



Activity Profile: North Hertfordshire

July 2007

In partnership with



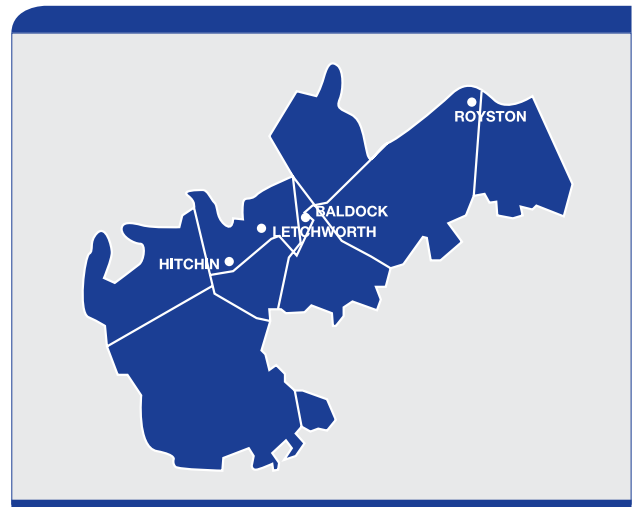
Eastern Region Public Health Observatory

Activity Profile: North Hertfordshire

Local Area Sport and Active Recreation Profile

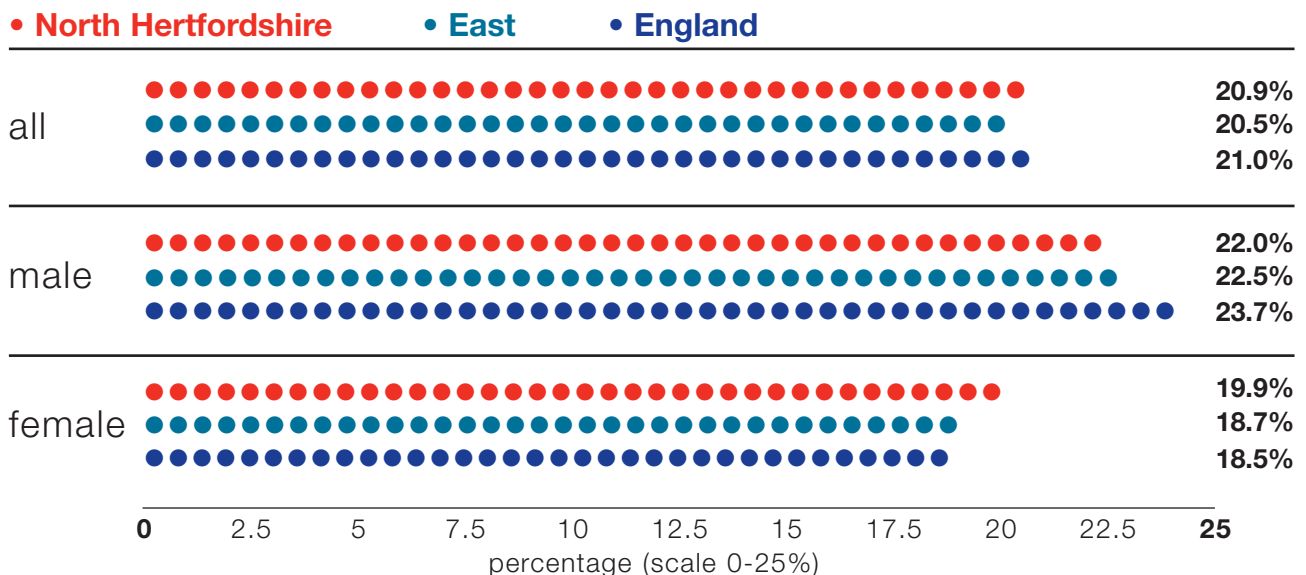
1. Introduction

This is a profile of adult (16+) sports participation in your district. It uses data from the Active People Survey: the single biggest survey of sports participation ever conducted. It shows participation rates in your area compared with the regional and national figures. More importantly the profile provides impartial analysis against areas with similar demographics and other characteristics. The profile is intended to help you ensure your plans and strategies are informed by local priorities, such as those outlined here. The data also includes rates on volunteering in sport, coaching, club membership, competitive sport and satisfaction with sport and recreation services. The Survey will be repeated enabling this data to be used as a baseline and gauge future increases and decreases in participation. For more information about the Active People Survey, please visit: www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/



2. Headline Participation Figures

The graph below shows participation in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) on at least **3 occasions of 30 minutes** per week over the previous 28 days.

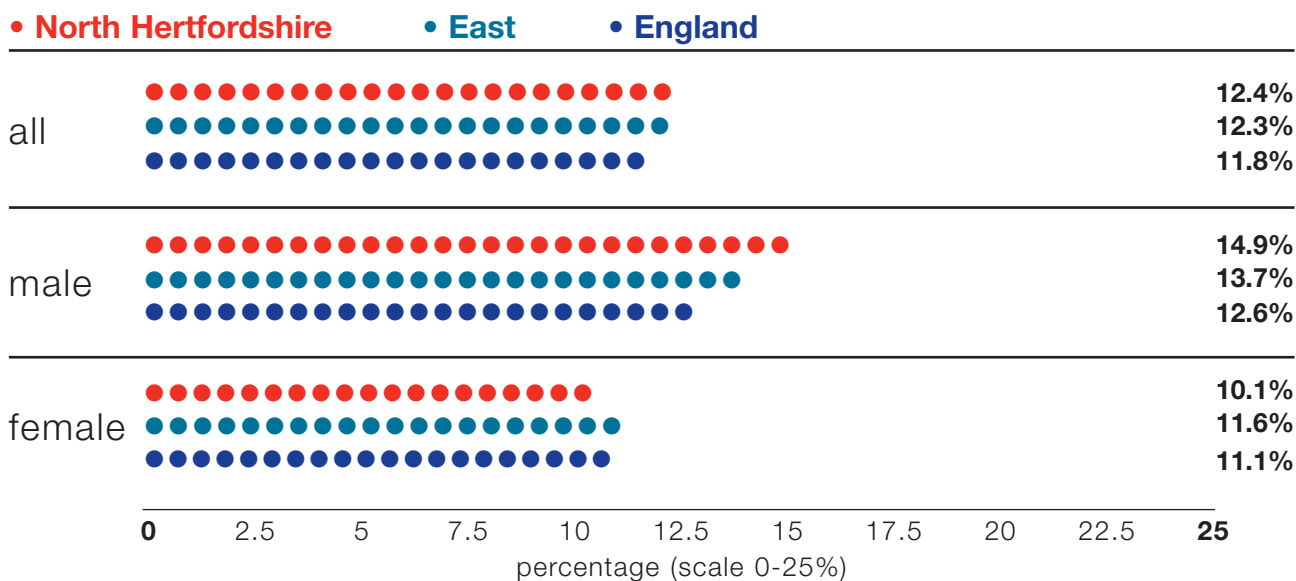


Comment

One in five respondents in North Hertfordshire participated in regular sport or recreational activities, which was in line with both the East and England figures. Male participation out-weighted female participation but female participation in North Hertfordshire was higher than the East and England figures.

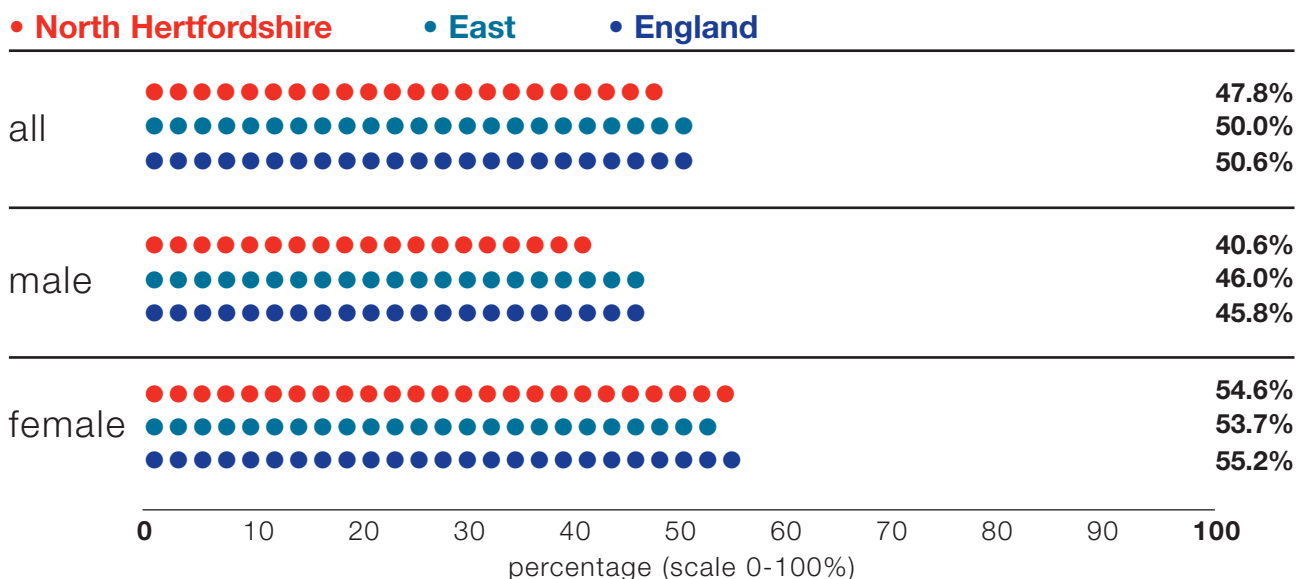
Participation means at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity in sport or recreation activity (including recreational cycling and walking – if at moderate intensity).

The graph below shows participation in 30 minutes moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) **once a week** (or 4-7 occasions) over the previous 28 days.



Comment
Male participation in North Hertfordshire was higher than East and England figures, whereas female participation was lower.

The graph below shows **zero participation**, that is those not taking part in any moderate intensity sport or recreation activity, over the previous 28 days.



Comment
Inactivity levels in North Hertfordshire were lower than the East and England figures, although female inactivity was slightly higher than the East figure.

