

Undergraduate Student Satisfaction Survey Results - Spring 2026

Executive Summary

The 2026 Student Satisfaction Survey was distributed during the Spring 2026 semester to all enrolled undergraduate students (n=5508); 470 (8.5%) of students responded. Although the response rate was low, the survey results still provide valuable, actionable insights. The feedback collected will be used to improve our services and guide our efforts to make Michigan Tech a welcoming community for all who attend.

Survey Instrument

The request to participate in the online survey was delivered to the students through their Michigan Tech email account, with the link to the survey included in the message. This online survey was developed using Qualtrics and responses were collected anonymously. Students were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction, agreement, or comfortability with various services on campus and about the experiences overall. Basic demographics were also collected. Comments received on the open-ended questions are sorted by service and provided to the members of the Student Affairs Leadership Team. All comments are reported as entered by the respondent. Comments stating 'n/a' were removed.

Major Findings in Quantitative Data

All quantitative results can be found [here](#). Below is a summary of the results.

Student Satisfaction and Belonging

Of the students who completed the survey, approximately 81% reported being either "extremely satisfied" (26.37%) or "somewhat satisfied" (54.63%) with their overall experience at the university. 76% of respondents expressed satisfaction with their specific academic department. However, about 35% of students admitted to having seriously considered leaving Michigan Tech at some point.

Students cited "high tuition", "campus amenities", "mental health struggles exacerbated by long winters", "homesick", and "major choice" as some of the reasons for wanting to leave Michigan Tech.

A majority of students (80.51%) reported that they have found at least one community or group where they feel they belong and over 80% of students agree that their experience at the university has had a positive influence on their personal growth. Roughly 76% of students feel they are treated with respect, fairness, and equity on campus. However, only 38.64% of students agreed that the student voice matters to the University administration.

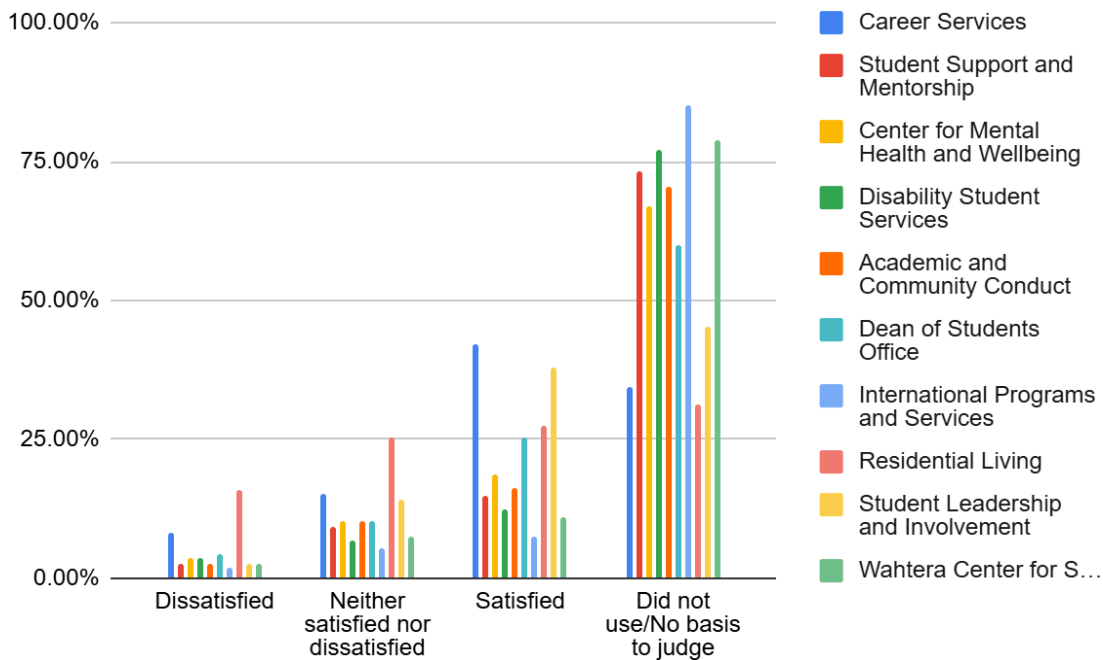
Among the survey respondents, 69% reported a sense of belonging at Michigan Tech. This feeling of acceptance was shared by 66% of first-generation students and 80% of student veterans. When looking at gender identity, 72% of male students and 70% of female students felt they belonged.

Regarding overall satisfaction, 77% of first-generation students reported positive feelings (19% extremely satisfied and 58% somewhat satisfied). Satisfaction levels remained high across gender identities, with 87% of female students, 78% of male students, and 72% of those who did not identify a gender reporting they were satisfied with their experience at MTU.

Fifty seven (12%) respondents provided written responses to the question asking for any additional comments regarding their satisfaction at Michigan Tech. Responses mainly focused on students dissatisfaction with campus parking, dining halls, and the University building new infrastructure (East Hall and the Wellness Center) instead of building more parking. Several respondents shared positive experiences with various departments across campus and a few students would like more opportunities for engagement in the winter.

Student Affairs Offices

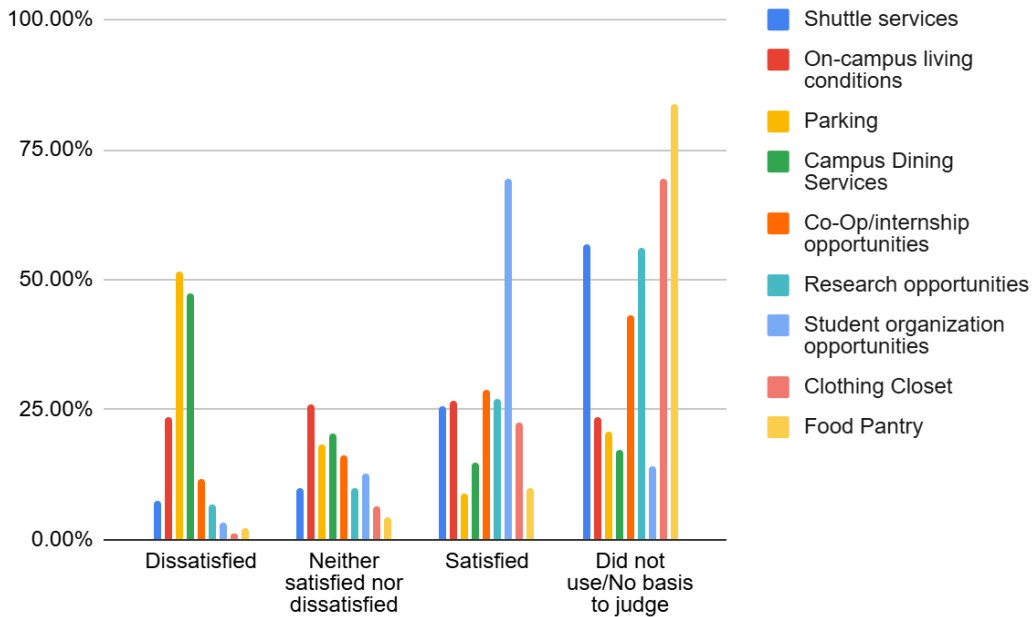
Career Services (64%) and Student Leadership and Involvement (69%) had the highest rates of satisfaction from the students who utilized their services, with most offices in Student Affairs having a high mean score of satisfaction. The majority of the students who used the offices in Student Affairs are satisfied. However, not all students are using these offices.



Campus Services

Of the students who utilized campus services, students were most satisfied with Student Organization Opportunities (81%) and other services such as the Food Pantry (60%), the Clothing Closet (74%), Research Opportunities (61%), Co-Ops/Internships (50.6%) and the Shuttle Services (59%). However, students were very dissatisfied with their experiences with

parking (65%) and campus dining (57%).



Campus Accessibility

The majority of respondents find campus to be accessible with 32.44% finding campus very accessible and 48.53% finding campus accessible. However, while over 80% of students generally find the campus accessible, nearly 79% of those same respondents report that this accessibility is compromised either "sometimes" or "always" during the winter months.

When asked about accessibility concerns around campus several students commented concerns about additional winter hazards particularly for wheelchair users, with icy steep hills and snow plow/shovel timing. There were also concerns about elevator reliability, inaccessible buildings, and limited accessible parking spaces.

Broader Houghton and Upper Peninsula community

72.98% of students agree they would recommend Houghton as a good place to live to a friend and a majority (58.59%) feel they belong in the local community off-campus. Although 53.89% feel confident they could build a good life in the UP, 59.28% reported they were unlikely to stay and work in the Upper Peninsula after graduation, with a majority citing a lack of career paths or competitive salaries necessary for them to remain after graduation.

When prompted to cite one thing that would change their mind about staying in the UP after graduation, respondents cited needing more jobs in the STEM fields, affordable and quality housing, more urban infrastructure (public transit, retail, restaurants), and a change in weather.

Next Steps

- Provide survey results and summary to campus
- Work with USG to host information sessions on various topics of concern
- Collaborate with the Student Success Council accessibility committee to evaluate concerns and propose changes.