

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SURVEY - POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

2011 Student Affairs' Student Voice Survey Results

Student Voice Survey Report



Student Affairs periodically conducts surveys about issues which impact students. In April 2011 Student Affairs conducted three surveys utilizing Student Voice, an entity which develops surveys in partnership with national experts. The surveys assess students' perceptions and experience, providing comparative data with national respondents. Overall, the respondents were similar to the Evergreen student population, with females and upper-division students responding at a higher rate. The mean age for Evergreen respondents was higher than the national respondents' and more Evergreen respondents were former military and the first in their family to go to college. Participation was voluntary and all responses were completely confidential; the resulting data is reported only in the aggregate.

Every currently registered Evergreen student was randomly selected to participate in two of the three surveys, and upon completion of one survey they were invited to participate in the second survey. This report highlights some results from the **Civic Engagement Survey with a focus on voting and political involvement**. The survey had 351 respondents for a response rate of 20%.

We welcome questions or comments. Please direct them to [Michael Sledge](#) or [Wendy Endress](#), Co-Chairs of the Student Affairs Assessment Initiative.



85% of Evergreen students reported being currently **registered to vote**, as compared to 75% of national respondents and 40% reported voting for a candidate because of his or her position on a social concern/issue

Report voting in most recent election	Evergreen	National
National Election	71%	55%
State Election	63%	45%
Local Election	51%	36%
Campus Election	31%	42%



Evergreen students report doing the following during Fall 2010	TESC	National
Volunteer for a political organization or candidate running for office (e.g., work as a canvasser going door-to-door)	6%	9%
Give money to a candidate, political party, or organization supporting candidates	12%	8%
Actively support a candidate during an election (e.g., wearing campaign buttons, convincing others to vote for a candidate, putting a sticker on car)	20%	21%
Join a protest or demonstration concerned with a social concern/issue	25%	19%
Express your opinion on an issue through a media outlet (e.g., blog, newspaper, radio talk show)	28%	21%
Contact a government or non-profit agency to get information about a social concern/issue	30%	17%
Participate in online communities, blogs, or websites related to a social issue/concern	38%	27%
Express your opinion on an issue to a public official	40%	28%
Attend a formal discussion or lecture related to a particular social concern/issue	52%	42%
Boycott a product because of a social concern/issue	62%	34%
Encourage others to take action related to a social concern/issue	64%	48%
Purposefully purchase some type of product because of its relationship to a social concern/issue	66%	48%
Sign a petition to support a social concern/issue	68%	53%
Watch a TV program or movie that focused on a social concern/issue	79%	80%
Read publications that focused on a social concern/issue (e.g., books, academic journals, magazines)	81%	71%
Talk with friends or family about a social concern/issue	95%	90%



Students report somewhat or strongly agreeing with the following:	TESC	National
I believe that being able to interact with individuals with different backgrounds and perspectives will help me after college	95%	90%
I often use the content I am learning in class outside of the classroom	90%	77%
I often see connections between what I am learning in class and local, national and/or global news and events	86%	74%
I often connect what I am learning in my courses to the programs and activities that I am involved in	83%	77%

I plan on being an active part of the community in which I live after college	78%	73%
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