



October 2021

# Student Voting Rates for Trinity College

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.

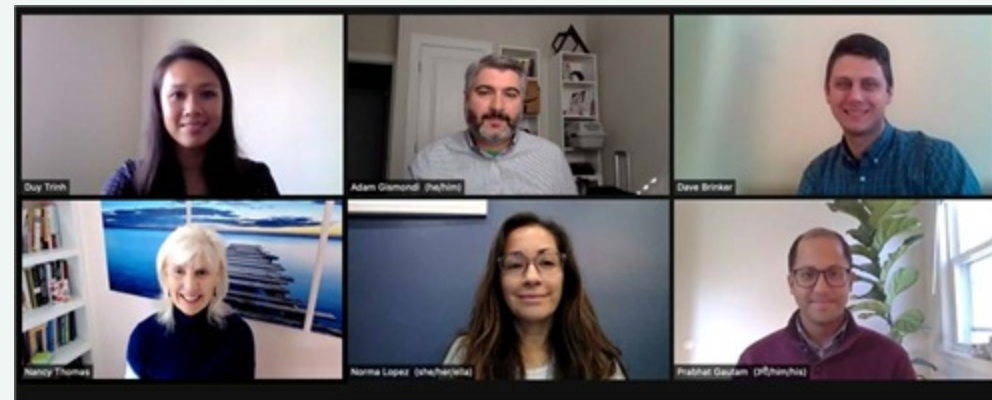
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

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](mailto: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.

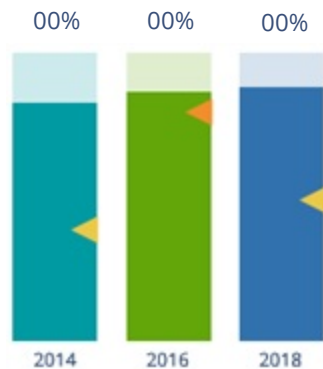
# In This Report

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

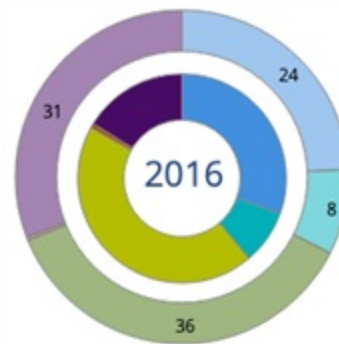
## Tables

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**

**68.0%**  
2020 Voting Rate

**+21.5**  
Change From 2016

**ALL INSTITUTIONS**

**66%**  
2020 Voting Rate

**REGISTRATION RATE**

Year	Registration Rate
2016	78.5%
2018	77.4%
2020	85.7%

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	59.2%
2018	39.2%
2020	79.3%

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	46.5%
2018	30.4%
2020	68.0%

