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VOLUNTARY WORK, AUSTRALIA AUSTRALIA

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I N Q U I R I E S

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

INTRODUCTION

This publication contains results from the national Voluntary Work Survey conducted throughout Australia from March to July 2006 as part of the General Social Survey (GSS). This is the third detailed survey conducted by the ABS on this topic. Previous Voluntary Work Surveys were conducted in June 1995 and over four quarters in 2000. The major aim of the survey was to collect data on rates of participation in voluntary work, hours contributed, characteristics of people who volunteer, the types of organisations they work for and the activities they undertake. Information on whether people made monetary donations to organisations and the types of organisations donated to were also collected. Donor information was previously collected along with voluntary work in 2000.

CHANGES IN THIS SURVEY

New questions have been added to strengthen the 'willingness' criterion which has always been part of the definition of voluntary work. These are designed to exclude unpaid work for organisations where the work is undertaken under some form of direction. Details and data comparisons are provided in the Appendix. The Appendix also outlines some other changes that may affect the comparison of data over time.

ROUNDING

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of component items and totals. Unless otherwise stated, proportions are based on stated or classifiable responses.

INQUIRIES

For information about ABS statistics and services, refer to the back of this publication.

For further information about these statistics and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

The importance of voluntary work to national life is increasingly being recognised. Most states and territories are encouraging engagement in voluntary work in their strategic plans for social development. Voluntary work meets needs, expands opportunities for democratic participation, personal development and recreation within a community and helps to develop and reinforce social networks and cohesion. In the Voluntary Work Survey a volunteer was defined as someone who, in the previous 12 months, willingly gave unpaid help, in the form of time, service or skills, through an organisation or group.

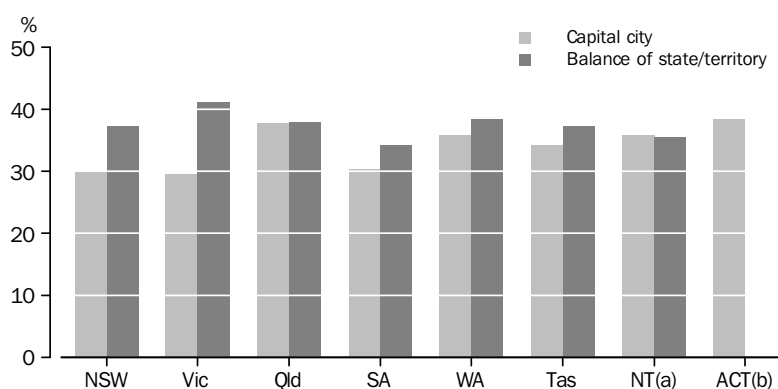
In 2006, 5.2 million people, 34% of the Australian population aged 18 years and over, participated in voluntary work. They contributed 713 million hours to the community doing many different activities and in organisations and groups with a diverse range of interests. Overall, 32% of men and 36% of women were volunteers (Table 1).

GEOGRAPHICAL COMPARISONS

Patterns of volunteering differ by state and territory, and also by part of state. The ACT and Queensland had the highest proportion of volunteers in 2006, with 38% of their population volunteering. Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory had a 36% volunteer rate.

Volunteering was more common among those living in parts of the state outside the capital city. The volunteer rate was 32% for capital cities overall compared with 38% outside the capital cities. South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania exhibited this pattern, but the differences were greatest in Victoria and New South Wales. The proportion volunteering in both Sydney and Melbourne was 30%, but in the rest of the two states the proportion was 41% in Victoria and 37% in New South Wales. Queensland (38%) and the Northern Territory (36%) each had volunteer rates that were the same for both types of areas (Table 2).

PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTARY WORK BY PART OF STATE



(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only.

(b) The ACT is classified to 'Capital city' only.

WHO VOLUNTEERS?

Volunteer rates varied across different groups in the population. Women volunteered more commonly than men (36% compared to 32%) and, with few exceptions, this was the case regardless of birthplace, family status, labour force status or the areas in which they lived.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

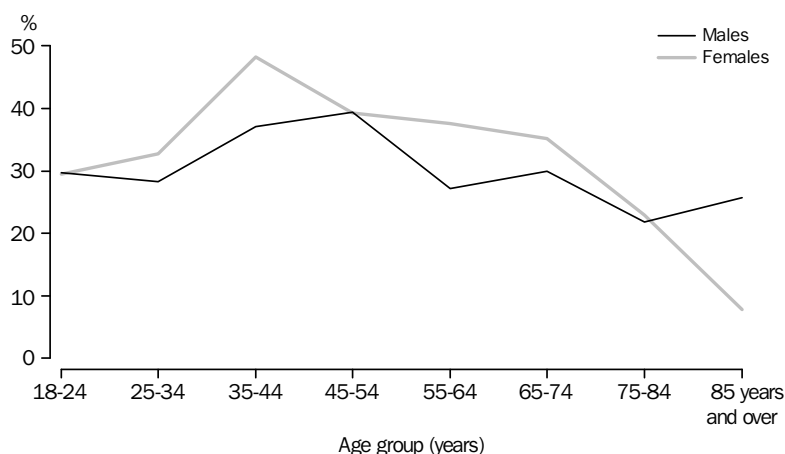
WHO VOLUNTEERS?

continued

The pattern of volunteering varied with life stage. People aged 35–44 years were in the age group most likely to volunteer (43%) (Table 1). This age group includes a large number of parents with dependent children. Their higher than average volunteer rate reflects their family commitments, most markedly for women. Thus, female partners with dependent children had a volunteer rate of 50% compared with 32% for female partners without dependent children (Table 3).

Table 25 reveals much higher rates of volunteering among parents of school-aged children, (i.e. with children aged 5–14 years) particularly for parents in couple families who are able to provide support to each other with family responsibilities and logistics. Almost two-thirds (64%) of mothers and just over one half (51%) of fathers in this situation had undertaken some voluntary work in the previous 12 months.

VOLUNTEER RATE: AGE



People born in Australia were more likely to undertake voluntary work than those born elsewhere, 36% and 29% respectively. Those born in the main English-speaking countries had a higher rate of volunteering (34%) than those born in other countries (26%) (Table 3).

Other factors associated with above average rates of volunteering were excellent/very good health (38%); current study (43%); level of educational achievement (45% of those with a diploma/advanced diploma and bachelor degree or higher); and high income, 39% for those in the highest quintile of equivalised household income (Table 3).

Relationship with paid employment

Employed people, either in full-time (34%) or part-time work (44%), had a higher volunteer rate than those who were unemployed (26%) or not in the labour force (30%). Men employed full-time were as likely to volunteer (34%) as women employed on the same basis (33%). However, 55% of employed women worked part-time, and among these women 47% were doing voluntary work, indicating that many may have been choosing part-time participation in the labour force to make other activities possible (Table 3).

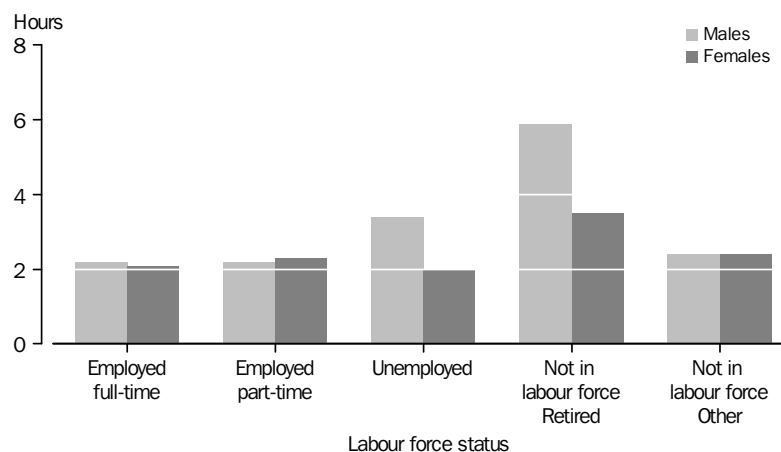
While the proportion volunteering was lower for the groups of people not in employment, employed men gave on average 2.2 hours a week to voluntary work, while unemployed men did 3.4 hours of voluntary work a week, and retired men did 5.9 hours. Similarly, retired women did more weekly hours of voluntary work, 3.5 hours, than other

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Relationship with paid employment continued

women not in the labour force (2.4 hours), and than those who worked part-time (2.3 hours), full-time (2.1 hours) or were unemployed (2.0 hours) (Table 3).

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS: LABOUR FORCE STATUS



For employed people, the volunteer rate varied considerably between occupational groupings. Managers/administrators and professionals (both 46%) and advanced clerical and service workers (45%) had the highest participation rates (Table 7). It is not surprising that these largely educated groups have volunteer rates consistent with those of people with higher educational qualifications (Table 3). Intermediate production and transport workers (26%) and labourers and related workers (25%) had lower volunteer rates. Some groups of people have more flexibility in arranging their paid working hours to accommodate voluntary work, and this may have an effect on the participation rates by different occupational groups. The older members (35–64 years) of many occupation groups tended to be more likely to volunteer than their younger colleagues (Table 7).

CHANGES IN VOLUNTEERING OVER TIME

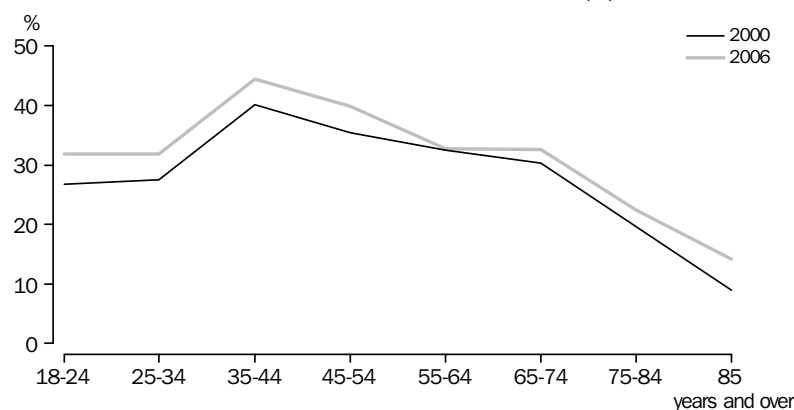
Tables comparing volunteer rates over time are presented in the Appendix. While using the same general definition of volunteering as that used in previous ABS surveys some of the specific criteria used to identify volunteers were refined in the 2006 survey. The Appendix explains these refinements and shows the 2006 data adjusted in a way which is comparable with data from earlier surveys.

When adjusted to be comparable with the 2000 and 1995 voluntary work surveys, the number of volunteers aged 18 years and over in 2006 was 5.4 million, 35% of the population of the same age. In 2000 there were 4.4 million volunteers, 32% of the population. In 1995, the 3.2 million volunteers represented 24% of the population. Between 2000 and 2006, increases in volunteer rates occurred for both sexes and most age groups.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

CHANGES IN VOLUNTEERING OVER TIME *continued*

VOLUNTEER RATES BY AGE—2000 and 2006(a)



(a) 2006 data are adjusted to be comparable to 2000 data.

In 2006, on a basis comparable with the 2000 survey, volunteers contributed 730 million hours of voluntary work, an increase on the 2000 figure of 704 million and the 512 million hours worked in 1995 (Table A3). However, much of this increase was due to population growth. The annual number of hours contributed on an individual basis was substantially lower, with median hours falling from 74 hours in 1995 to 72 hours in 2000 and to 56 hours in 2006. Lower hours were contributed by both men and women (Table A3).

ORGANISATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Almost two-thirds of volunteers (62%) worked for one organisation only, 25% for two, 8% for three and 4% for more than three organisations. There was some variation by age, with those aged 18-34 years and those aged 75 years and over less likely to work for more than one organisation (Table 14).

The work a volunteer does for each particular organisation is referred to as a volunteering involvement. During 2006 there were 7.8 million involvements. Most of the organisations for which people had volunteering involvements were in the non-profit sector, 84%, with 14% in the government sector. Government sector organisations were most commonly schools and other educational and training institutions, and emergency services (Table 29).

The organisations through which people volunteered varied in their staffing arrangements, with some fully staffed by volunteers and some having both paid and volunteer staff. On balance, more of people's involvements in volunteering were with organisations which had mixed staff arrangements (i.e. 54% of all involvements had both paid and volunteer staff). The organisation types with the highest proportions of involvements in organisations with mixed staffing were in the areas of education and training (91% of all involvements in this area), international aid and development (67%), health (68%) and law, justice and politics (62%). In contrast the organisation types more likely to be fully staffed by volunteers included sport and physical recreation organisations (72% of all involvements in this area were with groups that were fully staffed by volunteers), parenting, children and youth groups (71% were fully staffed by volunteers) and other recreational and interest groups where 64% of involvements were in interest groups that relied on volunteers alone (Table 29).

The four most common types of organisation for which people volunteered, namely sport and physical recreation, education and training, community/welfare and religious

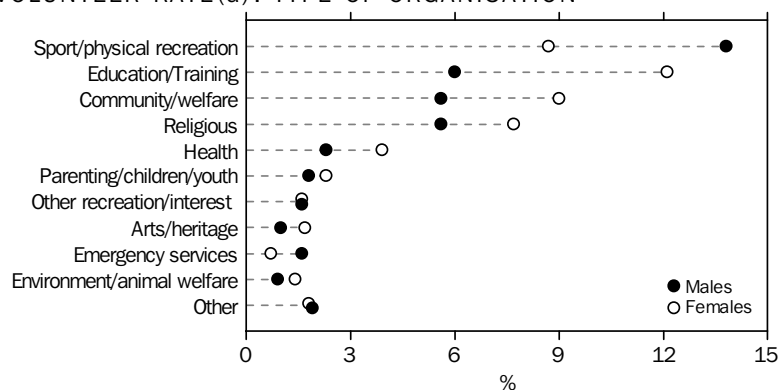
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

ORGANISATIONS AND ACTIVITIES *continued*

groups, accounted for three-quarters (74%) of volunteering involvements. The remaining quarter includes a very wide range of advocacy, emergency service, environmental, animal welfare, self-development and other recreational and special interest groups.

Volunteers in emergency service type organisations such as those concerned with surf lifesaving and other forms of rescue, fighting bushfires or helping people affected by floods or severe storms provide essential services in times of risk or crisis. In 2006, 175,000 people, one per cent of the population aged 18 years and over, volunteered for emergency service organisations, giving 26 million hours, an average of close to 150 hours per year for each volunteering involvement (Table 18).

VOLUNTEER RATE (a): TYPE OF ORGANISATION



(a) Volunteers for each type of organisation as per cent of all males/females aged 18 years and over.

Male volunteers were most likely to be involved in sport/recreation organisations. For females, education/training organisations were most common. Although there were more female than male volunteers overall, there were many more male involvements than female in the fields of sport/recreation and emergency services (Table 18).

Types of voluntary activities

Volunteers perform a range of different tasks when undertaking voluntary work. The activities most frequently reported by volunteers were fundraising, for 48% of their involvements, preparing and serving food (31%), teaching/providing information (28%), administration (26%) and management (23%) (Table 19).

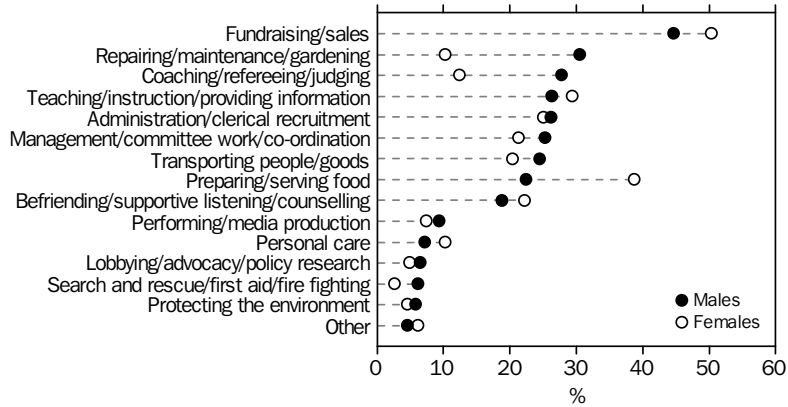
Some of the activities undertaken by volunteers fitted traditional stereotypes. For example, female volunteers were much more likely than male volunteers to be preparing and serving food (for 39% of women's involvements compared with 22% of men's) whereas men were more likely than women to be involved in such activities as repairs, maintenance and gardening (31% compared with 10% of involvements), and coaching and refereeing (28% compared to 12% of male and female involvements respectively).

Generally, though, men and women had fairly similar rates of participation in management, administration, transporting people, performing/media production (which includes newsletters, both paper and internet), lobbying, protecting the environment and other activities.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Types of voluntary activities *continued*

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENTS: ACTIVITY TYPE



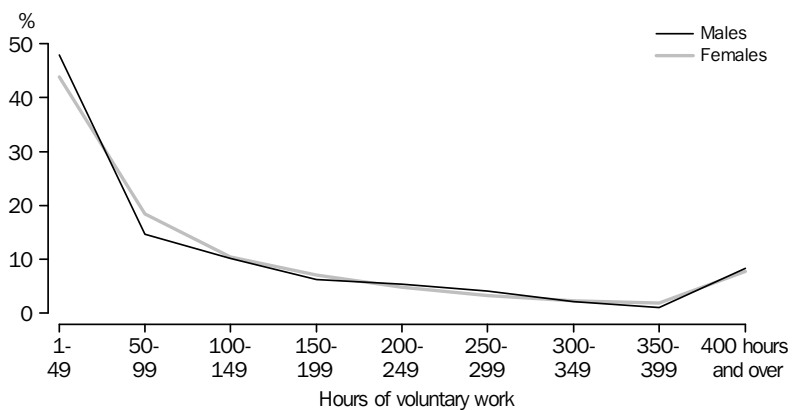
(a) Each activity type as per cent of all volunteering involvements.

The nature of people's voluntary work was to some extent related to their type of paid employment. Managers and administrators and professionals were more likely than other occupational groups to do management and committee work, professionals to teach or provide information and tradespersons to undertake repairs, maintenance or gardening activities. However, fundraising was the most common activity for almost all occupational groups, and was fairly evenly distributed across all occupations as well as people who were not employed. Administration, food preparation, and transport were also common activities for most occupation groups (Table 30).

Hours volunteered

There was considerable variation in the hours contributed to voluntary work among volunteers. As indicated by the following graph the proportion of volunteers who had undertaken voluntary work for less than 50 hours in the previous 12 months was relatively high and the proportions who had contributed longer hours generally declined as the number of hours increased. Close to one half (46%) of volunteers contributed less than 50 hours in the previous 12 months and 8% of volunteers had contributed at least 400 hours. As a result of this pattern the average hours spent volunteering (136 hours per year or 2.6 hours per week) was greater than the median hours (56 hours per year or 1.1 hours per week).

PROPORTION OF VOLUNTEERS BY TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK (a)



(a) For all organisations worked for in the previous 12 months.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Hours volunteered continued

The pattern was much the same for both men and women. However, the median was greater for women than for men (60 hours compared with 52 hours), while men averaged longer annual hours (144 hours compared with 130 hours for women)(Table 1). The differences for averages and medians are consistent with the higher proportion of women clustered in the 50–99 annual hours range in the graph and the much higher average weekly hours for retired men noted earlier. In situations where the distribution of the population is skewed to one side, as is the case here, the median value is commonly taken as the preferred comparative measure because it is less affected by any people who may have worked unusually long hours. However, both medians and averages are useful measures if users remain aware of their properties.

Using median weekly hours as the basis of comparison, seniors spent more time doing voluntary work than younger adults. Among those aged 65–84 years the median was 2.0 hours a week (2.3 hours among men and about 1.6 hours among women) whereas the next highest median hours of 1.5 hours per week (1.3 hours among men and 1.6 hours among women) for any age group was for those aged 55–64 years. The median weekly hours worked by people in younger age ranges were all lower than these. Similar age-related patterns are evident when using the average annual hours measure (Table 1).

Based on data collated for up to three involvements for each volunteer a more detailed view of the time commitments given to volunteering activities is available. These data show that 40% of involvements were undertaken on a weekly basis and 16% of all involvements had been undertaken on a weekly basis and had contributed at least 140 hours in the previous year. Altogether this 16% of involvements, which may be best characterised as being regular high time-commitment involvements, accounted for 62% of the 707 million volunteer hours attributed to identified volunteering involvements. Infrequent low-hour volunteering involvements were also quite common. Some 32% of involvements were undertaken for no more than several times a year, 78% of which were for less than 20 hours in the previous year. Altogether 36% of involvements had been for less than 20 hours in the previous year while 7% had been for 300 hours or more (Table 16).

For the up to three organisations for which volunteers gave details almost half of the volunteering hours (46%) were for two types of organisations: these were sport/physical recreation, with 187 million hours (over 26% of volunteering hours) and community/welfare with 135 million hours (19%). Together with religious (17%) and education/training (10%) organisations they accounted for 73% of the total hours committed to volunteering involvements. These four categories were also the largest in terms of the number of volunteer involvements (Table 18).

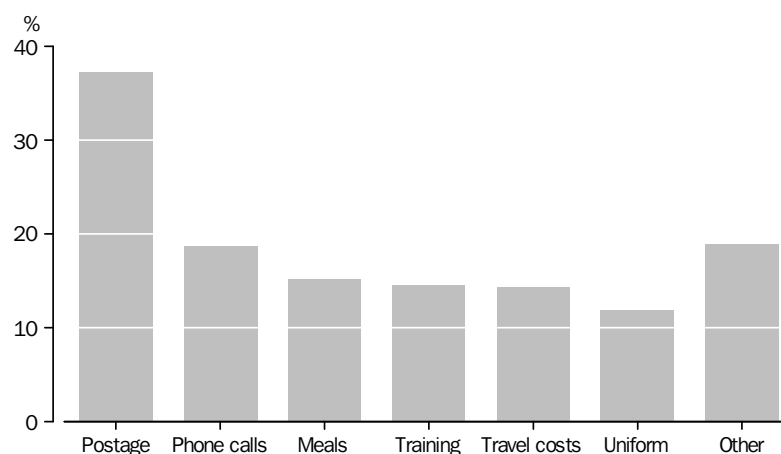
Median hours spent working for religious organisations equalled the hours for sport and physical recreation organisations, both 48 hours per year, and these were higher than for all other types of organisations (Table 28). Median hours per year worked by females were considerably greater than those worked by males for education and training (30 hours compared to 12 hours), parenting, children and youth (46 hours compared with 24 hours) and religious organisations (59 hours compared to 36 hours). Sport and physical recreation organisations attracted higher median hours from men (48 hours compared with 40 hours from women) (Table 28).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Costs and reimbursement

In the course of doing voluntary work, many volunteers incur expenses, such as for telephone calls, travel, and uniforms, or unspecified costs which might include wear and tear on own equipment or income foregone for duration of service. In 2006, 58% of volunteers incurred expenses. Of these 3.0 million volunteers, less than a quarter (23%) advised that reimbursement for specific costs was available from the organisation. The proportion for whom reimbursement was available varied by the type of cost. The most common expense for which reimbursement was available was postage (37%), while the availability of reimbursement was much less likely for uniform (12%), travel (14%) and training costs (15%) and the cost of meals (15%) (Table 17). A further one per cent of volunteers reported receiving an honorarium to cover these costs rather than reimbursement for particular costs.

VOLUNTEERS WHO INCURRED EXPENSES: REIMBURSEMENT AVAILABLE



Ongoing commitment

In 2006, 26% of volunteers had been working for one of their current types of organisations for more than 10 years and 19% had done so for between six to 10 years (Table 27). However, for many volunteers their first experience of volunteering had occurred earlier, with 56% having first volunteered more than 10 years before (Table 9).

One question regular volunteer surveys answer is the extent to which the pool of volunteers is being refreshed by newcomers to voluntary activity. Overall 30% of volunteers in 2006 had been volunteering for five years or less. Naturally, newcomers were more concentrated in younger age groups: 57% of volunteers aged 18–24 years and 44% of those aged 25–34 years had been volunteers for five years or less. The inverse of this is that a high proportion of volunteers in these younger age groups (43% and 56% respectively) had already begun volunteering more than five years before. For every age group above this there was a proportion of relatively new volunteers (i.e. five years or less), but this fell with increasing age from 33% for those in the 35–44 years group to 10% among those aged 75 years or older (Table 9).

Reasons for being a volunteer

Voluntary work provides benefits to the community. Helping others or the community was acknowledged as a current reason for volunteering by 57% of volunteers. More than 50% of both male and female volunteers over all age groups and in all labour force status groups gave 'helping others or helping the community' as a reason for being a volunteer. However, volunteers also identified benefits to themselves with 44% reporting 'personal

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Reasons for being a volunteer continued

satisfaction' and 36% 'to do something worthwhile'. Doing something worthwhile was particularly important for the two oldest age groups. There were 22% of volunteers who gave 'social contact' as their reason for volunteering, and 'to be active' and 'to use skills/experience' each motivated 16% of volunteers. Learning new skills and gaining work experience were given as reasons by 11% of volunteers, ranging from 10% for full-time employed people to 16% for unemployed people (Tables 12 and 13).

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Almost two-thirds of those who first became involved in voluntary work in the last 10 years were either asked to volunteer by someone (35%) or did so because they knew someone involved (29%). Volunteers were rarely recruited through the media; only 5% became involved in volunteering in response to a media report or an advertisement (Table 10).

There is evidence that family and childhood experiences have some effect on the propensity to volunteer. Over half of the population (52%) reported that at least one of their parents had done voluntary work. The volunteer rate among those whose parents had volunteered was 43% compared with 23% for those whose parents had not volunteered.

Among those people who had been in a religious organisation as a child, 48% said they had done voluntary work in the previous 12 months. The volunteer rate for those who had been in a youth group or had themselves volunteered as a child was also higher than average, 42% in either case (Table 11).

It is also clear that people who recently had some kind of active involvement in community activities were more likely to be doing voluntary work. For example, of those who had been actively involved in a religious organisation in the previous 12 months (which may include their voluntary work activity), 57% were volunteers, compared with 29% of those who did not have such an involvement. Similarly, 44% of those who had attended a community event in the previous six months had volunteered, compared with 16% of those who had not. It is, of course, probable that being a volunteer would lead to a higher level of involvement in community events.

The level of trust in people in general is sometimes put forward as a measure of a strong and cohesive community. Among those who strongly or somewhat agreed that most people could be trusted, 38% were volunteers. The volunteer rate decreased with diminishing levels of trust in others (Table 8).

