

Key sources of information about volunteering in Victoria

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Introduction

This information sheet provides a list of key documents about volunteering, a brief overview of what each document contains, and links to the full text of the documents online. It is not intended to be a comprehensive literature review but rather a 'quick guide' to publicly available sources of key information to assist you with program development, funding applications and advocacy.

Volunteering statistics

ABS Voluntary Work 2010

This ABS report has mostly been superseded by the 2014 General Social Survey but it contains the most recent data about the number of volunteer hours by age and gender demographic in Australia.

[ABS Voluntary Work 2010](#)

ABS General Social Survey: Summary Results 2014

This ABS report and accompanying data cubes are the main source of detailed statistics on voluntary work in Australia. It includes rates of participation in voluntary work, characteristics of people who volunteer, the reasons people volunteer, information on the nature of the voluntary work undertaken and reimbursement.

[ABS General Social Survey 2014](#)

ABS Quick Stats 2011

Quick Stats provides general statistical information about specific geographical areas, based on the 2011 Census. It includes data about the number of people who did 'unpaid work' (through an organisation). You can search for data by various statistical area levels (e.g. by suburb or region). The next Census will be conducted in August 2016.

[ABS Quick Stats 2011](#)

ABS Volunteers in Sport 2010

This report provides detailed statistical information about volunteers in sport and recreation in Australia, based on the 2010 General Social Survey. Limited data was gathered on volunteering in sport and recreation in the 2014 General Social Survey.

[ABS Volunteers in Sport](#)

State of Volunteering Reports

State of the World's Volunteerism Report 2011

This United Nations report provides a broad overview of volunteering across the world.

[UN State of the World's Volunteerism Report](#)

State of Volunteering in Australia 2016

This Volunteering Australia report summarises information about the state of volunteering in Australia. It provides an overview of formal, informal and corporate volunteering at the national level, including information on commonly experienced barriers to volunteering and the value of volunteering to the not-for-profit sector.

[State of Volunteering Report](#)

National Survey of Volunteering Issues 2011

From 2006 to 2011, Volunteering Australia conducted an annual national survey to identify issues and trends relating to volunteering. The 2011 survey covers a range of topics including volunteer motivations and experiences; engaging and involving volunteers; leadership and management in volunteering; implementation of National Standards; resourcing volunteer involvement; and identifying priorities and suggesting solutions.

[National Survey of Volunteering 2011](#)

Reports for States and Territories

Some States and Territories have produced State of Volunteering Reports, including:

- [Tasmania \(2014\)](#)
- [Australia Capital Territory \(2013\)](#)
- [Western Australia \(2011\)](#)

Currently, there is no State of Volunteering report for Victoria but Volunteering Victoria continues to advocate for funding for this.

Volunteering policy and practice

National Definition of Volunteering 2015

Volunteering Australia released a new National Definition of Volunteering in July 2015. The National Definition now defines volunteering as “time willingly given for the common good and without financial gain”.

[Volunteering Australia National Definition](#)

National Standards for Involving Volunteers 2015

The Volunteering Australia National Standards detail ‘best practice’ for the management of volunteers in not-for-profit organisations. The Standards cover policies and procedures; management responsibilities; recruitment; work and the workplace; training and development; service delivery; documentation and records; and continuous improvement.

[Volunteering Australia National Standards](#)

National Volunteering Strategy 2011

The National Volunteering Strategy outlined the former Australian Rudd/Gillard Labor Government’s vision for volunteering over the next decade. The successive Coalition Governments have chosen not to progress with this strategy and as part of its Federal Election Campaign 2016, Volunteering Australia asked that a new, more inclusive National Volunteering Strategy consultation process be commenced.

[National Volunteering Strategy 2011](#)

National Spontaneous Volunteer Strategy 2015

The National Spontaneous Volunteer Strategy: Coordination of Volunteer Effort in the Immediate Post Disaster Stage was endorsed by the Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee on 2 October 2015. It provides advice to jurisdictions on what they need to be aware of, and what they need to consider and plan for when working with spontaneous volunteers, such as social media and legal obligations.

The Strategy includes case studies from Volunteering Victoria’s Managers of Spontaneous Emergency Volunteers (MSEV) and Volunteering Queensland’s Community Response to Extreme Weather (CREW) programs.

