

Charities volunteer snapshot 2025

Data is self-reported and sourced from the most recent annual returns filed with Charities Services.

More than 170,000 people volunteer a total of 1.4 million hours of their time to charities every week







Areas of operation

Auckland	14.22%
Bay of Plenty	4.31%
Canterbury	9.40%
Chatham Islands	0.04%
Gisborne	0.61%
Hawke's Bay	2.07%
Manawatu - Whanganui	3.69%
Nationwide	43.29%
Nelson - Marlborough - Tasman	2.36%
Northland	2.18%
Otago	3.71%
Southland	2.00%
Taranaki	1.78%
Waikato	3.90%
Wellington - Wairarapa	5.99%
West Coast	0.46%
International only	0.52%

Top five charities with the highest numbers of volunteers per week

1 Playcentre Aotearoa				
Registration number	Volunteers per week	Hours per week	Main sector name	Areas of operation
CC55368	14,164	45,216	Education/training / research	Nationwide
2 The Salvation Army New Zealand Group				
Registration number	Volunteers per week	Hours per week	Main sector name	Areas of operation
CC37322	5,131	20,523	Religious activities	Nationwide, Oceania, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga
3 SPCA New Zealand				
Registration number	Volunteers per week	Hours per week	Main sector name	Areas of operation
CC56833	5,000	50,000	Care/ protection of animals	Nationwide
4 Royal New Zealand Coastguard Incorporated				
Registration number	Volunteers per week	Hours per week	Main sector name	Areas of operation
CC36138	2,048	5,828	Emergency/ disaster relief	Nationwide
5 City Impact				
Registration number	Volunteers per week	Hours per week	Main sector name	Areas of operation
CC61342	1,505	5,373	Religious activities	Auckland, Canterbury, Otago, Southland, Waikato

Volunteers and volunteer hours per reporting tier

 Number of annual returns	 Average volunteers per week	 Average volunteer hours per week	 Average paid hours per week
TIER 1	TIER 1	TIER 1	TIER 1
194	16,941	216,173	3,105,608
TIER 2	TIER 2	TIER 2	TIER 2
1,477	32,463	345,533	2,578,014
TIER 3	TIER 3	TIER 3	TIER 3
9,641	64,457	516,439	1,165,291
TIER 4	TIER 4	TIER 4	TIER 4
14,438	38,982	382,664	81,760

Volunteer numbers within each main sector

