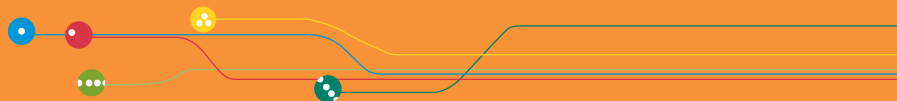


**Preliminary results of
the groundbreaking survey
on volunteer work
conducted by the
Central Statistical Office of Poland**



Europejski Rok Wolontariatu 2011

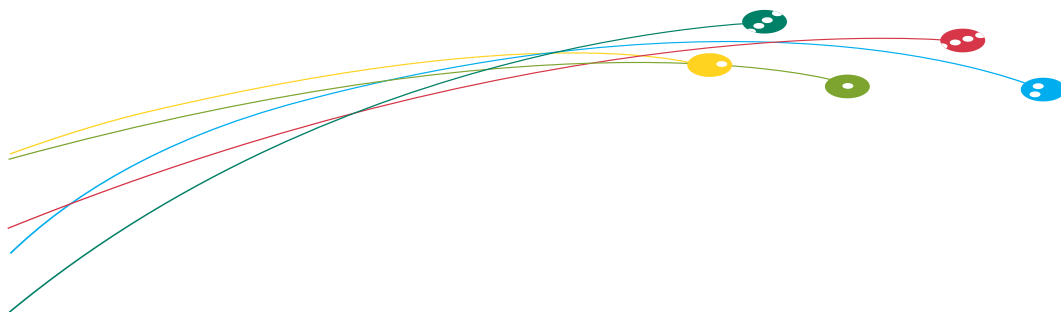


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In this booklet we present preliminary results of the Survey of unpaid work outside own household. The fieldwork was carried out in the first quarter of the year 2011 and covered a random sample of more than 13 thousand inhabitants of Poland age 15 or more.¹

WHAT WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE RESEARCH?

The survey was focused on unpaid (volunteer) work or help provided by respondents to people outside their own households, or for the benefit of the natural environment or the community. The research generated data on the number of people engaged in such activities, the volume of time devoted for their performance, as well as on characteristics of the performed work - enabling us to estimate their monetary value.

In accordance with the research methodology developed by the International Labour Organisation² two main types of unpaid volunteer work were distinguished:

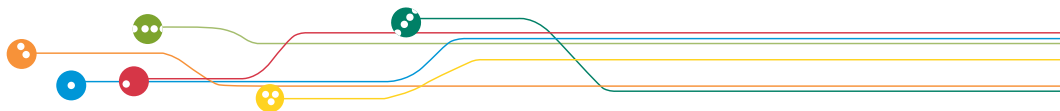
- the work carried out within the framework of an organisation, group, congregation or institution – hereafter called volunteer work through organisations,
- the work performed directly to persons, who were not members of respondent's own household (relatives, friends or strangers) or for the benefit of the natural environment/community – hereafter called (direct) unpaid work performed individually.

In the year 2010, Poles age 15 or more, who devoted their time to unpaid work outside their households worked the total of 2.5 billion hours, which translates to 1.46 million full time jobs (FTE). When compared with the total number of full time jobs in Poland's economy (13.8 million FTE) – the unpaid work represents 10.6% of this volume. Estimated monetary value of this unpaid volunteer work is 38.3 billion zloty.³

¹ The research was conducted as an extra module added to Labour Force Survey. Compiling the results on the distribution of persons volunteered in organizations we used also data gathered within Social Cohesion Survey carried out in February and March 2011 on a sample of similar size as Survey of unpaid work outside own household.

² Following the Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work (ILO, Geneva 2011) the questions in the survey module asked whether during the time period of four weeks before the interview, the respondents voluntarily and with no remuneration devoted their time for work/help to people not being the respondents' household members, for environment, for various types of organisations, religious congregations, or public institutions. In case of volunteering in organisations – also volunteering during the whole year 2010 was surveyed.

³ Preliminary estimation of the unpaid work value was made with the full replacement cost method using available CSO data. Monetary value of a given unpaid activity was assumed to be the same as average cost of employment of a worker whose job was corresponding the activity under assessment.



The vast majority of unpaid volunteer work was performed not through organizations, but individually (85%). The time devoted for such direct help was dedicated mainly to relatives or friends living outside the respondent household, and its time volume was 1.24 million FTE. The value of this work was estimated to be 29.7 billion zloty.

The volunteer work through organisations constitutes smaller, but very important part of unpaid work outside own household. The voluntary work performed in organized structures boosts the economic power and brings vitality to non-profit organizations, religious congregations and even to certain public institutions (e.g. schools). It adds up an equivalent of approximately 0.22 million full time jobs to their workforce adding the estimated value of 8.6 billion zloty.

Volume and value of unpaid volunteer work outside own household in 2010.

	Volume		Value
	million FTE jobs	compared to paid work-force ⁴ (in %)	billion zloty
TOTAL	1.46	10.6	38.3
Unpaid volunteer work performed individually (directly)	1.24	9.0	29.7
for:			
Family and friends	1.22	8.8	29.1
Strangers, natural environment or community	0.02	0.2	0.6
Volunteer work through organisations ⁵	0.22	1.6	8.6
Of which, in non-profit sector ⁶	0.17	1.3	5.6
of which in:			
associations, foundations, parents' school committees, voluntary fire brigades, sport clubs etc.	0.11	0.8	4.1
churches, religious congregations or religious organisations	0.04	0.3	1.4

The largest part of unpaid work carried out by volunteers within some kind of institutional settings (49%) took place in associations, foundations and similar organizational structures. Churches and religious organisations were the type of institutional setting with second largest share of voluntary work through organizations (20%).

It is worth mentioning that the majority of unpaid work time as well as its monetary value were contributed by women (65% and 62%). Women accounted for the majority of direct unpaid work outside their own household as well as they provided significantly more volunteering for religious congregations and organisations. On the other hand - men accounted for the majority share in volunteering time and value for associations, foundations and similar social organisations.

⁴ Average number of jobs in the national economy in 2010 (Concise Statistical Yearbook of Poland 2011, p. 143).

⁵ Volunteer work through organizations consists of unpaid work in non-profit sector organisations (including churches) as well as in public institutions, in cooperatives and in condominiums.

⁶ Non-profit sector includes – aside organisations mentioned in the table above – trade unions, political parties, professional associations, employers organizations.

WHAT KINDS OF WORK ARE INCLUDED IN THE UNPAID VOLUNTEER WORK?

Among activities performed within unpaid work outside own household the largest share corresponds to low wage occupations. More than half of the volume of all unpaid voluntary work (0.76 million FTE jobs) was spent on providing personal care services (taking care of children, elderly or sick persons). The second major type of unpaid work is the so called elementary occupations, mainly related to cleaning, shopping etc.

Major groups of occupations corresponding to activities performed as unpaid volunteer work

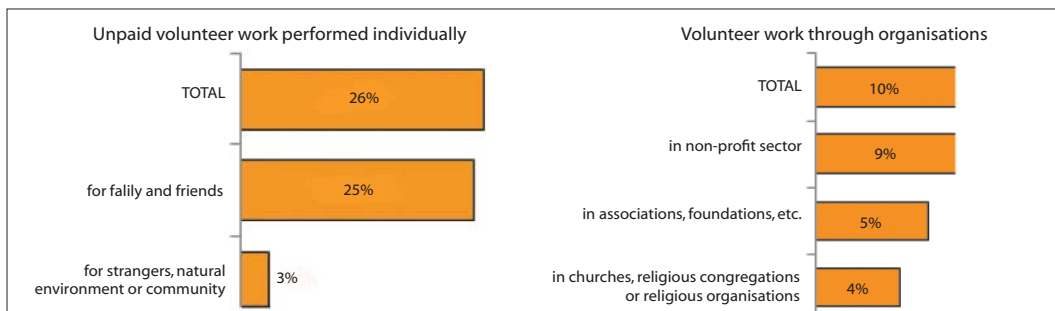
	Full time equivalent jobs	
	million	%
TOTAL	1.46	100
Of which:		
Personal care occupations	0.76	52
Elementary occupations, including cleaners and house helpers	0.15	10
Business and administration professionals and associate professionals	0.12	8
Personal service occupations, including fire-fighters	0.12	8
Craft and related trades occupations	0.10	7
Legal, social and cultural professionals and associate professionals	0.06	4


The distribution of activities performed as volunteer work through organizations differs from the general profile of unpaid work activities described above. The allocation observed for volunteering in organizations has larger shares of more specialized activities for which higher qualifications are needed – so they have higher market value (cost of employment). The largest part of volunteering in organizations accounted for activities in law, social services and culture (0.06 million FTE jobs) as well as administration and management (0.04 million FTE).

WHAT PART OF THE SOCIETY IS ENGAGED IN THE UNPAID VOLUNTEER WORK ?

The data collected in our research show, that during 4 weeks preceding the interview nearly one third of respondents were involved in unpaid work outside own household.

Population age 15 and more engaged in unpaid work outside own household by type of work within 4 weeks preceding the survey





The direct unpaid work for people, environment or community was performed by 26% of respondents, while contributing time for volunteer work through organizations, congregations or institutions was declared by 10% of the surveyed population.

Among different forms of direct unpaid work, done in 4 past weeks, most people were engaged in help for their relatives (19%) or friends (10%). The fraction of those involved in at least one of these two types of unpaid work was 25%. Much smaller part of the population spent their time on individually performed help to strangers (1%) as well as on unpaid work for environment or community (2%).

Taking into account volunteer work done in organised structures, most popular was volunteering in organisations and groups belonging to non-profit sector (9% of interviewees), and particularly in associations, foundations and similar social organizations (5%). Slightly smaller part of the surveyed population reported volunteer work in the framework of a church, religious group or organization (4%).

Direct unpaid work is more frequently met among university graduates, people doing unpaid housework, but also among those having a paid job, persons aged 45–64 and women. Less than the average participation in direct unpaid work outside own household was found among the youngest (15–17 years old) and oldest groups of respondents (65+) as well as among the disabled persons, students, and those having only basic education.

Among volunteers engaged in associations, foundations etc. there is a significant overrepresentation of well educated and young people (15–24 years old and particularly of age 15–17), students but also working population, inhabitants of bigger cities, male.

The socio-demographic profile of people, who are more often than average involved in volunteering for religious groups and organisations is quite different. Here we find overrepresentation of women, villagers, and people who are professionally inactive or belong to the oldest age group (65+). Still there are some commonalities between the profile of people doing volunteer work in religious structures and those volunteering in associations etc. This includes higher than average involvement of the well educated and the youngest respondents.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE RESEARCH DONE BY THE PUBLIC STATISTICS OF POLAND?

- For the first time in Poland large-sample data on unpaid work distribution, volume and kind of work were collected, and jointly analysed allowing for the estimation of the value of volunteer work through organizations as well as direct unpaid work for environment and people outside own household (relatives, friends, strangers).
- Central Statistical Office of Poland implemented a new comparative ILO methodology on measurement of volunteer work as the first national statistical institution in Europe, and as the second one - globally.
- The research brings a gauge of engagement in different social nets (organizations, religious congregations, relatives, friends) giving an insight on this important dimension of social capital.
- The research helps to complete estimates on volunteering in non-profit organisations contributing to the preparation of the non-profit sector satellite account.
- The research is planned to be repeated every 4 years – therefore it can be seen as a lasting legacy of the European Volunteering Year 2011.