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|  | Canadian General Social Survey on Giving, Volunteering, and Participating, 2018 (cycle 33) |
| LINKS |  |
| Sample type | **- Stratified (probability) sampling** is done at the **province/census metropolitan area (CMA) level**.  - Information is collected from **1 randomly selected household member aged 15 or older**  - Note: proxy responses are not permitted. |
| Sample size | - **Expected sample size** (ie. Expected number of completed surveys): **24,000**.  - **Actual sample size** (ie. Actual number of completed surveys): **unknown**. |
| Target population | - **Individuals aged >= 15 years** residing in **private households** across the **10 provinces of Canada**.  - Excluded full-time residents of institutions. |
| Sampling frame | - The survey uses **phone numbers (landline & cellular)** from the Census and other sources (e.g., Statistics Canada’s dwelling frame), **linked to addresses when possible**, to ensure good coverage of **households with phones**. |
| Survey mode(s) | - Data collection was conducted through both an **electronic questionnaire** and **computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI)**. |
| Timeline | The survey was conducted **from September 4, 2018, to December 28, 2018**. |
| Response rate | The overall response rate is **41.9%**. |
| Weights | - Survey weights were applied to ensure the sample **represents the broader Canadian population aged >= 15**.  - The weights were calculated based on the probability of selection for each respondent and **adjusted for** **nonresponse** and **post-stratification**.  - These adjustments ensured that the survey results could be generalized to the target population while **accounting for discrepancies** in demographic distributions such as **age, gender, and geographic location**.  **1. NONRESPONSE ADJUSTMENT:**  - Weights were **recalibrated to account for nonresponse** by redistributing the influence of missing participants among similar respondents, **ensuring underrepresented groups were fairly reflected**.  **2. POST-STRATIFICATION:**  - After data collection, **weights were aligned with known population demographics (e.g., age, gender, and geography)** **to match** the sample **with the actual population**.  **3. FINAL DATA ADJUSTMENT:**  - **The weighted data** was used to calculate accurate population-level estimates, **correcting for sampling errors** and ensuring reliability in analysis and conclusions. |
| Data processing | Based on the 2018 General Social Survey Cycle 33 Giving, Volunteering and Participating Public Use Microdata File User Guide ([link](https://abacus.library.ubc.ca/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=hdl%3A11272.1%2FAB2%2FGBFDYG&form=MG0AV3)):  - **Data Capture**:  . Responses were collected through electronic questionnaires and computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI).  - **Coding of Write-in Responses**:  . Open-ended or write-in responses were systematically categorized into existing categories to facilitate quantitative analysis.  **- Data Editing & Imputation**:  . Handling errors and non-beneficial records: eliminated potential duplicates, non-response, and out-of-scope records.  . Handling missing & incorrect data: in a small number of cases, they were corrected deterministically or imputed from other information on the questionnaire.  **- Feature engineering and/or PCA:**  . In some cases, two or more variables were combined to create a new variable.    **- Confidentiality processing:**  . Additional processing steps - such as donation perturbation and rounding - were employed to preserve confidentiality. |
| Cleaning, imputation, etc. | Cleaning, imputation, and weights were employed. Please see the above sections for details. |
| Sources of error | * **Sampling Error**: The nature of probability sampling means that sample estimates may vary from actual population values. * **Nonresponse Bias**: Households or individuals who did not respond might differ in characteristics from respondents. * **Coverage Error**: While extensive efforts were made to cover the target population, excluding residents in Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and full-time institutional residents introduced a limitation. * **Measurement Error**: Errors could arise from respondents misinterpreting questions or inaccuracies during data collection. |
| Limitations, known biases | * **Exclusion of residents** from Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and full-time institutional residents restricts the generalizability of results to those populations. * **Recall bias** from respondents answering questions about past behavior or experiences. * **Limited participation from specific subgroups**, such as non-English or non-French speakers, could introduce bias despite efforts for inclusivity. |
| Citation | Statistics Canada. (2021). 2018 General Social Survey (Cycle 33): Giving, Volunteering and Participating Public Use Microdata File Documentation and User Guide. Catalogue no. 45-25-0011. |
| Links to any documentation or additional sources used | 1. <https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4430&form=MG0AV3> 2. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/45250011?form=MG0AV3> 3. <https://abacus.library.ubc.ca/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=hdl%3A11272.1%2FAB2%2FGBFDYG&form=MG0AV3> |