



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

Seniors' Contributions To Manitoba

by

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Introduction

This report is intended to provide a brief overview of the contributions to society made by Manitoba's seniors. Senior citizens are a vital part of Manitoba. They spend much time, effort and money making their communities better through volunteerism, charitable giving, civic participation, and political activism. They also contribute much to the economy through living expenditures, personal spending, and personal taxes. In addition, there are still many senior Manitobans in the paid workforce. Seniors' contributions to Manitoba deserve closer examination. This compilation gives an overview of what Manitoba's seniors contribute with a comparison to younger adults ages 45-64.

Various sources of data have been used for this report. The Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.ca) served as a valuable source of information for Census data as well as for data from Statistics Canada surveys. The data used in this report came primarily from the following Statistics Canada Surveys:

- **National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP)** – This nation-wide survey was conducted by Statistics Canada in October, November and early December of 2000. The 2000 NSGVP is based on a representative sample of 14,724 Canadians aged 15 and over who were asked how they gave money and other resources to individuals and to organizations, volunteered time to help others and to enhance their communities, and participated in the practices of active citizenship. The data were weighted to be representative of the Canadian population aged 15 and over.
- **General Social Survey (GSS): Cycle 17 – Social Engagement** – This nation-wide survey was conducted by Statistics Canada from February through December 2003. The target population is all persons 15 years of age and older in Canada, excluding residents of the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, and full-time residents of institutions. The data were weighted to be representative of the Canadian population aged 15 and over.
- **Survey of Household Spending (SHS)** – This nation-wide survey was conducted by Statistics Canada from January through March 2004. The survey covers about 98% of the population in the 10 provinces. In the Territories, coverage was restricted to 88% in the Yukon, 92% in the Northwest Territories and 89% in Nunavut.

About Seniors

- In 2001 and 2005, Manitoba's 65+ age group had a slightly higher proportion of women, while the 45-64 age group was almost equally divided between men and women.

Table 1: Gender Distribution of Manitobans in 2001 and 2005 By Age Group.

	2001		2005	
	45-64	65+	45-64	65+
Men	128,741	66,531	145,046	67,729
Women	130,459	90,660	145,691	90,860
TOTAL	259,200	157,191	290,737	158,589

Seniors in the Workforce

- In 2001, there were approximately 10,900 Manitobans aged 65+ who were still actively employed. This represented nearly 2% of Manitoba's employed labour force.
- The majority (62%) of employed seniors were still working full-time jobs.
- More than two-thirds of employed seniors were men.
- 71% of employed senior men worked full-time, while 59% of employed senior women worked part-time.

Table 2: Full Time and Part Time Status of Employed Manitobans 65+, 2001.

	Total	Men	Women
Mostly full-time	62%	71%	41%
Mostly part-time	38%	29%	59%
Number employed	10,900	7,500	3,400

Sources: Statistics Canada. (2006). Annual Demographic Statistics (Catalogue number 91-213-XIB) (Table 1.23, pp.64-65).
Ottawa, ON: Minister of Industry.

Statistics Canada. Cansim Table 282-0002 – Labour Force Survey Estimate (LFS), by Sex and Detailed Age Group, Annual (Persons x 1,000), 2001.

Volunteering

- According to the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (2000), 45,627 Manitobans aged 65+ (32%) participated in unpaid volunteer activities as part of a group or organization in the 12 month period prior to the survey. They spent close to 8.8 million hours in volunteer activities.
- Of those who volunteered, senior men spent an average of 215 hours per year in volunteer activities, compared to men aged 45-64 who spent an average of 149 hours per year. Senior women who volunteered showed a similar pattern when compared to their 45-64 year old counterparts.
- Per capita, senior men and women volunteered roughly 71 and 54 hours per year (respectively) while men and women aged 45-64 volunteered 51 and 50 hours per year (respectively).

Figure 1: Volunteer vs. Non-Volunteer Status of Manitobans By Gender and Age Group, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

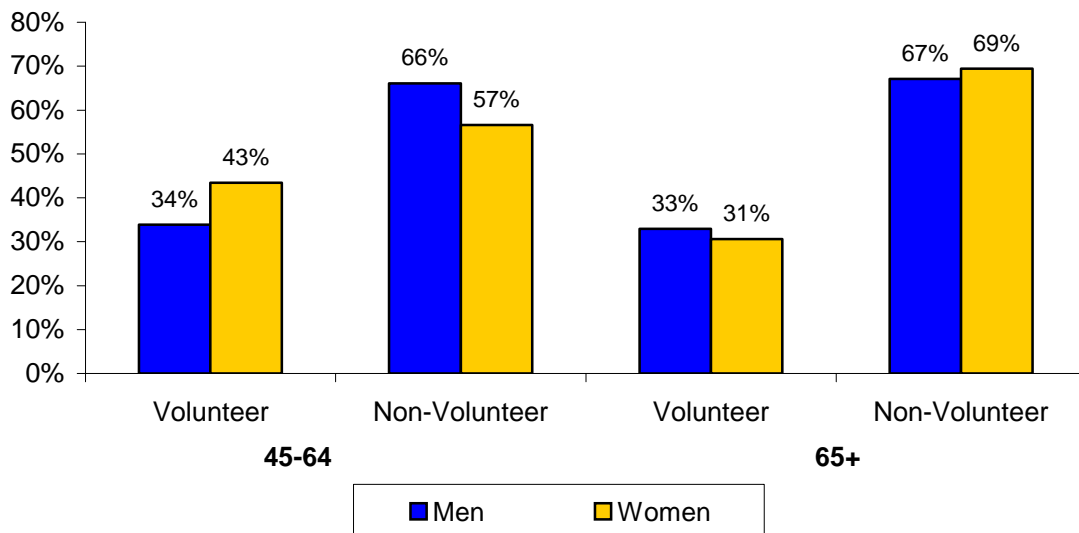


Table 3: Total and Average Number of Hours Spent Volunteering By Age Group and Gender, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

	45-64		65+	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Total Volunteer Hours (in millions) for the 12 Month Period Prior to Survey	6.2	6.1	4.4	4.4
Average Hours Per Volunteer for the 12 Month Period Prior to Survey	149	114	215	177

Source: Statistics Canada. National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP), 2000. Public Use Microdata File.

Volunteering

- 'Culture & Recreation' was the most popular domain for senior male volunteers (52%) as well as their 45-64 year old counterparts (49%).
- Senior female volunteers most often chose the domain of 'Religion' (44%) while their 45-64 year old counterparts most often chose 'Education & Research/Environmental Protection/Health' (38%).
- A large disparity existed between senior men and women in the domain of 'Education & Research/Environmental Protection/Health'. Only 6% of senior male volunteers chose to give their time here, compared to 33% of senior female volunteers.
- Other noteworthy disparities:
 - 42% of male volunteers 65+ engaged in 'Religious' activities compared to 16% of male volunteers 45-64.
 - 6% of male volunteers 65+ engaged in 'Education & Research/Environmental Protection /Health' compared to 35% of male volunteers 45-64.

Table 4: Most Popular Domains for Those Who Volunteer By Age Group and Gender, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

Domains of Volunteering	45-64		65+	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Culture & Recreation	49%	19%	52%	34%
Religious	16%	31%	42%	44%
Social Services/ Development & Housing	21%	33%	27%	34%
Education & Research /Environmental Protection/Health	35%	38%	6%	33%
Other [†]	11%	16%	23%	15%

[†] 'Other' includes Law, Advocacy & Politics; Philanthropic Intermediaries and Voluntarism Promotion; International; Business and Professional Associations & Unions; and Not Elsewhere Classified.

* Note: These percentages will not add up to 100% since people may volunteer in more than one domain.

Source: Statistics Canada. National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP), 2000. Public Use Microdata File.

Volunteering

- Among senior male volunteers, the activities most often engaged in were 'Organizing /Acting For an Organization' (48%), followed by 'Consulting, Executive, Office Work' (40%).
- The most frequently reported volunteer activity among senior female volunteers was 'Unpaid Member of Board /Committee' (52%), followed by 'Providing Support, Counseling, Care in a Hospital/Senior Citizen Home or Self Help Group' (50%).
- Some notable disparities include:
 - 32% of senior male volunteers engaged in 'Maintaining, Repairing, or Building Facilities' compared to only 9% of senior female volunteers. This pattern is similar for 45-64 year olds.
 - 50% of senior female volunteers engaged in 'Providing Support, Counseling, Care in a Hospital /Senior Citizen Home or Self Help Group' compared to 30% of senior male volunteers.

Table 5: Activities in Which Manitoba Volunteers Most Often Engage By Age Group and Gender, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

Volunteer Activities	45-64		65+	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Organize /Act For an Organization	58%	46%	48%	45%
Consulting, Executive, Office Work	39%	27%	40%	21%
Unpaid Member of Board /Committee	59%	44%	39%	52%
Canvassing /Campaigning /Fundraising	33%	50%	34%	48%
Maintain, Repair, or Build Facilities	25%	8%	32%	9%
Provide Support, Counseling, Care in a Hospital/Senior Citizen Home or Self-Help Group	29%	32%	30%	50%
Volunteer Driving	14%	18%	28%	14%
Collect /Serve /Deliver Food or Goods	17%	23%	23%	40%
Environmental Protection	14%	10%	20%	7%
Educate /Influence Public Opinion	32%	33%	19%	28%
Teach or Coach for an Organization	22%	22%	9%	9%
First Aid, Fire-Fighting /Other [†]	18%	26%	11%	28%

[†] 'Other' includes activities not elsewhere classified.

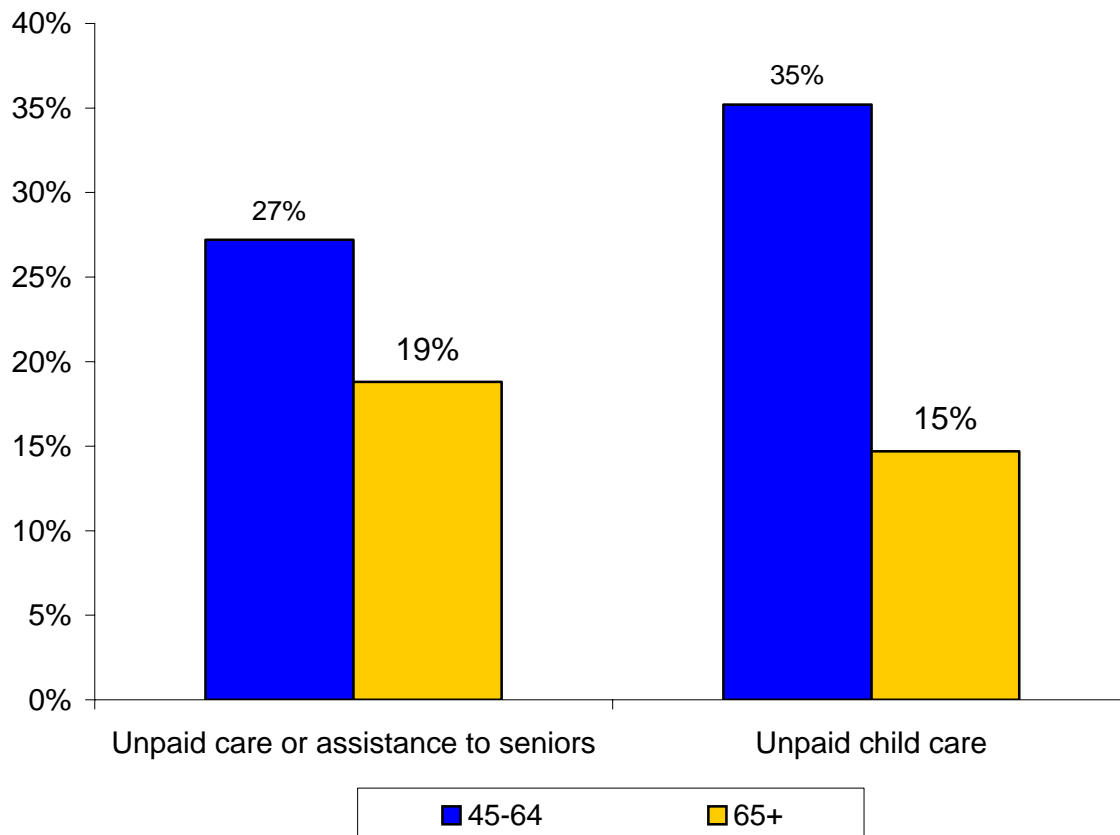
* Note: These percentages will not add up to 100% since people may engage in more than one kind of activity.

Source: Statistics Canada. National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP), 2000. Public Use Microdata File.

Unpaid Help and Caregiving

- According to the 2001 Census of Canada, many Manitoba seniors spent time and effort helping others every week without pay.
- 27,380 seniors (19% of Manitoba’s senior population) assisted or gave some form of care to other seniors in the last week prior to the survey. Of these, 3,330 seniors spent 20 hours or more that week doing this type of unpaid work.
- 21,370 seniors (15%) spent time taking care of children in the last week prior to the survey. Of these, 1,045 seniors spent 60 hours or more that week in this valuable work.

Figure 2: Proportion of Manitoba Seniors Who Engage in Unpaid Helping and Caregiving, Manitoba, 2001.



Source: Unpaid Work (20), Age Groups (7) and Sex (3) for Population 15 Years and Over, for Canada, Provinces, Territories and Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order), 2001 Census – 20% Sample Data. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, May 14, 2003. 2001 Census of Canada. Catalogue number 95F0390XCB2001003.

Charitable Giving

- According to the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (2000), 83% of Manitoba's seniors (119,423 people) gave charitable donations in the 12-month period prior to the survey. Their donations totaled nearly \$67.5 million.
- Comparatively, 90% of Manitobans aged 45-64 (222,563 people) gave charitable donations equaling roughly \$87.6 million.
- On average, senior male givers donated the most (\$637) followed by senior female givers (\$507).
- Senior Manitobans gave more money per capita than Manitobans in any other age group.

Figure 3: Proportion of Manitobans Who Made a Charitable Donation By Gender and Age Group, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

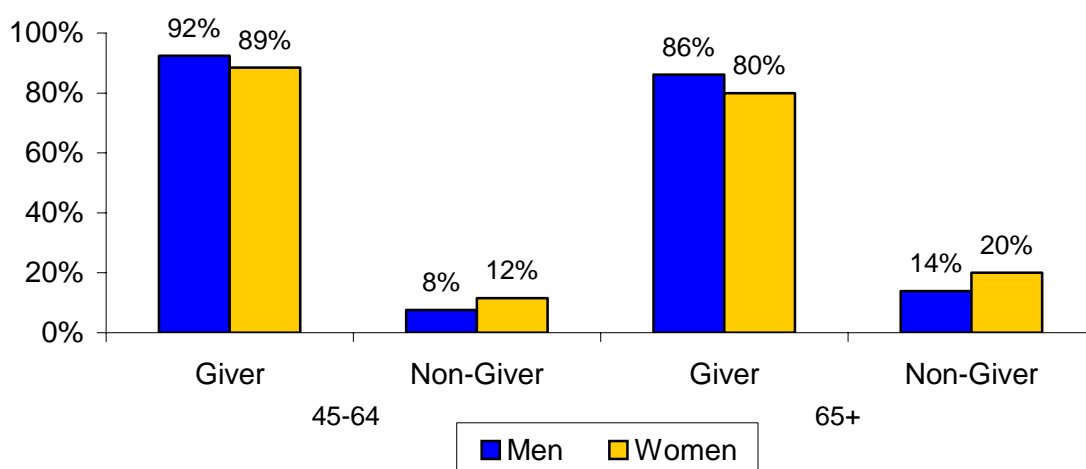


Table 6: Dollars Given in Charitable Donations By Age Group and Gender, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

