October 2021

Student Voting Rates for The University of Texas at Arlington

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

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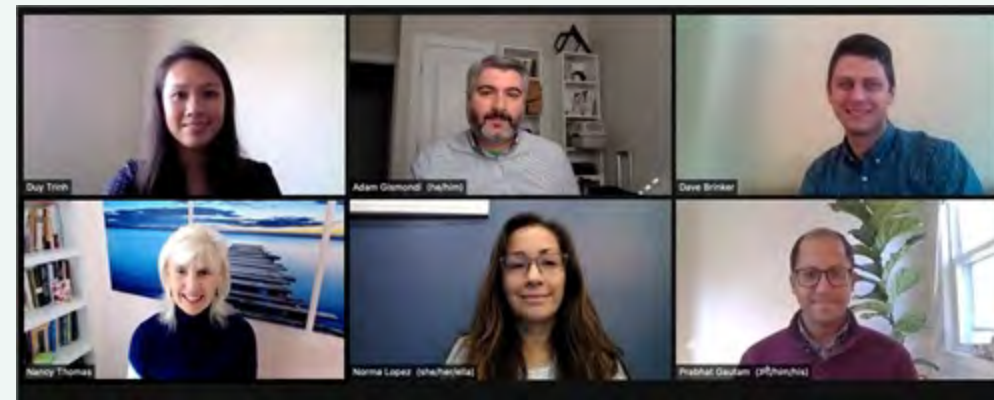
(Top Row from left) Duy Trinh, Program Administrator; Adam Gismondi, Director of Impact; Dave Brinker, Senior Researcher;
(Botton Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.

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.
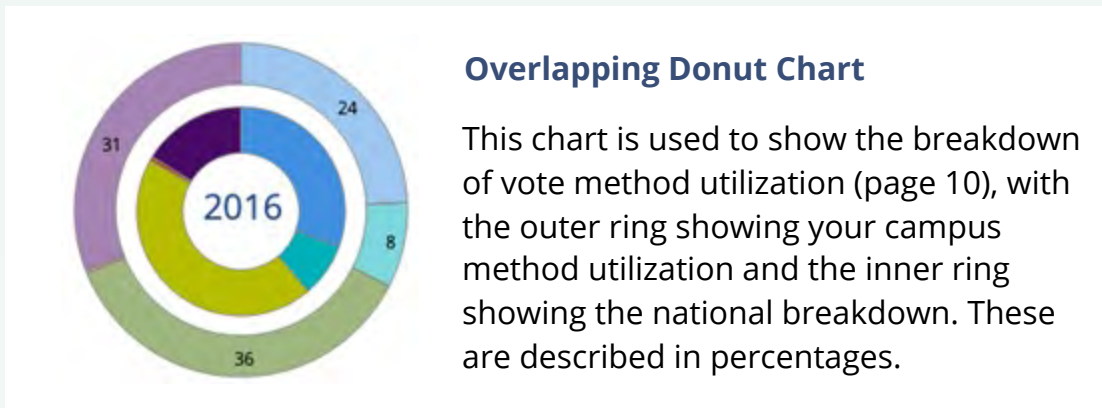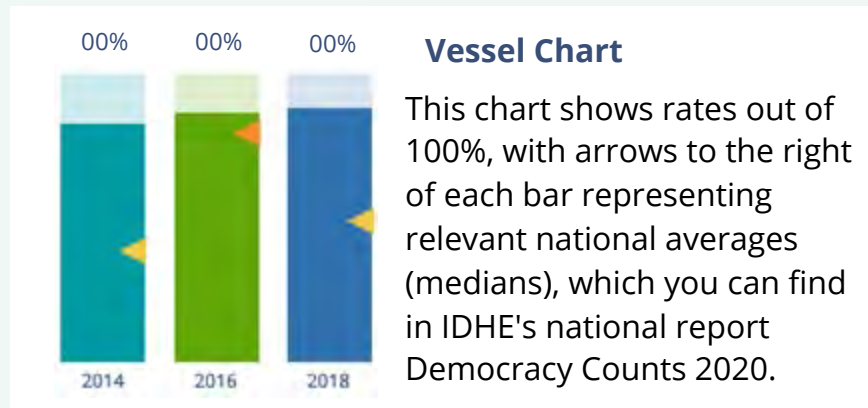
In This Report

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.

