

**2012 & 2016 CAMPUS REPORT**

Student Voting Rates for  
University of  
Massachusetts-Amherst

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

**About This Report**

**Your Institution's Voting Data**

Voting and Registration Rates

How Your Institution's Numbers  
Compare

**Your Students' Voting Data**

By Voting Method

By Age Group

By Education Level

By Undergraduate Class Year

By Enrollment Status

By Gender

By Race/Ethnicity

By Field of Study

# About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 1,000 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014 and 2016 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of nearly 30 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 2012 and 2016 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (FERPA-blocked records excluded) and publicly available voting files collected by Catalyst.

Institutional voting rates are adjusted by deducting an estimated number of students identified by each institution as non-resident aliens and reported to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). For breakdowns by student characteristics, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are non-resident aliens, resident aliens, or undocumented students. This may result in your institution's actual voting rate being higher than we report. To calculate that percentage, and to read more about NSLVE data, see our [FAQ on Campus Reports](#). Please also see [Creating and Maintaining the NSLVE Database](#) paper for a more detailed study methodology.

## Reviewing the Data

Use the following key to interpret the charts:

- \* = number of students is less than 10
- n/a = no data was collected or calculated for this field.

## What to do next?

- ❑ Review the data. This report provides a baseline measure of your students' engagement in democracy in 2012 and 2016, and compares your institution's voting rates to similar institutions. Visit our website for more comparison data.
- ❑ Share the report widely and strategically, including posting it online.
- ❑ Put your data into practice. Use our IDHE Resources to guide you.
- ❑ Address your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, and participation. Start by bringing the IDHE team to your campus or using the IDHE self-assessment rubric available on our website.
- ❑ Partner with IDHE. We are available with virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions and in-person trainings.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: [idhe.tufts.edu](http://idhe.tufts.edu).

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE) or email us at [NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu).

Warm regards,  
IDHE Team



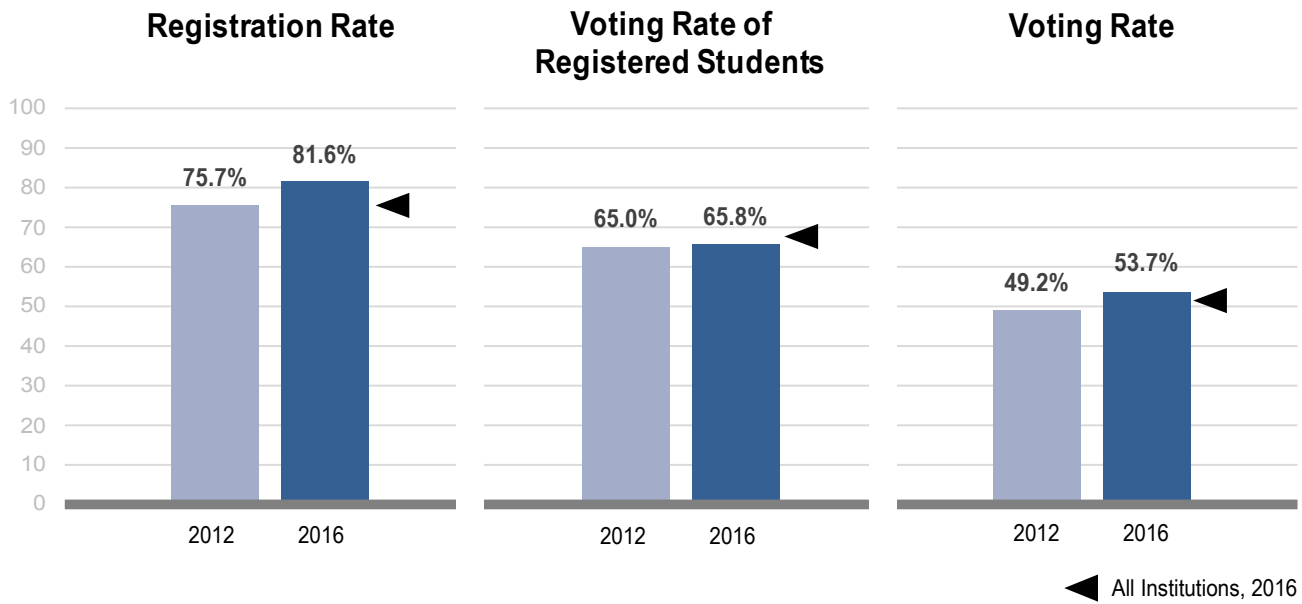
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# Voting and Registration Rates

**2016 Voting Rate**  
**53.7%**

CHANGE FROM 2012  
**4.5**

2016 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS  
**50.4%**



	2012	2016	Change
Total student enrollment	27,455	30,018	↑ 2,563
Age under 18/Unknown	(138)	(111)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(1,773)	(2,571)	
FERPA records blocked	(105)	(79)	
Total eligible voters	25,439	27,257	↑ 1,818
Number of students who registered	19,257	22,241	↑ 2,984
Number of students who voted	12,509	14,631	↑ 2,122
Registration rate	75.7%	81.6%	↑ 5.9
Voting rate of registered students	65.0%	65.8%	↑ 0.8
Voting rate	49.2%	53.7%	↑ 4.5
Difference from all institutions	+2.3	+3.3	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Carnegie Classification

**2012 Voting Rate for All Institutions**  
**46.9%**

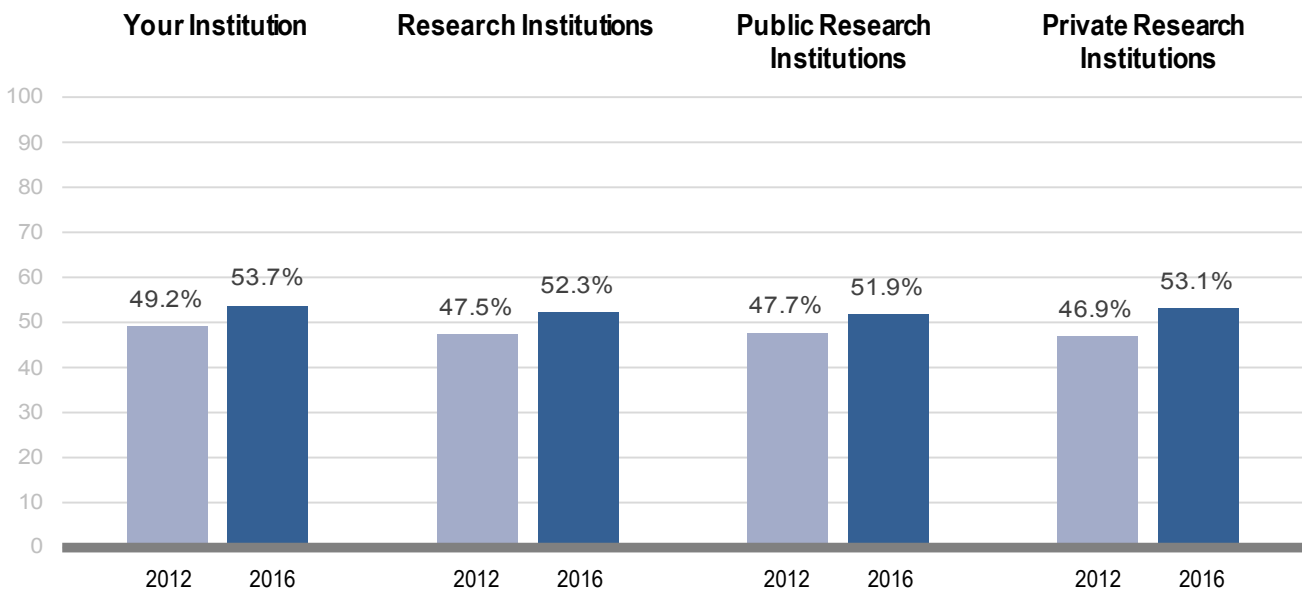
HIGH 72.9%  
 LOW 19.3%

**2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions**  
**50.4%**

HIGH 81.4%  
 LOW 13.1%

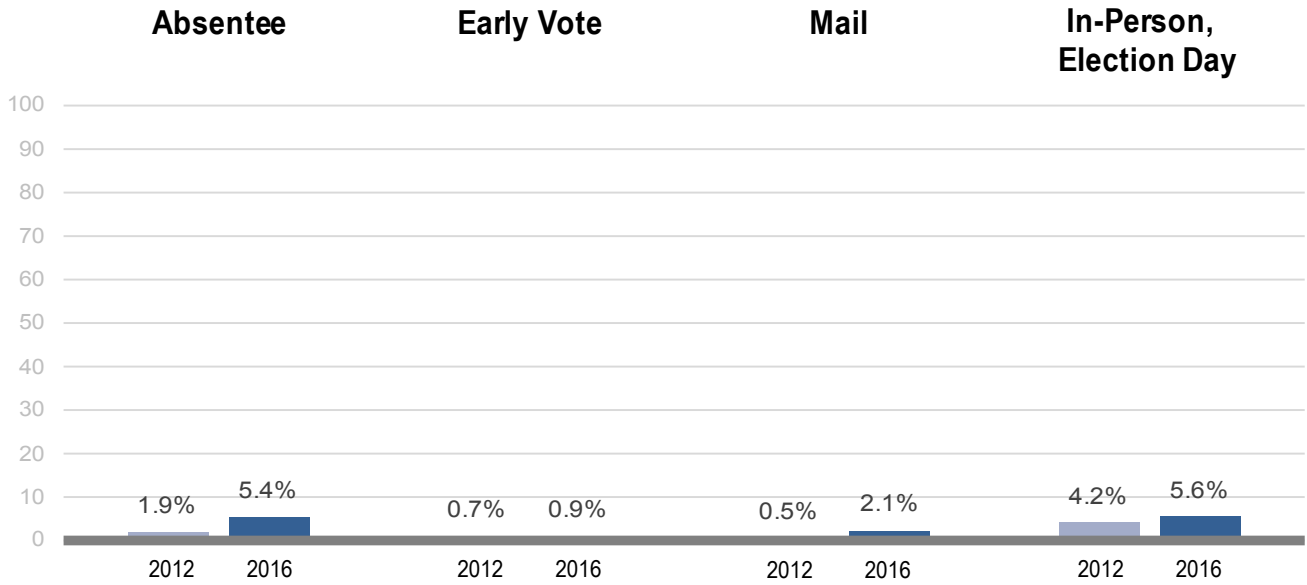
Difference from All Institutions **+2.3**

Difference from All Institutions **+3.3**



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Voting Method\*

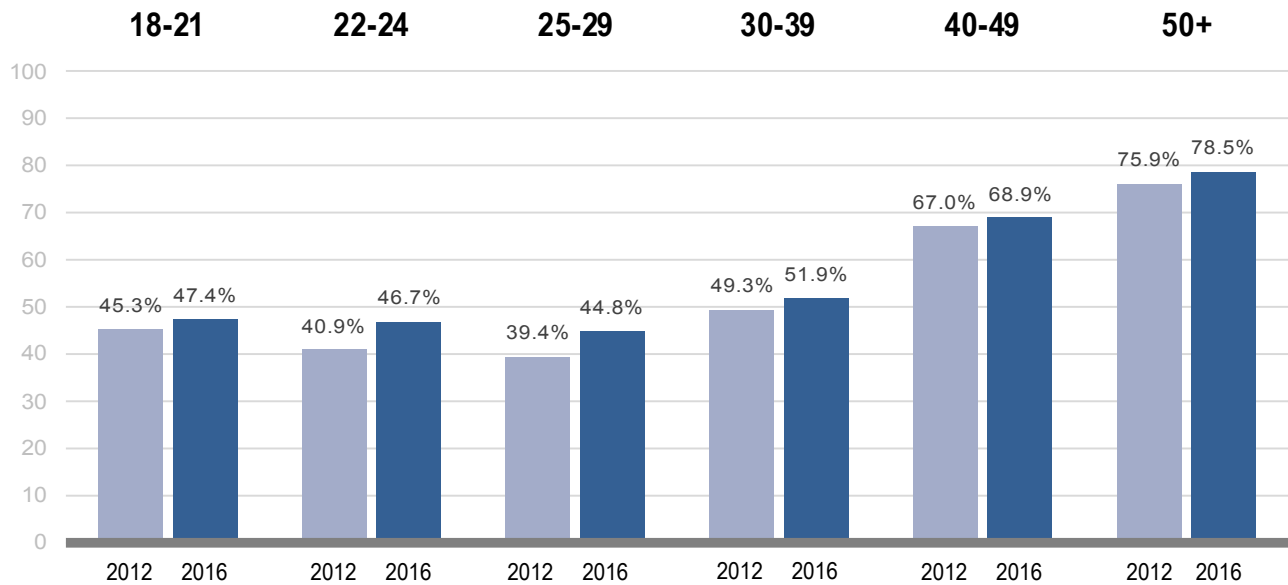


	2012		2016		Change
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	
Absentee	240	1.9%	783	5.4%	↑ 3.4
Early Vote	93	0.7%	130	0.9%	↑ 0.2
Mail	63	0.5%	311	2.1%	↑ 1.6
In-Person, Election Day	527	4.2%	814	5.6%	↑ 1.4
Unknown	11,586	92.6%	12,593	86.1%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,509</b>		<b>14,631</b>		

\* Your students' data broken down by voting method. If your campus has a high number of voting method "Unknown", it means that this information was not reported by local officials where your students voted.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Age Group\*

