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Background and objectives

The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the council and their community.

Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.

Now in its twenty-second year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance, with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- · value for money in services and infrastructure
- community consultation and engagement
- decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities, services and
- · overall council direction.

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last ten years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 22 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this Statewide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 22 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional. Participating councils have various choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.



Moira Shire Council – at a glance



Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Moira 58



State-wide 61



Council performance compared to State-wide and group averages



Summary of core measures



Index scores







Consultation & engagement



Community decisions



Sealed local roads



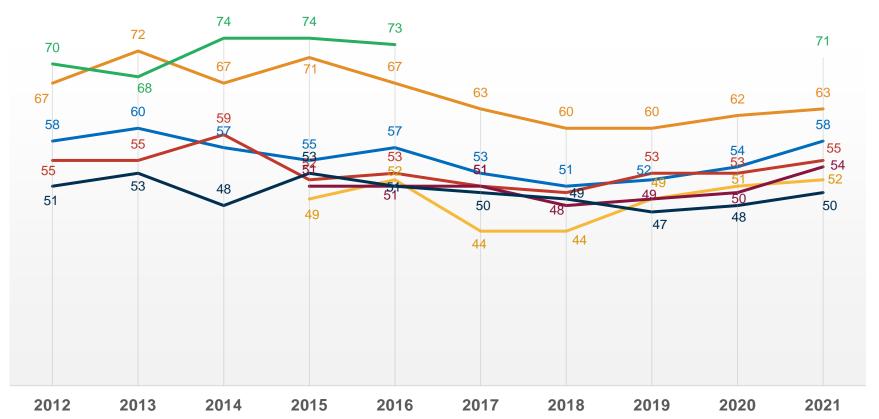
Waste management



Customer service



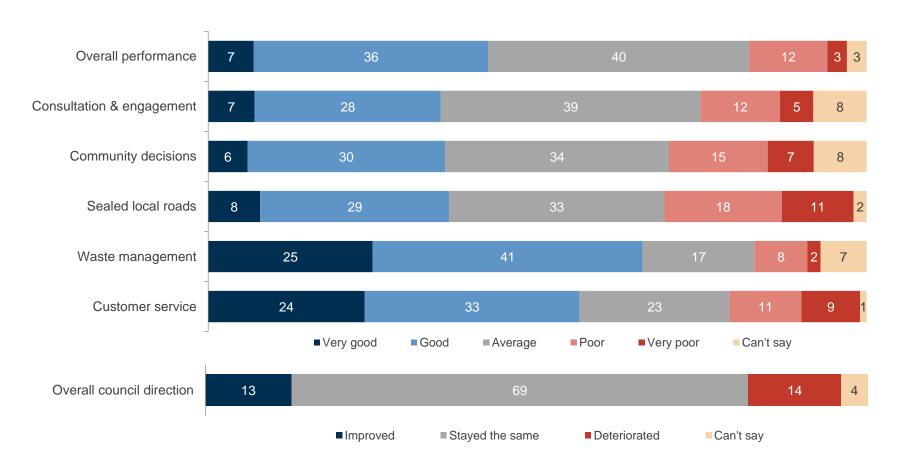
Overall council direction



Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Moira Shire Council performance



Services		Moira 2021	Moira 2020	Large Rural 2021	State-wide 2021	Highest score	Lowest score
C/1	Overall performance	58	54	58	61	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
S	Value for money	50	-	50	54	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
+	Overall council direction	50	48	51	53	Cobram residents	Aged 50-64 years
١	Customer service	63	62	68	70	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-49 years
	Waste management	71	-	66	69	Yarrawonga residents	Other residents
	Consultation & engagement	55	53	54	56	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
<u>.</u>	Lobbying	54	52	54	55	Nathalia/ Numurkah residents	Yarrawonga residents, Aged 50-64 years
***	Community decisions	54	50	54	56	Nathalia/ Numurkah residents	Aged 35-49 years
A	Sealed local roads	52	51	50	57	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years, Other residents

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Perceptions of Moira Shire Council's overall performance improved significantly by four index points over the past year, to the highest level since 2013. Encouragingly, performance perceptions on all service areas evaluated have remained stable or improved by one to four index points. Performance ratings of decisions made in the interest of the community experienced a statistically significant increase this year, reaching a record high.

Focus areas

Customer service is an area that may warrant extra attention in the next year. Despite an incremental increase in ratings, these remain well below the peak rating seen in 2013 and significantly lower than both the Large Rural and State-wide averages. It will also be important for Council to monitor and boost performance perceptions among 35 to 49 year-old residents, who have the highest rate of contact with Council but rate it lower than average on most performance metrics.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Positively, Moira Shire Council performs significantly higher than the Large Rural group average in the area of waste management. In contrast, Council performs significantly lower than the State-wide average on sealed local roads. As mentioned, Council performs significantly lower than both the Large Rural and State-wide averages on customer service. On other service areas, Council is rated in line with the group averages.

Maintain gains achieved to date

Moving forward, Council should endeavor to consolidate and improve on the gains that have been made this year, paying particular attention to maintaining its strong performance in the area of waste management. Council should look also to maintain and build upon its peak performance rating in the area of community decisions in the next 12 months.

