



20 National Participation Report

INTRODUCTION

To the Australian Football Community,

Following the unprecedented success of the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™ and our national teams, the CommBank Matildas and Subway Socceroos, Football Australia has continued to make significant strides in realising its vision to unite and grow the football community.

Building on the momentum of the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™, we have prioritised innovation and impactful Legacy Programs, ensuring lasting benefits for grassroots and professional football in Australia.

The Club Changer Program: A Groundbreaking initiative

A cornerstone of this effort is the Club Changer: Club Development Program, launched with support and funding from the Australian Sports Commission. This program represents an unprecedented collaboration between Football Australia, Member Federations, and local Associations, uniting as one to directly support grassroots community clubs. Its vision: a more inclusive and sustainable future for Australian football.

The program's outcomes in 2024 speak volumes:

Overall Participation: Increased by 200,000 to 1.9 million participants

Outdoor Football Participation: Up 10%

Social Football Engagement: Increased by 13% Women and Girls' Participation: Rose by 16%

Growth in Coaches and Volunteers: Record-breaking numbers

The Australian Sports Commission has praised Football Australia's Club Changer program, highlighting it as a benchmark for grassroots development.

66 Well done to everyone involved. This approach has been tremendous in supporting the growth of the game. Football is now the leading sport in Game Plan, and Club Changer's integration has provided clear incentives and on-the-ground support, driving positive outcomes nationwide.

Steven Marquis **SENIOR ADVISOR, GAME PLAN**

Empowering Volunteers and Clubs

Through the Club Changer program, over 2,000 Club Volunteers have accessed:

- 1:1 tailored club support
- In-person Workshops and Conferences
- Online Webinars, fostering accessibility and learning opportunities

Complementing the excellent work on the grassroots sphere, the inaugural National Volunteer Focus Group brought together 28 clubs from across the country. This initiative, with an emphasis on supporting clubs to recruit and retain women and girl volunteers in football, has empowered clubs to identify and develop the workforce required to deliver on their respective Club Changer Action Plan.

The Club Development Action Plans focused on developing committees of 40% women, 40% men, and 20% flexible roles, ensuring gender balance and inclusivity, and resulted in substantial growth in participation among women and girls, as well as a strong plan for future coaches, referees & volunteers.

Global Recognition and Partnerships

The success of Club Changer has not gone unnoticed, with Football Australia earning the AFC President's Recognition Grassroots Award for the second consecutive year. The AFC has recognised it as a "world-leading initiative," benefiting over 1,000 grassroots clubs across Australia.

These achievements underscores Football Australia's commitment to:

- · Empowering community clubs and volunteers
- Developing skills to deliver quality football experiences
- Expanding access to the game through partnerships with the Growing Football Fund supported by CommBank,
 Coles MiniRoos, and MILO

Growing Football Fund and Inclusion

Launched ahead of the 2024 winter season, the Growing Football Fund has provided direct funding to over 200 community clubs. This initiative has driven inclusion and opportunities for women and girls in football by subsidising coach education, expanding participation opportunities, and fostering an improved experience for all.

In 2024, players and volunteers from Club Changer's 1- and 2-star clubs had unique opportunities to engage with the CommBank Matildas, Subway Socceroos, and National Teams coaches. This integration with the national teams has deepened community connections and inspired the next generation of football participants.

2024 FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION KEY INSIGHTS

The growth achieved in 2024 reflects a strong trajectory for Australian football:

PROGRAM	% CHANGE	2024	2023
Outdoor Football	+10%	640,234	582,635
Social Football	+13%	174,846	154,403
Registered Coaches	+19%	68,425	57,488
Registered Referees	+10%	13,544	12,276
Volunteers	+26%	29,502	23,433
Schools Football	+13%	571,744	504,424
Community Football Programs	+13%	332,202	292,757
Specific Diversity and Inclusion Programs	+7%	24,697	23,036
TOTAL PARTICIPATION 2024	+11%	1,912,493	1,715,441

Total Participation

Total Participation increased by 197,052 or 11% from 1,715,441 to 1,912,493.

Outdoor Registered Football

Outdoor Participation increased by 57,599 or 10% from 582,635 to 640,234.

School

Total Schools increased by 67,320 or 13%. Football Australia's Sporting Schools Program increased by 21% or 27,942 participants, including being the most requested football code in Australia. The total students engaged through a Football Australia Sporting Schools program was 158,700.

Social Football

Social/Summer football continues to achieve positive numbers with 174,846 participants, an increase of 13% compared with 2023.

Coaches

National Coach workforce of over 200 Participation Officers delivering Sporting Schools, Coles MiniRoos and Junior Participation programs. Coach registrations increased by 10,937 in 2024, with a total number of registered coaches now at 68,425, an increase of 19% year on year.

Referees

The number of registered referees grew by 10% in 2024, reaching 13,544.

Volunteers

Volunteer registrations increased by 26% in 2024 to 6,069, with a total number of registered coaches now at 29,502.

Community Programs

Community events and promotional experiences once again increase, with 13% growth on the previous year with 332,202 participants.

Women and Girls

Following the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023[™], Football Australia saw a significant increase in women and girls with a combined 221,640 participants represented in outdoor, social and registered Futsal. An increase of 16 % or 30,894 participants compared to 2023.

Looking Ahead

The achievements of 2024 mark just the beginning. Football Australia remains dedicated to strengthening community football, fostering diversity and inclusion, and empowering the next generation of participants, coaches, referees and volunteers.

Together, we will continue to grow the game, ensuring football's place as Australia's favourite sport for years to come.

Yours in football

James Johnson

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



2024 NATIONAL SUMMARY

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 1,912,493

11% Growth on 2023

growth on 2023

WOMEN & GIRLS **PARTICIPATION** 221,640

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, **REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL**

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 490,000

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

640,234 **PARTICIPANTS**

10% growth on 2023 2205 **CLUBS**





161,585 FEMALE (25% OF TOTAL)







FEMALE 217,628 70,285

YOUTH 189,618 **PARTICIPANTS**



136,836

28%

FEMALE 52,614

SENIOR 162,478 **PARTICIPANTS**



123,579

24%

FEMALE 38,686



SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION **PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS**

24,697

68,425 REGISTERED COACHES

73% MALE 27% FEMALE



13,544 REGISTERED REFEREES

81% MALE 15% FEMALE **(1)** 29,502 VOLUNTEERS

53% MALE 44% FEMALE

OTHER FORMATS

13% growth on 2023

FUTSAL 57,299 **PARTICIPANTS**







MALE



FEMALE



413,044

SCHOOLS TOTAL 571,744 **PARTICIPANTS**

OTHER SCHOOL PROGRAMS Includes school competitions and school participation programs

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 332,202 **PARTICIPANTS**













31%





FEMALE





























2024 NSW SUMMARY











TOTAL PARTICIPATION

677,619

15%

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 97,371

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 219,488

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

262,946 **PARTICIPANTS**



670 **CLUBS**



193,219 (73% OF TOTAL)



69,512 (26% OF TOTAL)

MINIROS 115,935





69% MAIF

31% FEMALE

35,462

YOUTH 73,706





FEMALE

6,163

SENIOR 73,305



61% MALE

39% FEMALE



6,015



SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS

1,642

SCHOOLS TOTAL

142,281 **PARTICIPANTS**

OTHER FORMATS

86% MALE

14% FEMALE

FUTSAL 5,003 **PARTICIPANTS**



SOCIAL 79,457 **PARTICIPANTS**



MALE



COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 129,645 **PARTICIPANTS**

2024 VIC SUMMARY









TOTAL PARTICIPATION 391,530

10% **GROWTH ON 2023**

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 27,156

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 105,799

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

91,793 **PARTICIPANTS**



376 **CLUBS**



69,892 MALE (76% OF TOTAL)



21,837 FEMALE (24% OF TOTAL)

coles MINIRCOS 38,494





YOUTH 33,489 **PARTICIPANTS**





SENIOR 19,810 PARTICIPANTS





86% MALE

14% FEMALE

7,524



REGISTERED COACHES

1,533 REGISTERED REFEREES

83% MAIF 17% FEMALE 4,410

VOLUNTEERS 54% MALE 46% FEMALE



OTHER FORMATS

FUTSAL 34,505 **PARTICIPANTS**



SOCIAL 15,037 **PARTICIPANTS**



MALE



COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 67,988 PARTICIPANTS

SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS

SCHOOLS TOTAL

166,630 PARTICIPANTS

*Total numbers include male, female and gender unspecified. Some percentages may not total 100% due to undisclosed gender participant data submitted at the point of registration.

2024 QLD SUMMARY





TOTAL PARTICIPATION 293,000

9% **GROWTH ON 2023**

growth on 2023

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 37,779

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 8,046

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

103,289 **PARTICIPANTS**



308 **CLUBS**



78,735 MALE (76% OF TOTAL)



24,314 FEMALE (24% OF TOTAL)

MINIRCOS 48,916





YOUTH 31,138





SENIOR 23,235 **PARTICIPANTS**









7,704 REGISTERED COACHES 72% MALE 28% FFMALE

2,801

65% MALE 18% FFMALE

9,475 VOLUNTEERS

53% MALE 39% FFMALE

OTHER FORMATS

FUTSAL 13,165 **PARTICIPANTS**



SOCIAL 37,847 **PARTICIPANTS**





COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 22,735 **PARTICIPANTS**

SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS

SCHOOLS TOTAL

89,455 **PARTICIPANTS**

*Total numbers include male, female and gender unspecified. Some percentages may not total 100% due to undisclosed gender participant data submitted at the point of registration.

