# NSLVE

**NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGAGEMENT**

**SEPTEMBER 2019**

**2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT**

# Student Voting Rates for Washington State University

**Tufts** UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

# About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 1,000 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has helped us build a robust database for research on more than 10 million de-identified student records for each election year.

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. IDHE is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and participation in democracy. IDHE researchers study voting, campus conditions for political learning and discussion, closing equity gaps in participation, and increasing student agency and participation. We accomplish our goals through research, resource development, assisting institutions and the higher education community, 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 voted in the 2014 and 2018 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse and publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. We exclude FERPA-blocked records. (For exceptions for campuses with disproportionately high numbers of FERPA blocked students, see our Campus Reports FAQ.)

The institutional voting rates reported on page 3 are adjusted by deducting an estimated number of students identified by each institution as non-resident aliens and reported to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). For breakdowns by student characteristics in subsequent pages of the report, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are ineligible to vote: non-resident aliens (international students), resident aliens (undocumented students), and students who have been disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. As a result, your institution's actual voting rate may be higher than we report. If you have access to more complete data for students who are ineligible to vote, you may recalculate your rates by using the Recalculation Tool -
https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve-recalculation-tool.

To read more about NSLVE data, see our Campus Reports FAQ -
https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/frequently-asked-questions.

### Reviewing the Data

Use the following key to interpret the charts:
*     = number of students is less than 10
n/a   = no data was collected or calculated for this field.

### What to do next?

❑ Review the data and identify your challenges and opportunities. This report provides comparisons between subgroups of your students and with similar institutions. For more comparisons or to see national voter registration and voting rates, read our national report, Democracy Counts 2018. To access our data portals -
https://idhe.tufts.edu/public-data-portal-visualizations.

❑ Share the report widely and strategically by sharing it with institutional leaders, faculty across disciplines, student government leaders, and other student groups.

❑ Read and implement *Election Imperatives*, ten recommendations for improving your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, equity, and participation -
https://idhe.tufts.edu/electionimperatives.

❑ Work with us. IDHE can help via virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions, coaching, and in-person workshops.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website:
https://idhe.tufts.edu.

Follow us on Twitter @TuftsIDHE.

We appreciate hearing from you! Please email us at NSLVE@tufts.edu.

