

# NEWS RELEASE

## Atlantic Canadians among least generous nationwide

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For immediate release

**HALIFAX**—The amount Atlantic Canadians donate to charity—as a percentage of their income claimed on their taxes—is among the lowest in the country, 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 Atlantic Canadians are less charitable than other Canadians, which means charities in the region face greater challenges to secure resources to help those in need,” said Jake Fuss, associate director of fiscal studies at 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 to 19.1 per cent over the past two decades. Newfoundland & Labrador has the smallest proportion of tax filers donating to registered charities among provinces at 16 per cent, followed closely by New Brunswick at 16.1 per cent, and Nova Scotia at 17 per cent.

Likewise, Prince Edward Island experienced a significant drop in charitable giving between 2010 and 2020, decreasing by 26.8 per cent, with Newfoundland & Labrador experiencing the largest decrease in the share of income donated over the last decade among the provinces (30.8 per cent).

“This year, a smaller proportion of Atlantic Canadians are donating to registered charities than other Canadians, 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


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