Pathways Survey Fall 2024 Report

The Office of Civic Engagement & Social Responsibility administers the Pathways of Public Service and Civic Engagement survey, which is coordinated through Campus Compact and the Haas Center for Public Service at Stanford University. The survey asks students about their experience with six pathways.

In Fall 2024, 4,000 students were randomly selected to participate. 322 students completed the survey, resulting in a response rate of 8.1%.

Survey results show students' interest in and experience with each pathway, illustrating significant gaps across all pathways:

- Direct Service: 80% interest, 57% experience
- Community Engaged Learning & Research: 65% interest, 34% experience
- Community Organizing & Activism: 62% interest, 34% experience
- Philanthropy: 47% interest, 37% experience
- Social Entrepreneurship & Corporate Social Responsibility: 53% interest, 22% experience
- Policy & Governance: 43% interest, 25% experience

The Pathways of Public Service and Civic Engagement survey also shines a light on topic areas that students are most interested in:

- Diversity, equity, and inclusion (22%)
- General (19%)
- Health (19%)
- Education and youth development (18%)
- Environmental sustainability (15%)
- Human services (8%)

Data from this survey is included in two important national recognition processes:

- 2024 Voter Friendly Campus Designation
- 2025 Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement

Both processes ask about TU's institutional assessment practices for community and civic engagement. The Pathways survey is one of very few examples TU can provide.

The Office of Civic Engagement & Social Responsibility is utilizing the data to inform existing community and civic engagement programming and to better communicate with students about pathways they can pursue to have an impact in their communities and the country. For example, qualitative responses showed a particular interest in campus safety and collective care. These

responses informed the topic and content of the Spring 2025 TU Community Conversation, which dozens of TU students, staff, and faculty attended.

Data is also shared with campus partners to partner in the development of new programs that close the gap between students' interests in and experience with the six pathways. Partners include Inclusive Excellence Education & Support, Center for Student Diversity, and the BTU-Engagement Council.

To learn more about the survey results, please email Dr. Romy Hübler at rhuebler@towson.edu.