

**2014 CAMPUS REPORT**

Student Voting Rates for  
Western Carolina  
University

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

**About This Report**

**Your Institution's Voting Data**

Voting and Registration Rates

How Your Institution's Numbers  
Compare

**Your Students' Voting Data**

By Voting Method

By Age Group

By Education Level

By Undergraduate Class Year

By Enrollment Status

By Gender

By Race/Ethnicity

By Field of Study

# 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 and 2016 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of nearly 30 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

This report provides estimated registration and voting rates based on your institution's students who were age-eligible to vote at the time of the election, using the best available data. We use enrollment records submitted by your institution to the National Student Clearinghouse (FERPA-blocked records excluded) merged with publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. As with nearly all voting rate calculations, some ineligible voters are difficult to parse out, such as international or undocumented students. We do, however, adjust institutional voting rates by deducting an estimated number of students who are nonresident aliens based on your institution's report to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). For more information, including reports on maintaining the NSLVE database, how ineligible voters might affect turnout rates, and tips for improving the data in your campus report visit our FAQ page: <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?

In 2014 less than 20% of eligible college students in NSLVE voted. Use your campus NSLVE data to foster greater political learning and engagement on your campus.

❑ Review the data. This report provides a baseline measure of your students' engagement in democracy in 2014 and compares your institution's voting rate to similar institutions. Our website also contains an interactive tool on the 2014 data, which you can find here: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/2014-student-voter-turnout>.

❑ Focus on low propensity voters – only 13% of 18-24-year-olds voted in 2014.

❑ Put your data into practice. Use our *Using Your NSLVE Reports* guide for ideas, including sharing the report widely and talking about the NSLVE data with your campus. (Find the guide and other NSLVE resources at <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve>).

❑ Partner with IDHE. We are available to work with you to evaluate and improve your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, and participation. Contact us for in-person trainings and campus climate assessment at [IDHE@tufts.edu](mailto:IDHE@tufts.edu).

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

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE) or email us at [NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu).

Warm regards,  
IDHE Team



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

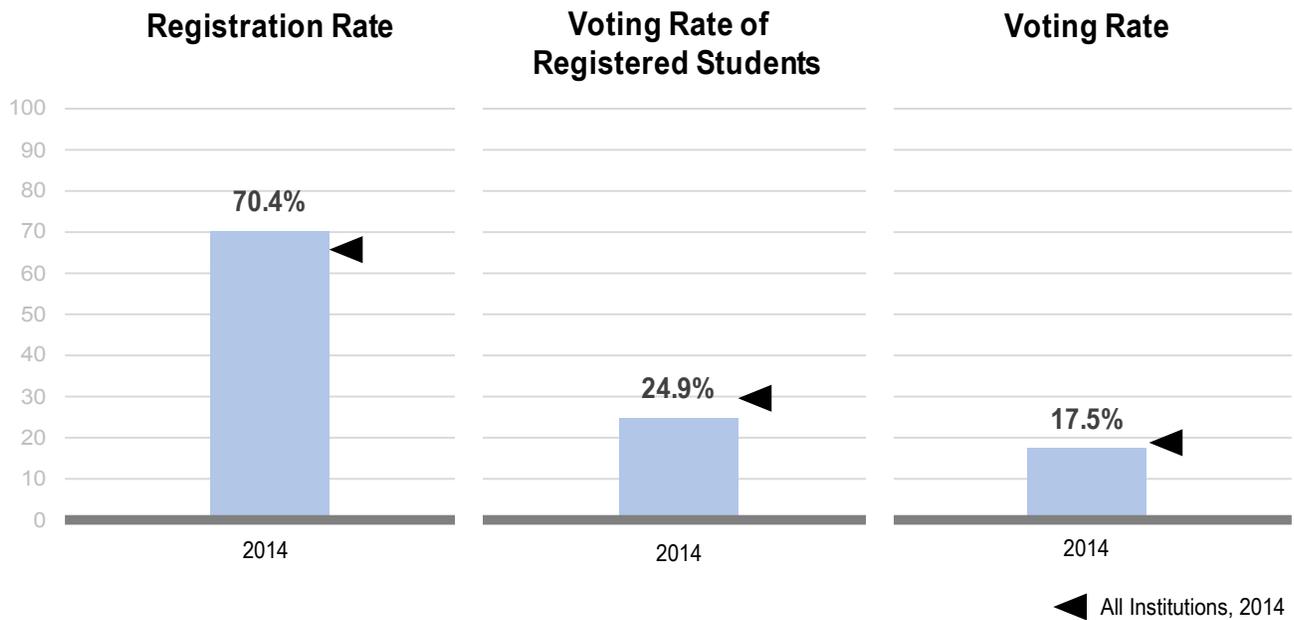
# Voting and Registration Rates

2014 Voting Rate

**17.5%**

2014 VOTING RATE  
FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS

**19.1%**



	<b>2014</b>
Total student enrollment	<b>10,333</b>
Age under 18/Unknown	(60)
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(277)
FERPA records blocked	*
Total eligible voters	<b>9,987</b>
Number of students who registered	<b>7,026</b>
Number of students who voted	<b>1,750</b>
Registration rate	<b>70.4%</b>
Voting rate of registered students	<b>24.9%</b>
Voting rate	<b>17.5%</b>
Difference from all institutions	<b>-1.6</b>

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Carnegie Classification

**2014 Voting Rate  
for All Institutions**

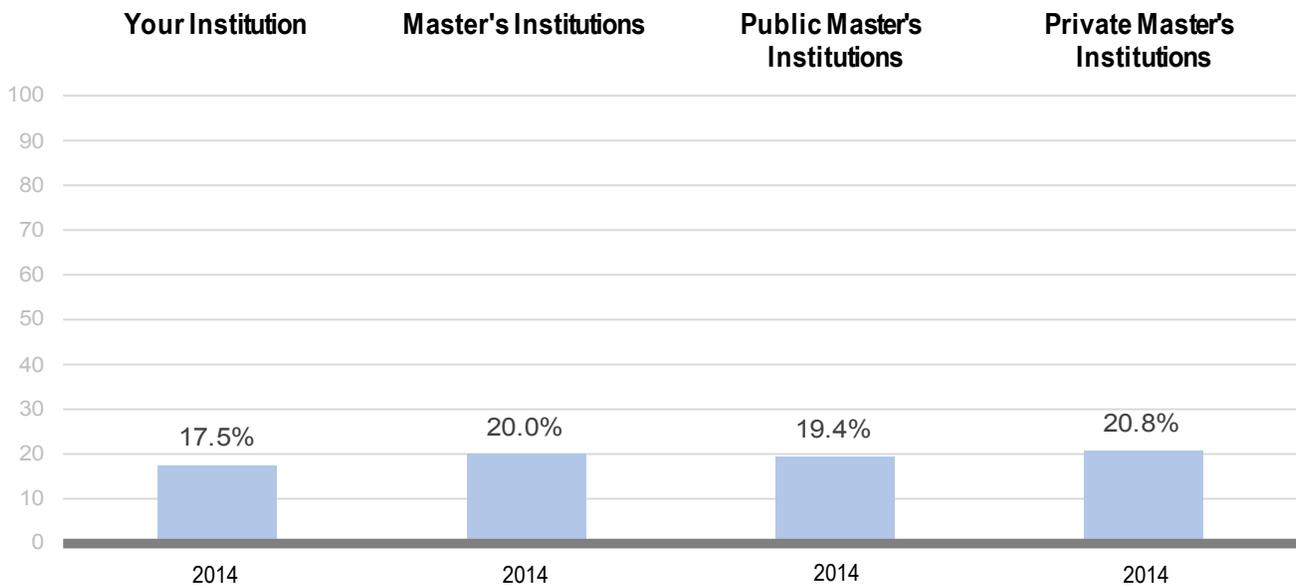
**19.1%**

**HIGH**  
54.0%

**LOW**  
5.2%

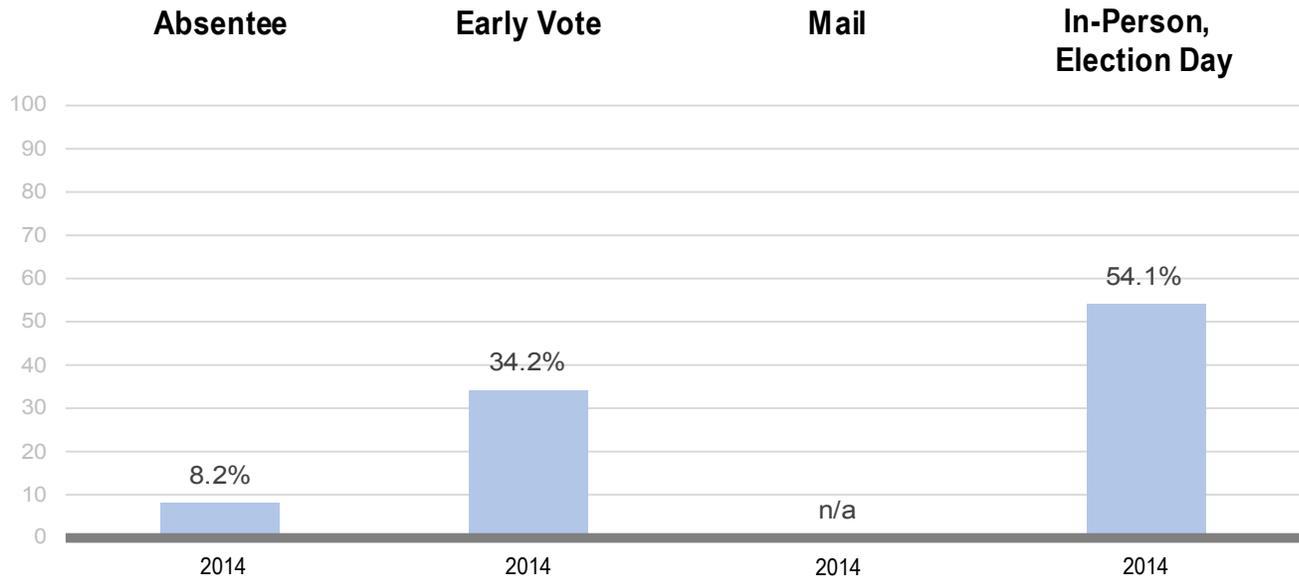
Difference from All Institutions

**-1.6**



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Voting Method\*

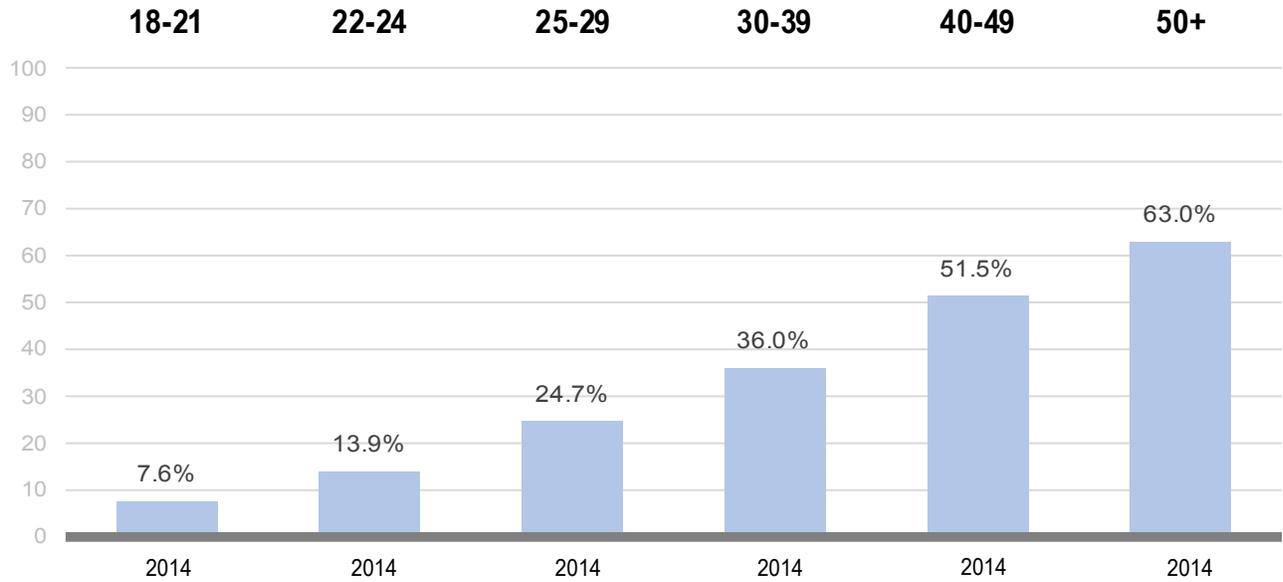


	2014	
	Voted	Rate
Absentee	143	8.2%
Early Vote	598	34.2%
Mail	*	n/a
In-Person, Election Day	946	54.1%
Unknown	59	3.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,750</b>	

