

**September 2017**

**Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement**

**Items Booklet**

September 2017 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND  
VOLUNTEERING SUPPLEMENT TO THE CURRENT  
POPULATION SURVEY

**These next questions will help us understand how people in America interact with and relate to each other, as well as how we work together to make changes in our communities and country.**

**1. The first few questions focus on how you interact with family and friends in person, over the phone, or through the internet or social media.**

**In the past 12 months, that is from [FILL CURRENT MONTH] of 2015 until today, how often did you talk to or spend time with friends and family?**

[READ ALL RESPONSE OPTIONS]

- (1) **Basically every day**
- (2) **A few times a week**
- (3) **A few times a month**
- (4) **Once a month**
- (5) **Less than once a month**
- (6) **Not at all**

**2. [In the past 12 months,] how often did you discuss political, societal, or local issues with friends or family?**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**3. [In the past 12 months,] how often did you provide food, housing, money or help for friends or extended family? Do not include anything you do for your children, parents, and spouses, partners or significant others even if they do not live with you.**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**This next set of questions focuses on how you interact with your neighbors in person, over the phone, or through the internet or social media.**

**4. In the past 12 months, how often did you have a conversation or spend time with your neighbors?**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**5. [In the past 12 months,] how often did you discuss political, societal, or local issues with your neighbors?**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**6. [In the past 12 months,] how often did you and your neighbors do favors for each other such as house sitting, watching each other's children, lending tools, and other things to help each other.**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**7. [In the past 12 months,] did you get together with other people from your neighborhood to do something positive for your neighborhood or the community?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

**8. In the past 12 months, how often did you talk to or spend time with people from a racial, ethnic or cultural background that is different than yours? This may have been in person, over the phone, or through the internet or social media.**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**9. [In the past 12 months,] how often did you post your views about political, societal, or local issues on the internet or social media?**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**10. [In the past 12 months,] how often did you read, watch or listen to news or information about political, societal, or local issues?**

[READ RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NEEDED]

- (1) Basically every day
- (2) A few times a week
- (3) A few times a month
- (4) Once a month
- (5) Less than once a month
- (6) Not at all

**11. [In the past 12 months,] did you vote in the last local elections, such as for mayor or school board?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

12. [In the past 12 months,] **did you attend a public meeting, such as a zoning or school board meeting, to discuss a local issue?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

13. [In the past 12 months,] **did you contact or visit a public official – at any level of government – to express your opinion?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

14. [In the past 12 months,] **did you buy or boycott a product based on a company's political values or business practices?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

**This next set of questions focuses on local and national groups, organizations and associations that you may belong to. Examples include community groups; civic or service organizations; religious or spiritual communities; recreational groups; and political or advocacy groups. Participation in these groups could be in-person, online, or both.**

15. **In the past 12 months, did you belong to any groups, organizations, or associations?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No --- **SKIP to Q15**

15a. **How many groups, organizations, or associations would you say you have belonged to over the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of groups / organizations / associations  
**[IF Q15=0 SKIP TO Q16]**

15a1. Thinking about the group, organization, or association with which you are most active, would you say -

[READ ALL RESPONSE OPTIONS]

- (1) All activity is in person
- (2) Activity is more in-person than online
- (3) Activity is evenly split between in-person and online
- (4) Activity is more online than in-person
- (5) All activity is online, or
- (6) You are a member but not active with any groups, organizations or associations.

16. In the past 12 months, did you spend any time volunteering for any organization or association?

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

16a Some people don't think of activities they do infrequently or for children's schools or youth organizations as volunteer activities. In the past 12 months (have you/has she/has he) done any of these types of activities?

- (1) Yes
- (2) No --- **SKIP TO Q17**

16b. For each organization that I mention, please tell me - yes or no - whether (you/he/she) volunteered for this type of organization [in the past 12 months].

In the past 12 months, did (you/he/she) volunteer for a(n) :

- 1 Civic, political, professional or international
- 2 Educational or youth service
- 3 Environmental or animal care
- 4 Hospital or other health
- 5 Public safety
- 6 Religious
- 7 Social or community service
- 8 Sport, hobby, cultural or arts
- 9 Other
- 10 Not determined

16c. For each activity that I mention, please tell me - yes or no - whether (you/he/she) did that activity for an organization [in the past 12 months].

In the past 12 months, did (you/he/she):

1. Coach, referee, or supervise sports teams
2. Tutor or teach
3. Mentor youth
4. Be an usher, greeter, or minister

5. Collect, prepare, distribute, or serve food
  6. Collect, make or distribute clothing, crafts, or goods other than food
  7. Fundraise or sell items to raise money
  8. Provide counseling, medical care, fire/EMS, or protective services
  9. Provide general office services
  10. Provide professional or management assistance including serving on a board or committee
  11. Engage in music, performance, or other artistic activities
  12. Engage in general labor; supply transportation for people
  13. Other
- DK.  
RF.

16d. **How often did you volunteer?**

[READ ALL RESPONSE OPTIONS]

- (1) **Basically every day**
- (2) **A few times a week**
- (3) **A few times a month**
- (4) **Once a month**
- (5) **Less than once a month**
- (6) **Not at all --- SKIP TO Q17**

16e. **In the past 12 months, approximately how many hours did you volunteer?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Hours

17. [In the past 12 months,] **did you give money or possessions with a combined value of more than \$25 to a political organization, party, or campaign?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

18. [In the past 12 months,] **did you give money or possessions with a combined value of more than \$25 to a non-political group or organization, such as a charity, school, or religious organization?**

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

[IF THERE ARE ADDITIONAL RESPONDENTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD GO TO THE NEXT PAGE]

[IF THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL RESPONDENTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD] **That brings us to the end of the survey. Thank you for participating in this survey.**