



October 2021

# Student Voting Rates for Owens Community College

2020 NSLVE Campus Report



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INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY  
& HIGHER EDUCATION

**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.

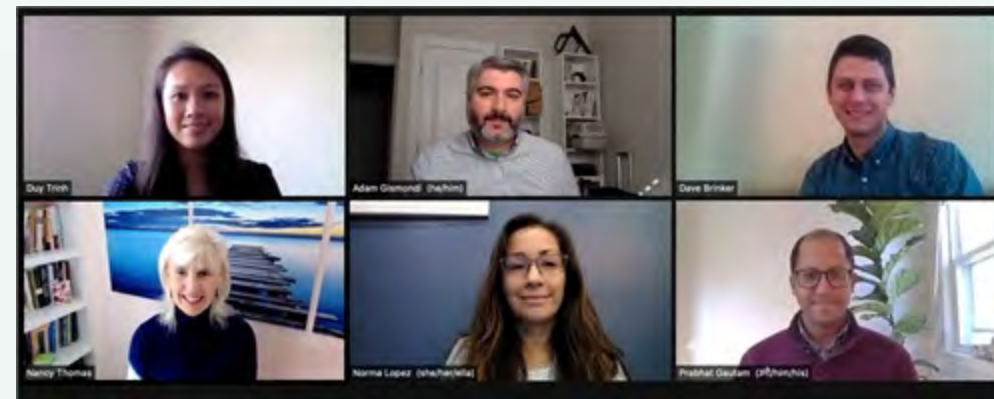
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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.



**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 2020.

	2014			2018			2014-2018 Change (p.p.)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
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.



**Overlapping Donut Chart**

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 10), with the outer ring showing your campus method utilization and the inner ring showing the national breakdown. These are described in percentages.

# Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

55.7%

2020 Voting Rate

+3.0

Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Rate
2016	77.2%
2018	73.7%
2020	79.0%

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

Year	Rate
2016	68.2%
2018	42.6%
2020	70.5%

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

Year	Rate
2016	52.7%
2018	31.4%
2020	55.7%

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.)
Total Student Enrollment	8,571	7,868	6,090	↓ -2,481
(Age under 18/Unknown)	35	42	50	↑ 15
(NSC reported non-resident aliens)	69	103	51	↓ -18
(FERPA records blocked)	131	100	58	↓ -73
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	-	-	-	-
Total eligible voters	8,336	7,623	5,931	↓ -2,405
Number of students who registered	6,438	5,616	4,683	↓ -1,755
Number of students who voted	4,392	2,392	3,302	↓ -1,090
Registration Rate %	77	74	79	↑ 2
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	68	43	71	↑ 2
Voting Rate %	53	31	56	↑ 3

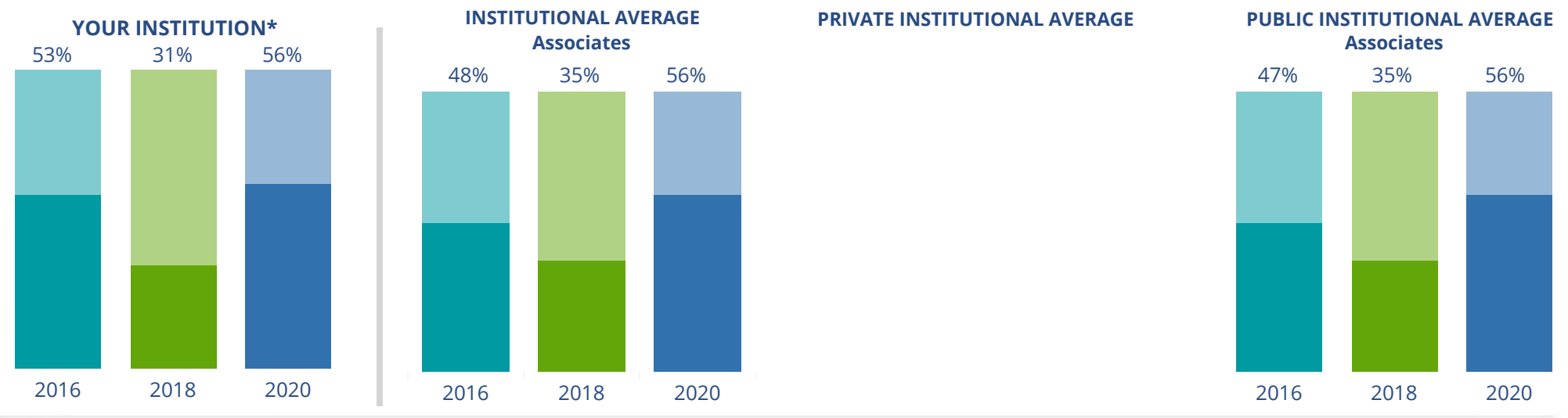
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates.** The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

We have removed non-resident aliens (international students) based on your institution's enrollment submission to the National Student Clearinghouse. This is indicated by "NSC reported non-resident aliens" on this page.

