



**National Survey of College Educated Members
of the Millennial Generation¹
for the United States Public Service Academy
April 3rd – 8th, 2008
N=800: Internet**

1. What is your age?

18	7%
19	7%
20	8%
21	8%
22	9%
23	8%
24	10%
25	8%
26	10%
27	8%
28	8%
29	8%

2. Please indicate your gender?

Male	47%
Female	53%

3. With regard to school, are you currently enrolled at any of the following?

High School	6%
Business or Professional School	*
Four Year College or University	34%
Graduate school	25%
Not enrolled in college or university, But taking at least one course.....	1%
Not currently enrolled in any state	35%

¹ Sample consisted of 18-29 year olds who were: HS students, college students, graduate school students or who graduated from a four-year college or university

[Asked if enrolled in Business/Professional, Graduate school, and those not enrolled]

4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?(n=489)

College graduate	61%
Completed some graduate school, but no degree	16%
Completed graduate school	23%

[Asked if enrolled in High school]

5. Do you have plans to attend a four year college or university next year?(n=44)

Yes	100%
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6. Region

Northeast.....	19%
South.....	35%
Midwest	21%
West.....	25%

7. With which of the following racial groups do you most closely identify?

White	68%
Hispanic	11%
Black	8%
African American	4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	5%
Native American or Alaskan Native	1%
Mixed racial background.....	2%
Other race	1%
Decline to answer	1%

8. We understand that plenty of young people are not registered to vote, but we are wondering if you are registered to vote?

Yes	83%
No	15%
Not sure.....	2%

9. In November, there will be a general election for President. How likely is it that you vote in that election?

NET: Will be voting	85%
Definitely will be voting	73%
Probably will be voting	12%
50-50	7%
NET: Won't be voting	8%
Probably won't be voting	4%
Definitely won't be voting	4%

10. When it comes to voting, with which party do you consider yourself to be affiliated?

Democratic Party	47%
Republican Party	31%
Independent	22%

11. All in all, do you think that things in the nation are:

Generally headed in the right direction	21%
Off on the wrong tack	64%
Not sure	16%

Next, we are interested in learning more about some of the activities that young people participate in when they are not in school or work.

12. Volunteered for community service
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Yes, I have participated | 58% |
| No, I have not participated | 42% |

[If “Yes” in Q12]

13. How often did you participate in this activity? (n=461)
- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Weekly | 22% |
| A few times a month | 24% |
| About once a month | 28% |
| Less than once a month | 26% |

14. Participated in a government, political, or issue-related organization.
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Yes, I have participated | 27% |
| No, I have not participated | 73% |

[If “Yes” in Q14]

15. How often did you participate in this activity? (n=216)
- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Weekly | 24% |
| A few times a month | 25% |
| About once a month | 21% |
| Less than once a month | 30% |

In the future, do you expect to be more involved or less involved in the following types of activities:

[This series of questions was rotated]

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 16. | Voting in elections | |
| | More involved | 53% |
| | Less involved..... | 4% |
| | About the same as I am now | 43% |
| 17. | Volunteering in your community | |
| | More involved | 54% |
| | Less involved..... | 9% |
| | About the same as I am now | 37% |
| 18. | Attending religious services | |
| | More involved | 38% |
| | Less involved..... | 12% |
| | About the same as I am now | 50% |
| 19. | Financially supporting causes that you believe in | |
| | More involved | 46% |
| | Less involved..... | 7% |
| | About the same as I am now | 47% |
| 20. | Organizing or advocating for causes that you believe in | |
| | More involved | 42% |
| | Less involved..... | 7% |
| | About the same as I am now | 51% |

Using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means you “strongly disagree” and 10 means you “strongly agree,” please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about public service, defined as work in public institutions at the local, state and federal level.

[This series of questions was rotated]

21. The federal government is not doing enough to encourage young people to enter public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	7%
0- Strongly Disagree	2%
1	2%
2	3%
3	4%
4	7%
5	19%
6	13%
7	17%
NET: Agree (8-10)	33%
8	13%
9	7%
10- Strongly agree	13%
MEAN:	6.35

22. A few years in public service is a good training ground for future employment - even outside public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	6%
0- Strongly Disagree	2%
1	1%
2	3%
3	4%
4	9%
5	15%
6	12%
7	15%
NET: Agree (8-10)	42%
8	13%
9	14%
10- Strongly agree	15%
MEAN:	6.73

23. A few years in public service after college could negatively impact my career plans in the future.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	29%
0- Strongly Disagree	12%
1	8%
2	9%
3	9%
4	10%
5	18%
6	7%
7	10%
NET: Agree (8-10)	18%
8	8%
9	5%
10- Strongly agree	5%
MEAN:	4.51

24. Public service is an effective way to solve some of our nation's problems.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	5%
0- Strongly Disagree	2%
1	2%
2	1%
3	4%
4	7%
5	21%
6	14%
7	15%
NET: Agree (8-10)	35%
8	17%
9	8%
10- Strongly agree	11%
MEAN:	6.44

25. I would be more involved in public service if I knew more about the opportunities.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	8%
0- Strongly Disagree	2%
1	3%
2	3%
3	4%
4	8%
5	15%
6	13%
7	19%
NET: Agree (8-10)	35%
8	15%
9	8%
10- Strongly agree	12%
MEAN:	6.40

26. I would be more involved in public service if it were a greater priority for our government.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	13%
0- Strongly Disagree	3%
1	3%
2	3%
3	6%
4	10%
5	21%
6	10%
7	16%
NET: Agree (8-10)	28%
8	13%
9	6%
10- Strongly agree	9%
MEAN:	5.87

27. The private sector is not doing enough to encourage young people to enter public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	7%
0- Strongly Disagree	3%
1	1%
2	3%
3	3%
4	8%
5	23%
6	9%
7	15%
NET: Agree (8-10)	35%
8	16%
9	9%
10- Strongly agree	10%
MEAN:	6.28

28. Our colleges and universities are not doing enough to encourage young people to enter public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	11%
0- Strongly Disagree	3%
1	4%
2	4%
3	5%
4	10%
5	18%
6	13%
7	16%
NET: Agree (8-10)	31%
8	13%
9	8%
10- Strongly agree	10%
MEAN:	6.03

29. Our high schools are not doing enough to encourage young people to enter public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	8%
0- Strongly Disagree	3%
1	1%
2	4%
3	6%
4	8%
5	19%
6	12%
7	13%
NET: Agree (8-10)	35%
8	16%
9	8%
10- Strongly agree	11%
MEAN:	6.28

30. Our political leaders are not doing enough to encourage young people to enter public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	7%
0- Strongly Disagree	3%
1	2%
2	2%
3	3%
4	6%
5	21%
6	11%
7	17%
NET: Agree (8-10)	35%
8	14%
9	10%
10- Strongly agree	11%
MEAN:	6.40

31. I would be more likely to vote for someone if they supported public service programs for young people.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	8%
0- Strongly Disagree	4%
1	1%
2	3%
3	4%
4	6%
5	23%
6	12%
7	14%
NET: Agree (8-10)	33%
8	14%
9	9%
10- Strongly agree	10%
MEAN:	6.24

32. Finding ways to serve my country in the form of public service is an important part of who I am as a person.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	14%
0- Strongly Disagree	4%
1	2%
2	8%
3	7%
4	10%
5	21%
6	9%
7	10%
NET: Agree (8-10)	29%
8	12%
9	8%
10- Strongly agree	9%
MEAN:	5.68

33. High levels of public debt discourage young people from pursuing public service.

NET: Disagree (0-2)	7%
0- Strongly Disagree	2%
1	2%
2	3%
3	4%
4	10%
5	21%
6	11%
7	13%
NET: Agree	34%
8	13%
9	8%
10- Strongly agree	13%
MEAN:	6.27

34. Recently, a bipartisan piece of legislation has been proposed in Congress that would create the United States Public Service Academy. The U.S. Public Service Academy will be the civilian counterpart to the military service academies. It will be the “civilian West Point,” a federally-funded college that will offer students a free undergraduate education in exchange for five years of civilian public service after graduation.

It will be highly-selective, with an enrollment of 5,100 from all 50 states and across the world, and it will offer an intensive liberal arts curriculum focused on leadership development and public service. Its mission will be to educate, develop, and inspire civilian leaders who have the character, intellect, and experience necessary to serve the nation honorably and effectively, and who are committed to devoting their lives to public service.

Based on this description, do you support or oppose the creation of the United States Public Service Academy?

<u>NET: Support</u>	88%
Strongly support	38%
Somewhat support.....	50%
<u>NET: Oppose</u>	12%
Somewhat oppose.....	9%
Strongly oppose.....	3%

35. Assuming that the Public Service Academy were an option for you when you were considering college, how likely would you have been to consider applying to the United States Public Service Academy?

<u>NET: Likely</u>	57%
Very likely	19%
Somewhat likely.....	38%
<u>NET: Not likely</u>	44%
Not very likely	27%
Not at all likely	17%

Following are a number of statements that people have provided as to why they are supporting the U.S. Public Service Academy. After each, please use a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means the statement is “not at all persuasive” and 10 means the statement is “very persuasive,” to indicate how persuasive each is as a reason to support the U.S. Public Service Academy.

[The following series of questions were rotated]

36. America offers students five military service academies, but we do not offer a civilian counterpart.

<u>NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)</u>	11%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	4%
1	3%
2	4%
3	6%
4	8%
5	20%
6	12%
7	13%
<u>NET: Persuasive (8-10)</u>	31%
8	12%
9	9%
10- Very Persuasive	10%
MEAN:	5.98

37. The Academy will send a powerful, symbolic message about the importance of public service to our country, and it will raise the visibility and prestige of public service.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	7%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	2%
2.....	2%
3.....	5%
4.....	8%
5.....	17%
6.....	14%
7.....	13%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	38%
8.....	14%
9.....	11%
10- Very Persuasive	13%
MEAN:	6.42

38. We need our best and brightest to pursue public service because our country depends on strong, reliable public institutions to meet the challenges we face in the twenty-first century, from public education and public safety to protecting us from terrorists and natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	7%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	1%
2.....	3%
3.....	4%
4.....	5%
5.....	18%
6.....	13%
7.....	15%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	38%
8.....	13%
9.....	10%
10- Very Persuasive	15%
MEAN:	6.55

39. The Academy will produce a steady stream of highly-qualified civilian leaders at a time when we face critical and growing shortages in our public sector.

<u>NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)</u>	8%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	1%
2.....	4%
3.....	3%
4.....	6%
5.....	17%
6.....	16%
7.....	15%
<u>NET: Persuasive (8-10)</u>	35%
8.....	15%
9.....	9%
10- Very Persuasive	13%
MEAN:	6.49

40. Top students have grown increasingly less likely to pursue public service careers, in part because skyrocketing college tuitions have priced them out of public service.

<u>NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)</u>	7%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	2%
1.....	2%
2.....	3%
3.....	4%
4.....	7%
5.....	17%
6.....	11%
7.....	14%
<u>NET: Persuasive (8-10)</u>	40%
8.....	13%
9.....	12%
10- Very Persuasive	15%
MEAN:	6.59

41. Like the military academies, the Public Service Academy will create a campus culture of service that will unify graduates with a shared sense of mission that will span across graduating classes and create an invaluable network of people who share knowledge and experiences.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	6%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	1%
2.....	2%
3.....	5%
4.....	6%
5.....	19%
6.....	14%
7.....	14%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	36%
8.....	15%
9.....	9%
10- Very Persuasive	12%
MEAN:	6.39

42. The Academy will be this generation's Peace Corps, an inspiring national Institution that can capture the imagination of young people and channel it into public service.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	9%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	2%
2.....	4%
3.....	5%
4.....	7%
5.....	17%
6.....	17%
7.....	14%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	32%
8.....	14%
9.....	8%
10- Very Persuasive	10%
MEAN:	6.17

43. The Academy will make our public institutions better, not bigger, by raising the standard of excellence expected of civilian public servants.

<u>NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)</u>	7%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	2%
1.....	2%
2.....	3%
3.....	3%
4.....	8%
5.....	20%
6.....	12%
7.....	14%
<u>NET: Persuasive (8-10)</u>	37%
8.....	18%
9.....	9%
10- Very Persuasive	10%
MEAN:	6.39

44. The Academy will cost about \$205 million annually, which is less than 70 cents per American and less than 1% of the \$23.5 billion that the federal government spends annually on higher education.

<u>NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)</u>	11%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	5%
1.....	2%
2.....	4%
3.....	6%
4.....	8%
5.....	19%
6.....	11%
7.....	15%
<u>NET: Persuasive (8-10)</u>	31%
8.....	11%
9.....	11%
10- Very Persuasive	9%
MEAN:	5.98

45. We must offer more opportunities to help young people give back to their country.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	8%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	1%
2.....	4%
3.....	2%
4.....	6%
5.....	18%
6.....	11%
7.....	18%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	37%
8.....	13%
9.....	9%
10- Very Persuasive	15%
MEAN:	6.57

46. The Academy has significant support from both Republicans and Democrats in both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	9%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	5%
1.....	1%
2.....	3%
3.....	5%
4.....	7%
5.....	21%
6.....	14%
7.....	14%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	30%
8.....	9%
9.....	8%
10- Very Persuasive	13%
MEAN:	6.13

47. Based on this new information, do you support or oppose the creation of the United States Public Service Academy?

NET: Support	88%
Strongly support	35%
Somewhat support.....	53%
NET: Oppose	12%
Somewhat oppose.....	10%
Strongly oppose.....	2%

Following are a number of statements that people have provided as to why they are not supporting the U.S. Public Service Academy. After each, please use a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means the statement is “not at all persuasive” and 10 means the statement is “very persuasive,” to indicate how persuasive each is as a reason to not support the U.S. Public Service Academy.

[The following series of questions were rotated]

48. We already have thousands of colleges and universities that already do what a Public Service Academy would do.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	18%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	6%
1.....	5%
2.....	7%
3.....	9%
4.....	9%
5.....	19%
6.....	14%
7.....	11%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	21%
8.....	5%
9.....	7%
10- Very Persuasive	9%
MEAN:	5.26

49. The Academy would take money and students away from existing colleges.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	23%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	11%
1.....	6%
2.....	6%
3.....	8%
4.....	9%
5.....	19%
6.....	10%
7.....	9%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	22%
8.....	8%
9.....	6%
10- Very Persuasive	8%
MEAN:	4.99

50. The Academy would not solve the problems of the public sector.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	18%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	9%
1.....	4%
2.....	5%
3.....	8%
4.....	8%
5.....	24%
6.....	11%
7.....	10%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	20%
8.....	7%
9.....	4%
10- Very Persuasive	9%
MEAN:	5.13

51. The Academy would focus on the wrong students - it should target graduate students, not undergraduates.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	24%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	14%
1.....	3%
2.....	7%
3.....	10%
4.....	9%
5.....	20%
6.....	8%
7.....	10%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	19%
8.....	8%
9.....	5%
10- Very Persuasive	6%
MEAN:	4.65

52. The Academy would be too expensive.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	22%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	8%
1.....	7%
2.....	7%
3.....	8%
4.....	10%
5.....	18%
6.....	12%
7.....	12%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	19%
8.....	6%
9.....	4%
10- Very Persuasive	9%
MEAN:	4.99

53. Instead of building an Academy, we should offer public service scholarships.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	10%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	3%
1.....	2%
2.....	5%
3.....	5%
4.....	6%
5.....	18%
6.....	12%
7.....	14%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	35%
8.....	12%
9.....	11%
10- Very Persuasive	12%
MEAN:	6.29

54. The analogy to the military academies flawed - civilian service is very different.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	15%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	6%
1.....	5%
2.....	4%
3.....	7%
4.....	9%
5.....	25%
6.....	12%
7.....	12%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	31%
8.....	7%
9.....	5%
10- Very Persuasive	9%
MEAN:	5.42

55. The Academy would be too liberal and would produce graduates committed to big government.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	19%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	9%
1.....	4%
2.....	6%
3.....	9%
4.....	9%
5.....	19%
6.....	10%
7.....	10%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	24%
8.....	10%
9.....	4%
10- Very Persuasive	10%
MEAN:	5.16

56. The Academy would be too nationalistic and would produce graduates who are too deferential to political power.

NET: Not Persuasive (0-2)	16%
0- Not at all Persuasive.....	6%
1.....	4%
2.....	6%
3.....	8%
4.....	13%
5.....	22%
6.....	8%
7.....	16%
NET: Persuasive (8-10)	19%
8.....	9%
9.....	4%
10- Very Persuasive	6%
MEAN:	5.13

57. Based on this new information, do you support or oppose the creation of the United States Public Service Academy?

NET: Support	77%
Strongly support	24%
Somewhat support.....	53%
NET: Oppose	23%
Somewhat oppose.....	20%
Strongly oppose.....	3%

[If Support in Q57]

58. If asked, how likely would you be to advocate to your friends and your representatives in Congress for passage of legislation that would lead to the creation of the U.S. Public Service Academy? (n=618)

NET: Likely	75%
Very likely	20%
Somewhat likely.....	55%
NET: Not likely	25%
Not very likely	23%
Not at all likely	2%

These last few questions are for demographic purposes only:

59. When it comes to most political issues, do you consider yourself a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?

Liberal	34%
Moderate	43%
Conservative	23%

60. Which of the following best describes your religious preference?

Catholic	23%
Protestant	18%
Fundamentalist/Evangelical Christian	12%
Jewish	3%
Mormon	3%
Muslim	2%
Another religion	10%
No religious preference	23%
Decline to answer	4%
Not sure	2%

[If Catholic, Protestant, or Fundamentalist, or Another Religion ask]

61. Do you consider yourself a born-again Christian? (n=498)

Yes	36%
No	56%
Not sure	8%

62. How important is religion in your own life?

Very important	36%
Somewhat important	34%
Not very important	29%
Not sure	1%

63. Which of the following best describes your phone service at this time. Please select all that apply.

Cell phone	94%
Landline phone service	43%
VOIP	10%
None of the above	1%

64. Which of the following categories best describes where you rank(ed) in your high school class?

Top 1%	13%
Top 10%	38%
Top 25%	26%
Top 50%	12%
Not in top 50%	2%
My HS did not rank students	4%
Not sure	6%

65. Was the high school you attended:

Public	79%
Private	19%
Parochial	2%
Charter	1%

66. What is your employment status?

Student	33%
Employed full-time	43%
Employed part-time	9%
Not employed, but looking for work	5%
Self employed	3%
Not employed and not looking for work	*
Homemaker	6%