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INTRODUCTION

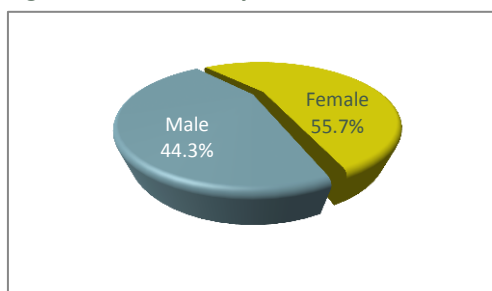
Volunteering is generally considered an activity that provides community service and is intended to promote good or improve human quality of life. In return, this activity can produce a feeling of self-worth and respect and there is no financial gain involved. Volunteering is also renowned for skill development, socialization, and fun. There are different types of volunteering work to be distinguished, such as skill-based volunteering, environmental volunteering, volunteering in emergencies, school volunteering and also community voluntary work. During the 2010 Census some questions regarding voluntary work were incorporated in the questionnaire. In this paper the data obtained will be presented in relation to the characteristics of the volunteers and the respective organizations such as the age, sex, level of education and employment status of volunteers, the frequency with which volunteers do voluntary work and the type of organization they offer their services to. It should be noted that the questions regarding volunteering were solely addressed to the population 14 years and older.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE VOLUNTEERS

Sex and age

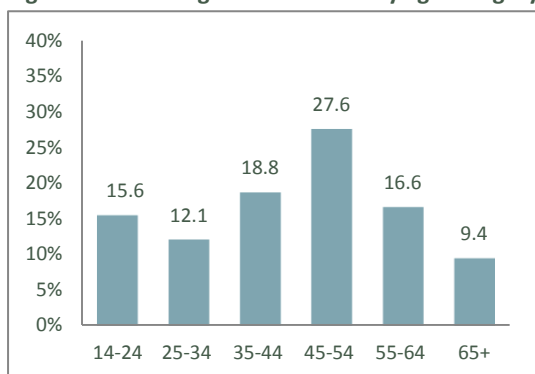
According to the 2010 Census 10.8% of the Aruban population, 14 years and older, was engaged in voluntary work (7 out of 1000 inhabitants, 14 years and older). When analysing the volunteers by sex, the differences between the sexes can be observed in figure 1, indicating that female volunteers had a higher overall percentage of involvement serving as volunteers (55.7%) compared to their male counterparts (44.3%). However when comparing both sexes with respect to the total population both displayed equal participation as volunteers (7 out of every 1000 males and 7 out of every 1000 females were volunteers).

Figure 1: Volunteers by sex, 2010



The data obtained further revealed that when analyzing the volunteers by age category, the distribution clearly shows that the majority were in the age group 45-54 years of age (figure 2).

Figure 2: Percentage of volunteers by age category



Further analyses of the participation pattern between the sexes by age category shows that female volunteers exceeded male volunteers in every age category, except in the age category 45-54 years, where the percentage was an equal 50% (figure 3). The higher percentage of female volunteers in the age group 65 years and older can be explained when taking a closer look at the employment status of the volunteers in this group. According to the 2010 Census 56.5% of the volunteers in this particular group were pensioned females, 28.3% pensioned males and 15.2% were housewives. Notable is that the majority of both male and female volunteers could be found in the ages 45-54 years. (figure 4).

Figure 3: Percentage of volunteers by age category and sex

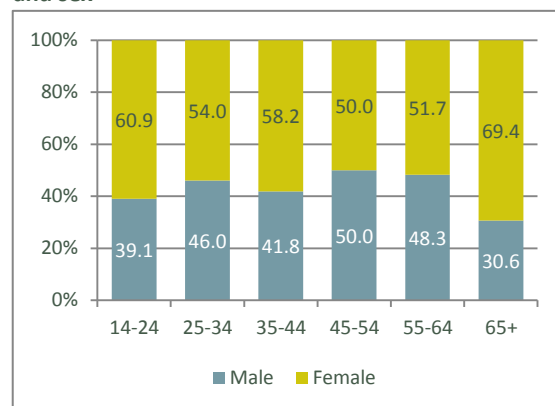
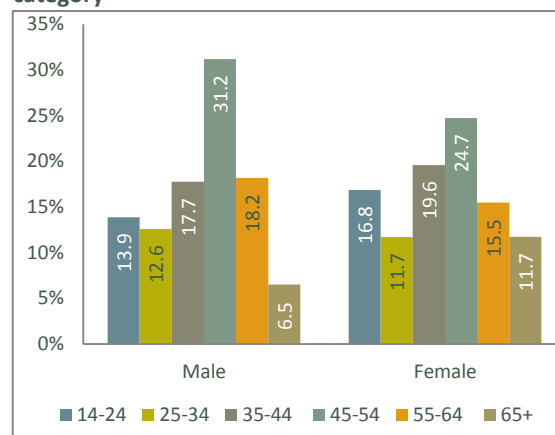
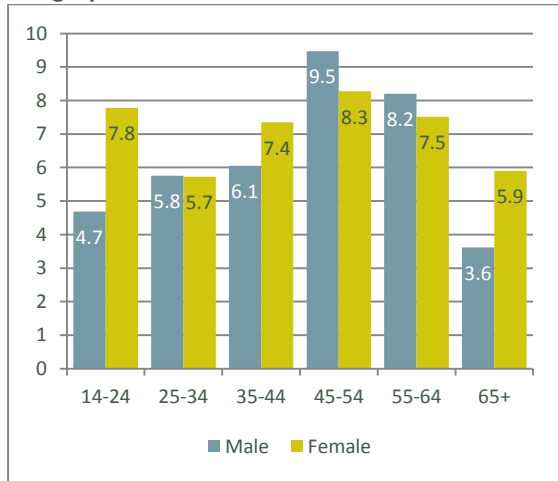


