

Section 9

Results of the survey

latent participation

To determine latent participation the respondents were asked a series of questions regarding their interest in future participation in this activity. These questions included: issues preventing them from participating in this activity; their preferred setting for possible future participation and motivation for possible future participation.

9.1 Current non-participants and their interest in participation

Each person who had not undertaken an activity was asked whether they were interested in participating in that activity. Results are presented in Table 27, with 2001 results shown in brackets.

Latent interest in each activity has largely remained the same compared to the results from the 2001 study. Slight decreases should be noted in camping, water activities, and motorised watercraft. As indicated by the actual population figures, there are a substantial number of non-participants in each activity who have interest in pursuing the activity.

9.2 Latent participation – by gender

Table 28 lists the latent interest in each activity according to the percentage of female non-participants and percentage of male non-participants who are interested in participating in each activity. Statistically significant differences between male and female interest are indicated with an asterisk, where an asterisk (*) indicates significant difference ($P < 0.05$).

A graphical illustration of this information is presented in Figure 16.

As illustrated by Table 28 and Figure 16, women are significantly more interested in becoming involved in picnicking, walking or nature study and horse riding. Men are more interested in camping, all types of driving, and riding on motorised watercraft. These results reflect a similar gendered division of interest as that found for current participation (See Section 8).

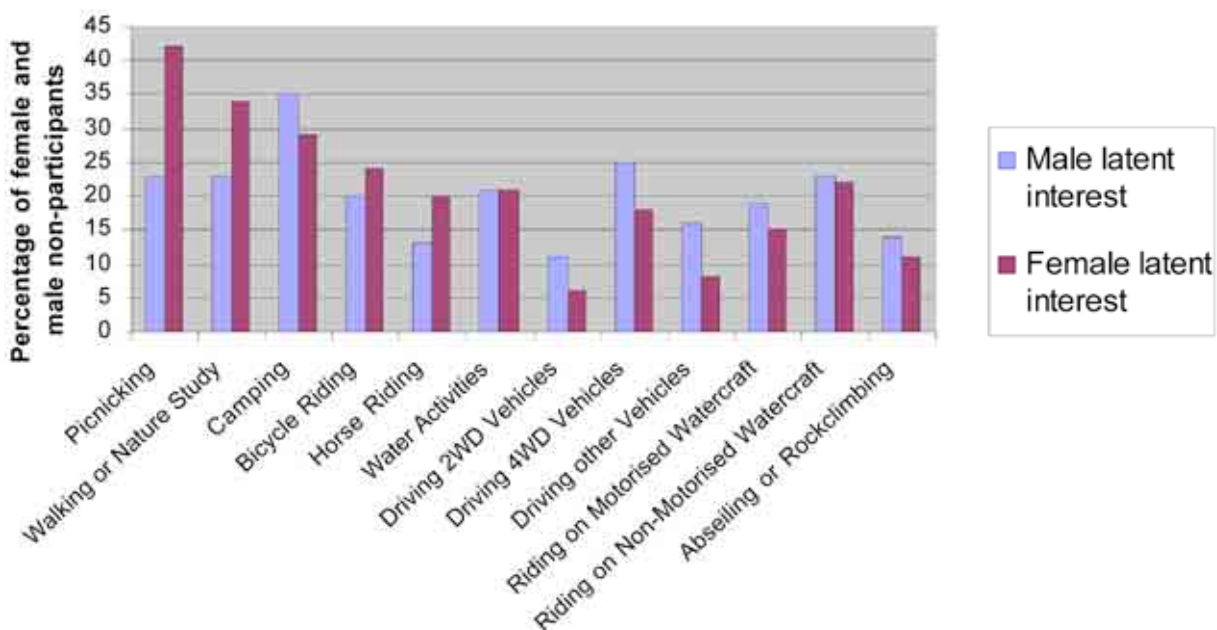
Table 27: Current non-participants and their interest in participating in each activity:

Activity	Percentage of non-participants with interest	Representative actual population of non-participants with interest
Picnicking	33% (35)	303230
Walking or Nature Study	30% (30)	420053
Camping	31% (36)	482278
Bicycle Riding	22% (21)	353978
Horse Riding	17% (18)	349273
Water Activities	21% (26)	214652
Driving 2WD Vehicles	8% (11)	151260
Driving 4WD Vehicles	20% (20)	343443
Driving other Vehicles	11% (8)	223975
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	17% (25)	299259
Riding Non-Motorised Watercraft	21% (23)	385203
Abseiling/rock-climbing	12% (13)	251323

Table 28: Current non-participants and their interest in participating according to gender

Activity	Male latent interest	Female latent interest
Picnicking*	23%	42%
Walking or Nature Study*	23%	34%
Camping*	35%	29%
Bicycle Riding	20%	24%
Horse Riding*	13%	20%
Water Activities	21%	21%
Driving 2WD Vehicles*	11%	6%
Driving 4WD Vehicles*	25%	18%
Driving other Vehicles*	16%	8%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	19%	15%
Riding Non-Motorised Watercraft	23%	22%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	14%	11%

Figure 16: Current non-participants and their interest in participating according to gender



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latent participation cont.

9.3 Latent participation – by age

Table 29 lists the percentage of non-participants within each age group who are interested in participating in each activity.

This information is graphically presented in Figure 17.

As illustrated by Table 29 and Figure 17, different activities appeal to different age groups.

In general, latent interest in all activities is strongest amongst the younger age groups, reaching a peak amongst the 25-39 year olds. Exceptions occur in walking or nature study and picnicking, where latent interest is proportionately higher amongst older age groups.

9.4 The main reasons preventing non-participants from participating in an activity

Figure 18 and Table 30 illustrate the main reasons that prevent non-participants (who expressed an interest in the activity) from actually participating in this activity.

Once again the reason of “no time/too busy” is the most likely constraint that prevents people from participating in activities. Equipment becomes more important in the case of four-wheel driving, bicycle

riding, other driving activities, and using motorised watercraft. ‘Health’ becomes a noticeable constraint for walking or nature study, bicycle riding and horse riding, which is possibly due to the older age groups that wish to participate in this activity. ‘Nowhere to go’ is most problematic for horse riding, water activities, abseiling/rock-climbing and walking or nature study. ‘Family’ responsibilities are a noticeable constraint on camping activities, walking and nature study and bicycle riding.

9.5 The preferred setting of non-participants interested in participating in an activity

Each respondent who had not undertaken an activity, but who indicated that they were interested in doing so, nominated the preferred setting in which they would like to undertake this activity. Results are shown in Table 31, with results from the 2001 study shown in brackets for comparison. Results are expressed as the percentage of interested non-participants that nominated this landscape category as their preferred setting.

The findings show that there is a slight decrease in *totally natural* preferred settings and that this decrease manifests itself in an increased preference for *somewhat natural* settings and to a lesser degree

very natural settings. More analysis of the trend in latent setting preference is undertaken in Section 10. It must be noted that, as for current participants, it is likely that latent participants are working from a subjective impression of landscape rather than the normative guidelines that they were given. Even so, the fact that 51% of interested people said that they would prefer to drive other vehicles in *very natural* settings has significant implications for management.

9.6 The likely motivation of current non-participants interested in participating in an activity

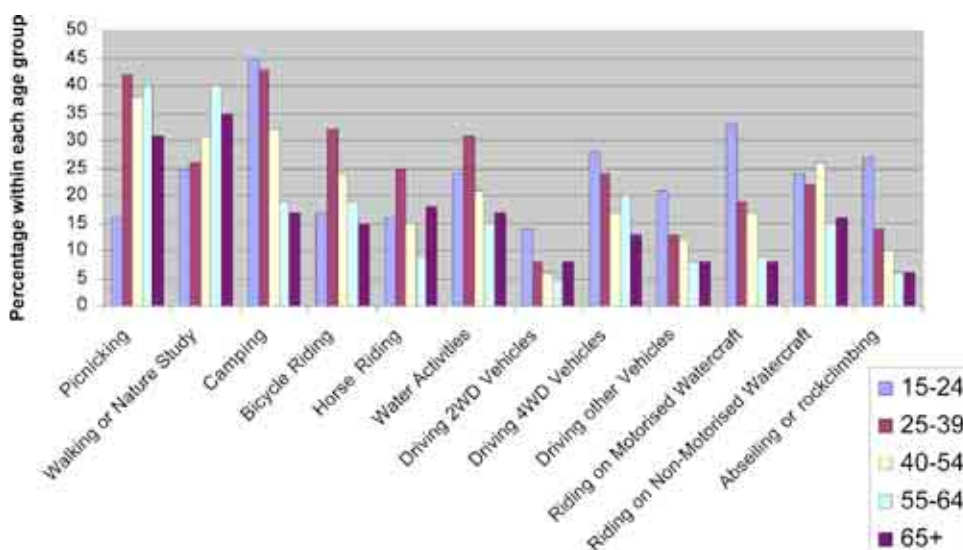
Current non-participants who had indicated that they were interested in participating in a particular activity were asked about their likely motivation for participation. Results are shown in Table 32. Results are expressed as a percentage of non-participants interested in pursuing each activity.

