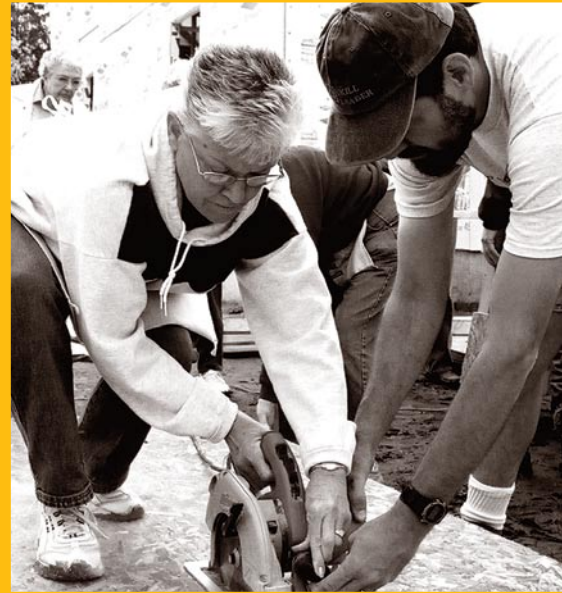


Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 

**VOLUNTEERING IN AMERICA:**  
2007 State Trends and Rankings in Civic Life



2007

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The mission of the Corporation for National and Community Service is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Each year, the Corporation provides opportunities for approximately 2 million Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America.

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April 2007

# CEO MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to present *Volunteering in America: 2007 State Trends and Rankings in Civic Life*.

For the second consecutive year, the Corporation for National and Community Service, in partnership with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau, has produced a detailed breakdown of America's volunteering habits and patterns by state and region. This report is a valuable tool for states, community leaders, and service organizations to expand the ranks of American volunteers and help build a culture of service and citizenship as President George W. Bush called for in his 2002 State of the Union Address.

Since issuing last year's *Volunteering in America* report, the Corporation released another report that for the first time tracked volunteer rates over a 30-year period. The report illustrates how volunteer rates in the first decade of the 21st century are at a historic high—a trend not totally unexpected given the renewed national interest in volunteering and civic engagement after the terror attacks of 2001 and the hurricanes of 2005.

Indeed, these events have helped build Americans' understanding that service and volunteering aren't just nice things to do but are necessary parts of how our nation deals with its challenges. What's more, the events taught the nation to look beyond occasional manmade and natural disasters to ongoing social and economic needs that are disasters in their own right: the 15 percent of American children who live below the poverty line, the 15 million children who need mentors, and the millions of elderly people who need help living independently in their homes. As the nation continues to face competing social needs, service and volunteering—as well as an increasingly engaged and active citizenry—are cost-effective ways to improve lives and strengthen communities.

This year's report includes several new features and findings that present a deeper understanding of volunteering and its connection to the broader civic health of our nation. With input from national experts in civic engagement, we've created a new Civic Life Index based on such factors as voting rates, attendance at public meetings, and the prevalence of civic associations. This report also looks at volunteer retention and finds that one-third of volunteers do not continue to serve the following year—an alarming fact that calls out for action to improve volunteer management practices and strengthen non-profit infrastructure.

For the first time, this report also provides us with a sense of the level of "informal" volunteering in America—an additional 5.3 million Americans worked with their neighbors to fix or improve their communities. This trend shows that the strength of the American tradition of volunteering runs even deeper than previously measured. Informal volunteering is also factored into the Civic Life Index.

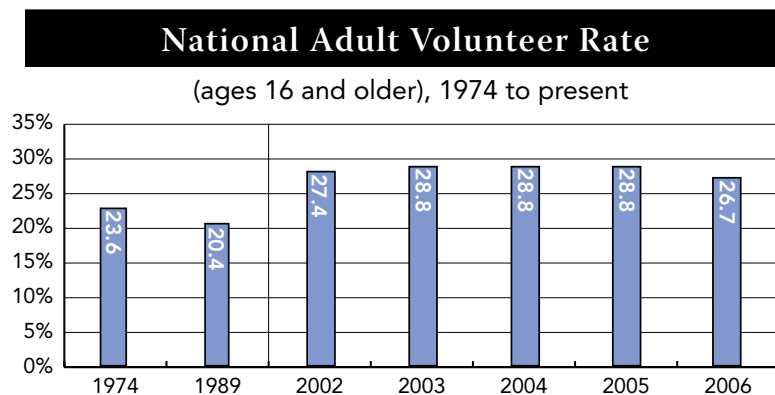
In short, out of the tragedy of 9/11 and the devastation of hurricanes has come an unmistakable good: a strong interest in volunteering and community involvement. But even though volunteer rates remain at historically high levels, we have a long road ahead to tap the full potential of American compassion. In traveling that road, reports such as this can be a useful tool in achieving our national goal of increasing the number of volunteers in America to 75 million by 2010.

David Eisner, Chief Executive Officer  
Corporation for National and Community Service

# INTRODUCTION

## VOLUNTEERING IN AMERICA: 2007 STATE TRENDS AND RANKINGS IN CIVIC LIFE

The mission of the Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. In support of our mission, *Volunteering in America: 2007 State Trends and Rankings in Civic Life* provides a national, regional, and state analysis of volunteering trends, and represents a valuable step in building service and volunteering. In 2006, 61.2 million adults volunteered throughout the United States, representing 26.7 percent of the population. While this is a decline from the 65.4 million volunteers (28.8% of the population) in 2005, the national volunteer rate remains at historically high levels compared to past decades and close to the volunteer rate the year after the terrorist attacks of 9/11.



Today, Americans are making more time to improve their community through service. In fact, people of all ages are volunteering on college campuses, through religious communities, at schools, and in social service organizations in a wide range of volunteer activities. Many volunteers teach and mentor children, help older individuals live independently, and

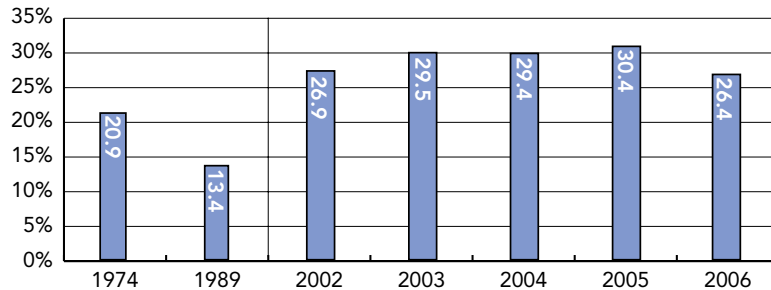
work with communities to recover from hurricanes and other disasters. By examining historical volunteer trends, it is clear that Americans are turning out in record numbers to volunteer.

The growth in volunteering from 1974 to 2006 has primarily been driven by three age groups: young adults; mid-life adults; and older adults. In particular, volunteer rates among the young adult population (16-19 years old) showed a dramatic rise between 1974 and today. While volunteer rates among young adults declined between 1974 and 1989 (20.9% and 13.4%, respectively), the percentage of young adults who volunteer almost doubled between 1989 and 2006 (from 13.4% to 26.4%, respectively). Similarly, the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) recently reported that the percentage of entering college students who believe that it is “essential” or “very important” to help others who are in difficulty reached a 25-year high in 2005 and that rate slightly increased in 2006.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Higher Education Research Institute (HERI). American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 2006. January 2007.

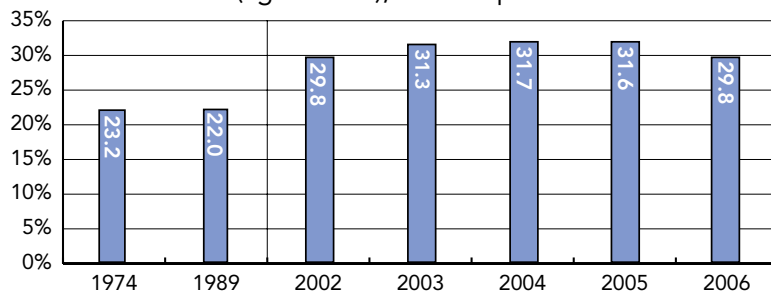
## Volunteer Rate for Young Adults

(ages 16-19), 1974 to present



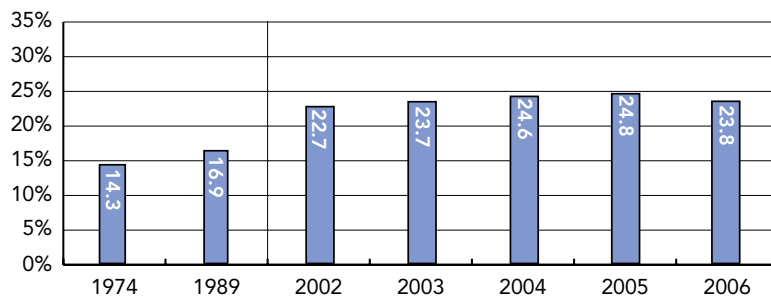
## Volunteer Rate for Mid-Life Adults

(ages 45-64), 1974 to present



## Volunteer Rate for Older Adults

(ages 65 and older), 1974 to present



engagement, and civic infrastructure. As with the volunteer results, the hope is that tracking civic life over time will help build stronger, more vibrant communities.

The mid-life adult population (46-64 years old) also experienced an increase in volunteering over the last 30 years. The mid-life adult volunteer rate declined between 1974 and 1989 (23.2% to 22%, respectively) but rebounded to 29.8 percent in 2006. Baby Boomers, who make up the majority of this group, are the primary reason for the increase in volunteering among mid-life Americans.

While the overall adult volunteer rate declined substantially from 1974 to 1989, the volunteer rate for older adults (ages 65 and older) actually increased during that period. In fact, older adults have been increasing their volunteer activities through the last three decades, going from 14.3 percent in 1974 to 23.8 percent in 2006.<sup>2</sup>

Recognizing that the civic health of our nation entails more than volunteering, the Corporation has begun measuring civic engagement through its Civic Life Index. This is the first time that the Corporation has attempted to gauge overall civic engagement both at the national and state levels. Created in conjunction with leading experts in community life, the index is based on volunteering, voting, neighborhood

<sup>2</sup> Corporation for National and Community Service. (2006). *Volunteer Growth in America: A Review of Trends Since 1974*. Washington, DC.

# INTRODUCTION

The Corporation also realizes that volunteer retention and management are critical for community organizations to develop a stable volunteer base and increase volunteer participation. For the first time, we report that one out of every three people who volunteer in a year do not volunteer the following year. Of the 65.4 million volunteers in 2005, 20.9 million did not continue to volunteer in 2006. While the good news is that most volunteers choose to continue volunteering, the dramatic cycling of people in and out of volunteering reinforces the fact that volunteer management is critically important and that creating positive volunteer experiences is key to growing a widespread culture of service.

*Volunteering in America: 2007 State Trends and Rankings in Civic Life* is a powerful tool for states, community leaders, service organizations, and volunteers nationwide to develop a volunteer growth strategy, set goals to increase the level of individual engagement in volunteer activities, and build the infrastructure of nonprofits and communities to support more volunteer opportunities. This report also provides valuable information on civic engagement, which enhances our ability to bolster and maintain healthy, civically engaged communities. Together with our partners, including volunteer and service organizations across the country, we are committed to working toward a national goal of expanding the number of Americans who volunteer to 75 million by 2010.

## Methodology

The Corporation has partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the U.S. Census Bureau, and the USA Freedom Corps to add a volunteer supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households (100,000 individuals). The U.S. Census Bureau administers the CPS volunteer supplement in September of each year to collect data on volunteering at the national, regional, and state levels. The volunteering supplement includes information on volunteering through an organization (formal volunteering), the frequency and intensity of volunteering, the types of organizations where individuals volunteer, and the volunteer activities performed. Starting in 2006, the CPS volunteer supplement also asked questions related to respondents' level of civic engagement in their community, including informal efforts such as working with neighbors to improve the community and attendance at public meetings.

## Organization of the Report

This report is divided into two sections: A National Profile and State Rankings of Volunteering and Civic Life.

### **1. National Profile:**

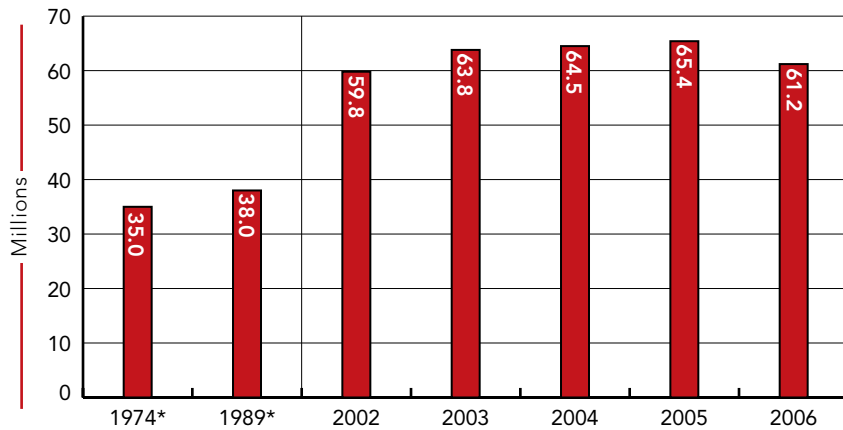
The national profile provides readers an opportunity to examine volunteering at the national level. In the profile of the Nation, we present a number of key findings on volunteering, including the numbers of volunteers and the volunteer rates for each of the past five years as well as historical trends. In addition, we present the hours and rates of the volunteer demographics, total volunteer hours, most common activities performed by volunteers, the types of organizations at which volunteer activities are performed, indicators of civic engagement, and a Civic Life Index score.

### **2. State Rankings of Volunteering and Civic Life:**

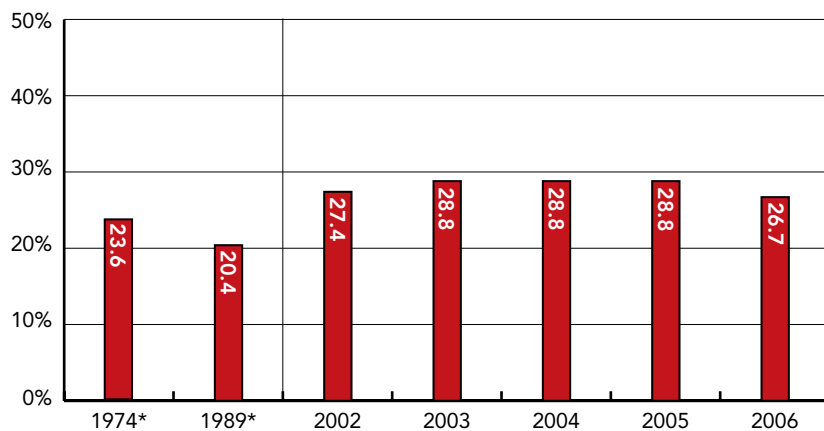
This section consists of rankings and key indicators of volunteering and civic life. The section's maps and tables include state level volunteer rates, volunteering rate changes, volunteer retention rate, and an index of civic life that includes voting, working within the community, and civic infrastructure. Volunteering among key demographic groups, such as older adults, Baby Boomers, young adults and college students, is also ranked. The volunteer rankings are based on three years of data in order to increase the reliability of the estimates and ensure more accurate comparisons across states. For more information, please see the Technical Note.

# UNITED STATES

## Volunteers in the U.S.



## U.S. Volunteer Rate



## Trends and Highlights

- In 2006, 61.2 million volunteers dedicated 8.1 billion hours of volunteer service.
- The nation's volunteer rate increased by 3.1 percentage points between 1974 and 2006 and 6.3 percentage points between 1989 and 2006.
- The percentage of volunteers serving in an education or youth-services organization nearly doubled from 15.1% in 1989 to 27% in 2006.
- Data from 1989 to 2006 show that religious institutions are the most popular organization choice among volunteers.
- On average, two-thirds (66%) of volunteers who served in 2005 continued to serve in 2006.
- In addition to the 61.2 million volunteers in 2006, over 5.3 million people participated informally by working with their neighbors to improve the community.
- Overall, 31.2% of people in the nation engaged in civic life by volunteering, working with their neighbors, or attending public meetings.

\* For more detailed state-level information on volunteering and civic life, go to [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov).

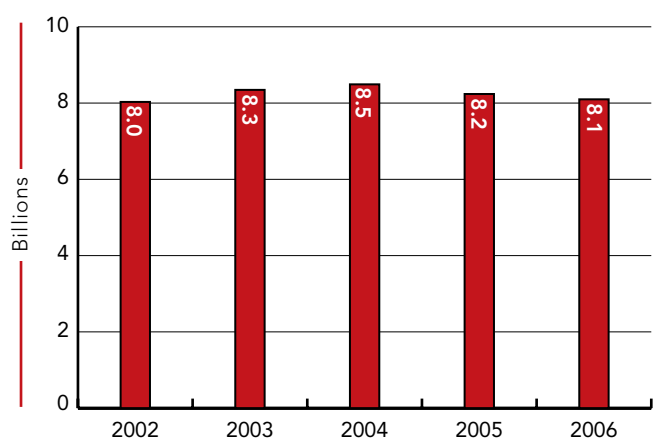
## U.S. Volunteering by Age and Gender

AGE	MEDIAN HOURS	NATIONAL RATE	CATEGORY	MEDIAN HOURS	NATIONAL RATE
16 - 24 years	39	23.4%	Age Group		
25 - 34 years	37	24.7%	College Students	40	29.6%
35 - 44 years	48	33.3%	Baby Boomers	52	32.2%
45 - 54 years	52	32.2%	Gender		
55 - 64 years	60	29.3%	Male	52	24.3%
65 + years	100	24.4%	Female	50	31.6%

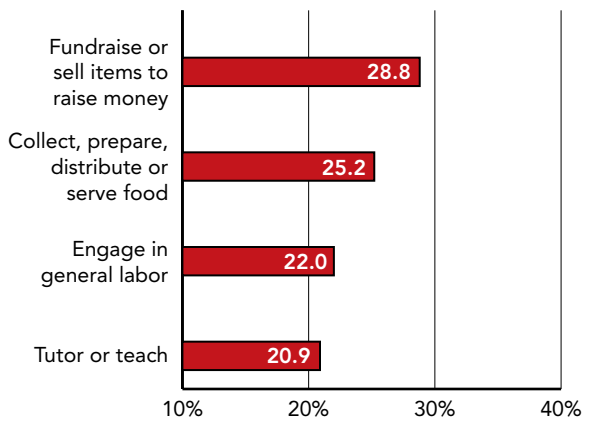




### Total Hours Volunteered Per Year

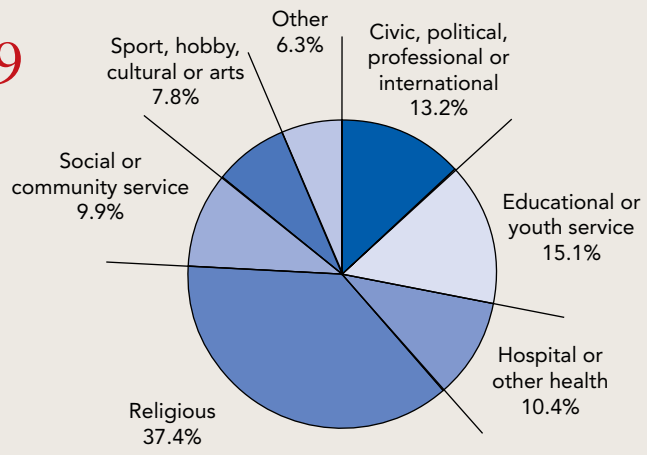


### Activities

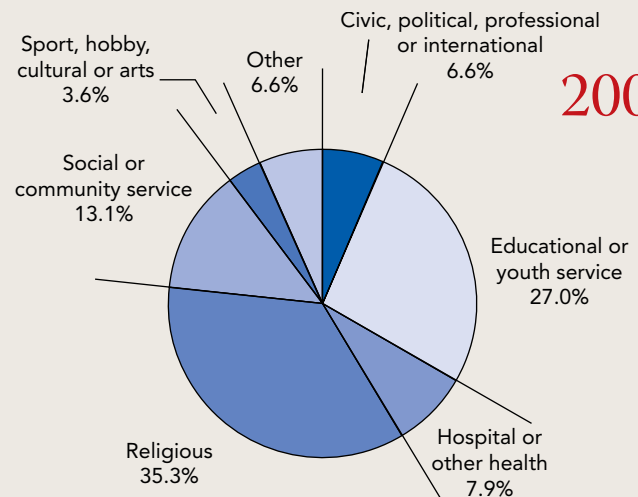


### Where Do People in the U.S. Volunteer?

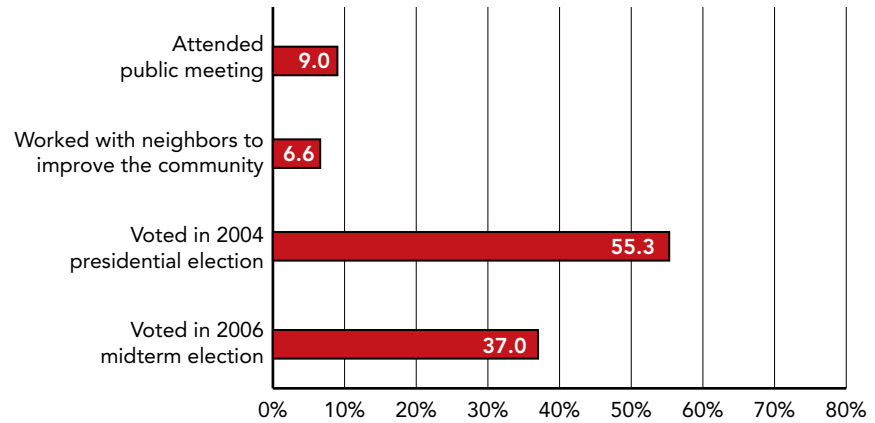
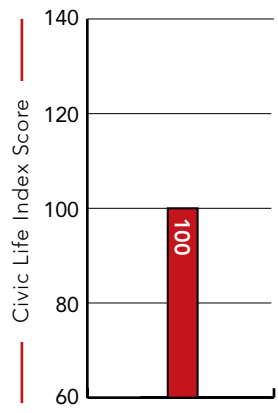
1989



2006



### How Civically Engaged Is the U.S.?



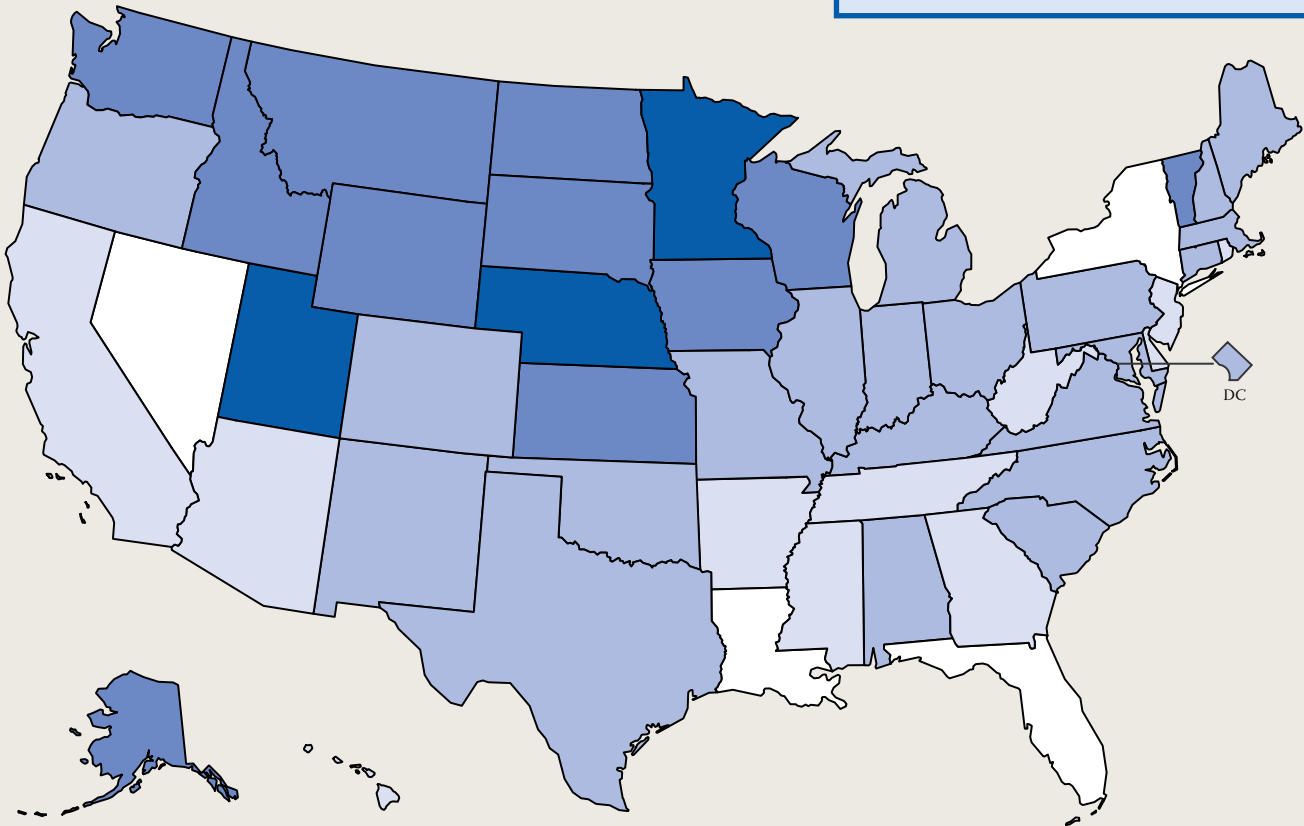
The Civic Life Index includes 12 indicators. For more information, go to [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov).

# VOLUNTEER RATES BY STATE

This map illustrates the difference among state volunteer rates. In 2006, 61.2 million Americans volunteered, representing 26.7% of the adult population. Between 2004 and 2006, the average state volunteer rates ranged from 17.5% to 45.9%.

## Top States

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Utah      | 6. Iowa         |
| 2. Nebraska  | 7. Montana      |
| 3. Minnesota | 8. Wyoming      |
| 4. Alaska    | 9. South Dakota |
| 5. Kansas    | 9. Vermont      |



Rate= 40% and above
  Rate= 35% - 39%
  Rate= 27% - 34%
  Rate= 24% - 26%
  Rate= 23% and below

# VOLUNTEER RATES BY STATE

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rates. States are listed in order of the highest volunteer rate to the lowest. As shown, states varied greatly in their reported volunteer rates over the three-year period, ranging from a high of 45.9% to a low of 17.5%.

RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE
1	Utah	45.9%	17	Michigan	32.2%	34	New Mexico	27.8%
2	Nebraska	42.4%	19	New Hampshire	32.0%	34	Texas	27.8%
3	Minnesota	40.4%	20	Missouri	31.8%	37	Delaware	26.3%
4	Alaska	38.8%	21	District of Columbia	31.3%	38	California	25.5%
5	Kansas	38.3%	22	Connecticut	30.7%	39	Tennessee	25.4%
6	Iowa	38.0%	23	Ohio	30.3%	40	Rhode Island	25.3%
7	Montana	37.7%	23	Oklahoma	30.3%	41	New Jersey	25.2%
8	Wyoming	37.3%	25	Kentucky	29.7%	41	West Virginia	25.2%
9	South Dakota	37.2%	26	Indiana	29.6%	43	Hawaii	25.1%
9	Vermont	37.2%	27	Pennsylvania	29.5%	44	Arizona	24.9%
11	Wisconsin	36.5%	28	Maryland	29.4%	45	Arkansas	24.7%
12	North Dakota	35.6%	29	Illinois	29.0%	46	Georgia	24.4%
12	Washington	35.6%	29	North Carolina	29.0%	47	Mississippi	24.2%
14	Idaho	35.1%	31	South Carolina	28.6%	48	Florida	21.8%
15	Oregon	33.3%	32	Virginia	28.5%	49	Louisiana	21.2%
16	Maine	33.0%	33	Alabama	28.2%	50	New York	20.1%
17	Colorado	32.2%	34	Massachusetts	27.8%	51	Nevada	17.5%

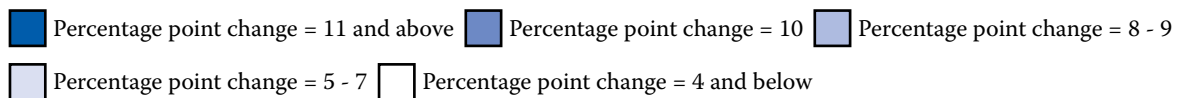
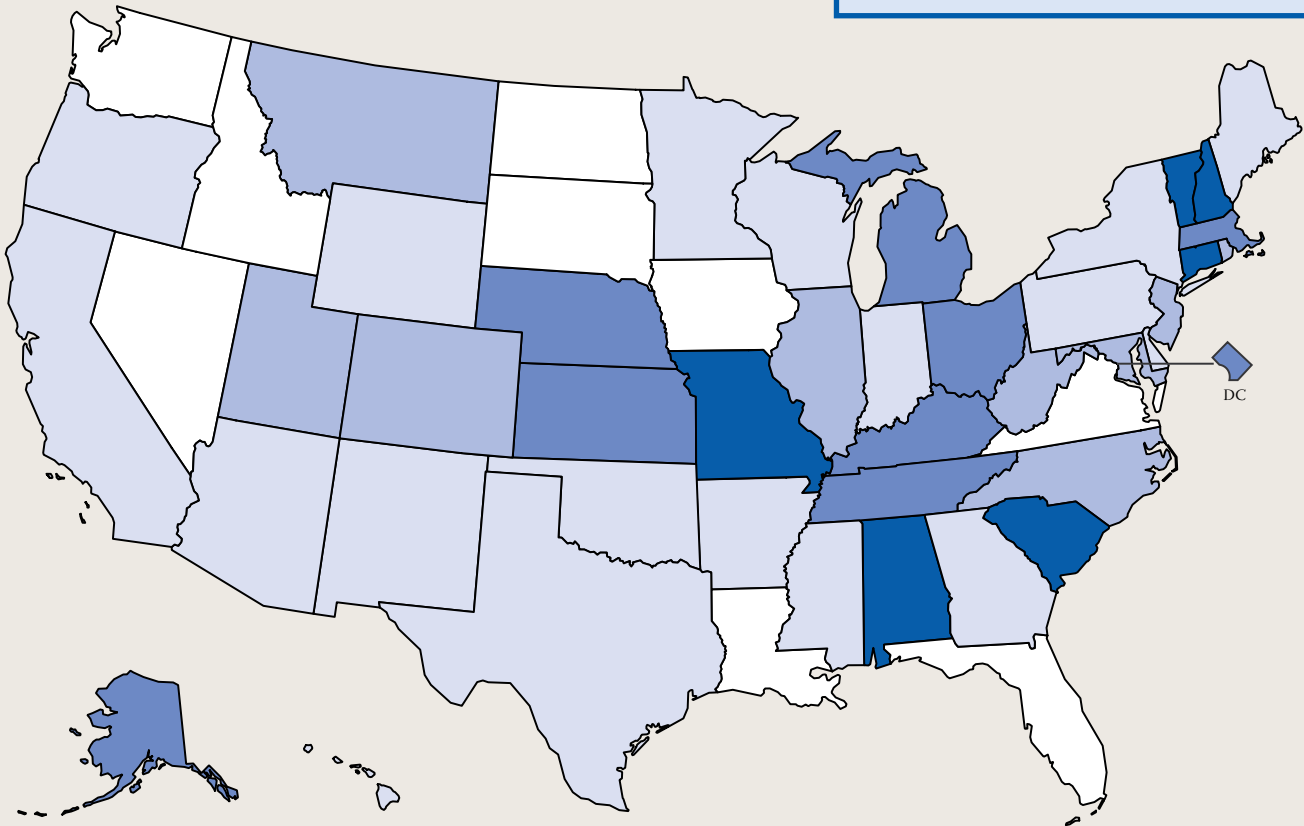
Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

# VOLUNTEER RATE CHANGES FROM 1989 TO 2006

This map illustrates how state volunteer rates changed between 1989 and the present. Volunteer rates are currently at historically high levels, with 26.7% of the adult population volunteering in 2006, compared to 20.4% in 1989.

## Top States

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Connecticut   | 6. South Carolina |
| 2. Alabama       | 7. Nebraska       |
| 3. Vermont       | 8. Michigan       |
| 4. New Hampshire | 9. Kansas         |
| 5. Missouri      | 10. Massachusetts |



# VOLUNTEER RATE CHANGES FROM 1989 TO 2006

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rate changes between 1989 and the present. States are listed in order of the highest volunteer rate change to the lowest. Volunteer rate changes varied greatly across the states over this time period, ranging from an increase of 14.8 percentage points to a decrease of 3.8 percentage points.

RANK	STATE	RATE CHANGE	RANK	STATE	RATE CHANGE	RANK	STATE	RATE CHANGE
1	Connecticut	+14.8%	18	Rhode Island	+9.3%	35	Mississippi	+6.2%
2	Alabama	+13.6%	19	Maryland	+9.2%	35	Oregon	+6.2%
3	Vermont	+12.9%	20	West Virginia	+9.0%	37	Maine	+5.9%
4	New Hampshire	+12.6%	21	North Carolina	+8.8%	38	Minnesota	+5.6%
5	Missouri	+11.8%	22	Colorado	+8.7%	39	Arizona	+5.4%
6	South Carolina	+11.6%	23	Montana	+8.2%	40	Georgia	+5.3%
7	Nebraska	+10.9%	23	Utah	+8.2%	41	Arkansas	+5.2%
8	Michigan	+10.7%	25	Pennsylvania	+7.7%	42	Wyoming	+5.1%
9	Kansas	+10.6%	26	California	+7.1%	43	Iowa	+4.7%
10	Massachusetts	+10.3%	27	New York	+6.9%	44	Virginia	+4.5%
11	Tennessee	+10.2%	27	Indiana	+6.9%	45	Florida	+4.4%
12	Kentucky	+10.1%	29	Hawaii	+6.8%	46	Louisiana	+3.9%
12	Ohio	+10.1%	30	Delaware	+6.7%	46	Washington	+3.9%
14	Alaska	+10.0%	31	New Mexico	+6.6%	48	South Dakota	+1.7%
14	District of Columbia	+10.0%	32	Oklahoma	+6.5%	49	Idaho	+1.6%
16	New Jersey	+9.5%	32	Wisconsin	+6.5%	50	Nevada	+1.0%
17	Illinois	+9.4%	34	Texas	+6.3%	51	North Dakota	-3.8%

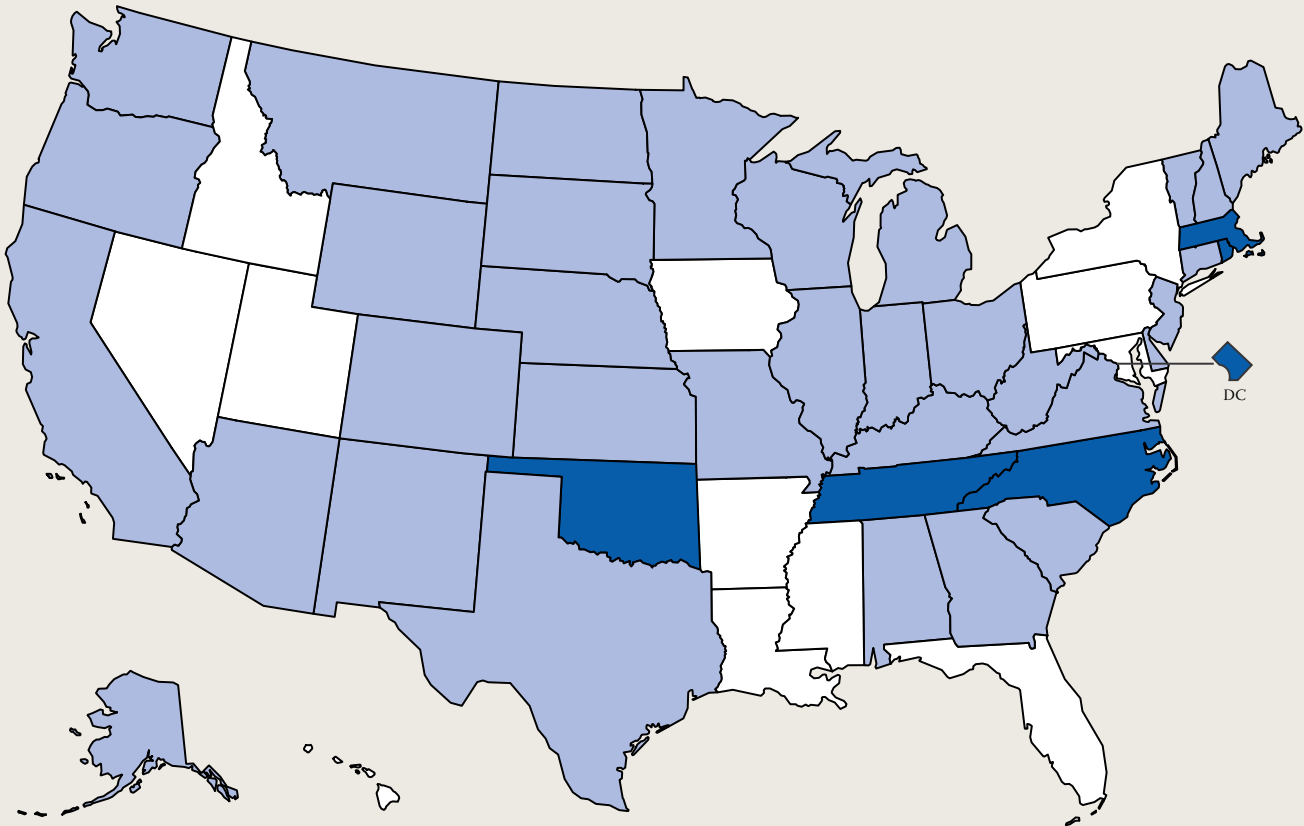
Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

# VOLUNTEER RATE CHANGES FROM 2002 TO 2006

This map illustrates how the state volunteer rates more recently changed between 2002 and 2006. The states have been classified into three categories: increase, nominal change, and decrease. The “increase” states had an increase higher than one percentage point in their volunteer rates. The “nominal change” states exhibited little to no change in their volunteer rates. The “decrease” states had a decline of greater than one percentage point.

## Top States

1. District of Columbia
2. Massachusetts
3. Rhode Island
4. Oklahoma
5. North Carolina
6. Tennessee



Increase Nominal change Decrease

# VOLUNTEER RATE CHANGES FROM 2002 TO 2006

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rate changes between 2002 and 2006. States are grouped into three categories: increase, nominal change, and decrease. Volunteer rate changes show differences across the states over this time period, ranging from an increase of 2.6 percentage points to a decrease of 2.8 percentage points.

STATE	RATE CHANGE	STATE	RATE CHANGE	STATE	RATE CHANGE
District of Columbia	+2.6%	Maine	+0.5%	Texas	-0.2%
Massachusetts	+2.2%	New Hampshire	+0.5%	New Mexico	-0.6%
Rhode Island	+1.7%	South Carolina	+0.5%	New Jersey	-0.9%
Oklahoma	+1.6%	Minnesota	+0.4%	South Dakota	-1.0%
North Carolina	+1.4%	Oregon	+0.4%	Wyoming	-1.0%
Tennessee	+1.3%	Indiana	+0.3%	Idaho	-1.1%
Vermont	+1.0%	Alabama	+0.2%	Hawaii	-1.2%
Kentucky	+0.9%	California	+0.1%	New York	-1.4%
Arizona	+0.8%	Illinois	+0.1%	Maryland	-1.4%
Colorado	+0.7%	Montana	+0.1%	Louisiana	-1.5%
Nebraska	+0.7%	Virginia	+0.1%	Pennsylvania	-1.5%
West Virginia	+0.7%	Washington	0.0%	Iowa	-1.6%
Alaska	+0.6%	Delaware	-0.1%	Utah	-2.1%
Michigan	+0.6%	Missouri	-0.1%	Florida	-2.2%
Wisconsin	+0.6%	North Dakota	-0.1%	Nevada	-2.3%
Connecticut	+0.5%	Ohio	-0.1%	Arkansas	-2.4%
Kansas	+0.5%	Georgia	-0.2%	Mississippi	-2.8%

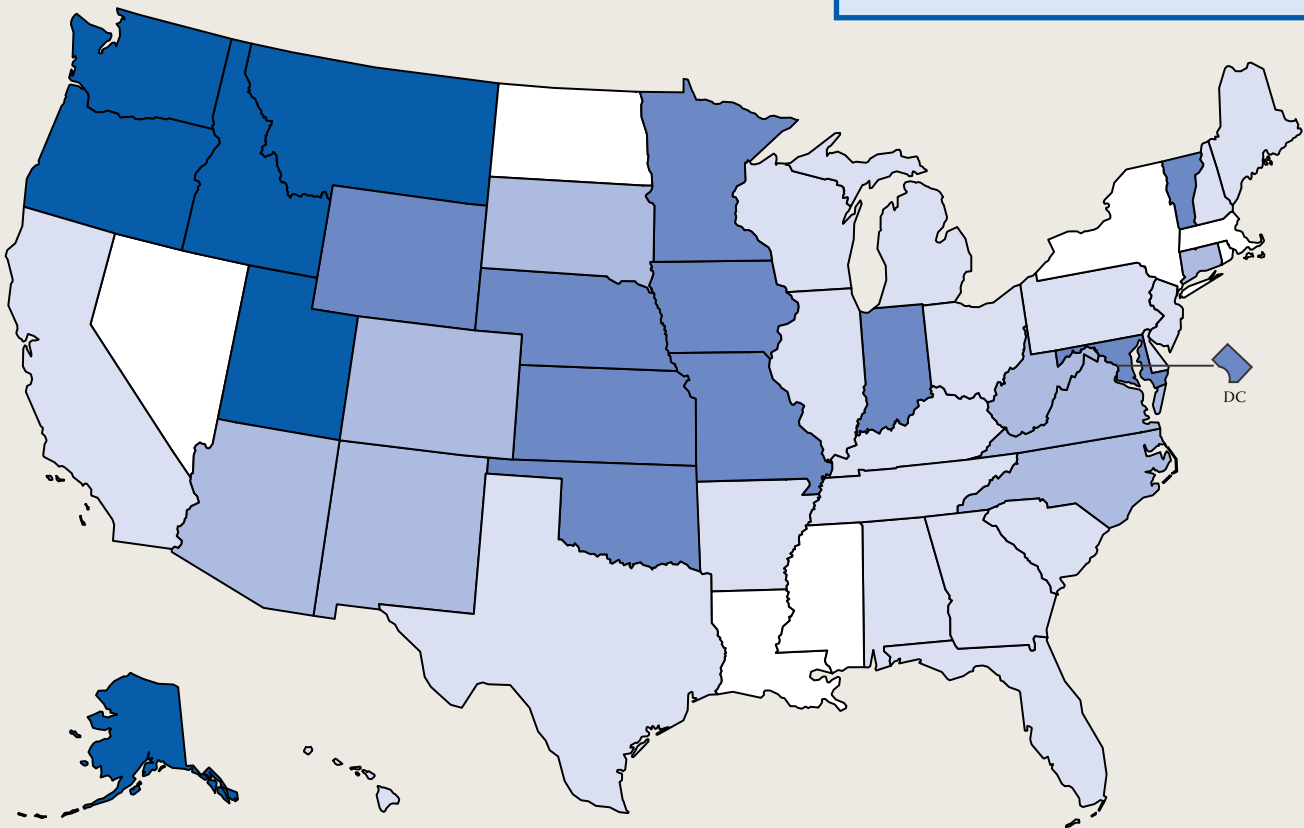
Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

# VOLUNTEER HOURS

This map illustrates differences among the states in their average volunteer hours per state resident per year. Between 2004 and 2006, the nation had an average per capita of 36.5 hours. During this same period, the states' average volunteer hours per capita ranged from 22.1 hours to 81.9 hours.

## Top States

- |               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Utah       | 6. Oregon               |
| 2. Idaho      | 7. District of Columbia |
| 3. Washington | 8. Nebraska             |
| 4. Alaska     | 9. Vermont              |
| 5. Montana    | 10. Wyoming             |



Hours= 50 and above
  Hours= 42 - 49
  Hours= 39 - 41
  Hours= 31 - 38
  Hours= 29 and below



# VOLUNTEER HOURS

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of the average volunteer hours per state resident per year. States are listed in order of the highest average volunteer hours per capita to the lowest. Hours reported varied greatly across the states over this three-year period, ranging from 81.9 hours to 22.1 hours.

RANK	STATE	HOURS	RANK	STATE	HOURS	RANK	STATE	HOURS
1	Utah	81.9	18	Colorado	40.9	35	California	34.8
2	Idaho	57.4	18	Virginia	40.9	36	Kentucky	33.9
3	Washington	54.5	20	Connecticut	40.8	37	Georgia	33.8
4	Alaska	53.1	21	New Mexico	40.6	37	Ohio	33.8
5	Montana	51.2	22	South Dakota	40.4	39	Illinois	32.8
6	Oregon	50.3	23	West Virginia	40.2	40	Delaware	32.1
7	District of Columbia	48.1	24	Arizona	39.9	41	Tennessee	31.9
8	Nebraska	47.9	25	North Carolina	39.4	42	New Jersey	31.8
9	Vermont	47.0	26	New Hampshire	38.3	43	Arkansas	31.6
10	Wyoming	45.3	27	Alabama	38.1	44	Florida	31.0
11	Minnesota	45.2	28	Hawaii	37.9	45	North Dakota	29.8
12	Kansas	44.7	29	Texas	37.4	46	Massachusetts	29.3
13	Indiana	44.2	30	South Carolina	37.1	47	Mississippi	28.7
14	Oklahoma	43.6	31	Michigan	36.8	48	Rhode Island	27.9
15	Missouri	43.5	32	Pennsylvania	36.7	49	New York	24.7
15	Maryland	43.5	33	Wisconsin	36.4	50	Nevada	24.4
17	Iowa	42.6	33	Maine	36.4	51	Louisiana	22.1

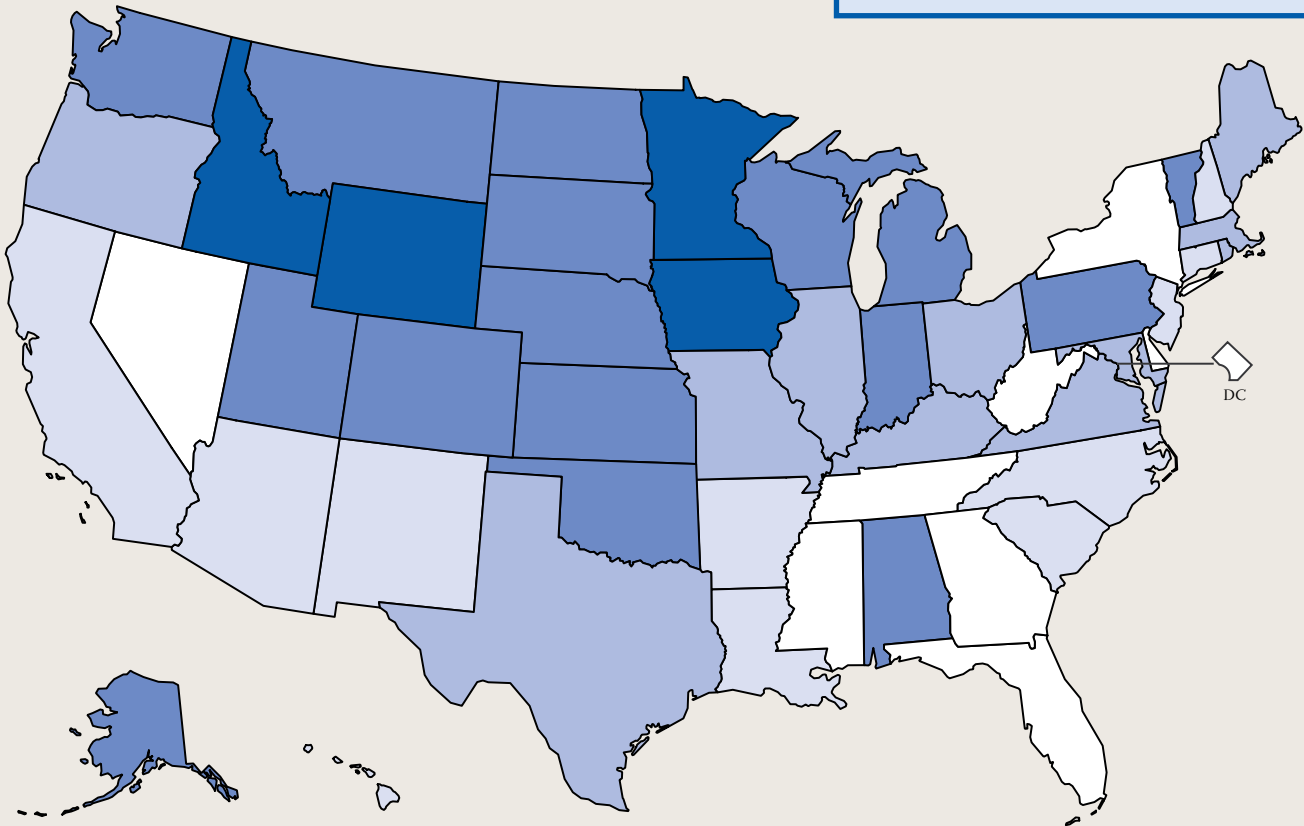
Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

# VOLUNTEER RETENTION RATES

This map illustrates differences among the states in their volunteer retention rates. The retention rate is the percentage of volunteers who continue their service over more than one year. Of the 65.4 million volunteers in 2005, 44.5 million also volunteered in 2006, resulting in a retention rate of 68.1%. The remaining 31.9% of volunteers in 2005 did not serve in 2006.

## Top States

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Minnesota | 6. Utah     |
| 2. Idaho     | 6. Michigan |
| 3. Iowa      | 8. Alabama  |
| 4. Wyoming   | 9. Nebraska |
| 5. Indiana   | 10. Montana |



Rate= 75% and above
  Rate= 69% - 74%
  Rate= 66% - 68%
  Rate= 61% - 65%
  Rate= 60% and below

# VOLUNTEER RETENTION RATES

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer retention rates. The retention rate is the percentage of volunteers who continue their service for more than one year. States are listed from the highest to lowest volunteer retention rate. As shown, volunteer retention rates varied widely across the states, ranging from a high of 76.4% to a low of 47.2%.

RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE
1	Minnesota	76.4%	18	Pennsylvania	69.9%	35	Arkansas	64.4%
2	Idaho	76.0%	19	Oklahoma	69.7%	36	Arizona	64.3%
3	Iowa	75.9%	20	Colorado	69.5%	37	Louisiana	63.8%
4	Wyoming	75.5%	21	Kentucky	68.8%	38	New Hampshire	63.6%
5	Indiana	73.0%	22	Ohio	68.7%	39	South Carolina	63.2%
6	Utah	72.9%	23	Illinois	68.0%	40	New Jersey	63.1%
6	Michigan	72.9%	23	Virginia	68.0%	41	California	62.5%
8	Alabama	72.8%	25	Texas	67.6%	42	North Carolina	62.0%
9	Nebraska	72.1%	26	Oregon	67.4%	43	Delaware	60.7%
10	Montana	71.8%	27	Maryland	66.7%	44	District of Columbia	60.3%
11	North Dakota	71.5%	27	Missouri	66.7%	45	New York	60.2%
12	Vermont	71.4%	29	Maine	66.5%	46	Nevada	57.9%
13	Kansas	71.3%	30	Rhode Island	66.3%	47	West Virginia	57.4%
14	Alaska	70.9%	31	Massachusetts	66.1%	48	Tennessee	56.4%
14	Washington	70.9%	32	Hawaii	65.4%	49	Georgia	55.5%
16	Wisconsin	70.6%	33	New Mexico	65.0%	49	Florida	55.5%
17	South Dakota	70.2%	34	Connecticut	64.7%	51	Mississippi	47.2%

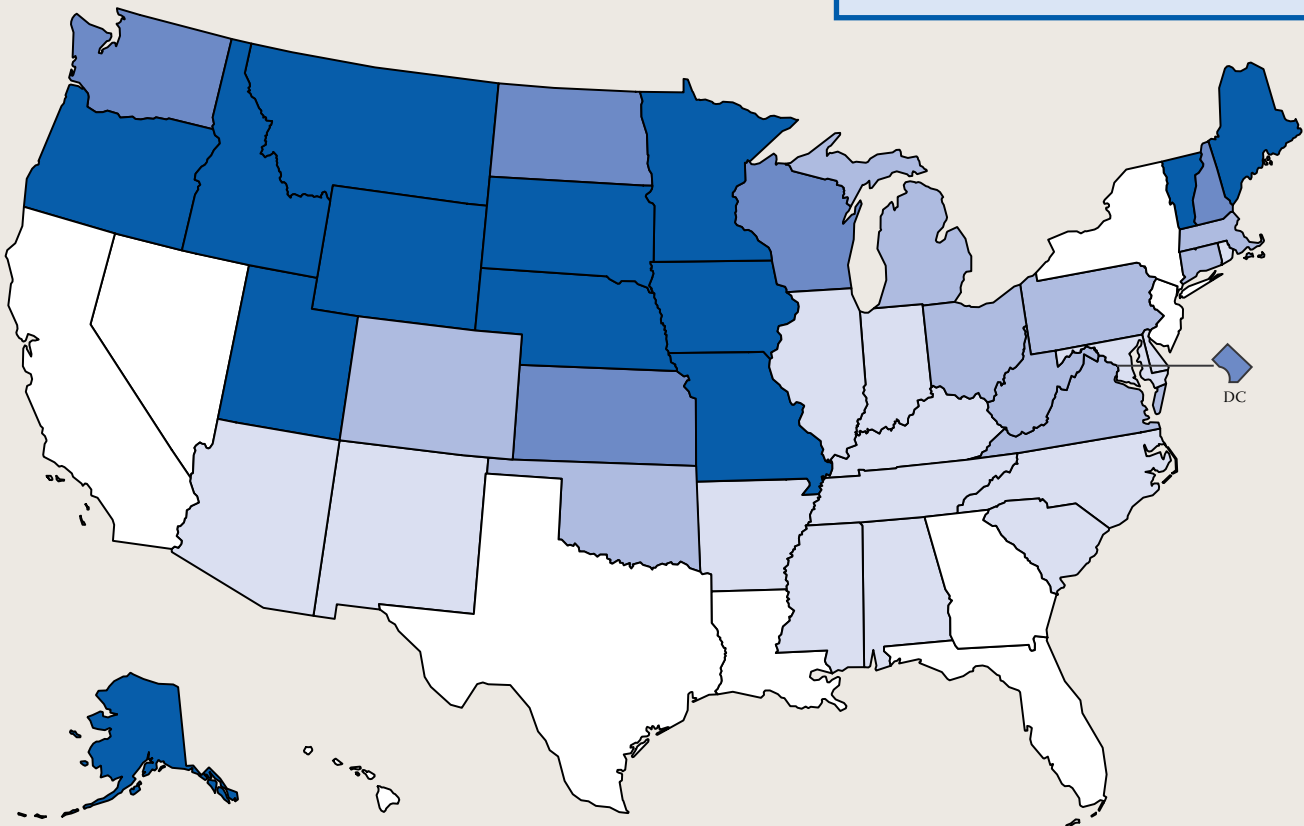
Rankings are based on volunteer retention from 2004 to 2005 and 2005 to 2006.

# CIVIC LIFE INDEX

The Civic Life Index includes 12 indicators in the following categories: Volunteering (volunteer rate, volunteer hours per capita, and regular volunteering), Neighborhood Engagement [attendance at public meetings (percent and frequency) and working with neighbors to improve the community (percent and frequency)], Voting (the 2004 Presidential election and 2006 Congressional midterm election), and Civic Infrastructure (the number of large and small nonprofit organizations and religious institutions per capita). For more information, go to [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov).

## Top States

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Montana      | 6. Minnesota |
| 2. Vermont      | 7. Iowa      |
| 3. Alaska       | 8. Oregon    |
| 4. South Dakota | 9. Maine     |
| 5. Wyoming      | 10. Missouri |



Score= 113 and above
  Score= 108 - 112
  Score= 103 - 107
  Score= 96 - 102
  Score= 95 and below

# CIVIC LIFE INDEX

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of the Civic Life Index. The Civic Life Index includes 12 indicators of civic engagement including volunteering, neighborhood engagement, voting and civic infrastructure. The score for the United States in 2006—the first year of the Civic Life Index—was set to 100, and all states were ranked based on their individual index score. The Civic Life Index varied greatly across the states, ranging from a high of 126 to a low of 86.3.

RANK	STATE	CIVIC LIFE INDEX	RANK	STATE	CIVIC LIFE INDEX	RANK	STATE	CIVIC LIFE INDEX
1	Montana	126.0	18	New Hampshire	108.0	35	Kentucky	100.9
2	Vermont	123.4	18	District of Columbia	108.0	36	Indiana	100.0
3	Alaska	121.8	20	Michigan	106.9	37	Arkansas	99.2
4	South Dakota	121.7	21	Colorado	106.6	38	Illinois	99.0
5	Wyoming	119.0	22	West Virginia	106.4	39	Alabama	98.7
6	Minnesota	118.6	23	Oklahoma	106.0	40	Arizona	97.8
7	Iowa	118.0	24	Pennsylvania	105.4	41	North Carolina	97.5
8	Oregon	116.7	25	Ohio	105.2	42	Rhode Island	96.9
9	Maine	114.9	26	Virginia	104.0	43	Florida	95.3
10	Missouri	113.9	26	Connecticut	104.0	44	Hawaii	94.8
11	Utah	113.7	28	Massachusetts	103.7	45	California	93.5
12	Idaho	113.5	29	New Mexico	102.7	46	New Jersey	92.7
13	Nebraska	113.1	30	Mississippi	102.3	47	Texas	91.1
14	Wisconsin	111.0	31	Maryland	102.0	48	New York	88.7
15	North Dakota	110.8	32	Delaware	101.7	49	Georgia	88.2
16	Washington	110.6	33	South Carolina	101.4	50	Louisiana	87.6
17	Kansas	109.9	34	Tennessee	101.0	51	Nevada	86.3

For more information on the Civic Life Index, go to [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov).



# OLDER ADULT VOLUNTEER RATES

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rates among adults (ages 65 years and older). As shown, volunteer rates among older adults varied widely across the states over the three-year period, ranging from a high of 49.7% to a low of 12.7%.

RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE
1	Utah	49.7%	17	Missouri	26.8%	35	Georgia	23.2%
2	Nebraska	42.3%	19	Arizona	26.4%	36	Michigan	23.1%
3	Minnesota	40.9%	20	Connecticut	26.3%	36	Pennsylvania	23.1%
4	South Dakota	37.9%	20	Delaware	26.3%	38	Massachusetts	23.0%
5	North Dakota	37.3%	20	Indiana	26.3%	39	New Mexico	22.5%
6	Kansas	36.0%	20	Ohio	26.3%	40	Tennessee	22.1%
7	Iowa	33.7%	24	Oklahoma	25.5%	41	California	21.9%
7	Washington	33.7%	25	New Hampshire	25.2%	41	Mississippi	21.9%
9	Montana	33.1%	26	Texas	25.1%	43	Florida	21.2%
10	Wisconsin	32.7%	27	South Carolina	25.0%	44	New Jersey	20.8%
11	Vermont	32.0%	28	Maine	24.9%	45	Alabama	20.4%
12	Alaska	31.7%	29	District of Columbia	24.8%	46	New York	18.4%
13	Oregon	31.2%	30	Kentucky	24.7%	47	Arkansas	18.3%
14	Wyoming	29.0%	30	Virginia	24.7%	48	Rhode Island	18.1%
15	Maryland	27.4%	32	West Virginia	24.0%	49	Louisiana	17.5%
16	Colorado	26.9%	33	North Carolina	23.9%	50	Hawaii	15.9%
17	Idaho	26.8%	34	Illinois	23.5%	51	Nevada	12.7%

Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.





# BABY BOOMER VOLUNTEER RATES

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rates among Baby Boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964). Volunteer rates among Baby Boomers varied greatly across the states over the three-year period, ranging from a high of 49.3% to a low of 20.2%.

RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE
1	Nebraska	49.3%	18	New Hampshire	36.6%	35	New Jersey	30.9%
2	Utah	49.1%	19	Oregon	36.4%	36	Alabama	30.5%
3	Minnesota	46.0%	20	Missouri	36.2%	37	California	30.2%
4	Kansas	45.3%	21	Illinois	35.9%	38	Rhode Island	29.5%
5	Iowa	43.6%	22	Connecticut	35.6%	39	Delaware	28.9%
5	South Dakota	43.6%	23	Pennsylvania	34.8%	39	Hawaii	28.9%
7	Montana	42.8%	24	District of Columbia	34.3%	41	South Carolina	28.8%
8	Wyoming	42.7%	25	Oklahoma	34.0%	42	Arkansas	27.6%
9	Vermont	42.0%	26	Indiana	33.8%	43	Mississippi	27.3%
10	North Dakota	41.9%	26	Massachusetts	33.8%	44	Tennessee	26.8%
11	Alaska	41.7%	28	Maryland	33.7%	45	Arizona	26.5%
12	Wisconsin	41.1%	29	Kentucky	33.2%	45	West Virginia	26.5%
13	Washington	40.1%	29	Virginia	33.2%	47	Georgia	26.2%
14	Idaho	38.7%	31	New Mexico	32.6%	48	Florida	24.5%
15	Maine	38.4%	31	Ohio	32.6%	49	New York	23.5%
16	Michigan	38.1%	33	North Carolina	32.4%	50	Louisiana	21.3%
17	Colorado	37.5%	33	Texas	32.4%	51	Nevada	20.2%

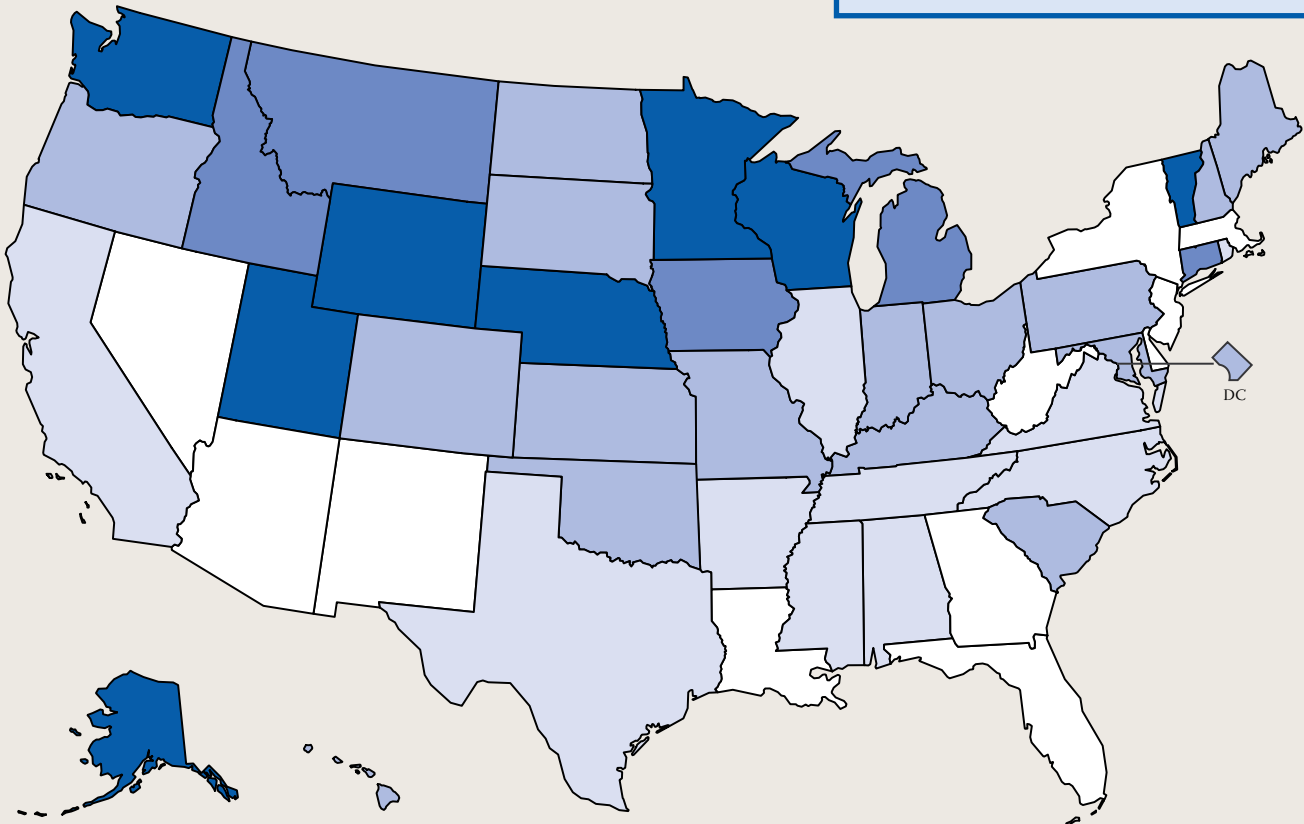
Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

# YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER RATES

This map illustrates differences among the states in their rates of volunteering by young adults (ages 16 to 24). Between 2004 and 2006, the average national young adult volunteer rate was 23.4%. During this same period, state young adult volunteer rates ranged from 11.1% to 39%.

## Top States

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Utah       | 6. Wisconsin |
| 2. Vermont    | 7. Alaska    |
| 3. Wyoming    | 8. Nebraska  |
| 4. Washington | 9. Iowa      |
| 5. Minnesota  | 10. Montana  |



Rate= 31% and above
  Rate= 29% - 30%
  Rate= 24% - 28%
  Rate= 21% - 23%
  Rate= 20% and below

# YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER RATES

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rates by young adults (ages 16 to 24). States are listed in order of the highest young adult volunteer rate to the lowest. As shown, volunteer rates among young adults varied greatly across the states, ranging from a high of 39% to a low of 11.1%.

RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE
1	Utah	39.0%	18	Kentucky	26.5%	35	Alabama	22.4%
2	Vermont	34.8%	19	Colorado	26.2%	36	Texas	22.3%
3	Wyoming	34.7%	19	Oregon	26.2%	37	Rhode Island	22.0%
4	Washington	34.4%	21	Missouri	26.0%	38	Tennessee	21.7%
5	Minnesota	33.9%	22	Oklahoma	25.8%	39	Virginia	21.5%
6	Wisconsin	32.5%	22	Hawaii	25.8%	40	California	21.3%
7	Alaska	31.9%	24	Ohio	25.7%	41	West Virginia	20.7%
8	Nebraska	31.7%	25	Indiana	25.6%	42	New Jersey	20.3%
9	Iowa	30.7%	26	Maryland	25.0%	42	Delaware	20.3%
10	Montana	29.9%	27	Maine	24.9%	44	Massachusetts	19.8%
11	Michigan	29.6%	28	Pennsylvania	24.6%	45	Arizona	19.2%
12	Connecticut	29.4%	29	South Carolina	24.3%	46	New Mexico	19.0%
13	Idaho	29.1%	29	District of Columbia	24.3%	47	Georgia	18.8%
14	South Dakota	27.9%	31	North Carolina	23.3%	48	Lousiana	18.3%
15	New Hampshire	27.5%	32	Illinois	23.1%	49	New York	17.8%
16	Kansas	27.1%	33	Arkansas	22.9%	50	Florida	17.6%
17	North Dakota	26.6%	34	Mississippi	22.5%	51	Nevada	11.1%

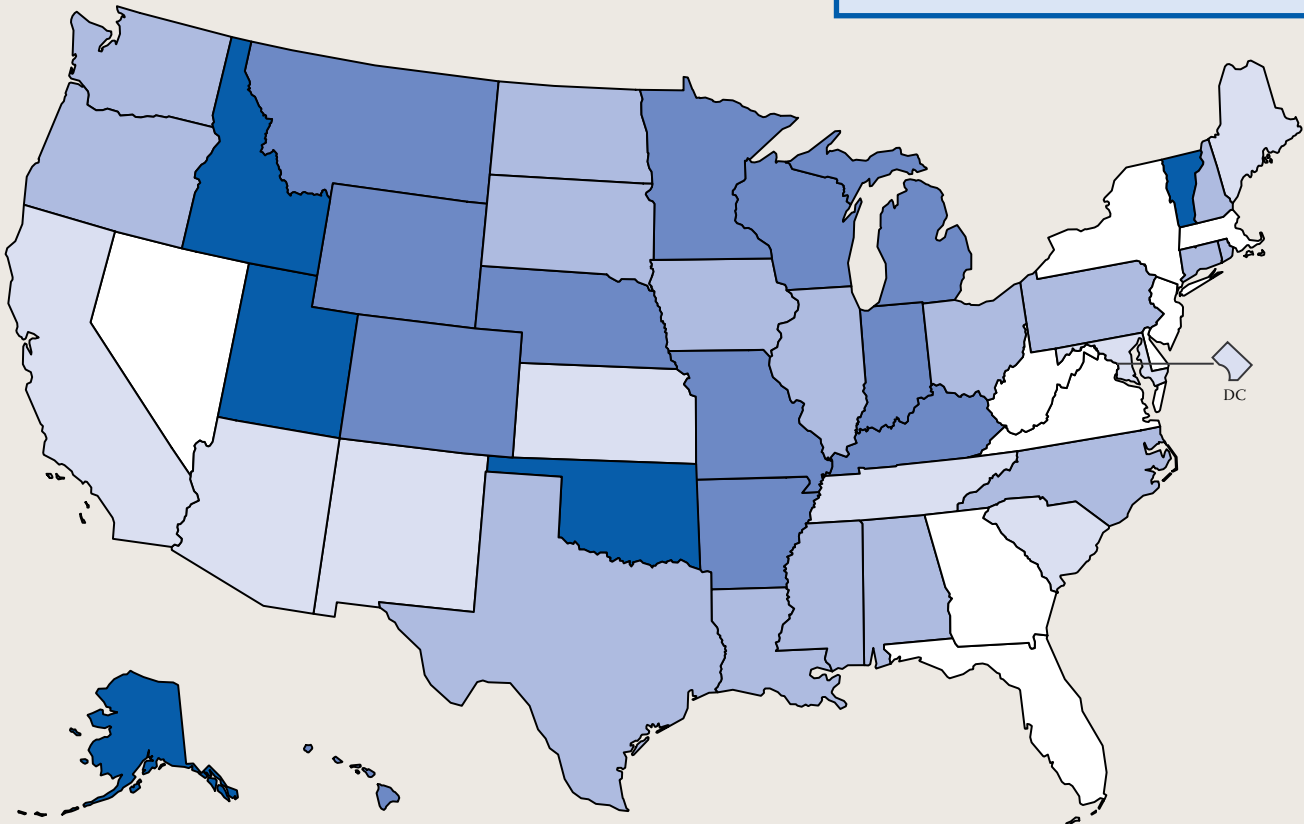
Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

# COLLEGE STUDENT VOLUNTEER RATES

This map illustrates differences among state rates of volunteering by college students. From 2004 to 2006, the national college student volunteer rate was 29.6%. During this same period, the state college student volunteer rate ranged from 17.3% to 55.4%.

## Top States

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Utah     | 6. Nebraska  |
| 2. Idaho    | 7. Minnesota |
| 3. Oklahoma | 8. Colorado  |
| 4. Alaska   | 9. Wisconsin |
| 5. Vermont  | 10. Michigan |



Rate= 43% and above
  Rate= 34% - 42%
  Rate= 30% - 33%
  Rate= 26% - 29%
  Rate= 25% and below

# COLLEGE STUDENT VOLUNTEER RATES

This table displays a state-by-state comparison of volunteer rates among college students. States are listed in order of the highest college student volunteering rate to the lowest. Volunteer rates among college students varied greatly across the states over the three-year period, ranging from a high of 55.4% to a low of 17.3%.

RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE	RANK	STATE	RATE
1	Utah	55.4%	18	Ohio	33.2%	35	Maryland	29.5%
2	Idaho	48.0%	18	Rhode Island	33.2%	36	Kansas	29.4%
3	Oklahoma	45.2%	20	Washington	33.0%	37	Maine	29.0%
4	Alaska	44.5%	21	North Carolina	32.6%	38	Arizona	28.6%
5	Vermont	43.6%	22	Oregon	32.5%	39	South Carolina	28.1%
6	Nebraska	39.6%	23	Connecticut	32.1%	40	California	27.6%
7	Minnesota	39.3%	23	Iowa	32.1%	41	New Mexico	27.1%
8	Colorado	38.9%	25	Mississippi	32.0%	42	Tennessee	26.4%
9	Wisconsin	38.2%	25	South Dakota	32.0%	43	New Jersey	24.0%
10	Michigan	38.1%	27	New Hampshire	31.9%	44	Massachusetts	23.9%
11	Montana	37.9%	28	North Dakota	31.8%	45	Delaware	23.8%
12	Wyoming	37.7%	29	Louisiana	31.5%	46	Florida	22.0%
13	Hawaii	37.4%	30	Pennsylvania	31.1%	47	Virginia	21.6%
14	Kentucky	35.4%	31	Alabama	30.8%	48	West Virginia	21.3%
15	Indiana	35.1%	32	Texas	30.4%	49	New York	20.4%
16	Missouri	34.8%	33	Illinois	30.2%	50	Georgia	19.5%
17	Arkansas	34.4%	34	District of Columbia	29.8%	51	Nevada	17.3%

Rankings are based on a three-year moving average.

## Acknowledgments

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## The Office of Research and Policy Development

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## Related Research Reports on Volunteering

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*Volunteer Growth in America: A Review of Trends Since 1974* (2006). Provides an in-depth look at volunteering over the past 30 years, with particular attention paid to changing historical volunteer patterns by select age groups.

*College Students Helping America* (2006). Identifies key trends in volunteering among college students, discusses future implications for volunteering given the changing college environment, and provides state rankings for volunteering among college students.

*Volunteers Mentoring Youth: Implications for Closing the Mentoring Gap* (2006). Provides a greater understanding of the characteristics and traits that distinguish individuals whose volunteering includes mentoring youth from volunteers who do not mentor.

*Keeping Baby Boomers Volunteering* (2007). Describes volunteering trends for Baby Boomers and projections for older Americans. Also provides strategies to harness Baby Boomer's experience and energy and identifies the factors likely to impact their decision to volunteer.

*Youth Helping America Series. Educating for Active Citizens: Service-Learning, School-Based Service, and Youth Civic Engagement* (2006). Takes a closer look at youth participation in school-based service and the relationship between different service-learning experiences and civic attitudes and outcomes.

*Youth Helping America Series. Building Active Citizens: The Role of Social Institutions in Teen Volunteering* (2005). Explores the state of youth volunteering and the connections to the primary social institutions to which youth are exposed – family, schools, and religious congregations.

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## VOLUNTEERING IN AMERICA:

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