\* 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 officials where your students voted.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Age Group\*

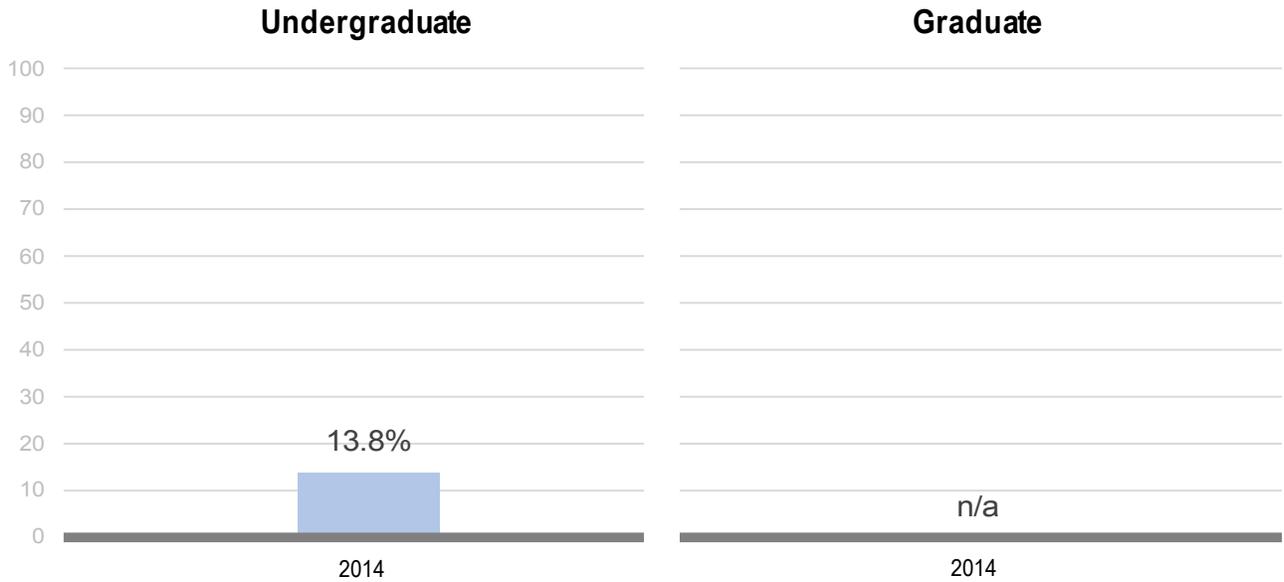


	2014		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
18-21	5,738	437	7.6%
22-24	1,574	219	13.9%
25-29	1,026	253	24.7%
30-39	1,133	408	36.0%
40-49	577	297	51.5%
50+	216	136	63.0%
Unknown	0		

\* 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.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Education Level\*

