



Sport Participation in Canada

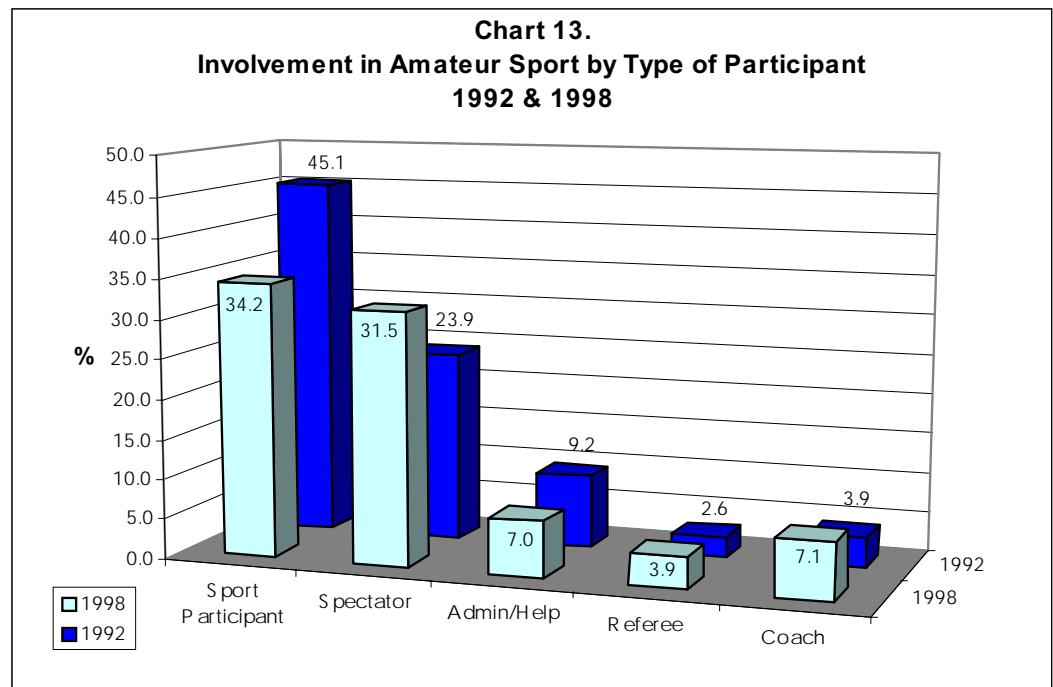
Chapter 9

9.0 Involvement in Amateur Sport as a Coach

9.1 More Canadians Coaching, Refereeing and Spectating

Involvement in amateur sport is not limited to active participation in the sport of one's choice. Sport involvement also includes indirect participation as a coach, referee/umpire, administrator/ helper or spectator.

While the observation has been made that fewer adult Canadians are actively engaged in sport, a greater proportion are participating indirectly as coaches, referees and spectators. It seems that a shift may be taking place, a shift away from directly participating in sport towards more indirect involvement in amateur sport. Given that a larger proportion of the population (baby-boomers) is entering the child-rearing phase of their life cycle, it may be said that more adults are getting involved in their children's pursuit of amateur sport. This shift may be a reflection of a number of factors including less leisure time for the pursuit of sport, increasing parental responsibilities and/or economic pressures.

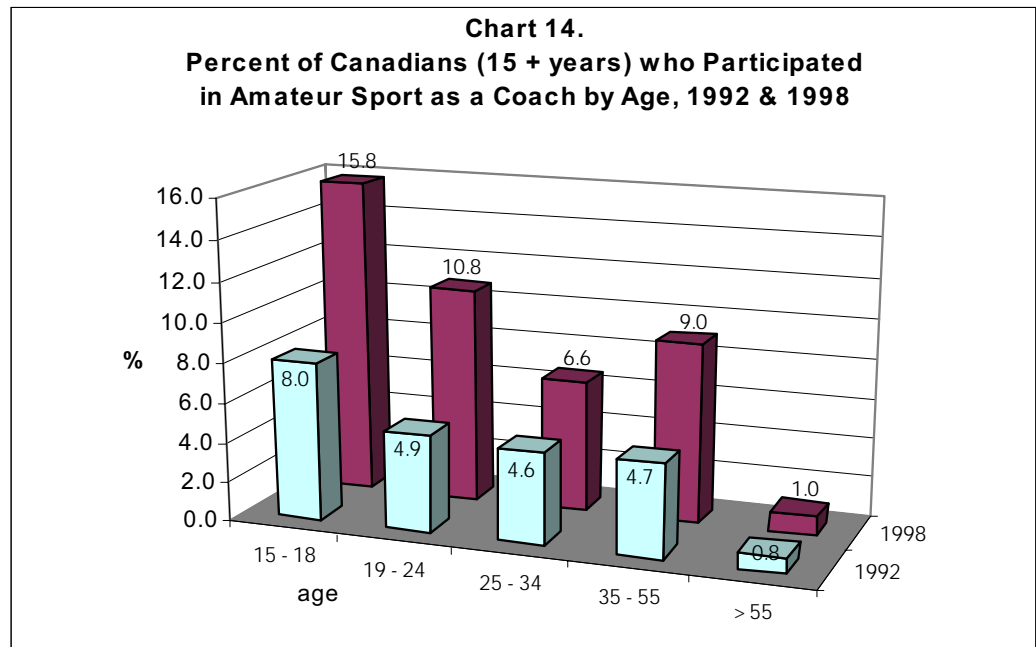


Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1992 and 1998

The number of Canadians coaching amateur sport doubled between 1992 and 1998.

