



September 2022

Student Voting Rates for Wesleyan College

NSLVE Campus Report

September 2022

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for several recent election cycles. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2014, 2018, and 2020. In addition to sharing the change between 2014 and 2018 voting rates, we also disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation. Although you have likely seen these numbers before, we find that many report recipients appreciate a refresher heading into another national election.

College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. In 2020, it jumped to 66%. In the last midterm, the student voting rate more than doubled, from roughly 19% in 2014 to around 40% in 2018. These encouraging data points signal that 2022 can be yet another banner year for student participation if we all work together to ensure that lasting, long-term interventions turn this into a *trend* across the nation.

As always, 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 encourage you to review our recommendations for leveraging election seasons to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation, year around: Election Imperatives 2.0 and the more recent Election Imperatives 2020: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action, a report with recommendations for institutional leaders, faculty, and voter coalitions.

Since political dialogue across campus 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 how campuses use their NSLVE reports.

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 (or sign up!) for our periodic newsletter, announcements about upcoming releases, and new resources.

Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student engagement in democracy should not be.

All the Best,
The Team at IDHE

IDHE: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/>

NSLVE: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve>

Election Imperatives: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/publications-and-resources/election-imperatives>

Talking Politics discussion guide (for NSLVE reports): <https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/talking-politics-guide-campus-conversations-about-nslve-reports>

Free Speech & Inclusion on Campus discussion guide: <https://idhe.tufts.edu/resources/free-speech-inclusion-campus-discussion-guide>

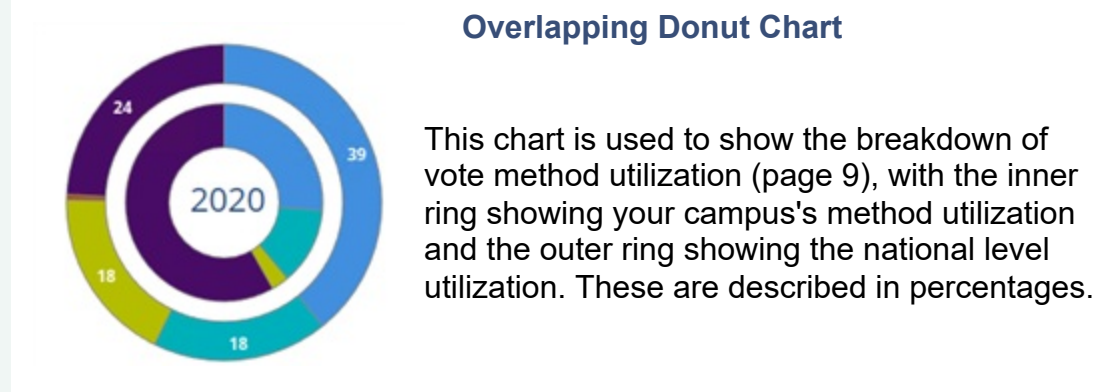
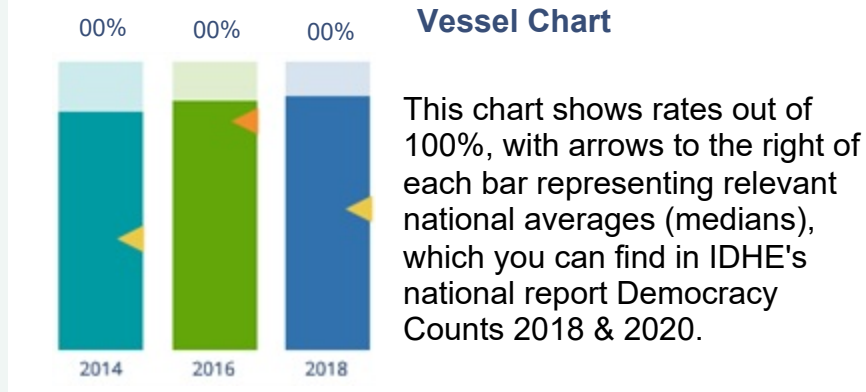
In This Report

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 the numbers of students and the rates from 2014, 2018, and 2020. The change column represents difference between counts and rates. The change in rates are in terms of percentage points. 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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

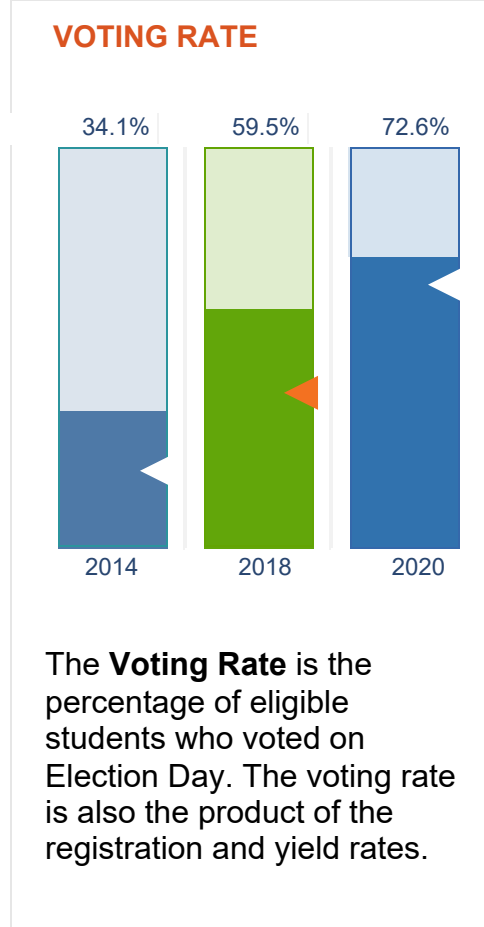
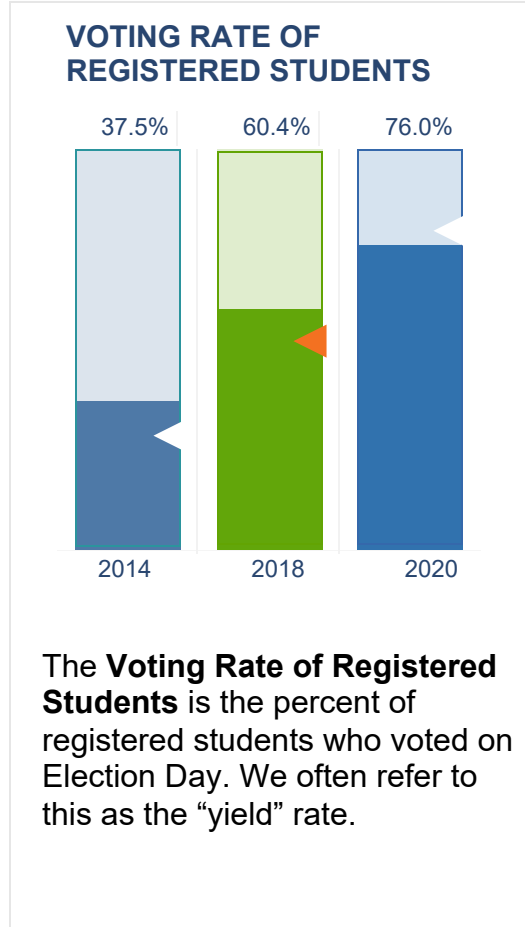
YOUR INSTITUTION

59.5%
2018 Voting Rate

+25.4
Change From 2014

ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%
2018 Voting Rate



Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2014	2018	2020	2014-2018 Change	
Total student enrollment per NSC	562	687	736	↑	125
(Age under 18/Unknown)	–	79	83		–
(Non-resident aliens)	106	60	30	↓	-45
Non-resident aliens data source	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS		
(FERPA records blocked)	–	–	–		–
(Non-degree seeking students)	–	–	–		–
Total eligible voters	454	548	623	↑	93
Number of students who registered	413	540	595	↑	127
Number of students who voted	155	326	452	↑	171
Registration Rate %	91	99	96	↑	8
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	38	60	76	↑	23
Voting Rate %	34	60	73	↑	25

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.

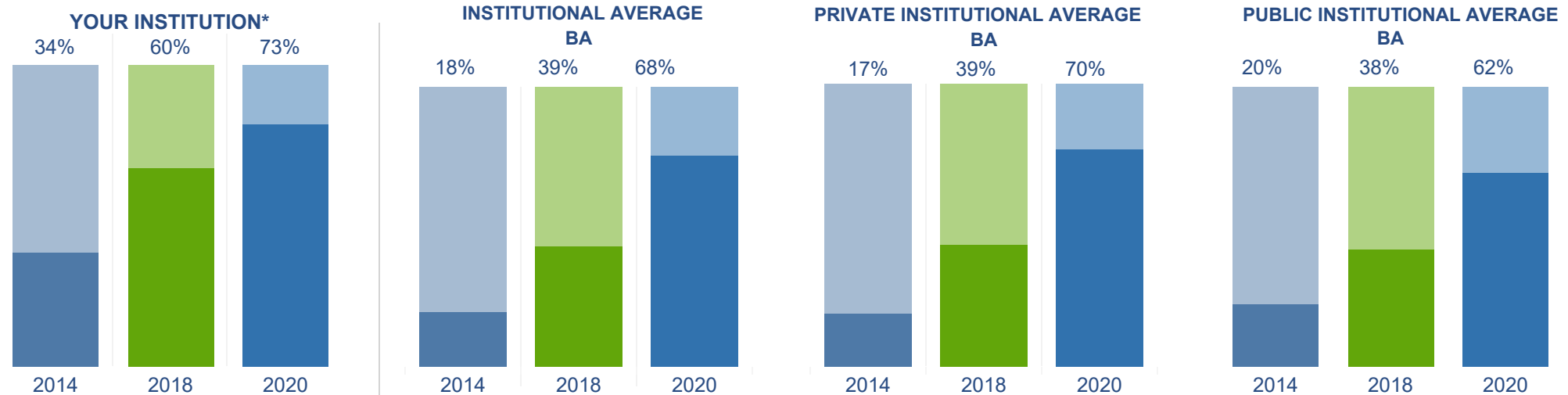
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This is indicated by IPEDS in the data source.

