

Active People Survey (APS) results for Rugby Union

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

Prepared by Sport England

14 December 2010

Summary of findings for Rugby Union

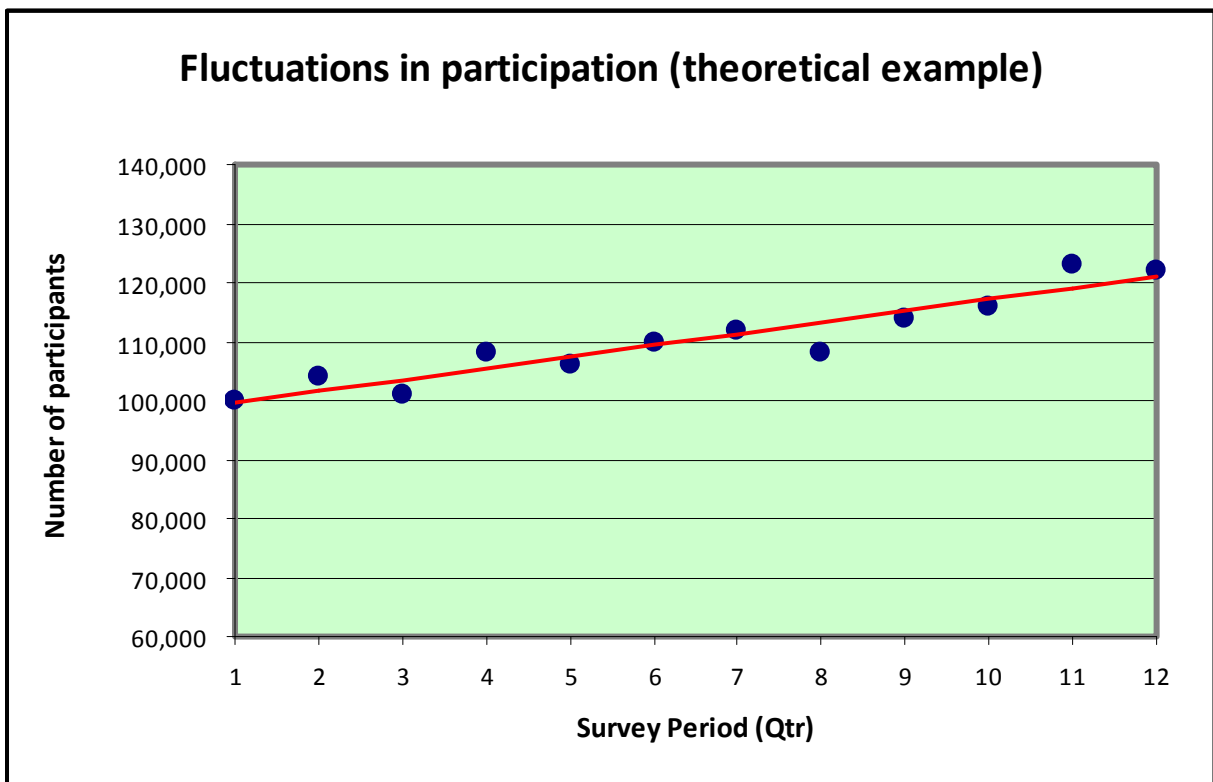
- Participation in rugby union has shown a statistically significant decrease (from 230,300, 0.56% to 194,200, 0.46%) between APS2 and APS4.
- This represents an unchanged participation rate from the recent figure of 192,600 (0.46%) reported in APS3/4 (July 09 to July 10).
- The statistically significant overall decrease in rugby union from APS2 to APS4 has been predominantly attributable to the lower age ranges of 16-34 and 35-54, both of which have experienced a statistically significant decrease during that period.
- Participation amongst both men and women has experienced a statistically significant decrease since APS2. Male participation currently stands at 0.91% whereas female participation stands at 0.03% (APS4).
- The decrease in rugby union is statistically significant in socio-economic group NS SEC 9 whilst the numbers in the other two socio-economic groups (NS SEC 1-4 & NS SEC 5-8) have not changed statistically significantly.
- There has been a statistically significant decrease in rugby union amongst the 'white' population whilst the sample size amongst those classified as 'non-white' was insufficient to be statistically robust.
- There has been a statistically significant decrease amongst those without a limiting disability or illness, whilst the sample size amongst those with such a disability or illness was insufficient to be statistically robust.
- All of the regions except Yorkshire obtained a sufficiently large sample size to be statistically robust, but only the West Midlands showed a statistically significant change in participation in rugby union, that being a decrease.
- The proportion of rugby union participants who complete one, three or four+ sessions in the previous four weeks showed an increase from APS2 to APS4 whilst the proportion taking part in 2 sessions had decreased over the same period.
- The proportions of people taking part in competition or tuition within rugby union have remained fairly even from APS2 to APS4, however the proportion with club membership has shown a slight increase from APS3 to APS4.

Understanding changes in participation

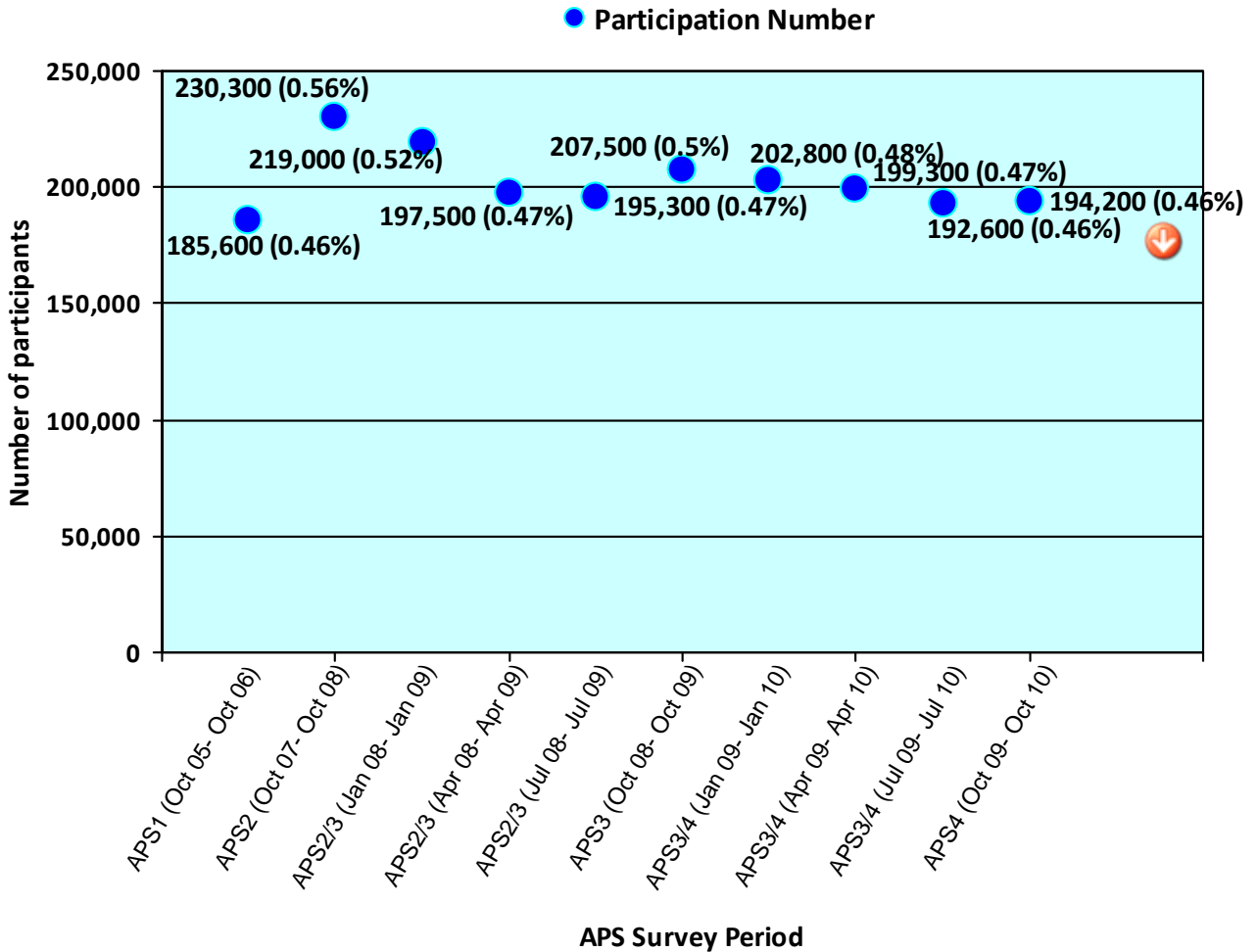
We would expect to see short term fluctuations in the participation rates across the population because:

- o Every random sample survey has a known, quantifiable, confidence interval attached to the results;
- o Of the inevitable small oscillations (upward and downward movement) in people's behaviour across large populations.

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





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



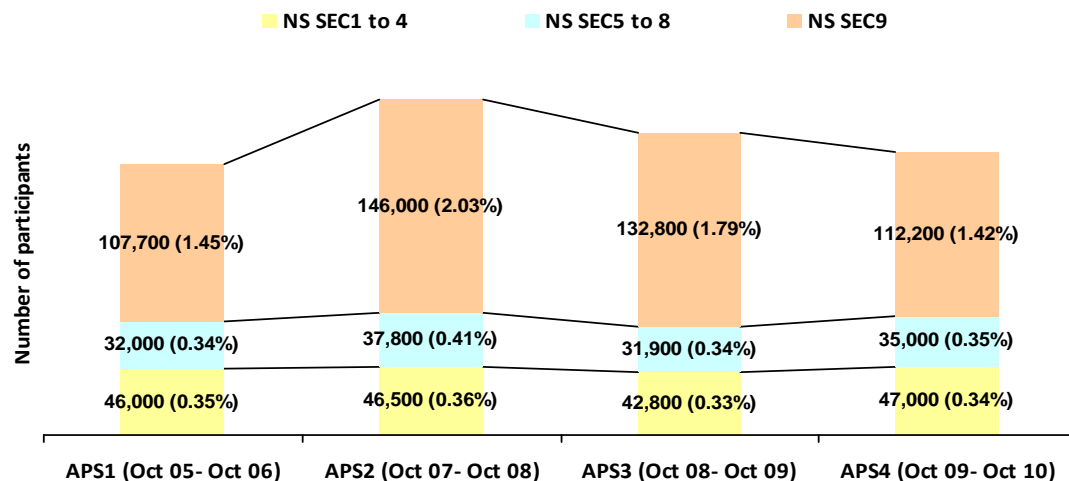
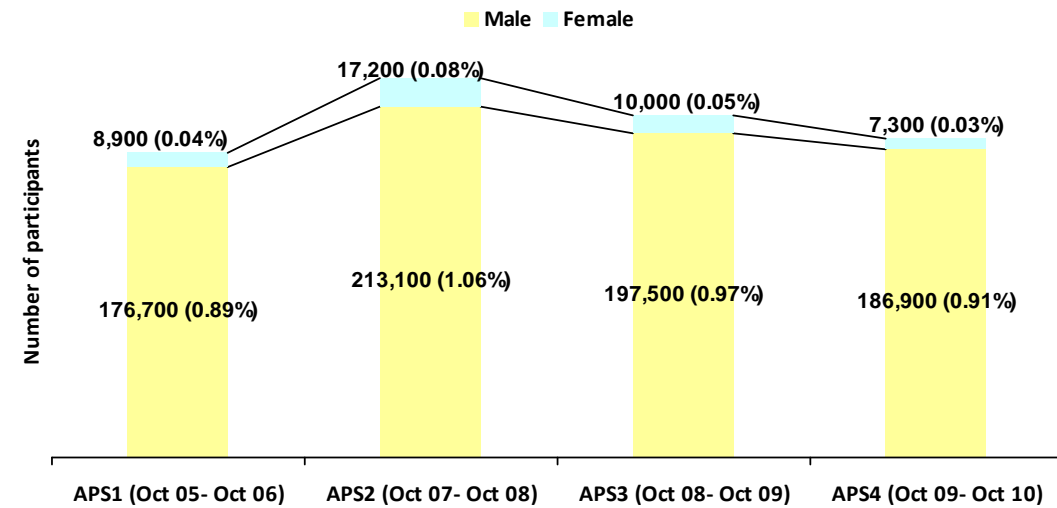
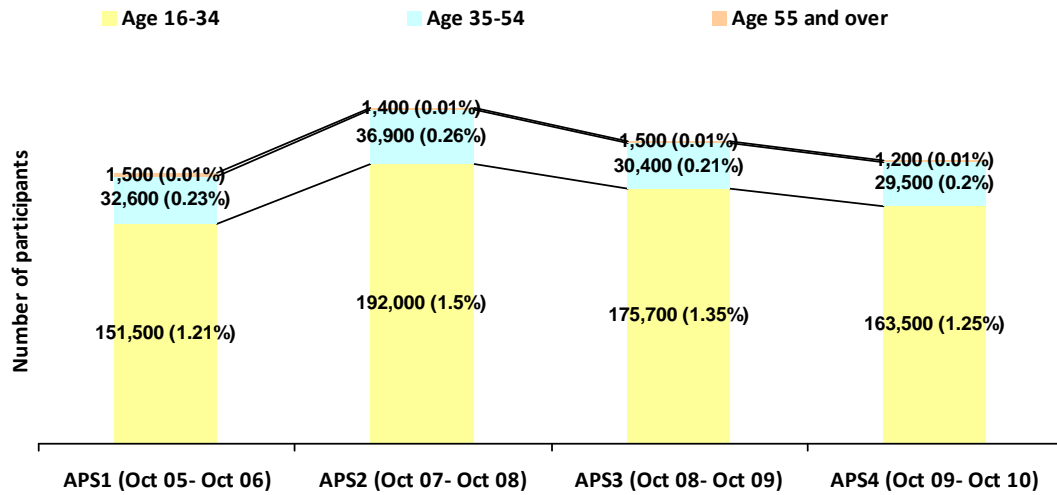
Key

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

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

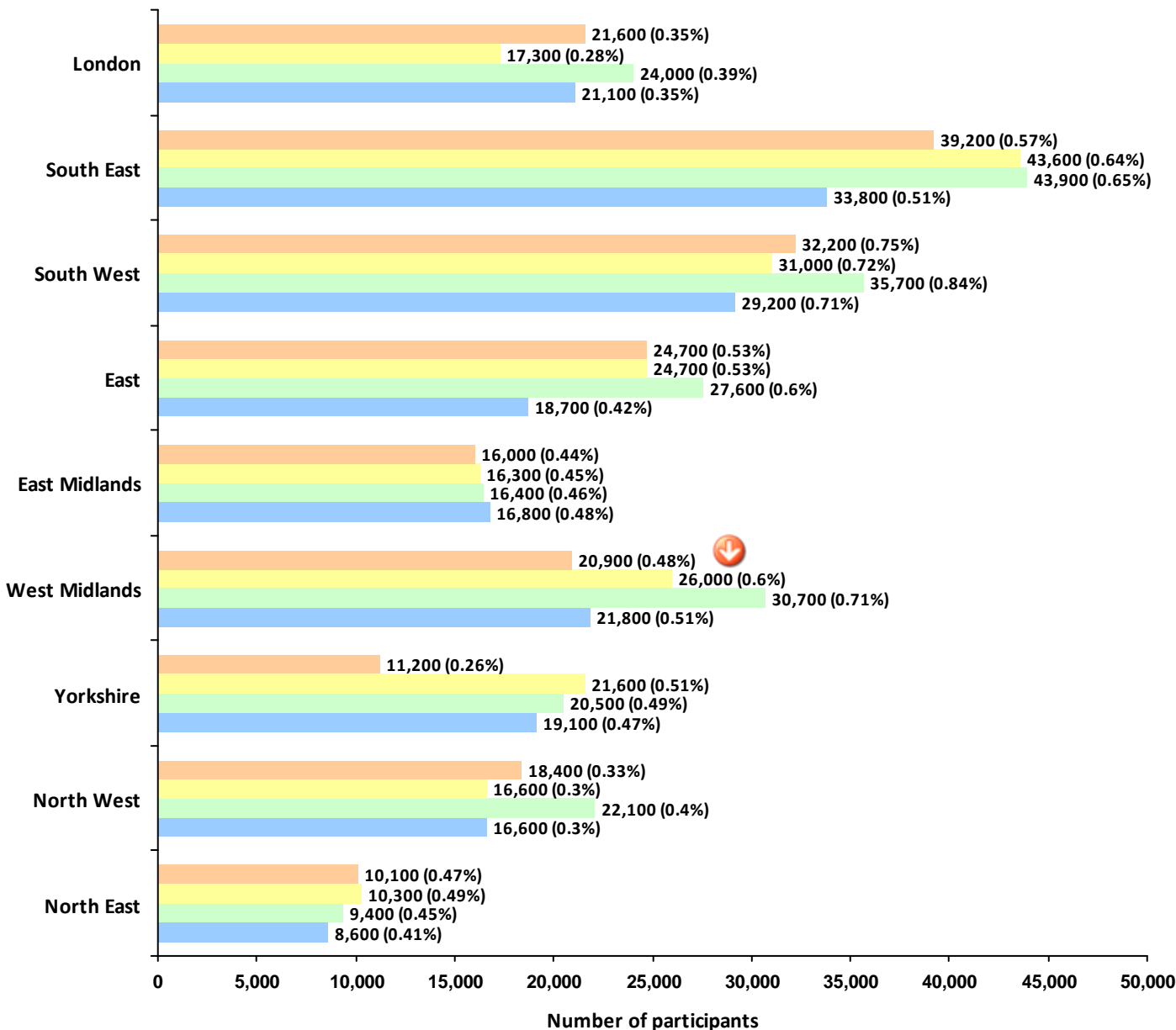
No arrow = no change

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



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

■ APS1 (Oct 05- Oct 06)
 ■ APS2 (Oct 07- Oct 08)
 ■ APS3 (Oct 08- Oct 09)
 ■ APS4 (Oct 09- Oct 10)



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

Number of participants	APS2 (Oct 07 / Oct 08)	APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10)	APS4 (Oct 09 / Oct 10) participation rate	Change vs APS2 (baseline)
Overall	230,300	194,200	0.46%	-36,100
Male	213,100	186,900	0.91%	-26,200
Female	17,200	7,300	0.03%	-9,900
Age 16-19	87,000	64,400	2.35%	-22,600
Age 20-24	53,500	50,500	1.39%	-3,000
Age 25-29	31,300	27,200	0.76%	-4,100
Age 30-34	17,300	19,300	0.58%	2,000
Age 35-44	31,100	24,800	0.32%	-6,300
Age 45-64	9,700	7,700	0.06%	Insufficient sample
Age 65+	300	300	0.00%	Insufficient sample
Age 16-34	192,000	163,500	1.25%	-28,500
Age 35-54	36,900	29,500	0.20%	-7,400
Age 55+	1,400	1,200	0.01%	Insufficient sample
White	216,100	185,000	0.50%	-31,100
Non White	14,200	9,200	0.20%	Insufficient sample
Limiting Disability or Illness	7,900	7,700	0.08%	Insufficient sample
No Limiting Disability or Illness	222,400	186,500	0.53%	-35,900
NS-SEC 1-4	46,500	47,000	0.34%	500
NS SEC 5-8	37,800	35,000	0.35%	-2,800
NS SEC 9	146,000	112,200	1.42%	-33,800
North East	9,400	10,100	0.47%	700
North West	22,100	18,400	0.33%	-3,700
Yorkshire	20,500	11,200	0.26%	Insufficient sample
West Midlands	30,700	20,900	0.48%	-9,800
East Midlands	16,400	16,000	0.44%	-400
East	27,600	24,700	0.53%	-2,900
South West	35,700	32,200	0.75%	-3,500
South East	43,900	39,200	0.57%	-4,700
London	24,000	21,600	0.35%	-2,400

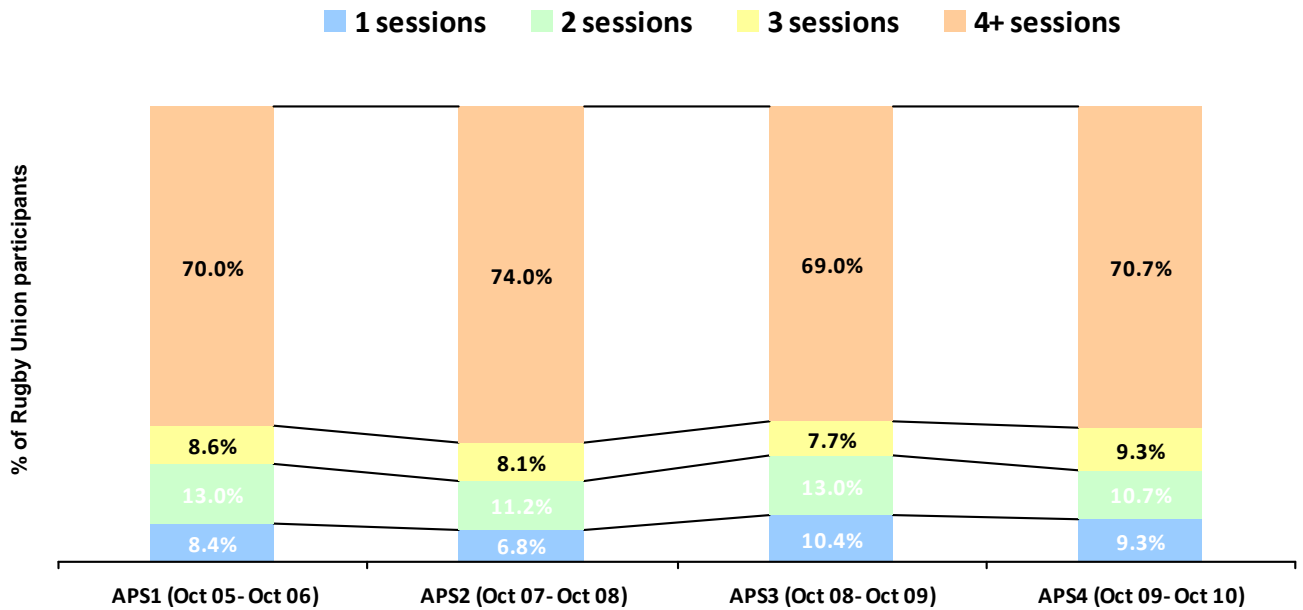
Key

Green shows a statistically significant increase

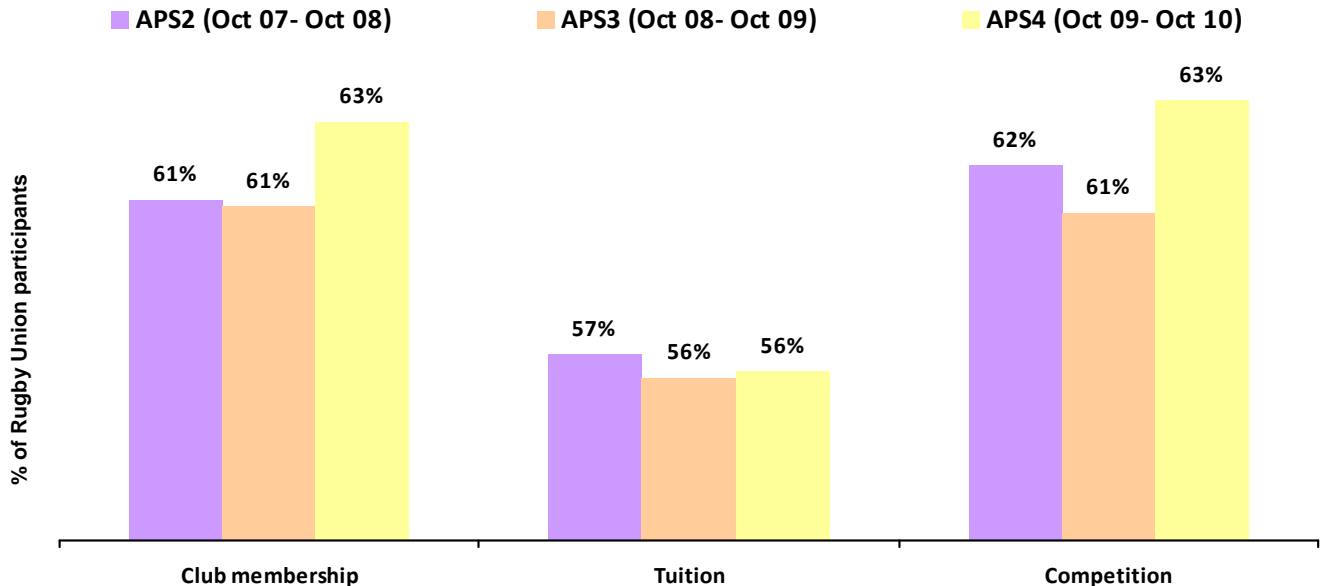
Red shows a statistically significant decrease

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

Frequency of participation in Rugby Union – number of sessions in last four weeks



Club membership, tuition, and participation in competition in Rugby Union



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

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

Key

Green shows a statistically significant increase

Red shows a statistically significant decrease

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

NOTES

•Data is presented for Active People Survey APS1 (Oct 2005/Oct 2006); APS2 (Oct 07/Oct 08); APS3 (Oct 08/Oct 09); APS4 (Oct 09/Oct 10).

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

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

•Rugby Union includes: Rugby union - 15 a side game, rugby union – sevens, rugby union - tag rugby, rugby union - touch rugby, rugby union – other.

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

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

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

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

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

NOTES CONTINUED

- Club membership is defined as, of those who have participated in the sport, the percentage who take part in the sport as a member of a sports club.
- Tuition is defined as, of those who have participated in the sport, the percentage who have received tuition from an instructor or coach in the last 12 months.
- Organised competition is defined as, of those who have participated in the sport, the percentage who have taken part in organised competition in the last 12 months.
- Please note that this report highlights whether changes from Active People Survey 2 (2007/8) to Active People Survey 4 (2009/10) are statistically significant. A statistically significant increase is indicated by green shading and red shading indicates a statistically significant decrease. This means we are 95% certain that there has been a real change in the population (increase or decrease). For more information on measuring change between surveys and statistical significance, a [briefing note is available](#).
- Changes which are not highlighted in green or red are not statistically significant and should be treated with caution.
- Where cell sizes are based on less than 30 respondents this is referenced as 'insufficient sample'. Caution should be exercised in using figures based on a cell size of below 30.
- Due to rounding of population data and weighting factors, please note that population numbers in sub-groups will not always equal the total figures.