

July 2022

# Student Voting Rates for Saint Louis University

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.

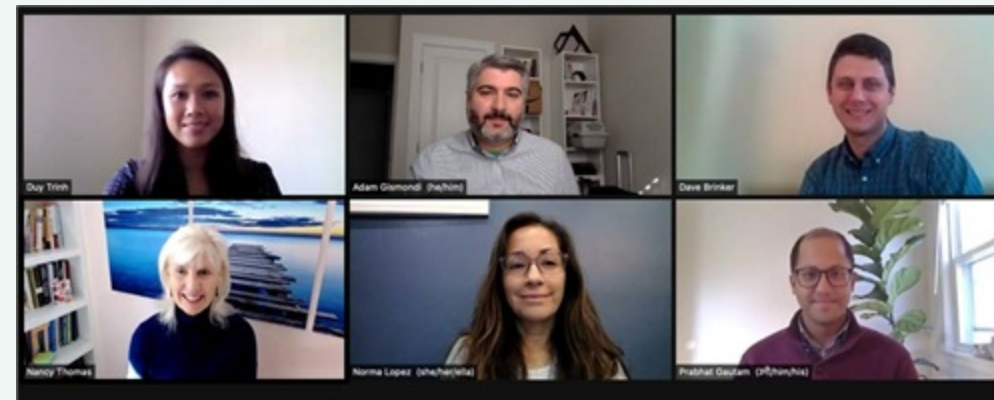
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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 Gismond, 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.

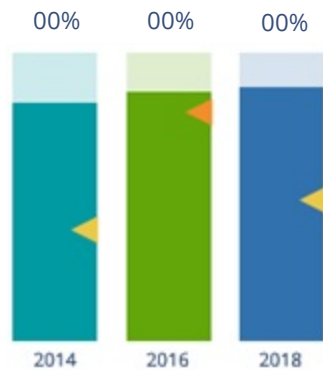
# In This Report

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

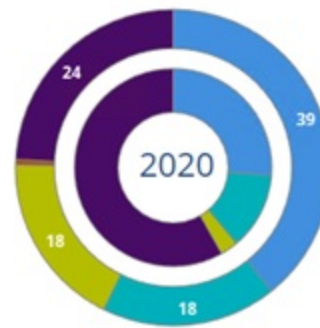
## Tables

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.



## 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 9), with the inner ring showing your campus's method utilization and the outer ring showing the national level utilization. These are described in percentages.

# Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

**YOUR INSTITUTION**

**73.8%**  
2020 Voting Rate

**+13.3**  
Change From 2016

**ALL INSTITUTIONS**

**66%**  
2020 Voting Rate

**REGISTRATION RATE**

Year	Registration Rate
2016	87.1%
2018	88.1%
2020	90.1%

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

**VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS**

Year	Voting Rate of Registered Students
2016	69.5%
2018	57.1%
2020	81.9%

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	Voting Rate
2016	60.5%
2018	50.3%
2020	73.8%

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 per NSC</b>	12,156	11,935	12,135	↓ -21
(Age under 18/Unknown)	30	31	40	↑ 10
(Non-resident aliens)	1,634	1,990	1,302	↓ -332
(FERPA records blocked)	15	21	-	-
(Non-Degree seeking students)	-	-	362	-
<b>Total eligible students</b>	10,477	9,893	10,423	↓ -54
<b>Number of students who registered</b>	9,121	8,714	9,396	↑ 275
<b>Number of students who voted</b>	6,343	4,979	7,692	↑ 1,349
<b>Registration Rate %</b>	87	88	90	↑ 3
<b>Voting Rate of Registered Students %</b>	70	57	82	↑ 12
<b>Voting Rate %</b>	61	50	74	↑ 13

**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 headcounts of non-resident aliens as provided by Saint Louis University.

## By Institution Types

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions

**53%**

HIGH  
82%

LOW  
13%

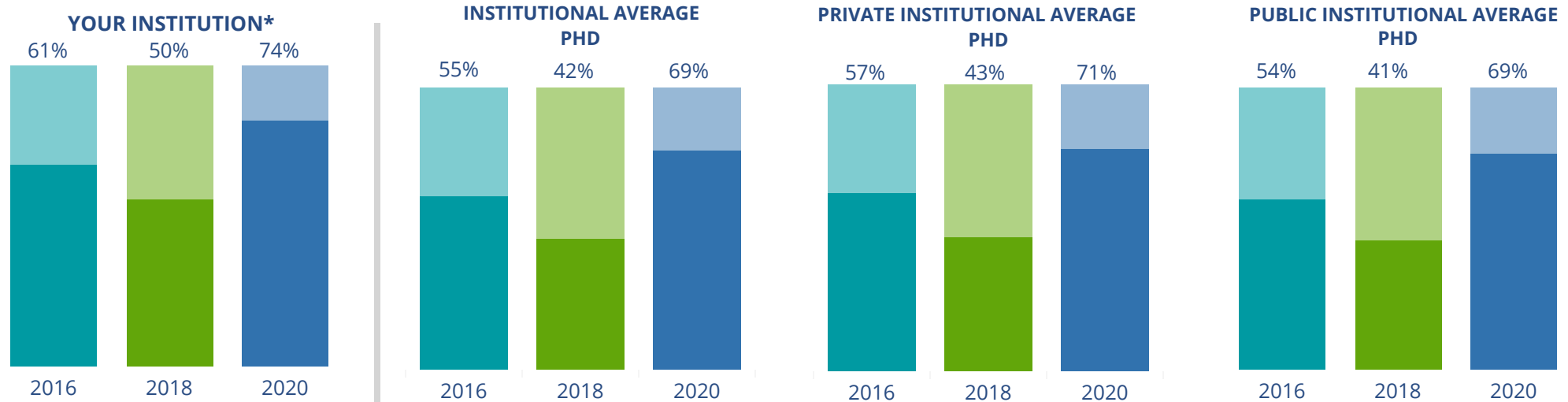
2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions

**66%**

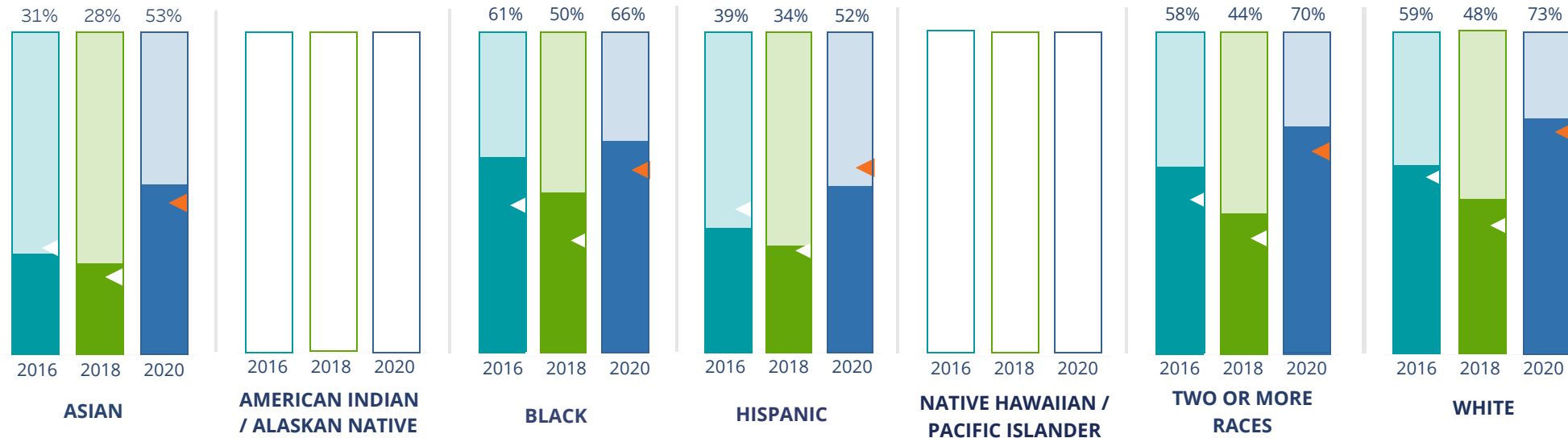
HIGH  
89%

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-nslve-report-faq>

If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (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

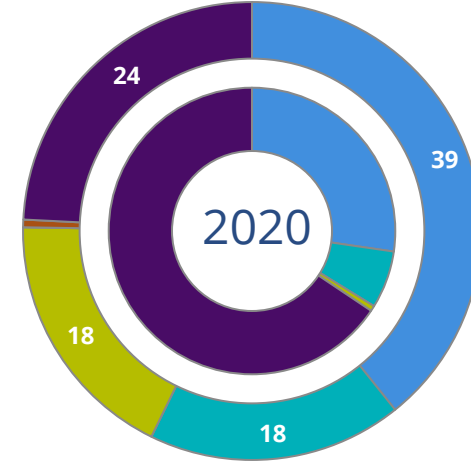
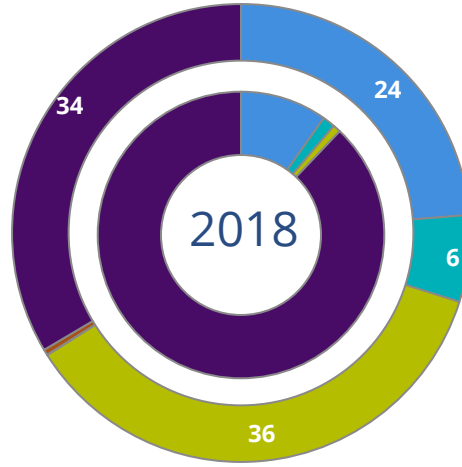
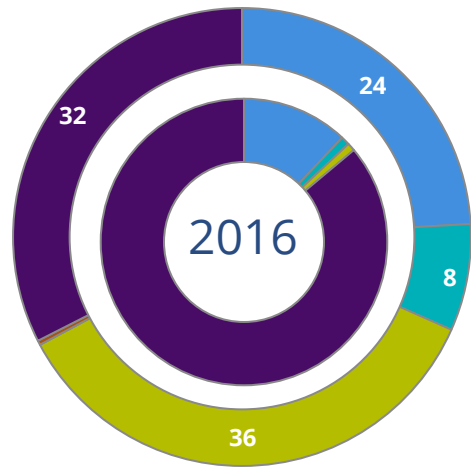
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates.** We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your 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
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
<b>Asian</b>	1,256	395	31	1,268	360	28	1,459	768	53	↑ 21
<b>American Indian/ Alaska Native</b>	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Black</b>	803	489	61	719	360	50	768	506	66	↑ 5
<b>Hispanic</b>	702	273	39	718	242	34	872	454	52	↑ 13
<b>Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>2 or More Races</b>	464	268	58	481	210	44	528	370	70	↑ 12
<b>White</b>	8,246	4,829	59	7,850	3,749	48	7,572	5,522	73	↑ 14
<b>Race Unknown</b>	630	82	13	834	53	6	517	68	13	↑ 0



# 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.)	
<b>Early Vote</b>	62	1	70	1	501	7	6	↑
<b>In-Person on Election Day</b>	58	1	46	1	49	1	0	↓
<b>Not-In-Person</b>	760	12	490	10	2,102	27	15	↑
<b>Other</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Provisional</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Voting Method Unknown</b>	5,460	86	4,372	88	5,039	66	-21	↓

**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	47%	37%	66%
22-24	53%	42%	67%
25-29	53%	43%	60%
30-39	63%	52%	62%
40-49	69%	61%	68%
50+	79%	69%	82%

**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
<b>18-21</b>	6,037	2,837	47	5,860	2,160	37	6,100	4,047	66	↑ 19
<b>22-24</b>	2,498	1,312	53	2,395	1,004	42	2,347	1,577	67	↑ 15
<b>25-29</b>	1,461	776	53	1,717	734	43	1,616	972	60	↑ 7
<b>30-39</b>	1,252	790	63	1,197	627	52	1,070	664	62	↓ -1
<b>40-49</b>	577	401	69	487	298	61	395	270	68	↓ -1
<b>50+</b>	286	227	79	227	156	69	197	162	82	↑ 3

# Looking Closer

## By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change	
Female	7,231	4,053	56	7,101	3,136	44	7,162	5,059	71	↑	15
Male	4,876	2,287	47	4,778	1,840	39	4,547	2,624	58	↑	11

**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			Change (2016-2020)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>										
Undergraduate	7,530	3,709	49	7,249	2,773	38	7,389	4,778	65	↑ 15
Graduate	4,046	2,453	61	4,306	2,108	49	4,280	2,888	67	↑ 7
Class Unknown	535	73	14	328	96	29	56	26	46	↑ 33
<b>CLASS YEAR</b>										
Freshman	2,275	954	42	1,944	573	29	1,836	1,096	60	↑ 18
Sophomore	1,777	842	47	1,795	638	36	1,981	1,312	66	↑ 19
Upperclassman	3,859	2,003	52	3,709	1,600	43	3,611	2,386	66	↑ 14
<b>ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>										
Full-time	10,926	5,555	51	10,873	4,414	41	10,923	7,161	66	↑ 15
Part-time	1,185	788	66	1,010	565	56	802	531	66	↓ 0

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
Agriculture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Architecture	12	-	-	14	-	-	14	-	-	-
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	48	40	83	40	26	65	40	28	70	↓ -13
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	854	418	49	873	367	42	964	609	63	↑ 14
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,817	868	48	1,653	663	40	1,590	938	59	↑ 11
Communication and Journalism	240	125	52	194	71	37	155	109	70	↑ 18
Computer and Information Sciences	248	143	58	253	103	41	249	132	53	↓ -5

**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	
Education	539	352	65	457	256	56	441	320	73	↑	7
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	740	345	47	718	255	36	746	445	60	↑	13
English Language and Literature	133	84	63	117	62	53	92	64	70	↑	6
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	63	32	51	46	27	59	40	29	73	↑	22
Health Professions	3,568	1,962	55	3,910	1,549	40	3,697	2,569	69	↑	14
History	74	46	62	81	46	57	70	54	77	↑	15
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	153	81	53	172	69	40	200	129	65	↑	12
Legal Professions and Studies	501	375	75	525	355	68	569	448	79	↑	4
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	919	291	32	463	120	26	458	182	40	↑	8
Mathematics and Statistics	61	33	54	59	22	37	47	21	45	↓	-9
Military Technologies	-	-	-	11	-	-	19	11	58		-
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	28	21	75	16	-	-	127	88	69	↓	-6
Natural Resources and Conservation	39	18	46	39	26	67	41	30	73	↑	27



## By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	429	201	47	482	138	29	461	325	70	↑ 24
Philosophy and Religious Studies	83	45	54	103	46	45	104	69	66	↑ 12
Physical Sciences	190	88	46	169	56	33	160	102	64	↑ 17
Psychology	365	189	52	337	143	42	393	260	66	↑ 14
Public Administration and Social Service Profe..	346	227	66	305	204	67	296	231	78	↑ 12
Science Technologies/Technicians	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Sciences	271	170	63	337	154	46	366	262	72	↑ 9
Visual and Performing Arts	59	30	51	59	29	49	43	30	70	↑ 19
Theology	58	36	62	45	29	64	41	27	66	↑ 4
Transportation	185	97	52	183	88	48	205	125	61	↑ 9
Unknown	39	17	44	222	52	23	93	43	46	↑ 3

# 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.

Saint Louis 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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