

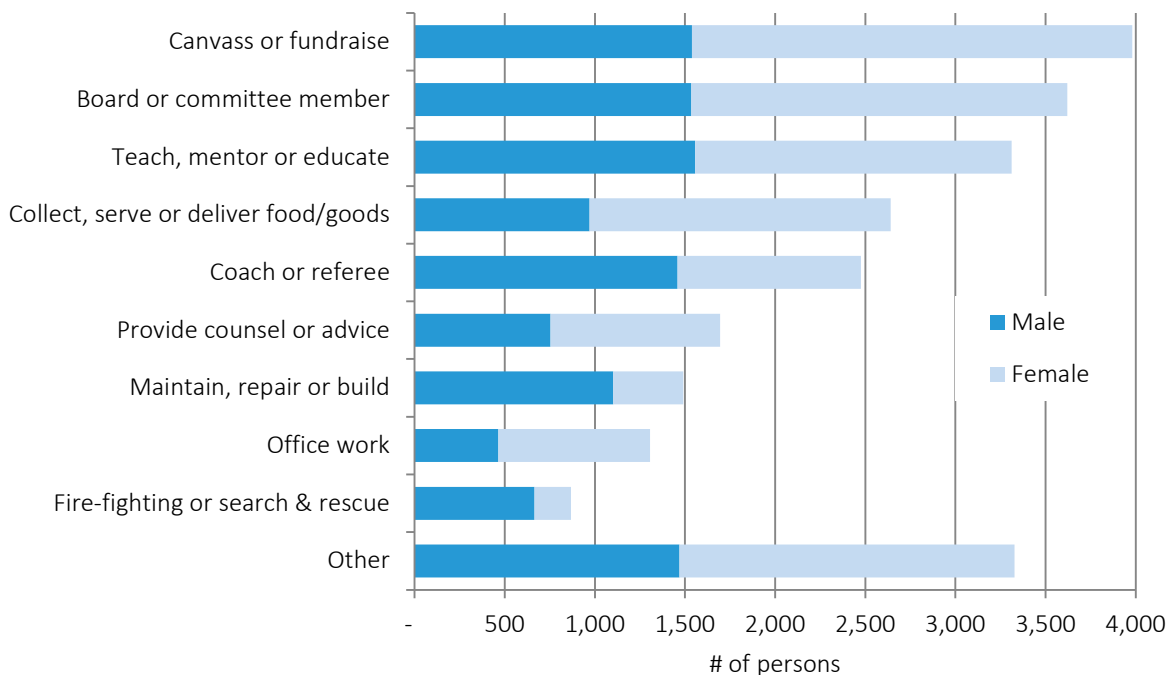
Volunteering

2019 NWT Community Survey

The NWT Community Survey asked residents of the Northwest Territories (NWT) about volunteer activities in the past year. As in previous surveys, the focus was on unpaid help provided to groups or organizations such as schools, religious & charitable organizations, and sports or community associations.

In 2018, about 39% or 13,561 NWT residents aged 15 years and older volunteered their time. The most common volunteer activity for both males and females was canvassing or fundraising (11%), followed by volunteering on a board or committee (10%), and teaching or mentoring (9.5%).

Figure 1: Volunteer Activity by Type and Sex, NWT 2018



About 11% in the volunteer category 'Other' (Table 1) lived in Hay River or Fort Smith, most of whom volunteered in activities related to the 2018 Arctic Winter games. Also included in the 'Other' category were people who volunteered in community activities and events; home care & elder care and cultural and traditional activities.



Volunteers by selected characteristics

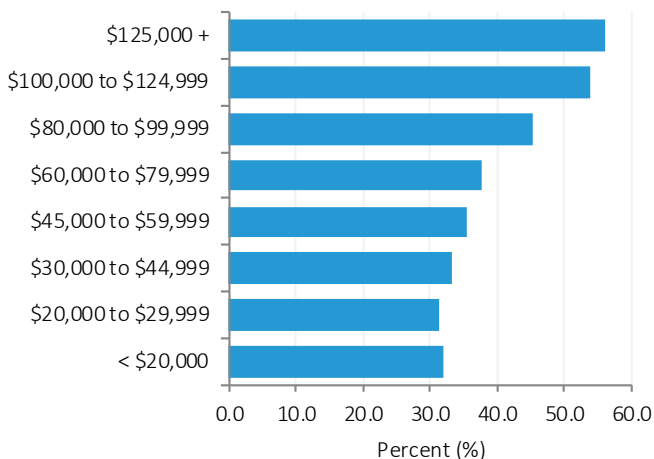
Overall, volunteer rates were higher among people who did not identify as males or females (64%), females (42%), those aged 45 to 64 years (41%), and persons with a university degree as their highest level of education (60%).

In addition to canvassing and fundraising, youth aged 15 to 24 years were also more likely to volunteer as coaches or referees; and to collect, serve or deliver food. The main volunteer activities for seniors (65 years & older) were serving as board or committee members as well as collecting, serving or delivering food or goods.

Table 1: Volunteered, by Selected Characteristics, NWT, 2018

	Persons 15 yrs. & Older		Volunteered in 2018		Volunteered 15+ hours per month	
		%		%		%
Northwest Territories	35,046	100.0	13,561	38.7	2,405	17.7
Male	17,899	100.0	6,320	35.3	1,187	18.8
Female	17,000	100.0	7,146	42.0	1,218	17.0
Other	146	100.0	94	64.4	-	-
15 - 24 yrs	5,966	100.0	1,928	32.3	274	14.2
25 - 44 yrs	13,691	100.0	5,549	40.5	986	17.8
45 - 64 yrs	11,955	100.0	4,918	41.1	835	17.0
65 yrs and over	3,434	100.0	1,166	34.0	310	26.6
Less than high school	9,728	100.0	2,856	29.4	513	18.0
High School Diploma	7,892	100.0	2,405	30.5	400	16.7
College or Trades	10,094	100.0	3,929	38.9	655	16.7
University Degree	7,332	100.0	4,370	59.6	836	19.1

Figure 2: Volunteer rates, by Annual Personal Income



Employed persons (43%) were more likely to volunteer compared to the unemployed (34%) and those not in the labour force (29%). Part-time workers (48%) had higher volunteer rates than those working full-time (42%).

In 2018, volunteer rates tended to increase with increasing personal income, from 32% among persons who reported earning less than \$20,000 per year, to 56% among those earning \$125,000 or more (Figure 2).

Among youth aged 15 to 24, current students (40%) were more likely to have volunteered compared to those who were not in school (24%).

Volunteer hours

Of those NWT residents who volunteered, 15% volunteered less than 1 hour per month, on average, 39% volunteered between 1 to 4 hours, 28% volunteered 5 to 14 hours, and 18% volunteered 15 or more hours. While fire-fighting or search & rescue had the least number of volunteers at 867, volunteers in this category were more likely to put more hours per month. About 37% of fire-fighting or search & rescue volunteers gave 15 or more hours per month, compared to less than 29% for other volunteer activities.

Volunteers by community and region

Regionally, the share of people who volunteered ranged from 34% in Tłıchq to 44% in Sahtu (Table 2). Communities with the highest volunteer rates were Ulukhaktok (59%), Enterprise (57%) and Sachs Harbour (54%). In smaller communities, serving or delivering food & goods together with canvassing and fundraising were the most common volunteer activities.

Table 2: Selected Volunteer Activities, by Community, NWT, 2018

	Persons 15 & Older		Volunteered in 2018		Volunteer Activity (%)			
					Canvass or fundraise	Board or committee member	Teach, mentor or educate	Collect, serve or deliver food/goods
Northwest Territories	35,046	100.0	13,561	38.7	11.4	10.3	9.5	7.5
Beaufort Delta	5,311	100.0	2,125	40.0	12.6	7.4	8.6	9.7
Aklavik	474	100.0	139	29.3	13.9	7.9	7.4	11.1
Fort McPherson	591	100.0	215	36.4	23.9	2.4	2.4	3.2
Ulukhaktok	328	100.0	192	58.6	12.9	5.6	11.9	14.0
Inuvik	2,756	100.0	1,098	39.8	9.7	9.0	9.6	9.0
Paulatuk	215	100.0	111	51.4	15.0	7.6	16.1	10.5
Sachs Harbour	86	100.0	46	53.8	7.5	13.0	5.3	14.9
Tsiigehtchic	130	100.0	59	45.5	14.1	9.1	13.0	11.4
Tuktoyaktuk	730	100.0	264	36.1	13.2	5.2	7.0	13.2
Dehcho	2,697	100.0	984	36.5	7.4	7.4	7.6	9.5
Fort Liard	419	100.0	147	35.1	3.5	2.8	6.0	7.8
Fort Providence	635	100.0	278	43.9	8.8	5.9	9.7	16.6
Fort Simpson	1,088	100.0	369	33.9	8.5	9.9	8.3	6.0
Hay River Dene Reserve	251	100.0	98	39.0	9.8	12.1	4.1	12.1
Jean Marie River	61	100.0	17	27.4	2.3	4.6	7.8	-
Nahanni Butte	82	100.0	30	36.2	3.0	5.1	7.4	10.0
Sambaa K'e	66	100.0	26	40.1	10.1	8.2	7.4	8.0
Wrigley	96	100.0	19	19.6	3.3	-	2.3	11.2
Sahtu	2,023	100.0	882	43.6	15.1	7.9	10.6	14.9
Colville Lake	92	100.0	45	48.6	4.4	1.1	11.5	22.5
DéJine	447	100.0	218	48.8	12.7	4.0	10.8	12.8
Fort Good Hope	417	100.0	167	40.0	20.9	8.7	12.9	19.0
Norman Wells	651	100.0	293	45.0	15.2	11.7	8.6	10.1
Tulita	417	100.0	159	38.2	14.2	6.8	10.9	18.7
South Slave	6,125	100.0	2,562	41.8	15.2	12.0	10.3	9.2
Enterprise	88	100.0	50	57.3	18.3	11.6	16.1	23.7
Fort Resolution	433	100.0	162	37.4	11.8	7.6	9.8	6.3
Fort Smith	2,145	100.0	799	37.2	14.1	13.2	7.9	7.2
Hay River	3,172	100.0	1,406	44.3	16.2	12.4	10.8	9.0
Kakisa	33	100.0	17	52.6	8.1	20.3	34.5	12.2
Łutselk'e	255	100.0	128	50.3	16.6	3.7	19.3	28.5
Tłı̨chǫ	2,149	100.0	739	34.4	7.0	4.5	11.0	8.6
Gamètì	232	100.0	90	38.8	11.1	4.5	13.2	14.3
Behchokò	1,438	100.0	453	31.5	4.2	5.1	8.8	4.1
Wekweètì	103	100.0	22	21.7	2.7	3.6	7.9	5.8
Whatì	376	100.0	173	46.0	16.2	2.7	18.9	23.0
Yellowknife area	16,739	100.0	6,270	37.5	10.4	12.1	9.4	4.9
Detah	178	100.0	52	29.5	8.6	5.3	10.4	17.8
Yellowknife	16,561	100.0	6,217	37.5	10.4	12.2	9.4	4.8
Ndilǫ	243	100.0	42	17.4	2.8	2.2	4.8	4.7

Note: People could be involved in multiple volunteer activities so the sum of categories will not add to totals.

For additional information on results from the 2019 NWT Community Survey, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at www.statsnwt.ca or call 1-888-STATSNT (1-888-762-8768).