



2019

NATIONAL BOWLS CENSUS REPORT



AN OFFICIAL BOWLS AUSTRALIA PUBLICATION

LOCAL LEGENDS WANTED





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This is the ninth National Bowls Census, undertaken to support the implementation of bowls strategies, and to plan the development of the sport of bowls around Australia. The ninth Census is the first to be compiled entirely from data collected in the Bowls Australia CRM, BowlsLink platform and Sporting Schools databases with input from Bowls Australia's team, especially Regional Bowls Managers. This is a significant enhancement on previous censuses which were compiled through collaborative input of Bowls Australia staff, State and Territory Bowls Associations and surveys of bowls clubs from across Australia.
- The 2019 Census results have been compiled from the participation data of 67% of all clubs nationally and scaled to provide estimates for 100% of clubs¹.
- Formal, or registered, playing membership of bowls clubs has been decreasing for more than 30 years, at the rate of 3.4% per annum on average. The most recent decrease was reduced to 1.8% (between 2017 and 2019). The Australian resident population is currently increasing at an average annual rate of 1.6%.
- Decreases in formal membership of bowls clubs have been offset by growth in social 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 693,563 participants² in Australian bowls (Figure E1) in 2019:
 - o 202,273 pennant and competition participants
 - o 468,420 participants in regular social bowls
 - o 22,870 participants in Jack Attack programs (including Junior Jack Attack in schools).
- Bowls regular participation increased by 1.6% on average between 2018 and 2019. Social bowls is not only bowls' growth segment, but it has become the major area of participation in recent years (Figure E2). Social bowls is now established as, by far, the largest participation segment in bowls. Pennant and other competition participation declined by 0.6% per annum since 2018, while participation in social bowls increased by 2.6% per annum.
- Over the period 2010 to 2019, regular bowls participation has increased at an average annual rate of 3.38%.



FIGURE E.1 NATIONAL BOWLS PARTICIPATION, 2019

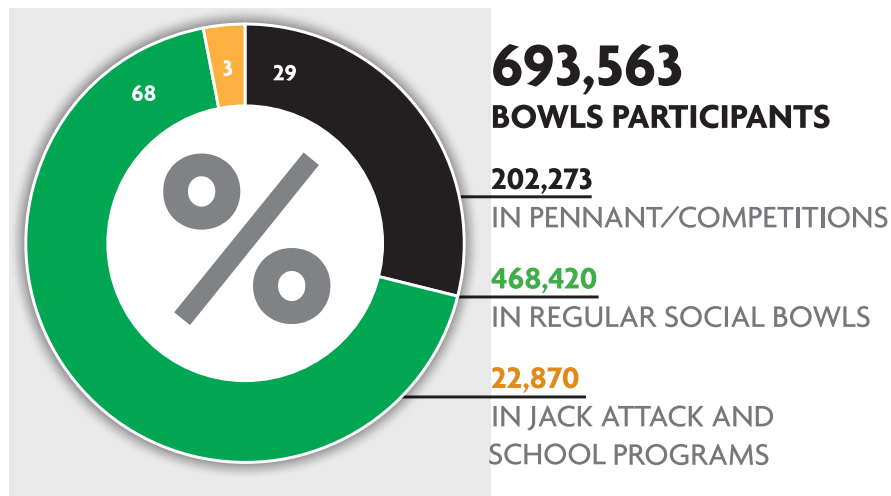


FIGURE E.2 PARTICIPATION TRENDS: COMPETITION AND SOCIAL BOWLS, 2010-2019

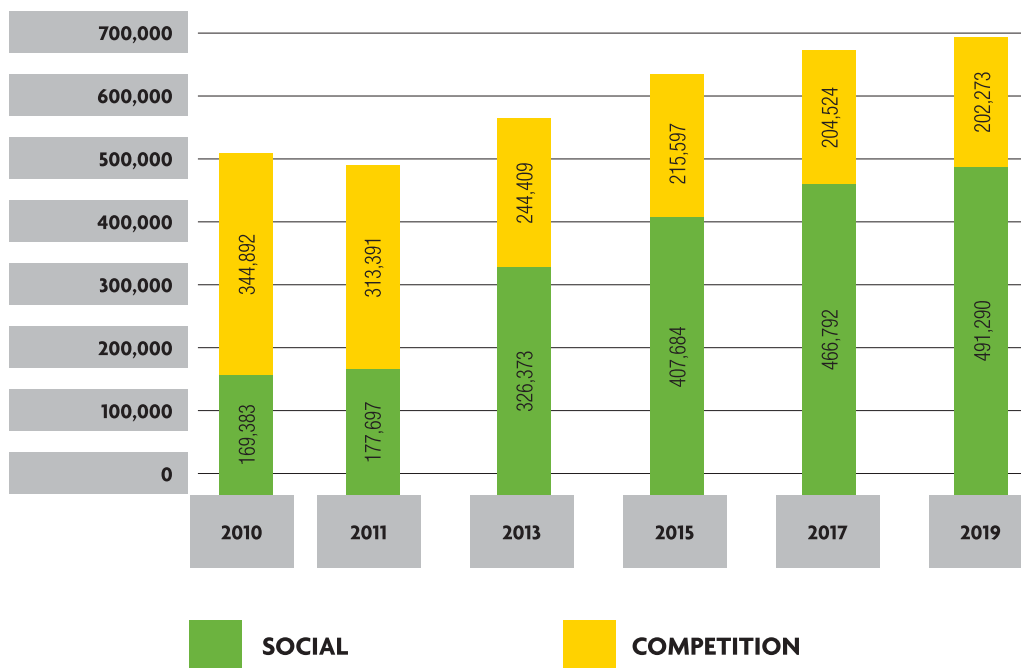


TABLE 1.1 CLUBS WITH DATA ENTERED, 2019

	Number of Clubs	Data Entered	%
Australian Capital Territory	10	9	90.0%
New South Wales	506	497	98.2%
Northern Territory	8	8	100.0%
Queensland	307	121	39.4%
South Australia	217	26	12.0%*
Tasmania	69	24	34.7%
Victoria	511	342	67.0%
Western Australia	204	203	99.5%
AUSTRALIA	1,832	1,230	67.1%

² Participation figures include the counting of a participant each time they compete in a bowls competition or program of at least 4 games per annum. ³ Jack attack and school programs are included in 'Social Bowls' in this graph. * SA percentage is low due to no Regional Bowls Manager on the ground for most of the year - data collected from surveys.

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Bowls Australia (BA) recognises that membership and participation are fundamental to the success of the sport in an increasingly competitive environment, BA also remain aware that Australia's population is increasingly conscious of the importance of health and leisure but, at the same time, is favouring sport and recreational pursuits that enable participation within the constraints of a busy lifestyle.

Figure 2.1 shows that formal, or registered, playing membership has decreased progressively since 1980. The average rate of decrease has been 2.4% per annum throughout the period. However, between 2017 and 2019 the decrease slowed to just 0.7% per annum. 'Formal' members of bowls clubs in 2019 were only 39% of those registered in 1980. Over this same period (1980-2018) the Australian total resident population has increased by 70%, from 14.69 million to 24.99 million, at an average annual rate of 1.4%.

Table 2.1 summarises the playing member trends contributing to a 3.46% average annual decrease since Bowls Censuses began. South Australia, Victoria and Northern Territory had an increase in playing members, while the greatest reductions were in Queensland (9.4%), New South Wales (7.8%), and Australian Capital Territory (7.6%).



FIGURE 2.1 TRENDS IN PLAYING MEMBERSHIP 1980-2019

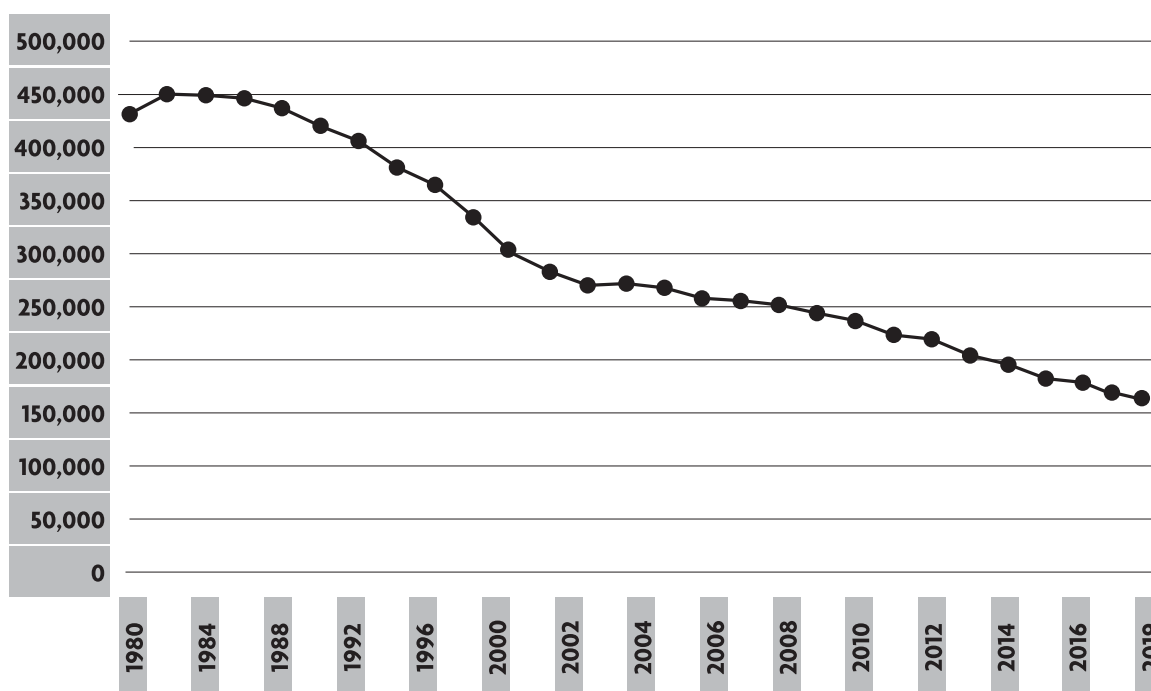


TABLE 2.1 PLAYING MEMBER TRENDS, 2011 TO 2019

	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019
Australian Capital Territory	2,463	2,342	1,838	1,757	1,623
New South Wales	80,587	72,586	64,712	57,269	52,777
Northern Territory	447	309	255	253	348
Queensland	43,571	38,491	34,389	31,811	28,818
South Australia	17,150	16,578	15,745	15,195	20,149
Tasmania	5,980	5,635	5,157	4,691	4,479
Victoria	51,969	48,267	42,232	42,486	43,228
Western Australia	18,965	18,072	16,345	15,887	15,440
TOTAL	221,132	202,280	180,673	169,349	166,862

PARTICIPATION IN BOWLS (4+ games)

Table 2.2 presents details of all bowls participation (greater than 4 weeks/games duration per annum) by State/Territory and bowls segment. There were 693,563 participants in bowls in 2019 (in competitions and programs of at least 4 weeks/games duration per annum) comprising:

- 202,273 pennant and other competition participants
- 468,420 social programs participants (including barefoot, corporate, 'bowling with babies' and 'mums on the green' in Victoria, and other social bowls activities)
- 22,870 Jack Attack and school participants.

Table 2.3 and Figure 2.2 summarise trends in both participants and playing members over the nine years since inception of the national bowls census. The table also reveals that growth in social participation has been

greatest (in percentage and absolute terms) in the three largest States: New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland (with recent very strong growth also in Northern Territory). It also shows that:

- The average annual increase in regular (4+ games) bowls participation has been 3.38% over the period 2010 to 2019.
- The average annual increase in regular social (including schools and Jack Attack) participation has been 12.56% over the period 2010 to 2019.
- The average annual decrease in regular pennant and other member competition participation has been 5.76% over the period 2010 to 2019.
- The average annual decrease in playing membership has been 3.72% over the period 2010 to 2019.

TABLE 2.2 BOWLS PARTICIPANTS (4+ GAMES) AUSTRALIA, 2019

PARTICIPANTS 4+ GAMES	Pennant and Other Competition	Social Bowls	Jack Attack and Schools	2019
Australian Capital Territory	1,460	1,374	63	1,897
New South Wales	69,887	120,662	6,886	197,415
Northern Territory	493	26,044	28	26,565
Queensland	29,086	107,748	2,612	139,446
South Australia	12,654	44,233	1,757	58,644
Tasmania	4,076	10,975	1,000	16,051
Victoria	54,351	135,295	8,507	198,152
Western Australia	30,266	22,089	2,038	54,393
TOTAL	202,273	468,420	22,870	693,563

FIGURE 2.2 NATIONAL PARTICIPATION AND PLAYING MEMBER TRENDS

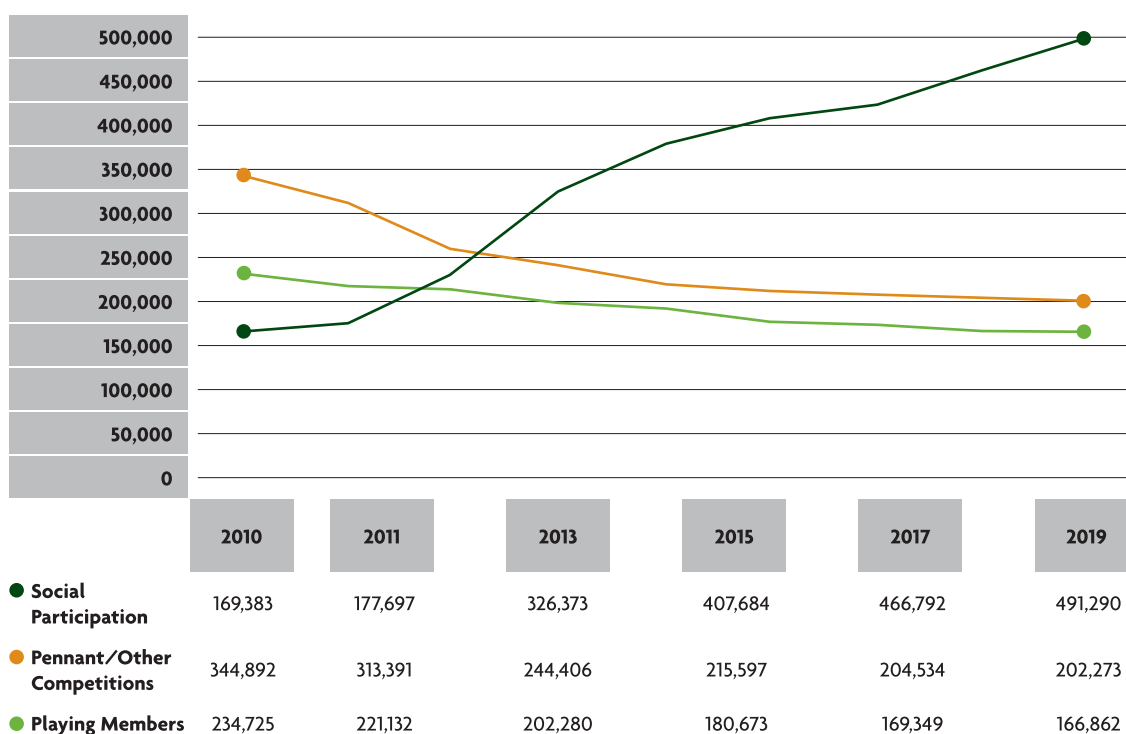


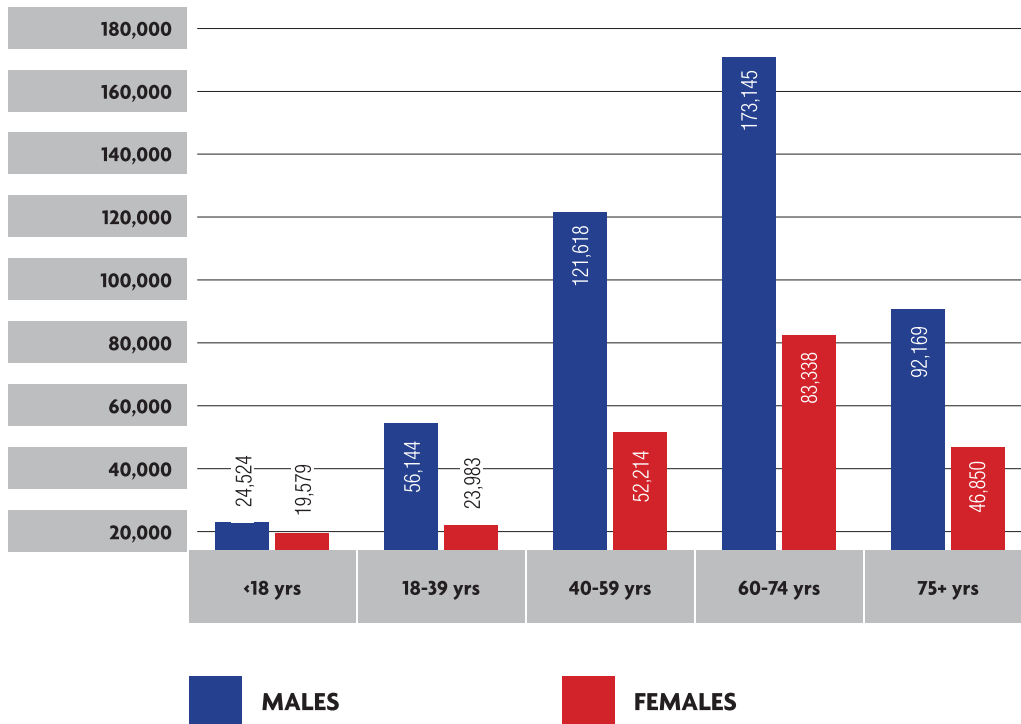
TABLE 2.3 TRENDS IN PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) AND PLAYING MEMBERSHIP: 2010 - 2019 BY STATE AND TERRITORY

STATE/TERRITORY	2010	2012	2014	2016	2017	2019	%PA 2010-19
ACT							
Social Participation	10,770	2,100	5,209	9,716	1,757	1,437	-20.05%
Pennant/Other Competitions	3,492	2,230	2,092	1,637	1,167	1,460	-9.23%
Total Participants	14,262	4,330	7,301	11,353	2,924	2,897	-16.23%
Playing Members	2,502	2,135	1,940	1,833	1,757	1,623	-4.70%
NSW							
Social Participation	40,325	73,673	140,118	143,167	179,991	120,662	12.95%
Pennant/Other Competitions	115,285	87,229	59,903	55,587	54,608	69,887	-5.41%
Total Participants	155,610	160,902	200,021	198,753	234,599	197,415	2.68%
Playing Members	85,140	78,749	68,793	59,233	57,269	52,777	-5.17%
NT							
Social Participation	1,825	2,620	2,765	4,783	7,509	26,072	34.38%
Pennant/Other Competitions	424	929	432	385	438	493	1.68%
Total Participants	2,249	3,549	3,197	5,168	7,947	26,565	31.57%
Playing Members	416	594	329	262	253	348	-1.96%
QLD							
Social Participation	34,375	68,388	115,601	103,734	98,399	107,748	13.53%
Pennant/Other Competitions	65,122	38,250	36,015	30,517	29,531	29,086	-8.57%
Total Participants	99,497	106,638	151,616	134,252	127,930	139,446	3.82%
Playing Members	45,638	39,106	37,319	33,480	31,811	28,818	-4.98%
SA							
Social Participation	19,094	12,687	12,072	20,190	19,146	45,990	10.26%
Pennant/Other Competitions	27,759	25,249	20,928	23,286	21,860	12,654	-8.36%
Total Participants	46,853	37,936	33,000	43,476	41,006	58,644	2.53%
Playing Members	17,472	17,532	16,249	15,113	15,195	20,149	1.60%
TAS							
Social Participation	5,081	4,763	7,742	7,877	10,855	11,975	9.99%
Pennant/Other Competitions	7,333	9,105	6,702	8,611	7,533	4,076	-6.32%
Total Participants	12,414	13,868	14,444	16,488	18,388	16,051	2.90%
Playing Members	6,018	6,773	5,419	4,810	4,691	4,479	-3.23%
VIC							
Social Participation	43,169	47,741	85,284	123,469	134,958	143,802	14.31%
Pennant/Other Competitions	83,660	73,219	68,866	65,522	65,615	54,351	-4.68%
Total Participants	126,829	120,960	154,150	188,991	200,573	198,152	5.08%
Playing Members	58,169	51,098	46,775	46,038	42,486	43,228	-3.24%
WA							
Social Participation	14,744	18,984	11,965	10,212	14,177	24,127	5.62%
Pennant/Other Competitions	41,817	27,401	27,094	25,172	23,771	30,266	-3.53%
Total Participants	56,561	46,385	39,059	35,384	37,948	54,393	-0.43%
Playing Members	19,370	21,283	17,288	15,825	15,887	15,440	-2.49%
AUSTRALIA							
Social Participation	169,383	230,956	380,755	423,148	466,792	491,290	12.56%
Pennant/Other Competitions	344,892	263,612	222,032	210,717	204,524	202,273	-5.76%
Total Participants	514,275	494,568	602,787	633,865	671,316	693,563	3.38%
Playing Members	234,725	217,270	194,112	176,594	169,349	166,862	-3.72%

* Note: Social participation includes Jack Attack, and school programs
 SOURCE: National Bowls Censuses 2010 to 2019

Male bowls participants are in the majority, making up 68% of all regular participants. This gender variation is quite consistent across all age groups except those less than 18 years, where males are still in the majority, but contribute 56% of the total; a reflection of the inclusion of mixed school groups and junior participants in Jack Attack/Junior Jack Attack programs. Figure 2.3 shows male and female participant numbers by age group.

FIGURE 2.3 TOTAL BOWLS PARTICIPATION BY GENDER, 2019



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 Table 2.4.

The overall participation rate in Australia was 3.09% (4.22% for males and 1.99% for females). Participation was highest in the 75+ years age group (8.23%) and lowest in the 18-39 years age group (1.15%).



TABLE 2.4 PARTICIPANT TO POPULATION RATES, 2019

MALES	8-39 years	40-59 years	60-74 years	75+ years	Total
Australian Capital Territory	0.45%	0.93%	2.33%	4.86%	1.06%
New South Wales	1.31%	2.79%	6.25%	10.72%	3.17%
Northern Territory	2.06%	19.29%	61.47%	74.21%	15.70%
Queensland	1.19%	3.94%	12.91%	18.48%	4.97%
South Australia	2.81%	4.35%	9.14%	10.20%	4.95%
Tasmania	2.16%	5.89%	5.96%	5.46%	4.25%
Victoria	1.79%	5.20%	12.45%	11.39%	4.97%
Western Australia	0.86%	2.35%	8.14%	11.29%	3.03%
TOTAL	1.47%	3.91%	9.89%	12.41%	4.22%

FEMALES	8-39 years	40-59 years	60-74 years	75+ years	Total
Australian Capital Territory	0.19%	0.28%	1.17%	2.30%	0.49%
New South Wales	0.72%	1.05%	3.14%	4.38%	1.53%
Northern Territory	1.34%	8.60%	40.15%	30.86%	8.46%
Queensland	0.73%	2.01%	6.04%	9.05%	2.60%
South Australia	1.91%	2.04%	4.26%	3.57%	2.54%
Tasmania	1.17%	2.64%	3.83%	4.56%	2.47%
Victoria	0.77%	1.77%	4.84%	3.33%	1.89%
Western Australia	0.67%	1.33%	4.11%	4.34%	1.67%
TOTAL	0.81%	1.63%	4.55%	4.95%	1.99%

TOTAL MALES & FEMALES	8-39 years	40-59 years	60-74 years	75+ years	Total
Australian Capital Territory	0.32%	0.60%	1.72%	3.41%	0.77%
New South Wales	1.02%	1.91%	4.66%	7.16%	2.34%
Northern Territory	1.71%	14.14%	51.54%	52.33%	12.21%
Queensland	0.96%	2.95%	9.42%	13.28%	3.77%
South Australia	2.37%	3.18%	6.62%	6.44%	3.73%
Tasmania	1.68%	4.22%	4.88%	4.96%	3.35%
Victoria	1.28%	3.45%	8.52%	6.85%	3.41%
Western Australia	0.77%	1.84%	6.10%	7.41%	2.35%
TOTAL	1.15%	2.75%	7.16%	8.23%	3.09%

REGIONAL PARTICIPATION

The Australian Bowls 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 2.5 summarises the top ten participation regions and the top ten by competition (pennant, tournaments, etc) and social bowls revealing that:

- New South Wales regions of North Coast, Hunter, Riverina Murray, Northern Sydney, South Coast and Greater Western Sydney are still heartlands for pennant and other competition bowls.

- Victoria is the leading state for social bowls with Central Victoria, Central Goulburn Murray and Bendigo Campaspe regions all having strong social bowls programs.
- Recent renovations/capital investment in Darwin and Alice Springs have stimulated much greater social bowls participation in the Territory.
- Western Australia has maintained a high level of participation in competition bowls.
- Several Queensland regions are among the highest total participation areas including the Gold Coast, Brisbane and the Gateway regions.

Table 2.6 shows the Australian Bowls regions in rank order of participants. It also shows membership numbers by region.

TABLE 2.5 LARGEST COMPETITION, SOCIAL AND OVERALL PARTICIPANT REGIONS

RANK	Competition Bowls	Social Bowls	Total Participants
1	North Coast, NSW	North Coast, NSW	North Coast, NSW
2	Hunter, NSW	Central Victoria, Vic	Central Victoria, Vic
3	South West and Southern WA	Northern Territory, NT	Northern Territory, NT
4	Northern Perth, WA	Gateway, Qld	Riverina Murray, NSW
5	Riverina Murray, NSW	Brisbane, Qld	Gold Coast, Qld
6	Northern Sydney, NSW	Gold Coast, Qld	Hunter, NSW
7	South Coast, NSW	Riverina Murray, NSW	Gateway, Qld
8	Greater Western Sydney, NSW	Central Goulburn Murray, Vic	Brisbane, Qld
9	Bendigo Campaspe, Vic	Bendigo Campaspe, Vic	Central Goulburn Murray, Vic
10	South Coastal Perth WA	Wide Bay Burnett, Qld	Bendigo Campaspe, Vic

TABLE 2.6 **REGIONS RANKED BY BOWLS PARTICIPATION, 2019**

REGION	State	Pennant and Other Competitions	Social Bowls	Jack Attack (and JJA)	Total Participants
North Coast	NSW	12,813	40,049	672	53,534
Central Victoria	VIC	4,664	28,041	133	32,838
Northern Territory	NT	493	26,044	28	26,565
Riverina Murray	NSW	6,720	17,892	753	25,365
Gold Coast	QLD	5,060	18,415	191	23,667
Hunter	NSW	11,915	10,710	1,017	23,642
Gateway	QLD	3,318	20,017	114	23,449
Brisbane	QLD	3,615	18,654	413	22,723
Central Goulburn Murray	VIC	5,135	15,905	415	21,455
Bendigo Campaspe	VIC	5,509	14,989	359	20,857
South Coast	NSW	5,994	10,703	425	17,122
Wide Bay Burnett	QLD	4,258	12,652	185	17,096
West Coast	VIC	3,928	10,985	313	15,225
Greater Western Sydney	NSW	5,840	7,753	1,174	14,766
Northern Perth	WA	7,167	6,691	377	14,235
Peninsula Casey	VIC	3,213	10,124	861	14,197
Eastern Ranges	VIC	4,690	8,358	998	14,045
Northern Sydney	NSW	6,362	6,956	581	13,899
South West and Southern WA	WA	7,688	4,592	560	12,839
Central Queensland and Whitsundays	QLD	2,193	8,342	285	10,820
Downs, Condamine, Maranoa	QLD	2,715	7,404	382	10,501
Ovens and Murray	VIC	2,779	7,103	257	10,139
Sunshine Coast	QLD	2,377	7,466	149	9,992
Geelong	VIC	5,245	4,181	518	9,944
Murray Mallee	VIC	2,084	7,537	232	9,853
Central West	NSW	3,379	5,780	605	9,764
South Coastal Perth	WA	5,390	3,318	490	9,198
Sandbelt	VIC	3,464	4,662	1,052	9,178
Yarra	VIC	4,394	3,969	793	9,156
Murraylands and Lower Murray	SA	2,025	6,858	223	9,106
Central Coast	NSW	5,043	3,880	155	9,078
North and Far North	QLD	2,221	6,313	337	8,872

TABLE 2.6 Continued

REGION	State	Pennant and Other Competitions	Social Bowls	Jack Attack (and JJA)	Total Participants
Far West	NSW	2,031	6,222	552	8,804
Wimmera	VIC	1,711	6,068	241	8,021
Adelaide Torrens	SA	1,714	6,070	177	7,961
Barossa	SA	1,607	5,649	325	7,581
Northern Gateway	VIC	2,657	3,002	1,101	6,760
Southern Sydney	NSW	3,588	3,064	75	6,727
Eastern Perth	WA	2,559	3,825	89	6,473
Eastern Adelaide	SA	1,206	4,948	201	6,355
Strzelecki	VIC	1,673	4,261	363	6,297
Hobart and South	TAS	1,849	3,808	509	6,166
Coorong-Fleurieu	SA	1,143	4,669	165	5,978
North West NSW	NSW	2,181	3,458	228	5,867
Yorke Peninsula	SA	1,505	4,046	183	5,735
Metropolitan West	VIC	1,906	2,543	756	5,205
Launceston and North	TAS	1,061	3,890	167	5,118
Brisbane North	QLD	1,824	3,065	191	5,081
South East SA	SA	980	3,960	137	5,077
Gippsland	VIC	1,300	3,568	114	4,982
North West	TAS	1,001	3,178	295	4,474
Inner Sydney	NSW	2,297	1,983	160	4,440
Southern Slopes and Plains	NSW	1,725	2,209	471	4,405
Adelaide South West	SA	869	3,316	210	4,395
Spencer Gulf and Eyre	SA	1,018	3,214	93	4,325
Cunningham	QLD	872	2,960	113	3,945
Central - Pilbara - Kimberley	WA	1,659	2,194	0	3,853
Caboollure	QLD	632	2,458	211	3,300
Northern Zone	WA	2,579	336	291	3,206
ACT	ACT	1,460	1,374	63	2,897
Eastern Zone	WA	1,726	899	2	2,626
Northern Adelaide	SA	587	1,502	43	2,132
Southern Perth	WA	1,498	235	230	1,963
Eastern Tas	TAS	165	99	30	293

BOWLS EXPERIENCES (Less than 4 games)

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 'bowls experiences'. These activities 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 casual activity varies from state to state. Bowls experiences can include social, corporate, barefoot and school activities.

Table 2.7 shows that there were 1,260,121 bowls experiences (i.e. social activities of less than four games'; usually once) in 2019. There has been an explosion of interest in, and promotion of casual events around barefoot bowling and this segment contributed 82% of all bowls experiences in 2019.

TABLE 2.7 BOWLS EXPERIENCES (LESS THAN 4 GAMES) 2019

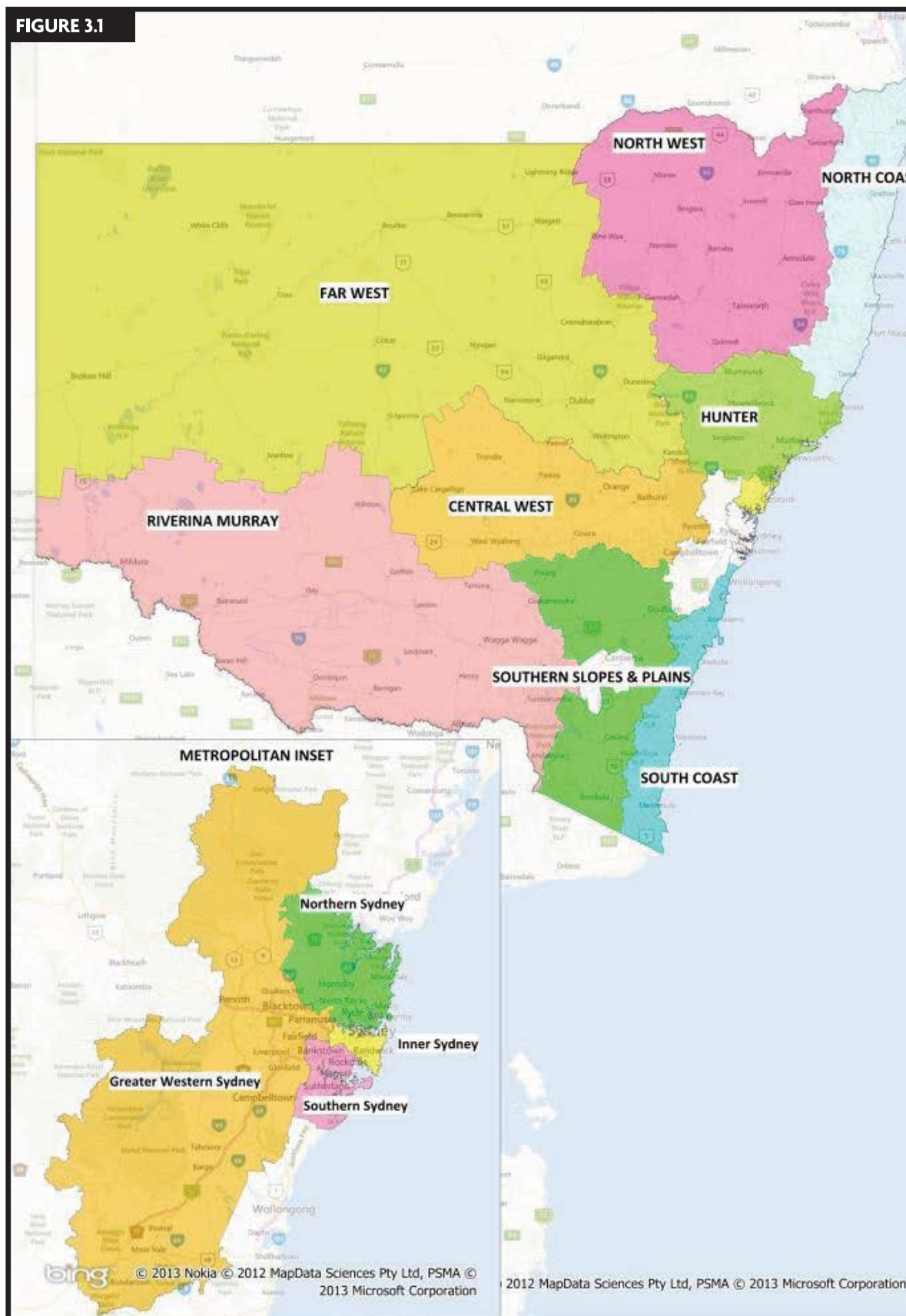
BOWLS EXPERIENCES	Barefoot Bowls	Corporate Bowls	Jack Attack	Other Social Bowls	Total Experiences
Australian Capital Territory	7,412	12,175	0	477	20,064
New South Wales	379,018	11,344	5,552	31,240	427,154
Northern Territory	4,670	0	2,500	13,240	20,410
Queensland	214,750	6,402	503	13,219	234,874
South Australia	1,190	0	100	3,114	4,404
Tasmania	1,345	0	200	9,163	10,708
Victoria	335,278	13,162	10,518	74,949	433,907
Western Australia	88,846	1,933	658	17,163	108,600
AUSTRALIA	1,032,509	45,016	20,031	162,565	1,260,121



NEW SOUTH WALES

New South Wales is Australia's most populous state with 7,988,241⁴ 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



⁴ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

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.

PARTICIPANTS

Table 3.1 summarises bowls participation by major segment. In total, there were 197,415 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in New South Wales during 2019. Specifically,

- The greatest participation segment in New South Wales was social bowls, with 61.1% of participants
- Male participation makes up 68.5% of all bowls participation in New South Wales.
- Participation in country New South Wales (157,584) is 79.8% 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.

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 2.34%:

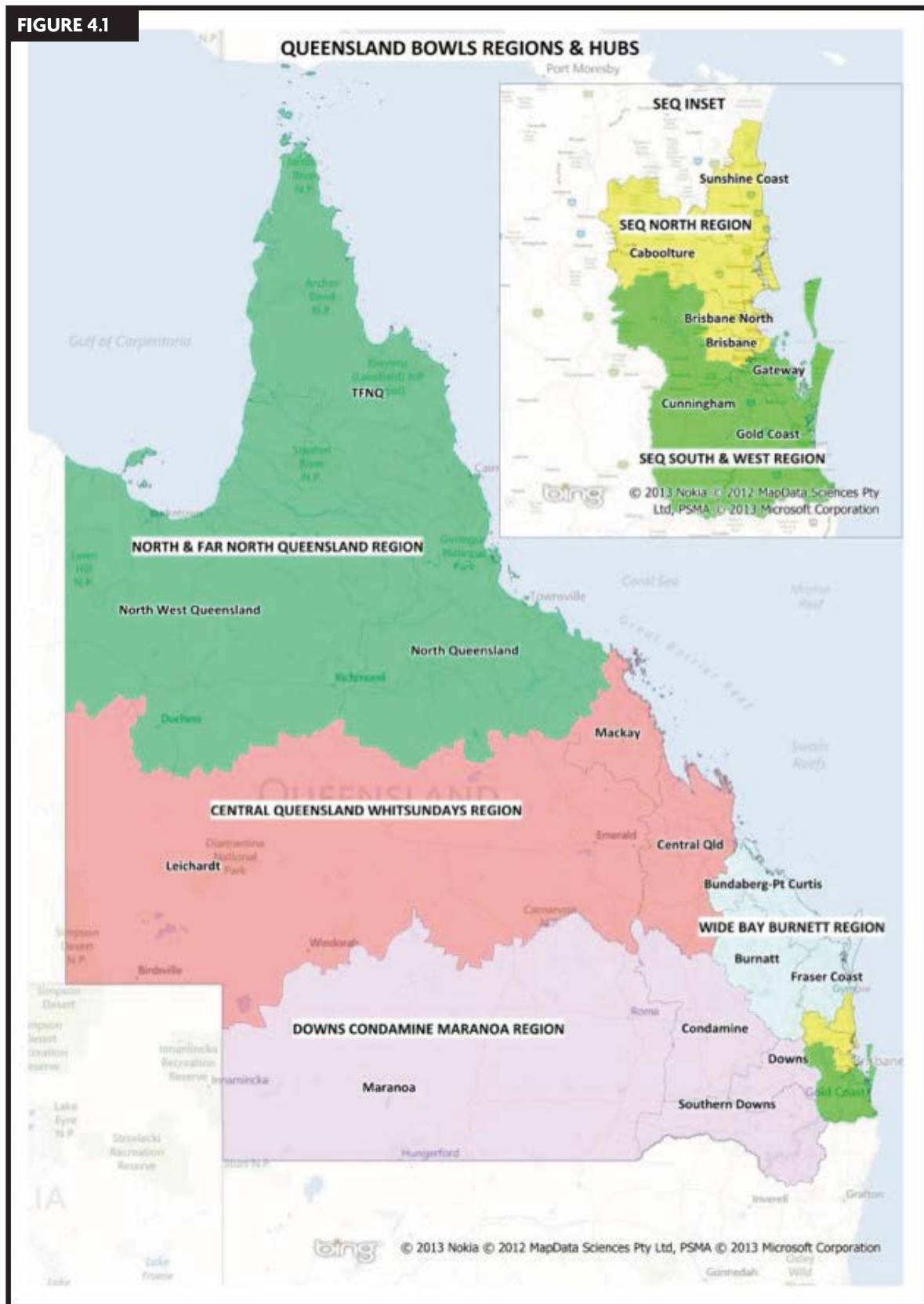
- 3.17% for males
- 1.53% for females.

TABLE 3.1 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN NEW SOUTH WALES, 2019

	Competition Participants			Social Participants				Jack Attack Programs			TOTAL
	Pennant	Tournaments/ Other	Total Competition	Barefoot	Corporate	Other Social	Total Social	Jack Attack	Jr. Jack Attack	Total JA and JJA	Participants
METROPOLITAN											
Northern Sydney	2,677	3,685	6,362	257	159	6,540	6,956	354	227	581	13,899
Greater Western Sydney	2,434	3,406	5,840	1,903	69	5,781	7,753	768	406	1,174	14,766
Inner Sydney	998	1,299	2,297	31	110	1,842	1,983	56	104	160	4,440
Southern Sydney	1,331	2,257	3,588	0	0	3,064	3,064	0	75	75	6,727
Sub Total	7,440	10,647	18,087	2,191	338	17,227	19,756	1,178	812	1,989	39,832
COUNTRY											
Central West	1,662	1,716	3,379	2,415	58	3,307	5,780	21	584	605	9,764
Far West	1,083	947	2,031	2,897	54	3,271	6,222	313	239	552	8,804
North West NSW	855	1,327	2,181	818	486	2,154	3,458	3	225	228	5,867
North Coast	6,269	6,544	12,813	6,867	1,835	21,358	40,049	112	560	672	53,535
South Coast	3,155	2,840	5,994	1,411	528	8,765	10,703	78	346	425	17,122
Hunter	5,081	6,834	11,915	31	164	10,515	10,710	41	977	1,017	23,642
Central Coast	1,994	3,049	5,043	0	0	3,880	3,880	0	155	155	9,078
Southern Slopes and Plains	781	944	1,725	921	109	1,179	2,209	28	443	471	4,405
Riverina Murray	3,793	2,927	6,720	5,341	475	12,077	17,892	328	425	753	25,365
Sub Total	24,674	27,127	51,801	20,690	3,709	76,506	100,906	923	3,954	4,877	157,584
TOTAL	32,113	37,774	69,887	22,881	4,048	93,733	120,662	2,101	4,765	6,866	197,416

QUEENSLAND

Queensland is Australia's third largest state in terms of resident population with 5,011,216⁵ persons or 20.1% of the Australian population. Queensland 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 2019 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.

PARTICIPANTS

Table 4.1 summarises bowls participation by major segment. In total, there were 139,446 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Queensland during 2019. Specifically,

- The greatest participation segment in Queensland was social bowls programs, with 77.2% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 65.4% of all bowls participation in Queensland.

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.

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 3.77%:

- 4.97% for males
- 2.60% for females.

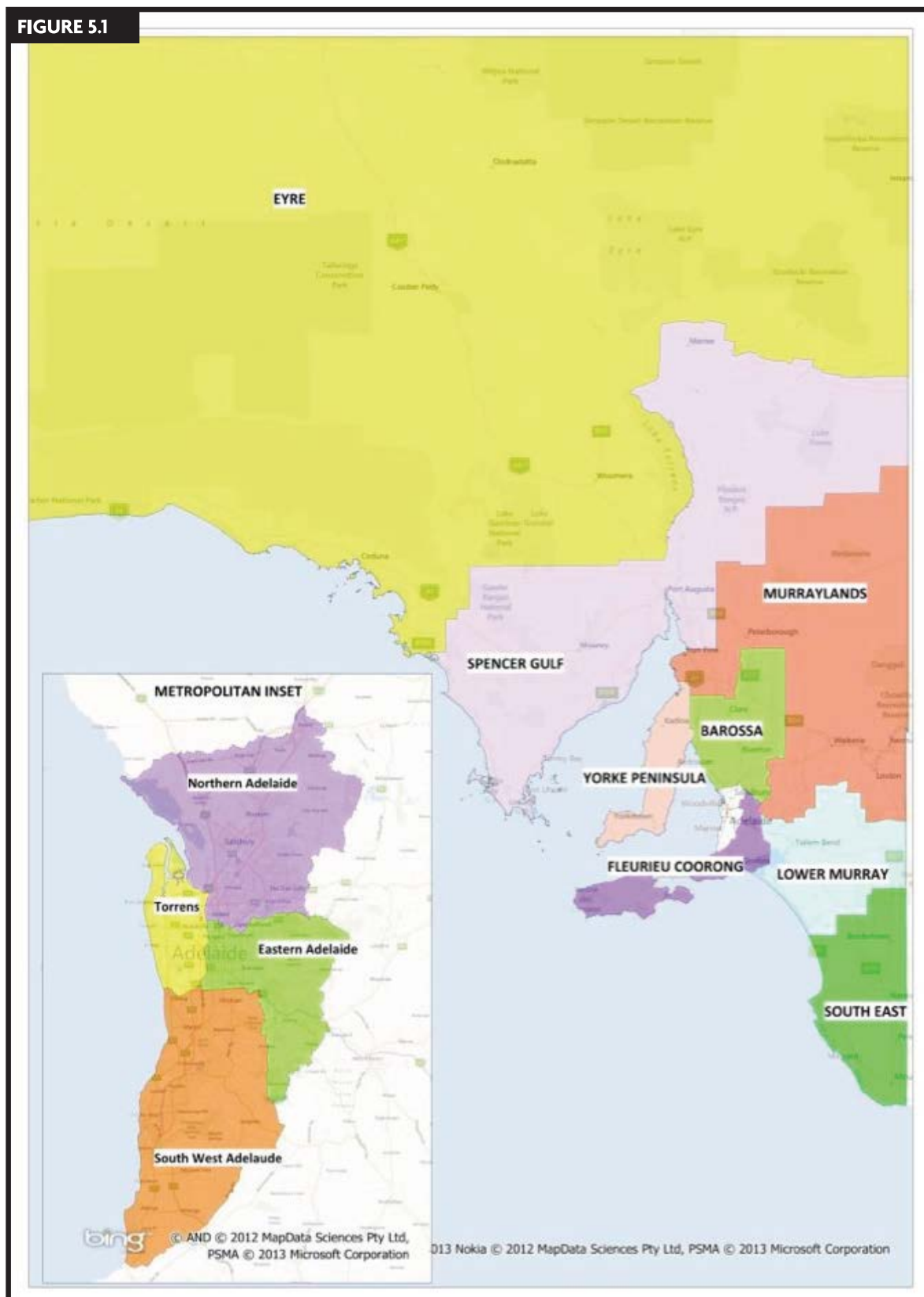
TABLE 4.1 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN QUEENSLAND, 2019

	Competition Participants			Social Participants				Jack Attack Programs			TOTAL
	Pennant	Tournaments/ Other	Total Competition	Barefoot	Corporate	Other Social	Total Social	Jack Attack	Jr. Jack Attack	Total JA and JJA	Participants
METROPOLITAN											
SEQ North											
- Caboolture	519	113	632	183	109	2,166	2,458	19	192	211	3,300
- Brisbane North	720	1,105	1,824	115	72	2,879	3,065	11	179	191	5,081
- Brisbane	2,376	1,239	3,615	5,443	266	12,945	18,654	41	413	454	22,723
SEQ South and West											
- Gateway	2,030	1,288	3,318	565	319	19,132	20,017	32	82	114	23,449
- Cunningham	733	139	872	317	176	2,468	2,960	21	92	113	3,945
Sub Total	6,377	3,884	10,261	6,623	942	39,590	47,155	12	958	1,083	58,499
COUNTRY											
- Gold Coast	3,485	1,575	5,060	802	271	17,342	18,415	50	141	191	23,667
- Sunshine Coast	1,545	832	2,377	726	232	6,508	7,466	47	102	149	9,992
- Wide Bay Burnett	2,319	1,940	4,258	766	256	11,630	12,652	36	149	185	17,096
- Central Queensland & Whitsundays	2,022	172	2,193	861	484	6,997	8,342	71	214	285	10,820
- Downs, Condamine, Maranoa	1,687	1,028	2,715	789	375	6,239	7,404	41	342	382	10,501
- North and Far North	1,592	629	2,221	1,273	361	4,679	6,313	38	299	337	8,872
Sub Total	12,650	6,175	18,825	5,216	1,980	53,397	60,593	283	1,246	1,529	80,947
TOTAL	19,028	10,059	29,086	11,839	2,922	92,986	107,748	407	2,204	2,612	139,466

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australia is Australia's fifth most populous state with 1,736,422⁶ residents or 7.0% of the Australian population. Bowls South Australia has four identified regions in metropolitan Adelaide, and eight country regions.

FIGURE 5.1



⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

The South Australian regions for the 2019 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.

PARTICIPANTS

Table 5.2 summarises bowls participation by major segment. In total, there were 58,644 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in South Australia during 2019. Specifically,

- The greatest participation segment in South Australia was social bowls, with 75.4% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 65.6% of all bowls participation in South Australia.
- Participation in country South Australia (37,802) is higher than metropolitan participation (20,842) and the largest regions for bowls participation are Murraylands and

Lower Murray, Adelaide Torrens, and Barossa.

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.

Bowls player to population rates show the extent to which people in each age group and each region are involved in bowls. The overall participation rate in South Australia was 3.73%:

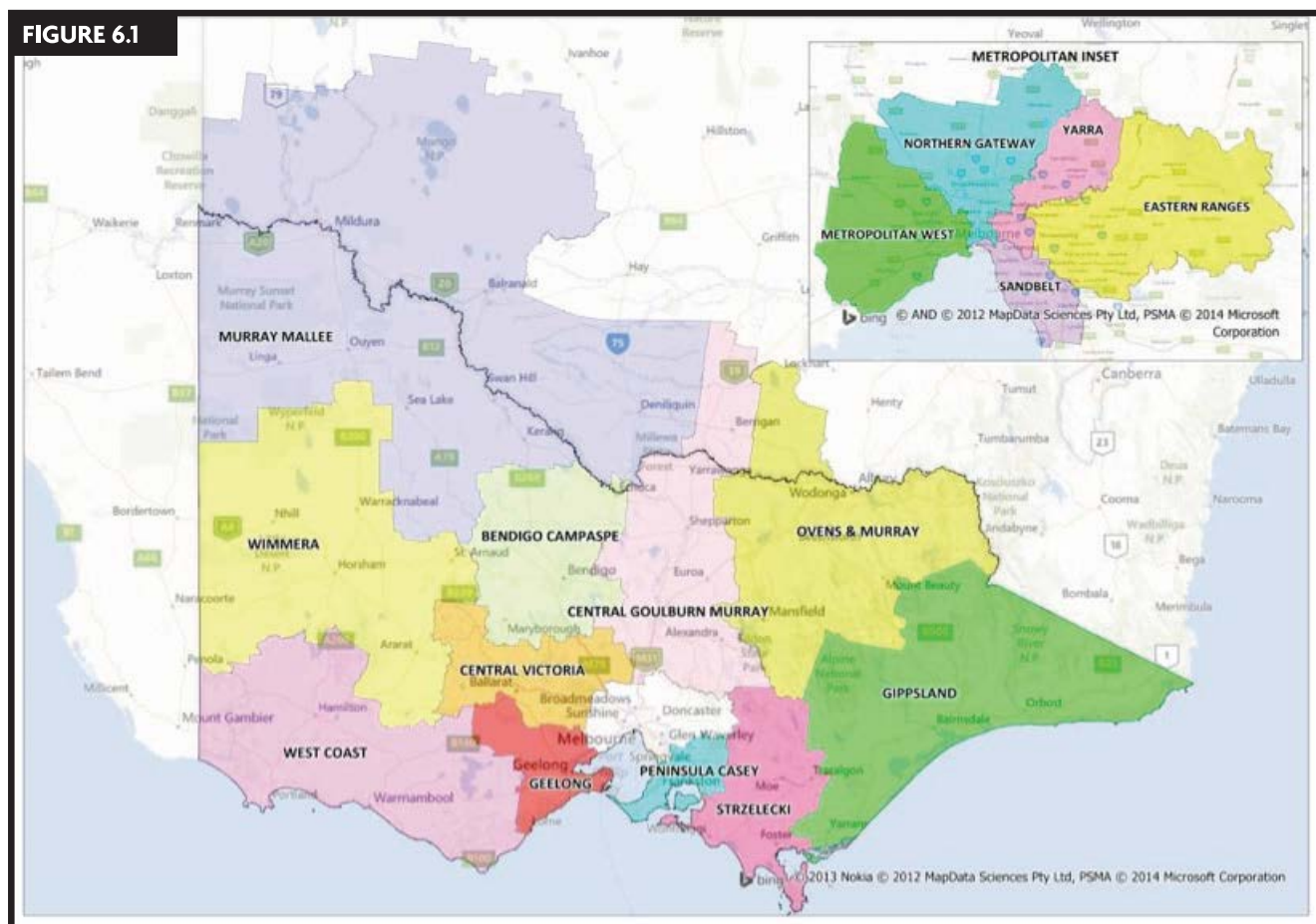
- 4.95% for males
- 2.54% for females.

TABLE 5.1 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 2019

	Competition Participants			Social Participants				Jack Attack Programs			TOTAL
	Pennant	Tournaments/ Other	Total Competition	Barefoot	Corporate	Other Social	Total Social	Jack Attack	Jr. Jack Attack	Total JA and JJA	Participants
METROPOLITAN											
Northern Adelaide	466	121	587	106	64	1,332	1,502	14	29	43	2,132
Eastern Adelaide	1,206	0	1,206	521	318	4,109	4,948	48	153	201	6,355
Adelaide South West	821	47	869	393	243	2,681	3,316	28	182	210	4,395
Adelaide Torrens	1,512	203	1,714	561	336	5,173	6,070	45	131	177	7,961
Sub Total	4,004	371	4,375	1,581	961	13,295	15,837	136	495	631	20,842
COUNTRY											
South East SA	980	0	980	486	281	3,193	3,960	32	105	137	5,077
Yorke Peninsula	1,202	303	1,505	408	247	3,391	4,046	29	155	183	5,735
Spencer Gulf and Eyre	879	139	1,018	404	207	2,604	3,214	20	73	93	4,325
Murraylands and Lower Murray	1,826	200	2,025	886	437	5,535	6,858	41	183	223	9,106
Coorong-Fleurieu	1,143	0	1,143	514	311	3,843	4,669	43	122	165	5,978
Barossa	1,494	113	1,607	728	402	4,519	5,649	39	286	325	7,581
Sub Total	7,524	755	8,279	3,427	1,886	23,084	28,397	202	924	1,126	37,802
Total	11,528	1,125	12,654	5,007	2,847	36,379	44,233	338	1,418	1,757	58,644

VICTORIA

Victoria is Australia's second most populous state with 6,460,675⁷ residents or 25.9% of the Australian population. Bowls Victoria currently has five identified regions in metropolitan Melbourne, and eleven country regions.



⁷ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

Victorian regions in the 2019 Census and bowls planning and development are:

❖ METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE

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

❖ COUNTRY VICTORIA

- Geelong
- West Coast
- Wimmera
- Murray Mallee
- Central Victoria
- Bendigo Campaspe
- Central Goulburn Murray
- Ovens and Murray
- Gippsland
- Strzelecki
- Peninsula Casey

The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 6.1.

PARTICIPANTS

Table 6.1 summarises bowls participation by major segment. In total, there were 198,152 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Victoria during 2019. Specifically,

- The greatest participation segment in Victoria was social bowls, with 68.3% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 72.0% of all bowls participation in Victoria.
- Participation in country Victoria (153,808) is much higher than metropolitan participation (44,344) and the largest regions for bowls participation are Central Victoria, Central Goulburn Murray, Bendigo Campaspe, West Coast, Peninsula Casey and Eastern Ranges.
- Social bowls participation in 2019 in Victoria included 1,314 people in the

innovative programs 'Bowling with Babies' (98.5% female and 1.5% male) and 'Mums on the Green'

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.

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 Victoria was 3.41%:

- 4.97% for males
- 1.89% for females.

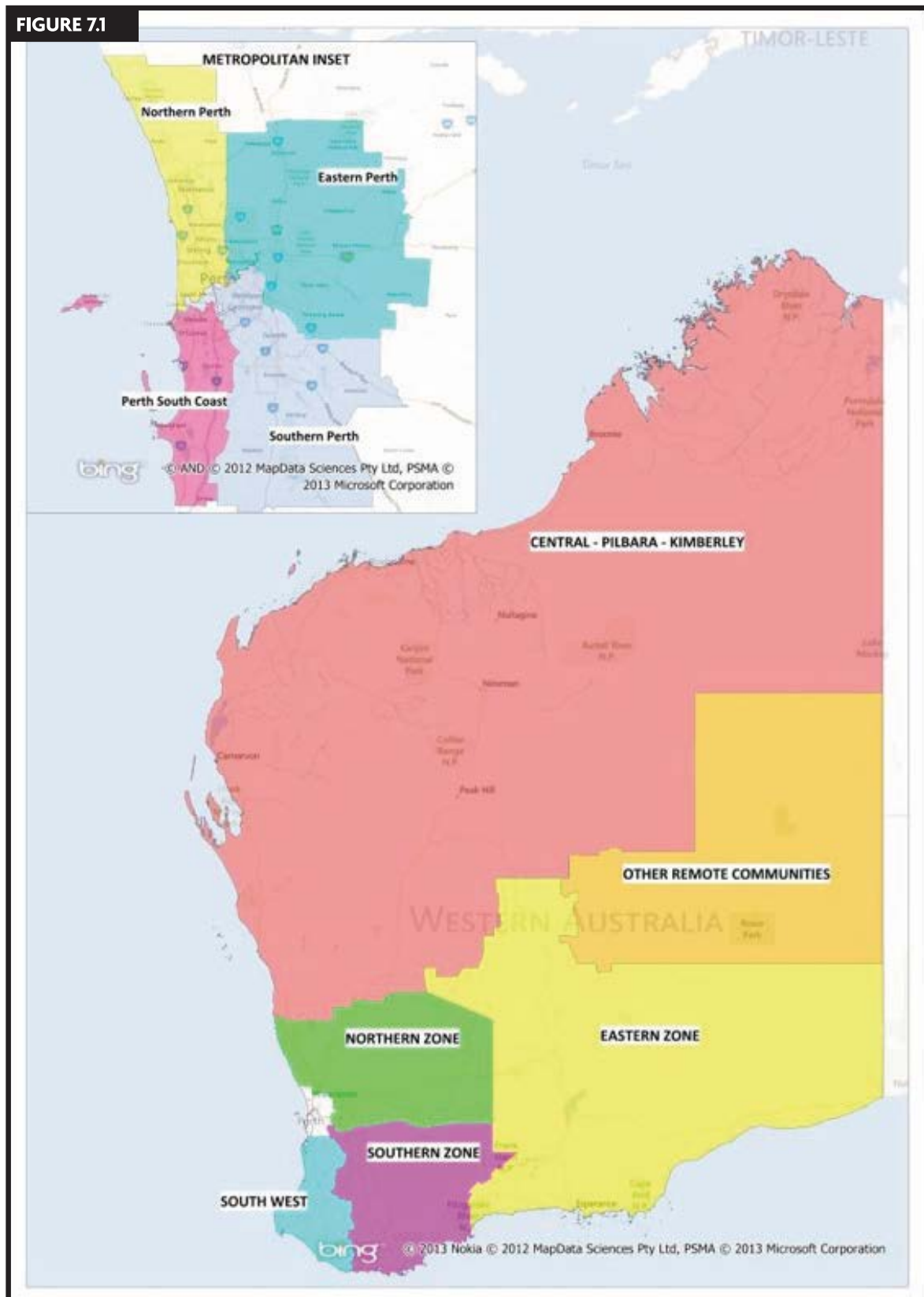
TABLE 6.1 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN VICTORIA, 2019

	Competition Participants			Social Participants					Jack Attack Programs			TOTAL
	Pennant	Tournaments/ Other	Total Competition	Barefoot	Corporate	Bowling with babies & mums on the green	Other Social	Total Social	Jack Attack	Jr. Jack Attack	Total JA and JJA	Participants
METROPOLITAN												
Metropolitan West	1,103	802	1,906	503	159	214	1,667	2,543	6	750	756	5,205
Northern Gateway	1,541	1,116	2,657	629	224	309	1,840	3,002	14	1,087	1,101	6,760
Eastern Ranges	2,994	1,696	4,690	875	489	190	6,804	8,358	234	764	998	14,045
Yarra	2,440	1,954	4,394	570	445	89	2,864	3,969	40	753	793	9,156
Sandbelt	2,081	1,383	3,464	868	313	241	3,240	4,662	124	928	1,052	9,178
Sub Total	10,160	6,950	17,110	3,446	1,631	1,043	16,414	22,534	418	4,282	4,700	44,344
COUNTRY												
Geelong	2,700	2,545	5,245	203	1,015	80	2,883	4,181	185	333	518	9,944
West Coast	2,539	1,389	3,928	1,727	1,034	23	8,201	10,985	18	295	313	15,225
Bendigo Campaspe	3,452	2,057	5,509	457	1,982	58	12,492	14,989	1	359	359	20,857
Central Goulburn Murray	3,207	1,928	5,135	0	993	11	14,901	15,905	167	248	415	21,455
Ovens and Murray	1,644	1,135	2,779	7	1,293	31	5,772	7,103	0	257	257	10,139
Central Victoria	2,920	1,744	4,664	1,259	2,584	6	24,192	28,041	5	128	133	32,838
Wimmera	1,313	398	1,711	421	190	0	5,457	6,068	17	224	241	8,021
Murray Mallee	1,518	566	2,084	591	133	9	6,804	7,537	12	219	232	9,853
Strzelecki	1,057	616	1,673	516	312	0	3,433	4,261	35	328	363	6,297
Gippsland	865	435	1,300	392	209	1	2,966	3,568	32	82	114	4,982
Peninsula Casey	2,459	753	3,213	1,049	633	52	8,389	10,124	99	762	861	14,197
Sub Total	23,675	13,565	37,240	6,624	10,377	271	95,490	112,761	571	3,235	3,806	153,808
TOTAL	33,835	20,515	54,351	10,070	12,007	1,314	111,904	135,295	990	7,517	8,507	198,152

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australia is Australia's fourth most populous state with 2,595,192⁸ residents or 10.4% of the Australian population. Bowls Western Australia has four regions in metropolitan Perth and four country regions.

FIGURE 7.1



⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

The Western Australian regions for the 2019 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.

PARTICIPANTS

Table 7.1 summarises bowls participation by major segment. In total, there were 37,948 participants in bowls competitions and programs (of at least 4 games duration) in Western Australia during 2019. Specifically,

- The greatest participation segment in Western Australia was pennant and competition bowls, with 55.6% of participants.
- Male participation makes up 65.6% of all bowls participation in Western Australia.
- Participation in country Western Australia (22,525) is relatively

high compared with metropolitan participation (31,869) and the two largest regions for bowls participation were South West and Western Zone, Northern Perth and South Coastal Perth.

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 Western Australia was 2.35%.

- 3.03% for males
- 1.67% for females.

TABLE 7.1 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 2019

	Competition Participants			Social Participants				Jack Attack Programs			TOTAL
	Pennant	Tournaments/ Other	Total Competition	Barefoot	Corporate	Other Social	Total Social	Jack Attack	Jr. Jack Attack	Total JA and JJA	Participants
METROPOLITAN											
Eastern Perth	1,675	884	2,559	600	698	2,527	3,825	60	29	89	6,473
Northern Perth	4,071	3,096	7,167	200	914	5,577	6,691	38	339	377	14,235
Southern Perth	1,235	263	1,498	56	56	123	235	0	230	230	1,963
South Coastal Perth	3,269	2,121	5,390	499	1,251	1,568	3,318	153	337	490	9,198
Sub Total	10,250	6,364	16,614	1,355	2,919	9,795	14,069	251	935	1,186	31,869
COUNTRY											
Northern Zone	1,362	1,217	2,579	16	321	0	336	0	291	291	3,206
South West and Southern WA	4,319	3,369	7,688	285	2,993	1,314	4,592	48	511	560	12,839
Eastern Zone	940	786	1,726	16	489	394	899	0	1	2	2,626
Central - Pilbara - Kimberley	791	868	1,659	0	600	1,594	2,194	0	0	0	3,853
Sub Total	7,412	6,240	13,652	316	4,402	3,303	8,020	49	803	852	22,525
TOTAL	17,662	12,604	30,266	1,671	7,321	13,097	22,089	300	1,738	2,038	54,393

TASMANIA, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY AND

FIGURE 8.1



Tasmania is Australia's smallest state (and ranks sixth among states and territories) with 528,201⁹ residents or 2.1% of the Australian population. Bowls Tasmania has four regions; Hobart and South and three country regions.

The Tasmanian regions in the 2019 Census and for planning bowls development are:

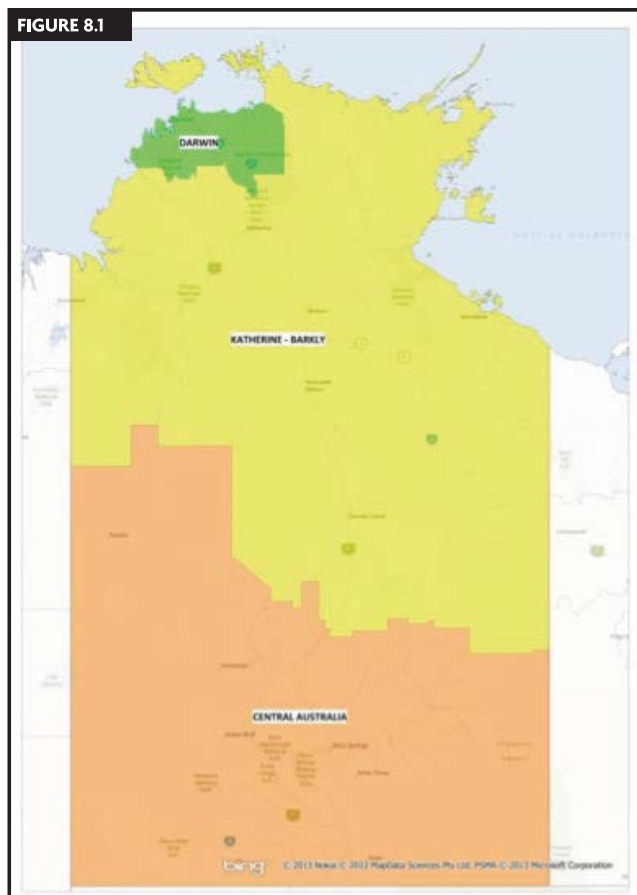
❖ METROPOLITAN HOBART AND SOUTH

❖ COUNTRY TASMANIA

- Launceston and North
- North West
- East

The Northern Territory is Australia's least populous state/territory with 247,327¹⁰ residents or 1.0% of the Australian population. Northern Territory Bowls has three longer-term identified regions; one metropolitan region and two country regions.

FIGURE 8.1



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 2019 Census, the Northern Territory has been analysed as a single region.

The Australian Capital Territory has 420,960¹¹ 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 59,959 residents).

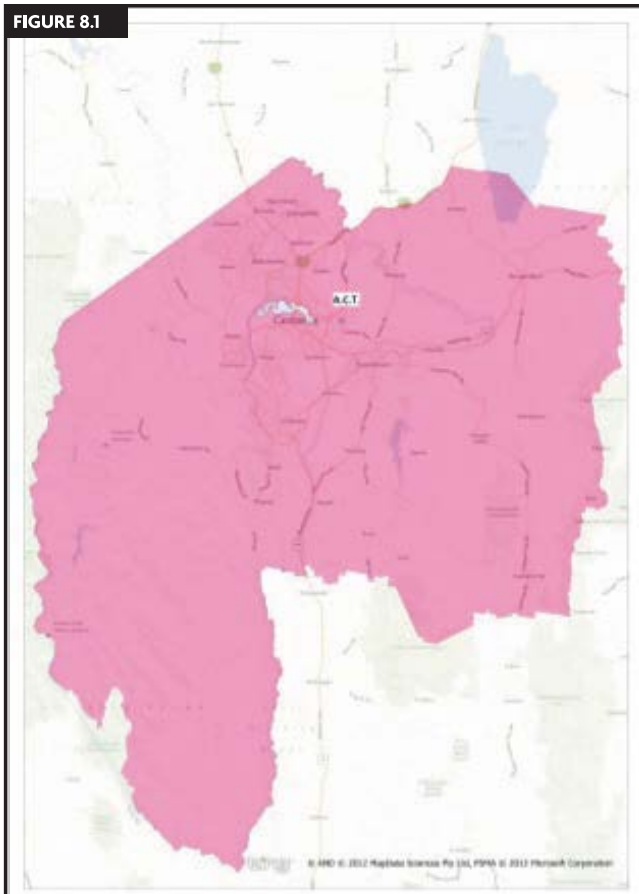
The locations of these regions are shown in Figure 8.1.

⁹ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

¹⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

¹¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth 2018, March 2019

FIGURE 8.1



PARTICIPANTS

Table 8.1 summarises bowls participation by major segment. Specifically,

- In Northern Territory the largest bowls participation segment in was 'social programs', with 98.0%. Pennant and other competition bowls was both Tasmania's and the ACT's largest segment with 68.4% and 50.4% respectively.
- Male participation makes up 62.6%, 66.6% and 69.5% of all bowls participation in Tasmania, Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory, respectively.

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 0.77%, Tasmania was 3.35%, while the Northern Territory's rate was 12.21%. The male and female participation rates were:

	Male	Female
ACT	1.06%	0.49%
Tasmania	4.25%	2.47%
NT	15.70%	8.46%

TABLE 8.1 BOWLS PARTICIPATION (4+ GAMES) IN TASMANIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY, 2019

	Competition Participants			Social Participants				Jack Attack Programs			TOTAL
	Pennant	Tournaments/ Other	Total Competition	Barefoot	Corporate	Other Social	Total Social	Jack Attack	Jr. Jack Attack	Total JA and JJA	Participants
METROPOLITAN											
Hobart and South	1,200	649	1,849	477	288	3,044	3,808	20	489	509	6,166
Sub Total	1,200	649	1,849	477	288	3,044	3,808	20	489	509	6,166
COUNTRY											
Launceston and North	988	73	1,061	525	296	3,069	3,890	30	137	167	5,118
Eastern Tas	51	113	165	16	5	78	99	0	29	30	293
North West	784	218	1,001	434	231	2,513	3,178	23	271	295	4,474
Sub Total	1,823	404	2,227	976	531	5,660	7,166	53	438	491	9,885
TASMANIA	3,023	1,053	4,076	1,452	819	8,704	10,975	74	927	1,000	16,051
AUST. CAPITAL TERRITORY	462	998	1,460	450	20	904	1,374	2	61	63	2,897
NORTHERN TERRITORY	242	251	493	830	1,500	23,714	26,044	0	28	28	26,565



BOWLS
AUSTRALIA

Darebin International Sports Centre
John Cain Memorial Park
281 Darebin Road, Thornbury, VIC 3071

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