



October 2021

# Student Voting Rates for SUNY at Albany

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

**October 2021**

**Dear Colleagues:**

We are pleased to send this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for 2020. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2016, 2018, and 2020. As always, we disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation.

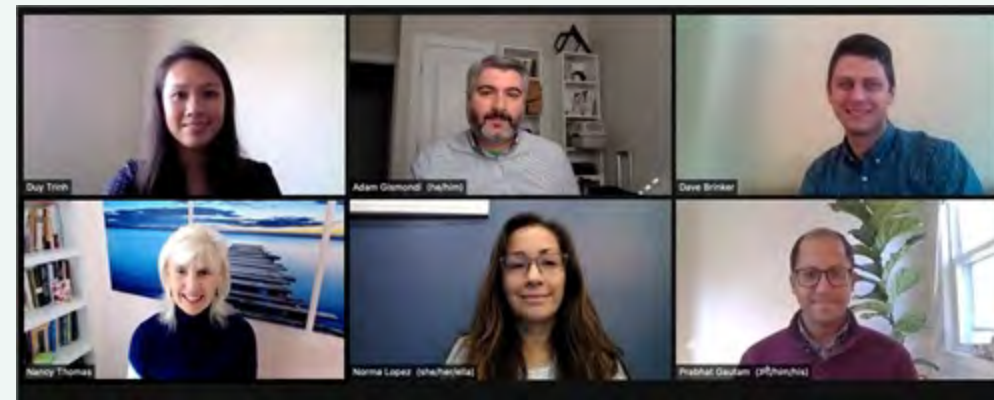
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

As in past years, we urge you to share this report widely and strategically, particularly with faculty who, in 2020, were often the most consistent communicators with students about ever-changing voting conditions and deadlines. We also urge you to review our recommendations for engaging elections to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation: Election Imperatives (2019) and the more recent Election Imperatives: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action. Since "pervasive political discussions" and attentiveness to the campus culture around speech and academic freedom are among our top recommendations, we direct you to our discussion guides on talking about your NSLVE report, on free speech and inclusion, and on hot topics, our Making Sense of ... guides.

Finally, we always encourage you to work with us. Help us help you get better data by reaching out. Email [IDHE@Tufts.edu](mailto:IDHE@Tufts.edu) for more information. And as always, watch your inbox for our periodic newsletter, IDHE Update, for announcements about upcoming releases and new resources.

Congratulations on engaging your students in the 2020 election. Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student political engagement should not be.

All the Best,  
IDHE Team



**(Top Row from left) Duy Trinh, Program Administrator; Adam Gismondi, Director of Impact; Dave Brinker, Senior Researcher; (Bottom Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.**

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

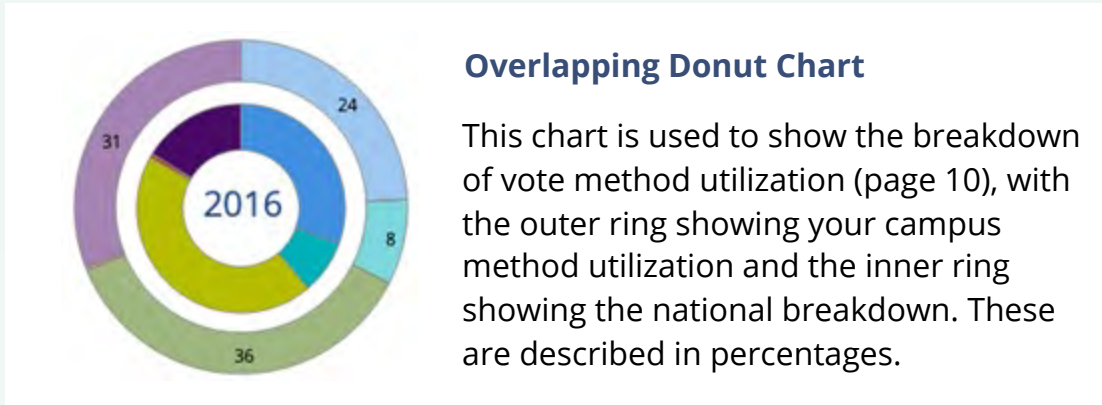
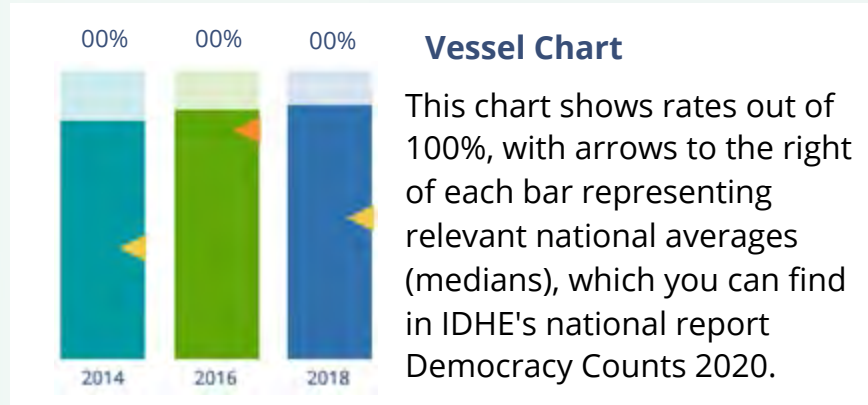
# In This Report

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

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

## Tables

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



# Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

## YOUR INSTITUTION

59.5%

2020 Voting Rate

+25.4

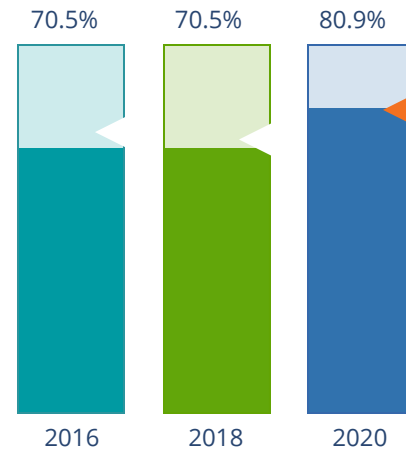
Change From 2016

## ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

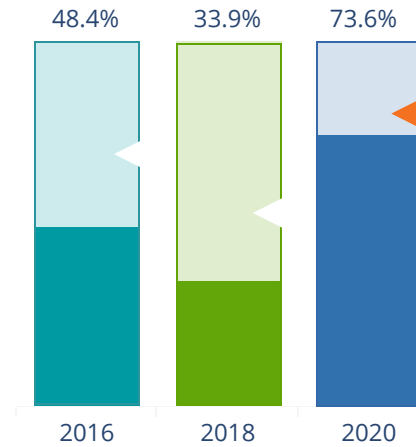
2020 Voting Rate

## REGISTRATION RATE



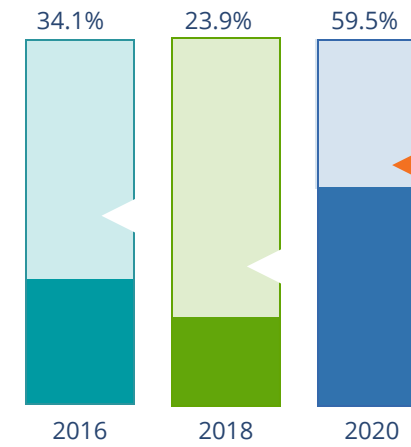
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

## VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS



The **Voting Rate of Registered Students** is the percent of registered students who voted on Election Day. We often refer to this as the “yield” rate.

## VOTING RATE



The **Voting Rate** is the percentage of eligible students who voted on Election Day. The voting rate is also the product of the registration and yield rates.