Figure 4: Proportion of volunteers by sex and age category



When analysing both sexes as a proportion with respect to the total population, figure 5 shows a slightly different view of the participation of both sexes by age category. In the age groups 45-54 and 55-64 years, male volunteers had a higher participation (respectively 9.5 out of 1000 and 8.2 out of 1000 persons) compared to female volunteers (8.3 out of 1000 and 7.5 out of 1000 persons). However in all the other age categories females were more involved in voluntary work than males.

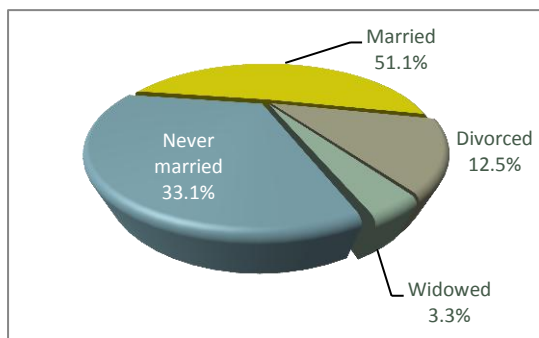
Figure 5: Volunteers per 1000 persons by age category and sex



Marital status

According to the 2010 Census, when considering the volunteers by marital status, over 51.1% of volunteers were married, 33.1% never married, 3.3% were widows/widowers and 12.5% were divorced/legally separated (figure 6). The marital status of volunteers represented more or less the same pattern compared to the total population.

Figure 6: Volunteers divided by marital status.

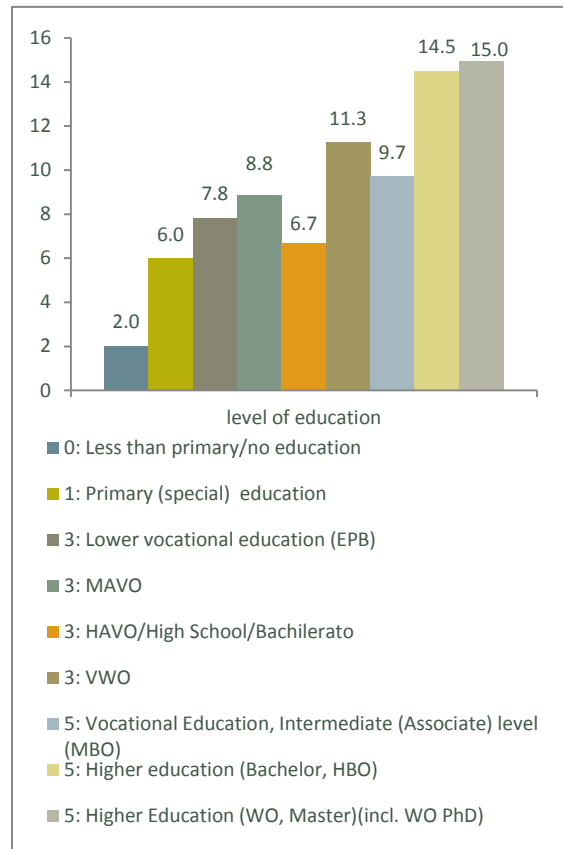


Education

Significant is that volunteers with the highest level of education (Bachelor’s degree and higher) were better represented as volunteers compared to persons with a lower level of education, considering that persons with a Bachelor’s degree or higher had the lowest representation in the total population. As indicated in figure 7, 14 out of 1000 persons with a Bachelor’s

degree (HBO level) and 15 out of 1000 persons with a Master’s degree (WO level) were volunteers.

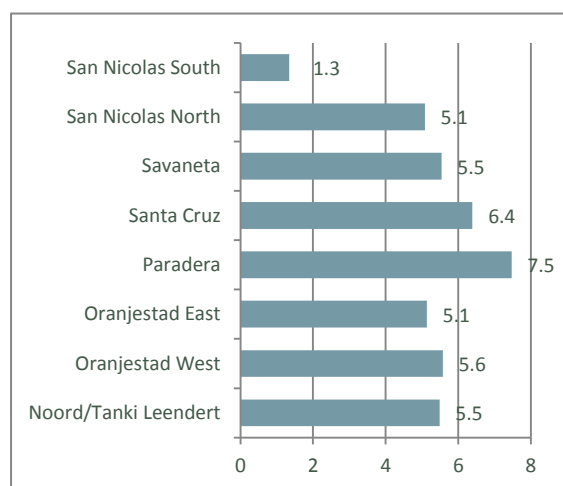
Figure 7: Volunteers per 1000 persons by highest level of education obtained



Region of residence

When analysing the volunteering population by region of residence, the 2010 Census revealed surprisingly that although Noord/Tanki Leendert had the highest number of residents compared to other zones (21.2%), the highest proportion of volunteers resided in Paradera and Santa Cruz (figure 8).

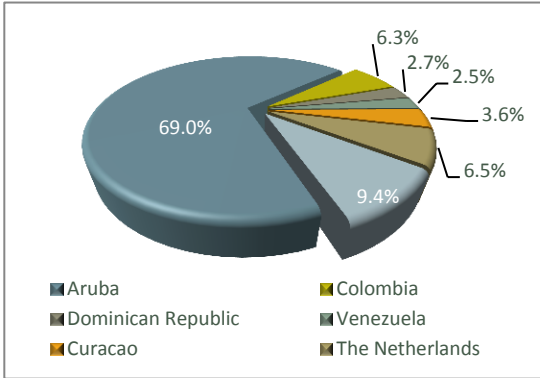
Figure 8: Volunteering population per 1000 inhabitants by zone of residence



Country of birth

Noteworthy, although not surprising is that the country of birth of the majority of volunteers was Aruba (69%), followed by The Netherlands (6.5%) and Colombia (6.3%)(figure 9).

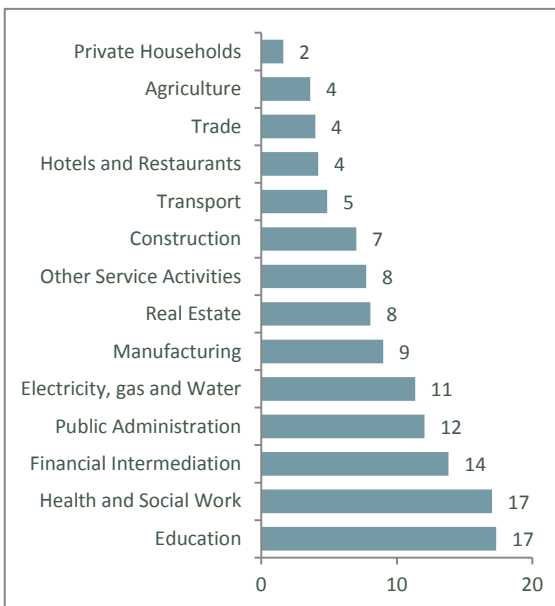
Figure 9: Percentage volunteers by country of birth



Employment status

Another characteristic worth exploring is the employment status of the volunteering population. Analyses indicated that almost two thirds of volunteers were employed (63.2%), which is higher compared to the total employed population of Aruba (51%). Notable is that volunteers working in the field of Education and Health and Social work were better represented compared to other areas of employment (figure 10).

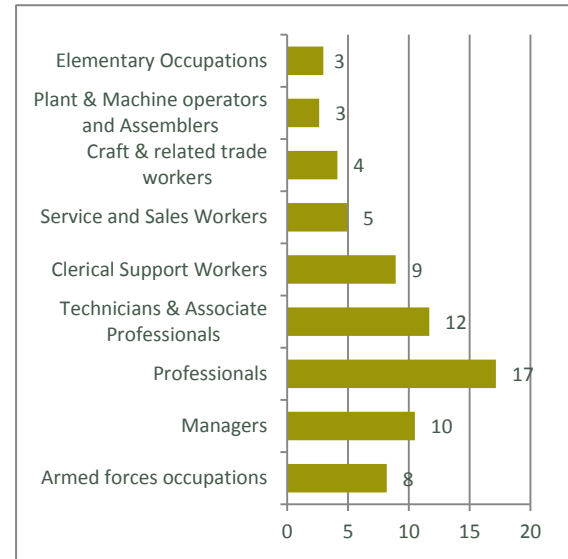
Figure 10: Employed volunteers per 1000 persons by ISIC¹



When considering the occupation of the volunteering population, figure 11 shows that volunteers employed as professionals were the largest group (17 per 1000), and volunteers working as technicians and

associate professionals were the second largest group dedicating time to volunteering work.

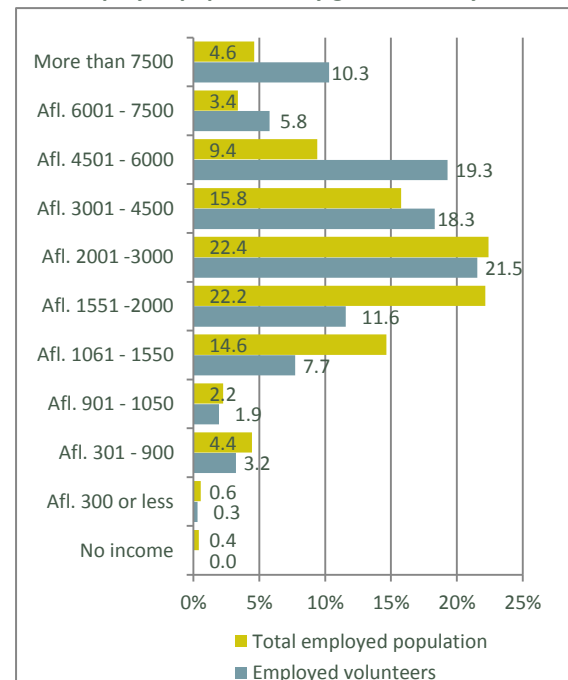
Figure 11: Employed volunteers per 1000 persons by ISCO²



Income

Regarding the gross monthly income from main job, according to the 2010 Census, when comparing employed volunteers to the total employed population 14 years and older, figure 12 illustrates that volunteers with a gross monthly income of Afl. 3001,- and higher were more involved in voluntary work compared to volunteers with a lower monthly income.

Figure 12: Percentage employed volunteers and total employed population by gross monthly income

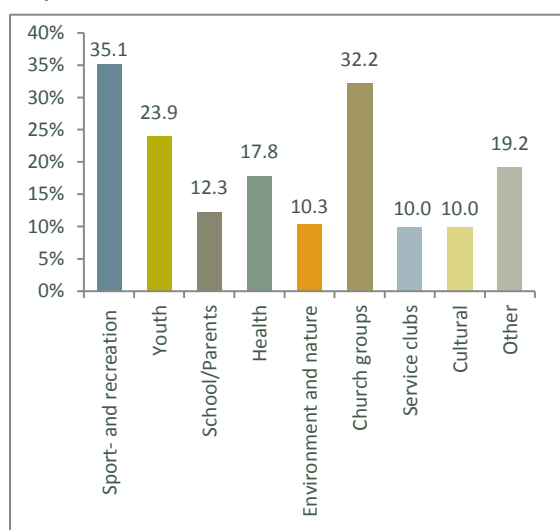


NUMBER AND TYPE OF ORGANIZATIONS

As reported earlier, according to the 2010 Census 10.8% of the population of Aruba was involved in doing voluntary work. Figure 13 shows that the majority of all volunteers indicated that they dedicated their spare time to Sports- and Recreational organizations (35.1%), followed by Church groups (32.2%), Youth organizations (23.9%), Health organizations (17.8%) and all other organizations.

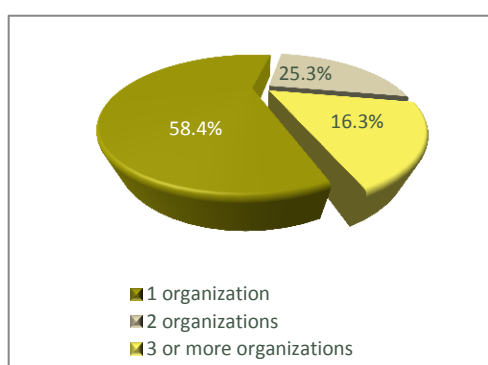
(The total does not add up to 100%, because one person can volunteer in more than one organization).

Figure 13: Percentage of volunteers by organization they serve, 2010



Most volunteers were dedicating their time to just one specific organization (58.4%), while 25.3% contributed to 2 organizations, and 16.3% were involved in 3 or more organizations (figure 14).

Figure 14: Percentage of volunteers by number of organizations, 2010



When taking a closer look at the characteristics of volunteers and the number of organizations that they contributed to, according to the 2010 Census, the majority of both male and female volunteers were involved in just one organization. Female volunteers

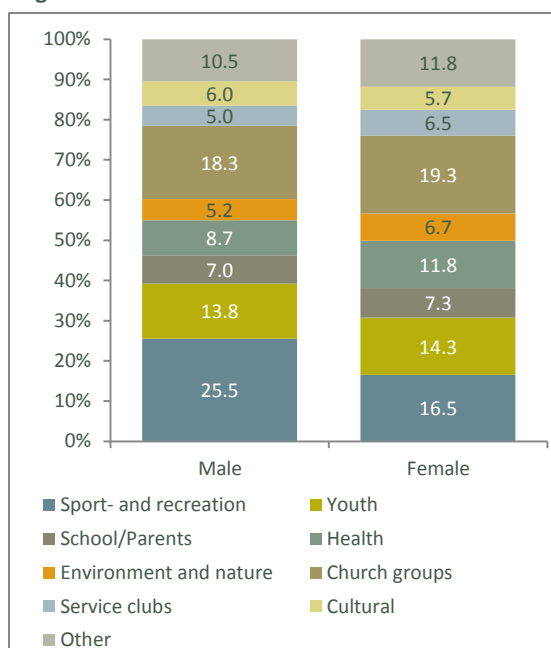
had a slightly higher percentage dedicating time to one organization (59.5%) compared to male volunteers (56.5%), although male volunteers slightly dominated when contributing to two or more organizations (figure 15).

Figure 15: Percentage of volunteers by number of organizations and sex, 2010



With respect to the number of volunteers divided by sex and type of organization that they were volunteering for, figure 16 shows a higher percentage of male volunteers in the Sports- and Recreational area (25.5%), while female volunteers served mostly in Church groups (19.3%).

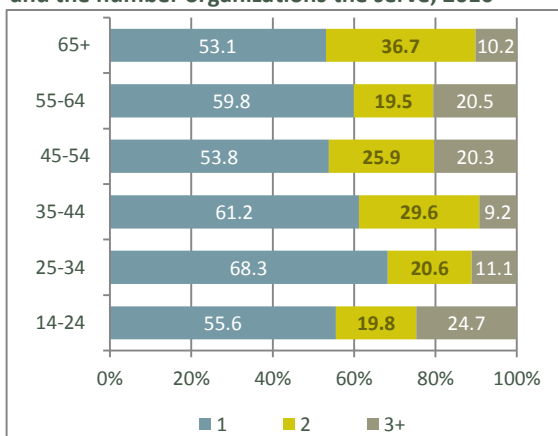
Figure 16: Percentage volunteers by sex and type of organization



Furthermore, when analysing the volunteers by age category and the number of organizations that they serve, the age group 65+ years displayed the highest percentage of volunteers contributing to 2 or more

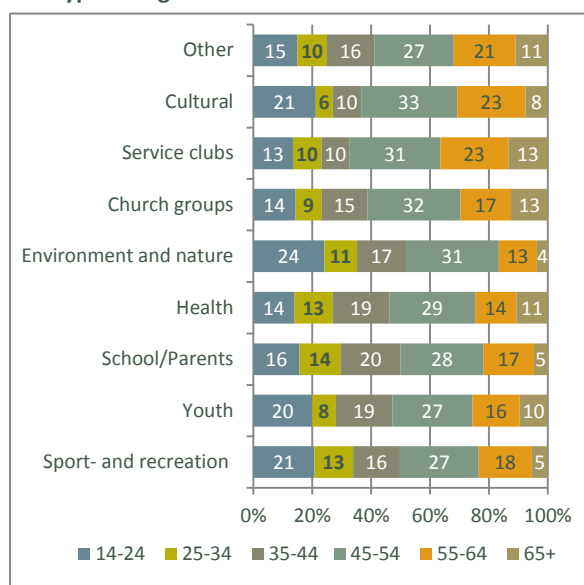
organizations. The reason for this higher percentage is probably the fact that 79% of these volunteers were pensioned and therefore had more spare time available compared to volunteers in other age groups. Similarly volunteers in the age group 14-24 years were more involved in three or more organizations when compared to volunteers in other age groups (24.7%) (figure17).

Figure 17: Percentage of volunteers by age category and the number organizations the serve, 2010



Analyses of the different age groups by type of organization that they served, indicated that volunteers in the age group 14-24 years served mostly in Environment and Nature organizations. When observing the other age groups, volunteers in age groups 25-34 years and 35-44 years served mostly in School/Parents organizations, while volunteers 45-54 years of age served predominantly in Cultural organizations. Volunteers 55-64 years of age dedicated their time mostly to Service clubs and Cultural organizations and volunteers 65 years and older were mostly involved in Service clubs and Church groups (figure 18).

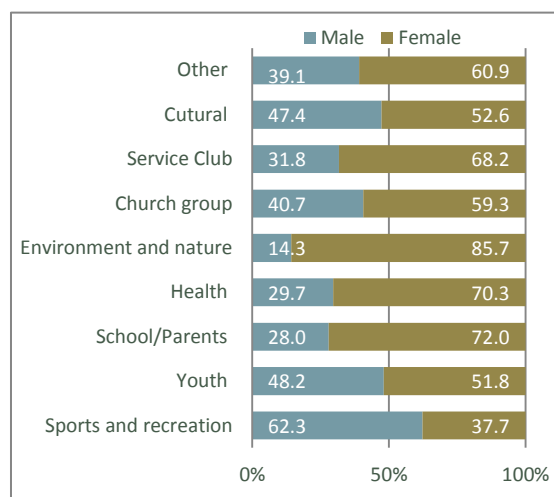
Figure 18: Percentage of volunteers by age category and type of organization



DAYS VOLUNTEERING

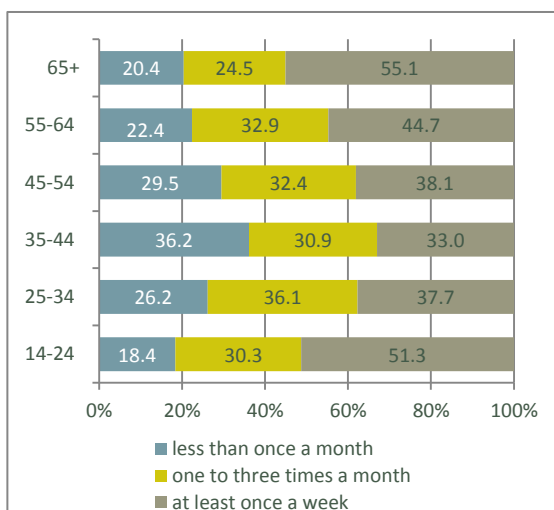
According to the 2010 Census when comparing both sexes regarding the number of days spent volunteering by type of organization, female volunteers were better represented in all but one type of organization when volunteering at least once a week. Male volunteers only surpassed their female counterparts in the Sport-and Recreational area (62.3%) (figure 19).

Figure 19: Percentage of persons volunteering at least once a week by sex and organization



With respect to the number of days dedicated to voluntary work by age of volunteers, the results of the accumulated data shows significant differences between the age categories of volunteers. Volunteers in the age category 65+ years showed a higher proportion of volunteering at least once a week (55.1%), compared to the other age groups, followed closely by the age group 14-24 years (51.3%) (figure 20). This may be a result of more available spare time in both age groups.

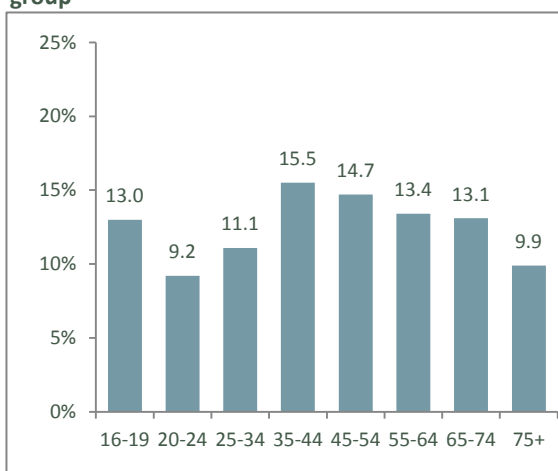
Figure 20: Percentage of volunteers by frequency volunteering by age group



VOLUNTEERING IN OTHER COUNTRIES

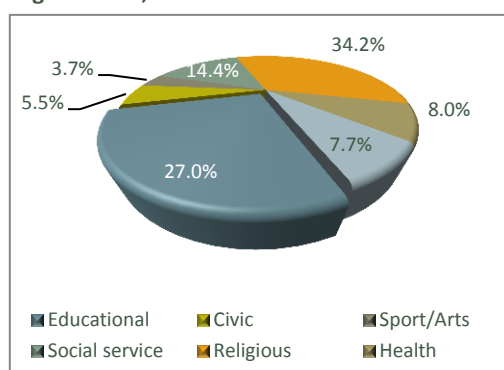
According to the Corporation for National and Community Service USA, 26% of US citizens 18 years and older were volunteers in 2012 (1 in 4 inhabitants were volunteers). The age groups and areas in which volunteers dedicated their time are shown in figures 21 and 22. As shown in figure 5 the age groups with the highest percentage of volunteers in Aruba were age groups 45-54 and 35-44. Figure 21 indicates the same trend concerning volunteers in the USA.

Figure 21: Percentage volunteers in the USA by age group



Most volunteers in the USA dedicated their time to Educational- and Religious organizations, while volunteers in Aruba did so mostly in Sports- and Recreational organizations and Church groups (figure 22).

Figure 22: Percentage of volunteers in the USA by organization, 2012

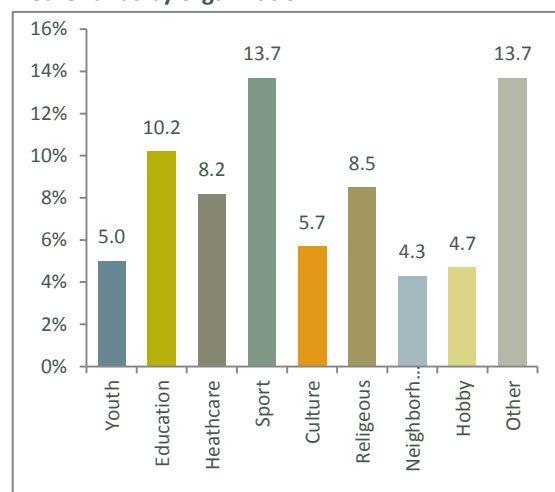


The percentage of volunteers in The Netherlands, 15 years and older, was registered at 45.1% of the total population in 2010, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics Netherlands. When divided by sex, male volunteers were registered at 45.3% and female volunteers at 44.9%.

Just like in the USA the age group with the highest percentage of volunteers (35-44 years), was also the highest in The Netherlands. In figure 23 an overview

is shown concerning the distribution of volunteers by organization. The Netherlands had more volunteers in Sports- (13.7%) and Educational organizations (10.2%), while in Aruba volunteers were mostly found in Sports- and Recreational organizations and Church groups. (Percentages in figure 23 may not add up to 45.1%, because one person can volunteer in more than one organization).

Figure 23: Percentage of volunteers in The Netherlands by organization



SUMMARY

According to the 2010 Census, 10.8% of the Aruban population (14 years and older) was engaged in voluntary work. The results further revealed that volunteers consisted of 55.7% females and 44.3% males.

Overall, female volunteers were better represented in most age groups with the exception of the age group 45-54 years, where both sexes had an equal representation.

With respect to the marital status of volunteers, over 51.1% were married, 33.1% were never married and 12.1% were divorced. Thus representing the same pattern as the marital status from the total population. Analyses further revealed that volunteers with a higher level of education were better represented compared to volunteers with a lower level of education (14 out of 1000 persons with a Bachelor's degree and 15 out of 1000 persons with a Master's degree were volunteers). Volunteers residing in Paradera and Santa Cruz were better represented doing voluntary work compared to other regions (respectively 7 out of 1000 persons and 6 out of 1000). As far as the country of birth is concerned, 69% of the volunteers were born in Aruba. Furthermore, 63.2% of the volunteers were employed, with the highest representation in the field of Education and Health and Social work. Volunteers working as professionals surpassed all other occupations where 17 out of 1000 persons

dedicated time to volunteering work. Noteworthy is that volunteers in the age group 65+ years had the highest percentage of volunteers compared to the other age groups when serving at least once a week as volunteers (55.1%). The majority of volunteers dedicated their time to Sport- and Recreational organizations (20.6%) and Church groups (18.9%). When considering the number of organizations that volunteers dedicated their time to, 57,9% indicated that they were involved in just one type of organization.

Also notable is that female volunteers had a higher percentage in all types of organizations compared to their male counterparts when volunteering at least once a week, with the exception of Sport- and Recreational organizations.

With respect to statistics on volunteering in other countries, volunteers in the USA excelled mostly in the age group 35-44 years, just like volunteers in The Netherlands. The volunteering population in the USA mostly dedicated their time to Religious- (34.2%) and Educational organizations (27.0%), compared to The Netherlands who had more volunteers in Sports- (13.7%) and Educational organizations (10.2%).

Note: ¹ ISIC, International Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities.

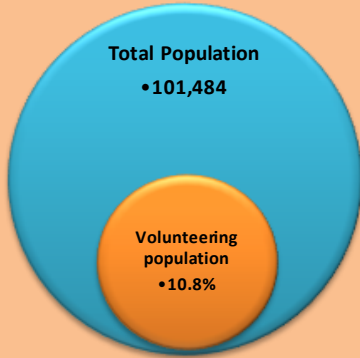
²ISCO, International Standard Classification of Occupations.

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1. Fifth Population and Housing Census 2010, Aruba.
2. www.En.Wikipedia.org
3. www.volunteeringinamerica.gov
4. www.vrijwilligerswerk.nl
5. Vrijwillige inzet 2010, Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek Nederland, september 2011

Volunteering in Aruba, 2010

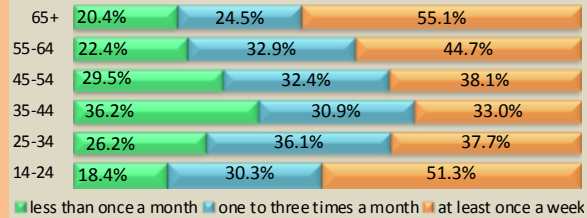
The volunteering population of Aruba, 14 years and older, according to the 2010 Census



Volunteers in the
USA 26%

Volunteers in
The Netherlands 45.1%

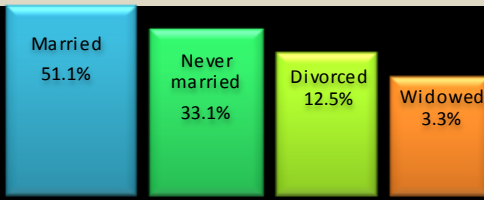
FREQUENCY VOLUNTEERING IN ARUBA



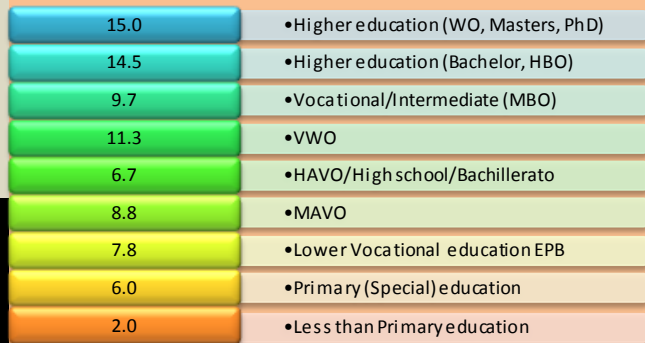
MALE 44.3%



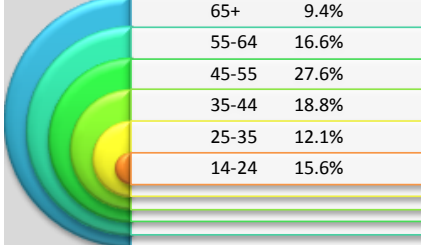
FEMALE 55.7%



PER 1000 PERSONS



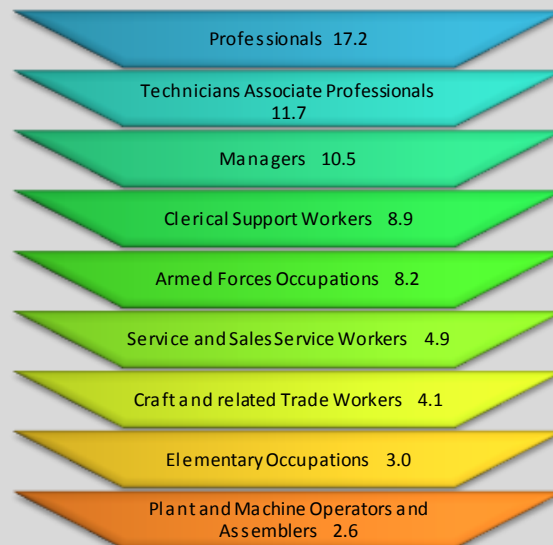
AGE



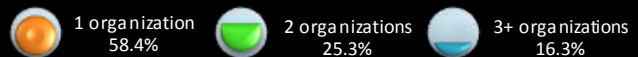
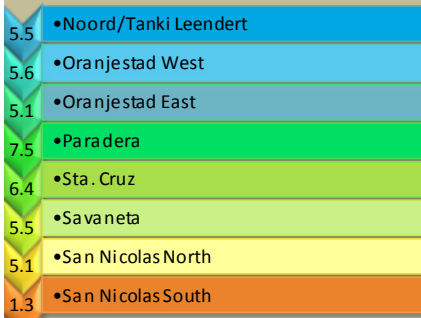
ISCO PER 1000 PERSONS



ISCO, PER 1000 PERSONS



REGION PER 1000 PERSONS



VOLUNTEERS BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH

