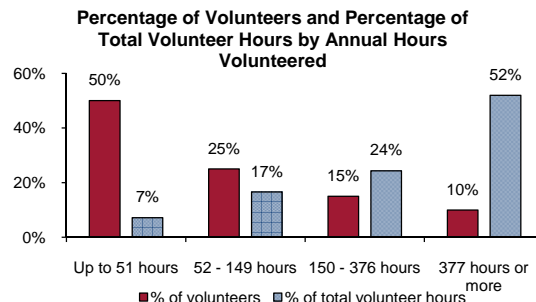


# Volunteering in QUEBEC

According to the Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP), 34% of Québec residents aged 15 and over (2.1 million people) volunteered in 2004. Each volunteer contributed an average of 146 hours, for a total of 309 million hours or the equivalent of approximately 160,500 full-time jobs.

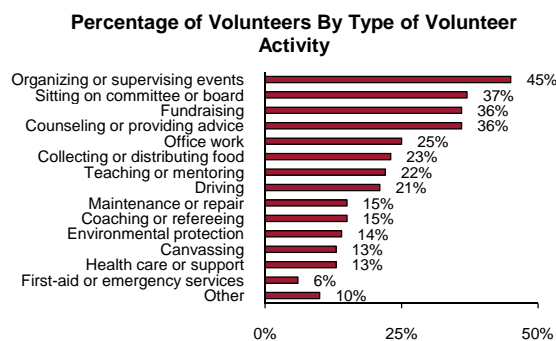
## Much comes from the few

Although many Quebecers volunteer, the majority of volunteer hours are contributed by a small minority. One in ten volunteers contributed 52% of all hours. These volunteers contributed 377 hours or more over the course of the year. Another 24% of volunteer hours came from the 15% of volunteers who volunteered between 150 and 376 hours. Together, this top 25% of volunteers (representing 8% of all Quebec residents) contributed 76% of total volunteer hours.



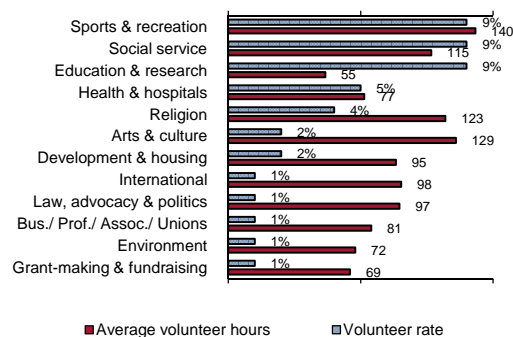
## What volunteers do

The most common activities performed by Quebec volunteers were organizing or supervising events (45% of volunteers did this), sitting on a committee or board (37%), engaging in fundraising (36%), and counseling or providing advice (36%).



Compared to the rest of Canada, Quebec volunteers were more likely to engage in counseling or providing advice (reported by 36% of volunteers in Quebec vs. 24% of volunteers in the rest of Canada). They were less likely to engage in fundraising (36% vs. 48%), teaching, educating, and mentoring (22% vs. 32%), providing health care or support (13% vs. 20%), coaching, refereeing, or officiating (15% vs. 20%), and maintenance or repair (15% vs. 19%).

Percentage of Population Volunteering and Average Annual Hours Volunteered By Type of Organization

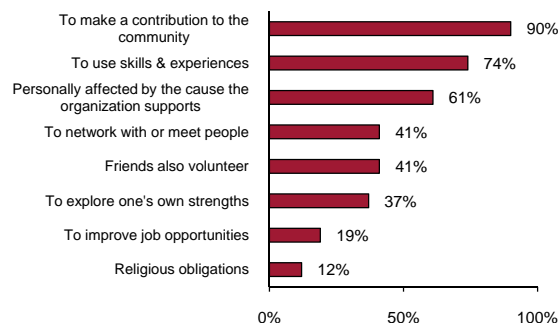


## Where they volunteer

Quebec residents were most likely to volunteer with Sports & Recreation, Social Service, and Education & Research organizations (9% volunteered in each). Smaller numbers of Quebecers volunteered with other organizations.