# Looking Closer

## Voting and Registration Rates

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
<b>Total Student Enrollment</b>	17,157	17,591	17,314	↑ 157
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(NSC reported non-resident aliens)	1,482	1,573	1,271	↓ -211
(FERPA records blocked)	-	-	-	-
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	300	435	371	↑ 71
<b>Total eligible voters</b>	15,368	15,578	15,667	↑ 299
<b>Number of students who registered</b>	10,834	10,979	12,674	↑ 1,840
<b>Number of students who voted</b>	5,244	3,720	9,328	↑ 4,084
<b>Registration Rate %</b>	70	70	81	↑ 10
<b>Voting Rate of Registered Students %</b>	48	34	74	↑ 25
<b>Voting Rate %</b>	34	24	60	↑ 25

**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

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions

**53%**

HIGH  
82%

LOW  
13%

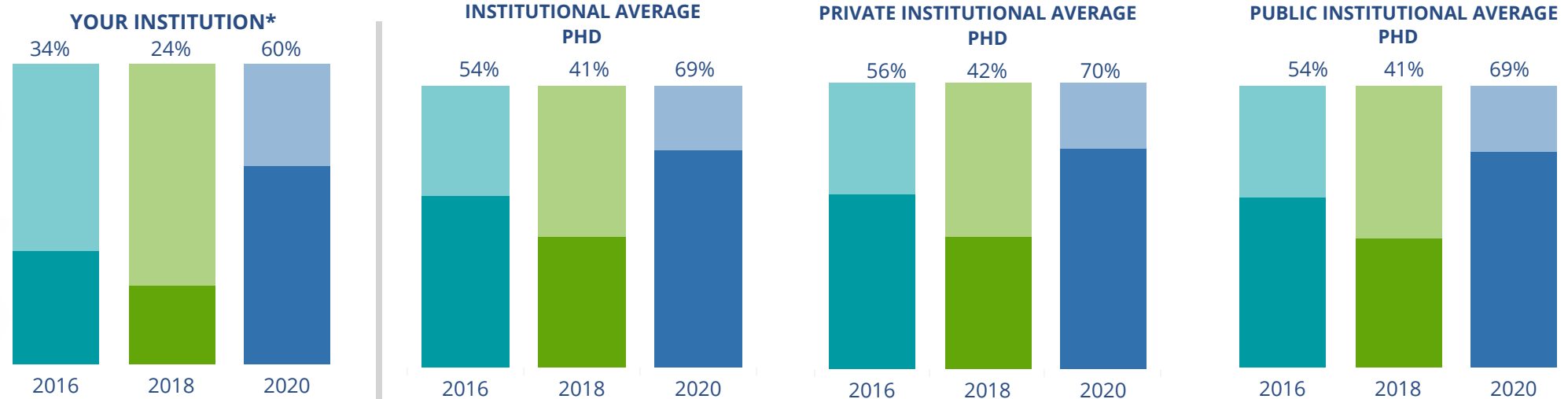
2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions

**66%**

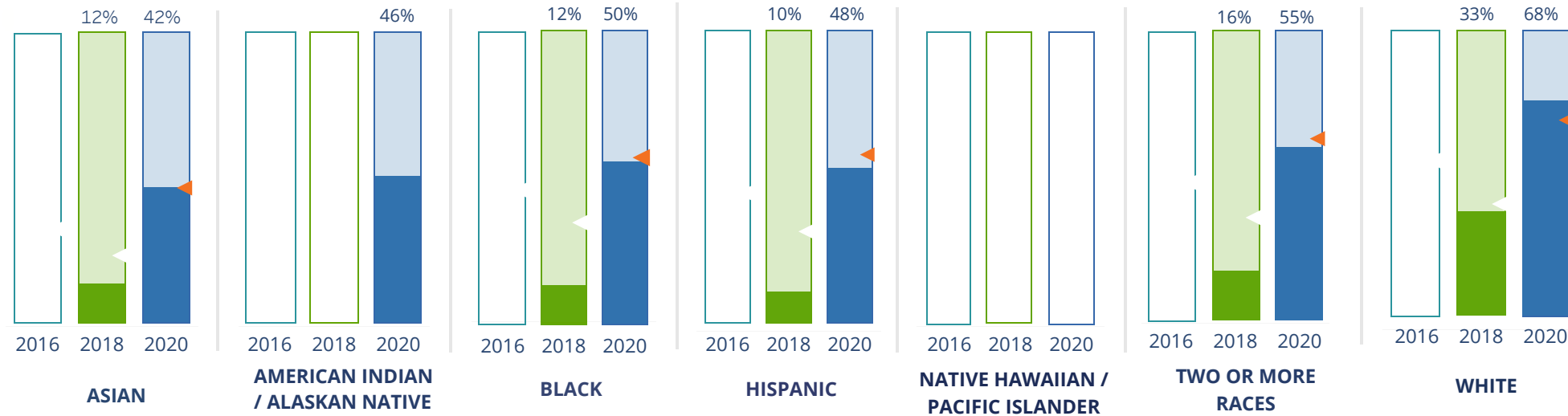
HIGH  
89%

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-nsive-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

