Student Voting Rates for University of Washington-Seattle Campus

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

76.7%
2020 Voting Rate

+8.6
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

88.3%	77.6%	85.0%
2016	2018	2020

The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

77.1%	68.5%	90.2%
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

68.1%	53.1%	76.7%
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

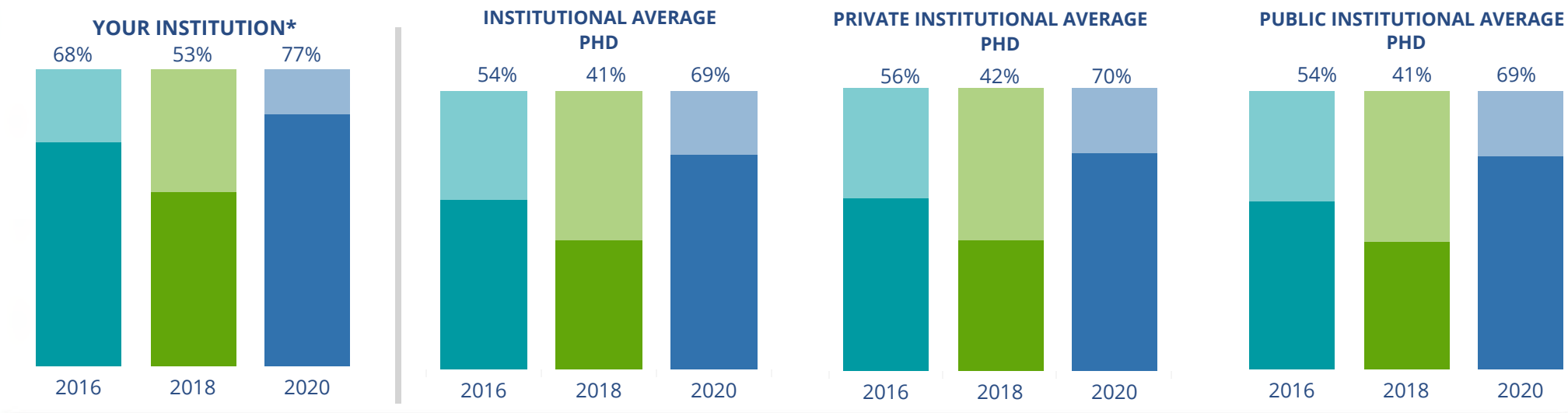|	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	51,141	58,893	60,246	⬆ 9,105
(Age under 18/Unknown)	–	16	25	–
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	6,432	7,817	7,667	⬆ 1,235
(FERPA records blocked)	7,898	9,036	8,984	⬆ 1,086
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	–	–	–	–
Total eligible voters	36,807	42,025	43,571	⬆ 6,764
Number of students who registered	32,498	32,601	37,047	⬆ 4,549
Number of students who voted	25,058	22,318	33,401	⬆ 8,343
Registration Rate %	88	78	85	⬇ -3
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	77	68	90	⬆ 13
Voting Rate %	68	53	77	⬆ 9

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.
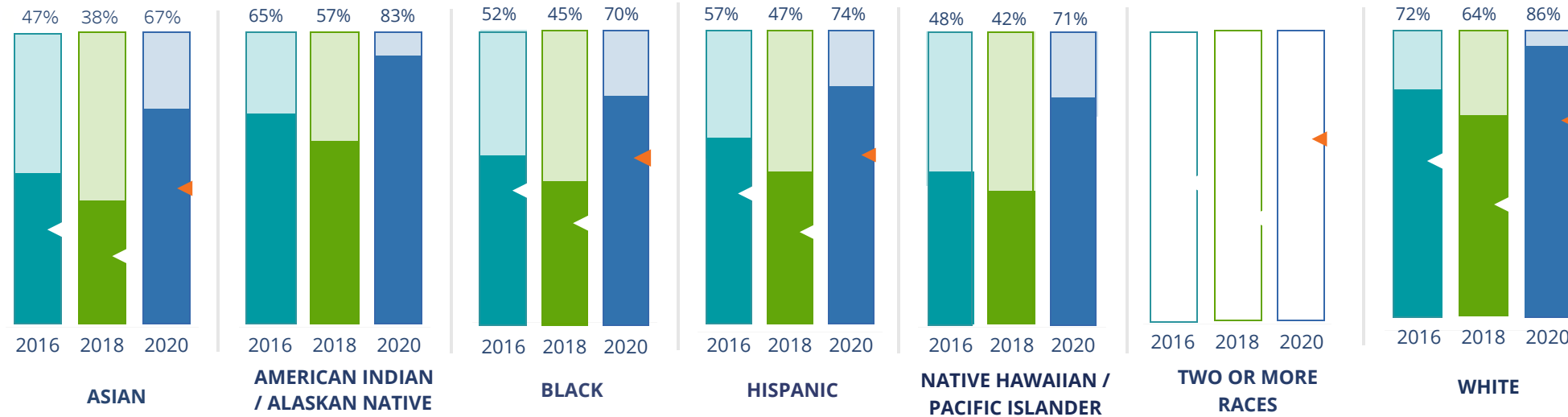
By Institution Types