DETAILED FINDINGS







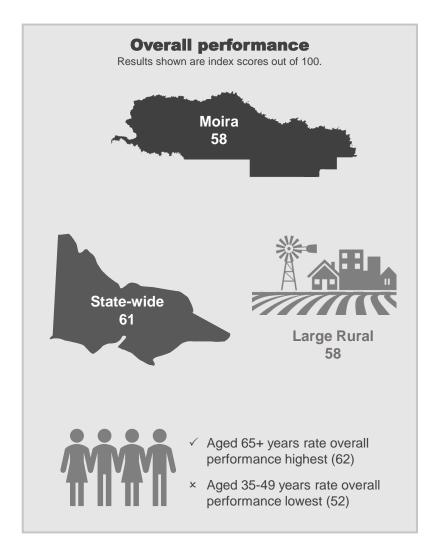
The overall performance index score of 58 for Moira Shire Council represents a significant four-point improvement on the 2020 result. Positively, Council's overall performance is at its highest level since 2013.

Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide average for councils, and the same as the average for councils in the Large Rural group (index scores of 61 and 58 respectively).

 The greatest increases in ratings are among residents of Other areas and those aged 65 years and over (up seven and six points, respectively).
 Among both cohorts, ratings increased to their highest levels to date.

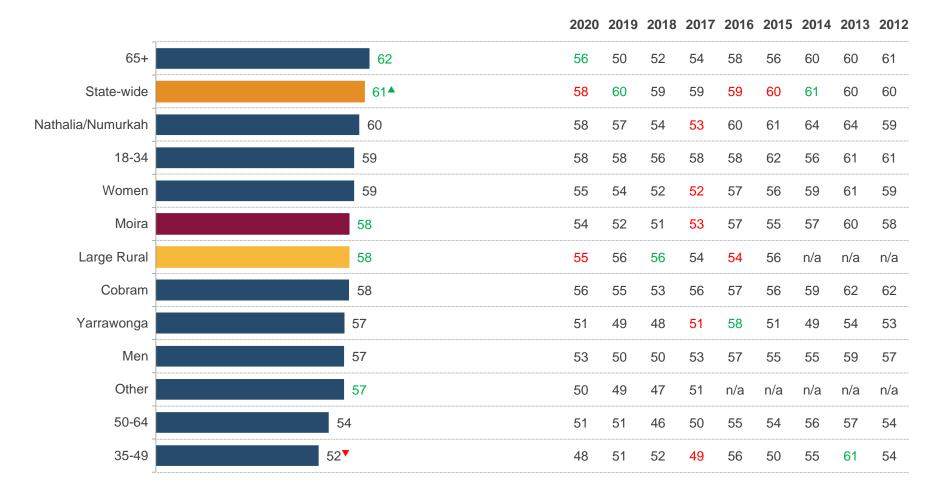
Close to a third of residents (32%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. A further 35% of residents rate Council as 'average', while three in ten (29%) rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor' in terms of providing value for money.

Perceptions of Council's overall performance, and of value for money received, are most positive among residents aged 65 years and over, and significantly lower among 35 to 49 year-olds.



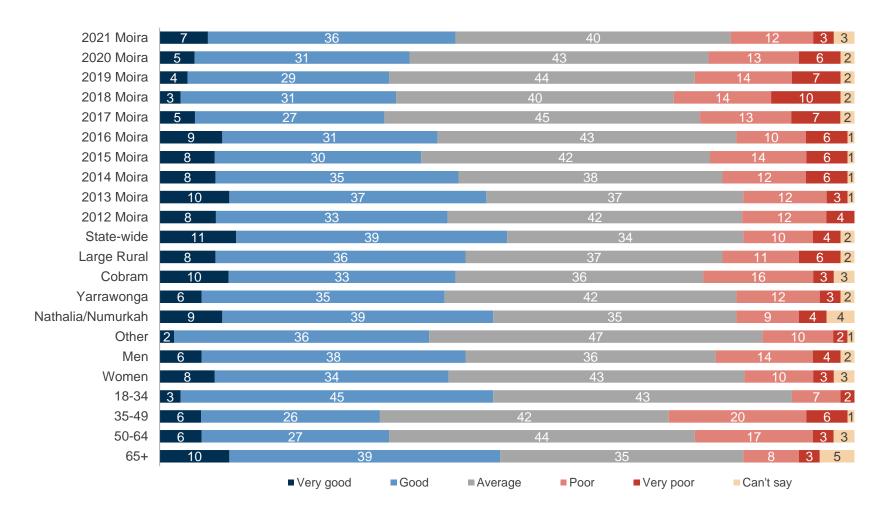


2021 overall performance (index scores)





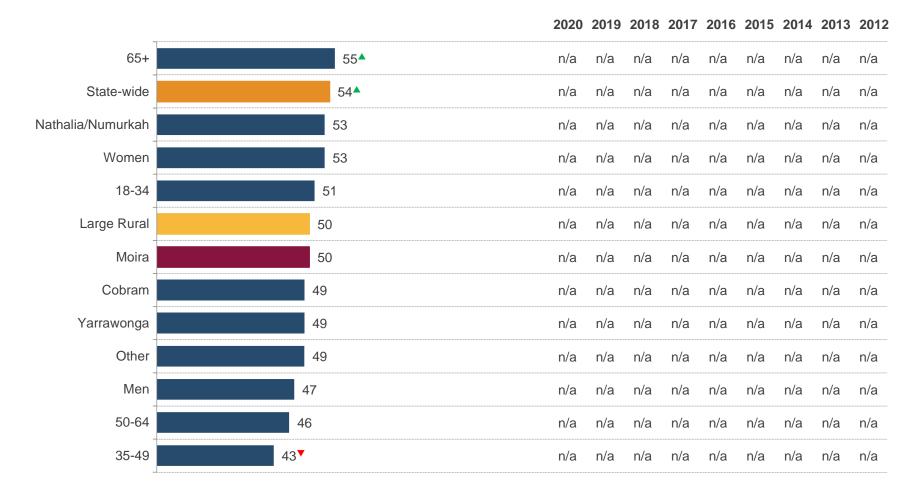
2021 overall performance (%)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



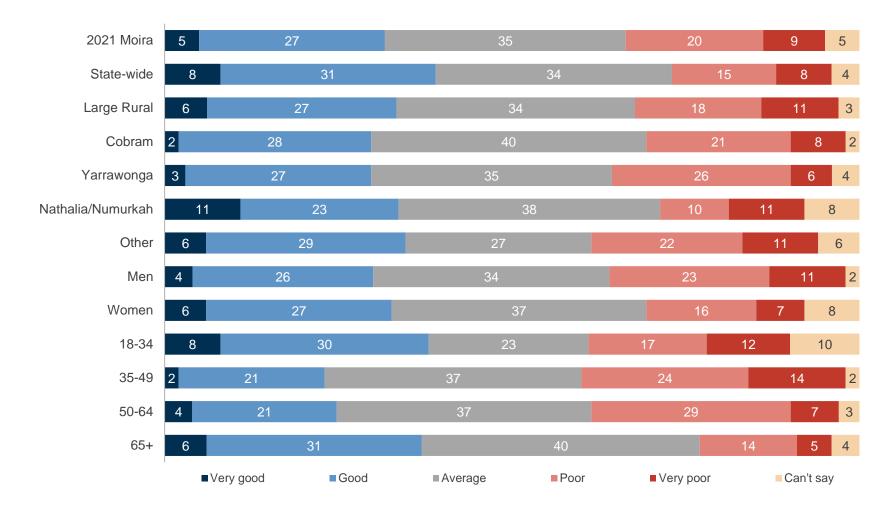
2021 value for money (index scores)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



2021 value for money (%)



Top performing service areas

Waste management (index score of 71) is the area where Council performed best in 2021. Council performs significantly higher than the Large Rural group average and in line with the State-wide average in this service area.

Residents in Yarrawonga rate waste management significantly higher than average (index score of 77). Conversely, those in Other areas rate this service area significantly lower (64), indicating that Council should focus on bolstering its performance in these regions.

Community consultation and engagement is Council's next highest rated service area (index score of 55), up two index points from last year.

 This slight improvement in performance rating is driven by significantly increased ratings among residents in Other areas (index score of 58, up nine points on 2020) and men (56, up five points).

Residents aged 18 to 34 years (index score of 62) rate consultation and engagement significantly higher than average, whereas those aged 50 to 64 years rate this area significantly lower (48).

Given the latter group also rate Council's overall performance lower than average (although not significantly so), it will be important for Council to demonstrate that it consults with these residents on relevant matters in the year ahead.



Low performing service areas





Council rates lowest in the area of sealed local roads (index score of 52). Council rates in line with the Large Rural group average for this service area but significantly lower than the State-wide average (index scores of 50 and 57).

 Ratings of this service area are significantly higher among residents aged 65 years (index score of 57), and are lowest among 35 to 49 year-olds and those in Other areas (both 46). Over the next 12 months, Council should prioritise improving sealed local roads in Other areas, to boost overall performance perceptions.

Community decisions and lobbying are Council's next lowest rated service areas (both with an index score of 54).

• In both service areas, Council's performance is rated highest among Nathalia and Numurkah residents.

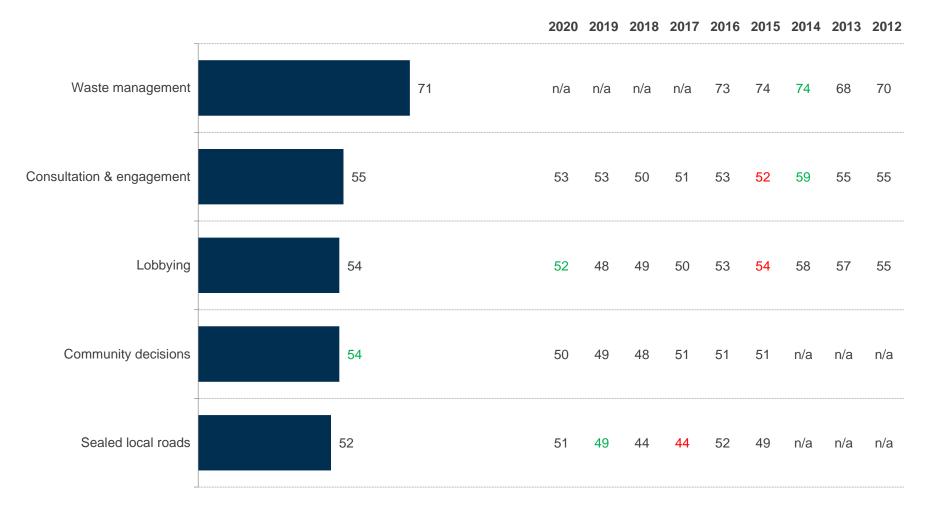
Promisingly, on the area of decisions made in the interest of the community, ratings experienced a four-point increase to an all-time high.

 Here again however, rating are lowest among 35 to 49 year-olds, who are also the most critical of Council's performance overall. Council should demonstrate to these residents, in particular, that it has their interests in mind when making decisions.

Individual service area performance



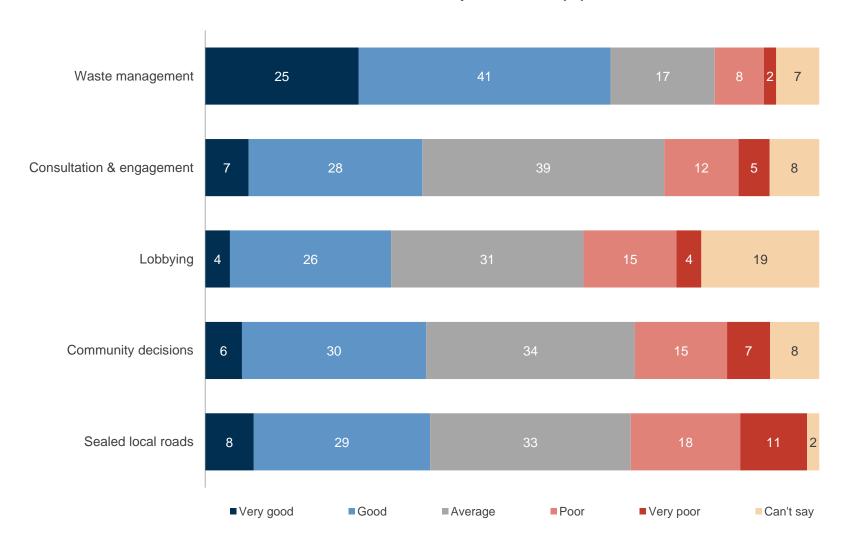
2021 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



2021 individual service area performance (%)





Customer service

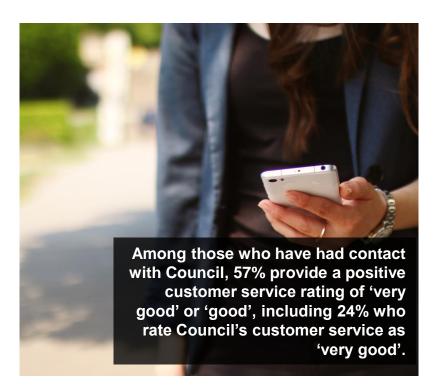
Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

More than half of Council households (54%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact is relatively unchanged from 2020.

As with last year, rate of contact continues to be significantly higher among residents aged 35 to 49 years (71%).



Customer service

Council's customer service index of 63 marks a onepoint increase on the 2020 result.

Customer service is rated significantly lower the Statewide and Large Rural group averages (index scores of 70 and 68 respectively).

Promisingly, a majority of those who have had contact with Council (57%) provide a positive customer service rating.

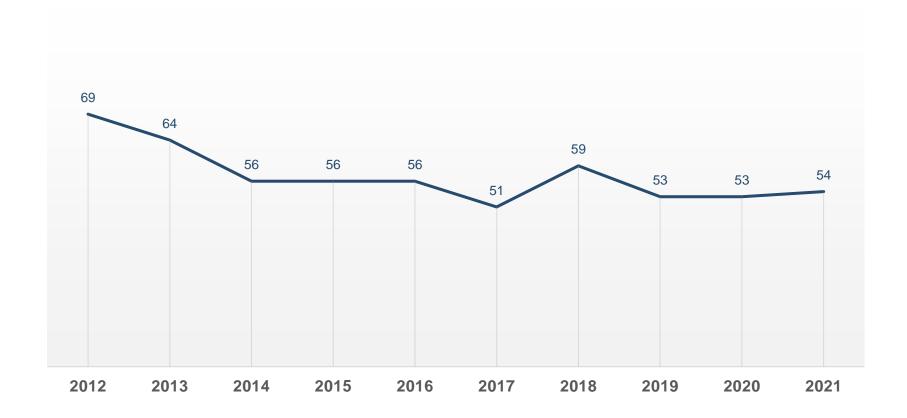
Perceptions of customer service are most positive among residents aged 65 years and over (index score of 68), and least positive among those aged 18 to 49 years (58).

Given residents aged 35 to 49 years have a significantly higher incidence of contact with Council, they are a key demographic to focus on in the coming 12 months.

Contact with council



2021 contact with council (%) Have had contact



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Moira Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Contact with council



2021 contact with council (%)



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Moira Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 39 Councils asked group: 10

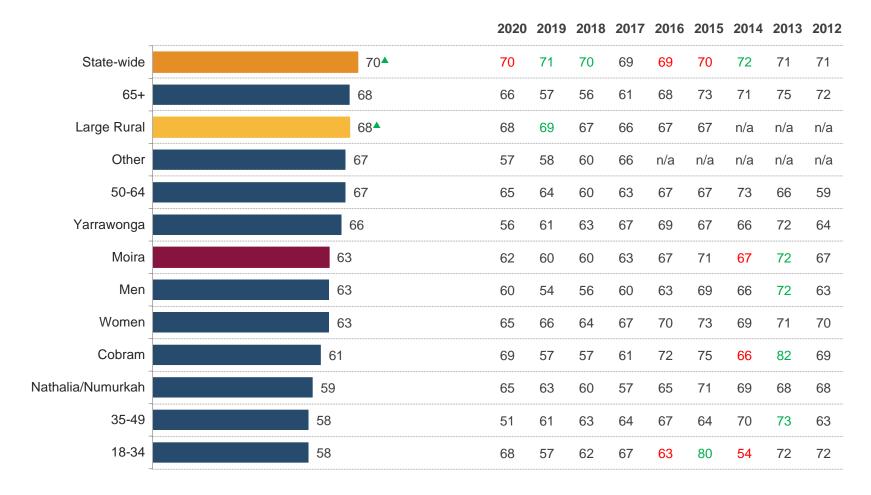
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Note: Some data may be missing for 2013 due to a change in demographic analysis.

Customer service rating



2021 customer service rating (index scores)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Moira Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.

Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.

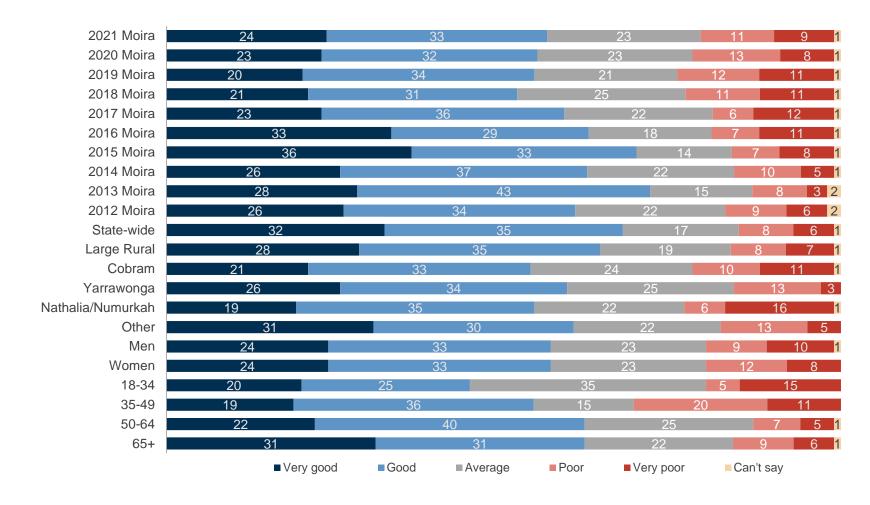
Councils asked state-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 19

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



2021 customer service rating (%)





Council direction

Over the last 12 months, perceptions of the direction of Moira Shire Council's overall performance have improved marginally.

13% believe the direction has improved in the last 12 months (unchanged since 2020).

An increased majority think it has stayed the same (69%, up two percentage points), while a further 14% believe it has deteriorated (compared to 16% in 2020).

- The <u>most</u> satisfied with Council direction are Cobram residents.
- The <u>least</u> satisfied with Council direction are those aged 50 to 64 years and those residing in Other areas. Among these cohorts, twice as many think Council performance has deteriorated in the last year than think it has improved.



Overall council direction last 12 months



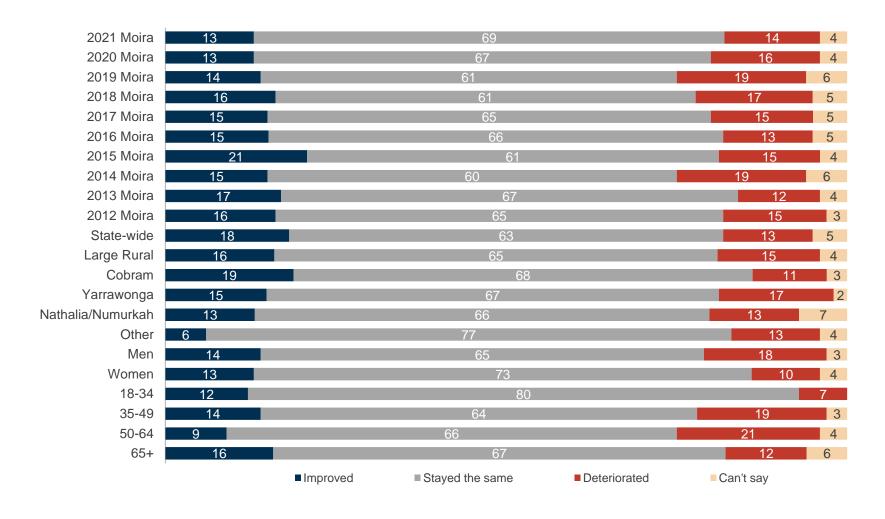
2021 overall council direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



2021 overall council direction (%)



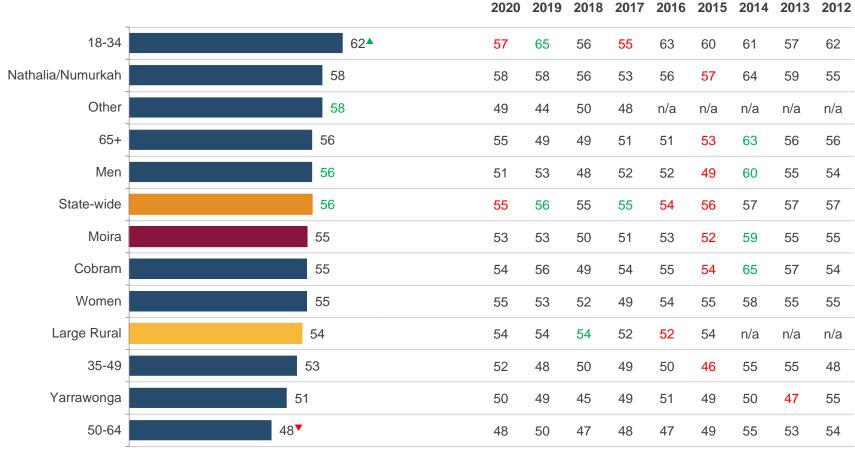


Community consultation and engagement performance





2021 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

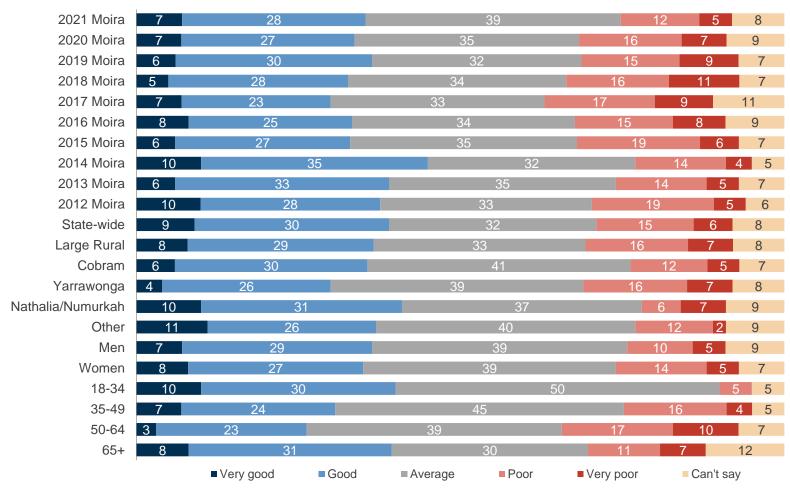


Community consultation and engagement performance





2021 consultation and engagement performance (%)



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2021 lobbying performance (index scores)

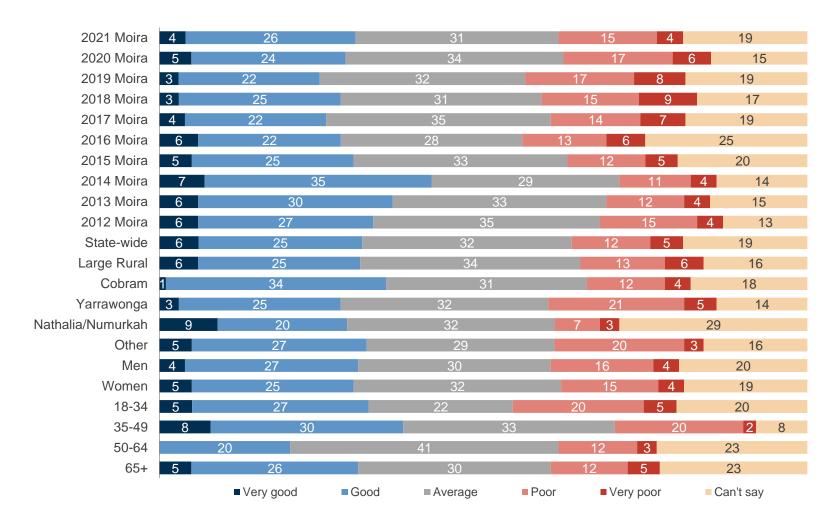


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2021 lobbying performance (%)

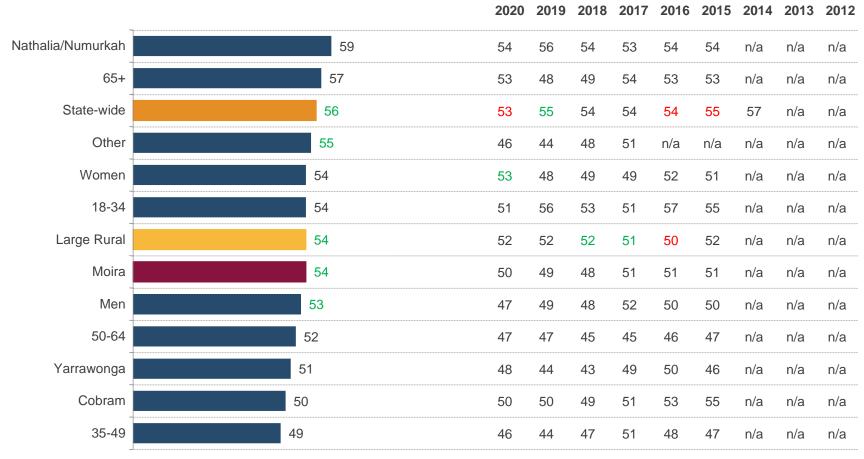


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2021 community decisions made performance (index scores)

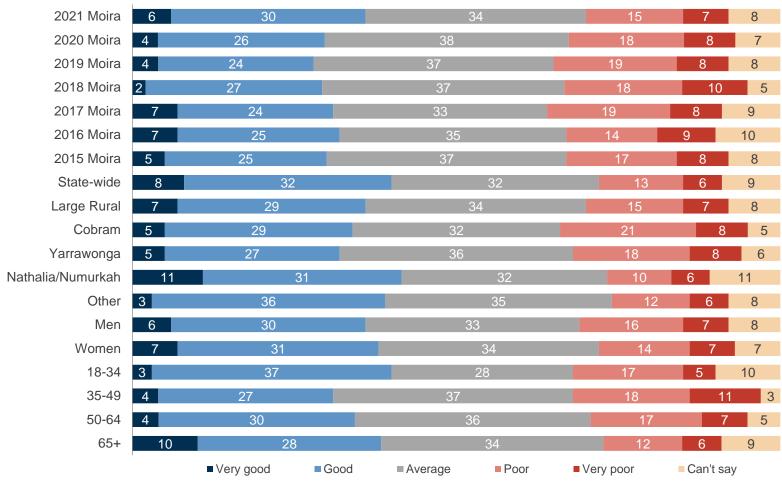


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2021 community decisions made performance (%)



The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2021 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

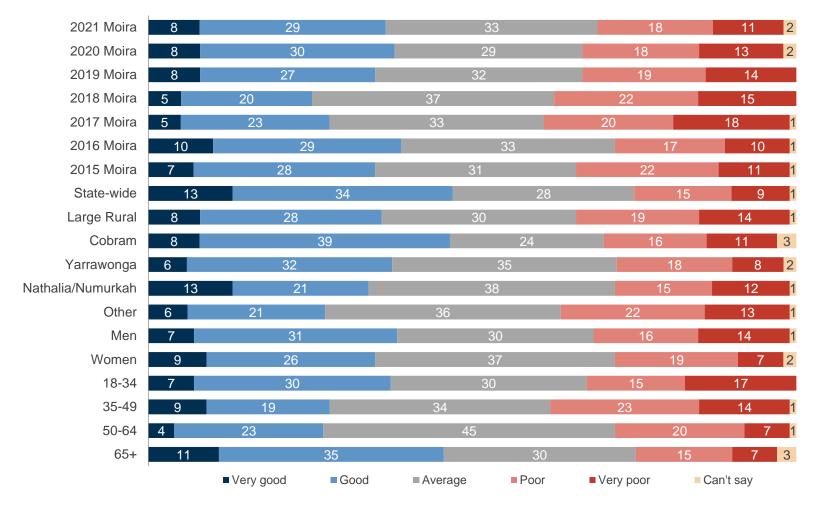


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2021 sealed local roads performance (%)



Waste management performance





2021 waste management performance (index scores)

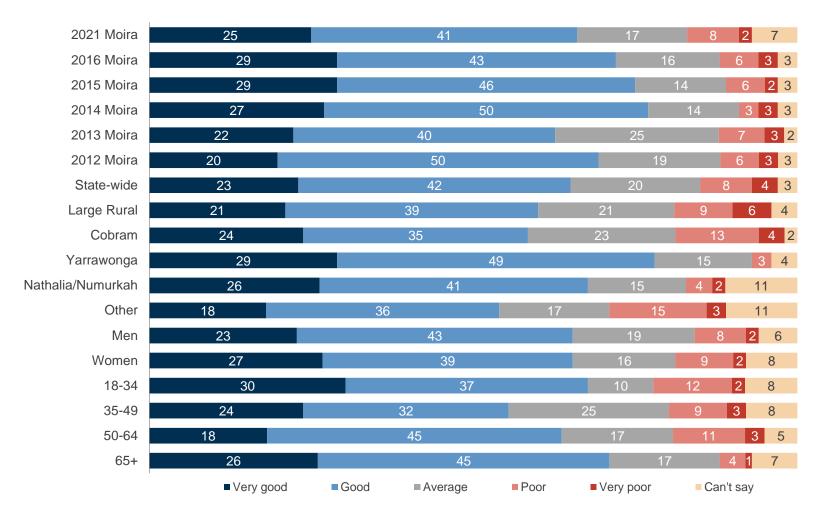


Waste management performance





2021 waste management performance (%)

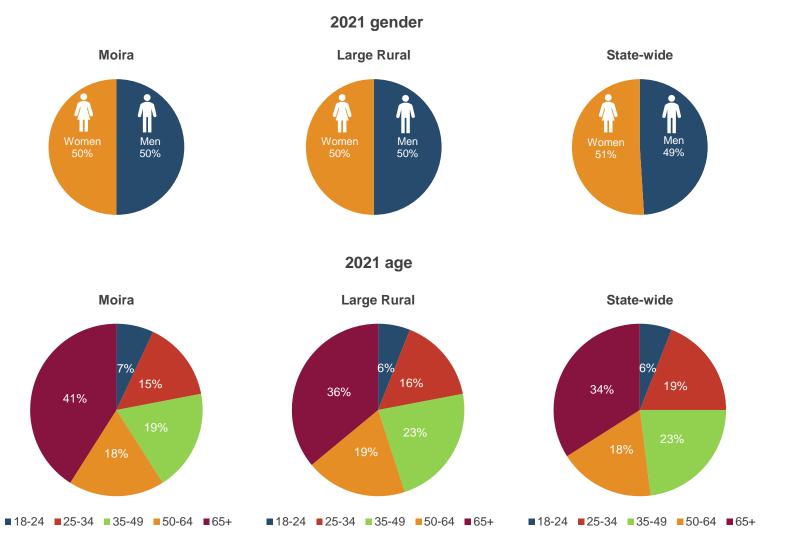




Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile







Appendix A: Index Scores



Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the statewide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 60

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 56

Appendix A: Margins of error

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The sample size for the 2021 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Moira Shire Council was n=500. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=500 interviews is +/-4.3% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 45.7% - 54.3%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 23,700 people aged 18 years or over for Moira Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Moira Shire Council	500	400	+/-4.3
Men	228	199	+/-6.5
Women	272	201	+/-5.9
Cobram	118	95	+/-9.0
Yarrawonga	158	118	+/-7.8
Nathalia/Numurkah	128	102	+/-8.7
Other	96	84	+/-10.0
18-34 years	40	87	+/-15.7
35-49 years	79	77	+/-11.1
50-64 years	116	72	+/-9.1
65+ years	265	163	+/-6.0

Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation



Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green () and downward directing red arrows ().

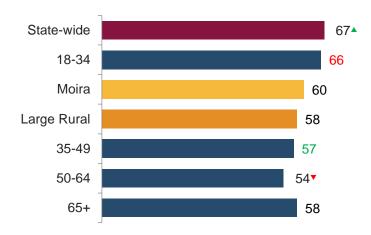
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2020. Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is significantly higher than the result achieved among this group in 2020.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2020.

2021 overall performance (index scores) (example extract only)



Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



The test applied to the Indexes was an Independent Mean Test, as follows:

Z Score =
$$(\$1 - \$2) / Sqrt ((\$5^2 / \$3) + (\$6^2 / \$4))$$

Where:

- \$1 = Index Score 1
- \$2 = Index Score 2
- \$3 = unweighted sample count 1
- \$4 = unweighted sample count 2
- \$5 = standard deviation 1
- \$6 = standard deviation 2

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

The test was applied at the 95% confidence interval, so if the Z Score was greater than +/- 1.954 the scores are significantly different.

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Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in this section including:

- · Background and objectives
- · Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2021 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email: admin@jwsresearch.com

Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling



The 2021 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2020, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2015, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.
- 2013, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 24th March.
- 2012, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 18th May – 30th June.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Moira Shire Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, '—' denotes not mentioned and '0%' denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. 'Net' scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in Moira Shire Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Moira Shire Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Moira Shire Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=500 completed interviews were achieved in Moira Shire Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 28th January – 21st March, 2021.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2021, 66 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2021 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Moira Shire Council is classified as a Large Rural council according to the following classification list:

 Metropolitan, Interface, Regional Centres, Large Rural & Small Rural.

Councils participating in the Large Rural group are:

 Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Campaspe, Colac Otway, Corangamite, Glenelg, Golden Plains, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Moira, Moorabool, Mount Alexander, Moyne, South Gippsland, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Swan Hill and Wellington. Wherever appropriate, results for Moira Shire Council for this 2021 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Large Rural group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.

Appendix B: 2012 survey revision

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The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Moira Shire Council according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2021 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

Appendix B: Core, optional and tailored questions



Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2021 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Value for money in services and infrastructure (Value for money)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- · Waste management

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2021 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2021 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the state government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/our-programs/council-community-satisfaction-survey

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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Core questions: Compulsory inclusion questions for all councils participating in the CSS.

CSS: 2021 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five classified groups, comprising: metropolitan, interface, regional centres, large rural and small rural.

Council group average: The average result for all participating councils in the council group.

Highest / lowest: The result described is the highest or lowest result across a particular demographic subgroup e.g. men, for the specific question being reported. Reference to the result for a demographic sub-group being the highest or lowest does not imply that it is significantly higher or lower, unless this is specifically mentioned.

Index score: A score calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale). This score is sometimes reported as a figure in brackets next to the category being described, e.g. men 50+ (60).

Optional questions: Questions which councils had an option to include or not.

Percentages: Also referred to as 'detailed results', meaning the proportion of responses, expressed as a percentage.

Sample: The number of completed interviews, e.g. for a council or within a demographic sub-group.

Significantly higher / lower: The result described is significantly higher or lower than the comparison result based on a statistical significance test at the 95% confidence limit. If the result referenced is statistically higher or lower then this will be specifically mentioned, however not all significantly higher or lower results are referenced in summary reporting.

State-wide average: The average result for all participating councils in the State.

Tailored questions: Individual questions tailored by and only reported to the commissioning council.

Weighting: Weighting factors are applied to the sample for each council based on available age and gender proportions from ABS census information to ensure reported results are proportionate to the actual population of the council, rather than the achieved survey sample.

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