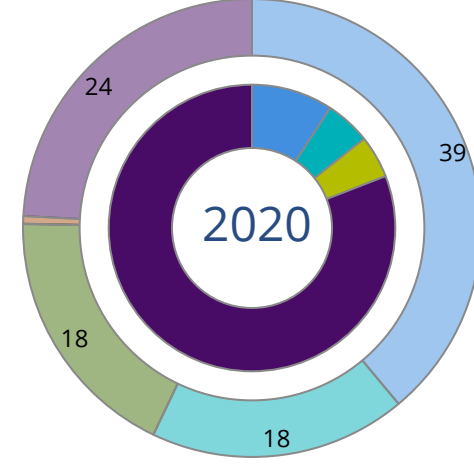
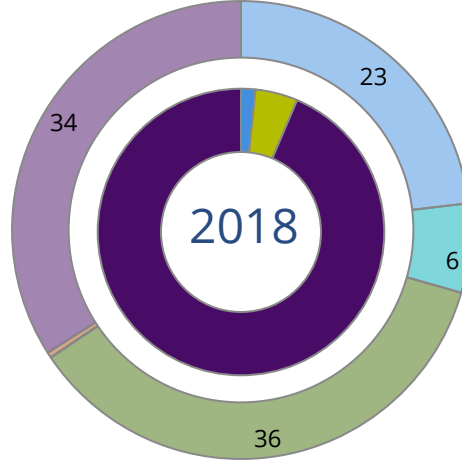
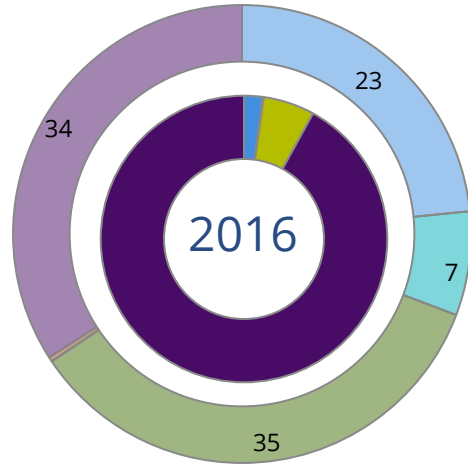
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates.** We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your 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	
<b>Asian</b>	-	-	-	1,252	155	12	1,257	532	42	-
<b>American Indian/ Alaska Native</b>	-	-	-	26	-	-	35	16	46	-
<b>Black</b>	-	-	-	2,738	337	12	2,780	1,398	50	-
<b>Hispanic</b>	-	-	-	725	73	10	508	244	48	-
<b>Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</b>	-	-	-	15	-	-	14	-	-	-
<b>2 or More Races</b>	-	-	-	2,386	369	15	2,714	1,482	55	-
<b>White</b>	-	-	-	7,910	2,609	33	7,956	5,419	68	-
<b>Race Unknown</b>	16,804	5,244	31	526	171	33	403	230	57	 26



# 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	-	-	-	-	477	5	-	
In-Person on Election Day	302	6	179	5	446	5	-1	↓
Not-In-Person	112	2	61	2	854	9	7	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Voting Method Unknown	4,826	92	3,480	94	7,548	81	-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. <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nsive/nsive-faq#CampusReports>

## By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	23%	14%	55%
22-24	37%	32%	63%
25-29	48%	49%	69%
30-39	51%	55%	70%
40-49	59%	64%	75%
50+	77%	72%	78%

**Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections.**

Also, young voters are more likely to be contacted by campaigns and are visible, and therefore significant, to elected officials. While in the past, we have seen voting rates increase across age groups, in recent cycles, the most significant increases have been among first-time and the youngest voters. Some colleges serve primarily young students, traditionally viewed as students in the 18-21 or 22-24 categories here. Others have much higher numbers of enrolled older undergraduate or graduate students.

