

Section 12

Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities

In this section trends in each of the activities will be presented in detail. The research question for this section is:

What factors can explain the observed changes in participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for each activity across the three SEQORDS.

Some of the data presented in the sections below was previously presented in the 2007 SEQORDS as well as other sections within this report. A more extensive analysis of the data is presented here to help answer the research question that is particular to each activity. Care should be taken extrapolating findings for the management of the activities in particular regions because the findings are of a general nature.

The major findings that are revealed in this section are:

- The peak noted in 2001 for picnicking activity-events is similar to the activity-events trends for walking or nature study, water activities, and driving 2wd and 4wd vehicles;
- This peak may be explained by declining participation rate in the 25-39 and to a lesser extent the 40-54 age group as a consequence of the increasing 'family' constraints. These age groups have the highest rates of participation but also the largest changes in rates of participation. Another explanation could be the introduction of Sunday retail trading and the preference of many families to frequent shopping centres as a social activity. Other social trends are discussed;
- Camping activity-events have increased because frequency of participation is increasing. This is despite a small decrease in participation rates⁹. A peak in participation rates also occurred in 2001 – similar to picnicking, walking or nature study, water activities, and driving 2wd and 4wd vehicles;
- 'Nowhere to go' was a major constraint for bicycle riding, horse riding water activities, driving 2wd vehicles, driving other vehicles, riding on non-motorised watercraft and abseiling/rock-climbing; and
- Bicycle riding has reported an increase in activity-events. This finding coupled with the finding that more participants are expressing that there is nowhere to do this activity has major implications for outdoor recreation planning.

Further discussion surrounding the reasons for changes in each activity is given in each section below.

12.1 Picnicking

Picnicking participation and frequency of participation has remained fairly stable over the study period. Table 13 shows the participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for picnicking over the three studies.

Table 13: Current participants' involvement in picnicking across the three SEQORDS

Picnicking	1997	2001	2007
Participation Rate	65	67	58
Frequency of Participation	4.5	4	4
Activity-Events	3096000	5093904	3835902

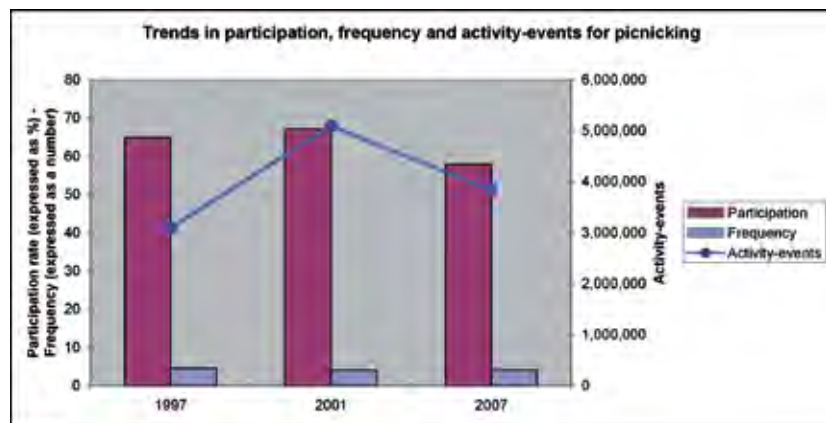
⁹ Activity-events are calculated by multiplying the median rate of participation by the frequency of participation. Therefore a small increase in frequency can have a large impact on activity-events.

The slight changes to the number of participants and frequency of participation have led to changes in activity-events. This led to a peak in activity rates in 2001 with a decline in 2007. This data is presented graphically in Figure 59.

The peak noted in picnicking activity-events is similar to the activity-events trends for walking or nature study, water activities, and driving 2wd and 4wd vehicles. Reasons for the decline can be determined, in part, through the analysis of data presented in Figures 60 and 61. Figure 60 shows trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for picnicking and Figure 61 shows changes in constraints of current and non participants for picnicking.

A possible explanation for the changes in participation, frequency and activity-events for picnicking is as follows. Declining participation rate in the 25-39 (and to a lesser extent the 40-54) age group is a consequence of the increasing 'family' constraints. These age groups have the highest rates of participation but also the largest changes in rates of participation. As mentioned previously forms of family leisure may have changed in ways that mean going outside and having family picnics is less important to all family members. Thus 'family' constraints may be an explanation for the decline in participation rates. Another explanation could be the introduction of Sunday retail trading and the preference of many families to frequent shopping centres as a social activity.

Figure 59: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for picnicking



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Figure 60: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for picnicking

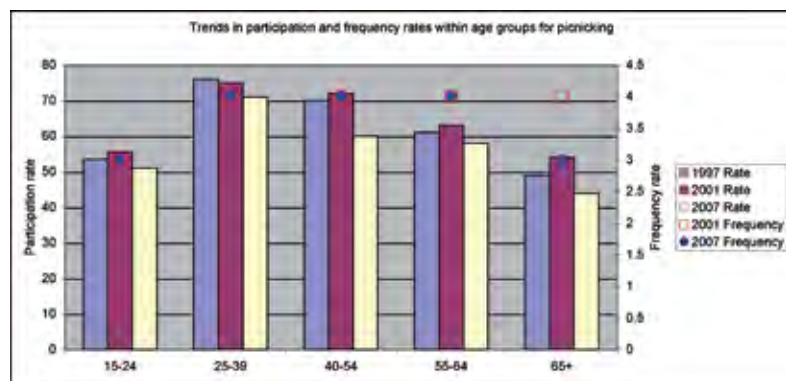
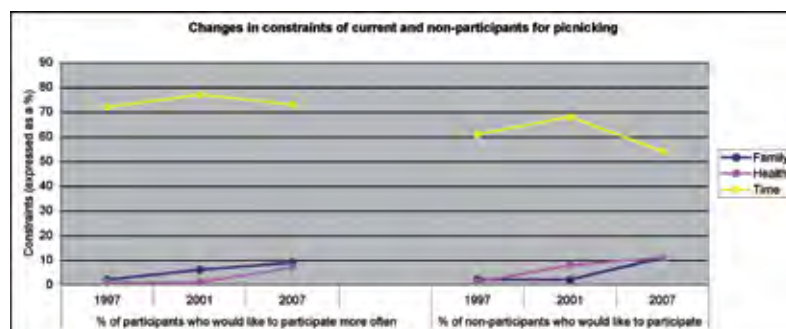


Figure 61: Changes in constraints of current and non-participants for picnicking



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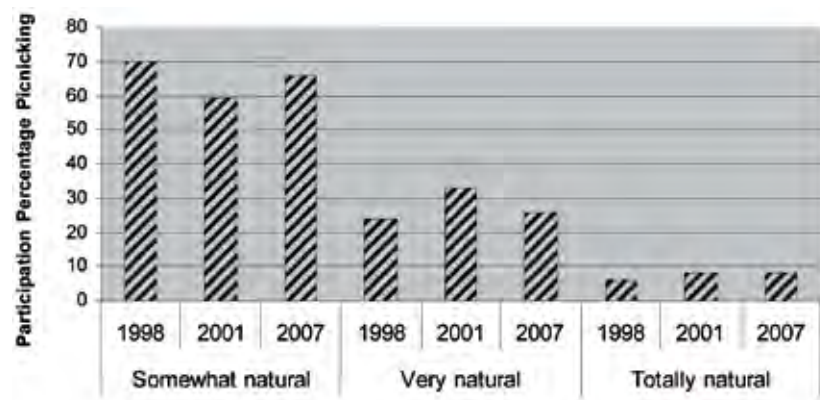
Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities cont.

The contribution of 'health' constraints could also help explain the decrease, particularly for older age groups. However, this effect is a minor determinant compared to changes in family leisure.

Data on changes to the setting in which people are undertaking picnicking are shown in Figure 62. This figure shows trends in current participation rates across the three settings for picnicking.

From Figure 62 it is apparent that people are switching use of settings from *very natural* to *somewhat natural*. To a small extent some people increasingly used *totally natural* settings for picnicking. Given that 'family' and 'health' constraints for current participants have increased, the change in use from *very natural* to *somewhat natural* indicates that setting use is affected by these constraints. People may find more opportunities to picnic in *somewhat natural* settings compared to *very natural* settings. It can therefore be assumed that the constraints of 'family' and 'health' impact on how and where people participate in picnicking. Coupling this finding with the general preference for more natural settings means that management of *somewhat natural* settings to increase notions of naturalness is of importance for this activity.

Figure 62: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for picnicking



12.2 Walking and nature study

Walking or nature study has shown a decline in participation, frequency and activity-events rates from the 1997 to the 2007 SEQORDS. Table 14 shows the participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for walking or nature study over the three studies.

Table 14: Current participants' involvement in walking or nature study across the three SEQORDS

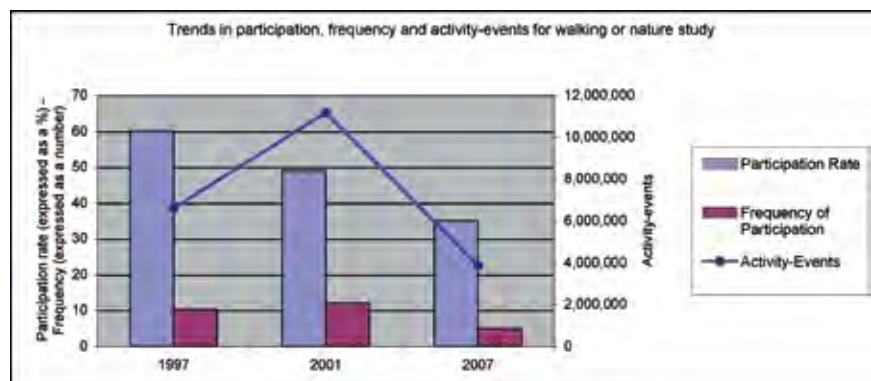
Walking or Nature Study	1997	2001	2007
Participation Rate	60	49	35
Frequency of Participation	10.3	12	5
Activity-Events	6622900	11176176	3857240

Activity-events peaked in 2001 but have declined considerably in 2007 to below the numbers recorded in 1997. The changes have been graphically expressed in Figure 63.

