

For release 10:00 a.m. (EST) Wednesday, January 26, 2011

USDL-11-0084

Technical information: (202) 691-6378 • cpsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/cps
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

VOLUNTEERING IN THE UNITED STATES — 2010

The **volunteer rate** declined by 0.5 percentage point to 26.3 percent for the year ending in September 2010, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. About 62.8 million people volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2009 and September 2010. The volunteer rate in 2010 was similar to the rates observed in 2007 and 2008.

These data on volunteering were collected through a supplement to the September 2010 Current Population Survey (CPS). The supplement was sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The CPS is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households that obtains information on employment and unemployment among the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over. Volunteers are defined as persons who did unpaid work (except for expenses) through or for an organization. For more information about the volunteer supplement, see the Technical Note.

Volunteering Among Demographic Groups

The volunteer rate of **women** decreased from 30.1 percent to 29.3 percent in the year ending in September 2010, while the volunteer rate for **men**, at 23.2 percent, was essentially unchanged. However, women continued to volunteer at a higher rate than did men across all age groups, educational levels, and other major demographic characteristics. (See tables A and 1.)

By **age**, 35-to-44 year olds were the most likely to volunteer (32.2 percent). Persons in their early twenties were the least likely to volunteer (18.4 percent).

Among the **major race and ethnicity groups**, whites continued to volunteer at a higher rate (27.8 percent) than did blacks (19.4 percent) and Asians (19.6 percent). The volunteer rate of whites and blacks declined from the prior year. Among Hispanics or Latinos, 14.7 percent volunteered in 2010, the same rate as in 2009.

As in earlier years, **married persons** volunteered at a higher rate (32.0 percent) in 2010 than did those who had never married (20.3 percent) and those with other marital statuses (20.9 percent). Although the volunteer rate of **parents** with children under age 18 decreased to 33.6 percent from 34.4 percent in the prior year, parents remained substantially more likely to volunteer than persons without children (23.5 percent).

Table A. Volunteers by selected characteristics, September 2006 through September 2010

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	September 2006		September 2007		September 2008		September 2009		September 2010	
	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population
Sex										
Total, both sexes	61,199	26.7	60,838	26.2	61,803	26.4	63,361	26.8	62,790	26.3
Men	25,546	23.0	25,724	22.9	26,268	23.2	26,655	23.3	26,787	23.2
Women	35,653	30.1	35,114	29.3	35,535	29.4	36,706	30.1	36,004	29.3
Age										
Total, 16 years and over	61,199	26.7	60,838	26.2	61,803	26.4	63,361	26.8	62,790	26.3
16 to 24 years	8,044	21.7	7,798	20.8	8,239	21.9	8,290	22.0	8,297	21.9
25 to 34 years	9,096	23.1	9,019	22.6	9,154	22.8	9,511	23.5	9,140	22.3
35 to 44 years	13,308	31.2	12,902	30.5	13,016	31.3	12,835	31.5	12,904	32.2
45 to 54 years	13,415	31.2	13,136	30.1	13,189	29.9	13,703	30.8	13,435	30.3
55 to 64 years	8,819	27.9	9,316	28.4	9,456	28.1	9,894	28.3	9,830	27.2
65 years and over	8,518	23.8	8,667	23.8	8,749	23.5	9,129	23.9	9,184	23.6
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity										
White	52,850	28.3	52,586	27.9	53,078	27.9	54,078	28.3	53,556	27.8
Black or African American	5,211	19.2	5,010	18.2	5,325	19.1	5,712	20.2	5,580	19.4
Asian	1,881	18.5	1,887	17.7	2,022	18.7	2,060	19.0	2,207	19.6
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	4,212	13.9	4,279	13.5	4,662	14.4	4,873	14.7	4,982	14.7
Educational attainment ¹										
Less than a high school diploma	2,615	9.3	2,394	9.0	2,427	9.4	2,242	8.6	2,231	8.8
High school graduates, no college ²	11,537	19.2	11,379	18.6	10,998	19.1	11,408	18.8	10,887	17.9
Some college or associate degree	15,196	30.9	15,468	30.7	15,519	30.0	15,931	30.5	15,505	29.2
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	23,808	43.3	23,799	41.8	24,620	42.2	25,490	42.8	25,870	42.3
Employment status										
Civilian labor force	43,579	28.5	43,405	28.1	44,313	28.5	44,833	29.0	44,522	28.7
Employed	41,861	28.7	41,708	28.3	42,131	28.9	41,372	29.7	40,980	29.2
Full time ⁴	32,951	27.3	32,714	26.9	33,344	27.8	32,085	28.7	31,625	28.2
Part time ⁵	8,910	35.5	8,994	35.4	8,788	34.2	9,287	33.7	9,355	33.2
Unemployed.....	1,718	23.8	1,697	23.2	2,181	22.3	3,462	22.9	3,542	23.8
Not in the labor force.....	17,621	23.1	17,433	22.3	17,491	22.2	18,528	22.6	18,268	22.0

¹ Data refer to persons 25 years and over.

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

³ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

⁴ Usually work 35 hours or more a week at all jobs.

⁵ Usually work less than 35 hours a week at all jobs.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Data on volunteers relate to persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities for an organization at any point in the year ending in September. See the Technical Note for further information.

Individuals with higher levels of **educational attainment** engaged in volunteer activities at higher rates than did those with less education. Among persons age 25 and over, 42.3 percent of college graduates volunteered, compared with 17.9 percent of high school graduates and 8.8 percent of those with less than a high school diploma.

Volunteers by Employment Status

Among employed persons, 29.2 percent volunteered during the year ending in September 2010. By comparison, 23.8 percent of unemployed persons and 22.0 percent of those not in the labor force volunteered. Among the employed, part-time workers were more likely than full-time workers to have participated in volunteer activities—33.2 versus 28.2 percent. (See table 1.)

Total Annual Hours Spent Volunteering

Volunteers of both sexes spent a median of 52 hours on volunteer activities during the period from September 2009 to September 2010. Median annual hours spent on volunteer activities ranged from a high of 96 hours for volunteers age 65 and over to a low of 40 hours for those 16 to 34 years old. (See table 2.)

Number and Type of Organizations

Most volunteers were involved with either one or two organizations—69.1 and 19.8 percent, respectively. Individuals with higher educational attainment were more likely to volunteer for multiple organizations than were those with less education. (See table 3.)

In 2010, the **main organization**—the organization for which the volunteer worked the most hours during the year—was most frequently religious (33.8 percent of all volunteers), followed by educational or youth service related (26.5 percent). Another 13.6 percent of volunteers performed activities mainly for social or community service organizations. (See table 4.)

Older volunteers were more likely to volunteer mainly for religious organizations than were their younger counterparts. For example, 44.6 percent of volunteers age 65 and over did their service mainly through or for a religious organization, compared with 28.2 percent of volunteers age 16 to 24.

The type of main organization for which individuals volunteered also varied by educational attainment. Volunteering mainly for religious organizations decreased as educational attainment increased. Among volunteers with less than a high school diploma, 49.7 percent volunteered mainly for religious organizations, compared with 31.9 percent of those with a bachelor's degree and higher. Volunteering primarily for educational or youth service organizations increased with educational attainment. Of volunteers with less than a high school diploma, 23.9 percent volunteered mainly for this type of organization, compared with 27.3 percent of those with a bachelor's degree and higher.

Among volunteers with children under 18 years old, 44.8 percent of mothers and 39.6 percent of fathers volunteered mainly for an educational or youth service organization, such as a school or scouting group. Volunteers without children under 18 were more likely than parents to volunteer for other types of organizations, such as social or community service organizations and hospitals or other health organizations.

Main Volunteer Activity for Main Organization

The main activity volunteers performed for their main organization was most frequently fundraising (10.9 percent); collecting, preparing, distributing, or serving food (9.9 percent); or tutoring or teaching (9.8 percent). Men and women tended to engage in different main activities. Men who volunteered were most likely to engage in general labor (11.5 percent); coach, referee, or supervise sports teams (10.2 percent); or fundraise (9.3 percent). Female volunteers were most likely to fundraise (12.1 percent); tutor or teach (11.5 percent); or collect, prepare, distribute, or serve food (11.4 percent). (See table 5.)

Educational attainment influenced the types of activities volunteers performed. College graduates were more likely than those with less education to tutor or teach or to provide professional or management assistance. They were least likely to collect, make, or distribute clothing, crafts, or goods other than food.

Parents were considerably more likely than those without children to engage in volunteer activities that are frequently related to children—including coaching, refereeing, or supervising sports teams; tutoring or teaching; and mentoring youth.

How Volunteers Became Involved with Main Organization

About 42.7 percent of volunteers became involved with their main organization after being asked to volunteer, most often by someone in the organization. About 41.6 percent became involved on their own initiative; that is, they approached the organization. (See table 6.)

Technical Note

The data in this release were collected through a supplement to the September 2010 Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS—a monthly survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics—focuses on obtaining information on employment and unemployment among the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over. The purpose of this supplement to the CPS was to obtain information on the incidence of volunteering and the characteristics of volunteers in the United States.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory-impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

A full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and for information on estimating standard errors is available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability.

The Census Bureau introduces adjustments to the population controls for the CPS as part of its annual update of population estimates. For this reason, the data for 2010 presented in this release are not strictly comparable with data for 2009 and earlier years. Additional information is available on the internet at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#pop.

Volunteer questions and concepts

In the September 2010 supplement, questions on volunteer activities were asked of all households. Efforts were made to have household members answer the volunteer questions for themselves. (Generally, one member of the household answers all the questions in the CPS on behalf of the entire household.) Self-response was considered important for the volunteer supplement because research indicated that self-respondents could more easily answer questions on the characteristics of the volunteer activity. About 67 percent of the responses were self-reports.

The survey was introduced as follows: "This month, we are interested in volunteer activities, that is, activities for which people are not paid, except perhaps expenses. We only want you to include volunteer activities that you did through or for an organization, even if you only did them once in a while."

Following this introduction, respondents were asked the first supplement question: "Since September 1st of last year, have you done any volunteer activities through or for an organization?"

If respondents did not answer "yes" to the first question, they were asked the following question: "Sometimes people don't think of activities they do infrequently or activities they do for children's schools or youth organizations as volunteer activities. Since September 1st of last year, have you done any of these types of volunteer activities?"

Respondents were considered volunteers if they answered "yes" to either of these questions. This is the same method of identifying volunteers as was used in each of the eight prior supplements.

Respondents classified as volunteers were asked further questions about the number and type of organizations for which they volunteered, total hours spent volunteering, how they became involved with the main organization for which they volunteered, the type of activities they performed for the main organization, and what their main activity was.

