



Department  
for Culture  
Media & Sport



# Taking Part focus on: cross-sector participation



Statistical Release

April 2016



# Introduction

## This report

This report is one in a series of three *Taking Part, focus on* reports, presenting findings of the Taking Part survey. Taking Part is a continuous face to face household survey of adults aged 16 years and over and children aged 5 to 15 years old in England.

The *Taking Part, focus on* reports looks at specific topics in more detail, with each report covering one of the following areas:

- 1) Cross-sector participation
- 2) Libraries
- 3) Social media users

This *Taking Part, focus on cross-sector participation* report looks at those who participate in a range of cultural and sporting sectors, specifically focusing on the demographic characteristics of those who participate in all sectors, those who don't participate in any sectors, and the overlaps in participation between sectors.

Alongside the *Taking Part, focus on* reports, a *Taking Part: longitudinal report* was also published on 28 April. This report focusses on data from people who have responded to the Taking Part survey three times. It looks how participation in and engagement with cultural and sporting activities changes over time at an individual level, as well as reasons for changes in participation.

## Forthcoming statistical releases

The next adult and child Taking Part releases will be published on Thursday 21 July 2016, and will present data covering the period April 2015 – March 2016. Adult releases of Taking Part are published every six months, in July and December. Child release of Taking Part are published once a year, in July.

Another series of *Taking Part, focus on* reports will be published in October 2016. Like the current report, each 'short story' in this series will look at a specific topic in more detail, providing more in-depth analysis of Taking Part data than seen in the biannual adult or annual child report.

You can find out about upcoming releases in our Official Statistics Release Calendar [here](#) or, if you would like further information on these releases or the Taking Part survey, please contact the Taking Part team on [TakingPart@culture.gov.uk](mailto:TakingPart@culture.gov.uk).

## Changes to Taking Part survey

In March 2016 we published a [strategy](#) outlining proposed developments to the Taking Part survey over the next five years, which will ensure the survey is fit for the future and supports the evidence needs of DCMS sectors.

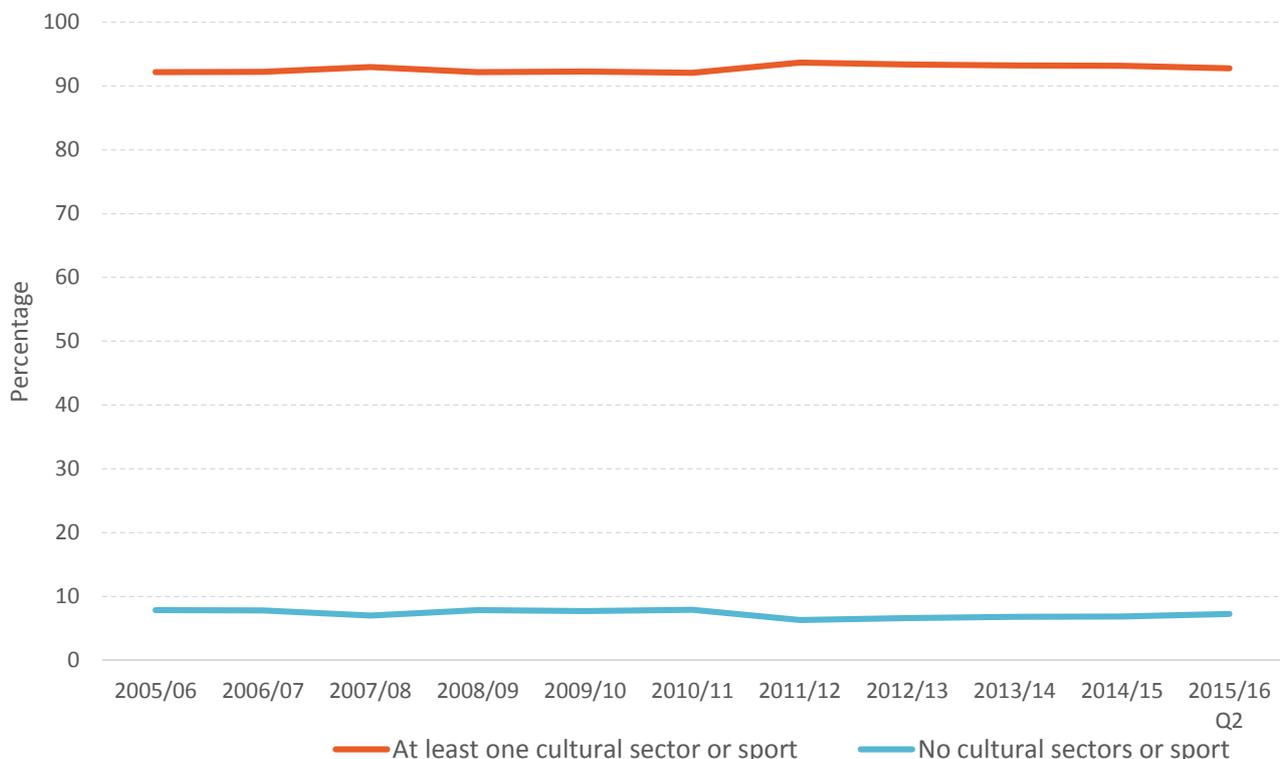
# Cultural and Sporting Participation

This *Taking Part focus on* report looks at adults (16+) in England who participate in activities across a range of DCMS sectors (including cultural and sporting activities). For the purpose of this report, someone is said to have participated in culture if they have engaged with the arts, heritage, museums and galleries and/or libraries at least once in the 12 months prior to interview. A respondent is said to have participated in sport if they have done any sport or recreational physical activity in the four weeks prior to interview.

Headline trends for engagement in each cultural sector are published in the [Taking Part Biannual Report](#). Headline trends for participation in sport are published by [Sport England](#) (based on data from their Active People Survey).

We have not included engagement with archives in our definition of engagement with culture in this report because the proportion of adults in England who visit archives or record offices is very low and would therefore restrict further analysis. In the year to September 2015, the proportion of adults who had visited an archive (in their own time or for voluntary work) in the 12 months prior to interview was 3.3% (see [here](#) for further information on archives).

**Figure 1: Proportion of adults who have participated in culture and/or sport, 2005/06 to 2015/16 Q2**



**Notes:**

(1) Confidence intervals range between  $\pm 0.4$  and  $\pm 1.0$ .



## In the year to September 2015:

- **92.8 per cent** of adults had engaged in at least one of five DCMS sectors (arts, heritage, museums and galleries, libraries or sport). Figure 1 above shows that this proportion has remained stable since 2005/06.
- **10.0 per cent** of adults had participated in all four cultural activities (arts, heritage, museums and galleries and libraries) and in sport - a similar proportion to the same time period in 2013/14.
- **7.2 per cent** of adults did not participate in any cultural or sporting activities - a similar proportion to the same time period in 2013/14.

**93%**  
of adults engaged  
with at least one  
cultural or sporting  
sector in the year to  
September 2015

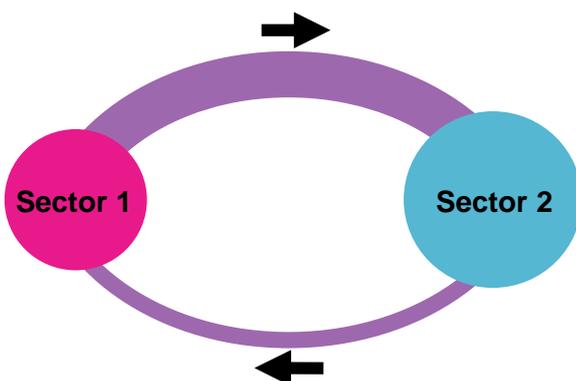
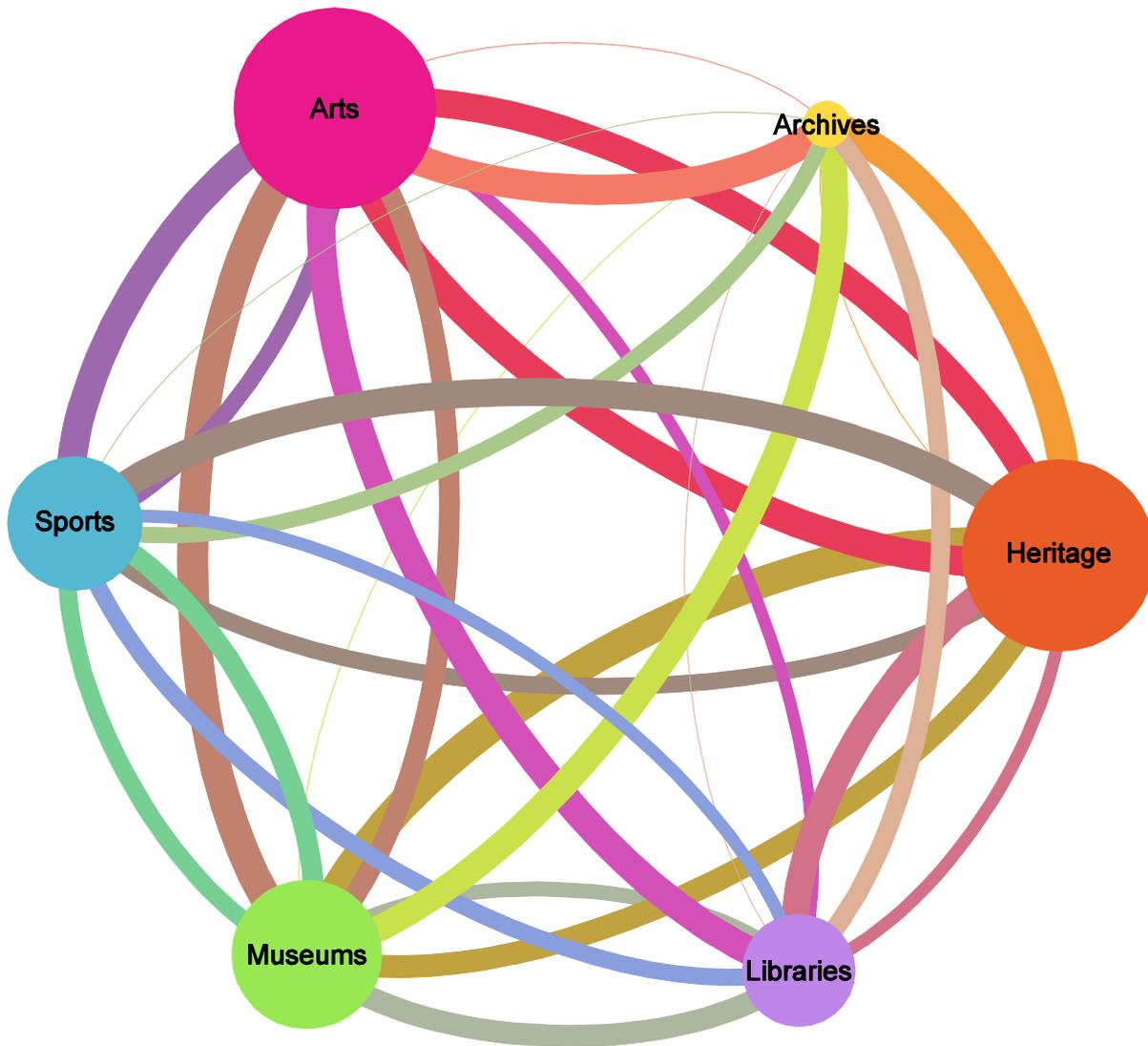
### How does this sports measure compare?

Although Taking Part collects data on sports participation, official estimates of sports participation among adults in England come from Sport England's Active People Survey. The Active People Survey provides headline figures at a national level, as well as local authority level results, and covers a wide range of specific sports. It also enables detailed demographic analysis.

Taking Part data on sports participation are used for cross-sector, longitudinal and child analysis, and to validate Sport England's participation estimates. Taking Part collects data via face to face interviews, whereas the Active People Survey collects data via telephone interviews.

## Connections between sectors

The infographic below demonstrates the extent of overlaps in participation between different cultural and sporting sectors in the year 2014/15 (April 2014 to March 2015). A larger circle shows that a larger proportion of adults have participated in a given sector (so the highest proportion of adults participated in the arts and the lowest proportion of adults participated in archives). Lines between sectors work in a clockwise motion and, the thicker a line between two sectors, the larger the percentage of adults who participate in the source sector who also participate in the destination sector.



### Key

The two nodes (circles) show the relative proportion of adults engaging in **Sector 1** and **Sector 2**.

The **edges** (lines between sectors) shows the relative percentage of people participating in one sector that also participate in the other, moving clockwise.

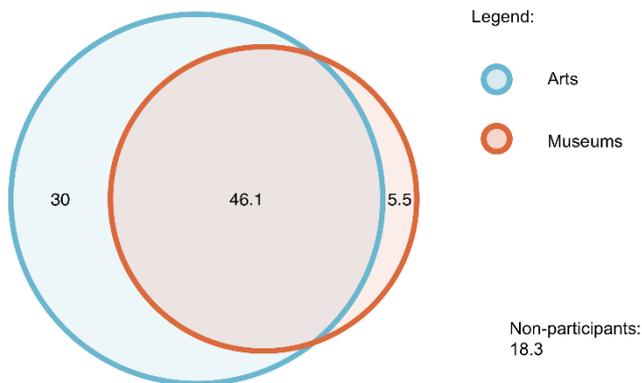
For example, the upper edge shows the percentage of people participating in Sector 1 who also participate in Sector 2, while the lower edge shows the percentage of people participating in Sector 2 who also participate in Sector 1.



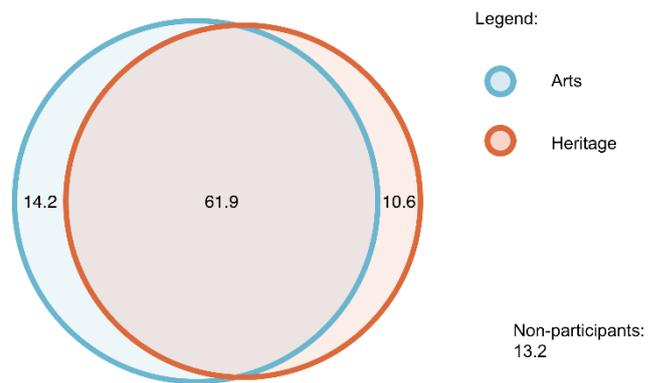
# Where are the overlaps between sectors?

This section shows the overlaps in participation between pairs of cultural or sporting sectors in the year to September 2015 (October 2014 to September 2015). For example, looking at the first diagram, 46.1 per cent of adults engaged with both arts and museums, 30.0 percent engaged with just arts, 5.5 per cent of adults engaged with just museums and 18.3 per cent did not engage with either sector.