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.

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.

Overlapping Donut Chart

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 10), with the outer ring showing your campus method utilization and the inner ring showing the national breakdown. These are described in percentages.

Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

63.2%
2020 Voting Rate

+13.4
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

	76.4%	78.3%	81.5%
	2016	2018	2020
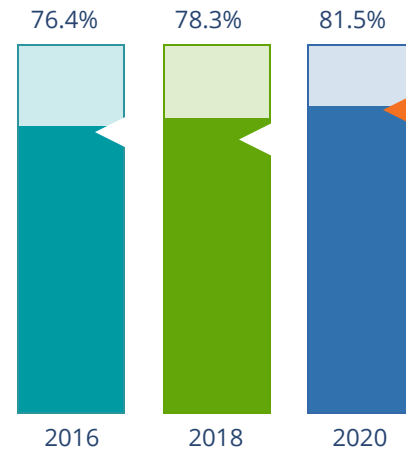
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

	65.1%	59.1%	77.6%
	2016	2018	2020
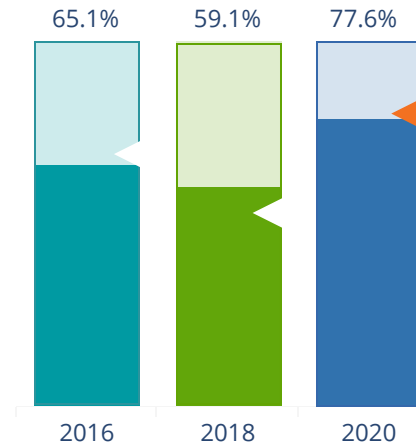
The **Voting Rate of Registered Students** is the percent of registered students who voted on Election Day. We often refer to this as the "yield" rate.

VOTING RATE

	49.8%	46.2%	63.2%
	2016	2018	2020
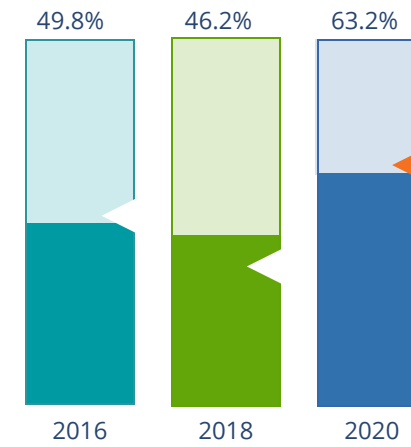
The **Voting Rate** is the percentage of eligible students who voted on Election Day. The voting rate is also the product of the registration and yield rates.

Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	46,235	47,511	47,978	⬆ 1,743
(Age under 18/Unknown)	–	–	–	–
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	4,908	4,335	3,847	⬇ -1,062
(FERPA records blocked)	1,806	2,242	1,299	⬇ -507
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	–	–	–	–
Total eligible voters	39,519	40,933	42,833	⬆ 3,314
Number of students who registered	30,201	32,036	34,909	⬆ 4,708
Number of students who voted	19,667	18,929	27,077	⬆ 7,410
Registration Rate %	76	78	82	⬆ 5
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	65	59	78	⬆ 12
Voting Rate %	50	46	63	⬆ 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/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.

