





#### 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** 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; (Botton Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.

We also want to acknowledge and thank **Syed Golam Mohaimen, M.S. student in Data Science at Tufts University** for his contributions toward the creation of these reports.

# **In This Report**

This report presents data on student voter participation rates for your campus. The topline counts on page 5 tells you how many students voted, but we encourage you to look carefully at the data on subsequent pages to learn who voted. Data are presented in the form of vessel charts, overlapping donut charts, and tables.

		2014			2018		2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p.)	
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-		-	-	-	-	
Black	-	-		-	-	-	-	
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

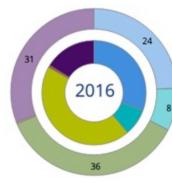
#### **Tables**

The tables show, on the left-side columns, the numbers of students and the rates from 2016, 2018, and 2020. On the left-side, percentage point (p.p.) changes between 2016 and 2020. A red down arrow indicates a decrease, a green up arrow indicates an increase, and a yellow arrow pointing to the right indicates no change. "-" in these tables indicates that the data is unavailable/missing, or is available for 10 or less students.



#### Vessel Chart

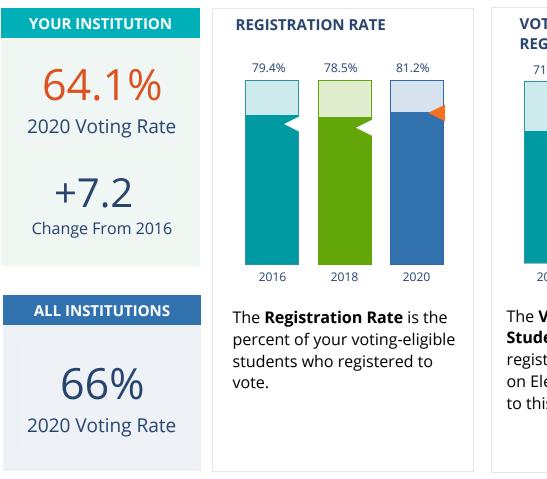
This chart shows rates out of 100%, with arrows to the right of each bar representing relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE's national report Democracy Counts 2020.

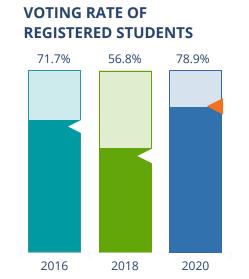


#### **Overlapping Donut Chart**

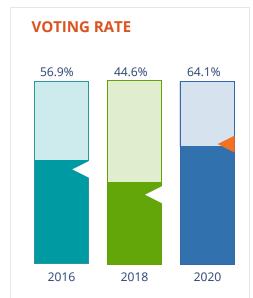
This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 10), with the outer ring showing your campus method utilization and the inner ring showing the national breakdown. These are described in percentages.

#### **Voting, Registration and Yield Rates**





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.



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.

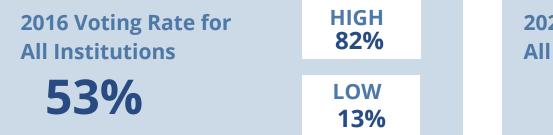
**Voting and Registration Rates** 

	2016	2018	2020	2016-20 Change (	
Total Student Enrollment	4,724	3,960	4,363	+	-361
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-		_
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	349	262	176	+	-173
(FERPA records blocked)	_	-	-		_
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	60	48	48	+	-12
Total eligible voters	4,315	3,650	4,139	+	-176
Number of students who registered	3,426	2,866	3,362	+	-64
Number of students who voted	2,457	1,627	2,654	+	197
Registration Rate %	79	79	81	+	2
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	72	57	79	+	7
Voting Rate %	57	45	64	+	7

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

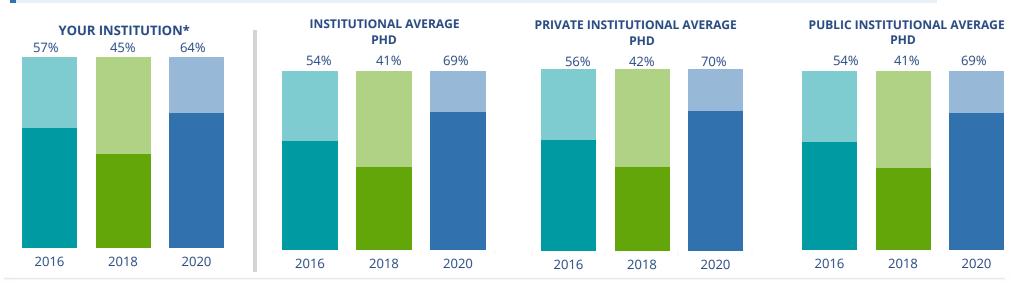
We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This estimate is given by "IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens" on this page. If you believe the number of international students reported on this report is incorrect, you can manually adjust your institution's voting rates by using our recalculation tool. <u>https://id-</u> he.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool.

# **By Institution Types**

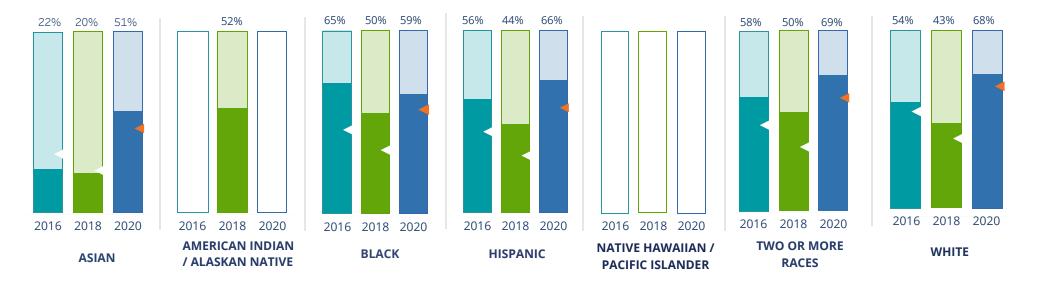


2020 Voting Rate for	HIGH
All Institutions	89%
66%	LOW 19%

These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. \*"Your Institution" chart is presented at a different scale.



## By Race / Ethnicity



**These are estimated voting rates for race / ethnicity groups**. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following race reporting procedures\* defined by the National Center for Education Statistics of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Please see our FAQ for more detail on why we cannot report national benchmark for some of the demographic groups: https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-fag

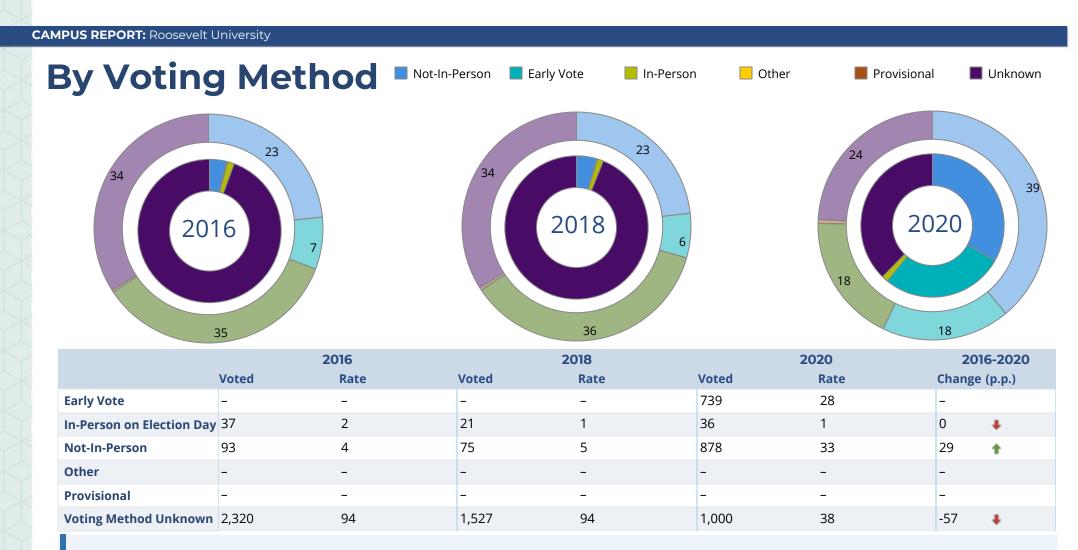
If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

\* https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes

#### 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		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Asian	502	111	22	385	76	20	287	145	51	128
American Indian/ Alaska Native	_	-	_	23	12	52	12	-	-	-
Black	881	568	64	641	318	50	820	485	59	<b>-</b> 5
Hispanic	854	482	56	704	312	44	1,080	708	66	<b>1</b> 9
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	_
2 or More Races	139	80	58	122	61	50	92	63	68	<b>1</b> 1
White	2,143	1,149	54	1,694	726	43	1,596	1,089	68	<b>1</b> 5
Race Unknown	131	62	47	339	122	36	426	156	37	<b>4</b> -11



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. <u>https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports</u>

### By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	50%	37%	59%
22-24	49%	36%	60%
25-29	48%	39%	60%
30-39	58%	51%	66%
40-49	72%	59%	76%
50+	84%	76%	87%

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.

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	1,281	638	50	1,105	408	37	1,602	947	59	<b>†</b> 9		
22-24	1,188	584	49	1,033	375	36	1,051	628	60	<b>†</b> 11		
25-29	1,120	539	48	905	355	39	854	509	60	<b>†</b> 11		
30-39	668	390	58	536	276	51	517	339	66	<b>†</b> 7		
40-49	265	191	72	220	130	59	181	137	76	<b>1</b> 4		
50+	137	115	84	109	83	76	108	94	87	<b>†</b> 3		

By Sex

		2016			2018		2020			2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change	e (p.p)	
Female	3,049	1,689	55	2,598	1,152	44	2,729	1,818	67	ŧ	11	
Male	1,610	768	48	1,310	475	36	1,584	836	53	ŧ	5	

**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.

\*<u>https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11</u>

#### By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2018 Enrolled	Voted		2020 Enrolled	Voted F	_	016-202 Jange (J			
EDUCATION	LEVEL												
Undergraduate	2,681	1,432	53	2,117	846	40	2,765	1,676	61	+	7		
Graduate	1,890	977	52	1,665	701	42	1,474	914	62	+	10		
Class Unknown	88	48	55	126	80	63	74	64	86	+	32		
CLASS YEAR													
First Year	551	48	263	450	34	151	654	55	357	÷	7		
Second Year	479	50	238	382	37	140	662	60	400	÷	11		
Upper Level	1,695	56	948	1,323	43	569	1,463	63	928	t	8		
ENROLLMENT STATUS													
Full-time	3,251	1,547	48	3,392	1,354	40	3,772	2,280	60	+	13		
Part-time	1,406	909	65	515	273	53	540	373	69	+	4		

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level (undergraduate/graduate), Class Year, and Enrollment Status (full-time/part-time), and

the numbers we used to calculate these rates.

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

# **By Field of Study**

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p	o.p)
<b>Biological and Biomedical Sciences</b>	294	153	52	258	91	35	214	130	61	1	9
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,530	781	51	1,071	411	38	1,179	669	57	+	6
Communication and Journalism	63	39	62	30	16	53	19	14	74	1	12
Computer and Information Sciences	111	48	43	119	34	29	148	78	53	1	9
Education	350	237	68	348	196	56	405	315	78	1	10
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
English Language and Literature	75	44	59	56	27	48	36	22	61	1	2

These are estimated voting rates by field of study, and the numbers we used to calculate the field of study rates. For an explanation of CIP codes, please see our FAQ.\* There are roughly 8,000 fields of study among U.S. colleges and universities, so we provide rates for condensed categories.

\*https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq

# **By Field of Study**

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Health Professions	329	133	40	344	85	25	631	354	56	🛧 16	
History	44	31	70	40	24	60	24	20	83	🛉 13	
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec	123	64	52	104	42	40	104	67	64	🛉 12	
Legal Professions and Studies	56	34	61	46	25	54	76	37	49	4 -12	
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	90	50	56	51	20	39	81	41	51	<b>4</b> -5	
Mathematics and Statistics	44	26	59	20	12	60	-	-	-	-	
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	31	23	74	40	26	65	31	28	90	🛧 16	
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	28	54	-	
Personal and Culinary Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	21	48	_	
Psychology	699	392	56	602	275	46	559	376	67	🛧 11	
Public Administration and Social Service P	29	17	59	26	14	54	22	16	73	🛧 14	
Social Sciences	180	104	58	158	80	51	90	63	70	12	
Visual and Performing Arts	476	213	45	438	153	35	467	279	60	🛧 15	
Unknown	121	61	50	157	96	61	114	90	79	1 29	

### **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 guality 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.

**Roosevelt University** 

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

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



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