

**2014 & 2018 CAMPUS REPORT**

Student Voting Rates for  
University of Wisconsin -  
Madison

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# 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 improving 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](https://twitter.com/TuftsIDHE).

We appreciate hearing from you! Please email us at [NSLVE@tufts.edu](mailto:NSLVE@tufts.edu).

Warm regards,

IDHE Team



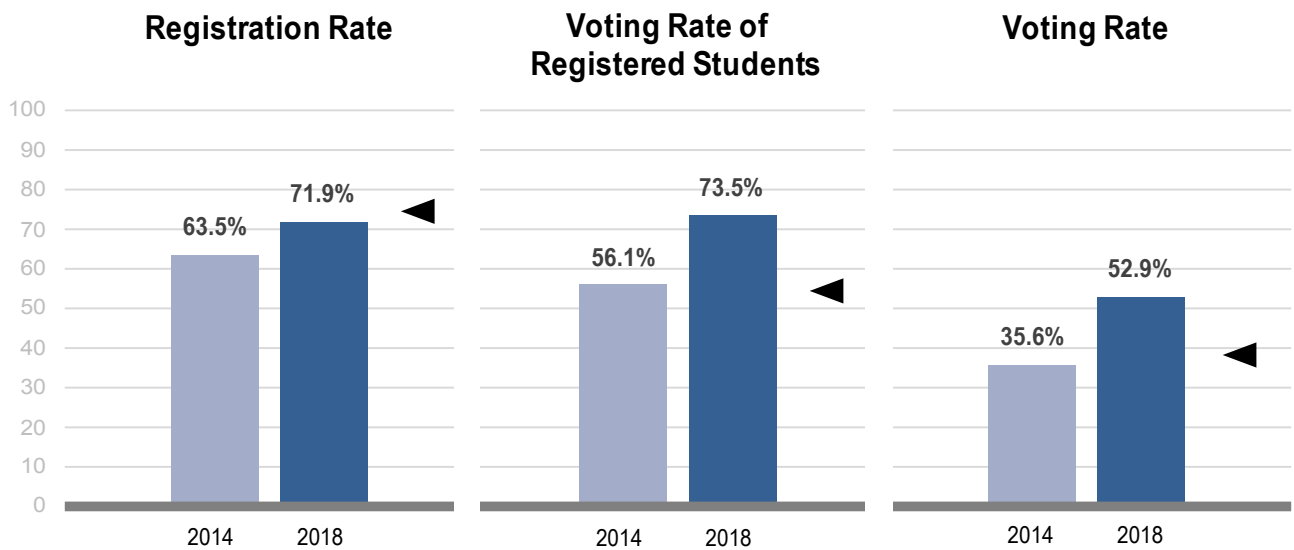
YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# Voting and Registration Rates

**2018 Voting Rate**  
**52.9%**

CHANGE FROM 2014  
**+17.3**

2018 VOTING RATE FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS  
**39.1%**



◀ All Institutions, 2018

	2014	2018	Change
Total student enrollment	40,522	41,383	↑ 861
Age under 18/Unknown	(170)	(185)	
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	(4,933)	(5,541)	
FERPA records blocked	(790)	(722)	
Total eligible voters	34,629	34,935	↑ 306
Number of students who registered	22,004	25,125	↑ 3,121
Number of students who voted	12,333	18,470	↑ 6,137
Registration rate	63.5%	71.9%	↑ 8.4
Voting rate of registered students	56.1%	73.5%	↑ 17.5
Voting rate	35.6%	52.9%	↑ 17.3
Difference from all institutions	+15.9	+13.8	

HOW YOUR NUMBERS COMPARE | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Carnegie Classification

2014 Voting Rate  
for All Institutions

**19.7%**

HIGH  
54.0%

LOW  
1.5%

2018 Voting Rate  
for All Institutions

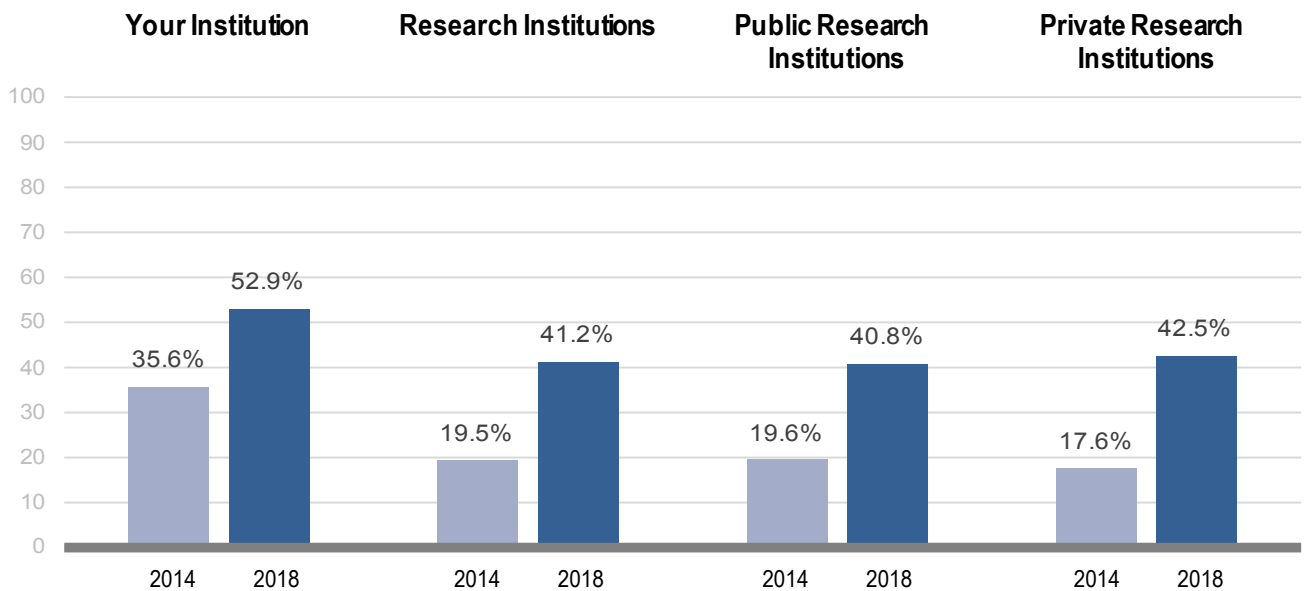
**39.1%**

HIGH  
64.1%

LOW  
11.5%

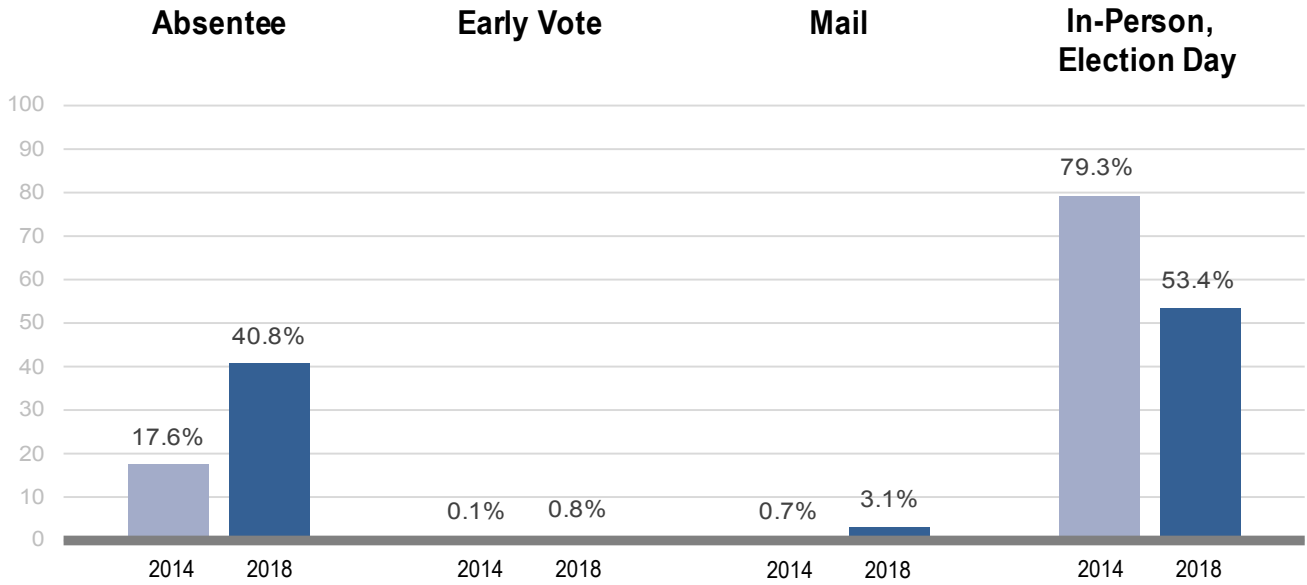
Difference from All Institutions **+15.9**

Difference from All Institutions **+13.8**



**YOUR STUDENTS' VOTING DATA | MIDTERM ELECTIONS**

# By Voting Method\*

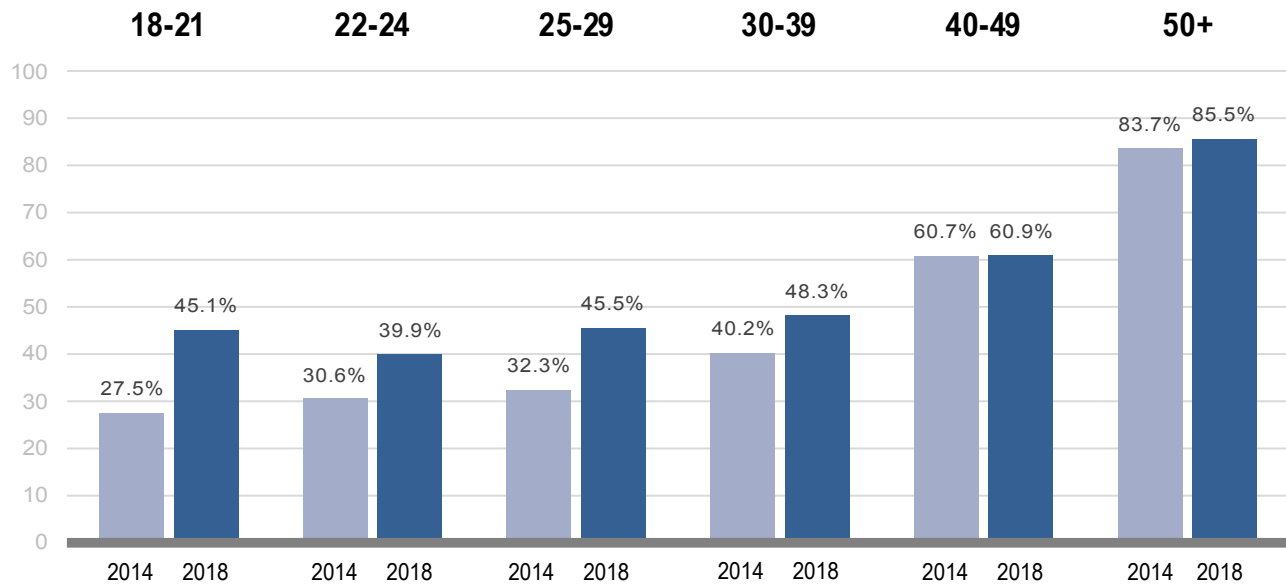


	2014		2018		Change
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	
Absentee	2,165	17.6%	7,538	40.8%	↑ 23.3
Early Vote	14	0.1%	140	0.8%	↑ 0.7
Mail	82	0.7%	577	3.1%	↑ 2.5
In-Person, Election Day	9,777	79.3%	9,868	53.4%	↓ -25.9
Unknown	295	2.4%	347	1.9%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,333</b>		<b>18,470</b>		

\* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS**

# By Age Group\*

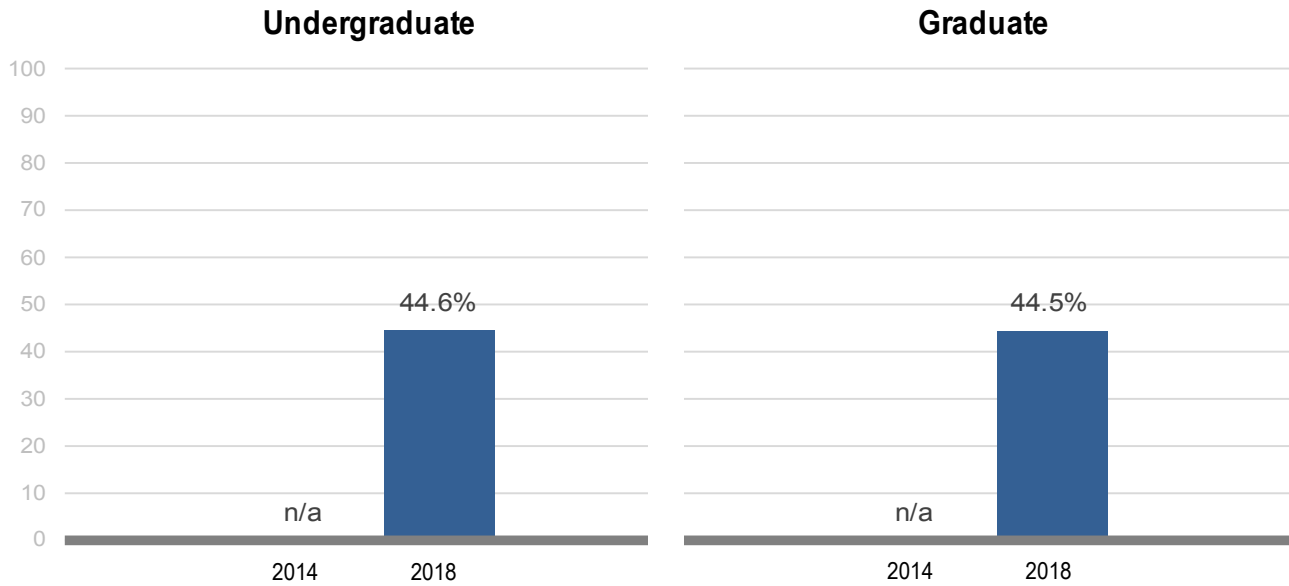


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	22,698	6,233	<b>27.5%</b>	23,787	10,723	<b>45.1%</b>	↑ 17.6
22-24	7,548	2,313	<b>30.6%</b>	7,326	2,925	<b>39.9%</b>	↑ 9.3
25-29	5,032	1,626	<b>32.3%</b>	5,129	2,334	<b>45.5%</b>	↑ 13.2
30-39	2,960	1,190	<b>40.2%</b>	2,667	1,287	<b>48.3%</b>	↑ 8.1
40-49	596	362	<b>60.7%</b>	565	344	<b>60.9%</b>	↑ 0.1
50+	728	609	<b>83.7%</b>	1,002	857	<b>85.5%</b>	↑ 1.9
Unknown	0			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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS**

# By Education Level\*

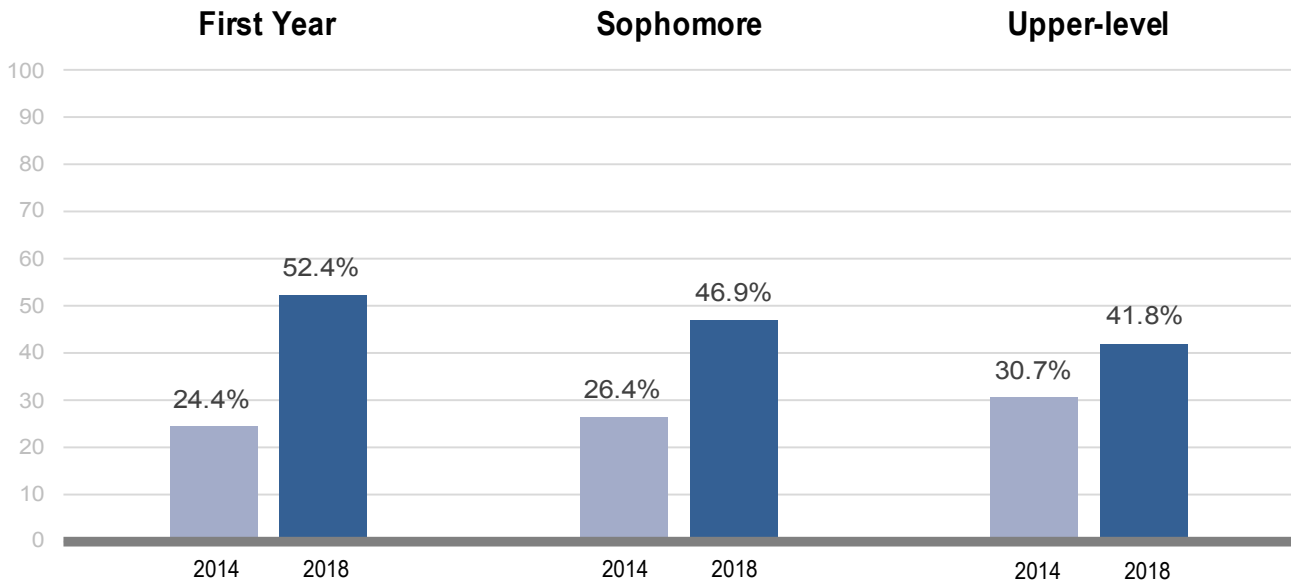


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Undergraduate	0	0	n/a	27,977	12,468	44.6%	n/a
Graduate	0	0	n/a	10,870	4,832	44.5%	n/a
Unknown	39,562			1,629			

\* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS**

# By Undergraduate Class Year\*



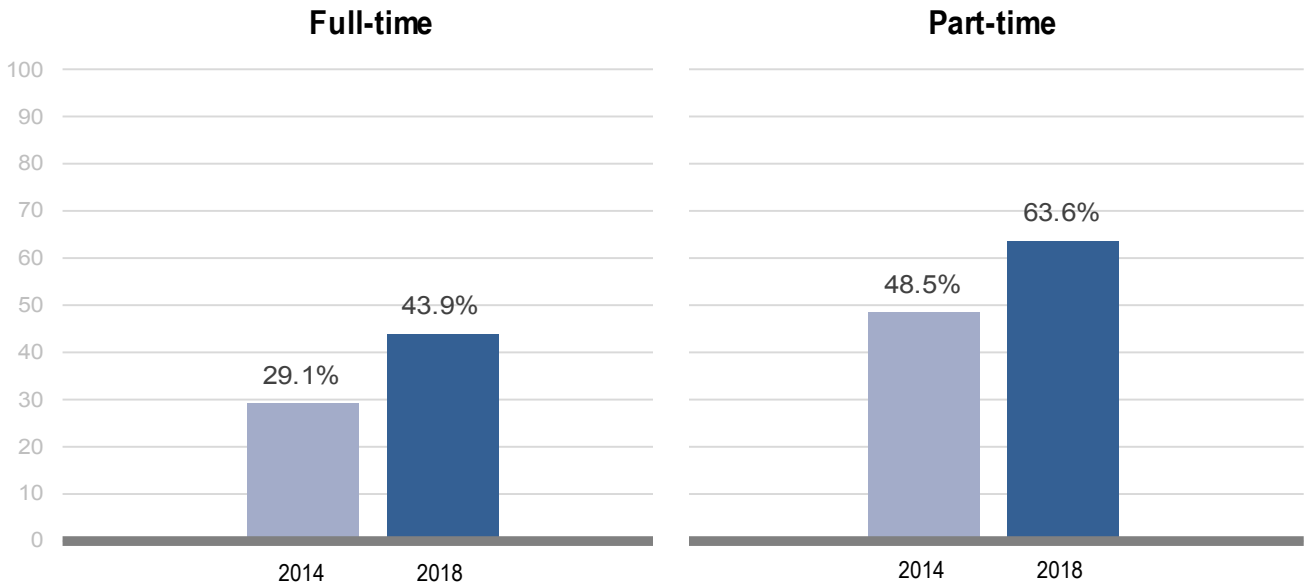
	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
First Year	4,522	1,103	<b>24.4%</b>	4,254	2,227	<b>52.4%</b>	↑ 28.0
Sophomore	5,882	1,551	<b>26.4%</b>	6,181	2,898	<b>46.9%</b>	↑ 20.5
Upper-level	17,247	5,287	<b>30.7%</b>	17,494	7,318	<b>41.8%</b>	↑ 11.2

\* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Enrollment Status\*

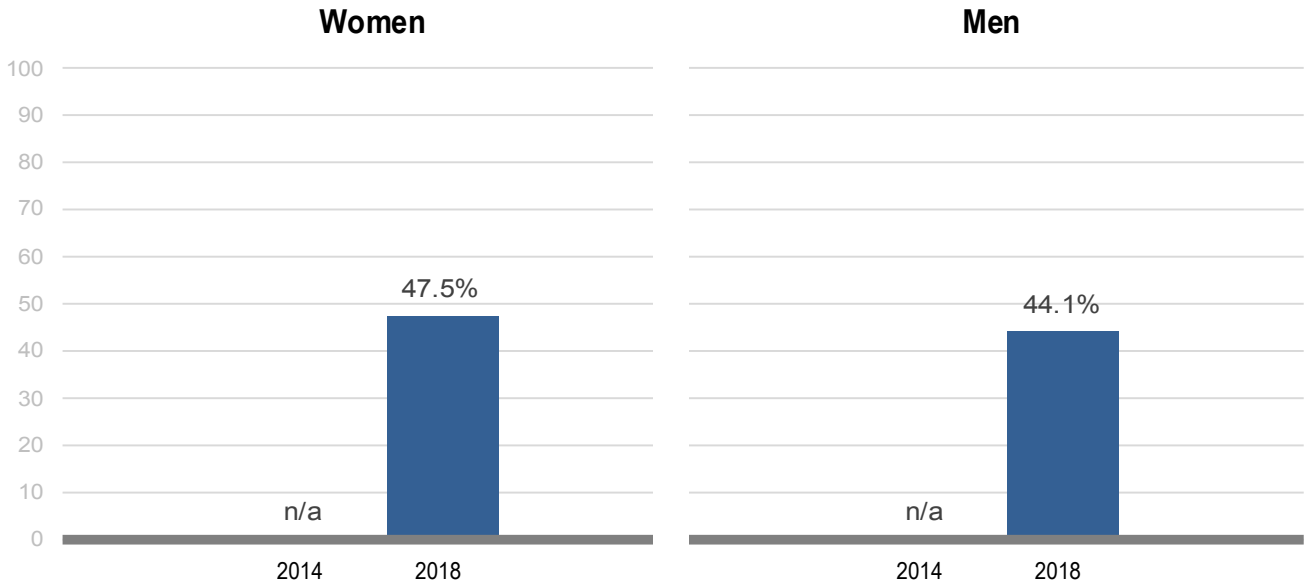


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Full-time	35,402	10,314	<b>29.1%</b>	36,922	16,210	<b>43.9%</b>	↑ 14.8
Part-time	4,160	2,019	<b>48.5%</b>	3,554	2,260	<b>63.6%</b>	↑ 15.1
Unknown	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	

\* 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 Gender\*

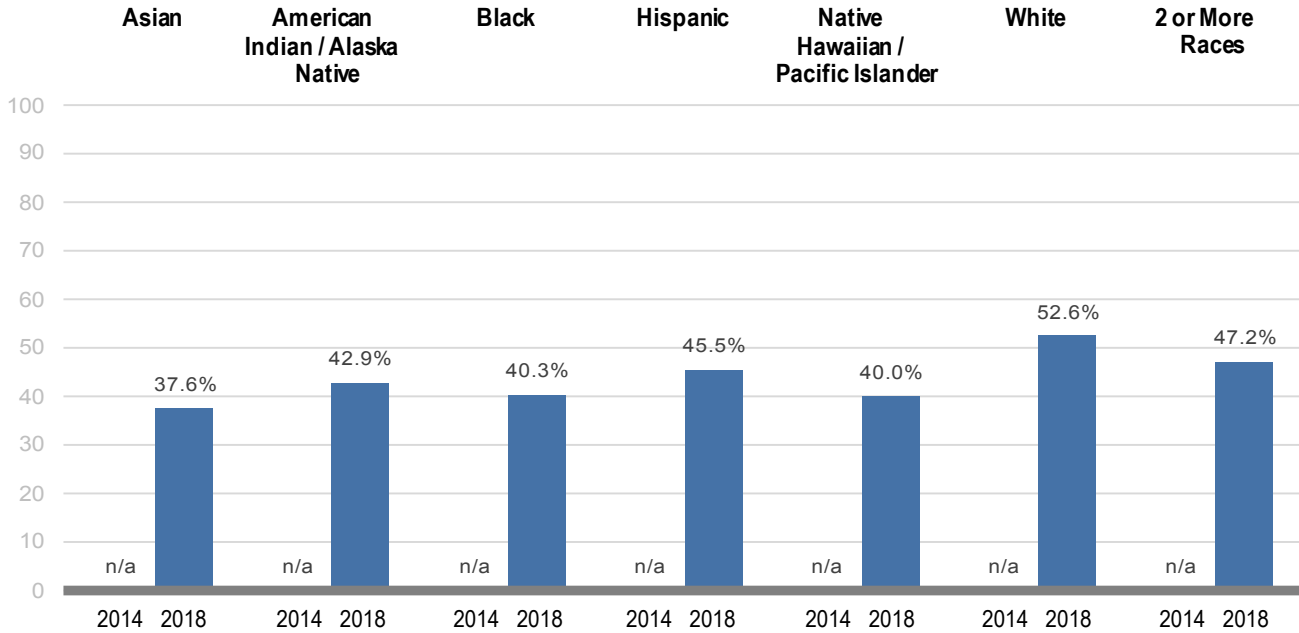


	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Women	0	0	n/a	19,586	9,293	47.5%	n/a
Men	0	0	n/a	17,901	7,902	44.1%	n/a
Unknown	39,562			2,989			

\* 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 | MIDTERM ELECTIONS

# By Race/Ethnicity\*



	2014			2018			Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	0	0	n/a	2,229	837	37.6%	n/a
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0	0	n/a	77	33	42.9%	n/a
Black	0	0	n/a	828	334	40.3%	n/a
Hispanic	0	0	n/a	1,955	890	45.5%	n/a
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0	0	n/a	30	12	40.0%	n/a
White	0	0	n/a	26,633	14,004	52.6%	n/a
2 or More Races	0	0	n/a	1,416	668	47.2%	n/a
Unknown	39,562			7,308			

\* 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. For this page, we consider international students of unknown race/ethnicity.

## 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	
Agriculture and Agriculture Operations	1,094	332	30.4%	834	356	42.7% ↑	12.3
Architecture	103	40	38.8%	82	38	46.3% ↑	7.5
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	201	56	27.9%	145	63	43.5% ↑	15.6
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	3,417	1,018	29.8%	3,941	1,710	43.4% ↑	13.6
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,038	890	29.3%	4,007	1,759	43.9% ↑	14.6
Communication and Journalism	892	290	32.5%	1,150	514	44.7% ↑	12.2
Computer and Information Sciences	549	110	20.0%	1,517	445	29.3% ↑	9.3
Education	1,087	467	43.0%	1,159	620	53.5% ↑	10.5
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	6,140	1,521	24.8%	5,429	2,107	38.8% ↑	14.0
English Language and Literature	451	167	37.0%	394	203	51.5% ↑	14.5
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	532	176	33.1%	689	323	46.9% ↑	13.8
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	658	183	27.8%	617	271	43.9% ↑	16.1
Health Professions	2,872	1,026	35.7%	3,917	1,910	48.8% ↑	13.0
History	429	152	35.4%	336	157	46.7% ↑	11.3
Legal Professions and Studies	729	311	42.7%	767	434	56.6% ↑	13.9
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	8,029	2,162	26.9%	5,682	2,727	48.0% ↑	21.1
Library Science	202	116	57.4%	241	177	73.4% ↑	16.0
Mathematics and Statistics	391	69	17.7%	759	187	24.6% ↑	7.0
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	539	157	29.1%	384	156	40.6% ↑	11.5
Natural Resources and Conservation	500	197	39.4%	547	269	49.2% ↑	9.8
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies	597	176	29.5%	483	216	44.7% ↑	15.2
Philosophy and Religious Studies	104	38	36.5%	125	60	48.0% ↑	11.5
Physical Sciences	840	217	25.8%	988	408	41.3% ↑	15.5

Psychology	729	229	31.4%	962	458	47.6% ↑	16.2
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	614	321	52.3%	572	368	64.3% ↑	12.1
Social Sciences	1,768	569	32.2%	2,346	960	40.9% ↑	8.7
Visual and Performing Arts	815	291	35.7%	812	418	51.5% ↑	15.8
Unknown	2,242	1,052	46.9%	1,591	1,156	72.7% ↑	25.7

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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