

Sport Participation, Victoria

Aggregation of 10 sports data: Trends from 2015, and impact of COVID-19 (2019-2020)

November 2021



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Introduction

Participation Rates in Club-Based Sport

This report provides the results of an analysis of participation during 2020 in Victorian club-based sport. It combines data from Victorian State Sporting Associations (SSAs) for ten major sports: Australian rules football, Basketball, Cricket, Football (Soccer), Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball, Sailing, Swimming, and Tennis. Two of the participating sports (Bowls and Golf) were unable to provide 2019 data, and could not be used in the 2019-2020 comparisons. Therefore, the total number of sports included has been reduced from 12 to 10.

A participant, or player, is defined as a registered member of a Victorian sporting club or program that was affiliated with one of the 10 SSAs, in the 2020 registration year designated by each sport, who was aged between 4 and 100 years and resided in Victoria. These SSAs recorded a total of 702,277 player registrations in 2020. In order to provide consistency across all breakdowns by region, sex and age, those for whom residential postcode, sex or birthdate was missing or invalid (9.0% of registrations) were excluded from the analysis. Also, 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 48 of this report). This report provides a summary of the 637,263 player registrations for which complete and valid data were recorded. Registration data were provided by SSA's in anonymized form. Consequently, it should be noted that, because a person could be a registered player of more than one sport, and an individual player's data could not be linked across sports, 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.

The report also includes comparisons between 2020 (during COVID-19) data and data from 2019 (pre-COVID-19), and demonstrates the impact of COVID-19 on community sport in Victoria.

Over 2015-2020 the Sport Participation Research Project has integrated, analysed and reported on 5,289,229 sports participant records.

Data Quality

- Over 2015-2020, a total of 5,289,229 participant records were provided, of which 4,795,309 were complete. Whilst eight of the included sports have good quality player data management systems, two – sailing and tennis – while improved from 2017, still had higher proportions of missing data in 2020.
- This report does not include participant data from bowls and golf, which were included in previous years. Their participants tend to be older adults, which affects the comparability of this report with previous reports.
- Tennis Hot Shots participants were excluded from this analysis as reporting regarding this program was inconsistent; contributing large numbers in 2015, far fewer in 2016 and 2018, and no data at all in 2017.



Key Insights

2020 sport participation highlights

Overall sport participation was dominated by males

In 2020, overall male participation rate (13%) was almost twice that of females (7%). Participation rates were higher for males than females in all age groups, except for the 4-year-olds. Male participation was higher than female participation in seven of the ten sports.

Metropolitan LGAs participation

The metropolitan LGA with the highest participation was Bayside (Metropolitan- Other) with 19%, and the lowest participation was 4% in Greater Dandenong (Metropolitan- Other).

Participation was highest for those aged 10-14 years

In 2020, more than half (51%) of the Victorian population aged 10-14 years participated in the 10 sports. Very few people aged 30 years and older (<6%) participated. This pattern was similar in both males and females and across all four regions.

More metropolitan participations but higher participation rates in regional areas

While metropolitan areas had larger participation numbers (469,943) than regional areas (167,319), overall participation rates in regional areas (12% in Regional- Growth and 10% in Regional- Other) were higher than that of metropolitan areas (7% in Metropolitan- Growth and 10% in Metropolitan- Other).

The impact of COVID-19 on sport participation

From 2015 to 2019 there was a substantive increase in participation but in the year 2019 to 2020 there was a decline of more than 231,000 participants, representing a decrease of 27%.

Across age groups, 4-year-olds decreased by 69%, 5-9-year-olds by 38%, and 10-14-year-olds by 18%.

For all children and youth aged 4-19 there was a decrease of 175,708 participants.

There was a larger decrease in participation in regional Victoria than in Metropolitan Melbourne.

Regional LGAs participation

The regional LGA with the highest participation was Queenscliffe (Regional- Other) with 21%, and the lowest participation was 6% in West Wimmera (Regional- Other).

Highlights of impact of COVID-19 on sport participation (2020 compared to 2019)

- There was a 27% decrease in the number of sport participants in 2020 compared to 2019 which represents a decline of more than 231,000 participants in one year. Furthermore, many people who registered to play, particularly in winter sports, were unable to do so because of cancellation due to COVID-19, and so the actual drop in participation was even greater.
- Largest decrease in participation rates was among the group of early sport adopters (ages 4-9). Overall participation rates across the sports decreased for all age groups 4-44 years and remained very similar for those aged 45+. Over the 1-year period the 4-year-olds participation rate declined from 24% to 8% (a decrease of 69%¹). For those aged 5-9 years there was a decrease of 38%, with the participation rate declining from 53% to 33%.
- Overall participation decreased more for females than for males.
 Whilst the absolute change in participation rate was -4 percentage points (pp) for males and -3pp for females, proportionally the participation of females decreased by 29% and males by 25%.

Males aged 4 had a decrease in participation of 75% (28% to 7%), and those aged 5-9 a 37% decrease (62% to 39%) and those aged 10-14 years a 16% decrease (72% to 60%).

Females aged 4 had a decrease in participation of 60% (20% to 8%), and those aged 5-9 a 38% decrease (43% to 26%) and those aged 10-14 years a 21% decrease (52% to 41%).

¹ In a measure such as the number of participants, there is no confusion between an absolute change (like an increase of 3,421) or a proportional or percentage change (like a 10% increase). However, because participation rates are themselves expressed as percentages, the change in a participation rate, say from 24% to 8%, can be described in two ways requiring different terminology. The **absolute** change in the rate (8-24=-16) is referred to as **-16 percentage points (or -16pp).** The **proportional** change is the absolute change expressed as a fraction (or usually as a percentage) of the earlier figure, in this case = -16/24*100 = -67 percent (or -67%).

- Largest participation decreases seen in regional Victoria.

Participation in the Metropolitan- Growth region decreased by 26%, and in Metropolitan- Other by 21%. Participation in the Regional- Growth region decreased by 27%, and in Region-Other by 44%.

- Overall participation numbers decreased in all sports except one.

All sports except one had a decrease in overall participation numbers in 2020 compared to 2019. However, one of the sports that had a decline in overall participation, did have increased participation numbers for females.

- Generally, there were greater decreases in the winter and team-based sports.

Results

Sport participation in 2020

Overall age-group participation in 2020

- The integration of data from all sports shows that overall participation peaked for the 10-14 age group, with a participation rate of 51%, followed by the 5-9 age group, with a participation rate of 33% (Table 2, Figure 1).
- After the participation peak at 10-14 years of age (51%), participation rates dropped by more than half in the 15-19 age group (22%), followed by another large decline (to 9%) in the next age group (20-24 years). Participation rates continued to decline progressively across the lifespan. From 30 to 49 years, less than 6% of Victorian participated in the 10 sports, and fewer than 5% of Victorians 50 years and older participated in sport (Table 2, Figure 1).