Volunteers tended to contribute the largest number of hours to Sports & Recreation organizations (140 on average), followed by Arts & Culture (129), Religious (123), and Social Service (115) organizations. They contributed fewer hours to organizations working in the areas of Environment (72), Grant-making, Fundraising & Voluntarism Promotion (69), and Education & Research (55).

Percentage of Volunteers Reporting Motivations for Volunteering



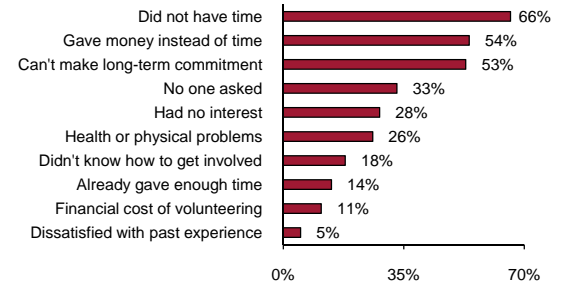
## The motivations of volunteers

Quebec volunteers were most likely to say they volunteered because they wanted to make a contribution to the community (90%), wanted to use their skills and experiences (74%), or had been personally affected by the cause the organization supports (61%). Comparatively few volunteered in order to improve their job opportunities (19%) or to fulfill religious beliefs or obligations (12%).

## Barriers to volunteering

Quebecers who did not volunteer were most likely to say they did not do so because they did not have the time (66%), donated money instead of volunteering (54%), or were unable to make a long-term commitment (53%). They were much less likely to report having contributed enough time already (14%), the costs of volunteering (11%), or dissatisfaction with previous volunteer experiences (5%) as reasons for not volunteering.

**Percentage of Non-Volunteers Reporting Barriers to Volunteering**



## Personal and economic characteristics of Quebec volunteers: age and education level<sup>1</sup>

The likelihood of volunteering in Quebec decreased with age, with the exception of those aged 25 to 34. This group was one of the least likely to volunteer (29%), second only to residents aged 65 and older (21%). Those aged 15 to 24 were most likely to volunteer (45%). Although they were the least likely to volunteer, volunteers aged 65 and older contributed the most hours (266 on average).

Quebecers with a university degree contributed a disproportionately large percentage of total volunteer hours, given their numbers (they made up 21% of the population but contributed 27% of total volunteer hours). By contrast, those who had graduated from or had not completed high school contributed disproportionately small percentages of volunteer hours.

In general, the likelihood of volunteering on Quebec increased with the level of education. Residents with a university degree were most likely to volunteer (48% volunteered) while those who had not completed high school were least likely to do so (27%).

**Percentage of Population Who Volunteer and Distribution of Volunteer Hours by Age and Education**

	% Volunteering	Average Volunteer Hours	% of Pop.	% Volunteer Hours
<b>Age</b>				
15 to 24	45%	104	15%	14%
25 to 34	29%	105	16%	10%
35 to 44	41%	108	19%	17%
45 to 54	35%	176	19%	24%
55 to 64	31%	190	14%	17%
65 and over	21%	266	15%	17%
<b>Education</b>				
Less than high school	27%	142	20%	14%
Graduated from high school	30%	123	14%	10% <sup>E</sup>
Some postsecondary	42%	124	8%	8% <sup>E</sup>
Postsecondary diploma	36%	153	38%	40%
University degree	48%	143	21%	27%

<sup>E</sup>Use with caution

<sup>1</sup> Volunteering tends to vary with the personal and economic characteristics of the individual. This fact sheet focuses on age and education, but many other characteristics are important. For more information, readers should refer to *Caring Canadians, Involved Canadians: Highlights from the 2004 Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating*, available at [http://www.givingandvolunteering.ca/pdf/CSGVP\\_Highlights\\_2004\\_en.pdf](http://www.givingandvolunteering.ca/pdf/CSGVP_Highlights_2004_en.pdf).

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