Participation in sport by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and those from CALD backgrounds

The following section provides a summary of reports, census’, surveys and publications related to the level of participation in sport by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds (CALD).

All relevant surveys and reports from sporting organisations and the Australian Bureau of Statistics are included, as well as other relevant government reports. Several issues and briefing papers by non-government organisations are also included.

Sporting organisations

Australian Football League (AFL)

The AFL produces a national census which has been conducted on an annual basis since 1993 to monitor player participation rates across 94 development regions of Australia. The AFL census is compiled with the cooperative efforts of the peak Australian football organisations in each state and territory.

Cricket Australia

To determine the number of players registered throughout Australia each year, Cricket Australia joins with the state/territory associations to send census forms to individual clubs. The Cricket Australia census results help provide an insight into the demographics of Australian cricket, and to understand who is playing the game so that appropriate planning and programs can be set up.

Hockey Australia

Hockey Australia commissioned Street Ryan and Associates (who also conduct an annual census for the AFL and Cricket Australia) to conduct the first national hockey census in 2004 and followed this up in 2005. The census is intended to become an increasingly important information system for game development, setting targets, and monitoring successes and trends for the long-term enhancement of hockey in Australia.

Tennis Australia

Each year Tennis Australia produces a Health Index which monitors participation in the sport. The 2005–06 Health Check revealed that tennis is the fifth most popular form of recreation, exercise and sport in Australia.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

Sport and Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2006 (Cat. No. 4156.0)

This publication presents a statistical overview of sport and recreation in Australia, using the latest data available from a diverse range of ABS collections. The dominant focus is on sports and physical recreation, with data also being presented for other selected leisure areas, including gambling, hospitality and amusements. Of relevance to this project is Chapter 3.6 which contains statistics on Indigenous peoples’ participation in exercise.


Australian Social Trends, 2006 (Cat. No. 4102)

This annual series presents information on contemporary social issues and areas of public policy concern. In the 2006 issue, there is a section on young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their social and cultural participation.

www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/7d12b0f6763c78eca257061001cc588/745333284bfcc3f9ca2571b0000ea8ed!OpenDocument

Australian Social Trends, 2005 (Cat. No. 4102.0)

This annual series presents information on contemporary social issues and areas of public policy concern. In the 2005 issue there is a section on the social and sporting activities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/2f762f95845417eca25706c00834efa/afcb1542dad1b520ca25703b0080ccba!OpenDocument

Involvement in Organised Sport and Physical Activity, Australia, 2004 (Cat. No. 6285.0)

This report contains estimates of the number of people aged 15 years and over who were involved in organised sport, in a paid or unpaid capacity, and in a playing or non-playing role, during the 12 months prior to being interviewed. Of relevance to this project is the breakdown of participants either born in Australia, overseas, from a main-English speaking country or from a country other than a main English speaking country.

www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6285.0Main+Features1Apr%202004?OpenDocument

Children’s Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia, 2003 (Cat. No. 4901.0)

This report presents state and national data on a range of cultural and recreational activities, including participation in organised sports by children aged from 5 to 14 years. Of relevance to this project is the number of children involved in organised sport according to country of birth.

www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4901.0Main+Features1Apr%202003?OpenDocument
Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, Australia, 2002 (Cat. No. 4177.0)

This publication contains details on the number and characteristics of people who participate in a range of sport and physical activities at national and state level, by age, sex, and frequency of participation. Of relevance to this project is the number of participants (male and female) in sport and physical activities according to country of birth.


National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2002 (Cat. No. 4714.0)

This multi-dimensional social survey of Australia’s Indigenous population was designed to enable analysis of the interrelationship of social circumstances and outcomes, including the exploration of multiple disadvantages that may be experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Of relevance to this project is a table on the participation in sport or physical recreation activities in the last 12 months by Indigenous persons aged over 15 years.


Australian Social Trends, 1995 (Cat. No. 4102.0)

This annual series presents information on contemporary social issues and areas of public policy concern. In the 1995 issue there is a special feature entitled ‘A Sporting Nation’, containing statistics on the birthplace of sporting participants.

www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/2f762f95845417aeca25706c00834efa/238af4d9f60043c0ca2570ec00753520!OpenDocument

Other Government Resources

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples: Aspects of Sport and Recreation, 2004

This report was prepared for the Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport Research Group by the National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics, Australian Bureau of Statistics. It covers aspects of sport and recreation relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Australia. Information is shown on attendance and participation in sporting events and activities; sport and recreation facilities located in Indigenous communities; exercise levels and health status; and the occupations, industry and qualifications of Indigenous people involved in the sport, recreation and leisure sectors.


Facts and Stats: Indigenous Participation, Department of Sport and Recreation, Western Australian Government

This publication provides facts and statistics on Indigenous participation in sport in Western Australia.

Non-Government Organisations

Creating a Level Playing Field in More than Just Sport, Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues, 2006

In 2006, the Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues (CMYI) completed the report – *Creating a Level Playing Field in More than Just Sport* – which looked at young people’s access and use of leisure centres within the City of Yarra. This report includes recommendations for making leisure centres more accessible and inclusive of CALD young people.


Engaging Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities in Physical Activity: A Discussion Paper, Centre for Culture Ethnicity and Health, 2006

This discussion paper examines the issues service providers may experience in engaging culturally and linguistically diverse communities in physical activity.


Report into Good Practice Sports Inclusion Models for Young People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities, CMYI, 2005

The purpose of this report was to develop good practice models in relation to involving young people from CALD backgrounds in structured sport. Anecdotal evidence obtained from state sporting associations, local government authorities, peak bodies and sports clubs in Victoria suggests that while it appears that a reasonable number of young people from CALD backgrounds are participating in sport, much of this participation is occurring outside the club environment.

Sport and Recreation: What works in engaging newly-arrived young people, CMYI, 2005

This briefing paper prepared for the federal Minister for Multicultural Affairs provides an insight into sport and recreation as a positive tool for involving young people from refugee and migrant communities in healthy, social activities that encourage sustainable connections with the broader Australian society.

Multicultural Sport – Sustaining a Level Playing Field, CMYI, 2002

This paper documents a range of barriers to participation among migrant and refugee young people in sport as well as case studies of initiatives undertaken as part of the CMYI Multicultural Sport and Recreation project.

Sport: Creating a Level Playing Field – Increasing the participation of young people from ethnic communities in sport, CMYI, 1999

This issues paper outlines and addresses the issues surrounding the lack of participation of migrant and refugee young people in sport and recreation activities in Victoria. The paper also includes examples of best practice initiatives undertaken at the local community level.
