

The Peace Corps Community in Florida

Florida Peace Corps Volunteers Through the Years			
FLORIDA VOLUNTEERS	8,636	2020: 306	2017: 355
SINCE 1961		2019: 341	2016: 313
2023 FLORIDA VOLUNTEERS	103	2018: 311	1966: 223

5 Things to Know about the Peace Corps Community in Florida

In 2023, Florida ranked 3rd in the nation in sending Peace Corps Volunteers overseas. Over the past decade, Florida ranked among the top ten states in sending volunteers abroad, often ranking in the top five.

Among large colleges and universities, the University of Florida ranked 2nd in 2019/2020 in sending Peace Corps Volunteers overseas, while the Universities of Central Florida and South Florida ranked 24th and 25th. Among small colleges and universities, Eckerd College ranked 3rd in sending volunteers overseas.

Florida is home to five National Peace Corps Association affiliate groups, located in Jacksonville, Miami, Sarasota, Tallahassee, and Tampa Bay.

In 2023, the Jacksonville area "First Coast Returned Peace Corps Volunteers raised more than \$8,000 to support a variety of local and overseas projects, including donations to Hubbard House, which provides services for local victims of domestic violence, and support for local ESOL programs. The group also funded overseas projects in Fiji, Zambia, and Burma.

In early 2024, Gene McAvoy of LaBelle was inducted into the Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame. McAvoy, who spent 25 years as a horticulture agent with the Hendry County Agricultural Extension Office, began his career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger, working with local farmers on improving agricultural techniques.

^{*}Based on data from Peace Corps, National Peace Corps Association, and other news sources.