2024 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey

Yarra Ranges Shire Council

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



Contents

Background and objectives	<u>3</u>
Key findings and recommendations	<u>6</u>
Detailed findings	<u>14</u>
Overall performance	<u>15</u>
Customer service	<u>30</u>
<u>Communication</u>	<u>39</u>
Council direction	<u>44</u>
Individual service areas	<u>49</u>
Community consultation and engagement	<u>50</u>
Lobbying on behalf of the community	<u>52</u>
Decisions made in the interest of the community	<u>54</u>
Condition of sealed local roads	<u>56</u>
Informing the community	<u>58</u>
Condition of local streets and footpaths	<u>60</u>
Traffic management	<u>62</u>
Parking facilities	<u>64</u>
Enforcement of local laws	<u>66</u>
Family support services	<u>68</u>
Elderly support services	<u>70</u>

Disadvantaged support services	<u>72</u>						
Recreational facilities	<u>74</u>						
Appearance of public areas	<u>76</u>						
Art centres and libraries	<u>78</u>						
Community and cultural activities	<u>80</u>						
Waste management	<u>82</u>						
General town planning policy	<u>84</u>						
Planning and building permits	<u>86</u>						
Environmental sustainability	<u>88</u>						
Emergency and disaster management	<u>90</u>						
Planning for population growth	<u>92</u>						
Roadside slashing and weed control	<u>94</u>						
Maintenance of unsealed roads	<u>96</u>						
Business and community development	<u>98</u>						
Tourism development	<u>100</u>						
Detailed demographics	<u>102</u>						
Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences							
Appendix B: Further project information	<u>110</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-fifth year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

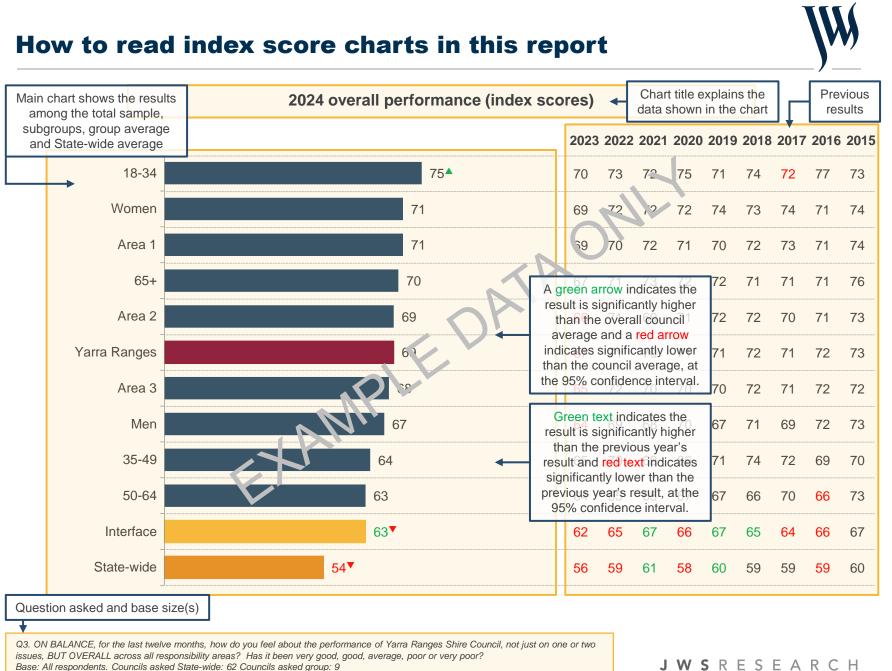
- councils' overall performance, with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- value for money in services and infrastructure
- community consultation and engagement
- · decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities, services and
- 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 25 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 25 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.

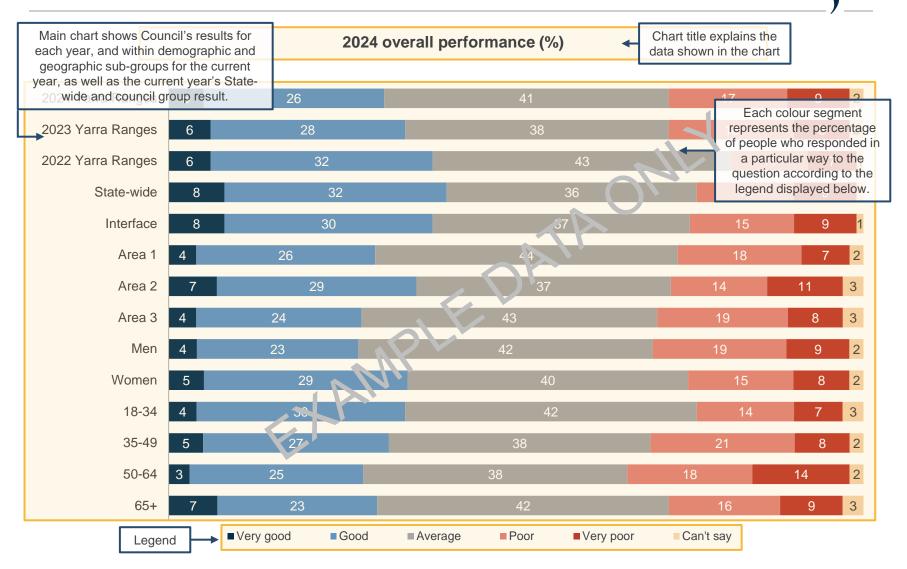


Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

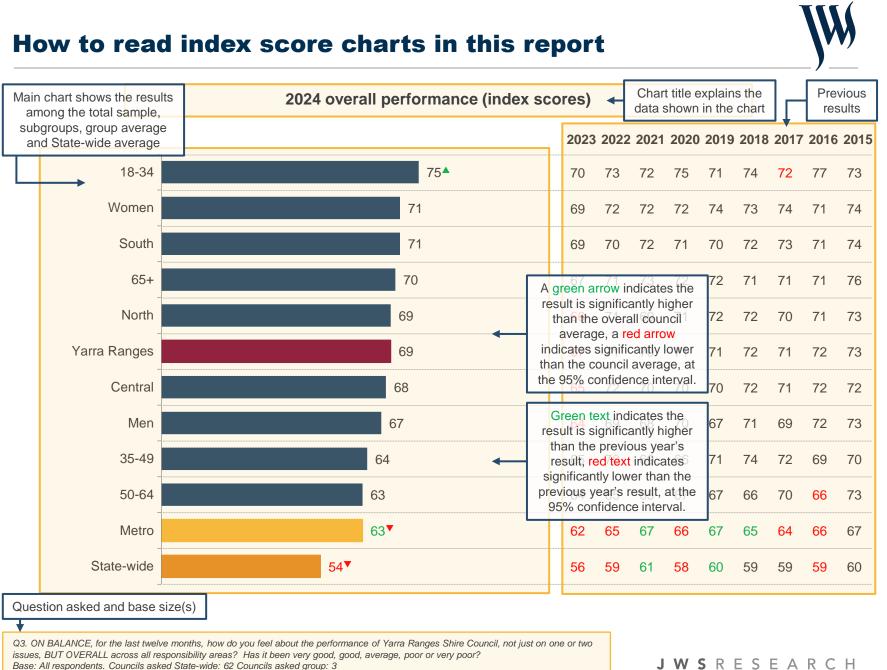
-

4

How to read stacked bar charts in this report



Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Yarra Ranges Shire Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 9



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

How to read stacked bar charts in this report

Main chart shows Council's results for each year, and within demographic and geographic sub-groups for the current									Chart title explains the lata shown in the chart				
year, as well as the cu		State-											
²⁰² wide and council					34			20	1				
2023 Yarra Ranges	3	32			36			1		ur segment			
2022 Yarra Ranges	5		40			36				e percentage responded in			
2021 Yarra Ranges	8		40				36			r way to the			
2020 Yarra Ranges	7		34			35			question acc	ording to the			
2019 Yarra Ranges	7		38			30	6		legend disp	layed below.			
2018 Yarra Ranges	5		35			39			11	8 3			
2017 Yarra Ranges	10		37				38		11	3 1			
2016 Yarra Ranges	7		38				39		9	5 1			
2015 Yarra Ranges	7		42				36		8	6 1			
State-wide	8		32			36			14	9 1			
Interface	6	28			35			17		12 2			
Yarra Valley	3	21		37			17		21	1			
Hills	3	23		34				23	13	3			
Urban Area	5	30)		33			20		10 2			
Healesville - Yarra Glen	5	18		33			23		21				
Men	3	21		36			2	2	17	2			
Women	6	3	0		33			18		12 1			
18-34	5	28			37			17		11 1			
35-49	5	25			33			23		14 1			
50-64	5	25		29			21		19	2			
65+	1	23			44			19		9 3			
Leg	end	■Very good	Good	Average	■ Poor	■Very	ooor	Can't say	/				

Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Yarra Ranges Shire Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

Key findings and recommendations



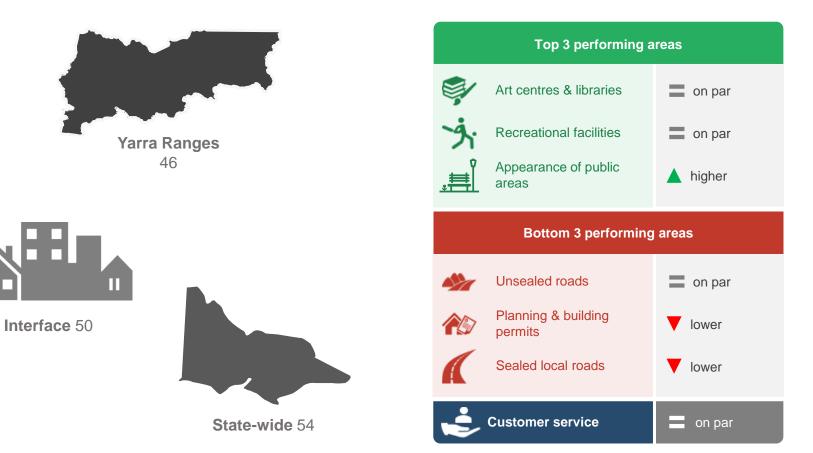
Yarra Ranges Shire Council – at a glance



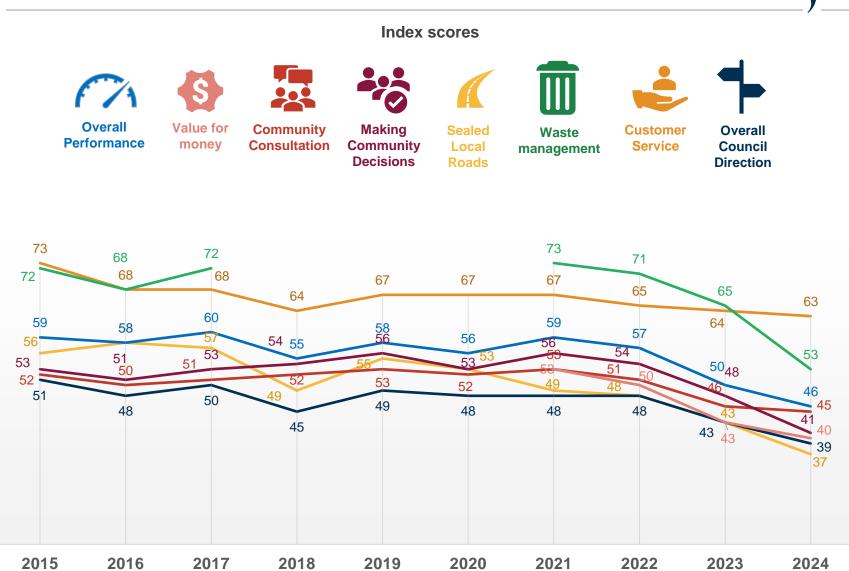
Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.

Council performance compared to group average

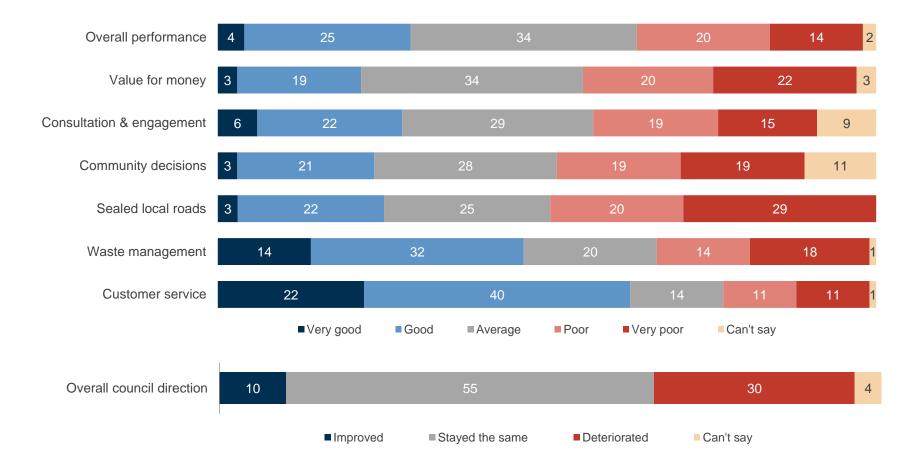


Summary of core measures



Summary of core measures

Core measures summary results (%)



JWSRESEARCH 11

Summary of Yarra Ranges Shire Council performance

Services		Yarra Ranges 2024	Yarra Ranges 2023	Interface 2024	State-wide 2024	Highest score	Lowest score
(M	Overall performance	46	50	50	54	Urban Area residents, Women, 18-34 years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
S	Value for money	40	43	47	48	Women	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
+	Overall council direction	39	43	44	45	65+ years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
÷	Customer service	63	64	66	67	65+ years	Men
\$	Art centres & libraries	69	69	67	73	Yarra Valley residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
Ż	Recreational facilities	63	66	63	68	35-49 years, 65+ years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
<u>.</u> ,	Appearance of public areas	62	62	56	68	18-34 years, Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
83.7	Community & cultural	60	60	62	66	Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Family support services	59	57	59	63	18-34 years	65+ years
Ъ	Emergency & disaster mngt	59	59	61	65	Yarra Valley residents, Urban Area residents, 18- 34 years, 65+ years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents

Significantly higher / lower than Yarra Ranges Shire Council 2024 result at the 95% confidence interval. Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Summary of Yarra Ranges Shire Council performance

Services	Services		Yarra Ranges 2023	Interface 2024	State-wide 2024	Highest score	Lowest score
û	Environmental sustainability	58	58	58	60	Urban Area residents, 18-34 years	Yarra Valley residents
	Enforcement of local laws	57	59	58	61	18-34 years, Urban Area residents	65+ years
Yù	Tourism development	56	60	53	59	Women, Hills Area residents	Men
₩	Parking facilities	54	58	54	54	Urban Area residents	Yarra Valley residents
	Business & community dev.	53	57	55	57	Urban Area residents	Yarra Valley residents, Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Elderly support services	53	52	53	63	Urban Area residents, 18-34 years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Waste management	53	65	65	67	65+ years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Informing the community	50	50	51	56	18-34 years	Yarra Valley residents
	Disadvantaged support serv.	49	51	49	58	Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Traffic management	48	48	48	53	Women, 35-49 years	Men

Summary of Yarra Ranges Shire Council performance

Services	Services		Yarra Ranges 2023	Interface 2024	State-wide 2024	Highest score	Lowest score
*	Slashing & weed control	48	47	44	45	Urban Area residents, 18-34 years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Consultation & engagement	45	46	49	51	Women, 18-34 years	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
<u>.</u>	Lobbying	44	44	48	50	Hills residents	Yarra Valley residents, 50-64 years
	Town planning policy	42	46	42	50	Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Local streets & footpaths	42	45	46	52	Urban Area residents	Hills residents
*;;	Community decisions	41	48	47	50	Urban Area residents, Women	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
***	Population growth	40	44	43	47	Women	Yarra Valley residents, Men
	Sealed local roads	37	43	45	45	Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
	Planning & building permits	35	38	45	45	Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents
*	Unsealed roads	34	35	34	36	Urban Area residents	Healesville-Yarra Glen residents

Focus areas for the next 12 months





Perceptions of Council's overall performance have declined by a significant four index points in the last 12 months. This is a new series low for overall performance and establishes a trend of three consecutive years of ratings decline. This is accompanied by a significant decline (also four points) for overall direction. Index scores declined significantly for one third of service performance areas measured in 2024 (many were measured for the first time in 2023).

