

Greater Bendigo

LGA Profile

VicHealth Indicators Survey 2011 Results

This profile provides an overview of wellbeing in this LGA. It is designed to provide local governments with population health data to undertake comprehensive, evidence-based municipal public health and wellbeing planning.

Greater Bendigo highlights*

- Residents of the City of Greater Bendigo reported significantly greater wellbeing than the Victorian average. Residents gave their wellbeing an average score of 79.7 out of 100, compared with the state average of 77.5.
 - The proportion of Greater Bendigo residents who purchased alcohol in the previous week (35.9%) was consistent with the state average (36.3%). However, those who purchased packaged liquor and those who purchased alcohol from licensed premises spent significantly less (\$36 and \$27 respectively), compared with Victorian averages (both \$45).
 - A significantly lower proportion of Greater Bendigo residents reported an adequate work-life balance (42.4%), compared with the Victorian average (53.1%). However, they were no more likely to feel rushed and pressed for time (38.2% compared with Victorian average of 41.3%).
 - Nearly three-quarters of Greater Bendigo residents (72.6%) reported sharing a meal with their family on five or more days each week. This was not significantly different from the Victorian average (66.3%).
 - Nearly half of Greater Bendigo residents (49.6%) volunteered at least once a month, a proportion significantly higher than the Victorian average (34.3%).
 - Compared with the Victorian average (50.5%), residents of Greater Bendigo were significantly more likely to report some type of citizen engagement in the previous 12 months (59.0%).
- * Significance has been calculated to the 95% level of probability. Significant difference is indicated when confidence intervals for an LGA estimate do not overlap with confidence intervals for the Victorian average. Not all statistically significant results are reported as 'highlights'. See chart over page for all indicators.

Data has been weighted by age and gender within each local government area (LGA). Crude rates, also known as non-standardised rates, are shown here to help inform localised planning. Crude rates are not appropriate for comparisons between individual LGAs, as estimates have not been age-standardised and differences may be due, at least in part, to differing age profiles. Significant differences shown in this document may be partly due to differences between the age profiles of the LGA and the Victorian population as a whole. Age-standardised data is available on request[†].



The City of Greater Bendigo is located north-west of Melbourne and its most populous community, Bendigo, is approximately 150 kilometres from Melbourne. Greater Bendigo covers an area of roughly 3,000 square kilometres and has a population of about 100,000.

About the survey

The data comes from the VicHealth Indicators Survey 2011, which has a focus on social determinants of health. It complements other population health survey work conducted in Victoria. Data was collected through telephone interviews.

The survey was conducted in each of Victoria's 79 LGAs, with a total sample of 25,075 participants aged 18 and over.

For more information, please refer to the full report of the VicHealth Indicators Survey 2011 at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/indicators.

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[†] For more information about age-standardised data, contact indicators@vichealth.vic.gov.au

Greater Bendigo indicator results

The chart below shows how the indicators of health and wellbeing for this LGA compare to the Victorian average. The LGA's result is shown as a circle. Significant difference (indicated by the circle's colour) was deemed to exist when confidence intervals for an LGA estimate did not overlap with confidence intervals for the Victorian average. Crude rates, also known as non-standardised rates, have been presented here to help inform localised planning. Crude rates are not appropriate for comparison between LGAs, as estimates have not been age-standardised and therefore differences may be due, at least in part, to differing age profiles. Values are percentages unless stated otherwise.

Indicator	% LGA	LGA estimate confidence interval	% Victoria	Victoria least favourable	Victoria Range	Victoria most favourable
Wellbeing						
Subjective wellbeing (range 0–100)	79.7	[78.1, 81.3]	77.5	73.7		82.5
Alcohol						
Purchased alcohol in the last 7 days	35.9	[29.6, 42.7]	36.3	54.4		20.7
7 day \$ spend on packaged liquor (of those purchasing) ⁺	36	[30, 41]	45	63		24
7 day \$ spend at a licensed premises (of those purchasing) ⁺	27	[18, 36]	45	129		13
Work, life and time						
Long commute (≥2 hours per day) [^]	No data		11.6	26.2		0
Inadequate sleep (<7 hours per weekday)	30.6	[24.8, 37.2]	31.5	44.1		18.8
Lack time for friends/family	24.9	[19.2, 31.6]	27.4	36.2		17.8
Time pressure	38.2	[31.6, 45.3]	41.3	53.8		26.5
Adequate work-life balance [^]	42.4	[34.0, 51.3]	53.1	37.6		69.5
Healthy eating and sedentary behaviour						
Shares a meal with family (≥ 5 days per week)	72.6	[66.3, 78.2]	66.3	54.7		81.1
Sedentary behaviour (sitting ≥7 hours per day)	32.0	[25.6, 39.1]	32.6	52.3		15.2
Daily soft drink consumption	19.0	[13.8, 25.6]	12.4	20.5		4.3
Green space and safety						
Visit to green space (≥ once per week)	46.4	[39.6, 53.4]	50.7	31.4		79.3
Perceptions of safety - walking alone during day	99.8	[99.1, 99.9]	97.0	89.6		100
Perceptions of safety - walking alone during night*	77.2	[70.2, 82.9]	70.3	45.2		95.4
Community engagement						
Volunteering (≥ once per month)*	49.6	[42.7, 56.5]	34.3	22.6		62.1
Participation in citizen engagement (in the last year)	59.0	[52.0, 65.6]	50.5	26.4		73.3
Arts and new media						
Attended arts activities or events (in the last 3 months)	70.6	[64.2, 76.2]	63.6	35.4		82.6
Made or created art or crafts (in the last 3 months)	40.6	[33.9, 47.6]	34.9	20.4		51.2
Internet access at home	89.1	[85.6, 91.9]	88.8	68.5		96.1
Social networking used to organise time with friends/family	30.1	[23.7, 37.3]	35.1	18.8		47.1
Social attitudes that influence health						
Community acceptance of diverse cultures	47.1	[40.0, 54.2]	50.6	28.3		78.0
Prepared to intervene in a situation of domestic violence	96.7	[94.0, 98.2]	93.1	87.9		97.0
Smoking policy						
Support for smoking ban in outside dining areas	75.1	[69.2, 80.3]	69.8	59.9		76.8

Legend

- LGA value significantly more favourable than Victorian average
- LGA value significantly less favourable than Victorian average
- LGA value not significantly different from Victorian average
- Sampling variability high, use with caution (relative standard error 25–50%)
- | Victorian average
- ⁺ Reported as \$ for those purchasing this type of alcohol

- Range of results across all LGAs
- [^] Question only asked of participants who were employed
- ^{*} Cannot be compared to 2008 Victorian Population Health Survey as data was not collected in the same manner
- No data Relative standard error above 50%, estimate not reported
- Details of questions can be found at: www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/indicators