



Missouri State students work with the Northwest Project to alleviate poverty.

ASSESSMENT OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS

2017

ABSTRACT

The information contained within represents an overview of the Missouri State University broader community's perception of Missouri State University as a partner.

The Center for Community
Engagement at Missouri State
University

Missouri State University
Community Partner Carnegie Classification Survey
2017 Data Summary

Letter to participants from President Clif Smart:

Dear Springfield Community Partner,

As you may know, one of the three pillars of Missouri State University's public affairs mission is community engagement. As part of that mission, the university applied for and was recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for its efforts in this area in 2010.

In Carnegie's own words, "Community engagement is defined as the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger community for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity. The purpose of community engagement is the partnership of college and university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good."

This is a mark of distinction for the university since this recognition is an evidence-based measure from an independent body. We are currently compiling evidence for renewal of our Carnegie status. As part of the renewal process, we are asking our partners in the community to provide honest feedback on their relationship with the university.

Please aid us in our efforts by responding to the survey using the link below. It should take less than 5 minutes to complete. This information will be included as part of our renewal package for review by the Carnegie Foundation. It will also help us understand where our strengths and weaknesses might lie.

We value your partnership and your feedback. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey, please contact the Carnegie Classification Re-certification Committee at CCE@Missouristate.edu

Best regards,

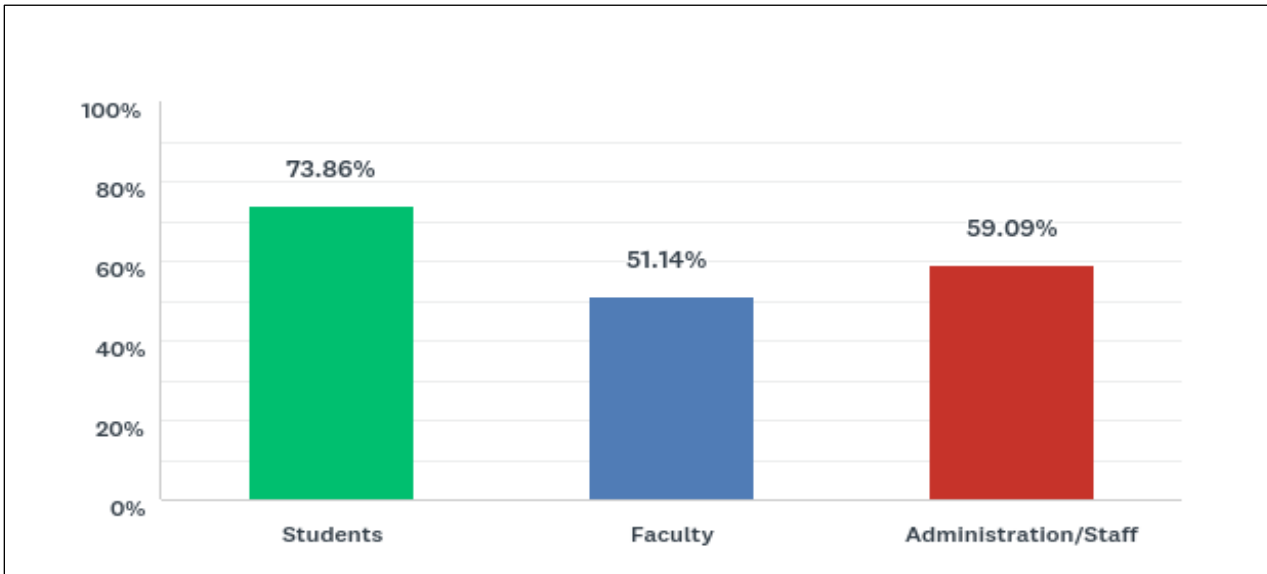
Clif

Number of Community Organizations Participating in the Survey:

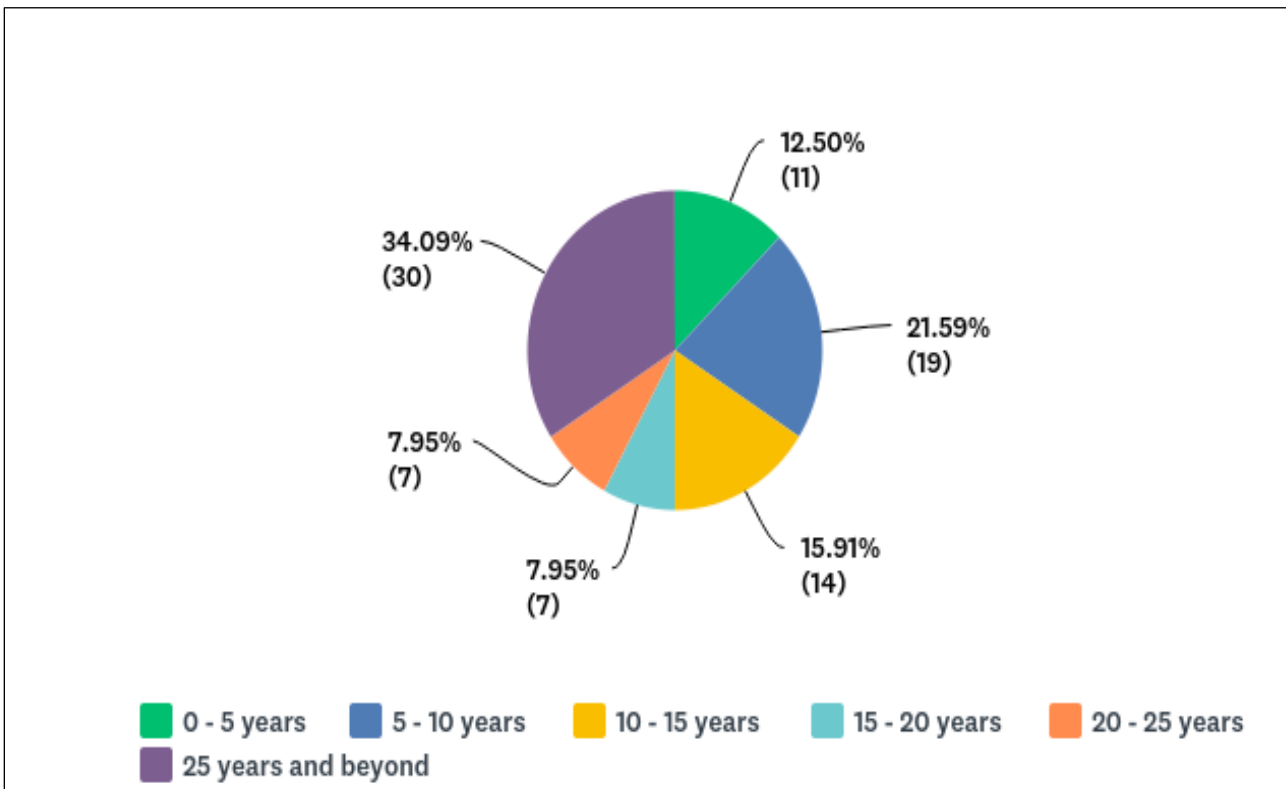
127 (125 agreed to participate, 2 declined)

Who Community Organizations identify they primarily work with:

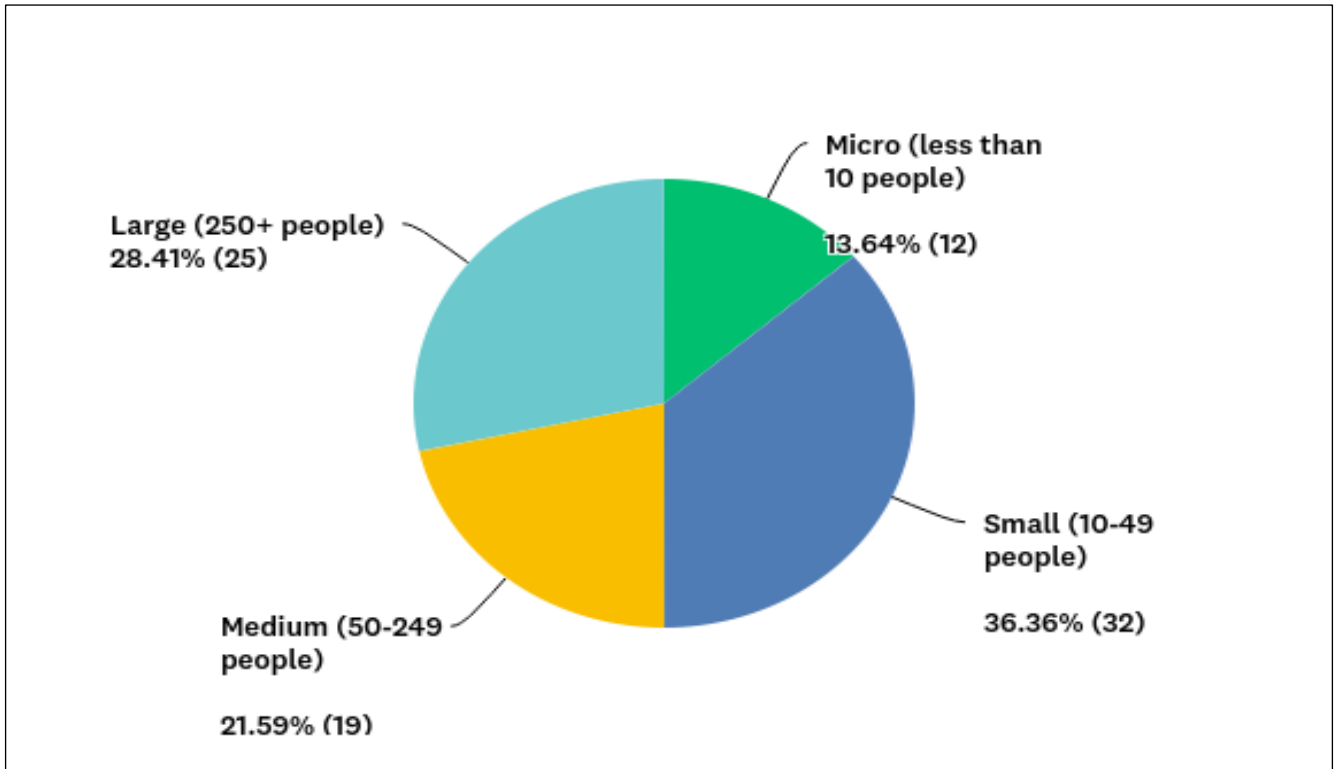
- Students 73.86% (65)
- Faculty 51.14% (45)
- Administration/Staff 59.09% (52)



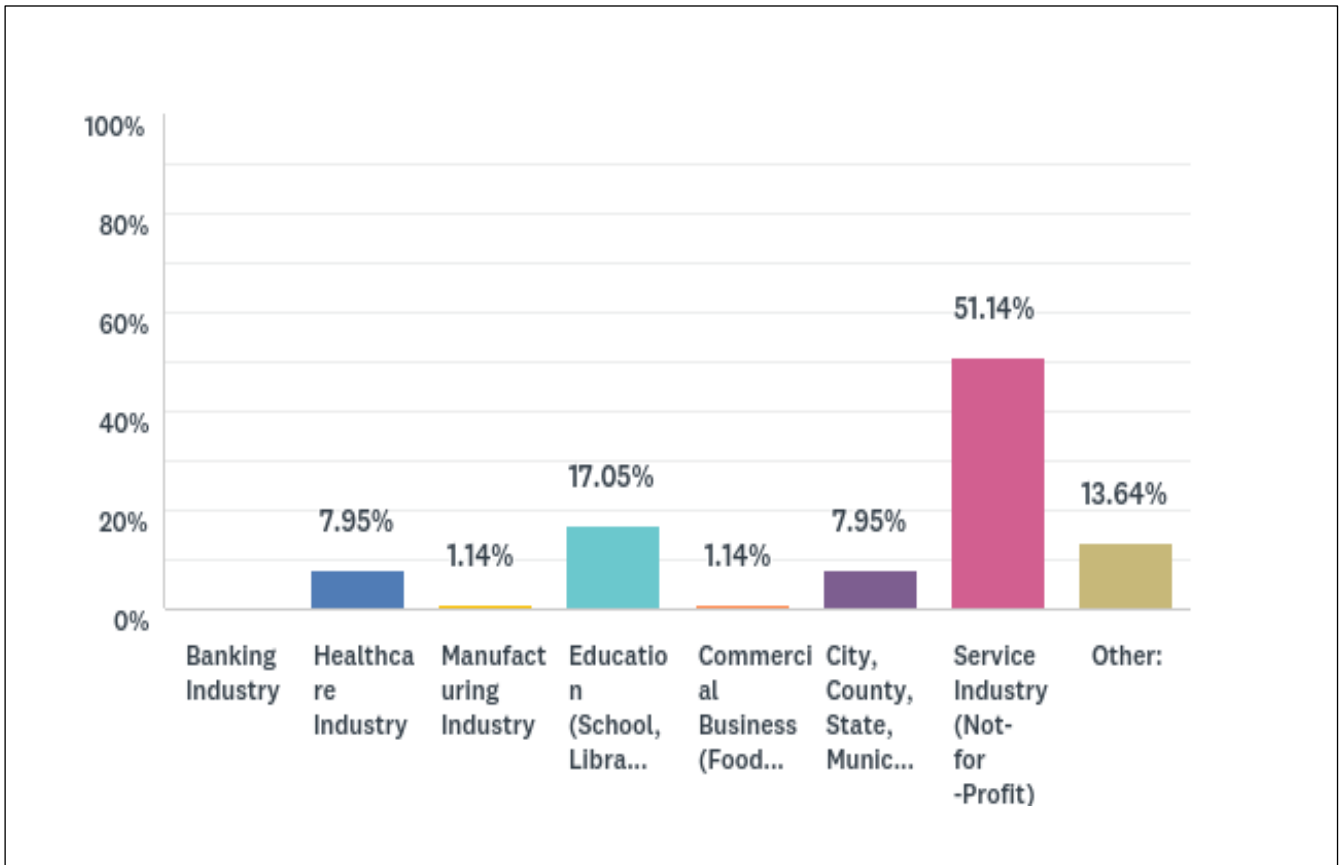
Length of Relationship with Missouri State University



Community Partner Organizational Size:

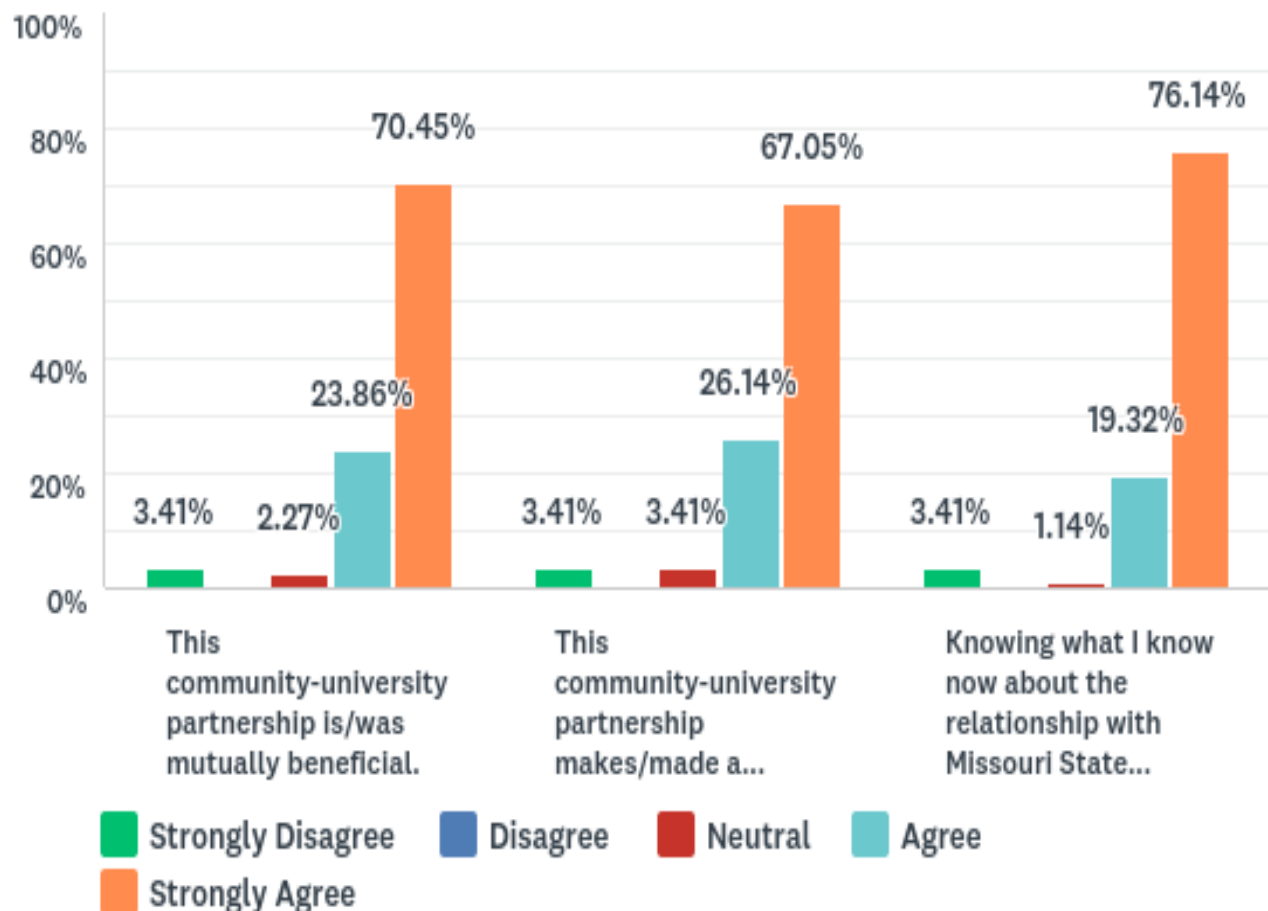


Community Partner Organizational Industry:



Community Partner perceptions about relationship with Missouri State University:

- This community-university partnership is/was mutually beneficial.
 - **Agree/Strongly Agree: 94.31% (83 out of 88)**
- This community-university partnership makes/made a difference in the community.
 - **Agree/Strongly Agree: 93.19% (82 out of 88)**
- Knowing what I know now about the relationship with Missouri State University, our organization would enter into a partnership again.
 - **Agree/Strongly Agree: 95.46% (84 out of 88)**
- Three organizations noted a response of Strongly Disagreed for all three questions; however, it is believed that those are outliers and were meant to be Strongly Agree (we believe they checked the first box without reading the scale) as these organization continue to partner with Missouri State University on numerous partnership projects.



Examples of Community Partner Testimonials:

“It is a privilege to partner with MSU to help feed those in need in our community. We are fortunate to have hundreds of students [‘] volunteer with us each semester. We would not be able to fulfill our mission without the gift of time from so many associated with MSU.”

“Missouri State is giving their students real world opportunities while benefiting the community.”

“Springfield as a city is still a difficult place to live and work for LGBT individuals and families. Having a strong partner in MSU that is willing to be out front on LGBT equality and to purposefully create an affirming environment and make public statements about LGBT equality and inclusion makes a huge difference in the area. MSU's positive position on LGBT equality is often the main reason people in the region stay in the region for school, and it makes it easier to stay in the area as adults, knowing that there safe, affirming places where they live.”

“We appreciate Missouri State University's focus on community engagement. Our partnership with MSU helps us meet our mission of building resilient children, healthy families and strong neighborhoods & communities.”

“We value our long-term relationship with MSU and would very much miss it if it ended.”

“We have about 200 students that volunteer with Cox Health each year. Their volunteer service not only help the hospital but benefits the students. The student learn[s] very quickly what area of healthcare they want to go into. They also learn if they really want to go into the healthcare field or not.”

“I appreciate the leadership of MSU and their work to actively engage as a community partner with our school district and other K-12 schools in our region.”

“For many years Missouri State University has played an extremely important role in the success of our environmental not-for-profit. We have worked with students from freshman to doctorate degree candidates by providing opportunities to work on real world projects and the students [‘] efforts are beneficial to our goals. This in turn helps us expand our impact in the community and our efforts to protect and improve local water resources. We also regularly secure grant funding and enter into agreements with research entities at MSU. This year marks out 20th year of service and the support MSU has provided has been a critical part of our ability to continue focusing on water quality in the Ozarks.”

“We value the relationship with Missouri State University’s students, faculty, and staff. Our organization has been able to accomplish more as a result of our partnership. It continues to grow and expand every year.”

“Missouri State is a leader in so many ways in our community. They have especially been progressive in areas of diversity and inclusion and has helped to move our community forward in that important area. They are a large part of our civic life and take that role seriously.”

Robberson Community School writes:

“We have several partnerships with Missouri State University. Two are EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG. Our partnership with Professor Goeringer and his students provides an amazing tutoring experience for our students and a wonderful 'hands on' learning laboratory for the MSU students. I can't say enough good things about his professionalism and commitment to education. Another strong program is the after-school clubs which are organized through Kathy Nordyke. She is a motivational force and a champion for student involvement.”

James River Basin writes:

“For many years Missouri State University has played an extremely important role in the success of our environmental not-for-profit. We have worked with students from freshman to doctorate degree candidates by providing opportunities to work on real world projects and the student's efforts are beneficial to our goals. This in turn helps us expand our impact in the community and our efforts to protect and improve local water resources. We also regularly secure grant funding and enter into agreements with research entities at MSU. This year marks our 20th year of service and the support MSU has provided has been a critical part of our ability to continue focusing on water quality in the Ozarks.”

Springfield Community Gardens writes:

“MSU has been an integral part of our organization's growth. The university, staff and faculty have embraced our mission which is a community where everyone has access to healthy, local food. The teamwork between departments and the community are stellar. they embrace creativity and accept challenges to the logistics and expansion of our programming. The students exhibit leadership and a hardy work ethic. MSU's public affairs mission of ethical leadership, cultural competence and community engagement is evident in the actions of the university.”

Champion Athletes writes:

“This partnership is extremely beneficial on many levels. Our benefit is that we provide programs for 600 individuals with disabilities and we have a staff of two. If we did not have Missouri State students, we would not be able to provide all our programs and we would not be able to reach more individuals that need our programs. It is also very beneficial for our individuals to interact with Missouri State students, as role models, as mentors most importantly as friends. This program is also beneficial to Missouri State students to broaden their education, experience the real world, to have hands on experience with individuals in their own community that they can make a positive change in their lives. On behalf of Champion Athletes thank you for this program, we look forward to many more years of the great experience.”