

# VOLUNTEERING OFFLINE AND ONLINE

## A brief look at online volunteering



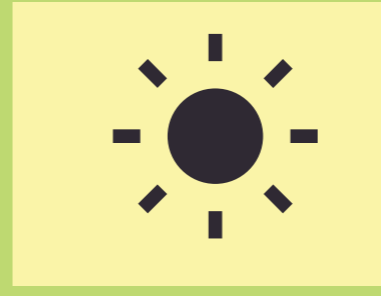
There is limited research on the impact of online volunteering (virtual volunteering), despite its huge growth in the past decade. One study found that **34% found volunteer opportunities online in 2006 vs 67% of people in 2014**. That number could be much bigger today. A survey of adults 40 years of age and older revealed that:

**21%**  
would download an app to find local volunteer opportunities

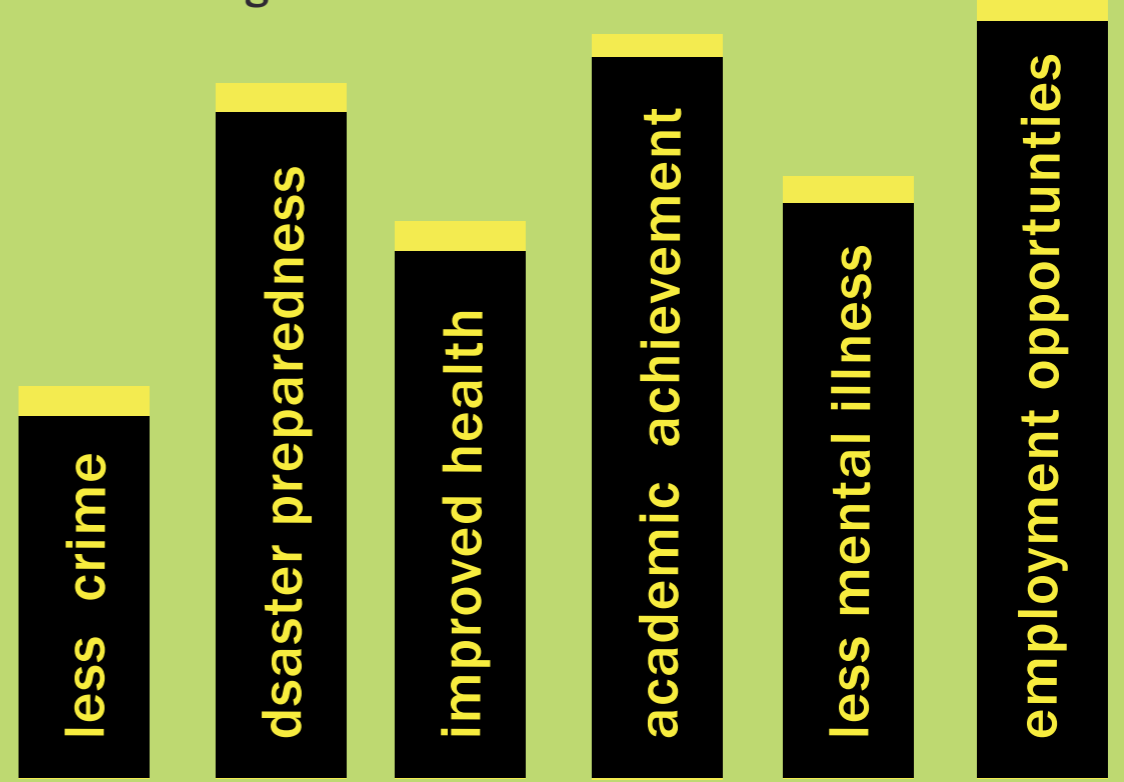
**30%**  
and more would go online to find volunteer opportunities, or join an online group about an important cause

**24%**  
(nearly 1/4) of respondents would volunteer online

## Rewards of Volunteering



Parts of the US with greater volunteer participation handle disaster better; communities with more volunteers also enjoy less crime; older adults experience improved health; they are better employment opportunities; there is less mental illness and higher academic achievement for kids.



## STATISTICS

Volunteers are worth on average approximately \$24 an hour

Volunteers, on average, spend 50 hours per year donating their time to the greater good

Only 55% of nonprofits assess volunteer impact, even though it is very important to know the impact of volunteers- not just for the organization, but it is important for the volunteer to understand their impact too

## Volunteers in the US

**22.6%** of volunteers are 24 years old and younger

**35-44** year olds volunteered the most (28.9%)

**18-24** year olds attending college volunteered more than twice as much (25.7%) as those not attending (13.6%) college

**>80 hours** of volunteers 65 years of age and older had most annual volunteer hours

## Volunteers in the US

**25%** of people in the US volunteer annually

**\$184 billion** worth of work is annually contributed by volunteers

**8 billion** hours annually are contributed by volunteers

**62.5%** of those surveyed engage in informal volunteering, which might include helping a neighbor, housesitting, etc.

## MORE STATS

- Unemployed volunteers have 27% higher odds of finding employment than non-volunteers, increasing to over 50% for rural volunteers and volunteers that did not graduate high school

- 89% of professionals volunteered, but only 45% included it on their resume, even though 60% of hiring managers considered volunteering as an important hiring criteria

- 92% of human resource executives agree that volunteering improves leadership skills

## Mind and Body

United Health Group Survey Results

**78%**

Volunteering lowers my stress

**94%**

Volunteering improves my mood

**76%**

Volunteering improves my health

**96%**

Volunteering enriches my sense of purpose

## Network, Career, Skills

**41%**

of employers considered volunteer work equally as valuable as paid

**73%**

of employers would choose someone with volunteer experience over a candidate without experience

**41%**

of hiring managers consider volunteer experience equally valuable as paid work

**94%**

of employers believed that volunteering helps increase job skills

**#1**

Food preparation and distribution is the most popular, common volunteer activity

**1/5**

Hiring managers in the U.S. agree they have hired someone because they have volunteered

## References

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