



- ▶ **Submission to Statistics New Zealand
New Zealand General Social Survey 2016: Civic and Cultural
Participation Supplementary Module
Submitted via email to nzgss@stats.govt.nz, 30 January 2015**
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▶ **Contact Details**

This submission is from a group.

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▶ **Background**

Volunteering New Zealand

1. Volunteering New Zealand (VNZ) is the “voice of volunteering” in Aotearoa. Our vision is for a New Zealand that promotes, values and supports effective volunteering for the benefit of individuals and communities – and our mission is to promote, support and advocate for volunteering.
2. We are the only national organisation in New Zealand that focuses purely on volunteering and volunteer management. We hold the ‘big picture’ and are in a position to liaise, work with, and advise government and business sectors. Our work ensures volunteering occurs within a positive environment where it is encouraged and fostered.

3. For over 13 years, VNZ has raised the profile of volunteer groups, volunteer management and volunteerism and its value to the nation by sharing stories; producing tools like the *Best Practice Guidelines for Volunteer-Involving Organisations* and *Competencies for Managers of Volunteers*; and giving voice to the volunteers of Aotearoa.
4. We can see the big picture when it comes to volunteering in New Zealand as we work with numerous organisations across the voluntary and community sectors. We have a membership of 45+ national and regional member organisations that involve volunteers achieving their missions. We advocate on behalf of those member organisations, as well as other groups aligned to our mission and values who may not be members

New Zealand's voluntary sector

5. New Zealand has more than 97,000 non-profit organisations, contributing 2.6% to GDP. This increases to 4.9% of GDP when taking into account the volunteer labour contribution and is similar to the contribution of the entire construction industry. Our country has been ranked fifth in the world for volunteer participation in 2014¹.
6. The most recent data on the New Zealand volunteer sector suggests that there are more than 1.2 million volunteers² who give over than 270 million hours of unpaid labour to the sector. In 2008, 67% of the community and voluntary sector workforce was made up of volunteers; 90% of New Zealand non-profit organisations employ no staff, and rely solely on volunteers³.

How VNZ collated this submission

7. VNZ's submission is based on responses from our members and networks based on the proposed priority ratings for each output stream provided by Statistics New Zealand.
8. We received 25 responses from individuals, regional and national volunteer-involving organisations. We asked for respondent to rank each topic within each output stream from most to least important for volunteering in New Zealand.
9. No additional topics or comparable measures were suggested by respondents.

¹ From the World Giving Index 2014:

https://www.cafonline.org/PDF/CAF_WGI2014_Report_1555AWEBFinal.pdf

² Figure based on the *Volunteering and Donating Indicators Report* from December 2013 states that 27.93% of New Zealanders volunteer, and New Zealand's estimated resident population at 31 December 2013 of 4,471,000.

³ From the *The New Zealand Non-profit Sector in Comparative Perspective*, 2008

► Submission

RANKING FOR OUTPUT STREAM 1: Acceptance of diversity, social inclusion and shared identities

1. Shared identities including sense of belonging – what is the strength of New Zealand’s national identity, and how does this compare with the strength of shared identities at other levels (e.g. at the local level, or identification with ethnic group(s)?
 2. What are the key components that contribute to New Zealand’s national identity?
 3. Acceptance of diversity – how tolerant and inclusive is New Zealand society of minority groups, including minority ethnic groups, migrants, people with a disability, people with a mental health condition, religious groups, and the gay, bisexual, lesbian, and transgender community?
 4. To what extent do New Zealanders feel able to express the different parts of their identities that are important to them, and what are the experienced barriers?
 5. To what extent is a heritage culture and language maintained by ethnic minorities and migrants?
 6. To what extent do language barriers limit the participation of migrants and minority ethnic groups in society?
 7. What are skilled migrants’ intentions and drivers to stay in New Zealand?
 8. To what extent does the ‘digital divide’ hinder social cohesion across generations?
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RANKING FOR OUTPUT STREAM 2: Civic participation

1. How many people engage in civic participation, including political participation and volunteering?
2. What are the background characteristics of those who participate more/less in civic activities?
3. What is the relationship between different types of civic participation? (eg how does political participation relate to other forms of civic participation, such as volunteering?)
4. What are the drivers and inhibitors for civic participation, including political participation and volunteering?

5. How do levels of civic participation develop over time?
 6. Membership of associations – What memberships and level of engagement do people have with groups, clubs, or organisations (eg sports clubs, hobby or interest groups, neighbourhood/community associations, or church, religious or spiritual groups)?
 7. What reasons do people have for ceasing to volunteer?
 8. What support needs for people could be met through volunteers?
 9. What levels of trust do people have in central and local government?
 10. What understanding do people have of political processes at the national level?
 11. To what extent do New Zealanders understand how their local council makes decisions?
 12. Do New Zealanders think the public has no influence, some influence, or a lot of influence on the decisions that their council makes?
 13. How satisfied are people with the council decision-making process and 'local democracy' in general?
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RANKING FOR OUTPUT STREAM 3 – Cultural Participation

1. What is the relationship between cultural participation and wellbeing, including social connectedness, mental and physical health, sense of belonging, perceived ability to express identity, and overall subjective well-being?
2. What types and level of participation in cultural activities (including sports and recreational activities), broadly measured, do people engage in?
3. What are the background characteristics of those who participate more/less in cultural activities?
4. How do levels of cultural participation develop over time?
5. To what extent do people living in New Zealand (including migrants and minority ethnic groups) feel able to engage in the cultural activities that are important to them?
6. What are the drivers and inhibitors for cultural participation (including language, income, and mobility)?
7. How important are heritage buildings and places to people, and what are the main reasons for valuing them?

8. What are people's levels of perceived access to facilities or events that enable cultural expression?
 9. What are people's attitudes towards cultural organisations (e.g. museums, art galleries, cultural centres)?
 10. What cultural and sports activities would people like to do more of if inhibitors were reduced/removed?
 11. How many people engage in sport and active recreation on conservation land?
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Existing measures that would be useful for comparability purposes

The following existing measures have been used by VNZ and its members to provide information about volunteering in New Zealand. If topics within each output stream were able to be compared to these existing national and international sources that would be of great benefit to VNZ and other volunteer-involving organisations.

Domestic

- Quarterly Volunteering and Donation Indicators, Department of Internal Affairs
- New Zealand General Social Survey (NZGSS), Statistics New Zealand.

International

- World Giving Index, Charities Aid Foundation
- OECD – Better Life Index.