

2012 & 2016 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for
Boston College

WHAT'S INSIDE

About This Report

Your Institution's Voting Data

Voting and Registration Rates

How Your Institution's Numbers
Compare

Your Students' Voting Data

By Voting Method

By Age Group

By Education Level

By Undergraduate Class Year

By Enrollment Status

By Race/Ethnicity

By Field of Study

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 and 2016 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of nearly 30 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 2012 and 2016 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (FERPA-blocked records excluded) and publicly available voting files collected by Catalyst.

Institutional voting rates 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, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are non-resident aliens, resident aliens, or undocumented students. This may result in your institution's actual voting rate being higher than we report. To calculate that percentage, and to read more about NSLVE data, see our [FAQ on Campus Reports](#). Please also see [Creating and Maintaining the NSLVE Database](#) paper for a more detailed study methodology.

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. This report provides a baseline measure of your students' engagement in democracy in 2012 and 2016, and compares your institution's voting rates to similar institutions. Visit our website for more comparison data.
- Share the report widely and strategically, including posting it online.
- Put your data into practice. Use our IDHE Resources to guide you.
- Address your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, and participation. Start by bringing the IDHE team to your campus or using the IDHE self-assessment rubric available on our website.
- Partner with IDHE. We are available with virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions and in-person trainings.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources and upcoming opportunities visit our website: idhe.tufts.edu.

Follow us on Twitter [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE) or email us at NSLVE@tufts.edu.

Warm regards,
IDHE Team

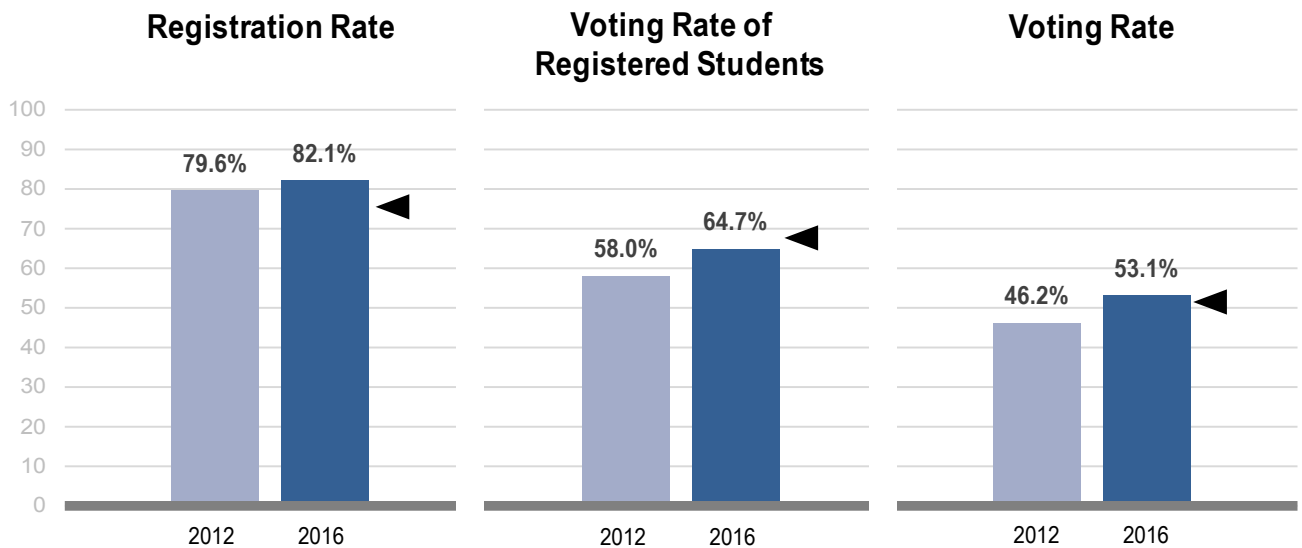
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Voting and Registration Rates

2016 Voting Rate
53.1%

CHANGE FROM 2012
6.9

2016 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS
50.4%



◀ All Institutions, 2016

	2012	2016	Change
Total student enrollment	13,823	14,198	↑ 375
Age under 18/Unknown	(77)	(55)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(1,010)	(1,413)	
FERPA records blocked	*	*	
Total eligible voters	12,732	12,727	↓ -5
Number of students who registered	10,131	10,447	↑ 316
Number of students who voted	5,878	6,755	↑ 877
Registration rate	79.6%	82.1%	↑ 2.5
Voting rate of registered students	58.0%	64.7%	↑ 6.6
Voting rate	46.2%	53.1%	↑ 6.9
Difference from all institutions	-0.7	+2.7	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Carnegie Classification

