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# **PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES**

**AUSTRALIA**

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information Service on 1300 135 070 or Nigel Williams on Adelaide 08 8237 7404.

# NOTES

## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information on participation in sport and physical activities by Australians. Data have been obtained from information collected during 1999–2000 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 1999–2000 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, umpires and committee members.

## 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.



## ABBREVIATIONS

- ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
- PSM Population Survey Monitor
- RSE Relative standard error
- SE Standard error

Dennis Trewin  
Australian Statistician

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTICIPANTS

During the 12 months prior to interview in 1999–2000:

- 54.7% of persons aged 18 years and over (7,541,700) participated in sport or physical activities, down from 59.4% in 1998–99.
- Males had a higher participation rate (58.5%) than females (50.9%).
- Participation rates were highest for the 18–24 year age group (73.5%), and declined steadily with age. The rate for persons aged 65 years and over was 33.8%.
- Australian-born persons were more likely to participate than persons born overseas (57.6% compared with 47.1%).
- The proportion of capital city residents who participated in sport or physical activities (55.8%) was higher than the corresponding proportion of those living in other parts of Australia (52.5%).
- The highest participation rates for States and Territories were achieved in the Australian Capital Territory (65.3%) and Western Australia (64.5%). The lowest rates occurred in South Australia (50.1%), Tasmania (51.3%) and New South Wales (52.7%).
- 28.9% of persons (3,986,600) had participated in sport or physical activities organised by a club or association. More than half of these (2,192,600 persons or 15.9% of all persons aged 18 years and over) also took part in non-organised activities.
- 25.8% of persons (3,555,000) participated solely in non-organised activities.
- 26.2% of persons (3,613,100) participated in a sport or physical activity as members of a club or association whose primary focus was the activity concerned.

### ACTIVITIES WITH MOST PARTICIPANTS

Sports and physical activities that attracted most participants were walking, swimming, aerobics/fitness, golf and tennis. These activities were among the ten most popular non-organised activities, of which walking, with two and one-half million participants, was the most reported. For organised activities, the five most reported activities were aerobics/fitness, golf, lawn bowls, tennis and netball.

### **1** SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES WITH MOST PARTICIPANTS (a)

	Participation	
	Number	rate(b)
	'000	%
Walking	2 598.7	18.8
Swimming	1 911.6	13.9
Aerobics/fitness	1 444.9	10.5
Golf	1 324.8	9.6
Tennis	1 020.4	7.4
Fishing	729.8	5.3
Cycling	678.9	4.9
Running	655.0	4.7
Tenpin bowling	400.6	2.9
Netball	376.0	2.7

(a) Relates to participation by persons aged 18 years and over in organised and non-organised activities during a 12-month period prior to interview in 1999–2000.

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

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### GEOGRAPHIC COMPARISONS

Because participation is strongly related to age and sex, differences in age and sex profiles of the States and Territories should be considered when making comparisons. For example, the proportion of younger adults in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory is higher than the Australian average, while the populations of South Australia and Tasmania have a greater than average percentage of aged persons. Furthermore, the Northern Territory has a lower than average percentage of females.

The following table shows the participation rates for each State and Territory recorded from the survey, as well as standardised rates depicting those that could have been expected to occur if each State and Territory had the same age and sex profile as the Australian population in February 2000.

The standardised results indicate that when age and sex are taken into account the highest participation rate (of 63.8%) was shared by both the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia. While the lowest rate was still observed in South Australia (51.1%), the rate in the Northern Territory was similar (51.2%).

### **2** PARTICIPATION RATES FOR EACH STATE AND TERRITORY—1999–2000

	<i>Unstandardised participation rate</i>	<i>Standardised participation rate(a)</i>
	%	%
New South Wales	52.7	52.8
Victoria	54.7	54.7
Queensland	54.5	54.4
South Australia	50.1	51.1
Western Australia	64.5	63.8
Tasmania	51.3	52.5
Northern Territory	55.7	51.2
Australian Capital Territory	65.3	63.8
<b>Australia</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>54.7</b>

(a) Age and sex standardised to the February 2000 Australian population.

### CHANGE IN PARTICIPATION

Participation in all sport and physical activities has only been measured on a comparable basis in 1998–99 and 1999–2000. The total participation rates in those years were 59.4% and 54.7% respectively. This decrease in the participation rate occurred in all age groups.

### TRENDS IN ORGANISED PARTICIPATION

Approximately three in ten Australians aged 18 years and over took part in sport and physical activities organised by clubs or associations in 1999–2000. From 1996–97 to 1998–99, the rate rose from 26.5% to 30.3% before declining to 28.9% in 1999–2000. In terms of persons involved, the number of participants has increased from 3.5 million in 1996–97 to 4.0 million in 1999–2000.

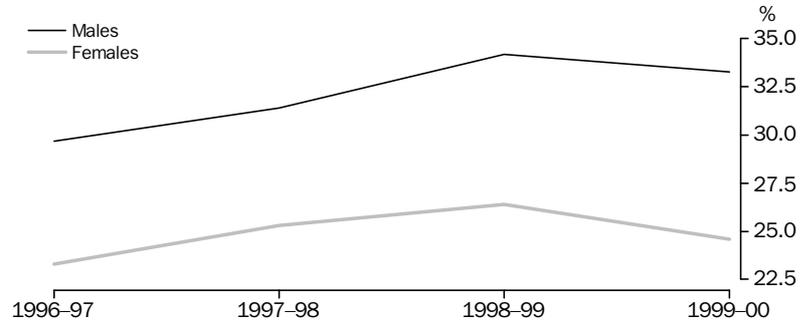
The following graph highlights the fact that the male participation rate in organised sport and physical activities continues to be higher than that for females. The gap in the organised participation rates for males and females has been growing wider over recent years—in 1997–98 the difference was 6.1 percentage points (31.4% for males and 25.3%

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### TRENDS IN ORGANISED PARTICIPATION *continued*

for females), while in 1999–2000, the rate for males (33.3%) was 8.7 percentage points higher than the rate for females (24.6%).

#### PARTICIPATION IN ORGANISED SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES: (a)



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

## CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities(a)

Characteristics	MALES . . . . .		FEMALES . . . . .		PERSONS . . . . .	
	Number '000	Participation rate %	Number '000	Participation rate %	Number '000	Participation rate %
Age group (years)						
18-24	745.8	79.7	605.4	67.0	1 351.2	73.5
25-34	960.2	68.9	910.5	64.2	1 870.7	66.6
35-44	833.5	58.5	837.8	57.7	1 671.3	58.1
45-54	657.7	51.9	565.7	45.0	1 223.4	48.5
55-64	409.1	48.8	312.3	37.6	721.5	43.2
65 and over	372.6	39.4	330.9	29.2	703.5	33.8
Region						
Capital cities	2 662.5	60.0	2 383.4	51.8	5 046.0	55.8
Rest of state	1 316.5	55.7	1 179.2	49.3	2 495.7	52.5
Country of birth						
Australia	2 994.3	62.3	2 750.3	53.2	5 744.6	57.6
United Kingdom, Ireland and New Zealand	399.0	57.0	337.1	53.2	736.1	55.2
Other countries	585.7	45.2	475.3	40.0	1 061.0	42.7
<i>Total overseas born</i>	<i>984.7</i>	<i>49.4</i>	<i>812.4</i>	<i>44.6</i>	<i>1 797.1</i>	<i>47.1</i>
Employment status						
Employed full time	2 617.9	62.7	1 279.8	62.7	3 897.7	62.7
Employed part time	455.1	64.2	1 079.5	59.1	1 534.6	60.5
<i>Total employed</i>	<i>3 073.0</i>	<i>62.9</i>	<i>2 359.3</i>	<i>61.0</i>	<i>5 432.4</i>	<i>62.0</i>
Unemployed	181.1	58.7	167.2	57.6	348.3	58.1
Not in the labour force	724.9	45.1	1 036.2	36.6	1 761.0	39.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 979.0</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>3 562.7</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>7 541.7</b>	<b>54.7</b>

(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 1999-2000.

## PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities—States and Territories(a)

Age group (years)	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
<b>Males</b>									
18–24	240.6	206.4	136.0	57.2	73.1	14.0	4.6	14.0	745.8
25–34	306.5	257.2	176.9	69.2	103.0	20.6	9.0	17.9	960.2
35–44	292.4	224.5	125.0	59.0	88.5	21.2	7.7	15.2	833.5
45–54	220.2	162.2	116.0	47.4	80.1	12.9	4.6	14.3	657.7
55–64	143.5	91.0	79.0	33.4	42.0	10.0	2.7	7.5	409.1
65 and over	124.3	87.5	75.3	26.5	43.2	9.6	**0.8	5.5	372.6
<i>Total</i>	1 327.5	1 028.8	708.1	292.5	430.1	88.2	29.5	74.3	3 979.0
<b>Females</b>									
18–24	191.3	153.9	104.8	42.3	78.6	15.3	4.6	14.5	605.4
25–34	300.5	224.2	173.4	55.8	109.6	20.0	9.9	17.0	910.5
35–44	275.4	212.1	149.5	64.0	95.1	19.7	7.2	14.9	837.8
45–54	153.6	139.2	122.9	46.3	72.3	14.5	3.3	13.5	565.7
55–64	106.1	77.5	46.4	23.4	42.3	9.0	*1.2	6.5	312.3
65 and over	123.1	81.1	54.9	23.7	33.9	8.9	**0.6	4.7	330.9
<i>Total</i>	1 150.0	888.0	651.9	255.5	431.8	87.5	26.8	71.2	3 562.7
<b>Persons</b>									
18–24	431.9	360.3	240.8	99.5	151.8	29.3	9.2	28.5	1 351.2
25–34	607.0	481.4	350.3	125.0	212.7	40.6	19.0	34.9	1 870.7
35–44	567.7	436.6	274.5	123.0	183.6	40.9	14.9	30.1	1 671.3
45–54	373.8	301.5	239.0	93.7	152.4	27.4	7.9	27.8	1 223.4
55–64	249.6	168.5	125.4	56.8	84.3	19.0	4.0	14.0	721.5
65 and over	247.4	168.6	130.1	50.1	77.1	18.5	*1.3	10.3	703.5
<i>Total</i>	2 477.5	1 916.8	1 360.0	548.0	861.9	175.7	56.3	145.5	7 541.7
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)									
<b>Males</b>									
18–24	77.3	86.0	79.3	82.9	75.5	65.4	64.5	76.4	79.7
25–34	64.6	71.0	71.2	68.6	73.0	68.7	70.1	77.8	68.9
35–44	59.9	63.0	48.8	53.1	61.7	61.9	60.1	69.6	58.5
45–54	51.4	52.2	49.4	47.0	62.5	40.5	45.0	66.2	51.9
55–64	49.7	43.6	51.4	49.3	52.9	45.0	47.9	60.9	48.8
65 and over	37.8	36.1	45.5	30.0	54.3	37.0	**23.2	50.8	39.4
<i>Total</i>	57.2	59.8	57.6	54.4	64.3	53.3	56.5	68.9	58.5
<b>Females</b>									
18–24	63.7	66.6	62.4	63.9	84.8	72.5	66.0	83.3	67.0
25–34	62.1	61.2	67.5	54.7	79.2	64.4	69.7	69.6	64.2
35–44	56.1	58.2	56.5	56.3	65.6	54.6	59.9	61.0	57.7
45–54	36.4	44.4	53.0	45.2	58.6	45.3	35.4	59.4	45.0
55–64	37.2	36.6	30.8	33.4	55.6	40.8	*31.8	53.8	37.6
65 and over	30.9	27.4	28.4	23.1	36.5	26.0	**21.8	34.0	29.2
<i>Total</i>	48.3	49.8	51.5	45.9	64.6	49.5	54.7	61.9	50.9
<b>Persons</b>									
18–24	70.6	76.5	70.9	73.6	80.1	68.9	65.2	79.8	73.5
25–34	63.3	66.1	69.3	61.6	76.0	66.5	69.9	73.6	66.6
35–44	58.0	60.6	52.7	54.7	63.6	58.1	60.0	65.1	58.1
45–54	44.0	48.3	51.2	46.1	60.6	42.9	40.4	62.7	48.5
55–64	43.5	40.1	41.2	41.2	54.2	42.9	41.4	57.4	43.2
65 and over	34.0	31.3	36.3	26.3	44.7	30.7	*22.6	41.4	33.8
<i>Total</i>	52.7	54.7	54.5	50.1	64.5	51.3	55.7	65.3	54.7

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

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

(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 1999–2000.

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

## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities

<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	%
Aerobics/fitness	511.8	7.5	933.1	13.3	1 444.9	10.5
Aquarobics	**3.2	**—	92.4	1.3	95.6	0.7
Athletics/track and field	*16.6	*0.2	**3.8	**0.1	*20.5	*0.1
Australian Rules football	184.0	2.7	**4.0	**0.1	188.0	1.4
Badminton	35.0	0.5	48.2	0.7	83.2	0.6
Baseball	*17.3	*0.3	**1.4	**—	*18.7	*0.1
Basketball	219.7	3.2	91.4	1.3	311.0	2.3
Billiards/snooker/pool	234.5	3.4	101.5	1.5	336.0	2.4
Boxing	32.3	0.5	*4.9	*0.1	37.2	0.3
Canoeing/kayaking	61.7	0.9	31.2	0.4	92.9	0.7
Carpet bowls	*16.6	*0.2	37.4	0.5	54.0	0.4
Cricket (indoor)	104.6	1.5	*10.8	*0.2	115.4	0.8
Cricket (outdoor)	241.4	3.5	*15.6	*0.2	257.0	1.9
Cycling	446.4	6.6	232.6	3.3	678.9	4.9
Dancing	33.1	0.5	94.0	1.3	127.2	0.9
Darts	85.3	1.3	33.3	0.5	118.6	0.9
Fishing	579.5	8.5	150.3	2.1	729.8	5.3
Golf	1 059.2	15.6	265.6	3.8	1 324.8	9.6
Gymnastics	*18.5	*0.3	*23.2	*0.3	41.7	0.3
Hockey (outdoor)	46.3	0.7	29.2	0.4	75.4	0.5
Horse riding	85.1	1.3	141.0	2.0	226.1	1.6
Ice/snow sports	106.2	1.6	84.8	1.2	191.0	1.4
Lawn bowls	243.5	3.6	124.5	1.8	368.0	2.7
Martial arts	153.6	2.3	150.4	2.1	304.0	2.2
Motor sports	53.8	0.8	*11.2	*0.2	65.0	0.5
Netball	56.5	0.8	319.5	4.6	376.0	2.7
Rock climbing	40.7	0.6	*9.3	*0.1	50.1	0.4
Roller sports	30.7	0.5	*19.2	*0.3	49.9	0.4
Rowing	*18.2	*0.3	*11.0	*0.2	29.2	0.2
Rugby League	82.7	1.2	*8.8	*0.1	91.5	0.7
Rugby Union	38.9	0.6	*6.5	*0.1	45.4	0.3
Running	425.9	6.3	229.1	3.3	655.0	4.7
Sailing	78.3	1.2	55.7	0.8	134.0	1.0
Scuba diving	110.1	1.6	43.3	0.6	153.4	1.1
Shooting sports	76.1	1.1	**2.5	**—	78.6	0.6
Soccer (indoor)	35.9	0.5	*13.5	*0.2	49.4	0.4
Soccer (outdoor)	158.2	2.3	34.0	0.5	192.2	1.4
Softball	*9.4	*0.1	31.5	0.5	41.0	0.3
Squash/racquetball	183.1	2.7	90.5	1.3	273.6	2.0
Surf sports	247.2	3.6	42.2	0.6	289.4	2.1
Swimming	885.3	13.0	1 026.3	14.7	1 911.6	13.9
Table tennis	113.7	1.7	55.3	0.8	169.0	1.2
Tennis	508.1	7.5	512.4	7.3	1 020.4	7.4
Tenpin bowling	235.7	3.5	164.8	2.4	400.6	2.9
Touch football	134.7	2.0	56.4	0.8	191.1	1.4
Triathlons	24.2	0.4	**4.0	**0.1	28.2	0.2
Volleyball	90.5	1.3	59.2	0.8	149.7	1.1
Walking	934.0	13.7	1 664.7	23.8	2 598.7	18.8
Waterskiing/powerboating	97.1	1.4	58.6	0.8	155.7	1.1
Weight training	101.9	1.5	73.1	1.0	175.0	1.3

\*\* 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)

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

## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—New South Wales

<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	%
Aerobics/fitness	167.8	7.2	325.2	13.7	493.0	10.5
Aquarobics	**—	**—	*33.1	*1.4	*33.1	*0.7
Basketball	48.7	2.1	*31.6	*1.3	80.2	1.7
Billiards/snooker/pool	68.1	2.9	*31.4	*1.3	99.5	2.1
Canoeing/kayaking	*19.3	*0.8	*16.9	*0.7	36.2	0.8
Cricket (indoor)	*26.4	*1.1	**—	**—	*26.4	*0.6
Cricket (outdoor)	41.0	1.8	**0.9	**—	41.9	0.9
Cycling	127.6	5.5	40.7	1.7	168.3	3.6
Dancing	*9.5	*0.4	*34.1	*1.4	43.7	0.9
Darts	*16.9	*0.7	*12.1	*0.5	*29.0	*0.6
Fishing	173.4	7.5	46.8	2.0	220.2	4.7
Golf	379.9	16.4	100.2	4.2	480.1	10.2
Horse riding	*29.1	*1.3	37.3	1.6	66.4	1.4
Ice/snow sports	48.3	2.1	*34.0	*1.4	82.3	1.8
Lawn bowls	80.4	3.5	37.2	1.6	117.5	2.5
Martial arts	50.7	2.2	56.0	2.4	106.7	2.3
Netball	*9.8	*0.4	91.1	3.8	101.0	2.1
Rugby League	51.8	2.2	**—	**—	51.8	1.1
Running	152.0	6.6	72.7	3.1	224.7	4.8
Sailing	*12.7	*0.5	*21.6	*0.9	*34.3	*0.7
Scuba diving	37.6	1.6	*14.3	*0.6	52.0	1.1
Soccer (outdoor)	67.5	2.9	*11.2	*0.5	78.7	1.7
Squash/racquetball	66.4	2.9	40.0	1.7	106.3	2.3
Surf sports	97.8	4.2	*9.7	*0.4	107.6	2.3
Swimming	333.2	14.4	345.7	14.5	679.0	14.4
Table tennis	*19.8	*0.9	*17.6	*0.7	37.5	0.8
Tennis	184.6	8.0	189.7	8.0	374.3	8.0
Tenpin bowling	78.4	3.4	44.7	1.9	123.1	2.6
Touch football	66.7	2.9	*29.2	*1.2	95.9	2.0
Volleyball	*21.2	*0.9	*11.5	*0.5	*32.7	*0.7
Walking	291.4	12.6	529.8	22.3	821.2	17.5
Waterskiing/powerboating	*25.8	*1.1	*24.2	*1.0	49.9	1.1
Weight training	35.7	1.5	*29.8	*1.2	65.4	1.4

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

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## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Victoria

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES . . . . .		FEMALES . . . . .		PERSONS . . . . .	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Aerobics/fitness	135.5	7.9	225.9	12.7	361.5	10.3
Australian Rules football	84.4	4.9	**3.3	**0.2	87.7	2.5
Badminton	*14.8	*0.9	*14.1	*0.8	*28.9	*0.8
Basketball	98.8	5.7	*24.0	*1.3	122.7	3.5
Billiards/snooker/pool	79.0	4.6	*22.7	*1.3	101.8	2.9
Canoeing/kayaking	*17.8	*1.0	**2.8	**0.2	*20.6	*0.6
Carpet bowls	**2.7	**0.2	*15.9	*0.9	*18.7	*0.5
Cricket (outdoor)	103.2	6.0	**3.4	**0.2	106.5	3.0
Cycling	142.8	8.3	74.2	4.2	217.0	6.2
Dancing	**5.4	**0.3	*25.5	*1.4	*30.9	*0.9
Fishing	104.5	6.1	*20.4	*1.1	125.0	3.6
Golf	284.5	16.5	56.4	3.2	340.9	9.7
Horse riding	34.0	2.0	42.0	2.4	76.0	2.2
Ice/snow sports	38.7	2.3	33.7	1.9	72.4	2.1
Lawn bowls	63.0	3.7	*29.1	*1.6	92.1	2.6
Martial arts	39.0	2.3	*30.0	*1.7	69.0	2.0
Netball	*10.9	*0.6	80.1	4.5	91.0	2.6
Running	119.6	7.0	71.4	4.0	191.0	5.5
Sailing	*17.2	*1.0	*12.4	*0.7	*29.6	*0.8
Scuba diving	*20.9	*1.2	*9.3	*0.5	*30.2	*0.9
Shooting sports	34.7	2.0	**—	**—	34.7	1.0
Soccer (outdoor)	*26.3	*1.5	**7.0	**0.4	33.3	0.9
Squash/racquetball	37.4	2.2	*10.9	*0.6	48.3	1.4
Surf sports	38.6	2.2	*11.6	*0.7	50.2	1.4
Swimming	234.7	13.6	258.9	14.5	493.6	14.1
Table tennis	51.4	3.0	*18.1	*1.0	69.5	2.0
Tennis	145.4	8.5	139.7	7.8	285.1	8.1
Tenpin bowling	73.9	4.3	39.3	2.2	113.3	3.2
Volleyball	34.3	2.0	*12.0	*0.7	46.3	1.3
Walking	238.6	13.9	387.2	21.7	625.8	17.9
Waterskiing/powerboating	*16.2	*0.9	*10.0	*0.6	*26.2	*0.7
Weight training	*25.9	*1.5	*14.4	*0.8	40.4	1.2

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Queensland

<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	%
Aerobics/fitness	89.1	7.2	150.7	11.9	239.8	9.6
Aquarobics	**3.2	**0.3	*24.7	*2.0	28.0	1.1
Basketball	*23.8	*1.9	*10.9	*0.9	34.8	1.4
Billiards/snooker/pool	50.4	4.1	27.7	2.2	78.0	3.1
Canoeing/kayaking	*11.6	*0.9	*6.3	*0.5	*17.9	*0.7
Cricket (indoor)	31.7	2.6	**2.0	**0.2	33.7	1.3
Cricket (outdoor)	38.5	3.1	**4.6	**0.4	43.1	1.7
Cycling	58.7	4.8	46.9	3.7	105.5	4.2
Dancing	*9.3	*0.8	*15.6	*1.2	*24.8	*1.0
Darts	*20.5	*1.7	*8.4	*0.7	28.9	1.2
Fishing	147.1	12.0	43.4	3.4	190.4	7.6
Golf	182.4	14.8	57.5	4.5	239.9	9.6
Horse riding	*14.6	*1.2	27.4	2.2	42.0	1.7
Lawn bowls	49.3	4.0	31.4	2.5	80.7	3.2
Martial arts	27.8	2.3	30.1	2.4	57.9	2.3
Netball	*22.4	*1.8	40.9	3.2	63.2	2.5
Rugby League	*21.6	*1.8	**4.6	**0.4	*26.2	*1.0
Running	58.2	4.7	29.8	2.4	88.0	3.5
Sailing	*20.6	*1.7	*9.1	*0.7	29.7	1.2
Scuba diving	*16.4	*1.3	*9.4	*0.7	*25.8	*1.0
Soccer (outdoor)	*20.9	*1.7	*9.6	*0.8	30.5	1.2
Squash/racquetball	30.0	2.4	*21.0	*1.7	51.0	2.0
Surf sports	52.2	4.2	*12.4	*1.0	64.6	2.6
Swimming	136.9	11.1	169.8	13.4	306.8	12.3
Table tennis	*18.9	*1.5	*9.8	*0.8	28.7	1.2
Tennis	74.8	6.1	93.9	7.4	168.8	6.8
Tenpin bowling	47.9	3.9	44.6	3.5	92.5	3.7
Touch football	39.3	3.2	*19.0	*1.5	58.2	2.3
Volleyball	*13.7	*1.1	*16.9	*1.3	30.6	1.2
Walking	167.7	13.6	326.3	25.8	493.9	19.8
Waterskiing/powerboating	*27.0	*2.2	*9.4	*0.7	36.3	1.5
Weight training	*9.8	*0.8	*7.0	*0.6	*16.7	*0.7

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## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—South Australia

<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	%
Aerobics/fitness	33.2	6.2	67.6	12.1	100.7	9.2
Australian Rules football	31.6	5.9	**0.4	**0.1	32.1	2.9
Basketball	21.9	4.1	**—	**—	25.9	2.4
Billiards/snooker/pool	*10.9	*2.0	*8.1	*1.5	19.0	1.7
Canoeing/kayaking	*5.2	*1.0	**0.7	**0.1	*5.9	*0.5
Cricket (outdoor)	18.5	3.4	**2.0	**0.4	20.4	1.9
Cycling	27.5	5.1	17.5	3.1	45.0	4.1
Darts	*6.4	*1.2	*2.6	*0.5	*8.9	*0.8
Fishing	36.8	6.8	12.1	2.2	48.9	4.5
Golf	63.1	11.7	12.2	2.2	75.3	6.9
Horse riding	*2.8	*0.5	*8.3	*1.5	*11.1	*1.0
Ice/snow sports	*3.8	*0.7	*2.5	*0.4	*6.3	*0.6
Lawn bowls	22.6	4.2	15.2	2.7	37.8	3.5
Martial arts	*6.7	*1.2	12.5	2.3	19.3	1.8
Netball	**1.4	**0.3	32.4	5.8	33.8	3.1
Running	27.4	5.1	*9.0	*1.6	36.4	3.3
Sailing	*10.5	*1.9	*3.9	*0.7	14.4	1.3
Scuba diving	*6.4	*1.2	*2.0	*0.4	*8.4	*0.8
Soccer (outdoor)	14.3	2.7	**1.3	**0.2	15.6	1.4
Squash/racquetball	18.4	3.4	*3.9	*0.7	22.3	2.0
Surf sports	22.6	4.2	*2.2	*0.4	24.8	2.3
Swimming	31.4	5.8	56.8	10.2	88.2	8.1
Table tennis	*11.3	*2.1	*4.0	*0.7	15.3	1.4
Tennis	42.6	7.9	31.4	5.6	74.0	6.8
Tenpin bowling	*10.6	*2.0	*10.1	*1.8	20.7	1.9
Volleyball	*3.8	*0.7	*4.0	*0.7	*7.8	*0.7
Walking	72.0	13.4	115.9	20.8	187.9	17.2
Waterskiing/powerboating	*9.5	*1.8	*6.8	*1.2	16.3	1.5
Weight training	*4.9	*0.9	*5.0	*0.9	*9.9	*0.9

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## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Western Australia

<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	%
Aerobics/fitness	60.4	9.0	115.8	17.3	176.2	13.2
Aquarobics	**—	**—	*12.7	*1.9	*12.7	*1.0
Australian Rules football	25.8	3.9	**—	**—	25.8	1.9
Badminton	*10.7	*1.6	15.8	2.4	26.5	2.0
Basketball	19.8	3.0	16.4	2.5	36.2	2.7
Billiards/snooker/pool	19.1	2.9	*7.9	*1.2	27.0	2.0
Cricket (indoor)	*10.3	*1.5	*3.6	*0.5	13.9	1.0
Cricket (outdoor)	28.2	4.2	*3.6	*0.5	31.8	2.4
Cycling	60.7	9.1	36.5	5.5	97.2	7.3
Dancing	*6.4	*1.0	*10.1	*1.5	16.5	1.2
Darts	16.1	2.4	*6.9	*1.0	23.0	1.7
Fishing	83.9	12.6	18.3	2.7	102.2	7.6
Golf	103.3	15.5	28.8	4.3	132.1	9.9
Hockey (outdoor)	15.7	2.3	*7.0	*1.0	22.7	1.7
Horse riding	**2.3	**0.3	15.7	2.3	18.0	1.3
Ice/snow sports	*5.1	*0.8	*4.2	*0.6	*9.3	*0.7
Lawn bowls	20.6	3.1	*7.0	*1.0	27.6	2.1
Martial arts	23.0	3.4	15.9	2.4	38.9	2.9
Netball	*8.7	*1.3	57.5	8.6	66.2	4.9
Running	48.5	7.2	33.5	5.0	81.9	6.1
Sailing	*10.8	*1.6	*6.0	*0.9	16.7	1.3
Scuba diving	24.9	3.7	*5.7	*0.9	30.7	2.3
Soccer (outdoor)	20.2	3.0	*3.6	*0.5	23.8	1.8
Softball	*4.5	*0.7	*7.8	*1.2	*12.3	*0.9
Squash/racquetball	22.7	3.4	*11.0	*1.6	33.7	2.5
Surf sports	30.4	4.5	*4.3	*0.6	34.6	2.6
Swimming	112.5	16.8	137.7	20.6	250.2	18.7
Table tennis	*10.0	*1.5	**3.0	**0.4	*13.0	*1.0
Tennis	39.7	5.9	41.2	6.2	80.8	6.0
Tenpin bowling	19.5	2.9	18.4	2.8	38.0	2.8
Touch football	*11.2	*1.7	**2.8	**0.4	14.0	1.0
Volleyball	*11.3	*1.7	*10.8	*1.6	22.2	1.7
Walking	114.9	17.2	220.4	33.0	335.3	25.1
Waterskiing/powerboating	14.5	2.2	*5.3	*0.8	19.7	1.5
Weight training	18.6	2.8	*11.6	*1.7	30.2	2.3

