

1 Participation

This chapter discusses program participation for those people invited into the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008. This includes invitees from both phase 1 and phase 2 which began on 1 July 2008; however, as people aged 50 years were only included from phase 2, data for people aged 50 years was only available for the final 6 months of 2008.

Fast facts

- Of the 685,915 eligible people invited into the NBCSP in 2008, 251,152 (36.6%) had agreed to participate by 31 January 2009. Using a 26-week Kaplan-Meier estimate to adjust for people invited late in 2008, overall participation was estimated at 39.3%.
- A 52-week Kaplan-Meier estimate of combined participation for those aged 55 and 65 years (as in phase 1 of the NBCSP) showed participation (43.0%) was slightly lower than previous years.
- Kaplan-Meier curves showed that participation rates tended to plateau at around 16 weeks from original invitation.
- There were statistically significant differences in participation between the three target ages. Using Kaplan-Meier estimates at 26 weeks since invitation, the highest rate of participation was by people aged 65 years (47.7%), followed by those aged 55 years (38.9%) – these values were similar to the previous report. Those aged 50 years had the lowest participation at 31.8%.
- There was also a statistically significant difference in participation between the sexes; female participation (42.6%) was 1.2 times the male participation rate (36.0%).
- People with a severe or profound activity limitation were 1.3 times more likely to participate than people without such limitations.

Overall participation

Of the 685,915 invitations issued in 2008 that were eligible for analysis, 251,152 people participated by returning a completed FOBT kit. This gave an overall Australia-wide crude participation rate of 36.6%, as shown in Table 1.1. When compared with crude participation from previous years (Table 1.3), this 2008 rate is statistically significantly lower. Possible reasons for this are:

- the inclusion of people aged 50 years from July 2008. Those aged 50 years were less likely to participate than older aged invitees (Table 1.4). This may lead to invalid conclusions when comparing 2008 participation to that of previous years
- delays between invitation and acceptance by participants. Program invitations are sent to invitees throughout the year and those who receive their invitation in the last 3 months of the year may not have had time to decide on participation and return their completed kit by 31 January 2009. Furthermore, people turning 50 in 2008 were only invited from 1 July 2008, with 74% of them receiving their invitation after 1 September 2008. Reporting (at all stages of the pathway) for people invited in the last 3 months of the year is influenced heavily by lag times; therefore, crude participation rates are likely

to be understated, so 2008 participation data in the participation trends table (Table 1.3) used Kaplan-Meier estimates of participation.

Kaplan-Meier methods (see Appendix D for further information) are standard statistical methods used to model the time to an event and the changes in the rates of an event over time. In this case, the event is a person's response (by returning a completed FOBT kit), and the time to the event is measured in weeks from the date the invitation was originally sent. As invitations are continually sent throughout the year, this allows the calculation of a response rate over time from the date of invitation, which is a more accurate estimation of true participation. Figure 1.2 presents the proportion of individuals who responded to the invitation, by time in weeks, calculated using the Kaplan-Meier estimates. Table 1.2 presents the corresponding 95% confidence intervals at 26 and 52 weeks where available. The effect of invitation reminders 8 weeks after the original invitation can be seen in figures 1.2, 1.4 and 1.5 as a second steep rise in participation between weeks 10 and 12. It can further be seen that participation rates plateau after 16 weeks from original invitation.

Removal of people aged 50 years from the analysis increased the Australia-wide Kaplan-Meier estimate from 39.3% to 43.0% – this figure offers a more valid comparison to crude participation rates from previous years (Table 1.3) in which those aged 50 years were not included in the NBCSP.

Participation by population subgroups

While overall participation is affected by lag time, it does not affect comparisons between population subgroups that have had equivalent time to respond. Where this is the case, crude rates have been used.

Participation by state and territory

Participation by state and territory showed most jurisdictions had similar levels of participation; however, both the Northern Territory (22.3% crude participation) and New South Wales (32.9% crude participation) were statistically significantly lower than the other jurisdictions (Table 1.1). The highest participation rate was in Tasmania (43.2% crude participation). These differences were also evident in the Kaplan-Meier estimates in Table 1.2 and Figure 1.2.

Participation by age and sex

Participation differences between ages and sexes were similar to those shown in previous NBCSP monitoring reports; participation was higher with increasing age, and was also higher in females than males (Figure 1.1). This was a common trend seen across all population subgroups. However, as those aged 50 years have not had the same length of time to respond to the screening invitation as those aged 55 and 65 years, a Kaplan-Meier analysis (Table 1.4 and Figure 1.4) is also provided to give a more complete picture of participation by age group.

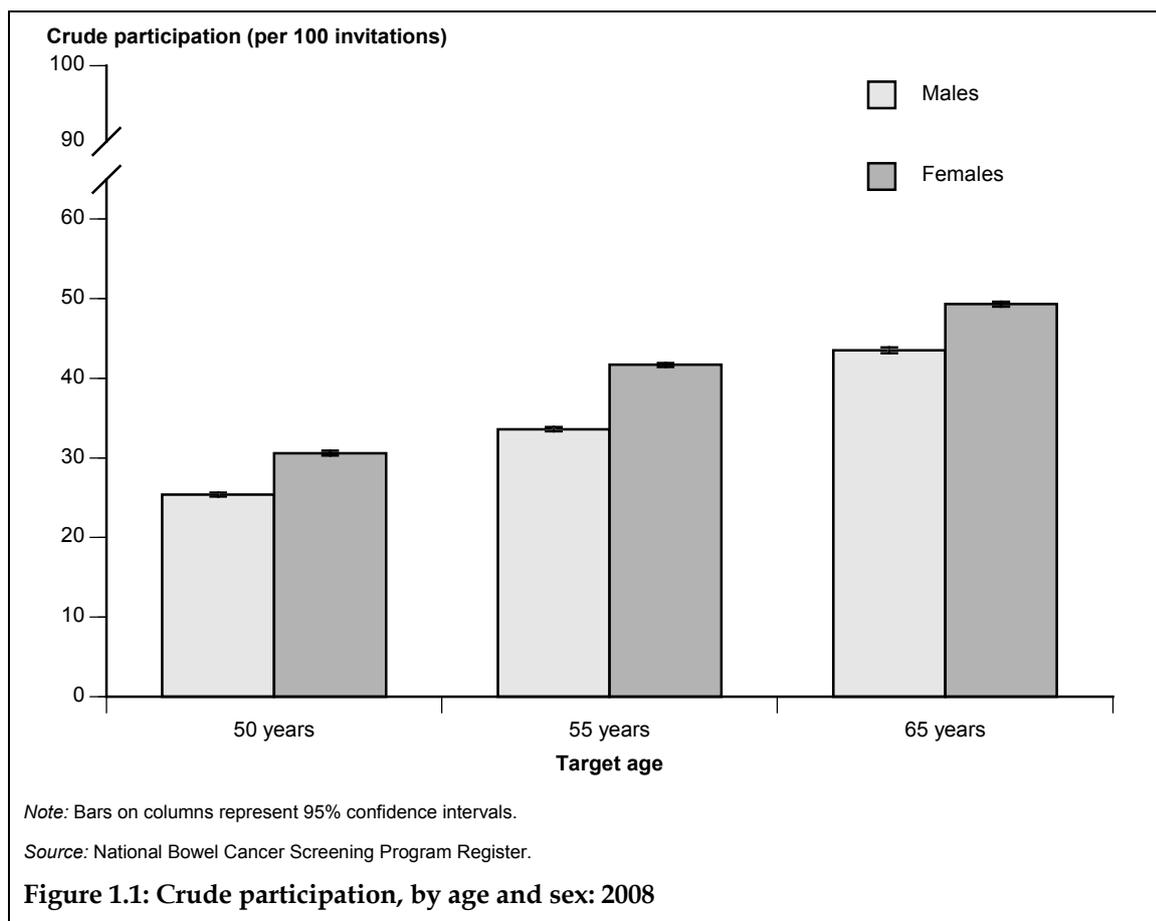


Table 1.4 and Figure 1.4 highlight the difference in participation rates between the three ages invited. Those aged 50 years do not have a 52-week Kaplan-Meier estimate of participation, as they were only invited from July 2008. At 26 weeks, those aged 55 years were 1.2 times and those aged 65 years were 1.5 times more likely to participate than 50 year olds.

Table 1.5 and Figure 1.5 show that females were 1.2 times more likely to participate than males (42.6% Kaplan-Meier estimated participation for females compared with 36.0% for males).

Participation by region and socioeconomic status

Over 62% of participants came from *Major cities*. However, crude participation was statistically significantly higher in *Inner regional* (40.1%) and *Outer regional* (39.1%) areas than the remaining geographical areas (Table 1.6). *Very remote* regions had statistically significantly lower crude participation (25.0%) (Figure 1.6).

Invitees were grouped into population-based socioeconomic status groups (Table 1.7). Participation was similar across these groups; however, participation by invitees from the lowest socioeconomic group was statistically significantly lower than all other socioeconomic groups (Figure 1.7).

Participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status, language spoken at home and disability subgroups

Details of an invitee's status regarding these subgroups is not known at the time of invitation – these details are only collected if a person becomes a participant in the NBCSP and completes the relevant section of their Participant Details form. Hence, it is not possible to know the actual number of people of these subgroups that were invited into the NBCSP. Instead an estimated denominator was calculated from the proportion of people known to be in these subgroups using population estimates from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, multiplied by the number of people invited into the NBCSP in 2008.

Participation was statistically significantly higher (2.2 times) for non-Indigenous invitees than for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples. It was also statistically significantly higher (2.9 times) for people who speak English at home compared with people who speak a language other than English at home.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status relies on self-identification of participants on the Participant Details form. However, for participants invited in 2008, only 63.6% supplied the relevant information, meaning the status was unknown for 91,313 (36.4%) participants. These participants were excluded from the analysis. Similarly, participants who speak a language other than English at home are self-identified to Medicare Australia. Those who do not specify another language were assumed to speak English. It appears that in 2008, a higher proportion of participants were assumed to speak English than in previous years. These data quality issues for the two subgroups must be taken into account when interpreting the results (tables 1.8 and 1.9).

People with a severe or profound activity limitation (43.0%) had 1.3 times the rate of participation than participants without these limitations (34.0%) (Table 1.10). This difference was statistically significant and was similar to the result from the 2008 NBCSP monitoring report.

Participation tables and figures

Table 1.1: Crude participation, by state and territory: 2008

		NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Males										
50 years	Number	9,512	7,068	5,800	3,396	2,647	640	444	253	29,760
	Per cent	23.2	26.8	26.2	26.4	27.1	28.2	26.4	18.6	25.4
55 years	Number	12,307	9,657	11,084	5,542	4,777	1,581	712	290	45,950
	Per cent	30.0	34.2	34.8	36.1	37.2	40.4	37.2	21.2	33.6
65 years	Number	11,196	7,847	9,569	4,546	4,088	1,335	538	192	39,311
	Per cent	39.7	42.5	45.2	47.2	49.4	47.5	48.3	29.5	43.5
Total	Number	33,015	24,572	26,453	13,484	11,512	3,556	1,694	735	115,021
	Per cent	29.9	33.7	35.2	35.6	37.3	39.5	36.0	21.8	33.4
	95% CI	29.7– 30.2	33.3– 34.0	34.9– 35.5	35.2– 36.1	36.7– 37.8	38.5– 40.5	34.6– 37.3	20.4– 23.1	33.3– 33.6
Females										
50 years	Number	11,376	8,493	6,970	4,201	3,210	816	607	285	35,958
	Per cent	27.8	32.5	31.2	32.5	33.2	35.1	33.1	22.0	30.6
55 years	Number	15,321	12,185	13,494	6,611	5,996	1,988	885	272	56,752
	Per cent	37.3	42.7	43.2	44.3	45.5	49.6	44.5	22.2	41.7
65 years	Number	12,583	8,967	10,407	4,763	4,570	1,406	591	134	43,421
	Per cent	45.4	48.2	51.3	53.3	55.4	53.1	52.3	26.8	49.3
Total	Number	39,280	29,645	30,871	15,575	13,776	4,210	2,083	691	136,131
	Per cent	35.8	40.5	41.8	42.3	44.3	46.9	42.0	22.9	39.8
	95% CI	35.5– 36.1	40.1– 40.8	41.5– 42.2	41.8– 42.8	43.7– 44.8	45.8– 47.9	40.7– 43.4	21.4– 24.4	39.7– 40.0
Persons										
50 years	Number	20,888	15,561	12,770	7,597	5,857	1,456	1,051	538	65,718
	Per cent	25.5	29.7	28.7	29.5	30.1	31.7	29.9	20.2	28.0
55 years	Number	27,628	21,842	24,578	12,153	10,773	3,569	1,597	562	102,702
	Per cent	33.6	38.5	39.0	40.1	41.4	45.0	40.9	21.7	37.7
65 years	Number	23,779	16,814	19,976	9,309	8,658	2,741	1,129	326	82,732
	Per cent	42.5	45.4	48.2	50.2	52.4	50.2	50.3	28.3	46.4
Total	Number	72,295	54,217	57,324	29,059	25,288	7,766	3,777	1,426	251,152
	Per cent	32.9	37.1	38.5	38.9	40.8	43.2	39.1	22.3	36.6
	95% CI	32.7– 33.1	36.8– 37.3	38.2– 38.7	38.6– 39.3	40.4– 41.2	42.5– 43.9	38.1– 40.0	21.3– 23.3	36.5– 36.7

Notes

1. Participants in the Program were defined as members of the eligible population who returned a completed FOBT kit.
2. Percentages equal people participating as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen. This excludes people who suspended or opted off the National Program.
3. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

Table 1.2: Kaplan-Meier estimated participation rates at 26 and 52 weeks since invitation, by state and territory: 2008

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
26 weeks									
People participating (per 100 invitations)	35.2	39.6	40.0	41.9	43.3	45.0	41.7	23.4	38.9
95% CI	35.0–35.4	39.3–39.8	39.8–40.3	41.5–42.3	42.8–43.7	44.2–45.7	40.6–42.7	22.3–24.4	38.8–39.0
52 weeks									
People participating (per 100 invitations)	35.5	40.0	40.4	42.4	43.6	45.3	42.2	23.7	39.3
95% CI	35.3–35.7	39.7–40.3	40.2–40.7	42.0–42.8	43.2–44.1	44.5–46.0	41.1–43.3	22.6–24.8	39.2–39.4

Notes

1. Participation rates equal the estimated Kaplan-Meier participation rate of people who returned a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen, excluding people who suspended or opted off the Program.
2. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

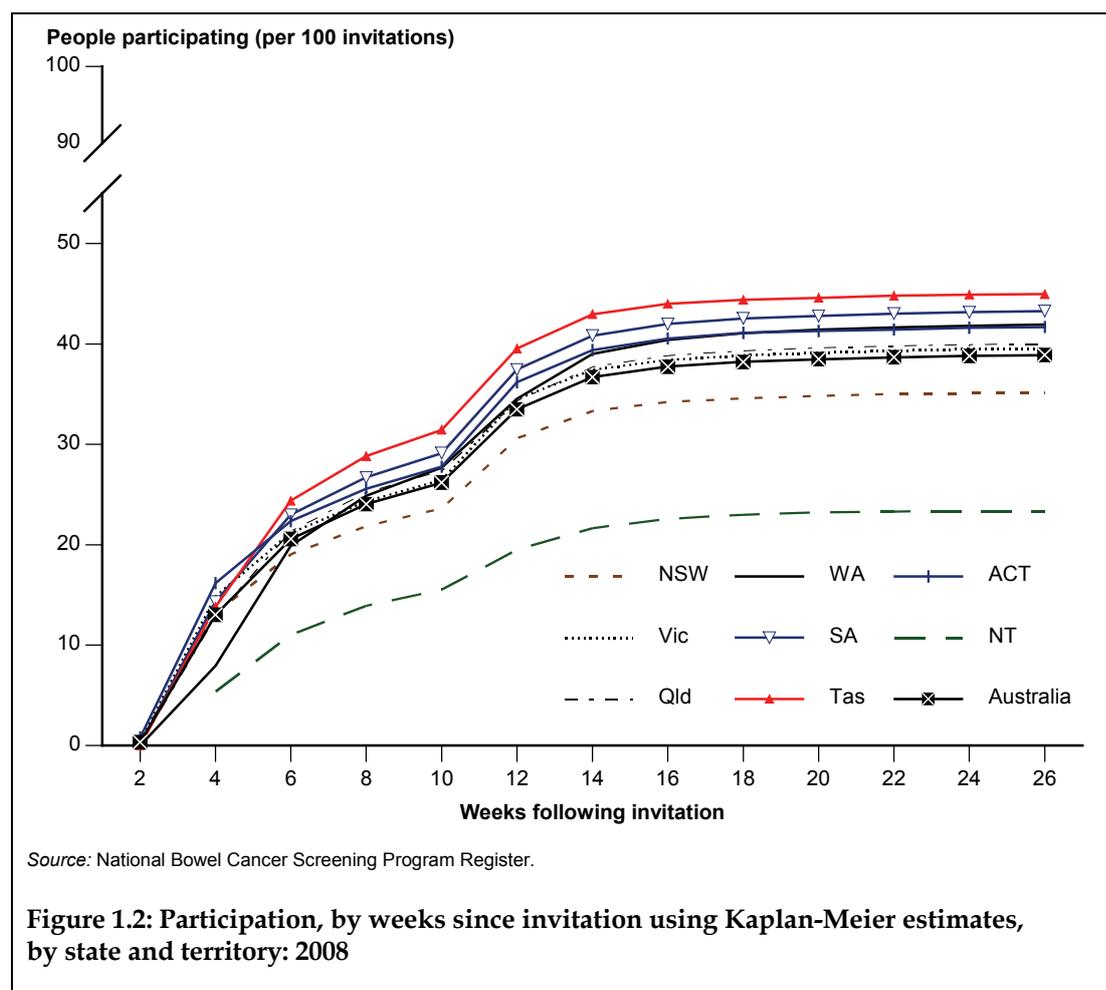
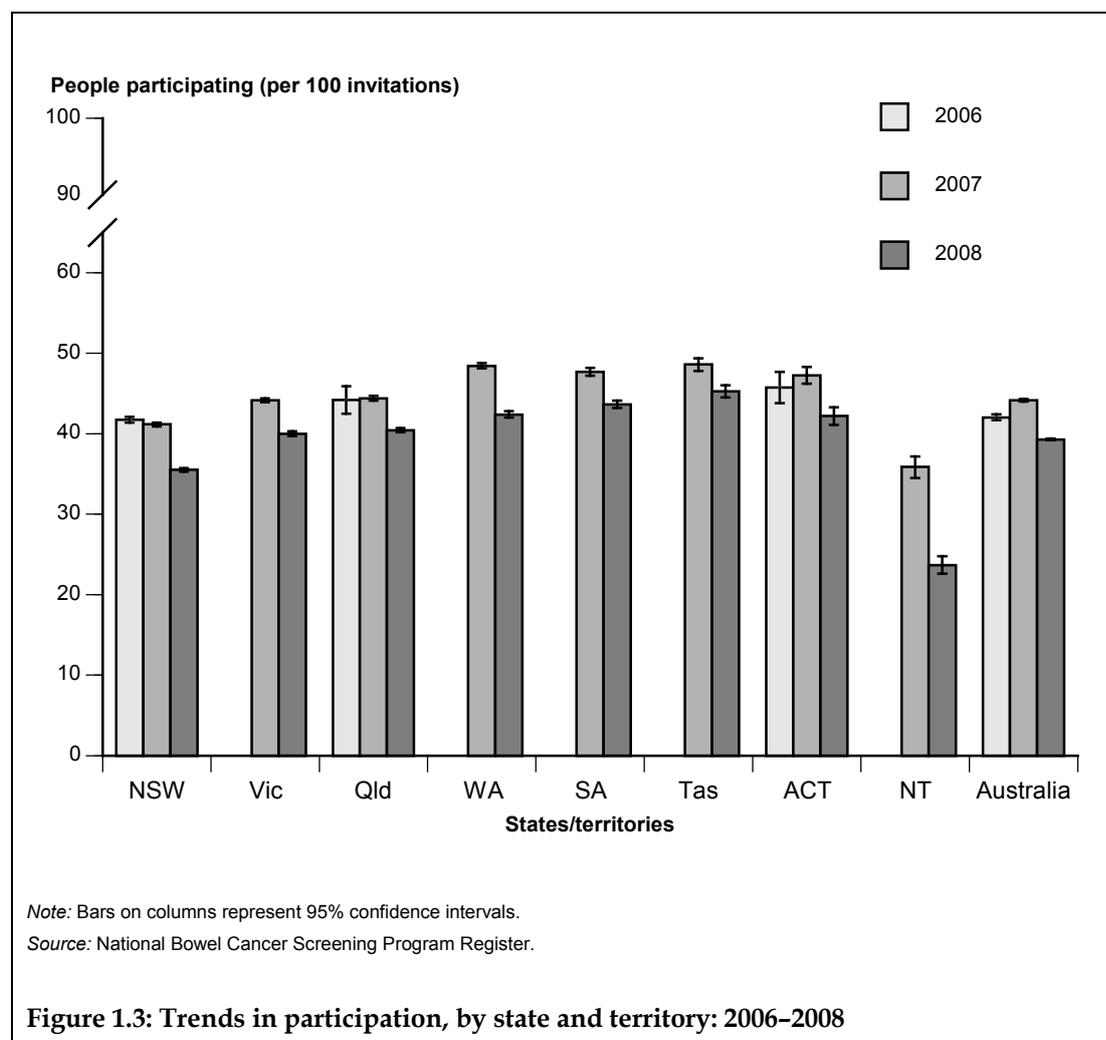


Table 1.3: Trends in participation, by state and territory: 2006–2008

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
2006	41.8	..	44.2	..	..	..	45.8	..	42.0
95% CI	41.4–42.1	..	42.5–45.9	..	..	..	43.8–47.7	..	41.7–42.4
2007	41.2	44.1	44.4	48.4	47.7	48.6	47.3	35.9	44.2
95% CI	40.9–41.4	43.9–44.4	44.1–44.7	48.1–48.8	47.2–48.2	47.8–49.4	46.2–48.3	34.5–37.2	44.0–44.3
2008	35.5	40.0	40.4	42.4	43.6	45.3	42.2	23.7	39.3
95% CI	35.3–35.7	39.7–40.3	40.2–40.7	42.0–42.8	43.2–44.1	44.5–46.0	41.1–43.3	22.6–24.8	39.2–39.4

Notes

1. Only New South Wales, Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory had started the NBCSP in 2006; therefore, 2006 data is only available for these jurisdictions. See page 5.
2. Participation rates for 2006 and 2007 equal crude participation rates, calculated as the number of people who returned a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen, excluding people who suspended or opted off the Program.
3. Participation rates for 2008 equal the estimated Kaplan-Meier participation rate of people who returned a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen, excluding people who suspended or opted off the Program.
4. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008 which lowered overall participation rates for 2008. See page 8.



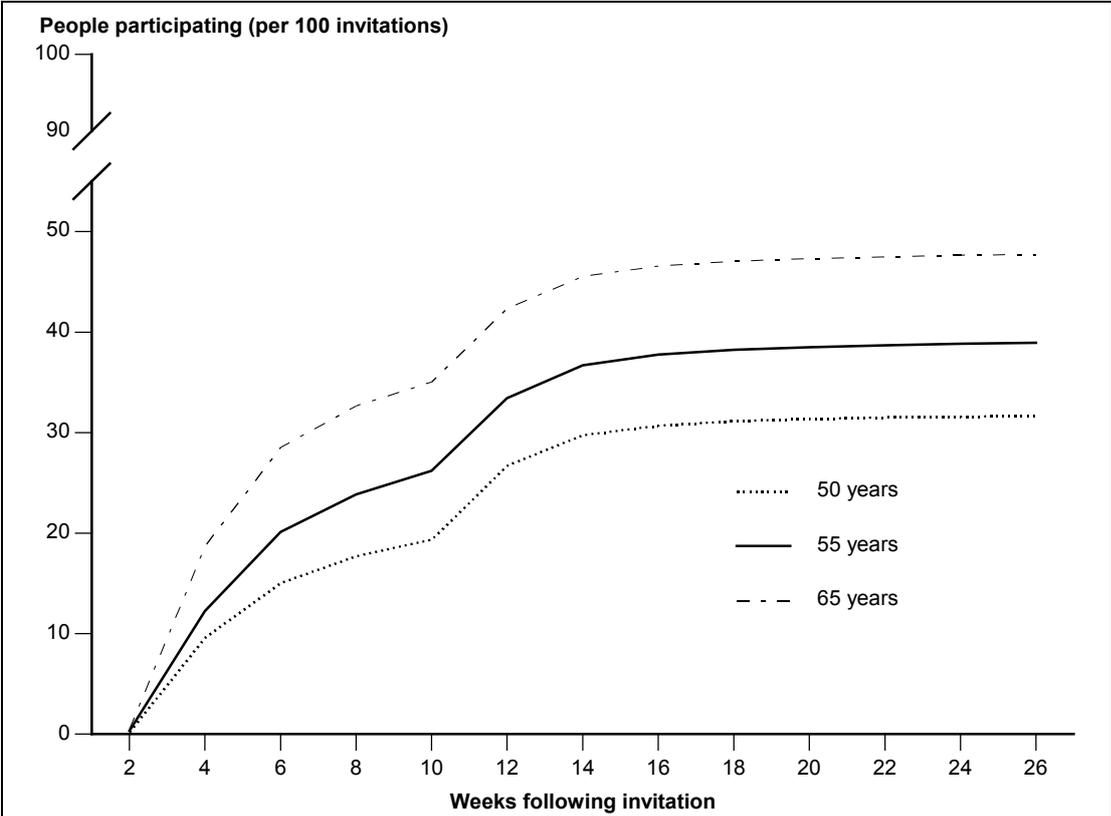
Participation by population subgroups

Table 1.4: Kaplan-Meier estimated participation rates at 26 and 52 weeks since invitation, by age: 2008

	50 years	55 years	65 years
26 weeks			
People participating (per 100 invitations)	31.8	38.9	47.7
95% CI	31.6–32.0	38.7–39.1	47.5–48.0
52 weeks			
People participating (per 100 invitations)	..	39.3	48.1
95% CI	..	39.1–39.5	47.8–48.3

Notes

1. Participation rates equal the estimated Kaplan-Meier participation rate of people who returned a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen, excluding people who suspended or opted off the Program.
2. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.



Source: National Bowel Cancer Screening Program Register.

Figure 1.4: Participation, by weeks since invitation using Kaplan-Meier estimates, by age: 2008

Table 1.5: Kaplan-Meier estimated participation rates at 26 and 52 weeks since invitation, by sex: 2008

	Males	Females
26 weeks		
People participating (per 100 invitations)	35.6	42.2
95% CI	35.5–35.8	42.0–42.4
52 weeks		
People participating (per 100 invitations)	36.0	42.6
95% CI	35.9–36.2	42.4–42.7

Notes

1. Participation rates equal the estimated Kaplan-Meier participation rate of people who returned a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen, excluding people who suspended or opted off the Program.
2. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

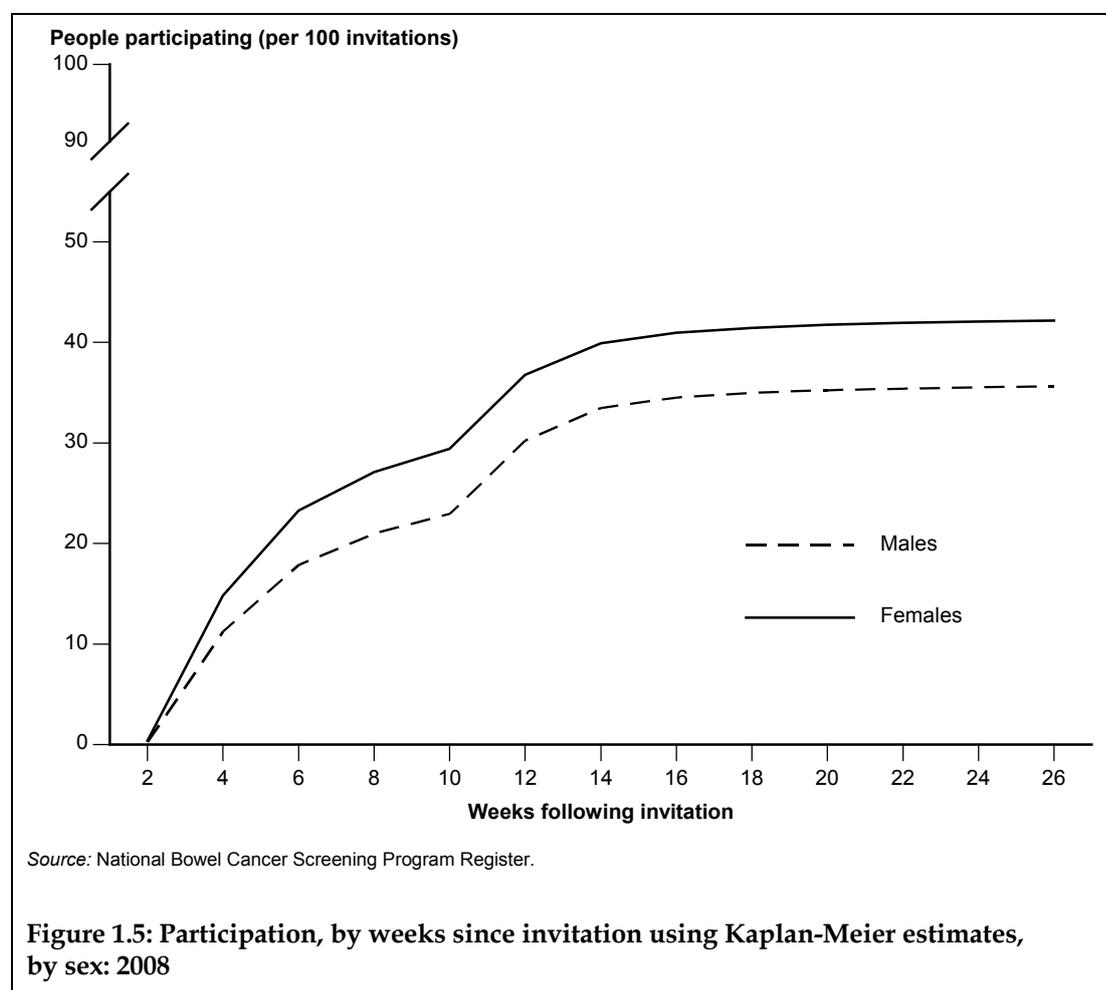


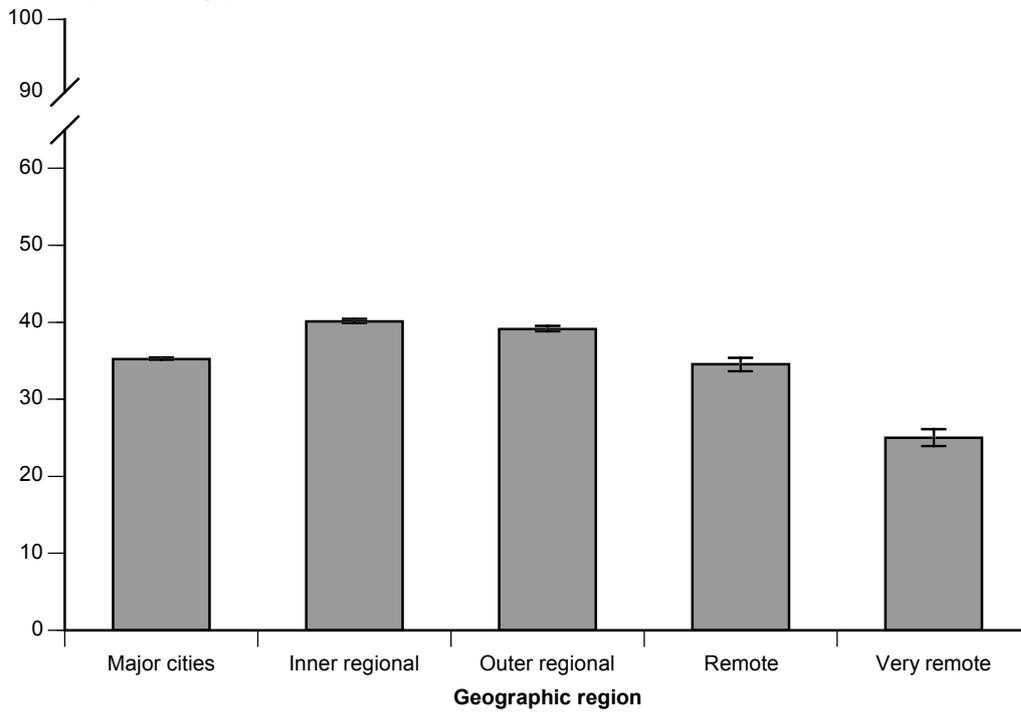
Table 1.6: Crude participation, by geographic region: 2008

		Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total
Males							
50 years	Number	19,881	6,220	3,061	416	170	29,747
	Per cent	25.3	26.0	25.8	22.6	17.4	25.4
55 years	Number	27,980	10,992	5,685	887	387	45,931
	Per cent	32.4	36.9	35.5	31.8	24.6	33.6
65 years	Number	23,289	10,106	4,970	674	248	39,286
	Per cent	42.1	47.2	45.4	40.3	30.1	43.5
Total	Number	71,150	27,317	13,716	1,977	804	114,964
	Per cent	32.3	36.4	35.3	31.4	23.9	33.4
	95% CI	32.1–32.5	36.0–36.7	34.8–35.8	30.3–32.6	22.4–25.3	33.3–33.6
Females							
50 years	Number	23,904	7,761	3,610	497	174	35,945
	Per cent	30.0	32.7	31.8	29.2	20.3	30.6
55 years	Number	35,249	13,393	6,809	890	380	56,721
	Per cent	39.9	45.8	45.7	38.6	27.5	41.7
65 years	Number	25,894	11,383	5,230	677	217	43,401
	Per cent	47.2	53.9	52.5	48.8	31.4	49.3
Total	Number	85,047	32,537	15,649	2,064	770	136,067
	Per cent	38.2	43.9	43.2	38.3	26.4	39.8
	95% CI	38.0–38.4	43.6–44.3	42.7–43.7	37.0–39.6	24.8–28.0	39.7–40.0
Persons							
50 years	Number	43,784	13,981	6,672	912	343	65,692
	Per cent	27.6	29.4	28.7	25.8	18.8	28.0
55 years	Number	63,230	24,385	12,494	1,777	767	102,652
	Per cent	36.2	41.3	40.4	34.9	26.0	37.7
65 years	Number	49,183	21,489	10,200	1,351	464	82,687
	Per cent	44.6	50.5	48.8	44.2	30.7	46.4
Total	Number	156,197	59,854	29,365	4,040	1,574	251,031
	Per cent	35.2	40.1	39.1	34.6	25.0	36.6
	95% CI	35.1–35.4	39.9–40.4	38.8–39.5	33.7–35.4	23.9–26.1	36.5–36.7

Notes

1. A participant's geographic region was classified using the participant's residential postcode according to the Australian Standard Geographic Classification for 2006.
2. There were 121 respondents and 372 invitations with postcodes that did not correspond with the Australian Standard Geographic Classification for 2006 by postal area. These were regarded as missing data and excluded from this table. Hence, the totals in this table may be less than the national totals.
3. Because some postcodes cross regional boundaries, totals may not add up due to rounding.
4. Percentages equal the number of people returning a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen.
5. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

People participating (per 100 invitations)



Note: Bars on columns represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: National Bowel Cancer Screening Program Register.

Figure 1.6: Crude participation, by geographic region: 2008

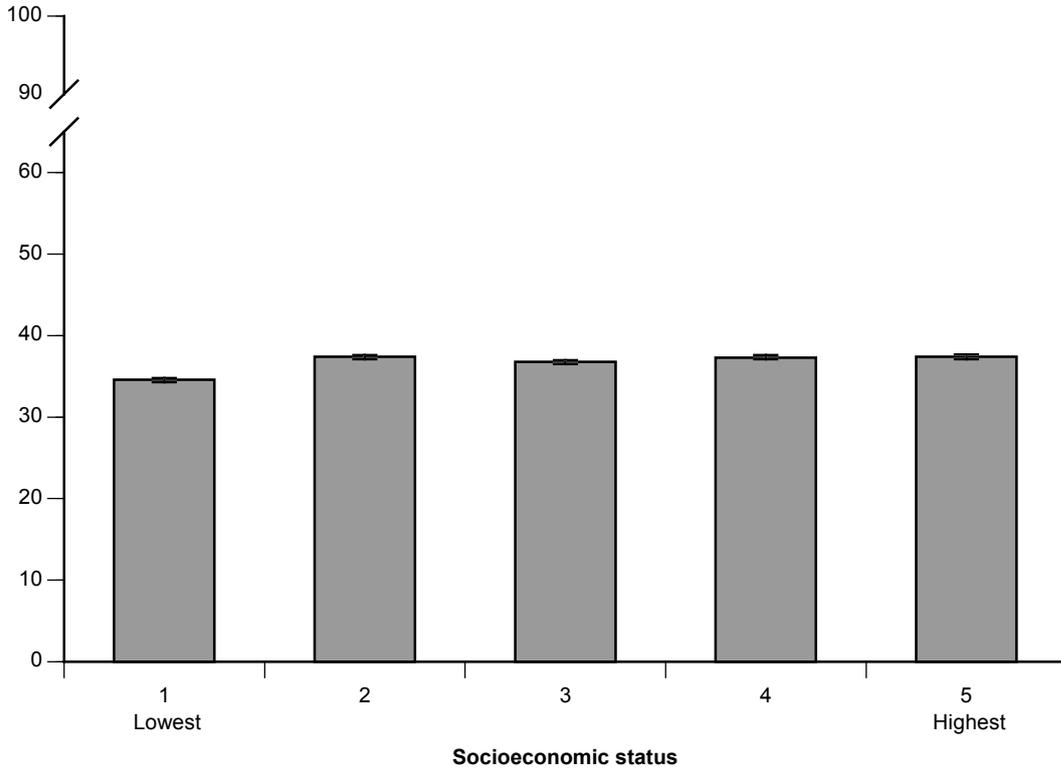
Table 1.7: Crude participation, by socioeconomic status: 2008

		Lowest SES			Highest SES		
		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Males							
50 years	Number	5,464	5,805	5,908	5,879	6,313	29,369
	Per cent	23.7	24.6	25.4	26.2	27.1	25.4
55 years	Number	8,633	9,608	9,331	8,891	8,939	45,402
	Per cent	31.4	34.3	34.1	34.2	34.6	33.7
65 years	Number	8,271	8,744	7,608	7,137	7,106	38,866
	Per cent	41.3	44.6	43.6	44.8	44.2	43.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>22,368</i>	<i>24,157</i>	<i>22,847</i>	<i>21,907</i>	<i>22,358</i>	<i>113,637</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>33.9</i>	<i>33.6</i>	<i>34.0</i>	<i>34.3</i>	<i>33.5</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>31.3–32.0</i>	<i>33.6–34.3</i>	<i>33.2–33.9</i>	<i>33.7–34.4</i>	<i>34.0–34.7</i>	<i>33.3–33.6</i>
Females							
50 years	Number	6,279	7,063	7,086	7,175	7,946	35,549
	Per cent	28.2	30.7	30.2	31.7	32.2	30.6
55 years	Number	10,610	11,764	11,446	11,077	11,242	56,139
	Per cent	39.1	42.6	42.1	42.6	42.3	41.7
65 years	Number	8,993	9,792	8,626	7,763	7,899	43,073
	Per cent	46.2	50.8	49.9	50.2	50.1	49.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>25,882</i>	<i>28,619</i>	<i>27,158</i>	<i>26,015</i>	<i>27,087</i>	<i>134,761</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>37.6</i>	<i>40.9</i>	<i>40.0</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.4</i>	<i>39.9</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>37.2–38.0</i>	<i>40.6–41.3</i>	<i>39.6–40.4</i>	<i>40.2–41.0</i>	<i>40.0–40.8</i>	<i>39.7–40.1</i>
Persons							
50 years	Number	11,743	12,868	12,994	13,054	14,259	64,918
	Per cent	25.9	27.6	27.8	29.0	29.7	28.0
55 years	Number	19,243	21,372	20,777	19,968	20,181	101,541
	Per cent	35.2	38.4	38.1	38.4	38.5	37.7
65 years	Number	17,264	18,536	16,234	14,900	15,005	81,939
	Per cent	43.7	47.7	46.8	47.5	47.2	46.5
Total	Number	48,250	52,776	50,005	47,922	49,445	248,398
	Per cent	34.6	37.4	36.8	37.3	37.4	36.7
	95% CI	34.3–34.8	37.1–37.6	36.5–37.0	37.1–37.6	37.1–37.7	36.6–36.8

Notes

1. A participant's socioeconomic status was classified using the participant's residential postcode according to the ABS Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage (IRSD) for 2006.
2. There were 2,754 respondents and 8,736 invitations with postcodes that did not correspond with the 2006 ABS IRSD classifications by postal area. These were regarded as missing data and excluded from this table. Hence, the totals in this table may be less than the national totals.
3. Percentages equal the number of people returning a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen.
4. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

People participating (per 100 invitations)



Note: Bars on columns represent 95% confidence intervals.

Source: National Bowel Cancer Screening Program Register.

Figure 1.7: Crude participation, by socioeconomic status: 2008

Table 1.8: Crude participation, by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status: 2008

		Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous	Total
Males				
50 years	Number	87	11,156	11,243
	Per cent	4.7	9.7	9.6
55 years	Number	219	33,303	33,522
	Per cent	13.3	24.7	24.5
65 years	Number	133	28,118	28,251
	Per cent	16.9	31.4	31.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>439</i>	<i>72,577</i>	<i>73,016</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>10.2</i>	<i>21.4</i>	<i>21.2</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>9.3–11.2</i>	<i>21.2–21.5</i>	<i>21.1–21.3</i>
Females				
50 years	Number	91	13,493	13,584
	Per cent	4.8	11.7	11.6
55 years	Number	265	41,780	42,045
	Per cent	14.6	31.1	30.9
65 years	Number	150	31,044	31,194
	Per cent	15.8	35.6	35.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>506</i>	<i>86,317</i>	<i>86,823</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>10.9</i>	<i>25.6</i>	<i>25.4</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>10.0–11.7</i>	<i>25.5–25.8</i>	<i>25.3–25.6</i>
Persons				
50 years	Number	178	24,649	24,827
	Per cent	4.7	10.7	10.6
55 years	Number	484	75,083	75,567
	Per cent	14.0	27.9	27.7
65 years	Number	283	59,162	59,445
	Per cent	16.2	33.5	33.3
Total	Number	945	158,894	159,839
	Per cent	10.6	23.5	23.3
	95% CI	9.9–11.2	23.4–23.6	23.2–23.4

Notes

1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status was defined by the participant on the Participant Details form.
2. There were 91,313 participants with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status not stated. These were treated as missing data and excluded from this analysis. Hence, the totals in this table may be less than the national totals; data in this table is therefore considered unreliable.
3. Percentages equal the number of people returning a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen.
4. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

Table 1.9: Crude participation, by language spoken at home: 2008

		Language other than English	English	Total
Males				
50 years	Number	1,110	28,650	29,760
	Per cent	5.9	29.1	25.4
55 years	Number	3,395	42,555	45,950
	Per cent	16.7	36.6	33.6
65 years	Number	2,829	36,482	39,311
	Per cent	18.3	48.7	43.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>7,334</i>	<i>107,687</i>	<i>115,021</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>33.4</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>13.2–13.7</i>	<i>37.0–37.4</i>	<i>33.3–33.6</i>
Females				
50 years	Number	1,381	34,577	35,958
	Per cent	6.7	35.7	30.6
55 years	Number	4,308	52,444	56,752
	Per cent	19.6	45.9	41.7
65 years	Number	2,748	40,673	43,421
	Per cent	17.8	56.0	49.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>8,437</i>	<i>127,694</i>	<i>136,131</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>14.5</i>	<i>45.0</i>	<i>39.8</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>14.2–14.8</i>	<i>44.8–45.2</i>	<i>39.7–40.0</i>
Persons				
50 years	Number	2,491	63,227	65,718
	Per cent	6.3	32.4	28.0
55 years	Number	7,703	94,999	102,702
	Per cent	18.2	41.2	37.7
65 years	Number	5,577	77,155	82,732
	Per cent	18.1	52.3	46.4
Total	Number	15,771	235,381	251,152
	Per cent	14.0	41.1	36.6
	95% CI	13.8–14.2	40.9–41.2	36.5–36.7

Notes

1. Participants were assumed to speak English at home unless otherwise indicated. See Appendix B for a detailed explanation of language spoken at home.
2. Denominator data is estimated from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing data for language spoken at home. See Appendix C for method of estimation.
3. Percentages equal the number of people returning a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen.
4. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.

Table 1.10: Crude participation, by disability status: 2008

		Severe or profound activity limitation	No severe or profound activity limitation	Total
Males				
50 years	Number	1,099	26,359	27,458
	Per cent	30.5	23.2	23.4
55 years	Number	2,113	41,039	43,152
	Per cent	38.0	31.3	31.6
65 years	Number	2,663	34,132	36,795
	Per cent	43.5	40.6	40.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>5,875</i>	<i>101,530</i>	<i>107,405</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>38.4</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>31.2</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>37.6–39.2</i>	<i>30.7–31.0</i>	<i>31.0–31.4</i>
Females				
50 years	Number	1,645	31,825	33,470
	Per cent	46.2	27.9	28.5
55 years	Number	2,509	51,480	53,989
	Per cent	48.4	39.3	39.6
65 years	Number	2,466	38,654	41,120
	Per cent	48.9	46.6	46.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>6,620</i>	<i>121,959</i>	<i>128,579</i>
	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>48.0</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.6</i>
	<i>95% CI</i>	<i>47.2–48.9</i>	<i>37.0–37.4</i>	<i>37.5–37.8</i>
Persons				
50 years	Number	2,744	58,184	60,928
	Per cent	38.3	25.6	25.9
55 years	Number	4,622	92,519	97,141
	Per cent	43.0	35.3	35.6
65 years	Number	5,129	72,786	77,915
	Per cent	46.0	43.5	43.7
Total	Number	12,495	223,489	235,984
	Per cent	43.0	34.0	34.4
	95% CI	42.4–43.6	33.9–34.1	34.3–34.5

Notes

1. Disability status was reported by the participant on the Participant Details form.
2. There were 15,967 participants with disability status not stated. These were treated as missing data and excluded from this analysis. Hence, the totals in this table may be less than the national totals.
3. A 'profound' disability status indicates that a person always needs assistance with self-care, movement and/or communications activities. A 'severe' disability status indicates that a person sometimes needs assistance with these activities.
4. Percentages equal the number of people returning a completed FOBT kit as a proportion of the total number of the eligible population who were invited to screen.
5. People aged 50 years were invited to screen from 1 July 2008.