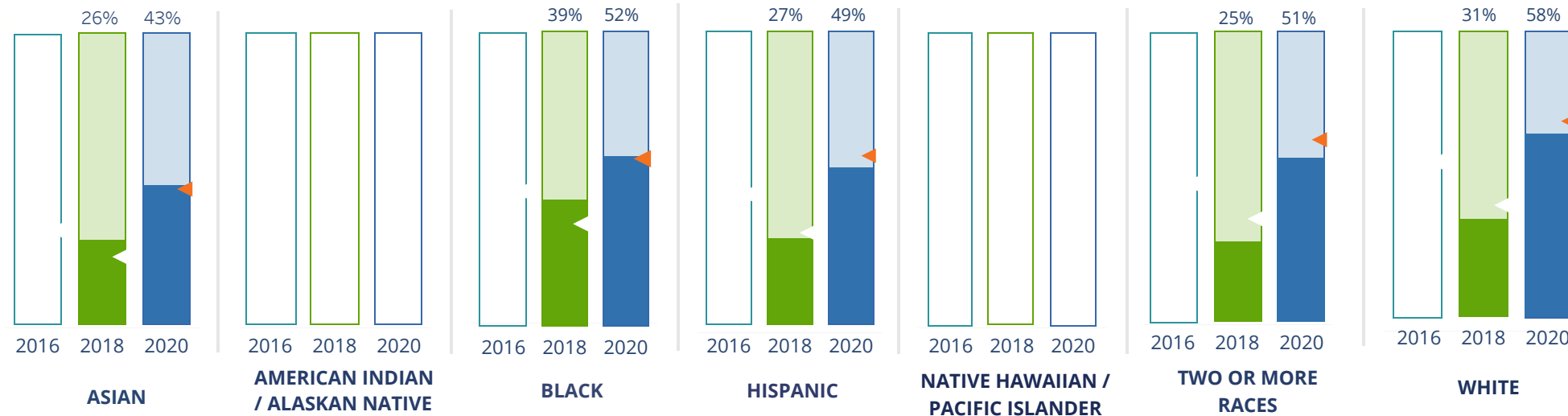
# By Institution Types



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-nsve-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

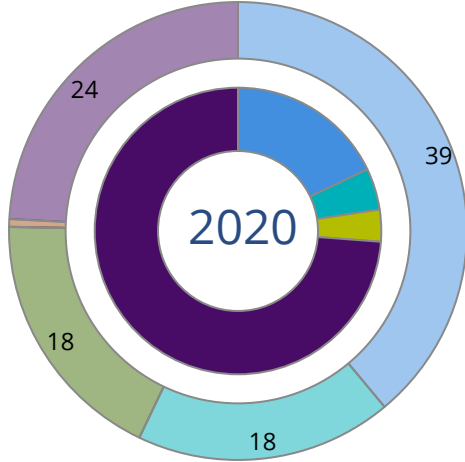
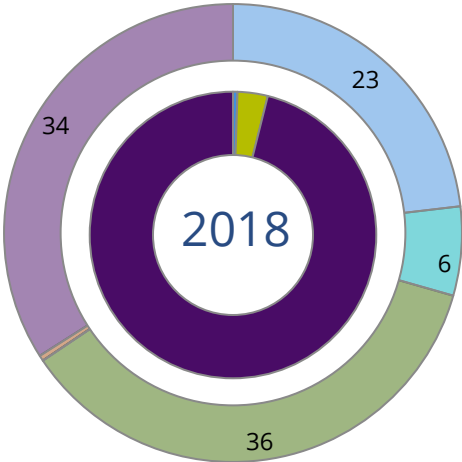
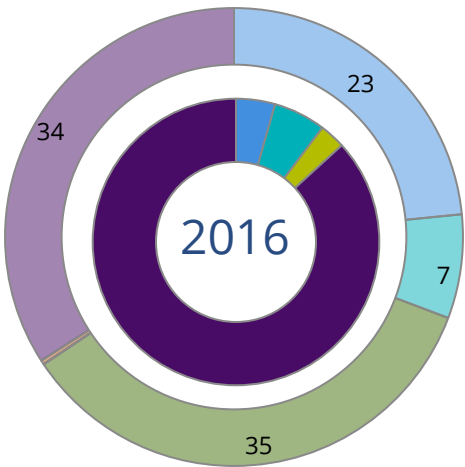
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates.** We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your 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	-	-	-	80	21	26	74	32	43	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	20	-	-	13	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	733	284	39	558	291	52	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	600	160	27	487	236	48	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	211	53	25	173	89	51	-
White	-	-	-	5,593	1,742	31	4,446	2,571	58	-
Race Unknown	8,397	4,392	52	470	125	27	174	73	42	↓ -10



