


## Sport Participation Rates- Victoria 2015

October 2016

## Rates of Participation in Club-Based Sport

This report provides the results of an analysis of participation in Victorian club-based sport across the lifespan. It combines data from 11 major Victorian State Sporting Associations (SSAs):

Australian Football League, Basketball, Bowls, Cricket, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball, Sailing, and Tennis (Figure 1).

A participant, or player, is defined as a registered member of a Victorian sporting club that is associated with one of the 11 SSAs, in 2015, who was aged between 4 and 100 years and resided in Victoria. These SSAs recorded a total of 1,048,171 player registrations in 2015. Those for which age or postcode was missing or invalid ( $14 \%$ of registrations.) were excluded from the analysis, and adjustments to counts were made in postcodes that were partly allocated to a Local Government Authority (LGA) outside Victoria (see the note on data accuracy on page 16 of this report). This report provides a summary of the $\mathbf{8 9 9}, \mathbf{3 4 9}$ player registrations for which complete and valid data was recorded. It should be noted that, because a person could be a registered player of more than one sport, when data for multiple sports are combined the total number of registrations is greater than the number of individual players.

The variable tabulated and graphed, for Victoria as a whole and for each sex and/or geographical region, is the age-specific participation rate, defined as the number of player registrations in each age range, expressed as a percentage of the estimated resident population (ERP) in that age range, as at 30 June 2014 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2015). The reported rates are strictly 'participant registrations per 100 residents in the relevant population cohort' but for brevity and simplicity they are generally referred to in the text and Table 2 as percentages of the relevant population cohort.

Table 1 shows a summary of participation counts and rates, and also provides a key to the profiles displayed in the figures.

Table 2 shows participation rates for each Local Government Area (LGA).
Figure 1 shows the participation rates for Victoria for the eleven separate sports
Figure 2 shows the participation rates for Victoria.
Figure 3 shows the participation rates for each sex.
Figure 4 shows the participation rates for the four regions defined on page 15 of this report.
Figures $5 \mathrm{a}-5 \mathrm{~d}$ show, separately for each region, the participation rates for each sex.
Figures 6a and 6b show, separately for each sex, the participation rates for each region.
Figure 7 shows the rankings of LGAs by participation rate within each of the four Victorian regions.

## Results

## Data Quality

- Overall, $86 \%$ of records were complete with regard to date of birth, sex and postcode, and hence were able to be used in this analysis and reporting. This amounts to nearly 900,000 player records integrated for these reports.


## Specific Sports

- For six of the 11 sports (Sport A, B, C, E, G and I), there was a peak in participation rates at age 10-14, and for three sports (Sport D, F and K), the peak age of participation was 5-9 years. Sport K had a second lower peak in middle age (45-49 years). Sport C also had a second peak of similar magnitude at ages 55-69 years. Sport H and J peaked later, at ages 75-79 and 65-69 respectively (Figure1).
- For the majority of sports there was a significant drop in the participation rate from immediately after the peak (15-19 years) followed by progressive declines throughout the lifespan.
- The highest participation rate was $17 \%$ for Sport E for age 10-14 years, followed closely by Sport D and K both at 16\% for age 5-9 years.
- Whilst there were substantial differences in participation rates for different sports among young children and adolescents, by age 30 participation rates were below $2 \%$ for all sports. Thereafter, rates remained at these levels for but two sports.


## Sports overall

- The integration of data from all 11 included sports shows that overall participation peaked for ages 5-14 years, representing a participation rate of $67.5 \%$ for ages $5-9$ and $67.3 \%$ for ages $10-$ 14. Over a quarter of 4 year olds (26.5\%) were participants (Table 1, Figure 2).
- After the peak at 5-14 years the participation rate dropped by more than half for the next age group 15-19 years, representing a participation rate of one third of Victorians of this age (29.2\%). There was another large decline (to 14.5\%) in the next age group 20-24 and then a steady progressive decline until a small rebound at ages 60-74 years. From ages 25-85+ fewer than $10 \%$ of Victorians participated in these sports (Figure 2).
- It should be noted that the magnitudes of both the peak participation rate and the subsequent drop are in part attributable to 'sampling behaviour', whereby some younger children participate in multiple sports (and are counted multiple times in the dataset) and then specialise in fewer sports in mid to late adolescence.


## Sex

- Participation rates were higher for males than females in all age groups (Figure 3).
- Overall, the male participation rate in these 11 sports was double the female rate $(20.4 \%$ vs $10.5 \%$, Table 1).
- The largest difference in participation rates was for the 5-9 and 10-14 year age groups where around $30 \%$ more males participated ( $80 \%$ vs $50 \%$ ) in these sports than females for $5-14$ years. This represents a $60 \%$ higher participation rate among males than females.
- While the participation rates beyond age 19 were much lower, the difference between male and female participation rates was proportionally greater, with the male rates being more than double the female rates in all age groups.
- Notwithstanding the large discrepancies between rates of participation, the profile across the lifespan was similar for both males and females.


## Region

- For most ages, participation rates were higher in regional areas than metropolitan areas (Figure 4).
- For the very young (age 4) the highest participation rate of $29.9 \%$ was within the Metropolitan Other region. For ages 5 to 49 years the highest participation rates were within Regional Other areas. For ages 50-79 years, the highest participation rates were in Regional - Growth areas.
- The highest participation rate recorded was 84.7\% for 5-10 year olds, followed closely by 10-14 year olds (82.7\%), within Regional - Other areas.
- The largest differences in participation rates by region were within the 5-14 years, with Regional - Other having almost double the participation rates of Metropolitan - Growth areas ( $80+\%$ vs around 45\%).
- While the participation rates beyond age 19 were much lower, the relative difference across regions was similar, with the highest rate being around double the lowest rate in all age groups.


## Sex and Region

- The sex-specific age profiles of participation rates had broadly similar features across all regions. However, there were differences in the detail, such as the absolute and relative magnitudes of the peak participation rates for males and females in each region (Figure 5a-5d).
- The highest participation rates were within the Regional - Other area for males ( $96.7 \%$ for those aged 5-9 and $93.5 \%$ for those males aged 10-14 years) (Table 1, Figure 5d). The Regional Growth participation rate for males aged $5-9$ was also high at $94.5 \%$ (Table 1, Figure 5c).
- Female participation within the regional areas was also much higher than in the metropolitan areas. The highest female participation rate was $71.9 \%$ for $5-9$ year olds, followed by $71.3 \%$ for 10-14 year olds within Regional - Other. Regional - Growth also had a high rate of participation for females aged 5-9 years (64.9\%) (Figure 5c-5d).
- From the perspective of regional differences for each sex, the profiles of regional differences of participation rates were similar in shape for males and females, but the male rates were consistently higher than the female rates (Figure 6a-6b).


## LGA

- There was considerable variation in participation rates across Victorian LGAs, and between LGAs within the four designated regions (Table 2, Figure 7).
- The lowest participation rate was $5.5 \%$ in the City of Melbourne, in the Metropolitan - Other region. The lowest participation rates in the other regions were as follows: Metropolitan Growth, Wyndham 11.2\%; Regional - Other, Yarriambiack and Hepburn, both 13.9\%; and Regional - Growth, Ballarat 14.1\%.
- The highest participation rate was $39.1 \%$ in Buloke Shire, in the Regional - Other area. The highest participation rates of the other regions were as follows: Regional - Growth, Surf Coast, 28.1\%; Metropolitan - Other, Bayside, 27.8\%; and Metropolitan - Growth, Cardinia, 16.7\%.
- For all four regions there was a fairly steady trend ranging from the lowest participation to the highest. However in three regions, the highest participation rate was considerably higher than the next highest. In the Metropolitan - Growth region, the two highest participation rates stood out from the rest.


Figure 1. Age-specific participation rates by sport, 2015, Victoria

Table 1. Participation rates ${ }^{1}$ : Victoria 2015

| Region | Sex | Figure |  | Age range |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50-54 | 55-59 | 60-64 | 65-69 | 70-74 | 75-79 | 80-84 | 85+ |  |
| Victoria | Persons | 1 | n | 20,117 | 241,470 | 226,262 | 104,502 | 61,065 | 43,768 | 32,269 | 24,797 | 24,851 | 21,566 | 18,332 | 15,745 | 15,852 | 17,542 | 13,829 | 9,565 | 5,175 | 2,642 | 899,349 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 75,824 | 357,967 | 336,165 | 357,902 | 419,759 | 450,694 | 440,202 | 395,695 | 417,923 | 386,898 | 381,106 | 348,884 | 307,620 | 273,217 | 202,031 | 155,035 | 116,424 | 118,330 | 5,840,910 |
|  | Males | 2 | Rate (\%) | 26.5 | 67.5 | 67.3 | 29.2 | 14.5 | 9.7 | 7.3 | 6.3 | 5.9 | 5.6 | 4.8 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 6.4 | 6.8 | 6.2 | 4.4 | 2.2 | 15.4 |
| Victoria |  |  | n | 13,075 | 150,805 | 138,996 | 68,642 | 44,053 | 32,341 | 23,818 | 17,306 | 16,981 | 15,157 | 13,076 | 11,217 | 10,927 | 12,048 | 9,391 | 6,686 | 3,606 | 1,827 | 589,951 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 39,030 | 183,667 | 172,038 | 183,880 | 214,202 | 225,261 | 219,752 | 196,933 | 205,328 | 190,531 | 187,184 | 171,060 | 149,940 | 133,599 | 97,763 | 72,659 | 50,500 | 43,083 | 2,890,076 |
|  | Females | 2 | Rate (\%) | 17.2 | 82.1 | 80.8 | 37.3 | 20.6 | 14.4 | 10.8 | 8.8 | 8.3 | 8.0 | 7.0 | 6.6 | 7.3 | 9.0 | 9.6 | 9.2 | 7.1 | 4.2 | 20.4 |
| Victoria |  |  | n | 7,042 | 90,665 | 87,266 | 35,860 | 17,012 | 11,427 | 8,452 | 7,492 | 7,869 | 6,409 | 5,256 | 4,528 | 4,925 | 5,494 | 4,438 | 2,880 | 1,569 | 815 | 309,398 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 36,797 | 174,300 | 164,127 | 174,022 | 205,557 | 225,433 | 220,450 | 198,762 | 212,595 | 196,367 | 193,922 | 177,824 | 157,680 | 139,618 | 104,268 | 82,376 | 65,924 | 75,247 | 2,950,834 |
|  | Persons | 3 | Rate (\%) | 9.3 | 52.0 | 53.2 | 20.6 | 8.3 | 5.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 1.1 | 10.5 |
| Metropolitan - Growth |  |  | n | 3,327 | 38,182 | 34,934 | 16,848 | 10,069 | 7,238 | 5,785 | 4,153 | 3,677 | 2,668 | 1,926 | 1,451 | 1,333 | 1,374 | 1,005 | 656 | 312 | 141 | 135,078 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 18,622 | 84,093 | 75,150 | 75,597 | 77,438 | 87,659 | 95,501 | 85,321 | 84,165 | 74,553 | 68,489 | 58,055 | 47,531 | 38,780 | 26,001 | 18,366 | 12,382 | 10,412 | 1,112,168 |
|  | Persons | 3 | Rate (\%) | 17.9 | 45.4 | 46.5 | 22.3 | 13.0 | 8.3 | 6.1 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 3.6 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 12.1 |
| Metropolitan - Other |  |  | n | 11,545 | 127,371 | 120,992 | 52,513 | 31,516 | 22,907 | 16,449 | 12,540 | 13,643 | 12,813 | 11,257 | 9,532 | 9,136 | 9,764 | 7,464 | 4,864 | 2,691 | 1,371 | 478,367 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 38,612 | 182,369 | 171,089 | 188,780 | 261,661 | 285,396 | 266,173 | 229,324 | 239,463 | 218,754 | 211,574 | 191,900 | 166,875 | 149,615 | 112,732 | 89,169 | 68,805 | 72,496 | 3,300,518 |
|  | Persons | 3 | Rate (\%) | 29.9 | 69.8 | 70.7 | 27.8 | 12.0 | 8.0 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.9 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 5.5 | 3.9 | 1.9 | 14.5 |
| Regional- Growth |  |  | n | 2,169 | 29,284 | 24,727 | 11,427 | 6,736 | 4,775 | 3,416 | 2,659 | 2,603 | 2,180 | 2,060 | 1,973 | 2,360 | 2,682 | 2,183 | 1,527 | 804 | 422 | 103,986 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 7,693 | 36,442 | 34,749 | 37,320 | 37,250 | 34,641 | 34,448 | 34,608 | 38,439 | 36,582 | 38,289 | 37,080 | 34,537 | 31,244 | 23,121 | 17,425 | 13,084 | 13,254 | 569,155 |
|  | Persons | 3 | Rate (\%) | 28.2 | 80.4 | 71.2 | 30.6 | 18.1 | 13.8 | 9.9 | 7.7 | 6.8 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 6.8 | 8.6 | 9.4 | 8.8 | 6.1 | 3.2 | 18.3 |
| Regional- Other |  |  | n | 3,076 | 46,633 | 45,609 | 23,715 | 12,743 | 8,848 | 6,619 | 5,445 | 4,929 | 3,906 | 3,089 | 2,789 | 3,023 | 3,722 | 3,176 | 2,518 | 1,368 | 709 | 181,918 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 10,896 | 55,063 | 55,177 | 56,205 | 43,410 | 42,998 | 44,080 | 46,442 | 55,856 | 57,009 | 62,754 | 61,849 | 58,677 | 53,578 | 40,177 | 30,075 | 22,153 | 22,168 | 859,069 |
|  | Males | 4a, 5a | Rate (\%) | 28.2 | 84.7 | 82.7 | 42.2 | 29.4 | 20.6 | 15.0 | 11.7 | 8.8 | 6.9 | 4.9 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 7.9 | 8.4 | 6.2 | 3.2 | 21.2 |
| Metropolitan - Growth |  |  | n | 2,228 | 24,895 | 23,081 | 11,791 | 7,488 | 5,482 | 4,416 | 2,951 | 2,650 | 2,005 | 1,427 | 1,105 | 986 | 999 | 720 | 477 | 230 | 89 | 93,020 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 9,584 | 42,809 | 38,232 | 38,826 | 39,540 | 42,893 | 47,025 | 42,853 | 41,754 | 37,104 | 34,047 | 28,549 | 23,316 | 19,134 | 12,869 | 8,840 | 5,409 | 3,958 | 554,726 |
|  | Females | $4 a, 5 b$ | Rate (\%) | 12.0 | 58.2 | 60.4 | 30.4 | 18.9 | 12.8 | 9.4 | 6.9 | 6.3 | 5.4 | 4.2 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 5.2 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 4.2 | 2.3 | 16.8 |
| Metropolitan - Growth |  |  | n | 1,100 | 13,286 | 11,853 | 5,057 | 2,581 | 1,756 | 1,369 | 1,201 | 1,027 | 663 | 499 | 346 | 348 | 375 | 285 | 180 | 82 | 51 | 42,059 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 9,039 | 41,284 | 36,918 | 36,771 | 37,898 | 44,766 | 48,476 | 42,468 | 42,411 | 37,449 | 34,442 | 29,506 | 24,215 | 19,646 | 13,132 | 9,526 | 6,973 | 6,454 | 557,442 |
|  | Males | 4b, 5a | Rate (\%) | 5.9 | 32.2 | 32.1 | 13.8 | 6.8 | 3.9 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 7.5 |
| Metropolitan - Other |  |  | n | 7,412 | 80,448 | 74,638 | 34,073 | 23,056 | 17,444 | 12,612 | 9,260 | 9,618 | 9,133 | 8,203 | 6,828 | 6,445 | 6,785 | 5,228 | 3,481 | 1,941 | 989 | 317,593 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 19,845 | 93,418 | 87,585 | 96,565 | 133,036 | 143,624 | 133,968 | 114,188 | 117,583 | 107,329 | 103,323 | 93,208 | 79,915 | 71,829 | 53,543 | 40,741 | 29,529 | 26,181 | 1,625,410 |
|  |  |  | Rate (\%) | 19.2 | 86.1 | 85.2 | 35.3 | 17.3 | 12.1 | 9.4 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.5 | 7.9 | 7.3 | 8.1 | 9.4 | 9.8 | 8.5 | 6.6 | 3.8 | 19.5 |

Age range

| Region | Sex | Figure |  | 4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50-54 | 55-59 | 60-64 | 65-69 | 70-74 | 75-79 | 80-84 | 85+ | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Metropolitan - Other | Females | 4b, 5b | n | 4,133 | 46,922 | 46,355 | 18,440 | 8,461 | 5,464 | 3,837 | 3,280 | 4,025 | 3,679 | 3,054 | 2,704 | 2,692 | 2,979 | 2,235 | 1,383 | 750 | 382 | 160,773 |
|  |  |  | ERP ${ }^{2}$ | 18,767 | 88,951 | 83,504 | 92,215 | 128,625 | 141,772 | 132,205 | 115,136 | 121,880 | 111,425 | 108,251 | 98,692 | 86,960 | 77,786 | 59,189 | 48,428 | 39,276 | 46,315 | 1,675,108 |
|  |  |  | Rate (\%) | 10.7 | 52.8 | 55.5 | 20.0 | 6.6 | 3.9 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 9.6 |
| Regional - Growth | Males | 4c, 5a | n | 1,429 | 17,971 | 14,818 | 7,446 | 4,708 | 3,332 | 2,403 | 1,749 | 1,746 | 1,515 | 1,438 | 1,409 | 1,557 | 1,840 | 1,464 | 1,030 | 539 | 293 | 66,683 |
|  |  |  | ERP2 | 4,079 | 19,009 | 17,909 | 19,140 | 18,983 | 17,253 | 17,095 | 16,888 | 18,799 | 17,876 | 18,617 | 18,142 | 16,861 | 15,323 | 11,155 | 8,369 | 5,637 | 4,751 | 280,756 |
|  |  |  | Rate (\%) | 18.6 | 94.5 | 82.7 | 38.9 | 24.8 | 19.3 | 14.1 | 10.4 | 9.3 | 8.5 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 9.2 | 12.0 | 13.1 | 12.3 | 9.6 | 6.2 | 23.8 |
| Regional - Growth | Females | $4 \mathrm{c}, 5 \mathrm{~b}$ | n | 741 | 11,314 | 9,910 | 3,980 | 2,028 | 1,444 | 1,013 | 910 | 857 | 665 | 622 | 565 | 803 | 842 | 719 | 497 | 266 | 129 | 37,303 |
|  |  |  | ERP2 | 3,614 | 17,433 | 16,840 | 18,180 | 18,267 | 17,388 | 17,353 | 17,720 | 19,640 | 18,706 | 19,672 | 18,938 | 17,676 | 15,921 | 11,966 | 9,056 | 7,447 | 8,503 | 288,399 |
|  |  |  | Rate (\%) | 9.6 | 64.9 | 58.8 | 21.9 | 11.1 | 8.3 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 4.4 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 3.6 | 1.5 | 12.9 |
| Regional - Other | Males | 4d, 5a | n | 2,007 | 27,491 | 26,460 | 15,332 | 8,802 | 6,084 | 4,387 | 3,346 | 2,968 | 2,504 | 2,008 | 1,875 | 1,941 | 2,425 | 1,978 | 1,698 | 898 | 456 | 112,655 |
|  |  |  | ERP2 | 5,523 | 28,431 | 28,312 | 29,349 | 22,643 | 21,491 | 21,664 | 23,004 | 27,192 | 28,222 | 31,197 | 31,161 | 29,848 | 27,313 | 20,196 | 14,709 | 9,925 | 8,193 | 429,184 |
|  |  |  | Rate (\%) | 18.4 | 96.7 | 93.5 | 52.2 | 38.9 | 28.3 | 20.2 | 14.5 | 10.9 | 8.9 | 6.4 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 11.5 | 9.0 | 5.6 | 26.2 |
| Regional - Other | Females | 4d, 5b | n | 1,069 | 19,143 | 19,149 | 8,382 | 3,942 | 2,764 | 2,232 | 2,100 | 1,961 | 1,402 | 1,081 | 914 | 1,083 | 1,297 | 1,199 | 821 | 470 | 253 | 69,262 |
|  |  |  | ERP2 | 5,377 | 26,632 | 26,865 | 26,856 | 20,767 | 21,507 | 22,416 | 23,438 | 28,664 | 28,787 | 31,557 | 30,688 | 28,829 | 26,265 | 19,981 | 15,366 | 12,228 | 13,975 | 429,885 |
|  |  |  | Rate (\%) | 9.8 | 71.9 | 71.3 | 31.2 | 19.0 | 12.9 | 10.0 | 9.0 | 6.8 | 4.9 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 4.9 | 6.0 | 5.3 | 3.8 | 1.8 | 16.1 |

${ }^{1}$ Player registrations per 100 residents
${ }^{2}$ ERP $=$ Estimated resident population


Figure 2. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Victoria


Figure 3. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Victoria: by sex


Figure 4. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Victoria: by region


Figure 5a. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Metropolitan - Growth: by sex


Figure 5b. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Metropolitan - Other: by sex


Figure 5c. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Regional - Growth: by sex


Figure 5d. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Regional - Other: by sex


Figure 6a. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Males: by region


Figure 6b. Age-specific participation rates, 2015, Females: by region

Table 2. Participation rates: Local government areas by region

| LGA name | Participation Rate ${ }^{1}$ | Rank ${ }^{2}$ | LGA name | Participation Rate ${ }^{1}$ | Rank ${ }^{2}$ | LGA name | Participation Rate ${ }^{1}$ | Rank ${ }^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Metropolitan - growth |  |  | Nillumbik (S) | 23.2 | 2 | Hepburn (S) | 13.9 | 40 |
| Cardinia (S) | 16.7 | 1 | Port Phillip (C) | 11.9 | 18 | Hindmarsh (S) | 31.7 | 3 |
| Casey (C) | 12.3 | 4 | Stonnington (C) | 16.1 | 10 | Horsham (RC) | 23.3 | 16 |
| Hume (C) | 12.5 | 3 | Whitehorse (C) | 17.3 | 8 | Indigo (S) | 18.4 | 28 |
| Melton (S) | 9.8 | 7 | Yarra (C) | 9.0 | 20 | Latrobe (C) | 18.0 | 32 |
| Mitchell (S) | 16.1 | 2 | Yarra Ranges (S) | 18.8 | 6 | Loddon (S) | 27.9 | 9 |
| Whittlesea (C) | 11.2 | 5 | Regional - growth |  |  | Macedon Ranges (S) | 19.6 | 25 |
| Wyndham (C) | 11.2 | 6 | Ballarat (C) | 14.1 | 7 | Mansfield (S) | 18.3 | 30 |
| Metropolitan - other |  |  | Bass Coast (S) | 15.5 | 6 | Mildura (RC) | 20.1 | 23 |
| Banyule (C) | 16.9 | 9 | Baw Baw (S) | 20.1 | 2 | Mitchell (S) | 24.2 | 15 |
| Bayside (C) | 27.8 | 1 | Greater Bendigo (C) | 19.8 | 3 | Moira (S) | 15.1 | 39 |
| Boroondara (C) | 20.6 | 4 | Greater Geelong (C) | 18.2 | 5 | Mount Alexander (S) | 29.2 | 7 |
| Brimbank (C) | 7.2 | 23 | Moorabool (S) | 18.2 | 4 | Moyne (S) | 17.2 | 35 |
| Darebin (C) | 9.4 | 19 | Surf Coast (S) | 28.1 | 1 | Murrindindi (S) | 19.2 | 26 |
| Frankston (C) | 14.6 | 14 | Regional - other |  |  | Northern Grampians (S) | 18.2 | 31 |
| Glen Eira (C) | 15.1 | 13 | Alpine (S) | 18.3 | 29 | Pyrenees (S) | 25.2 | 12 |
| Greater Dandenong (C) | 6.6 | 24 | Ararat (RC) | 17.8 | 33 | Queenscliffe (B) | 24.6 | 13 |
| Hobsons Bay (C) | 14.1 | 15 | Benalla (RC) | 15.4 | 38 | South Gippsland (S) | 33.5 | 2 |
| Kingston (C) | 16.0 | 11 | Buloke (S) | 39.1 | 1 | Southern Grampians (S) | 20.9 | 20 |
| Knox (C) | 17.7 | 7 | Campaspe (S) | 21.8 | 18 | Strathbogie (S) | 31.1 | 4 |
| Manningham (C) | 15.4 | 12 | Central Goldfields (S) | 20.1 | 24 | Swan Hill (RC) | 25.4 | 11 |
| Maribyrnong (C) | 8.3 | 21 | Colac-Otway (S) | 28.8 | 8 | Towong (S) | 21.2 | 19 |
| Maroondah (C) | 19.4 | 5 | Corangamite (S) | 29.5 | 6 | Wangaratta (RC) | 24.4 | 14 |
| Melbourne (C) | 5.5 | 25 | East Gippsland (S) | 16.5 | 37 | Warrnambool (C) | 20.2 | 22 |
| Monash (C) | 14.0 | 16 | Gannawarra (S) | 26.8 | 10 | Wellington (S) | 20.4 | 21 |
| Moonee Valley (C) | 13.7 | 17 | Glenelg (S) | 22.0 | 17 | West Wimmera (S) | 17.2 | 34 |
| Moreland (C) | 8.1 | 22 | Golden Plains (S) | 16.6 | 36 | Wodonga (RC) | 29.6 | 5 |
| Mornington Peninsula (S) | 20.7 | 3 | Greater Shepparton (C) | 18.6 | 27 | Yarriambiack (S) | 13.9 | 40 |