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## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Tasmania

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES . . . . .		FEMALES . . . . .		PERSONS . . . . .	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Aerobics/fitness	6.6	4.0	16.9	9.6	23.6	6.9
Australian Rules football	8.0	4.8	**0.1	**0.1	8.0	2.4
Badminton	**0.3	**0.2	*2.9	*1.6	*3.2	*0.9
Basketball	*3.0	*1.8	*2.0	*1.1	5.0	1.5
Billiards/snooker/pool	*2.4	*1.5	*1.9	*1.1	4.3	1.3
Canoeing/kayaking	*1.5	*0.9	*1.4	*0.8	*2.9	*0.9
Carpet bowls	*1.3	*0.8	*2.6	*1.4	*3.9	*1.1
Cricket (indoor)	*1.9	*1.2	**0.7	**0.4	*2.6	*0.8
Cricket (outdoor)	8.6	5.2	**0.6	**0.3	9.2	2.7
Cycling	9.2	5.5	*3.7	*2.1	12.8	3.8
Dancing	**0.1	**0.1	*1.9	*1.1	*2.0	*0.6
Darts	*2.1	*1.3	**0.2	**0.1	*2.3	*0.7
Fishing	18.0	10.9	*4.1	*2.3	22.1	6.5
Golf	21.7	13.1	6.3	3.6	28.0	8.2
Hockey (outdoor)	**0.8	**0.5	*1.9	*1.1	*2.7	*0.8
Horse riding	**0.7	**0.4	6.7	3.8	7.3	2.1
Lawn bowls	4.6	2.8	*3.1	*1.7	7.7	2.2
Martial arts	*1.9	*1.1	*2.1	*1.2	*4.0	*1.2
Motor sports	4.5	2.7	**0.5	**0.3	5.0	1.5
Netball	**0.9	**0.5	9.5	5.4	10.4	3.0
Roller sports	*1.8	*1.1	*1.6	*0.9	*3.4	*1.0
Running	6.8	4.1	*3.5	*2.0	10.3	3.0
Sailing	5.4	3.2	*1.8	*1.0	7.2	2.1
Scuba diving	*2.2	*1.3	*1.1	*0.6	*3.2	*0.9
Shooting sports	4.5	2.7	**0.2	**0.1	4.7	1.4
Soccer (outdoor)	*4.0	*2.4	**0.8	**0.4	4.7	1.4
Squash/racquetball	*3.2	*2.0	*1.8	*1.0	5.1	1.5
Surf sports	*2.4	*1.5	*1.2	*0.7	*3.7	*1.1
Swimming	14.9	9.0	27.4	15.5	42.3	12.4
Tennis	8.2	4.9	6.1	3.4	14.3	4.2
Tenpin bowling	*2.1	*1.3	*2.6	*1.5	4.6	1.4
Touch football	*2.4	*1.5	**0.6	**0.3	*3.0	*0.9
Walking	23.7	14.3	36.6	20.7	60.3	17.6
Waterskiing/powerboating	*1.5	*0.9	*1.7	*0.9	*3.1	*0.9
Weight training	*3.0	*1.8	*2.8	*1.6	5.8	1.7

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<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES . . . . .		FEMALES . . . . .		PERSONS . . . . .	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
		'000		%		'000
Aerobics/fitness	4.2	8.1	8.2	16.8	12.5	12.3
Aquarobics	**—	**—	*1.0	*2.0	*1.0	*1.0
Australian Rules football	*1.5	*2.8	**0.2	**0.4	*1.7	*1.6
Basketball	*1.3	*2.4	*0.9	*1.9	2.2	2.2
Billiards/snooker/pool	*1.2	*2.3	**0.2	**0.5	*1.4	*1.4
Cricket (indoor)	*1.2	*2.2	**0.2	**0.3	*1.3	*1.3
Cricket (outdoor)	*1.6	*3.2	**0.2	**0.4	*1.8	*1.8
Cycling	4.7	8.9	3.3	6.8	8.0	7.9
Dancing	**0.2	**0.4	**0.6	**1.3	*0.8	*0.8
Darts	*1.3	*2.5	**0.1	**0.3	*1.5	*1.5
Fishing	5.1	9.8	*1.9	*4.0	7.1	7.0
Golf	4.8	9.3	*0.9	*1.9	5.8	5.7
Hockey (outdoor)	*0.9	*1.7	**0.5	**1.0	*1.4	*1.4
Horse riding	**0.2	**0.4	**0.7	**1.5	*0.9	*0.9
Lawn bowls	**0.7	**1.4	**0.7	**1.4	*1.4	*1.4
Martial arts	*1.1	*2.1	*1.1	*2.3	2.2	2.2
Motor sports	*0.8	*1.6	**0.2	**0.4	*1.0	*1.0
Netball	**0.6	**1.1	2.4	4.8	2.9	2.9
Rugby League	*1.3	*2.5	**—	**—	*1.3	*1.3
Rugby Union	*1.2	*2.3	**0.1	**0.1	*1.2	*1.2
Running	4.2	8.1	2.6	5.4	6.9	6.8
Shooting sports	*1.0	*1.9	**0.1	**0.2	*1.1	*1.1
Soccer (outdoor)	*1.7	*3.2	**0.2	**0.4	*1.9	*1.9
Softball	**0.3	**0.6	**0.7	**1.5	*1.0	*1.0
Squash/racquetball	*1.9	*3.6	**0.7	**1.4	2.5	2.5
Swimming	4.5	8.6	6.8	13.8	11.3	11.1
Tennis	3.1	6.0	*1.8	*3.8	5.0	4.9
Tenpin bowling	**0.7	**1.4	*1.7	*3.4	2.4	2.4
Touch football	2.6	4.9	*1.3	*2.7	3.9	3.9
Volleyball	*1.6	*3.0	*1.9	*3.9	3.5	3.5
Walking	4.1	7.9	11.5	23.6	15.7	15.5
Waterskiing/powerboating	*1.0	*1.9	**0.5	**1.0	*1.5	*1.5
Weight training	*0.9	*1.8	**0.8	**1.6	*1.7	*1.7

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(a) Includes predominantly urban areas only. See paragraph 3 of Explanatory Notes.

<i>Sport and physical activities</i>	MALES . . . . .		FEMALES . . . . .		PERSONS . . . . .	
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Aerobics/fitness	15.0	13.9	22.7	19.7	37.7	16.9
Aquarobics	**—	**—	2.3	2.0	2.3	1.0
Badminton	*1.3	*1.2	*1.6	*1.4	2.9	1.3
Basketball	2.4	2.3	*1.5	*1.3	4.0	1.8
Billiards/snooker/pool	3.4	3.1	*1.5	*1.3	4.9	2.2
Canoeing/kayaking	*1.6	*1.5	*0.9	*0.8	2.5	1.1
Cricket (indoor)	2.1	1.9	**0.5	**0.4	2.5	1.1
Cricket (outdoor)	*1.8	*1.7	**0.4	**0.3	2.2	1.0
Cycling	15.3	14.2	9.8	8.5	25.0	11.2
Dancing	**0.2	**0.1	*1.9	*1.6	2.0	0.9
Fishing	10.6	9.9	3.3	2.9	13.9	6.3
Golf	19.3	17.9	3.3	2.8	22.6	10.1
Hockey (outdoor)	*0.8	*0.8	*0.8	*0.7	*1.7	*0.7
Horse riding	*1.4	*1.3	2.9	2.5	4.2	1.9
Ice/snow sports	4.1	3.8	3.4	3.0	7.5	3.4
Lawn bowls	2.4	2.2	**0.8	**0.7	3.1	1.4
Martial arts	3.5	3.2	2.6	2.3	6.1	2.7
Motor sports	*1.6	*1.5	**—	**—	*1.6	*0.7
Netball	*1.9	*1.7	5.7	5.0	7.6	3.4
Roller sports	*1.4	*1.3	**0.4	**0.3	*1.8	*0.8
Running	9.2	8.5	6.6	5.8	15.8	7.1
Sailing	*1.0	*0.9	**0.7	**0.6	*1.7	*0.7
Scuba diving	*1.1	*1.1	*1.2	*1.1	2.4	1.1
Soccer (outdoor)	3.4	3.1	**0.5	**0.4	3.9	1.7
Softball	*0.9	*0.8	*0.9	*0.8	*1.8	*0.8
Squash/racquetball	3.2	2.9	*1.2	*1.0	4.4	2.0
Surf sports	3.1	2.8	**0.6	**0.5	3.6	1.6
Swimming	17.2	15.9	23.1	20.1	40.3	18.1
Table tennis	*1.4	*1.3	*1.4	*1.2	2.8	1.3
Tennis	9.8	9.1	8.5	7.4	18.2	8.2
Tenpin bowling	2.7	2.5	3.4	2.9	6.0	2.7
Touch football	4.6	4.2	3.5	3.1	8.1	3.6
Volleyball	2.7	2.5	*1.5	*1.3	4.2	1.9
Walking	21.6	20.0	37.0	32.2	58.6	26.3
Waterskiing/powerboating	*1.8	*1.7	*0.8	*0.7	2.6	1.2
Weight training	3.1	2.9	*1.8	*1.5	4.9	2.2

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

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

PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Age

	NUMBER					PARTICIPATION RATE				
	18–24	25–34	35–44	45	Total	18–24	25–34	35–44	45	Total
	years	years	years	years		years	years	years	years	
'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%	%	
Aerobics/fitness	345.3	487.9	304.4	307.4	1 444.9	18.8	17.4	10.6	4.9	10.5
Aquarobics	*9.2	24.7	*16.8	45.0	95.6	*0.5	0.9	*0.6	0.7	0.7
Athletics/track and field	*11.1	**0.6	**3.1	*5.6	*20.5	*0.6	**—	**0.1	*0.1	*0.1
Australian Rules football	81.7	76.1	27.7	**2.5	188.0	4.4	2.7	1.0	**—	1.4
Badminton	*21.5	26.7	*19.2	*15.8	83.2	*1.2	0.9	*0.7	*0.3	0.6
Baseball	**3.7	*6.6	*6.6	**1.8	*18.7	**0.2	*0.2	*0.2	**—	*0.1
Basketball	170.4	82.7	49.0	*8.9	311.0	9.3	2.9	1.7	*0.1	2.3
Billiards/snooker/pool	122.4	102.9	52.8	57.8	336.0	6.7	3.7	1.8	0.9	2.4
Boxing	*19.8	*14.2	**3.2	**—	37.2	*1.1	*0.5	**0.1	**—	0.3
Canoeing/kayaking	*10.6	29.7	29.5	*23.1	92.9	*0.6	1.1	1.0	*0.4	0.7
Carpet bowls	**0.6	**—	**2.5	50.9	54.0	**—	**—	**0.1	0.8	0.4
Cricket (indoor)	43.1	54.1	*12.2	*6.0	115.4	2.3	1.9	*0.4	*0.1	0.8
Cricket (outdoor)	99.1	93.0	51.4	*13.6	257.0	5.4	3.3	1.8	*0.2	1.9
Cycling	128.4	227.8	170.5	152.3	678.9	7.0	8.1	5.9	2.4	4.9
Dancing	26.6	*19.2	*16.4	65.0	127.2	1.4	*0.7	*0.6	1.0	0.9
Darts	36.1	24.1	23.4	35.1	118.6	2.0	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.9
Fishing	89.6	209.6	166.6	264.1	729.8	4.9	7.5	5.8	4.2	5.3
Golf	150.8	292.8	305.5	575.7	1 324.8	8.2	10.4	10.6	9.2	9.6
Gymnastics	25.8	*6.5	*7.8	**1.6	41.7	1.4	*0.2	*0.3	**—	0.3
Hockey (outdoor)	41.3	*15.7	*15.6	**2.8	75.4	2.2	*0.6	*0.5	**—	0.5
Horse riding	57.9	75.4	45.8	47.0	226.1	3.1	2.7	1.6	0.7	1.6
Ice/snow sports	52.1	46.6	39.8	52.6	191.0	2.8	1.7	1.4	0.8	1.4
Lawn bowls	*20.8	*13.1	*21.9	312.1	368.0	*1.1	*0.5	*0.8	5.0	2.7
Martial arts	76.6	92.9	57.2	77.4	304.0	4.2	3.3	2.0	1.2	2.2
Motor sports	*15.2	*17.3	*16.1	*16.5	65.0	*0.8	*0.6	*0.6	*0.3	0.5
Netball	152.0	133.7	75.7	*14.5	376.0	8.3	4.8	2.6	*0.2	2.7
Rock climbing	*17.8	*23.2	**1.7	*7.4	50.1	*1.0	*0.8	**0.1	*0.1	0.4
Roller sports	*19.4	26.9	**3.3	*0.3	49.9	*1.1	1.0	**0.1	**—	0.4
Rowing	*11.6	*6.7	*5.4	*5.5	29.2	*0.6	*0.2	*0.2	*0.1	0.2
Rugby League	53.6	29.5	**3.2	*5.2	91.5	2.9	1.1	**0.1	*0.1	0.7
Rugby Union	*20.9	*18.2	**2.6	**3.8	45.4	*1.1	*0.6	**0.1	**0.1	0.3
Running	169.5	235.3	157.8	92.5	655.0	9.2	8.4	5.5	1.5	4.7
Sailing	*12.6	29.9	42.0	49.5	134.0	*0.7	1.1	1.5	0.8	1.0
Scuba diving	39.1	42.0	38.7	33.6	153.4	2.1	1.5	1.3	0.5	1.1
Shooting sports	**2.6	25.5	*15.8	34.7	78.6	**0.1	0.9	*0.5	0.6	0.6
Soccer (indoor)	*20.4	*20.5	**3.4	*5.1	49.4	*1.1	*0.7	**0.1	*0.1	0.4
Soccer (outdoor)	89.1	48.0	38.8	*16.3	192.2	4.8	1.7	1.3	*0.3	1.4
Softball	*9.1	*16.2	*12.1	**3.6	41.0	*0.5	*0.6	*0.4	**0.1	0.3
Squash/racquetball	47.3	114.3	59.7	52.3	273.6	2.6	4.1	2.1	0.8	2.0
Surf sports	83.2	72.4	61.5	72.3	289.4	4.5	2.6	2.1	1.2	2.1
Swimming	350.9	555.1	520.3	485.3	1 911.6	19.1	19.8	18.1	7.7	13.9
Table tennis	54.1	26.7	41.3	46.9	169.0	2.9	1.0	1.4	0.7	1.2
Tennis	213.0	276.6	260.9	270.0	1 020.4	11.6	9.8	9.1	4.3	7.4
Tenpin bowling	115.9	111.9	89.5	83.2	400.6	6.3	4.0	3.1	1.3	2.9
Touch football	53.0	87.7	36.2	*14.2	191.1	2.9	3.1	1.3	*0.2	1.4
Triathlons	**2.6	*13.2	**1.8	*10.6	28.2	**0.1	*0.5	**0.1	*0.2	0.2
Volleyball	57.7	49.0	29.3	*13.8	149.7	3.1	1.7	1.0	*0.2	1.1
Walking	231.6	584.7	612.3	1 170.2	2 598.7	12.6	20.8	21.3	18.7	18.8
Waterskiing/powerboating	33.1	68.0	37.1	*17.4	155.7	1.8	2.4	1.3	*0.3	1.1
Weight training	58.4	45.7	41.9	29.0	175.0	3.2	1.6	1.5	0.5	1.3

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 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)

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

Sport and physical activities	1–6	7–12	13–26	More than 26	Total	More than 26
	times	times	times	times		times(b)
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
Aerobics/fitness	123.1	141.2	222.5	958.1	1 444.9	66.3
Aquarobics	*16.7	*14.8	*14.5	49.5	95.6	51.8
Athletics/track and field	*8.1	*4.8	**0.3	*7.2	*20.5	*35.1
Australian Rules football	27.9	23.9	40.8	95.4	188.0	50.7
Badminton	*15.6	*16.6	*8.1	42.9	83.2	51.6
Baseball	**2.1	**3.4	**2.7	*10.5	*18.7	56.1
Basketball	44.4	52.2	63.8	150.5	311.0	48.4
Billiards/snooker/pool	67.1	76.8	74.6	117.4	336.0	34.9
Boxing	**1.9	**3.7	*6.8	24.8	37.2	66.7
Canoeing/kayaking	61.1	*5.3	*13.4	*13.0	92.9	*14.0
Carpet bowls	**1.8	**3.3	*7.5	41.4	54.0	76.7
Cricket (indoor)	*22.5	25.2	23.8	44.0	115.4	38.1
Cricket (outdoor)	89.0	*18.7	56.1	93.2	257.0	36.3
Cycling	93.1	99.4	97.5	388.9	678.9	57.3
Dancing	*6.4	*12.0	*15.5	93.3	127.2	73.3
Darts	*21.1	37.5	24.1	35.9	118.6	30.3
Fishing	279.1	180.6	143.2	126.9	729.8	17.4
Golf	386.5	293.6	188.4	456.3	1 324.8	34.4
Gymnastics	**3.7	**2.7	*10.9	24.3	41.7	58.3
Hockey (outdoor)	*17.0	*7.8	*17.2	33.5	75.4	44.4
Horse riding	84.2	39.8	*20.5	81.6	226.1	36.1
Ice/snow sports	129.6	26.8	*17.7	*17.0	191.0	*8.9
Lawn bowls	59.6	*19.4	39.0	250.1	368.0	68.0
Martial arts	37.6	25.7	52.3	188.4	304.0	62.0
Motor sports	26.7	*5.8	*9.7	*22.7	65.0	34.9
Netball	58.9	48.8	75.6	192.8	376.0	51.3
Rock climbing	32.5	*9.1	*6.2	**2.3	50.1	**4.6
Roller sports	*14.3	**2.0	*5.8	27.8	49.9	55.7
Rowing	*4.6	**4.1	*1.8	*18.8	29.2	64.4
Rugby League	30.4	*5.0	23.5	32.7	91.5	35.7
Rugby Union	**3.0	*11.7	*10.1	*20.6	45.4	45.4
Running	51.8	48.3	83.4	471.5	655.0	72.0
Sailing	52.1	27.8	25.0	29.1	134.0	21.7
Scuba diving	59.8	51.6	23.6	*18.4	153.4	*12.0
Shooting sports	*14.3	*10.8	*16.5	37.0	78.6	47.1
Soccer (indoor)	*7.3	*17.1	*12.2	*12.8	49.4	*25.9
Soccer (outdoor)	47.3	25.4	39.0	80.5	192.2	41.9
Softball	*9.1	*7.4	*12.0	*12.4	41.0	*30.2
Squash/racquetball	64.9	48.8	51.6	108.4	273.6	39.6
Surf sports	42.1	73.3	68.7	105.3	289.4	36.4
Swimming	254.2	335.7	445.3	876.5	1 911.6	45.9
Table tennis	46.0	39.5	*11.4	72.0	169.0	42.6
Tennis	287.7	210.9	210.4	311.5	1 020.4	30.5
Tenpin bowling	228.4	38.3	48.2	85.7	400.6	21.4
Touch football	*23.1	*20.3	46.7	101.0	191.1	52.9
Triathlons	**3.4	**1.0	**0.4	*23.3	28.2	82.6
Volleyball	37.1	*10.3	25.8	76.5	149.7	51.1
Walking	64.4	98.4	221.2	2 214.7	2 598.7	85.2
Waterskiing/powerboating	44.5	34.5	49.1	27.7	155.7	17.8
Weight training	*7.8	*9.7	*21.6	135.9	175.0	77.7

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 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) Number of times person undertook activity, including practice and training, during the 12 months prior to interview.

(b) Percentage of participants who undertook the activity more than 26 times during the 12 months prior to interview.

Age group (years)	Organised only	Non- organised only	Both organised and non- organised	Total organised	Total non- organised	Total participation
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(A + C)	(B + C)	(A + B + C)

## NUMBER ('000)

## Males

18–24	202.1	243.7	300.0	502.1	543.7	745.8
25–34	221.8	364.2	374.2	596.0	738.4	960.2
35–44	185.2	397.7	250.6	435.8	648.3	833.5
45 and over	405.9	706.5	327.1	733.0	1 033.6	1 439.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>1 015.0</i>	<i>1 712.0</i>	<i>1 252.0</i>	<i>2 267.0</i>	<i>2 964.0</i>	<i>3 979.0</i>

## Females

18–24	131.0	275.0	199.4	330.4	474.4	605.4
25–34	161.2	461.2	288.2	449.3	749.4	910.5
35–44	167.9	447.2	222.8	390.7	670.0	837.8
45 and over	319.0	659.7	230.2	549.2	889.9	1 208.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>779.0</i>	<i>1 843.0</i>	<i>940.6</i>	<i>1 719.6</i>	<i>2 783.7</i>	<i>3 562.7</i>

## Persons

18–24	333.1	518.7	499.5	832.5	1 018.1	1 351.2
25–34	383.0	825.4	662.4	1 045.4	1 487.8	1 870.7
35–44	353.0	844.9	473.4	826.5	1 318.3	1 671.3
45 and over	724.9	1 366.1	557.3	1 282.3	1 923.5	2 648.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>1 794.0</i>	<i>3 555.0</i>	<i>2 192.6</i>	<i>3 986.6</i>	<i>5 747.6</i>	<i>7 541.7</i>

## PARTICIPATION RATE (%)

## Males

18–24	21.6	26.1	32.1	53.7	58.1	79.7
25–34	15.9	26.1	26.9	42.8	53.0	68.9
35–44	13.0	27.9	17.6	30.6	45.5	58.5
45 and over	13.3	23.2	10.7	24.0	33.9	47.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>14.9</i>	<i>25.2</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i>33.3</i>	<i>43.6</i>	<i>58.5</i>

## Females

18–24	14.5	30.4	22.1	36.6	52.5	67.0
25–34	11.4	32.5	20.3	31.7	52.9	64.2
35–44	11.6	30.8	15.4	26.9	46.2	57.7
45 and over	9.9	20.5	7.1	17.0	27.6	37.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>11.1</i>	<i>26.4</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>24.6</i>	<i>39.8</i>	<i>50.9</i>

## Persons

18–24	18.1	28.2	27.2	45.3	55.4	73.5
25–34	13.6	29.4	23.6	37.2	52.9	66.6
35–44	12.3	29.4	16.5	28.7	45.9	58.1
45 and over	11.6	21.8	8.9	20.4	30.7	42.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>13.0</i>	<i>25.8</i>	<i>15.9</i>	<i>28.9</i>	<i>41.7</i>	<i>54.7</i>

## PARTICIPANTS, Selected Sport and Physical Activities—Main type of participation(a)

<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	704.2	5.1	740.7	5.4	1 444.9	10.5
Aquarobics	66.6	0.5	29.0	0.2	95.6	0.7
Athletics/track and field	*16.3	*0.1	*4.1	*—	*20.5	*0.1
Australian Rules football	155.2	1.1	32.8	0.2	188.0	1.4
Badminton	39.8	0.3	43.4	0.3	83.2	0.6
Baseball	*15.5	*0.1	**3.2	**—	*18.7	*0.1
Basketball	219.5	1.6	91.5	0.7	311.0	2.3
Billiards/snooker/pool	43.2	0.3	292.7	2.1	336.0	2.4
Boxing	*12.8	*0.1	24.3	0.2	37.2	0.3
Canoeing/kayaking	40.4	0.3	52.6	0.4	92.9	0.7
Carpet bowls	53.1	0.4	*0.9	**—	54.0	0.4
Cricket (indoor)	81.4	0.6	34.0	0.2	115.4	0.8
Cricket (outdoor)	181.9	1.3	75.1	0.5	257.0	1.9
Cycling	40.3	0.3	638.6	4.6	678.9	4.9
Dancing	95.6	0.7	31.6	0.2	127.2	0.9
Darts	39.4	0.3	79.2	0.6	118.6	0.9
Fishing	33.1	0.2	696.7	5.1	729.8	5.3
Golf	572.9	4.2	751.9	5.5	1 324.8	9.6
Gymnastics	*16.7	*0.1	25.1	0.2	41.7	0.3
Hockey (outdoor)	72.4	0.5	**3.0	**—	75.4	0.5
Horse riding	52.3	0.4	173.8	1.3	226.1	1.6
Ice/snow sports	24.9	0.2	166.2	1.2	191.0	1.4
Lawn bowls	351.4	2.5	*16.6	*0.1	368.0	2.7
Martial arts	216.3	1.6	87.7	0.6	304.0	2.2
Motor sports	38.7	0.3	26.3	0.2	65.0	0.5
Netball	322.1	2.3	53.9	0.4	376.0	2.7
Rock climbing	*12.6	*0.1	37.4	0.3	50.1	0.4
Roller sports	*4.9	*—	45.0	0.3	49.9	0.4
Rowing	*20.2	*0.1	*9.0	*0.1	29.2	0.2
Rugby League	79.7	0.6	*11.9	*0.1	91.5	0.7
Rugby Union	34.6	0.3	*10.8	*0.1	45.4	0.3
Running	55.9	0.4	599.2	4.3	655.0	4.7
Sailing	57.6	0.4	76.4	0.6	134.0	1.0
Scuba diving	41.1	0.3	112.3	0.8	153.4	1.1
Shooting sports	65.5	0.5	*13.1	*0.1	78.6	0.6
Soccer (indoor)	26.5	0.2	*22.9	*0.2	49.4	0.4
Soccer (outdoor)	126.0	0.9	66.2	0.5	192.2	1.4
Softball	38.2	0.3	**2.8	**—	41.0	0.3
Squash/racquetball	89.3	0.6	184.3	1.3	273.6	2.0
Surf sports	30.5	0.2	258.9	1.9	289.4	2.1
Swimming	136.9	1.0	1 774.7	12.9	1 911.6	13.9
Table tennis	36.3	0.3	132.8	1.0	169.0	1.2
Tennis	329.2	2.4	691.3	5.0	1 020.4	7.4
Tenpin bowling	107.8	0.8	292.7	2.1	400.6	2.9
Touch football	165.5	1.2	25.6	0.2	191.1	1.4
Triathlons	25.2	0.2	**3.0	**—	28.2	0.2
Volleyball	119.8	0.9	29.9	0.2	149.7	1.1
Walking	76.8	0.6	2 521.9	18.3	2 598.7	18.8
Waterskiing/powerboating	*14.9	*0.1	140.8	1.0	155.7	1.1
Weight training	62.7	0.5	112.3	0.8	175.0	1.3

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(a) It is possible to undertake both organised and non-organised participation for any given activity. However, in this table, participation has been classified according to the type of participation (i.e. organised or non-organised) in which the respondent participated most frequently.

## PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities—Membership status

<i>Age group (years)</i>	<i>Participation as club or association member only</i>	<i>Participation, but not as club or association member</i>	<i>Participation as both member and non-member</i>	<i>Total participation as club or association member</i>	<i>Total non- member participation</i>	<i>Total participation</i>
(A)	(B)	(C)	(A + C)	(B + C)	(A + B + C)	

## NUMBER ('000)

<b>Males</b>						
18–24	159.0	297.3	289.5	448.5	586.8	745.8
25–34	160.6	452.5	347.1	507.7	799.6	960.2
35–44	187.4	406.1	240.1	427.4	646.1	833.5
45 and over	407.0	707.7	324.7	731.8	1 032.5	1 439.5
<i>Total</i>	914.0	1 863.6	1 201.4	2 115.4	3 065.0	3 979.0

<b>Females</b>						
18–24	119.7	317.9	167.8	287.5	485.7	605.4
25–34	123.2	533.1	254.2	377.4	787.3	910.5
35–44	127.9	503.0	207.0	334.8	710.0	837.8
45 and over	276.6	710.9	221.4	498.0	932.3	1 208.9
<i>Total</i>	647.3	2 064.9	850.4	1 497.7	2 915.3	3 562.7

<b>Persons</b>						
18–24	278.7	615.2	457.3	736.0	1 072.5	1 351.2
25–34	283.8	985.7	601.3	885.1	1 586.9	1 870.7
35–44	315.2	909.1	447.0	762.2	1 356.1	1 671.3
45 and over	683.6	1 418.6	546.2	1 229.8	1 964.8	2 648.4
<i>Total</i>	1 561.3	3 928.6	2 051.8	3 613.1	5 980.4	7 541.7

