



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) 2017 Annual Report



Based on reports submitted by ARRL Section Emergency Coordinators, with 62 out of 71 sections reporting in, here's what we know about the state of ARES in 2017.

Continuing a trend observed last year, the percentage of sections reporting ARES activity has increased. The challenge offered last year was to reach 88% reporting, we missed by just a bit, hitting the 87% mark in 2017. We received reports from several sections that did not report in the previous year – NM, OR, PR, RI, SD, VA, and WY. Unfortunately, there are still 9 sections with no reported ARES activity. Considering the importance given to the role radio amateurs play during emergencies, disasters, and routine community events, it is hard to imagine that there is no public service communications activity in these sections. However, if no reports are received, that is what we have to go by.



Hurricane Maria response - Valerie, NV9L, and Mike, K11U, at the San Juan JFO.

ARES Summary for 2017

Total ARES Membership – 31,332
Active in – 47 states and territories
Total ARES Events – 51673
Total Volunteer Hours – 718,930
Total Volunteer Value Provided -
\$17,354,958

There are a few interesting items we noticed with the numbers in 2017.

- There was a noticeable increase in reported activity during the months of August through November. During this period there was Amateur Radio response activity for hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria; wildfires in the western states, and the total solar eclipse that occurred on August 21.

- In 2017, 26 states showed gains in ARES membership, with an average gain of 112 members; 13 states showed losses in ARES membership, with an average loss of 101 members; 8 states reported for the first time in 2017. The average for gains and losses was 32 members.
- The method for calculating Volunteer Value Provided is: multiply the total Person Hours by the latest rate for value of volunteer time. The latest value of volunteer time, as determined by the non-profit leadership and research group Independent Sector, is \$24.14 per volunteer hour. This figure is a national average.
- In 2017, there were changes in the ARES report forms. These changes made it easier to process information at ARRL HQ and standardize the format for all forms. ARES Monthly Reports have also been posted to the ARRL website, providing regular information on Amateur Radio public service communications activity.
- Sections not reporting in a calendar year are considered to have no ARES program or an inactive ARES program. The following sections are non-reporting for 2017: Alaska, Montana, Northern New York, Orange, San Diego, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, and Western Massachusetts.

So what should we expect in 2018?

This year will be the last year for reporting using the ARES forms. Work has already begun on the build out of *ARES Connect*, a volunteer management, communications, and reporting system that will allow information to be logged by ARES members and managed through field organization. It does not change how ARES operates when serving a partner entity; it is simply a system that will make managing volunteers and events easier. Beta testing will begin in March 2018. Look for more information about implementation in mid 2018.



Hurricane Maria Response – Craig McVeay, NØCSM; Bobby Price, KB4ROR; and Andy Anderson, KEØAYJ



Hurricane Maria Response – Rob Macedo, KD1CY, checked in to the SATERN Net assisting with outbound traffic from Puerto Rico.

Comparing 2016 to 2017

	2016	2017
Total ARES Members	27,754	31,322 (12.8% increase)
Total ARES Nets	19,989	34,125 (70.7% increase)
ARES Nets with NTS Liaison	3,460 (18% of all nets)	7,825 (22% of all nets)
Total Drills, Training, and Test Events	27,541 (83% of all reported events)	42,832 (83% of all reported events)
Total Public Service Events	3,711 (11% of all reported events)	5,730 (11% of all reported events)
Total Emergency Operations Events	1,248 (4% of all reported events)	1,913 (4% of all reported events)
Other Events (this reporting category was changed to SKYWARN in 2017)	636 (2% of all reported events)	1,198 (2% of all reported events)
Total ARES Events	33,136	51,673
Total Volunteer Hours (VH)	418,275	718,930
Volunteer Value (VV) VV = \$24.14 x VH	\$7,947,225	\$17,354,958
Sections Reporting	54	62
Inactive Sections (sections that submitted no reports in a calendar year)	17 (AK, IL, NM, OR, ORG, PR, SB, SC, SD, SDG, SF, UT, VA, VT, WMA, WPA, WY)	9 (AK, MT, NNY, ORG, SC, SDG, UT, VT, WMA)

The ARES Top Five and 100% Reporting

By ARRL Section

Total ARES Members	Total ARES Events	Total Volunteer Value Provided
Ohio – 1,858	Ohio – 9,457	Michigan - \$2,178,490
Michigan – 1,698	Georgia – 8,488	Ohio - \$2,051,972
Georgia – 1,615	Michigan – 3,673	Georgia - \$1,731,996
South Texas – 1,566	Missouri – 3,141	South Texas - \$1,178,732
Missouri – 1,298	South Texas – 2,075	Missouri - \$782,304

By State

Total ARES Members	Total ARES Events	Total Volunteer Value Provided
California – 2,265	Ohio – 9,457	Michigan - \$2,178,490
Texas – 1,930	Georgia – 8,488	Ohio - \$2,051,972
Ohio – 1,858	Michigan – 3,673	Georgia - \$1,731,996
Michigan – 1,698	Missouri – 3,141	Texas - \$1,332,600
Georgia – 1,615	Pennsylvania – 2,765	Pennsylvania - \$1,066,215

Sections with 100% Reporting for 2017

Arizona, Delaware, East Bay, Eastern New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Los Angeles, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, New York City-Long Island, Ohio, Oregon, Pacific, South Texas, Sacramento Valley, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Western Pennsylvania, West Texas, West Virginia.

ARES 2017 – By State

State	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Alabama	391	16	229	\$5,528
Alaska	0	0	0	0
Arizona	1,033	688	24,592	\$593,650
Arkansas	150	82	685	\$16,535
California	2,265	1,009	34,740	\$838,623
Colorado	160	5	122	\$2,945
Connecticut	878	163	1,777	\$42,896
Delaware	195	97	2,635	\$63,608
Florida	1,540	769	25,402	\$613,204
Georgia	1,615	8,488	71,748	\$1,731,996
Hawaii	305	484	2,884	\$69,619
Idaho	593	173	3,277	\$79,106
Illinois	875	1,344	14,522	\$350,561
Indiana	723	1,326	10,438	\$251,973
Iowa	684	663	6,337	\$152,975
Kansas	143	6	90	\$2,172
Kentucky	486	1,790	12,608	\$304,357
Louisiana	335	898	10,308	\$248,835

ARES 2017 – By State

State	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Maine	151	281	3,877	\$93,590
Maryland	558	176	3,186	\$76,910
Massachusetts	671	179	5,386	\$130,018
Michigan	1,698	3,673	90,244	\$2,178,490
Minnesota	636	1,831	18,210	\$439,589
Mississippi	341	897	7,220	\$174,290
Missouri	1,298	3,141	32,407	\$782,304
Montana	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	125	172	2,343	\$56,560
Nevada	301	739	9,319	\$224,960
New Hampshire	55	1	3	\$72
New Jersey	374	279	1,823	\$44,007
New Mexico	217	102	7,073	\$170,742
New York	1,101	604	7,740	\$186,843
North Carolina	964	1,948	27,714	\$669,015
North Dakota	222	109	1,022	\$24,671
Ohio	1,858	9,457	85,003	\$2,051,972

ARES 2017 – By State

State	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Oklahoma	735	1	48	\$1,158
Oregon	641	479	20,188	\$487,338
Pennsylvania	1,414	2,765	44,168	\$1,066,215
Puerto Rico	42	55	123	\$2,957
Rhode Island	37	19	502	\$12,118
South Carolina	0	0	0	0
South Dakota	64	27	747	\$18,032
Tennessee	829	1,306	18,179	\$438,841
Texas	1,930	2,605	55,203	\$1,332,600
Utah	0	0	0	0
Vermont	0	0	0	0
Virginia	362	244	3,055	\$73,747
Washington	1,223	1,129	34,869	\$841,737
West Virginia	445	733	6,665	\$160,893
Wisconsin	491	639	7,731	\$186,626
Wyoming	158	50	1,231	\$29,716
US Virgin Islands	20	31	1,257	\$30,343

ARES 2017 – By FEMA Region

FEMA Region	Total ARES Members	Total ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Region 1 – ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI	1,792	643	11,545	\$278,696
Region 2 – NY, NJ, VI, PR	1,537	969	10,943	\$264,152
Region 3 – PA, DE, MD, DC, VA, WV	2,974	4,015	59,709	\$1,441,375
Region 4 – KY, TN, MS, AL, GA, SC, NC, FL	6,166	15,214	163,100	\$3,937,234
Region 5 – MN, WI, OH, IN, IL, MI	6,281	18,270	226,148	\$5,459,213
Region 6 – NM, TX, OK, AR, LA	3,367	3,688	73,317	\$1,769,872
Region 7 – NE, KS, IA, MO	2,250	3,982	41,177	\$994,013
Region 8 – ND, SD, MT, WY, CO, UT	604	191	3,122	\$75,365
Region 9 – CA, NV, AZ, PAC	3,904	2,920	71,535	\$1,726,855
Region 10 – WA, AK, OR, ID	2,457	1,781	58,334	\$1,408,183
Totals	31,332	51,673	718,930	\$17,354,958

ARES 2017 by ARRL Section

ARRL Section	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Alabama	391	16	229	\$5,528
Alaska	0	0	0	0
Arizona	1,033	688	24,592	\$593,650
Arkansas	150	82	685	\$16,535
Colorado	160	5	122	\$2,945
Connecticut	878	163	1,777	\$42,896
Delaware	195	97	2,635	\$63,608
East Bay	134	0	0	0
Eastern Massachusetts	671	179	5,386	\$130,018
Eastern New York	632	260	3,002	\$72,468
Eastern Pennsylvania	867	1,992	28,501	\$688,014
Eastern Washington	407	311	3,791	\$91,514
Georgia	1,615	8,488	71,748	\$1,731,996
Idaho	593	173	3,277	\$79,106
Illinois	875	1,344	14,522	\$350,561
Indiana	723	1,326	10,438	\$251,973
Iowa	684	663	6,337	\$152,975

ARES 2017 by ARRL Section

ARRL Section	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Kansas	143	6	90	\$2,172
Kentucky	486	1,790	12,608	\$304,357
Louisiana	335	898	10,308	\$248,835
Los Angeles	734	128	8,538	\$206,131
Maine	151	281	3,877	\$93,590
Maryland – DC	558	176	3,186	\$76,910
Michigan	1,698	3,673	90244	\$2,178,490
Minnesota	636	1,831	18,210	\$439,589
Mississippi	341	897	7,220	\$174,290
Missouri	1,298	3,141	32,407	\$782,304
Montana	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	125	172	2,343	\$56,560
Nevada	301	739	9,319	\$224,960
New Hampshire	55	1	3	\$72
New York – Long Island	294	321	4,087	\$98,660
New Mexico	217	102	7,073	\$170,742
North Carolina	964	1,948	27,714	\$669,015

ARES 2017 by ARRL Section

ARRL Section	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
Ohio	1,858	9,457	85,003	\$2,051,972
Oklahoma	735	1	48	\$1,158
Orange	0	0	0	0
Oregon	641	479	20,188	\$487,338
Pacific	305	484	2,884	\$69,619
Puerto Rico	42	55	123	\$2,957
Rhode Island	37	19	502	\$12,118
San Diego	0	0	0	0
San Francisco	0	5	75	\$1,810
San Joaquin Valley	67	35	409	\$9,873
Santa Barbara	119	1	150	\$3,621
Santa Clara Valley	824	82	1,671	\$40,337
South Carolina	0	0	0	0
South Dakota	64	27	747	\$18,032
Southern Florida	598	200	9,306	\$224,646
Southern New Jersey	272	255	1,708	\$41,231

ARES 2017 by ARRL Section

ARRL Section	ARES Members	ARES Events	Total ARES Person Hours	Total ARES Volunteer Value
South Texas	1,566	2,075	48,829	\$1,178,732
Tennessee	829	1,306	18,179	\$438,841
Utah	0	0	0	0
Vermont	0	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	20	31	1,257	\$30,343
Virginia	362	244	3,055	\$73,747
West Central Florida	313	158	9,031	\$218,008
West Texas	174	456	5,302	\$127,990
West Virginia	445	733	6,665	\$160,893
Western Massachusetts	0	0	0	0
Western New York	175	23	651	\$15,715
Western Pennsylvania	547	773	15,667	\$378,201
Western Washington	816	818	31,078	\$750,222
Wisconsin	491	639	7,731	\$186,626
Wyoming	158	50	1,231	\$29,716