



Student Beliefs about and Participation in Philanthropy

Center for the Study of Student Life

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INTRODUCTION

This brief explores students' beliefs about philanthropy and their participation in philanthropic activities. The results are from the 2015 Student Life Survey, which was administered to a random sample of 5,000 undergraduate students and 1,000 graduate and professional students. A total of 1,039 undergraduate students (20.8% response rate) and 282 graduate/professional students (28.2% response rate) completed the survey. Please note that not all respondents answered each question.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 50% of undergraduate, graduate and professional students have both donated money one-time and donated items to a charity or non-profit during the last year.
- The most common ways for undergraduate students to participate in philanthropy during the last year were donating items (55.9%), donating money one-time (50.8%), volunteering one-time (49.0%), and encouraging friends or family to give or volunteer to a charity or nonprofit organization (41.0%).
- 20.3% of undergraduate, 35.6% of graduate and 7.9% of professional students donated money on a regular basis to a charity or nonprofit organization during the last year.
- Over 75% of undergraduate, graduate and professional students believe that philanthropy includes donating money or items, while over 60% believe that philanthropy includes encouraging friends and family to give to or volunteer at a charity or nonprofit organization.
- 70.3% of undergraduate, 69.3% of graduate and 73.1% of professional students agree that a donation of \$5 can make a difference to a charity or nonprofit organization.
- 49.2% of undergraduate, 41.7% of graduate and 60.3% of professional students view Ohio State as a philanthropic organization.
- 55.9% of undergraduate, 49.4% of graduate and 58.7% of professional students would give back to Ohio State.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender	%
Female	54.0%
Genderqueer/Gender Non-conforming	0.2%
Male	44.2%
Transgender Male/Transgender Man	0.2%
Transgender Female/Transgender Woman	0.1%
Preferred identity (in addition to/ not listed above)	0.4%
Prefer not to state	0.9%

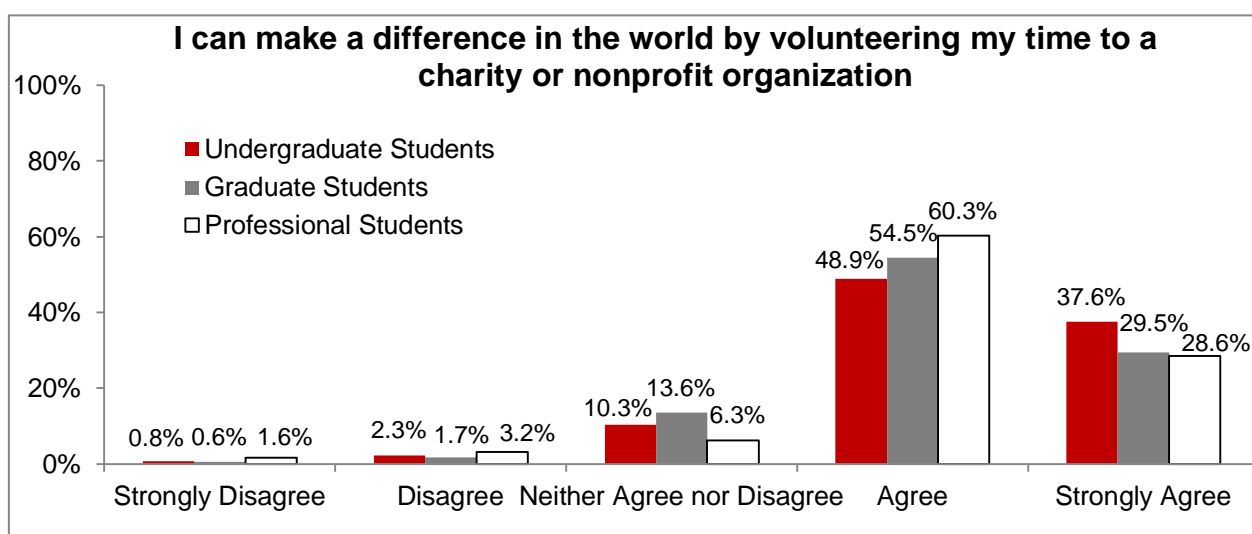
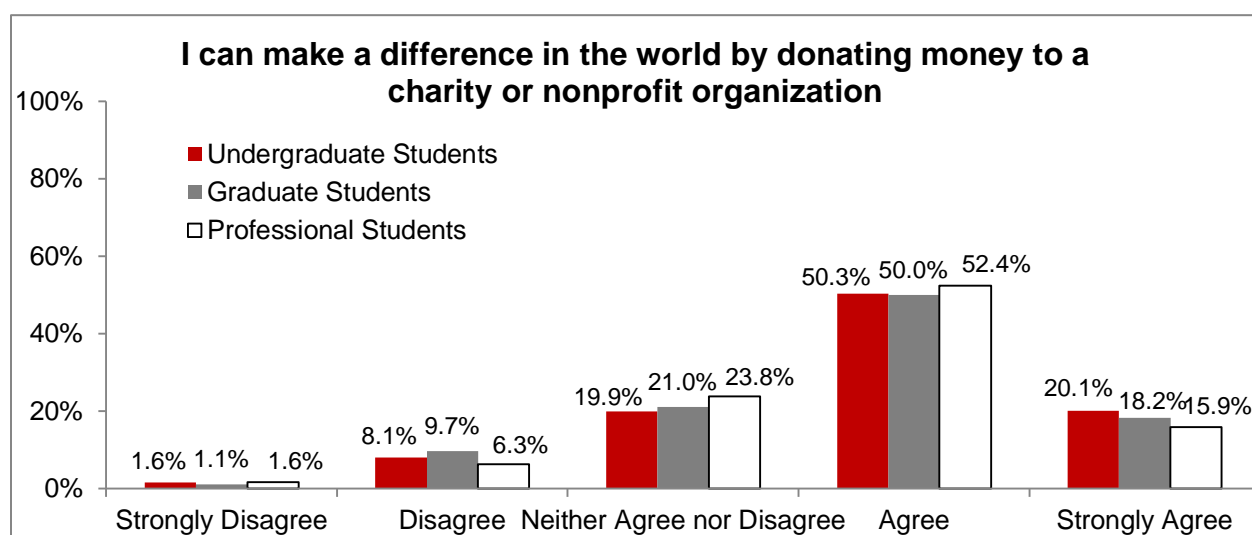
Rank	%
First-year undergraduate	11.1%
Second-year undergraduate	17.1%
Third-year undergraduate	17.5%
Fourth-year undergraduate	32.9%
Graduate	15.5%
Professional	5.8%

