October 2021

Student Voting Rates for Kent State University at Kent

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.
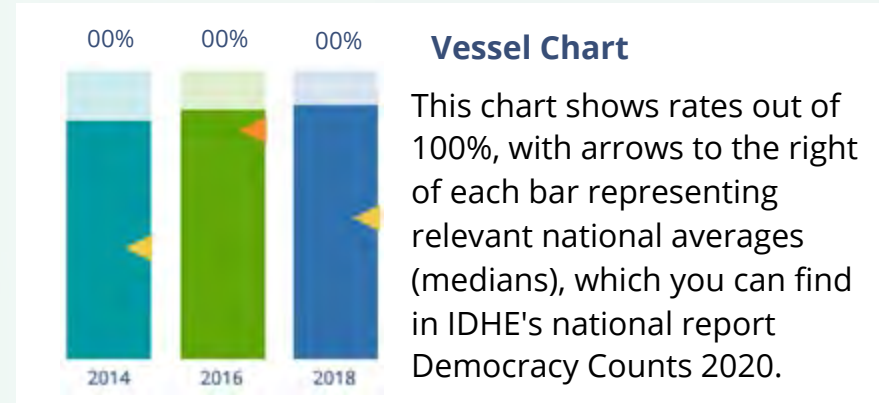
All the Best,
IDHE Team

(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.
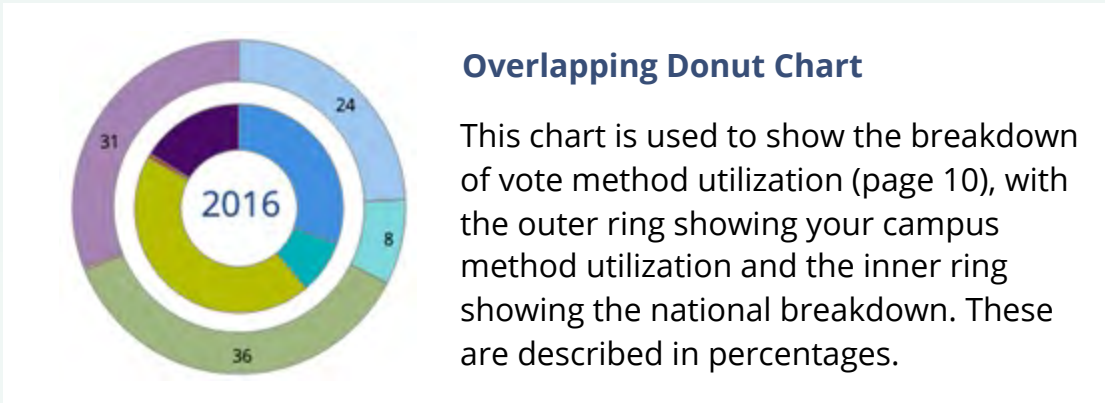
In This Report

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

68.6%

2020 Voting Rate

+11.2

Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE

81.6%	76.4%	84.0%
2016	2018	2020
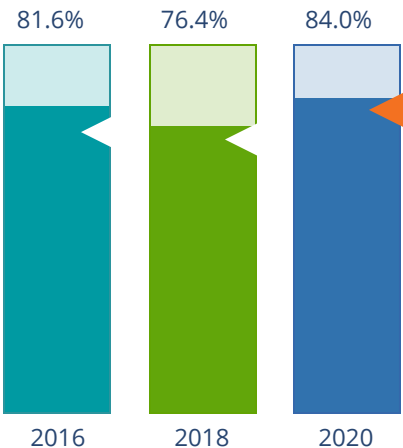
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS

70.3%	49.9%	81.7%
2016	2018	2020
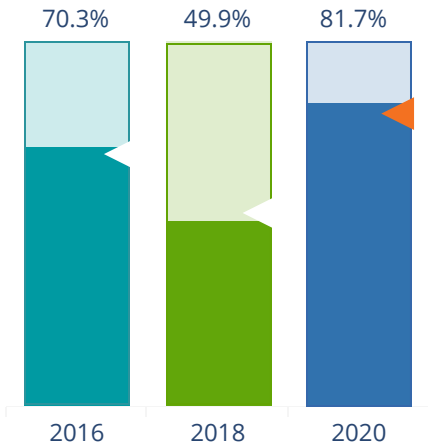
The **Voting Rate of Registered Students** is the percent of registered students who voted on Election Day. We often refer to this as the "yield" rate.

VOTING RATE

57.4%	38.1%	68.6%
2016	2018	2020
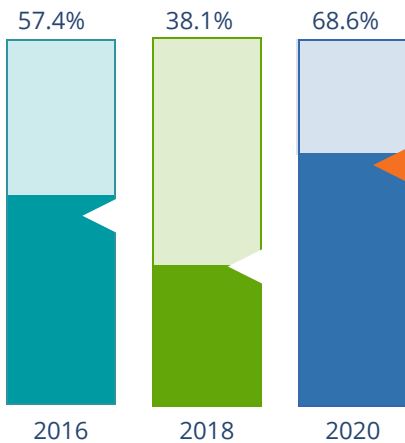
The **Voting Rate** is the percentage of eligible students who voted on Election Day. The voting rate is also the product of the registration and yield rates.

Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	38,510	35,772	33,127	⬇ -5,382
(Age under 18/Unknown)	40	40	104	⬆ 64
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	2,483	1,509	1,150	⬇ -1,333
(FERPA records blocked)	504	336	267	⬇ -237
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	210	236	333	⬆ 123
Total eligible voters	35,273	33,651	31,273	⬇ -3,999
Number of students who registered	28,770	25,698	26,255	⬇ -2,515
Number of students who voted	20,236	12,817	21,447	⬆ 1,211
Registration Rate %	82	76	84	⬆ 2
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	70	50	82	⬆ 11
Voting Rate %	57	38	69	⬆ 11

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
57%	38%	69%

INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2016	2018	2020
54%	41%	69%

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2016	2018	2020
56%	42%	70%

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL AVERAGE PHD

2016	2018	2020
54%	41%	69%

By Race / Ethnicity

2016	2018	2020
ASIAN		

2016	2018	2020
AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE		

2016	2018	2020
BLACK		

2016	2018	2020
HISPANIC		

2016	2018	2020
NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER		

2016	2018	2020
TWO OR MORE RACES		

2016	2018	2020
WHITE		

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	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
American Indian/ Alaska Native	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Black	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Hispanic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2 or More Races	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
White	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Race Unknown	37,647	20,236	54	35,063	12,817	37	32,326	21,447	66	⬆ 13

By Voting Method

Legend: ▇ Not-In-Person ▇ Early Vote ▇ In-Person ▇ Other ▇ Provisional ▇ Unknown

2016 — 23, 7, 35, 34

2018 — 23, 6, 36, 34

2020 — 39, 18, 18, 24
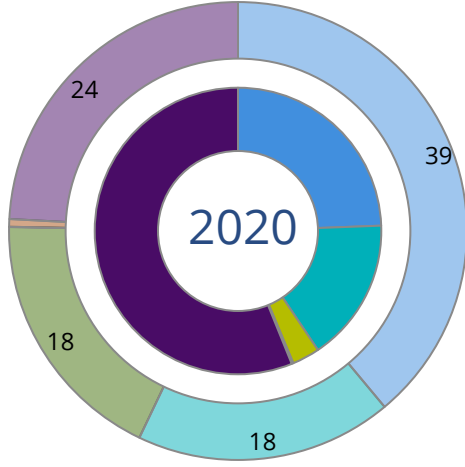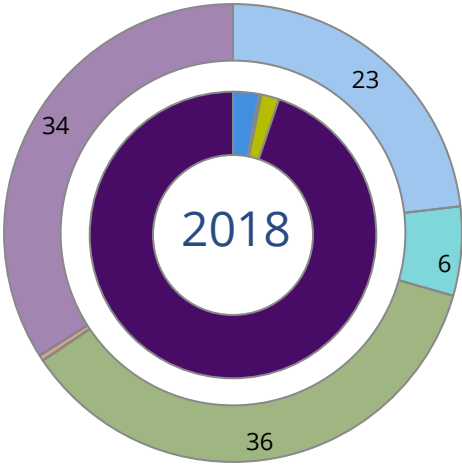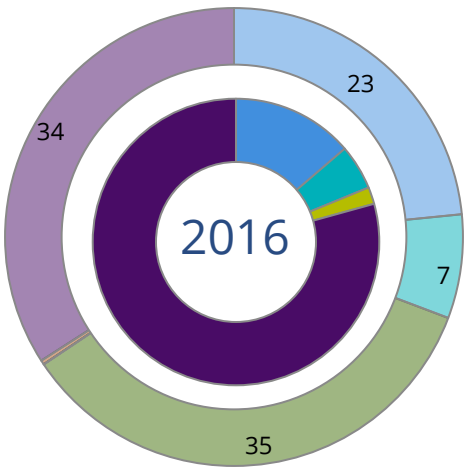
	2016		2018		2020		2016-2020	
	Voted	**Rate**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p.)**	
Early Vote	1,041	5	39	0	3,480	16	11	⬆
In-Person on Election Day	387	2	252	2	655	3	1	⬆
Not-In-Person	2,765	14	373	3	5,241	24	11	⬆
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Provisional	–	–	–	–	34	0	–	
Voting Method Unknown	16,041	79	12,151	95	12,037	56	-23	⬇

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	53%	32%	67%
22-24	49%	37%	66%
25-29	51%	39%	60%
30-39	59%	47%	64%
40-49	75%	61%	78%
50+	83%	77%	87%

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	20,101	10,612	53	19,905	6,285	32	18,437	12,355	67	⬆ 14
22-24	7,759	3,773	49	6,586	2,441	37	6,114	4,007	66	⬆ 17
25-29	4,256	2,160	51	3,854	1,498	39	3,532	2,105	60	⬆ 9
30-39	3,255	1,930	59	2,822	1,335	47	2,639	1,688	64	⬆ 5
40-49	1,495	1,115	75	1,287	789	61	1,124	874	78	⬆ 3
50+	781	646	83	609	469	77	480	418	87	⬆ 4

Looking Closer

By Sex

| | 2016 | | | 2018 | | | 2020 | | | 2016-2020 |
	Enrolled	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Enrolled**	**Voted**	**Rate**	**Change (p.p)**
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

	2016 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2018 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2020 Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	2016-2020 Change (p.p)
EDUCATION LEVEL										
Undergraduate	30,723	16,368	53	28,888	9,821	34	26,514	17,504	66	⬆ 13
Graduate	5,703	3,105	54	5,040	2,468	49	4,957	3,331	67	⬆ 13
Class Unknown	1,221	763	62	1,135	528	47	855	612	72	⬆ 9
CLASS YEAR										
First Year	5,881	50	2,938	5,415	25	1,354	4,610	60	2,754	⬆ 10
Second Year	6,022	52	3,133	5,660	32	1,792	5,148	66	3,402	⬆ 14
Upper Level	16,165	55	8,873	15,482	38	5,892	14,852	69	10,248	⬆ 14
ENROLLMENT STATUS										
Full-time	29,348	15,093	51	27,835	9,360	34	25,618	16,871	66	⬆ 14
Part-time	8,299	5,143	62	7,228	3,457	48	6,706	4,575	68	⬆ 6

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)
Architecture	501	212	42	584	139	24	620	400	65	⬆ 22
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	24	15	63	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	1,542	855	55	1,463	500	34	1,469	935	64	⬆ 8
Business, Management, and Marketing	5,770	2,736	47	5,262	1,560	30	4,741	3,045	64	⬆ 17
Communication and Journalism	2,151	1,341	62	1,718	770	45	1,319	984	75	⬆ 12
Computer and Information Sciences	2,006	740	37	1,459	517	35	1,493	887	59	⬆ 23
Education	2,987	1,862	62	2,910	1,360	47	2,635	1,933	73	⬆ 11

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	843	349	41	857	249	29	771	437	57	⬆ 15
English Language and Literature	438	294	67	391	211	54	369	272	74	⬆ 7
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	581	337	58	395	134	34	319	197	62	⬆ 4
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	244	123	50	314	112	36	324	202	62	⬆ 12
Health Professions	6,867	3,711	54	6,526	2,204	34	6,314	4,068	64	⬆ 10
History	219	155	71	212	121	57	179	136	76	⬆ 5
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	1,049	547	52	947	328	35	798	512	64	⬆ 12
Legal Professions and Studies	110	66	60	97	46	47	68	48	71	⬆ 11
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	3,452	1,859	54	3,298	1,139	35	2,870	1,759	61	⬆ 7
Mathematics and Statistics	251	102	41	231	70	30	178	112	63	⬆ 22
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	46	28	61	60	36	60	53	45	85	⬆ 24
Natural Resources and Conservation	102	63	62	209	102	49	263	205	78	⬆ 16
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	852	400	47	720	178	25	629	396	63	⬆ 16

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Philosophy and Religious Studies	59	38	64	39	12	31	31	20	65	⬆ 0
Physical Sciences	715	331	46	629	202	32	491	275	56	⬆ 10
Psychology	1,560	908	58	1,549	534	34	1,539	1,053	68	⬆ 10
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	61	54	89	105	72	69	107	71	66	⬇ -22
Social Sciences	807	540	67	781	420	54	781	591	76	⬆ 9
Visual and Performing Arts	2,108	1,124	53	2,210	795	36	2,137	1,534	72	⬆ 18
Unknown	1,195	744	62	1,155	532	46	886	632	71	⬆ 9

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.

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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