

IUPUI PULSE 2014: Civic Literacy
Survey Research Office, Planning and Institutional Improvement
Office of Student Data, Analysis, and Evaluation, Undergraduate Education
IU Center for Civic Literacy, SPEA

PURPOSE: To better understand civic literacy and involvement of IUPUI students.

METHODS: Survey administered to sample of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at IUPUI in Fall 2014.

PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS:

GENDER	
Female	64.9%
Male	35.1%
ENROLLED AS...	
Undergraduate	58.6%
Graduate	41.4%
RACE/ETHNICITY	
White	68.2%
Black	11.6%
Asian	13.9%
Hispanic/Latino	5.6%
Other	0.7%
AGE	
18-19	19.2%
20-22	27.4%
23-27	32.4%
28-32	21.0%
SCHOOL	
University College	19.9%
Science	13.9%
Liberal Arts	12.6%
Engineering/Technology	10.3%
Informatics	6.3%
Public Health	5.6%
Education	5.0%
SPEA	5.0%
Medicine	5.0%
Business	5.0%
Other	11.4%

WHERE DO STUDENTS LEARN CIVIC INFORMATION?

	In High School only	At IUPUI only	Both	Neither
U.S. History	82.8%	2.2%	12.3%	2.6%
International Affairs	43.3%	9.7%	9.3%	37.7%
Economics	68.3%	4.9%	14.6%	12.3%
U.S. Constitution	81.3%	1.5%	10.4%	6.7%
U.S. Government	80.2%	1.5%	14.6%	3.7%

CIVIC LITERACY SCALE

CIVIC LITERACY ITEMS	CORRECT
1. Who is the commander in chief of the U.S. military?	88.8%
2. Which President was elected four times?	61.7%
3. When was the U.S. Constitution written?	28.1%
4. How many amendments does the Constitution have?	78.4%
5. The most fundamental right/responsibility of citizenship is...	96.3%
6. Who is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court now?	57.4%
7. None of the following actions are protected by the first amendment EXCEPT...	40.8%
8. What are the three branches of government in order that they appear in the Constitution?	34.9%
9. What is another widely-used term for the national government in the United States?	97.4%
10. What do we mean when we say that Congress is a "bicameral legislature?"	62.1%
Percentage of respondents who passed (at least 6 correct)	63.9%
Percentage of respondents who answered 10 correct	4.5%

- Male students (81%) are more likely to pass the civic literacy test than female students (56%) ($p < .001$).
- Students 23 years old or older are more likely to pass the civic literacy test (70%) as compared to their younger counterparts (58%) ($p < .05$).
- White students (69%) are more likely to pass the civic literacy test as compared to non-whites (48%) ($p < .01$).

VOLUNTEERING:

Yes, within last year	61.4%
Yes, not within last year	30.1%
No, never	8.5%

- Younger students (71%) are more likely to have volunteered in the past year than their counterparts (53%) ($p < .01$).
- Race/ethnicity, GPA, gender, and undergraduate/graduate status do not significantly affect volunteering in the past year.
- Civic literacy is not significantly related to volunteering in the past year.

	Weekly	Monthly	Couple times a year or less	Never
IUPUI Student Organization	9.2%	15.8%	27.0%	48.0%
Religious Group/Organization	12.0%	8.7%	22.7%	56.7%
Education Organization	12.4%	9.2%	24.2%	54.2%
Health Organization	4.7%	8.0%	25.3%	62.0%
Youth Development Organization	6.5%	9.8%	28.8%	54.9%
Human Services Organization	4.7%	6.7%	22.7%	66.0%
Public/Social Benefit Organization	6.1%	10.1%	24.3%	59.5%
Another Group/Organization	4.1%	6.1%	4.1%	85.7%

- Non-white students are more likely to volunteer for education and youth development organizations than whites ($p < .05$).
- Older students ($p < .05$) and graduate students ($p < .05$) are more likely to volunteer for religious groups/organizations compared to their counterparts.
- Freshmen are more likely than other students to volunteer for a human services organization ($p < .001$).
- The type of organization for which one volunteers is not related to civic literacy score.