

Volunteering in Newfoundland and Labrador

How many? How much?

Thirty-one percent of Newfoundland and Labrador residents (138,000 people) volunteered through a charitable or nonprofit organization, according to the 2000 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating.¹ This is a decrease from 33% in 1997.

However, volunteers in Newfoundland and Labrador contributed more time, on average, in 2000, giving 206 hours of their time, an increase of 50% from the 1997 average of 137 hours. This was the largest such increase in Canada.

In total, residents of Newfoundland and Labrador volunteered 28.6 million hours in 2000, or the equivalent of almost 15,000 full-time jobs. This is a significant increase since 1997, when they volunteered 20.5 million hours.

Much comes from the few

Almost half (48%*) of all volunteer hours in Newfoundland and Labrador were contributed by the 10% of volunteers who gave 544 hours or more of their time. Another 25%* of volunteer hours were contributed by the 15% of volunteers who gave between 243 and 543 hours during the year.

Combined, these two groups accounted for 25% of volunteers, but 73% of all volunteer hours.

What volunteers do

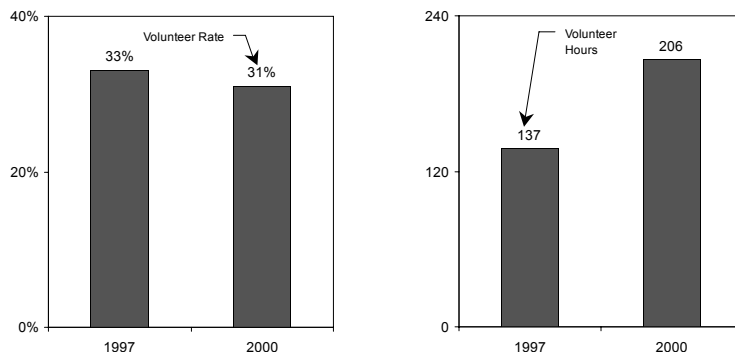
While Newfoundland and Labrador's volunteers engaged in a wide range of voluntary activities, the most common were canvassing, campaigning, or fundraising (60% of volunteers), helping to organize activities (59%), serving as a member of a board or committee (46%), and collecting, serving, or delivering food or goods (36%).

Canvassing, campaigning, or fundraising and collecting, serving, or delivering food or goods were significantly more common activities in Newfoundland and Labrador than they were in any other province.

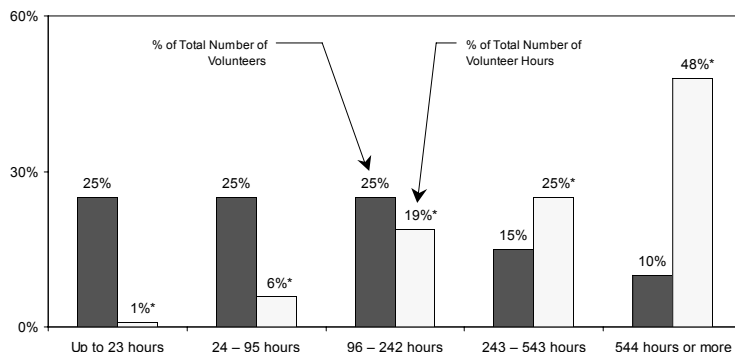
¹ NSGVP estimates are based on reports of charitable giving and volunteering over a one-year period by Canadians aged 15 and older.

* Sample size limitations affect the reliability of this estimate.

Percentage of Population Volunteering and Average Annual Volunteer Hours

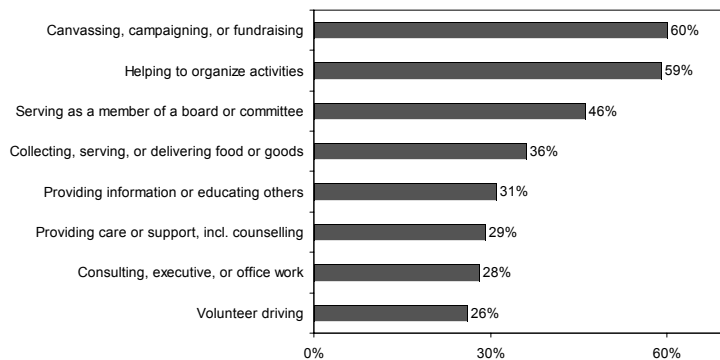


Percentage of Volunteers and Percentage of Total Volunteer Hours by Annual Hours Volunteered



Note. Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding

Percentage of Volunteers Engaging in Each Type of Volunteer Activity



Where they volunteer

Although volunteers contributed time to many types of organizations, most volunteering occurred in organizations devoted to:

- Social Services (28% of volunteer events² and 39% of volunteer hours),
- Arts, Culture, and Recreation (19%* of events and 20%* of hours),
- Health (15%* events and 5%* hours),
- Religion (12%* and 13%*), and
- Education and Research (12%* and 11%*).

