

Volunteer Age and Contact Method

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www.volunteerglos.org.uk

1. Introduction

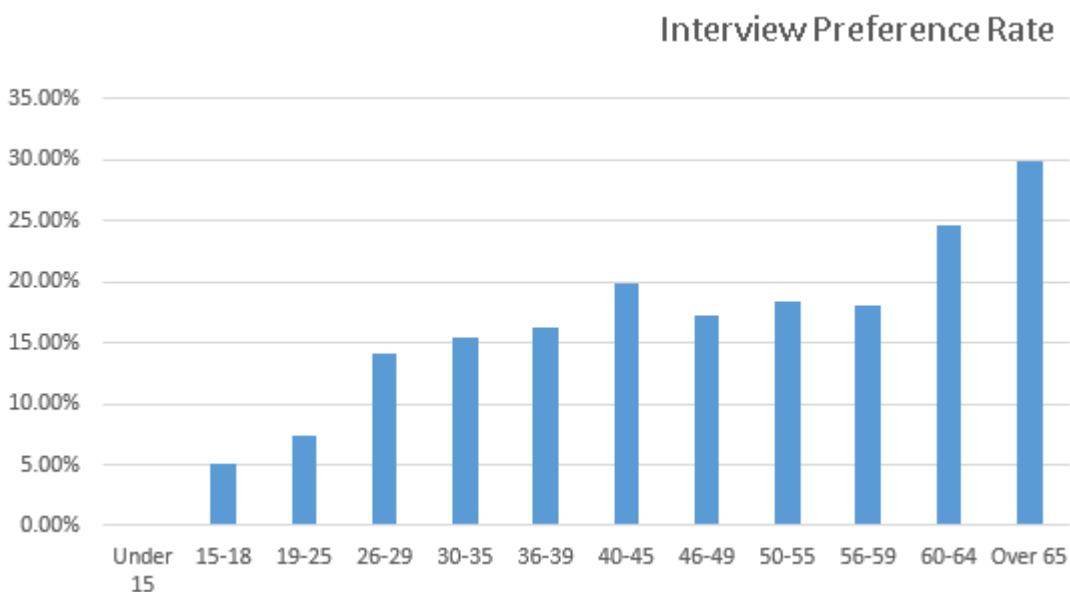
We've known for some time that roughly 90% of our volunteer contacts are online via www.do-it.org.uk. The rest come and see us face to face. We wanted to check if the online route was just a young persons thing? The answer is more complex.

2. Method

We extracted data from our VBase system for the period 01 January 2011 to 31st December 2013 inclusive. This data clearly indicates which volunteers came to see us and which applied for roles online. A very small number did both but this is ignored.

3. Results

The preference for interviews varied with different age groups. Unsurprisingly, older people tended to prefer interviews but the difference between them and younger people was less than expected. A significant number of people in most age groups still prefer to meet face to face when looking for volunteer opportunities. This is less so for under 25s. Even though, the oldest group (65+) still preferred to go online 70% of the time



4. Conclusions

Even some of the generation that grew up with the Internet prefer to meet us face to face. Older people frequently go online to find volunteer opportunities. Face to face and online are both important for almost all age groups.