



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for The University of Texas at San Antonio

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.



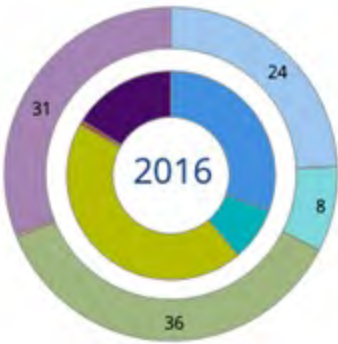
Vessel Chart

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.

	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 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

62.4%

2020 Voting Rate

+16.9

Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Registration Rate
2016	80.7%
2018	83.9%
2020	84.8%

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	56.4%
2018	53.8%
2020	73.5%

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	45.5%
2018	45.1%
2020	62.4%

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	28,372	31,589	33,769	↑ 5,397
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	1,144	933	903	↓ -241
(FERPA records blocked)	65	42	38	↓ -27
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	-	-	-	-
Total eligible voters	27,163	30,612	32,828	↑ 5,665
Number of students who registered	21,917	25,674	27,854	↑ 5,937
Number of students who voted	12,371	13,812	20,469	↑ 8,098
Registration Rate %	81	84	85	↑ 4
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	56	54	73	↑ 17
Voting Rate %	46	45	62	↑ 17

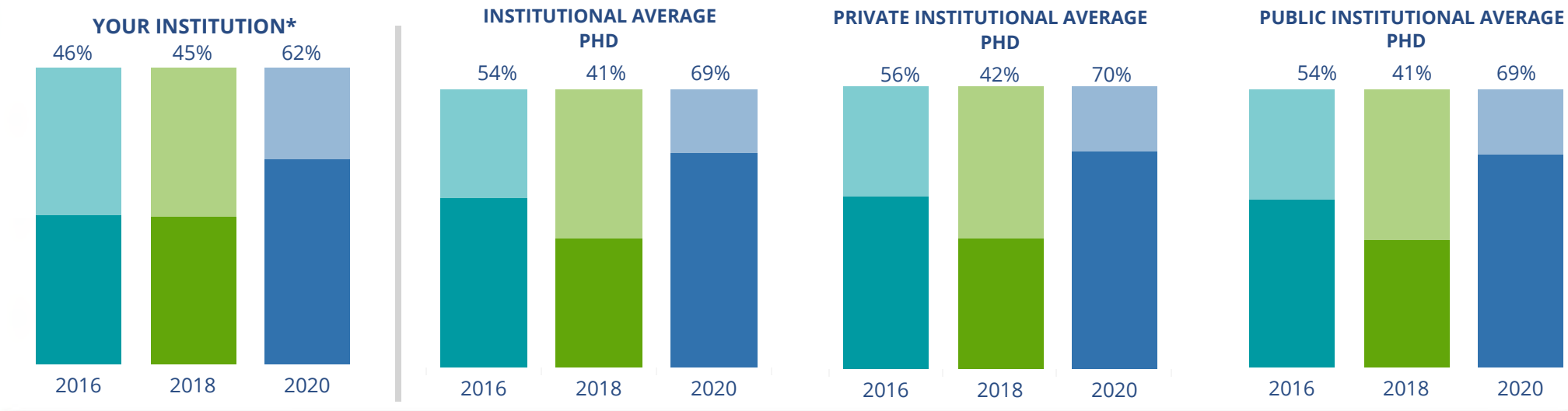
This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, 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>.