As for the current participation, latent participation is dominated by leisurely motives. Very little desire is evidenced to use these activities to achieve other goals, and even less to engage in the activities on a competitive basis. In other words, non-participants who expressed a desire to engage in these activities were motivated by the intrinsic nature of the activity itself.

Table 29: Current non-participants and their interest in participating, according to age group

Activity	Percentage of non-participants in each age group with an interest in participating				
	15-24	25-39	40-54	55-64	65+
Picnicking	16%	42%	38%	40%	31%
Walking or Nature Study	25%	26%	31%	40%	35%
Camping	45%	43%	32%	19%	17%
Bicycle Riding	17%	32%	24%	19%	15%
Horse Riding	16%	25%	15%	9%	18%
Water Activities	24%	31%	21%	15%	17%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	14%	8%	6%	5%	8%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	28%	24%	17%	20%	13%
Driving other Vehicles	21%	13%	12%	8%	8%
Riding Motorised Watercraft	33%	19%	17%	9%	8%
Riding Non-Motorised Watercraft	24%	22%	26%	15%	16%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	27%	14%	10%	6%	6%

Figure 17: Current non-participants and their interest in participating according to age group



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latent participation cont.

Figure 18: Constraints that prevented participation in activities

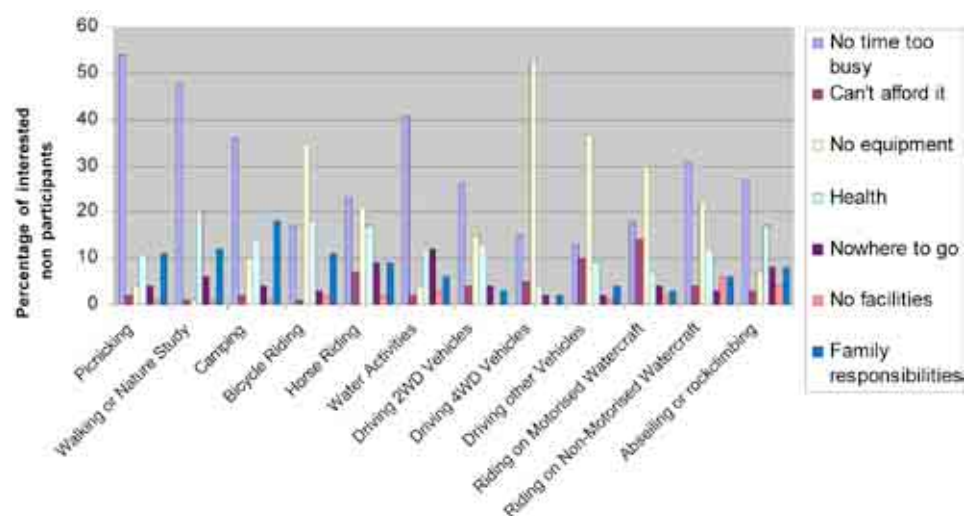


Table 30: Constraints that prevented participation in activities, shown as a percentage of those non-participants who had expressed an interest in participating in an activity

Activity	'No time'	'Can't afford it'	'No equipment'	'Health'	'Nowhere to go'	'No facilities'	'Family Responsibilities'
Picnicking	54%	2%	4%	11%	4%	1%	11%
Walking or Nature Study	48%	1%	1%	20%	6%	1%	12%
Camping	36%	2%	10%	14%	4%	1%	18%
Bicycle Riding	17%	1%	35%	18%	3%	2%	11%
Horse Riding	23%	7%	21%	17%	9%	2%	9%
Water Activities	41%	2%	4%	12%	12%	3%	6%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	26%	4%	15%	13%	4%	0%	3%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	15%	5%	53%	4%	2%	0%	2%
Driving other Vehicles	13%	10%	37%	9%	2%	1%	4%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	18%	14%	30%	7%	4%	2%	3%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	31%	4%	22%	12%	3%	6%	6%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	27%	3%	7%	17%	8%	4%	8%

Table 31: Preferred setting of non-participants interested in participating in an activity

Activity	Latent Participation	Preferred Setting		
		<i>Somewhat natural</i>	<i>Very natural</i>	<i>Totally natural</i>
Picnicking	303230	39 (33)%	36 (39)%	21 (28)%
Walking or Nature Study	420053	25 (19)%	41 (35)%	33 (46)%
Camping	482278	25 (18)%	43 (47)%	31 (35)%
Bicycle Riding	353978	67 (60)%	26 (30)%	6 (10)%
Horse Riding	349273	23 (14)%	45 (37)%	26 (49)%
Water Activities	214652	42 (32)%	40 (37)%	15 (30)%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	151260	35 (19)%	36 (48)%	27 (32)%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	343443	18 (14)%	42 (42)%	37 (44)%
Driving other Vehicles	223975	26 (23)%	51 (37)%	23 (40)%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	299259	45 (31)%	37 (46)%	18 (23)%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	385203	33 (25)%	38 (42)%	28 (33)%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	251323	46 (36)%	31 (30)%	21 (34)%

Table 32: Likely motivation of current non-participants interested in participating in an activity

Activity	Latent Participation	Likely Motivation		
		<i>Leisurely</i>	<i>Goal-focused</i>	<i>Competitively</i>
Bicycle Riding	353978	89%	10%	1%
Horse Riding	349273	96%	2%	1%
Water Activities	214652	93%	6%	1%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	151260	93%	3%	2%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	343443	92%	6%	2%
Driving other Vehicles	223975	93%	4%	3%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	299259	98%	1%	1%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	385203	92%	6%	2%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	251323	88%	11%	2%

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Results of the survey latent participation cont.

9.7 Summary

The results of this section have supported the results recorded in Section 8, in that non-participants who have expressed interest in participating in an activity show similar characteristics to current participants. Non-participants show a similar gendered division of interests to participants, with women showing most interest in activities such as picnicking, walking or nature study, and horse riding. Men are more interested in activities that involve high levels of exertion (such as abseiling/rock-climbing), or machinery (such as driving and motorised watercraft). Interest in activities is also age dependent, with young people most interested in camping, motorised watercraft, and abseiling/rock-climbing. Older groups are more interested in picnicking and walking or nature study.

The lack of *'time'* is the most important reason that prevents people from getting involved in activities. However, lack of equipment is also important for certain activities such as driving four-wheel drive vehicles, bicycle riding and driving other vehicles. Those interested in horse riding were constrained by the difficulties of finding somewhere to go, although perhaps the fact that many of them stated that they preferred to do this activity in a *totally natural* environment had something to do with this. *'Nowhere to go'* also features as a constraint for water activities, which, given the current drought conditions, is likely to be associated with low levels or non-existent water in inland reservoirs. Health was an issue for those involved in walking or nature study, which may be a reflection of the older age group that would like to participate in this activity.

The difference between the 2001 and the 2007 latent setting preference may be due to the increased constraints of *'time'*, *'family responsibilities'*, *'cost'* and *'nowhere to go'*. Thus, increase in a preference for *somewhat natural* (local) settings, might be related to the easy access and lower cost of these settings.

Section 10

Trends and implications

In Sections 8 and 9, some comparisons have been drawn between the results found in the present 2007 study and the results found in the 2001 SEQORDS. This section will further extend this comparison to include the 1997 SEQORDS, and discuss the implications of the findings.

10.1 Incidence of participation over the past 12 months

10.1.1 Key trends

This study has indicated that a high proportion of the population in SEQ continues to enjoy a variety of outdoor recreation activities. A comparison of the 2007, 2001, and 1997 participation rates in all activities is provided in Table 33 and Figure 19.

There were a number of activities that were significantly different ($p < 0.05$) when the rates of participation were compared between 2001 and 2007. These are indicated with an asterisk (*). A chi-square analysis was used to test for independence. In the 2001 study it was reported that there were no significant differences between 1997 results and 2001. In 2007 picnicking remains the most popular activity amongst the sample populations of all studies, despite having decreased slightly to 58%. Water activities (54% in 2007) are the next most popular activity and despite the recent drought has maintained a similar participation rate to 2001. Walking or nature study is the third most popular activity, remaining at 35% for 2007 despite a declining rate of participation since 1997.

Also in decline is driving 2WD vehicles where there was a decreasing trend since 1997. Just over a quarter of participants are involved in using motorised watercraft. Participation in this activity is in decline as indicated by the significant difference between 2001 and 2007 rates. One third of the population participates in camping, which has a stable participation rate. The 2007 result in driving other vehicles is significantly higher than 2001 data. This was the only statistically significant increase in the activities between 2001 and 2007. In addition to the statistically significant increases, Table 33 and Figure 19 display small non-statistically significant increases in participation rates in other activities. Since 2001 there has also been an increasing trend in bicycle riding. Stable rates of participation in activities are noted in abseiling/rock-climbing and horse riding (6% and 7% respectively).

Changes in participation according to gender preferences are illustrated in Table 34 and Figures 20 and 21.

Table 33: A comparison of participation rates from 1997 to 2007 (expressed as a percentage)

Activity	Participation 1997	Participation 2001	Participation 2007
Picnicking	65%	67%	58%
Walking or Nature Study	60%	49%	35%*
Camping	25%	33%	30%
Bicycle Riding	25%	26%	29%
Horse Riding	7%	7%	7%
Water Activities	39%	56%	54%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	31%	24%	15%*
Driving 4WD Vehicles	20%	23%	23%
Driving other Vehicles	7%	7%	11%*
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	26%	27%	21%*
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	17%	19%	17%*
Abseiling/rock-climbing	7%	6%	6%

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Trends and implications cont.

Figure 19: Comparison of outdoor recreation participation rates from 1997, 2001 and 2007.

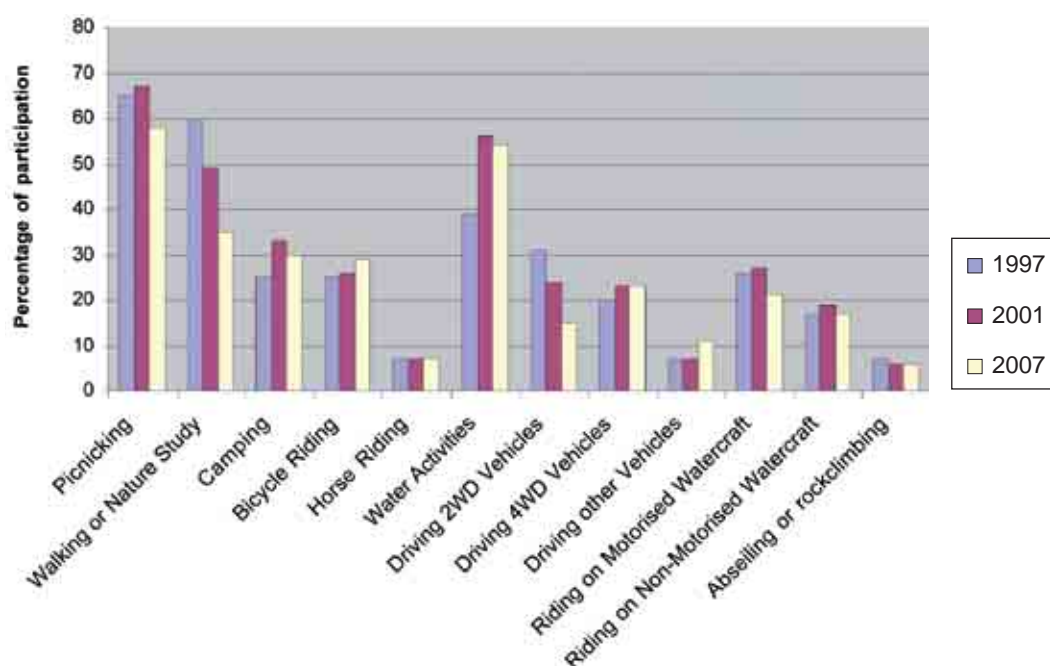


Table 34: Gender preferences in outdoor recreation from 1997 to 2007

Activity	Female participation			Male participation		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Picnicking	65%	70%	62%	64%	63%	54%
Walking or Nature Study	62%	52%	36%	59%	45%	35%
Camping	19%	31%	28%	31%	37%	33%
Bicycle Riding	20%	22%	24%	30%	33%	33%
Horse Riding	8%	8%	8%	6%	6%	7%
Water Activities	35%	56%	53%	44%	57%	56%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	25%	20%	12%	37%	30%	19%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	18%	19%	20%	23%	28%	27%
Driving other Vehicles	5%	5%	7%	10%	11%	16%
Riding Motorised Watercraft	21%	23%	17%	30%	35%	20%
Riding Non-Motorised Watercraft	14%	16%	16%	21%	24%	27%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	5%	5%	5%	10%	7%	7%

Figure 20: Women's participation in outdoor activities, 1997-2007

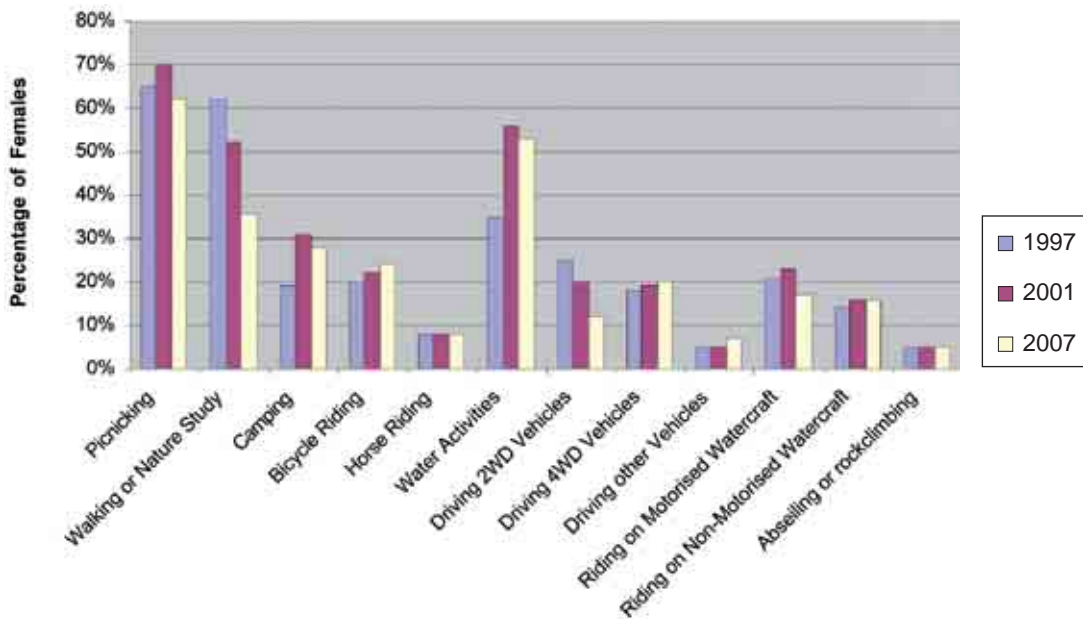
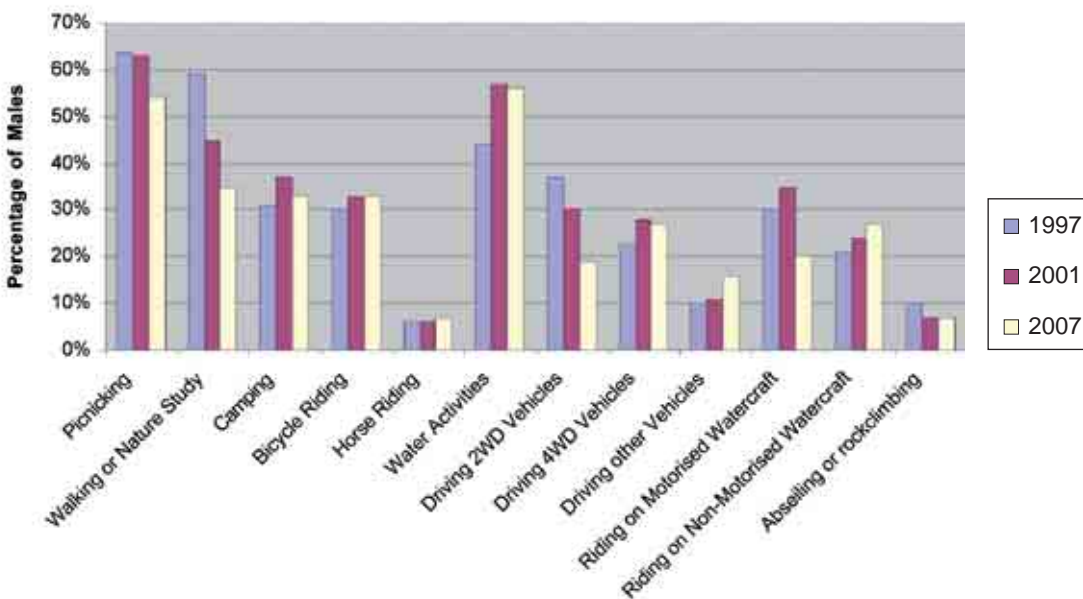


Figure 21 Men's participation in outdoor activities 1997-2007



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Trends and implications cont.

An analysis of participation according to gender preferences shows a clear pattern over the years, in that males are more likely to be involved in camping, bicycle riding, all types of driving, riding on motorised or non-motorised watercraft, and abseiling/rock-climbing. Females are more likely to be involved in picnicking, walking or nature study, and horse riding. The fact that women's participation in a large number of activities seems to be constrained is a matter of some concern, although it is possible that women are more active in activities not surveyed in this study. Of more concern is the fact that walking or nature study, one of the few activities favoured by women, is showing decline in numbers across the three studies.

All studies have found that age, as well as gender, are a major influence on the incidence of participation. Results of participation across age groups are summarised in Table 35.

The data from Table 35 is displayed in the three graphs in Figure 22.