Warm regards,

IDHE Team

# Voting and Registration Rates
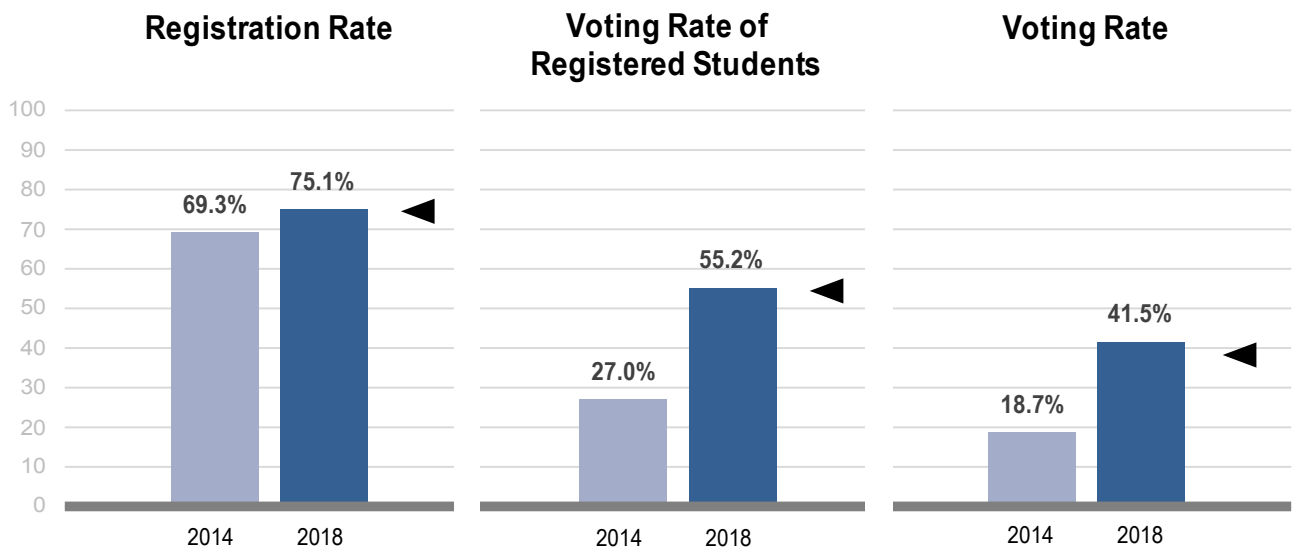
**2018 Voting Rate**

## 41.5%

**CHANGE FROM 2014**

**+22.7**

**2018 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS**

## 39.1%



**Registration Rate**

69.3% → 75.1%

**Voting Rate of Registered Students**

27.0% → 55.2%

**Voting Rate**

18.7% → 41.5%

◄ All Institutions, 2018

| | 2014 | 2018 | | Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total student enrollment | 26,671 | 29,065 | ⬆ | 2,394 |
| Age under 18/Unknown | (112) | (242) | | |
| IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens | (1,788) | (2,049) | | |
| FERPA records blocked | (191) | (247) | | |
| Total eligible voters | 24,580 | 26,527 | ⬆ | 1,947 |
| Number of students who registered | 17,035 | 19,915 | ⬆ | 2,880 |
| Number of students who voted | 4,607 | 10,999 | ⬆ | 6,392 |