The peak in activity rates in 2001 can be attributed to the rise in frequency rates of current participants in 2001 despite the decrease in participation rates. This occurred because the calculation of activity-events is done by multiplying the number of participants undertaking the activity by the frequency of participation. Thus a small rise in frequency will have a large impact on event numbers. The large rate of frequency of participation in some age groups can also explain the peak in activity-events. Figure 64 shows the trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for walking or nature study.

Figure 64 shows that for 2007 there is still a trend of increasing frequency of participation in the older age groups. However compared to 2001, there was a lower frequency of participation in 2007. In other words people in older age groups that currently participate go walking less often compared to 2001. Some of the reason can be explained through constraints data shown in Figure 65.

Figure 63: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for walking or nature study



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Figure 64: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for walking or nature study

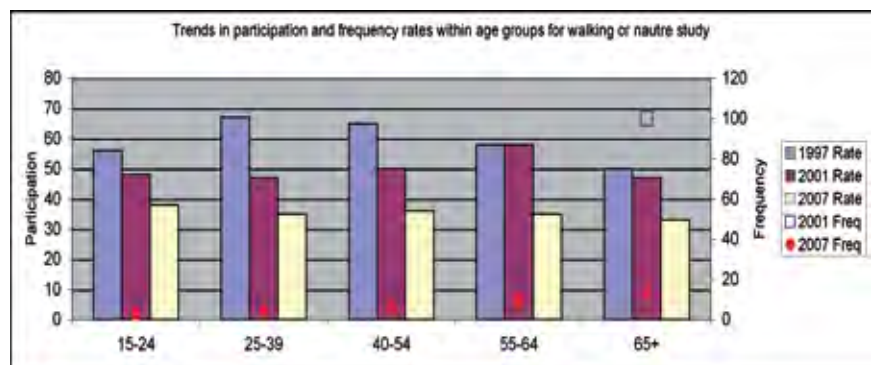
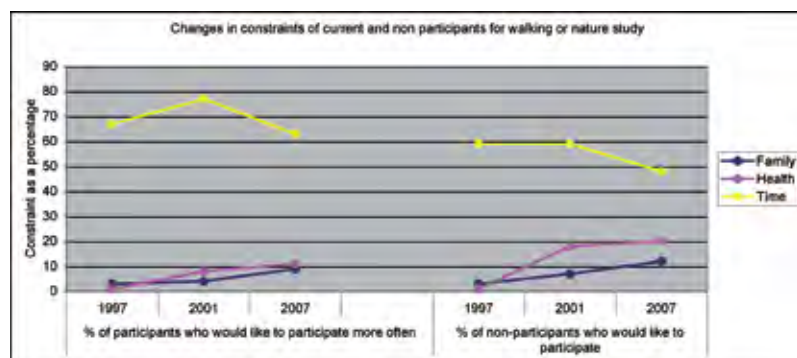


Figure 65: Changes in constraints of current and non participants for walking or nature study



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'Time' constraint is still the largest reported constraint. However, there was a change in this constraint which may indicate some changes to how people engage in leisure pursuits. Walking or nature study, as well as picnicking, have been impacted by increasing 'family' constraints and 'health' constraints.

These constraints have a different effect on participation and frequency compared to 'time' constraints. 'Family' constraints and 'health' would tend to impact more on the rate of participation and the frequency of participation compared to 'time' constraints. 'Time' is a variable constraint and may be experienced at a lesser or greater extent throughout the year depending on weekly time budgets. It is possible for a 'time' constrained family to participate in the activity once a year, causing the participation rate to rise.

'Family' and 'health' constraints are more enduring across a given year and thus have greater impacts on participation rates and frequency rates. A small increase in 'family' constraints impacts on participation rates for people who do not currently participate and an increase in family constraints will also impact on the frequency rates of current participants who would like to participate more. This is particularly the case for walking or nature study and picnicking because these two activities are not 'equipment' or 'cost' constrained.

Figure 66: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for walking or nature study

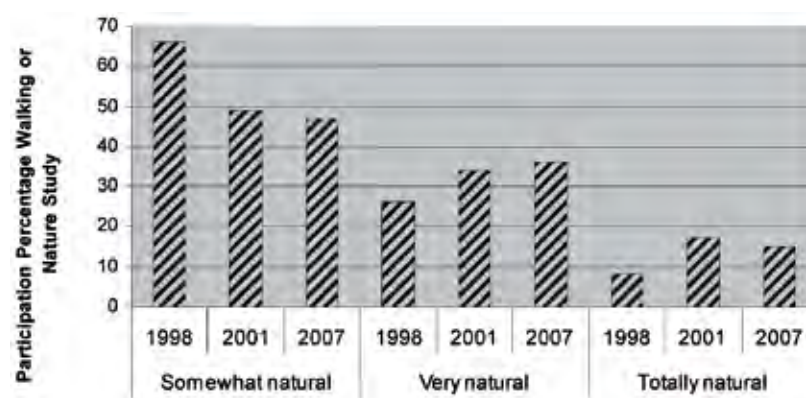


Table 15: Current participants' involvement in camping across the three SEQORDS

Camping	1997	2001	2007
Participation Rate	25	33	30
Frequency of Participation	2	2	2
Activity-Events	554 400	1 254 468	1 332 799

Note: frequency rates have been rounded and thus are only an approximate guide to the calculation of activity-event results which are based on the actual frequency rates.

How these changes have related to the settings in which people walk and undertake nature study is shown in Figure 66. This figure shows trends in current participation rates across the three settings for walking or nature study.

Figure 66 demonstrates that current participants are increasingly using *very natural* settings as opposed to

somewhat natural setting. Linking this finding with the conclusions from Section 10.2.2 on '*nowhere to go*' indicates that people in SEQ are seeking more natural places, but find this difficult due to constraints of 'family', 'health' and increasingly by the constraint of '*nowhere to go*'.

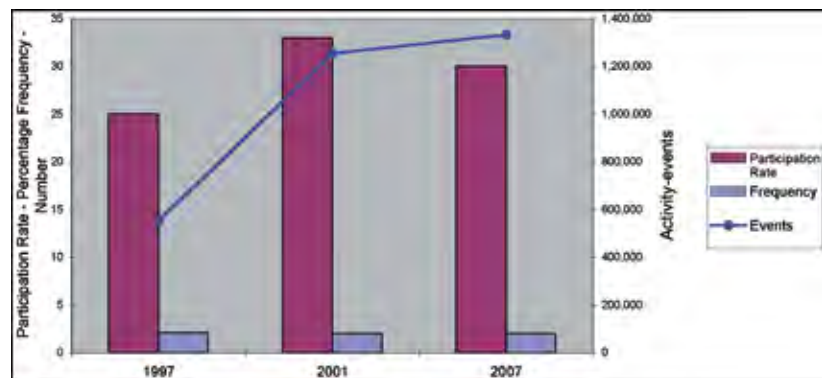
12.3 Camping

Camping has had a fluctuating rate of participation and a stable frequency of participation rate. The activity-event rate has increased over the three SEQORDS. This contrasts with the trend for walking or nature study and also picnicking. Table 15 and Figures 67, 68 and 69, show the activity trends and constraints for camping over the three studies.

Some characteristics noted in the figures are as follows:

- People from younger age groups are continuing to go camping in 2007 at the same rate as 2001;
- Rates of participation for all age groups are higher in 2007 than for 1997. Thus more people are participating now than in 1997;
- 'Time' constraints for non-participants who would like to participate more are declining. This indicates that 'time' is not a major issue in stopping more people from participating. This feature impacts on the participation rate in that if non-participants are less constrained then there is likely to be an increase in the number of people participating. However this is offset by increases in 'family' constraints;
- 'Family' constraints have increased since 2001 but have not been high enough to impact negatively on participation rates; and
- The relatively stable rates of constraints for current participants correlate to the stable frequency of participation across the three SEQORDS.

Figure 67: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for camping



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Figure 68: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for camping

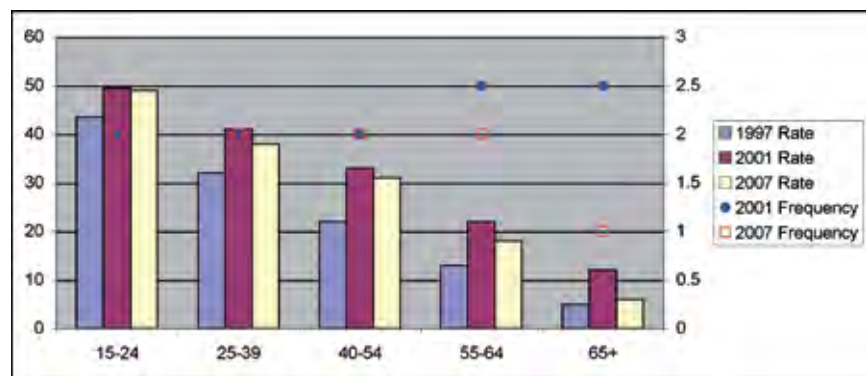
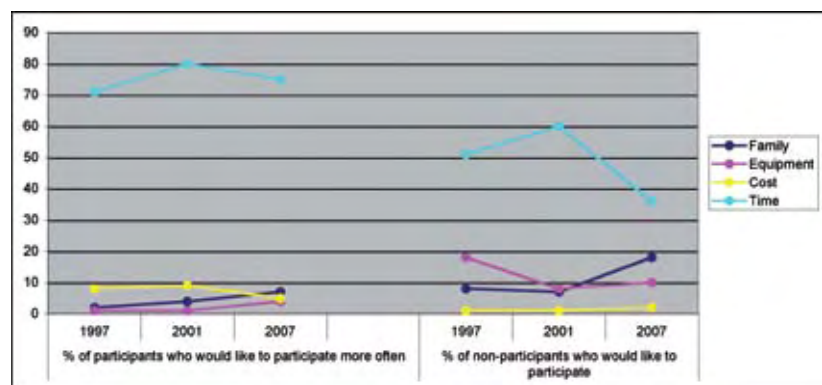


Figure 69: Changes in constraints of current and non participants for camping



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How these changes have related to the settings in which people go camping is shown in Figure 70. This figure shows trends in current participation rates across the three settings for camping.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in the figure above are as follows:

- The use of *totally natural* settings is stable;
- More people use *very natural* settings for camping than any other setting;
- There is a slight change towards *somewhat natural* settings;
- This change is occurring despite the increase in preference for more natural settings (see section 10.2.3);
- This change could be a result of an increase in the 'family' constraints translating to an increase in *somewhat natural* setting. (assuming families want more facilities);
- An increase in the constraint 'nowhere to go' also means that people are forced to use *somewhat natural* settings; and
- It is possible that people who used *very natural* settings no longer participate in 2007 which translates to a larger rate of *somewhat natural*.

