# Sport Participation and Ageing - influence and impact

Prof R.C.Richard Davison

University of the West of Scotland







#### Active participation

- <u>www.slido.com</u>
- #8466
- Open questions/feedback

• Polls







#### Overview

- Population trends
- Sports Participation in the older age groups
- Trends in sports participation in the older age groups
- Growing old competitively
- Benefits of sport participation
- Why do older adults not participate in sport?
- Policies for older adult sport participation







#### Population trends









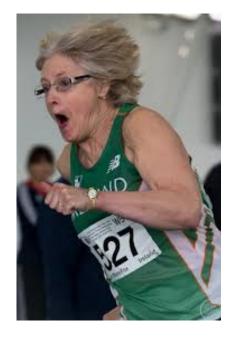


#### Population trends

• Life expectancy

From birth – 77.1 years (lowest in the UK)

Disease free life expectancy
From age 65 – 8.6 years (2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the UK)

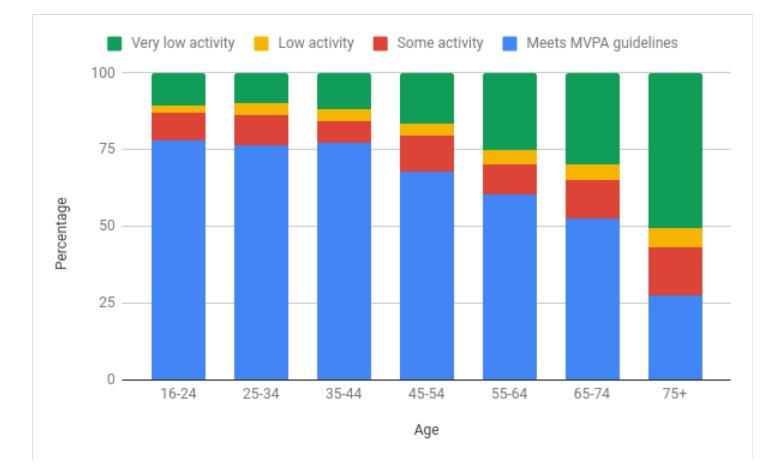








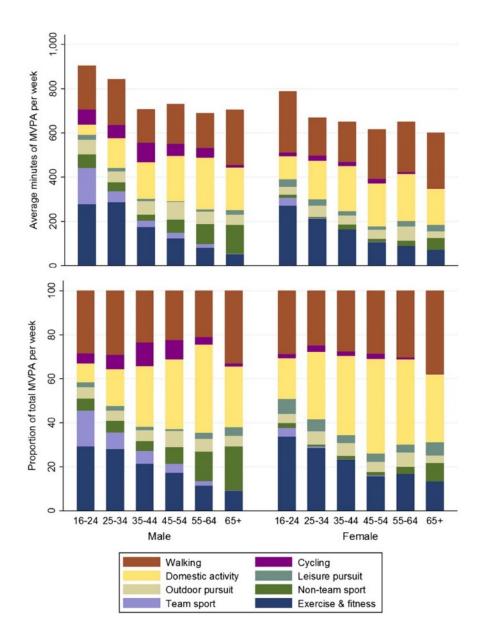
#### Physical Activity with age









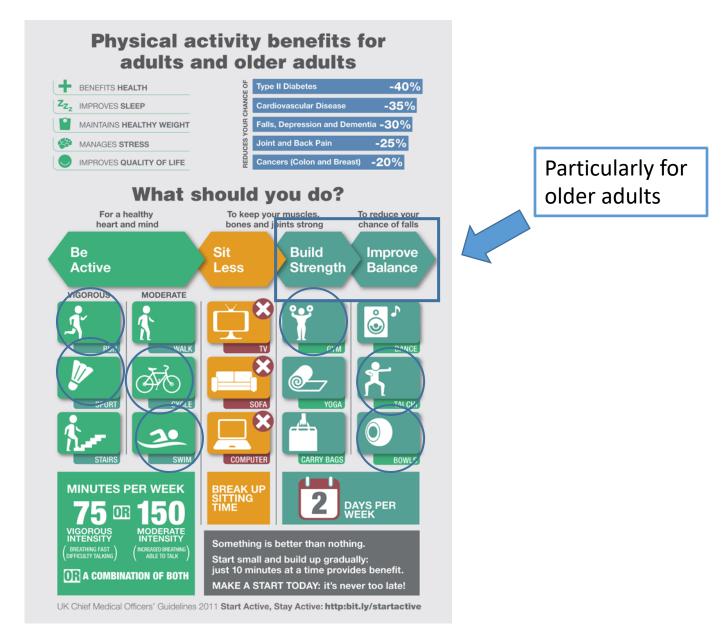


#### (Strain et al. 2016)







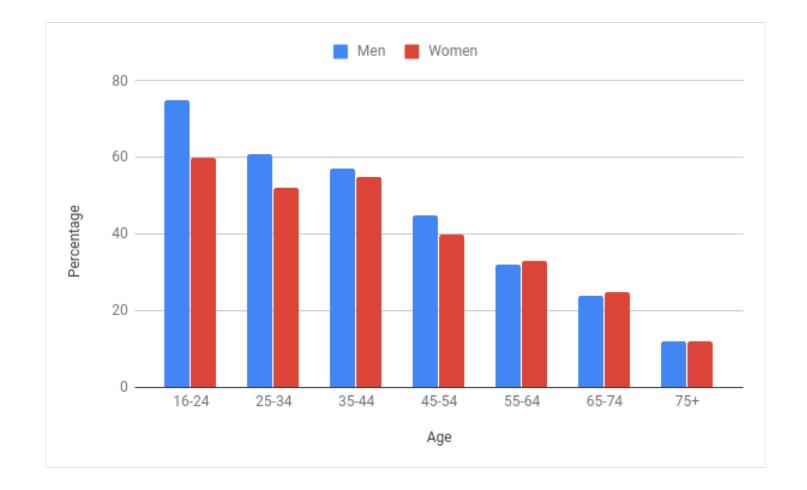








#### Sports participation with age (SHeS)



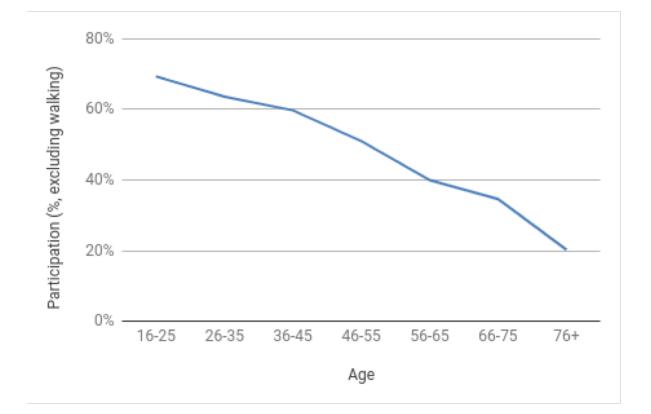
THE \ND





#### Sports Participation with age (SHS)

OBSERVATORY FOR SPORT IN SCOTLAND



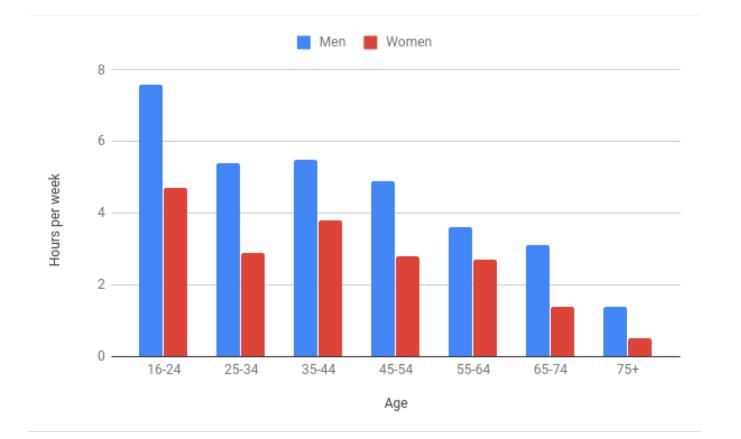
Y OF THE

Oţ





#### Sport participation, Gender effect ?



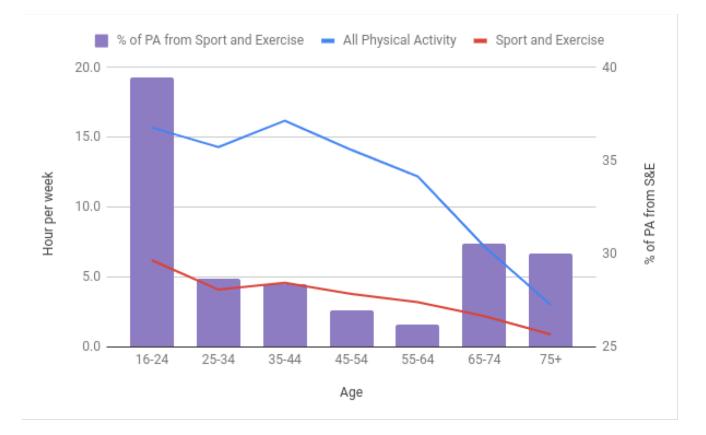






## All physical activity vs Sport physical activity

**OBSERVATORY FOR SPORT IN SCOTLAND** 



THE AND





#### International comparisons

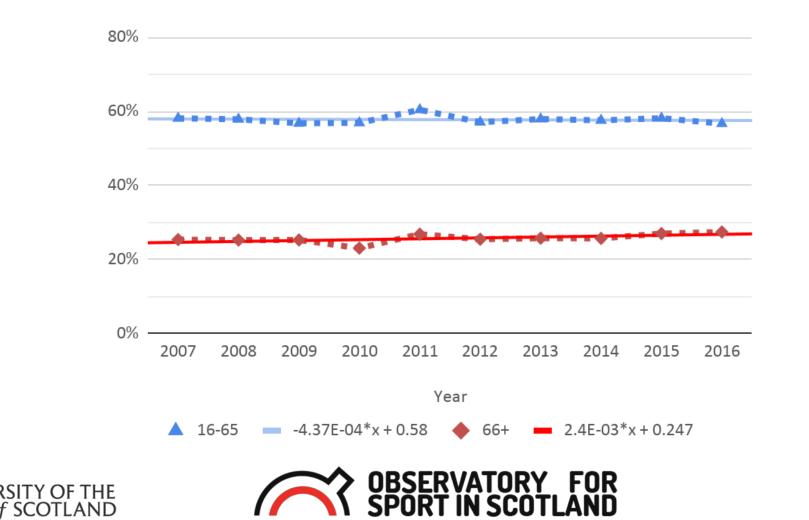
Country	Sports participation (%)
Scotland SHS inc walking	65
Scotland SHS exc walking	30
Scotland SHeS	16
Canada	17
Australia	30
Denmark	64
Netherlands	40





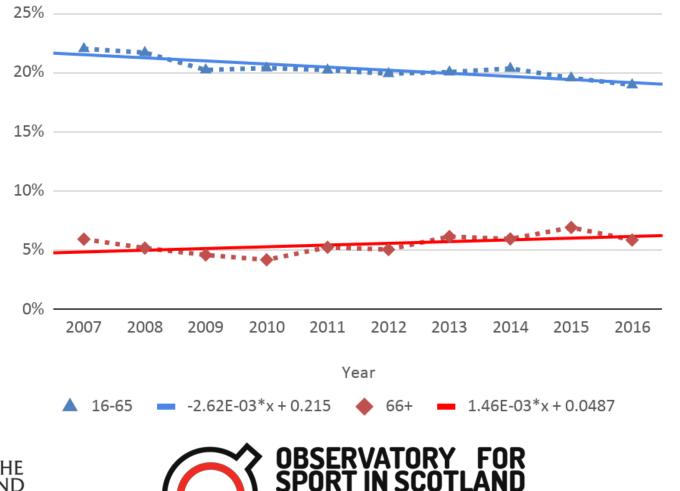


#### Trends in sport participation





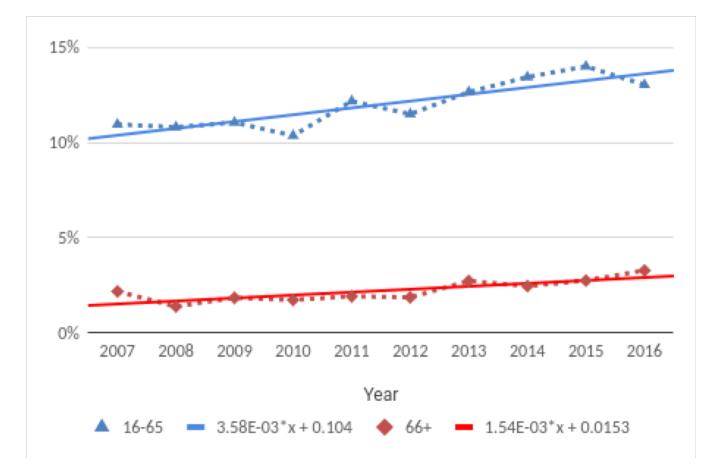
#### Trends in Swimming Participation







#### Trends in Cycling Participation

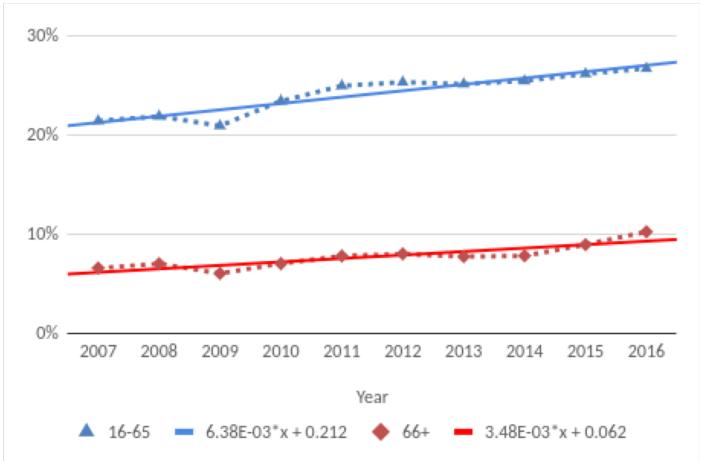








#### Trends in Fitness Activity Participation

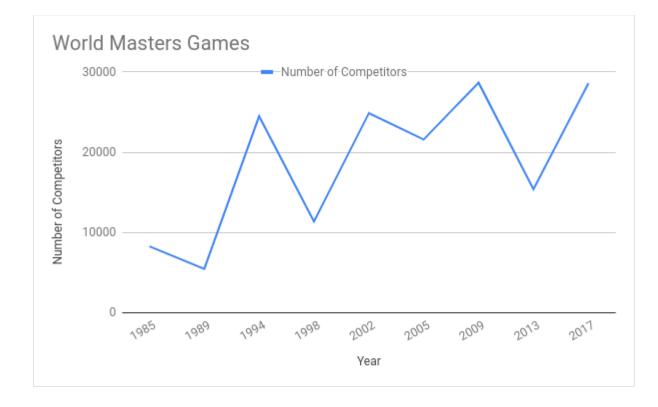








### Growing old competitively



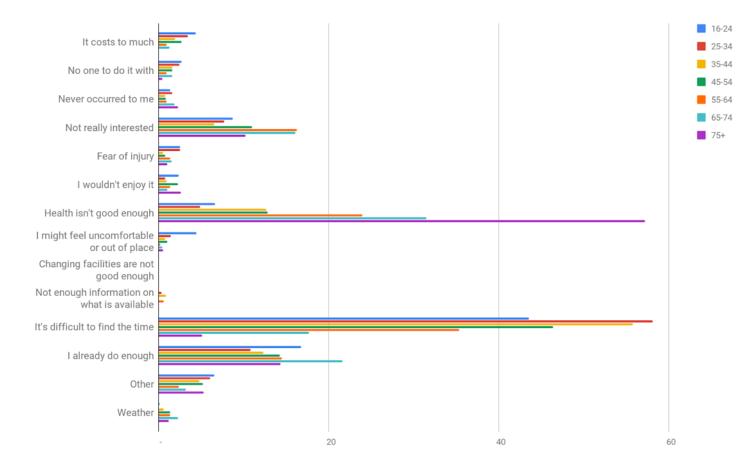








#### Reasons for not doing more sport and PA

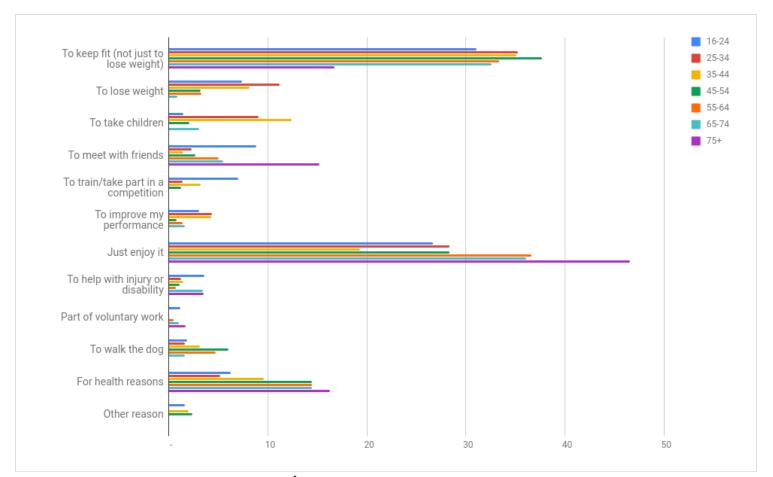








#### Motivations to take part in sport and PA









# Benefits of sport participation for older adults

- Physical
  - Cardiovascular health
  - Metabolic health
  - Strength
  - Balance
- Psychological
  - Mental health
    - Dementia
    - Cognitive function
- Social
  - Loneliness and social isolation







## What policies do we ha

- sportscotland
  - Raising the bar: Corporate Plan 2015
- SGB
  - ??
- Scottish Government
  - Active Scotland Outcomes Framework









## What policies could/should we have?

#### • Scottish Government

- Better data on sport participation
- Greater recognition of the potential role of sport in increasing physical activity levels
- Develop opportunities for older adults from lower socioeconomic backgrounds to take part in sport
- sportscotland
  - Specific mention and actions of older adults involvement in sport
  - Add older adult sport participation as a SGB outcome metric
- SGB
  - More opportunities for older adults
  - Develop/promote adapted forms of sport
  - Ensure coach education includes specific information on older adults







## Other providers?

- Leisure Trusts
  - More sport opportunities for older adults
- Third sector
  - More sport opportunities for older adults
  - Targeted funding need to support activity
- Private sector
  - Commercial opportunities







#### Conclusions

- Adequate participation data is limited
- There is a decline in sport participation with age, more so for women
- Over time sport participation in the older age groups seems to be improving, slightly
- Older adults are more motivated by social and enjoyment factors
- Time is significantly less of a barrier, but health is a concern
- There is a complete lack of policies to grow sport participation in the older age groups





## Healthy ageing

Activity required for healthy ageing	Community sport
Aerobic training	$\bigstar$
ніт	$\bigstar$
Resistance exercise	
Balance and coordination	
Social interaction	$\mathbf{x}$
Cognitive stimulus	$\bigstar$







# Thank you

# Questions?





