

**CAMPUS REPORT**  
Student Voting  
Rates for  
Suffolk University

002218.00

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# About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), housed at the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, Tufts University. Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, more than 850 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012 and 2014 elections. Participating colleges and universities are located in 48 states and represent all Carnegie classifications. With others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of over 7.5 million college student records that is already serving as a foundation for innovative research on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

NSLVE has recently published several resources including:

- ❑ **Talking Politics:** A tool for conversations on your campus regarding how to use the NSLVE report to spark change.
- ❑ **Democracy Matters: A Guide to Non-Statutory Barriers to Voting:** In this guide, we identify sometimes-hidden barriers students might face when registering to vote or voting, and strategies to overcome them.
- ❑ **National Data:** We have published data about the national landscape for college student political engagement including breakdowns by field of study and region.

## Looking Ahead

Over the coming months, NSLVE will be releasing additional tools and resources that you can use to increase political learning and engagement in democracy on your campus. Here is a preview of some of this work.

- ❑ **Comparison Data:** We'll continue to aggregate comparison data for groups of participating campuses.
- ❑ **Case Studies:** We will be sharing the findings from our studies of campus climates for student political learning and engagement in democracy.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data and resources, visit: [Activecitizen.tufts.edu/IDHE](http://Activecitizen.tufts.edu/IDHE)

## 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 2014 elections. These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse ("Clearinghouse") and publicly available voting records collected by Catalist.

Using enrollment records submitted on a date closest to the election, we removed students under age 18 on Election Day. We also deducted an estimated number of students identified by your institution as non-resident aliens. This is based on the percentage of non-resident aliens reported by your institution to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). Please note that students who blocked the use of their information under FERPA were also removed from the enrollment lists .

When combining two datasets, matching errors can occur. That said, for each record, we receive a "confidence score." The average confidence score for the student records in our database is 96.6%. Nonetheless, some errors are still possible:

- On page three, we indicate the number of students who blocked their records from being used for any purpose, including research. If those students voted at a much lower or higher rate than your other students, it might affect the voting rate.
- Students not found in the voting database are considered non-voters, but we have no way to remove individual noncitizens (resident aliens and non-resident aliens). We use an estimate based on IPEDS data to account for your non-resident aliens. We cannot adjust for resident aliens. This may result in your actual voting rate being higher than we report. To recalculate that percentage, see our [FAQ on campus reports](#).

## Reviewing the Data

Please use the following key to interpret the charts below:

- \* = number of students is less than 10
- = no data was collected for this field

For some colleges and universities, this report will contain categories for which data is "unknown." These categories likely reflect either the quantity or quality of the data your institution provides, a problem that can be corrected by more comprehensive reporting to the Clearinghouse.

NSLVE encourages campuses to share their data as broadly as possible, including posting your campus report . When doing so please reference, *Institute for Democracy and Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement* as the data source.

# Your Students' Voting and Registration Rates

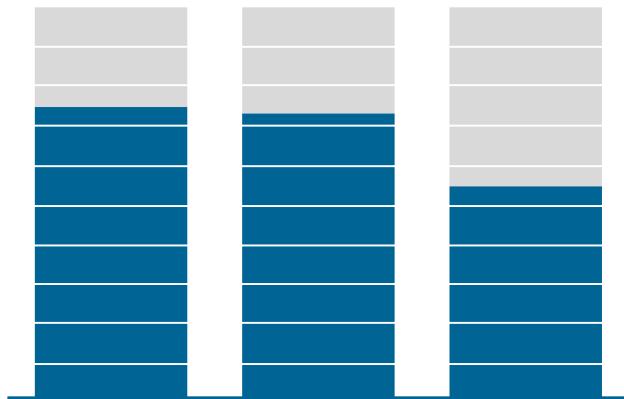
2012 Voting Rate

**55%**

2014 Voting Rate

**23%**

## 2012 Presidential Election

**74.7%**

Registration Rate

**73.1%**

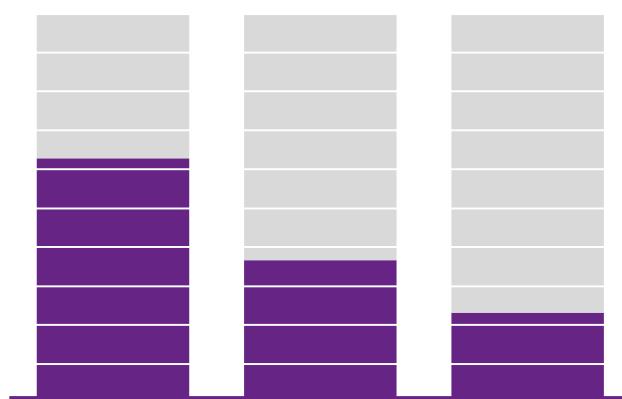
Rate of Registered Students who Voted

**54.6%**

Voting Rate

Total student enrollment	<b>7,726</b>
Ineligible to vote because too young	<b>28</b>
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	<b>1,117</b>
FERPA records blocked	<b>40</b>
Number of students who registered	<b>4,886</b>
Number of students who voted	<b>3,574</b>

## 2014 Midterm Election

**62.9%**

Registration Rate

**36.5%**

Rate of Registered Students who Voted

**22.9%**

Voting Rate

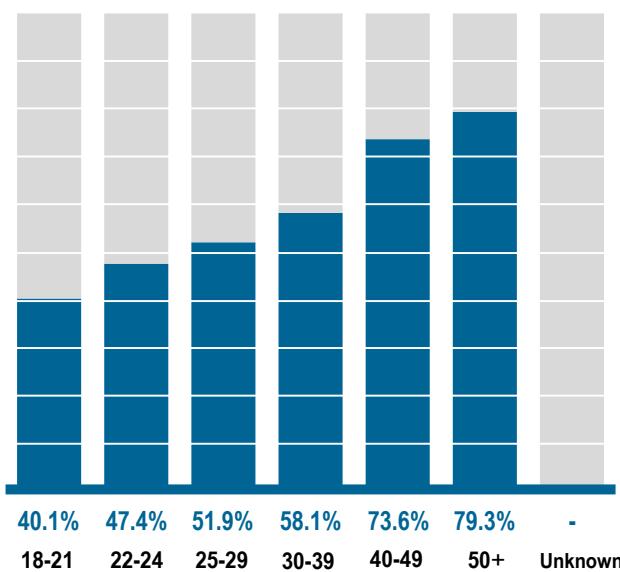
Total student enrollment	<b>6,691</b>
Ineligible to vote because too young	<b>33</b>
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	<b>1,094</b>
FERPA records blocked	<b>29</b>
Number of students who registered	<b>3,482</b>
Number of students who voted	<b>1,270</b>

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

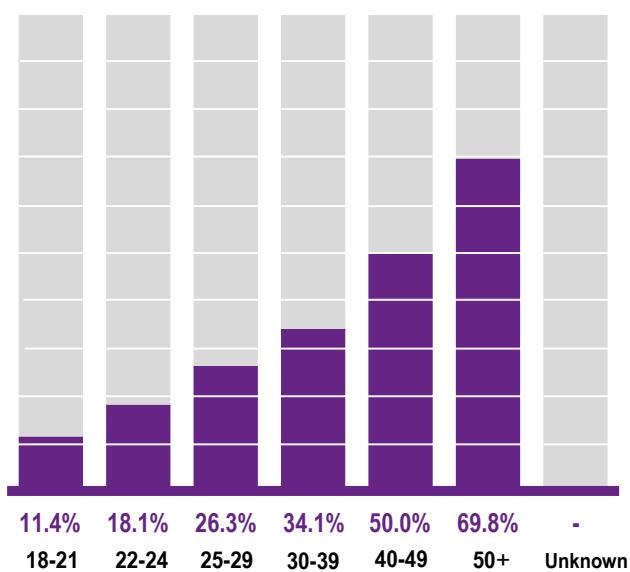
## BY AGE GROUP

Your students' data broken down by age at the time of the election. The "enrolled" category removes students ineligible to vote because they were too young, as well as records that were FERPA blocked in order to provide more accurate voting rates. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

### 2012 Presidential Election



### 2014 Midterm Election



AGE GROUP	ENROLLED	VOTED
18-21	3,658	<b>1,467</b>
22-24	1,575	<b>747</b>
25-29	1,481	<b>769</b>
30-39	697	<b>405</b>
40-49	159	<b>117</b>
50+	87	<b>69</b>
Unknown	*	-

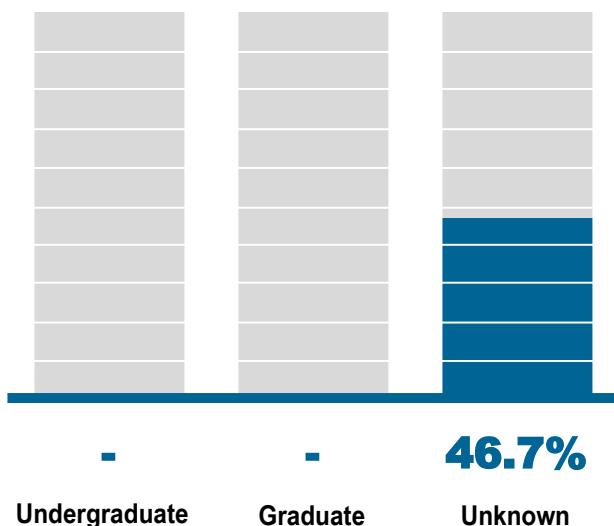
AGE GROUP	ENROLLED	VOTED
18-21	3,162	<b>362</b>
22-24	1,422	<b>258</b>
25-29	1,222	<b>321</b>
30-39	590	<b>201</b>
40-49	168	<b>84</b>
50+	63	<b>44</b>
Unknown	*	-

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

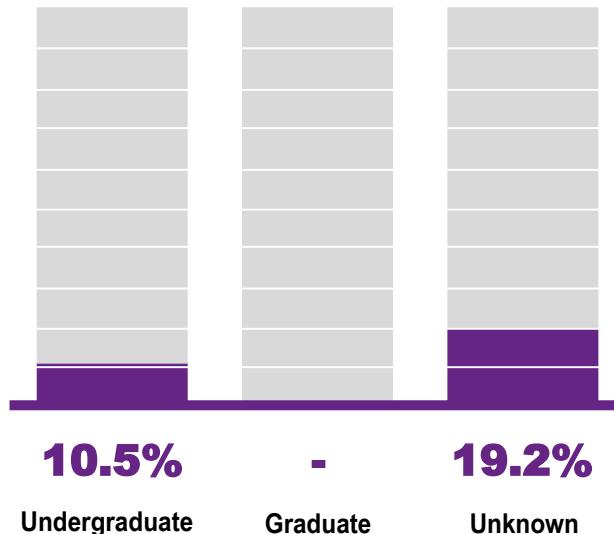
## BY EDUCATION LEVEL

Your students' broken down by undergraduate and graduate students. The "enrolled" category removes students ineligible to vote because they were too young, as well as records that were FERPA blocked in order to provide more accurate voting rates. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

### 2012 Presidential Election



### 2014 Midterm Election



EDUCATION LEVEL	ENROLLED	VOTED
Undergraduate	-	-
Graduate	-	-
Unknown	7,658	3,574

EDUCATION LEVEL	ENROLLED	VOTED
Undergraduate	19	*
Graduate	-	-
Unknown	6,610	1,268

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

## BY FIELD OF STUDY

Your students's data broken down by field of study. The "enrolled" category removes students ineligible to vote because they were too young, as well as records that were FERPA blocked. Please note that we are not able to adjust these voting rates by removing non-resident aliens.

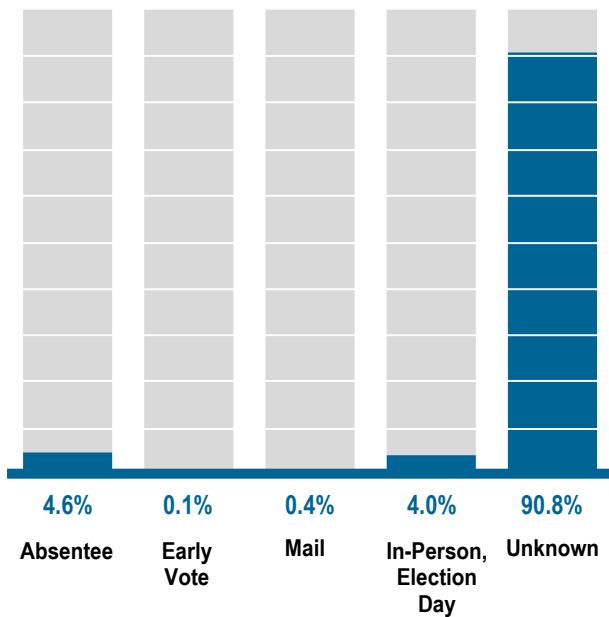
	2012 Presidential Election			2014 Midterm Election		
	Enrolled	Voted	Turnout	Enrolled	Voted	Turnout
Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support	-	-	-	-	-	-
Communications, Journalism, and Related Programs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer and Information and Library Sciences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-	-	-
Engineering	-	-	-	17	*	11.8%
Health Professions and Related Sciences, Knowledge, and Skills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Humanities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and General Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mathematics and Statistics	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Physical Sciences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Psychology, Personal Awareness, and Self-Improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Sciences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technologies/Technicians	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trades	-	-	-	-	-	-
Visual and Performing Arts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	7,658	3,574	46.7%	6,612	1,268	19.2%

# Your Students' Voting Rate Breakdown

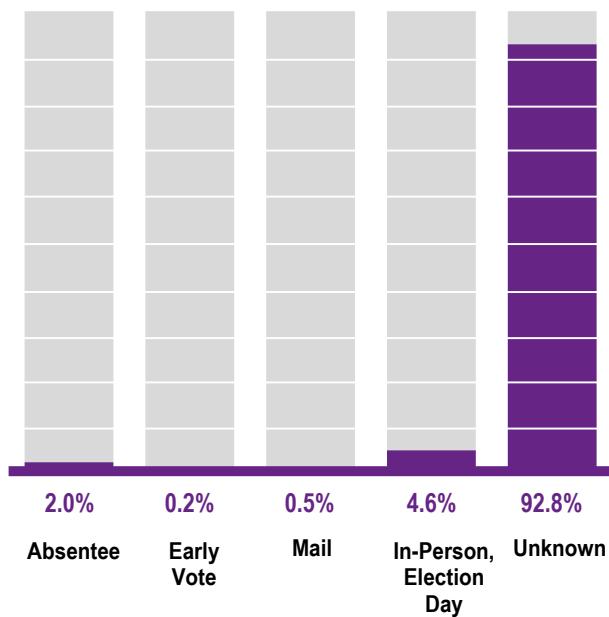
## BY VOTING METHOD

Your students' data broken down by voting method. If your campus has a high percentage of "unknown" voting methods, it means that this information is not reported by local officials.

### 2012 Presidential Election



### 2014 Midterm Election



#### VOTING METHOD

#### VOTED

Absentee	<b>165</b>
Early Vote	*
Mail	16
In-Person, Election Day	143
Unknown	3,246
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,574</b>

#### VOTING METHOD

#### VOTED

Absentee	<b>25</b>
Early Vote	*
Mail	*
In-Person, Election Day	58
Unknown	1,179
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,270</b>

# How Your Numbers Compare

## BY CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION

See how your campus voting rate compares to others in your institution's Carnegie classification. This comparison data allows your campus to understand your voting rate in the context of similar institutions.

