

## 1 **Introduction**

2 Adolescents spend two thirds of their waking hours sitting [1], mostly because recreational-based SB (i.e.  
3 activities in a sitting, reclining or lying posture that do not increase energy expenditure above 1-1.5  
4 metabolic equivalents) [2] are on the rise [3]. Sitting too much and for too long is a risk factor for chronic  
5 disease and poor mental health during adolescence [3]. Specifically, adolescents who spent  $\geq 3$  hours/day on  
6 sedentary pursuits have shown increased odds ratios for obesity [4] and depressive symptoms [5].  
7 According to the 24-hour Activity Cycle model of daily physical behaviours (sleep, sedentary behaviour,  
8 light-intensity and moderate-to-vigorous intensity PA), changes in time spent in one of the four basic  
9 activities that consume time during the day will influence time spent in at least one other activity, which  
10 might modify health-related effects [6]. Thus, replacing adolescents' sedentary time with moderate-to-  
11 vigorous physical activity (MVPA) has been associated with a better quality of life [7] and cardio metabolic  
12 health (i.e. body mass index, waist circumference, biochemical markers and blood pressure) [2, 8, 9]. While  
13 adolescents' health could strongly benefit from effective strategies that replace SB with PA [10], most  
14 interventions on reducing sedentary time during adolescence have shown small effects [11].

15 Participating in organised sports is the most preferred option to spent time in MVPA during adolescence  
16 [12], although it consistently decreases from secondary school to university [13]. However, high levels of  
17 sports participation (i.e. 50-64% in Spanish secondary school students) [14] co-exist with low levels of  
18 overall PA (37% of youth in secondary school participate in  $\geq 420$  minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical  
19 activity every week) and high levels of SB (17-18 year olds sit an average of 8.5 h per day on a school day)  
20 [15, 16], with very limited evidence on the influence organised sports participation has on SB and PA.  
21 While research has studied associations between organised sports participation and (i) physical and  
22 psychosocial health [17], (ii) school performance [18], (iii) health-related lifestyles such as smoking,  
23 alcohol, fruit, vegetable, soft drinks and fast food consumption [19, 20], (iv) MVPA and fitness levels [21],  
24 (v) engagement in physical fights and injuries [22] and (vi) illicit drug use [23], less is known about the  
25 influence sports participation has on total and context-specific SB, which is a key risk factor for health in  
26 adolescence and young adulthood.

27 On the need to understand whether promoting sports participation and preventing relapse could be an  
28 effective intervention to reduce daily time spent in total and context-specific SB across a developmental  
29 stage where SB evolves, this study will investigate the influence that doing sport – during the transition

30 from secondary school to university – has on SB and PA in a sample of Spanish adolescents followed during  
31 a three-year period. Such formative research might be valuable for translating individualized sports  
32 participation recommendations into pediatricians' practice.

### 33 **Materials and methods**

#### 34 *Study design and sample recruitment*

35 A three-year longitudinal study was designed to assess associations between changes in sports participation  
36 and changes in total and domain-specific SB and PA in Spanish adolescents (n=113) from the county of  
37 Osona (Barcelona).

38 Adolescents were followed from secondary school to university (16, 17 and 18 years of age; Year 1, 2 and  
39 3 respectively). During Year 1, invitation letters were sent to the directors of all secondary schools in the  
40 county (n=25) requesting permission for their 16-year-old students to complete a survey over the next two  
41 years. Thirteen centres (52%) accepted to participate in Year 1, three of which dropped out in Year 2 (40%).  
42 The reasons for dropping out were lack of time and involvement in other projects. Eight centres were public  
43 schools while two were private schools sponsored by a public voucher system.

44 During Years 1 and 2, participants completed the survey as part of a course in the classroom (March 2012  
45 and March 2013). Parental approval was obtained through the school management. During Year 3,  
46 participants completed the survey using online devices (March-April 2014). Reminders to fill in the survey  
47 were sent twice via email and Facebook. The Ethics Committee of the University of Vic-Central University  
48 of Catalonia approved the study (2011) and all participants signed a written informed consent every year  
49 before completing the survey. Only University undergraduate students that completed the survey in Years  
50 1, 2 and 3 were included in this study. Of an initial potential sample of 695 teenagers, 662 responded in  
51 Year 1 (95% response rate), 480 in Year 2 (69% response rate) and 180 in Year 3 (26% response rate). One  
52 hundred and thirteen participants (n=113) completed the survey in Years 1, 2 and 3.

#### 53 *Data collection and variables*

54 Data was collected using a 42-item survey that gathered data on (i) socio-demographic variables; (ii)  
55 perceived barriers to physical activity; (iii) lifestyle behaviours (iv) total and domain-specific SB; (v) total  
56 and domain-specific PA at light, moderate and vigorous intensities; and (vi) sport participation. For the

57 present study, total and domain-specific SB, total and domain-specific PA and sport participation were  
58 analysed.

#### 59 *Domain-specific sedentary behaviour*

60 The sedentary behaviour questionnaire (Active Where? Survey – Section R)[24] assessed sitting time  
61 (min/day) during weekdays and weekends and across different domains[17]: (1) television viewing  
62 (television + video); (2) computer use (computer games + internet use); (3) socialising behaviours  
63 (sitting with friends); (4) school (school assistance + homework); (5) transport (private + public  
64 transport); and (6) sedentary hobbies (reading, playing music and doing handicrafts). Response categories  
65 were organised into 15-min blocks, 30-min blocks and one-hour blocks, with the last option being  $\geq 5$ h. If  
66 that was the case, they were asked to specify the number of minutes/day. The SB domains were aggregated  
67 on a total score to calculate total SB, The Active Where survey was designed specifically for youth and has  
68 shown good reliability in most sitting domains, with a percentage agreement ranging from 27.1% to 76%  
69 [24].

#### 70 *Physical activity*

71 PA levels were measured using the Spanish version of the International Physical Activity Questionnaire  
72 (IPAQ) long form [25]. The IPAQ assessed min/week of light-intensity PA (LPA), moderate-intensity  
73 activities (MPA) and vigorous-intensity PA (VPA) globally and across four specific domains (leisure,  
74 work/school, home and transport) during the last seven days. The SB item included in the IPAQ long form  
75 was not included because it only measures total sitting time rather than domain-specific. The IPAQ has  
76 shown reasonable validity properties for assessing activities in different intensities and for total physical  
77 activity in healthy European adolescents aged 15–17 years ( $R_s=0.17-0.30$ ) [26].

#### 78 *Sport participation*

79 Sport participation was measured using a specific question based on previous adolescent research [27, 28]:  
80 Do you currently do any sport on a regular basis? (Yes/No); what type of sport do you do? (Open answer).  
81 Three responses resulted from these: (a) No participation; (b) Individual Sport; (c) Team Sport. Team sports  
82 were classified as those involving  $\geq 2$  players on each side competing simultaneously, while an individual  
83 sport involves participants competing alone [29]. Students could mark both responses b and c if appropriate.

84 *Statistical analysis*

85 A descriptive analysis of the subjects' characteristics in Year 1 (n=113) was performed using proportions  
86 and measures of central tendency and dispersion according to the nature of the variables. Gender differences  
87 were assessed using T-Student and Chi-Square tests. Longitudinal associations between sport participation,  
88 total and domain-specific SB and PA were assessed using Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE), which  
89 are an extension of Generalized Linear Models (GLM) [30]. This methodology is useful for analysing  
90 repeated measures of the same individual over time, assuming independence between individuals but not  
91 within observations of the same individual. This was considered the best approach as we had repeated  
92 measures of individuals and, they could change sport participation over time. An autoregressive correlation  
93 was used assuming that observations of Year 3 were more correlated with Year 2 than with Year 1. The  
94 analysis was performed using STATA software 12 [31].

95 **Results**

96 *Baseline characteristics of adolescents of 16 years of age (Year 1)*

97 Participant characteristics (n=113; 58% females) are summarised in table 1.

98 *Prevalence of total and domain-specific sedentary behaviours*

99 Adolescents spent a considerable amount of time on SB (792 min/d weekly and 605 min/d at weekends).  
100 From Mondays to Fridays, teenagers spent 454 min/d sitting at school/doing homework, followed by 125  
101 min/d sitting in front of a computer at home, watching TV (68 min/d), sitting while socialising (51 min/d),  
102 doing sedentary hobbies (47 min/d) and sitting for transport (22 min/d) (Table 1). SB while socialising and  
103 at school/doing homework was significantly higher in females (p=0.043 and p=0.004 respectively, table 1).  
104 During weekends, adolescents doubled their sitting time watching TV and socialising. Contrarily, teenagers  
105 reported less sitting doing homework due to not attending school. Time spent doing homework on Saturdays  
106 and Sundays was significantly higher in females than in males (p<0.001, table 1).

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109 *Physical activity (min/week) spent at different intensities in specific domains*

110 Teenagers spent most time doing LPA (383 min/wk), followed by MPA (305 min/wk) and VPA (233  
111 min/wk). While leisure activities constituted around half of the time dedicated to VPA (141 min/wk) and  
112 MPA (124 min/wk), time spent in LPA activities was concentrated in transport (142 min/wk) (Table 1).

