

CARPET BOWLS

PROFILE

There are just over 47,400 adults playing carpet bowls in Australia, at a participation rate of 0.4%.

On average, carpet bowls participants:

- Will be female aged 65 years or over
- Will be married
- Lives in Queensland
- Are unlikely to be in the work force.

The majority of carpet bowls participants will only play this sport. The most popular other sports are likely to be lawn bowls and golf.

AGE AND GENDER

Carpet bowls is one of the few sports or physical activities played predominately by older Australians. Of the 47,400 participants, 66.1% of male players, (11,200 participants), and 66.9% (21,300) of female players are aged 65 years or older. In comparison, for participants in all sports and physical activities, 8.7% of males and 9.9% of females are in this age group. While the participation rate in carpet bowls for all adults is 0.4% (four persons every one thousand play), the participation rate for those persons aged 65 years or older is 1.6%, or 16 persons per one thousand people.

Carpet bowls is more popular with females, with 64.3% (30,500 people) of participants being female.

RESIDENCE

Three States have participation rates higher than the Australian average of 0.4%. Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland have participation rates of 1.2%, 0.7% and 0.6% respectively. Victoria has a participation rate of 0.3%, while New South Wales, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory share the lowest participation rate of 0.2%.

For all organised sport and physical activities, people living in non-capital cities have a higher participation rate of 31% compared to their capital city counterparts, whose participation rate is 26.2%. This trend is reflected in carpet bowls participation rates, with the non-capital city regions doubling the participation rate of the capital cities, at 0.6% and 0.3% respectively.

BIRTHPLACE

People whose birthplace is Australia or the United Kingdom, Ireland or New Zealand have the same participation rates in carpet bowls at 0.4%. Australian-born persons account for 86.5% (41,000 persons) participating in carpet bowls. Those people born in the United Kingdom, Ireland or New Zealand make up

10.2% of these sports participants. People born in “other countries” comprise only 3.4% of all carpet bowls participants, even though 17.3% of adult Australians come from this region.

MARITAL STATUS

Almost 40% of people who play carpet bowls are separated, divorced or widowed. This proportion is significantly higher than the percentage of all adults in this category who participate in organised sport and physical activities, which is 9.4%.

The proportion of married people participating in carpet bowls (52.7%) is both less than the proportion of married people participating in organised sports and physical activities (61.1%) and the percentage of Australians who are married (64.5%). The situation is similar, with the difference greater, for persons who have never been married. 7.7% of carpet bowls players have never been married, while for organised sport and physical activity participants and all Australians aged over 18 years or more, the proportions of people who have never been married are 29.5% and 22.1% respectively.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

The majority of participants in carpet bowls are not in the labour force. Indeed, 88.3% (38,100 participants) do not work and this reflects the fact that the sport is played by mostly older people.

HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION

The highest educational qualification attained by more carpet bowls participants than any other qualification is a secondary school certificate, held by 75.4% of people involved. This percentage is significantly higher than the proportions of all organised sport and physical activity participants with a secondary school certificate, at 45.2%, and of all Australian adults with this qualification, at 51.6%, and this largely reflects the scarcity of tertiary education when this age group was younger.

INCOME

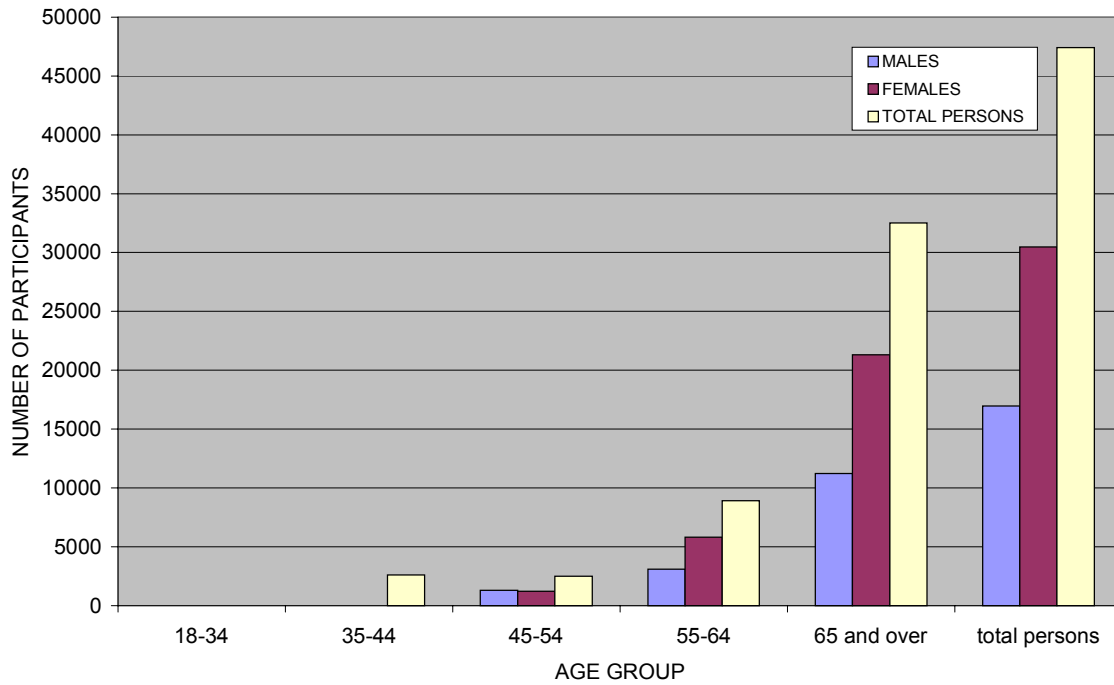
The majority of people who participate in carpet bowls have low incomes, with more than 60% of participants (26,400 people) earning less than \$9,000 per annum. This is not surprising since a large number of older persons playing this sport would be retirees and aged pensioners.

OTHER ORGANISED SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

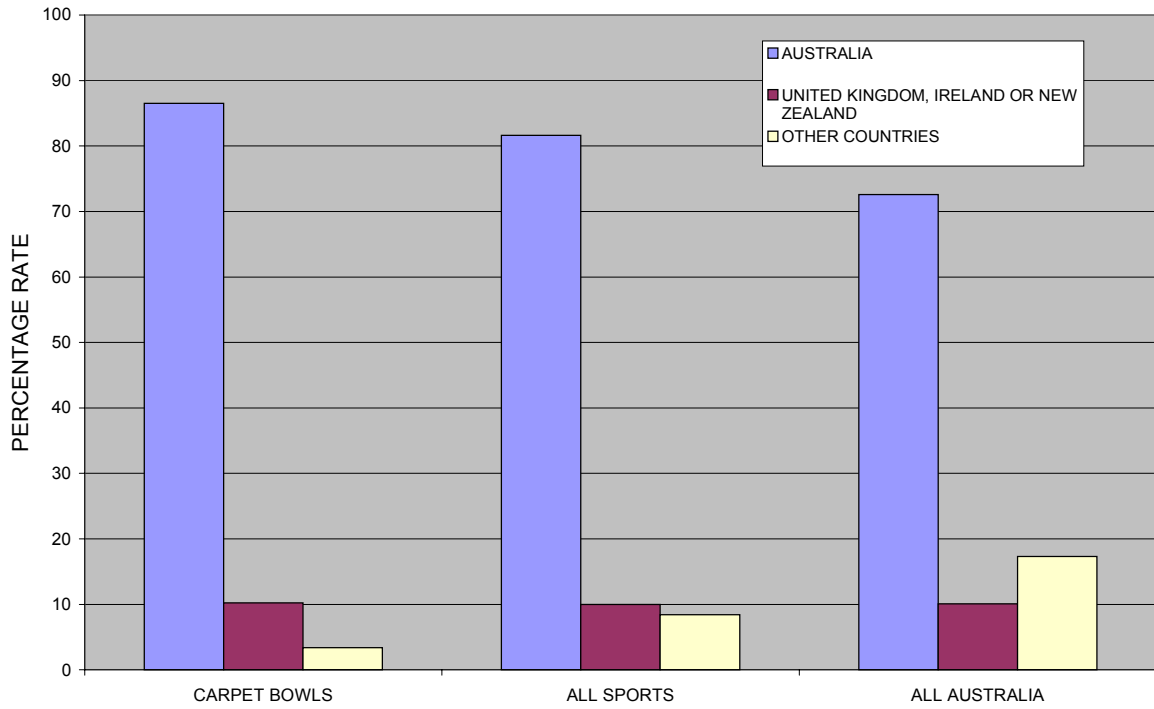
People who play carpet bowls are not involved in many other sports or physical activities. Just under 65% of players are involved in this activity only, with 33.6% participating in one additional organised sport or physical activity.

There are 9,000 carpet bowls players who also play lawn bowls; clearly the most popular other sport played by carpet bowls participants. Golf is also popular, with 1,500 people participating in golf as well as carpet bowls.

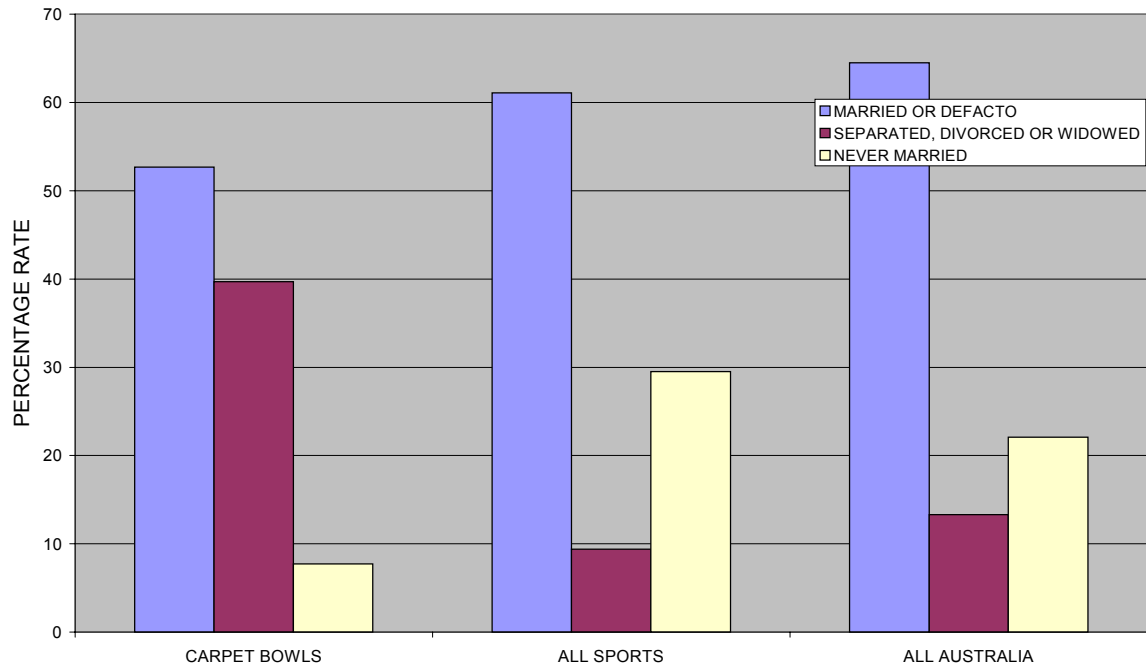
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY AGE AND GENDER



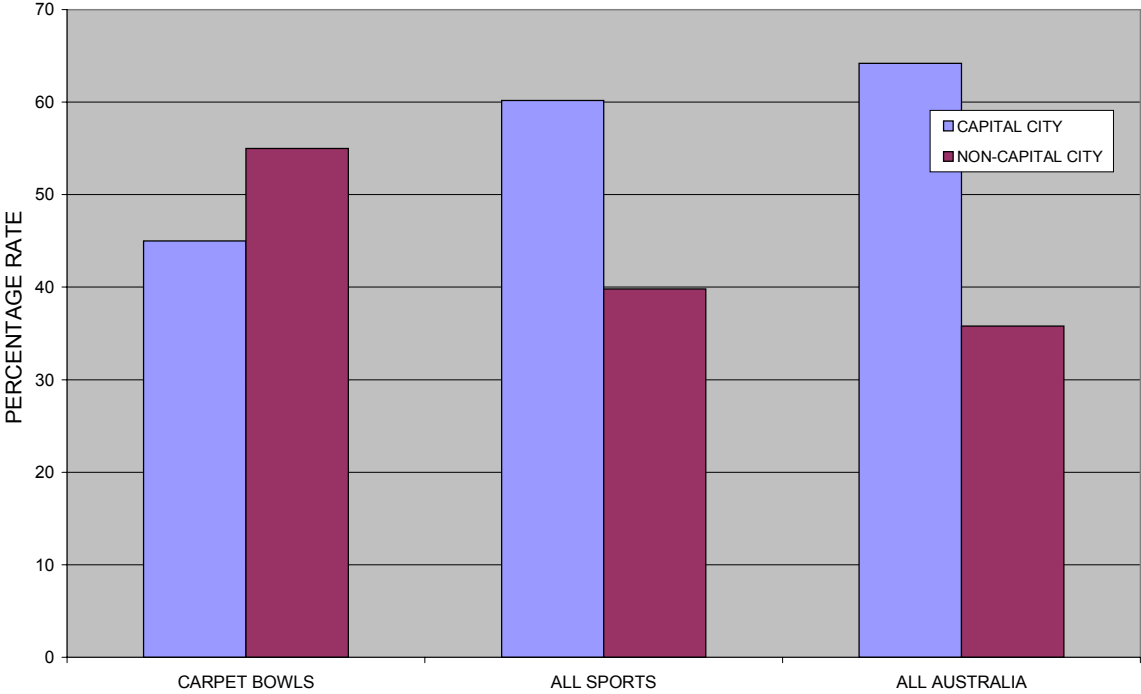
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH



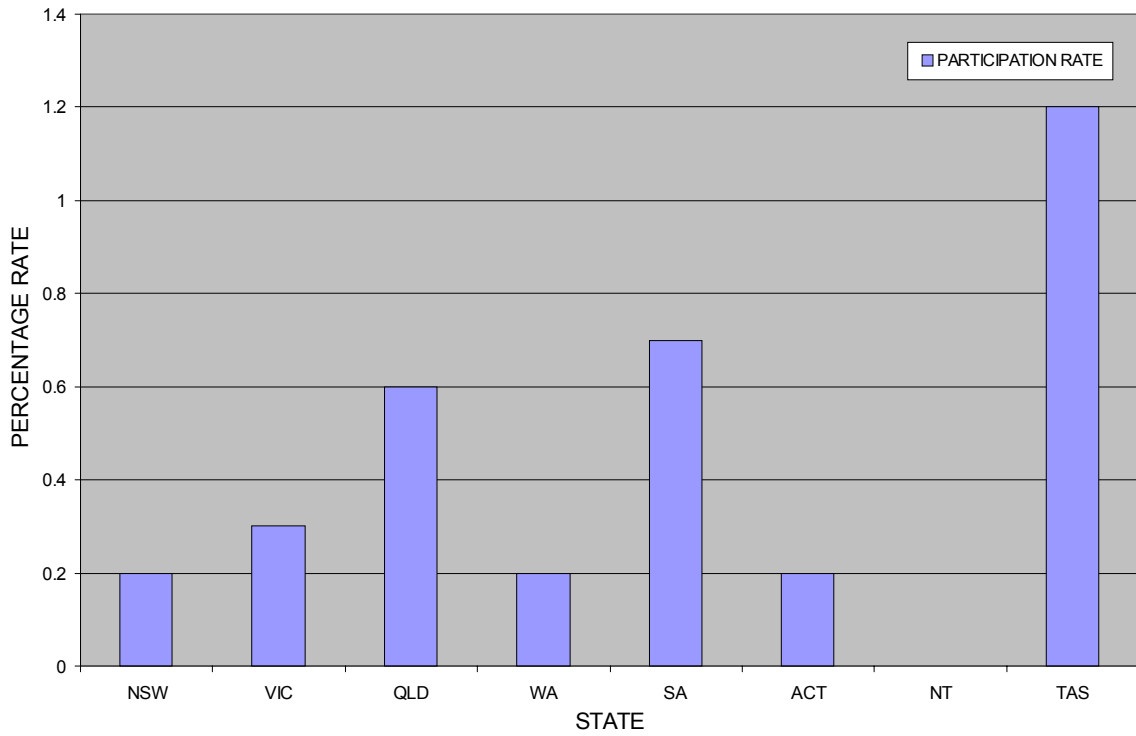
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY MARITAL STATUS