| Registration rate | 69.3% | 75.1% | ⬆ | 5.8 |
| Voting rate of registered students | 27.0% | 55.2% | ⬆ | 28.2 |
| Voting rate | 18.7% | 41.5% | ⬆ | 22.7 |
| Difference from all institutions | -1.0 | +2.4 | | |

# By Carnegie Classification

**2014 Voting Rate for All Institutions**

**19.7%**

HIGH 54.0%

LOW 1.5%

Difference from All Institutions    **-1.0**

**2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions**

**39.1%**

HIGH 64.1%

LOW 11.5%

Difference from All Institutions    **+2.4**

| | Your Institution | Research Institutions | Public Research Institutions | Private Research Institutions |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2014 | 18.7% | 19.5% | 19.6% | 17.6% |
| 2018 | 41.5% | 41.2% | 40.8% | 42.5% |
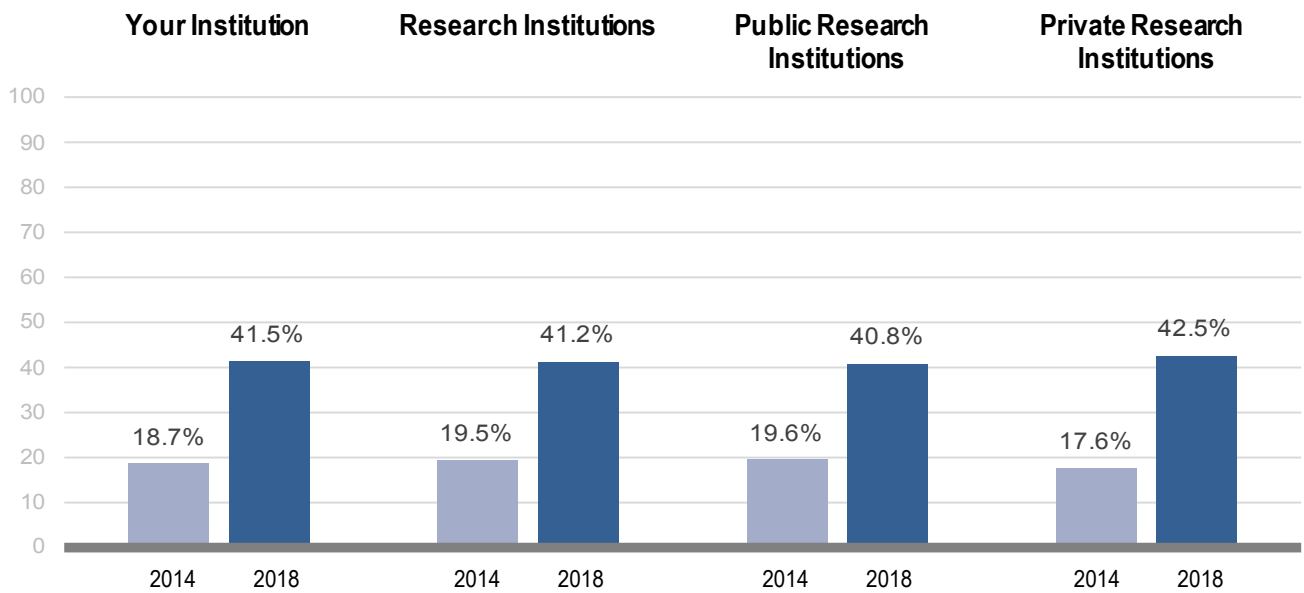
# By Voting Method*
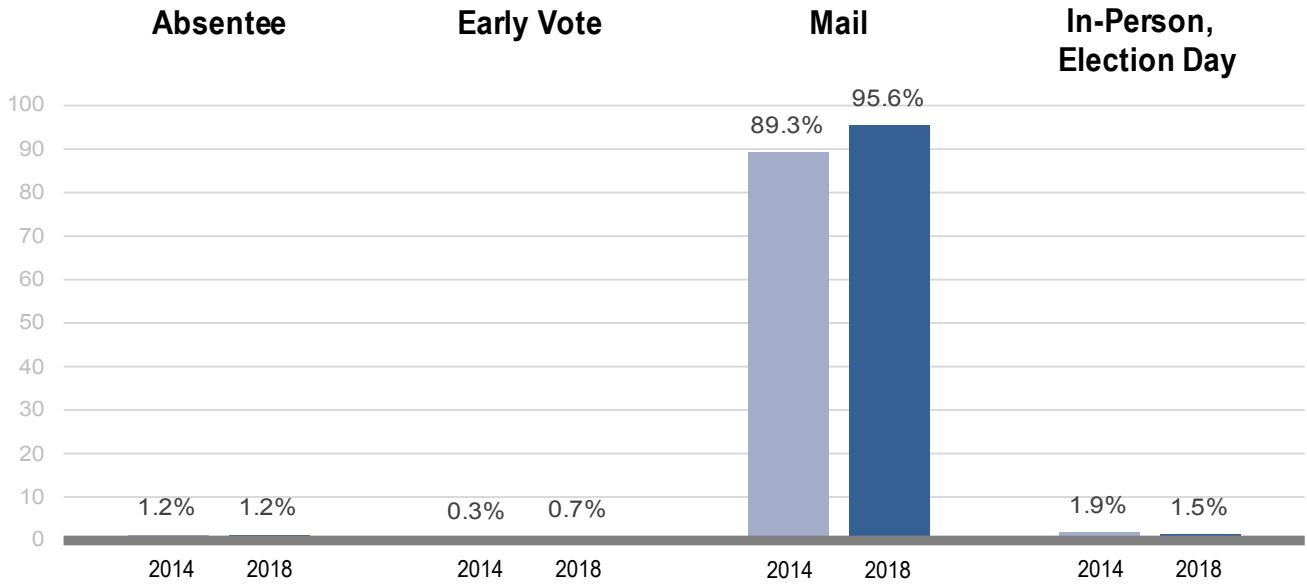


