



PHILANTHROPY
Australia

Giving in Australia

A Philanthropy Australia Fact Sheet

Philanthropy Australia Inc

Level 10, 530 Collins St
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Australia

Tel (61 3) 9620 0200
Fax (61 3) 9620 0199

pa@philanthropy.org.au
www.philanthropy.org.au

Assn. No. A0014980 T
ABN 79 578 875 531

Overview

Statistical data on giving in Australia is difficult to obtain and is not comprehensive as surveys are carried out only intermittently. The following data is gathered from a variety of sources and no assertion is made as to its accuracy.

The Giving Australia report published in October 2005 estimates the giving of money, goods and services to nonprofit organisations by individuals and businesses to total \$11 billion per year, which excludes giving in response to the Asian tsunami crisis in late 2004/early 2005). This giving is comprised of:

- \$7.7 billion from individuals - 13.4 million people, or 87% of adult Australians, in the year to January 2005.
- \$3.2 billion from 525,900 businesses, or 67% of all businesses in the 2003-04 financial year.

Trusts and Foundations

Due to a lack of public reporting requirements for Australian grantmakers, there is no accurate, comprehensive data on number of foundations or on total size of assets or giving. The following details are estimates and extrapolations from known data.

- It is estimated that there are at least 2,000 trusts and foundations in Australia. This figure may be higher but without accurate data it is impossible to verify.
- It is estimated that these foundations disperse between half a billion and \$1 billion per annum.
- It is estimated that Australian foundations have total assets of over \$10 billion.

Comparisons with other countries

There are 88,509 private foundations in the USA with total assets of almost \$500 billion US and total giving of \$27.6 billion in 2000.

(Source: Independent Sector, 'The New Nonprofit Almanac in Brief', 2001.)

There are approximately 10,900 private trusts in the UK with annual giving of approximately £2 billion per annum.

(Source: Association of Charitable Foundations website, <http://www.acf.org.uk/>)



Tax Deductible Donations

In the year to January 2005, the average donation was \$424 pa, while the median donation was \$100. A further \$2 billion was provided by 10.5 million individuals through 'charity gambling' (fundraising through raffles, lotteries etc).

(Source: Giving Australia, available from <http://www.partnerships.gov.au/>)

Comparisons with Other Countries

In 1998, 70.1% of US households gave an average contribution of \$1,075 per household.

Field	% of total given to that field
Religious Organisations	60.1
Human Services	9.0
Health	6.5
Education	6.4
Youth Development	4.9
Arts, Culture and Humanities	3.3
Environment	3.2
Other	6.4

(Source: Independent Sector, 'The New Nonprofit Almanac in Brief', 2001.)