The reference period for the questions on volunteering was about 1 year, from September 1, 2009, through the survey week in September 2010. The reference period for other characteristics—such as labor force status, educational attainment, and marital status—refer to the survey

reference week in September 2010. It is possible that these characteristics were different at the time volunteer activities were performed.

One new question was added to the 2008 survey to determine whether or not respondents had donated money, assets, or property with a combined value of more than \$25 to charitable or religious organizations in the past 12 months. Two questions asked in the 2007 supplement were removed in 2008. These questions asked how often respondents who had attended public meetings or who had worked with others in their neighborhood to fix a problem did so.

Definitions

Volunteers are persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities at any point from September 1, 2009, through the survey period in September 2010. The count of volunteers only includes persons who volunteered through or for an organization; the figures do not include persons who volunteered in a more informal manner. For example, a woman who taught acting to children through a local theater would be considered a volunteer. However, a woman who, on her own, organized softball games for the children in her neighborhood would not be counted as a volunteer for the purpose of this survey.

Organizations are associations, societies, or groups of people who share a common interest. Examples include churches, youth groups, and civic organizations. For the purpose of this study, organizations are grouped into eight major categories, including religious, youth, and social or community service organizations.

In the 2005 survey, one organization category, immigrant/refugee assistance, was added to the questionnaire as a possible response. Responses that were collected in this category may have been distributed over at least six of the

major organization categories in previous years. For this reason, the addition of the new response category created a break in the comparability of organizations between 2005 and prior years. Because few people reported volunteering for immigrant/refugee assistance organizations and because the group was not a definite subset of any of the major organization categories, those persons who did report that they volunteered for immigrant/refugee assistance organizations were placed in the "other" group.

The *main organization* is the organization for which the volunteer worked the most hours during the year. If a respondent volunteered for only one organization, it was considered the main organization, even if exact hours were not obtained.

In order to identify the type of main organization, respondents provided information about the organization and, for those who volunteered for more than one organization, annual hours worked for each. Some respondents did not provide the information necessary to determine the main organization. For these respondents, the follow-up questions on activities and how they became involved with the main organization asked them to report on the organization for which they think they spent the most time volunteering.

Activities are the specific tasks the volunteer did for an organization. Examples include tutoring, fundraising, and serving food. The activity categories were modified in 2005, thus creating a break in the comparability of activities between 2005 and prior years.

In 2006, a new question was added that asked respondents on which of the activities they mentioned they spent the most time. Previously, respondents reported all of the activities they did for their main organization. The new question identified which of them was the main activity for the main organization.

Table 1. Volunteers by selected characteristics, September 2010

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristics in September 2010	Total, both sexes			Men			Women		
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Volunteers		Civilian noninstitutional population	Volunteers		Civilian noninstitutional population	Volunteers	
		Number	Percent of population		Number	Percent of population		Number	Percent of population
Age									
Total, 16 years and over	238,322	62,790	26.3	115,433	26,787	23.2	122,889	36,004	29.3
16 to 24 years	37,948	8,297	21.9	19,126	3,657	19.1	18,822	4,640	24.7
16 to 19 years	16,839	4,403	26.1	8,546	1,959	22.9	8,293	2,443	29.5
20 to 24 years	21,110	3,894	18.4	10,581	1,698	16.0	10,529	2,196	20.9
25 years and over	200,374	54,493	27.2	96,307	23,129	24.0	104,067	31,364	30.1
25 to 34 years	41,045	9,140	22.3	20,545	3,756	18.3	20,500	5,384	26.3
35 to 44 years	40,014	12,904	32.2	19,773	5,351	27.1	20,240	7,553	37.3
45 to 54 years	44,333	13,435	30.3	21,736	5,935	27.3	22,597	7,500	33.2
55 to 64 years	36,148	9,830	27.2	17,419	4,303	24.7	18,729	5,527	29.5
65 years and over	38,834	9,184	23.6	16,834	3,784	22.5	22,001	5,400	24.5
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity									
White	192,391	53,556	27.8	94,254	23,004	24.4	98,137	30,552	31.1
Black or African American	28,794	5,580	19.4	12,982	2,232	17.2	15,812	3,348	21.2
Asian	11,247	2,207	19.6	5,368	952	17.7	5,879	1,255	21.3
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	33,927	4,982	14.7	17,473	2,126	12.2	16,454	2,856	17.4
Educational attainment ¹									
Less than a high school diploma	25,243	2,231	8.8	12,473	912	7.3	12,770	1,319	10.3
High school graduates, no college ²	60,912	10,887	17.9	29,697	4,696	15.8	31,215	6,192	19.8
Some college or associate degree	53,068	15,505	29.2	24,284	6,176	25.4	28,785	9,329	32.4
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	61,151	25,870	42.3	29,854	11,346	38.0	31,297	14,524	46.4
Marital status									
Single, never married	69,699	14,145	20.3	37,143	6,373	17.2	32,556	7,772	23.9
Married, spouse present	121,301	38,765	32.0	61,287	17,527	28.6	60,015	21,239	35.4
Other marital status ⁴	47,322	9,880	20.9	17,004	2,887	17.0	30,318	6,992	23.1
Presence of own children under 18 years ⁵									
Without own children under 18	170,955	40,130	23.5	85,570	17,662	20.6	85,385	22,467	26.3
With own children under 18	67,367	22,661	33.6	29,863	9,124	30.6	37,503	13,536	36.1
Employment status									
Civilian labor force	155,170	44,522	28.7	82,548	20,953	25.4	72,622	23,569	32.5
Employed	140,316	40,980	29.2	74,323	19,304	26.0	65,993	21,677	32.8
Full time ⁶	112,160	31,625	28.2	64,271	16,573	25.8	47,889	15,053	31.4
Part time ⁷	28,157	9,355	33.2	10,053	2,731	27.2	18,104	6,624	36.6
Unemployed	14,854	3,542	23.8	8,225	1,649	20.0	6,629	1,893	28.6
Not in the labor force	83,152	18,268	22.0	32,885	5,834	17.7	50,266	12,434	24.7

¹ Data refer to persons 25 years and over.