2012 Voting Rate for All Institutions
46.9%

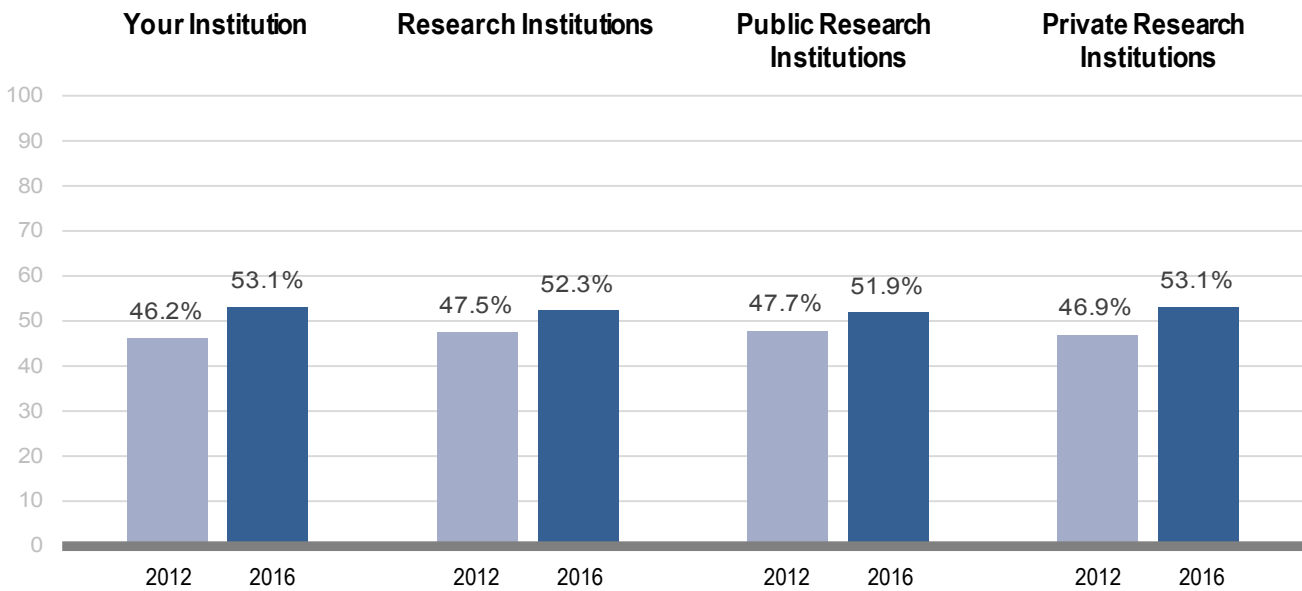
HIGH 72.9%
 LOW 19.3%

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions
50.4%

HIGH 81.4%
 LOW 13.1%

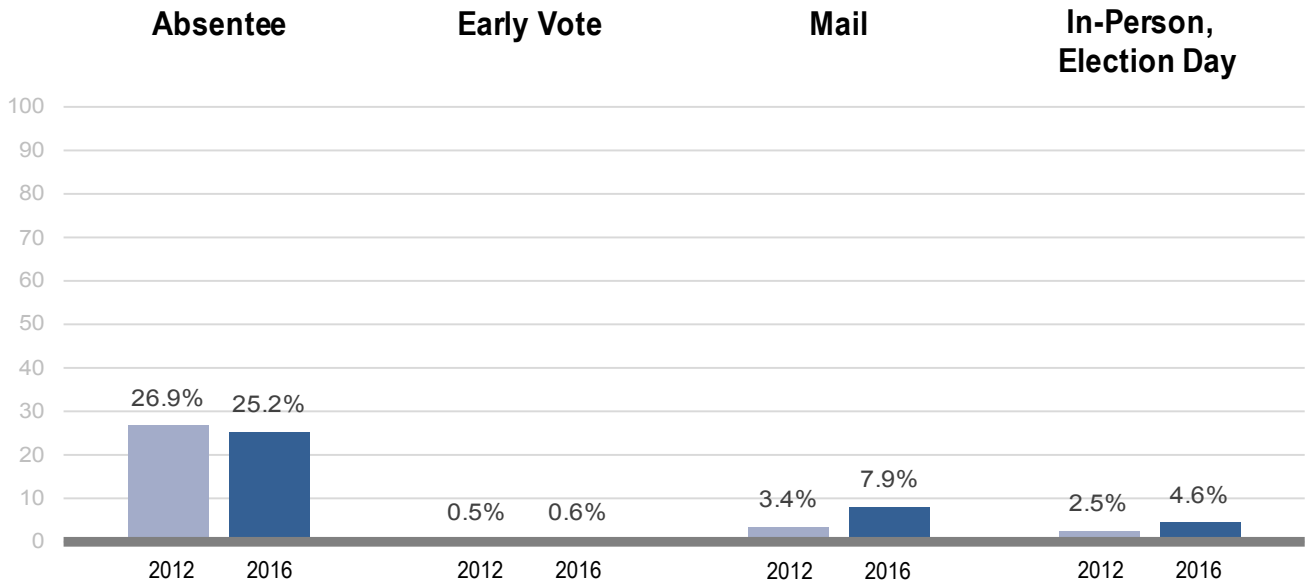
Difference from All Institutions **-0.7**