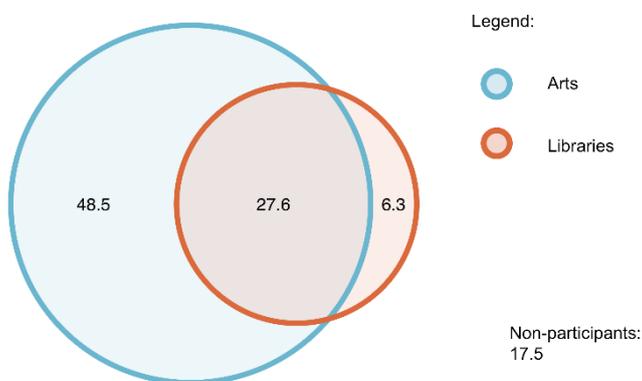
## Arts and Museums



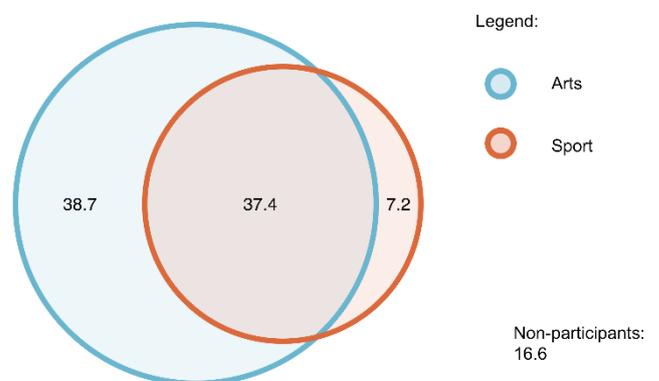
## Arts and Heritage



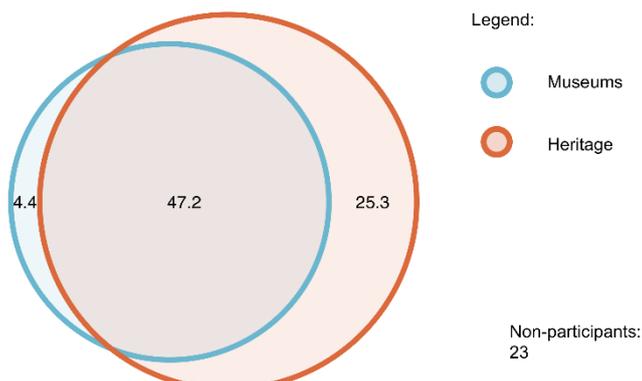
## Arts and Libraries



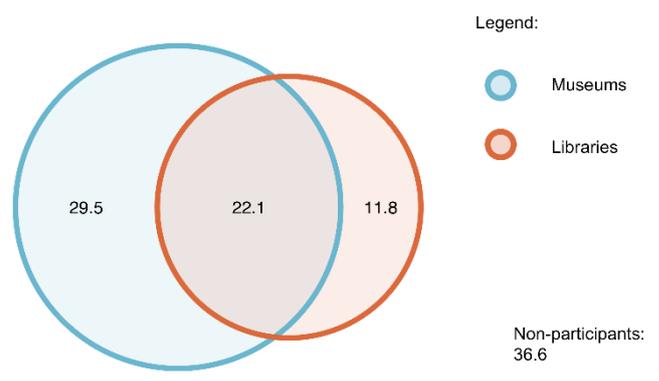
## Arts and Sport



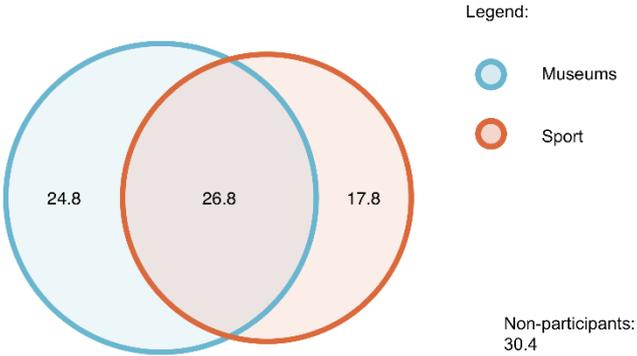
## Museums and Heritage



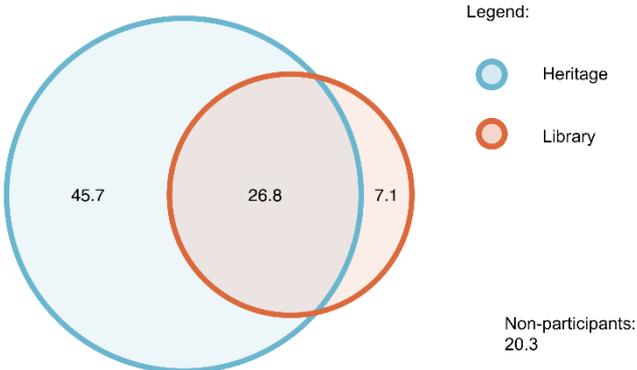
## Museums and Libraries



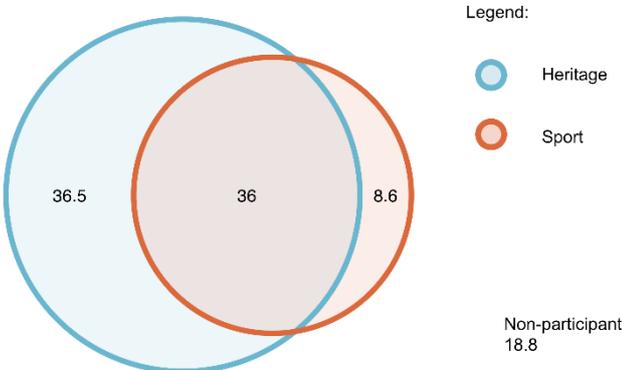
### Museums and Sport



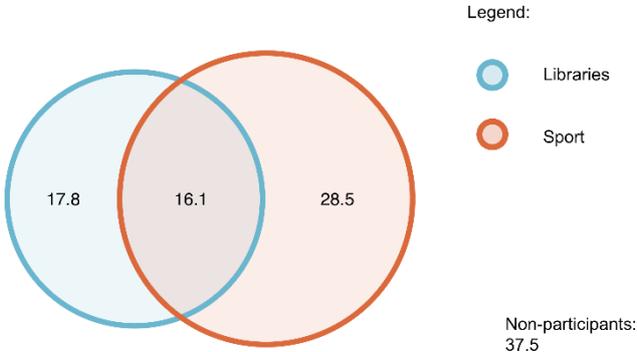
### Heritage and Libraries



### Heritage and Sport



### Libraries and Sport



## Who is participating?

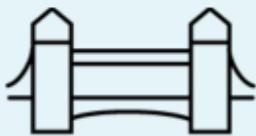
In the year to September 2015, **10.0 per cent** of adults had engaged with or participated in all four cultural sectors at least once in the year prior to interview, and had done some sport in the 4 weeks prior to interview. The following section will focus more closely on those who engaged in arts, heritage, museums and galleries and sport (**23.2 per cent** of adults engaged with all these sectors).

Libraries have not been included in this section of the report because a small proportion of individuals use libraries compared to other cultural sectors. In addition, DCMS are interested in the cultural activities that adults participate in, in their free time, and the nature of arts, heritage and museums or galleries activities is often quite different to using a library. Further information on engagement with libraries can be found in the accompanying 'Focus on libraries' release.

In the year to September 2015, those most likely to have participated in all three cultural sectors as well as in sport were:

16-24  
years

Respondents aged between 16-24 years of age.



Those who lived in London, rather than in other English regions.

Urban  
Prosperity

Those living in postcodes falling within the 'Urban Prosperity' ACORN category.

Upper  
Socio-  
Economic

Those in the upper socio-economic group, who were more likely to participate in all sectors than those in the lower socio-economic group.

No illness  
or  
disability

Adults with no long term illness or disability, who were significantly more likely to participate in all activities than those with a long term illness or disability.

Still looking at participation in the four sectors (arts, heritage, museums and galleries and sport), the following section looks at differences among demographic groups.

## Gender

There were no significant differences between men and women:

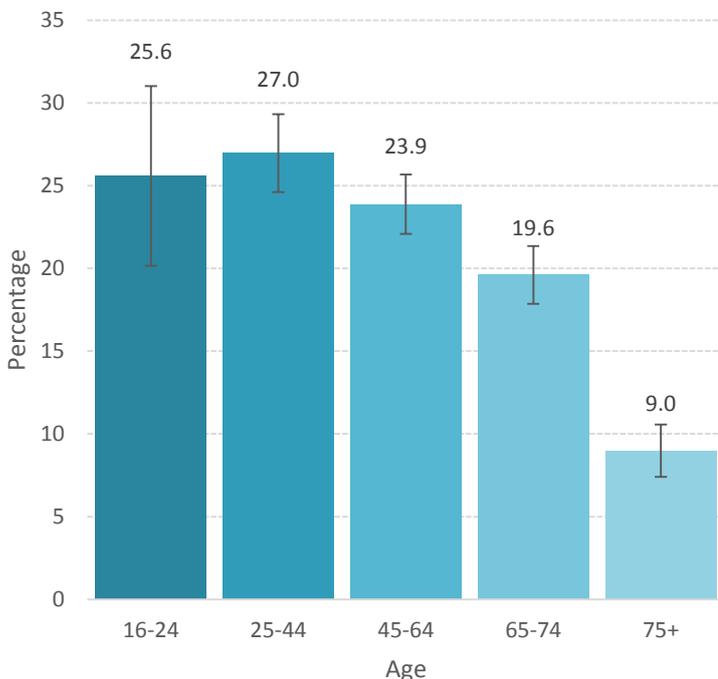
- **23.5 per cent of men** engaged in all four sectors, and **22.9 per cent of women**.
- A significantly larger proportion of men engaged with just heritage or just sport over the same time period, whereas a significantly larger proportion of women engaged with just arts.

### What does significant mean?

A significant increase or decrease at the 95% level means that there is less than a 5% chance (1 in 20) that the difference observed within the sampled respondents is not a real difference and is not representative of the English population as a whole.

## Age

**Figure 2: Proportion of adults who have participated in all sectors, by age, 2015/16 Q2.**



- Adults aged **25-44** were most likely to have participated in the four sectors, **27.0 per cent** compared with **23.2 per cent** for all adults.
- Adults aged **65+** participated significantly less than all adults.

### Notes:

(1) Confidence intervals, shown as error bars, range between  $\pm 1.6$  and  $\pm 5.4$ .



## Region

Significant differences were found between respondents who lived in different regions of England:

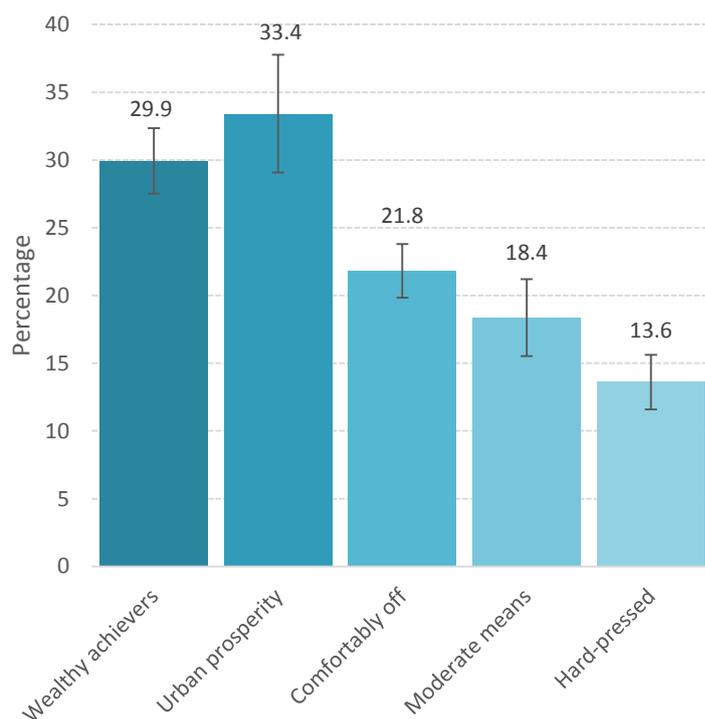
- Respondents who live in **London** were more likely to have participated in all four sectors than any other region: **27.0 per cent** of respondents from London had participated in all four sectors.
- This was a significantly greater proportion than in the **North East**, which had the smallest proportion of respondents who had participated in all four sectors (**19.1 per cent**). The **North East** also had a significantly smaller proportion of adults participating in all sectors compared to **all adults (23.2 per cent)**.

## ACORN

Significant differences were also seen between respondents in different ACORN categories. ACORN (A Classification Of Residential Neighbourhoods) categorises UK postcodes into groups based upon census data and other information, such as lifestyle surveys.

- Adults who fell into the '**Urban prosperity**' category were most likely to have participated in all four sectors (**33.4 per cent** of adults in this category had participated in all four sectors). This was a significantly higher proportion than in all other classifications (apart from 'Wealthy achievers').
- The '**Hard-pressed**' category had the lowest number of respondents participating in all sectors: only **13.6 per cent** of respondents in this category participated in all four sectors.

**Figure 3: Proportion of adults who have participated in all sectors, by ACORN category, 2015/16 Q2**



**Notes:**

(1) Confidence intervals, shown as error bars, range between  $\pm 2.0$  and  $\pm 4.3$ .

## Socio-economic Group

Significant differences were found between respondents who belonged to different socio-economic groups:

- **28.9 per cent** of adults in the **upper socio-economic group** had participated in all four sectors. This was significantly more people than in the **lower socio-economic group**, where only **12.2 per cent** had participated in all four sectors.

## Ethnicity

No significant differences were found in the proportion of adults who participated in all four sectors among different ethnic groups:

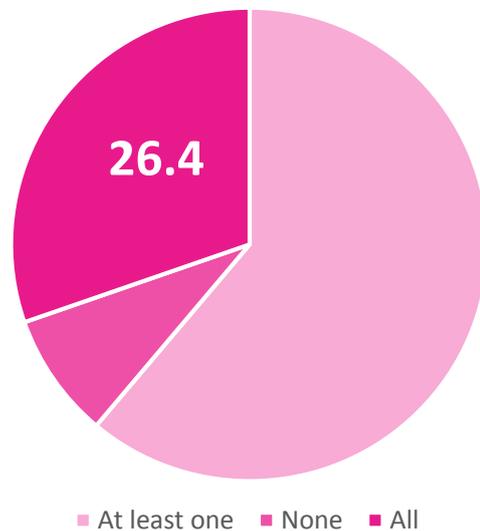
- Of those in the **white ethnic group**, **23.2 per cent** participated in all four sectors, while **22.9 per cent** of adults in the **black and minority ethnic group** participated in all four sectors.

## Long term illness or disability

There was a significant difference in the proportion of adults who participated in all four sectors between those who had a long standing illness or disability and those who did not.

- **26.4 per cent** of respondents **who did not have a long standing illness or disability** participated in all four sectors.
- Of those **who have a long standing illness or disability**, **16.1 per cent** had participated in all activities.

*Figure 4: Proportion of adults with no long standing illness or disability who had participated in all sectors, 2015/16 Q2.*



### What is a confidence interval?

A confidence interval provides a range in which there is a specific probability that the true value will lie within. In this survey, 95% confidence intervals are used which means, had the sampling been conducted 100 times, creating 100 confidence intervals, then 95 percent of these intervals would contain the true value.



## Who isn't participating?

In the year to September 2015, **7.2 per cent** per cent of adults did not participate in any cultural (including libraries) or sporting activities. This section focuses on those who did not engage with the arts, heritage, museums and galleries or sport in the year to September 2015 (**9.2 per cent**) of adults.

In the year to September 2015, those most likely to have participated in none of the cultural and sporting sectors were:

75+  
years

Adults aged 75 years of age or more.

Yorkshire  
& the  
Humber

Those living in Yorkshire and the Humber, rather than in other England regions.

Hard-  
pressed

Those living in postcodes falling within the 'Hard-pressed' ACORN category.

Lower  
socio-  
economic

Those in the lower socio-economic group, who were more likely to participate in no sectors than those in the upper socio-economic group.

An illness  
or  
disability

Those with a long term illness or disability, who were more likely to have participated in no sectors than those without.

BME Ethnic  
Group

Adults from the black and minority ethnic group, who were more likely to participate in none of the sectors than those from the white ethnic group.

## Gender

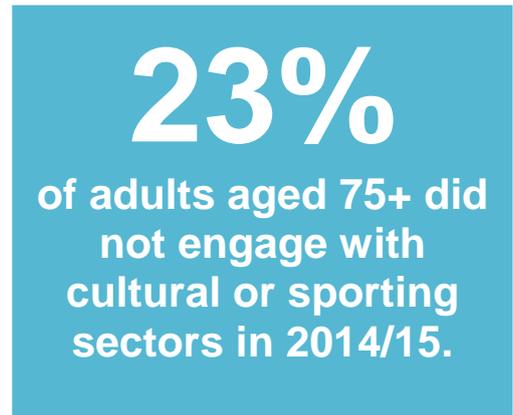
There were no significant differences between men and women:

- Among both men and women respondents, **9.2 per cent** had not participated in any of the four sectors in the year to September 2015.

## Age

There were significant differences between respondents from different age groups:

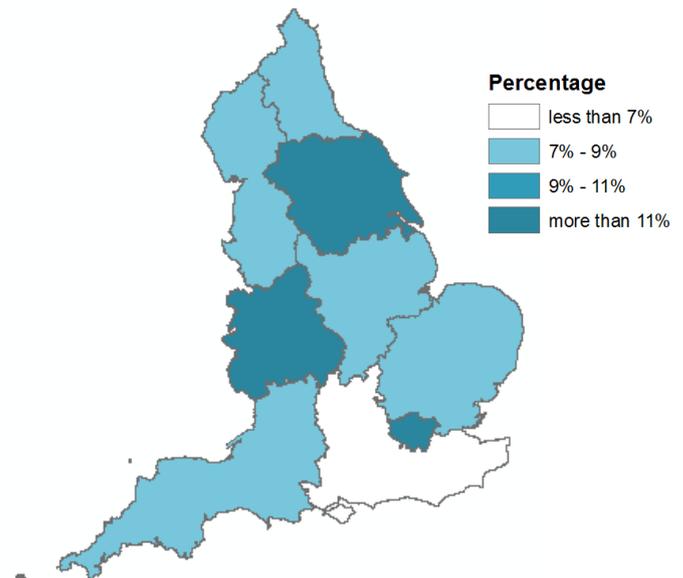
- **22.5 per cent** of adults aged **75+** had not participated in any sectors, a significantly greater proportion than any other age group.
- Those aged **16 to 24** were least likely to have participated in none of the four sectors: **6.1 per cent** of respondents in this age group had not participated in any sector.



## Region

There were significant differences between the proportions of respondents in each region who had participated in no activities:

- Between October 2014 and September 2015, respondents living in **Yorkshire and the Humber** were most likely to have participated in none of the four sectors (**13.4 per cent**) compared to other regions in England.
- Respondents located in the **South East** were least likely to have participated in none of the four sectors: **5.3 per cent** of adults from this region did not participate, significantly fewer than in **Yorkshire and the Humber**.

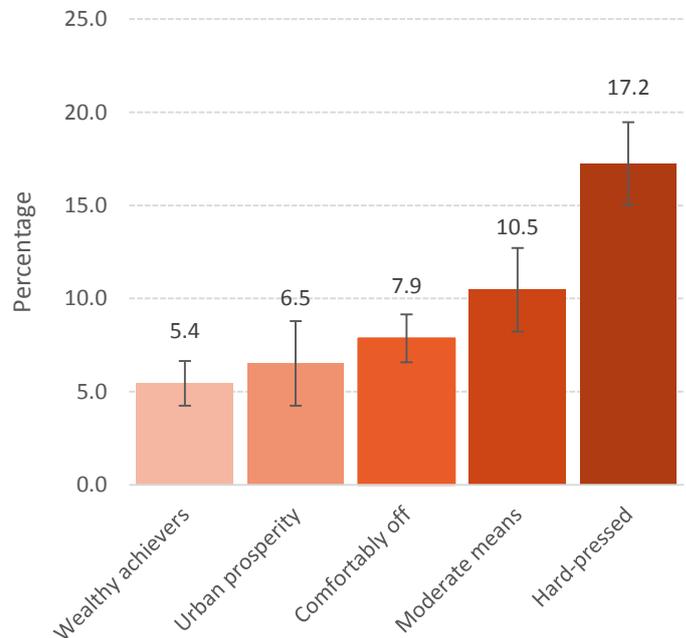


## ACORN

Significant differences were seen between groups of adults falling under different ACORN classifications.

- Those in the '**Hard-Pressed**' category were significantly more likely than any other respondent category to have engaged with none of the four sector (**17.2 per cent**).
- **Wealthy achievers** were least likely to have participated in no sectors (**5.4 per cent**).

**Figure 5: Proportion of adults who had participated in no cultural or sporting sectors, 2015/16 Q2**



**Notes:**

(1) Confidence intervals, shown as error bars, range between  $\pm 1.2$  and  $\pm 2.3$ .

## Socio-economic Group

Significant differences were also found between respondents from different socio-economic groups:

- Between October 2014 and September 2015, **15.4 per cent** of adults in the **lower socio-economic group**, had participated in none of the four sectors; a significantly greater proportion of respondents than in the **higher socio-economic group (5.8 per cent)**.

## Ethnicity

There were significant differences between those from different ethnic groups:

- A significantly greater proportion of adults from the **black and minority ethnic group** had not participated in any of the cultural or sporting sectors (**14.8 per cent**), compared to those from the **white ethnic group (8.5 per cent)**.

## Long term illness or disability

There were significant differences between those who suffer from a long term illness or disability, and those who do not:

- **13.1** per cent of respondents who **had a long standing disability or illness** had not participated in any of the four sectors.
- This was a significantly greater proportion than among those who **did not have a long standing illness or disability**, where **7.4 per cent** had not participated in any of the four sectors.

### Are there any barriers to participation?

A previous *Focus on...* report found that **26 per cent of adults** with a long term illness or health condition reported that activities were too expensive, and 24 per cent said that lack of transport or a lack of disabled parking limited participation. Read more about this [here](#).



## Annex A: Further details

1. The Taking Part survey is commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and its partner Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs). For 2011 to 2016 these are Arts Council England, Historic England and Sport England.
2. Taking Part is a National Statistics output and as such has been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. National Statistics undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference. See the [Statistics Authority code of practice](#) for more information.

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed. See the [UK Statistics Authority assessment](#) for more information.

3. The latest results presented here are based on interviews issued between October 2014 and September 2015. The total sample size for this period is 10,193.
4. Statistical significance tests have been run at the 95% level. A significant increase at the 95% level means that there is less than 5% (1 in 20) chance that the difference observed within the sampled respondents was not also observed in the English population as a whole.
5. For more information see the [Taking Part survey](#) webpages, including previous publications. Versions of the [questionnaires](#) from all years of the survey are also available.
6. The fieldwork for the survey has been conducted by TNS-BMRB. For more information, see <http://www.tns-bmr.co.uk>.
7. The series of reports has been produced by Helen Miller-Bakewell, Wilmah Deda, Becky Woods and Niall Goulding (DCMS). Acknowledgement goes to colleagues within DCMS, Sport England, Historic England, Arts Council England and TNS-BMRB for their assistance with the production and quality assurance of this release.
8. The responsible statistician for this release is Helen Miller-Bakewell. For enquiries on this release, please contact Helen on 0207 211 6355.
9. For general enquiries telephone: 0207 211 6200 or email [enquiries@culture.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@culture.gov.uk).
10. To be kept informed about Taking Part publications and user events, please sign up to the Taking Part online newsletter [here](#). You can follow us on Twitter [@DCMSInsight](#).

© Crown copyright 2016

You may re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence.

To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/) or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)



Department  
for Culture  
Media & Sport

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 100 Parliament Street  
London, SW1A 2BQ  
**GOV.UK/DCMS**

