

# NETBALL

## PROFILE

There are just under 278,900 people over the age of 18 participating in netball in Australia.

On average, netball participants:

- Are female, aged between 18 and 24 years
- Live in the capital city regions of Victoria, New South Wales or Queensland
- Are Australian born
- Have never been married
- Possess a secondary school certificate
- Will be employed full time
- Earn between \$30,000 and \$38,000 per year.

While most netballers play only netball there are a number of other sports and physical activities played. Among the most popular are aerobics and fitness, tennis, touch football and volleyball.

## AGE AND GENDER

Netball is one of the more popular organised sports and physical activities in which Australians participate. There are 278,800 participants in the sport and unlike the majority of organised sports and physical activities, women dominate numbers. Whereas women make up just 45% of all sports participants, 86.6% of people who take part in netball are women (241,400 participants).

Netballers show a younger age profile than that of participants in all sports and physical activities – 80.4% of people (224,100 participants) who play netball are less than 35 years of age, while 48.2% of all sports participants fall into this age group. For both males and females, the greatest numbers of participants are in the 25-34 year age group –103,400 female participants and 16,900 male participants.

As with the majority of sports and activities, participation declines progressively with age, ranging from 5.7% of 18-24year olds to 0.1% of 45 year olds and over participating in netball. Overall 2.1% of Australia's population play netball.

## RESIDENCE

South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory have the highest participation rates of 3.3% and 3.2% respectively. Only one State, New South Wales, with a participation rate of 1.5%, has a rate lower than the Australian average.

For all organised sport and physical activities, people living in non-capital city regions have a higher participation rate than their capital-city counterparts –31% compared to 26.2%. This is also true for netball, where non-capital city regions

have a participation rate of 2.4% compared to the capital-city participation rate of 2%.

### **BIRTHPLACE**

Australian-born people comprise 91.8% of all netballers (256,000 participants), a rate of participation of 2.7%. This is more than double the rate of persons born in the United Kingdom, Ireland or New Zealand, which is 1.3%, and constitutes the birthplace of 16,800 participants. While 2.2% of netball players (6,100) were born in “other countries”.

### **MARITAL STATUS**

The proportion of married people participating in netball – 52% (145,000 people) – is both less than the number of married people participating in organised sport and the percentage of Australian adults who are married, at 61.1% and 64.5% respectively. The situation is reversed for persons who have never been married – 42.4% of netballers have never been married. This percentage is higher than all adult sports participants and persons in the Australian population who have never been married. These percentages are 29.5% and 22.1% respectively.

### **LABOUR FORCE STATUS**

Almost one third (32.8%) of people who participate in netball work on a part time basis, less than 35 hours per week. For all sport and physical activity participants, this proportion is 19.8%, while the corresponding percentage for all Australian adults is 17.9%.

The percentage of netballers who are employed full time (50.2%) or unemployed (3.1%) is similar to those of all participants in organised sport and physical activities. However, the proportion of netball players not in the labour force (14%) is about two-thirds of the proportion of participants in all sports and activities in this category (22.8%).

### **OCCUPATION**

Just fewer than 24% of the people who play netball are employed as intermediate clerical, sales and service workers. The percentage of netballers who work as professionals (18.9%) is also high. In comparison, the proportions for all Australians who are intermediate clerical, sales and service workers or professionals are 12.4% and 11.4% respectively.

While 10.8% of participants in all organised sport and physical activities are trades people and related workers, only 2.3% of netball players are in this occupation group. Conversely, the proportion of all sport and physical activity participants who are advanced clerical and service workers is 4%, but the percentage of netballers with that occupation is more than double that percentage at 10.5%.

## **HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION**

The highest educational qualification attained by more netballers than any other qualification is a secondary school certificate, held by 54.7% of people involved. This percentage is higher than the proportions of all organised sport and physical activity participants with a secondary school certificate (45.2%) and of all persons with this qualification (51.6%).

