



• Sport and Recreation 2025 Report Card

As at June 2026



ACT
Government

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Capability and Capacity

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

New products and experiences

Through the Industry Partnership Program (IPP), Rowing ACT introduced several innovative digital upgrades to streamline regatta operations and enhance the experience for volunteers, spectators and participants. New Wi Fi capability now supports updated regatta management software and enables live streaming. Umpires also benefit from new eReader tablets on all boats and start platforms, providing real time updates on timings and race draws and removing the need for manual paper based processes.

Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme

Sport and Recreation – CMTEDD

The 2025 Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme received a total 76 applications across 63 organisations submitted. There were 36 projects funded across 31 organisations with a total budget of \$3,233,246.

- ▶ Club Enhancement Program – 11 recipients funded total \$85,700
- ▶ Community Sport Facilities Program – 8 recipients funded total \$1,939,706
- ▶ State Organisation Program – 6 recipients funded total \$186,880
- ▶ Industry Partnership Program – 11 recipients funded total \$1,020,960

Projects supported include:

- ▶ A clubhouse extension to upgrade ablution amenities and storage capacity at Belconnen Netball Association (\$571,000)
 - ▶ Upgrades to improve and modernise Belconnen Basketball Stadium changerooms (\$181,457)
 - ▶ Funding for Weightlifting ACT to deliver a Participation Planning and Governance workshop (\$5,800)
 - ▶ Funding for Orienteering ACT to purchase radio tracking technology to improve safety and emergency management (\$8,000)
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Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Controlled Sports Act 2019

Delivered amendments to the *Controlled Sports Act 2019* and related regulations arising from the 2024 review, strengthening safety, integrity and regulatory clarity across the sector.

Sport and Recreation Education and Training

Sport and Recreation - CMTEDD

Education and training focussed on building industry capability, particularly in child safety and integrity in sport.

Key initiatives included MPIO accreditation sessions, continuation of the MPIO Round Table as an important community-of-practice event, and sector education on newly developed model rules in partnership with the Australian Sports Commission to support alignment with the Sports Governance Standards.

Sport Integrity Australia also provided additional face-to-face MPIO training to further enhance member protection capability across the sector.

Engagement

- ▶ Twenty-three sessions delivered directly or in partnership and attended by 224 participants.
 - ▶ These are in addition to 676 online course completions (ACT) through our partnership with Play by the Rules. Completed topics included gender equity, inclusive coaching and child protection/safeguarding.
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Case Study

Canberra Southern Cross Club Tuggeranong Basketball Stadium Facility Upgrades

Canberra Southern Cross Club received a grant of \$246,000 through the 2025 Community Sport Facilities Program for a full refurbishment of the men’s and women’s bathrooms, along with upgrades to the unisex and accessible bathroom to meet accessibility standards. Three industrial fans were also installed across Courts 1–3, improving airflow and comfort for players and spectators. These works provide modern, functional amenities, better accessibility, and improved comfort and safety—especially in warmer months.



Case Study

Netball ACT SolarHub ACT Netball Centre Roof Replacement

Netball ACT received a multi-year grant of \$862,000 through the 2024 and 2025 Community Sport Facilities Program to remove and replace the ageing stadium roof at the SolarHub ACT Netball Centre. Improved insulation, better airflow and new fans have created a comfortable indoor environment, while weather proof courts mean competitions and training can run without disruption. The venue is now better positioned than ever to host major tournaments and support strong, consistent revenue for the sport.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Places and Spaces

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Annual Capital Works

Projects COMPLETED in 2025

Sport and Recreation – CMTEDD

- ▷ Completion of stage 1 works at Phillip District Enclosed Oval (pavilion)
- ▷ Facility improvements at Tuggeranong, South Canberra and Belconnen netball courts

Sport and Recreation Facilities – CED

- ▷ Construction of female friendly changeroom and installation of LED lighting at Hawker District Playing Field
- ▷ Installation of portable grandstand at Gordon District Playing Field
- ▷ New and upgraded LED floodlighting at Stirling Enclosed Oval, Gordon, Warramanga and Deakin District Playing Fields
- ▷ Repairs to Deakin Pavilion following vehicle accident
- ▷ Female friendly upgrades at Aranda District Playing Fields and O'Connor District Playing Fields
- ▷ Upgrades to Griffith Neighbourhood Oval water meter cabinet
- ▷ Pavilion upgrades and new curators shed at O'Connor District Playing Fields
- ▷ Six Dryland ovals transitioned to couch grass
- ▷ Six Sportsgrounds upgraded to “Igloo lock” electronic locking systems

Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR)

- ▷ The Southside Hydrotherapy Pool
- ▷ Lifecycle refurbishment at Gungahlin Leisure Centre
- ▷ Filtration system upgrades at Dickson Pool

Education Directorate

- ▶ Aunty Agnes Shea High School (double gymnasium)
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Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Annual Capital Works

*Projects COMMENCED
and ongoing*

Sport and Recreation - CMTEDD

- ▶ Stage 2 upgrades at Phillip District Enclosed Oval (irrigation/drainage, sportsground lighting, cricket turf wicket and storage shed).
 - ▶ Construction of Gungahlin Tennis Facility
 - ▶ Planning and preliminary design of Belconnen Basketball Stadium expansion project
 - ▶ Detailed design of Taylor District Playing Fields
 - ▶ Provision of flood lighting at community netball courts in Jacka, Gungahlin
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Sport and Recreation Facilities – CED

- ▶ Jamison Oval (Stage 1 – Design and construction of secondary changerooms and associated amenities within changerooms)
- ▶ Planning and design for upgraded cricket nets at Gowrie District Playing Fields
- ▶ Continue to upgrade to “Igloolock” electronic locking systems at enclosed ovals
- ▶ Continue dryland oval transition to couch grass

Stromlo Forest Park – CMTEDD

- ▶ Progress the staged delivery of Stromlo Forest Park Tracks and Trails Masterplan

Education Directorate

- ▶ Garran Primary Modernisation (double gymnasium) – due late 2026
- ▶ Strathnairn School (single gymnasium) – due late 2026
- ▶ Whitlam School (double gymnasium) – due early 2027
- ▶ Planning and design for a second Gungahlin College with community access to school facilities

Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR)

- ▶ Detailed design of Stromlo District Playing Fields
 - ▶ Detailed design of Throsby District Playing Fields
 - ▶ Preliminary design of New City Aquatic Facility
 - ▶ Preparation for future indoor facility at Casey (planning and sub-division of Casey site to support indoor sports facility)
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Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Annual Capital Works *Projects TO COMMENCE and ongoing*

Sport and Recreation Facilities – CED

- ▶ Female Friendly upgrades at Chisholm, Ainslie, Hughes, Reid, Griffith and Kaleen (Turon Pl) District Playing Fields
- ▶ Sportsground lighting upgrades at Yarralumla District Play Fields
- ▶ Upgrades to Charnwood District Playing Field water meter cabinet
- ▶ Addressing the overland waterflow issues at Charnwood Netball courts

Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR)

- ▶ Wading pool repairs, filtration upgrades and roof repairs at Manuka Pool
- ▶ Facility upgrades at Lakeside Leisure Centre
- ▶ Planning for new 50-metre public outdoor pool in Woden

Education Directorate

- ▶ Planning for double gymnasium and school hall at Telopea Park School
 - ▶ Planning and early design and feasibility for a new high school and college precinct in Molonglo with community access to school facilities
 - ▶ Construction for a second Gungahlin College (double gymnasium) – due end of the decade
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Reporting Indicator Agency Input

LED Floodlighting

Sport and Recreation Facilities

- ▶ Currently 25 ACT Government sportsgrounds have been upgraded to LED floodlighting, those being:
 - ▷ Amaroo 2 DPF (AFL, oztag, touch football, athletics)
 - ▷ Bonner NHO (football, cricket)
 - ▷ Boomanulla Oval (rugby league, football, AFL)
 - ▷ Calwell DPF (football, baseball, athletics)
 - ▷ Deakin 2 (touch football, cricket, football, cricket)
 - ▷ Garran (football, cricket)
 - ▷ Gowrie DPF (rugby union, rugby league, cricket, gridiron)
 - ▷ Gordon 101 (rugby union, rugby league, football, gridiron)
 - ▷ Hawker 1 (football, softball)
 - ▷ Hawker International Softball Centre (leased to softball)
 - ▷ Hawker Synthetic (leased to Capital Football)
 - ▷ Higgins NHO (rugby league, oztag)
 - ▷ Holt 2 (OzTag, Rugby league)
 - ▷ Kambah 2 DPF (football)
 - ▷ Kippax (Holt 3) enclosed
 - ▷ Mawson DPF (football, cricket)
 - ▷ Ngunnawal (cricket, TBC)
 - ▷ Nicholls DPF (rugby union, rugby league, cricket, football)
 - ▷ Scullin (football, Cricket)
 - ▷ Scullin NHO (football)
 - ▷ Stirling EO (AFL, cricket)
 - ▷ Taylor DPF (rugby union, rugby league, cricket)
 - ▷ Waramanga DPF (football, cricket)
 - ▷ Watson NHO (cricket, Football)
 - ▷ Yarralumla 1 DPF (football, cricket)

▶ This represents **34.72%** of the total 72 floodlit ACT Government sportsgrounds.