Sex differences

- In 2020, the overall male participation rate (13%) was almost twice that of females (7%). Participation rates were higher for males than females in all age groups, except for the 4-year-olds (female participation rate was slightly higher than that of males) (Table 2, Figure 2a).
- The largest sex differences in participation rates in terms of percentage points were for the 10–14 years (difference of 19%: males 60%; females 41%), followed by the 5-9 and 15–19 years (difference of 12–13% for both groups) (Table 2).
- Beyond age 19, while both the participation rates were much lower, the difference between male and female participation rates was proportionally greater. Male participation rates were more than double the female rates for most age groups (Table 2).
- Notwithstanding the large discrepancies between rates of participation, the profile across the lifespan was similar for both males and females, with participation rates peaking in the 10–14 age group for both males (60%) and females (41%) (Table 2, Figure 2a).

Region differences

- While metropolitan areas had larger participation numbers (469,943) than
 regional areas (167,319), overall participation rates in regional areas (12% in
 Regional Growth and 10% in Regional- Other) were higher than that of
 metropolitan areas (7% in Metropolitan Growth and 10% in Metropolitan Other)
 (Table 2).
- The age group breakdown shows that regional areas also generally had higher participation rates than metropolitan areas. However, in Regional - Other areas, the 15-44 age groups had lower participation rates than those of the same age in Metropolitan - Other areas. Metropolitan - Growth areas had the lowest participation rates in all age groups (Table 2, Figure 3a).
- The highest participation rates were recorded in the 10-14 age group in all regions. Metropolitan Other areas had the highest participation rates (58%: male 67%, female 48%), and Regional Growth areas (58%: male 70%, female 44%) followed by Regional Other areas with a participation rate of (53%: males 63%, female 42%) (Table 2, Figure 3a).



Sex differences per region

- Male and female participation patterns across the lifespan were similar in each region, with participation peaking at 10-14 years and consistently decreasing along the lifespan (Table 2, Figures 5ai and 5bi).
- Participation rates were higher for males than females in all four regions and across all age groups, except in the 4-year-olds for which female participation was higher than male participation in three of the four regions (Table 2, Figures 5ai and 5bi).
- The differences between male and female participation rates within the four regions were similar to the differences found in Victoria as a whole: across all regions, the largest differences between male and female participation rates (in terms of percentage points) were for the 10–14 years, followed by the 5–9 and 15–19 years (Table 2). In addition, the differences between male and female participation rates were proportionally greater among those aged 19 and above, with male participation rates generally double that of female. Overall, the sex differences across age groups, across the four regions were relatively similar (Table 2, Figures 5ai and 5bi).
- Overall male and female participation rates were highest in Regional Growth (16% - males and 12% - females). Peak participation for males was also in Regional Growth (70% among those aged 10-14 years) and peak participation for females was in Metropolitan Other (48% among those aged 10-14 years) (Table 2, Figures 5ai and 5bi).
- Overall male and female participation rates were lowest in Metropolitan Growth (10% – males and 5% for females). In these areas, peak participation for males and females was also among those aged 10–14 years; however, it was the lowest participation peak of all four regions (41% for males and 24% for females) (Table 2, Figures 5ai and 5bi).



LGA differences

- There was considerable variation in participation rates across Victorian LGAs, and between LGAs within the four designated regions (Table 5, Figure 7).
- In 2020, the lowest participation rate was 4% in Greater Dandenong, in Metropolitan – Other. The lowest participation rates in the other regions were as follows: Metropolitan – Growth: Melton, 6%; Regional – Other: West Wimmera, 6%; and Regional – Growth: Ballarat, 10% (Table 5).
- The highest participation rate was 21% in Queenscliffe, in Regional Other. The highest participation rates of the other regions were as follows: Regional Growth: Surf Coast, 18%; Metropolitan Other: Bayside, 19%; and Metropolitan Growth: Cardinia, 10% (Table 5).
- The graphic representation of LGAs participation ranking within each of the four regions (Figure 7) shows a relatively linear progression between the LGAs with the lowest participation rates and those with the highest rates. However, for most regions, the LGAs with most participants had participation rates that were significantly higher than the rest of the LGAs within that region (Figure 7).
- Within the regional LGAs, there was generally higher participation in the west, particular the south west, compared to the eastern regions of Victoria, though south eastern LGAs also had high participation (Map 1).
- Within the metropolitan LGAs, there was generally higher participation in the east of Melbourne (Map 2).

Sport programs

• Nine sports provided participant data for their competition and specific sports programs (Figure 9).

Sport-specific demographic variables

- Six sports provided data on the number of participants indicating whether they had a disability or not, and whether they identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or not (Figures 10 and 11).
- Two sports provided data on the number of participants indicating whether they spoke a language other than English at home or not.



The impact of COVID-19 on sport participation

Overall changes 2020 compared to 2019

- Between 2019 and 2020, overall participation rates across the 10 sports decreased for all age groups between 4 and 39 years. Participation rates for those aged 40 and older remained similar. The largest proportional decline was among the 4-year-olds (decrease of 69% compared to 2019 participation rate). The second largest decline was in both the 5-9 and 20-24 age groups (decrease of 38% and 39% respectively) (Figure 1, Table 3). In terms of actual percentages, the 5-9 years had the largest decline in participation rates (-20%pp in 2020).
- The age group with the largest decrease in numbers was 5-9 years with a decrease of 81,768 participants, followed by the 10–14-year age group with a decrease of 43,590 participants, 15-19-year-olds showed a decrease of 36,713 and among 4-year-olds a decrease of 13,637. For all children and youth aged 4-19 there was a decrease of 175,708 participants.
- Figure 6 further illustrates the impact of COVID-19 on the younger age groups, which, between 2015 and 2019 (pre-COVID-19) had either an increased participation or a relatively statable participation, which was followed by a significant drop in participation rates in 2020 (during COVID-19) (Figure 6).

Changes in overall male and female participation

- Between 2019 and 2020, overall participation rates decreased for both females and males. Proportionally to 2019 participation rates, overall females' participation decreased more than that of males, with females losing 29% of all participants in 2019 and males losing 25% (Table 3).
- Male participation rates decreased for those between 4 and 39 years, but rates increased for those aged 40 and older. Whereas female participation rates decreased for all age groups. Females had higher declines in most age groups (except in the 4-year-olds where males had a higher decline than females) (Table 3, Figures 2a-2b).
- The largest proportional declines in participation rates were among those aged 4-9 years and 20-29 years for both males and females (Table 3, Figures 2a-2b).