	45-64		65+	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Total Donations (in millions) Over the 12 Months Prior to the Survey	\$39.8	\$47.8	\$34.3	\$33.2
Average Donation Per Giver Over the 12 Months Prior to the Survey	\$353	\$435	\$637	\$507
Average Donation Per Capita Over the 12 Months Prior to the Survey	\$326	\$385	\$548	\$406

Source: Statistics Canada. National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP), 2000. Public Use Microdata File.

Charitable Giving

- In Manitoba, both men and women aged 65+ and 45-64 gave the vast majority of their charitable donations to 'Religion'.
- Senior men gave \$23.3 million to 'Religion', with an average donation per giver of \$637 per year. Senior women gave \$16.4 million, with an average of \$417.
- Comparatively, men and women 45-64 years old gave \$18.0 and \$23.6 million (respectively), while their average donation value was nearly equal (\$442 and \$447 respectively).
- Some large differences exist:
 - Senior men gave more money in total and on average to 'Education & Research /Environmental Protection /Health' than senior women.
 - Senior women gave a much higher proportion of their donation dollars to 'Other' domains than senior men (see footnote[†]).

Table 7: Total Amount of Donations (in millions) and Average Annual Donation Per Giver By Age Group and Gender, NSGVP, Manitoba, 2000.

Domains of Charity	45-64		65+	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
<i>Religion</i>				
Total \$ (in millions) Per Year	\$18.0	\$23.6	\$23.3	\$16.4
Avg. \$ Per Giver Per Year	\$442	\$447	\$637	\$417
<i>Education & Research /Environmental Protection/Health</i>				
Total \$ (in millions) Per Year	\$8.9	\$10.9	\$7.2	\$4.7
Avg. \$ Per Giver Per Year	\$94	\$112	\$149	\$93
<i>Social Services /Development & Housing</i>				
Total \$ (in millions) Per Year	\$4.0	\$2.4	\$2.2	\$3.1
Avg. \$ Per Giver Per Year	\$69	\$46	\$61	\$90
<i>Culture & Recreation</i>				
Total \$ (in millions) Per Year	\$4.2	\$0.7	\$0.9	\$2.1
Avg. \$ Per Giver Per Year	\$157	\$34	\$128	\$130
<i>Other[†]</i>				
Total \$ (in millions) Per Year	\$4.7	\$10.2	\$0.8	\$6.9
Avg. \$ Per Giver Per Year	\$137	\$257	\$83	\$416

[†] 'Other' includes Law, Advocacy & Politics; Philanthropic Intermediaries and Voluntarism Promotion; International; Business and Professional Associations & Unions; and Not Elsewhere Classified.

Source: Statistics Canada. National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP), 2000. Public Use Microdata File.

Civic Participation

- According to the General Social Survey on Social Engagement (2003), roughly half (76,440 or 53%) of senior Manitobans belonged to a formal organization in the 12 months prior to the survey.
 - 31,074 men 65+ (51%)
 - 45,366 women 65+ (54%)
- Comparatively, close to two-thirds (179,357 or 66%) of Manitobans aged 45-64 belonged to a formal organization.
 - 93,852 men 45-64 (69%)
 - 85,505 women 45-64 (63%)
- 56% of Manitoba's senior civic participants belonged to at least 2 formal organizations. This is a slightly smaller proportion than for civic participants 45-64 years old (63%).
- Of senior men who are civic participants, most (58%) belonged to 'Sports or Recreation, School /Neighborhood /Civic or Community Associations, or Other' such types of organizations.
- The vast majority (71%) of senior women who are civic participants belonged to 'Religious-Affiliated' groups.
- The most popular types of formal organizations for 45-64 year old men and women are 'Service Clubs, Unions or Professional Associations, or Political Parties'.

Table 8: Activities of Manitoba Civic Participants By Age Group and Gender, GSS-17, Manitoba, 2003.

Type of Formal Organization	45-64		65+	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Sports or Recreation, School/ Neighborhood /Civic or Community Association, or other not mentioned	62%	58%	58%	45%
Service Club; Union or Professional/ Fraternal Association; Political Party	70%	61%	48%	37%
Religious-Affiliated Group	35%	41%	44%	71%
Cultural, Educational or Hobby Organization	22%	38%	34%	33%

* These percentages will not add up to 100% since people may belong to more than one organization.

Source: Statistics Canada. General Social Survey (GSS), Cycle 17: Social Engagement (2003). Public Use Microdata File.

Voting and Political Activism

- According to the General Social Survey on Social Engagement (2003), 88% of Manitoba's seniors (127,050 people) were politically active in the 12 months prior to the survey. Of these, 125,634 were voters.
- Comparatively, 93% of Manitobans aged 45-64 (253,679 people) were politically active. Of these, 243,093 were voters.
- Nearly one-fifth (19%) of all Manitoban voters were seniors, and more than four-fifths of seniors voted federally and provincially.

Figure 4: Proportion of Manitoba Voters By Age Group, GSS-17, Manitoba, 2003.

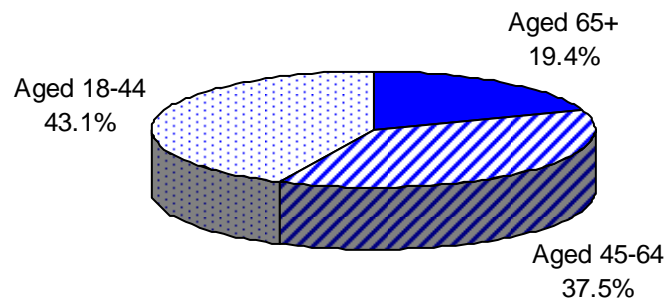
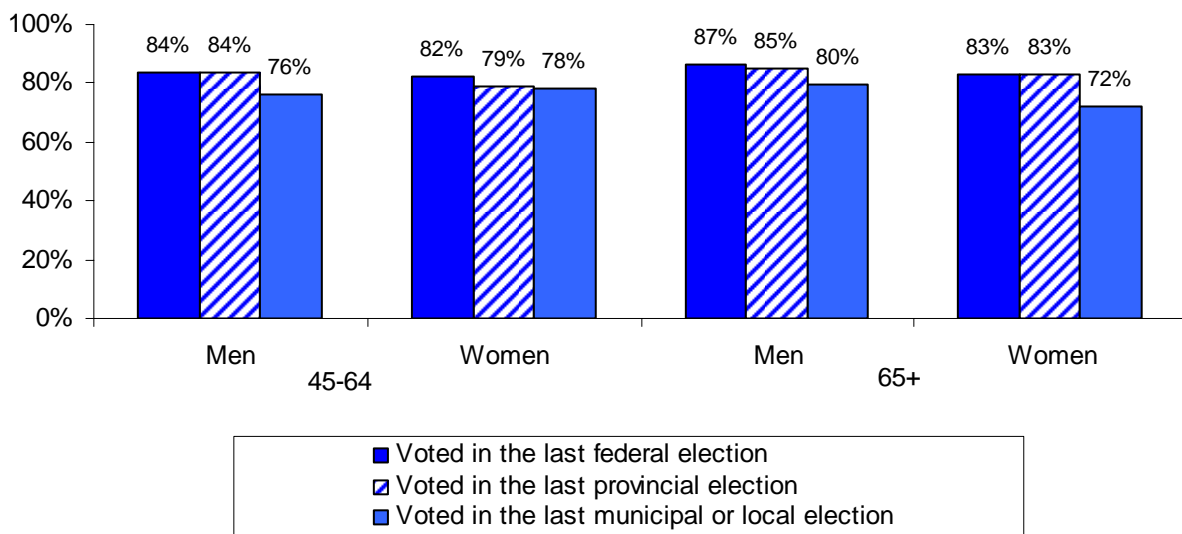


Figure 5: Voting Patterns: By Age Group and Gender, GSS-17, Manitoba, 2003.

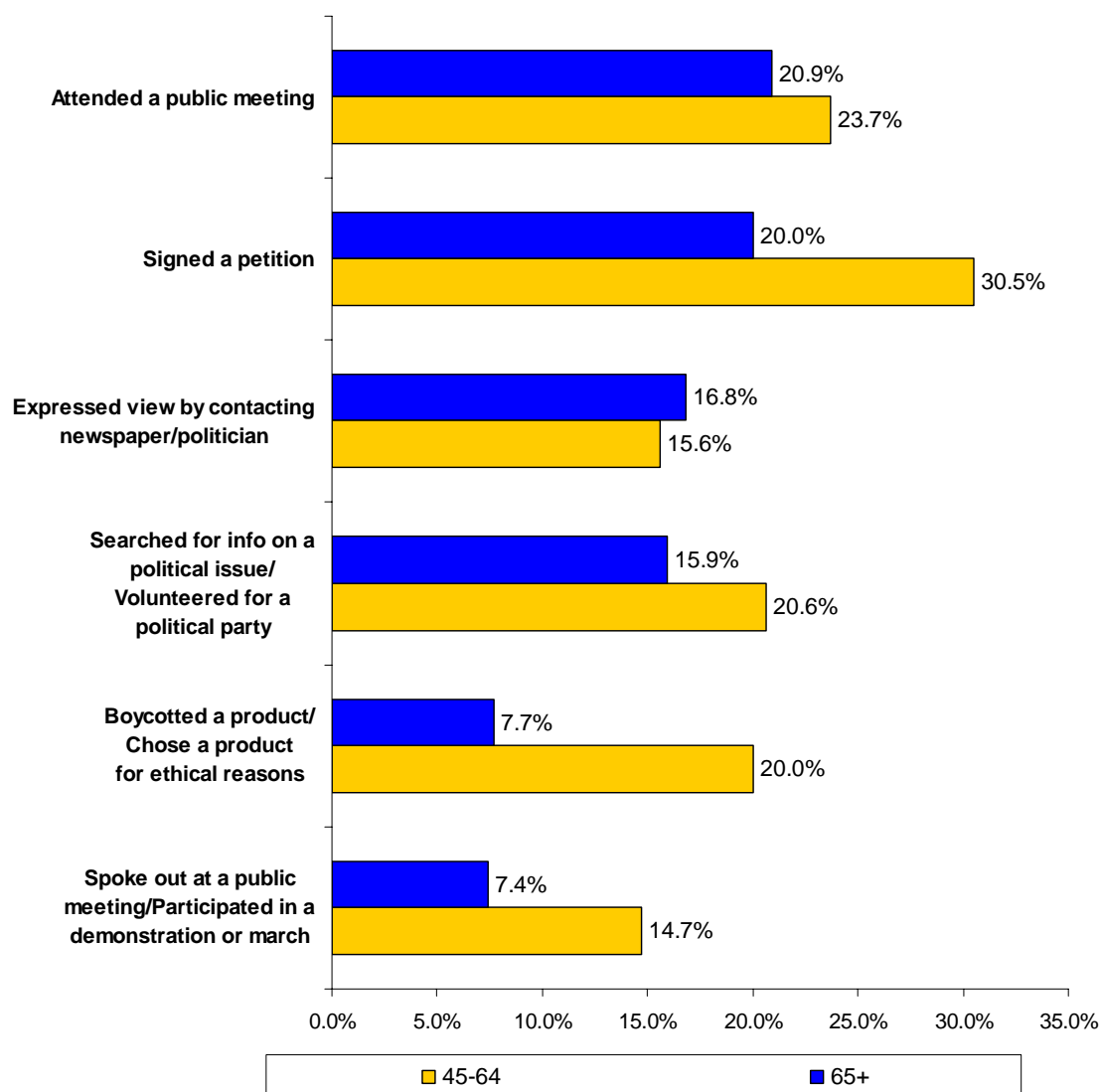


Source: Statistics Canada. General Social Survey, Cycle 17: Social Engagement (2003). Public Use Microdata File.

Voting and Political Activism

- According to the General Social Survey on Social Engagement (2003), many Manitoba seniors were politically active in the 12 months prior to the survey (see footnote*).
- Other than voting, the most popular activities of politically active seniors were:
 - Attending public meetings (21%)
 - Signing petitions (20%)
 - Expressing views by contacting newspaper /politician (17%). This is the only activity in which seniors slightly surpassed the 45-64 age group.

Figure 6: Activities of Those Who Are Politically Engaged By Age Group, GSS-17, Manitoba, 2003.



* These percentages will not add up to 100% since people may be politically active in more than one way.

Source: Statistics Canada. General Social Survey, Cycle 17: Social Engagement (2003). Public Use Microdata File.

Consumerism

- According to the Survey of Household Spending (2003), 49.8% of senior Manitoban households (46,731) were one-person households, while 50.2% (47,035) were multiple-person households.
- Senior Manitobans in one-person households had an average annual expenditure of \$20,510. They spent an average of \$1717 on personal taxes (8% of their total expenditure) and \$1594 on gifts of money and contributions (8% of total expenditure).
- Comparatively, senior Manitobans in multiple-person households had an average annual expenditure of \$40,975. They spent an average of \$5822 on personal taxes (14% of total expenditure) and \$2966 on gifts of money and contributions (7% of total expenditure).
- Senior Manitobans in one-person households spent a much larger proportion of their annual expenditure on shelter than did their counterparts in multiple-person households (28% compared to 17%).
- Proportionate costs for food and transportation were similar for both types of households.

Figure 7: Expenditures of Manitobans 65+ in One-Person Households, SHS, Manitoba, 2003.

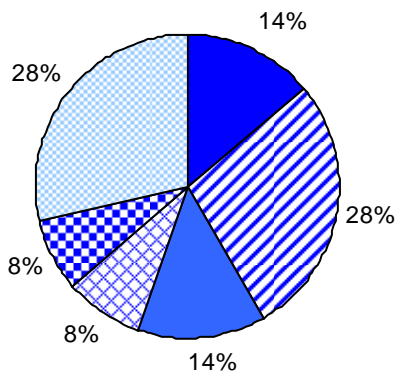
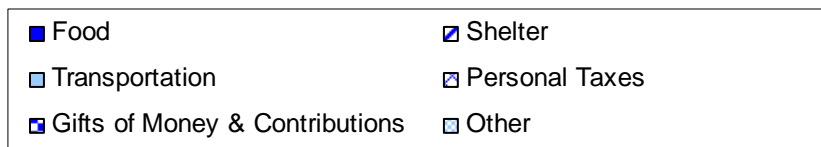
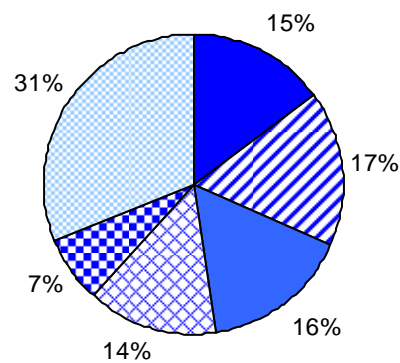


Figure 8: Expenditures of Manitobans 65+ in Multiple Person Households, SHS, Manitoba, 2003.



Source: Statistics Canada. Survey of Household Spending (SHS), 2003. Public Use Microdata File.