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

³ Includes persons with bachelor's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

⁴ Includes divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

⁵ Own children include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children.

Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children.

⁶ Usually work 35 hours or more a week at all jobs.

⁷ Usually work less than 35 hours a week at all jobs.

NOTE: Data on volunteers relate to persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities for an organization at any point from September 1, 2009, through the survey period in September 2010. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

Table 2. Volunteers by annual hours of volunteer activities and selected characteristics, September 2010

Characteristics in September 2010	Total volunteers (thousands)	Percent distribution of total annual hours spent volunteering at all organizations							Median annual hours ¹
		Total	1 to 14 hour(s)	15 to 49 hours	50 to 99 hours	100 to 499 hours	500 hours and over	Not reporting annual hours	
Sex									
Total, both sexes	62,790	100.0	20.5	24.7	15.6	28.1	5.7	5.4	52
Men	26,787	100.0	20.3	24.9	15.9	28.0	5.6	5.3	52
Women	36,004	100.0	20.6	24.6	15.3	28.2	5.7	5.5	52
Age									
Total, 16 years and over	62,790	100.0	20.5	24.7	15.6	28.1	5.7	5.4	52
16 to 24 years	8,297	100.0	24.3	27.0	15.3	23.6	3.6	6.2	40
16 to 19 years	4,403	100.0	23.7	28.0	18.0	21.9	2.0	6.4	40
20 to 24 years	3,894	100.0	25.1	25.8	12.2	25.4	5.4	6.1	40
25 years and over	54,493	100.0	19.9	24.4	15.6	28.8	6.0	5.3	52
25 to 34 years	9,140	100.0	26.0	27.0	14.6	22.8	3.9	5.7	40
35 to 44 years	12,904	100.0	23.1	26.0	15.6	26.5	4.9	3.9	48
45 to 54 years	13,435	100.0	19.6	25.2	16.2	28.5	5.5	5.0	52
55 to 64 years	9,830	100.0	17.0	23.3	16.1	30.8	6.5	6.2	60
65 years and over	9,184	100.0	13.0	19.4	15.3	36.4	9.5	6.3	96
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity									
White	53,556	100.0	20.4	24.7	15.8	28.3	5.7	5.1	52
Black or African American	5,580	100.0	19.2	24.2	14.6	28.8	5.6	7.6	52
Asian	2,207	100.0	23.0	25.5	14.1	24.6	5.2	7.6	48
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	4,982	100.0	22.0	24.2	14.3	28.3	6.8	4.4	52
Educational attainment ²									
Less than a high school diploma	2,231	100.0	20.5	24.9	15.6	27.7	5.7	5.6	52
High school graduates, no college ³	10,887	100.0	21.6	23.5	15.2	27.8	6.1	5.8	52
Some college or associate degree	15,505	100.0	21.3	24.2	14.4	28.3	6.9	5.0	52
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	25,870	100.0	18.3	24.8	16.5	29.7	5.4	5.3	56
Marital status									
Single, never married	14,145	100.0	24.5	26.6	15.2	23.0	4.0	6.6	40
Married, spouse present	38,765	100.0	19.0	24.3	15.8	30.0	6.0	4.8	56
Other marital status ⁵	9,880	100.0	20.5	23.5	15.2	28.0	6.7	6.0	52
Presence of own children under 18 years ⁶									
Men:									
No own children under 18 years old	17,662	100.0	20.0	24.6	15.4	28.1	6.0	6.0	52
With own children under 18 years old	9,124	100.0	21.0	25.4	16.8	28.0	4.8	3.9	52
Women:									
No own children under 18 years old	22,467	100.0	19.1	24.0	15.3	29.0	6.2	6.3	52
With own children under 18 years old	13,536	100.0	23.2	25.6	15.4	26.8	4.8	4.2	48
Employment status									
Civilian labor force	44,522	100.0	22.2	26.2	15.8	26.1	4.7	5.1	48
Employed	40,980	100.0	22.2	25.9	16.0	26.1	4.5	5.2	48
Full time ⁷	31,625	100.0	22.7	26.2	15.9	25.7	4.3	5.3	48
Part time ⁸	9,355	100.0	20.7	25.2	16.3	27.4	5.5	4.9	52
Unemployed	3,542	100.0	21.6	29.3	13.8	25.4	6.3	3.6	47
Not in the labor force	18,268	100.0	16.5	21.1	15.0	33.2	8.0	6.3	72

¹ For those reporting annual hours.

² Data refer to persons 25 years and over.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

⁵ Includes divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

⁶ Own children include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children.

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Table 3. Volunteers by number of organizations for which volunteer activities were performed and selected characteristics, September 2010

Characteristics in September 2010	Total volunteers (thousands)	Percent distribution of the number of organizations for which volunteer activities were performed						
		Total	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more	Not reporting number of organizations
Sex								
Total, both sexes	62,790	100.0	69.1	19.8	7.3	2.3	1.2	0.4
Men	26,787	100.0	70.6	19.4	6.6	2.1	.9	.4
Women	36,004	100.0	68.0	20.1	7.7	2.4	1.4	.5
Age								
Total, 16 years and over	62,790	100.0	69.1	19.8	7.3	2.3	1.2	.4
16 to 24 years	8,297	100.0	74.6	16.9	5.6	1.6	.9	.6
16 to 19 years	4,403	100.0	73.0	18.3	6.1	1.5	.5	.5
20 to 24 years	3,894	100.0	76.3	15.2	4.9	1.6	1.3	.7
25 years and over	54,493	100.0	68.3	20.2	7.5	2.4	1.2	.4
25 to 34 years	9,140	100.0	74.3	17.8	5.3	1.3	.6	.6
35 to 44 years	12,904	100.0	67.8	21.0	8.1	2.0	.9	.2
45 to 54 years	13,435	100.0	66.5	21.0	8.0	2.6	1.4	.5
55 to 64 years	9,830	100.0	66.8	19.9	7.8	3.2	1.9	.4
65 years and over	9,184	100.0	67.1	20.8	7.9	2.6	1.3	.3
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
White	53,556	100.0	67.8	20.4	7.7	2.4	1.2	.4
Black or African American	5,580	100.0	78.0	15.9	3.8	1.6	.6	.1
Asian	2,207	100.0	77.9	15.6	5.2	.5	.4	.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	4,982	100.0	81.2	12.9	4.4	.9	.4	.2
Educational attainment ¹								
Less than a high school diploma	2,231	100.0	88.7	8.8	1.4	.8	.2	.1
High school graduates, no college ²	10,887	100.0	77.5	16.0	4.5	1.1	.5	.4
Some college or associate degree	15,505	100.0	69.6	20.3	6.8	1.9	.9	.5
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	25,870	100.0	61.9	22.9	9.7	3.3	1.8	.4
Marital status								
Single, never married	14,145	100.0	73.6	17.3	6.0	1.7	.8	.6
Married, spouse present	38,765	100.0	67.3	20.9	7.7	2.4	1.3	.4
Other marital status ⁴	9,880	100.0	69.7	18.9	7.3	2.4	1.3	.5
Presence of own children under 18 years ⁵								
Men:								
No own children under 18 years old	17,662	100.0	71.2	18.8	6.4	2.2	.9	.5
With own children under 18 years old	9,124	100.0	69.5	20.5	7.0	1.8	.9	.2
Women:								
No own children under 18 years old	22,467	100.0	68.5	19.4	7.7	2.4	1.4	.6
With own children under 18 years old	13,536	100.0	67.1	21.2	7.8	2.4	1.3	.3
Employment status								
Civilian labor force	44,522	100.0	68.8	19.8	7.5	2.3	1.1	.5
Employed	40,980	100.0	68.6	19.9	7.6	2.3	1.2	.5
Full time ⁶	31,625	100.0	69.0	19.8	7.4	2.2	1.1	.5
Part time ⁷	9,355	100.0	67.3	20.1	8.3	2.5	1.3	.4
Unemployed	3,542	100.0	71.8	18.8	6.4	2.0	.8	.2
Not in the labor force	18,268	100.0	69.7	19.7	6.6	2.2	1.3	.4

¹ Data refer to persons 25 years and over.
² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.
³ Includes persons with bachelor's, professional, and doctoral degrees.
⁴ Includes divorced, separated, and widowed persons.
⁵ Own children include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children.
⁶ Usually work 35 hours or more a week at all jobs.

⁷ Usually work less than 35 hours a week at all jobs.
NOTE: Data on volunteers relate to persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities for an organization at any point from September 1, 2009, through the survey period in September 2010. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Dash represents or rounds to zero.

Table 4. Volunteers by type of main organization for which volunteer activities were performed and selected characteristics, September 2010

Characteristics in September 2010	Total volunteers (thousands)	Percent distribution of volunteers by type of main organization ¹										
		Total	Civic, political, professional, or international	Educational or youth service	Environmental or animal care	Hospital or other health	Public safety	Religious	Social or community service	Sport, hobby, cultural, or arts	Other	Not determined
Sex												
Total, both sexes	62,790	100.0	5.3	26.5	2.4	7.9	1.3	33.8	13.6	3.3	3.7	2.2
Men	26,787	100.0	6.4	25.4	2.4	6.5	2.2	32.9	14.2	3.9	4.0	2.1
Women	36,004	100.0	4.5	27.2	2.5	9.0	.6	34.5	13.1	2.8	3.5	2.2
Age												
Total, 16 years and over	62,790	100.0	5.3	26.5	2.4	7.9	1.3	33.8	13.6	3.3	3.7	2.2
16 to 24 years	8,297	100.0	4.2	30.3	3.3	9.0	1.8	28.2	13.5	3.4	3.5	2.9
16 to 19 years	4,403	100.0	3.3	33.6	2.0	8.0	1.4	30.0	12.6	3.2	2.6	3.2
20 to 24 years	3,894	100.0	5.4	26.5	4.7	10.0	2.2	26.2	14.5	3.6	4.4	2.6
25 years and over	54,493	100.0	5.5	25.9	2.3	7.8	1.2	34.7	13.6	3.3	3.8	2.0
25 to 34 years	9,140	100.0	4.6	31.4	2.7	9.4	1.5	28.0	13.6	3.0	3.5	2.4
35 to 44 years	12,904	100.0	4.2	40.3	1.9	6.4	1.0	27.4	11.9	2.7	2.5	1.6
45 to 54 years	13,435	100.0	5.0	27.8	2.3	6.7	1.2	35.6	11.9	3.4	3.8	2.1
55 to 64 years	9,830	100.0	6.9	15.3	2.7	7.9	1.5	40.0	15.1	3.5	4.8	2.3
65 years and over	9,184	100.0	7.2	8.6	2.0	9.4	.9	44.6	16.8	4.0	4.6	2.0
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity												
White	53,556	100.0	5.5	26.8	2.7	8.1	1.4	32.6	13.6	3.5	3.8	2.1
Black or African American	5,580	100.0	4.6	23.0	.5	5.9	.3	45.4	13.7	1.6	2.8	2.2
Asian	2,207	100.0	2.3	27.0	1.3	8.3	.3	38.9	10.9	3.3	4.1	3.6
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	4,982	100.0	3.1	35.7	1.4	5.3	1.2	35.9	10.9	2.2	2.7	1.7
Educational attainment ²												
Less than a high school diploma	2,231	100.0	3.3	23.9	.4	4.7	1.0	49.7	11.1	1.2	3.6	1.2
High school graduates, no college ³	10,887	100.0	5.1	23.7	1.5	8.1	1.8	39.0	12.9	2.5	3.8	1.6
Some college or associate degree	15,505	100.0	5.5	25.2	2.4	8.4	1.7	34.3	13.2	3.1	4.2	1.9
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	25,870	100.0	5.7	27.3	2.7	7.6	.7	31.9	14.3	3.9	3.5	2.4
Marital status												
Single, never married	14,145	100.0	5.7	28.4	3.5	9.4	1.4	25.1	15.2	4.1	4.2	3.1
Married, spouse present	38,765	100.0	5.0	27.5	1.9	6.8	1.3	37.5	12.2	3.0	3.1	1.8
Other marital status ⁵	9,880	100.0	5.9	19.8	3.1	10.2	1.0	32.2	16.7	3.3	5.3	2.4
Presence of own children under 18 years ⁶												
Men:												
No own children under 18 years old	17,662	100.0	7.8	18.1	2.9	7.6	2.4	33.5	16.3	4.1	5.0	2.4
With own children under 18 years old	9,124	100.0	3.5	39.6	1.3	4.5	1.8	31.9	10.1	3.6	2.2	1.5
Women:												
No own children under 18 years old	22,467	100.0	5.6	16.7	3.2	10.7	.8	37.1	15.8	3.5	4.0	2.7
With own children under 18 years old	13,536	100.0	2.7	44.8	1.3	6.1	.2	30.3	8.7	1.8	2.6	1.3
Employment status												
Civilian labor force	44,522	100.0	5.3	28.3	2.5	7.9	1.4	32.1	13.2	3.4	3.7	2.2
Employed	40,980	100.0	5.3	28.0	2.5	7.9	1.4	32.2	13.3	3.5	3.6	2.3
Full time ⁷	31,625	100.0	5.8	27.9	2.5	7.9	1.6	31.4	13.6	3.5	3.6	2.3
Part time ⁸	9,355	100.0	3.8	28.5	2.4	7.9	.9	34.9	12.2	3.5	3.8	2.1
Unemployed	3,542	100.0	5.0	31.5	3.0	8.6	1.6	30.2	12.4	2.1	4.3	1.2
Not in the labor force	18,268	100.0	5.3	21.9	2.3	8.0	.9	38.2	14.4	3.1	3.8	2.1

¹ Main organization is defined as the organization for which the volunteer worked the most hours during the year. See the Technical Note for more details.

² Data refer to persons 25 years and over.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

⁵ Includes divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

⁶ Own children include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children.

⁷ Usually work 35 hours or more a week at all jobs.

⁸ Usually work less than 35 hours a week at all jobs.

NOTE: Data on volunteers relate to persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities for an organization at any point from September 1, 2009, through the survey period in September 2010. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

Table 5. Main volunteer activity for main organization for which activities were performed and selected characteristics, September 2010

