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Strong Communities, Strong Volunteerism

Why do community members volunteer?
The National Survey of Volunteering Issues asked volunteers what they valued most out of their experience of volunteering. The two most frequent responses were:
• "The difference I make to the community."
• "The sense of purpose it gives me."

How many people volunteer?
• In 2010, 6.1 million people (36%) of the Australian population aged 18 years and over volunteered
• The total annual hours volunteered was 713 million

Who volunteers?
Volunteer statistics gathered in 2010 indicated that:
• 41% of people living outside of a capital city volunteered
• 34% of people living in a capital city volunteered
• 38% of women volunteer
• 34% of men volunteer
• People aged 45-54 years reported the highest rate of volunteering
• 593,700 people aged 18-24 had undertaken voluntary work in the previous 12 months
• Couples with dependent children aged 5-17 years had the highest rate of participation in voluntary work (55%).

What do volunteers do?
The four most common types of organisation for which people volunteer are:
• Sport and physical recreation
• Community/welfare
• Religious groups
• Parenting, children and youth

Strong communities have strong volunteerism - without them our community would be a lot poorer.

Do you volunteer?

"Can we go and help at school today?"