Highlights of the Foundation Center’s

FOUNDATION REPORTING

The overall number of foundations issuing publications designed to inform the public about their giving activities increased modestly in 2003, although there was a small decrease in reporting among the very largest foundations. At the same time, surveyed foundations showed rapid growth in the number and share providing information via the Internet.

Foundation Reporting, 2003 Edition, provides the most comprehensive information available on the number of U.S. grantmaking foundations issuing annual reports and other print publications or maintaining Web sites. This report serves as an ideal starting point for understanding differences in public reporting patterns based on foundation size, period of establishment, regional location, and type. Foundation Reporting is part of the Foundations Today Series of annual research reports on foundation growth and trends in foundation giving.

Findings presented in Foundation Reporting are based on information from the Foundation Center’s annual surveys of the top 20,000 private and community foundations by giving, all other corporate and community foundations, and larger newly established foundations. Information on foundation reporting also reflects actual foundation publications and Web information that have been provided directly to the Foundation Center.

To maintain consistency with historical Foundation Center data on public reporting, this analysis limits its scope to those 20,716 foundations in the 2003 survey with at least $100,000 in giving or holding assets of $1 million or more. Of this sample, 3,279 foundations indicated that they issued publications in 2003. These reporting foundations represented only a small share (5.3 percent) of the nation’s nearly 62,000 active grantmakers but accounted for three-fifths (60.6 percent or $288.9 billion) of total foundation assets and over half (55.4 percent or $16.9 billion) of overall foundation giving in 2001—the latest year for which fiscal data are available.

Overview of Foundation Reporting

- 3,279 foundations issued publications in 2003, up slightly from 3,258 in 2002
- Number of foundations issuing publications increased by more than one-third since 1993
- Since mid-1990s, growth in foundation reporting via publications has fallen behind boom in number of foundations
- Reporting foundations accounted for fewer than one-in-six surveyed grantmakers
- Over 1,500 foundations published annual reports, up slightly from 2002
- Surveyed foundations maintaining Web sites increased a robust 23 percent to 1,566 foundations in 2003

Foundation Reporting by Asset Range

- Larger foundations were more likely to issue publications, including annual reports
- Seven out of ten foundations with assets of $100 million+ issued publications

Number of surveyed foundations issuing publications in 2003 was more than one-third higher than in 1993*

Source: The Foundation Center, Foundation Reporting, 2003. Figures based on annual Foundation Center surveys or public reporting of foundations with at least $1 million in assets or making grants of $100,000 or more.
*Figures include foundations that issue annual reports.

For more information on this report, contact Josie Atienza, Research Analyst/Coordinator of the Foundations Today Series, at 212-620-4230, or e-mail, jsa@fdncenter.org. Foundation Reporting “Highlights” are also available at www.fdncenter.org.
• Fewer than one-in-twelve foundations with under $5 million in assets issued publications
• Among the largest foundations, the number issuing publications and annual reports declined
• Larger foundations were more likely to maintain Web sites
• Number of smaller foundations with Web sites increased by over two-fifths

Foundation Reporting by Region
• Midwestern and Western foundations were most likely to issue publications
• Midwest held highest number of foundations issuing publications
• Midwest showed largest proportion of foundations issuing annual reports
• West reported highest share of foundations with Web sites

Foundation Reporting by Foundation Type
• Community foundations were most likely to issue publications, followed by corporate foundations
• Over eight out of ten community foundations issued publications
• Independent foundations accounted for nearly seven out of ten foundations issuing publications
• Community foundations reported highest share with Web sites

Midwestern and Western foundations were most likely to issue publications in 2003*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percent Issuing Publications</th>
<th>Percent Issuing Annual Reports</th>
<th>Percent Maintaining Web Sites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
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</tbody>
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Source: The Foundation Center, Foundation Reporting, 2003. Figures based on Foundation Center survey or public reporting of 20,716 foundations with assets of at least $1 million in assets or making grants of $100,000 or more.

Over eight out of ten surveyed community foundations issued publications in 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percent Issuing Publications</th>
<th>Percent Issuing Annual Reports</th>
<th>Percent Maintaining Web Sites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Foundation Center, Foundation Reporting, 2003. Figures based on Foundation Center survey or public reporting of 20,716 foundations with assets of at least $1 million in assets or making grants of $100,000 or more.

ORDERING INFORMATION

The Foundations Today Series, 2003 Edition, includes five reports available exclusively through annual subscriptions. The series may be ordered by calling our toll-free number, 800-424-9836; by using our on-line order form at www.fdncenter.org/marketplace; or by mailing orders to the Foundation Center, Dept. FB, 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003-3076. Prepayment of $95.00 is required. Discounts are available for multiple-subscription orders. Please call 800-424-9836 for details.