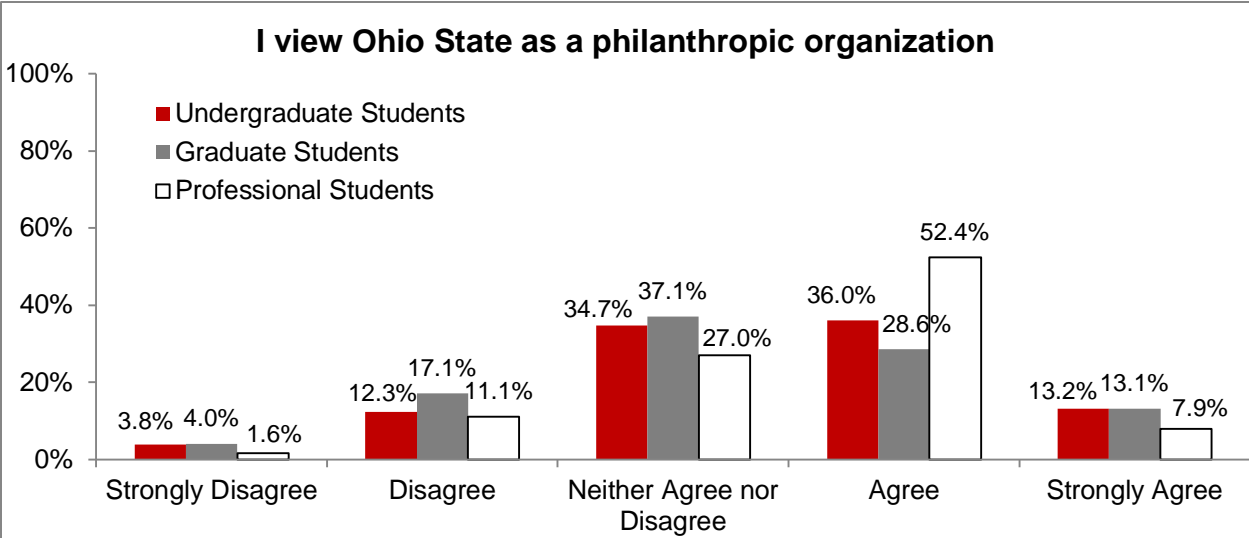
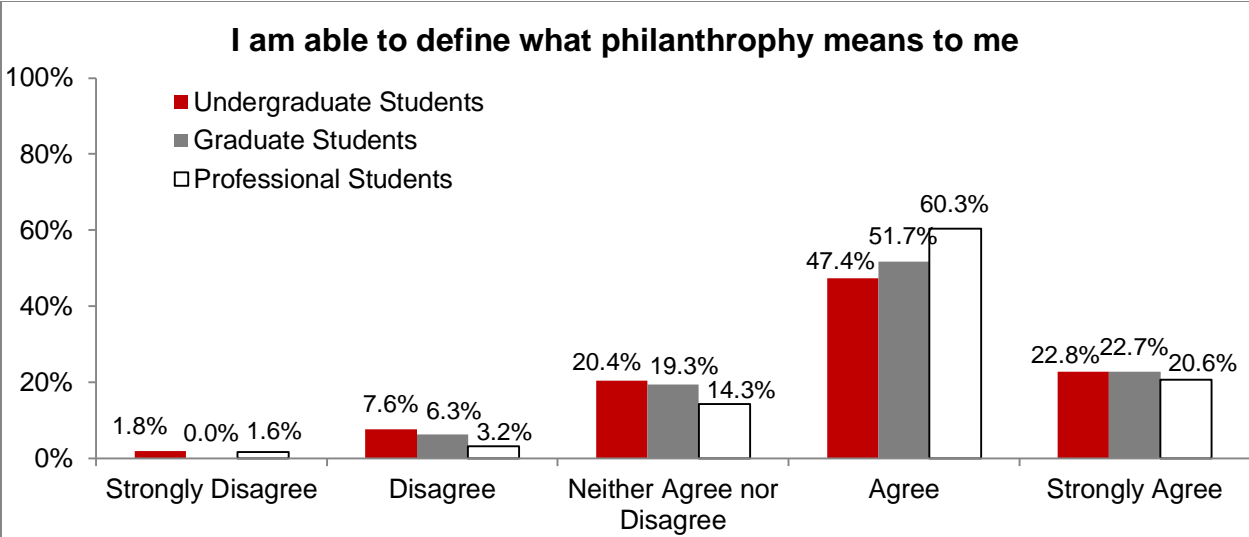
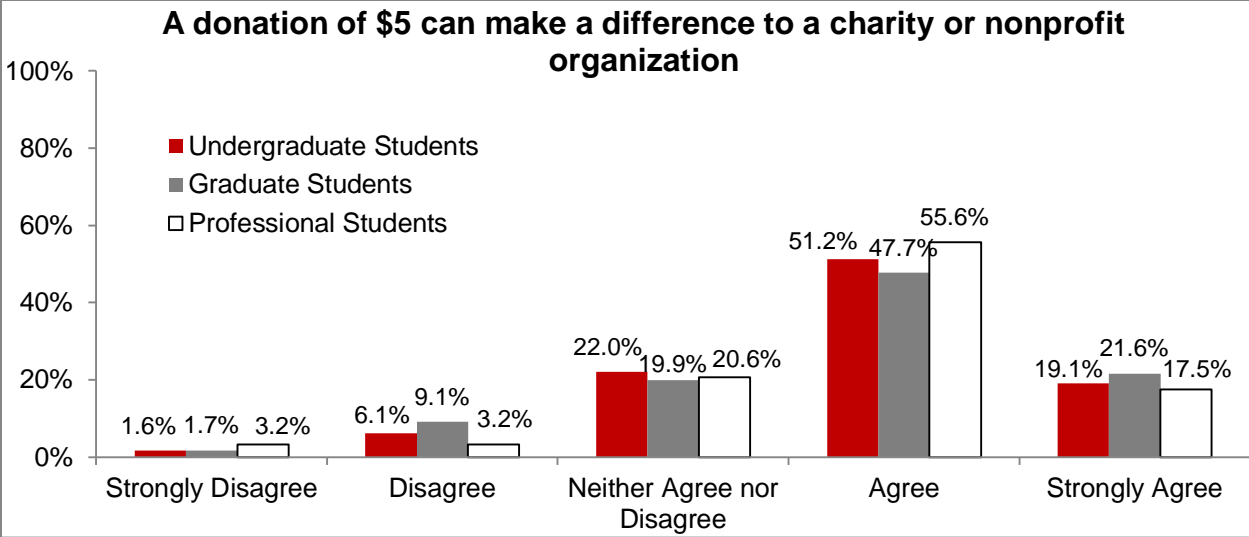
Race/Ethnicity	%
African American/Black or African descent	4.4%
Asian American/Asian (East, South, Southeast)	12.6%
Latino(a)/Hispanic American	1.5%
Middle Eastern/Arab American	1.1%
White/European American	71.1%
Other	0.6%
Prefer not to answer	3.2%
Multiple Races/Ethnicities	5.5%

