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**Voting at the University of Pennsylvania Doubles,**

**On-Campus Voting Increases by 465% in 2018**

*College-student voting doubled nationwide, according to national study*

*Philadelphia, PA –*[Penn Leads the Vote](http://pennvotes.org) today [reported that student voting on its campus was up in last year’s election](https://www.thedp.com/article/2019/09/penn-leads-the-vote-registration-ivy-league-upenn-philadelphia), **increasing to 41.8% in 2018 from a rate of 19.8% in 2014, a 22 point increase**. In addition, **Penn student** **turnout for registered students rose to 53.5% in 2018 from a rate of 24.8% in 2014 -- a 28.7 point increase** **-- that outpaces the national average of 25.7 by 3 points.** The full Penn NSLVE campus report can be [viewed here](https://www.pennvotes.org/penn-voting-data/).In addition to the numbers reported by NSLVE, **a Penn Leads The Vote analysis of** **Pennsylvania voting data shows that in 2018** **on-campus votes increased by 464.5% compared to 2014.**

The University of Pennsylvania is one of 123 colleges in the United States, one in 10 colleges in Pennsylvania, and the [only Ivy League university to be named a “Voter Friendly Campus”](https://www.pennvotes.org/voter-friendly-campus/) by NAPSA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and Fair Election Center’s Campus Vote Project (CVP).

As the student-run, non-partisan civic engagement and education organization housed in the Netter Center for Community Partnerships, Penn Leads the Vote takes pride in its part in this designation. Efforts directed by Penn Leads The Vote, in collaboration with the Office of Government and Community Affairs and numerous local and national partners, have resulted in momentous gains in Penn student turnout for both national and local elections. Penn Leads The Vote intends to build on this momentum, beginning with registration before October 7 for the Philadelphia municipal elections on November 5th, 2019.

Today’s report is part of the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement, or NSLVE, conducted by the [Institute for Democracy & Higher Education](https://idhe.tufts.edu/) (IDHE) at Tufts University’s [Tisch College of Civic Life.](https://tischcollege.tufts.edu/) The study shows that nationwide,[the **voting rates at participating college campuses doubled on average**](https://idhe.tufts.edu/2018data) compared to the previous 2014 midterm. In 2018, the Average Institutional Voting Rate (AIVR) among campuses in the study was **39.1 percent, nearly 20 percentage points higher than 2014’s average turnout rate of 19.7 percent**. Turnout increases were widespread, with virtually all campuses seeing an increase over 2014.

“I couldn’t be more proud of the success of Penn Leads the Vote,” said Penn President Amy Gutmann. “Every voice needs to be heard at the ballot box, and Penn Leads the Vote is ensuring that our students are fully engaged in the decisions that will shape our society and determine the future of our democracy. Voting is a right to be treasured. Everyone needs to register and vote.”

Today’s report is based on the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), conducted by IDHE, which is the only national study of college-student voting. It is based on the voting records of more than 10 million students at more than 1,000 colleges and universities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia; IDHE does not receive any information that could individually identify students or how they voted. The study provides reports to participating colleges and universities, like the University of Pennsylvania, which use them to support political learning and civic engagement, as well as to identify and address gaps in political and civic participation.

[Penn Leads The Vote](http://www.pennvotes.org/) (PLTV) was established in 2004 and operated by Fox Leadership until 2014. PLTV was re-established in 2018 in the Netter Center for Community Partnerships. PLTV works in collaboration with the Office of Government and Community Affairs, which also oversees Penn’s institutional compliance with voter engagement requirements and on-campus polling location engagement. PLTV receives funding from Fox Leadership. PLTV receives funding and advising from the Sachs Program for Arts Innovation for furthering our message through design.

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Part of Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, the Institute for Democracy & Higher Education (IDHE) is an applied research center focused on college and university student political learning and engagement in democracy. IDHE researchers study student voting, equity, campus conditions for student political learning, discourse, participation, and agency for underrepresented and marginalized students. IDHE's signature initiative, the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement, or NSLVE, (<https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve>) is a service to colleges and universities that provides participating institutions with tailored reports of their students' voting rates. Launched in 2013 with 250 campuses, the study now serves more than 1,000 institutions in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.