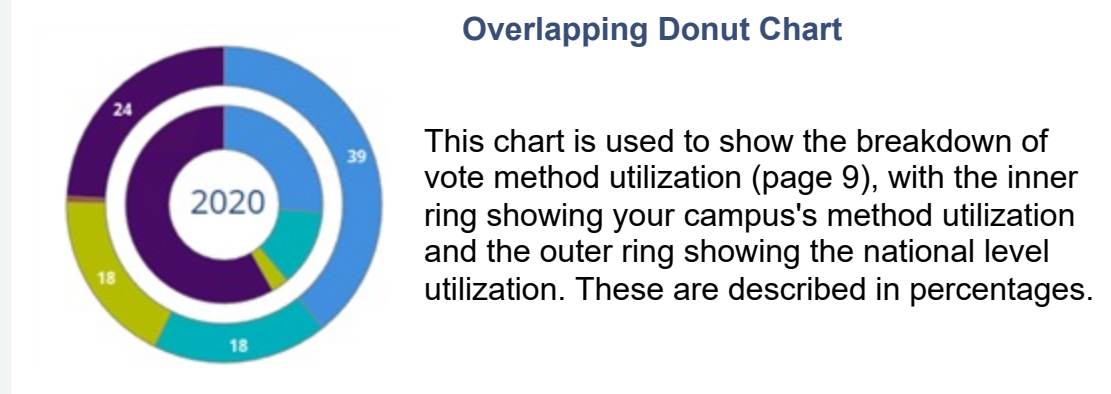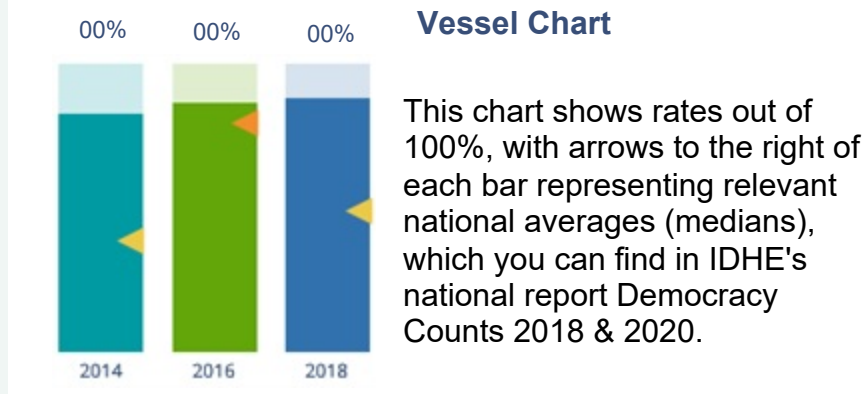
In This Report

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.

Tables

The tables show the numbers of students and the rates from 2014, 2018, and 2020. The change column represents difference between counts and rates. The change in rates are in terms of percentage points. 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 2018 & 2020.

Overlapping Donut Chart

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 9), with the inner ring showing your campus's method utilization and the outer ring showing the national level utilization. These are described in percentages.

Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

53.4%
2018 Voting Rate

+29.4
Change From 2014

ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%
2018 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

2014	2018	2020
67.3%	82.1%	87.7%

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

2014	2018	2020
35.6%	65.1%	79.3%

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

2014	2018	2020
24.0%	53.4%	69.6%

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

	2014	2018	2020	2014-2018 Change
Total student enrollment per NSC	32,024	50,705	51,384	⬆ 18,681
(Age under 18/Unknown)	260	1,809	2,227	⬆ 1,549
(Non-resident aliens)	1,420	2,544	2,528	⬆ 1,124
Non-resident aliens data source	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	
(FERPA records blocked)	40	26	16	⬇ -14
(Non-degree seeking students)	1,032	1,022	–	⬇ -10
Total eligible voters	29,272	45,304	46,613	⬆ 16,032
Number of students who registered	19,705	37,203	40,898	⬆ 17,498
Number of students who voted	7,020	24,202	32,425	⬆ 17,182
Registration Rate %	67	82	88	⬆ 15
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	36	65	79	⬆ 29
Voting Rate %	24	53	70	⬆ 29

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.

When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. 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 is indicated by IPEDS in the data source.

In the following pages with tables, **Enrolled** represents the eligible voters when we have used NSC as the data source. When we have used IPEDS as the data source, **Enrolled** includes non-resident aliens who are ineligible to vote, and for whom we are unable to account due to the lack of data from your institution.

