Creating sporting opportunities in every community

Active People Survey (APS) results for Squash

Period: APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08) to APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10)

Prepared by Sport England

14 December 2010

Summary of findings for Squash

•Participation in squash has shown no statistically significant change (from 293,900, 0.71% to 290,100, 0.69%) between APS2 and APS4.

•This is an increase from the recent figure of 283,800 (0.67%) reported in APS3/4 (July 09 to July 10).

•None of the major age groups have shown a statistically significant change in participation from APS2 to APS4 although the 16-19 years sub group showed a statistically significant decrease over the same period.

•While participation amongst men has remained steady since APS2, there has been a statistically significant decrease in the number of women participating in squash over the same period. This has increased the differential in the participation rates of the genders.

•The decrease in squash is statistically significant amongst the socio-economic group predominated by students (NS SEC 9) whilst the numbers in the two other socio-economic groups (NS SEC 1-4 & NS SEC 5-8) has not changed statistically significantly.

•There has been no statistically significant change in squash amongst either the 'white' or 'non white' population.

•There has been no statistically significant change amongst those without a limiting disability or illness, whilst the sample size amongst those with such a disability or illness was insufficient to be statistically robust.

•Regionally both the North East and the East Midlands showed a statistically significant decrease in participation over the APS2 to APS4 period.

•The proportion of squash participants who complete one or two sessions in the last four weeks has decreased from APS2 to APS4 whilst those taking part over 3 or 4+ has increased over the same period.

•The proportions of people taking part in competition, tuition or club membership have all decreased over the APS2 to APS4 period.

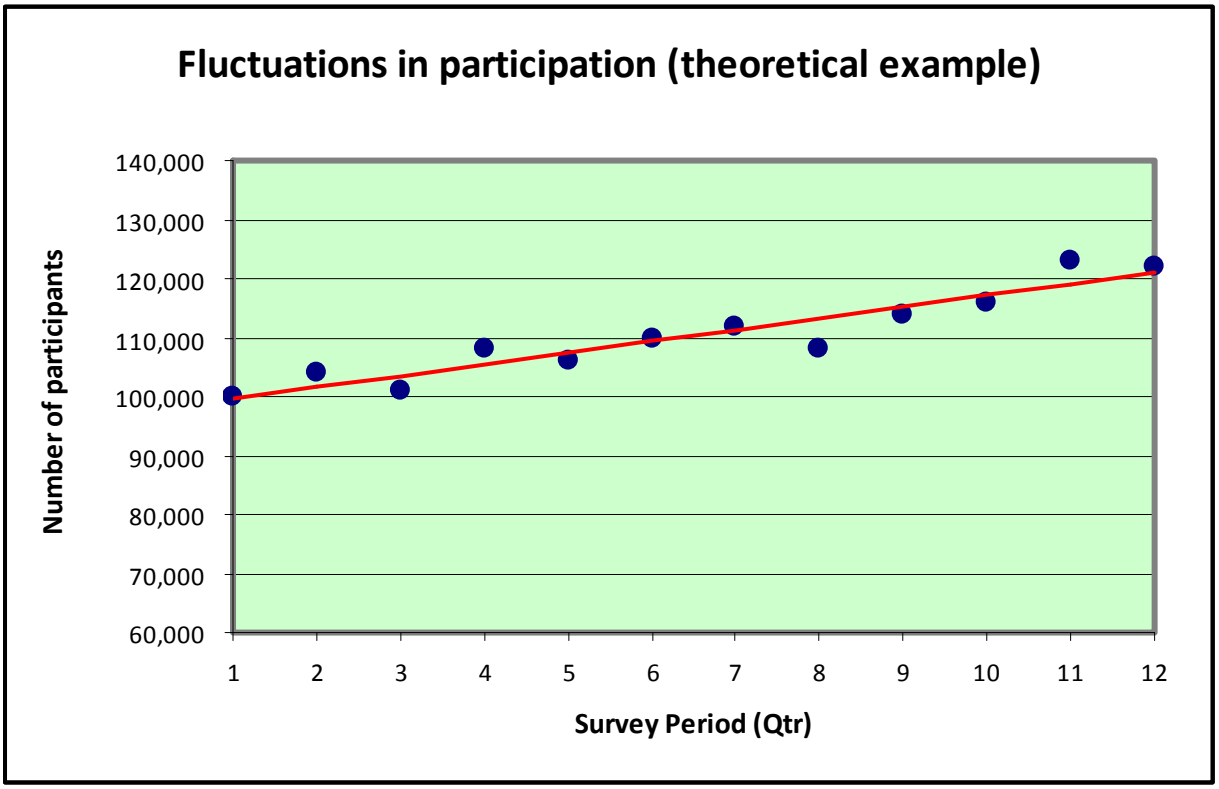
Understanding changes in participation

We would expect to see short term fluctuations in the participation rates across the population because:

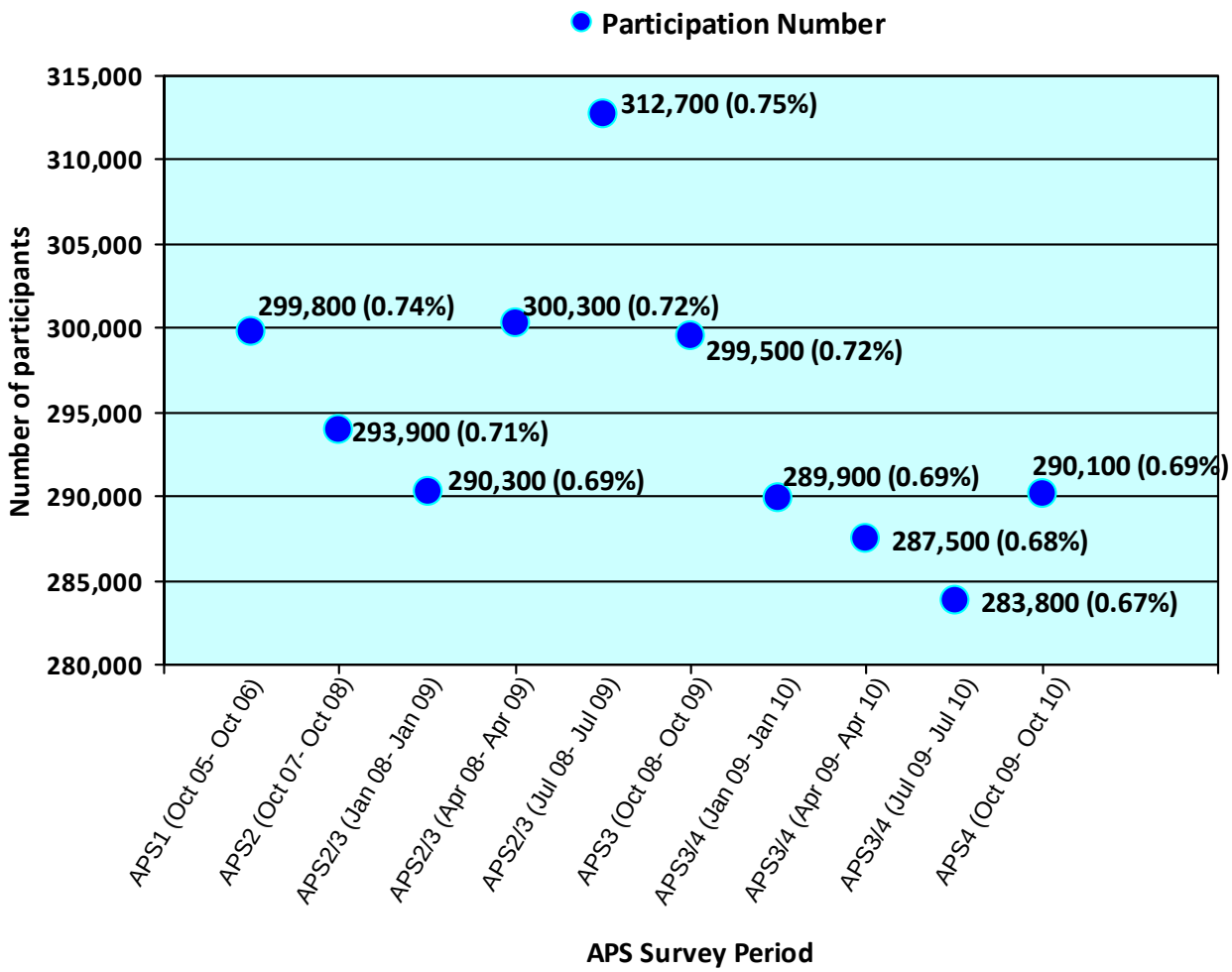
- Every random sample survey has a known, quantifiable, confidence interval attached to the results;

- Of the inevitable small oscillations (upward and downward movement) in people's behaviour across large populations.

These short term fluctuations in behaviour will however be smoothed out over longer periods of time (years rather than months) to establish real, quantifiable overall shifts in the participation rates.



Number and percentage participating (at least once a week) in Squash – All aged 16 and over



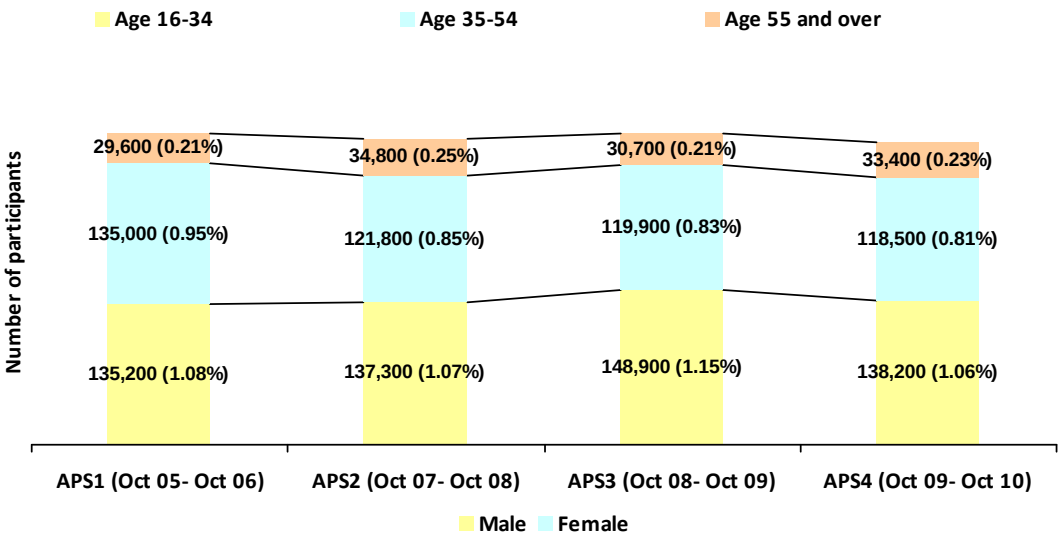
Key

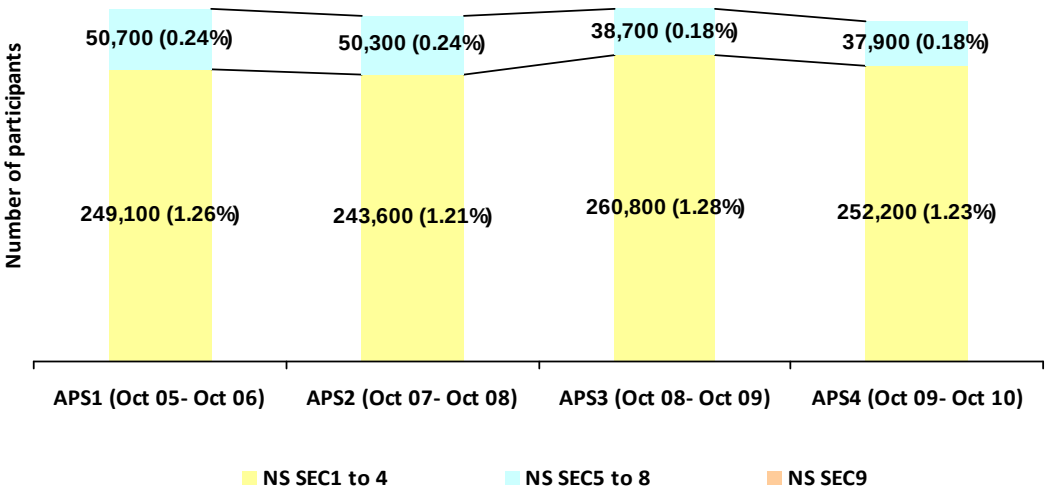
Change is only shown between APS2 (baseline) and the most recent reporting period

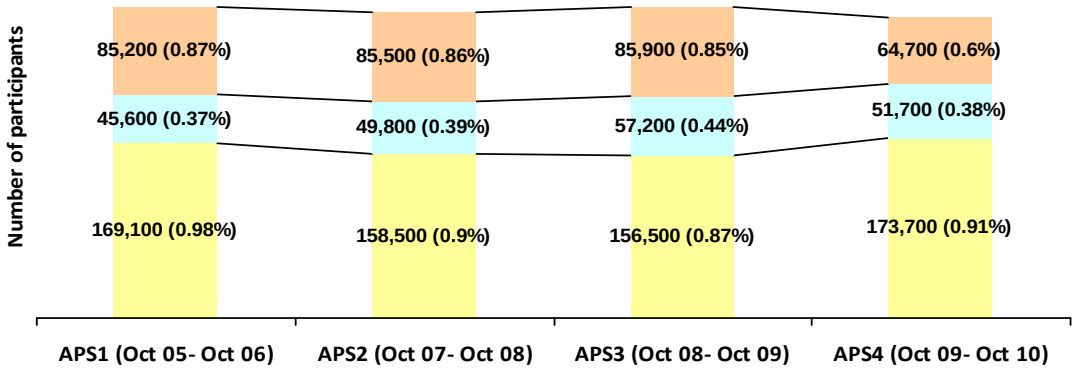
- **shows a statistically significant increase**
- **shows a statistically significant decrease**

No arrow = no change

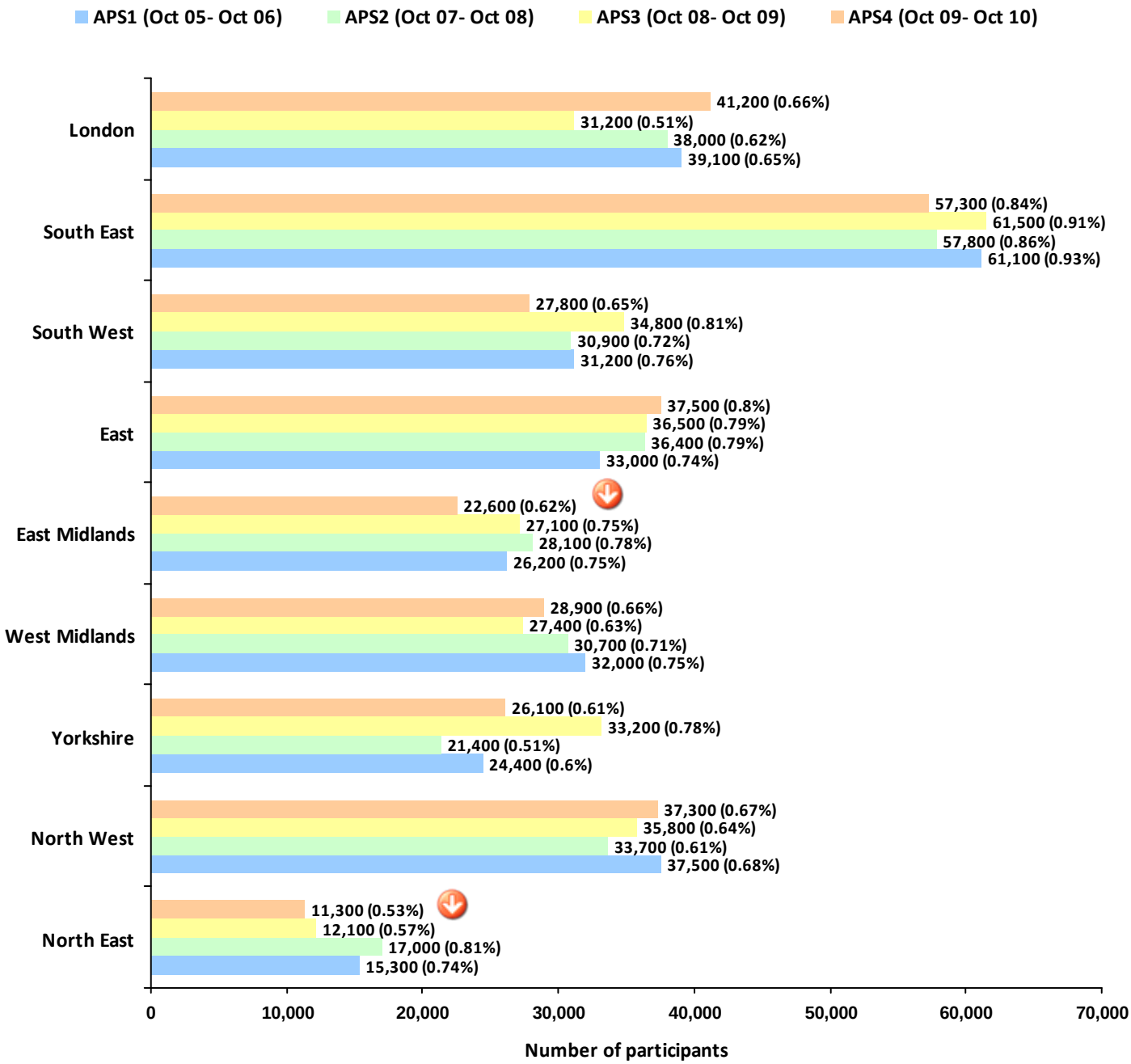
Number and percentage participating (at least once a week) in Squash – Age, Gender, Social Group







Number and percentage participating (at least once a week) in Squash - Region



Change in number of participants (at least once a week) in Squash - APS2 baseline versus most recent reporting period

Number of participants	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08)	APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10)	APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10) participation rate	Change vs APS2 (baseline)
Overall	293,900	290,100	0.69%	-3,800
Male	243,600	252,200	1.23%	8,600
Female	50,300	37,900	0.18%	-12,400
Age 16-19	23,500	11,600	0.44%	-11,900
Age 20-24	39,400	45,300	1.31%	5,900
Age 25-29	37,700	44,700	1.31%	7,000
Age 30-34	37,700	39,800	1.26%	2,100
Age 35-44	73,000	67,200	0.91%	-5,800
Age 45-64	76,600	75,400	0.60%	-1,200
Age 65+	6,000	6,000	0.07%	0
Age 16-34	137,300	138,200	1.06%	900
Age 35-54	121,800	118,500	0.81%	-3,300
Age 55+	34,800	33,400	0.23%	-1,400
White	268,700	262,600	0.71%	-6,100
Non White	25,200	27,500	0.61%	2,300
Limiting Disability or Illness	8,700	6,600	0.07%	Insufficient sample
No Limiting Disability or Illness	285,200	283,500	0.81%	-1,700
NS-SEC 1-4	158,500	173,700	0.91%	15,200
NS SEC 5-8	49,800	51,700	0.38%	1,900
NS SEC 9	85,500	64,700	0.60%	-20,800
North East	17,000	11,300	0.53%	-5,700
North West	33,700	37,300	0.67%	3,600
Yorkshire	21,400	26,100	0.61%	4,700
West Midlands	30,700	28,900	0.66%	-1,800
East Midlands	28,100	22,600	0.62%	-5,500
East	36,400	37,500	0.80%	1,100
South West	30,900	27,800	0.65%	-3,100
South East	57,800	57,300	0.84%	-500
London	38,000	41,200	0.66%	3,200

Key

Green shows a statistically significant increase

Red shows a statistically significant decrease

"Insufficient sample" is shown where the cell size at either time period is less than 30

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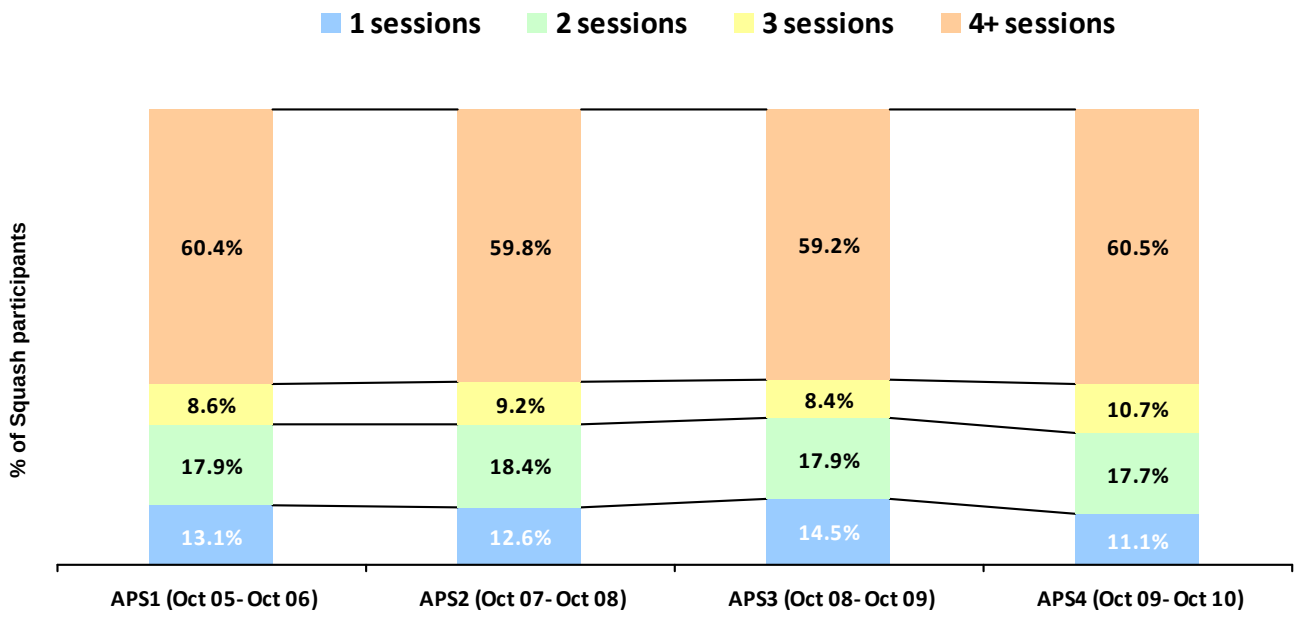
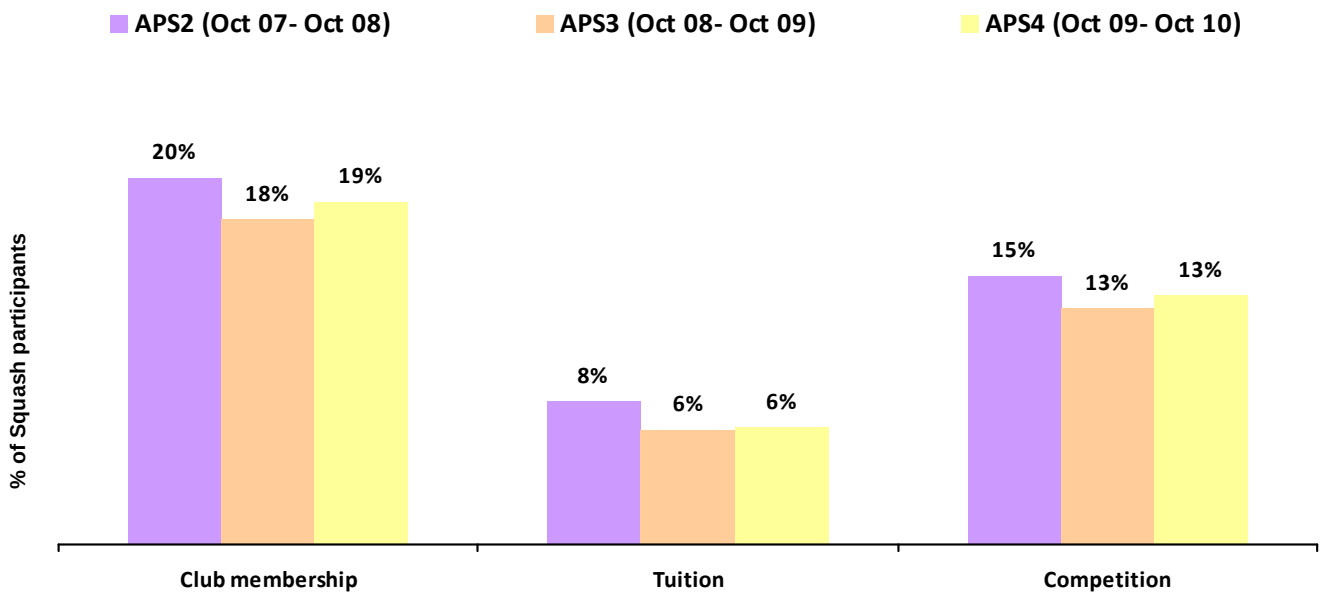
Frequency of participation in Squash – number of sessions in last four weeks



