

Annual Maine Profile: Volunteering and Civic Health

Each year the [Corporation for National Community Service](#) and the [National Conference on Citizenship](#) along with its partners at the US Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics update a very comprehensive look at volunteering and civic life in the 50 states, District of Columbia, 51 major cities, and 140 mid-sized cities across the country. Data includes volunteer rates and rankings, civic engagement trends, and analysis.

The annual report data for the entire nation along with several years of prior report information can be found at [VolunteeringinAmerica.gov](#)

What is Civic Health?



Compiled civic health indicators show the overall wellbeing of a community. Civic health has a direct bearing on whether an area prospers or struggles and is a critical piece of community development.

A community with strong civic health is more resilient when hardship hits, has more effective governance, and is a better place to live. A weak level of civic health usually indicates a community facing difficulties and finding it hard to address pressing public problems.

How do communities with strong civic health shine?

Communities with strong civic health have residents that:

- have experience pulling together all segments of the community to deal with shared concerns through deliberation and action;
- understand governance and the role of public bodies as well as the opportunities and challenges that arise when public, nonprofit, and/or for-profit entities interface; and
- have a history of voluntarily contributing their time, talent, and resources to projects or activities that benefit others in the community.
- have strong personal supports in family and friends;
- are connected to community members and have a basic sense of trust;
- form opinions and plans based on not just their personal views but also impartial information;

Maine Civic Health Profile



The data below is from [Volunteering in America](#) profiles of states which reports data collected in the annual fall Current Population Survey supplement. To see multiple years of data or download a graph in Microsoft Excel, select the title of the data set.

NOTE: In 2014 and 2015, only some data points (see bold) were updated in the CPS. The rest are from 2013.

Trust others

(a fundamental requirement for working together voluntarily)

[Trust People in Your Neighborhood](#)

None - 3.97%

Some - 23.31%

Most - 48.97%

All - 13.75%

Participate in community life

[Nonelectoral Participation:](#)

Contacted or Visited Public Official - 16.9%

Bought or Boycotted a Product or Service - 22%

[Discuss Politics with Family and Friends](#)

Frequently - 33.7%

Infrequently - 49.4%

[Express Political or Community Opinions via Internet](#)

Frequently - 8.68%

Infrequently - 23.72%

[Vote in Local Elections](#)

Never - 19.04%

Rarely - 6.18%

Sometimes - 26.91%

Often - 41.87%

[Involved in a Group:](#)

Yes - 42.6%

No - 57.4%

Type of Group Involvement for those that said yes:

School Group, Neighborhood or Community Association - 14.7%

Service or Civic Association - 10.1%

Sports or Recreation Association - 12.8%

Church, Synagogue, Mosque, or Religion Institution - 17.7%

Other - 44.7%

Act as an Officer or Member of Committee for Group or Organization:

Yes - 16%

No - 84%

Attend Public Meetings

14.9% (2015)

Connect to others

Eat Dinner with Household Members:

Frequently - 91.9%

Infrequently - 7.2%

See or Hear from Friends/Family:

Frequently - 81.6%

Infrequently - 17.8%

Talk with Neighbors:

Frequently - 90.1% (2014)

Infrequently - 8.9%

Favors for Neighbors:

42,414 individuals (2013-2015 average)

Active in Neighborhood:

116,889 individuals (2015)

Have confidence in community institutions (by type)

Confidence in Corporations

None - 11.14%

Hardly Any - 20.9%

Some - 63.06%

A Great Deal - 4.9%

Confidence in Media

None - 17.68%

Hardly Any - 26.09%

Some - 50.92%

A Great Deal - 5.31%

Confidence in Public Schools

None - 6.21%

Hardly Any - 8.91%

Some - 55.78%

A Great Deal - 29.09%

Maine Major Cities Volunteer Profile

The data set is from Volunteering in America.

Bangor

Volunteer Rate

(% of Bangor, Maine, citizens who volunteer)

2015 - 26.9% which earned a ranking of 39th among US Mid-sized cities

2014 - 31.4%

2013 - 30.4%
2012 - 31.9%
2011 - 30.9%
2010 - 30.7%
2009 - 30.8%
2008 - 29.1%

Annual Volunteer Hours Per Resident and Ranking Among Mid-sized American Cities

2013 - Hours and ranking discontinued for smaller cities
2012 - 57.5 hours; ranked Bangor #5 among mid-sized cities in the US
2011 - 61.5 hours; ranked Bangor #2
2010 - 63.9 hours; ranked Bangor #3
2009 - 58.4 hours; ranked Bangor #5
2008 - 41.5 hours; ranked Bangor #21

Portland

Volunteer Rate

2015 - 38.4% which earned a ranking of 5th among US Mid-sized cities
2014 - 37.6%
2013 - 36.9%
2012 - 36.3%
2011 - 35.4%
2010 - 35.7%
2009 - 35.5%
2008 - 35.3%

Annual Volunteer Hours Per Resident and Ranking Among Mid-sized American Cities

2013 - Hours and ranking discontinued for smaller cities
2012 - 38.1 hours; ranked Portland #31 among mid-sized cities in the US
2011 - 36.7 hours; ranked Portland #35
2010 - 39.6 hours; ranked Portland #29
2009 - 36.1 hours; ranked Portland #39
2008 - 38.7hours; ranked Portland #32

Maine Volunteer Profile

A significant element of civic health is working together in the community to address issues and solve problems. Communities with a history of strong volunteering (formally organized by local groups) and neighboring (ad hoc or informal volunteering) have been proven to be more resilient in the face of adversity.

Data Report released December 2015

Volunteer Rate

(% of Maine citizens who volunteer.)

2015 - 31.6%
2014 - 31.9%
2013 - 32.3%
2012 - 32.6%
2011 - 32.8%
2010 - 32.3%
2009 - 34.4%

Total Number of Maine Volunteers (all ages combined)

2015 - 345,303
 2014 - 336,570
 2013 - 350,225
 2012 - 353,362
 2011 - 349,381
 2010 - 344,584
 2009 - 366,608

Community Sectors Where Mainers Volunteer Activity/program category

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Civic	7.3%	8.4%	8.1%	9.9%	8.6%
Educational	28.2%	26.6%	26.3%	27.9%	27.1%
Health	8.5%	8.4%	8.40%	9.7%	9.7%
Religious	18.8%	19.2%	20.4%	22.6%	20.7%
Social Service	17.9%	18.6%	18.2%	18.9%	18.9%
Sport/Arts	7.2%	7.1%	6.9%	6.6%	5.5%
Other	5.5%	11.6%	5.5%	4.6%	4.5%

Major Categories of Volunteer Activities

Activity	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Sports Teams (Coach, etc.)	8.3%	7.4%	8.7%	*	10.2%
Tutor/teach	13.8%	15.2%	14.9%	*	14.1%
Mentor Youth	15.9%	17.6%	18.5%	18.3%	16.6%
Religious (Usher, etc)	9.7%	8.9%	8.4%	*	7.8%
Collect/Distribute Food	24.1%	22.8%	23.5%	25.2%	26.7%
Collect/Distribute Clothing	13.4	14.0%	15.0%	*	14.6%
Fundraise	28.9%	28.4%	28.9%	31.1%	31.1%
Emergency Response/Counseling	6.6%	5.3%	6.2%	*	5.9%
Office Services	13.2%	12.7%	12.9%	*	15.1%
Professional/Management	23.2%	24.3%	24.7%	23.1%	21.5%
Music/Art	9.2%	10.0%	10.3%	*	9.6%
General Labor	23.7%	23.7%	26.2%	25.5%	24.2%

Volunteer Rates by Age Group (2013-2015 avg.)

16-19 - 39.3%
 20-24 - 25.5%
 25-34 - 25.3%
 35-44 - 34.5%
 45-54 - 37.7%
 55-64 - 30.1%
 65-74 - 31%
 75+ - 28.2%

Note: Linked table is comparison of 3 years of pooled data.

Volunteer Retention Rate

(% of volunteers who complete their assignment)

2015 - 68.3%
2014 - 67.9%
2013 - 70.1%
2012 - 70.1%
2011 - 70.3%
2010 - 68.6%
2009 - 69.3%
2008 - 68.9%

Value of Maine's Volunteer Sector

The dollar value of the pro bono (in-kind) labor generated by volunteers is calculated by the total number of volunteer hours multiplied by the Independent Sector dollar value for an hour of volunteer time contributed by a Maine volunteer. The worth of time varies by state and is not reflective of the skill level (nurse, docent, receptionist) or type of work (trailbuilding, meal prep, or reading aloud). In essence, it is like an average.

2015 = \$ 934,000,000
2014 = \$ 943,000,000
2013 = \$ 900,090,000
2012 = \$ 745,800,000
2011 = \$ 863,200,000
2010 = \$1,081,820,000
2009 = \$1,101,000,000
2008 = \$ 868,000,000

Maine Rankings Among States

* means data not available

Volunteer Hours Per Resident (annual # of hours)

Maine ranked ...

#10 in 2015 - 36.9 hours total per volunteer over 1 year
#11 in 2014 - 38.3 hours
#9 in 2013 - 38.1 hours
#8 in 2012 - 40.4 hours
#14 in 2011 - 37.2 hours
#4 in 2010 - 46.7 hours
#4 in 2009 - 48.6 hours
#7 in 2008 - 45.3 hours

Rate of Volunteering Among Citizens (how many volunteer)

Maine ranked ...

#11 in 2015 - 31.5% of Maine citizens were volunteers
#13 in 2014 - 31.9%
#13 in 2013 - 32.5%
#14 in 2012 - 32.5%
#12 in 2011 - 32.8%
#16 in 2010 - 32.8%
#15 in 2009 - 33.3%
#15 in 2008 - 32.8%

Volunteer Retention Rate

Maine ranked ...

#13 in 2015 - 68.3% of volunteers completed their assignment; did not leave prematurely
#15 in 2014 - 67.9%

#10 in 2013 - 70.1%
#10 in 2012 - 70.1%
#11 in 2011 - 70.3%
#15 in 2010 - 68.6%
#16 in 2009 - 69.3%
#17 in 2008 - 68.9%

Older Adult Volunteer Rate (individuals 65 and older)

Maine ranked ...

#13 in 2014 - 29.3% of residents 65 and older volunteered
#18 in 2013 - 27.9%
#21 in 2012 - 27.3%
#20 in 2011 - 28.1%
#15 in 2010 - 29.8%
#12 in 2009 - 29.6%
#14 in 2008 - 28.7%

Baby Boomer Volunteer Rates (individuals born between 1946 and 1964)

Maine ranked ...

#11 in 2015 - 32.9% of residents in the Baby Boomer generation volunteered
#12 in 2014 - 33.8%
#14 in 2013 - 33.9%
#15 in 2012 - 34.4%
#15 in 2011 - 35.1%
#17 in 2010 - 35%
#16 in 2009 - 36.1%
#16 in 2008 - 36.6%

Young Adult Volunteer Rates (individuals 16 to 24 years of age)

Maine ranked ...

No longer calculated.

#6 in 2013 - 30.3%
#4 in 2012 - 31.1%
#2 in 2011 - 33.7%
#4 in 2010 - 31.5%
#3 in 2009 - 30.5%
#17 in 2008 - 24.8%

Millennial Generation Volunteer Rates (individuals born after 1980)

Maine ranked ...

#11 in 2015 - 27.2% of Maine residents in the millennial generation volunteered
#18 in 2014 - 25.8%
#10 in 2013 - 28.0%
#7 in 2012 - 29.4%
#6 in 2011 - 30.3%
#8 in 2010 - 28.6%
#9 in 2009 - 28.3%
#* in 2008 - 31.3%

Teenage Volunteer Rates (a subset of "Young Adults," this data is for 16-19 year olds)

Maine ranked ...

* in 2015 - 39.3%

#8 in 2014 - 34.0% of Maine teens volunteered
#6 in 2013 - 36.9%
#1 in 2012 - 39.9%
#1 in 2011 - 44%
#2 in 2010 - 42.0%
#8 in 2009 - 36.8%
#18 in 2008 - 30.9%

College Student Volunteer Rates

Maine ranked ...
#5 in 2015 - 38.3%

Parents Volunteer Rates

Maine ranked ...
#8 in 2015 - 39.9%

Veterans Volunteer Rates

Maine ranked ...
#24 in 2015 - 25.8%