By Institution Types
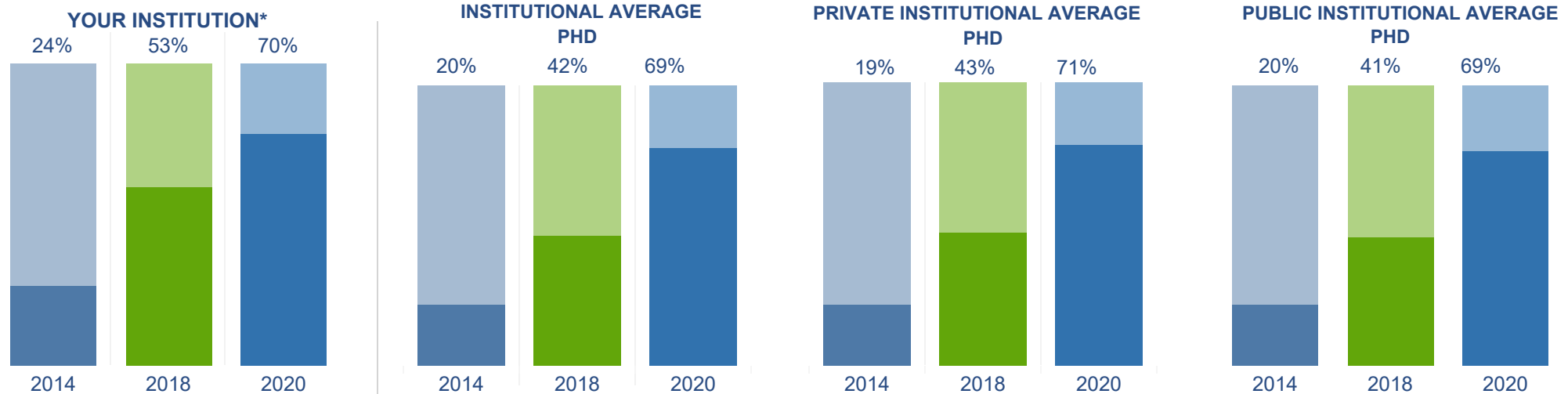
2014 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 52%
19.7%	LOW 2%

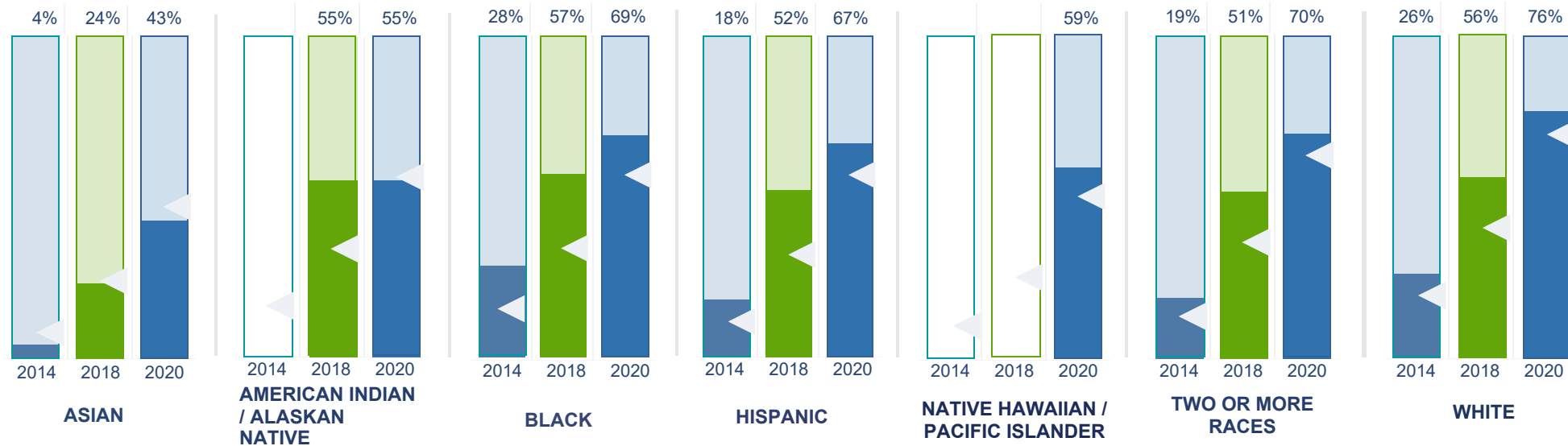| 2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 76%
39.1%	LOW 7%

These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. For Associate institutions, we only share public associate institutional averages due to sample size. *"Your Institution" chart is presented at a different scale.

YOUR INSTITUTION*

2014	2018	2020
24%	53%	70%

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2014	2018	2020
20%	42%	69%

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2014	2018	2020
19%	43%	71%

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2014	2018	2020
20%	41%	69%

By Race / Ethnicity

	ASIAN			AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE			BLACK			HISPANIC			NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER			TWO OR MORE RACES			WHITE		
	2014	2018	2020	2014	2018	2020	2014	2018	2020	2014	2018	2020	2014	2018	2020	2014	2018	2020	2014	2018	2020
	4%	24%	43%		55%	55%	28%	57%	69%	18%	52%	67%			59%	19%	51%	70%	26%	56%	76%

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 : 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 or reports this data as unknown; (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 or reports this data as unknown; (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.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Rate Change**
Asian	3,909	173	4	6,830	1,614	24	7,416	3,159	43	⬆ 19
American Indian/ Alaska Native	57	–	–	56	31	55	47	26	55	–
Black	11,220	3,191	28	19,672	11,203	57	20,064	13,885	69	⬆ 29
Hispanic	2,604	463	18	5,667	2,961	52	6,513	4,347	67	⬆ 34
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	24	–	–	29	–	–	29	17	59	–
2 or More Races	1,298	242	19	2,758	1,415	51	2,721	1,891	69	⬆ 33
White	10,136	2,669	26	11,884	6,643	56	11,617	8,855	76	⬆ 30

By Voting Method

Legend: ■ Not-In-Person ■ Early Vote ■ In-Person ■ Other ■ Provisional ■ Unknown
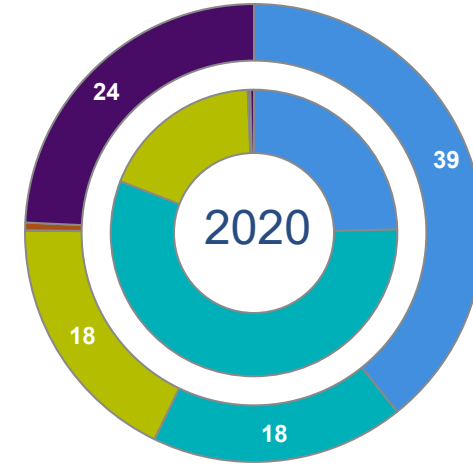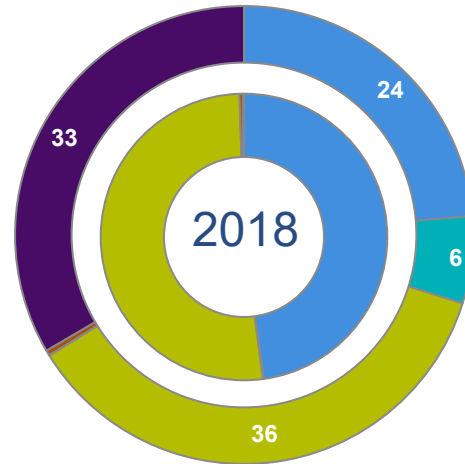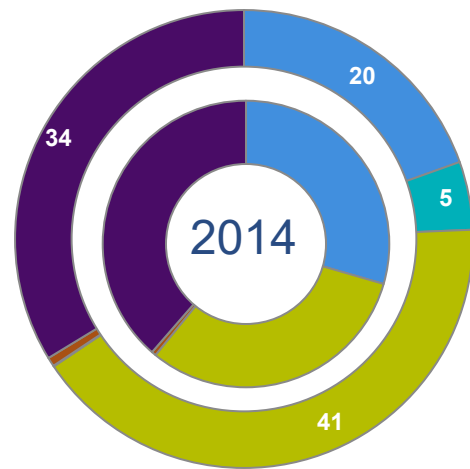
	2014		2018		2020		2014-2018
	Voted	**Rate(%)**	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Rate Change**
Early Vote	–	–	15	0	18,247	56	–
In-Person	2,202	31	12,491	52	5,979	18	⬆ 20
Not-In-Person	2,073	30	11,561	48	7,971	25	⬆ 18
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Provisional	34	1	103	0	86	0	➡ 0
Voting Method Unknown	2,710	39	32	0	142	0	⬇ -39

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. The inner ring in these charts show your campus's method utilization and the outer ring show the national level utilization.

By Age Group

	2014	2018	2020
18-21	15%	49%	66%
22-24	21%	50%	65%
25-29	25%	48%	62%
30-39	37%	55%	65%
40-49	54%	66%	76%
50+	67%	77%	83%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, elected officials and public opinion polls solicit opinions from people they can locate - people in the voter files. In 2020, the youngest students on campuses voted at the highest rates, giving them increasing voice and power. Government officials should take note of this data point, as the viewpoints of young voters may prove influential in future elections. Candidates should be cautious about remaining distant and unresponsive to the perspectives of young voters.

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.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
18-21	13,165	1,942	15	23,393	11,410	49	25,105	16,637	66	⬆ 34
22-24	7,549	1,571	21	10,089	5,006	50	9,789	6,364	65	⬆ 29
25-29	4,829	1,228	25	7,124	3,416	48	6,691	4,143	62	⬆ 23
30-39	3,314	1,211	37	4,575	2,500	55	4,824	3,142	65	⬆ 18
40-49	1,218	652	54	1,757	1,166	66	1,735	1,310	76	⬆ 13
50+	617	416	67	910	704	77	997	829	83	⬆ 10

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate(%)**	**Rate Change**
Female	17,987	4,373	24	28,643	15,548	54	30,246	20,653	68	⬆ 30
Male	12,705	2,647	21	19,200	8,651	45	18,895	11,772	62	⬆ 24

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

| | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | 2020 | | | 2014-2018 |
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Rate Change
EDUCATION LEVEL										
Undergraduate	24,030	4,795	20	41,286	20,637	50	41,173	27,041	66	⬆ 30
Graduate	6,645	2,220	33	6,546	3,556	54	6,961	4,638	67	⬆ 21
Class Unknown	17	–	–	16	–	–	1,007	228	23	–
CLASS YEAR										
Freshman	4,904	585	12	14,587	6,563	45	14,004	8,494	61	⬆ 33
Sophomore	5,059	786	16	12,586	6,261	50	12,404	8,154	66	⬆ 34
Upperclassman	14,081	3,429	24	14,132	7,829	55	15,342	10,820	71	⬆ 31
ENROLLMENT STATUS										
Full-time	21,480	4,341	20	31,703	15,609	49	33,085	21,725	66	⬆ 29
Part-time	9,212	2,679	29	16,145	8,593	53	16,056	10,700	67	⬆ 24

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	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	102	38	37	137	82	60	134	96	72	⬆ 23
Basic Skills Education	–	–	–	–	–	–	62	–	–	–
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	2,781	420	15	2,895	1,369	47	2,990	1,992	67	⬆ 32
Business, Management, and Marketing	6,492	1,218	19	5,708	2,561	45	6,169	3,977	64	⬆ 26
Communication and Journalism	1,405	358	25	1,212	765	63	996	755	76	⬆ 38
Computer and Information Sciences	2,117	312	15	3,100	1,173	38	3,650	2,044	56	⬆ 23
Education	2,826	855	30	1,885	1,233	65	1,995	1,595	80	⬆ 35

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	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Engineering and Engineering Techno..	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
English Language and Literature	656	190	29	567	369	65	513	402	78	⬆ 36
Family and Consumer/Human Scienc..	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	–	–	–
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and ..	377	82	22	313	179	57	254	198	78	⬆ 35
Health Professions	2,264	573	25	2,330	1,312	56	2,572	1,831	71	⬆ 31
History	398	139	35	278	193	69	252	202	80	⬆ 34
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and P..	691	157	23	661	407	62	759	523	69	⬆ 39
Legal Professions and Studies	631	300	48	634	428	68	691	550	80	⬆ 20
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Huma..	505	69	14	17,942	8,420	47	17,022	10,303	61	⬆ 33
Mathematics and Statistics	317	53	17	370	134	36	379	196	52	⬆ 19
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	752	188	25	1,291	761	59	2,187	1,620	74	⬆ 34
Natural Resources and Conservation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitne..	126	30	24	91	36	40	92	60	65	⬆ 16

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Philosophy and Religious Studies	237	58	24	230	122	53	202	134	66	⬆ 29
Physical Sciences	1,090	187	17	1,030	444	43	929	570	61	⬆ 26
Psychology	1,981	430	22	2,012	1,126	56	2,130	1,513	71	⬆ 34
Public Administration and Social Service Profe..	837	333	40	578	399	69	540	437	81	⬆ 29
Social Sciences	2,148	599	28	2,279	1,347	59	2,152	1,521	71	⬆ 31
Visual and Performing Arts	1,947	426	22	2,273	1,325	58	2,403	1,852	77	⬆ 36
Unknown	–	–	–	29	14	48	42	29	69	–

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, 2020 and 2022 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 serves 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 2014, 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.

Georgia State 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. (2022). 2014, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.

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