

# Veries

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What I will try to prove with this column is that certain areas in the United States and Canada are better than others as far as percentage of "returns" of reception reports. While it is true that you will get more replies from distant reports than reports to nearby stations, some areas, despite distance, will reply more often than others. Here are some comments;

William L. Cowles, "I feel that certain areas are better than others. For instance Canada has always been good to me. I feel that any report I send to Canada has a very good chance of getting some sort of reply. Also I feel that a report sent to a distant state has a good chance for a reply. For example, almost all W stations reported from here in Arizona have gotten replies even though many people in the east have not been able to verify some of them. Arizona is very good with only one hold-out, KVIO-Cottonwood. On the other hand when I lived in Kentucky, Kentucky was my worst state. Other states I consider good are Texas, Colorado, and Utah. California has an overall good total but most had to be gotten with follow up letters or many reports."

Mike Hardester, "...in the United States, I seriously doubt that any specific area replies less than any other area with one exception, the area immediately surrounding the DXers QTH. I find that I send more few reports to California stations than any other state. Almost 30% of my logs & rpts to CA stations require a follow-up. Sure, I send f-up reports to other stations, but only rarely. Regardless of the size of the station or their location, I believe that the type of report sent is the key to how or when you receive a reply. In California, my reports are nothing special. So I heard a Los Angeles station from Modesto, big deal; however, if I heard the same station from say New York, then it's an oddity and the reply may be immediate."

Carl Dabelstein, "I feel that the geographical location of Radio Stations in the United States and Canada has no bearing on the chances of verification returns. It is my firm belief that there is no such thing as a non-verifier. Due to the personnel turnover at radio stations sooner or later you will come across someone who will verify your report. As long as you have a detailed, courteous well-worded report, and send enough follow-ups, you'll eventually get your veries."

George W. Jensen, "I generally have an 8% return rate, and in the cases of non-returns they were usually due to sketchy reports that I do not really anticipate a response to. I have had veries that others have not gotten varied. I trace this to the type of report and possibly the current management of the particular station. North Carolina seems to be one of my worst offenders here, with about 36 stations varied, but about 15 non-varied. These are only approximations, but close approximations of the actual figures."

Bruce Portzer, "My results are a bit different from what you predicted, the midwest does come out pretty well but can be overshadowed by the west depending how you draw the boundaries. And my bottom region, no matter how it's sliced, seemed to be the northeast rather than the south. Canada is definitely way on top with almost 88%, compared to about 78.5% for the U.S. I suspect it's because Canadians on the whole have larger stations with larger staffs."

Dave Schmidt, "As for your question regarding areas for returns, that would be a hard one for me to answer as I don't keep a record of it, and I don't have the time right now to go digging thru about 600 veries, hi! I can say that I have had trouble with Tennessee this year, as with Kentucky. Right now, I'm 10/3 for both these states for the past season only! The states I've always had the best luck with are Pa., N.Y., Mich., many of the midwesterners (except KPFA-Marked Tree, Ark. hi!) and I've always had a good 100% return from the west coast. The only state in the east that I've had 100% return from is Delaware, all 10 aa stations."

Thomas H. White, "Have you thought about breaking up the stations by power? I notice that my MD and VA percentages are low, because most of the stations are regionals or locals. My TX, TX and L. percentages are high because I've only heard the 50 kWers long enough for a rpt. And 50 kWers have always been known to be better verifiers."

George Bertozz - Oak Lawn, Illinois  
William L. Cowles - Tucson, Arizona  
Carl Dabelstein - Lincoln, Nebraska  
Derek J. Ford - Vancouver, British Columbia

George W. Jensen - Baltimore, Maryland  
Charley Keleher - Fort Wayne, Indiana  
David Peterson - Winnetka, Illinois  
Bruce Portzer - Seattle, Washington  
Dave Schmidt - New Castle, Delaware

AS FOR MYSELF, THE MIDWEST, PLAINS STATES, AND CANADIAN PROVINCES (WITHOUT ON AND PC) HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE BEST, WITH THE WEST COAST GOOD ALSO. THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST RANK LOWEST, WITH THE EAST PRETTY MUCH IN THE MIDDLE. AS FOR ILLINOIS, I'VE HAD TROUBLE WITH MANY OF THE CHICAGO AREA STATIONS BECAUSE OF THEIR CLOSENESS, BUT DOWNSTATE HAS BEEN FAIRLY GOOD. TRUE, IF YOU SEND ENOUGH FOLLOW UPS YOU WILL EVENTUALLY GET A VERIE DESPITE THE AREA, BUT THE TOTALS SHOULD BE BASED ON ONE REPORT WITH AN OCCASIONAL FOLLOW-UP.

Let's get down to the totals themselves, States and Provinces are ranked by return percentage of reports and verifications, which are also listed. Initials and totals indicate the top reporters for each area; WLC-William L. Cowles, CWD-Carl Dabelstein, GB-George Bertozz, DJF-Derek J. Ford, JCK-Charley Keleher, LP-David Peterson, BF-Bruce Portzer, THW-Thomas H. White, and KDF-Karl Forth.....