|  | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Voted | Rate |  | Voted | Rate |  | Change |
| Absentee | 55 | **1.2%** |  | 130 | **1.2%** | ⇨ | **0.0** |
| Early Vote | 15 | **0.3%** |  | 75 | **0.7%** | ⬆ | **0.4** |
| Mail | 4,116 | **89.3%** |  | 10,511 | **95.6%** | ⬆ | **6.2** |
| In-Person, Election Day | 87 | **1.9%** |  | 165 | **1.5%** | ⬇ | **-0.4** |
| Unknown | 334 | **7.3%** |  | 118 | **1.1%** |  |  |
| **Total** | **4,607** |  |  | **10,999** |  |  |  |

\* Your students' data broken down by voting method. If your campus has a high number of voting method "Unknown", it means that this information was not reported by local offical where your students voted.

## YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Age Group*
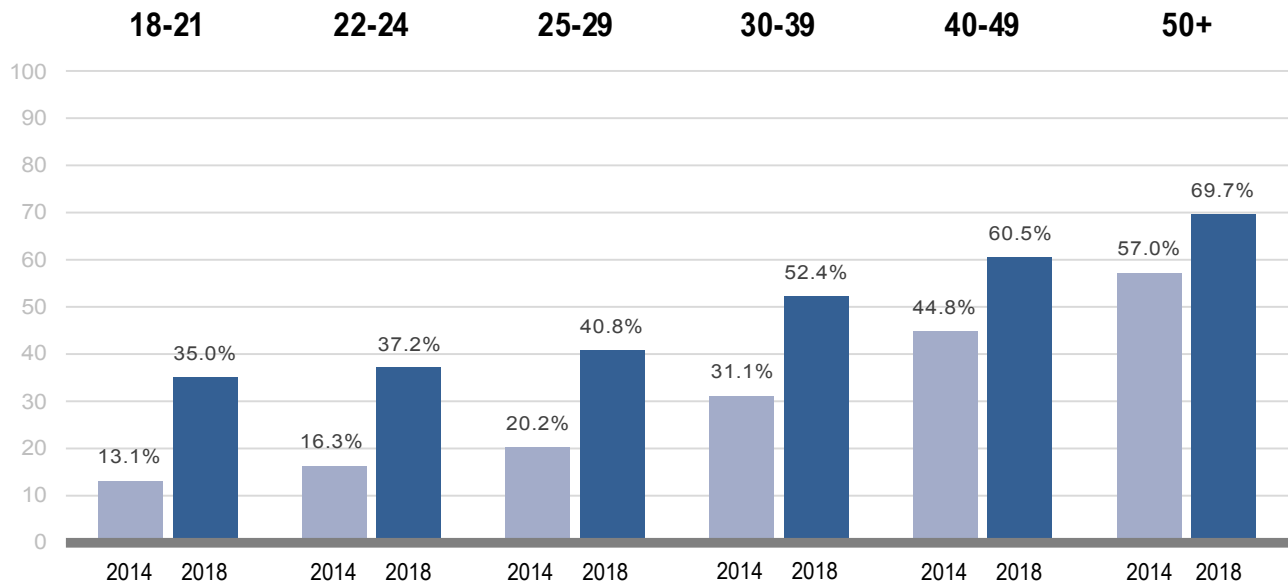
|  | **18-21** | **22-24** | **25-29** | **30-39** | **40-49** | **50+** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|



| | **2014** | | | **2018** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | | Change |
| 18-21 | 14,775 | 1,939 | **13.1%** | 16,329 | 5,721 | **35.0%** | ⬆ | **21.9** |
| 22-24 | 5,506 | 899 | **16.3%** | 5,829 | 2,169 | **37.2%** | ⬆ | **20.9** |
| 25-29 | 2,797 | 564 | **20.2%** | 3,144 | 1,282 | **40.8%** | ⬆ | **20.6** |
| 30-39 | 2,220 | 691 | **31.1%** | 2,187 | 1,145 | **52.4%** | ⬆ | **21.2** |
| 40-49 | 786 | 352 | **44.8%** | 820 | 496 | **60.5%** | ⬆ | **15.7** |
| 50+ | 284 | 162 | **57.0%** | 267 | 186 | **69.7%** | ⬆ | **12.6** |
| Unknown | 0 | | | 0 | | | | |

* Your students' data broken down by age at the time of the election. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

# By Education Level*

**Undergraduate**
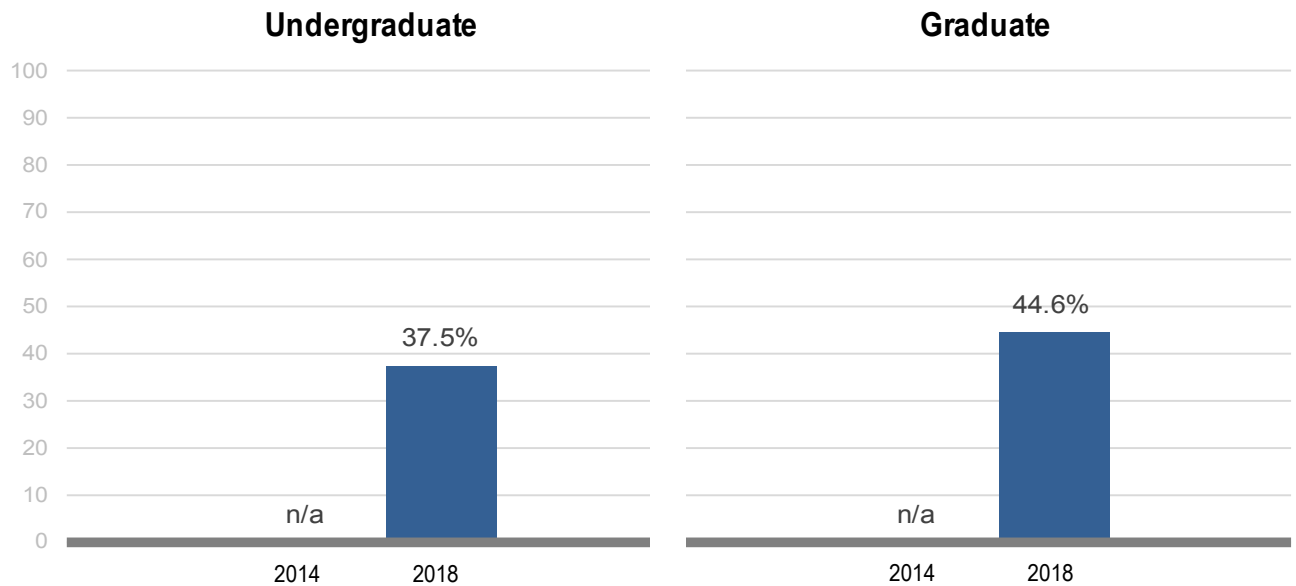
**Graduate**



|  | **2014** | | | **2018** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Change |
| Undergraduate | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | 24,886 | 9,324 | **37.5%** | **n/a** |
| Graduate | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | 3,187 | 1,420 | **44.6%** | **n/a** |
| Unknown | 26,368 | | | 503 | | | |

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

# By Undergraduate Class Year*
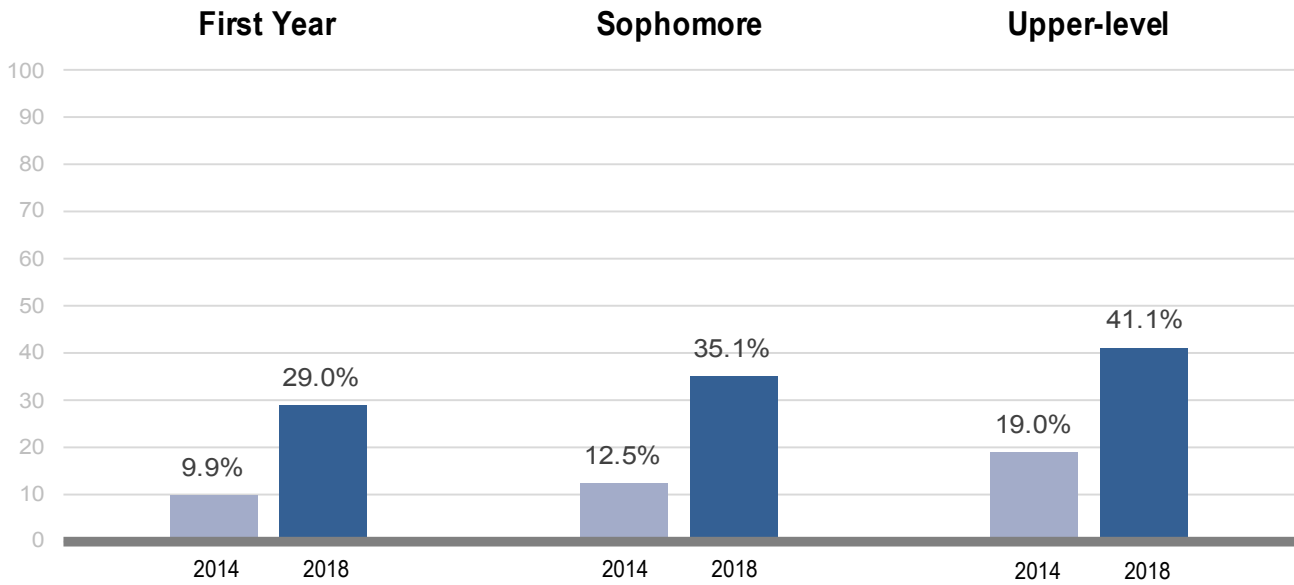


| | **2014** | | | **2018** | | | | Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | | |
| First Year | 5,602 | 554 | **9.9%** | 5,556 | 1,610 | **29.0%** | ⬆ | **19.1** |
| Sophomore | 4,104 | 512 | **12.5%** | 4,568 | 1,605 | **35.1%** | ⬆ | **22.7** |
| Upper-level | 13,058 | 2,482 | **19.0%** | 14,440 | 5,930 | **41.1%** | ⬆ | **22.1** |

\* Your students' data broken down by undergraduate students' class level. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS**