## PARTICIPATION RATE (%)

<b>Males</b>						
18–24	17.0	31.8	30.9	47.9	62.7	79.7
25–34	11.5	32.5	24.9	36.4	57.4	68.9
35–44	13.2	28.5	16.9	30.0	45.4	58.5
45 and over	13.3	23.2	10.6	24.0	33.9	47.2
<i>Total</i>	13.4	27.4	17.7	31.1	45.1	58.5

<b>Females</b>						
18–24	13.2	35.2	18.6	31.8	53.8	67.0
25–34	8.7	37.6	17.9	26.6	55.5	64.2
35–44	8.8	34.7	14.3	23.1	48.9	57.7
45 and over	8.6	22.1	6.9	15.5	28.9	37.5
<i>Total</i>	9.3	29.5	12.2	21.4	41.7	50.9

<b>Persons</b>						
18–24	15.2	33.5	24.9	40.0	58.3	73.5
25–34	10.1	35.1	21.4	31.5	56.5	66.6
35–44	11.0	31.6	15.5	26.5	47.2	58.1
45 and over	10.9	22.6	8.7	19.6	31.3	42.2
<i>Total</i>	11.3	28.5	14.9	26.2	43.3	54.7

**PARTICIPANTS, Sport and Physical Activities—1998–99 and 1999–2000(a)**

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
<b>Males</b>									
1998–99	1 426.8	1 037.4	765.5	325.7	411.6	103.8	32.5	80.2	4 183.5
1999–00	1 327.5	1 028.8	708.1	292.5	430.1	88.2	29.5	74.3	3 979.0
<b>Females</b>									
1998–99	1 270.6	967.5	723.2	299.0	413.7	96.4	29.1	79.2	3 878.8
1999–00	1 150.0	888.0	651.9	255.5	431.8	87.5	26.8	71.2	3 562.7
<b>Persons</b>									
1998–99	2 697.4	2 004.9	1 488.7	624.7	825.4	200.3	61.6	159.3	8 062.3
1999–00	2 477.5	1 916.8	1 360.0	548.0	861.9	175.7	56.3	145.5	7 541.7
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)									
<b>Males</b>									
1998–99	62.7	61.4	63.4	60.6	63.7	62.6	61.7	76.2	62.6
1999–00	57.2	59.8	57.6	54.4	64.3	53.3	56.5	68.9	58.5
<b>Females</b>									
1998–99	54.2	55.0	58.4	53.3	63.2	55.5	59.3	70.5	56.3
1999–00	48.3	49.8	51.5	45.9	64.6	49.5	54.7	61.9	50.9
<b>Persons</b>									
1998–99	58.4	58.2	60.9	56.9	63.4	58.9	60.5	73.2	59.4
1999–00	52.7	54.7	54.5	50.1	64.5	51.3	55.7	65.3	54.7

- (a) Relates to persons aged 18 years and over who participated in organised and non-organised sport or physical activity over a 12-month period prior to interview.
- (b) Includes predominantly urban areas only. See paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT(b)	ACT	Aust.
NUMBER ('000)									
<b>Males</b>									
1996–97	597.6	479.1	355.0	171.9	204.6	55.5	16.0	37.6	1 917.3
1997–98	680.8	489.0	372.3	171.8	228.0	60.4	19.7	41.3	2 063.3
1998–99	766.3	579.7	408.6	190.5	221.1	59.1	18.8	41.2	2 285.2
1999–00	767.4	580.1	406.6	167.0	231.6	54.4	19.1	40.7	2 267.0
<b>Females</b>									
1996–97	460.2	411.2	286.0	133.2	183.3	43.5	12.8	29.2	1 559.6
1997–98	503.2	452.0	313.7	143.2	203.4	51.8	14.2	36.0	1 717.5
1998–99	558.6	460.3	349.2	155.1	197.6	47.9	14.3	37.8	1 820.8
1999–00	569.3	423.6	298.9	127.0	203.7	48.0	15.1	34.0	1 719.6
<b>Persons</b>									
1996–97	1 057.8	890.4	641.0	305.1	387.9	99.0	28.8	66.8	3 476.8
1997–98	1 183.9	941.1	686.0	315.0	431.3	112.2	33.9	77.3	3 780.8
1998–99	1 324.9	1 040.0	757.8	345.6	418.6	107.0	33.1	79.1	4 106.1
1999–00	1 336.8	1 003.7	705.6	294.1	435.3	102.3	34.2	74.7	3 986.6
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)									
<b>Males</b>									
1996–97	27.2	29.2	30.5	32.6	32.4	33.8	34.4	37.8	29.7
1997–98	30.4	29.5	31.3	32.3	36.0	36.3	40.6	39.9	31.4
1998–99	33.7	34.3	33.8	35.4	34.2	35.6	35.6	39.2	34.2
1999–00	33.1	33.7	33.1	31.1	34.6	32.9	36.6	37.7	33.3
<b>Females</b>									
1996–97	20.2	24.0	24.2	24.3	29.0	25.3	29.5	26.7	23.3
1997–98	21.6	26.0	25.8	26.0	31.9	29.8	31.3	32.0	25.3
1998–99	23.8	26.2	28.2	27.7	30.2	27.6	29.2	33.7	26.4
1999–00	23.9	23.8	23.6	22.8	30.5	27.1	30.8	29.5	24.6
<b>Persons</b>									
1996–97	23.6	26.6	27.4	28.4	30.7	29.4	32.0	32.0	26.5
1997–98	25.9	27.7	28.5	29.1	34.0	33.0	36.1	35.8	28.3
1998–99	28.7	30.2	31.0	31.5	32.2	31.5	32.5	36.3	30.3
1999–00	28.4	28.7	28.3	26.9	32.6	29.9	33.8	33.5	28.9

(a) Relates to persons aged 18 years and over who participated in organised sport or physical activity during the 12 months prior to interview in the year shown.

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

## 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 1999–2000. The data were collected via the Population Survey Monitor (PSM). Results from four quarterly PSM 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 some guidance from a prompt card.
- 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 3,250 private dwellings, resulting in an annual total of about 13,000 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.
- DATA INTERPRETATION**
- 6** Several tables in this publication provide information on participation in 'selected' sport and physical activities. An activity was selected for inclusion in these tables if the number of people in the sample who had undertaken the activity was sufficient to enable publication of a total estimate of participation.
- 7** For each sport or physical activity reported, respondents were asked whether the activity was organised by a club or association. Tables 7 and 8 show the number of people that participated in sport and physical activities organised by clubs or associations (including sporting and physical activity clubs, work social clubs, church groups, etc.).
- 8** Respondents were also asked, for each sport or physical activity undertaken, whether they were members of a club or association whose primary focus was that activity (e.g. if they played tennis, whether they were members of a tennis club). Table 9 shows the number of participants who were members of a relevant club or association.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### DATA INTERPRETATION

*continued*

- 9** In interpreting the data, users should be aware that:
- an activity may have been organised by a club whose primary focus was not a sport or physical activity (e.g. the participation may have been organised by a work social club and the participant is not a member of any sport or physical activity club in that field—such participation would have been coded as 'organised' and 'not a club member');
  - an activity may have been organised by a club whose primary focus was a different sport to the activity reported (e.g. a football club may organise a tenpin bowls night—unless the participant was a member of a tenpin bowling club, such participation would be coded as 'organised' and 'not a club member');
  - some clubs organise activities that are open to non-members (e.g. an aerobics club may permit non-members to participate to increase its revenue—participation by such a non-member would be coded as 'organised' and 'not a club member'); and
  - some people join clubs so that they can use the sport facilities, rather than to play in organised matches (e.g. a member of a tennis club who uses the courts only for social matches—such participation would be coded as 'non-organised' and 'club member').

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

*Sampling error*

**10** The estimates provided in this publication are subject to two types of error: sampling error and non-sampling error.

**11** 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 Note on Sampling Variability.

*Non-sampling error*

**12** 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, information on participation in a sport or physical activity by persons whose involvement is infrequent may be unreliable, given that they are asked about activities pursued during the previous 12 months. Respondents may fail to accurately recall all such 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.

**13** 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

**14** Prior to the 1997–98 issue of this publication the data related primarily to organised sport and physical activities. A change to the PSM questionnaire since 1997–98 has enabled estimates of all participation to be produced (i.e. including

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS DATA *continued*

both organised and non-organised), resulting in significantly higher participation rates than those shown in the 1996–97 and earlier issues.

**15** For the 1997–98 survey, participation in running, jogging and/or walking that was not organised by a club or association was not included. However, since that time these types of activities have been included, resulting in further significant rises in the overall participation rate.

**16** It should also be noted that data for organised participation in the 1995–96 and 1996–97 issues covered persons 15 years and over whereas, from the 1997–98 issue, the data were limited to persons aged 18 years and over as a result of changes in data collection arrangements.

**17** Late in 1995–96 the PSM became part of the ABS' National Statistical Service and adopted the same collection methodology as other official ABS household surveys. Prior to this the PSM had been an overtly voluntary survey. This change is likely to have contributed to response rates increasing by about 10 percentage points from 1995–96 to 1996–97 which, in turn, may have been a significant factor in the movement in estimates between those years.

**18** In examining data in earlier issues of this publication, care should be taken in the interpretation of movements in the estimates over time because of the differences in scope and methodology outlined in paragraphs 14 to 17. In order to eliminate these variations when compiling the time series in table 18 of this issue, only estimates for participation in organised sport and physical activity by people aged 18 years and over have been used for each year from 1996–97 to 1999–2000.

**19** Movements in estimates over time, including those shown in table 18, are also subject to sampling variability, with the standard error 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 Note explains in detail how to calculate the standard error of the movements.

