

Community Indicators Victoria Survey 2007

Citizen Engagement and Community Satisfaction

“Using the Community Indicators Victoria Survey to Understand Citizen Engagement in Northern and Western Melbourne”

Report Prepared by Dr Melanie Davern
McCaughey Centre: VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health
and Community Wellbeing

School of Population Health
University of Melbourne



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Correspondence should be directed to:

Dr Melanie Davern
University of Melbourne
Parkville, Victoria 3052
Australia

Email: mdavern@unimelb.edu.au

Website: www.communityindicators.net.au

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Overview

This report presents the results of citizen engagement and community connectedness questions included in the Community Indicators Victoria (CIV) Survey which was conducted across all Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Victoria between January and April 2007¹. The survey was administered as a Computer Assisted Telephone Interview and households were randomly selected using Random Digit Dialling.

Structure of the Brief Custom Built Report

This brief report includes three tables investigating citizen engagement participation and community connectedness for the Northern and Western Regions of Melbourne. All analyses presented throughout this report have been weighted according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Estimated Resident Population (ERP). Responses of 'don't know' and 'refused' have been excluded from the analyses.

This report has been constructed as an example of a customized CIV Premium Report that is available to all CIV Users as a fee for service product.

CIV Survey Items Analysed

Respondents were asked the following questions regarding citizen engagement and community connection:

1. In the last 12 months have you done any of the following?

Yes/No response to each option

- a) Attended a town meeting, public hearing or public affairs discussion group
- b) Met with, called, or sent a letter to any local politician
- c) Joined a protest or demonstration
- d) Signed a petition

2. How satisfied are you with feeling part of you community?

0-10 rating scale

0 = completely dissatisfied and 10 = completely satisfied

¹ For details of the Community Indicators Victoria Survey go to www.communityindicators.net.au

Results are presented for each requested Local Government Area (LGA) in the Northern and Western Regions of Melbourne according to the response groups of males, females and the total sample. Selected metropolitan Melbourne regional results have also been included and are consistent with the Victorian Government Department of Health regions for Metropolitan Melbourne and Victoria.

Table 1: Citizen Engagement Participation According to Gender for Local Government Areas, Metropolitan Melbourne Regions and Victoria

LGA or Region	Males Who Participated in Citizen Engagement in the Last 12 Months (%)	Females Who Participated in Citizen Engagement in the Last 12 Months (%)	People Who Participated in Citizen Engagement in the Last 12 Months (%)
Banyule	45.4	56.5	51.2
Brimbank	39.6	40.9	40.2
Darebin	62.2	48.7	55.2
Hobsons Bay	55.9	51.6	53.7
Hume	40.5	42.5	41.5
Maribyrnong	50.7	50.9	50.8
Melbourne	46.0	47.5	46.7
Melton	48.5	46.1	47.3
Moonee Valley	54.7	44.3	49.3
Moreland	42.5	56.7	49.8
Nillumbik	51.3	60.1	55.8
Whittlesea	38.6	35.2	36.9
Wyndham	43.7	48.1	45.9
Yarra	57.3	63.1	60.2
Barwon South West	67.1	68.9	68.1
Eastern Metro	49.2	51.4	50.3
Gippsland	63.6	66.2	64.9
Grampians	63.2	62.5	62.9
Hume	64.4	64.7	64.6
Loddon Mallee	67.9	66.8	67.3
North West Metro	47.4	48.5	47.9
Southern Metro	49.6	51.3	50.5
Metropolitan Melbourne	48.6	50.2	49.4
Country Victoria	65.5	66.2	65.9
Victoria	53.1	54.4	53.8

Wide variation exists in citizen engagement participation across the northern and western regions of Melbourne. Male participation in citizen engagement activities is highest in the City of Darebin (62.2%) for the selected LGAs and lowest in the City of Whittlesea (38.6%). Female participation is highest in the City of Yarra (63.1%) and lowest in the City of Whittlesea (35.2%). Citizen engagement participation appears to be lowest in the LGAs with greater socio-economic disadvantage such as Brimbank and Maribyrnong and also in the peri-urban boundary LGA of Whittlesea.

Citizen engagement and sense of community are compared in Table 2 below. Community connection is presented as a percentage of scale maximum ranging from 0-100 to aid comparability of the two items. One of the key findings is the high level of citizen engagement participation in country Victoria and high levels of community connectedness.

Table 2: Citizen Engagement Participation and Community Connection for Local Government Areas, Metropolitan Melbourne Regions and Victoria

LGA or Region	People Who Participated in Citizen Engagement in the Last 12 Months (%)	Satisfaction with Community Connection (0-100 Rating Scale)
Banyule	51.2	69.7
Brimbank	40.2	69.3
Darebin	55.2	67.8
Hobsons Bay	53.7	70.1
Hume	41.5	67.1
Maribyrnong	50.8	64.5
Melbourne	46.7	65.1
Melton	47.3	68.3
Moonee Valley	49.3	69.5
Moreland	49.8	68.8
Nillumbik	55.8	72.5
Whittlesea	36.9	67.7
Wyndham	45.9	67.4
Yarra	60.2	67.7
Barwon South West	68.1	75.0
Eastern Metro	50.3	69.6
Gippsland	64.9	76.0
Grampians	62.9	74.6
Hume	64.6	76.4
Loddon Mallee	67.3	76.3
North West Metro	47.9	68.3
Southern Metro	50.5	69.1
Metropolitan Melbourne	49.4	68.9
Country Victoria	65.9	75.7
Victoria	53.8	70.7

The relationship between citizen engagement and community connection is explored further in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Community Connection according to Citizen Engagement Participation for Local Government Areas, Metropolitan Melbourne Regions and Victoria

LGA or Region	Community Connection with no Participation in Citizen Engagement (0-100 Rating Scale)	Community Connection with Participation in Citizen Engagement (0-100 Rating Scale)	P Value
Banyule	67.6	71.6	.000
Brimbank	70.1	68.3	.000
Darebin	65.7	69.8	.000
Hobsons Bay	69.0	70.9	.000
Hume	65.9	68.8	.000
Maribyrnong	61.8	67.0	.000
Melbourne	65.1	65.0	.352
Melton	68.7	67.7	.000
Moonee Valley	69.7	69.0	.000
Moreland	70.9	66.5	.000
Nillumbik	70.4	74.4	.000
Whittlesea	65.0	71.9	.000
Wyndham	67.0	67.9	.000
Yarra	67.0	68.2	.000
Barwon South West	73.8	75.7	.000
Eastern Metro	68.6	70.5	.000
Gippsland	74.1	77.0	.000
Grampians	71.8	76.3	.000
Hume	73.8	77.9	.000
Loddon Mallee	73.1	77.9	.000
North West Metro	67.5	69.0	.000
Southern Metro	67.5	70.6	.000
Metropolitan Melbourne	67.8	70.0	.000
Country Victoria	73.4	76.9	.000
Victoria	68.9	72.2	.000

There are significant differences in community connection in nearly all areas when results are compared according participation in citizen engagement activities. The result is most notable in the City of Whittlesea where community connection is 6.9 percentage points higher in those who engaged in citizen engagement activities over the last 12 months. A similar result is also evident in the City of Maribyrnong which is one of the LGAs with very low citizen engagement participation. It is interesting to note that community connection was significantly lower in the City of Moreland when residents had engaged in citizen engagement activities. This result was unique to the LGA of Moreland.