

# VOICE OF RANGATAHI ACROSS THE AUCKLAND REGION

Gathering, reflecting on and responding to the voice of tamariki and rangatahi on their physical activity experiences, barriers and aspirations is important if we hope to improve physical literacy, participation and satisfaction rates. Collecting and utilising student voice enables those who support and lead play, sport and physical activity in schools to provide improved opportunities, environments and outcomes for students.

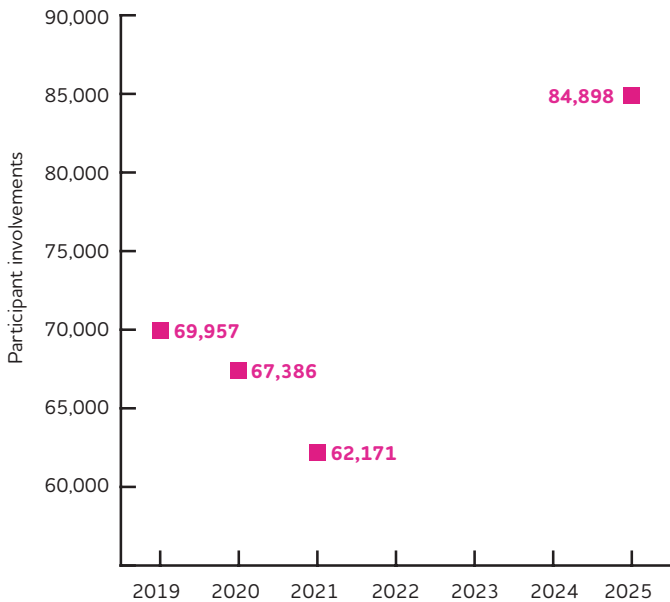
This information comes from the Secondary School Sport Census and Voice of Rangatahi (4,275) survey collected in 2025.



## SECONDARY SCHOOL SPORTS CENSUS

### THE BIG PICTURE: WHAT HAS CHANGED FROM PRE-COVID TO TODAY

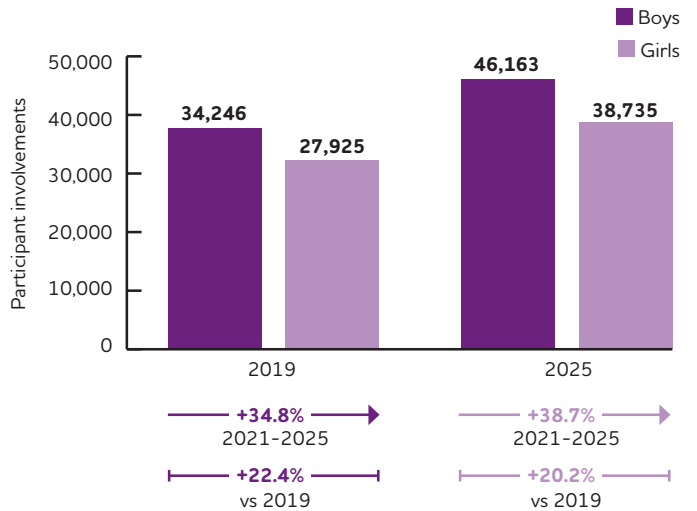
#### Total participant involvements (Auckland-wide)



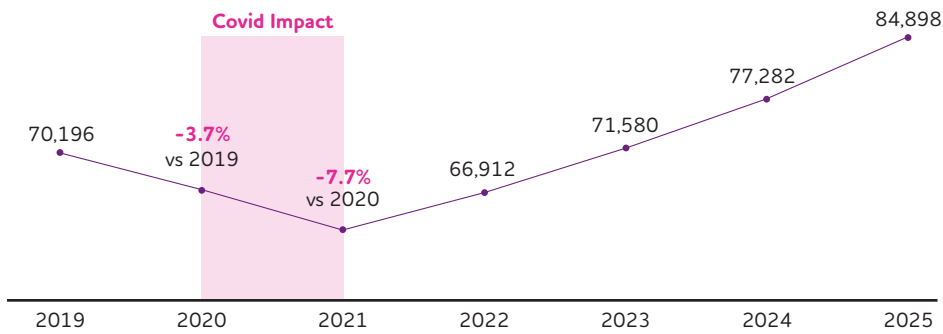
**+36.6%** growth since 2021  
(+22,727 participant involvements)

**+21.4%** above pre-COVID  
(+14,941 since 2019)

#### By gender (participant involvements)



## What happened during COVID (2020–2021)?



### Auckland school-sport involvements

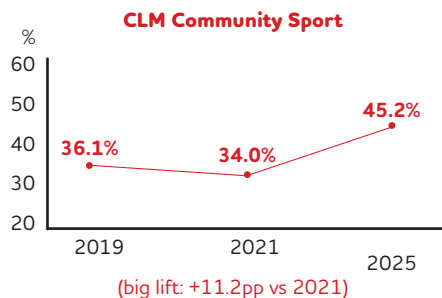
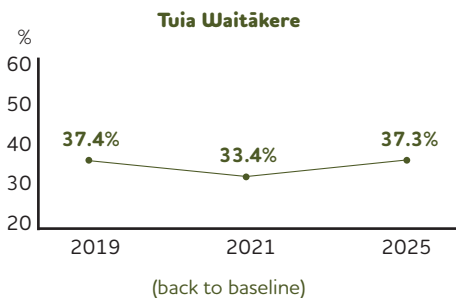
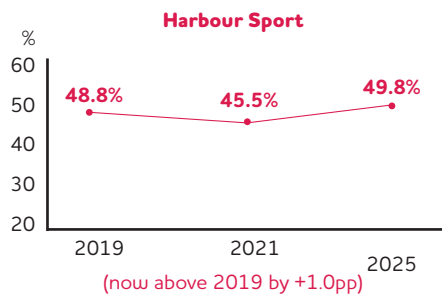
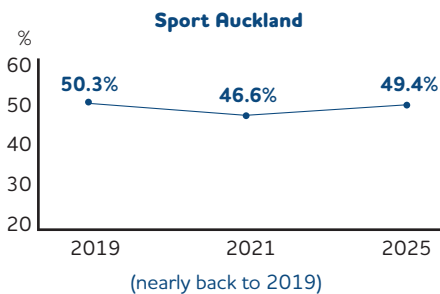
**+36.6%** growth from the COVID low in 2021 to 2025

**+21%** above pre-COVID 2019 levels

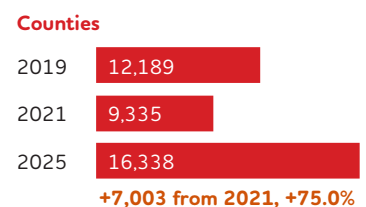
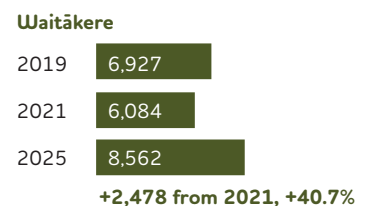
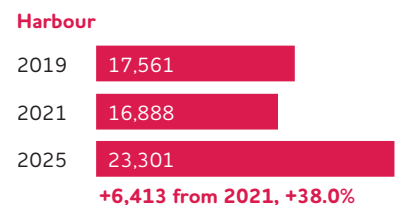
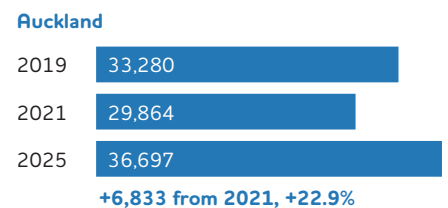
\* Involvements represent total participations, with individuals counted once for each activity or session they take part in.

## WHERE THE REBOUND HAPPENED: AUCKLAND REGIONAL SPORTS TRUSTS

### Participation rates (proportion of students involved)



### Participation volumes (involvements)



Shows the sharper 2019–2021 declines, especially Counties 23.4%, and strong post-2021 rebounds



2025 SNAPSHOT What students are playing now

TOP 5 sports by total participant involvements (Auckland-wide)



- 1 Football (Outdoor) - 9,469
- 2 Netball (Outdoor) - 9,450
- 3 Basketball - 7,646
- 4 Rugby Union - 7,517
- 5 Volleyball - 7,237

TOP 5 sports by gender (2025)



BOYS:

- Football - 6,514
- Rugby Union - 6,143
- Basketball - 6,037
- Volleyball - 2,929
- Badminton - 2,451



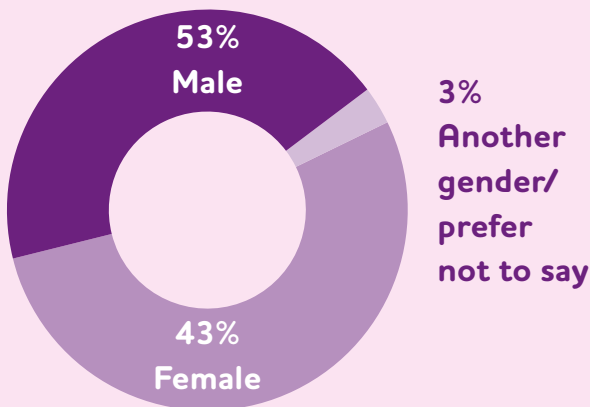
GIRLS:

- Netball - 8,871
- Volleyball - 4,308
- Football - 2,955
- Badminton - 2,850
- Hockey - 1,889

WHAT RANGATAHI ARE SAYING ABOUT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (VOICE OF RANGATAHI)

Who We Heard From

4,275 rangatahi responded across Auckland



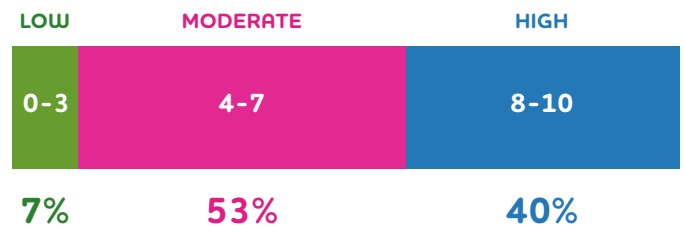
High Ethnic Diversity



How Happy Are Rangatahi?

Happiness is a reliable indicator of overall wellbeing and participation levels

Rating their happiness



Satisfaction With Physical Activity at School

General satisfaction presents a clear narrative.

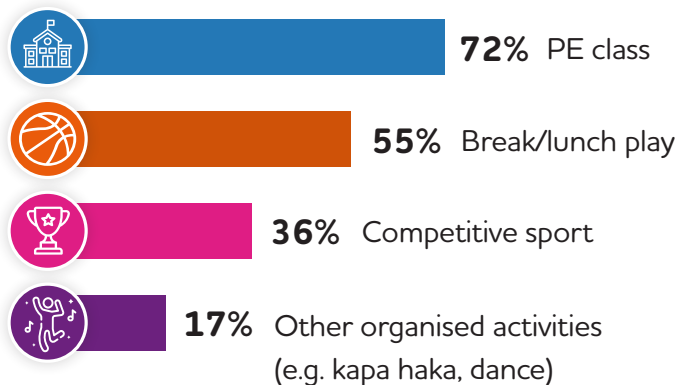


34% are highly satisfied with physical activity at school.

(selected very satisfied or extremely satisfied)

## How Rangatahi Are Active at School

Top ways they participate (multiple selection):



## What Sports/Activities Rangatahi Actually Do At School

### TOP 5 school based activities:

- 1 Games - 32%
- 2 Basketball - 31%
- 3 Badminton - 26%
- 4 Football - 25%
- 5 Volleyball - 24%

**Clear takeaway:** informal, low barrier, social activities dominate.

## What Rangatahi Do Outside School

### Top Activities Outside School

- Workout - 32%
- Running - 29%
- Swimming - 28%
- Walking - 26%
- Cycling - 23%



## Do Rangatahi Want to Be More Active?

**32%** want to be more active at school

**77%** want to be more active outside school

## Barriers Stopping Rangatahi

Top barriers:



## What Rangatahi Want Schools to Improve

Top choices:

