October 2021

Student Voting Rates for Stony Brook University

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

idhe 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** 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.

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

YOUR INSTITUTION

61.0%

2020 Voting Rate

+9.6

Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

77.2% 77.7% 80.7%

2016 2018 2020

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

66.6% 45.1% 75.6%

2016 2018 2020

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

51.4% 35.1% 61.0%

2016 2018 2020

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

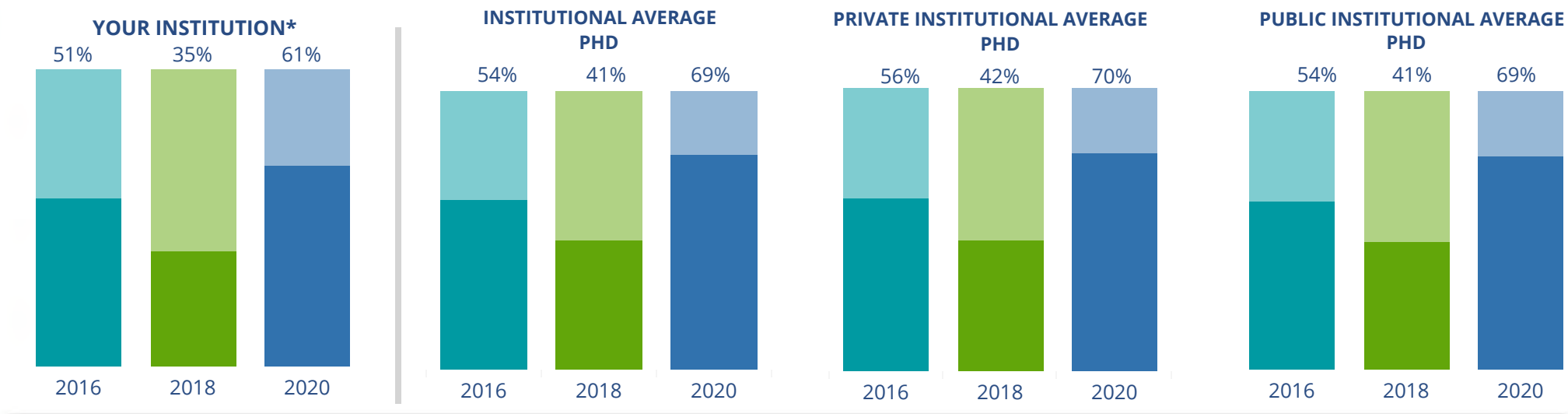|	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	26,090	26,406	27,287	⬆ 1,196
(Age under 18/Unknown)	18	–	–	–
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	4,787	4,482	3,710	⬇ -1,078
(FERPA records blocked)	14	–	–	–
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	–	822	844	–
Total eligible voters	21,271	21,090	22,722	⬆ 1,451
Number of students who registered	16,413	16,385	18,331	⬆ 1,918
Number of students who voted	10,927	7,396	13,861	⬆ 2,934
Registration Rate %	77	78	81	⬆ 4
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	67	45	76	⬆ 9
Voting Rate %	51	35	61	⬆ 10

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. https://id-he.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool.
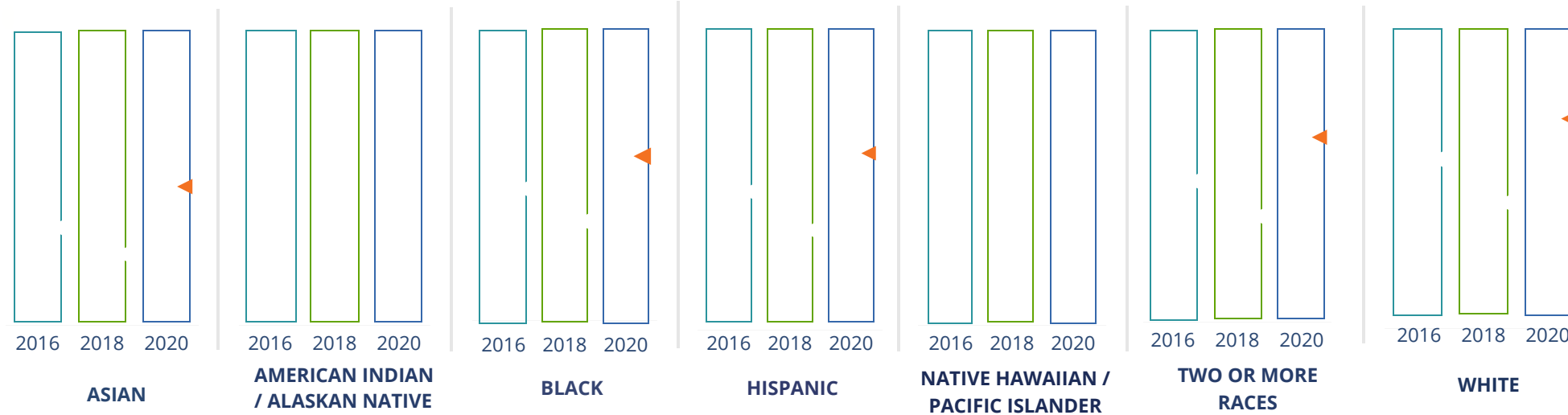
By Institution Types

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 82%
53%	LOW 13%

2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 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.

YOUR INSTITUTION*			INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD			PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD			PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD		
51%	35%	61%	54%	41%	69%	56%	42%	70%	54%	41%	69%
2016	2018	2020	2016	2018	2020	2016	2018	2020	2016	2018	2020

By Race / Ethnicity

2016 2018 2020	2016 2018 2020	2016 2018 2020	2016 2018 2020	2016 2018 2020	2016 2018 2020	2016 2018 2020
ASIAN	**AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE**	**BLACK**	**HISPANIC**	**NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER**	**TWO OR MORE RACES**	**WHITE**

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
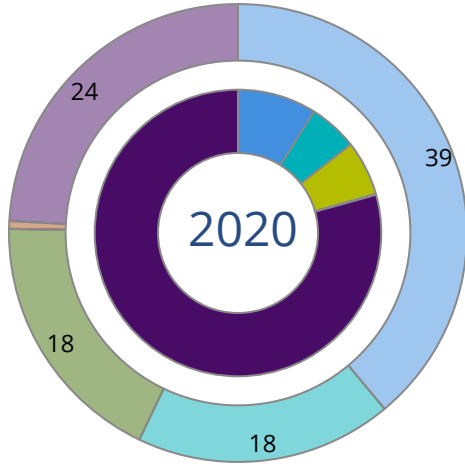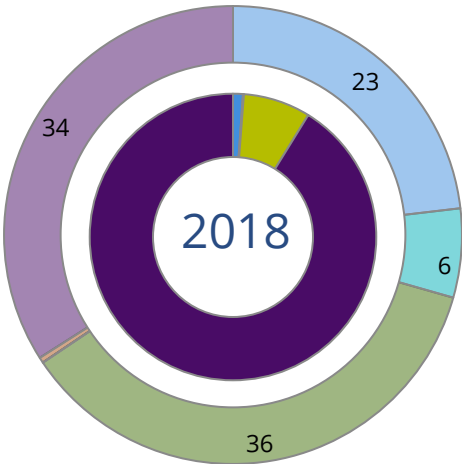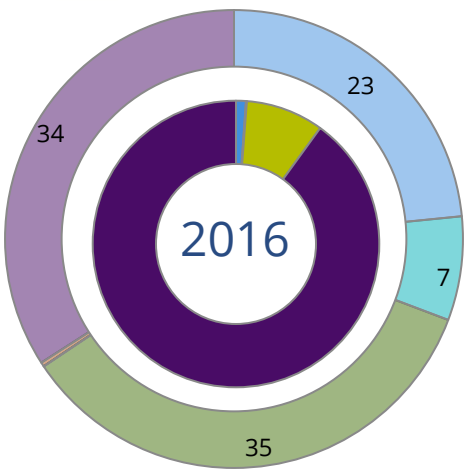
Looking Closer

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 (p.p)**
Asian	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
American Indian/ Alaska Native	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Black	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Hispanic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2 or More Races	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
White	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Race Unknown	25,694	10,927	43	25,378	7,396	29	26,263	13,861	53	⬆ 10

By Voting Method

Legend: ■ 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	–	–	–	–	766	6	–
In-Person on Election Day	966	9	564	8	854	6	-3 ↓
Not-In-Person	124	1	79	1	1,236	9	8 ↑
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Provisional	–	–	–	–	11	0	–
Voting Method Unknown	9,829	90	6,746	91	10,994	79	-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/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	40%	25%	52%
22-24	38%	29%	51%
25-29	43%	33%	51%
30-39	52%	39%	56%
40-49	68%	50%	64%
50+	80%	70%	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 (p.p)
18-21	12,525	4,981	40	13,344	3,335	25	14,310	7,472	52	⬆ 12
22-24	5,613	2,113	38	5,449	1,574	29	5,215	2,656	51	⬆ 13
25-29	4,102	1,759	43	3,795	1,242	33	3,851	1,977	51	⬆ 8
30-39	2,129	1,117	52	1,867	724	39	1,981	1,116	56	⬆ 4
40-49	857	581	68	604	299	50	582	375	64	⬇ -3
50+	468	376	80	319	222	70	324	265	82	⬆ 1

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 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2018 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2020 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2016-2020 Change (p.p)
EDUCATION LEVEL										
Undergraduate	16,471	6,667	40	16,966	4,494	26	17,683	9,299	53	↑ 12
Graduate	7,254	3,218	44	7,507	2,709	36	7,639	4,327	57	↑ 12
Class Unknown	1,969	1,042	53	905	193	21	941	235	25	↓ -28
CLASS YEAR										
First Year	2,523	34	848	2,700	19	515	2,816	41	1,157	↑ 7
Second Year	3,530	40	1,419	4,019	23	906	4,346	47	2,032	↑ 7
Upper Level	10,702	41	4,399	10,619	29	3,062	11,095	55	6,111	↑ 14
ENROLLMENT STATUS										
Full-time	21,518	8,288	39	21,768	5,743	26	22,525	11,301	50	↑ 12
Part-time	4,176	2,639	63	3,610	1,653	46	3,738	2,560	68	↑ 5

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.p)**
Architecture	54	20	37	61	18	30	69	38	55	⬆ 18
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	71	32	45	93	31	33	90	57	63	⬆ 18
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	3,153	1,418	45	3,496	1,042	30	3,777	2,129	56	⬆ 11
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,802	743	41	1,847	526	28	1,884	1,014	54	⬆ 13
Communication and Journalism	227	128	56	212	98	46	203	154	76	⬆ 19
Computer and Information Sciences	1,563	383	25	1,767	229	13	1,634	480	29	⬆ 5
Education	848	634	75	412	253	61	440	341	78	⬆ 3

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)
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,328	762	33	2,189	459	21	1,799	778	43	⬆ 11
English Language and Literature	393	247	63	390	194	50	420	308	73	⬆ 10
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	368	167	45	294	106	36	312	192	62	⬆ 16
Health Professions	4,371	2,213	51	4,284	1,472	34	4,562	3,031	66	⬆ 16
History	252	165	65	273	131	48	310	227	73	⬆ 8
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,795	572	32	1,824	320	18	1,864	791	42	⬆ 11
Mathematics and Statistics	1,285	273	21	1,364	228	17	1,378	433	31	⬆ 10
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	550	230	42	467	140	30	447	256	57	⬆ 15
Natural Resources and Conservation	107	52	49	138	61	44	156	111	71	⬆ 23
Philosophy and Religious Studies	115	53	46	85	30	35	99	51	52	⬆ 5
Physical Sciences	1,128	413	37	1,201	311	26	1,205	577	48	⬆ 11
Psychology	1,484	730	49	1,501	487	32	1,848	1,103	60	⬆ 10
Public Administration and Social Service P..	594	404	68	667	429	64	732	572	78	⬆ 10
Social Sciences	1,333	484	36	1,432	433	30	1,567	691	44	⬆ 8

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Visual and Performing Arts	531	266	50	471	203	43	503	281	56	⬆ 6
Unknown	1,342	538	40	910	195	21	964	246	26	⬇ -15

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.

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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