

**September 2021**

**Civic Engagement and Volunteering Supplement**

**Items Booklet**

September 2021 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND  
VOLUNTEERING SUPPLEMENT TO THE CURRENT  
POPULATION SURVEY

These next questions will help us understand how people in America volunteer both inside and outside of the workplace and how they interact with and relate to each other to make changes in our communities and country.

*The first two questions will be asked only of CPS respondents who have been employed during the past 12 months.*

1. Now I'm going to read you a list of statements that might or might not describe your main job. Please tell me whether you [strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree] with each of these statements.
  - 1a. I contribute to the community through my work
  - 1b. My workplace contributes to the community
  - 1c. I am proud to be working for my employer
  - 1d. My main satisfaction in life comes from work
  
2. In the past 12 months, has your workplace or employer asked or encouraged employees to volunteer or contribute to a specific cause, for example by participating in an employer-sponsored volunteering day, providing pro bono services, or donating to a charity? [yes, no]

*The next question would become the 3<sup>rd</sup> question for CPS respondents who have been employed during the past 12 months. It will remain the first question for CPS respondents who have not been employed during the past 12 months.*

(1.) **(3.)** The first (**next**) 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 2020 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

**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

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 Q16**

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]**

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**

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.**