113 On average, time spent in VPA was higher in males than in females (309 min/wk vs. 177 min/wk,  $p=0.002$ ).  
114 In MPA, the mean time spent was also higher in males than in females (362 min/wk vs. 264 min/wk;  
115  $p=0.04$ ). In LPA, no differences by gender were identified. On examining specific domains for PA, no  
116 differences were found by gender.

117 *Temporal variation from secondary school to university of sports participation, domain-specific*  
118 *sedentary behaviours and physical activity*

119 From secondary school to university, sport participation decreased within the three years in both males  
120 (from 63% to 49%) and females (from 46% to 33%). Among males, the most significant decrease was in  
121 team sport (from 46% to 35%), while among females individual sport showed a sharper reduction (from  
122 34% to 21%) (Figure 1).

123 Over the same period, leisure PA and transport PA decreased (-115 min/d and -50 min/d respectively) in  
124 males while no changes were reported for PA at home or school. In females, PA increased at work/school  
125 and home (+129 min/d and +67 min/d), decreased for leisure (-74 min/d) and remained stable for transport  
126 (Figure 2).

127 From secondary school to university, sitting time spent socialising (+45 min/d among males and +50min/d  
128 among females) and for transport increased in both males and females (>30 min/d). Sitting time related to  
129 school attendance was remarkably high across both secondary school years in males (396 min/d) and  
130 females (449 min/d), but sharply decreased during the first year of university (-75 min/d). At weekends, a  
131 decrease in time spent sitting in computer use (-50 min/d males, -56 min/d females) was also identified. In  
132 females, time sitting watching TV increased (+19 min/d), while time spent on sedentary hobbies descended  
133 (-25 min/d) (Figure 3).

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136 *Associations between sports participation, total and domain-specific sedentary behaviours from*  
137 *secondary school to university.*

138 *Associations between sport participation, total and domain-specific sedentary behaviours during weekdays*

139 According to the unadjusted model, teenagers that did individual sports from secondary school to university  
140 spent less time on total SB (-95.9 min/d 95% CI -152.4 to -39.5) compared with non-sport participants  
141 (Table 2). By domains, individual sport participants spent less time sitting in computer use (-36.6 min/d  
142 95% CI -60.5 to -12.8) and socialising (-19.8 min/d 95% CI -36.6 to -3). Other SB domains were not  
143 influenced by individual sport participation. Adjusting by gender and year, individual sport participants  
144 spent significantly less time in overall SB (-101 min/d 95% CI -157.2 to -45) and computer use (-37.4 min/d  
145 95% CI -61.4 to -13.4), but not socialising. Team sport participants only showed differences in total  
146 sedentary time in the unadjusted model (-64.8 min/d 95% CI -122.7 to -7.0). After adjustment, these  
147 differences disappeared.

148 *Associations between sports participation and total and domain-specific sedentary behaviours during*  
149 *weekends.*

150 According to the unadjusted model, individual sport participants spent less time on total SB during  
151 weekends (-107.7 min/d 95% CI -176.5 to -38.9) when compared to non-sport participants. Specifically,  
152 individual sport participants spent significantly less time sitting doing homework activities (-27.3 min/d  
153 95% CI -51.9 to -2.6) and watching TV (-18.7 95% CI -36.3 to -1). After adjusting for gender and year,  
154 associations with total time spent in SB, doing homework (-110.5 min/d 95% CI -179.7 to -41.4; -26.5 95%  
155 CI -50.7 to -2.3 respectively) and watching TV remained significant (-18.7 95% CI -36.3 to -1).

156 Team sport participants also spent less time on total sedentary activities during weekends compared with  
157 non-sport participants (-132.6 min/d 95% CI -205.7 to -59.4), mainly on sitting time doing homework (-40  
158 95% CI -65.8 to -13.6), socialising (-43.5 min/d 95% CI -71.7 to -15.4) and doing sedentary hobbies (-30  
159 min/d 95% CI -52.6 to -7.3). After adjustment, associations between total sedentary time remained  
160 significant (-126.4 min/d 95% CI -202.4 to -50.4 total), as well as socialising (-37 95% CI -66 to -8.2) and  
161 doing hobbies (-24 95% CI -47.4 to -0.5).

162 Adjusted multiple models also suggested that independently of sport participation and gender, sitting time  
163 spent at school/doing homework during weekdays decreased by -40.4 min/d every year (95% CI -54.1 to -

164 26.7), while sitting time socialising and on transport increased by +16.7 min/d (95% CI 8.9 to 24.5) and  
165 +18.6 min/d every year (95% CI 13.2 to 24), respectively. During weekends, sitting time spent watching  
166 TV and on computer use was reduced by -9.1 min/d (95% CI -17.1 to -1.2) and -28.2 min/d every year  
167 (95% CI -42 to -14.4), respectively. In contrast, sitting time while socialising at weekends increased over  
168 the years (22.3min/d every year 95%; CI 9.9 to 34.7).

169 With regard to gender differences, girls spent more time sitting during weekdays than boys on the transition  
170 to university (+58.6 min/d every year 95% CI 5.4 to 111.6). Specifically, girls increased sitting time doing  
171 homework (+49.5min/d every year; 95% CI 21.8 to 77.2) and socialising (+20 min/d every year; 95% CI  
172 5.1 to 35). During weekends, girls increased sitting time doing homework (+51 min/d, 95% CI 27 to 75)  
173 and decreased sitting time using the computer (-49 min/d 95% CI -87.3 to -10.6).

174 *Associations between physical activity (min/week) spent at different intensities and in different domains*  
175 *from secondary school to university*

176 According to the unadjusted model, individual sport participants spent more time in MVPA (105.3 min CI  
177 95% 32.5 to 178.1 vigorous and 129.4 min 95% CI 57.6 to 201.2 moderate) than non-sport participants.  
178 When looking at specific PA domains, individual sport participants also spent more time doing leisure PA  
179 (+169 min; 95% CI 105.7 to 232.2). After adjusting for gender and year, differences remained significant  
180 for VPA (+113.8 min/week; 95% CI 41.9 to 185.8), MPA (+130.1 min/week; 95% CI 58.3 to 202) and for  
181 leisure time PA (+165 min/week; 95% CI 102.6 to 227.5).

182 According to the unadjusted model, team sport participants spent more time in MPA (+97.7min/week; 95%  
183 CI 24.2 to 170.9) and less time in LPA (-95 min/week; CI 95% -0.4 to -189.6) than non-sport participants.  
184 When looking at specific PA domains, team sport participants spent less time being active on transport (-  
185 60 min/week; 95% CI -105.5 to -14.4) but did more PA during leisure time (+101.3 min/week; 95% CI  
186 33.1 to 169.4). After adjusting by gender and year, increases in MPA remained (78.8 95% CI 2.5 to 155.2),  
187 but not in LPA. Regarding the domains for PA, less time spent on PA while going from one place to the  
188 other remained significant (-53.5 min/week; 95% CI -6 to -101.1), as did the increase of PA during leisure  
189 time (+69.4 min/week; 95% CI 0.3 to 138.5).

190 Time spent on leisure PA decreased by 37 min/year (95% CI - 8.6 to -65.4), while time spent on work and  
191 home PA increased 52 min/y (95% CI 1.9 to 102.1) and 27.2 min/y (95% CI 0.8 to 53.6), respectively. By

192 gender, females decreased the time doing VPA (-129.3 95% CI -202 to -56.6) and increased the time doing  
193 LPA when compared to males (96 min CI 95% 3.4 to 188.5). Females also decreased the time doing leisure  
194 PA (-100 min 95% CI -31.4 to -167.5).

## 195 **Discussion**

196 This study investigated the influence sports participation had on total and context-specific SB and PA on  
197 the transition from secondary school to university in a sample of Spanish adolescents. Results indicated  
198 that playing sport was associated with spending less time in total SB during weekdays and weekends.  
199 However, not all SB domains were linked to sport participation, with associations differing from whether  
200 participants played individual or team sports. While individual sport participation influenced the following  
201 context-specific SB: recreational computer use on weekdays, doing homework and watching TV during  
202 weekends; team sport participation influenced sedentary socialising and hobbies during weekends. Playing  
203 sport was also linked to higher MVPA during leisure time. This formative research indicated that  
204 developing sport-based interventions and recommending sport participation could be an effective public  
205 and individual health intervention to reduce time spent on harmful-domains of SB, especially recreational  
206 screen-based behaviours, which is a key issue given the increasing trends of screen time among adolescents  
207 [32].

208 First, the present study indicates that playing organised sports on the transition from school to university is  
209 associated with less time spent sitting during weekdays or weekends. The evidence surrounding SB and  
210 sports participation is limited and mixed. Our results are in concordance with some Finnish research which  
211 reported that youth participation in organised sports met the recommendations for screen-based SB (2  
212 hours/day) more often than non-sport participants [33, 34]. Other studies found no associations between  
213 organised sports and time spent in sedentary behaviour [35], although this was a cross-sectional study with  
214 a broad age range (10 to 18 years old). Nonetheless, the present study indicates that sport-related  
215 recreational MVPA might have a role in replacing adolescents' daily SB, which could result in  
216 improvements in health-related quality of life [7] and cardio metabolic health across this developmental  
217 stage [2, 8, 9, 36]. Identifying and measuring sports participation could help pediatricians to characterize  
218 an optimal 24-hour pattern of PA for health and develop individualized recommendations for sport  
219 participation.



220 Second, the present study indicates that only some domain-specific behaviours were related to organised  
221 sports participation. This is especially relevant as some of these sedentary behaviours, such as recreational  
222 screen-based sedentary time, have been widely reported to be harmful for health. High prevalence of screen-  
223 based sedentary time in adolescents has been associated with mental health problems [32, 37], and  
224 insufficient sleep duration [38]. Moreover, high screen time among adolescents has been correlated with  
225 higher prevalent obesity in adulthood [39]. Our study supports the idea that sports participation could  
226 contribute towards reducing the time spent on screen-based activities and mitigate its associated health  
227 risks, highlighting the importance of studying the context in which sedentary behaviours occur [40].

228 Third, the present results indicate that associations between sport participation and context-specific  
229 sedentary behaviour differed between individual and team sports. While individual sport participants spent  
230 less time sitting in recreational computer use and television viewing, team sport participants spent less time  
231 on sedentary socialising or hobbies. This could be explained because team sport traditionally stimulates  
232 social engagement [41, 42], which replaces the sedentary social activities among adolescents [43].  
233 Moreover, organised team sports provide a supportive environment to accumulate PA among adolescents  
234 [44, 45]. Individual sport participants spending less time on screen time activities could be explained  
235 considering the nature of individual sports. Individual sports that require a high level of performance are  
236 more effective to develop higher self-control [46]. Previous research associated high screen time with lower  
237 self-control [47]. However, gender differences should also be studied and, in general, there is lack of  
238 evidence about why individual sport participants spent less time sitting in recreational computer use and  
239 television viewing. Future intervention studies could evaluate its impact on domains of sedentary  
240 behaviour. Nonetheless, our study suggests that organised sports participation –especially with regard to  
241 individual sports – can contribute to reduce screen time and overall SB.

#### 242 *Main limitations and strengths*

243 This study used self-report data to determine levels of PA and SB which can lead to an overestimation of  
244 PA levels [48]. Although recall bias is common and would require validation against objective measures  
245 (i.e. inclinometers or accelerometers), self-report methods provide information on the type of behaviour  
246 being undertaken or the social or environmental context in which it occurs [40], a key issue to further  
247 understand context-specific SB interventions. In the future, self-report and objective methods should be  
248 combined to accurately assess the patterns of both SB and PA across this life time period.

249 The study also provides data on a medium-size sample from over one hundred participants. Although a  
250 bigger sample size would have been preferable, this study is one of the first longitudinal studies among  
251 Spanish adolescents that follows up key indicators of SB in relation to sport participation across a  
252 developmental stage that is scarcely studied. Because SB evolves with age, it is important to integrate a  
253 life-course perspective in SB-reduction interventions whenever possible [40].

#### 254 *Future studies*

255 The relationship between context-specific SB and sport participation needs to be further investigated. On  
256 the transition from secondary school to university, the rapid changes in technology usage constantly  
257 increases time spent on domain-specific SB and modifies the screen-based media landscape, which makes  
258 it relevant to promote ongoing research. Accelerometer-measured sedentary behaviour should be added in  
259 combination with self-report data in future studies.

#### 260 *Conclusions*

261 This formative research highlights the value of promoting sport-based interventions and recommending  
262 sport participation to reduce total SB and context-specific SB in the transition from secondary school to  
263 university. Results provide new insights into planning for effective strategies that could change domain-  
264 specific SB and prevent the growing volume of SB among adolescents. While pediatricians would benefit  
265 from providing individualized recommendations on sport participation, policies should not only focus on  
266 promoting organised sports during adolescence but also during young adulthood, with universities  
267 becoming a key setting in this role. This could result in significant improvements in adolescents' chronic  
268 disease risk and well-being, not only during adolescence but also during young adulthood.

#### 269 *Author contribution*

270 I.A. and A.P. conceived of the presented idea and developed the theory. E.C. and J.M. verified the analytical  
271 methods and analysed the data. E.C. designed the model and the computational framework and analysed the  
272 data. D.W. supervised the findings and English accuracy of this article. I.A., A.P. and E.C. discussed the  
273 results.

#### 274 *Compliance with Ethical Statements*

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279 the study (2011).

280 Informed consent: Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.  
281

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**Table 1.** Sport participation and time spent in domain-specific sedentary behaviours and physical activity during the first year of Secondary School by gender.

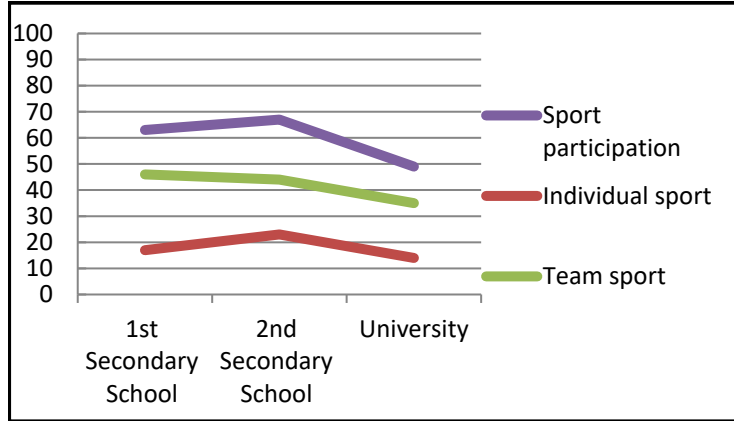
1st year of Secondary School		Males (n=48)	Females (n=65)	Total (N=113)
<b>Sport Participation<sup>(1)</sup></b>		n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
No		18 (37.5)	35 (53.8)	53 (46.9)
Yes: Individual sport		8 (16.7)	22 (33.8)	30(26.5)
Yes: Team sport		22 (45.8)	8 (12.3)	30(26.5)
Domain-specific sedentary behaviours		Mean minutes/day (SD)	Mean minutes/day (SD)	Mean minutes/day (SD)
Total sedentary	Weekdays	770(282)	807(161)	792(220)
	Weekends	581(323)	623(223)	605(270)
Television viewing	Weekdays	80(81)	59(53)	68(67)
	Weekends	112(84)	96(72)	103(77)
Computer use	Weekdays	144(165)	111(81)	125(124)
	Weekends	197(165)	154(106)	172(135)
School/Homework	Weekdays <sup>(2)</sup>	427(79)	474(86)	454(86)
	Weekends <sup>(1)</sup>	73(64)	121(66)	101(69)
Socialising	Weekdays <sup>(3)</sup>	36(43)	56(58)	51(45)
	Weekends	102(116)	116(88)	110(101)
Transport	Weekdays	24(30)	21(20)	22(25)
	Weekends	39(43)	50(57)	45(51)
Hobbies	Weekdays	38(50)	53(82)	47(70)
	Weekends	58(75)	85(86)	73(82)
Domain-specific physical activity (PA)	Intensity	Mean minutes/week	Mean minutes/week (SD)	Mean minutes/week (SD)
Total PA	Vigorous <sup>(4)</sup>	309(288)	177(159)	233(231)
	Moderate <sup>(5)</sup>	362(277)	264(223)	305(251)
	Light	359(242)	401(278)	383(263)
Transport PA	Vigorous	0	0	0
	Moderate	43(136)	23(69)	32(103)
	Light	130(168)	151(146)	142(155)
	Total	174(258)	175(165)	175(208)
Leisure PA	Vigorous	174(205)	117(124)	141(165)
	Moderate	159(173)	97(126)	124(151)
	Light	76(105)	88(127)	83(118)
	Total	411(297)	303(231)	349(265)
Work/school PA	Vigorous	78(114)	53(85)	64(98)
	Moderate	100(77)	88(82)	93(80)
	Light	66(91)	59(92)	62(91)
	Total	245(176)	201(157)	220(166)
Home PA	Vigorous	56(90)	6(25)	27(66)
	Moderate	58(93)	53(80)	55(85)
	Light	86(97)	102(101)	95(100)
	Total	202(194)	163(167)	180(179)

(1) p<0.001; (2) p=0.004; (3) p=0.043; (4) p=0.002; (5) p=0.040

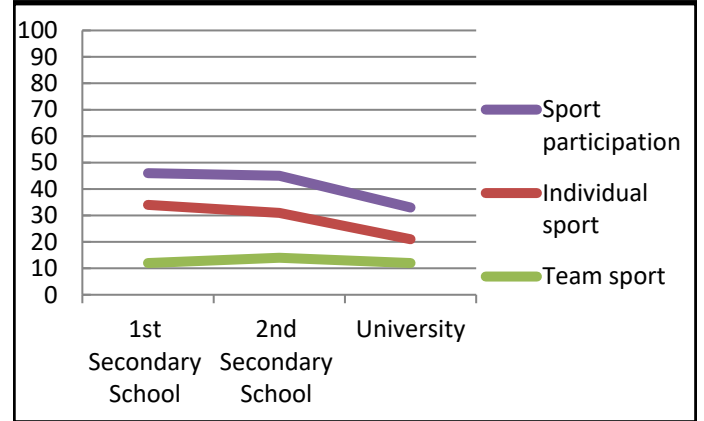


**Figure 1.** Percentage of sport participation during the three years.

Males

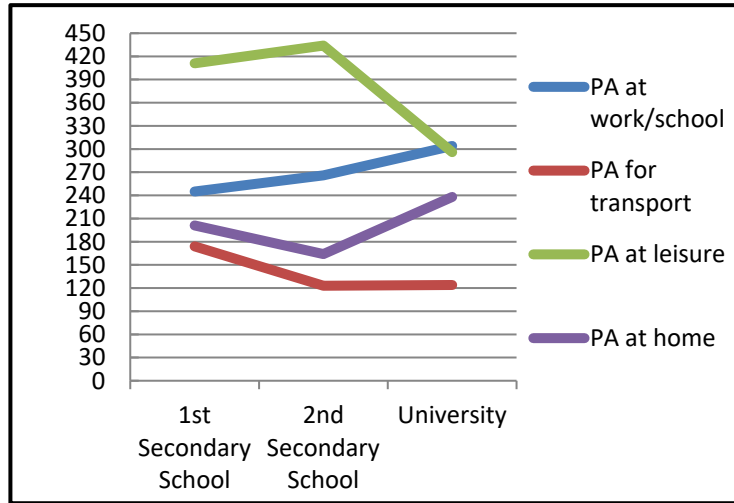


Females

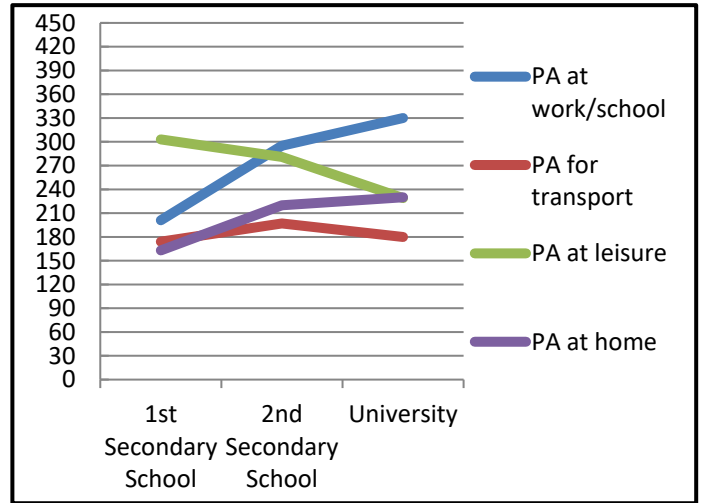


**Figure 2.** Minutes per week of PA in different domains during the three years.

Males



Females

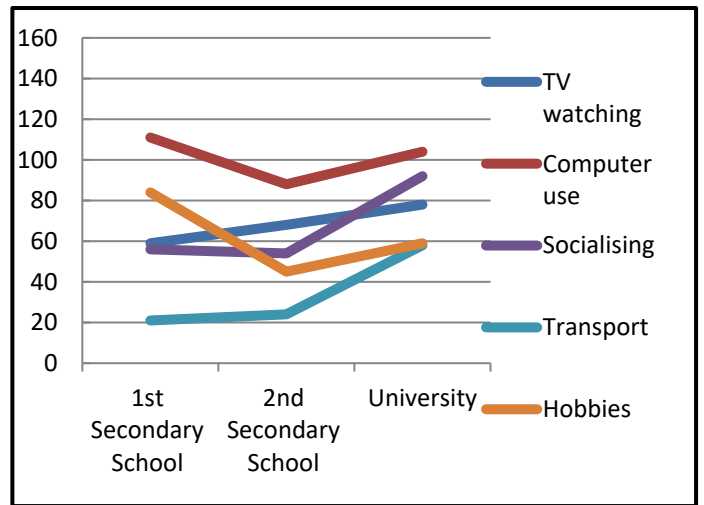


**Figure 3.** Minutes per weekday of sedentary behaviour across during the three years.

Males



Females





**Table 2.** Time spent in domain-specific sedentary behaviours and physical activity in relation to sport participation, adjusted by gender and calendar year models.

		Constant	year		gender		Individual sport		Team sport	
Domain-specific sedentary behaviours (minutes/day)		$\beta$	$\beta$	95% CI	$\beta$	95% CI	$\beta$	95% CI	$\beta$	95% CI
Total sedentary	Weekdays	792.4	-14.3	(-40.7 – 12.1)	<b>58.5</b>	<b>(5.4 – 111.6)</b>	<b>-101</b>	<b>(-157.2 -44.9)</b>	-47.9	(-107.6 -11.9)
	Weekends	657	-9.3	(-40.9 -22.3)	27.3	(-45.9 – 100.5)	<b>-110.5</b>	<b>(-179.7 - -41.4)</b>	<b>-126.4</b>	<b>(-202.4 - -50.4)</b>
Television viewing	Weekdays	65.5	+5.5	(-2.2 – 13.2)	-5.4	(-22.5 – 11.8)	-10.5	(-27.2 – 6.3)	+5.2	(-13.0 – 23.4)
	Weekends	122	<b>-9.1</b>	<b>(-17.1– -1.15)</b>	-3.3	(-23.9 – 17.2)	<b>-18.7</b>	<b>(-36.3 -1.03)</b>	-5.0	(-24.9 – 14.8)
Computer use	Weekdays	136	-4.1	(-15.3 – 7.0)	-13.1	(-36.5 – 10.4)	<b>-37.4</b>	<b>(-61.4 - -13.4)</b>	-9.2	(-35.0 – 16.5)
	Weekends	238	<b>-28.2</b>	<b>(-42.0 – -14.4)</b>	<b>-49.0</b>	<b>(-87.3 – -10.6)</b>	-20.4	(-51.1 – 10.4)	-16.2	(-51.3 -19.0)
Homework	Weekdays	488.3	<b>-40.4</b>	<b>(-54.1 – -26.6)</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>(21.8 – 77.2)</b>	-25.3	(-54.5 – 3.9)	-18.5	(-49.6 – 12.6)
	Weekends	81.9	+3.4	(-7.8 – 14.6)	<b>+51</b>	<b>(26.9 – 75.0)</b>	<b>-26.5</b>	<b>(-50.7 - -2.3)</b>	-22.6	(-48.7 – 3.5)
Socialising	Weekdays	19	<b>+16.7</b>	<b>(8.9 – 24.5)</b>	<b>+20</b>	<b>(5.1 – 35.0)</b>	-16.3	(-32.6 – 0.1)	+4.7	(-12.5 – 21.9)
	Weekends	93.8	<b>+22.3</b>	<b>(9.9 – 34.7)</b>	+8.1	(-18.5 – 34.7)	-21.8	(-48.5 – 4.9)	<b>-37</b>	<b>(-35.9 - -8.2)</b>
Transport	Weekdays	1.6	+18.6	<b>(13.2 – 24.0)</b>	-3.4	(-12.7 – 9.5)	-2.2	(-13.0 – 8.6)	-1.6	(-12.7 – 9.5)
	Weekends	46.7	+1.4	(-4.6 – 7.4)	+1.2	(-14.6 – 16.9)	-2.8	(-16.1 – 10.5)	-8.2	(-23.2 – 6.9)
Hobbies	Weekdays	39.4	3.4	(-4.2 – 11.0)	9.9	(-8.5 – 28.3)	-3.0	(-19.7 – 13.8)	-12.0	(-30.6 – 6.5)
	Weekends	63.9	+1.9	(-7.5 – 11.3)	+21.8	(-2.3 – 45.9)	-4.3	(-25.1 – 16.5)	<b>-24.0</b>	<b>(-47.4 – -0.5)</b>
Total intensities and domain-specific physical activity (PA) (Min/week)		$\beta$	$\beta$	95% CI	$\beta$	95% CI	$\beta$	95% CI	$\beta$	95% CI
Total vigorous PA		277.7	-3.7	(-36.9 – 29.5)	<b>-129.3</b>	<b>(-202.0 – 56.6)</b>	<b>+113.8</b>	<b>(41.9 – 185.8)</b>	+21.1	( -56.9 – 99.2)
Total moderate PA		282	-2.1	(-36.1 – 31.7)	-57.2	(-124.8 – 10.4)	<b>+130.1</b>	<b>(58.3 – 202.0)</b>	<b>+78.8</b>	<b>(2.5 – 155.2)</b>
Total light PA		320	+35.1	(-5.6 – 75.9)	<b>96.0</b>	<b>(3.4 – 188.5)</b>	.19	(-88.7 – 89.1)	-60.9	(-158.2 – 36.3)
Transport total PA		178.7	-9.2	(-30.3 – 11.9)	23.7	(-18.5 – 65.8)	21.4	(-23.3 – 66.1)	<b>-53.5</b>	<b>(-101.1 - -6.0)</b>
Leisure total PA		388.7	<b>-37.0</b>	<b>(-65.4 - -8.6)</b>	<b>-99.6</b>	<b>(-167.5 - -31.6)</b>	<b>165.1</b>	<b>(102.6 – 227.5)</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>(0.3 – 138.6)</b>
Work/school total PA		147.7	<b>52.0</b>	<b>(1.9 – 102.1)</b>	10.9	(-77.8 – 99.5)	30.7	(-71.3 – 132.7)	35.9	(-69.8 – 141.6)
Home total PA		154.0	27.2	(0.7 – 53.6)	-5.4	(-63.6 – 52.9)	2.1	(-55.2 – 59.4)	-6.3	(-68.6 – 56.0)