

Hindmarsh Shire Council

Coordinated by the Department of Government Services on behalf of Victorian councils



Contents

Background and objectives	<u>3</u>	Business and community development and	<u>87</u>
Key findings and recommendations	<u>4</u>	<u>tourism</u>	
Detailed findings	<u>11</u>	Planning and building permits	<u>91</u>
Overall performance	<u>12</u>	Roadside slashing and weed control	<u>95</u>
<u>Customer service</u>	<u>30</u>	Maintenance of unsealed roads	<u>99</u>
Council direction	<u>36</u>	Detailed demographics	<u>103</u>
Individual service areas	<u>42</u>	Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences	<u>105</u>
Community consultation and engagement	<u>43</u>	Appendix B: Further project information	110
Lobbying on behalf of the community	<u>47</u>		
Decisions made in the interest of the community	<u>51</u>		
Condition of sealed local roads	<u>55</u>		
Informing the community	<u>59</u>		
Condition of local streets and footpaths	<u>63</u>		
Enforcement of local laws	<u>67</u>		
Elderly support services	<u>71</u>		
Recreational facilities	<u>75</u>		
Appearance of public areas	<u>79</u>		
Waste management	<u>83</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-fourth 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 24 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 24 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.



Hindmarsh Shire Council – at a glance



Overall council performance

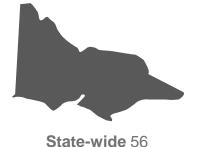
Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Hindmarsh 53



Small Rural 55



Council performance compared to group average



Summary of core measures



Index scores



Performance



money



Community Consultation



Making Community Decisions



Sealed Local Roads



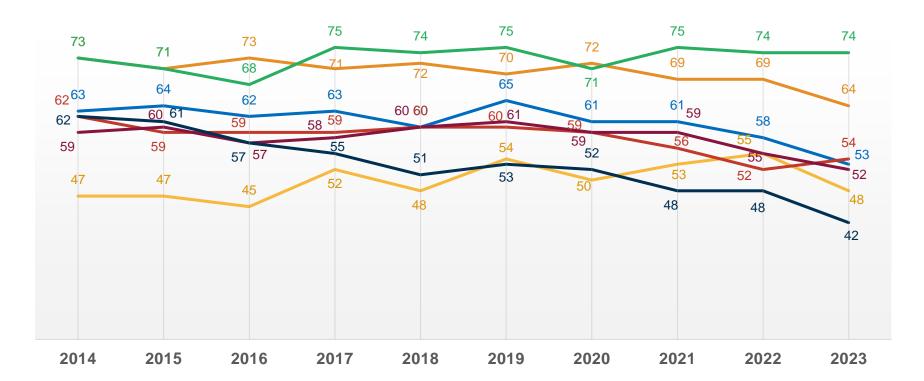
Waste management



Customer Service



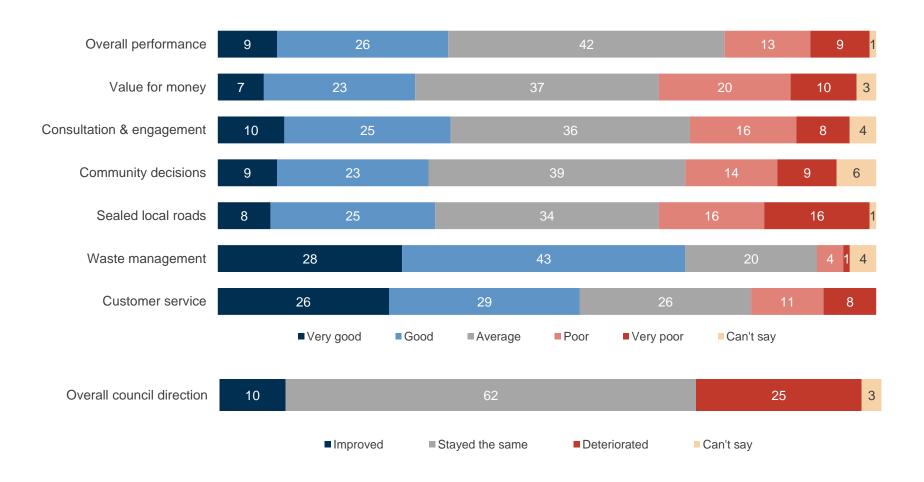
Overall Council Direction



Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Hindmarsh Shire Council performance



Services		Hindmarsh 2023	Hindmarsh 2022	Small Rural 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
<i>(</i> %	Overall performance	53	58	55	56	Aged 65+ years, East Ward residents	Aged 18-34 years
5	Value for money	49	52	49	49	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
+	Overall council direction	42	48	47	46	East Ward residents	West Ward residents
١	Customer service	64	69	65	67	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
<u>.</u>	Appearance of public areas	77	79	71	67	West Ward residents	North Ward residents
	Waste management	74	74	66	66	North Ward residents	Aged 35-49 years
MA	Elderly support services	66	70	66	63	North Ward residents	East Ward residents
外	Recreational facilities	66	69	67	68	East Ward residents	Aged 18-34 years
	Enforcement of local laws	61	64	61	61	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
	Bus/community dev./tourism	59	59	61	59	East Ward residents	Aged 50-64 years, West Ward residents

Summary of Hindmarsh Shire Council performance



Services		Hindmarsh 2023	Hindmarsh 2022	Small Rural 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
	Local streets & footpaths	59	61	52	52	East Ward residents, West Ward residents, Aged 65+ years, Women	North Ward residents
	Informing the community	55	55	58	57	Aged 50-64 years, East Ward residents, Women, Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
	Consultation & engagement	54	52	53	52	Women, North Ward residents	West Ward residents, Men
<u>.1.</u>	Lobbying	53	55	52	51	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
***	Community decisions	52	55	52	51	East Ward residents	Aged 35-49 years
A	Sealed local roads	48	55	44	48	East Ward residents	North Ward residents
**************************************	Slashing & weed control	46	54	47	46	Women, Aged 65+ years, East Ward residents	North Ward residents
	Planning & building permits	42	46	45	47	East Ward residents	West Ward residents
	Unsealed roads	36	43	38	37	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Hindmarsh Shire Council's overall performance has fluctuated over time, but since achieving its peak index in 2019, perceptions have declined to the lowest rating seen in a decade. This is reflected across several individual service areas, as well as customer service, where perceptions are trending down and are at the lowest levels recorded. Indeed, more than twice as many residents feel the direction of Council's overall performance has deteriorated rather than improved over the last 12 months.

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance Council should focus on improving performance in the individual service areas that most influence perceptions of overall performance. Improved communication and transparency with residents about decisions made in the community's interest, particularly on its approach to planning and building permits, roadside slashing and weed control, and maintenance of sealed local roads, are warranted. This, in conjunction with regular community consultation, will help shore up perceptions of Council's overall performance.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Positively, Council performs as well or significantly higher than the Small Rural group and State-wide averages on most service areas evaluated. The exceptions are informing the community and planning and building permits. Informing the community is Council's only service area rated significantly lower than the Small Rural group average, and planning and building permits is the only service area rated significantly below the State-wide average.

A need to abate declines and rebuild

Over the last 12 months, perceptions of Council performance have largely deteriorated. Council should aim to abate any further declines in perceptions, particularly in the areas of roadside slashing and weed control, and the condition of sealed local roads. Historically, these service areas are rated lowest for perceptions, but are particularly influential on overall perceptions. Council should look to communicate improvements in these service areas, particularly in the North Ward where performance ratings are at their lowest.

DETAILED FINDINGS





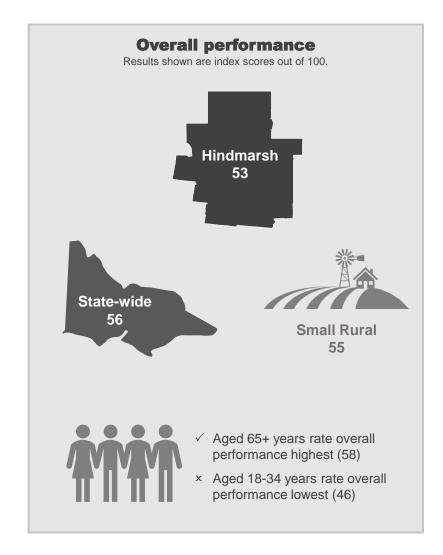


The overall performance index score of 53 for Hindmarsh Shire Council represents a significant five-point decline on the 2022 result. Based on a trend decline since 2019, Council's overall performance is now at an all time low.

Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide average and in line with the Small Rural group average (index scores of 56 and 55 respectively).

- Almost all demographic and geographic cohorts declined in their perceptions of overall performance, and significantly more so among residents aged 18 to 34 years (46, down 16 points) and East Ward residents (58, down seven points).
- Overall performance is rated significantly higher than average among residents aged 65 years and over (index score of 58), while younger 18 to 34 year old residents are significantly more critical than average of Council's overall performance (46).

Three in ten residents (30%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. Just as many residents (30%), rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor'.



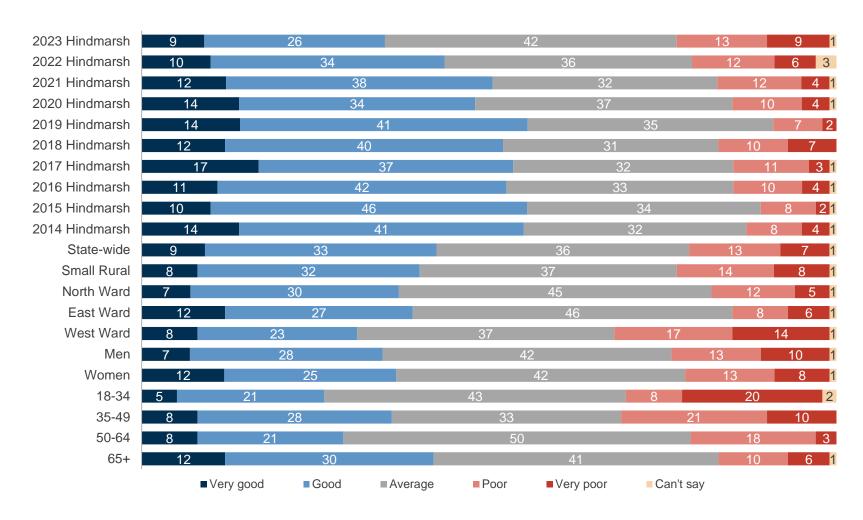


2023 overall performance (index scores)





2023 overall performance (%)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



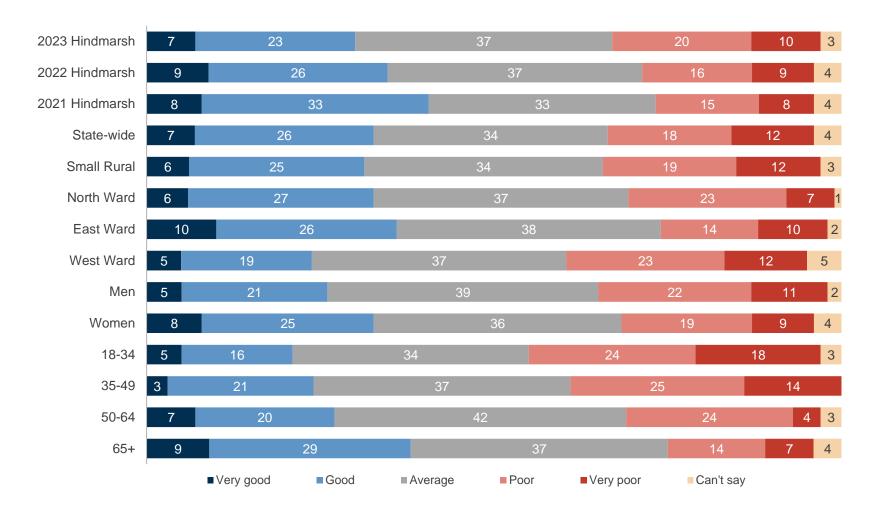
2023 value for money (index scores)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



2023 value for money (%)



Top performing service areas

Appearance of public areas (index score of 77) is the area where Council continues to perform best, despite decreasing by a not significant two index points from 2022.

Council performs significantly higher than the Small Rural group and State-wide averages on this service area (index scores of 71 and 67 respectively).

- Since the previous evaluation, ratings significantly declined among residents aged 18 to 34 years (index score of 83 in 2022, down to 75 currently).
- By region, residents in West Ward are more satisfied (significantly so) than average with the appearance of public areas. Residents living in North Ward provide significantly lower than average ratings for this service area.

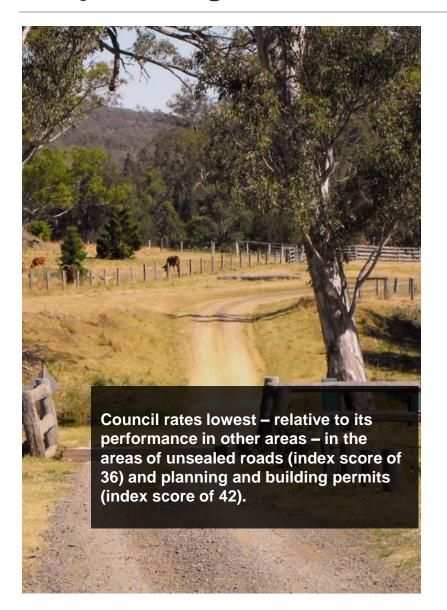
Waste management is Council's next highest rated service area (index score of 74, unchanged since 2022). Council also performs significantly higher than the Small Rural group and State-wide averages for this service area.

Perceptions of waste management has a moderate influence on the overall performance rating and maintaining this positive result should remain a focus in the coming 12 months.



Low performing service areas





In a similar pattern to last year, Council rates lowest for perceptions of maintenance of unsealed roads, and planning and building permits (index scores of 36 and 42 respectively).

- Ratings for Council's maintenance of unsealed roads decreased significantly in the last 12 months and is now at an all time low. This decline is reflective of the downward trend in the Small Rural group and Statewide performance ratings, which are also at an all time low for this service area.
- Declines in perceived performance have been underpinned by a significant decrease in performance ratings in the past 12 months across most geographic and demographic cohorts, the exception being residents aged 35 to 64 years and those living in West Ward.

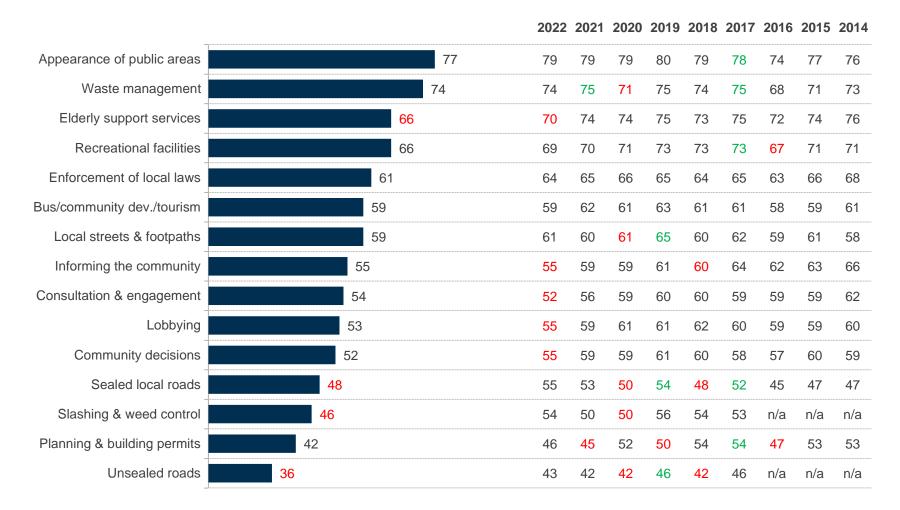
Council's performance rating on planning and building permits has also decreased (not significantly) in the last 12 months. The performance index score has dropped four points to reach its lowest level in 10 years.

 Council should look to restore positive perceptions among West Ward residents, where they are most below average (35). By contrast, East Ward residents are significantly above average (50).

Individual service area performance



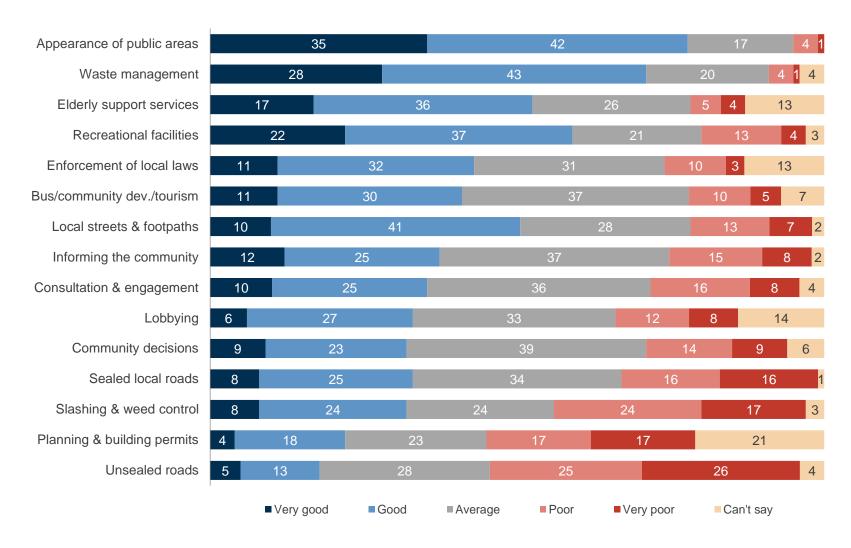
2023 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



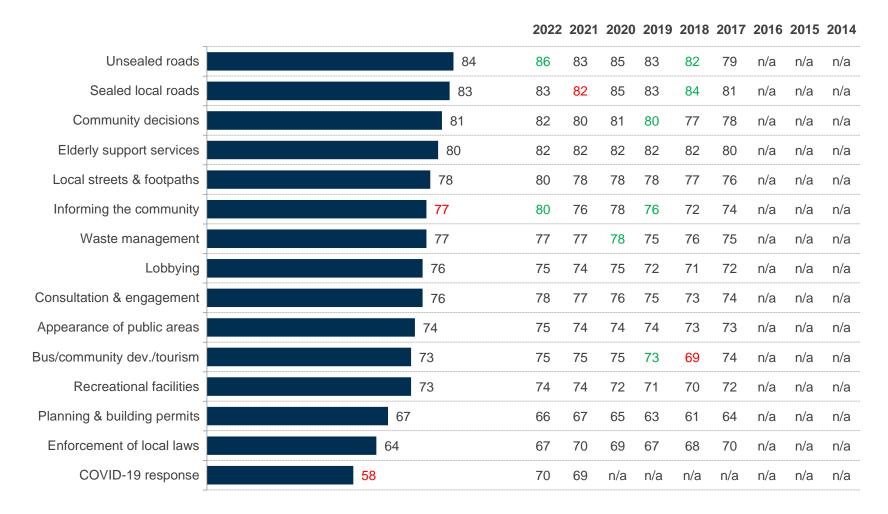
2023 individual service area performance (%)



Individual service area importance



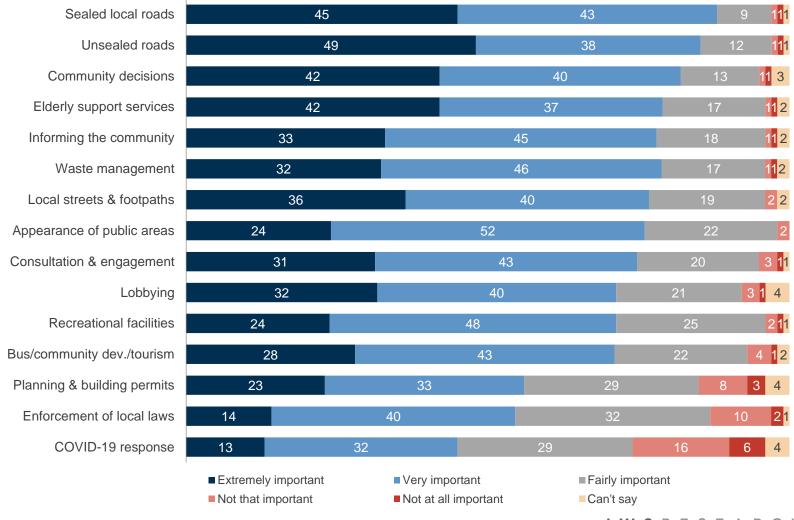
2023 individual service area importance (index scores)



Individual service area importance



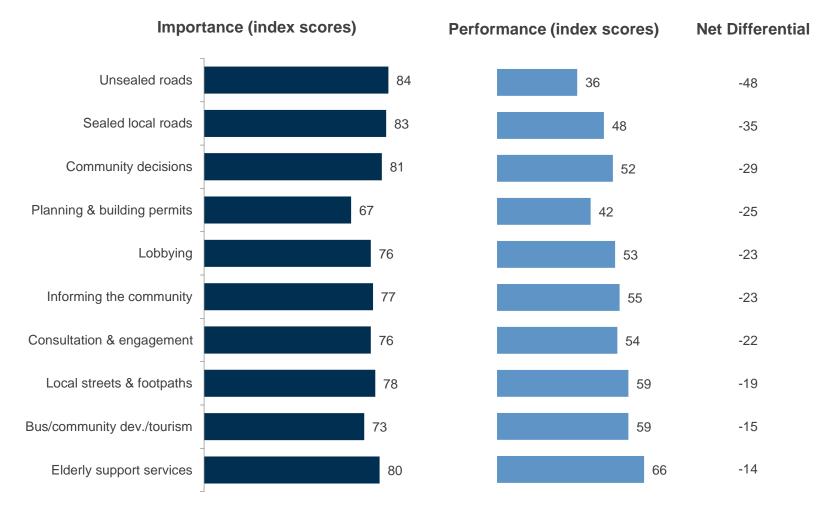
2023 individual service area importance (%)



Individual service areas importance vs performance



Service areas where importance exceeds performance by 10 points or more, suggesting further investigation is necessary.



Influences on perceptions of overall performance

The individual service area that has the strongest influence on the overall performance rating (based on regression analysis) is:

Decisions made in the interest of the community.

Good communication and transparency with residents about decisions Council has made in the community's interest provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council's performance.

Following on from that, other individual service areas with a moderate to strong influence on the overall performance rating are:

- · Community consultation and engagement
- · The condition of sealed local roads
- Roadside slashing and weed control
- Recreational facilities
- · Waste management
- Planning and building permits.

Looking at these key service areas only, waste management and recreational facilities have a high performance index (74 and 66 respectively) and a moderate influence on the overall performance rating.

Maintaining these positive results should remain a focus – but there is greater work to be done elsewhere.

Community consultation is a stronger influence on overall perceptions but an area where Council is performing just above average (index of 54).

Ensuring residents feel heard on key local issues and Council decisions can also help shore up positive community sentiment.

However, most in need of attention after community decisions are Council's planning and building permits, roadside slashing and weed control and sealed local roads, which are rated as poor (performance index of 42, 46 and 48 respectively). While permits and roadside areas are more moderate influences on overall Council ratings, the influence of sealed road conditions is reasonably strong.

Sealed roads maintenance is also mentioned (by 19%) as the top issue Council needs to do to improve its performance.

It will be important to attend to the condition of unsealed roads and roadside areas and address resident concerns about Council's approach to planning and building permits to help improve perceptions of overall performance.

Regression analysis explained



We use regression analysis to investigate which individual service areas, such as community consultation, condition of sealed local roads, etc. (the independent variables) are influencing respondent perceptions of overall council performance (the dependent variable).

In the charts that follow:

- The horizontal axis represents the council performance index for each individual service.
 Service areas appearing on the right side of the chart have a higher performance index than those on the left.
- The vertical axis represents the Standardised Beta Coefficient from the multiple regression performed.
 This measures the contribution of each service area to the model. Service areas near the top of the chart have a greater positive effect on overall performance ratings than service areas located closer to the axis.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

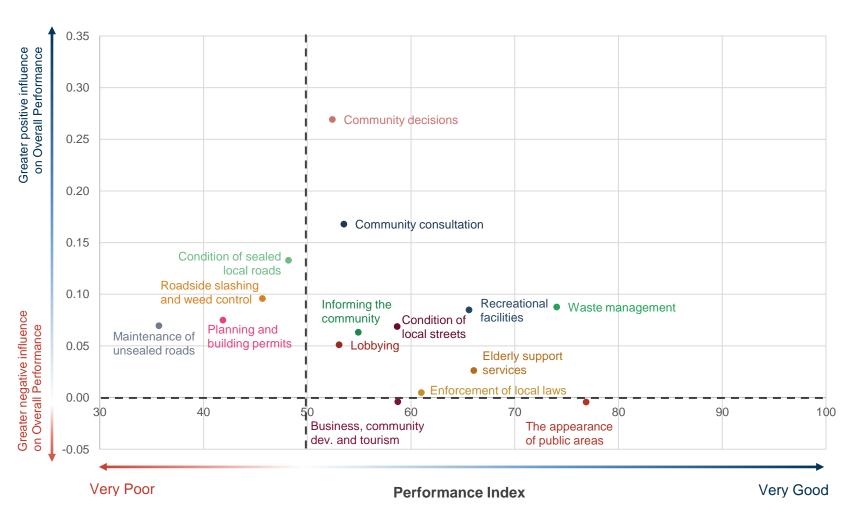
- The first chart shows the results of a regression analysis of all individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas with a weak influence on overall performance (i.e. a low Standardised Beta Coefficient) have been excluded from the analysis.

Key insights from this analysis are derived from the second chart.

Influence on overall performance: all service areas



2023 regression analysis (all service areas)

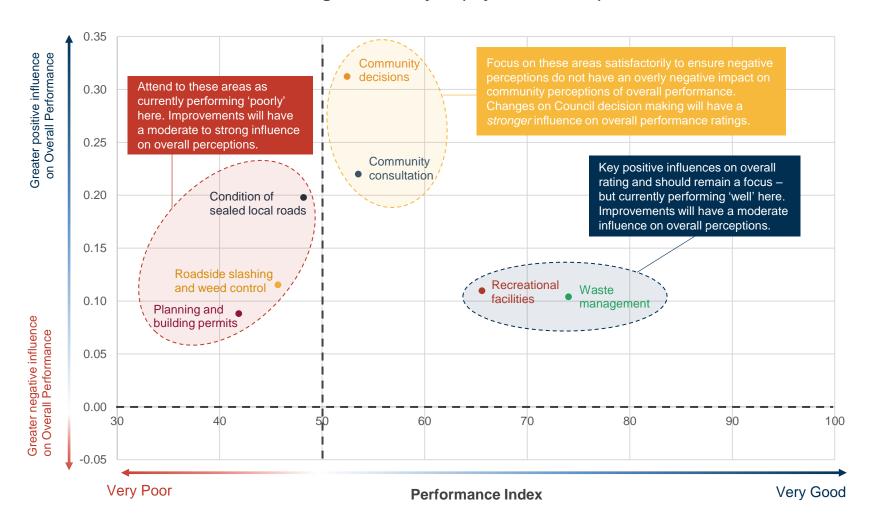


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R^2 value of 0.627 and adjusted R^2 value of 0.613, which means that 61% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 43.12. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.

Influence on overall performance: key service areas



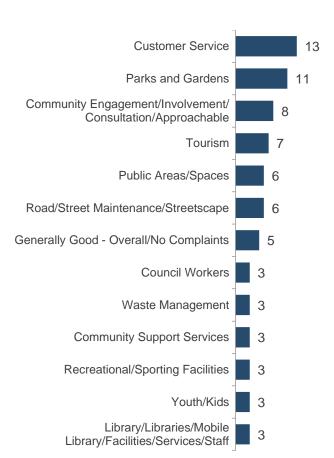
2023 regression analysis (key service areas)



Best things about Council and areas for improvement



2023 best things about Council (%) - Top mentions only -



2023 areas for improvement (%) - Top mentions only -



Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Hindmarsh Shire Council? It could be about any of the issues or services we have covered in this survey or it could be about something else altogether?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 33 Councils asked group: 7



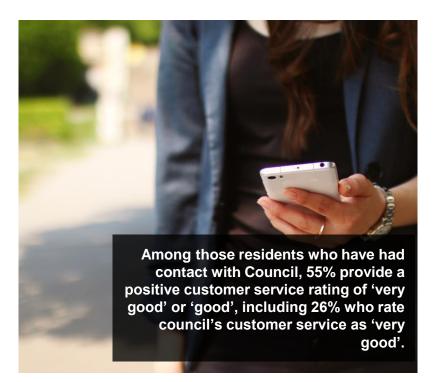
Customer service

Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

Two thirds of households (67%) have had contact with Hindmarsh Shire Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact has significantly increased in the last 12 months and is now at the highest level seen in 10 years. Increases in the rate of contact with Council have been underpinned by significant increases in the level of contact among residents of North Ward and Hindmarsh, men, and those aged 18 to 34 years.



Customer service

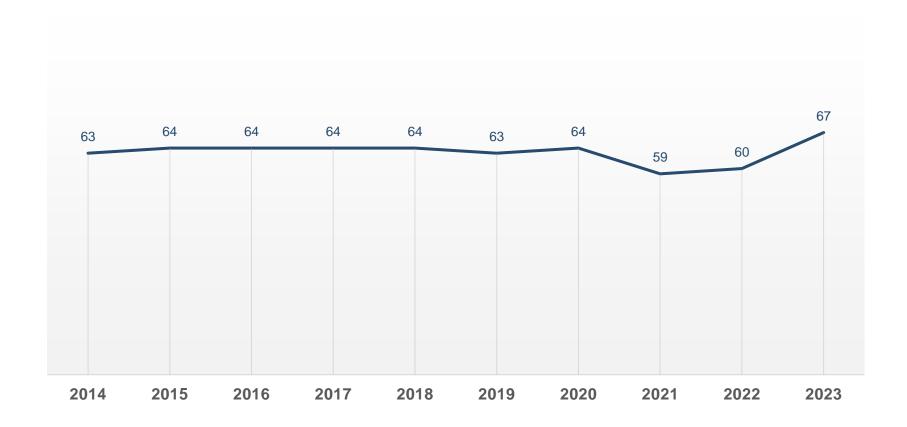
Council's customer service index of 64 represents a five-point (not significant) decrease from 2022. Customer service ratings have remained relatively stable over time but have started to trend downwards over the past three years to now reach the lowest level seen in a decade. As was the case last year, customer service is rated in line with the State-wide and Small Rural group averages (index scores of 67 and 65 respectively).

- Geographically, customer service ratings are lowest among residents of West Ward (index score of 60) and highest among residents of North and East Wards (both with an index score of 67).
- Younger residents aged 18 to 34 years warrant extra attention from Council as their level of contact has significantly increased over the past 12 months (up by 30 percentage points). At the same time, this cohort has the least positive perceptions of its customer service and ratings are significantly below the average (index score of 56).

Contact with council



2023 contact with council (%) Have had contact



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Hindmarsh 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



2023 contact with council (%)



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Hindmarsh 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: 41 Councils asked group: 16 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (index scores)

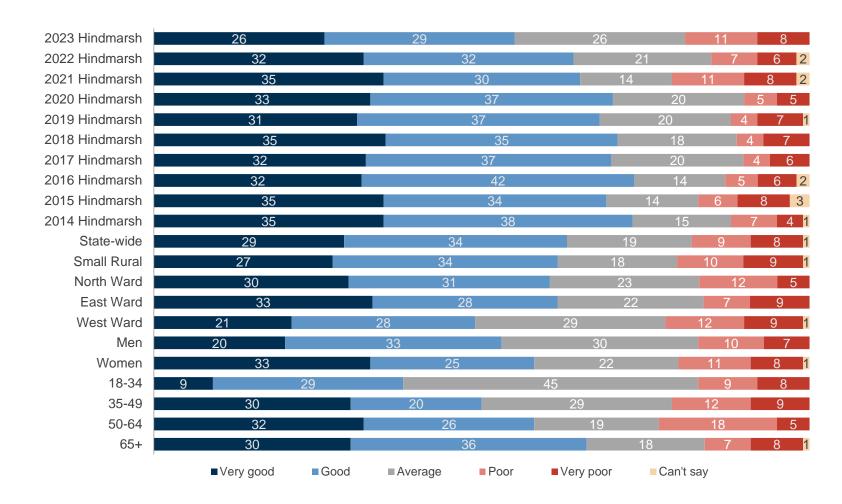


Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Hindmarsh Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 19

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (%)





Council direction

W

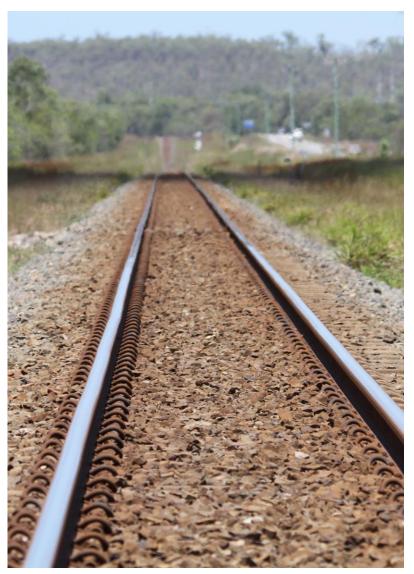
The direction of Council's overall performance index score of 42 marks a significant decline on the 2022 result and is now at an all time low. Direction of Council's overall performance is rated significantly lower than both the Small Rural group and State-wide averages (index scores of 47 and 46 respectively).

- Since the previous evaluation, ratings significantly declined among residents of West Ward, men and those aged 18 to 34 years.
- By region, residents in East Ward are significantly more satisfied than average with the direction of Council's overall performance, whereas those living in the West Ward are significantly less satisfied.

Over the last 12 months, 10% of residents believe the direction of Council's overall performance has improved (compared to a higher 15% in 2022). In contrast, one in four residents (25%, up seven percentage points) believe it has deteriorated.

More than half (51%, down from 64% in 2022) feel Council is moving in the right direction and 36% feel it is moving in the wrong direction (up from 25%).

When it comes to the trade off between rates and services, residents have a stronger preference for service cuts (43%) over rate rises to improve Council services (35%).



Overall council direction last 12 months



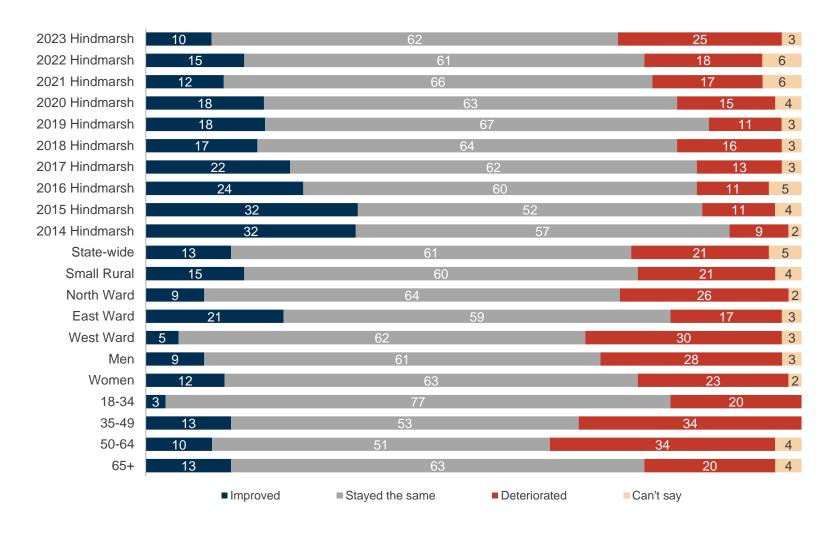
2023 overall council direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



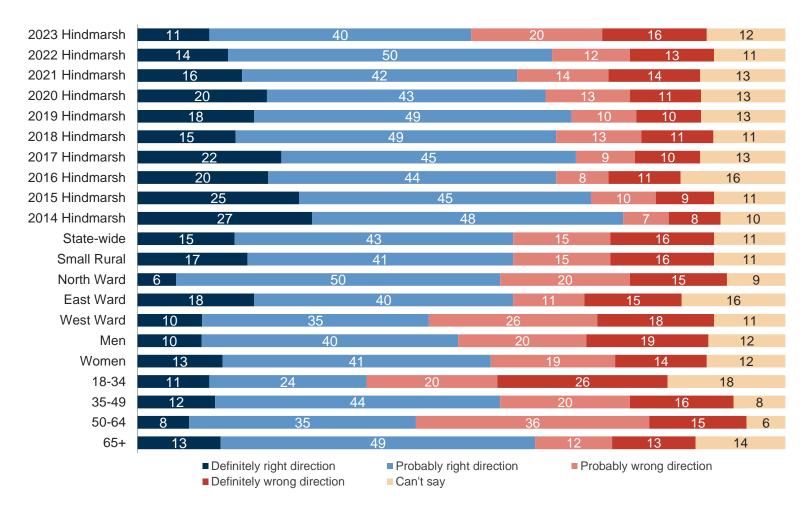
2023 overall council direction (%)



Right / wrong direction



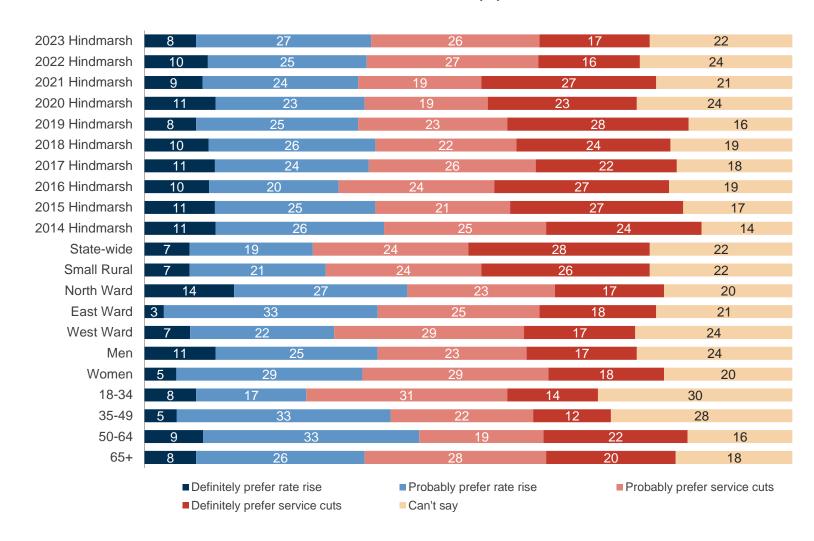
2023 right / wrong direction (%)



Rates / services trade-off



2023 rates / services trade-off (%)



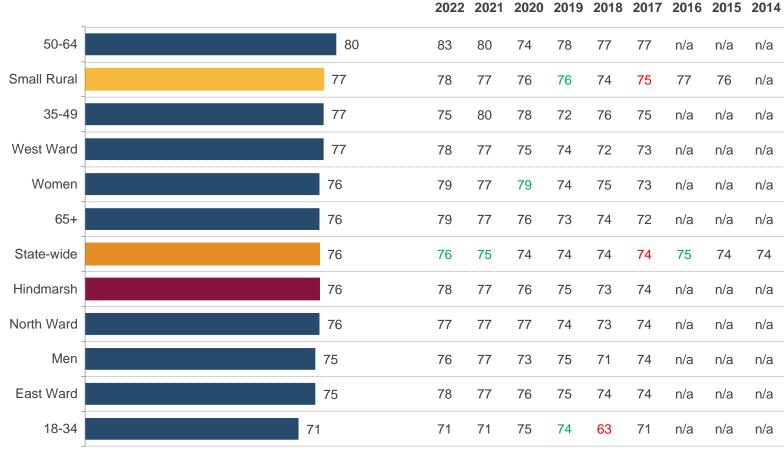


Community consultation and engagement importance





2023 consultation and engagement importance (index scores)

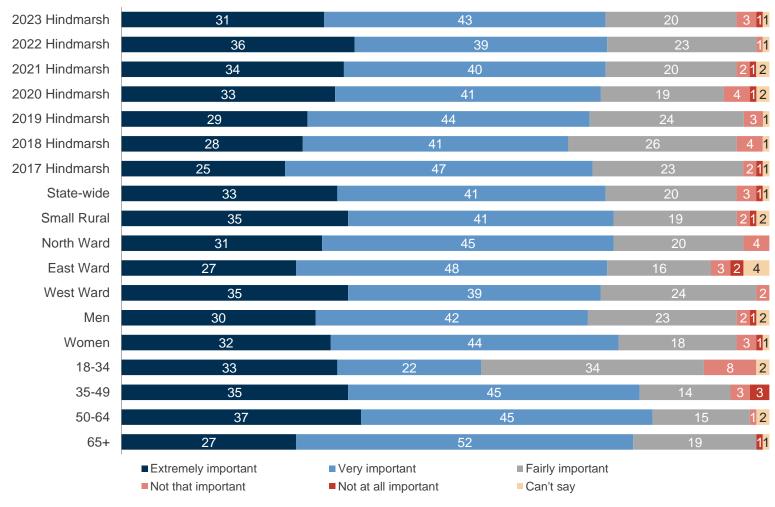


Community consultation and engagement importance





2023 consultation and engagement importance (%)



Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

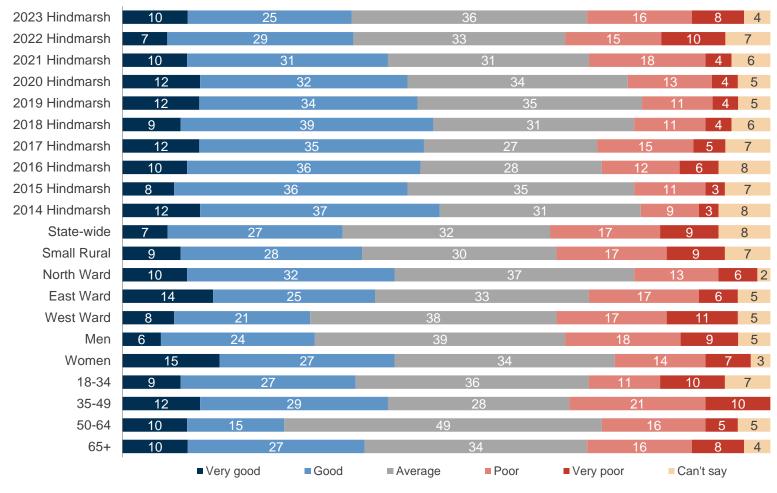


Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (%)



Lobbying on behalf of the community importance





2023 lobbying importance (index scores)

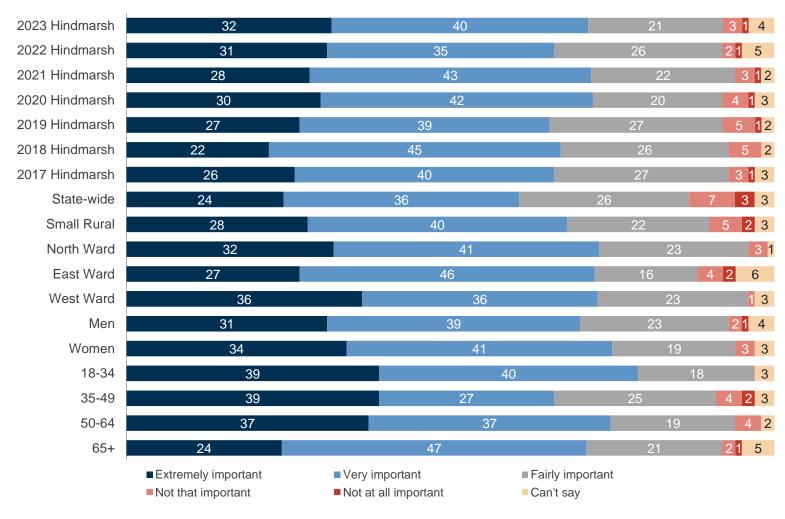


Lobbying on behalf of the community importance





2023 lobbying importance (%)

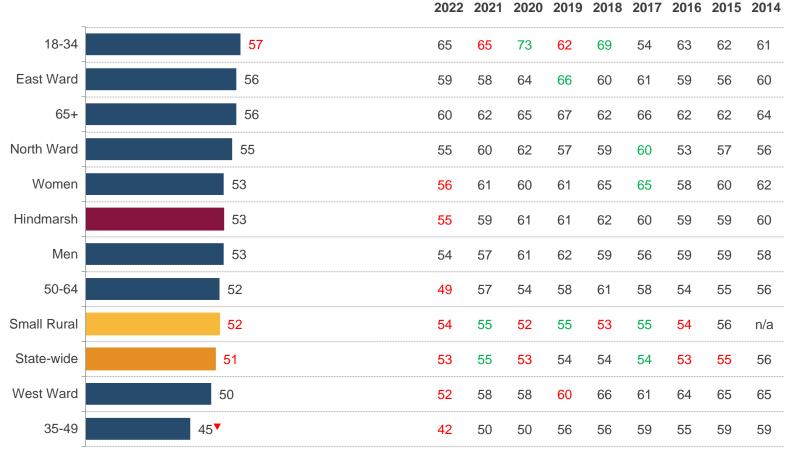


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (index scores)

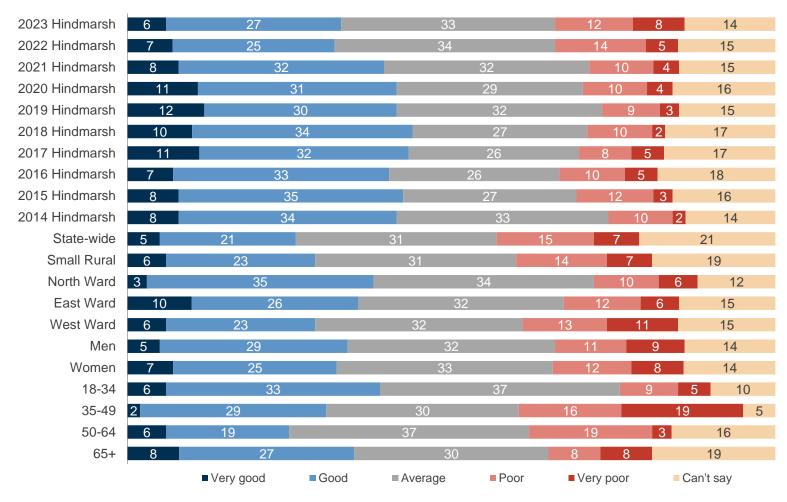


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (%)



Decisions made in the interest of the community importance





2023 community decisions made importance (index scores)

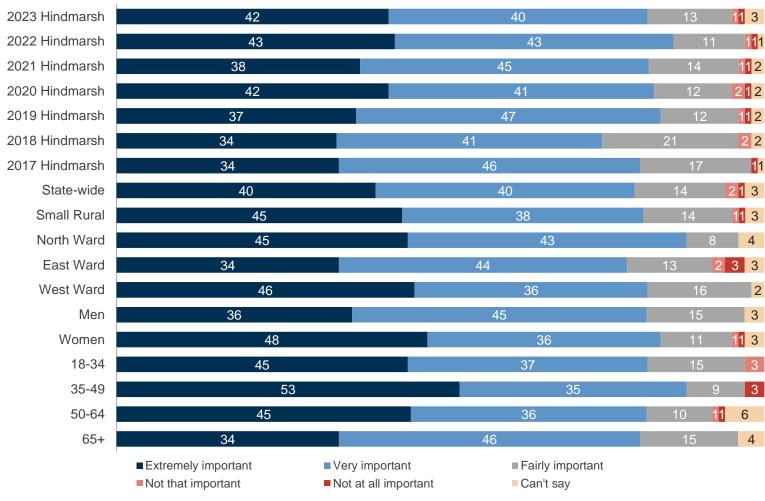


Decisions made in the interest of the community importance





2023 community decisions made importance (%)

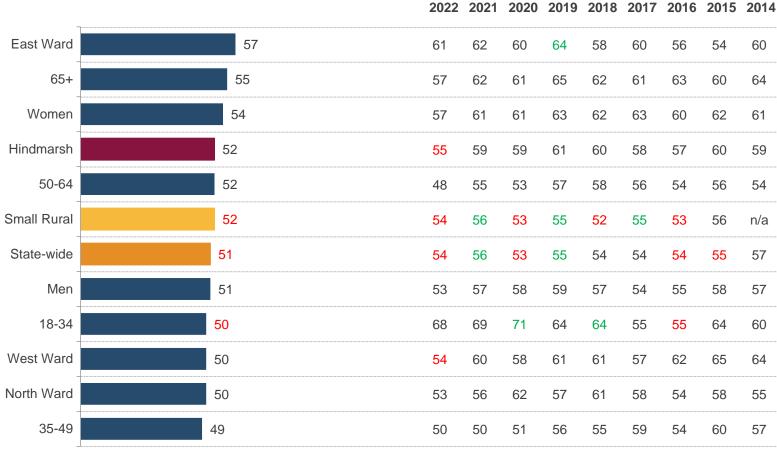


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2023 community decisions made performance (index scores)

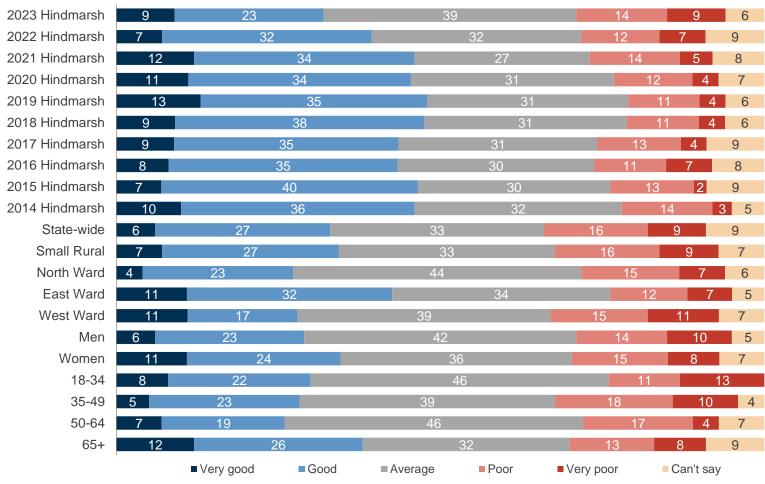


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2023 community decisions made performance (%)

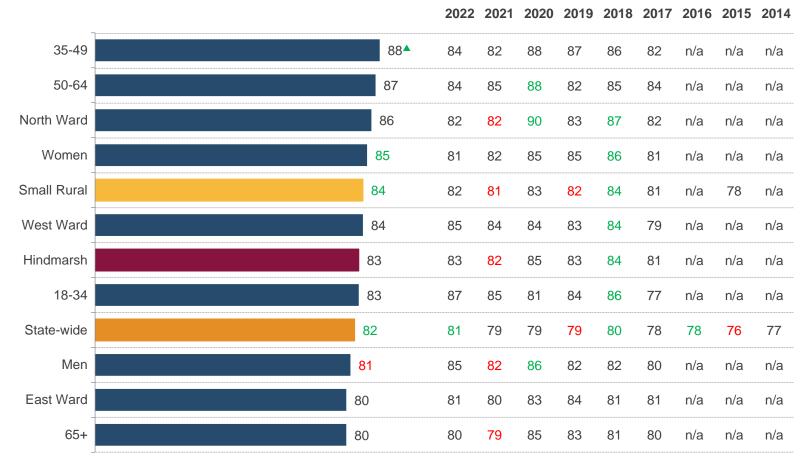


The condition of sealed local roads in your area importance





2023 sealed local roads importance (index scores)

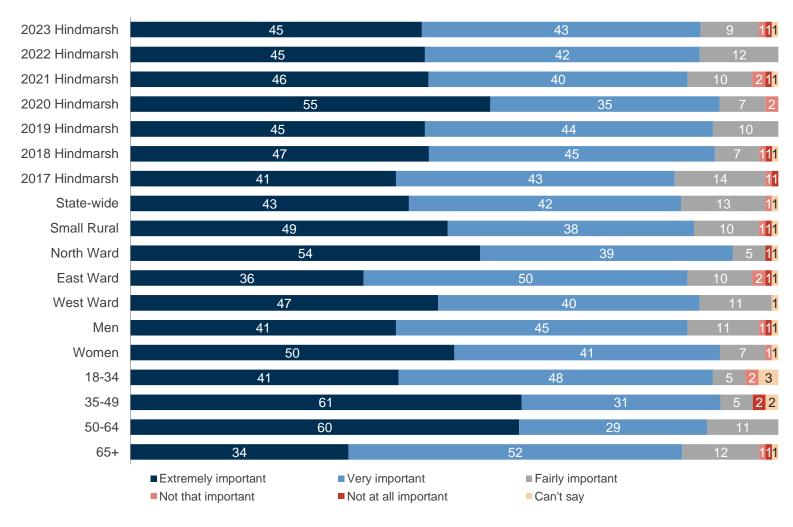


The condition of sealed local roads in your area importance





2023 sealed local roads importance (%)

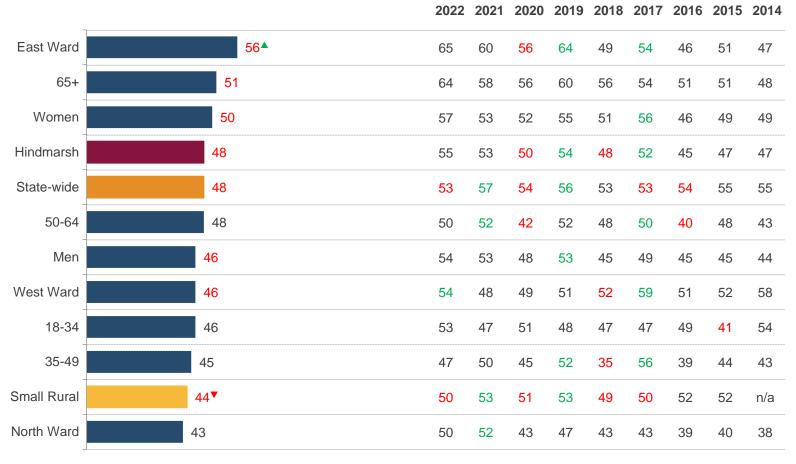


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

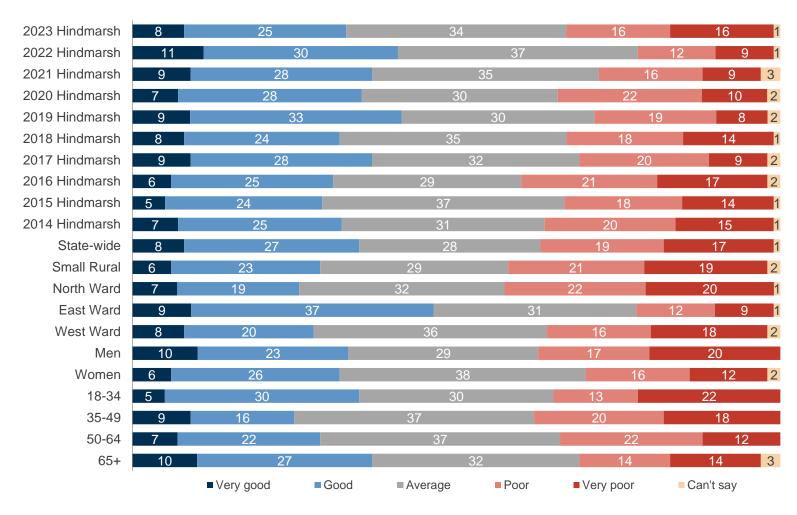


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (%)

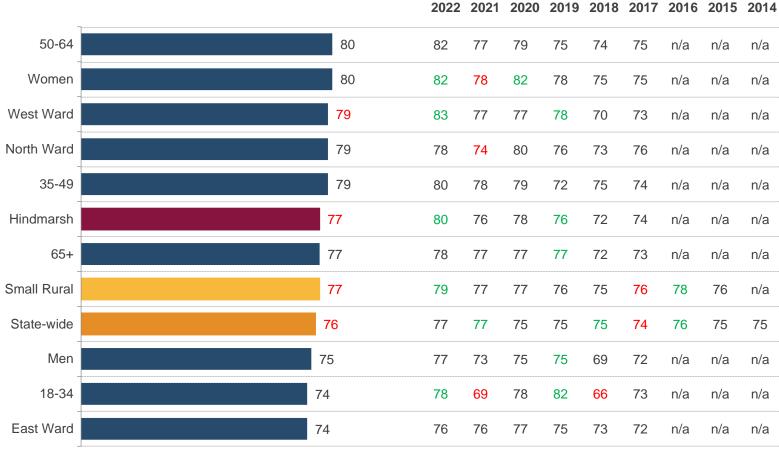


Informing the community importance





2023 informing community importance (index scores)

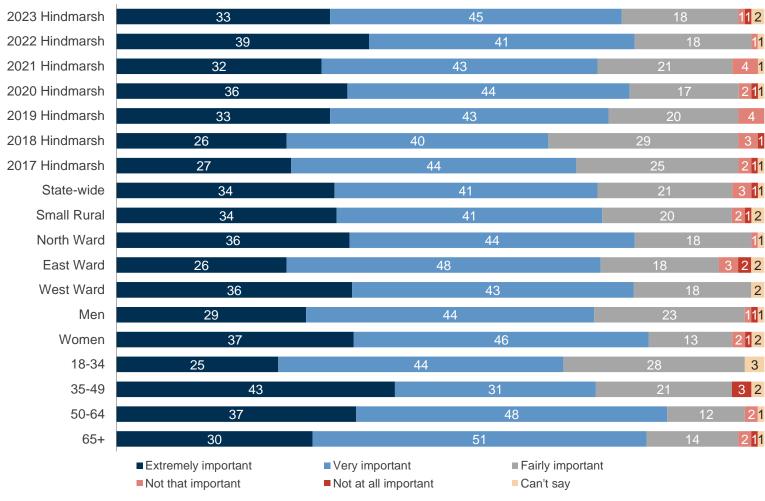


Informing the community importance





2023 informing community importance (%)

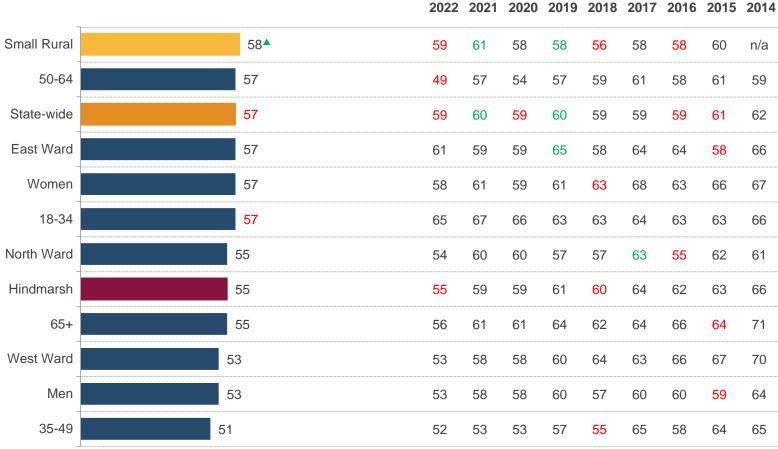


Informing the community performance





2023 informing community performance (index scores)

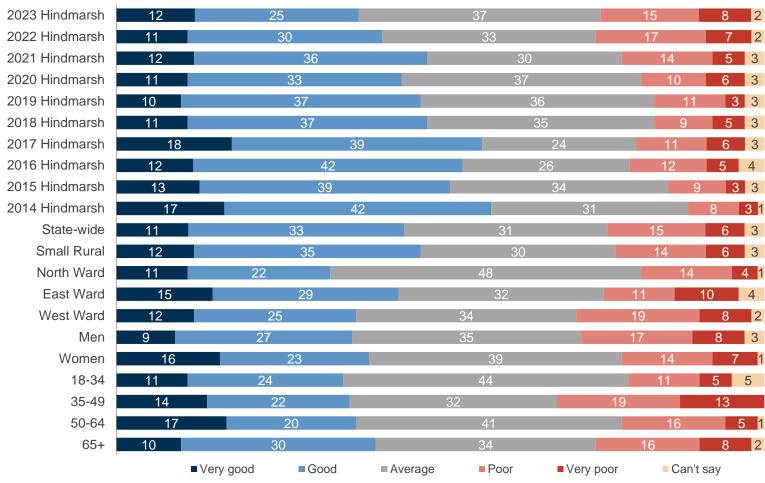


Informing the community performance





2023 informing community performance (%)

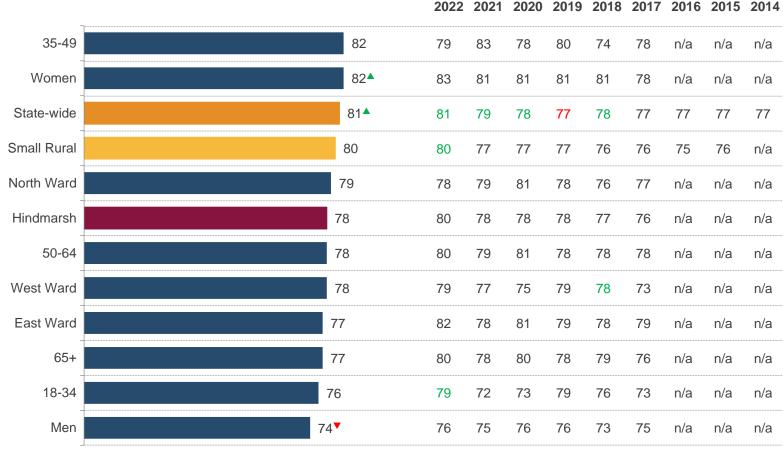


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area importance





2023 streets and footpaths importance (index scores)

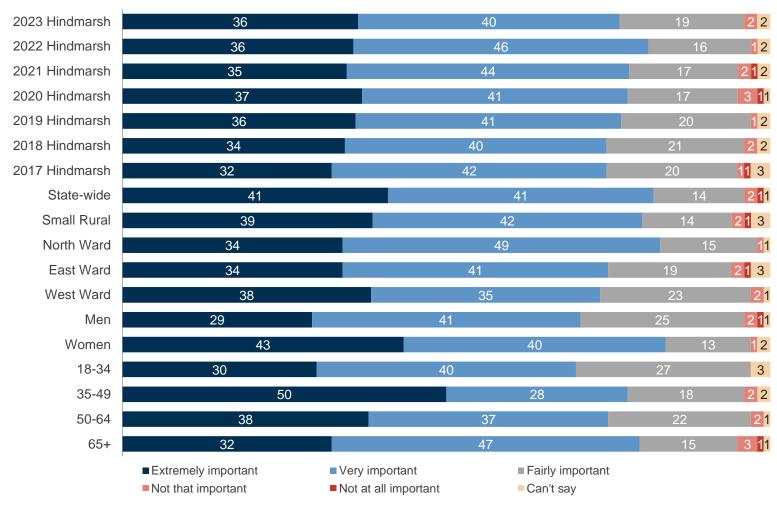


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area importance





2023 streets and footpaths importance (%)

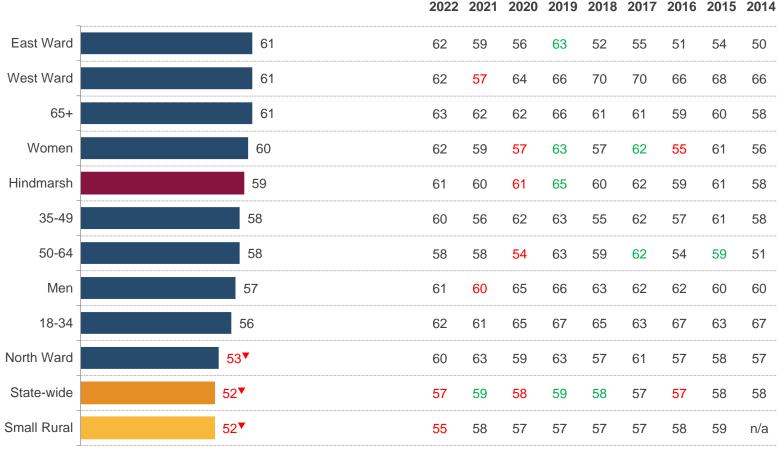


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





2023 streets and footpaths performance (index scores)

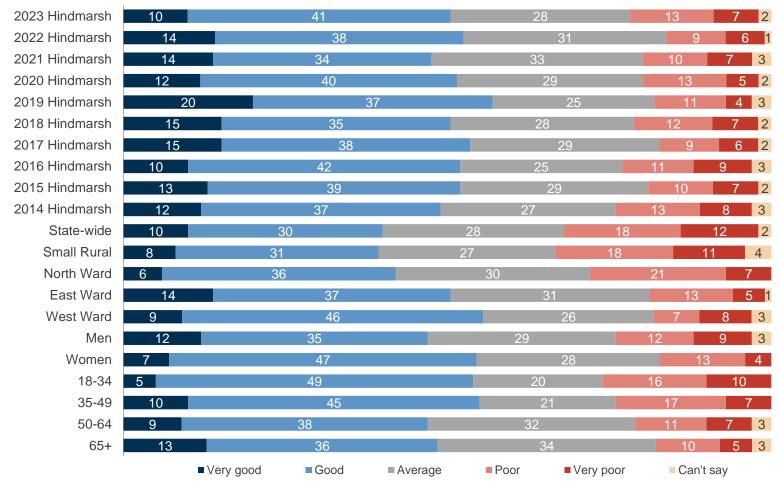


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





2023 streets and footpaths performance (%)

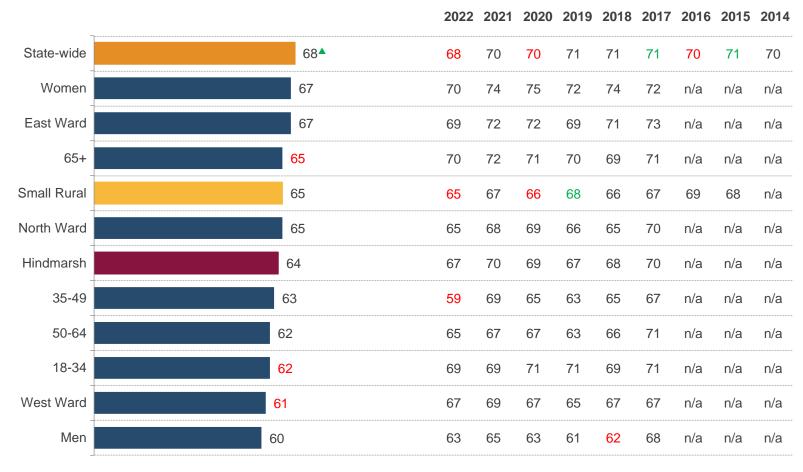


Enforcement of local laws importance





2023 law enforcement importance (index scores)

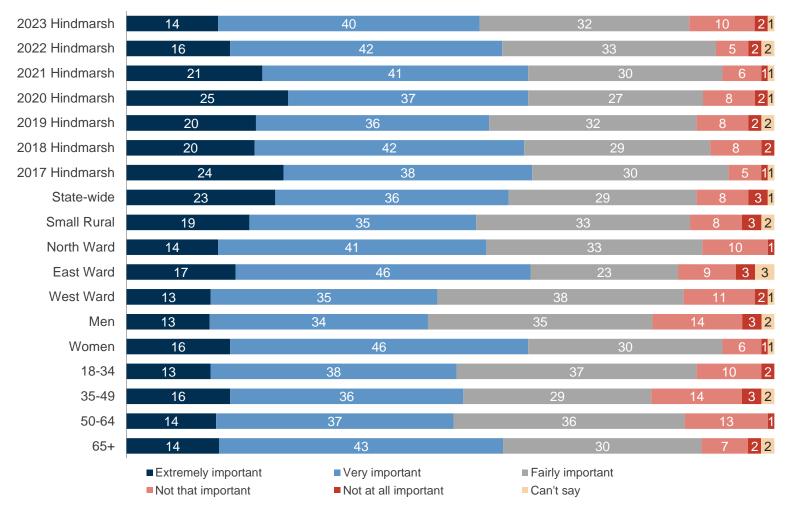


Enforcement of local laws importance





2023 law enforcement importance (%)



Enforcement of local laws performance





2023 law enforcement performance (index scores)

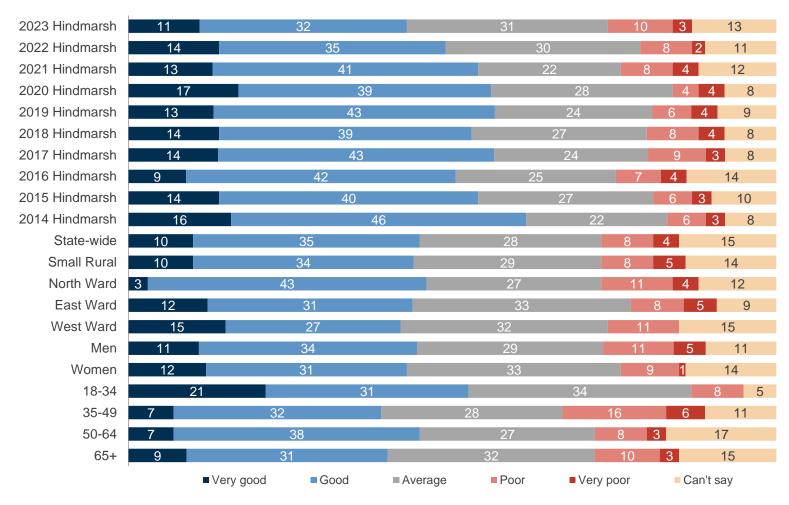


Enforcement of local laws performance





2023 law enforcement performance (%)

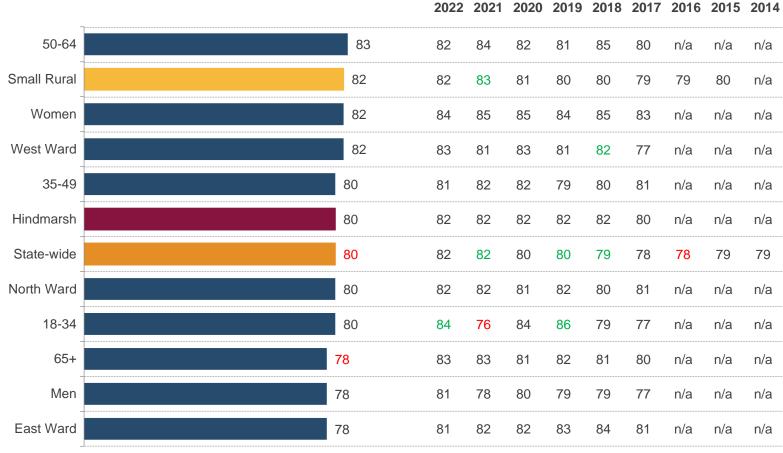


Elderly support services importance





2023 elderly support importance (index scores)

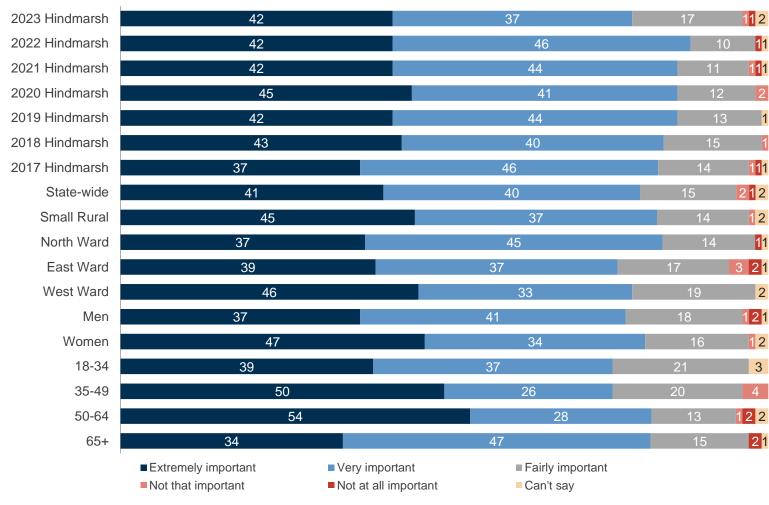


Elderly support services importance





2023 elderly support importance (%)



Elderly support services performance





2023 elderly support performance (index scores)

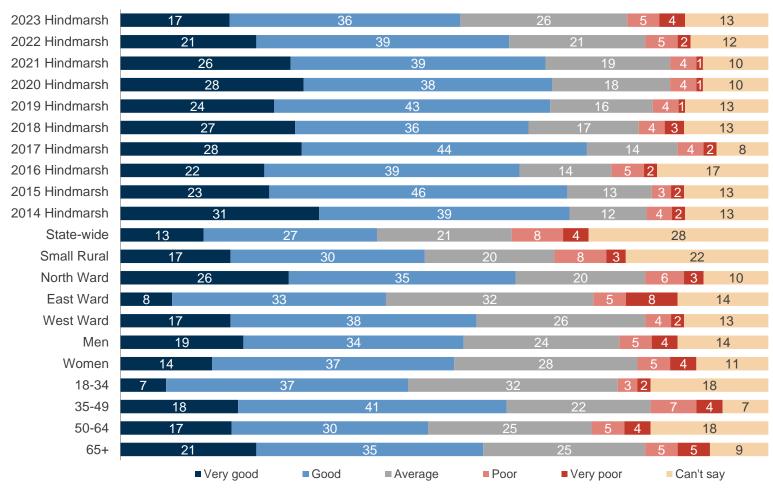


Elderly support services performance





2023 elderly support performance (%)

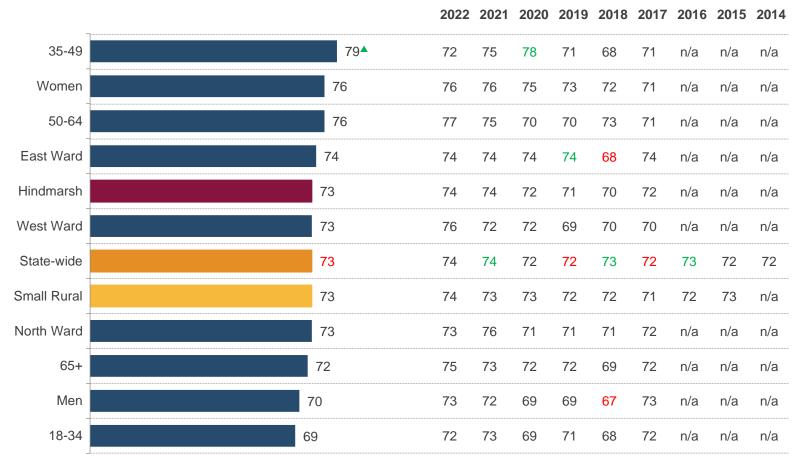


Recreational facilities importance





2023 recreational facilities importance (index scores)

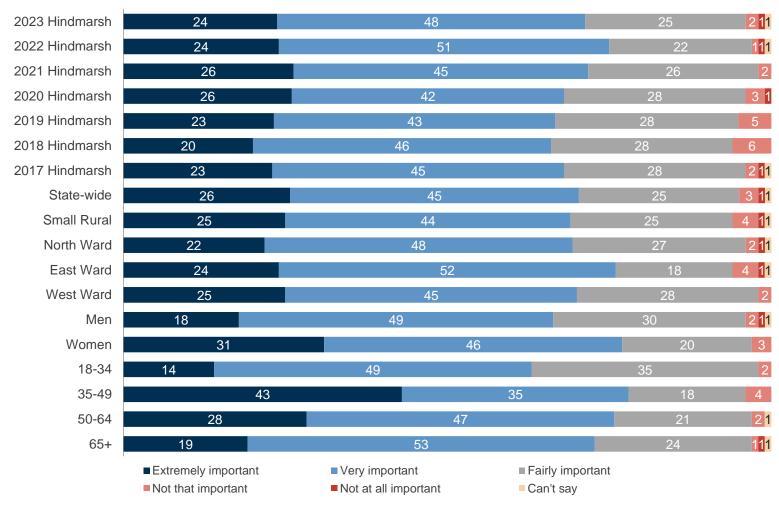


Recreational facilities importance





2023 recreational facilities importance (%)

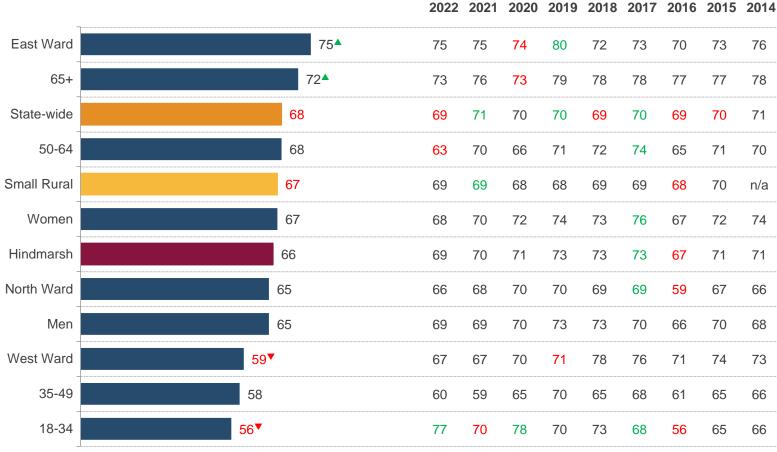


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

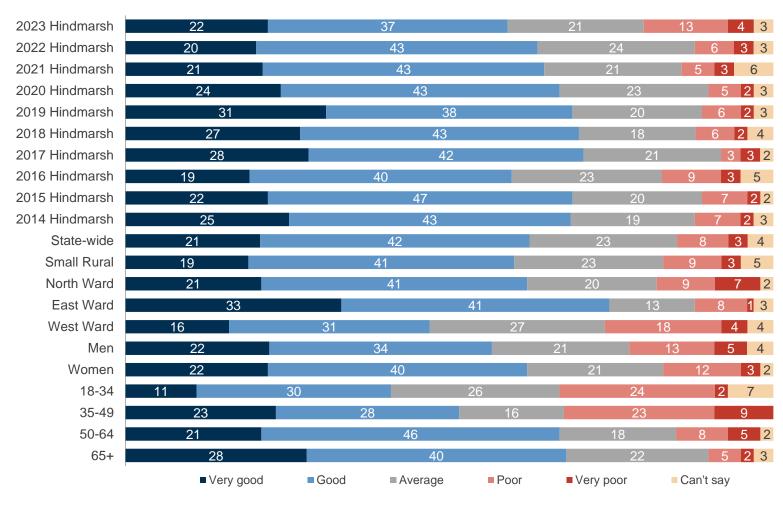


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (%)



The appearance of public areas importance





2023 public areas importance (index scores)

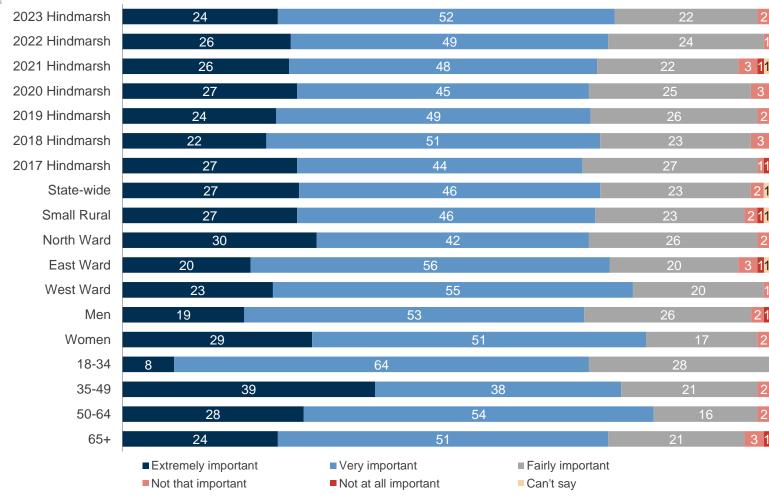


The appearance of public areas importance





2023 public areas importance (%)



The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (index scores)

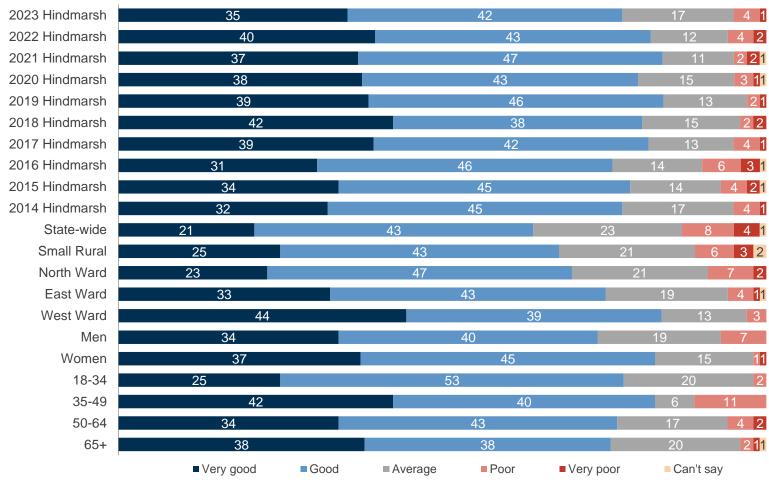


The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (%)



Waste management importance





2023 waste management importance (index scores)

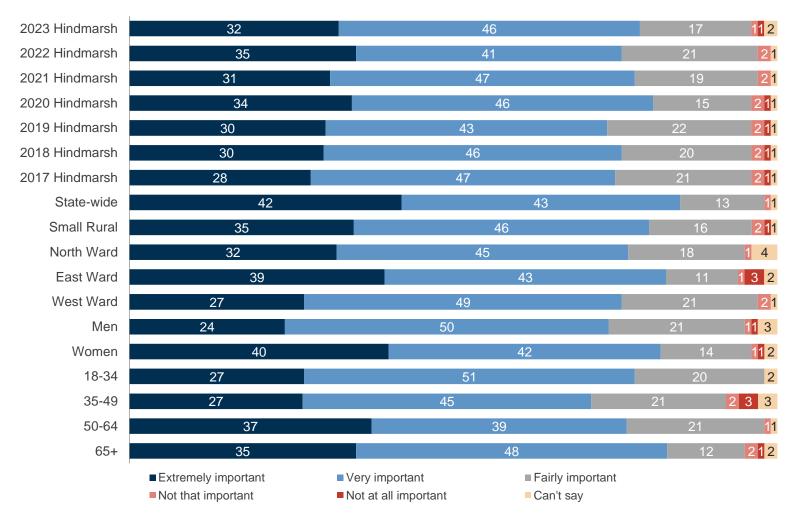


Waste management importance





2023 waste management importance (%)

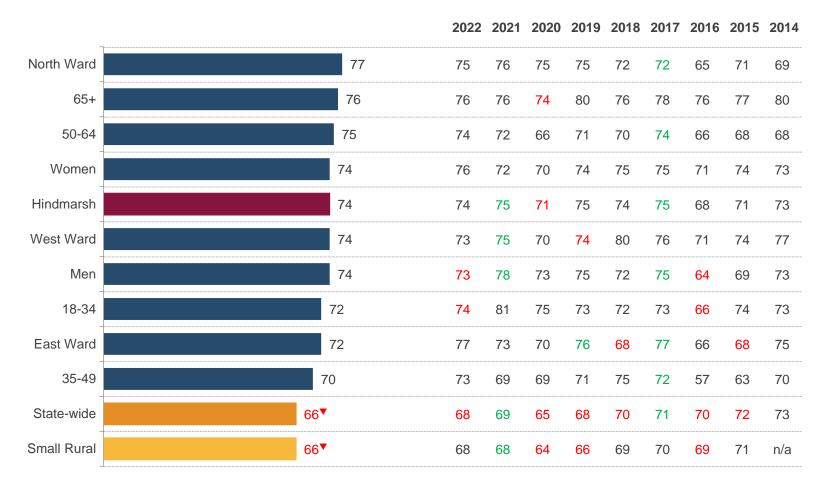


Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (index scores)

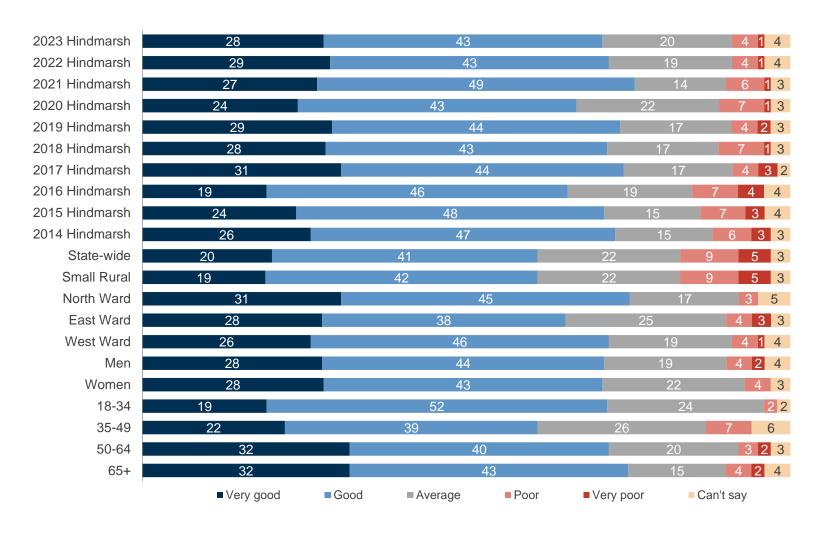


Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (%)



Business and community development and tourism importance





2023 business/development/tourism importance (index scores)

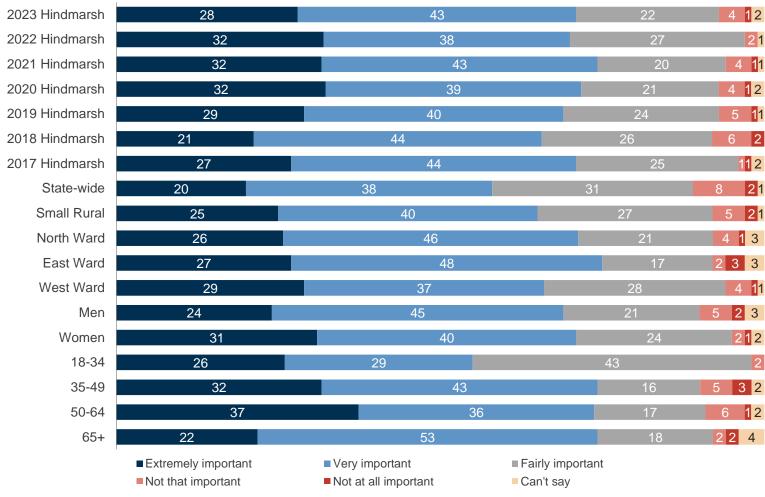


Business and community development and tourism importance





2023 business/development/tourism importance (%)

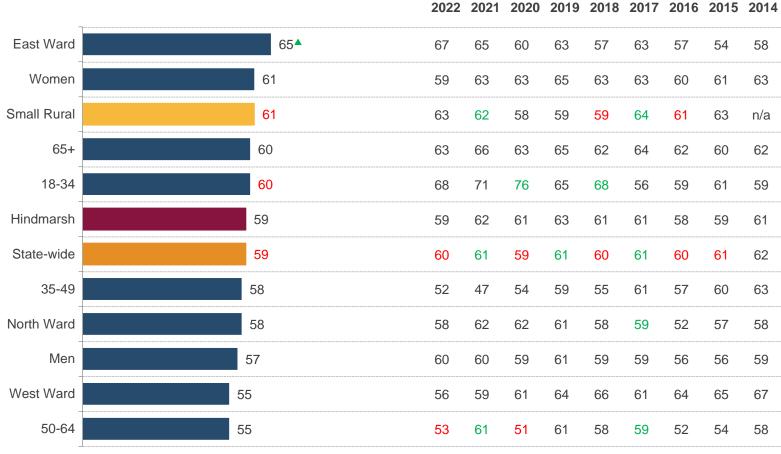


Business and community development and tourism performance





2023 business/development/tourism performance (index scores)

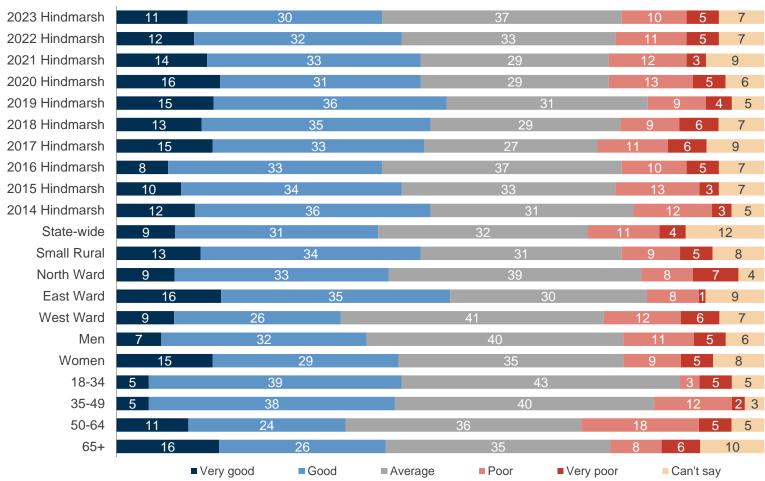


Business and community development and tourism performance





2023 business/development/tourism performance (%)

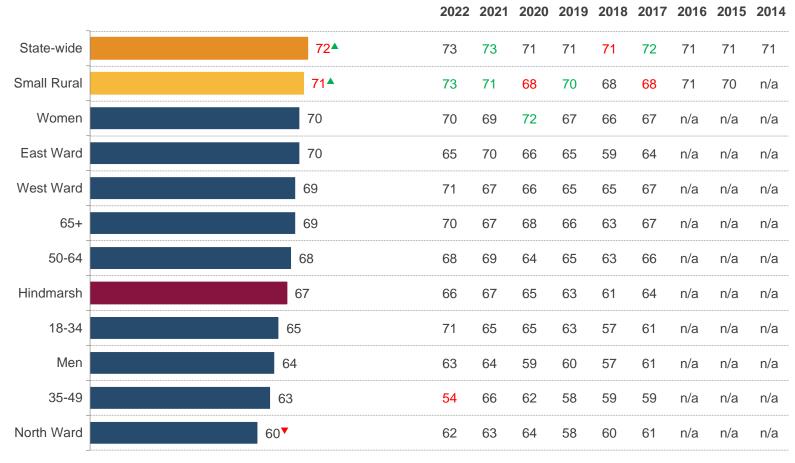


Planning and building permits importance





2023 planning and building permits importance (index scores)

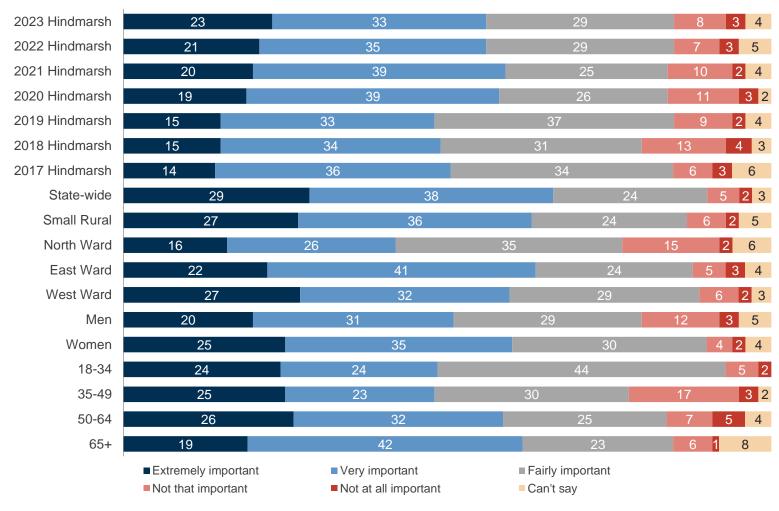


Planning and building permits importance





2023 planning and building permits importance (%)

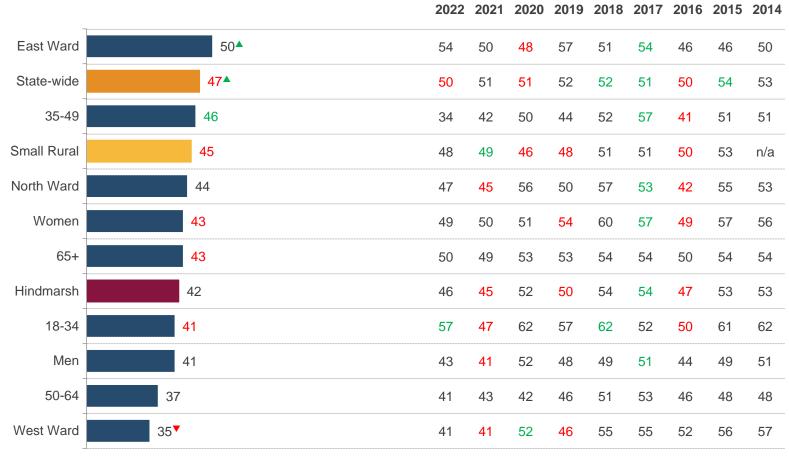


Planning and building permits performance





2023 planning and building permits performance (index scores)

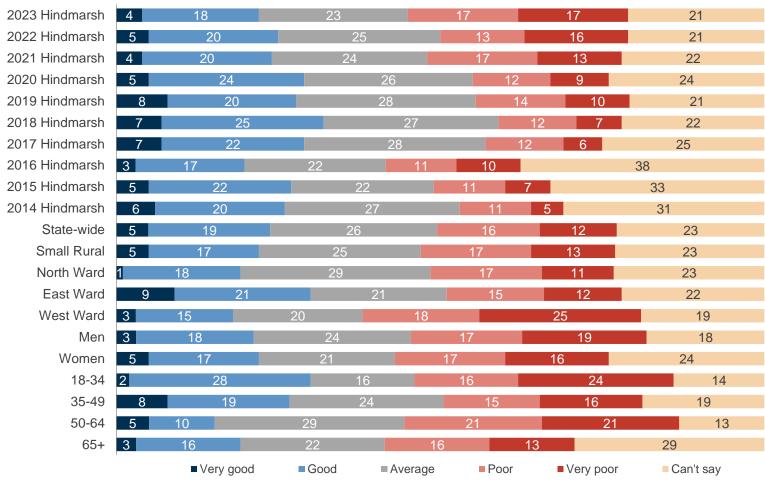


Planning and building permits performance





2023 planning and building permits performance (%)



Roadside slashing and weed control performance





2023 roadside slashing and weed control performance (index scores)

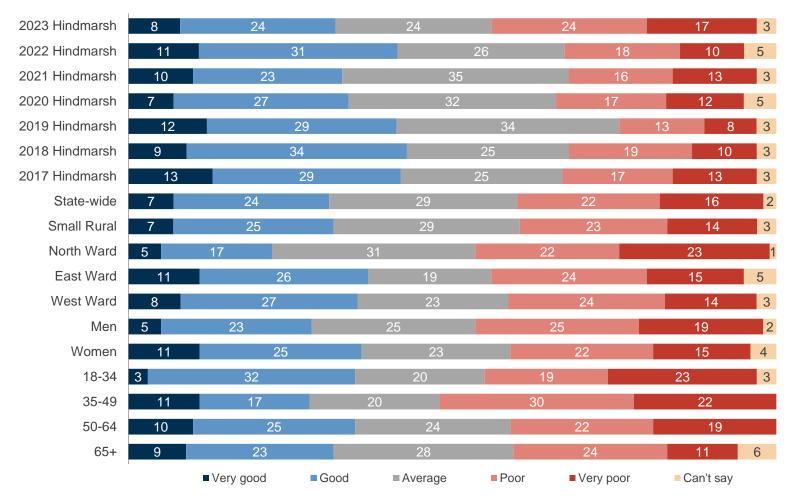


Roadside slashing and weed control performance





2023 roadside slashing and weed control performance (%)



Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area importance





2023 unsealed roads importance (index scores)

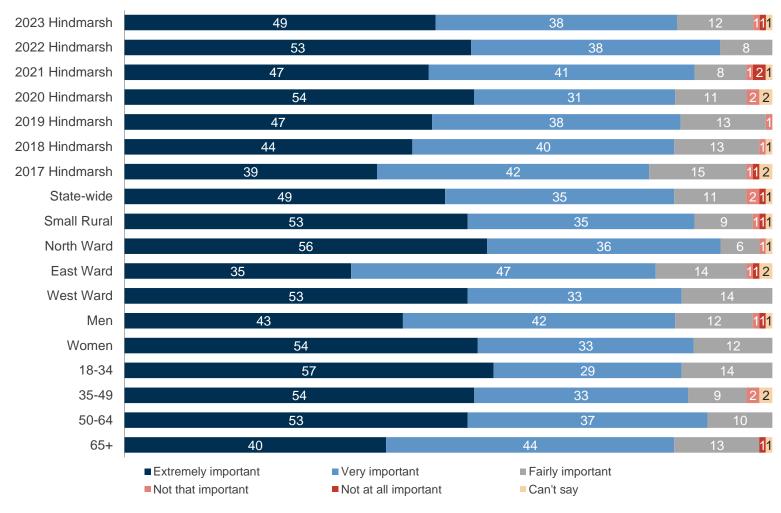


Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area importance





2023 unsealed roads importance (%)

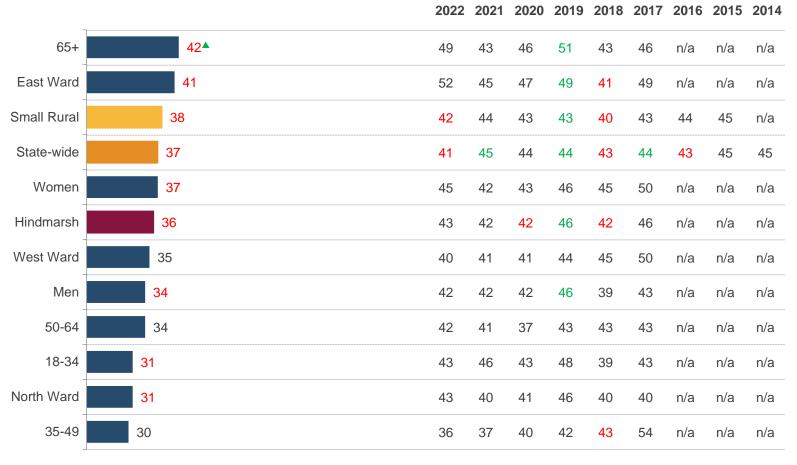


Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance





2023 unsealed roads performance (index scores)

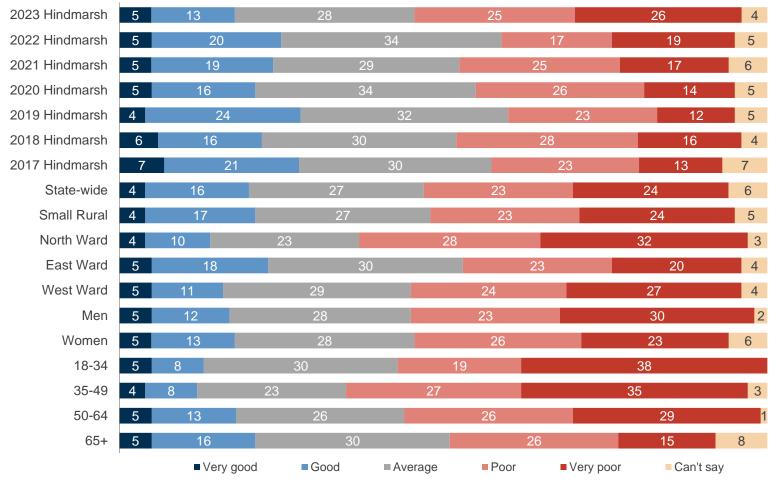


Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance





2023 unsealed roads performance (%)

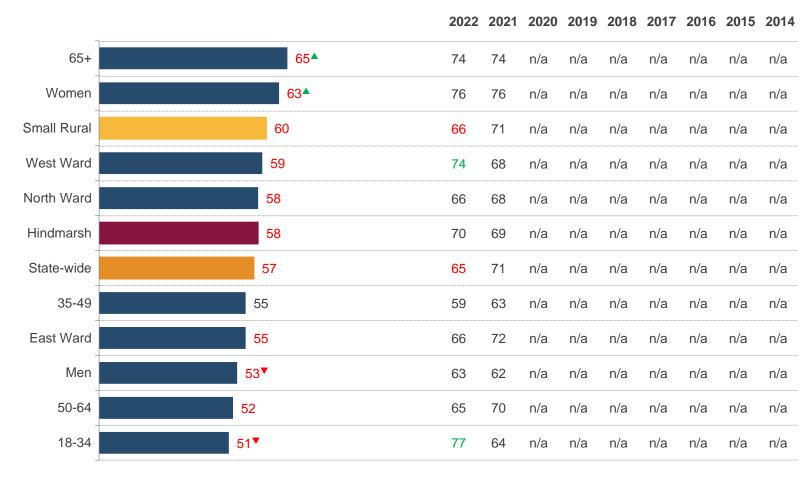


COVID-19 response importance





2023 COVID-19 response importance (index scores)

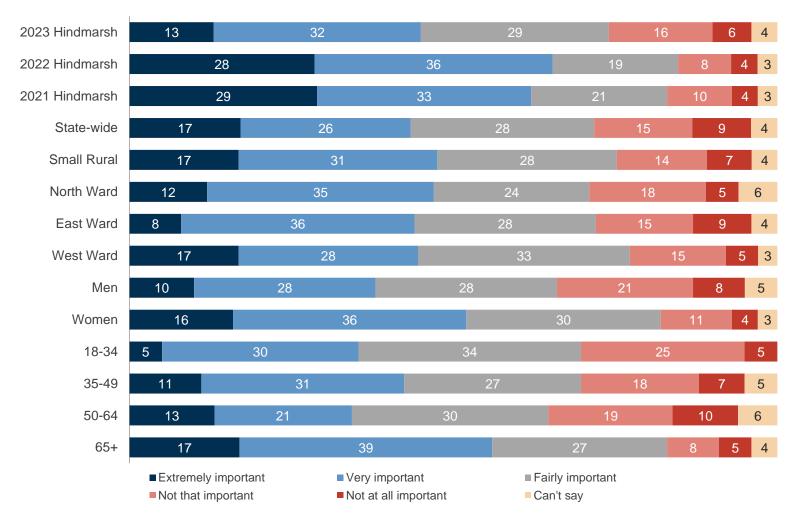


COVID-19 response importance





2023 COVID-19 response importance (%)

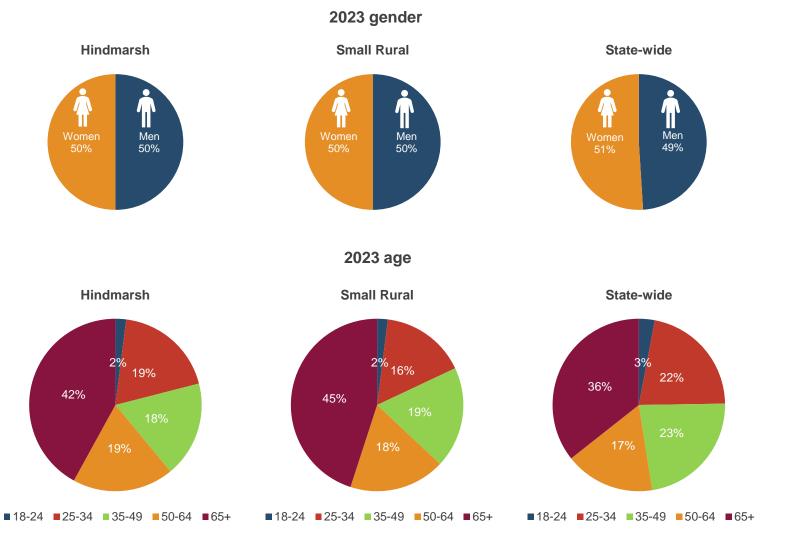


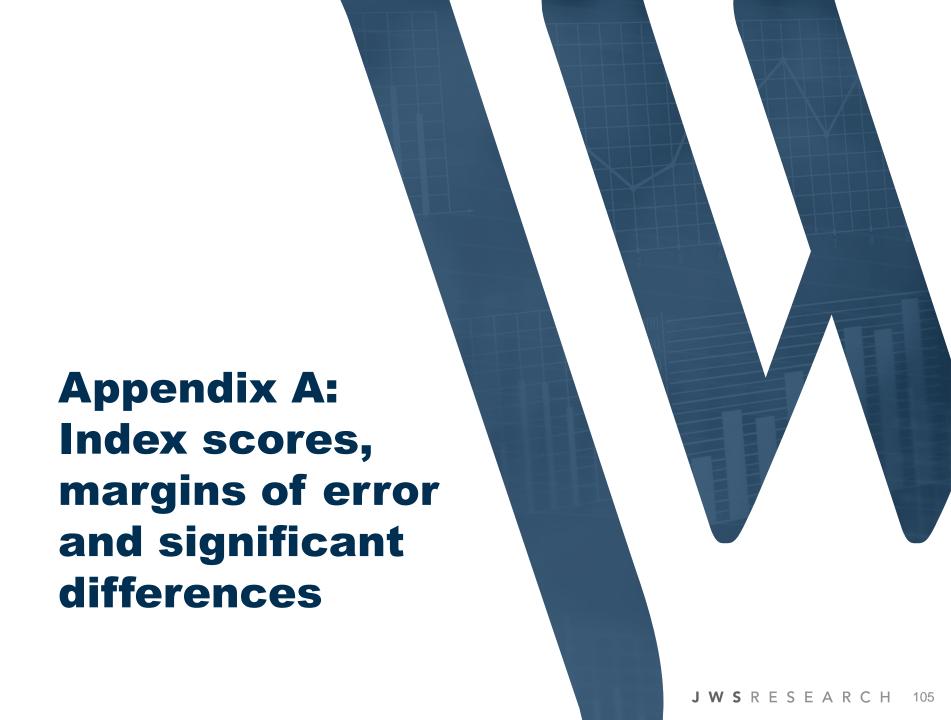


Detailed demographics

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

W

The sample size for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Hindmarsh Shire Council was n=400. 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=400 interviews is +/-4.7% 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 45.3% - 54.7%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 4,600 people aged 18 years or over for Hindmarsh Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Hindmarsh Shire Council	400	400	+/-4.7
Men	216	200	+/-6.5
Women	184	200	+/-7.1
North Ward	110	106	+/-9.3
East Ward	127	118	+/-8.6
West Ward	163	176	+/-7.6
18-34 years	38	82	+/-16.0
35-49 years	50	73	+/-13.9
50-64 years	99	78	+/-9.8
65+ years	213	167	+/-6.6

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 ().

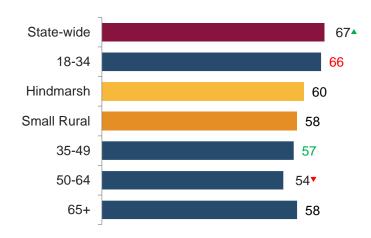
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- 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 2022. 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 2022.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2022.

2023 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.

JWSRESEARCH 110

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 2023 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 2023 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2022, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 24th March.
- 2021, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28th January – 18th March.
- 2020, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.
- 2015, n=400 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.

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 Hindmarsh 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 Hindmarsh Shire Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Hindmarsh 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 Hindmarsh Shire Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=400 completed interviews were achieved in Hindmarsh Shire Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted across four quarters from 16th June 2022 – 19th March 2023.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2023, 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 2012-2023 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Hindmarsh Shire Council is classified as a Small Rural council according to the following classification list:

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

Councils participating in the Small Rural group are:

 Alpine, Ararat, Benalla, Buloke, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Hepburn, Hindmarsh, Indigo, Loddon, Mansfield, Murrindindi, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, Queenscliffe, Strathbogie, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack. Wherever appropriate, results for Hindmarsh Shire Council for this 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Small 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

W

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 Hindmarsh 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 2012-2023 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 2023 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 2023 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

W

Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2023 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

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

CSS: 2023 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 guestions: Individual guestions 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...

FIND OUT WHAT THEY'RE THINKING.



Contact us 03 8685 8555



Follow us @JWSResearch

John Scales

Founder jscales@jwsresearch.com

Katrina Cox

Director of Client Services kcox@jwsresearch.com

Mark Zuker

Managing Director mzuker@jwsresearch.com