The proportion of netball players with a trade certificate (2.7%) was almost one-fifth of the percentage of participants in all sports and physical activity with this qualification (13.1%). This reflects the fact that trade certificates are held by predominately by males who only make up 13.4% of people who take part in this activity.

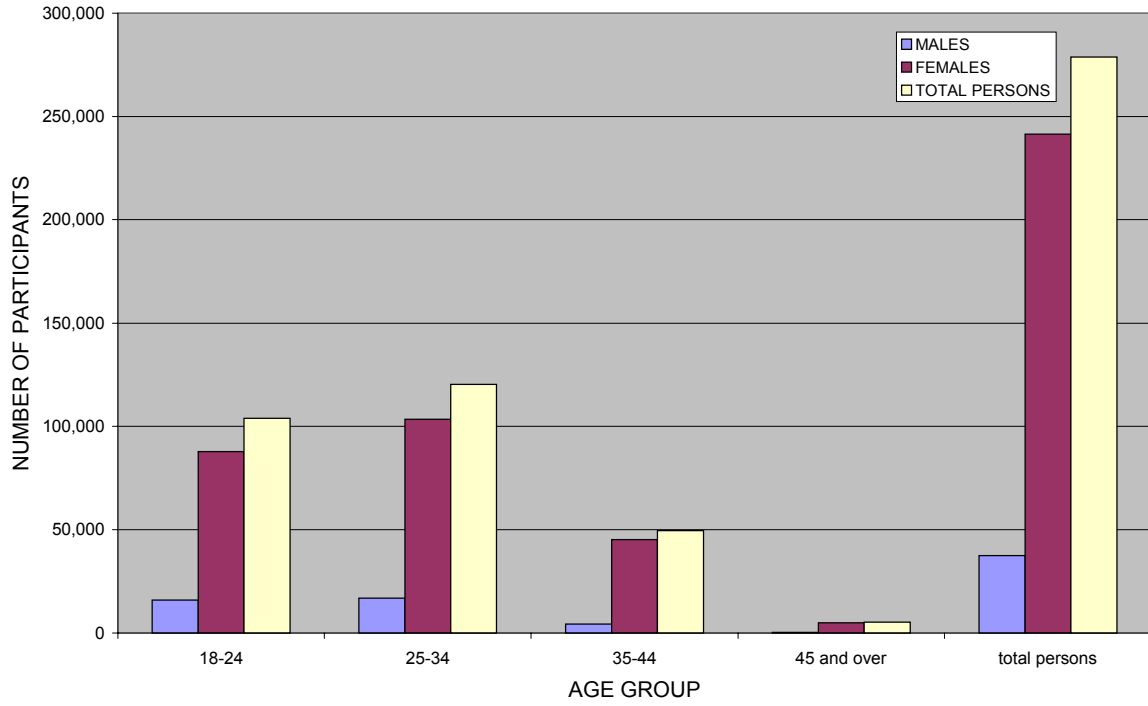
A bachelors degree is held by 18.1% of persons who play netball. This proportion is higher than that of participants in all sport and physical activities (15.5%) as well as the percentage of all people with bachelor degrees (13.4%).

