



AmeriCorps

**Directory for Current Population
Survey Civic Engagement and
Volunteering Supplement (CEV)
Data, Derivative Products, and More**

Office of Research and Evaluation

Last updated January 29, 2025

Background Information

- Infographic: [Using Civic Engagement and Volunteering Data to Strengthen Civic Life](#)
 - Highlights opportunities for media professionals, researchers, policymakers, and philanthropists to use Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement (CEV) data to enrich storytelling about civic life in America, conduct research, and motivate service and volunteerism
- ORE Definition Series: [Civic Engagement](#)
 - Cites CEV as an example of how AmeriCorps is building our understanding of civic engagement
- Dataset Fact Sheets: One-pagers detailing basic information about the CEV
 - [2023 CEV](#)
 - [2021 CEV](#)
- Graphic: [CEV Constructs and Measures](#)
 - Visual summary of five constructs and associated measures in the CEV
- [CEV FAQs](#)
 - Answers to frequently asked questions about the CEV (last updated Jan 2025)
- Technical Webinar: [The Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement Dataset](#)
 - YouTube video that provides background information about the CEV including history of AmeriCorps-sponsored CPS supplemental surveys, CEV constructs and measures, CEV use cases, and guidance for accessing CEV data and findings at data.americorps.gov
- CEV email: AmeriCorpsCEV@americorps.gov
 - Dedicated inbox for inquiries related to the CEV monitored daily by the technical lead

Topline Findings

- [AmeriCorps Civic Engagement and Volunteering \(CEV\) Dashboard](#)
 - Interactive, user-friendly tool for exploring findings from the CEV at the national level, state level, and across different demographic groups
- Infographics
 - [National Rates of Civic Engagement from 2019 to 2023](#)
 - [National Rates of Civic Engagement in 2019 and 2021](#)
- CEV estimates published on data.americorps.gov
 - [National Rates of All Measures, 2017-23](#)
 - [National Rates of All Measures by Demographics, 2017-23](#)
 - [State-Level Rates of All Measures, 2017-23](#)
- [Volunteering and Civic Life in America](#) landing page
 - Presents topline findings from the 2023 CEV nationally, by state, and in the largest 12 metro areas including a [communications toolkit](#)

“Spotlighting the CEV” Series of Key Findings Briefs

- [Virtual Volunteering](#) (based on 2023 CEV data)
- [Formal Volunteering and Informal Helping in America](#) (based on 2019-21 CEV data)

- [Formal Volunteering Intensity](#) (based on 2019-21 CEV data)
- [Engaging with Neighbors](#) (based on 2019-21 CEV data)
- [Work and Civic Life](#) (based on 2021 CEV data)

Findings: What is the State of Civic Health in America?

- Reports
 - [Renewed Engagement in American Civic Life](#) (December 2024)
 - [Volunteering and Civic Life in America Research Summary](#) (January 2023)
 - [Key Findings from the 2019 Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement](#) (December 2021)
- America Counts Stories by AmeriCorps and the U.S. Census Bureau
 - [U.S. Volunteerism Rebounding After COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (November 2024)
 - [Volunteering in America: New U.S. Census Bureau, AmeriCorps Research](#) (January 2023)
- Recorded presentations
 - AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation Webinars
 - [Taking the Pulse of Our Nation’s Civic Health – and Taking Action for Civic Renewal](#) (November 2024)
 - [Putting Civic Engagement in Context: Exploring Data Trends, Uses, and Actionable Insights](#) (April 2024)
 - [“What is Civic Engagement? Exploring New Paradigms”](#) (March 2023)
 - Axios virtual event: [A Conversation on the Impact of Volunteering](#) (November 2024)
 - AmeriCorps virtual event: [“Volunteering and Civic Life During the Pandemic: The Path Forward”](#) (January 2023)

Findings: What is the Relationship Between Work and Civic Life?

- Academic paper using 2017 CEV data published in the *American Journal of Sociology*: [“Civic Work: Making a Difference On and off the Clock”](#) (July 2024)
 - Profile of paper published in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review*: [“Civic Engagement at Work”](#) (Fall 2024)
- Spotlighting the CEV Key Findings Brief: [Work and Civic Life](#)

Findings: How Do Civic Behaviors Cluster Together?

- AmeriCorps blog post: [“The Avengers of Civic Engagement”](#) (September 2023)
- Preprint of academic paper based on 2021 CEV data: [“Characterizing Recent Trends in U.S. Civic Engagement Activity Interdependence and Participant Behavioral Profile Similarity”](#) (September 2023)

External Research Using CEV Data

Scholars and researchers frequently use CEV data and/or measures in their own work. Recent examples include:

- Peer-reviewed academic papers

- *Nonprofit Policy Forum* article: [“Do Sociocultural Factors Drive Civic Engagement? An Examination of Political Interest and Religious Attendance”](#) (Piatak 2023)
- *British Journal of Psychology* article: [“Too hot to help or too cold to care? On the links between ambient temperature, volunteerism, and civic engagement”](#) (Shing Ng and Cheung 2023)
- *Social Indicators Research* article: [“Associations Between Volunteering, STEM Backgrounds, and Information-Processing Skills in Adult Populations of the United States”](#) (Yamashita et al. 2023)
- *VOLUNTAS* article by AmeriCorps research grantees: [“The Rural/Urban Volunteering Divide”](#) (Paarlberg et al. 2022)
- Policy research
 - CIRCLE data tool: [“Youth Voting and Civic Engagement in America”](#)
 - Generosity Commission-sponsored research
 - Do Good Institute report: [“Social Connectedness and Generosity: A Look at How Associational Life and Social Connections Influence Volunteering and Giving \(and Vice Versa\)”](#) (January 2024)
 - Do Good Institute report: [“Understanding Generosity: A Look at What Influences Volunteering and Giving in the United States”](#) (November 2023)
 - University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice report: [“Generosity Trends and Impacts: Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic in the USA”](#) (August 2022)
 - National Conference on Citizenship [Civic Health Index](#) reports (ongoing)
 - Office of Management and Budget reporting
 - CEV estimates of the national formal volunteering rate are included in the Social Indicators data [featured on performance.gov](#) and as a chapter in the 2024 *Analytical Perspectives* volume of the President’s Budget
- Public opinion research
 - The University of Wisconsin Survey Center replicates several CEV measures in the initial questionnaire of its [WisconSays](#) online public opinion panel
 - The Pew Research Trust has used CEV estimates of formal volunteering to benchmark the reliability of estimates in methodological studies of [online nonprobability surveys](#) and [survey weighting procedures](#).
 - Since 2016, the Pew Research Trust has incorporated formal volunteering into weighting procedures for its American Trends Panel. See, for example, the table on weighting dimensions in the [methodology section of this 2023 report, “Americans’ Views of Space”](#)
- State Commission and program evaluation research
 - ServeVA’s [Virginia Community Engagement Index](#) replicated CEV measures in an original survey about how Virginians dedicate their time to the organizations and activities that serve their communities

- The YMCA has replicated CEV measures in its [Youth Civic Health Survey](#) since 2021 to help evaluate the impact of its [Youth and Government programs](#) on participant civic engagement

Media Citing CEV Data

AmeriCorps' Volunteering and Civic Life in America research – and the CEV data on which it is based – is frequently cited in the media. Recent examples include:

- Marketplace article: [“More people are volunteering again after a big pandemic drop”](#) (December 2024)
- The Isthmus cover story: [“The selfish case for seflessness”](#) (December 2024)
- Associated Press article: [“Volunteers came back to nonprofits in 2023, after the pandemic tanked participation”](#) (November 2024)
- Washington Post article: [“These are the most fulfilling jobs in America”](#) (November 2024)
- The Hill article: [“Volunteering rate sees record growth”](#) (November 2024)
- The Minnesota Star Tribune article: [“Minnesota ranks No. 3 in volunteerism nationwide as nonprofits see rebound”](#) (November 2024)
- Axios article: [“Americans are volunteering again”](#) (November 2024)
- Lincoln Journal Star article: “Gratitude in action: [“Volunteers find ways to share talents in Lincoln”](#) (November 2024)
- Associated Press article: [“Volunteers speak on why they serve and why more people don’t”](#) (April 2023)
- Volunteer Nation Podcast Episode #048: [“New Statistics on Volunteering & Civic Life with Dr. Mary Hyde”](#) (March 2023)
- The Chronicle of Philanthropy article: [“Americans Are Volunteering Less. What Can Nonprofits Do to Bring Them Back?”](#) (February 2023)

Datasets and Documentation

The CEV has been administered biennially since 2017 with related datasets going back to 2002. Analytic versions of CEV datasets along with complete documentation are publicly available at data.americorps.gov. Raw versions of related CPS supplement datasets along with replicate weights and technical documentation are publicly available via census.gov, IPUMS, National Bureau for Economic Research (NBER), ICPSR, and other sources.

- Analytic CPS Supplement Datasets produced by AmeriCorps
 - [2023 CEV](#)
 - [2021 CEV](#)
 - [2019 CEV](#)
 - [2017 CEV](#)
- Raw CPS Supplement Datasets, Replicate Weights, and Technical Documentation produced by U.S. Census Bureau (see Attachment 8 for full questionnaire)
 - [2023 CEV](#)
 - [2021 CEV](#)
 - [2019 CEV](#)
 - [2017 CEV](#)

- [2015 Volunteer Supplement](#)
- [2014 Volunteer Supplement](#)
- [2013 Volunteer Supplement](#)
- [2013 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
- [2012 Volunteer Supplement](#)
- [2011 Volunteer Supplement](#)
- [2011 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
- [2010 Volunteer Supplement](#)
- [2010 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
- Analytic CPS Supplement Datasets produced by IPUMS
 - [2009 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
 - [2008 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
- Raw CPS Supplement Datasets hosted by NBER
 - Annual [Volunteer Supplement, 2002 through 2009](#)
 - [1974 Volunteer Workers Supplement](#)
- Raw CPS Supplement Datasets hosted by ICPSR
 - [1989 Multiple Job Holding, Flexitime, and Volunteer Work Supplement](#)
- Nonresponse Analyses produced by U.S. Census Bureau
 - [2021 CEV](#)