1 Saskatchewan	37/37	100%	BP-12/12	CWD-11/11	KDF-6/6
2 Iowa	172/169	98.2	CWD-71/71	KDF-27/25	BP-23/23
3 South Dakota	52/51	98.0	CWD-31/31	KDF-9/9	GB-4/4
4 Arizona	91/86	94.5	WLC-47/46	CWD-28/28	
5 Nebraska	114/107	93.8	CWD-58/58	KDF-13/13	WLC-11/11
6 Manitoba	31/39	93.5	CWD-10/9	KDF-7/7	BP-6/5
7 Colorado	119/107	89.9	CWD-53/51	WLC-34/31	BP-8/8
8 Utah	57/51	89.4	WLC-18/17	CWD-16/16	
9 Wisconsin	165/147	89.0	CWD-50/49	BP-34/39	GB-30/23
10 British Col.	90/80	88.8	BP-40/35	DJF-33/28	CWD-12/12
11 Pennsylvania	114/121	88.5	CWD-25/24	BP-22/14	
12 Minnesota	105/93	88.5	CWD-58/53	GB-13/11	
13 Ohio	185/163	88.1	CWD-43/41	KDF-35/32	BP-32/27
14 New Mexico	93/82	88.1	CWD-40/38	WLC-39/33	
15 Indiana	142/125	88.0	CWD-32/20	KDF-31/29	BP-31/23
16 California	306/269	87.9	WLC-113/104	BP-83/71	DJF-47/35
17 Nevada	32/28	87.5	WLC-11/10	BP-8/7	DJF-7/4
18 Louisiana	110/96	87.2	CWD-42/41	KDF-21/18	GB-19/13
19 Missouri	194/169	87.1	CWD-90/89	KDF-34/28	GB-23/15
20 Wyoming	39/34	87.1	CWD-18/17	BP-9/6	
21 Florida	62/54	87.0	CWD-22/19	KDF-15/15	GB-13/12
22 Ontario	152/132	86.8	CWD-35/27	KDF-30/28	GB-25/23
23 Kentucky	91/79	86.8	CWD-40/38	GB-20/15	
24 Illinois	302/260	86.0	KDF-75/69	CWD-71/66	GB-71/57
25 Montana	63/54	85.7	CWD-27/26	BP-19/13	DJF-10/9
26 Alberta	49/42	85.7	DJF-14/10	BP-14/12	CWD-13/13
27 Texas	336/287	85.4	CWD-142/133	WLC-76/71	
28 Tennessee	140/119	85.0	CWD-53/45	KDF-32/28	
29 New York	120/102	85.0	KDF-21/17	CWD-18/18	BP-15/13
30 Kansas	113/95	84.0	CWD-60/56	WLC-14/11	
31 Virginia	84/70	83.3	CWD-20/17	THW-20/14	KDF-14/14
32 North Dakota	68/56	82.3	CWD-25/24	GB-8/5	
33 Oklahoma	105/86	81.9	CWD-39/37	KDF-17/13	WLC-15/14
34 Washington	155/124	80.9	BP-78/62	DJF-54/40	
35 Oregon	118/95	80.5	BP-62/47	DJF-36/30	
36 Arkansas	105/84	80.0	CWD-50/43	KDF-24/20	GB-13/7
37 Idaho	59/47	79.6	BP-25/16	CWD-15/15	DJF-11/8
38 Michigan	175/139	79.4	CWD-48/39	BP-44/31	KDF-32/30
39 Georgia	84/66	78.5	CWD-32/27	KDF-20/15	BP-10/6
40 Alabama	109/85	77.9	CWD-42/36	KDF-25/20	GB-17/13
41 Mississippi	96/73	76.0	CWD-34/30	KDF-24/19	GB-17/11
42 South Carolina	31/23	74.1	CWD-13/12	KDF-7/4	
43 Quebec	30/22	73.3	KDF-10/7	CWD-7/6	GB-7/5
44 N. Carolina	51/36	70.5	CWD-16/15	KDF-11/7	BP-10/6
45 Maryland	54/37	68.5	THW-34/21	CWD-6/6	
46 W. Virginia	54/36	66.6	KDF-18/11	BP-12/7	

That's it. It generally follows a pattern with the west, midwest, and Canada on top, the east spread through the middle, and the deep south at the bottom, with several exceptions, of course. Now, the states/provinces with totals too low to be included on the "master" list:

New Brunswick	4/4	100%	CWD	KDF	BP	THW	1/1
Delaware	4/4	100	CWD	GB	KDF	BP	THW 1/1
Maine	3/3	100	CWD	2/2	GB	1/1	
Rhode Island	3/3	100	KDF	2/2	THW	1/1	
Vermont	3/3	100	KDF	2/2	BP	1/1	
Yukon	1/1	100	BP	1/1	(expected more, hi)		
Nova Scotia	1/1	100	KDF	1/1			
Massachusetts	16/15	93.7	GB	4/4	KDF	4/4	
Connecticut	14/13	92.8	KDF	5/4	THW	3/3	
New Jersey	7/5	71.4	JCK	2/2	GB	2/1	
New Hampshire	3/2	66.6	KDF	2/2	GB	1/0	

So what does all that prove? Well, if you send a good report to Saskatoon, Des Moines or Sioux Falls it has a better chance of being answered than if it goes to Winston-Salem, Baltimore, or Charleston. Of course, as mentioned earlier, there are variables which can upset this scale. I would now like to thank the following IRCA members who made this column possible: