

GOLF

Central to [Sport England's 2008-11 strategy](#) is the commissioning of national governing bodies of sport (NGBs) by Sport England. NGBs will contribute to Sport England's strategic 'grow' outcome by setting targets to increase the 'once a week' adult participation rates in their sport. The growth targets across sports will contribute to Sport England's overall target of getting one million people doing more sport by 2012/13.

In addition, within the 'sustain' outcome of Sport England's strategy, a number of sports will aim to reduce the drop off in participation among 16-18 year olds. This document summarises key data in relation to the above strategic outcomes, drawn from Sport England's [Active People Survey](#).



Creating sporting opportunities in every community

Sport England strategic outcome: Grow

Participation – once a week, 30 minutes moderate intensity

- 948,000 adults (age 16 and over) have participated in golf at least once a week. There has been a significant increase (from 2.2% to 2.3%) of 59,000 golf participants between 2005/6 and 2007/8.
- Female participation has increased from 0.6% in Active People Survey 1 to 0.7% in Active People Survey 2. This represents an increase of 18,000 female participants. There has been no significant change in participation among men.
- Whilst participation has significantly increased among the 65 plus age group, there has also been a statistically significant decline in participation among those in the 30-34 and 35-44 age groups. Golf participation among those over 65 has increased from 2.9% to 3.5%, an increase of 56,000 participants.
- Participation among those from lower socio-economic groups (NS SEC 5-8) and those with a limiting disability or illness has also increased between 2005/6 and 2007/8.

Participation – once in the last four weeks

- 1.54 million adults have participated in golf at least once in the last four weeks. This represents 3.7% of the adult population, and participation has significantly increased from 3.6% (an increase of 87,000 participants) when compared with Active People Survey 1.

Active People Survey (APS)	APS 1 (2005/06)		APS 2 (2007/08)		Change (Numbers)	Significant Difference
	Number	%	Number	%		
Overall	889,100	2.18%	948,400	2.29%	59,300	TRUE
Male	763,900	3.87%	805,400	3.99%		FALSE
Female	124,500	0.59%	142,500	0.67%	18,000	TRUE
Age 16-19	29,700	1.12%	27,000	1.00%		FALSE
Age 20-24	31,600	0.97%	37,400	1.08%		FALSE
Age 25-29	37,000	1.17%	39,000	1.16%		FALSE
Age 30-34	57,500	1.63%	43,800	1.32%	-13,700	TRUE
Age 35-44	143,400	1.84%	126,900	1.63%	-16,500	TRUE
Age 45-64	354,300	2.89%	385,400	3.04%		FALSE
Age 65+	231,700	2.87%	287,300	3.52%	55,600	TRUE
White	867,500	2.33%	935,100	2.51%	67,600	TRUE
Non White	21,700	0.61%	23,400	0.56%		FALSE
Limiting Disability or Illness	55,600	0.86%	65,500	1.02%	9,900	TRUE
No Limiting Disability or Illness	833,600	2.43%	883,000	2.52%		FALSE
NS SEC 1-4	609,700	2.87%	657,100	2.97%		FALSE
NS SEC 5-8	224,600	1.46%	237,400	1.59%	12,800	TRUE
NS SEC 9	54,800	1.32%	54,000	1.24%		FALSE

Golf and organised sport*

Club membership

1.3 million adults are members of a club where they participate in golf, this is **86%** of those who have participated in golf in the last four weeks.

Tuition

1.2 million adults have received tuition in golf in the last 12 months, this is **79%** of those who have participated in golf in the last four weeks.

Organised Competition

1.3 million adults have taken part in organised competition in golf in the last 12 months, **84%** of those who have participated in golf in the last four weeks.

Latent demand for golf**

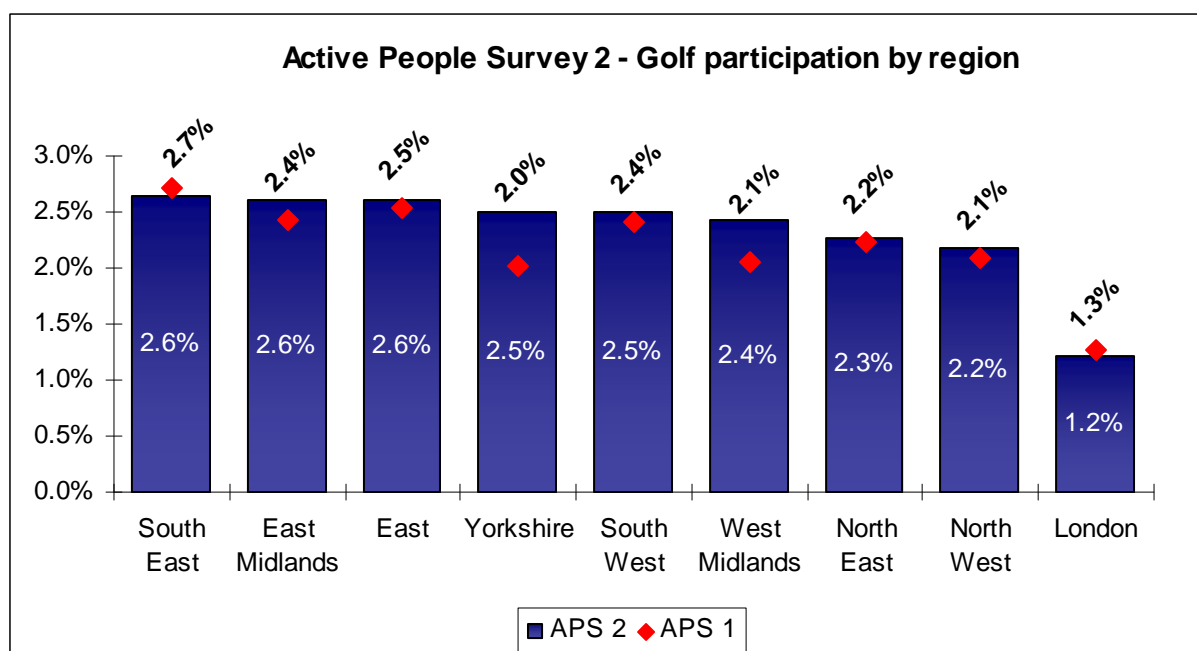
Golf is the one sport that 721,000 adults (1.7%) said they would like to participate in, or participate in more often. This represents 3.2% of all adults who would like to do more sport and active recreation (22.3 million adults, or 53.8% of adults would like to participate in sport, or participate in sport more often). Golf is the one sport that 3.2% of males would like to do, or do more often, and the equivalent figure for females is 0.4%.

Golf participation – once a week, 30 minutes moderate intensity,

by region



Active People Survey (APS)	APS 1 (2005/06)		APS 2 (2007/08)		Change (Numbers)	Significant Difference
	Number	%	Number	%		
Overall	889,100	2.18%	948,400	2.29%	59,300	TRUE
East	113,300	2.54%	119,100	2.60%		FALSE
East Midlands	84,400	2.42%	93,300	2.60%		FALSE
London	76,700	1.26%	73,600	1.21%		FALSE
North East	46,500	2.23%	47,700	2.27%		FALSE
North West	115,600	2.10%	120,700	2.17%		FALSE
South East	179,200	2.72%	178,000	2.65%		FALSE
South West	99,900	2.41%	106,200	2.49%		FALSE
West Midlands	88,700	2.06%	104,900	2.42%	16,200	TRUE
Yorkshire	82,600	2.02%	105,300	2.50%	22,700	TRUE



- Between 2005/6 and 2007/8 adult golf participation has increased in two regions – the West Midlands and Yorkshire.
- Participation in Yorkshire has increased by 23,000 participants (from 2.0% to 2.5%).
- Participation in the West Midlands has increased by 16,000 participants (from 2.1% to 2.4%).

Notes

Golf includes: golf, pitch and putt, and putting.

Active People Survey 2 took place between October 2007 and October 2008 and interviewed c.191,000 adults (aged 16 and over) by telephone. Active People Survey 1 took place between October 2005 and October 2006, and interviewed 363,724 adults (age 16 and over) by telephone. For more information on Active People, visit the Sport England website www.sportengland.org/research

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

Please note that this report highlights whether changes from Active People Survey 1 to Active People Survey 2 are statistically significant. A statistically significant increase is indicated by 'TRUE' or green shading and red shading and 'TRUE' indicates a statistically significant decrease. This means we are 95% certain that there has been a real change in the population (increase or decrease). Where there has been no statistically significant change this is indicated by 'FALSE'.

For more information on measuring statistically significant change between Active People Survey 1 and Active People survey 2, see the briefing note on Sport England's website:

http://www.sportengland.org/active_people_2.htm

Office for National Statistics (ONS) population data has been used - ONS mid year 2005 estimates and ONS mid year 2007 population estimates. To view a briefing note on population data used within Active People Survey see:

http://www.sportengland.org/index/active_people_2.

Disability is defined by how the question is asked within the survey which is consistent with the 2001 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.

*Sport specific information on organised sport (club membership, tuition and competition) was not collected in Active People Survey 1 so no comparison data is available. Club membership is based on those who have been a member of a sports club to participate in golf in the last four weeks.

**Data on latent demand is based on 88,000 (half the overall sample) adults from APS2. This question was not included in Active People Survey 1 so no comparison data is available. The question was asked as follows: 'would you like to do more sport and recreational physical activity than you do at the moment?'. If yes, 'which one sport or recreational physical activity would you most like to do, or to do more often?'

Further headline sport-based analysis is available via the Sport England website:

http://www.sportengland.org/active_people_2.htm

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