

Contents



| Background and objectives | <u>3</u> |
|--|-----------|
| Key findings and recommendations | <u>4</u> |
| <u>Detailed findings</u> | <u>10</u> |
| Overall performance | <u>11</u> |
| <u>Customer service</u> | <u>19</u> |
| Council direction | <u>25</u> |
| Individual service areas | <u>29</u> |
| Community consultation and engagement | <u>30</u> |
| Lobbying on behalf of the community | <u>32</u> |
| Decisions made in the interest of the community | <u>34</u> |
| Condition of sealed local roads | <u>36</u> |
| Detailed demographics | <u>38</u> |
| Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences | <u>40</u> |
| Appendix B: Further project information | <u>45</u> |

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-first year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- · community consultation and engagement
- advocacy and lobbying on behalf of the community
- · customer service, local infrastructure, facilities 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 nine years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 21 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 21 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

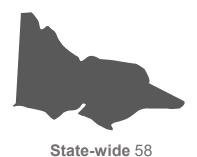


Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.

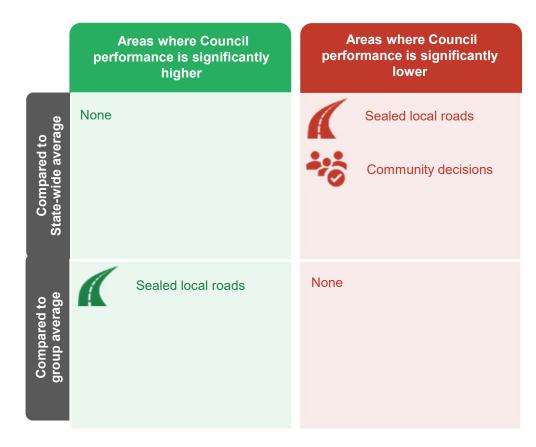


Moira 54





Council performance compared to State-wide and group averages



Summary of core measures



Index scores





consultation









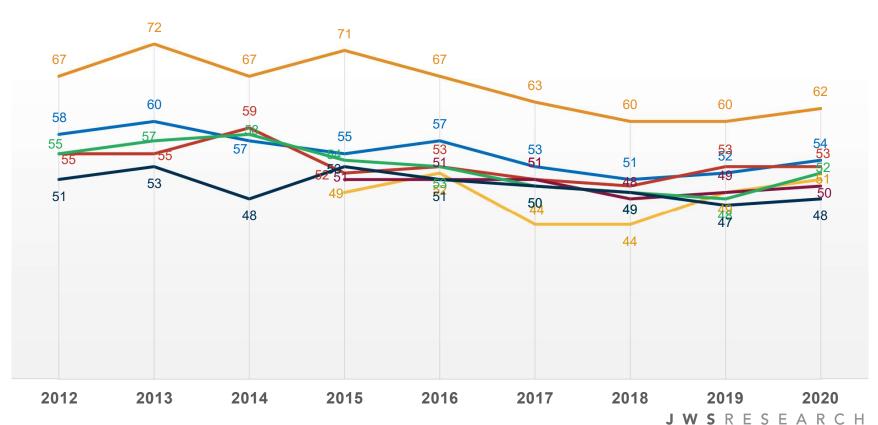


Making community decisions

local roads

Customer service

Overall council direction

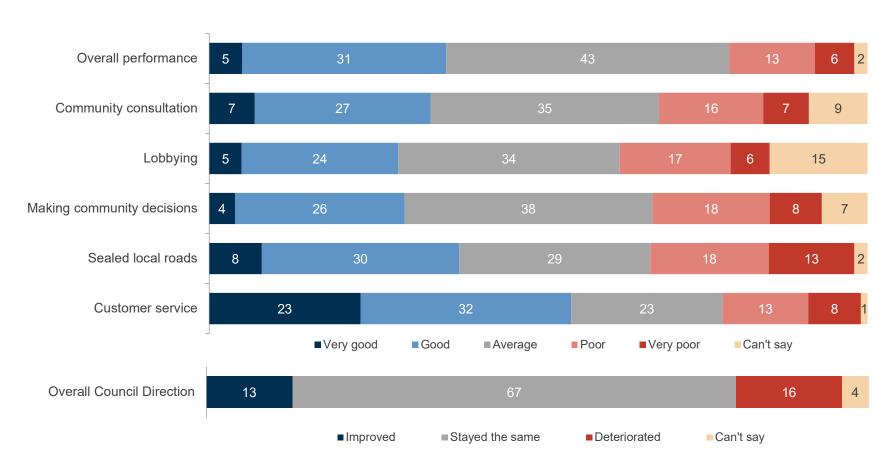


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Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Moira Shire Council performance



| Services | | Moira 2020 | Moira 2019 | Large Rural 2020 | State-wide 2020 | Highest score | Lowest score |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| M | Overall performance | 54 | 52 | 55 | 58 | Aged 18-34 years, Nathalia/ Numurkah residents | Aged 35-49 years |
| + | Overall council direction | 48 | 47 | 50 | 51 | Cobram residents | Other Area residents |
| | Customer service | 62 | 60 | 68 | 70 | Cobram residents | Aged 35-49 years |
| | Consultation and engagement | 53 | 53 | 54 | 55 | Nathalia/ Numurkah residents | Aged 50-64 years |
| 1 | Lobbying | 52 | 48 | 53 | 53 | Aged 18-34 years | Aged 35-49 years |
| A | Sealed local roads | 51 | 49 | 47 | 54 | Cobram residents | Other Area residents |
| *** | Community decisions | 50 | 49 | 52 | 53 | Nathalia/ Numurkah residents | Other residents, Aged 35-49 years |

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Perceptions of Council's overall performance improved by two index points from 2019, although this is not significantly different from last year. Positively, performance perceptions on all service areas have either remained consistent or improved by between one to four index points. Performance on lobbying experienced a statistically significant improvement in ratings this year. Consultation and engagement is the only area where ratings did not gain any traction, remaining stable with 2019.

Focus areas

Customer service is an area that may warrant some extra attention in the coming 12 months. While ratings did improve this year, they remain well below their peak rating seen in 2013 and significantly lower than the Large Rural group and State-wide average. Council should aim to build further on improvements seen in 2020, as previous results are an indication that Council is capable of achieving higher ratings in this area.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Sealed local roads is the area where Council performs significantly higher than the Large Rural group average, noting that ratings are significantly lower than the State-wide average. Council has however consolidated significant gains on sealed local roads seen in 2019. On two service areas, consultation and engagement and lobbying, Council is rated in line with both the Large Rural group and State-wide averages.

Maintain gains achieved to date

Council should look to maintain and build upon its improved performance on lobbying, sealed local roads and community decisions. Performance ratings on community decisions and sealed local roads are now experiencing multi-year upwards trends, while Council was able to buckle the downward trend in ratings on lobbying seen since 2015.

DETAILED FINDINGS





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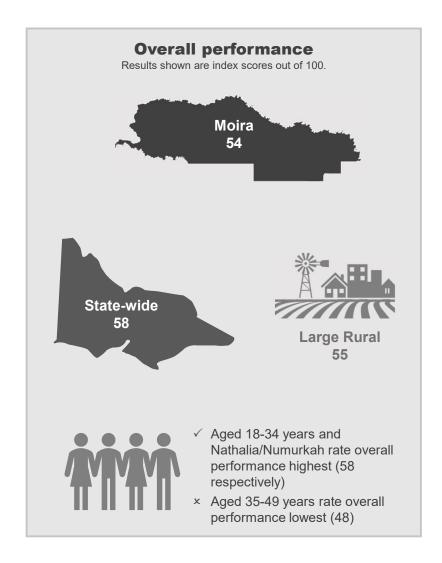
The overall performance index score of 54 for Moira Shire Council represents a two point improvement on the 2019 result.

 Overall performance ratings have been building steadily since 2018 and are now trending back towards previous highs seen between 2012 to 2016.

Moira Shire Council's overall performance is rated in line with the average rating for councils in the Large Rural group and statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide council average (index scores of 55 and 58 respectively).

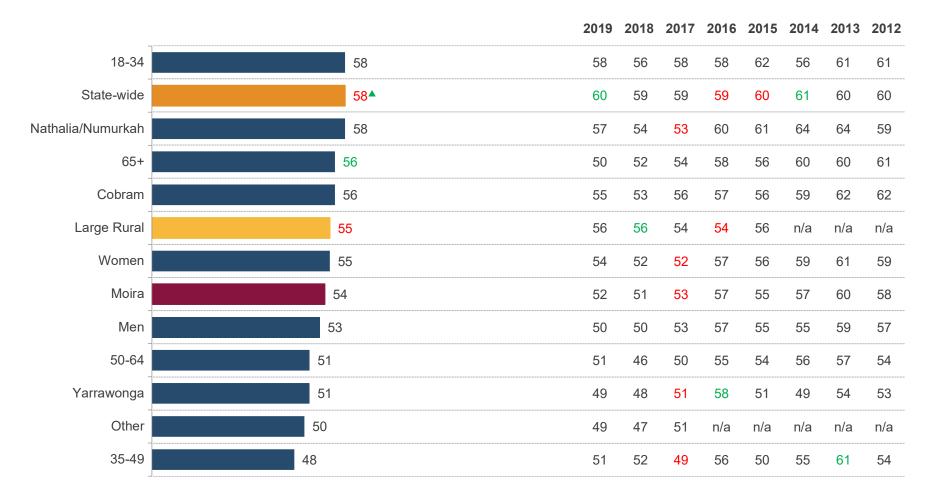
- Most demographic and geographic cohorts either improved slightly or remained consistent in their perceptions of overall performance in the past year. The exception is residents aged 65+ years, where performance ratings increased significantly (up six points from 2019 to 56 currently).
- There are no significant differences across the demographic and geographic cohorts in the overall performance index score compared to the 2020 Council average.

Almost twice as many residents rate Moira Shire Council's overall performance as 'very good' or 'good' (36%) as those who rate it as 'very poor' or 'poor' (19%). A further 43% sit mid-scale, rating Council's overall performance as 'average'.



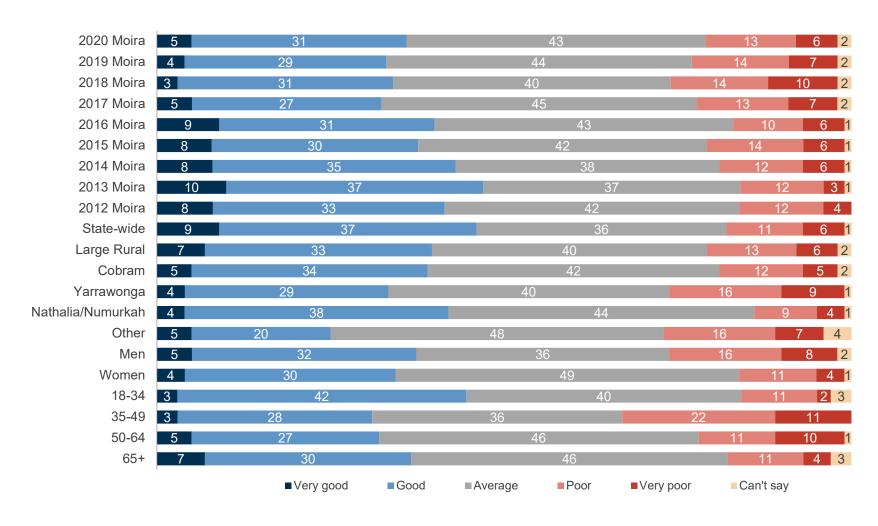


2020 overall performance (index scores)





2020 overall performance (%)



Best performing service areas

Consultation and engagement (index score of 53) is the area where Council performed best in 2020, consistent with 2019 results.

 Residents aged 18 to 34 years declined significantly in their rating of Council in this area in the past year.

Lobbying is another of Council's highest rated service areas (index score of 52), improving significantly by four index points from 2019. Ratings in this area had been declining steadily since 2014 to a low of 48 last year, but Council has reversed this trend in 2020.

 The most notable gains were made among residents aged 65+ years (index score of 55, improving significantly by seven points) and women (55, improving significantly by six points).

Council performs in line with the State-wide and Large Rural group average for both consultation and engagement, and lobbying.

Sealed local roads is another area where Council performs well (index score of 51, up two points).

- Ratings are highest among Cobram residents (index score of 56) and lowest among residents in Other areas (42, significantly lower than average).
- Council performs significantly higher than the Large Rural group average for sealed local roads, but significantly lower than the State-wide average.





Lower performing service areas





Council did not experience any declines in performance ratings in 2020.

Council rates lower – relative to its performance in other areas – in the area of community decisions (index score of 50).

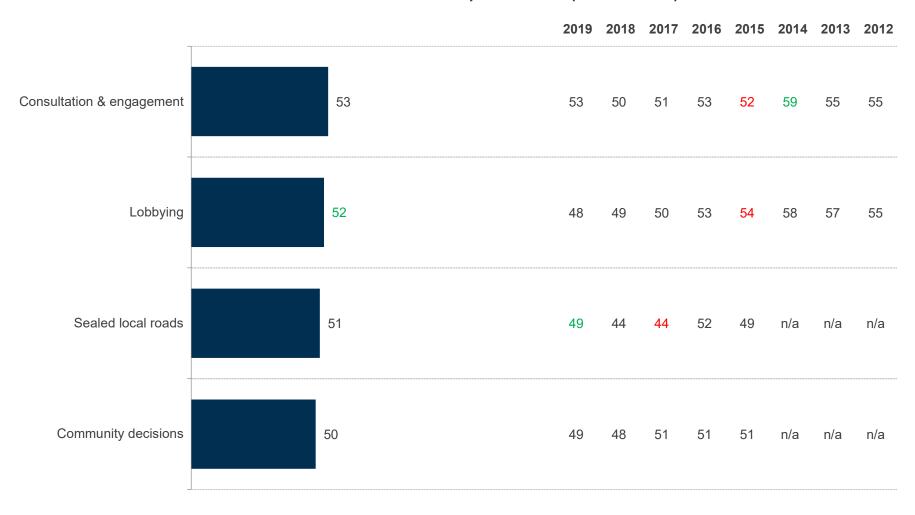
- Performance on community decisions improved by one point in the last year, continuing the trend seen in 2019 where ratings also improved by one point. Ratings continue to recover incrementally following a three point decline in 2018.
- Notable gains were made among women this year, who improved significantly in their rating of Council in this area to an all time high (index score of 53, up five points).
- Ratings in this area are highest among Nathalia/Numurkah residents (index score of 54) and lowest among residents in Other areas (46).

Council performs in line with the Large Rural group average for community decisions but significantly lower than the State-wide average (index scores of 52 and 53 respectively).

Individual service area performance



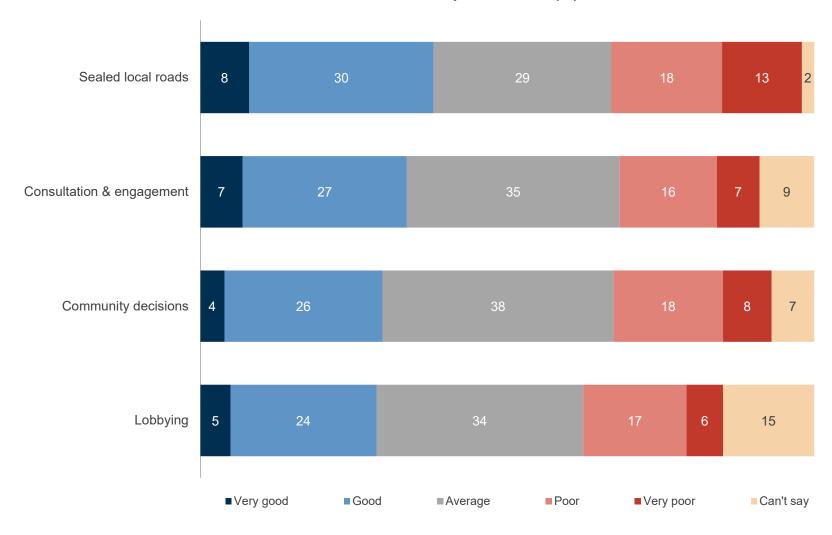
2020 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



2020 individual service area performance (%)





Customer service

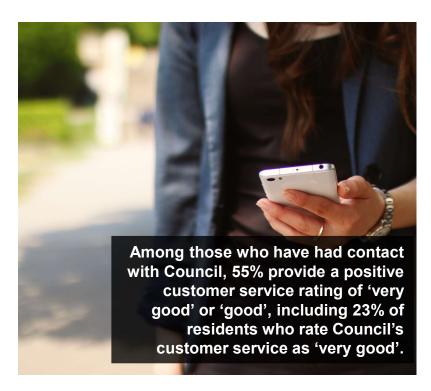
Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

Over half of Council residents (53%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact is the same as last year.

 Rate of contact is significantly higher than average among residents aged 35 to 49 years (70%) and significantly lower among residents aged 18 to 34 years (38%).



Customer service

Council's customer service index of 62 is up two points from 2019. Customer service ratings had been trending downward between 2015 and 2018. Council was able to halt that decline in 2019 and has now improved customer ratings for the first time since 2015.

 While improvements are welcomed, customer service in 2020 is still rated significantly lower than the State-wide and Large Rural group averages (index scores of 70 and 68 respectively).

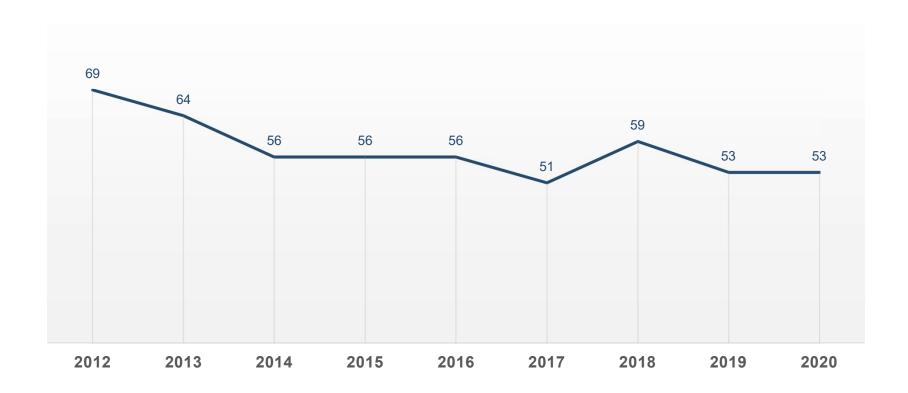
Among residents who have had contact with Council, more than half (55%) provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good'.

- Notably, perceptions of customer service are significantly below average among residents aged 35 to 49 years. This cohort have the highest rate of contact with Council and therefore is a group that warrant attention.
- Perceptions of customer service are more positive among Cobram (index score of 69, highest among all cohorts) and Nathalia/Numurkah residents (65), than they are among residents in Other areas (57) and Yarrawonga (56).

Contact with council



2020 contact with council (%) Have had contact

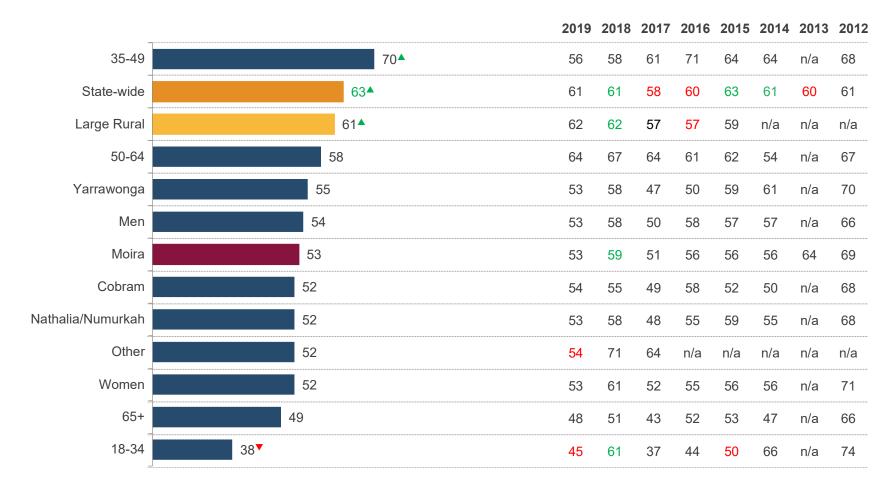


Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Moira Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Contact with council



2020 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: 36 Councils asked group: 10

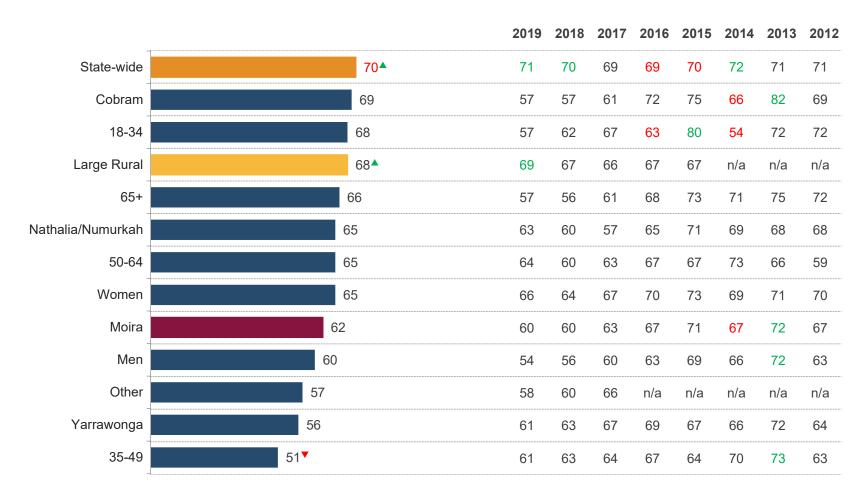
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Note: Some data may be missing for 2012 and 2013 due to a change in demographic analysis.

Customer service rating



2020 customer service rating (index scores)

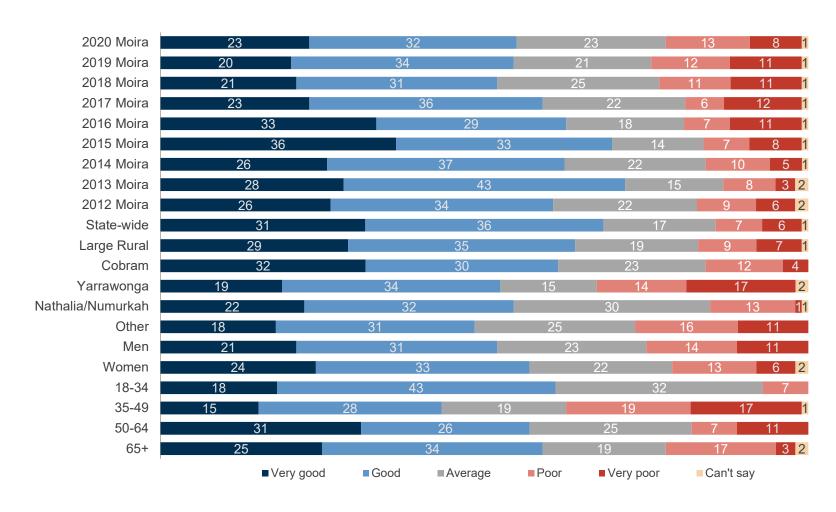


Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Moira Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked state-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 17

Customer service rating



2020 Customer service rating (%)



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: 62 Councils asked group: 17



Council direction

Perceptions of Council's overall direction is similar to that seen in 2019. Over the last 12 months, 67% of people believe the direction of Council's overall performance has stayed the same, up six percentage points on 2019.

- 13% believe the direction has improved in the last 12 months, down one point on 2019.
- 16% believe it has deteriorated, down three points on 2019.
- The <u>most</u> satisfied with council direction are Cobram residents (index rating for overall council direction among this group is significantly higher than average).
- The <u>least</u> satisfied with council direction are residents in Other areas.

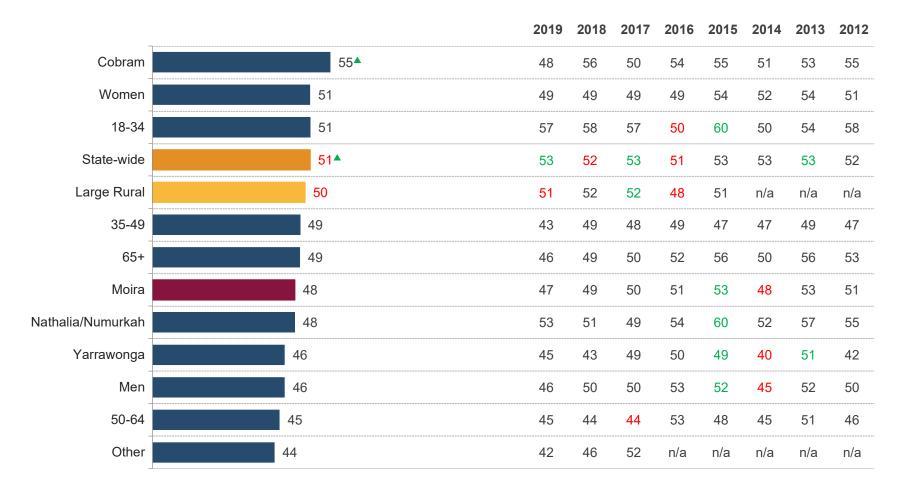




Overall council direction last 12 months



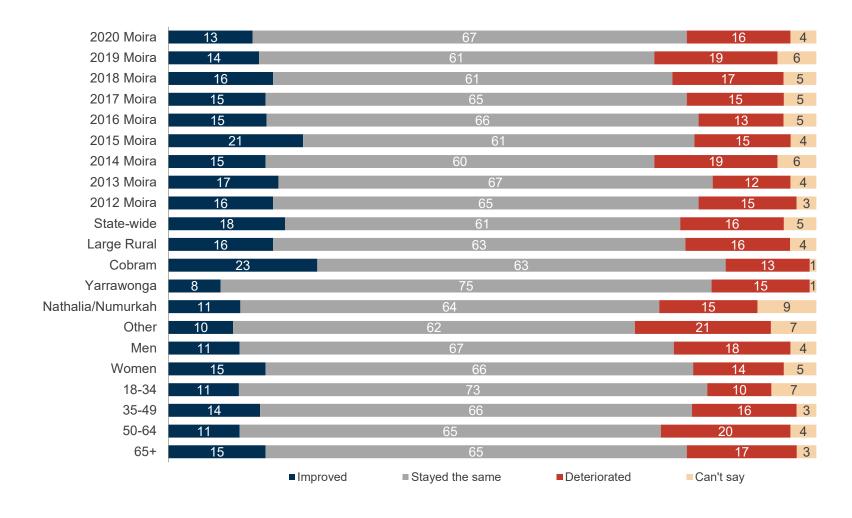
2020 overall direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



2020 overall council direction (%)





Community consultation and engagement performance





2020 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

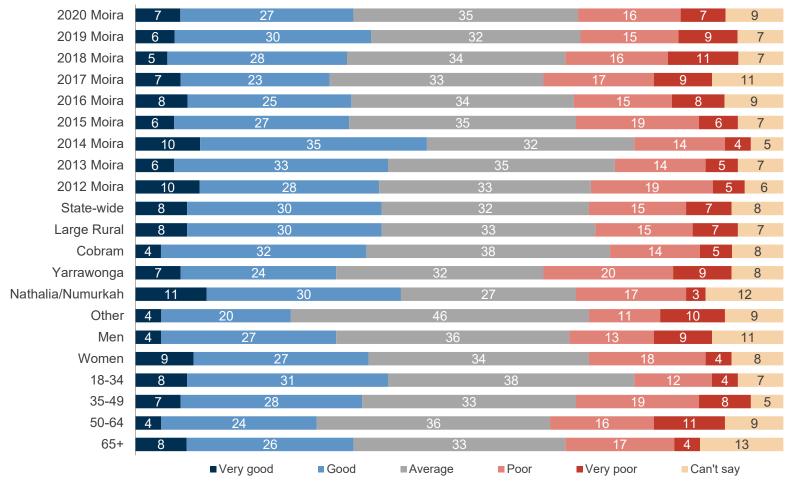


Community consultation and engagement performance





2020 consultation and engagement performance (%)

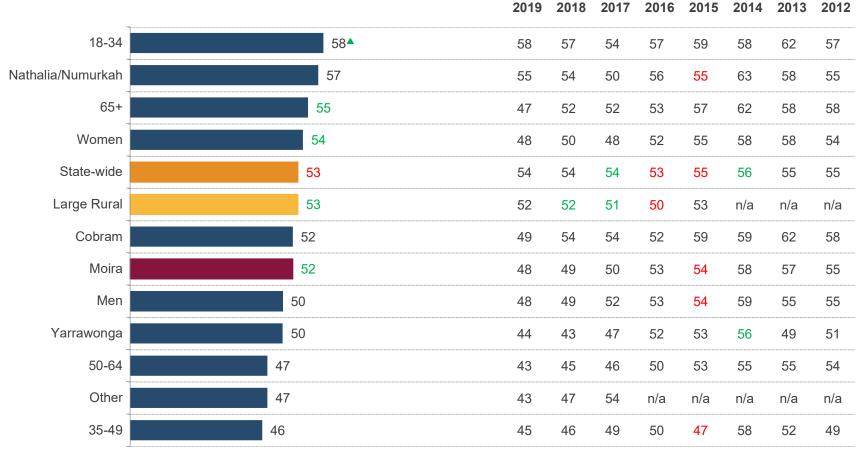


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2020 lobbying performance (index scores)

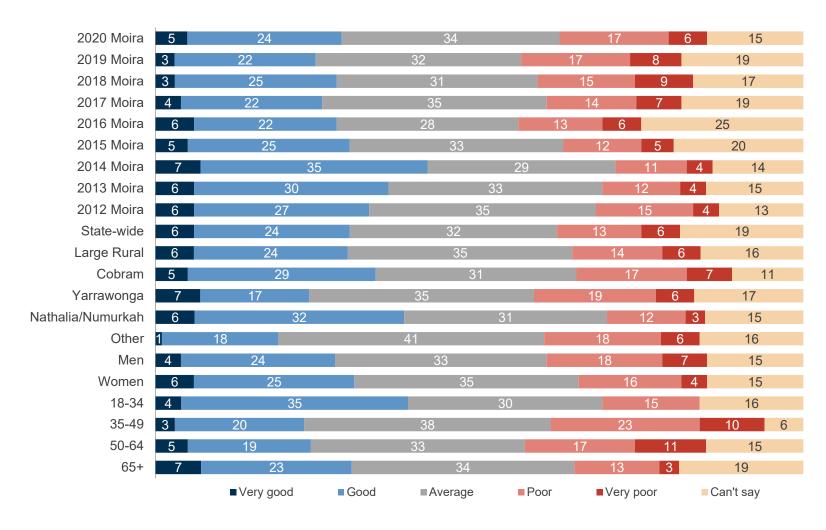


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2020 lobbying performance (%)

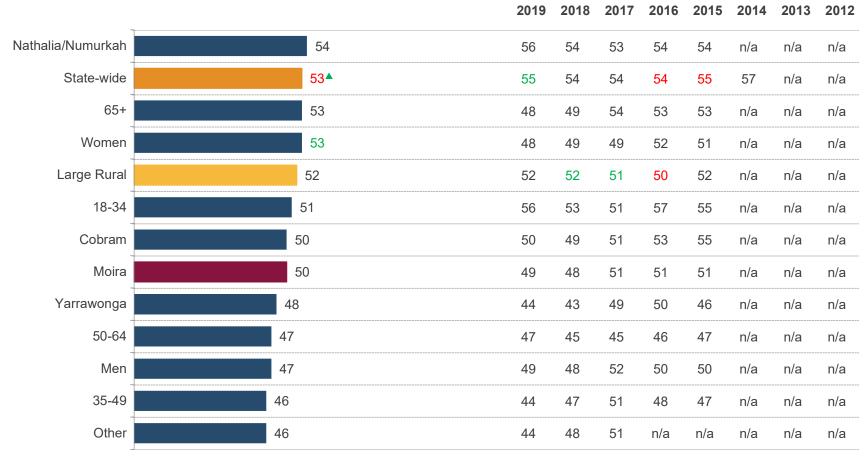


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2020 community decisions made performance (index scores)

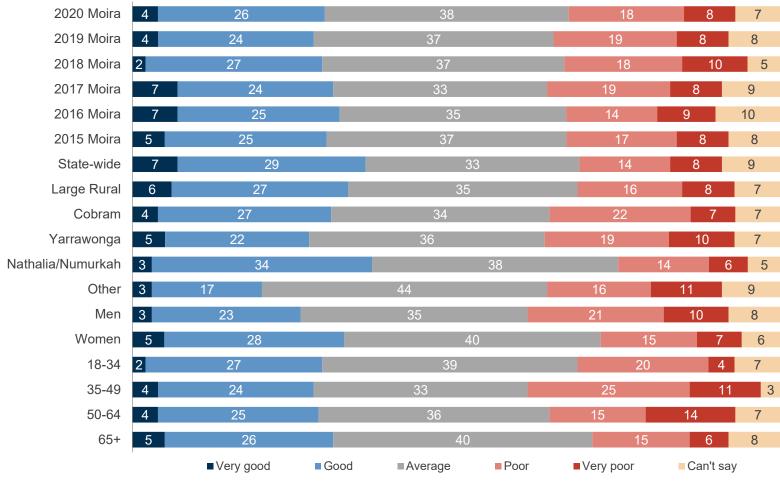


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2020 community decisions made performance (%)

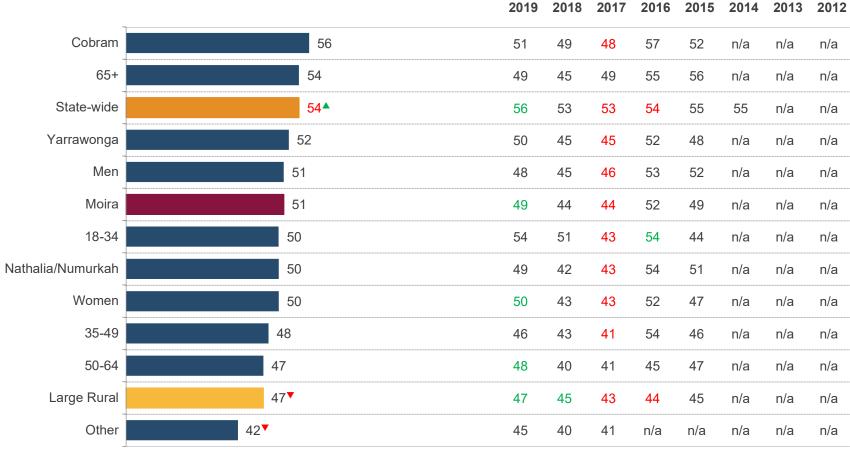


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2020 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

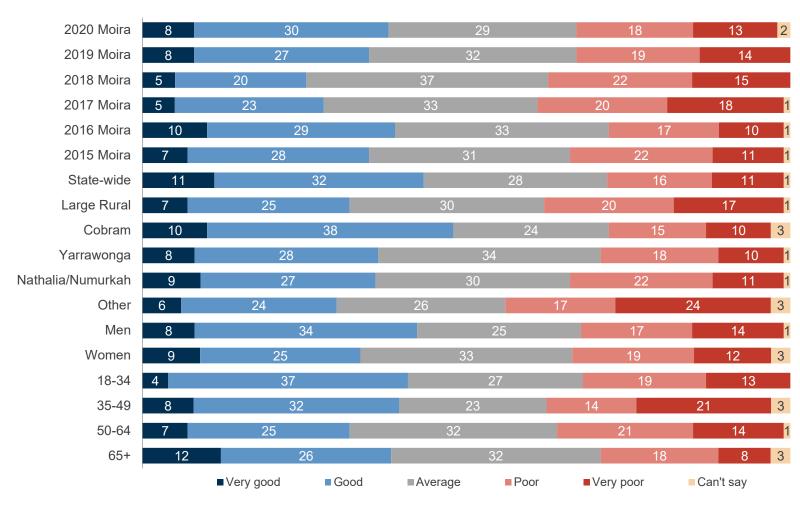


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2020 sealed local roads performance (%)

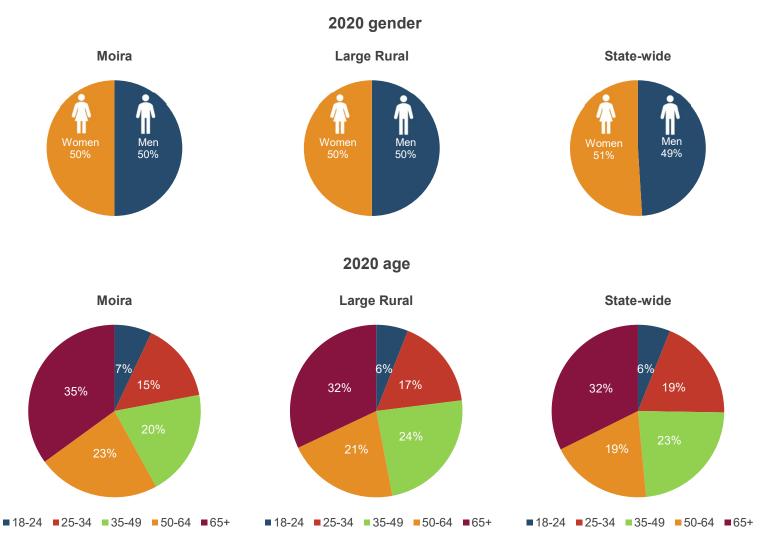




Detailed demographics

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 2020 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 23,400 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 | 216 | 199 | +/-6.7 |
| Women | 284 | 201 | +/-5.8 |
| Cobram | 127 | 104 | +/-8.7 |
| Yarrawonga | 142 | 113 | +/-8.2 |
| Nathalia/Numurkah | 139 | 106 | +/-8.3 |
| Other | 92 | 76 | +/-10.3 |
| 18-34 years | 46 | 87 | +/-14.6 |
| 35-49 years | 87 | 80 | +/-10.5 |
| 50-64 years | 144 | 92 | +/-8.2 |
| 65+ years | 223 | 141 | +/-6.5 |

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 (▼).

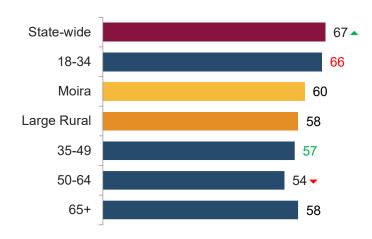
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- 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 2019. 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 2019.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2019.

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.



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 2020 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 2020 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 30th January – 22nd March, 2020.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2020, 62 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 2012-2020 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 and 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, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Swan Hill and Wellington. Wherever appropriate, results for Moira Shire Council for this 2020 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 2012-2020 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 2020 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)
- Lobbying on behalf of community (Advocacy)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)

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 2020 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

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Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2020 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:

http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/local-government/strengthening-councils/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: 2020 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.

Statewide 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.

THERE ARE OVER 6 MILLION PEOPLE IN VICTORIA...

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