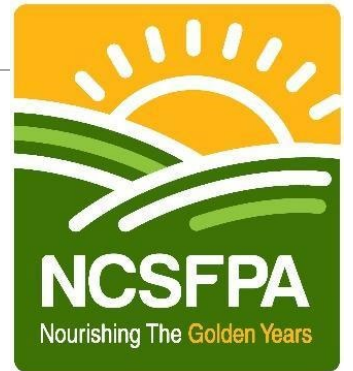


Survey on Volunteer Roles in CSFP

JULY 1ST, 2025



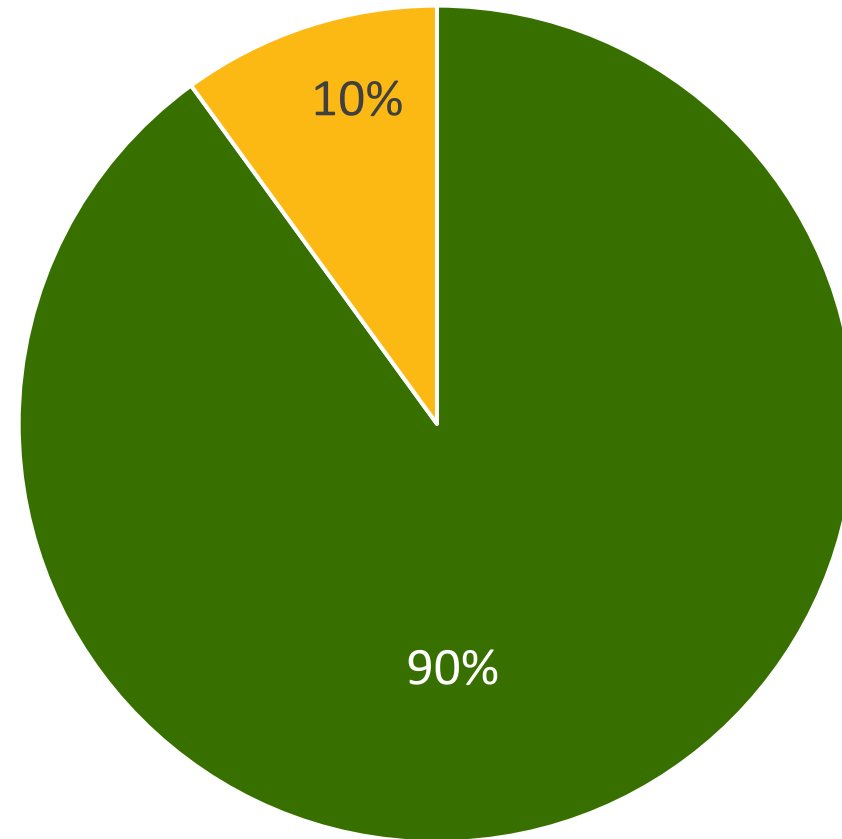
Executive Summary

Representatives from **73 agencies** across **27 states** and **Washington, D.C.** participated in this survey, providing valuable insights into the current landscape of volunteer involvement in food assistance programs.

A key finding is that an overwhelming **90% of agencies** rely on volunteers for their Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) distributions. This reliance highlights the essential role volunteers play in the successful operation and reach of these programs nationwide.

The data underscores the critical need to continue supporting volunteer recruitment, training, and retention efforts. Agencies depend heavily on a committed volunteer workforce to ensure efficient distribution of food assistance, making volunteers a cornerstone of program sustainability and effectiveness.

Do you or your
distribution
partners rely on
volunteers to
help with CSFP
distribution?



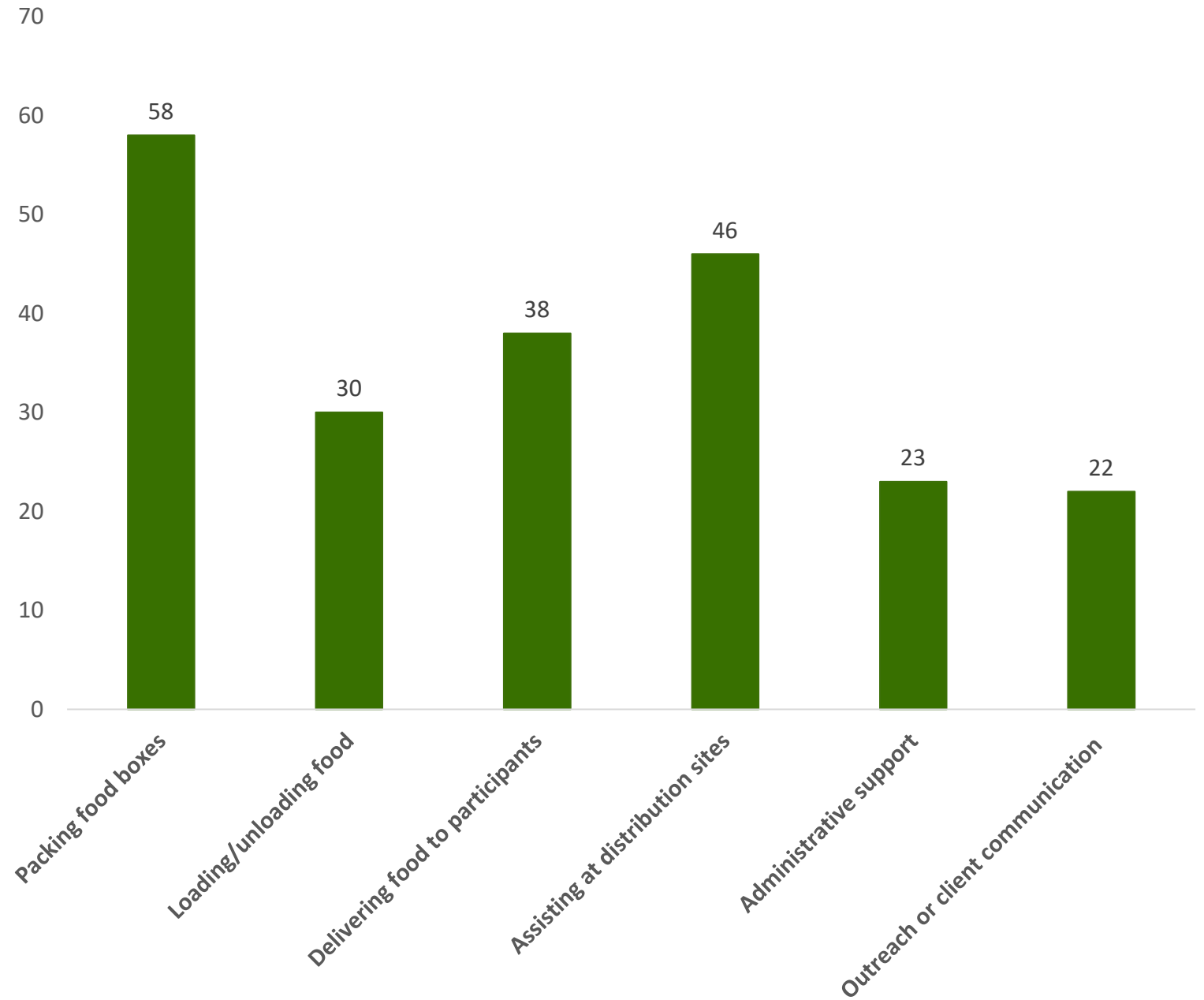
■ Yes ■ No

Survey Summary: Volunteer Reliance in CSFP Distributions

An overwhelming **90% of agencies** report relying on volunteers to support their Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) distributions. This highlights the critical role that volunteers play in ensuring the successful delivery of food assistance services across the network.

The strong dependence on volunteers underscores the importance of recruiting, training, and retaining a dedicated volunteer workforce to maintain and expand program effectiveness.

In what ways do
volunteers
support your
CSFP
distribution?
*(Select all that
apply)*



Survey Summary: Volunteer Activities

The survey highlights the various roles volunteers contribute to within the organization, with distinct levels of engagement across activities:

Packing Food Boxes: The most common volunteer activity, with **58 participants** engaged, reflecting a strong hands-on involvement in food preparation.

Assisting at Distribution Sites: Also highly engaged, with **46 volunteers**, indicating significant support in managing distribution logistics.

Delivering Food to Participants: Involving **38 volunteers**, this role shows meaningful participation in outreach and ensuring food reaches those in need.

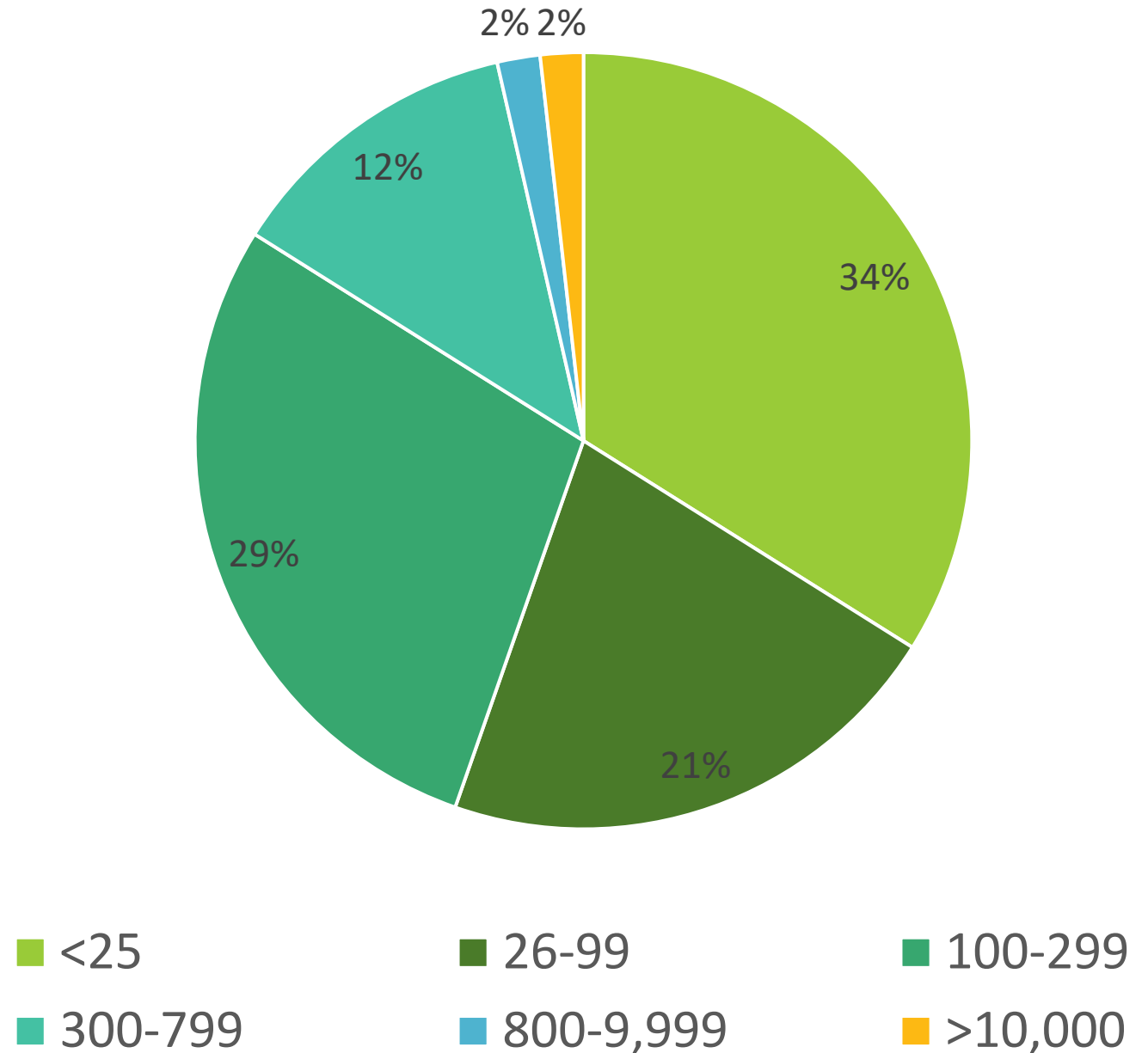
Loading/Unloading Food: Supported by **30 volunteers**, this task is crucial for operational flow and receives moderate volunteer attention.

Administrative Support: **23 volunteers** contribute to behind-the-scenes tasks, providing essential organizational support.

Outreach or Client Communication: The least common activity, with **22 volunteers**, though still a vital link between the organization and its community.

Overall, the data reveals a well-rounded volunteer program with the majority engaged in direct service roles, supported by essential administrative and communication efforts.

Approximately
how many
volunteers
support your
CSFP distribution
each month?



Survey Summary: Number of Volunteers per Month

The reported number of volunteers per month varied widely, showing a mix of small-scale efforts and large-scale operations.