# 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	259	6	–	–	154	5	-1	↓
In-Person on Election Day	129	3	81	3	120	4	1	↑
Not-In-Person	193	4	12	1	590	18	14	↑
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Provisional	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Voting Method Unknown	3,811	87	2,298	96	2,438	74	-13	↓

These are estimated rates for vote method utilization, the number of students utilizing each method, and the percent of students utilizing each method. Not all U.S. states provide information on vote method; voting method for voter files from these states are classified “Voting Method Unknown.” For a list of these states, see our FAQ. <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nsive/nsive-faq#CampusReports>

# By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	49%	28%	56%
22-24	47%	27%	54%
25-29	49%	28%	48%
30-39	58%	34%	59%
40-49	65%	46%	69%
50+	78%	63%	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	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
18-21	3,061	1,508	49	2,821	792	28	2,351	1,310	56	↑	6
22-24	1,534	728	47	1,411	388	27	1,018	549	54	↑	6
25-29	1,544	763	49	1,476	407	28	1,112	538	48	↓	-1
30-39	1,429	822	58	1,279	431	34	1,003	590	59	↑	1
40-49	580	377	65	494	229	46	337	232	69	↑	4
50+	249	194	78	232	145	63	110	83	75	↓	-2

# Looking Closer

## By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	3,545	1,114	31	2,998	1,671	56	-
Male	-	-	-	4,166	1,278	31	2,931	1,631	56	-

**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)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	8,082	4,219	52	7,559	2,339	31	5,695	3,164	56	↑	3
Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Class Unknown	315	173	55	154	53	34	236	138	58	↑	4
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	4,613	49	2,240	4,390	27	1,197	3,254	52	1,694	↑	4
Second Year	3,783	57	2,151	3,316	36	1,193	2,672	60	1,606	↑	3
Upper Level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	-	-	-	2,260	664	29	1,856	1,062	57	-	-
Part-time	-	-	-	5,453	1,728	32	4,075	2,240	55	-	-

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 RateChange (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	74	44	59	87	28	32	58	32	55	 -4
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,156	590	51	843	259	31	526	287	55	 4
Communication and Journalism	55	33	60	33	13	39	12	-	-	-
Communications Technologies/Technicians	-	-	-	21	-	-	31	16	52	-
Computer and Information Sciences	180	98	54	149	58	39	104	63	61	 6
Construction Trades	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	308	187	61	235	85	36	188	112	60	 -1

**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 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	1,259	606	48	828	230	28	453	260	57	↑ 9
English Language and Literature	32	21	66	24	13	54	11	–	–	–
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Health Professions	969	548	57	994	326	33	869	527	61	↑ 4
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	325	163	50	235	80	34	172	97	56	↑ 6
Legal Professions and Studies	21	13	62	16	–	–	20	–	–	–
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	3,047	1,554	51	3,324	966	29	2,760	1,469	53	↑ 2
Mathematics and Statistics	36	20	56	47	15	32	–	–	–	–
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Techni..	91	42	46	56	11	20	47	22	47	↑ 1
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Natural Resources and Conservation	19	17	89	24	–	–	26	16	62	↓ -28
Personal and Culinary Services	22	14	64	58	16	28	42	19	45	↓ -18
Physical Sciences	11	–	–	15	–	–	19	–	–	–
Precision Production	76	40	53	115	42	37	93	54	58	↑ 5



## By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Psychology	149	82	55	124	42	34	112	61	54	↓	-1
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	149	82	55	114	40	35	92	51	55	↑	0
Social Sciences	43	33	77	28	14	50	25	18	72	↓	-5
Visual and Performing Arts	228	128	56	191	68	36	111	68	61	↑	5
Unknown	48	23	48	72	23	32	84	51	61	↑	13

# 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.

Owens Community College

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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