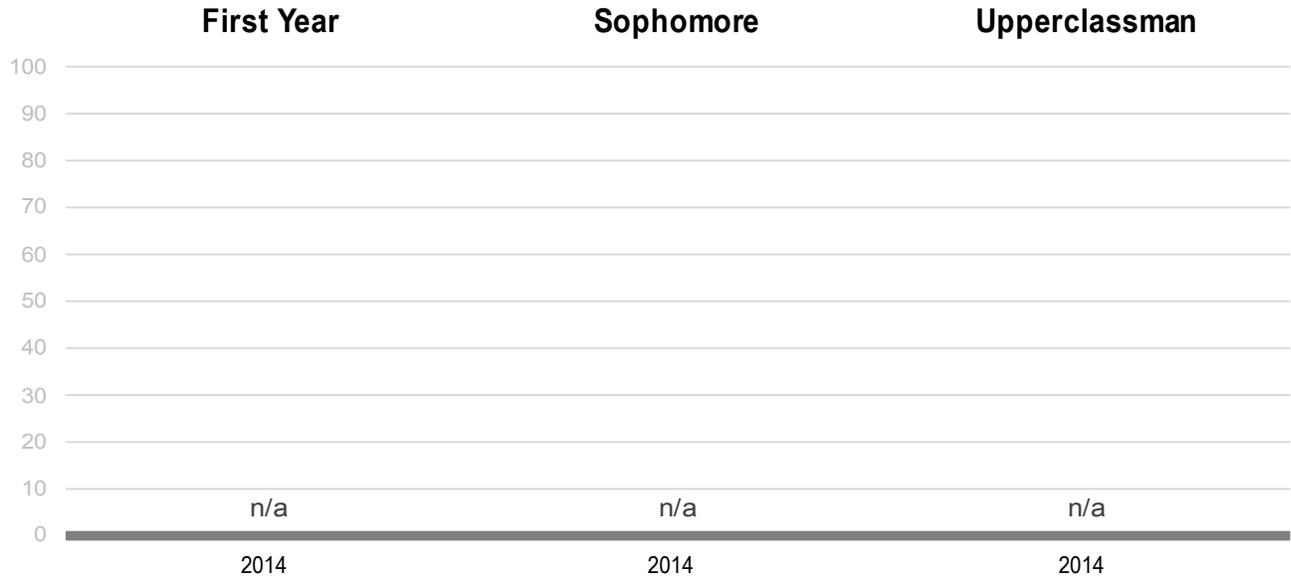


	2014		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
Undergraduate	8,773	1,210	13.8%
Graduate	0	0	n/a
Unknown	1,491		

\* 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.

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

# By Undergraduate Class Year\*

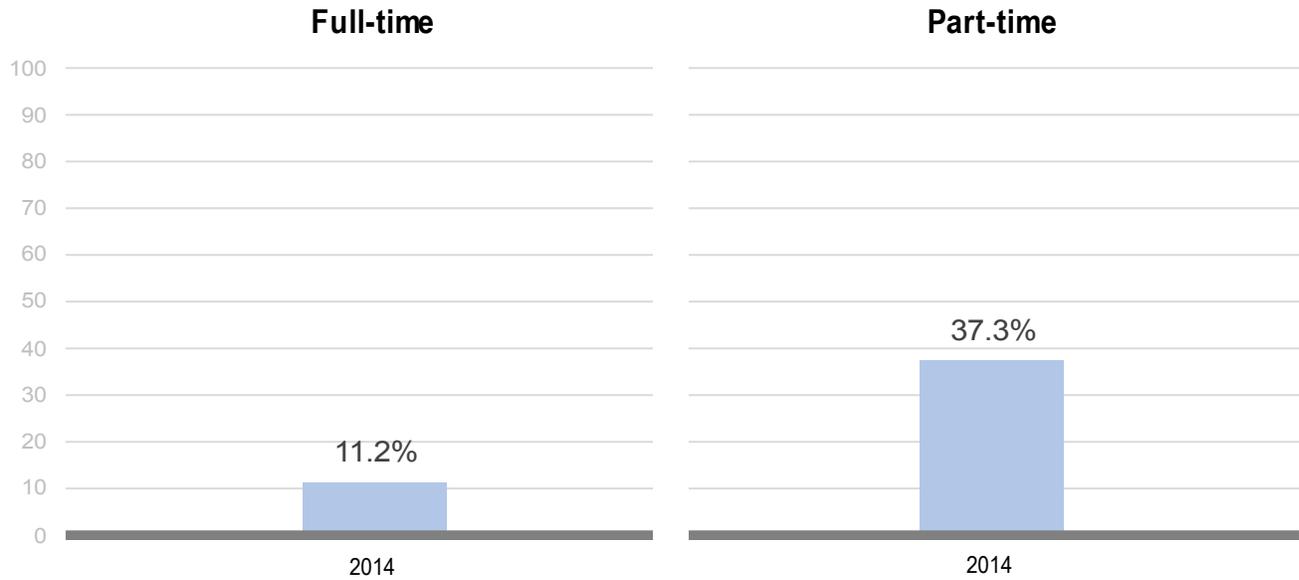


	2014		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
First Year	0	0	n/a
Sophomore	0	0	n/a
Upperclassman	0	0	n/a

\* 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\*

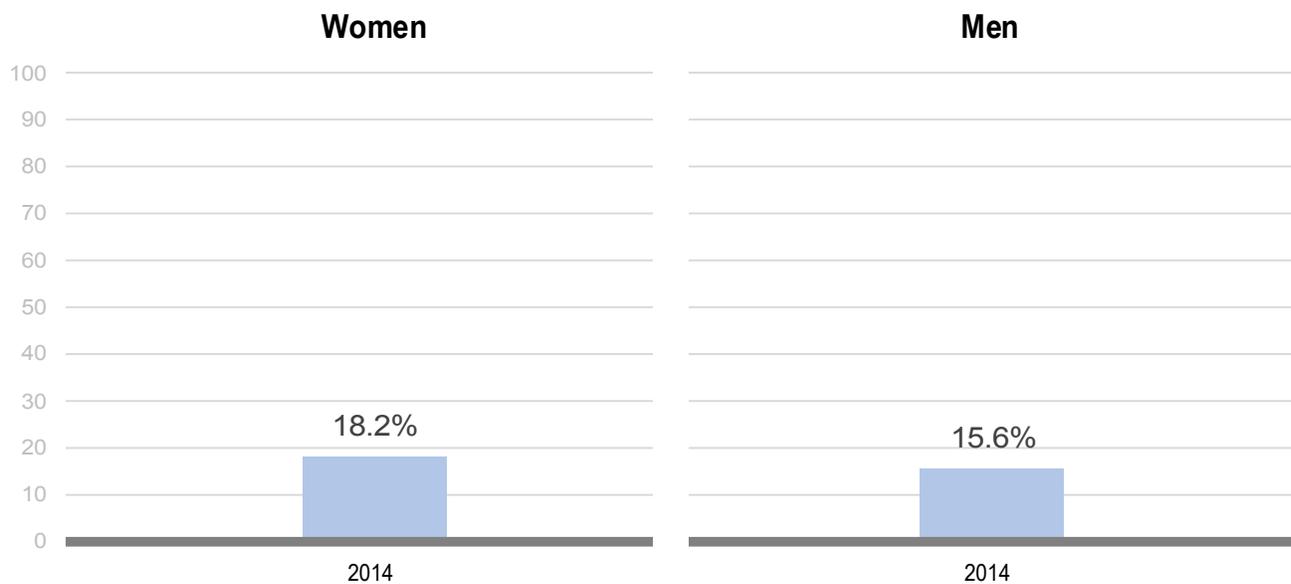


	2014		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
Full-time	7,968	893	11.2%
Part-time	2,296	857	37.3%
Unknown	0		

\* 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.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Gender\*