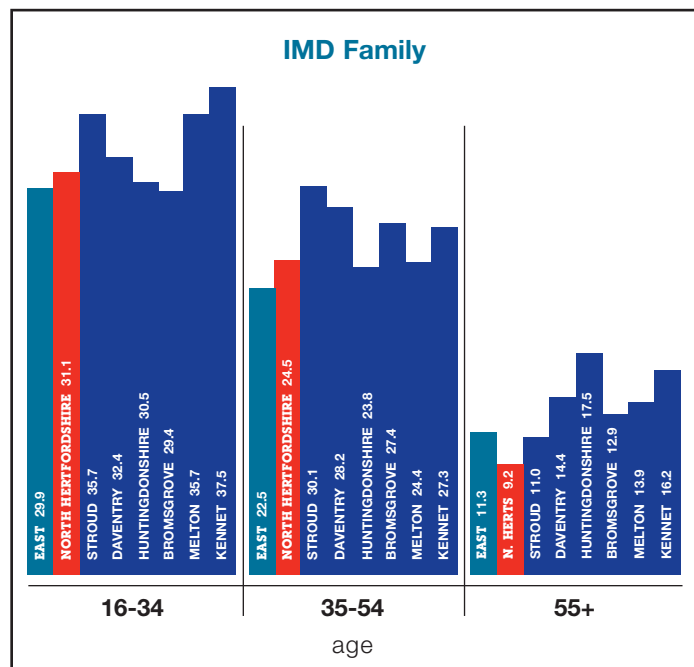
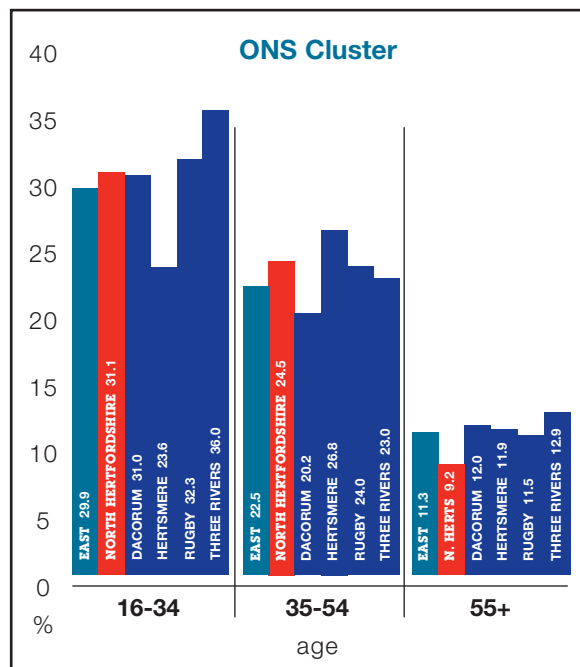
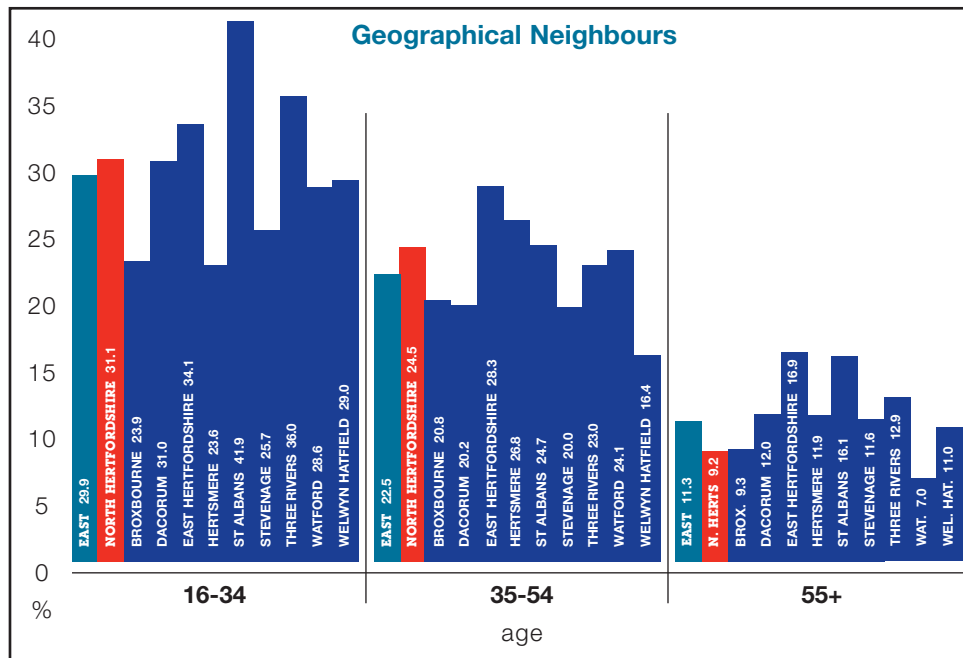
Active People Diagnostic provides more data relating to frequency of participation, including 1-3 days and 8-11 over the past 28 days. Zero, 4-7 and 12+ days have been selected in order to provide a measure of regular and recommended activity as well as inactivity (activity means participation in sport and active recreation, inactivity means no participation in sport and/or recreation).

3. Comparative Analysis of Participation

Comparison by Geographical Neighbour, IMD¹ Family and ONS² Cluster

PARTICIPATION, 3 OCCASIONS PER WEEK

The following analysis shows the percentage of people who have taken part in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) on at least **3 occasions of 30 minutes** per week over the previous 28 days.



Comment

There was a threefold decrease in the percentage of North Hertfordshire residents engaging in 30 minute sport or recreational activity at least 3 times weekly in the over 55 age group compared with the 16-34 age group. The over 55s were also the 2nd lowest when compared to geographical neighbours and IMD and ONS areas.

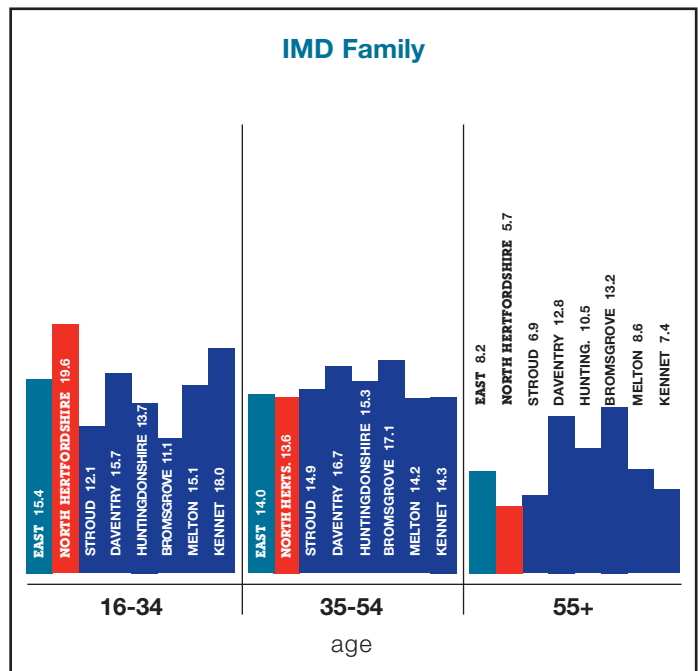
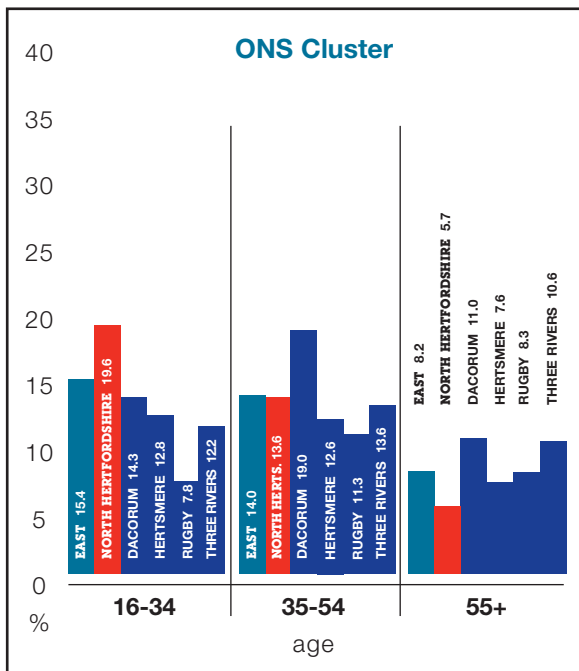
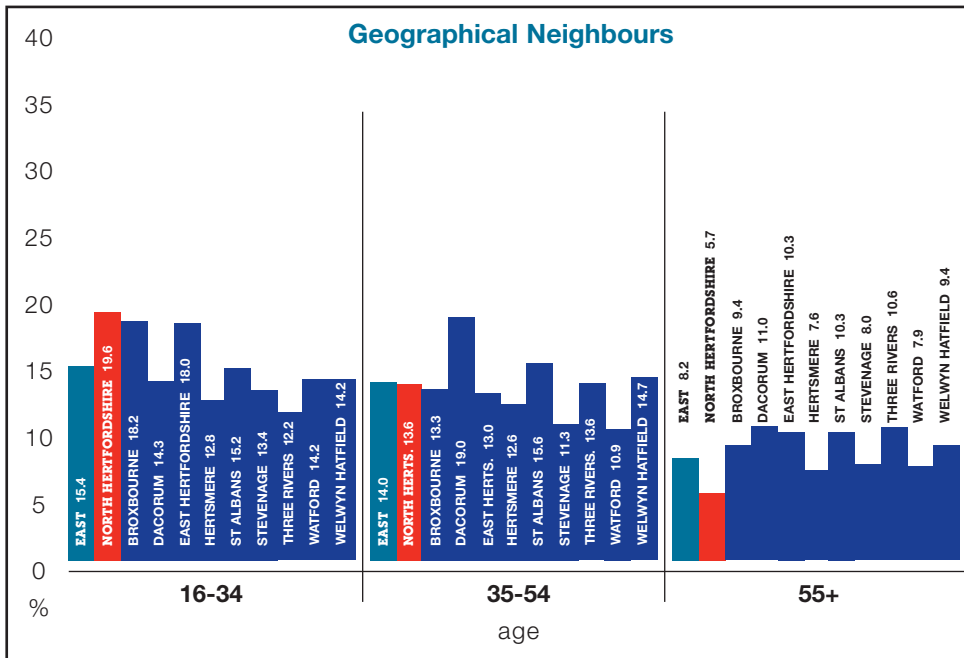
1. Index of Multiple Deprivation.

2. Office of National Statistics.

See Section 7 for further information about IMD & ONS data.

PARTICIPATION, 1 OCCASION PER WEEK

The following analysis shows the percentage of people who have taken part in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) on **1 occasion of 30 minutes** once a week (or 4-7 occasions over the previous 28 days).

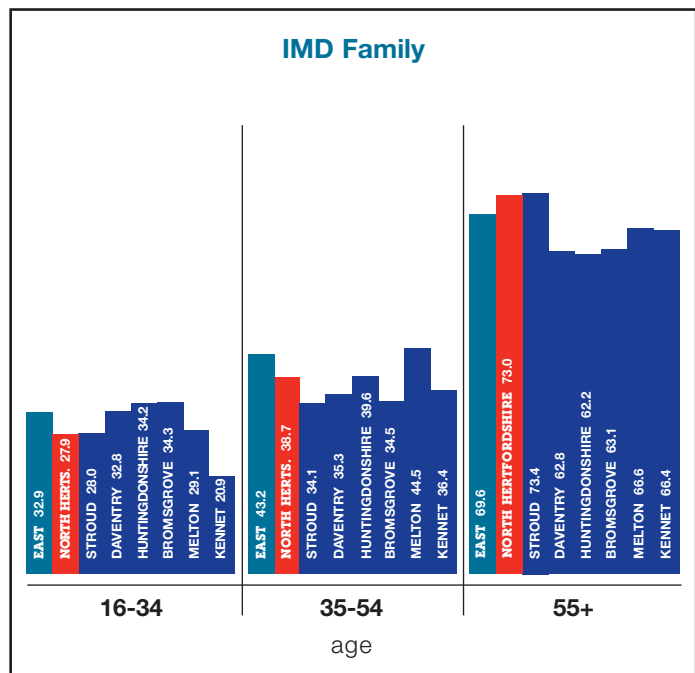
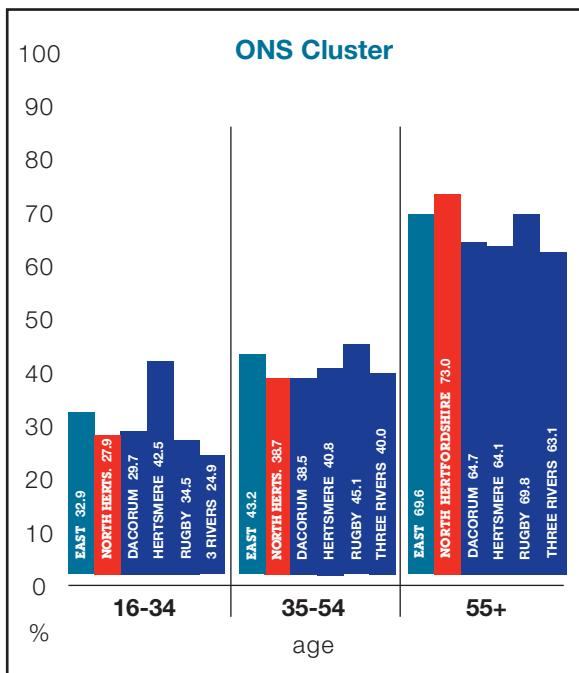
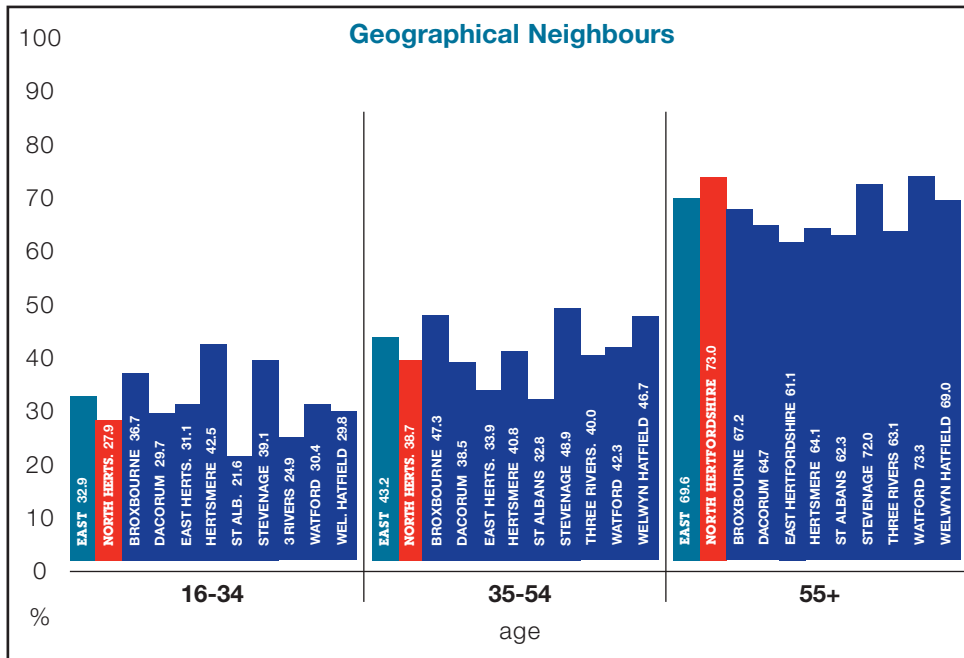


Comment

Once a week activity levels in 16-34 year olds was higher than the regional figure, with almost one in five taking part in 1 occasion of 30 minutes activity per week in the last 28 days. This was the highest percentage when compared to its geographical neighbours and IMD and ONS areas. Whereas participation rates in the over 55 age group had the lowest percentage when compared to its geographical neighbours and IMD and ONS areas.

ZERO PARTICIPATION

The following analysis shows the percentage of people **who have not** taken part in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) of 30 minutes duration (over the previous 28 days).



Comment

Inactivity levels among 16-34 year old North Hertfordshire respondents were below the regional figure. The over 55 age group inactivity levels were higher than the regional figure and the third highest when compared to geographical neighbours and IMD and ONS areas. There was almost two and a half times more inactive residents in the 55 years old and over than there were in the 16-34 years old in North Hertfordshire.