Since the 1997 study, there have been some notable changes in participation rates across the age groups. There appears to be a decreasing trend in participation in older age groups (55-64 and 65+). The exception is bicycle riding which showed an increase in both age groups over the three studies. Additionally, for many activities in the 2007 study, participation rates peak in the younger age groups, whereas in the 1997 study the peak in overall outdoor recreation activity was in

the 25-39 year old age group. This may be due to the 25-39 age group becoming constrained in ways not previously experienced by this age group. It may also be an indication of less interest in outdoor recreation activities by the 25-39 age group.

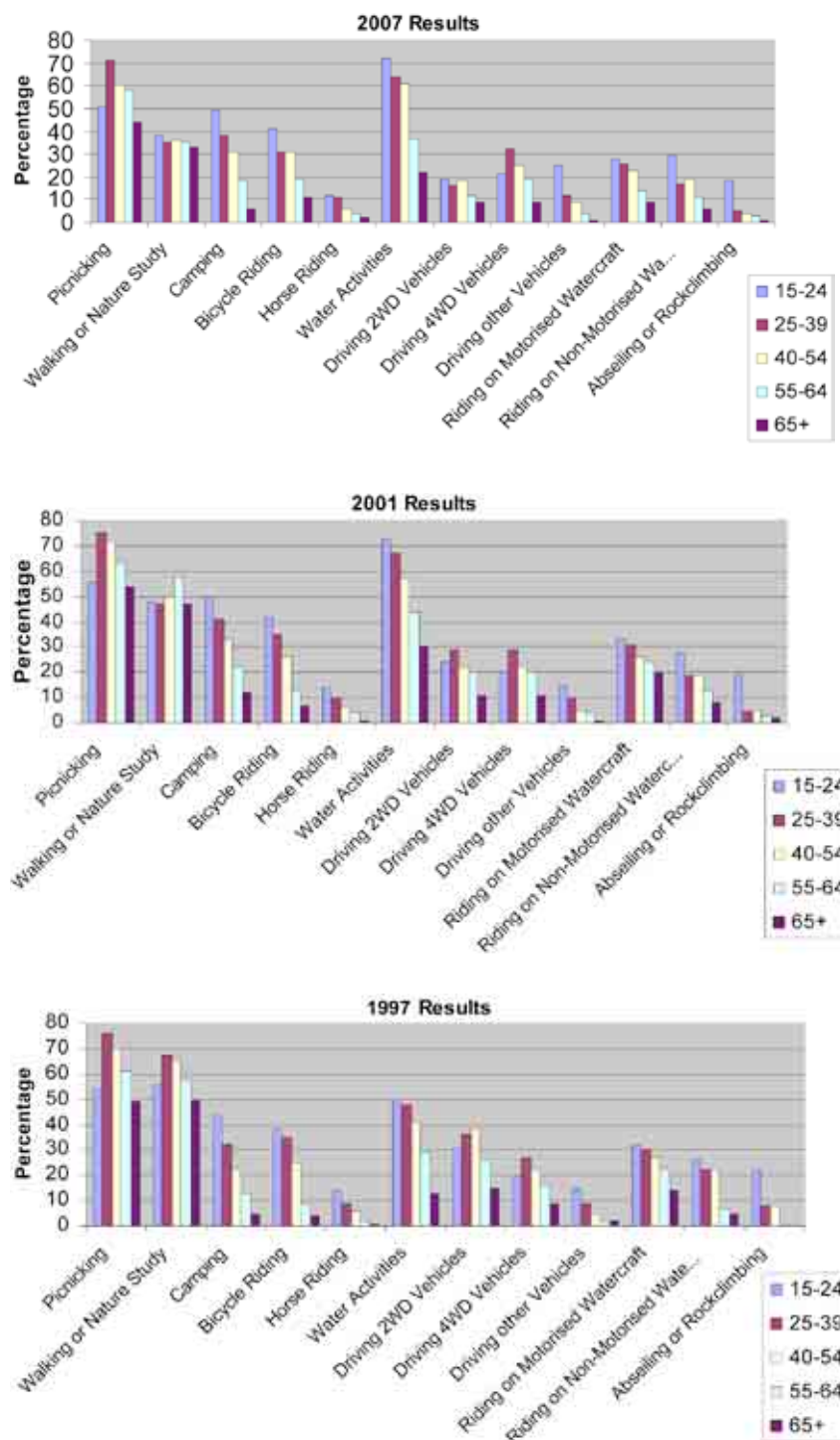
Other hypothesised reasons for this may be: 1) increased work hours which impact work-life balance, 2) Increased leisure time spent on home entertainment and Internet based activities and 3) changes to the dynamics of family leisure time impacted through the two above mentioned aspects.

Whatever the reason, this change contributes to the decline in overall participation rates and participation frequencies for certain activities as noted in table 33.

Table 35: Incidence of participation across age groups (expressed as a percentage)

	15-24			25-39			40-54			55-64			65+		
	97	01	07	97	01	07	97	01	07	97	01	07	97	01	07
Picnicking	56%	56%	51%	76%	75%	71%	70%	72%	60%	61%	63%	58%	49%	54%	44%
Walking or Nature Study	56%	48%	38%	67%	47%	35%	65%	50%	36%	58%	58%	35%	50%	47%	33%
Camping	44%	50%	49%	32%	41%	38%	22%	33%	31%	13%	22%	18%	5%	12%	6%
Bicycle Riding	39%	42%	41%	35%	35%	31%	25%	26%	31%	9%	13%	19%	4%	7%	11%
Horse Riding	14%	14%	12%	9%	10%	11%	6%	6%	6%	2%	4%	4%	1%	1%	2%
Water Activities	50%	73%	72%	48%	67%	64%	41%	57%	61%	29%	44%	37%	13%	30%	22%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	30%	24%	19%	36%	29%	16%	38%	22%	18%	26%	20%	12%	15%	11%	9%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	20%	21%	21%	27%	29%	32%	22%	22%	25%	16%	20%	19%	9%	11%	9%
Driving other Vehicles	15%	15%	25%	9%	10%	12%	5%	5%	9%	2%	4%	4%	2%	1%	1%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	32%	34%	28%	30%	31%	26%	27%	26%	23%	22%	24%	14%	14%	20%	9%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	26%	28%	29%	22%	19%	17%	22%	19%	19%	7%	13%	11%	5%	8%	6%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	22%	21%	18%	8%	5%	5%	8%	5%	4%	1%	3%	3%	0%	2%	1%

Figure 22: Comparison of outdoor recreation participation age groups across the three studies



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Trends and implications cont.

Table 36 displays some changes to frequency of participation in some of the activities. Whilst not statistically significant there have been some increases in the frequency of participation since 1997. Driving other vehicles and abseiling/rock-climbing has increased from 4.2 in 1997 to 6 in 2007.

A large decrease in frequency of participation occurred in walking or nature study where there has been a drop in the rate from 10.3 in 1997 to 5 in 2007 (after a peak in 2001 of 12). It should be noted that a decline in participation rates coupled with declining rates of frequency of participation impacts greatly on the number of activity-events. Another declining (minor) trend in participation frequency can be noted in bicycle riding.

Figure 23 illustrates graphically the changes in number of activity-events that have occurred since 1997. Activity-events are calculated by multiplying the number of participants in an activity by the median number of times participants engaged in this activity over the previous 12 months.

Overall there has been a decrease in activity-events. Since 2001 there has been a decrease of 33% from 43 697 335 activity-events in 2001 to 33 223 144 activity-events in 2007. Most of the decrease can be attributed to a decline in one specific activity. Furthermore, as can be seen in figure 23, there are increases in some activities.

