



CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 28 OCT 2009

CONTENTS

page

CONTENTS

Notes	2
Summary of findings	3
List of tables	11

TABLES

Children's activities over time	13
Organised cultural activities	16
Cultural venues and events	21
Organised sport	24
Organised sport and cultural activities	33
Selected other activities	35
Internet access and mobile phones	39

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory Notes	44
Technical Note: Data quality	47
Glossary	50

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION This publication presents results from the survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities conducted in April 2009. While the publication primarily provides information about the participation of children aged 5 to 14 years in cultural, sporting and other leisure activities, details on children's use of the Internet and mobile phones are also presented.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY The 2009 survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities was conducted throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) Monthly Population Survey (MPS). This survey is the fourth on the topic of children's participation in culture and leisure activities, the previous surveys being conducted in April of 2000, 2003 and 2006. Information was collected from any responsible adult in the household who was asked to respond on behalf of the children in the household.

As with previous iterations, the 2009 survey collected information on children's participation in selected organised cultural activities and organised sports outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview, and on participation in selected leisure activities (such as skateboarding or rollerblading, and watching television, videos or DVDs) outside of school hours during the most recent two school weeks prior to interview. The survey also collected data on the use of the Internet and mobile phones. Details were collected on the characteristics of children who participated and on the frequency and duration of their involvement in some activities.

Unless otherwise specified, differences between data items highlighted in the Summary of Findings are statistically significant.

This publication includes Datacubes in spreadsheet format available on the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>. An additional 4 tables are available as Datacubes. See paragraph 17 of the Explanatory Notes for more details.

ROUNDING As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



ABBREVIATIONS

- ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
- LFS Labour Force Survey (Australia)
- MPS Monthly Population Survey
- RSE relative standard error
- SE standard error

Trevor Sutton
Acting Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

In the 12 months to April 2009 there were approximately 2.7 million children aged 5 to 14 years in Australia within the scope of the survey (see Explanatory Notes). An estimated 63% (1.7 million children) had played a sport outside of school hours which had been organised by a school, club or association. During the same period, 34% (916,300) of children were involved in at least one of four selected cultural activities (playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama) outside of school hours. The survey also collected data on attendance at cultural venues and events and found that 71% (1.9 million) of children had attended, outside of school hours, a public library, a museum or art gallery, or a performing arts event at least once in the 12 months to April 2009. (Table 1) An estimated 26% (713,800) of children did not take part in either organised sport or any of the selected cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 month period. (Table 16)

In addition to cultural and sporting activities, data were collected about selected other activities. These 'other' activities were chosen for inclusion to provide an indication of the balance between sedentary activities (e.g. watching TV, DVDs or videos and other screen-based activities) and physical activities (e.g. bike riding). However, it is important to note that there are numerous other non-organised physical and sedentary activities which were not included, for example, surfing and trampolining. Similarly, involvement in art and craft was included to give some understanding of children's involvement in non-organised cultural activities. Reading for pleasure and homework or other study were also included. Involvement in these activities over a two week period ranged from 48% (1.3 million) of children for art and craft to 97% (2.7 million) of children who watched television, videos or DVDs. During the two school weeks prior to interview, 82% (2.2 million) of children did homework or other study outside of school hours. (Table 1)

The survey also collected information on Internet and mobile phone use. An estimated 79% (2.2 million) of children had accessed the Internet either during or outside of school hours in the 12 months prior to April 2009 and 31% (841,400) had a mobile phone. (Table 1)

CHANGES IN PARTICIPATION SINCE 2003

Surveys of children's participation in culture and leisure activities have been conducted previously by the ABS in 2000, 2003 and 2006. A comparison of the data from 2003 to 2009 shows that the participation rate in organised sport did not increase significantly (62% in 2003 to 63% in 2009). There was an increase in the participation rate for organised cultural activities (30% in 2003 to 34% in 2009). Participation rates for males in at least one organised sport did not change significantly over the six year period. After showing an increase of three percentage points from 54% in 2003 to 57% in 2006, female participation rates in at least one organised sport did not show any significant change in 2009 (56%). (Table 1)

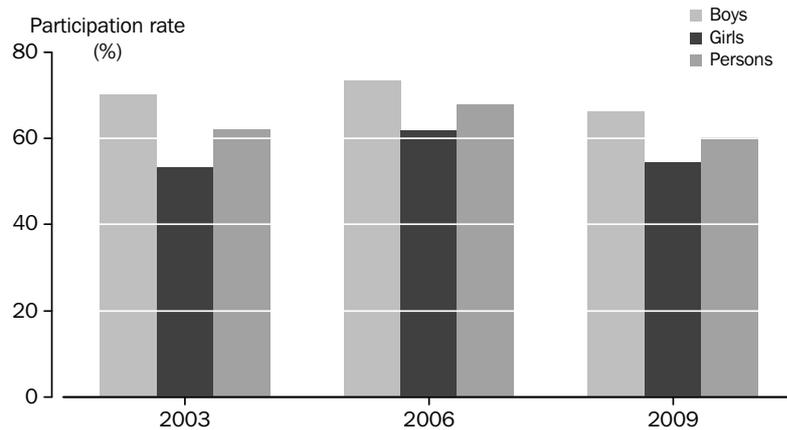
After a three percentage point increase from 2003 to 2006, participation rates in at least one organised cultural activity did not change significantly in the period to 2009 (33% to 34%). Playing a musical instrument remained the most popular selected cultural activity for boys (19%) while dancing remained the most popular cultural activity for girls (26%). (Table 1)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

CHANGES IN PARTICIPATION SINCE 2003 *continued*

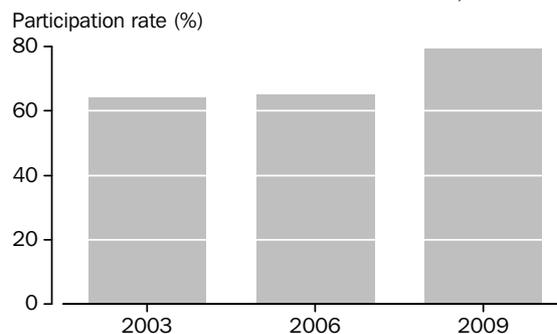
There was a decrease in the bike riding participation rate, falling from 68% in 2006 to 60% in 2009. This was evident in the participation rate for both sexes. The participation rate for all the other selected activities showed little change. In 2009, two new categories were introduced: 'Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter' and 'Other screen-based activities'. (Table 1)

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN BIKE RIDING, By sex—2003 to 2009



The proportion of children accessing the Internet did not change noticeably between 2003 and 2006 (64% in 2003 to 65% in 2006) but increased significantly to 79% for 2009. The proportion of children using a computer for any purpose was recorded in previous surveys but was not recorded in 2009. Instead, new information about children's mobile phone ownership was collected. (Table 1)

CHILDREN'S USE OF THE INTERNET, 2003 to 2009



ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Participation

Over the 12 month period, data were collected on various organised cultural activities that were undertaken outside of school hours. It was discovered that:

- 535,400 (20%) children aged 5 to 14 played a musical instrument
- 164,700 (6%) had lessons or gave a singing performance
- 390,400 (14%) had lessons or gave a dance performance
- 126,700 (5%) participated in drama.

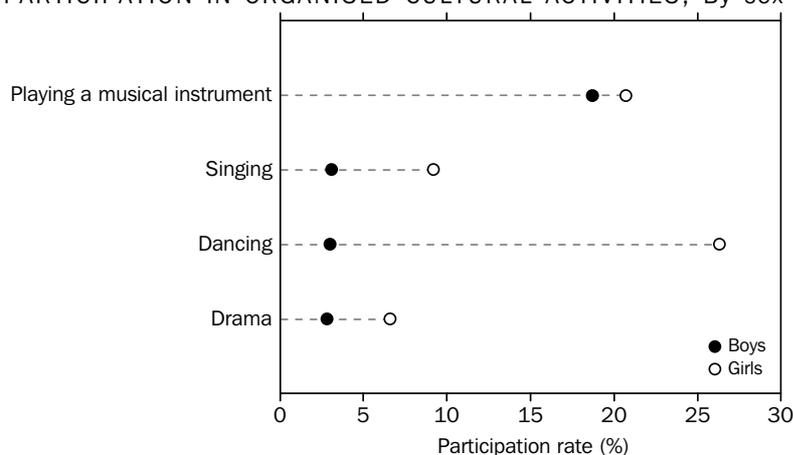
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Participation continued

As with previous years, these activities were more popular with girls than boys. An estimated 45% (595,200) of girls and 23% (321,100) of boys were involved in at least one of the selected cultural activities. The majority of children involved in cultural activities were involved in only one. Approximately 13% (178,500) of girls and 4% (51,800) of boys took part in two or more activities.

Involvement in each of the cultural activities varied by sex. The most obvious example was dancing where 26% (348,500) of girls were involved compared with 3% (41,900) of boys. (Tables 1 and 3)

PARTICIPATION IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, By sex



In all states and territories, participation rates for playing a musical instrument were greater than rates for dancing which in turn were greater than singing and drama. The participation rates in at least one cultural activity ranged from 28% in Tasmania to 37% in Western Australia. Participation rates for playing a musical instrument, singing and drama did not differ significantly between states, while participation in dancing ranged from 9% in Tasmania to 16% in Western Australia. (Table 2)

Participation in at least one cultural activity varied between age groups. In the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009, 29% of children aged 5 to 8 years participated in at least one selected organised cultural activity, the lowest participation rate for the age groups. The highest participation rate was 39% for children aged 9 to 11 years, while the participation rate for children aged 12 to 14 years was 35%. (Table 2)

Organised lessons

To be involved in an organised cultural activity for the purposes of the survey, a child must have performed or had lessons outside of school hours. More children involved in an organised activity had received lessons than not, over the 12 month period. Approximately 94% (366,900) of children involved in dancing had taken dancing lessons; 75% (94,400) involved in drama had taken drama lessons; 72% (384,000) of children playing a musical instrument had taken music lessons; and 54% (88,700) of children involved in singing had taken singing lessons. (Table 4)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Frequency and duration

Of those children who played a musical instrument, 37% (199,400) did so more than 52 times during the year. By comparison, 27% (105,200) of children involved in dancing, 8% (13,700) of those involved in singing and 5% (6,600) of those involved in drama did so more than 52 times during the year. (Table 5)

Children who played a musical instrument spent an average of 5 hours over the most recent two school weeks prior to the survey on this activity (including practising, having lessons or performing). Children involved in dancing spent an average of 4.5 hours over the previous two school weeks on this activity. For singing and drama, the average time spent practising, having lessons or performing was just under 3 hours (2.9 and 2.7 hours respectively). (Table 6)

ATTENDANCE AT CULTURAL VENUES

In the 12 months to April 2009, there were approximately 1.9 million (71%) children aged 5 to 14 years who attended at least one of the selected cultural venues or events. It is estimated that outside of school hours:

- 54% (1.5 million) of children visited a public library
- 41% (1.1 million) visited a museum or art gallery
- 34% (913,900) attended a performing arts event. (Table 7)

Public libraries

The attendance rates at public libraries were higher for girls (56%) than for boys (52%) and there was a decrease in attendance with age, from 55% of 5 to 8 year olds to 51% of 12 to 14 year olds. Children born overseas had a higher attendance rate (60%) compared with children born in Australia (53%). Attendance rates in the states and territories ranged from 48% in the Australian Capital Territory to 60% in Queensland. (Table 7)

Museums and art galleries

There was no significant difference in the proportion of girls and boys visiting museums and art galleries in the previous 12 months. Similar to public libraries, the attendance rate for visiting museums and art galleries was lower for older children. Children aged 12 to 14 years were less likely to attend museums and art galleries (33%) than 5 to 8 year olds (47%) and 9 to 11 year olds (43%). Children born in other main English-speaking countries had the highest attendance rate at 47% compared with those born in Australia (42%) and in other countries (33%). Attendance at museums and art galleries ranged from 36% in New South Wales to 60% in the Australian Capital Territory. (Table 7)

Performing arts events

There were 405,800 boys and 508,200 girls who attended a performing arts event in the 12 month period. The attendance rate for girls (38%) was significantly higher than for boys (29%) but was similar across all age groups. Attendance rates ranged from 39% in the Northern Territory to 29% in Queensland. Children in one-parent families were less likely to attend performing arts events (29%) than those in couple families (35%). (Table 7)

Frequency

The attendance patterns at each cultural venue and event differed. For those children who attended selected cultural venues and events outside of school hours:

- 45% of children who visited a public library did so 10 times or more in the 12 months prior to interview
- 4% visited a museum or art gallery or attended a performing arts event 10 times or more

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Frequency continued

Attendance rates for visiting a museum or art gallery or attending a performing arts event decreased with number of visits. Approximately 40% of children visited these cultural venues once while 1% visited 14 times or more. However, attendance rates for visiting a public library increased with number of visits, from 6% visiting a public library once to 25% visiting 14 times or more. (Table 8)

ORGANISED SPORT

Participation

An estimated 1.7 million (63%) children participated in at least one organised sport outside of school hours, in the 12 months to April 2009. Participation in organised sport was highest among 9 to 11 year olds at 68% compared with 58% for 5 to 8 year olds and 65% for 12 to 14 year olds. Participation rates were higher for boys across all age groups compared with girls, with the greatest difference being between 12 to 14 year olds (boys 74% compared with girls 55%). (Table 9)