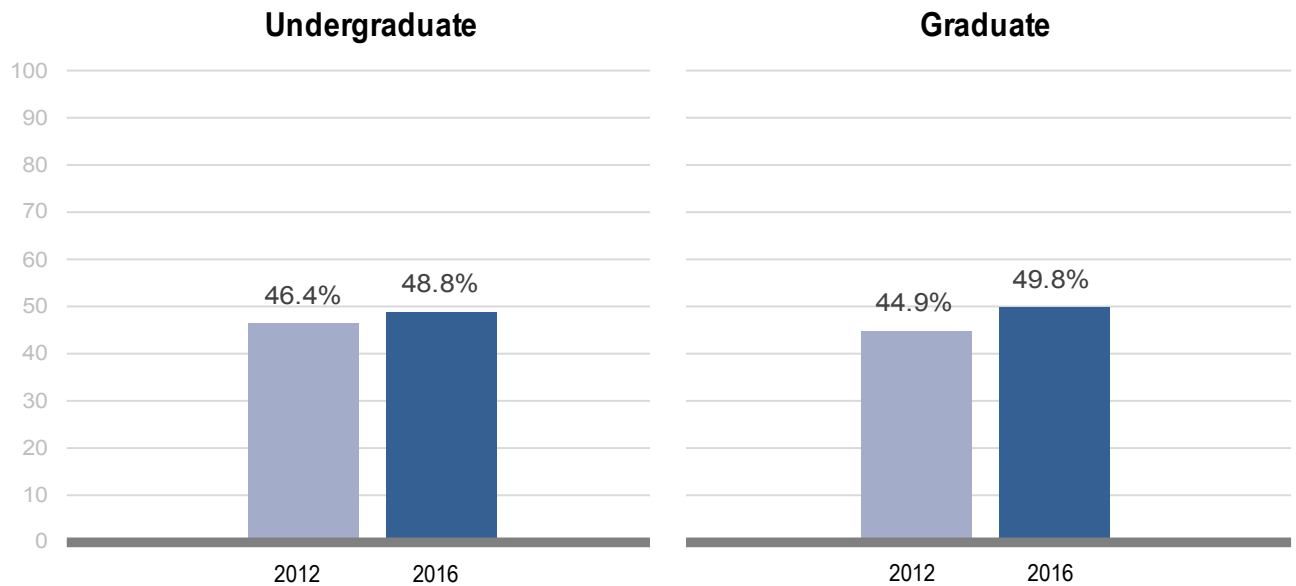


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	16,886	7,654	<b>45.3%</b>	18,737	8,887	<b>47.4%</b>	↑ 2.1
22-24	3,852	1,577	<b>40.9%</b>	3,890	1,818	<b>46.7%</b>	↑ 5.8
25-29	2,545	1,002	<b>39.4%</b>	2,708	1,214	<b>44.8%</b>	↑ 5.5
30-39	2,298	1,133	<b>49.3%</b>	2,636	1,368	<b>51.9%</b>	↑ 2.6
40-49	1,070	717	<b>67.0%</b>	1,184	816	<b>68.9%</b>	↑ 1.9
50+	561	426	<b>75.9%</b>	673	528	<b>78.5%</b>	↑ 2.5
Unknown	*			0			

\* Your students' data broken down by age at the time of the election. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Education Level\*

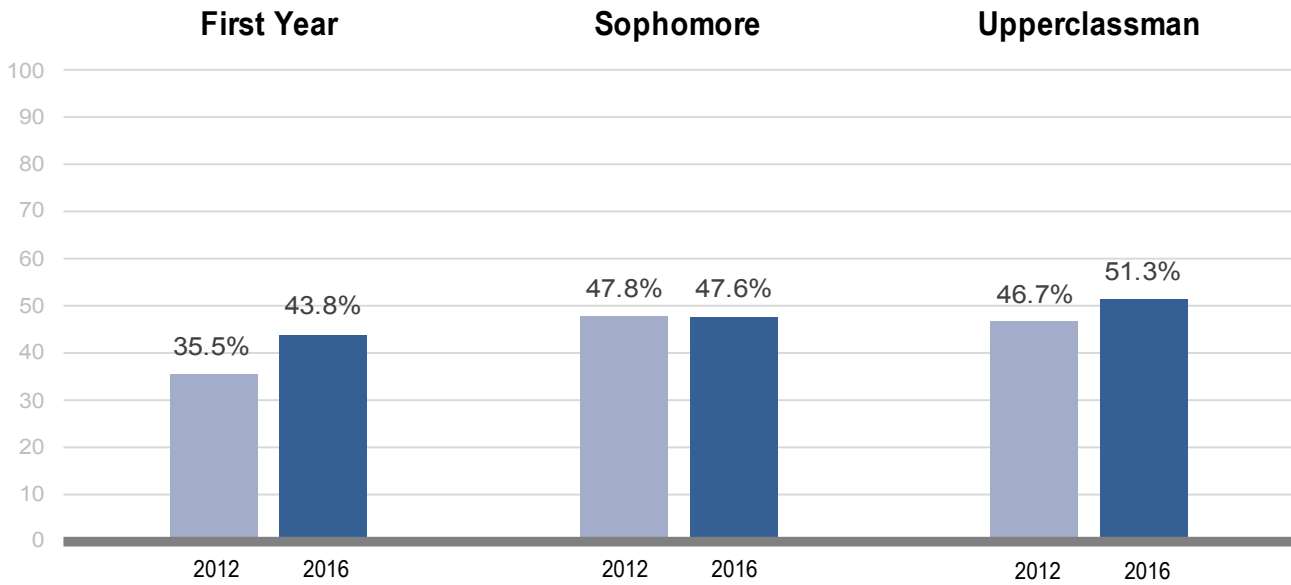


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Undergraduate	19,841	9,213	<b>46.4%</b>	23,171	11,312	<b>48.8%</b>	↑ 2.4
Graduate	5,447	2,443	<b>44.9%</b>	6,625	3,298	<b>49.8%</b>	↑ 4.9
Unknown	1,924			32			