### REVISION OF PREVIOUS YEARS' DATA

**20** Since the release of the 1997–98 issue of this publication, updated civilian population estimates, incorporating results from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing, have become available. This has resulted in revisions to participation data from 1995–96 to 1997–98 inclusive. The data in table 18 incorporate these revised population estimates.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

**21** In addition to data in this publication, information was also collected in the PSM on other demographic and work-related characteristics by which participation in sport and physical activities can be cross-classified. These characteristics include occupation, industry, income, highest 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.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**22** 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

**23** Other ABS publications with sport and recreation information include:  
*Casinos, Australia, 1998–99* (Cat. no. 8683.0)  
*Cultural Trends in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 1997* (Cat. no. 4172.0)

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

*continued*

*Gambling Industries, Australia, 1997–98* (Cat. no. 8684.0)  
*How Australians Use Their Time, 1997* (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, August 2000* (Cat. no. 4103.0)  
*Recreation Services, Australia, 1994–95* (Cat. no. 8688.0)  
*Sport and Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 1997* (Cat. no. 4156.0)  
*Sport and Recreation, Urban Northern Territory, October 1991* (Cat. no. 4108.7)  
*Sports Attendance, April 1999* (Cat. no. 4174.0)  
*Sports Industries, Australia, 1994–95* (Cat. no. 8686.0)  
*Time Use on Culture/Leisure Activities, 1997* (Cat. no. 4173.0)

STANDARD ERRORS

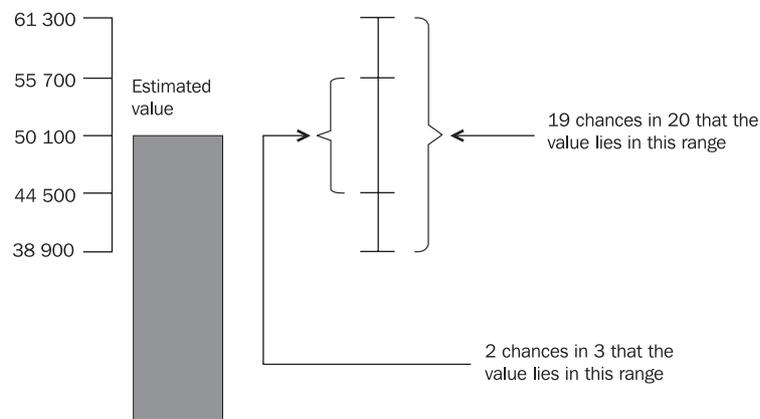
**1** Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from those that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely 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 2 chances in 3 (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.

RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

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

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

From table 2 an estimated 50,100 South Australians aged 65 years and over participated in sport and physical activities in 1999–2000. Referring to the table of SEs, table T1, an estimate of 50,100 for South Australia has a SE of approximately 5,600 persons. There are about 2 chances in 3 that the number that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey was between 44,500 and 55,700 (i.e. 50,100 plus or minus 5,600). There are about 19 chances in 20 that the number lies between 38,900 and 61,300 (i.e. 50,100 plus or minus 11,200). This example is illustrated below.



**4** 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:

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

**5** As an example, table 2 shows that in Victoria 1,028,800 males aged 18 years and older participated in sport and physical activities in 1999–2000. This represents 59.8% of all males who reside in that State in that age group (1,720,100). The SE of 1,028,800 for Victoria is about 29,500, so the RSE is  $29,500/1,028,800 = 2.9\%$ . The RSE of 1,720,100 is approximately  $34,400/1,720,100 = 2.0\%$ . Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is 2.1%. This then gives an SE of the proportion (59.8%) of  $2.1/100 \times 59.8 = 1.3\%$ . Therefore, there

# TECHNICAL NOTE SAMPLING VARIABILITY *continued*

## RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS *continued*

are about 2 chances in 3 that the proportion of males aged 18 years and over residing in Victoria who participated in sport and physical activities was between 58.5% and 61.1% and approximately 19 chances in 20 that the proportion was in the range 57.2% to 62.4%.

## COMPARISON OF ESTIMATES

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

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

**7** 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.

**8** 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 less than 25% (and percentages based on such estimates) are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with an RSE between 25% and 50% have been included and are preceded by a single 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% are preceded by a double asterisk (i.e. \*\*) and are subject to sampling error too high for most practical purposes.

## STANDARD ERROR TABLES

### T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate '000 persons	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
2	1 600	1 700	1 400	1 000	1 200	700	400	500	1 200
5	2 800	2 900	2 500	1 800	2 000	1 100	700	800	2 300
10	4 200	4 200	3 800	2 600	2 800	1 500	900	1 100	3 500
20	6 100	6 000	5 500	3 700	3 900	2 100	1 100	1 500	5 200
50	9 600	9 300	8 400	5 600	6 000	3 000	1 500	2 200	8 500
100	13 000	12 600	11 300	7 200	8 200	3 900	1 800	2 800	11 900
200	17 100	16 700	14 700	9 100	10 800	5 000	2 100	3 500	16 200
500	23 600	23 300	19 900	11 600	15 300	6 500	—	—	23 300
800	27 300	27 300	22 700	12 900	18 100	—	—	—	27 600
1 000	29 100	29 300	24 100	13 400	19 500	—	—	—	29 700
1 500	32 500	33 100	26 500	14 400	22 300	—	—	—	33 800
2 000	34 900	35 900	28 200	15 000	24 400	—	—	—	36 900
5 000	42 600	45 500	33 300	—	—	—	—	—	47 100

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

# TECHNICAL NOTE SAMPLING VARIABILITY *continued*

## STANDARD ERROR TABLES *continued*

## T2 RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS

Size of estimate '000 persons	NSW %	Vic. %	Qld %	SA %	WA %	Tas. %	NT %	ACT %	Aust. %
2	80.0	85.0	70.0	50.0	60.0	35.0	20.0	25.0	60.0
5	56.0	58.0	50.0	36.0	40.0	22.0	14.0	16.0	46.0
10	42.0	42.0	38.0	26.0	28.0	15.0	9.0	11.0	35.0
20	30.5	30.0	27.5	18.5	19.5	10.5	5.5	7.5	26.0
50	19.2	18.6	16.8	11.2	12.0	6.0	3.0	4.4	17.0
100	13.0	12.6	11.3	7.2	8.2	3.9	1.8	2.8	11.9
200	8.6	8.4	7.4	4.6	5.4	2.5	1.1	1.8	8.1
500	4.7	4.7	4.0	2.3	3.1	1.3	—	—	4.7
800	3.4	3.4	2.8	1.6	2.3	—	—	—	3.5
1 000	2.9	2.9	2.4	1.3	2.0	—	—	—	3.0
1 500	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.0	1.5	—	—	—	2.3
2 000	1.7	1.8	1.4	0.8	1.2	—	—	—	1.8
5 000	0.9	0.9	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	0.9

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

## GLOSSARY

<b>Aerobics/fitness</b>	Includes callisthenics, gym, exercise bike and circuits.
<b>Basketball</b>	Includes indoor and outdoor basketball.
<b>Capital cities</b>	Includes the six State capital city statistical divisions, the Darwin Statistical Division and the Australian Capital Territory.
<b>Club or association</b>	Includes sport and physical activity clubs and associations, as well as work social clubs, church groups and old scholars associations.
<b>Cycling</b>	Includes BMX and mountain bike.
<b>Dancing</b>	Includes ballet and line dancing.
<b>Employed</b>	For the definition of employed persons, see the publication <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0).
<b>Gymnastics</b>	Includes trampolining.
<b>Hockey</b>	Excludes ice hockey.
<b>Horse riding</b>	Includes equestrian and polocrosse.
<b>Ice/snow sports</b>	Includes ice hockey, ice-skating and snow skiing.
<b>Martial arts</b>	Includes tae kwon do, aikido, judo, karate and kickboxing.
<b>Member</b>	A person who paid a membership fee to a sport or physical activity club or association.
<b>Motor sports</b>	Includes car, motor bike, speedway, drag and go-kart.
<b>Netball</b>	Includes indoor and outdoor netball.
<b>Non-organised sport and physical activities</b>	Those sport and physical activities which were not organised by a club or association. Persons may participate in more than one non-organised activity and may also participate in organised activities.
<b>Not in the labour force</b>	For the definition of persons not in the labour force, see the publication <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0).
<b>Organised sport and physical activities</b>	Those sport and physical activities which were organised by a club or association. The club or association did not need to be a sporting body; it may have been a work social club, church group, old scholars association or gymnasium. Persons may participate in more than one organised activity and may also participate in non-organised activities.
<b>Participant</b>	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.
<b>Participation rate</b>	For any group, the number of participants expressed as a percentage of the civilian population of that group.
<b>Rest of State</b>	Areas outside of the six State capital city statistical divisions, the Darwin Statistical Division and the Australian Capital Territory. However, it excludes sparsely settled areas.
<b>Running</b>	Includes jogging and fun-running.
<b>Shooting</b>	Includes pistol, hunting, paintball shooting, etc.
<b>Sport and physical activities</b>	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ fitness/health activities;</li> <li>■ other leisure time physical activities;</li> <li>■ ball sports;</li> </ul>

## GLOSSARY *continued*

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<b>Sport and physical activities</b> <i>continued</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ racquet sports;</li><li>■ other team sports;</li><li>■ water sports;</li><li>■ other sports; and</li><li>■ any other physical activities.</li></ul>
<b>Surf sports</b>	Includes surfing and windsurfing. Excludes surf-lifesaving.
<b>Tennis</b>	Includes indoor and outdoor tennis.
<b>Unemployed</b>	For the definition of unemployed persons, see the publication <i>Labour Force, Australia</i> (Cat. no. 6203.0).
<b>Volleyball</b>	Includes indoor and outdoor volleyball.
<b>Walking</b>	Includes bushwalking and power walking.
<b>Waterskiing/powerboating</b>	Includes jet skiing.







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