

2012 MICHIGAN CIVIC HEALTH INDEX



National Conference on Citizenship
Chartered by Congress



ABOUT THE PARTNERS

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CITIZENSHIP

At the National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC), we believe everyone has the power to make a difference in how their community and country thrive.

We are a dynamic, non-partisan nonprofit working at the forefront of our nation's civic life. We continuously explore what shapes today's citizenry, define the evolving role of the individual in our democracy, and uncover ways to motivate greater participation. Through our events, research and reports, NCoC expands our nation's contemporary understanding of what it means to be a citizen. We seek new ideas and approaches for creating greater civic health and vitality throughout the United States.

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION

The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) is the state's lead government agency on volunteerism. For more than 20 years, the MCSC has been promoting service as a strategy to address Michigan's greatest challenges and providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism. To help advance their mission, the MCSC relies on four signature programs: Michigan's AmeriCorps, Mentor Michigan, Volunteer Michigan, and the Governor's Service Awards.

COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATIONS

The Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) works to strengthen, promote and increase philanthropy in Michigan. It is the nation's largest regional association of grantmakers and serves more than 350 organizational members, including family foundations, corporate foundations and giving programs, independent and community foundations, and public charities of all sizes.

MICHIGAN NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION

The Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) serves nonprofits to aid them in advancing their missions. In collaboration with a diversity of important partnerships, affiliations, and programs, MNA is focused on developing and supporting a strong and sustainable infrastructure for the full range of civic engagement (episodic volunteering to long-term service and civic education). This commitment is supported in part by the mission and resources

brought to MNA through its merger with the ConnectMichigan Alliance. This merger included a multi-million dollar endowment and three important organizations—Michigan Campus Compact, Volunteer Centers of Michigan, and The LEAGUE Michigan.

The mission of the ConnectMichigan Alliance was to support service and civic engagement where Michiganders live, work, and learn. Today this mission is integrated into MNA as one of the organization's strategic priorities and is a key competitive advantage. In addition, MNA believes in fostering strong and collaborative partnerships with other organizations, including the Michigan Community Service Commission, Michigan Office of the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Council of Michigan Foundations to ensure nonprofits have the human capital they need to fulfill their missions.

THE LEAGUE MICHIGAN

The LEAGUE Michigan is a program for service, service-learning and philanthropy education that builds character and empowers young people to "do good" in their community, the nation and the world. While much work is done during the school year to help teachers and schools implement service and service-learning in classrooms, summertime is when The LEAGUE Michigan pulls out all the stops to build civic engagement capacity in the state. This work takes two primary tracks: student leadership development and teacher professional development.

MICHIGAN CAMPUS COMPACT

Michigan Campus Compact (MiCC) is a coalition of college and university presidents who are committed to fulfilling the public purposes of higher education. Campus Compact member presidents are joined together in their commitment to the development of personal and social responsibility as integral to the educational mission of their campuses.

VOLUNTEER CENTERS OF MICHIGAN

Volunteer Centers of Michigan (VCM) is a statewide network of more than 30 Volunteer Centers that strengthens, develops and connects network members throughout the state. This network has served the sector for more than 25 years and is the only one of its kind in the nation.



LETTER FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

As the Great Lakes State, Michigan prides itself on being just that—great. From sunny lakeshores to rustic forests, motor giants to mom n’ pop shops, and urban hubs to small farm towns, Michigan is filled with a number of unique and dynamic assets that make our state truly extraordinary. Of these assets, one shines above all else as our greatest and most exemplary distinction—our people. Through long-standing traditions of service, volunteerism, philanthropy, and innovation, Michigan citizens have demonstrated throughout the years the true strength and power our state possesses when we all work together for the common good.

This common good is supported in our state by a service infrastructure like no other. For more than twenty-five years, the partners of this report have been growing and strengthening our state by connecting, sharing, and securing resources; supporting individuals, groups, and organizations; and holding up Michigan’s citizens as our best resource. This work is done by coordinating the assets of individuals and neighborhoods, colleges and universities, philanthropic communities, school systems, volunteer centers, government agencies, and nonprofits across the state.

Collectively, these groups make up a state that is not waiting for others to resolve its challenges. Instead, Michigan is filled with talented, creative, skilled, and innovative people, organizations, and companies who are working together for a greater plan. This plan is ensuring that Michigan will forever be a great state that engages our best asset—our citizens—in addressing community challenges together.

To help us better understand how to support this greater plan and continued vitality, the partners of this report spent time fully investigating the civic health of Michigan. The results of that investigation have been summarized into this report, the inaugural *Michigan Civic Health Index*. Through this report, we have found that Michigan has a great foundation and infrastructure for civic health—a critical factor in building strong communities throughout the state. By improving our civic health we can improve our communities in a number of ways. Civic engagement activities have been tied to improved health benefits, including lower mortality rates and decreased rates of depression, as well as financial advantages that include lower unemployment rates and more stabilized economies. By continuing to increase our engagement in civic activities, we can improve the overall strength of our communities and state as a whole.

As you look for your own way to increase our state’s civic health, the options are nearly endless: contact your elected official about issues important to you, volunteer your time at a service project, lend a hand to your neighbor, or join a local community organization. Whatever your choice, the partners of this report are committed to supporting you and our state. We invite you to join us in improving Michigan’s overall civic health, and together we can continue to make our state great.

Sincerely,

Sheilah P. Clay, Board Chairperson
Michigan Nonprofit Association

Carolyn Bloodworth, Board Chairperson
Michigan Community Service Commission

INTRODUCTION

This inaugural edition of the *Michigan Civic Health Index* examines behaviors and attitudes of Michiganders regarding civic life in our state. The findings of this report are primarily based on analysis of the Current Population Survey (CPS) voting/registration, volunteering, and civic engagement supplements, provided by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE). This data is made possible through a partnership between the National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC), the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the U.S. Census Bureau, authorized by the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. Additional data regarding philanthropic giving in Michigan was obtained from the 2012 Michigan State of the State Survey conducted by the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research at Michigan State University.

We intend for the data unveiled in this first *Michigan Civic Health Index* to initiate a conversation among community leaders about how Michigan residents participate in civic life and how this activity can be increased. A number of pre-existing and dynamic organizations are already engaged in the work of civic life in our state and are eager and willing to act as resources, partners, and strategists in the efforts to strengthen Michigan's civic health.