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Figure 7. Participation rates: Local government areas by region

## Definition of the four Sport Participation Research Project (SPRP) regions

For the purpose of regional breakdowns included in standard reports prepared under the Sport Participation Research Project (SPRP), four regions have been defined by the SPRP research team in consultation with Sport and Recreation Victoria and VicHealth. Each region consists of a group of local government areas (LGAs), listed here in alphabetical order. B =Borough, C = City, RC = Rural City, S = Shire.

There are two driving principles behind the designation of these four regions:

- The patterns of sport participation in metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas are known to differ substantially.
- Within both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas, projected growth in population is very uneven.

The Metropolitan - Growth region consists of the seven LGAs containing the four growth corridors designated by the Metropolitan Planning Authority. Six of the seven are within the current Melbourne Metropolitan Area designated by the State Government. The seventh, Mitchell Shire, is currently designated Non-metropolitan.

The Regional - Growth region consists of the LGAs containing the three largest regional centres, Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo, together with four LGAs which are expected, according to State Government population projections, to experience high population growth during the period up to 2021. Each of these four LGAs is on the outer periphery of one or more of Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat.

The Metropolitan - Other region consists of the remaining 25 LGAs within the designated Melbourne Metropolitan Area.

The Regional - Other region consists of the remaining 40 LGAs outside the designated Melbourne Metropolitan Area.

Metropolitan - Growth (7) Regional - Other (41)
Cardinia (S)
Casey (C)
Hume (C)
Melton (C)
Mitchell (S)
Whittlesea (C)
Wyndham (C)

Metropolitan - Other (25)
Banyule (C)
Bayside (C)
Boroondara (C)
Brimbank (C)
Darebin (C)
Frankston (C)
Glen Eira (C)
Greater Dandenong (C)
Hobsons Bay (C)
Kingston (C)
Knox (C)
Manningham (C)
Maribyrnong (C)
Maroondah (C)
Melbourne (C)
Monash (C)
Moonee Valley (C)
Moreland (C)
Mornington Peninsula (S)
Nillumbik (S)
Port Phillip (C)
Stonnington (C)
Whitehorse (C)
Yarra (C)
Yarra Ranges (S)

Regional - Growth (7)
Ballarat (C)
Bass Coast (S)
Baw Baw (S)
Greater Bendigo (C)
Greater Geelong (C)
Moorabool (S)
Surf Coast (S)

Alpine (S)
Ararat (RC)
Benalla (RC)
Buloke (S)
Campaspe (S)
Central Goldfields (S)
Colac-Otway (S)
Corangamite (S)
East Gippsland (S)
Gannawarra (S)
Glenelg (S)
Golden Plains (S)
Greater Shepparton (C)
Hepburn (S)
Hindmarsh (S)
Horsham (RC)
Indigo (S)
Latrobe (C)
Loddon (S)
Macedon Ranges (S)
Mansfield (S)
Mildura (RC)
Moira (S)
Mount Alexander (S)
Moyne (S)
Murrindindi (S)
Northern Grampians (S)
Pyrenees (S)
Queenscliffe (B)
South Gippsland (S)
Southern Grampians (S)
Strathbogie (S)
Swan Hill (RC)
Towong (S)
Wangaratta (RC)
Warrnambool (C)
Wellington (S)
West Wimmera (S)
Wodonga (RC)
Yarriambiack (S)

Reference:
Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2015). Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, Cat. No. 3235.0. Released at 11.30am (Canberra time) 18 August 2015. http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/3235.02014?OpenDocument Accessed 28 Jun 2016.

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## Data accuracy

This report is based on 2015 player registration data provided by 11 sports in Victoria. Data screening checks led to some anomalies being identified in the player registration data, and to the extent that it was possible these were resolved after consultation with the separate sports. Counts of participants in local government areas (LGAs) are estimates based on the fractional allocation of residential postcodes to LGAs using correspondence tables published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Some postcode areas cross state borders, requiring mathematical 'border effect' adjustments. The results in this report are based on the datasets as they stand at the date of publication.


[^0]:    2 In descending order of participation rate within each region