Figure 70: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for camping

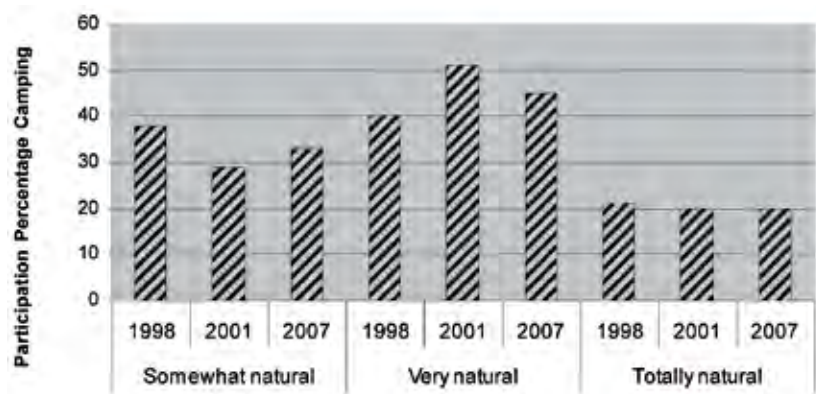
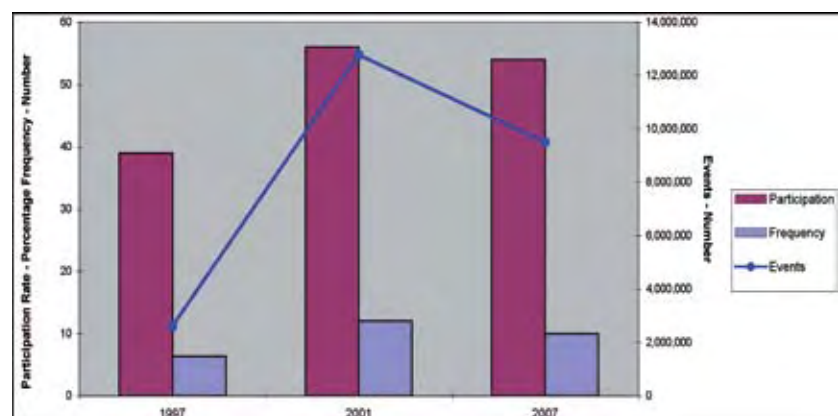


Table 16: Current participants' involvement in water activities across the three SEQORDS

Water Activities	1997	2001	2007
Participation	39	56	54
Frequency	6.3	12	10
Activity-Events	2 608 200	12 772 776	9 506 865

Figure 71: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for water activities



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

12.4 Water activities

Water activity trends are difficult to interpret because there were changes to the classification between 1997 and 2001. Table 16 and Figures 71, 72, and 73 demonstrates the activity trends and constraints for water activities over the three studies.

The rate of participation for water activities has generally increased since 1997. So too has frequency of participation. However, the change is difficult to interpret because the water activities classification has changed since 1997 when it only meant swimming – now it includes snorkelling and scuba. How demographic profile and the constraints have led to the changes can be examined through Figure 72.

Figures 72 and 73 show that the decrease in frequency of participation has had an effect on activity-events. The frequency of participation in 2007 for the age groups 40-54 and 55-64 declined compared to the 2001 SEQORDS. The greatest source of impact on frequency rates comes from current participants who are constrained in some way.

For current participants the increasing constraints of 'nowhere to go' and 'health' are significant contributors to the decline in activity-events. The rise of the constraint – 'nowhere to go' – for current participants may be linked to the drought and the resultant decrease in opportunities to undertake water activities in some water bodies. 'Cost' is a minor issue but still contributes to the decline in activity-events.

Figure 72: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for water activities

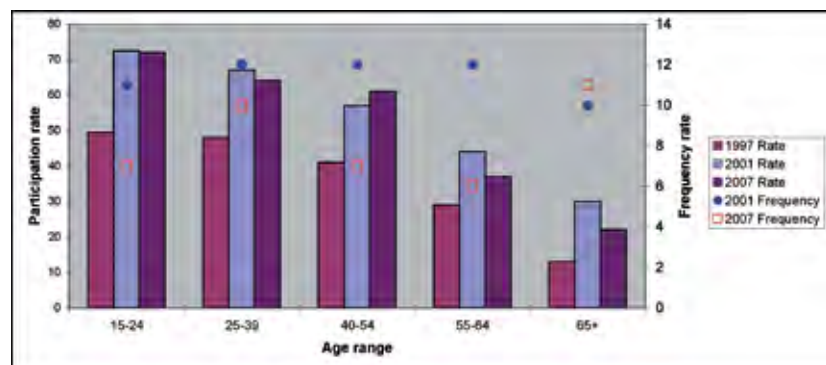
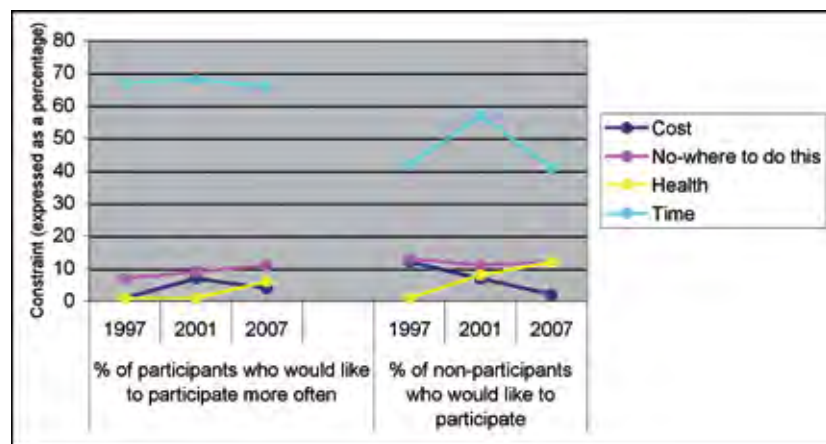


Figure 73: Changes in constraints of current and non participants for water activities



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It must be noted also that the constraints of 'health' and 'nowhere to go' are higher for people who do not presently undertake this activity. This is most likely to have contributed to the decrease in participation rates and frequency rates between 2001 and 2007.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in the figure above are as follows:

- *Very natural* settings have declined in use;
- *Somewhat natural* settings have increased;
- 'Nowhere to go' has impacted on rates of participation and frequency;
- 'Nowhere to go' is a likely cause for the small change in use to *somewhat natural* from *very natural* settings; and
- This is despite a general preference for more natural settings.

12.5 Bicycle riding

Bicycle riding showed increases in participation rates and activity-events but a decline in frequency of participation. Table 17 and Figures 75, 76 and 77 show the activity trends and constraints for riding bicycles over the three studies.

Figure 74: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for water activities

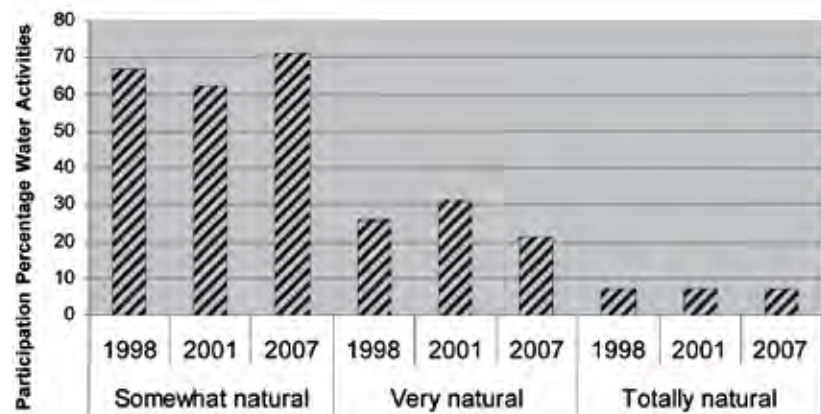
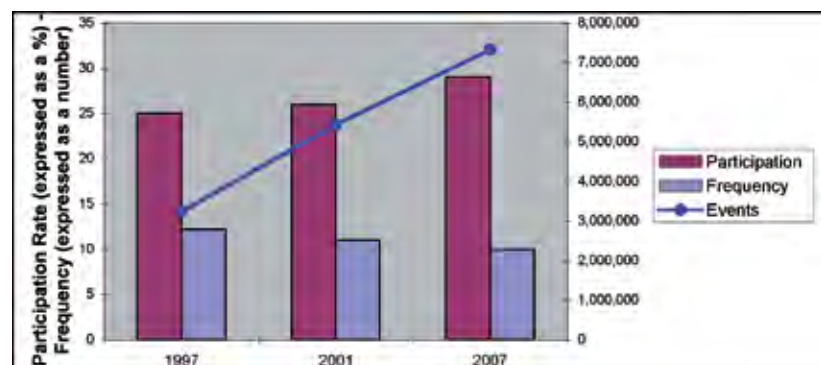


Table 17: Current participants' involvement in bicycle riding across the three SEQORDS

Bicycling	1997	2001	2007
Participation	25	26	29
Frequency	12.2	11	10
Activity-Events	3 233 000	5 436 035	7 327 114

Figure 75: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for riding bicycles



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Of major significance is the increase in participation rate and the frequency of participation within the 40-54, 55-64 and the 65+ age groups. This is the main reason for the rise in participation rates and activity-events rates. Older age groups seem to be shifting their activity preference to riding bicycles. This may account for some of the decrease in walking or nature study (assuming the same people did both activities).