# By Enrollment Status*
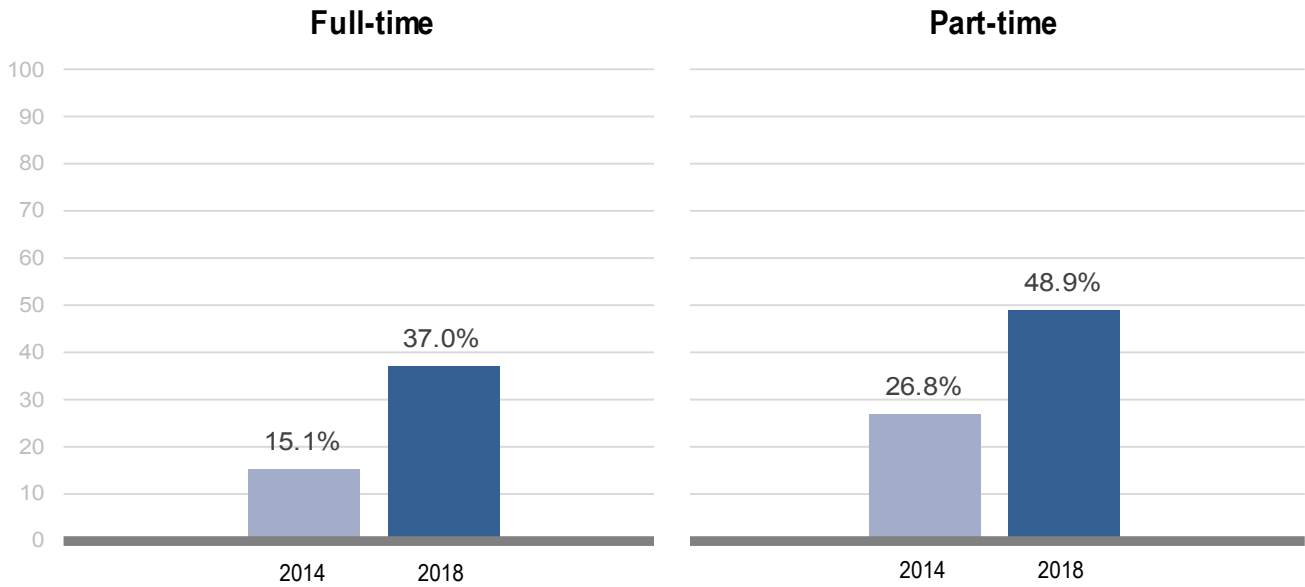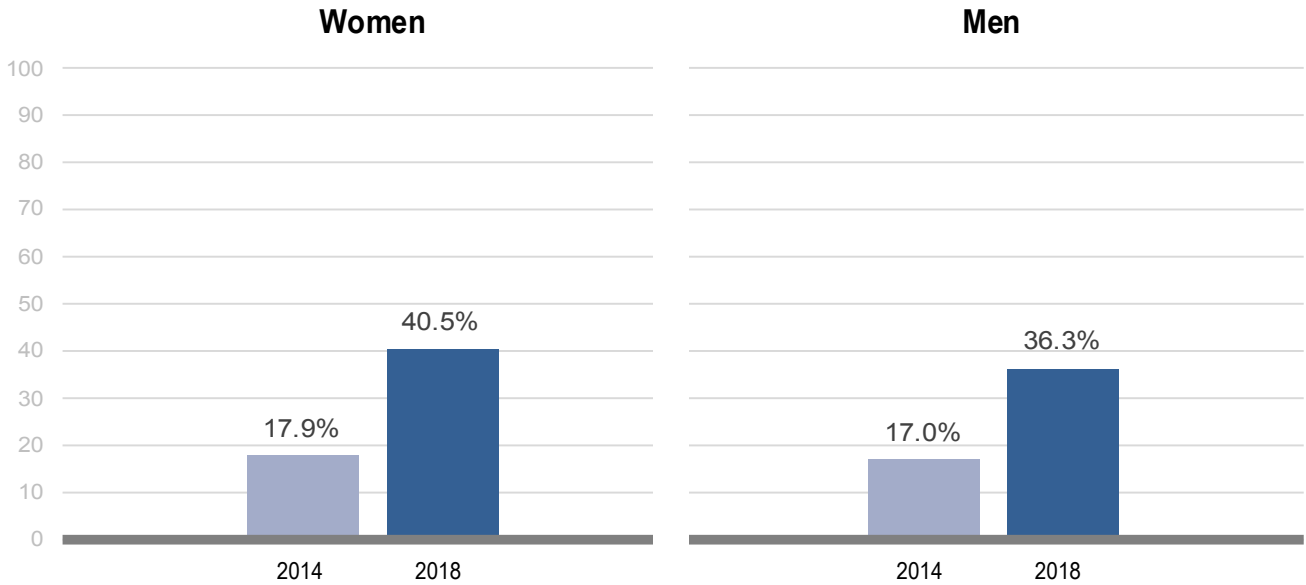
**Full-time**

**Part-time**



|  | **2014** | | | **2018** | | | | Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | | |
| Full-time | 21,104 | 3,195 | **15.1%** | 24,989 | 9,244 | **37.0%** | ⬆ | **21.9** |
| Part-time | 5,264 | 1,412 | **26.8%** | 3,587 | 1,755 | **48.9%** | ⬆ | **22.1** |
| Unknown | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | | |

* Your students' data broken down by part-time and full-time students. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table.
Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.

# By Gender*



**Women**

**Men**

|  | **2014** | | | **2018** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | | Change |
| Women | 13,605 | 2,433 | **17.9%** | 15,184 | 6,145 | **40.5%** | ⬆ | **22.6** |
| Men | 12,763 | 2,174 | **17.0%** | 13,392 | 4,854 | **36.3%** | ⬆ | **19.2** |
| Unknown | 0 | | | 0 | | | | |

* Your students' data broken down by gender. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students.
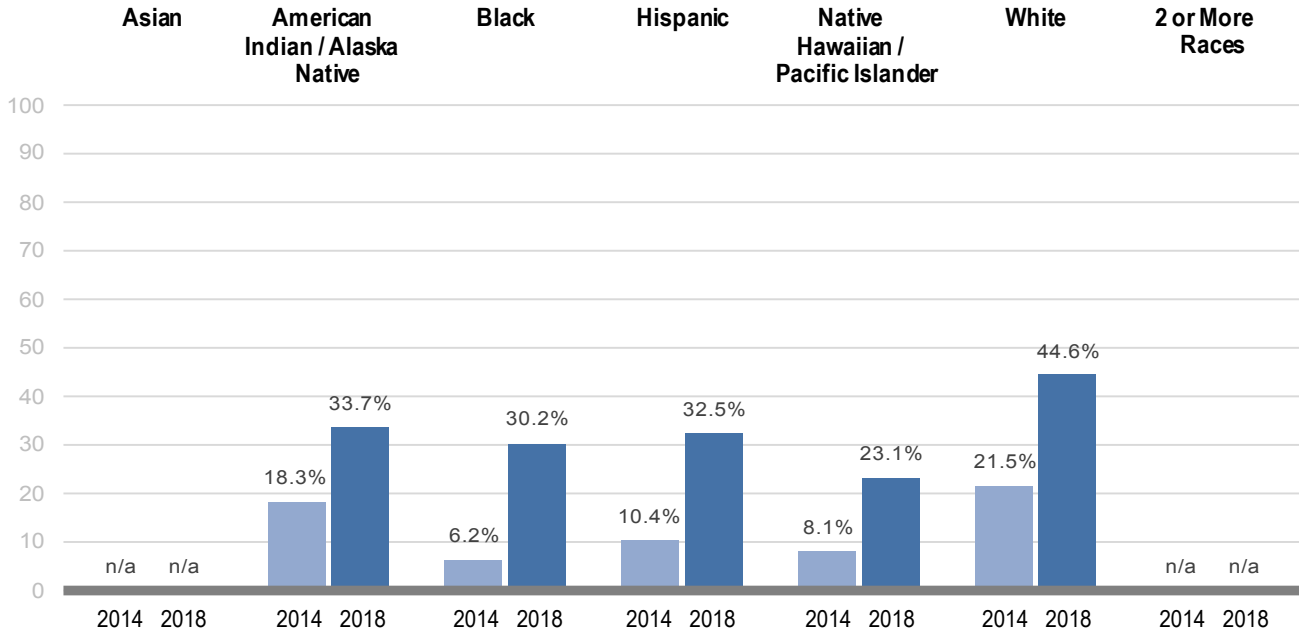
## YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Race/Ethnicity*



|  | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | | Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | | |
| Asian | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | | **n/a** |
| American Indian/ Alaska Native | 153 | 28 | **18.3%** | 169 | 57 | **33.7%** | ⬆ | **15.4** |
| Black | 850 | 53 | **6.2%** | 923 | 279 | **30.2%** | ⬆ | **24.0** |
| Hispanic | 2,913 | 304 | **10.4%** | 4,092 | 1,329 | **32.5%** | ⬆ | **22.0** |
| Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander | 1,581 | 128 | **8.1%** | 2,148 | 497 | **23.1%** | ⬆ | **15.0** |
| White | 16,887 | 3,632 | **21.5%** | 17,075 | 7,616 | **44.6%** | ⬆ | **23.1** |
| 2 or More Races | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | | **n/a** |
| Unknown | 3,984 | | | 4,169 | | | | |

* Your students' data broken down by race. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students. For this page, we consider international students of unknown race/ethnicity.

## YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Field of Study*

\* Your students' data broken down by field of study. To provide more accurate voting rates, students ineligible to vote because they were too young, students whose age data was not reported to the Clearinghouse, as well as records that were FERPA blocked are removed from this table. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens, resident aliens or undocumented students. The green and red highlighted values below represent your campus's top three and bottom three voting rates by field of study.

| | 2014 | | | 2018 | | | Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | Enrolled | Voted | Rate | |
| Agriculture and Agriculture Operations | 464 | 102 | 22.0% | 1,126 | 442 | 39.3% ⬆ | 17.3 |
| Architecture | 132 | 16 | 12.1% | 347 | 94 | 27.1% ⬆ | 15.0 |
| Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies | 15 | * | n/a | 35 | 16 | 45.7% | n/a |
| Biological and Biomedical Sciences | 896 | 161 | 18.0% | 2,124 | 769 | 36.2% ⬆ | 18.2 |
| Business, Management, and Marketing | 1,684 | 232 | 13.8% | 5,472 | 1,987 | 36.3% ⬆ | 22.5 |
| Communication and Journalism | 965 | 149 | 15.4% | 1,789 | 781 | 43.7% ⬆ | 28.2 |
| Computer and Information Sciences | 278 | 61 | 21.9% | 1,024 | 369 | 36.0% ⬆ | 14.1 |
| Education | 281 | 70 | 24.9% | 1,037 | 451 | 43.5% ⬆ | 18.6 |
| Engineering and Engineering Technologies | 1,279 | 246 | 19.2% | 3,358 | 1,275 | 38.0% ⬆ | 18.7 |
| English Language and Literature | 206 | 48 | 23.3% | 317 | 147 | 46.4% ⬆ | 23.1 |
| Family and Consumer/Human Sciences | 490 | 64 | 13.1% | 857 | 313 | 36.5% ⬆ | 23.5 |
| Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics | 53 | 12 | 22.6% | 99 | 32 | 32.3% ⬆ | 9.7 |
| Health Professions | 1,648 | 381 | 23.1% | 3,327 | 1,241 | 37.3% ⬆ | 14.2 |
| History | 189 | 54 | 28.6% | 235 | 132 | 56.2% ⬆ | 27.6 |
| Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services | 336 | 47 | 14.0% | 613 | 215 | 35.1% ⬆ | 21.1 |
| Legal Professions and Studies | 0 | 0 | n/a | 49 | 18 | 36.7% | n/a |
| Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities | 356 | 79 | 22.2% | 304 | 133 | 43.8% ⬆ | 21.6 |
| Mathematics and Statistics | 97 | 20 | 20.6% | 194 | 72 | 37.1% ⬆ | 16.5 |
| Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies | 0 | 0 | n/a | 143 | 57 | 39.9% | n/a |
| Natural Resources and Conservation | 123 | 27 | 22.0% | 106 | 56 | 52.8% ⬆ | 30.9 |
| Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies | 432 | 51 | 11.8% | 804 | 235 | 29.2% ⬆ | 17.4 |
| Philosophy and Religious Studies | 22 | * | n/a | 65 | 32 | 49.2% | n/a |
| Physical Sciences | 419 | 76 | 18.1% | 690 | 306 | 44.4% ⬆ | 26.2 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Psychology | 74 | 14 | **18.9%** | 1,378 | 502 | **36.4%** ⬆ | **17.5** |
| Public Administration and Social Service Professions | 31 | 19 | **61.3%** | 56 | 40 | **71.4%** ⬆ | **10.1** |
| Science Technologies/Technicians | 385 | 72 | **18.7%** | 0 | 0 | **n/a** | **n/a** |
| Social Sciences | 1,074 | 206 | **19.2%** | 2,175 | 916 | **42.1%** ⬆ | **22.9** |
| Visual and Performing Arts | 201 | 25 | **12.4%** | 339 | 114 | **33.6%** ⬆ | **21.2** |
| Unknown | 14,238 | 2,367 | **16.6%** | 513 | 254 | **49.5%** ⬆ | **32.9** |

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.**

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