## **OTHER ORGANISED SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN**

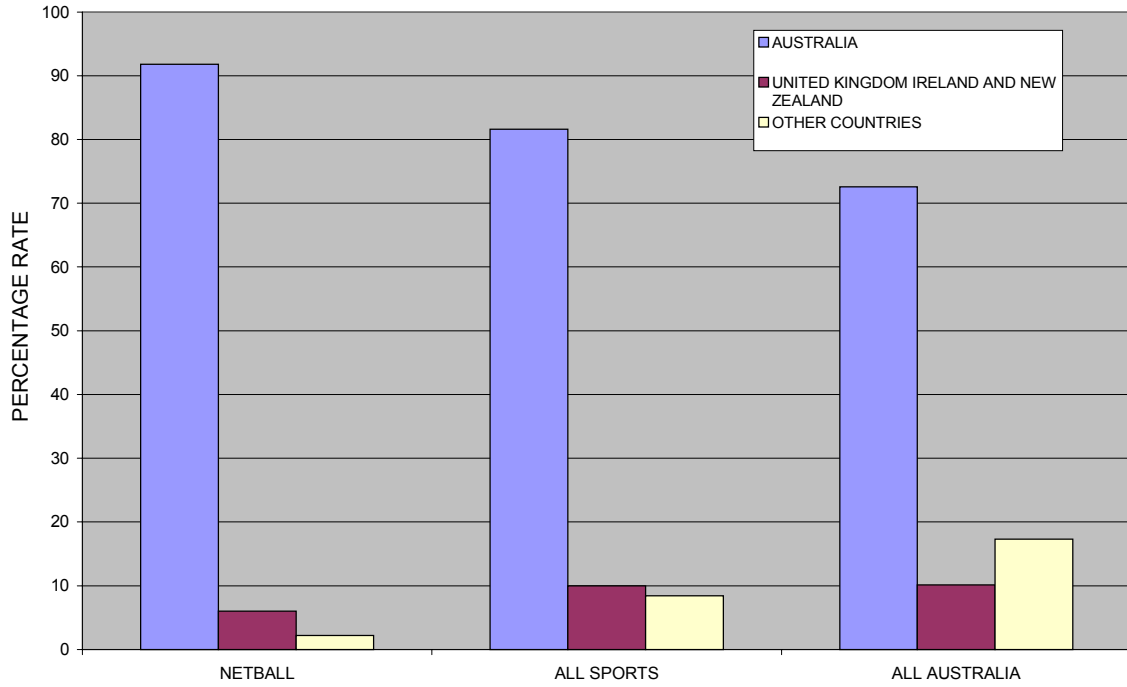
Netball is the only organised sport or physical activity undertaken by slightly less than 50% (134,300 people) of all netball players. Approximately 30% (85,300 participants) play one additional sport or activity, while 16.6% (46,300 people) take part in two others, and 4.7% (13,000 people) play in three or more sports or physical activities.

Netball players take part in a wide variety of other sports and physical activities, the most popular of which being aerobics and fitness with 48,600 participants. Among the other sports popular with netballers are basketball (27,200 participants), tennis (16,700) and swimming (13,000).

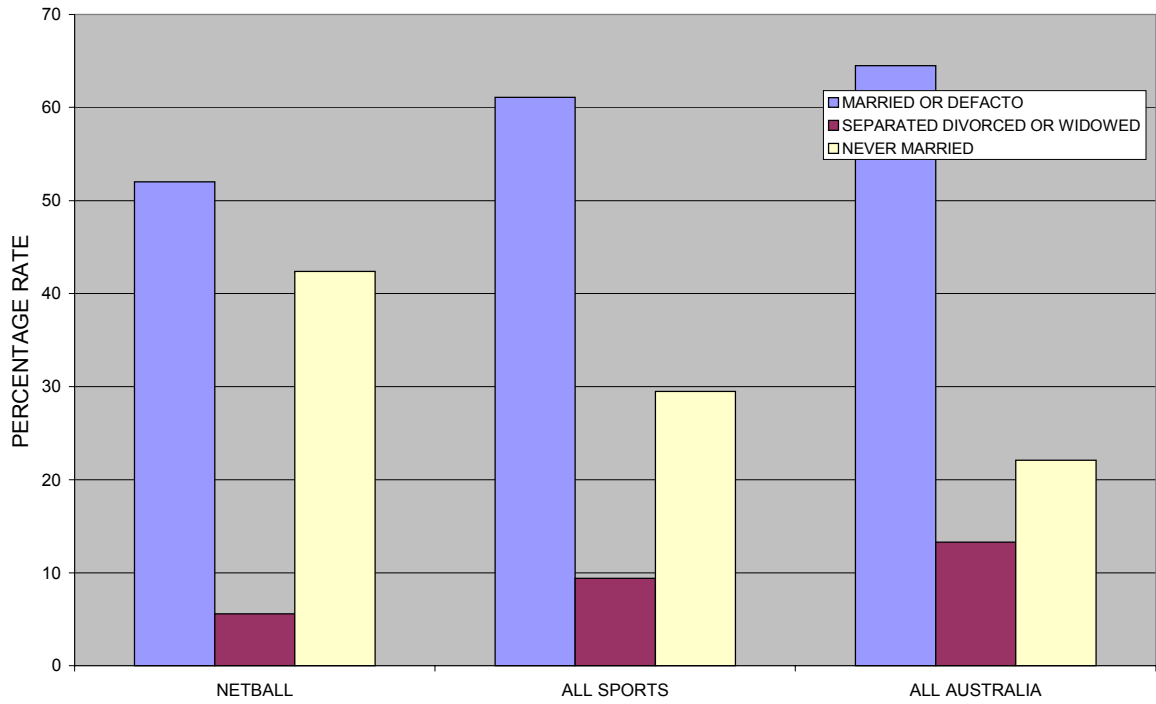
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY AGE AND GENDER



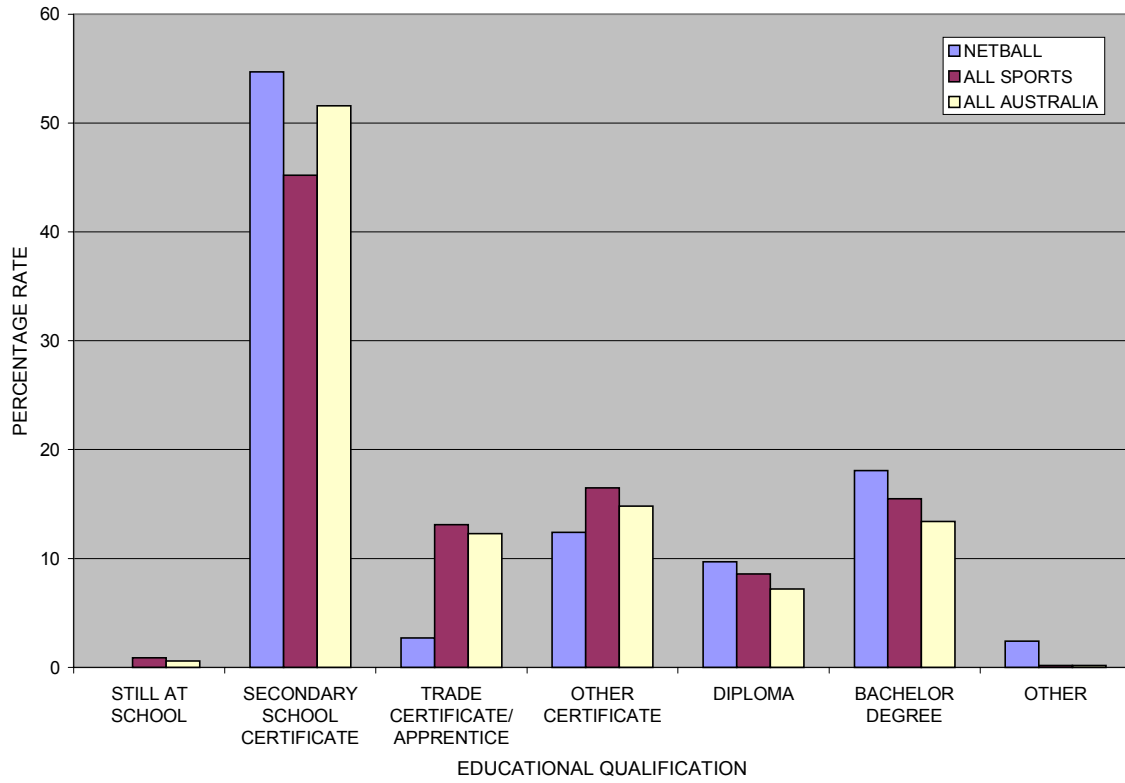
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH



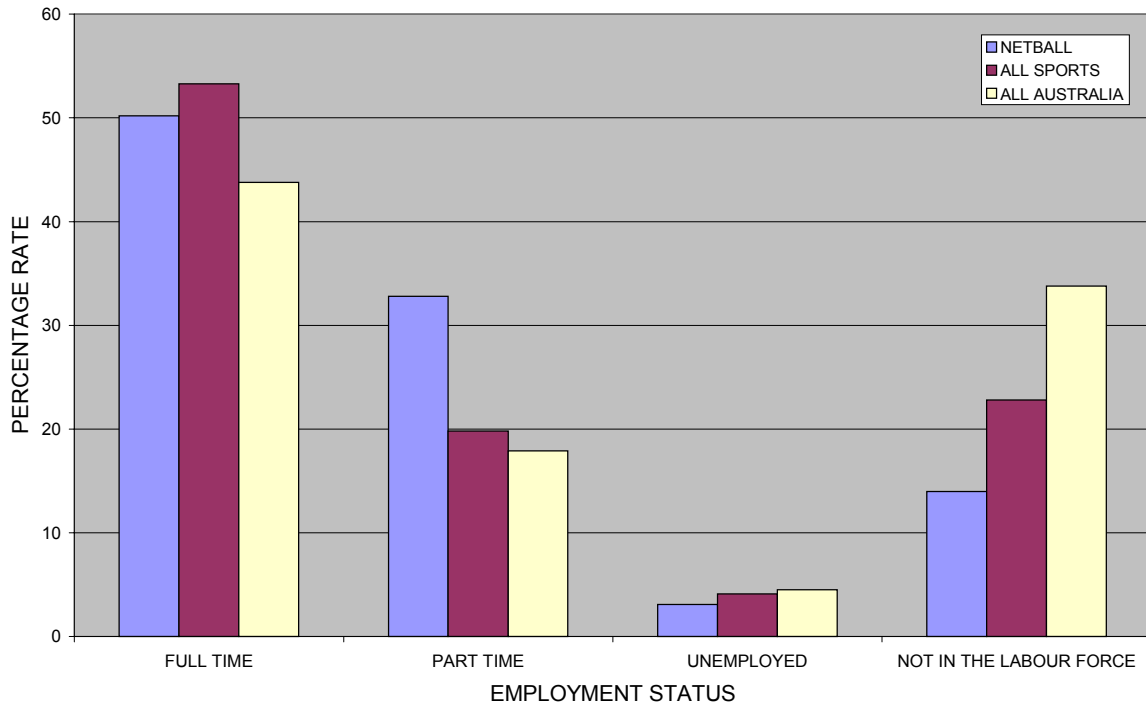
### RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY MARITAL STATUS



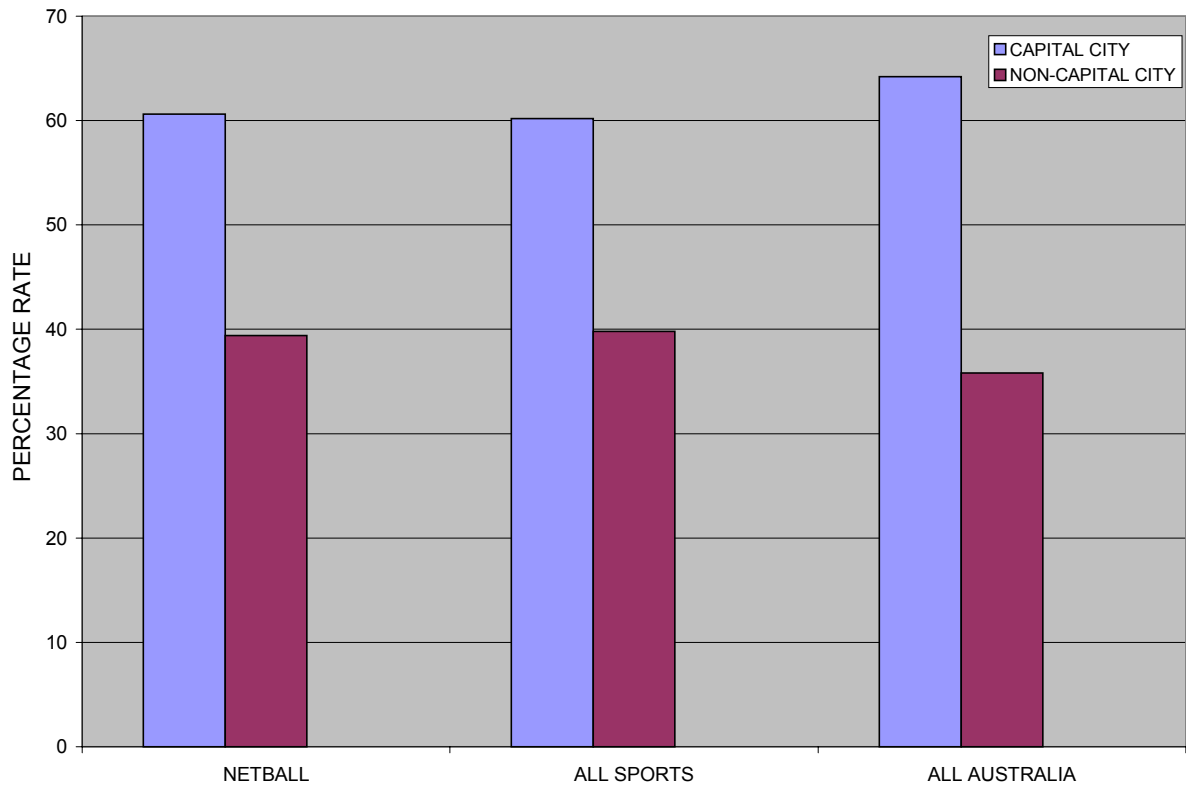
### RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION



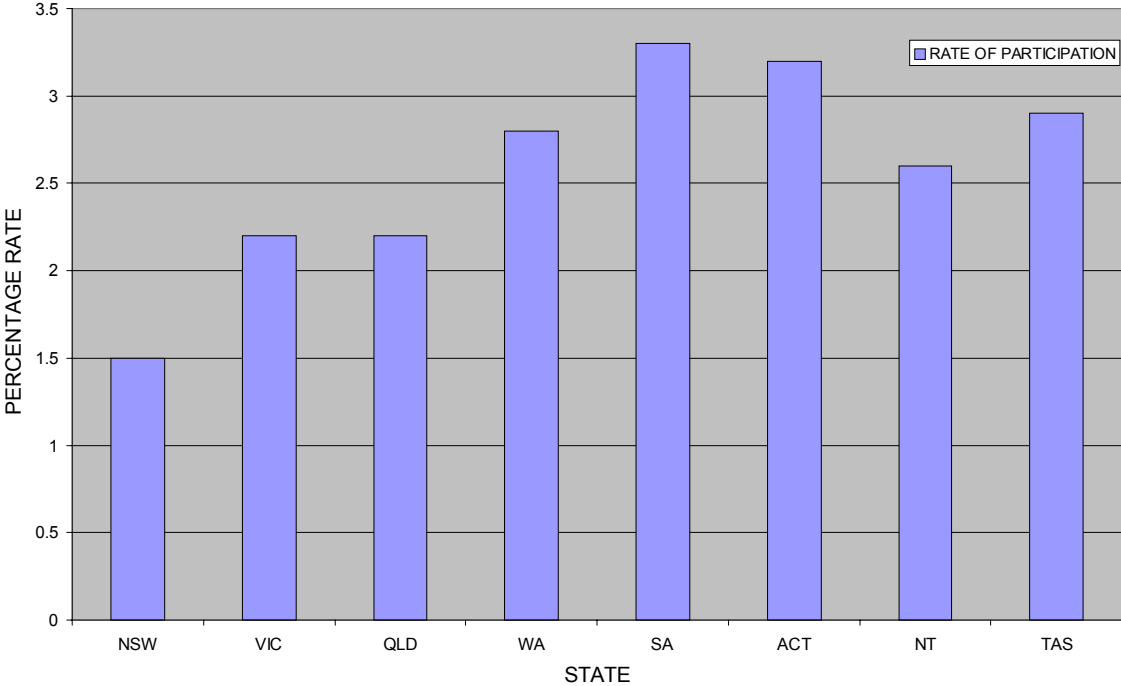
### RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS



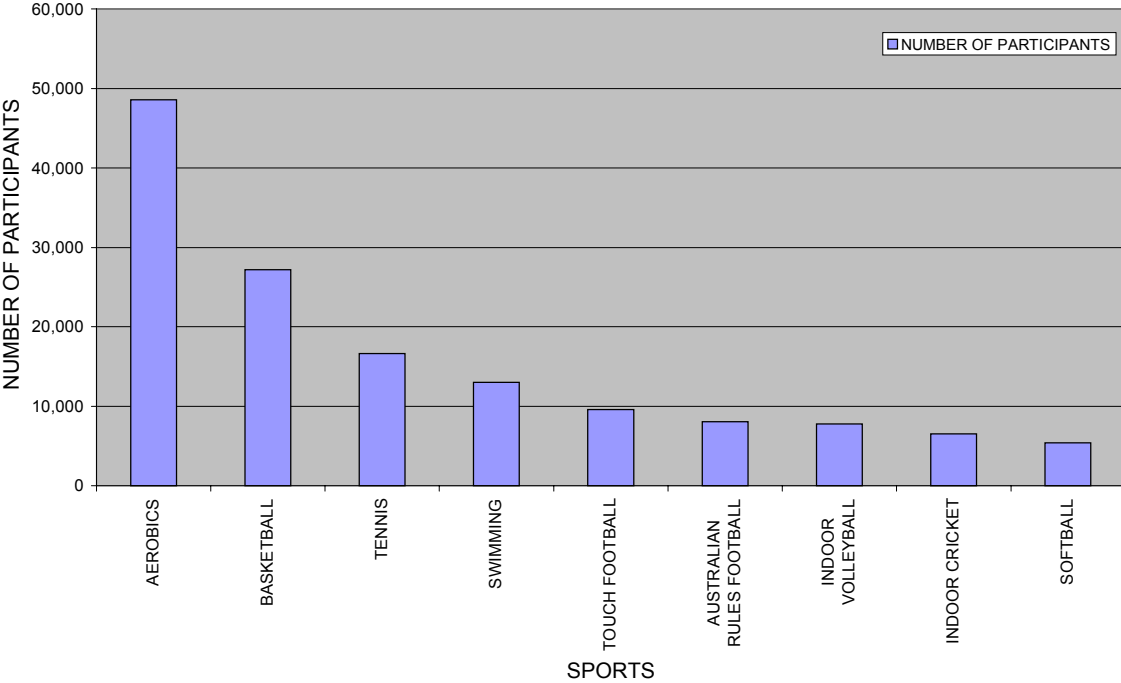
## RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY CAPITAL CITY VS NON-CAPITAL CITY



RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY STATE



OTHER SPORTS PLAYED BY NETBALL PARTICIPANTS



NUMBER OF OTHER SPORTS PLAYED BY NETBALL PARTICIPANTS AND ALL PARTICIPANTS