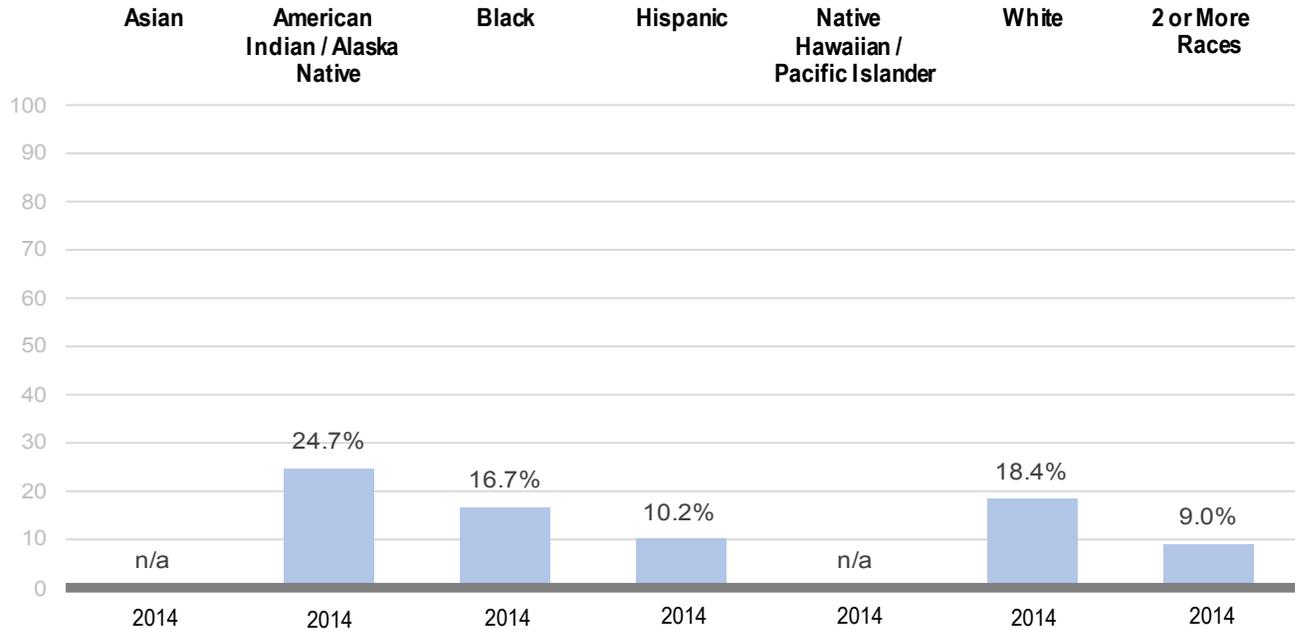


	2014		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
Women	5,757	1,049	18.2%
Men	4,505	701	15.6%
Unknown		*	

\* 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		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
Asian	149	*	n/a
American Indian/ Alaska Native	85	21	24.7%
Black	737	123	16.7%
Hispanic	511	52	10.2%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	13	*	n/a
White	8,164	1,504	18.4%
2 or More Races	310	28	9.0%
Unknown	295		

\* 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.

## 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		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	376	31	8.2%
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,607	311	19.4%
Communication and Journalism	237	24	10.1%
Computer and Information Sciences	107	*	n/a
Education	1,234	328	26.6%
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	682	106	15.5%
English Language and Literature	183	34	18.6%
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	12	*	n/a
Health Professions	2,019	406	20.1%
History	121	19	15.7%
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	564	87	15.4%
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	607	68	11.2%
Mathematics and Statistics	58	*	n/a
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	41	*	n/a
Natural Resources and Conservation	153	14	9.2%
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	240	13	5.4%
Philosophy and Religious Studies	29	*	n/a
Physical Sciences	168	11	6.6%
Psychology	409	34	8.3%
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	488	146	29.9%
Social Sciences	326	43	13.2%
Visual and Performing Arts	477	41	8.6%
Unknown	126	*	n/a

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:**

NSLVE encourages to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2018). *2014 NSLVE Campus Report*. Medford, MA.

**Follow us:**  [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE)

**Contact us:**

Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:  
National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement  
Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155  
[NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu) | 617-627-4802

INSTITUTE FOR  
DEMOCRACY   
HIGHER EDUCATION