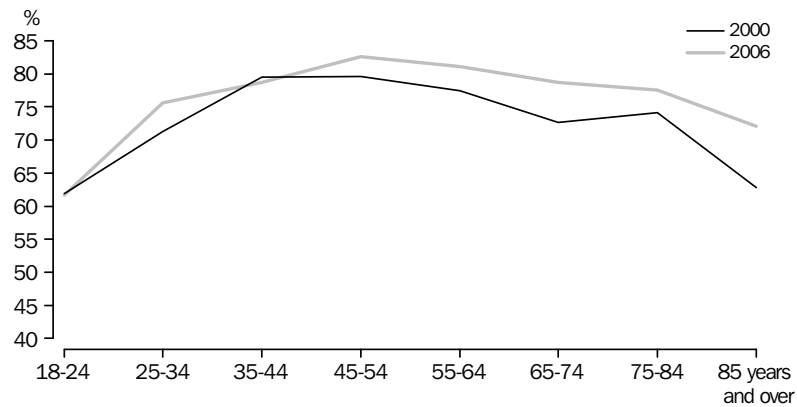
GIVERS OF MONETARY DONATIONS

Personal donations of money to organisations were made by 11.8 million people, 77% of all people aged 18 years and over, during the 12 months prior to interview. This compares with the 74% of the comparable population in 2000. Giving by age group followed similar patterns in 2000 and 2006, with higher proportions of givers in the age groups most likely to be earning income. A higher proportion of 25–34 year-olds were giving donations in 2006, and this was maintained over the age groups from 45–54 years onwards. As in 2000, women in 2006 were more likely to give donations (81%) than men (73%) (Table 33).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

GIVERS OF MONETARY DONATIONS *continued*

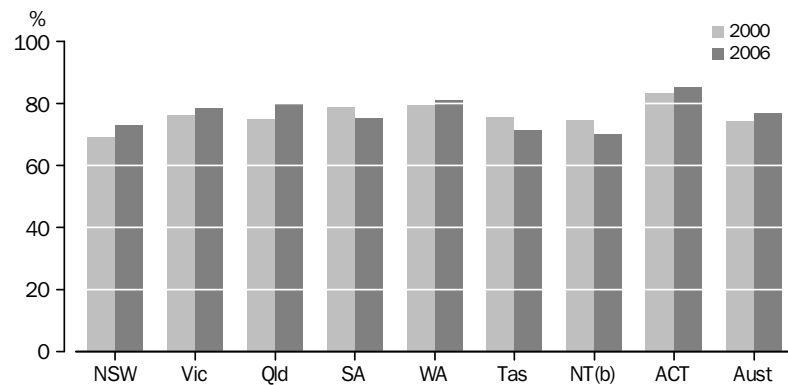
DONOR RATES (a)—2000 and 2006



(a) Donors as per cent of all persons in each age group.

Most state and territory populations increased their donor rate by a small amount between 2000 and 2006. The exceptions were South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory. For Queensland, there was an increase in the proportion of men giving donations from 71% to 77%, and in New South Wales a similar increase in the proportion of women giving, from 72% to 79% (Table 34).

DONOR RATES (a), BY STATE AND TERRITORY (b)—2000 and 2006



(a) Donors as per cent of all persons aged 18 years and over.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only.

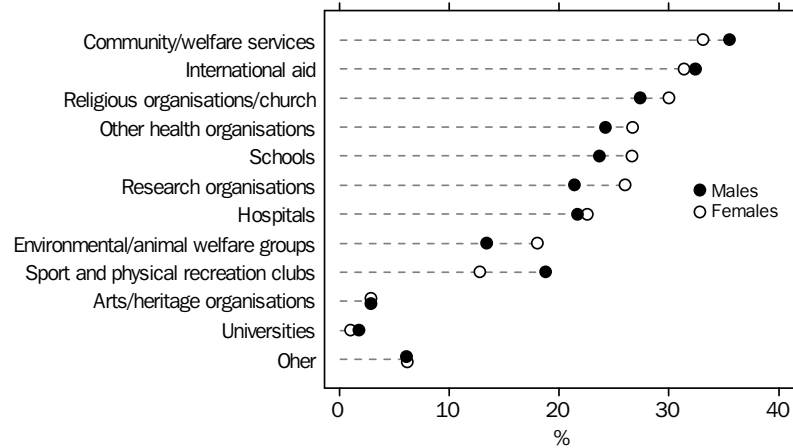
People who were volunteers were more likely to have made a donation than those who were not volunteers (85% compared with 72%). There was little difference in the likelihood of giving by other socio-economic status groups. Those with higher levels of educational qualifications had above average rates of giving, 85% of those with diplomas/advanced diplomas and 84% of those with a graduate degree or higher. Part-time employed people (81%), particularly part-time employed women (85%), were more likely to donate, but this may be the effect of this group's strong participation in volunteering. People living in areas in the highest quintile of socio-economic status had an 81% donor rate, compared with 69% for those in the lowest 20% of areas (Table 31).

Concern for people's basic welfare needs, be they at home or abroad, appears to be the greatest incentive for people to give money donations. Religious organisations, often having established practices of regular giving by members and adherents, were the next most common recipients.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

GIVERS OF MONETARY DONATIONS *continued*

DONORS: TYPE OF RECIPIENT ORGANISATION



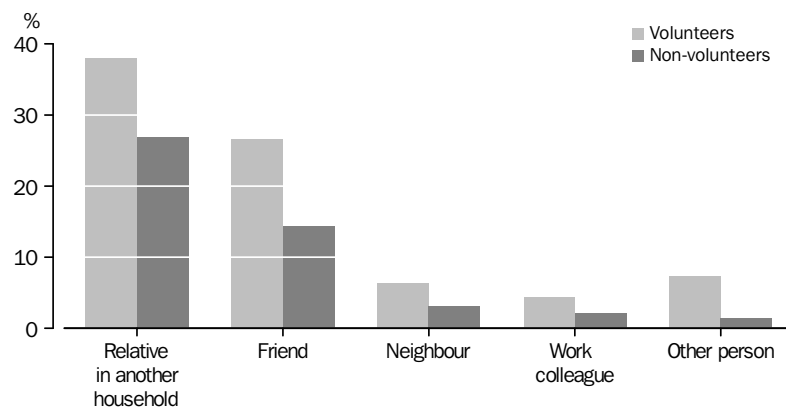
OTHER FORMS OF GIVING TO THE COMMUNITY

As well as volunteering through organisations and giving money to organisations, there are other more direct ways of providing support in the community. Many people are involved in caring for others with special needs, beyond the level of care usually called on in family life. In 2006, 20% of adults had, in the previous four weeks, provided care to someone with a disability, long-term illness or problems associated with old age.

People also provide help to family members in other households, to friends, to neighbours and even to strangers needing assistance, on an informal basis. In the previous four weeks, 49% of people aged 18 years and over had provided assistance to someone outside their own household.

A noteworthy finding about these informal types of assistance is that people who volunteer through organisations are more likely to be also providing informal services to others. In 2006, 27% of volunteers were carers, compared with 17% of those who were not volunteers, and 63% of volunteers were providing informal help to other people in the community compared with 42% of non-volunteers. The level of difference between the response of volunteers and non-volunteers holds across all the age groups. For both volunteers and non-volunteers, women were more likely than men to provide care to someone with a disability or informal help to people with whom they did not live.

INFORMAL HELP (a)



(a) To person not living in the same house.

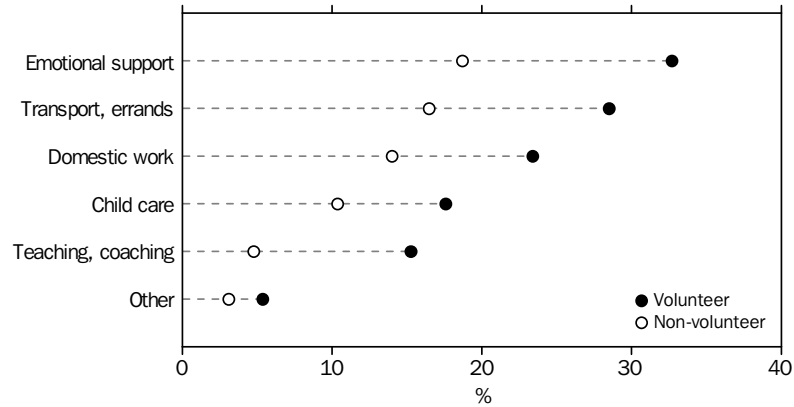
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

**OTHER FORMS OF GIVING
TO THE COMMUNITY**
continued

Overwhelmingly, the help Australians provide to others outside their own home is to family and friends although it is likely that many neighbours and colleagues to whom help is given would be regarded as friends. The greatest difference in the type of recipient of help was for 'Other person', where volunteers were many times more likely to help less familiar acquaintances or strangers than non-volunteers would.

Volunteers were also more likely to be providing each of the types of informal help shown. The smallest difference in identified types of help (apart from other unspecified types) was in child care, which was provided by 18% of volunteers and 10% of non-volunteers.

INFORMAL SERVICES, Type of help(a)



(a) To persons not living in the same house.

Overall, people who had volunteered in the previous 12 months in 2006 were also the ones most likely to have been carers, informal helpers to others and donors of money to organisations.

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VOLUNTEERING, by age and sex

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total
VOLUNTEERS ('000)									
Males	293.9	398.0	549.0	546.4	304.8	203.7	89.2	*20.1	2 405.2
Females	280.4	460.9	726.0	555.2	421.6	250.4	116.0	*10.9	2 821.3
Persons	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	454.1	205.2	31.1	5 226.5
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Males	29.7	28.3	37.1	39.4	27.2	29.9	21.8	*25.7	31.8
Females	29.5	32.8	48.2	39.3	37.6	35.1	22.9	*7.8	36.4
Persons	29.6	30.6	42.7	39.3	32.4	32.6	22.4	14.2	34.1
TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS (million)									
Males	27.8	38.5	49.7	75.4	63.7	53.6	*36.2	*1.6	346.4
Females	32.0	40.6	89.3	67.6	68.5	49.5	17.8	**1.3	366.7
Persons	59.7	79.1	139.0	143.0	132.2	103.2	54.0	*2.9	713.1
AVERAGE ANNUAL HOURS									
Males	94.5	96.7	90.5	138.0	209.1	263.2	405.8	*76.9	144.0
Females	114.0	88.1	123.1	121.7	162.5	197.9	153.8	**122.1	130.0
Persons	104.0	92.1	109.0	129.8	182.0	227.2	263.3	*92.8	136.4
MEDIAN ANNUAL HOURS									
Males	42	40	38	60	66	120	*121	**50	52
Females	60	36	59	70	84	81	*90	**47	60
Persons	48	38	48	64	80	104	104	**28	56
MEDIAN WEEKLY HOURS (a)									
Males	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.2	1.3	2.3	*2.3	**1.0	1.0
Females	1.2	0.7	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.6	*1.7	**0.9	1.2
Persons	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.5	2.0	2.0	**0.5	1.1
ALL PERSONS ('000)									
Males	990.9	1 405.1	1 481.8	1 386.5	1 119.5	681.1	409.9	78.5	7 553.3
Females	949.3	1 404.1	1 506.4	1 413.7	1 119.8	713.8	506.8	139.8	7 753.8
Persons	1 940.1	2 809.2	2 988.3	2 800.2	2 239.3	1 394.8	916.7	218.4	15 307.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Median annual hours divided by weeks in the year (52).

VOLUNTEERING, by state and part of state

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(b)	Aust.
VOLUNTEERS ('000)									
Male									
Capital city	455.5	374.1	234.9	126.9	187.7	23.6	14.6	42.4	1 459.8
Balance of state	320.1	193.0	287.9	40.8	63.6	35.1	5.0	—	945.5
Total	775.6	567.2	522.7	167.7	251.4	58.8	19.5	42.4	2 405.2
Female									
Capital city	520.6	457.5	282.4	139.9	222.4	29.1	13.6	51.9	1 717.4
Balance of state	380.0	233.5	313.3	60.0	68.0	43.1	6.1	—	1 104.0
Total	900.5	691.1	595.6	199.9	290.4	72.2	19.7	51.9	2 821.3
Persons									
Capital city	976.0	831.7	517.2	266.8	410.1	52.7	28.2	94.3	3 177.1
Balance of state	700.1	426.6	601.1	100.7	131.6	78.2	11.1	—	2 049.4
Total	1 676.1	1 258.2	1 118.4	367.6	541.8	130.9	39.3	94.3	5 226.5
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Male									
Capital city	28.5	27.2	35.1	29.7	33.0	31.8	34.8	35.2	30.0
Balance of state	34.4	37.8	36.0	27.3	37.1	34.0	31.0	—	35.3
Total	30.7	30.1	35.6	29.1	34.0	33.1	33.8	35.2	31.8
Female									
Capital city	31.7	31.9	40.4	31.1	38.3	36.5	37.2	41.5	34.0
Balance of state	39.9	44.2	39.8	41.5	39.9	40.7	40.2	—	40.8
Total	34.7	35.2	40.1	33.6	38.7	38.9	38.1	41.5	36.4
Persons									
Capital city	30.1	29.6	37.8	30.4	35.7	34.2	35.9	38.4	32.0
Balance of state	37.2	41.1	37.9	34.3	38.5	37.4	35.5	—	38.1
Total	32.7	32.7	37.8	31.4	36.3	36.0	35.8	38.4	34.1
TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS (million)									
Male									
Capital city	68.7	48.4	35.6	15.4	27.6	4.5	2.0	4.7	207.1
Balance of state	55.5	32.3	31.9	*6.3	*7.3	5.1	*0.9	—	139.4
Total	124.3	80.7	67.5	21.7	35.0	9.6	2.9	4.7	346.4
Female									
Capital city	54.9	53.7	37.5	17.0	27.0	2.9	1.9	5.3	200.1
Balance of state	56.0	38.9	48.9	7.7	*8.7	5.2	*1.2	—	166.6
Total	110.9	92.6	86.4	24.7	35.7	8.1	3.0	5.3	366.7
Persons									
Capital city	123.6	102.1	73.1	32.4	54.7	7.4	3.9	10.1	407.2
Balance of state	111.6	71.2	80.8	14.1	16.0	10.3	2.1	—	306.0
Total	235.2	173.3	153.9	46.4	70.7	17.7	6.0	10.1	713.1
AVERAGE ANNUAL HOURS									
Male									
Capital city	150.9	129.3	151.6	121.3	147.2	191.0	140.0	111.6	141.8
Balance of state	173.5	167.3	110.8	*155.6	*115.2	144.8	182.2	—	147.4
Total	160.2	142.2	129.1	129.6	139.1	163.4	150.7	111.6	144.0
Female									
Capital city	105.4	117.4	132.7	121.2	121.5	99.6	136.5	102.9	116.5
Balance of state	147.5	166.6	156.2	129.2	*128.0	119.9	187.3	—	150.9
Total	123.2	134.0	145.0	123.6	123.0	111.7	152.4	102.9	130.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. See paragraph 8 of Explanatory Notes.

(b) ACT refers to 'Capital city' only.

VOLUNTEERING, by state and part of state *continued*

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(a)	ACT(b)	Aust.
AVERAGE ANNUAL HOURS <i>cont.</i>									
Persons									
Capital city	126.7	122.7	141.3	121.2	133.3	140.6	138.3	106.8	128.2
Balance of state	159.4	166.9	134.4	139.9	121.8	131.1	185.0	—	149.3
Total	140.3	137.7	137.6	126.3	130.5	134.9	151.6	106.8	136.4
MEDIAN ANNUAL HOURS									
Male									
Capital city	58	*46	*30	60	50	*65	43	52	50
Balance of state	78	*72	40	*57	*36	60	*67	—	59
Total	62	52	35	59	48	60	48	52	52
Female									
Capital city	53	52	*52	53	52	52	66	48	52
Balance of state	72	93	84	*58	59	52	68	—	77
Total	60	62	78	53	52	52	67	48	60
Persons									
Capital city	55	49	48	55	52	55	52	52	52
Balance of state	76	81	60	58	48	54	68	—	66
Total	60	60	52	56	51	55	57	52	56

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. See paragraph 8 of Explanatory Notes.

(b) ACT refers to 'Capital city' only.

VOLUNTEERING, by selected demographic and socio-economic characteristics

	VOLUNTEERS			VOLUNTEER RATE			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK(a)			TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK(a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours (m)	Hours (m)	Hours (m)
Birthplace												
Australian born	1 782.3	2 198.1	3 980.5	33.3	38.9	36.2	2.9	2.6	2.7	265.6	292.3	557.9
Born outside Australia	622.9	623.2	1 246.1	28.3	29.7	28.9	2.5	2.3	2.4	80.9	74.4	155.2
Main English-speaking countries	270.5	272.2	542.7	31.5	37.1	34.1	2.6	2.7	2.7	36.9	38.3	75.2
Other countries	352.4	351.0	703.4	26.2	25.7	25.9	2.4	2.0	2.2	43.9	36.1	80.0
Relationship in household												
Family member	2 066.8	2 418.4	4 485.1	33.3	37.5	35.5	2.7	2.5	2.6	294.0	309.2	603.2
Husband, wife or partner	1 727.7	1 935.3	3 663.0	34.9	39.6	37.2	2.9	2.4	2.6	257.8	241.5	499.3
With dependent children	940.8	1 059.8	2 000.5	42.4	49.6	45.9	1.9	2.1	2.0	91.5	115.5	207.0
With no dependent children	786.9	875.5	1 662.5	28.7	31.9	30.3	4.1	2.8	3.4	166.3	126.0	292.3
Lone parent	50.4	249.9	300.3	33.9	33.5	33.6	*2.2	2.7	2.6	*5.9	35.0	40.9
Dependent student	65.1	84.7	149.8	45.8	47.5	46.7	*2.0	3.2	2.7	*6.9	*14.0	20.9
Non-dependent child	188.7	110.0	298.7	24.4	23.3	24.0	2.2	*2.6	2.3	21.4	*14.8	36.2
Other family member	34.9	*38.5	73.4	19.6	22.7	21.1	*1.1	*2.0	*1.6	*2.0	*3.9	*5.9
Non-family member	338.5	403.0	741.4	25.0	30.9	27.9	3.0	2.7	2.9	52.4	57.5	109.9
Lone person	211.9	312.9	524.8	23.2	30.5	27.0	3.6	3.0	3.2	39.2	49.0	88.2
Not living alone	126.5	90.0	216.6	28.7	32.4	30.2	2.0	1.8	1.9	13.2	8.5	21.7
Student status												
Currently studying	333.8	429.2	763.0	41.6	43.5	42.6	2.2	2.7	2.5	38.1	60.3	98.4
Full-time	139.5	183.5	323.0	43.8	42.6	43.1	2.1	2.6	2.4	15.5	25.3	40.8
Part-time	194.3	245.8	440.0	40.2	44.2	42.3	2.2	2.7	2.5	22.6	35.1	57.7
Not currently studying	2 071.4	2 392.1	4 463.5	30.7	35.4	33.0	2.9	2.5	2.6	308.3	306.4	614.7
Level of highest non-school qualification												
Bachelor degree/Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate or above	675.0	728.0	1 403.0	43.1	46.1	44.6	2.0	2.3	2.2	70.2	87.5	157.7
Advanced diploma/diploma	231.9	344.8	576.7	40.4	49.4	45.3	4.1	2.5	3.1	49.8	44.5	94.3
Certificate III/IV	593.5	279.4	872.9	33.9	38.2	35.2	2.9	2.5	2.8	91.0	36.6	127.7
Certificate I/II	110.7	264.8	375.6	31.3	41.8	38.1	2.6	3.1	3.0	15.2	42.5	57.7
No non-school qualification	794.1	1 204.3	1 998.4	24.0	29.3	26.9	2.9	2.5	2.7	120.2	155.6	275.8
Labour force and Full-time/part-time status												
Employed	1 905.7	1 767.1	3 672.8	34.4	39.4	36.6	2.2	2.2	2.2	217.9	204.5	422.4
Full-time	1 633.0	786.6	2 419.6	34.3	32.8	33.8	2.2	2.1	2.2	186.7	86.3	273.0
Part-time	272.7	980.5	1 253.2	35.0	47.0	43.8	2.2	2.3	2.3	31.2	118.2	149.4
Unemployed	45.6	79.0	124.6	18.5	35.0	26.4	*3.4	2.0	2.5	*8.2	*8.1	16.3
Not in the labour force	453.9	975.3	1 429.1	25.7	32.0	29.7	5.1	3.0	3.7	120.3	154.0	274.4
Retired	352.3	584.4	936.7	25.9	31.1	28.9	5.9	3.5	4.4	107.9	105.4	213.3
Other	101.6	390.8	492.4	25.1	33.6	31.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	12.5	48.7	61.1
Self-assessed health status												
Excellent/Very good	1 584.2	1 783.3	3 367.5	36.6	39.7	38.2	2.6	2.4	2.5	210.2	224.0	434.2
Good	587.2	686.4	1 273.6	28.5	34.2	31.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	78.9	93.2	172.1
Fair/Poor	233.8	351.7	585.5	20.1	28.0	24.2	4.7	2.7	3.5	57.4	49.5	106.9
Equivalised gross weekly household income quintiles(b)												
Lowest 20%	230.1	401.6	631.7	21.2	27.6	24.9	4.6	3.3	3.8	54.8	68.8	123.7
Second quintile	333.6	475.7	809.3	30.2	37.0	33.8	3.3	3.0	3.1	56.7	73.7	130.4
Third quintile	441.1	440.1	881.2	33.1	38.1	35.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	53.6	52.3	105.9
Forth quintile	465.8	487.4	953.3	33.8	37.4	35.5	2.3	2.1	2.2	55.6	52.3	107.9
Highest 20%	604.5	507.0	1 111.5	37.2	40.6	38.7	2.8	2.3	2.5	86.7	59.9	146.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Based on hours worked for all organisations in the previous 12 months.

(b) See Glossary entry.

	VOLUNTEERS			VOLUNTEER RATE			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK(a)			TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK(a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours (m)	Hours (m)	Hours (m)
Remoteness areas of Australia(b)												
Major city areas	1 474.5	1 807.5	3 282.0	29.3	34.0	31.7	2.7	2.2	2.4	208.7	209.2	417.9
Inner Regional	628.1	666.8	1 294.9	36.7	41.6	39.1	2.7	2.9	2.8	87.6	101.4	189.0
Outer Regional	260.8	296.8	557.5	37.4	40.8	39.1	3.3	2.9	3.1	*44.6	45.3	89.9
Other	41.9	50.3	92.2	36.7	46.5	41.5	*2.5	*4.2	*3.4	*5.5	*10.9	*16.4
Socio-economic status of area(c)												
Lowest 20%	317.1	366.3	683.4	25.5	27.7	26.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	46.8	51.5	98.3
Second quintile	376.3	514.0	890.3	28.6	35.1	32.0	3.3	2.8	3.0	64.0	76.1	140.1
Third quintile	469.0	577.2	1 046.1	28.9	35.2	32.0	3.1	2.8	2.9	74.8	85.0	159.8
Forth quintile	558.3	619.1	1 177.4	35.0	39.9	37.4	2.5	2.3	2.4	72.4	75.4	147.7
Highest 20%	678.8	739.0	1 417.8	39.0	42.2	40.6	2.5	2.0	2.3	88.1	77.9	166.0
Total	2 405.2	2 821.3	5 226.5	31.8	36.4	34.1	2.8	2.5	2.6	346.4	366.7	713.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Based on hours worked for all organisations in the previous 12 months.

(b) See Glossary entry.

(c) Persons' area of residence ranked according to the 2001 Census-based Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage. Greater disadvantage is at the low end of the scale.

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)							
Birthplace							
Australian born	30.8	27.2	40.6	40.2	29.5	28.8	33.3
Born outside Australia	24.4	31.7	28.0	37.5	23.2	23.4	28.3
Main English-speaking countries	*37.2	*24.2	34.4	39.5	26.3	28.9	31.5
Other countries	*17.1	35.6	22.8	36.3	21.3	19.4	26.2
Relationship in household							
Family member	29.9	28.8	39.0	41.9	28.6	28.4	33.3
Husband, wife or partner	20.7	31.2	41.1	43.2	29.0	28.5	34.9
With dependent children	**16.4	31.7	44.2	52.4	27.5	**43.4	42.4
With no dependent children	*22.7	30.7	26.9	29.3	29.2	28.2	28.7
Lone parent	**19.0	**38.5	34.7	38.8	*27.6	**34.6	33.9
Dependent student	45.8	..	..	..	..	..	45.8
Non-dependent child	27.2	*23.1	**10.1	**22.2	**18.0	—	24.4
Other family member	*39.8	**13.1	0.0	**12.2	**12.7	**5.8	19.6
Non-family member	*28.3	26.8	27.1	26.5	20.3	20.0	25.0
Lone person	*17.0	26.4	27.3	23.9	21.7	19.2	23.2
Not living alone	*31.4	*27.0	*26.6	*39.3	**7.7	**35.3	28.7
Student status							
Currently studying	42.9	38.5	44.6	36.4	*59.3	**26.2	41.6
Full-time	42.2	49.9	*45.6	**35.9	—	—	43.8
Part-time	43.7	31.4	44.4	36.5	*60.7	**26.2	40.2
Not currently studying	21.0	26.8	36.5	39.6	26.6	26.8	30.7
Level of highest non-school qualification							
Bachelor degree/Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate or above	33.5	39.2	47.8	54.4	34.2	36.2	43.1
Advanced diploma/diploma	*18.8	37.0	51.7	49.1	*24.9	48.7	40.4
Certificate III/IV	29.0	26.3	37.5	44.5	30.7	29.5	33.9
Certificate I/II	*40.5	*30.4	*35.2	*31.6	*25.9	27.2	31.3
No non-school qualification	29.6	18.2	27.3	23.8	22.7	21.0	24.0
Labour force and Full-time/part-time status							
Employed	30.1	28.9	39.7	42.1	27.5	30.4	34.4
Full-time	27.9	27.6	39.9	42.6	26.6	*33.2	34.3
Part-time	36.1	40.6	37.3	36.4	30.8	27.9	35.0
Unemployed	*18.8	*29.2	**10.9	**11.9	**16.2	**100.0	18.5
Not in the labour force	34.7	*18.2	*18.4	21.9	27.4	26.1	25.7
Retired	..	..	..	*16.1	28.7	25.9	25.9
Other	34.7	*18.2	*18.4	*30.6	*19.6	**42.9	25.1
Self-assessed health status							
Excellent/Very good	32.5	32.6	40.7	45.1	30.5	35.1	36.6
Good	25.1	22.0	33.2	33.9	29.2	25.5	28.5
Fair/Poor	**14.6	*8.8	23.8	27.9	18.1	19.8	20.1
Equivalent gross weekly household income quintiles^(a)							
Lowest 20%	*25.5	*15.7	*17.6	23.1	19.0	22.8	21.2
Second quintile	*28.5	31.1	37.8	36.4	27.9	22.4	30.2
Third quintile	29.8	28.6	40.3	39.6	23.2	31.7	33.1
Forth quintile	31.4	21.6	41.8	37.5	29.4	50.1	33.8
Highest 20%	29.7	34.9	38.8	48.7	30.5	*31.7	37.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) See Glossary entry.

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%) <i>cont.</i>							
State/territory							
NSW	28.3	28.6	31.6	41.7	22.4	29.1	30.7
Vic.	31.1	21.0	39.3	34.7	24.7	28.3	30.1
Qld	*32.4	35.7	42.3	45.1	31.0	22.4	35.6
SA	*14.7	29.7	33.5	42.3	27.2	21.7	29.1
WA	34.4	30.4	42.5	31.7	36.2	26.9	34.0
Tas.	42.9	29.7	30.4	30.3	37.6	30.7	33.1
NT(a)	36.4	30.3	36.4	36.0	35.3	*22.9	33.8
ACT	*20.3	28.2	43.8	47.0	45.2	*21.1	35.2
Part of state							
Capital city	24.0	25.9	34.5	41.0	24.6	26.5	30.0
Balance of state/territory	42.3	33.8	42.0	36.7	31.4	27.2	35.3
Remoteness areas of Australia(b)							
Major city areas	23.0	25.8	34.4	39.8	23.9	25.3	29.3
Inner Regional	46.1	31.7	44.8	37.2	32.1	30.4	36.7
Outer Regional	*43.7	37.3	39.7	41.4	31.8	31.1	37.4
Other	**43.5	50.7	*35.1	46.1	44.0	**2.0	36.7
Socio-economic status of area(c)							
Lowest 20%	27.7	*22.2	29.2	26.9	23.0	23.5	25.5
Second quintile	*22.5	25.8	30.5	34.0	27.9	28.1	28.6
Third quintile	*19.1	28.9	34.5	37.6	30.6	19.9	28.9
Forth quintile	32.5	35.1	42.3	41.3	25.2	28.5	35.0
Highest 20%	44.9	28.1	45.1	52.2	28.0	35.3	39.0
All male volunteers	29.7	28.3	37.1	39.4	27.2	26.8	31.8

NUMBER ('000)

All male volunteers	293.9	398.0	549.0	546.4	304.8	313.1	2 405.2
All males	990.9	1 405.1	1 481.8	1 386.5	1 119.5	1 169.5	7 553.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. See paragraph 8 of Explanatory Notes.

(b) See Glossary entry.

(c) Person's area of residence ranked according to the 2001 Census-based Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage. Greater disadvantage is at the lower end of the scale.

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)							
Birthplace							
Australian born	30.5	33.8	54.2	41.0	39.4	31.6	38.9
Born outside Australia	*25.2	29.7	33.6	34.8	33.8	18.9	29.7
Main English-speaking countries	**28.0	36.5	47.2	46.9	39.4	22.1	37.1
Other countries	*24.7	27.2	26.5	28.6	29.9	16.3	25.7
Relationship in household							
Family member	28.4	32.7	49.8	40.5	37.9	27.7	37.5
Husband, wife or partner	24.1	34.8	51.2	42.1	38.1	30.6	39.6
With dependent children	*14.1	39.1	56.6	55.7	*42.4	—	49.6
With no dependent children	30.0	28.6	28.4	29.4	37.7	30.8	31.9
Lone parent	*16.9	34.2	45.1	33.6	*30.4	*17.4	33.5
Dependent student	47.5	..	..	..	..	..	47.5
Non-dependent child	*21.5	*14.9	*41.4	*41.1	**57.0	**100.0	23.3
Other family member	*34.9	*32.6	**13.3	**22.4	*36.2	**9.1	22.7
Non-family member	35.0	33.8	25.5	28.1	36.5	27.7	30.9
Lone person	39.9	33.1	27.9	24.1	36.8	28.6	30.5
Not living alone	33.8	*34.4	**10.9	*55.9	**33.3	—	32.4
Student status							
Currently studying	44.0	37.7	47.0	46.8	48.4	*52.8	43.5
Full-time	42.9	*35.2	49.2	*55.6	—	—	42.6
Part-time	47.0	38.9	46.5	44.3	48.4	*52.8	44.2
Not currently studying	19.1	31.7	48.3	38.6	37.2	27.5	35.4
Level of highest non-school qualification							
Bachelor degree/Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate or above	38.8	39.4	49.0	53.9	48.6	46.3	46.1
Advanced diploma/diploma	*42.6	39.5	59.7	51.6	63.1	35.9	49.4
Certificate III/IV	29.2	36.5	51.9	41.0	35.8	*32.0	38.2
Certificate I/II	*33.3	30.6	53.7	46.7	42.8	39.3	41.8
No non-school qualification	25.7	23.0	43.6	29.5	30.0	23.9	29.3
Labour force and Full-time/part-time status							
Employed	31.9	34.4	48.8	40.4	36.0	50.9	39.4
Full-time	28.1	30.3	39.6	32.9	29.6	*54.6	32.8
Part-time	36.3	41.3	57.6	49.0	42.1	49.8	47.0
Unemployed	*35.1	*27.3	45.5	*29.4	**35.3	100.0	35.0
Not in the labour force	18.6	28.9	46.9	36.9	39.3	26.1	32.0
Retired	..	..	..	34.5	40.6	26.6	31.1
Other	18.6	28.9	46.9	40.3	*30.2	*17.0	33.6
Self assessed health status							
Excellent/Very good	30.5	32.2	51.8	41.5	42.4	37.6	39.7
Good	29.1	35.6	39.7	37.2	34.7	29.0	34.2
Fair/Poor	*22.0	32.9	44.8	34.9	31.8	15.6	28.0
Equivalised gross weekly household income quintiles(a)							
Lowest 20%	*11.5	27.8	37.8	32.9	31.8	24.1	27.6
Second quintile	31.4	36.4	48.6	36.8	41.0	28.4	37.0
Third quintile	27.9	31.6	51.3	37.9	46.1	25.2	38.1
Forth quintile	32.1	27.6	49.1	41.3	35.0	*32.4	37.4
Highest 20%	31.9	36.2	50.7	42.8	35.3	*43.9	40.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) See Glossary entry.

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%) <i>cont.</i>							
State/territory							
NSW	26.8	23.9	45.1	40.1	41.7	29.1	34.7
Vic.	30.8	35.0	48.4	37.1	32.3	24.3	35.2
Qld	28.8	43.1	52.1	39.6	40.8	30.5	40.1
SA	38.6	31.5	47.1	26.6	39.1	22.1	33.6
WA	29.2	35.8	52.3	49.4	29.3	28.3	38.7
Tas.	25.9	37.9	46.2	44.5	36.4	36.7	38.9
NT(a)	31.6	39.7	42.3	38.9	38.3	*27.2	38.1
ACT	37.8	40.2	46.0	41.7	44.4	37.4	41.5
Part of state							
Capital city	31.2	31.2	44.0	37.3	35.1	23.1	34.0
Balance of state/territory	25.6	36.5	56.1	42.8	41.8	35.0	40.8
Remoteness areas of Australia(b)							
Major city areas	33.3	31.6	44.5	35.8	34.9	22.5	34.0
Inner Regional	19.6	32.8	59.1	44.1	43.0	40.2	41.6
Outer Regional	*19.3	37.6	51.0	49.8	41.7	33.0	40.8
Other	**30.0	57.8	*45.1	43.5	*55.3	*38.3	46.5
Socio-economic status of area(c)							
Lowest 20%	17.6	26.5	31.4	35.8	27.9	25.0	27.7
Second quintile	30.3	38.0	44.9	36.4	35.9	23.6	35.1
Third quintile	24.3	29.7	50.8	35.8	38.1	30.1	35.2
Fourth quintile	38.2	35.3	52.6	38.4	42.8	28.8	39.9
Highest 20%	38.9	33.1	56.2	46.6	39.7	32.2	42.2
All female volunteers	29.5	32.8	48.2	39.3	37.6	27.7	36.4

NUMBER ('000)

All female volunteers	280.4	460.9	726.0	555.2	421.6	377.3	2 821.3
All females	949.3	1 404.1	1 506.4	1 413.7	1 119.8	1 360.4	7 753.8

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(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. See paragraph 8 of Explanatory Notes.

(b) See Glossary entry.

(c) Person's area of residence ranked according to the 2001 Census-based index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage. Greater disadvantage is at the lower end of the scale.

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years or more	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)							
Birthplace							
Australian born	30.7	30.5	47.4	40.6	34.6	30.4	36.2
Born outside Australia	24.8	30.7	30.9	36.1	28.1	21.2	28.9
Main English-speaking countries	*34.4	29.4	40.2	43.0	32.6	25.4	34.1
Other countries	*21.3	31.3	24.9	32.5	25.2	18.0	25.9
Relationship in household							
Family member	29.2	30.9	44.7	41.2	33.1	28.1	35.5
Husband, wife or partner	22.8	33.2	46.2	42.7	33.3	29.4	37.2
With dependent children	*14.9	35.8	50.4	53.8	32.3	**35.4	45.9
With no dependent children	27.0	29.7	27.7	29.4	33.5	29.4	30.3
Lone parent	*17.3	34.5	43.6	34.4	*29.6	*21.5	33.6
Dependent student	46.7	—	—	—	—	—	46.7
Non-dependent child	25.0	20.0	*21.1	*31.7	*36.4	**100.0	24.0
Other family member	37.7	*19.2	**6.1	**16.4	*24.7	**8.5	21.1
Non-family member	31.6	29.2	26.6	27.1	29.4	25.3	27.9
Lone person	27.9	29.1	27.4	24.0	30.3	25.7	27.0
Not living alone	32.6	29.4	*23.8	*44.6	**20.8	**15.0	30.2
Student status							
Currently studying	43.4	38.1	46.0	42.5	51.8	*39.1	42.6
Full-time	42.6	42.0	47.8	48.2	—	—	43.1
Part-time	44.9	35.9	45.6	41.1	52.2	*39.1	42.3
Not currently studying	20.1	29.2	42.3	39.1	31.8	27.2	33.0
Level of highest non-school qualification							
Bachelor degree/Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate or above	36.7	39.3	48.4	54.2	40.8	40.4	44.6
Advanced diploma/diploma	*30.3	38.5	56.3	50.4	44.8	42.0	45.3
Certificate III/IV	29.1	30.1	41.1	43.5	31.8	29.8	35.2
Certificate I/II	*36.3	30.6	47.2	41.1	36.6	35.2	38.1
No non-school qualification	27.8	20.5	36.3	27.2	26.9	22.8	26.9
Labour force and full-time/part-time status							
Employed	31.0	31.3	43.8	41.3	31.0	37.4	36.6
Full-time	28.0	28.6	39.8	39.4	27.5	37.4	33.8
Part-time	36.3	41.1	54.4	47.2	38.0	37.5	43.8
Unemployed	*25.7	28.3	27.2	*22.4	*24.7	100.0	26.4
Not in the labour force	24.5	26.9	40.6	32.3	35.0	26.1	29.7
Retired	—	—	—	28.7	36.3	26.3	28.9
Other	24.5	26.9	40.6	37.3	25.9	*19.8	31.4
Self-assessed health status							
Excellent/Very good	31.5	32.4	46.4	43.3	36.4	36.5	38.2
Good	27.1	28.0	36.2	35.6	32.0	27.3	31.3
Fair/Poor	*18.5	20.3	35.0	31.5	25.0	17.6	24.2
Equivalised gross weekly household income quintiles^(a)							
Lowest 20%	*18.1	23.0	29.2	28.3	26.3	23.6	24.9
Second quintile	30.1	34.2	43.6	36.6	35.2	25.4	33.8
Third quintile	29.1	30.0	45.4	38.8	34.6	28.6	35.4
Forth quintile	31.7	24.5	45.5	39.3	32.1	42.4	35.5
Highest 20%	30.7	35.5	44.4	46.0	32.2	36.2	38.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) See Glossary entry.

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years or more	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%) <i>cont.</i>							
State/territory							
NSW	27.6	26.2	38.3	40.9	32.0	29.1	32.7
Vic.	30.9	28.1	43.9	35.9	28.5	26.2	32.7
Qld	30.7	39.4	47.3	42.3	35.8	26.7	37.8
SA	26.3	30.6	40.3	34.3	33.2	21.9	31.4
WA	31.9	33.1	47.4	40.6	32.8	27.6	36.3
Tas.	34.6	33.9	38.5	37.5	37.0	33.9	36.0
NT(a)	34.1	34.9	39.2	37.4	36.6	24.8	35.8
ACT	28.9	34.1	44.9	44.3	44.8	29.9	38.4
Part of state							
Capital city	27.6	28.6	39.3	39.1	29.8	24.6	32.0
Balance of state/territory	34.2	35.1	49.2	39.7	36.6	31.2	38.1
Remoteness areas of Australia							
Major city areas	28.1	28.8	39.5	37.8	29.6	23.8	31.7
Inner Regional	33.4	32.2	52.0	40.4	37.1	35.6	39.1
Outer Regional	*32.8	37.4	45.3	46.2	36.5	32.1	39.1
Other	*34.1	55.0	38.6	44.8	49.3	**15.8	41.5
Socio-economic status of area(b)							
Lowest 20%	22.5	24.6	30.3	31.2	25.5	24.3	26.7
Second quintile	26.9	31.9	38.4	35.2	31.8	25.6	32.0
Third quintile	21.7	29.3	42.4	36.7	34.4	25.3	32.0
Forth quintile	34.5	35.2	47.2	39.9	34.6	28.7	37.4
Highest 20%	41.8	30.5	50.8	49.3	33.5	33.7	40.6
All persons	29.6	30.6	42.7	39.3	32.4	27.3	34.1

NUMBER ('000)

Volunteers	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	690.4	5 226.5
All persons	1 940.1	2 809.2	2 988.3	2 800.2	2 239.3	2 529.9	15 307.1

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(b) Person's area of residence ranked according to the 2001 Census-based index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage. Greater disadvantage is at the lower end of the scale.

Occupation (a)	VOLUNTEERS			VOLUNTEER RATE			ANNUAL HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK(b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	hours (million)	hours (million)	hours (million)
AGED 18-34 YEARS									
Managers and Administrators	*44.6	*28.3	72.9	37.5	*34.2	36.2	*2.6	*2.6	*5.2
Professionals	132.8	174.9	307.7	42.9	46.9	45.1	*13.8	13.9	27.7
Associate Professionals	65.7	70.3	136.0	32.8	28.3	30.3	*5.8	5.9	*11.6
Tradespersons and Related Workers	134.0	*9.0	143.1	27.0	*14.4	25.6	13.1	*0.3	13.4
Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	**13.2	*28.3	*41.5	*51.6	36.3	40.1	**0.6	*1.7	*2.2
Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	*56.3	139.5	195.8	*30.1	27.5	28.2	*4.8	*19.4	24.3
Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	69.7	**9.3	79.0	21.3	*27.9	22.0	*7.1	**0.6	*7.7
Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	*55.5	86.0	141.6	33.4	36.6	35.3	*6.6	*8.1	*14.7
Labourers and Related Workers	*37.1	*25.7	62.8	*15.3	*28.8	19.0	*2.0	*1.3	*3.3
Total employed	609.0	571.4	1 180.5	29.4	33.4	31.2	56.5	53.6	110.0
Not employed(c)	82.9	169.8	252.7	25.6	26.4	26.1	*9.8	19.0	28.8
Total	691.9	741.2	1 433.2	28.9	31.5	30.2	66.3	72.6	138.8
AGED 35-64 YEARS									
Managers and Administrators	226.8	128.1	354.8	42.9	63.9	48.7	23.0	15.0	38.0
Professionals	262.0	309.3	571.4	43.5	51.1	47.3	25.2	38.9	64.1
Associate Professionals	183.0	156.2	339.2	41.7	45.8	43.5	25.5	16.8	42.3
Tradespersons and Related Workers	199.1	*20.7	219.8	36.7	27.7	35.6	21.9	**5.8	27.7
Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	*5.9	120.3	126.2	*18.1	50.6	46.6	**0.7	15.6	16.3
Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	96.0	256.9	352.8	37.1	37.8	37.6	15.1	27.5	42.6
Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	132.0	*17.6	149.6	27.1	*24.1	26.7	*21.1	*2.7	23.8
Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	43.8	77.3	121.1	41.7	31.3	34.4	*6.5	*9.7	16.2
Labourers and Related Workers	79.9	57.1	137.0	30.7	27.9	29.5	*8.0	*12.6	*20.7
Total employed	1 228.5	1 143.5	2 372.0	37.7	42.9	40.1	147.0	144.5	291.5
Not employed(c)	171.7	559.3	731.0	23.5	40.7	34.7	41.8	80.9	122.7
Total	1 400.2	1 702.8	3 103.0	35.1	42.1	38.7	188.8	225.4	414.2
AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER (d)									
Managers and Administrators	281.4	163.4	444.8	41.5	55.3	45.7	26.2	18.2	44.4
Professionals	401.6	491.6	893.2	42.7	49.9	46.4	41.8	53.7	95.5
Associate Professionals	252.4	228.4	480.8	38.8	38.5	38.6	31.4	22.9	54.3
Tradespersons and Related Workers	336.0	31.4	367.4	31.8	22.5	30.7	35.0	**6.1	41.1
Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	*19.4	156.1	175.5	*30.5	47.3	44.6	*1.3	18.1	19.5
Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	155.7	407.6	563.3	33.8	33.6	33.6	20.4	49.8	70.1
Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	216.2	*27.0	243.1	25.7	25.1	25.7	33.2	*3.2	36.4
Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	104.3	168.5	272.9	37.4	34.3	35.4	13.7	*18.0	31.7
Labourers and Related Workers	120.9	85.1	206.0	23.2	28.1	25.0	11.2	*14.2	25.4
Total employed	1 887.9	1 758.9	3 646.9	34.4	39.4	36.6	214.2	204.2	418.4
Not employed(c)	517.3	1 062.4	1 579.7	25.1	32.3	29.5	132.2	162.6	294.8
Total	2 405.2	2 821.3	5 226.5	31.8	36.4	34.1	346.4	366.7	713.1

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Coded to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupation, Second Edition (cat. no. 1220.0).

(b) Based on hours worked for all organisations in the previous 12 months.

(c) Includes persons who are unemployed and not in the labour force.

(d) Includes persons aged 65 years and over.

VOLUNTEERING, by community involvement and trust

	Males	Females	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Total
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Attended community event in past six months									
Yes	41.9	46.2	37.5	38.4	52.0	49.3	41.1	42.6	44.2
No	15.7	16.3	11.2	14.8	19.9	20.1	18.1	11.9	16.0
Actively involved in religious or spiritual group or organisation in previous 12 months									
Yes	54.5	58.9	54.3	52.7	62.3	63.4	59.8	48.3	57.1
No	27.5	29.6	24.4	26.8	37.5	32.9	25.6	20.5	28.5
Donated money to an organisation in the previous 12 months									
Yes	35.6	40.0	32.6	33.6	48.2	42.8	35.3	30.3	37.9
No	21.8	21.2	24.8	21.1	22.4	23.0	20.2	16.7	21.5
Believe that most people can be trusted									
Strongly agree/somewhat agree	35.2	39.8	31.3	33.1	47.8	43.4	35.9	30.5	37.6
Neither agree nor disagree	30.9	32.5	26.2	31.1	40.2	39.8	27.3	21.8	31.7
Somewhat disagree/strongly disagree	26.5	32.0	28.5	26.2	35.6	30.8	29.0	23.4	29.2
All persons	31.8	36.4	29.6	30.6	42.7	39.3	32.4	27.3	34.1
NUMBER ('000)									
Total volunteers	2 405.2	2 821.3	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	690.4	5 226.5

LENGTH OF TIME SINCE FIRST VOLUNTEERED, by age and sex

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years and over	Total
MALE VOLUNTEERS (%)								
Less than one year	*16.0	13.9	7.3	*2.5	*5.2	**3.2	np	7.4
One to five years	42.3	29.6	25.2	16.4	10.7	*9.9	**5.6	22.0
Six to ten years	24.5	12.2	12.1	15.4	*5.0	*8.8	**8.4	13.0
More than ten years	17.2	44.3	55.4	65.7	79.2	78.1	85.8	57.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)								
Male volunteers	293.9	398.0	549.0	546.4	304.8	203.7	109.3	2 405.2
FEMALE VOLUNTEERS (%)								
Less than one year	*14.9	11.1	8.0	*4.2	*5.1	*4.7	*2.8	7.5
One to five years	40.0	33.1	24.9	17.9	17.1	*11.3	*9.9	23.3
Six to ten years	22.7	14.5	17.1	12.0	10.7	*6.9	**4.7	13.8
More than ten years	22.5	41.2	50.0	65.8	67.1	77.1	82.5	55.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)								
Female volunteers	280.4	460.9	726.0	555.2	421.6	250.4	126.9	2 821.3
ALL VOLUNTEERS (%)								
Less than one year	15.4	12.4	7.7	3.4	5.2	*4.0	*1.6	7.5
One to five years	41.2	31.5	25.0	17.2	14.4	10.6	*7.9	22.7
Six to ten years	23.6	13.4	15.0	13.7	8.3	*7.7	*6.4	13.5
More than ten years	19.8	42.7	52.3	65.8	72.2	77.6	84.1	56.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
ALL VOLUNTEERS ('000)								
All Volunteers	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	454.1	236.3	5 226.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

HOW FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN VOLUNTARY WORK(a)

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
How first became involved						
Knew someone involved	310.8	343.8	654.6	30.4	27.3	28.7
Someone asked	384.8	421.4	806.2	37.7	33.5	35.4
Self involvement in organisation	185.8	191.5	377.3	18.2	15.2	16.6
Saw advertisement/report in media	30.7	72.4	103.1	3.0	5.8	4.5
Found out about it by himself/herself	82.1	160.9	243.1	8.0	12.8	10.7
Other	26.6	68.6	95.1	2.6	5.4	4.2
Total Volunteers(a)	1 020.8	1 258.7	2 279.4	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Volunteers who had volunteered for 10 years or less.

	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	18-44 years	45 years and over	Total	18-44 years	45 years and over	Total	18-44 years	45 years and over	Total
		%			%			%	
PERCENTAGE (a)									
Parent(s) had done voluntary work									
Parent(s) had done voluntary work	58.8	48.4	53.7	56.8	45.2	51.0	57.8	46.8	52.3
No parent had done voluntary work	32.6	39.2	35.8	35.6	45.3	40.5	34.1	42.3	38.2
Don't know	8.6	12.3	10.4	7.6	9.6	8.6	8.1	10.9	9.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Had participated as a child in:									
Organised team sport	85.6	77.9	81.8	73.2	61.5	67.3	79.4	69.5	74.5
Youth group	48.9	56.5	52.6	55.5	50.5	53.0	52.2	53.4	52.8
Religious organisation	19.9	29.0	24.4	28.0	37.3	32.7	24.0	33.3	28.6
Voluntary work	57.3	44.8	51.2	64.0	44.8	54.4	60.6	44.8	52.8
None of these	6.2	10.9	8.5	9.0	16.7	12.8	7.6	13.9	10.7
Total(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
VOLUNTEER RATE (c)									
Parent(s) had done voluntary work									
Parent(s) had done voluntary work	39.6	41.9	40.6	45.3	46.4	45.8	42.4	44.1	43.1
No parent had done voluntary work	18.5	21.1	19.9	27.8	25.0	26.2	23.4	23.2	23.3
Don't know	31.4	25.2	27.9	31.4	26.0	28.4	31.4	25.6	28.1
Total	32.0	31.7	31.8	38.0	34.8	36.4	35.0	33.3	34.1
Had participated as a child in:									
Organised team sport	34.3	34.9	34.6	41.3	39.2	40.3	37.5	36.9	37.2
Youth group	40.5	37.7	39.0	44.2	44.3	44.3	42.5	40.9	41.7
Religious organisation	47.2	44.4	45.6	53.1	47.7	50.0	50.6	46.3	48.1
Voluntary work	39.9	43.9	41.6	42.9	43.6	43.2	41.5	43.7	42.4
None of these	*7.9	15.0	12.3	20.5	18.1	18.9	15.3	16.9	16.3
Total	32.0	31.7	31.8	38.0	34.8	36.4	35.0	33.3	34.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Per cent of persons in each age/sex group.

(b) People may have participated in more than one type of group activity as a child, therefore figures for individual categories will not add to 100%.

(c) Per cent in each parental volunteering and childhood group participation category who had volunteered in the previous 12 months.

CURRENT REASONS FOR BEING A VOLUNTEER, by age and sex

<i>Current reasons</i>	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years and over	Total
MALE VOLUNTEERS (%)								
Help others/community	50.4	59.9	50.1	57.8	58.6	59.7	62.3	55.9
Personal satisfaction	38.3	39.1	41.0	45.4	43.8	48.4	65.3	43.4
Personal/family involvement	29.5	24.9	44.6	41.5	34.9	18.3	*23.0	34.4
To do something worthwhile	37.8	32.9	28.9	32.1	34.7	34.7	48.2	33.5
Social contact	*14.8	20.8	16.1	22.9	25.6	20.9	32.7	20.6
Use skills/experience	15.1	21.0	15.3	14.7	20.2	15.3	*32.0	17.5
To be active	*15.8	14.4	11.1	15.5	16.2	16.6	*25.4	15.0
Religious beliefs	*13.7	*12.0	12.3	15.2	12.2	*11.1	34.3	14.0
Other(a)	24.0	27.3	18.6	16.8	16.2	19.0	**8.1	19.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

MALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)

All male volunteers	293.9	398.0	549.0	546.4	304.8	203.7	109.3	2 405.2
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FEMALE VOLUNTEERS (%)

Help others/community	55.5	56.1	55.1	55.7	59.3	65.2	60.7	57.2
Personal satisfaction	47.1	41.5	40.6	46.3	48.6	45.5	46.7	44.4
Personal/family involvement	29.4	41.8	54.8	45.1	24.8	23.3	23.2	39.5
To do something worthwhile	38.5	40.3	34.7	37.7	38.9	45.8	42.3	38.5
Social contact	18.0	25.4	22.4	23.8	22.6	27.4	25.6	23.4
Use skills/experience	*10.1	17.3	15.0	15.2	14.9	15.3	*9.6	14.7
To be active	*14.8	17.6	15.6	13.7	15.8	22.0	18.3	16.2
Religious beliefs	24.1	13.4	8.4	16.1	20.0	15.7	34.7	15.9
Other(a)	35.2	26.2	19.9	16.1	12.2	*12.4	*9.6	19.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)

All female volunteers	280.4	460.9	726.0	555.2	421.6	250.4	126.9	2 821.3
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ALL VOLUNTEERS (%)

Help others/community	52.9	57.8	52.9	56.7	59.0	62.7	61.4	56.6
Personal satisfaction	42.6	40.4	40.8	45.9	46.6	46.8	55.3	44.0
Personal/family involvement	29.5	34.0	50.4	43.3	29.1	21.0	23.1	37.2
To do something worthwhile	38.2	36.8	32.3	34.9	37.1	40.8	45.0	36.2
Social contact	16.3	23.3	19.7	23.4	23.9	24.5	28.9	22.1
Use skills/experience	12.7	19.0	15.2	15.0	17.1	15.3	*20.0	16.0
To be active	15.3	16.1	13.6	14.6	16.0	19.6	21.6	15.6
Religious beliefs	18.8	12.7	10.1	15.7	16.7	13.6	34.5	15.0
Other(a)	29.5	26.7	19.3	16.4	13.9	15.4	*8.9	19.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

ALL VOLUNTEERS ('000)

All volunteers	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	454.1	236.3	5 226.5
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) 'Other' includes: 'to learn new skills', 'gain work experience', 'felt obliged', 'just happened', and 'other' unspecified.

CURRENT REASONS FOR BEING A VOLUNTEER, by labour force status and sex

<i>Current reasons</i>	<i>Employed full-time</i>	<i>Employed part-time</i>	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>Not in the labour force</i>	<i>Total</i>
MALE VOLUNTEERS (%)					
Help others/community	55.6	54.7	55.0	58.1	55.9
Personal satisfaction	41.0	41.7	*46.0	53.2	43.4
Personal/family involvement	38.2	31.8	*12.7	24.2	34.4
To do something worthwhile	31.9	33.2	*38.1	38.9	33.5
Social contact	19.3	16.8	*23.7	27.5	20.6
Use skills/experience	16.7	17.1	*9.2	21.5	17.5
To be active	12.8	17.8	*9.9	21.5	15.0
Religious beliefs	13.8	*13.2	**3.3	16.0	14.0
Learn new skills/gain work experience	9.0	*15.9	*15.2	9.9	10.0
Other(a)	10.4	*15.6	**14.1	9.1	10.8
Male volunteers(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)					
Male volunteers	1 633.0	272.7	45.6	453.9	2 405.2
FEMALE VOLUNTEERS (%)					
Help others/community	59.5	55.2	52.6	57.7	57.2
Personal satisfaction	46.9	38.7	48.7	47.9	44.4
Personal/family involvement	40.5	47.0	30.7	32.0	39.5
To do something worthwhile	37.8	38.1	37.8	39.6	38.5
Social contact	22.8	20.5	*23.7	26.7	23.4
Use skills/experience	15.3	14.5	*12.0	14.8	14.7
To be active	18.6	11.2	*20.9	18.9	16.2
Religious beliefs	15.4	13.4	**9.4	19.2	15.9
Learn new skills/gain work experience	12.2	10.9	*15.8	12.0	11.7
Other(a)	9.9	8.9	**15.5	7.1	8.8
Female volunteers(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)					
Female volunteers	786.6	980.5	79.0	975.3	2 821.3
ALL VOLUNTEERS (%)					
Help others/community	56.8	55.1	53.5	57.8	56.6
Personal satisfaction	42.9	39.4	47.7	49.6	44.0
Personal/family involvement	38.9	43.7	24.1	29.5	37.2
To do something worthwhile	33.8	37.0	37.9	39.4	36.2
Social contact	20.4	19.7	23.7	26.9	22.1
Use skills/experience	16.2	15.1	*11.0	16.9	16.0
To be active	14.7	12.7	16.9	19.7	15.6
Religious beliefs	14.4	13.3	*7.2	18.2	15.0
Learn new skills/gain work experience	10.0	12.0	*15.5	11.3	11.0
Other(a)	10.2	10.4	*15.0	7.7	9.7
All volunteers(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
ALL VOLUNTEERS ('000)					
All volunteers	2 419.6	1 253.2	124.6	1 429.1	5 226.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes: 'felt obliged', 'just happened' and 'other' unspecified.

(b) Volunteers may give more than one reason, therefore figures for individual categories will not add to 100%.

NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEERED FOR(a), by age and sex

<i>Number of organisations</i>	<i>18-24 years</i>	<i>25-34 years</i>	<i>35-44 years</i>	<i>45-54 years</i>	<i>55-64 years</i>	<i>65-74 years</i>	<i>75 years and older</i>	<i>Total</i>
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MALE VOLUNTEERS (%)

One	69.3	71.2	61.6	64.0	62.3	65.5	68.2	65.4
Two	20.2	23.0	26.4	22.5	26.7	18.8	*23.4	23.5
Three	*9.8	*5.7	7.1	*8.8	*6.0	*10.7	**4.1	7.6
Four or more	**0.7	np	4.9	*4.7	*4.9	*5.0	**4.3	3.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

MALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)

Total	293.9	398.0	549.0	546.4	304.8	203.7	109.3	2 405.2
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FEMALE VOLUNTEERS (%)

One	61.1	66.3	55.4	57.6	60.0	58.5	68.8	59.8
Two	29.2	21.6	28.2	25.9	31.0	25.6	22.9	26.7
Three	*5.7	8.1	11.0	10.2	*5.5	*8.4	*3.6	8.5
Four or more	**4.0	*4.0	*5.4	6.3	*3.4	*7.5	*4.7	5.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ('000)

Total	280.4	460.9	726.0	555.2	421.6	250.4	126.9	2 821.3
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ALL VOLUNTEERS (%)

One	65.3	68.6	58.1	60.8	61.0	61.6	68.5	62.4
Two	24.6	22.3	27.4	24.2	29.2	22.6	23.2	25.2
Three	7.8	7.0	9.3	9.5	5.7	9.4	*3.8	8.1
Four or more	**2.3	*2.2	5.2	5.5	4.0	6.4	*4.5	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

ALL VOLUNTEERS ('000)

Total	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	454.1	236.3	5 226.5
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Refers to organisations volunteered for in the previous 12 months.

FREQUENCY OF VOLUNTARY WORK INVOLVEMENTS AND HOURS WORKED (a)(b)—by age and sex

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years and over	Total
MALES (%)								
Frequency of involvements(a)								
At least once a week	36.1	38.7	34.2	39.9	40.7	39.8	46.3	38.3
At least once a fortnight	15.5	10.6	8.1	9.2	10.1	11.3	*15.7	10.5
At least once a month	*11.7	13.6	16.2	14.8	15.4	21.8	16.0	15.3
Several times a year	*10.9	18.9	21.9	22.9	19.0	*13.7	12.4	18.9
Less regularly	25.7	18.1	19.5	13.2	14.9	13.4	*9.6	17.0
Total involvements	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of involvements ('000)								
Total involvements	412.6	525.6	819.2	814.7	451.1	306.1	153.3	3 482.8
Hours								
Average weekly hours(b)	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.8	2.7	3.3	4.7	1.9
Hours (million)								
Annual hours(b)	27.6	38.5	49.1	75.0	63.0	53.3	*37.6	344.1
FEMALES (%)								
Frequency of involvements(a)								
At least once a week	47.9	38.7	45.2	36.0	39.5	36.5	40.7	40.8
At least once a fortnight	8.3	8.0	10.8	12.5	11.7	15.0	16.0	11.2
At least once a month	10.9	19.6	18.7	20.6	22.6	21.2	21.5	19.4
Several times a year	*12.5	16.6	15.7	17.8	14.9	17.0	*12.5	15.9
Less regularly	20.4	17.1	9.6	13.0	11.3	10.3	*9.3	12.8
Total involvements	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of involvements ('000)								
Total involvements	403.1	667.4	1 151.6	879.1	626.5	394.1	177.1	4 298.7
Hours								
Average weekly hours(b)	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.4	2.1	2.4	2.1	1.6
Hours (million)								
Annual hours(b)	31.7	40.2	88.5	66.3	68.2	48.8	19.0	362.7
<p>* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution</p> <p>(a) The work a volunteer does for one particular organisation is referred to as an involvement.</p> <p>(b) Hours worked are for the up to three organisations for which the data were collected for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers worked for more than three organisations.</p>								

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years and over	Total
PERSONS (%)								
Frequency of involvements(a)								
At least once a week	42.0	38.7	40.7	37.9	40.0	37.9	43.3	39.7
At least once a fortnight	11.9	9.1	9.7	11.0	11.0	13.4	15.9	10.9
At least once a month	11.3	17.0	17.7	17.8	19.6	21.4	18.9	17.6
Several times a year	11.7	17.7	18.3	20.3	16.6	15.6	12.5	17.2
Less regularly	23.1	17.6	13.7	13.1	12.8	11.7	*9.5	14.7
Total involvements	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	Number of involvements ('000)							
Total involvements	815.7	1 193.0	1 970.9	1 693.8	1 077.6	700.2	330.4	7 781.5

	Hours							
Average weekly hours(b)	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.6	2.3	2.8	3.3	1.7

	Hours (million)							
Annual hours(b)	59.4	78.7	137.6	141.2	131.1	102.2	56.6	706.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) The work a volunteer does for one particular organisation is referred to as an involvement.

(b) Hours worked are for the up to three organisations for which the data were collected for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers worked for more than three organisations.

FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF VOLUNTARY WORK INVOLVEMENTS (a)

Frequency of involvements	ANNUAL HOURS OF VOLUNTARY WORK						Total	Total
	Less than 20 hours	20-39 hours	40-79 hours	80-139 hours	140-299 hours	300 hours or more		
	%	%	%	%	%	%		
VOLUNTEERS (b)								
At least once a week	5.0	5.6	11.2	11.4	13.9	8.7	48.8	2 548.0
At least once a fortnight	2.1	3.3	5.4	3.0	1.5	*0.5	15.3	799.6
At least once a month	8.6	8.0	5.7	1.5	0.7	—	23.1	1 206.9
Several times a year	16.6	4.4	1.8	—	np	np	22.7	1 187.1
Less regularly	16.5	1.9	0.8	—	np	np	19.1	998.4
Total	44.2	22.4	23.6	16.3	16.4	9.4	100.0	5 226.5
INVOLVEMENTS								
At least once a week	3.6	4.1	7.9	8.1	9.8	6.2	39.7	3 085.8
At least once a fortnight	1.4	2.3	3.8	2.1	1.0	—	10.9	847.5
At least once a month	6.1	5.7	4.1	1.0	0.5	—	17.6	1 368.9
Several times a year	12.3	3.1	1.2	—	np	np	17.2	1 339.0
Less regularly	12.5	1.3	0.6	—	np	np	14.7	1 140.3
Total	35.9	16.5	17.6	11.6	11.7	6.7	100.0	7 781.5
ANNUAL HOURS (c)								
At least once a week	0.4	1.2	4.7	9.1	21.3	40.5	77.2	(d) 545.4
At least once a fortnight	0.2	0.7	2.4	2.3	2.1	*1.7	9.3	(d) 65.7
At least once a month	0.8	1.8	2.4	1.2	1.0	*0.7	7.8	(d) 55.1
Several times a year	1.3	0.9	0.7	—	np	np	3.9	(d) 27.3
Less regularly	0.8	0.4	0.3	—	np	np	1.9	(d) 13.3
Total	3.4	4.9	10.4	13.1	25.1	43.0	100.0	(d) 706.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) The work a volunteer does for any one organisation is referred to as an involvement.

(b) Each cell relating to volunteers refers to the number or percentage of all volunteers who had at least one volunteering involvement within the given frequency of involvement and annual hours worked category. Up to three involvements were recorded for each volunteer. Volunteers who had more than one involvement were only counted once in any particular category but could otherwise have been counted up to three times. Therefore figures for individual categories do not add to the totals.

(c) Hours worked are for the up to three organisations; for which data were collected from each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers worked for more than three organisations.

(d) Annual hours worked (in millions).

VOLUNTEERS WHO INCURRED EXPENSES

	<i>Reimbursement available</i>		<i>Reimbursement not available (a)</i>		<i>Total volunteers who incurred expenses</i>		<i>% of all volunteers</i>
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	
Incurred expenses							
Phone calls	402.4	18.7	1 755.2	81.3	2 157.6	100.0	41.3
Postage	272.4	37.3	458.4	62.7	730.8	100.0	14.0
Uniform	30.5	11.9	226.0	88.1	256.5	100.0	4.9
Travel costs	359.5	14.4	2 144.7	85.6	2 504.2	100.0	47.9
Meals	118.5	15.3	653.9	84.7	772.4	100.0	14.8
Training	46.4	14.6	270.7	85.4	317.2	100.0	6.1
Other	47.3	19.0	201.7	81.0	249.1	100.0	4.8
Total(b)	700.4	23.1	2 335.6	76.9	3 036.0	100.0	58.1

(a) Includes 'don't know'.

(b) Volunteers may have incurred more than one type of expense, therefore the components will not add to the total.

<i>Type of organisation</i>	<i>Volunteers(b)</i> '000	<i>Volunteer rate(c)</i> %	<i>Volunteering involvements(d)</i> '000	<i>Volunteering involvements</i> %	<i>Annual hours of voluntary work</i> hours (million)	<i>Median age of volunteers</i> years
MALES						
Arts/heritage	76.1	1.0	79.8	2.3	13.7	55
Community/welfare	423.1	5.6	483.9	13.9	59.2	54
Education/training	451.2	6.0	465.8	13.4	13.0	42
Emergency services	120.4	1.6	122.5	3.5	*17.9	43
Environment/animal welfare	70.5	0.9	78.0	2.2	6.3	40
Health	171.0	2.3	193.4	5.6	*26.1	48
Parenting/children/youth	133.5	1.8	133.9	3.8	*12.5	41
Religious	423.4	5.6	451.7	13.0	48.7	45
Sport/physical recreation	1 039.9	13.8	1 196.5	34.4	126.0	43
Other recreation/interest	122.0	1.6	124.5	3.6	9.5	40
Other(e)	139.8	1.9	152.8	4.4	11.3	46
Total	2 405.2	31.8	3 482.8	100.0	344.1	44
FEMALES						
Arts/heritage	131.0	1.7	143.9	3.3	*16.9	44
Community/welfare	700.0	9.0	780.9	18.2	75.7	52
Education/training	934.5	12.1	1 040.6	24.2	59.3	40
Emergency services	54.6	0.7	56.1	1.3	*8.4	45
Environment/animal welfare	104.7	1.4	114.6	2.7	*7.8	47
Health	305.1	3.9	340.6	7.9	21.6	52
Parenting/children/youth	175.0	2.3	176.8	4.1	13.5	40
Religious	599.5	7.7	608.6	14.2	73.1	51
Sport/physical recreation	672.9	8.7	748.2	17.4	61.2	41
Other recreation/interest	127.2	1.6	137.8	3.2	16.5	56
Other(e)	139.4	1.8	150.8	3.5	8.7	45
Total	2 821.3	36.4	4 298.7	100.0	362.7	44
PERSONS						
Arts/heritage	207.2	1.4	223.7	2.9	30.6	49
Community/welfare	1 123.1	7.3	1 264.8	16.3	134.9	53
Education/training	1 385.7	9.1	1 506.3	19.4	72.2	40
Emergency services	175.0	1.1	178.6	2.3	26.2	43
Environment/animal welfare	175.2	1.1	192.6	2.5	14.0	44
Health	476.1	3.1	534.0	6.9	47.7	50
Parenting/children/youth	308.5	2.0	310.6	4.0	26.0	41
Religious	1 022.9	6.7	1 060.3	13.6	121.9	49
Sport/physical recreation	1 712.8	11.2	1 944.7	25.0	187.2	43
Other recreation/interest	249.2	1.6	262.2	3.4	26.0	49
Other(e)	279.2	1.8	303.6	3.9	20.0	45
Total	5 226.5	34.1	7 781.5	100.0	706.7	44

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) For any one volunteer information is collected for up to three involvements with different organisations. In 2006, 4% of volunteers worked for more than three organisations.
- (b) Volunteers who work for more than one organisation of the same type are only counted once for that type.
- (c) Number of volunteers as a percentage of all persons aged 18 years and over.
- (d) Volunteering involvements exceed the number of volunteers because individual volunteers may work for organisations of different types and for any given type of organisation may work for more than one organisation; each involvement is counted separately.
- (e) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, and 'Other' unspecified.

Type of activity	Volunteers(b)	Volunteer rate(c)	Volunteering involvements(d)	Volunteering involvements(d)	Median age of volunteers
	'000	%	'000	%	years
MALES					
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	757.9	10.0	912.0	26.2	48
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	561.3	7.4	654.0	18.8	48
Coaching/refereeing/judging	839.8	11.1	969.0	27.8	42
Fundraising/sales	1 228.6	16.3	1 554.7	44.6	44
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	196.7	2.6	226.9	6.5	53
Management/committee work/coordination	719.9	9.5	880.6	25.3	49
Performing/media production	274.7	3.6	323.7	9.3	48
Personal care/assistance	236.7	3.1	251.9	7.2	47
Preparing/serving food	683.1	9.0	780.9	22.4	45
Protecting the environment	189.3	2.5	202.0	5.8	48
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	913.4	12.1	1 062.9	30.5	46
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	196.8	2.6	210.7	6.1	45
Teaching/instruction/providing information	765.9	10.1	915.0	26.3	43
Transporting people/goods	717.4	9.5	853.9	24.5	45
Other	134.2	1.8	156.0	4.5	42
All activity types	2 405.2	31.8	3 482.8	100.0	44
FEMALES					
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	871.5	11.2	1 073.9	25.0	45
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	798.9	10.3	955.6	22.2	47
Coaching/refereeing/judging	466.8	6.0	531.2	12.4	40
Fundraising/sales	1 642.5	21.2	2 162.0	50.3	44
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	177.8	2.3	211.0	4.9	47
Management/committee work/coordination	768.1	9.9	917.7	21.3	44
Performing/media production	264.2	3.4	317.4	7.4	43
Personal care/assistance	389.2	5.0	437.4	10.2	44
Preparing/serving food	1 341.3	17.3	1 663.0	38.7	44
Protecting the environment	161.4	2.1	192.8	4.5	49
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	387.4	5.0	438.7	10.2	43
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	95.0	1.2	110.7	2.6	37
Teaching/instruction/providing information	1 047.5	13.5	1 261.7	29.4	41
Transporting people/goods	748.0	9.6	872.0	20.3	45
Other	244.2	3.1	261.4	6.1	46
All activity types	2 821.3	36.4	4 298.7	100.0	44

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements. Each volunteer may record more than one activity for each involvement.

(b) Volunteers who undertake the same type of activity for more than one organisation are only counted once.

(c) Number of volunteers who participate in each activity as a percentage of all persons aged 18 years and over.

(d) Volunteering involvements exceed the number of volunteers because individual volunteers may work for organisations of different types and for any given type of organisation may work for more than one organisation; each involvement is counted separately. Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteering involvements; therefore component figures do not add to the total.

Type of activity	Volunteers(b)	Volunteer rate(c)	Volunteering involvements(d)	Volunteering involvements(d)	Median age of volunteers
	'000	%	'000	%	years
PERSONS					
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	1 629.4	10.6	1 985.9	25.5	47
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	1 360.2	8.9	1 609.6	20.7	47
Coaching/refereeing/judging	1 306.6	8.5	1 500.2	19.3	41
Fundraising/sales	2 871.1	18.8	3 716.7	47.8	44
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	374.5	2.4	437.8	5.6	50
Management/committee work/coordination	1 487.9	9.7	1 798.3	23.1	46
Performing/media production	538.9	3.5	641.1	8.2	45
Personal care/assistance	625.9	4.1	689.2	8.9	46
Preparing/serving food	2 024.4	13.2	2 444.0	31.4	44
Protecting the environment	350.6	2.3	394.8	5.1	49
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	1 300.8	8.5	1 501.6	19.3	45
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	291.8	1.9	321.4	4.1	41
Teaching/instruction/providing information	1 813.4	11.8	2 176.6	28.0	42
Transporting people/goods	1 465.3	9.6	1 725.9	22.2	45
Other	378.4	2.5	417.4	5.4	45
All activity types	5 226.5	34.1	7 781.5	100.0	44

- (a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements. Each volunteer may record more than one activity for each involvement.
- (b) Volunteers who undertake the same type of activity for more than one organisation are only counted once.
- (c) Number of volunteers who participate in each activity as a percentage of all persons aged 18 years and over.
- (d) Volunteering involvements exceed the number of volunteers because individual volunteers may work for organisations of different types and for any given type of organisation may work for more than one organisation; each involvement is counted separately. Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteering involvements; therefore component figures do not add to the total.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Type of organisation									
Arts/heritage	1.3	1.4	0.9	*2.2	1.4	2.5	1.4	2.6	1.4
Community/welfare	7.9	6.6	7.3	8.6	5.7	9.8	7.1	8.0	7.3
Education/training	7.7	9.8	10.0	7.1	11.3	7.6	9.7	9.7	9.1
Emergency services	1.4	*1.0	*0.8	*0.8	*1.4	*1.1	*1.6	*0.4	1.1
Environment/animal welfare	*0.8	0.9	1.8	*0.9	*1.5	1.7	2.1	1.7	1.1
Health	3.0	2.6	4.5	1.7	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.4	3.1
Parenting/children/youth	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.5	1.7	2.1	2.6	*1.7	2.0
Religious	7.3	5.9	7.6	5.0	6.7	6.2	3.9	5.9	6.7
Sport/physical recreation	9.5	11.7	12.2	10.2	13.9	11.4	14.8	11.2	11.2
Other recreation/interest	1.5	1.4	1.8	2.1	1.6	1.4	2.6	2.6	1.6
Other(c)	1.9	1.6	2.1	*1.3	1.7	1.9	2.4	3.3	1.8
Total	32.7	32.7	37.8	31.4	36.3	36.0	35.8	38.4	34.1
Type of activity									
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	10.0	10.8	11.0	10.4	11.2	10.7	11.9	13.4	10.6
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	8.4	7.7	10.9	9.2	9.2	8.8	7.9	9.4	8.9
Coaching/refereeing/judging	8.1	8.1	9.2	8.8	10.0	7.1	10.0	9.2	8.5
Fundraising/sales	17.3	19.1	21.5	15.4	19.4	19.2	20.3	22.7	18.8
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	2.6	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.9	2.4	3.4	4.2	2.4
Management/committee work/coordination	8.2	10.4	11.1	9.3	10.8	9.0	11.9	11.2	9.7
Performing/media production	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.2	4.3	3.1	4.0	4.2	3.5
Personal care/assistance	3.4	3.6	5.4	4.2	4.6	5.2	4.2	5.3	4.1
Preparing/serving food	13.2	12.1	15.1	13.1	12.3	13.1	14.0	15.2	13.2
Protecting the environment	2.3	1.6	3.2	2.0	2.6	2.2	3.3	2.3	2.3
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	6.9	9.1	10.7	7.7	8.8	7.3	10.1	8.8	8.5
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.1	3.5	*1.7	1.9
Teaching/instruction/providing information	11.0	11.7	13.9	11.2	11.4	11.7	11.1	12.9	11.8
Transporting people/goods	9.4	8.6	11.6	9.2	8.5	9.0	9.7	12.5	9.6
Other	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.4	2.5
All activity types	32.7	32.7	37.8	31.4	36.3	36.0	35.8	38.4	34.1
NUMBER ('000)									
All volunteers	1 676.1	1 258.2	1 118.4	367.6	541.8	130.9	39.3	94.3	5 226.5
All persons aged 18 years and over	5 123.9	3 847.7	2 955.7	1 171.0	1 490.5	363.2	109.7	245.4	15 307.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Number of persons who volunteered for each type of organisation or activity as a percentage of all persons aged 18 years and over in the population. The rates for each category do not add to the total volunteer rates as volunteers may be counted against more than one type of organisation and activity. Persons who volunteered for more than one organisation or activity of the same type are only counted once.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. See para 8 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political and 'Other' unspecified.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%)									
Organisation type of involvement									
Arts/heritage	2.7	3.1	1.8	5.6	2.5	5.0	2.5	5.5	2.9
Community/Welfare	18.6	14.5	15.2	20.4	11.6	21.7	14.3	16.3	16.3
Education/training	17.2	22.4	19.4	16.8	21.6	14.9	18.4	19.0	19.4
Emergency services	3.0	*2.1	*1.6	*1.8	2.7	2.2	2.8	*0.8	2.3
Environment/animal welfare	*2.0	2.0	3.3	*2.4	*3.0	3.7	3.9	3.1	2.5
Health	6.8	6.6	8.7	3.7	6.3	5.7	6.8	6.4	6.9
Parenting/children/youth	4.1	3.7	4.2	5.3	3.2	4.1	4.8	*3.0	4.0
Religious	15.8	12.1	14.2	10.9	12.8	11.7	7.0	10.8	13.6
Sport/physical recreation	22.2	27.5	23.9	24.9	30.0	24.3	30.6	23.6	25.0
Other recreation/interest	3.2	*2.8	3.5	5.5	3.1	2.7	4.8	5.4	3.4
Other(c)	4.4	3.3	4.3	*2.9	3.2	4.0	4.3	6.2	3.9
Total involvements	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Activity type of involvement									
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	24.4	26.3	25.0	28.5	25.5	25.4	26.5	28.9	25.5
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	20.6	18.5	22.9	23.0	20.7	19.8	16.1	20.5	20.7
Coaching/refereeing/judging	19.5	18.4	18.8	22.3	20.3	16.4	21.1	19.2	19.3
Fundraising/sales	46.7	49.6	49.8	42.5	45.3	46.0	50.6	53.9	47.8
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	6.3	5.9	5.1	*4.4	4.2	5.0	7.3	8.4	5.6
Management/committee work/coordination	21.0	23.6	24.4	24.4	24.7	21.2	25.4	24.2	23.1
Performing/media production	7.9	8.9	8.2	8.5	8.0	6.8	7.7	8.9	8.2
Personal care/assistance	7.5	7.5	10.9	10.6	9.8	11.2	8.2	11.1	8.9
Preparing/serving food	31.8	29.9	33.8	33.1	27.8	29.7	30.4	33.1	31.4
Protecting the environment	5.5	3.6	6.2	5.2	4.9	4.7	6.9	4.4	5.1
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	16.1	21.1	22.4	20.5	18.3	17.1	20.7	17.4	19.3
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	4.4	3.7	4.3	4.3	3.8	4.3	6.6	*3.6	4.1
Teaching/instruction/providing information	27.4	27.7	30.5	29.2	25.3	26.2	24.1	28.1	28.0
Transporting people/goods	22.5	20.0	25.3	24.6	18.6	19.7	21.7	26.1	22.2
Other	5.6	4.6	*5.1	6.2	5.9	6.6	5.9	6.3	5.4
Total involvements(d)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS ('000)

Total involvements	2 460.1	1 930.0	1 639.3	545.5	819.4	190.9	61.7	134.7	7 781.5
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VOLUNTEERS ('000)

All volunteers	1 676.1	1 258.2	1 118.4	367.6	541.8	130.9	39.3	94.3	5 226.5
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) For volunteers, an involvement is each organisation for which they work. Only includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.
- (b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. See para 8 of the Explanatory Notes.
- (c) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, and 'Other' unspecified.
- (d) Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteering involvements; therefore component figures do not add to the total.

Type of organisation	PART OF STATE		REMOTENESS AREAS OF AUSTRALIA			Total Australia
	Capital city	Balance of state	Major Cities of Australia	Inner Regional Australia	Other Areas (a)	
VOLUNTEER RATE (%) (b)						
Arts/heritage	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.7	*1.7	1.4
Community/welfare	6.2	9.4	6.3	9.3	10.0	7.3
Education/training	8.6	9.9	8.3	10.6	10.7	9.1
Emergency services	0.6	2.1	0.7	1.9	2.6	1.1
Environment/animal welfare	1.0	1.4	1.0	*1.2	1.9	1.1
Health	2.6	4.0	2.7	3.8	4.1	3.1
Parenting/children/youth	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.6	2.0
Religious	7.4	5.4	7.3	5.5	5.0	6.7
Sport/physical recreation	9.5	14.2	9.5	14.6	15.1	11.2
Other recreation/interest	1.4	2.0	1.4	2.4	*1.7	1.6
Other(c)	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.6	*2.1	1.8
Total	32.0	38.1	31.7	39.1	39.4	34.1
NUMBER ('000)						
Total volunteers	3 177.1	2 049.4	3 282.0	1 294.9	649.7	5 226.5
All persons aged 18 years and over	9 923.5	5 383.6	10 345.3	3 314.6	1 647.2	15 307.1
VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%) (d)						
Arts/heritage	3.0	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.7	2.9
Community/welfare	14.9	18.2	15.3	17.6	17.9	16.3
Education/training	20.0	18.5	19.5	19.2	18.8	19.4
Emergency services	1.3	3.7	1.4	3.2	4.5	2.3
Environment/animal welfare	2.3	2.8	2.3	*2.4	3.5	2.5
Health	6.5	7.5	6.8	6.5	7.8	6.9
Parenting/children/youth	4.7	3.0	4.3	3.9	2.6	4.0
Religious	16.5	9.5	16.6	9.4	8.1	13.6
Sport/physical recreation	23.1	27.7	23.2	27.9	27.7	25.0
Other recreation/interest	3.3	3.5	3.2	4.0	*2.9	3.4
Other(c)	4.5	3.1	4.4	2.9	*3.5	3.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER ('000)						
Total volunteering involvements	4 612.9	3 168.6	4 740.7	2 008.7	1 032.1	7 781.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes outer regional Australia, remote and very remote Australia. See Glossary.

(b) Number of volunteers for each type of organisation as a percentage of all persons aged 18 years and over in the relevant population. The percentages for each category do not add to the total as persons who volunteered may be counted more than once if they volunteered for different types of organisations. Persons who volunteered for more than one organisation of the same type are only counted once.

(c) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, and 'Other' unspecified.

(d) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS(a), Organisation type—by age and sex

Type of organisation	18-34 years	35-49 years	50-64 years	65 years and over	Total
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MALE INVOLVEMENTS (%)

Arts/heritage	*1.7	*1.5	*3.1	*4.4	2.3
Community/welfare	9.5	9.1	17.6	30.2	13.9
Education/training	10.2	21.6	9.6	*2.9	13.4
Emergency services	*4.4	3.3	*3.2	*2.9	3.5
Environment/animal welfare	*3.2	*1.7	*1.9	*2.3	2.2
Health	*4.3	4.9	6.7	*8.2	5.6
Parenting/children/youth	4.6	4.2	*3.8	**1.4	3.8
Religious	13.7	10.4	13.9	17.2	13.0
Sport/physical recreation	37.0	38.6	32.7	19.4	34.4
Other recreation/interest	*5.7	2.0	*3.0	*4.5	3.6
Other(b)	*5.7	*2.6	*4.6	6.5	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total male involvements	938.2	1 307.3	777.8	459.5	3 482.8
Total male volunteers	691.9	868.3	531.9	313.1	2 405.2

FEMALE INVOLVEMENTS (%)

Arts/heritage	3.4	2.7	5.0	*2.1	3.3
Community/welfare	17.8	9.9	22.3	34.6	18.2
Education/training	22.7	38.6	13.1	7.2	24.2
Emergency services	*1.0	*1.4	*1.8	**0.6	1.3
Environment/animal welfare	*3.4	*1.5	3.8	*2.5	2.7
Health	7.2	4.3	11.2	13.3	7.9
Parenting/children/youth	5.3	4.8	3.4	**1.3	4.1
Religious	14.9	7.7	20.2	19.6	14.2
Sport/physical recreation	18.2	24.1	11.2	8.5	17.4
Other recreation/interest	*1.7	2.0	4.5	*7.0	3.2
Other(b)	4.3	2.9	3.6	*3.3	3.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total female involvements	1 070.4	1 605.4	1 051.8	571.1	4 298.7
Total female volunteers	741.2	1 012.8	690.0	377.3	2 821.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, and 'Other' unspecified.

Type of organisation	18-34 years	35-49 years	50-64 years	65 years and over	Total
ALL INVOLVEMENTS (%)					
Arts/heritage	2.6	2.2	4.2	3.1	2.9
Community/welfare	13.9	9.6	20.3	32.6	16.3
Education/training	16.9	30.9	11.6	5.3	19.4
Emergency services	2.6	2.2	2.4	*1.6	2.3
Environment/animal welfare	*3.3	1.6	3.0	*2.4	2.5
Health	5.8	4.6	9.3	11.0	6.9
Parenting/children/youth	5.0	4.5	3.6	*1.4	4.0
Religious	14.3	9.0	17.5	18.5	13.6
Sport/physical recreation	27.0	30.6	20.3	13.4	25.0
Other recreation/interest	3.6	2.0	3.8	5.9	3.4
Other(b)	5.0	2.8	4.0	4.7	3.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER ('000)					
Total involvements	2 008.7	2 912.7	1 829.5	1 030.6	7 781.5
Total volunteers	1 433.2	1 881.1	1 221.9	690.4	5 226.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, and 'Other' unspecified.

Activity type of involvement	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years and over	Total
MALE INVOLVEMENTS (%)								
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	*11.1	24.4	20.0	27.5	41.9	36.7	31.7	26.2
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	14.1	20.5	13.5	19.7	24.8	24.5	19.4	18.8
Coaching/refereeing/judging	33.0	34.3	32.4	30.1	20.4	*9.9	*12.6	27.8
Fundraising/sales	39.7	48.5	45.0	46.6	47.5	38.2	36.4	44.6
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	*0.3	*6.1	4.7	6.4	14.9	*7.4	*8.5	6.5
Management/committee work/coordination	12.0	20.7	21.1	25.6	41.6	34.6	30.5	25.3
Performing/media production	*8.3	11.0	5.6	6.1	17.0	*14.4	*10.0	9.3
Personal care/assistance	*9.0	5.8	5.1	7.1	9.7	*9.1	*9.1	7.2
Preparing/serving food	19.6	23.4	22.1	28.9	22.3	14.9	*9.0	22.4
Protecting the environment	*3.4	*5.2	5.5	5.5	9.8	*7.4	**2.6	5.8
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	25.0	28.5	29.8	31.9	37.0	29.4	*32.1	30.5
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	*7.3	*6.1	5.1	6.3	9.3	*4.3	np	6.1
Teaching/instruction/providing information	32.7	31.3	23.1	25.8	26.1	23.2	*18.2	26.3
Transporting people/goods	16.9	26.0	22.0	28.6	28.6	24.9	*18.9	24.5
Other	**4.5	*7.7	3.6	*3.5	*4.9	*4.8	**1.3	4.5
Total involvements(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total male involvements	412.6	525.6	819.2	814.7	451.1	306.1	153.3	3 482.8
Total male volunteers	293.9	398.0	549.0	546.4	304.8	203.7	109.3	2 405.2

FEMALE INVOLVEMENTS (%)

Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	21.1	25.3	24.2	27.8	26.9	22.9	21.7	25.0
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	32.5	20.1	15.2	24.4	23.6	26.7	26.9	22.2
Coaching/refereeing/judging	20.7	14.2	14.1	13.8	7.2	*4.5	*3.8	12.4
Fundraising/sales	42.2	49.5	53.0	54.2	45.4	48.9	55.4	50.3
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	**1.4	*4.3	5.1	7.8	4.2	*5.5	**0.4	4.9
Management/committee work/coordination	16.3	22.0	22.8	25.0	19.0	18.7	16.8	21.3
Performing/media production	*14.3	9.0	5.5	6.6	4.9	*10.8	*3.3	7.4
Personal care/assistance	11.9	11.2	8.4	10.2	11.6	12.6	*3.0	10.2
Preparing/serving food	33.6	38.9	41.4	36.1	39.3	38.8	42.8	38.7
Protecting the environment	*4.2	*4.1	*2.9	5.8	*5.6	*6.3	**2.5	4.5
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	*11.1	9.8	11.0	11.8	9.2	7.4	*6.4	10.2
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	*6.4	3.3	2.4	3.1	**0.4	np	—	2.6
Teaching/instruction/providing information	39.0	32.1	31.7	30.8	26.5	17.8	9.6	29.4
Transporting people/goods	14.5	18.9	21.3	21.1	24.9	18.3	16.3	20.3
Other	*7.9	*3.9	5.0	5.5	9.8	*4.2	10.8	6.1
Total involvements(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total female involvements	403.1	667.4	1 151.6	879.1	626.5	394.1	177.1	4 298.7
Total female volunteers	280.4	460.9	726.0	555.2	421.6	250.4	126.9	2 821.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) For volunteers, an involvement is each organisation for which they work. Only includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteering involvements; therefore components do not add to the total of 100%.

Activity type of involvement	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years and over	Total
ALL INVOLVEMENTS (%)								
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	16.1	24.9	22.4	27.7	33.2	28.9	26.3	25.5
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	23.2	20.3	14.5	22.2	24.1	25.7	23.4	20.7
Coaching/refereeing/judging	26.9	23.0	21.7	21.6	12.7	6.9	*7.9	19.3
Fundraising/sales	40.9	49.1	49.7	50.6	46.3	44.2	46.6	47.8
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	**0.9	5.1	4.9	7.1	8.7	6.3	*4.2	5.6
Management/committee work/coordination	14.1	21.4	22.1	25.3	28.5	25.7	23.2	23.1
Performing/media production	11.3	9.9	5.5	6.3	10.0	12.4	*6.4	8.2
Personal care/assistance	10.4	8.8	7.0	8.7	10.8	11.1	*5.8	8.9
Preparing/serving food	26.5	32.1	33.4	32.6	32.2	28.4	27.1	31.4
Protecting the environment	*3.8	4.5	4.0	5.7	7.4	6.8	*2.5	5.1
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	18.1	18.0	18.8	21.5	20.8	17.0	18.3	19.3
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	*6.9	4.5	3.5	4.6	4.1	*2.6	np	4.1
Teaching/instruction/providing information	35.8	31.7	28.2	28.4	26.3	20.2	13.6	28.0
Transporting people/goods	15.7	22.1	21.6	24.7	26.5	21.2	17.5	22.2
Other	*6.2	5.6	4.4	4.5	7.8	*4.5	6.4	5.4
Total involvements(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total involvements	815.7	1 193.0	1 970.9	1 693.8	1 077.6	700.2	330.4	7 781.5
Total volunteers	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	454.1	236.3	5 226.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) For volunteers, an involvement is each organisation for which they work. Only includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteering involvements; therefore components do not add to the total of 100%.

VOLUNTEERING AMONG PARENTS IN FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-14 YEARS,

Organisation type by age of youngest child

	FATHERS			MOTHERS			ALL PARENTS		
	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years
PARENTS IN COUPLE FAMILIES VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%)									
Type of organisation(a)									
Community/welfare	*8.6	6.4	7.2	12.8	6.4	8.5	10.8	6.4	7.9
Education/training	24.5	26.0	25.4	50.7	40.3	43.8	38.0	34.3	35.6
Parenting/children/youth	*3.9	5.4	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.3	4.5	5.4	5.1
Religious	13.5	8.9	10.7	7.4	9.8	9.0	10.3	9.5	9.8
Sport/physical recreation	35.0	39.3	37.7	11.7	24.1	20.0	23.0	30.5	27.9
Other(b)	14.5	13.9	14.1	12.3	14.0	13.5	13.4	14.0	13.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER ('000)									
Total involvements	467.1	748.4	1 215.5	498.4	1 016.0	1 514.3	965.4	1 764.4	2 729.8
Total volunteers	332.7	485.3	818.0	328.4	606.0	934.4	661.2	1 091.3	1 752.4
Total partnered parents	948.1	950.6	1 898.7	839.2	949.6	1 788.8	1 787.3	1 900.2	3 687.5
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Partnered parents	35.1	51.0	43.1	39.1	63.8	52.2	37.0	57.4	47.5
LONE PARENT VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%)									
Type of organisation(a)									
Community/welfare	—	**7.2	**6.9	*17.2	12.1	13.4	*16.9	11.4	12.6
Education/training	100.0	*24.9	*28.1	52.3	36.9	40.7	53.4	35.2	39.2
Parenting/children/youth	—	np	np	*5.9	*4.9	*5.2	*5.7	*4.8	*5.0
Religious	—	*22.6	*21.6	**4.3	6.7	6.1	**4.2	8.9	7.9
Sport/physical recreation	—	26.4	25.3	*13.8	24.9	22.2	*13.6	25.1	22.6
Other(b)	—	**14.7	**14.1	**6.4	14.4	12.4	**6.3	14.4	12.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER ('000)									
Total involvements	**1.4	32.6	34.1	65.3	201.1	266.4	66.8	233.7	300.5
Total volunteers	**1.4	21.8	23.2	46.9	124.5	171.5	48.4	146.3	194.7
Total lone parents	*14.6	44.2	58.8	182.7	252.6	435.2	197.2	296.8	494.0
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Lone parents	**9.8	49.3	39.5	25.7	49.3	39.4	24.5	49.3	39.4
* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution				(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.					
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use				(b) Other includes: Arts/heritage, Business/professional/union, Emergency services, Environment/animal welfare, Health, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, Other recreation/interest and 'Other' unspecified.					
— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)									
np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated									

FATHERS			MOTHERS			ALL PARENTS		
0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years

ALL PARENTS VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%)

Type of organisation(a)	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years
Community/welfare	*8.6	6.4	7.2	13.4	7.3	9.2	11.2	7.0	8.4
Education/training	24.7	26.0	25.5	50.9	39.8	43.3	39.0	34.4	36.0
Parenting,/children/youth	*3.9	5.4	4.8	5.2	5.3	5.3	4.6	5.3	5.1
Religious	13.5	9.5	11.0	7.0	9.3	8.6	9.9	9.4	9.6
Sport/physical recreation	34.9	38.8	37.3	11.9	24.2	20.3	22.4	29.9	27.3
Other(b)	14.4	14.0	14.1	11.6	14.1	13.3	12.9	14.0	13.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total involvements	468.5	781.1	1 249.6	563.7	1 217.1	1 780.7	1 032.2	1 998.2	3 030.3
Total volunteers	334.2	507.1	841.2	375.4	730.5	1 105.9	709.5	1 237.6	1 947.1
All parents	962.7	994.9	1 957.6	1 021.8	1 202.2	2 224.0	1 984.5	2 197.0	4 181.6

VOLUNTEER RATE (%)

All parents	34.7	51.0	43.0	36.7	60.8	49.7	35.8	56.3	46.6
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Other includes: Arts/heritage, Business/professional/union, Emergency services, Environment/animal welfare, Health, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, Other recreation/interest and 'Other' unspecified.

VOLUNTEERING AMONG PARENTS IN FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0–14 YEARS,

Activity type—by age of youngest child

Activity type of involvement	FATHERS			MOTHERS			ALL PARENTS		
	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years

PARENTS IN COUPLE FAMILIES, VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%)

Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	22.9	22.4	22.6	23.6	22.6	23.0	23.3	22.5	22.8
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	14.3	16.7	15.7	14.8	15.1	15.0	14.6	15.8	15.3
Coaching/refereeing/judging	30.0	36.0	33.7	11.1	15.0	13.7	20.3	23.9	22.6
Fundraising/sales	46.0	48.3	47.4	55.4	52.5	53.5	50.8	50.7	50.8
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	5.1	*4.2	4.5	*2.9	4.2	3.7	3.9	4.2	4.1
Management/committee work/coordination	21.5	21.8	21.7	22.2	23.3	22.9	21.9	22.6	22.4
Performing/media production	*5.6	*4.7	5.1	5.5	4.4	4.7	5.6	4.5	4.9
Personal care/assistance	*6.9	5.0	5.7	9.0	9.8	9.5	8.0	7.7	7.8
Preparing/serving food	23.2	26.8	25.4	38.4	42.2	40.9	31.0	35.7	34.0
Protecting the environment	*5.6	*5.6	5.6	**0.8	2.8	2.1	*3.1	4.0	3.7
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	31.6	28.9	29.9	10.3	10.9	10.7	20.6	18.5	19.2
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	*5.0	5.8	5.5	*1.6	*2.0	1.8	3.2	3.6	3.5
Teaching/instruction/providing information	25.0	22.4	23.4	35.4	31.0	32.5	30.4	27.3	28.4
Transporting people/goods	20.3	28.6	25.4	13.7	22.7	19.7	16.9	25.2	22.2
Other	**1.4	3.8	2.9	*4.5	*6.6	5.9	*3.0	5.4	4.6
Total involvements(a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total involvements	467.1	748.4	1 215.5	498.4	1 016.0	1 514.3	965.4	1 764.4	2 729.8
Total volunteers	332.7	485.3	818.0	328.4	606.0	934.4	661.2	1 091.3	1 752.4
Total partnered parents	948.1	950.6	1 898.7	839.2	949.6	1 788.8	1 787.3	1 900.2	3 687.5

LONE PARENT, VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%)

Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	—	*20.9	*20.0	24.7	28.4	27.4	24.1	27.3	26.6
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	—	**15.1	**14.5	*9.2	16.9	15.0	*9.0	16.6	14.9
Coaching/refereeing/judging	—	*26.9	*25.8	*10.6	12.8	12.3	*10.3	14.8	13.8
Fundraising/sales	—	*25.3	*24.2	35.1	55.4	50.4	34.4	51.2	47.4
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	—	np	np	**5.6	9.9	8.8	**5.5	9.0	8.2
Management/committee work/coordination	—	*21.6	*20.7	*13.1	25.7	22.6	*12.8	25.1	22.4
Performing/media production	—	np	np	**6.5	*7.2	*7.0	**6.3	*6.2	*6.3
Personal care/assistance	—	**17.6	**16.9	*14.4	*9.3	10.5	*14.1	*10.5	11.3
Preparing/serving food	np	np	*19.8	39.6	42.3	41.7	38.8	39.3	39.2
Protecting the environment	—	np	np	**4.9	*5.1	*5.1	**4.8	*5.4	*5.3
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	np	np	*23.9	*12.2	13.0	12.8	*13.3	14.2	14.0
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	—	np	np	**4.7	*5.9	*5.6	**4.6	*5.3	*5.1
Teaching/instruction/providing information	np	np	*23.0	34.6	34.8	34.8	34.6	33.1	33.4
Transporting people/goods	—	24.0	22.9	*12.2	25.0	21.9	*11.9	24.9	22.0
Other	—	*14.1	*13.5	**0.3	4.2	3.2	**0.3	5.6	4.4
Total involvements(a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total involvements	**1.4	32.6	34.1	65.3	201.1	266.4	66.8	233.7	300.5
Total volunteers	**1.4	21.8	23.2	46.9	124.5	171.5	48.4	146.3	194.7
Total lone parents	*14.6	44.2	58.8	182.7	252.6	435.2	197.2	296.8	494.0

- * estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
- ** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
- np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated
- (a) Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteer involvements, therefore components do not add to the total.

Activity type of involvement	FATHERS			MOTHERS			ALL PARENTS		
	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years	0-4 years	5-14 years	0-14 years
ALL PARENTS, VOLUNTEERING INVOLVMENTS (%)									
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	22.8	22.3	22.5	23.7	23.6	23.6	23.3	23.1	23.2
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	14.3	16.6	15.7	14.2	15.4	15.0	14.2	15.9	15.3
Coaching/refereeing/judging	29.9	35.6	33.5	11.1	14.7	13.5	19.6	22.9	21.8
Fundraising/sales	45.8	47.3	46.8	53.0	53.0	53.0	49.8	50.8	50.4
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	5.0	*4.2	4.5	*3.2	5.1	4.5	4.0	4.8	4.5
Management/committee work/coordination	21.4	21.8	21.6	21.2	23.7	22.9	21.3	22.9	22.4
Performing/media production	*5.6	*4.5	4.9	5.6	4.8	5.1	5.6	4.7	5.0
Personal care/assistance	*6.9	5.5	6.0	9.6	9.7	9.7	8.4	8.1	8.2
Preparing/serving food	23.2	26.5	25.3	38.5	42.2	41.1	31.5	36.1	34.5
Protecting the environment	*5.6	*5.7	5.6	*1.3	3.1	2.6	3.2	4.1	3.8
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	31.7	28.6	29.8	10.5	11.2	11.0	20.1	18.0	18.7
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	*4.9	5.6	5.4	*1.9	2.6	2.4	3.3	3.8	3.6
Teaching/instruction/providing information	25.0	22.4	23.3	35.3	31.6	32.8	30.6	28.0	28.9
Transporting people/goods	20.2	28.4	25.3	13.5	23.1	20.0	16.5	25.2	22.2
Other	**1.4	4.3	3.2	*4.0	6.2	5.5	*2.8	5.4	4.6
Total involvements(a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER ('000)									
Total involvements	468.5	781.1	1 249.6	563.7	1 217.1	1 780.7	1 032.2	1 998.2	3 030.3
Total volunteers	334.2	507.1	841.2	375.4	730.5	1 105.9	709.5	1 237.6	1 947.1
All parents	962.7	994.9	1 957.6	1 021.8	1 202.2	2 224.0	1 984.5	2 197.0	4 181.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Volunteers may perform more than one type of activity for each of their volunteer involvements, therefore components do not add to the total.

DURATION OF VOLUNTEERING, by organisation type

Type of organisation	Less than one year	One to five years	Six to ten years	More than 10 years	Total
VOLUNTEERS (%) (a)					
Arts/heritage	25.4	36.3	18.4	24.1	100.0
Community/welfare	27.9	38.3	13.4	26.4	100.0
Education/training	33.6	47.5	14.6	8.9	100.0
Emergency services	*12.4	33.8	*17.9	37.3	100.0
Environment/animal welfare	34.9	37.5	19.7	*10.8	100.0
Health	35.3	44.7	12.3	14.1	100.0
Parenting/children/youth	20.6	51.6	14.8	13.6	100.0
Religious	11.7	31.5	14.8	44.2	100.0
Sport/physical recreation	23.7	48.1	15.4	19.4	100.0
Other recreation/interest	28.5	36.7	14.7	23.2	100.0
Other(b)	33.3	44.6	*9.0	16.4	100.0
Total volunteers	31.3	49.0	18.5	25.6	100.0

VOLUNTEERS ('000)

Total	1 638.3	2 559.6	964.6	1 339.0	5 226.5
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VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%) (c)

Arts/heritage	24.2	35.3	17.1	23.5	100.0
Community/welfare	26.3	35.9	12.4	25.4	100.0
Education/training	31.9	46.2	13.5	8.4	100.0
Emergency services	*12.1	33.3	*18.0	36.6	100.0
Environment/animal welfare	33.7	35.4	20.5	*10.3	100.0
Health	33.1	43.3	11.0	12.6	100.0
Parenting/children/youth	20.6	51.3	14.7	13.5	100.0
Religious	11.7	31.2	14.4	42.6	100.0
Sport/physical recreation	21.5	45.4	14.1	19.0	100.0
Other recreation/interest	27.4	35.7	14.0	23.0	100.0
Other(b)	31.5	44.4	*8.4	15.7	100.0
Total involvements	24.5	41.0	13.7	20.9	100.0

VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS ('000)

Total	1 904.5	3 189.0	1 063.1	1 624.9	7 781.5
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) Where volunteers had more than one involvement with any one type of organisation in the previous 12 months and the durations for those involvements happened to be in the same duration period the volunteer was only counted once in that duration period category; otherwise volunteers may have been counted up to three times.
- (b) Other includes: Business/professional/union, International aid/development, Law/justice/political and 'Other' unspecified.
- (c) Refers to duration of involvement for each involvement for which data was collected, i.e. up to three involvements per volunteer.

Type of organisation	1 to less than 20 hours	20-39 hours	40-79 hours	80-139 hours	140-299 hours	300 hours or more	Total	Total involvements	Median annual hours
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000	no.
MALES									
Community/welfare	41.8	10.8	11.9	*9.6	15.1	10.8	100.0	483.9	36
Education/training	64.5	16.3	11.6	*4.8	*1.8	**0.9	100.0	465.8	12
Health	54.6	17.9	*5.5	**3.2	*7.4	*11.3	100.0	193.4	*15
Parenting/children/youth	44.3	*13.1	*11.0	*14.3	*12.6	**4.8	100.0	133.9	*24
Religious	32.9	18.8	15.9	*12.0	12.9	7.6	100.0	451.7	36
Sport/physical recreation	28.8	15.3	20.3	13.5	14.6	7.4	100.0	1 196.5	48
Other(b)	33.4	16.8	18.5	10.7	11.2	9.4	100.0	557.5	—
Total	38.7	15.6	15.9	10.6	11.7	7.5	100.0	3 482.8	30
FEMALES									
Community/welfare	29.2	19.1	20.2	11.3	12.6	7.7	100.0	780.9	40
Education/training	38.9	19.3	20.7	11.0	7.7	*2.4	100.0	1 040.6	30
Health	52.1	16.6	12.7	5.6	10.3	*2.7	100.0	340.6	15
Parenting/children/youth	36.1	*12.6	*16.1	13.9	16.6	*4.7	100.0	176.8	46
Religious	22.2	14.3	18.1	14.7	17.8	12.9	100.0	608.6	59
Sport/physical recreation	30.4	16.6	20.0	16.3	11.0	5.6	100.0	748.2	40
Other(b)	34.7	16.7	17.8	12.8	11.2	6.8	100.0	603.2	—
Total	33.6	17.2	18.9	12.4	11.6	6.1	100.0	4 298.7	36
PERSONS									
Community/welfare	34.0	15.9	17.0	10.6	13.5	8.9	100.0	1 264.8	40
Education/training	46.8	18.4	17.9	9.1	5.9	*1.9	100.0	1 506.3	20
Health	53.0	17.1	10.1	4.8	9.2	*5.8	100.0	534.0	15
Parenting/children/youth	39.6	12.8	*13.9	14.1	14.9	*4.7	100.0	310.6	*32
Religious	26.8	16.2	17.2	13.5	15.7	10.6	100.0	1 060.3	48
Sport/physical recreation	29.4	15.8	20.2	14.6	13.2	6.7	100.0	1 944.7	48
Other(b)	34.1	16.8	18.1	11.8	11.2	8.1	100.0	1 160.7	—
Total	35.9	16.5	17.6	11.6	11.7	6.7	100.0	7 781.5	36

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) 'Other' includes: Arts/heritage, Business/professional/union, Emergency services, Environment/animal welfare, International aid/development, Law/justice/political, Other recreation/interest and 'Other' unspecified.

VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (a), Organisation type —by sector and staffing arrangement of organisation

Type of organisation	SECTOR			ORGANISATION'S STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS			
	Government	Private not for profit	Total(b)	Fully staffed by volunteers	Not fully staffed by volunteers	Total(c)	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
Arts/heritage	*8.4	83.6	100.0	55.8	42.4	100.0	223.7
Business/professional/union	np	90.6	100.0	46.8	50.8	100.0	121.5
Community/welfare	6.3	90.4	100.0	39.9	57.1	100.0	1 264.8
Education/training	57.4	41.8	100.0	8.9	90.9	100.0	1 506.3
Emergency services	38.0	62.0	100.0	51.3	45.9	100.0	178.6
Environment/animal welfare	*4.4	95.6	100.0	32.8	58.3	100.0	192.6
International							
aid/development	—	100.0	100.0	*31.3	66.8	100.0	108.9
Health	8.1	91.0	100.0	24.7	68.0	100.0	534.0
Law/justice/political	**1.8	98.1	100.0	*31.8	62.1	100.0	70.5
Parenting/children/youth	*2.5	96.5	100.0	70.6	29.4	100.0	310.6
Religious	np	99.9	100.0	42.4	56.4	100.0	1 060.3
Sport/physical recreation	*0.7	99.0	100.0	72.1	26.8	100.0	1 944.7
Other recreation/interest	*2.2	95.1	100.0	64.2	35.7	100.0	264.9
Total	14.4	84.4	100.0	43.8	54.3	100.0	7 781.5

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** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Total includes 77,500 involvements with 'private for profit' organisations (1.0%), and 22,000 with organisations (0.3%) whose sector could not be determined. The majority of the 'private for profit' organisation types were Community/welfare (41,800) and Arts/heritage (15,400) organisations.

(c) Total includes 148,200 organisations (1.9%) where the staffing arrangements were not known.

OCCUPATION(b)

Activity type of involvement	Managers and Administrators	Professionals	Associate Professionals	Tradespersons and Related Workers	Advanced Clerical and Service Workers
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VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%) (c)

Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	26.8	27.7	27.3	22.9	30.0
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	17.0	23.3	18.5	17.8	17.3
Coaching/refereeing/judging	18.2	22.5	24.4	33.0	*12.3
Fundraising/sales	51.3	47.8	53.3	49.0	55.9
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	7.4	8.8	5.9	*2.3	**3.6
Management/committee work/coordination	26.9	28.8	24.3	18.6	25.4
Performing/media production	7.2	11.9	6.4	*7.2	*7.9
Personal care/assistance	7.2	7.8	9.1	*5.6	*6.1
Preparing/serving food	31.2	28.0	33.3	21.8	37.4
Protecting the environment	7.6	4.2	*3.2	*5.6	*3.6
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	22.3	19.2	17.4	42.5	11.7
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	4.3	4.2	4.2	9.5	*2.5
Teaching/instruction/providing information	23.3	34.0	28.4	23.0	25.3
Transporting people/goods	21.4	23.8	23.7	29.3	19.5
Other	*4.3	5.0	5.0	*2.4	*10.9
Total involvements(c)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total involvements	695.3	1 401.5	697.4	491.3	315.2
Total number of activity types recorded for all involvements	1 920.5	4 163.7	1 982.9	1 426.8	849.5
Total volunteers	444.8	893.2	480.8	367.4	175.5

NUMBER

Average number of activity types per involvement	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.7
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Coded to the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0.30.001).

(c) Volunteers may undertake more than one type of activity for each of their voluntary involvements; therefore components do not add to the total of 100%.

OCCUPATION(b) *continued*

Activity type of involvement	Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labourers and Related Workers	Total employed	Not employed	Total
VOLUNTEERING INVOLVEMENTS (%) (c)							
Administration/clerical/recruitment/information management	25.3	16.4	24.2	15.8	25.3	26.0	25.5
Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring	24.9	10.9	24.1	19.8	20.4	21.4	20.7
Coaching/refereeing/judging	18.5	30.2	24.0	23.5	22.6	11.6	19.3
Fundraising/sales	47.1	41.8	56.8	46.6	49.7	43.3	47.8
Lobbying/advocacy/policy research	*4.8	*4.1	**2.0	*5.4	5.8	5.3	5.6
Management/committee work/coordination	22.4	22.0	16.2	16.7	23.9	21.2	23.1
Performing/media production	9.7	*5.6	7.8	*5.7	8.6	7.5	8.2
Personal care/assistance	11.2	8.4	10.2	*12.4	8.5	9.6	8.9
Preparing/serving food	36.2	22.0	37.3	42.4	31.4	31.5	31.4
Protecting the environment	5.0	*7.1	*3.8	*6.1	5.0	5.3	5.1
Repairing/maintenance/gardening	13.7	30.6	13.6	26.8	20.9	15.6	19.3
Search and rescue/first aid/firefighting/community safety	*2.9	*8.1	*3.4	*10.5	4.9	*2.3	4.1
Teaching/instruction/providing information	32.4	24.8	27.8	30.1	28.9	25.7	28.0
Transporting people/goods	20.2	28.9	19.4	25.0	23.3	19.7	22.2
Other	*3.3	*3.8	*4.2	*4.1	4.6	7.2	5.4
Total involvements(c)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NUMBER ('000)

Total involvements	806.0	333.7	414.5	282.5	5 437.2	2 344.3	7 781.5
Total number of activity types recorded for all involvements	2 236.7	883.5	1 139.9	821.5	15 424.9	5 935.7	21 360.7
Total volunteers	563.3	243.1	272.9	206.0	3 646.9	1 579.7	5 226.5

NUMBER

Average number of activity types per involvement	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.7
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* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Includes data for up to three involvements for each volunteer. In 2006, 4% of volunteers had more than three involvements.

(b) Coded to the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0.30.001).

(c) Volunteers may undertake more than one type of activity for each of their voluntary involvements; therefore components do not add to the total of 100%.

	NUMBER OF DONORS			DONOR RATE(b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
Birthplace						
Australian born	3 883.1	4 589.5	8 472.6	72.6	81.2	77.0
Born outside Australia	1 614.1	1 679.7	3 293.8	73.2	79.9	76.5
Main English-speaking countries	649.2	619.7	1 268.9	75.5	84.5	79.6
Other countries	964.8	1 060.0	2 024.8	71.8	77.5	74.7
Relationship in household						
Family member	4 584.6	5 277.2	9 861.9	74.0	81.8	78.0
Husband, wife or partner	3 846.1	4 166.3	8 012.4	77.6	85.3	81.4
With dependent children	1 711.2	1 855.2	3 566.5	77.2	86.8	81.9
With no dependent children	2 134.9	2 311.0	4 445.9	77.9	84.2	81.1
Lone parent	106.5	546.4	652.8	71.7	73.2	73.0
Dependent student	64.4	128.8	193.2	45.3	72.3	60.3
Non-dependent child	445.1	293.4	738.4	57.6	62.0	59.3
Other family member	122.6	142.4	265.0	69.1	83.9	76.3
Non-family member	912.5	992.0	1 904.5	67.3	76.0	71.6
Lone person	601.7	810.4	1 412.0	65.8	78.9	72.7
Not living alone	310.8	181.6	492.4	70.5	65.4	68.6
Volunteer status						
Volunteer	1 957.3	2 507.0	4 464.2	81.4	88.9	85.4
Not a volunteer	3 539.9	3 762.2	7 302.1	68.8	76.3	72.4
Student status						
Currently studying	526.8	766.4	1 293.3	65.6	77.6	72.2
Full-time	204.0	301.8	505.8	64.0	70.0	67.4
Part-time	322.9	464.6	787.5	66.8	83.5	75.7
Not currently studying	4 970.3	5 502.8	10 473.1	73.6	81.3	77.5
Level of highest non-school qualification						
Bachelor degree/Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate or above	1 263.6	1 367.3	2 630.8	80.8	86.5	83.6
Advanced diploma/diploma	485.4	593.3	1 078.7	84.5	85.0	84.8
Certificate III/IV	1 318.8	600.2	1 919.0	75.3	82.0	77.3
Certificate I/II	250.7	517.9	768.6	71.0	81.8	77.9
No non-school qualification	2 178.7	3 190.5	5 369.1	65.8	77.6	72.4
Labour force and Full-time/part-time status						
Employed	4 172.4	3 794.0	7 966.4	75.3	84.6	79.5
Full-time	3 623.1	2 022.4	5 645.5	76.1	84.3	78.8
Part-time	549.3	1 771.6	2 320.9	70.6	85.0	81.1
Unemployed	126.1	161.7	287.8	51.1	71.7	60.9
Not in the labour force	1 198.6	2 313.5	3 512.1	67.9	76.0	73.0
Retired	975.9	1 483.6	2 459.5	71.7	78.9	75.9
Other	222.7	830.0	1 052.6	55.1	71.4	67.2
Self-assessed health status						
Excellent/Very good	3 206.4	3 703.0	6 909.3	74.1	82.5	78.3
Good	1 509.8	1 606.5	3 116.2	73.3	80.1	76.7
Fair/Poor	781.0	959.8	1 740.8	67.0	76.4	71.9
Equivalised gross weekly household income quintiles(c)						
Lowest 20%	647.8	1 079.6	1 727.4	59.6	74.3	68.0
Second quintile	792.4	987.9	1 780.3	71.7	76.8	74.4
Third quintile	955.7	979.3	1 935.0	71.6	84.8	77.7
Fourth quintile	1 024.3	1 099.8	2 124.0	74.4	84.3	79.2
Highest 20%	1 354.5	1 101.8	2 456.2	83.4	88.3	85.5

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over who gave money to organisations in the past 12 months.

(b) Percentage of persons aged 18 years and over in each category who had donated money to an organisation in the previous 12 months.

(c) See Glossary entry.

	NUMBER OF DONORS			DONOR RATE(b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
State/territory						
NSW	1 706.9	2 041.2	3 748.1	67.5	78.6	73.1
Vic.	1 416.4	1 606.2	3 022.6	75.2	81.8	78.6
Qld	1 129.4	1 232.0	2 361.4	76.9	82.9	79.9
SA	417.1	464.1	881.3	72.4	78.0	75.3
WA	569.6	638.3	1 207.8	77.0	85.0	81.0
Tas.	119.0	140.3	259.2	67.0	75.5	71.4
NT(c)	38.5	38.6	77.1	66.6	74.5	70.3
ACT	100.3	108.5	208.7	83.2	86.8	85.1
Part of state						
Capital city	3 613.8	4 100.1	7 713.9	74.2	81.2	77.7
Balance of state/territory	1 883.4	2 169.1	4 052.4	70.3	80.2	75.3
Remoteness areas of Australia						
Major city areas	3 706.5	4 310.0	8 016.5	73.7	81.1	77.5
Inner Regional	1 225.4	1 280.0	2 505.4	71.5	79.9	75.6
Outer Regional	493.0	595.9	1 088.9	70.6	82.0	76.4
Other	72.2	83.3	155.5	63.3	77.1	70.0
Socio-economic status of area(d)						
Lowest 20%	797.9	970.1	1 768.1	64.2	73.5	69.0
Second quintile	919.7	1 202.5	2 122.2	69.8	82.1	76.3
Third quintile	1 154.1	1 348.3	2 502.4	71.0	82.2	76.6
Forth quintile	1 232.4	1 281.2	2 513.6	77.2	82.6	79.9
Highest 20%	1 380.6	1 446.8	2 827.4	79.3	82.6	80.9
Total	5 497.1	6 269.2	11 766.3	72.8	80.9	76.9

(a) Persons aged 18 years and over who gave money to organisations in the past 12 months.

(b) Percentage of persons aged 18 years and over in each category who had donated money to an organisation in the previous 12 months.

(c) Refers mainly to urban areas only. See paragraph 8 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Person's area of residence ranked according to the 2001 Census-based Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage. Greater disadvantage is at the lower end of the scale.

DONOR STATUS AND TYPES OF RECIPIENT ORGANISATION(a), by sex

	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
Gave money to organisation in previous 12 months						
Yes	5 497.1	6 269.2	11 766.3	72.8	80.9	76.9
No	2 056.2	1 484.6	3 540.7	27.2	19.1	23.1
Total	7 553.3	7 753.8	15 307.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of organisation to whom donations were made						
Arts/heritage organisations	158.2	181.1	339.3	2.9	2.9	2.9
Universities	99.7	60.6	160.3	1.8	1.0	1.4
Research organisations	1 178.0	1 631.9	2 809.9	21.4	26.0	23.9
Schools	1 303.9	1 666.3	2 970.2	23.7	26.6	25.2
Hospitals	1 192.9	1 415.2	2 608.1	21.7	22.6	22.2
Other health organisations	1 331.2	1 675.8	3 007.0	24.2	26.7	25.6
Community/welfare services	1 952.2	2 077.7	4 030.0	35.5	33.1	34.3
International aid	1 783.6	1 966.2	3 749.8	32.4	31.4	31.9
Religious organisations/church	1 506.3	1 878.7	3 384.9	27.4	30.0	28.8
Environmental/animal welfare groups	736.2	1 127.2	1 863.4	13.4	18.0	15.8
Sport/physical recreation clubs	1 032.9	800.7	1 833.7	18.8	12.8	15.6
Other	333.3	387.3	720.6	6.1	6.2	6.1
Total donors(a)	5 497.1	6 269.2	11 766.3	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Donors may have given money to more than one type of organisation, therefore components do not add to the total.

DONORS OF MONEY, DONOR RATES(a), by age and sex—2000 and 2006

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Males									
2000	56.2	66.6	77.4	76.8	77.1	72.1	76.9	*59.5	71.5
2006	54.4	71.4	74.4	79.2	77.0	76.7	76.5	69.3	72.8
Females									
2000	67.7	75.9	81.7	82.4	77.8	73.1	72.1	65.2	76.9
2006	69.3	79.9	82.9	85.8	85.1	80.5	78.5	73.7	80.9
Persons									
2000	61.9	71.3	79.5	79.6	77.4	72.6	74.2	62.8	74.2
2006	61.7	75.6	78.7	82.6	81.1	78.7	77.6	72.1	76.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Percentage of persons in each category who gave money to an organisation in the previous 12 months.

DONORS OF MONEY, DONOR RATES(a), by state and territory—2000 and 2006

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
DONOR RATE (%)									
Males									
2000	66.5	74.7	70.5	76.6	76.4	72.9	*74.1	82.1	71.5
2006	67.5	75.2	76.9	72.4	77.0	67.0	66.6	83.2	72.8
Females									
2000	71.6	78.2	79.2	80.7	82.8	78.2	*75.6	84.9	76.9
2006	78.6	81.8	82.9	78.0	85.0	75.5	74.5	86.8	80.9
Persons									
2000	69.0	76.5	74.9	78.7	79.6	75.6	74.8	83.5	74.2
2006	73.1	78.6	79.9	75.3	81.0	71.4	70.3	85.1	76.9

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Percentage of persons aged 18 years and over who had donated money to an organisation in the previous 12 months.

(b) Refers mainly to urban areas. See paragraph 8 of the Explanatory Notes.

	Males	Females	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over	Total	All persons
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
VOLUNTEERS										
Provided help/care for someone with a disability, long-term illness, or problems with old age										
Yes	22.5	30.4	13.8	13.5	24.2	36.4	39.3	30.1	26.8	1 398.4
No	77.5	69.6	86.2	86.5	75.8	63.6	60.7	69.9	73.2	3 828.2
Helping people not living in the same house										
Relative in another household	32.6	42.4	24.9	37.2	35.8	39.7	51.5	36.2	37.9	1 980.8
Friend	22.4	30.0	35.7	29.5	28.7	25.5	21.9	17.5	26.5	1 385.8
Neighbour	6.1	6.4	**1.0	5.0	5.7	8.0	6.3	10.4	6.3	326.9
Work colleague	4.5	4.3	*5.5	*5.6	4.7	6.2	2.9	np	4.4	231.6
Other person	7.1	7.5	*8.5	6.6	9.3	7.0	5.3	6.0	7.3	380.3
Any of above category of person(b)	57.9	68.1	57.3	61.6	65.5	66.0	69.7	56.0	63.4	3 312.4
No support provided	42.1	31.9	42.7	38.4	34.5	34.0	30.3	44.0	36.6	1 914.1
Type of help										
Domestic work, home maintenance or gardening	26.3	21.0	25.3	24.5	22.9	28.4	22.3	15.0	23.4	1 225.6
Providing transport or running errands	25.9	30.7	25.3	25.1	30.1	34.4	27.0	24.8	28.5	1 489.8
Helping with child care	11.0	23.3	11.1	17.9	17.1	14.4	25.2	20.9	17.6	921.7
Teaching, coaching or giving practical advice	14.3	16.2	19.8	16.8	18.8	16.8	11.0	5.6	15.3	800.8
Giving emotional support	23.0	40.9	23.2	29.8	34.6	38.8	36.3	27.0	32.7	1 706.6
Other helping activity	5.3	5.6	*1.6	*3.9	5.9	7.2	8.4	3.5	5.4	283.2
Any of above types of assistance(b)	57.9	68.1	57.3	61.6	65.5	66.0	69.7	56.0	63.4	3 312.4
Did not help anyone	42.1	31.9	42.7	38.4	34.5	34.0	30.3	44.0	36.6	1 914.1
VOLUNTEERS ('000)										
All persons	2 405.2	2 821.3	574.3	858.9	1 275.1	1 101.6	726.4	690.4	5 226.5	5 226.5
NON-VOLUNTEERS										
Provided help/care for someone with a disability, long-term illness, or problems with old age.										
Yes	14.7	19.2	9.4	9.3	15.9	23.2	26.7	17.7	16.9	1 706.9
No	85.3	80.8	90.6	90.7	84.1	76.8	73.3	82.3	83.1	8 373.7
Helping people not living in the same house(b)										
Relative in another household	24.3	29.6	19.3	26.3	25.3	30.3	37.6	22.4	26.9	2 707.9
Friend	12.9	16.0	22.9	17.4	17.9	12.3	8.4	8.8	14.4	1 454.9
Neighbour	3.1	3.2	*1.1	2.8	3.5	3.1	4.9	3.3	3.1	317.5
Work colleague	2.0	2.4	*2.5	2.6	3.7	2.0	*2.7	np	2.2	223.2
Other person	1.1	1.8	*2.1	*1.5	*2.3	1.5	**1.0	*0.4	1.4	145.1
Any of above category of person(b)	38.3	45.3	41.5	43.1	44.4	42.0	49.0	31.7	41.7	4 206.7
No support provided	61.7	54.7	58.5	56.9	55.6	58.0	51.0	68.3	58.3	5 873.8
Type of help										
Domestic work, home maintenance or gardening	16.7	11.1	15.7	15.4	15.4	15.3	14.0	8.6	14.0	1 408.8
Providing transport or running errands	15.0	18.0	16.9	18.3	18.7	19.1	16.0	10.3	16.5	1 663.7
Helping with child care	7.1	13.9	6.7	9.5	9.0	7.6	17.6	12.4	10.4	1 053.2
Teaching, coaching or giving practical advice	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.8	6.5	5.5	4.0	*2.0	4.8	487.2
Giving emotional support	14.3	23.3	15.8	18.9	22.0	21.8	22.6	11.5	18.7	1 883.8
Other helping activity	3.5	2.6	*2.5	2.7	3.8	3.3	4.4	1.8	3.1	308.6
Any of above types of assistance(b)	38.3	45.3	41.5	43.1	44.4	42.0	49.0	31.7	41.7	4 206.7
Did not help anyone	61.7	54.7	58.5	56.9	55.6	58.0	51.0	68.3	58.3	5 873.8
NON-VOLUNTEERS ('000)										
All persons	5 148.1	4 932.4	1 365.9	1 950.3	1 713.2	1 698.7	1 512.9	1 839.5	10 080.5	10 080.5
* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution				(a)	In the previous four weeks.					
** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use				(b)	Some people may have given help to more than one category of person not living in the same house, or given more than one type of help, therefore components will not add to the total.					
np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated										

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents detailed information on volunteers and volunteering for people aged 18 years and over in Australia, compiled from the voluntary work module included in the 2006 General Social Survey (GSS). The GSS collected information about personal and household characteristics for people aged 18 years and over resident in private dwellings, throughout non-remote areas of Australia, from March to July 2006.

2 The major aim of the voluntary work module (referred to here as the Voluntary Work Survey) was to collect data on rates of participation in voluntary work, the characteristics of people who volunteered, the types of organisations for which they worked, the activities they undertook, as well as data about the motivation for volunteering. Two similar national voluntary work surveys have been conducted by the ABS before: the first as part of the Monthly Population Survey in 1995, and the second on the Population Survey Monitor conducted over four quarters in 2000. The information collected in the 2006 survey is mostly a repeat of the 2000 Voluntary Work Survey. However, in 2006 for the first time, data have also been collected on informal unpaid community work – caring for people with a disability and providing assistance to relatives, friends and others in the wider community. Information on whether people made monetary donations to organisations was also collected in 2006 as in the 2000 survey.

3 The 2006 GSS collected data on a range of social dimensions from the same individual to enable analysis of the interrelationships in social circumstances and outcomes, including the exploration of multiple advantage and disadvantage experienced by that individual. The 2006 GSS is the second in the series, with the first GSS conducted in 2002. It is planned to repeat the survey at regular intervals. Each cycle of the GSS collects comparable information for the core dimensions to allow for analysis of changes over time. A flexible component is also included to collect additional information on emerging or important topics of social concern. The flexible component of the 2006 GSS included topics relating to social capital, voluntary work and category of visa held by Australian immigrants. Because its vehicle is the GSS, the power of this wide range of social and economic data items is also available for analysis of volunteering.

DIMENSIONS INCLUDED IN THE 2006 GSS

4 The 2006 GSS collected information about:

- demographic characteristics
- health and disability
- housing and residential mobility
- education
- employment
- income
- financial stress
- assets and liabilities
- information technology
- transport
- family and community involvement
- crime and feelings of safety
- attendance at culture and leisure venues
- sports attendance and participation
- social networks and social participation
- caring and informal help
- voluntary work
- visa category

DIMENSIONS OF THE VOLUNTARY WORK TOPIC

5 The dimensions of voluntary work that the 2006 GSS collected information about included:

Volunteers

- demographic and socio-economic characteristics
- number of organisations for which volunteered

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Volunteers continued

- type, sector and staffing arrangements of organisations
- groups selected organisation types aim to assist
- duration of volunteering
- frequency of volunteering
- hours spent on voluntary work
- voluntary work activities
- expenses and availability of remuneration
- how first became involved in volunteering
- current reasons for volunteering

Donors of money

- demographic and socio-economic characteristics
- type of recipient organisations

6 A full list of the data items from the 2006 GSS is contained in the *General Social Survey: User Guide* (cat. no. 4159.0.55.002) available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>.

SCOPE OF THE SURVEY

7 Only people who were usual residents of private dwellings in Australia were covered by the survey. Private dwellings are houses, flats, home units and any other structures used as private places of residence at the time of the survey. People usually resident in non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, hostels, hospitals and short-stay caravan parks were not included in the survey. Usual residents are those who usually live in a particular dwelling and regard it as their own or main home. Visitors to private dwellings are not included in the interview for that dwelling. However, if they are a usual resident of another dwelling that is in the scope of the survey they have a chance of being selected in the survey or, if not selected, they will be represented by similar persons who are selected in the survey. At 30 June 2006, there were 376,000 people aged 18 years and over living in non-private dwellings throughout Australia. The exclusion of these people (2% of the population) is unlikely to impact on the estimates included in this publication.

8 The GSS was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, except for very remote parts of Australia. Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory have very remote areas. With the exception of the Northern Territory, the population living in very remote areas represents only a small proportion of the total population (approximately 2%). For this, and other practical reasons, no adjustment was made to state population benchmarks (population benchmarks are discussed below) when deriving survey results. This exclusion is unlikely to impact on national estimates, and will only have a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, except the Northern Territory where the excluded population accounts for over 20% of persons.

9 Only persons aged 18 years and over were included in the survey. The Australian population at 30 June 2006, after the exclusion of people living in non-private dwellings and very remote areas of Australia, was 20,051,650, of whom approximately 15,307,070 were aged 18 years and over.

10 The following non-residents were excluded from resident population estimates used to benchmark the survey results, and were not interviewed:

- diplomatic personnel of overseas governments
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia
- persons whose usual place of residence was outside Australia.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SAMPLE DESIGN

11 The GSS was designed to provide reliable estimates at the national level and for each state and territory. The sample was therefore spread across the states and territories in order to produce estimates that have a relative standard error (RSE) of no greater than 10% for characteristics that are relatively common in the national population, say that at least 10% of the population would possess.

12 Dwellings included in the survey in each state and territory were selected at random using a multi-stage area sample. This sample included only private dwellings from the geographic areas covered by the survey. The initial sample for the survey consisted of approximately 17,700 private dwellings. This number was reduced to approximately 15,500 dwellings due to the loss of households which had no residents in scope for the survey and where dwellings proved to be vacant, under construction or derelict. Of the eligible dwellings, 86.5% responded fully (or adequately) which yielded a total sample from the survey of 13,375 dwellings.

DATA COLLECTION

13 ABS interviewers conducted personal interviews at selected dwellings during the period March to July 2006. Interviews were conducted using a Computer Assisted Interviewing (CAI) questionnaire. CAI involves the use of a notebook computer to record, store, manipulate and transmit the data collected during interviews.

14 Much of the detail obtained from the GSS was provided by one person aged 18 years or over, randomly selected from each participating household. The random selection of this person was made once basic information had been obtained about all household members. The voluntary work information was collected from and in respect of the randomly selected person. Some financial and housing items collected in the GSS required the selected person to answer on behalf of other members of the household. In some cases, particularly where household information was not known by the selected person, a spokesperson for the household was nominated to provide household information.

15 A copy of the 2006 GSS interview questions is available in the *General Social Survey: User Guide* (cat. no. 4159.0.55.002) available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>. Voluntary work and giving questions constitute Module 9 of the GSS.

WEIGHTING, BENCHMARKING AND ESTIMATION

Weighting

16 Weighting is the process of adjusting results from a sample survey to infer results for the total in-scope population. To do this, a 'weight' is allocated to each sample unit e.g. a person or a household. The weight is a value which indicates how many population units are represented by the sample unit.

17 The first step in calculating weights for each person or household is to assign an initial weight, which is equal to the inverse of the probability of being selected in the survey. For example, if the probability of a person being selected in the survey was 1 in 600, then the person would have an initial weight of 600 (that is, they represent 600 people).

Benchmarking

18 The initial weights were then calibrated to align with independent estimates of the population of interest, referred to as 'benchmarks'. Weights calibrated against population benchmarks ensure that the survey estimates conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population rather than to the distribution within the sample itself. Calibration to population benchmarks helps to compensate for over- or under-enumeration of particular categories of persons which may occur due to either the random nature of sampling or non-response.

19 The 2006 GSS was benchmarked to the estimated resident population (ERP) aged 18 years and over living in private dwellings in each state and territory, excluding the ERP living in very remote areas of Australia, at 30 June 2006. The ERP estimates for 2006 were based on results from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Therefore the GSS

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Benchmarking continued

estimates do not (and are not intended to) match estimates for the total Australian resident population (which include persons and households living in non-private dwellings, such as hotels and boarding houses, and in very remote parts of Australia) obtained from other sources.

Estimation

20 Survey estimates of counts of persons are obtained by summing the weights of persons or households with the characteristic of interest. Estimates for means, such as mean age of persons, are obtained by summing the weights of persons in each category (e.g. individual ages), multiplying by the value for each category, aggregating the results across categories, then dividing by the sum of the weights for all persons.

21 The estimates shown in this publication are based on benchmarked person weights. The estimates of equivalised household income contained in tables 3-6 and 36 are based on benchmarked household weights in their derivation, but in these tables the equivalised household income is treated as a characteristic of the individual.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

22 All sample surveys are subject to error which can be broadly categorised as either sampling error or non-sampling error. Sampling error occurs because only a small proportion of the total population is used to produce estimates that represent the whole population. Sampling error can be reliably measured as it is calculated based on the scientific methods used to design surveys. Non-sampling errors occur when survey processes work less effectively than intended. For example, some persons selected for the survey may not respond (non-response); some survey questions may not be clearly understood by the respondent; and occasionally errors can be made in processing data from the survey.

Sampling error

23 Sampling error is the difference between the published estimates, derived from a sample of persons, and the value that would have been produced if all persons in scope of the survey had been included. For more information refer to the 'Technical notes'. Sampling error is measured for this survey by relative standard errors (RSEs). In this publication estimates with RSEs of 25% to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate that the estimate should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs over 50% are indicated by a double asterisk (e.g. **0.6) and should be considered unreliable for most purposes.

Non-sampling error

24 One of the main sources of non-sampling error is non-response by persons selected in the survey. Non-response can affect the reliability of results and can introduce bias. The magnitude of any bias depends upon the level of non-response and the extent of the difference between the characteristics of those people who responded to the survey and those who did not.

25 To reduce the level and impact of non-response, the following methods were adopted in this survey:

- face-to-face interviews with respondents
- the use of interviewers who could speak languages other than English where necessary
- follow-up of respondents if there was initially no response, ensuring the weighted file is representative of the population by aligning the estimates with population benchmarks.

26 Of the dwellings selected in the 2006 GSS, 13.5% did not respond fully or adequately. As the non-response to the GSS was low, the impact of non-response bias is considered to be negligible.

27 Every effort was made to minimise other non-sampling error by careful design and testing of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and extensive editing and quality control procedures at all stages of data processing.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

Non-sampling error continued

28 An advantage of the CAI technology used in conducting interviews for this survey is that it potentially reduces non-sampling errors by enabling edits to be applied as the data are being collected. The interviewer is alerted immediately if information entered into the computer is either outside the permitted range for that question, or contradictory to information previously recorded during the interview. These edits allow the interviewer to query respondents and resolve issues during the interview. CAI sequencing of questions is also automated such that respondents are asked only relevant questions and only in the appropriate sequence, eliminating interviewer sequencing errors.

SEASONAL EFFECTS

29 The estimates in this publication are based on information collected from March to July 2006, and due to seasonal effects they may not be fully representative of other time periods in the year. For example, the GSS asked standard ABS questions on labour force status to determine whether a person was employed. Employment is subject to seasonal variation through the year. Therefore, the GSS results for employment could have differed if the GSS had been conducted over the whole year or in a different part of the year. Information about volunteering was collected with a 12-month reference period.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

30 Care has been taken to ensure that the results of this survey are as accurate as possible. All interviews were conducted by trained ABS officers. Extensive reference material was developed for use in the field enumeration and intensive training was provided to interviewers in both classroom and on-the-job environments. There remain, however, other factors which may have affected the reliability of results, and for which no specific adjustments can be made. The following factors should be considered when interpreting these estimates:

- Information recorded in this survey is essentially 'as reported' by respondents, and hence may differ from information available from other sources or collected using different methodologies. Responses may be affected by imperfect recall or individual interpretation of survey questions.
- Some respondents may have provided responses that they felt were expected, rather than those that accurately reflected their own situation. Every effort has been made to minimise such bias through the development and use of culturally appropriate survey methodology.

31 Further information on the interpretation of results is contained in the *General Social Survey: User Guide* (cat. no. 4159.0.55.002) available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>.

CLASSIFICATIONS

32 Occupation data are dual classified according to the ASCO - *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0.30.001) - and the newly released ANZSCO - *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006* (cat. no. 1220.0).

33 Country of birth data are classified according to the *Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), 1998 Revision 2.03* (cat. no. 1269.0).

34 Area data (Capital city, Balance of state/territory; Remoteness areas) are classified according to the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0).

35 The *Australian Culture and Leisure Classifications, 2001* (cat. no. 4902.0) is available on the data file.

GSS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

36 Below is information describing the range of data to be made available from the 2006 General Social Survey, both in published form and on request. Products available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au> are indicated accordingly.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

*Voluntary Work, Australia,
2006 Data Cubes*

37 An electronic version of the tables released in this publication, in spreadsheet format, is available on the ABS web site (cat. no. 4441.0). The spreadsheet presents the tables and the related RSEs for each publication table.

Microdata

38 For users who wish to undertake more detailed analysis of the survey data, including the detailed voluntary work information, microdata from the 2006 GSS have been released in the form of two confidentialised unit record files (CURFs), the basic CURF and the expanded CURF. Information regarding the basic CURF (*General Social Survey: Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File*, cat.no.4159.0.30.001) and the expanded CURF (*General Social Survey: Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File*, cat.no.4159.0.30.002) is available on the ABS web site. The expanded CURF contains more detail than the basic CURF and is only available via the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL), which is a secure Internet-based data query service. The basic CURF is available via CD ROM or RADL. The 2006 GSS user guide (*General Social Survey: User Guide*, cat. no. 4159.0.55.002), which is available on the ABS web site, contains technical information describing the content and use of the GSS basic and expanded CURFs. It also includes detailed information about the survey content, methodology, data processing, data quality and dissemination.

*General Social Survey: User
Guide*

39 The GSS User Guide is released in conjunction with this summary results publication. It provides detailed information about the survey content, methodology and data interpretation. It also contains the list of GSS data items, survey questions and prompt cards. The User Guide is available free-of-charge on the ABS web site (cat. no. 4159.0.55.002).

40 Up-to-date information on the ABS RADL service, including information on pricing, 'Applications & Undertakings', and a training manual outlining obligations and responsibilities when accessing ABS microdata, is available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>. Those wishing to access the 2006 GSS microdata should contact the officer noted at the front of this publication.

Data available on request

41 Special tabulations of GSS data are available on request and for a fee. Subject to confidentiality and sampling variability constraints, tabulations can be produced from the survey incorporating data items, populations and geographic areas selected to meet individual requirements. These can be provided in printed or electronic form. Please refer to the contact details noted at the front of this publication.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

42 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>. ABS publications which may be of interest are:

- *How Australians Use Their Time, 1997* (cat. no. 4153.0)
- *Unpaid Work and the Australian Economy, 1997* (cat. no. 5240.0)
- *Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Australia, Apr 2004* (cat. no. 6285.0)
- *Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, Australia, 2005-06* (cat. no. 4114.0)
- *Voluntary Work, Australia, 2000* (cat. no. 4441.0)
- *Australian National Accounts: Non-profit Institutions Satellite Account, 1999-2000* (cat. no. 5256.0)
- *Aspects of Social Capital, Australia, 2006* (cat. no. 4911.0)
- *Australian Social Trends, 2006* (cat. no. 4102.0)
- *Measures of Australia's Progress, 2006* (cat. no. 1370.0)

APPENDIX CHANGES BETWEEN SURVEYS

CHANGES OVER TIME IN METHODOLOGY

Identifying volunteers

1 The ABS has now conducted three detailed national voluntary work surveys. These were in 1995, 2000 and, most recently, as presented here in 2006. In addition, a short voluntary work module was included in the 2002 General Social Survey (GSS), and a question on volunteering was included in the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

2 This appendix describes differences between the collections that are likely to affect data comparability. These include differences in collection methodology, in applying the concept of 'voluntary work' and in the classification of the types of organisations with whom volunteers undertook their work. Table A1 summarises some of the key differences. Tables are also included which compare data from earlier years with the closest comparable form of data obtained from the 2006 survey, to show any underlying movements.

3 In each of the three voluntary work surveys, details about volunteering activities were collected by personally interviewing the respondents who were volunteers. However, the means used to identify volunteers in the 1995 survey was different to that used in the subsequent surveys. In the 1995 survey volunteers were first identified by a household member, a responsible adult, who was asked to report whether they or any other household member aged 15 years and over had done voluntary work in the previous 12 months. If any household member was so identified as being a volunteer a further personal interview was organised to obtain more information about their volunteering activities. In subsequent surveys, on the other hand, interviews were organised with randomly selected household members, aged 18 years and over, who were asked whether they themselves had done any voluntary work in the previous 12 months. There was no intermediary respondent involved.

4 When the results of the 2000 survey were first compared to those from the 1995 survey, there was an unexpected increase in the volunteer rate. The differences in collection methodology described above was considered to be an important reason for this increase. The conclusion reached was that respondents could only reliably identify their own participation in voluntary work.

5 To support comparison of the 1995 and 2000 results the ABS reprocessed the 1995 data so that it also only related to respondents who had identified themselves as being volunteers. It is these reprocessed data that are presented in the comparisons shown in tables A2 and A3 on following pages. For further information about the reprocessing of the 1995 survey on the basis of the self-identified population, see Technical Note 2 'Reprocessing of 1995 data' in *Voluntary Work, Australia, 2000* (cat. no. 4441.0).

6 As noted above a question about doing voluntary work was also included in the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. This question was asked for persons aged 15 years and over. While comparative data from the census are not presented here it is likely that methodological differences will be important in accounting for any differences in volunteering rates that might be observed. From the household form used in the census, which is a form completed by household members themselves, it is not possible to determine whether each person aged 15 years and over actually answered the question for themselves, or whether it was completed by another household member on their behalf.

APPENDIX CHANGES BETWEEN SURVEYS *continued*

A1 SUMMARY COMPARISON OF VOLUNTARY WORK COLLECTIONS

	<i>Voluntary Work 1995</i>	<i>Voluntary Work 2000</i>	<i>Voluntary Work short module 2002</i>	<i>Voluntary Work 2006</i>	<i>Voluntary Work question, Census 2006</i>
Survey vehicle	Monthly Population Survey	Population Survey Monitor	General Social Survey	General Social Survey	Census 2006
Type of questionnaire/ data collection method	Paper based forms for face-to-face interview	Paper based forms for face-to-face interview	Computer-assisted face-to-face interview	Computer-assisted face-to-face interview	Self completion form delivered and collected by Census collector, or electronically via the internet
Identity of persons asked to identify volunteers in the household	Any responsible adult but data was reprocessed in 2002 to refer only to those who answered the questions on their own behalf	Only selected individuals were asked to respond on their own behalf	Only selected individuals were asked to respond on their own behalf	Only selected individuals were asked to respond on their own behalf	Any household member including the individual concerned could respond
Age of persons for which volunteering data was collected	15 years and over	18 years and over	18 years and over	18 years and over	15 years and over
Preamble used	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Definition re-enforced in Census User Guide
Work for the Dole/Mutual obligation exclusion condition applied	No (not applicable)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Other excluding conditions associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criterion applied	No	No	No	Yes	Instructions on some exclusions provided
Voluntary work overseas excluded	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Level of detail	Long question module	Long question module	Two questions only	Long question module	One question only
Details of organisational involvements collected	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No

Computer-assisted interviews

7 As opposed to using paper-based questionnaires, as was the case in the 1995 and 2000 surveys, a computer-assisted interview (CAI) method was used in the 2006 survey. This method of collection helps the interview to flow well with inbuilt sequencing and personalised questions. It further increases the quality of the information, as inbuilt edits make it possible to resolve any discrepancies that arise during the course of the interview.

8 The use of CAI also allowed better methods of categorising organisations according to organisation type and sector than had hitherto been available. In previous surveys respondents were asked to categorise the organisations for whom they worked to categories listed on a prompt-card. For some types of organisations, and especially those providing a variety of services, it may have been difficult for respondents to choose an appropriate organisation type category from the prompt card. In the 2006 survey, on the other hand, a precoded list of organisation names (or generic descriptions for common types of organisations such as public or private schools and hospitals) was used to categorise the organisations. The interviewer would select the name of the organisation from the list recorded on their laptop computer, and the organisation type and sector would automatically be applied. The Australian Culture and Leisure Classification of organisation types was also applied in this way to relevant organisations. It is considered that the use of this named-based automatic coding approach is likely to have improved the quality of the counts of volunteers and voluntary work activities attributed to particular organisation types. However, the magnitude of any such improvement cannot be quantified.

Applying the definition of
voluntary work

9 The concept of volunteering has not changed over time. For the three full voluntary work surveys, however, there have been some developments and refinements in applying the concept.

10 To help respondents understand what was meant by voluntary work, the 1995 survey was introduced by a defining preamble which read as follows:

'the next few questions are about unpaid voluntary work, that is, help willingly given in the form of time, service or skills'.

Further questions were then asked to ensure that the work was done for, or through, an organisation or group. For the 2000 and 2006 surveys, the words 'to a club, organisation or association' were added to the preamble after the words 'time, service or skills', instead of being asked as a separate question. In all cases, the reference period was the previous 12 months.

11 The definition used for all three surveys, as shown in the wording above, has four criteria for unpaid work in the community to be regarded as voluntary work, namely that it be:

- unpaid, (reimbursement of costs or an honorarium are not considered as payment);
- willingly undertaken, (not as the result of a legal or institutional direction);
- help in the form of time, service or skills (it does not include assistance in the form of money, goods or biological donation such as blood or organs – these are seen as other forms of altruism in their own right);
- formal, as determined by its being carried out for, or through, an organisation or group, (informal help, given to relatives, friends, neighbours or others, is not included in voluntary work, but this type of assistance is recognised as unpaid community work and participation in this type of work is separately measured in the 2006 GSS).

12 In each of the three surveys, respondents were also instructed to '*Please exclude any voluntary work done overseas*'. Voluntary work done overseas is excluded from the scope of the survey because the data are used to estimate the value of voluntary work to the Australian economy (see *Australian National Accounts: Non-profit Institutions Satellite Account, 1999-2000* (cat. no. 5265.0)). In addition, it is not possible to measure the full extent of voluntary work undertaken overseas in the reference period by interviewing people who are currently resident in Australia.

13 Each of the four criteria – unpaid, willingly undertaken, actively serving and formal – are important. As other forms of community work through an organisation have become more common, there have been progressive refinements of the 'willingly undertaken' concept.

14 In 2000, a question was introduced to the survey to identify work for organisations done to 'satisfy a requirement to receive Commonwealth benefits such as Newstart'. Such involvements were excluded from voluntary work. This was not seen as a change affecting comparability with the 1995 survey, but as a response to an emerging form of directed community work.

15 Further consideration was given to the 'willingly undertaken' concept and for the 2006 voluntary work survey on the GSS a further set of questions were asked to help determine whether the work was truly willing in nature, or undertaken to comply with legal, educational or labour market requirements. In response to concerns that the work test for income support still allowed for freedom of choice about whether a person did unpaid community work or not, the criterion about satisfying requirements to receive Commonwealth benefits was narrowed (as per the first question in the following paragraph) to refer to the compulsory programs for the longer-term unemployed.

Applying the definition of
voluntary work *continued*

16 The five questions that were asked (of people aged less than 65 years) in respect of each of up to three organisational involvements for the 2006 survey were:

Is the reason you assist the (specified organisation):

1. to take part in the Work for the Dole Program or Community Work under Mutual Obligation?
2. for work experience, or as part of an unpaid work trial?
3. because of a community service order?
4. because of a student placement?
5. because of emergency work during an industrial dispute?

17 If a respondent answered 'Yes' to any of these questions, the unpaid community work done for that particular organisation was not classed as voluntary work. If there was a positive response to any of these questions for each of the up to three organisations for which a person gave detailed information, the person was excluded from being counted as a volunteer.

18 The concept of voluntary work used by the short voluntary work question set (or module) included in the 2002 GSS was also much the same as that used in the other surveys but there were some differences. In the 2002 survey the question asked: '*Since this time in [specify month] last year, did you do any unpaid voluntary work for any of these types of organisations [show prompt card]?*' The question covers the four core criteria described above – unpaid, voluntary (or willing), work, for an organisation. There was not as much emphasis on the 'willingly' criterion as there was for the 2006 survey where the preamble described in paragraph 10 was used.

COMPARISON OF
VOLUNTEERING OVER TIME

19 From the 2006 Voluntary Work Survey, it is possible to reconstruct the counts of volunteers in a way that closely equates with criteria used to count volunteers in previous surveys. For the comparisons with 1995 and 2000 data, only the 'work for the dole' related condition associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criterion was applied to the 2006 data. As noted above, a similar criterion to this had been used in 2000 and while this was not the case in the 1995 survey the omission is considered to be irrelevant as such 'work for the dole' schemes had not been widely implemented at that time.

20 To support the comparison of 2006 data with the voluntary work data available from the 2002 GSS, on the other hand, none of the conditions associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criteria used in the 2006 survey were applied. In other words, for both surveys, all persons who identified themselves as being volunteers, whether directed to do the work or not, were included. This follows from the fact that the voluntary work question in the 2002 survey was a short module which did not apply the conditions associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criterion.

21 Tables A2 and A3 show 1995, 2000 and 2006 volunteering rates on a comparable basis for persons aged 18 years and over. The data reveal a continuing increase in volunteer rates between these three time points. The increases generally hold for both men and women, and across all age groups, except for men in the 55 to 74 year age range over the more recent 2000 to 2006 period. Worthy of note, though, is the overall decrease in individual hours worked between 2006 and the earlier years, as shown by the median hours for most age by sex groups.

APPENDIX CHANGES BETWEEN SURVEYS *continued*

Comparison of 1995, 2000
and 2006 Volunteering rates

A2 VOLUNTEERING, by age and sex—1995, 2000, 2006(a)

	18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	All persons
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Males									
1995	15.7	18.7	29.9	29.5	23.4	21.5	14.1	8.7	22.9
2000	26.4	25.1	35.2	35.3	33.0	31.1	20.5	10.3	30.5
2006	30.5	28.9	38.3	39.5	27.6	29.9	21.8	*25.7	32.4
Females									
1995	17.6	22.1	33.5	26.0	24.3	24.3	17.8	5.3	24.4
2000	27.1	29.9	44.9	35.6	31.9	29.5	18.9	8.0	33.0
2006	33.1	35.0	50.4	40.2	37.9	35.1	22.9	*7.8	37.8
Persons									
1995	16.6	20.4	31.7	27.7	23.8	23.0	16.2	6.6	23.6
2000	26.8	27.5	40.1	35.4	32.5	30.3	19.6	8.9	31.8
2006	31.8	31.9	44.4	39.8	32.7	32.6	22.4	14.2	35.1
TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS (million)									
Males									
1995	25.9	35.0	59.7	53.6	34.8	27.8	7.6	0.4	244.8
2000	31.1	38.1	58.9	71.6	62.4	44.5	13.3	1.4	321.3
2006	28.2	39.6	51.0	76.1	63.9	53.6	*36.2	*1.6	350.2
Females									
1995	25.0	38.2	63.3	47.1	39.4	41.8	11.3	0.8	266.9
2000	29.4	46.3	89.7	77.6	77.0	45.5	15.8	1.5	382.8
2006	35.4	45.1	92.2	69.5	68.9	49.5	17.8	**1.3	379.7
Persons									
1995	51.0	73.2	123.0	100.7	74.2	69.6	18.9	1.2	511.7
2000	60.4	84.4	148.6	149.3	139.4	90.1	29.1	2.9	704.1
2006	63.6	84.7	143.2	145.6	132.8	103.2	54.0	*2.9	729.9
MEDIAN ANNUAL HOURS									
Males									
1995	64	52	74	80	100	104	104	156	74
2000	52	36	52	80	104	132	57	143	64
2006	40	40	38	60	64	120	*121	**50	52
Females									
1995	60	52	78	74	99	117	100	60	74
2000	58	45	80	72	96	130	156	260	74
2006	60	38	58	69	84	81	*90	**47	60
Persons									
1995	60	52	76	78	99	108	100	104	74
2000	54	40	72	78	96	131	105	143	72
2006	48	40	49	63	80	104	104	**28	56

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) 2006 data are shown on the same basis as 1995 and 2000 data, without the four new conditions associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criterion being applied.

APPENDIX CHANGES BETWEEN SURVEYS *continued*

Comparison of 1995, 2000
and 2006 Volunteering rates
continued

A3 VOLUNTEERING, by State and Territory—1995, 2000, 2006(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
VOLUNTEER RATE (%)									
Males									
1995	17.1	23.9	26.7	26.8	25.9	29.6	28.7	31.2	22.9
2000	27.1	32.7	28.8	36.4	32.6	34.1	32.2	36.2	30.5
2006	31.6	30.3	35.8	29.8	34.7	33.4	34.1	35.2	32.4
Females									
1995	21.3	25.7	26.0	27.3	25.0	24.0	28.8	30.8	24.4
2000	31.4	33.0	33.6	39.5	31.8	33.8	31.2	36.3	33.0
2006	37.1	36.2	40.9	34.3	40.5	39.2	38.7	41.8	37.8
Persons									
1995	19.2	24.8	26.4	27.1	25.5	26.8	28.7	31.0	23.6
2000	29.3	32.8	31.2	38.0	32.2	34.0	31.7	36.2	31.8
2006	34.4	33.3	38.4	32.1	37.7	36.3	36.3	38.6	35.1
TOTAL ANNUAL HOURS (million)									
Males									
1995	56.2	58.4	60.0	25.0	29.3	8.4	2.9	4.7	244.8
2000	90.3	91.5	53.7	38.4	29.7	9.1	2.7	5.8	321.3
2006	125.7	81.1	68.2	22.0	35.8	9.6	3.0	4.7	350.2
Females									
1995	79.0	66.7	53.6	28.1	26.1	6.7	2.4	4.4	266.9
2000	114.3	105.4	62.5	41.9	41.0	9.6	1.7	6.3	382.8
2006	115.4	94.7	89.4	25.8	37.9	8.1	3.1	5.4	379.7
Persons									
1995	135.1	125.1	113.6	53.0	55.3	15.0	5.4	9.1	511.7
2000	204.7	196.9	116.2	80.4	70.8	18.7	4.4	12.1	704.1
2006	241.2	175.8	157.6	47.8	73.7	17.7	6.0	10.1	729.9
MEDIAN ANNUAL HOURS									
Males									
1995	70	72	72	90	80	75	104	72	74
2000	60	75	60	80	60	72	80	60	64
2006	64	52	33	60	48	60	48	52	52
Females									
1995	72	65	80	86	75	72	84	60	74
2000	72	76	62	80	92	78	64	66	74
2006	56	60	78	53	56	52	69	50	60
Persons									
1995	72	72	78	88	78	75	90	66	74
2000	68	76	60	80	72	78	80	60	72
2006	60	60	52	56	52	55	58	52	56

(a) 2006 data are shown on the same basis as the 1995 and 2000 data, without the four new conditions associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criterion being applied.

(b) Refers mainly to urban areas only. See paragraph 8 of the Explanatory notes.

Comparison of 1995, 2000 and 2006 Volunteering rates *continued*

22 Volunteer rates increased in all states and territories between 1995 and 2000 and in most of them between 2000 and 2006. Over the more recent 2000–2006 period the most notable increase occurred in Queensland, with the rate rising from 31% to 38%. Both men and women contributed substantially to the rise in the volunteer rate in Queensland between 2000 and 2006. In contrast the volunteer rate fell in South Australia for both men and women between 2000 and 2006 with the result that the overall volunteering rate fell from 38% to 32%. In Victoria, the decrease in men's volunteering was almost equivalent to the increase in women's volunteering, leading to virtually no change in the volunteer rate. Although in Tasmania a smaller proportion of men volunteered in 2006 than in 2000, the higher rate of volunteering among women led to an increase in the overall volunteer rate.

23 Total hours spent in voluntary work increased by 26 million between 2000 and 2006. The main contributors to this increase were men in New South Wales and Western Australia, and both men and women in Queensland. However, median hours were lower in all states and territories.

Comparison of volunteering rates from the 2006 and 2002 GSS

24 Table A4, constructed on the basis of the criteria described in paragraph 20 above, shows that there was a small, but not significant, increase from 34% to 35% in the volunteer rate among persons aged 18 years and over between 2002 and 2006. Among age and sex groups the increases were greatest among younger women in the 18–44 year age range.

A4 VOLUNTEER RATE, By age and sex—2002 and 2006(a)

	2002			2006		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Age (years)	%	%	%	%	%	%
18–24 years	27.1	29.1	28.1	31.0	33.4	32.2
25–34 years	29.0	28.5	28.8	29.0	35.0	32.0
35–44 years	39.6	44.3	42.0	38.8	50.7	44.8
45–54 years	40.1	38.3	39.2	39.6	40.3	39.9
55–64 years	36.5	39.5	38.0	29.0	38.2	33.6
65–74 years	28.3	35.5	32.0	29.9	35.1	32.6
75–84 years	26.9	24.9	25.8	21.8	22.9	22.4
85 years and over	*13.5	*14.1	*13.9	*25.7	*7.8	14.2
Total	33.7	35.1	34.4	32.8	38.0	35.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) 2006 data adjusted to be comparable to 2002, that is, without any of the five conditions associated with the 'willingly undertaken' criterion being applied.

VOLUNTEERING BY ORGANISATION TYPE

25 There are two factors affecting the comparability of 2006 and previous data related to the types of organisations for whom voluntary work was undertaken. One relates to the use of computer-assisted coding of organisation types in 2006. The other is that the classification of the organisation types was modified to some extent in 2006 from that used in the previous surveys. These factors militate against making detailed and accurate time series comparisons of volunteering by organisation type to assess whether or not any real world changes may have occurred. However, the alignment of 2000 and 2006 volunteering rates for similar organisation type categories, provided further below, supports understanding of the issues involved in making any such comparisons and is generally suggestive of little change.

Computer-assisted coding

26 As explained in paragraph 8 the use of computer-assisted interviewing enabled new improved methods to capture data on the organisation types compared to those used in previous surveys. The use of computer-assisted coding based on the name of the organisation has the effect of greater consistency in the allocation of organisations to organisation type categories. Where an organisation could potentially be coded to different categories, such as the Red Cross (e.g. health, emergency services), the respondent was prompted for more detail about the activities of the particular group to ensure the right attribution. In previous surveys, the type of organisation had been selected from a prompt card by the respondent. This change could have an impact across many categories, but the impact is not measurable.

Modification of categories

27 Four modifications were also made to the classification of organisation types used in previous surveys to form a new classification for the 2006 survey. These are described further below.

- The first modification was to rename the category 'Arts/Culture' to 'Arts/Heritage' and to explicitly include 'zoos and botanic gardens' (which belong with heritage organisations) as part of the new category. In the previous classification 'zoos and botanic gardens' had been included in the 'Sport/recreation' category.
 - The second modification was to separate organisations to do with sport and physical recreation from the category that had previously been titled 'Sport/recreation' and to rename the two resulting categories as follows: 'Sport/physical recreation' and 'Other recreation/interest'. These two new categories can be recombined for comparisons over time but as noted above will exclude 'zoos and botanic gardens' which were reclassified to be part of the Arts/Heritage category. These two changes have brought the voluntary work categories in line with the Australian Culture and Leisure Classification.
- The third change was to form a new category titled 'Parenting/children/youth' by separating organisations of this type out from other categories as described below:
 - separating parenting and child development related organisations from where they were previously classified as either 'community/welfare' or 'education/training' type organisations, and
 - separating youth development related organisations from where they were previously classified as being 'education/training' type organisations.

Notwithstanding these changes child care establishments remained in the 'community/welfare' category, and preschools in the education category. According to their function, the types of organisations included in the new 'Parenting/children and youth' category remain more closely aligned with the provision of community/welfare services than with education/training services.

- The final modification was to restrict the types of organisations included in the 'International organisations' category to those involved in foreign aid and development. As a result of this change, and in accordance with the nature of their activities, organisations concerned with international human rights and peace were reclassified to belong to the 'Law/justice/political' category, and those concerned with environmental matters extending beyond Australia were reclassified to belong to the 'Environment/animal welfare' category. These changes were made because it was often difficult to distinguish national branches from their international organisations based on the names provided by respondents, and both national and international groups interested in human rights and environmental or animal protection issues have local and international concerns.

The remaining categories (namely: business/professional/union, emergency services, health, and religious) were not affected by category modification.

APPENDIX CHANGES BETWEEN SURVEYS *continued*

VOLUNTEERING RATES BY
ORGANISATION TYPE IN 2000
AND 2006

A5 VOLUNTEER RATE(a), by sex and organisation type—2000 and 2006

Type of organisation (a)	2000			2006		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Arts/culture	1.3	2.3	1.8	1.1	1.7	1.4
Business/professional/union	2.1	0.9	1.5	*0.8	0.7	0.7
<i>Combined community/welfare/ education/training/youth (b)</i>	<i>13.3</i>	<i>19.4</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>12.9</i>	<i>22.6</i>	<i>17.8</i>
Community/welfare (c)	8.0	10.7	9.4	5.8	9.4	7.6
Education/training (d)	6.1	10.0	8.1	7.5	14.7	11.2
Emergency services	1.9	0.8	1.4	1.7	0.7	1.2
Environmental/animal welfare	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.2
Health	1.5	3.0	2.2	2.3	4.1	3.2
Foreign/international	*0.3	*0.4	*0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7
Law/justice/political	0.7	*0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5
Religious	4.4	6.5	5.5	5.6	7.9	6.8
Sport/recreation	11.4	7.4	9.4	13.9	8.9	11.4
Other	*0.5	*0.7	0.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
All volunteers	30.5	33.0	31.8	32.4	37.8	35.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) 2006 data are on a similar basis to 2002 data, with the Work for the Dole test, only, applied.

(b) Combined categories for comparison purposes.

(c) Includes Parenting/children/youth for 2006.

(d) Includes youth development for 2000.

28 For the comparison of volunteering rates by organisation type in the 2000 and 2006 surveys presented in table A5, 2006 organisation type categories have been restored to the 2000 categories, as far as possible. Thus:

- 'sport and physical recreation' and 'other recreation and interest' have been recombined to make up the former 'sport/recreation/hobby' category; and
- 'education/training' includes youth development organisations for 2000, but the 'parenting/children/youth' category has been combined with 'community/welfare' for 2006, as the major part of the new category appeared to have been categorised there in 2000. A combination of these categories has also been provided to support more reliable comparison.
- otherwise, all categories have been shown individually.

29 First focusing on volunteering rates for the organisation type categories unaffected by classification modification (but possibly affected by the introduction of name-based automatic coding in 2006), the data suggest that there had been little change between 2000 and 2006 in volunteering rates for business/professional/union organisations (around 1% in both years), religious organisations (moving from about 6% to 7%) and health organisations (up from 2% to 3%). There was no change in the rate for emergency service organisations (remaining close to 1% in both years).

30 The data suggest an increase in volunteering for sport/recreation organisations, up from 9% to 11% between 2000 and 2006 respectively. However, this change may in some part have been due to more accurate classification of some involvements which formerly have been classified to arts/culture organisations. When combined (as required to support comparability), volunteering rates for community/welfare organisations and education/training/youth development organisations increased from 16% and 18% in the respective years. Voluntary work rates for arts/culture related organisations and groups

APPENDIX CHANGES BETWEEN SURVEYS *continued*

VOLUNTEERING RATES BY
ORGANISATION TYPE IN 2000
AND 2006 *continued*

was also similar in both years. Altogether, and with the possible exception of volunteering for sport/recreation organisations, the data suggests little overall change in volunteering rates for different organisation types over the 2000–06 period. However, any conclusions about the exact extent of any change can not be made from the available data.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA RELIABILITY

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample of persons, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those that would have been produced had all persons been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of persons was included. There are about two chances in three that the sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all persons had been surveyed, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two SEs.

2 Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate:

$$RSE\% = \left(\frac{SE}{estimate} \right) \times 100$$

3 Space does not allow for the separate indication of the SEs and/or RSEs of all the estimates in this publication. However, RSEs for all these estimates are available free-of-charge on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>, released in spreadsheet format as an attachment to this publication, *Voluntary Work, Australia, 2006* (cat. no. 4441.0).

4 In the tables in this publication, only estimates (numbers, percentages, means and medians) with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50% are preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **2.1) to indicate that they are considered too unreliable for general use.

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATES

5 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates. Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

6 While the above formula will be exact only for differences between separate and uncorrelated (unrelated) characteristics of subpopulations, it is expected that it will provide a reasonable approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

SIGNIFICANCE TESTING

7 The statistical significance test for any of the comparisons between estimates was performed to determine whether it is likely that there is a difference between the corresponding population characteristics. The standard error of the difference between two corresponding estimates (x and y) can be calculated using the formula in paragraph 5. This standard error is then used to calculate the following test statistics:

$$\frac{[x-y]}{SE(x-y)}$$

8 If the value of this test statistic is greater than 1.96 then we may say there is good evidence of a real difference in the two populations with respect to that characteristic. Otherwise, it cannot be stated with confidence that there is a real difference between the populations.

SIGNIFICANCE TESTING
continued

9 The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the SE, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and recording by interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling error, and they occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or sample. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

CALCULATING STANDARD
ERRORS FOR PROPORTIONS
AND PERCENTAGES

10 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. For proportions, where the denominator is an estimate of the number of persons in a group and the numerator is the number of persons in a sub-group of the denominator group, the formula to approximate the RSE is given by:

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 + [RSE(y)]^2}$$

GLOSSARY

Activity	Activity details for individuals were collected for up to three organisations. When the unit of analysis is the volunteer's involvement with an organisation rather than the volunteer, the same activity is counted more than once if it is done for more than one organisation. See Type of activity.
Age	The age of persons on their last birthday.
Child	When considered in terms of family relationship and family composition coding, a child is defined as a person of any age who is natural, adopted, step or foster son or daughter of a couple or lone parent, usually resident in the same household, and who does not have a child or partner of his/her own usually resident in the same household.
Couple	Two people in a registered or de-facto marriage, who usually live in the same household.
Current reasons for being a volunteer	Current reasons for being a volunteer were recorded for each volunteer. These do not necessarily relate to any specific organisation or reference period.
Dependent child/dependent	All persons aged under 15 years, and people aged 15–24 years who are full-time students, have a parent in the household and do not have a partner or child of their own in the household.
Donations	A voluntary transfer of funds made to an organisation in the preceding 12 months by a person, on an individual not a business basis. The donor should not have received any benefit in return. Excludes purchases of goods and raffle tickets but includes contributions to door-knocks and sponsoring walkathons etc.
Donor rate	For any group, the donor rate is the number of people in that group who made donations expressed as a percentage of the total population in the same group.
Equivalised gross household income	Gross household income adjusted using an equivalence scale. For a lone person it is equal to gross household income. For a household comprising more than one person, it is an indicator of the gross household income that would need to be received by a lone person household to enjoy the same level of economic wellbeing as the household in question. For further information, see Appendix 4: Equivalised gross household income quintiles in <i>General Social Survey, Summary Results, Australia, 2006</i> (cat. no. 4159.0).
Equivalised gross household income quintiles	These are groupings of 20% of the total population when ranked in ascending order according to equivalised gross household income. The population used for this purpose includes all persons living in private dwellings including children and other persons under the age of 18 years. As the scope of this publication is restricted to only those persons aged 18 years and over, the distribution of this smaller population across the quintiles is not necessarily the same as it is for persons of all ages, i.e. the percentage of persons aged 18 years and over in each of these quintiles may be larger or smaller than 20%. For further information see Appendix 4: Equivalised gross household income quintiles in <i>General Social Survey, Summary Results, Australia, 2006</i> (cat. no. 4159.0).
Expenses	Volunteers were asked for any expenses related to their voluntary work in the last 12 months. They were also asked whether reimbursement was available for expenses they had, irrespective of whether the volunteer chose to accept this reimbursement or not. Reimbursement could be either full or partial.
Family	Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.
How first became involved in voluntary work	This item relates to the practical means by which the respondent first became involved in voluntary work, as opposed to their motivation. It was only collected for those who first became involved in voluntary work 10 years ago or less.
Labour force status	Refers to the situation of respondents in relation to the labour force at the time of the

GLOSSARY *continued*

Labour force status <i>continued</i>	<p>survey. Categories are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ employed – had a job or business, or undertook work without pay in a family business, in the week prior to the survey, including being absent from a job that they had:<ul style="list-style-type: none">full-time – Persons who usually work 35 or more hours a week;part-time – Persons who usually work at least one hour, but less than 35 hours a week;■ unemployed – Not employed, but has been actively seeking employment in the previous four weeks, and, if had found a job, would have been available to start work in the previous week;■ not in the labour force:<ul style="list-style-type: none">retired from work – persons aged 45 years or over who were no longer working and did not intend to work in the future;other – other persons who were neither employed nor unemployed; such persons may have never worked and never intend to work, be persons keeping house (unpaid), voluntarily inactive or permanently unable to work.
Length of time since first volunteered	<p>This item refers to the length of time since the respondent first commenced voluntary work of any kind for any organisation, even a one-off activity such as participating in a door-knock.</p>
Main English-speaking countries	<p>Refers to the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, the United States of America and South Africa.</p>
Median hours of voluntary work	<p>For any group of volunteers, the median hours of voluntary work is the number of hours such that half the volunteers in the group worked less than that number, and half worked more than that number. The median is calculated on the annual hours of voluntary work: where median weekly hours are presented, they are calculated by dividing the median annual hours by 52.</p>
Organisation or group	<p>An organisation or group is any body with a formal structure. It may be as large as a national charity or as small as a local book club. Purely ad hoc, informal and temporary gatherings of people do not constitute an organisation.</p>
Part of State	<p>'Capital city' refers to the capital city statistical division in each state and the Northern Territory, and all of the Australian Capital Territory. The balance of the state forms the second category. In the Northern Territory, for this survey, the balance of territory refers mainly to urban areas.</p>
Remoteness areas	<p>Broad geographical regions which share common characteristics of remoteness based on the Remoteness Structure of the ABS's Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). In this publication unless otherwise indicated the categories Major Cities of Australia and Inner Regional Australia from the Remoteness Structure are presented along with a residual category labelled Other Areas. As the GSS did not cover very remote areas of Australia, 'Other areas' encompasses most of Outer Regional Australia, part of Remote Australia and only a small proportion of Very Remote Australia.</p>
Socio-economic status of area	<p>Determined by using the index of relative socio-economic disadvantage, which is one of the five Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) compiled by the ABS following each population census. Each of the indexes summarise different aspects of the socio-economic status of the people living in those areas; the index of relative socio-economic disadvantage includes attributes such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations. The index refers to population of the area (the Census Collector's District) in which a person lives, not to the socio-economic situation of the particular individual. The index used in this publication was compiled following the 2001 Census.</p>

GLOSSARY *continued*

For more information see *Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing, 2001-Socio-economic Indexes for Areas, Australia* (cat. no. 2039.0)

Type of voluntary work organisation

Each organisation or group for which a volunteer worked, up to a maximum of three organisations, was coded to one of the categories described below. When a volunteer worked for more than three organisations in the preceding 12 months, the type of organisation was collected only for the three organisations for which the volunteer worked the most hours. The volunteer may have worked for more than one organisation of the same type and therefore their volunteering involvements may be counted up to three times in the same type of organisation.

Some categories include multiple descriptions (e.g. Law/justice/political). However, an organisation did not need to fall into all of these descriptions to be coded to the corresponding category. If an organisation fell into more than one category, it was coded according to the primary focus of the organisation.

If the organisation was a subsidiary of a larger body, the organisational group was based on the subsidiary group, not the umbrella organisation. Subsidiary organisations have their own management committee and exist as a separate organisation or entity. For example, a church netball club is a separate entity from the church.

The categories are:

Arts/heritage

Involvement in the arts component refers to the production of the arts in a way that provides a service for others, as distinct from small hobby and interest groups associated with craft, art and literature. These were coded to 'Other recreation interest', as they are primarily for the enjoyment/consumption of members and not for providing a service to others. Examples of arts/heritage organisations include performing arts groups, public radio and television, libraries, museums and galleries, historical associations, festivals. Also included as heritage organisations are zoos and botanical gardens.

Business/professional/union

Organisations promoting, regulating and safeguarding business, professional and labour interests, including industry standards.

Community/welfare

Organisations and institutions providing human and social services to the general community and specific target population groups. Included are organisations whose work is for the wider social benefit of the general community without the provision of direct services, such as Apex and Rotary. Other organisations included cover those giving material assistance, personal care and advice, such as Lifeline, the Smith Family, Brotherhood of St. Lawrence, Legacy, Royal Blind Societies, Wesley Mission, Meals on Wheels. Further examples include ethnic welfare groups, marriage guidance, information and referral services, community transport, community centres, accommodation referral and advice, homes and shelters. Nursing homes and child care centres are included in this category.

Education/training

Organisations and activities administering, providing, promoting, conducting, supporting and servicing education and training. Examples include preschools and preschool committees, schools, school boards, parent/community school support organisations, technical colleges and universities, and student representative councils.

Parenting/children/youth

Organisations and activities administering, providing, promoting, conducting, supporting and servicing effective parenting and child and youth development. Included are parent training and mutual support and development groups; play groups; scouts, guides and similar organisations; Police Citizens Youth clubs; Outward Bound, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and other such organised programs. Youth groups with specific interests are categorised to other appropriate categories, for example youth

GLOSSARY *continued*

Type of voluntary work organisation *continued*

choirs, dancing performance groups and circuses to Arts/heritage, and youth sports groups to Sport and Physical recreation.

Emergency services

Refers to those emergency services involved in protection against fire and flood, search and rescue and disaster relief (not including emergency medical services). While emergency rescue may involve medical attention the overall aim is search and rescue. Similarly, while disaster relief can include a range of services (material assistance, accommodation, counselling), the broad focus of the organisation is disaster relief. Included are Red Cross Disaster Recovery Services and Salvation Army Disaster Services. First aid is included under health, not emergency services.

Environmental/animal welfare

Organisations promoting, and providing services in, environmental conservation, pollution control and prevention, environmental education and health and animal protection. Includes international groups such the World Wildlife Fund and Greenpeace; organisations such as the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), the Australian Conservation Foundation and the National Parks Association, the Wildlife Information and Rescue Service (WIRES), and Landcare and riparian management groups. Also included are organised activity campaigns, such as tree planting and Clean Up Australia Day.

International aid/development

This refers to the focus of the organisation's activity rather than its origins. Such an organisation promotes greater inter-cultural understanding between people of different countries and historical backgrounds, may provide relief during emergencies, or promote development and welfare abroad e.g. exchange/friendship/cultural programs, development assistance associations, international disaster and relief organisations. Ethnic and Ethnic/Australian friendship clubs are included in social and leisure clubs. International human rights and peace organisations are classified to 'Law/justice/political'

Health

Organisations engaged in health related activities providing health care, both general and specialised services, medical research foundations and emergency health services, administration of health care services and health support services. Examples include specific health conditions support groups, hospitals and nursing homes, regional health services, Alcoholics Anonymous, eating disorder groups, Family Planning Associations, Royal Flying Doctor Services.

Law/justice/political

Organisations and groups that work to protect and promote human, civil and other rights, or advocate the social and political interests of general or special constituencies, offer legal services and promote public safety (related to the law rather than emergency services). For example, Amnesty International; Australian Consumers Association; the Civil Justice Research Centre; peak organisations and lobby groups such as Councils of Social Service, the peak disability group ACROD and the Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia; legal aid organisations; political parties.

Religious

Organisations promoting religious beliefs as their primary focus, administering religious services and rituals. Includes churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, shrines, seminaries, monasteries and religious institutions, as well as smaller groups such as groups for prayer, scripture study and exploring spirituality or theology.

Sport/physical recreation

Organisations in both general and specialised fields of sport and physical recreation, such as football, cricket, swimming, orienteering, gliding and motor racing clubs; sports clubs and facilities; indoor and outdoor sport and physical recreational facilities; racing and related sports.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Type of voluntary work organisation *continued*

Other recreation/interest

Social and leisure clubs, including licensed clubs and gambling groups; recreational parks and gardens; theme and amusement parks. Included are hobby and general interest groups such as bird watchers' groups, book clubs, embroiderers' guilds, gardening clubs, car clubs etc. Ethnic and ethnic/Australian friendship clubs are included in this category. Groups providing education that does not lead to formal accreditation are also included here, such as public speaking groups, science clubs of various kinds, historical and archeological tour groups and adult education courses, including University of the Third Age (U3A).

Other

Organisations not elsewhere classified. In some tables and graphs, some of the above organisational groups may also have been included in this category due to small numbers of responses. This is indicated by a footnote.

Type of voluntary activity

Activities performed in the preceding 12 months were collected for each organisation for which a volunteer worked, up to a maximum of three organisations. Volunteers may have performed multiple activities for each organisation. When a volunteer worked for more than three organisations in the preceding 12 months, activity information was only collected for the three organisations for which the volunteer worked the most hours.

The categories are:

Administration/clerical work/recruitment

Office work, typing and word processing, answering phones, filing, basic bookkeeping. Includes conducting campaigns for recruiting volunteers. Recruiting volunteers for a fundraising program was coded under this category rather than fundraising.

Befriending/supportive listening/counselling/mentoring

Includes providing companionship, staffing help lines and participating in mentoring schemes, e.g. for young people or for mothers in disadvantaged circumstances.

Coaching/judging/refereeing

Includes training sports teams, adjudicating competitions for agricultural or wine shows, public speaking contests, umpiring sporting contests.

Fundraising/sales

Includes a range of activities directed predominantly towards assisting organisations to raise money for their own programs or for those of another organisation. Examples include: door-knocking, selling buttons on button day, making or selling items on a stall or in a charity shop.

Management/committee work

Participation in management committees and functions, which involves making decisions about the direction and operation of an organisation. Examples include: sitting on a board, being an office bearer, being a member of the management board of a community welfare organisation, treasurer for the local church, managing a service or program, program planning.

Performing/media production

Includes performing, public radio and television, producing films and videos/DVDs, newsletters, pamphlets and other printed material and equivalent material produced on the Internet.

Personal care/assistance

Includes a wide range of activities such as: supervising or providing help with showering/bathing, dressing, eating, using the toilet and health care activities such as helping to administer medication, or dressing wounds.

Preparing/serving food

Includes food and drink preparation, serving meals and cleaning up. Examples are assisting in school tuckshops, helping with meals at children's camps, community sausage sizzles and reheating and serving frozen meals provided to frail aged people.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Type of voluntary activity <i>continued</i>	<p><i>Repairing/maintenance/gardening</i> Includes a wide range of activities such as: repairing household appliances, painting, making furnishings, checking the state of repair of the dwelling, providing help with lawns, clearing up grounds, rubbish removal, cleaning out garages, gutters.</p> <p><i>Teaching/instruction/providing information</i> Includes classroom assistance given by people other than qualified teachers, e.g. parents. Tour guides in museums and art galleries are included here, and work done by volunteers in local tourist and community information centres.</p> <p><i>Transporting people/goods</i> Examples are taking people with injuries to medical appointments or rehabilitation centres, providing transport for school excursions, delivering food or household equipment to people in need, and transporting sport equipment for club activities.</p> <p><i>Other</i> Activities not classified elsewhere. In some tables and graphs, some of the above activities may also have been included in this category due to small numbers of responses. This is indicated by a footnote.</p>
Voluntary work	<p>The provision of unpaid help willingly undertaken in the form of time, service or skills, to an organisation or group, excluding work done overseas.</p> <p>Examples of groups shown to respondents when they were being questioned about their involvement in voluntary work were: an organised sporting group/team; a youth group, such as guides, scouts, a choir; a charity organisation or cause; student government; a religious organisation, school or preschool; or some other kind of volunteer work. Organisations, groups or associations were classified from their names to the types of organisations previously described in this glossary.</p>
Volunteer	<p>A volunteer is someone who willingly gave unpaid help, in the form of time, service or skills, to or through an organisation or group. The reference period was the 12 months prior to the survey. Voluntary work done overseas is out of scope for this survey. The reimbursement of expenses in full or part (e.g. token payments) or small gifts (e.g. sports club T-shirts or caps) was not regarded as payment of salary, and people who received these were still included as voluntary workers. However, people who received payment in kind for the work they did (e.g. receiving farm produce as payment for work done on a farm, rather than cash) were not included as volunteers.</p> <p>For the 2006 voluntary work collection, in consultation with the peak body for volunteer organisations, the 'willingly undertaken' part of the definition was refined by the exclusion of an involvement with an organisation that, while recognised as unpaid community work, was not strictly voluntary or would not normally be seen as voluntary work: the Work for the Dole Program or Community Work under Mutual Obligation; work experience/part of an unpaid work trial; work under a Community Service Order; a student placement; or emergency work during an industrial dispute.</p>
Volunteer involvement	<p>For each volunteer, work for a particular organisation. A volunteer could have a number of organisational involvements: a set of information was collected for up to three of these.</p>
Volunteer rate	<p>For any group, the number of volunteers in that group expressed as a percentage of total population in that group.</p>

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