



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for University of Virginia-Main Campus

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.

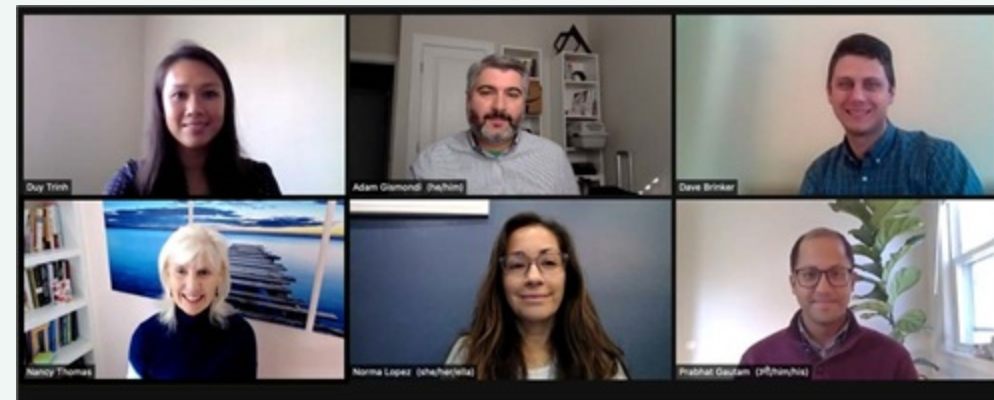
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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.

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

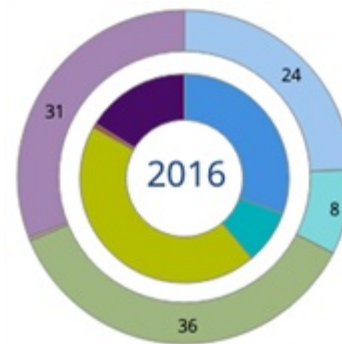
Tables

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

YOUR INSTITUTION

67.7%
2020 Voting Rate

+5.8
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

Year	Registration Rate
2016	76.1%
2018	75.2%
2020	77.7%

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

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

Year	Voting Rate of Registered Students
2016	81.4%
2018	65.3%
2020	87.2%

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

Year	Voting Rate
2016	61.9%
2018	49.1%
2020	67.7%

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	23,948	24,534	25,308	↑ 1,359
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	2,130	2,347	2,138	↑ 8
(FERPA records blocked)	-	-	-	-
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	92	65	35	↓ -57
Total eligible voters	21,718	22,112	23,125	↑ 1,407
Number of students who registered	16,517	16,635	17,965	↑ 1,448
Number of students who voted	13,440	10,866	15,657	↑ 2,217
Registration Rate %	76	75	78	↑ 2
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	81	65	87	↑ 6
Voting Rate %	62	49	68	↑ 6

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

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions

53%

HIGH
82%

LOW
13%

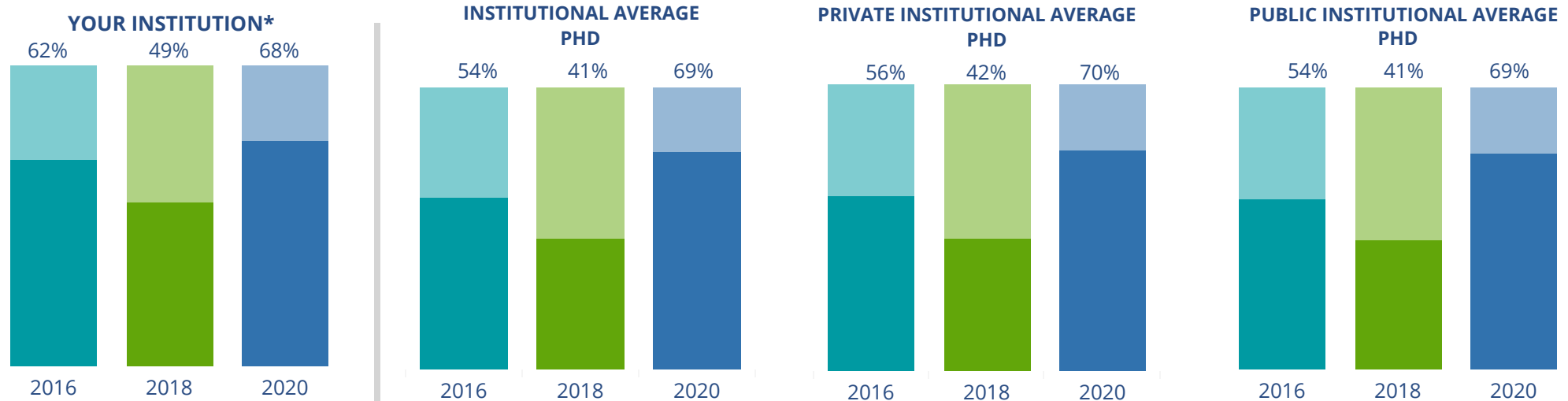
2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions

66%

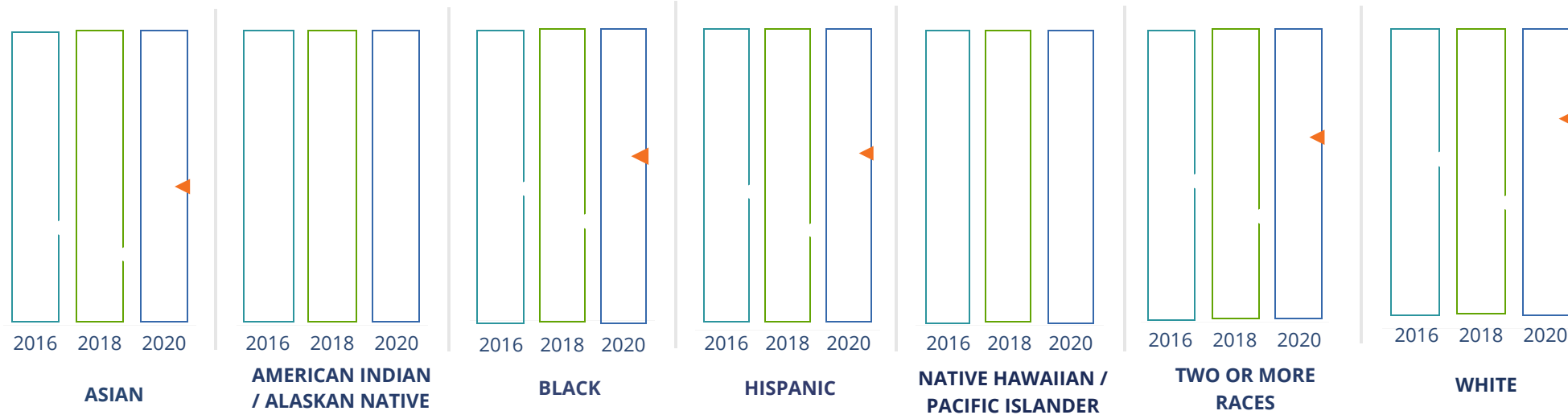
HIGH
89%

LOW
19%

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

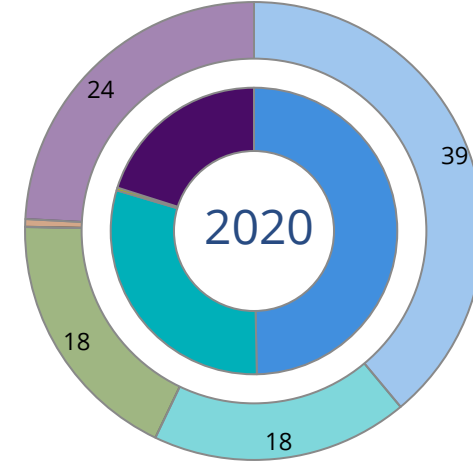
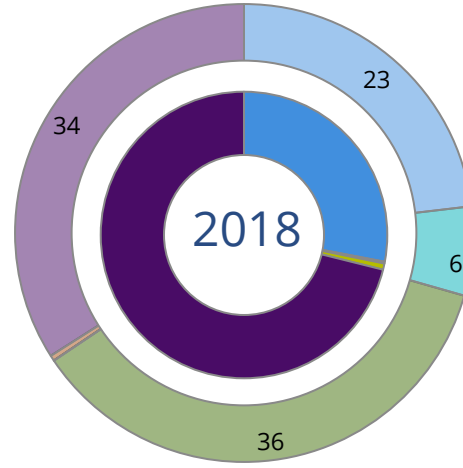
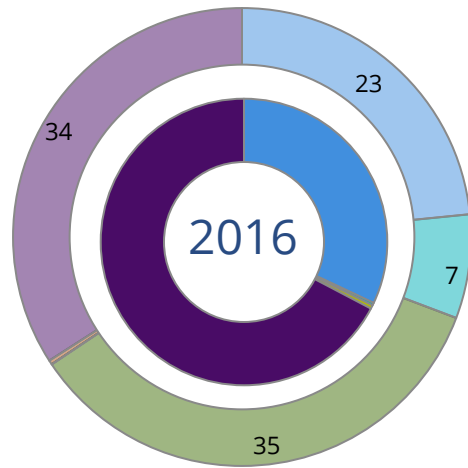
By Race/Ethnicity

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Race Unknown	23,829	13,440	56	24,436	10,866	44	25,248	15,657	62	 6

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	41	0	18	0	4,685	30	30	↑
In-Person on Election Day	59	0	78	1	43	0	0	↓
Not-In-Person	4,302	32	3,038	28	7,781	50	18	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Voting Method Unknown	9,038	67	7,731	71	3,142	20	-47	↓

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%	44%	64%
22-24	50%	38%	55%
25-29	53%	44%	56%
30-39	63%	52%	64%
40-49	68%	64%	77%
50+	81%	73%	89%

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	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
18-21	14,285	8,111	57	14,586	6,378	44	15,051	9,603	64	↑ 7	
22-24	3,504	1,749	50	3,703	1,399	38	3,753	2,080	55	↑ 6	
25-29	3,214	1,691	53	3,296	1,460	44	3,539	1,972	56	↑ 3	
30-39	1,736	1,097	63	1,832	948	52	1,995	1,267	64	↑ 0	
40-49	707	482	68	676	431	64	641	495	77	↑ 9	
50+	383	310	81	343	250	73	269	240	89	↑ 8	

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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	15,702	8,992	57	16,044	7,066	44	16,711	10,641	64	↑	6
Graduate	6,561	3,397	52	7,059	3,104	44	7,363	4,189	57	↑	5
Class Unknown	1,566	1,051	67	1,333	696	52	1,174	827	70	↑	3
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	3,542	59	2,102	3,611	47	1,688	3,694	59	2,195	↑	0
Second Year	3,746	53	1,968	3,919	42	1,639	4,097	63	2,588	↑	11
Upper Level	8,415	58	4,921	8,481	44	3,723	8,871	66	5,822	↑	7
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	21,629	11,754	54	22,284	9,463	42	22,561	13,645	60	↑	6
Part-time	2,200	1,686	77	2,152	1,403	65	2,687	2,012	75	↓	-2

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	516	246	48	567	196	35	526	277	53	↑	5
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	202	134	66	264	134	51	222	127	57	↓	-9
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	930	536	58	916	435	47	988	628	64	↑	6
Business, Management, and Marketing	1,854	786	42	1,922	612	32	1,788	915	51	↑	9
Communication and Journalism	284	178	63	229	106	46	237	171	72	↑	9
Computer and Information Sciences	842	403	48	1,202	401	33	1,553	962	62	↑	14
Education	694	522	75	784	546	70	918	749	82	↑	6

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	2,869	1,422	50	2,920	1,128	39	3,005	1,752	58	↑ 9
English Language and Literature	421	270	64	420	237	56	372	259	70	↑ 5
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	60	41	68	97	60	62	103	80	78	↑ 9
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	428	260	61	436	230	53	334	230	69	↑ 8
Health Professions	1,622	1,070	66	1,662	876	53	1,673	1,247	75	↑ 9
History	360	196	54	337	157	47	280	184	66	↑ 11
Legal Professions and Studies	944	472	50	965	406	42	953	536	56	↑ 6
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	5,581	3,112	56	5,647	2,435	43	5,886	3,514	60	↑ 4
Mathematics and Statistics	358	147	41	473	126	27	592	284	48	↑ 7
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	533	377	71	582	344	59	764	550	72	↑ 1
Natural Resources and Conservation	233	154	66	193	114	59	307	196	64	↓ -2
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	282	169	60	300	126	42	302	186	62	↑ 2
Philosophy and Religious Studies	223	142	64	235	113	48	206	124	60	↓ -3
Physical Sciences	567	265	47	553	198	36	605	301	50	↑ 3

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Psychology	544	347	64	493	278	56	558	386	69	↑	5
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	259	182	70	272	169	62	309	218	71	↑	0
Social Sciences	1,428	827	58	1,386	609	44	1,355	793	59	↑	1
Visual and Performing Arts	245	157	64	244	137	56	203	135	67	↑	2
Unknown	1,550	1,025	66	1,337	693	52	1,209	853	71	↑	4

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.

University of Virginia-Main Campus

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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