



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for West Chester University of Pennsylvania

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.

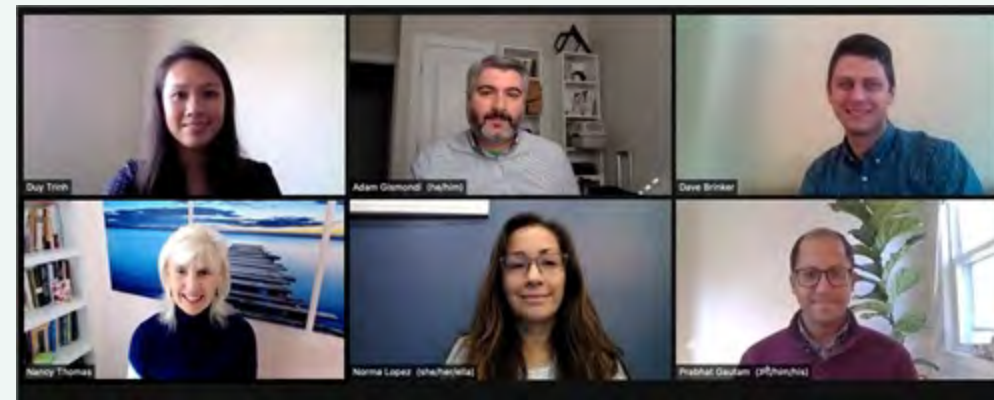
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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.

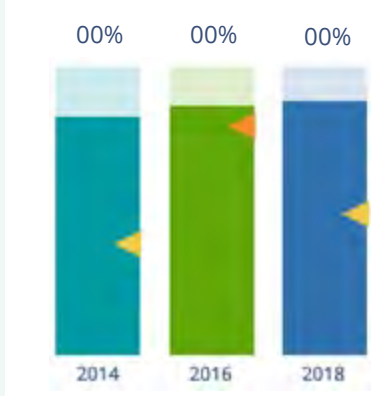
In This Report

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.

Tables

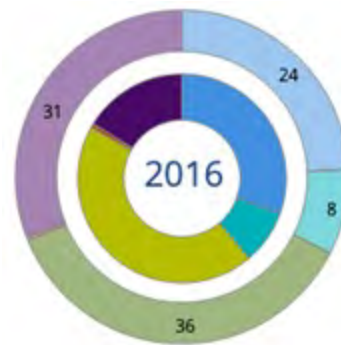
The tables show, on the left-side columns, the numbers of students and the rates from 2016, 2018, and 2020. On the left-side, percentage point (p.p.) changes between 2016 and 2020. A red down arrow indicates a decrease, a green up arrow indicates an increase, and a yellow arrow pointing to the right indicates no change. "-" in these tables indicates that the data is unavailable/missing, or is available for 10 or less students.

	2014			2018			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p.)
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



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

77.8%

2020 Voting Rate

+16.1

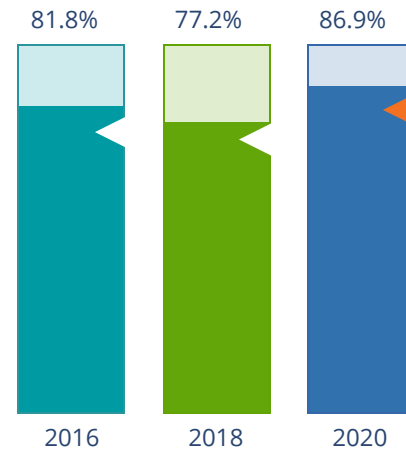
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

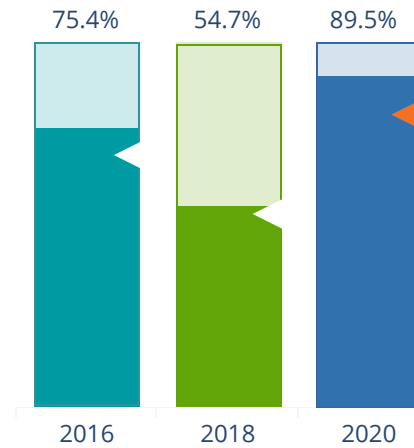
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE



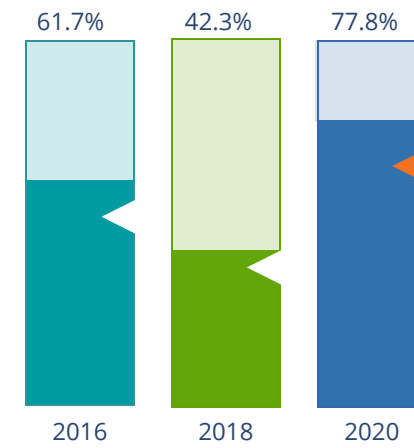
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS



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



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	16,679	17,265	18,408	↑ 1,729
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	127	129	78	↓ -48
(FERPA records blocked)	-	-	-	-
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	348	598	408	↑ 60
Total eligible voters	16,189	16,532	17,915	↑ 1,726
Number of students who registered	13,244	12,771	15,564	↑ 2,320
Number of students who voted	9,988	6,991	13,937	↑ 3,949
Registration Rate %	82	77	87	↑ 5
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	75	55	90	↑ 14
Voting Rate %	62	42	78	↑ 16

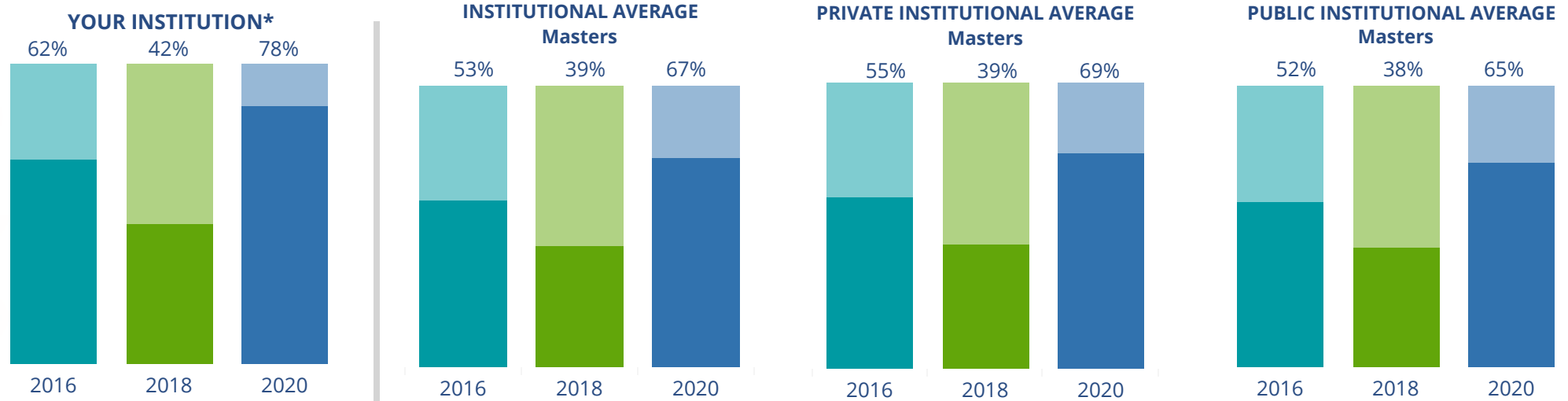
This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged,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