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Undergraduate Class Year\*



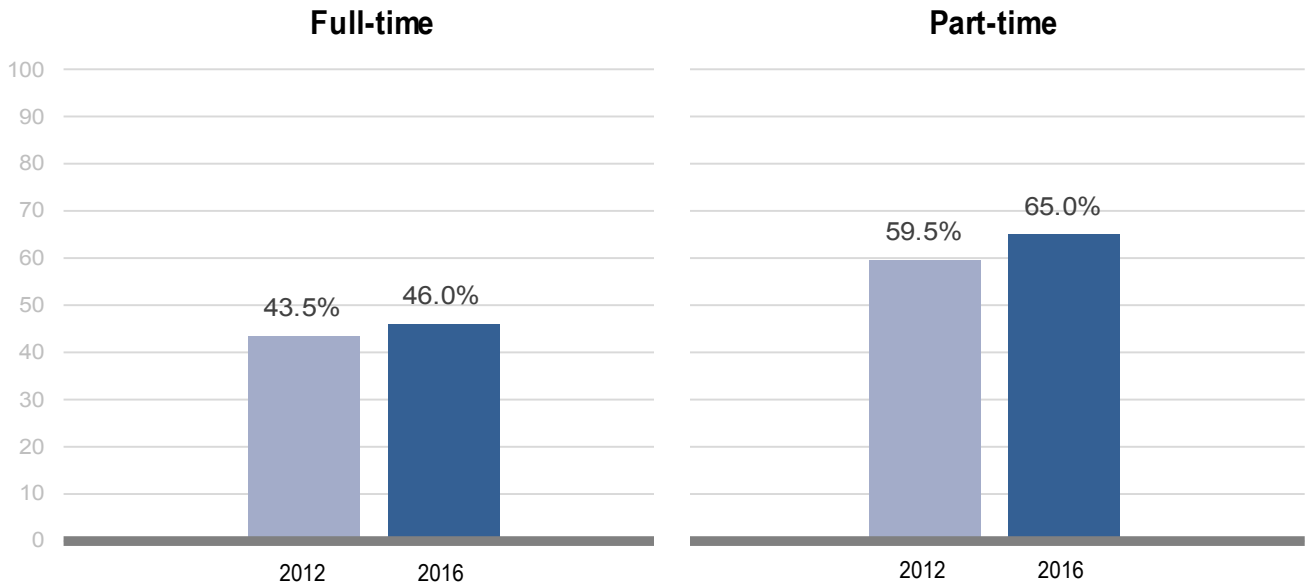
	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	372	132	<b>35.5%</b>	4,788	2,099	<b>43.8%</b>	↑ 8.4
Sophomore	4,355	2,080	<b>47.8%</b>	5,428	2,581	<b>47.6%</b>	↓ -0.2
Upperclassman	13,263	6,191	<b>46.7%</b>	12,514	6,422	<b>51.3%</b>	↑ 4.6

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate students' class level. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Enrollment Status\*

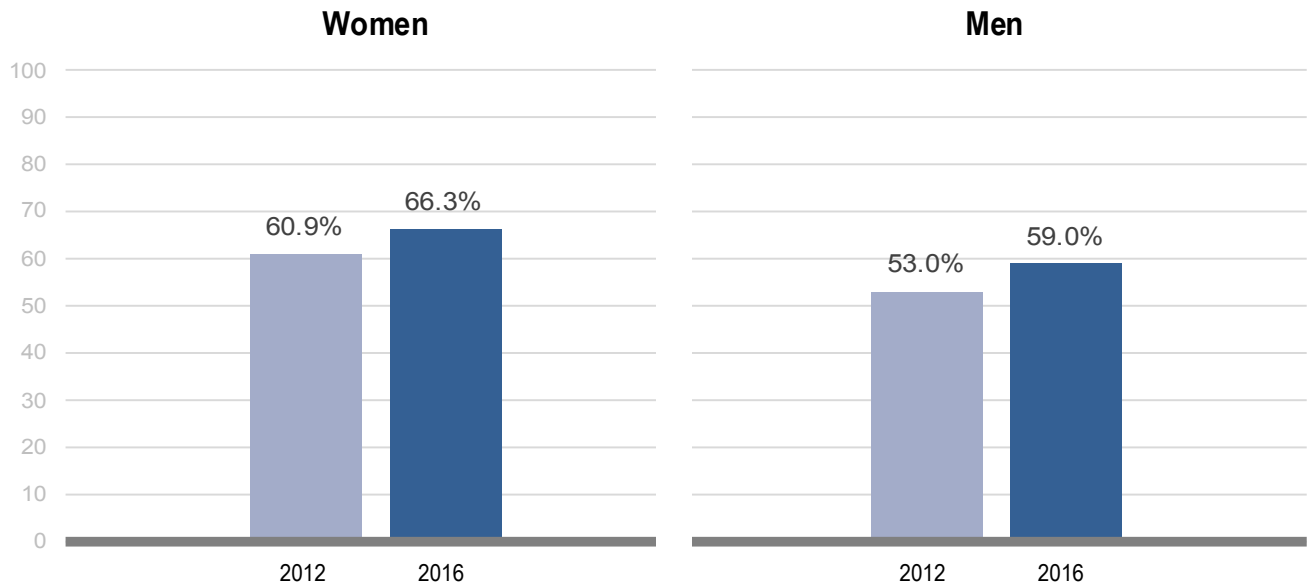


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	22,946	9,972	<b>43.5%</b>	25,059	11,530	<b>46.0%</b>	↑ 2.6
Part-time	4,266	2,537	<b>59.5%</b>	4,769	3,101	<b>65.0%</b>	↑ 5.6
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

\* Your students' data broken down by part-time and full-time students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Gender\*