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Community usage at ACT Government schools

Sporting groups community use (hire) of ACT public school facilities is approximately 745 hours per week across 91 ACT Public Schools.

Utilisation rates of existing sport and recreation facilities

Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR)

► Visitation data for ACT Government pools

Facility	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Stromlo Leisure Centre	253,396	395,339	461,395
Lakeside Leisure Centre	229,136	194,749	187,496
Canberra Olympic Pool	143,717	132,903	98,754
Gungahlin Leisure Centre	250,158	251,187	273,141
Dickson Pool	37,144	67,090	65,659
Manuka Pool	42,550	43,297	41,089
Active Leisure Centre	Not available	Not available	146,715
Total	956,101	1,084,565	1,281,922

Sport and Recreation Facilities – CED

► Sportsground booking asset data (all individual bookable assets)

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Total bookings	58,283	71,834	74,561
Hours booked	131,611 hours	153,037 hours	153,778 hours
Total revenue	\$2,452,387	\$2,826,366	\$2,956,000
Total expenditure	\$21,728,000	\$15,328,111	\$18,244,000
Total cost recovery as a %	11.2%	18.4%	16%



Case Study

Phillip District Enclosed Oval Sports pavilion

The \$9.26 million development was delivered as part of a 2020 election commitment and was designed following extensive consultation with the local community and key sporting user groups.

The new pavilion features modern, female friendly change rooms for players and referees/umpires, along with a kiosk and community area that provides comfortable, sheltered viewing of sporting activities.

Infrastructure Investment

In 2023, the ACT Government undertook a comprehensive survey process inviting ACT peak sport and recreation bodies, district community councils, and licensed clubs to submit up to fifteen (15) priority infrastructure projects each for inclusion in a Territory-wide register. A total of 54 eligible organisations participated, submitting 267 proposals.

Several proposals have since secured full or partial funding through the Sport and Recreation Investment Scheme, been delivered in full or in part, or have received a confirmed Government commitment.

Funded or Progressed Proposals

▶ ACT Disc Golf Club

- ▷ Funding for the installation of the Tuggeranong Disc Golf Course.

▶ ACT Motorcycle Club

- ▷ Funding for upgrades to the ablutions and canteen facilities.

▶ ACT & Southern NSW Rugby Union

- ▷ Jamison Oval upgrades

▶ ACT Water Ski Association

- ▷ Funding for clubhouse facility upgrades.

▶ AFL NSW/ACT

- ▷ Jamison Oval upgrades
- ▷ Stirling Enclosed Oval lighting upgrades
- ▷ Funding awarded to Eastlake Football Club for Kingston Oval upgrades.

▶ Archery ACT

- ▷ Funding for shade shelter installation and construction of disability-compliant paths and concrete pads at Weston Valley Archery Club.

▶ AusCycling

- ▷ Funding for the installation of new LED lighting and replacement of the BMX starting gate at Tuggeranong BMX Club

▶ Basketball ACT

- ▷ Funding for stadium amenities and fan upgrades Canberra Southern Cross Club
- ▷ Construction of a new double Gymnasium facility at Garran Primary School
- ▷ Early site planning works for a multi court indoor sports facility in Casey, Gungahlin.

▶ Canberra Croquet Club

- ▷ Funding to establish a new competition playing location for Belconnen Croquet Club
- ▷ Funding for a facility optimisation study for Canberra Croquet Club.

▶ Canberra Skateboarding Association

- ▷ Development of a Draft ACT Skate Strategy.

Infrastructure Investment

- ▶ **Capital Football**
 - ▷ Upgrades to O'Connor enclosed oval amenities
 - ▷ Upgrades to Kambah 3 field lighting
 - ▷ Funding for lighting upgrades at Hawker Football Centre.
- ▶ **Cricket ACT**
 - ▷ Kingston Oval upgrades.
- ▶ **Canberra Region Rugby League**
 - ▷ Development of Taylor Playing Fields
 - ▷ Funding awarded to Belconnen Sharks for new lighting at Bruce Oval.
- ▶ **Hockey ACT**
 - ▷ Funding for LED lighting installation and replacement of the Watt Field surface and shock pad at National Hockey Centre.
 - ▷ Replacement of Carter Field (assistance provided to secure commonwealth funding)
- ▶ **Molonglo Valley Community Forum**
 - ▷ Progression of the Stromlo Forest Park District Playing Fields
- ▶ **Netball ACT**
 - ▷ Funding for the roof replacement at the Netball Centre in Lyneham
 - ▷ Funding for new toilets and changerooms at Belconnen Netball Association
- ▶ **Rowing ACT**
 - ▷ Funding for the redevelopment of the Canberra Rowing Club shed
- ▶ **Scouts ACT**
 - ▷ Camp Cottermouth amenities upgrade (assistance provided to secure commonwealth funding)
- ▶ **Table Tennis ACT**
 - ▷ Funding for a facility feasibility study to support new home for Table Tennis ACT
- ▶ **Tennis ACT**
 - ▷ Funding for conversion of courts to synthetic grass at Majura Tennis Club
 - ▷ Commitment to explore support for the expansion of the Pines Tennis Club
- ▶ **Volleyball ACT**
 - ▷ Funding for the fit-out of grass courts at Southwell Park
- ▶ **Weston Creek Community Council**
 - ▷ Funding provided to Weston Creek Tennis Club for the construction of new courts and upgrades to existing courts
- ▶ **Woden Valley Community Council**
 - ▷ Garran oval upgrades

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Welcoming and Inclusive Experiences

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Proportion of under-represented groups who participate in sport and active recreation

AusPlay data for the ACT highlights ongoing participation gaps in sport and active recreation (defined as **3+ times per week**). In **2024**, people speaking a language other than English at home participated **11.2%** less than the ACT adult average, and people with a disability/physical condition were **11.6%** lower. In **2025**, these gaps reduced to **7.9%** and **0.7%** respectively—strong signs the participation gap is narrowing, particularly for people with disability.

Female Friendly Changerooms

Sport and Recreation Facilities - CED

- ▶ Of the Territory’s 66 sportsground pavilions, 55 include dedicated changerrooms and are eligible for Female Friendly Upgrades. Since 2017, upgrades have been delivered to 40 of these 55 eligible pavilions – representing 72%



Case Study

Water Ski ACT
Upgrades to Water Ski Clubhouse facilities

Water Ski ACT received a 2025 Community Sport Facilities Program grant of \$190,000 to upgrade the existing clubhouse. Upgrades to the bathrooms, kitchen and meeting room at Molonglo Reach have modernised the facility and improved accessibility. The refreshed, compliant amenities now offer a safer, more comfortable and welcoming environment for all users, support increased revenue opportunities and ensure the long term sustainability of the space for community use.

Participation and Performance

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

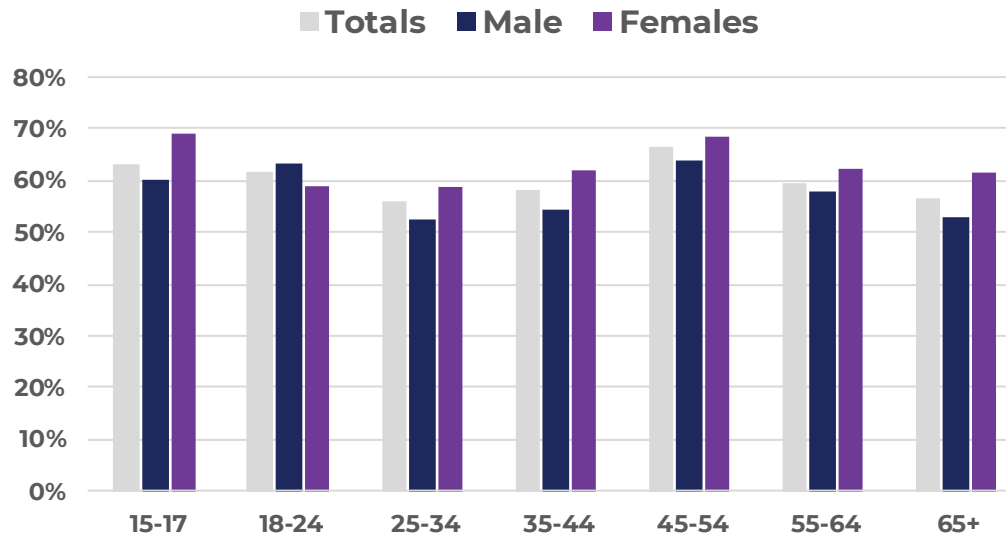
Proportion of the ACT community who participate in any sport and active recreation activity

Adults

For 2024-25 the ACT demonstrated a high level of physical activity: 91.3% of Canberrans (15 and over) participated at least once per year, with 77.2% participating once per week. The comparative national figures were 85.5% and 67.6% respectively.

Participation three or more times per week indicates more accurately the sport and recreation sector's impact on participation rates.