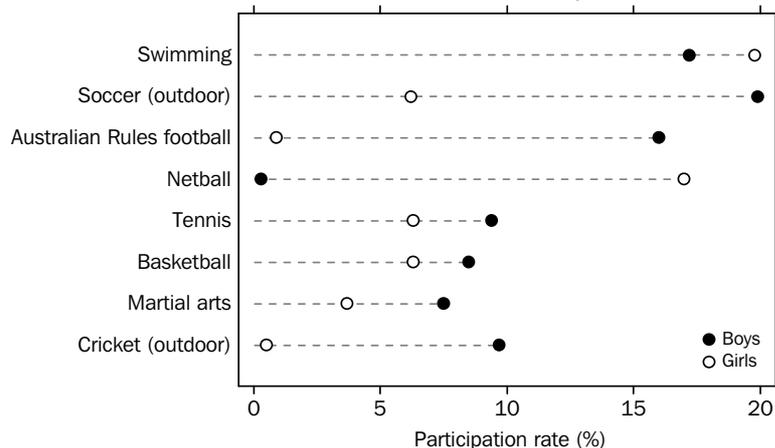
An estimated 37% (1.0 million) of children did not participate in any organised sport, 33% participated in one sport and 30% (807,100) played two or more organised sports during the 12 month period. (Table 10)

Participation rates in organised sports varied between the states and territories, ranging from 58% in Tasmania to 71% in the Australian Capital Territory. (Table 9)

Sports with most participants

In 2009, the most popular sport for children was swimming with a participation rate of 19% (502,900). This was followed by outdoor soccer at 13% (360,400) and Australian Rules football at 9% (235,100). For boys, the most popular sports were outdoor soccer (20% or 277,800), swimming (17% or 240,100) and Australian Rules football (16% or 223,700). In comparison, the sports most popular among girls were swimming (20% or 262,800), netball (17% or 225,000) and gymnastics (8% or 101,200). (Table 1)

PARTICIPATION IN MOST POPULAR SPORTS, By sex



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Frequency and duration

For the 1.7 million children who participated in organised sport, it is estimated that outside of school hours:

- they participated in sport (playing and training) on average 70 times in the 12 month period (Table 11)
- an average of 5 hours in the last school fortnight was spent playing and training (Table 14)
- the average number of hours of participation increased with age: 5 to 8 year olds participated in sport for an average of 4 hours; compared with 12–14 year olds who participated for 7 hours on average. (Table 14)

NON-PARTICIPANTS

Organised sport

During the 12 months prior to April 2009, 1.0 million children (37%) did not participate in any organised sport outside of school hours. A higher proportion of girls (44%) did not participate in organised sports than boys (30%). (Table 10)

Organised sport and cultural activities

Rates of participation in organised sports and cultural activities varied between age groups. The highest rates of non-participation were amongst 5 to 8 year olds (32%), followed by 12 to 14 year olds (24%) and 9 to 11 year olds (21%). (Table 16)

Children born overseas in non main-English speaking countries were less likely to participate in selected sport or cultural activities (46%) than Australian born children (25%) or children born in other main English-speaking countries (United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, United States of America and New Zealand) (24%). (Table 16)

Children in one-parent families were less likely to participate in these activities (37%) than children in couple families (23%). (Table 16)

SELECTED OTHER ACTIVITIES

Participation

Information on children's participation in a range of other selected activities in the previous two school weeks (outside of school hours) was collected. During that two week period:

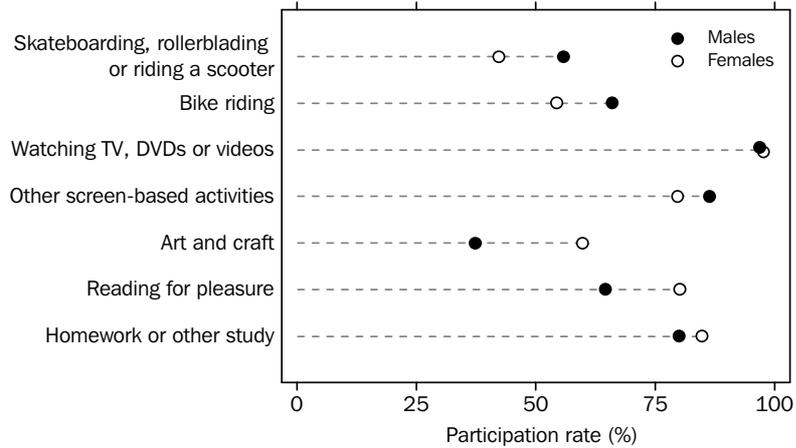
- 97% (2.7 million) had watched television, DVDs or videos
- 83% (2.3 million) had spent time on other screen-based activities
- 82% (2.2 million) had done homework or other study
- 72% (2.0 million) had read for pleasure
- 60% (1.6 million) had been bike riding
- 49% (1.3 million) had been skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter
- 48% (1.3 million) had spent time on art and craft activities. (Table 17)

While participation rates were similar for boys and girls for some leisure activities (watching television, DVDs and videos and homework or other study) they varied for others. Boys were more likely to take part in other screen-based activities (87%) compared to 80% for girls, riding a bike (boys 66% compared with girls 54%) and skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter (boys 56% compared with girls 42%). On the other hand, girls were more likely to participate in reading for pleasure (80%) and art and craft activities (60%) than boys (65% and 37% respectively). (Table 17)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Participation *continued*

PARTICIPATION IN SELECTED OTHER ACTIVITIES, By sex



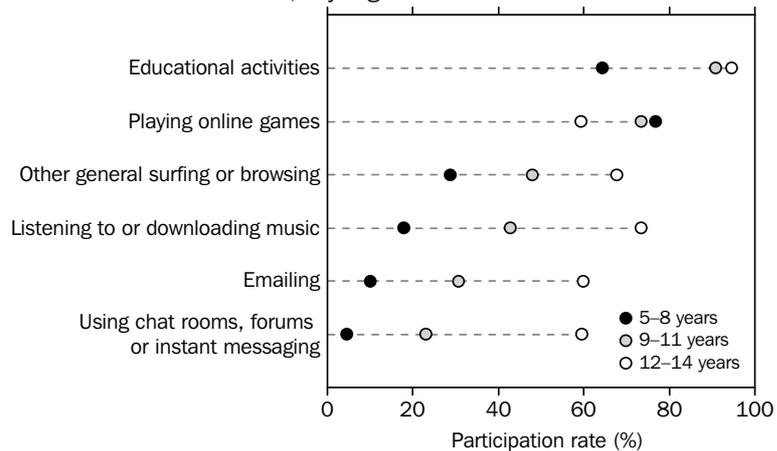
Time spent

Children spent on average (outside of school hours) 17 hours watching television, DVDs and videos, and 11 hours doing other screen based activities in the two school weeks prior to interview. In comparison, children spent an average of 7 hours on reading for pleasure and homework, 6 hours riding skateboards, rollerblading or riding scooters, and 5 hours riding bikes and doing art and craft activities. (Table 18)

INTERNET USAGE

In the 12 months prior to April 2009, an estimated 2.2 million (79%) children accessed the Internet either during school hours or outside of school hours. The proportion of males (80%) accessing the Internet was not significantly different from females (79%). The proportion of children accessing the Internet increased by age, with 60% of 5 to 8 year olds accessing the Internet compared with 96% of 12 to 14 year olds. (Table 19)

HOME INTERNET USAGE, By age



A higher proportion of children used the Internet at home (92%) than at school (86%). Children using the Internet at home used it for a wide variety of activities, with the most popular being educational activities (85%), playing online games (69%) and listening to or downloading music (47%). Of the 2 million children who used the Internet at home, 42% usually used it for 2 hours or less per week, while 17% used it more than 10 hours per week. (Table 20)

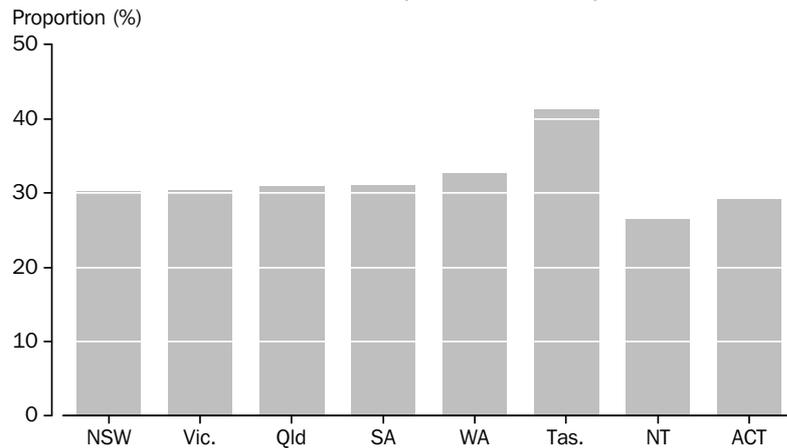
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

MOBILE PHONE USAGE

In 2009, this survey collected data on children's mobile phone ownership for the first time. It is estimated that 31% (841,400) of children had a mobile phone at the time of interview. A higher proportion of girls had a mobile phone (33%) compared with boys (29%). Older children were most likely to have a mobile phone (76% for 12 to 14 year olds), while amongst the youngest group (5 to 8 year olds) only 2% of children had a mobile phone. (Table 19)

Tasmania had the highest proportion of children with a mobile phone (41%), while in the Northern Territory 27% of children had mobile phones. There was no difference between the proportion of children who had a mobile phone by their location (living in a state capital city or outside of a state capital city (including Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory)). Mobile phone ownership was 33% for children living in outer regional areas, 31% or children living in major cities and 30% or children living in inner regional areas. Mobile phone ownership also varied by family type, with children in one-parent families more likely to have a mobile phone (38%) than those in couple families (29%). (Table 19)

MOBILE PHONE OWNERSHIP, By state/territory



More children used their mobile phone more for contacting family (60%) than for contacting friends (36%). The proportion of children using their mobile phone more for contacting family varied with age, with 95% of 5 to 8 year olds using it for this purpose compared to 52% of 12 to 14 year olds. Only 4% of children had used their mobile phone to access the Internet in the 12 months prior to interview. (Table 21)

LIST OF TABLES

page

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES OVER TIME

- 1** Children participating in selected activities, By sex – 2003, 2006 and 2009 13

SELECTED ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

- 2** Children participating in organised cultural activities, Selected characteristics 16
- 3** Children participating in organised cultural activities, By number of activities and sex 17
- 4** Children participating in organised cultural activities, Whether lessons received in last 12 months 18
- 5** Children participating in organised cultural activities, Frequency in last 12 months 19
- 6** Children participating in organised cultural activities, Duration in last two weeks of school 20

ATTENDANCE AT SELECTED CULTURAL VENUES AND EVENTS

- 7** Children attending selected cultural venues and events, Selected characteristics 21
- 8** Children attending selected cultural venues and events, Frequency in last 12 months 23

ORGANISED SPORT

- 9** Children participating in organised sport, Selected characteristics 24
- 10** Children participating in organised sport, By number of sports and sex 25
- 11** Children participating in organised sport, Frequency in last 12 months, By age and sex 26
- 12** Children participating in most popular organised sports, By sex 28
- 13** Children participating in top 12 organised sports, Frequency in last 12 months 29
- 14** Children participating in organised sport, Duration in last two weeks of school, By age and sex 30
- 15** Children participating in organised sport and/or dancing, Selected characteristics 32

ORGANISED SPORT AND SELECTED ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

- 16** Children participating in organised sport and/or cultural activities, Selected characteristics 33

SELECTED OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 17** Children participating in selected other activities, Selected characteristics 35
- 18** Children participating in selected other activities, Duration in last two weeks of school, By sex 37

LIST OF TABLES *continued*

page

INTERNET ACCESS AND MOBILE PHONES

19	Children's internet access and mobile phone ownership, Selected characteristics	39
20	Location, type and frequency of children's internet access, By age	41
21	Children's use of mobile phones, By age	43

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES, By sex—2003, 2006 and 2009

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009
MALES						
Participation in organised cultural activities(a)						
Playing a musical instrument	179.0	240.0	260.7	(b)13.2	17.6	18.7
Singing	31.6	39.2	43.3	2.3	2.9	3.1
Dancing	22.2	32.5	41.9	(b)1.6	2.4	3.0
Drama	31.5	38.6	38.6	2.3	2.8	2.8
At least one selected organised cultural activity(c)	228.5	297.2	321.1	(b)16.8	21.7	23.0
Attendance at cultural venues and events(a)(d)						
Visited public library	..	721.4	720.9	..	52.8	51.6
Visited museum or art gallery	..	522.5	570.3	..	38.2	40.9
Attended performing arts event	..	356.1	405.8	..	(b)26.1	29.1
At least one selected venue or event(c)	..	936.5	962.3	..	68.5	68.9
Participation in organised sports (excluding dancing)(a)						
Swimming	213.6	225.7	240.1	15.7	16.5	17.2
Soccer (outdoor)	301.1	268.5	277.8	22.2	19.6	19.9
Australian Rules football	184.2	188.5	223.7	13.6	(b)13.8	16.0
Netball	8.2	*1.7	*3.5	(b)0.6	*0.1	*0.3
Tennis	128.3	109.3	131.6	9.5	8.0	9.4
Basketball	116.1	101.7	118.7	8.6	7.4	8.5
Martial arts	83.9	83.4	105.2	(b)6.2	(b)6.1	7.5
Cricket (outdoor)	124.2	137.8	135.7	9.1	10.1	9.7
Gymnastics	22.5	21.6	23.7	1.7	1.6	1.7
Rugby League	76.2	107.6	97.2	(b)5.6	7.9	7.0
Athletics, track and field	51.7	36.0	42.4	3.8	2.6	3.0
Soccer (indoor)	25.8	44.8	59.4	(b)1.9	3.3	4.3
Hockey	33.3	22.9	25.6	2.5	1.7	1.8
Other organised sports	210.0	239.2	221.2	15.5	17.5	15.8
At least one organised sport(c)	931.9	940.5	970.8	68.6	68.8	69.6
Organised sports and/or dancing(a)(c)	937.4	948.5	983.3	69.0	69.4	70.4
Selected other activities(e)						
Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter(f)	..	..	780.4	..	..	55.9
Bike riding	957.4	1 003.0	922.5	(b)70.1	(b)73.4	66.1
Watching TV, DVDs or videos	1 338.6	1 333.5	1 354.2	98.6	97.6	97.0
Other screen-based activities(g)	..	..	1 207.1	..	..	86.5
Art and craft	529.8	511.6	521.5	39.0	37.4	37.4
Reading for pleasure	919.2	940.8	901.9	(b)67.7	(b)68.8	64.6
Homework or other study(h)	..	1 107.1	1 117.6	..	81.0	80.1
At least one selected other activity(c)	..	..	1 392.7	..	..	99.8
Accessed the Internet(i)	846.7	892.1	1 116.5	(b)62.4	(b)65.3	80.0
Has a mobile phone(j)	..	..	401.2	..	..	28.7
Total population aged 5–14 years	1 357.6	1 366.7	1 395.8	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

.. not applicable

- (a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April of the survey year.
- (b) Difference between this participation rate and the 2009 participation rate is statistically significant.
- (c) May not add to sum of components as some children participated in more than one activity.
- (d) Data on attendance was not collected in 2003.
- (e) Outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(f) Data on riding a scooter was not collected in 2003 and 2006.

(g) The collection of screen-based activities changed between 2006 and 2009. See Explanatory Notes for further information.

(h) Data on homework or other study was not collected as a selected other activity in 2003.

(i) During or outside school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(j) Data on mobile phones was not collected in 2003 and 2006.

continued

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009
FEMALES						
Participation in organised cultural activities(a)						
Playing a musical instrument	266.5	280.6	274.7	20.7	21.6	20.7
Singing	90.9	107.8	121.4	(b)7.0	8.3	9.2
Dancing	307.1	300.1	348.5	(b)23.8	(b)23.1	26.3
Drama	81.0	80.5	88.2	6.3	6.2	6.6
At least one selected organised cultural activity(c)	552.0	572.4	595.2	42.8	44.1	44.9
Attendance at cultural venues and events(a)(d)						
Visited public library	..	746.1	741.3	..	57.5	55.9
Visited museum or art gallery	..	472.7	554.5	..	(b)36.4	41.8
Attended performing arts event	..	453.5	508.2	..	(b)34.9	38.3
At least one selected venue or event(c)	..	943.3	968.5	..	72.7	73.0
Participation in organised sports (excluding dancing)(a)						
Swimming	225.5	236.8	262.8	(b)17.5	18.2	19.8
Soccer (outdoor)	54.8	82.6	82.7	(b)4.2	6.4	6.2
Australian Rules football	9.4	11.9	11.4	0.7	0.9	0.9
Netball	233.0	224.1	225.0	18.1	17.3	17.0
Tennis	100.1	85.8	83.2	(b)7.8	6.6	6.3
Basketball	88.9	74.6	83.2	6.9	5.7	6.3
Martial arts	45.8	37.0	49.5	3.6	2.9	3.7
Cricket (outdoor)	9.5	5.6	6.8	0.7	0.4	0.5
Gymnastics	69.9	71.7	101.2	(b)5.4	(b)5.5	7.6
Rugby League	**0.9	*3.9	—	**0.1	*0.3	—
Athletics, track and field	48.6	41.5	47.0	3.8	3.2	3.5
Soccer (indoor)	*5.1	13.9	17.5	*(b)0.4	1.1	1.3
Hockey	33.0	28.9	31.8	2.6	2.2	2.4
Other organised sports	154.9	220.9	160.9	12.0	(b)17.0	12.1
At least one organised sport(c)	697.0	733.9	746.9	54.0	56.5	56.3
Organised sports and/or dancing(a)(c)						
	829.3	861.8	887.9	64.3	66.4	66.9
Selected other activities(e)						
Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter(f)	..	..	562.2	..	..	42.4
Bike riding	687.4	803.2	721.1	53.3	(b)61.9	54.4
Watching TV, DVDs or videos	1 262.4	1 262.5	1 296.2	97.9	97.3	97.7
Other screen-based activities(g)	..	..	1 056.9	..	..	79.7
Art and craft	781.5	797.5	794.2	60.6	61.4	59.9
Reading for pleasure	1 061.8	1 043.3	1 063.9	82.3	80.4	80.2
Homework or other study(h)	..	1 102.0	1 125.6	..	84.9	84.8
At least one selected other activity(c)	..	..	1 322.2	..	..	99.7
Accessed the Internet(i)						
	846.6	838.6	1 046.5	(b)65.6	(b)64.6	78.9
Has a mobile phone(j)						
	..	..	440.3	..	..	33.2
Total population aged 5–14 years	1 289.9	1 298.0	1 326.7	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(b) Difference between this participation rate and the 2009 participation rate is statistically significant.

(c) May not add to sum of components as some children participated in more than one activity.

(d) Data on attendance was not collected in 2003.

(e) Outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(f) Data on riding a scooter was not collected in 2003 and 2006.

(g) The collection of screen-based activities changed between 2006 and 2009. See Explanatory Notes for further information.

(h) Data on homework or other study was not collected as a selected other activity in 2003.

(i) During or outside school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(j) Data on mobile phones was not collected in 2003 and 2006.

continued

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	2003	2006	2009	2003	2006	2009
PERSONS						
Participation in organised cultural activities(a)						
Playing a musical instrument	445.5	520.5	535.4	(b)16.8	19.5	19.7
Singing	122.5	147.0	164.7	(b)4.6	5.5	6.1
Dancing	329.3	332.6	390.4	(b)12.4	(b)12.5	14.3
Drama	112.6	119.1	126.7	4.3	4.5	4.7
At least one selected organised cultural activity(c)	780.4	869.6	916.3	(b)29.5	32.6	33.7
Attendance at cultural venues and events(a)(d)						
Visited public library	..	1 467.5	1 462.2	..	55.1	53.7
Visited museum or art gallery	..	995.2	1 124.9	..	(b)37.3	41.3
Attended performing arts event	..	809.6	913.9	..	(b)30.4	33.6
At least one selected venue or event(c)	..	1 879.7	1 930.8	..	70.5	70.9
Participation in organised sports (excluding dancing)(a)						
Swimming	439.1	462.5	502.9	(b)16.6	17.4	18.5
Soccer (outdoor)	355.9	351.1	360.4	13.4	13.2	13.2
Australian Rules football	193.6	200.4	235.1	(b)7.3	(b)7.5	8.6
Netball	241.2	225.8	228.5	9.1	8.5	8.4
Tennis	228.5	195.1	214.8	8.6	7.3	7.9
Basketball	205.0	176.3	201.9	7.7	6.6	7.4
Martial arts	129.7	120.4	154.6	4.9	(b)4.5	5.7
Cricket (outdoor)	133.6	143.5	142.5	5.0	5.4	5.2
Gymnastics	92.4	93.3	124.9	(b)3.5	(b)3.5	4.6
Rugby League	77.1	111.5	97.2	2.9	4.2	3.6
Athletics, track and field	100.2	77.5	89.4	3.8	2.9	3.3
Soccer (indoor)	30.9	58.7	76.9	(b)1.2	2.2	2.8
Hockey	66.3	51.8	57.4	2.5	1.9	2.1
Other organised sports	364.9	460.1	382.0	13.8	(b)17.3	14.0
At least one organised sport(c)	1 628.8	1 674.4	1 717.8	61.5	62.8	63.1
Organised sports and/or dancing (a)(c)	1 766.7	1 810.3	1 871.2	66.7	67.9	68.7
Selected other activities(e)						
Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter(f)	..	..	1 342.6	..	..	49.3
Bike riding	1 644.8	1 806.2	1 643.6	62.1	(b)67.8	60.4
Watching TV, DVDs or videos	2 601.0	2 596.0	2 650.4	98.2	97.4	97.4
Other screen-based activities(g)	..	..	2 264.0	..	..	83.2
Art and craft	1 311.2	1 309.1	1 315.6	49.5	49.1	48.3
Reading for pleasure	1 981.0	1 984.0	1 965.8	(b)74.8	(b)74.5	72.2
Homework or other study(h)	..	2 209.1	2 243.1	..	82.9	82.4
At least one selected other activity(c)	..	..	2 714.9	..	..	99.7
Accessed the Internet(i)	1 693.3	1 730.7	2 162.9	(b)64.0	(b)64.9	79.4
Has a mobile phone(j)	..	..	841.4	..	..	30.9
Total population aged 5–14 years	2 647.5	2 664.7	2 722.5	100.0	100.0	100.0

.. not applicable

(f) Data on riding a scooter was not collected in 2003 and 2006.

(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(g) The collection of screen-based activities changed between 2006 and 2009. See Explanatory Notes for further information.

(b) Difference between this participation rate and the 2009 participation rate is statistically significant.

(h) Data on homework or other study was not collected as a selected other activity in 2003.

(c) May not add to sum of components as some children participated in more than one activity.

(i) During or outside school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(d) Data on attendance was not collected in 2003.

(e) Outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April of the survey year.

(j) Data on mobile phones was not collected in 2003 and 2006.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Selected characteristics

	NUMBER ('000)					PARTICIPATION RATE (%)				
	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
Sex										
Males	260.7	43.3	41.9	38.6	321.1	18.7	3.1	3.0	2.8	23.0
Females	274.7	121.4	348.5	88.2	595.2	20.7	9.2	26.3	6.6	44.9
Age group (years)										
5-8	132.7	48.5	178.6	35.3	304.3	12.5	4.6	16.8	3.3	28.6
9-11	211.1	55.6	119.5	45.0	321.7	25.7	6.8	14.6	5.5	39.2
12-14	191.7	60.6	92.2	46.4	290.3	22.9	7.2	11.0	5.5	34.7
Country of birth										
Born in Australia	482.8	149.5	356.0	114.0	828.2	19.6	6.1	14.5	4.6	33.6
Born overseas										
Born in other main English-speaking country										
	24.4	*7.8	22.6	*9.0	46.3	20.5	6.6	19.0	*7.5	38.9
Born in other country										
	28.2	*7.4	11.7	*3.7	41.8	20.0	*5.3	8.3	*2.6	29.7
<i>Total born overseas</i>	52.7	15.3	34.3	12.7	88.2	20.2	5.9	13.2	4.9	33.9
State or territory of usual residence										
New South Wales	180.5	46.4	133.9	31.4	305.2	20.3	5.2	15.1	3.5	34.4
Victoria	114.3	41.5	95.8	35.7	214.4	17.3	6.3	14.5	5.4	32.4
Queensland	120.0	36.0	78.5	29.9	188.2	21.0	6.3	13.8	5.2	33.0
South Australia	35.9	14.2	24.6	7.8	62.3	18.6	7.3	12.8	4.1	32.3
Western Australia	58.1	17.6	44.4	16.0	104.6	20.8	6.3	15.9	5.7	37.4
Tasmania	11.5	3.7	5.5	3.2	18.2	17.9	5.8	8.6	5.0	28.4
Northern Territory(c)	5.9	*2.2	2.8	**0.6	8.5	24.0	*9.0	11.2	**2.4	34.5
Australian Capital Territory	9.3	3.1	4.9	*2.2	14.9	22.2	7.5	11.8	*5.2	35.5
Area of usual residence										
State capital cities	341.5	111.2	246.4	83.3	580.7	21.0	6.8	15.1	5.1	35.7
Balance of state/Territory	193.9	53.6	144.0	43.4	335.6	17.7	4.9	13.1	4.0	30.6
Country of birth of parents										
One-parent families										
Parent born in Australia										
	63.8	18.9	42.6	18.8	113.1	14.1	4.2	9.4	4.2	25.0
Parent born in other main English-speaking country										
	*7.8	*5.3	*5.8	*2.6	15.2	*15.6	*10.6	*11.6	*5.2	30.4
Parent born in other country										
	*10.6	*5.4	*6.7	*2.8	18.4	*15.3	*7.7	*9.6	**4.0	26.4
<i>Total one-parent families(d)</i>	84.2	30.0	56.9	24.6	150.8	14.2	5.1	9.6	4.2	25.5
Couple families										
Both parents born in Australia										
	267.9	82.8	202.8	64.3	461.0	21.3	6.6	16.1	5.1	36.6
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries										
	22.6	*7.9	17.1	*7.5	40.0	20.2	7.1	15.3	*6.7	35.7
Both parents born in other countries										
	58.2	14.0	24.3	*3.2	84.0	19.5	4.7	8.2	*1.1	28.2
Other	99.3	29.0	86.2	27.2	173.6	22.5	6.6	19.5	6.2	39.3
<i>Total couple families(e)</i>	451.3	134.8	333.5	102.2	765.5	21.2	6.3	15.6	4.8	35.9
Employment status of parents										
One-parent families										
Parent employed										
	56.8	18.3	34.6	*16.2	99.0	16.6	5.3	10.1	4.7	28.9
Parent not employed										
	25.4	11.2	20.5	*8.0	47.7	11.1	4.9	8.9	*3.5	20.8
<i>Total one-parent families(f)</i>	84.2	30.0	56.9	24.6	150.8	14.2	5.1	9.6	4.2	25.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) May not add to sum of components as some children participated in more than one activity.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(e) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(f) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

2

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Selected characteristics *continued*

	NUMBER ('000)					PARTICIPATION RATE (%)				
	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
Employment status of parents <i>cont.</i>										
Couple families										
Both parents employed	318.4	95.0	229.7	80.2	532.9	23.9	7.1	17.2	6.0	40.0
One parent employed	117.1	33.6	87.1	20.8	201.0	18.0	5.2	13.4	3.2	30.9
Neither parent employed	*12.4	**5.2	13.7	**1.2	24.7	9.7	*4.1	10.7	**0.9	19.3
<i>Total couple families(c)</i>	451.3	134.8	333.5	102.2	765.5	21.2	6.3	15.6	4.8	35.9
Total	535.4	164.7	390.4	126.7	916.3	19.7	6.1	14.3	4.7	33.7

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) May not add to sum of components as some children participated in more than one activity.

(c) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

3

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), By number of activities and sex(b)

	NUMBER ('000)			PROPORTION (%)		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
0	1 074.7	731.5	1 806.2	77.0	55.1	66.3
1	269.3	416.8	686.0	19.3	31.4	25.2
2	41.6	129.6	171.2	3.0	9.8	6.3
3	8.9	38.6	47.5	0.6	2.9	1.7
4	**1.3	10.3	11.6	**0.1	0.8	0.4
Total population aged 5–14 years	1 395.8	1 326.7	2 722.5	100.0	100.0	100.0

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Number of selected organised cultural activities (playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama).

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Whether lessons received in last 12 months

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>	<i>At least one selected organised cultural activity(b)</i>
.....					
NUMBER ('000)					
Males					
Had lessons	188.4	21.5	33.9	25.9	235.3
Did not have lessons	72.3	21.8	8.0	12.6	85.8
<i>Total male participants</i>	<i>260.7</i>	<i>43.3</i>	<i>41.9</i>	<i>38.6</i>	<i>321.1</i>
Females					
Had lessons	195.6	67.2	333.1	68.5	509.8
Did not have lessons	79.1	54.2	15.4	19.7	85.4
<i>Total female participants</i>	<i>274.7</i>	<i>121.4</i>	<i>348.5</i>	<i>88.2</i>	<i>595.2</i>
Persons					
Had lessons	384.0	88.7	366.9	94.4	745.1
Did not have lessons	151.4	76.0	23.4	32.3	171.2
<i>Total participants</i>	<i>535.4</i>	<i>164.7</i>	<i>390.4</i>	<i>126.7</i>	<i>916.3</i>
.....					
PROPORTION (%)					
Males					
Had lessons	72.3	49.6	80.8	67.2	73.3
Did not have lessons	27.7	50.4	*19.2	32.8	26.7
<i>Total male participants</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Females					
Had lessons	71.2	55.4	95.6	77.7	85.7
Did not have lessons	28.8	44.6	4.4	22.3	14.3
<i>Total female participants</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Persons					
Had lessons	71.7	53.8	94.0	74.5	81.3
Did not have lessons	28.3	46.2	6.0	25.5	18.7
<i>Total participants</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) May not add to sum of components as some children participated in more than one activity.

5

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Frequency in last 12 months(b)

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
1-13 times	119.0	85.8	100.6	61.2
14-26 times	52.6	19.6	34.8	21.2
27-52 times	164.4	45.6	149.7	37.7
53-104 times	59.2	*8.5	58.8	*5.7
105 times or more	140.2	*5.2	46.4	**0.9
Total participants	535.4	164.7	390.4	126.7
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
1-13 times	22.2	52.1	25.8	48.3
14-26 times	9.8	11.9	8.9	16.7
27-52 times	30.7	27.7	38.4	29.7
53-104 times	11.1	*5.1	15.1	*4.5
105 times or more	26.2	*3.2	11.9	**0.7
Total participants	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
TIMES (NO.)				
Mean	87.8	26.3	55.7	22.6
Median	48	12	40	15

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) The number of times children participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Duration in last two weeks of school(b)

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
2 hours or less	254.0	119.0	213.2	93.7
3-4 hours	106.7	23.5	81.3	16.1
5-9 hours	99.6	10.2	52.0	*9.2
10 hours or more	75.1	12.1	43.9	*7.8
Total	535.4	164.7	390.4	126.7
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
2 hours or less	47.4	72.2	54.6	73.9
3-4 hours	19.9	14.2	20.8	12.7
5-9 hours	18.6	6.2	13.3	*7.2
10 hours or more	14.0	7.3	11.2	6.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
HOURS (NO.)				
Mean	5.0	2.9	4.5	2.7
Median	3	*1	2	*1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) The number of hours children participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

	NUMBER ('000)				PARTICIPATION RATE (%)			
	Visited public library	Visited museum or art gallery	Attended performing arts event	At least one selected venue or event(b)	Visited public library	Visited museum or art gallery	Attended performing arts event	At least one selected venue or event(b)
Sex								
Males	720.9	570.3	405.8	962.3	51.6	40.9	29.1	68.9
Females	741.3	554.5	508.2	968.5	55.9	41.8	38.3	73.0
Age group (years)								
5-8	586.5	498.0	362.2	764.8	55.0	46.7	34.0	71.8
9-11	448.5	351.9	276.1	593.1	54.7	42.9	33.7	72.4
12-14	427.1	275.0	275.6	573.0	51.0	32.9	32.9	68.4
Country of birth								
Born in Australia	1 305.4	1 021.3	830.7	1 741.9	53.0	41.5	33.7	70.7
Born overseas								
Born in other main English-speaking country	71.1	56.4	44.4	89.7	59.7	47.4	37.3	75.3
Born in other country	85.6	47.1	38.8	99.2	60.7	33.4	27.5	70.3
Total born overseas	156.8	103.5	83.2	188.9	60.3	39.8	32.0	72.6
State or territory of usual residence								
New South Wales	449.9	320.0	280.9	600.4	50.7	36.0	31.6	67.6
Victoria	350.4	272.9	250.7	472.0	53.0	41.3	37.9	71.4
Queensland	342.3	247.2	162.6	417.2	60.0	43.3	28.5	73.1
South Australia	104.6	94.1	66.4	142.6	54.2	48.8	34.4	73.9
Western Australia	150.5	121.5	106.4	201.2	53.8	43.4	38.0	71.9
Tasmania	31.4	31.2	22.5	46.6	49.0	48.6	35.1	72.7
Northern Territory(c)	12.9	12.9	9.6	18.0	52.5	52.7	39.0	73.3
Australian Capital Territory	20.1	25.0	14.9	32.8	48.0	59.8	35.6	78.5
Area of usual residence								
State capital cities	903.4	718.2	559.9	1 174.7	55.5	44.1	34.4	72.2
Balance of state/Territory	558.8	406.7	354.1	756.2	51.0	37.1	32.3	69.0
Country of birth of parents								
One parent families								
Parent born in Australia	225.5	173.4	137.1	303.9	49.9	38.4	30.3	67.3
Parent born in other main English-speaking country	28.7	25.5	17.1	37.6	57.2	50.8	34.2	75.0
Parent born in other country	37.5	13.3	14.0	42.9	53.9	19.2	20.1	61.7
Total one-parent families(d)	299.4	218.4	172.0	393.8	50.6	36.9	29.1	66.6
Couple families								
Both parents born in Australia	658.2	529.6	468.8	900.9	52.3	42.0	37.2	71.5
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	75.6	58.7	45.1	90.7	67.5	52.4	40.2	80.9
Both parents born in other countries	152.4	83.0	57.0	187.9	51.2	27.9	19.2	63.1
Other	268.2	232.3	167.2	347.7	60.7	52.5	37.8	78.7
Total couple families(e)	1 162.8	906.4	742.0	1 537.0	54.6	42.5	34.8	72.1

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who attended selected cultural venues and events outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) May not add to sum of components as some children attended more than one venue or event.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(e) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

CHILDREN ATTENDING SELECTED CULTURAL VENUES AND EVENTS(a), Selected characteristics *continued*

	NUMBER ('000)				PARTICIPATION RATE (%)			
	Visited public library	Visited museum or art gallery	Attended performing arts event	At least one selected venue or event(b)	Visited public library	Visited museum or art gallery	Attended performing arts event	At least one selected venue or event(b)
Employment status of parents								
One-parent families								
Parent employed	185.0	138.3	115.9	245.1	54.1	40.4	33.9	71.7
Parent not employed	106.6	73.9	52.3	139.3	46.5	32.2	22.8	60.7
<i>Total one-parent families(c)</i>	299.4	218.4	172.0	393.8	50.6	36.9	29.1	66.6
Couple families								
Both parents employed	724.6	608.6	519.1	983.2	54.4	45.7	38.9	73.8
One parent employed	373.7	262.7	198.4	474.7	57.5	40.4	30.5	73.0
Neither parent employed	56.2	32.3	20.7	69.4	43.9	25.2	16.1	54.2
<i>Total couple families(d)</i>	1 162.8	906.4	742.0	1 537.0	54.6	42.5	34.8	72.1
Total	1 462.2	1 124.9	913.9	1 930.8	53.7	41.3	33.6	70.9

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who attended selected cultural venues and events outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) May not add to sum of components as some children attended more than one venue or event.

(c) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

CHILDREN ATTENDING SELECTED CULTURAL VENUES AND EVENTS(a), Frequency in last 12 months(b)

	<i>Visited public library</i>	<i>Visited museum or art gallery</i>	<i>Attended performing arts event</i>
.....			
NUMBER ('000)			
Once	82.6	430.6	366.6
Twice	156.7	317.6	241.8
3-4 times	236.5	228.7	197.9
5-9 times	334.7	107.4	70.5
10-13 times	293.4	29.6	26.5
14 times or more	358.2	*11.1	*10.7
Total attendees	1 462.2	1 124.9	913.9
.....			
PROPORTION (%)			
Once	5.7	38.3	40.1
Twice	10.7	28.2	26.5
3-4 times	16.2	20.3	21.7
5-9 times	22.9	9.5	7.7
10-13 times	20.1	2.6	2.9
14 times or more	24.5	*1.0	*1.2
Total attendees	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....			
TIMES (NO.)			
Mean	13.1	2.7	2.7
Median	6	2	2

- * estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who attended selected cultural venues and events outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) The number of times children attended selected cultural venues and events outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED SPORT(a), Selected characteristics

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Age group (years)						
5-8	349.5	264.8	614.2	63.9	51.0	57.6
9-11	302.8	258.1	560.9	72.1	64.6	68.4
12-14	318.6	224.0	542.6	74.2	54.9	64.8
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	892.0	694.9	1 586.9	70.2	58.3	64.4
Born overseas						
Born in other main						
English-speaking country	42.0	32.4	74.3	74.1	51.8	62.4
Born in other country	36.9	*19.6	56.5	53.7	27.2	40.1
<i>Total born overseas</i>	78.8	52.0	130.9	62.9	38.6	50.3
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	319.8	215.8	535.6	70.4	49.8	60.3
Victoria	245.9	207.1	453.0	72.5	64.3	68.5
Queensland	190.1	153.5	343.6	65.1	55.1	60.2
South Australia	68.4	59.6	128.0	69.4	63.2	66.3
Western Australia	102.9	73.5	176.5	71.2	54.4	63.1
Tasmania	19.8	17.1	36.9	60.1	54.8	57.5
Northern Territory(b)	8.7	5.7	14.4	68.4	47.9	58.6
Australian Capital Territory	15.2	14.7	29.8	71.5	71.1	71.3
Area of usual residence						
State capital cities	582.9	436.0	1 018.9	70.0	54.9	62.6
Balance of state/Territory	387.9	310.9	698.8	68.9	58.4	63.8
Country of birth of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia						
Parent born in other main	137.3	102.0	239.2	59.0	46.5	52.9
English-speaking country						
Parent born in other country	16.4	12.4	28.8	68.2	47.5	57.4
<i>Total one-parent families(c)</i>	18.6	*10.7	29.4	65.6	*26.2	42.3
<i>Total one-parent families(c)</i>	177.9	128.9	306.8	60.1	43.6	51.9
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia						
Both parents born in other main	493.3	410.6	903.9	76.1	67.2	71.8
English-speaking countries						
Both parents born in other countries	38.8	28.3	67.1	66.7	52.4	59.9
Other	87.4	42.6	130.1	53.4	31.8	43.7
<i>Total couple families(d)</i>	167.1	132.6	299.7	76.4	59.4	67.8
<i>Total couple families(d)</i>	793.0	618.0	1 410.9	72.1	59.9	66.2
Employment status of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent employed						
Parent not employed	117.7	93.7	211.3	65.5	57.7	61.8
<i>Total one-parent families(e)</i>	54.6	31.5	86.0	51.7	25.4	37.5
<i>Total one-parent families(e)</i>	177.9	128.9	306.8	60.1	43.6	51.9
Couple families						
Both parents employed						
One parent employed	543.4	434.6	978.0	79.1	67.2	73.4
Neither parent employed	210.2	160.2	370.3	62.9	50.6	56.9
<i>Total couple families(f)</i>	33.0	19.4	52.4	48.2	32.5	40.9
<i>Total couple families(f)</i>	793.0	618.0	1 410.9	72.1	59.9	66.2
Total participants	970.8	746.9	1 717.8	69.6	56.3	63.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(e) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(f) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED SPORTS(a), By number of sports and sex(b)

	NUMBER ('000)			PROPORTION (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
0	425.0	579.8	1 004.8	30.4	43.7	36.9
1	471.9	438.8	910.6	33.8	33.1	33.4
2	311.8	214.3	526.1	22.3	16.2	19.3
3 or more	187.2	93.8	281.0	13.4	7.1	10.3
Total population aged 5-14 years	1 395.8	1 326.7	2 722.5	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
 (b) Number of organised sports (excluding dancing).

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
1-13 times	55.3	27.1	26.9	109.2
14-26 times	54.6	24.7	21.4	100.7
27-52 times	115.4	90.5	78.5	284.4
53-104 times	95.9	96.3	104.1	296.3
105 times or more	28.3	64.2	87.7	180.2
<i>Total male participants</i>	349.5	302.8	318.6	970.8
Females				
1-13 times	51.4	28.7	21.2	101.3
14-26 times	34.4	30.4	19.7	84.4
27-52 times	99.4	86.3	61.3	247.1
53-104 times	58.0	63.7	65.4	187.1
105 times or more	21.7	49.0	56.4	127.0
<i>Total female participants</i>	264.8	258.1	224.0	746.9
Persons				
1-13 times	106.6	55.8	48.0	210.5
14-26 times	89.0	55.1	41.1	185.1
27-52 times	214.8	176.8	139.9	531.5
53-104 times	153.9	160.0	169.6	483.4
105 times or more	50.0	113.3	144.1	307.3
Total participants	614.2	560.9	542.6	1 717.8
PROPORTION (%)				
Males				
1-13 times	15.8	9.0	8.4	11.3
14-26 times	15.6	8.2	6.7	10.4
27-52 times	33.0	29.9	24.7	29.3
53-104 times	27.4	31.8	32.7	30.5
105 times or more	8.1	21.2	27.5	18.6
<i>Total male participants</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
1-13 times	19.4	11.1	9.4	13.6
14-26 times	13.0	11.8	8.8	11.3
27-52 times	37.5	33.4	27.4	33.1
53-104 times	21.9	24.7	29.2	25.0
105 times or more	8.2	19.0	25.2	17.0
<i>Total female participants</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
1-13 times	17.4	10.0	8.9	12.3
14-26 times	14.5	9.8	7.6	10.8
27-52 times	35.0	31.5	25.8	30.9
53-104 times	25.0	28.5	31.3	28.1
105 times or more	8.1	20.2	26.5	17.9
Total participants	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) The total number of times children participated in organised sport (including training or practice sessions) outside of school hours for up to three sports per child during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
MEAN TIMES (NO.)				
Males	52.7	76.6	88.6	72.0
Females	50.8	69.8	82.8	66.9
Persons	51.9	73.5	86.2	69.8
MEDIAN TIMES (NO.)				
Males	40	60	68	52
Females	40	50	62	50
Persons	40	52	66	52

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) The total number of times children participated in organised sport (including training or practice sessions) outside of school hours for up to three sports per child during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Aerobics and fitness	*3.5	*6.8	10.3	*0.3	*0.5	0.4
Athletics, track and field	42.4	47.0	89.4	3.0	3.5	3.3
Australian Rules football	223.7	11.4	235.1	16.0	0.9	8.6
Badminton	*3.7	*3.9	*7.6	*0.3	*0.3	*0.3
Baseball	8.5	*2.2	10.6	0.6	*0.2	0.4
Basketball	118.7	83.2	201.9	8.5	6.3	7.4
Cricket (indoor)	14.6	*3.5	18.1	1.0	*0.3	0.7
Cricket (outdoor)	135.7	*6.8	142.5	9.7	*0.5	5.2
Cross country running	*4.2	*10.1	14.3	*0.3	*0.8	0.5
Cycling	6.9	*2.3	9.2	0.5	*0.2	0.3
Golf	16.0	*1.9	17.8	1.1	*0.1	0.7
Gymnastics	23.7	101.2	124.9	1.7	7.6	4.6
Hockey	25.6	31.8	57.4	1.8	2.4	2.1
Horse riding and equestrian events	*4.8	31.5	36.3	*0.3	2.4	1.3
Ice and snow sports	*4.3	*6.2	10.5	*0.3	*0.5	0.4
Martial arts	105.2	49.5	154.6	7.5	3.7	5.7
Netball	*3.5	225.0	228.5	*0.3	17.0	8.4
Roller sports	**1.5	**1.9	*3.4	**0.1	**0.1	*0.1
Rowing	*3.1	*4.1	7.2	*0.2	*0.3	0.3
Rugby League	97.2	—	97.2	7.0	—	3.6
Rugby Union	53.7	**0.9	54.5	3.8	**0.1	2.0
Sailing	*4.8	*5.0	*9.8	*0.3	*0.4	*0.4
Soccer (indoor)	59.4	17.5	76.9	4.3	1.3	2.8
Soccer (outdoor)	277.8	82.7	360.4	19.9	6.2	13.2
Softball	17.7	20.7	38.3	1.3	1.6	1.4
Squash and racquetball	*6.6	**1.0	*7.5	*0.5	**0.1	*0.3
Surf lifesaving	17.6	17.8	35.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Surf sports	*7.2	**3.7	*10.9	*0.5	**0.3	*0.4
Swimming	240.1	262.8	502.9	17.2	19.8	18.5
Tennis	131.6	83.2	214.8	9.4	6.3	7.9
Tenpin bowling	**2.0	**2.1	**4.0	**0.1	**0.2	**0.1
Touch football	27.0	19.5	46.4	1.9	1.5	1.7
Volleyball	*3.3	8.2	11.5	*0.2	0.6	0.4
Water polo	*4.7	*5.7	10.4	*0.3	*0.4	0.4
Other organised sports	42.3	24.3	66.6	3.0	1.8	2.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

	NUMBER OF TIMES				Total participants
	1-13	14-26	27-52	53 or more	
	NUMBER ('000)				
Athletics, track and field	17.2	36.6	17.3	10.4	89.4
Australian Rules football	50.0	57.0	82.4	40.7	235.1
Basketball	35.3	27.7	64.3	66.9	201.9
Cricket (outdoor)	27.5	39.1	48.7	20.1	142.5
Gymnastics	26.6	10.8	60.1	24.8	124.9
Martial arts	26.6	12.7	59.2	53.4	154.6
Netball	39.9	45.4	94.5	43.5	228.5
Rugby League	18.4	15.0	27.1	35.4	97.2
Soccer (indoor)	17.6	20.0	26.5	*6.8	76.9
Soccer (outdoor)	76.5	69.9	143.1	63.1	360.4
Swimming	74.3	87.5	255.7	69.3	502.9
Tennis	35.3	41.2	98.2	26.7	214.8
	PROPORTION (%)				
Athletics, track and field	21.1	44.9	21.2	12.8	100.0
Australian Rules football	21.7	24.8	35.8	17.7	100.0
Basketball	18.2	14.3	33.1	34.4	100.0
Cricket (outdoor)	20.3	28.9	35.9	14.8	100.0
Gymnastics	21.8	8.8	49.2	20.3	100.0
Martial arts	17.5	8.4	38.9	35.2	100.0
Netball	17.9	20.3	42.3	19.5	100.0
Rugby League	19.2	15.7	28.2	36.9	100.0
Soccer (indoor)	24.8	28.2	37.4	*9.6	100.0
Soccer (outdoor)	21.7	19.8	40.6	17.9	100.0
Swimming	15.3	18.0	52.5	14.2	100.0
Tennis	17.5	20.5	48.7	13.3	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) The total number of times children participated in organised sport (including training or practice sessions) outside of school hours for up to three sports per child during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	173.8	103.0	87.4	364.2
3-4 hours	82.9	63.4	56.0	202.4
5-9 hours	68.5	91.6	97.0	257.1
10-19 hours	15.0	35.4	60.9	111.3
20 hours or more	9.1	9.4	17.3	35.8
<i>Total male participants</i>	349.5	302.8	318.6	970.8
Females				
2 hours or less	150.7	109.3	76.9	336.9
3-4 hours	60.8	60.6	41.7	163.1
5-9 hours	35.3	53.4	59.6	148.2
10-19 hours	11.8	18.2	33.3	63.3
20 hours or more	*6.1	16.6	12.6	35.4
<i>Total female participants</i>	264.8	258.1	224.0	746.9
Persons				
2 hours or less	324.5	212.4	164.2	701.1
3-4 hours	143.8	124.0	97.7	365.5
5-9 hours	103.8	145.0	156.6	405.4
10-19 hours	26.8	53.5	94.2	174.6
20 hours or more	15.2	26.0	29.9	71.2
Total participants	614.2	560.9	542.6	1 717.8

	PROPORTION (%)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
Males				
2 hours or less	49.7	34.0	27.4	37.5
3-4 hours	23.7	20.9	17.6	20.8
5-9 hours	19.6	30.3	30.4	26.5
10-19 hours	4.3	11.7	19.1	11.5
20 hours or more	2.6	*3.1	5.4	3.7
<i>Total male participants</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	56.9	42.4	34.3	45.1
3-4 hours	23.0	23.5	18.6	21.8
5-9 hours	13.3	20.7	26.6	19.8
10-19 hours	4.5	7.0	14.8	8.5
20 hours or more	*2.3	6.4	5.6	4.7
<i>Total female participants</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	52.8	37.9	30.3	40.8
3-4 hours	23.4	22.1	18.0	21.3
5-9 hours	16.9	25.8	28.9	23.6
10-19 hours	4.4	9.5	17.4	10.2
20 hours or more	2.5	4.6	5.5	4.1
Total participants	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) The total number of hours children participated in organised sport (including training or practise sessions) outside of school hours for up to three sports per child during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
MEAN HOURS (NO.)				
Males	3.8	5.3	6.8	5.3
Females	3.5	5.7	6.7	5.2
Persons	3.7	5.5	6.8	5.3
MEDIAN HOURS (NO.)				
Males	3	4	5	4
Females	2	4	4	3
Persons	2	4	5	4

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (excluding dancing) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) The total number of hours children participated in organised sport (including training or practise sessions) outside of school hours for up to three sports per child during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

	NUMBER ('000)			PROPORTION (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Age group (years)						
5-8	355.5	335.9	691.5	65.1	64.7	64.9
9-11	307.3	291.1	598.4	73.2	72.8	73.0
12-14	320.5	260.8	581.3	74.7	64.0	69.4
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	903.1	821.5	1 724.6	71.1	68.9	70.0
Born overseas						
Born in other main						
English-speaking country	43.0	41.3	84.3	75.9	66.1	70.8
Born in other country	37.3	25.0	62.3	54.3	34.6	44.2
<i>Total born overseas</i>	80.2	66.4	146.6	64.1	49.2	56.4
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	324.8	275.1	599.9	71.5	63.5	67.6
Victoria	247.6	228.2	475.8	73.0	70.9	72.0
Queensland	192.4	181.8	374.2	65.9	65.3	65.6
South Australia	68.7	68.1	136.8	69.7	72.2	70.9
Western Australia	105.7	92.9	198.6	73.2	68.7	71.0
Tasmania	19.9	19.2	39.2	60.5	61.8	61.1
Northern Territory(b)	9.0	6.7	15.7	70.5	57.1	64.1
Australian Capital Territory	15.2	15.8	30.9	71.5	76.5	74.0
Area of usual residence						
State capital cities	589.7	528.3	1 118.1	70.8	66.5	68.7
Balance of state/Territory	393.6	359.6	753.1	69.9	67.5	68.8
Country of birth of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia						
Parent born in other main	138.9	117.0	255.9	59.7	53.4	56.6
English-speaking country						
Parent born in other country	16.5	16.4	32.8	68.7	62.5	65.4
<i>Total one-parent families(c)</i>	19.3	15.0	34.3	67.9	36.6	49.4
	180.3	153.4	333.7	61.0	51.9	56.4
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia						
Both parents born in other	497.4	474.0	971.5	76.7	77.6	77.1
main English-speaking						
countries						
Both parents born in other	39.8	36.4	76.1	68.5	67.3	67.9
countries						
Other	89.8	53.0	142.7	54.8	39.5	47.9
<i>Total couple families(d)</i>	169.7	165.7	335.4	77.5	74.3	75.9
	803.0	734.5	1 537.5	73.0	71.2	72.1
Employment status of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent employed						
Parent not employed	119.7	106.8	226.5	66.7	65.8	66.3
<i>Total one-parent families(e)</i>	55.0	41.6	96.5	52.1	33.5	42.1
	180.3	153.4	333.7	61.0	51.9	56.4
Couple families						
Both parents employed						
One parent employed	548.8	511.9	1 060.7	79.9	79.2	79.6
Neither parent employed	214.0	193.5	407.5	64.1	61.2	62.7
<i>Total couple families(f)</i>	33.8	23.7	57.5	49.4	39.7	44.9
	803.0	734.5	1 537.5	73.0	71.2	72.1
Total	983.3	887.9	1 871.2	70.4	66.9	68.7

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport and/or organised dancing outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(e) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(f) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

	Participated in cultural activities and sport	Participated in cultural activities only	Participated in sport only	Did not participate in cultural activities or sport	Total population aged 5–14 years
NUMBER ('000)					
Sex					
Males	254.1	67.0	716.7	358.0	1 395.8
Females	371.2	224.0	375.7	355.7	1 326.7
Age group (years)					
5–8	195.3	109.0	418.9	342.5	1 065.7
9–11	237.2	84.5	323.7	174.3	819.7
12–14	192.9	97.5	349.8	197.0	837.1
Country of birth					
Born in Australia	572.0	256.1	1 014.8	619.4	2 462.4
Born overseas					
Born in other main English-speaking country	30.6	15.7	43.7	29.1	119.1
Born in other country	22.7	19.2	33.8	65.3	141.0
Total born overseas	53.3	34.9	77.6	94.4	260.1
State or territory of usual residence					
New South Wales	195.4	109.8	340.2	242.5	887.9
Victoria	162.0	52.3	291.0	155.7	661.1
Queensland	131.1	57.1	212.5	169.7	570.4
South Australia	42.5	19.8	85.5	45.1	192.9
Western Australia	66.5	38.1	110.0	65.1	279.7
Tasmania	11.5	6.7	25.4	20.6	64.1
Northern Territory(b)	5.1	3.4	9.3	6.8	24.6
Australian Capital Territory	11.1	3.7	18.7	8.3	41.8
Area of usual residence					
State capital cities	393.1	187.6	625.8	420.6	1 627.1
Balance of state/Territory	232.2	103.4	466.7	293.2	1 095.4
Country of birth of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	68.2	44.9	171.0	167.7	451.8
Parent born in other main English-speaking country	*7.5	*7.7	21.3	13.6	50.2
Parent born in other country	*8.6	*9.7	20.7	30.4	69.5
Total one-parent families(c)	86.1	64.7	220.7	219.7	591.3
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	346.0	115.0	557.9	240.7	1 259.6
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	23.7	*16.3	43.3	28.7	112.1
Both parents born in other countries	43.8	40.3	86.3	127.5	297.8
Other	123.4	50.3	176.4	92.0	442.0
Total couple families(d)	539.2	226.3	871.7	494.0	2 131.3
Employment status of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	63.5	35.5	147.9	95.1	341.9
Parent not employed	20.9	26.8	65.1	116.7	229.5
Total one-parent families(e)	86.1	64.7	220.7	219.7	591.3
Couple families					
Both parents employed	396.8	136.1	581.2	219.0	1 333.1
One parent employed	125.5	75.5	244.8	204.5	650.3
Neither parent employed	14.5	*10.2	37.9	65.5	128.1
Total couple families(f)	539.2	226.3	871.7	494.0	2 131.3
Total	625.3	291.0	1 092.4	713.8	2 722.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport and/or organised cultural activities (playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama) outside of school hours during the last 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(e) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(f) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

	Participated in cultural activities and sport	Participated in cultural activities only	Participated in sport only	Did not participate in cultural activities or sport	Total population aged 5–14 years
.....					
PROPORTION (%)					
Sex					
Males	18.2	4.8	51.3	25.6	100.0
Females	28.0	16.9	28.3	26.8	100.0
Age group (years)					
5–8	18.3	10.2	39.3	32.1	100.0
9–11	28.9	10.3	39.5	21.3	100.0
12–14	23.0	11.6	41.8	23.5	100.0
Country of birth					
Born in Australia	23.2	10.4	41.2	25.2	100.0
Born overseas					
Born in other main English-speaking country	25.7	13.2	36.7	24.4	100.0
Born in other country	16.1	13.6	24.0	46.3	100.0
Total born overseas	20.5	13.4	29.8	36.3	100.0
State or territory of usual residence					
New South Wales	22.0	12.4	38.3	27.3	100.0
Victoria	24.5	7.9	44.0	23.6	100.0
Queensland	23.0	10.0	37.2	29.8	100.0
South Australia	22.1	10.3	44.3	23.4	100.0
Western Australia	23.8	13.6	39.3	23.3	100.0
Tasmania	18.0	10.4	39.6	32.1	100.0
Northern Territory(b)	20.6	13.9	37.9	27.5	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	26.6	8.9	44.7	19.7	100.0
Area of usual residence					
State capital cities	24.2	11.5	38.5	25.8	100.0
Balance of state/Territory	21.2	9.4	42.6	26.8	100.0
Country of birth of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	15.1	9.9	37.8	37.1	100.0
Parent born in other main English-speaking country	*14.9	*15.4	42.4	27.2	100.0
Parent born in other country	*12.4	*14.0	29.9	43.7	100.0
Total one-parent families(c)	14.6	10.9	37.3	37.2	100.0
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	27.5	9.1	44.3	19.1	100.0
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	21.2	14.5	38.7	25.6	100.0
Both parents born in other countries	14.7	13.5	29.0	42.8	100.0
Other	27.9	11.4	39.9	20.8	100.0
Total couple families(d)	25.3	10.6	40.9	23.2	100.0
Employment status of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	18.6	10.4	43.2	27.8	100.0
Parent not employed	9.1	11.7	28.4	50.8	100.0
Total one-parent families(e)	14.6	10.9	37.3	37.2	100.0
Couple families					
Both parents employed	29.8	10.2	43.6	16.4	100.0
One parent employed	19.3	11.6	37.6	31.4	100.0
Neither parent employed	11.3	*7.9	29.6	51.1	100.0
Total couple families(f)	25.3	10.6	40.9	23.2	100.0
Total	23.0	10.7	40.1	26.2	100.0
.....					

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport and/or organised cultural activities (playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama) outside of school hours during the last 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(e) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(f) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

	Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter	Bike riding	Watching TV, DVDs or videos	Other screen-based activities(b)	Art and craft	Reading for pleasure	Homework or other study
NUMBER ('000)							
Sex							
Males	780.4	922.5	1 354.2	1 207.1	521.5	901.9	1 117.6
Females	562.2	721.1	1 296.2	1 056.9	794.2	1 063.9	1 125.6
Age group (years)							
5-8	627.8	732.4	1 031.6	786.9	687.5	767.3	779.3
9-11	446.6	507.2	802.0	722.6	386.5	635.8	722.1
12-14	268.2	404.0	816.8	754.5	241.7	562.7	741.7
Country of birth							
Born in Australia	1 254.8	1 510.0	2 396.0	2 048.6	1 198.3	1 767.2	2 022.7
Born overseas							
Born in other main English-speaking country	53.0	73.7	115.5	98.4	61.8	92.6	101.7
Born in other country	34.8	59.9	138.9	117.1	55.5	106.1	118.7
<i>Total born overseas</i>	87.7	133.6	254.4	215.5	117.3	198.6	220.4
State or territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	434.1	500.8	865.5	727.5	430.8	642.7	776.6
Victoria	307.1	433.4	636.0	554.0	308.3	473.7	513.2
Queensland	302.0	321.4	559.2	484.2	279.0	407.6	475.2
South Australia	89.4	121.1	190.4	163.7	94.5	132.9	157.7
Western Australia	150.5	178.9	271.5	227.4	139.7	209.1	227.2
Tasmania	26.2	44.0	62.9	53.2	28.0	49.5	41.8
Northern Territory(c)	10.9	17.7	23.8	20.7	12.8	18.4	17.8
Australian Capital Territory	22.5	26.5	40.9	33.3	22.6	32.1	33.7
Area of usual residence							
State capital cities	789.3	951.9	1 590.2	1 365.8	789.7	1 202.7	1 361.8
Balance of state/Territory	553.2	691.7	1 060.3	898.2	526.0	763.1	881.4
Country of birth of parents							
One-parent families							
Parent born in Australia	250.3	261.3	438.9	368.8	212.9	299.1	355.3
Parent born in other main English-speaking country	27.1	29.3	47.6	40.3	26.7	35.3	37.6
Parent born in other country	21.9	33.7	68.4	57.1	23.7	51.0	59.9
<i>Total one-parent families(d)</i>	308.2	334.3	574.7	480.3	269.1	394.5	467.5
Couple families							
Both parents born in Australia	665.8	808.6	1 230.8	1 059.0	646.3	902.9	1 034.9
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	59.9	65.1	109.1	90.5	62.3	88.9	92.8
Both parents born in other countries	79.6	145.9	285.1	237.3	98.5	227.4	257.6
Other	218.7	279.8	431.7	381.5	230.8	339.8	375.6
<i>Total couple families(e)</i>	1 034.4	1 309.3	2 075.7	1 783.8	1 046.6	1 571.3	1 775.6
Employment status of parents							
One-parent families							
Parent employed	181.4	196.5	335.4	289.9	164.8	235.4	284.3
Parent not employed	117.9	127.7	219.5	176.2	98.5	150.1	168.5
<i>Total one-parent families(f)</i>	308.2	334.3	574.7	480.3	269.1	394.5	467.5
Couple families							
Both parents employed	667.8	831.1	1 304.2	1 151.7	654.9	1 000.8	1 137.5
One parent employed	303.7	393.8	635.3	523.2	338.0	478.5	531.0
Neither parent employed	52.5	74.6	117.2	93.4	44.9	79.6	92.3
<i>Total couple families(g)</i>	1 034.4	1 309.3	2 075.7	1 783.8	1 046.6	1 571.3	1 775.6
Total participants	1 342.6	1 643.6	2 650.4	2 264.0	1 315.6	1 965.8	2 243.1

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who were involved in selected other activities outside of school hours in the last two weeks of school prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) See Glossary for definition of 'Other screen-based activities'.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 Explanatory Notes.

(d) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(e) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(f) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(g) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

	Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter	Bike riding	Watching TV, DVDs or videos	Other screen-based activities(b)	Art and craft	Reading for pleasure	Homework or other study
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)							
Sex							
Males	55.9	66.1	97.0	86.5	37.4	64.6	80.1
Females	42.4	54.4	97.7	79.7	59.9	80.2	84.8
Age group (years)							
5-8	58.9	68.7	96.8	73.8	64.5	72.0	73.1
9-11	54.5	61.9	97.8	88.2	47.2	77.6	88.1
12-14	32.0	48.3	97.6	90.1	28.9	67.2	88.6
Country of birth							
Born in Australia	51.0	61.3	97.3	83.2	48.7	71.8	82.1
Born overseas							
Born in other main English-speaking country	44.4	61.9	97.0	82.6	51.9	77.7	85.4
Born in other country	24.7	42.5	98.5	83.1	39.4	75.2	84.2
Total born overseas	33.7	51.4	97.8	82.8	45.1	76.4	84.7
State or territory of usual residence							
New South Wales	48.9	56.4	97.5	81.9	48.5	72.4	87.5
Victoria	46.5	65.6	96.2	83.8	46.6	71.7	77.6
Queensland	52.9	56.3	98.0	84.9	48.9	71.4	83.3
South Australia	46.3	62.7	98.7	84.8	49.0	68.9	81.7
Western Australia	53.8	64.0	97.1	81.3	49.9	74.7	81.2
Tasmania	40.9	68.6	98.1	82.9	43.8	77.2	65.2
Northern Territory	44.2	71.9	97.0	84.5	52.3	74.8	72.3
Australian Capital Territory	53.7	63.3	97.9	79.8	54.0	76.8	80.6
Area of usual residence							
State capital cities	48.5	58.5	97.7	83.9	48.5	73.9	83.7
Balance of state/Territory	50.5	63.1	96.8	82.0	48.0	69.7	80.5
Country of birth of parents							
One-parent families							
Parent born in Australia	55.4	57.8	97.1	81.6	47.1	66.2	78.6
Parent born in other main English-speaking country	54.1	58.3	94.8	80.3	53.3	70.4	74.9
Parent born in other country	31.6	48.5	98.5	82.2	34.1	73.4	86.2
Total one-parent families(c)	52.1	56.5	97.2	81.2	45.5	66.7	79.1
Couple families							
Both parents born in Australia	52.9	64.2	97.7	84.1	51.3	71.7	82.2
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	53.4	58.1	97.3	80.8	55.6	79.3	82.8
Both parents born in other countries	26.7	49.0	95.7	79.7	33.1	76.3	86.5
Other	49.5	63.3	97.7	86.3	52.2	76.9	85.0
Total couple families(d)	48.5	61.4	97.4	83.7	49.1	73.7	83.3
Employment status of parents							
One-parent families							
Parent employed	53.1	57.5	98.1	84.8	48.2	68.8	83.1
Parent not employed	51.4	55.6	95.6	76.8	42.9	65.4	73.4
Total one-parent families(e)	52.1	56.5	97.2	81.2	45.5	66.7	79.1
Couple families							
Both parents employed	50.1	62.3	97.8	86.4	49.1	75.1	85.3
One parent employed	46.7	60.6	97.7	80.5	52.0	73.6	81.7
Neither parent employed	41.0	58.3	91.5	72.9	35.1	62.2	72.1
Total couple families(f)	48.5	61.4	97.4	83.7	49.1	73.7	83.3
Total participants	49.3	60.4	97.4	83.2	48.3	72.2	82.4

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who were involved in selected other activities outside of school hours in the last two weeks of school prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) See Glossary for definition of 'Other screen-based activities'.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

(e) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(f) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

	Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter	Bike riding	Watching TV, DVDs or videos	Other screen-based activities (c)	Art and craft	Reading for pleasure	Homework or other study
NUMBER ('000)							
Males							
2 hours or less	272.7	390.1	51.8	167.8	224.0	259.8	287.0
3–4 hours	160.2	177.4	97.9	181.9	136.1	157.2	234.7
5–9 hours	137.9	172.6	203.6	251.4	97.0	271.4	328.9
10–19 hours	148.1	148.9	498.8	367.1	50.2	186.1	230.5
20 hours or more	61.6	33.5	502.1	238.9	*14.2	27.4	36.5
<i>Total male participants</i>	780.4	922.5	1 354.2	1 207.1	521.5	901.9	1 117.6
Females							
2 hours or less	267.9	387.1	51.2	227.8	257.3	241.0	257.3
3–4 hours	116.0	146.3	101.1	177.5	194.0	178.6	208.2
5–9 hours	90.3	109.9	174.8	221.8	188.0	320.5	325.6
10–19 hours	70.0	66.2	508.0	262.0	124.1	247.5	262.6
20 hours or more	18.0	*11.7	461.2	167.8	30.7	76.3	71.8
<i>Total female participants</i>	562.2	721.1	1 296.2	1 056.9	794.2	1 063.9	1 125.6
Persons							
2 hours or less	540.6	777.2	103.0	395.7	481.3	500.8	544.3
3–4 hours	276.2	323.7	199.0	359.3	330.1	335.8	442.9
5–9 hours	228.2	282.4	378.4	473.2	284.9	591.9	654.5
10–19 hours	218.0	215.1	1 006.8	629.1	174.3	433.6	493.1
20 hours or more	79.5	45.2	963.3	406.8	45.0	103.7	108.3
Total participants	1 342.6	1 643.6	2 650.4	2 264.0	1 315.6	1 965.8	2 243.1

	PROPORTION (%)						
Males							
2 hours or less	34.9	42.3	3.8	13.9	43.0	28.8	25.7
3–4 hours	20.5	19.2	7.2	15.1	26.1	17.4	21.0
5–9 hours	17.7	18.7	15.0	20.8	18.6	30.1	29.4
10–19 hours	19.0	16.1	36.8	30.4	9.6	20.6	20.6
20 hours or more	7.9	3.6	37.1	19.8	*2.7	3.0	3.3
<i>Total male participants</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females							
2 hours or less	47.7	53.7	4.0	21.6	32.4	22.7	22.9
3–4 hours	20.6	20.3	7.8	16.8	24.4	16.8	18.5
5–9 hours	16.1	15.2	13.5	21.0	23.7	30.1	28.9
10–19 hours	12.4	9.2	39.2	24.8	15.6	23.3	23.3
20 hours or more	3.2	*1.6	35.6	15.9	3.9	7.2	6.4
<i>Total female participants</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons							
2 hours or less	40.3	47.3	3.9	17.5	36.6	25.5	24.3
3–4 hours	20.6	19.7	7.5	15.9	25.1	17.1	19.7
5–9 hours	17.0	17.2	14.3	20.9	21.7	30.1	29.2
10–19 hours	16.2	13.1	38.0	27.8	13.2	22.1	22.0
20 hours or more	5.9	2.8	36.3	18.0	3.4	5.3	4.8
Total participants	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected other activities outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) The number of hours children participated in selected other activities in the last two weeks of school prior to interview in April 2009.

(c) See Glossary for definition of 'Other screen-based activities'.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN SELECTED OTHER ACTIVITIES(a), Duration in last two weeks of school(b)—By sex *continued*

	<i>Skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter</i>	<i>Bike riding</i>	<i>Watching TV, DVDs or videos</i>	<i>Other screen-based activities (c)</i>	<i>Art and craft</i>	<i>Reading for pleasure</i>	<i>Homework or other study</i>
MEAN HOURS (NO.)							
Males	6.8	5.4	16.9	11.8	4.5	6.4	6.1
Females	4.7	3.9	16.8	9.9	5.8	7.8	7.3
Persons	5.9	4.7	16.9	10.9	5.3	7.2	6.7

	MEDIAN HOURS (NO.)						
Males	4	3	14	10	3	5	5
Females	3	2	14	6	4	6	5
Persons	4	3	14	8	4	5	5

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected other activities outside of school hours during the two school weeks prior to interview in April 2009.

(b) The number of hours children participated in selected other activities in the last two weeks of school prior to interview in April 2009.

(c) See Glossary for definition of 'Other screen-based activities'.

	NUMBER ('000)		PARTICIPATION RATE (%)	
	Accessed the Internet	Has a mobile phone	Accessed the Internet	Has a mobile phone
Sex				
Males	1 116.5	401.2	80.0	28.7
Females	1 046.5	440.3	78.9	33.2
Age group (years)				
5-8	638.0	20.1	59.9	1.9
9-11	725.4	184.2	88.5	22.5
12-14	799.6	637.1	95.5	76.1
Country of birth				
Born in Australia	1 952.9	764.0	79.3	31.0
Born overseas				
Born in other main English-speaking country	95.7	40.0	80.3	33.5
Born in other country	114.3	37.5	81.1	26.6
Total born overseas	210.0	77.4	80.7	29.8
State or territory of usual residence				
New South Wales	709.2	268.1	79.9	30.2
Victoria	533.6	200.6	80.7	30.4
Queensland	448.8	176.4	78.7	30.9
South Australia	151.7	59.9	78.6	31.0
Western Australia	220.9	91.4	79.0	32.7
Tasmania	48.9	26.4	76.3	41.2
Northern Territory(b)	17.1	6.5	69.6	26.5
Australian Capital Territory	32.8	12.2	78.3	29.2
Area of usual residence				
State capital cities	1 313.9	503.4	80.7	30.9
Balance of state/Territory	849.0	338.1	77.5	30.9
Remoteness area				
Major cities	1 484.2	566.5	80.9	30.9
Inner regional	474.2	185.9	77.2	30.3
Outer regional	192.9	84.6	75.0	32.9
Remote	*11.6	*4.5	70.3	*27.2
Country of birth of parents				
One-parent families				
Parent born in Australia	349.1	166.6	77.3	36.9
Parent born in other main English-speaking country	36.3	22.0	72.4	43.9
Parent born in other country	54.6	28.3	78.5	40.7
Total one-parent families(c)	452.7	222.4	76.6	37.6
Couple families				
Both parents born in Australia	1 020.3	371.5	81.0	29.5
Both parents born in other main English-speaking countries	92.6	37.0	82.6	33.0
Both parents born in other countries	218.4	78.9	73.3	26.5
Other	367.0	128.0	83.0	29.0
Total couple families(d)	1 710.3	619.1	80.2	29.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used the Internet during or outside school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009, or had a mobile phone at the time of interview in April 2009.
- (b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.
- (c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth was not stated.
- (d) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' country of birth not stated.

	NUMBER ('000)		PARTICIPATION RATE (%)	
	<i>Accessed the Internet</i>	<i>Has a mobile phone</i>	<i>Accessed the Internet</i>	<i>Has a mobile phone</i>
.....				
Employment status of parents				
One-parent families				
Parent employed	282.1	154.6	82.5	45.2
Parent not employed	157.9	62.3	68.8	27.2
<i>Total one-parent families(b)</i>	452.7	222.4	76.6	37.6
Couple families				
Both parents employed	1 115.5	446.5	83.7	33.5
One parent employed	497.1	139.2	76.4	21.4
Neither parent employed	85.6	29.7	66.9	23.2
<i>Total couple families(c)</i>	1 710.3	619.1	80.2	29.0
Total	2 162.9	841.4	79.4	30.9

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used the Internet during or outside school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009, or had a mobile phone at the time of interview in April 2009.

(b) Includes children whose parent's employment status was not stated.

(c) Includes children who had at least one of their parents' employment status not stated.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
NUMBER ('000)				
Location of Internet access				
Home	573.2	661.7	749.6	1 984.5
School	459.1	662.0	746.9	1 868.0
Other places	189.0	321.8	456.3	967.1
Total children accessing Internet at any location(b)	638.0	725.4	799.6	2 162.9
Type of activity done at home				
Emailing	57.7	202.9	449.2	709.8
Using chat rooms, forums or instant messaging	26.5	152.2	445.7	624.4
Playing online games	439.9	485.3	445.5	1 370.7
Listening to or downloading music	102.3	283.3	549.2	934.8
Watching or downloading TV programs, videos or movies	96.2	172.5	297.3	565.9
Using eBay, auction sites or Internet shopping	11.7	36.9	85.1	133.7
Educational activities	368.4	600.8	707.6	1 676.9
Visiting or using social networking sites	16.1	69.7	359.3	445.1
Creating online content(c)	*4.5	34.6	180.0	219.1
Making phone calls online	33.9	46.0	50.5	130.4
Visiting news, sports or weather sites	64.4	164.2	278.5	507.2
Other general surfing or browsing	164.3	316.9	507.3	988.4
Other activities	25.7	20.1	28.6	74.3
Number of hours Internet usually accessed at home per week				
2 hours or less	378.5	308.4	147.1	834.0
3-4 hours	84.2	137.3	120.6	342.1
5-9 hours	69.2	133.6	205.3	408.0
10-19 hours	22.1	59.5	170.3	252.0
20 hours or more	*4.4	10.1	73.3	87.8
Total children accessing Internet at home(d)	573.2	661.7	749.6	1 984.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used the Internet during or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
- (b) Sum of locations may not add to total because some children accessed the Internet in more than one place.
- (c) Creating online content includes creating blogs, websites and uploading photos, but excludes creating personal profiles on social networking sites.
- (d) Sum of activities may not add to total because some children will be involved in more than one activity.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
Location of Internet access				
Home	89.8	91.2	93.8	91.8
School	72.0	91.3	93.4	86.4
Other places	29.6	44.4	57.1	44.7
Total children accessing Internet at any location(b)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of Internet activity done at home				
Emailing	10.1	30.7	59.9	35.8
Using chat rooms, forums or instant messaging	4.6	23.0	59.5	31.5
Playing online games	76.7	73.3	59.4	69.1
Listening to or downloading music	17.9	42.8	73.3	47.1
Watching or downloading TV programs, videos or movies	16.8	26.1	39.7	28.5
Using eBay, auction sites or Internet shopping	2.0	5.6	11.4	6.7
Educational activities	64.3	90.8	94.4	84.5
Visiting or using social networking sites	2.8	10.5	47.9	22.4
Creating online content(c)	*0.8	5.2	24.0	11.0
Making phone calls online	5.9	6.9	6.7	6.6
Visiting news, sports or weather sites	11.2	24.8	37.2	25.6
Other general surfing or browsing	28.7	47.9	67.7	49.8
Other activities	4.5	3.0	3.8	3.7
Number of hours Internet usually accessed at home per week				
2 hours or less	66.0	46.6	19.6	42.0
3-4 hours	14.7	20.7	16.1	17.2
5-9 hours	12.1	20.2	27.4	20.6
10-19 hours	3.9	9.0	22.7	12.7
20 hours or more	*0.8	1.5	9.8	4.4
Total children accessing Internet at home(d)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

- * estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used the Internet during or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.
 - (b) Sum of locations may not add to total because some children accessed the Internet in more than one place.
 - (c) Creating online content includes creating blogs, websites and uploading photos, but excludes creating personal profiles on social networking sites.
 - (d) Sum of activities may not add to total because some children will be involved in more than one activity.

	NUMBER ('000)				PROPORTION (%)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
Uses mobile phone more for contacting								
Family	19.0	153.4	331.6	504.0	94.7	83.3	52.0	59.9
Friends	**1.1	23.7	276.7	301.5	**5.3	12.9	43.4	35.8
Whether mobile phone used to access the Internet								
Yes	—	*2.6	30.8	33.4	—	*1.4	4.8	4.0
No/Don't know	20.1	181.6	606.4	808.0	100.0	98.6	95.2	96.0
Total children who have a mobile phone	20.1	184.2	637.1	841.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who had a mobile phone at the time of interview in April 2009.

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey conducted throughout Australia in April 2009 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). The major aim of the survey was to identify characteristics of children who participate in organised sport, cultural activities and selected activities undertaken for recreation and leisure, and to monitor the use of information technology by children. The focus on activities outside of school hours is to elicit information on activities that are more likely to be undertaken by children by choice rather than those that are part of the school curriculum. It is a continuation of a series of surveys on this topic conducted since April 2000. The previous survey was conducted in April 2006.

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about computer assisted and telephone interviewing which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

SCOPE

3 The scope of the supplementary survey was all children aged 5–14 years who were usual residents of private dwellings except:

- children of certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys
- children of overseas residents in Australia
- children of members of non Australian defence forces stationed in Australia.

4 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded children living in very remote parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these children will have a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such children account for 28% of the total number of children in the population.

COVERAGE

5 The estimates in this publication relate to children covered by the survey in April 2009. For all intents and purposes, the population coverage of the April 2009 survey is the same as that described in scope, with the following exceptions:

- children in households where all persons aged 15 years and over were members of the Australian permanent defence forces were not covered
- children in households where all persons aged 15 years and over were out of scope of the LFS for any other reason were not covered.

6 In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each child is associated with only one dwelling, and hence have only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

DATA COLLECTION

7 Information was collected through interviews conducted over a two week period during April 2009.

8 Information was collected from any responsible adult in the household who was asked to respond on behalf of the children in the household. In each selected household, information on cultural, sporting and selected other activities was sought for a maximum of three children. The response rate for the survey was 97%. In total, information was collected about the activities of 5,825 children living in the selected households. In households with four or more children aged 5–14 years, three children were randomly selected for the survey. For the additional children in these households, only selected demographic information was collected.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

DATA COLLECTION *continued*

9 Data were collected on children's cultural and sporting activities undertaken outside of school hours over a 12 month period. Data on the frequency of participation relates to the 12 months before interview, while data on the number of hours of participation refers to the last two weeks of school (the most recent two school weeks prior to the interview, including weekends and public holidays). School weeks are weeks during the school term (i.e. not school holidays) including weekends and public holidays. Data were also collected on children's participation in selected other activities during the last two weeks of school.

COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS ABS SURVEYS

10 The Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey was previously conducted in 2000, 2003 and 2006 as supplements to the Labour Force Survey. Computer assisted telephone interviewing was introduced during 2003 and while information was collected using a paper form for the majority of households in 2003, computer assisted interviewing was used for all survey interviews in the 2006 and 2009 surveys. This change in the methodology is not expected to impact on the comparability of the data between the surveys.

11 Changes between the 2000, 2003 and 2006 surveys are described in paragraphs 13–20 of the Explanatory Notes in *Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, April 2006* (cat. no. 4901.0). Changes between the 2006 and 2009 surveys are described in the following paragraphs.

12 Data collected about information technology have changed between each iteration of this survey. In previous surveys, questions were asked about general computer access but in 2009 the focus changed to Internet access and mobile phone use. This was the first of these surveys to ask about children's use of mobile phones.

13 In previous surveys, data have been collected about participation in playing electronic or computer games. For 2009, this was changed to include participation in any screen-based activities (apart from watching TV, DVDs or videos which is asked separately). This cannot be compared to the previous surveys. Similarly, in previous surveys, data have been collected about skateboarding and rollerblading. For 2009, riding a scooter was added to this category, and so the 2009 category 'Skateboarding, rollerblading and riding a scooter' cannot be compared to the 2006 category 'Skateboarding and rollerblading'.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

14 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling error.

15 Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all in-scope children had been included in the survey. For further information on sampling error, refer to the Technical Note.

16 Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient processing procedures.

ADDITIONAL DATA AVAILABILITY

17 All of the tables included in this publication are also available as Excel spreadsheet datacubes from the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>. There are an additional 4 tables available as Excel spreadsheet datacubes only. These are:

- Table 22 CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES, By state or territory of usual residence
- Table 23 CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES, By state or territory of usual residence and age
- Table 24 CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED SPORT, Frequency and duration of participation, By state or territory of usual residence and sex

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ADDITIONAL DATA AVAILABILITY *continued*

- Table 25 CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED DANCING, Frequency and duration of participation, By state or territory of usual residence

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

18 ABS surveys draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

NEXT SURVEY

19 The ABS currently plans to conduct this survey again in April 2012.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

20 Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia*, cat. no. 8146.0
- *Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, Australia*, cat. no. 4114.0
- *Sports Attendance, Australia*, cat. no. 4174.0
- *Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, Australia*, cat. no. 4177.0

21 Theme pages contain a wealth of information and useful references on particular subject areas. These can be found by clicking on the 'Themes' link on the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>. The 'Culture and Recreation' and the 'Innovation, Science and Technology' theme pages are particularly relevant to this publication.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from those that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will vary by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs.

2 Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

$$RSE\% = \left(\frac{SE}{estimate} \right) \times 100$$

3 Space does not allow for the separate indication of the SEs and/or RSEs of all the estimates in this publication. However, RSEs were calculated for each separate estimate and are available to download free-of-charge as Excel spreadsheets from the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au> as an attachment to this publication. The Jackknife method of variance estimation is used to calculate SEs, which involves the calculation of 30 replicate estimates based on 30 different sub samples of the original sample. The variability of estimates obtained from these sub samples is used to estimate the sample variability surrounding the main estimate.

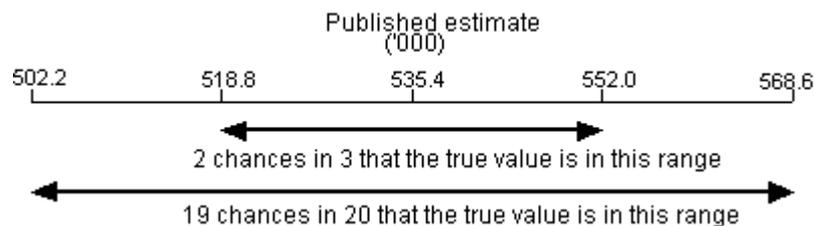
4 In the tables in this publication, only estimates (numbers or percentages) with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger RSEs have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g.*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs relative to their estimate and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50% are preceded by a double asterisk (e.g.**2.1) to indicate that they are considered too unreliable for general use.

CALCULATING STANDARD ERRORS FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES

5 Standard errors can be calculated using the estimates (counts or proportions) and their corresponding RSEs. For example, Table 5 shows the estimated number of children who participated in playing a musical instrument was 535,400. The RSE Table corresponding to the estimates in Table 5 (see Table 5 Relative Standard Errors in the 'Relative Standard Error' section at the end of these Technical Notes) shows the RSE for this estimate is 3.1%. The SE is calculated by:

$$\begin{aligned} & SE \text{ of estimate} \\ &= \left(\frac{RSE}{100} \right) \times estimate \\ &= 0.031 \times 535,400 \\ &= 16,600 \text{ (rounded to the nearest hundred)} \end{aligned}$$

6 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all children had been included in the survey will fall within the range 518,800 to 552,000 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 502,200 to 568,600. This example is illustrated in the diagram below:



CALCULATING STANDARD ERRORS FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES *continued*

7 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

CALCULATING STANDARD ERRORS FOR MEANS AND MEDIANS

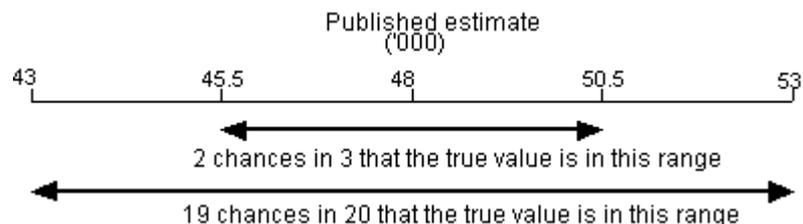
8 This publication contains means and medians. Both are measures for locating the centre of a set of values, but each measure has its own method of calculation. The mean is the arithmetic average, whereas the median is the middle value of a set of values when the values are sorted in size order.

9 Table 5 shows that the estimated number of children who played a musical instrument was 535,400, with the median number of times those children played a musical instrument being 48 times in the last 12 months.

10 Standard errors can be calculated using the estimates (means or medians) and their corresponding RSEs. The RSE Table corresponding to the estimates in Table 5 (see Table 5 Relative Standard Errors in the 'Relative Standard Error' section at the end of these Technical Notes) shows the RSE for the estimated median number of times children played a musical instrument in the last 12 months is 5.3%. The SE is calculated by:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 & = \left(\frac{RSE}{100} \right) \times \text{estimate} \\
 & = 0.053 \times 48 \\
 & = 2.5
 \end{aligned}$$

11 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all children had been included in the survey will fall within the range 45.5 and 50.5 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 43 to 53. This example is illustrated in the diagram below:



CALCULATING STANDARD ERRORS FOR DIFFERENCES OF ESTIMATES

12 The difference between two survey estimates (numbers or percentages) is also subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

13 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated (unrelated) characteristics of sub-populations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

SIGNIFICANCE TESTING

14 The statistical significance test for any of the comparisons between estimates was performed to determine whether, with a certain level of confidence, there is a true difference between the corresponding population characteristics. The standard error of the difference between two corresponding estimates (x and y) can be calculated using the formula in paragraph 12. This standard error is then used to calculate the following test statistic:

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

SIGNIFICANCE TESTING

continued

$$\left(\frac{x-y}{SE(x-y)} \right)$$

15 If the value of this test statistic is greater than 2 then there is good evidence of a real difference in the two populations with respect to that characteristic. Otherwise, it cannot be stated with confidence that there is a real difference between the populations.

RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR

16 Relative Standard Errors for Table 5 are included below. However, RSEs for all tables are available free-of-charge on the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>, released in spreadsheet format as an attachment to this publication.

TABLE 5 RSES: CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Frequency in last 12 months

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>
RSE OF NUMBER (%)				
1-13 times	8.7	8.6	6.8	12.0
14-26 times	8.2	15.5	10.6	19.3
27-52 times	5.1	12.8	6.7	15.5
53-104 times	11.2	27.0	10.2	47.6
105 times or more	6.9	35.4	12.0	72.7
Total participants	3.1	6.0	3.4	8.4

RSE OF PROPORTION (%)				
1-13 times	8.1	5.4	5.9	10.5
14-26 times	8.1	15.7	10.2	16.0
27-52 times	4.7	10.9	5.8	12.4
53-104 times	10.1	27.4	9.4	46.8
105 times or more	5.7	35.1	11.4	71.9
Total participants	—	—	—	—

RSE OF MEAN AND MEDIAN TIMES (%)				
Mean	4.7	7.6	5.7	9.9
Median	5.3	12.6	6.3	19.3

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2009.

GLOSSARY

Aerobics and fitness	Includes organised exercise biking, fitness centre activities, gymnasium workouts and other aerobics and exercising.
Art and craft activities	The interpretation of art and craft activities was left to the respondent. If the respondent queried the definition they were advised that this category included painting, drawing, photography, macramé, origami, needlework, model making and other visual arts and crafts. Attendances at performing arts events and visits to art galleries were excluded.
Balance of state/Territory	Comprises the Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory, and the balance of the six states (excluding the state capital cities).
Basketball	Includes organised indoor and outdoor basketball.
Bike riding	Includes both organised and non-organised bike riding activities.
Couple family	For the purposes of this publication, a family consisting of two persons in a registered marriage or de facto relationship with at least one child aged 5–14 years who is usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependants, non-dependants and other related individuals.
Cycling	Includes organised cycling (bike riding), BMX and mountain bike riding. Non-organised cycling is included in the selected other activity 'Bike riding'.
Dancing	The interpretation of the term 'dancing' was left to the respondent. If the respondent queried the definition they were advised it included formal dancing lessons (e.g. ballet, callisthenics), musicals and eisteddfods where the child's predominant activity was dancing. The dancing must have occurred outside of school hours and may have included lessons, practising and performances.
Drama	Interpretation of the term 'drama' was left to the respondent. If the respondent queried the definition they were advised it included acting; designing, creating and organising costumes, props and sets; lighting and front of house activities (e.g. organising venues, production and distribution of programs, ticket sales, ushering). The activity must have occurred outside of school hours and may have included lessons, practising and performances.
Gymnastics	Includes organised callisthenics, circus acrobatics, gymnastics and trampolining.
Has a mobile phone	Having a mobile phone refers to the child having the exclusive use of a mobile phone regardless of who paid for the phone and who pays the phone bill. This includes having a phone but not using it and excludes sharing a phone with other family members or borrowing a phone on occasion.
Hockey	Includes organised indoor and outdoor hockey. Excludes underwater, ice and in-line hockey.
Homework or other study	Excludes practice or lessons for music, singing, dancing or drama. It must have occurred outside of school hours and may have included work undertaken during after school care.
Horse riding and equestrian events	Includes horse riding, organised polo, polocrosse, show jumping and other equestrian events.
Ice and snow sports	Includes organised ice hockey, ice skating, snow skiing, snow boarding and other ice/snow sports.
Internet access	Includes situations where a parent is present teaching the child or where the parent is operating the mouse or keyboard under the child's direction. Excludes situations where the child is only observing the parent accessing the Internet.
Last two weeks of school	Refers to the last two completed weeks of the current or most recent school term, including weekends and public holidays.
Lessons	Refers to organised/structured training or tuition. Lessons can be undertaken either on

GLOSSARY *continued*

an individual or group basis. They must have been undertaken outside school hours.

Martial arts	Includes organised Chi Kung, judo, jujitsu, karate, kickboxing, taekwondo, tai chi and other martial arts.
Mean	<p>The mean is a summary number that measures one type of midpoint in a range of numbers. In statistical terms determining the midpoint in a range of numbers is called the Measure of Central Tendency.</p> <p>To find the mean of a set of numbers, or observations, we take the total value of all the members of the set and divide it by the number of items in the set. It is also known as the arithmetic average. More information is available from <i>Statistical Language!, 2008</i> (cat. no. 1332.0.55.002).</p>
Median	The median is one of the three measures of central tendency. The median is the middle score that separates the higher half of a data set from the lower half. It looks at the midpoint of a set of data when the numbers are ordered numerically. More information is available from <i>Statistical Language!, 2008</i> (cat. no. 1332.0.55.002).
Museum or art gallery	The interpretation of 'museum or art gallery' was left to the respondent. Visits, including school excursions, to museums or art galleries were included, providing they occurred outside of school hours.
Netball	Includes organised indoor and outdoor netball.
One-parent family	For the purposes of this publication, a one-parent family consists of a lone parent with at least one child aged 5–14 years usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependants, non-dependants and other related individuals.
Organised cultural activities	The selected organised cultural activities considered in this survey comprise time spent outside of school hours playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama. The activities include practising, having lessons and giving performances. Practising refers to organised or structured practice sessions only. It includes practice sessions set by an instructor even though the instructor may not be present at the time.
Organised sport	<p>In this survey, organised sport refers to sports which are played or trained for outside of school hours and are organised by a school, club or association. Any organised or structured training or practice sessions are included as long as they have been set by an instructor or coach. Whether the child participated in an organised sport was left to the judgment of the respondent. Training is defined as undertaking a structured training activity or practice session which has been set by an instructor or coach.</p> <p>This survey used a coder to assign codes to sports. Similar sports are grouped together. Where sports have been grouped together, further information is provided in this Glossary. See Glossary entries for Aerobics and fitness, Basketball, Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Horse riding and equestrian events, Ice and snow sports, Martial arts, Netball, Roller sports, Squash, Surf lifesaving, Surf sports, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball.</p>
Other countries	The group comprises all countries except Australia and the other main English-speaking countries (the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand).
Other main English-speaking countries	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.
Other screen-based activities	Any screen-based activities aside from watching TV, DVDs and videos. This may include, but is not limited to, using the computer or Internet, playing games on a games console or mobile phone, and creating music playlists or viewing photos on an MP3 player.
Outside of school hours	Includes weekends and the period generally outside the hours of 9am to 3pm (or as appropriate) on a school day. Lunchtime is considered to fall within school hours.
Participation rate	For any group, the number of persons involved in an activity expressed as a percentage of the total population of that group.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Performing arts event	The interpretation of 'performing arts event' was left to the respondent. If the respondent queried the definition they were advised it included drama and dance performances, musicals and concerts, circuses and pageants. It also includes performing arts events at school functions providing the event occurred outside of school hours.
Playing a musical instrument	The interpretation of the term 'playing a musical instrument' was left to the respondent. The activity must have occurred outside of school hours and may have included lessons, practising and giving performances. Includes playing as part of learning (e.g. playing a musical instrument to learn chords without actually being able to play a set piece of music).
Public library	The interpretation of 'public library' was left to the respondent. If the respondent queried the definition they were advised to exclude school, TAFE or university libraries. Visits, including school excursions, to national, state and local government libraries were included providing they occurred outside of school hours.
Reading for pleasure	The interpretation of 'reading for pleasure' was left to the respondent. If the respondent queried the definition they were advised that it referred to reading any printed material not related to a child's homework activity. The child must undertake the reading themselves. It includes reading books, magazines, newspapers, comics or other printed material and audio books where this is the only option that is available to a child for reading. Electronic books, school readers, textbooks and being read to by another person were excluded.
Roller sports	Includes organised skateboarding, rollerblading, in-line hockey and other roller sports.
Selected other activities	For this survey, 'Selected other activities' refers to the following activities: skateboarding, rollerblading or riding a scooter; bike riding; watching television, DVDs or videos; other screen-based activities (excluding watching television, DVDs or videos); art and craft; reading for pleasure and homework or other study. Both organised and non-organised activities are included.
Singing	Includes formal singing lessons (e.g. learning scales, voice training), practice sessions to learn songs (e.g. for choir) and singing performances. They must have occurred outside of school hours.
State capital cities	The areas determining the six state capital cities are the Statistical Divisions for those capital cities defined in the <i>Statistical Geography: Volume 1 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification</i> (ASGC) (cat. no. 1216.0).
Surf lifesaving	Includes organised Royal lifesaving.
Surf sports	Includes organised surfing, sailboarding and other surf sports. Excludes surf lifesaving and wind surfing.
Swimming	Includes organised diving.
Tennis	Includes organised indoor and outdoor tennis. Excludes table tennis and Royal tennis.
Volleyball	Includes organised indoor and outdoor volleyball and Newcombe ball. Excludes water volleyball.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our website. Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE 1300 135 070

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au

FAX 1300 135 211

POST Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

All statistics on the ABS website can be downloaded free of charge.

WEB ADDRESS www.abs.gov.au