Characteristics in September 2010	Total volunteers (thousands)	Percent distribution of main volunteer activity for main organization ¹													
		Coach, referee, or supervise sports teams	Tutor or teach	Mentor youth	Be an usher, greeter, or minister	Collect, prepare, distribute, or serve food	Collect, make, or distribute clothing, crafts, or goods other than food	Fundraise or sell items to raise money	Provide counseling, medical care, fire/EMS, or protective services	Provide general office services	Provide professional or management assistance, including serving on a board or committee	Engage in music, performance, or other artistic activities	Engage in general labor; supply transportation to people	Other	Equal time among all
Sex															
Total, both sexes	62,790	5.8	9.8	6.0	4.0	9.9	3.3	10.9	3.2	5.1	7.2	4.0	8.4	14.6	7.9
Men	26,787	10.2	7.5	5.7	5.1	7.9	1.9	9.3	3.7	3.0	8.2	3.8	11.5	14.6	7.4
Women	36,004	2.5	11.5	6.1	3.2	11.4	4.3	12.1	2.8	6.6	6.4	4.2	6.0	14.6	8.3
Age															
Total, 16 years and over	62,790	5.8	9.8	6.0	4.0	9.9	3.3	10.9	3.2	5.1	7.2	4.0	8.4	14.6	7.9
16 to 24 years	8,297	6.2	9.6	8.7	2.8	8.7	3.4	10.4	3.0	4.5	1.4	5.4	10.7	17.4	7.8
16 to 19 years	4,403	6.6	8.4	8.2	2.9	9.3	3.0	11.3	2.0	3.9	.6	5.9	12.0	17.8	8.1
20 to 24 years	3,894	5.8	11.1	9.3	2.8	8.0	3.9	9.2	4.0	5.2	2.4	4.9	9.2	16.9	7.4
25 years and over	54,493	5.8	9.8	5.6	4.2	10.1	3.2	11.0	3.2	5.1	8.1	3.8	8.0	14.1	7.9
25 to 34 years	9,140	7.8	11.5	7.5	2.6	7.8	3.0	11.7	4.1	4.1	5.0	4.4	7.9	15.6	6.9
35 to 44 years	12,904	10.0	11.9	7.5	2.2	8.6	2.6	12.2	2.9	4.3	6.5	3.2	7.6	12.5	8.1
45 to 54 years	13,435	6.2	9.8	5.6	4.0	10.4	2.9	12.4	3.3	4.5	8.5	3.4	8.0	12.6	8.3
55 to 64 years	9,830	2.2	8.4	4.1	5.4	11.1	2.9	10.1	3.3	5.6	11.2	4.4	8.8	14.8	7.8
65 years and over	9,184	.8	6.7	2.3	7.6	13.1	5.3	7.7	2.6	7.8	9.3	4.2	7.9	16.5	8.4
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity															
White	53,556	6.0	10.0	5.8	3.8	9.5	3.2	11.3	3.2	4.9	7.7	3.9	8.6	14.5	7.7
Black or African American	5,580	4.7	8.6	8.5	6.0	13.0	4.4	8.8	2.8	5.5	4.1	5.2	5.8	13.3	9.2
Asian	2,207	3.0	9.0	5.5	4.9	11.9	2.2	8.7	3.5	7.3	4.4	4.6	8.1	18.4	8.3
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	4,982	7.4	11.2	6.4	4.8	10.9	3.8	9.6	3.3	4.5	3.1	3.5	6.9	17.0	7.6
Educational attainment ²															
Less than a high school diploma	2,231	2.0	5.9	4.3	6.8	17.6	5.4	9.5	2.2	4.4	2.1	3.8	11.2	18.1	6.8
High school graduates, no college ³	10,887	4.9	6.9	4.2	5.6	13.3	4.1	11.6	3.1	5.4	4.5	3.4	10.5	14.2	8.3
Some college or associate degree	15,505	6.0	8.7	5.7	4.2	11.0	3.7	11.6	3.0	5.7	5.1	3.3	8.5	15.1	8.5
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	25,870	6.3	12.0	6.1	3.4	7.6	2.5	10.6	3.5	4.8	11.8	4.3	6.4	13.2	7.6
Marital status															
Single, never married	14,145	5.6	8.8	7.2	2.9	8.6	3.3	11.1	3.6	4.8	3.8	4.5	10.4	17.8	7.6
Married, spouse present	38,765	6.5	10.7	5.8	4.2	9.9	2.9	11.0	2.9	4.9	8.7	4.0	7.6	12.9	8.1
Other marital status ⁵	9,880	3.5	7.6	5.0	5.2	12.0	4.6	10.2	3.5	6.3	6.2	3.5	8.2	16.4	7.7
Presence of own children under 18 years ⁶															
Men:															
No own children under 18 years old	17,662	5.3	6.7	4.8	5.7	8.5	2.2	9.3	4.0	3.6	9.2	4.0	12.7	16.6	7.2
With own children under 18 years old ..	9,124	19.8	9.1	7.5	4.0	6.8	1.3	9.4	3.1	1.8	6.3	3.3	9.3	10.7	7.8
Women:															
No own children under 18 years old	22,467	1.6	9.3	5.4	3.9	12.1	4.7	11.1	3.3	7.1	6.5	4.9	6.4	15.8	7.8
With own children under 18 years old ..	13,536	4.1	15.1	7.4	2.1	10.1	3.6	13.8	1.9	5.7	6.3	3.2	5.2	12.5	9.1
Employment status															
Civilian labor force	44,522	7.2	10.0	6.5	3.6	9.2	2.7	12.0	3.5	3.9	7.7	4.0	8.4	13.6	7.6
Employed	40,980	7.4	10.0	6.5	3.6	9.0	2.6	12.1	3.5	3.8	8.1	4.0	8.2	13.5	7.7
Full time ⁷	31,625	8.1	9.4	6.6	3.6	8.7	2.6	12.4	3.6	3.4	8.8	3.9	8.4	13.2	7.5
Part time ⁸	9,355	4.9	12.1	6.1	4.0	10.2	2.9	11.2	3.4	5.1	5.5	4.2	7.7	14.4	8.4
Unemployed	3,542	5.5	9.1	6.5	3.6	11.4	3.1	10.7	2.8	6.0	3.8	4.8	10.7	14.8	7.1
Not in the labor force	18,268	2.4	9.3	4.7	5.0	11.6	4.7	8.3	2.4	7.8	5.9	4.0	8.2	16.9	8.7

¹ Main organization is defined as the organization for which the volunteer worked the most hours during the year. See the Technical Note for more details.

² Data refer to persons 25 years and over.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

⁵ Includes divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

⁶ Own children include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children.

⁷ Usually work 35 hours or more a week at all jobs.

⁸ Usually work less than 35 hours a week at all jobs.

NOTE: Data on volunteers relate to persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities for an organization at any point from September 1, 2009, through the survey period in September 2010. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

Table 6. Volunteers by how they became involved with main organization for which volunteer activities were performed and selected characteristics, September 2010

Characteristics in September 2010	Total volunteers (thousands)	Percent distribution of how volunteers became involved with main organization ¹								
		Total	Approached the organization	Was asked by:					Other	Not reporting how became involved
				Total ²	Boss or employer	Relative, friend, or co-worker	Someone in the organization/school	Someone else		
Sex										
Total, both sexes	62,790	100.0	41.6	42.7	1.4	14.9	24.9	1.2	12.4	3.3
Men	26,787	100.0	40.5	43.9	1.3	16.6	24.6	1.2	12.3	3.3
Women	36,004	100.0	42.4	41.7	1.5	13.7	25.1	1.2	12.5	3.3
Age										
Total, 16 years and over	62,790	100.0	41.6	42.7	1.4	14.9	24.9	1.2	12.4	3.3
16 to 24 years	8,297	100.0	43.1	39.4	1.0	16.8	20.4	1.0	13.3	4.3
16 to 19 years	4,403	100.0	41.9	40.1	.3	16.8	22.0	.9	13.9	4.1
20 to 24 years	3,894	100.0	44.4	38.5	1.9	16.8	18.5	1.1	12.5	4.6
25 years and over	54,493	100.0	41.3	43.2	1.5	14.7	25.6	1.2	12.3	3.2
25 to 34 years	9,140	100.0	39.3	44.2	2.8	16.9	22.9	1.4	13.0	3.6
35 to 44 years	12,904	100.0	40.4	45.0	1.5	13.8	28.3	1.1	12.0	2.7
45 to 54 years	13,435	100.0	41.1	43.7	1.4	14.6	26.2	1.2	12.4	2.8
55 to 64 years	9,830	100.0	42.6	41.5	1.2	14.9	24.0	1.3	12.4	3.6
65 years and over	9,184	100.0	43.8	40.7	.5	13.4	25.4	1.2	11.9	3.6
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity										
White	53,556	100.0	41.6	43.0	1.5	15.0	25.2	1.2	12.3	3.2
Black or African American	5,580	100.0	43.1	40.1	1.0	13.6	23.7	1.7	13.4	3.4
Asian	2,207	100.0	40.0	42.6	1.4	14.5	25.7	1.1	11.0	6.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	4,982	100.0	43.5	40.8	1.7	13.4	24.3	1.3	13.1	2.5
Educational attainment ³										
Less than a high school diploma	2,231	100.0	41.2	43.9	1.0	15.6	25.6	1.7	12.6	2.3
High school graduates, no college ⁴	10,887	100.0	41.6	44.0	1.6	16.1	24.8	1.3	12.0	2.4
Some college or associate degree	15,505	100.0	41.1	42.8	1.3	14.4	25.5	1.5	13.1	3.0
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁵	25,870	100.0	41.4	43.0	1.6	14.1	26.0	1.0	11.9	3.7
Marital status										
Single, never married	14,145	100.0	42.1	39.9	1.5	17.4	19.5	1.3	13.7	4.4
Married, spouse present	38,765	100.0	40.8	44.2	1.2	14.1	27.5	1.1	12.0	3.0
Other marital status ⁶	9,880	100.0	44.0	40.5	1.9	14.6	22.3	1.6	12.2	3.3
Presence of own children under 18 years ⁷										
Men:										
No own children under 18 years old	17,662	100.0	40.7	42.8	1.3	17.1	22.9	1.3	12.7	3.8
With own children under 18 years old	9,124	100.0	40.0	46.1	1.3	15.4	28.0	1.0	11.5	2.4
Women:										
No own children under 18 years old	22,467	100.0	43.7	39.5	1.6	14.8	21.5	1.3	12.8	4.0
With own children under 18 years old	13,536	100.0	40.2	45.4	1.3	11.9	31.0	1.2	12.1	2.3
Employment status										
Civilian labor force	44,522	100.0	40.6	44.0	1.9	15.6	25.1	1.2	12.3	3.1
Employed	40,980	100.0	40.5	44.0	2.0	15.3	25.3	1.2	12.3	3.2
Full time ⁸	31,625	100.0	39.8	44.4	2.3	15.6	25.0	1.2	12.5	3.4
Part time ⁹	9,355	100.0	43.0	42.7	.8	14.4	26.2	1.2	11.6	2.7
Unemployed	3,542	100.0	41.6	43.8	.5	18.8	23.2	1.2	13.1	1.5
Not in the labor force	18,268	100.0	44.0	39.5	.3	13.3	24.4	1.2	12.7	3.8

¹ Main organization is defined as the organization for which the volunteer worked the most hours during the year. See the Technical Note for more details.

² Includes persons who did not specify who asked them to volunteer, not shown separately.

³ Data refer to persons 25 years and over.

⁴ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁵ Includes persons with bachelor's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

⁶ Includes divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

⁷ Own children include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Not included

are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children.

⁸ Usually work 35 hours or more a week at all jobs.

⁹ Usually work less than 35 hours a week at all jobs.

NOTE: Data on volunteers relate to persons who performed unpaid volunteer activities for an organization at any point from September 1, 2009, through the survey period in September 2010. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.