



Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service
WA Cervical Cancer Prevention Program

Snapshot of cervical screening in Western Australia (WA)

2019 to 2023



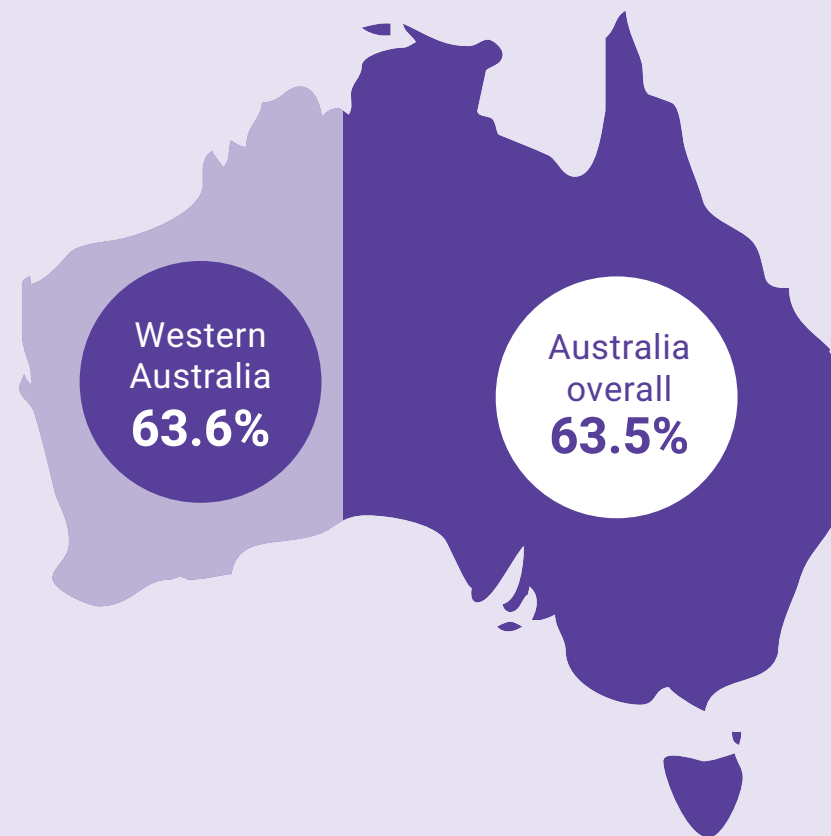
Cervical screening participation and coverage in the program target age group

(25 to 74 years) 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023

Age group (years)	Participation (%)		Coverage (%)	
	WA	AUS	WA	AUS
25-29	79.5	75.1	88.7	84.0
30-34	62.6	60.6	72.4	70.7
35-39	62.3	60.8	73.0	71.8
40-44	63.2	62.8	74.1	74.3
45-49	65.3	65.9	76.9	78.0
50-54	63.1	64.7	72.9	75.6
55-59	62.2	64.8	70.1	73.8
60-64	61.9	64.6	67.6	71.8
65-69	58.3	61.3	63.1	67.6
70-74	42.2	43.6	45.9	48.6
25-74 (Age-standardised rate)	63.6	63.5	72.7	73.3

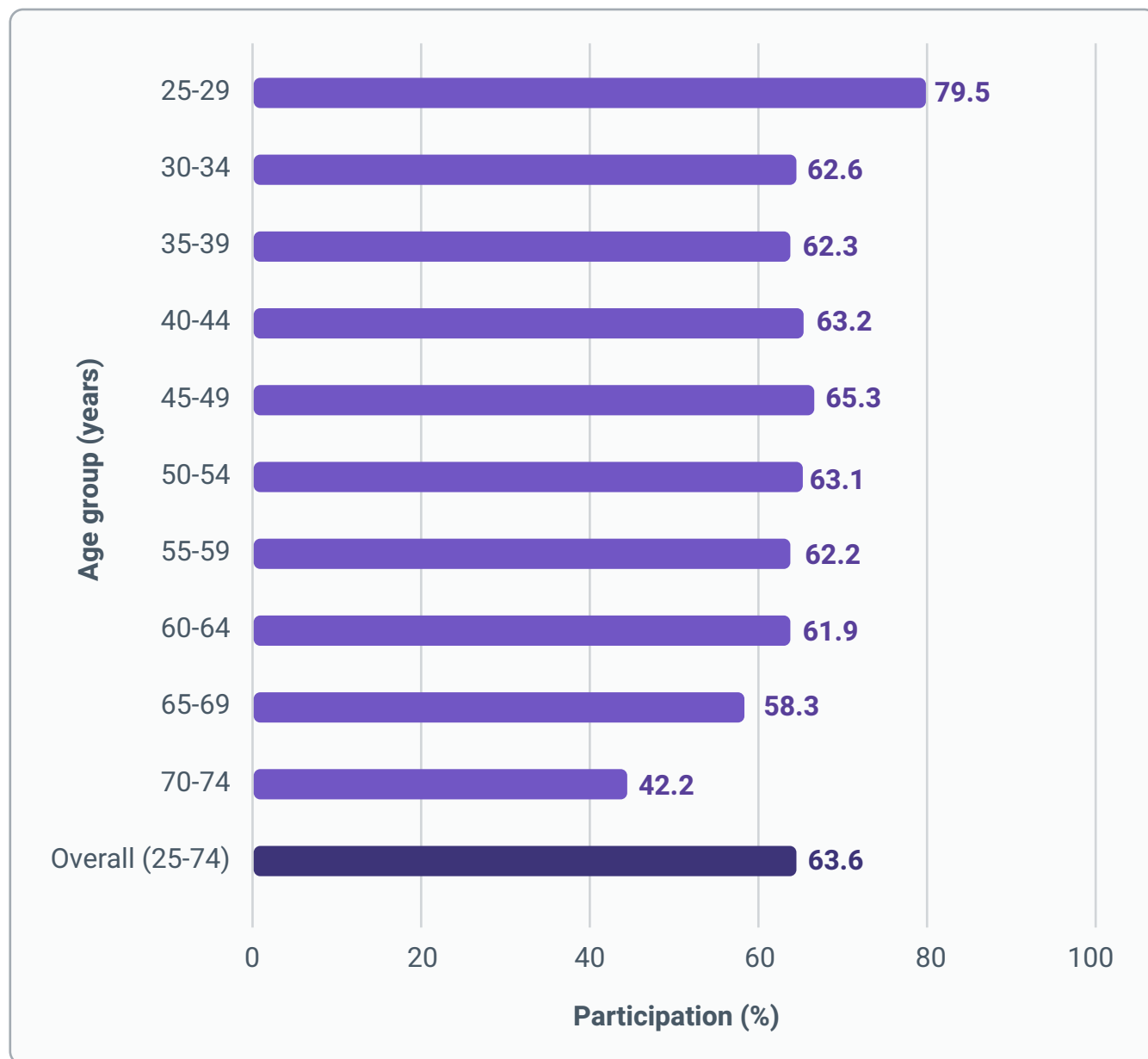
Seventy percent (70%) participation in five-yearly cervical screening among eligible program participants aged 25 to 74 years is needed to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health issue in Australia by 2035.

Cervical screening participation 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023



Cervical screening participation in WA by age group

1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023



In Australia, the National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP) recommends that women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 74 years have a Cervical Screening Test every five years.

In WA, 63.6% of eligible people aged 25 to 74 participated in cervical screening between 2019 and 2023.

Between 2019 and 2023, the highest participation was in the 25 to 29 year age group at 79.5%.

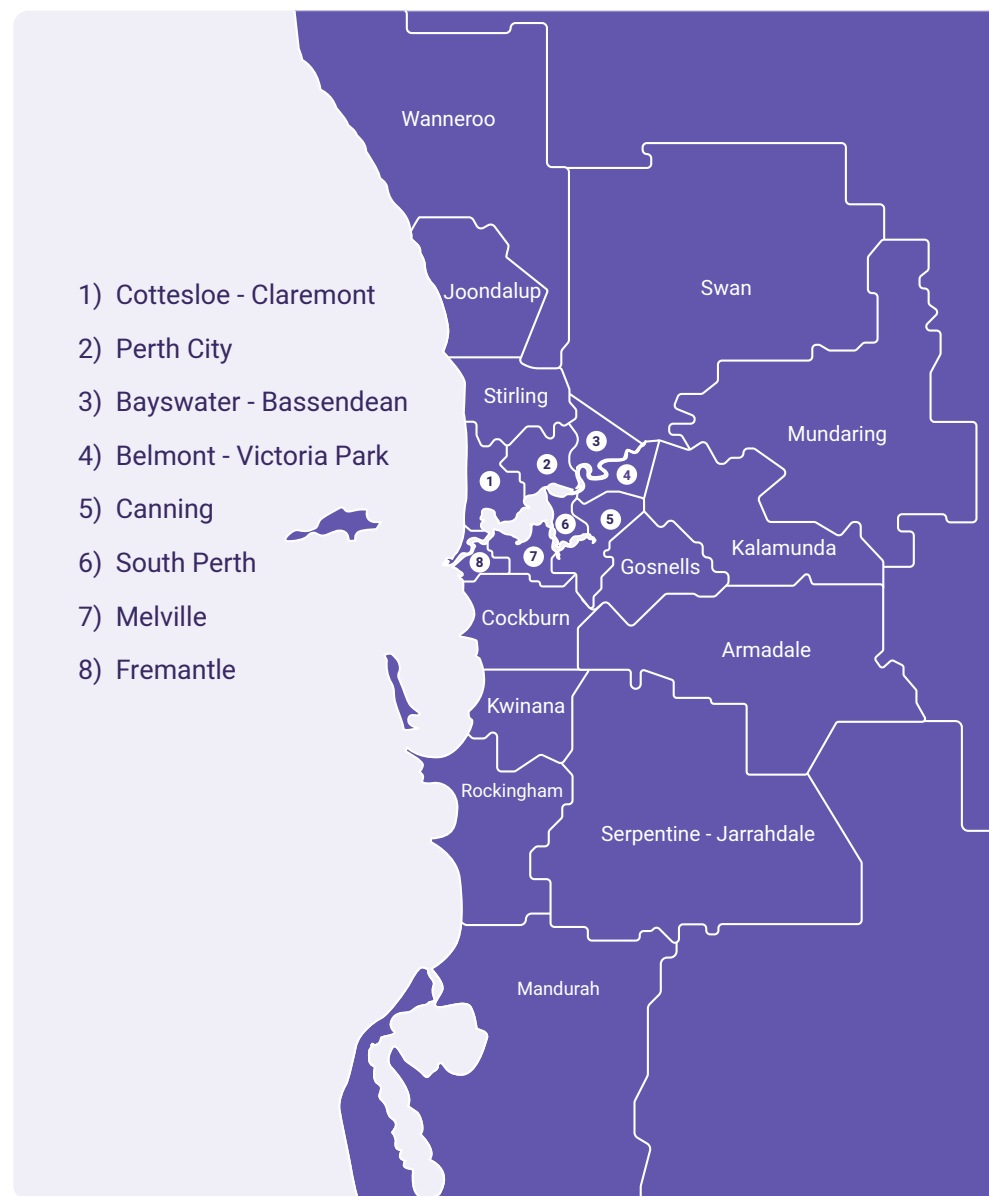
This achievement was supported by the NCSP introducing invitations to screen for new program participants at age 25 in 2018.

Between 2019 and 2023, the lowest participation was in the 70 to 74 year age group at 42.2%.

This is likely due to expansion of the NCSP screening age range in 2017 to include those aged 70 to 74 years for the first time. However, participation in this age group has increased between 2019 and 2023 when compared to the 2018 to 2022 reporting period.

Cervical screening participation in the Perth metropolitan area for participants aged 25 to 74 years by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3), 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023

Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3)	Participation (%)
Armadale	59.2
Bayswater - Bassendean	65.6
Belmont - Victoria Park	60.6
Canning	64.7
Cockburn	66.7
Cottesloe - Claremont	76.5
Fremantle	78.0
Gosnells	58.9
Joondalup	70.2
Kalamunda	64.5
Kwinana	58.3
Mandurah	58.6
Melville	71.4
Mundaring	65.6
Perth City	70.3
Rockingham	58.8
Serpentine - Jarrahdale	61.6
South Perth	68.6
Stirling	67.4
Swan	61.4
Wanneroo	62.0
Western Australia overall	63.6

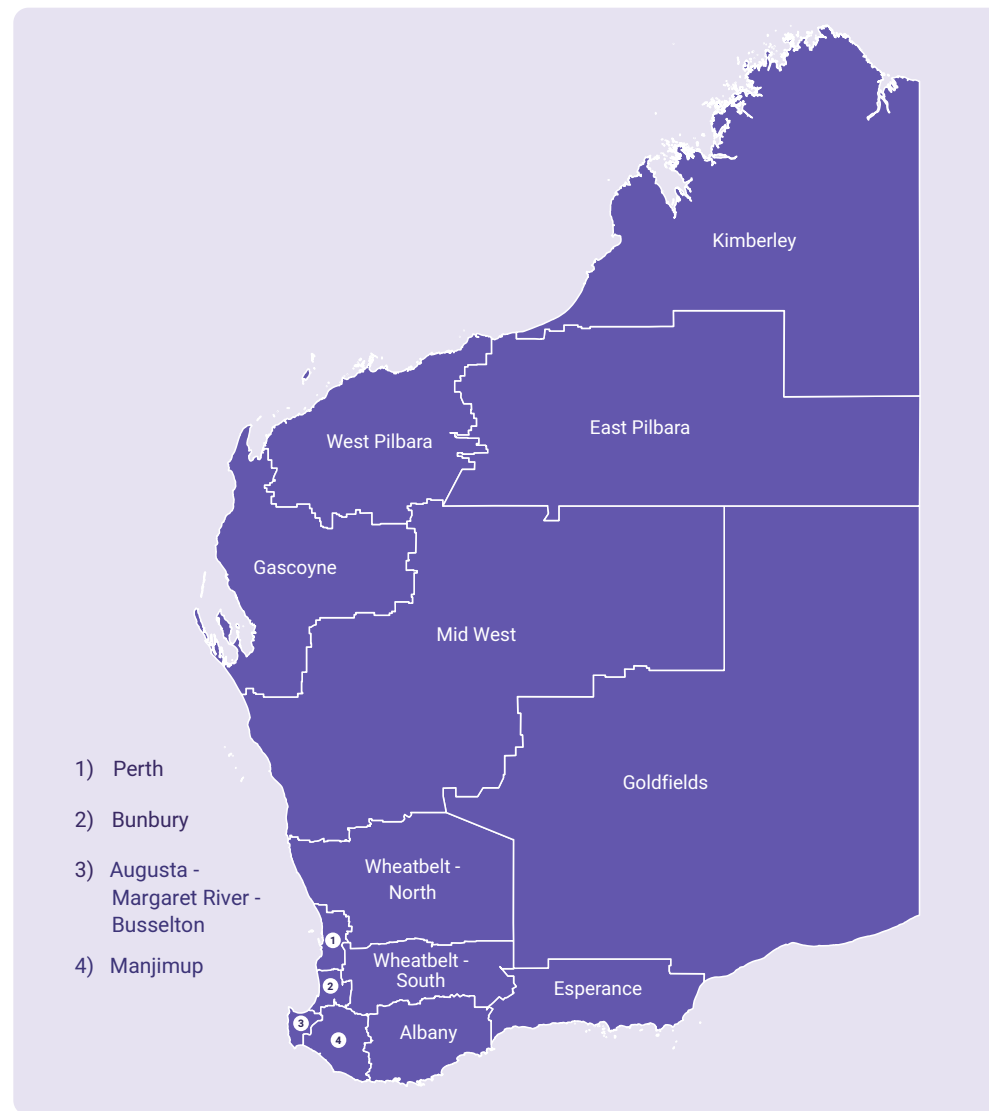


Cervical screening participation in the Perth metropolitan area for participants aged 25 to 74 years by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3), 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023

