

Moorabool Shire Council

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



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Background and objectives

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

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

Now in its twenty-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 Statewide 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.



Moorabool Shire Council – at a glance



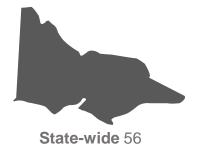
Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.

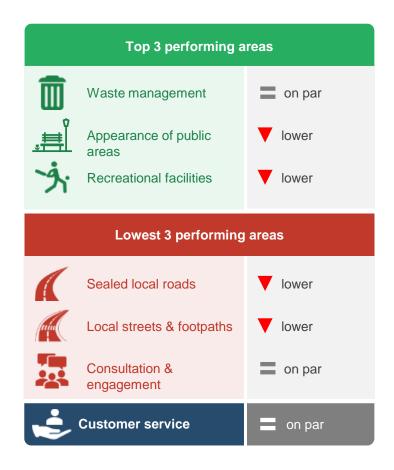


Moorabool 52





Council performance compared to group average



Summary of core measures



Index scores



Performance

Value for

money



Community Consultation



Making Community Decisions



Sealed Local Roads



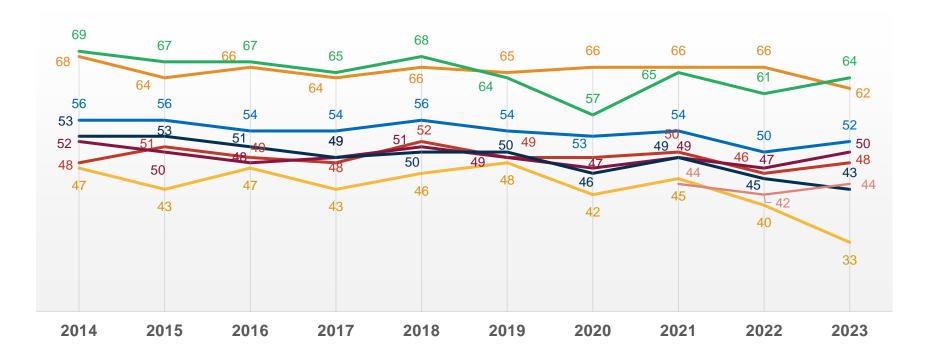
Waste management



Customer Service



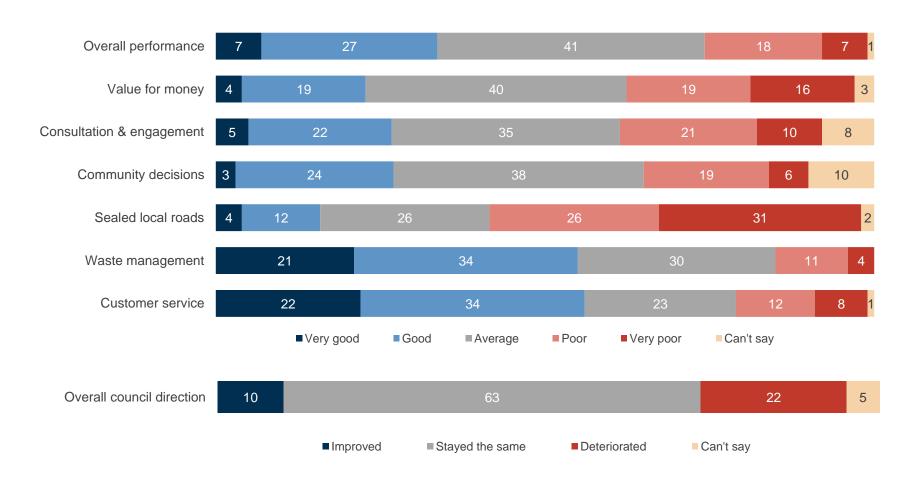
Council Direction



Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Moorabool Shire Council performance



Services		Moorabool 2023	Moorabool 2022	Large Rural 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
C %	Overall performance	52	50	52	56	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
S	Value for money	44	42	45	49	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
+	Overall council direction	43	45	44	46	Bacchus Marsh residents	Remainder of Shire residents
١	Customer service	62	66	65	67	Aged 65+ years	Ballan residents
	Waste management	64	61	65	66	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
<u>.</u>	Appearance of public areas	60	61	65	67	Women	Aged 35-49 years
方	Recreational facilities	59	55	65	68	Ballan residents, Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
**	Family support services	58	58	61	63	Bacchus Marsh residents, Aged 18-34 years	Ballan residents, Remainder of Shire residents
	Bus/community dev./tourism	53	53	56	59	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 65+ years
<u>.</u>	Lobbying	52	46	49	51	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years

Summary of Moorabool Shire Council performance



Services		Moorabool 2023	Moorabool 2022	Large Rural 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
***	Community decisions	50	47	48	51	Ballan residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Consultation & engagement	48	46	49	52	Aged 65+ years	Ballan residents
	Local streets & footpaths	37	41	47	52	Aged 65+ years	Ballan residents, Aged 35-49 years
A	Sealed local roads	33	40	40	48	Aged 65+ years	Ballan residents

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Moorabool Shire Council has maintained its overall performance score following a significant decline in performance last year. Perceptions of performance across most service areas declined significantly last year, however Council has abated further patterns of decline in the last 12 months. This is a positive result for Council, in addition to significant improvements in the service areas of recreational facilities and lobbying.

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance Council's lowest performing service areas – sealed local roads, community consultation, and condition of local streets – have the greatest impact on overall performance. These areas should be the first point of focus for Council, especially sealed local roads, where perceptions of performance declined significantly in the last 12 months. Additionally, community decisions has a strong influence on overall performance and lobbying has a moderate influence and both are among Council's lower performing areas.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Council performs significantly lower than the Large Rural group and the State-wide average across a range of measures: the appearance of public areas, recreational facilities, family support services, business and community development and tourism, the condition of local streets and footpaths and the maintenance of sealed local roads. Only on lobbying on behalf of the community does Council rate significantly higher than the Large Rural group.

Demonstrate efforts to improve local streets, footpaths and roads Council should focus on improvement in the maintenance of sealed local roads and local streets and footpaths. Both of these service areas recorded all time lows in performance ratings in 2023. Moreover, 39% of residents volunteer sealed road maintenance as Council's top area for improvement. Council should pay extra attention to the Ballan region, where residents rate performance the lowest on both these service areas.

DETAILED FINDINGS





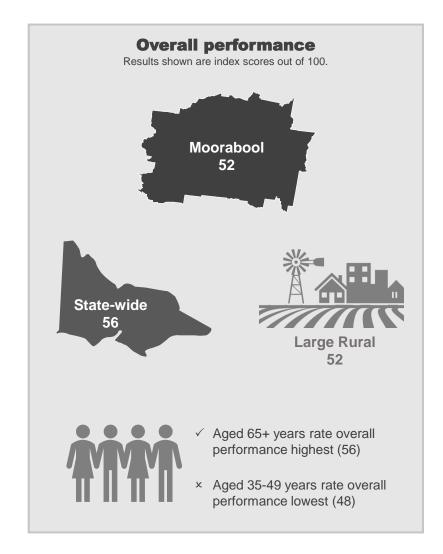


The overall performance index score of 52 for Moorabool Shire Council is stable.

Moorabool Shire Council's overall performance is rated in line with the Large Rural group and statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 52 and 56 respectively, and which both declined significantly for the second year running).

- Perceptions of Council's overall performance are highest among residents aged 65 years and over (index score of 56) and lowest among residents aged 35 to 49 years (index score of 48), although neither is significantly different from the average.
- Perceptions of Council's overall performance increased significantly in the Bacchus Marsh region in 2023 (index score of 53, up five index points from 2022).

Nearly a quarter of residents (23%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. This is less than those who rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor' (35%). A further 40% rate Council as 'average' in terms of providing value for money.



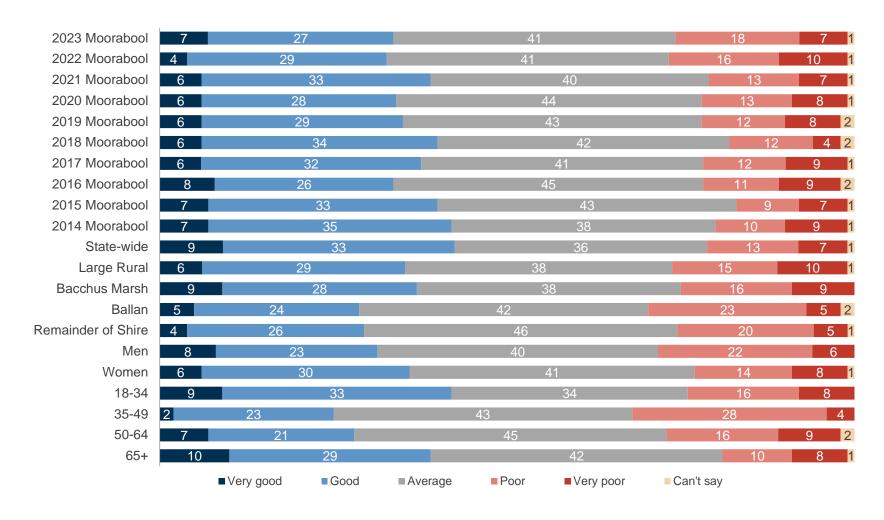


2023 overall performance (index scores)





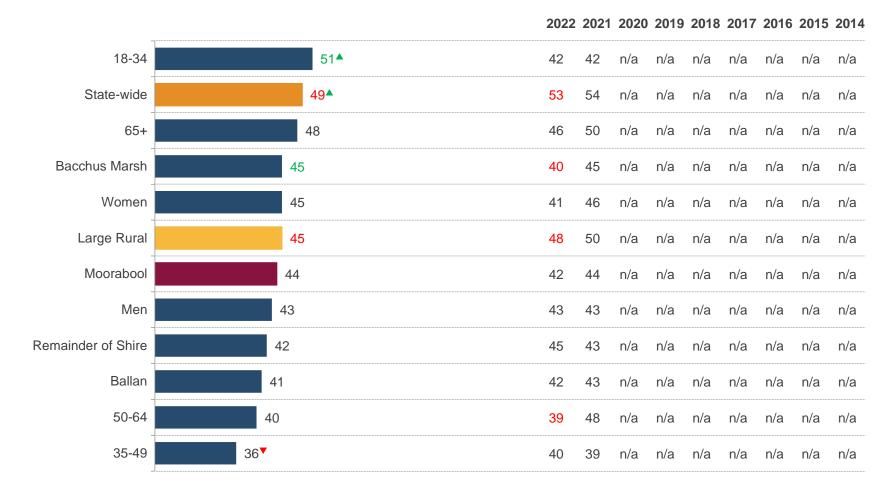
2023 overall performance (%)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



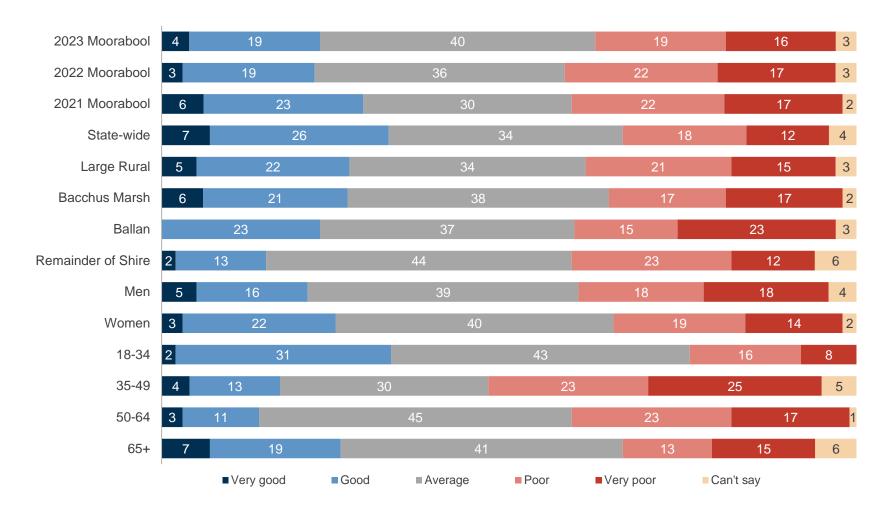
2023 value for money (index scores)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



2023 value for money (%)



Top performing service areas

Waste management (index score of 64) is the area where Council performed best in 2023. Council performs in line with the Large Rural group and the State-wide average for councils in this service area (index scores of 65 and 66 respectively).

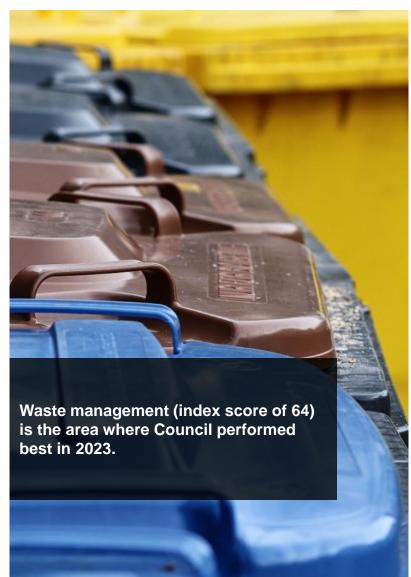
 Bacchus Marsh residents rate waste management performance significantly higher than last year (index score of 64, up five index points from 2022).

The appearance of public areas is Council's next best performing service area (index score of 60). However, Council performs significantly lower than the Large Rural group and the State-wide average (index scores of 65 and 67 respectively).

 Men rate Council significantly lower than last year (index score of 57, down five index points on 2022).

Recreational facilities is another of Council's top performing service areas (index score of 59), increasing significantly by four index points from last year. Council performs significantly lower than the Large Rural group and the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 65 and 68 respectively).

 50-64 year olds (index score of 60, up eight index points) and Bacchus Marsh residents (59, up five points) rate Council significantly higher on this measure this year.



Low performing service areas





Council performs lowest on the condition of sealed local roads (index score of 33), representing an all-time low in this service area. Performance is significantly lower than the Large Rural group and the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 40 and 48 respectively).

- All demographic and geographic cohorts declined to some extent in their perceptions of performance in the last 12 months, most significantly so.
- Residents aged 65 years and over and residents of Bacchus Marsh rate significantly higher than the Council average (index scores of 41 and 38 respectively).
- Ballan residents and the 'Remainder of Shire' region rate significantly lower than the Council average (index scores of 22 and 27 respectively).
- 39% of people volunteer sealed road maintenance as the top area of improvement for Council.

The condition of local streets and footpaths is Council's next lowest performing service area (index score of 37). Performance is significantly lower than the Large Rural group and the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 47 and 52 respectively).

 Residents aged 65 years and over rate significantly higher than the Council average, while ratings declined significantly among 35 to 49 year olds.

Individual service area performance



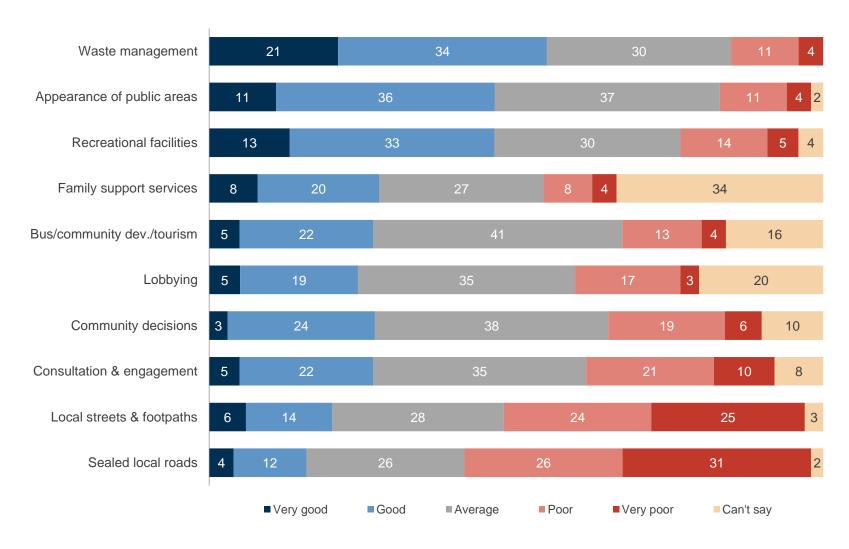
2023 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



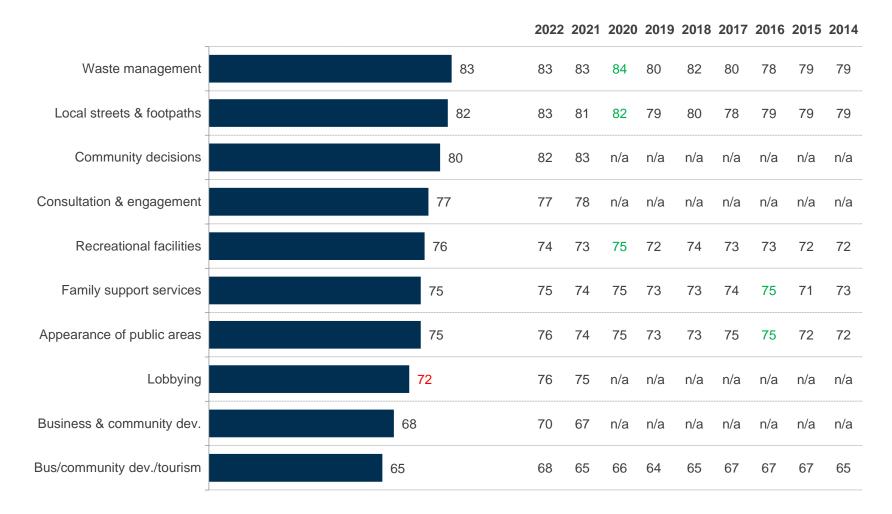
2023 individual service area performance (%)



Individual service area importance



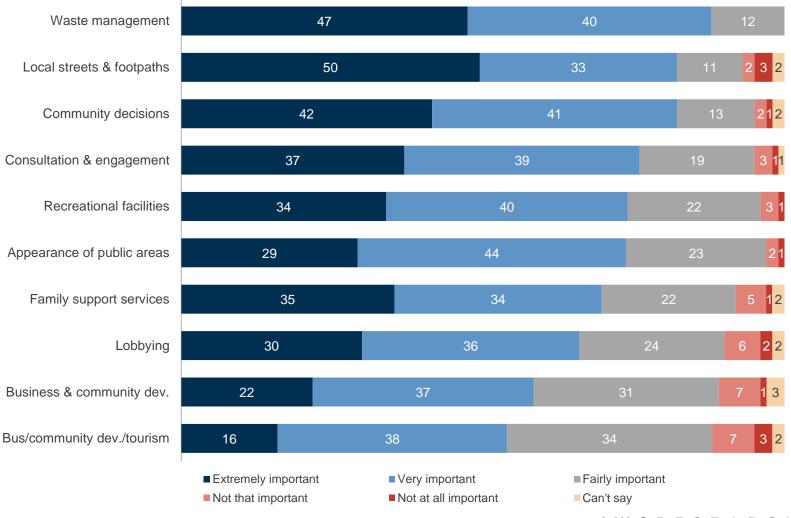
2023 individual service area importance (index scores)



Individual service area importance



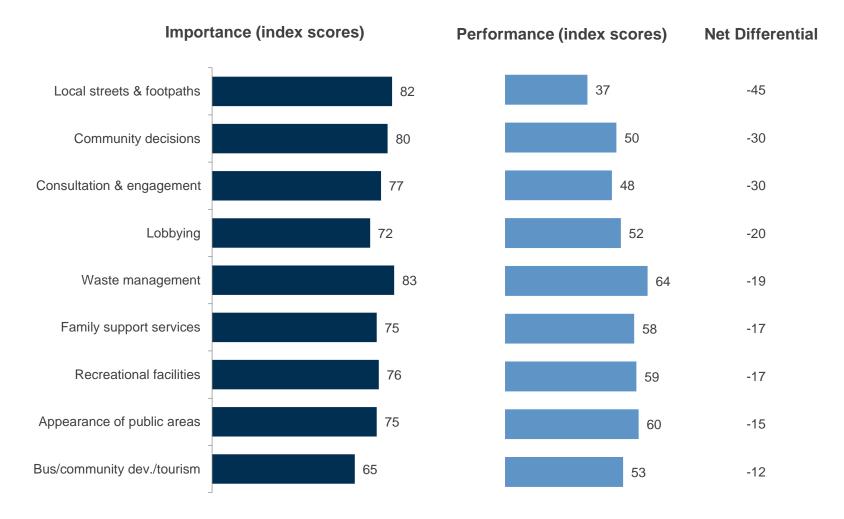
2023 individual service area importance (%)



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

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

The condition of sealed local roads.

Attending to resident concerns about sealed roads and ensuring these are well maintained provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council performance. Currently, this is Council's poorest performing area (index score of 33).

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

- Community consultation and engagement
- Decisions made in the interest of the community
- · The condition of local streets
- · Recreational facilities
- Lobbying on behalf of the community
- Waste management.

Looking at these key service areas only, waste management has a high performance index (64) and a moderate influence on the overall performance rating. Council also performs well on the stronger influence of recreational facilities (59).

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

Other service areas with a strong influence on overall perceptions but where Council performs less well are community consultation and decisions made in the community's interest (index of 48 and 50 respectively) and the related, more moderate influence of lobbying (index of 52).

Ensuring good communication and consultation with residents, transparency around Council decision making and demonstrating efforts to advocate for the community can also help improve overall opinion of Council.

However, in addition to sealed roads, most in need of attention is the condition of local streets, which is a reasonably strong influence on overall community opinion but an area in which Council performs poorly (performance index of 37).

It will be important to attend to resident concerns and improve the maintenance of local streets to help lift overall ratings of Council 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.

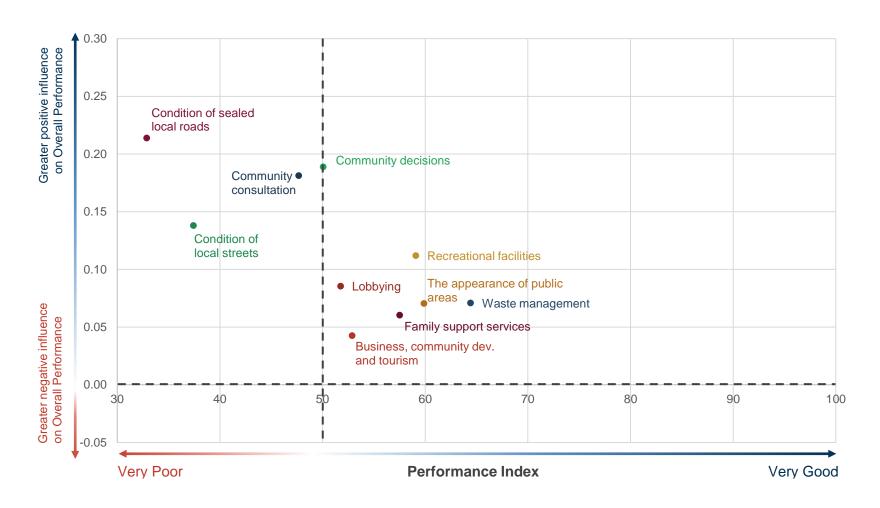
- 1. The first chart shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas 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)



Influence on overall performance: key service areas



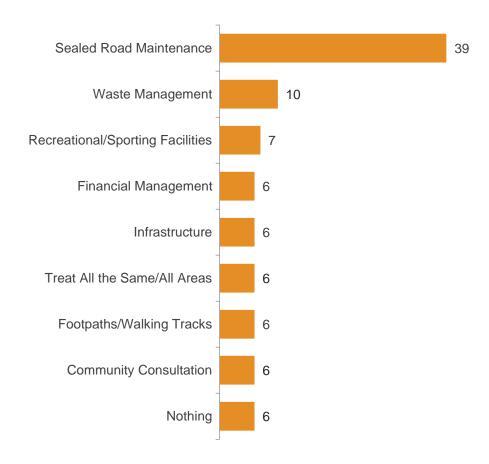
2023 regression analysis (key service areas)



Areas for improvement



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





Customer service

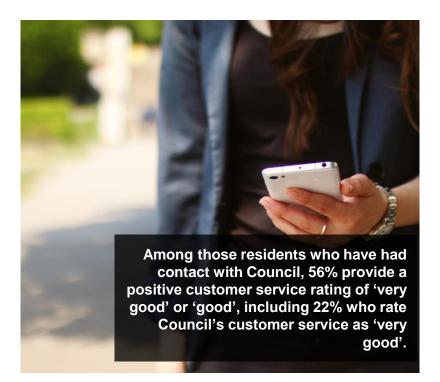
Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

More than three in five Council residents (63%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact is four percentage points lower than last year.

The 'Remainder of Shire' region has the highest rate of contact with Council (72%) and residents aged 65 years and over have the lowest rate of contact with Council (54%), but neither group differs significantly from the Council average.



Customer service

Customer service of 62 is rated in line with the Large Rural group and significantly lower than the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 65 and 67 respectively). Although this rating of 62 is not down significantly on 2022, the drop of four index points means it is now at its lowest rating in a decade.

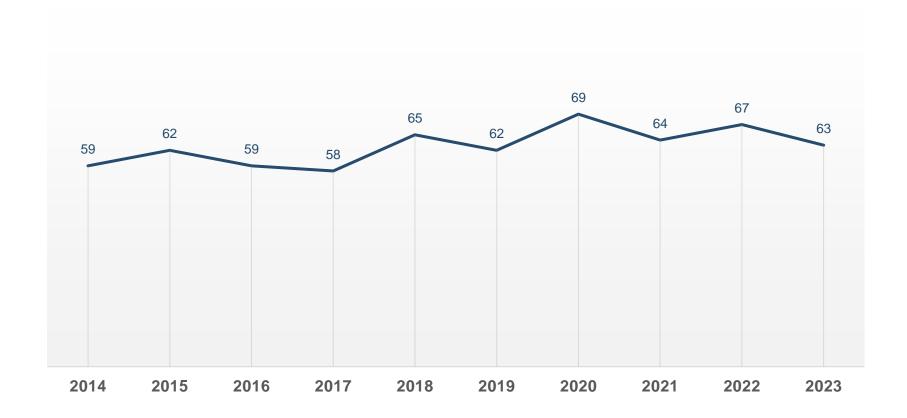
- Residents aged 65 years and over rate customer service the highest (index score of 69), but not significantly above the Council average.
- Customer service ratings among residents aged 50 to 64 years declined significantly (index score of 60, down 12 index points in the last 12 months).

Over half of residents (56%) provide a customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good', whilst 20% of residents provide a customer service rating of 'very poor' or 'poor'. A further 23% rate Council's customer service as 'average'.

Contact with council



2023 contact with council (%) Have had contact

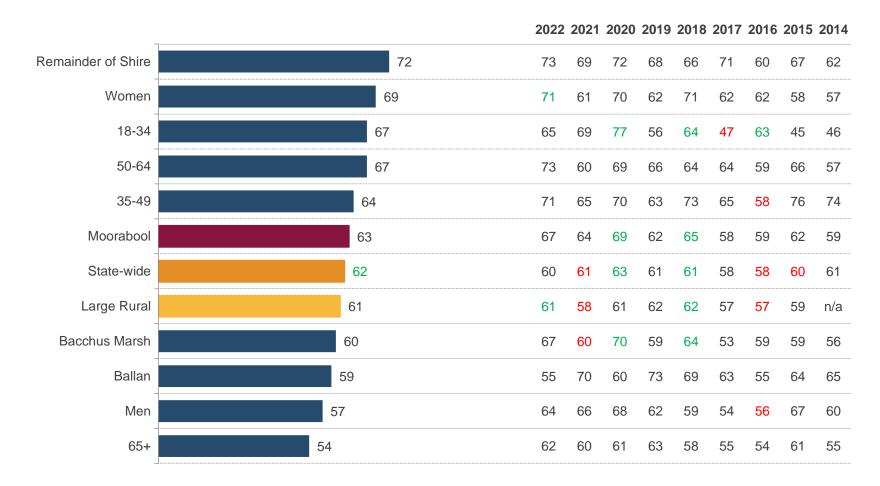


Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Moorabool Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Contact with council



2023 contact with council (%)



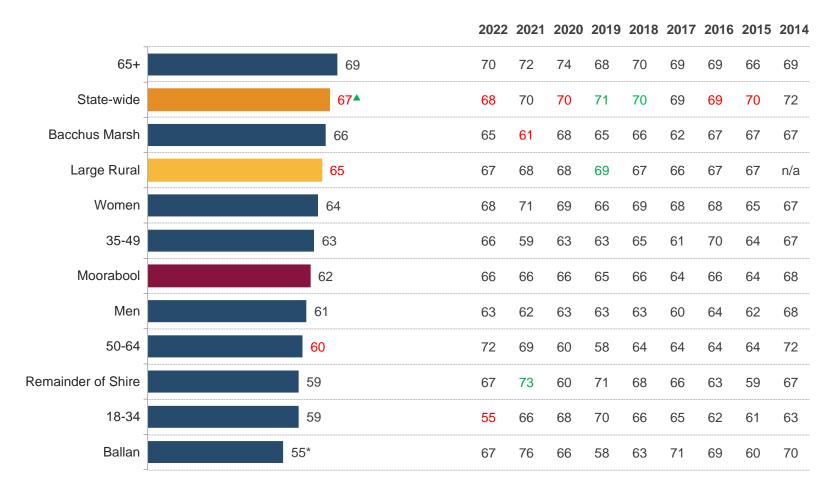
Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Moorabool Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 41 Councils asked group: 10 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 Moorabool 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: 18.

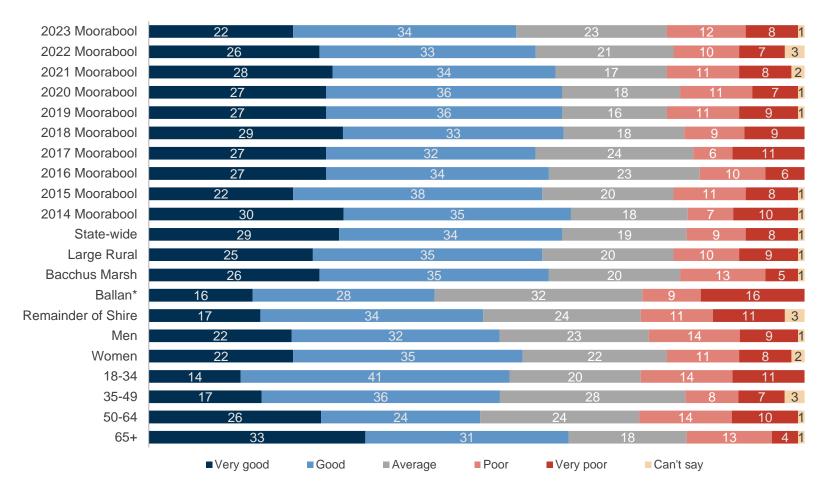
Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 18 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

*Caution: small sample size < n=30

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (%)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Moorabool 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: 18



Communication

W

The preferred form of communication from Council about news and information and upcoming events is a council newsletter sent via email (29%), slightly ahead of a council newsletter sent via mail (27%). Preferences in communication are similar to last year across all channels.

- For residents aged <u>under 50 years</u>, the preferred form of communication is a council newsletter via email (29%), followed by both social media or a council newsletter via mail (23% each).
- For residents aged <u>over 50 years</u>, the preferred form of communication is a council newsletter via mail (33%), followed by council newsletters sent via email (29%).



Best form of communication



2023 best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



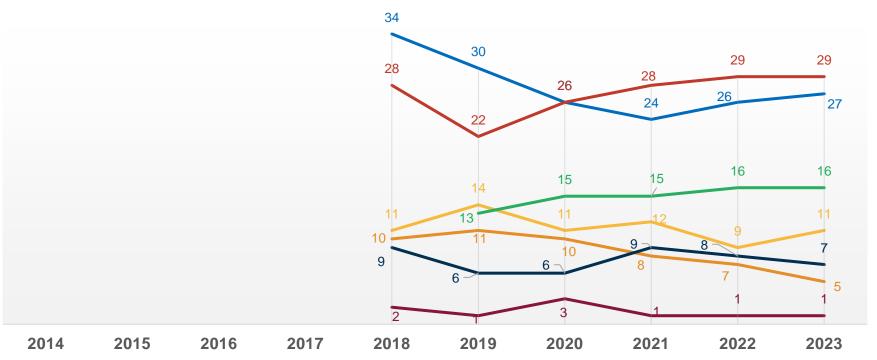
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Moorabool Shire Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 10

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wi Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Best form of communication: under 50s



2023 under 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local **Newspaper**



Council **Newsletter** via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council **Newsletter** as **Local Paper Insert**



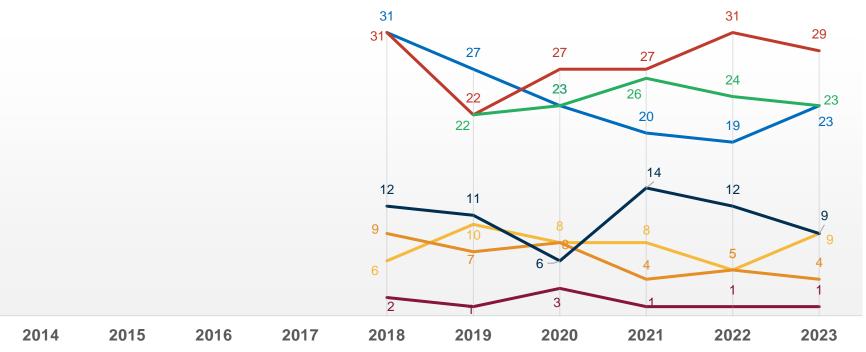
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Moorabool Shire Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?.

Base: All respondents aged under 50. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Best form of communication: over 50s



2023 over 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



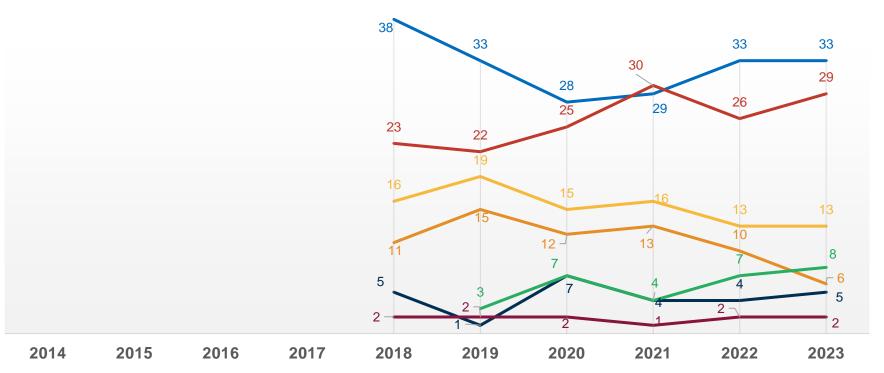
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Moorabool Shire Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents aged over 50. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 10 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.



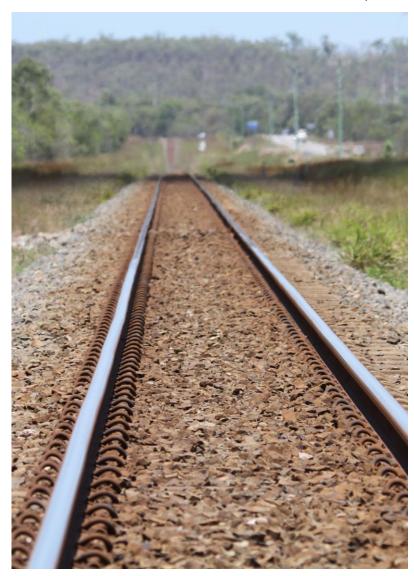
Council direction

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Moorabool Shire Council recorded an overall council direction index score of 43, representing its lowest score in the last decade, although the 2-point decline this year is not a significant change.

Overall council direction is rated in line with the Large Rural group and significantly lower than the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 44 and 46 respectively, both of which declined significantly).

- The most satisfied with overall council direction are residents of the Bacchus Marsh region (index score of 46).
- Residents living in the 'Remainder of Shire' region are the least satisfied with overall council direction (index score of 39) – and are significantly less satisfied than last year.
- 63% of residents describe Council's overall direction as having 'stayed the same'.
- 10% of residents believe Council's overall direction has improved.
- 22% of residents believe Council's overall direction has deteriorated.



Overall council direction last 12 months



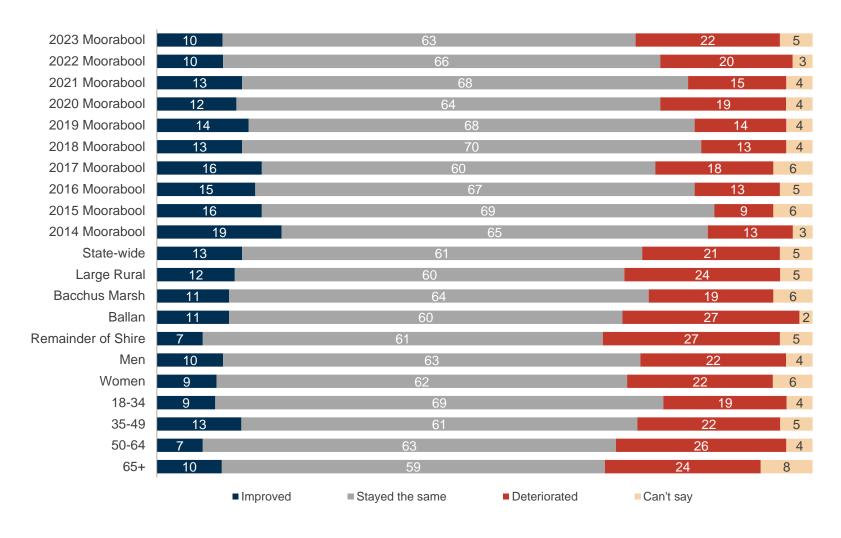
2023 overall council direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



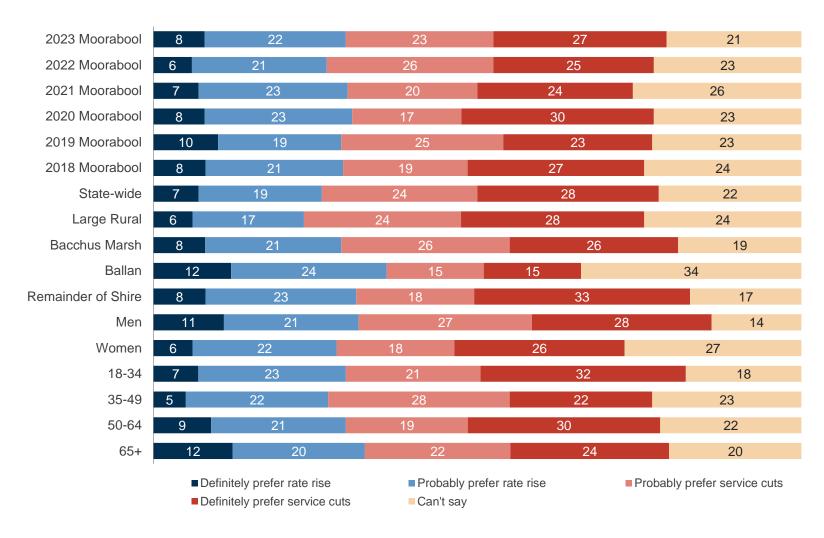
2023 overall council direction (%)



Rates / services trade-off



2023 rates / services trade-off (%)



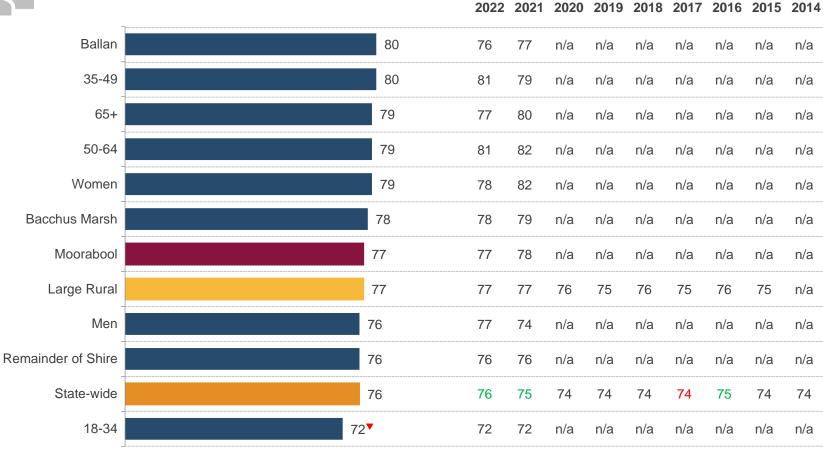


Community consultation and engagement importance





2023 consultation and engagement importance (index scores)

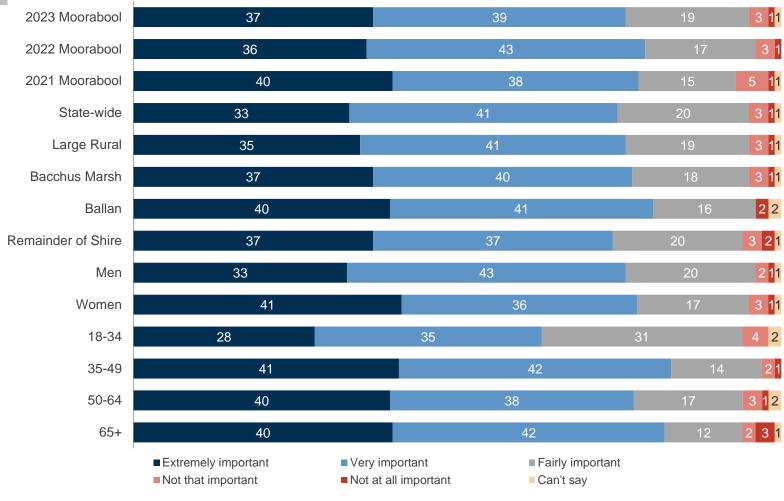


Community consultation and engagement importance





2023 consultation and engagement importance (%)



Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

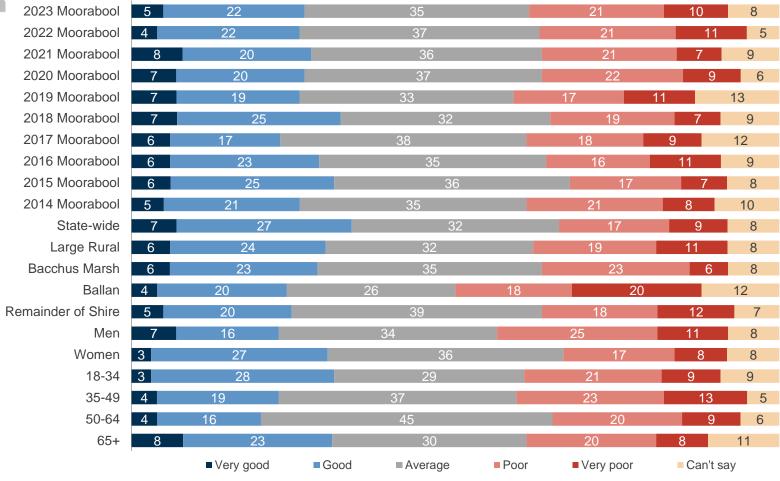


Community consultation and engagement performance





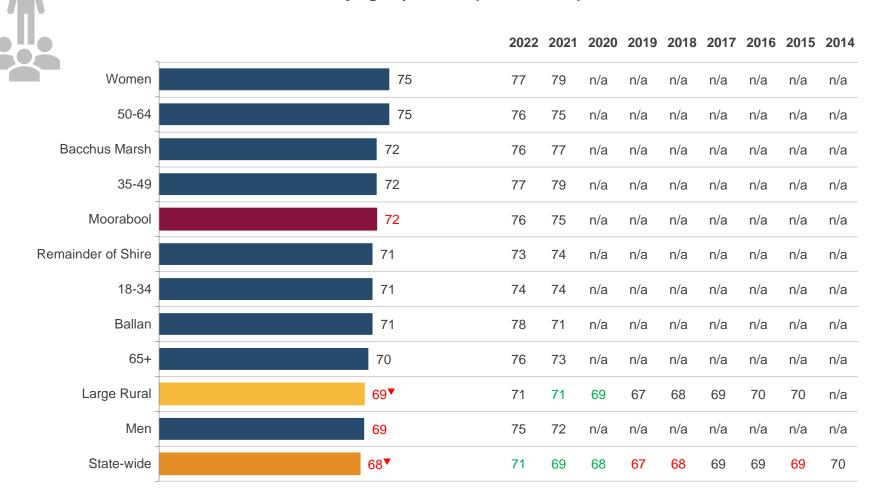
2023 consultation and engagement performance (%)



Lobbying on behalf of the community importance



2023 lobbying importance (index scores)

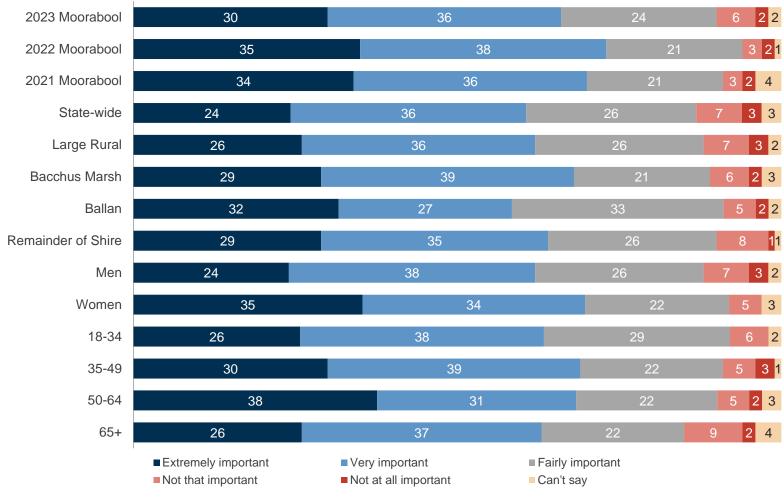


Lobbying on behalf of the community importance





2023 lobbying importance (%)



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance



2023 lobbying performance (index scores)

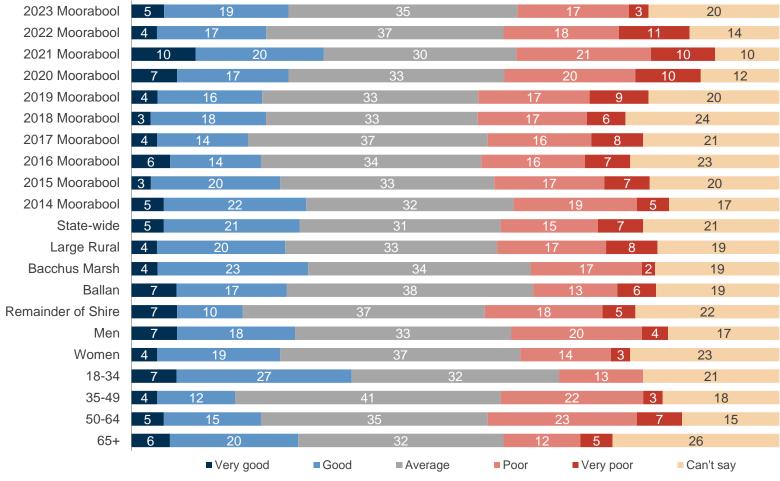


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (%)



Decisions made in the interest of the community importance





2023 community decisions made importance (index scores)

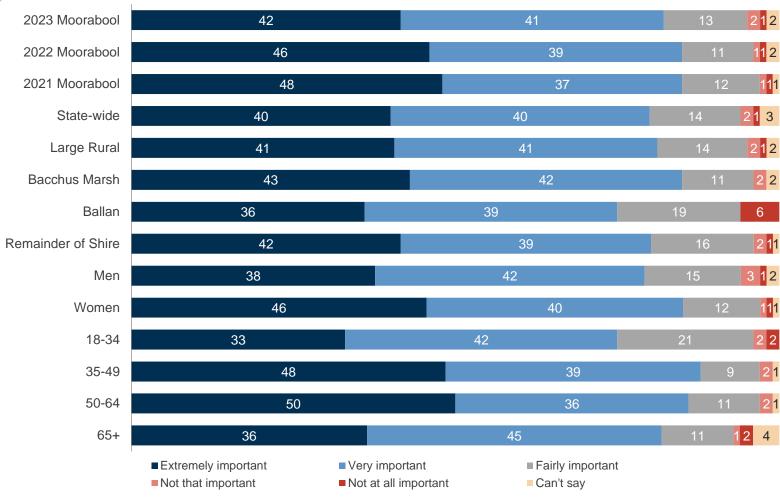


Decisions made in the interest of the community importance





2023 community decisions made importance (%)

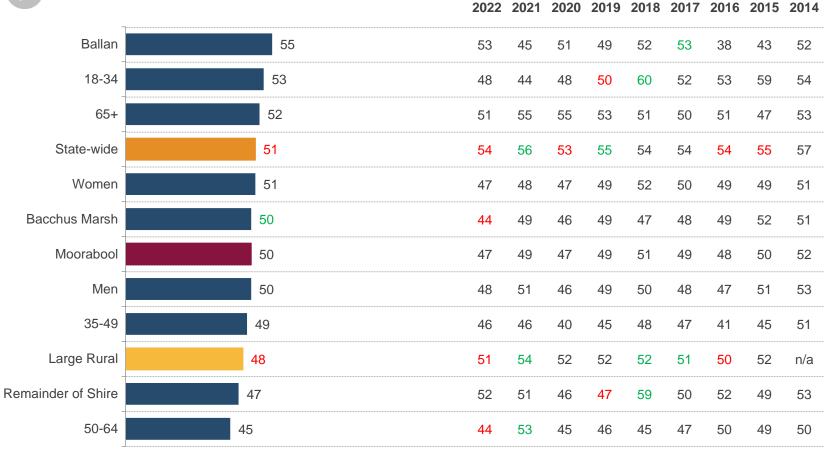


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2023 community decisions made performance (index scores)

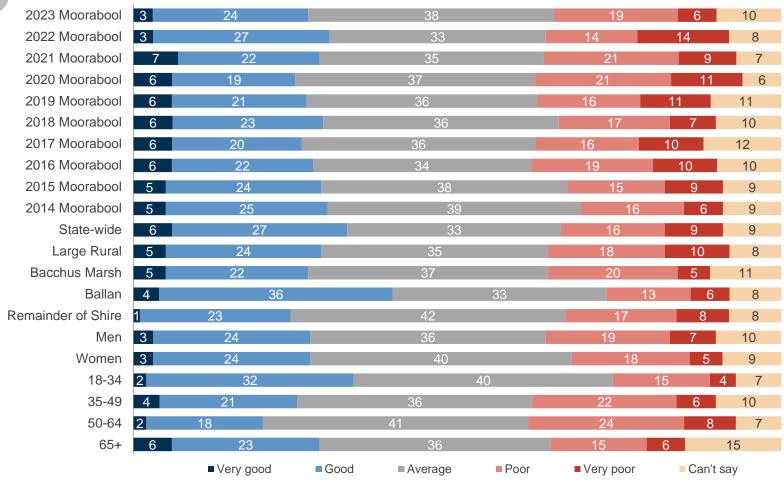


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2023 community decisions made performance (%)



The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

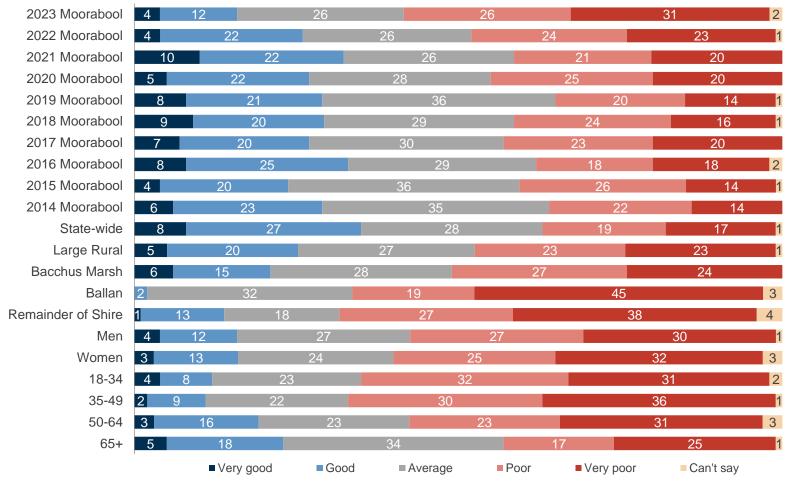


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (%)



The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area importance





2023 streets and footpaths importance (index scores)

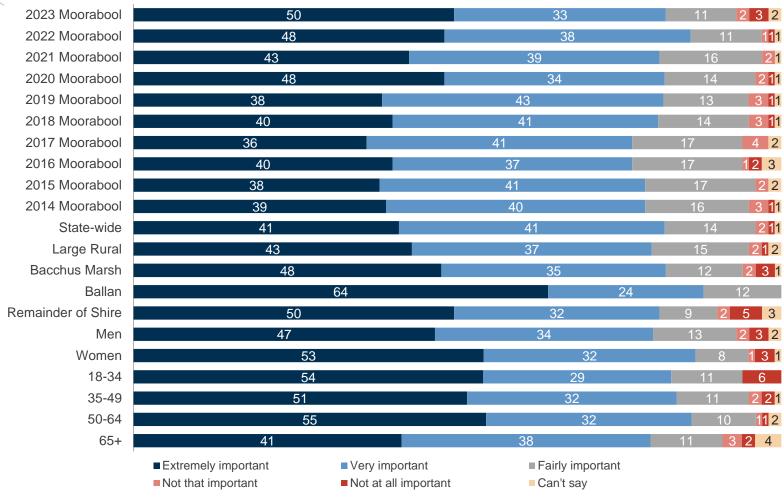


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area importance





2023 streets and footpaths importance (%)

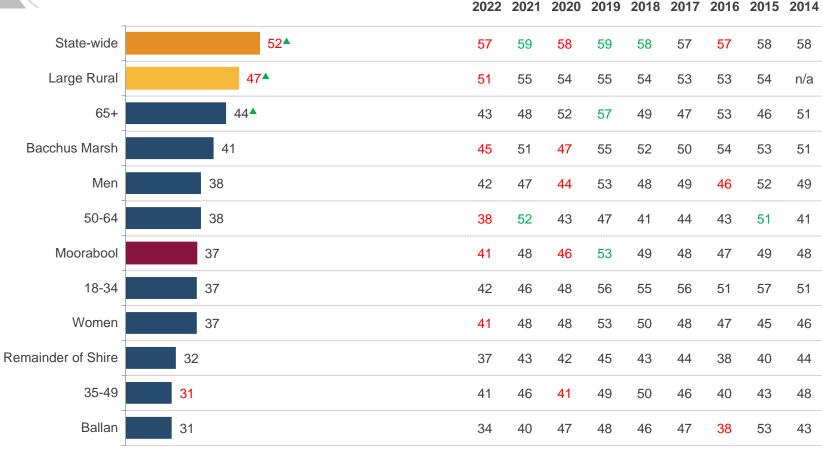


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





2023 streets and footpaths performance (index scores)