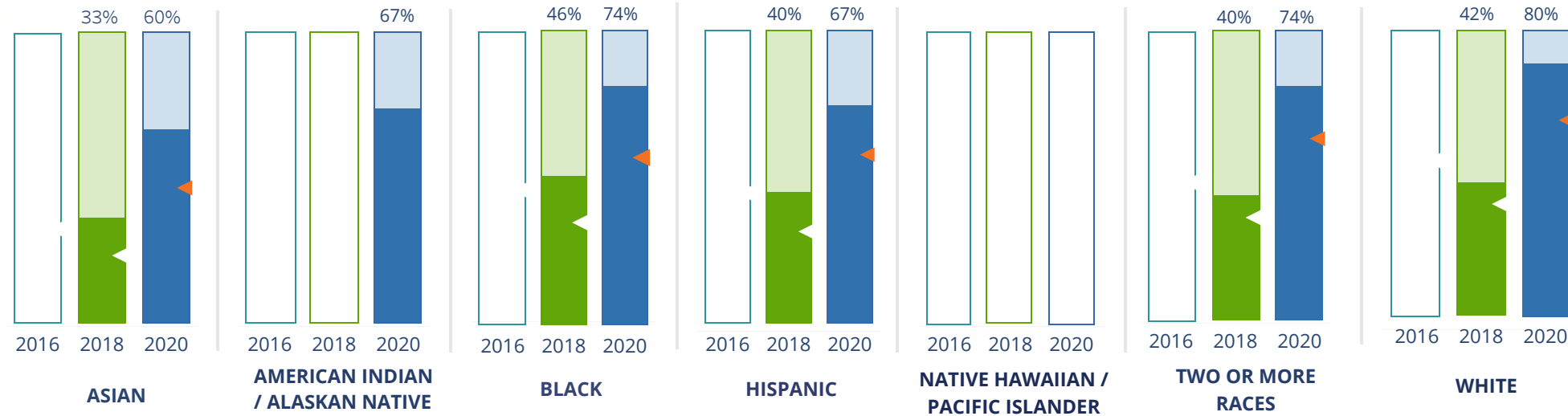
By Institution Types



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-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

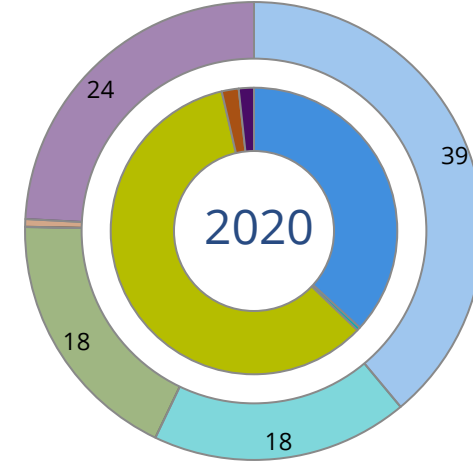
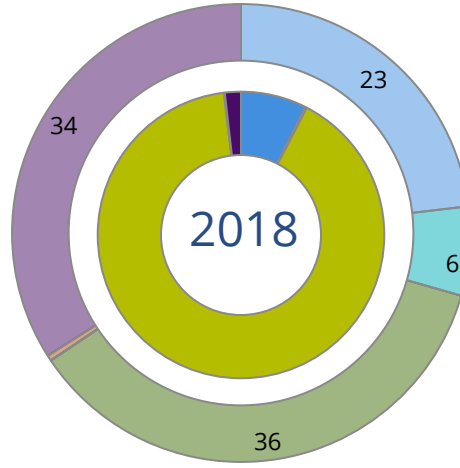
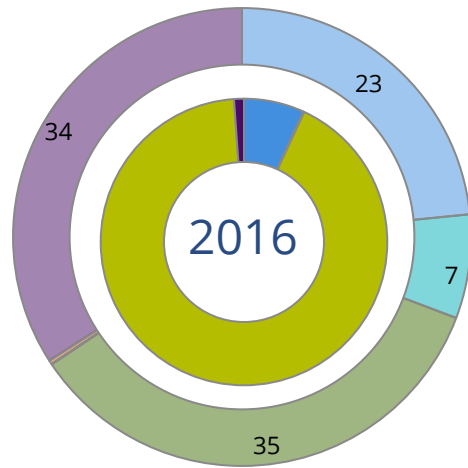
By Race/Ethnicity