Difference from All Institutions **+2.7**



YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Voting Method*

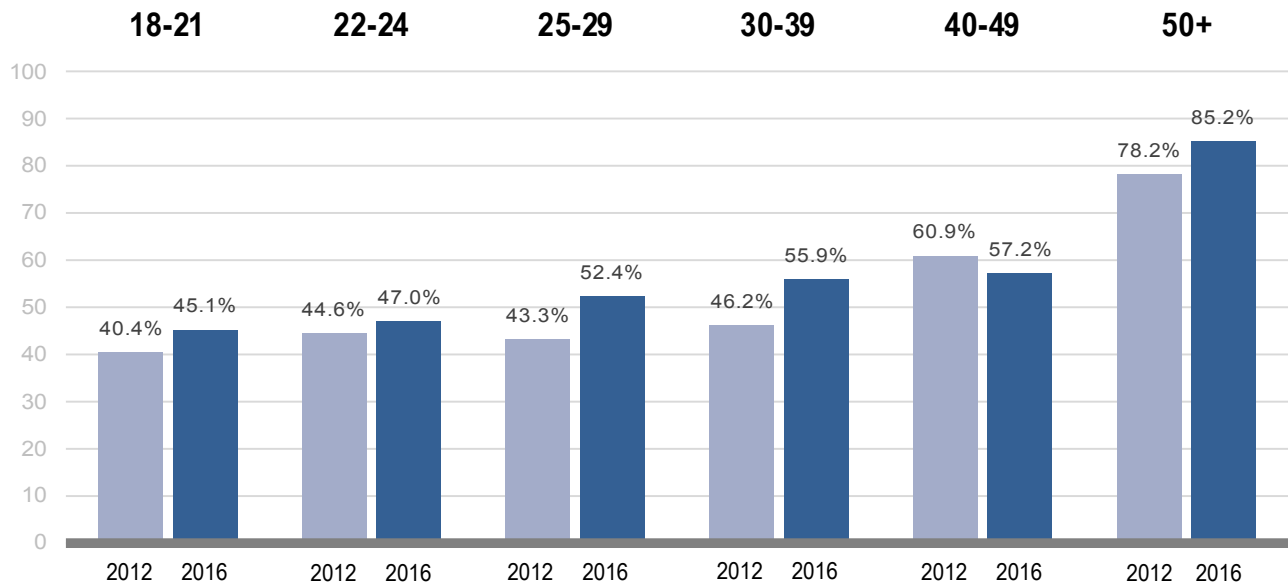


	2012		2016		Change	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate		
Absentee	1,580	26.9%	1,705	25.2%	↓	-1.6
Early Vote	30	0.5%	41	0.6%	↑	0.1
Mail	202	3.4%	536	7.9%	↑	4.5
In-Person, Election Day	146	2.5%	310	4.6%	↑	2.1
Unknown	3,920	66.7%	4,163	61.6%		
Total	5,878		6,755			

* 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 | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Age Group*

