



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for University Of Colorado Boulder

2020 NSLVE Campus Report



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College of Civic Life



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.

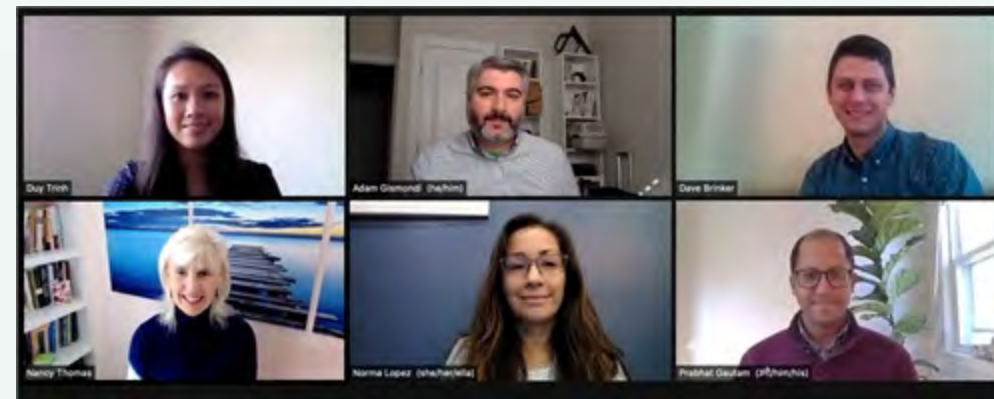
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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

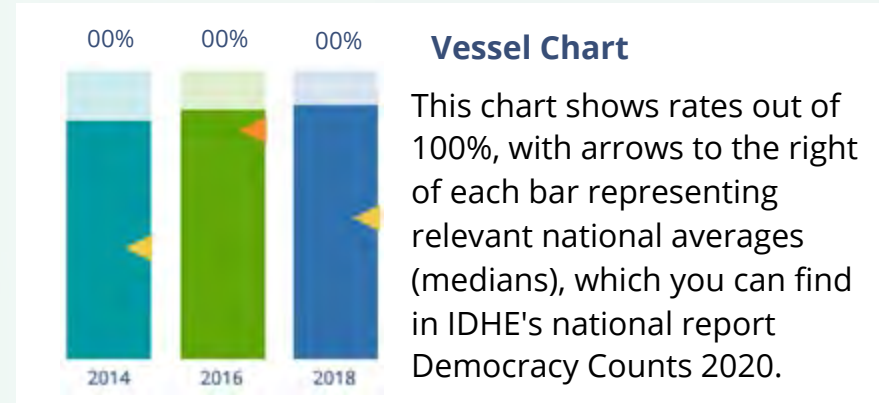


(Top Row from left) Duy Trinh, Program Administrator; Adam Gismondi, Director of Impact; Dave Brinker, Senior Researcher;
(Bottom Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.

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

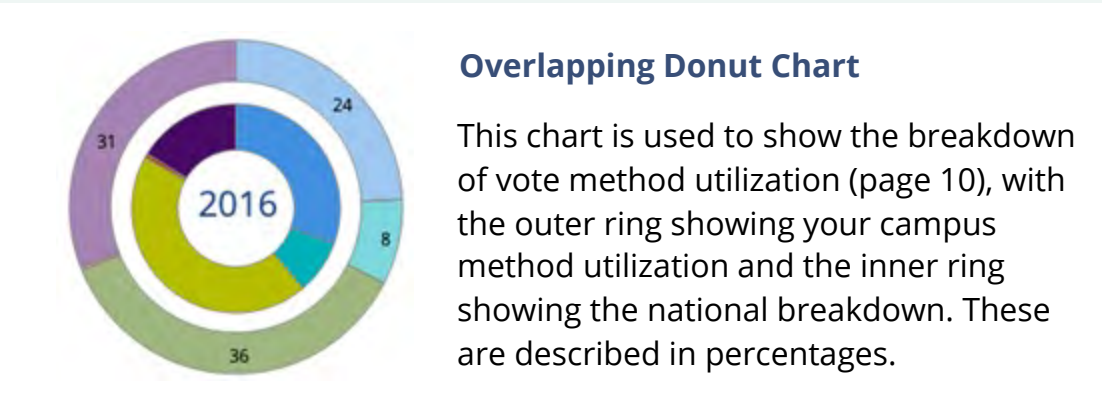
This report presents data on student voter participation rates for your campus. The topline counts on page 5 tells you how many students voted, but we encourage you to look carefully at the data on subsequent pages to learn who voted. Data are presented in the form of vessel charts, overlapping donut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



