

Volunteering in Quebec

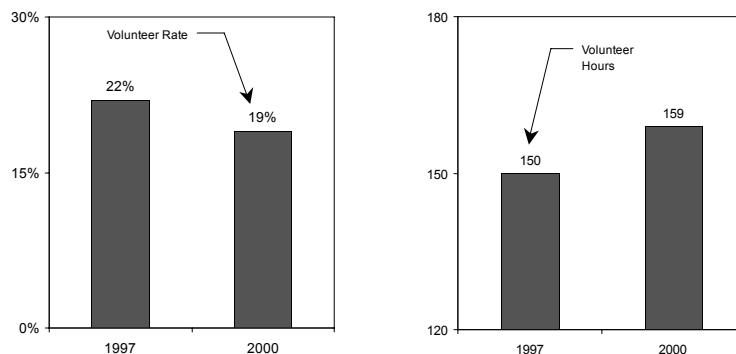
How many? How much?

Approximately one in five Quebec residents (19% or 1.1 million 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 22% in 1997.

However, volunteers in Quebec contributed more time, on average, in 2000, giving 159 hours of their time, an increase of 6% from the 1997 average of 150 hours.

In total, Quebecers volunteered 180.5 million hours in 2000, the equivalent of almost 94,000 full-time jobs. This is a substantial decline since 1997, when they volunteered 197 million hours.

Percentage of Population Volunteering and Average Annual Volunteer Hours

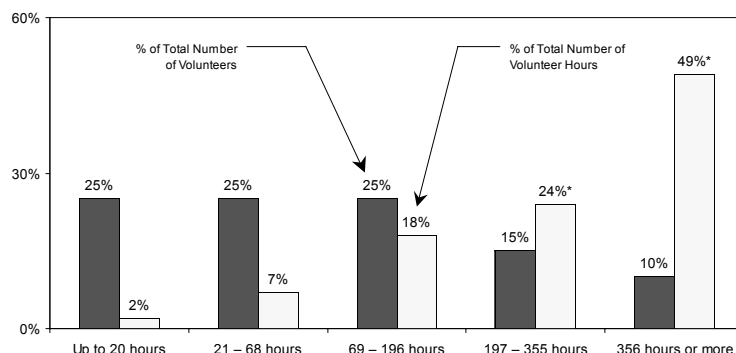


Much comes from the few

Almost half (49%*) of all volunteer hours in Quebec were contributed by the 10% of volunteers who gave 356 hours or more of their time. An additional 24%* of volunteer hours were contributed by the 15% of volunteers who gave between 197 and 355 hours during the year.

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

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

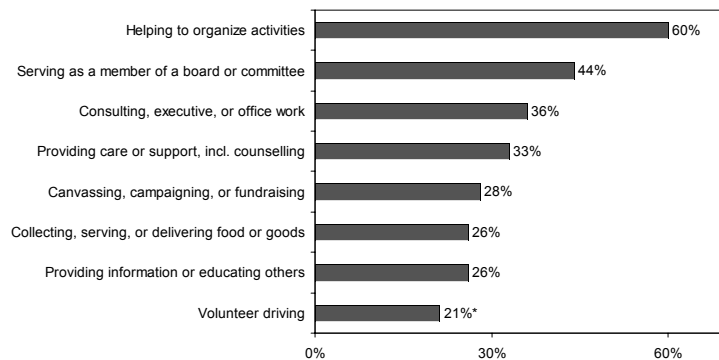


What volunteers do

While Quebec's volunteers engaged in a wide range of voluntary activities, the most common were helping to organize activities (60% of volunteers), serving as a board or committee member (44%), and performing consulting, executive, office, or administrative work (36%).

Consulting, executive, or office work was more common in Quebec than in the rest of Canada. Conversely, canvassing, campaigning, or fundraising was much less common in Quebec.