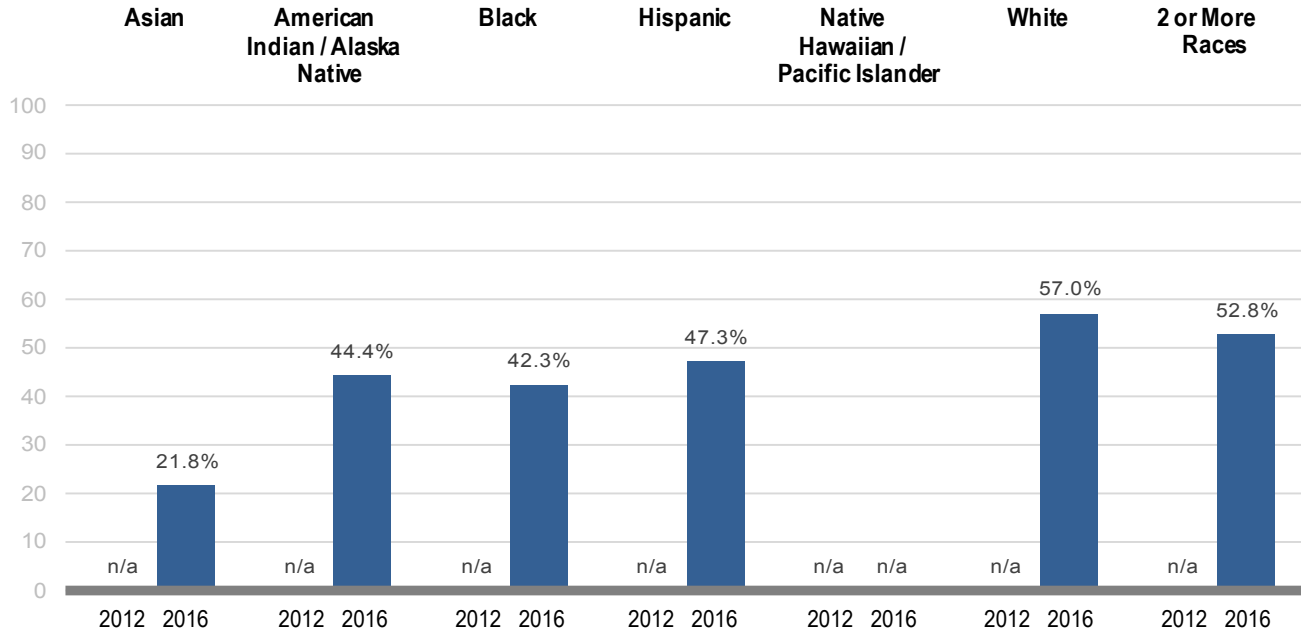


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Women	10,969	6,682	<b>60.9%</b>	11,667	7,729	<b>66.3%</b>	↑ 5.3
Men	10,909	5,778	<b>53.0%</b>	11,353	6,700	<b>59.0%</b>	↑ 6.1
Unknown	5,334	49	<b>0.9%</b>	6,808	202	<b>3.0%</b>	

\* Your students' data broken down by gender. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

# By Race/Ethnicity\*



	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	0	0	n/a	4,444	968	21.8%	n/a
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0	0	n/a	36	16	44.4%	n/a
Black	0	0	n/a	1,216	514	42.3%	n/a
Hispanic	0	0	n/a	1,795	849	47.3%	n/a
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0	0	n/a	17	*	n/a	n/a
White	0	0	n/a	18,845	10,745	57.0%	n/a
2 or More Races	0	0	n/a	750	396	52.8%	n/a
Unknown	27,212			2,725			

\* Your students' data broken down by race. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

# By Field of Study\*

\* Your students' data broken down by field of study. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students. The green and red highlighted values below represent your campus's top three and bottom three voting rates by field of study.

	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Agriculture and Agriculture Operations	53	16	30.2%	825	402	48.7% ↑	18.5
Architecture	24	10	41.7%	319	156	48.9% ↑	7.2
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	0	0	n/a	119	59	49.6%	n/a
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	215	76	35.4%	3,068	1,407	45.9% ↑	10.5
Business, Management, and Marketing	394	187	47.5%	4,892	2,529	51.7% ↑	4.2
Communication and Journalism	163	90	55.2%	1,041	538	51.7% ↓	-3.5
Computer and Information Sciences	73	27	37.0%	1,282	418	32.6% ↓	-4.4
Construction Trades	0	0	n/a	236	98	41.5%	n/a
Education	112	64	57.1%	668	373	55.8% ↓	-1.3
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	202	74	36.6%	2,686	1,058	39.4% ↑	2.8
English Language and Literature	87	46	52.9%	593	344	58.0% ↑	5.1
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	14	*	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	24	10	41.7%	447	211	47.2% ↑	5.5
Health Professions	136	67	49.3%	2,725	1,545	56.7% ↑	7.4
History	0	0	n/a	295	202	68.5%	n/a
Legal Professions and Studies	0	0	n/a	226	103	45.6%	n/a
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	0	0	n/a	1,195	640	53.6%	n/a
Mathematics and Statistics	11	*	n/a	690	248	35.9%	n/a
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	55	35	63.6%	1,446	880	60.9% ↓	-2.8
Natural Resources and Conservation	57	30	52.6%	639	383	59.9% ↑	7.3
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	79	28	35.4%	437	183	41.9% ↑	6.4
Philosophy and Religious Studies	0	0	n/a	93	45	48.4%	n/a
Physical Sciences	10	*	n/a	709	272	38.4%	n/a

Psychology	*	*	n/a	1,499	756	50.4%	n/a
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	0	0	n/a	40	26	65.0%	n/a
Social Sciences	69	24	34.8%	3,020	1,378	45.6% ↑	10.9
Visual and Performing Arts	35	20	57.1%	614	363	59.1% ↑	2.0
Unknown	25,392	11,693	46.1%	24	14	58.3% ↑	12.3

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: [idhe.tufts.edu](http://idhe.tufts.edu).

**References:**

NSLVE encourages to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2016). *2012 & 2016 NSLVE Campus Report*. Medford, MA.

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