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

Tables

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



Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

80.3%

2020 Voting Rate

+12.7

Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Registration Rate
2016	84.0%
2018	82.1%
2020	90.6%

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	80.5%
2018	66.0%
2020	88.7%

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	67.6%
2018	54.2%
2020	80.3%

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	33,427	36,230	36,868	↑ 3,441
(Age under 18/Unknown)	–	–	–	–
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	3,089	3,146	2,349	↓ -740
(FERPA records blocked)	26	18	13	↓ -13
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	976	1,302	1,617	↑ 641
Total eligible voters	29,333	31,764	32,886	↑ 3,553
Number of students who registered	24,633	26,081	29,797	↑ 5,164
Number of students who voted	19,827	17,204	26,420	↑ 6,593
Registration Rate %	84	82	91	↑ 7
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	80	66	89	↑ 8
Voting Rate %	68	54	80	↑ 13

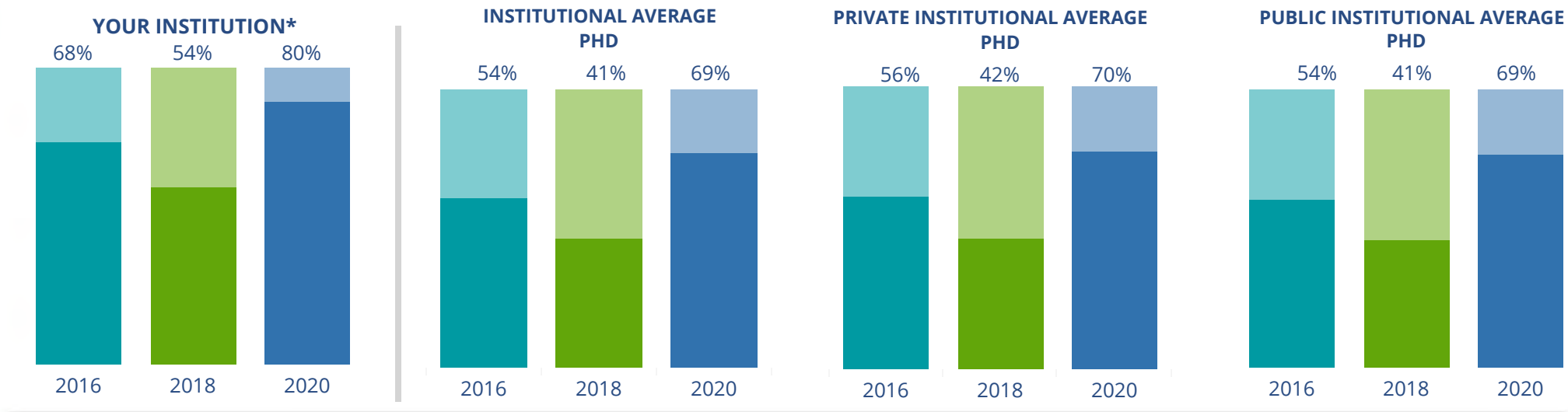
This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

We use 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/nsive/nsive-recalculation-tool>.

