

# NEWS RELEASE

## Canadian generosity hits lowest point in 20 years

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For immediate release

**VANCOUVER**—The number of Canadians donating to charity—as a percentage of all tax filers—is at the lowest point in 20 years, finds a new study published by the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

“The holiday season is a time to reflect on charitable giving, and the data shows Canadians are consistently less charitable every year, which means charities face greater challenges to secure resources to help those in need,” said Jake Fuss, senior policy analyst with the Fraser Institute and co-author of *Generosity in Canada: The 2022 Generosity Index*.

The study finds that the total amount donated by Canadians during the 2020 tax year—just 0.49 per cent of income—is the lowest amount since at least 2000. Canadians’ generosity peaked at 0.72 per cent in 2006, before declining in subsequent years.

Nationally, the percentage of Canadian tax filers donating to charity has fallen from 25.5 per cent in 2000 to 19.1 per cent in 2020.

The study finds that Manitoba had the highest percentage of tax filers that donated to charity among the provinces (20.6 per cent) during the 2020 tax year while Newfoundland & Labrador had the lowest (16 per cent).

Likewise, Manitoba also donated the highest percentage of its aggregate income to charity among the provinces (0.73 per cent) while Quebec donated the lowest (0.24 per cent).

“A smaller proportion of Canadians are donating to registered charities than what we saw in previous decades, and those who are donating are donating less,” said Fuss.

“This decline in generosity in Canada undoubtedly limits the ability of Canadian charities to improve the quality of life in their communities and beyond.”

### Generosity of Canadian provinces and territories

Province/Territory (ranking in 2022 Generosity Index)	% of tax filers who claimed charitable donations	Average dollar value of all charitable donations	% of aggregate income donated to charity
<b>Manitoba</b>	20.6	\$2,398	0.73
<b>Ontario</b>	19.0	\$2,400	0.60
<b>Quebec</b>	18.7	\$840	0.24
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	18.5	\$1,567	0.47
<b>Alberta</b>	17.7	\$2,883	0.61
<b>British Columbia</b>	17.7	\$2,752	0.64
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	17.6	\$2,065	0.50
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	17.0	\$1,614	0.43
<b>New Brunswick</b>	16.1	\$1,633	0.44
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	16.0	\$1,186	0.30
<b>Yukon</b>	15.1	\$1,756	0.26
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	11.4	\$2,145	0.21
<b>Nunavut</b>	6.0	\$2,320	0.14

NOTE: Table based on 2020 tax year, the most recent year of comparable data in Canada

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Jake Fuss, Associate Director, Fiscal Studies  
Fraser Institute

*To arrange media interviews or for more information, please contact:*  
Drue MacPherson, Junior Media Relations Coordinator, Fraser Institute  
Tel: (604) 688-0221 Ext. 721  
E-mail: [drue.macpherson@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:drue.macpherson@fraserinstitute.org)

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