

NSPS Sports Reports Series: **Football**

Insights based on NSPS data from 2021-2025



Football is the 5th most participated sport among Singaporeans.
It is also the 2nd most popular team sport, trailing closely behind Basketball.

Cumulated Participation of the Top 10 Sports among National Population (2021 – 2025)

Swimming	Cycling	Badminton	Basketball	Football	Skateboarding	Mountain Biking	Bowling	Climbing	Volleyball
10.0%	9.2%	5.3%	3.2%	3.0%	1.3%	1.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%
1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10

Market Size of Football in Singapore	Cumulative 2021 – 2025	Sex		Race			
		Male	Female	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
Football Penetration	3.0%	5.7%	0.4%	1.7%	7.8%	5.8%	4.5%
Estimated Football Participants	123,000	114,000	8,000	52,000	43,000	21,000	6,000

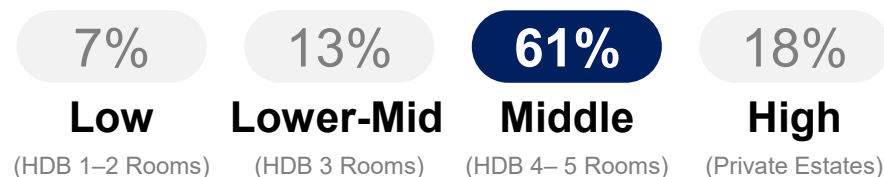
Football is largely played by Males. A larger proportion of participants tend to be non-Chinese.

Profiling Football Participants

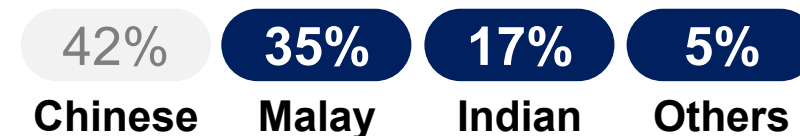
Sex



Socio-Economic Status

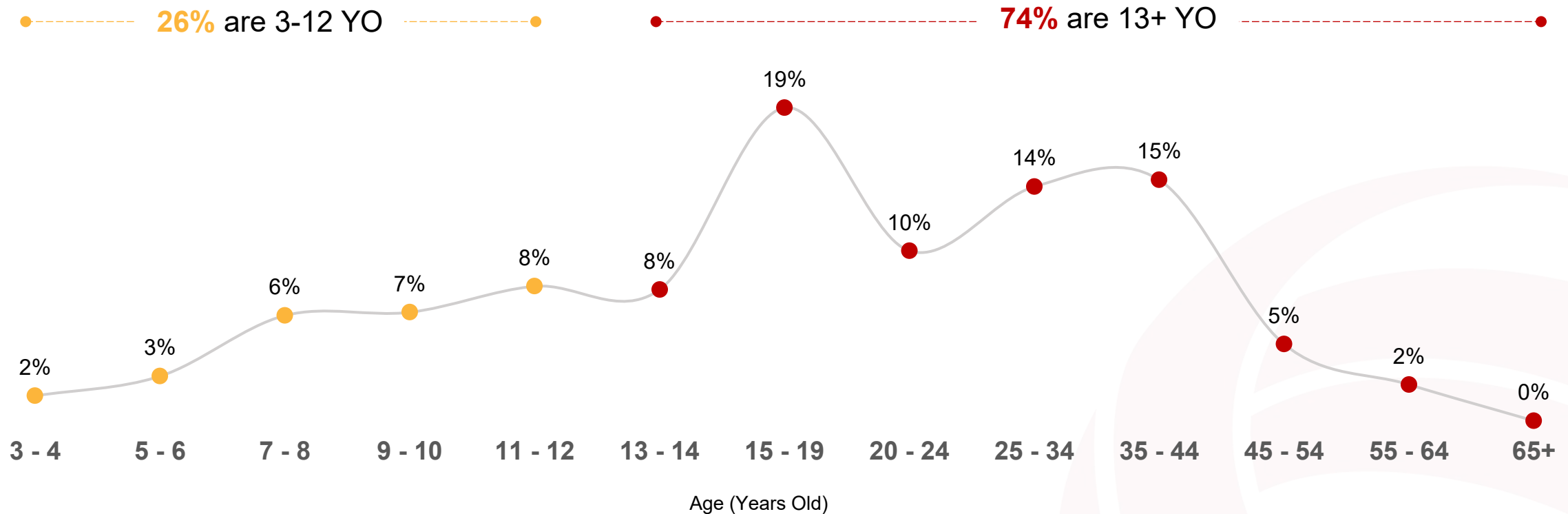


Race



Football attracts participants from a broad age range, particularly those aged 15 to 44.

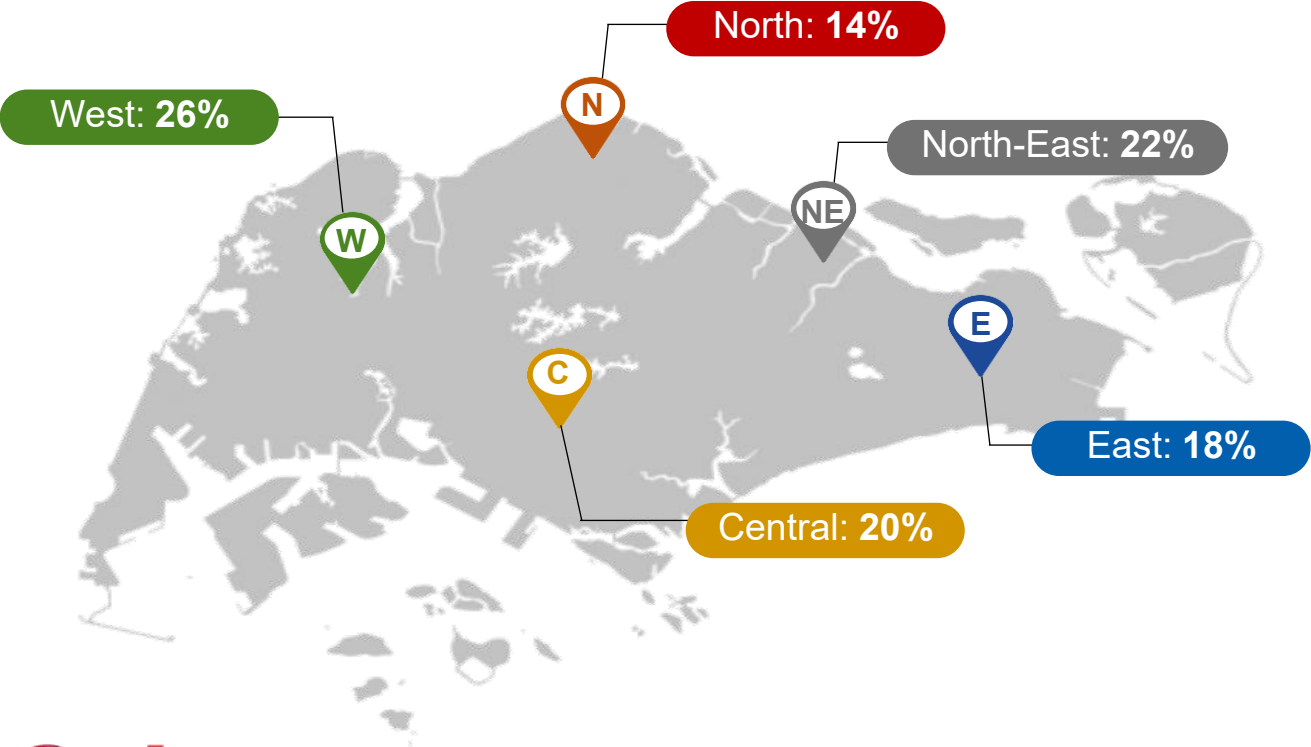
Age Profile of Football Participants



Overall Football Penetration Level = 3%

Slightly more Football participants reside in the West, though Tampines has the single highest share across all estates.

Football Participation by Region

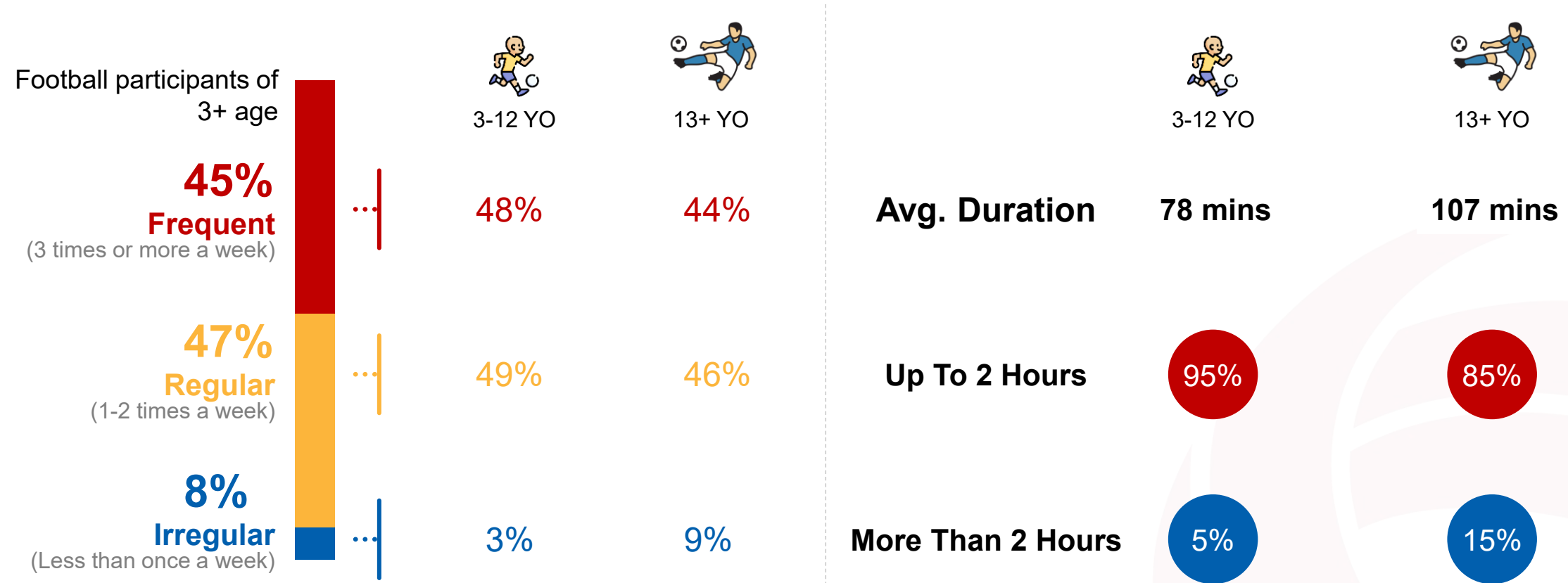


Top 10 Estates

Tampines	13%
Choa Chu Kang	9%
Woodlands	7%
Jurong West	5%
Hougang	5%
Sengkang	5%
Punggol	5%
Geylang	5%
Sembawang	5%
Bukit Batok	4%

Close to half of Football players play at least 3 times a week, with a majority playing the sport for under 2 hours.

Frequency and Duration of Football Plays



Football players also enjoy Jogging/Running, Cycling and Walking/Brisk Walking.

Other Top Sports/Exercises among Football Participants



Among **3-12 YO...**

Jogging/Running	31%
Cycling	29%
Play at the Playground	21%
Walking/Brisk Walking	21%
Swimming	21%



Among **13+ YO...**

Jogging/Running	44%
Walking/Brisk Walking	23%
Cycling	18%
Badminton	13%
Calisthenics	13%

Jogging/ Running: More popular among adults than children.
Cycling and Swimming: Higher proportion of children than adults.

Football is the most watched sport, whether on-site or on-screen.

Sports Spectatorship among 13 Years Old and Above



Among Those Who Watched Sports Events On-site...

	% Viewed...
Football/Soccer	31%
Basketball	16%
Badminton	16%
Jogging/Running	15%
Walking/Brisk Walking	8%



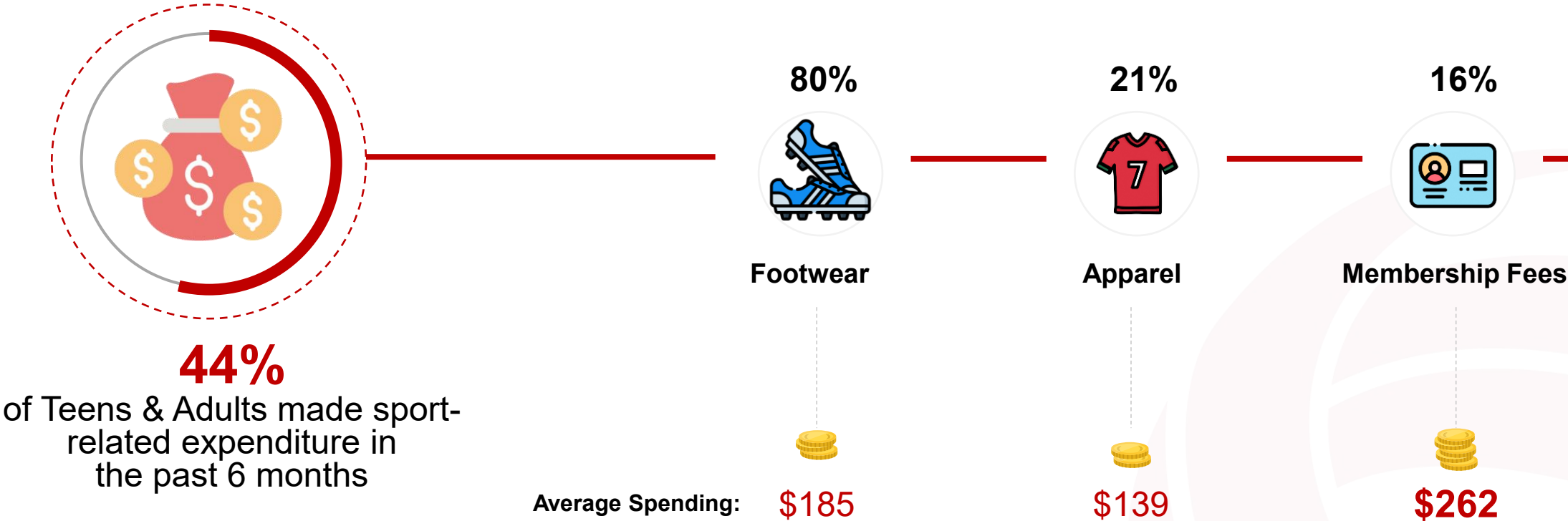
Among Those Who Watched Sports Events On Screen...

	% Viewed...
Football/Soccer	61%
Swimming	21%
Badminton	21%
Basketball	13%
Table Tennis	7%

More than 2 in 5 Football participants have spent on sports-related items, mostly on footwear. However, the highest spend is on membership fees.

Sports-related Expenditure among Football Players Aged 13+

Top 3 Purchase Categories



People who want to play more Football but are unable to are often held back by busy work schedules, a lack of companions and family commitments.

Interest in Playing Football among Residents Aged 13+

60,000 (2%)

non-football players **wanted to participate** in **Football** but **could not do so**.

Key Barriers to Participation:



21%
Busy
working
overtime



19%
Lack of
companions



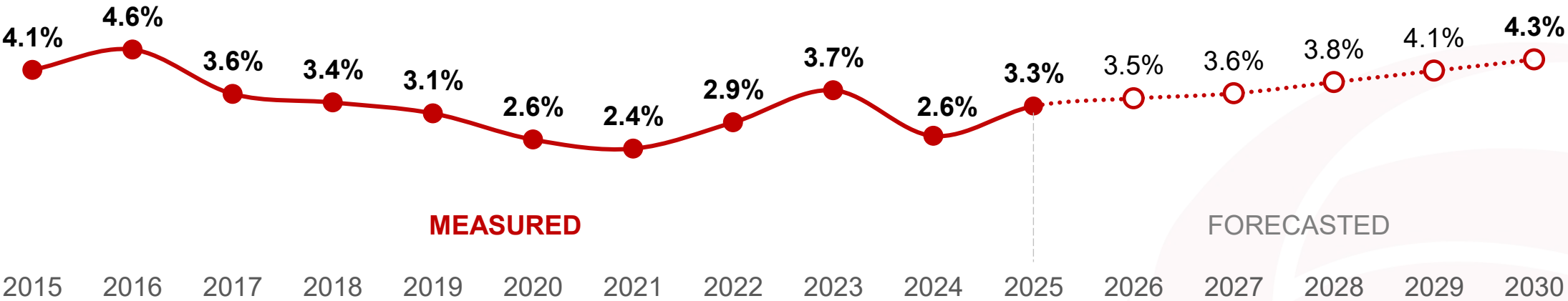
15%
Family
commitments

Football participation is forecast to increase gradually in the next 5 years.

Forecast of Football Participation in Singapore

Market size in 2030 (Est): **178,000**

Market Size in 2025: **136,000**



Forecasting Technique:

Weighted ensemble of three exponential-smoothing models (SES, Holt Damped, Holt), validated via walk-forward cross-validation with COVID years excluded.

- Forecast assumes an optimistic scenario, which is on average 0.6p.p above base forecast, reflecting sustained recent trends.
- Data collection for children aged 3 to 12 began in August 2020

In Summary...

- Football is the most watched sport on-site or on-screen, and the 2nd most popular team sport among Singaporeans.
- Football has higher participation among males and the non-Chinese.
- Close to half of those who play Football play at least 3 times a week, with a majority playing it for up to 2 hours.
- Football attracts participation from a broad age range, from 15 to 44 years old.
- Participation in Football is forecast to increase by 31% in the next 5 years.



About NSPS

The National Sport & Exercise Participation Survey (NSPS) is Singapore's only annual national survey on exercise and sport participation among citizens and permanent residents aged 13 years old and above. Since 2015, NSPS has been conducted every month among Singapore residents aged 13+ via face-to-face interviews among randomly selected households from the Department of Statistics, with a target annual sample size of at least 4500. One respondent is selected from each household using the last birthday / most recent birthday method.

Please contact SPORT_data_hub@sport.gov.sg for any queries or requests for information.



About SportSG

A statutory board of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Sport Singapore's core purpose is to inspire the Singapore spirit and transform Singapore through sport. Through innovative, fun, and meaningful sporting experiences, our mission is to reach out and serve communities across Singapore with passion and pride.