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

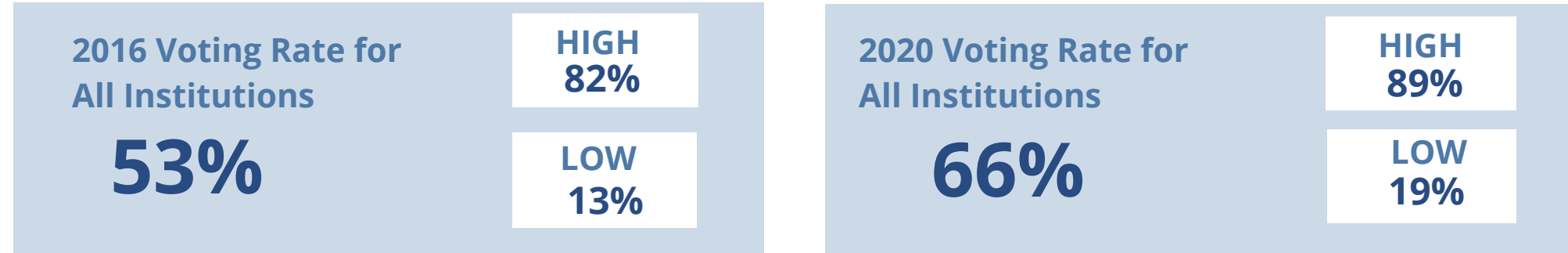
## Voting and Registration Rates

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
<b>Total Student Enrollment</b>	2,383	2,348	2,232	↓ -151
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	22	-	-
(NSC reported non-resident aliens)	211	307	284	↑ 73
(FERPA records blocked)	75	50	65	↓ -10
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	62	-	-	-
<b>Total eligible voters</b>	2,030	1,962	1,882	↓ -148
<b>Number of students who registered</b>	1,594	1,519	1,613	↑ 19
<b>Number of students who voted</b>	943	596	1,279	↑ 336
<b>Registration Rate %</b>	79	77	86	↑ 7
<b>Voting Rate of Registered Students %</b>	59	39	79	↑ 20
<b>Voting Rate %</b>	46	30	68	↑ 21

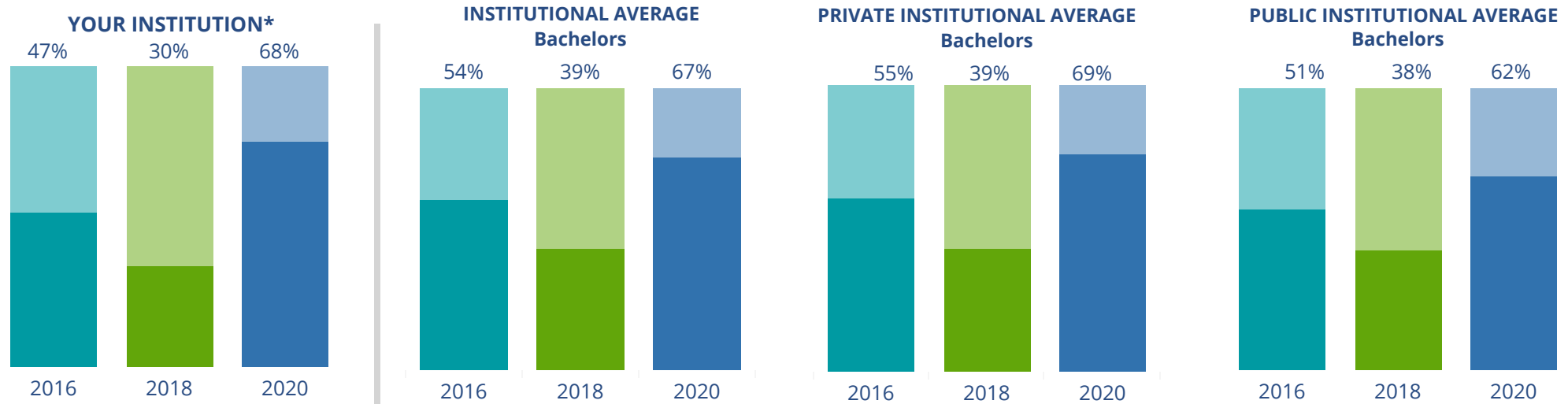
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates.** The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

We have removed non-resident aliens (international students) based on your institution's enrollment submission to the National Student Clearinghouse. This is indicated by "NSC reported non-resident aliens" on this page.

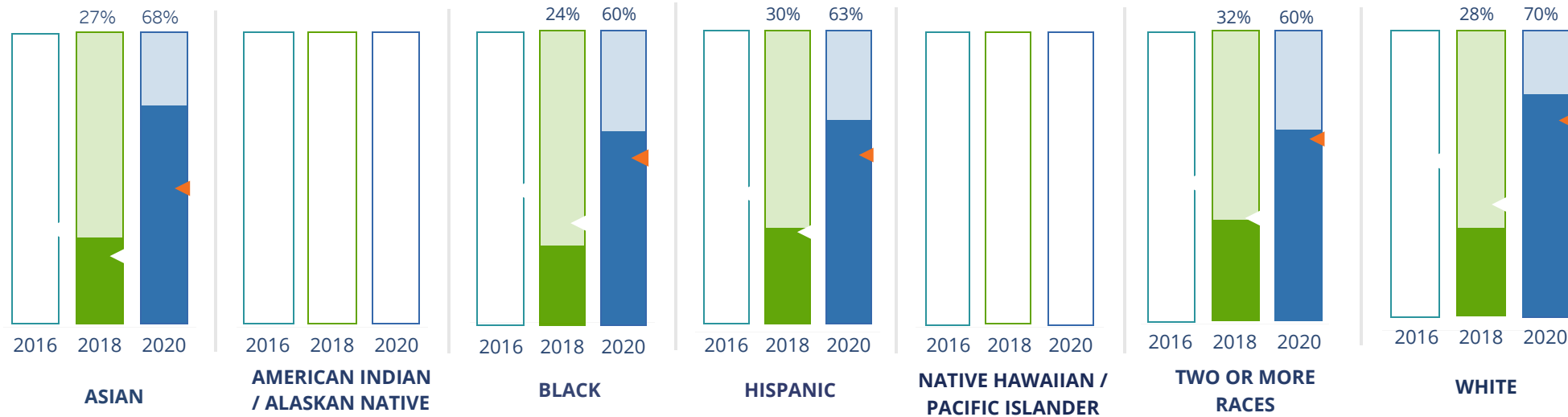
## By Institution Types



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.



## 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

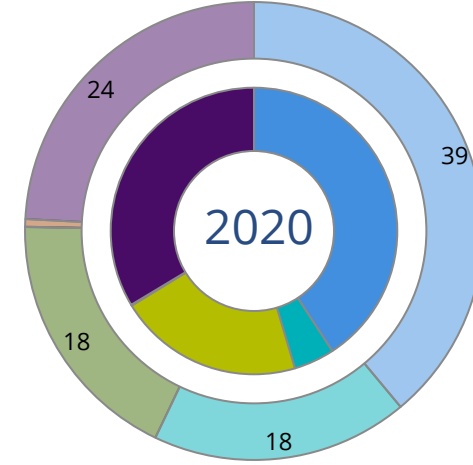
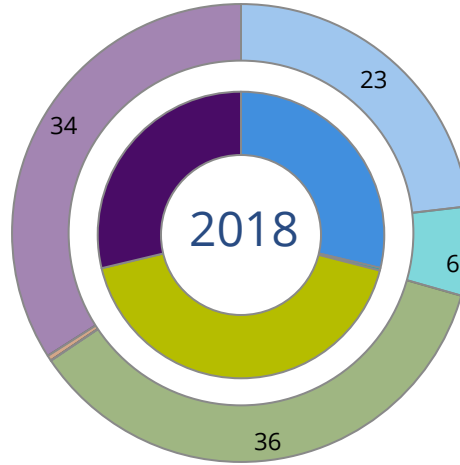
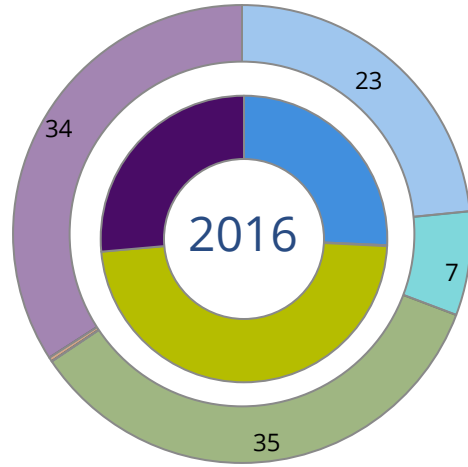
**This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates.** We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your 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	
<b>Asian</b>	-	-	-	78	21	27	80	54	68	-
<b>American Indian/ Alaska Native</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Black</b>	-	-	-	131	32	24	134	80	60	-
<b>Hispanic</b>	-	-	-	182	54	30	188	118	63	-
<b>Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>2 or More Races</b>	-	-	-	60	19	32	63	38	60	-
<b>White</b>	-	-	-	1,392	391	28	1,331	932	70	-
<b>Race Unknown</b>	2,234	943	42	417	79	19	81	55	68	↑ 26



# 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.)	
<b>Early Vote</b>	-	-	-	-	59	5	-	
<b>In-Person on Election Day</b>	451	48	252	42	267	21	-27	↓
<b>Not-In-Person</b>	242	26	171	29	522	41	15	↑
<b>Other</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Provisional</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Voting Method Unknown</b>	249	26	171	29	430	34	7	↑

**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	41%	25%	68%
22-24	35%	21%	64%
25-29	57%	44%	71%
30-39	84%	56%	–
40-49	76%	79%	–
50+	80%	76%	–

**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)
<b>18-21</b>	1,826	753	41	1,872	473	25	1,631	1,116	68	↑ 27
<b>22-24</b>	279	99	35	281	60	21	200	127	64	↑ 28
<b>25-29</b>	56	32	57	41	18	44	24	17	71	↑ 14
<b>30-39</b>	37	31	84	27	15	56	15	-	-	-
<b>40-49</b>	21	16	76	14	11	79	-	-	-	-
<b>50+</b>	15	12	80	25	19	76	-	-	-	-

# Looking Closer

## By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	1,142	372	33	951	731	77	-
Male	-	-	-	1,113	221	20	923	542	59	-

**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)	
<b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b>											
Undergraduate	2,167	894	41	2,206	563	26	1,844	1,252	68	↑	27
Graduate	63	48	76	54	33	61	38	27	71	↓	-5
Class Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>CLASS YEAR</b>											
First Year	446	41	183	540	21	113	398	65	258	↑	24
Second Year	545	39	213	567	25	143	481	68	328	↑	29
Upper Level	1,177	42	499	1,063	27	285	964	69	665	↑	27
<b>ENROLLMENT STATUS</b>											
Full-time	2,094	842	40	2,138	519	24	1,818	1,238	68	↑	28
Part-time	140	101	72	122	77	63	64	41	64	↓	-8

**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)	
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	59	32	54	57	27	47	34	28	82	↑	28
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	137	63	46	141	41	29	148	106	72	↑	26
Computer and Information Sciences	36	-	-	33	-	-	29	19	66		-
Education	19	-	-	20	-	-	19	15	79		-
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	57	20	35	45	-	-	35	20	57	↑	22
English Language and Literature	92	46	50	89	27	30	72	49	68	↑	18
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	48	27	56	34	14	41	39	30	77	↑	21

**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	
History	65	31	48	54	24	44	27	22	81	↑ 34
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	890	358	40	983	226	23	738	482	65	↑ 25
Mathematics and Statistics	29	13	45	37	-	-	13	11	85	↑ 40
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	85	35	41	67	23	34	62	46	74	↑ 33
Natural Resources and Conservation	37	19	51	33	12	36	28	25	89	↑ 38
Philosophy and Religious Studies	18	-	-	24	-	-	12	-	-	-
Physical Sciences	26	-	-	16	-	-	12	-	-	-
Psychology	105	45	43	85	24	28	123	82	67	↑ 24
Public Administration and Social Service P..	91	60	66	83	33	40	79	60	76	↑ 10
Social Sciences	344	128	37	382	81	21	349	225	64	↑ 27
Visual and Performing Arts	52	25	48	68	22	32	48	33	69	↑ 21
Unknown	44	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-



# 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.

Trinity 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. (2021). 2016, 2018, and 2020 report for \_\_\_\_\_ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.



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