



1997-98

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PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 20 OCT 1998

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Nigel Williams on Adelaide 08 8237 7404, or any ABS office shown on the back cover of this publication.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION This publication presents information on the participation by Australians in selected sport and physical activities. Data have been obtained from information collected during 1997–98 in the Population Survey Monitor (PSM). The data relate to participation in the 12 months prior to interview.

The PSM is a quarterly household survey conducted throughout Australia, with government agencies funding topics of their choice. Funding for questions on sport and recreation was provided by the Australian Sports Commission and the Recreation and Sport Industry Statistics Group. Results from the four quarterly surveys in 1997–98 have been collated to produce annual estimates.

In this publication the term 'participant' is defined as a player or a person who physically undertakes the activity. It excludes coaches, instructors, umpires and committee members.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE This issue of the publication introduces more comprehensive participation data. In response to strong user demand, combined data for organised and non-organised participation are provided. This has been possible because of a change to the PSM questionnaire design which enabled the amalgamation of organised and 'social' participation for 1997–98. Previous issues concentrated on organised sport and physical activities. Care should be taken in comparing data in this and previous issues because of the different scope of the estimates (see also Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 10–13).

There are no data on expenditure, discontinued participation or children's participation in this issue as questions on these topics were not asked in the 1997–98 PSM.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
n.a.	not available
PSM	Population Survey Monitor
RSE	relative standard error
SE	standard error
*	subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes (i.e. relative standard error greater than 25%)
**	subject to sampling variability too high for practical purposes (i.e. relative standard error greater than 50%)
—	nil or rounded to zero

ROUNDING

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published percentages are calculated prior to rounding of the figures and therefore some discrepancy may occur between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

PARTICIPATION CHARACTERISTICS

During the 12 months prior to interview in 1997–98:

- 47.8% of persons aged 18 years and over (6,338,100) participated in sport or physical activities.
- Males had a higher participation rate (52.6%) than females (43.0%).
- Participation rates were highest for the 18–24 year age group (males 77.8% and females 63.5%), and declined steadily with age. Only 21.6% of persons aged 65 years and over participated in sport or physical activities.
- Australian-born persons were more likely to participate than persons born overseas (52.0% compared with 37.4%).
- 28.1% of persons (3,728,500) had participated in club or association organised sport or physical activities. Around half of these (1,839,700) also took part in non-organised activities. A further 19.7% of persons (2,609,600) were involved solely in non-organised activities.
- The proportion of persons resident in the six State capitals who participated in sport or physical activities (48.3%) was higher than the corresponding proportion of those living in other parts of Australia (46.2%).
- The participation rate in the Australian Capital Territory was 63.6%, the highest of all States and Territories. Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland and Tasmania had rates of between 50% and 52% while the lowest rates occurred in South Australia (45.1%) and New South Wales (44.7%).
- 52.3% (3,316,900) of all persons who participated were members of at least one sporting or physical activity club or association.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

ACTIVITIES WITH MOST PARTICIPANTS

- Sports and physical activities that attracted most participants were swimming, aerobics/fitness, golf and tennis. These activities were also in the top four non-organised activities, of which swimming, with over 1.4 million participants, was the most reported. For organised activities, the top four differed to the extent that swimming was excluded and netball was included.

SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES WITH MOST PARTICIPANTS(a)

.....

	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Participation rate(b)</i>
	'000	%
Swimming	1 628.8	12.3
Aerobics/fitness	1 379.2	10.4
Golf	1 116.2	8.4
Tennis	937.8	7.1
Fishing	641.5	4.8
Cycling	626.0	4.7
Tenpin bowling	438.0	3.3
Billiards/snooker/pool	373.1	2.8
Netball	339.8	2.6
Squash/racquetball	321.2	2.4

(a) Relates to participation by persons aged 18 years and over during 12 months prior to interview in 1997–98. Excludes non-organised running, jogging or walking.

(b) Percentage of the civilian population aged 18 years and over.

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CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities(a)

Characteristics	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Age group (years)						
18-24	717.6	77.8	568.9	63.5	1 286.5	70.8
25-34	955.3	69.0	767.9	54.8	1 723.2	61.9
35-44	753.0	55.4	638.0	46.1	1 391.0	50.7
45-54	526.4	44.2	468.2	39.7	994.6	42.0
55-64	267.3	34.2	241.1	31.5	508.4	32.9
65 and over	224.0	24.6	210.3	19.1	434.3	21.6
Region						
Capital cities	2 545.4	53.1	2 170.1	43.7	4 715.5	48.3
Rest of State	898.2	51.3	724.4	41.2	1 622.6	46.2
Country of birth						
Australia	2 640.8	57.7	2 248.2	46.6	4 889.0	52.0
United Kingdom, Ireland and New Zealand	341.9	54.0	311.6	45.1	653.5	49.4
Other countries	461.0	34.4	334.6	27.7	795.6	31.2
Total overseas born	802.9	40.7	646.2	34.0	1 449.1	37.4
Employment status						
Employed full time	2 397.3	60.4	996.8	53.9	3 394.1	58.4
Employed part time	385.9	60.5	925.6	53.2	1 311.5	55.1
Total employed	2 783.3	60.4	1 922.4	53.6	4 705.6	57.4
Unemployed	163.5	49.6	122.3	45.9	285.8	48.0
Not in the labour force	496.9	30.8	849.8	29.6	1 346.7	30.0
Total	3 443.7	52.6	2 894.4	43.0	6 338.1	47.8

(a) Relates to persons aged 18 years and over who participated in sport or physical activity over a 12-month period prior to interview during 1997-98.

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PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities—Age and sex(a)

Age group (years)	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory(b)	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
MALES ('000)									
18–24	234.3	186.0	146.2	53.4	58.4	18.5	5.3	15.5	717.6
25–34	312.0	229.6	195.0	69.6	98.3	23.0	7.0	20.8	955.3
35–44	245.2	189.0	131.5	60.7	83.7	19.8	7.2	15.8	753.0
45–54	153.3	124.3	106.9	45.2	64.9	15.1	3.8	13.0	526.4
55–64	85.6	62.7	54.6	16.7	30.0	9.8	1.3	6.6	267.3
65 and over	93.9	40.1	39.9	18.8	17.3	8.7	0.4	4.9	224.0
Total	1 124.3	831.6	674.0	264.5	352.7	94.8	25.2	76.6	3 443.7
FEMALES ('000)									
18–24	177.2	145.8	108.4	42.8	61.7	13.9	4.1	15.0	568.9
25–34	232.9	213.6	138.9	55.8	88.2	15.9	6.2	16.4	767.9
35–44	209.6	138.9	138.8	48.8	64.3	18.4	5.7	13.4	638.0
45–54	132.2	135.7	92.4	34.8	50.0	11.3	2.9	8.9	468.2
55–64	88.7	57.3	44.8	19.5	19.6	5.4	1.5	4.4	241.1
65 and over	62.6	61.3	33.7	17.2	22.6	9.6	0.7	2.6	210.3
Total	903.3	752.6	557.1	219.0	306.3	74.4	21.1	60.7	2 894.4
PERSONS ('000)									
18–24	411.5	331.8	254.5	96.3	120.1	32.4	9.4	30.6	1 286.5
25–34	544.9	443.1	333.9	125.5	186.5	38.9	13.3	37.2	1 723.2
35–44	454.8	327.9	270.4	109.5	148.1	38.2	12.9	29.2	1 391.0
45–54	285.5	260.0	199.2	80.0	115.0	26.3	6.7	21.9	994.6
55–64	174.4	119.9	99.4	36.2	49.6	15.1	2.8	11.0	508.4
65 and over	156.5	101.4	73.7	36.0	39.9	18.3	1.1	7.5	434.3
Total	2 027.6	1 584.1	1 231.1	483.5	659.0	169.2	46.2	137.3	6 338.1
MALE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)									
18–24	76.6	79.8	83.4	77.0	64.2	83.0	77.9	85.2	77.8
25–34	66.7	65.5	77.1	63.5	72.9	70.7	67.8	82.0	69.0
35–44	53.2	56.4	52.8	56.8	60.5	56.8	61.6	71.1	55.4
45–54	37.9	43.0	47.9	46.8	54.9	49.0	41.5	62.4	44.2
55–64	31.7	32.0	38.5	26.2	41.0	46.8	27.4	60.1	34.2
65 and over	29.1	17.5	24.6	22.7	22.4	35.5	28.3	51.9	24.6
All males	50.4	50.9	56.0	50.0	55.7	57.2	56.5	71.5	52.6
FEMALE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)									
18–24	59.3	64.9	64.0	64.2	68.6	67.2	56.3	82.0	63.5
25–34	48.8	59.5	54.1	53.8	65.0	49.6	52.1	65.7	54.8
35–44	45.0	40.6	54.0	44.6	46.6	51.9	47.5	56.4	46.1
45–54	33.3	46.4	42.3	35.8	44.1	37.2	32.4	42.9	39.7
55–64	33.6	29.2	33.0	30.4	27.8	25.7	38.4	42.2	31.5
65 and over	15.7	21.4	18.3	17.0	25.5	31.7	32.2	23.9	19.1
All females	39.3	44.3	45.6	40.4	48.1	43.9	45.7	55.7	43.0
TOTAL PARTICIPATION RATE (%)									
18–24	68.1	72.5	73.9	70.7	66.4	75.4	66.7	83.6	70.8
25–34	57.6	62.5	65.5	58.8	68.9	60.2	59.4	73.9	61.9
35–44	49.1	48.4	53.4	50.6	53.5	54.3	54.5	63.5	50.7
45–54	35.7	44.7	45.2	41.3	49.6	43.1	37.0	52.6	42.0
55–64	32.7	30.6	35.8	28.3	34.5	36.2	32.2	51.5	32.9
65 and over	21.7	19.7	21.3	19.6	24.0	33.4	30.6	37.0	21.6
All persons	44.7	47.5	50.8	45.1	51.9	50.4	51.0	63.6	47.8

(a) Relates to persons aged 18 years and over who participated in sport or physical activity over a 12-month period prior to interview during 1997–98.

(b) Includes predominantly urban areas only—see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

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PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities

	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Aerobics/fitness	503.0	7.7	876.2	13.0	1 379.2	10.4
Air sports	41.4	0.6	**	**	54.4	0.4
Aquarobics	*8.7	*0.1	94.8	1.4	103.5	0.8
Archery	*15.2	*0.2	*11.4	*0.2	26.6	0.2
Athletics/track and field	43.7	0.7	43.1	0.6	86.8	0.7
Australian Rules football	152.9	2.3	**	**	161.3	1.2
Badminton	38.6	0.6	34.9	0.5	73.5	0.6
Baseball	53.4	0.8	**	**	63.0	0.5
Basketball	151.9	2.3	83.0	1.2	234.9	1.8
Billiards/snooker/pool	242.6	3.7	130.5	1.9	373.1	2.8
Boxing	34.0	0.5	**	**	38.7	0.3
Canoeing/kayaking	47.1	0.7	19.5	0.3	66.7	0.5
Carpet bowls	17.4	0.3	29.7	0.4	47.0	0.4
Cricket (indoor)	94.7	1.4	*17.9	*0.3	112.7	0.8
Cricket (outdoor)	229.4	3.5	31.1	0.5	260.4	2.0
Cycling	407.3	6.2	218.6	3.3	626.0	4.7
Dancing	*17.2	*0.3	90.4	1.3	107.6	0.8
Darts	101.5	1.5	50.0	0.7	151.4	1.1
Fishing	477.2	7.3	164.3	2.4	641.5	4.8
Golf	873.7	13.3	242.5	3.6	1 116.2	8.4
Gymnastics	33.6	0.5	25.1	0.4	58.7	0.4
Hockey (outdoor)	38.0	0.6	41.3	0.6	79.3	0.6
Horse riding	64.1	1.0	154.2	2.3	218.2	1.6
Ice/snow sports	154.0	2.4	97.8	1.5	251.8	1.9
Lawn bowls	180.5	2.8	102.7	1.5	283.2	2.1
Martial arts	127.3	1.9	115.1	1.7	242.3	1.8
Motor sports	40.7	0.6	**	**	44.7	0.3
Netball	54.0	0.8	285.8	4.2	339.8	2.6
Rock climbing	26.2	0.4	*17.1	*0.3	43.3	0.3
Roller sports	*18.5	*0.3	*15.7	*0.2	34.2	0.3
Rugby League	86.6	1.3	**	**	95.3	0.7
Rugby Union	41.4	0.6	**	**	48.1	0.4
Running(a)	30.5	0.5	27.9	0.4	58.4	0.4
Sailing	86.7	1.3	54.7	0.8	141.3	1.1
Scuba diving	86.1	1.3	46.1	0.7	132.2	1.0
Shooting sports	25.7	0.4	**	**	26.0	0.2
Soccer (indoor)	33.2	0.5	**	**	39.6	0.3
Soccer (outdoor)	199.7	3.0	19.7	0.3	219.4	1.7
Softball	*10.0	*0.2	34.9	0.5	44.9	0.3
Squash/racquetball	213.3	3.3	107.9	1.6	321.2	2.4
Surf sports	225.0	3.4	41.6	0.6	266.6	2.0
Swimming	732.8	11.2	896.0	13.3	1 628.8	12.3
Table tennis	86.2	1.3	73.0	1.1	159.2	1.2
Tennis	463.6	7.1	474.2	7.1	937.8	7.1
Tenpin bowling	220.7	3.4	217.3	3.2	438.0	3.3
Touch football	147.1	2.2	35.5	0.5	182.6	1.4
Volleyball	84.4	1.3	53.3	0.8	137.7	1.0
Walking(a)	56.7	0.9	115.2	1.7	171.9	1.3
Waterskiing/powerboating	133.3	2.0	55.6	0.8	188.9	1.4
Weight training	109.1	1.7	42.9	0.6	152.0	1.1

(a) Excludes running, jogging or walking not organised by a club or association.

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PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—States and Territories

	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
NEW SOUTH WALES						
Aerobics/fitness	157.7	7.1	254.8	11.1	412.6	9.1
Aquarobics	**	**	28.4	1.2	33.6	0.7
Basketball	41.6	1.9	*19.1	*0.8	60.7	1.3
Billiards/snooker/pool	83.0	3.7	31.7	1.4	114.7	2.5
Cricket (outdoor)	44.7	2.0	**	**	49.4	1.1
Cricket (indoor)	64.9	2.9	**	**	83.7	1.8
Cycling	125.2	5.6	55.9	2.4	181.1	4.0
Dancing	**	**	25.9	1.1	26.7	0.6
Darts	37.9	1.7	*23.1	*1.0	61.1	1.3
Fishing	127.1	5.7	48.6	2.1	175.7	3.9
Golf	323.5	14.5	74.4	3.2	397.9	8.8
Hockey (outdoor)	*16.9	*0.8	*15.4	*0.7	32.3	0.7
Horse riding	*21.7	*1.0	*24.1	*1.0	45.8	1.0
Ice/snow sports	56.4	2.5	*25.0	*1.1	81.4	1.8
Lawn bowls	70.3	3.2	30.7	1.3	101.0	2.2
Martial arts	27.6	1.2	61.9	2.7	89.6	2.0
Netball	**	**	63.7	2.8	80.7	1.8
Rugby League	45.0	2.0	**	**	47.5	1.0
Sailing	26.0	1.2	*22.3	*1.0	48.4	1.1
Scuba diving	*24.9	*1.1	*22.1	*1.0	47.1	1.0
Soccer (outdoor)	90.1	4.0	**	**	100.1	2.2
Squash/racquetball	81.4	3.6	40.3	1.8	121.7	2.7
Surf sports	87.0	3.9	**	**	101.9	2.2
Swimming	270.3	12.1	303.9	13.2	574.3	12.7
Table tennis	*20.2	*0.9	28.0	1.2	48.2	1.1
Tennis	165.1	7.4	163.4	7.1	328.4	7.2
Tenpin bowling	81.2	3.6	67.8	2.9	149.0	3.3
Touch football	79.3	3.6	**	**	88.5	2.0
Walking(a)	**	**	36.6	1.6	53.2	1.2
Waterskiing/powerboating	41.1	1.8	**	**	53.8	1.2
Weight training	38.3	1.7	**	**	44.3	1.0

(a) Excludes walking not organised by a club or association.

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PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—States and Territories *continued*

	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
VICTORIA						
Aerobics/fitness	132.7	8.1	250.9	14.8	383.6	11.5
Aquarobics	**	**	38.6	2.3	39.2	1.2
Australian Rules football	64.2	3.9	**	**	67.9	2.0
Basketball	38.3	2.3	28.7	1.7	67.0	2.0
Billiards/snooker/pool	49.7	3.0	49.9	2.9	99.5	3.0
Cricket (outdoor)	68.4	4.2	**	**	76.5	2.3
Cycling	109.3	6.7	64.4	3.8	173.8	5.2
Fishing	88.0	5.4	50.3	3.0	138.3	4.1
Golf	195.0	11.9	71.9	4.2	266.9	8.0
Horse riding	**	**	46.7	2.7	59.8	1.8
Ice/snow sports	58.5	3.6	38.0	2.2	96.5	2.9
Lawn bowls	31.8	1.9	26.7	1.6	58.5	1.8
Martial arts	49.2	3.0	*18.8	*1.1	68.0	2.0
Netball	**	**	77.9	4.6	84.7	2.5
Scuba diving	18.3	1.1	1.8	0.1	20.1	0.6
Soccer (outdoor)	41.7	2.6	**	**	42.2	1.3
Squash/racquetball	43.6	2.7	25.5	1.5	69.1	2.1
Surf sports	37.9	2.3	**	**	49.7	1.5
Swimming	157.0	9.6	218.5	12.8	375.5	11.3
Table tennis	31.2	1.9	27.4	1.6	58.7	1.8
Tennis	114.6	7.0	135.6	8.0	250.2	7.5
Tenpin bowling	42.1	2.6	47.0	2.8	89.1	2.7
Volleyball	*24.0	*1.5	**	**	26.0	0.8
Walking(a)	**	**	*22.3	*1.3	23.3	0.7
Waterskiing/powerboating	28.2	1.7	*20.3	*1.2	48.6	1.5
Weight training	23.0	1.4	*15.2	*0.9	38.2	1.1

(a) Excludes walking not organised by a club or association.

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PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—States and Territories *continued*

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
.....						
QUEENSLAND						
Aerobics/fitness	92.9	7.7	147.7	12.1	240.6	9.9
Air sports	*16.3	*1.3	**	**	18.5	0.8
Billiards/snooker/pool	53.8	4.5	25.5	2.1	79.4	3.3
Cricket (outdoor)	43.6	3.6	**	**	43.6	1.8
Cycling	73.3	6.1	33.6	2.8	106.9	4.4
Dancing	**	**	25.2	2.1	35.7	1.5
Darts	19.1	1.6	**	**	28.1	1.2
Fishing	117.6	9.8	29.2	2.4	146.7	6.0
Golf	151.5	12.6	48.2	3.9	199.7	8.2
Horse riding	16.6	1.4	40.7	3.3	57.3	2.4
Lawn bowls	40.2	3.3	20.4	1.7	60.6	2.5
Martial arts	19.5	1.6	**	**	28.0	1.2
Netball	**	**	48.6	4.0	61.9	2.6
Rugby League	33.7	2.8	**	**	39.0	1.6
Sailing	*17.8	*1.5	*11.5	*0.9	29.4	1.2
Soccer (outdoor)	30.0	2.5	**	**	34.0	1.4
Squash/racquetball	37.0	3.1	21.9	1.8	58.9	2.4
Surf sports	47.8	4.0	**	**	57.4	2.4
Swimming	142.6	11.8	179.3	14.7	321.9	13.3
Tennis	87.9	7.3	95.0	7.8	182.8	7.5
Tenpin bowling	44.1	3.7	59.8	4.9	104.0	4.3
Touch football	52.4	4.4	18.7	1.5	71.1	2.9
Volleyball	23.9	2.0	**	**	40.4	1.7
Walking(a)	25.7	2.1	31.1	2.5	56.8	2.3
Waterskiing/powerboating	33.1	2.7	**	**	43.2	1.8
Weight training	23.8	2.0	**	**	31.4	1.3

(a) Excludes walking not organised by a club or association.

4

PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—States and Territories *continued*

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation</i>
		<i>rate</i>		<i>rate</i>		<i>rate</i>
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
SOUTH AUSTRALIA						
Aerobics/fitness	27.1	5.1	71.8	13.2	98.9	9.2
Australian Rules football	27.2	5.1	**	**	27.2	2.5
Basketball	21.1	4.0	*7.1	*1.3	28.1	2.6
Billiards/snooker/pool	16.3	3.1	*8.8	*1.6	25.1	2.3
Cricket (outdoor)	14.9	2.8	**	**	14.9	1.4
Cycling	25.8	4.9	17.0	3.1	42.8	4.0
Dancing	**	**	11.6	2.1	13.5	1.3
Darts	*8.9	*1.7	**	**	14.1	1.3
Fishing	45.5	8.6	9.9	1.8	55.4	5.2
Golf	53.0	10.0	*6.8	*1.2	59.8	5.6
Horse riding	**	**	11.9	2.2	15.1	1.4
Lawn bowls	14.2	2.7	10.9	2.0	25.1	2.3
Martial arts	11.0	2.1	*9.2	*1.7	20.2	1.9
Netball	**	**	31.5	5.8	38.2	3.6
Sailing	*6.4	*1.2	**	**	12.0	1.1
Soccer (outdoor)	16.2	3.1	**	**	17.1	1.6
Squash/racquetball	13.5	2.5	**	**	16.3	1.5
Surf sports	17.6	3.3	**	**	19.6	1.8
Swimming	37.6	7.1	47.2	8.7	84.8	7.9
Table tennis	13.8	2.6	**	**	16.6	1.5
Tennis	34.6	6.5	27.7	5.1	62.3	5.8
Tenpin bowling	26.0	4.9	12.7	2.3	38.7	3.6
Volleyball	10.4	2.0	**	**	15.6	1.5
Walking(a)	**	**	10.4	1.9	15.5	1.4
Waterskiing/powerboating	18.6	3.5	**	**	23.2	2.2
Weight training	*8.7	*1.6	**	**	13.5	1.3

(a) Excludes walking not organised by a club or association.

