2012 Voting Data Comparison Report for NASPA LEAD Institutions
Voting Rate Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>NASPA LEAD Institutions</th>
<th>All NSLVE Institutions</th>
<th>4-year Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>49.0%</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>62.9%</td>
<td>73.0%</td>
<td>73.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGE 18-21</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41.4%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Voting Rate by Field of Study

**NASPA LEAD INSTITUTIONS**

- **Professions**: 55.1%
- **Education**: 54.4%
- **Interdisciplinary**: 53.2%
- **Physical Sciences**: 39.0%
- **Math/Statistics**: 35.2%
- **Technology**: 32.5%

**ALL NSLVE INSTITUTIONS**

- **Education**: 54.9%
- **Professions**: 51.5%
- **Humanities**: 49.3%
- **Parks/Recreation**: 38.3%
- **Engineering**: 34.9%
- **Math/Statistics**: 34.6%
NASPA LEAD Institutions

**NASPA LEAD Voting Rate by Institution Type**

- **Public Schools (30)**: 47.7%
- **Private Schools (14)**: 51.6%

**Voting Rate by Gender**

- **Women**: 47.5%
- **Men**: 40.3%

*Only 14 NASPA LEAD institutions provide gender data.*
### Voting Rate by Race/Ethnicity

#### NASPA LEAD Institutions vs. All NSLVE Institutions

**Asian**
- NASPA LEAD: 24.0%
- All NSLVE: 54.7%
- Difference: 30.7%

**African Heritage / Black**
- NASPA LEAD: 18.3%
- All NSLVE: 57.1%
- Difference: 38.8%

**American Indian / Alaska Native**
- NASPA LEAD: 23.4%
- All NSLVE: 42.4%
- Difference: 19.0%

**Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander**
- NASPA LEAD: 18.6%
- All NSLVE: 38.9%
- Difference: 20.3%

**Hispanic Descent**
- NASPA LEAD: 42.1%
- All NSLVE: 48.0%
- Difference: 5.9%

**White / Caucasian**
- NASPA LEAD: 43.1%
- All NSLVE: 47.9%
- Difference: 4.8%

**2 or More Racial Identifications**
- NASPA LEAD: 40.3%
- All NSLVE: 43.1%
- Difference: 2.8%

*Only 11 NASPA LEAD institutions provide race/ethnicity data.*
Thank you for your interest 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 920 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012 and 2014 elections. Participating colleges and universities are located in 50 states and represent all Carnegie classifications. With others, your association’s participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of over 8 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 the 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 campuses. Here is a preview of some of this work.

- **Comparison Data**: We’ll continue to aggregate comparison data for groups of participating campuses.
- **Discussion Guides**: We will be sharing campus issue guides that faculty and staff can use to engage students.
- **Case Studies**: We will be sharing the findings from our studies of campus climates for student political learning and engagement in democracy.

**About the Data**

This report contains aggregate voting rates for institutions affiliated with your association. Please note that these numbers concern students who were eligible to vote and who actually voted in the 2012 election. These results are based on enrollment records the institutions 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 the institutions as non-resident aliens. This is based on the percentage of non-resident aliens reported by the institutions to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and is more reliable than the demographic data campuses provide to the Clearinghouse at this time. Please note that students who blocked the use of their information under FERPA were also removed from the enrollment lists by the Clearinghouse.

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. 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). This may result in your institutions’ actual aggregate voting rate being higher than we report.

For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources, and to sign up for our newsletter visit: [http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/idhe/](http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/idhe/).

To see a list of participating NSLVE campuses go here: [http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/research/nslve/participating-nslve-campuses/](http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/research/nslve/participating-nslve-campuses/).

To see other association reports go here: [http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/IDHE/#ClusterReports](http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/IDHE/#ClusterReports).

To see top-line NSLVE data go here: [http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/IDHE/#Research](http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/IDHE/#Research).

**References:**

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

**Contact us:**

Institute for Democracy & Higher Education  
Lincoln Filene Hall, Medford, MA 02155  
NSLVE@tufts.edu | 617-627-4802