YOUR INSTITUTION*

2016	2018	2020
50%	46%	63%

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2016	2018	2020
54%	41%	69%

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2016	2018	2020
56%	42%	70%

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2016	2018	2020
54%	41%	69%

By Race / Ethnicity

ASIAN
2016: 22% | 2018: 22% | 2020: 39%

AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE
2016: 50% | 2018: 47% | 2020: 64%

BLACK
2016: 53% | 2018: 47% | 2020: 63%

HISPANIC
2016: 42% | 2018: 46% | 2020: 59%

NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER
2016: 39% | 2018: 35% | 2020: 55%

TWO OR MORE RACES
2016 | 2018 | 2020

WHITE
2016: 53% | 2018: 49% | 2020: 66%

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
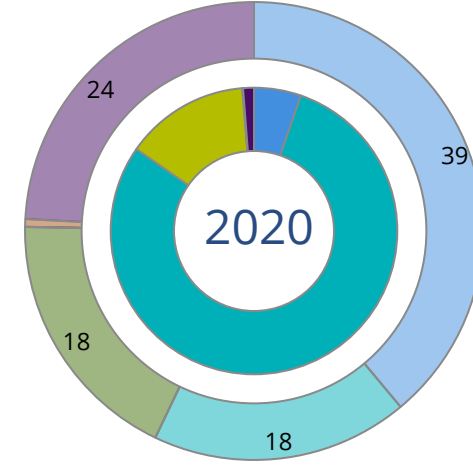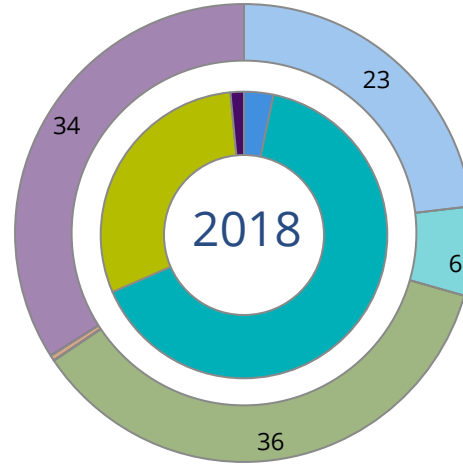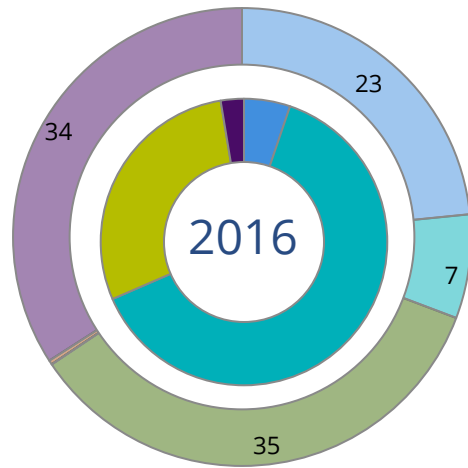
Looking Closer

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
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p)**
Asian	5,708	1,263	22	6,556	1,438	22	7,002	2,730	39	⬆ 17
American Indian/ Alaska Native	125	62	50	109	51	47	123	79	64	⬆ 15
Black	6,521	3,453	53	6,581	3,106	47	6,915	4,325	63	⬆ 10
Hispanic	4,600	1,939	42	5,119	2,364	46	5,449	3,202	59	⬆ 17
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	383	151	39	232	81	35	347	191	55	⬆ 16
2 or More Races	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
White	23,823	12,636	53	24,276	11,765	48	24,596	16,314	66	⬆ 13
Race Unknown	3,251	163	5	2,366	124	5	2,228	236	11	⬆ 6

By Voting Method

Legend: ■ Not-In-Person   ■ Early Vote   ■ In-Person   ■ Other   ■ Provisional   ■ Unknown

Donut chart 2016: 23, 7, 35, 34

Donut chart 2018: 23, 6, 36, 34

Donut chart 2020: 39, 18, 18, 24

	2016		2018		2020		2016-2020	
	Voted	**Rate**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p.)**	
Early Vote	12,449	63	12,336	65	21,506	79	16	⬆
In-Person on Election Day	5,675	29	5,670	30	3,794	14	-15	⬇
Not-In-Person	1,014	5	625	3	1,432	5	0	⬆
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Provisional	–	–	–	–	14	0	–	
Voting Method Unknown	521	3	292	2	331	1	-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/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	40%	43%	59%
22-24	32%	35%	51%
25-29	38%	35%	51%
30-39	51%	43%	60%
40-49	64%	53%	69%
50+	74%	66%	79%

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	10,604	4,227	40	11,828	5,054	43	13,265	7,838	59	⬆ 19
22-24	8,822	2,839	32	8,574	2,998	35	8,703	4,463	51	⬆ 19
25-29	8,962	3,365	38	8,622	2,992	35	8,473	4,291	51	⬆ 13
30-39	9,307	4,750	51	9,465	4,046	43	9,739	5,804	60	⬆ 9
40-49	4,793	3,060	64	4,831	2,573	53	4,652	3,233	69	⬆ 6
50+	1,923	1,426	74	1,919	1,266	66	1,828	1,448	79	⬆ 5

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p)**
Female	27,559	13,875	50	28,276	12,872	46	29,886	18,536	62	⬆ 12
Male	16,850	5,791	34	16,962	6,056	36	16,765	8,535	51	⬆ 17

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 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2018 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2020 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2016-2020 Change (p.p)
EDUCATION LEVEL										
Undergraduate	32,590	14,868	46	32,593	13,935	43	34,065	20,050	59	⬆ 13
Graduate	11,612	4,669	40	12,255	4,782	39	12,089	6,651	55	⬆ 15
Class Unknown	209	130	62	391	181	46	506	376	74	⬆ 12
CLASS YEAR										
First Year	3,612	38	1,365	3,831	40	1,531	3,941	53	2,101	⬆ 16
Second Year	4,374	40	1,738	4,717	41	1,930	4,754	57	2,729	⬆ 18
Upper Level	21,953	47	10,229	21,349	43	9,104	22,275	59	13,073	⬆ 12
ENROLLMENT STATUS										
Full-time	26,117	10,451	40	29,009	11,781	41	28,758	16,185	56	⬆ 16
Part-time	18,294	9,216	50	16,230	7,148	44	17,902	10,892	61	⬆ 10

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.

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By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Architecture	611	213	35	724	305	42	817	440	54	⬆ 19
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	1,825	715	39	1,690	716	42	1,777	1,011	57	⬆ 18
Business, Management, and Marketing	5,040	1,790	36	5,413	1,906	35	5,387	2,729	51	⬆ 15
Communication and Journalism	778	363	47	698	343	49	674	468	69	⬆ 23
Computer and Information Sciences	1,703	270	16	2,012	394	20	2,285	681	30	⬆ 14
Education	2,055	1,256	61	1,479	840	57	1,935	1,429	74	⬆ 13
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	5,491	1,293	24	5,221	1,389	27	5,249	2,282	43	⬆ 20

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
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
English Language and Literature	478	262	55	427	257	60	308	211	69	⬆ 14
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	293	134	46	271	133	49	227	146	64	⬆ 19
Health Professions	16,323	8,627	53	17,489	7,812	45	18,307	11,481	63	⬆ 10
History	402	214	53	374	230	61	345	260	75	⬆ 22
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	652	302	46	706	312	44	626	376	60	⬆ 14
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,550	704	45	1,256	573	46	1,154	732	63	⬆ 18
Mathematics and Statistics	325	121	37	352	122	35	335	162	48	⬆ 11
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	435	212	49	376	185	49	192	132	69	⬆ 20
Natural Resources and Conservation	96	39	41	95	52	55	75	41	55	⬆ 14
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	1,049	401	38	978	376	38	888	519	58	⬆ 20
Philosophy and Religious Studies	49	17	35	49	29	59	40	27	68	⬆ 33
Physical Sciences	542	192	35	504	184	37	434	211	49	⬆ 13
Psychology	747	335	45	824	386	47	947	564	60	⬆ 15
Public Administration and Social Service P..	2,108	1,253	59	2,219	1,254	57	2,269	1,583	70	⬆ 10

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Social Sciences	513	263	51	541	315	58	465	295	63	⬆ 12
Visual and Performing Arts	1,153	572	50	1,222	635	52	1,411	918	65	⬆ 15
Unknown	193	119	62	319	181	57	513	379	74	⬆ 12

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.

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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