2024 WA SUMMARY





TOTAL PARTICIPATION 176,663

8% **GROWTH**

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 12,682

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, **REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL**

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 44,650

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

51,589 **PARTICIPANTS**



234 **CLUBS**



40,671 MALE (79% OF TOTAL)



10,897 **FEMALE** (21% OF TOTAL)

MINIROS 22,457 **PARTICIPANTS**





YOUTH 16,179 PARTICIPANTS



12,442

23% FEMALE

SENIOR 12,953 PARTICIPANTS





2,420

4,305

79% MALE 21% FEMALE 660

88% MAIF

12% FFMALE

1,923

44% MAIF 56% FEMALE



OTHER FORMATS

SOCIAL 5,661 **PARTICIPANTS**



MALE



FEMALE



SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION **PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS**

SCHOOLS TOTAL 80,360 **PARTICIPANTS**

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 25,844 **PARTICIPANTS**

2024 NNSW SUMMARY





TOTAL PARTICIPATION

149,046

12% **GROWTH ON 2023**

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 23,574

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 46,233

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

60,453 **PARTICIPANTS**



198 **CLUBS**



42,774 (71% OF TOTAL)



17,660 FEMALE

MINIRCOS 30,746 **PARTICIPANTS**





YOUTH 16,025 PARTICIPANTS





SENIOR 13,682 PARTICIPANTS







5,719 74% MALE 26% FEMALE

963 85% MALE 15% FEMALE

4 3,876 VOLUNTEERS 49% MALE 51% FEMALE

SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION **PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS**

SCHOOLS TOTAL

OTHER FORMATS

FUTSAL PARTICIPANTS



SOCIAL 17,375 **PARTICIPANTS**



MALE



FEMALE

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 26,674

2024 SA SUMMARY





TOTAL PARTICIPATION

126,934

11% **GROWTH**

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 8,435

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, **REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL**

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 57,263

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

30,087 **PARTICIPANTS**

23,919 MALE (79% OF TOTAL)

308 **CLUBS**



coles MINIRCOS 9,880





YOUTH 9,447 PARTICIPANTS





SENIOR 10,760 PARTICIPANTS





4,109 **REGISTERED COACHES** 79% MAIF

21% FEMALE



435 87% MALE 13% FEMALE

🙌 1,543 VOLUNTEERS

57% MALE 43% FFMALE

OTHER FORMATS

FUTSAL 871 **PARTICIPANTS**



SOCIAL 11,338 **PARTICIPANTS**



MALE



COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 48,334 PARTICIPANTS

*Total numbers include male, female and gender unspecified. Some percentages may not total 100% due to undisclosed gender participant data submitted at the point of registration.



SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS

1,906

SCHOOLS TOTAL 28,311 **PARTICIPANTS**

2024 ACT SUMMARY





TOTAL PARTICIPATION

38,327

2% **GROWTH**

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 7,151

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGIS-TERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

.\ LEAGUES

TOTAL PARTICIPATION 205

INCLUDES SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES

wite

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

19,794 **PARTICIPANTS**



49 **CLUBS**



14,169 MALE (72% OF TOTAL)



5,602 FEMALE (28% OF TOTAL)

MINIRUOS **PARTICIPANTS**





YOUTH 5,406 **PARTICIPANTS**





FEMALE

SENIOR 4,595 **PARTICIPANTS**











703 **REGISTERED REFEREES** 75% MALE 25% FEMALE

1,167 VOLUNTEERS

41% MALE 59% FEMALE

OTHER FORMATS

FUTSAL 1,003 **PARTICIPANTS**



SOCIAL 3,499 **PARTICIPANTS**





SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION **PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS**

Includes programs specifically for Cultural and Linguistically Diverse Communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander & All Ability participant

SCHOOLS TOTAL 4,465 PARTICIPANTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 6,007 **PARTICIPANTS**

2024 TAS SUMMARY



TOTAL PARTICIPATION

31,278

5% **GROWTH** ON 2023

Liberty

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 5,248

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

14,552 **PARTICIPANTS**



44 **CLUBS**





4,010 FEMALE (28% OF TOTAL)

MINIROS 9,038 **PARTICIPANTS**





YOUTH 3,259 **PARTICIPANTS**









SENIOR 2,255 **PARTICIPANTS**





🚺 1,497 REGISTERED COACHES 27% FEMALE

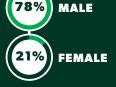


154 95% MALE

830 VOLUNTEERS 58% MALE

OTHER FORMATS

FUTSAL 2,672 **PARTICIPANTS**



SOCIAL 2,669 **PARTICIPANTS**



MALE



FEMALE

SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS

SCHOOLS TOTAL

8,519 **PARTICIPANTS**

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES PARTICIPANTS

2024 NT SUMMARY



TOTAL PARTICIPATION

22,877

20% **GROWTH ON 2023**

WOMEN & GIRLS PARTICIPATION 2,244

INCLUDES OUTDOOR, REGISTERED FUTSAL & SOCIAL

50% growth on 2023

OUTDOOR AFFILIATED FOOTBALL

5,731 **PARTICIPANTS**



18 **CLUBS**





1,597 FEMALE (28% OF TOTAL)

MINIRCOS **PARTICIPANTS**





YOUTH 969 **PARTICIPANTS**



SENIOR 1,883 **PARTICIPANTS**



439

REGISTERED COACHES

132 REGISTERED REFEREES **263** VOLUNTEERS



OTHER FORMATS

SOCIAL 1,963 **PARTICIPANTS**



SPECIFIC DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS 4,956

SCHOOLS TOTAL 7,914 **PARTICIPANTS**

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES 1,479 **PARTICIPANTS**