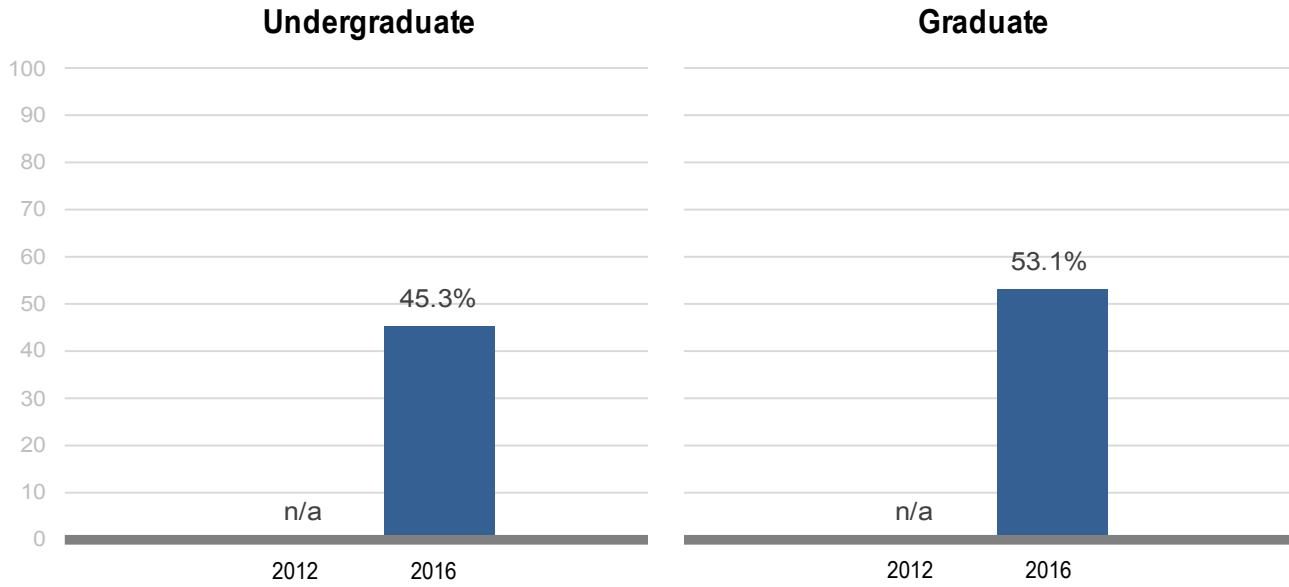


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	8,471	3,419	40.4%	8,763	3,956	45.1%	↑ 4.8
22-24	1,955	871	44.6%	2,187	1,028	47.0%	↑ 2.5
25-29	1,848	800	43.3%	1,843	965	52.4%	↑ 9.1
30-39	963	445	46.2%	928	519	55.9%	↑ 9.7
40-49	299	182	60.9%	250	143	57.2%	↓ -3.7
50+	206	161	78.2%	169	144	85.2%	↑ 7.1
Unknown	*			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 | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Education Level*