# Looking Closer

## By Age Group

**Here, we provide the numbers of students in each age category and the voting rates for each group.** These are based on the student's age on the day of the election, as calculated by the National Student Clearinghouse using data from student enrollment records.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
<b>18-21</b>	10,405	2,384	23	10,408	1,453	14	9,971	5,514	55	↑ 32
<b>22-24</b>	3,042	1,123	37	2,394	763	32	2,726	1,708	63	↑ 26
<b>25-29</b>	1,651	787	48	1,317	639	49	1,367	942	69	↑ 21
<b>30-39</b>	1,109	562	51	888	484	55	967	680	70	↑ 20
<b>40-49</b>	384	225	59	360	229	64	428	321	75	↑ 16
<b>50+</b>	213	163	77	211	152	72	208	163	78	↑ 2

# Looking Closer

## By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**These are estimated voting rates for sex groups and the numbers we used to calculate their voting rates.** These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following the reporting procedures defined by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Presently, NCES requires institutions to report students as “Male” or “Female” only.\*

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

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

# Looking Closer

## By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p)	
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>											
<b>Undergraduate</b>	12,605	3,119	25	12,330	2,017	16	12,086	6,663	55	↑	30
<b>Graduate</b>	3,710	1,905	51	2,956	1,537	52	3,320	2,469	74	↑	23
<b>Class Unknown</b>	489	220	45	292	166	57	261	196	75	↑	30
<b>CLASS YEAR</b>											
<b>First Year</b>	2,764	18	487	2,295	11	259	2,255	50	1,118	↑	32
<b>Second Year</b>	3,302	20	647	3,110	13	400	2,910	55	1,612	↑	36
<b>Upper Level</b>	6,827	30	2,076	6,794	21	1,416	6,817	57	3,915	↑	27
<b>ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>											
<b>Full-time</b>	14,128	3,801	27	13,846	2,791	20	13,564	7,855	58	↑	31
<b>Part-time</b>	2,676	1,443	54	1,732	929	54	2,103	1,473	70	↑	16

**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	
Architecture	42	20	48	30	20	67	28	26	93	↑ 45
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	205	53	26	167	24	14	146	83	57	↑ 31
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	1,968	477	24	1,983	321	16	1,990	1,103	55	↑ 31
Business, Management, and Marketing	2,691	666	25	2,301	339	15	2,126	1,156	54	↑ 30
Communication and Journalism	184	65	35	872	122	14	727	382	53	↑ 17
Computer and Information Sciences	1,282	296	23	1,107	225	20	1,303	689	53	↑ 30
Education	577	348	60	585	328	56	779	618	79	↑ 19

**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	206	76	37	128	24	19	207	97	47	↑ 10
English Language and Literature	1,219	354	29	455	126	28	386	263	68	↑ 39
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	169	69	41	140	33	24	134	78	58	↑ 17
Health Professions	413	207	50	377	169	45	439	303	69	↑ 19
History	376	178	47	340	134	39	326	221	68	↑ 20
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	217	69	32	746	123	16	698	353	51	↑ 19
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	141	20	14	119	13	11	140	73	52	↑ 38
Mathematics and Statistics	471	114	24	348	75	22	291	153	53	↑ 28
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	75	23	31	53	16	30	29	17	59	↑ 28
Natural Resources and Conservation	89	37	42	86	31	36	74	53	72	↑ 30
Philosophy and Religious Studies	81	36	44	75	25	33	86	57	66	↑ 22
Physical Sciences	572	188	33	430	152	35	377	263	70	↑ 37
Psychology	1,352	392	29	1,437	306	21	1,583	943	60	↑ 31
Public Administration and Social Service P..	768	422	55	686	346	50	671	507	76	↑ 21

## By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Social Sciences	2,965	841	28	2,598	537	21	2,612	1,532	59	↑ 30
Visual and Performing Arts	232	74	32	206	61	30	231	146	63	↑ 31
Unknown	509	219	43	309	170	55	284	212	75	↑ 32



# 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.

SUNY at Albany

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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