## C-Brief <br> NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

## COMMUNICATION STUDENTS VOTE IN HIGHER NUMBERS THAN STUDENTS IN OTHER MAJORS

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the voting rate among 18-to 24 -year-olds has been lower than all other age groups in each presidential election since 1964.

Voting Rates Over Time for the Voting-Age Population, 1964-2012


Student Voting Rate by Major
A recent Tufts University study analyzed voting records for 7.4 million students at 783 higher education institutions and discovered that voter turnout among students in Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs was 46 percent, one of the highest rates across college majors. Overall, students in Humanitiesbased programs had a 49 percent voting rate. Among STEM field students, voter turnout for Physical Science majors was just 40 percent and for Engineering majors, just 35 percent.

Source: The National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement. Institute for Democracy \& Higher Education. Tufts University. Retrieved from http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/wp-content/ uploads/NSLVE-VotingByMajor.pdf.


