

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This is the eighth annual National Bowls Census, undertaken to monitor and plan development of the game of bowls around Australia. The National Bowls Census is a major information system for game development and benchmarking.
- The Census has been prepared through the cooperation and collaborative input of Bowls Australia's staff, all State and Territory Bowls Associations and a substantial proportion of bowls clubs around the nation.
- Decreases in formal membership of bowls clubs have been offset by growth in social, corporate and other participation in bowls; a function of Australia's time poor population. Growth in flexible formats for social bowls has also had a strong impact on the age structure of bowls participants.
- There were 671,316 participants in Australian bowls (Figure 1.1) in 2017:
  - o 204,524 pennant and competition participants
  - o 417,072 participants in regular social bowls
  - o 38,964 participants in school programs
  - o 10,756 participants in Jack Attack programs.
- Bowls regular participation increased by 5.9% in the past year. Social bowls is not only the major growth segment (with school programs) but it has become the major area of participation in recent years. Social bowls is now established as, by far, the largest participation segment in bowls. Pennant and other competition participation declined by 2.9% in total in the past year, while participation in social bowls (including schools and jack attack) increased by 10.3%.
- Over the period 2010 to 2017, regular bowls participation increased at an average annual rate of 3.9%.

FIGURE 1.1 NATIONAL BOWLS PARTICIPATION, 2017

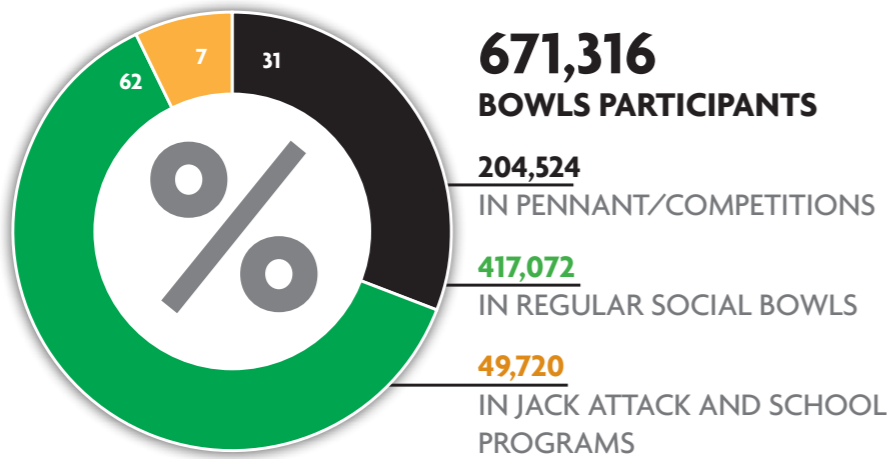


TABLE 1.1 SURVEY OF BOWLS CLUBS: RESPONSE RATES, 2017

	Survey Responses	Total Clubs	% of Clubs
Australian Capital Territory	7	11	64%
New South Wales	173	522	33%
Northern Territory	3	7	43%
Queensland	67	315	21%
South Australia	56	220	25%
Tasmania	36	70	51%
Victoria	208	521	40%
Western Australia	90	207	43%
AUSTRALIA	640	1,873	34%

# NATIONAL SUMMARY

Playing members of bowls clubs, in 2017, made up 40.5% of total membership, shown in Table 2.1 and Figure 2.2. That is, 59.5% of members were non-playing members who joined the club for social activities, other non-lawn bowls recreation (these include carpet bowls, darts, tennis, snooker/billiards, croquet, bocce, fishing, golf and swimming). It is likely that many of these non-playing members were also occasional and social participants in bowls activities.

New South Wales, Queensland, and the Australian Capital Territory are the States/Territories where non-playing membership exceeds playing membership. In New South Wales (and the Australian Capital Territory) this is a legacy of the decades where it was the major State with licensed club-house facilities, including gaming machines, and often other recreational infrastructure.

FIGURE 2.1 TRENDS IN PLAYING MEMBERSHIP 1980-2017

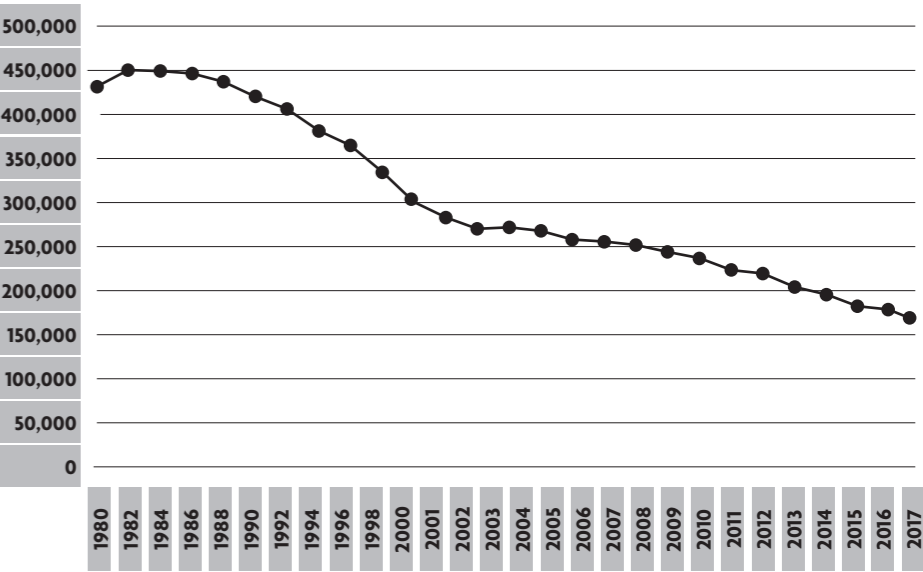
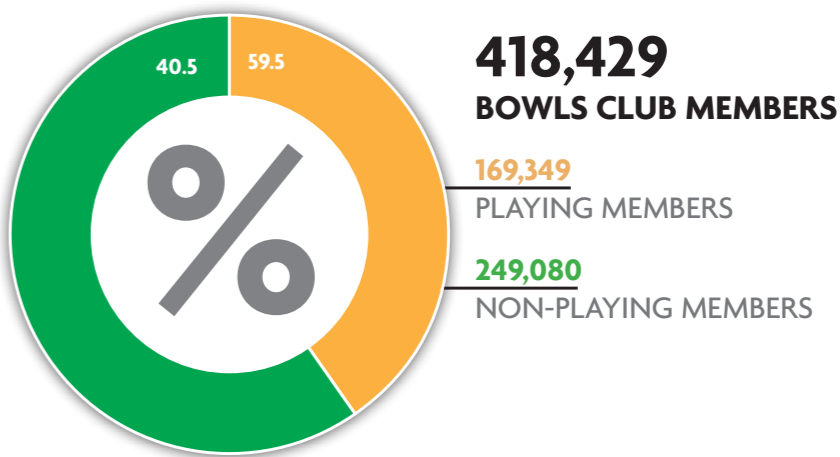


TABLE 2.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Playing Menbers	Non Playing Members	Total Members
Australian Capital Territory	1,757	10,580	12,337
New South Wales	57,269	163,935	221,204
Northern Territory	253	235	488
Queensland	31,811	28,416	60,227
South Australia	15,195	1,879	17,074
Tasmania	4,691	2,795	7,486
Victoria	42,486	27,427	69,913
Western Australia	15,887	13,813	29,700
AUSTRALIA	169,349	249,080	418,429

FIGURE 2.2 NATIONAL BOWLS CLUB MEMBERSHIP



<sup>1</sup> Participation figures include the counting of a participant each time they compete in a bowls competition or program of at least 4 games duration.

PARTICIPATION IN BOWLS

Table 2.2 presents details of all bowls participation (greater than 4 weeks/games duration) by State/Territory and bowls segment. There were 671,316 participants in bowls in 2017 (in competitions and programs of at least 4 weeks/games duration), comprising:

- 204,524 pennant and other competition participants
- 417,072 social programs participants
- 38,964 school participants
- 10,756 Jack Attack participants.

Figure 2.3 compares relative participation in bowls with the population in each State and Territory. It indicates that the share of participation in bowls is relatively higher than the share of resident population in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and Northern Territory, and relatively lower in the other States.

Figure 2.4 shows the percentage participation in major bowls segments.

TABLE 2.2 BOWLS PARTICIPANTS (4+ WEEKS/GAMES) AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Pennant/ Other	Social Bowls	Jack Attack	School Programs	Total
Australian Capital Territory	1,167	1,301	126	330	2,924
New South Wales	54,608	163,292	3,719	12,980	234,599
Northern Territory	438	6,432	0	1,077	7,947
Queensland	29,531	89,159	1,054	8,186	127,930
South Australia	21,860	16,943	0	2,203	41,006
Tasmania	7,533	5,135	1,150	4,570	18,388
Victoria	65,615	122,593	4,183	8,182	200,573
Western Australia	23,772	12,217	524	1,436	37,949
AUSTRALIA	204,524	417,072	10,756	38,964	671,316

FIGURE 2.3 NATIONAL BOWLS PARTICIPATION, 2017

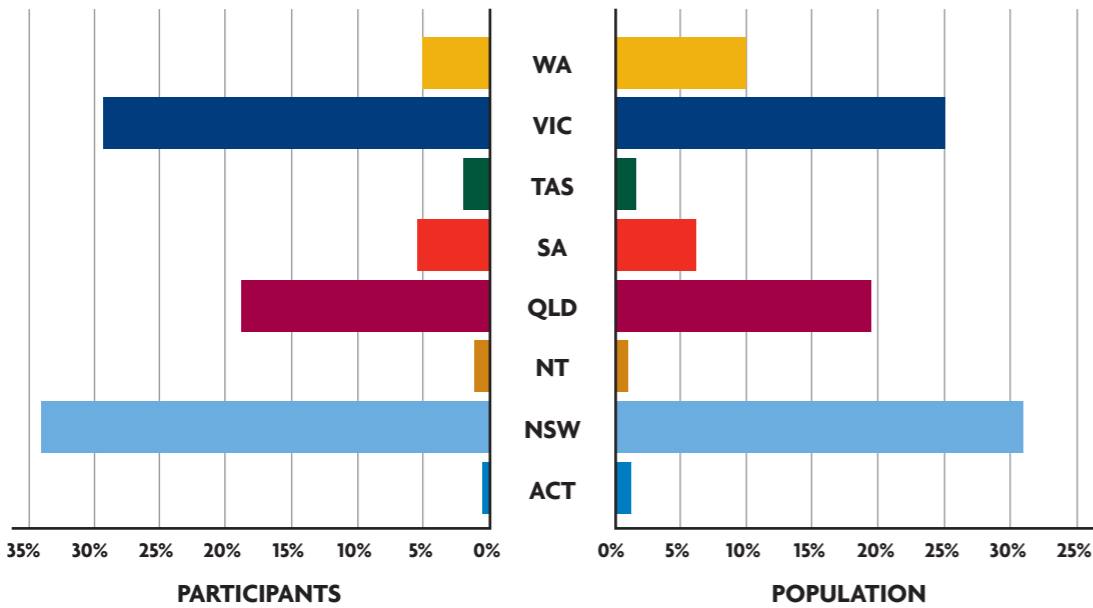


FIGURE 2.4 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY SEGMENT, AUSTRALIA, 2017

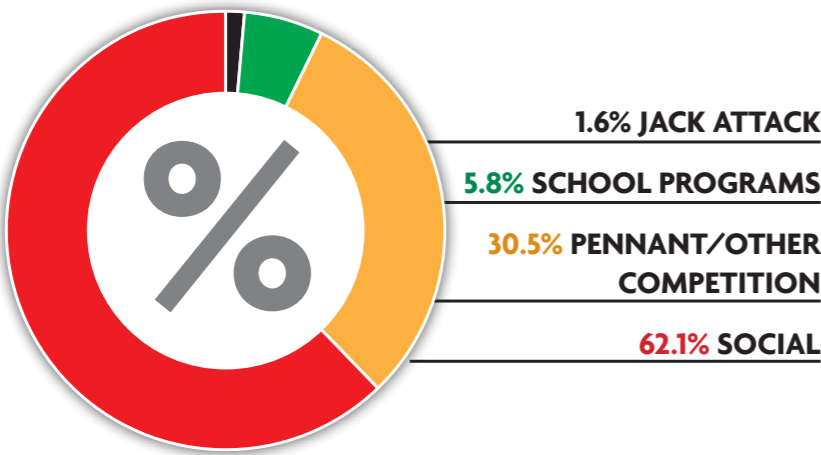


Table 2.3 and Figure 2.5 summarise trends in both participants and playing members over the seven years since inception of the national bowls census. The table also reveals that growth in social participation has been predominantly concentrated in the three largest States: New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland (with recent strong growth also in Northern Territory). It also shows that:

- The average annual increase in regular social (including schools and Jack Attack) participation has been 15.6% over the period 2010 to 2017.
  - The average annual decrease in regular pennant and other member competition participation has been 7.2% over the period 2010 to 2017.
  - The average annual decrease in playing membership has been 4.6% over the period 2010 to 2017.
- The average annual increase in regular (4+ games) bowls participation has been 3.9% over the period 2010 to 2017.

FIGURE 2.5 NATIONAL PARTICIPATION AND PLAYING MEMBER TRENDS

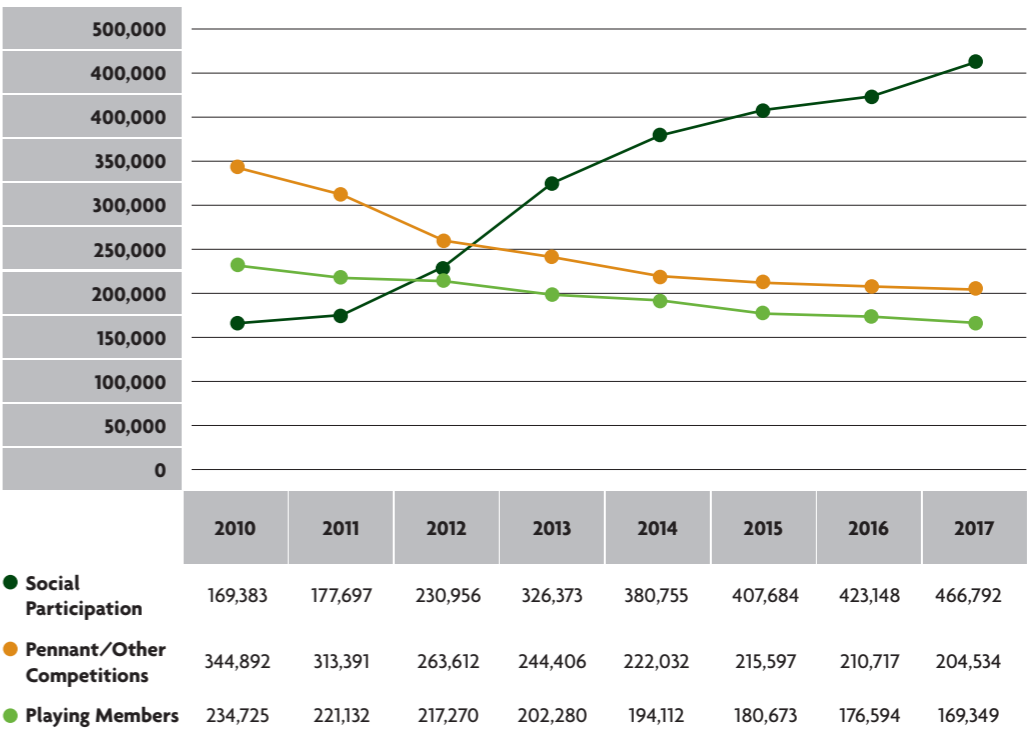


TABLE 2.4 TRENDS IN PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) AND PLAYING MEMBERSHIP: 2010-2017 BY STATE AND TERRITORY

STATE/TERRITORY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	%P.A.
ACT									
Social Participation	10,770	4,244	2,100	3,200	5,209	6,231	9,716	1,757	-22.82%
Pennant/Other Competitions	3,492	5,331	2,230	2,472	2,092	1,812	1,637	1,167	-14.49%
Total Participants	14,262	9,575	4,330	5,672	7,301	8,043	11,353	2,924	-20.26%
Playing Members	2,502	2,463	2,135	2,342	1,940	1,838	1,833	1,757	-4.92%
NSW									
Social Participation	40,325	43,371	73,673	104,535	140,118	133,528	143,167	179,991	23.83%
Pennant/Other Competitions	115,285	106,889	87,229	67,459	59,903	70,358	55,587	54,608	-10.12%
Total Participants	155,610	150,260	160,902	171,994	200,021	203,886	198,753	234,599	6.04%
Playing Members	85,140	80,587	78,749	72,586	68,793	64,712	59,233	57,269	-5.51%
NT									
Social Participation	1,825	2,483	2,620	2,540	2,765	1,824	4,783	7,509	22.39%
Pennant/Other Competitions	424	443	929	412	432	280	385	438	0.45%
Total Participants	2,249	2,926	3,549	2,952	3,197	2,104	5,168	7,947	19.76%
Playing Members	416	447	594	309	329	255	262	253	-6.86%
QLD									
Social Participation	34,375	40,704	68,388	93,357	115,601	91,382	103,734	98,399	16.21%
Pennant/Other Competitions	65,122	55,707	38,250	44,447	36,015	39,238	30,517	29,531	-10.68%
Total Participants	99,497	96,411	106,638	137,804	151,616	130,620	134,252	127,930	3.66%
Playing Members	45,638	43,571	39,106	38,491	37,319	34,389	33,480	31,811	-5.03%
SA									
Social Participation	19,094	7,261	12,687	12,048	12,072	12,483	20,190	19,146	0.04%
Pennant/Other Competitions	27,759	28,296	25,249	20,542	20,928	24,080	23,286	21,860	-3.36%
Total Participants	46,853	35,557	37,936	32,590	33,000	36,563	43,476	41,006	-1.89%
Playing Members	17,472	17,150	17,532	16,578	16,249	15,745	15,113	15,195	-1.97%
TAS									
Social Participation	5,081	6,724	4,763	4,913	7,742	13,110	7,877	10,855	11.45%
Pennant/Other Competitions	7,333	7,306	9,105	6,858	6,702	5,779	8,611	7,533	0.39%
Total Participants	12,414	14,030	13,868	11,771	14,444	18,889	16,488	18,388	5.77%
Playing Members	6,018	5,980	6,773	5,635	5,419	5,157	4,810	4,691	-3.50%
VIC									
Social Participation	43,169	54,772	47,741	92,910	85,284	134,848	123,469	134,958	17.68%
Pennant/Other Competitions	83,660	75,188	73,219	70,959	68,866	46,320	65,522	65,615	-3.41%
Total Participants	126,829	129,960	120,960	163,869	154,150	181,168	188,991	200,573	6.77%
Playing Members	58,169	51,969	51,098	48,267	46,775	42,232	46,038	42,486	-4.39%
WA									
Social Participation	14,744	18,138	18,984	12,870	11,965	14,278	10,212	14,177	-0.56%
Pennant/Other Competitions	41,817	34,231	27,401	31,257	27,094	27,731	25,172	23,771	-7.75%
Total Participants	56,561	52,369	46,385	44,127	39,059	42,009	35,384	37,948	-5.54%
Playing Members	19,370	18,965	21,283	18,072	17,288	16,345	15,825	15,887	-2.79%
AUSTRALIA									
Social Participation	169,383	177,697	230,956	326,373	380,755	407,684	423,148	466,792	15.58%
Pennant/Other Competitions	344,892	313,391	263,612	244,406	222,032	215,597	210,717	204,524	-7.19%
Total Participants	514,275	491,088	494,568	570,779	602,787	623,281	633,865	671,316	3.88%
Playing Members	234,725	221,132	217,270	202,280	194,112	180,673	176,594	169,349	-4.56%

\* Note: Social participation includes Jack Attack, and school programs  
SOURCE: National Bowls Censuses 2010-2017

Bowls participation to population rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. The participant to population rates for each State and Territory and Australia are presented in Tables 2.4 to 2.6.

The overall participation rate in Australia was 3.16% (4.19% for males and 2.17% for females). Participation was highest in the 60-74 years age group (9.52%) and lowest in the 8-39 years age group (0.87%).

TABLE 2.4 MALE PARTICIPANTS TO POPULATION RATES AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Total < 40 years			Total 40-59 years			Total 60-74 years			Total 75+ years			Total Population		
	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%
ACT	500	92,066	0.54%	475	58,193	0.82%	674	24,019	2.81%	217	8,252	2.62%	1,866	182,531	1.02%
NSW	14,610	1,564,024	0.93%	34,259	989,908	3.46%	75,472	499,158	15.12%	35,359	216,409	16.34%	159,700	3,269,498	4.88%
NT	128	63,450	0.20%	2,015	32,955	6.11%	1,637	10,974	14.91%	345	1,931	17.89%	4,125	109,311	3.77%
QLD	11,906	1,056,067	1.13%	16,566	634,294	2.61%	40,101	313,552	12.79%	17,279	118,531	14.58%	85,852	2,122,443	4.04%
SA	3,347	339,083	0.99%	5,152	230,196	2.24%	14,298	118,731	12.04%	5,909	54,733	10.80%	28,707	742,743	3.86%
TAS	1,934	96,039	2.01%	3,153	70,725	4.46%	4,362	39,988	10.91%	2,171	15,731	13.80%	11,619	222,484	5.22%
VIC	26,509	1,270,644	2.09%	29,831	802,622	3.72%	49,512	405,822	12.20%	16,197	168,715	9.60%	122,048	2,647,803	4.61%
WA	2,471	590,805	0.42%	6,071	351,665	1.73%	10,746	155,932	6.89%	5,085	59,085	8.61%	24,373	1,157,487	2.11%
TOTAL	61,405	5,072,179	1.21%	97,521	3,170,558	3.08%	196,801	1,568,177	12.55%	82,562	643,387	12.83%	438,290	10,454,301	4.19%

Note: Populations do not include persons aged less than 8 years.

TABLE 2.5 FEMALE PARTICIPANTS TO POPULATION RATES AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Total < 40 years			Total 40-59 years			Total 60-74 years			Total 75+ years			Total Population		
	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%
ACT	328	90,945	0.36%	318	60,729	0.52%	325	25,242	1.29%	87	11,640	0.75%	1,058	188,556	0.56%
NSW	2,278	1,555,163	0.15%	7,070	1,031,516	0.69%	43,191	515,310	8.38%	22,360	303,216	7.37%	74,899	3,405,205	2.20%
NT	44	60,533	0.07%	1,938	31,480	6.16%	1,489	8,998	16.55%	350	2,153	16.26%	3,821	103,164	3.70%
QLD	7,966	1,050,689	0.76%	5,394	657,511	0.82%	19,673	315,266	6.24%	9,045	158,661	5.70%	42,078	2,182,128	1.93%
SA	1,097	331,486	0.33%	2,580	236,544	1.09%	6,317	126,245	5.00%	2,305	77,654	2.97%	12,299	771,930	1.59%
TAS	941	98,043	0.96%	1,684	74,865	2.25%	2,682	40,893	6.56%	1,461	21,831	6.69%	6,769	235,632	2.87%
VIC	20,083	1,242,875	1.62%	18,930	835,010	2.27%	29,535	412,913	7.15%	9,977	231,290	4.31%	78,525	2,722,088	2.88%
WA	2,030	565,513	0.36%	2,829	351,296	0.81%	5,778	156,323	3.70%	2,939	80,965	3.63%	13,575	1,154,097	1.18%
TOTAL	34,768	4,995,248	0.70%	40,744	3,278,950	1.24%	108,990	1,601,189	6.81%	48,524	887,411	5.47%	233,026	10,762,799	2.17%

Note: Populations do not include persons aged less than 8 years.

TABLE 2.6 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS TO POPULATION RATES AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Total < 40 years			Total 40-59 years			Total 60-74 years			Total 75+ years			Total Population		
	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%	PART.	POP.	%
ACT	828	183,011	0.45%	793	118,922	0.67%	1,000	49,262	2.03%	304	19,892	1.53%	2,924	371,087	0.79%
NSW	16,888	3,119,188	0.54%	41,329	2,021,423	2.04%	118,663	1,014,468	11.70%	57,719	519,624	11.11%	234,599	6,674,703	3.51%
NT	173	123,983	0.14%	3,953	64,436	6.13%	3,126	19,972	15.65%	695	4,084	17.03%	7,947	212,475	3.74%
QLD	19,872	2,106,757	0.94%	21,960	1,291,805	1.70%	59,774	628,818	9.51%	26,324	277,192	9.50%	127,930	4,304,571	2.97%
SA	4,445	670,569	0.66%	7,733	466,741	1.66%	20,615	244,977	8.41%	8,214	132,387	6.20%	41,006	1,514,673	2.71%
TAS	2,875	194,083	1.48%	4,837	145,590	3.32%	7,043	80,881	8.71%	3,632	37,562	9.67%	18,388	458,116	4.01%
VIC	46,591	2,513,519	1.85%	48,761	1,637,631	2.98%	79,047	818,735	9.65%	26,174	400,006	6.54%	200,573	5,369,891	3.74%
WA	4,501	1,156,318	0.39%	8,900	702,961	1.27%	16,523	312,255	5.29%	8,024	140,050	5.73%	37,948	2,311,584	1.64%
TOTAL	96,173	10,067,427	0.96%	138,265	6,449,509	2.14%	305,791	3,169,366	9.65%	131,086	1,530,798	8.56%	671,316	21,217,100	3.16%

Note: Populations do not include persons aged less than 8 years.

# REGIONAL STRUCTURE FOR BOWLS DEVELOPMENT

One of the important applications of the census is its use as a planning tool at regional level. The definition of regional boundaries for each State/Territory for 2017 has been based around the locations of the clubs, districts and/or zones within each State/Territory. Table 2.7 indicates that there were 1,872 bowls clubs in Australia (predominantly based on club facilities, rather than organisational entities) and these have been allocated to 65 regions, 21 metropolitan and 44 country regions. This includes the counting of the Australian Capital Territory region as metropolitan, and the Northern Territory region as country.

TABLE 2.7 CLUBS AND REGIONS 2017, AUSTRALIAN BOWLS

STATE/TERRITORY	Metropolitan		Country		Total	
	CLUBS	REGIONS	CLUBS	REGIONS	CLUBS	REGIONS
Australian Capital Territory	11	1	0	0	11	1
New South Wales	136	4	386	9	522	13
Northern Territory	4	0	3	1	7	1
Queensland	136	2	179	8	315	10
South Australia	53	4	167	8	220	12
Tasmania	28	1	42	3	70	4
Victoria	151	5	370	11	521	16
Western Australia	68	4	139	4	207	8
TOTAL AUSTRALIA	587	21	1,286	44	1,873	65

The regions are all consistent with groups of Statistical Divisions used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for a wide range of statistical collections. These can be valuable in comparing and planning bowls initiatives using regional data (population, economic and other relevant data). Regions are an appropriate unit for allocating resources, targeting growth areas and developing local responses to meet the needs of communities around the nation. However, the distribution of regions needs some adjustment, so that the number of regions per State is consistent with population, geography and bowls participation.

Table 2.8 shows the Australian Bowls regions in rank order of participants. It also shows membership numbers by region.

TABLE 2.8 RANKING OF ALL REGIONS FOR BOWLS CLUB PARTICIPATION AND MEMBERSHIP

REGION	State	Pennant/ Other Competitions	Social, Jack Attack and School	Total Participants
Central Victoria	VIC	5,807	29,606	35,413
Hunter	NSW	11,132	22,741	33,873
North Coast	NSW	6,429	24,215	30,644
West Coast	VIC	4,278	25,624	29,902
Northern Sydney	NSW	6,344	22,628	28,972
Riverina Murray	NSW	3,395	18,710	22,105
Central Queensland and Whitsundays	QLD	3,389	18,566	21,955
SEQ North	QLD	7,751	13,244	20,995
Far West	NSW	2,942	17,910	20,852
North and Far North	QLD	3,725	16,479	20,204
Sandbelt	VIC	6,519	11,714	18,233
Wide Bay Burnett	QLD	3,032	14,595	17,627
Central West	NSW	2,251	13,863	16,114
South Coast	NSW	7,966	7,889	15,855
Eastern Ranges	VIC	5,448	9,106	14,554
Gold Coast	QLD	2,396	11,565	13,961
Inner Sydney	NSW	2,963	10,825	13,788
Greater Western Sydney	NSW	4,029	9,358	13,387
Central Coast	NSW	2,341	11,017	13,358
Sunshine Coast	QLD	2,647	9,778	12,425
Murray Mallee	VIC	3,683	8,149	11,832
Wimmera	VIC	3,135	8,245	11,380
Geelong	VIC	5,121	5,708	10,829
Strzelecki	VIC	4,083	6,640	10,723
Yarra	VIC	5,730	4,394	10,124
Gippsland	VIC	1,631	8,405	10,036
Peninsula Casey	VIC	3,657	6,290	9,947
North West	NSW	1,178	8,547	9,725
Southern Slopes and Plains	NSW	2,415	6,201	8,616
Northern Territory	NT	438	7,509	7,947
Northern Perth	WA	4,449	3,273	7,722
Southern Sydney	NSW	1,225	6,087	7,312
Downs, Condamine, Maranoa	QLD	1,743	5,456	7,199
Hobart and South	TAS	2,966	3,985	6,951
South West WA	WA	5,416	1,527	6,943
SEQ Gateway	QLD	2,915	3,954	6,869
SEQ Cunningham	QLD	1,933	4,762	6,695
Ovens and Murray	VIC	3,436	2,826	6,262
Northern Gateway	VIC	3,256	2,926	6,182
Metropolitan West	VIC	2,882	3,268	6,150

TABLE 2.8 Continued

REGION	State	Pennant/ Other Competitions	Social, Jack Attack and School	Total Participants
Adelaide South West	SA	2,220	3,640	5,860
North West	TAS	2,204	3,600	5,804
Launceston and North/North East	TAS	2,363	3,270	5,633
Southern Perth	WA	2,949	2,304	5,253
Spencer Gulf and Eyre	SA	2,353	2,591	4,944
Northern Adelaide	SA	2,736	2,139	4,875
Bendigo Campaspe	VIC	3,594	1,150	4,744
Murraylands and Lower Murray	SA	3,067	1,675	4,742
Adelaide Torrens	SA	2,008	2,597	4,605
South Coastal Perth	WA	2,425	2,037	4,462
Central Goulburn Murray	VIC	3,353	907	4,260
Coorong-Fleurieu	SA	3,283	565	3,848
Eastern Perth	WA	1,890	1,902	3,792
Southern Zone	WA	3,274	497	3,771
Yorke Peninsula	SA	1,664	1,848	3,512
Northern Zone	WA	1,955	1,530	3,485
South East SA	SA	2,375	960	3,335
Australian Capital Territory	ACT	1,167	1,757	2,924
Eastern Adelaide	SA	1,146	1,515	2,661
Barossa	SA	1,008	1,616	2,624
Eastern Zone and Central - Pilbara - Kimberley	WA	1,414	1,107	2,521



## BOWLS EXPERIENCES (Less than 4 weeks)

To be counted as ‘a participant’ in the National Bowls Census a person must play at least four times during the year in a competition or in a social or other program. This definition has been agreed to provide a meaningful minimum level of involvement for measuring regular participation.

There are also many people involved in events, once-off activities, community programs and other bowls activities of less than four weeks/games duration, which are broadly described as bowls experiences. These experiences can be an integral part of the viability of a bowls club and to the development of the game of bowls. The nature and level of experiences varies from state to state. Bowls experiences can include social, barefoot, corporate and school activities.

Table 2.9 shows that there were 702,892 participants in bowls activities of less than four weeks’ duration in 2017. The States/Territories with the greatest level of bowls experiences were Victoria (330,688), Queensland (142,611) and Western Australia (77,616).

TABLE 2.9 BOWLS EXPERIENCES (LESS THAN 4 WEEKS/GAMES) 2017

	Social Activities			Training Activities and Clinics			Total Bowls Experiences
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	
Australian Capital Territory	10,395	8,505	18,900	55	45	100	19,000
New South Wales	28,288	18,859	47,147	0	0	0	47,147
Northern Territory	2,375	2,375	4,750	432	348	780	5,530
Queensland	82,516	53,445	135,961	3,640	3,010	6,650	142,611
South Australia	3,219	1,711	4,930	225	160	385	5,315
Tasmania	46,000	28,850	74,850	0	225	225	75,075
Victoria	192,250	137,947	330,197	296	315	491	330,688
Western Australia	n.a.	n.a.	77,616	0	0	0	77,616
AUSTRALIA	365,043	251,692	694,351	4,648	4,103	8,631	702,982

# NEW SOUTH WALES

New South Wales is Australia’s most populous state with 7,739,274<sup>2</sup> residents or 32.0% of the Australian population. Bowls New South Wales has four regions in metropolitan Sydney, and nine country regions.

FIGURE 3.1



The New South Wales Bowls regions for planning and development are:

❖ METROPOLITAN SYDNEY

- Northern Sydney
- Greater Western Sydney
- Inner Sydney
- Southern Sydney

❖ COUNTRY NEW SOUTH WALES

- Central West
- Far West
- North West
- North Coast
- South Coast
- Hunter
- Central Coast
- Southern Slopes and Plains
- Riverina Murray

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 3.1.

MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS

In 2017, New South Wales had:

- 42 bowls associations
- 522 bowls clubs
- 221,204 playing and non-playing members
- 234,599 participants in all forms of bowls

Table 3.1 presents details of bowls membership and reveals there were 57,269 playing members and 163,935 non-playing members in New South Wales.

This imbalance in favour of non-playing members stems from the long history of a high proportion of licensed clubs with gaming machines, and additional

recreational facilities at New South Wales bowls clubs.

Of the 221,204 bowls club members in New South Wales,

- o 25.9% were playing members
- o 74.1% were non-playing members
- o 74.5% were located in country New South Wales.

New South Wales regions with the greatest number of bowls club members were:

- o Hunter
- o North Coast
- o Northern Sydney
- o South Coast
- o Greater Western Sydney.

TABLE 3.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS NEW SOUTH WALES, 2017

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
<b>METROPOLITAN</b>			
Northern Sydney	7,635	11,776	19,411
Greater Western Sydney	4,119	20,012	24,131
Inner Sydney	1,901	4,468	6,369
Southern Sydney	1,720	4,752	6,472
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>15,375</b>	<b>41,007</b>	<b>56,382</b>
<b>COUNTRY</b>			
Central West	2,263	10,333	12,596
Far West	2,516	8,615	11,131
North West	1,337	10,273	11,610
North Coast	8,512	23,474	31,986
South Coast	8,442	16,893	25,335
Hunter	10,712	16,811	27,523
Central Coast	2,325	10,527	12,852
Southern Slopes & Plains	3,210	7,408	10,618
Riverina Murray	2,577	18,595	21,172
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>41,894</b>	<b>122,928</b>	<b>164,822</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57,269</b>	<b>163,935</b>	<b>221,204</b>

<sup>2</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2016, July 2017

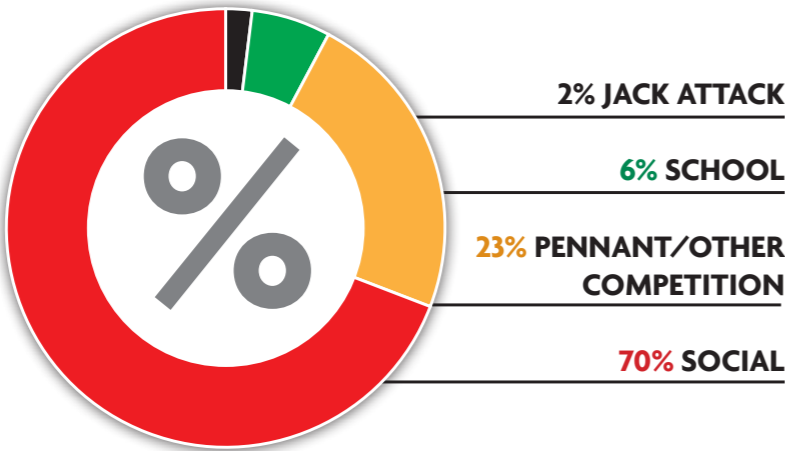
Table 3.2 and Figure 3.2 summarise bowls participation by major segment and by gender. In total, there were 234,599 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in New South Wales during 2017. Specifically:

- The greatest participation segment in New South Wales was social bowls, with 66.5% of participants
- Male participation makes up 63.4% of all bowls participation in New South Wales.
- Participation in country New South Wales (171,141) is 73.0% of the total, although country NSW makes up less than 25% of the population.

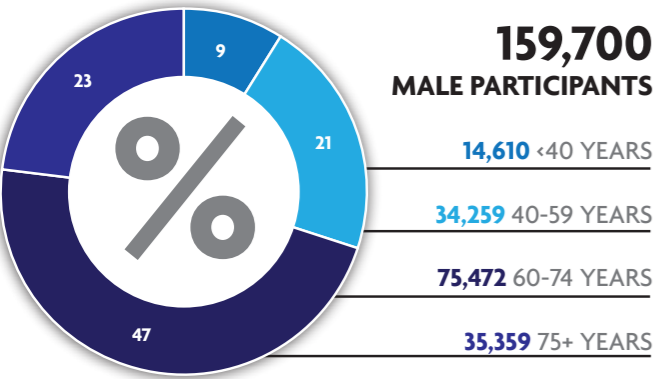
Many bowls participants are involved in more than one structured bowls competition, social or other program. This includes:

- Pennant and other competition participants who regularly play in more than one competition during the same season or year.
- Participants involved in both competition and social or corporate bowls.

FIGURE 3.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, NEW SOUTH WALES 2017



MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, NSW 2017



FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, NSW 2017

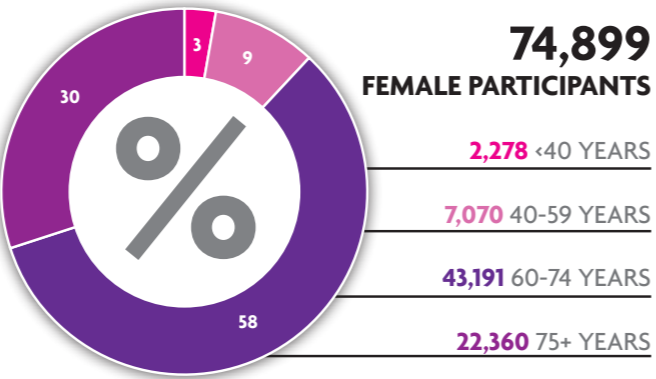


TABLE 3.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN NEW SOUTH WALES, 2017

PARTICIPANTS	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
METROPOLITAN															
Northern Sydney	3,394	2,950	6,344	13,553	8,255	21,808	232	199	430	220	170	390	17,398	11,573	28,972
Greater Western Sydney	2,313	1,716	4,029	5,201	3,017	8,218	331	234	565	310	265	575	8,155	5,232	13,387
Inner Sydney	2,049	914	2,963	6,469	4,116	10,585	72	58	130	60	50	110	8,650	5,137	13,788
Southern Sydney	285	940	1,225	3,744	2,183	5,927	50	40	90	40	30	70	4,119	3,193	7,312
Sub Total	8,041	6,519	14,560	28,967	17,571	46,538	685	531	1,215	630	515	1,145	38,323	25,136	63,458
COUNTRY															
Central West	1,327	924	2,251	7,345	6,325	13,670	23	30	53	60	80	140	8,755	7,359	16,114
Far West	1,997	945	2,942	9,850	7,970	17,820	52	38	90	0	0	0	11,899	8,953	20,852
North West	741	437	1,178	5,264	2,283	7,547	0	0	0	648	352	1,000	6,653	3,072	9,725
North Coast	3,929	2,500	6,429	16,527	5,588	22,115	400	100	500	1,289	311	1,600	22,145	8,499	30,644
South Coast	6,289	1,677	7,966	4,380	3,000	7,380	0	0	0	255	254	509	10,924	4,931	15,855
Hunter	8,860	2,272	11,132	11,250	4,710	15,960	645	546	1,191	3,060	2,530	5,590	23,815	10,058	33,873
Central Coast	1,543	798	2,341	4,962	3,180	8,142	290	230	520	1,385	970	2,355	8,180	5,178	13,358
Southern Slopes and Plains	1,898	517	2,415	3,412	2,228	5,640	40	30	70	271	220	491	5,621	2,995	8,616
Riverina Murray	2,550	845	3,395	9,750	8,730	18,480	42	38	80	70	80	150	12,412	9,693	22,105
Sub Total	29,133	10,915	40,048	72,740	44,014	116,754	1,492	1,012	2,504	7,038	4,797	11,835	110,403	60,738	171,141
TOTAL	37,174	17,434	54,608	101,707	61,585	163,292	2,177	1,543	3,719	7,668	5,312	12,980	148,725	85,874	234,599

TABLE 3.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF NEW SOUTH WALES REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS

	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
Hunter	11,132	22,741	33,873	2
North Coast	6,429	24,215	30,644	3
Northern Sydney	6,344	22,628	28,972	5
Riverina Murray	3,395	18,710	22,105	6
Far West	2,942	17,910	20,852	9
South Coast	7,966	7,889	15,855	14
Inner Sydney	2,963	10,825	13,788	17
Greater Western Sydney	4,029	9,358	13,387	18
Central Coast	2,341	11,017	13,358	19
North West	1,178	8,547	9,725	28
Southern Slopes and Plains	2,415	6,201	8,616	29
Southern Sydney	1,225	6,087	7,312	32

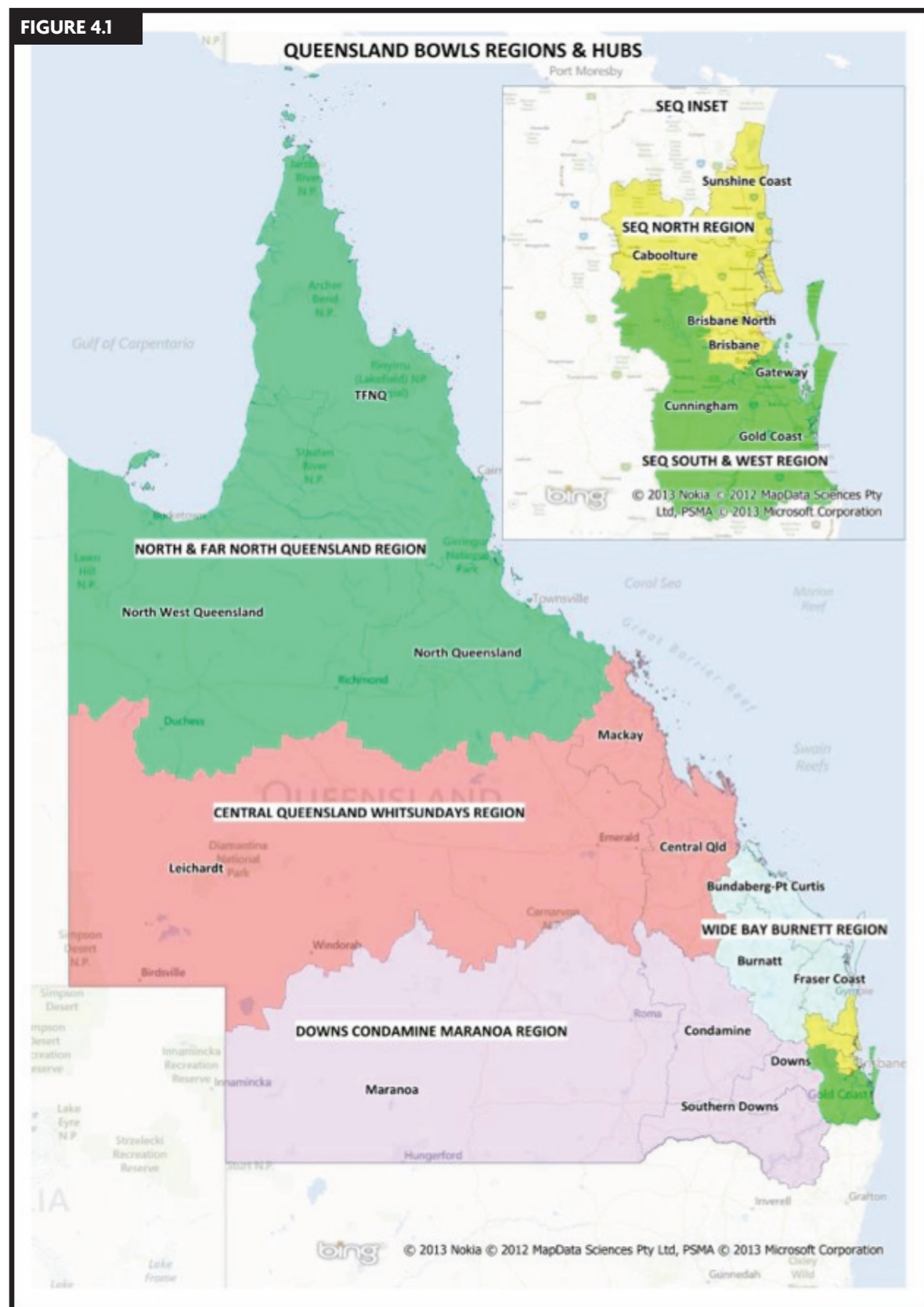
Regional rankings for New South Wales regions in terms of participants are summarised in Table 3.3.

Bowls participation to population rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. For New South Wales the participant to population rate was 3.51%:

- 4.88% for males
- 2.20% for females.

# QUEENSLAND

Queensland is Australia's third largest state in terms of resident population with 4,848,877<sup>3</sup> persons or 20.0% of the Australian population. Queensland and Tasmania are Australia's most decentralised states. They are the only states/territories where the majority of the population does not live in the capital city (52% of Queensland residents live in a non-metropolitan region). Bowls Queensland has six 'hub' regions, with twenty regions: Two regions in metropolitan Brisbane (plus the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast regions), four country hub regions.



The Queensland regions for Census reporting in 2017 are:

❖ METROPOLITAN BRISBANE

- Brisbane North
- Brisbane South and West

❖ COUNTRY QUEENSLAND

- Gold Coast
- Sunshine Coast
- Wide Bay Burnett
- Downs Condamine Maranoa
- Central Queensland Whitsundays
- North and Far North Queensland

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 4.1.

## MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS

In 2017 Queensland had:

- 37 bowls associations
- 315 bowls clubs
- 31,811 playing members
- 127,930 participants in all forms of bowls.

Table 4.1 presents details of bowls membership and details the 31,811

playing members and 28,416 non-playing members in Queensland by region.

- o Of the 60,227 bowls club members in Queensland,
- o 52.8% were playing members
- o 47.2% were non-playing members
- o 56.5% of members were located in country Queensland.

**TABLE 4.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS QUEENSLAND, 2017**

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
<b>METROPOLITAN</b>			
SEQ North	5,938	4,214	10,152
SEQ South and West			
- Gateway	4,182	6,900	11,082
- Cunningham	2,607	2,360	4,967
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12,728</b>	<b>13,474</b>	<b>26,202</b>
<b>COUNTRY</b>			
Gold Coast	2,681	4,293	6,974
Sunshine Coast	2,440	2,508	4,948
Wide Bay Burnett	4,507	1,611	6,118
Central Qld & Whitsundays	3,859	1,712	5,571
Downs, Condamine, Maranoa	1,947	1,743	3,690
North and Far North	3,650	3,075	6,725
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>19,083</b>	<b>14,942</b>	<b>34,025</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,811</b>	<b>28,416</b>	<b>60,227</b>

Table 4.2 and Figure 4.2 summarise bowls participation by major segment and by gender. In total, there were 127,930 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Queensland during 2017. Specifically:

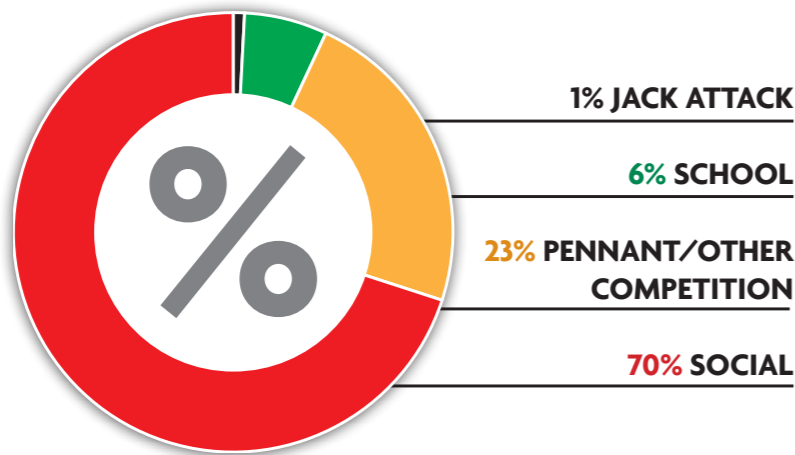
- > The greatest participation segment in Queensland was social bowls programs, with 69.7% of participants.
- > Male participation makes up 61.9% of all bowls participation in Queensland.
- > Participation in country Queensland (93,371) is considerably higher than metropolitan participation (34,559).

Regional rankings for Queensland regions in terms of participants are summarised in Table 4.3.

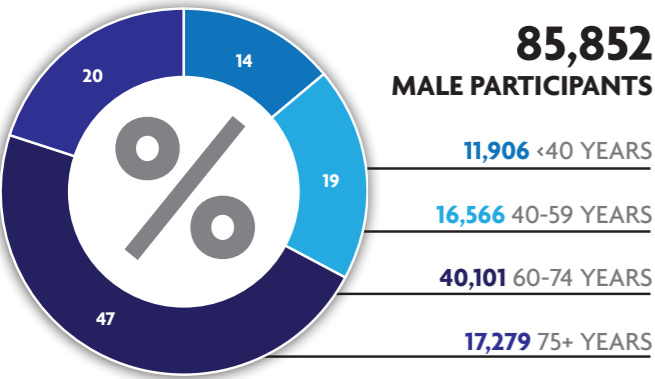
Many bowls participants are involved in more than one structured bowls competition, social or other program. This includes:

- Pennant and other competition participants who regularly play in more than one competition during the same season or year.
- Participants involved in both competition and social or corporate bowls.

FIGURE 4.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, QUEENSLAND



MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, QLD 2017



FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, QLD 2017

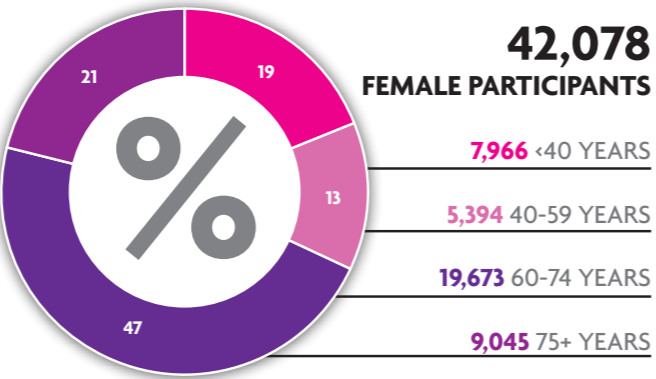


TABLE 4.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN QUEENSLAND (4+ GAMES) 2017

PARTICIPANTS	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
REGION:															
METROPOLITAN															
SEQ North	5,499	2,252	7,751	7,493	4,881	12,374	105	75	180	400	290	690	13,497	7,498	20,995
SEQ South and West															
- Gateway	1,875	1,040	2,915	2,175	1,275	3,450	120	94	214	170	120	290	4,340	2,529	6,869
- Cunningham	1,330	603	1,933	2,625	1,617	4,242	20	20	40	265	215	480	4,240	2,455	6,695
Sub Total	8,704	3,895	12,599	12,293	7,773	20,066	245	189	434	835	625	1,460	22,077	12,482	34,559
COUNTRY															
Gold Coast	1,986	410	2,396	6,557	3,998	10,555	325	235	560	250	200	450	9,118	4,843	13,961
Sunshine Coast	2,058	589	2,647	5,472	3,256	8,728	0	0	0	530	520	1,050	8,060	4,365	12,425
Wide Bay Burnett	1,924	1,108	3,032	7,553	4,680	12,233	0	0	0	1,181	1,181	2,362	10,658	6,969	17,627
Central Qld & Whitsundays	1,954	1,435	3,389	9,576	7,326	16,902	0	0	0	862	802	1,664	12,392	9,563	21,955
Downs, Condamine, Maranoa	1,400	343	1,743	2,880	1,876	4,756	30	30	60	320	320	640	4,630	2,569	7,199
North and Far North	2,845	880	3,725	9,180	6,739	15,919	0	0	0	280	280	560	12,305	7,899	20,204
Sub Total	12,167	4,765	16,932	41,218	27,875	69,093	355	265	620	3,423	3,303	6,726	57,163	36,208	93,371
TOTAL	20,871	8,660	29,531	53,511	35,648	89,159	600	454	1,054	4,258	3,928	8,186	79,240	48,690	127,930

TABLE 4.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF QUEENSLAND REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS

	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
Central QLD and Whitsundays	3,389	18,566	21,955	7
SEQ North	7,751	13,244	20,995	8
North and Far North	3,725	16,479	20,204	10
Wide Bay Burnett	3,032	14,595	17,627	12
Gold Coast	2,396	11,565	13,961	16
Sunshine Coast	2,647	9,778	12,425	20
Downs, Condamine, Maranoa	1,743	5,456	7,199	33
SEQ Gateway	2,915	3,954	6,869	36
SEQ Cunningham	1,933	4,762	6,695	37

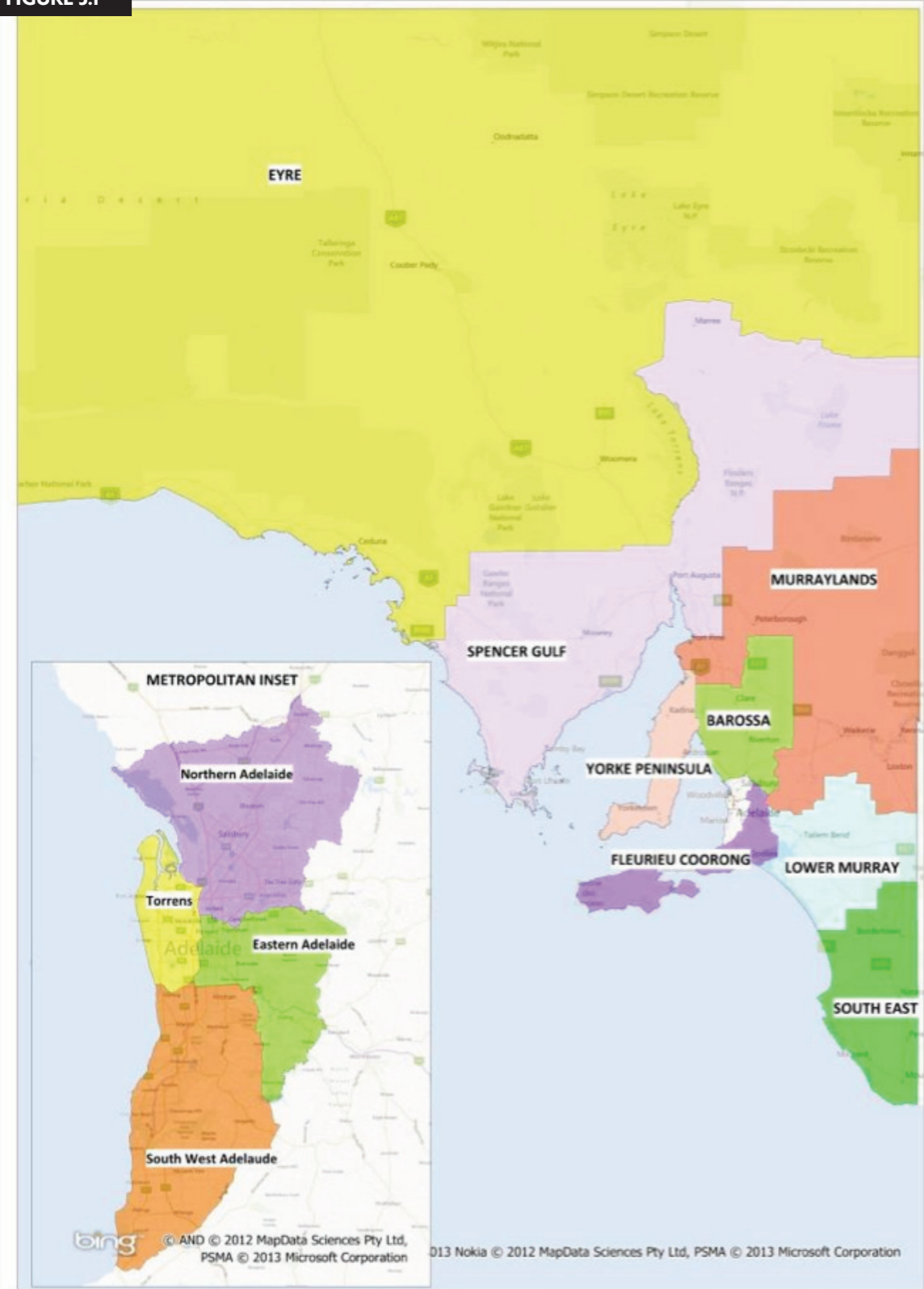
Bowls participant to population rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls.

The overall participant to population rate in Queensland was 2.97%, the male rate was 4.04% and female was 1.93%.

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australia is Australia’s fifth most populous state with 1,713,054<sup>4</sup> residents or 7.1% of the Australian population. Bowls South Australia has four identified regions in metropolitan Adelaide, and eight country regions.

FIGURE 5.1



The South Australian regions for the 2017 Census and for bowls planning and development are:

❖ **METROPOLITAN ADELAIDE**

- Northern Adelaide
- Eastern Adelaide
- Adelaide South West
- Adelaide Torrens

❖ **COUNTRY SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

- South East
- Yorke Peninsula
- Spencer Gulf
- Murraylands
- Eyre
- Lower Murray
- Coorong-Fleurieu
- Barossa

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 5.1

**MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

In 2017 South Australia had:

- 220 bowls clubs
- 17,074 playing and non-playing members
- 41,006 participants in all forms of bowls

Table 5.1 presents details of bowls membership and reveals there were 15,195 playing members and 1,879 non-playing members in South Australia. Unlike New South Wales and Queensland, South Australia does not have a high number of bowls club non-playing members compared with bowls participants and players.

Of the 17,074 bowls club members in South Australia,

- o 89.0% were playing members
- o 11.0% were non-playing members
- o 63.4% of members were located in country South Australia.

The South Australian regions with the greatest number of bowls club members were:

- o Coorong-Fleurieu
- o Murraylands and Lower Murray
- o Adelaide South West
- o Northern Adelaide.

TABLE 5.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
<b>METROPOLITAN</b>			
Northern Adelaide	1,216	336	1,552
Eastern Adelaide	1,364	123	1,487
Adelaide South West	1,692	293	1,985
Adelaide Torrens	1,010	210	1,220
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>5,282</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>6,244</b>
<b>COUNTRY</b>			
South East SA	1,529	136	1,665
Yorke Peninsula	733	191	923
Spencer Gulf and Eyre	1,187	31	1,218
Murraylands & Lwr Murray	2,765	339	3,104
Coorong-Fleurieu	3,109	183	3,292
Barossa	590	38	629
Coorong-Fleurieu	1,823	125	1,948
Barossa	569	62	631
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>9,913</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>10,830</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,195</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>17,074</b>

<sup>4</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics Regional Population Growth 2016, July 2017

Table 5.2 and Figure 5.2 summarise bowls participation by major segment and by gender. In total, there were 41,006 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in South Australia during 2017. Specifically:

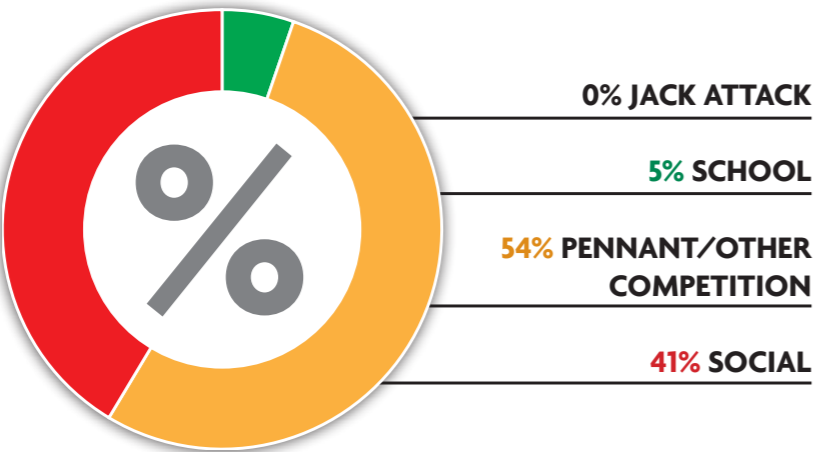
- The greatest participation segment in South Australia was pennant and competition bowls, with 53.3% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 66.5% of all bowls participation in South Australia.
- Participation in country South Australia (23,005) is higher than metropolitan participation (18,001) and the largest regions for bowls participation are Coorong-Fleurieu, Murraylands and Lower Murray, and Adelaide South West.

Regional rankings for South Australian regions in terms of participants are summarised in Table 5.3 (also showing the relative number of members).

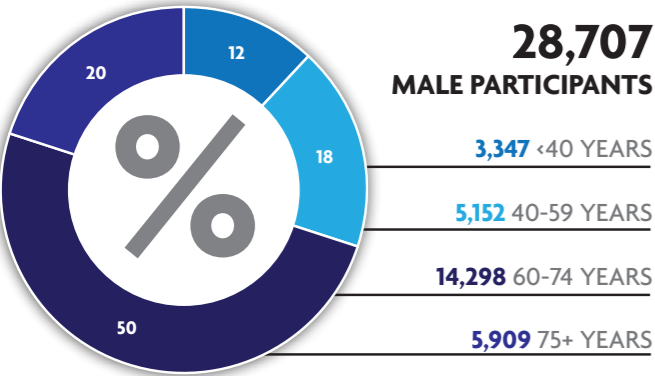
Many bowls participants are involved in more than one structured bowls competition, social or other program. This includes:

- Pennant and other competition participants who regularly play in more than one competition during the same season or year.
- Participants involved in both competition and social or corporate bowls.

FIGURE 5.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, SA 2017



FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, SA 2017

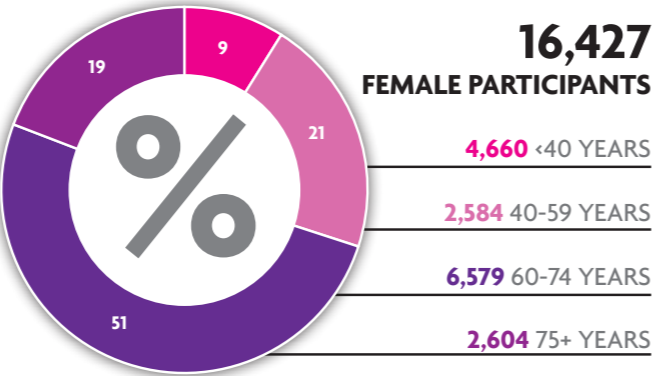


TABLE 5.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA (4+ GAMES) 2017

PARTICIPANTS REGION:	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
METROPOLITAN															
Northern Adelaide	2,304	432	2,736	1,072	715	1,787	0	0	0	187	165	352	3,563	1,312	4,875
Eastern Adelaide	864	282	1,146	850	600	1,450	0	0	0	35	30	65	1,749	912	2,661
Adelaide South West	1,600	620	2,220	2,500	1,000	3,500	0	0	0	75	65	140	4,175	1,685	5,860
Adelaide Torrens	1,417	591	2,008	1,268	846	2,114	0	0	0	251	232	483	2,936	1,669	4,605
Sub Total	6,185	1,925	8,110	5,690	3,161	8,851	0	0	0	548	492	1,040	12,423	5,578	18,001
COUNTRY															
South East SA	1,553	822	2,375	450	430	880	0	0	0	40	40	80	2,043	1,292	3,335
Yorke Peninsula	1,029	635	1,664	890	618	1,508	0	0	0	182	158	340	2,101	1,411	3,512
Spencer Gulf and Eyre	1,476	877	2,353	1,213	830	2,043	0	0	0	294	254	548	2,983	1,961	4,944
Murraylands & Lower Murray	2,453	613	3,067	975	700	1,675	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,428	1,313	4,742
Coorong-Fleurieu	2,263	1,020	3,283	340	225	565	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,603	1,245	3,848
Barossa	695	313	1,008	879	542	1,421	0	0	0	98	97	195	1,672	952	2,624
Coorong-Fleurieu	1,660	867	2,527	600	447	1,047	0	0	0	85	85	170	2,345	1,399	3,744
Barossa	487	258	745	273	262	534	0	0	0	85	85	170	845	604	1,449
Sub Total	9,470	4,280	13,750	4,747	3,345	8,092	0	0	0	614	549	1,163	14,831	8,174	23,005
TOTAL	15,655	6,205	21,860	10,437	6,506	16,943	0	0	0	1,162	1,041	2,203	27,254	13,752	41,006

TABLE 5.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS

	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
Adelaide South West	2,220	3,640	5,860	41
Spencer Gulf and Eyre	2,353	2,591	4,944	45
Northern Adelaide	2,736	2,139	4,875	46
Murraylands & Lower Murray	3,067	1,675	4,742	48
Adelaide Torrens	2,008	2,597	4,605	49
Coorong-Fleurieu	3,283	565	3,848	52
Yorke Peninsula	1,664	1,848	3,512	55
South East SA	2,375	960	3,335	57
Eastern Adelaide	1,146	1,515	2,661	59
Barossa	1,008	1,616	2,624	60

Bowls participant to population rates show the extent to which people in each age group and each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation to population rate in South Australia was 2.71%. The male rate was 3.86% and the female rate was 1.59%.

Victoria is Australia’s second most populous state with 6,179,249<sup>6</sup> residents or 25.5% of the Australian population. Bowls Victoria currently has five identified regions in metropolitan Melbourne, and eleven country regions.



Victorian regions in the 2017 Census and bowls planning and development are:

❖ **METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE**

- Melbourne West
- Northern Gateway
- Yarra
- Eastern Ranges
- Sandbelt

- Central Goulburn Murray
- Ovens and Murray
- Gippsland
- Strzelecki
- Peninsula Casey

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 6.1.

**MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

In 2017 Victoria had:

- 521 bowls clubs
- 69,913 playing and non-playing members
- 200,573 participants in all forms of bowls.

Table 6.1 presents details of bowls membership and reveals there were

42,486 playing members and 27,427 non-playing members in Victoria.

Of the 69,913 bowls club members in Victoria,  
o 60.8% were playing members  
o 39.2% were non-playing members  
o 62.5% of members were located in country Victoria.

The Victorian regions with the greatest number of bowls club members were:

- o Geelong
- o Sandbelt
- o West Coast
- o Central Victoria
- o Yarra
- o Eastern Ranges.

**TABLE 6.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS VICTORIA, 2017**

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
<b>METROPOLITAN</b>			
Metropolitan West	1,490	933	2,424
Northern Gateway	2,263	1,050	3,313
Eastern Ranges	4,030	1,244	5,274
Yarra	4,569	2,736	7,305
Sandbelt	3,766	4,173	7,939
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>26,368</b>	<b>17,291</b>	<b>43,659</b>
<b>COUNTRY</b>			
Geelong	3,417	6,594	10,011
West Coast	2,602	4,567	7,170
Bendigo Campaspe	2,097	459	2,556
Central Goulburn Murray	2,014	504	2,518
Ovens and Murray	2,070	880	2,950
Central Victoria	3,748	836	4,584
Wimmera	1,943	323	2,266
Murray Mallee	2,202	462	2,664
Strzelecki	2,390	927	3,318
Gippsland	1,014	424	1,438
Peninsula Casey	2,872	1,313	4,185
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>26,368</b>	<b>17,291</b>	<b>43,659</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,486</b>	<b>27,427</b>	<b>69,913</b>

<sup>6</sup> AustralianBureau of Statistics Regional Population Growth 2016, Australia, July 2017

Table 6.2 and Figure 6.2 summarise bowls participation by major segment and by gender. In total, there were 200,573 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Victoria during 2017. Specifically:

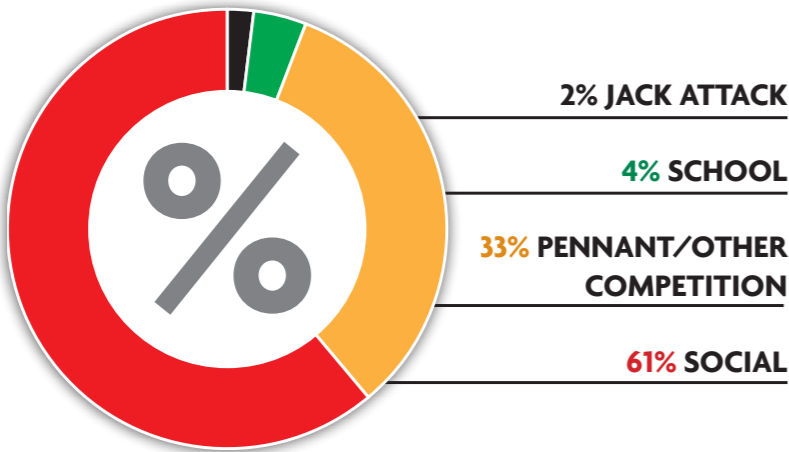
- The greatest participation segment in Victoria was social bowls, with 61.1% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 66.0% of all bowls participation in Victoria.
- Participation in country Victoria (145,329) is higher than metropolitan participation (55,244) and the largest regions for bowls participation are Central Victoria, Western Coast, Sandbelt, and Eastern

Regional rankings for Victorian regions in terms of participants are summarised in Table 6.3.

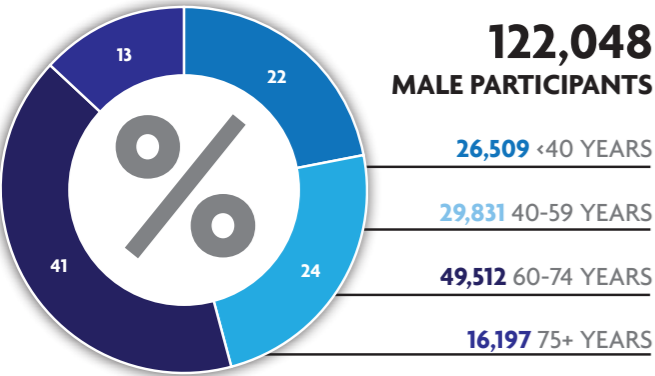
Many bowls participants are involved in more than one structured bowls competition, social or other program. This includes:

- Pennant and other competition participants who regularly play in more than one competition during the same season or year.
- Participants involved in both competition and social or corporate bowls.

FIGURE 6.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, VICTORIA



MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, VIC 2017



FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, VIC 2017

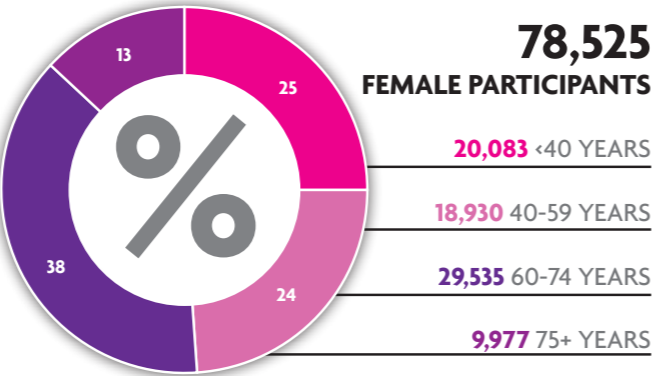


TABLE 6.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN VICTORIA (4+ GAMES) 2017

PARTICIPANTS REGION:	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
METROPOLITAN															
Metropolitan West	2,153	729	2,882	1,316	1,162	2,478	38	27	65	403	322	725	3,910	2,240	6,150
Northern Gateway	2,651	605	3,256	1,560	602	2,162	70	65	135	352	277	629	4,633	1,549	6,182
Eastern Ranges	3,896	1,553	5,448	4,667	3,140	7,807	339	165	504	430	365	795	9,332	5,223	14,554
Yarra	4,224	1,506	5,730	2,234	1,029	3,263	39	26	65	608	458	1,066	7,105	3,019	10,124
Sandbelt	4,686	1,833	6,519	5,325	3,591	8,916	870	485	1,355	877	566	1,443	11,758	6,475	18,233
Sub Total	17,610	6,226	23,836	15,102	9,524	24,626	1,356	768	2,124	2,670	1,988	4,658	36,738	18,506	55,245
COUNTRY															
Geelong	3,392	1,729	5,121	2,958	1,357	4,315	336	242	578	445	370	815	7,131	3,698	10,829
West Coast	2,895	1,383	4,278	17,064	8,069	25,133	8	7	15	270	206	476	20,237	9,665	29,902
Bendigo Campaspe	2,351	1,242	3,594	690	360	1,050	45	25	70	12	18	30	3,098	1,645	4,744
Central Goulburn Murray	2,471	882	3,353	325	220	545	0	0	0	185	177	362	2,981	1,279	4,260
Ovens and Murray	2,294	1,143	3,436	1,815	910	2,725	0	0	0	50	51	101	4,159	2,104	6,262
Central Victoria	4,242	1,565	5,807	19,843	9,332	29,175	44	42	86	220	125	345	24,349	11,064	35,413
Wimmera	2,283	852	3,135	4,900	3,130	8,030	0	0	0	130	85	215	7,313	4,067	11,380
Murray Mallee	2,516	1,168	3,683	4,850	3,094	7,944	30	20	50	100	55	155	7,496	4,337	11,832
Strzelecki	2,640	1,443	4,083	3,400	2,500	5,900	300	150	450	180	110	290	6,520	4,203	10,723
Gippsland	1,120	511	1,631	4,400	3,100	7,500	390	225	615	180	110	290	6,090	3,946	10,036
Peninsula Casey	2,557	1,100	3,657	3,300	2,350	5,650	135	60	195	270	175	445	6,262	3,685	9,947
Sub Total	28,760	13,019	41,779	63,545	34,422	97,967	1,288	771	2,059	2,042	1,482	3,524	95,635	49,694	145,329
TOTAL	46,370	19,245	65,615	78,647	43,946	122,593	2,644	1,539	4,183	4,712	3,470	8,182	132,373	68,200	200,574

TABLE 6.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF VICTORIA REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS

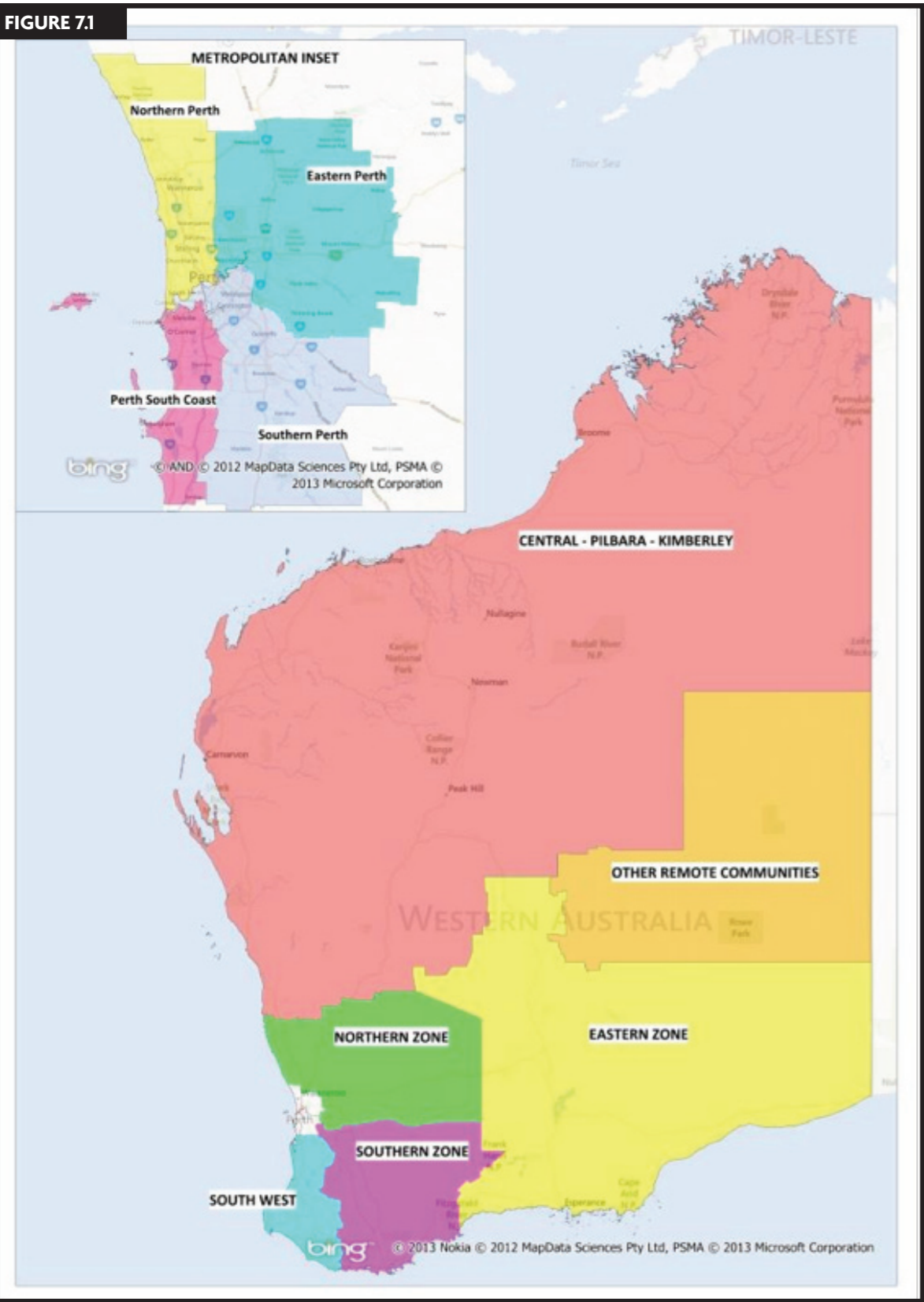
	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
Central Victoria	5,807	29,606	35,413	1
West Coast	4,278	25,624	29,902	4
Sandbelt	6,519	11,714	18,233	11
Eastern Ranges	5,448	9,106	14,554	15
Murray Mallee	3,683	8,149	11,832	21
Wimmera	3,135	8,245	11,380	22
Geelong	5,121	5,708	10,829	23
Strzelecki	4,083	6,640	10,723	24
Yarra	5,730	4,394	10,124	25
Gippsland	1,631	8,405	10,036	26
Peninsula Casey	3,657	6,290	9,947	27
Ovens and Murray	3,436	2,826	6,262	38
Northern Gateway	3,256	2,926	6,182	39
Metropolitan West	2,882	3,268	6,150	40
Bendigo Campaspe	3,594	1,150	4,744	47
Central Goulburn Murray	3,353	907	4,260	51

Bowls participation rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation to population rate in Victoria was 3.74%. The male rate was 4.61% and the female rate was 2.88%.

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australia is Australia's fourth most populous state with 2,558,877<sup>6</sup> residents or 10.3% of the Australian population. Bowls Western Australia has four regions in metropolitan Perth and four country regions.

FIGURE 7.1



The Western Australian regions for the 2017 Census and for bowls planning and development are:

❖ **METROPOLITAN PERTH**

- Eastern
- Northern
- Southern
- South Coastal

❖ **COUNTRY WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

- Eastern Zone
- Northern Zone
- Southern and South Western Zone
- Central - Pilbara - Kimberley

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 7.1.

**MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

In 2017 Western Australia had:

- 206 bowls clubs
- 29,700 playing and non-playing members
- 37,948 participants in all forms of bowls

Table 7.1 presents details of bowls membership and reveals there were 15,887 playing members and 13,813 non-playing members in Western Australia.

Of the 25,627 bowls club members in Western Australia,

- o 62.5% were playing members
- o 38.2% were non-playing members
- o 39.4% of members were located in country Western Australia.

The Western Australian regions with the greatest number of bowls club members were:

- o Northern Perth
- o South West Zone
- o Southern Perth.

TABLE 7.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 2017

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
<b>METROPOLITAN</b>			
Eastern Perth	1,119	1,074	2,193
Northern Perth	3,026	4,295	7,320
Southern Perth	1,929	1,782	3,710
South Coastal Perth	1,619	2,035	3,654
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>7,692</b>	<b>9,185</b>	<b>16,878</b>
<b>COUNTRY</b>			
Northern Zone	1,515	320	1,836
Southern Zone	1,655	836	2,491
South West WA	3,874	2,554	6,428
Eastern Zone and Central - Pilbara - Kimberley	1,150	917	2,066
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>8,195</b>	<b>4,627</b>	<b>12,822</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,887</b>	<b>13,813</b>	<b>29,700</b>

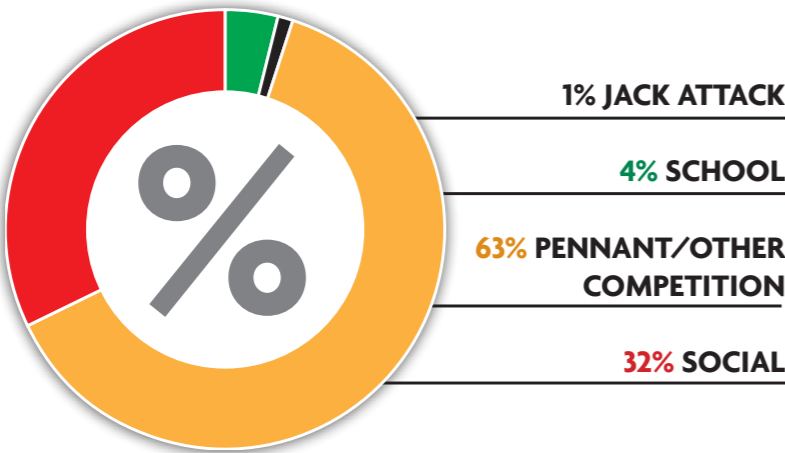
Table 7.2 and Figure 7.2 summarise bowls participation by major segment and by gender. In total, there were 37,948 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Western Australia during 2017. Specifically:

- The greatest participation segment in Western Australia was pennant and competition bowls, with 62.6% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 62,7% of all bowls participation in Western Australia.

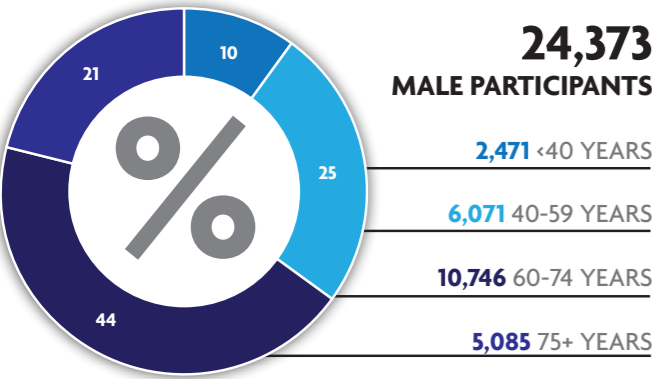
➤ Participation in country Western Australia (16,719) is relatively high compared with metropolitan participation (16,719) and the two largest regions for bowls participation were South Western Zone and Northern Perth.

Regional rankings for West Australian regions in terms of participants are summarised in Table 7.3.

FIGURE 7.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA



MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, WA 2017



FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, WA 2017

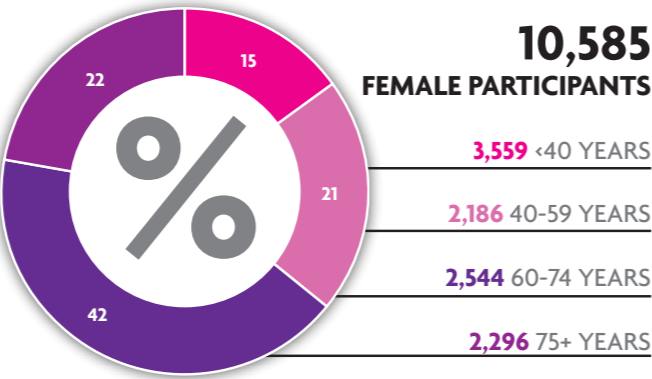


TABLE 7.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA (4+ GAMES) 2017

PARTICIPANTS	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
METROPOLITAN															
Eastern Perth	1,302	589	1,890	784	630	1,414	32	26	58	271	159	430	2,389	1,404	3,793
Northern Perth	2,991	1,458	4,449	1,575	1,117	2,692	138	98	236	198	147	345	4,902	2,820	7,722
Southern Perth	2,013	936	2,949	1,161	804	1,965	67	47	114	134	91	225	3,375	1,877	5,253
South Coastal Perth	1,701	724	2,425	1,110	699	1,809	60	38	98	101	29	130	2,972	1,490	4,462
Sub Total	8,006	3,708	11,713	4,630	3,250	7,880	298	208	506	705	425	1,130	13,639	7,591	21,230
COUNTRY															
Northern Zone	1,198	758	1,955	679	821	1,500	0	0	0	17	13	30	1,893	1,592	3,485
Southern Zone	1,785	1,489	3,274	300	197	497	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,085	1,685	3,771
South West WA	3,500	1,916	5,416	705	576	1,281	0	0	0	158	88	246	4,363	2,579	6,943
Eastern Zone and Central - Pilbara - Kimberley	1,063	351	1,414	712	347	1,059	12	6	18	15	15	30	1,801	719	2,521
Sub Total	7,546	4,513	12,058	2,396	1,941	4,337	12	6	18	190	116	306	10,144	6,576	16,719
TOTAL	15,552	8,221	23,771	7,026	5,191	12,217	310	214	524	895	541	1,436	23,782	14,167	37,949

TABLE 7.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS

	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
Northern Perth	4,449	3,273	7,722	31
South West WA	5,416	1,527	6,943	35
Southern Perth	2,949	2,304	5,253	44
South Coastal Perth	2,425	2,037	4,462	50
Eastern Perth	1,890	1,902	3,792	53
Southern Zone	3,274	497	3,771	54
Northern Zone	1,955	1,530	3,485	56
Eastern Zone and Central - Pilbara - Kimberley	1,414	1,107	2,521	61

Bowls participation rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation to population rate in Western Australia was 1.64%. The male rate was 2.11% and the female rate was 1.18%.

# TASMANIA

Tasmania is Australia's smallest state (and ranks sixth among states and territories) with 517,588<sup>7</sup> residents or 2.1% of the Australian population. Bowls Tasmania has four regions; Hobart and South and three country regions.

FIGURE 8.1



The Tasmanian regions in the 2017 Census and for planning bowls development are:

❖ **METROPOLITAN HOBART AND SOUTH**

❖ **COUNTRY TASMANIA**

- Launceston and North
- North West
- East

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 8.1.

**MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS**

In 2017, Tasmania had:

- 70 bowls clubs
- 7,486 playing and non-playing members
- 18,388 participants in all forms of bowls

Table 8.1 presents details of bowls membership for Tasmania.

Of the 7,486 club members in Tasmania,

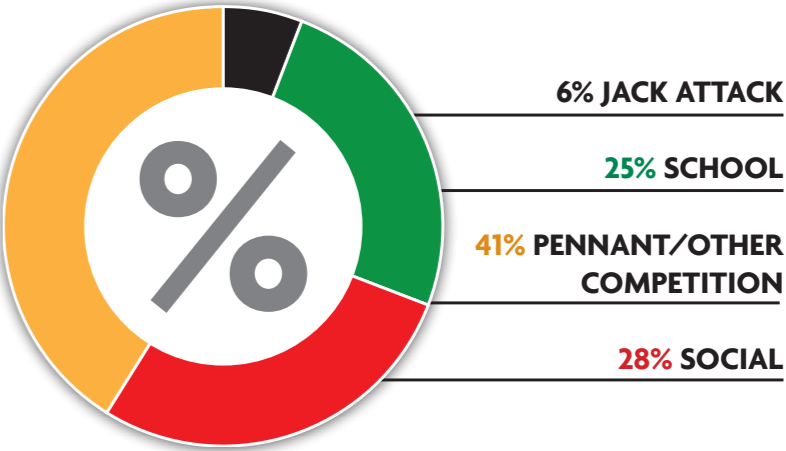
- o 62.7% were playing members
- o 37.3% were non-playing members
- o 53.2% of members were located in country Tasmania (ie northern, north-western and eastern regions).

The Tasmanian region with the greatest number of bowls club members was Hobart and South.

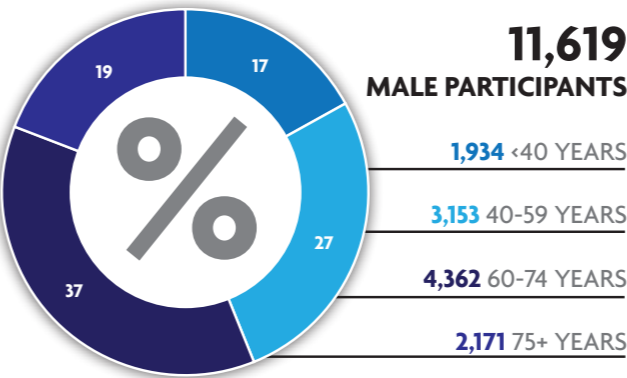
TABLE 8.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS TASMANIA, 2017

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
<b>METROPOLITAN</b>			
Hobart and South	1,976	1,528	3,504
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>1,528</b>	<b>3,504</b>
<b>COUNTRY</b>			
Launceston and North	1,267	684	1,950
North West	1,272	527	1,799
East	176	57	233
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>3,982</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,691</b>	<b>2,795</b>	<b>7,486</b>

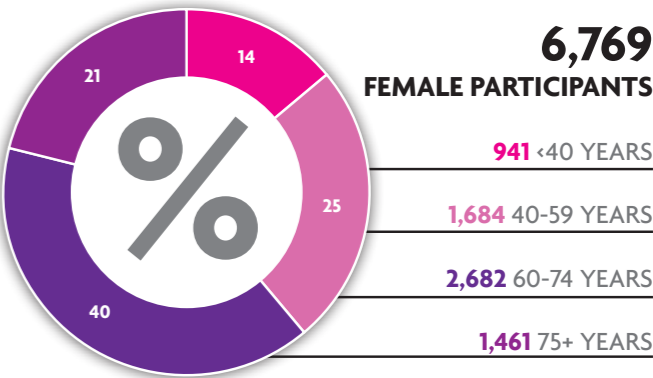
FIGURE 8.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, TASMANIA



MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, TAS 2017



FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, TAS 2017



<sup>7</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2016, April 2017

TABLE 8.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN TASMANIA (4+ GAMES) 2017

PARTICIPANTS	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
METROPOLITAN															
Hobart and South	1,934	1,032	2,966	1,700	625	2,325	200	100	300	880	480	1,360	4,714	2,237	6,951
Sub Total	1,934	1,032	2,966	1,700	625	2,325	200	100	300	880	480	1,360	4,714	2,237	6,951
COUNTRY															
Launceston & North/North East	1,562	801	2,363	920	460	1,380	250	100	350	950	590	1,540	3,682	1,951	5,633
North West	1,412	792	2,204	960	470	1,430	300	200	500	990	680	1,670	3,662	2,142	5,804
Sub Total	2,974	1,593	4,567	1,880	930	2,810	550	300	850	1,940	1,270	3,210	7,344	4,093	11,437
TOTAL	4,907	2,626	7,533	3,580	1,555	5,135	750	400	1,150	2,820	1,750	4,570	12,057	6,331	18,388

Table 8.2 and Figure 8.2 summarise bowls participation by major segment and by gender. Specifically:

- Pennant and competition bowls was Tasmania’s largest segment with 41.0%.
- Male participation makes up 65.6%, of all bowls participation in Tasmania

Regional rankings for Tasmanian in terms of participants are summarised in Table 8.3.

TABLE 8.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF TASMANIA REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS

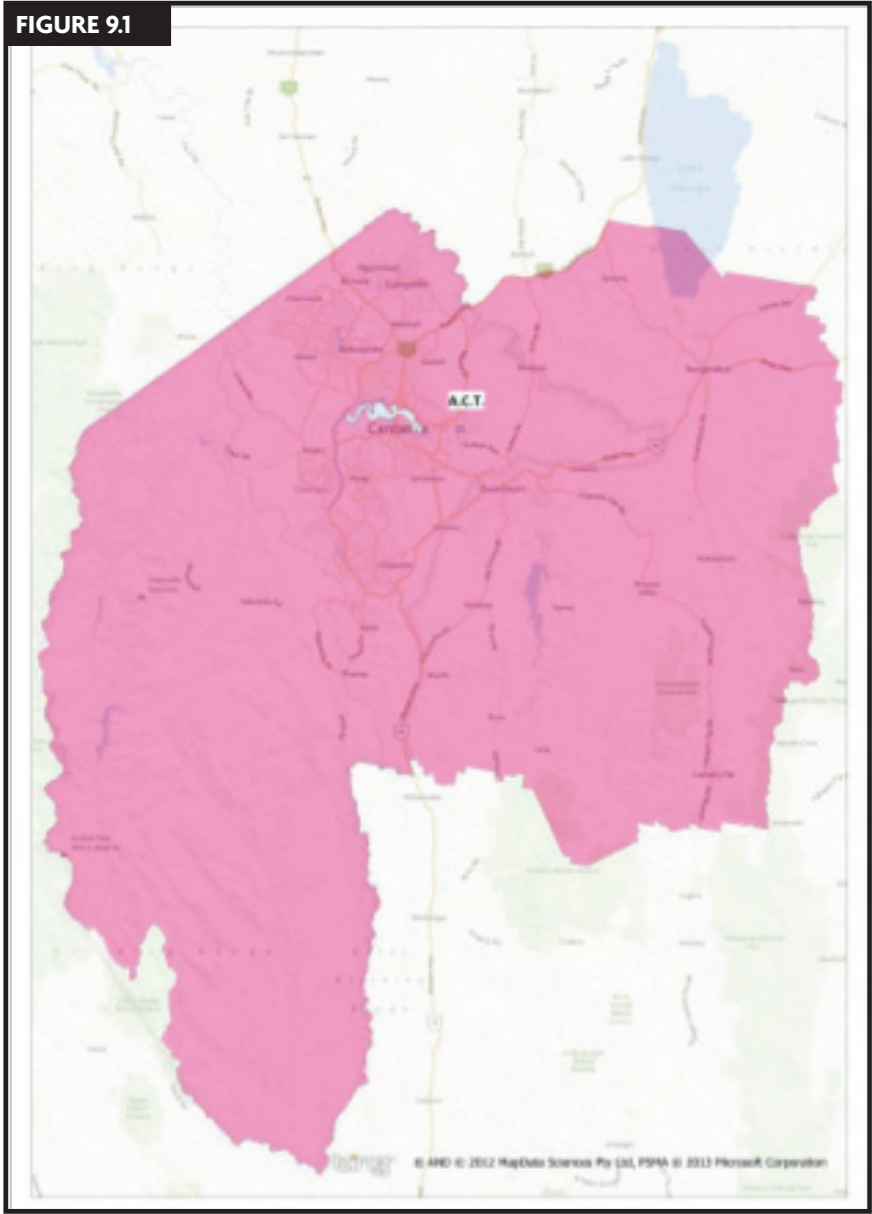
	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
Hobart and South	2,966	3,985	6,951	34
North West	2,204	3,600	5,804	42
East	377	2,913	3,290	55
Launceston and North/North East	2,363	3,270	5,633	43

Bowls participation rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation to population rate in Tasmania was 4.01%. The male rate was 5.22% a the female rate was 2.87%.



# AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The Australian Capital Territory has 403,468<sup>9</sup> residents, or 1.7% of the Australian resident population. The ACT is classified as one administration region, although Bowls ACT encompasses bowls competitions and programs extend beyond the Territory's border, and includes the local government area of Queanbeyan-Palerang (with an additional population of 58,128 residents).



## MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS

In 2017, the Australian Capital Territory had:

- 11 bowls clubs
- 12,337 playing and non-playing members
- 2,924 participants in all forms of bowls

Table 9.1 presents details of bowls membership for the Australian Capital Territory.

Of the 12,337 club members in the Australian Capital Territory,

- 14.2% were playing members
- 85.8% were non-playing members.

In the Australian Capital Territory, the largest bowls participation segment in was 'social programs', with 44.5%.

- Male participation makes up 60.6% of all bowls participation in the ACT.

The regional ranking for the Australian Capital Territory regions in terms of participants are summarised in Table 9.3

Bowls participation rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation rate in the Australian Capital Territory was 0.79%, the male rate was 1.02% and the female rate was 0.56%.

**TABLE 9.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY, 2017**

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
ACT			
TOTAL	1,757	10,580	12,337

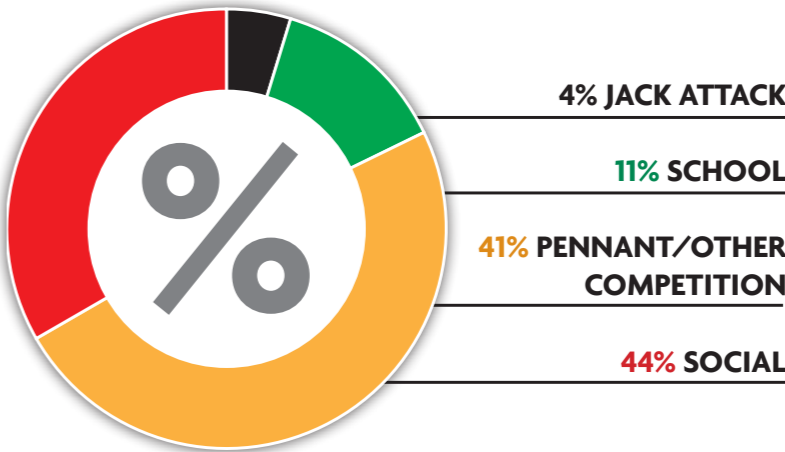
**TABLE 9.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (4+ GAMES) 2017**

PARTICIPANTS	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
ACT:															
TOTAL	830	337	1,167	709	592	1,301	69	57	126	165	165	330	1,773	1,151	2,924

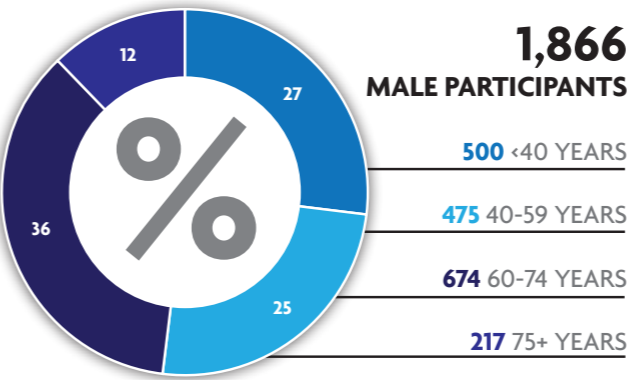
**TABLE 9.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF ACT REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS**

	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
ACT	1,167	1,757	2,924	58

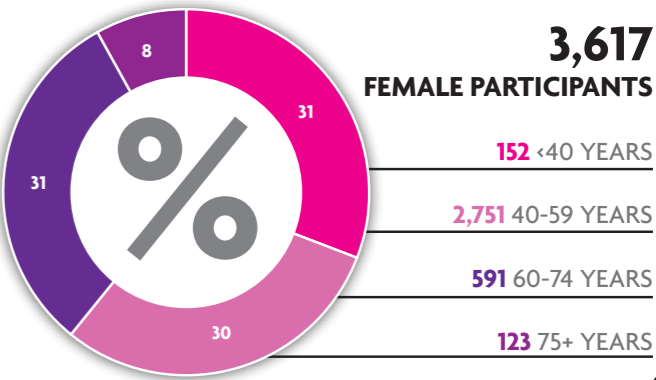
**FIGURE 9.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**



**MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, ACT 2017**



**FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, ACT 2017**



<sup>9</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2016, April 2017

# NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Northern Territory is Australia's least populous state/territory with 245,740<sup>9</sup> residents or 1.02% of the Australian population. Northern Territory Bowls has three longer-term identified regions; one metropolitan region and two country regions.

The Northern Territory regions for longer term Bowls Censuses and for planning bowls development are:

- Metropolitan Darwin and Top End
- Katherine Barkly
- Central Australia.

However, in the 2017 Census, the Northern Territory has been analysed as a single region.

### MEMBERS AND PARTICIPANTS

In 2017, the Northern Territory had:

- 7 bowls clubs
- 488 playing and non-playing members
- 7,947 participants in all forms of bowls

Table 10.1 presents details of bowls membership for the Australian Capital Territory.

Of the 480 club members in the Northern Territory,

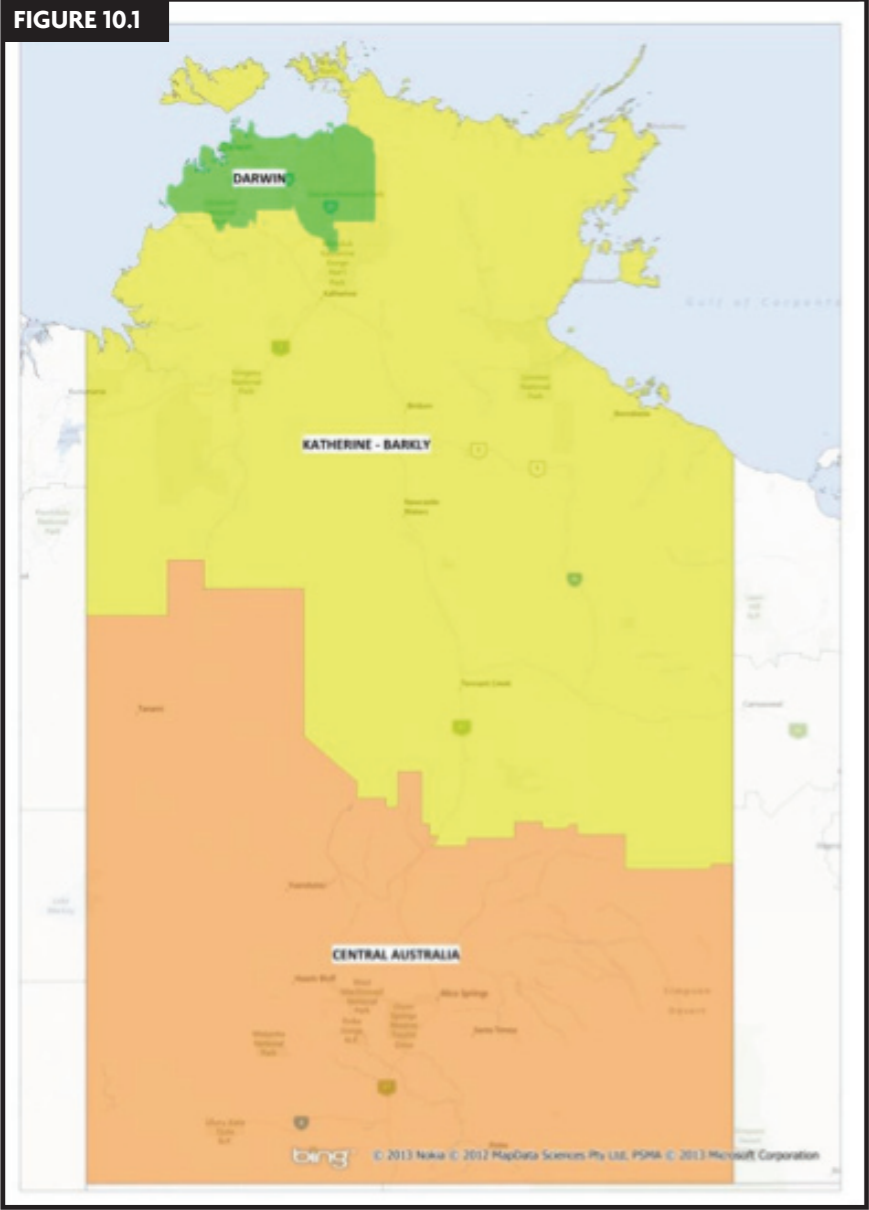
- 51.8% were playing members
- 48.2% were non-playing members

The greatest participation segment in the Northern Territory was social bowls, with 80.9% of participants.

Male participation makes up 51.7% of all bowls participation in the Northern Territory.

The regional ranking for the Northern Territory in terms of participants is summarised in Table 10.3

Bowls participation rates show the extent to which people in each age group and in each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation to population rate in the Northern Territory was 3.74%, the male rate was 3.77% and the female rate was 3.70%.



**TABLE 10.1 BOWLS CLUB MEMBERS NORTHERN TERRITORY, 2017**

	Total Playing Members	Non- Playing Members	Total Members
NORTHERN TERRITORY			
TOTAL	253	235	488

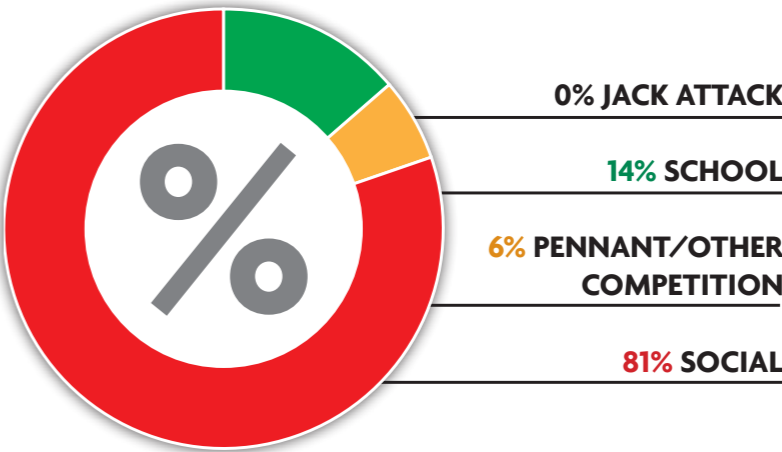
**TABLE 10.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION IN NORTHERN TERRITORY (4+ GAMES) 2017**

PARTICIPANTS	Pennant and Other Participation			Social and Other Participation			Jack Attack Participation			School Participation			Total Participants (+4)		
	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
NORTHERN TERRITORY:															
TOTAL	238	200	438	3,762	2,670	6,432	0	0	0	538	539	1,077	4,538	3,409	5,168

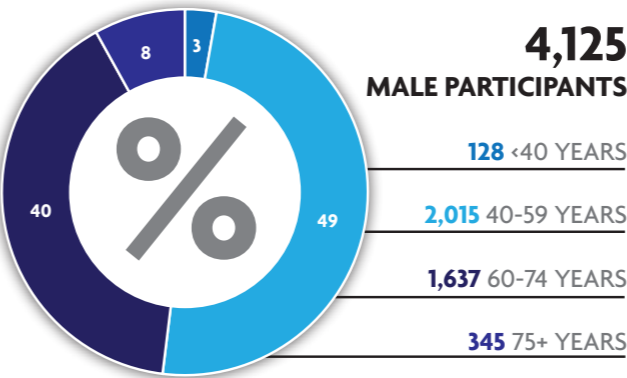
**TABLE 10.3 NATIONAL RANKINGS OF NORTHERN TERRITORY REGIONS BY PARTICIPANTS**

	Pennant & Other Competition	Social, Jack Attack & School	Total Participants	Ranking
REGION:				
NORTHERN TERRITORY	438	7,509	7,947	30

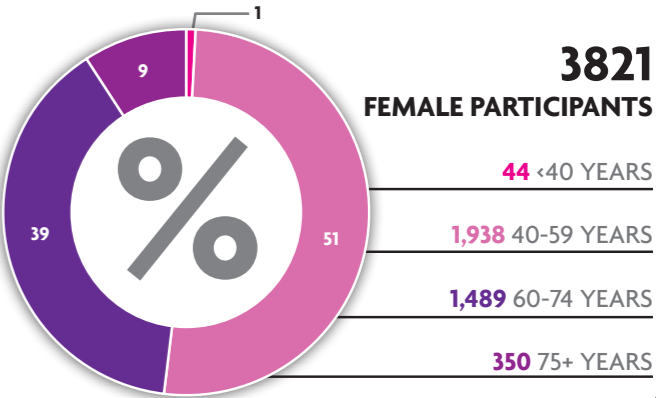
**FIGURE 10.2 BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR SEGMENT, NORTHERN TERRITORY AUSTRALIA**



**MALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, NT 2017**



**FEMALE BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY AGE, NT 2017**



<sup>9</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2016, April 2017