The UK Civil Society Almanac 2013

Highlights

The reference guide for the key facts and figures on the voluntary sector.

£36.8 BILLION
SPENDING

£38.3 BILLION
INCOME

162,000
CHARITIES

£101 BILLION
ASSETS

732,000
STAFF

23 MILLION
VOLUNTEERS

Full Almanac available at data.ncvo-vol.org.uk
The public perception of charities is of organisations funded by donations, and this remains a major source of funds.

24% of total income came from donations (made by individuals and businesses) and legacies, and income from individuals remains the sector’s largest source of income. The proportion of adults in the UK donating to charity in 2010/11 was 58%.

This figure dropped to 55% in 2011/12, but this still corresponds to an estimated 28.3 million adults.

The three most common causes to which people in the UK donated money in 2011/12 are:

33% Medical Research
23% Children/Young People
30% Hospitals and Hospices

Median and mean amounts given per donor per month, 2004/05 – 2011/12, £

Median amount per donor
Mean amount per donor

24 28 29 32 30 31 31 27
10 10 10 10 10 12 11 10

Source: UK Giving 2012

Fundraising income

Source: NCVO/Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC), Charity Commission

These 10 household-name voluntary organisations accounted for over £1.7 billion between them – 15% of all fundraised income in the sector. Cancer Research UK raised the most, generating £418 million in 2010/11.

Overall, in 2010/11 voluntary organisations raised £6.7 billion from donations from individuals, £1.7 billion from legacies and a further £3.1 billion from fundraising trading activities.

1 Cancer Research UK £418m
2 British Heart Foundation £227m
3 Oxfam £187m
4 Royal National Lifeboat Institution £156m
5 Salvation Army £136m
6 British Red Cross £135m
7 NSPCC £121m
8 National Trust £119m
9 Macmillan Cancer Support £110m
10 Age UK £108m

Find out more at data.ncvo-vol.org.uk
Voluntary sector income grew considerably between 2000/01 and 2010/11, and one of the drivers was the growth of earned income — income from providing services to beneficiaries. The majority of this income is from contracts with local and central government, but increasingly voluntary organisations are being paid fees directly by beneficiaries, or subcontracting from the private sector or other voluntary organisations.

The government relies on the voluntary sector to provide public services; the voluntary sector provided services worth £11.2 billion in the form of contracts with government in 2010/11. This is an increase of £6.8 billion from 2000/01 in real terms. This compares with grants from government, which since 2000/01 have fallen by £1.6 billion in real terms to £3 billion.

79% of income from government is in the form of contracts.

**WORKFORCE**

Paid staff play a key role in the delivery of services for voluntary organisations. The voluntary sector employed 732,000 staff in 2011, a rise from 547,000 in 2001.

- 40% of voluntary sector staff work part-time – a higher proportion than both the private and public sectors.
- 68% of voluntary sector staff are women – more than the private sector, and comparable with the public sector.

£14.4 BILLION spent by voluntary organisations on staff costs in 2010/11, 39% of total spending.

Voluntary organisations are operating in an environment of increasingly stretched public finances. Under current plans, both central and local government spending will fall in real terms until 2017/18. Local government in particular bears a high burden of spending cuts, with spending reduced by nearly 20% between 2010/11 and 2017/18. Local government spending accounts for £7.1 billion of voluntary sector income.
The fortunes of charities are closely linked to the wider economy, and this is particularly clear when looking at grant-making.

32,490

Voluntary sector organisations made grants to institutions in 2010/11, worth £4.3 billion in total. This is well below the pre-financial crisis peak of £5.6 billion in real terms.

Voluntary sector grant expenditure, 2000/01 – 2010/11, £ billions, 2010/11 prices

Source: NCVO/TSRC, Charity Commission

Income sources of grant-making foundations, 2010/11, %

Source: NCVO/TSRC, Charity Commission

Individual 47.0
Investment 24.2
Private sector 14.3
Statutory sources 7.7
Voluntary sector 6.8

The sub-sectors that make the most grants are research and grant-making foundations. Between them these organisations make up 10% of the number of voluntary organisations, but account for 48% of assets.

Voluntary sector investment assets and investment income, 2000/01 – 2010/11, £ billions, 2010/11 prices

Source: NCVO/TSRC, Charity Commission

WHO GETS THE GRANTS?

The majority of the grants are not made to the voluntary sector.

£2 Billion grants go to voluntary organisations, 46% of the total. The remainder is granted to other parts of civil society, for example to universities to conduct research.

By sub-sector, the largest share goes to international organisations (25.9%), social services organisations (15.3%) and culture and recreation (10.6%). However, international organisations are the most reliant on this source of income, which made up 15.8% of their total income in 2010/11, as opposed to 5% for culture and recreation, and 3.3% for social services.
The majority of the UK’s voluntary organisations are very small:

- **83,917** have an income of less than £10,000. This figure does not include organisations that are too small to register as charities; some estimates put the number of these ‘below-the-radar’ organisations at more than 600,000.

These organisations, which we have categorised as micro, represent more than half of the total number of registered voluntary organisations in the UK. However, they only account for **0.6%** of the sector’s total income.

Almost two-thirds (65%) of their income is from individuals. They are particularly reliant on donations and purchases (including membership fees).

### Proportion of income from individuals by size of organisation, 2010/11, %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Legacies</th>
<th>Purchases</th>
<th>Donations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micro</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>27.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Participation in formal volunteering in England, 2001 – October 2012, %

- **7,495** charitable playgroups and nurseries
- **6,510** scout groups and youth clubs
- **23.1m** people volunteered at least once a year in the UK

### Voluntary organisations per 1,000 people

- **12,696** parent–teacher associations
- **6,059** village halls
- **6,510** scout groups and youth clubs

### GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

**Number of voluntary organisations by region and country, 2010/11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Micro</th>
<th>Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North-east</td>
<td>2,378</td>
<td>2,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North-west</td>
<td>7,014</td>
<td>6,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and the Humber</td>
<td>5,471</td>
<td>4,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>6,286</td>
<td>4,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>6,263</td>
<td>5,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>9,242</td>
<td>7,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>10,012</td>
<td>13,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South-east</td>
<td>11,920</td>
<td>12,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South-west</td>
<td>9,445</td>
<td>7,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>68,031</td>
<td>63,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>4,204</td>
<td>3,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>10,353</td>
<td>9,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>1,529</td>
<td>2,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>83,917</td>
<td>78,260</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Voluntary organisations per 1,000 people**

- **2.8** for the UK
- **2.4** for South-east
- **2.3** for West Midlands
- **2.0** for Wales

**Source:** NCVO/TSRC, Charity Commission

**Find out more at data.ncvo-vol.org.uk**
This publication provides a selection of some of the data from the UK Civil Society Almanac 2013 – more detailed information, tables and charts are available at data.ncvo-vol.org.uk. We have grouped the data into four themes based on organisational types: the community group, the big fundraiser, the service provider and the grant-maker. The data we have selected in each case is either directly about these organisations, or of particular relevance to them.

About the Almanac
The UK Civil Society Almanac is the reference publication for anybody interested in the voluntary sector and its role in civil society. Widely cited by the media, policy-makers and sector leaders, it offers a definitive overview of the key trends and characteristics of the sector, and covers a wide range of topics, including funding and finance, spending, workforce and employment, and volunteering.

The Almanac is based on over 20 years of data and evidence jointly collected by NCVO and the Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC), and a methodology designed in conjunction with the Office for National Statistics. This is supplemented with data and evidence from other sources such as the Labour Force Survey and the Community Life Survey. The financial data is based on the annual accounts submitted to the Charity Commission by general charities for the financial year 2010/11. For more information on our methodology, visit data.ncvo-vol.org.uk.

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To find out more, contact membership@ncvo-vol.org.uk or 020 7520 2414, or visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/membership

GET BESPOKE DATA AND INTELLIGENCE

We provide high-quality, usable market intelligence and analysis to help sector leaders, policy-makers, commissioners and suppliers make the right decisions. We can, for instance, benchmark your organisation against others in the same sub-sector and/or locality, provide contact lists and carry out trend analysis.

Speak to us today about how we can help you: David Kane, Senior Research Officer Call 020 7520 2579 or email research@ncvo-vol.org.uk

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