

Who volunteers in general, compared with hospice

Data from this chart were collected by Dedra Stodghill, BS, Volunteer Coordinator at Abbey Hospice in Social Circle, GA, and the statistics include information from the U.S. Department of Labor's survey of volunteers in the United States, reported on Dec. 9, 2005, as well as data collected by Stodghill in a small and informal hospice survey.

Volunteers by Age

Hospices

16-24: 24%
25-35: 25%
36-44: 35%
45-54: 33%
55-64: 30%

DOL survey

16-24: 3.1%
25-34: 2.0%
35-44: 11.7%
45-54: 19.4%
55-64: 29.6%
65+: 35%

Volunteers by Ethnicity

Hospices

Caucasian: 88.6%
African American: 9.2%
Asian: 1.2%
Hispanic: 2.0%

DOL survey

Caucasian: 30.4%
African American: 22.1%
Asian: 20.7%
Hispanic: 15.4%

Volunteers by Employment Status

Hospices

Full Time: 23.3%
Part Time: 8.9%
Unemployed: 7.8%
Not in Work Force: 60.0%

DOL survey

Full Time: 29.8%
Part Time: 38.2%
Unemployed: 26.4%
Not in Work Force: 24.4%

Volunteers by Education Level

Hospices

Less than High School diploma: 6.0%
High School graduate: 28.8%
Less than 4-year degree: 35.4%
College graduate: 34.2%

DOL survey

Less than High School diploma: 10%
High School graduate: 21%
Less than 4-year degree: 34%
College graduate: 46%

Main reason for not volunteering in last year:

DOL survey

Burnout: 2%
Family responsibilities or child care problems: 9.3%
Health or medical problems: 15.2%
Lack of time: 45.6%
No one asked: 2.9%
No longer a member of the organization: 1.9%
Wasn't interested: 3.9%
Moved, lack of information, transportation or expense: 3.9%
No longer required, not relevant to current life situation: 4.9%

Volunteers by type of main organization

DOL survey

Civic, political, professional, or international: 6.4%
Educational or youth services: 26.2%
Environmental or animal care: 1.8%
Hospital or other health care: 7.7%
Public safety: 1.3%
Religious: 34.8%
Social or community service: 13.4%
Sport, hobby, cultural, or arts: 3.3%
Other: 3.5%