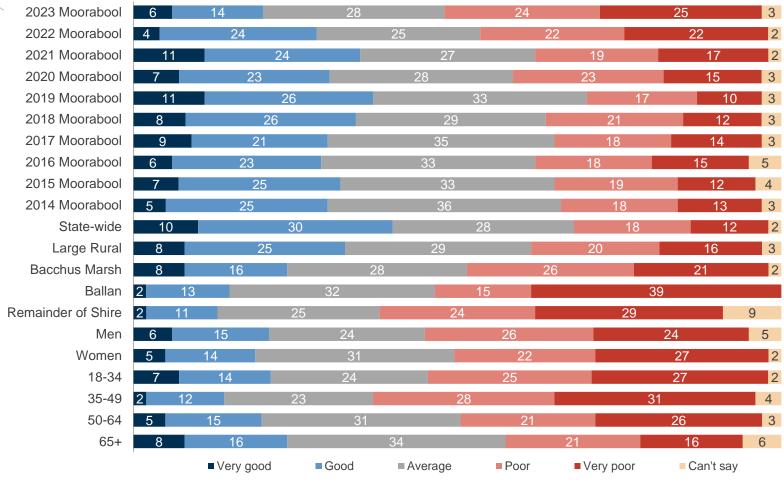


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





2023 streets and footpaths performance (%)

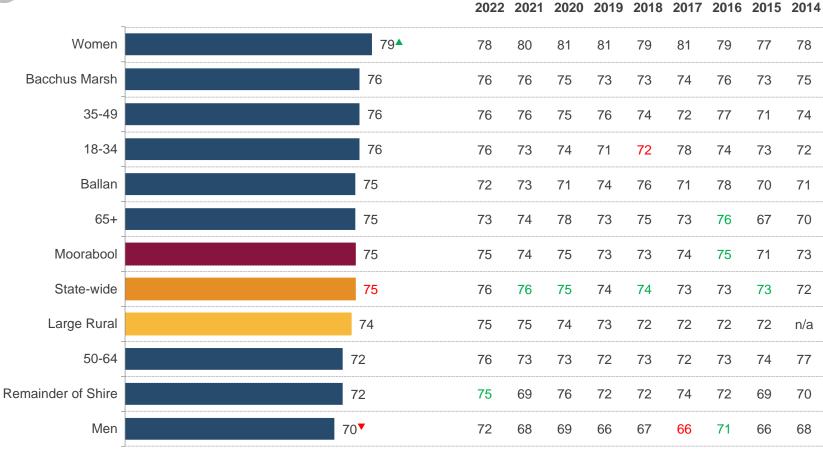


Family support services importance





2023 family support importance (index scores)

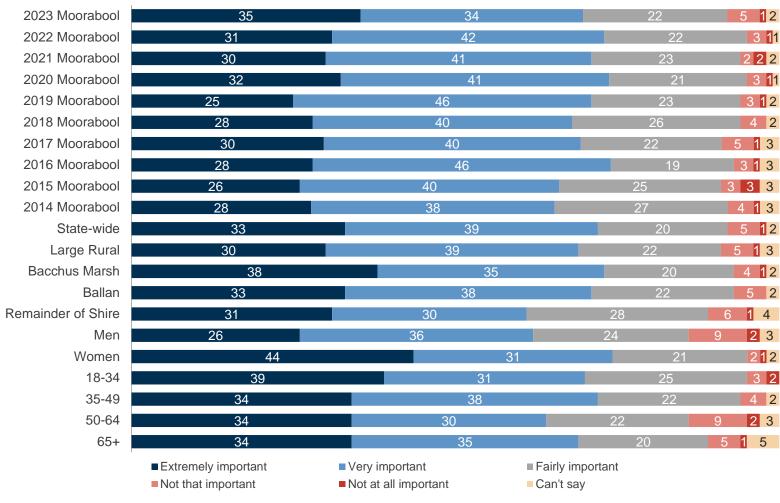


Family support services importance





2023 family support importance (%)

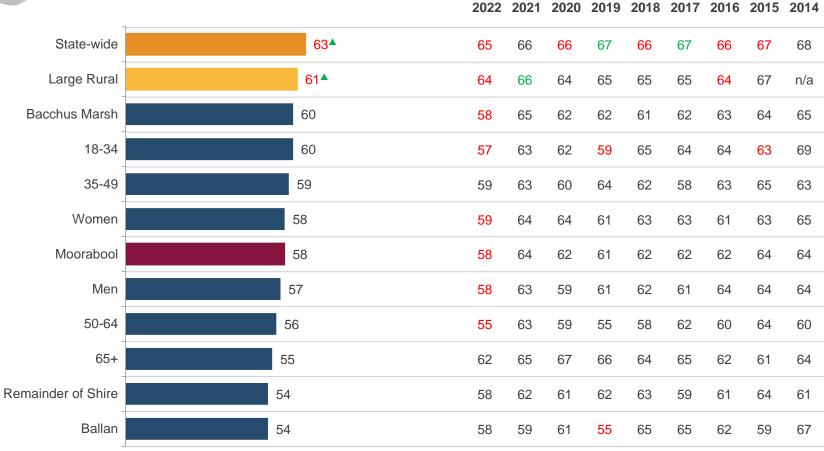


Family support services performance





2023 family support performance (index scores)

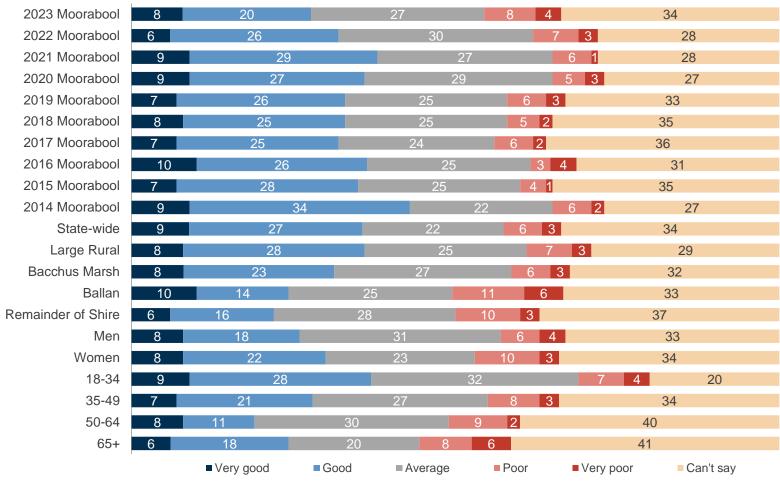


Family support services performance





2023 family support performance (%)

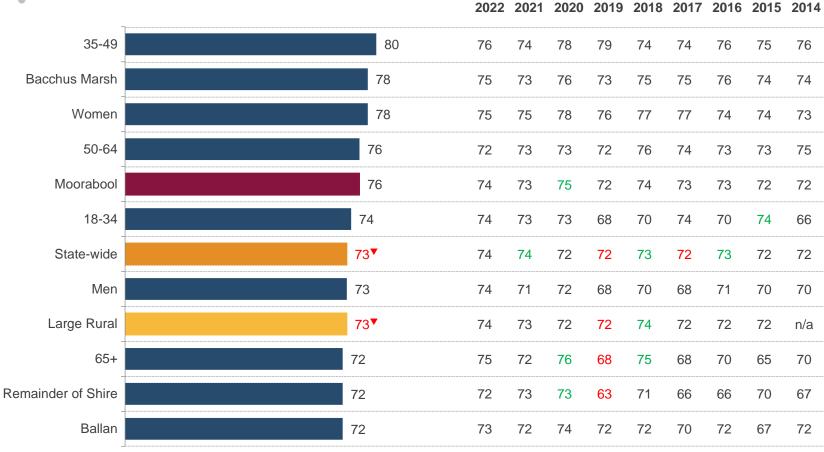


Recreational facilities importance





2023 recreational facilities importance (index scores)

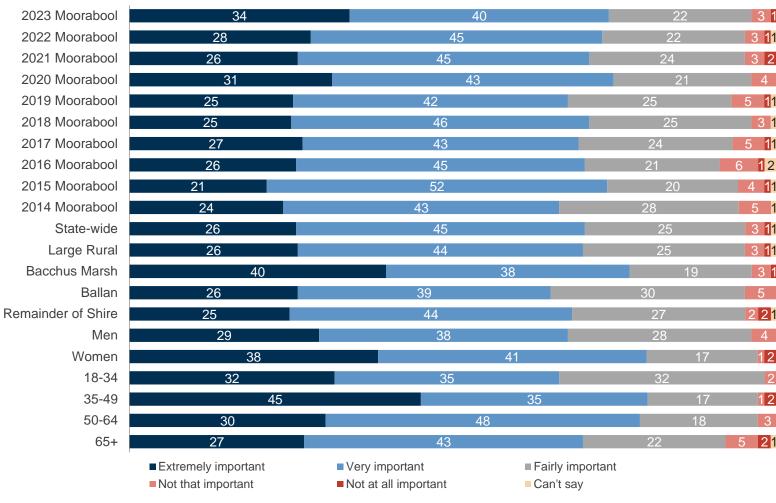


Recreational facilities importance





2023 recreational facilities importance (%)

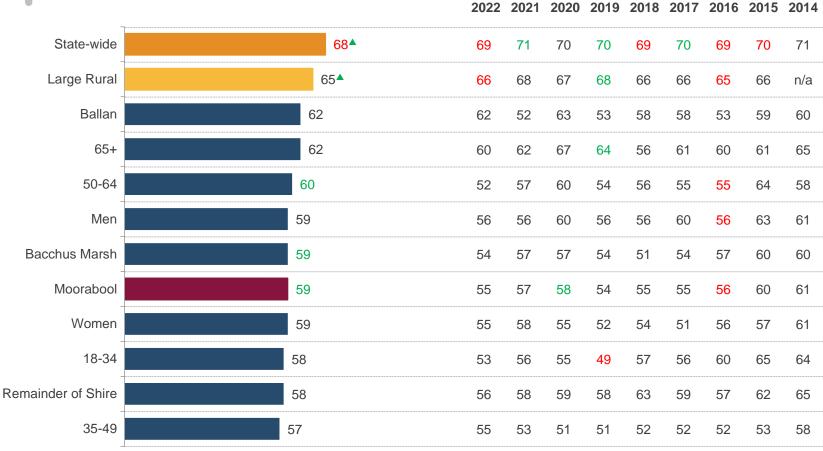


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

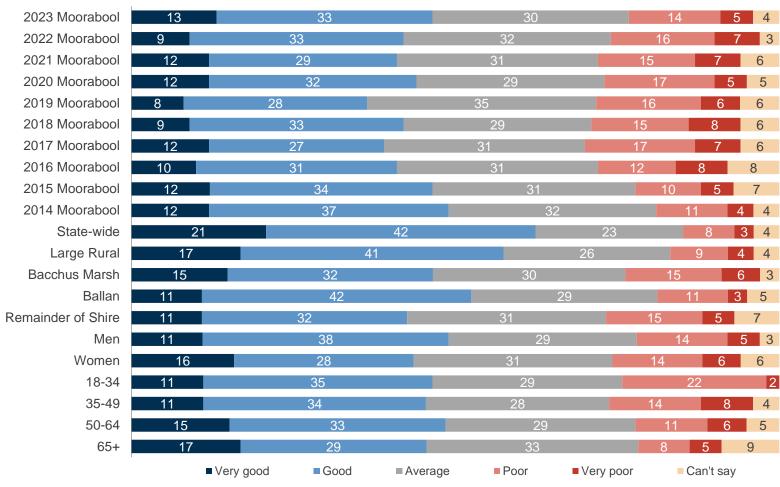


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (%)

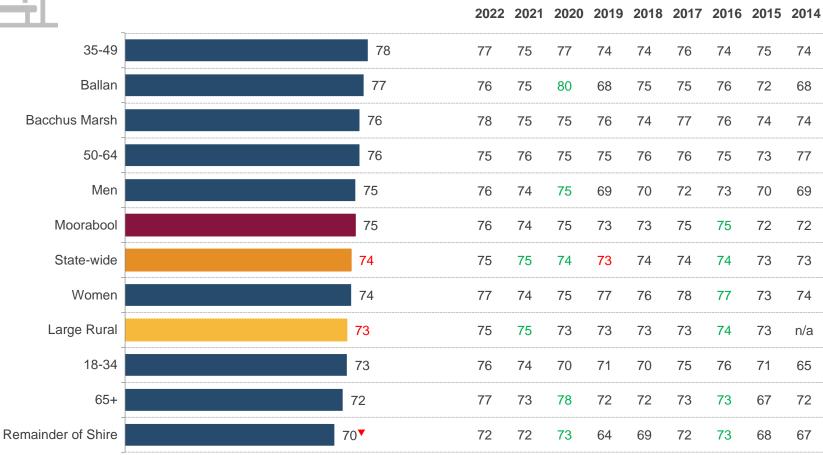


The appearance of public areas importance





2023 public areas importance (index scores)

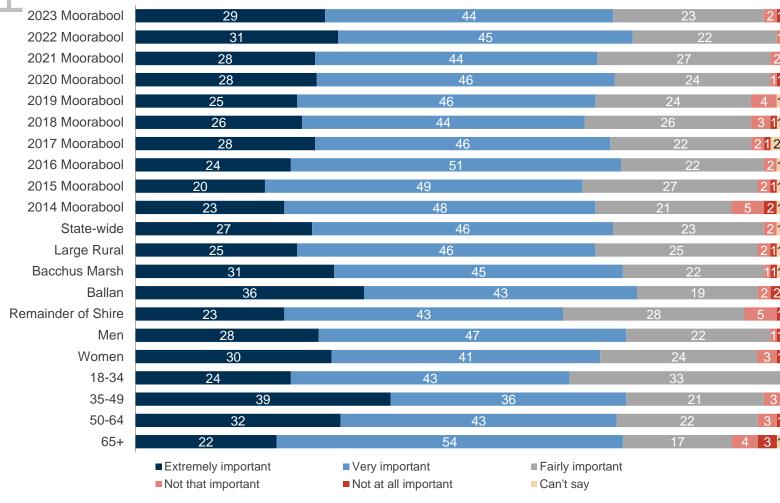


The appearance of public areas importance





2023 public areas importance (%)

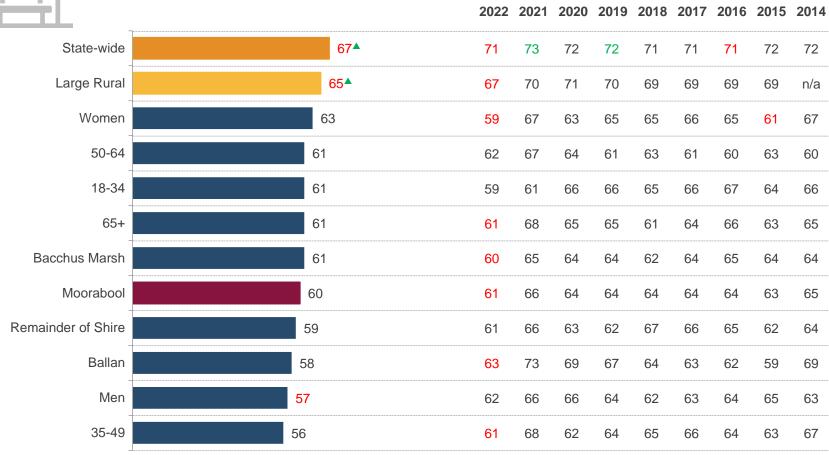


The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (index scores)

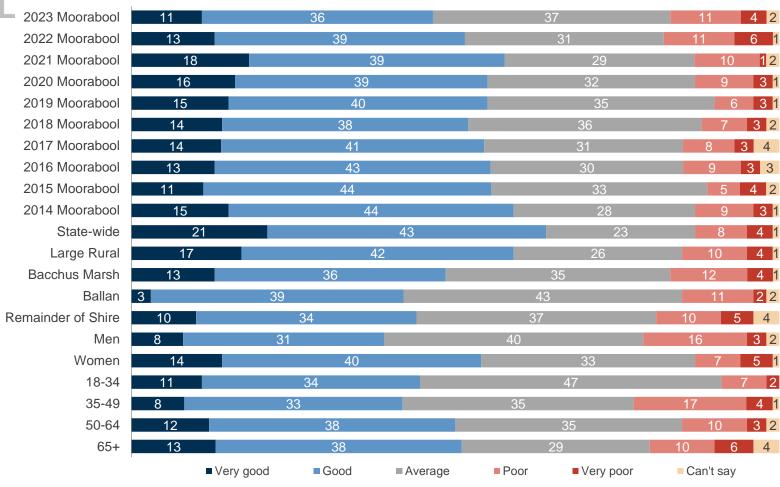


The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (%)



Waste management importance





2023 waste management importance (index scores)

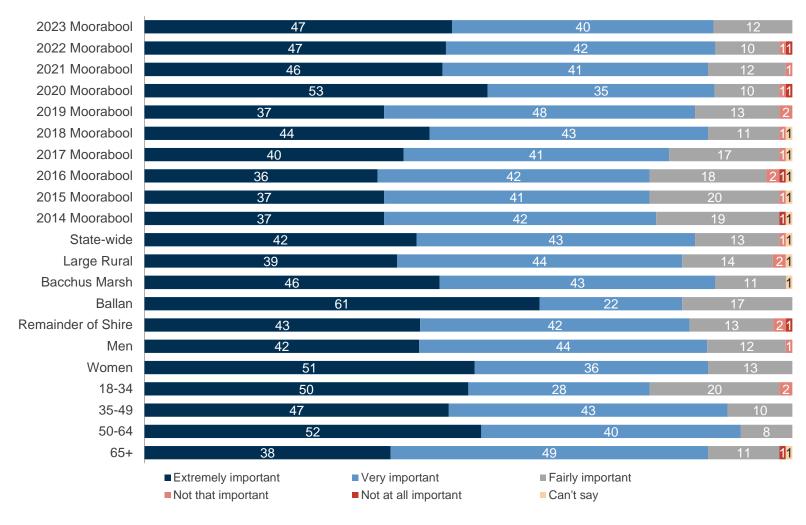


Waste management importance





2023 waste management importance (%)



Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (index scores)

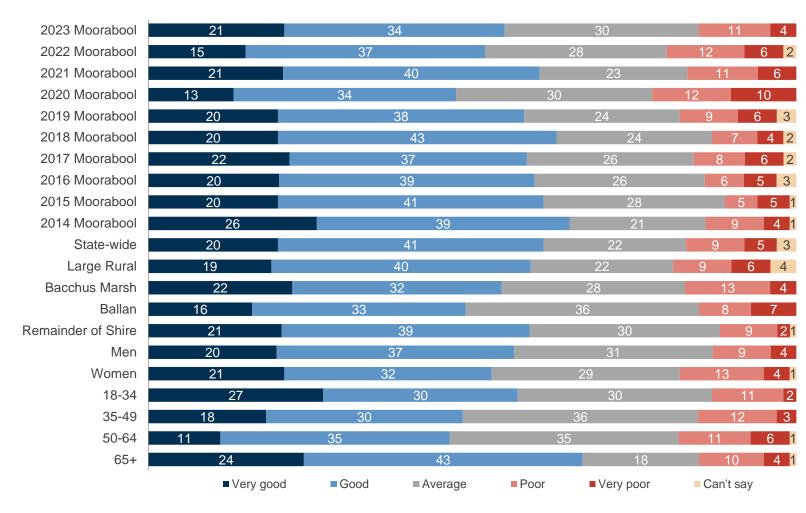


Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (%)



Business and community development and tourism importance





2023 business/development/tourism importance (index scores)

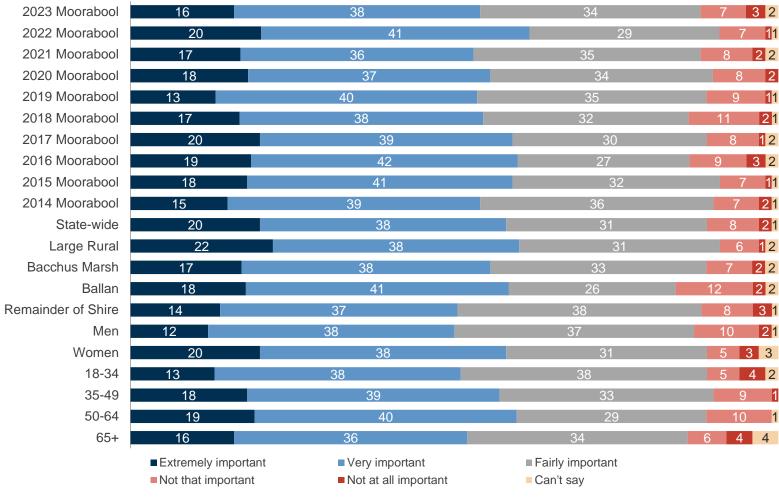


Business and community development and tourism importance





2023 business/development/tourism importance (%)

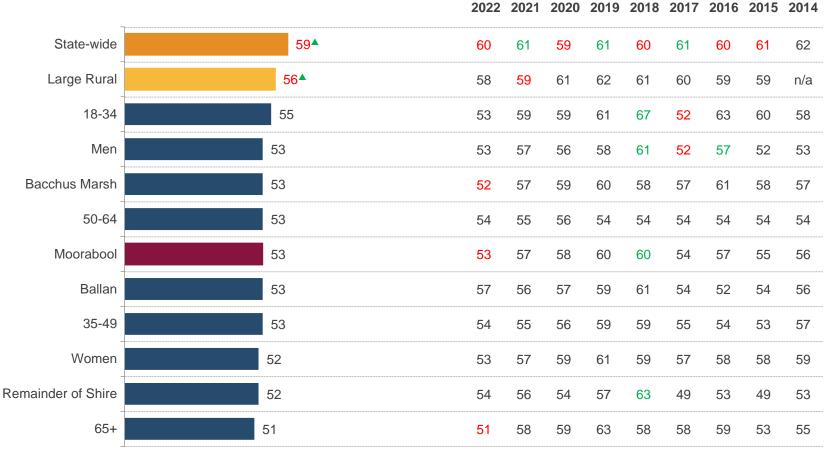


Business and community development and tourism performance





2023 business/development/tourism performance (index scores)

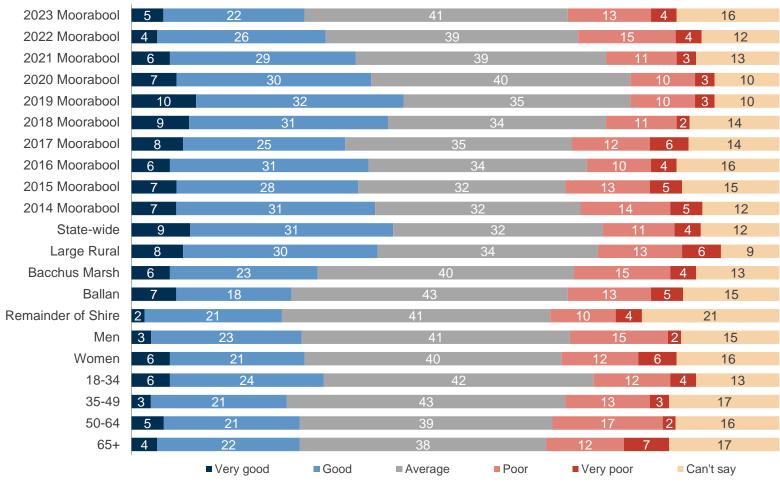


Business and community development and tourism performance





2023 business/development/tourism performance (%)

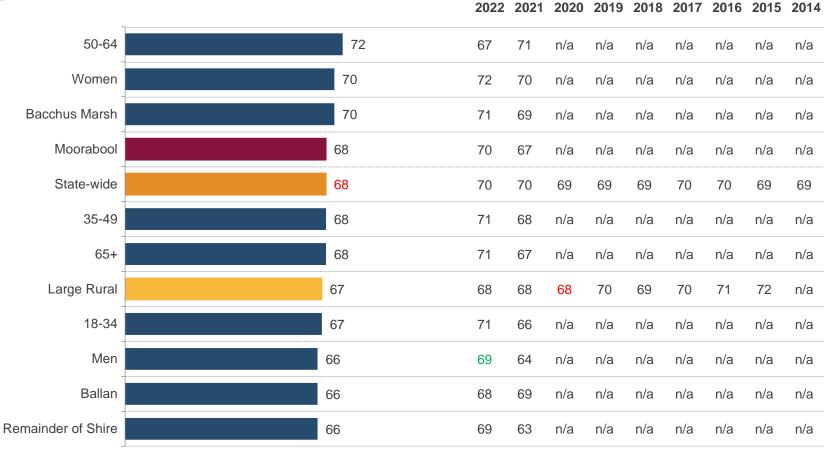


Business and community development importance





2023 business/community development importance (index scores)

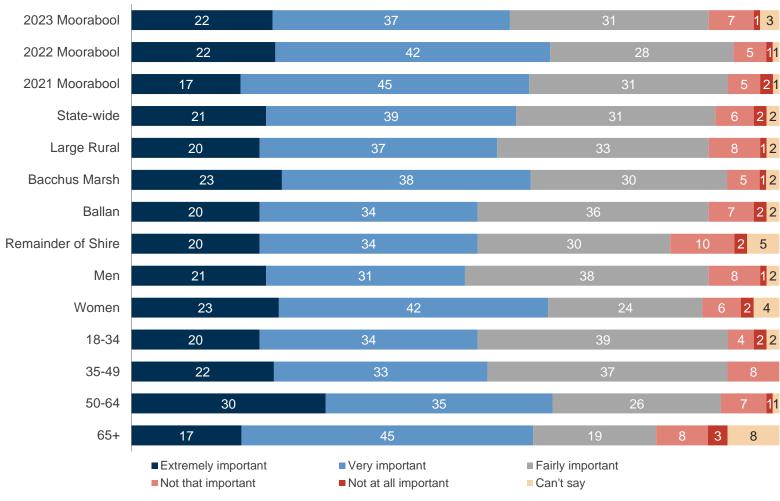


Business and community development importance





2023 business/community development importance (%)

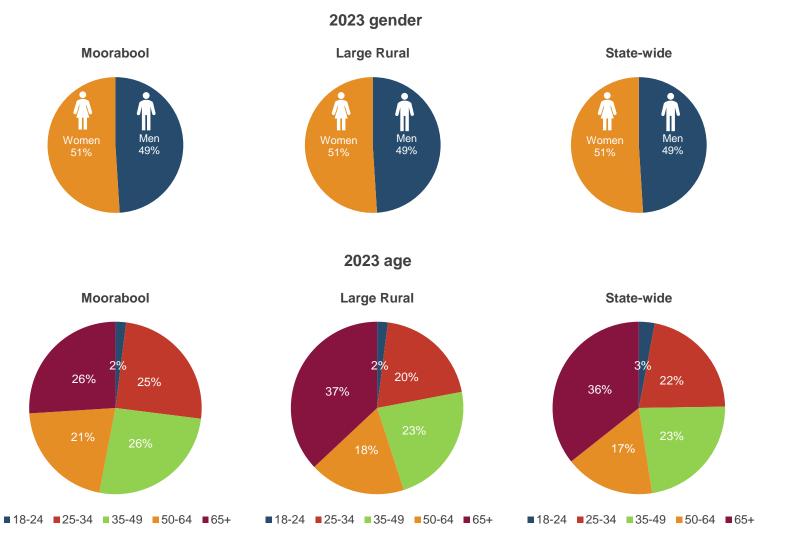




Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile

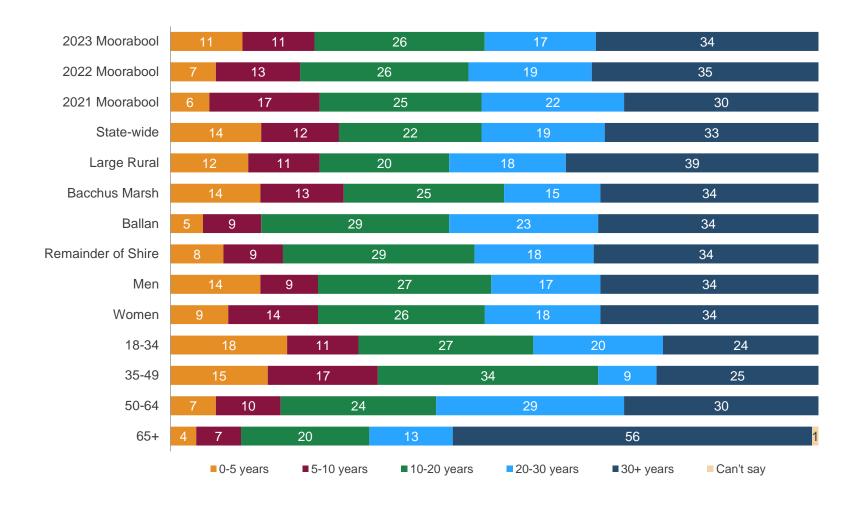


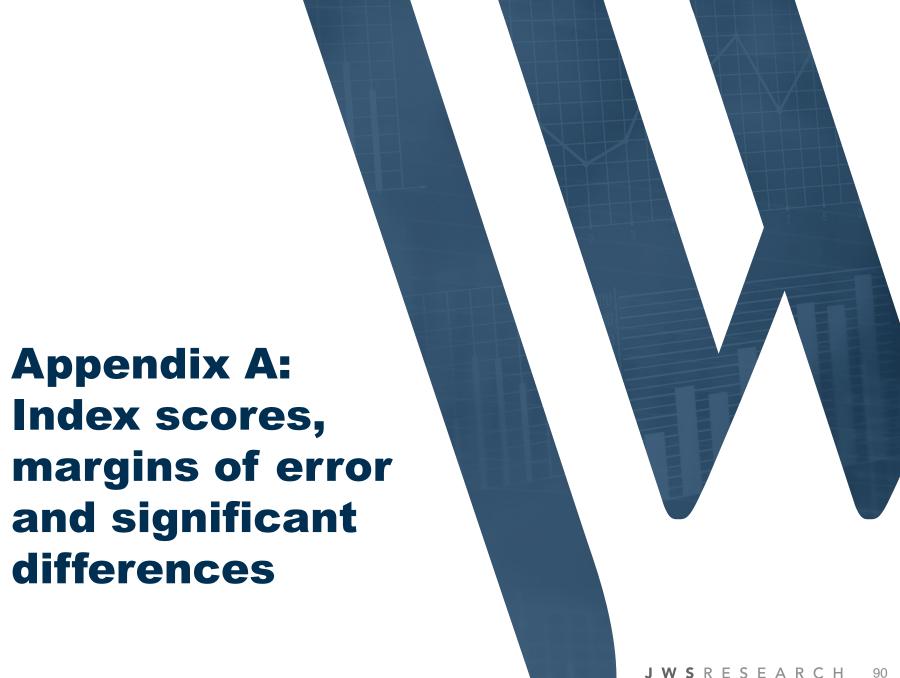


Years lived in area



2023 years lived in area (%)





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 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Moorabool 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 +/-4.9% 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 45.1% - 54.9%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 28,800 people aged 18 years or over for Moorabool Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Moorabool Shire Council	400	400	+/-4.9
Men	196	197	+/-7.0
Women	204	203	+/-6.9
Bacchus Marsh	234	236	+/-6.4
Ballan	45	46	+/-14.8
Remainder of Shire	121	118	+/-8.9
18-34 years	55	107	+/-13.3
35-49 years	86	106	+/-10.6
50-64 years	116	84	+/-9.1
65+ years	143	103	+/-8.2

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 ().

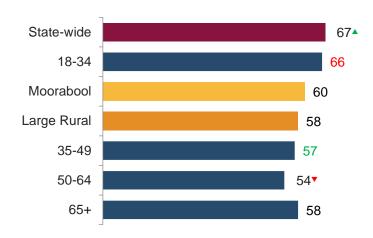
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- 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.

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Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



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

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

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 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=401 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=400 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 Moorabool 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 Moorabool Shire Council.

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

A total of n=400 completed interviews were achieved in Moorabool Shire Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 27th January – 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

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

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

Councils participating in the Large Rural group are:

 Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Colac Otway, Corangamite, East Gippsland, Glenelg, Golden Plains, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Moira, Moorabool, Mount Alexander, Moyne, South Gippsland, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Swan Hill and Wellington. Wherever appropriate, results for Moorabool Shire Council for this 2023 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 Moorabool 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

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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.

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