Regional changes

- Between 2019 and 2020, overall participation rates decreased in all regions, with Regional Other area decreasing by 44% from its 2019 participation rate. Other regions' participation decreased between 21% and 27% (Table 3).
- In Metropolitan Growth (Figure 4ai-4aii) and Regional Other (Figure 4di-4dii) areas almost all age groups had a decline in participation rates. In Metropolitan Other (Figures 4bi-4bii) and Regional Growth (Figure 4ci-4cii) areas, participation rates decreased for those aged below 40, and stayed about the same or slightly increased for those aged 40 and older (Table 34).
- The largest decrease in participation rate was in the 4-year-olds for all regions (for this age group most regions lost about 70% of their 2019 participants). The 5-9 and 15-29 age groups had the next highest decrease in participation rates, with Regional - Other areas having the largest decline in participation of 44% (Table 3, Figures 4ai-4dii).

Changes in male and female participation according to regions

- Between 2019 and 2020, overall participation rates for both females and males decreased in all four regions. The largest decrease in participation rates was in Regional Other for both males and females (with a loss of 40% and 50% of their 2019 participation respectively) (Table 3, Figures 5ai–5bii). The decline in participation (proportionally to 2019) for females was greater than that of males in all regions (Table 3, Figures 5ai–5bii).
- Similar to changes in overall male and female participation rates in Victoria, in the regions, male participation generally decreased for those aged 4-39 years, but slightly increased or remained similar to 2019 rates, whereas female participation rates decreased for all age groups, in all four regions (Table 3, Figures 5ai-5bii).
- Similar to changes in overall male and female participation rates in Victoria, across the four regions, the highest declines in participation were generally among those aged 4-9 years and 20-29 years for both males and females (Table 3, Figures 5ai—5bii).

Changes within LGAs

 Between 2019 and 2020, all LGAs saw a decrease in their participation rates. The largest decrease in participation rate was from 27% to 7% in Hindmarsh, in Regional – Other, representing a proportional decrease of 74% of the 2019 participation rate. The smallest decrease was from 9.6% to 9.0% in Port Phillip, in Metropolitan – Other, representing a proportional decrease of 6% (Table 4).

- Within Regional Other LGAs had a higher decrease in participation than other regions. Southern Grampians participation decreased by 26% (smallest decrease) and Hindmarsh decreased by 74% (greatest decrease) (Table 4).
- Within Regional Growth LGAs participation decreased by 27%. Greater Geelong participation decreased by 22% (smallest decrease) and Baw Baw decreased by 36% (greatest decrease) (Table 4).
- Within Metropolitan Other LGAs participation decreased by 21%. Port Phillip participation decreased by 6% (smallest decrease) and Greater Dandenong and Yarra Ranges 31% (greatest decrease) (Table 4).
- Within Metropolitan Growth LGAs participation decreased 26%. Casey participation decreased by 22% (smallest decrease) and Hume by 40% (greatest decrease (Table 4).

Sport-specific changes

- In comparison to 2015, the total number of participants in 2020 decreased in all sports except for one.
- Generally, there were greater decreases in the winter and team-based sports compared to summer and individual sports.
- Between 2019 and 2020, all sports except one had a decrease in overall participation rates, ranging from -6% to -40% proportionally to 2019 (Table 1).
- Proportionally to 2019 participation rates, overall male participation rates had a larger decline than that of females in four sports, and female participation rates had a higher decline than that of males also in four sports.
- Between 2019 and 2020, for five of the sports, participation rates declined in all age groups. For one sport, participation rates increased in all age groups.



Sport	Participati	on rate (%)	Change	2019-2020
	2019	2020	Percentage points ¹	Percentage change ²
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
Sport A	3.1	2.0	-1.1	-35%
Sport B	3.2	2.3	-0.9	-28%
Sport C	1.5	1.4	-0.1	-6%
Sport D	0.8	0.5	-0.3	-34%
Sport E	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-40%
Sport F	1.6	1.0	-0.6	-39%
Sport G	0.4	0.5	+0.1	+33%
Sport H	1.0	0.6	-0.4	-39%
Sport I	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-23%
Sport J	1.1	1.0	-0.1	-12%

Table 1. Summary of participation rate changes 2019-2020: by sport

¹ C = B-A

 2 D = C as a percentage of A. Discrepancies are due to rounding of rates to 1 decimal place in this table; the percentage changes are calculated from more accurate figures.

Table 2. Participation counts¹, and rates², 2020, Victoria: by region, sex and age

											Age re	ange									
Region	Sex		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
Victoria	Persons	n	6,129	135,216	195,846	82,382	42,359	36,034	26,336	24,400	24,398	22,464	14,769	9,303	6,649	4,747	3,451	1,777	696	308	637,263
		ERP ³	81,695	411,439	385,921	382,463	488,087	531,339	521,720	477,533	416,778	431,150	393,253	385,566	346,839	303,955	261,949	184,529	130,957	137,054	6,595,158
		Rate (%)	7.5	32.9	50.7	21.5	8.7	6.8	5.0	5.1	5.9	5.2	3.8	2.4	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.2	9.7
	Males	n	2,912	82,480	119,360	54,060	31,001	26,705	19,598	17,022	16,007	14,828	10,019	6,312	4,466	3,086	2,323	1,254	488	223	412,143
		ERP ³	42,122	211,374	198,330	196,105	252,747	267,906	257,058	237,433	207,711	210,213	191,155	187,884	168,169	146,310	126,908	87,414	58,673	52,847	3,266,431
		Rate (%)	6.9	39.0	60.2	27.6	12.3	10.0	7.6	7.2	7.7	7.1	5.2	3.4	2.7	2.1	1.8	1.4	0.8	0.4	12.6
	Females	n	3,217	52,735	76,486	28,322	11,358	9,329	6,738	7,378	8,391	7,636	4,750	2,991	2,184	1,661	1,128	523	208	85	225,120
		ERP ³	39,567	200,065	187,591	186,358	235,340	263,433	264,662	240,100	209,067	220,937	202,098	197,682	178,670	157,645	135,041	97,115	72,284	84,207	3,328,727
		Rate (%)	8.1	26.4	40.8	15.2	4.8	3.5	2.5	3.1	4.0	3.5	2.4	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.1	6.8
Metropolitan	Persons	n	1,207	23,786	31,799	13,331	7,483	5,749	4,527	4,875	3,906	2,782	1,452	762	407	261	170	77	21	11	102,603
Growth		ERP ³	23,385	114,304	97,211	86,696	97,450	110,069	125,791	121,816	97,757	90,661	78,712	71,809	59,820	48,742	38,617	25,109	16,175	14,023	1,411,204
		Rate (%)	5.2	20.8	32.7	15.4	7.7	5.2	3.6	4.0	4.0	3.1	1.8	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	7.3
	Males	Ν	569	14,700	20,287	9,331	5,623	4,422	3,490	3,543	2,719	1,936	1,049	531	286	170	114	46	14	8	68,837
		ERP ³	12,131	58,778	49,904	44,808	51,020	54,780	60,592	61,549	50,253	44,975	38,889	35,295	29,146	23,578	18,749	12,123	7,394	5,598	707,689
		Rate (%)	4.7	25.0	40.7	20.8	11.0	8.1	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.3	2.7	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	9.7
	Females	Ν	638	9,085	11,512	4,000	1,860	1,327	1,037	1,331	1,187	846	403	231	121	91	56	31	7	3	33,766
		ERP ³	11,256	55,526	47,307	41,888	46,430	55,289	65,199	60,267	47,504	45,686	39,823	36,514	30,674	25,164	19,868	12,986	8,781	8,425	703,515
		Rate (%)	5.7	16.4	24.3	9.5	4.0	2.4	1.6	2.2	2.5	1.9	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	<0.1	4.8
Metropolitan	Persons	n	3,453	77,448	110,347	45,027	23,898	21,514	15,413	13,308	14,102	14,221	9,868	6,460	4,539	3,241	2,467	1,269	537	230	367,340
Other		ERP ³	39,159	199,423	191,073	203,118	300,773	330,334	306,399	267,707	231,153	240,850	216,768	207,007	183,251	157,560	139,891	101,894	75,943	83,421	3,634,062
		Rate (%)	8.8	38.8	57.8	22.2	7.9	6.5	5.0	5.0	6.1	5.9	4.6	3.1	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.2	0.7	0.3	10.1
	Males	Ν	1,570	46,635	65,723	28,349	17,155	15,596	11,416	9,422	9,328	9,438	6,676	4,462	3,062	2,129	1,673	908	377	162	234,080
		ERP ³	20,152	102,196	98,019	103,610	154,319	166,858	152,766	133,465	114,235	116,626	104,749	100,655	88,556	74,327	66,288	47,317	33,368	31,941	1,790,859
		Rate (%)	7.8	45.6	67.1	27.4	11.1	9.3	7.5	7.1	8.2	8.1	6.4	4.4	3.5	2.9	2.5	1.9	1.1	0.5	13.1
	Females	Ν	1,883	30,813	44,623	16,677	6,743	5,918	3,997	3,886	4,774	4,784	3,193	1,998	1,477	1,113	794	361	160	68	133,260
		ERP ³	19,002	97,227	93,054	99,508	146,454	163,476	153,633	134,242	116,918	124,224	112,019	106,352	94,695	83,233	73,603	54,577	42,575	51,480	1,843,203
		Rate (%)	9.9	31.7	48.0	16.8	4.6	3.6	2.6	2.9	4.1	3.9	2.8	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.1	7.2

											Age r	ange									
Region	Sex		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
Regional	Persons	n	693	16,764	23,298	10,021	4,881	3,941	2,762	2,832	2,935	2,467	1,531	944	841	616	414	237	87	36	75,299
Growth		ERP ³	8,294	41,823	40,357	38,473	42,543	42,942	41,493	39,722	38,180	41,334	38,537	41,044	39,212	36,523	31,398	21,566	14,798	15,292	644,753
		Rate (%)	8.4	40.1	57.7	26.0	11.5	9.2	6.7	7.1	7.7	6.0	4.0	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.2	11.7
	Males	Ν	327	10,551	14,642	6,942	3,588	2,987	2,019	1,839	1,782	1,574	1,020	620	561	387	277	171	67	30	49,381
		ERP ³	4,347	21,538	20,785	19,753	21,679	21,635	20,280	19,162	18,644	19,990	18,491	19,579	18,642	17,502	15,202	10,240	6,788	5,618	315,694
		Rate (%)	7.5	49.0	70.4	35.1	16.6	13.8	10.0	9.6	9.6	7.9	5.5	3.2	3.0	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.0	0.5	15.6
	Females	Ν	366	6,213	8,656	3,079	1,293	954	744	993	1,153	892	512	325	281	230	137	66	20	6	25,919
		ERP ³	3,947	20,285	19,572	18,720	20,864	21,307	21,213	20,560	19,536	21,344	20,046	21,465	20,570	19,021	16,196	11,326	8,010	9,674	329,059
		Rate (%)	9.3	30.6	44.2	16.4	6.2	4.5	3.5	4.8	5.9	4.2	2.6	1.5	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.1	7.9
Regional	Persons	n	775	17,218	30,403	14,004	6,097	4,830	3,635	3,385	3,454	2,995	1,918	1,137	863	628	401	194	52	31	92,020
Other		ERP ³	10,857	55,889	57,280	54,176	47,321	47,994	48,037	48,288	49,688	58,305	59,236	65,706	64,556	61,130	52,043	35,960	24,041	24,318	905,139
		Rate (%)	7.1	30.8	53.1	25.8	12.9	10.1	7.6	7.0	7.0	5.1	3.2	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	10.2
	Males	Ν	446	10,594	18,708	9,437	4,635	3,699	2,674	2,218	2,178	1,880	1,275	700	558	400	260	130	30	23	59,845
		ERP ³	5,493	28,862	29,622	27,934	25,729	24,633	23,420	23,257	24,579	28,622	29,026	32,355	31,825	30,903	26,669	17,734	11,123	9,690	452,189
		Rate (%)	8.1	36.7	63.2	33.8	18.0	15.0	11.4	9.5	8.9	6.6	4.4	2.2	1.8	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.2	13.2
	Females	Ν	329	6,624	11,695	4,567	1,462	1,131	961	1,168	1,277	1,114	643	438	305	228	141	64	21	8	32,175
		ERP ³	5,362	27,027	27,658	26,242	21,592	23,361	24,617	25,031	25,109	29,683	30,210	33,351	32,731	30,227	25,374	18,226	12,918	14,628	452,950
		Rate (%)	6.1	24.5	42.3	17.4	6.8	4.8	3.9	4.7	5.1	3.8	2.1	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	7.1

¹ Aggregated over 10 sports.

² Number of player registrations per 100 residents, expressed as a percentage.

³ ERP = Estimated resident population



Figure 1. Participation rates, 2019, 2020, Victoria: by age



Figure 2a. Participation rates, 2020, Victoria: by sex and age



Figure 2b. Participation rates, 2019, Victoria: by sex and age



Figure 3a. Participation rates, 2020, Victoria: by region and age



Figure 3b. Participation rates, 2019, Victoria: by region and age



Figure 4ai Participation rates, 2020, Metropolitan – Growth: by sex and age



Figure 4aii Participation rates, 2019, Metropolitan – Growth: by sex and age



Figure 4bi Participation rates, 2020, Metropolitan – Other: by sex and age



Figure 4bii Participation rates, 2019, Metropolitan – Other: by sex and age



Figure 4ci. Participation rates, 2019, Regional – Growth: by sex and age



Figure 4cii. Participation rates, 2019, Regional – Growth: by sex and age



Figure 4di. Participation rates, 2020, Regional – Other: by sex and age



Figure 4dii. Participation rates, 2019, Regional – Other: by sex and age



Figure 5ai. Participation rates, 2020, males: by region and age



Figure 5aii. Participation rates, 2019, males: by region and age



Figure 5bi. Participation rates, 2020, females: by region and age



Figure 5bii. Participation rates, 2019, females: by region and age



											Age ro	ange									
Region	Sex		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
Victoria	Persons	n 2020	6,129	135,216	195,846	82,382	42,359	36,034	26,336	24,400	24,398	22,464	14,769	9,303	6,649	4,747	3,451	1,777	696	308	637,263
		n 2019	19,766	216,984	239,436	119,095	69,325	52,279	34,485	30,342	24,628	21,809	14,429	9,267	6,174	4,435	3,181	1,692	642	298	868,266
		Rate 2020 (%)	7.5	32.9	50.7	21.5	8.7	6.8	5.0	5.1	5.9	5.2	3.8	2.4	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.2	9.7
		Rate 2019 (%)	24.2	52.7	62.0	31.1	14.2	9.8	6.6	6.4	5.9	5.1	3.7	2.4	1.8	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.2	13.2
		Change 2019-2020	-16.69	-19.87	-11.30	-9.60	-5.52	-3.06	-1.56	-1.24	-0.06	0.15	0.09	+ <0.05	0.14	0.10	0.10	+ <0.05	+ <0.05	+ <0.05	-3.50
	Males	n 2020	2,912	82,480	119,360	54,060	31,001	26,705	19,598	17,022	16,007	14,828	10,019	6,312	4,466	3,086	2,323	1,254	488	223	412,143
		n 2019	11,756	131,335	142,661	77,531	49,124	37,499	24,513	20,340	15,235	13,559	9,059	5,659	3,769	2,593	1,892	1,057	391	178	548,151
		Rate 2020 (%)	6.9	39.0	60.2	27.6	12.3	10.0	7.6	7.2	7.7	7.1	5.2	3.4	2.7	2.1	1.8	1.4	0.8	0.4	12.6
		Rate 2019 (%)	27.9	62.1	71.9	39.5	19.4	14.0	9.5	8.6	7.3	6.5	4.7	3.0	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.2	0.7	0.3	16.8
		Change 2019-2020	-21.00	-23.11	-11.75	-11.97	-7.17	-4.03	-1.91	-1.40	0.37	0.60	0.50	0.35	0.41	0.34	0.34	0.23	0.17	0.08	-4.16
	Females	n 2020	3,217	52,735	76,486	28,322	11,358	9,329	6,738	7,378	8,391	7,636	4,750	2,991	2,184	1,661	1,128	523	208	85	225,120
		n 2019	8,010	85,648	96,775	41,564	20,201	14,780	9,972	10,001	9,393	8,251	5,370	3,608	2,406	1,842	1,290	635	251	120	320,116
	Rate 2020 (%)	8.1	26.4	40.8	15.2	4.8	3.5	2.5	3.1	4.0	3.5	2.4	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.1	6.8	
		Rate 2019 (%)	20.2	42.8	51.6	22.3	8.6	5.6	3.8	4.2	4.5	3.7	2.7	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.1	9.6
		Change 2019-2020	-12.11	-16.45	-10.82	-7.11	-3.76	-2.07	-1.22	-1.09	-0.48	-0.28	-0.31	-0.31	-0.12	-0.11	-0.12	-0.12	-0.06	- <0.05	-2.85
Metropolitan	Persons	n 2020	1,207	23,786	31,799	13,331	7,483	5,749	4,527	4,875	3,906	2,782	1,452	762	407	261	170	77	21	11	102,603
Growth		n 2019	3,306	36,321	37,760	19,231	12,257	8,731	6,119	5,855	3,806	2,740	1,470	842	463	303	189	98	23	12	139,525
		Rate 2020 (%)	5.2	20.8	32.7	15.4	7.7	5.2	3.6	4.0	4.0	3.1	1.8	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	7.3
		Rate 2019 (%)	14.1	31.8	38.8	22.2	12.6	7.9	4.9	4.8	3.9	3.0	1.9	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	9.9
		Change 2019-2020	-8.97	-10.97	-6.13	-6.81	-4.90	-2.71	-1.27	-0.80	0.10	+ <0.05	- <0.05	-0.11	-0.09	-0.09	- <0.05	-0.08	- <0.05	- <0.05	-2.62
	Males	n 2020	569	14,700	20,287	9,331	5,623	4,422	3,490	3,543	2,719	1,936	1,049	531	286	170	114	46	14	8	68,837
		n 2019	1,959	22,904	24,193	13,335	9,096	6,540	4,519	4,243	2,560	1,849	994	525	288	167	103	50	13	10	93,345
		Rate 2020 (%)	4.7	25.0	40.7	20.8	11.0	8.1	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.3	2.7	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	9.7
		Rate 2019 (%)	16.1	39.0	48.5	29.8	17.8	11.9	7.5	6.9	5.1	4.1	2.6	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	13.2
		Change 2019-2020	-11.46	-13.96	-7.83	-8.94	-6.81	-3.87	-1.70	-1.14	0.32	0.19	0.14	+ <0.05	- <0.05	+ <0.05	0.06	- <0.05	+ <0.05	- <0.05	-3.46
	Females	n 2020	638	9,085	11,512	4,000	1,860	1,327	1,037	1,331	1,187	846	403	231	121	91	56	31	7	3	33,766
		n 2019	1,347	13,417	13,567	5,895	3,160	2,192	1,600	1,612	1,246	891	476	318	175	137	86	48	10	2	46,179
		Rate 2020 (%)	5.7	16.4	24.3	9.5	4.0	2.4	1.6	2.2	2.5	1.9	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	<0.1	4.8
		Rate 2019 (%)	12.0	24.2	28.7	14.1	6.8	4.0	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.0	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	<0.1	6.6
		Change 2019-2020	-6.30	-7.80	-4.34	-4.53	-2.80	-1.56	-0.86	-0.47	-0.12	-0.10	-0.19	-0.24	-0.17	-0.18	-0.15	-0.13	- <0.05	+ <0.05	-1.76

Table 3. Participation counts¹ and rates^{2,3,} 2019, 2020, Victoria: by region, sex and age

			Age range																		
Region	Sex		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	Persons	n 2020	3,453	77,448	110,347	45,027	23,898	21,514	15,413	13,308	14,102	14,221	9,868	6,460	4,539	3,241	2,467	1,269	537	230	367,340
Other		n 2019	11,664	116,147	126,350	59,388	35,516	27,482	17,628	15,151	13,363	13,102	9,308	6,145	4,110	2,978	2,222	1,220	492	216	462,481
		Rate 2020 (%)	8.8	38.8	57.8	22.2	7.9	6.5	5.0	5.0	6.1	5.9	4.6	3.1	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.2	0.7	0.3	10.1
		Rate 2019 (%)	29.8	58.2	66.1	29.2	11.8	8.3	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.4	4.3	3.0	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.2	0.6	0.3	12.7
		Change 2019-2020	-20.97	-19.41	-8.38	-7.07	-3.86	-1.81	-0.72	-0.69	0.32	0.46	0.26	0.15	0.23	0.17	0.17	+ <0.05	0.06	+ <0.05	-2.62
	Males	n 2020	1,570	46,635	65,723	28,349	17,155	15,596	11,416	9,422	9,328	9,438	6,676	4,462	3,062	2,129	1,673	908	377	162	234,080
		n 2019	6,727	69,872	74,494	37,978	25,296	19,832	12,984	10,551	8,583	8,272	5,961	3,940	2,585	1,799	1,373	797	304	122	291,467
		Rate 2020 (%)	7.8	45.6	67.1	27.4	11.1	9.3	7.5	7.1	8.2	8.1	6.4	4.4	3.5	2.9	2.5	1.9	1.1	0.5	13.1
		Rate 2019 (%)	33.4	68.4	76.0	36.7	16.4	11.9	8.5	7.9	7.5	7.1	5.7	3.9	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.7	0.9	0.4	16.3
		Change 2019-2020	-25.59	-22.74	-8.95	-9.29	-5.28	-2.54	-1.03	-0.85	0.65	1.00	0.68	0.52	0.54	0.44	0.45	0.23	0.22	0.12	-3.20
	Females	n 2020	1,883	30,813	44,623	16,677	6,743	5,918	3,997	3,886	4,774	4,784	3,193	1,998	1,477	1,113	794	361	160	68	133,260
		n 2019	4,938	46,275	51,856	21,410	10,220	7,650	4,645	4,600	4,780	4,829	3,348	2,205	1,525	1,179	850	424	187	94	171,014
		Rate 2020 (%)	9.9	31.7	48.0	16.8	4.6	3.6	2.6	2.9	4.1	3.9	2.8	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.1	7.2
		Rate 2019 (%)	26.0	47.6	55.7	21.5	7.0	4.7	3.0	3.4	4.1	3.9	3.0	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.2	9.3
		Change 2019-2020	-16.07	-15.90	-7.77	-4.76	-2.37	-1.06	-0.42	-0.53	- <0.05	- <0.05	-0.14	-0.19	-0.05	-0.08	-0.08	-0.11	-0.06	-0.05	-2.05
Regional	Persons	n 2020	693	16,764	23,298	10,021	4,881	3,941	2,762	2,832	2,935	2,467	1,531	944	841	616	414	237	87	36	75,299
Growth		n 2019	2,229	26,907	28,488	14,199	8,497	6,107	3,941	3,344	2,603	2,153	1,378	877	681	474	347	170	53	34	102,480
		Rate 2020 (%)	8.4	40.1	57.7	26.0	11.5	9.2	6.7	7.1	7.7	6.0	4.0	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.2	11.7
		Rate 2019 (%)	26.9	64.3	70.6	36.9	20.0	14.2	9.5	8.4	6.8	5.2	3.6	2.1	1.7	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.2	15.9
		Change 2019-2020	-18.52	-24.25	-12.86	-10.86	-8.50	-5.05	-2.84	-1.29	0.87	0.76	0.40	0.16	0.41	0.39	0.21	0.31	0.23	+ <0.05	-4.22
	Males	n 2020	327	10,551	14,642	6,942	3,588	2,987	2,019	1,839	1,782	1,574	1,020	620	561	387	277	171	67	30	49,381
		n 2019	1,407	16,379	17,009	9,291	5,784	4,218	2,667	2,080	1,506	1,301	818	465	376	251	179	98	34	26	63,889
		Rate 2020 (%)	7.5	49.0	70.4	35.1	16.6	13.8	10.0	9.6	9.6	7.9	5.5	3.2	3.0	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.0	0.5	15.6
		Rate 2019 (%)	32.4	76.0	81.8	47.0	26.7	19.5	13.2	10.9	8.1	6.5	4.4	2.4	2.0	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.5	20.2
		Change 2019-2020	-24.83	-27.06	-11.39	-11.89	-10.13	-5.69	-3.20	-1.26	1.48	1.37	1.09	0.79	0.99	0.77	0.64	0.71	0.49	0.07	-4.60
	Females	n 2020	366	6,213	8,656	3,079	1,293	954	744	993	1,153	892	512	325	281	230	137	66	20	6	25,919
		n 2019	823	10,528	11,478	4,909	2,713	1,889	1,274	1,265	1,097	852	559	412	305	223	168	72	19	8	38,592
		Rate 2020 (%)	9.3	30.6	44.2	16.4	6.2	4.5	3.5	4.8	5.9	4.2	2.6	1.5	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.1	7.9
		Rate 2019 (%)	20.8	51.9	58.6	26.2	13.0	8.9	6.0	6.2	5.6	4.0	2.8	1.9	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	11.7
		Change 2019-2020	-11.57	-21.27	-14.42	-9.77	-6.81	-4.39	-2.50	-1.32	0.29	0.19	-0.24	-0.41	-0.11	+ <0.05	-0.19	-0.05	+ <0.05	- <0.05	-3.85

											Age ro	inge									
Region	Sex		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
Regional	Persons	n 2020	775	17,218	30,403	14,004	6,097	4,830	3,635	3,385	3,454	2,995	1,918	1,137	863	628	401	194	52	31	92,020
Other		n 2019	2,567	37,609	46,840	26,277	13,056	9,958	6,798	5,991	4,857	3,814	2,274	1,403	921	679	424	204	75	36	163,780
		Rate 2020 (%)	7.1	30.8	53.1	25.8	12.9	10.1	7.6	7.0	7.0	5.1	3.2	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	10.2
		Rate 2019 (%)	23.6	67.3	81.8	48.5	27.6	20.7	14.2	12.4	9.8	6.5	3.8	2.1	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.1	18.1
		Change 2019-2020	-16.50	-36.48	-28.70	-22.65	-14.71	-10.68	-6.58	-5.40	-2.82	-1.41	-0.60	-0.40	-0.09	-0.08	- <0.05	- <0.05	-0.10	- <0.05	-7.93
	Males	n 2020	446	10,594	18,708	9,437	4,635	3,699	2,674	2,218	2,178	1,880	1,275	700	558	400	260	130	30	23	59,845
		n 2019	1,663	22,181	26,966	16,927	8,948	6,909	4,344	3,467	2,587	2,137	1,286	729	520	377	237	113	40	20	99,449
		Rate 2020 (%)	8.1	36.7	63.2	33.8	18.0	15.0	11.4	9.5	8.9	6.6	4.4	2.2	1.8	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.2	13.2
		Rate 2019 (%)	30.3	76.9	91.0	60.6	34.8	28.0	18.5	14.9	10.5	7.5	4.4	2.3	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.2	22.0
		Change 2019-2020	-22.16	-40.14	-27.88	-26.81	-16.76	-13.03	-7.13	-5.37	-1.66	-0.90	- <0.05	-0.09	0.12	0.08	0.09	0.10	-0.09	+ <0.05	-8.76
	Females	n 2020	329	6,624	11,695	4,567	1,462	1,131	961	1,168	1,277	1,114	643	438	305	228	141	64	21	8	32,175
		n 2019	903	15,429	19,874	9,350	4,107	3,050	2,454	2,525	2,269	1,678	987	674	401	303	187	91	35	16	64,331
		Rate 2020 (%)	6.1	24.5	42.3	17.4	6.8	4.8	3.9	4.7	5.1	3.8	2.1	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	7.1
		Rate 2019 (%)	16.8	57.1	71.9	35.6	19.0	13.1	10.0	10.1	9.0	5.7	3.3	2.0	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	14.2
		Change 2019-2020	-10.70	-32.58	-29.57	-18.23	-12.25	-8.21	-6.07	-5.42	-3.95	-1.90	-1.14	-0.71	-0.29	-0.25	-0.18	-0.15	-0.10	-0.05	-7.10

1 Aggregated over 10 sports.

² Number of player registrations per 100 residents, expressed as a percentage.

³ Rate percentages are displayed to 1 decimal place accuracy, with values greater than zero but less than 0.05 being displayed as <.0.05. As requested, changes in rates are displayed to 2 decimal place accuracy, but non-zero positive and negative differences less than 0.05 in magnitude are shown as +<0.05 and -<0.05 respectively.



Figure 6. Overall participation rates: 2015 – 2020, Victoria: by age

Table 4. Participation rates, 2019, 2020, Victoria: by Local Government Area

	Particip.		Particip.			Particip.		Particip.			Particip.		Particip.	
LGA name	Rate ¹	Rank ²	Rate	Rank ²	LGA name	Rate ¹	Rank ²	Rate	Rank ²	LGA name	Rate ¹	Rank ²	Rate ¹	Rank ²
	2019	2019	2020	2020		2019	2019	2020	2020		20159	2019	2020	2020
Metropolitan - growth					Nillumbik (S)	23.26	1	16.53	2	Hepburn (S)	11.79	40	7.13	38
Cardinia (S)	13.62	1	10.43	1	Port Phillip (C)	9.54	20	8.94	17	Hindmarsh (S)	26.91	4	6.91	39
Casey (C)	10.01	3	7.83	3	Stonnington (C)	14.21	11	10.82	14	Horsham (RC)	20.60	14	10.96	12
Hume (C)	9.75	4	5.87	6	Whitehorse (C)	12.46	16	11.02	12	Indigo (S)	16.79	29	9.30	24
Melton (S)	7.88	7	5.69	7	Yarra (C)	9.99	18	8.53	19	Latrobe (C)	15.69	32	10.28	15
Mitchell (S)	12.97	2	9.07	2	Yarra Ranges (S)	16.50	5	11.34	9	Loddon (S)	23.80	9	8.88	29
Whittlesea (C)	9.53	5	7.24	4	Regional - growth					Macedon Ranges (S)	18.60	20	11.61	8
Wyndham (C)	9.30	6	7.11	5	Ballarat (C)	14.81	6	10.00	7	Mansfield (S)	17.79	25	9.80	19
Metropolitan - other					Bass Coast (S)	15.61	4	11.42	4	Mildura (RC)	15.86	31	8.55	31
Banyule (C)	16.29	6	12.21	6	Baw Baw (S)	16.79	3	10.81	5	Moira (S)	18.81	18	9.59	20
Bayside (C)	22.14	2	18.56	1	Greater Bendigo (C)	16.81	2	12.45	2	Mount Alexander (S)	14.74	35	9.10	25
Boroondara (C)	18.05	3	13.76	4	Greater Geelong (C)	14.92	5	11.64	3	Moyne (S)	24.82	7	15.44	3
Brimbank (C)	6.47	23	4.56	24	Moorabool (S)	14.40	7	10.30	6	Murrindindi (S)	15.23	34	7.93	33
Darebin (C)	10.20	17	7.84	20	Surf Coast (S)	24.14	1	17.87	1	Northern Grampians (S)	18.62	19	8.11	32
Frankston (C)	14.83	9	10.86	13	Regional - other					Pyrenees (S)	16.84	28	9.05	26
Glen Eira (C)	13.88	12	12.30	5	Alpine (S)	17.90	24	10.63	14	Queenscliffe (B)	29.64	2	20.64	1
Greater Dandenong (C)	5.35	25	3.67	25	Ararat (RC)	14.34	37	7.86	34	South Gippsland (S)	21.42	11	13.57	5
										Southern Grampians				
Hobsons Bay (C)	13.26	15	10.20	15	Benalla (RC)	13.80	39	7.52	36	(S)	25.73	6	19.00	2
Kingston (C)	15.93	7	11.76	8	Buloke (S)	31.04	1	13.33	6	Strathbogie (S)	15.32	33	8.89	28
Knox (C)	14.41	10	11.26	10	Campaspe (S)	19.07	17	10.04	18	Swan Hill (RC)	21.62	10	9.35	22
Manningham (C)	13.42	14	10.05	16	Central Goldfields (S)	18.01	22	9.31	23	Towong (S)	20.67	13	8.98	27
Maribyrnong (C)	8.54	22	6.87	22	Colac-Otway (S)	20.14	15	13.18	7	Wangaratta (RC)	17.94	23	8.79	30
Maroondah (C)	15.51	8	11.79	7	Corangamite (S)	25.84	5	15.17	4	Warrnambool (C)	17.47	27	10.72	13
Melbourne (C)	5.70	24	5.24	23	East Gippsland (S)	14.41	36	7.51	37	Wellington (S)	18.44	21	11.11	11
Monash (C)	9.60	19	8.62	18	Gannawarra (S)	24.16	8	10.24	16	West Wimmera (S)	20.92	12	5.75	40
Moonee Valley (C)	13.46	13	11.22	11	Glenelg (S)	19.80	16	10.18	17	Wodonga (RC)	13.91	38	7.82	35
Moreland (C)	9.10	21	7.64	21	Golden Plains (S)	16.60	30	11.24	10	Yarriambiack (S)	29.29	3	11.42	9
Mornington Peninsula (S)	17.79	4	15.35	3	Greater Shepparton (C)	17.56	26	9.55	21					

¹ Number of player registrations per 100 residents

² In descending order of participation rate within each region. Rank derived from rate to six decimals