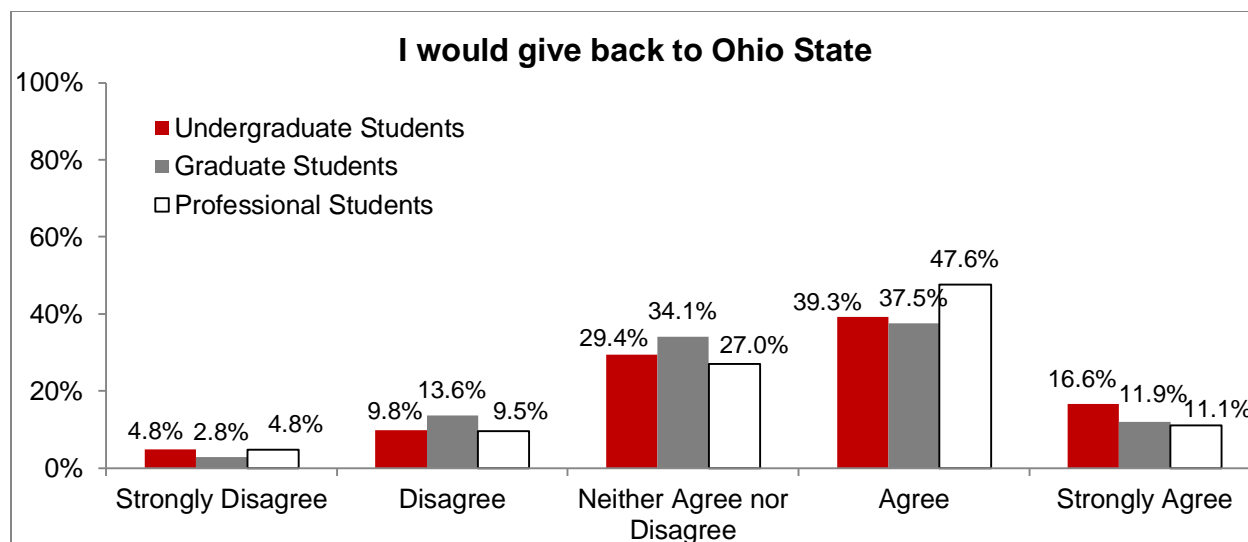
FINDINGS

PHILANTHROPIC BELIEFS AND ATTITUDES

I believe Philanthropy includes: (Check all that apply)	Undergraduate Students	Graduate Students	Professional Students
Donating money	75.4%	84.7%	85.7%
Donating items (e.g. food, clothing)	79.3%	81.3%	85.7%
Volunteering time	88.0%	93.8%	98.2%
Helping to raise money for a charitable cause	78.0%	73.6%	80.4%
Walking, running, or cycling for a charitable cause	62.5%	57.6%	66.1%
Promoting a cause or charity online (e.g. Twitter, Facebook)	57.4%	52.8%	51.8%
Promoting a cause or charity in person (e.g. wearing a t-shirt, talking to someone)	63.6%	54.2%	60.7%
Encouraging friends or family to give or volunteer to a charity or nonprofit organization	66.8%	63.2%	66.1%
None of the above	1.7%	0.0%	1.8%
I don't know	6.9%	3.5%	1.8%







PHILANTHROPIC PARTICIPATION

Which of the following do you or have you participated in during the last year? Please check all that apply.	Undergraduate Students	Graduate Students	Professional Students
Donated money to a charity or nonprofit organization on a regular basis (e.g. annually, monthly)	20.3%	35.6%	7.9%
Donated money to a charity or nonprofit organization one-time	50.8%	54.2%	54.0%
Donated items to a charity or nonprofit (e.g. food, clothing)	55.9%	53.7%	60.3%
Volunteered one-time for a charity or nonprofit organization	49.0%	39.0%	58.7%
Volunteered regularly for a charity or nonprofit organization	26.1%	20.3%	36.5%
Helped raise money for a charitable organization	39.5%	22.0%	23.8%
Walk, ran or cycled for a charitable cause	30.5%	20.9%	23.8%
Promoted a cause or charity online (e.g. Twitter, Facebook)	40.0%	36.7%	34.9%
Promoted a cause or charity in person (e.g. wearing a t-shirt, talking to someone)	39.4%	29.9%	17.5%
Encouraged friends or family to give or volunteer to a charity or nonprofit organization	41.0%	35.6%	38.1%