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 82%
53%	LOW 13%

2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions	HIGH 89%
66%	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*

68%	53%	77%
2016	2018	2020

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

54%	41%	69%
2016	2018	2020

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

56%	42%	70%
2016	2018	2020

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

54%	41%	69%
2016	2018	2020

By Race / Ethnicity

ASIAN: 47% (2016), 38% (2018), 67% (2020)

AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE: 65% (2016), 57% (2018), 83% (2020)

BLACK: 52% (2016), 45% (2018), 70% (2020)

HISPANIC: 57% (2016), 47% (2018), 74% (2020)

NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER: 48% (2016), 42% (2018), 71% (2020)

TWO OR MORE RACES: (2016), (2018), (2020)

WHITE: 72% (2016), 64% (2018), 86% (2020)

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
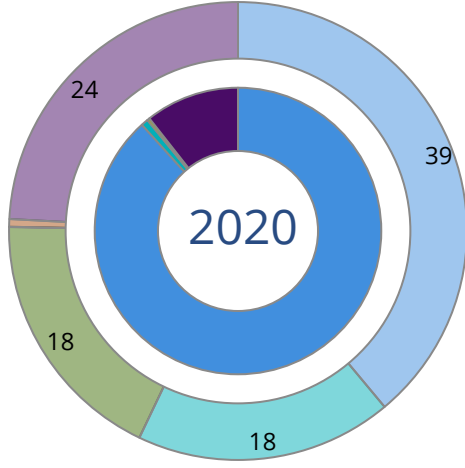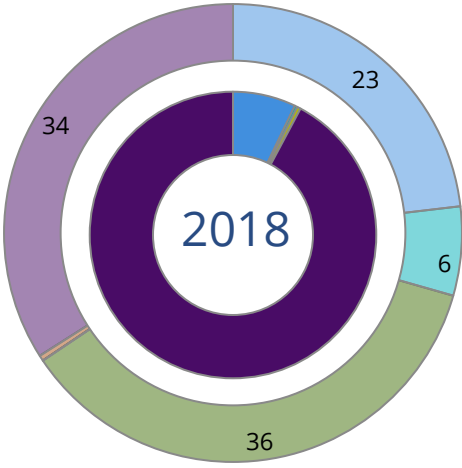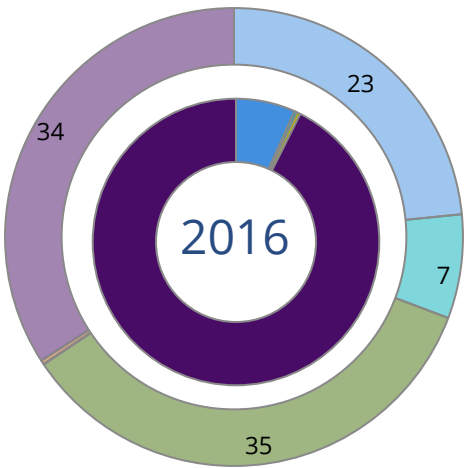
Looking Closer

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	10,713	5,037	47	12,503	4,790	38	13,611	9,102	67	⬆ 20
American Indian/ Alaska Native	623	407	65	623	352	57	592	491	83	⬆ 18
Black	2,028	1,059	52	2,425	1,079	44	2,670	1,875	70	⬆ 18
Hispanic	3,593	2,057	57	4,068	1,905	47	4,630	3,402	73	⬆ 16
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	974	464	48	528	221	42	566	402	71	⬆ 23
2 or More Races	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
White	21,403	15,295	71	20,646	13,160	64	19,920	17,031	85	⬆ 14
Race Unknown	3,524	739	21	8,510	811	10	8,754	1,098	13	⬇ -8

By Voting Method

Legend: 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	77	0	62	0	270	1	1	⬆
In-Person on Election Day	100	0	99	0	94	0	0	⬇
Not-In-Person	1,671	7	1,589	7	29,490	88	82	⬆
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Provisional	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Voting Method Unknown	23,207	93	20,567	92	3,544	11	-82	⬇

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	56%	42%	66%
22-24	54%	41%	59%
25-29	61%	50%	66%
30-39	65%	54%	67%
40-49	73%	65%	74%
50+	87%	82%	91%

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	22,481	12,591	56	27,400	11,460	42	28,363	18,852	66	⬆ 10
22-24	7,015	3,785	54	8,044	3,265	41	8,136	4,822	59	⬆ 5
25-29	6,860	4,169	61	7,373	3,712	50	7,426	4,888	66	⬆ 5
30-39	4,378	2,838	65	4,550	2,479	54	4,778	3,181	67	⬆ 2
40-49	1,259	925	73	1,085	704	65	1,182	876	74	⬆ 1
50+	865	750	87	851	698	82	858	782	91	⬆ 4

Looking Closer

By Sex

| | 2016 | | | 2018 | | | 2020 | | | 2016-2020 | |
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Female	21,970	13,602	62	25,555	12,389	48	27,029	18,615	69	↑	7
Male	20,818	11,407	55	23,668	9,873	42	23,512	14,639	62	↑	7

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	17,562	10,169	58	19,882	9,196	46	21,278	14,410	68	↑	10
Graduate	9,473	6,175	65	10,678	5,586	52	11,155	7,340	66	↑	1
Class Unknown	15,823	105	1	18,743	20	0	18,310	31	0	↓	0
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	6,530	55	3,568	8,004	38	3,065	7,864	65	5,097	↑	10
Second Year	5,391	54	2,904	6,280	39	2,432	5,554	63	3,474	↑	9
Upper Level	17,581	57	9,942	20,403	45	9,086	22,002	67	14,649	↑	10
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	36,565	20,930	57	42,591	18,525	43	43,631	28,371	65	↑	8
Part-time	6,293	4,128	66	6,712	3,793	57	7,112	5,030	71	↑	5

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	695	409	59	736	305	41	734	487	66	⬆ 7
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	558	349	63	539	286	53	426	285	67	⬆ 4
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	2,289	1,387	61	2,422	1,252	52	2,818	2,037	72	⬆ 12
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,640	2,041	56	4,112	1,780	43	4,234	2,808	66	⬆ 10
Communication and Journalism	743	420	57	1,002	451	45	945	605	64	⬆ 7
Computer and Information Sciences	2,595	1,318	51	3,657	1,436	39	4,613	2,580	56	⬆ 5
Education	1,243	847	68	1,300	755	58	1,368	993	73	⬆ 4

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)
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	5,005	2,667	53	5,498	2,224	40	5,090	3,146	62	⬆ 9
English Language and Literature	537	362	67	356	194	54	366	288	79	⬆ 11
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	14	–	–	14	–	–	12	–	–	–
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	364	208	57	333	181	54	313	208	66	⬆ 9
Health Professions	5,344	3,242	61	5,644	2,867	51	5,888	4,358	74	⬆ 13
History	231	167	72	226	150	66	232	184	79	⬆ 7
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	127	54	43	139	48	35	182	132	73	⬆ 30
Legal Professions and Studies	631	462	73	704	414	59	715	541	76	⬆ 2
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,295	807	62	1,697	703	41	1,919	1,214	63	⬆ 1
Mathematics and Statistics	680	302	44	867	264	30	912	345	38	⬇ -7
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	9,518	5,190	55	12,321	4,791	39	12,447	7,866	63	⬆ 9
Natural Resources and Conservation	855	593	69	865	522	60	872	702	81	⬆ 11
Philosophy and Religious Studies	199	132	66	178	89	50	208	144	69	⬆ 3

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Physical Sciences	1,223	818	67	1,311	675	51	1,238	834	67	⬆ 0
Psychology	914	524	57	943	448	48	958	622	65	⬆ 8
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	1,100	852	77	1,068	752	70	1,002	831	83	⬆ 5
Science Technologies/Technicians	–	–	–	–	–	–	22	12	55	–
Social Sciences	1,899	1,125	59	2,126	1,035	49	2,029	1,294	64	⬆ 5
Visual and Performing Arts	789	490	62	875	430	49	856	597	70	⬆ 8
Unknown	68	42	62	79	46	58	66	52	79	⬆ 17

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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