



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for University Of Rhode Island

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

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.

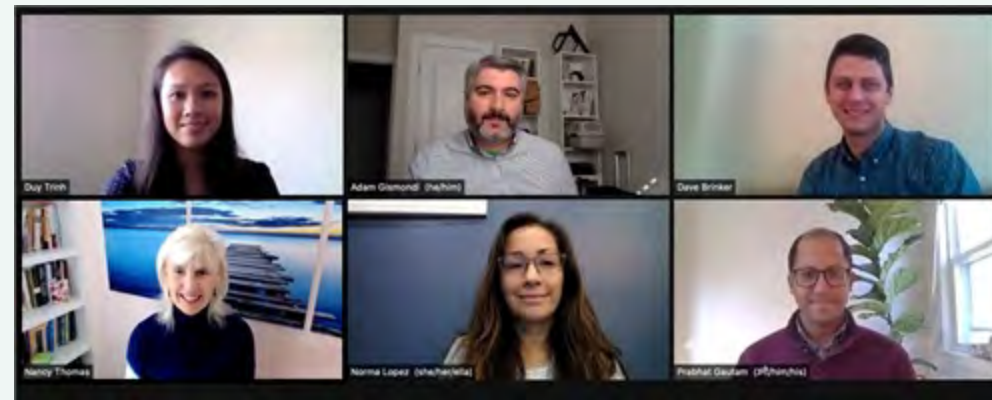
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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.

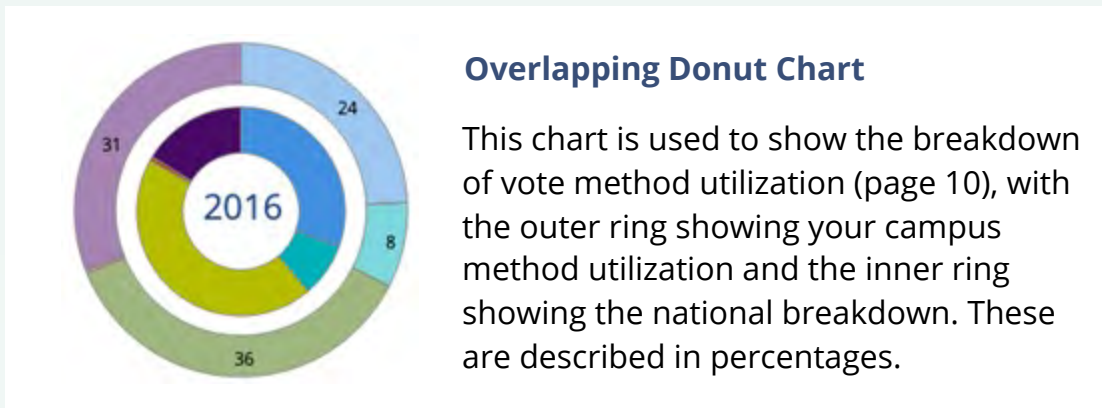
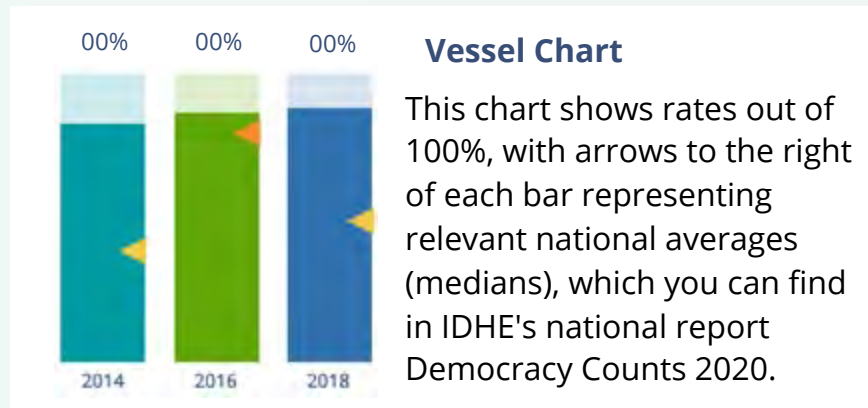
In This Report

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
	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.



Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

71.9%
2020 Voting Rate

+21.9
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Registration Rate
2016	79.7%
2018	77.5%
2020	88.1%

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	62.8%
2018	39.4%
2020	81.6%

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	50.0%
2018	30.5%
2020	71.9%

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	16,476	16,479	16,407	↓ -69
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	435	465	425	↓ -10
(FERPA records blocked)	1,723	1,133	559	↓ -1,164
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	-	-	77	-
Total eligible voters	14,316	14,873	15,346	↑ 1,030
Number of students who registered	11,409	11,522	13,527	↑ 2,118
Number of students who voted	7,165	4,539	11,036	↑ 3,871
Registration Rate %	80	77	88	↑ 8
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	63	39	82	↑ 19
Voting Rate %	50	31	72	↑ 22

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/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool>.

By Institution Types

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions

53%

HIGH
82%

LOW
13%

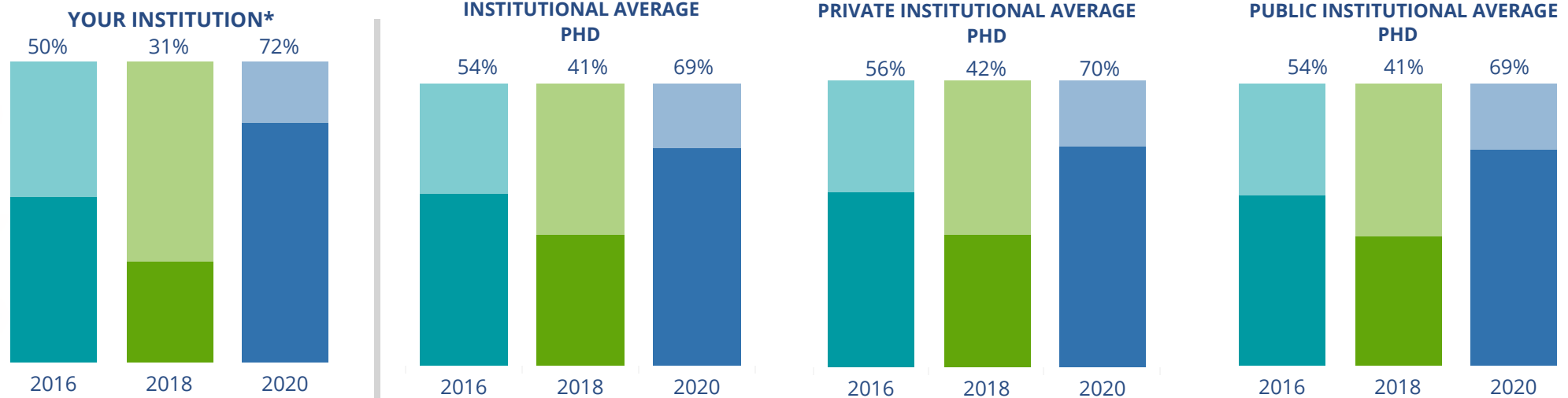
2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions

66%

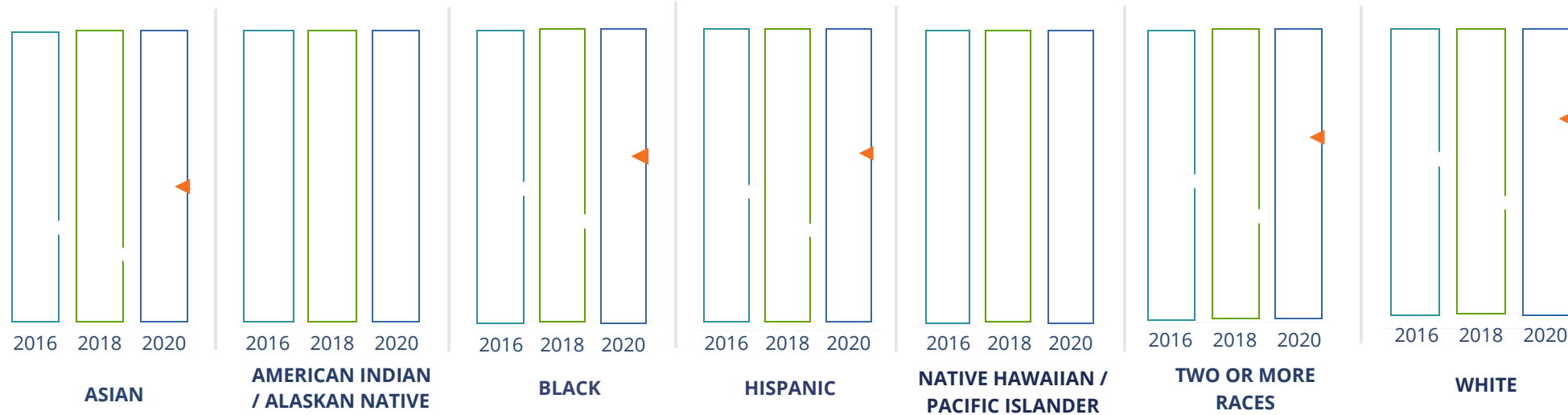
HIGH
89%

LOW
19%

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>

Looking Closer

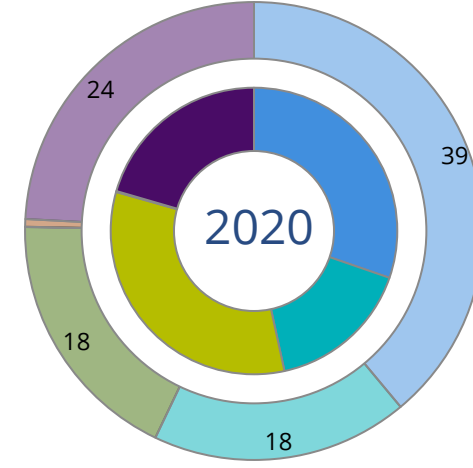
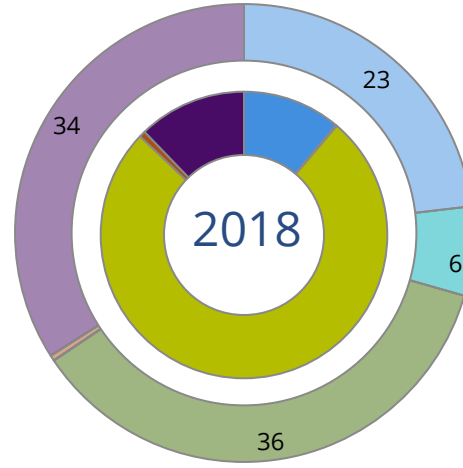
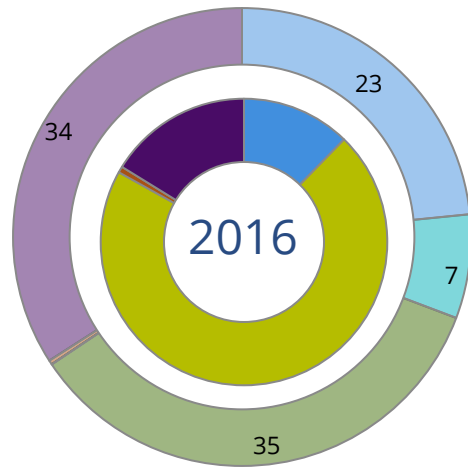
By Race/Ethnicity

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 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Race Unknown	14,741	7,165	49	15,328	4,539	30	15,757	11,036	70	↑ 21

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	-	-	-	-	1,798	16	-	
In-Person on Election Day	5,073	71	3,443	76	3,616	33	-38	↓
Not-In-Person	879	12	505	11	3,339	30	18	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	49	1	32	1	15	0	-1	↓
Voting Method Unknown	1,162	16	556	12	2,268	21	4	↑

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/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports>

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	43%	23%	70%
22-24	55%	37%	73%
25-29	59%	44%	67%
30-39	62%	46%	64%
40-49	75%	67%	80%
50+	81%	69%	87%

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	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
18-21	9,987	4,309	43	10,633	2,461	23	11,383	7,916	70	↑ 26	
22-24	2,214	1,216	55	2,246	841	37	2,135	1,569	73	↑ 19	
25-29	1,054	618	59	1,052	468	44	1,003	671	67	↑ 8	
30-39	854	532	62	799	365	46	759	487	64	↑ 2	
40-49	362	270	75	363	242	67	301	240	80	↑ 5	
50+	270	220	81	235	162	69	176	153	87	↑ 5	

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	11,903	5,497	46	12,410	3,326	27	12,810	8,934	70	↑	24
Graduate	2,327	1,332	57	2,526	1,004	40	2,533	1,796	71	↑	14
Class Unknown	511	300	59	392	177	45	414	306	74	↑	15
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	3,255	37	1,217	3,417	17	585	3,453	65	2,234	↑	27
Second Year	2,647	44	1,153	2,814	25	694	3,058	68	2,092	↑	25
Upper Level	5,992	52	3,126	6,176	33	2,043	6,361	73	4,652	↑	21
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	12,371	5,611	45	12,997	3,356	26	13,517	9,412	70	↑	24
Part-time	2,370	1,554	66	2,331	1,183	51	2,240	1,624	73	↑	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	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Architecture	60	24	40	61	13	21	52	38	73	↑ 33	
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	-	-	-	13	-	-	14	12	86	-	
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	887	415	47	1,006	251	25	1,042	702	67	↑ 21	
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,580	720	46	1,623	416	26	1,905	1,294	68	↑ 22	
Communication and Journalism	846	361	43	812	239	29	867	622	72	↑ 29	
Computer and Information Sciences	365	189	52	485	167	34	498	330	66	↑ 14	
Education	1,250	589	47	1,206	342	28	1,127	789	70	↑ 23	

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	1,630	738	45	1,703	434	25	1,757	1,167	66	↑ 21
English Language and Literature	188	114	61	160	77	48	136	97	71	↑ 11
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	573	264	46	578	147	25	545	398	73	↑ 27
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	104	61	59	98	41	42	95	75	79	↑ 20
Health Professions	2,680	1,335	50	2,764	831	30	2,678	1,929	72	↑ 22
History	103	72	70	102	52	51	97	84	87	↑ 17
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	703	286	41	750	145	19	752	480	64	↑ 23
Mathematics and Statistics	86	44	51	97	32	33	76	58	76	↑ 25
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	92	55	60	105	40	38	156	90	58	↓ -2
Natural Resources and Conservation	381	195	51	381	129	34	374	288	77	↑ 26
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	39	13	33	35	-	-	48	33	69	↑ 35
Philosophy and Religious Studies	16	-	-	17	-	-	17	16	94	-

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Physical Sciences	236	104	44	238	71	30	252	159	63	↑ 19
Psychology	558	264	47	645	189	29	649	463	71	↑ 24
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	158	93	59	151	67	44	164	130	79	↑ 20
Social Sciences	707	339	48	748	242	32	824	579	70	↑ 22
Visual and Performing Arts	339	213	63	359	152	42	392	308	79	↑ 16
Unknown	404	262	65	325	163	50	434	321	74	↑ 9

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 Rhode Island

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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