

RUGBY LEAGUE

PROFILE

There are 58,200 people above the age of 18 years playing rugby league in Australia.

On average, rugby league participants:

- Are males, aged between 18-24 years
- Reside in the capital city regions of New South Wales or Queensland
- Will be Australian born
- Have never been married.

Most rugby league players participate in only this sport. Of those who do participate in other sports, the most popular are touch football, cricket, rugby union and basketball.

AGE AND GENDER

Rugby League is played by 58,200 adults nationally; this is a participation rate of 0.4% for the population aged 18 years and over. While a few women play rugby league, it is almost exclusively a sport undertaken by males who account for 93.3% (54,300) of all participants.

Like most other sports, participation declines with age. The participation rate for persons aged between 18-24 years is 1.8%, representing 55.2% of all participants in the sport. The 25-34 year age group has a participation rate of 0.7% and account for a further 33.1% of players. Participation rates decline further for persons aged 35 years and over, only 0.2% of persons of this age participate in organised rugby league.

RESIDENCE

New South Wales and Queensland account for 90% of rugby league participants aged 18 years and over. Queensland has a higher participation rate than New South Wales (0.9% compared with 0.7%), but the sport is also popular in the Northern Territory where the participation rate of adults who play Rugby League is the same as that for Queensland. The Australian Capital Territory as the lowest recorded participation rate, only 0.3% of this population participate in this sport.

For all organised sports and physical activities, people living in the 'rest of State' region have a higher participation rate than those living in capital cities (31.0% compared with 26.2%). However, Rugby League is marginally more popular in capital cities which show a participation rate of 0.3% compared with a rate for 'rest of State' residents of 0.2%.

BIRTHPLACE

The majority of Rugby League players are Australian-born. Of the 58,200 participants, 92.7% (54,000 players) were born in Australia and 6.2% (3,600 players) were born in the United Kingdom, Ireland or New Zealand.

MARITAL STATUS

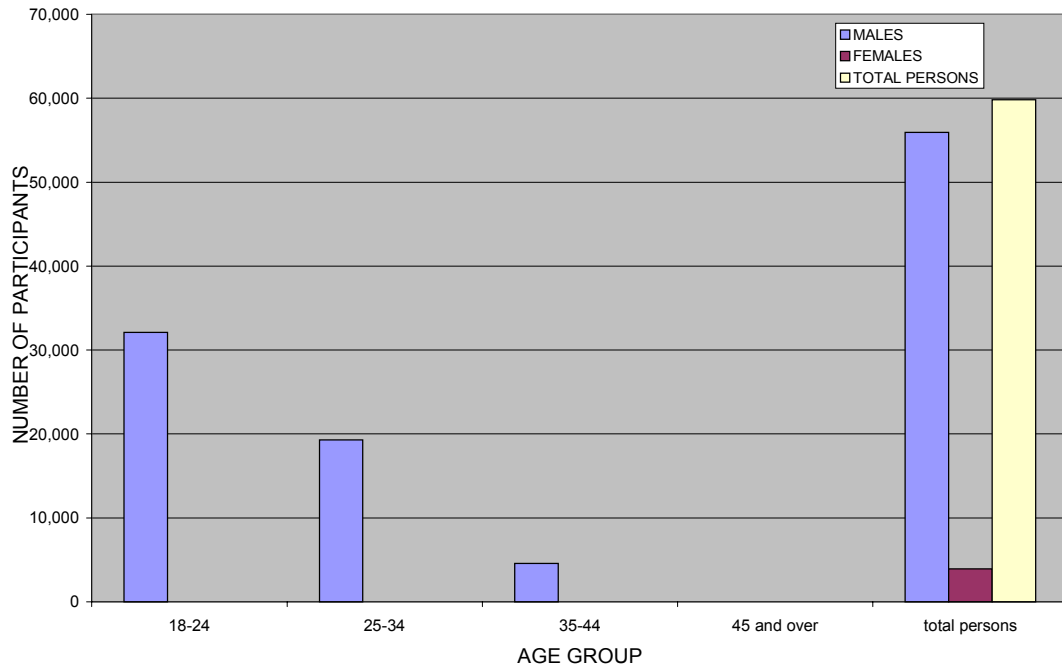
The predominant marital status of Rugby League players is 'never married'. The proportion of players who have never been married (58.7%) is significantly more than both the proportion of never married people participating in organised sport and physical activities (29.5%) and the percentage of Australians who have never been married (22.1%). The situation is reversed for married persons - 35.5% of participants are married while, for organised sport and physical activity participants and all people aged 18 years or more, the proportions in this category are 61.1% and 64.5% respectively.

OTHER ORGANISED SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

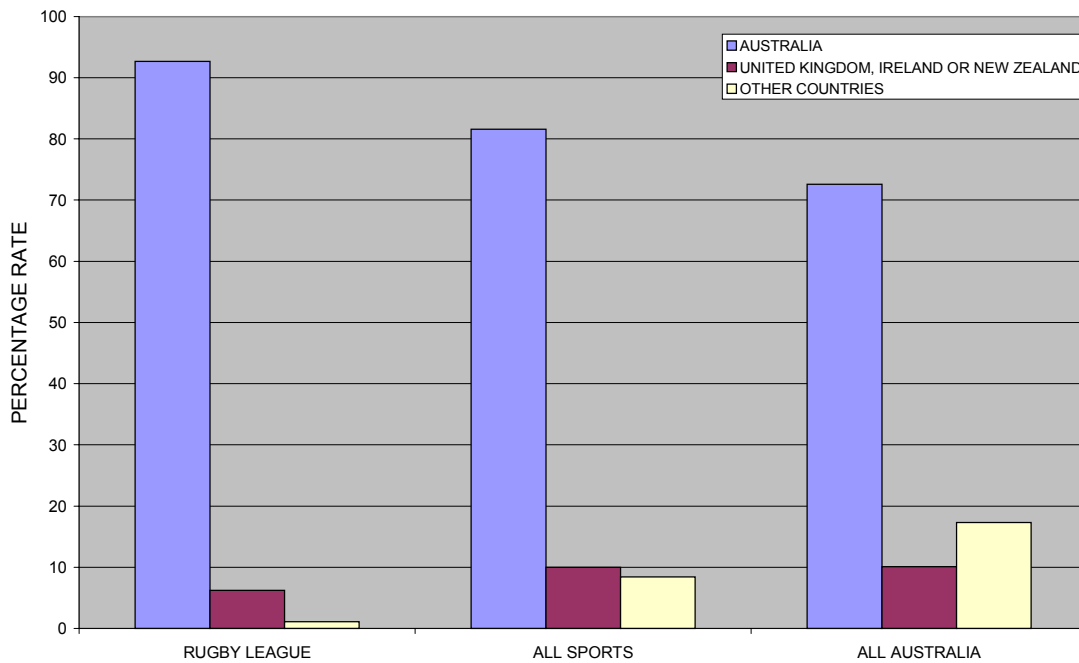
Rugby League is the only organised sport or physical activity undertaken by, just over one-half (30,300 people) of all participants in this sport. About one-quarter (25.9% or 15,100 people) participate in one additional sport or physical activity and 11.0% (6,400 people) each take part in two others or play in three or more other sports or physical activities.

Of the other organised sports and physical activities played by League players, touch football is clearly the most popular - 18.9% of players (11,000 participants) also take part in this sport. Other pursuits favoured by Rugby League players are outdoor cricket (6,100 participants), Rugby Union (3,400 participants) and basketball (2,800 participants).

