# GOIF CIUB parictipaion REPORI 

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## About the Author

This report has been prepared for Golf Australia by Golf Business Advisory Services (GBAS).

Providing independence of data analysis and consistent interpretation of annual data, GBAS has authored all of past published participation reports for Golf Australia, along with a number of other leading industry reference reports

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## 01 Foreword

Australian golf is thriving at grassroots level. The 2020/21 Golf Club
Participation Report confirms it

Anecdotally, everyone in Australian golf has seen, heard and witnessed the cramming of thousands of players of all ages and demographics and both sexes into golf courses, driving range, putt-putt centres and simulators over the past two years

The participation report, showing a 6.3 percent lift in club membership, therefore should not surprise anyone.

But they are great numbers put in the context of recent history in the sport and the southbound direction that other sports have taken in the Covid-19 pandemic.

For almost 20 years from 2000, participation numbers in Australia declined by an average of about one percent per annum. In 2019/20 we managed a slight uptick, which at least arrested the downward momentum

But the increase of six percent in 2020/21 is monumentally encouraging for the game, just as the AusPlay figures, calculated by the Federal Government and showing that

250,000 new people came to golf over the year (a 32 percent increase on 2019/20), were exciting for the sport.

Now, some more hard work! Retention becomes our keyword as we embark on what ought to be a strong period of growth for golf. So many new people have come to the game in recent times, with limitations on travel and restrictions on gatherings due to the pandemic. They need to be embraced, so they remain in the game.

What is also worth remembering is that this participation report - traditionally a gauge of membership numbers - will look somewhat different in the future. As part of the soon-to-bereleased Australian Golf Strategy, the industry has recognised that members represent only a sliver of the golfing population as such

The driving range enthusiast, the once-a-year public course hacker, the simulator lover, the infants at the puttputt course ... these are all our people. It is the notion that all golf is golf

We are one big family, hooked by the obsession that is golf. It's one 'bug' that we are happy to catch


James Sutherland
CEO, Golf Australia

# 02 Key Findings 

Golf Australia is pleased to present to you the 2020/21 Golf Club Participation Report. The key findings are outlined below.

## Broader sport and golf participation

Golf recorded an annual participation increase of $21 \%$ over 2019/20 with an estimated additional 210,000 people playing the game in the last 12 month period. Total growth experienced over participation levels recorded in 2018/19 exceeds 285,000 people, a 30\% increase over this period.

In 2020/21, male participation increased to $9.3 \%$ of the population (over 15), with female participation steady at $2.1 \%$, an overall average rate of $5.7 \%$. Approximately two thirds of the total market are participating in the sport on a social basis.

## Club membership

1,651 clubs reported membership numbers for 2020/21, inclusive of 345 social clubs ( $21 \%$ of the market)

National membership numbers across Australia for the year are reported as 409,970 . This result represents a $6.4 \%$ increase ( 24,485 members) when measured against total 2019/20 results. Driven by the societal impacts and outcomes resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, this result is the largest annual increase reported since national data collection began in 1970

Positive member movement was evident in all key market segments Both member clubs and social clubs enjoyed growth approximating 6\%, this in turn driven by growth in male numbers of over $7 \%$. Junior numbers also enjoyed material growth increasing by $15 \%$ over the prior year

The overall national movement in 2020/21 for member clubs (the aggregate of metropolitan and regional clubs) was an increase of $6.4 \%$. All states except NT enjoyed growth well in advance of recent trends. Despite long periods of course closures due to
lockdown measures, Victoria recorded the largest growth of 8.9\%

All markets except the NT recorded increases of more than 5\%, with a remarkable $11 \%$ recorded in Victoria Female member demand was not as strong as male demand, growing by 1.9\%

The resultant gender mix reported for 2020/21, impacted by strong male growth, sees female share of membership demand fall by $1 \%$ to $19 \%$.

Reported junior members (under the age of 18) totalled 15,304, which represents an increase of $16 \%$ over 2019/20. Proportionately, junior growth was more evident in regional markets (+20\%) and junior boys (+17\%)

Overall junior members represent 3.7\% of the total member count across the country.

The national new club member attraction rate was $13 \%$, with an attrition rate of $10 \%$. Attrition rates are slightly higher at regional clubs and smaller clubs.

The average reported age of club members across Australia is 56.9 years. The average age of male members was 55.3 years ( 54.7 in 2019/20) with female members averaging $16 \%$ higher at 64.3 years (63.9 in 2019/20)

The new member age profile skews to the younger age cohorts, with 34\% of new members aged between 15 and 34 years, compared to $25 \%$ for the same age range in 2019/20.

There were 11.769 million competition rounds played in 2020/21, representing at 12.\% increase over 2019/20.

Average annual rounds played on a per member basis (those playing one round or more) increased marginally in 2020/21 to 31.5 rounds per year.

876 clubs (67\%) recorded 9-hole rounds in 2020/21, up by 38 clubs from the previous period.

The $65 \mathrm{yr}+$ age cohort played the highest proportion of 9-hole rounds, reflecting 6\% of overall rounds played.

TOTAL

## GOLF PARTICIPANTS

(15+years old)

## 2898 1,204,000 <br> 

## TOTAL

CLUB MEMBERS (nal. Social lubs)

## 2888 409,970

 ${ }^{7}$ 6.4\% 24,485

## 56.9

AVERAGE AGE
reported for club members


19\%
FEMALE MEMBERS
make up $19 \%$ of club
membership numbers


JUNIOR<br>MEMBERSHIP

## 2815,304

厄رّ
$+76 \%$
8

| unner |
| :--- |
| menerers |



OVERALL
PARTICIPATION RATE 1.7\%


## AUSTRALIAN

## CLUBS



COMPETITION ROUNDS
PLAYED


L
31.5 roundsp
player

AUSTRALIAN
CLUB MEMBERS

$+7.6 \%$ 227,009


# 08 <br> <br> Report Background 

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Golf Australia continues to provide the wider golf industry with information that enables the sport to understand the current landscape and trends with regard to golf participation.

This 8th edition of the Golf Club Participation Report is a key component in Golf Australia's industry formation communication strategy.

This report remains an invaluable reference as clubs and other industry stakeholders seek to understand current trends and in turn develop evidenced-based strategies that aim to enhance demand and increase the game's and club long term sustainability

Broader Sport \&
Golf Participation
Trends

## AusPlay data

## Introduction

Results from the latest (2020/21) Ausplay National Participation Survey have recently been released by Sport Australia.

The release is the 12 th in the series since the survey was resurrected and is the second (Dec 2020) to cover participation during the Covid-19 period.

The annual data presented is a valuable reference point for understanding overall participation levels in golf and those in other sports.

## All sports participation

Participation increases were recorded in all singular based activities/sports for 2020/21. Team based sports have generally been more impacted by Covid-19, with lower growth (AFL, 6\%) or declines (netball, $-3 \%$ ) recorded over 2018/19, the last full period prior to the start of the pandemic in March 2020.

Fitness / Wellness related activities (pilates and yoga) continue on a significant upward trajectory with growth of $33 \%$ over the period prior to the pandemic with a 63\% increase recorded since 2016/17.

The more singular sports of golf (+31\%), surfing ( $+42 \%$ ), cycling ( $+35 \%$ ), tennis ( $+34 \%$ ) and basketball ( $+31 \%$ ) have all recorded material increases above pre-pandemic levels of activity.

## Table 1: All Sports Participation

| Activity | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%change 20/21v 18/19 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimate (000s) | Estimate (000s) | Estimate (000s) | Estimate (000s) | Estimate (000s) |  |
| Walking (Recreational) | 8,655.6 | 8,895.3 | 8,968.1 | 9,535.6 | 9,856.5 | 10\% |
| Bush walking | 1,252.2 | 1,078.1 | 1,167.2 | 1,539.9 | 2,077.4 | 78\% |
| Fitness/Gym | 6,618.2 | 6,960.6 | 7,366.7 | 7,789.2 | 7,944.7 | 8\% |
| Athletics (incl. jogging/ running) | 3,026.3 | 3,075.7 | 3,292.3 | 3,568.9 | 4,389.3 | 33\% |
| Sub total | 19,552.4 | 20,009.7 | 20,794.4 | 22,433.5 | 24,268.0 | 17\% |
| Swimming | 3,009.6 | 2,952.0 | 3,139.7 | 3,476.5 | 3,703.1 | 18\% |
| Cycling | 2,284.0 | 2,319.1 | 2,368.2 | 2,600.4 | 3,187.6 | 35\% |
| Football/soccer | 1,129.9 | 1,030.0 | 1,084.2 | 1,105.5 | 1,205.7 | 11\% |
| Tennis | 926.0 | 853.3 | 918.2 | 893.3 | 1,227.9 | 34\% |
| Golf | 1,002.7 | 945.9 | 916.9 | 995.4 | 1,204.1 | 31\% |
| Basketball | 724.4 | 686.6 | 753.7 | 830.5 | 989.6 | 31\% |
| Netball | 622.3 | 544.5 | 615.4 | 622.2 | 594.4 | -3\% |
| Australian football | 502.5 | 514.6 | 587.9 | 537.4 | 621.5 | 6\% |
| Surfing | 506.3 | 488.5 | 474.3 | 561.1 | 674.7 | 42\% |
| Sub total | 10,707.7 | 10,334.5 | 10,858.4 | 11,622.4 | 13,408.6 | 23\% |
| Yoga | 905.8 | 980.8 | 1,100.9 | 1,355.7 | 1,465.6 | 33\% |
| Pilates | 554.4 | 622.3 | 679.0 | 784.7 | 908.1 | 34\% |
| Sub total | 1,460.2 | 1,603.2 | 1,779.9 | 2,140.4 | 2,373.6 | 33\% |

Source: AusPlay


Golf participation
Continuing to reverse the year on year trend that had been seen since 2016/17, golf recorded an annual increase of $21 \%$ over 2019/20 with an additional 210,000 people playing the game in the last 12 month period. Total growth experienced over equivalent figures from two years ago exceeds 285,000 people. Over this period male participation increased to $9.3 \%$ of the population (over 15), with female participation steady at 2.1\%. Given the growth in male participation, female participation share fell to $19 \%$, down from $21 \%$ in 2020/21.

Annual changes in golf participation evident since 2016/17 are summarised as follows:

| Period | Annual\% change |
| :--- | ---: |
| $2016 / 17$ | $-2 \%$ |
| $2017 / 18$ | $-6 \%$ |
| $2018 / 19$ | $-3 \%$ |
| $2019 / 20$ | $9 \%$ |
| $2020 / 21$ | $21 \%$ |

Source: GBAS, AusPlay

Annual changes evident by gender are illustrated in Chart 2.

Further detail regarding the 2020/21 participation rate evident by other key cohorts, including location and state is illustrated in Chart 3.


Chart 1: Annual golf participants and overall participation rate
Source: AusPlay


Chart 2: Annual golf participants by gender
Source: AusPlay


Chart 3: Golf participation by key cohort
Source: AusPlay

## Club

 Membership
## Member golf association reporting

Club golfer numbers are reported annually each year by the seven respective state and territory member golf association bodies, five of which are operated by Golf Australia.

The reported numbers reflect those members who pay a capitation fee to their respective body, generally defined as those classified as 'having a class of membership that provides regular golf course access. Individuals that have a membership (and pay a capitation fee) at more than one club will therefore be counted in the reported figures multiple times. The respective reporting periods and the respective membership timing they represent are summarised in Table 2

## Period adjustment

The national outcomes reported in this document flow from the aggregation of the above state data and reporting periods. In this report a change in the collection order has been made, this caused by the impact of Covid-19 on club operations and delay in data collection.

To align with Golf Australia's reporting, and timing of the most up-to-date national data, membership numbers will now be reported on a financial year basis.

Prior to 2021, NSW data was the 'first' state collected. In order for this national report, and subsequent reports, to fully report on the impact of Covid-19 on club membership demand, NSW data is now the last state collected. This adjustment causes a re-alignment of previously reported national numbers. Historical outcomes have been restated on this basis.

Note: 2021 NSW numbers are preliminary due to collection delays as a result of Covid-19. Where numbers have not yet been provided , 2020 numbers have been utilised to create a state total.

## Table 2: State reporting periods and membership timing

| State | Data Collected | Numbers relate to ... |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| NSW/ACT* | June 2021 | Most recent completed financial year |
| VIC | December 2020 | Most recent completed financial year |
| QLD | December 2020 | Point in time of collection |
| SA | December 2020 | Point in time of collection |
| WA | December 2020 | Point in time of collection |
| TAS | June 2021 | Point in time of collection |
| NT | September 2020 | Point in time of collection |
|  | *Throughout this report, New South Wales data will include the Australian Capital Territory |  |

## Definitions

The following terms, which are referenced in various places throughout the report, are defined as follows:

- Member clubs: Clubs that are fully affiliated with the relevant state bodies

Social clubs: Registered clubs without full affiliation, which typically play in allotted tee times at public courses. These clubs may also be virtual in nature, creating handicaps for their members to play in any event at any course

Small clubs: Member clubs with 500 or fewer members
Medium clubs: Member clubs with 501 to 1,000 members
Large clubs: Member clubs with over 1,000 members

## Profile of Australian clubs

Table 3: Club size profile by geographic area

|  | NSW | VIC | QLD | WA | SA | TAS | NT | Total | \% of segment | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \% of } \\ & \text { total } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Metropolitan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Small clubs | 22 | 12 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 2 | - | 57 | 28\% | 3\% |
| Medium clubs | 43 | 19 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 2 | - | 86 | 42\% | 5\% |
| Large clubs | 21 | 20 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 0 | - | 60 | 30\% | 4\% |
| Total metro | 86 | 51 | 17 | 24 | 21 | 4 | - | 203 | 100\% | 12\% |
| Regional |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Small clubs | 211 | 226 | 171 | 155 | 119 | 60 | 10 | 952 | 87\% | 58\% |
| Medium clubs | 48 | 28 | 30 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 115 | 10\% | 7\% |
| Large clubs | 17 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 3\% | 3\% |
| Total regional | 276 | 260 | 208 | 159 | 121 | 62 | 11 | 1,097 | 100\% | 67\% |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total social clubs | 23 | 120 | 1 | 126 | 73 | 2 | 0 | 345 |  | 21\% |
| Total clubs | 362 | 311 | 225 | 183 | 142 | 66 | 11 | 1,645 |  | 100\% |
| Small clubs | 233 | 238 | 174 | 163 | 129 | 62 | 10 | 1,009 |  | 78\% |
| Medium clubs | 91 | 47 | 37 | 14 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 201 |  | 15\% |
| Large clubs | 38 | 26 | 14 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 90 |  | 7\% |
| Total member clubs | 362 | 311 | 225 | 183 | 142 | 66 | 11 | 1,300 |  | 100\% |

Source: Golf Australia \& member golf association
NB. Small clubs are defined as having 500 or less members, medium clubs 501 to 1,000 members, and large clubs over 1,000 members

Overall facility numbers for 2020/21

1,651 clubs reported membership numbers for 2020/21.

Key observations noted from the size profile data outlined below includes:

- $79 \%$ of clubs are member clubs (the aggregate of metropolitan and regional clubs), totalling 1,300 clubs.
- There are 345 social clubs affiliated to various state bodies, accounting for $27 \%$ of total clubs.
- $78 \%$ of member clubs are classified as 'small', having less than 500 members.


Facility trends
Chart 4: Member club count
Source: Golf Australia \& member golf associations

[^0]
## Playing members

## Member numbers for 2020/21

National membership numbers across Australia for the year 2020/21 are reported as 409,970. This result represents a $6.4 \%$ increase ( 24,485 members) when measured against total 2019/20 results. Driven by the societal impacts and outcomes resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, this result is the largest annual increase reported since national data collection began in 1970 .

Positive movement was evident in all key market segments. Both member clubs and social clubs enjoyed growth approximating $6 \%$, this in turn driven by growth in male numbers of over $7 \%$. junior numbers also enjoyed material growth, increasing by $15 \%$ over the prior year.

These outcomes are summarised in
Table 4.


Table 4: 2020/21 overall results

| Cohort | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%Share | Change from 2019/20 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Actual | \% |
| Member clubs | 360,219 | 383,254 | 93\% | 23,035 | 6.4\% |
| Social clubs | 25,266 | 26,716 | 7\% | 1,450 | 5.7\% |
| Males | 310,559 | 333,583 | 81\% | 23,024 | 7.4\% |
| Females | 74,926 | 76,387 | 19\% | 1,461 | 1.9\% |
| Adult male | 299,604 | 320,795 | 78\% | 21,191 | 7.1\% |
| Adult female | 72,636 | 73,871 | 18\% | 1,235 | 1.7\% |
| Adult total | 372,240 | 394,666 | 96\% | 22,426 | 6.0\% |
| Junior male | 10,955 | 12,788 | 3\% | 1,833 | 16.7\% |
| Junior female | 2,290 | 2,516 | 1\% | 226 | 9.9\% |
| Junior total | 13,245 | 15,304 | 4\% | 2,059 | 15.5\% |
| Overall | 385,485 | 409,970 | 100\% | 24,485 | 6.4\% |
| Source: Golf Australia \& member golf associations |  |  |  |  |  |



Female members make up 19\% of club membership numbers

Five-year overall member totals
Table 5 summarises 2020/21 outcomes with context to the broader five-year trend.

Despite the 2020/21 member club outcomes, history indicated that annual growth is still being driven by social club growth, averaging over 4\% growth for the last four years.

Year on year junior growth has also been evident since 2017/18.

Table 5: Five-year member totals

| Cohort | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Member clubs | 369,099 | 362,073 | 360,636 | 360,219 | 383,254 |
| Social clubs | 22,633 | 22,525 | 21,860 | 25,266 | 26,716 |
| Males | 314,155 | 307,286 | 306,236 | 310,559 | 333,583 |
| Females | 77,577 | 77,312 | 76,260 | 74,926 | 76,387 |
| Adult male | 302,657 | 296,697 | 295,345 | 299,604 | 320,795 |
| Adult female | 75,549 | 75,127 | 74,020 | 72,636 | 73,871 |
| Adult total | 378,206 | 371,824 | 369,365 | 372,240 | 394,666 |
| Junior male | 11,498 | 10,589 | 10,891 | 10,955 | 12,788 |
| Junior female | 2,028 | 2,185 | 2,240 | 2,290 | 2,516 |
| Junior total | 13,526 | 12,774 | 13,131 | 13,245 | 15,304 |
| Overall | 391,732 | 384,598 | 382,496 | 385,485 | 409,970 |
| \% Female | 19.8\% | 20.1\% | 19.9\% | 19.4\% | 18.6\% |
| \% Juniors | 3.5\% | 3.3\% | 3.4\% | 3.4\% | 3.7\% |


| \% change |  |
| ---: | ---: |
| From 2019/20 | 5yr avg |
| $6.4 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ |
| $5.7 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ |
| $7.4 \%$ | $1.5 \%$ |
| $1.9 \%$ | $-0.4 \%$ |
| $7.1 \%$ | $1.5 \%$ |
| $1.7 \%$ | $-0.6 \%$ |
| $6.0 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ |
| $16.7 \%$ | $2.7 \%$ |
| $9.9 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ |
| $15.5 \%$ | $3.1 \%$ |
| $6.4 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ |
|  |  |


| Table 6: Five-year members by member club type |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Member club type | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% change |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| Metropolitan | 150,859 | 149,691 | 148,449 | 147,698 | 155,526 | 5.3\% | 0.8\% |
| Regional | 218,240 | 212,382 | 212,187 | 211,802 | 227,009 | 7.2\% | 1.0\% |
| Small | 122,613 | 118,456 | 116,911 | 115,440 | 124,894 | 8.2\% | 0.5\% |
| Medium | 130,923 | 128,573 | 128,270 | 131,310 | 141,773 | 8.0\% | 2.0\% |
| Large | 110,413 | 111,389 | 112,543 | 111,880 | 115,868 | 3.6\% | 1.2\% |
| Overall | 363,949 | 358,418 | 357,724 | 358,630 | 382,535 | 6.7\% | 1.3\% |
| Source: Golf Australia \& member golf associations NB: The table above excludes social clubs. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Five-year member club totals

Accounting for $93 \%$ of the market, results for total member clubs are further broken down by region and size. Both metropolitan and regional clubs enjoyed 5\%+ growth in 2020/21, the latter reversing a declining trend since evident over the last three years.

Whilst at the aggregate all metropolitan and regional markets recorded member growth of $6.7 \%$, the small clubs (less than 500 member clubs, $78 \%$ of the market) and medium sized clubs (500 to 1,000 members, $16 \%$ of the market) both recorded growth of above 8\% in 2020/21.

## Club member participation rate

For 2020/21 the overall golf club participation rate (members excluding from social clubs as a percentage of population 10+years) across Australia is $1.7 \%$.

By comparison the total participation rate in golf was $5.5 \%$, indicating that approximately two thirds of the total market participate in the sport on a social basis.

Participation levels by cohort reflect patterns that consistent between club and total participation.


Chart 6: Share of total members by club size
Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations


Chart 5: Participation rate by various cohorts
Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations \& Australian Bureau of Statistics
NB. Population figures exclude people aged under 10 years

## Playing members: key segments

Members by club type
The overall national movement in 2020/21 for member clubs was an increase of 6.4\%. All states except NT enjoyed growth well above recent trends. Victoria recorded the largest growth of 8.9\% despite long periods of lockdown measures. South Australia experienced an increase of $7.2 \%$, driven by growth in social clubs affiliated in that state.

Despite restricted access for some periods of the year, social clubs experienced continued member growth in 2020/21. Growth was most evident in clubs affiliated in SA, with approximately 2,800 new members added. Growth of $2 \%$ or more was also seen in the other states where social clubs are most evident. The closure of the RACV social club impacted 2020/21 results recorded in Victoria.

Social club members now account for 6.5\% of total club members across Australia.


Male adults
100/0


Male juniors

- 10


Regional areas
2.1\%

Table 7: Member clubs

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 148,034 | 145,664 | 144,705 | 145,871 | 152,939 | 4.8\% | 0.8\% |
| VIC | 94,487 | 93,053 | 92,119 | 91,584 | 99,724 | 8.9\% | 1.4\% |
| QLD | 63,478 | 61,216 | 61,807 | 61,432 | 65,340 | 6.4\% | 0.7\% |
| WA | 26,491 | 26,801 | 26,579 | 25,642 | 27,425 | 7.0\% | 0.9\% |
| SA | 23,732 | 23,022 | 23,200 | 23,138 | 24,812 | 7.2\% | 1.1\% |
| TAS | 10,705 | 10,280 | 10,209 | 9,901 | 10,353 | 4.6\% | -0.8\% |
| NT | 2,172 | 2,037 | 2,017 | 1,932 | 1,942 | 0.5\% | -2.8\% |
| Overall | 369,099 | 362,073 | 360,636 | 359,500 | 382,535 | 6.4\% | 0.9\% |

Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations

Table 8: Social clubs

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | - | - | - | 719 | 719 | 0.0\% | - |
| VIC | 12,528 | 12,290 | 10,682 | 10,341 | 8,303 | -19.7\% | -9.8\% |
| QLD | 306 | 286 | 267 | 267 | 267 | 0.0\% | -3.4\% |
| WA | 5,856 | 6,047 | 6,187 | 6,471 | 7,182 | 11.0\% | 5.2\% |
| SA | 3,919 | 3,871 | 4,695 | 8,129 | 10,892 | 34.0\% | 29.1\% |
| TAS | 24 | 31 | 29 | 58 | 72 | 24.1\% | 31.6\% |
| Overall | 22,633 | 22,525 | 21,860 | 25,985 | 27,435 | 5.6\% | 4.9\% |



Chart 7: Share of total members by general geographic area
Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations

Members by club location
In 2020/21, metropolitan based clubs recorded an average increase of 5.3\% Growth of over 8\% was recorded in WA, the state least impacted by Covid-19 lockdowns. Despite longer lockdown periods in Victoria, metropolitan member demand still increased by $5.2 \%$.

Regional based clubs recorded an average increase of $7.2 \%$. Growth of over $10 \%$ was recorded in regional SA and regional Victoria.


Table 9: Metropolitan clubs

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From2019/20 | 5 yravg |
| NSW | 61,182 | 60,901 | 60,093 | 59,989 | 63,132 | 5.2\% | 0.8\% |
| VIC | 43,948 | 43,666 | 43,180 | 42,890 | 45,127 | 5.2\% | 0.7\% |
| QLD | 14,904 | 14,532 | 14,322 | 14,383 | 14,916 | 3.7\% | 0.0\% |
| WA | 15,545 | 15,818 | 15,942 | 15,263 | 16,502 | 8.1\% | 1.5\% |
| SA | 13,074 | 12,534 | 12,731 | 13,090 | 13,680 | 4.5\% | 1.1\% |
| TAS | 2,206 | 2,240 | 2,181 | 2,083 | 2,169 | 4.1\% | -0.4\% |
| Overall | 150,859 | 149,691 | 148,449 | 147,698 | 155,526 | 5.3\% | 0.8\% |

Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations. NB. This table excludes social clubs.

Table 10: Regional clubs

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 86,852 | 84,763 | 84,612 | 85,882 | 89,807 | 4.6\% | 0.8\% |
| VIC | 50,539 | 49,387 | 48,939 | 48,694 | 54,597 | 12.1\% | 1.9\% |
| QLD | 48,574 | 46,684 | 47,485 | 47,049 | 50,424 | 7.2\% | 0.9\% |
| WA | 10,946 | 10,983 | 10,637 | 10,379 | 10,923 | 5.2\% | -0.1\% |
| SA | 10,658 | 10,488 | 10,469 | 10,048 | 11,132 | 10.8\% | 1.1\% |
| TAS | 8,499 | 8,040 | 8,028 | 7,818 | 8,184 | 4.7\% | -0.9\% |
| NT | 2,172 | 2,037 | 2,017 | 1,932 | 1,942 | 0.5\% | -2.8\% |
| Overall | 218,240 | 212,382 | 212,187 | 211,802 | 227,009 | 7.2\% | 1.0\% |

Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations. NB. This table excludes social clubs.

Total reported male members increased by $7.4 \%$ in 2020/21. All markets except the NT recorded increases of more than $5 \%$, with a remarkable 11\% recorded in Victoria.

Female member demand was not as strong as male demand, growing by 1.9\% in 2020/21. Results in Victoria and for aggregated female social club members declined, these results being opposite to recorded male numbers.

The resultant gender mix reported for 2020/21, impacted by strong male growth, sees female share of membership demand fall by $1 \%$ to $19 \%$. Female share of member numbers is typically above the national average in larger clubs (21\%).


Chart 8: Gender proportion by state
Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations

Table II: Male members

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 118,720 | 116,998 | 116,264 | 117,941 | 124,050 | 5.2\% | 1.1\% |
| VIC | 74,976 | 73,855 | 73,298 | 72,470 | 80,681 | 11.3\% | 1.9\% |
| QLD | 51,268 | 48,590 | 49,436 | 49,823 | 53,220 | 6.8\% | 0.9\% |
| WA | 20,825 | 20,963 | 20,800 | 20,136 | 21,836 | 8.4\% | 1.2\% |
| SA | 18,803 | 18,256 | 18,401 | 18,378 | 19,955 | 8.6\% | 1.5\% |
| TAS | 8,928 | 8,501 | 8,469 | 8,250 | 8,688 | 5.3\% | -0.7\% |
| NT | 1,810 | 1,713 | 1,660 | 1,614 | 1,609 | -0.3\% | -2.9\% |
| Member clubs | 295,330 | 288,876 | 288,328 | 288,612 | 310,039 | 7.4\% | 1.2\% |
| Social clubs | 18,825 | 18,410 | 17,908 | 21,947 | 23,544 | 7.3\% | 5.8\% |
| Overall | 314,155 | 307,286 | 306,236 | 310,559 | 333,583 | 7.4\% | 1.5\% |

Source: Golf Australia, member golf associations
NB. This table excludes social clubs

Table 12: Female members

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 29,314 | 28,666 | 28,441 | 27,930 | 28,889 | 3.4\% | -0.4\% |
| VIC | 19,511 | 19,198 | 18,821 | 19,114 | 19,043 | -0.4\% | -0.6\% |
| QLD | 12,210 | 12,626 | 12,371 | 11,609 | 12,120 | 4.4\% | -0.2\% |
| WA | 5,666 | 5,838 | 5,779 | 5,506 | 5,589 | 1.5\% | -0.3\% |
| SA | 4,929 | 4,766 | 4,799 | 4,760 | 4,857 | 2.0\% | -0.4\% |
| TAS | 1,777 | 1,779 | 1,740 | 1,651 | 1,665 | 0.8\% | -1.6\% |
| NT | 362 | 324 | 357 | 318 | 333 | 4.7\% | -2.1\% |
| Member clubs | 73,769 | 73,197 | 72,308 | 70,888 | 72,496 | 2.3\% | -0.4\% |
| Social clubs | 3,808 | 4,115 | 3,952 | 4,038 | 3,891 | -3.6\% | 0.5\% |
| Overall | 77,577 | 77,312 | 76,260 | 74,926 | 76,387 | 1.9\% | -0.4\% |
| \% of total | 21.0\% | 21.4\% | 21.1\% | 20.8\% | 20.0\% |  |  |

Junior members
Reported junior members (under the age of 18) totalled 15,304 in 2020/21, which represents an increase of $16 \%$ over 2019.

This positive result was driven by reported outcomes in SA (+35\%) and Victoria (+34\%). Proportionately, junior growth was more evident in regional markets (+20\%) and junior boys (+17\%).

Overall junior members represent 3.7\% of the total member count across the country.

