

RNL Regional Workshop

Donor Engagement and Fundraising

WELCOME



Workshop Welcome

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A woman with curly hair is smiling and looking at a laptop screen. The image is overlaid with a blue gradient.

Housekeeping items

Introductions

- Name
- Title
- Institution

Agenda Review

Round Table Lunch Topics

- Current Trends in Philanthropy (continued)
- Hyper-Personalized Donor Engagement
- Mining Your Annual Giving Program for Major Prospects

Wi-Fi Network Info on Tables

Goals for today

- 1 Connect with other advancement leaders
- 2 We want you to leave today armed with additional context and research focused on:
 - National philanthropic, financial, economic trends that impact giving
 - Behaviors and expectations in tomorrow's major giving prospects and gift officers
 - Key characteristics of high-quality donor engagement strategies
 - Patterns of success we have observed in this market
- 3 We want you to leave today energized with at least one actionable idea you take back to your organization

1

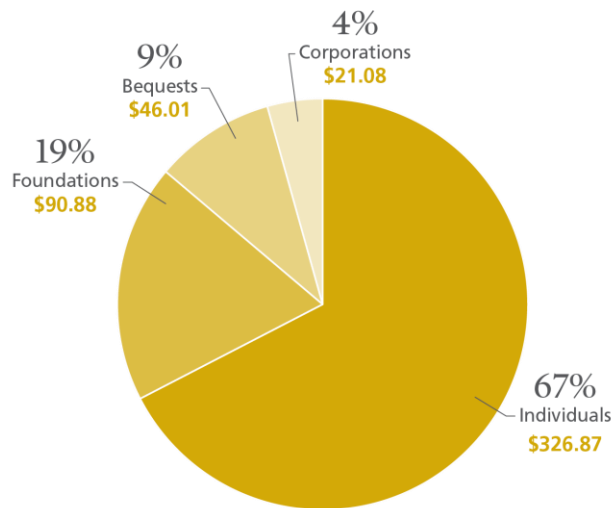
National Data, Trends, and Insights



Giving plateau

2021 contributions: \$484.85 billion by source of contributions

(in billions for dollars – all figures are rounded)



Increase:
+4.0%
After
inflation:
-.7%

Big swings require cautious planning and diversified revenue streams

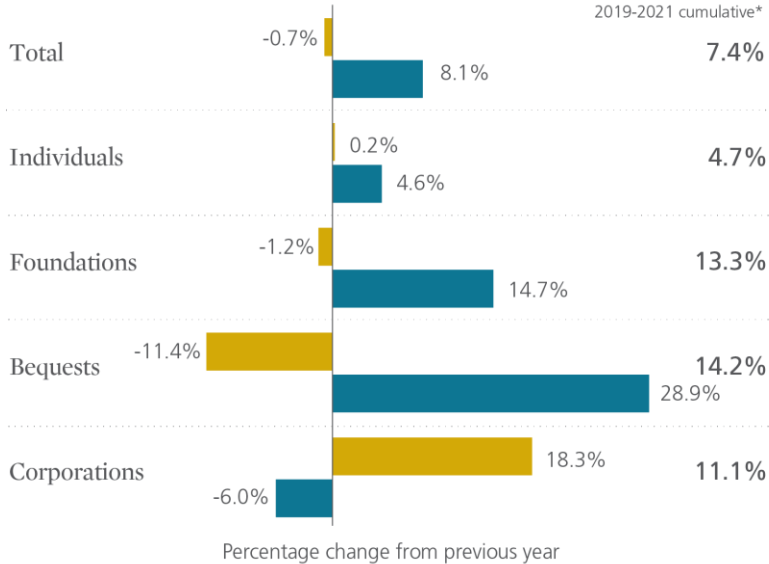


Changes in giving by source: 2019–2020 and 2020–2021, 2019–2021 cumulative

(in inflation-adjusted dollars, 2021 = \$100)

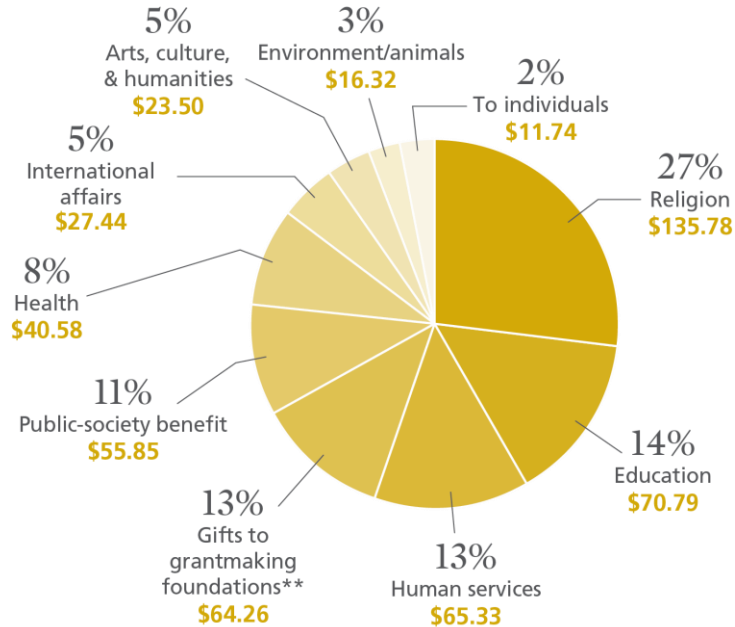
■ 2020-2021
■ 2019-2020

*The two-year change is calculated separately and is not the sum of the changes in the two years.



2021 contributions: \$484.85 billion by type of recipient organization*

(in billions for dollars – all figures are rounded)



* Total includes unallocated giving, which totaled -\$26.75 billion in 2021.
** Estimates developed by the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy using data provided by Candid.



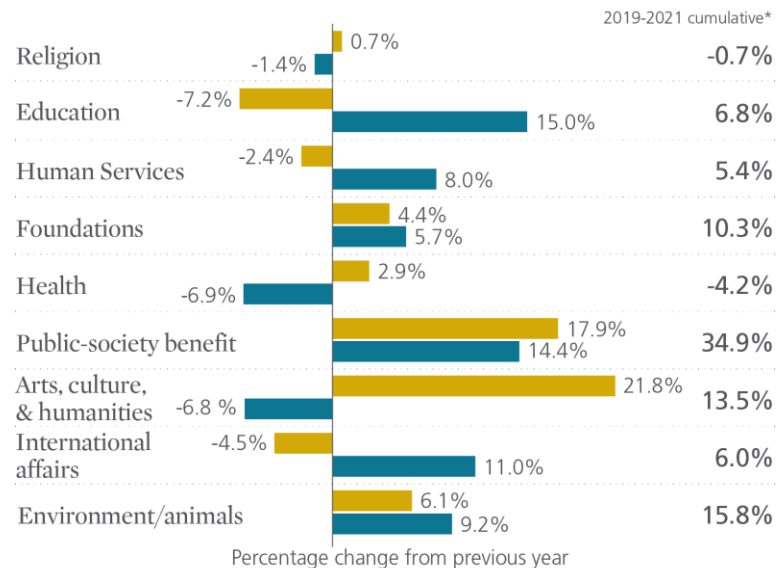


Changes in giving by type of recipient organization: 2019–2020 and 2020–2021, 2019–2021 cumulative

(in inflation-adjusted dollars, 2021 = \$100)

■ 2020-2021
■ 2019-2020

*The two-year change is calculated separately and is not the sum of the changes in the two years.

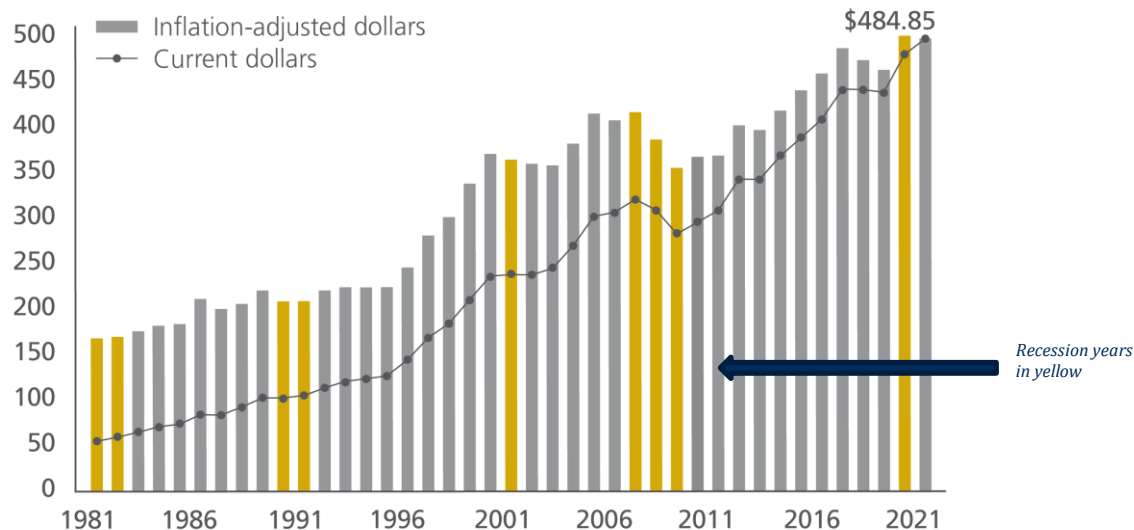


Giving in tough economic circumstances



Total giving, 1981-2021

(in billions of dollars)





QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

**How is this “recession”
different from 2008?**

**What are your predictions for next
2-3 years in giving trends?**

How is this “recession” different from 2008?

- “Americans step up in times of need. The initial year of every recession has consistently shown *increased giving* in the last 40 years.”
- “One reason we know the Great Recession was so ‘great’ was that giving declined in the second and third year.”
- “This economic moment is also different, because it comes on the wings of significant 2020 giving for immediate need. Donors may be ‘tapped out’ to a greater degree than in previous recessions, which came after massive economic upturn and stock market inflation.”



-13%

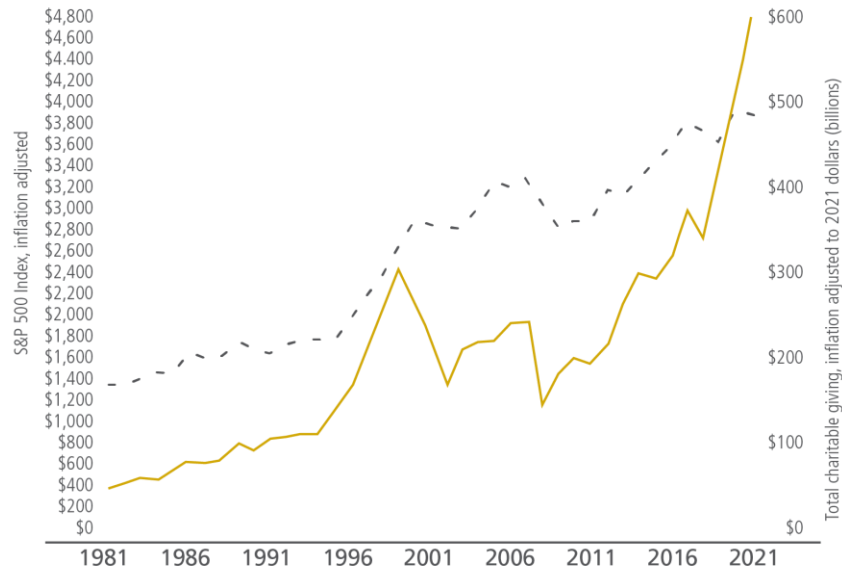
S&P decline from Jan 1,
2022 to Jan 1, 2023

S&P predicts major giving

Total charitable giving graphed with the Standard & Poor's 500 Index, 1981-2021

(in billions of inflation-adjusted dollars, 2021 = \$100)

- S&P 500, inflation-adjusted dollars
- - Total giving, inflation-adjusted dollars



Consumer confidence predicts annual giving

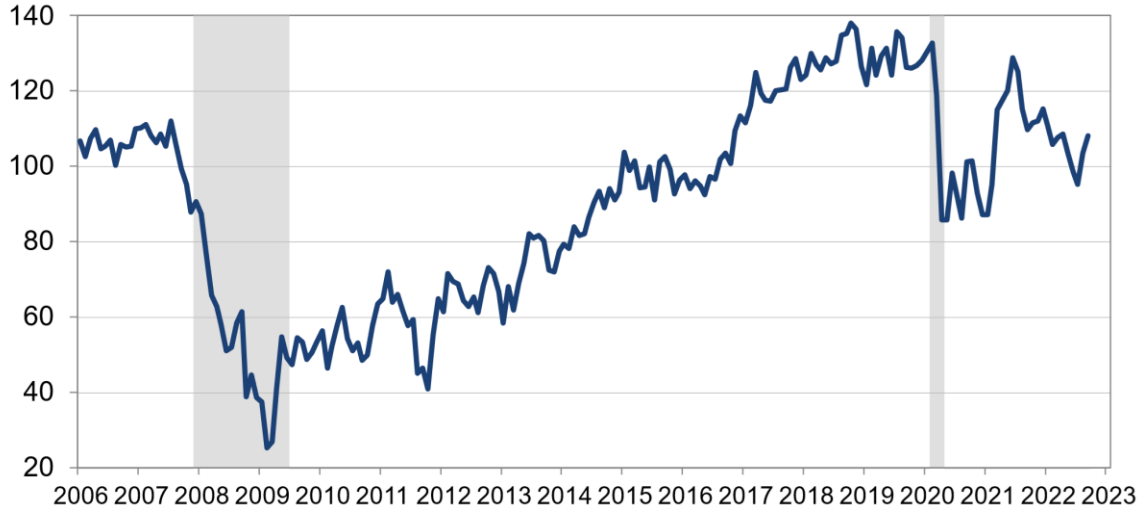
63.4



Consumer
Sentiment Index
March 2023

Consumer Confidence Index®

Index, 1985 = 100



*Shaded areas represent periods of recession.
Sources: The Conference Board; NBER
© 2022 The Conference Board. All rights reserved.

Additional context and philanthropic trends

- *Online giving grew 9% in 2021, representing a three-year increase of 42%.*
- *Foundations increased giving by 3% and have increased 10 of the last 11 years.*
- *Wealthy donors were more insulated from the effects of Covid, but now face liquidity issues related to securities decline.*
- *Corporate giving tends to be tied to pre-tax profits and GDP and was down.*
- *Giving by bequest was up but tends to fluctuate year over year.*
 - *Expect to see trend upward from Baby Boomer effect*

What other trends have you observed that impact your work?

A person is shown from the chest down, wearing a blue checkered shirt. They are holding a smartphone in their right hand and have their left hand on a laptop keyboard. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "How else has the landscape changed?" is centered in white, sans-serif font.

How else has the
landscape changed?

Impact of national trends on fundraising orgs

Paused campaign launches

Interrupted donor outreach

Turnover and leadership change

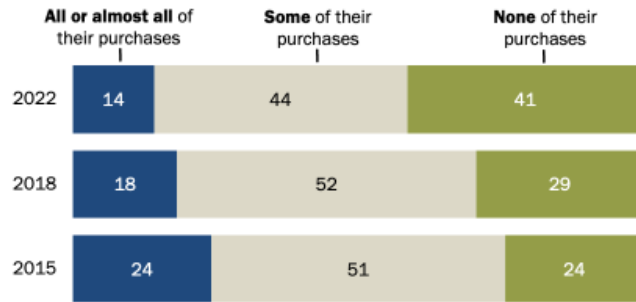
**Replacing fundraising activities
rapidly, with little data**



Trends in technology and communication

Americans have become more likely to say they don't use cash for purchases in a typical week

% of U.S. adults who say they make ___ (including things like groceries, gas, services or meals) in a typical week using cash

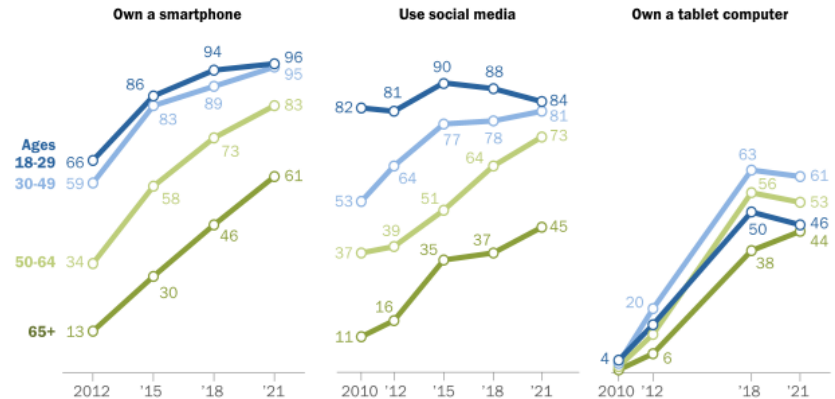


Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted July 5-17, 2022.

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Smartphone ownership and social media use among older adults continue to grow

% of U.S. adults who say they ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 25-Feb. 8, 2021.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Challenges and Barriers



What are your greatest challenges?

Declining trust in institutions culturally means we have an uphill battle **convincing young alumni that we're a cause worthy of investment.**

New donor acquisition. Finding new ways to engage younger donors is a challenge.

Leadership turnover slows us down. Introducing new players in a virtual world is difficult.

Underdeveloped donor pool, a difficult CRM, and new staff.

Lack of empathy for one another and challenges created by the pandemic that are unresolved.

Budget.

We have great ideas and plans but not enough funds to handle everything at the moment.

Lack of investment in staff and lack of operating/unrestricted funds.



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

**What are the biggest
potential opportunities?
What holds the most promise?**

What do you believe holds the biggest promise?

Advances in new technology and flexibility have equipped us with tools to make our work more engaging, and we've just started to scratch the surface of their potential.

A solid team. Trying new technology and embracing new ideas along with student philanthropy initiatives on campus.

Personal connections. The phonathon program has boomed this last year, and I believe it's in part people's desire to once again connect with those around them. So many people lacked human interaction or so long that even a call from a student you don't know can be the highlight of someone's day.

I believe that truly being able to integrate an omni-channel strategy that is informed by **AI and machine learning** would allow for new growth in my program.

Leveraging learnings from the pandemic (virtual tools, etc.) to complement more traditional approaches to increase efficiency and reach new audiences.

Showing donors what their investment can accomplish so they know they are making a difference in the lives of our students.

Key takeaways

- People still give, even when there is big economic stress.
- Major giving will largely follow S&P and we have to plan for economic uncertainty.
- Huge opportunity to engage donors through modern, digital channels and friction-free giving vehicles.
- Younger donors are prime prospects for financial planning and giving conversations.
- What are your key takeaways for this session?



RNL Regional Workshop

Donor Engagement and Fundraising



2

Leveraging Donor Engagement to Grow Major Gift Pipeline



What characteristics describe your major givers?

connected trust
aware communication
invested engaged
impact partner passionate
educated

Take the Survey: RNL.com/ALS2022

Changing the way we build pipeline

Key Trends



Over half of gift officers say they are not spending enough time on solicitation/crafting the ask.



About a quarter of fundraising positions now sit open.



Donors require greater personalization in communications and outreach to act on *anything*.

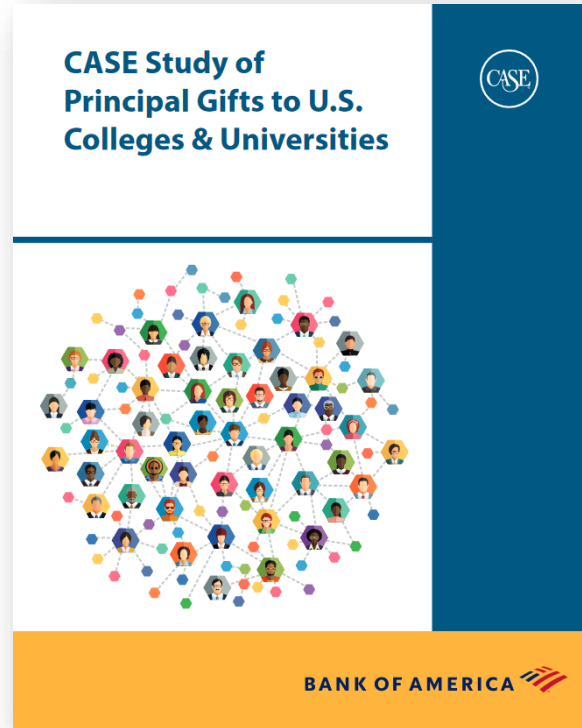


Technology and channels are ever evolving



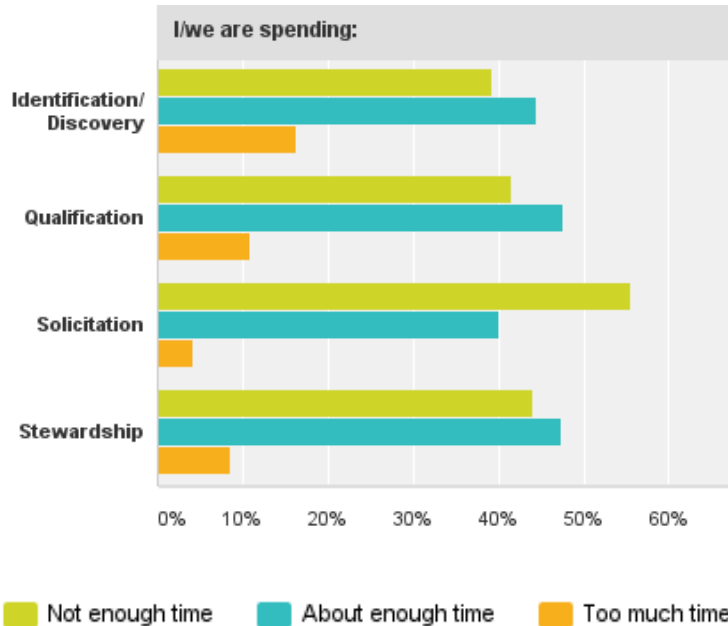
Principal gifts take time

- More than half of principal givers have relationships of 11-40 years with the institution.
- Only 21% had been engaged less than 3 years.
- On average, it took 19.6 months from initial discussion to principal gift booking.
 - Average gift officer turnover rate = 16 months.



Higher quality and efficient discovery leads to more successful solicitation

But gift officers are not spending enough time with the right prospects



58%

of gift officers
feel they don't
spend enough
time in solicitation



QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What tools, resources, training, and strategies are you providing to your gift officers at the discovery/qualification phase so they can move prospects more effectively to solicitation?

The evolution of qualification

✗ THE OLD WAY

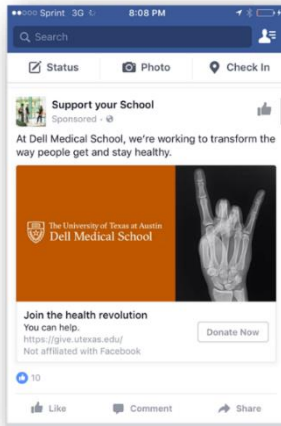
- ✗ Big prospect lists
- ✗ Our old friend Google
- ✗ Stressed prospect research
- ✗ Call, and call and call
- ✗ Fill in those appointments before you fly...

✓ MODERN STRATEGY

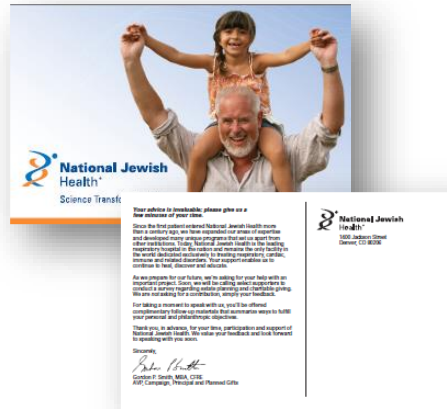
- ✓ Predictive modeling
- ✓ Personalized outreach at scale
- ✓ Donor “warming” campaigns
- ✓ Digital listening
- ✓ Low friction 1:1 engagement opportunities

Warming: Using annual giving tactics for major giving outcomes

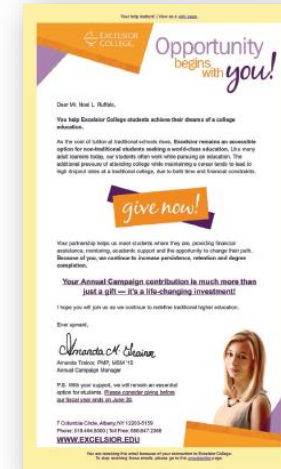
Targeted Digital Advertising



Direct Mail



Email



It takes more than a cold call to engage your donors.

Pipeline development is a team sport

Personal 1:1 engagement through many conduits



Student
Ambassadors



Leadership
Gift Officers



Board
Members

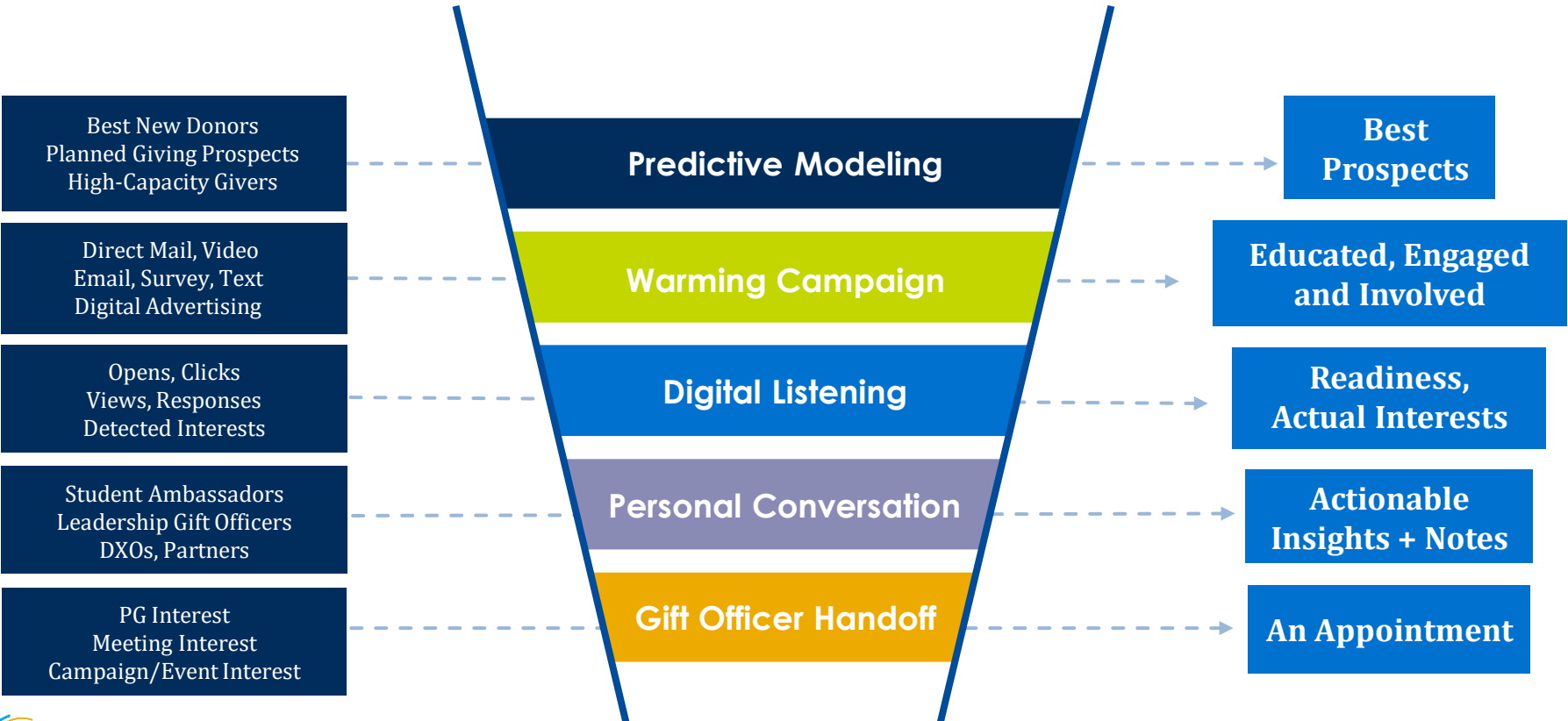


Volunteers



Partners

Leveraging modern qualification to drive major gifts





QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

How is your organization measuring “engagement” today?

Have you adopted the CASE Alumni Engagement Metric used to measure/assess staff or overall performance?

CASE Alumni Engagement Metrics Framework

Inputs

- Number of Contactable Alumni
- AR Staff FTE
- AR Staff Salary Budget
- AR Program Budget

Philanthropic

Financial support that is meaningful to the donor and supports the institution's mission and strategic goals

Volunteer

Formally defined and rewarding volunteer roles that are endorsed by and valued by the institution

Experiential

Meaningful experiences that inspire alumni, are valued by the institution, promote its mission, celebrate its achievements, and strengthen its reputation

Communication

Interactive, meaningful, and informative communication that supports the institution's mission, strategic goals and reputation

Key takeaways

- Organizations should leverage the modern qualification process to better utilize the investment in their gift officers.
- Tactics and tools used for other development silos (e.g., annual giving) can accelerate donor pipeline and improve portfolio performance.
- Engagement is a metric worth measuring for predicting growth potential.
- What other takeaways do you have from this session?



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Donor Engagement and Fundraising



3

Harnessing the Giving Potential of Millennials and Gen Z



A blue-tinted photograph of a university courtyard. In the foreground, there are several large, ornate stone arches supported by columns. In the background, a large, multi-story building with a central dome and a spire is visible. The scene is filled with greenery, including trees and bushes. The overall atmosphere is serene and academic.

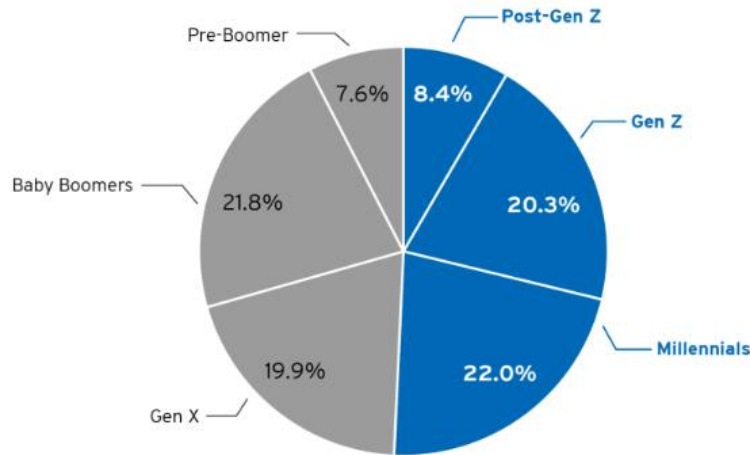
QUICK POLL:

What percentage of your base is made up of younger prospects?

Generational Breakdown of Population

FIGURE 2

Share of US population by generation



Numbers pertain to July 1, 2019

Note: Birth years are as follows: Post Gen Z (2013+), Gen Z (1997-2012), Millennials (1981-1996), Gen X (1965-1980), Boomers (1946-1964), Pre-Boomer (1945 and earlier).

Source: William H. Frey analysis of Census Bureau population estimates released June 25, 2020.

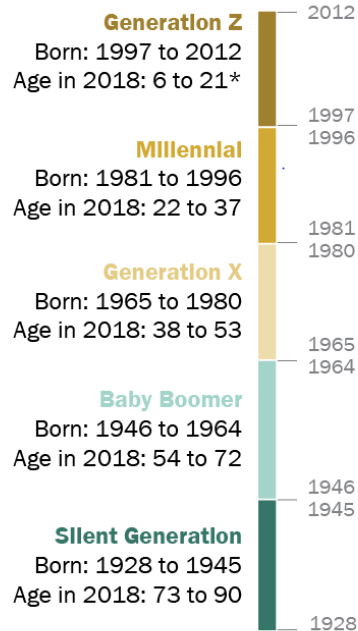
B Metropolitan Policy Program
at BROOKINGS



Does your donor pool or base reflect the current U.S. population?

Understanding Millennials/Gen Z

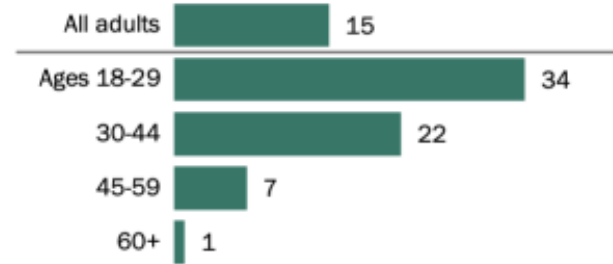
The generations defined



*No chronological endpoint has been set for this group. For analytical purposes, Generation Z is defined as those ages 6 to 21 in 2018.

About one-third of those ages 18 to 29 currently have student loan debt

% of adults saying they currently have outstanding student loan debt for their own education



Source: Pew Research Center analysis of Federal Reserve Board's 2018 Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Understanding Millennials and Gen Z

1 Adoption of a subscription-based economy

90% of Gen Z shoppers use subscription services, ranking it the highest cohort.

70% of Millennials use them.



2 General skepticism

165M records were exposed from data breaches in 2019.

Greater scrutiny and skepticism of institutions and organizations.



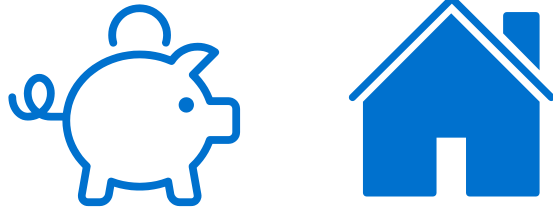
3 Trouble reaching donors

36% of contact data decays per year.

Alumni are harder to stay in contact with—more mobile, moving frequently and staying in jobs for shorter periods.



Financial Power of Millennial/Gen Z



Millennial average net worth doubled during the pandemic.

Most is in real estate, making up one third of wealth.

\$33 Trillion

Purchasing power of Gen Z by 2030

81%

Gave to a charity in 2021

55%

Say issues matter more than the organization

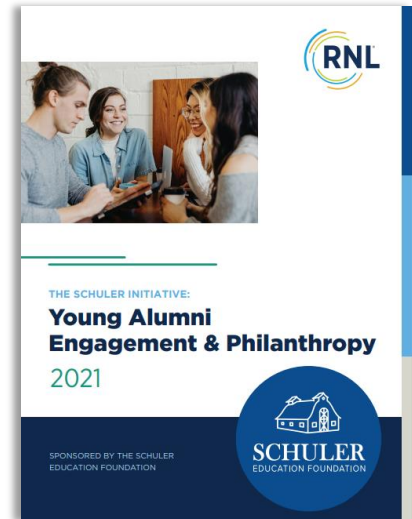


QUESTION TO CONSIDER

**How are you engaging Millennial
and Gen Z donors/prospects?**

Schuler Young Alumni Initiative

- A collaboration between the Schuler Education Foundation, RNL and five pilot colleges.
- 3-year project that provided colleges with resources to expand engagement activities for young alumni.
- Goal of increasing the number of young alumni genuinely connected and participating as donors.
- Leverage market research and share learnings with other colleges and universities.



Schuler Young Alumni Initiative Results

Acquisition & Retention Gains

54% growth in donor base; 74% overall retention with 46% new donor retention (more than 2x the national average).

Engaged Generation

More than 1,200 alumni supported the Initiative through volunteer activities.

Increased Giving

Median and average gift size increased. \$12.5 million contributed from the cohort of 2002 - 2017 graduates.

54% GROWTH

A horizontal progress bar with a light blue segment representing 54% and a darker blue segment representing the remaining 46%.

74% RETENTION

A horizontal progress bar with a light blue segment representing 74% and a darker blue segment representing the remaining 26%.

Colleges achieved a 54 percent growth in the young alumni donor base and 74 percent donor retention.



Initiative Key Takeaways

- **Young alumni are philanthropic.** Nearly 90 percent report making financial contributions, with a slight increase in 2021; the pandemic didn't deter giving. Volunteer and donation activity (to any organization):



Volunteer



Donate

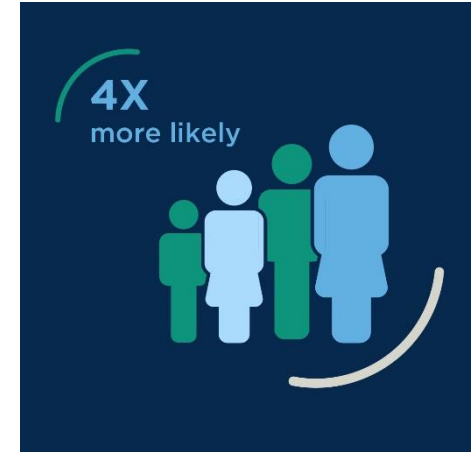


Neither

51% report volunteering and 39% report donating at least once a month.

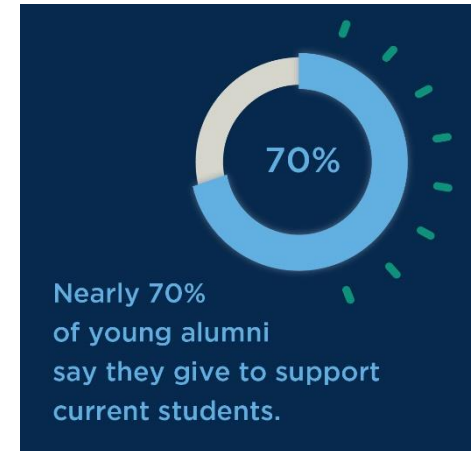
Initiative Key Takeaways

- **Young alumni have capacity.** In 2021 more than a third of survey respondents made charitable contributions of \$1,000 or more. Colleges that increased giving asks saw up to a 90% change in median gift amount in phase two of the Initiative.
- **Authentic connections for students and alumni are key.** Young alumni reporting higher rates of student satisfaction and a good sense of current connection are 4x more likely to give.



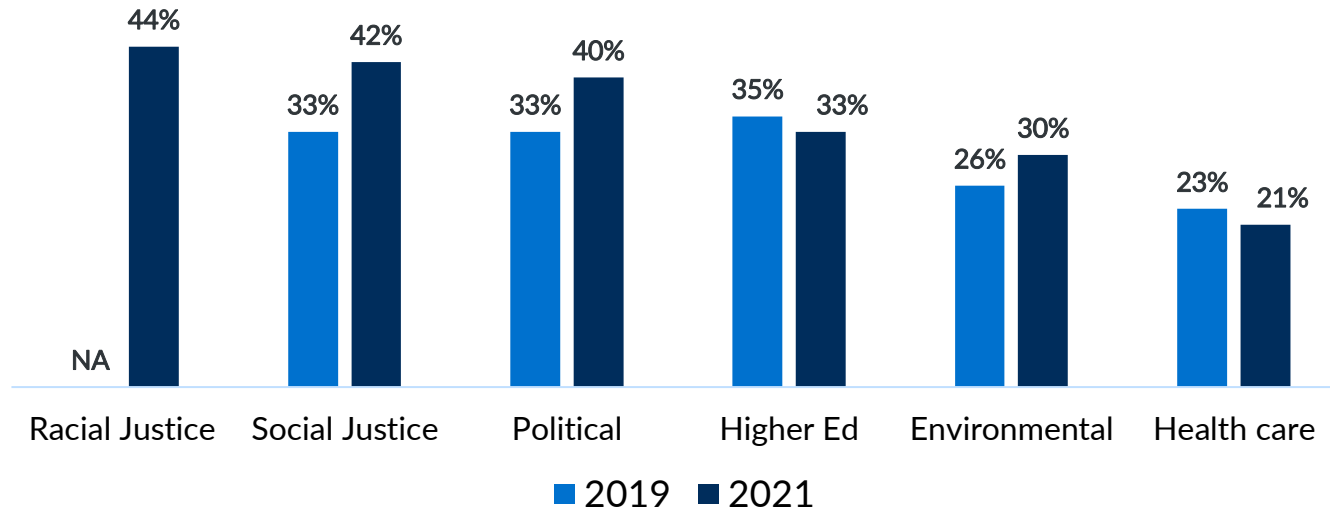
Initiative Key Takeaways

- **Young alumni are motivated by impact.** More than 95 percent of young alumni stated it was important to see evidence of impact. Purpose-driven campaigns are much more likely to resonate.
- **Supporting current students is a priority.** In 2018 and 2019, alumni indicated they gave back because their alma mater helped them. Last year the majority indicated they gave back to help current students—making a difference in the lives of current students is a top motivator.

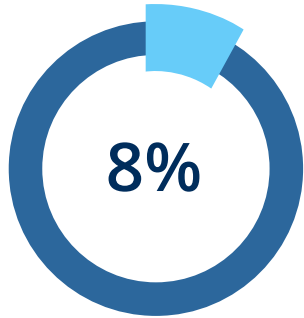


Initiative Key Takeaways

- Young alumni respond to urgent need and events of 2020 shaped survey responses. Organizations or causes recent grads are most likely to support:



National survey of young alumni



response rate

Expanded beyond the pilot colleges with feedback from **40,000 alumni**

Project goals

- Learn more about volunteer and giving behaviors and priorities
- Learn more about motivations
- Learn more about content and communications preferences
- Examine differences in alumni population
- Use feedback to shape outreach and inform future engagement

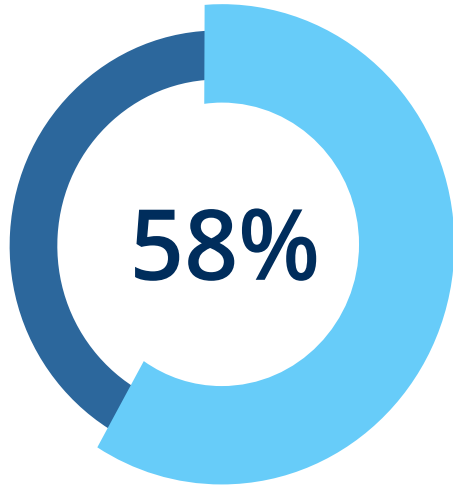
Four launch dates (Fall 2018)

- 36 participating schools
- Sent to over 500,000 alumni

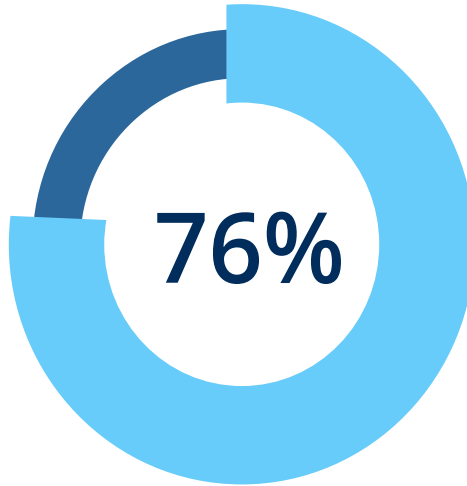
Full report included in your workshop materials

Philanthropic activity

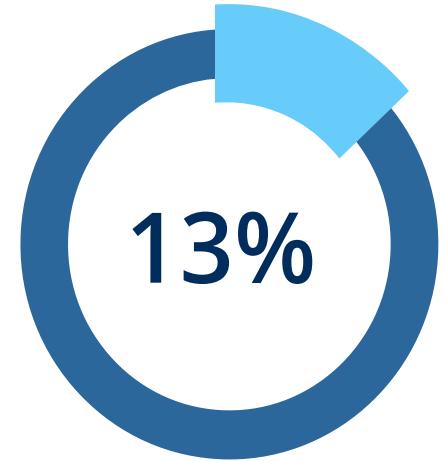
Similar response across broader group: recent grads are philanthropic!



Volunteer

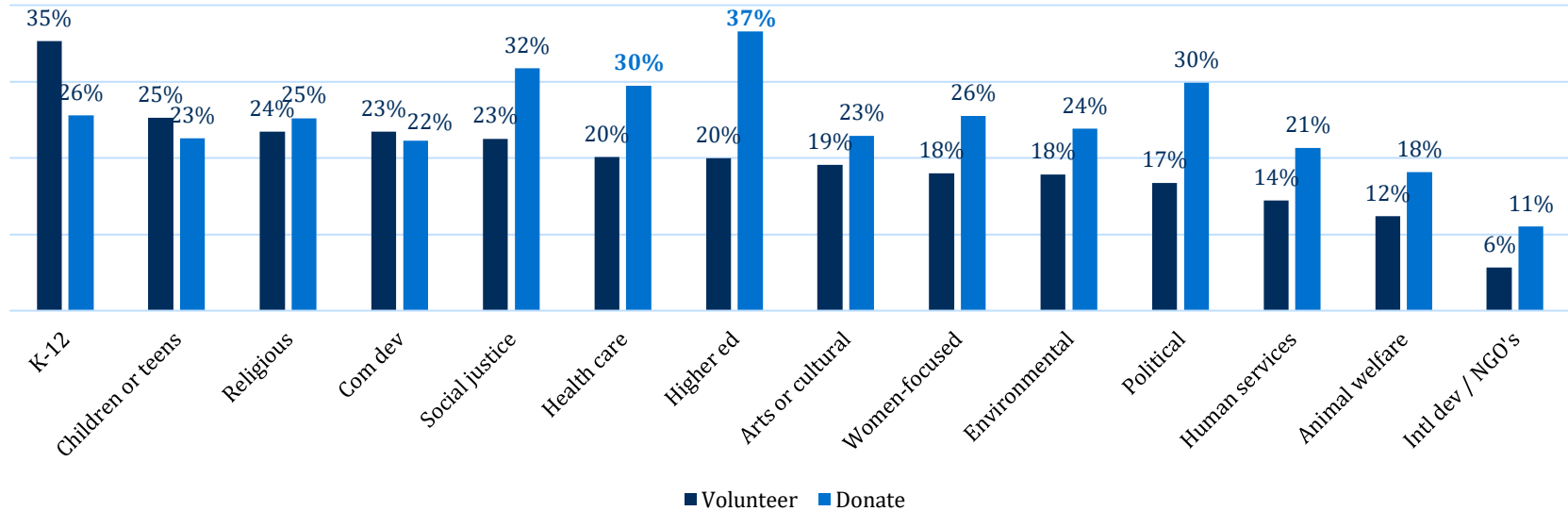


Donate

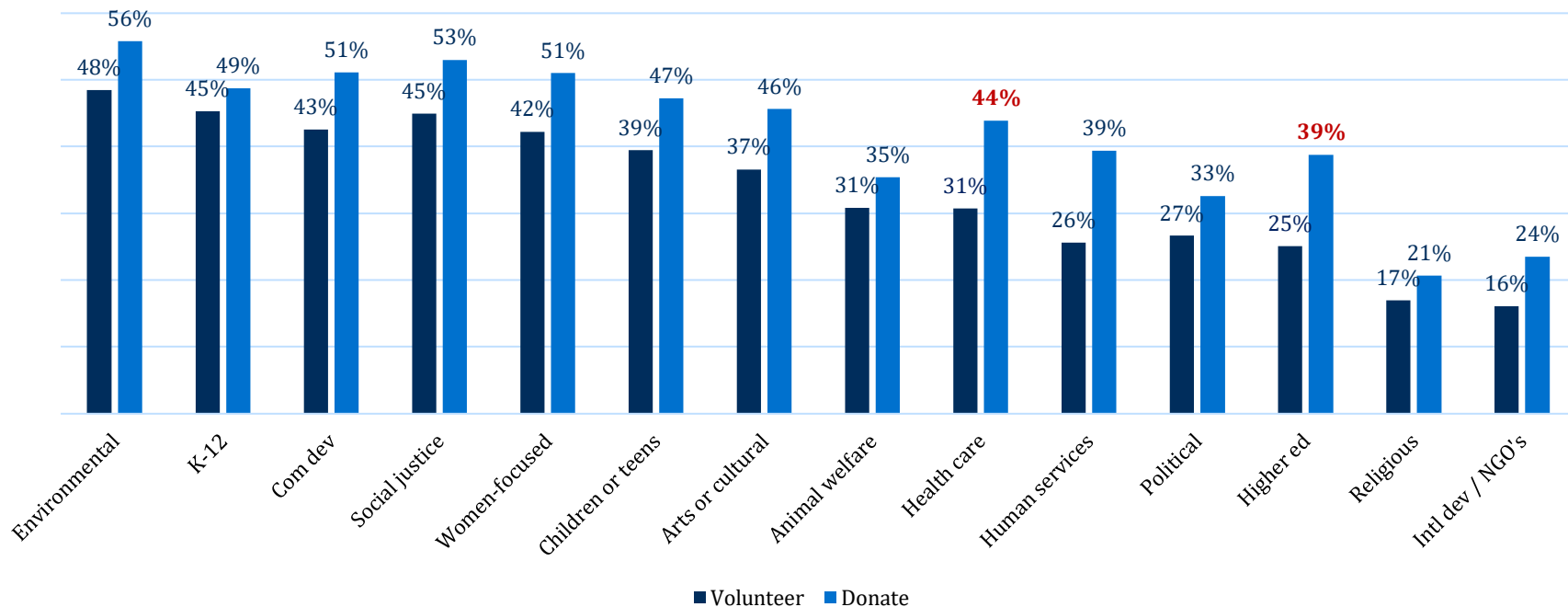


Neither

"Which types of orgs do you currently support?"



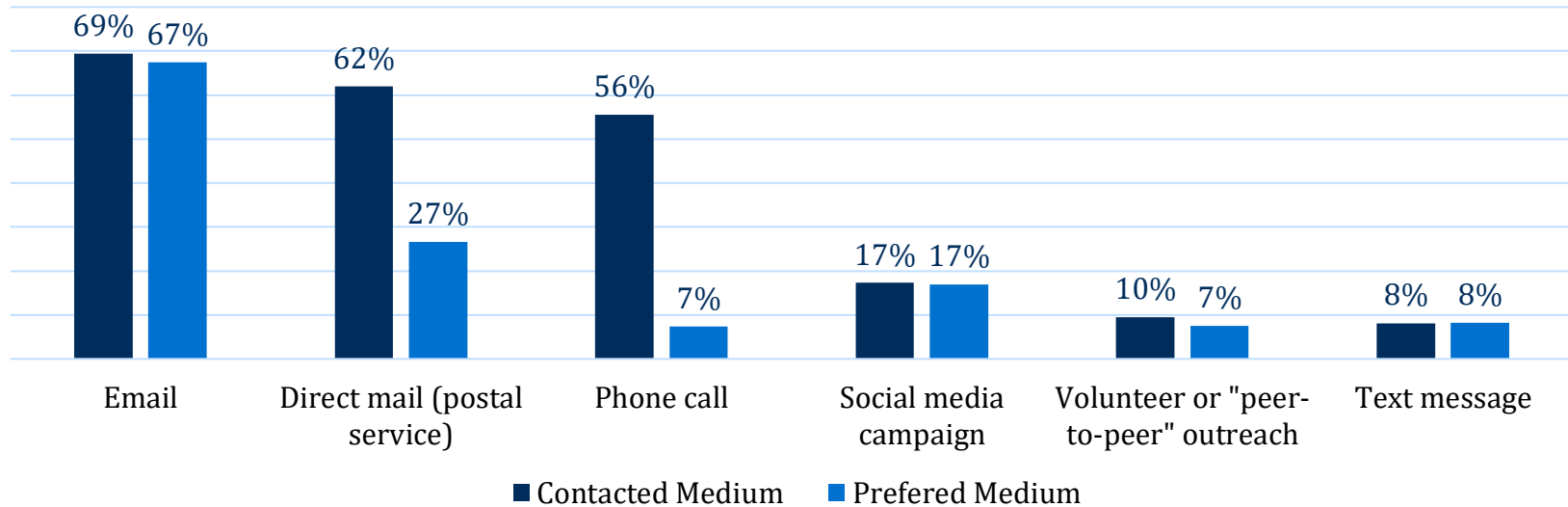
“If you had the resources, which types of orgs would you like to support?”



Omnichannel approach

86% report being contacted to make a gift

How have you / would you like to be contacted to make a gift to [Institution]? (select all that apply)



National survey of young alumni



44% give for direct impact of the cause on their family, friends, or themselves.



42% give if the cause **clearly demonstrates the impact**.



1 in 10

young alumni strongly agree that their gift to their alma mater makes a difference

Future donations to your alma mater

What are Donors Most Likely to Support?

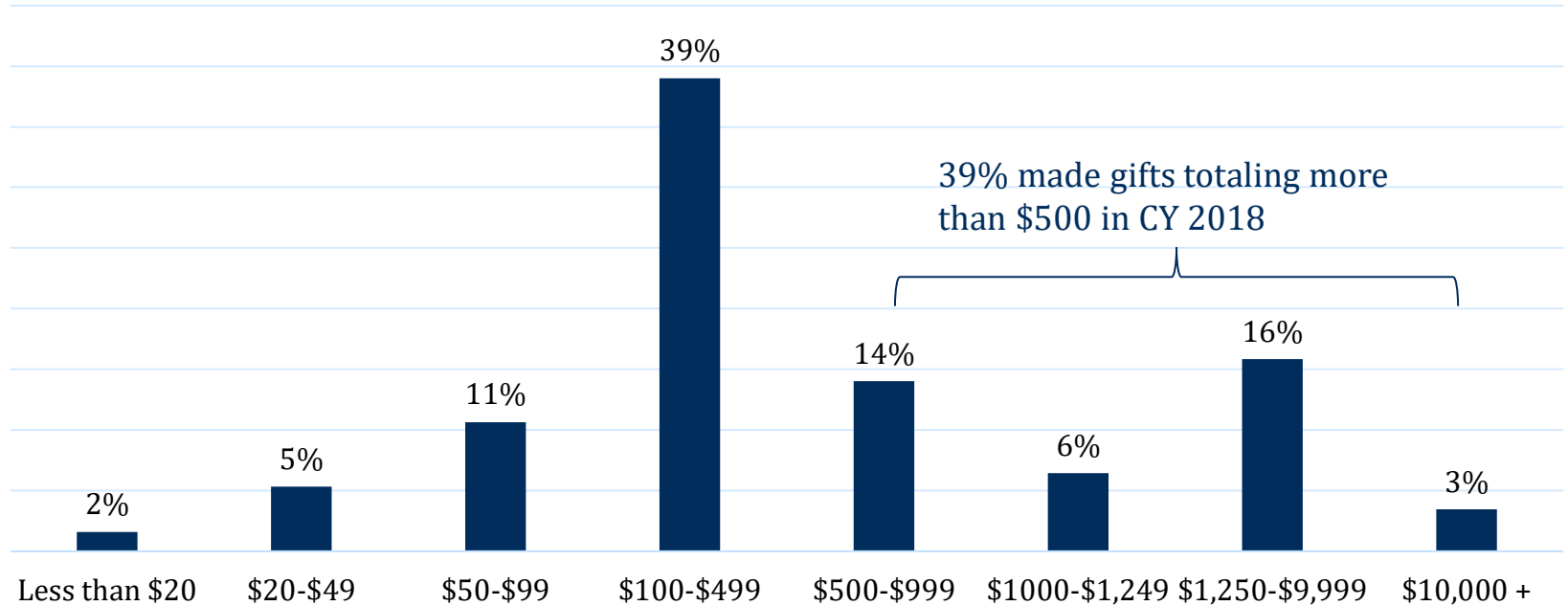
Scholarships and financial aid	66%
Specific department or major	45%
Initiatives to assist first gen students	44%
Mental health services	43%
Initiatives that build an inclusive campus environment	37%
Annual fund	27%

What are Non-Donors Most Likely to Support?

Scholarships and financial aid	54%
Mental health services	48%
Specific department or major	42%
Initiatives to assist first gen students	37%
Programs supporting sustainability	31%
Annual fund	6%

Overall donations in 2018 (national survey)

Do not discount capacity





QUESTION TO CONSIDER

**Are younger donor cohorts part of
your campaign plan?**

What did we learn?

- Young donors need to **feel a connection** to the fundraising opportunity. Targeted micro-campaigns were effective.
- People rally around big tent initiatives; **giving days and challenge events** delivered an average of 2,405 donors (pilot colleges, acquisition phase).
- Don't set the bar too low. Young donors will give **higher amounts**, especially if we quantify collective impact.
- Tools that allow for personalization, real-time engagement, improve donor/volunteer experience, and create staff efficiencies are worth it.
- **What other takeaways do you have from this session?**



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Donor Engagement and Fundraising



4

Burning Questions



Questions and Topics Shared by You...

Building a strong foundation for growth



Direction and goals dictated by data and analytics



Plans guided by a strategic and long-term vision



Culture of investment



Commitment to the process and the mission

Thank you for attending!

EVALUATION FORM

Please complete evaluation form and leave at the table or hand to an RNL staff member

RESOURCES

Resources are at the check-in table and online

CONNECT WITH RNL

Let us know if you'd like to connect to discuss how we are partnering with campuses in any of the following areas:

- Omnichannel fundraising campaigns
- Expert consulting for giving days, digital fundraising, strategic planning
- On-campus digital engagement centers
- Digital fundraising tools: ScaleFunder and QuadWrangle
- Direct marketing and creative services

OFFER TO RNL
WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

***Complimentary Registration
to the 2023 RNL National
Donor Engagement
Workshop in Nashville on
July 26-27!***

Must register by May 2nd
to receive this special offer.

Use code:
RNLPartner





Thank You

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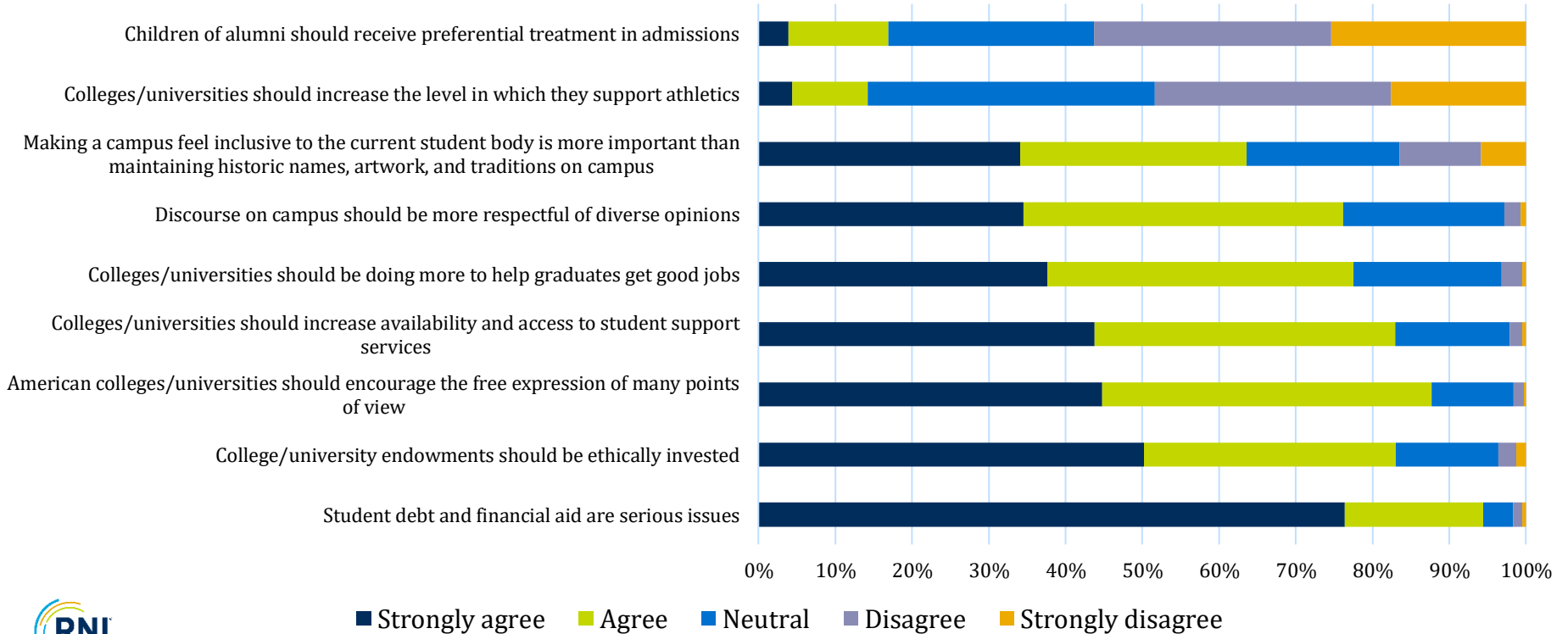
5

Appendix



Student debt is of concern

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with each statement.



Young alumni giving preferences

TOP AREAS OF INTEREST FOR YOUNG ALUMNI

AREA FOR DONATION	DONOR SINCE GRADUATION	NON-DONOR
Scholarship and financial aid budget ⁵	66%	54%
Specific department or major	45%	52%
Initiatives to assist first-generation students	44%	37%
Mental health services	43%	48%
Initiatives that build an inclusive campus environment	37%	28%
Programming that supports sustainability/environment	33%	31%
Specific student club/organization	28%	29%
Institution's annual fund	27%	6%

Demonstrating impact is crucial.



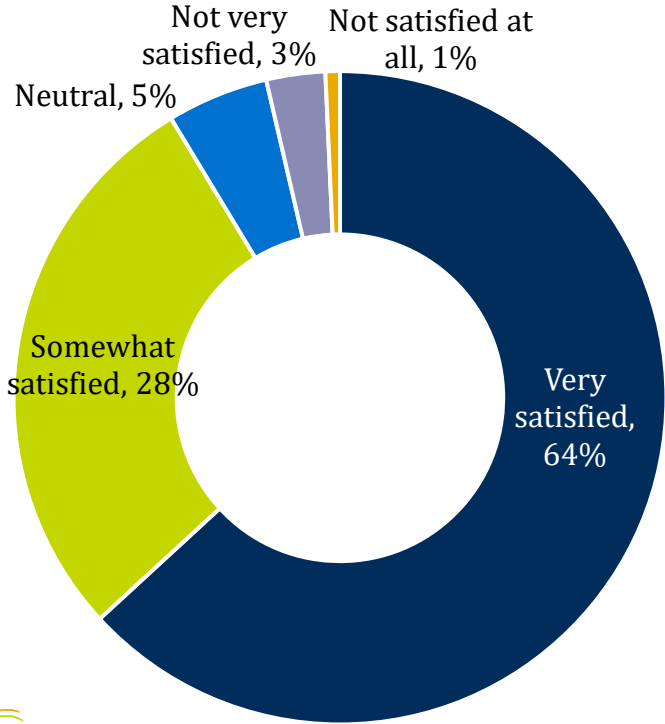
4X
more likely

Alumni who reported higher rates of student satisfaction and a good sense of current connection were four times more likely to volunteer or make philanthropic contributions to their alma mater.

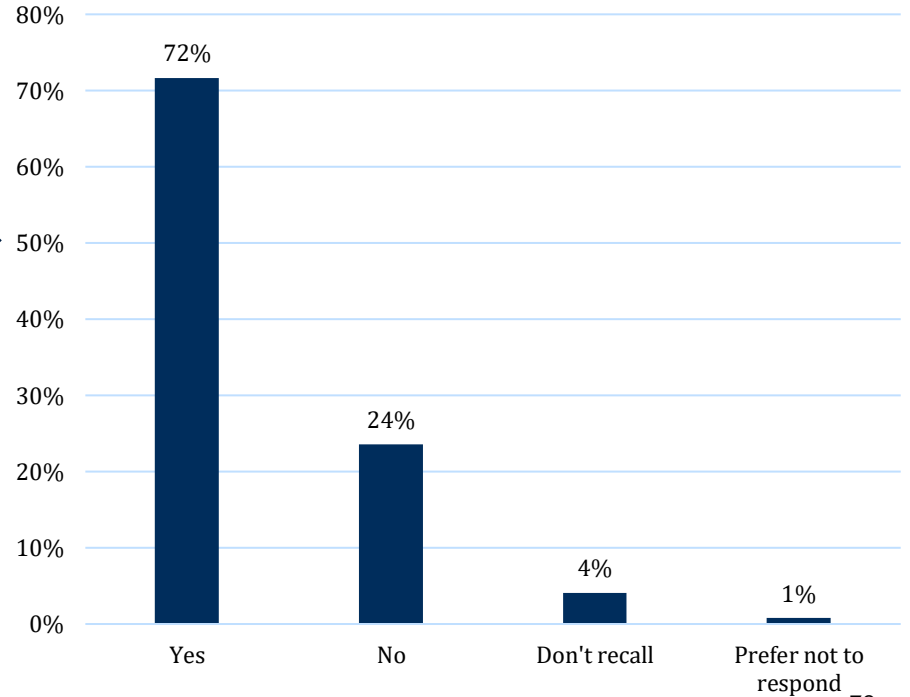


Satisfaction and Giving

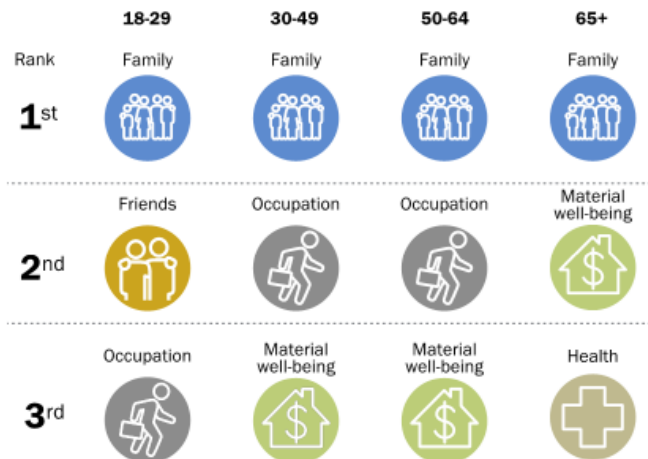
Rate your overall satisfaction with your experience as a student at [Institution]



Very Satisfied By Donation Status



Young adults more likely than older adults to cite friends as a source of meaning in life; people ages 65 and older more likely to emphasize their health



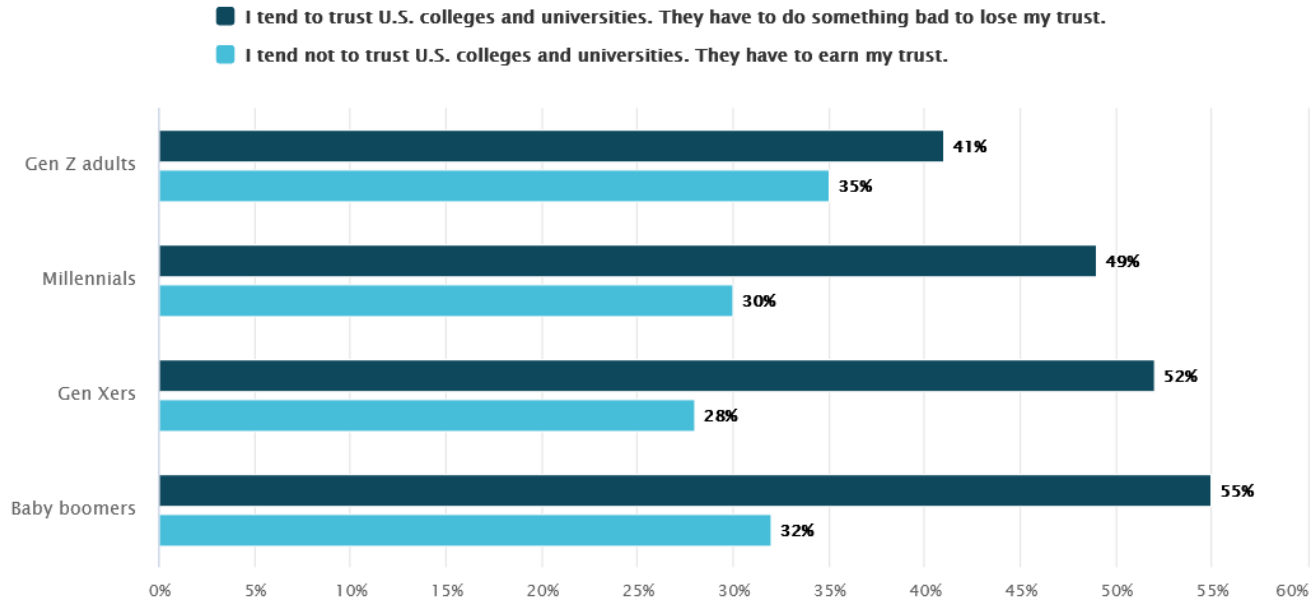
Note: Open-ended question. Rank within age groups reflects the total number of publics where the topic fell in the top three out of 17 sources of meaning that were coded. For more information, see "What Makes Life Meaningful? Views From 17 Advanced Economies," Appendix A.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey, Q36.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Trust is on the decline

Americans' Trust in Higher Education by Generation



General Decline in Trust

Shares of respondents who said they have "some" or "a lot" of trust in the following:



(Courtesy of Morning Consult)

Change in Americans' Confidence in Major U.S. Institutions, 2021-2022

Now I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one -- a great deal, quite a lot, some or very little.

	2021	2022	Change pct. pts.
	% Great deal/Quite a lot	% Great deal/Quite a lot	
Small business	70	68	-2
The military	69	64	-5
The police	51	45	-6
The medical system	44	38	-6
The church or organized religion	37	31	-6
The public schools	32	28	-4
Organized labor	28	28	0
Banks	33	27	-6
Large technology companies	29	26	-3
The U.S. Supreme Court	36	25	-11
The presidency	38	23	-15
Newspapers	21	16	-5
The criminal justice system	20	14	-6
Big business	18	14	-4
Television news	16	11	-5
Congress	12	7	-5

Institutions are ranked from highest to lowest confidence in 2022.

Get the data

GALLUP

Motivations of Millennial and Gen Z prospects

Supporting causes and community driven

What motivates you to volunteer/donate in support of an organization or cause? Select all that apply.

