

**2012 & 2016 CAMPUS REPORT**

Student Voting Rates for  
Cornell University

**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 Gender

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](http://idhe.tufts.edu).

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

Warm regards,  
IDHE Team



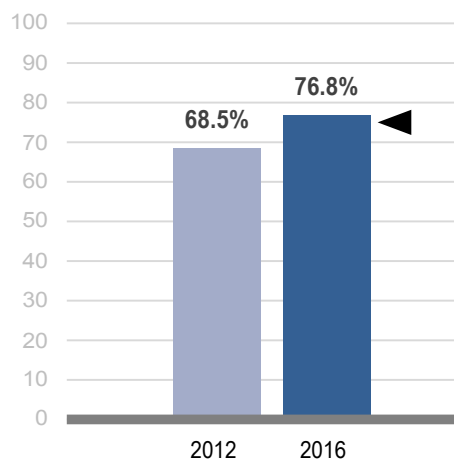
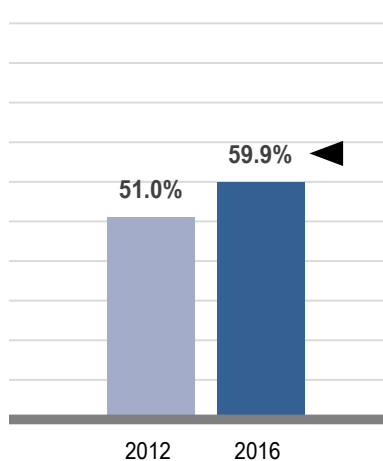
## YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

## Voting and Registration Rates

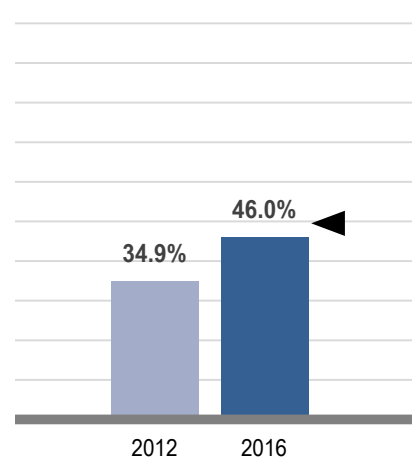
2016 Voting Rate

**46.0%**CHANGE  
FROM 2012**11.1**2016 VOTING RATE  
FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS**50.4%**

Registration Rate

Voting Rate of  
Registered Students

Voting Rate



All Institutions, 2016

	2012	2016	Change
Total student enrollment	22,065	22,921	↑ 856
Age under 18/Unknown	(242)	(202)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(4,185)	(4,841)	
FERPA records blocked	(188)	(116)	
Total eligible voters	17,450	17,762	↑ 312
Number of students who registered	11,945	13,637	↑ 1,692
Number of students who voted	6,093	8,172	↑ 2,079
Registration rate	68.5%	76.8%	↑ 8.3
Voting rate of registered students	51.0%	59.9%	↑ 8.9
Voting rate	34.9%	46.0%	↑ 11.1
Difference from all institutions	-12.0	-4.4	

## 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

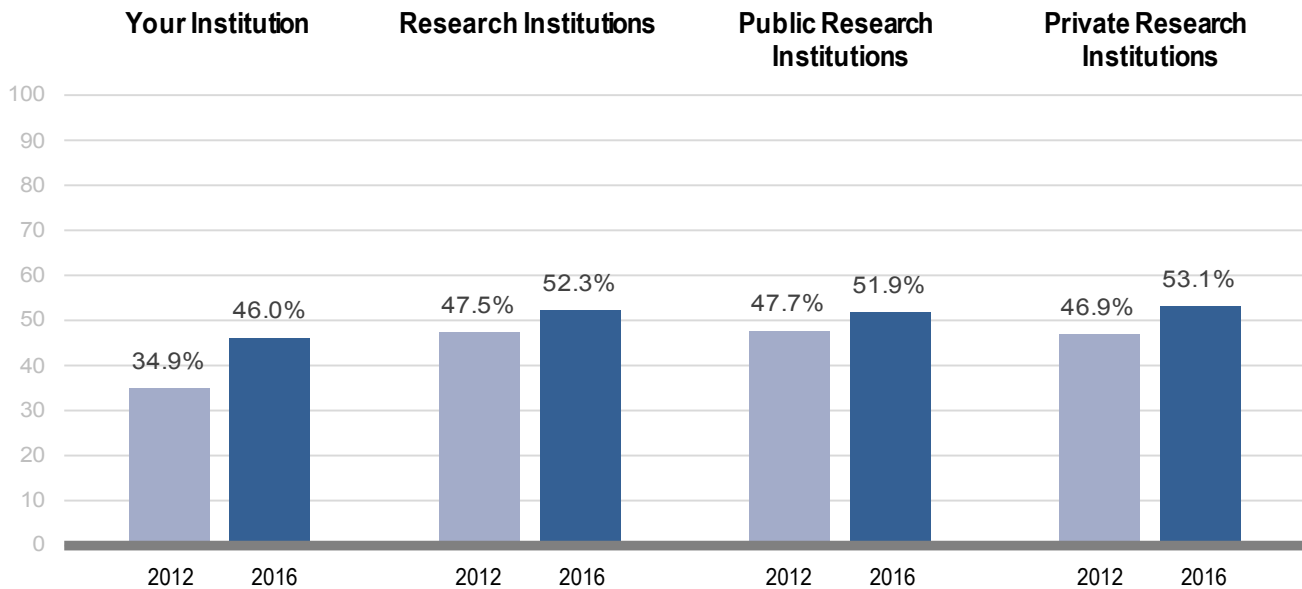
**50.4%**

HIGH  
81.4%

LOW  
13.1%

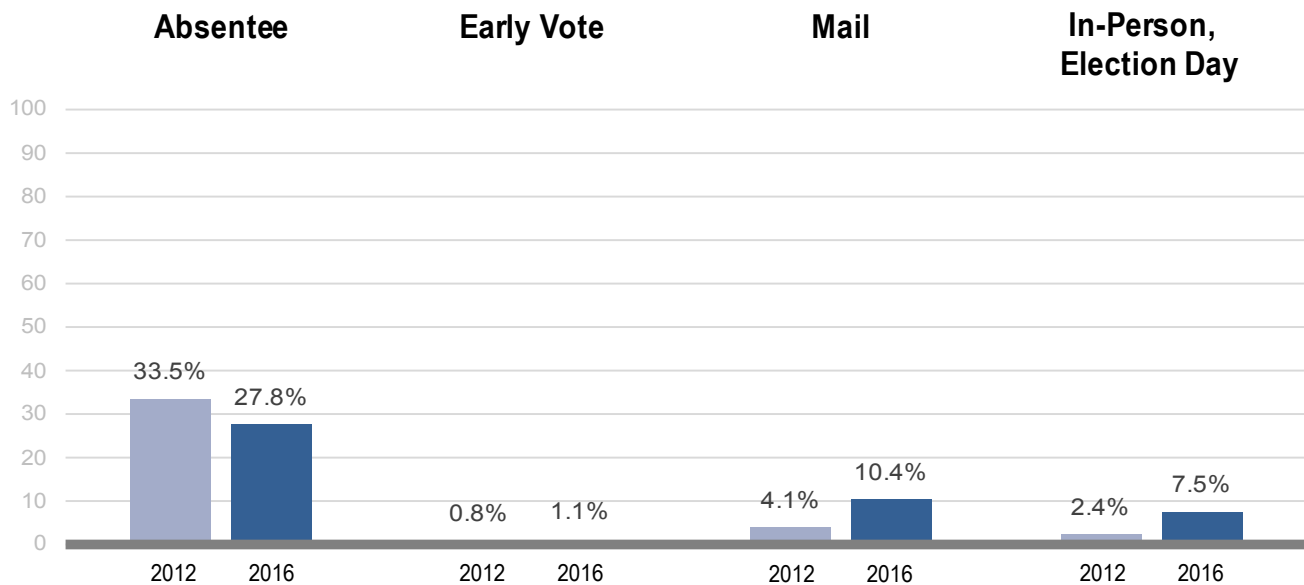
Difference from All Institutions **-12.0**

Difference from All Institutions **-4.4**



## YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

## By Voting Method\*

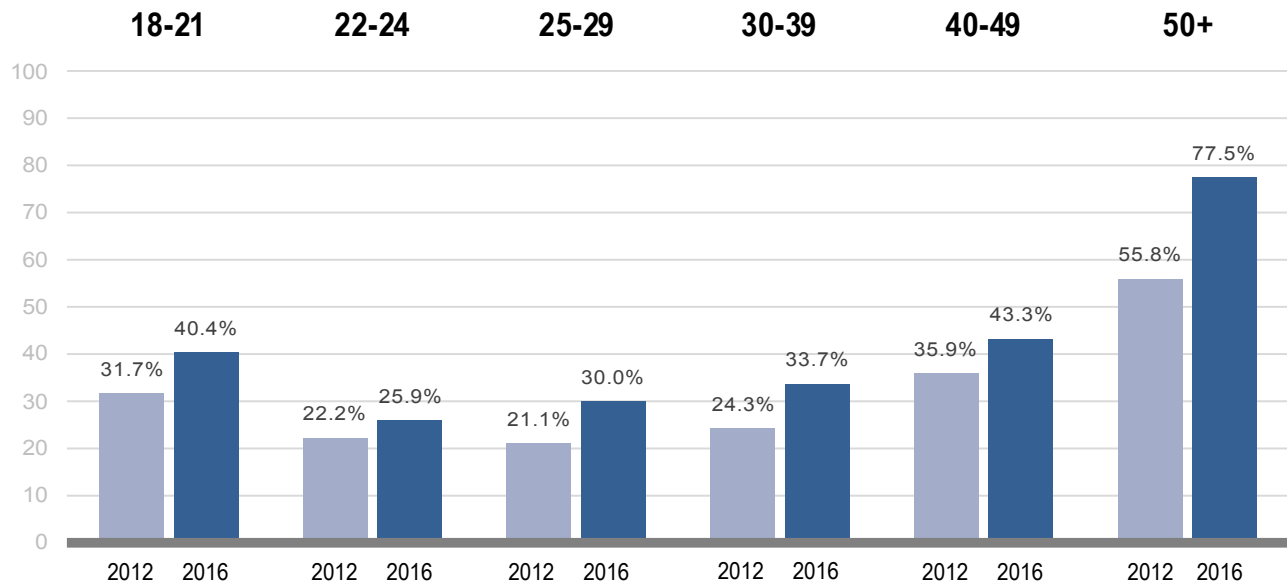


	2012		2016		Change	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate		
Absentee	2,039	33.5%	2,268	27.8%	↓	-5.7
Early Vote	48	0.8%	93	1.1%	↑	0.4
Mail	249	4.1%	852	10.4%	↑	6.3
In-Person, Election Day	146	2.4%	614	7.5%	↑	5.1
Unknown	3,611	59.3%	4,345	53.2%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,093</b>		<b>8,172</b>			

\* 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\*

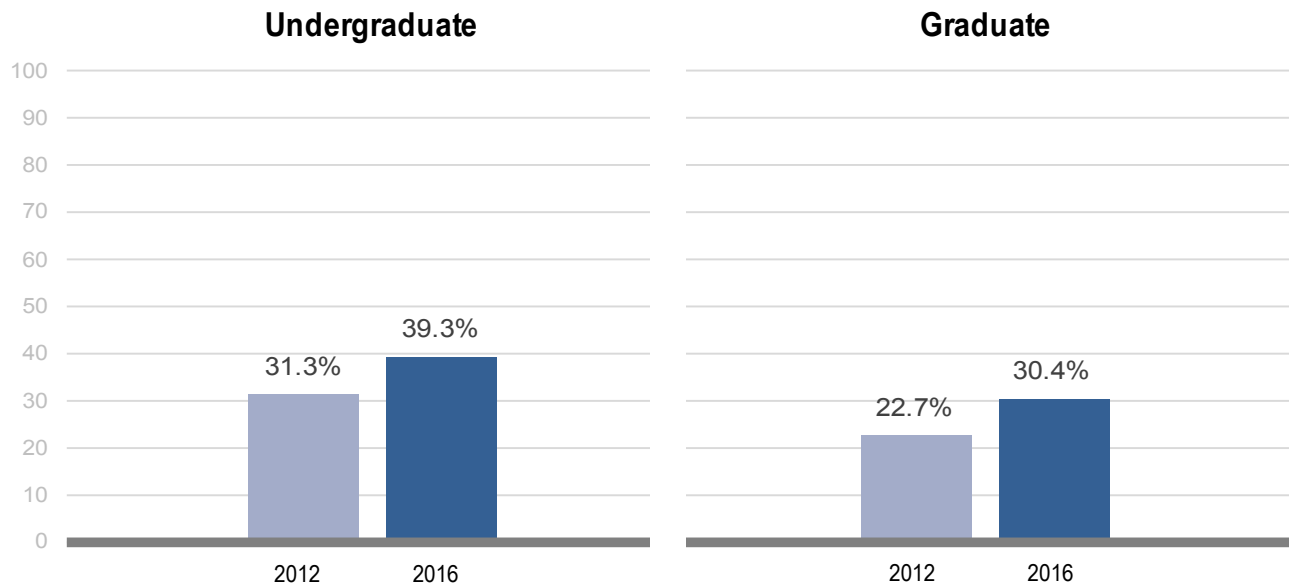


	2012			2016			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
18-21	13,068	4,144	31.7%	13,397	5,413	40.4%	↑	8.7
22-24	3,586	795	22.2%	3,706	959	25.9%	↑	3.7
25-29	3,164	669	21.1%	3,402	1,022	30.0%	↑	8.9
30-39	1,528	371	24.3%	1,714	577	33.7%	↑	9.4
40-49	237	85	35.9%	282	122	43.3%	↑	7.4
50+	52	29	55.8%	102	79	77.5%	↑	21.7
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\*

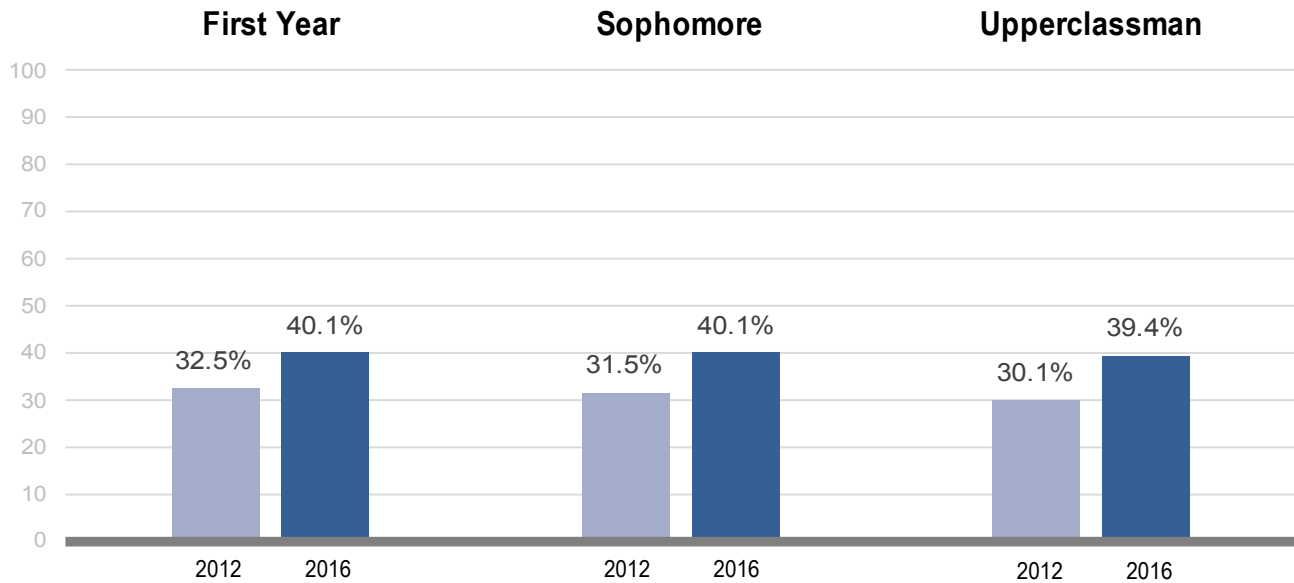


	2012			2016			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Undergraduate	13,712	4,298	31.3%	14,585	5,737	39.3%	↑	8.0
Graduate	6,838	1,554	22.7%	8,018	2,435	30.4%	↑	7.6
Unknown	1,085			0				

\* 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\*



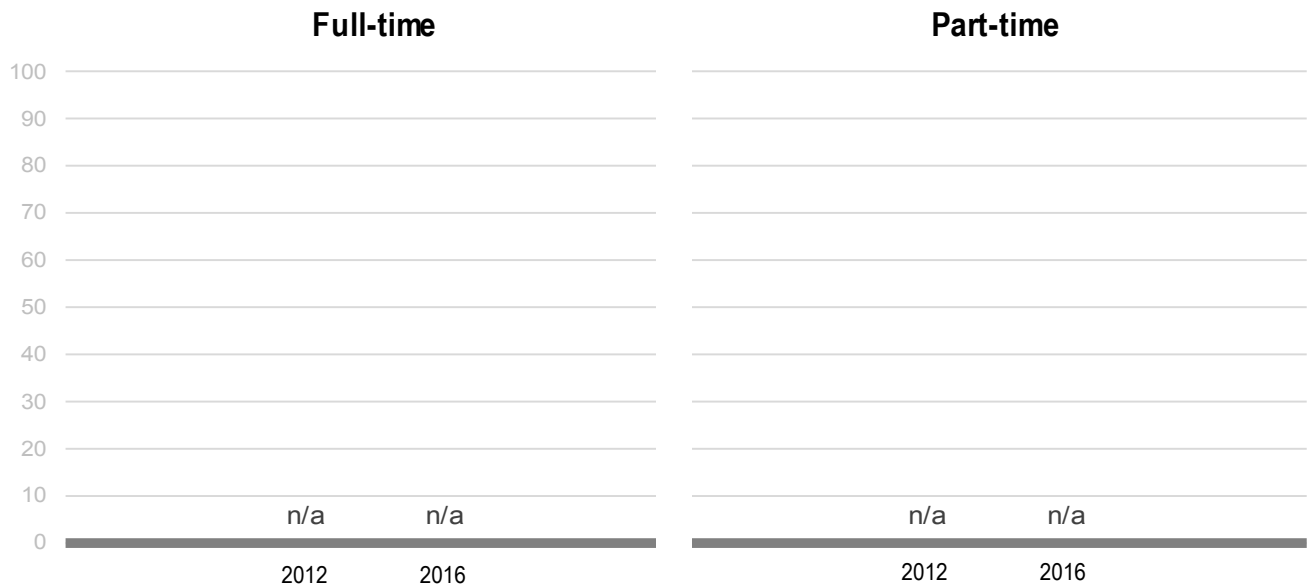
	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	3,021	981	32.5%	3,178	1,275	40.1%	↑ 7.7
Sophomore	3,473	1,094	31.5%	3,640	1,459	40.1%	↑ 8.6
Upperclassman	5,511	1,657	30.1%	7,451	2,937	39.4%	↑ 9.4

