



Summary sheet | 2017 National
Cycling Participation Survey

Australian Cycling Participation



3.74 million
people ride a bike
in Australia each week



The National Cycling Strategy 2011-2016 sets out the objective to double cycling participation by Australians between 2011 and 2016. To measure performance towards this objective, the Australian Bicycle Council commissions a National Cycling Participation Survey which has been conducted in 2011, 2013, 2015 and now in 2017. The survey provides estimates of cycling participation (measured in the past week, month and year) across Australia and for each state and territory.

Key findings from the 2017 survey are as follows:

- New South Wales has experienced a statistically significant decrease in cycling participation between 2015 and 2017 and is significantly below the 2011 baseline. However, we would caution that in past years Sydney's result was derived from the Sydney Cycling Survey which included additional questions and was performed at a different time of year. In 2017 however, Sydney was surveyed using the same approach as all other states and territories, thus ensuring that all regions are now directly comparable.

- Victoria and South Australia appear to have experienced a statistically significant decrease in cycling participation over the six-year period.
- Queensland may have experienced a small decline in participation between 2011 and 2015, with some improvement in 2017.
- The Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory have not experienced significant changes in participation over the period.
- Western Australia may have experienced a slight decline in participation over the six-year period, with the jump in 2015 appearing to be an outlier.
- Tasmanian participation may have decreased somewhat over the six-year period, much of which may have occurred between 2011 and 2013.

Overall, five jurisdictions have reported a decline in cycling participation over the six-year period (New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania). Two experienced no change (Queensland, Northern Territory) and one may have experienced an increase in participation (Australian Capital Territory).

Cycling participation as a proportion of Australian resident population in 2017