For bicycle riding the increase in activity-events can also be explained by the constraints data. Despite a decrease in frequency the increase in activity-events was due to an increase in participation rates. 'Equipment' and 'cost' are not a major factor for either current participants (frequency of participation) or non-participants (participation rate). The cost of entry into bicycle riding is low due to the relatively low cost of bicycles. This is indicated in the decrease in 'equipment' constraint and the very low 'cost' constraint for both participants and non-participants. It is interesting to note that 'family' constraints and 'nowhere to go' constraint, although increasing over time, has not impacted on participation rates.

Also of significance is the decrease in participation rate of the 25-39 age group. The constraints of families in the 25-39 age group could explain the decrease in participation rate. It should also be noted that in the 25-39 age group there is a general decrease in participation rates in almost all activities (except water activities). It is also the age group that report major 'time' constraints.

Figure 76: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for riding bicycles

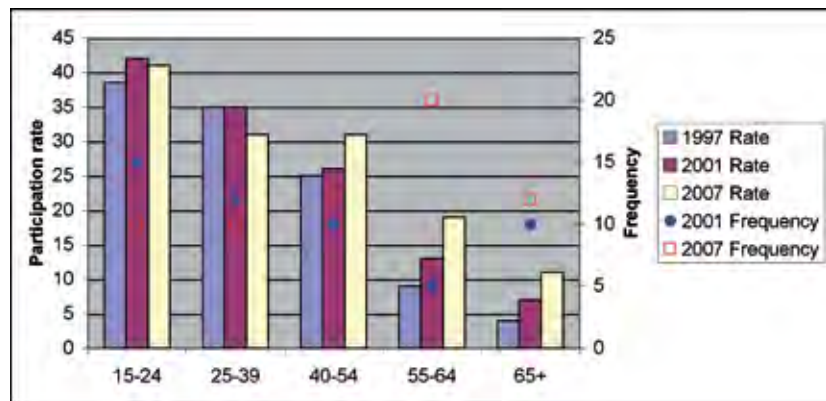
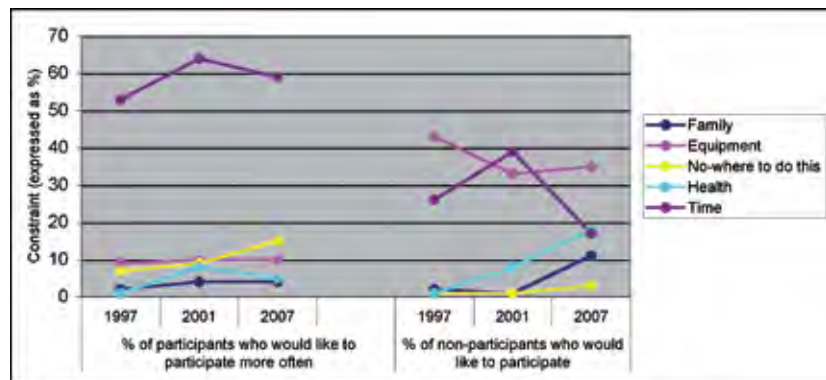


Figure 77: Changes in constraints of current and non participants for riding bicycles



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For bicycling the constraint of 'time' was very high for current participants. This impacts on the frequency of participation and, coupled with other constraints, explains the decrease in frequency.

The constraint 'nowhere to go' increased for current participants. This may have impacted on the frequency of participation. Despite the large number of bikeways constructed in many urban and semi rural areas there appears to be a perception that there are limited opportunities for more regular riding. Safety was a particular concern for many people despite the increased provision of bike lanes and bikeways. How these factors relate to setting is discussed below.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 78 are as follows:

- There is a decline in the use of the *somewhat natural* setting for cyclists;
- There is an increase in the usage of *very natural* settings; and
- Combining these two findings with the general preference for more natural settings and the increasing constraint of 'nowhere to go' points towards the need for increased provision of safe bicycling opportunities in more natural settings. This is particularly so for current participants.

Figure 78: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for riding bicycles

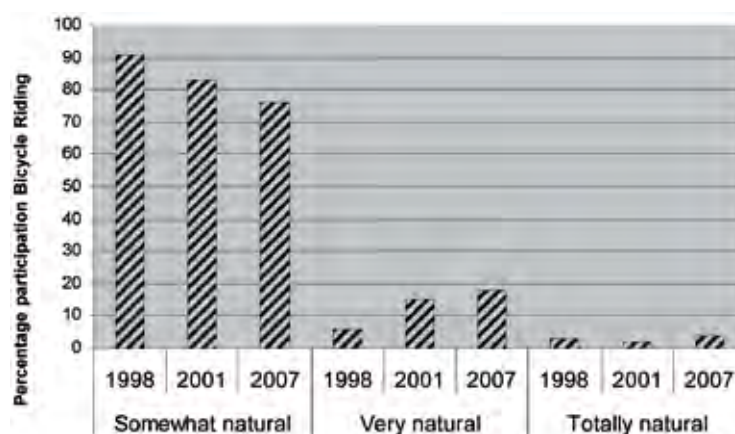
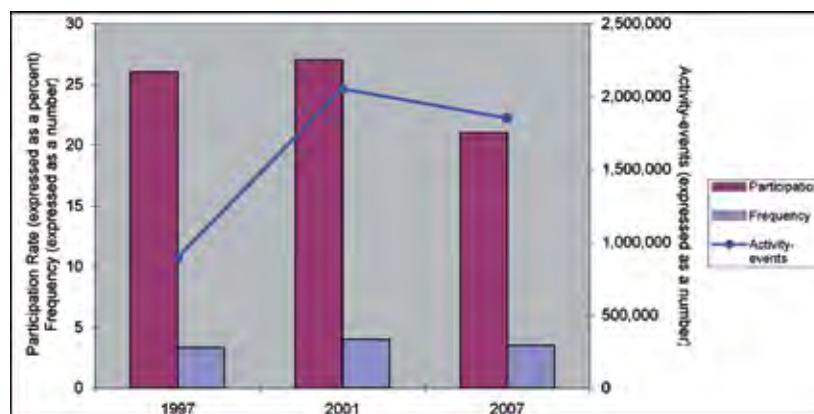


Table 18: Current participants' involvement in motorised watercraft across the three SEQORDS

Motorised Watercraft	1997	2001	2007
Participation	26	27	21
Frequency	3.3	4	3.5
Activity-Events	894 300	2 052 768	1 851 475

Figure 79: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for motorised watercraft



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

12.6 Motorised watercraft

From the data presented below it appears that this is predominantly an activity for younger age groups. Table 18 and Figures 79, 80, and 81 show the activity trends and constraints for motorised watercraft over the three studies.

Characteristics of and possible explanations for the changes noted in the figures are as follows:

- There is a large decrease in participation rates in the older age groups. Proportionately there were fewer people engaging in motorised water activities in the 55-64 and the 65+ age groups than within the younger age groups;
- 'Cost' for non-participants was an increasing constraint;
- Frequency declined slightly over time and this may be caused by current participants reporting higher 'cost' constraints over 'time'. This was particularly so for younger age groups;
- 'Time' was less of an issue for non-participants, thus emphasising the importance of 'cost' as a constraint that may have led to the decrease in participation rates; and
- 'Equipment' was less of a constraint for non-participants but was a relatively stable constraint for current participants.

Figure 80: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for motorised watercraft

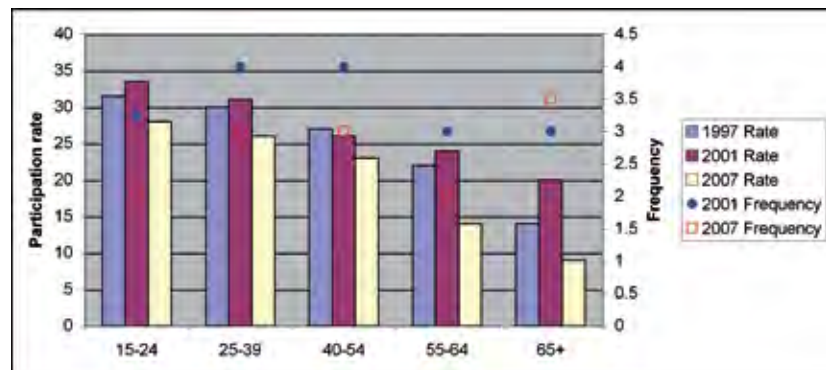
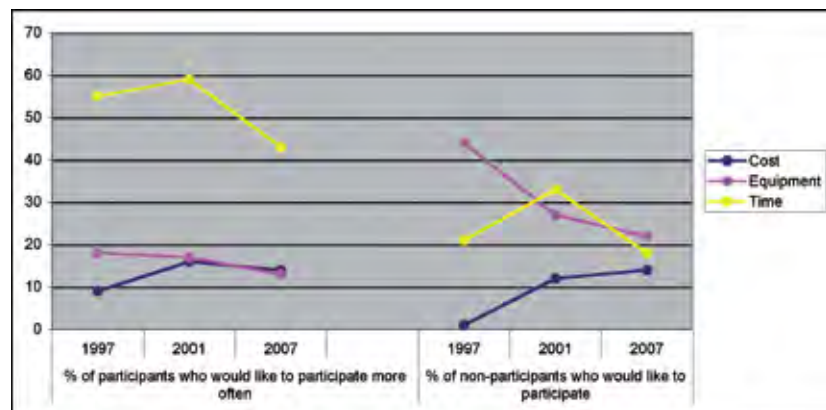


Figure 81: Changes in constraints of current and non participants for motorised watercraft



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The constraint of 'nowhere to go' was not a significant issue for motorised watercraft, indicating that 'cost', 'time' and 'equipment' drive participation rates and frequency of participation – most likely in that order. How these factors relate to setting is discussed below.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 82 are as follows:

- Motorised watercraft use in *totally natural* settings is stable;
- There was a peak in *very natural* settings in 2001 and a corresponding trough for *somewhat natural* setting in 2001;
- Based on 1997 and 2007 data there is an increase in the use of *very natural* settings and a decrease in the use of *somewhat natural* settings;
- Younger people in 2007 are using more natural setting than in 1997; and
- Based on the data, setting use appears to be unrelated to constraints.

