

# Melbourne

## 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.

#### Melbourne highlights\*

- Compared with the Victorian average (50.7%), City of Melbourne residents were significantly more likely to have visited green space at least weekly in the past three months, with two-thirds (66.5%) reporting this.
- Melbourne residents were significantly more likely to feel safe walking alone in their local area, compared with the Victorian average. Almost all residents (99.1%) reported feeling safe or very safe during the day and more than three-quarters (78.0%) felt safe or very safe at night. These results compare favourably with with (but are not significantly different to) the state averages of 97.0% (day) and 70.3% (night).
- Compared with the Victorian average (63.6%), a significantly greater proportion of Melbourne residents (80.0%) had attended arts activities or events in the previous three months.
- Most residents of Melbourne (95.6%) had internet access at home, a proportion significantly higher than the state average (88.8%).
- Melbourne residents were significantly more likely to use social networking to organise spending time with friends and family compared with the Victorian average (35.1%). Nearly half (47.1%) reported using social networking for this purpose.
- More than three-quarters (76.3%) of Melbourne residents supported a ban on smoking in outside dining areas. This was not significantly different to the Victorian average (69.8%).

\* 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 Melbourne covers an area of roughly 40 square kilometres and has a population of about 93,000.**

#### 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](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/indicators).

#### Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

PO Box 154  
Carlton South, VIC 3053 Australia  
T +61 3 9667 1333  
F +61 3 9667 1375  
[vichealth@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:vichealth@vichealth.vic.gov.au)  
[www.vichealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au)

October 2012  
Publication number: K-041-KN  
ISBN number: 978-1-922133-43-4

© Copyright Victorian Health Promotion Foundation 2012

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

## Melbourne 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
<b>Wellbeing</b>						
Subjective wellbeing (range 0–100)	77.2	[75.8, 78.6]	77.5	73.7		82.5
<b>Alcohol</b>						
Purchased alcohol in the last 7 days	45.0	[36.8, 53.5]	36.3	54.4		20.7
7 day \$ spend on packaged liquor (of those purchasing) <sup>+</sup>	53	[34, 73]	45	63		24
7 day \$ spend at a licensed premises (of those purchasing) <sup>+</sup>	42	[32, 51]	45	129		13
<b>Work, life and time</b>						
Long commute (≥2 hours per day) <sup>^</sup>	4.8	[1.9, 11.7]	11.6	26.2		0
Inadequate sleep (<7 hours per weekday)	28.3	[21.4, 36.4]	31.5	44.1		18.8
Lack time for friends/family	25.7	[18.6, 34.4]	27.4	36.2		17.8
Time pressure	42.8	[34.7, 51.4]	41.3	53.8		26.5
Adequate work-life balance <sup>^</sup>	54.4	[43.8, 64.5]	53.1	37.6		69.5
<b>Healthy eating and sedentary behaviour</b>						
Shares a meal with family (≥ 5 days per week)	60.2	[51.7, 68.2]	66.3	54.7		81.1
Sedentary behaviour (sitting ≥7 hours per day)	52.3	[43.8, 60.6]	32.6	52.3		15.2
Daily soft drink consumption	13.4	[7.9, 21.7]	12.4	20.5		4.3
<b>Green space and safety</b>						
Visit to green space (≥ once per week)	66.5	[57.9, 74.2]	50.7	31.4		79.3
Perceptions of safety - walking alone during day	99.1	[96.1, 99.8]	97.0	89.6		100
Perceptions of safety - walking alone during night*	78.0	[70.3, 84.2]	70.3	45.2		95.4
<b>Community engagement</b>						
Volunteering (≥ once per month)*	30.2	[23.1, 38.4]	34.3	22.6		62.1
Participation in citizen engagement (in the last year)	58.6	[50.0, 66.7]	50.5	26.4		73.3
<b>Arts and new media</b>						
Attended arts activities or events (in the last 3 months)	80.0	[71.5, 86.4]	63.6	35.4		82.6
Made or created art or crafts (in the last 3 months)	37.4	[29.6, 45.9]	34.9	20.4		51.2
Internet access at home	95.6	[91.6, 97.7]	88.8	68.5		96.1
Social networking used to organise time with friends/family	47.1	[38.7, 55.6]	35.1	18.8		47.1
<b>Social attitudes that influence health</b>						
Community acceptance of diverse cultures	67.9	[59.2, 75.6]	50.6	28.3		78.0
Prepared to intervene in a situation of domestic violence	96.0	[92.2, 98.0]	93.1	87.9		97.0
<b>Smoking policy</b>						
Support for smoking ban in outside dining areas	76.3	[68.6, 82.5]	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
- <sup>+</sup> Reported as \$ for those purchasing this type of alcohol

- Range of results across all LGAs
- <sup>^</sup> Question only asked of participants who were employed
- <sup>\*</sup> 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](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/indicators)