



LORD
MAYOR'S
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION



GREATER MELBOURNE VitalSigns[®] 2017

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COVER IMAGE
MCG Building
Hynesite Photography

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation wishes to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and celebrate our events on, the People of the Kulin Nation. We pass on our respects to their Ancestors and Elders, both past and present. We acknowledge their tireless work in continuing their traditional lore and practices, and their commitment to protecting their traditional land and waterways.



WELCOME TO GREATER MELBOURNE

VitalSigns[®] 2017

Greater Melbourne *Vital Signs* 2017 takes the 'pulse' of our city. It provides a snapshot of its health and vitality and identifies the things to celebrate and the issues we face as we all create a sustainable and resilient city.

In August 2017, the 'The Economist' ranked Melbourne as the world's most liveable city for the seventh year in a row.¹ We celebrate our city's culture, healthcare, education and stability. We also recognise that we face challenges now and into the future.

The goal of Greater Melbourne *Vital Signs* 2017 is to promote discussion on the key issues that affect the lives of all people who live and work here. We hope this report will help charities, other foundations and not-for-profit organisations, policy advisors, our local communities and indeed government to identify where together we can make the most difference. We hope this report encourages innovative solutions to our challenges. Greater Melbourne *Vital Signs* will help us plan our grant making to address high priority community issues.

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

The foundation for the Melbourne community

LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is Australia's oldest and largest community foundation. It inspires philanthropy throughout Melbourne and the wider community, and creates positive social change through its support of charitable organisations delivering innovative, effective programs.

We are Australia's largest community foundation

Established in 1923, the Foundation connects people, ideas and funding meet the challenges and needs of the people of Melbourne now and into the future.

Vital Signs is an international program, begun in Canada in 2001, that measures the health and vitality of communities and builds community engagement around core issues of liveability. Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is a member of the international *Vital Signs* network. This is our second *Vital Signs* report.

For more information visit: lmcf.org.au



IF MELBOURNE WERE A GROUP OF 100 PEOPLE⁴ WE WOULD BE

OUR GREATER MELBOURNE AREA

This *Vital Signs* report focuses on information and data for the 'Greater Melbourne' area. The Greater Melbourne area includes 31 local government areas stretching from the Yarra Ranges to Wyndham and the Mornington Peninsula to Whittlesea.²

Where Greater Melbourne data is not available, we have used local government, state or national data. For data sources, see pages 28-30.

POPULATION

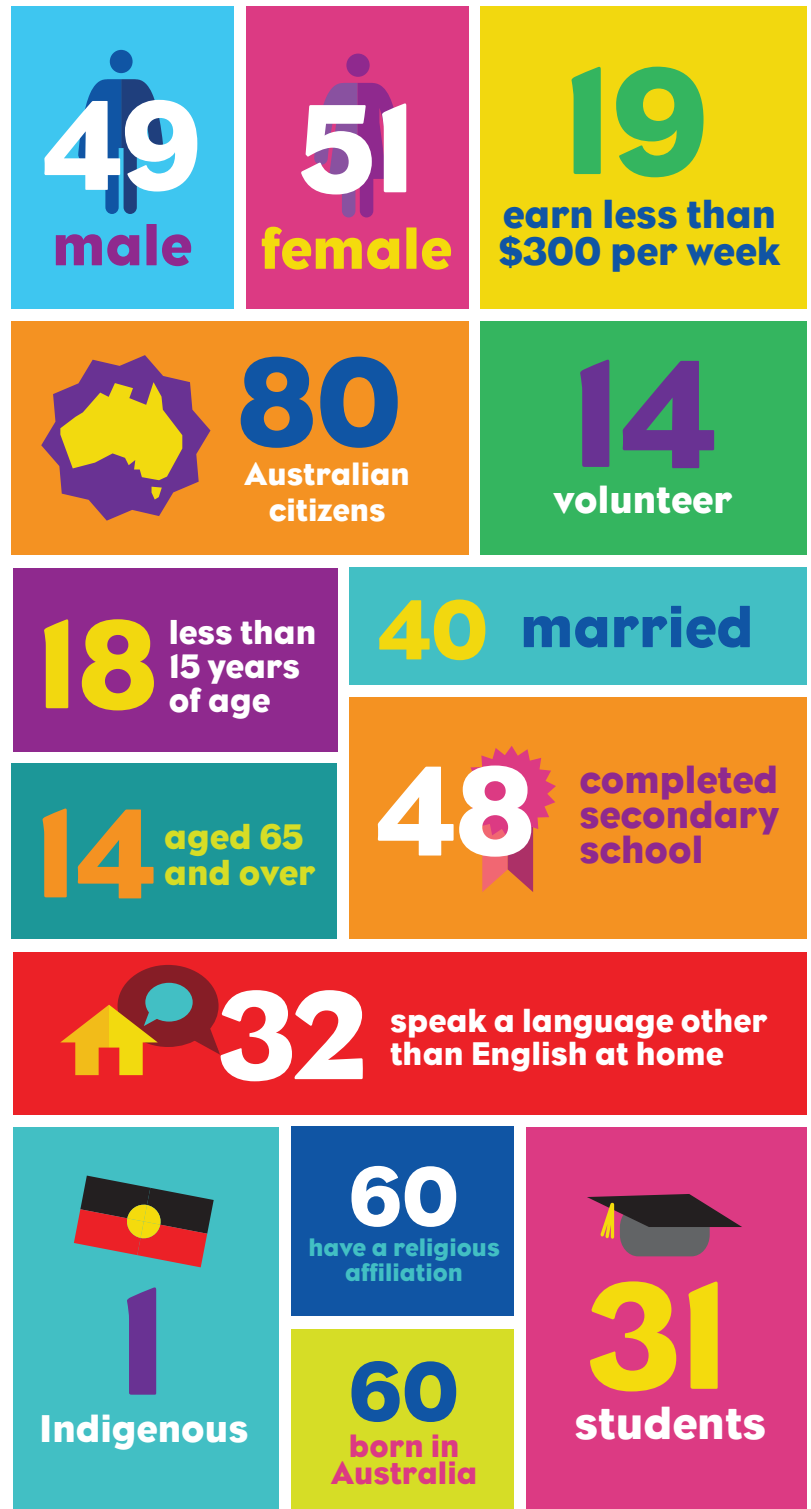
Greater Melbourne is home to 4.73 million people.³ It is Australia's second largest city, spread across 9,993 square kilometres.⁴ By 2026, our population is expected to reach 5.59 million.⁵

With 34 per cent of its inhabitants born outside of Australia, Greater Melbourne is rich in cultural diversity. Nearly 1.5 million people speak a language other than English when at home.⁴

Our population is ageing, with one in every four people aged 55 and older.⁴ By 2051, one in every three people will be 55 and older.⁵

With 453 people per square kilometre, Greater Melbourne has a moderately high population density similar to some larger US cities, but less than the world's megacities London, Tokyo or New York.

For more information, go to:
Imcf.org.au/MelbVitalSigns



GREATER MELBOURNE VITAL SIGNS 2017 REPORT CARD

HOMELESSNESS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:

82,724 homes and potential rental properties are **VACANT**

0.7 PER CENT of private rental properties are suitable for a household living on income support payments

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



WHAT WE CAN CELEBRATE:

Water use has dropped **22 per cent** from ten years ago

Melbourne's foodbowl has the **CAPACITY TO GROW 82 PER CENT** of the city's vegetables and **41 PER CENT** of its total food needs

OUR AIR QUALITY HAS IMPROVED

More rooftop solar systems are being installed

WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:

Victoria's per capita greenhouse gas emissions are around **FOUR TIMES** the global average

By 2050, the foodbowl's capacity to meet the city's total food needs could **HALVE**

40 per cent of waterways are **UNDER STRESS**

WHAT WE CAN CELEBRATE:



WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:



EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



WHAT WE CAN CELEBRATE:



WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:



HEALTHY & RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2017, the *Vital Signs* program connected with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. These goals set targets for sustainable economic, social and environmental development by 2030.

HOMELESSNESS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING



VincentCare Ozanam House, Image: Hynesite Photography

Access to safe, affordable housing that meets the diverse needs of a community is a key measure of a successful city.

Today, with its rapidly growing population, record housing prices and limited rental accommodation, Melbourne is facing a major challenge in housing access and affordability.

The median price of a property across Greater Melbourne is now \$566,000; an increase of 19 per cent in the last five years. A home is now more than seven times the average annual income in Victoria, up from five times the average income in 2001.⁶

Melbourne is facing a major challenge in housing access and affordability

Home ownership is now out of reach for many Melburnians, with more people now renting for longer. This creates stronger competition for rental properties, which affects lower income households with less capacity to compete in the market.

It is also estimated that 82,724 homes and potential rental properties are vacant in Greater Melbourne.⁷

More households are reporting housing 'stress', and struggle to pay their rent or mortgage. On average, Melburnians are spending more than one quarter of their incomes on rent.⁶ All sectors need to work together to solve this issue.

WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:

REDUCE

the number of vacant homes

Increase the supply of public and social housing

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

NOT ENOUGH RENTAL ACCOMMODATION

There is a shortage of at least **72,200 rental homes** for households that earn the **bottom 40 per cent of incomes**. As a result, nearly **60 per cent** of low and very low income households are paying unaffordable rents—defined as more than a third of their income.⁸

In a rental market snapshot taken during April 2017, **0.7 per cent of private rental properties** advertised in Greater Melbourne were suitable for a household living on income support payments.⁹

Affordable housing for households on income support payments.⁹

City	Affordable Housing
Greater Brisbane	12.3%
Greater Adelaide	3.7%
Greater Perth	3.0%
Greater Melbourne	0.7%
Greater Sydney	0.0%

MANY LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ARE PAYING UNAFFORDABLE RENT

Across Greater Melbourne, **cheaper housing is often located in areas with higher levels of crime and lower levels of access to services and employment**. This can entrench disadvantage.⁹



PEOPLE LOCKED OUT OF THE HOUSING MARKET ALTOGETHER are left homeless.⁸



An April 2017 survey found **only one property in Greater Melbourne that was affordable for a single person on Newstart Allowance.⁹**

MORE PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS TODAY

As of 2011, approximately **23,000 people are homeless¹⁰**



and stay in temporary crisis accommodation,

sleep in cars,

or 'couch surf' at family or friends' homes.

It is estimated that **five per cent of Victoria's homeless are 'rough sleepers', sleeping on the streets or improvised dwellings such as tents or site sheds.¹⁰**

The number of improvised dwellings increased **31 per cent across Greater Melbourne between 2011 and 2016**, compared to **five per cent** in regional Victoria.^{11,12}

Nearly 40 per cent of all improvised housing in Greater Melbourne is located within the City of Melbourne, and this increased more than **175 per cent between 2011 and 2016.^{11,12}**



In the past three years, Melbourne has lost 460 rooms in crisis accommodation.¹³ This further limits the options available to people at risk of homelessness.

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

MORE PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS TODAY (continued)

Older women are at particular risk of homelessness. Consequences stemming from relationship breakdown, family violence or illness, the high cost of housing, lower superannuation or income from casual work, the gender pay gap and unpaid carer roles can result in housing instability.¹⁴

Since 2012, the number of older women who are **'couch surfing' has increased by 83 per cent. There has also been a 75 per cent increase in older women sleeping in their cars presenting at homelessness services.**¹⁵

More than half of those accessing homelessness services are
UNDER THE AGE OF 25¹⁶

MORE SOCIAL HOUSING NEEDED

Despite growing demand, the stock of public and community housing continues to decline as a proportion of all housing in Victoria. Public and community housing accounts for **three per cent** of all dwellings, down from **four per cent** in 2006.¹⁷

NEW TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT

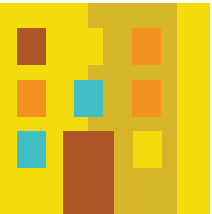
Suburban subdivision in Melbourne's growth corridors has continued at a relatively constant pace since 2001. **More than 195,000 new dwellings were added to Greater Melbourne's stock between 2011 and 2016.**^{18,19}



NEW TOWNHOUSES
in Greater Melbourne
increased by 60 per cent

Most new apartment development has occurred within the inner suburbs. **The biggest increase in new dwellings however has occurred in the outer regions of Greater Melbourne.** The creation of standalone housing in Melbourne's outer suburbs accounted for 30 per cent of new dwellings.^{11,12}

Melbourne now has
1,832,043
private dwellings.¹⁹



The number of new townhouses in Greater Melbourne increased by **60 per cent in the five years leading up to 2016.**^{18,19}

Number of Dwellings in Greater Melbourne^{18,19}

	Dwellings (2011)	Dwellings (2016)
Separate House	1,039,342	1,067,637
Semi-Detached House	165,486	264,409
Flat/Apartment	219,111	231,297
Other*	6,159	6,400

* Includes caravans, houseboats, dwelling attached to a flat or office and improvised homes.

NEW HOMES REPLACING FARMLAND

New residential developments in the city's outer regions are replacing farmland and habitat. **This impacts on Melbourne's capacity to produce food and the environmental sustainability of the metropolitan region.**²⁰

LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

OUR PRIORITY IMPACT AREAS IN HOMELESSNESS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING ARE:



habitat.org.au/vic



homegroundrealestate.com.au



vincentcare.org.au

Increasing the supply of affordable housing

Early intervention to prevent entry into & entrenchment in homelessness

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VICTORIA

Habitat for Humanity is increasing the supply of affordable housing by building new homes for families and individuals earning low-incomes or experiencing housing stress.

The organisation is currently building its 60th home and is on track to reach their goal of building 100 new homes for low income individuals and families by 2022.

Habitat for Humanity relies on the support of volunteers and donors, as well as philanthropic and corporate partners, to provide labour and building materials at a reduced rate or at no cost. The new homeowners also contribute to their new home by providing 500 hours of 'sweat equity'.

HOMEGROUND REAL ESTATE

HomeGround Real Estate is an innovative social enterprise by Launch Housing that works to increase the supply of affordable housing in Melbourne. HomeGround provides landlords the opportunity to be philanthropic by offering low income households a discounted rent.

Landlords can list their property with HomeGround Real Estate, Australia's first not-for-profit real estate agency, knowing that they are helping to ease Melbourne's growing homelessness issue.

HomeGround Real Estate supports Launch Housing's vision to end homelessness by directly supporting low income households by reducing their housing stress and providing stability.

VINCENTCARE VICTORIA

VincentCare Victoria is well known for the care and support it provides our city's most disadvantaged and vulnerable residents.

In 2016, VincentCare began the redevelopment of Ozanam House in North Melbourne to better serve the needs of their clients. The new complex will include a drop-in centre, support services, 63 crisis accommodation units, 41 transitional apartments for people recovering from homelessness and 26 long term independent living units for adults aged over 50 who have experienced long term homelessness.

EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT



Scarf, Image: Peter Tarasiuk

Melbourne is a vibrant student city, with more than 1290 primary and secondary schools teaching 700,000 young people.²¹

One of the great education cities of the world, it is home to seven universities, attracting one-third of Australia's international students.^{22,23}

We know that equal access to education is important at all stages of life. The challenge is to ensure that everyone, young or old, can gain skills and experience to meaningfully participate in the workforce and their community, and have purposeful lives.

equal access to education is important at all stages of life

Quality early learning is essential for all children to ensure they have the 'building blocks' for future learning.²⁴ Equally, feeling connected to school, completing Year 12, and building our scientific literacy is important. Right now, the report card on our education system is mixed.

With today's rapidly changing workplace, we need to identify new and emerging approaches to workforce participation. Australia also has an ageing population, with many older people keen to keep learning and working.

WHAT WE CAN CELEBRATE:

M O S T

Victorian children attend preschool

Most young people complete Year 12 or its equivalent



WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:

INCREASE

study and work opportunities for young people

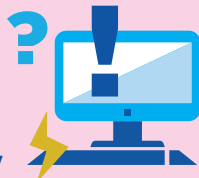
Strengthen our science literacy to ensure an adaptable workforce

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

THE IMPORTANT EARLY YEARS

The early years are a stage of rapid growth and development.

Children who begin school not developmentally ready **OFTEN STRUGGLE** to catch up.²⁵



One in five preschool children are vulnerable in at least one of the following attributes:

Physical health

Social competence

Emotional maturity

Language/cognitive skills

Communication skills /general knowledge²⁶

Attending kindergarten for 15 hours a week gives most children a stronger start at school. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds may benefit from more hours or more regular attendance.²⁷



95 per cent of Victorian children attend preschool and the number of hours children attend is increasing. In 2015, 70 per cent of pre-school aged children attended a program for 15 hours or more compared with 29 per cent in 2012.^{28, 29, 30, 31}

A SENSE OF BELONGING

Students who feel a sense of **BELONGING AT SCHOOL** **DO BETTER** in their learning, and are more likely to finish school.²⁵



63 per cent of students in Years 7–9 **feel connected with their school.**³²

TESTING SKILLS AT SCHOOL



Each year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are tested on their reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy as part of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

In 2017, Victoria's **Year 9 results were stable in most areas, except for 'Writing' which declined by six percentage points from 2008.**^{33,34}



THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

TESTING SKILLS AT SCHOOL (continued)

As part of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) assessment in 2015, **students were tested in science, maths, reading, collaborative problem-solving and financial literacy. This provides an indication of how Australia's future 'STEM' skills**—science, technology, engineering and mathematics—are progressing. STEM skills are vital in our increasingly technological world.³⁵



In Victoria, average scientific literacy was relatively unchanged between PISA 2006 and 2015. **However, 37 per cent of 15 year-old students in Victoria did not meet the National Proficiency Standard in science.**³⁵

Although Australia's scientific literacy 'score' is above the OECD average, it has been in decline since reliable testing commenced; falling three percentage points since 2006.^{36,37}

Indigenous scientific literacy has remained steady since 2006 but remains below the OECD average. Current results are 15 per cent lower than the performance scores of non-indigenous students; representing approximately two-and-a-half years of schooling.³⁵



MOST STUDENTS COMPLETE YEAR 12

MOST YOUNG PEOPLE COMPLETE YEAR 12 AND COMPLETION RATES ARE INCREASING



82 per cent of 20-year olds have completed Year 12 or its equivalent.³⁸ This compares with completion rates below **55 per cent for those born prior to 1965.**³⁸



Across Victoria, one third of all Indigenous people had completed Year 12 compared to two-thirds of non-Indigenous Victorians.³⁹

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IS HIGH



13.5 per cent of young Victorians aged 15-24 are unemployed.⁴⁰

This compares with **6.1 per cent** overall unemployment in Victoria.⁴¹

16 per cent of early school leavers in Victoria did not find work within six months of leaving school. **For Indigenous Victorians, this number is much higher, with 25 per cent** of early school leavers unemployed after six months.⁴²

NEW GRADUATES STRUGGLE IN JOB MARKET



One-third of new bachelor degree graduates seeking full-time employment were unable to find a position within four months of completing their course.⁴³

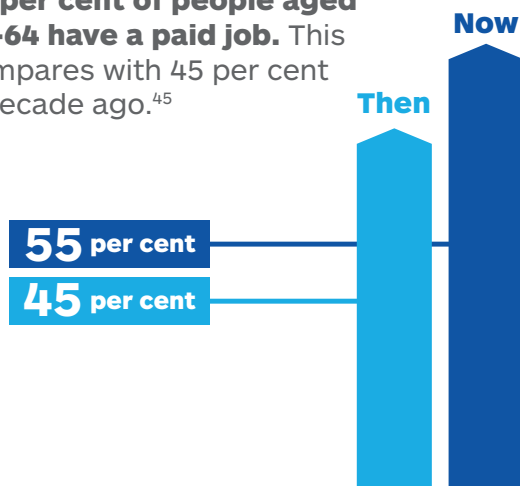
Science graduates were worse off, with 50 per cent unable to find full-time employment after four months. **Half of the science graduates who did find work said their qualification was not required for their job.**⁴⁴

While nearly half of today's retirees depend on the pension, only 27 per cent of people who are over 45 and still working expect the pension to be their main source of income when they retire.⁴⁶

OLDER WORKERS STILL WORKING



55 per cent of people aged 60-64 have a paid job. This compares with 45 per cent a decade ago.⁴⁵

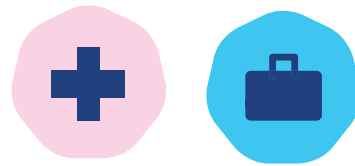


Workforce participation for 60-64 year olds has **steadily increased** since the late 1990's. It is **more than double** the participation rate of 1985.⁴⁵



Financial security is the most common factor influencing a person's decision to retire.⁴⁶

MELBOURNE'S FUTURE JOB MARKET



Employment is expected to increase most in health care and social assistance, and professional, scientific and technical services.⁴⁷

Employment in manufacturing is continuing to decline from its peak in 2010, when it provided the highest number of jobs in Greater Melbourne.⁴⁷



It is estimated that **two-thirds** of children entering primary school today **will work in jobs that do not yet exist.**⁴⁸ Key skills for the future job market include problem-solving, critical and creative thinking, and STEM skills.⁴⁹

EMPLOYMENT WILL GROW IN health care, scientific and technical services

LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

OUR PRIORITY IMPACT AREAS IN EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT ARE:

Supporting young & older people to access education

Supporting young & older people to access work



scarfcommunity.org

SCARF COMMUNITY ORGANISATION

Scarf provides training in hospitality to young refugees, asylum seekers and migrants who face complex barriers to employment. Scarf partners with Melbourne's best hospitality venues to deliver programs that include hands-on training, mentoring from industry professionals and paid work experience.

The Scarf team provides training in restaurants on nights that they are closed. This offers young people the opportunity to build skills and experience within a supported environment, and the experience of working in a commercial restaurant environment.

70 per cent of graduate trainees find work within six months of finishing Scarf's training program.



lsv.com.au

LIFE SAVING VICTORIA

Many young refugees find settling into Australia very challenging. To help with the transition, Life Saving Victoria provides training to young African migrants to become life guards.

Through a culturally sensitive water safety and aquatic skills education program, newly arrived migrants learn swimming and lifeguard skills. Graduates are offered employment within the aquatics and emergency services sectors.

Life Saving Victoria's new program helps build the skills and confidence of participants, who become community role models and mentors to the next group of young people joining the program.



acre.org.au

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ACRE)

Located in Beechworth, Australian Centre for Rural Entrepreneurship (ACRE) is an educational hub designed to educate young people living in regional areas about entrepreneurship. It provides young people with mentoring and learning experiences to inspire them to establish their own rural enterprises. This enables them to become job creators and contribute to positive community development in their local areas.

ACRE implements international best practice in rural community rejuvenation and has been applying these principles and programs in Victoria since 2013.

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY



Costa with friends at Cultivating Communities, Image: Hynesite Photography

We are all dependent on the natural systems that support us. How we manage and protect these systems determines their sustainability as well as our own.

For Melbourne to thrive, so that we can live and work here sustainably, now and into the future, we need to move toward a low carbon economy. To achieve this, we must reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, support more sustainable production and consumption, and adapt to a changing climate.

for Melbourne to thrive, we need to move toward a low carbon economy

A sustainable food system provides access to healthy, affordable food for all people and protects the capacity of future generations to feed themselves.

By reducing the impact of human populations on our waterways we can protect aquatic ecosystems and restore the health of degraded rivers and bay areas.

WHAT WE CAN CELEBRATE:

Melburnians use water more carefully

Melbourne grows MUCH OF ITS OWN FOOD

OUR AIR QUALITY HAS IMPROVED

More rooftop solar systems are being installed

WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:

REDUCE our high greenhouse gas emissions

Melbourne's foodbowl is under threat

Some of our waterways are **STRUGGLING**

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

LESS RAIN BUT MORE EXTREME DOWNPOURS

While Australia's rainfall varies from year to year and is influenced by climate cycles such as El Niño and La Niña, longer-term trends are apparent. The southern regions of Australia, are experiencing the biggest large-scale reduction in rainfall since national records began in 1900.⁵⁰

South-east Australia had below-average rainfall in 16 of the last 20 growing seasons.⁵⁰ In that time, the changing climate conditions reduced wheat yields in Victoria by nearly 15 per cent compared with long term conditions.⁵¹



As the climate changes, it is predicted that Victoria will experience more frequent, intense downpours and flooding.⁵²

Sea levels have risen by about 20cm since the mid-19th century and will continue to rise as a result of climate change.⁵³



LIVING IN A HOTTER CLIMATE

The frequency and intensity of heatwaves is increasing in Victoria. There has also been an increase in the intensity of fire weather and a longer fire season in the south-east of Australia.⁵⁴

In the ten years since 2005, Victoria has experienced more days of extreme heat than the 30 years spanning from 1910.⁵⁵



Heatwaves can have a greater impact in urban areas because concrete, stone and road surfaces absorb greater amounts of energy from the sun.

Exposed urban surfaces can heat to temperatures up to 50°C hotter than the air while surfaces in rural areas remain close to air temperature.⁵⁶

HIGH GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

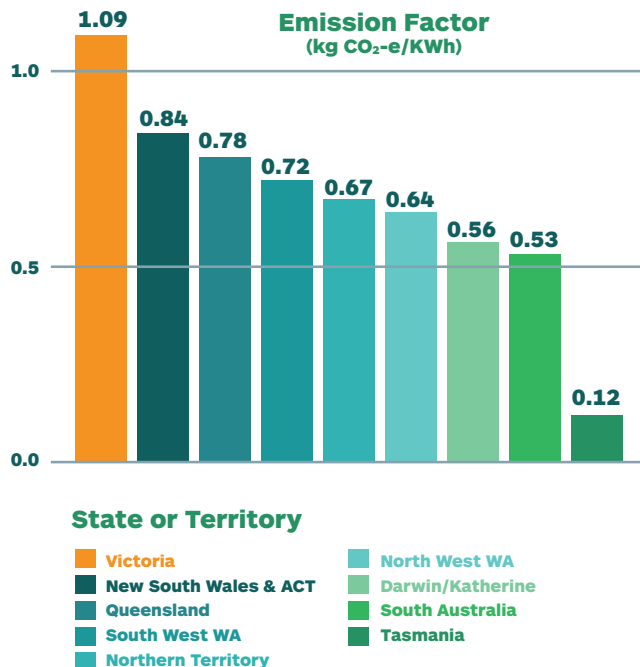
Victoria's per capita greenhouse gas emissions are among the highest in the world. Victoria produces approximately 20 tonnes per person while the global average is around five.^{57,58,59}



Urban areas are instrumental in reducing emissions as they account for around 70 per cent of global energy emissions.⁶⁰

Total greenhouse gas emissions for Victoria are 119.6 million tonnes per year. Most emissions come from stationary energy, which includes electricity, gas and other industries that involve the burning of fossil fuels.⁵⁷

Victoria currently has the most emissions intensive power generation infrastructure in the country.⁶¹



GENERATING ELECTRICITY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES

16 per cent of our electricity was **GENERATED FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES**



In 2016, 16 per cent of electricity in Victoria was generated from renewable sources. Tasmania generated 93 per cent and South Australia 48 per cent. Overall, renewable energy supplied 17.3 per cent of Australia's electricity throughout the year—enough to power the equivalent of almost eight million average homes.⁶⁴

MANY HOMES ARE NOT ENERGY EFFICIENT



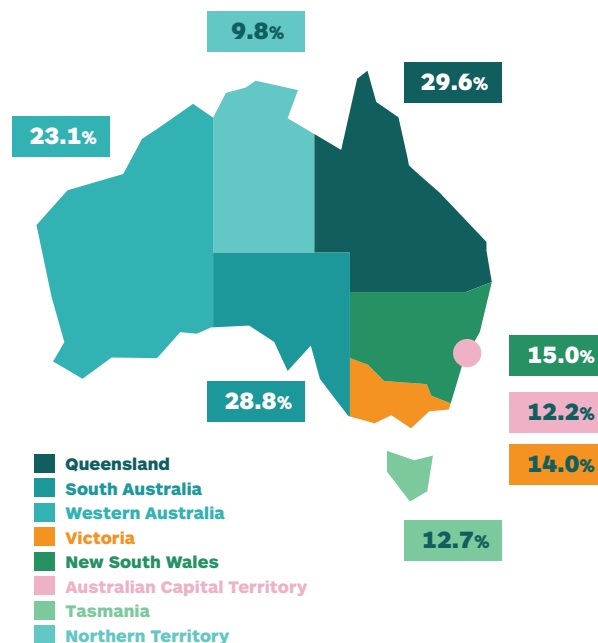
While all new homes in Victoria must comply with the compulsory six Star House Energy Rating, around **86 per cent were built before stronger energy efficiency regulations were introduced in 2005**. As a result, the average rating for houses constructed in Victoria before 2005 is 1.81 stars.⁶²

Retrofitting existing homes to improve energy efficiency can reduce emissions by up to 3.4 tonnes per household per year.⁶³

RESIDENTIAL SOLAR POWER

Rooftop solar systems have been installed on **14 per cent of homes in Victoria**.⁶⁵ Installations are rapidly increasing as solar prices fall and grid electricity prices rise.

Dwellings with a Photovoltaic System



THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

MELBOURNE'S AIR QUALITY IS GOOD



Melbourne's air quality is better than or comparable to other similarly sized cities, and has improved significantly in recent decades.⁶⁶

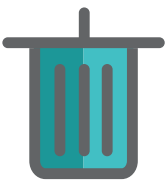
Pollutants in the air can be due to human activities, such as:

vehicle emissions,

industrial processes and wood heaters,

and natural events including bushfires, strong winds and pollen.⁶⁷

OUR WASTE IS GROWING



Most waste produces greenhouse gas emissions in landfill and other waste facilities. As Victoria's population grows and consumption patterns change, **the amount of waste being generated is also increasing.**

At the current rate of increase, **it is predicted that total waste generation in Victoria will rise from 12.2 to 20.6 million tonnes per year by 2043.**⁶⁸

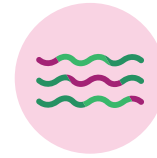
Local councils collected **2.1 million tonnes of household garbage, recyclables and green waste, the equivalent of 359g per person.**^{58,69}



44 per cent of this waste is recovered and recycled, saving 8,000 megalitres of water and more than 463,000 tonnes in greenhouse gases.⁶⁹

The amount of waste created for every dollar Victoria produces is decreasing.

In 2014/15, we produced 34.8 tonnes of waste for every million dollars of gross state product, down from 43.6 tonnes of waste in 2006/07.⁷⁰

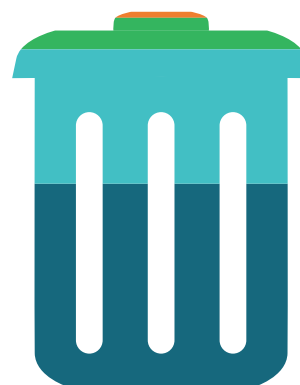


Food that is thrown away wastes money as well as scarce natural resources. Food waste also produces greenhouse gases as it decomposes in landfill.⁷¹



Over one-third of the average household garbage bin in Melbourne is food waste. Two-thirds of this food could have been eaten, and was 'avoidable'* waste.⁷²

Garbage Contents⁷²



Nappies	Fruit	Paper	Batteries
Light globes	Vegetables	Glass	Cooking oil
Broken Glass	Baked goods	Aluminium	Cleaning products
Food Wrappers	Skins & Peelings	Plastics	Mobile Phones
Polystyrene	Tea bags	Garden Waste	Computers

* Unavoidable food waste includes fruit skins, egg shells, bones, tea bags and coffee grounds. All other food waste is categorised as 'avoidable'.

MELBOURNE'S FOODBOWL IS SHRINKING

Melbourne's city fringe foodbowl is an important source of fresh food for the city; producing around 47 per cent of the vegetables grown in Victoria. It has the capacity to grow 82 per cent of Melbourne's vegetables and 41 per cent of its total food needs.²⁰



Melbourne's foodbowl is under pressure from:

climate change,

population growth

and urban development.²⁰

By 2050, urban sprawl and population growth could reduce the capacity of the foodbowl to meet **Greater Melbourne's food needs to 18 per cent.**²⁰

WATER NEEDED FOR FOOD PRODUCTION

475 L 

It takes more than 475 litres of water per person per day to feed Melbourne.⁷³ **Melbourne is likely to experience increasing water scarcity due to climate change and growing demands for water. Recycled water offers an alternative source of water for food production.**



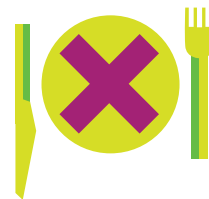
In 2015/16, **nine per cent** of recycled water from Melbourne's two main water treatment plants was used to produce food.⁷⁴

BUYING FOOD FOR THE HOUSEHOLD

Food security means having access to sufficient safe and nutritious food for an active and healthy life.



In 2014, around **131,400 people** – or three per cent of people living in Greater Melbourne – **ran out of food and could not afford to buy more.**^{75,76}



In 2016, **7.8 per cent** of people in the City of Melbourne worried about running out of food over the previous 12 months. **4.5 per cent had skipped meals or eaten less because of these worries.**⁷⁷



In 2015, **Foodbank provided emergency food relief to 94,802 adults and 38,984 children each month in Victoria.**⁷⁸

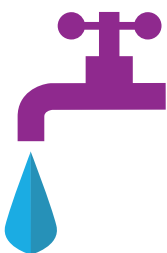
Some population groups, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, asylum seekers and unemployed people experience **higher levels of food insecurity.**⁷⁹

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

OUR RIVERS AND BAYS



Victoria's diverse waterways provide drinking water recreation, habitat for animals, as well as support for agriculture and industry. **Melbourne has some of the highest quality drinking water in the world.**⁸⁰



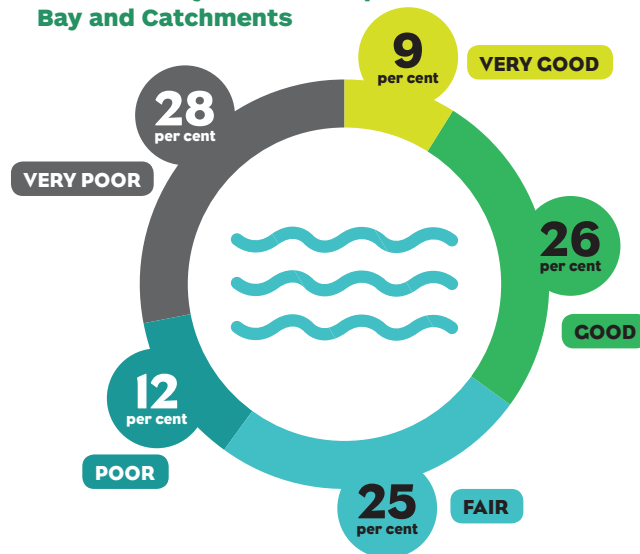
We face significant challenges as the climate changes and the population grows. **We need safe and affordable water to drink, water to support agriculture and industry, and water for the environment.** Victoria requires adaptive strategies that balance the supply and demand of this precious resource—from catchment through to tap and beyond.

WATER QUALITY IN PORT PHILLIP BAY AND CATCHMENTS

The Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay Report Card monitors the health of the bay and its catchments. Samples from 102 catchment sites and eight marine sites in 2016 were assessed. 40 per cent were under 'considerable stress' or 'severe stress'.⁸¹



Water Quality in Port Phillip Bay and Catchments



- Near-natural high quality waterways**
Forested upper catchments and entrance to Port Phillip Bay
- Meets Victorian water quality standards**
Upper catchments and Port Phillip Bay
- Some evidence of stress**
Mostly the main rivers and tributaries in the middle catchment areas on the urban fringe
- Under considerable stress**
Mostly lower reaches of the main rivers and urban tributaries
- Under severe stress**
Mostly small urban tributaries

WATER USE REDUCING



The introduction of water restrictions in response to water shortages and drought has been largely supported by Melbourne's residents. **Water use has dropped 22 per cent from ten years ago.**⁸²

In 2015/16, **residential water use made up 64 per cent of Melbourne's total water use**, the equivalent of 166 litres per person per day.⁸²



LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

OUR PRIORITY IMPACT AREAS IN ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY ARE:



envirojustice.org.au



veil.msd.unimelb.edu.au/projects/current/foodprint-melbourne



ata.org.au

Transitioning towards a low carbon economy

Building a sustainable food system

Protecting water eco-systems

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AUSTRALIA

Melbourne's residents and tourists will continue to enjoy the benefits of a healthy Yarra River thanks to the Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Bill.

A community consultation project led by Environmental Justice Australia and Yarra Riverkeeper Association worked with small grassroots community groups and local residents living along the Yarra River to develop a new management policy to inform the proposed Bill. The project included workshops and discussions around issues relating to biodiversity and environment, land and catchment management, development pressures, and water quantity/flow management.

The Yarra River is now recognised as a single, integrated living entity, to be managed as a single landscape under a 50-year community vision.

VICTORIAN ECO INNOVATION LAB (VEIL)

Melbourne's abundance of fresh food includes a great variety of fruit and vegetables grown on the city's fringe.

The Victorian Eco Innovation Lab (VEIL) at The University of Melbourne has mapped Melbourne's food growing areas as part of its Foodprint project analysing our city's food consumption and cataloguing what food is being grown in the city's foodbowl.

Foodprint has also identified vulnerabilities in Melbourne's food supply to ensure we can continue to supply locally grown food to our rapidly expanding population.

ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION (ATA)

Households and community groups have looked to Alternative Technology Association (ATA) for inspiration and guidance for rooftop solar installation options that provide the best energy and financial outcomes.

In response to community demand, ATA launched Sunulator, a free online calculation tool that estimates the economic feasibility for a solar battery system. It compares the results for several scenarios, including size of solar arrays, panel orientations and different battery storage. Sunulator can help reduce energy bills and minimise a household's impact on the environment.

HEALTHY & RESILIENT COMMUNITIES



Centre for Multicultural Youth, Image: Hynesite Photography

Community plays an important role in our wellbeing, providing a sense of place, purpose and belonging. A healthy and resilient community is inclusive and welcoming, with high levels of participation, and a sense of belonging in community life.

As our ageing population continues to grow, we need to create age-friendly communities that address the social isolation and disadvantage often experienced by older people. Equally, we need to support social initiatives that encourage and welcome participation by younger people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

we need to create age-friendly communities

Climate change poses new challenges to our social and environmental health. We know it also disproportionately affects marginalised members of our community, including people who are older, or unemployed or from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Community resilience depends on social cohesion, where all people can participate in work, recreation, arts and cultural life, building relationships and skills, and developing mutual acceptance and understanding.

WHAT WE CAN CELEBRATE:



WHAT WE NEED TO IMPROVE:

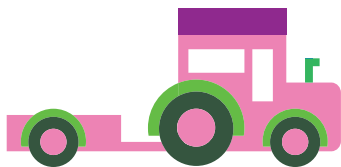


THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

FEWER ADULTS REPORT GOOD HEALTH



In their self-assessment of overall health, **41 per cent** of adults living in Greater Melbourne reported excellent or very good health.⁸³ **This is a decline from five years ago when 47 per cent reported feeling excellent or very good about their health.**⁸⁴



Rural Victorians reported greater life satisfaction than people who lived in the city, and women reported greater life satisfaction than men.⁸³

Across Victoria, approximately **17 per cent of people, and one in five women, reported experiencing high or very high levels of psychological distress.**⁸³



In Greater Melbourne, and across Victoria, **24 per cent of adults said they had been diagnosed with depression or anxiety at some point in their lives.** This increase is up from 19 per cent in 2011.^{83,84}



CHILDREN ARE IN GOOD HEALTH

Most children in Greater Melbourne are reported to be in good physical and emotional health. 87 per cent of children up to 13 years of age have 'good', 'very good' or 'excellent' health, slightly below the Victorian average of 89 per cent.⁸⁵



BURDEN OF DISEASE FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

For every 1,000 Indigenous Australians, 429 years were lost to premature death, disease or injury compared to 185 years for non-Indigenous people. This represents a five per cent improvement for Indigenous Australians since 2003. Much of this change is a result of delaying deaths caused by particular diseases rather than preventing them. The consequence is that Indigenous populations are living longer with disease.⁸⁶

AGEING CAN BRING LONELINESS, ISOLATION

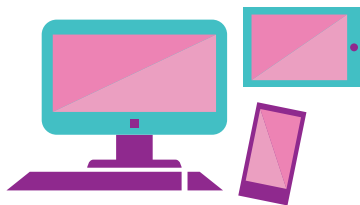


At least one in ten people aged over 60 experience isolation and loneliness.⁸⁷

Loneliness and social isolation significantly increases the risk of ill health and death. The chances of premature death increase for those experiencing loneliness by 26 per cent and for those experiencing social isolation by 29 per cent.⁸⁸

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

AGEING CAN BRING LONELINESS, ISOLATION (continued)



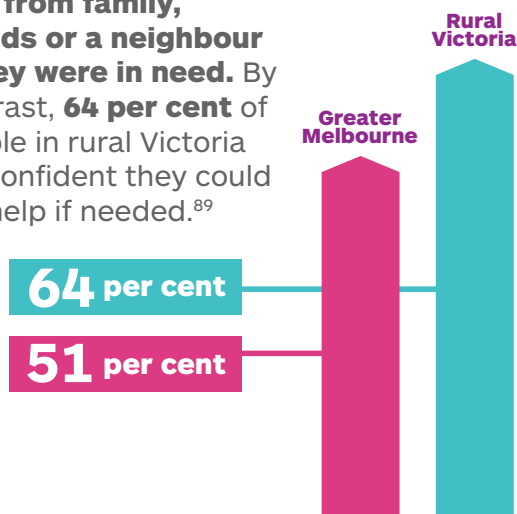
Seniors are increasingly taking up new technology which can support them to build and sustain connections to their community. With more services and businesses online, seniors also need to be able to access support services via the internet.⁸⁷

BUILDING TRUST & SOCIAL COHESION

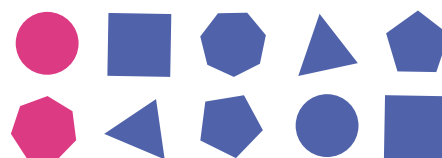


A community's capacity to manage adversity and provide support is based on **people's trust in others and sense of interconnectedness**. In Greater Melbourne, **38 per cent** of people believed others could be trusted, similar to Victoria overall.⁸⁹

51 per cent of people were confident they would be able to seek help from family, friends or a neighbour if they were in need. By contrast, **64 per cent** of people in rural Victoria felt confident they could get help if needed.⁸⁹



DISCRIMINATION IS INCREASING



Across Australia, **discrimination based on skin colour, ethnic origin or religion has increased. 20 per cent** of people reported experiencing discrimination, up from **15 per cent** in 2015. Reports of discrimination are the highest since 2007.⁹⁰

Reports of discrimination are the **HIGHEST** since 2007



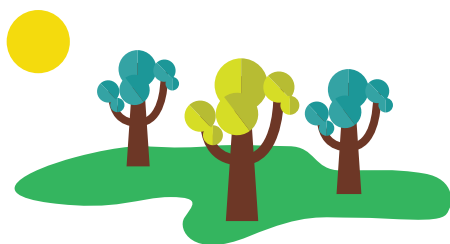
Religious bias is likely to be a significant contributor, with one quarter of survey respondents describing a 'negative' or 'very negative' attitude towards Muslims, a value that has remained consistent since 2010.⁹⁰

ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY SPACES ARE ESSENTIAL

Access to parks, schools, shops and public transport plays a critical role in the liveability of a city. **Using public open spaces and being outside promotes physical activity and mental health and is known to reduce stress and illness.**⁹¹



People living in car-dependent neighbourhoods who do not have a car are at increased risk of social isolation, reduced employment and skill development opportunities. As a result they become trapped in a cycle of debt.⁹¹



People living in disadvantaged areas are also less likely to have access to green spaces and other amenities, such as sporting grounds, compared with less disadvantaged neighbourhoods.⁹¹

PREPARING FOR EXTREME WEATHER



Heatwaves pose a significant threat to people's health and wellbeing in Australia, causing cardiac arrest, heat stroke and dehydration.⁹²

Since 1890, heatwaves have killed more people than all other extreme weather events, such as floods or bushfires.⁹²

Climate change increases the frequency and intensity of prolonged heatwaves, placing greater demand on public health and emergency services. As a result, communities need to prepare for extreme weather events.⁹²

People most at risk of heat-related illness or death include:

infants, **the elderly,**

those with existing health problems or disabilities,

those who are isolated, homeless or work outdoors.

Some people also overestimate their personal tolerance to extreme heat.⁹²

More than **88 per cent** of the existing global burden of disease attributable to climate change occurs in children younger than five years.⁹²

The number of people with heat-related health issues across Victoria during the 2014 heatwave was five times greater than expected. That year, 167 additional people died as a result of extreme heat.⁹³

The heatwave of 2009 had an even more severe effect on the health of Victoria's population. Emergency departments reported that **heat-related health issues were eight times greater than normal.**⁹⁴ Bushfires that coincided with the end of the heatwave claimed the lives of **173 people.** As a result **374 deaths** above the anticipated mortality rate were attributed to the heatwave.⁹⁵

THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT:

MANY MELBURNIANS ARE NOT GETTING ENOUGH EXERCISE

'Sufficient' physical activity is described as 150 minutes of moderate exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous exercise per week for people aged 18-64. Thirty minutes of moderate exercise each day is recommended for people aged 65 and over.⁸³



In Greater Melbourne,

ONLY 46 PER CENT

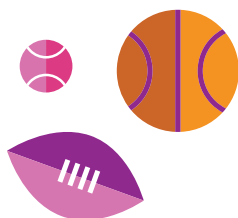
of adults had engaged in 'sufficient' levels of physical activity.⁸³



Melburnians are also more sedentary than rural Victorians, with four per cent of city residents doing no physical activity, compared to 2.6 per cent in the country.⁸³

The largest differences in physical activity were seen between age groups, rather than location. People aged 45-64 years across Victoria were the least likely to exercise, with fewer than 37 per cent engaging in 150 minutes per week. More than 70 per cent of 65-84 year olds engaged the recommended amount of exercise.⁸³

On average, **27 per cent of city residents** participated in sport compared to **40 per cent of regional Victorians**.⁹⁶

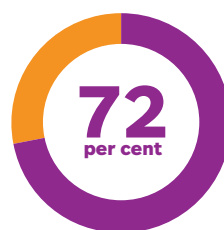


Women participated in sport at half the rate of men. Women reported feeling embarrassed or intimidated by sports clubs as barriers to participation.⁹⁶ **59 per cent of women aged 18-24 said they found sports clubs daunting, compared with 35 per cent of men.**⁹⁷

MOST PARTICIPATE IN THE ARTS



Community participation in the creative arts is high across Victoria with **48 per cent** of people creatively contributing, similar to the national average. **Visual arts and crafts were the predominately explored medium with 31 per cent of people engaged in visual arts compared with only nine per cent involved in theatre and dance.**⁹⁸



Attendance rates were much higher than active participation. **72 per cent of people attended at least one art form.** An additional 22 per cent of people engaged with the arts solely through literature.⁹⁸

Participation rates depended on location. In outer metropolitan areas of Melbourne, **66 per cent** of residents had attended a performance or exhibitions in the past 12 months, compared with **74 per cent in regional Victoria and 75 per cent in inner metropolitan areas.**⁹⁸

LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

OUR PRIORITY IMPACT AREAS IN HEALTHY & RESILIENT COMMUNITIES ARE:

Building Age Friendly Communities & supporting ageing well

Supporting communities to build resilience in the face of climate change

Strengthening social cohesion through supporting the social participation of young & older people representative of a community's diversity



gathermycrew.org.au

GATHER MY CREW

Knowing you have the support of family and friends during a time of crisis or trauma is both comforting and reassuring.

Gather My Crew helps organise this support through an innovative, web-based program.

The simple online tool featuring a schedule and calendar, assists people by developing a support 'crew' of family and friends and lists the help required.

Help is very practical and can consist of everyday activities such as school drop-off and pick-ups, household cleaning, provision of meals, and assistance with medical appointments.



3mbs.org.au | Listen 103.5FM

RADIO 3MBS

Community radio station 3MBS is well-known for providing listeners a beautiful program of classical and jazz music. It is also run by a dedicated workforce of over 200 volunteers.

3MBS recently upgraded and digitised the station's equipment and studios, including digitising an enormous library of 20,000 CDs for broadcast payout.

The final stages of the project have included upgrading existing hardware and software, bringing the station up to new broadcasting standards to ensure operational longevity and more beautiful music for the community.



fittedforwork.org

FITTED FOR WORK

Fitted for Work has established The Women's Enterprise Hub (The Hub) to support older women, who are financially vulnerable, to become confident in remaining in employment and to develop skills to create their own social enterprises.

The Hub offers an innovative approach to addressing the growing incidence of older women living in poverty by providing opportunities to address barriers, build financial resilience, generate sustainable income and make choices that will lead to greater financial security in the future.

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