Percentage of Volunteers Engaging in Each Type of Volunteer Activity



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

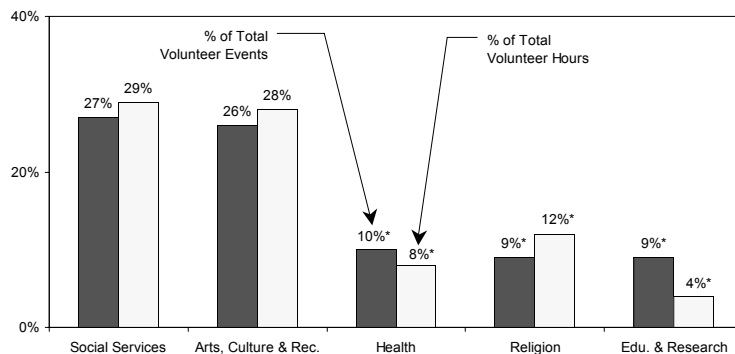
* Sample size limitations affect the reliability of this estimate.

Where they volunteer

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

- Social Services (27% of volunteer events² and 29% of volunteer hours),
- Arts, Culture, & Recreation (26% of events and 28% of hours),
- Health (10%* events and 8%* hours),
- Religion (9%* and 12%*), and
- Education and Research (9%* and 4%*).

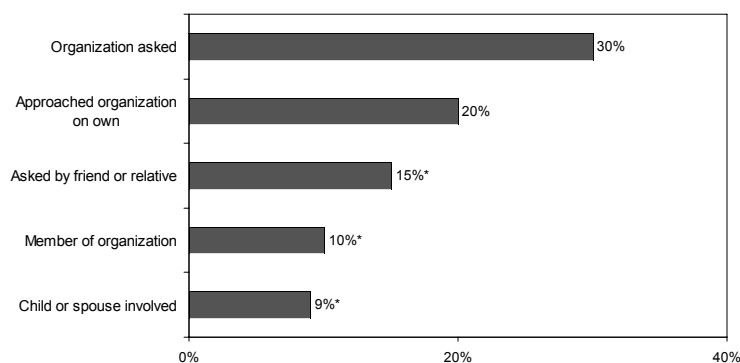
Percentage of Volunteer Events and Volunteer Hours by Type of Organization



How volunteers get involved

As in the rest of Canada, by far the most common way for Quebecers to become volunteers was to be asked by someone in the organization (30%). Two thirds as many volunteers became involved after approaching the organization on their own (20%). Half as many became involved because they were asked by a friend or relative outside the organization (15%*).

Percentage of Volunteer Events by Method of Becoming Involved

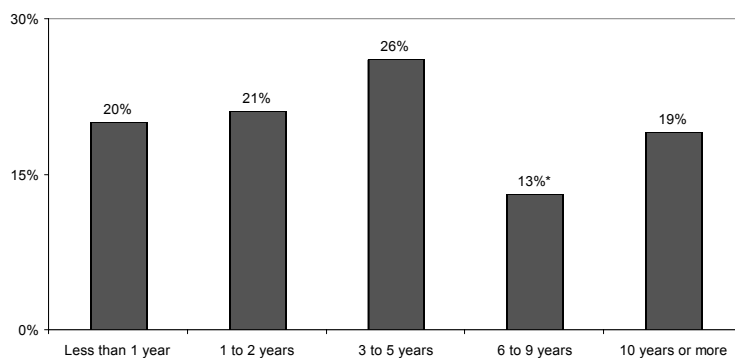


Volunteers in Quebec were less likely than volunteers in any other province to volunteer because they were members of the organization, but more likely to volunteer after being asked by a friend or relative outside the organization, or by approaching the organization on their own.

How long volunteers have been involved

Compared to Canada as a whole, Quebec volunteers are more likely to have been involved with the same organization for one to five years. Forty-eight percent³ of Quebec volunteers had been involved with the same organization for one to five years, compared to only 44% of Canadian volunteers. Quebec volunteers were less likely to have been involved for less than one year (20% of Quebec volunteers versus 23% of Canadian volunteers).

Percentage of Volunteers by Length of Involvement



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

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.

³ This figure does not agree with the sum calculated from the corresponding chart due to rounding of the components presented in the chart.

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.

We would like to acknowledge the support of our funder, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), for the production of this fact sheet.

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