4

PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—States and Territories *continued*

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
		'000		%		'000
WESTERN AUSTRALIA						
Aerobics/fitness	68.2	10.8	102.7	16.1	170.9	13.5
Australian Rules football	30.6	4.8	**	**	32.5	2.6
Badminton	*9.9	*1.6	*8.6	*1.3	18.5	1.5
Basketball	21.5	3.4	*7.6	*1.2	29.1	2.3
Billiards/snooker/pool	20.6	3.2	*9.7	*1.5	30.2	2.4
Cricket (indoor)	12.5	2.0	**	**	13.8	1.1
Cricket (outdoor)	22.2	3.5	**	**	24.9	2.0
Cycling	48.6	7.7	29.4	4.6	78.0	6.1
Darts	17.8	2.8	**	**	22.6	1.8
Fishing	62.2	9.8	16.4	2.6	78.6	6.2
Golf	99.1	15.7	28.9	4.5	127.9	10.1
Horse riding	**	**	22.4	3.5	26.9	2.1
Lawn bowls	14.7	2.3	*10.2	*1.6	24.9	2.0
Martial arts	*11.0	*1.7	*10.1	*1.6	21.1	1.7
Netball	**	**	43.9	6.9	48.7	3.8
Sailing	*10.7	*1.7	**	**	16.6	1.3
Scuba diving	19.3	3.1	**	**	25.3	2.0
Soccer (outdoor)	12.5	2.0	**	**	15.9	1.3
Softball	**	**	13.3	2.1	16.3	1.3
Squash/racquetball	25.6	4.0	14.0	2.2	39.6	3.1
Surf sports	27.1	4.3	**	**	29.6	2.3
Swimming	86.4	13.6	98.5	15.5	184.9	14.6
Tennis	42.3	6.7	34.6	5.4	77.0	6.1
Tenpin bowling	16.8	2.6	20.3	3.2	37.0	2.9
Volleyball	**	**	*10.5	*1.7	18.6	1.5

	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
TASMANIA						
Aerobics/fitness	8.1	4.9	20.0	11.8	28.1	8.4
Australian Rules football	8.3	5.0	**	**	8.7	2.6
Badminton	**	**	3.0	1.8	4.4	1.3
Basketball	4.4	2.7	*2.4	*1.4	6.8	2.0
Billiards/snooker/pool	6.2	3.8	**	**	7.2	2.1
Carpet bowls	*2.2	*1.4	*1.4	*0.8	3.7	1.1
Cricket (indoor)	4.1	2.5	**	**	4.9	1.5
Cricket (outdoor)	8.7	5.2	**	**	9.6	2.9
Cycling	6.2	3.8	4.7	2.8	10.9	3.2
Dancing	**	**	2.9	1.7	3.6	1.1
Darts	*2.4	*1.5	2.9	1.7	5.3	1.6
Fishing	20.6	12.4	3.9	2.3	24.5	7.3
Golf	27.9	16.8	8.2	4.8	36.1	10.8
Horse riding	*2.7	*1.6	5.0	2.9	7.7	2.3
Ice/snow sports	*2.6	*1.6	**	**	3.8	1.1
Lawn bowls	5.5	3.3	*2.7	*1.6	8.2	2.4
Martial arts	4.3	2.6	3.1	1.8	7.4	2.2
Netball	**	**	9.5	5.6	12.3	3.7
Sailing	4.7	2.8	**	**	5.4	1.6
Scuba diving	*2.7	*1.6	**	**	3.0	0.9
Soccer (outdoor)	3.7	2.2	**	**	3.7	1.1
Squash/racquetball	5.7	3.5	**	**	6.8	2.0
Surf sports	5.9	3.6	**	**	5.9	1.8
Swimming	14.4	8.7	21.1	12.4	35.5	10.6
Tennis	7.4	4.4	9.5	5.6	16.9	5.0
Tenpin bowling	4.2	2.5	*2.7	*1.6	6.9	2.1
Walking(a)	2.9	1.8	3.9	2.3	6.8	2.0
Weight training	**	**	*2.7	*1.6	4.9	1.5
NORTHERN TERRITORY(b)						
Aerobics/fitness	3.3	7.4	6.4	13.9	9.7	10.7
Australian Rules football	2.3	5.1	**	**	2.3	2.5
Billiards/snooker/pool	*1.9	*4.3	**	**	2.5	2.8
Cricket (indoor)	2.8	6.2	**	**	3.2	3.6
Cycling	3.3	7.4	2.0	4.4	5.3	5.9
Fishing	4.9	10.9	*1.0	*2.1	5.8	6.4
Golf	4.8	10.7	*1.1	*2.4	5.9	6.5
Netball	**	**	3.1	6.8	3.8	4.1
Squash/racquetball	*1.5	*3.3	**	**	2.0	2.2
Swimming	3.9	8.7	4.2	9.0	8.0	8.9
Tennis	2.0	4.5	*1.5	*3.2	3.5	3.8
Tenpin bowling	*1.6	*3.6	*1.5	*3.3	3.1	3.4
Volleyball	2.3	5.3	*1.8	*4.0	4.2	4.6

(a) Excludes walking not organised by a club or association.

(b) Includes predominantly urban areas only—see paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	MALES.....		FEMALES.....		PERSONS.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
.....						
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY						
Aerobics/fitness	12.9	12.0	21.9	20.1	34.8	16.1
Basketball	3.3	3.1	3.2	2.9	6.4	3.0
Billiards/snooker/pool	11.2	10.4	3.4	3.1	14.5	6.7
Cricket (indoor)	*1.6	*1.5	**	**	3.0	1.4
Cricket (outdoor)	4.9	4.6	**	**	5.3	2.5
Cycling	15.6	14.6	11.5	10.6	27.1	12.6
Fishing	11.3	10.5	5.2	4.8	16.5	7.6
Golf	18.9	17.7	3.1	2.8	22.0	10.2
Horse riding	*2.1	*1.9	3.1	2.8	5.2	2.4
Ice/snow sports	6.7	6.2	5.2	4.7	11.8	5.5
Lawn bowls	2.9	2.7	*1.0	*0.9	3.9	1.8
Martial arts	3.7	3.5	2.7	2.4	6.4	3.0
Netball	*2.0	*1.9	7.5	6.9	9.5	4.4
Running(a)	2.4	2.2	**	**	2.4	1.1
Sailing	1.9	1.8	**	**	2.7	1.3
Scuba diving	**	**	*1.9	*1.7	2.9	1.3
Soccer (outdoor)	4.1	3.8	**	**	4.7	2.2
Squash/racquetball	5.0	4.6	*1.7	*1.6	6.7	3.1
Surf sports	*1.7	*1.6	**	**	2.4	1.1
Swimming	20.7	19.3	23.3	21.4	44.0	20.4
Table tennis	*1.6	*1.5	**	**	2.4	1.1
Tennis	9.7	9.1	7.0	6.4	16.7	7.8
Tenpin bowling	4.8	4.5	5.3	4.9	10.2	4.7
Touch football	4.2	3.9	**	**	5.8	2.7
Volleyball	2.3	2.1	**	**	2.8	1.3
Walking(a)	*1.6	*1.5	*1.8	*1.6	3.4	1.6
Waterskiing/powerboating	3.6	3.4	**	**	4.6	2.1
Weight training	3.2	3.0	*1.8	*1.6	5.0	2.3

(a) Excludes running, jogging or walking not organised by a club or association.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....				Total
	18–24	25–34	35–44	45 and over	
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Aerobics/fitness	361.3	485.9	277.0	255.0	1 379.2
Air sports	**	*14.9	*10.5	*16.7	54.4
Aquarobics	**	*18.4	*10.9	61.1	103.5
Archery	**	**	*8.3	**	26.6
Athletics/track and field	41.9	21.8	*13.4	*9.7	86.8
Australian Rules football	83.2	56.8	16.4	**	161.3
Badminton	**	*14.5	23.2	*14.8	73.5
Baseball	33.1	20.0	**	**	63.0
Basketball	132.1	56.1	42.0	**	234.9
Billiards/snooker/pool	114.2	130.7	69.2	59.0	373.1
Boxing	22.1	**	**	**	38.7
Canoeing/kayaking	**	18.9	*15.9	*16.1	66.7
Carpet bowls	**	**	**	41.0	47.0
Cricket (indoor)	29.7	65.9	9.9	**	112.7
Cricket (outdoor)	92.2	97.6	44.7	25.9	260.4
Cycling	118.9	219.4	164.8	122.9	626.0
Dancing	*14.1	*15.9	19.9	57.7	107.6
Darts	47.1	33.4	32.6	38.4	151.4
Fishing	78.9	185.2	183.2	194.3	641.5
Golf	131.4	246.3	245.5	493.1	1 116.2
Gymnastics	*15.8	24.5	*11.2	*7.2	58.7
Hockey (outdoor)	21.7	27.4	*13.4	**	79.3
Horse riding	46.8	75.5	61.6	34.3	218.2
Ice/snow sports	67.8	96.5	51.0	36.5	251.8
Lawn bowls	**	15.8	18.5	244.5	283.2
Martial arts	70.8	89.0	41.7	40.9	242.3
Motor sports	**	27.3	**	**	44.7
Netball	150.4	133.1	48.6	7.7	339.8
Rock climbing	23.1	12.4	**	**	43.3
Roller sports	**	**	**	**	34.2
Rugby League	59.9	26.1	**	**	95.3
Rugby Union	27.8	13.6	**	**	48.1
Running(a)	*15.2	*18.0	*14.4	*10.8	58.4
Sailing	*15.8	46.6	39.7	39.2	141.3
Scuba diving	32.1	52.7	27.2	20.2	132.2
Shooting sports	**	**	*6.0	*11.8	26.0
Soccer (indoor)	**	20.7	**	**	39.6
Soccer (outdoor)	76.4	81.9	49.1	*12.0	219.4
Softball	*15.2	*14.3	*10.7	**	44.9
Squash/racquetball	75.0	126.5	73.9	45.8	321.2
Surf sports	104.9	55.9	64.6	41.2	266.6
Swimming	369.8	456.2	399.2	403.6	1 628.8
Table tennis	34.8	37.6	47.0	39.8	159.2
Tennis	178.8	256.8	221.0	281.3	937.8
Tenpin bowling	133.8	124.5	104.3	75.4	438.0
Touch football	57.6	81.5	32.9	**	182.6
Volleyball	41.9	69.4	*15.3	*11.1	137.7
Walking(a)	**	33.8	34.1	93.3	171.9
Waterskiing/powerboating	71.0	68.0	32.5	*17.4	188.9
Weight training	49.5	53.6	29.2	19.7	152.0

(a) Excludes running, jogging or walking not organised by a club or association.

PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Frequency(a)

	1–6 times	7–12 times	13–26 times	More than 26 times	Total
<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Aerobics/fitness	140.0	124.8	186.4	928.1	1 379.2
Air sports	19.9	**	**	*17.8	54.4
Aquarobics	19.0	*16.7	25.6	42.3	103.5
Archery	**	**	**	*8.4	26.6
Athletics/track and field	*18.8	**	21.0	43.2	86.8
Australian Rules football	28.4	22.1	35.1	75.7	161.3
Badminton	*12.9	*6.6	18.9	35.1	73.5
Baseball	**	**	23.5	32.7	63.0
Basketball	37.1	*17.2	54.5	126.2	234.9
Billiards/snooker/pool	80.0	92.4	64.1	136.6	373.1
Boxing	**	**	**	31.1	38.7
Canoeing/kayaking	47.6	**	**	**	66.7
Carpet bowls	*7.2	**	*7.2	28.8	47.0
Cricket (indoor)	*16.1	20.3	32.7	43.5	112.7
Cricket (outdoor)	71.0	37.6	45.4	106.4	260.4
Cycling	91.4	89.4	90.2	354.9	626.0
Dancing	*13.4	*6.5	*13.0	74.8	107.6
Darts	38.8	27.0	20.4	65.3	151.4
Fishing	244.2	173.5	114.1	109.7	641.5
Golf	335.7	217.2	179.3	384.0	1 116.2
Gymnastics	**	**	**	29.8	58.7
Hockey (outdoor)	**	**	31.2	44.8	79.3
Horse riding	103.4	33.6	31.8	49.4	218.2
Ice/snow sports	195.1	32.5	*16.4	**	251.8
Lawn bowls	41.4	28.6	42.0	171.1	283.2
Martial arts	45.0	*17.9	45.7	133.7	242.3
Motor sports	*13.9	**	**	*15.1	44.7
Netball	34.2	50.5	86.3	168.8	339.8
Rock climbing	*14.5	*10.7	**	**	43.3
Roller sports	**	**	**	**	34.2
Rugby League	**	*14.4	**	50.3	95.3
Rugby Union	**	**	**	23.9	48.1
Running(b)	**	**	**	38.9	58.4
Sailing	58.5	28.7	25.8	28.4	141.3
Scuba diving	66.5	30.0	20.6	*15.1	132.2
Shooting sports	**	**	*6.1	*10.1	26.0
Soccer (indoor)	**	**	19.2	**	39.6
Soccer (outdoor)	41.5	27.0	47.2	103.7	219.4
Softball	**	**	*9.0	23.2	44.9
Squash/racquetball	89.7	43.1	45.0	143.3	321.2
Surf sports	37.3	57.7	64.7	107.0	266.6
Swimming	254.0	237.7	361.5	775.7	1 628.8
Table tennis	52.5	47.8	28.4	30.6	159.2
Tennis	260.1	144.7	184.3	348.7	937.8
Tenpin bowling	262.1	49.1	30.8	96.0	438.0
Touch football	*14.2	23.9	67.4	77.1	182.6
Volleyball	27.8	*10.6	28.9	70.4	137.7
Walking(b)	42.2	22.4	25.6	81.7	171.9
Waterskiing/powerboating	95.8	25.0	31.3	36.8	188.9
Weight training	*9.9	**	39.8	100.6	152.0

(a) During the 12 months prior to interview.

(b) Excludes running, jogging or walking not organised by a club or association.

7

PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities—Kind of participation

Age group (years)	Organised only	Non-organised only	Both organised and non-organised	All organised	All non-organised	All participation
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(A + C)	(B + C)	(A + B + C)
MALES ('000)						
18–24	205.8	231.7	280.1	485.9	511.8	717.6
25–34	216.9	385.2	353.2	570.1	738.5	955.3
35–44	191.1	340.4	221.5	412.7	561.9	753.0
45 and over	356.9	449.2	211.6	568.5	660.8	1 017.7
Total	970.7	1 406.5	1 066.5	2 037.2	2 473.0	3 443.7
FEMALES ('000)						
18–24	149.4	208.4	211.2	360.6	419.6	568.9
25–34	223.5	304.7	239.7	463.2	544.4	767.9
35–44	171.5	321.9	144.5	316.0	466.5	638.0
45 and over	373.8	368.1	177.8	551.6	545.9	919.7
Total	918.1	1 203.1	773.3	1 691.3	1 976.4	2 894.4
PERSONS ('000)						
18–24	355.2	440.1	491.3	846.4	931.4	1 286.5
25–34	440.3	689.9	593.0	1 033.3	1 282.9	1 723.2
35–44	362.6	662.3	366.1	728.7	1 028.4	1 391.0
45 and over	730.7	817.3	389.4	1 120.1	1 206.7	1 937.4
Total	1 888.8	2 609.6	1 839.7	3 728.5	4 449.3	6 338.1
MALE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
18–24	22.3	25.1	30.4	52.7	55.5	77.8
25–34	15.7	27.8	25.5	41.2	53.4	69.0
35–44	14.1	25.0	16.3	30.4	41.3	55.4
45 and over	12.4	15.6	7.3	19.7	22.9	35.3
<i>All males</i>	14.8	21.5	16.3	31.1	37.8	52.6
FEMALE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
18–24	16.7	23.3	23.6	40.3	46.8	63.5
25–34	15.9	21.7	17.1	33.1	38.9	54.8
35–44	12.4	23.3	10.4	22.8	33.7	46.1
45 and over	12.3	12.1	5.8	18.1	17.9	30.2
<i>All females</i>	13.6	17.9	11.5	25.1	29.4	43.0
TOTAL PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
18–24	19.5	24.2	27.0	46.6	51.2	70.8
25–34	15.8	24.8	21.3	37.1	46.1	61.9
35–44	13.2	24.1	13.3	26.6	37.5	50.7
45 and over	12.3	13.8	6.6	18.9	20.4	32.7
All persons	14.2	19.7	13.9	28.1	33.5	47.8

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	ORGANISED PARTICIPATION.....		NON-ORGANISED PARTICIPATION.....		TOTAL.....	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Aerobics/fitness	668.4	5.0	710.8	5.4	1 379.2	10.4
Air sports	23.3	0.2	31.0	0.2	54.4	0.4
Aquarobics	59.0	0.4	44.6	0.3	103.5	0.8
Archery	*16.3	*0.1	*10.3	*0.1	26.6	0.2
Athletics/track and field	30.7	0.2	56.0	0.4	86.8	0.7
Australian Rules football	131.5	1.0	29.7	0.2	161.3	1.2
Badminton	46.6	0.4	26.9	0.2	73.5	0.6
Baseball	46.4	0.3	*16.6	*0.1	63.0	0.5
Basketball	149.1	1.1	85.9	0.6	234.9	1.8
Billiards/snooker/pool	70.6	0.5	302.6	2.3	373.1	2.8
Boxing	24.6	0.2	**	**	38.7	0.3
Canoeing/kayaking	20.1	0.2	46.6	0.4	66.7	0.5
Carpet bowls	40.6	0.3	6.4	0.0	47.0	0.4
Cricket (indoor)	93.0	0.7	19.6	0.1	112.7	0.8
Cricket (outdoor)	184.6	1.4	75.8	0.6	260.4	2.0
Cycling	72.3	0.5	553.7	4.2	626.0	4.7
Dancing	71.2	0.5	36.4	0.3	107.6	0.8
Darts	72.5	0.5	78.9	0.6	151.4	1.1
Fishing	75.1	0.6	566.4	4.3	641.5	4.8
Golf	500.8	3.8	615.4	4.6	1 116.2	8.4
Gymnastics	25.5	0.2	33.2	0.2	58.7	0.4
Hockey (outdoor)	76.4	0.6	**	**	79.3	0.6
Horse riding	43.0	0.3	175.2	1.3	218.2	1.6
Ice/snow sports	48.6	0.4	203.2	1.5	251.8	1.9
Lawn bowls	263.0	2.0	20.2	0.2	283.2	2.1
Martial arts	174.1	1.3	68.2	0.5	242.3	1.8
Motor sports	23.5	0.2	21.1	0.2	44.7	0.3
Netball	289.3	2.2	50.5	0.4	339.8	2.6
Rock climbing	*10.9	*0.1	32.4	0.2	43.3	0.3
Roller sports	**	**	31.6	0.2	34.2	0.3
Rugby League	77.1	0.6	**	**	95.3	0.7
Rugby Union	34.3	0.3	**	**	48.1	0.4
Running(a)	58.4	0.4	n.a.	n.a.	58.4	0.4
Sailing	61.8	0.5	79.5	0.6	141.3	1.1
Scuba diving	46.1	0.3	86.1	0.6	132.2	1.0
Shooting sports	21.6	0.2	**	**	26.0	0.2
Soccer (indoor)	19.2	0.1	20.4	0.2	39.6	0.3
Soccer (outdoor)	153.8	1.2	65.6	0.5	219.4	1.7
Softball	41.7	0.3	**	**	44.9	0.3
Squash/racquetball	121.9	0.9	199.3	1.5	321.2	2.4
Surf sports	28.2	0.2	238.5	1.8	266.6	2.0
Swimming	197.9	1.5	1 430.9	10.8	1 628.8	12.3
Table tennis	42.0	0.3	117.2	0.9	159.2	1.2
Tennis	335.3	2.5	602.5	4.5	937.8	7.1
Tenpin bowling	161.3	1.2	276.7	2.1	438.0	3.3
Touch football	145.8	1.1	36.8	0.3	182.6	1.4
Volleyball	80.1	0.6	57.7	0.4	137.7	1.0
Walking(a)	171.9	1.3	n.a.	n.a.	171.9	1.3
Waterskiing/powerboating	43.4	0.3	145.5	1.1	188.9	1.4
Weight training	57.7	0.4	94.3	0.7	152.0	1.1

(a) Excludes running, jogging or walking not organised by a club or association.

Age group (years)	Member only (A)	Not a member of any club or association (B)	Both member and non-member participation (C)	All club/association members (A + C)	All persons who participated as non-members (B + C)	All participation (A + B + C)
MALES ('000)						
18–24	161.0	291.0	265.7	426.6	556.6	717.6
25–34	184.0	440.8	330.6	514.5	771.4	955.3
35–44	183.7	348.7	220.6	404.3	569.3	753.0
45 and over	344.8	465.8	207.1	551.9	672.9	1 017.7
Total	873.5	1 546.3	1 023.9	1 897.4	2 570.2	3 443.7
FEMALES ('000)						
18–24	116.6	265.4	186.9	303.5	452.4	568.9
25–34	161.0	415.5	191.3	352.4	606.9	767.9
35–44	136.9	358.7	142.4	279.3	501.1	638.0
45 and over	328.7	435.3	155.6	484.4	590.9	919.7
Total	743.2	1 474.9	676.3	1 419.5	2 151.2	2 894.4
PERSONS ('000)						
18–24	277.6	556.4	452.6	730.2	1 009.0	1 286.5
25–34	345.0	856.3	521.9	866.9	1 378.2	1 723.2
35–44	320.6	707.4	362.9	683.6	1 070.4	1 391.0
45 and over	673.5	901.1	362.7	1 036.3	1 263.8	1 937.4
Total	1 616.7	3 021.2	1 700.1	3 316.9	4 721.4	6 338.1
MALE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
18–24	17.5	31.6	28.8	46.3	60.4	77.8
25–34	13.3	31.9	23.9	37.2	55.7	69.0
35–44	13.5	25.7	16.2	29.7	41.9	55.4
45 and over	12.0	16.2	7.2	19.1	23.3	35.3
<i>All males</i>	13.3	23.6	15.6	29.0	39.3	52.6
FEMALE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
18–24	13.0	29.6	20.9	33.9	50.5	63.5
25–34	11.5	29.7	13.7	25.1	43.3	54.8
35–44	9.9	25.9	10.3	20.2	36.2	46.1
45 and over	10.8	14.3	5.1	15.9	19.4	30.2
<i>All females</i>	11.0	21.9	10.1	21.1	32.0	43.0
TOTAL PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
18–24	15.3	30.6	24.9	40.2	55.5	70.8
25–34	12.4	30.7	18.7	31.1	49.5	61.9
35–44	11.7	25.8	13.2	24.9	39.0	50.7
45 and over	11.4	15.2	6.1	17.5	21.3	32.7
All persons	12.2	22.8	12.8	25.0	35.6	47.8

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents details of persons who participated in sport and physical activities in Australia over a 12-month period prior to interview during 1997–98, obtained through the Population Survey Monitor (PSM). Results from four quarterly surveys have been collated to produce annual estimates. Whether an activity was regarded as a sport or physical activity was left to the opinion of the respondent, with the exception of activities such as running, jogging or walking which were excluded unless organised by a club or association.

SCOPE

2 The survey covered rural and urban areas across all States and Territories of Australia. Persons aged 18 years and over who were usual residents of private dwellings were included in the survey except:

- members of the Australian permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys;
- overseas residents in Australia;
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia; and
- residents of other non-private dwellings such as hospitals, motels and gaols.

3 It also excluded persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia. The exclusion of these persons will only have a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual States and Territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

COVERAGE

4 Coverage rules were applied which aimed to ensure that each person was associated with only one dwelling, and hence had only one chance of selection. See *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0) for more details.

METHODOLOGY

5 Information was obtained by personal interview with one randomly selected person aged 18 years and over from each selected household. Each quarterly survey used a multistage area sample of approximately 3,000 private dwellings, resulting in an annual total of about 12,500 persons being interviewed. In each household surveyed, details on the participation in sport and physical activities of the selected person in the 12 months prior to the interview were obtained. The information collected included both organised and non-organised activities.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

Sampling error

6 The estimates provided in this publication are subject to two types of error.

7 Sampling error occurs because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error (SE). Further information together with details of the sampling error in respect of different levels of estimate is given in the Technical Notes.

Non-sampling error

8 Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing data. These include:

- inability to obtain comprehensive data from all persons included in the sample. The errors arise because of differences which exist between the characteristics of respondents and non-respondents;
- errors in reporting on the part of both the respondent and the interviewer. These errors may arise due to the inappropriate wording of questions, misunderstanding of what data are required, inability or unwillingness to provide accurate information and answers that are based on memory. For example, participation in a sport or physical activity by persons whose involvement is infrequent may be unreliable, given that they are asked about sports and activities pursued during the previous 12 months. Respondents may fail to recall this activity or may not attribute it to the correct period; and
- errors arising during the processing of survey data. These processing errors may arise through mistakes in coding and data recording.

9 Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors. In particular, the effects of reporting and processing errors described above were minimised by careful questionnaire design, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data processing.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS DATA

10 Previous editions of this publication related primarily to organised sport and physical activities. A change to the PSM questionnaire for 1997–98 has enabled estimates combining non-organised and organised participation to be produced, resulting in the significantly higher participation rates shown in this publication.

11 It should also be noted that data for organised participation in previous issues covered persons 15 years and over whereas for 1997–98 data collection was limited to persons aged 18 years and over.

12 Where organised participation is identified, care should be taken in the interpretation of movements in these estimates from those produced in the earlier publications because of the different scope (as outlined in paragraph 11) of the estimates. Movements in estimates over time are also subject to sampling variability, with the SE of the movement dependent on the levels of the estimates from which the movement is obtained rather than the size of the movement. The Technical Notes explain in detail how to calculate the SE of the movements.

13 Estimates of non-organised participation in previous editions related to the two weeks prior to interview, rather than 12 months prior to interview as in this edition.

FURTHER INFORMATION

14 In addition to data in this publication, there is a range of other demographic characteristics by which participation in sport and physical activities can be cross-classified. These include occupation, industry, income, qualification, marital status and the nature of the household in which respondents live. Full details on the availability of these and other unpublished variables can be obtained by telephoning Nigel Williams on Adelaide 08 8237 7404.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

15 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications draw extensively on information provided freely 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*.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

16 Other ABS publications with sport and recreation information include:

Participation

How Australians Use Their Time, 1992 (Cat. no. 4153.0)
Involvement in Sport, Australia, 1997 (Cat. no. 6285.0)
Leisure Participation, Victoria, October 1996 (Cat. no. 4176.2)
Participation in Sporting and Physical Recreational Activities, Queensland, October 1993 (Cat. no. 4110.3)
Participation in Sporting and Physical Recreational Activities, South Australia, October 1995 (Cat. no. 4175.4)
Participation in Sporting and Physical Recreational Activities, Tasmania, October 1994 (Cat. no. 4175.6)
Population Survey Monitor, May 1998 (Cat. no. 4103.0)
Sport and Recreation, Urban Northern Territory, October 1991 (Cat. no. 4108.7)

Spectators

Sports Attendance, March 1995 (Cat. no. 4174.0)

Industry

Casinos, Australia, 1996–97 (Cat. no. 8683.0)
Gambling Industries, Australia, 1994–95 (Cat. no. 8684.0)
Recreation Services, Australia, 1994–95 (Cat. no. 8688.0)
Sports Industries, Australia, 1994–95 (Cat. no. 8686.0)

Summary

Cultural Trends in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 1997 (Cat. no. 4172.0)
Sport and Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 1997 (Cat. no. 4156.0)

TECHNICAL NOTES

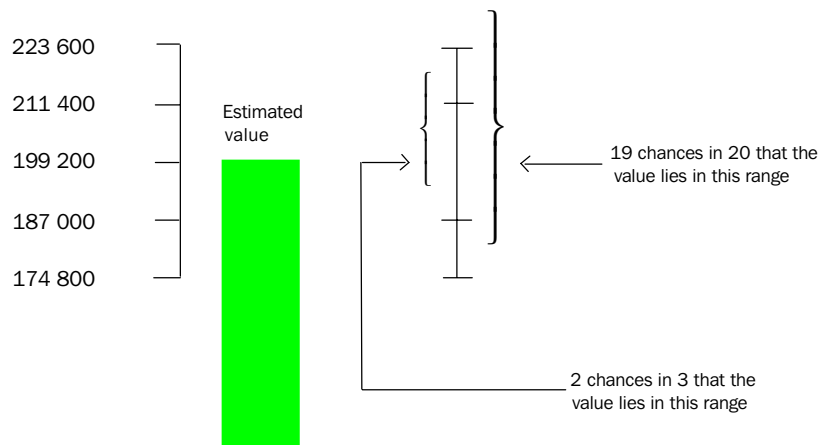
SAMPLING VARIABILITY

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 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.

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. The RSE is a useful measure in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage of errors likely to have occurred due to sampling.

An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows:

From table 2 an estimated 199,200 Queenslanders aged between 45 and 54 years participated in sport and physical activities in 1997–98. Referring to the table of SEs, table T1, an estimate of 199,200 for Queensland has a SE of approximately 12,200 persons. There are about two chances in three that the number that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey was between 211,400 and 187,000 (i.e. 199,200 plus or minus 12,200). There are about 19 chances in 20 that the number lies between 223,600 and 174,800 (i.e. 199,200 plus or minus 24,400). This example is illustrated below.



Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below:

$$RSE(x/y) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 + [RSE(y)]^2}$$

As an example, table 2 shows that in New South Wales 2,027,600 persons aged 18 years and older participated in sport and physical activities in 1997–98. This represents 44.7% of all residents of that State in that age group (4,531,900). The SE of 2,027,600 for New South Wales is about 35,200, so the RSE is $35,200/2,027,600 \times 100 = 1.7\%$. The RSE of 4,531,900 is approximately $45,600/4,531,900 \times 100 = 1.0\%$. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is $\sqrt{(1.7)^2 - (1.0)^2}$ or 1.4%. This then gives an SE of the proportion (44.7%) of $1.4/100 \times 44.7 = 0.6\%$. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of persons residing in New South Wales participating in sport and physical activities was between 44.1% and 45.3% and approximately 19 chances in 20 that the proportion was in the range 43.5% to 45.9%.

Particular care should be taken when comparing figures. It is not correct to assume that an apparent difference between figures is actually significant. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x–y) may be calculated by the following formula:

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

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

As the SEs in table T1 show, the size of the SE increases with the size of the estimate. However, the smaller the estimate the higher is the RSE. Thus, large estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates. Very small estimates are subject to such high SEs (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less and percentages based on such estimates are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with larger RSEs have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *2.8) to indicate that they should be treated with caution and viewed as being merely indicative of the magnitude involved. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50% (i.e. **) are not made available as they are subject to sampling error too high for most practical purposes.

TECHNICAL NOTES *continued*

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
'000 persons	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
2	1 900	1 800	1 500	1 100	1 300	600	500	500	1 600
5	3 100	2 900	2 400	1 800	2 000	1 000	800	900	2 500
10	4 300	4 100	3 400	2 500	2 800	1 400	1 100	1 200	3 500
20	5 900	5 500	4 800	3 400	3 700	1 700	1 500	1 600	4 900
50	8 700	8 100	7 000	4 957	5 500	2 300	2 300	2 200	7 600
100	11 700	10 800	9 200	6 400	7 200	2 800	3 200	2 900	10 400
200	15 300	14 300	12 200	8 300	9 400	3 300	4 400	3 600	13 900
500	21 700	19 900	17 200	11 500	13 100	4 000	—	—	20 200
800	25 800	23 700	20 400	13 500	15 500	—	—	—	24 200
1 000	27 800	25 600	21 900	14 500	16 700	—	—	—	26 500
1 500	32 300	29 600	25 500	16 700	19 400	—	—	—	30 000
2 000	35 200	32 300	27 800	18 100	21 200	—	—	—	34 100
5 000	47 500	43 300	37 700	—	—	—	—	—	47 100

T2 RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

Size of estimate	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
'000 persons	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
2	96.2	91.7	76.0	55.9	62.6	31.3	24.6	26.8	78.3
5	60.8	58.0	48.1	35.4	39.6	19.8	15.6	17.0	49.5
10	43.0	41.0	34.0	25.0	28.0	14.0	11.0	12.0	35.0
20	29.5	27.5	24.0	17.0	18.5	8.5	7.5	8.0	24.5
50	17.4	16.2	14.0	9.9	11.0	4.6	4.6	4.4	15.2
100	11.7	10.8	9.2	6.4	7.2	2.8	3.2	2.9	10.4
200	7.7	7.2	6.1	4.2	4.7	1.7	2.2	1.8	7.0
500	4.3	4.0	3.4	2.3	2.6	0.8	—	—	4.0
800	3.2	3.0	2.6	1.7	1.9	—	—	—	3.0
1 000	2.8	2.6	2.2	1.5	1.7	—	—	—	2.7
1 500	2.2	2.0	1.7	1.1	1.3	—	—	—	2.0
2 000	1.8	1.6	1.4	0.9	1.1	—	—	—	1.7
5 000	1.0	0.9	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	0.9

GLOSSARY

Aerobics/fitness	Includes callisthenics, gym, exercise bike, circuits.
Air sports	Includes parachuting, gliding, hang-gliding, model aircraft.
Archery	Includes bow hunting.
Basketball	Includes indoor and outdoor basketball.
Club or association	Includes work social club, church group, old scholars association.
Cycling	Includes BMX, mountain bike.
Dancing	Includes ballet, line dancing.
Employed	For the definition of employed persons, see the publication <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0).
Gymnastics	Includes trampolining.
Hockey	Excludes indoor hockey, ice hockey.
Horse riding	Includes equestrian, rodeo, polocrosse.
Ice/snow sports	Includes ice hockey, ice-skating, snow skiing.
Martial arts	Includes tae kwon do, aikido, judo, karate, kickboxing.
Member	A person who pays membership fees to a club or association.
Motor sports	Includes car, motor bike, speedway, drag, go-kart.
Netball	Includes indoor and outdoor netball.
Non-organised sport and physical activities	Those sport and physical activities which were not organised by a club, association or school. Running, jogging and walking were excluded. Persons may participate in more than one non-organised activity, and may also participate in organised activities. Individual sports or activities were categorised as non-organised if all or the majority of a person's involvement in that activity was not organised by a club or association.
Not in the labour force	For the definition of persons not in the labour force, see the publication <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0).
Organised sport and physical activities	Those sport and physical activities which were organised by a club, association or school. The club or association did not need to be a sporting body; it may have been a respondent's work social club, church group, old scholar's association, or the local gymnasium. Activities such as running, jogging and walking were excluded unless these activities were organised by a club or association. Persons may participate in more than one organised activity, and may also participate in non-organised activities. Individual sports or activities were categorised as organised if all or the majority of a person's involvement in that activity was organised by a club or association.
Participant	Includes those playing a sport or physically undertaking an activity. Excluded are persons involved solely as a coach/teacher/instructor, a referee/umpire, an administrator/committee member or similar role.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Participation rate	For any group, the number of participants expressed as a percentage of the civilian population of that group.
Rest of State	Incorporates persons usually resident in areas outside of the six State capital city statistical divisions, including all residents of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. It excludes sparsely settled areas.
Running	Excludes non-organised running.
Shooting	Includes pistol, hunting, paintball shooting, etc.
Soccer	Excludes indoor soccer.
Sport and physical activities	<p>Whether an activity was regarded as a sport or physical activity was left to the opinion of the respondent. However, guidance was provided by a prompt card which listed a number of suggestions under each of the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ fitness/health activities;▪ other leisure time physical activities;▪ ball sports;▪ racquet sports;▪ other team sports;▪ water sports;▪ other sports; and▪ any other physical activities. <p>Running, jogging and walking that were not organised by a club or association were excluded.</p>
Surf sports	Includes surfing, windsurfing. Excludes surf-lifesaving.
Tennis	Includes indoor and outdoor tennis.
Unemployed	For the definition of unemployed persons, see the publication <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0).
Volleyball	Includes indoor and outdoor volleyball.
Walking	Excludes non-organised walking.
Waterskiing/powerboating	Includes jet skiing.

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2417700007976
ISSN 1441-0214

RRP \$17.00