12.7 Non-motorised watercraft

From the data presented it appears that increased frequency and participation rates in some age groups have given rise to the increase in activity-events. Table 19 and Figures 83, 84, and 85 shows the activity trends and constraints for non-motorised water craft over the three studies.

Figure 82: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for motorised water craft

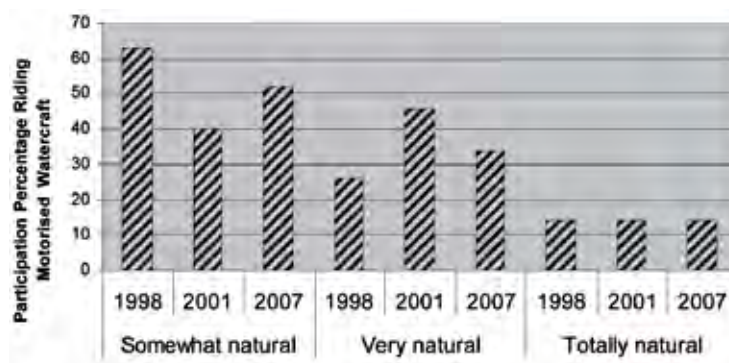
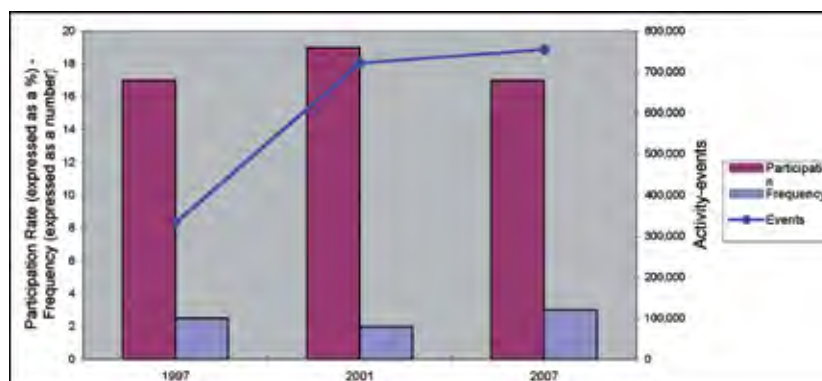


Table 19: Participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for non-motorised watercraft over the three studies.

Non-motorised watercraft	1997	2001	2007
Participation	17	19	17
Frequency	2.5	2	3
Activity-Events	333 000	722 270	755 034

Figure 83: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for non-motorised watercraft



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Characteristics of, and possible explanations for the changes to rates noted in the figure and tables are as follows:

- There is a large decrease in participation rates in the 25-39 year age group;
- There is a large increase in participation rates in the 15-24 year age group;
- 'Nowhere to go' increased as a constraint for current participants but it appears that this did not impact on the frequency rates. Frequency rates increased over the three SEQORDS;
- Participation rates decreased slightly. There was a slight increase in 'nowhere to go' constraint for non-participants which may be a cause for the decline in participation rates; and
- The perception that equipment costs have greatly decreased has not led to an increase in participation rates, although this may have led some non-participants to become involved in the activity.

Figure 84: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for non-motorised watercraft

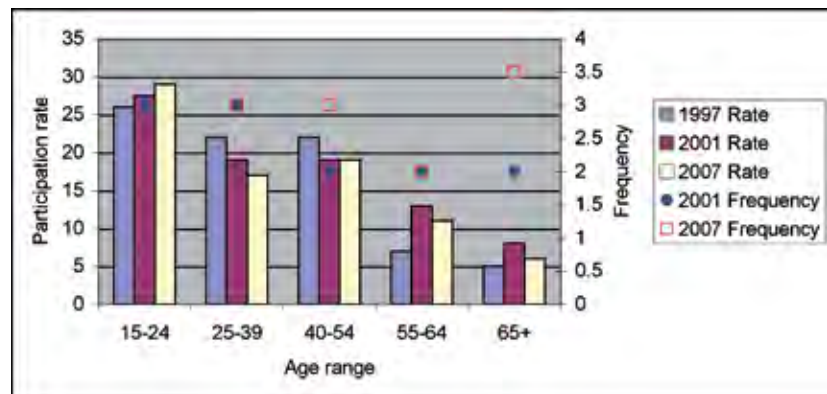
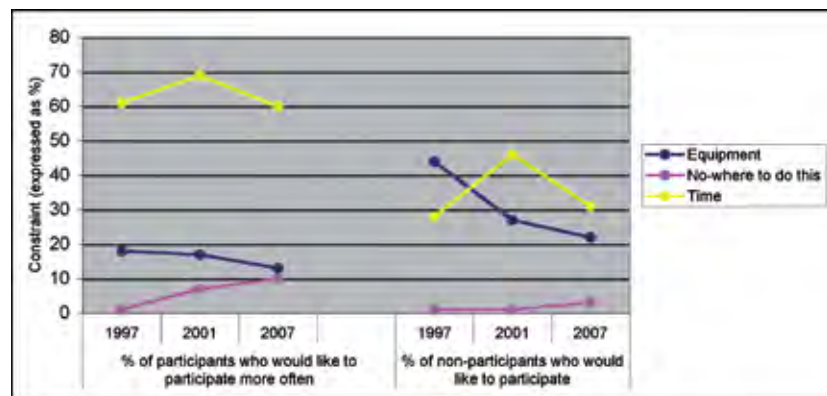


Figure 85: Changes in constraints of current and non participants for non-motorised watercraft



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Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 86 are as follows:

- Motorised watercraft setting use is similar to non-motorised setting use;
- The participation rate in *totally natural* settings is stable;
- Based on 1997 and 2007 data, there is an increase in the use of *very natural* settings and a decrease in the use of *somewhat natural* settings;
- Younger people in 2007 are using more natural setting than in 1997; and
- Based on the data, setting use appears to be unrelated to constraints.

12.8 Horse riding

Table 20 and Figure 87 show the participation rates, frequency of participation and activity trends for horse riding over the three studies.

From the data presented it appears that increased frequency and participation rates in some age groups have given rise to the increase in activity-events. The frequency rates in 2007 have increased from both the 1997 and 2001 study. Possible reasons for the trends can be gained from analysing the following figures.

Figure 86: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for non-motorised watercraft

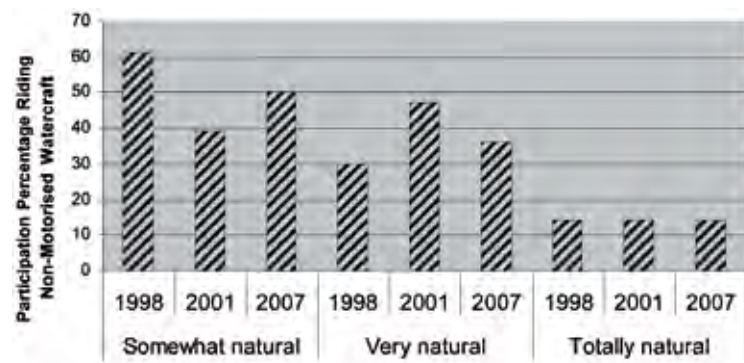
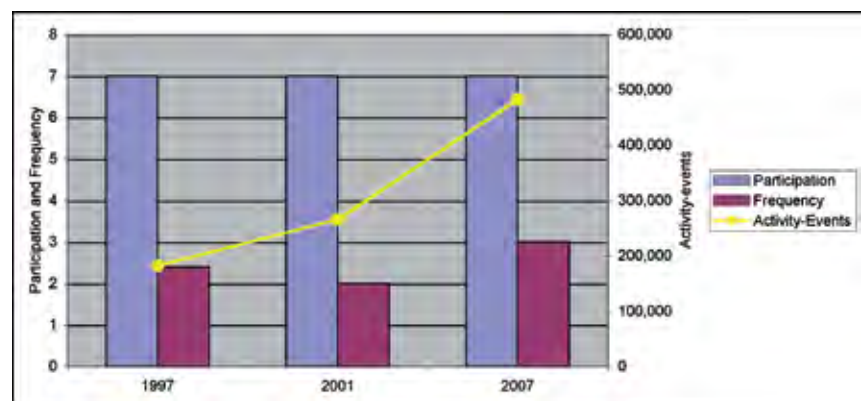


Table 20: Participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for horse riding over the three studies

Horse Riding	1997	2001	2007
Participation	7	7	7
Frequency	2.4	2	3
Activity-Events	182 400	266 100	482 565

Figure 87: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for horse riding



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line.

The reasons for the changes noted in horse riding are complex. The following points are offered:

- 'Time' constraints have generally decreased for non-participants and current participants;
- Participation rates have dropped in the 15-24 age group but have been balanced by an increase in older age groups;
- Other constraints have increased slightly but have not had a major negative impact on participation rates and frequency rates; and
- 'Nowhere to go' constraint increased markedly for current participants but there appears to be no decrease in frequency rates. This indicates that participants still went horse riding but were limited to a smaller number of places where they could ride.

Figure 88: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for horse riding

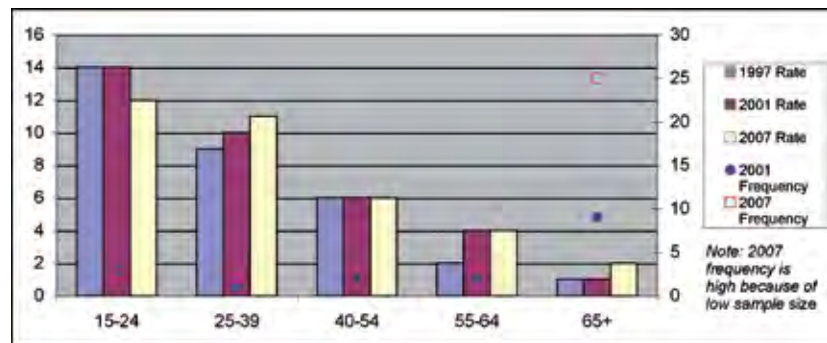
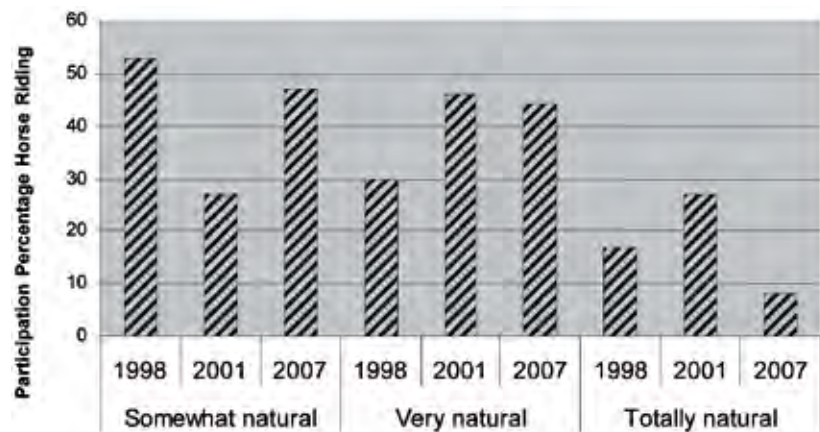


Figure 89: Changes in constraints of current and non-participants for horse riding



Section 12

Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities cont.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 90 are as follows:

- Horse riders continue to use *very natural* settings;
- *Totally natural* settings decreased in proportion to the increase in *somewhat natural* setting use; and
- Changes to the constraint 'nowhere to go' has had a major impact on the setting use of horse riders.

12.9 Driving two wheel drive vehicles

Table 21 and Figures 91, 92 and 93 show the activity trends and constraints for driving 2wd vehicles over the three SEQORDS.

From the data presented below it appears that there is a peak in frequency of participation and thus a peak in activity-events in 2001. However the general trend is of a decline in participation but a stable rate of activity-events. For an understanding of the recent changes, the following demographic and constraints data is presented below.

Comments on, and possible explanations for the changes noted in driving 2wd vehicles are as follows:

- The age groups of 25-39 and 40-54 show a large decrease in participation rates;
- The 65+ age group proportionately had a smaller decrease than the other age groups. In this age group the frequency of participation

Figure 90: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for horse riding

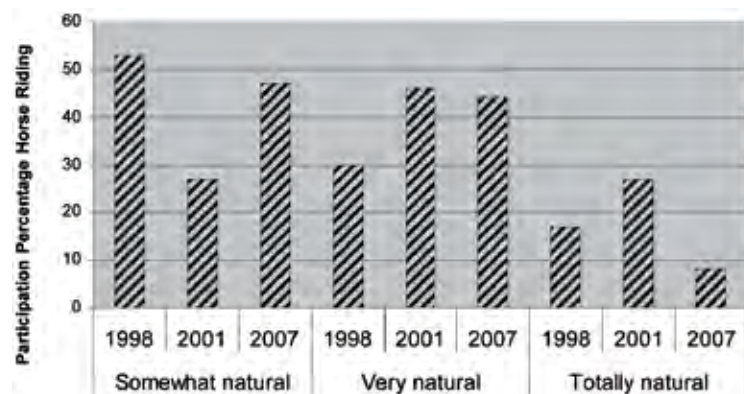
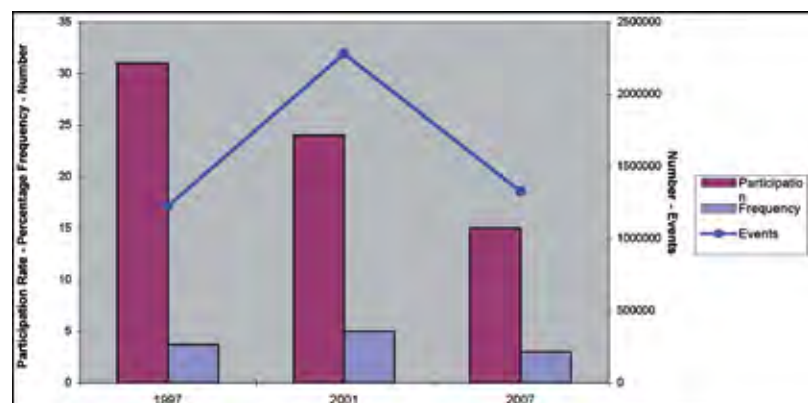


Table 21: Participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for driving two wheel drive vehicles over the three studies

Driving two wheel drive vehicles	1997	2001	2007
Participation	31	24	15
Frequency	3.7	5	3
Events	1 224 700	2 280 850	1 326 234

Figure 91: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for driving 2wd vehicles



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

also increased. This was the only age group to increase in frequency in 2007;

- 'Cost' constraints for non-participants are increasing;
- It is reasonable to assume that the 25-39 and 40-54 age groups have less disposable income for driving given the rise in fuel prices and other economic concerns;
- 'Nowhere to go' also increased for current participants. This may be the result of increased perception of congestion in SEQ road systems. Coupled with 'cost' constraint this will have a large effect on participation and frequency rates;
- 'Time' is less of an issue for non-participants than for current participants;
- For both current and non-participants 'time' has decreased as a constraint for further participation;
- It must be noted that this mirrors ABS data on vehicular trends. The average annual number of kilometres travelled per passenger vehicle dropped from 15,500 during the year ended 30 September 1985 to 14,100 during the year ended 31 October 2005; and
- It appears to be reasonable to conclude that here is a positive correlation between the trend noted for driving 2wd vehicles and other activities dependent on 2wd vehicles. Walking or nature study and picnicking may be similarly constrained by increased fuel prices and other vehicular expenses.

Figure 92: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for driving 2wd vehicles

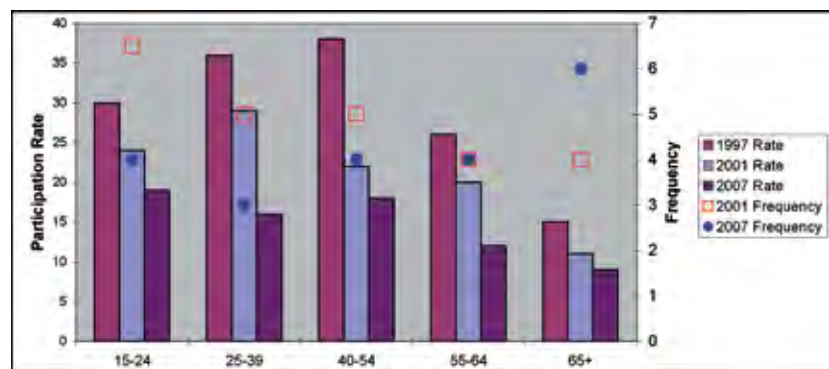
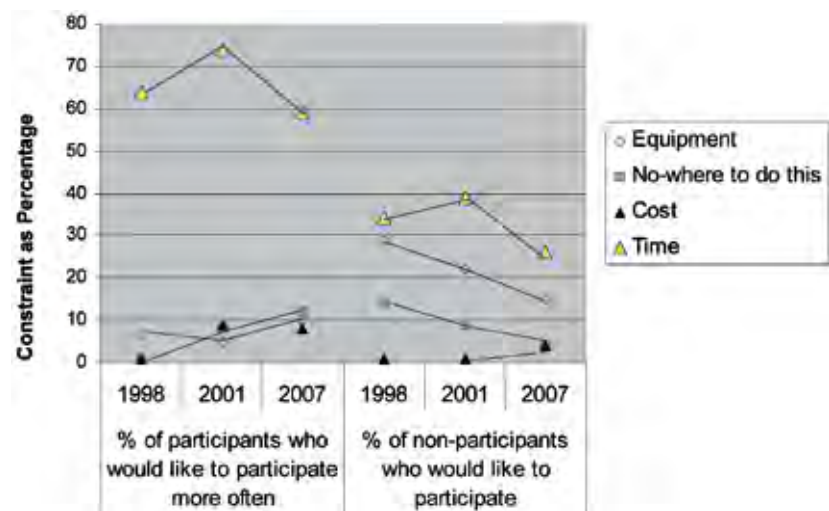


Figure 93: Changes in constraints of current and non-participants for Driving 2wd vehicles



Section 12

Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities cont.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 94 are as follows:

- *Totally natural* setting use increased in 2007;
- *Very natural* setting use in 2007 reverted back to the 1997 levels;
- It appears that people switched use from *very natural* settings to *somewhat natural* setting between 2001-2007; and
- The cost and congestion indicated above appear to be having an effect on *very natural setting* use but not *totally natural* setting use.

12.10 Driving 4WD vehicles

Table 22 and Figures 95, 96, and 97 show the activity trends and constraints for driving 4wd vehicles over the three SEQORDS.

The data presented shows a peak in frequency of participation and thus a peak in activity-events in 2001.

Figure 94: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for driving 2wd vehicles

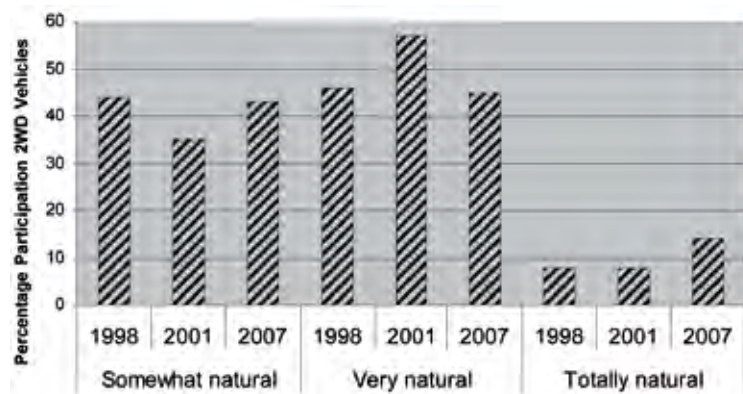
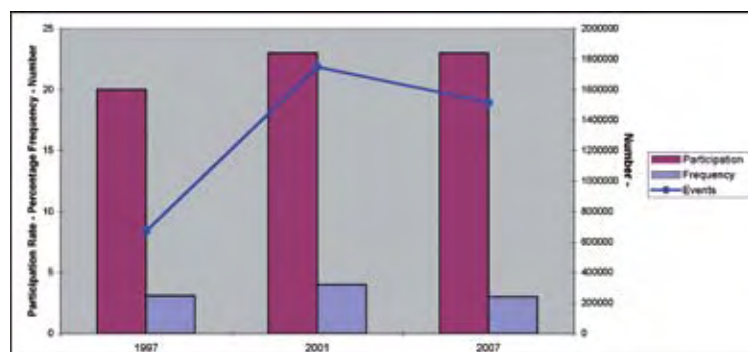


Table 22: Participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for driving 4wd vehicles over the three SEQORDS

Driving 4wd vehicles	1997	2001	2007
Participation	20	23	23
Frequency	3.1	4	3
Activity-Events	672 700	1 748 652	1 516 634

Figure 95: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for driving 4wd vehicles



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Comments on, and possible reasons for the changes noted in driving 4wd vehicles are as follows:

- There is a large increase in the number of participants in the 25-39 age group; Also there are increases in the age groups just younger and older than the 25-39 age group;
- 'Cost' has decreased for non-participants and current participants. This may reflect the increase in the number of smaller 'car like' 4wd is now being purchased by urban dwellers. This can explain the stable rate of participation in this activity;
- The decline in frequency can be explained by a rise in 'family' constraints and the still relatively high 'time' constraint for non-participants but more so for current participants; and
- The constraints of driving 2wd vehicles appear to be different to 4wd vehicles. 'Cost' does not play as significant role in 4wd vehicle constraints.

Figure 96: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for driving 4wd vehicles

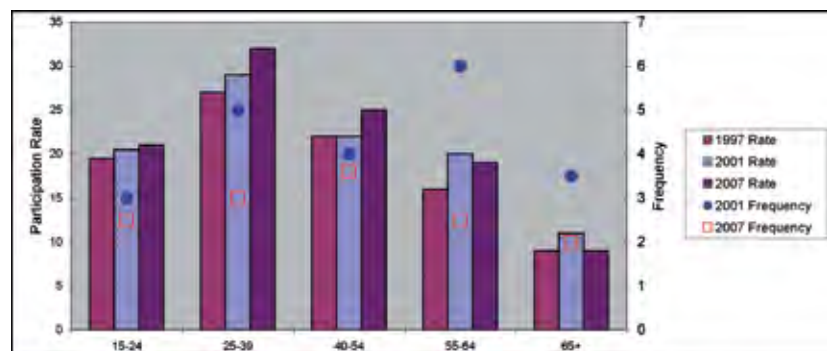
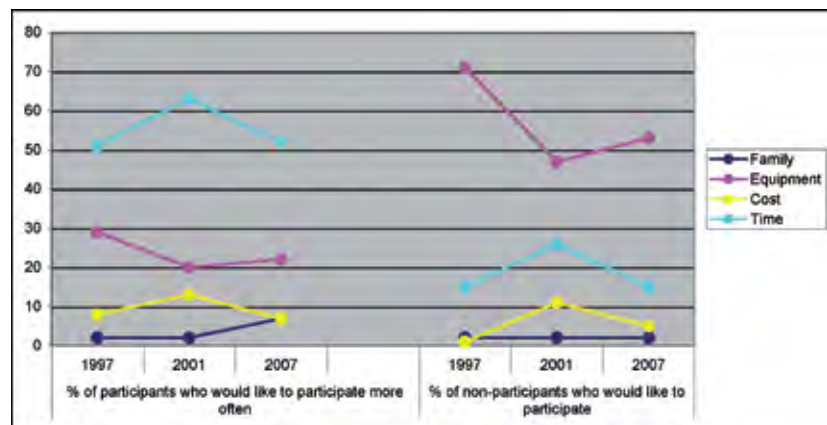


Figure 97: Changes in constraints of current and non-participants for driving 4wd vehicles



Section 12

Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities cont.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 98 are as follows:

- There is a slight increase in the use of *totally natural* settings;
- Generally there has been an increase in *very natural* settings and general decrease in *somewhat natural* settings between 1997 and 2007; and
- It appears that use of a particular setting is not dependent on the 'nowhere to go' and 'cost' constraint because these aspects did not play a large part in the constraints of this activity.

12.11 Other vehicles

Table 23 and Figures 99, 100, and 101 show the activity trends and constraints for driving other vehicles over the three SEQORDS.

Table 23 and Figure 99 show that there is a dramatic rise in participation rates, frequency of participation and thus activity-events in 2007.

Figure 98: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for driving 4wd vehicles

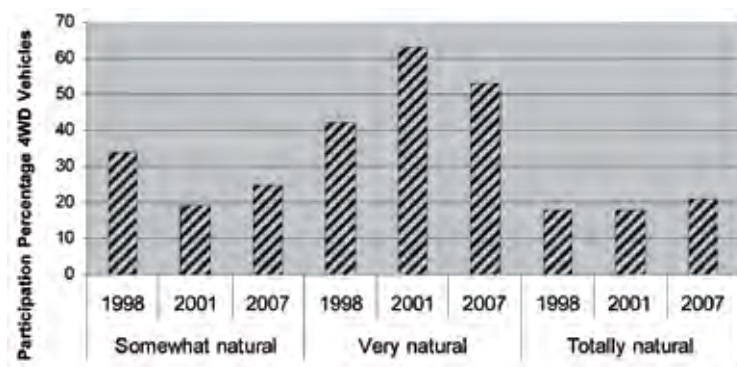
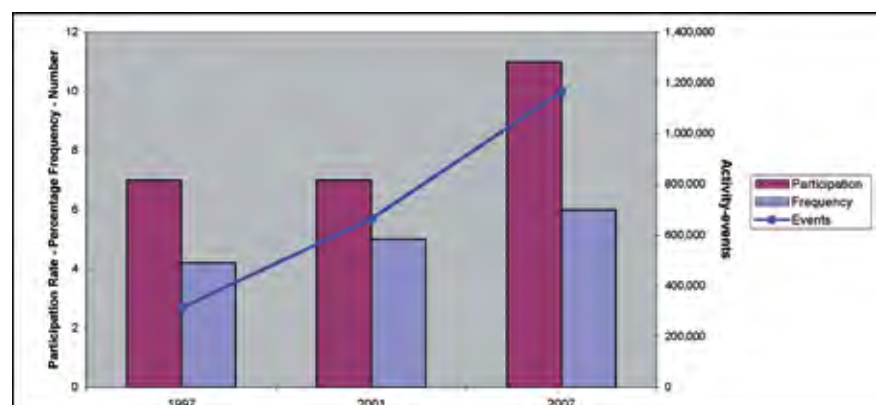


Table 23: Participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for driving other vehicles over the three the three SEQORDS

Driving other vehicles	1997	2001	2007
Participation	7	7	11
Frequency	4.2	5	6
Activity-Events	315000	665250	1165379

Figure 99: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for driving other vehicles



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Comments on, and possible explanations for the changes noted in driving other vehicles are as follows:

- There is approximately a 65% increase in participation rates in the 15-24 age group from 2001 to 2007;
- All other age groups have risen (except 65+) from 1997 to 2007;
- 'Cost' constraints have increased for non-participants but equipment constraints have decreased dramatically;
- 'Time' is an issue for current participants but that is becoming less of a constraint. This can help explain increases in frequencies;
- 'Nowhere to go' is an increasing constraint for current participants but it has not deterred current participants from participating more frequently than in the past; and
- For those people who currently participate 'cost' is a decreasing constraint.

Figure 100: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for driving other vehicles

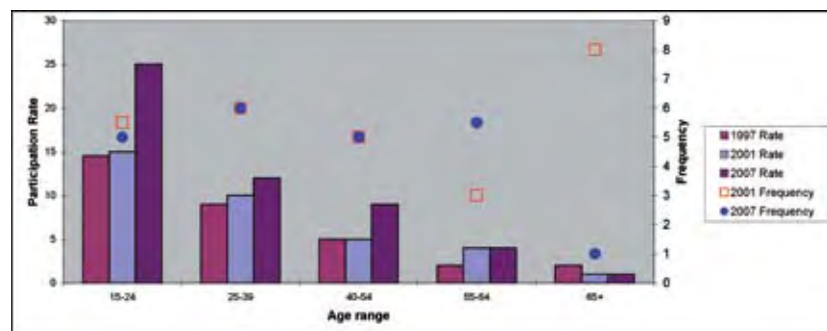
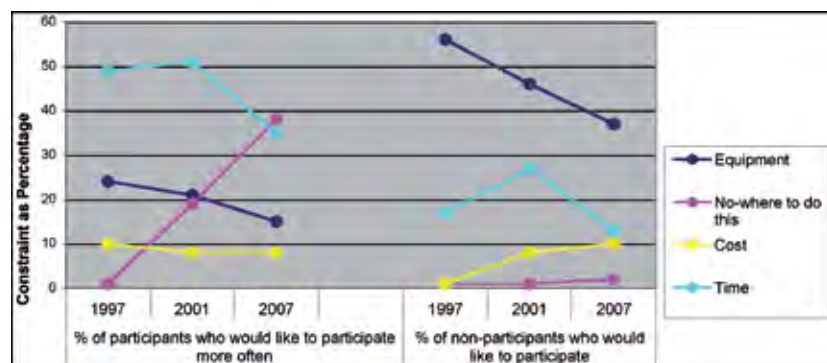


Figure 101: Changes in constraints of current and non-participants for driving other vehicles



Section 12

Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities cont.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 102 are as follows:

- There is an increase in use of more natural settings despite the increasing constraint of 'nowhere to go';
- The 'cost' of accessing more natural settings does not appear to be a limiting factor for current participants; and
- These trends are of concern because of possible conflicts with other outdoor recreation users as well as other land management issues.

12.12 Abseiling/rock-climbing

Abseiling/rock-climbing activity trends are analysed in this section. Table 24 and Figures 103, 104, and 105 shows the activity trends and constraints for abseiling/rock climbing over the three SEQORDS.

Table 24 and Figure 103 show a rise in frequency of participation but a decrease in participation rates. This still led to an increase in activity-events in 2007.

Figure 102: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for driving other vehicles

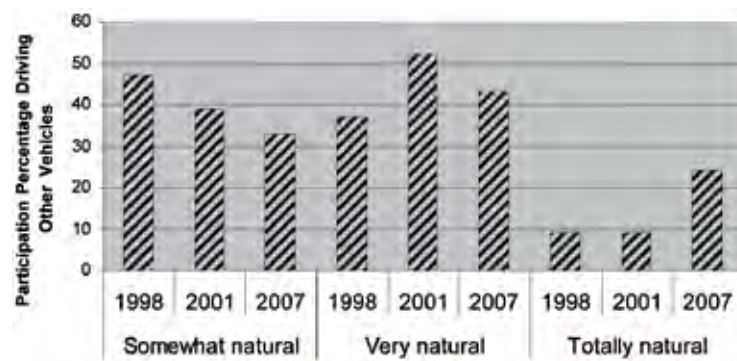
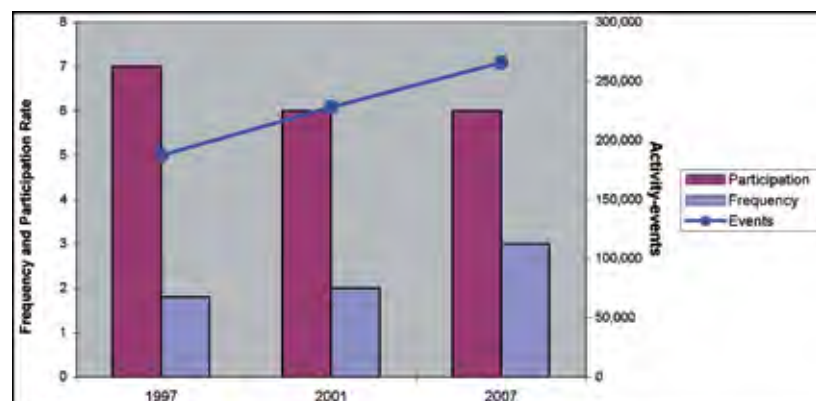


Table 24: Participation rates, frequency of participation and activity-events for abseiling/rock-climbing over the three SEQORDS

Abseiling/rock-climbing	1997	2001	2007
Participation	7	6	6
Frequency	1.8	2	3
Activity-Events	187500	228086	265903.3

Figure 103: Trends in participation, frequency and activity-events for abseiling/rock-climbing



Note: activity-events are shown as points on the line

Comments on, and possible explanations for the changes noted in abseiling/rock-climbing are as follows:

- All younger age groups saw a decline in participation rates;
- As a percentage, the overall decline in participation rates was not large;
- The 25-39 age group went against the trend and increased in frequency of participation. In this age group the participation rate was stable between 2001 and 2007. This contributed to the increase in frequency of participation overall from 1997 to 2007. It also contributed to the increase in activity-events;
- For non-participants 'health' was an increasing constraint; and
- The increasing constraint of 'nowhere to go' for current participants did not factor into a decrease in frequency. However, this constraint indicates a latent demand for this activity.

Figure 104: Trends in participation and frequency rates within age groups for abseiling/rock-climbing

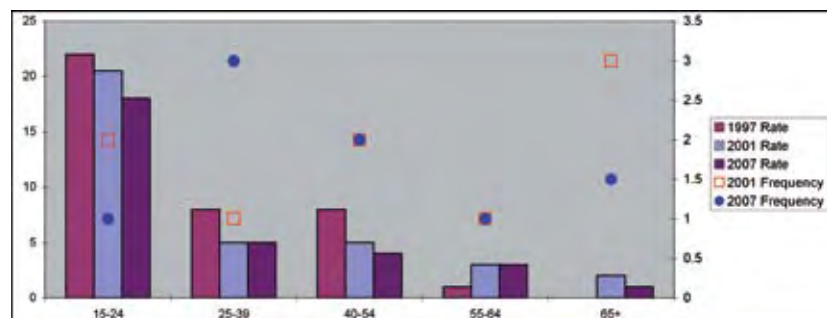
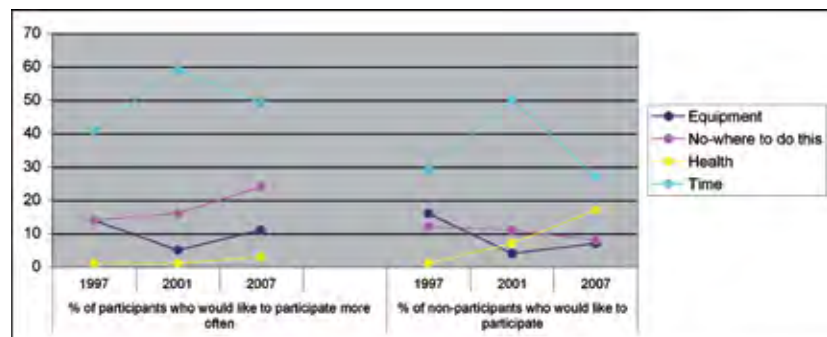


Figure 105: Changes in constraints of current and non-participants for abseiling/rock-climbing



Section 12

Changes in selected outdoor recreation activities cont.

Comments on trends and possible explanations for the changes noted in trends in current participation rates across the three settings in Figure 106 are as follows:

- *Somewhat natural* setting remains the dominant setting used by abseilers and rock climbers;
- There was a slight increase in the use of natural settings;
- This corresponded to a decrease in the use of *somewhat natural* settings;
- Abseilers and rock climbers use of *totally natural* settings was stable; and
- Although a more natural setting is increasingly being used for the activity the recent development of sports climbing¹⁰ may conflict with this trend and may ultimately change the setting.

12.13 Fishing

Fishing was not analysed in the SEQORDS. It is presented here because of the rise in participation rates between 2001 and 2007. Figure 107 shows the changes in participation rates for fishing between 2001 and 2007 SEQORDS.

Based on the SEQORDS data above there is almost a one hundred percent increase in the participation rate. Given that this was not a direct question in the SEQORDS interviews it is highly likely that rate of participation for fishing is an underestimation of the number of people engaged in this activity. No frequency data is available so a calculation of activity-events is not possible.

Figure 106: Trends in current participation rates across the three settings for abseiling/rock-climbing

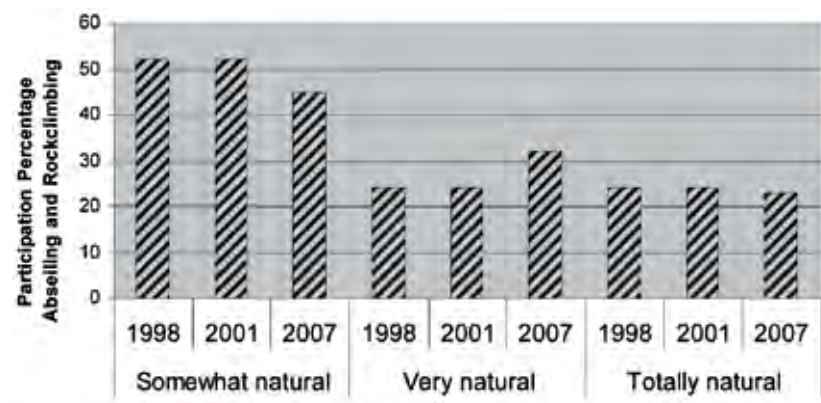
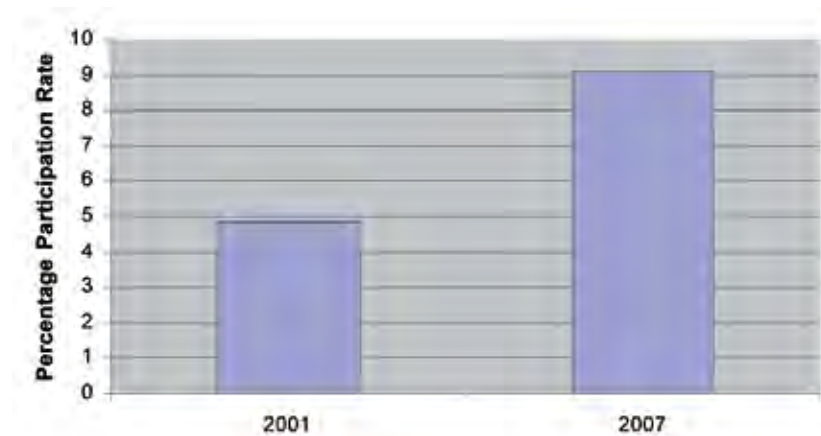


Figure 107: Trends in participation rates for fishing between 2001 and 2007 SEQORDS



¹⁰ Sports climbing uses artificial anchors (bolts) to ensure the safe passage of climbers. The installation of these anchors by climbers means that climbing becomes popular compared to previous more traditional approaches