

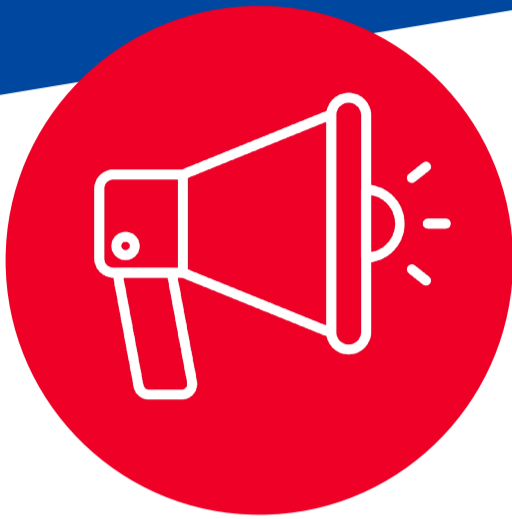
Leaders of Health Volunteer Engagement (LOHVE) Network 2022 Benchmark

(based on the 2021 calendar year)

Volunteering is a health matter. Volunteering as a health initiative offers pathways, connections and health benefits for volunteers, the patients they care for and the services they assist. COVID-19 has had significant impact, with this study revealing 84% of participating agencies had a distinct decrease in volunteer participation, the average number of volunteers dropped from 261 (2020) to 102 (2022) and the equivalent financial benefit to the State of Victoria alone has dropped from 56M in 2020 to just 15M in 2022.



In 2021, 67 agencies from VIC (48), QLD (5), WA (2), NSW (9), SA (2) and USA (1) participated in the survey.



Major Finding - this benchmark found on average for every 100 hundred volunteers recruited in the past 12 months an astonishing 382 volunteers left health volunteering. In 2020 the average figure for volunteers leaving was 92 and in both 2019 and 2018 the average figure was 80.



57% are from metropolitan organisations 28% are from regional and 15% rural organisations.

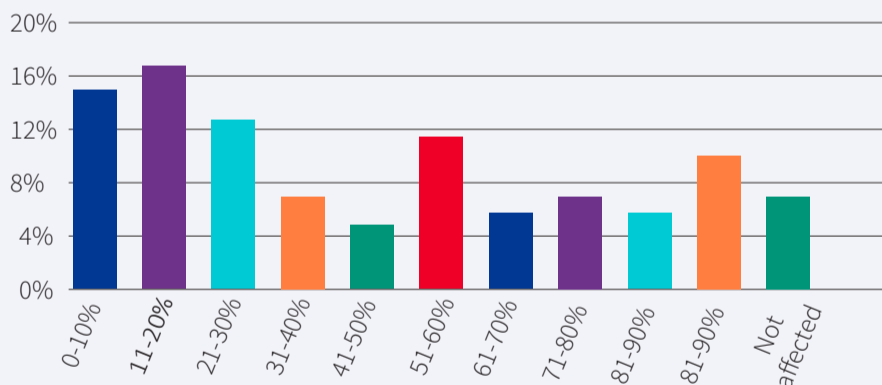


93% of organisations identified the need for volunteers via networking with staff.

COVID-19 IMPACT INFORMATION

DID THE NUMBER OF YOUR ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS INCREASE OR DECREASE DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

How much did the number of volunteers decrease?



IMPACT TO VOLUNTEER TURNOVER BECAUSE OF:

- 69% health concerns
- 46% of volunteers leaving for paid employment
- 46% volunteers taking a break from volunteering
- 52% volunteer family concerns
- 45% fear of COVID-19
- 28% leaving to assist other organisations

DUE TO COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS:

- 84% had a decrease in volunteers
- 30% didn't recruit any volunteers
- 24% were unable to recruit volunteers

DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS VOLUNTEERS WERE SUPPORTED:

- 99% by emails and letters
- 77% by phone calls
- 46% by internet video calls
- 37% by celebrations via various platforms ie. Zoom
- 21% by Facebook

BENEFITS OF THE LOHVE NETWORK

For five consecutive years 100% of responses stated that they thought the Network had been beneficial

92.5% said sharing ideas was the most useful

85.1% said providing each other support was the most useful

77.6% said sharing inspiration was the most useful

IN 2022 THE AVERAGE VOLUNTEER IS :

62.7

Years of age



21% Male



79% Female

WITH AN AVERAGE PER PARTICIPATING AGENCY OF:

102

Volunteers



7,366 hours contributed



5.74 years length of service



1.2 paid (FTE) employees in volunteer departments

The Leaders of Health Volunteer Engagement (LOHVE) Network was established in 2011 - its purpose is to support health volunteer managers and coordinators to provide well structured, integrated, inclusive volunteer programs that benefit clients, volunteers, health services and community alike. This world first longitudinal study of health service volunteer programs has been undertaken for the past nine years based on the previous calendar year.

Bendigo Health has carried out the benchmark survey on behalf of the LOHVE Network. Thank you to all participating organisations from this year and previous years. Anyone wishing to join the LOHVE Network or participate in future surveys should contact Sharon Walsh at Bendigo Health swalsh@bendigohealth.org.au