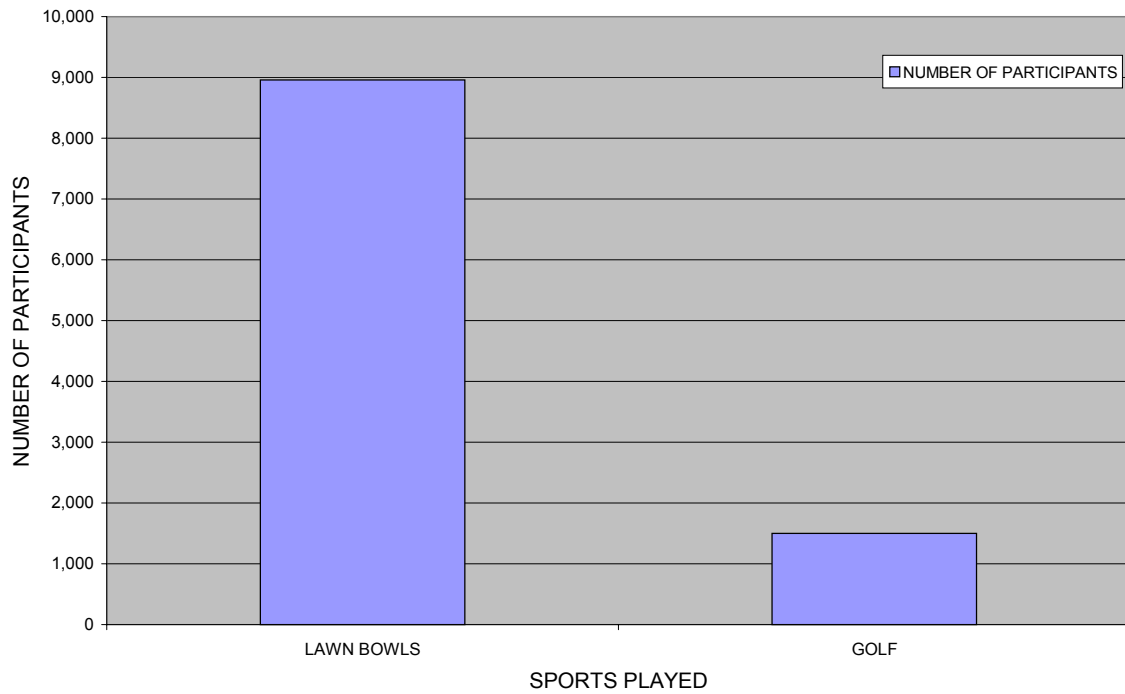
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY CAPITAL CITY VS NON-CAPITAL CITY



RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY STATE



OTHER SPORTS PLAYED BY CARPET BOWLS PARTICIPANTS



NUMBER OF SPORTS PLAYED BY CARPET BOWLS PARTICIPANTS AND ALL PARTICIPANTS

