October 2021

Student Voting Rates for Metropolitan State University Of Denver

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life

idhe INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY & HIGHER EDUCATION

October 2021
Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to send this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for 2020. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2016, 2018, and 2020. As always, we disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation.

College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

As in past years, we urge you to share this report widely and strategically, particularly with faculty who, in 2020, were often the most consistent communicators with students about ever-changing voting conditions and deadlines. We also urge you to review our recommendations for engaging elections to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation: Election Imperatives (2019) and the more recent Election Imperatives: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action. Since "pervasive political discussions" and attentiveness to the campus culture around speech and academic freedom are among our top recommendations, we direct you to our discussion guides on talking about your NSLVE report, on free speech and inclusion , and on hot topics, our Making Sense of ... guides.

Finally, we always encourage you to work with us. Help us help you get better data by reaching out. Email **IDHE@Tufts.edu** for more information. And as always, watch your inbox for our periodic newsletter, IDHE Update, for announcements about upcoming releases and new resources.

Congratulations on engaging your students in the 2020 election. Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student political engagement should not be.

All the Best,
IDHE Team
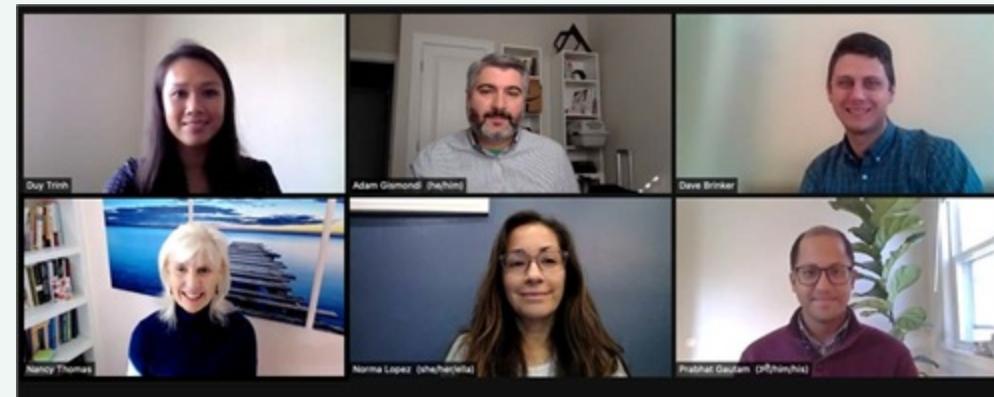
(Top Row from left) Duy Trinh, Program Administrator; Adam Gismondi, Director of Impact; Dave Brinker, Senior Researcher;
(Botton Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.

We also want to acknowledge and thank **Syed Golam Mohaimen, M.S. student in Data Science at Tufts University** for his contributions toward the creation of these reports.

In This Report

This report presents data on student voter participation rates for your campus. The topline counts on page 5 tells you how many students voted, but we encourage you to look carefully at the data on subsequent pages to learn who voted. Data are presented in the form of vessel charts, overlapping donut charts, and tables.


Tables

The tables show, on the left-side columns, the numbers of students and the rates from 2016, 2018, and 2020. On the left-side, percentage point (p.p.) changes between 2016 and 2020. A red down arrow indicates a decrease, a green up arrow indicates an increase, and a yellow arrow pointing to the right indicates no change. "-" in these tables indicates that the data is unavailable/missing, or is available for 10 or less students.
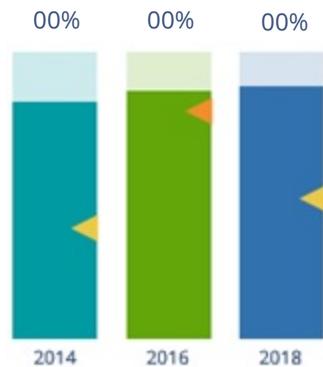
Vessel Chart

This chart shows rates out of 100%, with arrows to the right of each bar representing relevant national averages (medians), which you can find in IDHE's national report Democracy Counts 2020.
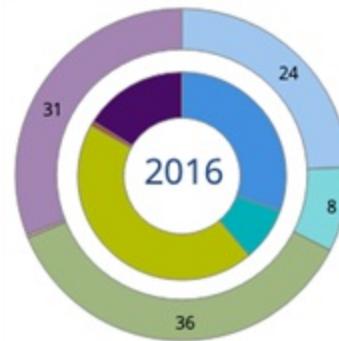
Overlapping Donut Chart

This chart is used to show the breakdown of vote method utilization (page 10), with the outer ring showing your campus method utilization and the inner ring showing the national breakdown. These are described in percentages.

Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

75.4%
2020 Voting Rate

+7.4
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

83.6%   80.4%   85.1%

2016   2018   2020
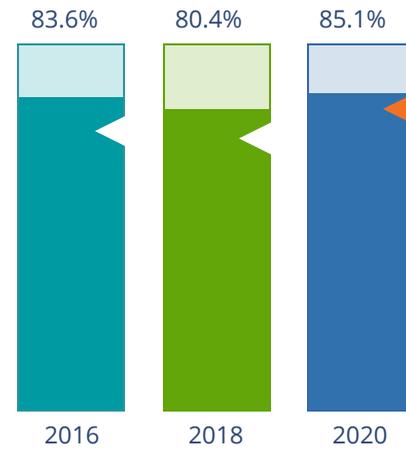
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

81.3%   68.1%   88.5%

2016   2018   2020
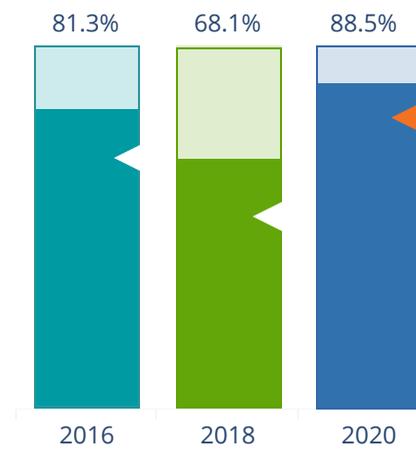
The **Voting Rate of Registered Students** is the percent of registered students who voted on Election Day. We often refer to this as the "yield" rate.

VOTING RATE

68.0%   54.8%   75.4%
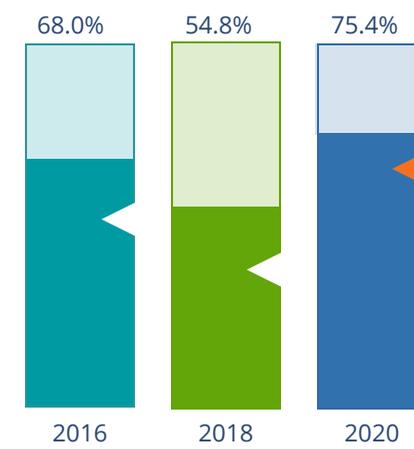
2016   2018   2020

The **Voting Rate** is the percentage of eligible students who voted on Election Day. The voting rate is also the product of the registration and yield rates.

Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	19,568	19,898	18,556	↓ -1,012
(Age under 18/Unknown)	–	–	–	–
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	111	127	131	↑ 20
(FERPA records blocked)	–	–	11	–
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	527	199	177	↓ -350
Total eligible voters	18,921	19,561	18,236	↓ -685
Number of students who registered	15,815	15,720	15,525	↓ -290
Number of students who voted	12,862	10,712	13,741	↑ 879
Registration Rate %	84	80	85	↑ 2
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	81	68	89	↑ 7
Voting Rate %	68	55	75	↑ 7

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This estimate is given by "IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens" on this page. If you believe the number of international students reported on this report is incorrect, you can manually adjust your institution's voting rates by using our recalculation tool. https://id-he.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool.

By Institution Types

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions	**HIGH 82%**	
53%	**LOW 13%**	

2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions	**HIGH 89%**	
66%	**LOW 19%**	

These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. *"Your Institution" chart is presented at a different scale.

YOUR INSTITUTION*

2016	2018	2020
68%	55%	75%

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE
Bachelors

2016	2018	2020
54%	39%	67%

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE
Bachelors

2016	2018	2020
55%	39%	69%

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE
Bachelors

2016	2018	2020
51%	38%	62%

By Race / Ethnicity

ASIAN
2016: 45% 2018: 36% 2020: 56%

AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE
2016: 65% 2018: 57% 2020: 63%

BLACK
2016: 59% 2018: 45% 2020: 64%

HISPANIC
2016: 63% 2018: 48% 2020: 68%

NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER
2016: 71% 2018: 50% 2020: 63%

TWO OR MORE RACES
2016: 68% 2018: 54% 2020: 77%

WHITE
2016: 72% 2018: 60% 2020: 82%

These are estimated voting rates for race / ethnicity groups. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following race reporting procedures* defined by the National Center for Education Statistics of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Please see our FAQ for more detail on why we cannot report national benchmark for some of the demographic groups: https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq

If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.
* https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes

Looking Closer

By Race/Ethnicity

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates. We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years.
If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p)**
Asian	749	340	45	831	301	36	828	464	56	⬆ 11
American Indian/ Alaska Native	100	65	65	90	51	57	91	57	63	⬇ -2
Black	1,189	700	59	1,284	580	45	1,209	772	64	⬆ 5
Hispanic	4,588	2,906	63	5,507	2,655	48	5,704	3,901	68	⬆ 5
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	55	39	71	52	26	50	35	22	63	⬇ -8
2 or More Races	822	556	68	965	524	54	928	717	77	⬆ 10
White	10,782	7,776	72	10,242	6,187	60	9,201	7,537	82	⬆ 10
Race Unknown	744	480	65	715	388	54	368	271	74	⬆ 9

By Voting Method

Legend: ■ Not-In-Person ■ Early Vote ■ In-Person ■ Other ■ Provisional ■ Unknown
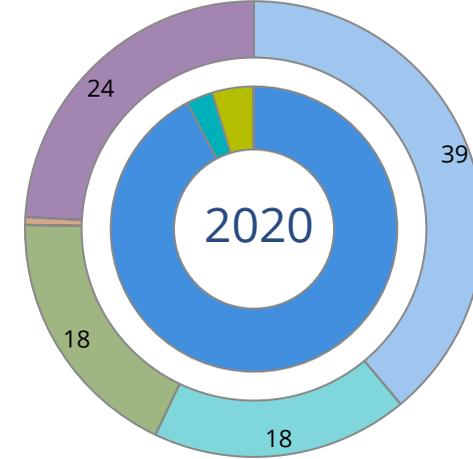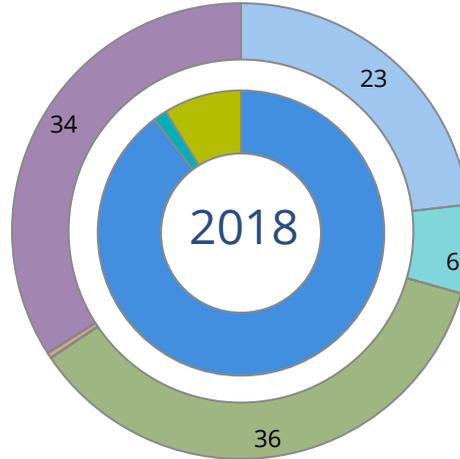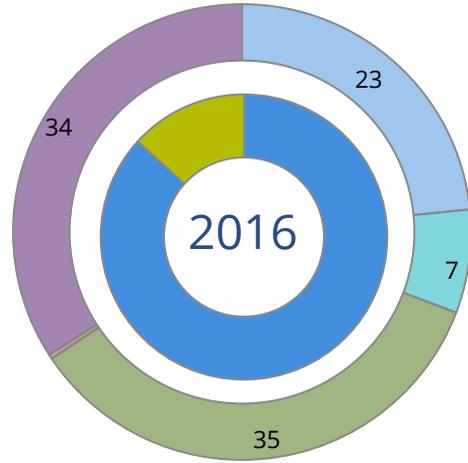
	2016		2018		2020		2016-2020
	Voted	**Rate**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p.)**
Early Vote	–	–	162	2	419	3	–
In-Person on Election Day	1,705	13	939	9	628	5	-9 ↓
Not-In-Person	11,148	87	9,604	90	12,687	92	6 ↑
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Provisional	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Voting Method Unknown	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

These are estimated rates for vote method utilization, the number of students utilizing each method, and the percent of students utilizing each method. Not all U.S. states provide information on vote method; voting method for voter files from these states are classified "Voting Method Unknown." For a list of these states, see our FAQ. https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	64%	50%	73%
22-24	67%	54%	75%
25-29	67%	54%	73%
30-39	73%	60%	77%
40-49	77%	69%	82%
50+	81%	75%	85%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, young voters are more likely to be contacted by campaigns and are visible, and therefore significant, to elected officials. While in the past, we have seen voting rates increase across age groups, in recent cycles, the most significant increases have been among first-time and the youngest voters. Some colleges serve primarily young students, traditionally viewed as students in the 18-21 or 22-24 categories here. Others have much higher numbers of enrolled older undergraduate or graduate students.

Looking Closer

By Age Group

Here, we provide the numbers of students in each age category and the voting rates for each group. These are based on the student's age on the day of the election, as calculated by the National Student Clearinghouse using data from student enrollment records.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
18-21	6,280	4,019	64	7,262	3,649	50	6,700	4,894	73	⬆ 9
22-24	4,551	3,063	67	4,448	2,380	54	4,071	3,048	75	⬆ 8
25-29	4,185	2,790	67	3,986	2,146	54	3,699	2,716	73	⬆ 7
30-39	2,743	1,994	73	2,735	1,648	60	2,723	2,109	77	⬆ 5
40-49	868	672	77	846	581	69	793	651	82	⬆ 5
50+	402	324	81	409	308	75	378	323	85	⬆ 5

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p)**	
Female	10,312	7,195	70	10,678	5,959	56	10,416	7,879	76	⬆	6
Male	8,717	5,667	65	9,008	4,753	53	7,948	5,862	74	⬆	9

These are estimated voting rates for sex groups and the numbers we used to calculate their voting rates. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following the reporting procedures defined by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Presently, NCES requires institutions to report students as "Male" or "Female" only.*

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

*https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11

Looking Closer

By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2018 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2020 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2016-2020 Change (p.p)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	18,510	12,438	67	18,710	10,049	54	17,083	12,693	74	↑	7
Graduate	519	424	82	759	528	70	1,061	865	82	↓	0
Class Unknown	–	–	–	217	135	62	220	183	83		–
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	4,530	62	2,792	5,141	46	2,386	4,402	70	3,073	↑	8
Second Year	3,631	65	2,368	3,769	52	1,957	3,315	72	2,403	↑	7
Upper Level	10,351	70	7,279	10,020	58	5,855	9,508	77	7,334	↑	7
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	13,300	9,047	68	13,296	7,256	55	11,895	8,904	75	↑	7
Part-time	5,729	3,815	67	6,390	3,456	54	6,469	4,837	75	↑	8

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level (undergraduate/graduate), Class Year, and Enrollment Status (full-time/part-time), and the numbers we used to calculate these rates.

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	73	57	78	65	44	68	61	50	82	⬆ 4
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	1,256	819	65	1,166	610	52	1,075	781	73	⬆ 7
Business, Management, and Marketing	3,647	2,329	64	3,808	1,884	49	3,566	2,534	71	⬆ 7
Communication and Journalism	404	290	72	317	192	61	273	215	79	⬆ 7
Communications Technologies/Technicians	–	–	–	–	–	–	72	54	75	–
Computer and Information Sciences	545	351	64	670	345	51	863	617	71	⬆ 7
Education	740	555	75	1,018	618	61	1,048	852	81	⬆ 6

These are estimated voting rates by field of study, and the numbers we used to calculate the field of study rates. For an explanation of CIP codes, please see our FAQ.* There are roughly 8,000 fields of study among U.S. colleges and universities, so we provide rates for condensed categories.

*https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	734	434	59	887	430	48	916	622	68	⬆ 9
English Language and Literature	673	504	75	733	450	61	592	469	79	⬆ 4
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	185	127	69	169	102	60	164	116	71	⬆ 2
Health Professions	1,010	680	67	1,052	529	50	885	646	73	⬆ 6
History	359	293	82	310	224	72	311	268	86	⬆ 5
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	945	614	65	993	519	52	994	722	73	⬆ 8
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	1,650	1,036	63	1,894	930	49	1,599	1,137	71	⬆ 8
Mathematics and Statistics	197	155	79	200	116	58	151	116	77	⬇ -2
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	914	639	70	731	408	56	411	306	74	⬆ 5
Natural Resources and Conservation	337	261	77	240	152	63	192	160	83	⬆ 6
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	658	415	63	628	304	48	567	414	73	⬆ 10
Philosophy and Religious Studies	46	35	76	42	27	64	38	31	82	⬆ 5
Physical Sciences	359	237	66	316	185	59	242	193	80	⬆ 14

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p)**
Psychology	1,233	831	67	1,033	571	55	1,135	863	76	⬆ 9
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	887	670	76	906	600	66	908	747	82	⬆ 7
Social Sciences	558	403	72	584	371	64	548	424	77	⬆ 5
Visual and Performing Arts	1,144	810	71	1,126	679	60	901	724	80	⬆ 10
Unknown	–	–	–	219	135	62	226	189	84	–

About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement.

Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, nearly 1,200 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020 federal elections.

Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of over 50 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 2016, 2018, and 2020 elections.

These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and publicly available voting files collected by L2 Political.

Enrollment lists are adjusted by deducting students under age 18 (at the time of the election), people identified as non-degree seeking and those identified by campuses as "nonresident aliens" (NRAs) (the federal government's category for mostly international students). Unfortunately, not all campuses report NRAs to NSC. For those campuses, we use IPEDS to calculate the number of NRA students on each campus and adjust NSC enrollment numbers to estimate the number of students to remove. We also quality check NRA removals by verifying that there is little to no discrepancy between the number of international students reported by the campus to IPEDS and to NSC. We cannot adjust subgroup analyses absent identification of NRAs verified by the process above. We welcome closer partnerships with individual colleges and universities to provide more accurate rates. For more on the data and the matching process, see our FAQ on Campus Reports.

Metropolitan State University Of Denver

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. (2021). 2016, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.

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