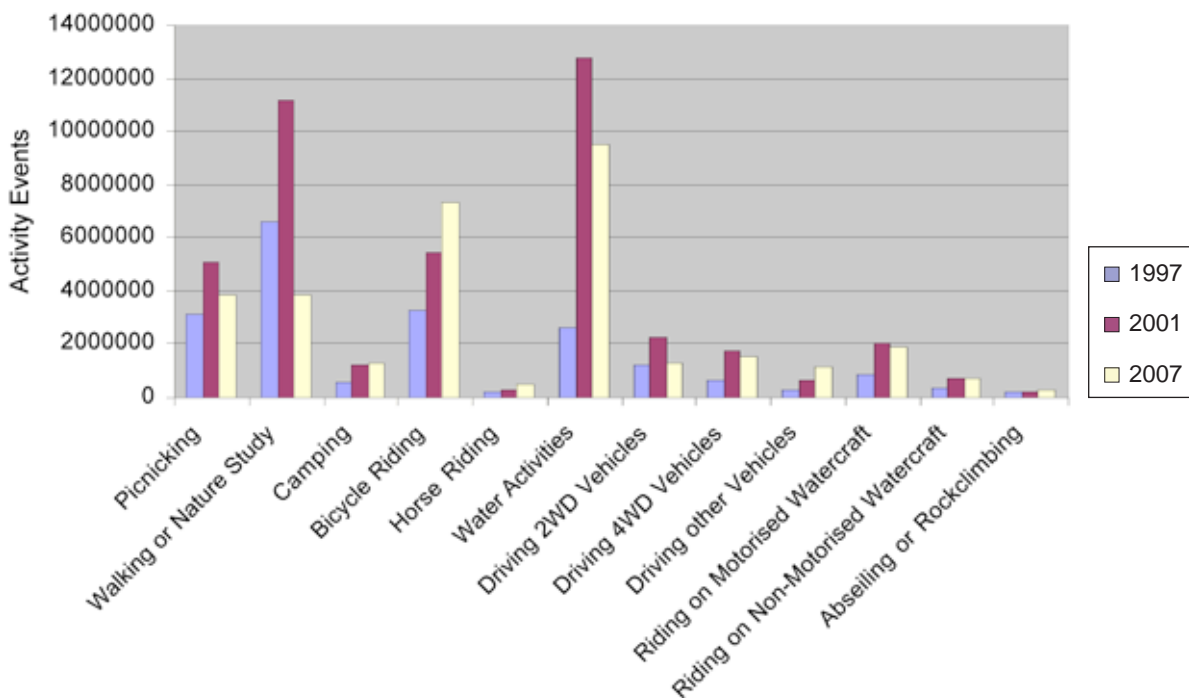
There have been increases in activity-events for bicycle riding, driving other vehicles and camping. Of more significance is the decrease in activity-events for walking or nature study (-22%), picnicking (-4%), water activities (-10%) and driving 2wd vehicles (-3%). In the case of walking or nature study further comparisons of the 2007 results with the 2001 results have revealed that the 25-39, 40-54 and 55-64 age groups have large decreases in participation rates. This identifies the source of the decline but there is still conjecture as to why this age group has declined in participation and frequency. Further analysis of this issue will occur in the Outdoor Recreation Trends in SEQ¹².

Table 36: A comparison of median participation frequency since 1997

Activity	1997	2001	2007
Picnicking	4.5	4	4
Walking or Nature Study	10.3	12	5
Camping	2.1	2	2
Bicycle Riding	12.2	11	10
Horse Riding	2.4	2	2
Water Activities	6.3	12	10
Driving 2WD Vehicles	3.7	5	3
Driving 4WD Vehicles	3.1	4	3
Driving other Vehicles	4.2	5	6
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	3.3	4	3.5
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	2.5	2	3
Abseiling/rock-climbing	1.8	2	3

¹² A further analysis of trends in the outdoor recreation activities in SEQ has been conducted in 2007. Using the data from the three SEQ Outdoor Recreation studies an exploration of selected trends in the outdoor recreation activities in SEQ will be undertaken.

Figure 23: Activity-events of outdoor recreation activities



10.2 Implications

The major implication that can be drawn from these trends is that participation rates and frequency of participation have combined to produce a decreased number of activity-events for a number of activities. The exceptions to the decline are bicycle riding, camping and driving other vehicles. One consequence of the increase in activity rates is that site usage rates in bicycle riding, camping and driving other vehicles are increasing.

Thus, the increase will result in increasing pressure upon the currently available places to undertake these activities.

Based on the constraints (outlined in section 10.4) it appears that the accessibility of locations to undertake the activities combined with other changes in society has driven the change. The causes of decline are difficult to ascertain using the present findings. More research is needed to determine the causes of the decline.

10.3 Recreation settings

10.3.1 Key trends

Reported preferences for different recreation settings indicate that there has been a continuation of the trend identified in the 2001 study. During the period 1997 to 2001, significant shifts occurred from *somewhat natural* toward *very natural* and *totally natural* settings. More recently, from 2001 to 2007, significant differences have again occurred in *very natural* and *totally natural* settings. Some of these changes will be presented and discussed below.

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Trends and implications cont.

Table 35: Activity participation - Setting where activities were undertaken

Activity	Somewhat natural			Very natural			Totally natural		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Picnicking	70	59	66	24	33	26	6	8	8
Walking or Nature Study	66	49	47	26	34	36	8	17	15
Camping	38	29	33	40	51	45	21	20	20
Bicycle Riding	91	83	76	6	15	18	3	2	4
Horse Riding	53	27	47	30	46	44	17	27	8*
Water Activities	67	62	71	26	31	21*	7	7	7
Driving 2WD Vehicles	44	35	43	46	57	45*	8	8	14*
Driving 4WD Vehicles	34	19	25	42	63	53	18	18	21
Driving other Vehicles	47	39	33	37	52	43	9	9	24*
Riding Motorised Watercraft	63	40	52	26	46	34	14	14	14
Riding Non-Motorised Watercraft	61	39	50	30	47	36*	14	14	14
Abseiling/rock-climbing	52	52	45	24	24	32	24	24	23

Figure 24: Changes in somewhat natural setting preferences for current participation 1997-2007

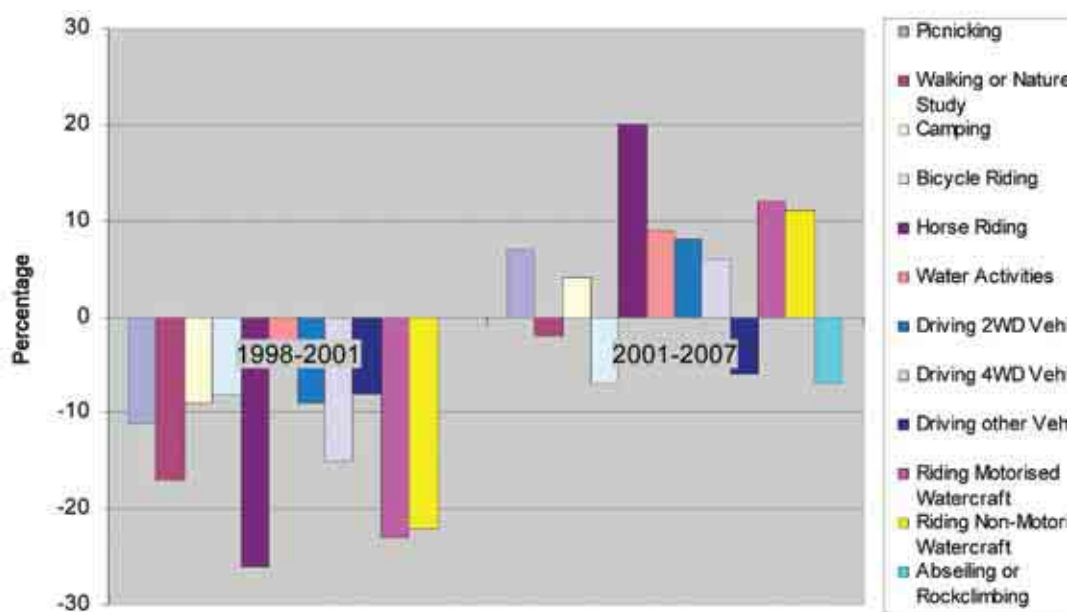
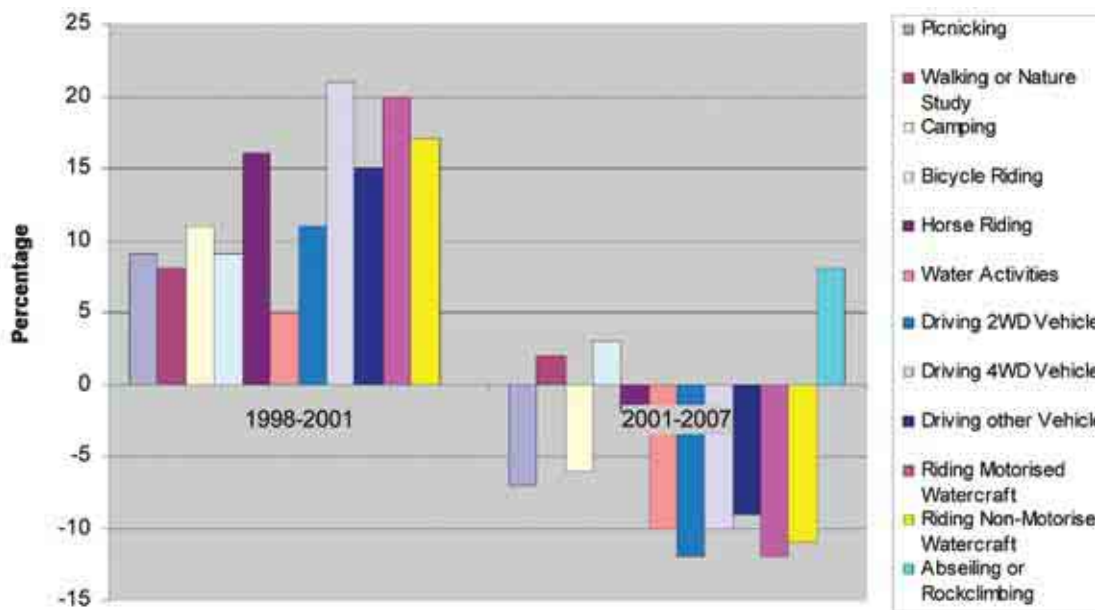


Figure 25: Changes in *very natural* setting preferences for current participation 1997-2007



The changes noted by the 1997, 2001 and 2007 studies are illustrated by the graphs in Figures 24, 25 and 26. These graphs are derived from Table 37. Figure 24 shows the percentage change of current participants' use of *somewhat natural* settings. Figure 25 shows the percentage change of current participants' use of *very natural* setting. Figure 26 shows the percentage change of current participants' use of *very natural* settings. Using Chi Squared analysis, statistically significant changes in 2007 are noted with an asterisk (*) that indicates significant difference ($P < 0.05$). Figure 24 shows the changes in participation rates for

somewhat natural settings between the three studies. No significant changes in participation rates occurred between 2001 and 2007.

Significant decreases in participation rates between the 2001 and 2007 study occurred in driving 2WD vehicles (57% to 45%), water activities (31% to 21%) and riding motorised watercraft (46% to 34%).

The changes between the 2001 and 2007 results for the *totally natural* setting were mixed. In the case of horse riding there was a significant decrease in the preference of *totally natural* settings (27% to 8%).

However, there was a statistically significant increase in driving other vehicles (9% to 24%) and driving 2WD vehicles (8% to 14%). Latent participation site preferences were also compared across the three studies. The comparison can be seen graphically in Figures 27, 28 and 29.

As indicated in Figures 27, 28 and 29, for non-participants there has been a general shift away from *totally natural* setting preferences towards *somewhat natural* settings and *very natural* settings. This result conflicts with the results of the 2001 study where there was a shift in preference towards *totally natural* settings.

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Figure 26: Changes in *totally natural* setting preferences for current participation 1997-2007

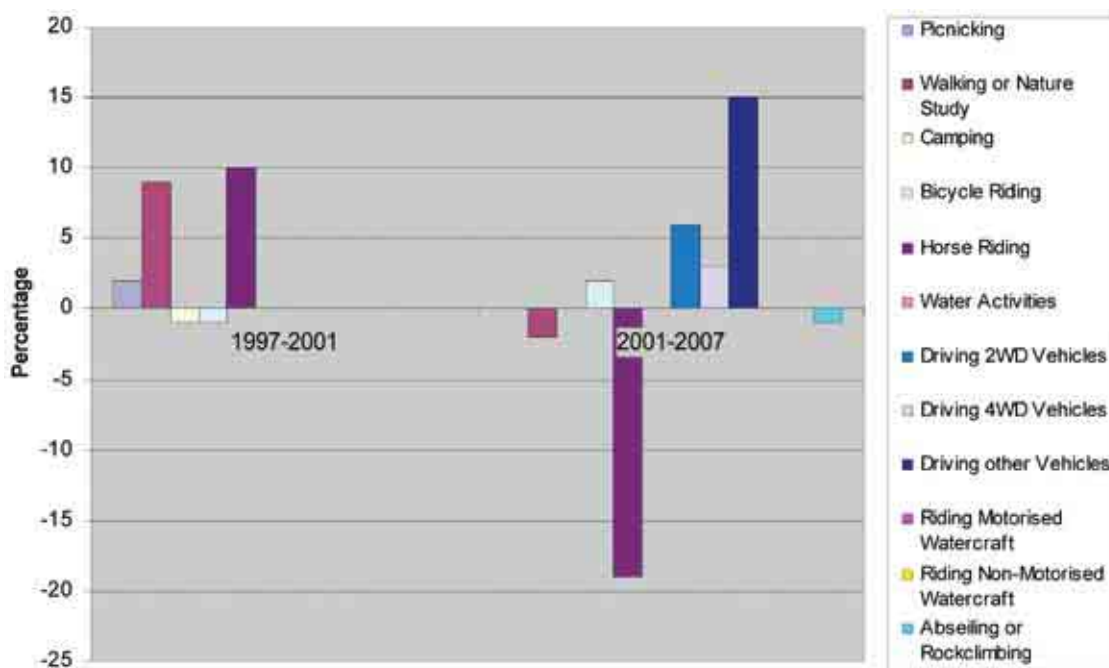


Figure 27: Site preference trends for interested non-participants (1997-2007) with respect to *somewhat natural* settings

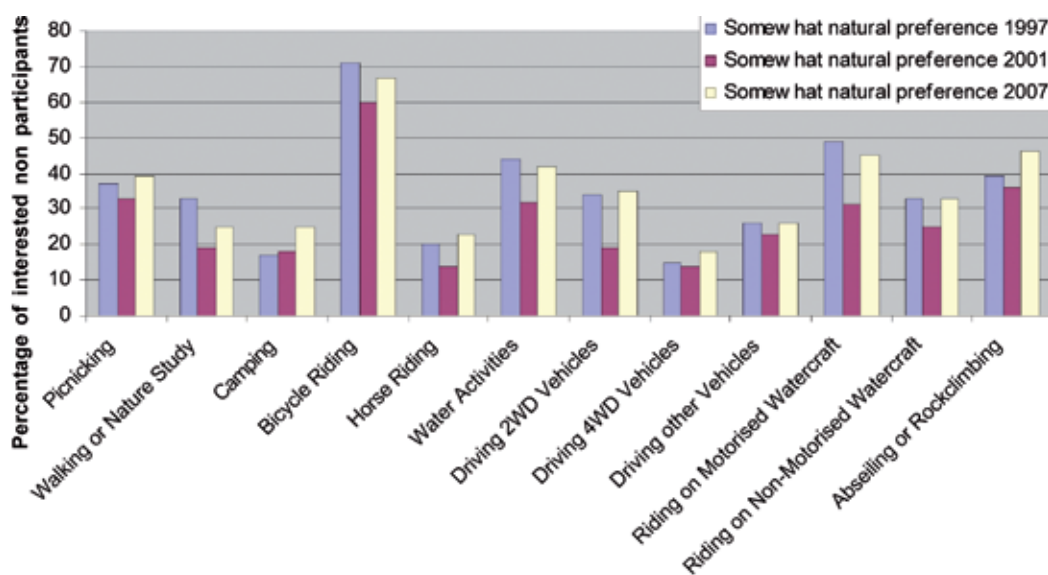


Figure 28: Site preference trends for interested non-participants (1997-2007) with respect to *very natural* settings

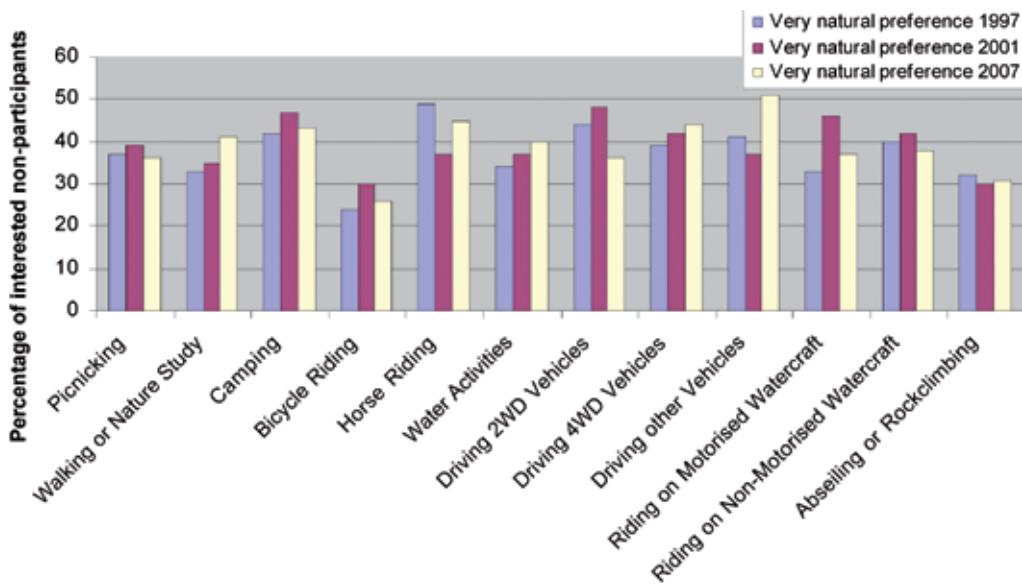
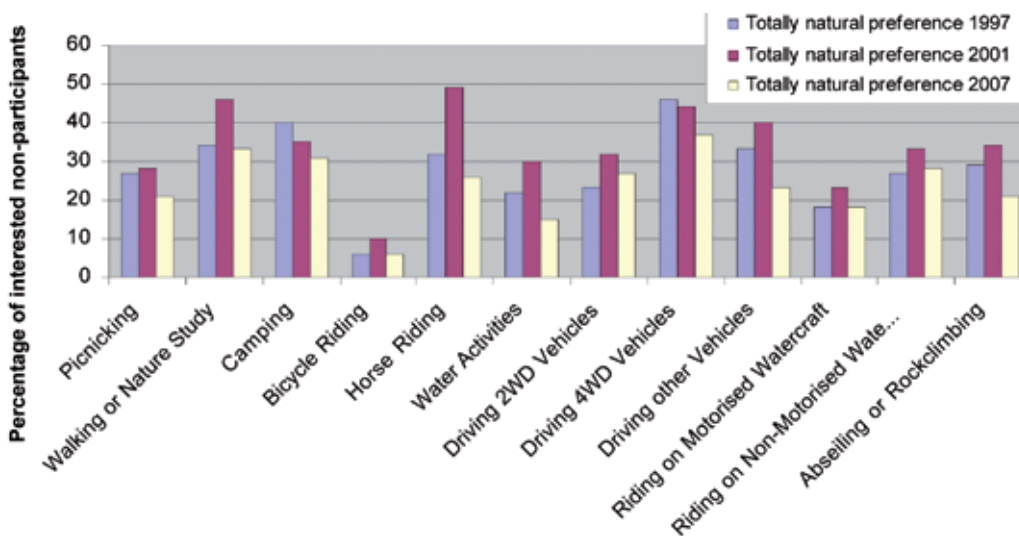


Figure 29: Site preference trends for interested non-participants (1997-2007) with respect to *totally natural* settings



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The difference between the 2001 and the 2007 latent setting preference changes may be due to the fact that the constraints of 'time', 'family responsibilities', 'cost' and 'nowhere to go' are increasing so that local, *somewhat natural* settings are becoming more important settings to access. However, it is likely that latent participants are working from a subjective impression of landscape rather than the normative guidelines that they were given.

10.4 Implications

Three major implications from the findings will be discussed below.

Firstly, the data indicate that a significant proportion of current participants in all activities would prefer to recreate in settings (places) which are more "natural" than the places where they currently recreate. While this could be accepted at face value, there are some confusing results. In particular, users of motorised vehicles and vessels indicated that they would prefer to recreate in *totally natural* settings (which were defined in the setting descriptions provided at the beginning of the interviews to exclude access by motorised vehicles and vessels). Presumably, people using motorised equipment would not deliberately express a preference for settings which are not accessible using their motorised equipment.

This inconsistency could be re-interpreted as a preference for places that people perceive to be

more "natural" than the settings they currently use while still allowing for the motorised vehicles or vessels that they want to use. There may be some inconsistent interpretation of the concept of "naturalness" as used in the survey.

Irrespective of how the data is interpreted, the apparent preference for recreation settings which are more natural than the places currently being used by a large proportion of outdoor recreation participants has been maintained in all three surveys (1997, 2001 and 2007). This indicates the need to identify, plan for and manage landscapes which match the definitions of *somewhat*, *very* and *totally natural* settings (i.e. classes 1 to 6 of the QPW Landscape Classification System). This has major implications for outdoor recreation policy, planning and management within SEQ.

Secondly, the shift towards *somewhat natural* setting use in current participation and non-participants' latent preferences may indicate geographic and social-environmental changes in the way in which people engage in leisure and recreation in SEQ. There may now be a shift towards *somewhat natural* places for outdoor recreation because of three interactive factors – (1) these places can be reached in tolerable travel time from the participants' place of residence; and/or (2) the lack of more natural places for outdoor recreation; and/or (3) socio-economic constraints. However, it must be noted that despite these constraints, people generally would prefer the

setting in which they recreate to be more natural than the one they presently use. These changes will be explored in the section pertaining to constraints below.

Lastly, the increase in the use of *totally natural* settings (i.e. places defined as not accessible by motorised vehicles or vessels) for outdoor recreation activities involving the use of motorised vehicles or vessels indicates two issues – (1) Most survey respondents prefer to use the relatively natural areas of SEQ landscapes for outdoor recreation; (2) the concept of naturalness may not be consistently understood by a significant proportion of respondents.

However, the fact that a substantial number of people express a desire to use what they would understand to be *totally natural* areas for motorised vehicle or vessel activities indicates a major challenge for outdoor recreation policy, planning and management. The demand for access to "natural" parts of the landscape points to the ongoing need to educate people with respect to appropriate use of "natural" areas – especially as such areas become less extensive and more isolated in the broader landscape.

The 2007 study findings indicate the need to maintain the range of settings, from local less natural "green" spaces that are easily accessible and have built facilities, to the most natural areas that are managed to maintain their uncrowded, wild and natural condition.

10.5 Motivations

10.5.1 Key trends

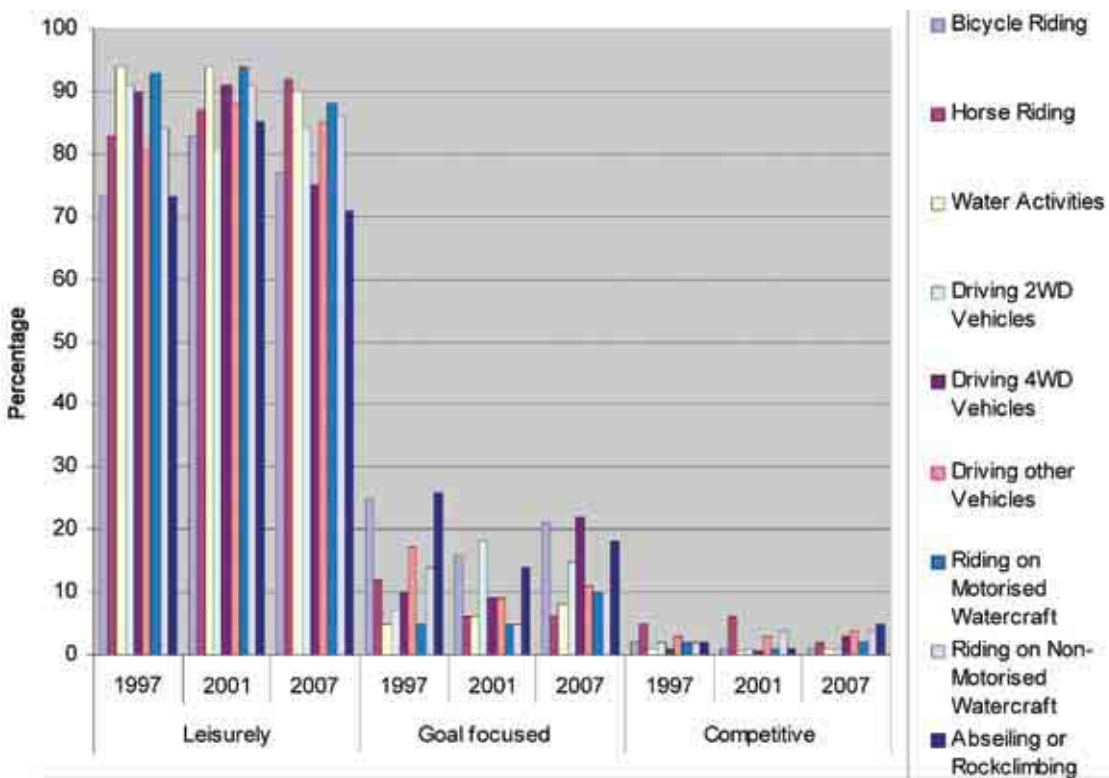
As illustrated in Figure 30, the 2007 study found that reasons for participation in outdoor recreation activities were overwhelmingly of a leisurely nature, rather than goal focused or competitive. This result reflects the results of 2001 and 1997 which have changed very little over the time period.

10.6 Implications

The implication of this finding is that men and women who are engaged in outdoor recreation activities do so for intrinsic, rather than extrinsic reasons, and prefer to keep it this way. They have no desire to make these activities more competitive or goal focused. This is an important aspect of outdoor recreation that should be considered in the management of such activities.

Intrinsic motivation means that participants gain their satisfaction from the inherent nature of the activity itself, rather than from an external goal that the activity will help them to achieve. For this reason, opportunities that are provided need to focus on intrinsically motivated events. Goal focused or competitive events do not match the aspirations of most people involved in outdoor recreation activities.

Figure 30 Changes in current motivations for participation 1997-2007 (expressed as a percentage of participants)



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10.7 Constraints

The following tables (Tables 38–43) provide a comparison of the constraints acting on both participants who would like to participate more often in an activity and non-participants who expressed a desire to participate in an activity. Each constraint is considered independently in order to better ascertain how it has altered over the time period. For Table 38 a Chi Squared analysis was used to test for statistically significant changes in 2007 compared to 2001. These activities are noted with an asterisk (*) that indicates a significant difference ($P < 0.05$).

Table 38: Constraint - ‘No time, too busy’ – for participants who would like to participate more often and non-participants who would like to participate

	% of participants who would like to participate more often			% of non-participants who would like to participate		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Picnicking	72%	77%	73%	61%	68%	54%
Walking or Nature Study	67%	77%	63%	59%	59%	48%*
Camping	71%	80%	75%	51%	60%	36%*
Bicycle Riding	53%	64%	59%	26%	39%	17%*
Horse Riding	39%	60%	40%*	26%	37%	23%*
Water Activities	67%	68%	66%	42%	57%	41%*
Driving 2WD Vehicles	64%	74%	59%*	34%	39%	26%*
Driving 4WD Vehicles	51%	63%	52%	15%	26%	15%*
Driving other Vehicles	49%	51%	35%*	17%	27%	13%*
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	55%	59%	43%*	21%	33%	18%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	61%	69%	60%	28%	46%	31%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	41%	59%	49%*	29%	50%	27%

Table 39: Constraint - ‘Family Responsibilities’ – for participants who would like to participate more often and non-participants who would like to participate

	% of participants who would like to participate more often			% of non-participants who would like to participate		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Picnicking	2%	6%	9%	2%	2%	11%
Walking or Nature Study	3%	4%	9%	3%	7%	12%
Camping	2%	4%	7%	8%	7%	18%
Bicycle Riding	2%	4%	4%	2%	1%	11%
Horse Riding	2%	4%	5%	2%	2%	9%
Water Activities	2%	3%	6%	2%	2%	6%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	2%	2%	7%	2%	2%	2%
Driving other Vehicles	<1%	2%	2%	<1%	2%	4%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%

Table 40: Constraint – ‘Cost’ – for participants who would like to participate more often and non-participants who would like to participate

	% of participants who would like to participate more often			% of non-participants who would like to participate		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Camping	8%	9%	5%	<1%	<1%	2%
Horse Riding	10%	10%	10%	12%	7%	7%
Water Activities	<1%	7%	4%	12%	7%	2%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	<1%	9%	8%	<1%	<1%	4%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	8%	13%	7%	<1%	11%	5%
Driving other Vehicles	10%	8%	8%	<1%	8%	10%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	9%	16%	14%	<1%	12%	14%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	<1%	12%	3%	<1%	<1%	4%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	<1%	13%	11%	<1%	<1%	3%

Table 41: Constraint – ‘Lack of equipment’ – for participants who would like to participate more often and non-participants who would like to participate

	% of participants who would like to participate more often			% of non-participants who would like to participate		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Camping	<1%	<1%	4%	18%	8%	10%
Bicycle Riding	9%	10%	10%	43%	33%	35%
Horse Riding	9%	14%	17%	25%	10%	21%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	7%	5%	10%	29%	22%	15%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	29%	20%	22%	71%	47%	53%
Driving other Vehicles	24%	21%	15%	56%	46%	37%
Riding on Motorised Watercraft	<1%	25%	27%	54%	36%	30%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	18%	17%	13%	44%	27%	22%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	14%	5%	11%	16%	4%	7%

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Table 42: Constraint – ‘Nowhere to go’ – for participants who would like to participate more often and non-participants who would like to participate

	% of participants who would like to participate more often			% of non-participants who would like to participate		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Bicycle Riding	7%	9%	15%	<1%	<1%	3%
Horse Riding	14%	16%	26%	12%	14%	9%
Water Activities	7%	9%	11%	13%	11%	12%
Driving 2WD Vehicles	<1%	8%	12%	14%	9%	4%
Driving 4WD Vehicles	<1%	8%	8%	<1%	<1%	2%
Driving other Vehicles	<1%	19%	38%	<1%	<1%	2%
Riding on Non-Motorised Watercraft	<1%	7%	10%	<1%	<1%	3%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	14%	16%	24%	12%	11%	8%

Table 43: Constraint – ‘Health’ – for participants who would like to participate more often and non-participants who would like to participate

	% of participants who would like to participate more often			% of non-participants who would like to participate		
	1997	2001	2007	1997	2001	2007
Picnicking	<1%	<1%	7%	<1%	8%	11%
Walking or Nature Study	<1%	8%	11%	<1%	18%	20%
Bicycle Riding	<1%	8%	5%	<1%	8%	18%
Horse Riding	<1%	<1%	2%	<1%	8%	17%
Water Activities	<1%	<1%	6%	<1%	8%	12%
Abseiling/rock-climbing	<1%	<1%	3%	<1%	7%	17%

10.8 Key trends

As shown in Table 38, “no time, too busy” remains the largest constraint on people’s current participation and latent participation. This has been true since 1997, but the trend appears to be that this constraint has generally decreased since the 2001 study. In some cases such as horse riding, driving 2WD vehicles, driving other vehicles, riding on motorised watercraft, and abseiling/rock-climbing, this decrease is significant ($p < 0.05$). Figure 31 displays the change in ‘time’ constraints over the three studies.

The decrease in ‘time’ constraint does not, however, necessarily mean that people are less constrained by

‘time’ in 2007 compared to 2001. In almost all activities ‘family’ commitments have increased since the 2001 study, a finding that may acknowledge that ‘family’ responsibilities impact on time budgets of people in the study.

The lack of places to do activities for people who currently participate is an increasing constraint in all activities. Participants in all activities in 2007 continue to find the shortage of places to go to be a problem, as they did in 1997 and 2001.

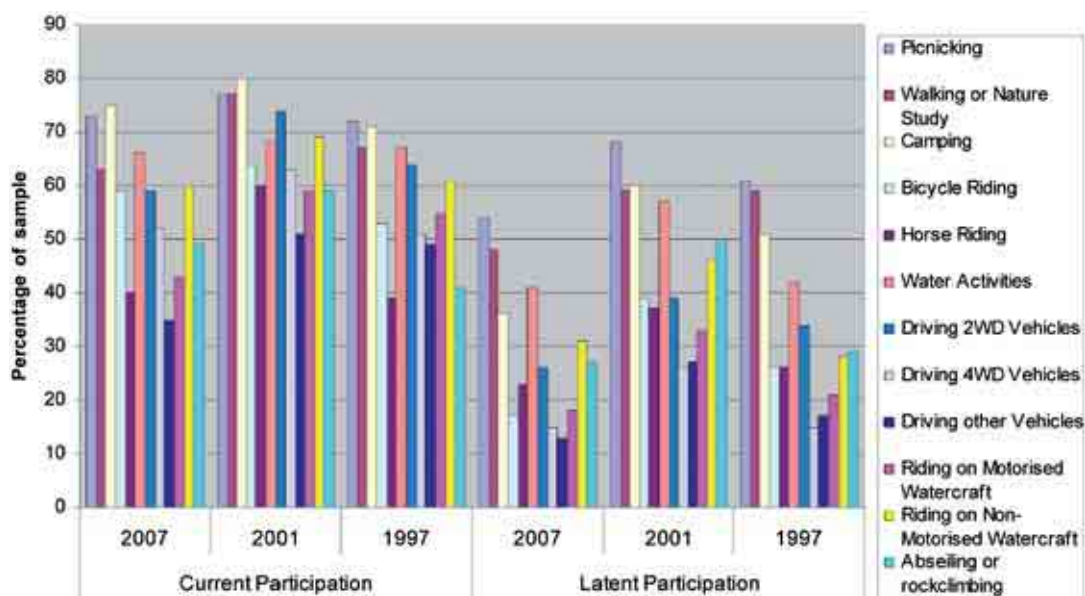
‘Cost’ constraints in all activities (participants and non-participants) did not increase between 2001 and 2007. ‘Equipment’ constraints in current participation in horse riding and riding motorised watercraft have increased over time. For

non-participants who would like to participate more often, ‘equipment’ constraints are a large constraint for almost all activities. However, there have been no discernable trends over time.

‘Health’ constraints are increasing for current participants who would like to participate more, but are more of a constraint for non-participants who would like to participate. ‘Health’ issues are most pertinent for the activity of walking or nature study, a finding that may reflect the higher proportion of older people participating in that activity.

Further analysis of age groups and constraints may reveal a more detailed picture of changes to constraints on participation rates and participation frequency.

Figure 31: Comparison of ‘time’ constraints for current participants who would like to participate more and non-participants who would like to participate



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Trends and implications cont.

10.9 Implications

The issue of a lack of *'time'* for recreation continues to be a major problem for the people of SEQ. *'Family'* responsibilities combined with the *'time'* constraint making it a significant issue that hinders outdoor recreation participation. These constraints also impact on the recreation settings that are used, in that people often lack the *'time'* to access more remote settings that they would like to use. Lack of places to undertake most outdoor recreation activity is a growing issue. It is not implausible to conclude that the problems identified in 2001 are now a major issue for participants in the 2007 study as evidenced in the decreasing participation rates and frequency of participation of some activities. For this reason, local, easily accessible spaces that have been retained in as natural a condition as possible, are becoming more important as the population grows.

10.10 Summary

Although the results of the 2007 survey are broadly similar to previous surveys, some important trends have emerged since the first SEQORDS. Outdoor recreation activities remain very popular with the population of SEQ, and have increased in popularity over the years for some activities, particularly with respect to the number of activity-events¹⁴.

Despite the continuing popularity of outdoor recreation, an alarming trend identified in the study is the decrease in participation rate and frequency of walking or nature study. The downward trend of participation rates and frequency has implications for health and well being and other benefits that walking or nature study delivers to the individual and society. Growing constraints of lack of places to go and health are important contributions to the decline for both current participant and non-participants who would like to participate more, particularly in the 55-64 and the 65+ age groups.

Another important trend has been a continued preference for more natural settings. Although there were some significant decreases in *very natural* setting preferences there were no significant increases in *somewhat natural* setting preference. *Totally natural* settings are the only setting in 2007 that has seen an increase in its appeal as a setting to undertake outdoor recreation. Given the scarcity of the *totally natural* settings and the resulting constraint of a general lack of places to participate in outdoor recreation, the need for maintenance and provision of more natural settings is of continued importance.

¹⁴ Activity-events are calculated as the number of participants times the median frequency of participation