In the following pages with tables, **Enrolled** represents the eligible voters when we have used NSC as the data source. When we have used IPEDS as the data source, **Enrolled** includes non-resident aliens who are ineligible to vote, and for whom we are unable to account due to the lack of data from your institution.

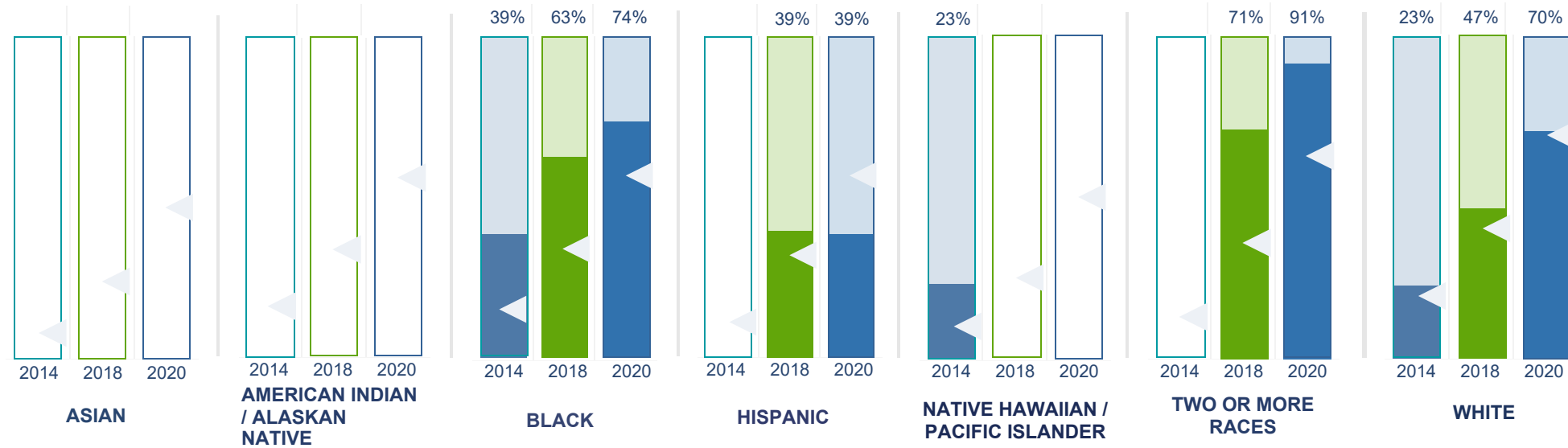
By Institution Types



These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. For Associate institutions, we only share public associate institutional averages due to sample size. *"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 : <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 or reports this data as unknown; (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

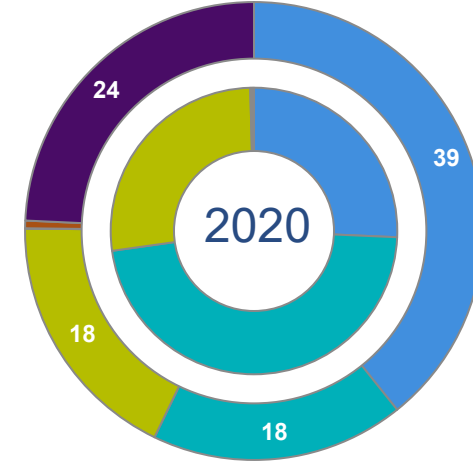
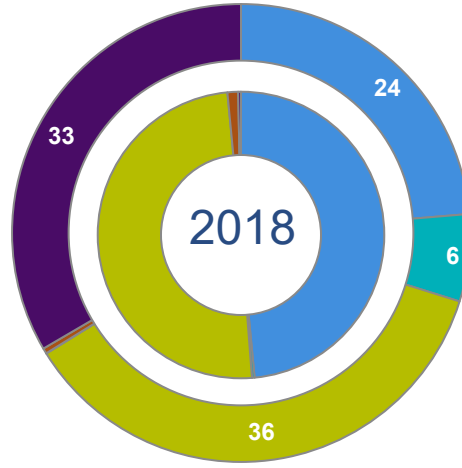
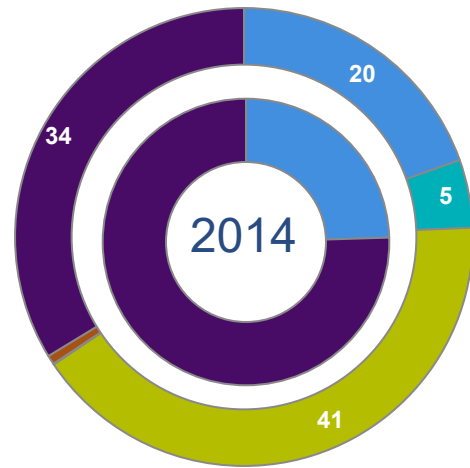
By Race/Ethnicity

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 or reports this data as unknown; (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.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Asian	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	–	–	–
American Indian/ Alaska Native	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Black	171	66	39	241	151	63	269	198	74	↑ 24
Hispanic	17	–	–	33	13	39	52	20	38	–
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	132	30	23	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2 or More Races	–	–	–	24	17	71	22	20	91	–
White	213	49	23	289	135	47	284	199	70	↑ 24

By Voting Method

■ Not-In-Person
 ■ Early Vote
 ■ In-Person
 ■ Other
 ■ Provisional
 ■ Unknown



	2014		2018		2020		2014-2018	
	Voted	Rate(%)	Voted	Rate(%)	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Early Vote	–	–	–	–	213	47	–	–
In-Person	–	–	162	50	121	27	–	–
Not-In-Person	38	25	158	49	116	26	↑	24
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Provisional	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Voting Method Unknown	117	76	–	–	–	–	–	–

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/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports>. The inner ring in these charts show your campus's method utilization and the outer ring show the national level utilization.

By Age Group

	2014	2018	2020
18-21	13%	46%	66%
22-24	29%	51%	80%
25-29	25%	61%	54%
30-39	47%	63%	77%
40-49	53%	74%	81%
50+	50%	92%	88%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, elected officials and public opinion polls solicit opinions from people they can locate - people in the voter files. In 2020, the youngest students on campuses voted at the highest rates, giving them increasing voice and power. Government officials should take note of this data point, as the viewpoints of young voters may prove influential in future elections. Candidates should be cautious about remaining distant and unresponsive to the perspectives of young voters.

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.

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018 Rate Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	
18-21	253	32	13	335	155	46	382	251	66	↑ 34
22-24	62	18	29	74	38	51	65	52	80	↑ 22
25-29	64	16	25	64	39	61	57	31	54	↑ 36
30-39	108	51	47	79	50	63	97	75	77	↑ 16
40-49	49	26	53	43	32	74	36	29	81	↑ 21
50+	24	12	50	13	12	92	16	14	88	↑ 42

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Female	537	145	27	581	306	53	630	437	69	↑	26
Male	23	–	–	27	20	74	23	15	65		–

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

	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Rate Change

EDUCATION LEVEL

Undergraduate	417	90	22	503	253	50	557	379	68	↑ 29
Graduate	48	25	52	39	30	77	37	27	73	↑ 25
Class Unknown	95	40	42	66	43	65	59	46	78	↑ 23

CLASS YEAR

Freshman	131	21	16	140	45	32	172	92	53	↑ 16
Sophomore	85	17	20	89	46	52	128	91	71	↑ 32
Upperclassman	202	53	26	273	161	59	258	197	76	↑ 33

ENROLLMENT STATUS

Full-time	392	81	21	449	222	49	489	329	67	↑ 29
Part-time	168	74	44	159	104	65	164	123	75	↑ 21

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	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	33	–	–	19	–	–	34	25	74	–
Business, Management, and Marketing	110	52	47	109	70	64	125	86	69	↑ 17
Communication and Journalism	17	–	–	15	–	–	12	–	–	–
Education	37	–	–	32	20	63	44	30	68	–
English Language and Literature	–	–	–	16	11	69	–	–	–	–
Health Professions	80	21	26	89	53	60	122	92	75	↑ 33
History	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

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	2014			2018			2020			2014-2018	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Rate Change	
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Huma..	175	44	25	175	68	39	127	66	52	↑	14
Psychology	21	–	–	30	17	57	54	37	69		–
Social Sciences	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		–
Visual and Performing Arts	27	–	–	–	–	–	22	17	77		–
Unknown	21	–	–	97	58	60	92	71	77		–

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, 2020 and 2022 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 serves 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 2014, 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.

Wesleyan College

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. (2022). 2014, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.



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