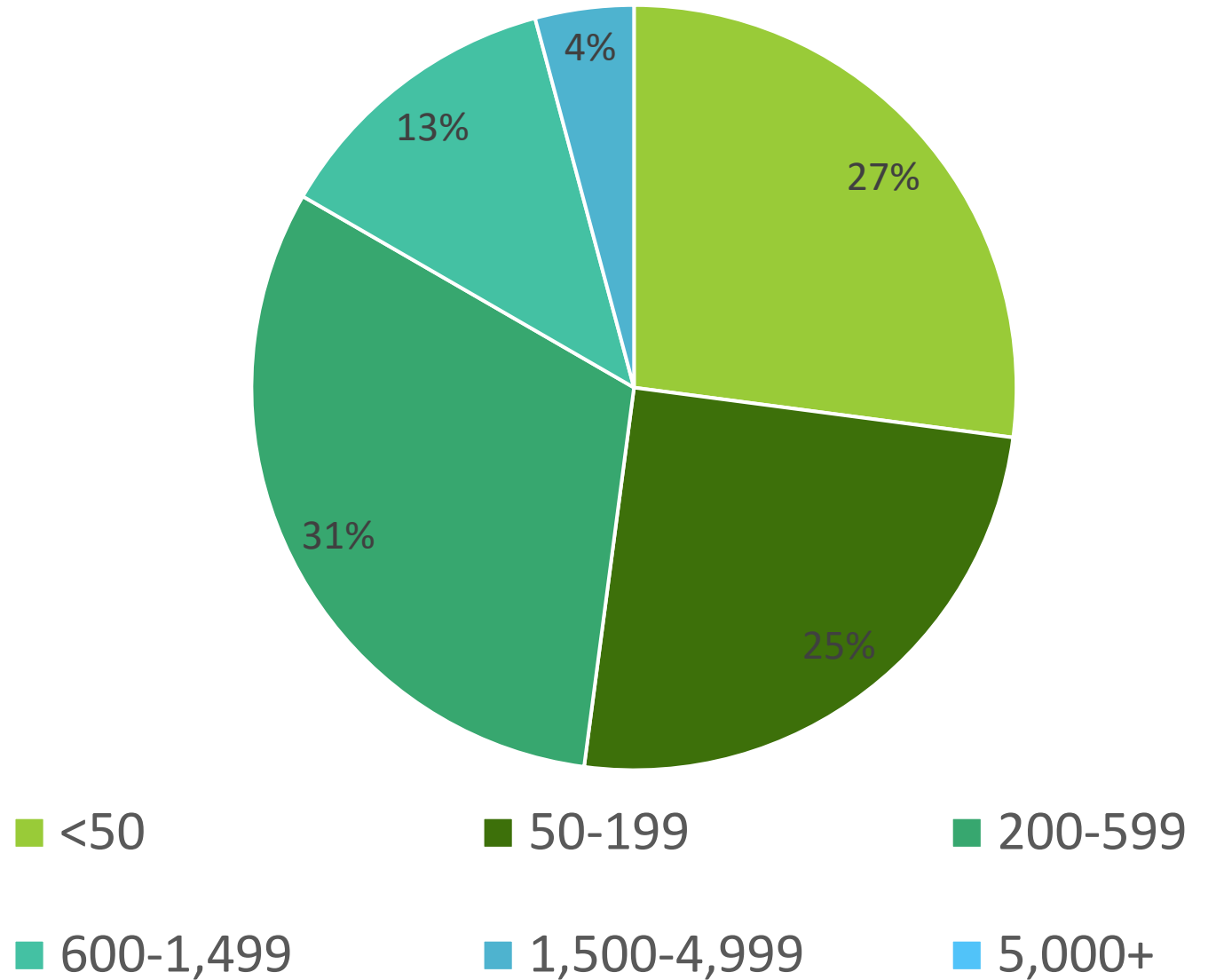
Very Low to Low Participation: A combined **31 responses** (51%) fell into the **1–99 volunteer range**, indicating many respondents operate with limited volunteer capacity, often likely at a grassroots or local level.

Moderate Participation: **16 responses** (26%) reported **100–299 volunteers**, suggesting a substantial, consistent volunteer base among many organizations.

High to Very High Participation: **8 responses** (13%) indicated **300–999 volunteers per month**, reflecting strong engagement and likely well-established programs.

These results suggest a volunteer ecosystem where most organizations operate at a small-to-moderate scale, while a smaller number manage large and potentially complex volunteer programs.

Approximately
how many total
hours per month
do all volunteers
combined
typically
contribute to
CSFP
distribution?



Survey Summary: Volunteer Hours per Month

The survey results reflect a wide range of volunteer engagement levels, with the majority of participants contributing a moderate to substantial number of hours each month.

Minimal to Light Commitment: Approximately **25 respondents** (46%) reported contributing between **1 and 199 hours per month**, suggesting a significant number of occasional or part-time volunteers.

Moderate Commitment: **15 respondents** (28%) fell into the **200–599 hour range**, indicating consistent and reliable volunteer support.

Heavy to Exceptional Commitment: **8 respondents** (15%) reported contributing between **600 and 2,000 hours per month**, reflecting a high level of sustained involvement.

These results highlight the presence of a dedicated core of high-hour volunteers, complemented by a broader base of lighter contributors. Together, they form a balanced volunteer force with both depth and breadth of commitment.