



HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PARTICIPATION ANALYSIS

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Primary Objectives



ADDRESS THE STATE OF YOUTH
SPORTS BY ANALYZING HIGH SCHOOL
SPORTS PARTICIPATION DATA



FIND TRENDS IN VARIOUS SPORTS, AND
ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN THESE TRENDS

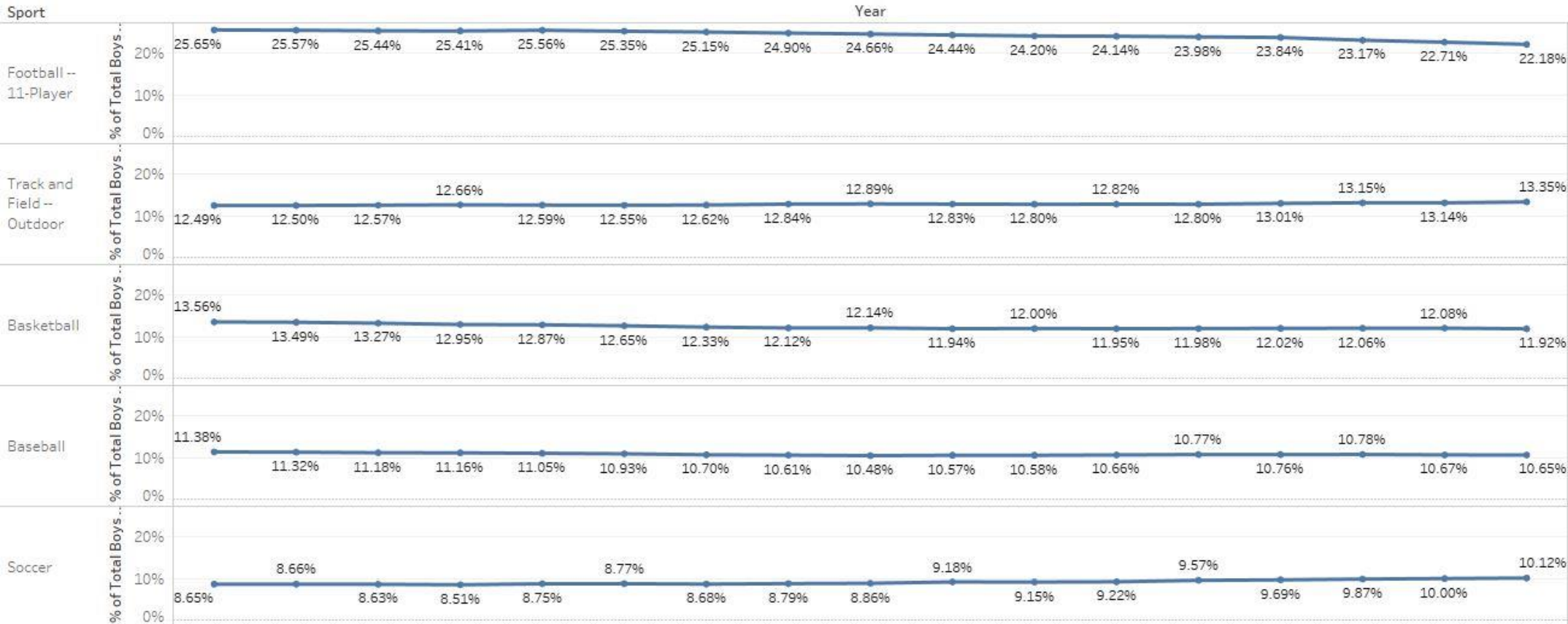
Boys and Girls Participation by Year



Top 5 Boys Participation by Year



Top 5 Boys % Participation by Year



Top 5 Girls Participation by Year



Top 5 Girls % Participation by Year



Most Significant Downward Trends

- Football participation numbers have been in decline for the last 10 years of the available data, despite overall sports participation increasing for all but the last of those 10 years.
- Both boys and girls basketball numbers have shown a decline since 2002. The boys decline is evident when viewing the numbers as a percentage of total participants, and is down to 11.9% from 13.6% back in 2002. The girls decline is drastic in both overall number and as a percent of the total. It is down roughly 58,000 yearly participants since 2002, and down from 16% to 11.7% of all girls sports participants.

Most Significant Upward Trends

- Soccer has shown a steady increase in participation numbers since 2002. There are about 208,000 more annual participants across both genders in 2019 than in 2002. As percentages of all sports participants, boys soccer is up 1.5% over that time, and girls soccer is up 1%.
- Boys and Girls track and field numbers have also steadily increased since 2002. They are up by roughly 107,000 and 73,000 respectively.
- Volleyball has about 56,000 more annual participants in 2019 than in 2002, and has the same percent share of girls high school athletes.

Could these trends be explained by injuries?

- Basketball and Football are the 2 most injury prone of the high school sports, and also showed the greatest declines in participation numbers since 2002.
- Track and Field injury numbers are very low, and their participation numbers have shown a significant since 2002.
- Soccer has shown steady increase in participation while having moderate injury rates.
- Baseball and Softball have moderate injury rates, and have steadily declined in participation.

Sport, activity or equipment	Injuries (1)	Number of injuries by age				
		Younger than 5	5 to 14	14 to 24	25 to 64	65 and older
Exercise, exercise equipment	526,350	7,103	54,407	110,072	282,716	72,052
Basketball	500,085	1,532	181,607	227,216	88,571	1,159
Bicycles and accessories	457,266	17,871	129,620	70,495	201,539	37,740
Football	341,150	876	171,621	136,296	31,972	384
Playground equipment	242,359	57,119	163,689	7,174	12,651	1,726
Soccer	218,926	1,473	98,746	84,016	34,044	647
ATV's, mopeds, minibikes, etc.	214,761	3,501	38,967	54,327	98,860	19,106
Swimming, pools, equipment	199,246	21,304	87,672	30,113	48,282	11,875
Baseball, softball	187,447	3,279	82,772	53,563	44,971	2,862
Trampolines	145,207	26,658	90,671	16,543	11,239	95
Skateboards	98,486	1,403	26,922	47,859	22,073	229
Lacrosse, rugby, misc. ball games	73,829	791	29,629	25,624	12,091	5,694
Skating (excl. in-line)	67,132	575	33,696	11,789	19,374	1,699
Volleyball	51,653	30	17,510	24,086	9,547	481
Horseback riding	48,796	578	8,001	10,295	25,615	4,306
Hockey	44,353	149	13,862	18,333	11,894	115
Track and field activities, equipment	35,938	82	14,091	16,176	5,221	367
Beach, picnic, camping equipment	28,604	3,140	5,450	2,134	12,946	4,933
Racquet sports	28,310	117	4,882	4,615	10,040	8,656
Water skiing, tubing, surfing	20,463	388	3,589	6,260	9,904	37
Nonpowder guns, BB'S, pellets	18,652	1,185	6,679	5,488	5,114	
Boxing	17,293	157	1,657	8,063	7,400	
Toboggans, sleds, snow discs, etc.	13,954	1,166	7,662	1,689	3,340	96

(1) Treated in hospital emergency departments.