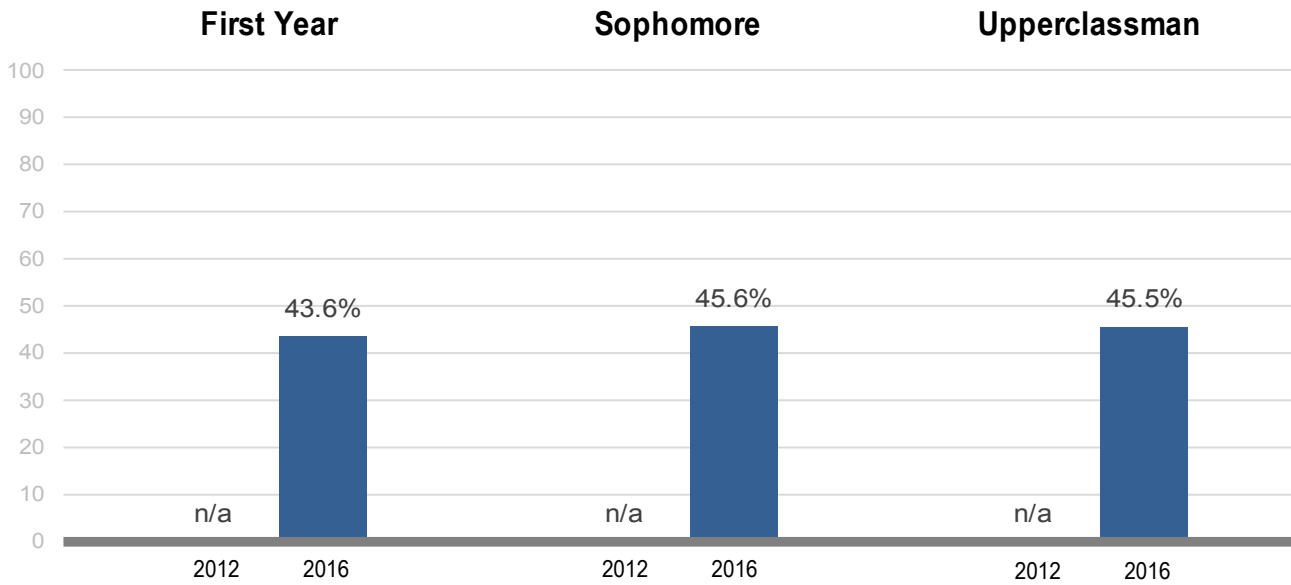


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Undergraduate	0	0	n/a	9,609	4,348	45.3%	n/a
Graduate	0	0	n/a	4,531	2,407	53.1%	n/a
Unknown	13,742			0			

* 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 | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Undergraduate Class Year*

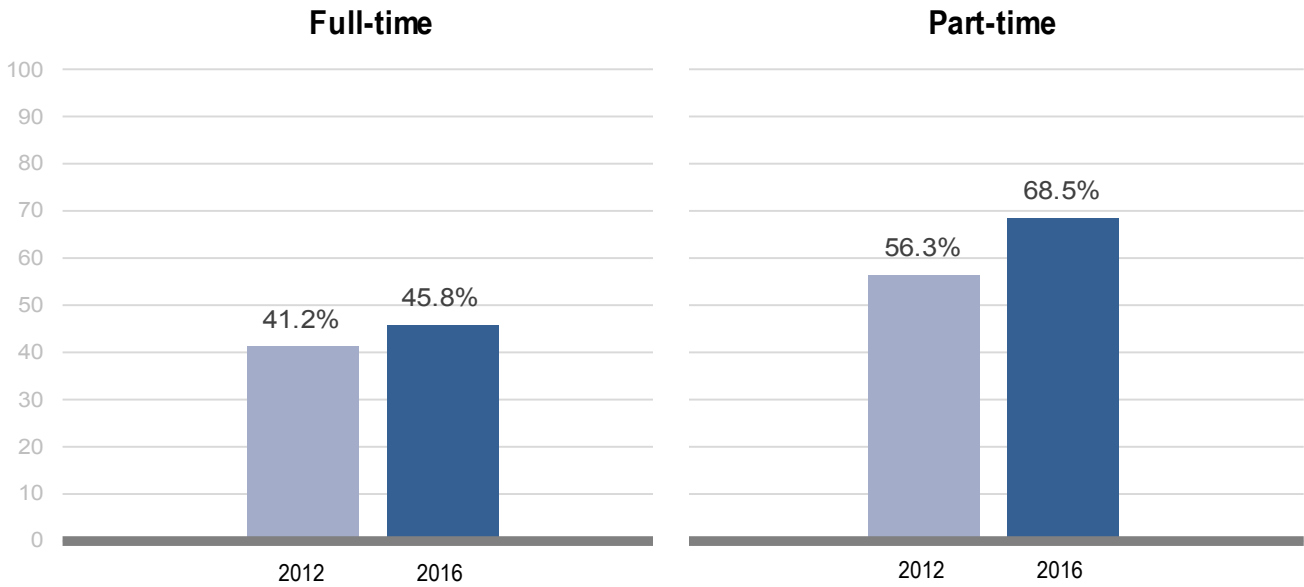


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	0	0	n/a	2,339	1,019	43.6%	n/a
Sophomore	0	0	n/a	2,349	1,072	45.6%	n/a
Upperclassman	0	0	n/a	4,806	2,186	45.5%	n/a

* 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 | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Enrollment Status*

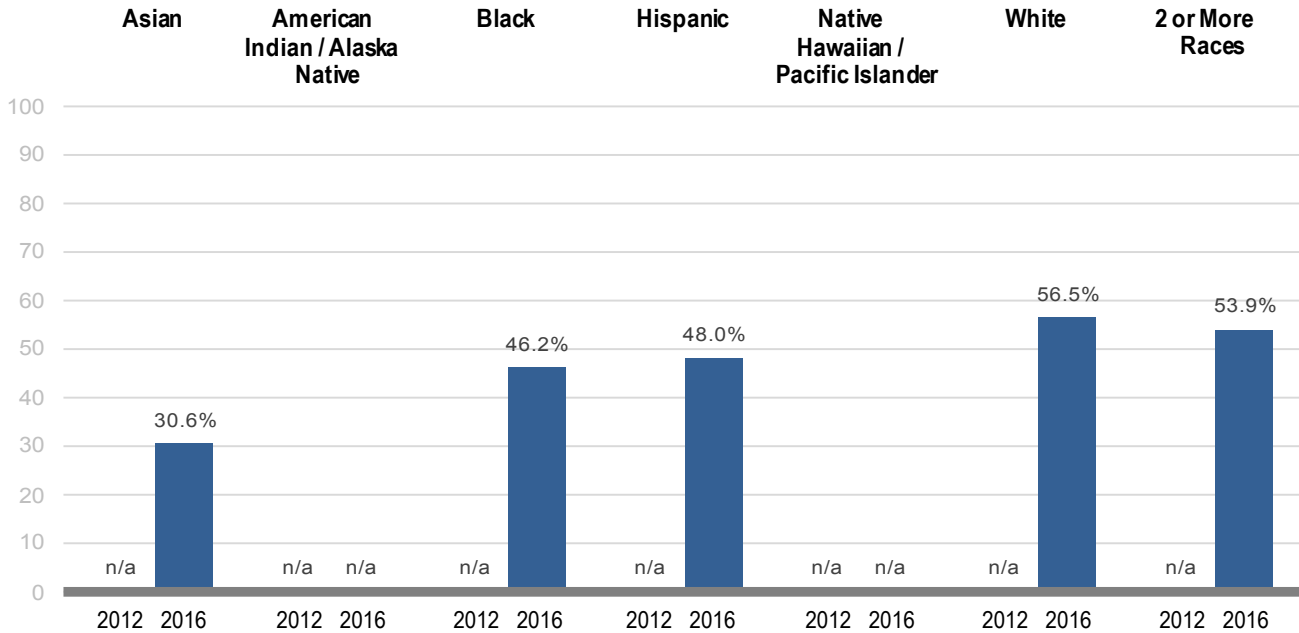


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	12,335	5,086	41.2%	12,903	5,908	45.8%	↑ 4.6
Part-time	1,407	792	56.3%	1,237	847	68.5%	↑ 12.2
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

* 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 | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

By Race/Ethnicity*



	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	0	0	n/a	1,180	361	30.6%	n/a
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0	0	n/a	*	*	n/a	n/a
Black	0	0	n/a	537	248	46.2%	n/a
Hispanic	0	0	n/a	1,220	586	48.0%	n/a
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0	0	n/a	*	*	n/a	n/a
White	0	0	n/a	8,419	4,759	56.5%	n/a
2 or More Races	0	0	n/a	373	201	53.9%	n/a
Unknown	13,742			1,036			

* Your students' data broken down by race. 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 | PRESIDENTIAL 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.

	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	0	0	n/a	*	*	n/a	n/a
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	0	0	n/a	1,076	465	43.2%	n/a
Business, Management, and Marketing	0	0	n/a	2,682	1,175	43.8%	n/a
Communication and Journalism	0	0	n/a	630	311	49.4%	n/a
Computer and Information Sciences	0	0	n/a	283	105	37.1%	n/a
Education	0	0	n/a	844	497	58.9%	n/a
English Language and Literature	0	0	n/a	384	216	56.3%	n/a
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	0	0	n/a	96	48	50.0%	n/a
Health Professions	0	0	n/a	824	439	53.3%	n/a
History	0	0	n/a	259	150	57.9%	n/a
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	0	0	n/a	15	*	n/a	n/a
Legal Professions and Studies	0	0	n/a	726	390	53.7%	n/a
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	0	0	n/a	675	300	44.4%	n/a
Mathematics and Statistics	0	0	n/a	278	94	33.8%	n/a
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	0	0	n/a	227	133	58.6%	n/a
Natural Resources and Conservation	0	0	n/a	87	52	59.8%	n/a
Philosophy and Religious Studies	0	0	n/a	200	78	39.0%	n/a
Physical Sciences	0	0	n/a	370	132	35.7%	n/a
Psychology	0	0	n/a	948	463	48.8%	n/a
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	0	0	n/a	569	376	66.1%	n/a
Social Sciences	0	0	n/a	2,147	893	41.6%	n/a
Theology and Religious Vocations	0	0	n/a	413	202	48.9%	n/a
Visual and Performing Arts	0	0	n/a	112	56	50.0%	n/a

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:

NSLVE encourages to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2018). *2012 & 2016 NSLVE Campus Report*. Medford, MA.

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Contact us:

Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:
National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement
Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155
NSLVE@tufts.edu | 617-627-4802

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