

Resourcing our Cultural Heritage Institutions

The VHRP Survey 2021

Survey respondents are predominately non-profit, non-governmental entities that rely on volunteers for essential work.



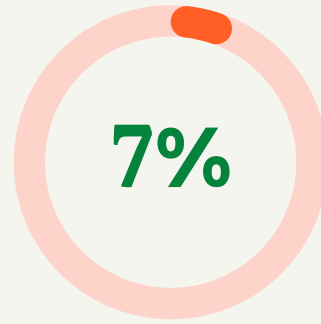
Non-Profit

Over half of respondents are non-profit, non-governmental entities



Municipal

A third of respondents are based in municipal governments

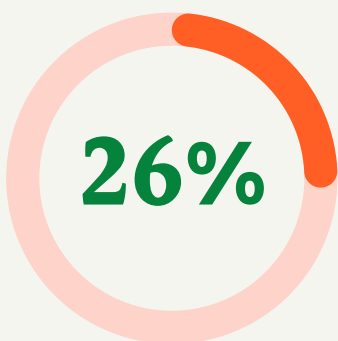


Academic

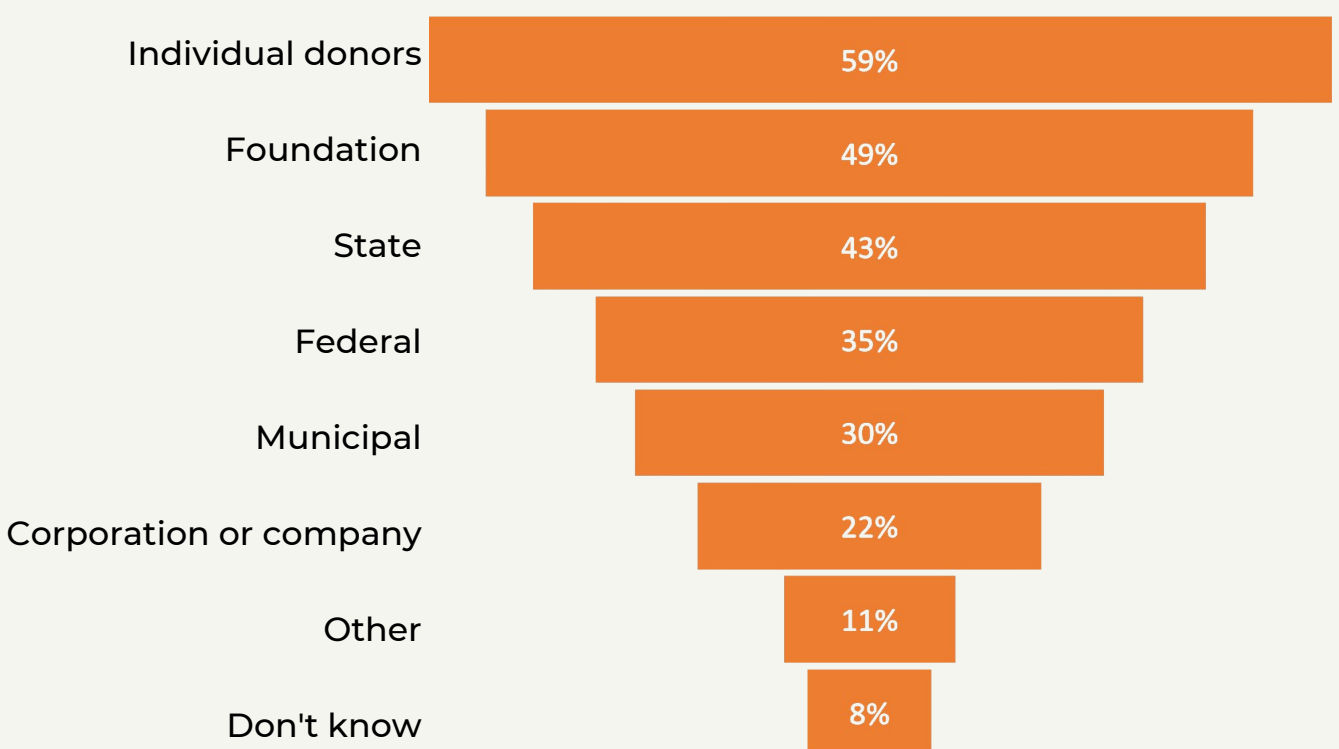
Seven percent of all respondents are within academic institutions



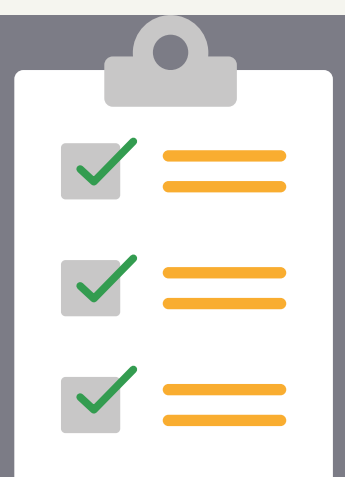
Nearly two-thirds of respondents rely on volunteers for some function.



A quarter of respondents have sought external funding for their needs, with individual donors being the most common source for funds.



The biggest reason respondents do not seek funding is they lack the time or expertise to complete the application.



"The biggest barrier to progress on collections work is lack of dedicated staff time and/or funding to maintain the position."

-- survey respondent

Highest Needs

Emergency preparedness has remained the highest stated need of respondents for over the past decade. Caring for digital collections has moved up in importance.

- 1 Emergency preparedness**
- 2 Preservation of digital collections**
- 3 Conservation treatment**
- 4 Staff training**
- 5 Finding aids or cataloging of collection**
- 6 Condition surveys or assessments of collection**
- 7 Environmental controls**
- 8 Creating/updating collections policies**
- 9 Security**
- 10 Integrated pest management**
- 11 Improvements to reduce collections' exposure to light**



Read more: <https://bit.ly/VHRPSurvey>

In spring of 2021, the Vermont Historical Records Program (VHRP) undertook a survey of Vermont's historical records repositories to:

- Identify repositories' needs and how to best deliver support*
- Better publicize the VHRP and its services*
- Get a snapshot of the state of Vermont's cultural heritage in 2021 and compare to a similar survey conducted in 2008*

The Vermont Historical Records Program is a program of the Vermont State Historical Records Advisory Board, based at the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration. It serves to improve public access to and engagement with Vermont historical records and to encourage and facilitate collaboration among Vermont historical records repositories.

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