

**Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership
Economic Impact Survey Summary Report
(July – September 2008)**



Has your organization's revenue changed during the last quarter (July 1-September 30, 2008) compared to the same period last year?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Revenue increased more than 10%	8.6%	9
Revenue increased slightly 0-9%	10.5%	11
Revenue remained level	22.9%	24
Revenue decreased slightly, 0-9%	28.6%	30
Revenue decreased more than 10%	29.5%	31
	answered question	105
	skipped question	4

What specific changes in funding did you experience during this three month period? (Choose all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Increase in donation by individuals	12.2%	12
Decrease in donations by individuals	45.9%	45
Increase in state and local government funding	1.0%	1
Delay in receiving committed state grants due to the delay in the approval of California State Budget	11.2%	11
Decrease in state and local government funding	13.3%	13
Increase in federal government funding	1.0%	1
Decrease in federal government funding	3.1%	3
Increase in corporate and foundation giving	4.1%	4
Decrease in corporate and foundation giving	35.7%	35
Increase in fees and other earned income	11.2%	11
Decrease in fees and other earned income	11.20%	11
Other (please specify) <i>Sample of responses on Page 4</i>	29.6%	29
	answered question	98
	skipped question	11

*Note: This question did not include the answer choice "Decrease in fees and other earned income" when the survey was originally sent out. While it was quickly added, we do not know if this number would have been higher had that been a choice for everyone. A few respondents wrote "decrease in fees and earned income" in the "other" section and we have taken those into account in this report.

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Which of the following changes have you and your organization's governing board already made (in last 6 months) or are you considering making? Check all that apply		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Reduce staff hours	34.3%	36
Dedicate more staff time to fundraising	39.0%	41
Increase board's fundraising activities	51.4%	54
Eliminate programs	16.2%	17
Reduce services	18.1%	19
Increase services in response to increased demand	15.2%	16
Reduce non-personnel expenses	32.4%	34
Tap lines of credit	10.5%	11
Use reserve to cover current budget	31.4%	33
Review or reallocate our financial assets and investments	18.1%	19
Look for new streams of revenue	62.9%	66
Delay planned initiatives	21.9%	23
Planning no actions, our revenue looks good	7.6%	8
Merger or close	5.7%	6
Other (please specify) <i>Score of responses on Page 4</i>	14.3%	15
	answered question	105
	skipped question	4

During the last six months, has your organization experienced an increase in demand for services that you would attribute to the economic downturn?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, we have experienced a significant increase in demand	28.6%	30
Yes, we have seen a small increase in demand	16.2%	17
No, demand has remained unchanged	50.5%	53
No, demand for our services has declined	4.8%	5
	answered question	105
	skipped question	4

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If you have experienced an increase in demand, has your organization been able to meet the demand?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	45.3%	24
No	54.7%	29
	answered question	53
	skipped question	56

Describe your feeling or forecast about the overall prospects for your organization next year (2009).		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Very optimistic	7.7%	8
Optimistic	57.7%	60
Pessimistic	26.0%	27
Very pessimistic	8.7%	9
	answered question	104
	skipped question	5

Categorize your organization's primary area of service (select one)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Arts, Culture, and Humanities	16.2%	17
Education	13.3%	14
Environment and animals	6.7%	7
Foundations, Supporting Organizations, Giving Programs	4.8%	5
Health	11.4%	12
Human services	22.9%	24
International	0.0%	0
Mutual/membership benefit	0.0%	0
Public and Societal Benefit	5.7%	6
Religion	4.8%	5
Other (please specify) *See page 4 for sample of	14.3%	15
	answered question	105
	skipped question	4

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**What specific changes in funding did you experience during this three month period?
(July – September, 2008)**

**Representative selection of comments*

- Asked by an organization that funds us (TMU) not to apply because funding was down
- We still don't know amount of State funding (if any), for 2007-08, although FY started July 1.
- Had to close our Thrift Store due to problems with the building which need major renovation.
- 30% decrease in corporate sponsorship of annual fundraiser.
- Decrease in individuals wishing to sign themselves up to fundraise as volunteers--people seemed to have less time for nonprofits both mentally and materially. Clearly, most folks were worried about their own finances.

Which of the following changes have you and your organization's governing board already made (in last 6 months) or are you considering making?

**Representative selection of comments*

- Staff schedules have been reworked to reduce overtime. This has offset other unavoidable increases in other expense areas. Capital improvements have been suspended until the outcome of the State budget crisis is known. An approved proposed retirement plan for employees is now on hold.
- Added two new board members with experience to spearhead development and fundraising.
- Eliminated our Executive Director position
- Reduced grant making.
- Forego planned projected increase in county tax-generated funding.
- Eliminated one staff position