9.2 Coaching Amateur Sport Doubles

Canada's sport infrastructure relies to a great extent on the input of thousands of volunteers. Countless men and women of all ages dedicate their time and energy to supporting the organization of amateur sport, to coaching and to its continuation in their communities. The number of Canadians coaching amateur sport doubled from an estimated 840,000 (4%) Canadians in 1992 to 1.7 million (7%) in 1998. This increase took place across all age groups (with the exception of older Canadians aged 55 plus).



Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1992 and 1998

9.3 Increase in Women Coaching

There has been an increase in the number of women taking an interest in coaching, more than tripling between 1992 and 1998.

Male coaches tend to outnumber female coaches, yet not to the extent that one might expect : 56% of coaches were men and 44% were women. Increasingly, more women are showing their support for amateur sport by getting involved albeit indirectly as coaches, referees and spectators. The data reveal a real surge in the number of women taking an interest in coaching over this 6-year span. While approximately 200,000 women (2%) reported coaching in 1992, this figure more than tripled to 766,000 (6%) by 1998.

9.4 Young Adults Coaching Amateur Sport

One would expect that parents are the ones most likely to be involved in coaching. Indeed, the data indicate that almost half of all coaches were between 35 and 54 years of age – a point in ones life when you are likely to be coaching your son's or daughter's soccer or baseball team.

Young adults aged 15-18 were involved in coaching amateur sport at a higher rate than any other age group – over twice the national rate.

However, when you control for age, the data show yet another story (see Chart 14). Relatively speaking, young adults aged 15-18 are involved in coaching at over twice the national rate of 7%). The rate of coaching decreases to 11% for 19-24 year olds, 7% of the 25-34 age group, 9% of 35-54 year olds and only 1% of persons aged 55 and older were involved in coaching.

9.5 Coaching Increases with Higher Education and Income

The likelihood of coaching amateur sport increases with increased levels of education and income. This pattern held true in both 1992 and again in 1998. In 1998, the proportion of Canadians involved in coaching ranged from a low of 5% of those with some secondary schooling or less, doubling to 10% of persons holding a university degree.

A similar pattern emerges when looking at coaching and household income. Less than 2% of respondents with family incomes under \$20,000 reported coaching in 1998, this proportion more than triples (7%) when family income increases to \$30,000 to 49,000 and doubles again (11%) when family income reaches \$50,000 or more.

Table 11.

Profile of Canadians (aged 15 years and older) Participating in Amateur Sport as a Coach, 1998

	Population	Total		Male		Female	
		000s	%	000s	%	000s	%
Total	24,260	1,729	7.1	962	8.1	766	6.2
Age group							
15-18	1,644	259	15.8	162	18.9	97	12.4
19-24	2,415	261	10.8	142	11.8	119	9.8
25-34	4,615	306	6.6	176	7.6	130	5.7
35-54	9,353	838	9.0	443	9.5	395	8.5
55 and over	6,233	64	1.0	x	x	x	x
Level of education							
Some secondary or less	6,286	320	5.1	208	6.7	111	3.5
Some college / trade/ high school Diploma	6,057	466	7.7	264	9.3	202	6.3
Diploma/some University	6,201	543	8.8	254	8.6	289	8.9
University degree	4,094	390	9.5	227	9.9	164	9.0
Family income							
Less than \$20,000	2,305	43	1.9	x	x	x	x
\$20,000 to \$29,999	1,828	63	3.4	x	x	x	x
\$30,000 to \$49,999	4,262	286	6.7	161	8.0	124	5.6
\$50,000 to \$79,999	4,418	499	11.3	251	10.4	248	12.4
\$80,000 or more	3,168	388	12.3	258	13.0	130	11.0
Province of residence							
Newfoundland	447	30	6.7	20	9.0	10	4.4
Prince Edward Island	107	8	7.5	6	11.5	2	3.6
Nova Scotia	761	65	8.6	35	9.3	31	7.9
New Brunswick	613	51	8.3	30	10.0	21	6.7
Quebec	6,006	334	5.6	154	5.2	179	5.9
Ontario	9,184	676	7.4	413	9.2	263	5.6
Manitoba	893	94	10.5	54	12.3	40	8.9
Saskatchewan	787	63	8.0	40	10.3	23	5.8
Alberta	2,261	173	7.6	84	7.5	88	7.8
British Columbia	3,201	235	7.3	125	7.9	110	6.8
Labour force participation							
Full time	11,388	1,029	9.0	624	9.0	405	9.0
Part time	1,615	129	8.0	42	11.6	87	6.9
Student with/without employment	2,368	370	15.6	224	18.7	145	12.5
Not in labour force	6,742	163	2.4	52	2.1	111	2.6
Mother tongue							
English only	11,360	1,061	9.3	587	10.3	475	8.4
French only	4,321	211	4.9	100	5.0	111	4.8
Other only	2,358	89	3.8	x	x	x	x
Multiple languages	4,161	358	8.6	208	10.1	150	7.2

% The participation rate is calculated using the total Canadian population 15 years and older for each designated category.

Estimates are rounded to the nearest thousand. Totals may not add due to rounding.

* Only replies with estimates of 35,000 or more are indicated.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998