

The Peace Corps Community in Washington

Washington Peace Corps Volunteers Through the Years

WASHINGTON
VOLUNTEERS
SINCE 1961

10,013

2020: 241

2017: 300

2019: 271

2016: 317

2023
WASHINGTON
VOLUNTEERS

64

2018: 285

1966: 381

5 Things to Know about the Peace Corps Community in Washington

1

In 2023, Washington ranked eleventh in the nation, in sending volunteers overseas. In 2020, Washington ranked 9th in the nation in sending volunteers on a per capita basis. In 2020, the Portland-Vancouver region ranked 7th nationally in sending volunteers abroad, while the Bellingham region ranked 5th on a per capita basis.

2

Among large colleges and universities, the University of Washington was tied for 10th in 2019/2020 in sending Peace Corps Volunteers overseas, while Western Washington University ranked 19th. Among medium colleges and universities, Gonzaga University ranked 9th in sending volunteers overseas.

3

Washington is home to two National Peace Corps Association affiliate groups, the Seattle Area Peace Corps Association (SEAPAX) and the Spokane based Inland-Northwest Peace Corps Association (INPCA).

4

2023 SEAPAX activities included volunteering with World Relief community gardens to provide refugees with nutritious locally grown food.

5

From October 2020 through December 2022, fourteen Returned Peace Corps Volunteers assisted Seattle and King County Public Health in supporting COVID-19 response efforts; fielding an average of 145 calls per day and providing bilingual services. King County extended the program five times due to its success.

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