\* 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\*

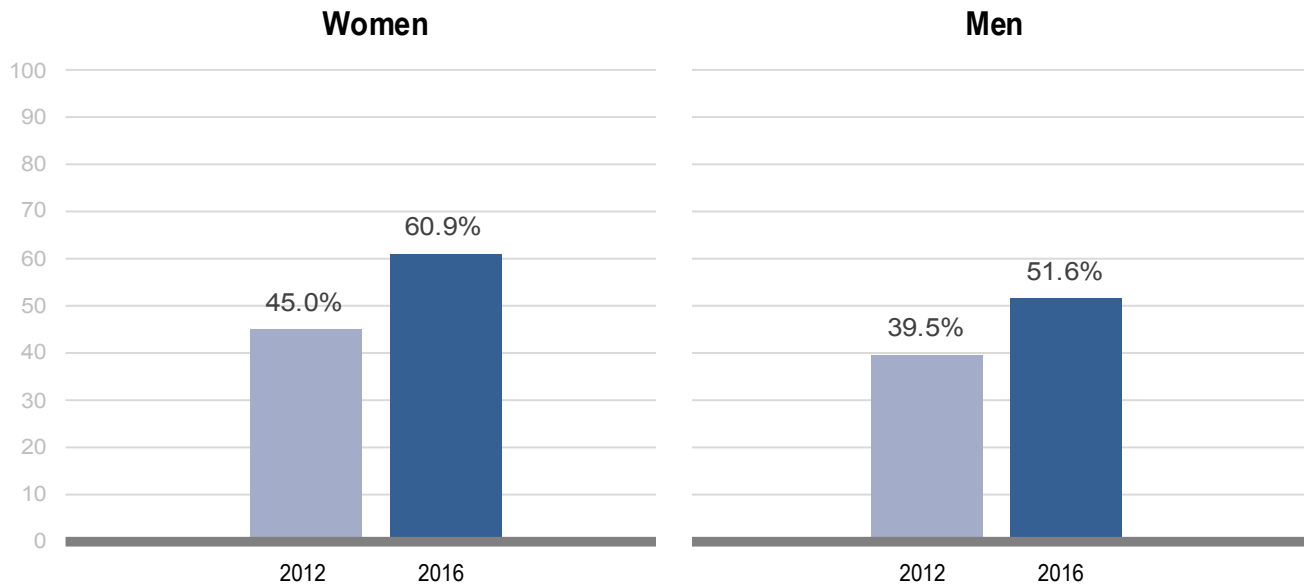


	2012			2016			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a
Part-time	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

\* 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 Gender\*



	2012			2016			Change	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
Women	7,167	3,224	45.0%	7,301	4,444	60.9%	↑	15.9
Men	7,151	2,824	39.5%	7,088	3,659	51.6%	↑	12.1
Unknown	7,317	45	0.6%	8,214	69	0.8%		

\* Your students' data broken down by gender. 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	
Agriculture and Agriculture Operations	1,860	588	31.6%	1,854	681	36.7% ↑	5.1
Architecture	787	195	24.8%	782	233	29.8% ↑	5.0
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	192	60	31.3%	123	54	43.9% ↑	12.7
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	2,172	655	30.2%	2,145	868	40.5% ↑	10.3
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,078	822	26.7%	3,490	1,165	33.4% ↑	6.7
Communication and Journalism	304	117	38.5%	307	127	41.4% ↑	2.9
Computer and Information Sciences	617	131	21.2%	1,318	366	27.8% ↑	6.5
Education	38	15	39.5%	0	0	n/a	n/a
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	4,071	1,029	25.3%	4,292	1,460	34.0% ↑	8.7
English Language and Literature	240	104	43.3%	185	91	49.2% ↑	5.9
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	341	131	38.4%	388	176	45.4% ↑	6.9
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	239	74	31.0%	208	66	31.7% ↑	0.8
Health Professions	559	159	28.4%	702	292	41.6% ↑	13.2
History	182	71	39.0%	122	59	48.4% ↑	9.4
Legal Professions and Studies	656	178	27.1%	750	248	33.1% ↑	5.9
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,320	378	28.6%	1,928	779	40.4% ↑	11.8
Mathematics and Statistics	263	51	19.4%	319	75	23.5% ↑	4.1
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	544	171	31.4%	751	302	40.2% ↑	8.8
Natural Resources and Conservation	336	146	43.5%	349	156	44.7% ↑	1.3
Philosophy and Religious Studies	94	28	29.8%	92	31	33.7% ↑	3.9
Physical Sciences	670	190	28.4%	592	229	38.7% ↑	10.3
Psychology	248	77	31.1%	168	79	47.0% ↑	16.0
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	423	103	24.4%	432	153	35.4% ↑	11.1

Social Sciences	1,332	385	28.9%	1,028	376	36.6% ↑	7.7
Visual and Performing Arts	357	105	29.4%	265	100	37.7% ↑	8.3
Unknown	712	130	18.3%	13	*	n/a	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: [idhe.tufts.edu](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. (2016). *2012 & 2016 NSLVE Campus Report*. Medford, MA.

Follow us:  [@TuftsIDHE](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE)

#### Contact us:

Institute for Democracy & Higher Education:  
National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement  
Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155  
[NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu) | 617-627-3804

INSTITUTE FOR  
DEMOCRACY &  
HIGHER EDUCATION