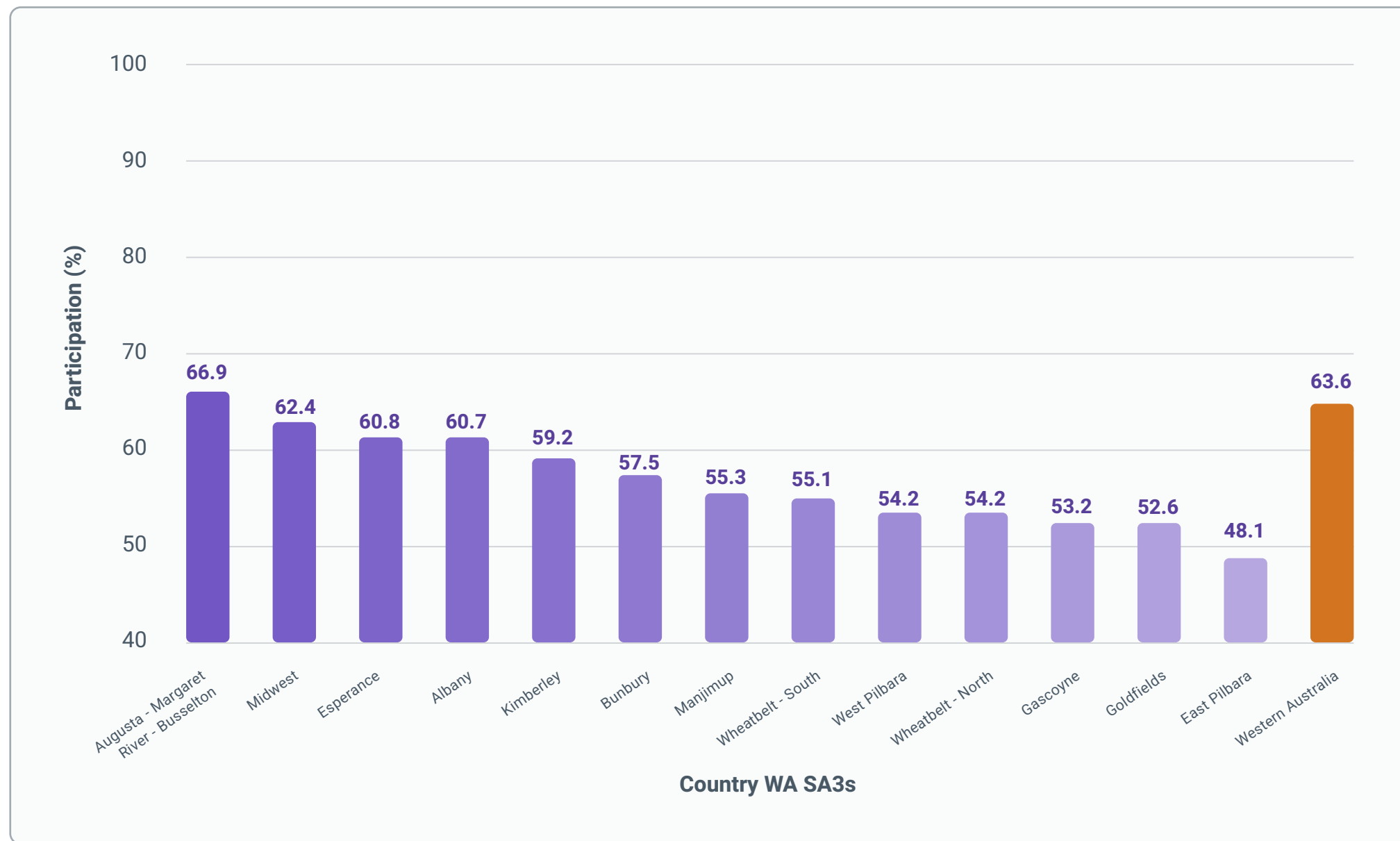


Cervical screening participation in country WA for participants aged 25 to 74 years by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3), 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023

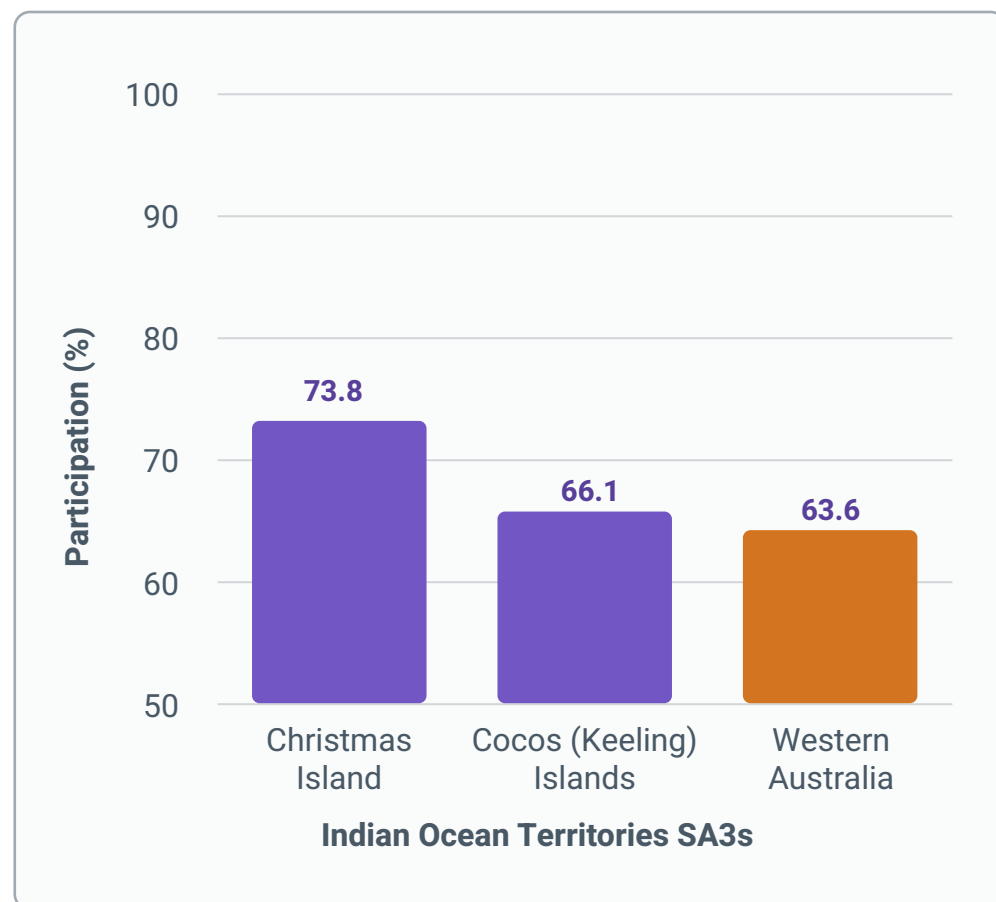
Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3)	Participation (%)
Albany	60.7
Augusta - Margaret River - Busselton	66.9
Bunbury	57.5
East Pilbara	48.1
Esperance	60.8
Gascoyne	53.2
Goldfields	52.6
Kimberley	59.2
Manjimup	55.3
Mid West	62.4
West Pilbara	54.2
Wheatbelt - North	54.2
Wheatbelt - South	55.1
Western Australia overall	63.6



Cervical screening participation in country WA for participants aged 25 to 74 years by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3), 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023



Cervical screening participation in the Indian Ocean Territories for participants aged 25 to 74 years by Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3), 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023



The Australian Indian Ocean Territories, which include Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, receive a variety of services that are funded and operated by the Australian Government. These services are also supplemented through service delivery arrangements with the Western Australian Department of Health, including for the provision of cervical screening.

Glossary

Age-standardised rate	Age-standardised rate is the number of new cases of cervical cancer per 100,000 women, age-standardised to the Australian population at 30 June 2001. It is derived by removing the influence of age when comparing populations with different age structures. This is usually necessary as the rates of many diseases vary strongly (usually increasing) with age. The age structures of the different populations are converted to the same 'standard' structure, which allows disease rates to be compared.
Cervical screening	Regular cervical screening is the best protection against cervical cancer. In Australia, the National Cervical Screening Program (NCSP) recommends asymptomatic women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 74 have a Cervical Screening Test every five years.
Cervical screening coverage	Coverage is the number of participants aged 25-74 who had a human papillomavirus (HPV) test or liquid-based cytology (LBC) test for any reason in a five-year period as a percentage of eligible females in the population. This includes screening, symptom investigation or as part of treatment or monitoring.
Cervical screening participation	Participation is the number of participants aged 25 to 74 who had a screening human papillomavirus (HPV) test (primary screening or follow-up HPV test) in a five-year period as a percentage of eligible females in the population.
Cervical Screening Test (CST)	A Cervical Screening Test (CST) looks for human papillomavirus (HPV). If HPV is found, the screening participant can be monitored and have further tests to make sure any abnormal cell changes are found early and can be treated if needed.
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Almost all cases of cervical cancer are caused by human papillomavirus (HPV), a common virus that around 90% of people will have at least once in their lifetime. The HPV virus is transmitted through sexual contact (ie: skin-to-skin or mucosa-to-mucosa contact) and for most people is naturally cleared by the body's immune system.
Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3)	Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3) are geographical areas. They are part of the standard framework for the analysis of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data at the regional level.

Data source and images

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2024) National Cervical Screening Program monitoring report 2024: supplementary data tables, catalogue number CAN 163, AIHW, Australian Government.

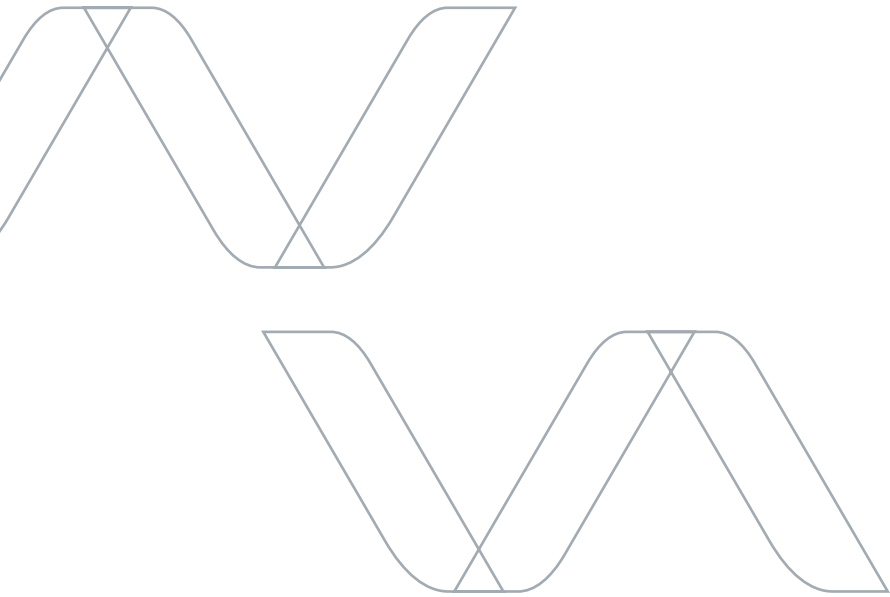
Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) 2021 Statistical Area 3 (SA3) [<https://maps.abs.gov.au/>], ABS Maps, accessed 18 December 2024.

Further information



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