4. Further Analysis of Participation

Frequency of participation amongst people with a limiting disability

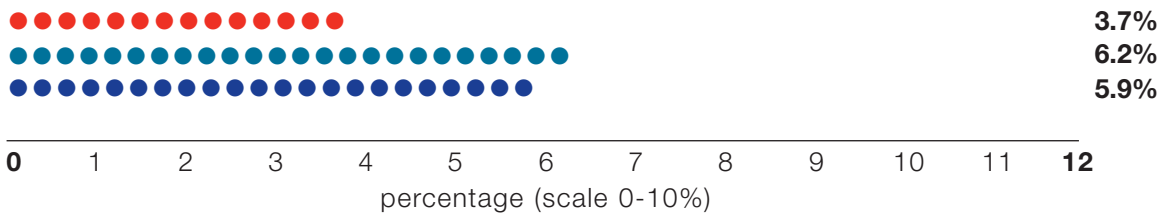
The graphs below show participation amongst people with a limiting disability, comparing frequency of participation over the previous 28 days.

• North Hertfordshire • East • England

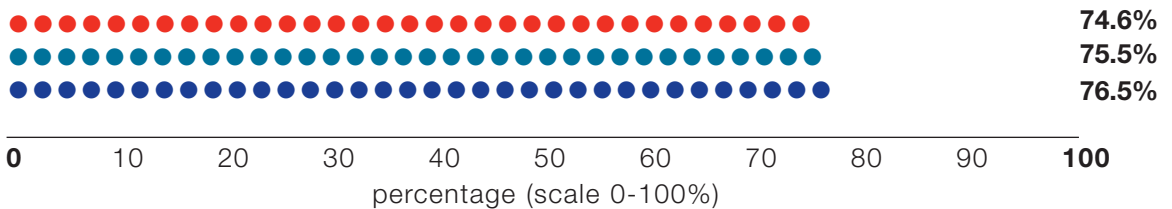
Participation in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) on at least **3 occasions of 30 minutes** per week



Participation in moderate intensity activity of 30 minutes (sport & recreation activity) **once a week** (or 4-7 occasions) over the previous 28 days

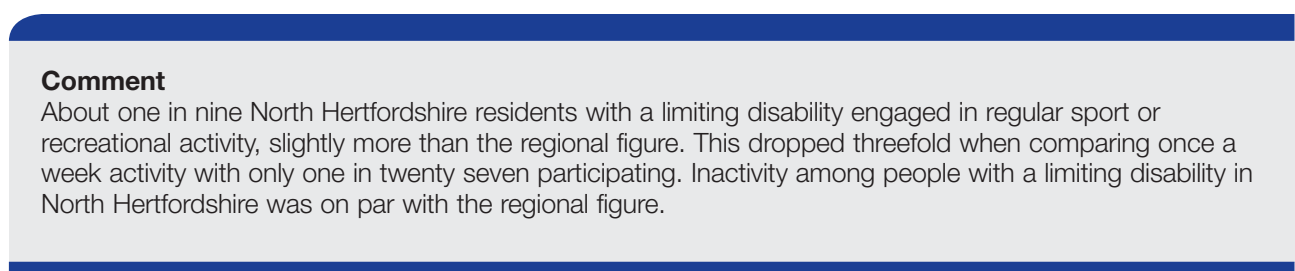


The graph below shows **zero participation** in moderate intensity activity over the previous 28 days



Comment

About one in nine North Hertfordshire residents with a limiting disability engaged in regular sport or recreational activity, slightly more than the regional figure. This dropped threefold when comparing once a week activity with only one in twenty seven participating. Inactivity among people with a limiting disability in North Hertfordshire was on par with the regional figure.



Frequency of Participation by Socio Economic Classification

This graph shows participation by higher (NS SEC 1-4)³ and lower (NS SEC 5-8)⁴ socio-economic groups, comparing frequency of participation over the past 28 days.

• North Hertfordshire • East • England

Participation in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) on at least **3 occasions of 30 minutes** per week for NS SEC 1-4



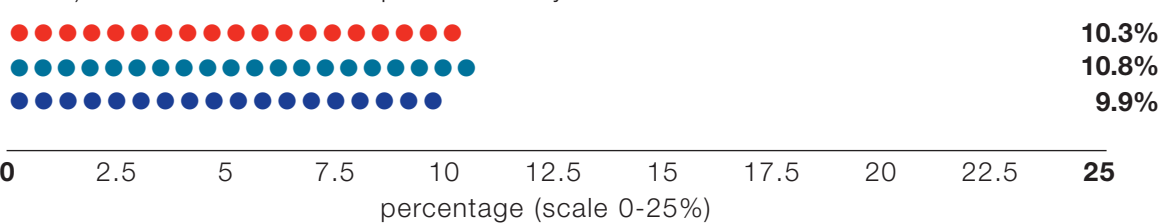
Participation in moderate intensity activity (sport & recreation activity) on at least **3 occasions of 30 minutes** per week for NS SEC 5-8



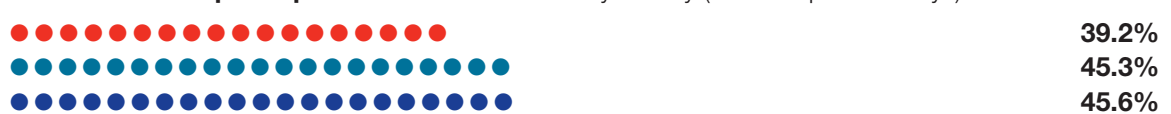
Participation in moderate intensity activity of 30 minutes (sport & recreation activity) **once a week** (or 4-7 occasions) for NS SEC 1-4 over the previous 28 days



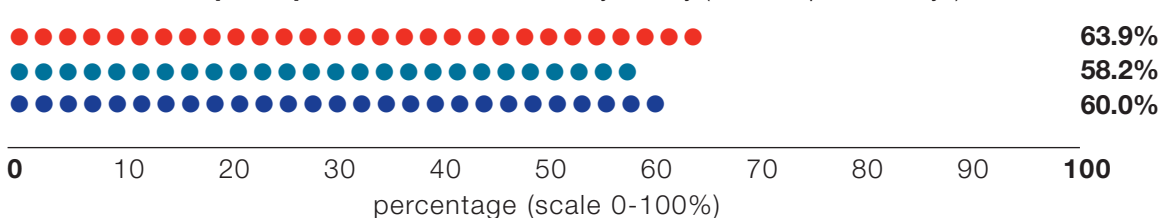
Participation in moderate intensity activity of 30 minutes (sport & recreation activity) **once a week** (or 4-7 occasions) for NS SEC 5-8 over the previous 28 days



The graph below shows **zero participation** in moderate intensity activity (over the past 28 days) for NS SEC 1-4



The graph below shows **zero participation** in moderate intensity activity (over the past 28 days) for NS SEC 5-8



Comment

Participation in sport or recreational activity was higher among North Hertfordshire residents in the higher socio-economic groups (1-4) compared to those in lower socio-economic groups (5-8). Zero participation was higher in lower socio-economic groups compared to the higher socio-economic groups although inactivity levels in the higher socio-economic group were lower than the East figure.

3. NS SEC 1-4 relates to classifications A, B, C1.

4. NS SEC 5-8 relates to classifications C2, D, E.

For more information on NS SEC please see: www.statistics.gov.uk/methods_quality/ns_sec/

5. Other Indicators

The table below shows data for the other 5 Key Performance Indicators collected through the Active People Survey, as well as data relating to walking and cycling.

Indicator	North Hertfordshire	East	England
Volunteering (1 hour, week)	5.6%	4.9%	4.7%
Club Membership (in past 28 days)	27.5%	26.2%	25.1%
Receiving Coaching/Tuition (in the past 12 months)	19.8%	19.0%	18.0%
Competition (in past 12 months)	15.4%	16.0%	15.0%
Satisfaction (with local sports provision)	73.7%	71.0%	69.5%
Cycling (at least one moderate intensity cycle of 30 minutes duration in the previous 28 days)	9.5%	8.6%	7.8%
Walking (at least one moderate intensity walk of 30 minutes duration in the previous 28 days)	21.6%	20.0%	20.0%

Comment

All the above indicators showed higher results for North Hertfordshire than the regional and national figures, with the exception of competition, which was only slightly lower than the East figure.

6. Key Points

- 47.8% of the respondents reported zero activity.
- Zero participation was higher in the lower socio-economic groups (5-8) when compared to the higher socio-economic groups (1-4)
- Female participation in North Hertfordshire was higher than the East and England figures.
- Female inactivity was slightly higher than the East figure with one in two female residents reporting no activity in sport or recreation activity.
- There were almost two and a half times more inactive residents aged over 55 than there were in the 16-34 age group in North Hertfordshire.
- Zero participation in the over 55 year age group for North Hertfordshire residents was the second highest when compared to its geographical neighbours (with only Watford reporting slightly higher levels of inactivity).
- This was also the case when comparing IMD families (with only Stroud reporting higher levels of inactivity), yet when comparing within the ONS cluster, North Hertfordshire residents in the 55 and over age group reported the highest levels of inactivity.
- About one in nine North Hertfordshire residents with a limiting disability engaged in regular sport or recreational activity, slightly more than the East figure.

7. Accessing More Information

The following section references other sources of data and research that are available to help policy makers and practitioners to develop effective interventions.

Active People Diagnostic

The purpose of this profile is to report information about participation in sport and active recreation at a local level and therefore present an indication of activity levels across the East of England. More detailed data about participation, volunteering, club membership, satisfaction levels, and about people who are involved in competitive sport or those receiving coaching is available and can be accessed using Active People diagnostic. This is a web based report and analysis tool, for more information visit: www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/research/active_people.htm.

Active Places Power

Active Places Power provides a planning tool for sports facilities. It is designed to assist in investment decisions and the development of infrastructure improvement strategies for sport. It assists in giving an indication of total space per population. For further information about the Active Places data visit the APP website at: www.activeplacespower.com

East of England Public Health Observatory

The East of England Public Health Observatory produce annual health profiles, designed to show the health of people in each local authority area. A range of data relating to health and health inequalities is available, visit: www.erpho.org.uk

East of England Observatory

The Observatory provides access to reports and information resources about the socio-economic and environmental development of the East of England. The site is for researchers, planners and policy makers and those working in economic development. Content is from the East of England Development Agency, the East of England Regional Assembly and the Government Office for the East of England and many other organisations interested in the economic development of the region. A range of relevant reports and information from other organisations is also linked. All this can be found at: www.eastofenglandobservatory.org.uk

Index of Multiple Deprivation

This is a ward-level index made up from seven indicators (income; employment; health deprivation and disability; education, skills and training; housing; geographical access to services and crime). Each of these indicators is measured separately and ranked accordingly across England. These are then combined into a single overall measure. To access the IMD data visit: www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1128440

Office of National Statistics

The ONS provides a wealth of data relating to the 2001 census. The ONS website enables the user to get detailed local demographic profiles, information about housing, employment, health and care, crime and safety and more. The ONS also produces Corresponding Areas for each Local Authority in the UK which is based on 2003 LA boundaries and 2001 Census data. Local Authorities are grouped into clusters according to how similar they are based on a series of common characteristics such as demographics, economic and social factors, household composition, employment and industry. Each Local Authority has up to four other Local Authorities in its cluster. For more information visit: www.statistics.gov.uk

Physical Education and Sport Sport-Club Links

The PESSCL survey is undertaken by all schools in the East region through School Sport Partnerships (SSPs) (groups of schools, usually with a Sports College as the hub-site, working together to develop PE and sport opportunities for all young people). This aims to assess the range and quality of school PE and sport provision, including the number of pupils receiving at least two hours a week of high quality PE and school sport within and beyond the curriculum. The overall aim of PESSCL is to enhance the take-up of sporting opportunities by 5-16 year olds. Overall, 83% of pupils in Partnership schools in the East region spend at least two hours in a typical week on high-quality PE and school sport. By 2008 the national percentage of school children participating in at least 2 hours has been set at 85%. It is not possible to directly compare this participation rate to that of adults (16+) as a different method of measurement is used (ie. 2 hours in PE and/or sport and 3x30 minutes participation in sport or active recreation). However, it does provide important and useful context in better understanding the proportion of young people accessing regular sport and PE.

Understanding Participation

Sport England have undertaken and collated a range of research investigating why people – particularly in ‘hard to reach groups’ – do not participate in sport and physical activity and the ways in which public intervention can motivate behaviour change and reduce the barriers. To get more information visit: www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/research/understanding_participation.htm

8. Next Steps

Increasing participation is a huge challenge that confronts the delivery system for sport, from Sport England and partners nationally to local Community Sport Networks.

It is important that we work together, align our thinking and ensure that our effort and response is coordinated. Sport England East will continue to work with the 6 County Sport Partnerships across the region to develop a coordinated regional strategy for driving participation. This will include:

- Supporting Community Sport Networks, specifically in accessing the data and using this to develop a targeted approach.
- Working to embed sport and recreation within Local Area Agreements, including specific targets relating to increasing participation.
- Identifying and sharing good practice relating to interventions and approaches that have proved effective in delivering increases in participation.
- Working in collaboration with researchers across the region to undertake further secondary research into the environmental determinants of participation in sport and recreation.
- Undertaking further analysis and ensuring that the new East Region Plan for Community Sport 2008-2012 is evidenced by the dataset.

At a local level we strongly encourage partners to use this profile and more detailed data from the Active People diagnostic to:

- The County Sports Partnership and Community Sport Network to undertake further analysis, particularly to assess the impact of specific activities, including walking and cycling on regular participation.
- Raise the profile of participation and inactivity and use this as the basis to initiate renewed discussions about how your local area is going to address this issue.
- Work collectively through the Community Sport Network (or a group of local partners, including the CSP, where this does not yet exist) to agree local priorities. The dataset can help to direct you to specific groups that have comparatively low participation rates (compared to other groups or the same group in other local authority areas).
- Review and challenge the mix of interventions that currently exist within your area, whether private, voluntary or public and assess to what extent these interventions are addressing your agreed priorities.
- Cease, sustain or refresh existing interventions and design new interventions that address your priorities.
- Develop a realistic Community Sport Network action plan evidenced by Active People and work to link the participation targets in this plan with the area Community strategy.

Developing a methodical approach to service delivery is fundamental if we are to create an active nation. We need to better understand participation patterns at a local level and to be able to respond to this with the creation of innovative partnerships and interventions which tackle the issue of inactivity and low participation rates. We must work together to better understand what works and to do this we must improve the measurement of specific interventions and ensure that we identify and share good practice.

For further information and support in taking this work forward, please contact Herts Sports Partnership on 01707 284229 or contact Sport England East on 020 7273 1821 Libby Jones or 020 7273 1810 Carolyn Benjamin.

Notes

(1) The data presented does not include confidence intervals. These intervals vary according to the size of the base. For more information about confidence intervals please refer to Active People Diagnostic tool. **(2)** Where the term activity is used, this means sport and active recreation including fitness activities, gym, recreational cycling and recreation walking. for more information visit: www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/research/active_people/active_people_faq.htm **(3)** Only activity which is at least 30 minutes duration and is considered of moderate intensity is included within the KPI for participation. **(4)** Active People Diagnostic also enables Local Authorities to compare by IPF (Inst. of Public Finance) group. **(5)** Frequency of participation is measured over a 28 day period. **(6)** Limiting disability means that the respondent reports that they have a disability which limits their activity. **(7)** Moderate intensity means enough to raise the breathing rate. **(8)** Frequency of participation means the number of occasions over a 28 day period. Active People Diagnostic provides information on 1-3 days, 4-7 days, 8-11 days, 12-19 days and 20+ days over the past 28 days. **(9)** Sample sizes are 1,000 per Local Authority Area.



Further information

To find out more about Sport England and to get the latest news and information, please go to: www.sportengland.org/east

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