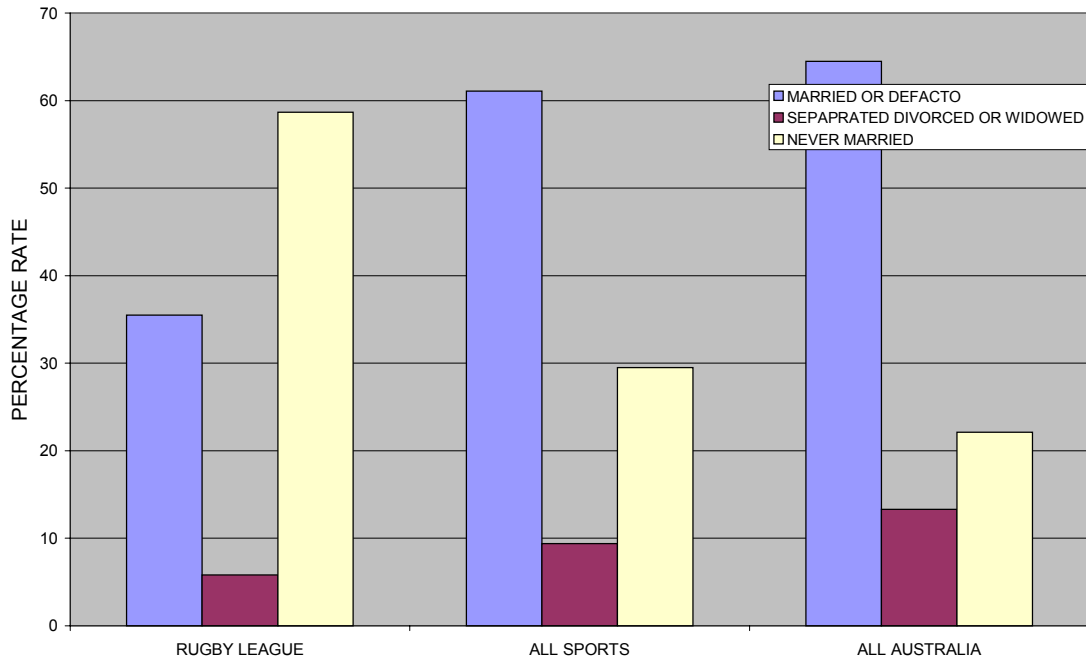
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY AGE AND GENDER



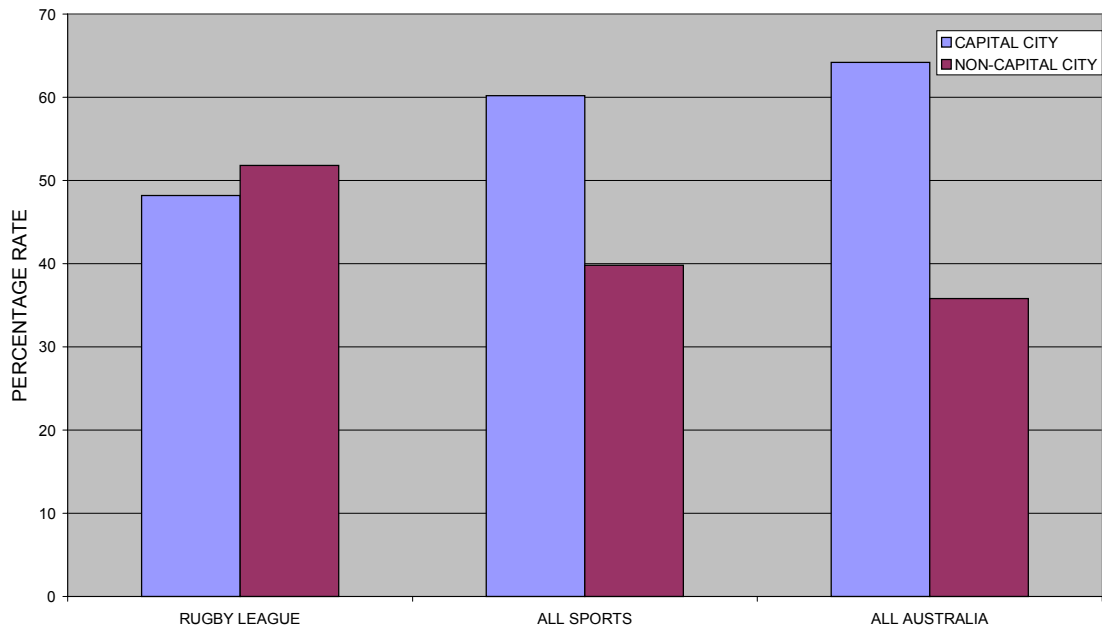
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH



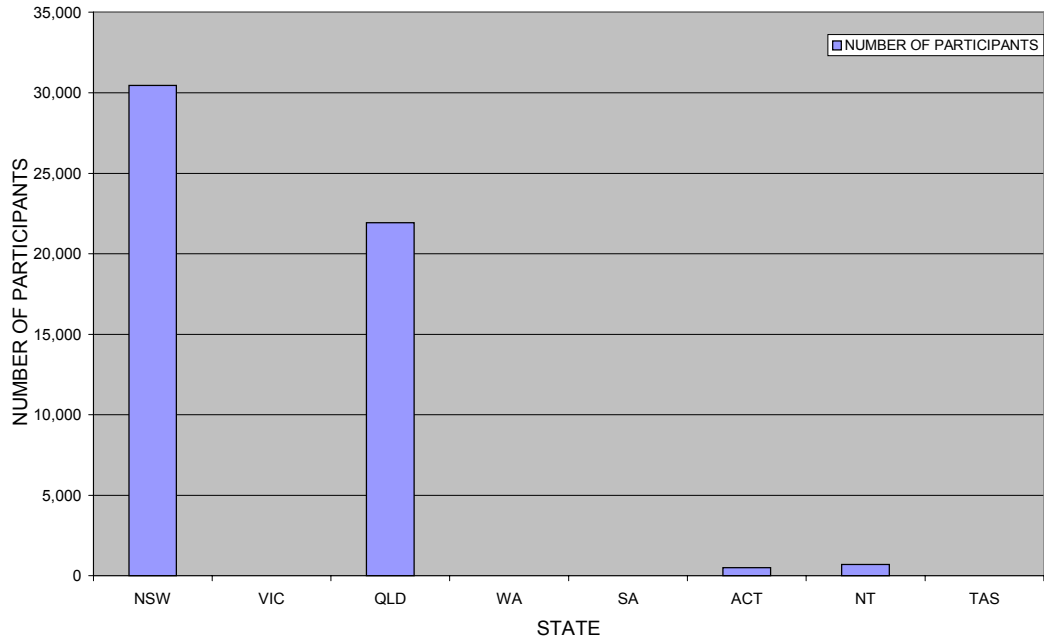
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY MARITAL STATUS



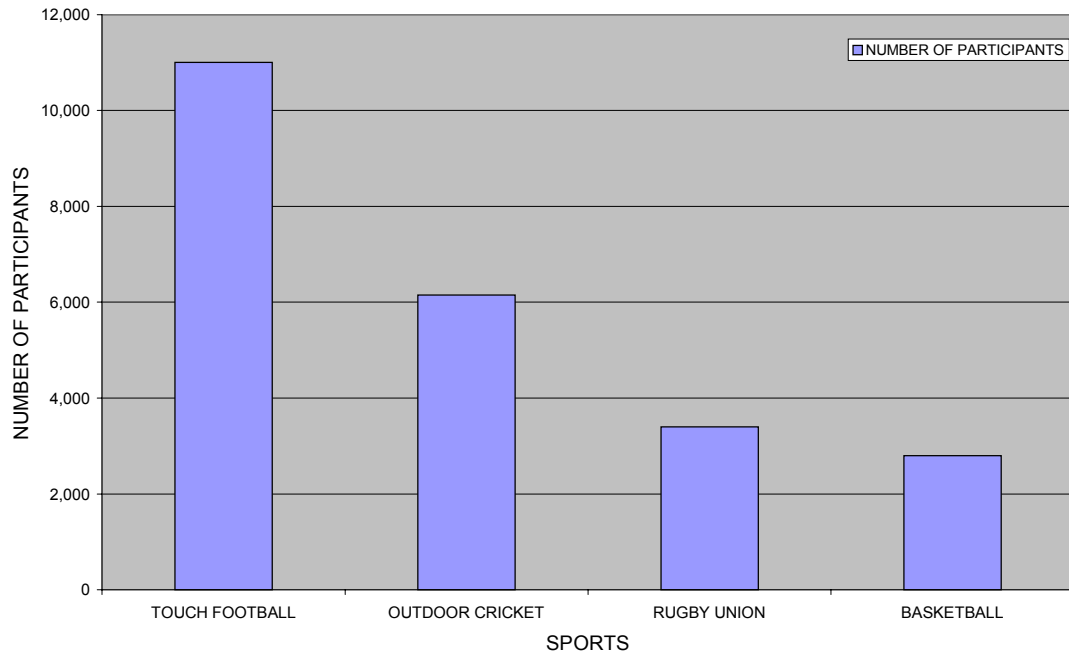
RATE OF PARTICIPATION BY CAPITAL CITY AND NON-CAPITAL CITY



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY STATE



OTHER SPORTS PLAYED BY RUGBY LEAGUE PARTICIPANTS



NUMBER OF SPORTS PLAYED BY RUGBY LEAGUE PARTICIPANTS AND ALL PARTICIPANTS

