

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

AUSTRALIA

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Theo Neumann on Adelaide (08) 8237 7449.

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION This publication presents results from the Survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities conducted in April 2003. It presents information about the participation of children aged 5–14 years, in cultural and leisure activities and on their use of computers and the Internet.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY The 2003 Survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities was conducted throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Monthly Population Survey (MPS). This survey is the second on the topic of children's participation in culture and leisure, the first being conducted in April 2000.

It provides details on participation in selected organised cultural activities and organised sports outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003. It also provides information on participation in selected leisure activities (such as bike riding and watching television or videos) outside of school hours during the most recent two school weeks prior to interview. In addition, it presents details on computer usage by children both during and outside of school hours over the 12 month period prior to interview.

Information is provided on the characteristics of children who participated in the activities. In addition, details on frequency or duration for some of the activities are provided.

ROUNDING As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
LFS Labour Force Survey
MPS Monthly Population Survey
RSE relative standard error
SE standard error

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION

In April 2003, there were approximately 2,647,500 children aged 5–14 years. Outside of school hours, in the 12 months prior to the survey, it is estimated that:

- 2,641,500 (99.8%) participated in selected leisure activities, the most frequent activities being watching television or videos, reading for pleasure and playing electronic or computer games
- 1,630,400 (62%) participated in organised sport
- 780,400 (29%) were involved in selected organised cultural activities
- 755,400 (29%) did not participate in organised sport or selected organised cultural activities.

During or outside of school hours, in the 12 months prior to the survey, it is estimated that 95% of all children used a computer (2,517,500) and 64% accessed the Internet (1,693,300).

CHANGES IN PARTICIPATION SINCE 2000

Changes, from 2000, in children's participation outside of school hours, include:

- an 8 percentage point decrease in the proportion of children who skateboarded or rollerbladed
- a 5 percentage point increase in the proportion of children who did art and craft activities.

Internet usage increased for both boys (48% in 2000 to 62% in 2003) and girls (46% in 2000 to 66% in 2003). Overall, there was an increase of 17 percentage points in the proportion of children accessing the Internet.

There was an overall increase in the participation rate for girls in organised cultural activities from 40% in 2000 to 43% in 2003. The increase was largely attributable to an increase for dancing. Similarly, participation in art and craft activities increased for girls from 55% in 2000 to 61% in 2003. By contrast, for boys there was an overall decrease in the participation rate in organised cultural activities from 20% in 2000 to 17% in 2003, but an increase in art and craft activities from 34% in 2000 to 39% in 2003.

Overall, there was an increase of 2 percentage points in the rate of participation in organised sport. While participation in organised sports increased for boys (66% in 2000 to 69% in 2003), there was no statistically significant change for girls.

SELECTED ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Participation

There were 780,400 (29%) children involved in selected organised cultural activities, outside of school hours. It is estimated that of children aged 5–14 years (2,647,500):

- 445,500 (17%) played a musical instrument
- 329,300 (12%) participated in dancing
- 122,500 (5%) were involved in singing
- 112,600 (4%) were involved in drama.

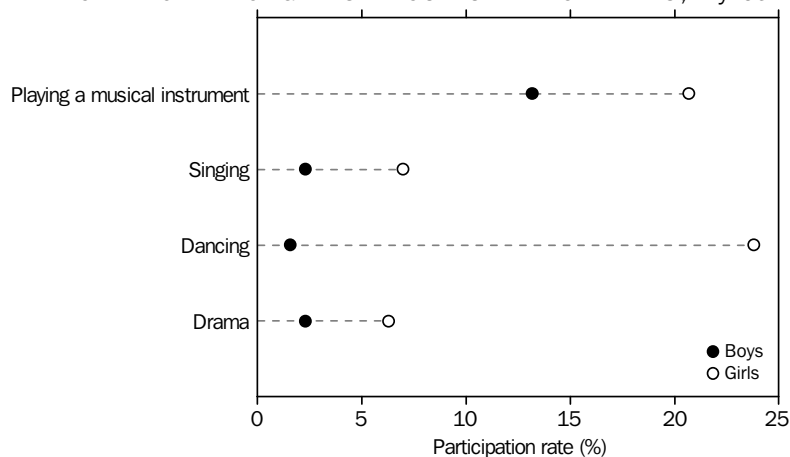
These activities were more popular with girls than boys. Over four in ten girls (43%) were involved in at least one of the selected cultural activities (552,000), compared with 17% of boys (228,500). Dancing was the most popular of these activities for girls (24% or 307,100), but the least popular for boys (2% or 22,200). For boys, the most popular activity was playing a musical instrument (13% or 179,000).

Some 7% of children (2% of boys and 12% of girls) participated in more than one organised cultural activity (182,900).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Participation *continued*

PARTICIPATION IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, By sex



Comparing states and territories, children in Western Australia had the highest participation rate (33%) in selected organised cultural activities, while children in the Northern Territory had the lowest (25%). Across all the states and territories, playing a musical instrument was the most common selected organised cultural activity. This was followed by dancing. For singing, the Northern Territory had the highest participation rate (7%), while Victoria had the lowest participation rate (4%). For dancing, New South Wales had the highest participation rate (14%), while the Australian Capital Territory had the lowest (8%).

Comparing age groups, children aged 9–11 years had the highest participation rate (36%) in selected cultural activities. This was followed by children aged 12–14 years (30%) and children aged 5–8 years (24%).

Organised lessons

During the 12 month period, 94% of children involved in dancing had dancing lessons (311,000). This compares with 80% of children involved in drama receiving drama lessons (90,200), 78% of children playing a musical instrument receiving music lessons (349,300) and 70% of children involved in singing receiving singing lessons (85,600).

Frequency and duration

Of those children who played a musical instrument, 45% did so (practised at home or elsewhere, had lessons or performed with their musical instrument) more than once a week (200,600). Of those who did dancing, 22% (71,700) did so (practiced at home or elsewhere, had lessons or performed with dancing) more than once a week. This compares with 14% of children involved in singing (17,400) and 3% of children involved in drama (3,400).

Children who played a musical instrument spent on average 4 hours, over two school weeks, on this activity (practised at home or elsewhere, had lessons or performed with their musical instrument). Children who did dancing spent on average 4 hours, over two school weeks, on their activity (practiced at home or elsewhere, had lessons or performed with singing) also. For those who did singing, the average time spent singing was 3 hours and for those involved in drama, 2 hours.

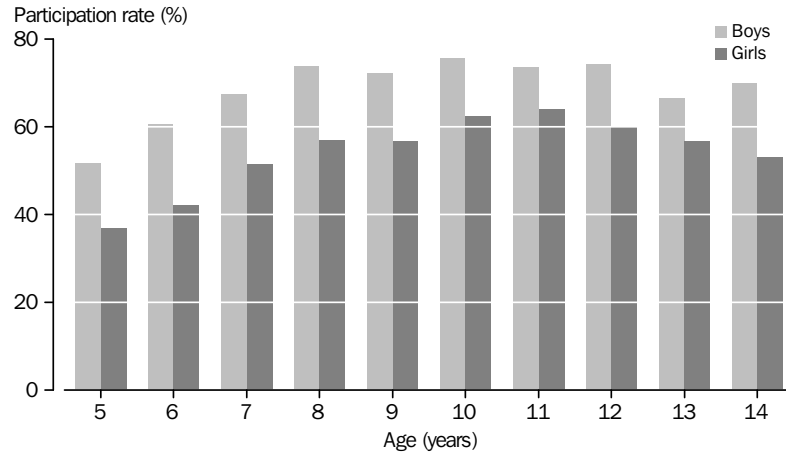
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

ORGANISED SPORT

Participation

In the 12 months to April 2003, an estimated 1.6 million (62%) children participated in sport, outside of school hours, which had been organised by a school, club or association. Participation in organised sport ranged from 44% of children aged 5 years (112,500) to 69% of 10 year olds (185,800). Across all of the age groups, boys had a higher participation rate (69%) in organised sport than girls (54%). Nearly one-third (29%) of children (774,000) participated in two or more organised sports — 35% for boys (478,700) and 23% for girls (295,300).

PARTICIPATION IN ORGANISED SPORT, By age

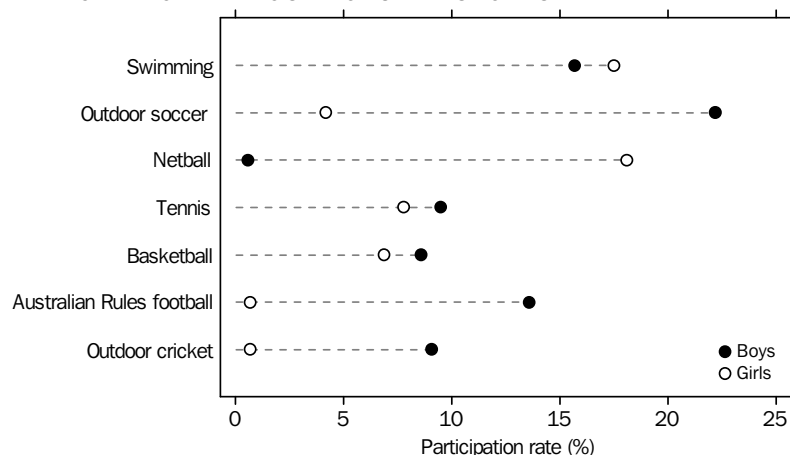


Comparing states and territories, children in Western Australia had the highest participation rate (66%) in organised sport, followed by Victoria (65%), while children in Queensland had the lowest (54%).

Sports with most participants

The most popular sport for children was swimming with a participation rate of 17% (439,100) followed by outdoor soccer (13% or 355,900). For boys, the most popular sports were outdoor soccer (22% or 301,100), swimming (16% or 213,600), Australian Rules football (14% or 184,200), tennis (9% or 128,300), outdoor cricket (9% or 124,200) and basketball (9% or 116,100). For girls, the most popular sports were netball (18% or 233,000), swimming (17% or 225,500), tennis (8% or 100,100) and basketball (7% or 88,900).

PARTICIPATION IN MOST POPULAR SPORTS



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Frequency and duration

For those children involved in organised sport outside of school hours (1,630,400), it is estimated that:

- nearly half (49%) trained or played more than once a week, outside of school hours
- an average of 5 hours per school fortnight were spent participating in organised sport outside of school hours
- those aged 5–8 years spent on average 4 hours per school fortnight participating in organised sport outside of school hours, and those aged 12–14 years, 6 hours.

NON-PARTICIPANTS

In the 12 months prior to April 2003, 71% of children did not participate in any of the selected organised cultural activities (1,867,100). This compares with 38% of children who did not participate in any organised sport outside of school hours (1,017,100). Some 83% of boys did not participate in any of the selected cultural activities (1,129,200) compared with 31% who did not participate in organised sport (425,800). For girls, 57% did not participate in any of the selected cultural activities (737,900) compared with 46% who did not participate in organised sport (591,300).

During the year, 755,400 children (29%) did not participate in any of the selected organised cultural activities or organised sport outside of school hours. Of these children, it is estimated that:

- 29% of girls (376,200) did not participate compared with 28% of boys (379,200)
- 35% of children aged 5–8 years (366,400) did not participate compared with 22% of children aged 9–11 years (178,400)
- 43% of children born overseas in non-English speaking countries (39,900) did not participate compared with 28% of children born in Australia (696,100) and 27% born overseas in English speaking countries (19,400)
- 40% of children in single-parent families (225,300) did not participate compared with 26% of children in couple families (530,100).

SELECTED LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Participation

Almost all children (99.8%) participated in at least one of the selected leisure activities outside of school (2,641,500). It is estimated that, within the total population of children aged 5–14 years (2,647,500):

- 2,601,000 (98%) watched television or videos
- 1,981,000 (75%) spent time reading for pleasure
- 1,870,500 (71%) played electronic or computer games
- 1,644,800 (62%) rode their bike
- 1,311,200 (50%) participated in art and craft activities
- 604,500 (23%) skateboarded or rollerbladed.

For boys, the most popular leisure activities were watching television or videos (99% or 1,338,600), playing electronic or computer games (82% or 1,110,800), bike riding (70% or 957,400), reading for pleasure (68% or 919,200), art and craft (39% or 529,800), and skateboarding or rollerblading (28% or 386,400). For girls, the most popular leisure activity was watching television or videos (98% or 1,262,400), followed by reading for pleasure (82% or 1,061,800), art and craft (61% or 781,500), playing electronic or computer games (59% or 759,700), bike riding (53% or 687,400), and skateboarding or rollerblading (17% or 218,200).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Time spent

Watching television or videos was the most popular of all the selected activities (including cultural and sports activities) (2,601,000 or 98% of all children). Most children spent more time watching television or videos than they did on any of the other selected activities. Children spent an average 22 hours over a school fortnight watching television or videos.

Reading for pleasure (1,981,000 or 75%), and playing electronic or computer games (1,870,500 or 71%) were also popular leisure activities for children. Participants in these activities spent an average of 8 hours over a school fortnight involved in each of these activities.

For those children who participated in bike riding (1,644,800 or 62%), and art and craft activities (1,311,200 or 50%), the average time spent on each of these activities was 6 hours over a school fortnight.

Skateboarding or rollerblading (604,500 or 23%) was the least popular of the selected leisure activities and had the lowest average duration of participation at 5 hours over a school fortnight.

COMPUTER ACTIVITIES

Participation

In the 12 months to April 2003 most (95%) children aged 5–14 years used a computer during or outside of school hours. For these children (2,517,500), it is estimated that:

- 2,369,200 (94%) used a computer at school
- 2,165,300 (86%) used a computer at home
- 1,050,800 (42%) used a computer at someone else's home
- 303,300 (12%) used a computer at a public library.

Participation in computer activities was comparable for boys and girls. Computer usage increased with age from 82% for 5 year olds to 99% for children aged 11 years and older.

During the year, most of the children who used a computer at home did so more than once a week (74% or 1,603,400). Some 19% of children did so every day (416,500). The activities for which these children used the home computer varied with their age. For the 5–8 year olds, 91% used the computer to play games (685,300), 70% used it for educational purposes (525,000) and 25% used it to email or do other Internet based activities (187,400). For 12–14 year olds, 94% used the computer for educational purposes (680,000), 76% used it for playing games (546,600) and 69% for emailing and other Internet based activities (499,000).

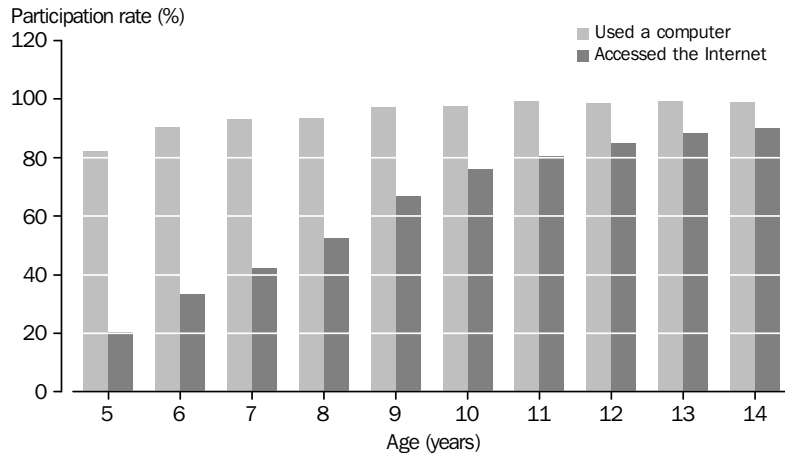
Internet usage

In the 12 months to April 2003, the Internet was accessed by 1,693,300 children during or outside of school hours. This was 64% of all children, aged 5–14 years, and 67% of children who used computers. The proportion of females who accessed the Internet was slightly higher (66%) than the proportion of males who accessed the Internet (62%). Across the age groups, 21% of children aged 5 years used the Internet, compared with 90% of 14 year olds.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

Internet usage continued

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USAGE, By age



For those children who accessed the Internet, it is estimated that:

- 1,341,600 (79%) accessed the Internet at home
- 1,181,900 (70%) accessed the Internet at school
- 412,400 (24%) accessed the Internet at someone else's home
- 117,000 (7%) accessed the Internet at a public library
- 57,200 (3%) accessed the Internet at other places (e.g. Internet cafes).

Use of the Internet varied across the age groups:

- For 5–8 year olds, popular uses of the Internet at home were to play games (68% or 204,200), school or educational tasks (65% or 194,600), browsing for leisure (24% or 71,200), and using email or chat rooms (23% or 68,500)
- For 9–11 year olds, the Internet was used at home for school or educational tasks (89% or 409,000), playing games (60% or 275,300), using email or chat rooms (40% or 184,100), and browsing for leisure (39% or 181,100)
- For 12–14 year olds, popular uses of the Internet at home were for school or educational tasks (94% or 545,700), using email or chat rooms (67% or 390,700), playing games (52% or 300,200) and browsing for leisure (50% or 291,000)
- Over half (61%) of the children who accessed the Internet at home, did so more than once a week (824,800) and some (14% or 193,400) did so every day. The majority (70%) of children who accessed the Internet at home everyday were 12–14 year olds, followed by 9–11 year olds (23%), and 5–8 year olds (7%).

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CHILDREN INVOLVED IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES

	2000	2000	2003	2003
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%
MALES				
Organised cultural activities(a)				
Playing a musical instrument	213.8	15.8	179.0	13.2
Singing	38.9	2.9	31.6	2.3
Dancing	22.9	1.7	22.2	1.6
Drama	42.8	3.2	31.5	2.3
<i>Total</i>	266.8	19.7	228.5	16.8
Organised sport(a)				
Swimming	177.0	13.1	213.6	15.7
Soccer (outdoor)	265.0	19.6	301.1	22.2
Netball	*6.4	*0.5	8.2	0.6
Tennis	124.8	9.2	128.3	9.5
Basketball	119.6	8.8	116.1	8.6
Australian Rules	170.3	12.6	184.2	13.6
Cricket (outdoor)	133.6	9.9	124.2	9.1
Martial arts	72.7	5.4	83.9	6.2
Athletics/track and field	52.2	3.9	51.7	3.8
Rugby League	92.5	6.8	76.2	5.6
Gymnastics (trampolining)	12.6	0.9	22.5	1.7
Hockey	31.7	2.3	33.3	2.5
Other organised sports	214.9	15.9	232.3	17.1
<i>Total organised sports</i>	895.2	66.1	931.9	68.6
Leisure activities(b)				
Skateboarding or rollerblading	481.6	35.6	386.4	28.5
Bike riding	963.1	71.1	957.4	70.5
Watching TV or videos	1 312.2	96.9	1 338.6	98.6
Playing electronic or computer games	1 071.5	79.1	1 110.8	81.8
Art and craft activities	466.1	34.4	529.8	39.0
Reading for pleasure(c)	. .	. .	919.2	67.7
<i>Total</i>	1 342.6	99.1	1 356.3	99.9
Computer activities(d)				
Accessing the Internet	643.1	47.5	846.7	62.4
Using a computer but not the Internet	638.5	47.1	442.6	32.6
<i>Total</i>	1 281.6	94.6	1 289.3	95.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

. . not applicable

(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

(b) Outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to interview in April 2003.

(c) Reading for pleasure was not asked as a leisure activity in 2000.

(d) During or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

CHILDREN INVOLVED IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES *continued*

	2000	2000	2003	2003
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%
FEMALES				
Organised cultural activities(a)				
Playing a musical instrument	260.1	20.2	266.5	20.7
Singing	85.6	6.7	90.9	7.0
Dancing	251.1	19.5	307.1	23.8
Drama	79.0	6.1	81.0	6.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>510.9</i>	<i>39.7</i>	<i>552.0</i>	<i>42.8</i>
Organised sport(a)				
Swimming	203.1	15.8	225.5	17.5
Soccer (outdoor)	37.3	2.9	54.8	4.2
Netball	234.9	18.2	233.0	18.1
Tennis	99.1	7.7	100.1	7.8
Basketball	80.7	6.3	88.9	6.9
Australian Rules	*4.1	*0.3	9.4	0.7
Cricket (outdoor)	7.3	0.6	9.5	0.7
Martial arts	31.9	2.5	45.8	3.6
Athletics/track and field	51.9	4.0	48.6	3.8
Rugby League	*2.5	*0.2	**0.9	**0.1
Gymnastics (trampolining)	55.1	4.3	69.9	5.4
Hockey	32.5	2.5	33.0	2.6
Other organised sports	156.9	12.2	164.2	12.7
<i>Total organised sports</i>	<i>673.0</i>	<i>52.3</i>	<i>698.5</i>	<i>54.2</i>
Leisure activities(b)				
Skateboarding or rollerblading	335.8	26.1	218.2	16.9
Bike riding	723.0	56.2	687.4	53.3
Watching TV or videos	1 248.1	96.9	1 262.4	97.9
Playing electronic or computer games	747.5	58.1	759.7	58.9
Art and craft activities	704.6	54.7	781.5	60.6
Reading for pleasure(c)	..	..	1 061.8	82.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>1 276.0</i>	<i>99.1</i>	<i>1 285.2</i>	<i>99.6</i>
Computer activities(d)				
Accessing the Internet	591.3	45.9	846.6	65.6
Using a computer but not the Internet	625.5	48.6	381.5	29.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>1 216.7</i>	<i>94.5</i>	<i>1 228.2</i>	<i>95.2</i>

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
 ** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
 .. not applicable
 (a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.
 (b) Outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to interview in April 2003.
 (c) Reading for pleasure was not asked as a leisure activity in 2000.
 (d) During or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

CHILDREN INVOLVED IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES *continued*

	2000	2000	2003	2003
	Number	Participation rate	Number	Participation rate
	'000	%	'000	%
PERSONS				
Organised cultural activities(a)				
Playing a musical instrument	473.9	17.9	445.5	16.8
Singing	124.6	4.7	122.5	4.6
Dancing	274.1	10.4	329.3	12.4
Drama	121.8	4.6	112.6	4.3
Total	777.7	29.4	780.4	29.5
Organised sport(a)				
Swimming	380.1	14.4	439.1	16.6
Soccer (outdoor)	302.3	11.4	355.9	13.4
Netball	241.4	9.1	241.2	9.1
Tennis	223.8	8.5	228.5	8.6
Basketball	200.3	7.6	205.0	7.7
Australian Rules	174.4	6.6	193.6	7.3
Cricket (outdoor)	140.9	5.3	133.6	5.0
Martial arts	104.6	4.0	129.7	4.9
Athletics/track and field	104.1	3.9	100.2	3.8
Rugby League	95.1	3.6	77.1	2.9
Gymnastics (trampolining)	67.7	2.6	92.4	3.5
Hockey	64.2	2.4	66.3	2.5
Other organised sports	371.7	14.1	396.6	15.0
Total organised sports	1 568.2	59.4	1 630.4	61.6
Leisure activities(b)				
Skateboarding or rollerblading	817.4	30.9	604.5	22.8
Bike riding	1 686.1	63.8	1 644.8	62.1
Watching TV or videos	2 560.3	96.9	2 601.0	98.2
Playing electronic or computer games	1 818.9	68.9	1 870.5	70.7
Art and craft activities	1 170.7	44.3	1 311.2	49.5
Reading for pleasure(c)	. .	. .	1 981.0	74.8
Total	2 618.6	99.1	2 641.5	99.8
Computer activities(d)				
Accessing the Internet	1 234.4	46.7	1 693.3	64.0
Using a computer but not the Internet	1 263.9	47.8	824.2	31.1
Total	2 498.3	94.6	2 517.5	95.1

. . not applicable

(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

(b) Outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to interview in April 2003.

(c) Reading for pleasure was not asked as a leisure activity in 2000.

(d) During or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

CHILDREN INVOLVED IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES, By age and sex

AGE OF CHILD

	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	9 years	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	Total
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MALES NUMBER ('000)

Organised cultural activities(a)											
Playing a musical instrument	6.3	6.0	9.8	19.0	21.9	24.1	30.5	20.7	20.5	20.2	179.0
Singing	*1.6	*1.5	*1.5	4.4	4.6	*3.3	8.4	*1.9	*2.6	*1.6	31.6
Dancing	**0.6	*1.7	*2.4	*2.6	*2.0	*3.5	4.0	*1.8	*2.1	*1.3	22.2
Drama	**0.7	*2.3	*1.7	4.5	*3.1	4.9	4.5	*3.4	*2.8	*3.5	31.5
Total	8.3	11.1	13.9	24.9	28.3	30.8	38.2	23.4	24.5	25.0	228.5
Organised sport(a)											
	67.1	80.4	91.0	101.1	98.9	104.2	102.0	102.7	91.0	93.5	931.9
Leisure activities(b)											
Skateboarding or rollerblading	30.6	39.9	35.7	42.9	46.0	47.9	39.7	41.1	33.8	28.7	386.4
Bike riding	99.1	99.2	103.5	102.0	104.8	102.3	95.9	89.3	84.5	76.8	957.4
Watching TV or videos	128.2	131.5	132.8	136.3	135.3	135.2	136.9	136.4	134.9	131.2	1 338.6
Playing electronic or computer games	81.5	101.8	106.8	115.8	120.1	117.9	121.1	119.7	116.8	109.4	1 110.8
Art and craft	80.0	81.9	64.7	61.2	51.2	52.6	47.9	39.0	27.2	24.1	529.8
Reading for pleasure(c)	82.5	90.6	97.8	100.0	95.1	99.7	101.1	88.1	83.9	80.5	919.2
Total	130.2	133.0	135.0	137.0	137.4	137.7	138.2	138.0	136.7	133.1	1 356.3
Computer activities(d)											
Accessing the Internet	26.3	41.2	52.7	68.1	91.3	100.8	111.5	115.6	119.3	119.9	846.7
Using a computer but not the Internet	84.0	81.1	72.1	58.1	42.1	33.0	25.3	19.8	16.1	11.0	442.6
Total	110.3	122.2	124.8	126.2	133.4	133.8	136.8	135.4	135.5	130.9	1 289.3

MALES PARTICIPATION RATE (%)

Organised cultural activities(a)											
Playing a musical instrument	4.8	4.5	7.3	13.8	16.0	17.5	22.1	14.9	15.0	15.2	13.2
Singing	*1.2	*1.2	*1.1	3.2	3.3	*2.4	6.1	*1.4	*1.9	*1.2	2.3
Dancing	**0.5	*1.3	*1.8	*1.9	*1.4	*2.6	2.9	*1.3	*1.6	*1.0	1.6
Drama	**0.5	*1.8	*1.3	3.3	*2.3	3.5	3.3	*2.5	*2.0	*2.7	2.3
Total	6.4	8.3	10.3	18.2	20.6	22.4	27.6	16.9	17.9	18.8	16.8
Organised sport(a)											
	51.5	60.5	67.4	73.8	72.0	75.6	73.7	74.1	66.5	70.1	68.6
Leisure activities(b)											
Skateboarding or rollerblading	23.5	30.0	26.5	31.4	33.5	34.7	28.7	29.6	24.7	21.6	28.5
Bike riding	76.0	74.5	76.6	74.5	76.3	74.2	69.3	64.5	61.7	57.6	70.5
Watching TV or videos	98.3	98.8	98.3	99.5	98.5	98.1	98.9	98.4	98.6	98.4	98.6
Playing electronic or computer games	62.5	76.5	79.1	84.5	87.4	85.6	87.5	86.4	85.3	82.1	81.8
Art and craft	61.4	61.5	47.9	44.7	37.3	38.2	34.6	28.1	19.9	18.1	39.0
Reading for pleasure(c)	63.3	68.1	72.4	73.0	69.2	72.4	73.1	63.6	61.3	60.4	67.7
Total	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.6	99.9	99.9	99.9
Computer activities(d)											
Accessing the Internet	20.2	30.9	39.0	49.7	66.5	73.2	80.6	83.4	87.2	90.0	62.4
Using a computer but not the Internet	64.4	60.9	53.4	42.4	30.7	23.9	18.3	14.3	11.8	8.3	32.6
Total	84.6	91.9	92.4	92.2	97.1	97.1	98.9	97.7	99.0	98.3	95.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

(b) Outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to interview in April 2003.

(c) Reading for pleasure is a new leisure activity for the 2003 survey and therefore no data is available from 2000 for comparability.

(d) During or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

AGE OF CHILD

	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	9 years	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	Total
FEMALES NUMBER ('000)											
Organised cultural activities(a)											
Playing a musical instrument	6.5	11.8	22.2	27.3	39.3	31.2	36.6	35.6	31.0	25.0	266.5
Singing	*2.3	5.6	8.0	7.9	13.8	10.7	13.0	10.3	9.2	10.0	90.9
Dancing	33.2	36.8	34.2	32.8	30.3	26.0	37.4	31.6	25.3	19.5	307.1
Drama	*2.9	5.7	6.9	7.5	9.4	8.2	11.6	10.8	7.5	10.5	81.0
Total	37.4	47.6	53.4	57.6	64.9	56.4	68.1	63.9	56.3	46.3	552.0
Organised sport(a)	45.4	52.9	66.1	73.6	74.1	81.6	84.1	79.6	73.7	67.5	698.5
Leisure activities(b)											
Skateboarding or rollerblading	13.5	24.5	26.0	31.5	32.1	27.6	25.8	15.9	14.2	7.1	218.2
Bike riding	79.5	81.4	87.3	86.8	85.0	79.5	66.5	54.8	40.9	25.8	687.4
Watching TV or videos	121.9	124.3	125.0	127.2	127.0	129.5	130.0	128.8	125.8	123.0	1 262.4
Playing electronic or computer games	52.6	68.6	79.7	79.9	84.8	85.1	87.7	82.5	77.2	61.7	759.7
Art and craft	92.3	93.4	93.2	89.5	89.2	78.5	78.1	68.1	53.3	45.8	781.5
Reading for pleasure(c)	84.4	99.8	108.9	112.8	113.3	113.0	114.2	115.0	102.4	98.1	1 061.8
Total	122.8	125.2	127.9	129.1	130.1	130.4	131.4	131.8	129.8	126.7	1 285.2
Computer activities(d)											
Accessing the Internet	26.1	45.1	58.6	72.1	87.6	103.4	106.0	114.9	117.2	115.6	846.6
Using a computer but not the Internet	73.0	67.0	62.1	50.9	39.4	24.5	24.7	16.6	12.5	10.9	381.5
Total	99.1	112.1	120.6	123.0	127.0	127.9	130.8	131.5	129.7	126.5	1 228.2

FEMALES PARTICIPATION RATE (%)

Organised cultural activities(a)											
Playing a musical instrument	5.3	9.4	17.2	21.1	30.1	23.9	27.9	26.9	23.8	19.6	20.7
Singing	*1.9	4.5	6.2	6.1	10.6	8.2	9.9	7.8	7.1	7.8	7.0
Dancing	26.9	29.3	26.6	25.3	23.2	19.9	28.4	23.9	19.4	15.3	23.8
Drama	*2.3	4.5	5.3	5.8	7.2	6.3	8.8	8.2	5.8	8.2	6.3
Total	30.2	37.9	41.5	44.6	49.7	43.2	51.8	48.4	43.2	36.3	42.8
Organised sport(a)	36.7	42.1	51.4	56.9	56.7	62.5	64.0	60.2	56.5	53.0	54.2
Leisure activities(b)											
Skateboarding or rollerblading	10.9	19.5	20.2	24.3	24.6	21.2	19.7	12.0	10.9	5.6	16.9
Bike riding	64.3	64.8	67.8	67.1	65.0	61.0	50.6	41.4	31.4	20.2	53.3
Watching TV or videos	98.5	99.0	97.1	98.3	97.2	99.3	98.9	97.4	96.5	96.5	97.9
Playing electronic or computer games	42.5	54.6	61.9	61.8	64.9	65.3	66.7	62.4	59.2	48.4	58.9
Art and craft	74.6	74.4	72.4	69.2	68.3	60.2	59.5	51.5	40.8	35.9	60.6
Reading for pleasure(c)	68.3	79.4	84.6	87.2	86.7	86.6	86.9	87.0	78.5	76.9	82.3
Total	99.3	99.7	99.4	99.8	99.6	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.5	99.4	99.6
Computer activities(d)											
Accessing the Internet	21.1	35.9	45.5	55.7	67.1	79.3	80.7	86.9	89.9	90.7	65.6
Using a computer but not the Internet	59.0	53.3	48.2	39.3	30.2	18.8	18.8	12.5	9.6	8.5	29.6
Total	80.2	89.3	93.8	95.1	97.3	98.0	99.5	99.4	99.4	99.2	95.2

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

(b) Outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to interview in April 2003.

(c) Reading for pleasure is a new leisure activity for the 2003 survey and therefore no data is available from 2000 for comparability.

(d) During or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

AGE OF CHILD

	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	9 years	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	Total
PERSONS NUMBER ('000)											
Organised cultural activities(a)											
Playing a musical instrument	12.8	17.7	32.0	46.3	61.2	55.3	67.1	56.3	51.5	45.3	445.5
Singing	*3.9	7.2	9.5	12.3	18.4	14.1	21.4	12.3	11.9	11.6	122.5
Dancing	33.8	38.6	36.6	35.4	32.2	29.5	41.4	33.5	27.4	20.8	329.3
Drama	*3.6	8.0	8.6	12.1	12.6	13.1	16.1	14.3	10.3	14.0	112.6
Total	45.7	58.6	67.2	82.6	93.2	87.2	106.3	87.4	80.8	71.3	780.4
Organised sport(a)	112.5	133.3	157.1	174.7	173.0	185.8	186.1	182.2	164.7	161.0	1 630.4
Leisure activities(b)											
Skateboarding or rollerblading	44.1	64.4	61.8	74.4	78.0	75.5	65.6	56.9	48.0	35.8	604.5
Bike riding	178.6	180.6	190.8	188.8	189.8	181.8	162.4	144.1	125.4	102.6	1 644.8
Watching TV or videos	250.1	255.8	257.7	263.5	262.3	264.7	266.9	265.2	260.7	254.1	2 601.0
Playing electronic or computer games	134.0	170.4	186.4	195.7	204.9	203.0	208.8	202.2	194.0	171.1	1 870.5
Art and craft	172.3	175.3	157.9	150.7	140.4	131.2	126.0	107.1	80.4	69.9	1 311.2
Reading for pleasure(c)	167.0	190.3	206.7	212.7	208.4	212.7	215.3	203.0	186.3	178.6	1 981.0
Total	253.0	258.2	262.9	266.0	267.4	268.1	269.6	269.8	266.5	259.8	2 641.5
Computer activities(d)											
Accessing the Internet	52.4	86.3	111.3	140.2	178.9	204.2	217.5	230.5	236.5	235.5	1 693.3
Using a computer but not the Internet	157.0	148.1	134.1	109.0	81.5	57.5	50.0	36.4	28.6	21.9	824.2
Total	209.4	234.4	245.4	249.2	260.4	261.6	267.6	266.9	265.2	257.4	2 517.5

PERSONS PARTICIPATION RATE (%)

Organised cultural activities(a)											
Playing a musical instrument	5.0	6.8	12.1	17.4	22.8	20.6	24.9	20.8	19.3	17.4	16.8
Singing	*1.5	2.8	3.6	4.6	6.9	5.2	7.9	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.6
Dancing	13.3	14.9	13.9	13.3	12.0	11.0	15.3	12.4	10.3	8.0	12.4
Drama	*1.4	3.1	3.3	4.5	4.7	4.9	6.0	5.3	3.8	5.4	4.3
Total	18.0	22.7	25.5	31.0	34.8	32.5	39.4	32.3	30.3	27.3	29.5
Organised sport(a)	44.3	51.5	59.6	65.6	64.6	69.3	69.0	67.3	61.6	61.7	61.6
Leisure activities(b)											
Skateboarding or rollerblading	17.3	24.9	23.4	27.9	29.1	28.2	24.3	21.0	17.9	13.7	22.8
Bike riding	70.3	69.8	72.3	70.9	70.8	67.8	60.2	53.2	46.9	39.3	62.1
Watching TV or videos	98.4	98.9	97.7	98.9	97.9	98.7	98.9	97.9	97.6	97.5	98.2
Playing electronic or computer games	52.8	65.9	70.7	73.5	76.5	75.7	77.4	74.7	72.6	65.6	70.7
Art and craft	67.8	67.8	59.9	56.6	52.4	48.9	46.7	39.5	30.1	26.8	49.5
Reading for pleasure(c)	65.7	73.6	78.4	79.9	77.8	79.3	79.8	75.0	69.7	68.5	74.8
Total	99.6	99.8	99.7	99.9	99.8	100.0	100.0	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.8
Computer activities(d)											
Accessing the Internet	20.6	33.4	42.2	52.6	66.8	76.1	80.6	85.1	88.5	90.3	64.0
Using a computer but not the Internet	61.8	57.2	50.9	40.9	30.4	21.4	18.6	13.4	10.7	8.4	31.1
Total	82.4	90.6	93.1	93.6	97.2	97.5	99.2	98.6	99.2	98.7	95.1

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(a) Outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

(b) Outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to interview in April 2003.

(c) Reading for pleasure is a new leisure activity for the 2003 survey and therefore no data is available from 2000 for comparability.

(d) During or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

SELECTED ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Characteristics of children

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>	<i>Total(b)</i>
NUMBER ('000)					
Sex					
Males	179.0	31.6	22.2	31.5	228.5
Females	266.5	90.9	307.1	81.0	552.0
Age group (years)					
5-8	108.8	32.8	144.4	32.3	254.2
9-11	183.6	53.9	103.1	41.8	286.7
12-14	153.1	35.8	81.7	38.5	239.5
Country of birth					
Born in Australia	411.2	113.6	310.6	102.3	727.9
Born overseas					
Born in main English speaking countries	14.9	4.8	8.3	7.0	24.6
Born in other countries	19.3	4.1	10.3	*3.3	27.9
State or territory of usual residence					
New South Wales	151.2	38.1	122.5	28.9	263.0
Victoria	100.5	25.1	77.6	21.3	184.6
Queensland	82.3	31.1	62.2	29.9	152.2
South Australia	33.2	9.1	20.4	10.6	55.9
Western Australia	54.9	12.7	34.0	16.4	88.2
Tasmania	12.1	*2.9	6.4	4.0	19.1
Northern Territory(c)	*2.7	*1.6	*2.6	**0.1	5.8
Australian Capital Territory	8.5	*1.9	*3.6	*1.5	11.7
Area of usual residence					
Capital city	294.6	76.2	204.7	72.4	494.9
Balance of state/territory	150.9	46.3	124.5	40.2	285.5
Family type					
One-parent families(d)	65.2	25.6	62.4	24.8	138.2
Couple families(e)	380.3	96.9	266.8	87.7	642.2
Birthplace of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	47.1	21.8	51.0	17.2	107.3
Parent born in main English speaking countries	10.0	*2.0	6.4	5.8	18.4
Parent born in other countries	8.0	*1.7	5.1	*1.8	12.4
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	212.1	61.7	168.3	52.9	383.3
Both parents born in other main English speaking countries	20.5	6.4	13.3	7.2	32.4
Both parents born in other countries	57.0	7.7	18.0	7.3	71.9
Other	86.5	19.3	64.5	18.8	146.8
Employment status of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	41.8	9.8	34.2	13.4	79.7
Parent not employed	23.3	15.8	28.2	11.5	58.4
Couple families					
Both parents employed	266.5	65.8	183.0	59.9	440.6
One parent employed	97.6	25.9	74.5	25.4	172.7
Neither parent employed	12.0	*3.5	6.4	*0.9	21.1
Total(f)	445.5	122.5	329.3	112.6	780.4

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Sum of activities may not add to total because some children were involved in more than one activity.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(e) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(f) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

	Playing a musical instrument	Singing	Dancing	Drama	Total(b)
.....					
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)					
Sex					
Males	13.2	2.3	1.6	2.3	16.8
Females	20.7	7.0	23.8	6.3	42.8
Age group (years)					
5-8	10.4	3.1	13.8	3.1	24.4
9-11	22.8	6.7	12.8	5.2	35.6
12-14	19.2	4.5	10.2	4.8	30.0
Country of birth					
Born in Australia	16.6	4.6	12.5	4.1	29.3
Born overseas					
Born in main English speaking countries	20.6	6.7	11.5	9.6	33.9
Born in other countries	20.8	4.4	11.1	*3.6	30.0
State or territory of usual residence					
New South Wales	17.2	4.3	13.9	3.3	29.9
Victoria	15.5	3.9	12.0	3.3	28.5
Queensland	15.7	5.9	11.8	5.7	29.0
South Australia	17.0	4.6	10.4	5.4	28.6
Western Australia	20.5	4.8	12.7	6.1	32.9
Tasmania	18.4	*4.4	9.7	6.1	29.2
Northern Territory(c)	*12.0	*7.0	*11.3	**0.3	25.2
Australian Capital Territory	19.9	*4.5	*8.4	*3.4	27.5
Area of usual residence					
Capital city	18.2	4.7	12.6	4.5	30.5
Balance of state/territory	14.7	4.5	12.1	3.9	27.8
Family type					
One-parent families(d)	11.5	4.5	11.0	4.4	24.4
Couple families(e)	18.3	4.7	12.8	4.2	30.9
Birthplace of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent born in Australia	10.7	5.0	11.6	3.9	24.5
Parent born in main English speaking countries	16.8	*3.4	10.7	9.8	31.0
Parent born in other countries	11.5	*2.5	7.4	*2.6	17.9
Couple families					
Both parents born in Australia	16.7	4.8	13.2	4.2	30.1
Both parents born in other main English speaking countries	20.5	6.4	13.3	7.2	32.4
Both parents born in other countries	22.3	3.0	7.0	2.8	28.1
Other	20.3	4.5	15.1	4.4	34.4
Employment status of parents					
One-parent families					
Parent employed	15.3	3.6	12.6	4.9	29.3
Parent not employed	7.9	5.3	9.6	3.9	19.8
Couple families					
Both parents employed	20.8	5.1	14.3	4.7	34.3
One parent employed	15.4	4.1	11.8	4.0	27.3
Neither parent employed	8.6	*2.5	4.6	*0.7	15.2
Total(f)	16.8	4.6	12.4	4.3	29.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Sum of activities may not add to total because some children were involved in more than one activity.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(e) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(f) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

4

NUMBER OF SELECTED ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES (a), By sex

	NUMBER ('000)			PROPORTION (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
0	1 129.2	737.9	1 867.1	83.2	57.2	70.5
1	199.2	398.2	597.4	14.7	30.9	22.6
2	24.0	119.9	143.8	1.8	9.3	5.4
3	4.0	28.0	31.9	0.3	2.2	1.2
4	*1.3	5.9	7.2	*0.1	0.5	0.3
Total	1 357.6	1 289.9	2 647.5	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Number of organised cultural activities (playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama) in which children aged 5 to 14 participated outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

5

PARTICIPANTS IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES (a), Lessons received

	NUMBER ('000)				PROPORTION (%)				
	Playing a musical instrument	Singing	Dancing	Drama	Playing a musical instrument	Singing	Dancing	Drama	
Males									
Had lessons	137.7	21.0	17.6	23.7	76.9	66.4	79.4	75.2	
Did not have lessons	41.3	10.6	4.6	7.8	23.1	33.6	20.6	24.8	
Total	179.0	31.6	22.2	31.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Females									
Had lessons	211.6	64.6	293.4	66.5	79.4	71.1	95.6	82.0	
Did not have lessons	54.9	26.3	13.7	14.6	20.6	28.9	4.4	18.0	
Total	266.5	90.9	307.1	81.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Persons									
Had lessons	349.3	85.6	311.0	90.2	78.4	69.9	94.5	80.1	
Did not have lessons	96.2	36.9	18.2	22.4	21.6	30.1	5.5	19.9	
Total	445.5	122.5	329.3	112.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Frequency in past year

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
1-13 times	60.0	54.5	80.2	51.7
14-26 times	50.3	13.0	31.2	19.0
27-52 times	134.5	37.7	146.2	38.5
53-104 times	62.0	10.5	44.8	2.4
105 times or more	138.6	6.9	26.9	1.0
Total	445.5	122.5	329.3	112.6
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
1-13 times	13.5	44.5	24.4	45.9
14-26 times	11.3	10.6	9.5	16.9
27-52 times	30.2	30.8	44.4	34.2
53-104 times	13.9	8.6	13.6	2.2
105 times or more	31.1	5.6	8.2	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
TIMES (no.)				
Mean	106.0	35.8	48.8	23.3
Median	52	20	40	20
.....				

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised cultural activities (including lessons, organised practice sessions and performances) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS IN ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES(a), Duration in past two weeks

	<i>Playing a musical instrument</i>	<i>Singing</i>	<i>Dancing</i>	<i>Drama</i>
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
2 hours or less	199.4	89.5	201.1	87.4
3-4 hours	101.5	15.2	67.9	12.8
5-9 hours	91.6	8.5	31.9	7.6
10 hours or more	53.0	9.3	28.4	4.7
Total	445.5	122.5	329.3	112.6
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
2 hours or less	44.8	73.1	61.1	77.7
3-4 hours	22.8	12.4	20.6	11.4
5-9 hours	20.6	7.0	9.7	6.8
10 hours or more	11.9	7.5	8.6	4.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
HOURS (no.)				
Mean	4.5	2.9	3.6	2.1
Median	3	2	2	2
.....				

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised cultural activities (including lessons, organised practice sessions and performances) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

ORGANISED SPORT(a), Characteristics of children

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Age group (years)						
5-8	339.6	238.0	577.6	63.4	46.9	55.4
9-11	305.1	239.7	544.9	73.8	61.1	67.6
12-14	287.1	220.8	507.9	70.3	56.6	63.6
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	883.7	666.0	1 549.7	69.4	55.1	62.4
Born overseas						
Born in main English speaking countries	24.8	20.1	44.9	66.5	57.1	62.0
Born in other countries	23.3	12.4	35.8	50.1	26.8	38.4
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	320.2	228.1	548.3	71.0	53.1	62.3
Victoria	235.2	183.8	419.0	70.9	58.4	64.8
Queensland	165.3	118.8	284.0	61.5	46.3	54.1
South Australia	66.6	56.4	122.9	66.4	59.2	62.9
Western Australia	99.8	76.6	176.4	72.3	58.9	65.8
Tasmania	22.9	16.9	39.8	68.2	52.9	60.8
Northern Territory(b)	7.7	5.6	13.3	64.3	50.9	57.9
Australian Capital Territory	14.2	12.5	26.7	65.4	60.1	62.8
Area of usual residence						
Capital city	575.0	418.7	993.8	69.2	52.9	61.3
Balance of state/territory	356.8	279.8	636.6	67.7	56.1	62.1
Family type						
One-parent families(c)	162.7	116.3	279.0	56.2	41.8	49.2
Couple families(d)	769.2	582.2	1 351.4	72.0	57.5	65.0
Birthplace of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia	132.4	95.3	227.7	59.5	44.1	51.9
Parent born in main English speaking countries	17.9	12.3	30.2	55.9	44.7	50.8
Parent born in other countries	12.4	8.7	21.1	35.7	25.3	30.5
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia	495.7	387.3	883.1	75.7	62.6	69.3
Both parents born in main English speaking countries	38.5	30.4	68.9	75.6	62.2	69.1
Both parents born in other countries	65.8	40.2	106.0	50.0	32.4	41.5
Other	161.6	117.6	279.2	74.1	56.5	65.5
Employment status of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent employed	90.6	71.4	162.0	65.2	53.6	59.5
Parent not employed	72.1	45.0	117.1	48.0	31.1	39.7
Couple families						
Both parents employed	511.9	404.9	916.8	77.5	65.1	71.5
One parent employed	221.7	154.8	376.5	67.9	50.5	59.4
Neither parent employed	28.1	15.8	43.9	41.0	22.4	31.6
Total(e)	931.9	698.5	1 630.4	68.6	54.2	61.6

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(e) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

NUMBER OF ORGANISED SPORTS PLAYED(a), By sex

	NUMBER ('000)			PROPORTION (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
0	425.8	591.3	1 017.1	31.4	45.8	38.4
1	453.2	403.2	856.5	33.4	31.3	32.3
2	286.8	185.9	472.7	21.1	14.4	17.9
3 or more	191.9	109.4	301.3	14.1	8.5	11.4
Total	1 357.6	1 289.9	2 647.5	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Number of organised sports played by children aged 5 to 14 years outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS IN ORGANISED SPORT(a), Frequency in past year(b)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
1-13 times	53.2	19.7	18.3	91.1
14-26 times	47.8	29.3	24.3	101.5
27-52 times	107.2	84.6	60.5	252.4
53-104 times	93.0	102.2	99.9	295.1
105 times or more	38.3	69.3	84.1	191.7
Total	339.6	305.1	287.1	931.9
Females				
1-13 times	40.9	21.8	22.7	85.4
14-26 times	35.4	24.4	23.7	83.5
27-52 times	84.3	74.1	62.0	220.4
53-104 times	58.1	75.6	57.5	191.2
105 times or more	19.4	43.9	54.8	118.1
Total	238.0	239.7	220.8	698.5
Persons				
1-13 times	94.1	41.4	41.0	176.6
14-26 times	83.2	53.7	48.1	184.9
27-52 times	191.5	158.7	122.5	472.8
53-104 times	151.0	177.8	157.4	486.3
105 times or more	57.7	113.2	138.9	309.8
Total	577.6	544.9	507.9	1 630.4

	PROPORTION (%)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
Males				
1-13 times	9.2	3.6	3.6	5.6
14-26 times	8.3	5.4	4.8	6.2
27-52 times	18.6	15.5	11.9	15.5
53-104 times	16.1	18.8	19.7	18.1
105 times or more	6.6	12.7	16.6	11.8
Total	58.8	56.0	56.5	57.2
Females				
1-13 times	7.1	4.0	4.5	5.2
14-26 times	6.1	4.5	4.7	5.1
27-52 times	14.6	13.6	12.2	13.5
53-104 times	10.1	13.9	11.3	11.7
105 times or more	3.4	8.1	10.8	7.2
Total	41.2	44.0	43.5	42.8
Persons				
1-13 times	16.3	7.6	8.1	10.8
14-26 times	14.4	9.8	9.5	11.3
27-52 times	33.2	29.1	24.1	29.0
53-104 times	26.2	32.6	31.0	29.8
105 times or more	10.0	20.8	27.3	19.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	MEAN TIMES (no.)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
Males	55.2	77.9	91.8	73.9
Females	54.0	70.7	83.6	69.1
Persons	54.7	74.7	88.2	71.8

	MEDIAN TIMES (no.)			
	5-8	9-11	12-14	Total
Males	46	60	76	56
Females	40	52	56	52
Persons	44	60	67	52

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.
- (b) The total number of times children played organised sport (including training or practice sessions) for up to three sports.

PARTICIPANTS (a), Frequently played organised sports—By sex

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Aerobics and fitness	—	9.2	9.2	—	0.7	0.3
Athletics/track and field	51.7	48.6	100.2	3.8	3.8	3.8
Australian Rules	184.2	9.4	193.6	13.6	0.7	7.3
Badminton	*3.4	*2.7	6.0	*0.2	*0.2	0.2
Baseball	19.6	*3.0	22.6	1.4	*0.2	0.9
Basketball	116.1	88.9	205.0	8.6	6.9	7.7
Cricket (indoor)	7.4	**0.5	7.9	0.5	—	0.3
Cricket (outdoor)	124.2	9.5	133.6	9.1	0.7	5.0
Cycling	7.4	**0.5	7.9	0.5	—	0.3
Golf	21.8	4.5	26.2	1.6	0.3	1.0
Gymnastics (trampolining)	22.5	69.9	92.4	1.7	5.4	3.5
Hockey	33.3	33.0	66.3	2.5	2.6	2.5
Horse riding and equestrian events	4.9	28.0	32.8	0.4	2.2	1.2
Ice and snow sports	*2.8	*2.9	5.7	*0.2	*0.2	0.2
Martial arts	83.9	45.8	129.7	6.2	3.6	4.9
Netball	8.2	233.0	241.2	0.6	18.1	9.1
Roller sports	*2.6	*2.0	4.6	*0.2	*0.2	0.2
Rowing	*2.2	*3.3	5.5	*0.2	*0.3	0.2
Rugby League	76.2	**0.9	77.1	5.6	**0.1	2.9
Rugby Union	32.5	*2.5	35.0	2.4	*0.2	1.3
Running and jogging	*2.0	6.2	8.2	*0.1	0.5	0.3
Sailing	7.1	*2.6	9.6	0.5	*0.2	0.4
Soccer (indoor)	25.8	5.1	30.9	1.9	0.4	1.2
Soccer (outdoor)	301.1	54.8	355.9	22.2	4.2	13.4
Softball	20.9	25.2	46.2	1.5	2.0	1.7
Squash and racquetball	5.4	**0.8	6.2	0.4	**0.1	0.2
Surf lifesaving	13.8	14.3	28.1	1.0	1.1	1.1
Surf sports	4.1	*3.1	7.2	0.3	*0.2	0.3
Swimming	213.6	225.5	439.1	15.7	17.5	16.6
Tennis	128.3	100.1	228.5	9.5	7.8	8.6
Tenpin bowling	5.1	*3.5	8.6	0.4	*0.3	0.3
Touch football	21.2	21.2	42.4	1.6	1.6	1.6
Volleyball	5.3	9.1	14.4	0.4	0.7	0.5
Water polo	*2.6	*3.3	5.9	*0.2	*0.3	0.2
Other sports	38.1	30.0	68.0	2.8	2.3	2.6

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (to a maximum of three per child) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS(a), Main organised sports—By age and sex

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
5–8 years						
Swimming	126.9	117.7	244.6	23.7	23.2	23.5
Soccer (outdoor)	118.7	13.7	132.3	22.2	2.7	12.7
Netball	*1.6	44.4	46.0	*0.3	8.8	4.4
Tennis	39.3	26.7	66.0	7.3	5.3	6.3
Basketball	26.0	22.0	48.0	4.8	4.3	4.6
Australian Rules	68.5	*2.8	71.3	12.8	*0.5	6.8
Cricket (outdoor)	26.5	*2.0	28.5	5.0	*0.4	2.7
Martial arts	38.3	13.4	51.7	7.2	2.6	5.0
Athletics/track and field	19.3	15.9	35.2	3.6	3.1	3.4
Gymnastics (trampolining)	13.8	44.3	58.1	2.6	8.7	5.6
Rugby League	18.2	—	18.2	3.4	—	1.7
Hockey	7.1	7.7	14.8	1.3	1.5	1.4
9–11 years						
Swimming	64.8	75.2	139.9	15.7	19.2	17.4
Soccer (outdoor)	103.7	21.2	124.9	25.1	5.4	15.5
Netball	*3.3	91.3	94.6	*0.8	23.3	11.7
Tennis	52.7	41.3	94.0	12.7	10.5	11.7
Basketball	43.9	31.9	75.8	10.6	8.1	9.4
Australian Rules	53.9	5.7	59.6	13.0	1.5	7.4
Cricket (outdoor)	44.4	*3.7	48.1	10.7	*0.9	6.0
Martial arts	22.3	19.4	41.7	5.4	4.9	5.2
Athletics/track and field	22.2	16.9	39.1	5.4	4.3	4.9
Gymnastics (trampolining)	5.8	17.8	23.6	1.4	4.5	2.9
Rugby League	28.5	**0.6	29.0	6.9	**0.1	3.6
Hockey	12.6	10.0	22.6	3.0	2.5	2.8
12–14 years						
Swimming	21.9	32.7	54.6	5.4	8.4	6.8
Soccer (outdoor)	78.7	20.0	98.7	19.3	5.1	12.4
Netball	*3.3	97.4	100.6	*0.8	25.0	12.6
Tennis	36.3	32.2	68.5	8.9	8.2	8.6
Basketball	46.3	34.9	81.2	11.3	9.0	10.2
Australian Rules	61.7	*0.9	62.7	15.1	*0.2	7.8
Cricket (outdoor)	53.2	*3.8	57.0	13.0	*1.0	7.1
Martial arts	23.2	13.0	36.3	5.7	3.3	4.5
Athletics/track and field	10.2	15.7	25.9	2.5	4.0	3.2
Gymnastics (trampolining)	*2.9	7.7	10.6	*0.7	2.0	1.3
Rugby League	29.6	**0.3	29.9	7.2	**0.1	3.7
Hockey	13.6	15.3	28.9	3.3	3.9	3.6
Total						
Swimming	213.6	225.5	439.1	15.7	17.5	16.6
Soccer (outdoor)	301.1	54.8	355.9	22.2	4.2	13.4
Netball	8.2	233.0	241.2	0.6	18.1	9.1
Tennis	128.3	100.1	228.5	9.5	7.8	8.6
Basketball	116.1	88.9	205.0	8.6	6.9	7.7
Australian Rules	184.2	9.4	193.6	13.6	0.7	7.3
Cricket (outdoor)	124.2	9.5	133.6	9.1	0.7	5.0
Martial arts	83.9	45.8	129.7	6.2	3.6	4.9
Athletics/track and field	51.7	48.6	100.2	3.8	3.8	3.8
Gymnastics (trampolining)	22.5	69.9	92.4	1.7	5.4	3.5
Rugby League	76.2	**0.9	77.1	5.6	**0.1	2.9
Hockey	33.3	33.0	66.3	2.5	2.6	2.5

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (to a maximum of three per child) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS(a), Main organised sports—By frequency in past year

	NUMBER OF TIMES				Total
	1-13	14-26	27-52	53 or more	
NUMBER ('000)					
Australian Rules	55.5	44.0	66.8	27.2	193.6
Basketball	32.6	40.8	61.8	69.9	205.0
Cricket (outdoor)	25.5	37.7	53.2	17.3	133.6
Netball	50.8	48.7	99.5	42.1	241.2
Rugby League	9.3	13.4	23.0	31.4	77.1
Soccer (outdoor)	71.8	58.9	141.0	84.2	355.9
Tennis	51.6	39.6	95.5	41.8	228.5
Athletics/track and field	20.5	45.7	23.1	11.0	100.2
Gymnastics (trampolining)	22.0	9.3	43.2	17.8	92.4
Hockey	18.1	14.9	23.9	9.3	66.3
Martial arts	29.6	14.9	42.1	43.2	129.7
Swimming	53.8	79.8	235.4	70.2	439.1
PROPORTION (%)					
Australian Rules	28.7	22.7	34.5	14.1	100.0
Basketball	15.9	19.9	30.1	34.1	100.0
Cricket (outdoor)	19.1	28.2	39.8	12.9	100.0
Netball	21.1	20.2	41.3	17.5	100.0
Rugby League	12.1	17.3	29.8	40.7	100.0
Soccer (outdoor)	20.2	16.5	39.6	23.7	100.0
Tennis	22.6	17.3	41.8	18.3	100.0
Athletics/track and field	20.4	45.6	23.0	11.0	100.0
Gymnastics (trampolining)	23.9	10.1	46.8	19.3	100.0
Hockey	27.3	22.5	36.0	14.1	100.0
Martial arts	22.8	11.5	32.4	33.3	100.0
Swimming	12.2	18.2	53.6	16.0	100.0

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (to a maximum of three per child) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview in April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS(a), Organised sport—By duration in past two weeks

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	148.2	98.2	75.0	321.4
3-4 hours	98.6	66.5	59.7	224.7
5-9 hours	74.2	93.9	84.3	252.4
10-19 hours	14.5	37.3	54.5	106.4
20 hours or more	4.0	9.3	13.7	27.0
Total	339.6	305.1	287.1	931.9
Females				
2 hours or less	137.6	94.3	86.4	318.3
3-4 hours	53.1	63.1	43.5	159.7
5-9 hours	37.6	49.6	52.7	139.9
10-19 hours	5.9	25.4	28.6	59.9
20 hours or more	*3.8	7.3	9.6	20.7
Total	238.0	239.7	220.8	698.5
Persons				
2 hours or less	285.8	192.5	161.3	639.7
3-4 hours	151.7	129.6	103.2	384.4
5-9 hours	111.8	143.5	137.0	392.3
10-19 hours	20.4	62.7	83.1	166.3
20 hours or more	7.9	16.6	23.3	47.7
Total	577.6	544.9	507.9	1 630.4
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
Males				
2 hours or less	25.7	18.0	14.8	19.7
3-4 hours	17.1	12.2	11.7	13.8
5-9 hours	12.9	17.2	16.6	15.5
10-19 hours	2.5	6.8	10.7	6.5
20 hours or more	0.7	1.7	2.7	1.7
Total	58.8	56.0	56.5	57.2
Females				
2 hours or less	23.8	17.3	17.0	19.5
3-4 hours	9.2	11.6	8.6	9.8
5-9 hours	6.5	9.1	10.4	8.6
10-19 hours	1.0	4.7	5.6	3.7
20 hours or more	*0.7	1.3	1.9	1.3
Total	41.2	44.0	43.5	42.8
Persons				
2 hours or less	49.5	35.3	31.8	39.2
3-4 hours	26.3	23.8	20.3	23.6
5-9 hours	19.4	26.3	27.0	24.1
10-19 hours	3.5	11.5	16.4	10.2
20 hours or more	1.4	3.0	4.6	2.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
MEAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	3.7	5.4	6.7	5.1
Females	3.3	4.9	5.5	4.5
Persons	3.5	5.2	6.2	4.9
.....				
MEDIAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	3	4	5	4
Females	2	4	4	3
Persons	3	4	4	4
.....				

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in organised sport (to a maximum of three per child) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

	NUMBER ('000)			PROPORTION (%)		
	Involved(a)	Not involved(b)	Total	Involved	Not involved	Total
Sex						
Males	978.4	379.2	1 357.6	72.1	27.9	100.0
Females	913.7	376.2	1 289.9	70.8	29.2	100.0
Age group (years)						
5-8	676.4	366.4	1 042.8	64.9	35.1	100.0
9-11	627.5	178.4	805.9	77.9	22.1	100.0
12-14	588.2	210.6	798.8	73.6	26.4	100.0
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	1 785.8	696.1	2 481.9	72.0	28.0	100.0
Born overseas						
Born in main English speaking countries	53.1	19.4	72.5	73.2	26.8	100.0
Born in other countries	53.2	39.9	93.1	57.2	42.8	100.0
State or Territory						
New South Wales	637.4	243.3	880.7	72.4	27.6	100.0
Victoria	476.5	170.3	646.8	73.7	26.3	100.0
Queensland	343.4	182.1	525.4	65.3	34.7	100.0
South Australia	141.1	54.3	195.4	72.2	27.8	100.0
Western Australia	203.3	64.7	268.0	75.8	24.2	100.0
Tasmania	45.7	19.9	65.6	69.7	30.3	100.0
Northern Territory(c)	14.7	8.3	22.9	64.0	36.0	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	30.1	12.5	42.6	70.7	29.3	100.0
Area of usual residence						
Capital city	1 162.0	459.9	1 621.9	71.6	28.4	100.0
Balance of state/territory	730.1	295.5	1 025.6	71.2	28.8	100.0
Family type						
One-parent families(d)	342.1	225.3	567.4	60.3	39.7	100.0
Couple families(e)	1 550.0	530.1	2 080.1	74.5	25.5	100.0
Birthplace of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia	275.2	163.4	438.6	62.8	37.2	100.0
Parent born in main English speaking countries	38.6	20.9	59.4	64.9	35.1	100.0
Parent born in other countries	28.2	41.0	69.3	40.7	59.3	100.0
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia	985.0	288.5	1 273.5	77.3	22.7	100.0
Both parents born in main English speaking countries	77.9	21.9	99.8	78.0	22.0	100.0
Both parents born in other countries	141.9	113.9	255.8	55.5	44.5	100.0
Other	327.6	98.6	426.2	76.9	23.1	100.0
One-parent families						
Parent employed	195.9	76.3	272.2	72.0	28.0	100.0
Parent not employed	146.0	149.0	295.0	49.5	50.5	100.0
Couple families						
Both parents employed	1 036.6	246.1	1 282.7	80.8	19.2	100.0
One parent employed	439.8	193.6	633.4	69.4	30.6	100.0
Neither parent employed	56.0	83.2	139.2	40.2	59.8	100.0
Total(f)	1 892.1	755.4	2 647.5	71.5	28.5	100.0

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who were involved in organised sport and/or selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Children aged 5 to 14 years who were not involved in organised sport or selected organised cultural activities outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(c) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(d) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(e) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(f) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

SELECTED LEISURE ACTIVITIES, Characteristics of children(a)

	Skateboarding or rollerblading	Bike riding	Watching TV or videos	Playing electronic or computer games	Art and craft	Reading for pleasure
NUMBER ('000)						
Sex						
Males	386.4	957.4	1 338.6	1 110.8	529.8	919.2
Females	218.2	687.4	1 262.4	759.7	781.5	1 061.8
Age group (years)						
5-8	244.7	738.7	1 027.1	686.5	656.2	776.7
9-11	219.1	534.0	793.9	616.7	397.6	636.4
12-14	140.7	372.1	780.0	567.2	257.4	567.9
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	573.6	1 560.7	2 438.5	1 757.9	1 235.9	1 853.0
Born overseas						
Born in main English speaking countries	18.9	42.1	71.7	52.3	38.2	55.5
Born in other countries	12.0	42.0	90.8	60.2	37.1	72.6
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	177.0	523.0	864.4	630.6	440.2	664.4
Victoria	153.8	402.3	638.0	451.4	302.6	481.8
Queensland	122.0	342.4	515.2	361.4	260.3	384.5
South Australia	47.2	119.9	192.4	140.7	107.8	150.7
Western Australia	74.6	171.3	263.3	191.8	137.9	198.5
Tasmania	14.3	43.1	63.6	45.6	32.9	51.3
Northern Territory(b)	7.0	15.9	22.0	17.6	12.0	17.4
Australian Capital Territory	8.6	27.0	42.2	31.4	17.6	32.5
Area of usual residence						
Capital city	362.3	947.4	1 593.9	1 153.2	790.9	1 234.7
Balance of state/territory	242.3	697.4	1 007.1	717.3	520.3	746.4
Family type						
One-parent families(c)	152.8	349.6	553.0	391.5	264.6	401.2
Couple families(d)	451.8	1 295.2	2 048.1	1 479.0	1 046.6	1 579.8
Birthplace of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia	123.9	280.8	427.7	301.3	211.2	310.1
Parent born in main English speaking countries	17.5	36.5	57.4	44.1	31.6	41.3
Parent born in other countries	11.4	32.2	67.8	46.0	21.8	49.6
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia	302.3	849.4	1 254.8	916.6	662.6	959.2
Both parents born in main English speaking countries	23.2	61.1	98.5	69.1	54.8	77.6
Both parents born in other countries	35.6	116.5	250.9	173.9	95.4	193.2
Other	85.9	252.4	419.1	300.9	219.5	331.6
One-parent families						
Parent employed	75.4	168.6	268.2	195.1	130.3	195.0
Parent not employed	77.4	181.0	284.7	196.2	134.3	206.1
Couple families						
Both parents employed	281.3	811.9	1 267.2	927.1	640.6	984.1
One parent employed	137.1	385.0	620.7	445.0	336.0	476.2
Neither parent employed	28.7	82.6	135.4	88.4	55.6	101.2
Total(e)	604.5	1 644.8	2 601.0	1 870.5	1 311.2	1 981.0

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who were involved in selected leisure activities outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to April 2003.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(e) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

	Skateboarding or rollerblading	Bike riding	Watching TV or videos	Playing electronic or computer games	Art and craft	Reading for pleasure
PARTICIPATION RATE (%)						
Sex						
Males	28.5	70.5	98.6	81.8	39.0	67.7
Females	16.9	53.3	97.9	58.9	60.6	82.3
Age group (years)						
5-8	23.5	70.8	98.5	65.8	62.9	74.5
9-11	27.2	66.3	98.5	76.5	49.3	79.0
12-14	17.6	46.6	97.7	71.0	32.2	71.1
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	23.1	62.9	98.3	70.8	49.8	74.7
Born overseas						
Born in main English speaking countries	26.1	58.1	98.9	72.1	52.7	76.5
Born in other countries	12.9	45.2	97.6	64.7	39.9	78.0
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	20.1	59.4	98.1	71.6	50.0	75.4
Victoria	23.8	62.2	98.6	69.8	46.8	74.5
Queensland	23.2	65.2	98.0	68.8	49.5	73.2
South Australia	24.1	61.4	98.5	72.0	55.2	77.1
Western Australia	27.8	63.9	98.2	71.6	51.5	74.1
Tasmania	21.9	65.7	96.9	69.6	50.2	78.2
Northern Territory(b)	30.6	69.3	96.2	77.0	52.3	75.9
Australian Capital Territory	20.1	63.4	99.1	73.7	41.2	76.4
Area of usual residence						
Capital city	22.3	58.4	98.3	71.1	48.8	76.1
Balance of state/territory	23.6	68.0	98.2	69.9	50.7	72.8
Family type						
One-parent families(c)	26.9	61.6	97.5	69.0	46.6	70.7
Couple families(d)	21.7	62.3	98.5	71.1	50.3	75.9
Birthplace of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia	28.2	64.0	97.5	68.7	48.2	70.7
Parent born in main English speaking countries	29.5	61.5	96.6	74.1	53.2	69.6
Parent born in other countries	16.4	46.4	97.8	66.4	31.5	71.6
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia	23.7	66.7	98.5	72.0	52.0	75.3
Both parents born in main English speaking countries	23.3	61.2	98.7	69.2	54.9	77.7
Both parents born in other countries	13.9	45.6	98.1	68.0	37.3	75.5
Other	20.2	59.2	98.3	70.6	51.5	77.8
One-parent families						
Parent employed	27.7	61.9	98.5	71.7	47.9	71.6
Parent not employed	26.2	61.3	96.5	66.5	45.5	69.9
Couple families						
Both parents employed	21.9	63.3	98.8	72.3	49.9	76.7
One parent employed	21.6	60.8	98.0	70.3	53.1	75.2
Neither parent employed	20.6	59.4	97.2	63.5	40.0	72.7
Total(e)	22.8	62.1	98.2	70.7	49.5	74.8

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who were involved in selected leisure activities outside of school hours during the past two school weeks prior to April 2003.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(e) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	76.0	59.4	37.6	173.0
3-4 hours	22.3	23.9	18.4	64.5
5-9 hours	30.6	28.3	19.0	77.9
10-19 hours	15.9	14.2	18.9	48.9
20 hours or more	4.5	7.7	9.8	22.0
Total	149.2	133.6	103.6	386.4
Females				
2 hours or less	57.7	48.6	19.6	125.9
3-4 hours	12.7	16.9	5.4	35.0
5-9 hours	12.7	13.8	7.1	33.6
10-19 hours	10.0	4.6	*3.7	18.3
20 hours or more	*2.3	*1.7	*1.4	5.4
Total	95.4	85.6	37.2	218.2
Persons				
2 hours or less	133.6	108.1	57.2	298.9
3-4 hours	35.0	40.8	23.7	99.5
5-9 hours	43.4	42.1	26.0	111.5
10-19 hours	25.9	18.8	22.6	67.2
20 hours or more	6.8	9.4	11.2	27.4
Total	244.7	219.1	140.7	604.5

	PROPORTION (%)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
Males				
2 hours or less	50.9	44.5	36.3	44.8
3-4 hours	14.9	17.9	17.7	16.7
5-9 hours	20.5	21.2	18.3	20.2
10-19 hours	10.7	10.6	18.2	12.7
20 hours or more	3.0	5.8	9.4	5.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	60.4	56.8	52.7	57.7
3-4 hours	13.3	19.7	14.4	16.0
5-9 hours	13.3	16.1	19.0	15.4
10-19 hours	10.4	5.4	*10.0	8.4
20 hours or more	*2.4	*2.0	*3.8	2.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	54.6	49.3	40.7	49.5
3-4 hours	14.3	18.6	16.9	16.5
5-9 hours	17.7	19.2	18.5	18.4
10-19 hours	10.6	8.6	16.0	11.1
20 hours or more	2.8	4.3	7.9	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	MEAN HOURS (no.)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
Males	4.6	5.7	7.4	5.7
Females	4.3	3.7	4.7	4.1
Persons	4.5	4.9	6.6	5.2

	MEDIAN HOURS (no.)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
Males	2	3	4	3
Females	2	2	2	2
Persons	2	3	4	3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in skateboarding or rollerblading outside of school hours during the past two weeks prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS IN BIKE RIDING(a), Duration in past two weeks

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	162.2	112.4	87.9	362.5
3-4 hours	80.6	60.0	48.1	188.7
5-9 hours	76.0	53.6	49.8	179.4
10-19 hours	69.2	57.3	42.9	169.4
20 hours or more	15.8	19.7	22.0	57.5
Total	403.8	303.0	250.6	957.4
Females				
2 hours or less	157.9	99.6	65.1	322.6
3-4 hours	67.6	54.4	23.1	145.1
5-9 hours	60.8	39.1	20.2	120.1
10-19 hours	41.8	30.0	11.3	83.2
20 hours or more	6.8	7.9	*1.7	16.4
Total	335.0	231.0	121.5	687.4
Persons				
2 hours or less	320.1	212.0	153.0	685.1
3-4 hours	148.2	114.4	71.1	333.7
5-9 hours	136.8	92.7	70.0	299.5
10-19 hours	111.0	87.3	54.2	252.6
20 hours or more	22.5	27.6	23.8	73.9
Total	738.7	534.0	372.1	1 644.8
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
Males				
2 hours or less	40.2	37.1	35.1	37.9
3-4 hours	20.0	19.8	19.2	19.7
5-9 hours	18.8	17.7	19.9	18.7
10-19 hours	17.1	18.9	17.1	17.7
20 hours or more	3.9	6.5	8.8	6.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	47.1	43.1	53.6	46.9
3-4 hours	20.2	23.5	19.0	21.1
5-9 hours	18.1	16.9	16.6	17.5
10-19 hours	12.5	13.0	9.3	12.1
20 hours or more	2.0	3.4	*1.4	2.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	43.3	39.7	41.1	41.7
3-4 hours	20.1	21.4	19.1	20.3
5-9 hours	18.5	17.4	18.8	18.2
10-19 hours	15.0	16.4	14.6	15.4
20 hours or more	3.1	5.2	6.4	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
MEAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	5.7	6.6	7.0	6.3
Females	4.6	4.9	4.0	4.6
Persons	5.2	5.9	6.0	5.6
.....				
MEDIAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	4	4	4	4
Females	3	3	2	3
Persons	3	4	4	3
.....				

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in bike riding outside of school hours during the past two weeks prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS IN WATCHING TV OR VIDEOS(a), Duration in past two weeks

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	16.0	7.8	5.5	29.4
3-4 hours	24.2	11.9	12.8	49.0
5-9 hours	65.9	38.9	31.3	136.1
10-19 hours	182.0	128.6	104.4	414.9
20 hours or more	240.7	220.1	248.4	709.2
Total	528.8	407.4	402.5	1 338.6
Females				
2 hours or less	11.2	6.4	4.3	21.9
3-4 hours	30.3	11.8	12.4	54.6
5-9 hours	66.6	47.5	32.8	146.9
10-19 hours	180.7	113.4	106.6	400.7
20 hours or more	209.5	207.4	221.4	638.3
Total	498.4	386.5	377.6	1 262.4
Persons				
2 hours or less	27.2	14.2	9.9	51.3
3-4 hours	54.5	23.7	25.3	103.6
5-9 hours	132.5	86.5	64.1	283.0
10-19 hours	362.7	241.9	211.0	815.6
20 hours or more	450.2	427.5	469.8	1 347.5
Total	1 027.1	793.9	780.0	2 601.0
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
Males				
2 hours or less	3.0	1.9	1.4	2.2
3-4 hours	4.6	2.9	3.2	3.7
5-9 hours	12.5	9.6	7.8	10.2
10-19 hours	34.4	31.6	25.9	31.0
20 hours or more	45.5	54.0	61.7	53.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	2.2	1.6	1.1	1.7
3-4 hours	6.1	3.1	3.3	4.3
5-9 hours	13.4	12.3	8.7	11.6
10-19 hours	36.3	29.3	28.2	31.7
20 hours or more	42.0	53.7	58.6	50.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	2.7	1.8	1.3	2.0
3-4 hours	5.3	3.0	3.2	4.0
5-9 hours	12.9	10.9	8.2	10.9
10-19 hours	35.3	30.5	27.1	31.4
20 hours or more	43.8	53.9	60.2	51.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
MEAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	19.9	22.9	24.9	22.3
Females	18.8	22.1	24.1	21.4
Persons	19.4	22.5	24.5	21.9
.....				
MEDIAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	15	20	21	20
Females	14	20	20	20
Persons	15	20	21	20
.....				

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who watched TV or videos outside of school hours during the past two weeks prior to April 2003.

PARTICIPANTS IN ELECTRONIC OR COMPUTER GAMES(a), Duration in past two weeks

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	113.4	66.2	56.4	236.0
3-4 hours	86.2	67.6	49.0	202.8
5-9 hours	92.6	90.6	81.8	265.0
10-19 hours	89.6	89.5	94.1	273.1
20 hours or more	24.0	45.3	64.7	134.0
Total	405.8	359.0	345.9	1 110.8
Females				
2 hours or less	137.1	107.0	83.7	327.9
3-4 hours	58.4	48.1	37.1	143.6
5-9 hours	52.9	56.0	50.1	159.0
10-19 hours	24.3	34.1	39.3	97.7
20 hours or more	8.0	12.4	11.0	31.4
Total	280.7	257.7	221.3	759.7
Persons				
2 hours or less	250.5	173.2	140.1	563.8
3-4 hours	144.6	115.7	86.1	346.4
5-9 hours	145.5	146.6	132.0	424.0
10-19 hours	113.9	123.6	133.4	370.9
20 hours or more	32.0	57.7	75.7	165.4
Total	686.5	616.7	567.2	1 870.5

	PROPORTION (%)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
Males				
2 hours or less	27.9	18.4	16.3	21.2
3-4 hours	21.2	18.8	14.2	18.3
5-9 hours	22.8	25.2	23.7	23.9
10-19 hours	22.1	24.9	27.2	24.6
20 hours or more	5.9	12.6	18.7	12.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	48.9	41.5	37.8	43.2
3-4 hours	20.8	18.7	16.8	18.9
5-9 hours	18.9	21.7	22.6	20.9
10-19 hours	8.6	13.2	17.8	12.9
20 hours or more	2.8	4.8	5.0	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	36.5	28.1	24.7	30.1
3-4 hours	21.1	18.8	15.2	18.5
5-9 hours	21.2	23.8	23.3	22.7
10-19 hours	16.6	20.0	23.5	19.8
20 hours or more	4.7	9.4	13.3	8.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	MEAN HOURS (no.)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
Males	7.0	9.2	11.2	9.0
Females	4.5	5.7	6.0	5.3
Persons	5.9	7.7	9.2	7.5

	MEDIAN HOURS (no.)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
Males	5	7	8	6
Females	3	4	4	3
Persons	4	5	6	5

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who played electronic or computer games outside of school hours during the past two weeks prior to April 2003.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	111.9	66.7	42.2	220.7
3-4 hours	57.6	32.2	20.8	110.6
5-9 hours	67.7	30.4	16.1	114.2
10-19 hours	40.6	16.8	7.0	64.4
20 hours or more	10.1	5.7	4.1	19.9
Total	287.8	151.7	90.2	529.8
Females				
2 hours or less	90.4	88.6	65.6	244.6
3-4 hours	72.9	60.3	44.2	177.5
5-9 hours	90.5	49.7	32.2	172.4
10-19 hours	83.9	40.3	21.1	145.3
20 hours or more	30.8	7.0	4.0	41.8
Total	368.4	245.9	167.2	781.5
Persons				
2 hours or less	202.3	155.3	107.7	465.3
3-4 hours	130.5	92.5	65.0	288.0
5-9 hours	158.1	80.1	48.3	286.5
10-19 hours	124.5	57.1	28.1	209.7
20 hours or more	40.8	12.6	8.1	61.6
Total	656.2	397.6	257.4	1 311.2
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
Males				
2 hours or less	38.9	43.9	46.7	41.7
3-4 hours	20.0	21.2	23.1	20.9
5-9 hours	23.5	20.1	17.8	21.6
10-19 hours	14.1	11.1	7.8	12.2
20 hours or more	3.5	3.7	4.6	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	24.5	36.0	39.2	31.3
3-4 hours	19.8	24.5	26.5	22.7
5-9 hours	24.6	20.2	19.3	22.1
10-19 hours	22.8	16.4	12.6	18.6
20 hours or more	8.4	2.8	2.4	5.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	30.8	39.1	41.9	35.5
3-4 hours	19.9	23.3	25.3	22.0
5-9 hours	24.1	20.1	18.8	21.9
10-19 hours	19.0	14.4	10.9	16.0
20 hours or more	6.2	3.2	3.2	4.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
MEAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	5.4	5.1	4.9	5.2
Females	7.7	5.5	5.0	6.5
Persons	6.7	5.4	5.0	6.0
.....				
MEDIAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	4	3	3	3
Females	5	4	3	4
Persons	4	4	3	4
.....				

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in art and craft activities outside of school hours during the past two weeks prior to April 2003.

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)			Total
	5-8	9-11	12-14	
.....				
NUMBER ('000)				
Males				
2 hours or less	94.8	59.6	59.1	213.5
3-4 hours	61.5	47.2	46.3	155.0
5-9 hours	146.8	102.3	71.9	321.0
10-19 hours	60.1	70.3	57.5	187.9
20 hours or more	7.6	16.5	17.7	41.8
Total	370.8	295.9	252.5	919.2
Females				
2 hours or less	87.3	47.4	46.5	181.2
3-4 hours	64.6	42.5	44.4	151.4
5-9 hours	155.6	121.9	92.2	369.8
10-19 hours	77.9	99.1	93.1	270.1
20 hours or more	20.5	29.6	39.2	89.3
Total	405.8	340.5	315.4	1 061.8
Persons				
2 hours or less	182.1	106.9	105.7	394.7
3-4 hours	126.1	89.7	90.7	306.4
5-9 hours	302.4	224.3	164.1	690.8
10-19 hours	138.0	169.4	150.6	457.9
20 hours or more	28.1	46.1	56.9	131.1
Total	776.7	636.4	567.9	1 981.0
.....				
PROPORTION (%)				
Males				
2 hours or less	25.6	20.1	23.4	23.2
3-4 hours	16.6	15.9	18.3	16.9
5-9 hours	39.6	34.6	28.5	34.9
10-19 hours	16.2	23.8	22.8	20.4
20 hours or more	2.1	5.6	7.0	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Females				
2 hours or less	21.5	13.9	14.8	17.1
3-4 hours	15.9	12.5	14.1	14.3
5-9 hours	38.3	35.8	29.2	34.8
10-19 hours	19.2	29.1	29.5	25.4
20 hours or more	5.1	8.7	12.4	8.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons				
2 hours or less	23.4	16.8	18.6	19.9
3-4 hours	16.2	14.1	16.0	15.5
5-9 hours	38.9	35.2	28.9	34.9
10-19 hours	17.8	26.6	26.5	23.1
20 hours or more	3.6	7.2	10.0	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....				
MEAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	6.1	7.7	7.8	7.1
Females	7.2	9.0	9.9	8.6
Persons	6.7	8.4	9.0	7.9
.....				
MEDIAN HOURS (no.)				
Males	5	7	6	6
Females	6	7	7	7
Persons	6	7	7	7
.....				

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who participated in reading for pleasure outside of school hours during the past two weeks prior to April 2003.

	NUMBER ('000)			PARTICIPATION RATE (%)		
	Accessed the Internet	Used a computer but not the Internet	Total	Accessed the Internet	Used a computer but not the Internet	Total
Sex						
Males	846.7	442.6	1 289.3	62.4	32.6	95.0
Females	846.6	381.5	1 228.2	65.6	29.6	95.2
Age group (years)						
5-8	390.1	548.2	938.4	37.4	52.6	90.0
9-11	600.6	189.0	789.6	74.5	23.5	98.0
12-14	702.5	86.9	789.4	88.0	10.9	98.8
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	1 576.8	784.5	2 361.3	63.5	31.6	95.1
Born overseas						
Born in main English speaking countries	52.6	17.3	70.0	72.6	23.9	96.5
Born in other countries	63.9	22.3	86.2	68.6	24.0	92.6
State or territory of usual residence						
New South Wales	550.0	274.5	824.5	62.5	31.2	93.6
Victoria	423.3	201.3	624.6	65.4	31.1	96.6
Queensland	329.9	168.0	498.0	62.8	32.0	94.8
South Australia	128.5	59.0	187.5	65.7	30.2	95.9
Western Australia	176.6	80.5	257.1	65.9	30.0	95.9
Tasmania	45.3	18.5	63.7	69.0	28.2	97.2
Northern Territory(b)	14.1	7.2	21.4	61.7	31.6	93.3
Australian Capital Territory	25.5	15.1	40.6	59.9	35.5	95.4
Area of usual residence						
Capital city	1 060.4	479.6	1 540.0	65.4	29.6	94.9
Balance of state/territory	632.9	344.6	977.5	61.7	33.6	95.3
Family type						
One-parent families(c)	332.8	200.6	533.4	58.7	35.4	94.0
Couple families(d)	1 360.5	623.5	1 984.0	65.4	30.0	95.4
Birthplace of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent born in Australia	260.7	155.5	416.1	59.4	35.5	94.9
Parent born in main English speaking countries	36.6	21.0	57.6	61.5	35.3	96.9
Parent born in other countries	35.5	24.2	59.6	51.2	34.9	86.1
Couple families						
Both parents born in Australia	849.7	376.4	1 226.1	66.7	29.6	96.3
Both parents born in main English speaking countries	71.5	25.0	96.5	71.6	25.1	96.7
Both parents born in other countries	138.3	88.5	226.8	54.1	34.6	88.7
Other	283.3	127.2	410.5	66.5	29.8	96.3
Employment status of parents						
One-parent families						
Parent employed	186.9	78.8	265.7	68.7	28.9	97.6
Parent not employed	145.8	121.9	267.6	49.4	41.3	90.7
Couple families						
Both parents employed	898.4	340.2	1 238.6	70.0	26.5	96.6
One parent employed	382.1	219.2	601.3	60.3	34.6	94.9
Neither parent employed	62.2	57.8	120.0	44.7	41.5	86.2
Total(e)	1 693.3	824.2	2 517.5	64.0	31.1	95.1

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used a computer or accessed the Internet during or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For further information see paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Notes.

(c) Includes children whose parent's country of birth and employment status were not stated.

(d) Includes children who had at least one of their parent's country of birth and employment status not stated.

(e) Includes children whose family type and/or birthplace of parents and/or employment status of parents were not stated.

	NUMBER ('000)				PROPORTION (%)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
Computer(a)								
Home	753.2	691.7	720.4	2 165.3	80.3	87.6	91.2	86.0
Someone else's home	324.7	334.6	391.5	1 050.8	34.6	42.4	49.6	41.7
School	842.3	761.6	765.3	2 369.2	89.8	96.4	96.9	94.1
Public library	49.8	110.9	142.6	303.3	5.3	14.0	18.1	12.0
Other places	37.7	28.8	44.6	111.1	4.0	3.6	5.7	4.4
Total(b)	938.4	789.6	789.4	2 517.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Internet(c)								
Home	299.2	460.8	581.6	1 341.6	76.7	76.7	82.8	79.2
Someone else's home	60.2	134.4	217.8	412.4	15.4	22.4	31.0	24.4
School	192.4	440.3	549.3	1 181.9	49.3	73.3	78.2	69.8
Public library	11.1	38.5	67.4	117.0	2.8	6.4	9.6	6.9
Other places	9.9	18.3	29.0	57.2	2.5	3.1	4.1	3.4
Total(b)	390.1	600.6	702.5	1 693.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

- (a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used a computer during or outside school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.
- (b) Sum of locations may not add to total because some children used a computer or accessed the Internet in more than one place.
- (c) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used the Internet during or outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

	NUMBER ('000)				PROPORTION (%)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
Activities(b)								
Internet based, including email	187.4	361.8	499.0	1 048.2	24.9	52.3	69.3	48.4
Playing games	685.3	596.7	546.6	1 828.7	91.0	86.3	75.9	84.5
School or educational	525.0	612.8	680.0	1 817.8	69.7	88.6	94.4	84.0
Other	75.2	89.2	120.8	285.1	10.0	12.9	16.8	13.2
Frequency of use								
Every day	66.5	113.7	236.3	416.5	8.8	16.4	32.8	19.2
2-6 days a week	362.3	416.7	407.9	1 186.9	48.1	60.2	56.6	54.8
One day a week	200.6	106.9	53.2	360.7	26.6	15.5	7.4	16.7
Less than one day a week	123.2	53.3	22.0	198.5	16.4	7.7	3.1	9.2
Not known	**0.7	*1.1	**0.9	*2.7	**0.1	*0.2	**0.1	*0.1
Total	753.2	691.7	720.4	2 165.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who used a computer at home during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Sum of activities may not add to total because some children used the computer for more than one activity.

HOME INTERNET USAGE(a), Activities and usual frequency in the past year

	NUMBER ('000)				PROPORTION (%)			
	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total	5-8 years	9-11 years	12-14 years	Total
Activities(b)								
Using email or chat rooms	68.5	184.1	390.7	643.4	22.9	40.0	67.2	48.0
Playing games	204.2	275.3	300.2	779.7	68.2	59.8	51.6	58.1
School or educational	194.6	409.0	545.7	1 149.4	65.0	88.8	93.8	85.7
Browsing the Internet for leisure	71.2	181.1	291.0	543.2	23.8	39.3	50.0	40.5
Other	12.4	33.3	55.8	101.5	4.2	7.2	9.6	7.6
Frequency of use								
Every day	12.8	44.7	135.9	193.4	4.3	9.7	23.4	14.4
2-6 days a week	85.4	218.7	327.3	631.4	28.5	47.5	56.3	47.1
One day a week	86.2	109.7	78.1	274.0	28.8	23.8	13.4	20.4
Less than one day a week	113.0	86.0	37.6	236.6	37.8	18.7	6.5	17.6
Not known	*1.9	*1.7	*2.7	6.3	*0.6	*0.4	*0.5	0.5
Total	299.2	460.8	581.6	1 341.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Children aged 5 to 14 years who accessed the Internet at home during the 12 months prior to April 2003.

(b) Sum of activities may not add to total because some children used the Internet for more than one activity.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey conducted throughout Australia in April 2003 as part of the Monthly Population Survey (MPS).

2 The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS), which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in Australia's Labour Force Survey aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0) which is available on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au> (About Statistics—Statistical Concepts and Classifications).

SCOPE

4 The scope of the survey included all children aged 5–14 years who were usual residents of private dwellings except:

- children in households where at least one person aged 15 years and over was a member in the Australian permanent defence forces
- children of certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from censuses and surveys
- children of overseas residents in Australia
- children of members of non-Australian defence forces stationed in Australia.

5 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded children living in very remote parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these children will only have a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such children account for 22% of the total number of children in the population.

COVERAGE

6 The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in April 2003. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each child is associated with only one dwelling, and hence had only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

DATA COLLECTION

7 Information was collected through interviews conducted over a two-week period during April 2003. Data collected on the frequency of participation related to the previous 12 months. Data collected on the number of hours of participation related to the last two weeks of school. The last two weeks of school related to the most recent two school weeks prior to the interview.

8 Information was collected from any responsible adult in the household who was asked to respond on behalf of the children in the household. About 80% of the interviews were conducted by telephone with the remainder being face-to-face interviews.

9 In each selected household, information on cultural and leisure activities was sought for a maximum of three children. In total, information was collected about the activities of 8,900 children living in the selected households. In the households with four or more children aged 5–14 years, three children were randomly selected for the survey. For the additional children in these households, selected demographic information only was collected.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

DATA COLLECTION *continued*

10 Those children who participated in a recognised modified version of a sport have been recorded as participating in the adult version of that sport. For example, children who played teeball were coded to softball; Auskick to Australian Rules football; miniball to basketball; and netta to netball.

COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS ABS SURVEYS

11 Two minor changes were made to the survey's content between 2000 and 2003.

- In 2000, detailed participation data was collected for a maximum of six children, per household, and selected demographic data for up to three more. In 2003, detailed participation data was collected for a maximum of three children, per household, and selected demographic data was collected for up to ten more.
- Reading for pleasure was introduced as a new leisure activity in 2003. As such, two new questions were asked to establish whether each child participated in this activity, in the last two school weeks, and if so, the total number of hours they spent on this activity, during this period.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

12 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling error.

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all children had been included in the survey. For further information on sampling error, refer to the Technical Note.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient processing procedures.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

13 ABS surveys draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

NEXT SURVEY

14 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in April 2006.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

15 Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- *Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia, 2000*, cat. no. 4901.0
- *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2001–02*, cat. no. 8146.0
- *Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, Australia, 2002*, cat. no. 4114.0
- *Sports Attendance, Australia, 2002*, cat. no. 4174.0
- *Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, Australia, 2002*, cat. no. 4177.0
- *Use of the Internet by Householders, Australia, August 2000*, cat. no. 8147.0

16 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead. The National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics theme page also contains a wealth of information and useful references. This site can be accessed through the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au>.

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Children's Participation in Culture and Leisure Activities Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items may also be available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data relates.

For more information about ABS data available on request, contact Theo Neumann on Adelaide (08) 8237 7449, or by facsimile (08) 8237 7366, or by email to <theo.neumann@abs.gov.au>.

POPULATIONS

- 1 All children aged 5–14 years
- 2 Children involved in organised cultural activities
- 3 Children involved in organised sport
- 4 Children involved in leisure activities
- 5 Children involved in organised sport and/or cultural activities
- 6 Children who have used a computer and/or the Internet
- 7 Children who have used a computer at home
- 8 Children who have used the Internet at home

DATA ITEMS

CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES

State or territory of usual residence

Area of usual residence

Region of usual residence

Family type

CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS

Country of birth of parents

Labour force status of parents

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN

Sex of child

Age (in years)

Country of birth of child

ORGANISED SPORT

Sports participated in outside of school hours

Number of sports participated in

Number of times participated in sport

Number of hours participated in sport

SELECTED ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Cultural activities participated in outside of school hours

Number of cultural activities participated in

Whether lessons received for cultural activity

Number of times participated in cultural activity

Number of hours participated in cultural activity

APPENDIX POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

DATA ITEMS continued

SELECTED LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Leisure activities participated in outside of school hours

Number of hours participated in leisure activity

COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACTIVITY

Computer activities participated in

Location of computer usage

Location of Internet or email usage

Activities computer used for at home

Activities Internet used for at home

Number of days each week computer usually used at home

Number of days each week Internet or email usually used at home

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

1 Estimates of children were derived using a ratio estimation procedure which ensures that estimates conform to an independently estimated state by age by sex distribution of children in the population, rather than to the state by age by sex distribution within the sample itself.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

2 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from those that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about 2 chances in 3 (67%) that a sample estimate will vary by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

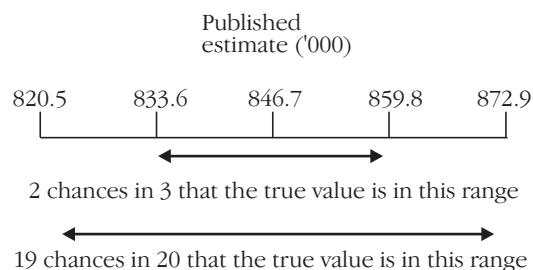
3 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). Each SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using the data collected in this survey. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation among SEs for different estimates of the same size.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

4 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of children is as follows. From table 23 an estimated 846,700 males aged 5–14 years accessed the Internet, outside school hours in the 12 months ending April 2003. Since this estimate is between 500,000 and 1,000,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 10,700 and 14,150 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 &= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\
 &= 10,700 + \left(\left(\frac{846,700 - 500,000}{1,000,000 - 500,000} \right) \times (14,150 - 10,700) \right) \\
 &= 13,092 \\
 &= 13,100 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

5 Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 833,600 and 859,800 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 820,500 and 872,900. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



CALCULATION OF STANDARD
ERROR *continued*

6 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with an RSE of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with an RSE greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with an RSE of 25% or less.

MEANS AND MEDIANS

7 This publication contains means and medians. Both are measures for locating the centre of a set of values, but each measure has its own method. The mean is the arithmetic average, whereas the median is the middle value of a set of values when the values are sorted in order.

8 The RSEs of estimates of the mean number of hours/times spent on selected cultural, leisure or sporting activities, and the median number of hours/times spent on selected cultural, leisure or sporting activities are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the mean or median (see table T1) and then multiplying the resulting number by the following factors:

- mean number of times spent on selected cultural/leisure/sporting activity in past year: 1.22
- median number of times spent on selected cultural/leisure/sporting activity in past year: 1.57
- mean number of hours spent on selected cultural/leisure/sporting activity in last two school weeks: 1.72
- median number of hours spent on selected cultural/leisure/sporting activity in last two school weeks: 2.35

9 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 19 shows that the estimated number of children who watched television and/or videos during the last two school weeks was 2,601,000 with a median number of hours spent watching television and/or videos of 20 hours. The SE of 2,601,000 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 20,002. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or $20,002/2,601,000 = 0.8\%$.

10 The RSE of the estimate of the median number of hours spent watching television and/or videos is calculated by multiplying this number (0.8%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.35): $0.8 \times 2.35 = 1.9\%$. The SE of this estimate of median number of hours spent watching television and/or videos is therefore 1.9% of 20, i.e. about 0.4 hours. Therefore, there are 2 chances in 3 that the median number of hours spent watching television and/or videos that would have been obtained if all children had been included in the survey would have been within the range 19.6 hours to 20.4 hours, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 19.2 hours to 20.8 hours.

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES

11 Proportions and participation rates formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling error. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

PROPORTIONS AND
PERCENTAGES *continued*

12 Considering the example above, the 846,700 males aged 5-14 years who accessed the Internet, outside of school hours in the 12 months ending April 2003, represent 50% of the 1,693,300 children in Australia, aged 5-14 years who accessed the Internet. The SE of 1,693,300 may be calculated by interpolation as 17,200. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or $17,200/1,693,300 = 1.0\%$. The SE for 846,700 was calculated previously as 13,100, which converted to a RSE is $13,100/846,700 = 1.5\%$. Applying the above formula the RSE of the proportion is

$$RSE = \sqrt{(1.5)^2 - (1.0)^2} = .05\%$$

13 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of children using the Internet who were boys is 0.6 percentage points ($= (50.0/100) * 1.1$). Therefore, there are about 2 chances in 3 that the proportion of children using the Internet who were boys is between 49.4% and 50.6%, and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 48.8% and 51.2%.

DIFFERENCES

14 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

15 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

DIFFERENCES *continued*

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	NSW no.	Vic. no.	Qld. no.	SA no.	WA no.	Tas. no.	NT no.	ACT no.	AUST.	
									SE no.	RSE %
300	400	340	350	270	260	180	180	180	300	100.0
500	500	440	450	340	330	240	240	240	400	80.0
700	590	520	520	390	400	280	280	280	480	68.6
1,000	700	630	610	460	470	340	340	320	580	58.0
1,500	850	760	730	560	580	400	410	390	720	48.0
2,000	970	880	840	630	670	460	470	440	830	41.5
2,500	1 100	1 000	900	700	750	500	500	500	950	38.0
3,000	1 200	1 050	1 000	750	800	550	550	500	1 000	33.3
3,500	1 250	1 150	1 100	800	850	600	600	550	1 100	31.4
4,000	1 350	1 200	1 150	850	900	600	650	600	1 200	30.0
5,000	1 500	1 350	1 250	950	1 000	650	700	650	1 350	27.0
7,000	1 750	1 600	1 500	1 100	1 200	750	800	750	1 550	22.1
10,000	2 050	1 850	1 750	1 300	1 400	850	900	850	1 850	18.5
15,000	2 500	2 200	2 100	1 500	1 650	1 000	1 050	1 000	2 250	15.0
20,000	2 850	2 500	2 400	1 700	1 850	1 100	1 150	1 100	2 600	13.0
30,000	3 400	3 000	2 900	2 050	2 200	1 200	1 300	1 300	3 150	10.5
40,000	3 900	3 350	3 300	2 300	2 500	1 300	..	1 450	3 600	9.0
50,000	4 300	3 700	3 650	2 500	2 700	1 400	..	1 600	4 000	8.0
100,000	5 850	4 900	5 000	3 350	3 550	1 650	..	..	5 400	5.4
150,000	7 050	5 700	6 050	3 950	4 150	..	..	..	6 450	4.3
200,000	8 000	6 350	6 900	4 450	4 600	..	..	..	7 300	3.7
300,000	9 550	7 400	8 350	5 250	5 300	..	..	..	8 700	2.9
500,000	12 000	8 950	10 600	6 400	6 300	..	..	..	10 700	2.1
1,000,000	16 250	11 400	14 600	..	..	..	..	..	14 150	1.4
2,000,000	22 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18 500	0.9
5,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26 000	0.5
10,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

.. not applicable

T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW no.	Vic. no.	Qld. no.	SA no.	WA no.	Tas. no.	NT no.	ACT no.	Aust. no.
25% RSE									
Mean number of times participated in activity	10 045	8 325	7 399	4 344	4 954	2 430	2 562	2 262	8 319
Median number of times participated in activity	16 054	13 140	11 806	6 806	7 847	3 734	3 981	3 519	13 601
Mean number of hours participated in activity	18 947	15 416	13 935	7 974	9 215	4 332	4 635	4 108	16 154
Median number of hours participated in activity	33 700	26 705	24 861	13 806	15 993	7 170	7 747	6 995	29 184
All other estimates	6 952	5 792	5 137	3 051	3 433	1 716	1 790	1 593	5 627
50% RSE									
Mean number of times participated in activity	2 754	2 280	2 067	1 249	1 332	681	685	647	2 059
Median number of times participated in activity	4 427	3 690	3 292	1 976	2 174	1 104	1 134	1 030	3 461
Mean number of hours participated in activity	5 236	4 367	3 884	2 323	2 579	1 303	1 347	1 212	4 150
Median number of hours participated in activity	9 380	7 784	6 912	4 068	4 629	2 279	2 399	2 120	7 738
All other estimates	1 897	1 554	1 438	870	900	459	453	446	1 361

(a) Refers to the number of persons contributing to the estimate.

GLOSSARY

Aerobics and fitness	Includes gym, exercise bike and circuits.
Art and craft activities	Includes painting, drawing, photography, macramé, origami, needlework and model making. Excludes attending live performances (e.g. theatrical productions and visits to art galleries.)
Basketball	Includes organised indoor and outdoor basketball.
Computers	Includes portable computers (e.g. laptops, notebook computers), personal organisers which can be plugged into larger computers and dedicated word processors. Excludes calculators. Computers used in the home include home business computers and computers brought home from work.
Computer usage	Relates to the following activities: Internet based, including email; playing games; school or educational and other.
Couple family	For the purposes of this publication, a family consisting of two persons in a registered marriage or de facto relationship and at least one child aged 5–14 years who are usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals.
Cycling	Includes organised BMX and mountain bike riding.
Dancing	Includes ballet, street funk, tap, Irish, callisthenics and musicals (e.g. Rock Eisteddfod) where the child's predominant activity was dancing. Includes lessons, practising and performances outside of school hours.
Drama	Includes acting, designing and organising of props and costumes, set design and construction, lighting and front of house activities (such as organising venues, production and distribution of programs, ticket sales, ushering, etc.). Includes lessons, practising and performances outside of school hours.
Electronic or computer games	Includes game machines such as Playstations, Nintendo, hand-held computer games and electronic games in video arcades.
Gymnastics	Includes organised trampolining.
Hockey	Excludes underwater and ice hockey.
Horse riding	Includes organised equestrian and polocrosse.
Ice/snow sports	Includes organised ice hockey, ice-skating, snow skiing and snow boarding.
Internet usage	Relates to the following activities: using email or chat rooms; playing games; school or educational; browsing the Internet for leisure and other.
Leisure activities	For the purposes of this publication, leisure activities refer to watching TV or videos; playing electronic or computer games; art and craft; reading for pleasure; skateboarding or rollerblading; and cycling.
Martial arts	Includes organised tae kwon do, aikido, judo, karate and kickboxing.
Mean	The mean is the arithmetic average of a group of values. It is calculated by adding the observed values and dividing by the number of observations.
Median	The median is the middle value when values are sorted by order of size.
Netball	Includes organised indoor and outdoor netball.
One-parent family	For the purposes of this publication, a family consisting of a lone parent and at least one child aged 5–14 years usually resident in the household. The family may also include any number of other dependents, non-dependents and other related individuals.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Organised cultural activities	The organised cultural activities considered in this survey are playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing and drama. Time spent outside of school hours practising, having lessons and giving performances in these activities are included. 'Practising' refers to organised or structured practice sessions only. For example, practising scales and pieces set by a music teacher is included.
Organised sport	In this survey, sports played or trained for outside of school hours which were organised by a club, association or school are included. The club or association did not need to be a sporting body; for example, it may have been a church group or the local gymnasium. Any organised or structured training or practice sessions are included as long as they have been set by the instructor or coach.
Other computer activities	Includes writing letters or correspondence, hobbies (e.g. clip art) and keeping a diary.
Other countries	The group comprises all countries except Australia and the other main English-speaking countries (the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand).
Other Internet activities	Includes downloading music or pictures and downloading information (e.g. recipes, sports results, hobbies or other interests).
Other main English-speaking countries	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.
Outside of school hours	The period generally outside of the hours of 9am to 3pm (or as appropriate) Monday to Friday. Lunchtime is considered to fall within school hours.
Participants	Persons playing a sport or undertaking physical activity. Persons involved only in non-playing roles such as coach, umpire or administrator are excluded.
Participation rate	For any group, the number of persons involved (either as participants or otherwise) in sports or physical activities, expressed as a percentage of the total population of that group.
Playing a musical instrument	Includes practising, having lessons and giving performances outside of school hours. Includes playing as part of learning (e.g. playing a musical instrument to learn chords without actually being able to play a set piece of music).
Public library computers	Includes computers provided in the library for public access for library catalogue searches, Internet use and word processing.
School weeks	Weeks during the school term including weekends and public holidays. Excludes weeks during the school holidays.
Singing	Includes formal singing lessons (e.g. learning scales, voice training, etc.), practice sessions to learn songs (e.g. choir songs etc.) and singing performances outside school hours.
Someone else's home	Includes the homes of neighbours, friends and relatives.
Sport	Whether an activity was regarded as a sport was left to the judgement of the respondent.
Surf sports	Includes organised surfing and windsurfing. Excludes surf-lifesaving.
Tennis	Includes organised indoor and outdoor tennis. Excludes totem-tennis.
Volleyball	Includes organised indoor and outdoor volleyball and beach volleyball.

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