Junior representation was slightly


Chart 9: Junior percentage of total members by type
Source: Golf Australia

Table 13: Junior male members by state

| Cohort | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 4,785 | 4,320 | 4,181 | 4,597 | 5,197 | 13.1\% | 2.1\% |
| VIC | 3,005 | 2,845 | 2,620 | 2,569 | 3,566 | 38.8\% | 4.4\% |
| QLD | 1,939 | 1,729 | 2,464 | 2,206 | 2,062 | -6.5\% | 1.5\% |
| WA | 720 | 695 | 627 | 601 | 686 | 14.1\% | -1.2\% |
| SA | 697 | 660 | 658 | 693 | 960 | 38.5\% | 8.3\% |
| TAS | 293 | 283 | 291 | 241 | 269 | 11.6\% | -2.1\% |
| NT | 59 | 57 | 50 | 48 | 48 | 0.0\% | -5.0\% |
| Metropolitan | 4,185 | 3,849 | 4,068 | 4,469 | 4,761 | 6.5\% | 3.3\% |
| Regional | 7,225 | 6,643 | 6,689 | 6,390 | 7,892 | 23.5\% | 2.2\% |
| Social | 88 | 97 | 134 | 96 | 135 | 40.6\% | 11.3\% |
| Overall | 11,498 | 10,589 | 10,891 | 10,955 | 12,788 | 16.7\% | 2.7\% |
| \% of total | 3.8\% | 3.6\% | 3.7\% | 3.7\% | 4.0\% |  |  |

Table 14: Junior female members by state

| Cohort | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 687 | 719 | 690 | 845 | 959 | 13.5\% | 8.7\% |
| VIC | 469 | 483 | 467 | 471 | 521 | 10.6\% | 2.7\% |
| QLD | 503 | 602 | 703 | 634 | 628 | -0.9\% | 5.7\% |
| WA | 158 | 159 | 163 | 147 | 184 | 25.2\% | 3.9\% |
| SA | 151 | 152 | 153 | 145 | 174 | 20.0\% | 3.6\% |
| TAS | 35 | 45 | 39 | 32 | 34 | 6.3\% | -0.7\% |
| NT | 25 | 25 | 25 | 16 | 16 | 0.0\% | -10.6\% |
| Metropolitan | 871 | 872 | 895 | 961 | 1,099 | 14.4\% | 6.0\% |
| Regional | 1,139 | 1,297 | 1,323 | 1,315 | 1,391 | 5.8\% | 5.1\% |
| Social | 18 | 16 | 22 | 14 | 26 | 85.7\% | 9.6\% |
| Overall | 2,028 | 2,185 | 2,240 | 2,290 | 2,516 | 9.9\% | 5.5\% |
| \% of total | 2.7\% | 2.9\% | 3.0\% | 3.2\% | 3.4\% |  |  |



15.5\%

Total reported
junior members
increase

## MyGolf program

MyGolf is Australia's national junior introductory program to develop and promote participation in golf. The MyGolf program is designed for 5 to 12 year old children and is the major driver of junior golf participation in Australia.

Given the hands on nature of the program, and the restrictions that were in placed during Covid-19 pandemic, the MyGolf program recorded a $21 \%$ decline in participation in 2020/21. Despite the overall decline, female participation remained steady at $26 \%$.

With registered centres growing by over $27 \%$ in the past 12 months and an average of $19 \%$ a year for the past five years, the goals of 30,000 total participants and $28 \%$ female remain as programs come out of hibernation and begin again during 2021 and 2022.

MyGolf participation numbers and total centres delivering the program for the past five years are summarised in Table 15 and Table 16.

Table 15: MyGolf participants

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 1,290 | 1,806 | 3,523 | 4,192 | 2,492 | -40.6\% | 8.4\% |
| VIC | 1,982 | 3,191 | 4,805 | 5,425 | 5,930 | 9.3\% | 16.8\% |
| QLD | 1,486 | 2,254 | 4,660 | 10,032 | 6,646 | -33.8\% | 31.0\% |
| WA | 695 | 827 | 1,695 | 1,808 | 1,883 | 4.1\% | 22.8\% |
| SA | 571 | 954 | 1,121 | 1,381 | 1,162 | -15.9\% | 5.1\% |
| TAS | 61 | 405 | 752 | 914 | 736 | -19.5\% | 16.1\% |
| NT | 169 | 237 | 281 | 377 | 238 | -36.9\% | 0.1\% |
| Total | 6,254 | 9,674 | 16,837 | 24,129 | 19,087 | -20.9\% | 18.5\% |
| Total girls | 1,661 | 2,354 | 3,976 | 5,956 | 4,955 | -16.8\% | 20.5\% |

Table 16: MyGolf centres

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| NSW | 77 | 109 | 150 | 108 | 83 | -28.0\% | 1.9\% |
| VIC | 95 | 135 | 150 | 127 | 117 | -15.3\% | 5.3\% |
| QLD | 59 | 83 | 90 | 81 | 82 | -10.0\% | 8.6\% |
| WA | 29 | 40 | 45 | 48 | 42 | 6.7\% | 9.7\% |
| SA | 24 | 33 | 35 | 39 | 35 | 11.4\% | 9.9\% |
| TAS | 15 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 22 | -10.0\% | 10.0\% |
| NT | 5 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 5 | -42.9\% | 0.0\% |
| Overall | 304 | 427 | 497 | 425 | 386 | -14.5\% | 6.2\% |
| Registered centres | 484 | 600 | 709 | 903 | 967 | 27.4\% | 18.9\% |



## Member attraction \& attrition

Utilising data from GOLF Link, annual national club attraction \& attrition rates (excluding social clubs) are able to be calculated by utilising active member counts, new member counts (defined as being a golf club member playing 1 or more competition rounds of golf), and prior year closing member counts.

Table 17 depicts the relevant attraction and attrition rates for metropolitan and regional clubs, as well as the overall result. With over 47,000 new members recorded for 2020/21 (playing 1 round or more of competition golf), the analysed data indicates a resultant
national new club member attraction rate of $14 \%$ and a national member attrition rate of $11 \%$. Attrition rates are slightly higher at regional clubs.

Chart 10 depicts the same attraction and attrition data presented by age and gender. As illustrated in Golf Australia's new member demand reports published in late 2020, the increased interest in golf has predominantly come from males, particularly the younger age cohorts, Attrition rates were reasonably consistent when measured by age and gender.
new members


For 2020/21 the new club member attraction rate
was 14\%

Table 17: Attraction and attrition rates by state / region

| State | Metropolitan |  | Regional |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Attraction | Attrition | Attraction | Attrition | Attraction | Attrition |
| NSW | 13\% | 9\% | 14\% | 10\% | 13\% | 9\% |
| VIC | 12\% | 12\% | 16\% | 10\% | 14\% | 11\% |
| QLD | 16\% | 10\% | 16\% | 14\% | 16\% | 13\% |
| SA | 12\% | 9\% | 15\% | 12\% | 14\% | 10\% |
| WA | 13\% | 9\% | 13\% | 12\% | 13\% | 10\% |
| TAS | - | - | 12\% | 10\% | 12\% | 10\% |
| NT | - | - | 22\% | 13\% | 22\% | 13\% |
| Overall | 13\% | 10\% | 15\% | 11\% | 14\% | 11\% |



Chart 10: Attraction and attrition rates by age and gender
Source: Golf Australia

## Playing members: age profile

## Average age

The average reported age of club members across Australia is 56.9 years and is reasonably consistent by state. Male members have an average age of 55.3 years ( 54.7 in 2019/20) with female members averaging $16 \%$ higher at 64.3 years (63.9 2019/20).

Age pyramid - members versus population by gender

Chart 12 illustrates the current mix of club members by gender compared to the broader national population above 10 years. Evidencing golf's continued appeal to the older age cohorts, it shows a material portion of club members in the 55 to 74 year cohort $-44 \%$ of male members and $62 \%$ of female members - versus a lower national population share of this cohort of only $24 \%$.


Chart 11: Average age by state
Source: GOLFLink


Chart 12: Age pyramid - members versus population
Source: GOLF Link, Australian Bureau of Statistics


Chart 13: Age breakdown by various cohorts
Source: GOLFLink, AusPlay

Age mix by segment
To provide further context for the data above, Chart 73 represents the age breakdown across various cohorts club type, gender and state. A similar age profile is evident for member clubs and social clubs, while an older profile is evident for female members.

New member age profile
New members to club golf are generally younger than the broader club member age profile. In 2020/21 $60 \%$ of new members were under the age of 50 compared to $30 \%$ for existing members.

New member age profile vs 2019/20

Whilst it has been typical for new members to club golf to generally exhibit a younger age profile than the broader club member age profile, the 2020/21 new member age profile is one that shows an even stronger skew to the younger age cohorts. In 2020/21 $34 \%$ of new members were aged between 15 and 34 years, compared to $25 \%$ for the same age range in 2019/20


Chart 14: New member age profile compared to existing members
Source: GOLFLink


Chart 15: 2020/21 new member age profile compared to 2019/20 new member age profile
Source: GOLF Link

## Playing members: results by state-based districts



20 of the 21 districts in NSW experienced a net increase in membership numbers in 2020/21, led by the Riverina and Hunter districts which both recorded increases of over 10\%.
\% change in membership numbers
from 2019/20 to 2020/21
Change greater than 5\%
Change $1 \%$ to $5 \%$
Change less than $1 \%$
Change - $1 \%$ to -5\%
Change greater than $-5 \%$

## New South Wales

| Table 18: New South Wales districts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Region | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% Change |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| - Riverina | 1,762 | 1,740 | 1,828 | 1,897 | 2,163 | 14.0\% | 5.3\% |
| - Hunter River | 3,941 | 4,021 | 3,888 | 3,895 | 4,355 | 11.8\% | 2.5\% |
| - New England | 1,431 | 1,333 | 1,178 | 1,286 | 1,394 | 8.4\% | -0.7\% |
| - Western Riverina | 5,342 | 4,919 | 5,231 | 5,276 | 5,681 | 7.7\% | 1.6\% |
| - South West | 1,291 | 1,243 | 1,182 | 1,238 | 1,328 | 7.3\% | 0.7\% |
| - ACT-Monaro | 8,369 | 8,169 | 7,962 | 7,897 | 8,457 | 7.1\% | 0.3\% |
| - Lachlan Valley | 827 | 822 | 811 | 853 | 912 | 6.9\% | 2.5\% |
| - Mid North Coast | 4,476 | 4,352 | 4,382 | 4,759 | 5,088 | 6.9\% | 3.3\% |
| - North West | 1,016 | 976 | 938 | 855 | 909 | 6.3\% | -2.7\% |
| - Illawarra | 8,372 | 8,454 | 8,803 | 8,424 | 8,880 | 5.4\% | 1.5\% |
| - Metropolitan | 61,706 | 61,442 | 60,559 | 60,381 | 63,524 | 5.2\% | 0.7\% |
| - Western | 1,862 | 1,733 | 1,781 | 1,654 | 1,729 | 4.5\% | -1.8\% |
| - Northern Rivers | 7,582 | 7,344 | 7,481 | 8,180 | 8,532 | 4.3\% | 3.0\% |
| - Central Coast | 7,048 | 6,315 | 6,443 | 6,584 | 6,824 | 3.6\% | -0.8\% |
| - Far South Coast | 5,403 | 5,060 | 5,208 | 5,038 | 5,200 | 3.2\% | -1.0\% |
| - Lower North Coast | 4,628 | 4,775 | 4,792 | 5,088 | 5,247 | 3.1\% | 3.2\% |
| - Central Western | 3,542 | 3,431 | 3,411 | 3,581 | 3,677 | 2.7\% | 0.9\% |
| - Central North | 2,422 | 2,364 | 2,238 | 2,180 | 2,223 | 2.0\% | -2.1\% |
| - Blue Mountains | 1,527 | 1,451 | 1,341 | 1,485 | 1,503 | 1.2\% | -0.4\% |
| - Newcastle | 8,460 | 8,569 | 8,199 | 9,072 | 9,174 | 1.1\% | 2.0\% |
| - Murray | 7,027 | 7,151 | 7,049 | 6,248 | 6,139 | -1.7\% | -3.3\% |
| NSW total | 148,034 | 145,664 | 144,705 | 145,871 | 152,939 | 4.8\% | 0.8\% |
| Source: Golf Australia |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



| Table 19: Victoria districts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Region | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% Change |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| - Murray Darling | 2,453 | 2,260 | 2,162 | 1,840 | 2,278 | 23.8\% | -1.8\% |
| - Central | 2,862 | 2,606 | 2,642 | 2,520 | 3,090 | 22.6\% | 1.9\% |
| - Dalhousie | 2,009 | 1,889 | 1,903 | 1,972 | 2,373 | 20.3\% | 4.3\% |
| - South Gippsland | 2,436 | 2,396 | 2,348 | 2,339 | 2,772 | 18.5\% | 3.3\% |
| - Kara Kara | 438 | 401 | 376 | 333 | 392 | 17.7\% | -2.7\% |
| - West Gippsland | 3,436 | 3,549 | 3,393 | 3,206 | 3,743 | 16.7\% | 2.2\% |
| - Wimmera | 1,992 | 1,835 | 1,755 | 1,650 | 1,920 | 16.4\% | -0.9\% |
| - Ballarat | 3,398 | 3,354 | 3,397 | 3,317 | 3,754 | 13.2\% | 2.5\% |
| - North East | 3,044 | 2,816 | 2,845 | 2,955 | 3,324 | 12.5\% | 2.2\% |
| - Goulburn Valley | 3,592 | 3,583 | 3,562 | 3,661 | 4,107 | 12.2\% | 3.4\% |
| - Geelong | 10,421 | 10,639 | 10,599 | 10,784 | 12,025 | 11.5\% | 3.6\% |
| - Western | 3,424 | 3,360 | 3,318 | 3,395 | 3,753 | 10.5\% | 2.3\% |
| - East Gippsland | 2,491 | 2,406 | 2,288 | 2,395 | 2,627 | 9.7\% | 1.3\% |
| - Metropolitan | 43,543 | 43,292 | 42,794 | 42,519 | 44,718 | 5.2\% | 0.7\% |
| - Golf Peninsula | 7,703 | 7,447 | 7,520 | 7,509 | 7,759 | 3.3\% | 0.2\% |
| - Northern | 840 | 846 | 831 | 818 | 680 | -16.9\% | -5.1\% |
| VIC total | 94,082 | 92,679 | 91,733 | 91,213 | 99,315 | 8.9\% | 1.4\% |
| Source: Golf Australi |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Queensland

All of the 14 districts in Queensland experienced an increase in membership numbers in 2020/21, led by Moreton, North Queensland, South East Queensland and the Gold Coast all recording increases of more than 10\%.

```
% change in membership numbers
% change in membership n
Change greater than 5%
```

```
    Change 1% to 5%
    Change less than 1%
```

```
    Change -1% to -5%
```

```Change greater than \(-5 \%\)
```



Table 20: Queensland districts

| Region | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| - Moreton | 2,016 | 2,038 | 2,110 | 1,984 | 2,284 | 15.1\% | 3.2\% |
| - North | 4,175 | 4,154 | 4,360 | 4,258 | 4,772 | 12.1\% | 3.4\% |
| - South East | 4,864 | 4,571 | 4,925 | 4,921 | 5,493 | 11.6\% | 3.1\% |
| - Gold Coast | 10,069 | 8,560 | 9,177 | 8,649 | 9,544 | 10.3\% | -1.3\% |
| - Central | 2,972 | 3,005 | 2,967 | 3,099 | 3,328 | 7.4\% | 2.9\% |
| - Wide Bay | 3,027 | 3,083 | 3,027 | 2,997 | 3,217 | 7.3\% | 1.5\% |
| - Far North | 2,898 | 3,037 | 2,506 | 2,729 | 2,893 | 6.0\% | 0.0\% |
| - Metropolitan | 14,904 | 14,532 | 14,322 | 14,383 | 14,916 | 3.7\% | 0.0\% |
| - SouthWest | 720 | 692 | 658 | 732 | 757 | 3.4\% | 1.3\% |
| - Sunshine Coast | 12,710 | 12,664 | 12,811 | 13,083 | 13,458 | 2.9\% | 1.4\% |
| - Central Highlands | 1,180 | 1,096 | 1,139 | 931 | 956 | 2.7\% | -5.1\% |
| - Central West | 244 | 238 | 202 | 214 | 218 | 1.9\% | -2.8\% |
| - Darling Downs | 3,699 | 3,546 | 3,603 | 3,452 | 3,504 | 1.5\% | -1.3\% |
| QLD total | 63,478 | 61,216 | 61,807 | 61,432 | 65,340 | 6.4\% | 0.7\% |

Source: Golf Australia

Western Australia
8 of the 10 districts in Western Australia experienced an increase in member numbers in 2020/21, led by the Mid West and Peel districts with increases of above 10\%.

| \% change in membership numbers |
| :--- |
| from $2019 / 20$ to $2020 / 21$ |
| Change greater than $5 \%$ |
| Change $1 \%$ to $5 \%$ |
| Change less than $1 \%$ |
| Change -1\% to -5\% |
| Change greater than -5\% |



Table 21: Western Australia districts

| Region | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| - Mid West | 999 | 972 | 885 | 866 | 979 | 13.0\% | -0.5\% |
| - Peel | 685 | 655 | 682 | 588 | 652 | 10.9\% | -1.2\% |
| - South West | 3,997 | 4,041 | 4,018 | 3,886 | 4,234 | 9.0\% | 1.5\% |
| - Metropolitan | 15,545 | 15,818 | 15,942 | 15,263 | 16,502 | 8.1\% | 1.5\% |
| - Pilbara | 402 | 412 | 378 | 310 | 330 | 6.5\% | -4.8\% |
| - Kimberley | 380 | 411 | 423 | 435 | 453 | 4.1\% | 4.5\% |
| - Goldfields | 793 | 862 | 808 | 848 | 878 | 3.5\% | 2.6\% |
| - Gascoyne | 117 | 117 | 96 | 105 | 105 | 0.0\% | -2.7\% |
| - Great Southern | 1,380 | 1,381 | 1,305 | 1,304 | 1,289 | -1.2\% | -1.7\% |
| - Wheatbelt | 2,193 | 2,132 | 2,042 | 2,037 | 2,003 | -1.7\% | -2.2\% |
| WA total | 26,491 | 26,801 | 26,579 | 25,642 | 27,425 | 7.0\% | 0.9\% |

Source: Golf Australia


Table 22: South Australia districts

| Region | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \% Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| - Riverland | 516 | 520 | 521 | 454 | 557 | 22.7\% | 1.9\% |
| - South East | 1,671 | 1,631 | 1,773 | 1,744 | 2,000 | 14.7\% | 4.6\% |
| - Mid North | 1,491 | 1,496 | 1,515 | 1,450 | 1,642 | 13.2\% | 2.4\% |
| - Southern | 3,427 | 3,380 | 3,305 | 3,078 | 3,443 | 11.9\% | 0.1\% |
| - Murraylands | 539 | 534 | 543 | 556 | 615 | 10.6\% | 3.4\% |
| - Yorke Peninsula | 1,019 | 974 | 977 | 961 | 1,027 | 6.9\% | 0.2\% |
| - EyrePeninsula | 1,081 | 1,051 | 1,008 | 978 | 1,044 | 6.7\% | -0.9\% |
| - Metropolitan | 13,074 | 12,534 | 12,731 | 13,090 | 13,680 | 4.5\% | 1.1\% |
| Northern | 914 | 902 | 827 | 827 | 804 | -2.8\% | -3.2\% |
| SA total | 23,732 | 23,022 | 23,200 | 23,138 | 24,812 | 7.2\% | 1.1\% |



| \% change in membership numbers <br> from $2019 / 20$ to $2020 / 21$ <br> Change greater than $5 \%$ <br> Change $1 \%$ to $5 \%$ <br> Change less than $1 \%$ <br> Change - $1 \%$ to $-5 \%$ <br> Change greater than $-5 \%$ |
| :--- |

## Tasmania

All districts in Tasmania recorded increases in 2020/21, led by the Southern Country district recording an increase of $12 \%$.


Table 23: Tasmania districts

| Region | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | From 2019/20 | 5 yr avg |
| - Southern Country | 2,865 | 2,744 | 2,823 | 2,566 | 2,879 | 12.2\% | 0.1\% |
| - Southern Metropolitan | 2,206 | 2,240 | 2,181 | 2,083 | 2,169 | 4.1\% | -0.4\% |
| - North | 3,316 | 3,141 | 3,104 | 3,158 | 3,194 | 1.1\% | -0.9\% |
| - NorthWest | 2,318 | 2,155 | 2,101 | 2,094 | 2,111 | 0.8\% | -2.3\% |
| TAS total | 10,705 | 10,280 | 10,209 | 9,901 | 10,353 | 4.6\% | -0.8\% |

# Competition rounds 

Total competition rounds
Reflecting the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, there were 11.769 million competition rounds played in 2020/21, this sum representing a $12.4 \%$ increase over 2019/20. 5-year total competition rounds data is summarised in Table 24.
increased by 12.4\% in 2020/21

Table 24: Total competition rounds

| State | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | \%Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | from 2019/20 | 5 Yr Av. |
| NSW | 3,816,365 | 4,084,856 | 4,061,863 | 4,159,860 | 4,700,343 | 13.0\% | 5.3\% |
| NT | 39,977 | 41,165 | 45,047 | 41,494 | 48,713 | 17.4\% | 5.1\% |
| QLD | 1,808,347 | 1,793,023 | 1,861,575 | 1,883,675 | 2,116,102 | 12.3\% | 4.0\% |
| SA | 734,088 | 742,766 | 750,883 | 759,814 | 896,333 | 18.0\% | 5.1\% |
| TAS | 262,961 | 272,990 | 278,735 | 247,737 | 319,048 | 28.8\% | 5.0\% |
| VIC | 2,544,714 | 2,564,672 | 2,667,115 | 2,450,156 | 2,563,469 | 4.6\% | 0.2\% |
| WA | 955,057 | 956,370 | 973,906 | 932,156 | 1,125,408 | 20.7\% | 4.2\% |
| Total | 10,161,509 | 10,455,842 | 10,639,124 | 10,474,892 | 11,769,416 | 12.4\% | 3.7\% |

Source: GOLFLink, Golf Australia

Average competition rounds per member

Noting the increase in rounds played and playing members, average annual rounds played on a per member basis (those playing one round or more) increased in 2020/21 to 31.5 rounds per year. Further illustrating the length of the pandemic impact, average rounds played by members in Victoria remained below outcomes achieved prior to this time, averaging 27.2 rounds per member.

Average competition rounds per member by age

Average competition rounds played vary significantly when measured by age cohort.

Chart 16 illustrates the trend apparent in 2020/21, with average round frequencies peaking for members aged between 70 to 79 at just over 35 rounds per member annually. Younger members by contrast have a significantly lower round frequency, with most cohorts under the age of 40 playing an average of less than 20 rounds per member.

9－hole competition rounds
Continuing the global initiative of the R\＆A，and further addressing the changing environment in which golf is operating in，the promotion of increased 9－hole rounds has been a focus of Golf Australia．

足錭 876

Key 9－hole outcomes

With changes to the handicapping system instigated for 9 －hole rounds played to be attributable to handicap movement，key outcomes for 2020／21 compared to 2019／20 are noted below：

876 clubs（67\％）recorded 9－hole rounds in 2020／21，up by 38 clubs from 2019／20．

A total of 517，492 9－hole rounds were played in 2020／21，an increase of 20\％over 9 －hole rounds played in 2019／20．

In 2020／21 9 －hole rounds accounted for $4.4 \%$ of total rounds played．
－Of those clubs playing 9－hole rounds（67\％of clubs），9－hole rounds accounted for $9 \%$ of total rounds played
－The largest increases in 9－hole play were seen in Victoria（3\％to 4．3\％） and Tasmania（10．4\％to 10．7\％）
－The $65 \mathrm{yr}+$ age cohort played the highest proportion of 9－hole rounds，reflecting $5.8 \%$ of overall rounds played．

## OB

Annual

## Programs

Golf Australia delivers a number of industry development programs. Two of the major programs include the Community Instructor Program and the Disability Inclusion Program.

Results achieved within these programs are detailed below.

## Commentary

- Majority of 2020/21 was impacted by restrictions on community sport / gatherings due to COVID-19. This however showed a small increase from 2019/20 from 4,623 to 4,975 (+7.6\%)
- Golf Australia are reporting numbers based on disability participation through its national programs - MyGolf, MyGolf Schools and Get Into Golf. (NSW inclusive of JNJG Multisport Program)


## Community Instructor program

The Community Instructor Program provides online training and accreditation, equipping golfers and non-golfers with the skills and knowledge to deliver Golf Australia's national participation programs in local golf clubs and schools primarily through voluntary means. These accredited Community Instructors play an integral role in attracting and introducing new people to golf and providing a pathway to increasing community involvement in the sport

Since the program's launch in 2015, there has been progressive growth in accreditations across each of the program streams. There was a renewal and restructure of the accreditation in 2020, removing the specialised program modules and enabling Community Instructors to complete just the one course to deliver Schools,

MyGolf and Get Into Golf programs, whilst maintaining a separate accreditation for teachers who deliver MyGolf solely at school. An Abilities accreditation was also introduced as a learning path to the Community Instructor accreditation late in 2020, to enable Community Instructors who have experience working with people with special needs to complete an additional accreditation to deliver

MyGolf and Get Into Golf All Abilities programs

By the end of 2020/21, 1,348 online accreditation courses had been achieved. Of these, there are 1,293 individuals accredited as Community Instructors (with some completing several of the available courses), a growth of 411 new people into the program from the previous year

Table 26: Community Instructor program accreditations

| State | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8 / 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 9 / 2 0}$ | 2020/21 | Increase |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Community Instructor | 539 | 744 | 646 | $\mathbf{1 , 0 2 7}$ | 381 |
| MyGolf School Teacher | 267 | 321 | 236 | 271 | 35 |
| All Abilities* | - | - | - | 50 | 50 |
| Total | $\mathbf{8 0 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 0 6 5}$ | $\mathbf{8 8 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 3 4 8}$ | $\mathbf{4 6 6}$ |

Launched in October 2020. Source: Golf Australia

Table 27: Community Instructor program accreditations by state

|  | NSW/ACT | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | TOTAL |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Community Instructor | 225 | 45 | 172 | 108 | 57 | 324 | 96 | 1,027 |
| MyGolf School Teacher | 30 | 5 | 75 | 28 | 12 | 99 | 22 | 271 |
| All Abilities* | 11 | 2 | 18 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 50 |
| Total | 266 | 52 | $\mathbf{2 6 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 4 0}$ | $\mathbf{7 3}$ | $\mathbf{4 2 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 3 4 8}$ |

## PGA Professionals and program delivery

PGA Professionals and PGA Associates are instrumental in the delivery of all of Golf Australia's national participation programs

Nationally, there are 1,711 PGA Professionals and 263 Associates that are available to deliver MyGolf Schools \& Get Into Golf programs. While many of these programs are delivered by PGA Members solely, at times programs can be co-delivered with the support of a Community Instructor.

In 2020/21, there were 3,730 programs delivered by PGA Professionals \& PGA Associates, with 146 programs co-delivered by PGA Members and Community Instructors

Table 28: Programs delivered by PGA Professionals/Associates

| 2020/21 | MyGolf | Schools | Get into <br> Golf | TOTAL |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PCA delivered |  |  |  |  |
| Number of programs | 2,487 | 344 | 899 | 3,730 |
| \% of programs | $84 \%$ | $60 \%$ | $78 \%$ | $74 \%$ |
| PCA co-delivered with Community | Instructor |  |  |  |
| Number of programs | 85 | - | 61 | 146 |
| \% of programs | $3 \%$ | - | $5 \%$ | $4 \%$ |



## Disability Inclusion program

## Leadership and governance

GA is determined to ensure that all Australians can engage with our sport at every level. The Golf Australia - Safe, Fair and Inclusive Sport Framework developed in 2019/20 with the assistance of Sport Australia and Oliver Thompson Consultancy.

The GA Safe, Fair and Inclusive Sport Framework demonstrates:

- Our commitment to child safe sporting environments, inclusive sport that welcomes everyone, and fair sport to protect against integrity issues.
- Policies and codes that outline peoples' rights and responsibilities.
- Complaints procedures and reporting options.
- What we do in our relevant program areas.
- Ways to get involved to promote safe, fair and inclusive sport in your club.
- Tools and resources to support you actions and goals.
- Education and training options to increase your skill and knowledge.
- Contacts and links for further assistance or support.

To access the Golf Australia Safe, Fair and Inclusive Framework, visit:
golf.org.au/integrityframework.

## Education and workforce development

The PGA All Abilities Coach Accreditation, in partnership with the PGA of Australia saw a large increase in PGA Members becoming accredited through the program. A strong 20\% increase in completions now has 162 PGA Professionals accredited around the country, a strategy to ensure that through the launch of MyGolf and Get into Golf All Abilities, building capacity around the country to support people with disability entering our sport and feeling supported.

2020/21 also saw the development of the Community Instructor - All Abilities Module, assisting in providing further capacity for volunteers to get involved in the delivery of MyGolf All Abilities and Get Into Golf All Abilities programs.

## Participation

The effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic had an adverse effect on participation data for the 2020/21 reporting period with program and events suspended or cancelled from March 2020. This resulted in a decrease in reported participation in events however modest increases in program-based participation from 4,623 to 4,975 (+7.6\%).

Golf Australia are reporting numbers based on disability participation through its national programs - MyGolf, MyGolf Schools and Get Into Golf. (NSW inclusive of JNJG Multisport Program).

Table 29: Disability participants

| State | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8 / 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 9 / 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 0 / 2 1}$ | Increase |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| NSW | 2,975 | 856 | 2,597 | $\mathbf{1 , 7 4 1}$ |
| VIC | 3,957 | 952 | $\mathbf{1 , 3 9 0}$ | 438 |
| QLD | 2,398 | 629 | 441 | -188 |
| WA | 953 | 155 | 165 | 10 |
| SA | 187 | 220 | 62 | -158 |
| TAS | 159 | 127 | 300 | 173 |
| NT | - | 13 | 185 | 172 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 0 , 6 2 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 9 5 2}$ | $\mathbf{5 , 1 4 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 1 8 8}$ |

Source: Golf Australia
Note: numbers in 2018/19 included non-national offerings


## Get Into Golf - Australia's national adult introductory program



Golf Australia launched its new adult introductory program, Get Into Golf in July 2020.
2020/2021 saw a total of 313 clubs and facilities registered, with 224 actively participating, and 6,594 participants in 1,230 programs. Of the total participants, 5,564 or $84 \%$ were female. A further highlight was the participation by local communities - 29 percent of program participants were identified as being born overseas which correlates with Australian census data.


## Other Achievements

In addition to growing participation and providing more opportunities for women, Get Into Golf was able to achieve:

The launch of a fully integrated participation portal with MyGolf
Development of a suite of program offerings and collateral, allowing clubs and facilities to deliver accessible and flexible 'taster' and introductory programs

Final delivery of the \$500,000 Sport Australia Better Ageing Grant supporting delivery of 255 senior programs, the build of a discount code functionality into the participation portal and the launch of the Get Into Golf Seniors - Virtual Program.

Securing the partnership of Australia's leading over 65 s insurance specialist, APIA to the Get Into Golf Seniors program



[^0]:    As reported, there are currently 1,300
    member clubs in Australia, six fewer
    than reported in 2019/20. There has been a steady decline in member clubs over the past 10-year period, from a high of 1,390 in 2010 .

