

# Giving and Volunteering in Hamilton

## Fact Sheet #21

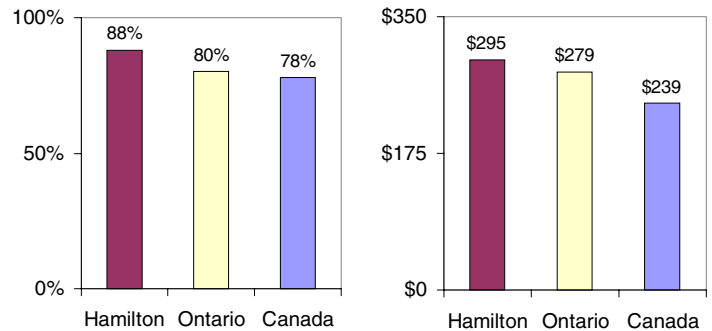
**National Survey of Giving, Volunteering, and Participating**

### Giving: *How many? How much?*

Almost nine out of ten (88%) people living in the census metropolitan area (CMA) of Hamilton, Ontario<sup>1</sup> made financial donations to charitable and nonprofit organizations, according to data from the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering, and Participating (NSGVP).<sup>2</sup>

On average, these donors gave a total of \$295. Their charitable donations totalled \$136.5 million.

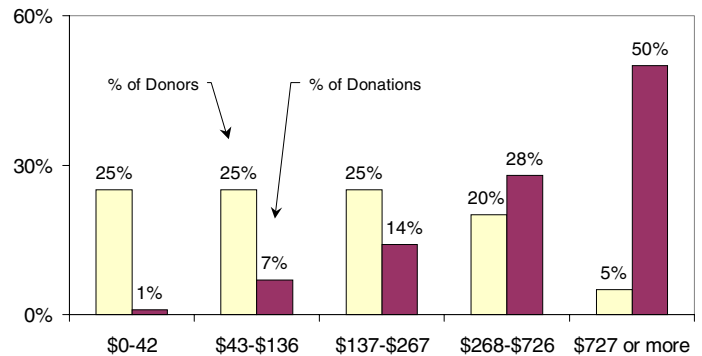
Percentage of Population Making Donations and Average Annual Donation by Geographic Area



### Much comes from the few

Half (50%) of the total dollar value of all donations comes from just 5% of donors – those who gave \$727 or more in the previous year. The 20% of donors who gave between \$268 and \$726 account for 28% of donations. Although these two groups combined account for only 25% of donors, they contributed 78% of all financial donations.

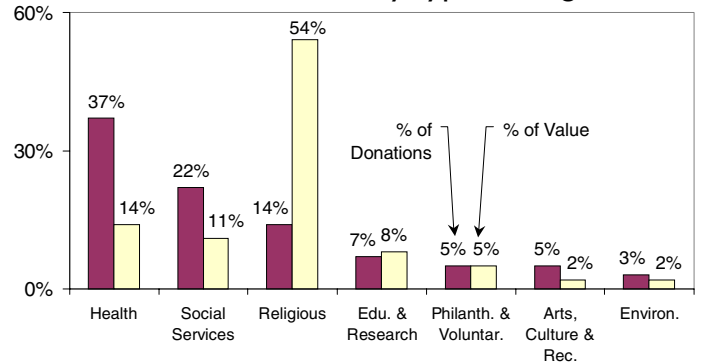
Percentage of Donors and Percentage of Donations by Size of Donation



### Where donations go

Donors in Hamilton gave more money to religious organizations than to any other type of organization. During the year covered by the survey, they gave 54% of the total value of donations, or \$74.2 million, to religious organizations, even though these organizations received only 14% of the total number of charitable donations.

Percentage of Donations and Percentage of the Value of Donations Received by Type of Organization



Thirty-seven percent of all donations went to health organizations, which accounted for 14% (\$19.2 million) of the total dollar value of donations.

Social service organizations received 22% of all donations, and 11% (\$15 million) of the total value of donations.

Education and research organizations received 7% of all donations and 8% (\$10.3 million) of the total value of donations.

### QUICKfacts...

**88% of the Hamilton population made charitable donations, compared to 80% for the province as a whole.**

**Volunteers in Hamilton contributed an average of 187 hours annually, compared to 146 hours for volunteers in the province as a whole.**

1. The census metropolitan area is the geographic region designated by Statistics Canada for collecting census data.

2. Findings from the NSGVP are based on reports of charitable giving and volunteering over the one year period from November 1, 1996 to October 31, 1997 by Canadians aged 15 and older.

## Volunteering: *How many? How much?*

Nearly one in three (32%) people living in the Hamilton CMA volunteered for a charitable or nonprofit organization.

On average, volunteers contributed a total of 187 hours each during the year for a total 31.6 million hours. This is the equivalent of 16,400 full time jobs – roughly equal to 5% of Hamilton’s labour force in 1997.

## Much comes from the few

Three out of ten (30%) volunteer hours were contributed by 5% of volunteers – those who gave 624 hours or more of their time. The 20% of volunteers who gave between 252 and 623 hours per year account for 43% of all volunteer hours. Although these two groups combined account for only 25% of volunteers, they contributed 73% of all volunteer hours.

## What volunteers do...

The most common volunteer activities were:

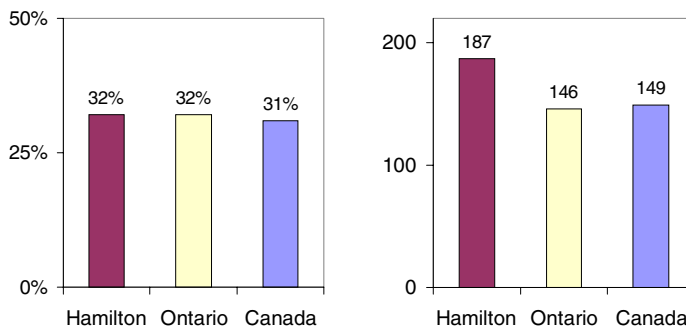
- ✿ Organizing and supervising activities or events (53%)<sup>3</sup>
- ✿ Canvassing, campaigning or fundraising (47%)
- ✿ Serving as an unpaid member of a board or committee (41%)

## ...and where they volunteer

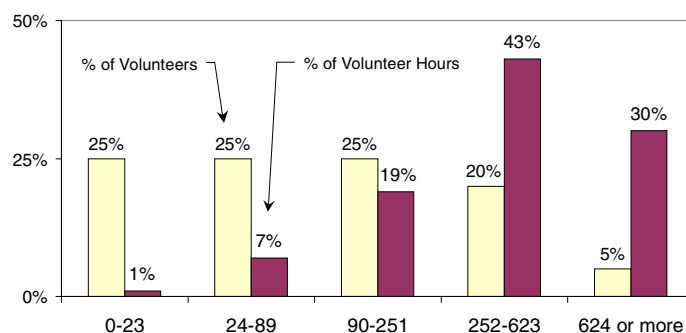
In the Hamilton CMA most volunteering occurred in 4 types of organizations:

- ✿ Arts, culture and recreation organizations
- ✿ Health organizations
- ✿ Social service organizations
- ✿ Religious organizations

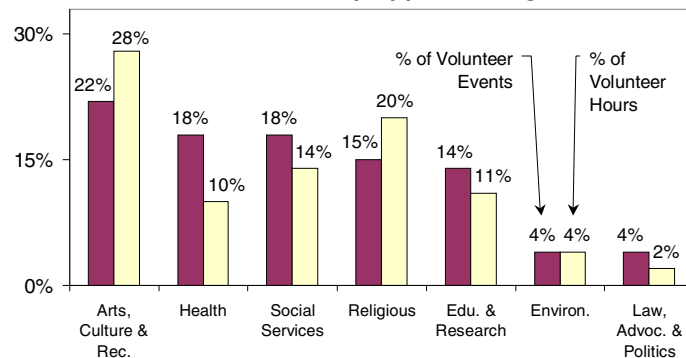
Percentage of Population Volunteering and Average Annual Volunteer Hours by Geographic Area



Percentage of Volunteers and Total Hours Volunteered by Number of Hours Volunteered



Percentage of Volunteer Events<sup>4</sup> and Percentage of Volunteer Hours by Type of Organization



<sup>3</sup>Percentages do not add up to 100% because many volunteers engage in more than one type of activity.

<sup>4</sup>Each occurrence of volunteering for an organization reported by an individual volunteer constitutes one volunteer event. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.



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More information on the results of the NSGVP, including the full text of the highlight report *Caring Canadians, Involved Canadians*, is available online at our Website: [www.nsgvp.org](http://www.nsgvp.org)

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