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|  | Canadian General Social Survey on Giving, Volunteering, and Participating, 2018 (cycle 33) |
| Sample type | The survey employed a stratified probability sample design.  **- 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 | - The target sample size was 20,000 respondents.  - The actual number of respondents was 16,149 - excluding respondents whose interviews were terminated early due to 'rejective sampling'. |
| Target population | - **Individuals aged >= 15 years** residing in **private households** across the **10 provinces of Canada**.  - Excluded Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut, and 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) | The survey employed 2 data collection methods:  1. **Online survey**  2. **Computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI)** |
| Timeline | The survey was conducted **from September 4, 2018 to December 28, 2018**. |
| Response rate | The overall response rate is **41.9%**. |
| Weights | The weighting process involved several steps, including adjustments for:  - Households having multiple telephone numbers  - Non-responding telephone numbers  - 'Rejective sampling', where a proportion of interviews with non-volunteers were terminated early to focus on the less prevalent volunteer population  - ‘Raking’ system – to align with population totals from the 2016 Canadian census for stratum, age-sex groups by province, and income distribution, to accurately reflect the characteristics of the Canadian population. |
| 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:**  **.** Open-ended responses were coded into pre-existing categories or grouped into new categories when appropriate.  . Standardized classification systems were used for variables like occupation, industry, language, and religion.  . Organisations mentioned in volunteering and giving sections were coded using the International Classification of Nonprofit Organisations (ICNPO)  **- Cleaning**:  . Duplicate records, non-response and out-of-scope records were removed from the dataset.  **- Editing & Imputation**:  . Missing or incorrect data were corrected or imputed using donor imputation.This method involved selecting donor records with similar characteristics to fill in the missing information for a recipient record.  . Imputation was employed for various variables, including personal and family income, volunteer hours, and donation details.  **- Creation of Combined and Derived Variables:**  . In some cases, two or more variables were combined to create a new variable.    **- Confidentiality processing:**  . To protect confidentiality, the data scientists underwent additional processing steps, including donation perturbation and rounding, |
| Cleaning, imputation, etc. | Cleaning, imputation, and weights were employed. Please see the above sections for details. |
| Sources of error | **- Sampling error**:  . As with any sample survey, the estimates are subject to sampling error. The data scientists detailed methods for estimating sampling variability using standard errors and coefficients of variation. They also provided guidance on using bootstrap weights for variance estimation.  **- Non-sampling error:**  . These errors can arise at different stages of the survey process, including interviewer errors, respondent errors, and data processing errors.    **. Non-response**:  . Partial-non response: the data scientists used Donor imputation to handle this source of error.  . Complete non-response. This is a source of error because the Households or individuals who did not respond might differ in characteristics from respondents.  **- Measurement error:**  . As with all surveys, 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 restricted 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> |