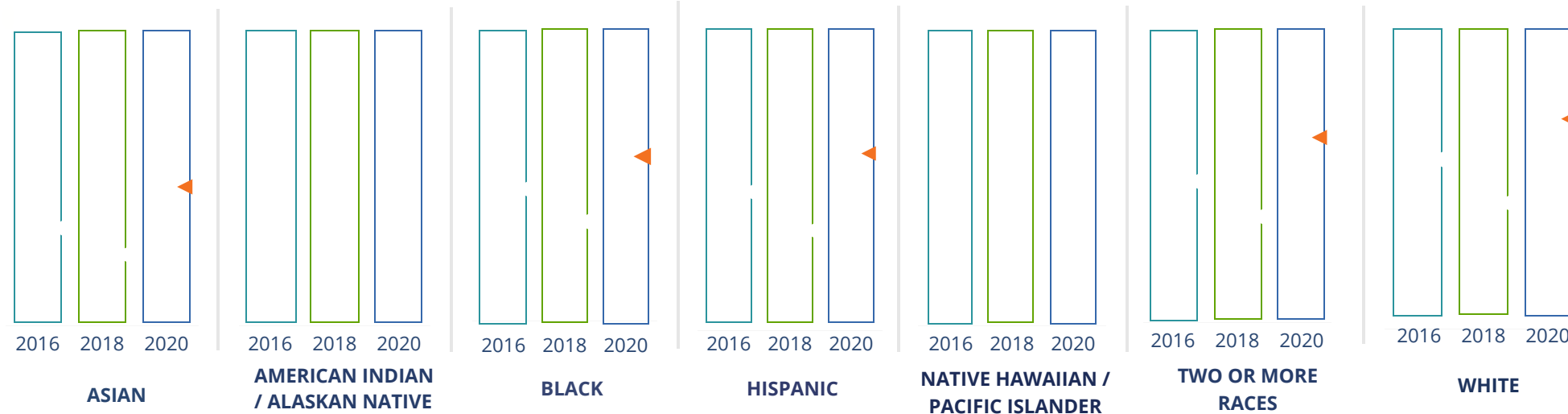
By Institution Types



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-nsive-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

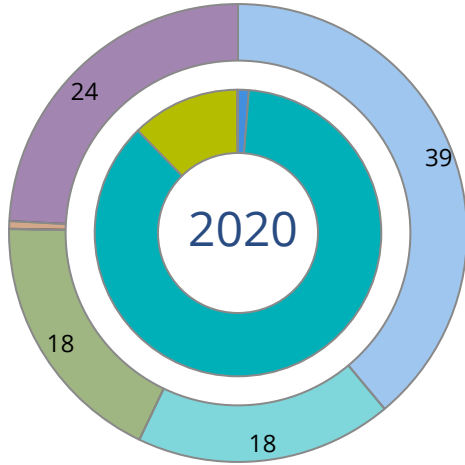
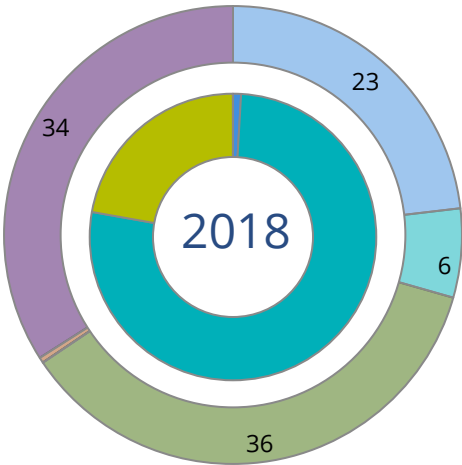
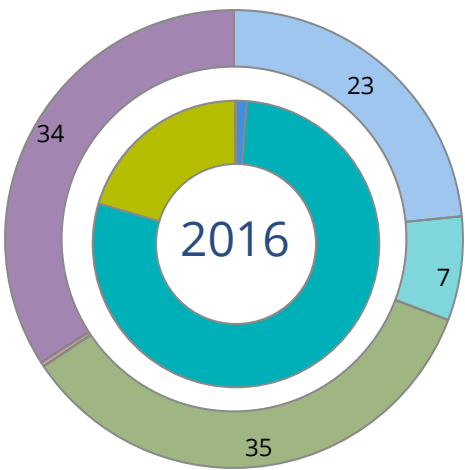
By Race/Ethnicity

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	28,303	12,371	44	31,541	13,812	44	33,728	20,469	61	 17

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	9,702	78	10,620	77	17,703	87	8	↑
In-Person on Election Day	2,507	20	3,070	22	2,491	12	-8	↓
Not-In-Person	154	1	118	1	254	1	0	→
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Voting Method Unknown	-	-	-	-	14	0	-	

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	42%	43%	60%
22-24	39%	41%	60%
25-29	44%	44%	57%
30-39	54%	49%	63%
40-49	69%	60%	75%
50+	78%	72%	85%

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	14,554	6,103	42	16,734	7,136	43	17,392	10,512	60	↑	19
22-24	6,611	2,560	39	7,203	2,971	41	7,997	4,780	60	↑	21
25-29	3,650	1,615	44	3,850	1,685	44	4,171	2,362	57	↑	12
30-39	2,375	1,290	54	2,514	1,228	49	2,783	1,741	63	↑	8
40-49	765	530	69	868	524	60	978	729	75	↑	5
50+	348	273	78	372	268	72	407	345	85	↑	6

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Female	14,397	6,922	48	16,038	7,699	48	17,538	11,183	64	↑	16
Male	13,905	5,448	39	15,499	6,111	39	16,189	9,286	57	↑	18

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	24,002	10,137	42	27,191	11,641	43	28,898	17,293	60	↑	18
Graduate	4,031	2,093	52	4,165	2,090	50	4,643	3,052	66	↑	14
Class Unknown	270	141	52	185	81	44	187	124	66	↑	14
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	5,208	39	2,038	5,555	40	2,205	5,570	55	3,090	↑	16
Second Year	4,849	42	2,016	5,537	42	2,344	5,392	59	3,165	↑	17
Upper Level	13,774	43	5,984	15,669	44	6,871	17,412	61	10,690	↑	18
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	22,112	9,370	42	24,459	10,496	43	24,869	14,859	60	↑	17
Part-time	6,191	3,001	48	7,082	3,316	47	8,859	5,610	63	↑	15

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	575	191	33	606	216	36	679	381	56	↑ 23
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	46	33	72	55	43	78	46	35	76	↑ 4
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	1,547	646	42	2,382	994	42	2,457	1,444	59	↑ 17
Business, Management, and Marketing	2,729	1,233	45	3,351	1,477	44	3,974	2,445	62	↑ 16
Communication and Journalism	797	402	50	1,114	586	53	1,132	792	70	↑ 20
Computer and Information Sciences	1,347	566	42	2,193	909	41	2,414	1,452	60	↑ 18
Construction Trades	175	49	28	202	61	30	292	172	59	↑ 31

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	
Education	860	553	64	830	493	59	661	514	78	↑ 13
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	3,170	1,036	33	3,209	1,165	36	3,136	1,659	53	↑ 20
English Language and Literature	519	309	60	516	306	59	493	358	73	↑ 13
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	–	–	–	–	–	–	13	–	–	–
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	134	73	54	165	68	41	205	114	56	↑ 1
Health Professions	1,488	704	47	1,831	857	47	1,549	987	64	↑ 16
History	339	186	55	389	232	60	397	289	73	↑ 18
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	823	353	43	900	367	41	961	568	59	↑ 16
Legal Professions and Studies	–	–	–	136	66	49	212	143	67	–
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	5,452	2,222	41	4,975	1,973	40	5,970	3,326	56	↑ 15
Mathematics and Statistics	382	167	44	383	157	41	396	244	62	↑ 18
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	1,209	562	46	1,189	535	45	1,168	727	62	↑ 16
Natural Resources and Conservation	241	138	57	324	201	62	432	300	69	↑ 12
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	1,770	574	32	1,848	617	33	1,694	947	56	↑ 23

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Philosophy and Religious Studies	64	33	52	70	30	43	61	38	62	↑ 11
Physical Sciences	617	255	41	540	231	43	520	285	55	↑ 13
Psychology	1,590	724	46	1,842	807	44	2,185	1,363	62	↑ 17
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	509	347	68	496	328	66	493	388	79	↑ 11
Social Sciences	1,035	556	54	1,160	668	58	1,243	856	69	↑ 15
Visual and Performing Arts	625	325	52	642	338	53	746	508	68	↑ 16
Unknown	260	134	52	186	83	45	199	128	64	↑ 13

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.

The University of Texas at San Antonio

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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