Volunteers in Newfoundland and Labrador devoted more of their support (both in terms of volunteer events and hours volunteered) to organizations devoted to Social Services organizations than did volunteers in any other province.

How volunteers get involved

In Newfoundland and Labrador, as in the rest of the country, by far the most common way to become a volunteer was to be asked by someone in the organization (34%). Less than half as many people became volunteers by approaching the organization on their own (15%*). Just over one in ten volunteered because they were members of the organization (13%*), or as a result of having a child or spouse involved (12%*). Only 9%* of volunteers got involved because they were asked by a friend or relative outside the organization.

How long volunteers have been involved

Compared to the rest of the country, more volunteers in Newfoundland and Labrador volunteered for the same organization for three to nine years. Cumulatively, 42% of Newfoundland and Labrador volunteers had been involved with the same organization for three to nine years, compared to only 37% of Canadian volunteers.

Volunteers in Newfoundland and Labrador were much less likely than those in other Atlantic provinces to have volunteered with an organization for 10 years or more.

² A "volunteer event" is defined as all voluntary activities for a particular organization, regardless of whether those activities took the form of a single episode of volunteering or multiple episodes of volunteering over time.

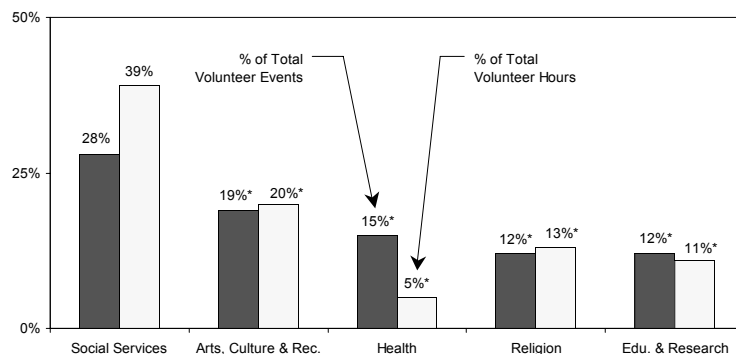
For more information on the 1997 and 2000 National Survey for Giving, Volunteering and Participating, including full text of the highlight report, *Caring Canadians, Involved Canadians*, please visit www.givingandvolunteering.ca.

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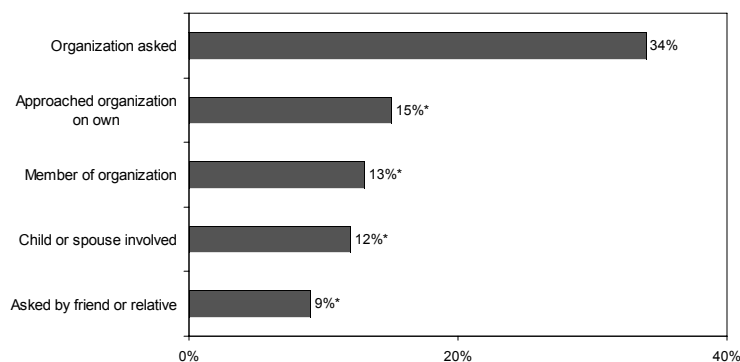
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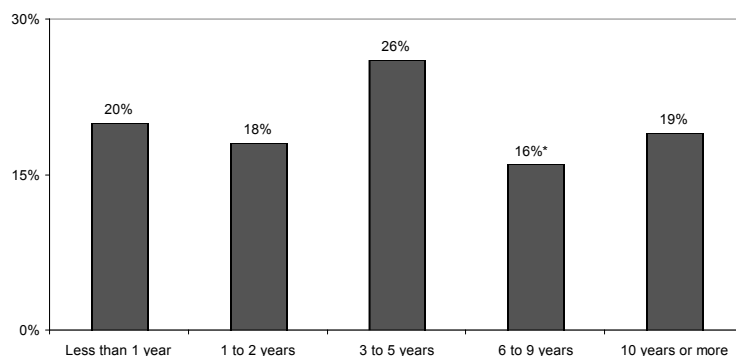
Percentage of Volunteer Events and Volunteer Hours by Type of Organization



Percentage of Volunteer Events by Method of Becoming Involved



Percentage of Volunteers by Length of Involvement



Note. Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding

