



September 2022

Student Voting Rates for University of Memphis

NSLVE Campus Report

September 2022
Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for several recent election cycles. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2014, 2018, and 2020. In addition to sharing the change between 2014 and 2018 voting rates, we also disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation. Although you have likely seen these numbers before, we find that many report recipients appreciate a refresher heading into another national election.

College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. In 2020, it jumped to 66%. In the last midterm, the student voting rate more than doubled, from roughly 19% in 2014 to around 40% in 2018. These encouraging data points signal that 2022 can be yet another banner year for student participation if we all work together to ensure that lasting, long-term interventions turn this into a *trend* across the nation.

As always, 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 encourage you to review our recommendations for leveraging election seasons to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation, year around: Election Imperatives 2.0 and the more recent Election Imperatives 2020: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action, a report with recommendations for institutional leaders, faculty, and voter coalitions.

Since political dialogue across campus 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 how campuses use their NSLVE reports.

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 (or sign up!) for our periodic newsletter, announcements about upcoming releases, and new resources.

Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student engagement in democracy should not be.

All the Best,
The Team at IDHE

IDHE: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/>

NSLVE: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve>

Election Imperatives: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/publications-and-resources/election-imperatives>

Talking Politics discussion guide (for NSLVE reports): <https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/talking-politics-guide-campus-conversations-about-nslve-reports>

Free Speech & Inclusion on Campus discussion guide: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/free-speech-inclusion-campus-discussion-guide>

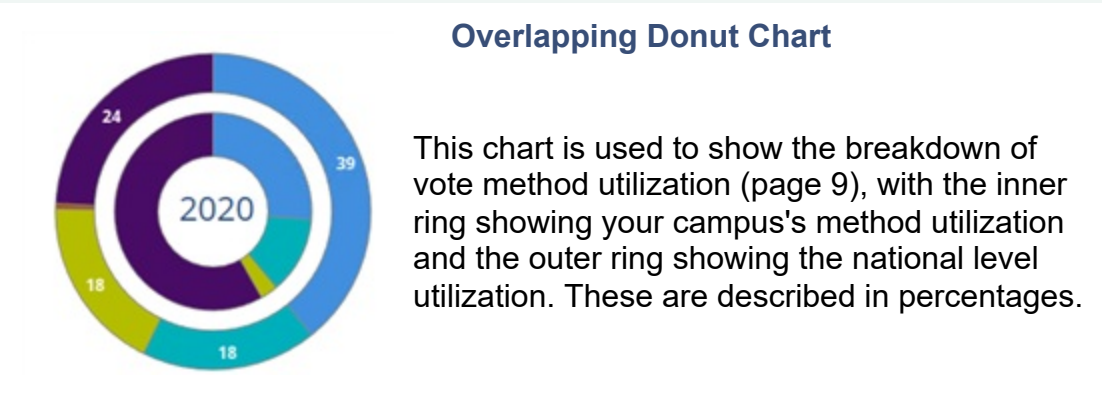
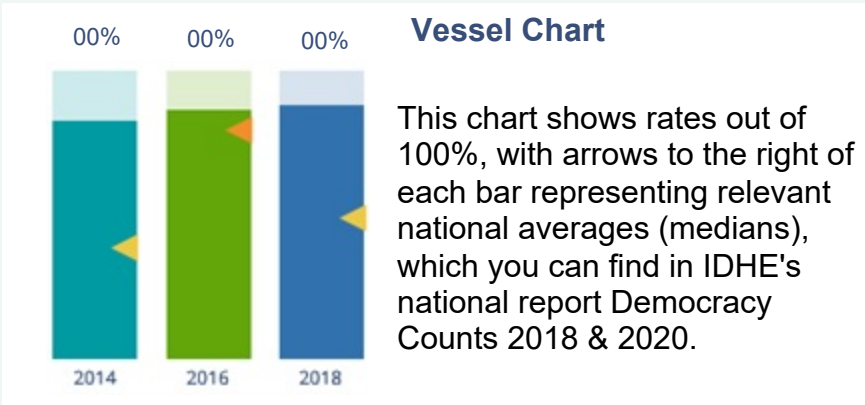
In This Report

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 the numbers of students and the rates from 2014, 2018, and 2020. The change column represents difference between counts and rates. The change in rates are in terms of percentage points. 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.

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



Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

36.9%

2018 Voting Rate

+18.9

Change From 2014

ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%

2018 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

63.3%	71.3%	80.7%
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2014	2018	2020

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

28.4%	51.8%	77.5%
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2014	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

18.0%	36.9%	62.6%
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2014	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

	2014	2018	2020	2014-2018 Change
Total student enrollment per NSC	20,895	21,255	21,879	↑ 360
(Age under 18/Unknown)	841	1,256	1,589	↑ 415
(Non-resident aliens)	581	649	566	↑ 67
Non-resident aliens data source	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	
(FERPA records blocked)	298	249	267	↓ -49
(Non-degree seeking students)	199	386	372	↑ 187
Total eligible voters	18,976	18,715	19,085	↓ -260
Number of students who registered	12,016	13,345	15,408	↑ 1,329
Number of students who voted	3,409	6,914	11,938	↑ 3,505
Registration Rate %	63	71	81	↑ 8
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	28	52	77	↑ 23
Voting Rate %	18	37	63	↑ 19

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.

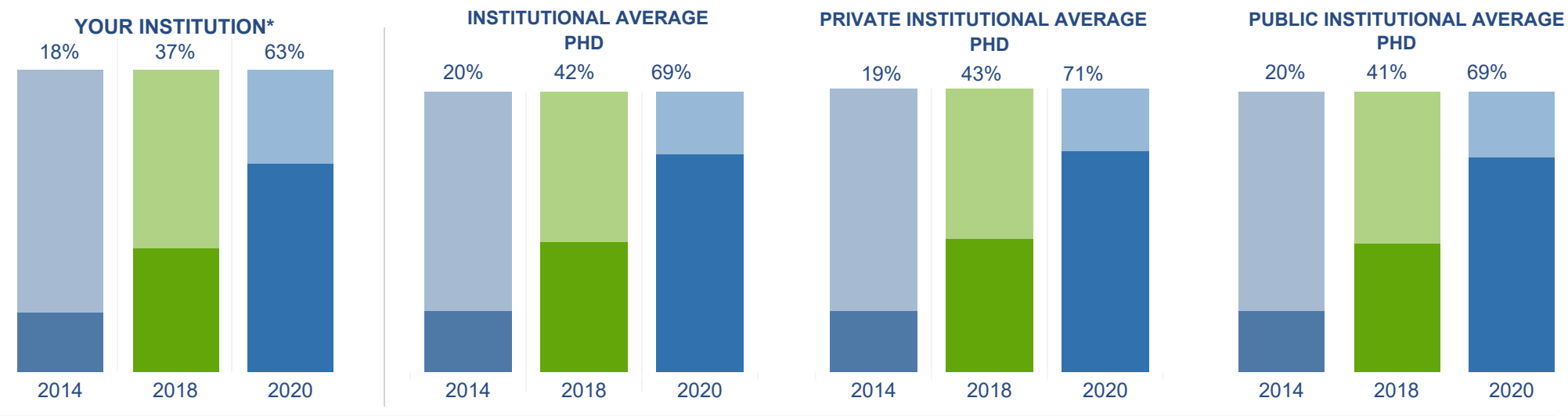
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This is indicated by IPEDS in the data source.

In the following pages with tables, **Enrolled** represents the eligible voters when we have used NSC as the data source. When we have used IPEDS as the data source, **Enrolled** includes non-resident aliens who are ineligible to vote, and for whom we are unable to account due to the lack of data from your institution.

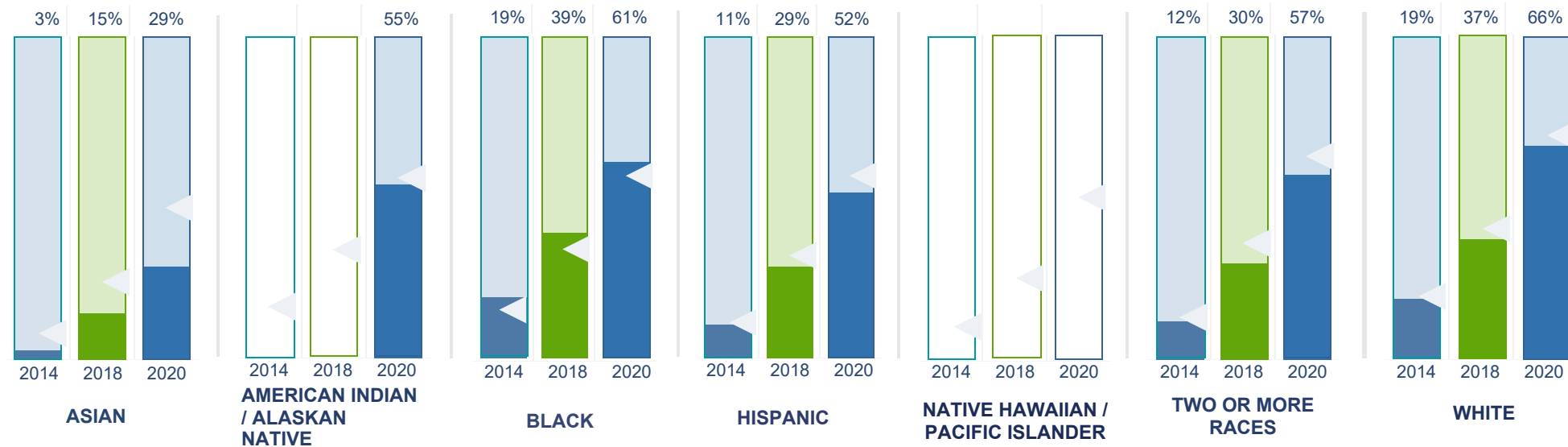
By Institution Types



These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. For Associate institutions, we only share public associate institutional averages due to sample size. *"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 : <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 or reports this data as unknown; (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

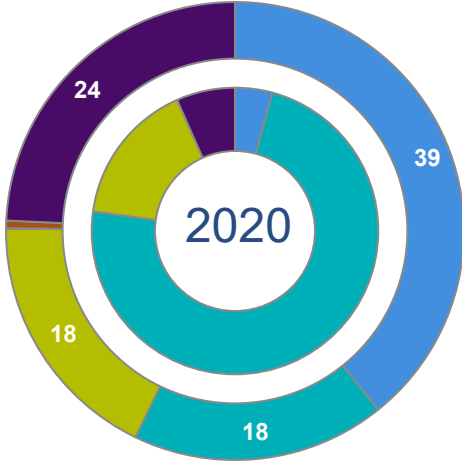
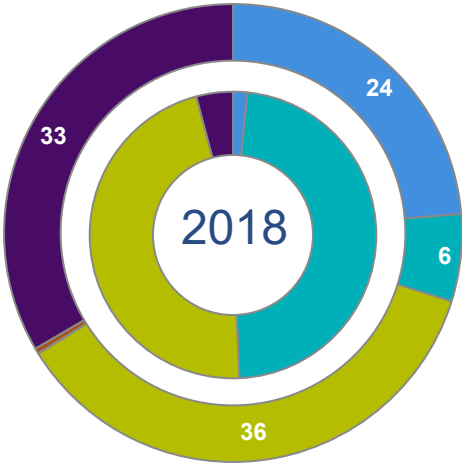
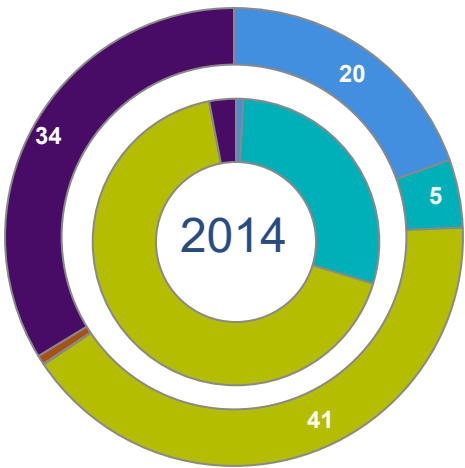
By Race/Ethnicity

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 or reports this data as unknown; (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.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Asian	877	25	3	1,064	154	14	1,087	313	29	↑	12
American Indian/ Alaska Native	53	–	–	36	–	–	44	24	55		–
Black	6,750	1,278	19	6,498	2,521	39	6,665	4,065	61	↑	20
Hispanic	748	79	11	1,093	311	28	1,386	715	52	↑	18
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	25	–	–	14	–	–	–	–	–		–
2 or More Races	603	71	12	712	212	30	658	374	57	↑	18
White	10,407	1,940	19	9,719	3,625	37	9,483	6,261	66	↑	19

By Voting Method

Not-In-Person Early Vote In-Person Other Provisional Unknown



	2014		2018		2020		2014-2018	
	Voted	Rate(%)	Voted	Rate(%)	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Early Vote	986	29	3,299	48	8,716	73	↑	19
In-Person	2,294	67	3,220	47	1,933	16	↓	-21
Not-In-Person	28	1	108	2	505	4	↑	1
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Provisional	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Voting Method Unknown	101	3	287	4	782	7	↑	1

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>. The inner ring in these charts show your campus's method utilization and the outer ring show the national level utilization.

By Age Group

	2014	2018	2020
18-21	11%	31%	62%
22-24	16%	35%	60%
25-29	18%	38%	56%
30-39	25%	42%	56%
40-49	37%	55%	67%
50+	51%	64%	78%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, elected officials and public opinion polls solicit opinions from people they can locate - people in the voter files. In 2020, the youngest students on campuses voted at the highest rates, giving them increasing voice and power. Government officials should take note of this data point, as the viewpoints of young voters may prove influential in future elections. Candidates should be cautious about remaining distant and unresponsive to the perspectives of young voters.

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.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
18-21	8,080	902	11	8,943	2,751	31	9,073	5,632	62	↑	20
22-24	4,534	719	16	4,180	1,448	35	4,261	2,556	60	↑	19
25-29	2,973	545	18	2,818	1,057	38	2,756	1,547	56	↑	19
30-39	2,388	587	25	2,064	872	42	2,123	1,187	56	↑	18
40-49	1,052	384	37	934	516	55	984	660	67	↑	19
50+	530	272	51	425	270	64	454	356	78	↑	12

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Female	11,586	2,221	19	11,414	4,383	38	11,921	7,492	63	↑	19
Male	7,971	1,188	15	7,950	2,531	32	7,723	4,439	57	↑	17

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

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Rate Change	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	14,892	2,284	15	15,233	5,186	34	14,881	8,971	60	↑	19
Graduate	3,439	889	26	3,608	1,526	42	4,267	2,604	61	↑	16
Class Unknown	1,226	236	19	523	202	39	503	363	72	↑	19
CLASS YEAR											
Freshman	3,623	324	9	3,702	925	25	3,388	1,888	56	↑	16
Sophomore	3,308	434	13	3,467	1,098	32	3,317	1,977	60	↑	19
Upperclassman	8,143	1,505	18	7,560	2,921	39	7,750	4,833	62	↑	20
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	13,349	1,974	15	14,117	4,656	33	14,259	8,610	60	↑	18
Part-time	6,208	1,435	23	5,247	2,258	43	5,392	3,328	62	↑	20

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	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Architecture	119	22	18	102	36	35	86	43	50	↑ 17
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	27	11	41	22	—	—	24	15	63	—
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	550	66	12	705	204	29	696	399	57	↑ 17
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,103	514	17	3,031	1,069	35	3,256	1,910	59	↑ 19
Communication and Journalism	701	151	22	711	324	46	750	509	68	↑ 24
Computer and Information Sciences	303	37	12	481	138	29	586	262	45	↑ 16
Education	1,448	359	25	1,271	543	43	1,414	978	69	↑ 18

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	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Engineering and Engineering Techno..	777	93	12	1,385	385	28	1,336	733	55	↑	16
English Language and Literature	471	107	23	404	178	44	394	248	63	↑	21
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and ..	183	40	22	173	81	47	156	105	67	↑	25
Health Professions	1,103	193	17	1,295	440	34	1,403	895	64	↑	16
History	274	71	26	275	140	51	209	143	68	↑	25
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and P..	606	100	17	546	163	30	535	298	56	↑	13
Legal Professions and Studies	329	103	31	290	142	49	346	255	74	↑	18
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Huma..	4,288	590	14	2,345	708	30	1,754	1,034	59	↑	16
Mathematics and Statistics	113	12	11	111	32	29	84	40	48	↑	18
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	1,120	253	23	800	324	41	955	597	63	↑	18
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitne..	1,018	121	12	1,711	540	32	1,897	1,099	58	↑	20
Personal and Culinary Services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Philosophy and Religious Studies	79	17	22	86	35	41	80	53	66	↑	19

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Physical Sciences	366	52	14	401	130	32	345	171	50	↑ 18
Psychology	925	139	15	922	317	34	1,039	583	56	↑ 19
Public Administration and Social Service Profe..	297	108	36	311	158	51	328	225	69	↑ 14
Social Sciences	538	130	24	509	246	48	453	325	72	↑ 24
Visual and Performing Arts	811	119	15	908	348	38	962	623	65	↑ 24
Unknown	—	—	—	555	217	39	539	380	71	—

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, 2020 and 2022 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 serves 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 2014, 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.

University of Memphis

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. (2022). 2014, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.



Barnum Hall
163 Packard Ave.
Medford, MA 02155

tischcollege@tufts.edu
617.627.3453



Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:
National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement
Barnum Hall, Medford, MA 02155

Follow Us on Twitter: @TuftsIDHE
NSLVE@tufts.edu
617.627.0620