

# Trinity University All In Challenge Action Plan



## I. Executive Summary

This action plan was developed by the TU Voter Engagement Task Force team, including 2023-2024 Democracy Fellows, Kiara Fernando and James Oberwortmann, and 2023-2024 Democracy Fellows, James Oberwortmann and Jackson Delhagen, to communicate our strategy for increasing both the registration and turnout rates of voters at Trinity University. The planned activities outlined here will be carried out in Spring 2024 and academic year 2024-2025, on and around our campus in San Antonio, Texas.

Trinity University empowers students for lives of purpose. In fulfilling this mission, civic engagement is threaded throughout the campus culture, including both curricular and co-curricular initiatives. Trinity's commitment to strengthening voter participation and other civic engagement opportunities can be seen through voter engagement success across the last two election cycles (see [2020 NSLVE report](#) and [2020 Action Plan](#) and [2022 NSLVE report](#) and [2022 Action Plan](#)). Notably, the [Trinity University Voter Engagement](#) web page serves as a one-stop-shop for voter engagement resources within a trusted umbrella of the institutional web page.

This iteration marks Trinity's third engagement with the All In Challenge program, fueled by a sustained institutional interest in civic engagement, voter engagement, and dialogue and discussion. Commitment is also present via continued financial support since 2019 from the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Vice President for Student Affairs, as illustrated by their dedicated funding commitment to TurboVote through 2025 and various voter engagement activities over the years.

The influx of new leadership at the cabinet level (inclusive of the University President, Provost, Vice President for Student Affairs, Vice President for Inclusive Engagement, and Vice President for Finance and Administration), attuned to the significance of civic engagement, voter engagement, and dialogue and discussion, further propels our involvement. Furthermore, Trinity is steadfast in its dedication to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Lastly, a deliberate emphasis on holistic student success underscores our recognition of the pervasive impact of communities and societies on our daily lives. In essence, our collective drive and enthusiasm for voter engagement represent a formidable asset that the institution aims to leverage in forthcoming election cycles, with the support of the All In Challenge program.

### 2024 Goals

Building upon our achievements and momentum over the last four years and the 2020 and 2022 NSLVE reports, the TU Voter Engagement Task Force outlined the following goals to be completed by December 1, 2024:

- 1. Increase eligible registered voters to 95%** (from 93.2% in 2020)
- 2. Increase the general election voting rate to 85%** (from 75.6% in 2020)
- 3. Increase the voting rate of underrepresented students to at least 75% for all demographic groups** (between 62-83% in 2020)
- 4. Increase the proportion of male-identified students voting to 75%** (from 67% in 2020)
- 5. Increase voter turnout rate by discipline to at least 70%** (between 64-83% in 2020)
- 6. Advocate for Student Poll Workers**

On campus, we work alongside and collaborate with the following entities:

- Political clubs or student organizations
- Student leaders
- Residential Life
- Coates Student Library
- Athletics
- Student Affairs
- Academic Affairs
- Chapel | Spiritual Life
- And more!

On campus, our task force and members have coordinated:

- Voting in student body elections
- Political speakers
- Walks / rides to polls
- Voter registration
- Promotion and celebration of Civic Holidays (National Voter Registration Day, National Voter Education Week, Vote Early Day, and Election Day)
- Deliberative dialogues
- Congress to Campus

## II. Leadership

Dr. Jamie Thompson, Director for Strategic Initiatives, provides leadership to the Task Force to increase civic learning and democratic engagement on campus. Undergraduate students, faculty, and staff lead this work at Trinity University in order to accomplish our goals and further institutionalize our commitment to civic learning, democratic engagement, and youth participation in elections.

As of August 2024, the TU Voter Engagement Task Force membership includes:

- Dr. Jamie Thompson, Director for Strategic Initiatives, *chair*
- Jackson Delhagen, Democracy Fellow and Student Government Association representative
- James Oberwortmann, Democracy Fellow
- Gage Weisman, Residential Life
- Jessica Kemp, Assistant Chaplain
- Darin Wild, Lieutenant Trinity University Police Department
- Julianna Torres, Police Corporal Trinity University Police Department
- Dr. Cabral Balreira, Professor, Mathematics
- Dr. Austin Bussing, Assistant Professor, Political Science
- Dr. Nels Christiansen, Dean, School of Social Science and Civic Engagement
- Dr. Alex Gallin-Parisi, Associate Professor, University Librarian
- Dr. Julie Persellin, Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of Accounting
- Daniel Martinez, Coordinator of Sports Performance Center & Head Strength/Conditioning Coach
- Sean Macias, Student Programming Board representative
- Cristian Martinez, Trinity University Progressives registered student organization

representative

- Unknown at this time, Trinity University Greek Council representative
- Unknown at this time, Trinity Diversity Council representative

In 2024, our strategic initiatives will involve support from student leaders, organizations, faculty, and staff, with a specific focus on engaging athletic coaches, cultural organizations, the Student Inclusion & Belonging Office, and interdisciplinary faculty. Collaborative efforts will extend into classrooms, co-curricular programming, and student engagement, when possible.

Additionally, we leverage relationships with a number of local, non-profit, non-partisan organizations such as Bexar County Elections Office, League of Women Voters, Youth Do Vote, and American Indians in Texas. These organizations support voter registration efforts on campus, as well as Volunteer Deputy Registrar (VDR) training, event support, and more. Maintaining these relationships with expert partners is a priority.

The Task Force met several times during the Spring 2024 semester, twice during the summer (July and August) and will meet monthly from September to November 2024. In Spring 2025, the Task Force will meet monthly. The two summer meetings (July and August) enabled the Task Force to prepare to launch programming and education tied to the Civic Holidays.

#### Succession Planning

In terms of continuing this important work and succession planning, a portion of FTE is dedicated to voter engagement efforts and additional concepts are on the horizon. Specifically, the Director for Strategic Initiatives portfolio includes signature programs in the Division of Student Affairs, of which voter engagement is included. As such, this role has dedicated FTE directed toward voter engagement efforts. New FTE in the Center for Experiential Learning and Career Success (CELCS) is likely to include co-leadership of the Task Force. In Academic Affairs, a “school system” was implemented in 2023-2024 and the Dean of the School for Social Sciences and Civic Engagement is likely to play a larger role with the Task Force and civic engagement, broadly, in future years. Regarding succession planning for Task Force membership, there is a stated expectation that membership reflect a healthy representation of at least four students, three faculty members, and two staff. Task Force membership is revisited regularly and invitations to join the Task Force are continually extended to ensure diverse perspectives from students, faculty, and staff. This approach also addresses membership turnover that naturally occurs from one semester to the next. At this time, the Task Force membership exceeds these group thresholds in each category of students, faculty, and staff.

### **III. Commitment**

Our institution and our campus leadership demonstrate commitment to improving civic learning and democratic engagement. Trinity University is guided by a mission to prepare its graduates to pursue lives of meaning and purpose and to thrive in an interconnected world. Trinity’s guiding values of enduring excellence, intentional inclusion, and perpetual discovery are central to its mission. At Trinity, students are expected to connect across differences while thinking deeply and acting meaningfully.

Mission: Trinity University is a transformational liberal arts and sciences university with selected professional and pre-professional programs. In pursuit of this mission, Trinity is committed to the highest levels of academic and professional excellence in teaching, research, learning, service, leadership, and personal integrity. Trinity embraces innovation in all pursuits: rigorous and relevant courses, supportive mentoring relationships, and a wealth of learning opportunities wherever they occur. Trinity prepares its graduates to pursue lives of meaning and purpose.

Vision: Trinity will redefine liberal arts education for the 21st century. By embracing innovation, Trinity will become a national leader by preparing students to thrive in an interconnected world, strengthening interdisciplinary and experiential education, and integrating academic and residential campus life.

### Overview

Trinity University leadership's unwavering commitment to enhancing civic learning and democratic engagement is evident across multiple dimensions. Guided by our overarching mission to prepare graduates for lives of meaning and purpose in an interconnected world. Our leaders prioritize values of enduring excellence, intentional inclusion, and perpetual discovery.

In 2022, Trinity University changed Carnegie Classifications to the category of national liberal arts with a goal to achieve a position among the top 25 national liberal arts institutions. This driver is an indication of where and how the institution intends to impact student learning and engagement. Trinity's commitment extends to its impact within communities, as evidenced by the Pathways curriculum and a robust commitment to faculty development. Collaborations with the Faculty Senate and University Curriculum Council, particularly in defining Experiential Learning (EXL) courses, truly highlight our leadership's proactive role in shaping students' purposeful engagement with communities, both locally and globally.

Key initiatives in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging have been a consistent focus. Symposia such as "Inclusive Excellence" in 2019-20 and the formation of the Diversity & Inclusion Task Force in Summer 2020 underline our leadership's commitment to fostering an equitable and inclusive community.

Trinity's dedication to democratic engagement is evident in our long-standing participation in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) since 2012, resulting in increased voter registration and recognition from the All In Challenge program. The 2020 TU Census & Voter Engagement Task Force further showcases our proactive approach to guide census and voting initiatives.

Looking ahead, institutional changes, such as the recent reclassification to a Carnegie Baccalaureate Arts & Sciences institution (i.e, national liberal arts category), the momentum from the 2020 general election, and the commitment from the Student Government Association, underscore the institution's strategic focus on civic engagement. The incorporation of holistic student success, the emphasis on diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, along with new cabinet-level leadership attuned to civic engagement, collectively strengthen our institution's commitment to voter engagement, supported by key entities like NASPA, Students Learn Students Vote, Ask Every Student, Campus Vote Project, and the All In Challenge program.

### Recent Events Signaling Institutional Support and Commitment

Our 20th President and first female-identified president, Dr. Vanessa Beasley, is fully committed to civic engagement, in particular discussion and dialogue across differences. In Fall 2023, Dr. Beasley signed the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation. (The prior president, Dr. Danny Anderson, also signed the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment in prior years.) The Vice President for Student Affairs funded a Deliberative Dialogue workshop, emphasizing the importance of teaching students to engage in difficult conversations, a testament to our leadership's proactive approach. In Spring 2024, the Executive Leadership Team (cabinet) supported Congress to Campus in Spring 2024, demonstrating a tangible dedication to fostering civic engagement.

Employee initiatives are also abound. In Summer 2023, the institution funded and supported a collaborative Associated Colleges of the South (ACS) DEIB professional development program for employees. This pilot workshop series was designed to encourage meaningful discussions that embrace difficult dialogues and work towards solving complex issues.

In 2023-2024, for the second year in a row, Trinity partnered with [Campus Vote Project](#) to recruit, hire, fund, and train two Democracy Fellows, James Oberwortmann (returner) and Jackson Delhagen (year one). Trinity University supplements stipends provided by Campus Vote Project to ensure the Fellows are paid \$10/hour for 10 hours/week. The presence of two Democracy Fellows is a game-changer in accomplishing the goals and everyday efforts of the Task Force. Additionally, the presence of two Democracy Fellows is an indication of sustained support and commitment in the form of person-power, as well as funding.

In conclusion, Trinity University embodies multiple strengths in relation to civic and democratic engagement efforts:

- Our institution's mission statement, values, and strategic plan mention civic learning and democratic engagement;
- We have a coalition of people who are positioned to implement civic learning and democratic engagement on our campus;
- Voter engagement efforts on campus are nonpartisan;
- We are able to engage student leaders in campus-based initiatives.

## **IV. Landscape**

The following tables provide a brief overview of the landscape of our campus. This information is sourced from the [Trinity University 2023-2024 Factbook](#).

Enrollment Data:

Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
2,581	163	2,744

## Gender Demographics:

Undergraduate Male FT	Undergraduate Female FT
46%	54%

## Racial Demographics:

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS CHARACTERISTICS

ETHNICITY	2021-22			2022-23			2023-24		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Black or African American	49	54	103 4.0%	48	57	105 4.1%	49	61	110 4.3%
Asian	132	68	200 7.7%	133	68	201 7.8%	137	68	205 7.9%
Hispanic/Latino	337	228	565 21.9%	351	262	613 23.9%	365	267	632 24.5%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	4	3	7 0.3%	2	2	4 0.2%	3	0	3 0.1%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	2	2 0.1%	1	1	2 0.1%	1	0	1 0.0%
Two or more races	70	57	127 4.9%	70	44	114 4.4%	69	63	132 5.1%
White	722	726	1448 56.1%	711	666	1377 53.6%	704	645	1349 52.3%
Non-resident Alien	48	63	111 4.3%	58	73	131 5.1%	52	75	127 4.9%
Race/ethnicity unknown	11	8	19 0.7%	12	11	23 0.9%	13	9	22 0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>1,209</b>	<b>2,582 100%</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>1,184</b>	<b>2,570 100%</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>2,581 100%</b>

## Geographic Demographics:

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS CHARACTERISTICS

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
<b>Home Address</b>						
782... Zip	322	12.5%	331	12.9%	352	13.6%
Texas	1959	75.9%	1964	76.4%	2027	78.5%
Outside the U.S.	117	4.5%	138	5.4%	129	5.0%
<b>AGE DISTRIBUTION</b>						
Mean	20		20		20	
Median	20		20		20	
<b>PELL STUDENTS</b>	409	15.8%	418	16.3%	455	17.6%
<b>FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS</b>	294	11.4%	311	12.1%	311	12.0%

The institution implements the following data gathering tools:

- National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is used to inform faculty engagement and classroom settings.
- Higher Education Data Sharing (HEDS) Diversity and Equity Campus Climate Survey and Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey
- Trinity University is a member of the University of Southern California (USC) Race & Equity Alliance. Our partnership enables us to implement the National Assessment of Collegiate Campus Climate (NACCC)
- Ask Every Student First Step Form

### Data-informed Takeaways

Given the demographic makeup of the institution (namely, gender, race, study abroad, range of academic majors, and out of state residence) in combination with NSVLE data from 2020 and 2022, three key opportunities exist.

- Increase the voting rate of male-identified voters:
  - 2024 efforts: partnerships with athletics, TurboVote Challenge with athletics
- Increase the voting rate of underrepresented student populations:
  - 2024 efforts: partnerships identity-based student organizations, resource-sharing with identity-based groups, TurboVote Challenge with student organizations
- Increase the voting rate of all academic disciplines:
  - 2024 efforts: additional faculty engaged on the Task Force, data sharing with academic deans, connect relevant deans with [Science Rising](#) resources
- Support out of state and study abroad students with resources to register to vote and vote where they desire:
  - 2024 efforts: partnerships with Study Abroad, National Voter Registration Day and National Voter Education Week events

As such, many of the goals set for 2024 are explicitly connected to these gaps (see the above concepts, as well as goals one through five in the Executive Summary and Goals sections). These data-informed observations and action plan goals expand our impact in creating a more inclusive voter engagement strategy that caters to the unique needs and challenges faced by students in athletics, male-identified students, STEM disciplines, and more at Trinity University. Additionally, while Institutional Research & Effectiveness implements the aforementioned surveys, the Task Force leadership has not intentionally connected conclusions from these datasets to the work and goals of the Task Force. Examining the political climate and democratic engagement on campus via these datasets is an opportunity for the future.

### Preparing for Fall 2024

The voter engagement task force at Trinity University is aware of general changes to voting laws and polling sites that may impact our efforts this year. These changes include updates to voter registration procedures, identification requirements, polling locations, and early voting opportunities. Near many college campuses there has variability in the available polling locations. At Trinity, polling sites during early voting and voting period are off campus and only about 0.50 mile away. However, if students are unable to walk to the nearest site or do not have a form of vehicle transportation, this can be limiting. The Task Force addresses these barriers by providing clear information and resources to students, advocating for equitable voting practices, providing van transportation to the polls on Vote Early Day and Election Day and collaborating with local authorities to ensure smooth and accessible voting experiences for all eligible voters within our campus community. For example, in 2022, over 100 students used our free van services to ride to the polls. We plan to continue these efforts to make the polls accessible and adapt to any changes in voter registration procedures or identification requirements by staying up to date and making that information accessible efficiently and effectively through social media, handouts, and catered events.

Our landscape analysis reveals a diverse student body with varying levels of engagement in voter activities. Key demographic insights include a high percentage of in-state students, significant gender diversity, and distinct participation rates among different academic disciplines, notably



athletics and STEM. Leveraging this understanding, our action plan emphasizes targeted outreach and engagement strategies tailored to specific student groups to foster a more inclusive and participatory campus community.

## V. Goals

### Summary of our Prior Achievements

Based on the All in Challenge Action Plan submitted for the last midterm election in 2022, the main goals were broadly achieved. See the list of goals below, along with a status report for each item. Generally, we met the stated goals in relation to programming and education, though our quantitative goals were underwhelming compared to 2020 and 2018 data. We look forward to improving on these items in the year ahead.

1. By November 2022, apply for and receive at least one external funding/grant to support voter engagement at Trinity University.
  - a. **COMPLETE:** Applied for and received a mini takeover grant in the amount of \$300.00.
2. By November 2022, partner with MOVE Texas to leverage local resources, including hosting at least one voter registration drive on campus.
  - a. **COMPLETE:** The Task Force partnered with MOVE Texas on 13 separate occasions to table, host voter registration, and share resources. Approximately 215 students, faculty, and staff were registered to vote as a result of this collaborative effort.
3. By June 2022, collaborate with cultural and identity-based student organizations to identify two DEI and belonging (voting-focused) topics that can serve as education platforms for campus in Fall 2022.
  - a. **INCOMPLETE:** The stakeholders who were invited to ideate and implement noted insufficient bandwidth to support additional programming in Fall 2022.
4. NSLVE data goals for the 2022 midterm elections:
  - a. Increase eligible registered voters to 95% (from 93.3% in 2020, 89.2% in 2018, and 86.7% in 2016).
    - i. **INCOMPLETE:** The 2022 registration rate was 90.4% (down from 2020, though 1.2% higher than the last midterm election in 2018).
  - b. Increase the voting rate to 80% (from 75.6% in 2020, 52.9% in 2018, and 52.7% in 2016).
    - i. **INCOMPLETE:** The 2022 voting rate was 49.8% (down from 2020 and 9.5% lower than the last midterm election in 2018).
  - c. Increase the proportion of male students voting to 75% (from 67% in 2020 and 41.1% in 2018).
    - i. **INCOMPLETE:** The 2022 voting rate by male-identified students was 34% (down from 2020 and 8% lower than the last midterm election in 2018).
  - d. Increase voter turnout rate by discipline to at least 70%.
    - i. **INCOMPLETE:** The 2022 voting rate by discipline ranged from 30-66%.

In a prior action plan, we identified the need to develop a University web page to communicate resources and information to the community as a five-year goal. In Summer 2023, we unveiled the [TU Voter Engagement](#) web page dedicated to providing resources and trusted information for Trinity students, faculty, and staff. In addition, the Democracy Fellows initiated an Instagram page, [TrinityVotes](#), to reach students via social media. Both of these successes have shaped our communication strategy in positive ways.

While not identified as a goal in the prior cycle, but an important success nonetheless, TU Democracy Fellow, Kiara Fernando, was recognized as a student recipient on the All in Challenge Voting Honor Roll. Similarly, Interim Associate Vice President and Dean of Students, Dr. Jamie Thompson, was nominated for the outstanding administrator award.

In November 2023, both Democracy Fellows attended the National Student Vote Summit. They attended the conference with the goals of networking and engaging with others to develop an idea of how Trinity University could effectively prepare for 2024.

### 2024 Goals

As shared in the Executive Summary, building upon our achievements and momentum over the last four years and data from the 2020 and 2022 NSLVE reports, the TU Voter Engagement Task Force outlined six goals to be completed by December 1, 2024. In order to achieve each goal, several action-oriented tasks are embedded underneath the goals. While many of these tasks will help to achieve more than one goal, the tasks only appear once underneath a single goal.

- 1. Increase eligible registered voters to 95%** (from 93.2% in 2020)
  - a. *Host school-wide Voter Deputy Registrar (VDR) training:* Expand the network of VDRs on campus through comprehensive training in collaboration with the Bexar County Elections Office.
  - b. *Access student body email to share voter engagement resources:* Utilize the Class Of Google Groups emails to share resources about upcoming elections.
  - c. *Host a TurboVote Challenge:* Host a TurboVote sign-up challenge between athletics, residence halls, and student organizations to increase the number of students with available and accessible voter registration resources.
- 2. Increase the general election voting rate to 85%** (75.6% in 2020)
  - a. *Collaborate with Trinity Dining Services:* Host a themed meal and tabling during National Voter Education Week to promote civic engagement.
  - b. *Engage Trinity University Coates Library:* Collaborate with the library to create an interactive exhibit to encourage, educate, and demystify voting.
  - c. *Apply for at least one grant opportunity:* Strengthen the partnership with Ask Every Student by applying for at least one grant and participating in relevant surveys.
  - d. *Share Information about Voter ID Requirements:* Host tabling to provide essential information about voter ID requirements.
  - e. *Host National Voter Education Week events in collaboration with National Mental Health Awareness Week:* Host National Voter Education Week events to promote making a plan to vote and understanding what is on one's ballot through the lens of mental health during a general election.
- 3. Increase the voting rate of underrepresented students to at least 75% for all demographic groups** (between 62-83% in 2020)
  - a. *Create a Voter Champion program for organizations and athletic teams:* Create a Voter Champion program in which groups identify an individual to be trained, participate in recurring meetings, support events, and cascade relevant information and resources to members of their respective organizations.
  - b. *Invite members of identity-based organizations to join the Task Force:* Extend invitations to identity-based registered student organizations to join and contribute

to the Task Force.

- c. *Provide support and connections to national organizations for identity-based student organizations:* Provide support to identity-based registered student organizations by making connections to national non-profit entities with whom organizations can partner and access external resources and support.
- 4. Increase the proportion of male-identified students voting to 75%** (from 67% in 2020)
  - a. *Invite the Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) to join the Task Force:* Extend an invitation to the SAAC to join and contribute to the Task Force.
- 5. Increase voter turnout rate by discipline to at least 70%** (between 64-83% in 2020)
  - a. *Target majors with low voting turnout:* Share Science Rising resources with STEM faculty leaders.
  - b. *Share NSLVE reports with Academic Deans:* Share the 2020 and 2020 NSLVE reports with all four academic deans.
  - c. *Partner with the Study Abroad Office:* Share resources for voting while studying abroad with the Student Abroad Office so information can be shared directly with affected students.
- 6. Advocate for Student Poll Workers**
  - a. *Strengthen advocacy for poll workers:* Host a Youth Voter & Poll Worker Fest in collaboration with [Youth Do Vote](#).

### Mid-term Goals

The following are mid-term goals to be completed by the end of the 2026-2027 academic year:

1. By June 1, 2027, develop a sustainable institutional structure ensuring year-round civic engagement efforts.
2. By June 1, 2027, elevate our Ask Every Student partnership.
3. By June 1, 2027, host an annual campus-wide Voter Deputy Registrar (VDR) training session, broadening our network of VDRs on campus and in the San Antonio community.
4. By June 1, 2027, extend our advocacy for student poll workers.

### Long-term Goals

The following are long-term goals (i.e., within the next five years) to be completed by or before the 2028-2029 academic year:

1. By June 1, 2029, increase voting rates such that students of color are voting at the same rate as White students.
2. By June 1, 2029, integrate democratic engagement into the curriculum via content in the GNED Life Lab courses to enhance the educational landscape and make connections to civic learning and democratic engagement.
3. By June 1, 2020, identify and pilot an official University committee with co-chair leaders from Academic Affairs and Student Affairs that will replace the ad-hoc TU Voter Engagement Task Force.

Via a strong leadership structure, institutional commitment, and action-oriented strategies and tasks, these goals aim to create a sustainable culture of civic engagement at Trinity University.

## VI. Strategy

In order to accomplish the aforementioned goals, the following planned activities and initiatives related to voter registration, voter education, and voter turnout are in progress. These planned activities are aligned with the action-oriented strategies and tasks previously identified in the goals section. This information is also available in a [presentation format here](#).

What	When	Where	Point of contact	Partners/collaborators
Voter registration: League of Women Voters at Tiger Takeoff Summer Orientation	Summer 2024	Great Hall, Chapman Center	Nicole Lehmann	Student Inclusion & Belonging; DOS Office; League of Women Voters
Voter registration: League of Women Voters at Move-in Weekend	August 23, 2024	Mabee Dining Hall	Nicole Lehmann; James Oberwortmann	League of Women Voters
Voter registration at the Fall 2024 Student Involvement Fair	August 28, 2024	Miller Fountain	James Oberwortmann; Jackson Delhagen	Democracy Fellows + Task Force
Volunteer Deputy Registrar (VDR) Training for students, faculty, and staff hosted by Bexar County Elections via Zoom	September 6, 2024	via Zoom	Jamie Thompson	Bexar County Elections Office + Task Force
Youth Voter & Poll Worker Fest: 500 high school students + 150 Trinity University students will meet n' greet elected officials, learn about how to become a poll worker, get registered to vote, and more!	September 27, 2024	Laurie Auditorium	Kyle Gillette, Jamie Thompson, Justin Michaelson, Katie Ramirez, Heather Eichling	CELCS; Academic Affairs; Student Affairs; Youth Do Vote
<b>National Voter Registration Day</b>	September 17, 2024	Magic Stones	Jamie Thompson + Task Force	Task Force, TUPD, SPB, SGA, TDC, League of Women Voters, Youth Do Vote
Turbovote Competition	September -October 6	N/A	Jackson Delhagen	Democracy Fellows + Task Force
Student Voter Champions program: Student organization representatives will be trained and charged with cascading resources to their organization membership and supporting Task Force efforts	September -October, 2024	N/A	James Oberwortmann	Democracy Fellows + Task Force
<b>National Voter Education Week</b> collaboration with National Mental Health Awareness Week	October 7-11, 2024	various locations	James Oberwortmann, Jackson Delhagen, Jamie Thompson, Marlaina Widmann	Library, Wellness Services, Task Force, Academic Affairs
Check your registration status tabling (10-12 pm); "Gerrymandering + Math" lecture by Professor Andrea Barreiro (4:30 pm)	October 7, 2024	Chapman Auditorium		
<i>Request a mail in ballot tabling</i>	October 8, 2024	Coates Library		

"Wellness Wednesday" tabling (10-1 pm); "Don't Wing It - Make a Plan to Vote event at Mabee Dining Hall (5-7 pm) Expressive Activities Tabletop Exercise for student organizations (5:30-7 pm)	October 9, 2024	various locations		
Learn what's on your ballot tabling (10-12 pm); Your Mental Health + Politics Resource Fair (10-1 pm); Distinguished Lecture Series featuring Michael Steele, Paul Begala (7:30-8:30 pm)	October 10, 2024	various locations		
Level up your voter engagement celebration with food, swag, and celebration + build your own election care kit (1-2 pm)	October 11, 2024	Coates Student Center lobby		
Student body email via SGA President re: NVRD and early voting/transportation resources and reminders	September 17 + October 21	N/A	Jamie Thompson	SGA
All faculty/staff email via HR re: NVRD and early voting/transportation resources and reminders	September 17 + October 21	N/A	Jamie Thompson	Human Resources
<b>Vote Early Day:</b> resources, swag, and transportation to the nearest poll	October 29, 2024	Northrup Hall parking lot	Task Force + Jamie Thompson	
<b>Election Day:</b> resources, swag, and transportation to the nearest poll	November 5, 2024	Northrup Hall parking lot	Task Force + Jamie Thompson	
Election Night Reprieve (5-11 pm)	November 5, 2024	Chapel	Alex Serna-Wallender	Chapel   Spiritual Life
Post-election Listening Circles across campus (n=4) (various times and locations)	November 6, 2024	various locations	Task Force + Jamie Thompson	Residential Life, Library, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Chapel   Spiritual Life
Post-election resources for students (social media, digital screens, email)	November 4, 2024	N/A	Task Force + Jamie Thompson	Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Task Force, SGA
Post-election resources for employees (social media, digital screens, email)	November 4, 2024	N/A	Task Force + Jamie Thompson	Human Resources, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Task Force

Mid-term goals to be completed by the end of the 2026-2027 academic year will require the following action-oriented strategies and tasks:

1. By June 1, 2027, develop a sustainable institutional structure ensuring year-round civic engagement efforts.
  - a. Meet regularly with the Dean for the School of Social Sciences and leadership from the Center for Experiential Learning & Career Success to ideate and identify resources connected to leadership, staffing, funding, and other forms of infrastructure, underscoring a lasting commitment to civic and voter engagement inside and outside the classroom at Trinity University.
2. By June 1, 2027, elevate our Ask Every Student partnership.

- a. Act on recommendations from the First Step Form;
  - b. Secure access to grants;
  - c. Actively participate in surveys.
3. By June 1, 2027, host an annual campus-wide Voter Deputy Registrar (VDR) training session, broadening our network of VDRs on campus and in the San Antonio community.
  - a. Continue to partner with Bexar County Elections Office each fall to host virtual VDR training for the Trinity community.
4. By June 1, 2027, extend our advocacy for student poll workers.
  - a. Leverage partnerships with [Youth Do Vote](#) to continue to collaborate and host events together.
  - b. Apply for the [Help America Vote College Program](#).

Long-term goals to be completed by the end of the 2028-2029 academic year will require the following action-oriented strategies and tasks:

1. By June 1, 2029, increase voting rates such that students of color are voting at the same rate as White students.
  - a. Build a partnership with Student Inclusion & Belonging (SIB) to ensure Task Force membership includes SIB staff and student leaders from underrepresented student organizations;
  - b. Utilize data from campus climate surveys to better understand democratic engagement for underrepresented students, including hosting one or more focus groups to learn more from a qualitative perspective.
2. By June 1, 2029, integrate democratic engagement into the curriculum via content in the GNED Life Lab courses to enhance the educational landscape and make connections to civic learning and democratic engagement.
  - a. Collaborate with GNED 1111 subject matter experts to build a new classroom module dedicated to civic and democratic engagement.
3. By June 1, 2020, identify and pilot an official University committee with co-chair leaders from Academic Affairs and Student Affairs that will replace the ad-hoc TU Voter Engagement Task Force.
  - a. Learn about the process to request a University committee.
  - b. Build an alliance/group of advocates who will support the committee;
  - c. Create and implement a plan to request a new University committee.

## VII. National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

Trinity University has partnered with the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education (IDHE) at Tufts University to ensure data-sharing for the purpose of the NSLVE data and report since 2012. [2022 NSLVE data](#) was shared in June 2023 and has since been incorporated and embedded into this plan to drive future initiatives. The screenshots below provide comparison data for general and midterm elections over the past several election cycles. Utilization of this data is incorporated into the Goals and Strategies sections of this action plan.

## Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

**YOUR INSTITUTION**

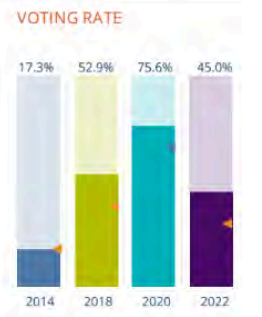
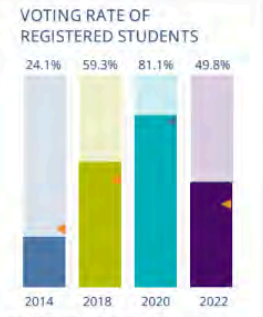
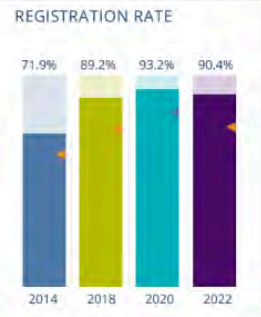
**45.0%**  
2022 Voting Rate

**-7.9**  
Change From 2018

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**ALL INSTITUTIONS**

**30.6%**  
2022 Voting Rate



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

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.

## By Institution Types

2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions

**39.1%**

HIGH 79%  
LOW 7%

2022 Voting Rate for All Institutions

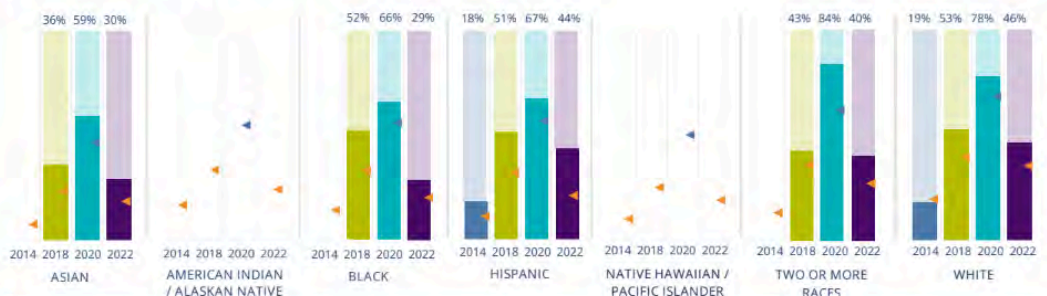
**30.6%**

HIGH 68%  
LOW 4%

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.



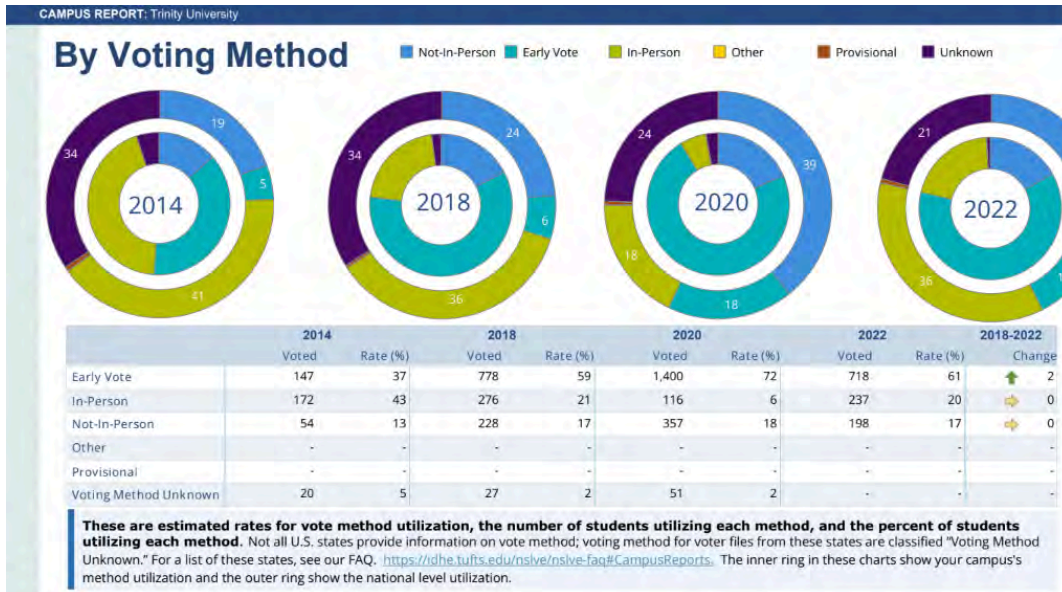
## By Race / Ethnicity



**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/ldhe-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>



CAMPUS REPORT: Trinity University

### Looking Closer

#### By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Female	1,302	262	20	1,380	787	57	1,391	1,086	78	1,471	738	50	↓ -6
Male	1,132	131	11	1,215	522	42	1,249	840	67	1,245	425	34	↓ -8

**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>

## VIII. Reporting

In disseminating this comprehensive action plan, we are committed to fostering transparency and inclusivity. Internally, the plan will be shared through various channels, including Academic Affairs deans and Student Affairs leadership. meetings and gatherings of student organizations. This strategy ensures those who are equipped and responsible for effectuating change are in receipt of the relevant information and data to do so. Externally, the action plan and our NVSLE report will be shared on the [TU Voter Engagement](#) web page. By sharing the plan widely, we ensure that all campus stakeholders have access to information necessary for informed planning and strategic programming. This approach not only enhances the effectiveness of our efforts but also underscores our dedication to fostering a culture of civic engagement within the broader educational community.



## IX. Evaluation

The evaluation of the action plan for increasing voter registration and turnout rates at Trinity University will be a multifaceted process aimed at assessing the effectiveness of the strategies implemented and informing future improvements for civic engagement work. The evaluation will encompass various aspects, including collecting and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data.

### Quantitative Data:

1. **NSLVE: The National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)** data will be a primary source for evaluating success. We will compare registration rates, voting rates, and voting rates among registered students from different years to track progress.
2. **TurboVote:** Analyze of TurboVote platform usage and student participation will provide insights into engagement levels and the effectiveness of voter registration initiatives across various student populations (i.e., athletes, student organizations, residential students).
3. **Budget Tracking:** Monitoring the budget allocated for voter engagement efforts will help assess the cost-effectiveness of strategies and identify initiatives that may need more or less resources in future years.
4. **Event engagement tracking:** Track student participation and engagement at events and Civic Holiday initiatives
  - **Volunteer Participation:** Maintain records of volunteer sign-ups and participation in voter engagement activities;
  - **Event Attendance:** Record attendance numbers at voter engagement events using sign-in sheets or digital registration platforms;
  - **Engagement with Voter Education Materials:** Track engagement metrics on social media (e.g., Instagram), training materials (e.g., Gamma slide deck), and through surveys distributed at events, if feasible.
5. **Student learning outcomes:** Assess the Voter Champion program using student learning outcomes in the Division of Student Affairs.
6. **Collaborate with Institutional Research & Effectiveness** to examine existing institutional datasets about democratic engagement and campus climate (i.e., NSSE, HEDS, etc.).

### Qualitative Data:

1. **Task Force Debrief:** Host an end of semester meeting with the Task Force to collect feedback and allow for reflection on the effectiveness of implemented strategies.
2. **All In Challenge Feedback:** Integrating feedback from the final submission of our Action Plan will provide valuable insights into initiatives and areas for improvement.
3. **Focus Group Sessions:** Conduct two focus groups with students who participated in at least three voter engagement initiatives or events. These sessions will provide an opportunity for in-depth discussions, gathering opinions, suggestions, and concerns directly from students involved in voter engagement activities.