



## BRIEFING PAPER

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# Charities and the voluntary sector: statistics

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### Inside:

1. About the sources
2. The voluntary sector: size & scope
3. Funding & finance
4. Volunteering



# Contents

<b>Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. About the sources</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. The voluntary sector: size &amp; scope</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 Size of the sector	5
2.2 Areas of activity	7
<b>3. Funding &amp; finance</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1 Income	8
3.2 Income from government	10
3.3 National Lottery Funding	11
3.4 Social investment	12
3.5 Charitable donations	14
<b>4. Volunteering</b>	<b>16</b>

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# Summary

There are different estimates for the size, income and activities of the voluntary sector. The latest Charity Register data for the year ending 31 December 2016, suggests that there were over **167,100 Charities in England and Wales**.

According to the latest NCVO data for 2014/15, there were around **140,500** voluntary organisations **in England and Wales** and around **165,800 in the UK**. Alternatively, the Charity Commission’s data for year ending December 2015, indicated just under **165,300** organizations **in England and Wales** (Please refer to Section 1 for explanation of this disparity).

## Voluntary sector activities

In 2014/15, the most common activity of UK voluntary organisations was the provision of social services (18%), followed by cultural and recreational services (14%) and religious activities (9%), according to the NCVO.

## Total income

In 2016 the estimated income of the UK voluntary sector was £73.1 billion, according to the Charity Commission. Charities earning over £5 million accounted for 1.3% of organisations and for 72% of total income. While just 39% of charities earned less than £10,000 per annum.

Alternatively, according to the NCVO the estimated income of the UK voluntary sector was £45.5 billion in 2014/15. Earned income contributed 54% of this total, voluntary income 39% and investments 7%. Total income rose in real terms between 2001/02 and 2014/15.

## Government support

In 2014/15, income from central government was higher than from local government for the first time in over a decade. Total Income from government was £15.3 billion in 2014/15, of which 48% from central government, 47% from local government and 6% from international government (NCVO data).

## Social investment

In the year ending 31 December 2015, Big Society Capital estimated that social investment market in: “the UK is worth at least £1,500m”.

## National Lottery funding

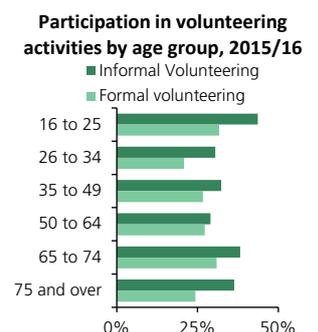
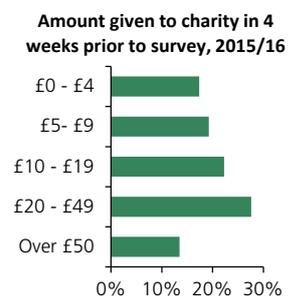
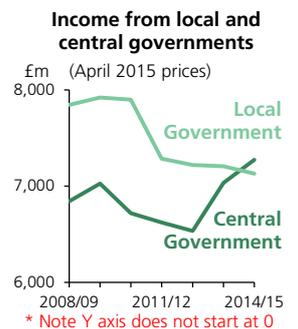
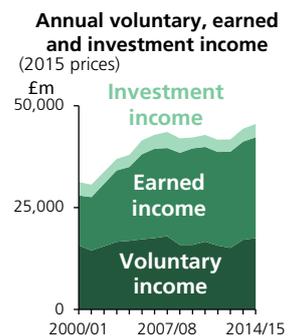
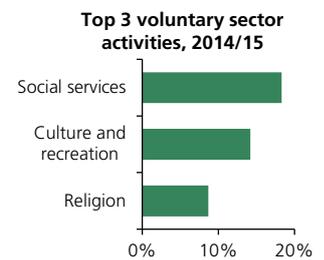
In 2016/17, the National Lottery Distribution Fund granted approximately £351 million (19%) to the Arts, around £481 million (21%) to Sports, £425 million (23%) to the Heritage Lottery Fund and £669 million (37%) to the Big Lottery Fund.

## Charitable giving

Community Life Survey data for 2015/16 shows that 73% of adults in England had given to charity in the four weeks prior to survey. Of those 17.4% had given less than £4 and 13.5% over £50. Around £7.6 billion was received from donations, gifts and legacies by the UK voluntary sector in 2015/16.

## Volunteering

In 2015/16, the most active age group was 16 to 25 year olds, of which 44% and 32% participated in formal and informal volunteering at least once a month respectively. Formal volunteering was the least common among 26 to 34 year olds (21%). Just 29% of 50 to 65 year olds volunteered informally.



# 1. About the sources

The [National Council of Voluntary Organisation's](#) (NCVO) [UK Civil Society Almanac](#) and the [Charity Commission](#) are the primary sources for data on the third sector in the UK.

The NCVO is an independent charitable company limited by guarantee to which organisations may apply for membership; NCVO currently has approximately 12,500 member organisations.<sup>1</sup> It has published the UK wide Civil Society Almanac on an annual basis since 1996. The Charity Commission is a government watchdog the duties and responsibilities of which are laid out in the [Charities Act 2011](#); among other duties, it is responsible for the registering of eligible organisations in England and Wales and ensuring charities meet their legal requirements.

Each of these sources will be referred to alternately throughout this note. Data from each is not, however, directly comparable: NCVO and Charity Commission statistics differ in both geographic extent and the way in which they identify charitable organisations. The net result of these differences is, to quote the NCVO Almanac, that “the Almanac reports more organisations but less income”.<sup>2</sup>

Specifically, the [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac Methodology](#):

- Applies the “general charities” definition to the register of charities in England & Wales and similar registers covering Scotland and Northern Ireland. This definition is developed by the Office for National Statistics.
- Excludes, according to the general charities definition, organisations that are inactive or subsidiaries of other organisations.
- Excludes organisations that “belong elsewhere in civil society” such as housing associations, independent schools or faith groups.
- Excludes organisations that hold charitable status but are not independent of government.

In contrast the Charity Commission’s [Register of Charities](#) records all organisations that:

- Are recognised as charitable in law; and
- Hold most of their assets in England and/or Wales; or
- Have all or the majority of their trustees in England and/or Wales; or
- Are companies incorporated in England and/or Wales.

Statistics from both the NCVO and the Charity Commission are referred to below so to provide readers with a range and depth of statistical information.

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<sup>1</sup> National Council Voluntary Organisations; [About Us](#) (accessed 14 August 2017)

<sup>2</sup> National Council Voluntary Organisations; [Why are our estimates lower than the Charity Commission's figures?](#) (Accessed 27 November 2014)

## 2. The voluntary sector: size & scope

This section provides statistics on the size and scope of the third sector. It does so by examining the number and geographic range of voluntary organisations and their activities.

### 2.1 Size of the sector

In 2014/15 there were around 165,800 voluntary organisations operating in the UK, according to the NCVO Almanac. **Figure 1** displays the number of voluntary organisations per region in 2014/15.

**Figure 1: Distribution of voluntary organisations by area 2014/15**

Area	Number of organisations	% of total in England	Organisations per 1,000 people
North East	4,492	3.4%	1.7
North West	13,203	9.9%	1.8
Yorkshire and the Humber	10,309	7.7%	1.9
West Midlands	11,525	8.6%	2
East Midlands	10,714	8.0%	2.3
East of England	16,652	12.5%	2.7
London	24,238	18.2%	2.8
South East	24,858	18.6%	2.8
South West	17,389	13.0%	3.2
<b>% of total</b>			
Scotland	19,215	11.6%	3.6
Northern Ireland	6,126	3.7%	3.3
England	133,380	80.4%	2.4
Wales	7,080	4.3%	2.3
<b>Total in the UK</b>	<b>165,801</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2.5</b>

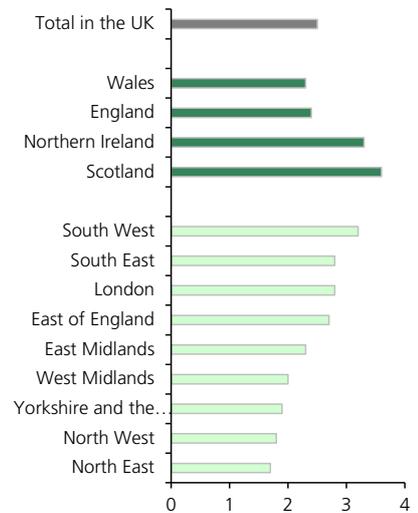
Source: [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

In 2014/15, the majority of charities in the UK were based in England (80%). The South East had the highest number of any region of England with just under 24,900 organisations (18.6%). The North East had the lowest number of just under 4,500 charitable organisations (3.4%).

Among countries of the UK, Northern Ireland had the lowest number with just over 6,100 charities (3.7%). Just around 7,100 charities (4.3%) were registered in Wales in 2014/15.

**Figure 2** shows data on the number of voluntary organisations per 1,000 people within regions of England, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the UK. This data indicates that, per person, voluntary organisations are most concentrated in Scotland where 3.6 organisations exist per 1,000 people. The lowest rate of organisations per 1,000 population is recorded in Wales (2.3) followed by England (2.4). The UK average is approximately 2.5 organisations per 1,000 people.

**Figure 2: Organisations per 1,000 people 2014/15**



Source: [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

In 2014/15 among regions of England, the largest rate of charities per 1,000 population was recorded in the South West (3.2) and the lowest in the North East region (1.7).

### Alternative data from The Charity Commission

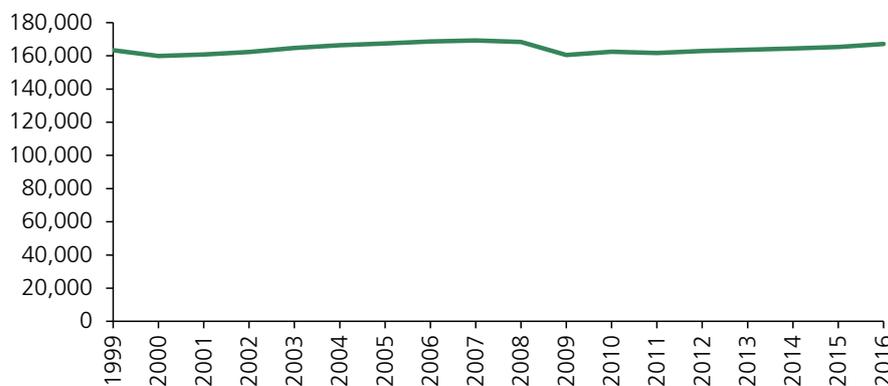
The Charity Commission provides alternative data on the number of charitable organisations in England and Wales. The latest Charity Register data, for the year ending 31 December 2016, suggests that there were 167,109 Charities in England and Wales.

In the year ending March 2015 the NCVO recorded around 140,500 organisations in England and Wales; alternatively in the year ending December 2015 the Charity Commission’s Register of Charities recorded just under 165,300 organisations. This was an increase of approximately 1% on the total recorded the previous year by the Register of Charities.<sup>3</sup>

**Figure 3** displays data from the Charity Commission for the total number of charities in England & Wales 1999 – 2016. The total number of organisations in the Register of Charities fell by 4.7%, from over 168,000 in 2008 to under 161,000 in 2009. Despite this the number of charities in England and Wales has remained relatively constant since the new millennium. As of 30 September 2016 there were around 167,000 charities, a 1% decrease than a decade earlier.<sup>4</sup>

**Figure 3: Total number of charities in England & Wales 1999–2016**

*As of 31 December of each year*



Source: Charity Commission; [Charity Register Statistics](#), 2017 and earlier editions

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to Section 1 for explanation of this disparity.

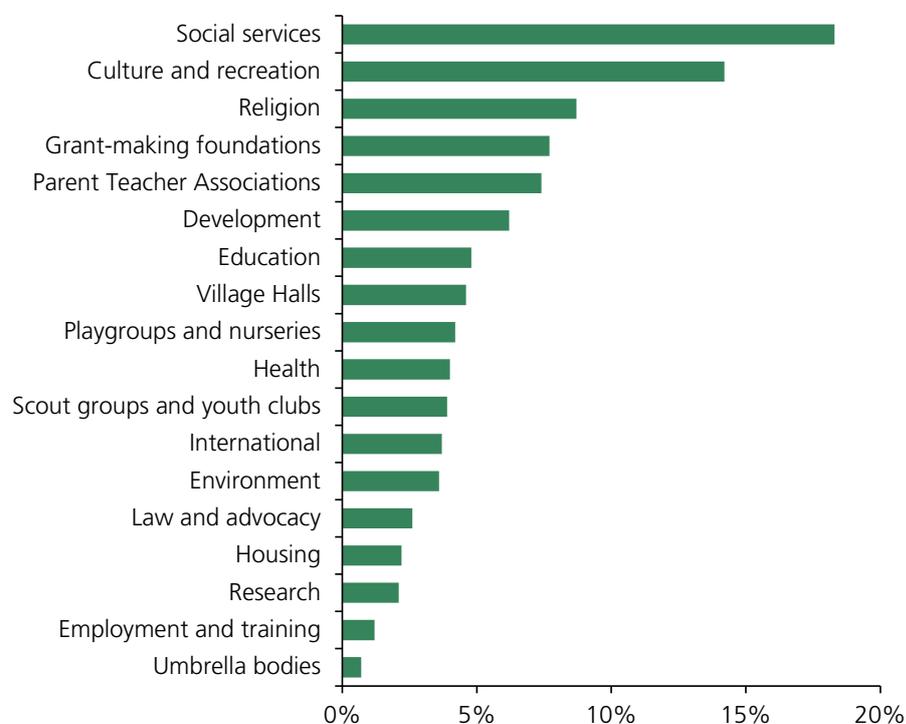
<sup>4</sup> Charity Commission; [Recent charity register statistics: Charity Commission](#) (accessed 09 August 2017)

## 2.2 Areas of activity

The NCVO allocates voluntary organisations to discrete categories according to their principle area of economic activity using definitions created by the [International Classification of Non-profit Organisations](#) (ICNPO). **Figure 4** shows the distribution of voluntary organisations by area of activity in 2014/15.

In 2014/15 the primary economic activity of 18.3% (30,265) of voluntary organisations was the provision of social services; 14.2% (23,586) were engaged in culture and recreation; 8.7% (14,375) were categorised as religious. Excluding umbrella bodies, the category to make up the lowest proportion of total UK voluntary organisations by activity was employment and training (1.2% - 1,985 organisations).

**Figure 4: Distribution of voluntary organisations by area of activity 2014/15**



Source: [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

## 3. Funding & finance

This section examines the income of the voluntary sector together with the sector's key income sources, including social investment, the National Lottery and charitable donations.

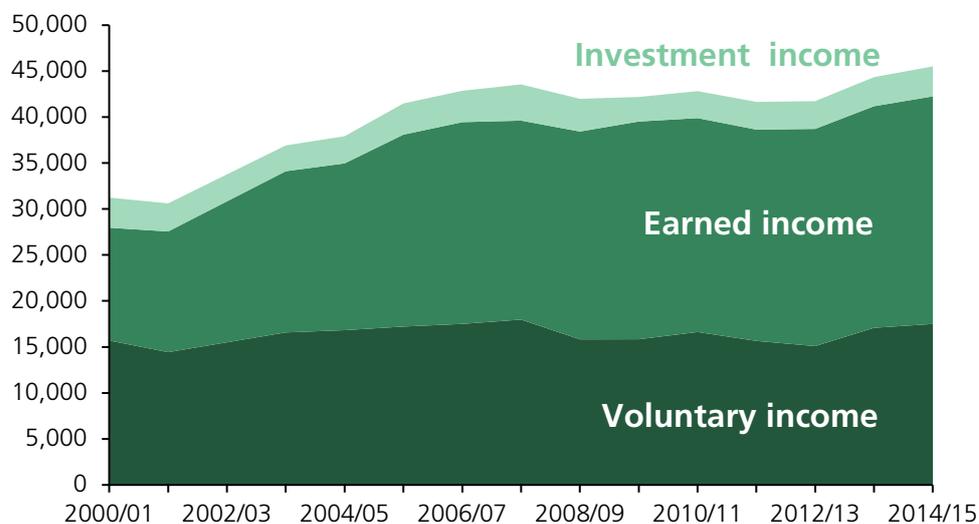
### 3.1 Income

Alternative measures of voluntary sector income are provided by the NCVO Almanac and the Charity Commission.

**Figure 5** displays the earned, voluntary and investment income of the UK's voluntary sector 2001/02 – 2014/15. The NCVO estimated total income of the voluntary sector in 2014/15 as approximately £45.5 billion. This comprised of just under £24.8 billion (54%) from earned income, £17.5 billion (38%) from voluntary income and almost £3.3 billion (7%) from investment. Total income rose in real terms between 2001/02 and 2014/15. The highest income over the period shown was recorded in 2014/15, an increase of 49% compared to 30.5 billion in 2001/02 (based on 2014/15 prices).

**Figure 5: UK wide voluntary sector annual voluntary, earned and investment income 2000/01 – 2014/15**

*£m, April 2015 prices*



Source: [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

The Charity Commission provides an alternative measure of the income of the charity sector; see Section 1 for explanation as to how and why estimates from the Charity Commission and the NCVO differ.

**Figure 6** provides statistics on the number of charities per income bracket in England and Wales as of 31 December 2016 according to the Charity Register.

**Figure 6: Annual income of charities in England & Wales as of 31 December 2016**

Annual income bracket	Number of charities	%	Annual income £bn	%
£0 to £10,000	65,842	39.4	0.2	0.3
£10,001 to £100,000	56,853	34.0	2.0	2.7
£100,001 to £500,000	21,956	13.1	4.8	6.6
£500,001 to £5,000,000	8,972	5.4	13.4	18.4
£5,000,000 plus	2,201	1.3	52.6	72.0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>155,824</b>	<b>93.2</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>100</b>
Not yet known	11,285	6.8	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>167,109</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>100</b>

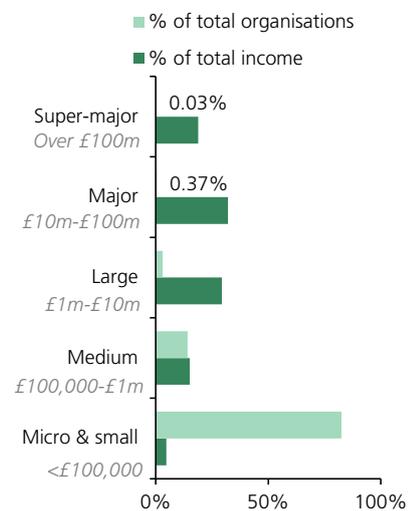
Source: Charity Commission for England and Wales, [Recent charity register statistics, December 2016](#), (accessed 1 August 2017)

Figure 6 shows a disparity between the number of organisations on the Register of Charities and the distribution of income. Charities earning over £5 million accounted 1.3% of organisations and for 72.0% of total voluntary sector income. Alternatively, over 39.4% of charities earned less than £10,000 per annum in 2016 and accounted for 0.3% of total income.

Figure 7 shows NCVO figures indicating a similar trend. In 2014/15 charities earning under £100,000 accounted for 82.5% of organisations and 4.7% of the sector’s income, while charities earning over £10 million accounted for 0.4% of organisations and 50.9% of the sector’s income.

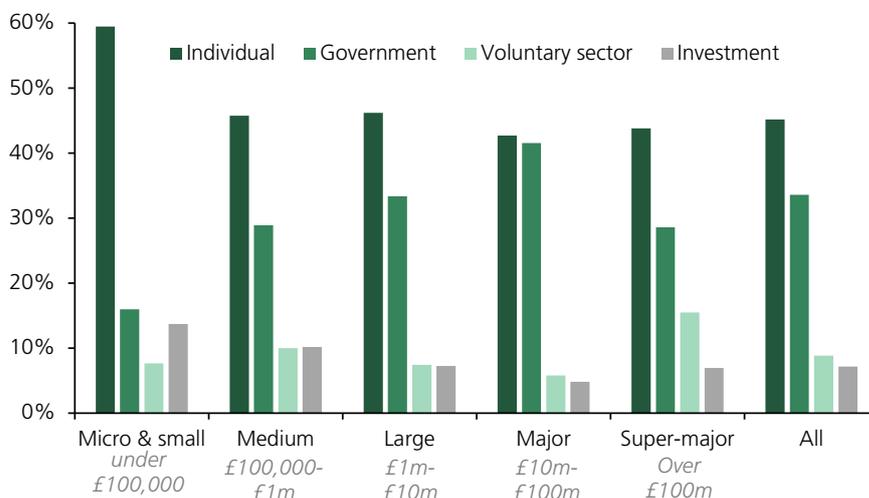
Figure 8 indicates proportion of income from four largest sources by financial size of the charity. In 2014/15, income from individuals accounted for the largest part of all voluntary sector income (45.2%). Micro and Small size charities received the highest proportion of 59.4% of their income from individuals. Charities with total income under £100,000 received a higher proportion of investment income – 13.7%, compared to 7% of total voluntary sector funding.

**Figure 7: Proportion of total voluntary sector income by financial size of the organisation, 2014/15**



Source: [NCVO, UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

**Figure 8: Income mix of charities by financial size, 2014/15**

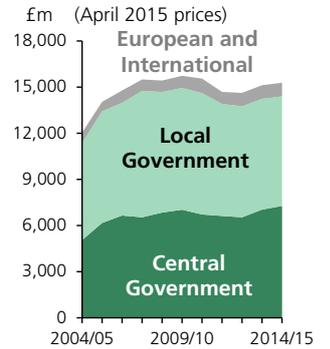


Source: [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

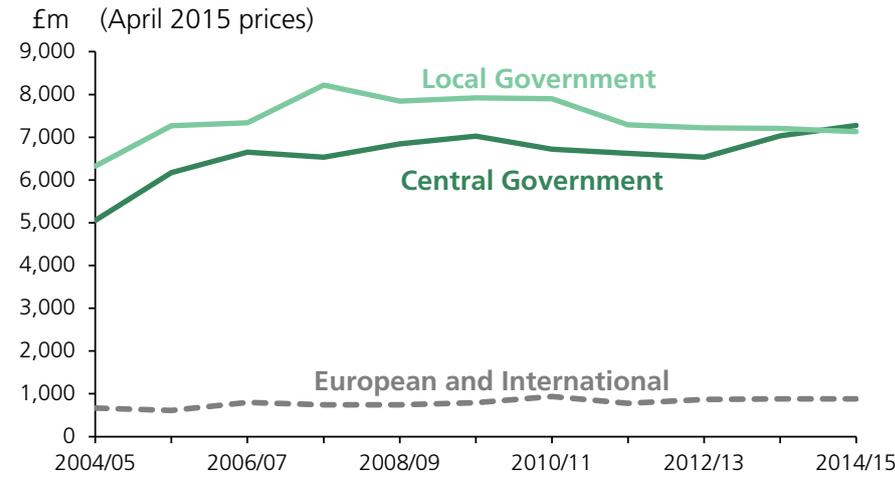
### 3.2 Income from government

**Figures 9a and 9b** show a time series from 2004/05 to 2014/15. UK voluntary sector income from government was around £15.3 billion in 2014/15, according to the NCVO (see figure 9a). This comprised of £7.3 billion (48%) from central government, £7.1 billion (47%) from local government and £0.9 billion from international government (6%). In 2014/15, income from central government was higher than from local government for the first time in over a decade (see figure 9b).

**Figure 9a Voluntary sector income from government 2004/05 to 2012/13**



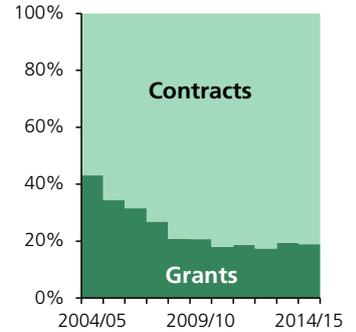
**Figure 9b: Voluntary sector income from government 2004/05 to 2014/15**



Source: Data provided by the [NCVO](#)

**Figure 10** shows that the balance of government contracts to grants has shifted over the past decade. In 2004/05, around 43% of government income to the voluntary sector was made through grants and 57% via contracts. In 2014/15, grants comprised 19% of income from government and contracts 81%.

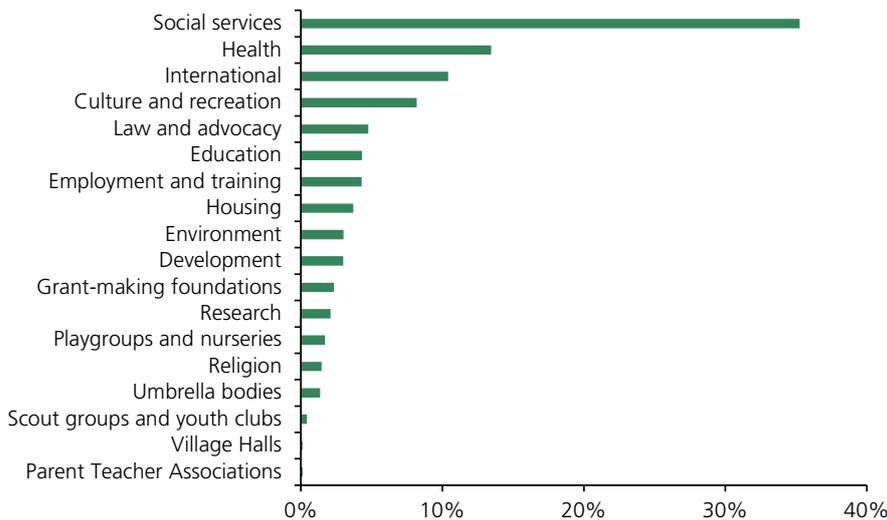
**Figure 10 Voluntary sector income from government by type, 2008/09 - 2012/13**



Source: Data provided by the [NCVO](#)

**Figure 11** indicates that social service organisations received the largest share (35%) of total voluntary sector income from government in 2014/15. Health organisations received 13%, organisations undertaking “international” activities 10% and cultural and recreational organisations 8%, according to the NCVO analysis.

**Figure 11: Income from government by organisational activity**



Source: Data provided by the [NCVO](#)

### 3.3 National Lottery Funding

This section focuses on all grants made by the National Lottery to its Arts, Sports and Heritage distributors and the Big Lottery Fund. For detail on individual grants made by the National Lottery (and its distributors) or a breakdown of grants made over time per constituency, region or country see the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's (DCMS) [Lottery Grants Search tool](#).

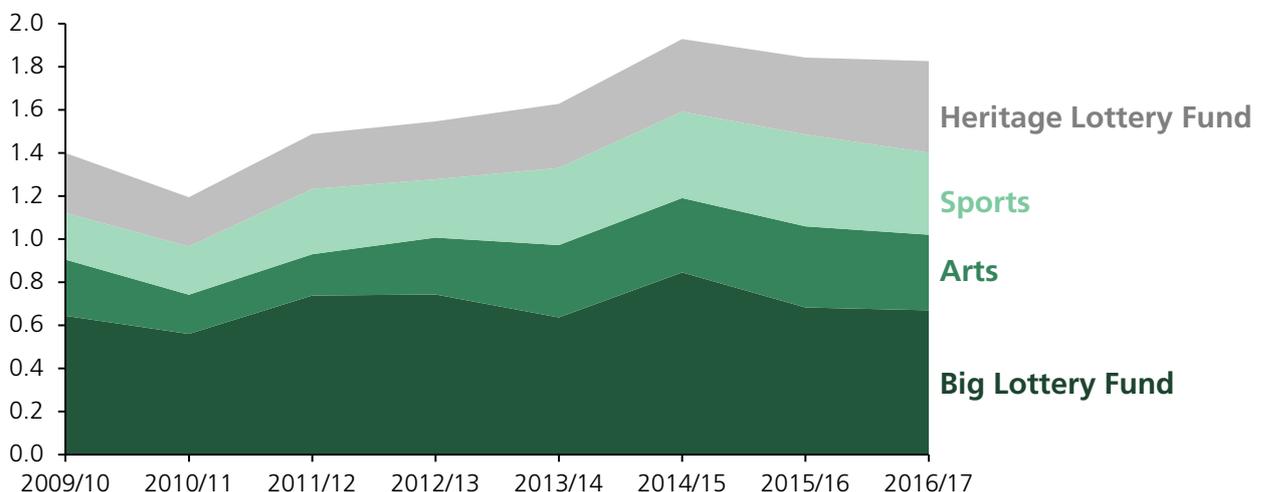
The National Lottery Distribution Fund (NLDF) accounts detail the money raised by the National Lottery and passed on to its distributors. There are several ways in which the amount passed on to distributors may be measured reflecting the steps via which Lottery proceeds are accounted for and distributed. Data presented here is the amount authorised for payment to distributing bodies, as explained below.

As of 2013/14, proceeds from the National Lottery are divided between investment funds for the Arts, Sports, Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund on an annual basis according to the ratio 1:1:1:2 respectively. Operational costs of running the NLDF and the Gambling Commission are deducted from these proceeds via the same ratio; investment income is also divided in this manner. DCMS then authorises an amount payable to each of the NLDF distributors, resulting in a net increase/decrease to the balance available per distributor. Data presented below is the amount authorised for payment to distributing bodies having taken into account the division of Lottery proceeds, operational costs, investment income and the resulting increase/decrease in funds available to each distributor.

**Figure 12** shows the amount authorised for payment from the National Lottery Distribution Fund to the Arts, Sports, Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund, in cash terms. In 2016/17 approximately £351 million (19%) was granted to the Arts, around £481 million (21%) to Sports, £425 million (23%) to the Heritage Lottery Fund and £669 million (37%) to the Big Lottery Fund.

**Figure 12: Amount authorised for payment to distributing bodies from the NLDF 2008/09 – 2016/17**

*£ billion cash terms*



Source: [National Lottery Distribution Fund accounts 2016/17](#) and earlier years

In years 2008/09 – 2012/13 money was transferred from the NLDF to the Olympic Lottery Distribution Fund (OLDF) created to finance the London 2012 Olympic Games. Data displayed in **figure 11** are amounts authorised for payment by the NLDF to individual distributors having taken into account transfers to the OLDF.

In total the NLDF committed to pay around £1.1 billion to the OLDF; approximately £638 million was transferred from funds otherwise allocated for the Big Lottery Fund, £161 million from funds allocated for the Heritage Lottery Fund, £124 million from funds allocated to Sports and £161 million from funds allocated to Arts.

**Figure 13** displays the amount transferred to the OLDF 2008/09 – 2012/13.

**Figure 13: Amount transferred to the Olympic Lottery Distribution Fund per NLDF Distributor 2008/09 – 2012/13**

£ 000s

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Arts	10,847	43,387	43,388	43,388	20,208
Sports	8,374	33,495	33,495	33,495	15,601
Heritage Lottery Fund	10,847	43,389	43,388	43,388	20,208
Big Lottery Fund	42,932	171,729	171,729	171,729	79,983
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,000</b>	<b>292,000</b>	<b>292,000</b>	<b>292,000</b>	<b>136,000</b>

Source: National Lottery Distribution Fund accounts 2009/10 – 2013/14

### 3.4 Social investment

Social investment is the provision and use of repayable finance to generate social as well as financial returns, central to Prime Minister David Cameron's conception of the [Big Society](#). Launched in 2011, the Government paper [Growing the Social Investment Market: A vision and strategy](#) detailed that:

We want to make it easier for social ventures to access the capital and advice they need to grow, unlocking the potential to improve more lives. So at the heart of our vision is nothing less than a new 'third pillar' of finance for social ventures, to sit alongside traditional giving and funds from the state.... Our vision calls for the creation of a new 'asset class' of social investment to connect social ventures with mainstream capital.<sup>5</sup>

[Big Society Capital](#), the 'Big Society Bank', was subsequently founded in order to grow the social investment market and the number of investors operating within it.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> HM Government; [Growing the Social Investment Market: A vision and strategy](#) (February 2011); page 17

<sup>6</sup> See the House of Commons Library Standard Note SN05876 [Big Society Bank](#) (13 June 2014)

**Figure 14a** shows data on the value and volume of the social investment market as at 31 December 2015, based on estimates published by the Big Society Capital in [The size of and composition of social investment in the UK report](#) (March 2016).

**Figure 14a: UK Social investment – outstanding value £m and number organisations benefiting, end 2015<sup>1</sup>**

Segment		£m	% of total value	Number of investments
<b>Social investment - Big society capital focus</b>		<b>1,062</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>2,656</b>
SME Charity finance (46%)	Social bank lending <sup>2</sup>	545	36%	1,264
	Non-bank lending <sup>3</sup>	158	11%	858
Social innovation (3%)	Equity-like capital <sup>4</sup>	32	2%	123
	Social Impact Bonds <sup>5</sup>	14	1%	18
Participation (6%)	Community shares <sup>6</sup>	96	6%	353
	Social investment tax relief <sup>7</sup>	1	0%	9
Scale (14%)	Charity Bonds <sup>8</sup>	86	6%	18
	High impact social property <sup>9</sup>	130	9%	14
<b>Social investment - Profit with purpose<sup>10</sup></b>		<b>462</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>807</b>
<b>Total social investment</b>		<b>1,525</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,463</b>

Source: Big Society Capital, [The size of and composition of social investment in the UK](#), page 9, March 2016  
Note:

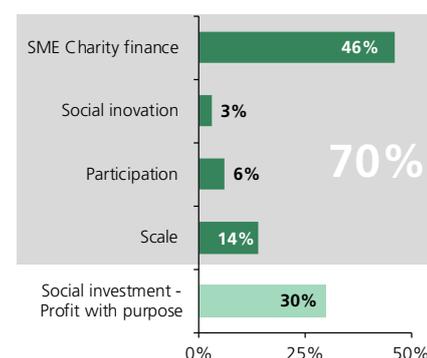
1. All figures rounded to the nearest £1m or 1%
2. Loans (normally with security) from UK Social Banks to charities and social enterprises
3. Non-bank lending via specialist funds and other channels to charities and social enterprises
4. Capital for growth via specialist funds and other charities to charities and social enterprises
5. All Social Impact Bonds
6. Community shares, mostly issued by community benefit companies
7. Social Investment Tax Relief enabled investments
8. Bonds issued by registered charities targeting social impact and with explicit impact measurement
9. Capital for service delivery by charities and social enterprises involving property
10. All types of investment in profit with-purpose (non-asset locked) companies.

In year the year ending 31 December 2015, Big Society Capital estimated that the social investment market in: “the UK is worth at least £1,500m”. As described by the Big Society Capital:

- “There are nearly 3,500 different social investments outstanding at the end of 2015. We are confident this means at least 3,000 different charities and social enterprises are benefitting from social investment.
- **Over two-thirds (70%)** of social investment is channelled to charities and social enterprises with some sort of asset lock. This is also the part of social investment emphasised by Big Society Capital’s current strategy.
- The rest of social investment (**30%**) is focused on social enterprises and profit-with-purpose companies without an asset lock.”

Of under 3,500 of outstanding investments in the year ending 31 December 2015, more than a third (37%) were “loans (normally with security) from UK Social Banks to charities and social enterprises”. A quarter of investments (25%) were “non-bank lending via specialist funds and other channels to charities and social enterprises”.<sup>7</sup>

**Figure 14b: Proportion of outstanding value of Social investment in the UK, 2015**



Source: Big Society Capital, [The size of and composition of social investment in the UK](#), March 2016

<sup>7</sup> The Big Society Capital, [Size of the Social Investment Market](#), March 2016

### 3.5 Charitable donations

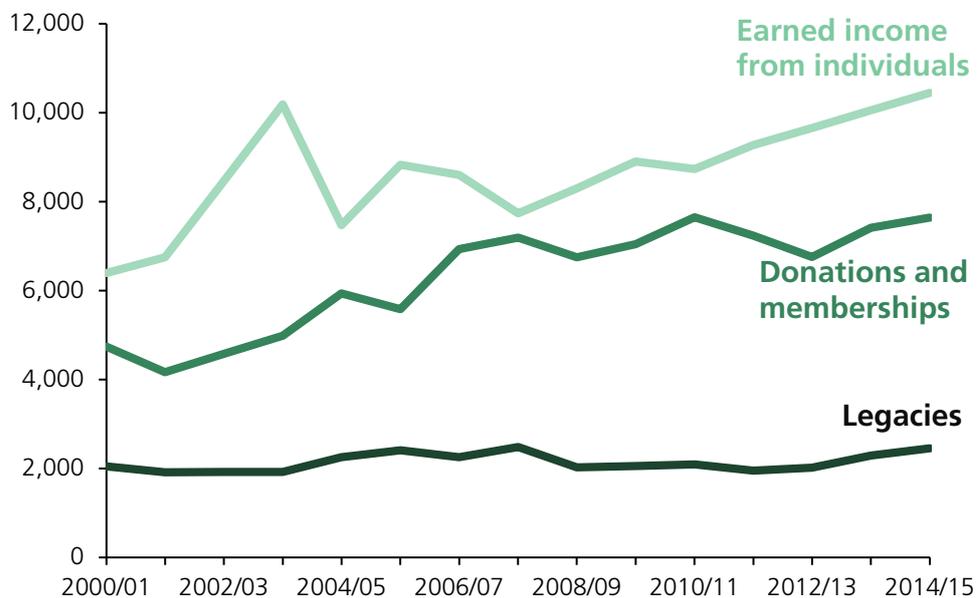
Individuals are the voluntary sector's single biggest source of income, according to the NCVO. In 2014/15 individuals – including money raised via donations, memberships, legacies, fundraising and charitable trading - accounted for £20.6 billion (45%) of the sector's total income.

Approximately £7.6 billion of total income was from donations, legacies accounted for just over £2.5 billion and another £10.1 billion of earned income was generated by individuals.

**Figure 15** displays annual voluntary sector income from individuals for the years 2000/01 – 2014/15. Data is broken down by earned income, donated income and legacies.

**Figure 15: Voluntary sector income from individuals 2000/01 - 2014/15**

*£m, April 2015 prices*

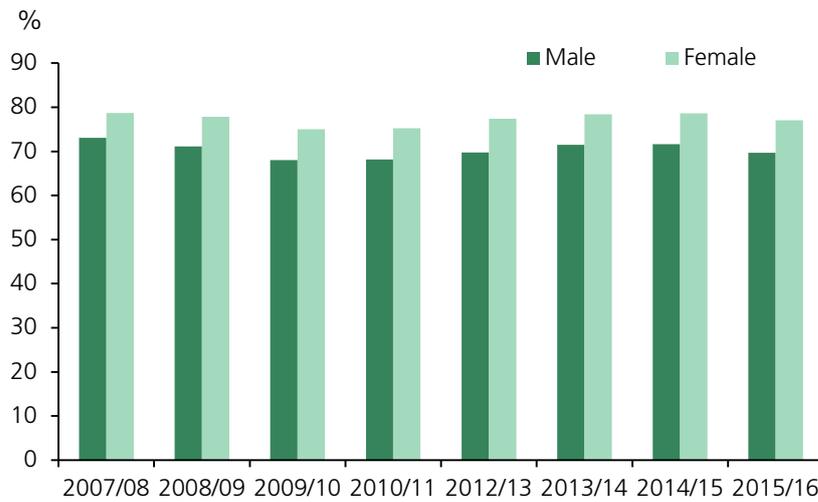


Source: [NCVO UK Civil Society Almanac 2017](#)

The Cabinet Office [Community Life Survey](#), first undertaken in 2012, provides further information on individual charitable giving; data for the years 2001 – 2017 is available from the [Citizenship Survey](#) (now amalgamated in to the Community Life Survey).

**Figure 16** shows the percentage of adults in England to have given to charity in the 4 weeks prior to survey for years 2007/08 – 2015/16. In 2015/16, 73% of individuals had given to charity in the four weeks prior to survey (77% of female and 70% of male). This was a slight decrease from 76% in 2007/08. Frequency of individual charitable giving was at its lowest (72%) in 2009/10 and 2010/11.

**Figure 16: Percentage of adults in England to have given to charity in 4 weeks prior to survey, by gender, selected years 2007/08 – 2015/16**

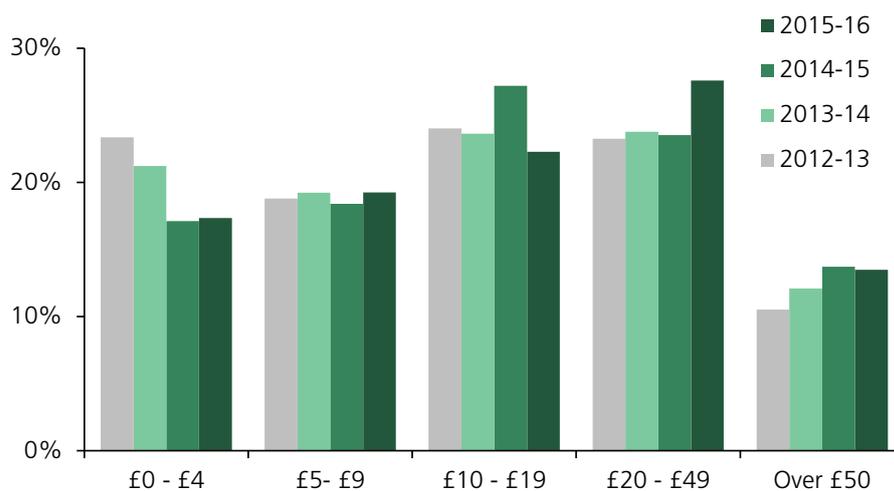


Source: Cabinet Office; [Community Life Survey 2015 to 2016](#), July 2016

In each year since 2007/08 men were on average 7% less likely to have given to charity in the four weeks prior to interview than women.

**Figure 17** indicates that, of those individuals who have given to charity in the four weeks prior to interview, 17.4% had given less than £4 and 13.5% over £50, in 2015/16. Between 2012/13 and 2015/16 the proportion of people who donated £20-£49 and over £50% has increased by 3.0 and 4.3 percentage points respectively. The share of individuals donating under £4 has fallen by 6.0 percentage points.

**Figure 17: Amount given to charity in 4 weeks prior to survey, 2012/13 -2015/16**



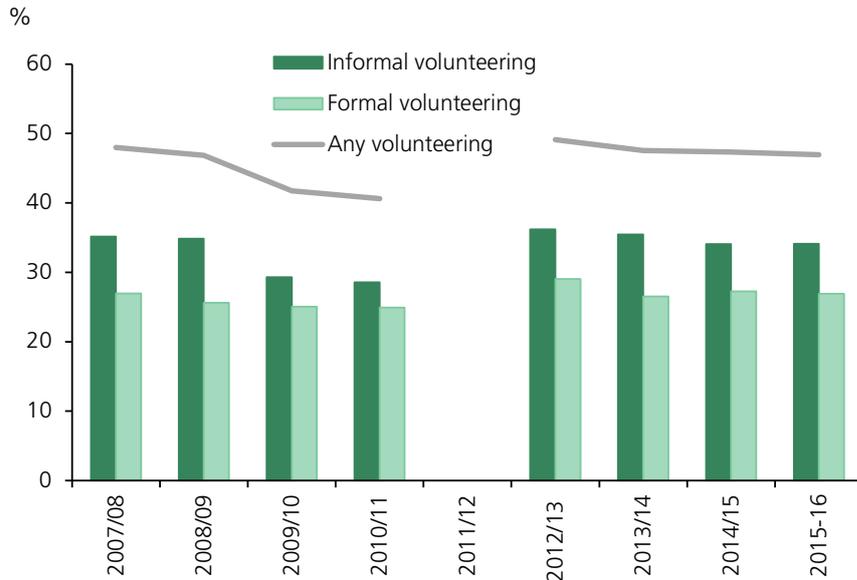
Source: Cabinet Office; [Community Life Survey 2015 to 2016](#), July 2016

## 4. Volunteering

In 2015/16, 47% of adults in England volunteered at least once a month on either a formal or informal basis according to the Cabinet Office [Community Life Survey](#). This was a similar proportion as in 2014/15 and a rise from 41% in 2010/11.

**Figure 18** provides data on estimated volunteering rates in England 2007/08 – 2011/12 and 2012/13 - 2015/16. Rates of informal volunteering in 2015/16 fell slightly to 34% from a high point of 36% in 2013/14. The proportion of people who participated in formal volunteering activities in 2015/16 was 27%. This was a 2% point decrease compared to 29% in 2013/14, but 0.3percentage points higher than in 2014/15.

**Figure 18: Informal and formal participation of adults aged 16 & over in England in voluntary activities at least once a month 2007/08 – 2010/11 and 2012/13 - 2015/16**



Sources:

For years 2007/08 – 2010/11: [Citizenship Survey](#)

For years 2012/13 – 2014/15: [Community Life Survey](#)

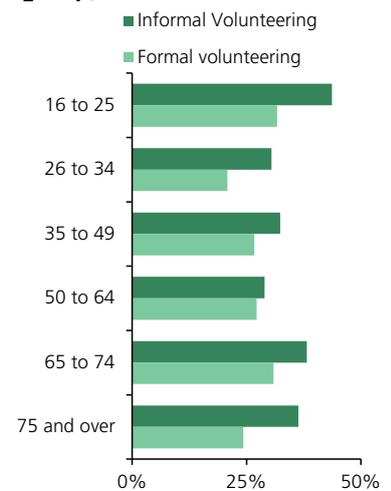
Notes

1. 'Formal volunteering' includes, among other examples, activities such as sports coaching, running of social clubs, trade union activity and education for adults.

2. 'Informal volunteering' includes, among other examples, baby-sitting, household chores on an informal basis and befriending elderly or vulnerable persons.

**Figure 19** indicates that in 2015/16, the most active age group was 16 to 25 year olds, of which 44% and 32% participated in formal and informal volunteering at least once a month respectively. Informal volunteering was the least common among 50 to 65 year olds (29%). Around 27% of people aged 35 to 64 participated in formal voluntary activities at least once a month, the lowest proportion of all age groups.

**Figure 19: Participation in formal and informal volunteering activities by age group, 2015/16**



Source:

Cabinet Office, [Community Life Survey](#)



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