

Local Government in Victoria 2004



Attachments

*Department for
Victorian Communities*



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Using indicators

It's the story behind them which counts; and the sharing of that story, which makes the difference.

Indicators are measures of outputs or outcomes. Individually and without associated explanations, they can only ever tell part of the story.

It is important to put indicator results in context and to remember that they only give an indication of where to start looking for the reasons behind differences. The usefulness of indicators is not in the numbers themselves but the analysis of why some local governments may appear to perform better than others, as well as insights as to how to improve their performance.

It may, therefore, be more useful to consider the combined results of several broad indicators in assessing performance rather than any one indicator on its own. When comparing one local government with another or assessing one local government's performance it is important to remember that the indicators do not on their own give the full picture of local governments' performance.

Although indicators show the differences between local governments, they do not explain why these differences have arisen. Differences may arise for many reasons, such as democratic policy choices, geographic and demographic factors, population density and external funding decisions.

The democratic nature of local government is intended to ensure that differences are reflected in different priorities and expenditure. Higher residential rates and charges for example may indicate:

- the provision of better or more extensive services (libraries, leisure centres, child care, urban development) or
- particular problems associated with delivery of services (extensive road networks, footpaths damaged by extensive tree canopies, a high aged care population with high home care needs)
- particular disadvantages (highest Metropolitan Fire Brigade rates)

Local government responsibilities and priorities vary with the circumstances, needs and expectations of their communities. Any evaluation of performance needs to be informed by consideration of the challenges faced by different local governments.

Primary documents for such evaluation include Council Plans (including Strategic Resource Plans), Budgets and Annual Reports (including Best Value Review reports).

Definitions of indicators 2004

Overall performance	Community satisfaction rating for overall performance generally of the council	Council result from the Annual Community Satisfaction Survey for Local Governments (Chart One: Summary of Results – Result No. 1), coordinated by Local Government Victoria.
Advocacy	Community satisfaction rating for Council's advocacy and community representation on key local issues	Council result from the Annual Community Satisfaction Survey for Local Governments (Chart One: Summary of Results – Result No. 4), coordinated by Local Government Victoria.
Engagement	Community satisfaction rating for Council's engagement in decision making on key local issues	Council result from the Annual Community Satisfaction Survey for Local Governments (Chart One: Summary of Results – Result No. 5), coordinated by Local Government Victoria.
All rates	Average rates and charges per assessment	<p>Rates and charges declared as being receivable, in the calculations for the adopted rates, at the beginning of the year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general rates and charges declared under ss. 160, 161, 161A of the Local Government Act 1989 • municipal charges and service rates and charges (that is, garbage services) levied under ss. 159, 162 respectively • supplementary rates declared. <p><i>divided by</i> the number of assessments used in the calculation of the adopted rate (that is, when the rate was struck).</p>
Residential rates	Average residential rates and charges per assessment	Rates and charges declared for all residential assessments (including vacant residential assessments) as defined in "All rates", except for residential assessments only <i>divided by</i> the number of residential assessments used in the calculation of the adopted rate (that is, when the rate was struck).
Operating costs	Average operating expenditure per assessment	<p>Operating expenditure per the statement of financial performance including asset sales and depreciation <i>divided by</i> the number of assessments used in the calculation of the adopted rate (that is, when the rate was struck).</p> <p><i>Note: Where major factors of expenditure such as devaluations or transfers of assets are excluded, councils should provide a note explaining what has been excluded.</i></p>
Capital expenditure	Average capital expenditure per assessment	<p>Amount of council's expenditure capitalised to the statement of financial position and contributions by a local government to major assets not owned by the local government, including expenditure on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capital renewal of existing assets which returns the service potential or the life of the asset up to that which it had originally • capital expansion which extends an existing asset at the same standard as currently enjoyed by residents to a new group of users • capital upgrade which enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service or expenditure that will increase the life of the asset beyond that which it had originally

Source data 2004

	OVERALL PERFORMANCE	ADVOCACY	ENGAGEMENT	ALL RATES	RESIDENTIAL RATES	OPERATING COSTS	
	Community satisfaction overall performance of council	Community satisfaction advocacy and community representation	Community satisfaction engagement in decision-making	Rates and charges per assessment \$	Residential rates and charges per assessment \$	Operating expenditure per assessment \$	
S	Alpine	62	62	58	911	789	1,939
S	Ararat	66	68	63	961	701	2,400
R	Ballarat	61	64	51	972	742	1,985
I	Banyule	73	69	66	799	767	1,667
S	Bass Coast	51	53	50	718	680	1,288
L	Baw Baw	68	64	60	937	780	1,865
I	Bayside	65	60	54	1,013	1,029	1,530
S	Benalla	64	63	59	1,002	915	2,516
I	Boroondara	68	61	64	1,085	1,082	1,907
O	Brimbank	63	63	61	877	838	1,351
S	Buloke	55	61	56	962	544	2,197
L	Campaspe	66	66	62	963	795	2,634
O	Cardinia	62	60	56	875	772	1,793
O	Casey	67	64	62	772	726	1,293
S	Central Goldfields	63	67	56	681	670	2,359
L	Colac-Otway	62	62	56	869	775	2,261
L	Corangamite	67	67	64	1,038	567	3,134
I	Darebin	70	66	62	889	764	1,658
L	East Gippsland	61	59	58	812	724	1,540
O	Frankston	62	59	57	807	769	1,760
S	Gannawarra	66	64	62	856	659	2,390
I	Glen Eira	67	63	54	858	821	1,340
L	Glenelg	63	62	59	908	517	2,021
S	Golden Plains	74	71	69	645	560	1,824
R	Greater Bendigo	66	64	59	872	728	1,785
O	Greater Dandenong	70	67	66	889	602	1,551
R	Greater Geelong	65	61	57	876	748	1,639
R	Greater Shepparton	67	66	59	1,071	782	2,451
S	Heppburn	62	62	62	722	654	2,022
S	Hindmarsh	64	68	61	710	441	2,175
I	Hobsons Bay	65	63	61	1,113	818	2,161
R	Horsham	70	66	63	866	791	2,184
O	Hume	66	62	61	904	735	1,720
S	Indigo	62	63	55	829	751	3,674
I	Kingston	66	64	61	884	811	1,634
O	Knox	68	66	59	839	772	1,690
R	Latrobe	60	59	55	1,007	705	2,047
S	Loddon	70	70	67	668	437	2,343
L	Macedon Ranges	57	60	55	994	989	1,811
O	Manningham	71	64	62	1,023	982	1,539
S	Mansfield	71	71	61	802	698	1,703
I	Maribymong	*	*	*	1,238	974	2,022

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	RENEWAL	RENEWAL AND MAINTENANCE	DEBTS	OPERATING RESULT	COMMENTS
Capital expenditure per assessment \$	Infrastructure renewal %	Infrastructure renewal and maintenance %	Liabilities per assessment \$	Operating result per assessment \$	Summary of comments provided by councils
430	48	77	602	263	No comments.
348	49	75	658	(210)	No comments.
448	97	97	845	637	No comments.
286	12	82	242	(108)	No comments.
212	36	68	532	184	No comments.
537	85	91	985	419	No comments.
223	60	71	705	3,616	Major factors contributing to the operating result were \$140 million revaluation / recognition of non-current assets, \$1.0 million capital grants and \$0.8 million developer's contributions. Excluding these factors the operating result would be -\$24
476	48	62	1,118	(140)	No comments.
290	76	85	541	(93)	Higher average residential rates are reflective of extensive high quality services (libraries, leisure centres, urban development, parks and gardens) combined with much lower than average grants from other levels of government
200	52	75	818	230	No comments.
587	71	83	764	153	No comments.
395	70	132	774	1,343	No comments.
184	19	53	1,344	530	No comments.
251	34	53	336	483	No comments.
594	98	91	683	(250)	No comments.
388	38	51	697	(115)	No comments.
839	58	74	837	67	No comments.
416	65	88	373	39	No comments.
327	40	69	698	55	No comments.
317	63	101	408	90	No comments.
591	76	85	598	(22)	No comments.
256	116	114	296	126	Asset revaluations of \$5.4 million have been excluded from this result
397	40	66	772	133	No comments.
564	72	81	340	360	No comments.
596	41	66	653	436	No comments.
261	38	40	488	1,108	No comments.
381	80	76	457	2,425	Major factors contributing to the operating result were \$170.5 million revaluation of land and buildings, \$17.0 million revaluation of recreation assets and \$6.6 million recognition of assets.
504	95	97	457	52	No comments.
343	44	66	592	(118)	No comments.
489	52	71	664	(75)	No comments.
416	71	84	605	75	No comments.
489	21	47	684	323	A major factor contributing to the operating result was \$5.0 million revaluation of assets.
332	41	51	753	514	No comments.
526	7	55	1,153	85	A major factor contributing to the high operating expenditure result was \$10.8 million of expenditure on private works, this ratio does not include the private works income which was comparable. Council's infrastructure renewal percentage is low due to major capital works expenditure being classified as asset upgrade rather than asset renewal or being allocated between the two categories.
86	49	60	491	1	No comments.
332	29	53	485	(152)	No comments.
564	66	101	829	(46)	No comments.
985	62	84	221	193	A major factor contributing to the capital expenditure result was \$2.2 million for works funding Vic Roads, federal government, and state government. The result excluding this funding would be \$691. Council has been debt free for a number of years, and does not have any leases in existence. During the financial year Council repaid its share of the unfunded superannuation liability in full
247	42	76	787	142	No comments.
464	63	75	384	92	No comments.
274	126	114	690	153	No comments.
267	63	69	1,494	174	Historically council has had comparatively high rates due to its relatively small size/ratebase combined with a community which has high social needs. Meribyrnong is also a rapidly ageing community with lower levels of employment and substantial infrastructure challenges exacerbated by truck/freight movements due to proximity to the ports. Council is committed to reducing the debt which it inherited. There was also a one-off environmental service charge for waste collection this year. * Community satisfaction results not included as this council did not participate in the statewide survey and consequently their individual results are not comparable.

Source data 2004

	OVERALL PERFORMANCE	ADVOCACY	ENGAGEMENT	ALL RATES	RESIDENTIAL RATES	OPERATING COSTS	
	Community satisfaction overall performance of council	Community satisfaction advocacy and community representation	Community satisfaction engagement in decision-making	Rates and charges per assessment \$	Residential rates and charges per assessment \$	Operating expenditure per assessment \$	
I	Maroondah	68	68	59	831	777	1,532
I	Melbourne	71	65	60	2,632	869	4,534
O	Melton	67	64	61	1,039	950	2,977
R	Mildura	64	65	58	1,129	862	2,300
L	Mitchell	59	61	56	800	782	1,935
L	Moira	61	64	60	912	832	1,964
I	Monash	69	63	57	714	685	1,474
I	Moonee Valley	66	64	59	954	912	1,552
L	Moorabool	59	62	58	861	790	1,883
I	Moreland	67	68	63	853	817	1,510
O	Mornington Peninsula	64	63	60	709	698	1,204
S	Mount Alexander	61	64	61	742	704	2,039
L	Moyna	66	67	63	880	752	2,699
S	Murindindi	63	66	62	900	740	2,198
O	Nilumbik	*	*	*	1,139	1,034	2,237
S	Northern Grampians	60	57	54	742	716	2,053
I	Port Phillip	69	68	67	1,009	820	1,796
S	Pyrenees	65	67	64	687	481	2,104
S	Queenscliffe	67	67	66	1,101	1,067	1,894
L	South Gippsland	60	64	60	954	782	2,057
L	Southern Grampians	67	64	57	852	592	2,303
I	Stonnington	70	64	61	922	893	1,784
S	Strathbogie	59	65	60	955	824	2,287
L	Surf Coast	53	55	56	1,035	1,029	1,813
R	Swan Hill	64	62	55	1,109	833	2,784
S	Towong	65	65	63	759	616	2,199
R	Wangaratta	67	65	61	910	767	2,440
R	Warrambool	68	68	55	945	788	2,812
L	Wellington	*	*	*	787	558	1,638
S	West Wimmera	69	70	66	723	350	2,540
I	Whitehorse	72	63	63	699	657	1,572
O	Whittlesea	72	67	63	987	820	1,727
R	Wodonga	78	78	69	1,202	1,083	2,779
O	Wyndham	70	68	65	1,180	931	1,993
I	Yarra	66	65	61	1,207	934	2,048
O	Yarra Ranges	65	63	58	971	931	1,704
S	Yarriambiack	63	65	61	786	363	2,119
		Indexed mean	Indexed mean	Indexed mean	Median	Median	Median
	Sector results	65	64	60	889	772	1,985
I	Inner metro	68	65	61	922	820	1658
O	Outer metro	66	64	61	897	796	1712
R	Regional cities	66	65	58	972	782	2300
L	Large shires	62	63	59	908	775	1964
S	Small shires	64	65	61	773	675	2186

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	RENEWAL	RENEWAL AND MAINTENANCE	DEBTS	OPERATING RESULT	COMMENTS
Capital expenditure per assessment \$	Infrastructure renewal %	Infrastructure renewal and maintenance %	Liabilities per assessment \$	Operating result per assessment \$	Summary of comments provided by councils
189	49	64	409	39	No comments.
777	119	116	1,498	(921)	No comments.
285	27	37	804	1,273	No comments.
443	88	91	1,182	324	No comments.
550	94	96	719	(30)	No comments.
377	42	27	710	33	No comments.
238	55	66	461	612	A major factor contributing to the operating result was \$40.0 million revaluation of assets.
273	115	110	489	(37)	No comments.
316	67	93	660	10	No comments.
202	47	65	327	(19)	No comments.
345	50	79	533	206	No comments.
512	33	55	718	(150)	No comments.
912	83	87	586	9	No comments.
573	56	77	884	163	No comments.
593	153	201	584	940	The renewal and renewal and maintenance indicators have been calculated using completed projects at the year end rather than current spending for the year, the difference being work in progress. The adjusted percentages would be around 44 and 106 respectively. * Community satisfaction results not included as this council did not participate in the statewide survey and consequently their individual results are not comparable.
387	93	88	706	(24)	No comments.
391	80	103	483	600	No comments.
771	90	93	567	125	No comments.
242	128	115	668	(72)	No comments.
379	115	107	1,198	(4)	No comments.
562	56	78	667	237	No comments.
345	135	125	568	208	No comments.
534	119	107	1,146	3	No comments.
232	46	105	1,030	595	No comments.
443	12	55	1,033	(230)	No comments.
577	77	89	405	89	No comments.
568	43	72	1,106	148	No comments.
390	58	74	927	325	No comments.
479	29	54	793	242	* Community satisfaction results not included as this council did not participate in the statewide survey and consequently their individual results are not comparable.
779	43	60	362	1,032	A major factor contributing to the operating result was a \$4.3 million asset revaluation. Excluding this the results would have been \$79.
338	109	106	264	(106)	No comments.
485	36	63	659	940	No comments.
453	22	47	1,933	808	Our overall community satisfaction performance results indicate that our communication process is working well and we are doing what our community want to see happen. In the areas of advocacy and engagement the results show that our Councillors are in touch with the community and represent them well. Council increased its borrowing level as its contribution to a project of State significance, Logic National Distribution Hub. Other funding has been received from State Government and the private sector. The value of assets acquired by Council as a result of this are well in excess of Council's debt in relation on the project.
534	42	55	731	998	No comments.
352	104	103	756	91	No comments.
384	20	54	637	7	No comments.
685	92	94	517	22	No comments.
Median	Median	Median	Median	Median	
395	58	77	667	125	
286	76	85	483	39	
332	40	55	610	488	
453	58	74	845	324	
395	58	76	772	67	
530	67	82	661	53	

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