Creating sporting opportunities in every community

Active People Survey (APS) results for Athletics

Period: APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08) to APS5 (Oct 10 / Oct 11)

Prepared by Sport England

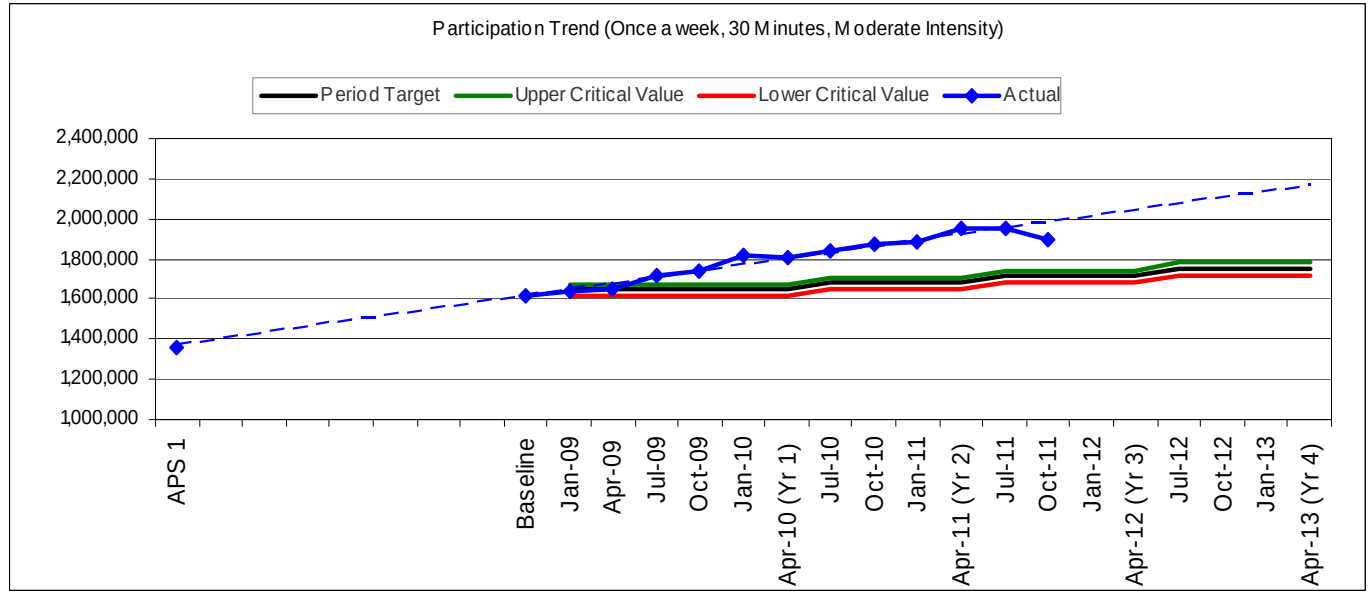
8 December 2011

Quarterly APS Summary – APS5 Q4

Key Messages

- Once a week participation in Athletics has dropped by 55,800 compared with 6 months ago but there remains a general upward trend in participation

- Track and Field participation has increased in recent months



Key areas of Interest/Points to note

Gender Breakdown

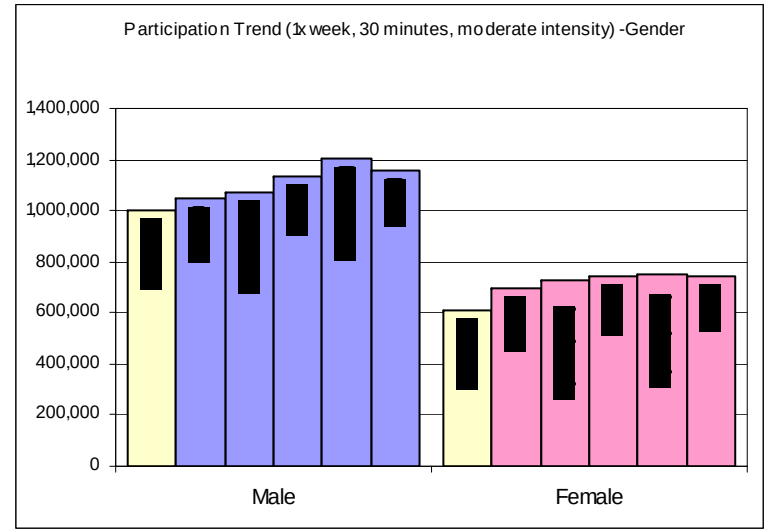
• The dip in participation over the last quarter has come mainly among men with a drop of almost 50,000 compared with 6 months ago.

• This is in contrast to the long term trend where the growth in participation has mainly come among male participants.

Age Breakdown

• Participation has grown slightly among 35-44 year olds over the last 6 months.

• The biggest drop in participation has come among 20-34 year olds.



Athletics

Quarterly APS Summary – APS5 Q4

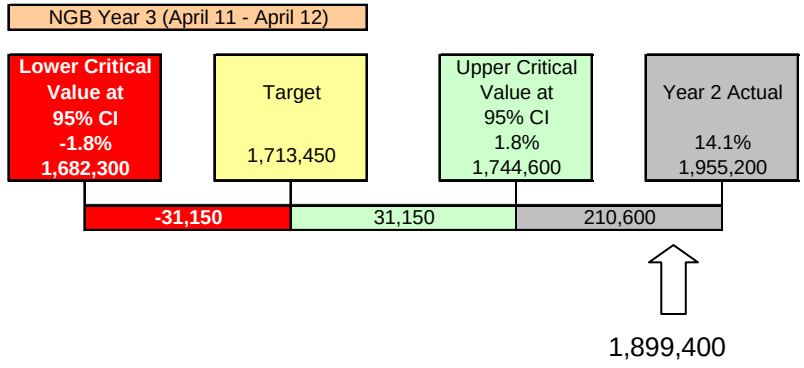
Athletics – further analysis

Key Messages

- Athletics is currently exceeding its Sport England growth target.
- Competitive participation has fallen in the last 6 months.

Positioning relative to the Grow Measurability Framework

Current status: Above upper critical value (target exceeded)

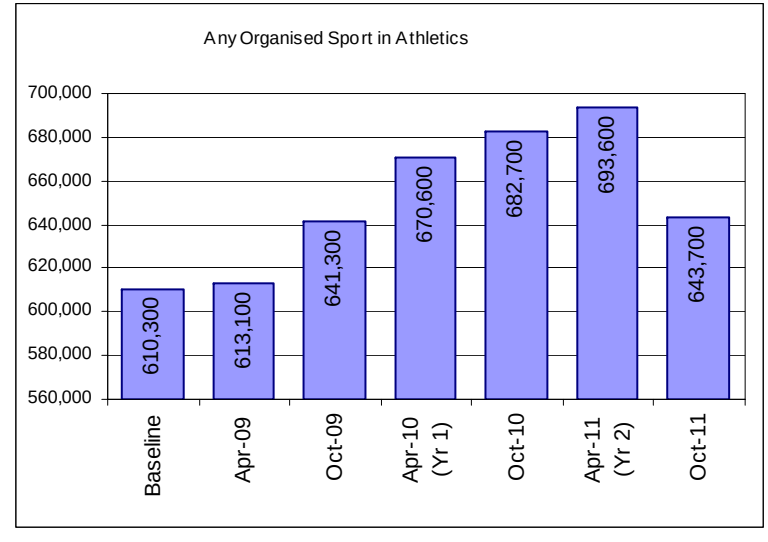


APS5 Q4 Headlines:

- Athletics has dipped this quarter but remains more than 150,000 above the 4-year target agreed with Sport England
- Once a month participation has mirrored the drop in once a week participation and is almost 87,000 lower than 6 months ago
- There has been a drop in participation amongst people in education over the last 6 months, predominantly in school and HE.
- Participation particularly dropped between mid-July and mid-August when compared with a year earlier. Met office data suggests this was a wetter period than a year previously but similar to 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Organised Participation

- There has been a drop in the number of people involved in organised (tuition, club, competition) forms of athletics over the last 6 months.
- Tuition and club membership have both been in slow but steady decline for a while but this has now been added to by a drop in competitive participation.
- Despite the drop in competitive participation more than 20% of once a month participants are still involved in competition, this remains high compared with some of the other large sports.



Quarterly APS Summary – APS5 Q4

Athletics – Summary data

Change in number of people participating **at least once a week** in Athletics - APS2 baseline versus most recent reporting period

At least once a week	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08) Number	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08) Participation rate	APS5 Q4 (Oct 10 / Oct 11) Number	APS5 Q4 (Oct 10 / Oct 11) Participation rate	Change vs APS2 (baseline)
Overall	1,612,100	3.89%	1,899,400	4.47%	287,300
Male	999,300	4.95%	1,157,800	5.58%	158,500
Female	612,800	2.88%	741,600	3.42%	128,800
Age 16-19	187,500	6.92%	194,600	7.35%	7,100
Age 20-24	209,800	6.04%	289,400	8.03%	79,600
Age 25-29	236,500	7.44%	269,800	7.52%	33,300
Age 30-34	223,400	6.72%	246,900	7.48%	23,500
Age 35-44	445,000	5.69%	498,600	6.68%	53,600
Age 45-64	289,900	2.28%	378,900	2.86%	89,000
Age 65+	20,000	0.24%	21,100	0.25%	1,100
Age 16-34	869,300	6.79%	993,700	7.55%	124,400
Age 35-54	643,700	4.47%	760,700	5.21%	117,000
Age 55+	99,200	0.70%	144,900	0.98%	45,700
White	1,453,000	3.86%	1,724,500	4.60%	271,500
Non White	159,100	3.48%	174,900	3.56%	15,800
Limiting Disability	56,600	0.63%	83,400	0.90%	26,800
No Limiting Disability	1,555,500	4.49%	1,816,000	5.10%	260,500
All in Education*	*401,900*	*7.39%*	381,900	7.31%	-20,000
Of which: in School	-	-	35,900	7.18%	-
in HE	-	-	171,600	8.43%	-
in FE	-	-	188,400	7.32%	-
NS SEC 1-4	752,100	4.51%	987,700	5.35%	235,600
NS SEC 5-8	275,200	2.30%	349,200	2.63%	74,000
NS SEC 9	584,900	6.22%	562,500	5.40%	-22,400
North East	75,200	3.58%	91,800	4.31%	16,600
North West	199,700	3.59%	234,000	4.19%	34,300
Yorkshire	144,100	3.43%	178,100	4.15%	34,000
West Midlands	120,200	2.78%	156,100	3.58%	35,900
East Midlands	126,900	3.54%	145,400	4.01%	18,500
East	157,300	3.43%	203,600	4.34%	46,300
South West	187,700	4.41%	214,500	4.57%	26,800
South East	294,100	4.37%	335,600	4.90%	41,500
London	306,800	5.03%	340,300	5.46%	33,500

Once a month participants	Proportion of all participants (at least one session in the last 4 weeks) APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08)	APS5 Q4 (Oct 10 / Oct 11)
Organised participation		
Club membership	5.0%	4.5%
Tuition	6.3%	5.2%
Competition	20.8%	20.5%
All organised	24.3%	23.5%

Change in number of people participating **at least once a month** in Athletics - APS2 baseline versus most recent reporting period

Once a month	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08) Number	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08) Participation rate	APS5 Q4 (Oct 10 / Oct 11) Number	APS5 Q4 (Oct 10 / Oct 11) Participation rate	Change vs APS2 (baseline)
Overall	2,514,400	6.07%	2,739,400	6.45%	225,000
Male	1,519,000	7.53%	1,638,600	7.90%	119,600
Female	995,400	4.68%	1,100,800	5.07%	105,400
Age 16-19	341,900	12.58%	314,500	11.84%	-27,400
Age 20-24	363,800	10.44%	413,600	11.44%	49,800
Age 25-29	348,600	10.92%	398,600	11.08%	50,000
Age 30-34	339,400	10.17%	370,900	11.20%	31,500
Age 35-44	654,500	8.34%	688,500	9.20%	34,000
Age 45-64	434,500	3.40%	521,900	3.93%	87,400
Age 65+	31,600	0.38%	31,400	0.36%	-200
Age 16-34	1,415,300	11.06%	1,491,600	11.33%	76,300
Age 35-54	949,000	6.59%	1,048,400	7.18%	99,400
Age 55+	150,100	1.06%	199,400	1.35%	49,300
White	2,230,800	5.95%	2,449,600	6.54%	218,800
Non White	283,600	6.23%	289,800	5.90%	6,200
Limiting Disability	118,200	1.31%	158,000	1.71%	39,800
No Limiting Disability	2,396,200	6.94%	2,581,400	7.28%	185,200
All in Education*	*641,300*	*11.79%*	590,000	11.27%	-51,300
Of which: in School	-	-	62,800	12.51%	-
in HE	-	-	258,600	12.71%	-
in FE	-	-	279,000	10.85%	-
NS SEC 1-4	1,076,000	6.73%	1,393,900	7.57%	317,900
NS SEC 5-8	404,400	3.52%	510,600	3.85%	106,200
NS SEC 9	1,034,000	11.48%	834,800	8.04%	-199,200
North East	111,100	5.29%	129,400	6.08%	18,300
North West	322,200	5.80%	349,800	6.26%	27,600
Yorkshire	223,800	5.32%	244,500	5.70%	20,700
West Midlands	193,600	4.47%	217,500	4.99%	23,900
East Midlands	192,500	5.37%	199,600	5.50%	7,100
East	257,700	5.62%	293,100	6.25%	35,400
South West	273,100	6.41%	296,200	6.31%	23,100
South East	444,500	6.61%	475,500	6.94%	31,000
London	496,000	8.13%	533,800	8.55%	37,800

Key

Green shows a statistically significant increase compared with APS2.

Red shows a statistically significant decrease compared with APS2.

Data is shown only where the cell size is of 30 respondents or more. Cell sizes below this level are particularly vulnerable to surveying variability.

*** Historic education data is for APS4 Q2 (Apr 09 – Apr 10), this is the earliest date for which this data is available.**

Quarterly APS Summary – APS5 Q4

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 10) and APS5 (Oct 10/Oct 11). Active People Survey 5 took place between October 2010 and October 2011 and interviewed c.167,000 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 for at least 30 minutes at moderate intensity.

• **Athletics includes: athletics field, athletics track, running track, running cross-country/road, running road, running ultra marathon, jogging.**

• Office for National Statistics (ONS) population data has been used to provide population numbers - ONS mid year 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 population estimates (for Active People Survey 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively).

• Please note that in APS4 Q3 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.

• 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 in the last 4 weeks.

• 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 5 (Oct 10/Oct 11) are statistically significant. A statistically significant increase 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 as statistically significant 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.

Athletics – Notes