[National Spontaneous Volunteer Strategy 2015](#)

Volunteering in Australia Book 2014

This book by Melanie Oppenheimer and Jeni Warburton provides a critical snapshot of the issues and trends in volunteering today and their impact on Australian society. It draws on a wide range of expertise from leading Australians, who discuss cutting edge issues such as spontaneous volunteering, voluntourism and new forms of voluntary action.

Whilst this text is not available as an online resource, it can be found at the [State Library of Victoria](#) or is available for purchase [from Readings](#) for \$49.95.

Economic and social value of volunteering

The Economic Value of Volunteering in Victoria 2012

This report was prepared by Dr Duncan Ironmonger for the Department of Planning and Community Development. It estimates the dollar value of the contribution made by volunteers in Victoria in 2006, based on the number of hours worked multiplied by an hourly rate. It includes figures for both formal volunteering (through an organisation), informal volunteering and volunteer travel. It also provides projected figures for 2011, 2016 and 2021.

[The Economic Value of Volunteering in Victoria](#)

Economic Value Australia-wide

The dollar value of volunteering Australia-wide in 2006-07 (based on information provided in the ABS Satellite Accounts) is provided in section 2.8 of the State of Volunteering Australia 2012 report.

[State of Volunteering Report 2012](#)

The Value of Volunteering: a discussion Paper on Volunteering in the Community and Welfare Sector 2008

This Commonwealth Parliamentary Committee report investigates the state of the voluntary sector in Australia (based on 2006 statistics), emerging trends and challenges facing the sector. It makes a number of recommendations about addressing these challenges, and improving support for volunteers and volunteering organisations.

[Value of Volunteering Discussion Paper 2008](#)

Contribution of the Not-For-Profit Sector 2010

This Productivity Commission report examines the contribution of the Australian not-for-profit sector. Section 10.1 focuses on the contribution of volunteers and volunteering, including information about the profile of volunteers in the sector and the costs associated with volunteering.

[Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector Report](#)

Indicators of Community Strength in Victoria: Framework and Evidence 2011

This Victorian Government report includes some information about the role of volunteering in strengthening Victorian communities, by building networks and mediating the psychological effects of disadvantage.

[Community Strength in Victoria Report](#)

Volunteering Victoria resources

Volunteering Victoria Manifesto 2014

This Volunteering Victoria document is a statement of the eight key issues for the volunteering sector that we believe need urgent focus and attention. It includes an overview of the volunteering landscape in Victoria, including evidence about the extent and impact of volunteering, the policy context, and the regulatory environment.

[Volunteering Victoria Manifesto](#)

Volunteering Victoria State Budget Submission 2016-17

This Volunteering Victoria submission provides an overview of the current context in which volunteering operates and also articulates our budget priorities for supporting the volunteering sector in Victoria in 2016-17.

[Volunteering Victoria State Budget Submission 2016-17](#)

Volunteering Victoria Annual Report 2014-15

This Volunteering Victoria report gives an overview of the issues facing the Victorian volunteering sector, and the range of programs and projects we delivered to support the sector in 2014-15.

[Volunteering Victoria Annual Report](#)

Volunteering Victoria Fact Sheets

These Volunteering Victoria fact sheets provide a basic introduction to key issues in managing volunteers and volunteering organisations or programs. Each also includes references to other useful resources we recommend.

Getting started with volunteers:

[Money and Volunteers](#)

[Employee Volunteering – NFP Guide](#)

[Designing a Volunteer Role](#)

[Dealing with Conflict](#)

[Managing Volunteers for Retention](#)

[Recruiting Volunteers](#)

Police Checks and Working with Children Checks – NOT ONLINE

[Volunteering and Work for the Dole/Mutual Obligation Programs](#)

[Moores and Our Community Child Protection Toolkit](#) (Applying the Child Safe Laws)

Legal considerations:

For a full range of legal resources relating to the management of volunteers, visit the [Justice Connect Volunteer portal](#).

Volunteer Management Toolkit

To help you manage your volunteers, Volunteering Victoria has developed a range of simple tools and templates that you can download adapt to the needs of your organisation.

[Volunteer Management Toolkit](#)

Volunteer Management in Sport Toolkit

[Volunteer Management in Sport Toolkit](#)

Research Digests

Volunteering Victoria's Research Digests provide regular updates on the latest developments in volunteering research and analysis from reputable institutions and centres.

[Research Digests](#)

Inquiries about this information sheet should be directed to:

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About Volunteering Victoria

Volunteering Victoria is the state peak body for volunteering. We provide support to volunteers and volunteer involving organisations, and represent the interests of volunteering in Victoria.

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