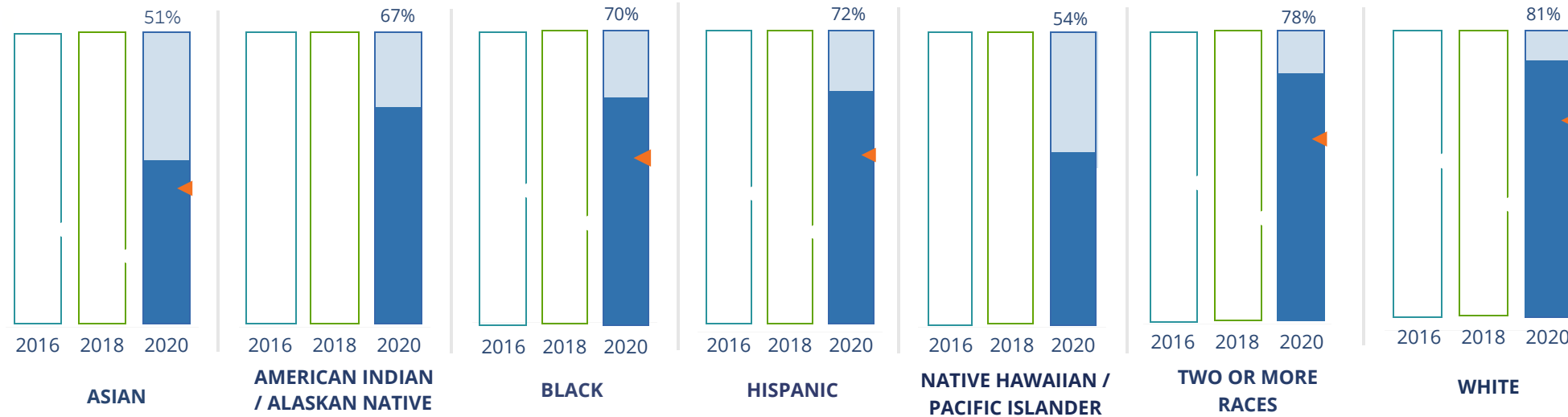
By Institution Types



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-nsve-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

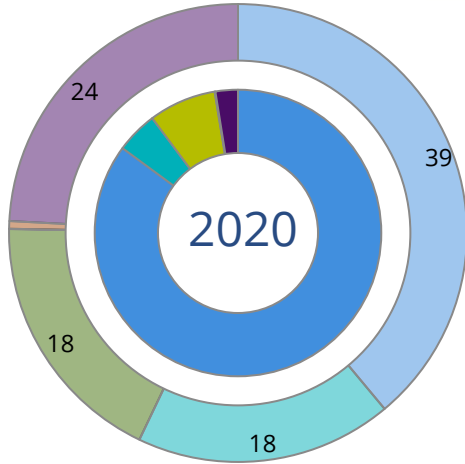
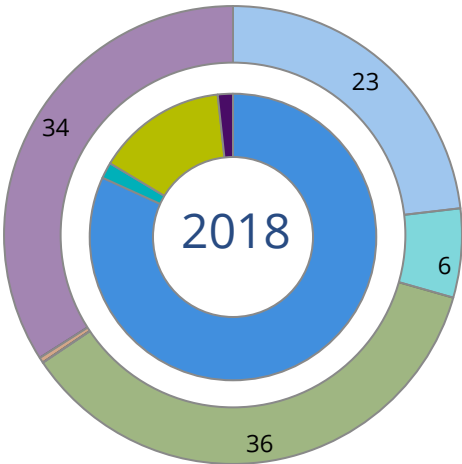
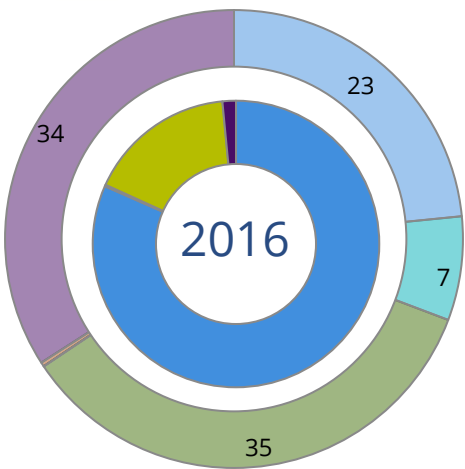
By Race/Ethnicity

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,927	1,481	51	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	45	67	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	602	422	70	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	698	502	72	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	14	54	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,931	4,613	78	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,711	19,083	80	-
Race Unknown	32,321	19,827	61	34,787	17,204	49	1,164	260	22	↓ -39

By Voting Method

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



	2016		2018		2020		2016-2020	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)	
Early Vote	43	0	309	2	1,247	5	5	↑
In-Person on Election Day	3,313	17	2,523	15	2,021	8	-9	↓
Not-In-Person	16,179	82	14,076	82	22,496	85	4	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	-	-	-	-	14	0	-	
Voting Method Unknown	292	2	296	2	641	3	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>

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	60%	47%	78%
22-24	60%	48%	70%
25-29	66%	58%	69%
30-39	68%	61%	72%
40-49	71%	66%	73%
50+	82%	77%	83%

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

Looking Closer

By Age Group

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

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	21,364	12,875	60	23,104	10,964	47	23,333	18,114	78	↑ 17
22-24	5,793	3,486	60	6,295	3,023	48	6,065	4,257	70	↑ 10
25-29	3,203	2,116	66	3,393	1,970	58	3,560	2,470	69	↑ 3
30-39	1,623	1,100	68	1,612	984	61	1,740	1,255	72	↑ 4
40-49	242	171	71	280	184	66	310	226	73	↑ 2
50+	96	79	82	103	79	77	118	98	83	↑ 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			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	26,995	16,362	61	29,367	14,071	48	29,294	22,325	76	↑	16
Graduate	5,323	3,463	65	5,413	3,128	58	5,828	4,092	70	↑	5
Class Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	7,621	54	4,143	7,793	40	3,088	7,362	72	5,296	↑	18
Second Year	6,379	60	3,807	6,696	46	3,102	6,818	77	5,218	↑	17
Upper Level	12,995	65	8,412	14,796	53	7,834	15,099	78	11,798	↑	13
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	28,408	17,358	61	30,510	14,840	49	30,447	23,151	76	↑	15
Part-time	3,913	2,469	63	4,277	2,364	55	4,679	3,269	70	↑	7

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level (undergraduate/graduate), Class Year, and Enrollment Status (full-time/part-time), and the numbers we used to calculate these rates.

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

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 RateChange (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Architecture	529	307	58	639	300	47	556	443	80	↑ 22
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	113	84	74	166	94	57	129	94	73	↓ -1
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	4,000	2,656	66	4,089	2,179	53	3,978	3,196	80	↑ 14
Business, Management, and Marketing	4,230	2,516	59	4,680	2,117	45	4,851	3,693	76	↑ 17
Communication and Journalism	1,866	1,187	64	2,153	1,077	50	2,183	1,752	80	↑ 17
Computer and Information Sciences	1,553	826	53	2,311	1,002	43	2,320	1,572	68	↑ 15
Education	275	229	83	395	275	70	537	452	84	↑ 1

These are estimated voting rates by field of study, and the numbers we used to calculate the field of study rates. For an explanation of CIP codes, please see our FAQ.* There are roughly 8,000 fields of study among U.S. colleges and universities, so we provide rates for condensed categories.

*<https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq>

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	5,871	3,354	57	5,552	2,649	48	5,697	4,064	71	↑ 14
English Language and Literature	559	395	71	525	330	63	416	356	86	↑ 15
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	514	333	65	450	257	57	365	270	74	↑ 9
Health Professions	339	259	76	312	191	61	303	258	85	↑ 9
History	328	221	67	341	188	55	287	240	84	↑ 16
Legal Professions and Studies	537	458	85	506	380	75	526	449	85	↑ 0
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,787	889	50	1,482	515	35	2,701	1,852	69	↑ 19
Mathematics and Statistics	552	332	60	669	313	47	652	456	70	↑ 10
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	845	556	66	972	569	59	585	463	79	↑ 13
Natural Resources and Conservation	729	463	64	935	508	54	887	728	82	↑ 19
Philosophy and Religious Studies	201	131	65	240	133	55	237	172	73	↑ 7
Physical Sciences	1,707	1,029	60	1,917	925	48	1,680	1,141	68	↑ 8
Psychology	1,768	1,066	60	2,006	948	47	2,217	1,711	77	↑ 17
Public Administration and Social Service P..	-	-	-	15	-	-	21	19	90	-

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Social Sciences	2,677	1,615	60	3,138	1,486	47	2,814	2,065	73	↑	13
Visual and Performing Arts	1,281	908	71	1,273	747	59	1,159	955	82	↑	12
Unknown	60	13	22	21	12	57	25	19	76	↑	54

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.

University Of Colorado Boulder

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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