



Snapshot

Volunteering in Tasmania

Who volunteers in Tasmania?

Nearly 300,000 Tasmanians donated their time to volunteering in 2019. That's almost 70% of our population!¹

Tasmanians aged 15–17 years volunteered at the highest rate (50%) of any age group in 2014.

People aged 45–55-years weren't far behind, 40% of that age group participated in volunteering activities.

All other age groups had similar participation rates. The lowest participation rates were among those aged 75 years and over and those aged 18-24 years.²

nearly
300,000
tasmanians



or
68.6%
of the adult population
volunteered in 2019



¹ Volunteering Tasmania, State of Volunteering Report 2019.

² Age profile of Tasmanian volunteers in 2014 (ABS: GSS, 2014).



How do Tasmanians volunteer?

There are as many ways to volunteer as there are people doing it.

Generally speaking, volunteering is either formal (it is structured within an organisation) or informal (it happens outside of an organisational structure.).³ Most volunteers (44.1%) do so in formal settings with volunteer-involving organisations (such as in a charity op-shop), while 18% donate their time exclusively in informal contexts (like shopping for your neighbour), and 38% of volunteers do so in both formal and informal settings.

The majority of people who volunteer do it in their own communities, with 76% of Tasmanian volunteers doing so within 50km of their homes.

Increasingly, Tasmanians volunteer online – 16% of our volunteers contributed in this way in 2019.⁴

What are Tasmanian volunteers doing?

There are more Tasmanians volunteering than are working in the state's private and government sectors combined. The types of sectors we volunteer in span all sectors of society, including:⁵

- Animal (including animal welfare)
- Arts/heritage/culture
- Business/professional/union
- Education and training
- Emergency services
- Environment
- Faith-based
- Health
- International aid/development
- Law/justice/political
- Parenting, children and youth
- Sport and physical recreation
- Welfare/community

Activism is also considered to be a volunteering activity as long as it is peaceful and does not incite violence or cause harm.

³ Volunteering Tasmania, State of Volunteering Report 2019.

⁴ Volunteering Tasmania, State of Volunteering Report 2019.

⁵ <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/Definition-of-Volunteering-27-July-20151.pdf>

**Volunteers
contribute
on average,
229
Hours
A YEAR**



or

**4.4
Hours
EVERY WEEK
to their fellow
Tasmanians.**





Why do Tasmanians volunteer?

Volunteering brings many benefits to people in our communities, from the tangible (helping to get things done) to the intangible (making people feel happy and connected).

These benefits are enjoyed by both the people volunteering their time and the people supported by that volunteering.

The top three motivators for volunteering time are: community contribution; supporting a cause; and making a values-based contribution.

Tasmanians also rated the following as motivators for volunteering:

- Personal enjoyment
- Social connection
- Personal development
- Health benefits
- Developing new skills

top 3 motivators



**community
contribution**



**supporting
a cause**



**values based
contribution**

If you would like to read more about the profile and demographics of volunteering in Tasmania, please refer to the following reports and research:

- State of Volunteering Report 2019
- Environmental Scan
- Essential Services Delivered by Volunteers