The Nonprofit Sector in the United States: Size and Scope

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National Center for Charitable Statistics (NCCS)

- Mission is to develop and disseminate high quality data on nonprofit organizations and their activities for use in research on the relationships between the nonprofit sector, government, the commercial sector, and the broader civil society.
- Housed at The Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy.
Characteristics of U.S. Nonprofit Organizations

• Diversity is the dominant feature:
  – Large, small
  – Varied missions, activities
  – Different board, management styles
  – Staffed by professionals, volunteers, both
  – Mixed Revenues—government grants, contracts, fees for services, contributions
Scope of the U.S. Nonprofit Sector

• 1.43 million nonprofits in 2009
• 1.56 million nonprofits in 2012
• 386,000 religious congregations
• 1 million registered charitable nonprofits (including private foundations) in 2011
A Snapshot of the Nonprofit Sector

501(c)(3) Public Charities by Type, 2010

- Human Services: 34%
- Education: 18%
- Health Care: 12%
- Public and Social Benefit: 12%
- Arts, Culture, and Humanities: 11%
- Religious Related: 6%
- Environment and Animals: 5%
- International: 2%

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Economic Impact of Nonprofit Sector, 2010

- Contributed 5.5% to GDP
- Paid $576.9 billion in wages and salaries, 9% of U.S. Total
- Employed an estimated 13.7 million people
- Had $2.1 trillion in revenues and
- $1.9 trillion in expenses

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A Snapshot of the Nonprofit Sector, 2010

Expense Level

- $10 million or more: 4.0 (Total Expenses), 2.5 (Public Charities) - 85.6%
- $5 million to $10 million: 4.5 (Total Expenses), 2.5 (Public Charities)
- $1 million to $5 million: 6.2 (Total Expenses), 11.0 (Public Charities)
- $500,000 to $1 million: 1.5 (Total Expenses), 8.2 (Public Charities)
- $100,000 to $500,000: 1.7 (Total Expenses), 29.0 (Public Charities)
- Under $100,000: 0.5 (Total Expenses), 45.3 (Public Charities)

Percentage of Total

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Sources of Revenue for Public Charities, 2010

- Fees for services and goods from private sources: 49.6%
- Government grants: 8.4%
- Private contributions: 13.2%
- Fees for services and goods from government sources: 23.8%
- Investment income: 2.8%
- Other income: 2.1%
Private Giving by Type

- Individual giving 80.6%
  - $211.8 B 72.8%
  - Bequests - $22.8 B 7.8%
- Corporate giving 5.3%
- Foundation giving 14.1%
- Congregations receive 35% of total
Estimated Distributions of Private Contributions by Recipient Area, 2010

- Religion: 35
- Education: 14
- Health: 8
- Human services: 9
- Arts, culture, and humanities: 5
- Public-society benefit: 8
- Environment or animals: 2
- International affairs: 5
- Gifts to foundations: 11
- Gifts to individuals: 1
- Unallocated: 1

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Volunteering

- 26.3 percent of the population volunteered in 2010, or 62.8 million volunteers
- 6.8 percent of the population volunteers each day, or over 16.6 million volunteers per day in 2010
- 52 hours/year median
- 14.9 billion hours were volunteered in 2010, $19.07 per hour (2006)
- Equivalent to 8.8 million full time employees earning $283.3 billion
Types of Activities

• Deliver Services (for example, food, housing, health care, child care, education, etc.)
• Develop Arts and Culture (music, dance, traditions, etc.)
• Conduct Research and Share Information
• Engage Citizens and Advocate for Change
Volunteer Activities, 2010

- Social service and care, 24.3%
- Meetings, maintenance, building, and cleanup, 6.6%
- Performing and cultural activities, 5.4%
- Waiting, 0.5%
- Public health and safety, 0.4%
- Security, 0.1%
- Meetings, conferences, and training, 10.6%
- Travel, 10.8%
- Other, 19.7%
- Administrative and support, 21.7%
The Nonprofit Landscape

- Contributions are 13.2% of revenues and static
  - Foundations, individual, and corporate giving
- Volunteers 15 billion hours, equivalent of 8.8 million employees, $283.8 billion value, also static
- Rely more on fees and government contracts and grants with resulting requirements for:
  - Financial accountability, transparency
  - Marketing and contracting expertise
  - Performance measures, outcomes and results
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