ACT total participation three or more times per week by age (July 2024-June 2025)*



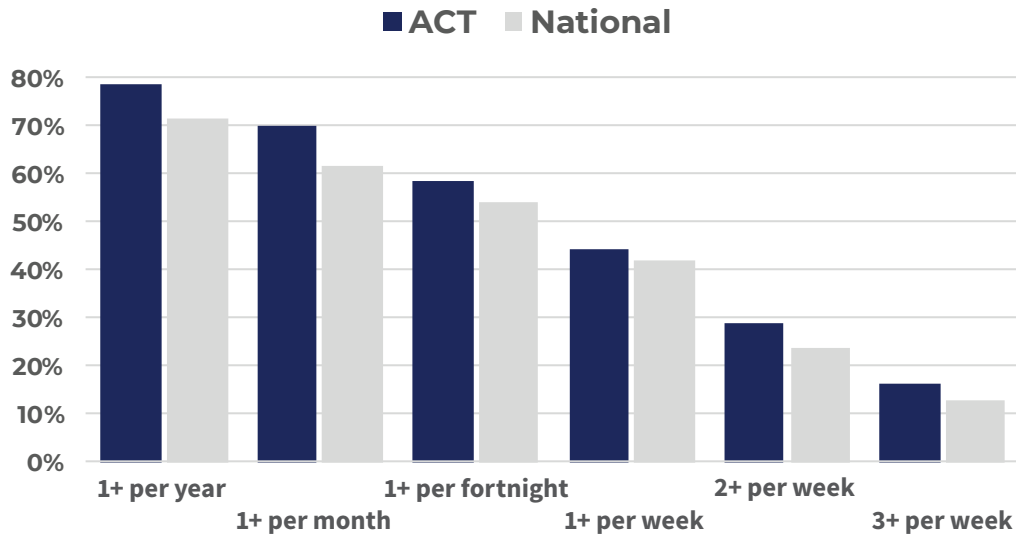
* AusPlay ACT data tables 30 June 2025

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

Children

For children's participation (0-14 years) AusPlay collects data via the child's parent/guardian, related to physical activity outside of the school environment.

Frequency of children's participation in the ACT compared to national (July 2024-June 2025)*



* AusPlay ACT data tables 30 June 2025

** Estimate has relative margin of error between 50% and 100% and should be used with caution

Note regarding AusPlay data:

In July 2023 AusPlay moved to online data collection, making the October 2024 data release (2023-24) the first to be released under the new sampling model. Data from 2023-24 onwards represents a new benchmark and cannot be directly compared to previous results.

Reporting Indicator Agency Input

ACTAS athlete performance

As of 26 June 2025, ACTAS supported 121 athletes:

79
scholarship holders

29
transitioning
scholarship holders

13
training agreement
holders

In 2025 ACTAS had many supported athletes represent Australia in both U21 and Elite international competitions across a variety of sports including: Archery, Athletics, Boxing, Cross Country Skiing, Cycling, Hockey, Football, Rowing, Para Shooting, Wheelchair Basketball, Lawn Bowls, Para Triathlon, Para Swimming.

Significant achievements – ACTAS Scholarship Holders

- ▶ Athletics: Gold – Vanessa Low (T63 Long Jump) 2025 World Para Athletics Championships
- ▶ Athletics: Gold – James Turner (T36 400m) 2025 World Para Athletics Championships
- ▶ Athletics: Silver – Chad Perris (T13 100m) 2025 World Para Athletics Championships
- ▶ Athletics: Bronze – Jaryd Clifford (T13 1500m) 2025 World Para Athletics Championships
- ▶ Athletics: Bronze – Luke Bailey (4x100m relay universal) 2025 World Para Athletics Championships

Case Study

Chad Perris

ACTAS athlete profile

2025 New Delhi was Chad Perris' seventh World Para Athletics Championships, he was nominated as one of 4 Team Leaders for the Australian Team and claimed silver the T13 100m. A seasoned performer he claimed two silver and two bronze medals at previous World Championships in both the 100m and 200m events.

Relocating from Perth to train in 2015, Chad climbed the medal dais at his first Paralympic Games in Rio in 2016, winning bronze and has since gone on to represent Australia at Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. In a fiercely fought battle Chad clocked the same time as third at the Paris Games but the photo finish placed him fourth. Chad is coached by ACT Olympian and Australian Athletics Coach, Matthew Beckenham.

Chad is a current scholarship holder and supported by ACTAS through his Tokyo and Paris campaigns. ACTAS works closely with its partnered sports programs to support athletes to be at their best at key benchmark events and 'win well'. Scholarship programs provide access to quality high performance daily training environments, and targeted service provision that fosters ongoing athletic growth, health and wellbeing.





Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate