





#### October 2021 Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to send this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for 2020. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2016, 2018, and 2020. As always, we disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation.

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

As in past years, we urge you to share this report widely and strategically, particularly with faculty who, in 2020, were often the most consistent communicators with students about ever-changing voting conditions and deadlines. We also urge you to review our recommendations for engaging elections to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation: Election Imperatives (2019) and the more recent Election Imperatives: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action. Since "pervasive political discussions" and attentiveness to the campus culture around speech and academic freedom are among our top recommendations, we direct you to our discussion guides on talking about your NSLVE report, on free speech and inclusion , and on hot topics, our Making Sense of ... guides.

Finally, we always encourage you to work with us. Help us help you get better data by reaching out. Email **IDHE@Tufts.edu** for more information. And as always, watch your inbox for our periodic newsletter, IDHE Update, for announcements about upcoming releases and new resources.

Congratulations on engaging your students in the 2020 election. Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student political engagement should not be.

All the Best, IDHE Team



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

We also want to acknowledge and thank **Syed Golam Mohaimen, M.S. student in Data Science at Tufts University** for his contributions toward the creation of these reports.

### **In This Report**

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

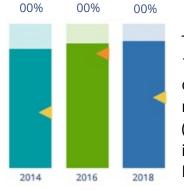
		2014			2018		2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p.)
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	) (°-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	

#### 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.

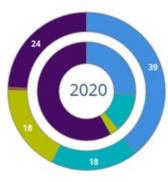
#### **Overlapping Donut Chart**

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 9), with the inner ring showing your campus's method utilization and the outer ring showing the national level utilization. These are described in percentages.

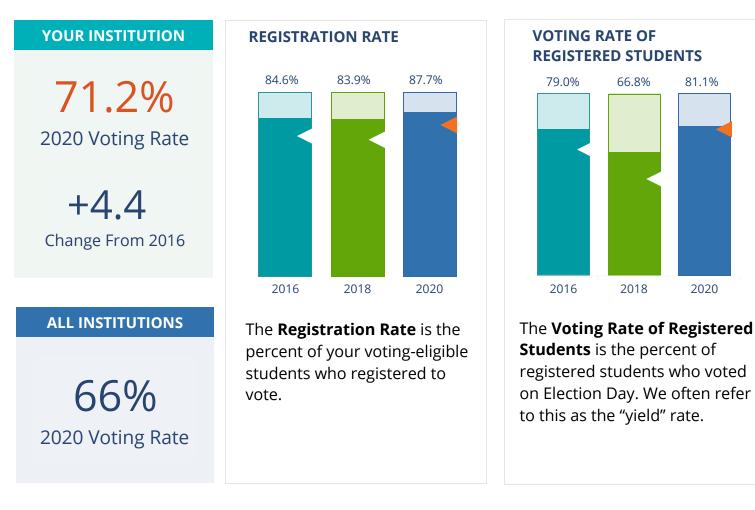


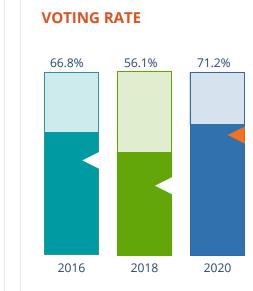
#### Vessel Chart

This chart shows rates out of 100%, with arrows to the right of each bar representing relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE's national report Democracy Counts 2020.



#### **Voting, Registration and Yield Rates**





66.8%

2018

81.1%

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.

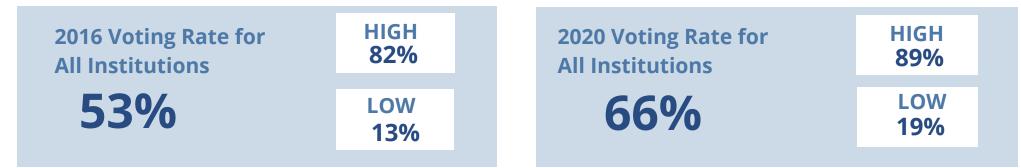
**Voting and Registration Rates** 

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	10,861	10,190	9,400	↓ -1,461
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	348	278	225	↓ -123
(FERPA records blocked)	395	299	251	<b>↓</b> -144
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	-	-	-	-
Total eligible voters	10,118	9,613	8,923	♣ -1,194
Number of students who registered	8,564	8,064	7,826	<b>↓</b> -738
Number of students who voted	6,763	5,389	6,349	<b>↓</b> -414
Registration Rate %	85	84	88	
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	79	67	81	<ul><li>★ 2</li></ul>
Voting Rate %	67	56	71	★ 4

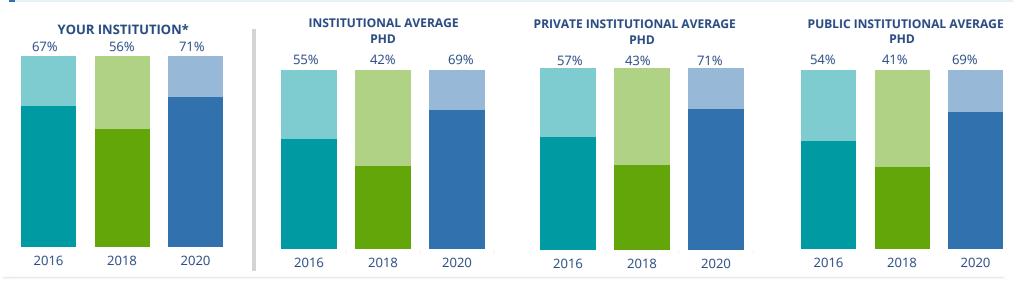
This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, 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. <u>https://id-</u> he.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool.

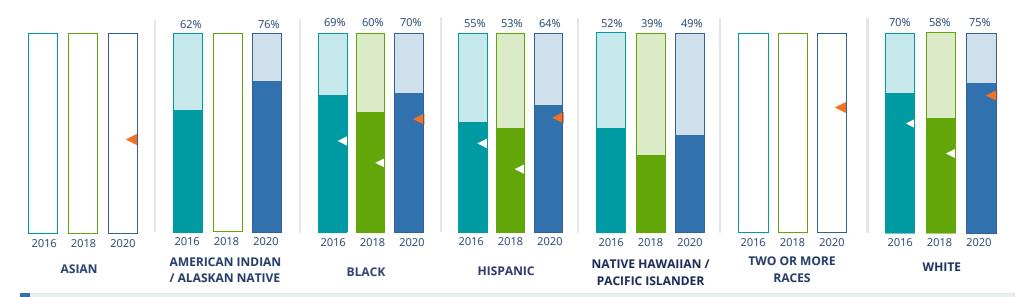
### **By Institution Types**



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-nslve-report-faq

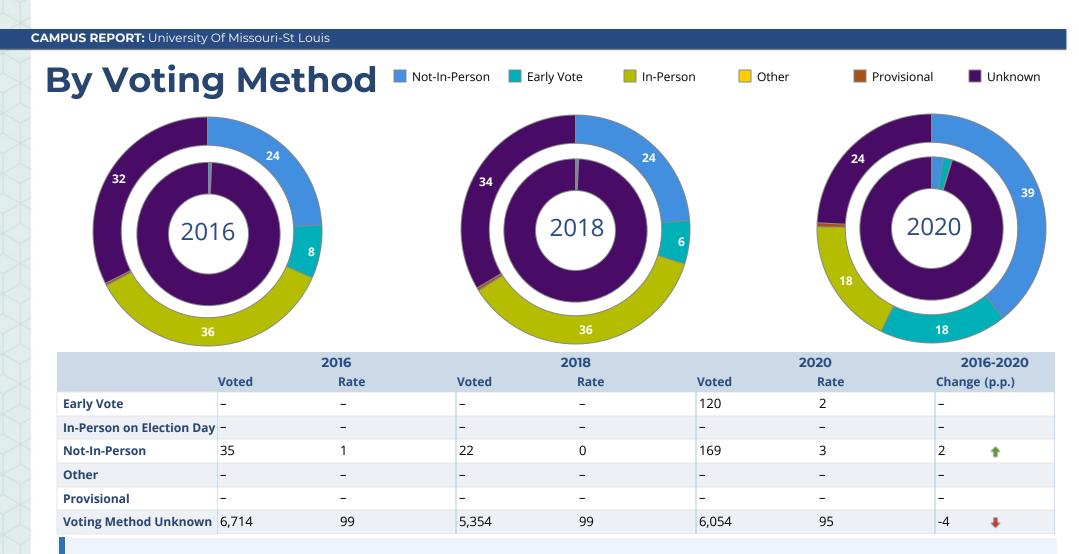
If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for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

\* https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes

#### By Race/Ethnicity

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates. We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

	2016				2018		2020			2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)		
Asian	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
American Indian/ Alaska Native	34	21	62	27	-	-	21	16	76	14		
Black	1,713	1,180	69	1,597	965	60	1,449	1,013	70	<b>1</b>		
Hispanic	309	171	55	318	167	53	289	185	64	<b>1</b> 9		
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	543	284	52	485	188	39	418	203	49	<b>↓</b> -4		
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-		
White	6,896	4,797	70	6,699	3,859	58	6,082	4,549	75	<b>1</b> 5		
Race Unknown	970	310	32	764	201	26	889	383	43	11		



These are estimated rates for vote method utilization, the number of students utilizing each method, and the percent of students utilizing each method. Not all U.S. states provide information on vote method; voting method for voter files from these states are classified "Voting Method Unknown." For a list of these states, see our FAQ. <u>https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports</u>

#### By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	59%	48%	69%
22-24	61%	50%	68%
25-29	64%	55%	66%
30-39	70%	61%	70%
40-49	75%	67%	76%
50+	81%	74%	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.

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			20	2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)	
18-21	2,425	1,434	59	2,395	1,148	48	2,324	1,611	69	<b>1</b> 0	
22-24	2,847	1,748	61	2,735	1,379	50	2,389	1,623	68	<b>†</b> 7	
25-29	2,353	1,515	64	2,140	1,178	55	2,005	1,330	66	<b>1</b> 2	
30-39	1,774	1,243	70	1,589	968	61	1,489	1,047	70	↑ 0	
40-49	680	509	75	667	448	67	599	453	76	<b>†</b> 1	
50+	386	314	81	364	268	74	342	285	83	<b>†</b> 2	

By Sex

			2018			2020			2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change	(p.p.)
Female	6,082	4,078	67	5,736	3,201	56	5,380	3,873	72	+	5
Male	4,383	2,685	61	4,135	2,175	53	3,730	2,449	66	+	4

**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.

\*<u>https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11</u>

By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016		201	2018			2020				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	<b>Rate (%)</b>	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	(2016-20	)20)
EDUCATION	LEVEL										
Jndergraduate	7,311	4,654	64	6,806	3,611	53	6,061	4,140	6	8 🔹	5
Graduate	2,574	1,718	67	2,466	1,401	57	2,460	1,758	7	1 🔹	5
Class Unknown	580	391	67	618	377	61	627	451	7	2 🔹	5
CLASS YEAR											
Freshman	674	334	50	721	299	41	611	385	6	3 🔹	13
Sophomore	926	523	56	957	465	49	945	623	6	6 🔹	9
Upperclassman	5,724	3,804	66	5,106	2,831	55	4,477	3,109	6	9 🔹	3
ENROLLMEN	IT STATUS										
Full-time	6,349	3,851	61	6,185	3,145	51	5,580	3,742	67	*	6
Part-time	4,116	2,912	71	3,705	2,244	61	3,568	2,607	73	+	2

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level undergraduate/graduate), Class Year, and Enrollment Status full-time/part-time), and

the numbers we used to calculate these rates.

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

### **By Field of Study**

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)
<b>Biological and Biomedical Sciences</b>	625	370	59	583	275	47	536	359	67	<b>1</b> 8
Business, Management, and Marketing	2,384	1,426	60	2,291	1,086	47	1,794	1,193	66	<b>†</b> 7
Communication and Journalism	317	215	68	284	167	59	229	182	79	12
Computer and Information Sciences	413	234	57	435	210	48	710	428	60	<b>1</b> 4
Education	1,754	1,291	74	1,672	1,053	63	1,528	1,177	77	<b>1</b> 3
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	271	166	61	289	142	49	285	148	52	<b>4</b> -9
English Language and Literature	155	121	78	145	103	71	146	115	79	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-fag

# By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui	50	31	62	48	30	63	48	34	71	<b>1</b> 9
Health Professions	1,103	697	63	1,074	523	49	1,008	684	68	<b>†</b> 5
History	137	109	80	108	80	74	105	83	79	<b>4</b> -1
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	149	89	60	146	86	59	133	93	70	<b>1</b> 0
Mathematics and Statistics	104	65	63	107	58	54	89	55	62	<b>4</b> -1
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	351	223	64	316	157	50	209	128	61	<b>4</b> -2
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	11	48	-
Philosophy and Religious Studies	42	28	67	40	22	55	40	30	75	<b>1</b> 8
Physical Sciences	189	99	52	147	69	47	149	83	56	<b>1</b> 3
Psychology	610	392	64	519	301	58	482	338	70	<b>†</b> 6
Public Administration and Social Service P	488	361	74	463	316	68	418	335	80	<b>1</b> 6
Social Sciences	667	440	66	613	356	58	569	408	72	<b>1</b> 6
Visual and Performing Arts	248	146	59	246	150	61	210	151	72	🛧 13
Unknown	408	260	64	364	205	56	437	314	72	1 8

#### **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 guality 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 Missouri-St Louis

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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