

# The Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector in Alberta



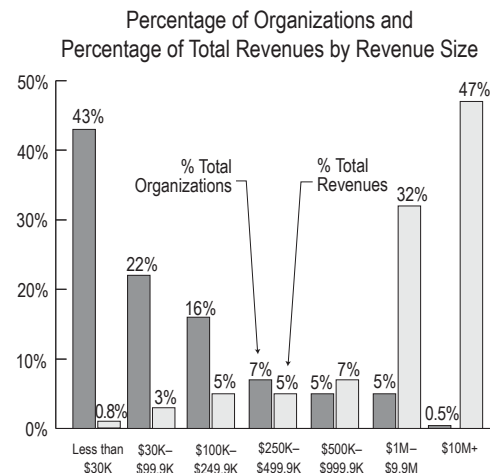
Give. Volunteer. Engage.  
Donner. S'engager. Agir.

According to the 2003 National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations (NSNVO), there are approximately 19,000 nonprofit and voluntary organizations in Alberta, which account for about 12% of the 161,000 nonprofit and voluntary organizations in Canada.

Collectively, Alberta-based organizations have total annual revenues of \$10 billion and a total paid staff of 176,000 (\$9 billion annual revenues and 105,000 staff when Hospitals, Universities and Colleges are excluded). Organizations in Alberta report a volunteer complement of 2.5 million people, who collectively contribute about 449 million hours of volunteer time, the equivalent of approximately 234,000 full-time jobs. Alberta-based organizations also report a total membership of 9 million people, meaning that the average Albertan is a member of three organizations.

## Revenue Size

Most revenues are concentrated among a comparatively small number of very large organizations. Although less than 1% of organizations in Alberta have annual revenues of \$10 million or more, these organizations account for almost half (47%) of total revenues. The four in ten (43%) organizations with annual revenues less than \$30,000 collectively account for less than 1% of total revenues. Hospitals, Universities and Colleges account for 15% of the revenue in the \$10 million or more category (7% of total revenues for all organizations).



total revenues comes from earned income, 16% from gifts and donations, and the balance (2%) from other sources. Excluding Hospitals, Universities and Colleges, organizations receive 30% of their revenues from government, 51% from earned income, 18% from gifts and donations, and less than 2% from other sources.

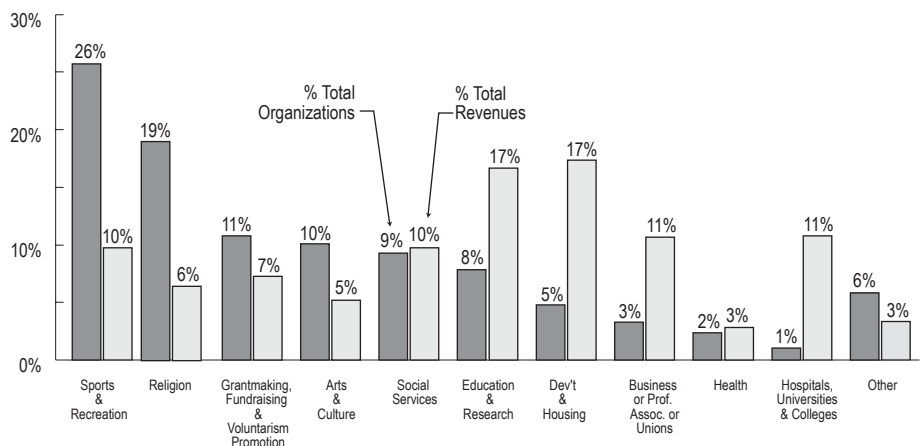
## Revenue Sources

Revenues from government account for one third (33%) of total revenues of nonprofit and voluntary organizations in Alberta. Almost half (49%) of

## Activity Area

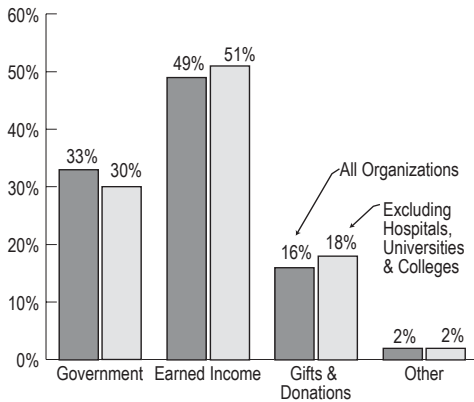
Sports and Recreation organizations are the most common type of organization in Alberta, accounting for 26% of all organizations, followed by Religious organizations (19%), Grantmaking, Fundraising and Voluntarism Promotion organizations (11%), and Arts and Culture organizations (10%). Although Hospitals, Universities and Colleges represent only 1% of organizations, they account for more than one tenth (11%) of total revenues.

Percentage of Organizations and Percentage of Total Revenues by Activity Area



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Percentage of Total Revenues by Source



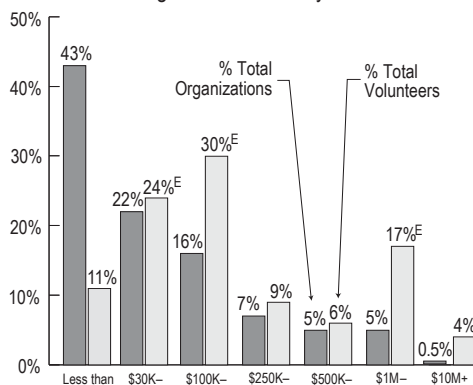
## Volunteers

Virtually all nonprofit and voluntary organizations in Alberta involve volunteers, either as board members or to help carry out their activities. In fact, the majority of organizations (58%) are completely volunteer run, having no paid staff. Collectively, Alberta-based organizations have approximately 2.5 million volunteers, of whom 161,000 are board members and 2.3 million are non-board volunteers.

In Alberta, volunteers tend to be concentrated in mid-sized and larger organizations. The one third (35%\*) of organizations with annual revenues of \$100,000 or more

account for almost two thirds (66%) of all volunteers. Conversely, the 43% of organizations with revenues less than \$30,000 account for just 11% of all volunteers.

Percentage of Organizations and Percentage of Volunteers by Revenue Size



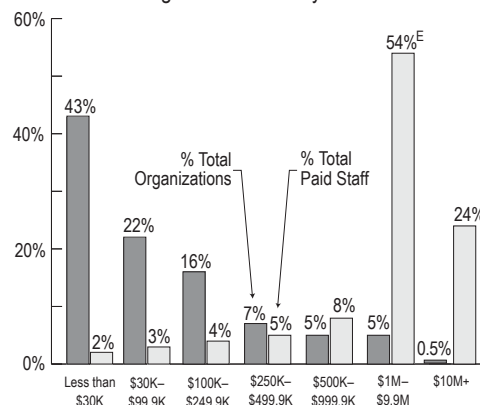
<sup>E</sup> Sample size limitations affect the reliability of this estimate.

## Employees

Four in ten (42%) nonprofit and voluntary organizations in Alberta have paid staff. Collectively, these organizations have approximately 176,000 employees (105,000 when Hospitals, Universities and Colleges are excluded). Over half (57%, about 100,000 Albertans) of these employees work full-time, while 43% (76,000) work part-time (60,000 full-time and 45,000 part-time when Hospitals, Universities and Colleges are excluded).

Over three quarters (78%) of paid staff in Alberta work for large organizations (those with \$1 million or more in annual revenues), even though these organizations account for just over 6%\* of organizations. In contrast, the 43% of organizations with annual revenues less than \$30,000 account for just 2% of total employment. Even though Hospitals, Universities and Colleges represent a tiny minority of organizations, they account for over one third (34%) of total employment in the \$10 million or more category (8% of total employment for all organizations).

Percentage of Organizations and Percentage of Paid Staff by Revenue Size



<sup>E</sup> Sample size limitations affect the reliability of this estimate.

\* This figure differs from sum derived from chart due to rounding of numbers for individual categories.

The National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations (NSNVO) was conducted by a consortium of organizations consisting of Imagine Canada (formerly the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy), l'Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale à l'Université du Québec à Montréal, the Canada West Foundation, the Canadian Council on Social Development, the Capacity Development Network at the University of Victoria, the Community Services Council of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Voluntary and Non-profit Sector Organization of Manitoba, Queen's University School of Policy Studies, and Statistics Canada.

A summary of the survey findings may be found in *Cornerstones of Community: Highlights of the National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations*, available at [www.nonprofitscan.ca](http://www.nonprofitscan.ca).



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