NSLVE
NATIONAL STUDY OF LEARNING, VOTING, AND ENGAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER 2019

2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT

Student Voting Rates for Grand Valley State University

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

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, 2016 and 2018 federal elections. Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has helped us build a robust database for research on more than 10 million de-identified student records for each election year.

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. IDHE is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and participation in democracy. IDHE researchers study voting, campus conditions for political learning and discussion, closing equity gaps in participation, and increasing student agency and participation. We accomplish our goals through research, resource development, assisting institutions and the higher education community, 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 voted in the 2014 and 2018 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse and publicly available voting files collected by Catalist. We exclude FERPA-blocked records. (For exceptions for campuses with disproportionately high numbers of FERPA blocked students, see our Campus Reports FAQ.)

The institutional voting rates reported on page 3 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 in subsequent pages of the report, we cannot consistently adjust for students who are ineligible to vote: non-resident aliens (international students), resident aliens (undocumented students), and students who have been disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. As a result, your institution's actual voting rate may be higher than we report. If you have access to more complete data for students who are ineligible to vote, you may recalculate your rates by using the Recalculation Tool - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve-recalculation-tool**.

To read more about NSLVE data, see our Campus Reports FAQ - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/frequently-asked-questions.**

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 and identify your challenges and opportunities. This report provides comparisons between subgroups of your students and with similar institutions. For more comparisons or to see national voter registration and voting rates, read our national report, Democracy Counts 2018. To access our data portals - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/public-data-portal-visualizations.**

❑ Share the report widely and strategically by sharing it with institutional leaders, faculty across disciplines, student government leaders, and other student groups.

❑ Read and implement *Election Imperatives,* ten recommendations for providing your campus climate for student political learning, discourse, equity, and participation - **https://idhe.tufts.edu/electionimperatives.**

❑ Work with us. IDHE can help via virtual office hours, webinars, brown bag discussions, coaching, and in-person workshops.

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

Follow us on Twitter **@TuftsIDHE.**

We appreciate hearing from you! Please email us at **NSLVE@tufts.edu.**
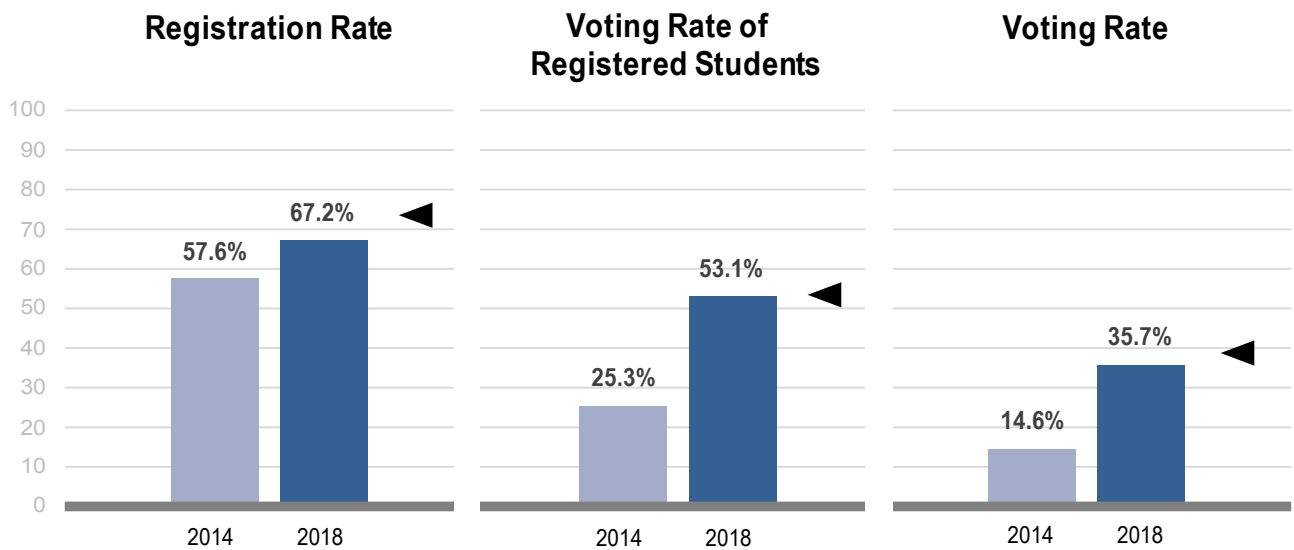
Warm regards,

IDHE Team

YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Voting and Registration Rates

2018 Voting Rate

35.7%

CHANGE FROM 2014

+21.1

2018 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS

39.1%

Registration Rate

- 2014: 57.6%
- 2018: 67.2% ◄

Voting Rate of Registered Students

- 2014: 25.3%
- 2018: 53.1% ◄

Voting Rate

- 2014: 14.6%
- 2018: 35.7% ◄

◄ All Institutions, 2018

	2014	2018		Change
Total student enrollment	24,435	23,954	⬇	-481
Age under 18/Unknown	(127)	(141)		
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(386)	(406)		
FERPA records blocked	(167)	(93)		
Total eligible voters	23,755	23,314	⬇	-441
Number of students who registered	13,680	15,668	⬆	1,988
Number of students who voted	3,467	8,326	⬆	4,859
Registration rate	57.6%	67.2%	⬆	9.6
Voting rate of registered students	25.3%	53.1%	⬆	27.8
Voting rate	14.6%	35.7%	⬆	21.1
Difference from all institutions	-5.1	-3.4		

By Carnegie Classification

2014 Voting Rate for All Institutions	**HIGH 54.0%**
19.7%	**LOW 1.5%**

Difference from All Institutions   **-5.1**

2018 Voting Rate for All Institutions	**HIGH 64.1%**
39.1%	**LOW 11.5%**

Difference from All Institutions   **-3.4**

Your Institution	Master's Institutions	Public Master's Institutions	Private Master's Institutions
2014: 14.6% / 2018: 35.7%	2014: 20.1% / 2018: 39.7%	2014: 19.9% / 2018: 39.3%	2014: 21.1% / 2018: 40.3%
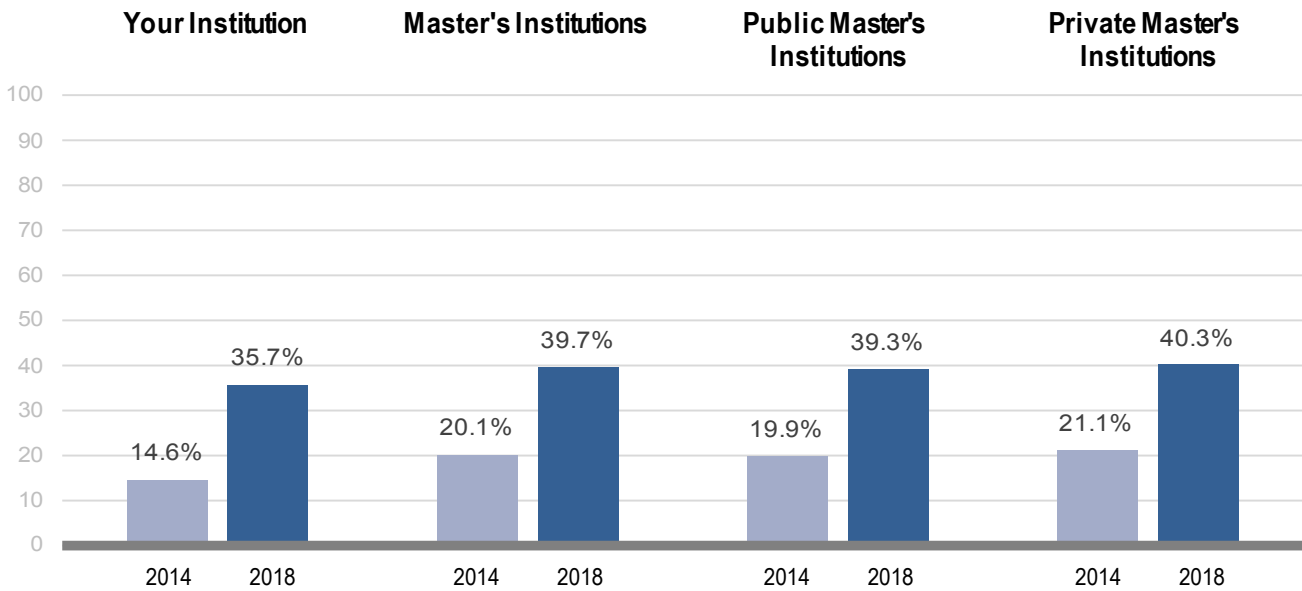
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

By Voting Method*
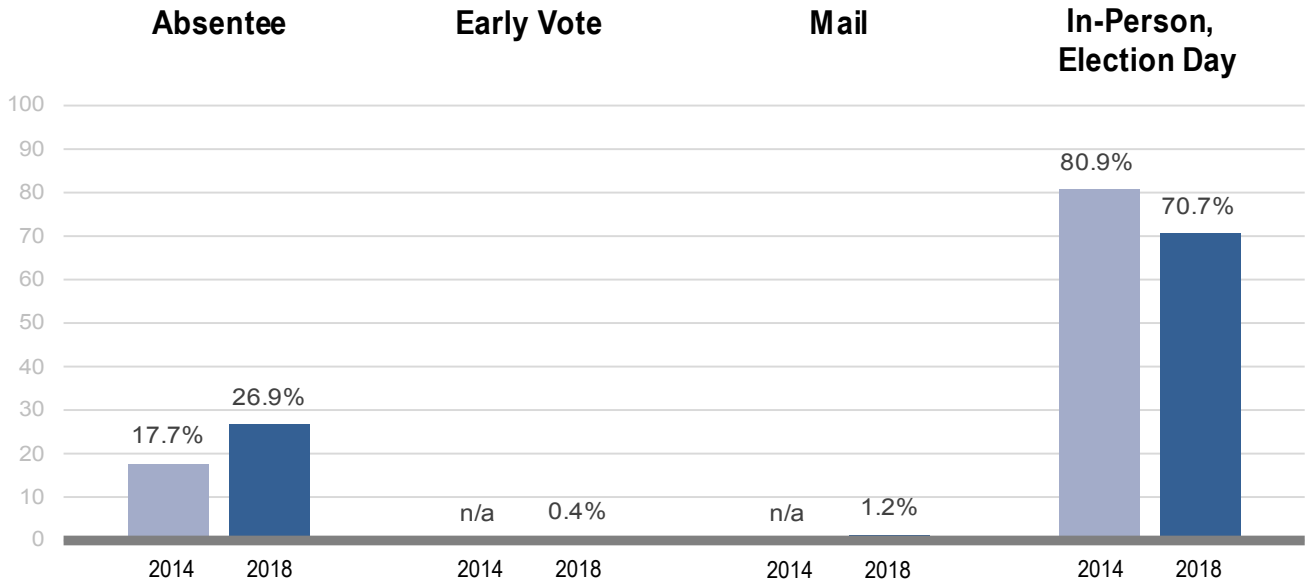
	2014			**2018**			
	Voted	Rate		Voted	Rate		Change
Absentee	612	**17.7%**		2,240	**26.9%**	⬆	**9.3**
Early Vote	*	**n/a**		35	**0.4%**		**n/a**
Mail	0	**n/a**		100	**1.2%**		**n/a**
In-Person, Election Day	2,806	**80.9%**		5,882	**70.7%**	⬇	**-10.3**
Unknown	48	**1.4%**		69	**0.8%**		
Total	**3,467**			**8,326**			

* 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 officals where your students voted.

By Age Group*
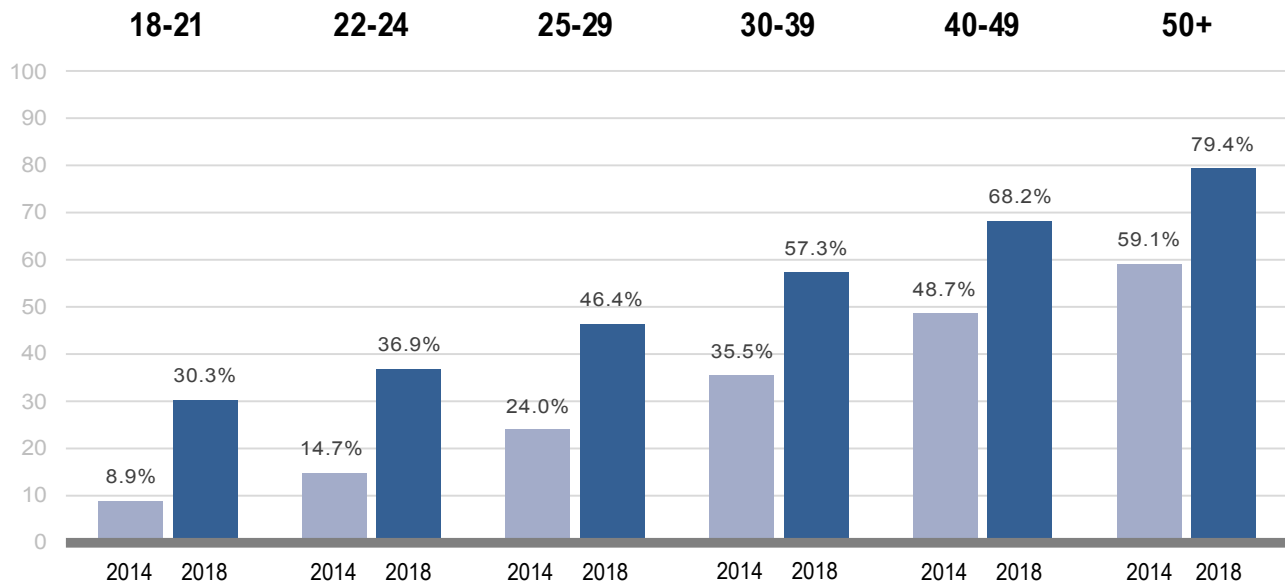
	2014			2018				Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		
18-21	14,702	1,310	**8.9%**	15,122	4,579	**30.3%**	⬆	**21.4**
22-24	5,078	745	**14.7%**	5,109	1,883	**36.9%**	⬆	**22.2**
25-29	2,209	530	**24.0%**	1,877	871	**46.4%**	⬆	**22.4**
30-39	1,421	505	**35.5%**	1,116	639	**57.3%**	⬆	**21.7**
40-49	528	257	**48.7%**	355	242	**68.2%**	⬆	**19.5**
50+	203	120	**59.1%**	141	112	**79.4%**	⬆	**20.3**
Unknown		*			*			

* 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.

By Education Level*

Undergraduate
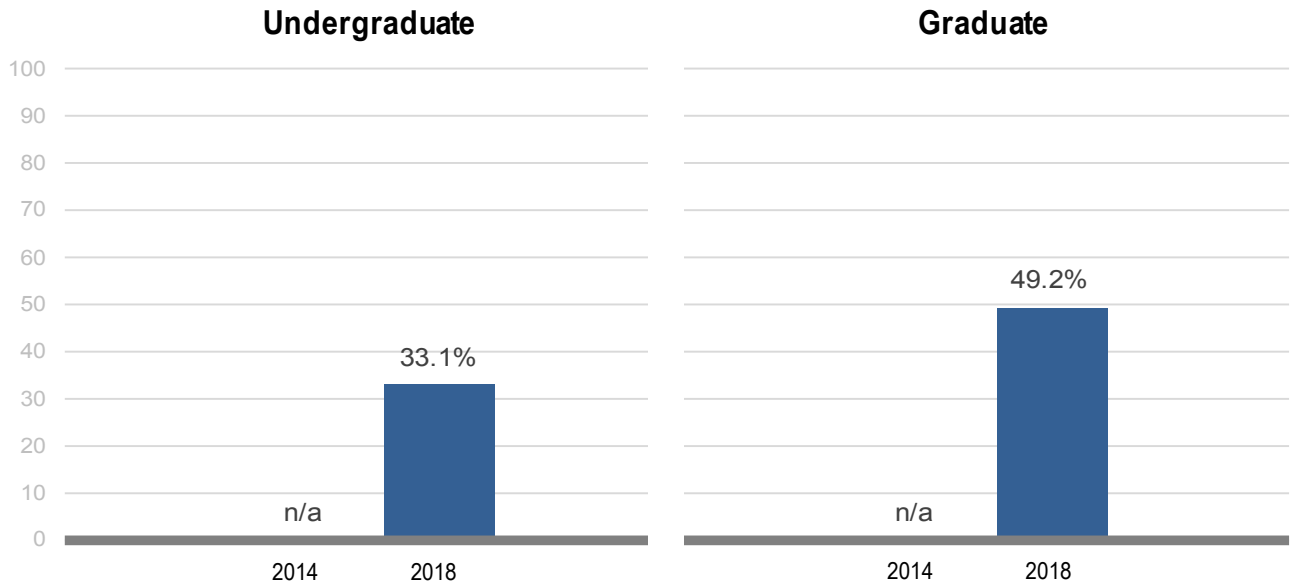
Graduate

	2014			**2018**			
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change
Undergraduate	0	0	**n/a**	20,788	6,884	**33.1%**	**n/a**
Graduate	0	0	**n/a**	2,931	1,442	**49.2%**	**n/a**
Unknown	24,141			*			

* 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.

By Undergraduate Class Year*

| **First Year** | **Sophomore** | **Upper-level** |
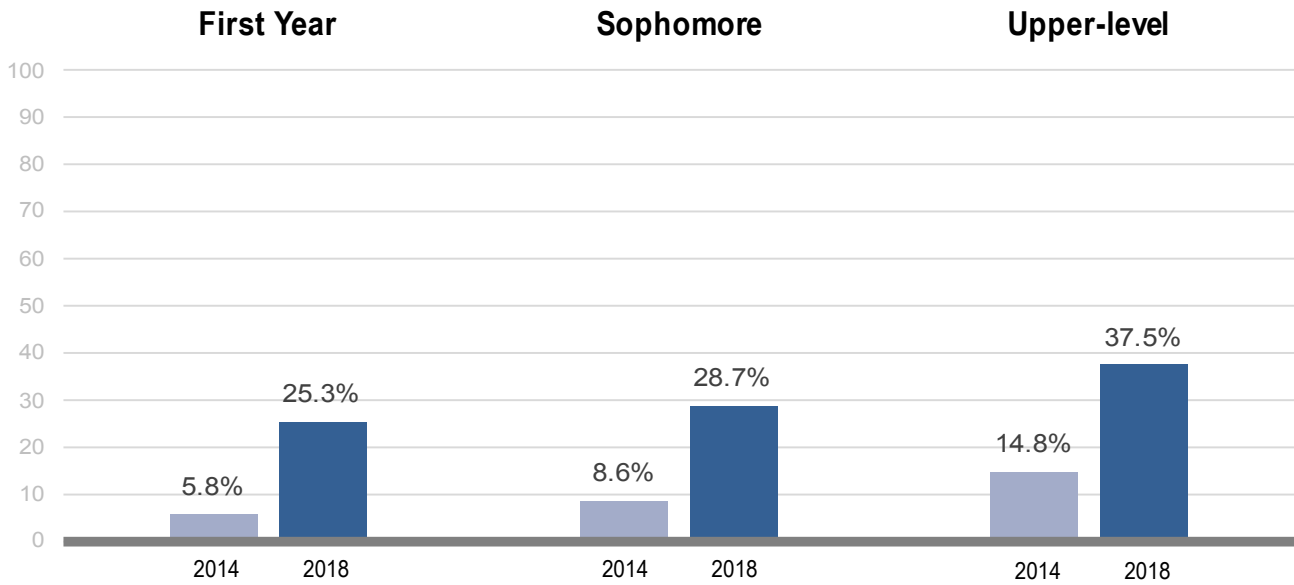
	2014				**2018**				
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Change
First Year	4,358	253	**5.8%**		4,168	1,056	**25.3%**	⬆	**19.5**
Sophomore	4,686	403	**8.6%**		4,621	1,328	**28.7%**	⬆	**20.1**
Upper-level	10,910	1,609	**14.8%**		12,034	4,516	**37.5%**	⬆	**22.8**

* 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.

By Enrollment Status*

Full-time

Part-time

	2014				**2018**			
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate		Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change
Full-time	0	0	**n/a**		20,099	6,536	**32.5%**	**n/a**
Part-time	0	0	**n/a**		3,621	1,790	**49.4%**	**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 | MIDTERM 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.

	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	49	*	n/a	32	22	68.8%	n/a
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	792	98	12.4%	1,011	354	35.0% ⬆	22.6
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,998	484	12.1%	4,623	1,429	30.9% ⬆	18.8
Communication and Journalism	1,125	110	9.8%	1,025	328	32.0% ⬆	22.2
Computer and Information Sciences	649	80	12.3%	797	279	35.0% ⬆	22.7
Education	2,735	609	22.3%	1,199	591	49.3% ⬆	27.0
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	1,165	147	12.6%	1,173	386	32.9% ⬆	20.3
English Language and Literature	846	144	17.0%	709	298	42.0% ⬆	25.0
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	166	28	16.9%	131	53	40.5% ⬆	23.6
Health Professions	4,940	588	11.9%	5,222	1,622	31.1% ⬆	19.2
History	160	28	17.5%	143	78	54.6% ⬆	37.1
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	652	67	10.3%	538	172	32.0% ⬆	21.7
Legal Professions and Studies	111	13	11.7%	95	40	42.1% ⬆	30.4
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,445	218	15.1%	1,334	477	35.8% ⬆	20.7
Mathematics and Statistics	463	67	14.5%	410	166	40.5% ⬆	26.0
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	190	20	10.5%	155	68	43.9% ⬆	33.3
Natural Resources and Conservation	228	29	12.7%	199	83	41.7% ⬆	29.0
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	0	0	n/a	1,147	270	23.5%	n/a
Philosophy and Religious Studies	54	*	n/a	30	15	50.0%	n/a
Physical Sciences	289	46	15.9%	221	87	39.4% ⬆	23.5
Psychology	1,036	88	8.5%	906	312	34.4% ⬆	26.0
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	1,222	282	23.1%	981	493	50.3% ⬆	27.2
Social Sciences	924	188	20.4%	819	379	46.3% ⬆	25.9

Visual and Performing Arts	885	114	**12.9%**		814	323	**39.7%** ⬆	**26.8**
Unknown	17	*	**n/a**		*	*	**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: **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. (2019). *2014 and 2018 report for _____ [name of institution].* Medford, MA.

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