



PHILANTHROPY
Australia

Australian Volunteering

A Philanthropy Australia Fact Sheet

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A volunteer is someone who willingly gives unpaid help in the form of time, service or skills.

The estimated number of volunteers aged 18 years and over in 2000 was 4,395,600, representing 32% of the civilian population of the same age. This represents an increase since 1995, when the estimated 3,189,400 volunteers represented 24% of the population.

In 2000, volunteers contributed 704.1 million hours of voluntary work, an increase on the 1995 figure of 511.7. However, the median weekly hours of voluntary work remained stable at 1.4.

65% of volunteers worked for only one organisation, with a further 31% working for two or three.

Volunteers by Type of Organisation

Type Of Organisation	Volunteer Rate
Community/Welfare	26%
Sport/Recreation	21%
Religion	17%
Education/Training/ Youth Development	14%

Most Frequent Voluntary Activities

Activity	Percentage
Fundraising	56%
Management	45%
Teaching	44%
Administration	41%

More information is available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics survey 4441.0 Voluntary Work, Australia available at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/NT0001AA0E>