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance The service area that has the strongest influence on Yarra Ranges Shire Council's overall performance continues to be decisions made on behalf of the community. This measure experienced a significant decline for the second year in a row in 2024, to the lowest index score in a decade. Focus should also remain on other strong influencers of overall performance, which are also among the lowest rated areas (sealed local roads, town planning community consultation and roadside slashing and weed control).

Comparison to state and area grouping

Council performs significantly lower that the State-wide average for councils in almost all areas evaluated. Compared to the Interface group averages, Yarra Ranges Council is in line with this comparison group in the majority of areas, otherwise scoring lower. Council exceeds scores for one or both comparative groups in just two areas: appearance of public roads and slashing and weed control.

Abate declines and rebuild, focus on concerns of Healesville-Yarra Glen residents Repeated significant declines (2023 and 2024) occurred in overall performance and direction, waste management, community decisions and sealed local roads. Some of these, in addition to poor and declining performance are also key drivers of overall performance and require particular attention from the Council. Healesville-Yarra Glen residents provide the lowest performance scores far more frequently than any other cohort, so efforts are needed here also to understand and to address their concerns.

DETAILED FINDINGS

Overall performance

Overall performance



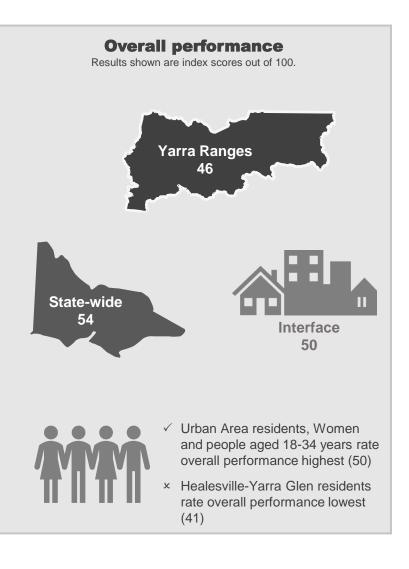
The overall performance index score of 46 for Yarra Ranges Shire Council represents a significant fourpoint decline. This is now a three-year trend decline to the lowest overall performance rating for a decade.

Yarra Ranges Shire Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than both the average rating for councils in the Interface group and the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 50 and 54 respectively).

Despite the overall decline, no demographic or geographic cohort reported significant change in overall performance since 2023 and none are significantly higher or lower than Council's 2024 average.

- The highest overall performance scores are provided by residents aged 18 to 34 years, women and those living in the Urban Area (index score of 50 for all).
- The lowest index scores are from Healesville-Yarra Glen and Yarra Valley residents (41 and 42 respectively).

Around one in five residents (22%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. Nearly twice as many rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor' (42%). A further 34% rate Council as 'average' in terms of providing value for money.



2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015

Overall performance



2024 overall performance (index scores)

		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2010	2015
State-wide	54▲	56	59	61	58	60	59	59	59	60
Urban Area	50	55	60	n/a						
Interface	50▲	51	56	59	56	61	60	60	61	62
Women	50	54	57	61	56	59	55	60	58	60
18-34	50	53	66	62	60	63	61	63	62	64
65+	47	53	56	62	56	59	55	62	62	59
Yarra Ranges	46	50	57	59	56	58	55	60	58	59
35-49	46	49	54	58	53	55	55	59	57	57
Hills	45	45	58	n/a						
50-64	44	44	48	52	54	56	47	57	51	56
Men	43	47	57	57	56	57	54	60	58	59
Yarra Valley	42	47	52	n/a						
Healesville - Yarra Glen	41	48	47	n/a						

Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Yarra Ranges Shire Council, not just on one or two

issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

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

Overall performance



2024 overall performance (%)

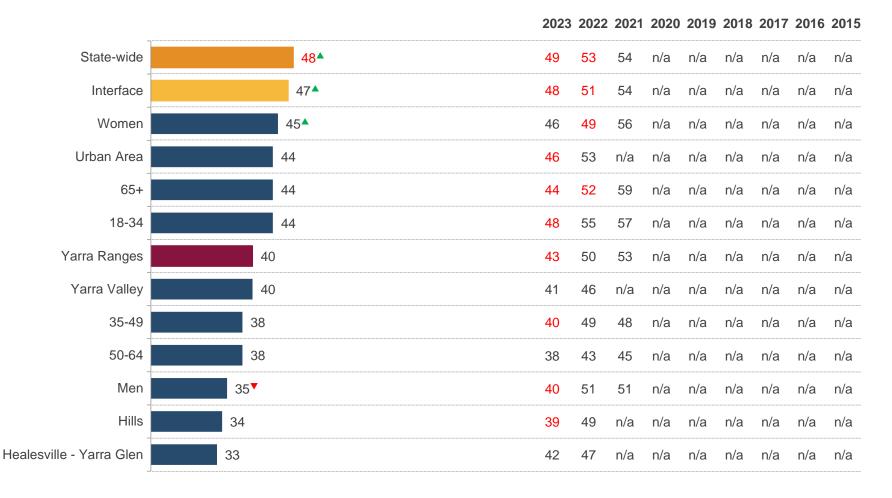
24 Yarra Ranges	4	25		3	34			20		14	2
23 Yarra Ranges	3	32			36			19		9	1
22 Yarra Ranges	5		40			36			11	6	3
21 Yarra Ranges	8		40				36		10		4 2
20 Yarra Ranges	7		34			35			13	6	4
9 Yarra Ranges	7		38			36			10	5	3
8 Yarra Ranges	5		35			39			11	8	3
17 Yarra Ranges	10		37				38			1	3 1
6 Yarra Ranges	7		38			3	9		9		5 1
15 Yarra Ranges	7		42				36		8		6 <mark>1</mark>
State-wide	8		32			36			14	9	1
Interface	6	2	8		35			17		12	2
Yarra Valley	3	21		37			17		21		1
Hills	3	23		34			23	}	1	13	3
Urban Area	5	3	0		33			20		10	2
ville - Yarra Glen	5	18		33			23		21		
Men	3	21		36			22		17	7	2
Women	6		30		33			18		12	1
18-34	5	28			37			17		11	1
35-49	5	25		3	3			23		14	1
50-64	5	25		29			21		19		2
65+	1	23		4	4			19		9	3
		■Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very po	or	Can't say			

Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Yarra Ranges Shire Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

JWSRESEARCH 20

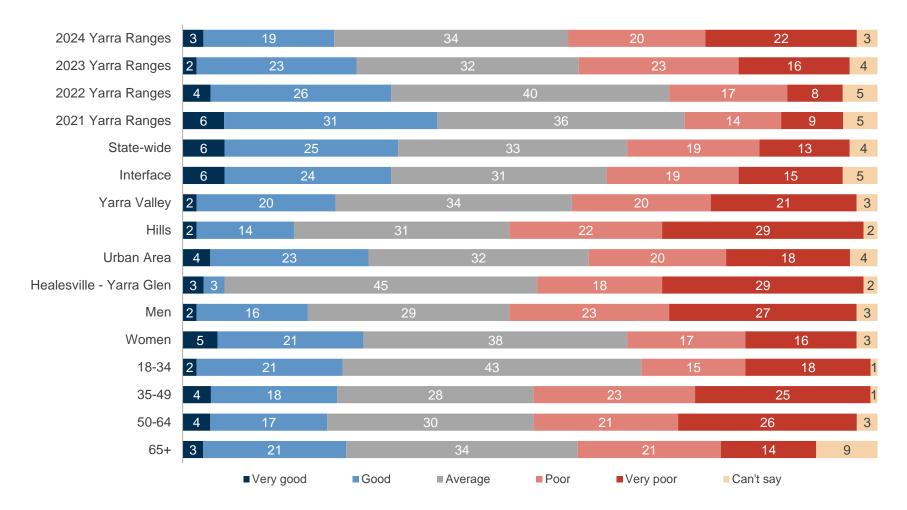
Value for money in services and infrastructure

2024 value for money (index scores)



Q3b. How would you rate Yarra Ranges Shire Council at providing good value for money in infrastructure and services provided to your community? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 61 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Value for money in services and infrastructure



2024 value for money (%)

Q3b. How would you rate Yarra Ranges Shire Council at providing good value for money in infrastructure and services provided to your community? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 61 Councils asked group: 3

Top performing service areas

Art centres and libraries (index score of 69) is the area where Council performed best in 2024, unchanged from 2023. This area was also the highest ranked performance area in 2023.

Council performs in line with the Interface group average and significantly lower than the State-wide average in this service area.

Recreational facilities is Council's next highest rated service area (index score of 63), followed by:

- appearance of public areas (index score of 62)
- community and cultural (index score of 60).

Council rates in line with the Interface group average and significantly lower than the State-wide average for recreational facilities and community and cultural.

Council rates significantly higher than the Interface group average and significantly lower than the Statewide average for the appearance of public areas.

No geographic or demographic cohorts report 2024 index scores significantly higher or lower than the average score for any of the above four areas.

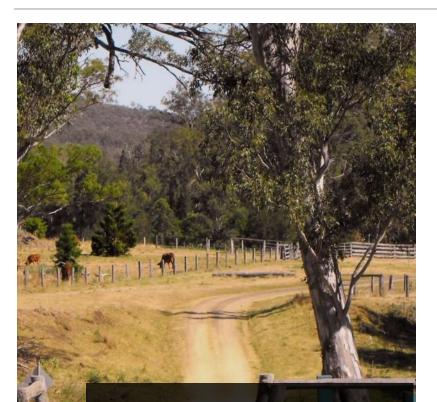
On the same service areas, the only area that recorded a significant performance decline within a geographic or demographic group was for women on recreational areas (down five points to 62).







Low performing service areas



Council rates lowest in the areas of unsealed roads (index score of 34) and planning and building permits (index score of 35). Council rates lowest in the areas of unsealed roads (index score of 34), planning and building permits (index score of 35), and sealed local roads (index score of 37).

- Council rates in line with State-wide average for councils and the Interface group averages for unsealed roads.
- Council rates significantly lower than the Statewide and the Interface group averages for its performance in planning and building permits and sealed local roads.

For each of the above, residents in the Urban Area have a score significantly higher than average.

For planning and building permits, three cohorts provide scores significantly lower than average:

- Healesville-Yarra Glen, index score of 25
- Residents aged 65 years and over, index score of 27 (this is also a significant nine points lower than 2023)
- Yarra Valley, index score of 27.

When residents are asked what Council most needs to do to improve performance, sealed road maintenance is mentioned most frequently (26% of residents).



Individual service area performance



2024 individual service area performance (index scores)

		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Art centres & libraries	69	69	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	68	72
Recreational facilities	63	66	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	68	68	71
Appearance of public areas	62	62	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	67	66	66
Community & cultural	60	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	63	65
Family support services	59	57	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	66	63	66
Emergency & disaster mngt	59	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	69	70
Environmental sustainability	58	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	60	63
Enforcement of local laws	57	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	64	61	66
Tourism development	56	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	60	59	n/a
Parking facilities	54	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	56	60
Business & community dev.	53	57	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	56	n/a
Elderly support services	53	52	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	60	59	65
Waste management	53	65	71	73	n/a	n/a	n/a	72	68	72
Informing the community	50	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	53	52	53
Disadvantaged support serv.	49	51	n/a	61						
Traffic management	48	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	59	57	61
Slashing & weed control	48	47	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	54	56	52
Consultation & engagement	45	46	51	53	52	53	52	51	50	52
Lobbying _	44	44	50	54	50	53	51	52	51	52
Town planning policy	42	46	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	51	54
Local streets & footpaths	42	45	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56	56	55
Community decisions	41	48	54	56	53	56	54	53	51	53
Population growth	40	44	n/a							
Sealed local roads	37	43	48	49	53	55	49	57	58	56
Planning & building permits	35	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	46	49
Unsealed roads	34	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50	48	49

Individual service area performance

2024 individual service area performance (%)

Art centres & librari Recreational facilitie Appearance of public area Community & culture Family support service Emergency & disaster mn Environmental sustainabil Enforcement of local lay Tourism developme Parking faciliti Business & community de Elderly support service Waste manageme Informing the commun Disadvantaged support set Traffic manageme Slashing & weed conti Consultation & engageme Lobbyii Town planning poli Local streets & footpat Community decision Population grow Sealed local road Planning & building perm Unsealed road

s	14	42	2		21	5 1	16
s	13	44	1		27		8 5
s 10	0	48			22		11 6
al 8		37		31		8	4 12
s <u>6</u>	26		20	8	3	36	
jt 9		38		23	1	1 7	12
у 7		39		27		10	6 11
s <u>6</u>	31			31	8	7	17
nt 7	3			28	12	7	14
s 6		39		28		15	10
. 4	26		35		12	6	17
s 4	20	18	9	6		43	
it	14	32		20	14		18
y 7	26			3		20	11
. 3	15	21	15	3		42	
t 3	31			31	18	3	13
	31			28	18	15	16
t 6	22		29	15	19	15	9
g 1	19	28		15	13		24
y 2	<u> </u>	28	22	19	22		21
s 5 s 3	20			10		10	23
s 3 h 2	16	30	28	21		19 16	11 15
s 3	22	30	25	20		29	
s 1	15	19	<u> </u>		22		26
5 <mark>3</mark>	15	24	17	21	22	29	20
	10	24_				29	
	■ Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	- Ca	an't say

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. Currently, Council performs poorly in this area (index score of 41).

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

- Roadside slashing and weed control
- Community consultation and engagement
- Waste management
- Town planning
- · Business and community development
- The condition of sealed local roads.

Looking at these key service areas only, Council performs relatively well on waste management and business and community development (index scores of 53 for each) and these areas have a moderate influence on the overall performance rating.

Council should continue its efforts in these areas to help shore up ratings of overall performance – but there is greater work to be done elsewhere.

In addition to Council decision making, other influential service areas most in need of attention are sealed roads, town planning, consultation and engagement, and roadside slashing and weed control (performance index scores of 37, 42, 45 and 48 respectively).

It will be important to attend to the maintenance of sealed roads and roadside areas and to consult with residents, particularly around planning issues, to help improve overall ratings of Council performance.

Sealed road maintenance is mentioned most often (by 26% of residents) as something Yarra Ranges Shire Council most needs to do to improve its 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 Council's performance index score for each individual service. Service areas appearing on the right side of the chart have a higher index score 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.

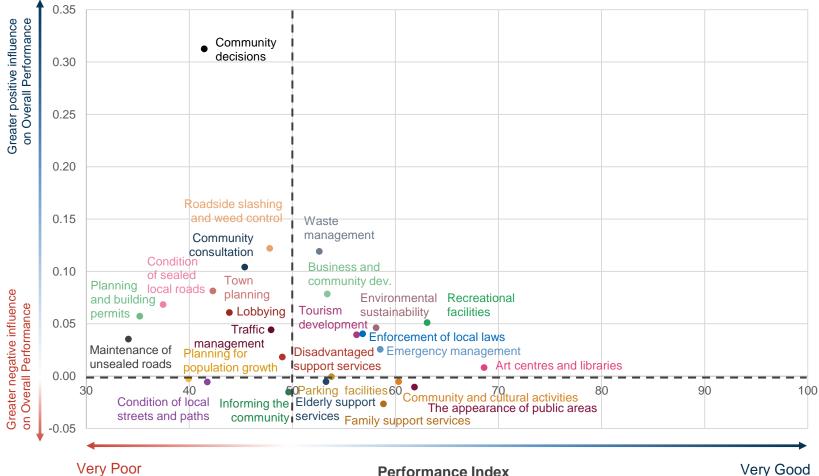
The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

- 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

2024 regression analysis (all service areas)



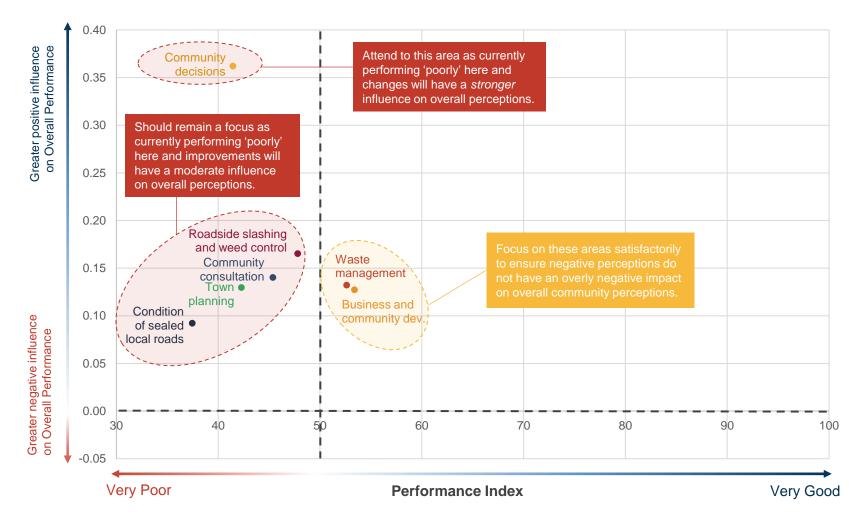
The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R² value of 0.744 and adjusted R² value of 0.730, which means that 73% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 52.80. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.

Very Good

JWSRESEARCH 29

Influence on overall performance: key service areas

2024 regression analysis (key service areas)



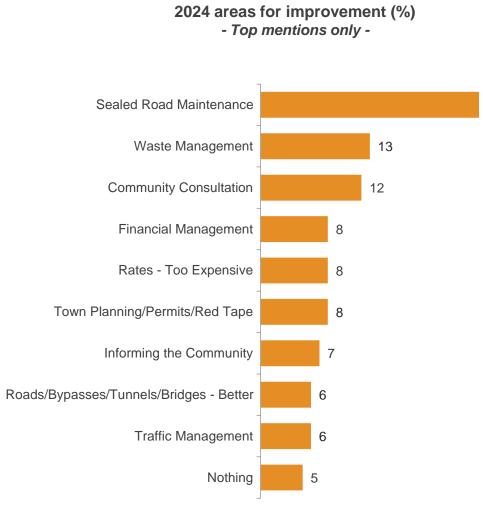
The multiple regression analysis model above (reduced set of service areas) has an R^2 value of 0.725 and adjusted R^2 value of 0.721, which means that 72% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 185.55.

JWSRESEARCH 30

26

Areas for improvement





Q17. What does Yarra Ranges Shire Council MOST need to do to improve its performance? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 49 Councils asked group: 3 A verbatim listing of responses to this question can be found in the accompanying dashboard.

Customer service



Contact with council and customer service



Almost two thirds of Council residents (65%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. This is not significant differently to last year (64%).

- The rate of contact is highest from residents in the Hills and Healesville-Yarra Glen (72% and 70%) areas, and lowest from the Urban Area and those aged 65 years and older (60% and 58%). None are significantly higher or lower than average.
- The main methods of contact are by telephone (37%), email (27%) and in person (21%).



Among those residents who have had contact with Council, 62% provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good', including 22% of residents who rate Council's customer service as 'very good'.

Customer service

Council's customer service index of 63 is an incremental (but not significant) one point decline from 2023. It is the lowest score recorded in a decade.

Customer service is rated lower than the State-wide average for councils and in line with the Interface group average (index scores of 67 and 66 respectively).

No cohort provides a customer service score that is significantly higher or lower than average, nor significantly different from last year.

- The highest customer service scores are from residents aged 65 years plus (72) and women (68).
- The lowest customer services scores are from residents aged 35 to 49 years (59) and men (58).

More than six in ten residents (62%) provide a customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good'. One in five (21%) provide a rating of 'very poor' or 'poor' and 14% provide a rating of 'average'.

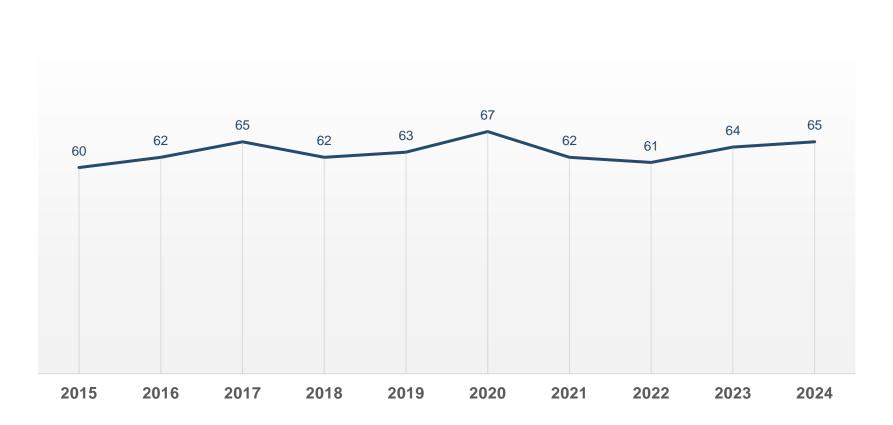
For the top three methods of contacting Council, the corresponding customer service index scores are:

- telephone (64), a significant eight-point fall on 2023
- email (59)
- in person (65).

Contact with council



2024 contact with council (%) Have had contact

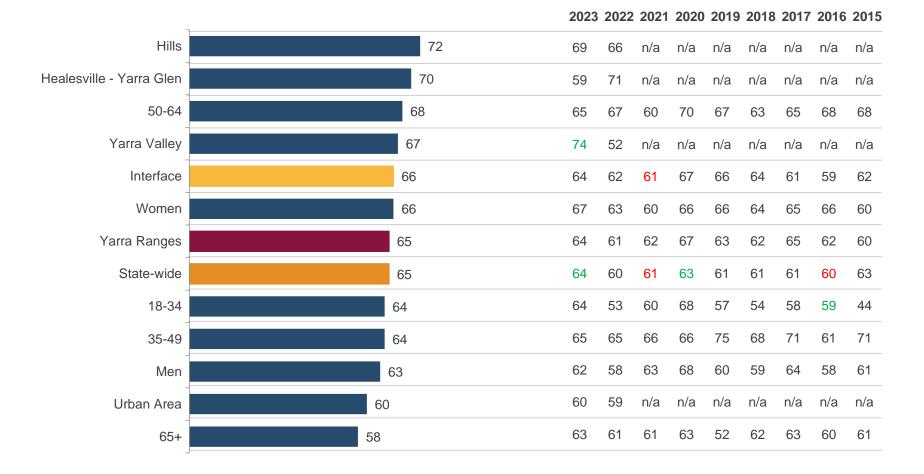


Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Yarra Ranges Shire Council in any of the following ways? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 2

Contact with council



2024 contact with council (%)



Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Yarra Ranges Shire Council in any of the following wavs? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

JWSRESEARCH 35

Customer service rating

2024 customer service rating (index scores)

		202	23 202	22 2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
65+	72	70	66	72	72	70	70	74	75	78
Women	68	66	66	72	67	71	68	67	67	75
State-wide	67▲	67	68	70	70	71	70	69	69	70
Interface	66	65	68	68	68	69	70	69	70	72
18-34	65	61	67	64	67	66	61	64	58	66
Hills	64	62	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Urban Area	64	67	65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Yarra Ranges	63	64	65	67	67	67	64	68	68	73
Yarra Valley	61	62	66	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	61	59	64	66	61	67	59	71	67	70
Healesville - Yarra Glen	59*	59	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	59	63	62	63	65	67	68	65	72	76
Men	58	62	64	61	67	62	60	69	69	72

Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Yarra Ranges Shire Council for customer service?

Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.

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

Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

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

*Caution: small sample size < n=30



Customer service rating



2024 customer service rating (%)

2024 Yarra Ranges	22		40		14		11	11 1
2023 Yarra Ranges	19		37		23		9	7 5
2022 Yarra Ranges	24		37		20		11	7 2
2021 Yarra Ranges	26		38		15		11	8 2
2020 Yarra Ranges	26		38			18	6	10 2
2019 Yarra Ranges	27		4	0	16		7	10
2018 Yarra Ranges	23		37		18		12	8 1
2017 Yarra Ranges	32			32	1	16	11	7 2
2016 Yarra Ranges	32			33		15	9	9 2
2015 Yarra Ranges	34			35		16	5	5 4
State-wide	29		34	4		18	9	8 1
Interface	27		35		16	6	11	8 2
Yarra Valley	25		32		15	1	5	11 <mark>1</mark>
Hills	18		45		1	6	10	8 2
Urban Area	25		40		1	1	9	13 1
Healesville - Yarra Glen*	12	4	43		23		15	8
Men	18		37		17	11		15 2
Women	27		4	42		12	12	7 1
18-34	21		44		12		10	10 4
35-49	22		36		16	10		17
50-64	22		36		17		16	9
65+	28			48		8	5	8 3
	■Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Can	't say	

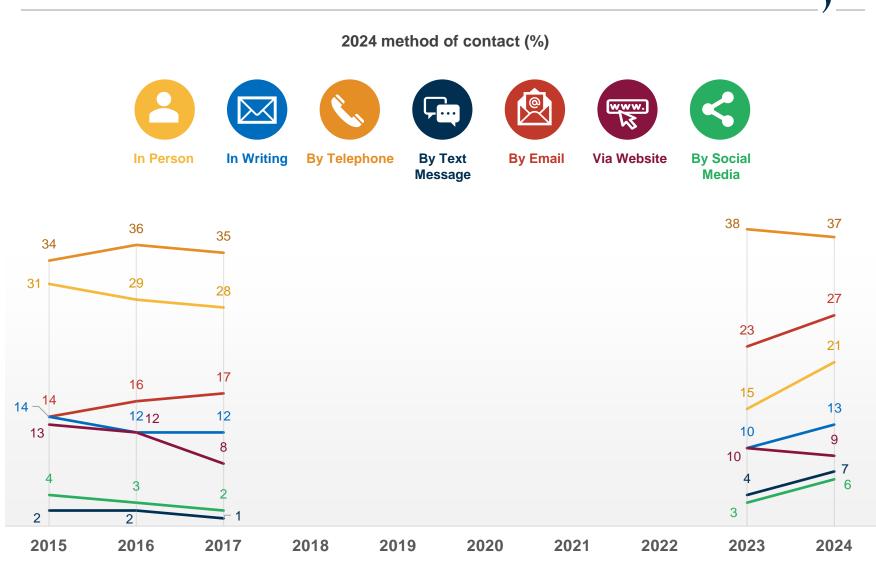
Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Yarra Ranges Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.

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

Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

*Caution: small sample size < n=30

Method of contact with council



Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Yarra Ranges Shire Council in any of the following ways?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 2

Note: Respondents could name multiple contacts methods so responses may add to more than 100%

Customer service rating by method of last contact

2024 customer service rating (index score by method of last contact)



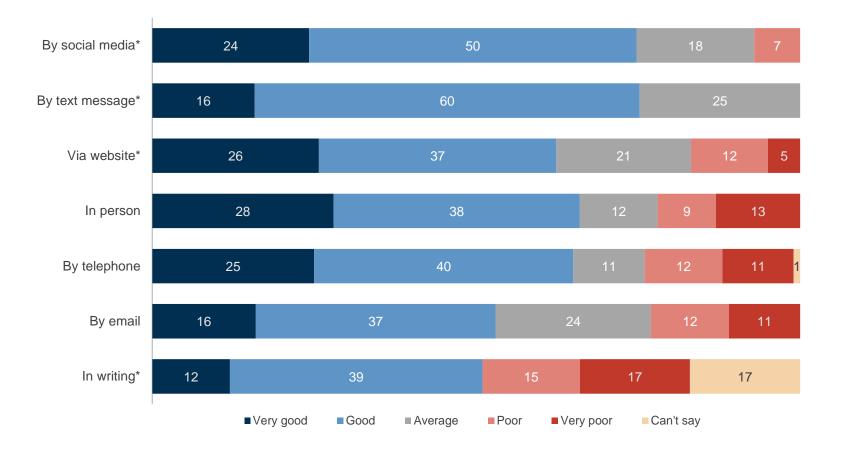
2018 2017 2022 2021 2020 2019 2016 2015

Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Yarra Ranges 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: 26 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences. *Caution: small sample size < n=30

JWSRESEARCH 39

Customer service rating by method of last contact

2024 customer service rating (% by method of last contact)



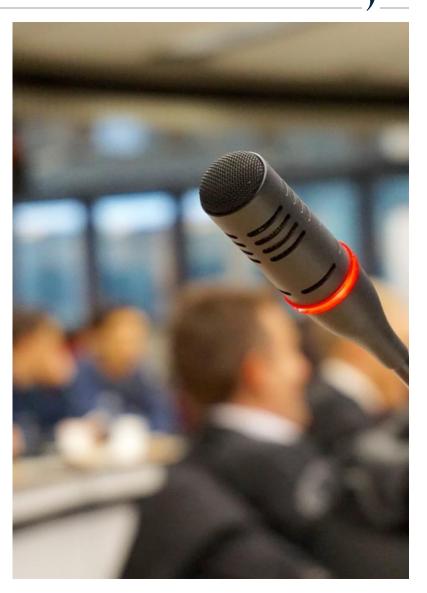
Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Yarra Ranges Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 2 *Caution: small sample size < n=30

Communication

Communication

The most preferred form of communication from Council about news and information and upcoming events is a newsletter sent via email (37%), followed by a newsletter in the mail (26%), followed by information shared on social media (14%) or text message (12%).

- For residents <u>under 50 years</u> of age, preferences are for a newsletter sent via email (33%), a newsletter via email (25%), social media (20%) or a text messages (15%).
- For residents aged <u>50 years or older</u> the preferred forms of communication are more limited, being a newsletter sent via email (41%) or a newsletter in the mail (27%). No other option is selected by more than 8% of this age group.



Best form of communication

44

2024 best form of communication (%)





Q13. If Yarra Ranges 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: 38 Councils asked group: 2 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Best form of communication: under 50s

43

2024 under 50s best form of communication (%)





Q13. If Yarra Ranges 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: 38 Councils asked group: 2 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Best form of communication: 50+ years

2024 50+ years best form of communication (%)





Q13. If Yarra Ranges 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 50+ years. Councils asked State-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 2 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

Council direction

W

Council direction

Perceptions of Council's overall direction (index score of 39) declined a significant four points, a significant drop for the second consecutive year and to the lowest score in a decade.

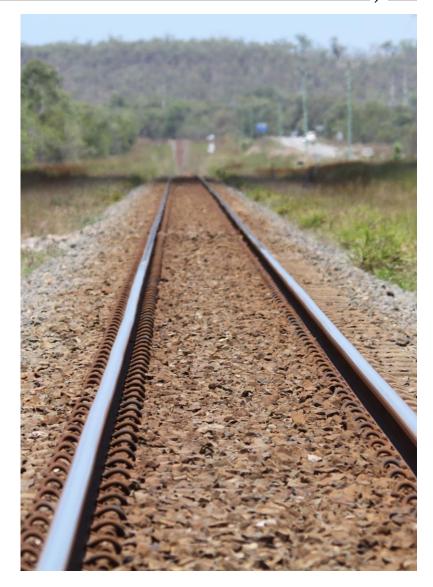
Council rates significantly lower than both the Interface group and the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 44 and 45 respectively).

No geographic or demographic groups differ significantly from Council's average. The most satisfied with Council direction are residents aged 65 years and older, with an index score of 44, while three cohorts report significant declines since since 2023:

- Urban Area residents, down six points to 40
- Yarra Ranges residents, down four points to 39
- Healesville-Yarra Glen residents, down 15 points to 32 and the lowest of any cohort.

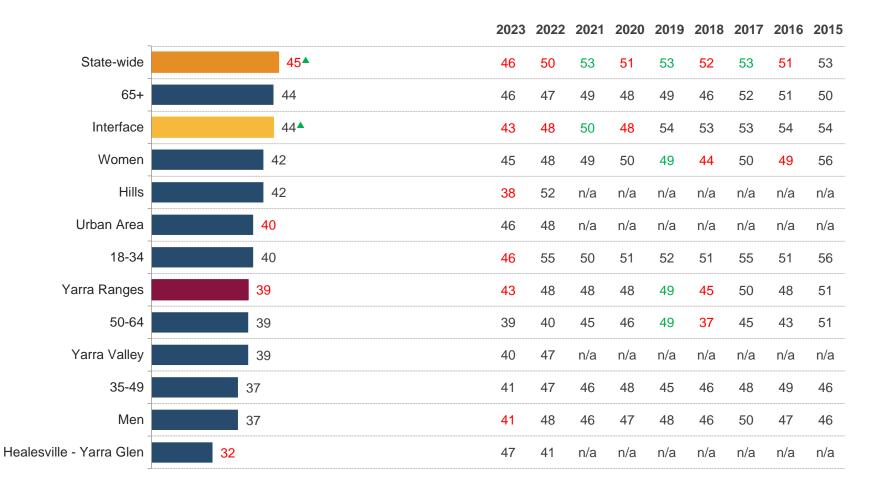
Over the last 12 months, 55% believe the direction of Council's overall performance has stayed the same. Just 10% believe the direction has improved. Three in ten (30%, up 11 points) believe it has deteriorated.

In a trade-off between rates and services, 59% of residents prefer service cuts to keep council rates at the same level as they are now, and only 21% prefer rate rises to improve local services.



Overall council direction last 12 months

2024 overall council direction (index scores)



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Yarra Ranges Shire Council's overall performance? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Overall council direction last 12 months

2024 overall council direction (%)

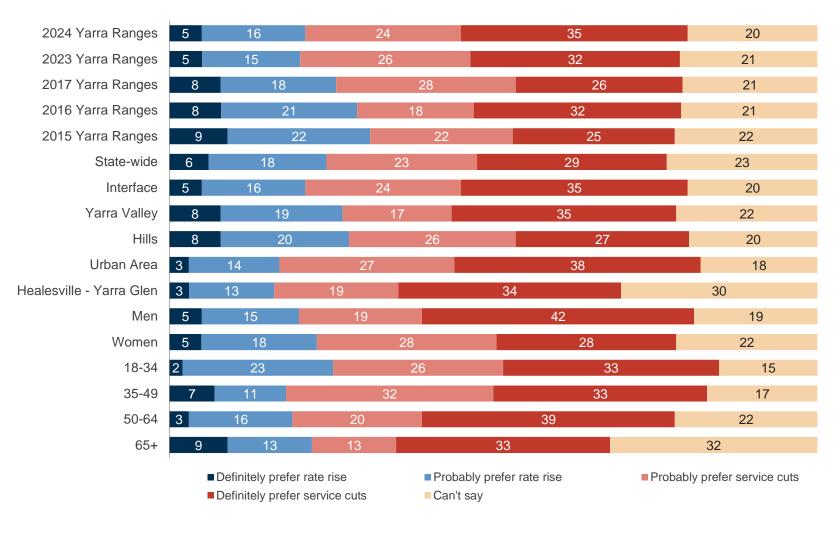
2024 Yarra Ranges	10	55		30	1
-					4
2023 Yarra Ranges	7	68		19	6
2022 Yarra Ranges	11	69		15	6
2021 Yarra Ranges	8	72		12	7
2020 Yarra Ranges	9	71		12	8
2019 Yarra Ranges	11	70		14	5
2018 Yarra Ranges	9	68		19	5
2017 Yarra Ranges	13	68		13	5
2016 Yarra Ranges	9	71		12	7
2015 Yarra Ranges	14	69		12	6
State-wide	12	60		23	5
Interface	13	57		25	5
Yarra Valley	12	51		34	3
Hills	10	58		26	6
Urban Area	9	58		28	5
Healesville - Yarra Glen	8	48		43	1
Men	8	55		34	3
Women	12	55		27	6
18-34	15	47		35	4
35-49	7	58		32	3
50-64	8	58		29	5
65+	11	59		22	7
	■ Improved	■ Stayed the same	Deteriorated	Can't say	

Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Yarra Ranges Shire Council's overall performance? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3 JWSRESEARCH 49

Rates / services trade-off



2024 rates / services trade-off (%)



Q10. If you had to choose, would you prefer to see council rate rises to improve local services OR would you prefer to see cuts in council services to keep council rates at the same level as they are now? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 19 Councils asked group: 1

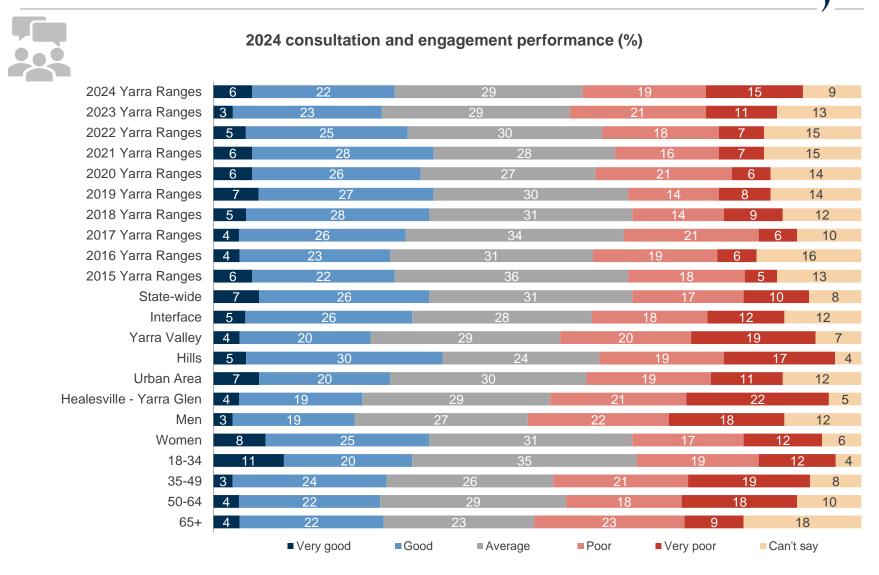
Individual service areas

Community consultation and engagement performance

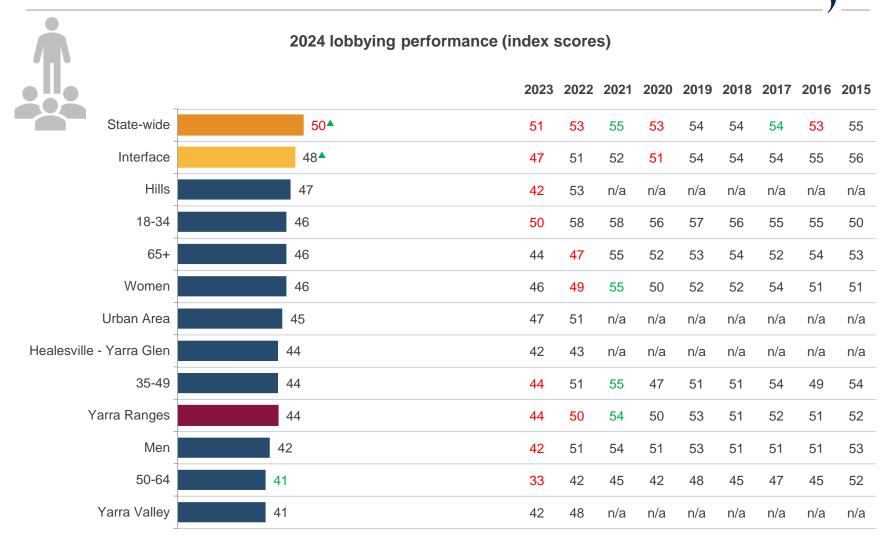


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community consultation and engagement' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Community consultation and engagement performance



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 46 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Lobbying on behalf of the community performance

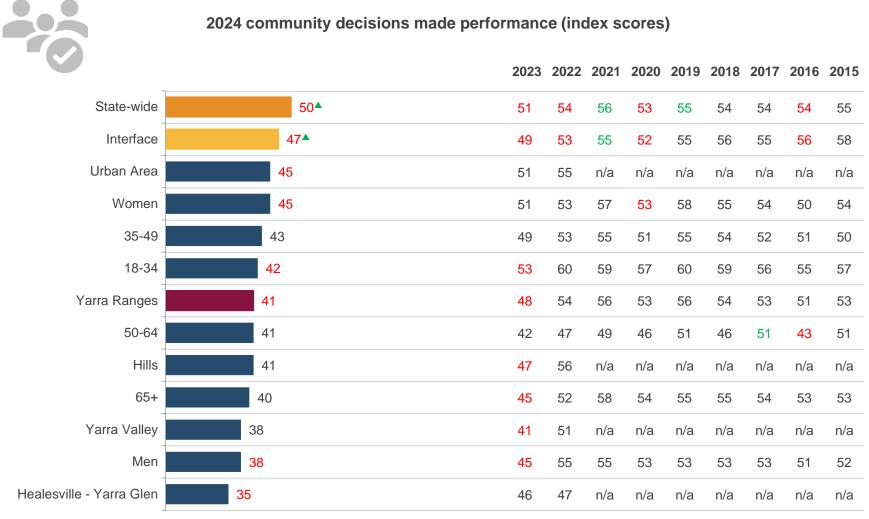
2024 lobbying performance (%)

2024 lobbying performance (%)										
2024 Yarra Ranges	1	19	24							
2023 Yarra Ranges	1	17	27 1		17 9		29			
2022 Yarra Ranges	1	22	32		15 5		25			
2021 Yarra Ranges	5	24		29	12	4	26			
2020 Yarra Ranges	5	20	29)	15 7		25			
2019 Yarra Ranges	3	21	30	0	12	4	29			
2018 Yarra Ranges	4	19	3	35	10	7	26			
2017 Yarra Ranges	4	20		33	12	5	26			
2016 Yarra Ranges	3	18	32		13	4	31			
2015 Yarra Ranges	3	22	28	}	14	4	29			
State-wide	4	21	31		15	8	20			
Interface	3	20	29		15	9	24			
Yarra Valley	2	22	20		18	19	19			
Hills	1	18	25	9	10		36			
Urban Area	1	19	31		15 11		22			
Healesville - Yarra Glen	2	14	37		14	10	22			
Men		17	29		17	13	24			
Women	2	21	27		13	13	23			
18-34		27	27		11	14	21			
35-49	2	17	30		14	13	24			
50-64	1	15	32		18	14	20			
65+	3	18	18	15	10		37			
		Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Can't say			

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 46 Councils asked group: 3

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





Q2. How has Council performed on 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



	20	24 community	decisions I	made perf	ormance (^o	%)		
2024 Yarra Ranges	3	21	28		19		19	11
2023 Yarra Ranges	2	24		35		17	9	12
2022 Yarra Ranges	4	29		34		14	5	14
2021 Yarra Ranges	6	33		33		12 6		11
2020 Yarra Ranges	5	28		32		15	7	13
2019 Yarra Ranges	7	31			29		6	14
2018 Yarra Ranges	4	31			34	11	8	12
2017 Yarra Ranges	3	27	38			12	5	15
2016 Yarra Ranges	4	23	32			16	7	17
2015 Yarra Ranges	6	24	33			17	5	16
State-wide	6	26	33			17	11	9
Interface	4	24	32			16		12
Yarra Valley	1	21	25		19	19 24		10
Hills	5	19	24		18	22	2	12
Urban Area	3	23		30		17		12
Healesville - Yarra Glen	13		35		26		22	5
Men	1	19	26		20	22	2	12
Women	4	23		31		17	16	10
18-34	2	22	27		20		19	10
35-49	4	22	31		16		18	9
50-64	2	20	29		20		20	9
65+	1	18	25		18	18		21
		Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	Ca	n't say

The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

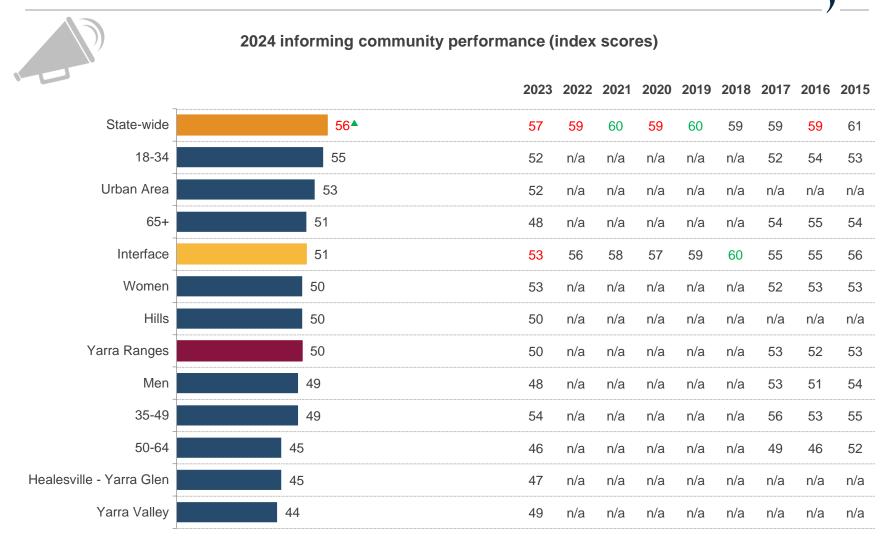
The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



		2024 sealed	d local r	oads perfor	mance (%)			
2024 Yarra Ranges	3	22		25		20		29	
2023 Yarra Ranges	5	24		27		23	3	18	3 3
2022 Yarra Ranges	7	29			29		20		15
2021 Yarra Ranges	9	25			31		19		14 2
2020 Yarra Ranges	13		29		27		15		14 2
2019 Yarra Ranges	10		34		2	9		16	10 1
2018 Yarra Ranges	7	28			31		20		13 <mark>1</mark>
2017 Yarra Ranges	12		36			27		16	8 1
2016 Yarra Ranges	8		41			29		11	8 2
2015 Yarra Ranges	11		34			32		14	8 1
State-wide	8	24		27			20		19 <mark>1</mark>
Interface	8	25		27			19	2	1 <mark>1</mark>
Yarra Valley	2	19	19		23			37	
Hills	1	17	24		23			32	2
Urban Area	4	28		27			20		21
Healesville - Yarra Glen	5	10	26	11			48		
Men	4	18		25	20			33	
Women	3	26		25		21		26	
18-34	2	28		23		19		27	
35-49	5	20		24		20		31	
50-64	1	22	24		21		31		1
65+	7	16		28		23		25	
		Very good	Good	I ■Averaç	ge F	oor	Very poor	Car	n't say

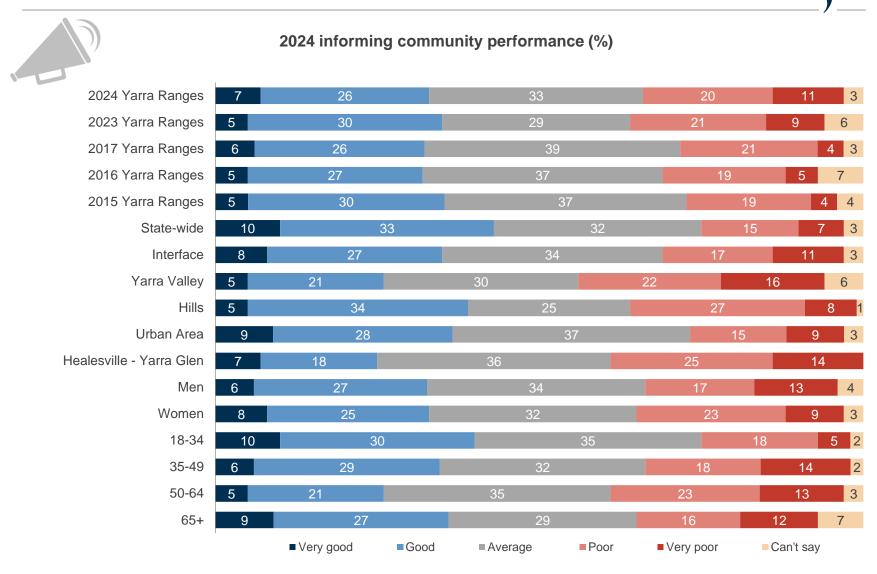
Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

Informing the community performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Informing the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 34 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Informing the community performance

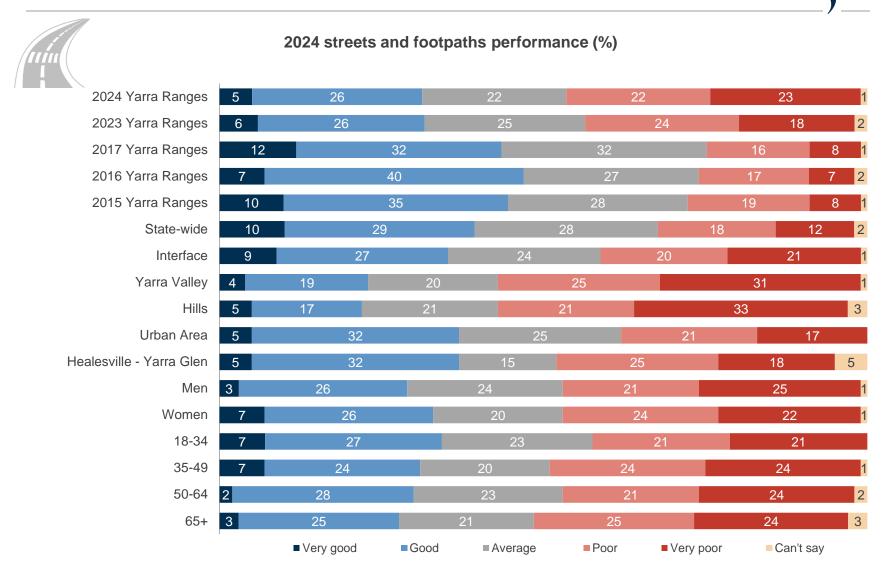


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance



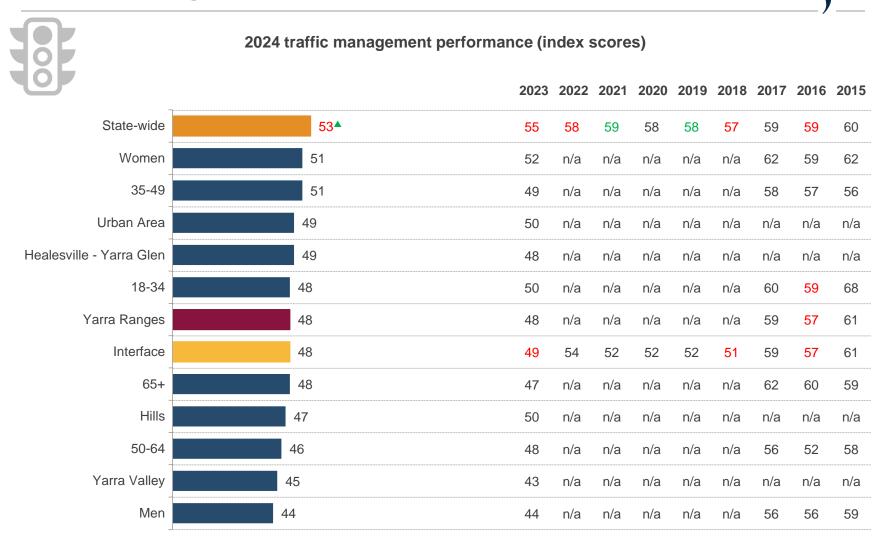
Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance



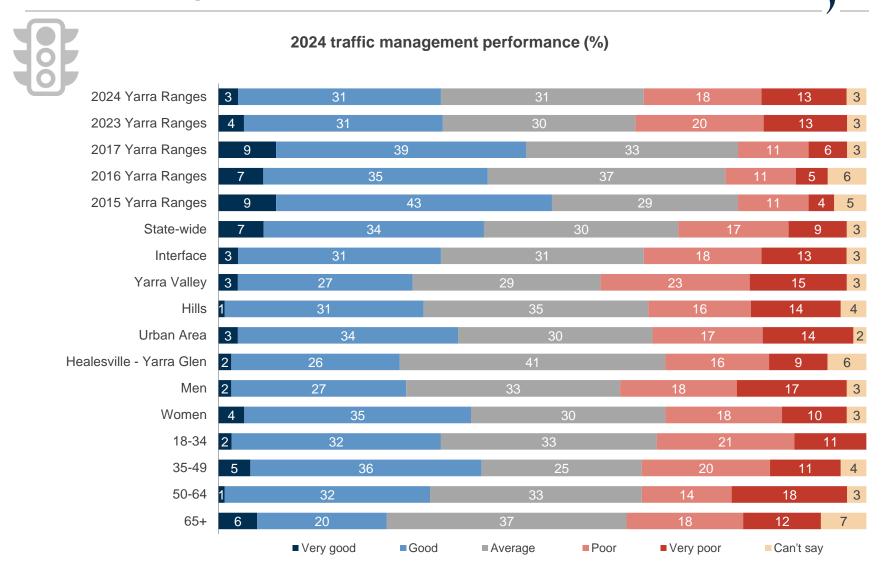
Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 2

Traffic management performance

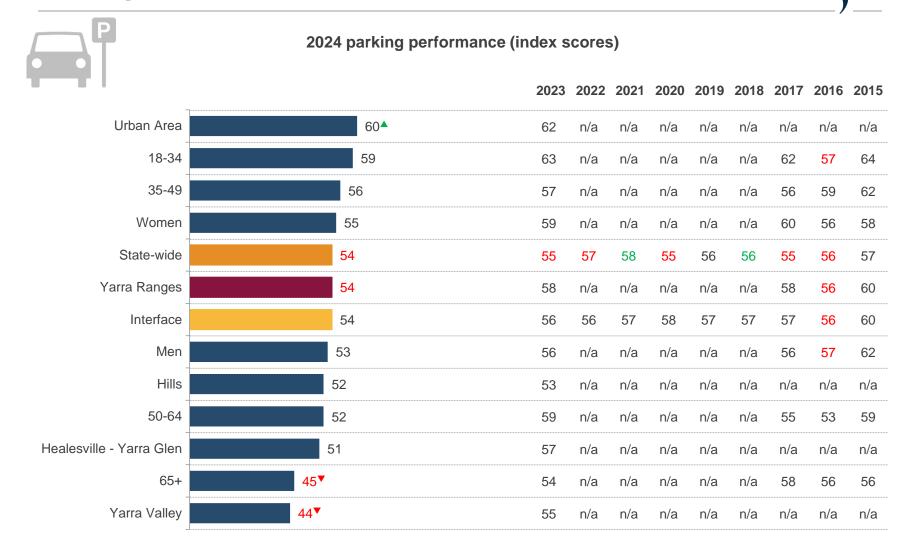


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Traffic management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 12 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Traffic management performance

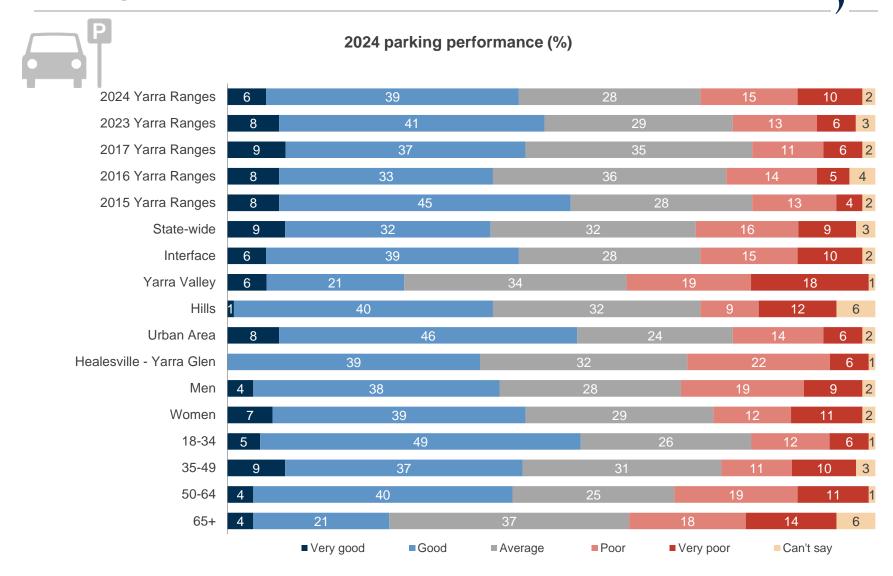


Parking facilities performance



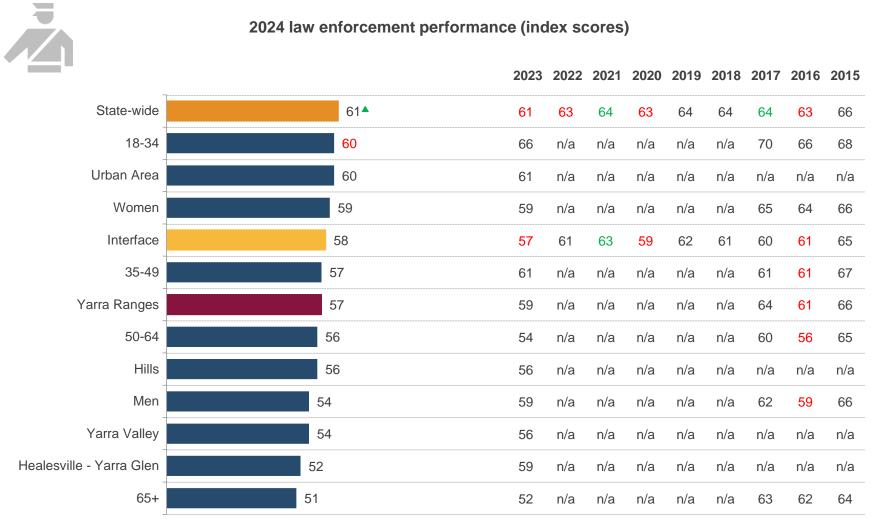
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Parking facilities' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 17 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Parking facilities performance



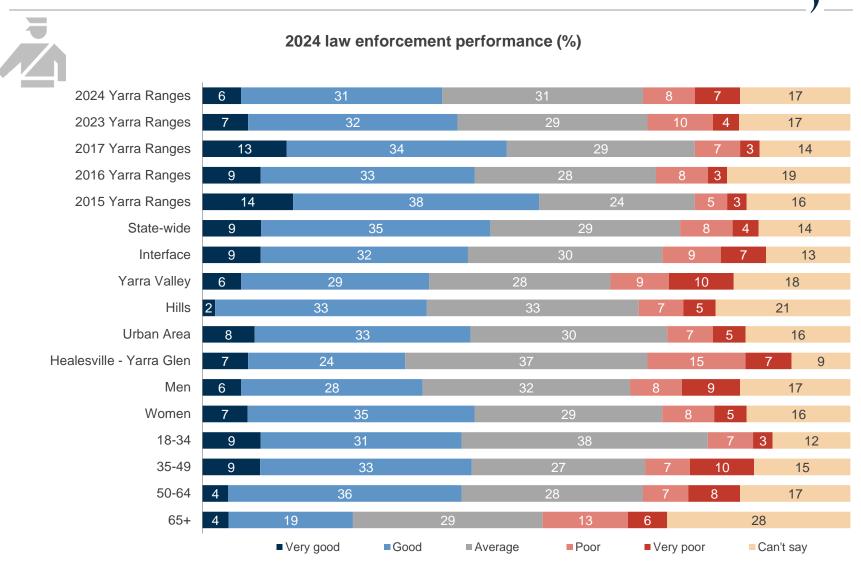
Enforcement of local laws performance





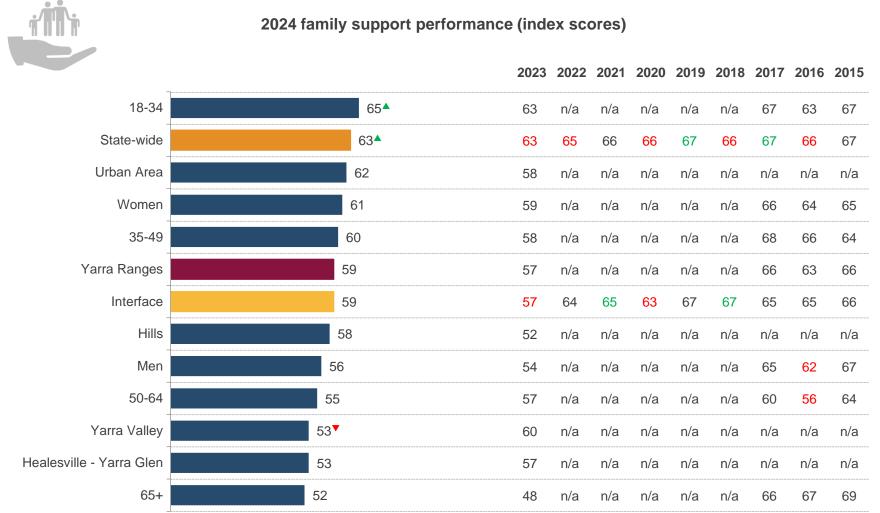
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Enforcement of local laws' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 30 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Enforcement of local laws performance



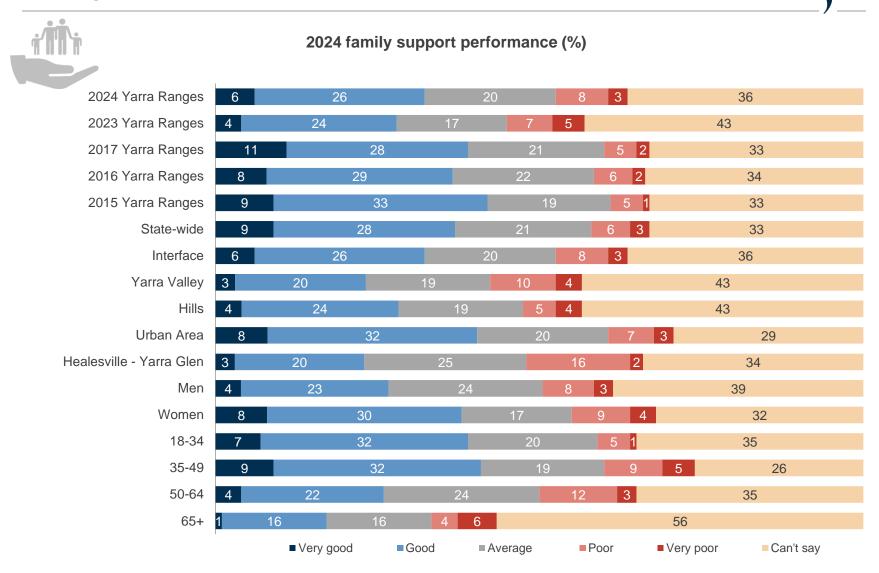
Family support services performance



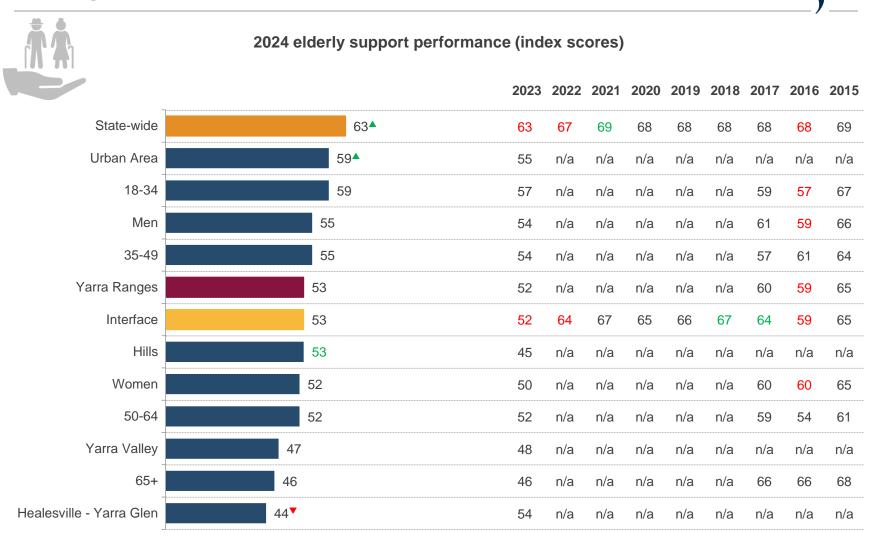


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Family support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Family support services performance

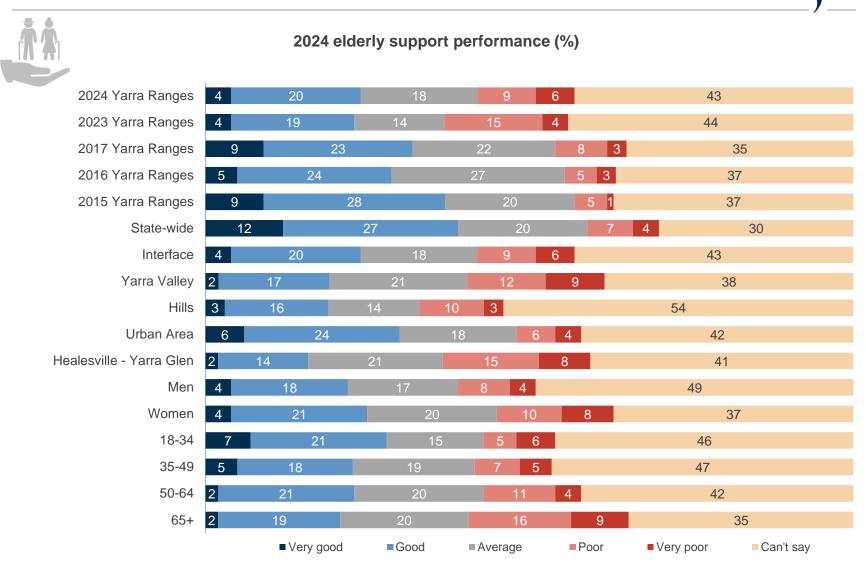


Elderly support services performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Elderly support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 23 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Elderly support services performance



Disadvantaged support services performance

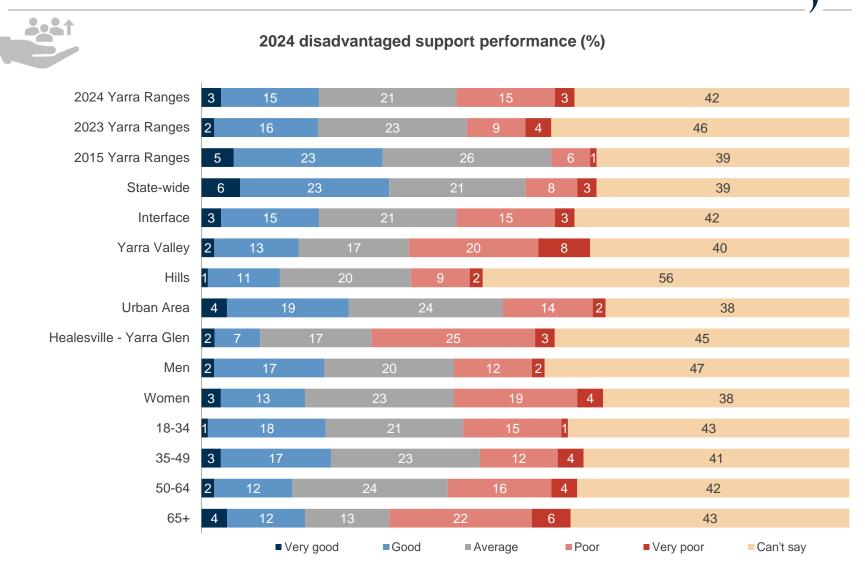


2024 disadvantaged support performance (index scores)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Disadvantaged support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 10 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Disadvantaged support services performance

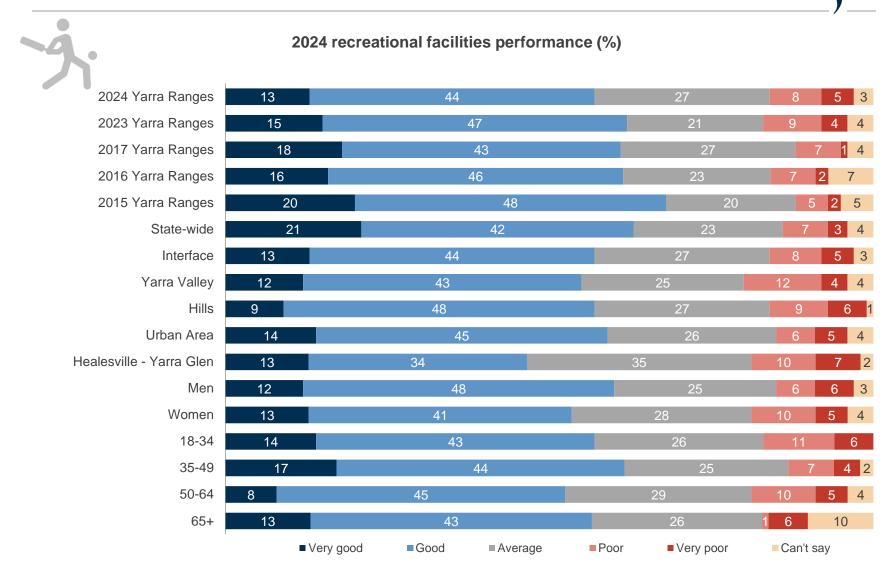


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Disadvantaged support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 10 Councils asked group: 1

Recreational facilities performance



Recreational facilities performance

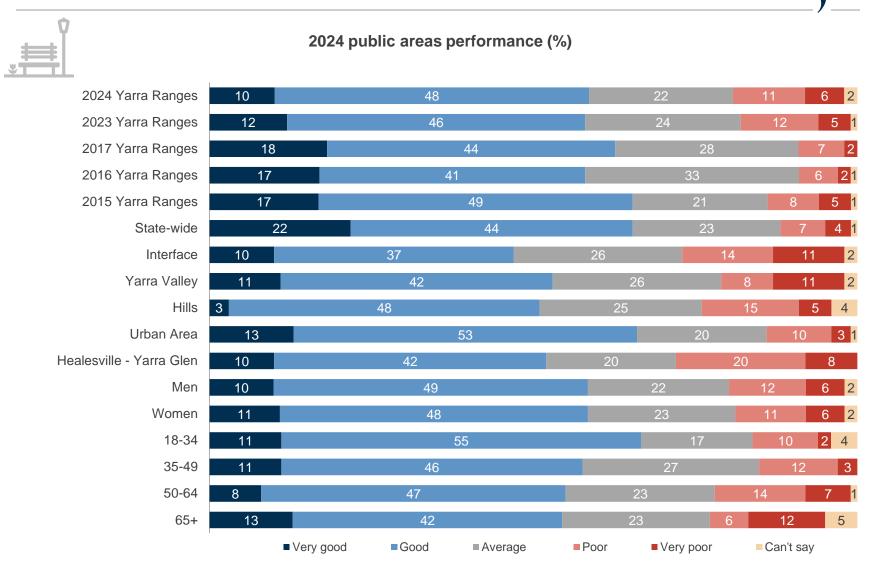


The appearance of public areas performance



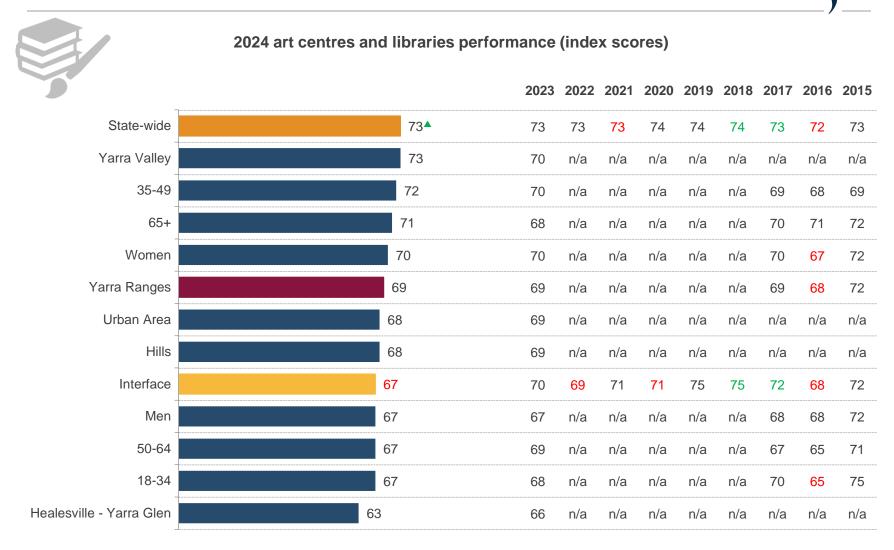
Q2. How has Council performed on 'The appearance of public areas' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 42 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

The appearance of public areas performance

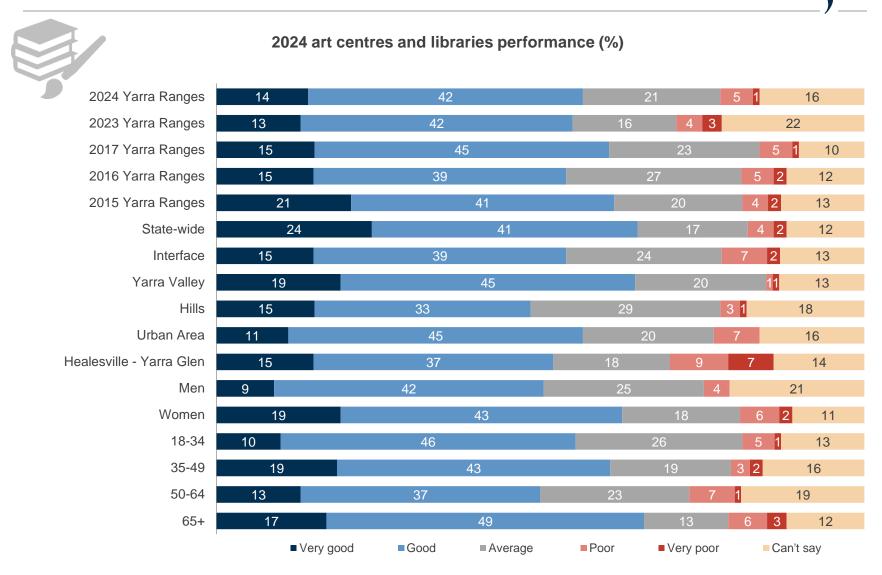


Q2. How has Council performed on 'The appearance of public areas' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 42 Councils asked group: 3

Art centres and libraries performance



Art centres and libraries performance



2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015

Community and cultural activities performance



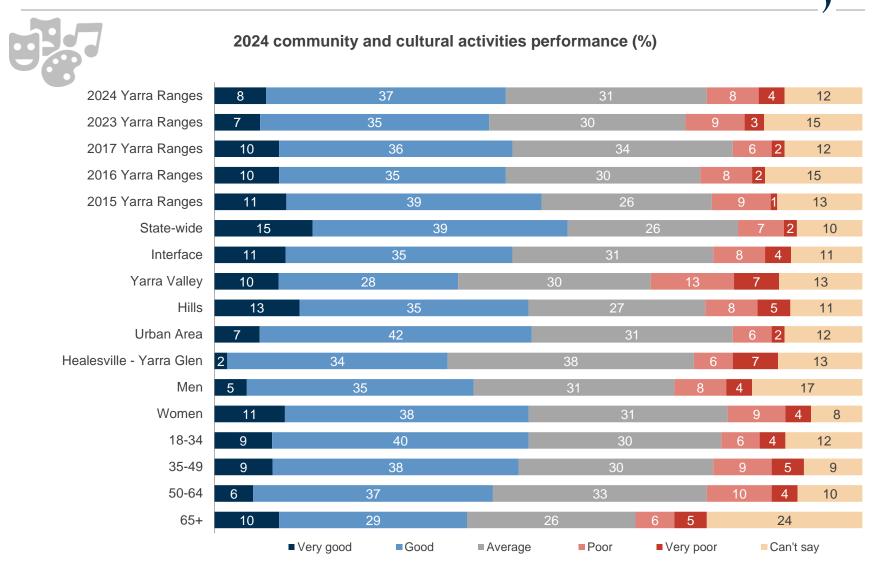


2024 community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

_										
State-wide	66▲	66	65	65	68	69	69	69	69	69
Urban Area	63	60	n/a							
Hills	62	62	n/a							
18-34	62	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	64	64
Women	62	63	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	64	64	65
Interface	62	62	62	62	66	68	67	64	63	65
65+	62	57	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	66	64	67
Yarra Ranges	60	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	63	65
35-49	60	63	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	63	63
Men	59	57	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	62	64
50-64	59	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	61	65
Yarra Valley	56	59	n/a							
Healesville - Yarra Glen	55	56	n/a							

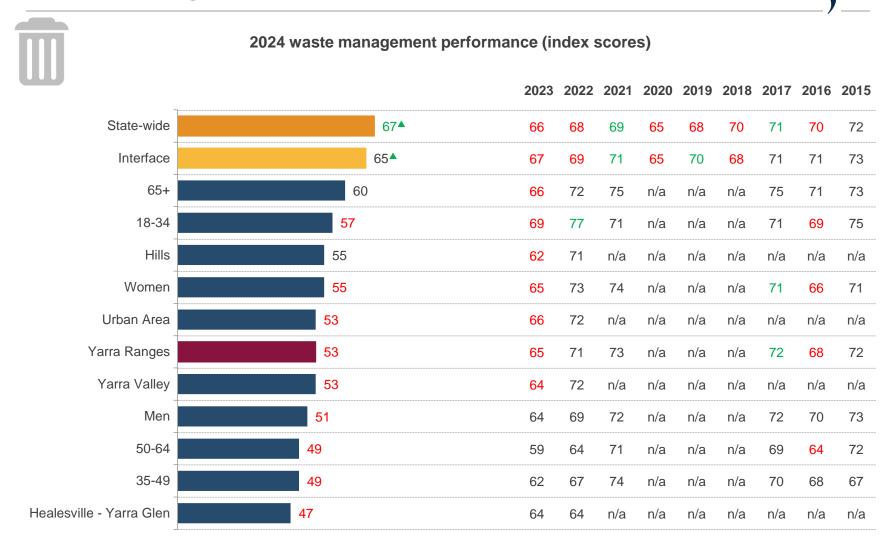
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community and cultural activities' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Community and cultural activities performance



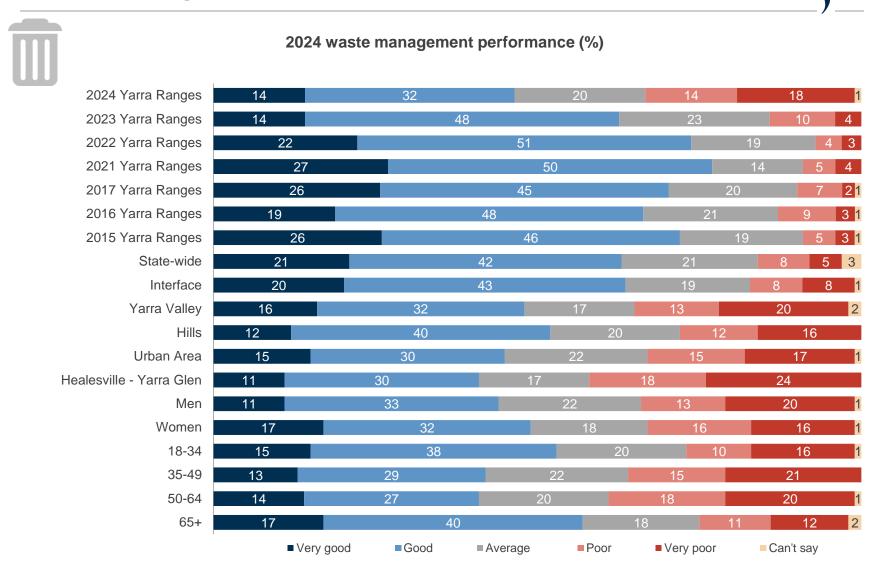
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community and cultural activities' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 26 Councils asked group: 2

Waste management performance

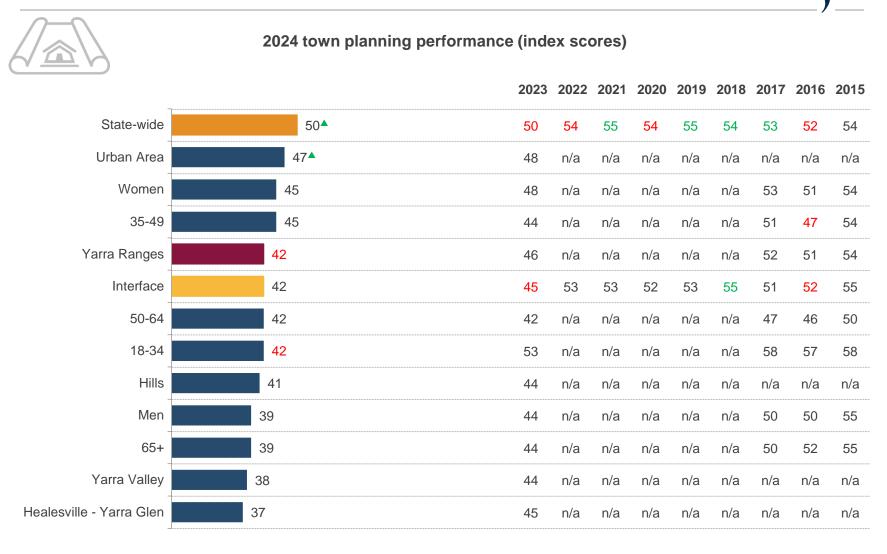


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Waste management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Waste management performance

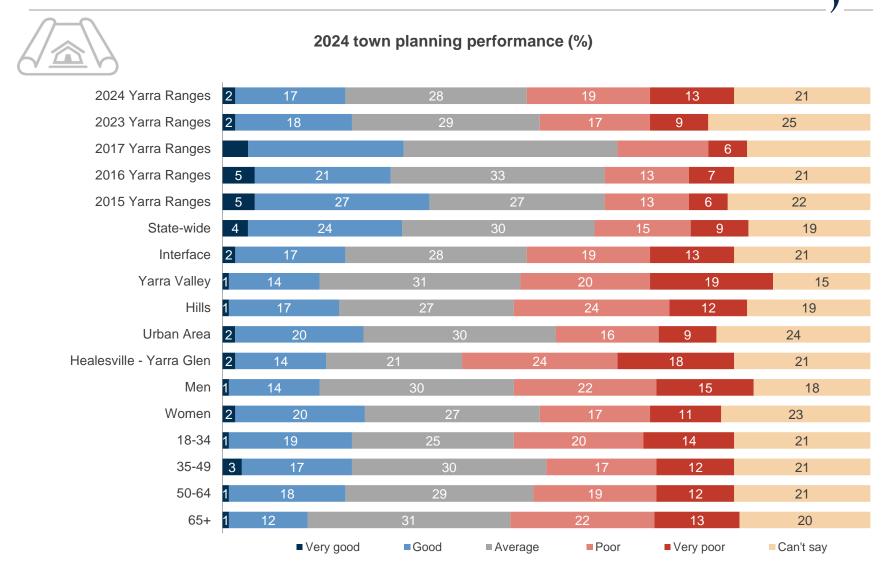


Council's general town planning policy performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Council's general town planning policy' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 19 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Council's general town planning policy performance



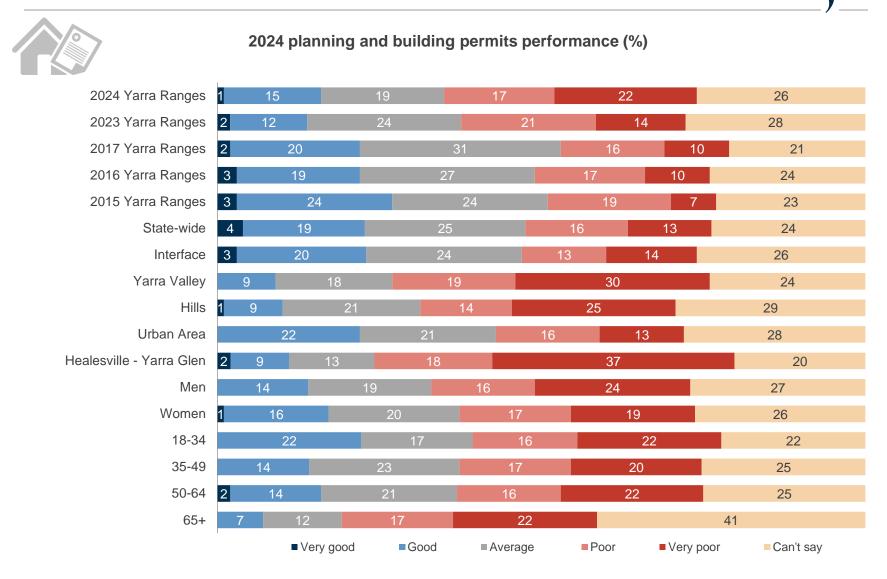
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Council's general town planning policy' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 19 Councils asked group: 1 *Caution: small sample size < n=30

Planning and building permits performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning and building permits' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 29 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Planning and building permits performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning and building permits' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 29 Councils asked group: 2

2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015

Environmental sustainability performance

2

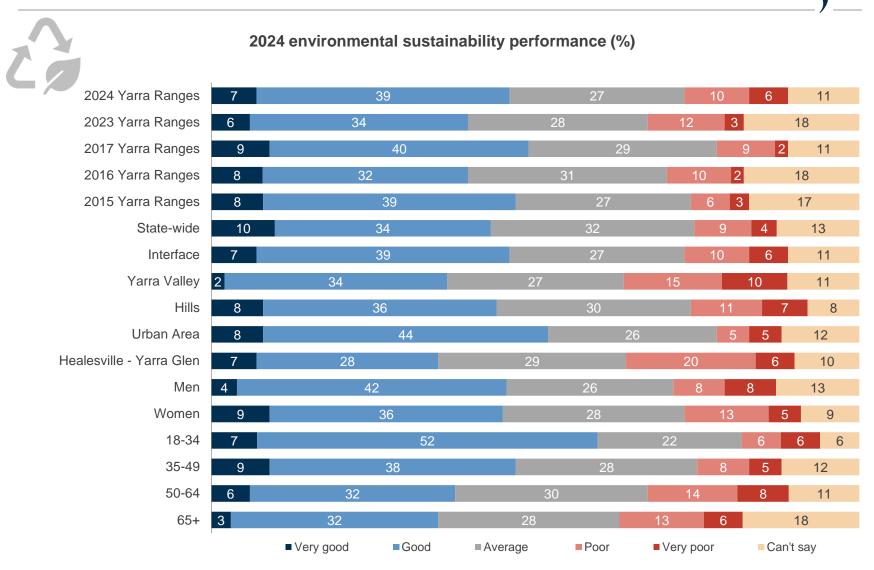


2024 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

_											
Urban Area		63▲	61	n/a							
18-34		63	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	67	62	68
35-49		61	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	60	60	62
State-wide		60	60	61	62	60	62	63	64	63	64
Women		59	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	60	63
Yarra Ranges		58	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	60	63
Interface		58	58	60	62	56	60	64	62	60	63
Men		57	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	60	63
Hills		57	56	n/a							
65+		54	55	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	63	62
50-64		54	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	54	59
Healesville - Yarra Glen	5	53	 55	n/a							
Yarra Valley	51	▼	56	n/a							

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Environmental sustainability' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 34 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Environmental sustainability performance



Emergency and disaster management performance

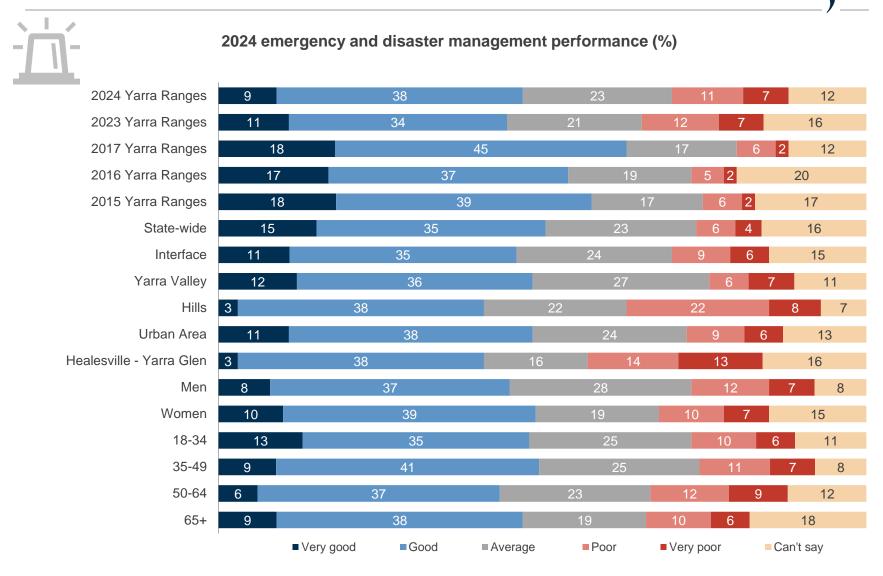


2024 emergency and disaster management performance (index scores)

		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
State-wide	65▲	65	66	71	68	72	71	70	69	70
Yarra Valley	61	59	n/a							
Urban Area	61	63	n/a							
18-34	61	62	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	73	75	71
Interface	61	62	64	69	66	73	70	69	69	70
65+	61	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	71	72	71
Women	60	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	71	71	71
35-49	60	60	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	67	66	68
Yarra Ranges	59	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	69	70
Men	57	56	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	68	69
50-64	55	53	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	65	69
Hills	52▼	54	n/a							
Healesville - Yarra Glen	51	55	n/a							

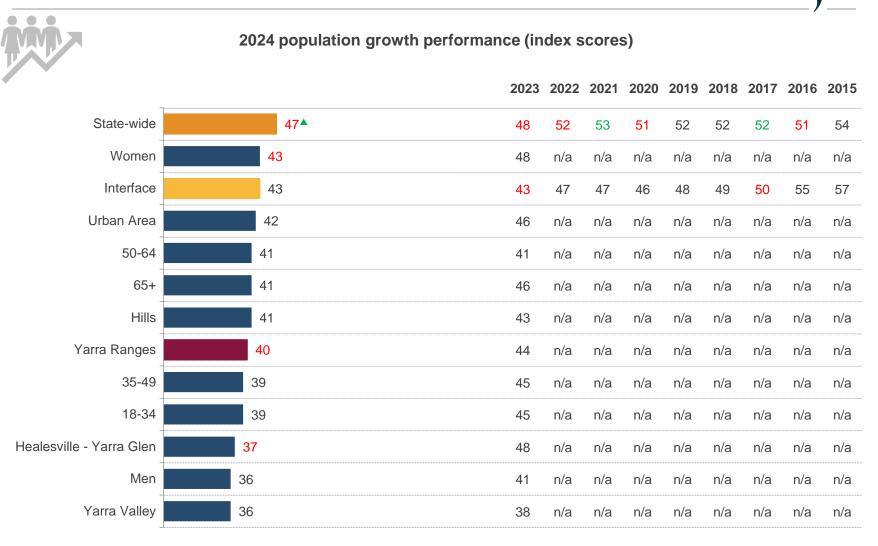
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Emergency and disaster management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Emergency and disaster management performance



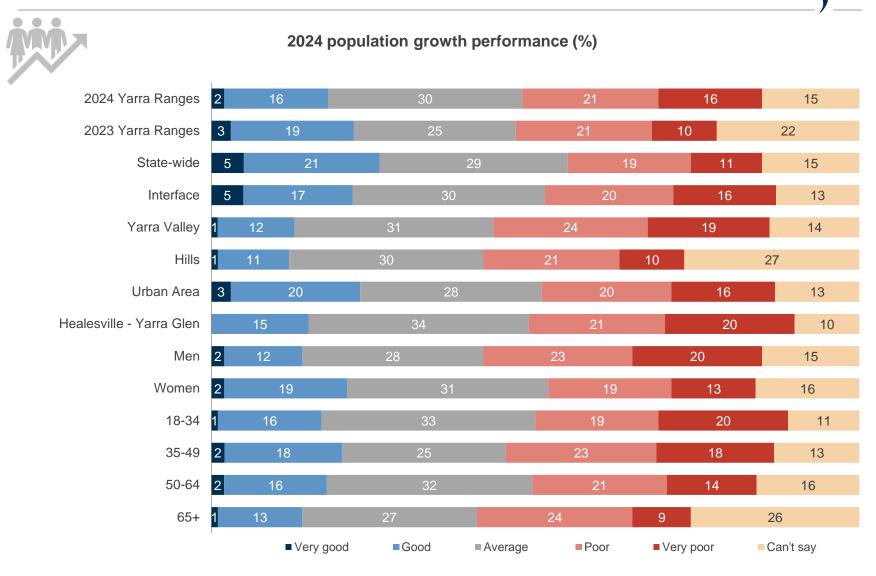
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Emergency and disaster management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 2

Planning for population growth in the area performance



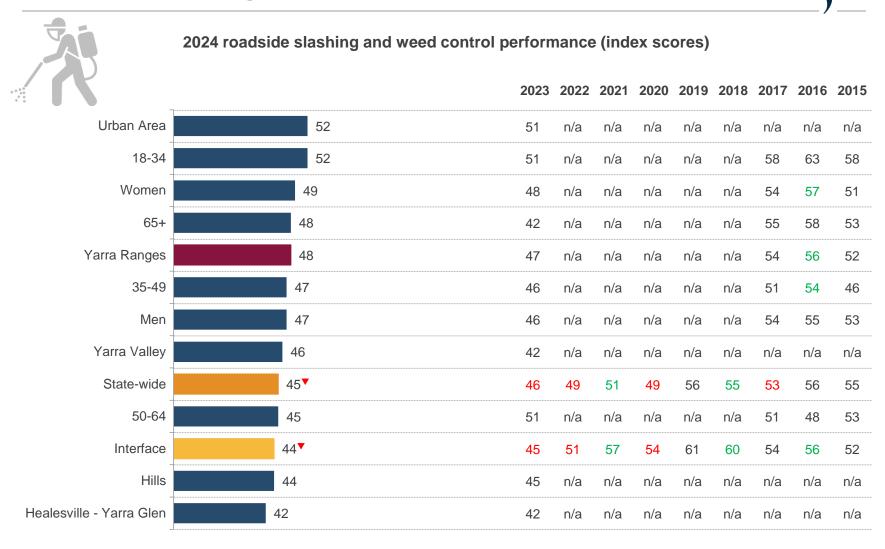
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning for population growth in the area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 17 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Planning for population growth in the area performance



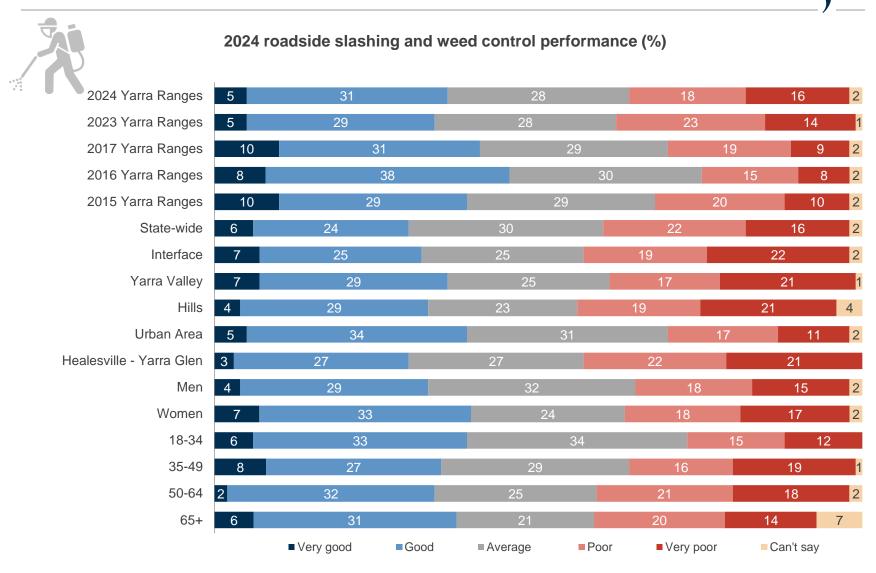
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning for population growth in the area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 17 Councils asked group: 2

Roadside slashing and weed control performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Roadside slashing and weed control' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 13 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Roadside slashing and weed control performance



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Roadside slashing and weed control' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 13 Councils asked group: 2

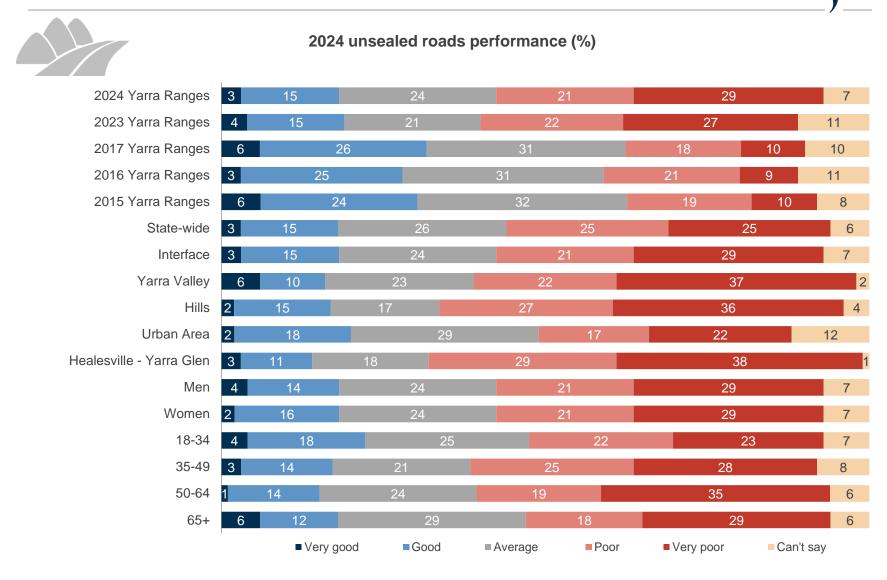
Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance

2024 unsealed roads performance (index scores)

		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Urban Area	39▲	41	n/a							
18-34	38	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	53	47	51
65+	36	38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	52	50
State-wide	36	37	41	45	44	44	43	44	43	45
Women	34	33	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	47	49
Yarra Ranges	34	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50	48	49
Interface	34	36	44	47	43	50	48	45	44	47
Men	34	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	51	49	49
35-49	33	32	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50	48	45
Yarra Valley	31	28	n/a							
50-64	31	34	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45	44	49
Hills	29	28	n/a							
Healesville - Yarra Glen	28	37	n/a							

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 1 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance

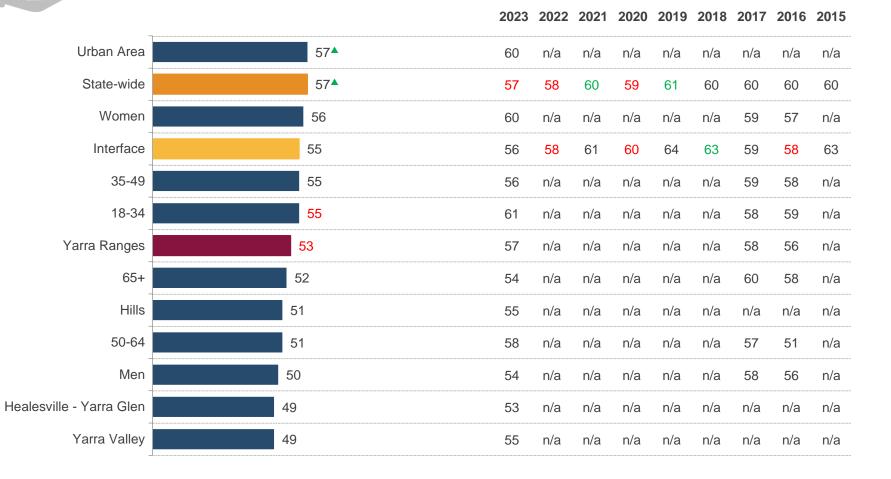


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 1

Business and community development performance

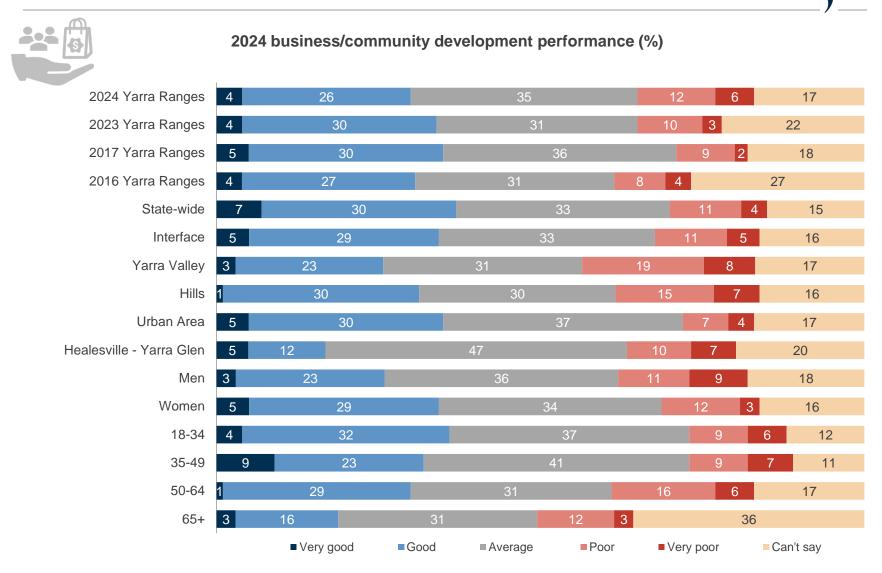
VW)





Q2. How has Council performed on 'Business and community development' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 14 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Business and community development performance



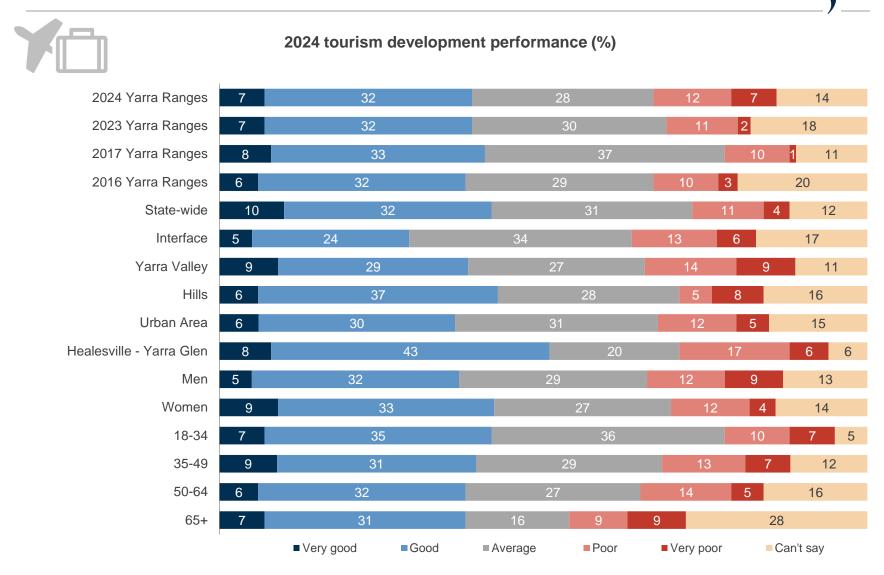
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Business and community development' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 14 Councils asked group: 2

Tourism development performance



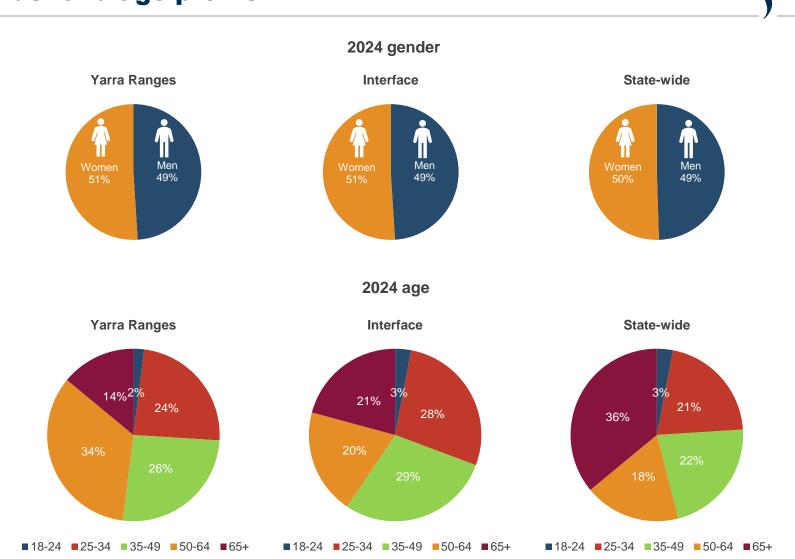
Q2. How has Council performed on 'Tourism development' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 12 Councils asked group: 2 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Tourism development performance



Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile



S3. [Record gender] / S4. To which of the following age groups do you belong?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 3

Please note that for the reason of simplifying reporting, interlocking age and gender reporting has not been included in this report. Interlocking age and gender analysis is still available in the dashboard and data tables provided alongside this report. Councils interviewing residents on an annual basis included an "Other" option for gender, hence the State-wide and Interface gender results may not add to 100%

JWSRESEARCH 105

Years lived in area

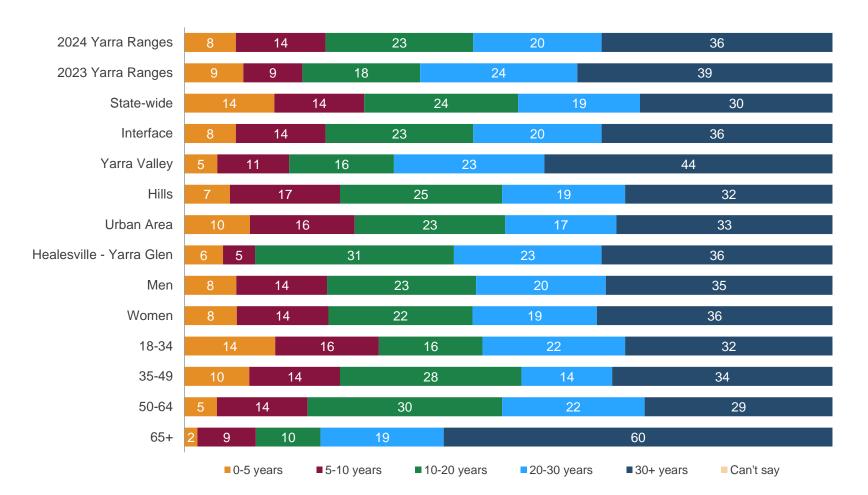






Years lived in area





2024 years lived in area (%)

S5. How long have you lived in this area?/How long have you owned a property in this area? Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 12 Councils asked group: 1 Note: For 2016, the code frame expanded out "10+ years", to include "10-20 years", "20-30 years" and "30+ years". As such, this chart presents the last five years of data only.

JWSRESEARCH 107

Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences

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

Please note that the horizontal (x) axis of the index score bar charts in this report is displayed on a scale from 20 to 100.



Appendix A: Margins of error

The sample size for the 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Yarra Ranges Shire Council was n=500. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=500 interviews is +/-4.4% 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 45.6% - 54.4%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 121,900 people aged 18 years or over for Yarra Ranges Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Yarra Ranges Shire Council	500	400	+/-4.4
Men	225	196	+/-6.5
Women	275	204	+/-5.9
Yarra Valley	116	94	+/-9.1
Hills	91	71	+/-10.3
Urban Area	241	195	+/-6.3
Healesville-Yarra Glen	52	41	+/-13.7
18-34 years	81	104	+/-11.0
35-49 years	190	103	+/-7.1
50-64 years	161	136	+/-7.7
65+ years	68	57	+/-12.0



Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



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

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

Where:

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

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

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

Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



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

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

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2024 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 2024 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2023, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 19th March.
- 2022, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 24th March.
- 2021, n=501 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28th January – 18th March.
- 2020, n=501 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2015, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.

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 Yarra Ranges 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 Yarra Ranges Shire Council.

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

A total of n=500 completed interviews were achieved in Yarra Ranges Shire Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted across four quarters from 1st June 2023 – 18th March 2024.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DGS website. In 2024, 62 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2024 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Yarra Ranges Shire Council is classified as a Interface council according to the following classification list:

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

Councils participating in the Interface group are:

• Casey, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges.

Wherever appropriate, results for Yarra Ranges Shire Council for this 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Interface 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: 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 2024 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 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.



Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2024 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/ourprograms/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: 2024 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 Mark Zuker Managing Director mzuker@jwsresearch.com

Katrina Cox Director of Client Services kcox@jwsresearch.com

JWSRESEARCH