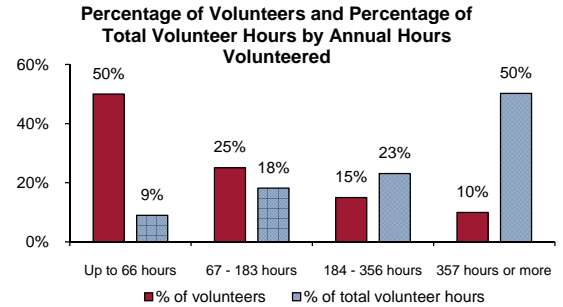


Volunteering in PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

According to the Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP), 47% of Prince Edward Island residents aged 15 and over (54,000 people) volunteered in 2004. Each volunteer contributed an average of 163 hours, for a total of 9 million hours or the equivalent of approximately 4,500 full-time jobs.

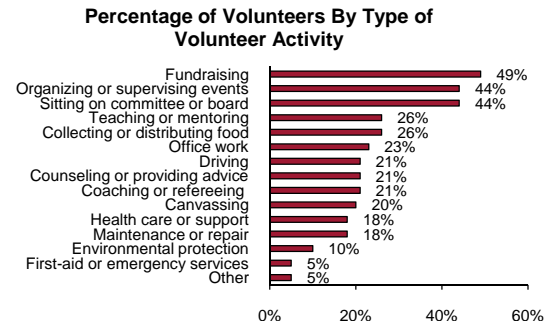
Much comes from the few

Although many Prince Edward Islanders volunteer, the majority of volunteer hours are contributed by a small minority. One in ten volunteers contributed 50% of all hours volunteered in Prince Edward Island. These volunteers contributed 357 hours or more over the course of the year. Another 23% of volunteer hours came from the 15% of volunteers who volunteered between 184 and 356 hours. Together, this top 25% of volunteers (representing 12% of Prince Edward Island residents) contributed 73% of total volunteer hours.



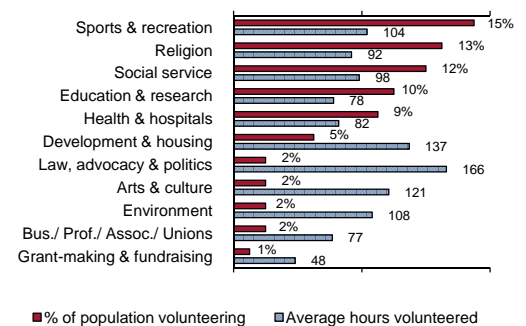
What volunteers do

The most common activities performed by Prince Edward Island volunteers were fundraising (49% of volunteers did this), organizing or supervising events (44%), and sitting on a committee or board (44%).



Compared to the rest of Canada, Prince Edward Island volunteers were more likely to sit on a committee or board (reported by 44% of volunteers vs. 36% of volunteers in the rest of Canada) and to engage in canvassing (20% vs. 15%).

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

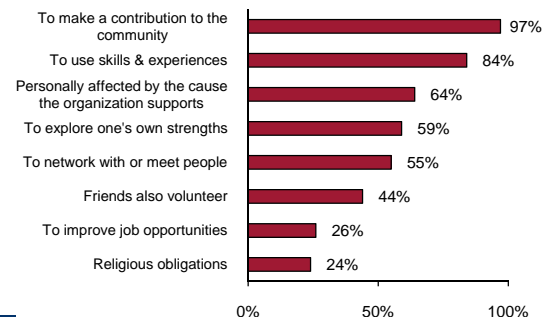


Where they volunteer

Prince Edward Islanders were most likely to volunteer with Sports & Recreation organizations (15% volunteered), followed by Religious (13%), and Social Service (12%) organizations.

Volunteers contributed the largest number of hours for Law, Advocacy & Politics (166), Development & Housing (137), and Arts & Culture (121) organizations, followed by Environment (108), Sports & Recreation (104), Social Services (98), and Religious (92) organizations. They contributed fewer hours to organizations working in the areas of Health & Hospitals (82), Education & Research (78), Business and Professional Associations and Unions (77).

Percentage of Non-Volunteers Reporting Barriers to Volunteering



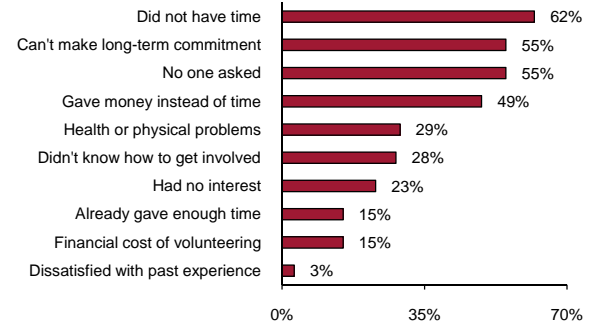
The motivations of volunteers

Prince Edward Island volunteers were most likely to say they volunteered because they wanted to make a contribution to the community (97%), wanted to use their skills and experiences (84%), or had been personally affected by the cause the organization supports (64%). Comparatively few volunteers volunteered in order to improve their job opportunities (26%) or to fulfill religious beliefs or obligations (24%).

Barriers to volunteering

Prince Edward Islanders who did not volunteer were most likely to say they did not do so because they did not have the time (62%), were unable to make a long-term commitment (55%), or no one had asked them (55%). They were much less likely to report having contributed enough time already (15%), the costs of volunteering (15%), or dissatisfaction with previous volunteer experiences (3%) as reasons for not volunteering.

Percentage of Non-Volunteers Reporting Barriers to Volunteering



Personal and economic characteristics of Prince Edward Island volunteers: sex and labour force status¹

Men in Prince Edward Island were slightly more likely to volunteer (49%) than were women (45%). Male volunteers also tended to contribute more hours on average than female volunteers (179 vs. 147). Accordingly, men contributed a larger percentage of total volunteer hours, given their numbers (they made up 49% of the population but contributed 55% of total volunteer hours).

By contrast, residents who were not in the labour force contributed a disproportionately small percentage of the total (31% of the population vs. 25% of total volunteer hours).

Prince Edward Islanders who were employed were somewhat more likely to volunteer than were those who were not in the labour force (54% vs. 48%). Volunteers who were employed also tended to contribute more hours (169 on average) than those who were not in the labour force (139 hours).

Employed residents contributed a disproportionately large percentage of total volunteer hours, given their numbers (63% of the population vs. 70% of total hours).

Percentage of Population Who Volunteer and Distribution of Volunteer Hours by Sex and Labour Force Status

| | % Volunteering | Average Volunteer Hours | % of Pop. | % Volunteer Hours |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Sex | | | | |
| Male | 49% | 179 | 49% | 55% |
| Female | 45% | 147 | 51% | 45% |
| Labour force status | | | | |
| Employed | 54% | 169 | 63% | 70% |
| Unemployed | F | F | F | F |
| Not in the labour force | 48% | 139 | 31% | 25% |

^F Too unreliable to be published

¹ Volunteering tends to vary with the personal and economic characteristics of the individual. This fact sheet focuses on sex and labour force status, 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.

This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnerships Program. The opinions and interpretations in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada.