Huskies Vote!

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following action plan was developed by a standing committee and four subcommittees comprised of faculty, staff, students, administrators and community partners. The goal of the plan is to further embed a commitment to civic learning and democratic engagement in Northern Illinois University's (NIU) culture and, more specifically, to increase political participation by NIU students. In particular, NIU has the following short-term goals:

- Increase the percentage of students who registered from 72.6% in 2018 to 80% in 2020.
- Increase the percentage of students who voted in the general election from 50.1% in 2016 to 55% in 2020.
- Surpass the mean voter turnout rate for all institutions participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). NIU did not meet this goal in 2016 or 2018.
- Given the concerns over COVID-19 and the challenges it could present to turnout on Election Day, have at least 50% of students vote either absentee or early.

Additionally, the university has the following long-term goals:

- By Fall 2021, the university will have established a new Civic Engagement Fellows Program.
- By Fall 2024, a book related to civic learning/civic education/democratic participation will be selected for the Common Reading Experience.
- By the 2024 general election, 90% of students will be registered to vote.
- 60% of students will vote in the 2024 general election; no differences will exist by undergraduate class year.
- In 2026, NIU will receive the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification again.

The plan is consistent with the university's vision, mission and values statement as well as those of several departments and units.

The plan will be implemented primarily on NIU's main campus in DeKalb, IL, which is where the overwhelming majority of students attend. However, students who take classes at NIU's regional centers in Hoffman Estates, Naperville and Rockford or online will also be made aware of the plan and will have the opportunity to participate in it.

The plan was initiated in fall 2019 and will be implemented through Fall 2020. At that point, the committee will assess the success of the plan and begin developing a new plan that will cover 2021-2022. Although what follows is the final version of NIU's initial plan, it will continually be updated and adapted to help NIU meet its participation goals for the 2020 general election.

Participation in the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge is a presidential initiative, and the Office of the President will be facilitating the effort. The plan will be implemented by the four subcommittees and an executive committee comprised of the chairs of the subcommittees and the president's chief of staff.

The plan and the university's NSLVE data will be available to the public on the Huskies Vote! website and will be presented to a variety of university and external groups.

Northern Illinois University (NIU)[1] is committed to promoting civic engagement and learning and democratic and political participation. NIU's mission statement references developing active, engaged, informed citizens who "become global leaders who work to build a better society." The university's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is reflected in its values and is consistent with the promotion of civic engagement and learning.[2] Several departments and units also mention civic learning and democratic participation in their vision, mission or values statements. For example, the Department of Political Science's mission statement includes the following: "We are committed to providing NIU's diverse undergraduate student body with the knowledge and skills necessary for responsible citizenship and successful careers. Liberal arts education, engaged learning and global education are important dimensions of this educational mission."[3] The mission statement of the Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies states, "The center is committed to the growth and development of civil society through research, community engagement and training the next generation of community leaders."[4]

NIU's curriculum also illustrates a commitment to civic learning and engagement. The university offers a degree in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement. Numerous academic departments, academic centers and cultural resource centers offer courses related to civic engagement and learning and democratic and political participation. This includes the departments of Communication; Counseling and Higher Education; Curriculum and Instruction; English; History; Mechanical Engineering; Philosophy; Political Science; Public Administration; Sociology; and World Languages. It also includes the centers for Black Studies; Environmental Studies; Latino and Latin American Studies; Nonprofit and NGO Studies; Southeast Asian Studies; and the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality. Additionally, the Asian American, Latino and Gender and Sexuality Resource centers all offer courses that focus on these subjects. Many of the courses in the various centers (and even some of the courses in the academic departments) have an interdisciplinary focus.

Civic engagement and democratic participation are also reflected in the learning outcomes of several departments, including political science,[5] public administration[6] and Nonprofit and NGO Studies.[7]

In addition to the strong civic engagement and learning focus of the curriculum, numerous co-curricular opportunities also exist, including programs offered through the offices of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning and Student Involvement as well as various service-learning programs within the academic colleges. For example, the year-long Huskie Service Scholars (HSS) scholarship program offers freshmen and first-semester transfer students the opportunity to develop a supportive peer network and engage in weekly service activities on

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[1] NIU is a comprehensive research university with roughly 17,000 undergraduate, graduate and law students. Roughly 50% of all students are white (non-Hispanic), 19% Hispanic, 16.6% African American and 5.6% Asian. More than 90% of undergraduates receive aid. Roughly 50% are first generation (see https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/_files/niu-data-book-2018-2019.pdf).

[2] Northern Illinois University's "Vision, Mission, and Values" statement. Available at https://www.niu.edu/at-a-glance/vision-mission-values.pdf.

[3] Northern Illinois University Department of Political Science's mission statement. Available at https://polisci.niu.edu/polisci/about/mission.shtml.

[4] Northern Illinois University Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies mission statement. Available at https://www.niu.edu/nonprofit/about/mission-statement.shtml.

[5] https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/_files/outcomes/clas/political-science-ba-bs.pdf

[6] https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/_files/outcomes/clas/public-administration-mpa.pdf

[7] https://www.niu.edu/effectiveness/_files/outcomes/clas/nonprofit-and-nngo-studies-ba-bs.pdf

campus and in the community. Students work in teams, are co-hosted by campus partners based on the social issues their teams are addressing and present their final projects at the annual Community Engagement Showcase. Other programs and offerings include the Huskie Food Pantry, NIU Cares Day and connections to local volunteer opportunities. The university works through all of these experiences to not only provide a service but also to educate students about local agencies and social issues.

Finally, the university's commitment to promoting civic engagement and learning and democratic and political participation is shown by the establishment of Presidential Engagement Professorships, its participation in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), and President Lisa Freeman's signing of pledges such as the Democracy Challenge's Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Participation and Wesleyan University's three principles for developing civically engaged citizens and contributing to civic life.[8] Additionally, President Freeman has pledged to the creation of a new civic engagement fellows program.

The university highlights its commitment to civic engagement and learning and democratic and political participation regularly in both internal and external communications. Stories on the initiatives mentioned above or faculty who are teaching or conducting research on these topics are posted on NIU Today, the university's internal source for university news, or pitched to national and local media. Faculty in these areas are also quoted frequently in national and local media. Moreover, local governments and community organizations are aware of NIU's commitment to civic engagement and democratic participation, and many benefit from it. The university is asking the City of DeKalb and the county of DeKalb to formally recognize this action plan.

NIU has been acknowledged for its commitment to civic engagement. In 2020, the university received a Carnegie Communication Engagement Classification for the second time. This designation indicates "institutional commitment to community engagement by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching."[9] Three NIU students have received the Newman Civic Fellow Award, a national award that honors inspiring college students who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country.

Because of this commitment to civic engagement and learning and democratic and political participation, the university is proud to participate for the first time in the All In Campus Democracy Challenge. The following action plan was developed by a steering committee comprised of faculty, staff, students, administrators and community members who worked in conjunction with dozens of additional members of the university and community. Additionally, four subcommittees have been charged with implementing various aspects of the plan, and an executive committee comprised of the subcommittee chairs and the president's chief of staff has been established to monitor implementation and evaluate the plan's success.

The action plan focuses on five areas:
- General voter information
- Registration
- Education

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[8] See https://www.wesleyan.edu/e2020/index.html.
[9] https://www.aplu.org/news-and-media/blog/2020-carnegie-community-engagement-classification-recipients-announced

- Mobilization
- Civic engagement and learning

To develop the short-term goals in this plan, the steering committee examined NIU's NSLVE data, which is available at https://www.niu.edu/huskies-vote/index.shtml and in Appendix A of this action plan.

Based on NIU's NSLVE data, the university has the following short-term goals:
- Increase the percentage of students who registered from 72.6% in 2018 to 80% in 2020.
- Increase the percentage of students who voted in the general election from 50.1% in 2016 to 55% in 2020.[10]
- Surpass the mean voter turnout rate for all institutions participating in the NSLVE. NIU did not meet this goal in 2016 or 2018.
- Given the concerns over COVID-19 and the challenges it could present to turnout on Election Day, have at least 50% of students vote either absentee or early.[11]

Additionally, the university has the following long-term goals:
- By Fall 2021, the university will have established a new civic engagement faculty fellows program.
- By Fall 2024, a book related to civic learning/civic education/democratic participation will be selected for the Common Reading Experience.[12]
- By the 2024 general election, 90% of students will be registered to vote.
- 60% of students will vote in the 2024 general election; no differences will exist by undergraduate class year.[13]
- In 2026, NIU will receive the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification again.

The following people contributed to the development of this plan:

ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge Steering Committee
Chad Glover, Director, Jobs PLUS
Michaela Holtz, Director, Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning
Doug Johnson, DeKalb County Clerk

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[10] A comparison to the 2016 turnout rate is more accurate because participation patterns in presidential election years are different than those during midterm elections.

[11] Given the amount of missing data regarding voting method in the 2016 NSLVE, we did not feel an accurate benchmark could be created to determine whether an increase in early/absentee voting took place. In 2016, 18% of Illinoisans voted early (https://www.reformforillinois.org/blog/early-voting-in-illinois-increasing-but-higher-in-other-states/), so a 50% goal is challenging. However, because younger people are more likely to vote early/absentee, early/absentee voting is on the rise nationally and there will be a strong focus on early/absentee voting because of the COVID-19 crisis, we believe this goal is obtainable.

[12] The Common Reading Experience requires all first-year students to read the same book, and assignments are integrated into composition and communications courses. In addition to class discussions and assignments, students can participate in events that engage with the book's themes.

[13] In 2016, 34.3% of first-year, 37.0% of sophomore and 47.6% of upper-level students voted. In addition to increasing voting rates of all groups by 2024, we hope to eliminate the percentage differences between groups. One strategy that will help the university accomplish this goal is to include a book related to civic engagement/learning/participation as part of the Common Reading Experience by 2024.

Meg Junk, Chief of Staff to the Dean of Students, Student Affairs
Sandy Lopez, Coordinator for Undocumented Student Support, Academic Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Julie Ann O'Connell, Assistant Director, Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies
Victor Owoeye, Journalism undergraduate
John Patten, Residence Hall Association representative, Accounting and Political Science undergraduate
Ian Pearson, Speaker of the Student Senate, Nonprofit and NGO Studies and Political Science undergraduate
Andy Pemberton, Internal Communications, Web and Internal Communications
Matt Streb, Chief of Staff to the President; Professor, Department of Political Science (chair)
Laura Vazquez, Professor, Department of Communication

Subcommittee Membership

Communication
Taylor Hayden, Associate Director of Digital Content, Institutional Communications
Meg Junk, Chief of Staff to the Dean of Students, Student Affairs
Oliver Korioth, Information Technology Lead, Marketing and Creative Services
Andy Pemberton, Internal Communications, Web and Internal Communications (chair)
Mariano Spizzirri, Brand Expression Manager, Marketing and Creative Services
Matt Streb, Chief of Staff to the President; Professor, Department of Political Science
Sophia Vacardos, Graphic Design Manager, Marketing and Creative Services
Rachel Xidis, Associate Director, Web and Internal Communications

Curriculum
Ellen Franklin, Associate Director, First-Year Composition
Chad Glover, Director, Jobs PLUS
Courtney Gallaher, Associate Professor, Department of Geography
Janet Hathaway, Associate Dean, College of Visual and Performing Arts
Michaela Holtz, Director, Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning (co-chair)
Julie Langer, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration
Christine Mooney, Barsema Professor of Social Entrepreneurship, Department of Management
Shanthi Muthusuamy, Associate Professor, Department of Engineering Technology
Andrea Radasanu, Director, University Honors, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science
Laura Vazquez, Professor, Department of Communication (co-chair)
Ralph Wheeler, Chair, Department of Chemistry

Events
Ashley Hines, Nonprofit and NGO Studies and Political Science undergraduate
Meg Junk, Chief of Staff to the Dean of Students, Student Affairs (chair)
Matthew Medwecky, Events Coordinator, Holmes Student Center
John Patten, Residence Hall Association representative, Accounting and Political Science undergraduate
Julie Ann O'Connell, Assistant Director, Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies

Voter Registration
Blanca Barreda, Nursing undergraduate
Doug Johnson, DeKalb County Clerk
Lynne Kunde, DeKalb County Clerk's Office, Election Judge Supervisor
Kira Lavizzo, Health and Human Sciences undergraduate
Sandy Lopez, Coordinator for Undocumented Student Support, Academic Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (chair)
Victor Owoeye, Journalism undergraduate
Ian Pearson, Speaker of the Student Senate, Nonprofit and NGO Studies and Political Science undergraduate
Adriana Aguilar Perez, Sociology undergraduate
Mark Pietrowski, Associate Director, Continuing Professional Education, DeKalb County Board, Chair
Luz Rodriquez, Higher Education and Student Affairs graduate student
Diana Sanchez, Biology undergraduate
Stephanie Salazar, Health and Human Sciences undergraduate
Rubi Salgado, Nonprofit and NGO Studies undergraduate
Scot Schraufnagel, Chair, Department of Political Science

Additional Campus and Community Partners
Academic Advising Center
Career Services
Center for Black Studies
CHANCE
DeKalb County League of Women Voters
Disability Resource Center
Division of Enrollment Management, Marketing, and Communications
Division of Information Technology
Division of Student Affairs
Financial Aid and Scholarship Office
Fraternity and Sorority Life
Gender and Sexuality Resource Center
Office of the Ombudsperson
Office of Student Conduct
Office of the President
Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning
Recreation Services
Residence Hall Association
Student-Athlete Academic Support Services
Student Government Association
University Honors
University Libraries

The membership of the steering committee and subcommittees will implement this plan through the 2020 general election. At that point, a new steering committee and subcommittees will be

convened to develop the 2021-2022 plan. As an initiative of the Office of the President, the president will designate a chair of the steering committee who will work with leaders of shared governance to populate the steering committee and subcommittees. Members of the 2019-2020 steering committee and subcommittees may continue to participate in the development of future plans if they wish.

To meet the short-term and long-term goals outlined above, the following actions will be (or already have been) implemented. This action plan is considered a living, breathing document. Although this is the final plan that will be submitted in advance of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge May 2020 deadline, the plan will continually be updated and adapted to help NIU meet its goals. Most of the actions specifically related to political participation will help the university meet both its short- and long-term goals. Actions that are related more to curriculum or culture will help the university meet its long-term goals. A brief section has been added to address how the university will respond to the potential for the current pandemic to disrupt action plan activities and voting.

General Voter Information

- Launched a new Huskies Vote! website (https://www.niu.edu/huskies-vote/index.shtml) that provides a link to allow students to register to vote and answers frequently asked questions. It also includes information on registration, links to Illinois Board of Elections and DeKalb County Clerk websites, links to candidate websites and a calendar of voter information/registration events.
    - o The website is linked to various university websites, including those for our voter registration partners (see below).
    - o Several short "How To" videos will be placed on the website teaching citizens such things as how to request an absentee ballot and how to register on Election Day.
- Developed a communication and marketing plan
    - o Media interviews (e.g., *Northern Star, Daily Chronicle*, WNIJ, on the Democracy Challenge)
        - ▪ https://northernstar.info/news/administration-encourages-political-engagement-at-luncheon/article_8707acae-04e4-11ea-a5f2-7b3bb8647c1c.html
    - o NIU Today story
        - ▪ https://www.niutoday.info/2019/12/02/niu-launches-all-in-democracy-challenge/?utm_source=PoliteMail&utm_medium=email&utm_content=NIU+Today+-+December+3%2c+2019&utm_campaign=NIU+Today
    - o Use of campus digital signage
    - o Presentations on the plan:
        - ▪ University Council
        - ▪ Student Senate
        - ▪ Presidential Commission on the Status of Women

- - Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)
    - Management team from the Division of Student Affairs
    - Student Experience Team
    - College communications professionals
    - Non-profit and NGO Studies Advisory Board
    - DeKalb County League of Women Voters
    - DeKalb/Sycamore Rotary Clubs
  - Use of #HuskiesVote on social media
- Discussion with 65 English 103 and English 203 instructors about incorporating the Challenge into the classes' curricula.
- Discussion with 29 Communications 100 instructors and teaching assistants about incorporating the Challenge into the classes' curricula.

Voter Registration

- Developed voter registration information materials, specifically aimed at students (see Appendix B)
- Established Campus Voter Registration Partners. The following units are Campus Voter Registration Partners:
  - Academic Advising Center
  - Bursar
  - Campus Activity Board
  - Career Services
  - Center for Black Studies
  - CHANCE
  - Disability Resource Center
  - Fraternity and Sorority Life
  - Gender and Sexuality Resource Center
  - Office of the Ombudsperson
  - Office of Student Conduct
  - Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning
  - Recreation Services
  - Student-Athlete Academic Support Services
  - Student Government Association
  - University Honors
  - University Libraries

  To be a Campus Voter Registration Partner, the unit must have done the following:
  - Voter registration information brochures need to be made accessible to students in a central location (e.g., lobby, main office). If units have digital signage, the information will be added to the slide rotation.
  - Placed a "I can help you register to vote" sign in a visible location.

- At least one staff member from the unit must be trained as a deputy registrar (most had multiple staff members trained).
- Developed a deputy registrar training program
  - Four training sessions took place in November and December of 2019. More than 40 new deputy registrars were trained.
  - Deputy registrars and their contact information are listed on the Huskies Vote website
- Developing voter registration workshops
  - Several of our academic colleges will hold voter registration workshops where students can ask questions regarding voter registration and register to vote. The workshops will be led by campus employees who were trained as deputy registrars.
  - The Division of Intercollegiate Athletics held two voter registration workshops where students could ask questions regarding voter registration and register to vote. The workshops were led by campus employees who were trained as deputy registrars.
- Events to distribute voter registration information and have online voter registration:
  - Resource Center Open Houses (Fall 2019 and Fall 2020)
  - Campus Meets Community Events (Fall 2019 and Fall 2020)
  - President's Welcome Picnic (Fall 2020)
  - Open House and Admitted Student Days (throughout 2019 and 2020)
  - Campus Unity Walk (Fall 2019 and Fall 2020)
  - New Student Orientation (Summer 2020)
  - Student Involvement Fair (Fall 2020)
  - Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day (Spring 2020)
  - Business Passport Program events (all year)
  - Academic cultural centers signature events (all year)
  - STEM Fest (Fall 2019 and Fall 2020)
  - NIU Cares Day (Spring 2020)
  - Heritage Month events (all year)
  - Diversity Dialogue events (all year)
  - Greek 50+1 events (all year)
  - NAACP and Soul-Fully Fridays at the Center for Black Studies (all year)
  - Academic Diversity Center Open House (Fall 2019 and Fall 2020)
  - POWER Retreat (Spring 2020)
  - Breaking Barriers Workshops (all year)
  - Hungry Huskies (all year)
  - CODE trainings (all year)
  - Coming Out of the Shadows (Spring 2020)
- Mission Mondays
  - Mission is our popular live husky mascot who visits various places on campus each Monday. During the Fall 2020 semester, several Mission Mondays will be devoted to voter registration. Mission will have deputy registrars with him who

will assist students in registering, and we will promote and document the event on Mission's popular Twitter and Instagram accounts.

- Permanent voter registration kiosk exists in Founders Memorial Library
- Short videos regarding how to register, why voting matters and other civic engagement topics
  - The videos will be shared on various university social media accounts and placed on the Huskies Vote! website.
- Table tents with voter registration information placed at residence hall and other campus dining venues
- Letter from SGA President and Speaker of the Senate to students encouraging voter registration was sent in January 2020 and will be done again in Fall 2020
  - Going forward, a similar letter will be sent during each midterm and general election year
- Letter from the Dean of Students in her weekly message to students encouraging voter registration was sent in January 2020 and will be done again in Fall 2020
  - Going forward, a similar letter will be sent during each midterm and general election year
- Letter from the Provost encouraging faculty to mention voter registration deadlines and importance of voting in their classes was sent in January 2020 and will be done again in Fall 2020
  - The letter included a link for the civic engagement survey referenced above and encourage faculty to complete it.
  - Going forward, a similar letter will be sent during each midterm and general election year
- Huskies Vote! popup banners were placed in various campus locations.

Voter Education

- Fall 2020 Election Lecture and Debate Series
  - Lecture topics are still being planned, but possible topics include aligning political beliefs with candidates, the importance of voting and the history of political activism at NIU.[14]
  - Debate topics are still being planned, but possibilities include local candidate debates (e.g., state representative, county board) and a debate on the graduated income tax.[15]
- Debate watch parties
  - Watch parties were held at two campus locations for the Democratic presidential primary debate before the March primary.

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[14] 2020 is NIU's 125th anniversary. This event will be held in conjunction with the 125th anniversary celebration.
[15] Illinois voters will decide in November 2020 whether to implement a graduated income tax.

- o Assuming debates will take place during the general election, a watch party will be held in the fall as well.
- o Faculty will give brief comments before the debate to set the context and lead students in a discussion after the debate.
- Tent Talks
    - o Tent talks will occur on a regular basis, possibly monthly. The events will be set up "tent-style" in a different location each month and focus on one "hot topic." Students will be invited to come into the space, enjoy the coffee or donuts and engage in civil discourse with other students about their views.
    - o This event also will serve as an opportunity to talk with students about NIU's policies and procedures around Freedom of Expression.
    - o Topics are still being identified, but possible topics include immigration, abortion, same-sex marriage, gun control laws and First Amendment rights.
- Week of Welcome
    - o A civic engagement session will be added into the new Week of Welcome/ extended orientation program.
    - o All first-time/ first-year students will be expected to attend.
    - o The session will offer on-site voter registration and education on the importance of voting and democratic engagement.
- Created a one-page document for faculty of do's and don'ts when talking about the importance of voting in class (see Appendix C)
- Work with *Northern Star* to encourage local candidates to interview

Mobilization (March and November)

- Huskies Vote! buttons will be handed out at all Democracy Challenge events and to student voters in campus polling precincts.
- Students will be invited to sign "I Pledge to Vote" posters in the Holmes Student Center, Founders Memorial Library and other places around campus.
- Given the likelihood of the impact of COVID-19 on voting in November, an early/absentee voting initiative will be established:
    - o Social media campaign
    - o Tabling in Holmes Student Center and Founders Memorial Library
    - o Absentee voting information Zoom sessions
    - o This initiative will help the university meet its goal of having 50% of students vote early/absentee.
- Voter information center in the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center and the Holmes Student Center on Election Day.
    - o Huskie Service Scholars will help students determine their appropriate voter location and answer questions.

Responding to the COVID-19 Situation

Given the likelihood that COVID-19 might still be prevalent in the fall, NIU has made several changes that will promote political engagement and participation during a pandemic. As of May 2020, events such as tent talks or guest lectures still are scheduled to be in person. However, if the situation requires it, those events can easily be changed to a virtual format. The university will hold virtual voter registration events as well if necessary. In short, most of the action plan can be implemented even if restrictions on in-person gatherings remain.

However, the prevalence of COVID-19 does mean that some adjustments must be made. Because of the potential health concerns associated with crowded polling places on Election Day, NIU has set a goal of increasing the percentage of students who vote early or absentee. The university will conduct programming that will educate students on topics including how to request an absentee ballot and the importance of understanding where students are registered to vote. The Huskies Vote! website will also be updated regularly to provide students with the most recent voting information.

Civic Engagement and Learning

- Created and implemented a survey to help the university capture all civic engagement initiatives and document student participation (https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0wkrl2yr09GFWG9)
    - o Faculty were asked to what kinds of activities they embed in courses as part of an effort to increase students' awareness and their social responsibility regarding civic engagement and to highlight modules, activities, lectures and videos that are used to achieve these goals.
    - o This information will be made available on the Huskies Vote! website and via a Blackboard module to help other faculty develop ideas about promoting civic engagement effectively in their classrooms.
    - o The information will also be used to help develop a new civic engagement faculty fellows program discussed below.
- A new Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows program will be developed
    - o The fellows program will be an initiative of the Office of the President, and will be developed by the president's chief of staff.
    - o This is one of the university's long-term goals to help improve civic engagement and participation.
- A book on the importance of voting (or a related topic) will be considered for the Common Read in the future.
    - o All first-year composition courses and, moving forward, all Communications 100 sections will use the Common Read as a required part of the curriculum.
    - o This is one of the university's long-term goals to help improve civic engagement and participation
- Funding for undergraduate research through the Student Engagement Fund
    - o Undergraduate students and faculty will be able to apply for funding supporting undergraduate research that has a clear connection to civic life. Funding will be able to support compensation for students (up to $1,200 per semester) and

expenses related to the project (up to $2,500). Projects will be highlighted during Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day in the spring semester.

      As we noted, this action plan is a living, breathing document. Activities will be updated if necessary to help achieve the university's short-term and long-term goals. It is easy to evaluate whether the university achieved its goals based on how they were designed. As important is making sure that the actions articulated above are successful in helping the university meet its goals. Most of the actions will be evaluated primarily on the basis of attendance numbers, although some events will provide qualitative feedback based on the engagement and interactions of students in attendance. We will track attendance at events, including how many students were registered at the event and whether they indicated they would vote in the upcoming election. We will also track the number of interactions our deputy registrars and registration partners have with students.

      The subcommittee chairs will review the data collected at the events to evaluate their effectiveness and make any necessary changes. We might find, for example, that certain kinds of marketing and promotion work better to engage students to get them to attend events (and to ultimately register to vote and become informed voters).

Appendix A: NIU NSLVE Reports for 2016 and 2018

NSLVE
NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGAGEMENT

NOVEMBER 2019

2012 & 2016 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for

Northern Illinois University

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

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, 2016 and 2018 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has helped us build a robust database for research on more than 10 million de-identified student records for each election year.

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. IDHE is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and participation in democracy. IDHE researchers study voting, campus conditions for political learning and discussion, closing equity gaps in participation, and increasing student agency and participation. We accomplish our goals through research, resource development, assisting institutions and the higher education community, 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 voted in the 2012 and 2016 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse and publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. We exclude FERPA-blocked records. (For exceptions for campuses with disproportionately high numbers of FERPA blocked students, see our Campus Reports FAQ.)

The institutional voting rates reported on page 3 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 in subsequent pages of the report, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are ineligible to vote: non-resident aliens (international students), resident aliens (undocumented students), and students who have been disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. As a result, your institution's actual voting rate may be higher than we report. If you have access to more complete data for students who are ineligible to vote, you may recalculate your rates by using the Recalculation Tool - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve-recalculation-tool**.

To read more about NSLVE data, see our Campus Reports FAQ - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/frequently-asked-questions.**

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 and identify your challenges and opportunities. This report provides comparisons between subgroups of your students and with similar institutions. For more comparisons or to see national voter registration and voting rates, read our national report, Democracy Counts 2018. To access our data portals - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/public-data-portal-visualizations.**

❑ Share the report widely and strategically by sharing it with institutional leaders, faculty across disciplines, student government leaders, and other student groups.

❑ Read and implement *Election Imperatives,* ten recommendations for providing your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, equity, and participation - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/electionimperatives.**

❑ Work with us. IDHE can help via virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions, coaching, and in-person workshops.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: **https://idhe.tufts.edu/.**

Follow us on Twitter **@TuftsIDHE.**

We appreciate hearing from you! Please email us at **NSLVE@tufts.edu.**

Warm regards,

IDHE Team

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
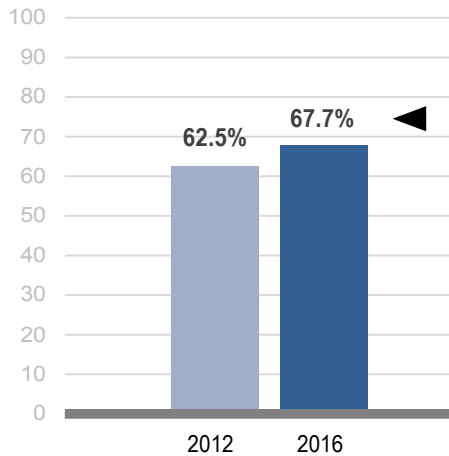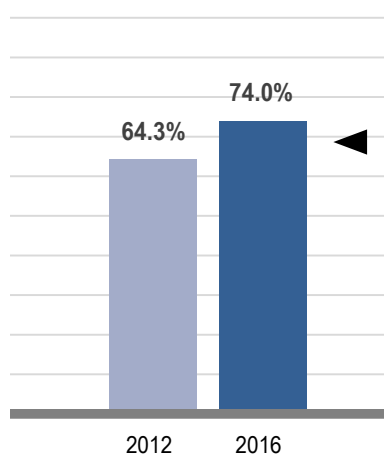
Voting and Registration Rates
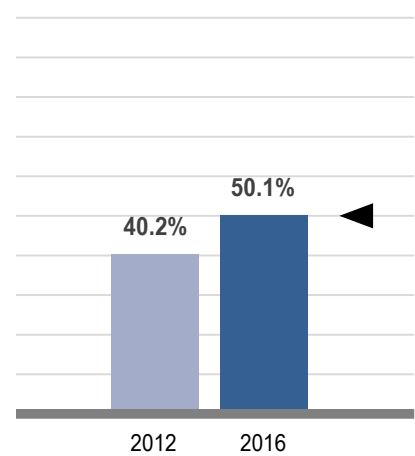
2016 Voting Rate

50.1%

CHANGE
FROM 2012

+9.9

2016 VOTING RATE
FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS

50.6%

Registration Rate

Voting Rate of Registered Students

Voting Rate

◄ All Institutions, 2016

	2012	**2016**		Change
Total student enrollment	**21,800**	**18,535**	⬇	**-3,265**
Age under 18/Unknown	(28)	(21)		
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(654)	(1,074)		
FERPA records blocked	(880)	(498)		
Total eligible voters	**20,238**	**16,942**	⬇	**-3,296**
Number of students who registered	12,656	11,467	⬇	**-1,189**
Number of students who voted	8,138	8,483	⬆	**345**
Registration rate	62.5%	67.7%	⬆	**5.1**
Voting rate of registered students	64.3%	74.0%	⬆	**9.7**
Voting rate	40.2%	50.1%	⬆	**9.9**
Difference from all institutions	**-7.4**	**-0.5**		

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Carnegie Classification

2012 Voting Rate for All Institutions

47.6%

| HIGH 75.65% |
| LOW 19.35% |

Difference from All Institutions   **-7.4**

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions

50.6%

| HIGH 81.35% |
| LOW 13.12% |

Difference from All Institutions   **-0.5**

	Your Institution	Research Institutions	Public Research Institutions	Private Research Institutions
2012	40.2%	47.8%	48.2%	46.8%
2016	50.1%	52.3%	52.0%	52.9%
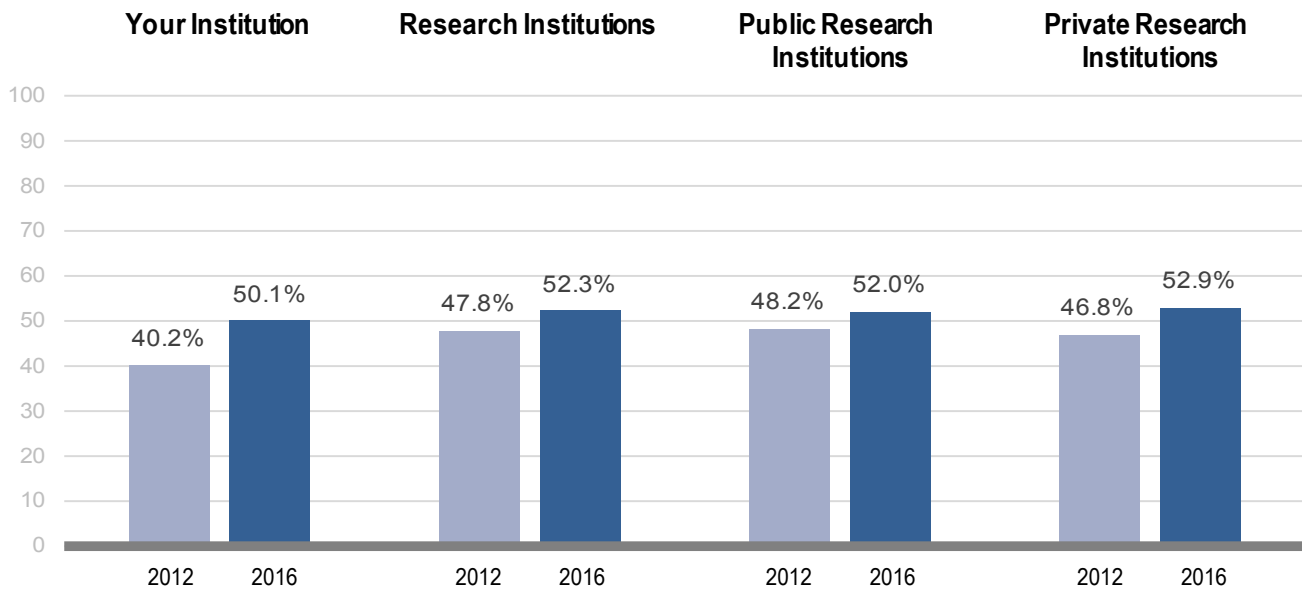
By Voting Method*
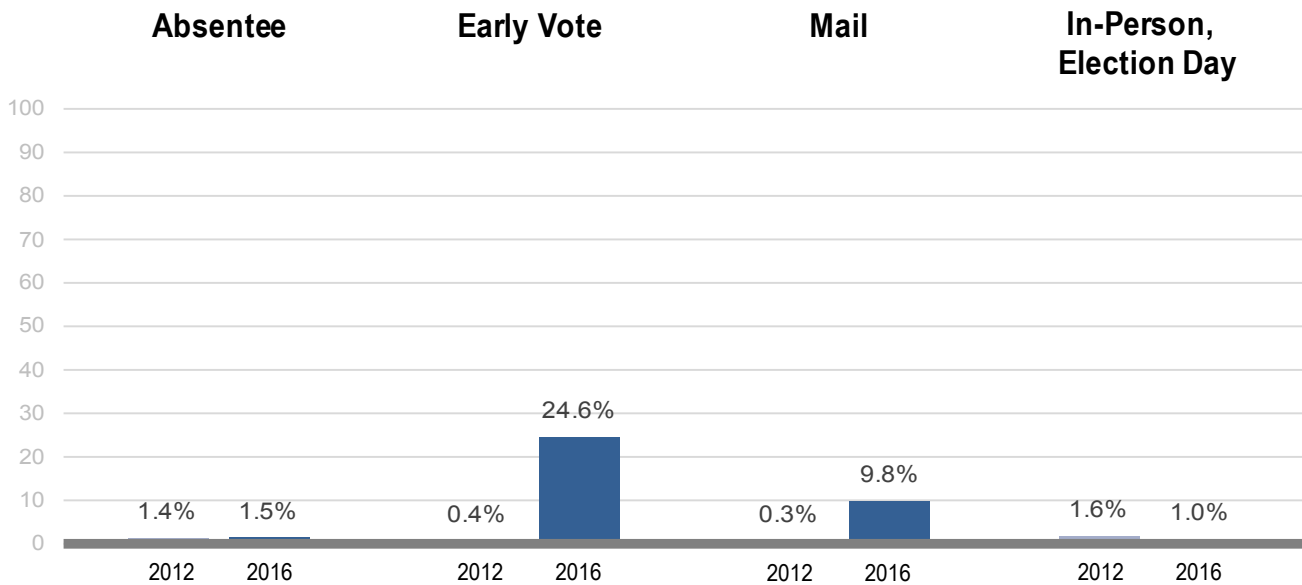
	2012			2016			
	Voted	Rate		Voted	Rate		Change
Absentee	113	**1.4%**		124	**1.5%**	⬆	0.1
Early Vote	29	**0.4%**		2,084	**24.6%**	⬆	24.2
Mail	20	**0.3%**		835	**9.8%**	⬆	9.6
In-Person, Election Day	133	**1.6%**		85	**1.0%**	⬇	-0.6
Unknown	7,843	**96.4%**		5,355	**63.1%**		
Total	**8,138**			**8,483**			

* 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 officals where your students voted.

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

By Age Group*
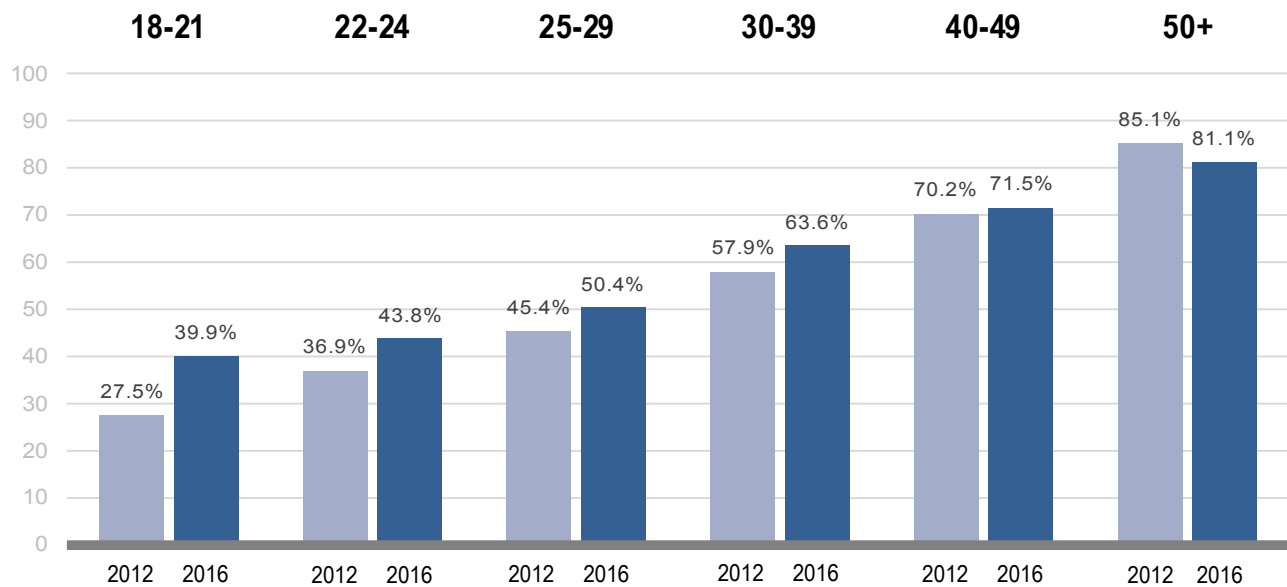
	2012				**2016**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
18-21	8,983	2,468	**27.5%**		7,578	3,027	**39.9%**	⬆	**12.5**
22-24	5,363	1,977	**36.9%**		4,791	2,098	**43.8%**	⬆	**6.9**
25-29	2,876	1,305	**45.4%**		2,728	1,375	**50.4%**	⬆	**5.0**
30-39	2,140	1,239	**57.9%**		1,765	1,122	**63.6%**	⬆	**5.7**
40-49	1,027	721	**70.2%**		774	553	**71.5%**	⬆	**1.3**
50+	503	428	**85.1%**		380	308	**81.1%**	⬇	**-4.0**
Unknown	0				0				

* 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*

Undergraduate
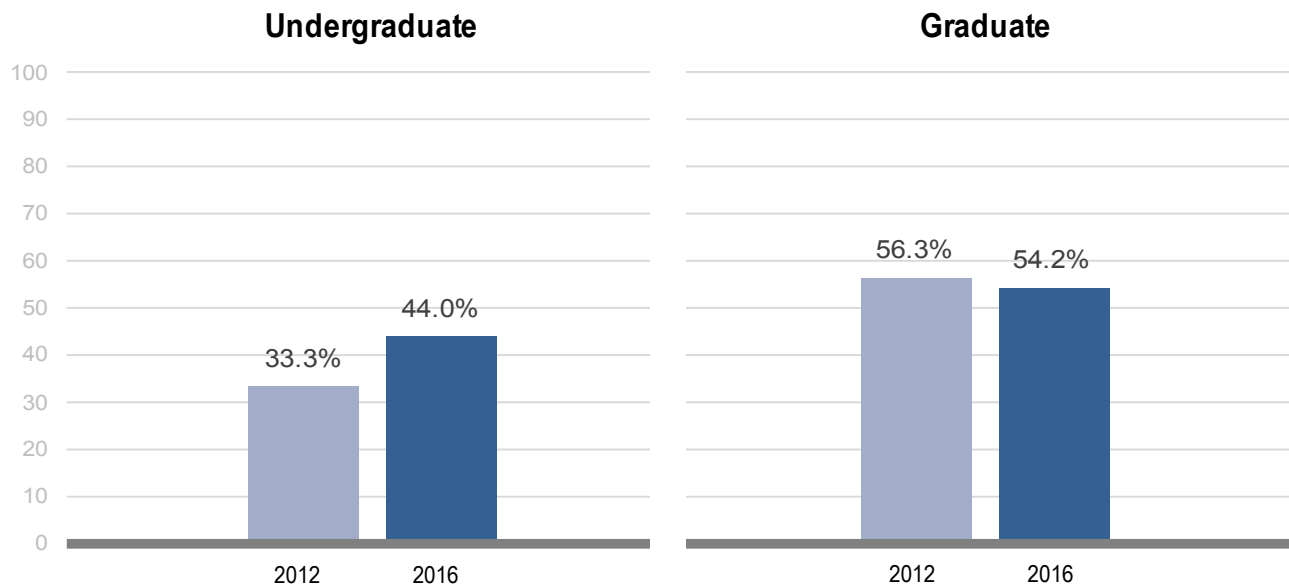
Graduate

	2012			**2016**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Undergraduate	15,745	5,241	**33.3%**	12,805	5,632	**44.0%**	⬆	**10.7**
Graduate	5,145	2,896	**56.3%**	4,042	2,190	**54.2%**	⬇	**-2.1**
Unknown		*		1,169				

* 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*
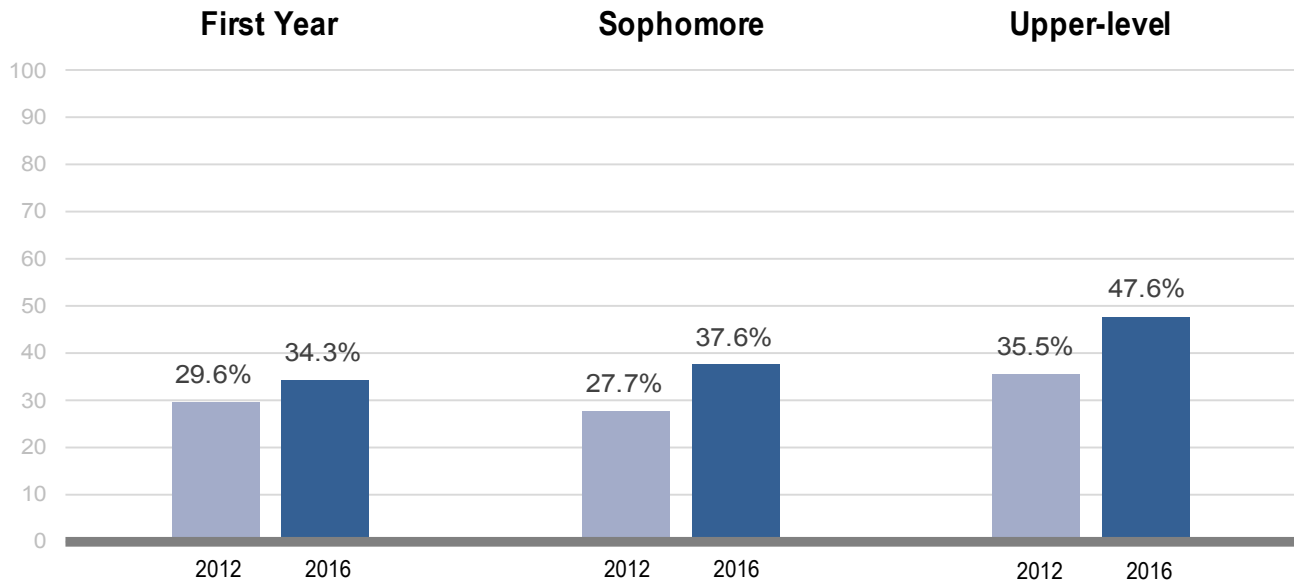
	2012			**2016**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
First Year	5,369	1,589	**29.6%**	2,199	755	**34.3%**	⬆	4.7
Sophomore	2,025	560	**27.7%**	2,184	820	**37.6%**	⬆	9.9
Upper-level	7,105	2,523	**35.5%**	7,396	3,517	**47.6%**	⬆	12.0

* 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.

By Enrollment Status*
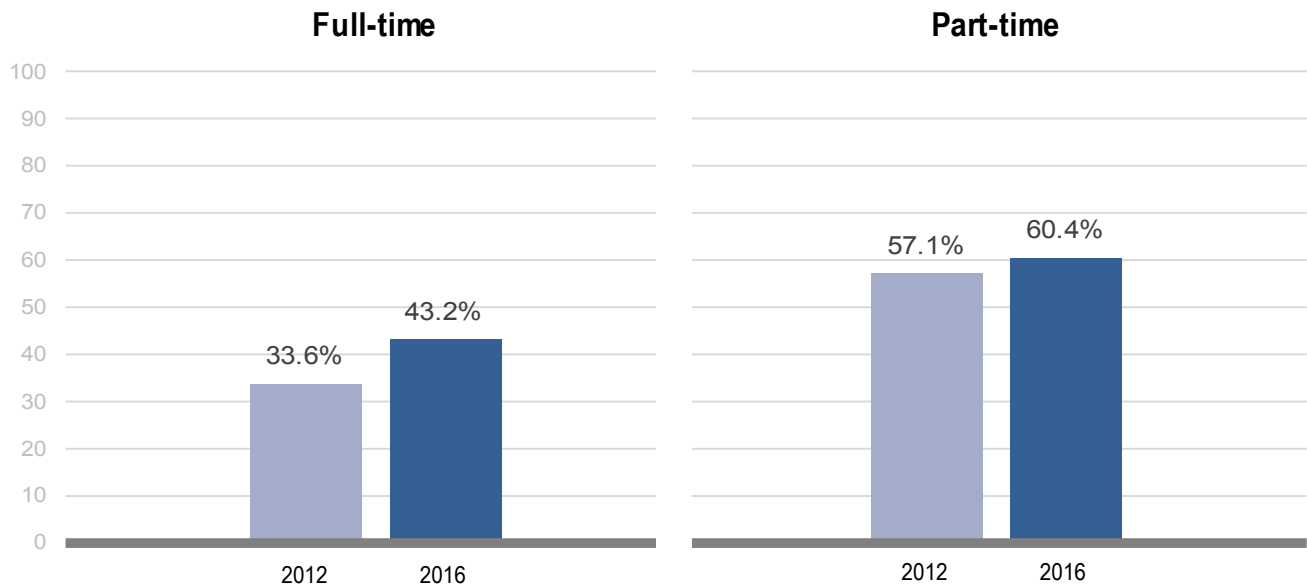
Full-time

Part-time

	2012				**2016**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Full-time	16,105	5,404	**33.6%**		13,956	6,030	**43.2%**	⬆	9.7
Part-time	4,787	2,734	**57.1%**		4,060	2,453	**60.4%**	⬆	3.3
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.

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	
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	624	217	34.8%	597	267	44.7% ⬆	9.9
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,214	1,054	32.8%	3,149	1,343	42.7% ⬆	9.9
Communication and Journalism	574	210	36.6%	774	355	45.9% ⬆	9.3
Computer and Information Sciences	239	47	19.7%	695	259	37.3% ⬆	17.6
Education	2,224	1,153	51.8%	2,028	1,160	57.2% ⬆	5.4
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	1,364	385	28.2%	1,663	638	38.4% ⬆	10.1
English Language and Literature	457	216	47.3%	330	191	57.9% ⬆	10.6
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	411	173	42.1%	310	127	41.0% ⬇	-1.1
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	147	51	34.7%	113	63	55.8% ⬆	21.1
Health Professions	2,667	1,055	39.6%	2,115	998	47.2% ⬆	7.6
History	355	172	48.5%	218	124	56.9% ⬆	8.4
Legal Professions and Studies	321	173	53.9%	247	166	67.2% ⬆	13.3
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	193	101	52.3%	1,430	710	49.7% ⬇	-2.7
Mathematics and Statistics	336	145	43.2%	261	119	45.6% ⬆	2.4
Natural Resources and Conservation	63	21	33.3%	121	71	58.7% ⬆	25.4
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	302	79	26.2%	396	119	30.1% ⬆	3.9
Philosophy and Religious Studies	57	26	45.6%	49	27	55.1% ⬆	9.5
Physical Sciences	512	180	35.2%	447	221	49.4% ⬆	14.3
Psychology	966	348	36.0%	843	382	45.3% ⬆	9.3
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	114	75	65.8%	187	125	66.8% ⬆	1.1
Social Sciences	1,032	436	42.3%	874	431	49.3% ⬆	7.1
Visual and Performing Arts	988	356	36.0%	728	368	50.6% ⬆	14.5
Other	12	*	n/a	10	*	n/a	n/a
Unknown	3,720	1,463	39.3%	431	213	49.4% ⬆	10.1

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. (2019). *2012 and 2016 report for _____ [name of institution].* Medford, MA.

Follow us: 🐦 **@TuftsIDHE**

Contact us:
Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:
National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement
Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155
NSLVE@tufts.edu | 617-627-0620

INSTITUTE FOR
DEMOCRACY &
HIGHER EDUCATION

NSLVE
NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER 2019

2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for

Northern Illinois University

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

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, 2016 and 2018 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has helped us build a robust database for research on more than 10 million de-identified student records for each election year.

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. IDHE is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and participation in democracy. IDHE researchers study voting, campus conditions for political learning and discussion, closing equity gaps in participation, and increasing student agency and participation. We accomplish our goals through research, resource development, assisting institutions and the higher education community, 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 voted in the 2014 and 2018 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse and publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. We exclude FERPA-blocked records. (For exceptions for campuses with disproportionately high numbers of FERPA blocked students, see our Campus Reports FAQ.)

The institutional voting rates reported on page 3 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 in subsequent pages of the report, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are ineligible to vote: non-resident aliens (international students), resident aliens (undocumented students), and students who have been disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. As a result, your institution's actual voting rate may be higher than we report. If you have access to more complete data for students who are ineligible to vote, you may recalculate your rates by using the Recalculation Tool - https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve-recalculation-tool.

To read more about NSLVE data, see our Campus Reports FAQ - https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/frequently-asked-questions.

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 and identify your challenges and opportunities. This report provides comparisons between subgroups of your students and with similar institutions. For more comparisons or to see national voter registration and voting rates, read our national report, Democracy Counts 2018. To access our data portals - https://idhe.tufts.edu/public-data-portal-visualizations.

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Warm regards,

IDHE Team

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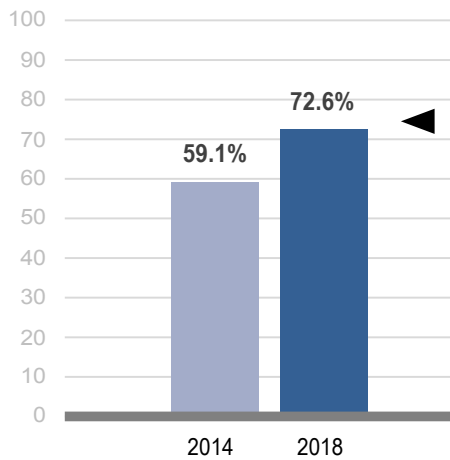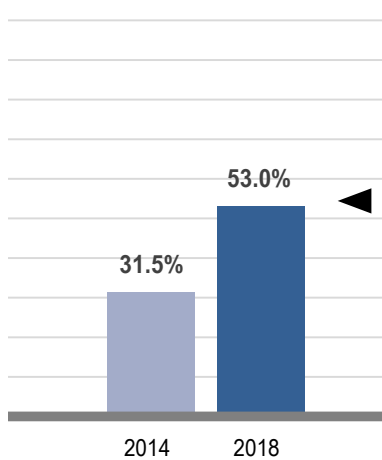
Voting and Registration Rates
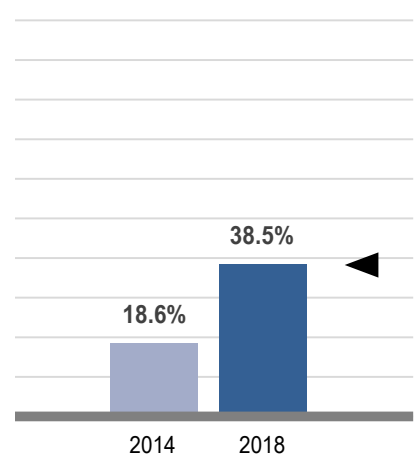
2018 Voting Rate
38.5%

CHANGE FROM 2014
+19.9

2018 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS
39.1%

Registration Rate

Voting Rate of Registered Students

Voting Rate

◀ All Institutions, 2018

	2014	**2018**		Change
Total student enrollment	20,679	16,499	⬇	-4,180
Age under 18/Unknown	(26)	(17)		
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(1,054)	(852)		
FERPA records blocked	(729)	(284)		
Total eligible voters	18,870	15,346	⬇	-3,524
Number of students who registered	11,153	11,143	⬇	-10
Number of students who voted	3,515	5,907	⬆	2,392
Registration rate	59.1%	72.6%	⬆	13.5
Voting rate of registered students	31.5%	53.0%	⬆	21.5
Voting rate	18.6%	38.5%	⬆	19.9
Difference from all institutions	-1.1	-0.6		

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Carnegie Classification

2014 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 54.0%
19.7%	LOW 1.5%

Difference from All Institutions   **-1.1**

2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 64.1%
39.1%	LOW 11.5%

Difference from All Institutions   **-0.6**

	Your Institution	Research Institutions	Public Research Institutions	Private Research Institutions
2014	18.6%	19.5%	19.6%	17.6%
2018	38.5%	41.2%	40.8%	42.5%

By Voting Method*

Absentee	Early Vote	Mail	In-Person, Election Day
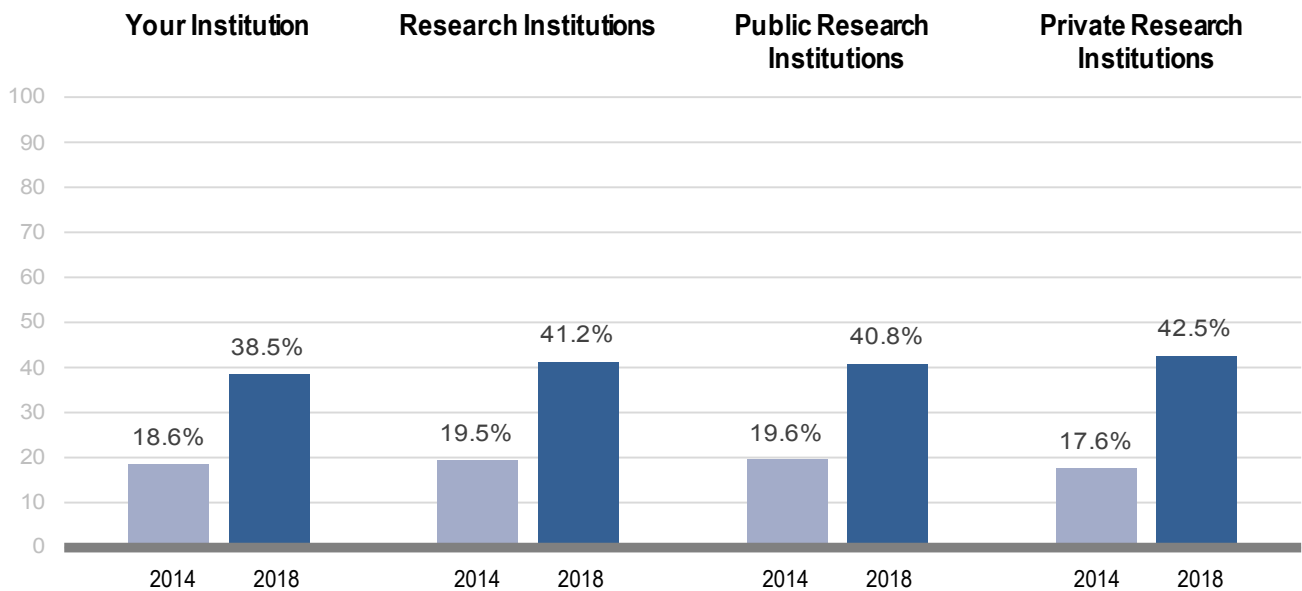
2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018
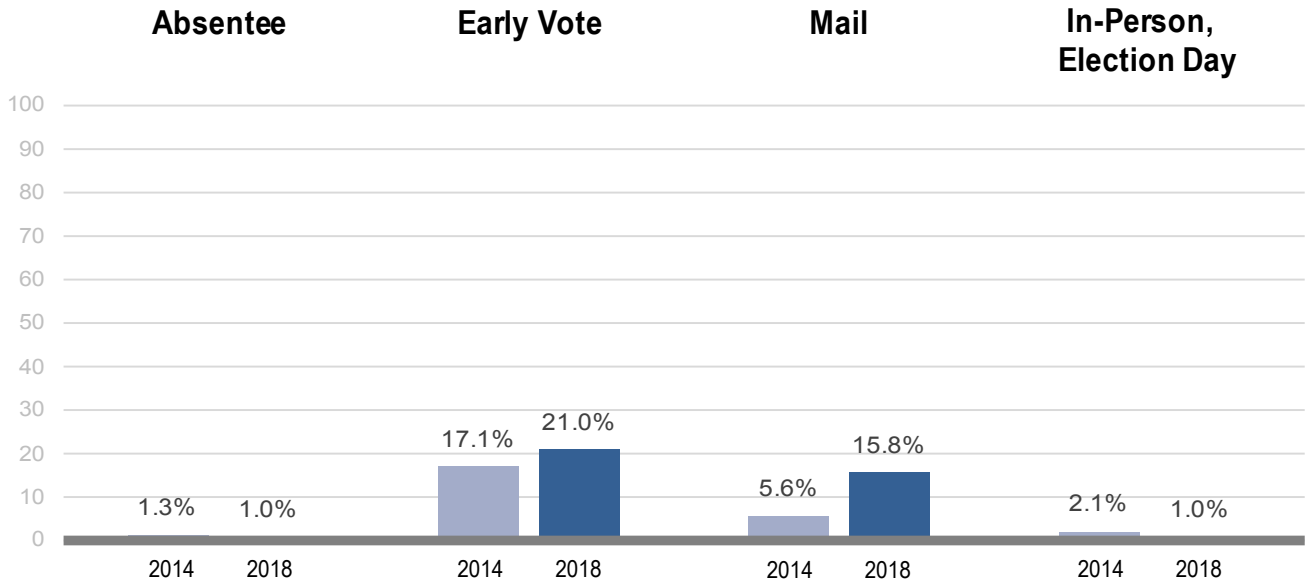
	2014			2018			
	Voted	Rate		Voted	Rate		Change
Absentee	46	**1.3%**		60	**1.0%**	⬇	-0.3
Early Vote	602	**17.1%**		1,238	**21.0%**	⬆	3.8
Mail	198	**5.6%**		932	**15.8%**	⬆	10.2
In-Person, Election Day	72	**2.1%**		61	**1.0%**	⬇	-1.0
Unknown	2,597	**73.9%**		3,616	**61.2%**		
Total	**3,515**			**5,907**			

* 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 officals where your students voted.

By Age Group*
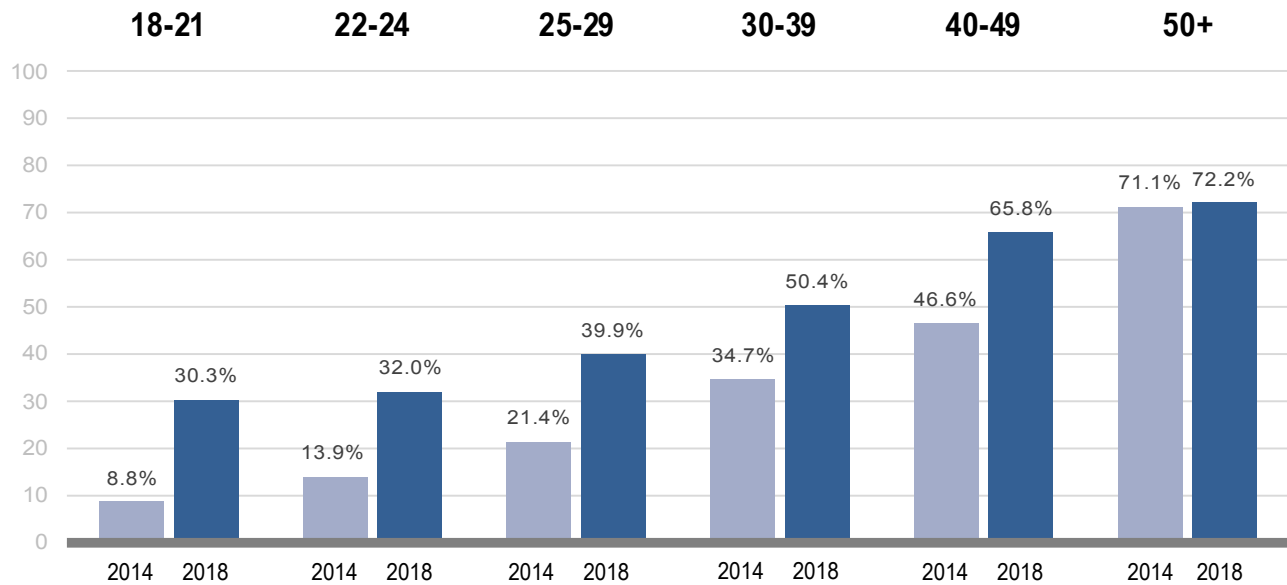
	2014			**2018**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
18-21	8,479	742	**8.8%**	6,783	2,052	**30.3%**	⬆	**21.5**
22-24	5,218	725	**13.9%**	4,496	1,438	**32.0%**	⬆	**18.1**
25-29	2,870	613	**21.4%**	2,321	927	**39.9%**	⬆	**18.6**
30-39	2,022	702	**34.7%**	1,561	786	**50.4%**	⬆	**15.6**
40-49	882	411	**46.6%**	695	457	**65.8%**	⬆	**19.2**
50+	453	322	**71.1%**	342	247	**72.2%**	⬆	**1.1**
Unknown	0			0				

* 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.

By Education Level*

Undergraduate
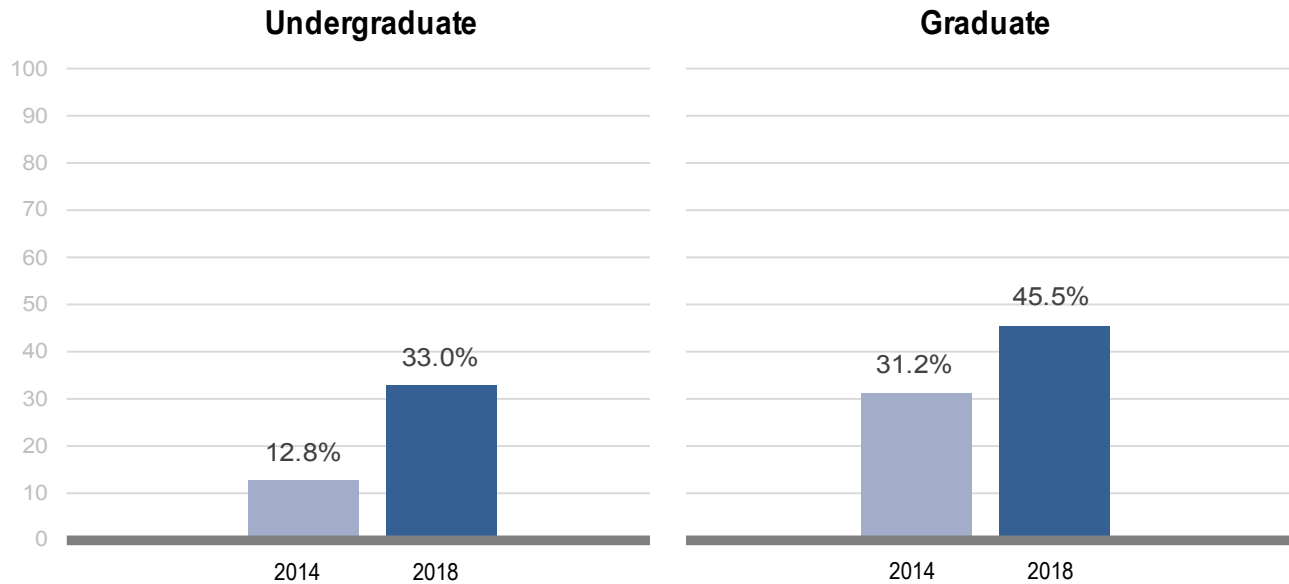
Graduate

	2014			**2018**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Undergraduate	14,078	1,797	**12.8%**	11,914	3,933	**33.0%**	⬆	**20.3**
Graduate	4,954	1,545	**31.2%**	3,729	1,696	**45.5%**	⬆	**14.3**
Unknown	892			555				

* 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.

By Undergraduate Class Year*
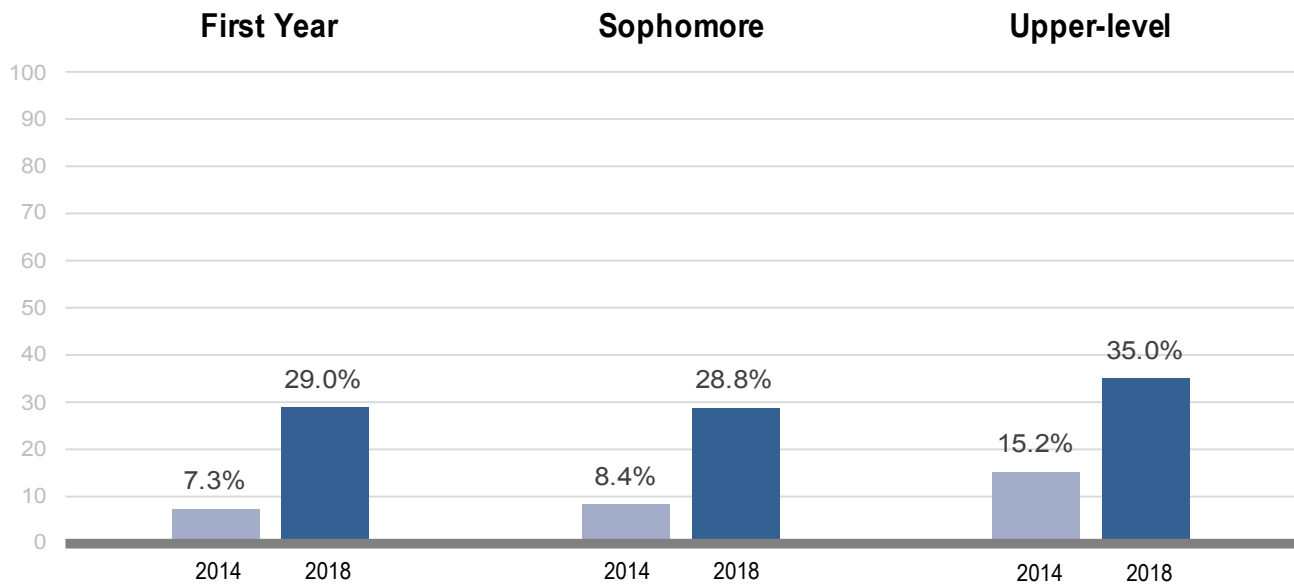
	2014				**2018**				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
First Year	2,876	209	**7.3%**		2,240	649	**29.0%**	⬆	**21.7**
Sophomore	2,405	202	**8.4%**		1,721	496	**28.8%**	⬆	**20.4**
Upper-level	9,230	1,403	**15.2%**		6,434	2,253	**35.0%**	⬆	**19.8**

* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Enrollment Status*
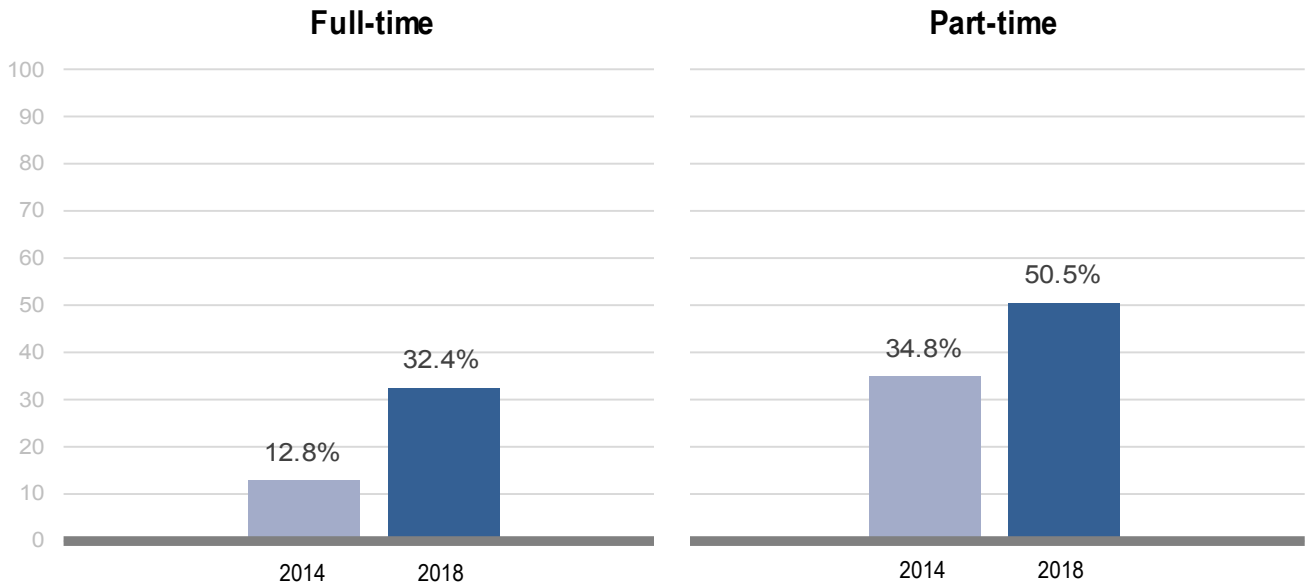
Full-time

Part-time

	2014			**2018**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Full-time	15,522	1,983	**12.8%**	12,575	4,079	**32.4%**	⬆	**19.7**
Part-time	4,402	1,532	**34.8%**	3,623	1,828	**50.5%**	⬆	**15.7**
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.
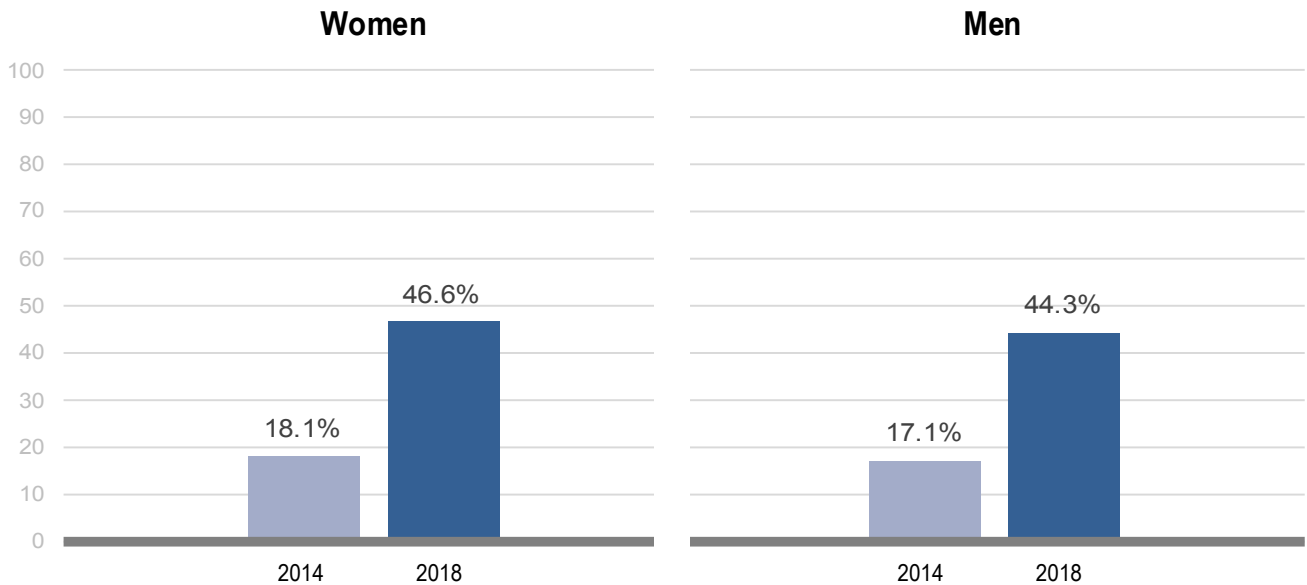
By Gender*

	2014			**2018**				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
Women	10,020	1,817	**18.1%**	879	410	**46.6%**	⬆	28.5
Men	9,889	1,693	**17.1%**	770	341	**44.3%**	⬆	27.2
Unknown	15			14,549				

* 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.

By Race/Ethnicity*
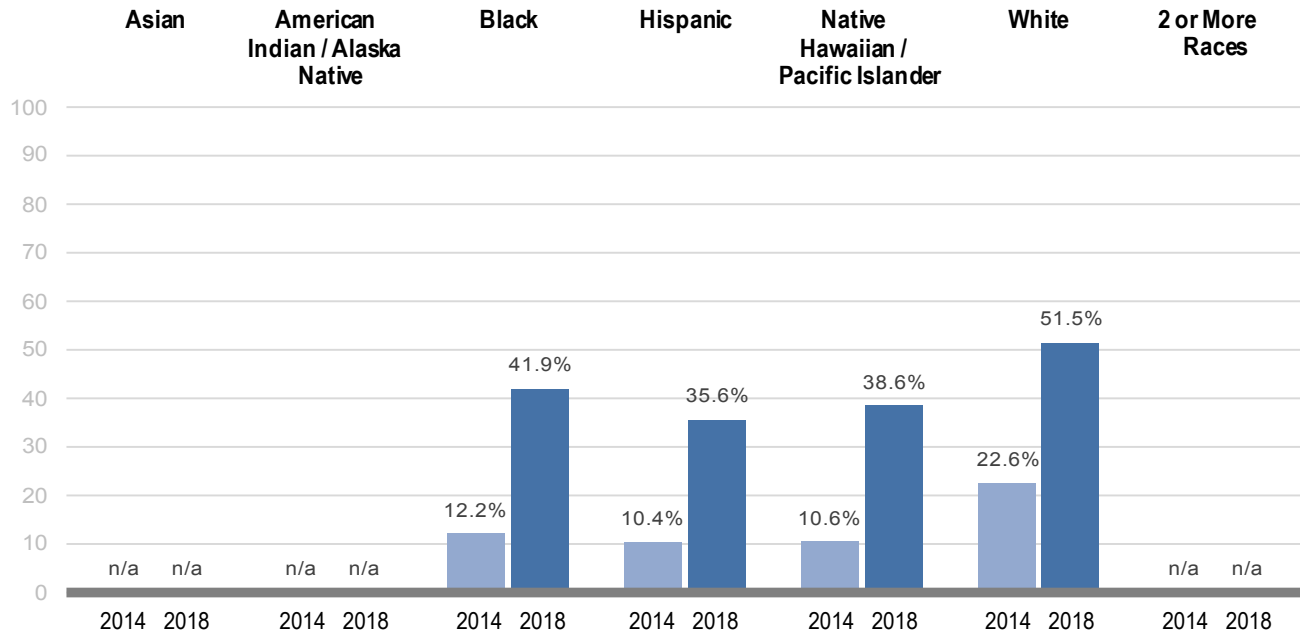
	2014			**2018**				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Asian	0	0	**n/a**	0	0	**n/a**		**n/a**
American Indian/ Alaska Native	27	*	**n/a**	0	0	**n/a**		**n/a**
Black	2,513	306	**12.2%**	246	103	**41.9%**	⬆	**29.7**
Hispanic	1,227	127	**10.4%**	104	37	**35.6%**	⬆	**25.2**
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	793	84	**10.6%**	57	22	**38.6%**	⬆	**28.0**
White	11,763	2,656	**22.6%**	940	484	**51.5%**	⬆	**28.9**
2 or More Races	0	0	**n/a**	0	0	**n/a**		**n/a**
Unknown	3,601			14,851				

* 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. For this page, we consider international students of unknown race/ethnicity.

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.

	2014			**2018**			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	678	84	**12.4%**	535	186	34.8% ⬆	**22.4**
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,176	473	**14.9%**	2,736	790	28.9% ⬆	**14.0**
Communication and Journalism	859	113	**13.2%**	573	188	32.8% ⬆	**19.7**
Computer and Information Sciences	765	84	**11.0%**	813	232	28.5% ⬆	**17.6**
Education	1,841	583	**31.7%**	1,983	902	45.5% ⬆	**13.8**
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	1,695	224	**13.2%**	1,504	460	30.6% ⬆	**17.4**
English Language and Literature	380	90	**23.7%**	306	159	52.0% ⬆	**28.3**
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	322	47	**14.6%**	361	104	28.8% ⬆	**14.2**
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	117	24	**20.5%**	101	40	39.6% ⬆	**19.1**
Health Professions	3,041	438	**14.4%**	2,139	734	34.3% ⬆	**19.9**
History	283	85	**30.0%**	217	115	53.0% ⬆	**23.0**
Legal Professions and Studies	264	90	**34.1%**	243	121	49.8% ⬆	**15.7**
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	194	49	**25.3%**	822	336	40.9% ⬆	**15.6**
Mathematics and Statistics	297	53	**17.9%**	233	88	37.8% ⬆	**19.9**
Natural Resources and Conservation	106	15	**14.2%**	109	66	60.6% ⬆	**46.4**
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	370	41	**11.1%**	350	79	22.6% ⬆	**11.5**
Philosophy and Religious Studies	45	*	**n/a**	46	17	37.0%	**n/a**
Physical Sciences	509	75	**14.7%**	384	140	36.5% ⬆	**21.7**
Psychology	921	132	**14.3%**	736	281	38.2% ⬆	**23.9**
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	140	54	**38.6%**	144	89	61.8% ⬆	**23.2**
Social Sciences	1,007	179	**17.8%**	765	328	42.9% ⬆	**25.1**
Visual and Performing Arts	831	112	**13.5%**	728	278	38.2% ⬆	**24.7**
Other	12	*	**n/a**	10	*	**n/a**	**n/a**

Unknown	2,071	458	**22.1%**		360	171	**47.5%** ⬆	**25.4**

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. (2019). *2014 and 2018 report for _____[name of institution]*. Medford, MA.

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Contact us:
Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:
National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement
Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155
NSLVE@tufts.edu | 617-627-0620

INSTITUTE FOR
DEMOCRACY &
HIGHER EDUCATION

Appendix B: Voter Registration Materials

HUSKIES VOTE

2020 Election

Your voice. Your vote.

go.niu.edu/Huskies-Vote

Northern Illinois University

NIU

Your voice. Your vote.
Are you registered to vote in DeKalb County?

You'll need the following information to check your voter registration status:

- Five digit ZIP code for where you believe you are registered to vote (DeKalb's ZIP code is 60115).
- Street name and number.
- Your date of birth.

You'll need the following information to complete online voter registration:

- Your Illinois driver's license or state ID.
- Issue date of your identification.
- Last four digits of your Social Security number.
- Your date of birth.

Check your status and register to vote online by visiting:

go.niu.edu/Huskies-Vote

HUSKIES
V🐾TE
2020
Election

HUSKIES VOTE 2020 Election

Northern Illinois University

Your voice. Your vote.
Visit **go.niu.edu/Huskies-Vote** for information about voter registration, the candidates running for office in the 2020 election and civic engagement opportunities on campus.

HUSKIES VOTE

2020 Election

Northern Illinois University

Your voice. Your vote.

I can help you register to vote.

Visit **go.niu.edu/Huskies-Vote** for information about voter registration, the candidates running for office in the 2020 election and civic engagement opportunities on campus.

HUSKIES VOTE

2020 Election

Your voice. Your vote.

Visit **go.niu.edu/Huskies-Vote** for information about voter registration, the candidates running for office in the 2020 election and civic engagement opportunities on campus.

HUSKIES VOTE

2020 Election

Your voice. Your vote.

Visit **go.nlu.edu/Huskies-Vote** for information about voter registration, the candidates running for office in the 2020 election and civic engagement opportunities on campus.
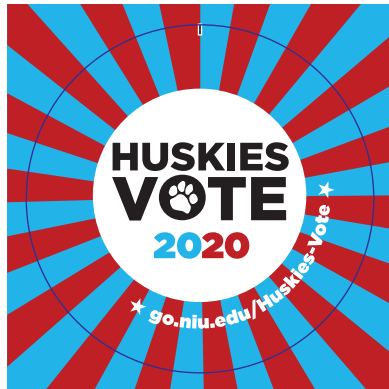
Appendix C: All IN Democracy Challenge - Faculty/Staff Information Sheet

NIU is engaged in the All In Democracy Challenge program that seeks to enhance student involvement in voter education, registration and mobilization. This is a nonpartisan effort and all discussion with students should be framed in terms of civic responsibility. Students should not be encouraged to vote for any particular candidate nor join any party.

Here are some suggestions for promoting civil discourse on these emotionally laden issues — most of which, unsurprisingly, echo good general classroom practice:
- Don't feel you need to be a political expert, knowing all the answers with perfect responses.
- Remember that your role is to get students talking and thinking, not to lead them toward a particular political viewpoint or electoral outcome.
- Consider having a couple of students facilitate the conversation with you.
- You may supply information, context and sources for further inquiry, but you are mainly providing an environment where all in the classroom are respected. Let the students take the lead as much as possible. Encourage them to listen, hear each other's perspectives and work to understand the experience that generates these perspectives. These resources might be helpful with incorporating these conversations in your classes: CEEP Faculty Guide, Living Room Conversations, Allsides.
- When discussing where candidates stand on key issues of interest to students, be accurate and fair, whatever your personal views. Feel free to use the following nonpartisan candidate and issues guides.

If students wish to register to vote, they can contact:
- Deputy registrars at NIU listed on Huskies Vote website (https://www.niu.edu/huskies-vote/index.shtml)
- DeKalb County Registrar: 815-895-7147 or email elections@dekalbcounty.org

Those with valid Illinois driver's licenses or State IDs can visit the state's website and register to vote online https://ova.elections.il.gov/

The registration period for the online voter registration system will close at 11:59 p.m. March 1, 2020, and will reopen March 19, 2020.

To Vote in Illinois
- You must be a United States citizen.
- You must be 17 on or before the date of the Primary Election and turn 18 on or before the date of the General or Consolidated Election.
- You must live in your election precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day.
- You must not be serving a sentence of confinement in any penal institution as a result of a conviction.
- You may not claim the right to vote anywhere else.