

**Comparing the Satellite Account and the National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations with CPRN’s Mapping of the Non-Profit Sector**

As a first step in CPRN’s recent series on human resources in the non-profit sector, Grant Schellenberg and Kathryn McMullen mapped data from the *Business Register* and the *Workplace and Employee Survey* to examine the size of the sector (number of establishments, number of paid employees, payroll, etc.). How do the CPRN data compare with those of recently released *Satellite Account of Nonprofit Institutions and Volunteering* (Satellite Account) and the results of the *National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations* (NSNVO)? The summary chart below and the questions and answers that follow it provide a guide to comparing the datasets and provides some explanation for the discrepancies in the data results between them.

	<b>CPRN WES Analysis</b>	<b>NSNVO/Satellite Account</b>
<b><i>Survey Results</i></b>		
Payroll expenditures	\$22.1 billion in non-profit <u>\$42.0 billion in quango</u> \$64.1 billion total	\$53 billion – Satellite Account
Number of non-profit orgs	58,100 non-profit <u>5,400 quango</u> 63,500 total	161,227 – NSNVO
Number of non-profit paid employees	891,000 non-profit <u>1,347,100 quango</u> 2,238,100 total	2,031,744 - NSNVO
<b><i>Survey Methodology</i></b>		
Year of data collection	1999	NSNVO – 2003 Satellite Account – 1997 to 1999
Regions	Does not include the territories	All of Canada
Include orgs with no paid staff?	No	Yes
Include primary and secondary schools?	Yes	Public schools excluded.
Include religious organizations?	No	Yes
Data source	Statistics Canada’s <i>Workplace and Employee Survey</i> (WES)	<i>National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations</i> (NSNVO), <i>Satellite Account of Nonprofit Institutions and Volunteering</i> (Satellite Account)

### **Why the discrepancy in payroll expenditures?**

According to Statistics Canada's *Satellite Account of Nonprofit Institutions and Volunteering* (Satellite Account), in 1999, current spending by non-profit organizations totalled \$95.1 billion. Compensation of employees was the largest total expenditure, accounting for 57% of the total. This represents approximately **\$53 billion** in payroll expenditures in the non-profit sector according to the Satellite Account. To compare this to the CPRN figures, we need to sum the CPRN figure of \$22.1 billion in non-profit sector payroll expenditures with that of \$42 billion for the quango sector (quasi non-governmental organizations), because most quangos (namely, hospitals, universities and colleges) are included in the Satellite Account. The resulting figure in the CPRN analysis, **\$64.1 billion**, is larger than that for the Satellite Account. However, the CPRN figures from the WES include paid employees in public primary and secondary schools that the Satellite Account figures do not. (A difference in the opposite direction, but a much smaller one, is that the CPRN data from the WES exclude religious organizations, unlike the Satellite Account.)

### **Why the discrepancy on the number of non-profit organizations?**

According to the *National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations* (NSNVO), there are 161,227 non-profit and voluntary organizations in Canada. This compares with the CPRN figure of 58,100 non-profit establishments. If we include the 5,400 quango organizations (e.g. hospitals, universities and colleges) identified by the CPRN WES analysis (as does the NSNVO statistics), then there were **63,500** non-profit establishments in Canada based on the WES data.

The large difference between the NSNVO figures and the CPRN data from the WES is likely explained by the fact that the WES includes only organizations with paid staff, whereas the NSNVO includes all-volunteer organizations with and without paid staff. According to the NSVNO, only 46% of non-profit and voluntary organizations employ any staff. This would suggest that there are approximately 74,000 non-profit organizations that have paid staff (46% multiplied by 161,227). In other words, there is a variance of approximately 10,000 in terms of the number of non-profit organizations reported in the CPRN WES analysis and the figures reported in the NSNVO.

This final discrepancy is likely explained by the fact that the NSNVO figure also includes religious organizations which the CPRN numbers do not. Also, the CPRN figures include primary and secondary schools in their count of the number of non-profit organizations, whereas the NSNVO numbers do not.

### **Why the discrepancy on the number of paid employees?**

According to the *National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations* (NSNVO), there are 2,031,744 paid staff members in non-profit organizations in Canada. This NSNVO figure includes an estimated 109,307 paid employees in religious organizations that the CPRN figures do not. If we take out paid employees in religious organizations, the NSNVO estimate of paid employees in the non-profit sector becomes **1,922,437**.

This compares with a figure of 891,000 paid employees in non-profits in Canada according to the CPRN WES analysis. If we add in employees in the quango sector (e.g. hospitals, universities and colleges), then there were **2,238,100** paid employees in the non-profit sector (including quango) in Canada in 1999. These CPRN figures from the WES include paid employees in primary and secondary schools that the NSNVO figures do not, which likely explains most of the remaining discrepancy (approximately 315,000 paid employees).

### **Other General Comments**

Differences in the years data were collected as well as the various survey methodologies used in these respective studies may also explain the discrepancies in data reported above.