



AmeriCorps

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

Office of Research and Evaluation

Last updated June 11, 2024

Background Information

- Infographic: [Using Civic Engagement and Volunteering Data to Strengthen Civic Life](#)
 - Highlights opportunities for media professionals, researchers, policymakers, and philanthropists to use 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
- Technical Recording: [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 Constructs and Measures Graphic](#)
 - Visual summary of five constructs and associated measures in the CEV
- [2021 CEV Dataset Fact Sheet](#)
 - One-pager detailing basic information about the dataset
- [2021 CEV FAQs](#)
 - Answers to frequently asked questions about the CEV
- CEV email: AmeriCorpsCEV@americorps.gov
 - Dedicated inbox for inquiries related to the CEV monitored daily by the technical lead

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, National Bureau for Economic Research, ICPSR, IPUMs, and other sources.

- Analytic CPS Datasets produced by AmeriCorps
 - [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)
 - [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](#)
- [2009 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
- [2008 Civic Engagement Supplement](#)
- Annual [Volunteer Supplement, 2002 through 2009](#)
- [1989 Multiple Job Holding, Flexitime, and Volunteer Work Supplement](#)
- [1974 Volunteer Workers Supplement](#)
- Nonresponse Analyses produced by U.S. Census Bureau
 - [2021 CEV](#)

Key Findings Briefs

These are part of the “Spotlighting the CEV” series

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

What is the State of Civic Health in America? How has COVID-19 Impacted Civic Engagement?

These research questions are part of ORE's 2023-24 analytic plan.

- Graphic: [National Rates of Civic Engagement in 2019 and 2021](#)
- Topline findings on data.americorps.gov
 - [National Rates of All Measures, 2017-21](#)
 - [National Rates of All Measures by Demographics, 2017-21](#)
 - [State-Level Rates of All Measures, 2017-21](#)
- ORE Webinar: [“What is Civic Engagement? Exploring New Paradigms”](#) (March 2023)
 - Presents topline findings from all measures in the 2021 CEV
- [Volunteering and Civic Life in America](#) landing page
 - Presents topline findings on from 2021 CEV nationally, by state, and by MSA including [research summary](#) and [communications toolkit](#) produced by OCM
- AmeriCorps virtual event titled: [“Volunteering and Civic Life During the Pandemic: The Path Forward”](#) (January 2023)
- Report: [Key Findings from the 2019 Current Population Survey Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement](#) (December 2021)

How Do Civic Behaviors Cluster Together?

This research question is part of ORE's analytic plan for the 2023 CEV data.

- Blog post produced by OCM titled, [“The Avengers of Civic Engagement”](#) (September 2023)
- Preprint of academic paper based on 2021 CEV data titled, [“Characterizing Recent Trends in U.S. Civic Engagement Activity Interdependence and Participant Behavioral Profile Similarity”](#) (manuscript in preparation for submission to an academic journal)

- Points of Light Conference Presentation titled, [“Civic Profiles: What Engagement Patterns Tell Us About Civic Life Today”](#) (June 2023)

What is the Relationship Between Work and Civic Life?

This research question is part of ORE's analytic plan for the 2023 CEV data.

- Forthcoming academic paper using 2017 CEV data titled, [“Civic Work: Making a Difference On and off the Clock”](#) (expected publication date of July 2024 in the *American Journal of Sociology*)
- Spotlighting the CEV Key Findings Brief: [Work and Civic Life](#)

External Research Using CEV Data

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

- Academic research
 - *Nonprofit Policy Forum* article titled, [“Do Sociocultural Factors Drive Civic Engagement? An Examination of Political Interest and Religious Attendance”](#) (Piatak 2023)
 - *British Journal of Psychology* article titled, [“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 titled, [“Associations Between Volunteering, STEM Backgrounds, and Information-Processing Skills in Adult Populations of the United States”](#) (Yamashita et al. 2023)
 - *VOLUNTAS* article by ORE research grantees titled, [“The Rural/Urban Volunteering Divide”](#) (Paarlberg et al. 2022)
- Policy research
 - CIRCLE data tool titled, [“Youth Voting and Civic Engagement in America”](#)
 - Do Good Institute reports
 - [“Social Connectedness and Generosity: A Look at How Associational Life and Social Connections Influence Volunteering and Giving \(and Vice Versa\)”](#) (January 2024)
 - [“Understanding Generosity: A Look at What Influences Volunteering and Giving in the United States”](#) (November 2023)
 - U.S. Census Bureau articles
 - Stats for Stories: [“National Volunteer Week April 16-22, 2023](#) (April 2023)
 - America Counts: [“Volunteering in America: New U.S. Census Bureau, AmeriCorps Research”](#) (January 2023)
 - University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy & Practice report titled, [“Generosity Trends and Impacts: Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic in the USA”](#) (August 2022)
 - NCoC [Civic Health Index](#) reports (ongoing)
- Methodological research

- 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](#).
- Public opinion polling
 - 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"](#)

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:

- NPR article titled, ["Volunteering in the U.S. is on the decline, reports say"](#) (December 2023)
- Washington Post article titled, ["Nonprofits need more help than ever. Why aren't Americans volunteering?"](#) (December 2023)
- Associated Press article titled, ["Nonprofits scramble for help amid dearth of volunteers"](#) (April 2023)
- Associated Press article titled, ["Volunteers speak on why they serve and why more people don't"](#) (April 2023)
- Philadelphia Inquirer article titled, ["Brilliant, accurate study ranks Philly among the most helpful cities in the country"](#) (April 2023)
- Washington Post article titled, ["America's friendliest big cities are not the ones you'd expect"](#) (March 2023)
- Volunteer Nation Podcast Episode #048: ["New Statistics on Volunteering & Civic Life with Dr. Mary Hyde"](#) (March 2023)
- The Chronicle of Philanthropy article titled, ["Americans Are Volunteering Less. What Can Nonprofits Do to Bring Them Back?"](#) (February 2023)

Other Use Cases of CEV Data

CEV data and/or measures are used in various other ways both within and beyond AmeriCorps. Examples of additional use cases include:

- OMB 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
- State Commission 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
- Program evaluation
 - 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