

2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for Western Michigan University

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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 this 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](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE).

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

Warm regards,

IDHE Team



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Voting and Registration Rates

2018 Voting Rate

34.5%

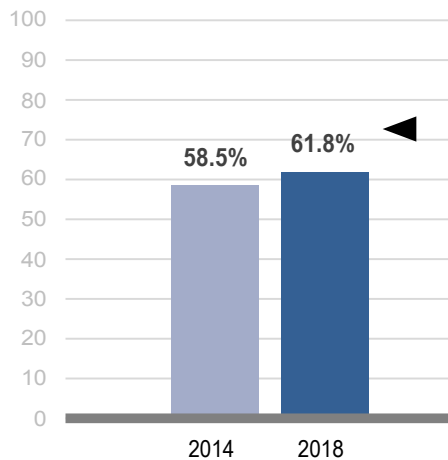
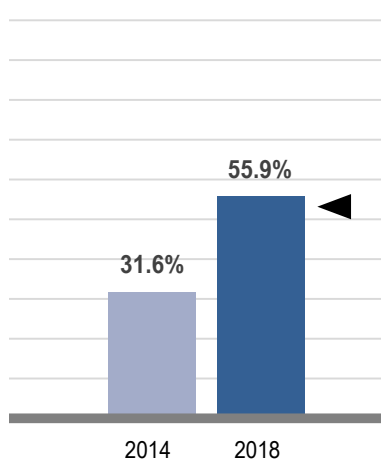
CHANGE
FROM 2014

+16.1

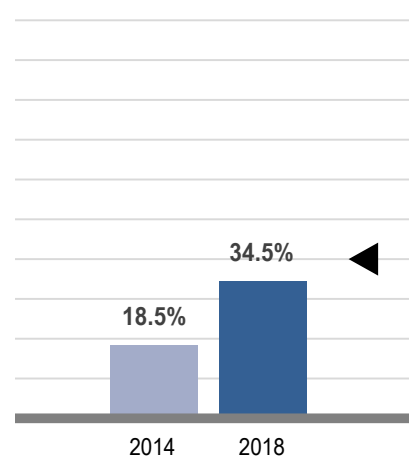
2018 VOTING RATE
FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%

Registration Rate


Voting Rate of
Registered Students


Voting Rate



All Institutions, 2018

	2014	2018	Change
Total student enrollment	22,347	21,667	↓ -680
Age under 18/Unknown	(129)	(143)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(1,720)	(1,620)	
FERPA records blocked	(27)	(16)	
Total eligible voters	20,471	19,888	↓ -583
Number of students who registered	11,976	12,300	↑ 324
Number of students who voted	3,784	6,869	↑ 3,085
Registration rate	58.5%	61.8%	↑ 3.3
Voting rate of registered students	31.6%	55.9%	↑ 24.3
Voting rate	18.5%	34.5%	↑ 16.1
Difference from all institutions	-1.2	-4.6	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Carnegie Classification

2014 Voting Rate
for All Institutions

19.7%

HIGH
54.0%

LOW
1.5%

2018 Voting Rate
for All Institutions

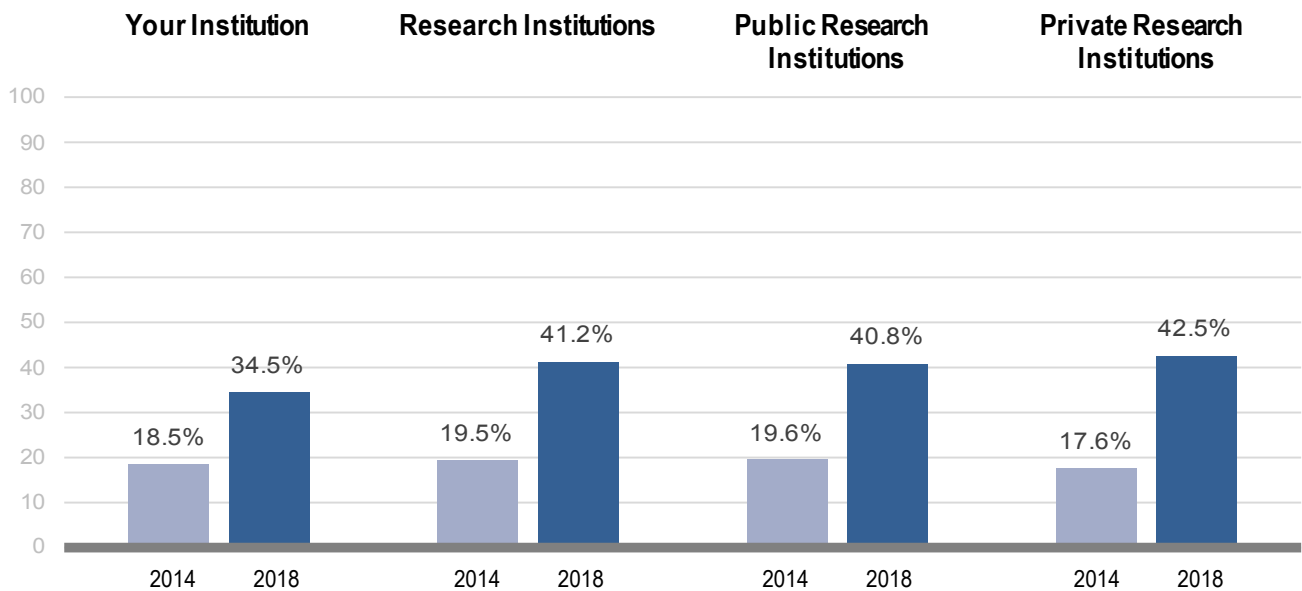
39.1%

HIGH
64.1%

LOW
11.5%

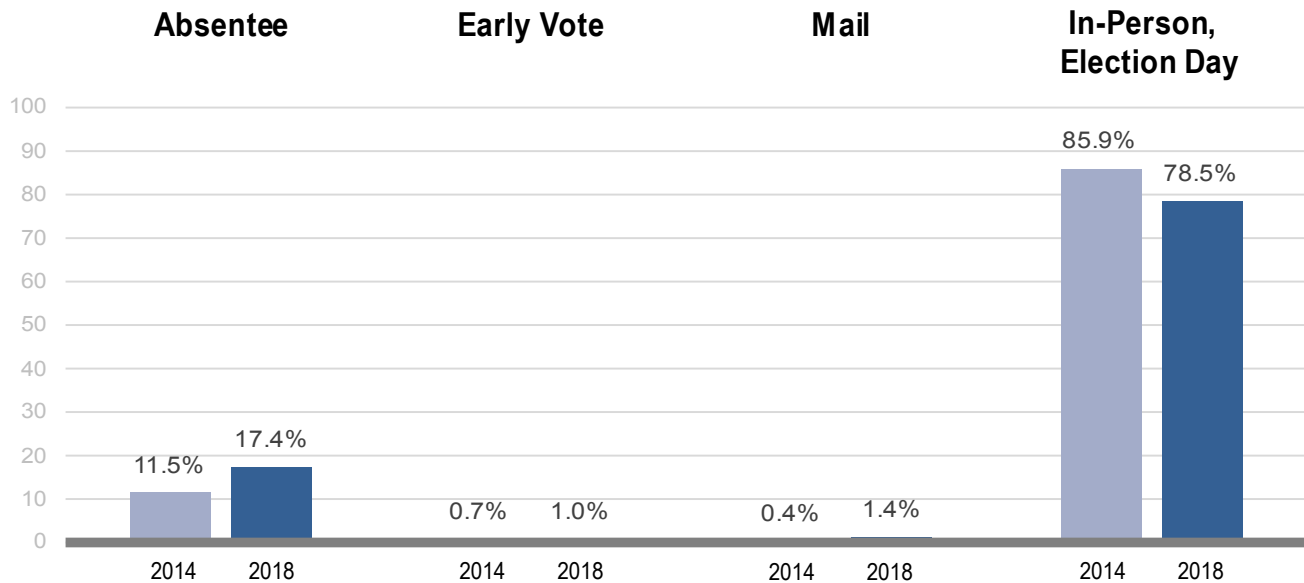
Difference from All Institutions **-1.2**

Difference from All Institutions **-4.6**



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Voting Method*

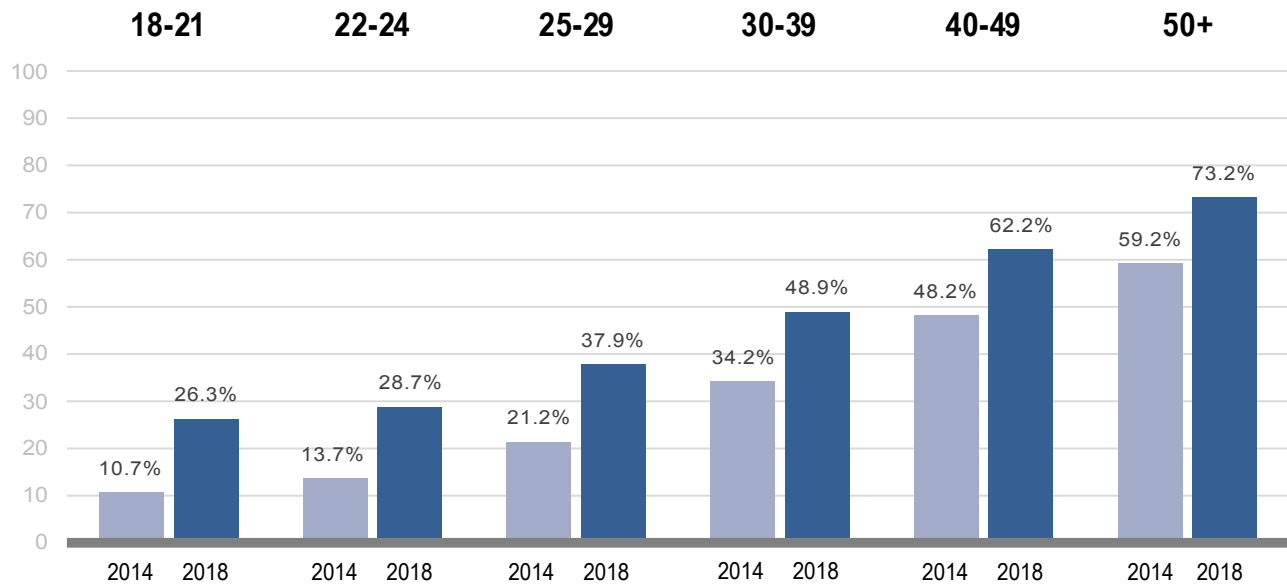


	2014		2018			
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Change	
Absentee	435	11.5%	1,196	17.4%	↑	5.9
Early Vote	28	0.7%	69	1.0%	↑	0.3
Mail	15	0.4%	94	1.4%	↑	1.0
In-Person, Election Day	3,252	85.9%	5,391	78.5%	↓	-7.5
Unknown	54	1.4%	119	1.7%		
Total	3,784		6,869			

* 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*

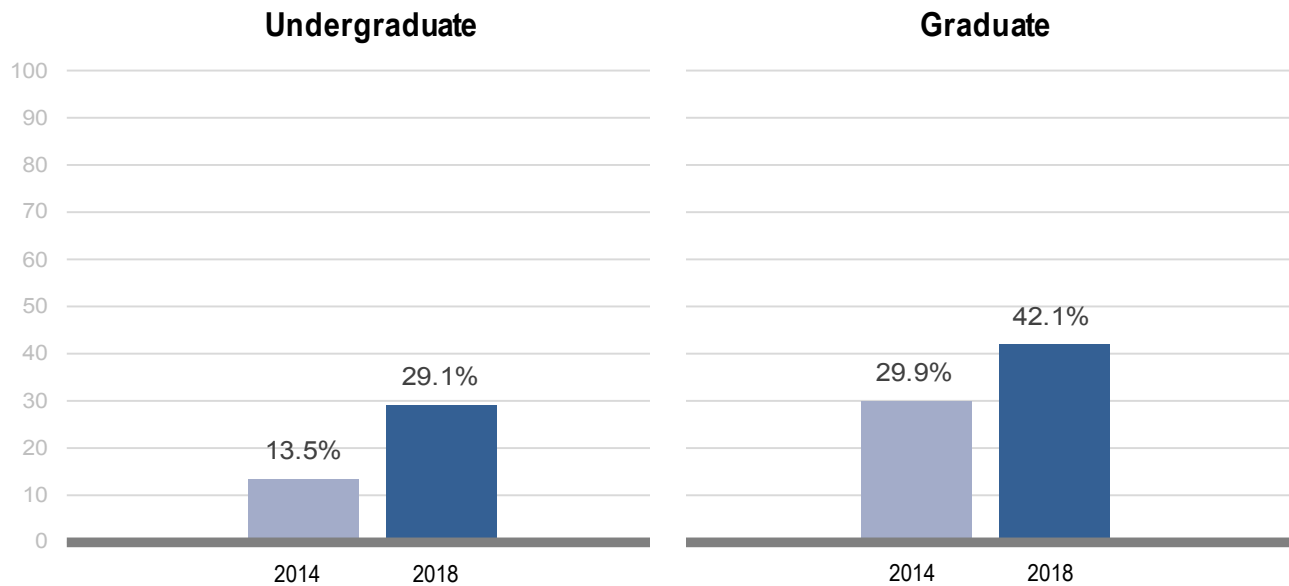


	2014			2018			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
18-21	10,876	1,161	10.7%	11,057	2,905	26.3%	↑	15.6
22-24	5,466	746	13.7%	5,088	1,459	28.7%	↑	15.0
25-29	2,666	566	21.2%	2,662	1,008	37.9%	↑	16.6
30-39	1,947	666	34.2%	1,657	811	48.9%	↑	14.7
40-49	787	379	48.2%	712	443	62.2%	↑	14.1
50+	449	266	59.2%	332	243	73.2%	↑	14.0
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.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Education Level*

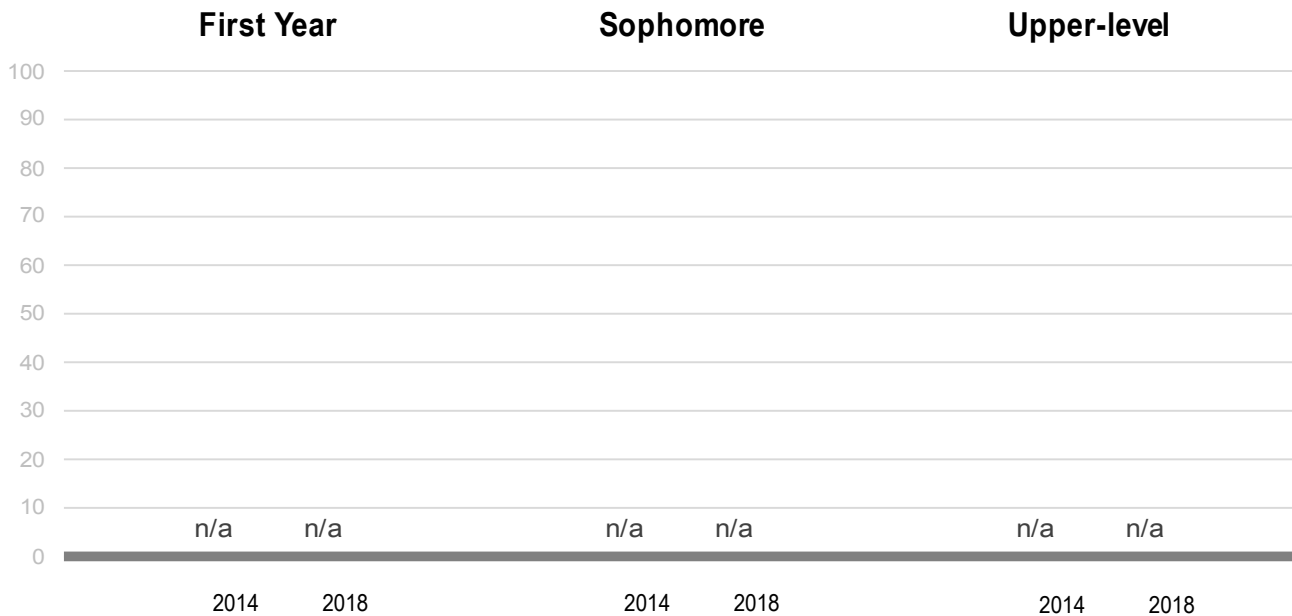


	2014			2018			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Undergraduate	17,562	2,370	13.5%	16,960	4,933	29.1%	↑	15.6
Graduate	4,235	1,268	29.9%	4,234	1,782	42.1%	↑	12.2
Unknown	394			314				

* 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*

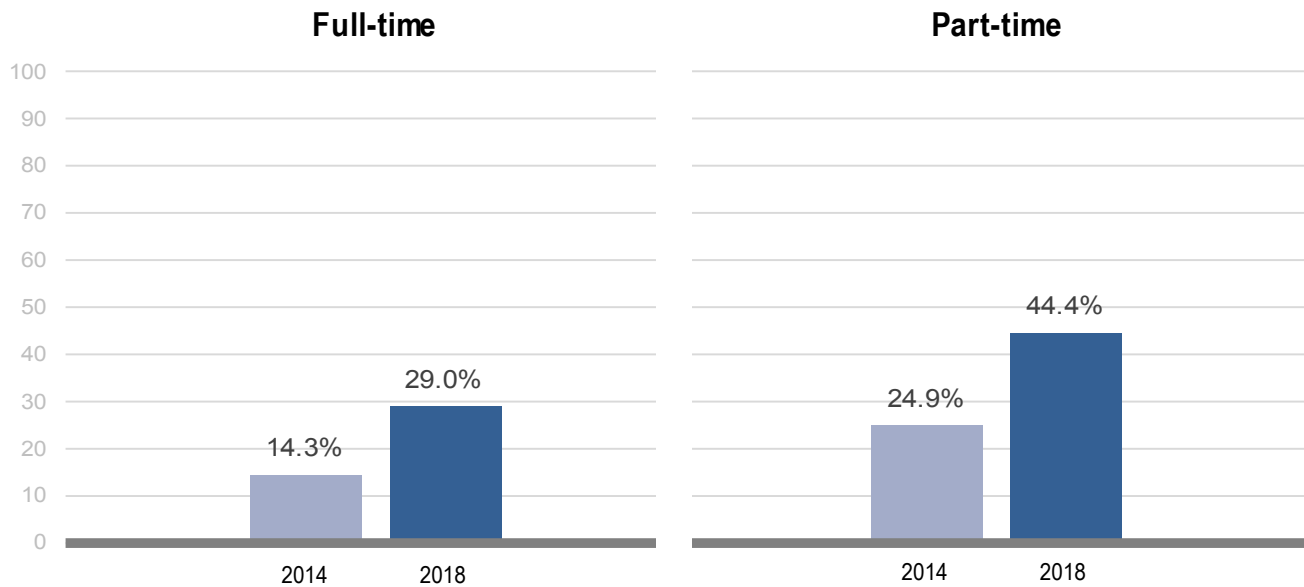


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	0	0	n/a	11	*	n/a	n/a
Sophomore	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a
Upper-level	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a

* 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*

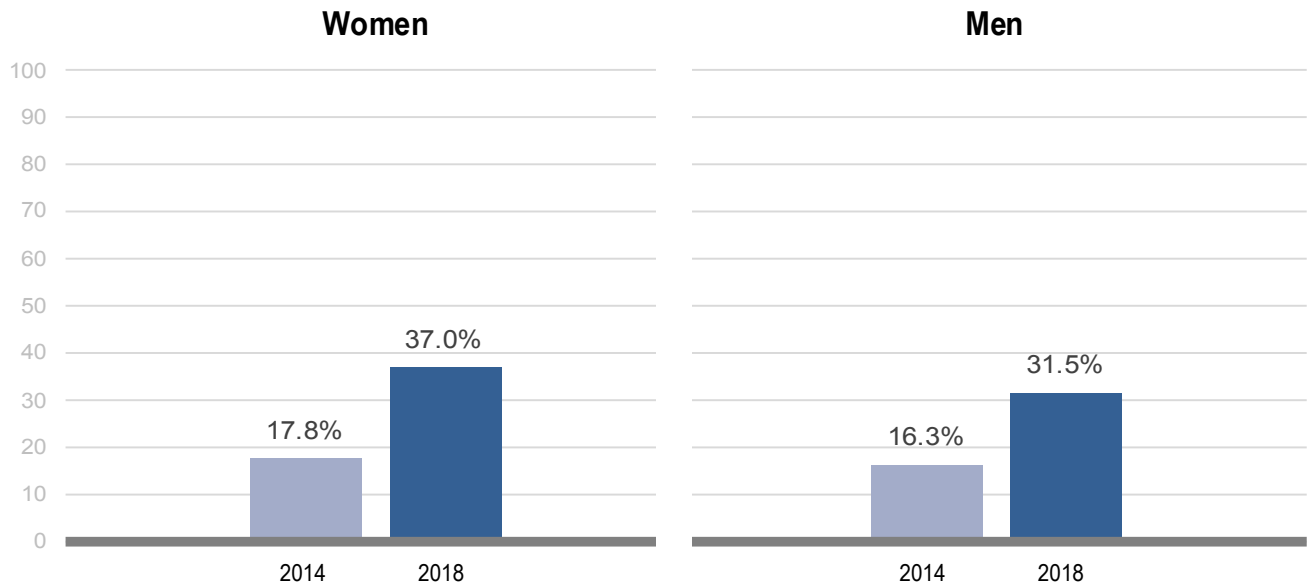


	2014			2018			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Full-time	16,459	2,358	14.3%	17,400	5,045	29.0%	↑	14.7
Part-time	5,732	1,426	24.9%	4,108	1,824	44.4%	↑	19.5
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a		

* 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.

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Gender*



	2014			2018			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Women	11,521	2,046	17.8%	1,837	679	37.0%	↑	19.2
Men	10,670	1,738	16.3%	1,769	557	31.5%	↑	15.2
Unknown	0			17,902				

* 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 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	0	0	n/a	12	*	n/a	n/a
Architecture	*	*	n/a	*	*	n/a	n/a
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	14	*	n/a	26	10	38.5%	n/a
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	938	156	16.6%	991	316	31.9% ↑	15.3
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,547	506	14.3%	3,844	1,084	28.2% ↑	13.9
Communication and Journalism	724	90	12.4%	590	191	32.4% ↑	19.9
Computer and Information Sciences	457	63	13.8%	534	130	24.3% ↑	10.6
Education	2,405	636	26.4%	1,950	864	44.3% ↑	17.9
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,284	274	12.0%	2,559	568	22.2% ↑	10.2
English Language and Literature	266	65	24.4%	195	86	44.1% ↑	19.7
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	561	92	16.4%	316	124	39.2% ↑	22.8
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	132	18	13.6%	143	44	30.8% ↑	17.1
Health Professions	2,864	414	14.5%	2,700	877	32.5% ↑	18.0
History	136	52	38.2%	115	48	41.7% ↑	3.5
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	496	66	13.3%	443	119	26.9% ↑	13.6
Legal Professions and Studies	0	0	n/a	53	15	28.3%	n/a
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	48	*	n/a	32	12	37.5%	n/a
Mathematics and Statistics	149	25	16.8%	134	38	28.4% ↑	11.6
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians	106	10	9.4%	92	16	17.4% ↑	8.0
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	1,290	188	14.6%	1,128	360	31.9% ↑	17.3
Natural Resources and Conservation	49	11	22.5%	102	52	51.0% ↑	28.5
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	529	46	8.7%	580	153	26.4% ↑	17.7
Philosophy and Religious Studies	59	14	23.7%	52	19	36.5% ↑	12.8

Physical Sciences	304	54	17.8%	288	67	23.3% ↑	5.5
Psychology	1,168	181	15.5%	1,006	355	35.3% ↑	19.8
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	855	276	32.3%	769	364	47.3% ↑	15.1
Social Sciences	906	276	30.5%	509	194	38.1% ↑	7.7
Transportation and Materials Moving	590	77	13.1%	882	225	25.5% ↑	12.5
Visual and Performing Arts	1,234	170	13.8%	1,149	389	33.9% ↑	20.1
Unknown	72	13	18.1%	308	143	46.4% ↑	28.4

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. (2019). *2014 and 2018 report for _____ [name of institution]*. Medford, MA.

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