What is Civic Health

Civic health is a measure of how actively citizens engage in their communities. As with an individual's physical health, a societal checkup is often needed to ensure all systems are operating as expected and problem areas are identified and resolved. Actively engaged citizens are necessary to ensure vibrant and strong communities; the greater the prevalence of actively engaged citizens, the more solid the foundation of the community.

There are many ways to be "actively engaged." Registering to vote and casting a ballot, volunteering one's time to the community, and participating in your child's education system are all important measures of civic engagement. Other activities such as joining a volunteer organization, exchanging favors with neighbors, and making charitable donations are also important indicators of how involved individuals are with their communities.

On a scale of all 50 states and the District of Columbia, there are some measures of civic health that Michiganders do better than the average American. There is also room for improvement in several aspects of our civic life, and the reason for the participation inconsistency is often unclear. To help define which populations exhibit high and low levels of civic engagement, this report will look in depth at two different demographic variables: age and income. With this information in mind, the report partners hope to develop key strategic initiatives that will begin to address engagement gaps and help to advance Michigan's civic health in the future.

Regardless of your demographic group, we hope that all Michigan residents will see this report as a call to action and act to find a way to improve their own civic life and that of those around them. While there are real challenges, many resources are available and together we can create a positive change in Michigan's civic health.

WHAT'S INSIDE

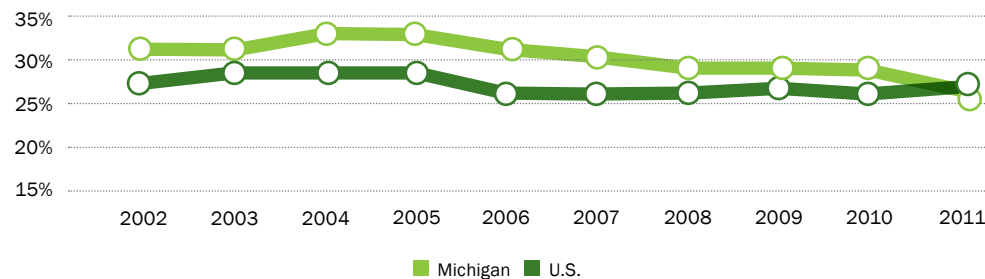
- 4 Introduction
- 5 Community Involvement
- 9 Political Involvement
- 11 Michigan's Partners
Promoting and Supporting
Civic Health
- 15 Conclusion
- 16 Technical Notes
- 17 Endnotes
- 18 State and Local
Partnerships

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement is a broad indicator of civic health. Michiganders participate in their communities in many ways including joining an organization, volunteering, or through the social connectedness that comes from spending time with family, friends, and neighbors.

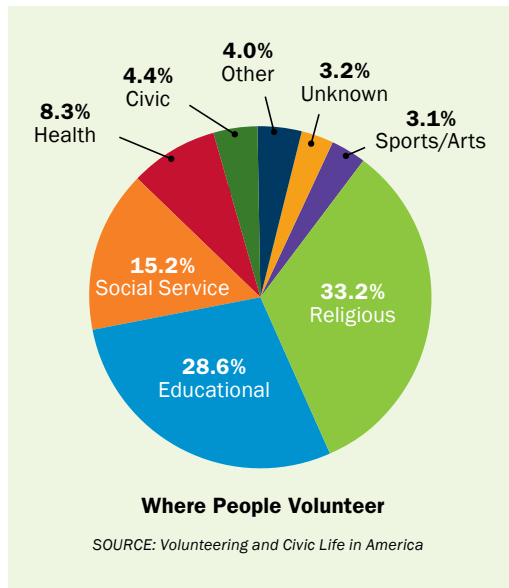
Michigan has a strong tradition of volunteerism, with 2,080,000 residents volunteering their time in 2011. This accounted for a volunteer rate of 26.5 percent among Michiganders. Comparatively, 26.8 percent of Americans nationwide volunteer, ranking Michigan 32nd among all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In total, Michiganders volunteered more than 233 million hours in 2011, a service valued at \$5.1 billion¹.

Volunteer Rate (2002 - 2011)



SOURCE: Volunteering and Civic Life in America, <http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/MI>

Michigan volunteers are committed to their service. Among those who volunteered, 94.2 percent gave 20 or more hours of service per year, and 48.1 percent of Michigan's volunteers served more than 50 hours annually. These volunteers serve in many ways, dependent on the needs in their communities and the areas of their passion and interest. In our state, volunteers dedicate their time most frequently in two areas: 33.2 percent in religious settings and 28.6 percent in educational settings. A number of other volunteer sectors also exist, as referenced in the graph below.²



While engaging in many diverse service activities, volunteerism among Michigan's residents varies greatly depending on age and income. Michigan has an important asset in its Generation X and Baby Boomer residents—both generations volunteer at higher rates than the state average. Furthermore, Boomers show exceptional rates of volunteerism when considering time commitment. Of those Boomers who volunteer, 58.3 percent volunteer 50 hours or more a year.

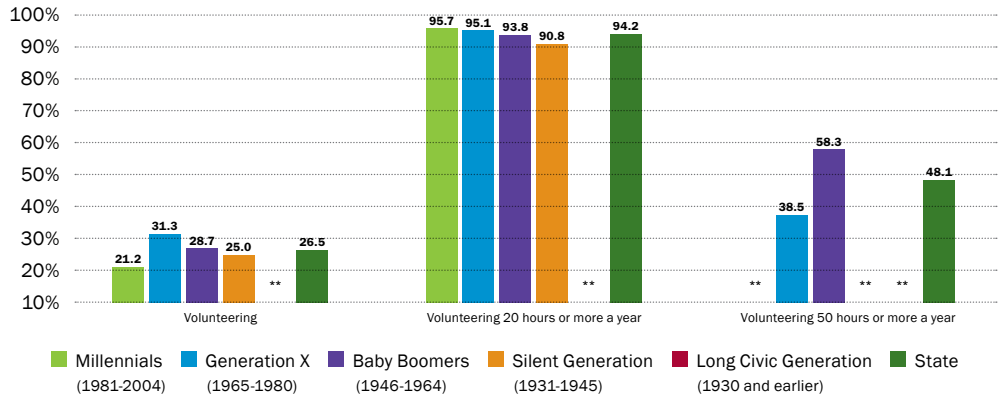
While constraints on time and resources might impact the degree to which income connects to volunteerism, it is clear there is a strong connection between the two. Michigan residents who earn \$100,000 or more annually volunteer at the highest rates—with 43.4 percent involved.

94.2%

of Michigan volunteers gave 20 or more hours of service per year.

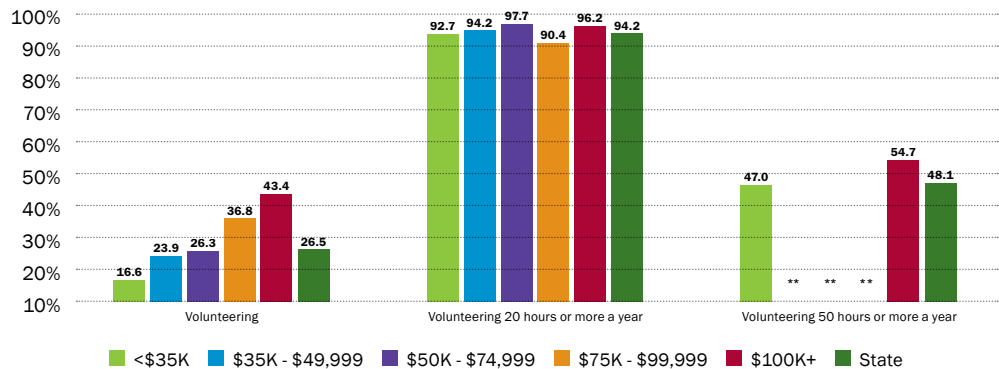


Volunteering by Generation, 2011



**Denotes sample size too small for reliable reporting

Volunteering by Income, 2011



**Denotes sample size too small for reliable reporting



12.1%

In 2011, 12.1% of Michigan residents exchanged favors with neighbors a few times a week or more, ranking the state 43rd in the nation.

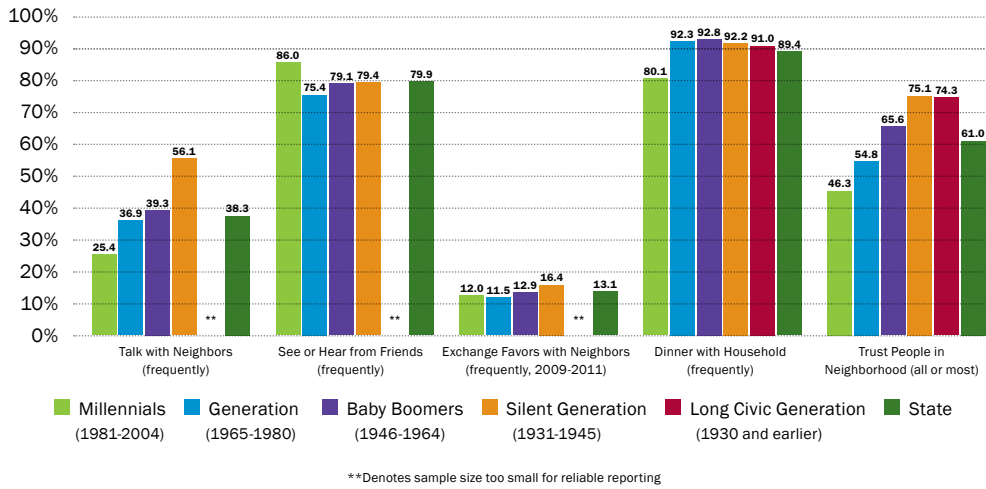
These voluntary contributions of time and money help address serious public problems and support civil society. As our state strives to address local needs, service to others will continue to be an important and effective tool to overcoming challenges in our communities.

Neighborhood and Group Involvement

Neighborhood and group involvement is another indicator of a healthy community. Close interaction with families, friends, and neighbors promotes health and well-being, and it supports civil society by providing the information, encouragement, and networks people need to engage positively. In addition, connecting to one's community through group participation builds democracy by recruiting and educating citizens, convening them for discussion, and increasing the capacity for improving society. Working together to address collective concerns is an effective way for communities to grow, strengthen as a unit, and build trust.

Changes in Michigan's population and economy have potentially impacted the ability of citizens to focus time and energy on this part of civic life, which represents an important area for growth for the state. In 2011, Michigan ranked 43rd in the rate of people who exchanged favors with their neighbors a few times a week or more, with the rate of 12.1 percent. Nationwide, 14 percent of Americans say they frequently exchanged favors with their neighbors. Michigan also ranks below national averages in how frequently they talk with their neighbors. Of Michigan residents, 38.3 percent do so frequently relative to 43.7 percent nationally—ranking the state 48th.

Social Connectedness by Generation, 2011



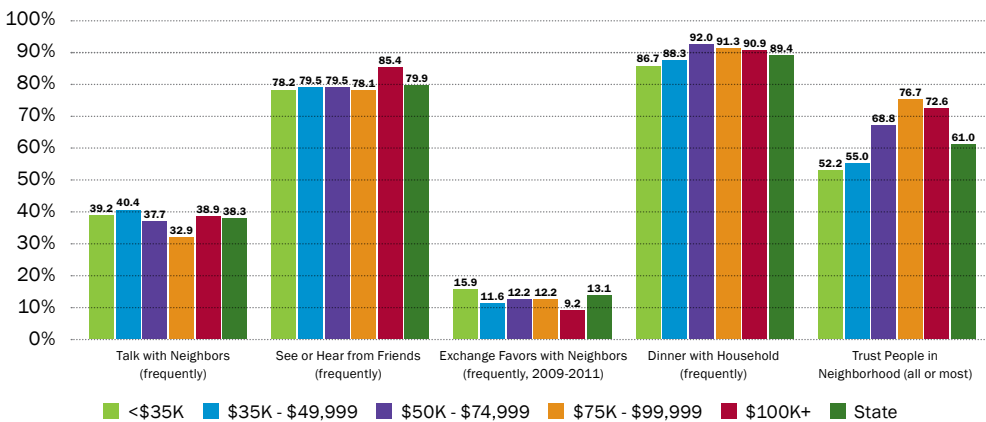
Interestingly, the state ranks more in line with national averages when looking at trust of neighbors. More than 60 percent of Michigan residents trust all or most of their neighbors. This is relative to the national average of 56.7 percent—ranking the state 24th. This presents an opportunity to build upon this trust to encourage further interaction and engagement among neighbors.

When looking closer to home, Michigan is much closer to national averages, as well, for how often residents see or hear from family and friends—79.9 percent of Michigan residents report doing so frequently relative to 79.0 percent nationally.

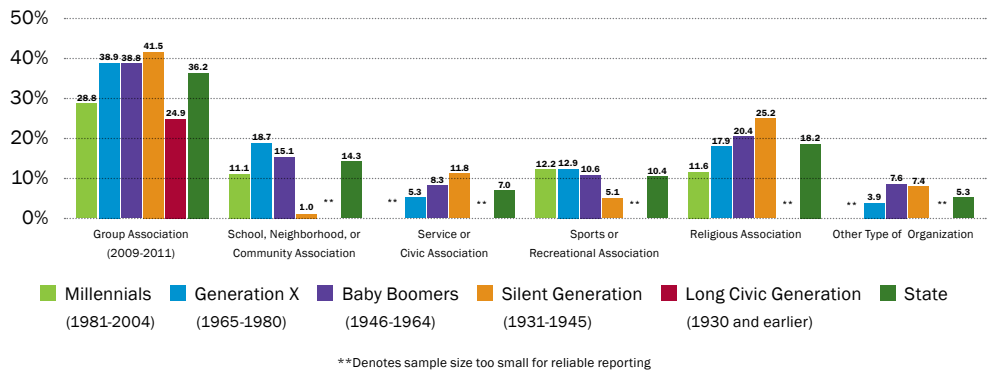
When looking at age, interesting patterns emerge in the degree to which Michigan residents connect with their family, friends, and neighbors. For example, Millennials (1981-2004) are most likely to see or hear from family or friends, but least likely to talk with neighbors, eat dinner with family or friends, or trust people in their neighborhood. The Silent Generation (born 1931-1945) are much more likely than other age groups to talk with neighbors frequently and shows the highest levels of trust of neighbors.

Income also creates interesting correlations with social connectedness among family, friends, and neighbors. As opposed to the trends in volunteerism, residents of the lowest income bracket are actually the most likely to exchange favors with their neighbors. This holds true on the national level, as well. However, social connectedness with friends or family is less starkly divided along lines of income.

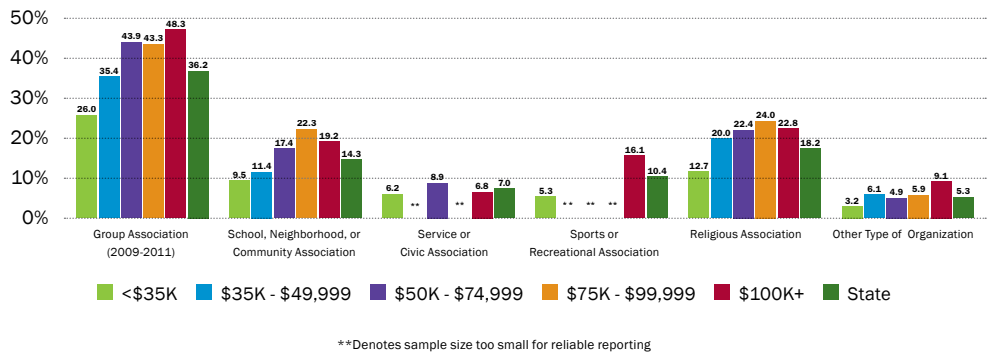
Social Connectedness by Income, 2011



Group Association by Generation, 2009–2011



Group Association by Income, 2009–2011



Types of Group Participation

Religious

18.2%

Neighborhood or School

14.3%

Sports/Recreation

10.4%

Civic and Service

7%

In terms of group involvement, the state performs slightly below national averages. Of our population, 36.2 percent reported participation with some sort of group association from 2009-2011, as compared with 39.2 percent of Americans nationwide for the same time period. Of these, the largest percentage of individuals, 18.2 percent, belonged to a religious organization. Other groups with high rates of participation include neighborhood and school associations (14.3 percent), sports and recreational associations (10.4 percent), and civic and service organizations (7.0 percent).

Another important aspect of group membership is organizational leadership. Only 10.7 percent of Michigan residents take a leadership role in an organization by serving as an officer or serving on a committee. This is on par, however, with national trends, as 10.6 percent of Americans take leadership roles in their community.

Group involvement is an area of civic life that varies widely by age and income, as illustrated in the two graphs above.

As Michigan continues to see changes in population, it is more important than ever for Michigan's residents to consider how they connect with their community. Associating with organizations, neighbors, and family members will build trust, capacity, and our communities overall.

Charitable Giving

Philanthropy is another important factor of civic health as it plays a crucial role in our society. As a result of charitable contributions by state residents, Michigan charities are able to successfully serve local residents and fulfill areas of need. Without the support of generous donors and everyday citizens who give their time, talent, and treasures, many services in our state would no longer exist.

To help assess the state of charitable giving in Michigan, state residents were asked about their experiences with philanthropy through a survey conducted by the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research at Michigan State University. This research is part of their State of the State Survey (SOSS) series that monitors public opinion on various issues throughout the state.

The study found that across the state 90 percent of Michigan's residents believe there is a greater need for charitable organizations today than in the past. Similarly, 89.7 percent of Michiganders believe charitable organizations play a major role in making our communities better places to live. State residents also showed high rates of faith in charitable organizations as 74 percent of citizens indicated they believe charitable organizations are more effective now than they were five years ago and charitable organizations are honest and ethical in their use of donated funds.

With Michiganders placing such high value on the work of charitable organizations, it is no surprise that 86.8 percent of Michigan households reported contributing money, property, or both to a charity or nonprofit organization in 2011, according to the SOSS survey. Of those who give, 50.6 percent indicated they were influenced to give by their family, and 50.1 percent indicated they were influenced to give by their church, synagogue, or other religious organization.

Due to Michigan's recent economic conditions, charities are seeing an increase in demand for their services and the essential time, talent, and treasure people provide empowers Michigan charities to successfully serve local residents. By giving their philanthropic gifts to local charities, Michiganders can help to ensure their fellow citizens are taken care of and provided for in a number of ways.

POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT

Political activities form the foundation of many democratic principles of civic engagement. To be politically involved, community members must stay informed, understand civics, participate in politics, and express their political views. By learning how to use and engage this democratic system, Michigan residents can leverage policy and the political system to address community challenges.

Overall, Michiganders are committed to the democratic process as 71.4 percent of all eligible citizens over age 18 were registered to vote in 2010. This compares to the national average of only 65.1 percent. However, Michiganders turn out to the polls in less frequent numbers, with only 47.3 percent voting in the 2010 election compared with 45.5 percent nationally. It is important to note that Michigan turnout was on par with national turnout in 2010, and that turnout is typically lower during midterm elections than Presidential elections. Furthermore, 60.6 percent of Michigan residents report they vote sometimes or always in local elections, relative to 57.8 percent nationally. As a result, Michiganders ranked 20th in voter turnout for 2010 and 25th for frequency of participation in local elections in 2011.

Similar to other indicators, there are differences along lines of age and income when looking at voter registration and turnout.



89.7%

of Michiganders believe charitable organizations play a major role in making our communities better places to live.

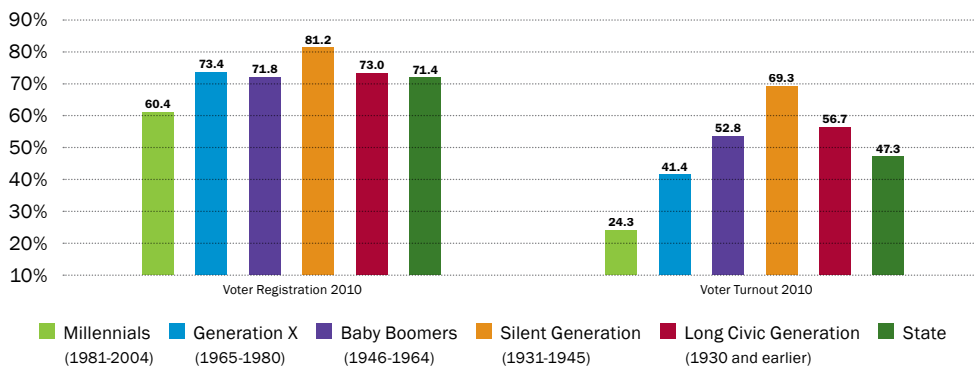
Source: SOSS Survey, Michigan State University

71.4%

of all eligible citizens in Michigan were registered to vote compared with 65.1% nationally, in 2010.



Voter Registration and Turnout by Generation, 2010



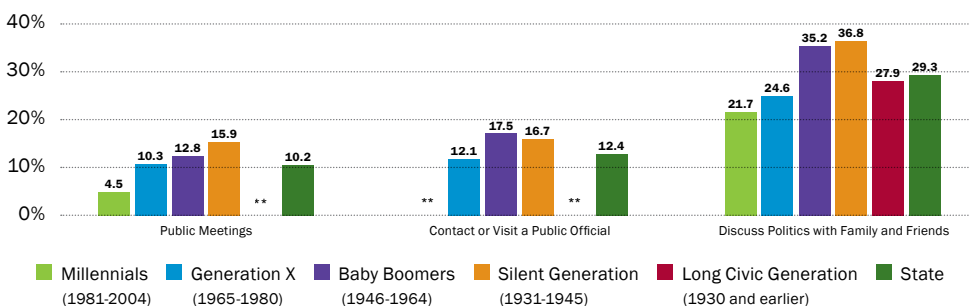
Voting is a powerful means of making choices, but it does not communicate the voter's views in their entirety. Fortunately, citizens have other opportunities to say more precisely what they believe about public issues. One way people engage in politics is through dialogue. There is room for improvement in this area, as Michigan ranked 43rd in the rate of people who talk about politics with friends and family at least a few times a week, at 26.2 percent. The national rate for this indicator was 29.3 percent in 2011. The state also ranks 47th nationally for expressing opinions about political or community issues online. Just 5.6 percent of Michiganders do so frequently relative to 8.0 percent nationally.

Regardless of one's political views and attitudes toward government, it is important to influence democratic institutions. Interestingly, while Michigan ranks in the bottom states for expressing political views, the state is on par with national averages for actions such as contacting public officials or attending public meetings. More than 12 percent of Michigan residents reported contacting or visiting a public official in 2011 relative to 12.3 percent nationally, ranking the state 31st. However, this indicator is on the rise. In 2010, only 11.0 percent of Michigan residents contacted public officials relative to 9.9 percent nationally.

Michigan also exceeded the national average on the number of residents who attend public meetings. In 2011, 9.5 percent of the state's residents reported they did as opposed to 9.1 percent nationally.

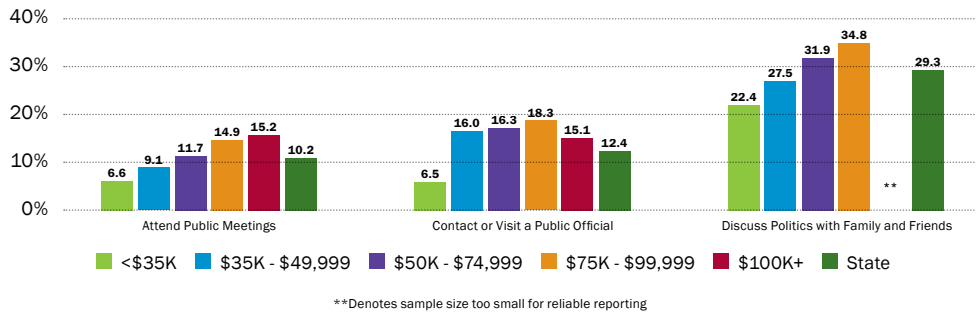
These forms of participation in the political process vary distinctly from generation to generation and based on income level. The data further highlight the need to identify strategies that more actively engage Millennials, as the generation participates in these ways at lower rates than older residents of the state.

Political Engagement by Generation (2009-2011)



**Denotes sample size too small for reliable reporting

Political Engagement by Income (2009-2011)



By engaging in important political activities such as registering to vote, voting, contacting public officials, and discussing politics with friends and family, Michiganders become more educated about civics and policy in America and policies are more responsive to their voices and needs.

MICHIGAN'S PARTNERS PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING CIVIC HEALTH

Across Michigan, there are a number of key organizations and initiatives working to enhance the state's civic health. Though independently these programs address varying needs and issues, collaboratively they have constructed a service infrastructure that is a capable of building and supporting a thriving and engaged Michigan.

Investing in Service Solutions

Since its inception in 1991, the Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) has been using service as a strategy to address some of Michigan's most pressing needs. In their 20-year history, the MCSC has invested more than \$100 million in communities for volunteer initiatives, leveraged an excess of \$85 million in local funds, engaged more than one million people in volunteerism, enrolled 24,000 people in 29 million hours of AmeriCorps service, and impacted critical community issues such as disaster preparedness, education, foreclosure, healthcare, and the environment.

As the state's lead agency on service and volunteerism, the MCSC provides vision and resources that empower local communities to create positive change through service. In addition to administering crucial national service programs—such as Michigan's AmeriCorps and the Volunteer Generation Fund, both of which provide intensive, long-term capacity-building solutions in their communities—the MCSC also delivers a number of other resources. These include training, technical assistance, volunteer promotion, collaboration-building, micro-funding, and more. By combining these resources with the demonstrated power of volunteers and national service members, the MCSC has proven that people who are willing to give their time and services to others truly do make a difference in our state.

Building Public-Private Partnerships

As one of the 50 state offices of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the CNCS-Michigan office is responsible for overseeing the federal agency's efforts in our state. Nationally, CNCS engages more than 4 million Americans in national service programs each year and leads President Obama's national call-to-serve initiative, United We Serve. In Michigan, the CNCS State Office is responsible for administering several key national service programs including AmeriCorps*VISTA and three separate Senior Corps initiatives.





By enabling national service programs, CNCS and its state office is able to create a unique public-private partnership between the U.S. government and community organizations. Supported with funds from both CNCS and its local host site, national service members dedicate significant hours to improve their community through volunteerism. Thanks to the CNCS-Michigan office, nearly 10,000 individuals in Michigan build the capacity of nonprofits, schools, community agencies, and more each year through AmeriCorps*VISTA and Senior Corps.



Enhancing Michigan's Nonprofit Organizations

Michigan is home to thousands of nonprofit organizations—each of which address critical local needs and play a crucial role in building thriving communities in our state. In order to help these nonprofits advance their missions and give a collective voice to their unique issues, challenges, and more, the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) was formed in 1990. Since that time, MNA has served as a leader, model, advocate, and a support system for its nonprofit membership which includes more than 900 diverse and dynamic nonprofit organizations across the state.

To enhance the work of local nonprofits, MNA offers a variety of direct services and resources to its membership including discount pricing on necessary resources, access to grant databases, network and collaboration, and training and technical assistance on a variety of topics. Additionally, MNA plays a critical role in supporting voter registration and activity in our state by offering public policy and advocacy services to nonprofits. Local nonprofit and community organizations play a central role in the democratic process by providing means for public participation and promotion of the common good. With statewide network support from MNA, Michigan's nonprofits work to promote broad public participation in public policy and advocacy efforts.



In addition to the services and resources offered by MNA, nonprofit members are also supported by several affiliate programs within MNA, including Highway T, The LEAGUE Michigan, Michigan Campus Compact, and the Volunteer Centers of Michigan. Each of these unique programs, as well as the services and assistance of MNA, help Michigan nonprofits to operate more effectively and efficiently in serving their communities.

Strengthening Local Volunteer Centers

Across Michigan, more than 30 local Volunteer Centers play an instrumental role in developing creative community solutions. These Volunteer Centers act as a clearinghouse for local resources—connecting volunteers with community needs, encouraging collaboration between nonprofit organizations, and promoting community service and volunteerism. In 2011, more than 10,000 volunteer opportunities were promoted by Michigan Volunteer Centers. This promotion led to the referral of 90,000 volunteers who gave nearly 972,000 hours of service in their Michigan communities.

The Volunteer Centers of Michigan (VCM) works to ensure that each of these Volunteer Centers can continue to positively impact its community. VCM is the statewide network which collectively serves nearly 60 of Michigan's 83 counties. In addition to serving as the collaborative party, VCM strives to strengthen and develop Michigan's Volunteer Centers by providing resources, fund development, training, and more to the Volunteer Center field. With the support, services, and assistance of VCM, local Volunteer Center affiliates are able to grow and expand the positive work they perform in their individual communities. As a result, the professional capacity to serve local communities statewide is enhanced and volunteerism is increased, both of which contribute to greater civic health.

Building Engaged Leaders

As the foundation of adult life for many, colleges and universities across the United States encourage their students to participate in civic-engagement activities. Research indicates that secondary education, in addition to building civically engaged young adults, can be greatly enhanced for community engaged students as they retain more information from their classes, become inspired by education, and are more likely to graduate and become community leaders. In Michigan, the development of successful and civically engaged adults on college campuses is led by the Michigan Campus Compact (MiCC).

MiCC is a coalition of 42 college and university presidents who have made a commitment to building community engagement among their students. These campuses ensure a broad range of civic-engagement opportunities exist by offering academic, co-curricular, and campus-wide opportunities for community service and service-learning. In 2011, civic-engagement activities on MiCC campuses resulted in 9,420,265 hours of service by college students, equating to a human capital value of \$201,216,862 for our state. By supporting and expanding the work of college students and this network of involved college campuses, MiCC is helping to ensure the next generation of engaged leaders is developed and current community needs are addressed through research, partnerships, shared resources, and volunteerism among college students.

Creating a Generation of Caring

To help children understand the impact and importance of volunteerism and caring at a young age, The LEAGUE Michigan promotes a program model for service, service-learning, and philanthropy education throughout the state. At work in more than 900 classrooms in nearly 200 different Michigan schools, this model builds character in young people by empowering them to “do good” in their communities, the nation, and the world. In 2011, more than 22,000 Michigan students were engaged in The LEAGUE Michigan program as they performed 570 service, service-learning, and philanthropy education projects.

To help strengthen and expand this model in our state, The LEAGUE Michigan assists educators throughout Michigan in implementing the six dynamic components of The LEAGUE program. These components, which include the Learning to Give curriculum, Fisher Teacher Trainings, and Service and Leadership Camp, among others, increase the quality and quantity of young people’s philanthropy and service contributions. By providing youth and educators with the right tools to make a positive impact in their communities, The LEAGUE Michigan plays a critical role in instilling youth with a commitment to service and civic engagement that lasts a lifetime.

Supporting Critical Partners and Services

With limited resources and assets, government agencies and nonprofit organizations across our state rely on the generous support of Michigan’s philanthropic community to fund countless programs and initiatives. This diverse and inclusive network is represented by the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF), which represents nearly 90 percent of the organized philanthropic assets in the state. Over its 35-year history, CMF has grown to become the nation’s largest regional association of grantmakers.

Together, the 350 family, corporate, independent, and community foundations that make up CMF work to strengthen our state by supporting a number of civic partners and services. This support is optimized by the collaborative work of CMF, which works to ensure maximum impact is achieved across Michigan. Additionally, CMF and its partners strive to ensure the future success of our state by promoting a culture of philanthropy that will benefit Michigan citizens in years to come.





CONCLUSION

.....

This inaugural *Michigan Civic Health Index* reveals much about the way our state conducts its civic business as a whole. Though there are some arenas in which our state is performing well, there are many areas in which Michigan can seek to improve. Understanding this critical information, as well as the importance of civic activities and engagement, is the first step to this improvement. We hope the information provided here will serve as a tool for informed dialogue, strategy, and action.

.....

Firmly believing that engaged communities are strong communities, the partners of this report are eager to assist Michigan residents in improving our state's civic health. By utilizing each of our own unique skills, resources, experience, and knowledge as individuals and organizations, we can all work together for the civic health and overall success of our great state.





TECHNICAL NOTES

Unless otherwise noted, findings presented in this report are based on CIRCLE's analysis of the Census Current Population Survey (CPS) data. Any and all errors are our own. Volunteering estimates are from CPS September Volunteering Supplement, 2002-2011, voting and registration data come from the CPS November Voting/Registration Supplement, 1972-2010, and all other civic engagement indicators, such as discussion of political information and connection to neighbors, come from the 2011 CPS Civic Engagement Supplement.

Using a probability selected sample of about 60,000 occupied households, the CPS collects monthly data on employment and demographic characteristics of the nation. Depending on the CPS supplement, the Michigan CPS sample size used for this report ranges from 1,801 (volunteer supplement) to 2,342 (voting supplement) residents from across the state.³ This sample is then weighted to representative population demographics for the state. Estimates for the volunteering indicators (e.g., volunteering, working with neighbors, making donations) are based on U.S. residents ages 16 and older. Estimates for civic engagement and social connection indicators (e.g., exchanging favor with neighbor, discussing politics) are based on U.S. residents ages 18 and older. Voting and registration statistics are based on U.S. citizens who are 18 and older (eligible voters). Any time we examined the

relationship between educational attainment and engagement, estimates are only based on adults ages 25 and older, based on the assumption that younger people may still be completing their education.

Because we draw from multiple sources of data with varying sample sizes, we are not able to compute one margin of error for the state across all indicators. Any analysis that breaks down the sample into smaller groups (e.g., gender, education) will have smaller samples and therefore the margin of error will increase. Data for some indicators are pooled from multiple years (2009-2011) for a more reliable estimate when sample sizes for certain cross tabulations may have been small. Due to the small sample size, findings should be interpreted with caution, and may not be generalized across the population. Furthermore, national rankings, while useful in benchmarking, may be small in range, with one to two percentage points separating the state ranked first from the state ranked last.

It is also important to emphasize that our margin of error estimates are approximate, as CPS sampling is highly complex and accurate estimation of error rates involves many parameters that are not publicly available.



The State of the State Survey (SOSS) is a quarterly survey of citizens of Michigan that provides information about citizen opinions on critical issues. It is conducted by the Office for Survey Research, a division of the Michigan State University Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. It employs Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) technology to interview a stratified random sample of Michigan adults. A total of 1,013 interviews were completed for the 64th round of SOSS, 334 with landline participants re-contacted from SOSS 62, 48 with cell participants re-contacted from SOSS 62, 325 with new landline RDD participants, and 306 with new cell phone RDD participants. After the survey was completed, each case was weighted to adjust for the number of phone lines, the number of adults in the household, the landline vs. cell phone proportions, the race category proportions within the state, the gender-by-age category proportions within state, and the proportions of cases across regions.

A WORD ABOUT RECOMMENDATIONS

NCoC encourages our partners to consider how civic health data can inform dialogue and action in their communities, and to take an evidence-based approach to helping our communities and country thrive. While we encourage our partners to consider and offer specific recommendations and calls to action in our reports, we are not involved in shaping these recommendations. The opinions and recommendations expressed by our partners do not necessarily reflect those of NCoC.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Analysis based on 2011 Current Population Survey Volunteering Supplement available at Volunteering and Civic Life in America, <http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/MI>.
- ² Analysis based on 2011 Current Population Survey Volunteering Supplement available at Volunteering and Civic Life in America, <http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/MI>.
- ³ The civic engagement supplement had 2,012 residents.

For more information about the report partners, please visit:

National Conference on Citizenship, <http://www.ncoc.net>

Michigan Community Service Commission, <http://www.michigan.gov/volunteer>

Council of Michigan Foundations, <http://www.michiganfoundations.org>

Michigan Nonprofit Association, <http://www.mnaonline.org>

The LEAGUE Michigan, <http://www.mnaonline.org/league.aspx>

Michigan Campus Compact, <http://www.micampuscompact.org>

Volunteer Centers of Michigan, <http://www.mivolunteers.org>

CIVIC HEALTH INDEX

State and Local Partnerships

NCoC began America's Civic Health Index in 2006 to measure the level of civic engagement and health of our democracy. In 2009, NCoC was incorporated into the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act and directed to expand this civic health assessment in partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Census Bureau.

NCoC now works with partners in more than 30 communities nationwide to use civic data to lead and inspire a public dialogue about the future of citizenship in America and to drive sustainable civic strategies.

STATES

Alabama

University of Alabama
David Mathews Center
Auburn University

Arizona

Center for the Future of Arizona

California

California Forward
Center for Civic Education
Center for Individual and Institutional Renewal
Davenport Institute

Connecticut

Everyday Democracy
Secretary of the State of Connecticut

Florida

Florida Joint Center for Citizenship
Bob Graham Center for Public Service
Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Georgia

GeorgiaForward
Carl Vinson Institute of Government, The University of Georgia
Georgia Family Connection Partnership

Illinois

Citizen Advocacy Center
McCormick Foundation

Indiana

Center on Congress at Indiana University
Hoosier State Press
Association Foundation
Indiana Bar Foundation
Indiana Supreme Court
Indiana University Northwest

Kentucky

Commonwealth of Kentucky, Secretary of State's Office
Institute for Citizenship & Social Responsibility,
Western Kentucky University
Kentucky Advocates for Civic Education
McConnell Center, University of Louisville

Maryland

Mannakee Circle Group
Center for Civic Education
Common Cause-Maryland
Maryland Civic Literacy Commission

Massachusetts

Harvard Institute of Politics

Michigan

Michigan Nonprofit Association
Michigan Campus Compact
Michigan Community Service Commission
Volunteer Centers of Michigan
Council of Michigan Foundations
The LEAGUE Michigan

Minnesota

Center for Democracy and Citizenship

Missouri

Missouri State University

New Hampshire

Carsey Institute

New York

Siena College Research Institute
New York State Commission on National and Community Service

North Carolina

North Carolina Civic Education Consortium
Center for Civic Education
NC Center for Voter Education
Democracy NC
NC Campus Compact
Western Carolina University Department of Public Policy

Ohio

Miami University Hamilton Center for Civic Engagement

Oklahoma

University of Central Oklahoma
Oklahoma Campus Compact

Pennsylvania

Center for Democratic Deliberation
National Constitution Center

Texas

University of Texas at San Antonio

Virginia

Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

CITIES

Chicago

McCormick Foundation

Miami

Florida Joint Center for Citizenship
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
Miami Foundation

Seattle

Seattle City Club
Boeing Company
Seattle Foundation

Twin Cities

Center for Democracy and Citizenship
Citizens League
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

MILLENNIALS CIVIC HEALTH INDEX

Millennials Civic Health Index

Mobilize.org
Harvard Institute of Politics
CIRCLE

Justin Bibb

Special Assistant for Education and Economic Development for the County Executive, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Harry Boyte

Director, Center for Democracy and Citizenship

John Bridgeland

CEO, Civic Enterprises
Chairman, Board of Advisors, National Conference on Citizenship
Former Assistant to the President of the United States & Director, Domestic Policy Council & USA Freedom Corps

Nelda Brown

Executive Director, National Service-Learning Partnership at the Academy for Educational Development

Kristen Cambell

Chief Program Officer,
National Conference on Citizenship

Jeff Coates

Strategic Initiatives Associate, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Doug Dobson

Executive Director,
Florida Joint Center for Citizenship

David Eisner

Former President and CEO,
National Constitution Center

Paula Ellis

Former Vice President, Strategic Initiatives,
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Maya Enista Smith

Former CEO, Mobilize.org

William Galston

Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution
Former Deputy Assistant to the President of the United States for Domestic Policy

Stephen Goldsmith

Former Deputy Mayor of New York City
Daniel Paul Professor of Government,
Kennedy School of Government at
Harvard University
Director, Innovations in American
Government
Former Mayor of Indianapolis

Robert Grimm, Jr.

Director of the Center for Philanthropy
and Nonprofit Leadership,
University of Maryland

Lloyd Johnston

Research Professor and Distinguished
Research Scientist at the University of
Michigan's Institute for Social Research
Principal Investigator of the Monitoring
the Future Study

Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg

Lead Researcher, Center for Informa-
tion and Research on Civic Learning and
Engagement (CIRCLE) at the Jonathan M.
Tisch College of Citizenship and Public
Service at Tufts University

Peter Levine

Director, Center for Information and
Research on Civic Learning and
Engagement (CIRCLE) at the Jonathan M.
Tisch College of Citizenship and Public
Service at Tufts University

Chaeyoon Lim

Assistant Professor of Sociology,
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Mark Hugo Lopez

Associate Director of the
Pew Hispanic Center
Research Professor, University of
Maryland's School of Public Affairs

Sean Parker

Co-Founder and Chairman of Causes on
Facebook/MySpace
Founding President of Facebook

Kenneth Prewitt

Former Director of the United States
Census Bureau
Carnegie Professor of Public Affairs and
the Vice-President for Global Centers at
Columbia University

Robert Putnam

Peter and Isabel Malkin Professor of Public
Policy, Kennedy School of Government at
Harvard University
Founder, Saguro Seminar
Author of *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and
Revival of American Community*

Thomas Sander

Executive Director, the Saguro Seminar,
Harvard University

David B. Smith

Chief of Programs and Strategy,
National Center for Service and
Innovative Leadership
Founder, Mobilize.org

Heather Smith

Executive Director, Rock the Vote

Max Stier

Executive Director,
Partnership for Public Service

Michael Stout

Associate Professor of Sociology,
Missouri State University

Kristi Tate

Director of Community Strategies,
National Conference on Citizenship

Michael Weiser

Chairman,
National Conference on Citizenship

Jonathan Zaff

Vice President for Research,
America's Promise Alliance

Ilir Zherka

Executive Director, National Conference
on Citizenship



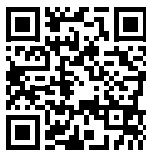
National Conference on Citizenship
Chartered by Congress

Data Made Possible By:
Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

CMF Council of
Michigan
Foundations
Serving grantmakers. Advancing giving.



Michigan | **Campus Compact**



Use your smart phone to
download the *Michigan*
Civic Health Index

MICHIGAN

**COMMUNITY
SERVICE**
COMMISSION

M N A
Michigan Nonprofit Association

VOLUNTEER CENTERS OF
MICHIGAN 