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	-	-	-	456	149	33	528	318	60	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	22	-	-	36	24	67	-
Black	-	-	-	1,971	907	46	2,092	1,540	74	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	342	138	40	370	249	67	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	1,170	463	40	1,300	955	73	-
White	-	-	-	12,422	5,229	42	13,277	10,571	80	-
Race Unknown	16,313	9,988	61	264	97	37	378	274	72	↑ 11

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	14	0	15	0	53	0	0	↑
In-Person on Election Day	9,184	92	6,330	91	8,249	59	-33	↓
Not-In-Person	678	7	517	7	5,124	37	30	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	-	-	-	-	270	2	-	
Voting Method Unknown	111	1	122	2	241	2	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/nsive/nsive-faq#CampusReports>

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	57%	35%	78%
22-24	64%	47%	78%
25-29	69%	56%	75%
30-39	72%	58%	75%
40-49	80%	69%	83%
50+	87%	81%	88%

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 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	9,811	5,590	57	10,110	3,529	35	10,887	8,460	78	↑ 21
22-24	3,482	2,212	64	3,536	1,667	47	3,575	2,772	78	↑ 14
25-29	1,555	1,066	69	1,594	888	56	1,771	1,322	75	↑ 6
30-39	858	618	72	849	490	58	1,054	786	75	↑ 3
40-49	359	287	80	351	243	69	435	361	83	↑ 3
50+	248	215	87	216	174	81	269	236	88	↑ 1

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	10,024	4,436	44	10,949	8,782	80	-
Male	-	-	-	6,632	2,555	39	7,042	5,155	73	-

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	13,916	8,219	59	13,995	5,432	39	14,660	11,356	77	↑ 18
Graduate	1,923	1,414	74	1,885	1,126	60	2,309	1,828	79	↑ 6
Class Unknown	474	355	75	776	433	56	1,022	753	74	↓ -1
CLASS YEAR										
First Year	2,574	54	1,398	1,959	32	621	2,376	76	1,808	↑ 22
Second Year	2,757	58	1,603	2,590	33	860	2,750	76	2,093	↑ 18
Upper Level	7,358	63	4,629	8,328	44	3,641	8,802	78	6,909	↑ 16
ENROLLMENT STATUS										
Full-time	-	-	-	13,931	5,410	39	15,768	12,293	78	-
Part-time	-	-	-	2,725	1,581	58	2,223	1,644	74	-

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	26	24	92	31	21	68	26	24	92	→ 0
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	591	364	62	579	258	45	748	584	78	↑ 16
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,220	1,736	54	3,627	1,207	33	3,894	2,916	75	↑ 21
Communication and Journalism	-	-	-	106	40	38	379	307	81	-
Computer and Information Sciences	320	183	57	406	171	42	439	317	72	↑ 15
Education	1,501	981	65	1,492	719	48	1,694	1,404	83	↑ 18

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	27	73	-
English Language and Literature	980	646	66	901	447	50	834	666	80	↑ 14
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	124	92	74	130	70	54	143	119	83	↑ 9
Health Professions	2,157	1,385	64	1,852	810	44	1,973	1,560	79	↑ 15
History	258	184	71	234	142	61	248	212	85	↑ 14
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	665	390	59	695	249	36	722	537	74	↑ 16
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,598	822	51	1,625	506	31	1,313	972	74	↑ 23
Mathematics and Statistics	330	190	58	326	135	41	297	206	69	↑ 12
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	209	174	83	137	70	51	165	150	91	↑ 8
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	954	474	50	899	248	28	910	665	73	↑ 23
Philosophy and Religious Studies	65	45	69	46	22	48	45	33	73	↑ 4
Physical Sciences	409	261	64	332	156	47	311	255	82	↑ 18
Psychology	907	591	65	901	381	42	1,082	835	77	↑ 12
Public Administration and Social Service P..	545	412	76	586	364	62	654	516	79	↑ 3

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Social Sciences	436	305	70	387	229	59	410	344	84	↑ 14
Visual and Performing Arts	633	433	68	596	319	54	624	517	83	↑ 14
Unknown	385	296	77	768	427	56	1,033	762	74	↓ -3

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.

West Chester University of Pennsylvania

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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