

An Overview of the Nonprofit Sector in Missouri

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1. Introduction

Many have volunteered or joined clubs because they want to help make the world a better place. They have made outreach calls for the local church, helped organize a school blood drive, or tutored a third grader with learning disabilities. These activities and efforts are founded on the premise that individuals or groups of people feel passionate about a cause and want to contribute their time to further the cause. The nonprofit sector is a major force for good in our society. Nonprofit organizations are also referred to as charitable, philanthropic, independent, nongovernmental, or voluntary organizations.

Nonprofits have distinct characteristics that set them apart from government and for-profit organizations. First of all, as the name suggests, nonprofit organizations operate under rules that forbid the distribution of profits to owners. Nonprofit organizations are organized for a public or mutual benefit other than generating profit for owners or investors.¹ Unlike business entities that sell either products or services, or a combination of both, to earn monetary gains, nonprofits operate under the non-distribution constraint, meaning a budget surplus may only be applied to further the mission. Second, they are private organizations that operate independently unlike government agencies, although many nonprofits rely on local, state, or federal grants to fund some of their operations. Nonprofit subsectors such as health care, research, and education are examples of organizations that often rely on government funding. Unlike government agencies that are obligated to serve the public, nonprofits have the liberty to choose their own clients. For example, a nonprofit can provide services exclusively to selective members of its local community. Third, nonprofits are self-governed, commonly by a board of trustees or a board of directors. The board is tasked with strategic planning, setting policies, fundraising, and oversight of the charitable project. Board members are responsible for overseeing the organization's activities and its overall well-being. Charities normally do not compensate their board members but reimburse direct expenses associated with the service. Lastly, nonprofit organizations are commonly identified as voluntary in nature.² Historically, volunteers have formed groups to help people in need. Even in colonial times, Americans already liked to think of themselves as a "self-governing nation" that did not trust governmental involvement and preferred to address social problems locally.³

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¹ Lester Salamon, *America's Nonprofit Sector: A Primer* (New York: The Foundation Center, 1999).

² Roger A Lohmann, *The Commons: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Nonprofit Organization, Voluntary Action and Philanthropy* (The Research Repository at West Virginia University, 1992).

³ J. Steven Ott and Lisa A. Dicke, *The Nature of the Nonprofit Sector* (Boulder: Westview Press, 2016).

Some hold the misconception that nonprofit organizations are composed of small groups of well-intentioned volunteers who want to make a positive change with few paid staff. In reality, the nonprofit and charitable sector occupies an important niche in our society and represents a significant portion of the US economy with approximately 1.41 million charities registered with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) contributing in excess of 900 billion dollars to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2013.⁴ In 2016, the number of nonprofits registered with the IRS increased to 1.54 million, contributing over a trillion dollars to the US economy.⁵ As of November 2022, the number of tax-exempt organizations has reached 1,824,048.⁶

A nonprofit organization serves the public interest and is exempt from federal income taxes. The IRS defines nonprofit organizations as entities organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, public safety testing, literary, educational, or other specified purposes.⁷ The nonprofit sector is diverse and robust. In the past few years, the nonprofit sector in Missouri has experienced significant growth. This paper analyzes the data obtained from the IRS, provides a snapshot of the nonprofit sector in Missouri, discusses the breakdown of various types of these organizations, compares the nonprofit sectors in Missouri and at the national level, and highlights key statistics of the sector.

2. The Nonprofit Sector in Missouri by Category and Purpose

In this paper, a nonprofit organization is defined as a non-governmental organization that does not distribute its financial surplus to those who control the use of organizational assets and that is recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt entity. The nonprofit sector is defined as the collection of nonprofit organizations. As of November 2022,⁸ there are 38,460 tax-exempt organizations in the state of Missouri that are registered with the IRS, falling under nineteen classifications.⁹ The IRS tax code defines nonprofits in terms of their tax status. Of the entire sector, 76.33 percent are 501(c)(3)s. The breakdown of the nonprofit sector in Missouri is presented in Table 1 and Figure 1 below.¹⁰ The amount of Missouri nonprofit sector assets totals over \$212 billion, with St. Louis City, Jackson County, and St. Louis County possessing the highest levels.

⁴ Brice S. McKeever, "The Nonprofit Sector in Brief 2015: Public Charities, Giving, and Volunteering," *Urban Institute (Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy)*, October 2015, accessed June 19, 2023, <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/72536/2000497-The-Nonprofit-Sector-in-Brief-2015-Public-Charities-Giving-and-Volunteering.pdf>.

⁵ National Center for Charitable Statistics Project Team, "The Nonprofit Sector in Brief 2019," *Urban Institute (National Center for Charitable Statistics)*, June 2020, accessed June 19, 2023, <https://nccs.urban.org/publication/nonprofit-sector-brief-2019#the-nonprofit-sector-in-brief-2019>.

⁶ IRS, *Charities and Nonprofits*, accessed June 19, 2023, <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits>.

⁷ IRS, *Exempt Organization Types*, accessed June 19, 2023: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/exempt-organization-types>.

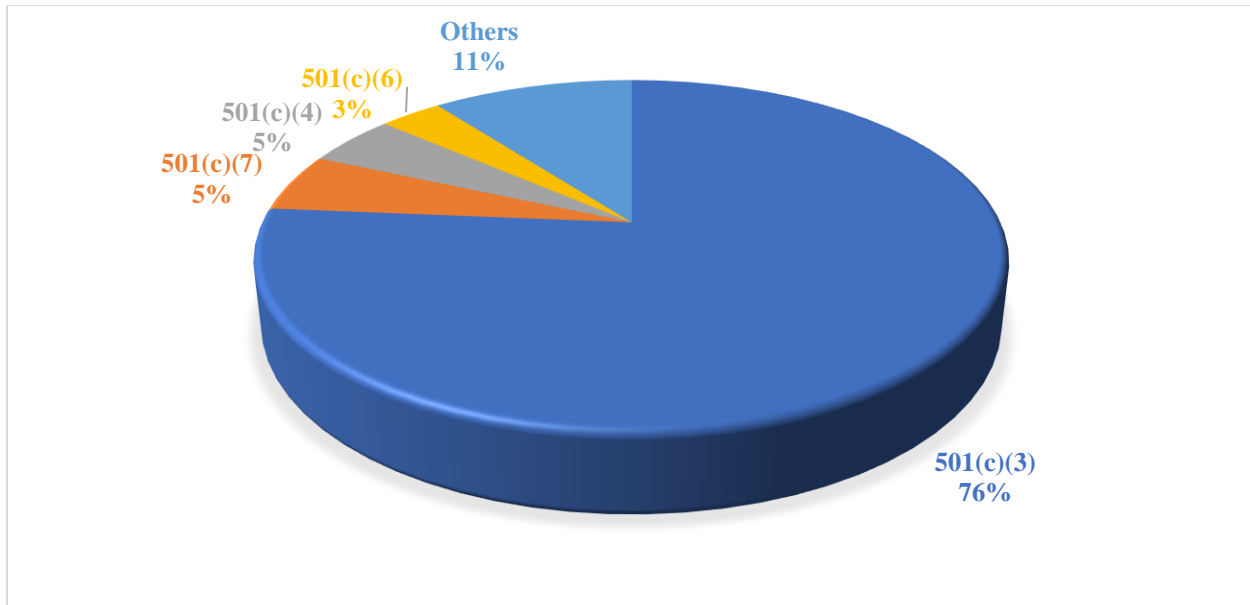
⁸ This is the most recent data I could obtain at the time of writing.

⁹ IRS, *Exempt Organizations Business Master File Extract*, accessed June 19, 2023, <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/exempt-organizations-business-master-file-extract-eo-bmf>.

¹⁰ The Appendix on page 21 reports nonprofit organizations in Missouri by county.

Table 1: Breakdown of Nonprofits in Missouri by IRS Classification

Type	Description	Organization Count	Percentage	
501(c)(3)	Religious, Educational, Charitable, Scientific, Literary, Testing for Public Safety, to Foster National or International Amateur Sports Competition, or Prevention of Cruelty to Children or Animals Organizations	29,357	76.33%	
501(c)(7)	Social and Recreational Clubs	2,056	5.35%	
501(c)(4)	Civic Leagues, Social Welfare Organizations, and Local Associations of Employees	1,816	4.72%	
501(c)(6)	Business Leagues, Chambers of Commerce, Real Estate Boards, etc.	1,244	3.23%	
501(c)(5)	Labor, Agricultural, and Horticultural Organizations	964	2.51%	
501(c)(8)	Fraternal Beneficiary Societies and Associations	909	2.36%	
501(c)(19)	Post or Organization of Past or Present Members of the Armed Forces	618	1.61%	
501(c)(13)	Cemetery Companies	543	1.41%	
501(c)(10)	Domestic Fraternal Societies and Associations	476	1.24%	
501(c)(2)	Title Holding Corporation for Exempt Organization	140	1.24%	
501(c)(9)	Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Associations	131		
4947(a)(1)	Charitable trust that is not tax exempt	71		
501(c)(12)	Benevolent Life Insurance Associations, Mutual Ditch or Irrigation Companies, Mutual or Cooperative Telephone Companies, etc.	67		
501(c)(15)	Mutual Insurance Companies or Associations	44		
501(c)(1)	Corporations Organized under Act of Congress (including Federal Credit Unions)	10		
501(c)(14)	State-Chartered Credit Unions, Mutual Reserve Funds	5		
501(c)(25)	Title Holding Corporations or Trusts with Multiple Parent Corporations	4		
501(d)	Religious and Apostolic Associations	3		
501(c)(27)	State-Sponsored Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Organization	2		
Total		38,460		100%

Figure 1: Breakdown of Nonprofit in Missouri by IRS Classification

Nonprofit charities exempt under section 501(c)(3) represent the overwhelming majority of tax-exempt organizations, which include public charities and private foundations. This type of nonprofit organizations is the most familiar to the general public. Out of the 29,360 501(c)(3) organizations in Missouri, 29,360 are public charities, and 1,925 are private foundations. Public charities usually provide charitable services directly to the intended beneficiaries. Examples include churches, professional associations, research institutes, animal shelters, art galleries, and museums. In general, public charities receive contributions from a variety of sources such as individual donations, membership dues, grants, and corporate sponsorships. Charitable gifts made to most charities are tax deductible.

Differently, private foundations (sometimes also referred to as philanthropic foundations) receive the majority of their funds from a small number of donors or a single source, and they make grants to other organizations rather than directly carry out charitable activities. Private foundations have the ability to disperse large or small sums of money to individuals and to organizations such as educational institutions, libraries, museums, and so on to carry out a wide variety of activities or programs enjoying the favor of the donors or their successors.¹¹ Some examples of private foundations are the Rubin Family Foundation (Clayton, Missouri), the Tietjen Family Foundation (Ballwin, Missouri), and the Aubuchon Family Foundation (Desloge, Missouri).

The second most common type of nonprofits by IRS tax code in Missouri is 501(c)(7)s (5.35 percent) which are tax-exempt social and recreational clubs. Organizations qualifying under this provision include (1) college fraternities operating chapter houses for students; (2) country clubs; (3) amateur hunting, fishing, tennis, swimming, and other sports clubs; (4) dinner clubs that

¹¹ Joseph Charles Kiger, *Philanthropic Foundations in the Twentieth Century* (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Publishing Group, 2000).

provide a meeting place, library, and dining room for members; (5) variety clubs; (6) community associations; and (7) hobby clubs.¹² Generally, social clubs are membership organizations primarily supported by funds paid by their members. Donations or dues paid to Section 501(c)(7) corporations are not tax deductible. Some examples are Kirksville Country Club (Kirksville, Missouri), Vandalia Country Club (Vandalia, Missouri), and Butler Country Club (Butler, Missouri).

Organizations classified under Section 501(c)(4), the third most common type in the state, are referred to as “social welfare organizations” or “advocacy organizations.” These organizations do not partake in conventional charitable activities; instead, they lobby for and against legislation, engage in political activities, and advance a cause for social change. For example, the National Rifle Association of America (NRA) is a tax-exempt gun rights advocacy group. The NRA lobbies the government to defend Second Amendment rights and provides firearms education to interested individuals. Unlike 501(c)(3) charities, (c)(4)s cannot offer their donors the ability to make tax-deductible donations, and they generally do not receive foundation grants. In addition to the NRA, some other examples are Zonta Club of St. Louis (St. Louis, Missouri), Friends of Rocheport Society (Rocheport, Missouri), and Taneycomo Rifle & Pistol Club (Branson, Missouri).

In addition to the IRS categorization of nonprofit organizations, the National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE) also has a classification system.¹³ The NTEE categorizes nonprofit organizations into ten broad categories: arts, culture, and humanities; education; environment and animals; health; human services; international, foreign affairs; public, societal benefit; religion-related; mutual/membership benefit; and unknown/unclassified.¹⁴ Table 2 below presents the nonprofit sector in Missouri using the NTEE classification system. The top two classifiable categories Missouri nonprofits fall under are human services (24.25 percent) and religion-related (19.18 percent).

Table 2: Types of Missouri Nonprofit Organizations by Purpose

Category	Description	Examples	Number of Organizations
Arts, Culture, and Humanities	These organizations bring the performing arts to the public; preserve and commemorate the events, places, and cultures that created and continue to shape the nation; and	Missouri History Museum, Kansas City Symphony, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Jazz St. Louis, Contemporary Art	1,841 (4.79%)

¹² IRS, *Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization*, January 2023, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p557.pdf>.

¹³ Urban Institute, “National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE) Classification System,” accessed June 20, 2023: <https://nccs.urban.org/project/national-taxonomy-exempt-entities-ntee-codes>.

¹⁴ Deondre’ Jones, “National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE) Codes,” *Urban Institute (National Center for Charitable Statistics)*, April 2, 2019, accessed June 19, 2023, <https://nccs.urban.org/project/national-taxonomy-exempt-entities-ntee-codes>.

	promote the distribution of ideas.	Museum of St. Louis	
Education	These organizations promote learning and intellectual development, provide learning services to students with special needs, and offer vocational and technical training. They also include libraries, literacy programs, scholarships, student organizations, and parent-teacher groups.	Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, Central Institute for the Deaf, Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis, Marian Middle School	2,924 (7.60%)
Environment and Animals	These organizations are dedicated to reclaiming and preserving natural resources and beautifying the world. They include recycling programs, wetlands management, garden clubs, humane societies, organizations that prevent animal cruelty, bird and wildlife sanctuaries, fisheries, veterinary organizations, zoos, and animal-training nonprofits.	Humane Society of Southeast Missouri, Saint Louis Zoo Association, Animal Protective Association of Missouri, Forest Park Forever, Missouri Botanical Garden	955 (2.48%)
Health	These organizations include hospitals, substance abuse and additional treatment programs, diseases and disease research, medical disciplines and specialty research, and mental health and crisis services.	Fight Colorectal Cancer, St. Luke's Hospital Foundation, Kilo Diabetes & Vascular Research Foundation, Head for the Cure	1,800 (4.68%)
Human Services	These organizations feed the hungry, assist crime victims and offenders, provide job training, house the homeless, help people prepare for and recover from disasters, maintain playgrounds and athletic fields, act as advocates for children, and offer programs to help youth	Concerns of Police Survivors, Second Harvest Community Food Bank, Ozarks Food Harvest, Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition	9,325 (24.25%)

	mature into adults who contribute to society.		
International, Foreign Affairs	They include development relief organizations, human rights advocates, peace and security nonprofits, and organizations that promote international understanding.	Crisis Aid International, Wings of Hope, Water.org, Outreach International	248 (0.64%)
Public, Societal Benefit	These organizations work in the areas of civil rights and civil liberties, community improvement, philanthropy and volunteerism, and voter education and registration. They also include life insurance providers, unemployment compensation organizations, pension and retirement funds, fraternal groups, employee associations, and cemeteries.	Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Jewish Federation of St. Louis, Legal Aid of Western Missouri	3,898 (10.14%)
Religion Related	They include houses of worship for a wide range of religions, religious print and broadcast nonprofits, and organizations dedicated to interfaith issues.	Lutheran Bible Translators, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, JOY FM Radio, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Stonecroft Ministries	7,376 (19.18%)
Mutual/Membership Benefit	These organizations provide benefits or assistance primarily to employees that are not elsewhere classified.	Missouri Automobile Insurance Plan, Missouri Funeral Directors Association Disaster Fund, Missouri Society of Enrolled Agents Inc	480 (1.25%)
Unknown/Unclassified	Nonprofits in this category have not been classified by the IRS.	Missouri Land Title Association, Missouri Kansas Texas Railroad Employees Hospital	9,613 (24.99%)

		Association, Missouri League of Financial Institutions ¹⁵	
Total			38,460

Of the 38,460 nonprofit organizations registered with the IRS in Missouri, 8,770 are “reporting” nonprofits, meaning they have filed a Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-PF in the past two years. Form 990 is an informational tax form that tax-exempt organizations with an annual income of \$200,000 or total assets of \$500,000 or more must file every year with the IRS. Form 990 includes a description of organizational programs, names of board members, compensation of top staff members, and details on revenues, expenditures, assets, and liabilities.

Small to modest-sized tax-exempt organizations (defined as organizations with gross receipts between \$50,001 and \$199,999, and assets less than \$500,000) must file a form 990-EZ on a yearly basis. Last but not least, private foundations of any size must file a form 990-PF every year.^{16,17} Of the sector, 21,268 are small organizations (defined as organizations with incomes less than \$25,000 per year). Small nonprofits are generally created and run by a few members and volunteers and rarely have significant budgets.

3. The Nonprofit Sector in Missouri by Growth and Employment

Over the past decade, both the United States and the state of Missouri witnessed notable growth in the nonprofit sector. This information is presented in Table 3 and Figure 2 below. Compared with a decade ago, the number of nonprofits in the United States has increased by 55.44 percent. In the state of Missouri, the size of the nonprofit sector has increased by 41.17 percent. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress adopted two changes in the tax law to help nonprofits get donations. As indicated, charitable gifts are tax-deductible by taxpayers who itemize their personal deductions.

First, to help encourage charitable contributions during the pandemic so the nonprofit sector could continue to thrive, Congress added a temporary new \$300 universal charitable deduction for cash contributions by nonitemizers to tax-qualified charities. Second, under regular tax laws, an itemized deduction is limited to 60 percent of the taxpayer’s adjusted gross income (AGI); to encourage donations, Congress increased this deduction to 100 percent of AGI for cash deductions to qualified charities temporarily for 2020 and 2021.¹⁸ As seen in Figure 2 below, Congress’s news rules during the pandemic helped enable the sector to expand during the

¹⁵ These organizations are listed as “unclassified” according to GuideStar.

¹⁶ Small organizations with annual gross receipts of \$50,000 or less must file a form 990-N (also called “e-Postcard”) annually. Due to the very basic nature of 990-N forms, these small organizations are normally not considered as “reporting” nonprofits.

¹⁷ Churches and some church-affiliated organizations and certain other types of organizations are exempted from filing, which explains the small portion of “reporting” nonprofits in Missouri.

¹⁸ Stephen Fishman, “IRS Help for Nonprofits During COVID-19: New Deductions, Tax Credits, and Loan Programs,” *Nolo*, accessed June 20, 2023, <https://www.nolo.com/covid-19/nonprofits-and-covid-19-new-tax-credits-and-loan-programs-offer-assistance.html>.

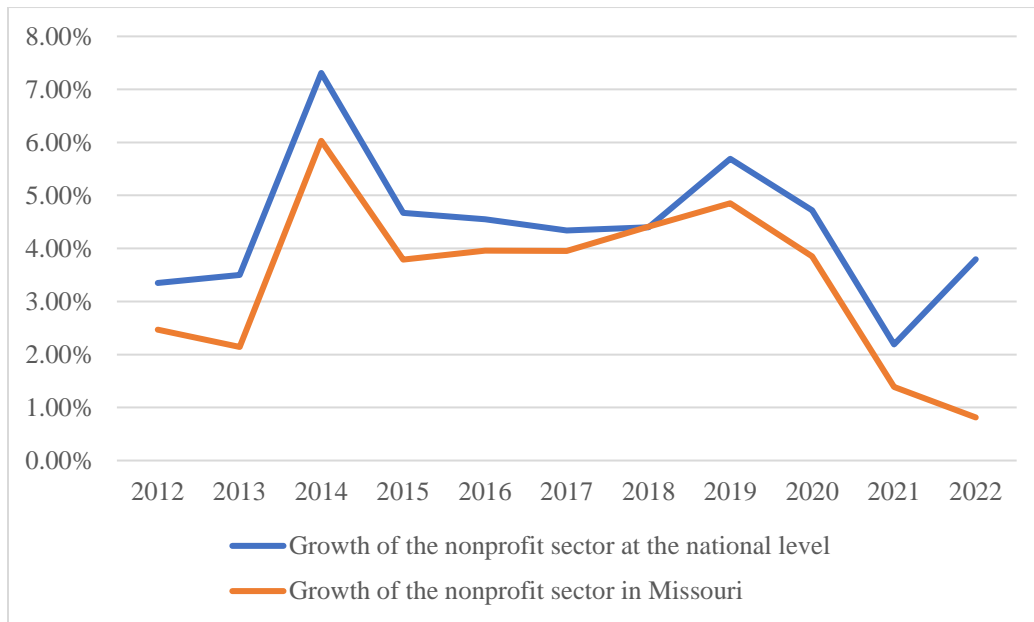
economic hardship brought on by the pandemic. At the state level, on July 22, 2020, Governor Parson announced a new Nonprofit Relief and Recovery Grant, providing up to \$22 million for Missouri nonprofits assisting communities in response to COVID-19.¹⁹ Despite the state assistance, the growth of the sector in Missouri was considerably hindered.

Table 3: Growth of the Nonprofit Sector in the Past Decade

Year	Total Number of Nonprofits registered with the IRS in the US	Growth	Total Number of Nonprofits registered with the IRS in Missouri	Growth
2012	1,173,507	3.35%	27,244	2.47%
2013	1,214,565	3.50%	27,828	2.14%
2014	1,303,345	7.31%	29,507	6.03%
2015	1,364,271	4.67%	30,624	3.79%
2016	1,426,278	4.55%	31,836	3.96%
2017	1,488,121	4.34%	33,095	3.95%
2018	1,553,615	4.40%	34,555	4.41%
2019	1,642,045	5.69%	36,230	4.85%
2020	1,719,573	4.72%	37,626	3.85%
2021	1,757,306	2.19%	38,150	1.39%
2022 ²⁰	1,824,048	3.80%	38,460	0.81%

¹⁹ Missouri Governor’s Office, “Governor Parson Announces \$22 Million in Grant Funds for Nonprofits,” accessed June 20, 2023, <https://governor.mo.gov/press-releases/archive/governor-parson-announces-22-million-grant-funds-nonprofits>.

²⁰ Numbers current as of November 14, 2022, which is the most recent available data. The data was obtained directly from the IRS website: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits>.

Figure 2: Growth of the Nonprofit Sector in the Past Decade

In addition to ensuring the nonprofit sector’s continuing function in their communities and society, another driving force of government assistance is the sector’s massive size of employment. According to the Center for Civil Society Studies at Johns Hopkins University, nonprofits accounted for roughly one in ten jobs in the US private workforce, with total employees numbering 12.3 million in 2016.²¹ According to the statistics from *Independent Sector*, in 2014, the nonprofit sector employed 10.8 percent of Missouri’s workforce, held assets of \$86.5 billion, and generated \$46.3 billion in annual revenues.²²

The nonprofit sector employed 261,914 Missourians, which is 11.2 percent of the state’s workforce, and held assets of \$84.6 billion in 2019.²³ The nonprofit sector attracts not only the workforce but also volunteers. Roughly 64.4 million American adults (25.1 percent of the population) volunteered at least once in 2017.²⁴ The 2021 Volunteering in America Report found 60.7 million adults (23.2 percent of the population²⁵) volunteered 4.1 billion hours and created an economic value of \$122.9 billion.²⁶ Missouri was ranked tenth on the US Census Bureau’s

²¹ Lester M. Salamon and Chelsea L. Newhouse, “The 2019 Nonprofit Employment Report,” Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, accessed June 20, 2023, http://ccss.jhu.edu/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2019/01/2019-NP-Employment-Report_FINAL_1.8.2019.pdf.

²² Independent Sector, “State Profile-Missouri,” accessed June 19, 2023, <https://independentsector.org/resource/state-profile-missouri/>.

²³ Independent Sector, “The Nonprofit Sector in Missouri,” accessed June 19, 2023, <https://independentsector.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Missouri-2019.pdf>.

²⁴ National Center for Charitable Statistics Project Team, “The Nonprofit Sector in Brief 2019,” *Urban Institute (National Center for Charitable Statistics)* accessed June 19, 2023, <https://nccs.urban.org/publication/nonprofit-sector-brief-2019#the-nonprofit-sector-in-brief-2019>.

²⁵ The percentage decreased compared with 2019 due to the pandemic.

²⁶ The US Census Bureau, “National Volunteer Week: April 16-22, 2023,” accessed June 20, 2023, <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/volunteer-week.html>.

“States with the Highest Formal Volunteering Rates in 2021,”²⁷ with 30.5 percent of the population having participated in volunteering work that year.

4. The Income Profile of Missouri Nonprofits

Parallel to the sector’s growth, American philanthropy has also been on an upward trend. In addition to earned income from program service and sales of goods, nonprofits receive funding from a variety of sources, including donations, membership dues, investment earnings, and grants. Donations account for the biggest share of nonprofit revenues. In 2012, Americans donated an estimated \$316.23 billion to charities (72.39 percent came from individual donations, 7.40 percent from bequests, 5.74 percent from corporations, and 14.47 percent from foundations).²⁸ According to *Giving USA 2023: The Annual Report on Philanthropy*, American individuals, bequests, foundations, and corporations gave an estimated \$490.93 billion to US charities in 2022 (64.99 percent came from individuals, 21.43 percent from foundations, 9.29 percent from bequests, and 4.29 percent from foundations). Consistently, the beneficiaries that receive the highest amounts of charitable donations over the years are religious, human services, and education organizations.²⁹

According to the National Council of Nonprofits, Missouri nonprofits received over \$6.67 billion in donations in 2019.³⁰ In Missouri, the bulk of nonprofit organizations are concentrated in the two biggest cities, Kansas City and St. Louis, and their nearby areas (see the list of nonprofits in each county in the Appendix on page 21). While small and local-based nonprofits rely almost exclusively on individual donations and earned incomes as their revenue resources, nonprofits in Kansas City and St. Louis have more diverse revenue streams. Since these organizations have bigger budgets and assets, they make investments and reap benefits. Bigger budgets also mean more resources to raise funds and encourage donations. Nonprofits in St. Louis County and St. Louis City receive earned incomes, investment earnings, government grants, and donations. In 2017, 1,601 grants totaling \$803.3 million were awarded to nonprofits located in St. Louis County and City.³¹ Kansas City nonprofits’ income profile looks similar to their St. Louis counterparts. In 2019, Kansas City nonprofits’ revenues totaled over \$3 billion, the lion’s share of which came from program services, donations, and grants.³²

²⁷ US Census Bureau, “At Height of Pandemic, More Than Half of People Age 16 and Over Helped Neighbors, 23% Formally Volunteered,” accessed June 20, 2023, <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2023/01/volunteering-and-civic-life-in-america.html>.

²⁸ Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, “Giving USA: Charitable Donations Grew in 2012, but Slowly, Like the Economy,” June 18, 2013, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/news-events/news-item/giving-usa-charitable-donations-grew-in-2012,-but-slowly,-like-the-economy.html?id=92>,

²⁹ Giving U.S.A., “2023 Key Findings,” accessed June 21, 2023, <https://store.givingusa.org/products/2023-key-findings?variant=44055760896224>.

³⁰ National Council of Nonprofits, “Missouri,” accessed June 21, 2023, <https://www.nonprofitimpactmatters.org/states/missouri/>.

³¹ Liz Deichmann, “St. Louis Regional Nonprofit Indicators Report.” University of Missouri St. Louis Community Innovation and Action Center, September 2021, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://stldata.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/STL-Nonprofit-Indicators-Final-September-2021.pdf>.

³² Nonprofit Connect, “Kansas City Nonprofit Impact Study 2019,” accessed June 22, 2023, <https://growthzonesitesprod.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/705/2020/02/Kansas-City-Nonprofit-Impact-Report-2019.pdf>.

5. Conclusion

The nonprofit sector is in constant flux, with new organizations forming. In 2013 approximately 1.41 million tax-exempt organizations registered with the IRS. As of November 2022, the number grew to 1.82 million. 501(c)(3) organizations occupy the largest share of the sector. The nonprofit sector is robust and diverse. It includes soup kitchens, animal shelters, labor unions, religious congregations, country clubs, museums, galleries, hospitals, universities, and civil rights groups. Nonprofit organizations comprise a large share of the US economy and provide a wide range of activities, as well as advocate, educate, and engage people in civil and social life. The sector grew considerably over the past decade, although it experienced some hiccups during the pandemic. This report analyzes the data downloaded from the IRS website, provides a snapshot of the nonprofit sector in Missouri, breaks down the various types of these organizations using the nonprofit classification systems created by the IRS and the NTEE, compares the nonprofit sectors in Missouri and at the national level, and highlights key statistics of the sector.

Missouri is home to 38,460 nonprofit organizations, out of which 501(c)(3), 501(c)(7), and 501(c)(4) are the most common IRS tax codes. By the NTEE classification system, the top two classifiable categories of Missouri nonprofits are human services and religious congregations. Of the Missouri nonprofit sector, the majority of the organizations are small ones with incomes less than \$25,000 per year. These organizations work across the state to provide needed services to community members and better their lives. Small local nonprofits depend financially on earned incomes and small donations, whereas bigger metropolitan organizations also gain financial support from grants and investment earnings.

The Missouri nonprofit sector grew steadily over the past decade until the pandemic. The post-pandemic future of nonprofits is promising as in-person events gain traction again. The rapid development of virtual conferencing platforms and communication technologies during the pandemic enables nonprofits to now fundraise both in-person and online. Although the majority of Missouri nonprofits are rooted in their local communities, they can now use digital technology to raise awareness, broadcast their missions, and encourage contributions. Hopefully, Missouri nonprofits will overcome the negative impact of the pandemic and continue to thrive in the future.

Appendix: Nonprofits in Missouri by County³³

County³⁴	Number of Organizations	Assets (in US Dollars)
Adair	210	738,980,030
Andrew	66	182,839,325
Atchison	71	71,587,096
Audrain	170	238,062,334
Barry	191	227,569,950
Barton	67	87,222,274
Bates	91	117,942,522
Benton	126	10,565,895
Bollinger	43	1,546,390
Boone	1196	2,562,503,721
Buchanan	501	2,074,067,729
Butler	183	520,163,041
Caldwell	53	8,894,602
Callaway	206	286,075,747
Camden	278	342,354,750
Cape Girardeau	526	2,259,577,713
Carroll	74	56,152,169
Carter	24	622,467
Cass	465	89,074,196
Cedar	91	63,336,407
Chariton	94	35,671,123
Christian	425	49,154,845
Clark	41	4,752,623
Clay	625	1,065,581,173
Clinton	112	395,975,405
Cole	1037	2,024,153,119
Cooper	124	26,333,987
Crawford	112	120,902,635
Dade	41	2,802,211
Dallas	78	7,679,015
Daviess	50	29,735,355
DeKalb	54	3,178,389
Dent	84	15,008,074
Douglas	72	21,678,390
Dunklin	122	94,798,332

³³ Data source: IRS, 2021. Tax Exempt Organization Search. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/tax-exempt-organization-search>.

³⁴ The data was obtained from the IRS website, which only records the cities these nonprofit organizations are located in. For cities that belong to multiple counties, I documented the county that most of the city is geographically located in. For example, most of Jefferson City is in Cole County, with a small northern section extending into Callaway County; therefore, I categorized Jefferson City under Cole County.

County	Number of Organizations	Assets
Franklin	493	118,708,573
Gasconade	145	86,024,045
Gentry	64	27,143,180
Greene	1634	7,145,745,044
Grundy	90	124,660,470
Harrison	71	10,674,936
Henry	166	309,975,131
Hickory	56	18,515,563
Holt	46	894,103
Howard	87	195,774,342
Howell	218	506,760,926
Iron	71	70,680,086
Jackson	6570	36,523,277,685
Jasper	745	1,501,170,100
Jefferson	703	927,231,182
Johnson	255	140,843,362
Knox	50	2,945,150
Laclede	191	332,118,120
Lafayette	247	178,403,797
Lawrence	154	229,413,073
Lewis	91	139,161,572
Lincoln	209	387,353,628
Linn	80	25,877,225
Livingston	146	317,310,492
Macon	104	82,848,127
Madison	70	157,989,828
Maries	50	3,976,485
Marion	226	605,505,250
McDonald	87	1,078,387
Mercer	29	798,281
Miller	86	6,347,589
Mississippi	58	5,722,138
Moniteau	104	11,078,264
Monroe	46	1,493,150
Montgomery	87	17,624,207
Morgan	96	11,114,013
New Madrid	52	21,766,978
Newton	182	268,642,030
Nodaway	163	106,559,517
Oregon	51	1,454,414
Osage	74	135,726,156
Ozark	58	1,040,688
Pemiscot	73	133,494,261

County	Number of Organizations	Assets
Perry	127	307,844,522
Pettis	207	206,315,109
Phelps	325	667,678,701
Pike	147	41,344,215
Platte	274	266,643,430
Polk	152	398,832,384
Pulaski	189	67,432,803
Putnam	16	2,929,728
Ralls	52	4,587,934
Randolph	153	58,089,584
Ray	101	14,523,494
Reynolds	49	23,972,453
Ripley	64	3,111,466
Saline	148	156,273,976
Schuyler	28	44,541,162
Scotland	46	29,193,130
Scott	145	195,969,630
Shannon	60	8,661,650
Shelby	69	35,905,141
St. Charles	1538	859,449,136
St. Clair	74	18,884,112
St. Francois	259	76,526,475
St. Louis	3607	10,195,693,253
St. Louis City	7047	132,680,040,500
Ste. Genevieve	99	28,200,260
Stoddard	146	28,310,979
Stone	159	45,996,352
Sullivan	43	50,635,912
Taney	343	498,581,476
Texas	124	183,493,951
Vernon	110	169,965,235
Warren	151	37,482,712
Washington	85	25,613,326
Wayne	73	3,531,464
Webster	132	103,300,968
Worth	28	16,873
Wright	109	38,833,509
Total	3,8460	212,309,871,587