





#### 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.

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

#### 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**





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.



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.

**Voting and Registration Rates** 

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	23,044	22,182	21,339	↓ -1,705
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	2,959	2,358	1,275	♣ -1,685
(FERPA records blocked)	13	11	11	<b>↓</b> -2
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	36	63	43	↑ 7
Total eligible voters	20,030	19,748	20,009	<b>↓</b> -20
Number of students who registered	15,200	14,251	13,600	♣ -1,600
Number of students who voted	11,265	9,046	11,252	<b>↓</b> -13
Registration Rate %	76	72	68	<b>+</b> -8
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	74	63	83	<ul><li>✤ 9</li></ul>
Voting Rate %	56	46	56	↓ 0

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. <u>https://id-</u> 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.



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HIGH

89%

LOW

19%

# 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.

\* <u>https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes</u>

#### 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	2	2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)		
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-		
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	_	_		
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-		
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	_	_		
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-		
White	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	_	_		
Race Unknown	22,961	11,265	49	22,087	9,046	41	21,274	11,252	53	<b>1</b> 4		



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. <u>https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports</u>

### By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	47%	38%	50%
22-24	44%	38%	54%
25-29	54%	49%	60%
30-39	67%	58%	63%
40-49	74%	68%	78%
50+	82%	76%	79%

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.

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	20	016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
18-21	14,534	6,855	47	14,342	5,435	38	14,340	7,162	50	<b>†</b> 3
22-24	4,317	1,879	44	3,825	1,440	38	3,325	1,800	54	11
25-29	2,127	1,150	54	2,030	1,002	49	1,904	1,141	60	<b>†</b> 6
30-39	1,392	926	67	1,315	762	58	1,198	753	63	<b>↓</b> -4
40-49	358	264	74	375	255	68	337	262	78	<b>†</b> 4
50+	233	191	82	200	152	76	170	134	79	<b>↓</b> -3

By Sex

	2016				2018		2020		2016-202	2016-2020		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change	(p.p)	
Female	12,165	6,518	54	11,838	5,439	46	11,657	6,479	56	+	2	
Male	10,748	4,719	44	10,201	3,579	35	9,549	4,734	50	+	6	

**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.

\*<u>https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11</u>

#### By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016 Enrolled						_	2016-2020 ) Change (p.p)			
EDUCATION	DUCATION LEVEL										
Jndergraduate	19,207	9,078	47	18,329	7,124	39	17,440	8,933	51	+	2
Graduate	3,252	1,895	58	3,382	1,705	50	3,594	2,153	60	+	4
Class Unknown	502	292	58	376	217	58	3 240	166	69	+	11
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	4,868	42	2,029	4,670	32	1,498	4,251	45	1,925	÷	4
Second Year	4,333	45	1,931	4,001	36	1,441	4,118	47	1,941	÷	3
Upper Level	9,983	51	5,098	9,653	43	4,180	9,091	56	5,050	t	4
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	21,404	10,402	49	20,487	8,240	40	) 19,721	10,386	53	+	4
Part-time	1,552	862	56	1,599	806	50	1,542	861	56	+	C

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	704	362	51	659	272	41	708	378	53	1	2
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	127	76	60	124	67	54	135	78	58	+ -	2
<b>Biological and Biomedical Sciences</b>	2,293	1,140	50	2,209	846	38	2,141	1,072	50	1	0
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,724	1,361	37	3,407	976	29	3,456	1,606	46	1	0
Communication and Journalism	2,054	1,065	52	2,261	935	41	2,263	1,129	50	+ -	2
Computer and Information Sciences	616	256	42	586	175	30	482	220	46	+	4
Education	685	408	60	740	400	54	637	425	67	•	7

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	35	12	34	73	26	36	63	39	62	1 28
English Language and Literature	406	262	65	320	178	56	296	181	61	🖊 -З
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	12	-	-	36	20	56	46	33	72	_
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui	516	293	57	459	197	43	385	229	59	<b>1</b> 3
Health Professions	301	187	62	271	155	57	296	183	62	Ψ 0
History	223	130	58	223	116	52	231	129	56	<b>4</b> -2
Legal Professions and Studies	345	218	63	364	188	52	454	289	64	<b>1</b> 0
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	2,050	905	44	1,959	723	37	1,673	849	51	<b>†</b> 7
Mathematics and Statistics	271	106	39	296	101	34	224	114	51	<b>1</b> 2
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	582	319	55	621	299	48	534	308	58	<b>1</b> 3
Natural Resources and Conservation	506	294	58	470	248	53	479	238	50	4 -8
Philosophy and Religious Studies	129	68	53	142	62	44	124	60	48	4 -4
Physical Sciences	705	420	60	613	299	49	640	369	58	<b>4</b> -2
Psychology	1,423	749	53	1,398	600	43	1,511	795	53	Ψ 0

# By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016				2018			2016-202	20		
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p	p.p)
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	510	326	64	427	241	56	478	308	64	+	1
Social Sciences	2,858	1,249	44	2,655	1,037	39	2,378	1,209	51	+	7
Visual and Performing Arts	1,302	745	57	1,364	653	48	1,374	836	61	1	4
Unknown	584	306	52	410	232	57	266	175	66	+	13

### **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 guality 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.

#### University Of Oregon

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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