

June 2024



Student Voting Rates for Boston University

NSLVE Campus Report

Tufts
UNIVERSITY | Jonathan M. Tisch
College of Civic Life

NSLVE THE NATIONAL STUDY
OF LEARNING, VOTING,
AND ENGAGEMENT

June 2024

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to share this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for several recent election cycles. For the first time ever, this report contains *four* years of relevant topline data: the midterm elections of 2014, 2018, and 2022, along with contextual data from the 2020 presidential election year. As we build the NSLVE data over time, the additional years of data may help your institution to begin to understand longer-term trends and considerations for practice.

This month, we are also looking forward to the release of Democracy Counts 2022, our national report on our most recent midterm elections. The results from 2022 were mixed – some encouraging trends and some signs of more work to do. We are excited to dive into the results with you and share what we see as the major takeaways in the coming weeks, so stay tuned.

You've heard this from us before: we urge you to share this report widely and strategically across your campus community. NSLVE data is an important resource for not only understanding your institution but also building a culture of political learning in higher education. We also invite you to invite you to [lean on our team's resources, including our Election Imperatives report series](#), which provides data-backed practical recommendations for centering civic and political learning and participation.

Other resources that you might find helpful in your work include our forthcoming national report ([keep an eye on our homepage!](#)), [our report on how institutions use NSLVE reports](#), and [our discussion guide on how to talk about your NSLVE reports on campus](#).

Finally, we always encourage you to reach out to us for support and with any questions that you may have. Email NSLVE@tufts.edu to get in touch with our team, and as always, watch your inbox (or sign up!) for [our periodic newsletter](#), announcements about upcoming releases, and new resources.

Remember, student political learning is a constant effort, requiring year-round strategic building. Elections may be episodic, but student engagement in democracy should not be.

All the Best,
Adam, Duy, Mari, and Victoria
The NSLVE Team

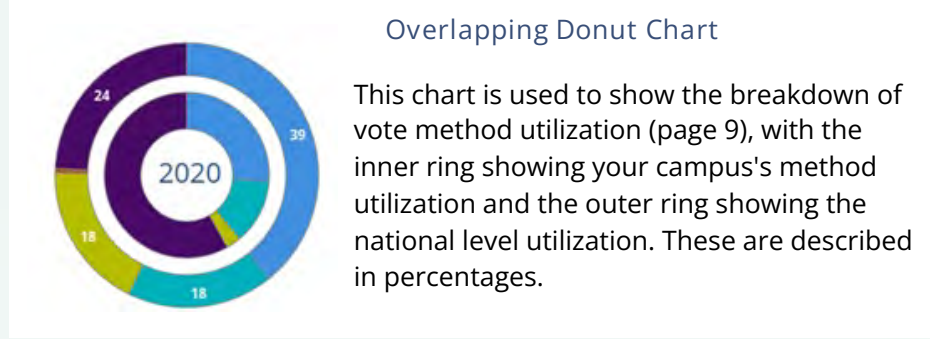
In This Report

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

	2014			2018			2014-2018 Change (p.p.)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The tables show the numbers of students and the rates from 2014, 2018, 2020, and 2022, when available. The change column represents difference between comparable counts and rates. The change in rates are in terms of percentage points. 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.



Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

27.6%

2022 Voting Rate

-13.4

Change From 2018

ALL INSTITUTIONS

30.6%

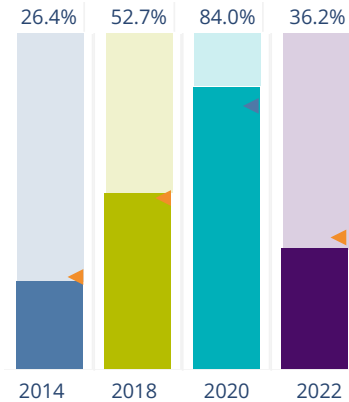
2022 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE



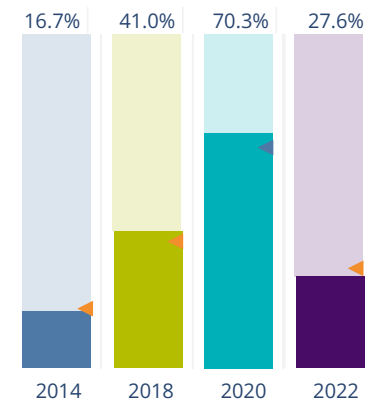
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS



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



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

	2014	2018	2020	2022	2018-2022 Change
Total Student Enrollment	32,179	35,035	33,869	36,175	↑ 1,140
Age under 18/Unknown	293	326	329	392	↑ 66
IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens	5,945	8,123	7,832	10,284	↑ 2,161
Datasource	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	IPEDS	-
FERPA records blocked	1,466	1,336	1,296	-	-
Non-Degree Seeking Students	532	500	304	-	-
Total eligible voters	23,942	24,749	24,107	25,498	↑ 748
Number of students who registered	15,172	19,276	20,163	19,460	↑ 184
Number of students who voted	4,008	10,159	16,944	7,046	↓ -3,113
Registration Rate %	63	77	83	76	↓ -1
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	26	52	84	36	↓ -16
Voting Rate %	16	41	70	27	↓ -13

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.

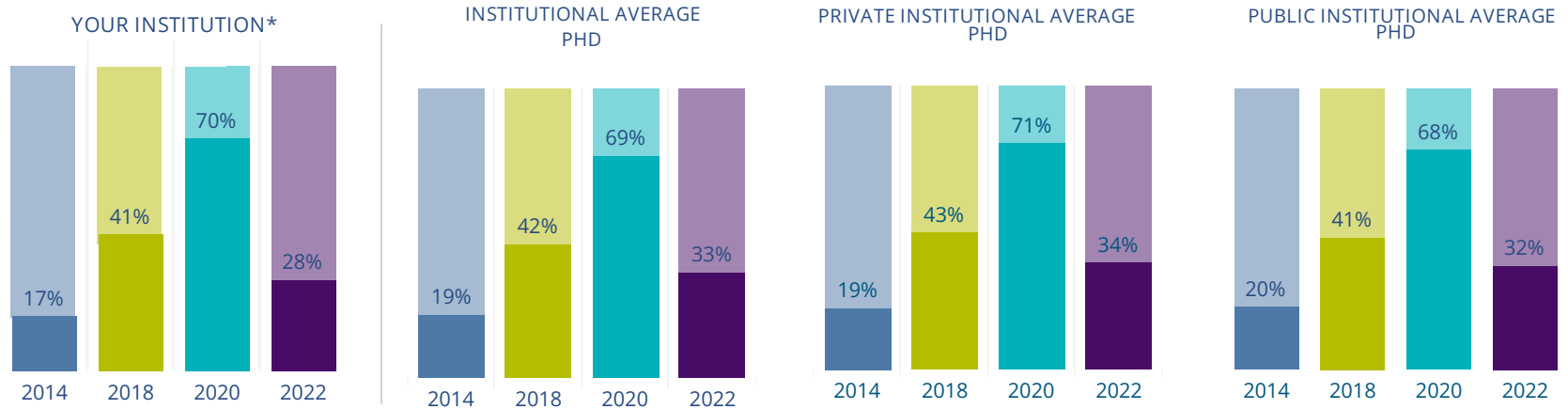
When we have removed non-resident aliens (international students), it is based on your institution's enrollment submission to the NSC. This is indicated by NSC for non-resident aliens data source. We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This is indicated by IPEDS in the data source.

In the following pages with tables, **Enrolled** represents the eligible voters when we have used NSC as the data source. When we have used IPEDS as the data source, **Enrolled** includes non-resident aliens who are ineligible to vote, and for whom we are unable to account due to the lack of data from your institution.

By Institution Types



These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. For Associate institutions, we only share public associate institutional averages due to sample size. *"Your Institution" chart is presented at a different scale.



By Race / Ethnicity



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 : <https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nsive-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 or reports this data as unknown; (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

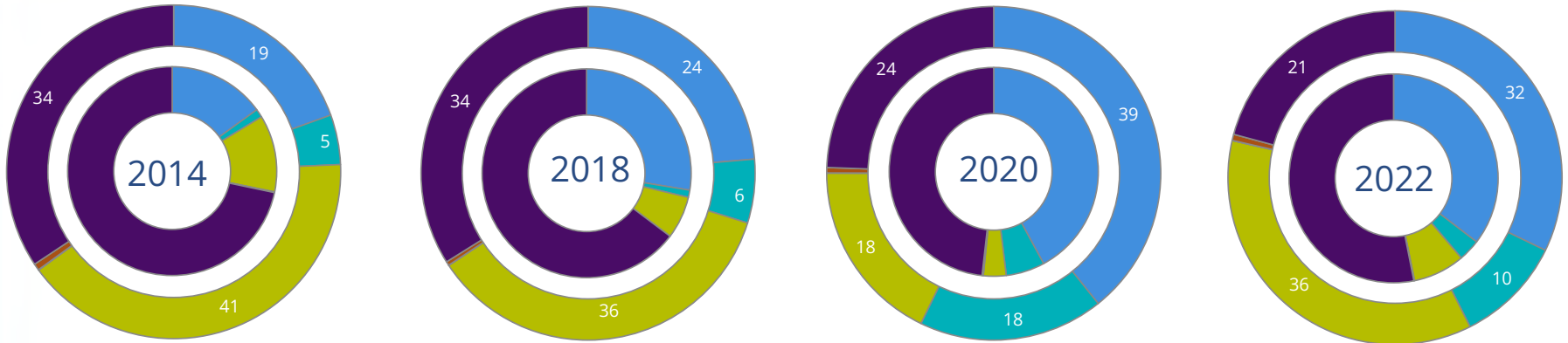
By Race/Ethnicity

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 or reports this data as unknown; (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.

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 or More Races	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Race Unknown	29,777	4,008	13	32,747	10,159	31	31,864	16,944	53	35,783	7,046	19	↓11

By Voting Method

■ Not-In-Person
 ■ Early Vote
 ■ In-Person
 ■ Other
 ■ Provisional
 ■ Unknown



	2014		2018		2020		2022		2018-2022	
	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Voted	Rate (%)	Change	
Early Vote	53	1	115	1	1,021	6	241	3	↑	2
In-Person	476	11	669	6	586	3	567	8	↑	1
Not-In-Person	602	15	2,800	27	7,132	42	2,494	35	↑	7
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provisional	-	-	-	-	35	0	-	-	-	-
Voting Method Unknown	2,872	71	6,571	64	8,170	48	3,736	53	↓	-11

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>. The inner ring in these charts show your campus's method utilization and the outer ring show the national level utilization.

By Age Group

	2014	2018	2020	2022
18-21	6%	25%	54%	14%
22-24	9%	25%	46%	14%
25-29	18%	39%	54%	26%
30-39	26%	42%	52%	29%
40-49	41%	52%	61%	40%
50+	63%	72%	74%	59%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will often continue as voters in subsequent elections. Also, elected officials and public opinion polls solicit opinions from people they can locate - people in the voter files. Our 2020 data showed a surge among the youngest voters on college campuses, yet 2022 saw a return to past trends, with older students voting at higher rates than their younger counterparts. This change underscores the importance of continued need for institutionalized learning -- working with students to help them understand their political voice and power as they arrive on campus.

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.

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022 Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	
18-21	14,534	878	6	15,228	3,811	25	14,400	7,901	54	15,697	2,219	14	↓-10
22-24	5,327	515	9	7,113	1,844	25	7,151	3,298	46	8,221	1,224	14	↓-11
25-29	5,190	967	18	5,863	2,316	39	5,650	3,102	54	6,020	1,568	26	↓-13
30-39	3,082	820	26	3,091	1,308	42	3,266	1,728	52	4,043	1,199	29	↓-12
40-49	998	415	41	858	449	52	986	610	61	1,263	517	40	↓-11
50+	646	413	63	594	431	72	411	305	74	539	319	59	↓-13

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022 Rate Change
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate(%)	
EDUCATION LEVEL													
Undergraduate	15,606	1,017	6	16,488	4,158	25	15,859	8,536	53	17,094	2,405	14	↓-11
Graduate	12,254	2,529	20	14,657	5,351	36	15,004	7,824	52	17,251	4,312	24	↓-11
Class Unknown	1,917	462	24	1,602	650	40	1,001	584	58	1,438	321	22	↓-18
CLASS YEAR													
Freshman	3,599	180	5	3,341	791	23	2,748	1,475	53	3,394	478	14	↓-9
Sophomore	3,856	190	4	4,187	975	23	3,902	2,050	52	4,862	635	13	↓-10
Upperclassman	7,756	550	7	8,612	2,279	26	8,975	4,907	54	8,703	1,263	14	↓-11
ENROLLMENT STATUS													
Full-time	23,743	2,183	9	26,636	7,235	27	25,325	13,091	51	28,266	4,490	15	↓-11
Part-time	6,034	1,825	30	6,111	2,924	47	6,539	3,853	58	7,517	2,556	34	↓-13

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	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Architecture	53	-	-	81	34	41	67	39	58	94	19	20	-21
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	57	20	35	68	36	52	63	42	66	45	24	53	0
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	2,542	286	11	3,173	1,003	31	3,337	2,024	60	3,584	682	19	-12
Business, Management, and Marketing	4,339	445	10	4,508	873	19	4,837	1,960	40	6,764	1,090	16	-3
Communication and Journalism	2,197	185	8	2,540	769	30	2,427	1,277	52	2,422	402	16	-13
Theology	241	58	24	290	141	48	332	207	62	288	115	39	-8

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-nsive-report-faq>

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Computer and Information Sciences	1,275	247	19	2,053	511	24	2,230	777	34	3,074	351	11	↓ -13
Education	1,308	346	26	1,575	741	47	1,249	903	72	1,155	453	39	↓ -7
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,216	134	6	2,656	572	21	2,504	1,166	46	2,771	397	14	↓ -7
English Language and Literature	263	38	14	225	93	41	213	149	69	211	59	27	↓ -13
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	-	-	-	38	20	52	27	25	92	26	-	-	-
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	144	20	13	127	51	40	164	88	53	177	41	23	↓ -16
Health Professions	2,978	399	13	3,498	1,283	36	3,418	2,261	66	3,313	789	23	↓ -12
History	187	32	17	129	52	40	141	101	71	142	31	21	↓ -18
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protective Services	448	137	30	300	119	39	239	157	65	247	75	30	↓ -9
Theology	241	58	24	290	141	48	332	207	62	288	115	39	↓ -8

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2014			2018			2020			2022			2018-2022
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change
Legal Professions and Studies	939	167	17	1,038	457	44	880	621	70	974	320	32	-11
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	642	32	4	452	115	25	476	238	50	450	58	12	-12
Mathematics and Statistics	474	16	3	718	56	7	747	142	19	698	54	7	0
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	1,395	100	7	1,356	290	21	1,036	504	48	1,204	153	12	-8
Personal and Culinary Services	80	26	32	49	31	63	55	39	70	84	47	55	-7
Philosophy and Religious Studies	215	39	18	177	68	38	195	111	56	231	46	19	-18
Social Sciences	2,435	287	11	2,467	715	28	2,501	1,212	48	2,610	457	17	-11
Visual and Performing Arts	1,255	142	11	1,131	409	36	1,065	615	57	1,232	249	20	-15
Unknown	1,962	467	23	1,650	664	40	1,077	637	59	1,142	308	26	-13

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, 2020, and 2022 federal elections.

Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database representing an average of well over 10 million students for each election year, that serves as a foundation for innovative research on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

The National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (NSLVE, "en-solve") is a service offered to colleges and universities that provides a tailored report on their students' voting rates and other metrics. Launched in 2013 at Tufts University's Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, NSLVE represents more than 1,200 campuses in all 50 states + D.C. and now serves as a widely impactful resource for the work of understanding and fostering student political learning.

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 2014, 2018, 2020, and 2022 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.

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://nslve.tufts.edu>.

References: NSLVE 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: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2024). 2022 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.

Contact us to get more info

 nslve@tufts.edu

 nslve.tufts.edu

 The National Study for
Learning Voting and
Engagement

 TuftsNSLVE