Club membership, tuition, and participation in competition in Squash



Overall sports participation: Number achieving at least 3 sessions a week x 30 minutes moderate sports participation - APS2 baseline versus most recent reporting period – all aged 16 and over

Number of participants	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08)	APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10)	APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10) participation rate	Change vs APS2 (baseline)
Overall	6,815,100	6,938,000	16.48%	122,900
Male	4,027,300	4,176,400	20.32%	149,100
Female	2,787,800	2,761,500	12.81%	-26,300
Age 16-19	911,100	853,800	31.98%	-57,300
Age 20-24	980,600	1,046,000	29.57%	65,400
Age 25-29	829,700	808,600	23.14%	-21,100
Age 30-34	677,100	680,200	20.95%	3,100
Age 35-44	1,410,500	1,407,700	18.59%	-2,800
Age 45-64	1,474,400	1,609,800	12.40%	135,400
Age 65+	531,700	531,800	6.34%	100
Age 16-34	3,421,900	3,406,300	26.15%	-15,600
Age 35-54	2,293,900	2,414,600	16.56%	120,700
Age 55+	1,099,300	1,117,100	7.68%	17,800
White	6,092,300	6,151,100	16.39%	58,800
Non White	722,800	786,900	17.26%	64,100
Limiting Disability or Illness	594,500	591,200	6.55%	-3,300
No Limiting Disability or Illness	6,220,700	6,346,800	18.36%	126,100
NS-SEC 1-4	2,801,100	2,948,000	17.20%	146,900
NS SEC 5-8	1,499,200	1,560,700	12.66%	61,500
NS SEC 9	2,514,900	2,429,200	25.14%	-85,700
North East	341,600	347,600	16.35%	6,000
North West	944,000	993,700	17.74%	49,700
Yorkshire	722,200	704,200	16.43%	-18,000
West Midlands	628,900	679,700	15.53%	50,800
East Midlands	601,300	580,900	15.98%	-20,400
East	741,800	734,400	15.71%	-7,400
South West	679,400	712,300	16.53%	32,900
South East	1,151,400	1,147,100	16.77%	-4,300
London	1,004,500	1,038,100	16.60%	33,600

Key
Green shows a statistically significant increase
Red shows a statistically significant decrease
"Insufficient sample" is shown where the cell size at either time period is less than 30

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NOTES

•Data is presented for Active People Survey APS1 (Oct 2005/Oct 2006); APS2 (Oct 07/Oct 08); APS3 (Oct 08/Oct 09); APS4 (Oct 09/Oct 010).

•Active People Survey 4 took place between October 2009 and October 2010 and interviewed c.188,000 adults (aged 16 and over) by telephone.

•Participation once a week is defined as participation on at least four days out of the previous 28 days.

• Squash includes: squash and racketball.

•Office for National Statistics (ONS) population data has been used to provide population numbers - ONS mid year 2005, 2007 and 2008 population estimates (for Active People Survey 1, 2 and 3 respectively) and ONS 2009 estimates for APS4.

•Please note that in APS4Q3 we changed the basis upon which population figures are apportioned across three demographic groups (ethnicity, long term limiting illness / disability, and NS-SEC). The changes improve the accuracy of these figures reflecting the proportion of the population recorded in each demographic group in either the ONS 2007 population estimates (ethnicity) or 2001 census data (long term limiting illness / disability, and NS-SEC). For these demographic groups, figures for earlier reporting periods have been restated.

•Disability is defined by the question asked within the survey which is consistent with the Census definition: 'do you have a longstanding illness, disability or infirmity? By longstanding I mean anything that has troubled you over a long period of time or that is likely to affect you over a period of time?'

•NS-SEC is the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification. It is derived by combining information on occupation and employment status. NS-SEC: 1. Higher managerial and professional occupations; 2. Lower managerial and professional occupations; 3. Intermediate occupations; 4. Small employers and own account workers; 5. Lower supervisory and technical occupations; 6. Semi-routine occupations; 7. Routine occupations; 8. Never worked and long-term unemployed; 9. Full time students and Occupations not stated or inadequately described.

•Data for organised sport (club membership, tuition, organised competition) does not exist for Active People Survey 1 (2005/6) as this was not included in the first year of the survey.

NOTES CONTINUED

•Club membership is defined as, of those who have participated in the sport, the percentage who take part in the sport as a member of a sports club.

•Tuition is defined as, of those who have participated in the sport, the percentage who have received tuition from an instructor or coach in the last 12 months.

•Organised competition is defined as, of those who have participated in the sport, the percentage who have taken part in organised competition in the last 12 months.

•Please note that this report highlights whether changes from Active People Survey 2 (2007/8) to Active People Survey 4 (2009/10) are statistically significant. A statistically significant increase is indicated by green shading and red shading indicates a statistically significant decrease. This means we are 95% certain that there has been a real change in the population (increase or decrease). For more information on measuring change between surveys and statistical significance, a briefing note is available.

•Changes which are not highlighted in green or red are not statistically significant and should be treated with caution.

•Where cell sizes are based on less than 30 respondents this is referenced as 'insufficient sample'. Caution should be exercised in using figures based on a cell size of below 30.

•Due to rounding of population data and weighting factors, please note that population numbers in sub-groups will not always equal the total figures.