Figure 7. Participation rates, 2020: LGA by region

Map 1. Participation rates, 2020: Victoria by LGA





Map 2. Participation rates, 2020: Metropolitan region by LGA



Figure 8. Participation rates, 2020, Victoria: by sport and age

LGA name	Particip	ation	SEIF	A	Rank diff.⁴	LGA name	Partici	pation	SEIF	A	Rank diff.⁴
	Rate ¹	Rank ²	Score ³	Rank ²			Rate ¹	Rank ²	Score ³	Rank ²	
Metropolitan - growth						Nillumbik (S)	16.53	2	1093	76	5
Cardinia (S)	10.43	1	996	52	2	Port Phillip (C)	8.94	17	1101	77	4
Casey (C)	7.83	3	991	50	3	Stonnington (C)	10.82	14	1120	78	3
Hume (C)	5.87	6	947	22	7	Whitehorse (C)	11.02	12	1063	69	10
Melton (S)	5.69	7	981	45	5	Yarra (C)	8.53	19	1081	74	7
Mitchell (S)	9.07	2	972	37	6	Yarra Ranges (S)	11.34	9	1017	57	21
Whittlesea (C)	7.24	4	982	47	4	Regional – Growth (7)					
Wyndham (C)	7.11	5	1002	54	1	Ballarat (C)	10.00	7	965	32	5
Metropolitan - other						Bass Coast (S)	11.42	4	945	21	7
Banyule (C)	12.21	6	1055	67	12	Baw Baw (S)	10.81	5	976	40	4
Bayside (C)	18.56	1	1125	79	2	Greater Bendigo (C)	12.45	2	961	30	6
Boroondara (C)	13.76	4	1128	80	1	Greater Geelong (C)	11.64	3	980	44	3
Brimbank (C)	4.56	24	930	7	24	Moorabool (S)	10.30	6	988	49	2
Darebin (C)	7.84	20	1020	60	18	Surf Coast (S)	17.87	1	1064	70	1
Frankston (C)	10.86	13	981	46	23	Regional – Other (40)					
Glen Eira (C)	12.30	5	1092	75	6	Alpine (S)	10.63	14	970	35	12
Greater Dandenong (C)	3.67	25	915	2	25	Ararat (RC)	7.86	34	931	9	34
Hobsons Bay (C)	10.20	15	1020	59	19	Benalla (RC)	7.52	36	936	15	28
Kingston (C)	11.76	8	1042	64	14	Buloke (S)	13.33	6	949	23	22
Knox (C)	11.26	10	1032	62	16	Campaspe (S)	10.04	18	943	20	23
Manningham (C)	10.05	16	1076	73	8	Central Goldfields (S)	9.31	23	870	1	40
Maribyrnong (C)	6.87	22	1019	58	20	Colac-Otway (S)	13.18	7	939	19	24
Maroondah (C)	11.79	7	1034	63	15	Corangamite (S)	15.17	4	959	28	17
Melbourne (C)	5.24	23	1071	72	9	East Gippsland (S)	7.51	37	937	16	27
Monash (C)	8.62	18	1060	68	11	Gannawarra (S)	10.24	16	934	13	30
Moonee Valley (C)	11.22	11	1046	65	13	Glenelg (S)	10.18	17	925	6	36
Moreland (C)	7.64	21	1026	61	17	Golden Plains (S)	11.24	10	1004	55	3
Mornington Peninsula (S)	15.35	3	1013	56	22	Greater Shepparton (C)	9.55	21	937	18	25

Table 5. Participation rates and SEIFA rank, 2020, Victoria: by Local Government Area

LGA name	Participation		SEIFA		Rank diff.⁴
	Rate ¹	Rank ²	Score ³	Rank ²	
Regional – Other (40)					
Hepburn (S)	7.13	38	979	43	7
Hindmarsh (S)	6.91	39	931	10	33
Horsham (RC)	10.96	12	958	27	18
Indigo (S)	9.30	24	995	51	5
Latrobe (C)	10.28	15	916	3	39
Loddon (S)	8.88	29	932	12	31
Macedon Ranges (S)	11.61	8	1047	66	2
Mansfield (S)	9.80	19	986	48	6
Mildura (RC)	8.55	31	921	5	37
Moira (S)	9.59	20	930	8	35
Mount Alexander (S)	9.10	25	979	42	8
Moyne (S)	15.44	3	998	53	4
Murrindindi (S)	7.93	33	973	38	11
Northern Grampians (S)	8.11	32	921	4	38
Pyrenees (S)	9.05	26	937	17	26
Queenscliffe (B)	20.64	1	1070	71	1
South Gippsland (S)	13.57	5	965	33	14
Southern Grampians (S)	19.00	2	969	34	13
Strathbogie (S)	8.89	28	957	26	19
Swan Hill (RC)	9.35	22	934	14	29
Towong (S)	8.98	27	974	39	10
Wangaratta (RC)	8.79	30	962	31	15
Warrnambool (C)	10.72	13	961	29	16
Wellington (S)	11.11	11	954	24	21
West Wimmera (S)	5.75	40	977	41	9
Wodonga (RC)	7.82	35	957	25	20
Yarriambiack (S)	11.42	9	932	11	32

¹ Number of player registrations per 100 residents

² In descending order of participation rate within each region

³ in descending order of seifa score within each region

⁴ +ve difference: participation rate rank>SEIFA rank. -ve difference: participation rate rank<SEIFA rank. No difference:= participation rate rank expected for SEIFA



Figure 9. Sport-specific program profiles of registered participants, 2020, Victoria



Figure 10. Sport-specific disability status profiles of registered participants, 2020, Victoria



Figure 11. Sport-specific ATSI status profiles of registered participants, 2020, Victoria

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 nonmetropolitan areas are known to differ substantially.
- Within both metropolitan and non-metropolitan 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 Nonmetropolitan.

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

Metropolitan – Growth (7)	Metropolitan – Other (25)
Cardinia (S)	Banyule (C)
Casey (C)	Bayside (C)
Hume (C)	Boroondara (C)
Melton (C)	Brimbank (C)
Mitchell (S)	Darebin (C)
Whittlesea (C)	Frankston (C)
Wyndham (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)

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

Regional – Growth (7)

Ballarat (C) Bass Coast (S) Baw Baw (S) Greater Bendigo (C) Greater Geelong (C) Moorabool (S) Surf Coast (S) Regional – Other (40) 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)

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Data accuracy

This report is based on 2019 and 2020 player registration data provided by 10 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.

In this report, which encompasses multiple sports and two waves of data 2019 and 2020, there are some differences in reported participation counts and rates compared to the previously prepared annual reports for individual sports and the aggregated reports for 2019. For the present report we used the most current SSA data as of September 2021.

For this report the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) statistics match the year of the SSA data. For previous years and reports we used the ERPs that were available at the

time, which was generally the ERP's for the previous year. These are updated, and we now use the latest ERP's so that the data in this report is most accurate.

Furthermore, the postcode to LGA correspondences are updated by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and in this report we use the most recent correspondences available for the point in time best aligned to each participant data year.

As a result, all participation rates and all ERPs for each year and for each sport are slightly different from the individual sport reports for 2019 and the combined reports for 2019. Participant numbers may also be slightly different where postcode to LGA correspondences have changed.

In summary, we have used the most accurate and up-to-date data available at the time of development and publication of this report.













