LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY 2014

RESEARCH REPORT

COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, PLANNING AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE ON BEHALF OF VICTORIAN COUNCILS



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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to the report of results and recommendations for the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Each year Local Government Victoria (LGV) coordinates and auspices this State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey throughout Victorian local government areas. This coordinated approach allows for far more cost effective surveying than would be possible if councils commissioned surveys individually.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional and participating councils have a range of choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.

The main objectives of the survey are to assess the performance of Victorian councils across a range of measures and to seek insight into ways to provide improved or more effective service delivery. The survey also provides councils with a means to fulfil some of their statutory reporting requirements as well as acting as a feedback mechanism to LGV.

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SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLING

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in participating councils.

Survey sample was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 10% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents in the council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=27,906 completed interviews were achieved across all participating councils. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 31 January – 11 March 2014.

The 2013 results against which 2014 results are compared involved a total of n=29,501 completed interviews across all participating councils conducted in the period of 1 February – 24 March, 2013.

The 2012 results against which results are compared involved a total of n=29,384 completed interviews across all participating councils conducted in the period of 4 May – 30 June 2012.

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SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLING

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 each 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.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLING

Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing blue and downward directing red arrows. Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly <u>lower</u> than for the overall result for the council. Further, results shown in red indicate a significantly lower result than in 2013, while results shown in blue indicate a significantly higher result than in 2013, for example, below the result among 35-49 year olds is significantly <u>higher</u> than the result achieved among this group in 2013.





Note: For details on the calculations used to determine statistically significant differences, please refer to Appendix A.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Further Information

Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in <u>Appendix A</u>, including:

- Background and objectives
- Margins of error
- Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on (03) 8685 8555.



Across Victorian councils, there have been significant increases on the **core measures** of overall performance, customer service and advocacy. Consultation and overall council direction ratings remain unchanged from 2013.

The average **overall performance** rating has increased by 1 point in 2014, to a score of 61. This overall performance increase has been driven by significant increases from last year's 2013 results among Inner Metropolitan councils, Outer Metropolitan councils, Small Rural Shires, women, and 65+ year olds.

- ➤ In 2014, Inner Metropolitan councils, Outer Metropolitan councils, women, 18-34 year olds and 65+ year olds award significantly higher than average 2014 overall performance ratings across the state.
- ➤ On the flipside, men, 35-49 year olds, 50-64 year olds, Regional Centres, Small Rural Shires and Large Rural Shires all rate overall performance significantly lower than average.

The proportion of residents making **contact with their local council** has increased significantly in 2014, by one percentage point up to 61%.

Phone contact is still the most common method of making contact with council, with 39% of Victorians reporting they have contacted their council via this method in 2014.

Customer service ratings have also increased significantly across the state, up 1 point to 72. Customer service is usually the highest rated core measure for most councils, and it tends to rate highly against other service areas as well.

- Inner Metropolitan councils, women and 65+ year olds are significantly more satisfied with their customer service experiences, while Small Rural Shires, Large Rural Shires, 18-64 year olds and men award significantly lower ratings.
- Customer service is rated highest for in person contact (77) ratings for customer service received in person and by telephone have increased significantly from 2013 (each by 3 points). Written contact is scored lowest for customer service, at 69.
- Victorians often mention customer service unprompted as one of the best things about their local council.

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Overall council direction ratings remain unchanged at 53, although this result does mask some significant increases from 2013 among women (up 1 point), and in Small Rural Shires (up 2 points).

➤ 63% of Victorians see no change in their council's direction, while 20% believe it has improved and 13% believe it has decreased.

Positively, 73% of Victorians in councils that asked about **future direction** believe their council is generally headed in the right direction (21% definitely so).

The proportion of Victorians who believe their council is headed in the right direction has been steadily increasing since 2012, up from two thirds (67%) in 2012 to almost three quarters (73%) in 2014.

That said, 91% of Victorians think there is **room for improvement** in their local council, including 41% who believe there is *a lot* of room for improvement, although this is down 5 points on 2012.

Community consultation ratings are also largely unchanged. Overall, the community consultation score of 57 is equal to 2013, and the only significant movement in this score was a 1 point increase in consultation ratings in Inner Metropolitan councils.

By contrast, **advocacy** ratings have increased significantly, by 1 point to 56. Significant increases were registered across a range of demographic and council groupings, including:

- Inner Metropolitan councils
- Small Rural Shires
- Large Rural Shires
- Women
- > 35-49 year olds
- ➤ 50-64 year olds

In terms of **individual service areas**, there have been statistically significant increases in performance across 12 services:

- Art centres and libraries (+2)
- Waste management (+2)
- Disadvantaged support services (+2)
- The appearance of public areas (+1)
- Recreational facilities (+1)
- Emergency and disaster management (+1)
- Elderly support services (+1)
- Community and cultural activities (+1)
- Family support services (+1)
- ➤ The enforcement of local laws (+1)
- Informing the community (+1)
- Maintenance of unsealed roads (+1)

The only decrease in performance on any service area at a state-wide level in 2014 is in **planning and building permits** – down 2 points to a score of 53; the second-lowest rated service area behind unsealed road maintenance.

Many demographic and council groupings recorded significantly decreased performance ratings for planning permits: Outer Metropolitan councils and Regional Centres dropped 4 points each on this measure, 35-49 year olds rated 3 points lower than in 2013, and 1 point decreases were registered by both women and men.

Unsealed road maintenance, despite a 1 point increase in performance ratings in 2014, remained the lowest rated of any service area, with a score of 45. Unsealed roads are a perennial challenge for regional and semi-regional councils; Large Rural Shires in particular rate it significantly lower than average (score of 43), and it remains the service area with the largest gap between residents' rated importance and councils' perceived performance (importance – performance = -33).

Sealed road maintenance issues are also mentioned unprompted as a key area for improvement by 12% of Victorians.

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Across the state, Councils are consistently perceived as performing better on art centres and libraries and community and cultural activities than residents' rated importance of these services. By contrast, in addition to unsealed road maintenance (-33), the biggest gaps between rated importance and perceived performance are on:

- Making decisions in the interest of the community (-22)
- Sealed road maintenance (-22)
- Planning for population growth (-21)
- Roadside slashing and weed control (-20)

Positively, emergency and disaster management and waste management are often among residents' top five most important services, and these are also services that feature regularly in councils' top five best performing services.

Emergency and disaster management is particularly important for regional and rural councils, and Large Rural Shires and Regional Centres in particular are rated significantly higher than average for performance on this measure.

On the whole, 18-34 year olds and 65+ year olds tend to rate their councils higher, while 50-64 year olds are less positively disposed towards council. Inner Metropolitan councils tend to attract some of the highest performance ratings, while Outer Metropolitan councils and especially Large Rural Shires councils often rate significantly lower.

On the question of whether residents would prefer rate rises to pay for extra services or would prefer to see services cut to maintain current rate levels, 36% would prefer rate rises while 47% would prefer service cuts; a virtually unchanged split to 2013.

- Those who would prefer service cuts do so more intensely than those who would prefer rate rises: 23% would definitely prefer service cuts, more than twice those who would definitely prefer rate rises (11%).
- Perhaps unsurprisingly, council groups whose residents rate their council's performance higher than average across the board are more willing to consider rate rises: for example, 43% of Inner Metropolitan respondents would prefer rate rises (compared to 42% who would prefer service cuts), but just 28% of Large Rural Shires respondents would prefer rate rises (53% service cuts).

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Finally, when it comes to receiving **communications** from council, a newsletter in the mail is still the preferred method of communication.

This is the case for both under 50s and over 50s, but while the gap between mailed newsletters and emailed newsletters is narrowing among under 50s (36% prefer mail, 24% prefer email), among over 50s there is still a very large gap between mail and email preference (43% prefer mail, 18% prefer email).

Please note: The category descriptions for the coded open ended responses are summaries only. We recommend further analysis of the detailed cross tabulations and the actual verbatim responses, with a view to understanding the responses in more detail and by their demographic profile, especially for any over or under performing target groups identified for individual councils. This can be achieved via additional consultation and data interrogation, or self-mining the SPSS data provided or via the dashboard portal available to Councils.

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Higher results in 2014

- Art centres and libraries (+2)
- Waste management (+2)
- Disadvantaged support services (+2)

Lower results in 2014

Planning and building permits (-2)

Most favourably disposed towards Council

- 18-34 year olds
- Inner Melbourne Metro

Least favourably disposed towards Council

- 50-64 year olds
- Large Rural Shires



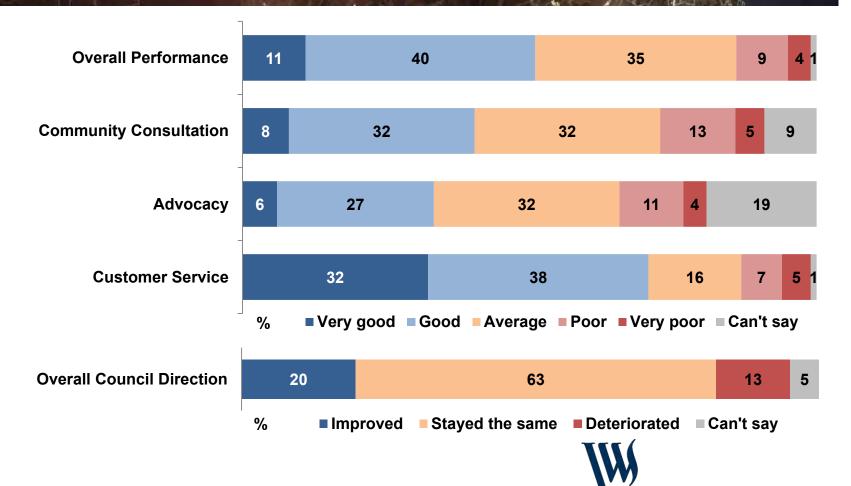
2014 SUMMARY OF CORE MEASURES INDEX SCORE RESULTS

Performance Measures	Overall 2012	Overall 2013	Overall 2014
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	60	60	61
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (Community consultation and engagement)	57	57	57
ADVOCACY (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	55	55	56
CUSTOMER SERVICE	71	71	72
OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION	52	53	53

2014 SUMMARY OF CORE MEASURES DETAILED ANALYSIS

Performance Measures	Overall 2014	vs. Overall 2013	Highest score amongst	Lowest score amongst
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	61	1 points higher	Inner Melbourne Metro	Large Rural Shires
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (Community consultation and engagement)	57	Equal	18-34 year olds	50-64 year olds
ADVOCACY (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	56	1 points higher	18-34 year olds	50-64 year olds
CUSTOMER SERVICE	72	1 points higher	Inner Melbourne Metro	Large Rural Shires
OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION	53	Equal	Outer Melbourne Metro	50-64 year olds

2014 SUMMARY OF KEY COMMUNITY SATISFACTION PERCENTAGE RESULTS



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INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AREAS SUMMARY KEY RESULTS

Highest results in 2014

- Art centres and libraries (75)
- Waste management (73)
- The appearance of public areas (72)

Lowest results in 2014

- Unsealed road maintenance (45)
- Planning and building permits (53)
- Planning for population growth (54)

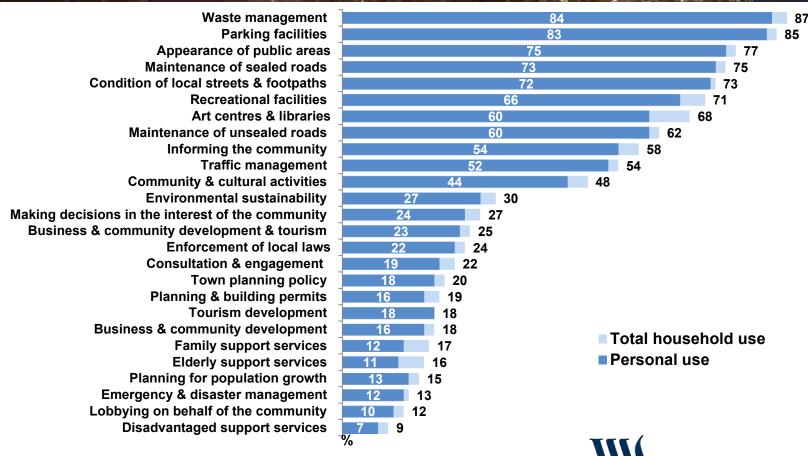
Most favourably disposed towards Council

- 18-34 year olds
- 65+ year olds
- Inner Melbourne Metro

Least favourably disposed towards Council

- 50-64 year olds
- Large Rural Shires
- Outer Melbourne Metro

2014 PERCENTAGE PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD USE AND EXPERIENCE OF COUNCIL SERVICES



Q4. In the last 12 months, have you or has any member of your household used or experienced any of the following services provided by Council?

Base: All respondents.

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INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AREA SUMMARY IMPORTANCE VS PERFORMANCE

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

Service	Importance	Performance	Net differential
Maintenance of unsealed roads	78	45	-33
Making decisions in the interest of the community	79	57	-22
Maintenance of sealed roads	77	55	-22
Planning for population growth	75	54	-21
Slashing & weed control	75	55	-20
Condition of local streets & footpaths	77	58	-19
Planning & building permits	71	53	-18
Consultation & engagement	74	57	-17
Town planning policy	72	55	-17
Lobbying on behalf of the community	70	56	-14
Informing the community	75	62	-13
Parking facilities	70	57	-13
Traffic management	70	60	-10

2014 IMPORTANCE SUMMARY

	2014	2013	2012
Emergency & disaster mngt	80	80	80
Elderly support services	79	79	80
Waste management	79	79	78
Community decisions	79	n/a	n/a
Unsealed roads	78	81	80
Local streets & footpaths	77	78	77
Sealed roads	77	n/a	n/a
Informing the community	75	75	75
Population growth	75	75	75
Slashing & weed control	75	74	71
Consultation & engagement	74	73	73
Appearance of public areas	73	74	73
Environmental sustainability	73	72	71
Family support services	72	73	73
Disadvantaged support serv.	72	73	73
Recreational facilities	72	72	72
Town planning policy	72	73	72
Planning & building permits	71	71	71
Lobbying	70	70	70
Traffic management	70	72	73
Parking facilities	70	71	71
Enforcement of local laws	70	71	70
Business & community dev.	69	n/a	n/a
Bus/community dev./tourism	67	67	66
Art centres & libraries	66	66	66
Tourism development	65	n/a	n/a
Community & cultural	62	62	62

Base: All respondents.

2014 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

	2014	2013	2012
Art centres & libraries	75	73	73
Waste management	73	71	72
Appearance of public areas	72	71	71
Recreational facilities	71	70	70
Emergency & disaster mngt	71	70	70
Elderly support services	70	69	69
Community & cultural	70	69	68
Family support services	68	67	67
Enforcement of local laws	66	65	65
Disadvantaged support serv.	64	62	63
Environmental sustainability	64	64	64
Tourism development	64	n/a	n/a
Informing the community	62	61	60
Bus/community dev./tourism	62	62	62
Business & community dev.	62	n/a	n/a
Traffic management	60	60	58
Local streets & footpaths	58	58	57
Consultation & engagement	57	57	57
Parking facilities	57	57	56
Community decisions	57	n/a	n/a
Lobbying]	56	55	55
Town planning policy]	55	55	54
Slashing & weed control	55	56	61
Sealed roads	55	n/a	n/a
Population growth]	54	54	52
Planning & building permits	53	55	54
Unsealed roads]	45	44	46

Base: All respondents.

2014 IMPORTANCE SUMMARY BY COUNCIL GROUP

Top Five Most Important Service Areas

(Highest to Lowest, i.e. #1 – Most Important)

Overall	Inner Metro	Outer Metro	Regional Centres	Small Rural Shires	Large Rural Shires
 Emergency & disaster mngt Elderly support services Waste management Community decisions Unsealed roads 	 Waste management Community decisions Elderly support services Local streets & footpaths Emergency & disaster mngt 	 Elderly support services Emergency & disaster mngt Local streets & footpaths Waste management Unsealed roads 	 Emergency & disaster mngt Community decisions Waste management Elderly support services Sealed roads 	 Emergency & disaster mngt Community decisions Sealed roads Unsealed roads Elderly support services 	 Emergency & disaster mngt Community decisions Sealed roads Elderly support services Unsealed roads

2014 IMPORTANCE SUMMARY BY COUNCIL GROUP

Bottom Five Most Important Service Areas

(Lowest to Highest, i.e. #1 – Least Important)

Overall	Inner Metro	Outer Metro	Regional Centres	Small Rural Shires	Large Rural Shires
 Community & cultural Tourism development Art centres & libraries Bus/community dev./tourism Business & community dev. 	 Bus/community dev./tourism Community & cultural Slashing & weed control Business & community dev. Lobbying 	 Tourism development Community & cultural Bus/community dev./tourism Art centres & libraries Lobbying 	 Community & cultural Art centres & libraries Tourism development Lobbying Planning permits 	 Community & cultural Art centres & libraries Traffic management Parking facilities Tourism development 	 Community & cultural Art centres & libraries Parking facilities Traffic management Tourism development

2014 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY BY COUNCIL GROUP

Top Five Highest Performing Service Areas

(Highest to Lowest, i.e. #1 – Highest Performing)

Overall	Inner Metro	Outer Metro	Regional Centres	Small Rural Shires	Large Rural Shires
 Art centres & libraries Waste management Appearance of public areas Recreational facilities Emergency & disaster mngt 	 Art centres & libraries Waste management Recreational facilities Appearance of public areas Community & cultural 	 Art centres & libraries Waste management Emergency & disaster mngt Recreational facilities Family support services 	 Art centres & libraries Emergency & disaster mngt Appearance of public areas Waste management Recreational facilities 	 Appearance of public areas Art centres & libraries Elderly support services Waste management Community & cultural 	 Art centres & libraries Emergency & disaster mngt Appearance of public areas Waste management Elderly support services

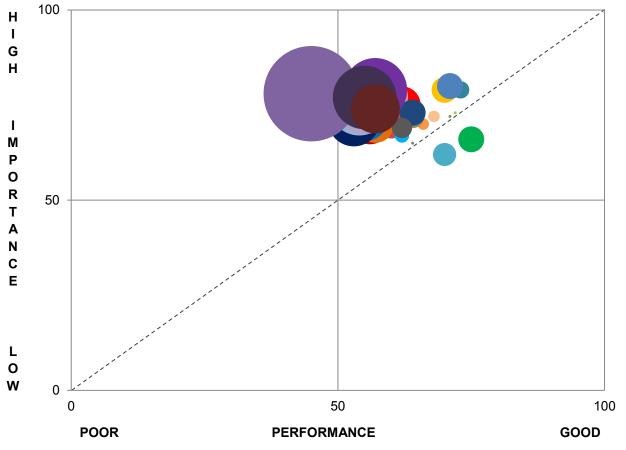
2014 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY BY COUNCIL GROUP

Bottom Five Lowest Performing Service Areas

(Lowest to Highest, i.e. #1 – Lowest Performing)

Overall	Inner Metro	Outer Metro	Regional Centres	Small Rural Shires	Large Rural Shires
 Unsealed roads Planning & building permits Population growth Sealed road maintenance Slashing & weed control 	 Planning & building permits Population growth Tourism development Town planning policy Parking facilities 	 Unsealed roads Planning & building permits Town planning policy Lobbying Traffic management 	 Unsealed roads Parking facilities Sealed roads Planning & building permits Town planning policy 	 Unsealed roads Sealed roads Slashing & weed control Planning & building permits Town planning policy 	 Sealed roads Unsealed roads Slashing & weed control Population growth Local streets & footpaths

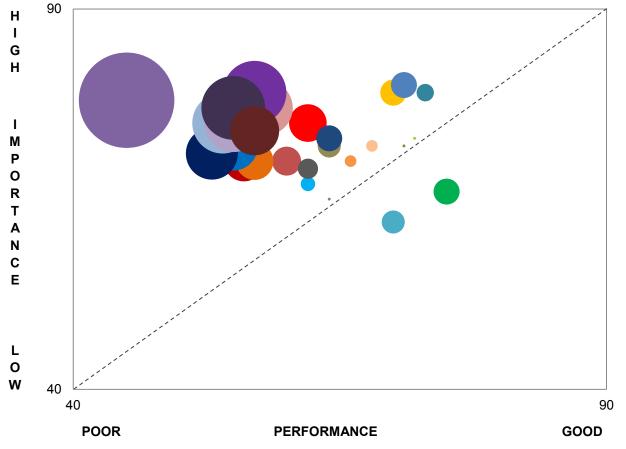
Importance and Performance 2014 Index Scores Grid



Note: The larger the circle, the larger the gap between importance and performance
Base: All respondents

Service	Importance	Performance
Consultation & engagement	74	57
Lobbying on behalf of the community	70	56
Informing the community	75	62
Condition of local streets & footpaths	77	58
Traffic management	70	60
Parking facilities	70	57
Enforcement of local laws	70	66
Family support services	72	68
Elderly support services	79	70
Disadvantaged support services	72	64
Recreational facilities	72	71
Appearance of public areas	73	72
Art centres & libraries	66	75
Community & cultural activities	62	70
Waste management	79	73
Business & community development & tourism	67	62
Town planning policy	72	55
Planning & building permits	71	53
Environmental sustainability	73	64
Emergency & disaster management	80	71
Planning for population growth	75	54
Slashing & weed control	75	55
Maintenance of unsealed roads	78	45
Making decisions in the interest of the community	79	57
Maintenance of sealed roads	77	55
Business & community development	69	62
Tourism development	65	64
TTT		

Importance and Performance 2014 Index Scores Grid (Magnified view of top right quadrant)



Note: The larger the circle, the larger the gap between importance and performance
Base: All respondents

Service	Importance	Performance
Consultation & engagement	74	57
Lobbying on behalf of the community	70	56
Informing the community	75	62
Condition of local streets & footpaths	77	58
Traffic management	70	60
Parking facilities	70	57
Enforcement of local laws	70	66
Family support services	72	68
Elderly support services	79	70
Disadvantaged support services	72	64
Recreational facilities	72	71
Appearance of public areas	73	72
Art centres & libraries	66	75
Community & cultural activities	62	70
Waste management	79	73
Business & community development & tourism	67	62
Town planning policy	72	55
Planning & building permits	71	53
Environmental sustainability	73	64
Emergency & disaster management	80	71
Planning for population growth	75	54
Slashing & weed control	75	55
Maintenance of unsealed roads	78	45
Making decisions in the interest of the community	79	57
Maintenance of sealed roads	77	55
Business & community development	69	62
Tourism development	65	64
777		

POSITIVES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT SUMMARY

BEST THINGS

- -Parks and gardens
- -Recreational/ Sporting facilities
- -Customer service
- -Councillors

- -Sealed road maintenance
- -Communication
- -Community consultation

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Each response category was volunteered by roughly one in ten respondents. Road maintenance is a common concern across councils, particularly those outside the Melbourne metropolitan area.

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COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY

Overall preferred forms of communication

• Newsletter sent via mail (39)

Preferred forms of communication among over 50s

• Newsletter sent via mail (43)

Preferred forms of communication among under 50s

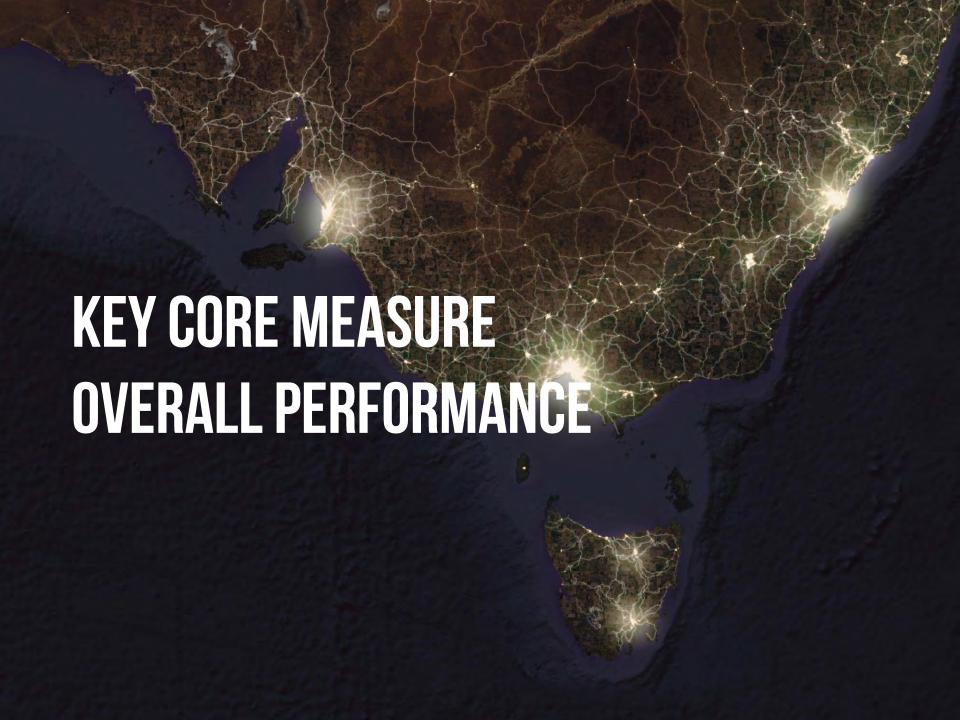
• Newsletter sent via mail (36)

Greatest change since 2013

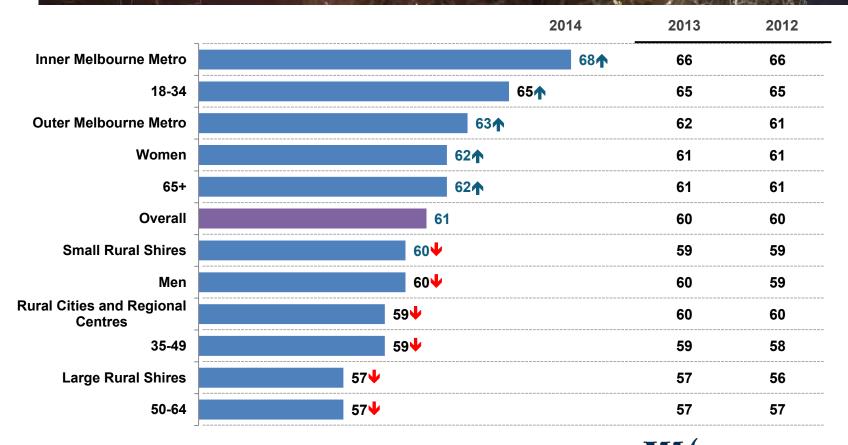
Newsletter sent via email (up 2 points)

Although there has been a steady increase in the popularity of an emailed newsletter since 2012, residents on the whole still prefer to receive a council newsletter via post. This is especially the case for residents aged over 50.





OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

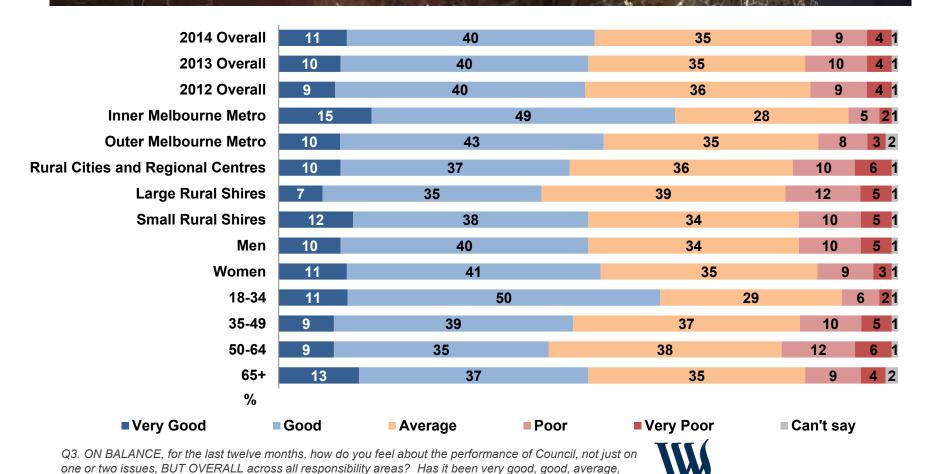


Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67



OVERALL PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67

poor or very poor?

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CONTACT LAST 12 MONTHS SUMMARY

Overall contact with Council

• 61%, up 1 point on 2013

Most contact with Council

Aged 35-49 years

Least contact with Council

Rural Cities and Regional Centres

Customer Service rating

• Index score of 72, up 1 point on 2013

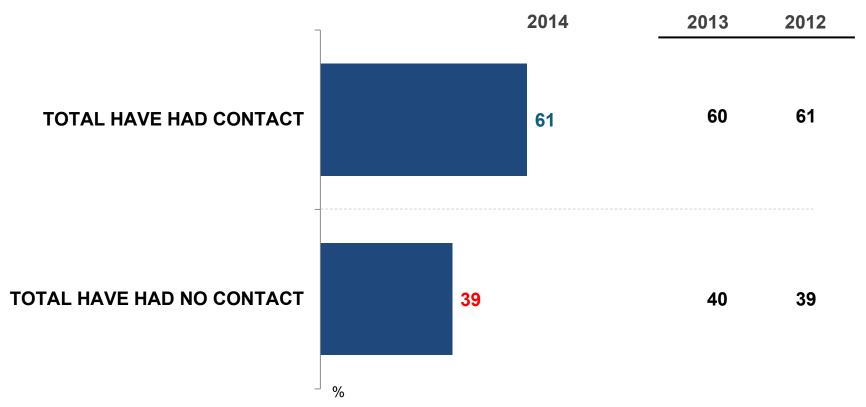
Most satisfied with Customer Service

• Inner Melbourne Metro

Least satisfied with Customer Service

Large Rural Shires

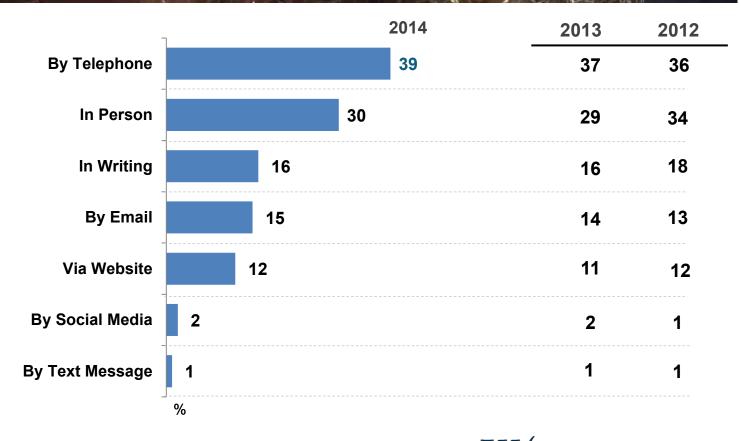
2014 CONTACT WITH COUNCIL LAST 12 MONTHS



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?/ Q5a. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Council in any of the following ways? In person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67



2014 CONTACT WITH COUNCIL LAST 12 MONTHS INCLUDING METHOD OF CONTACT

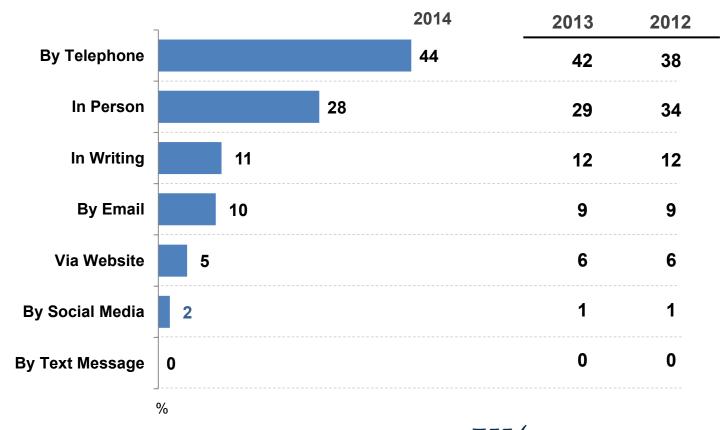


Q5a. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Council in any of the following ways? In person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 13



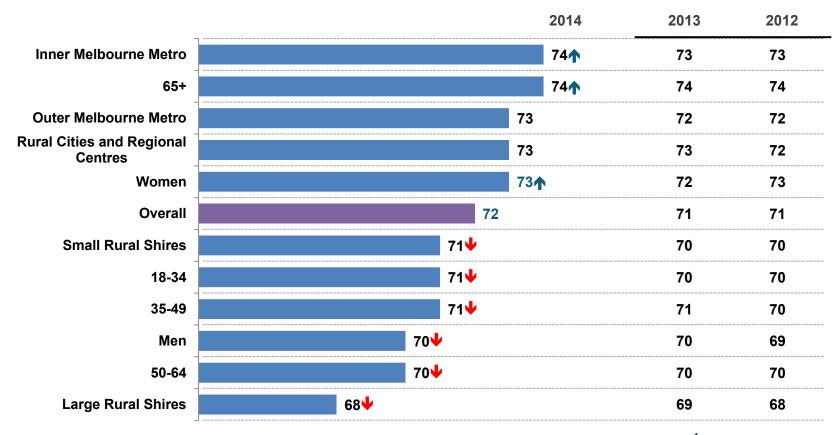
2014 CONTACT WITH COUNCIL MOST RECENT



Q5b. What was the method of contact for the most recent contact you had with Council? Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked: 13

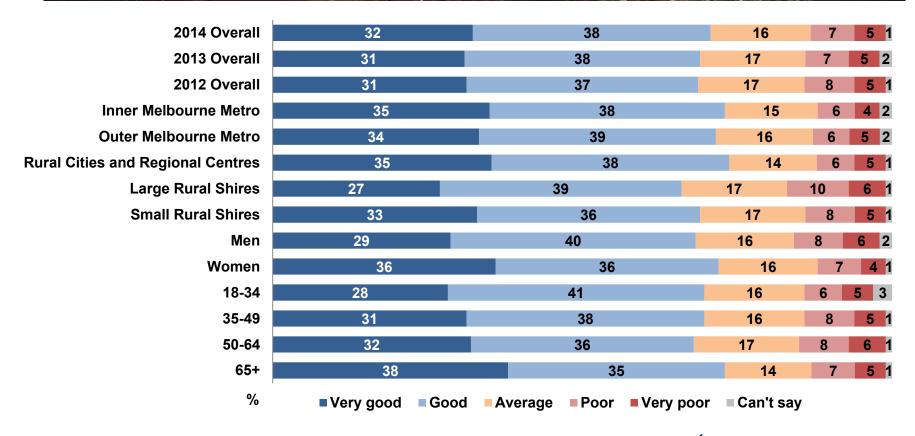


2014 CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE INDEX SCORES



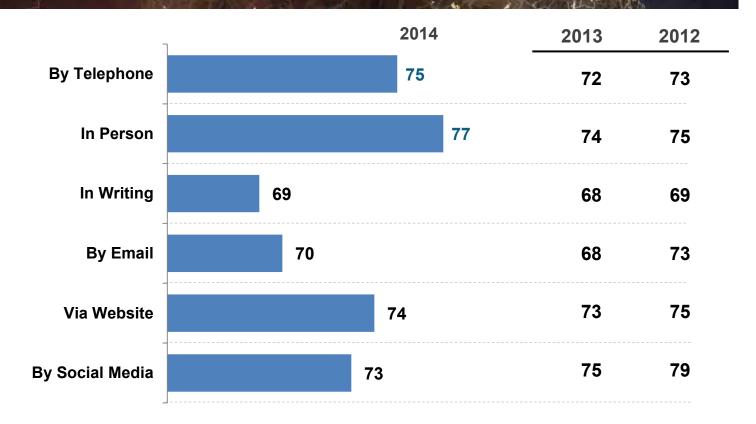


2014 CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



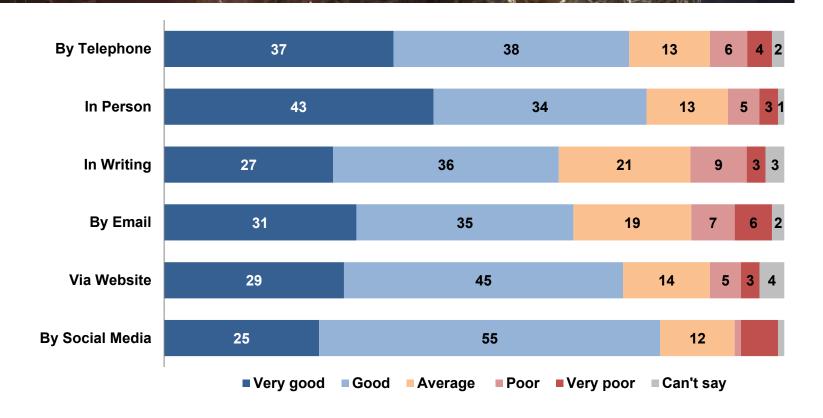


2014 CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE BY METHOD OF LAST CONTACT INDEX SCORES

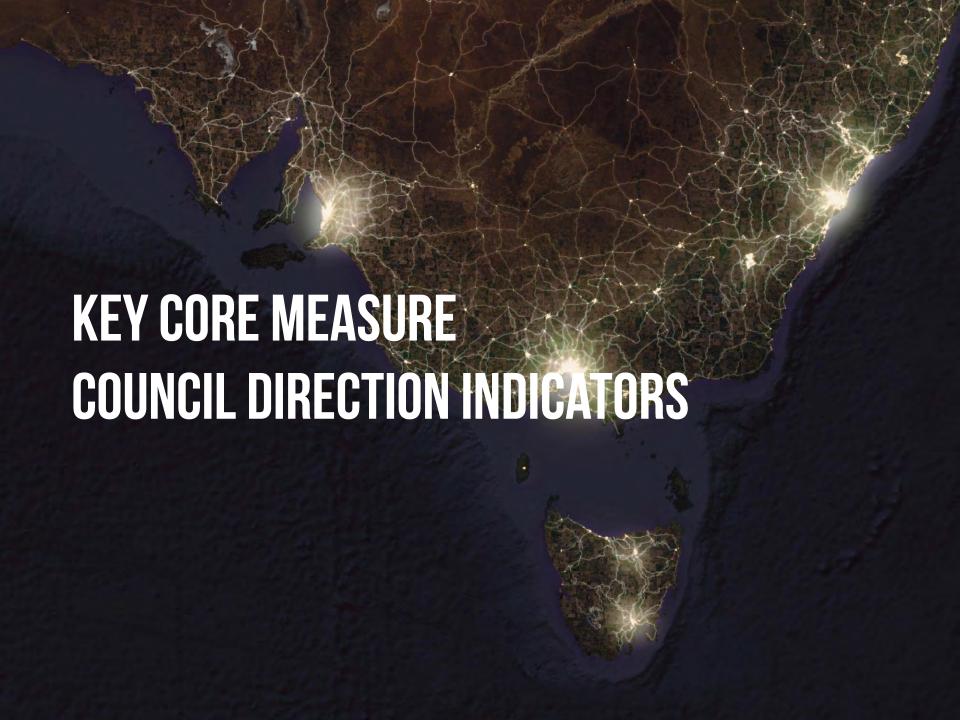




CUSTOMER SERVICE BY METHOD OF LAST CONTACT DETAILED PERCENTAGES







COUNCIL DIRECTION SUMMARY

Council Direction

- 63% stayed about the same, equal points on 2013
- 20% improved, up 1 point on 2013
- 13% deteriorated, equal points on 2013

Most satisfied with Council Direction

- Outer Melbourne Metro
- 18-34 year olds

Least satisfied with Council Direction

• 50-64 year olds

Room for improvement

- 41% a lot of room for improvement
- 50% a little room for improvement
- 6% not much/no room for improvement

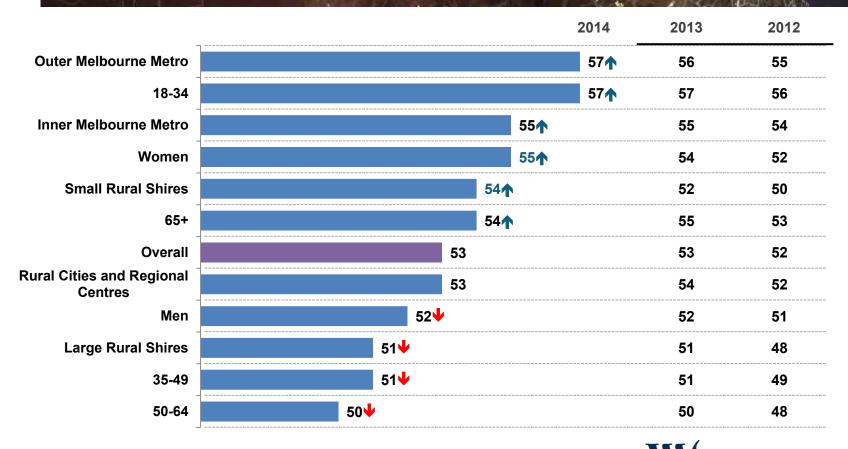
Right vs wrong direction

- 73% right direction (21% definitely, 52% probably)
- 17% wrong direction (8% definitely, 9% probably)

Rates vs services trade-off

- 36% prefer rate rises (11% definitely)
- 47% prefer service cuts (23% definitely)

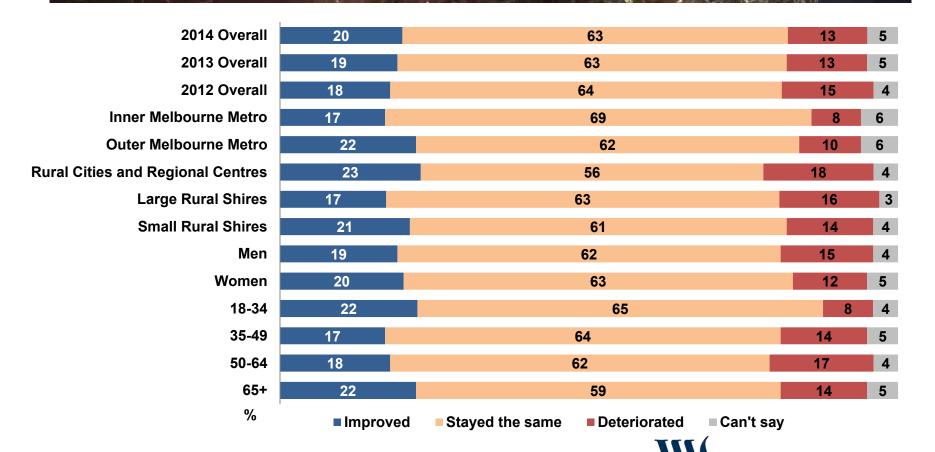
2014 OVERALL DIRECTION LAST 12 MONTHS INDEX SCORES



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Council's overall performance? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67



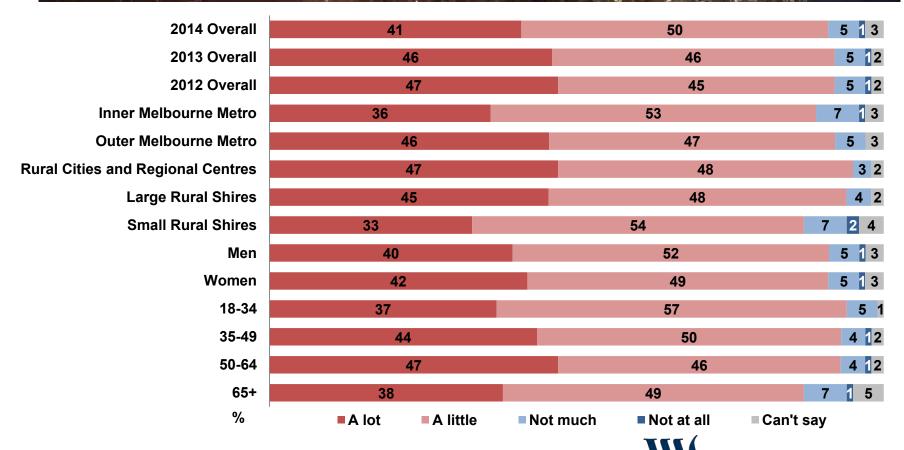
2014 OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION LAST 12 MONTHS DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Council's overall performance? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67

WSRESEARCH

2014 ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT DETAILED PERCENTAGES

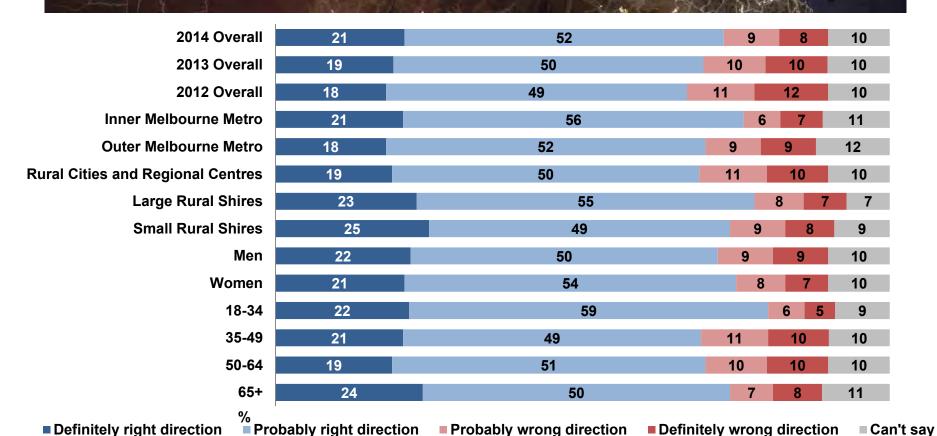


Q7. Thinking about the next 12 months, how much room for improvement do you think there is in Council's overall performance?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 9



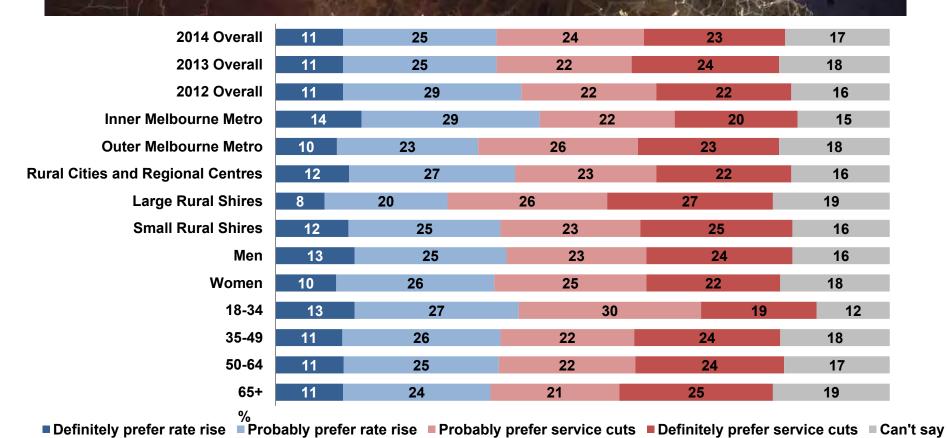
2014 RIGHT/WRONG DIRECTION DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q8. Would you say your local Council is generally heading in the right direction or the wrong direction? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 13



2014 RATES/SERVICE TRADE OFF DETAILED PERCENTAGES

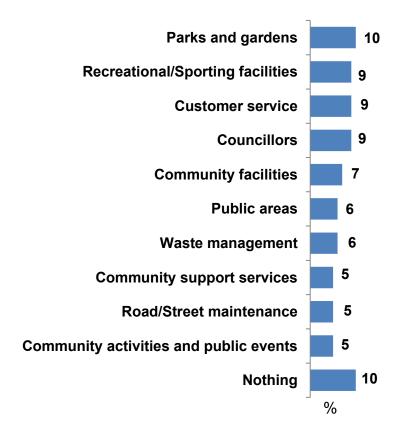


Q10. If you had to choose, would you prefer to see council rate rises to improve local services OR would you prefer to see cuts in council services to keep council rates at the same level as they are now? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 22





2014 BEST THINGS ABOUT COUNCIL DETAILED PERCENTAGES (TOP 10 ISSUES OR SERVICES)

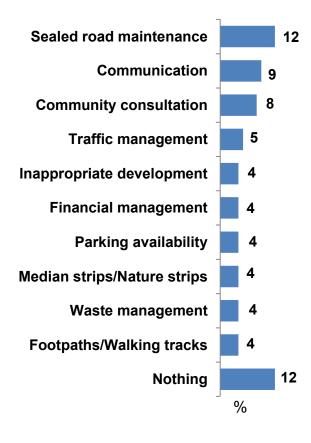


Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Council? It could be about any of the issues or services we have covered in this survey or it could be about something else altogether?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 28



2014 COUNCIL NEEDS TO IMPROVE DETAILED PERCENTAGES (TOP 10 ISSUES OR SERVICES)







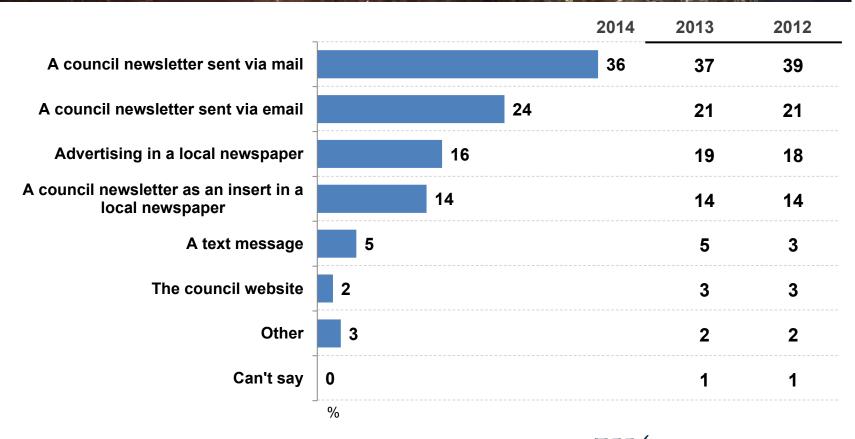
2014 BEST FORMS OF COMMUNICATION

_	r	2014	2013	2012
A council newsletter sent via mail		39	39	42
A council newsletter sent via email		21	19	18
Advertising in a local newspaper	17		18	18
A council newsletter as an insert in a local newspaper	14		15	15
A text message	3		3	2
The council website	2		2	2
Other	2		2	2
Can't say	1		1	1
_	%			

Q13. If 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: 28



2014 BEST FORMS OF COMMUNICATION — UNDER 50s



Q13. If 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 statewide: 28



2014 BEST FORMS OF COMMUNICATION — OVER 50s

_	·	2014	2013	2012
A council newsletter sent via mail		43	42	46
A council newsletter sent via email	18		17	15
Advertising in a local newspaper	18		18	18
A council newsletter as an insert in a local newspaper	15		17	16
A text message	1		1	1
The council website	1		2	1
Other	2		2	2
Can't say	1		1	1
-	%			

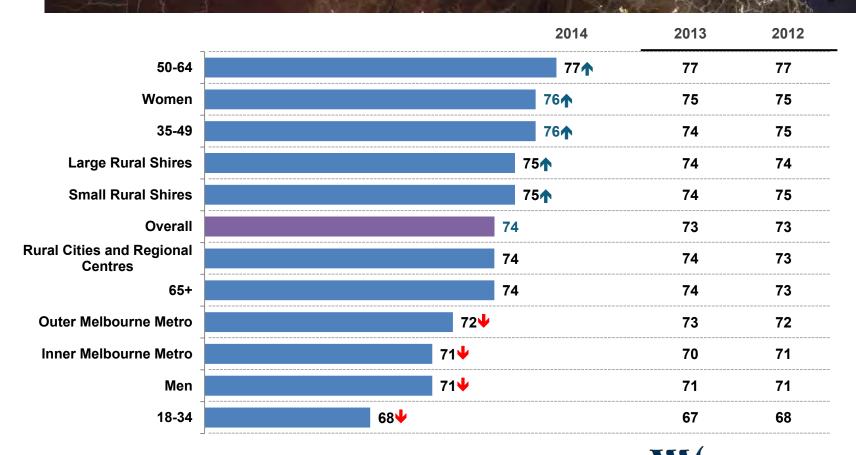
Q13. If Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents aged over 50. Councils asked statewide: 28





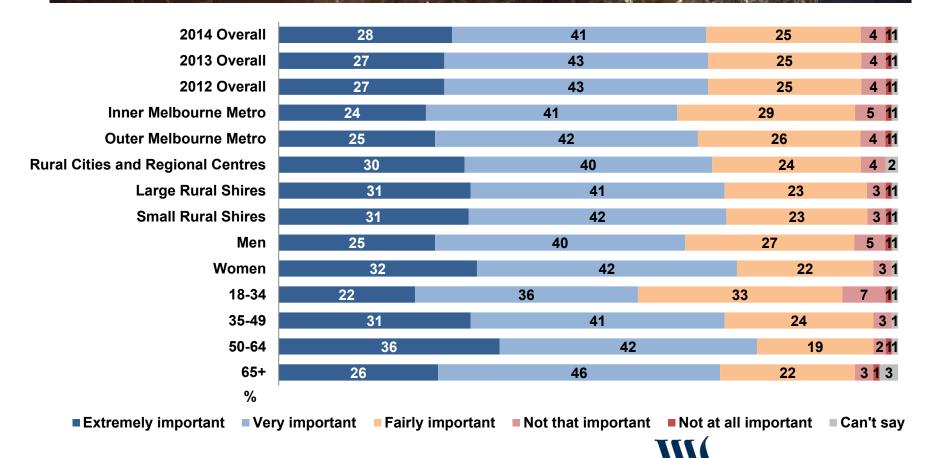
2014 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Community consultation and engagement' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 26



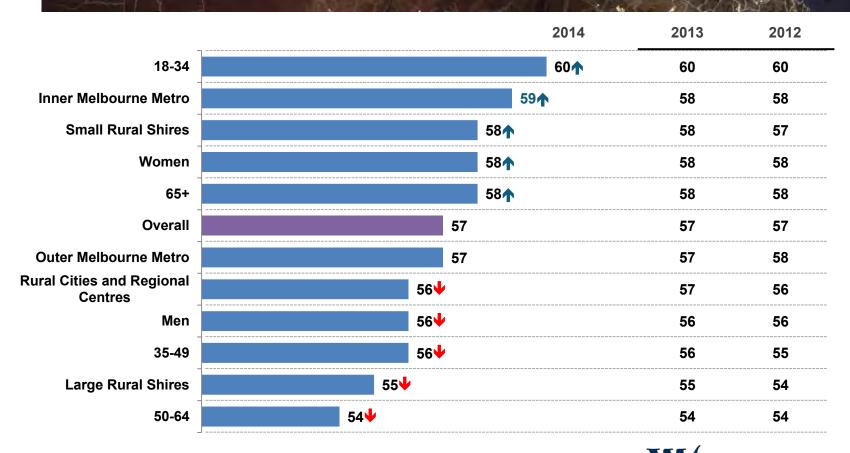
2014 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Community consultation and engagement' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 26

WSRESEARCH

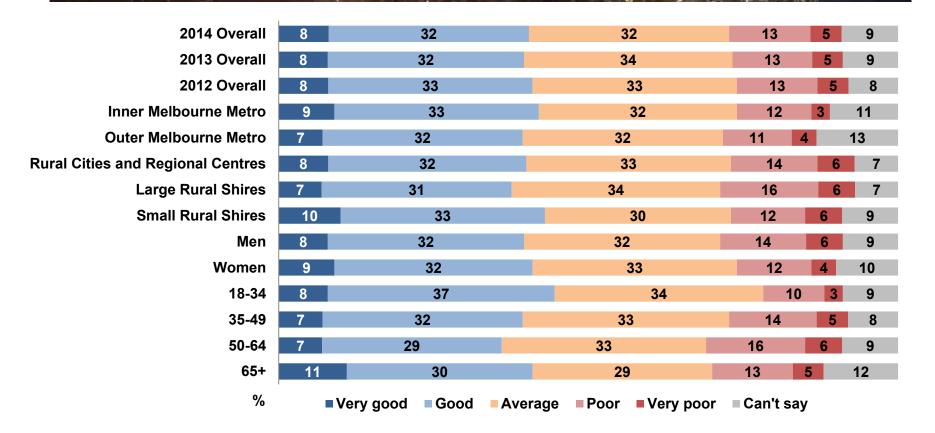
2014 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community consultation and engagement' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67

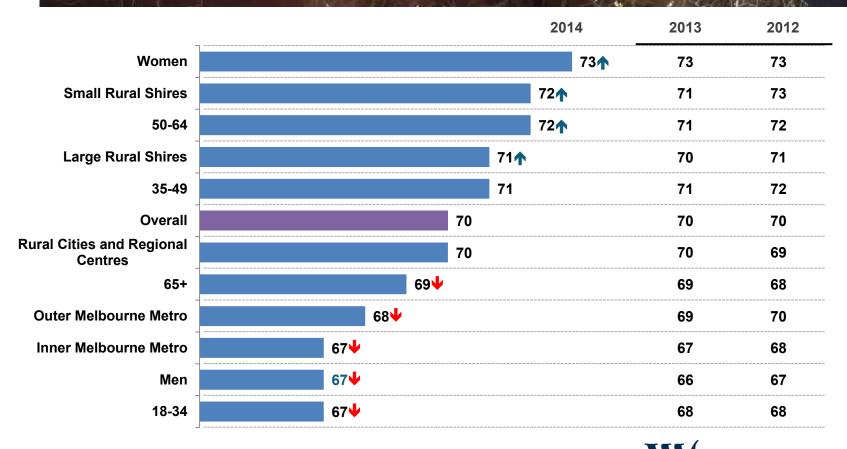


2014 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





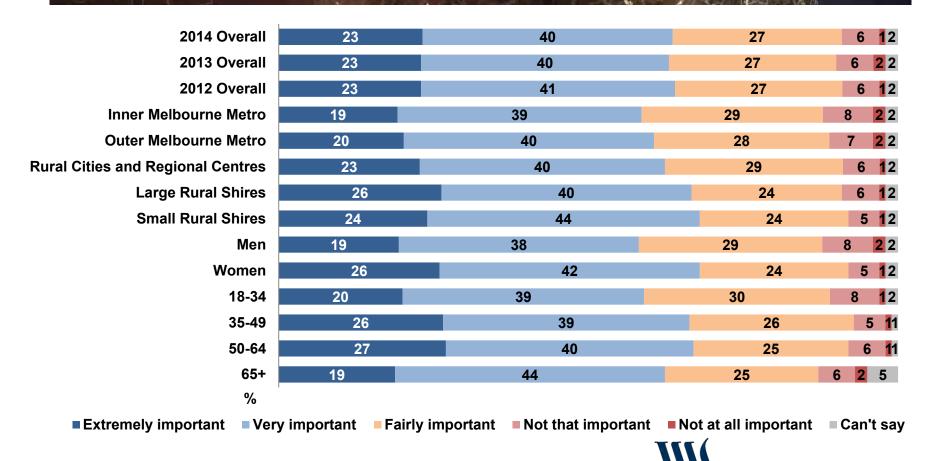
2014 LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 25



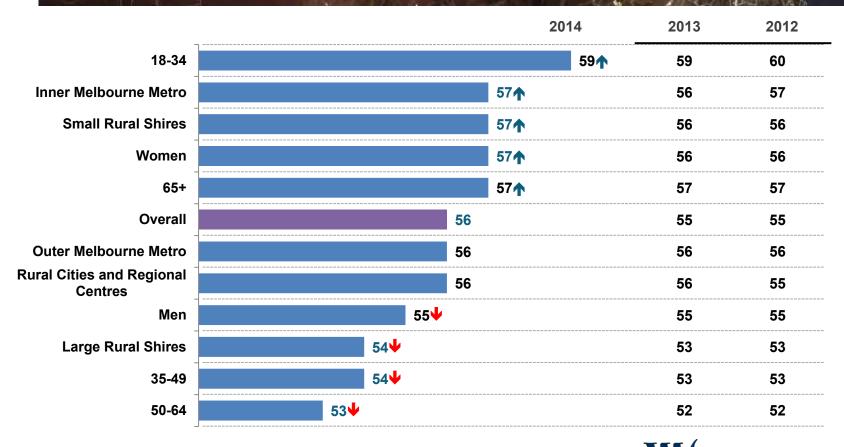
2014 LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 25

WSRESEARCH

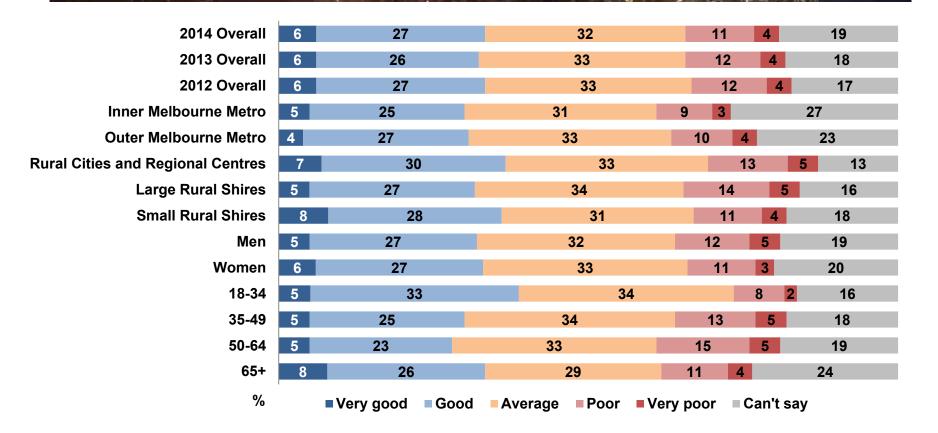
2014 LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

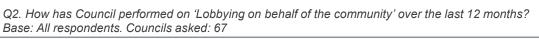


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 67



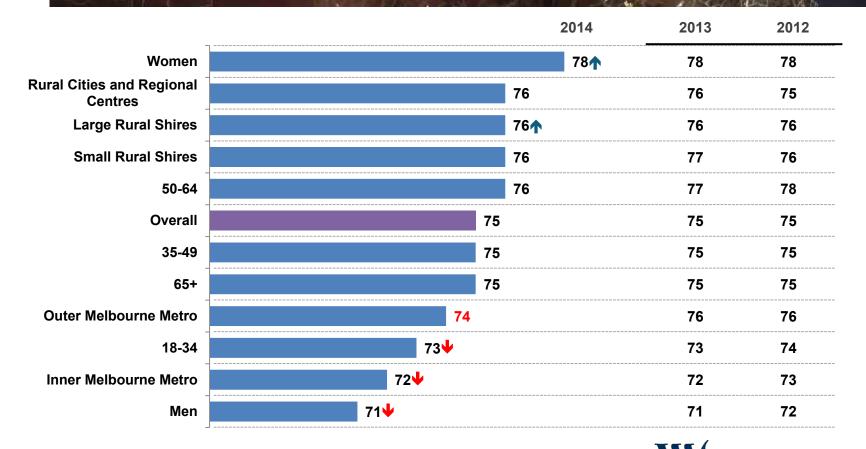
2014 LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





WSRESEARCH

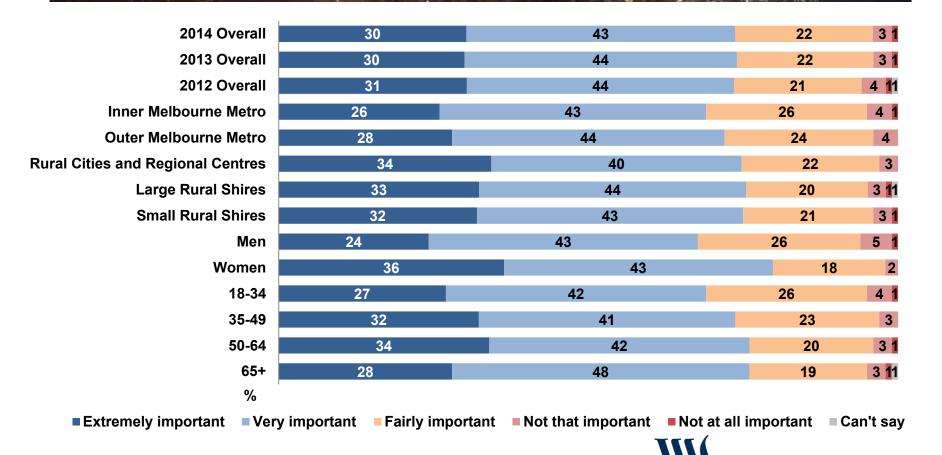
2014 INFORMING THE COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Informing the community' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 23

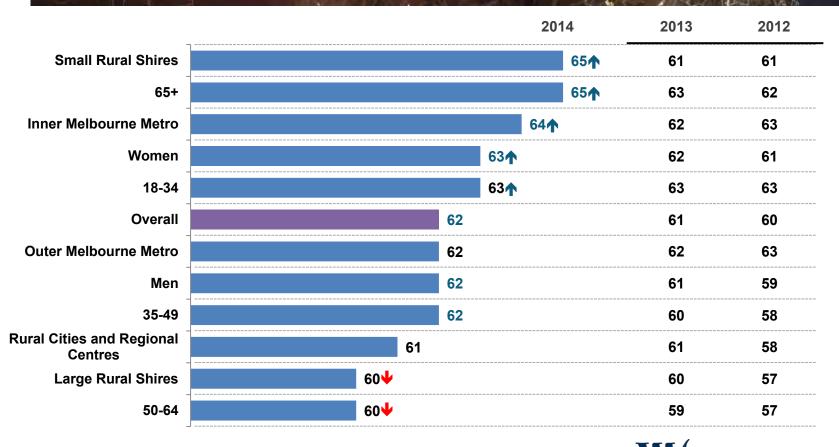


2014 INFORMING THE COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Informing the community' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 23

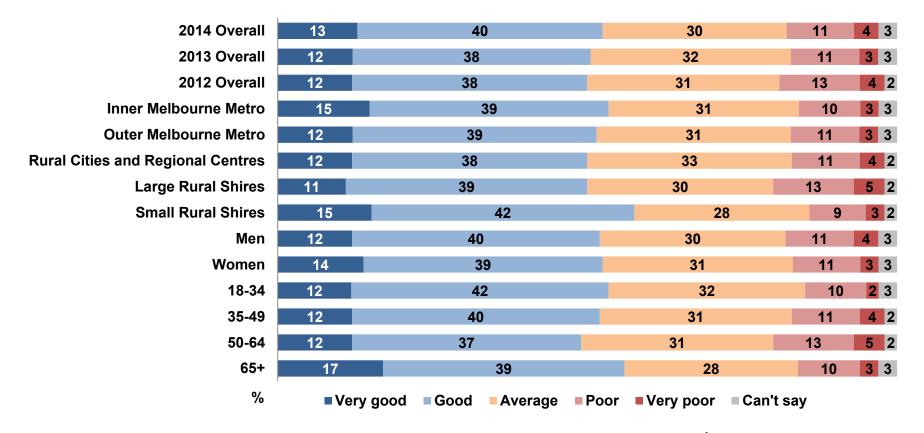
2014 INFORMING THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Informing the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 39

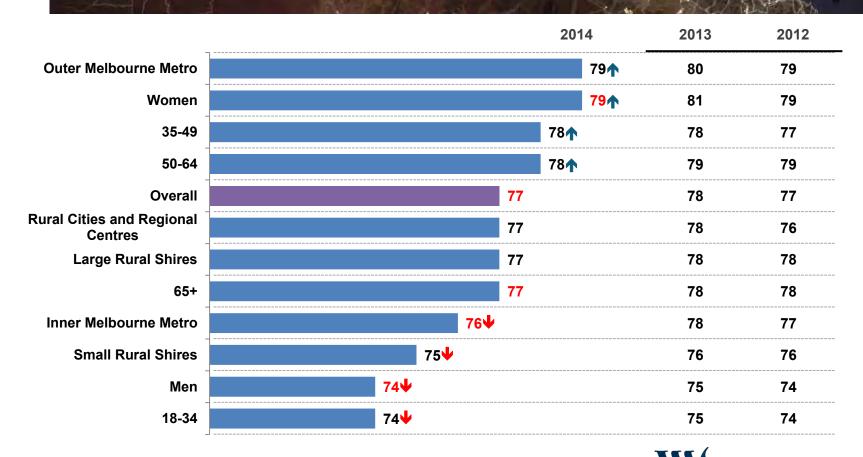


2014 INFORMING THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





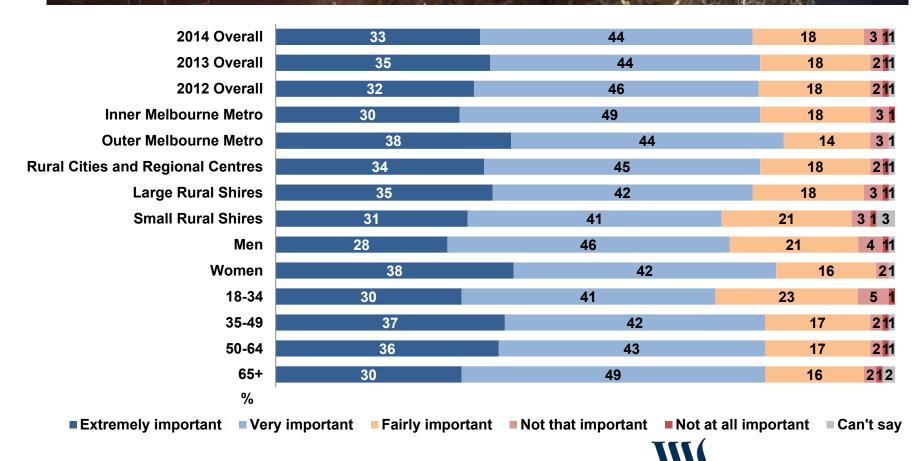
2014 THE CONDITION OF LOCAL STREETS AND FOOTPATHS IN YOUR AREA IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' be as a responsibility for Council?



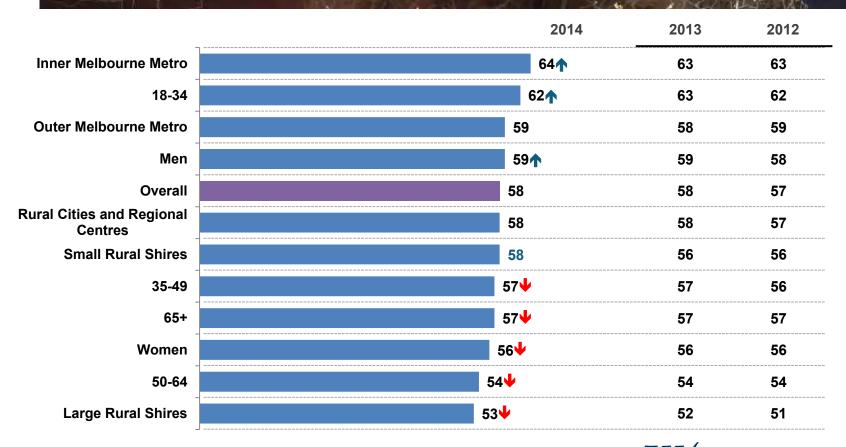
2014 THE CONDITION OF LOCAL STREETS AND FOOTPATHS IN YOUR AREA IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' be as a responsibility for Council?



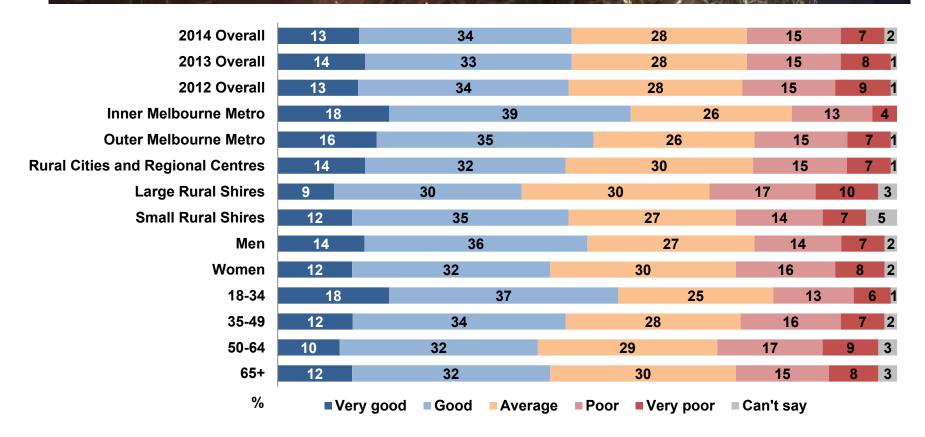
2014 THE CONDITION OF LOCAL STREETS AND FOOTPATHS IN YOUR AREA PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' over the last 12 months?



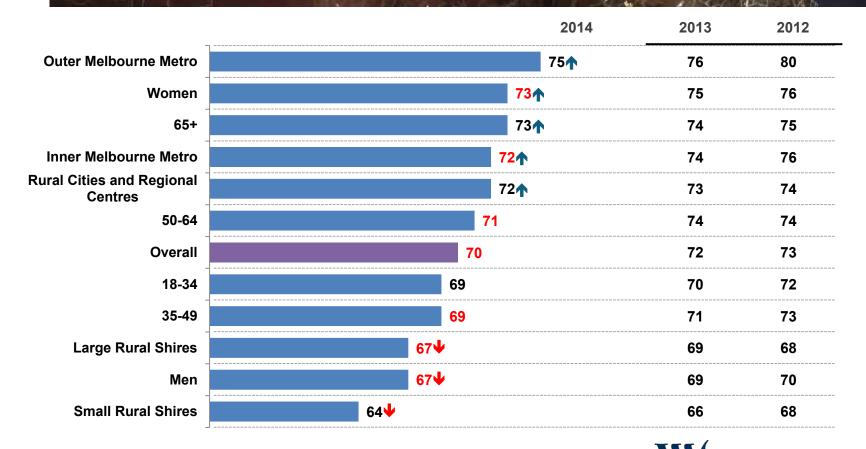
2014 THE CONDITION OF LOCAL STREETS AND FOOTPATHS IN YOUR AREA PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' over the last 12 months?



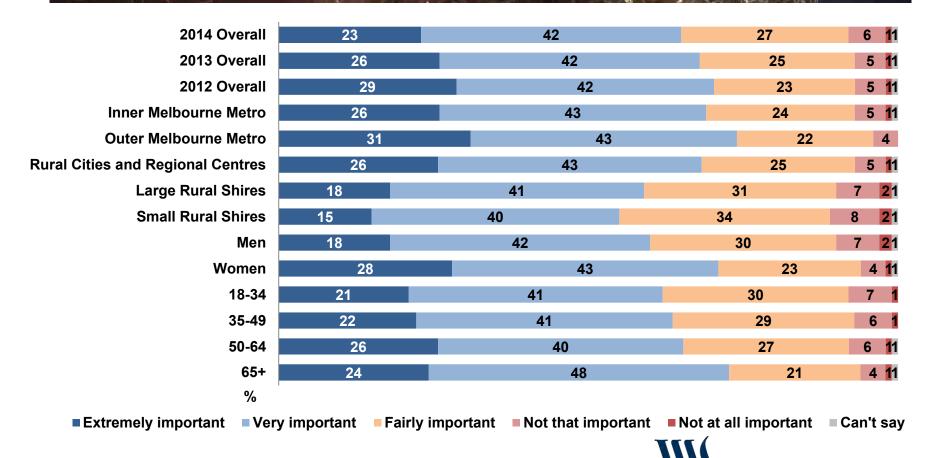
2014 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Traffic management' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 18

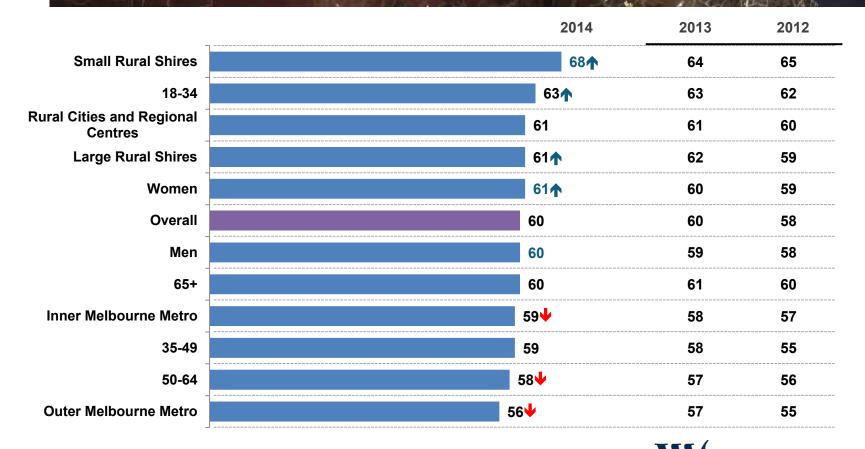


2014 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Traffic management' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 18

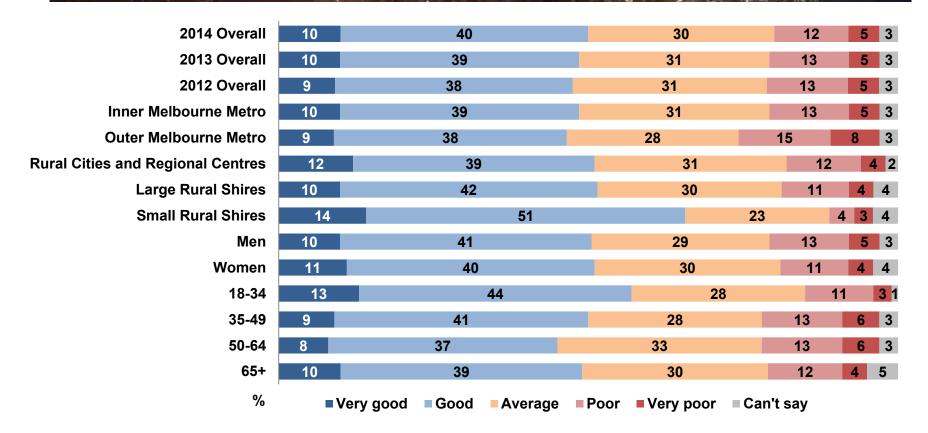
2014 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Traffic management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 30

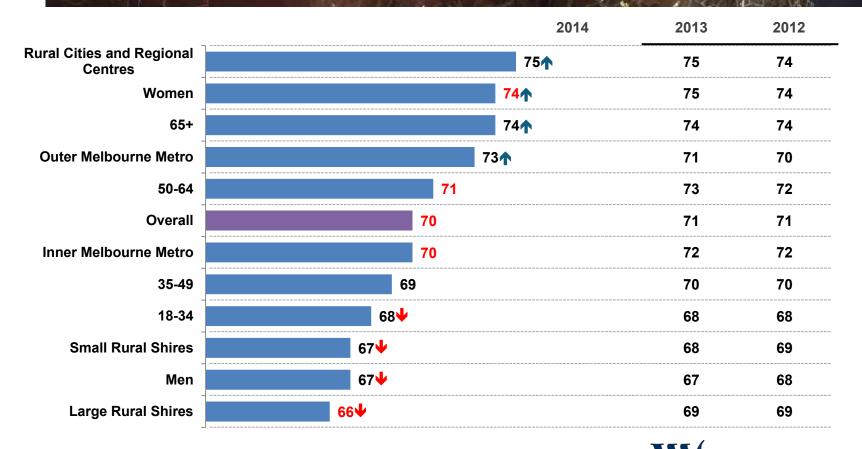


2014 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





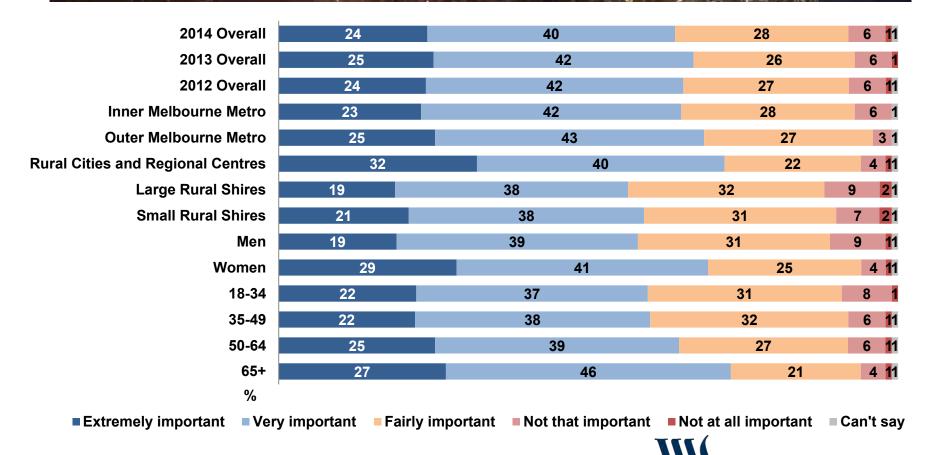
2014 PARKING FACILITIES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Parking facilities' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19

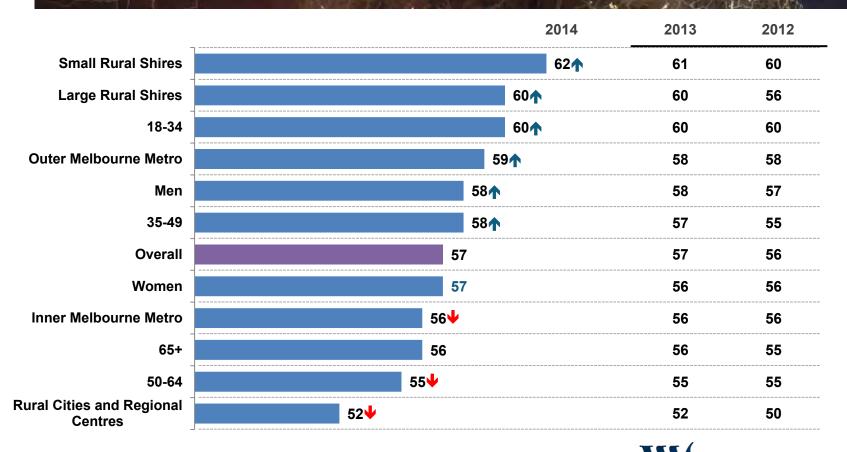


2014 PARKING FACILITIES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Parking facilities' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19

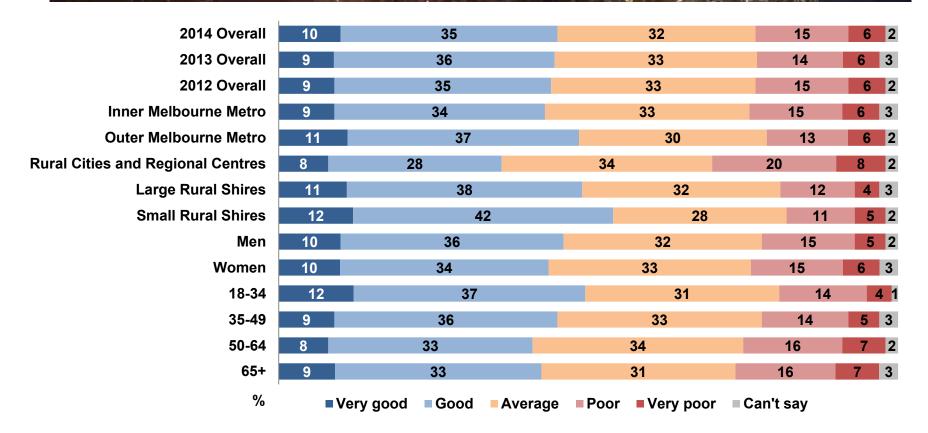
2014 PARKING FACILITIES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Parking facilities' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 33

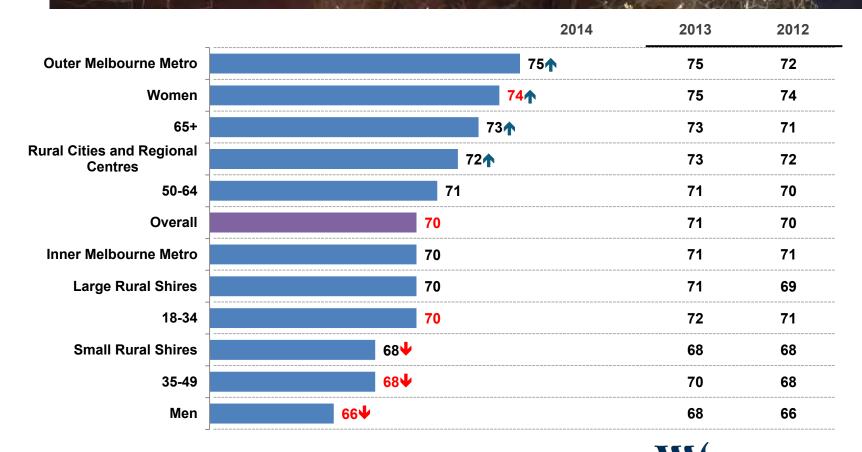


2014 PARKING FACILITIES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





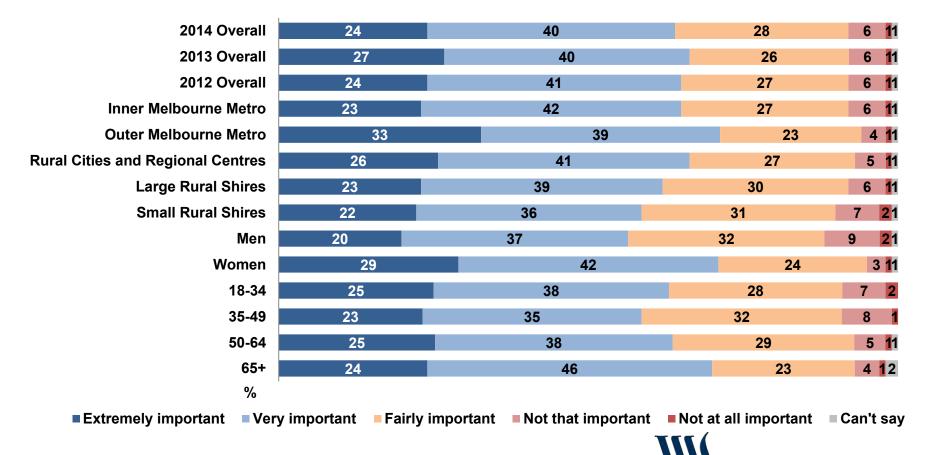
2014 ENFORCEMENT OF LOCAL LAWS IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Enforcement of local laws' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 22

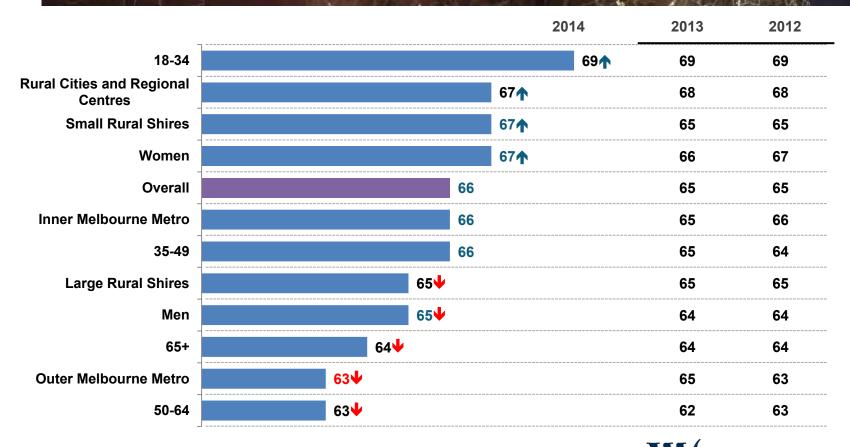


2014 ENFORCEMENT OF LOCAL LAWS IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Enforcement of local laws' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 22

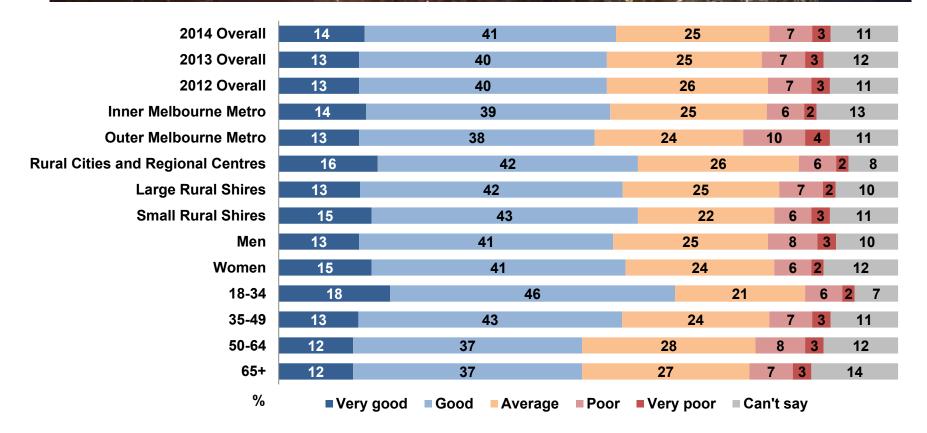
2014 ENFORCEMENT OF LOCAL LAWS PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Enforcement of local laws' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 40

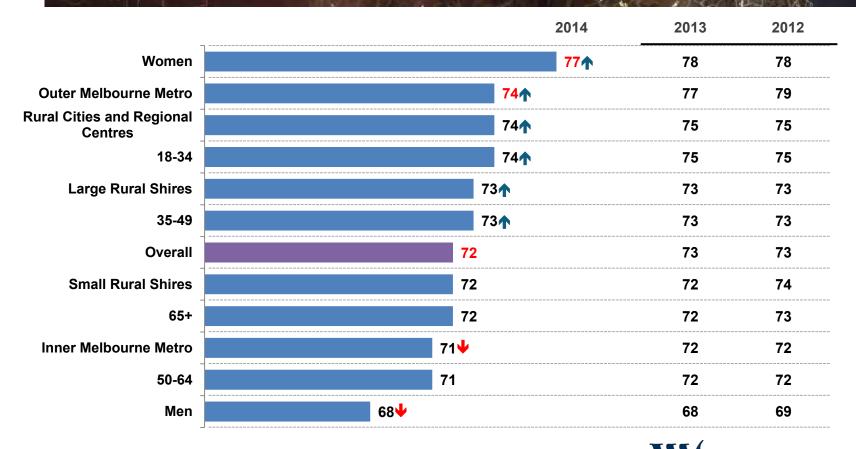


2014 ENFORCEMENT OF LOCAL LAWS PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





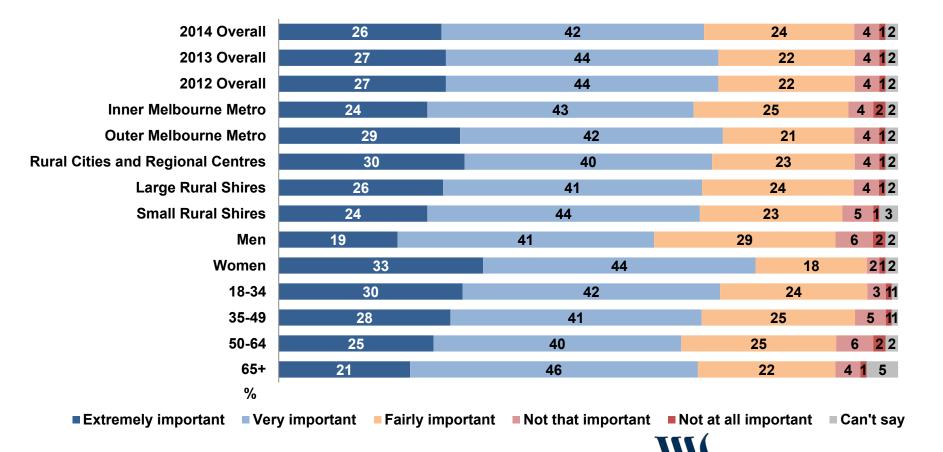
2014 FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Family support services' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 27

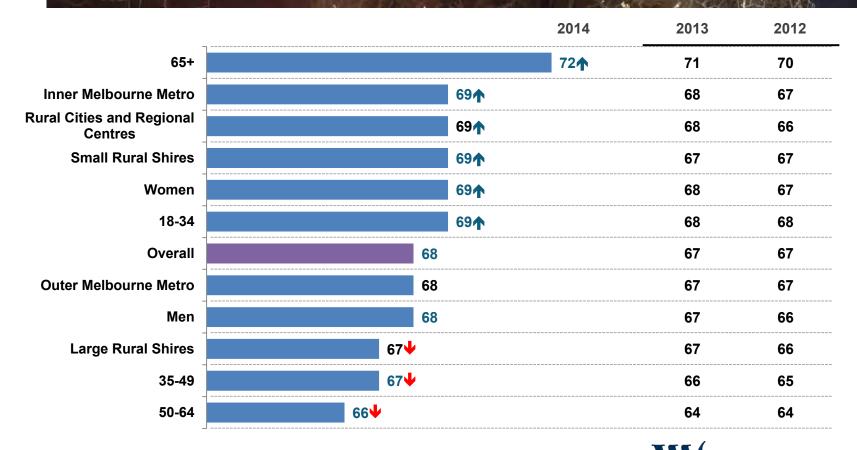


2014 FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Family support services' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 27

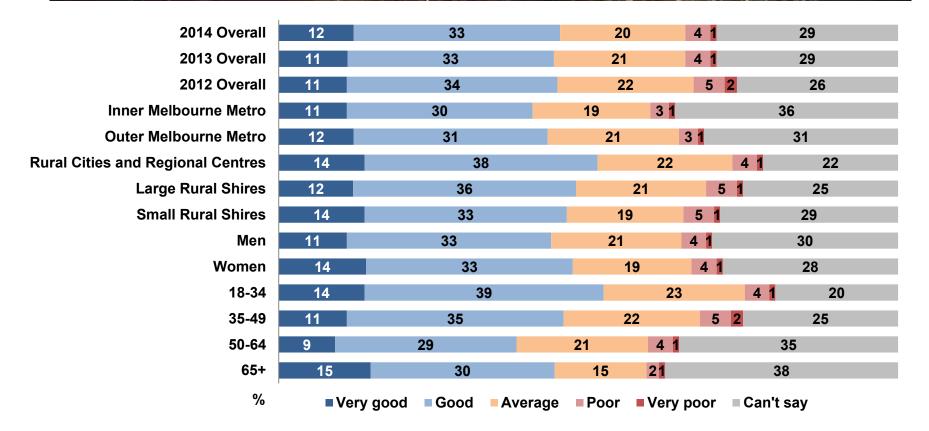
2014 FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Family support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 44

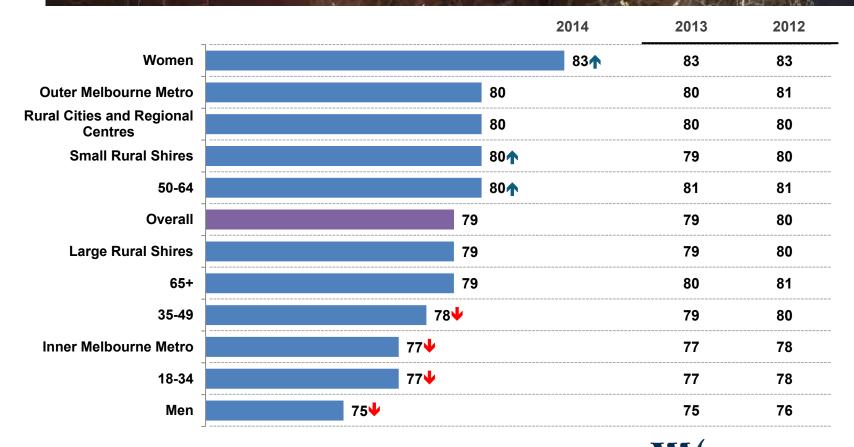


2014 FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





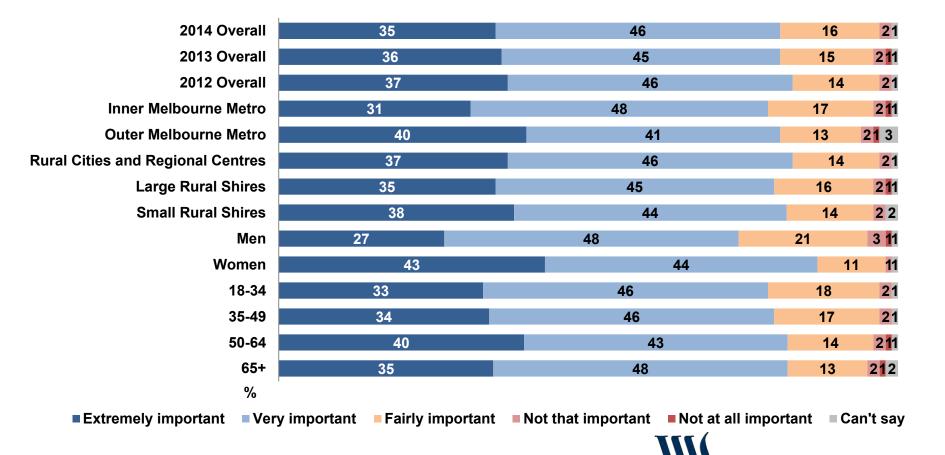
2014 ELDERLY SUPPORT SERVICES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Elderly support services' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 25

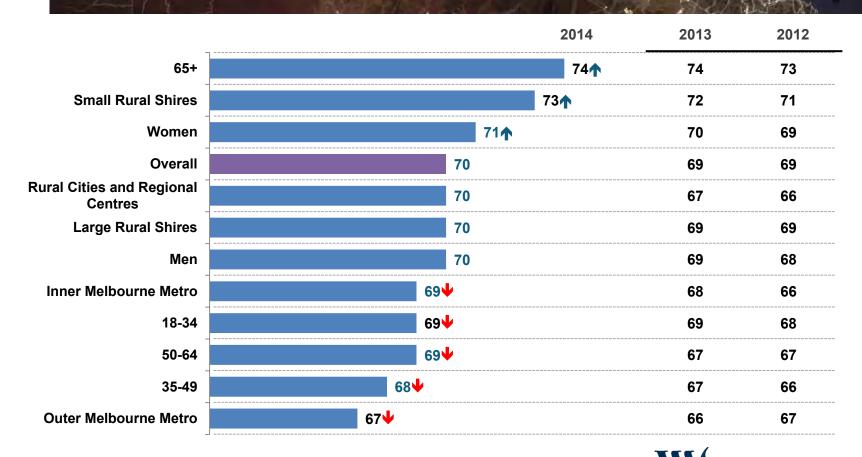


2014 ELDERLY SUPPORT SERVICES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Elderly support services' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 25

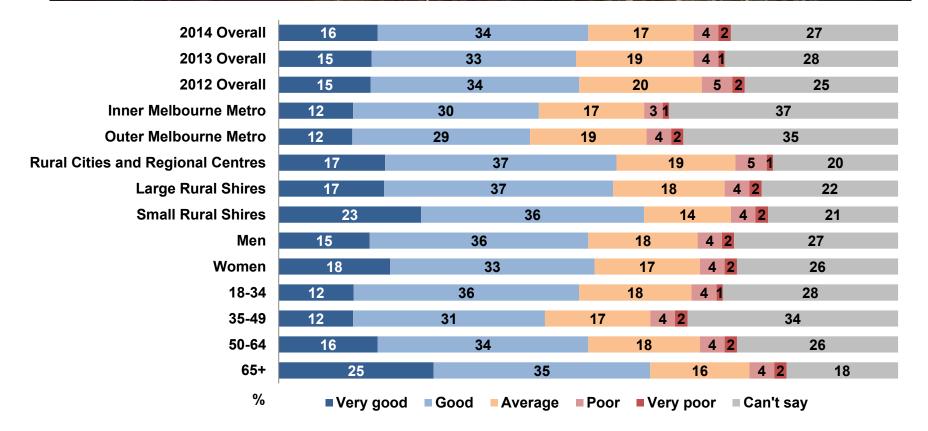
2014 ELDERLY SUPPORT SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Elderly support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 44

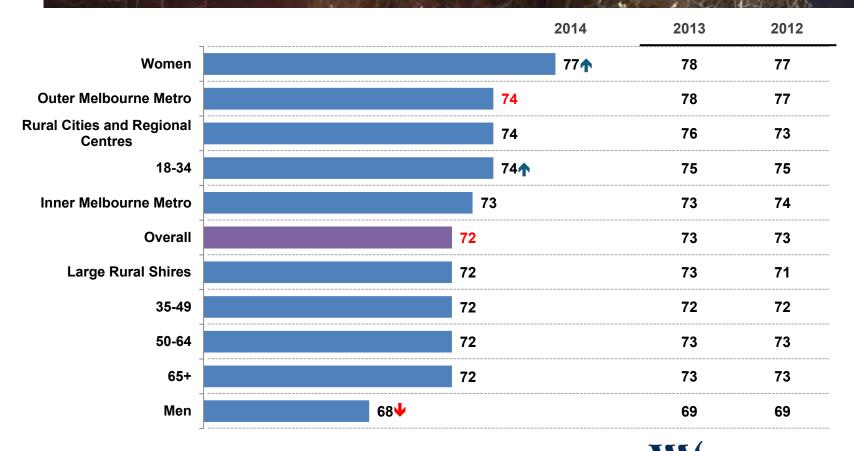


2014 ELDERLY SUPPORT SERVICES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





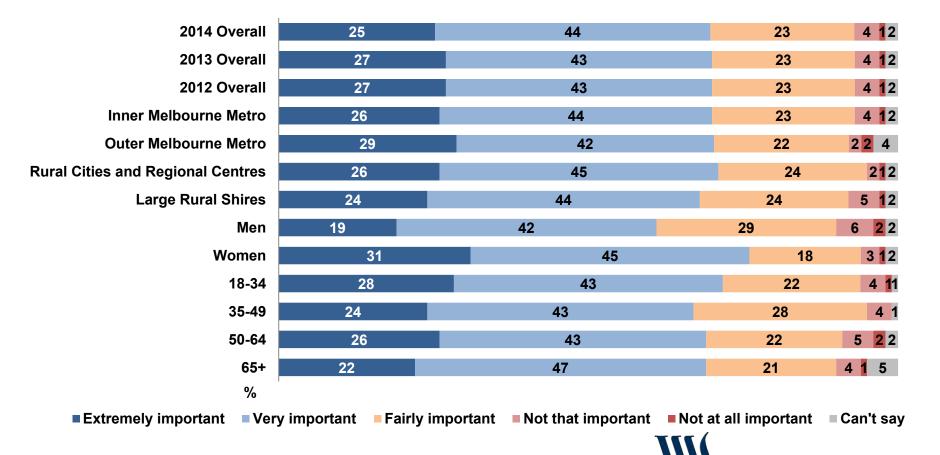
2014 DISADVANTAGED SUPPORT SERVICES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Disadvantaged support services' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 11



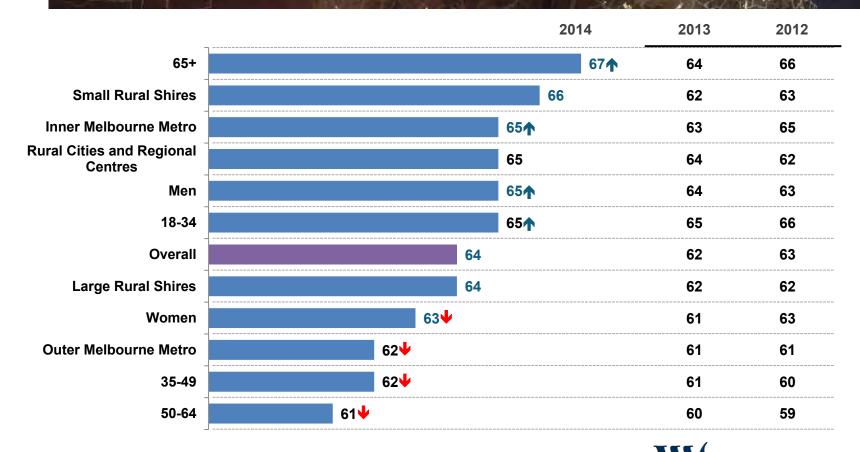
2014 DISADVANTAGED SUPPORT SERVICES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Disadvantaged support services' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 11

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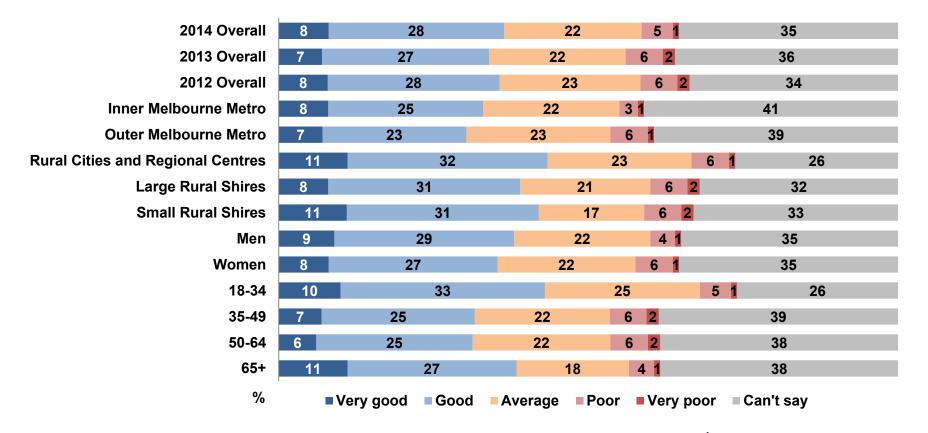
2014 DISADVANTAGED SUPPORT SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Disadvantaged support services' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 22

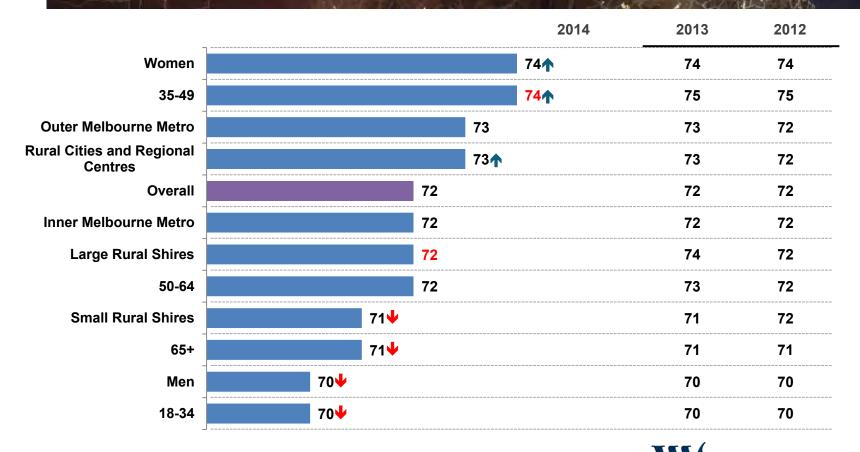


2014 DISADVANTAGED SUPPORT SERVICES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





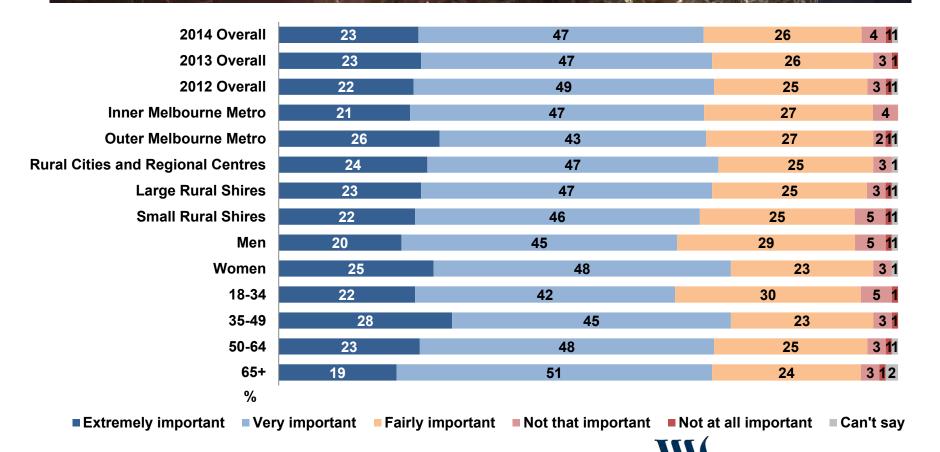
2014 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Recreational facilities' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 30

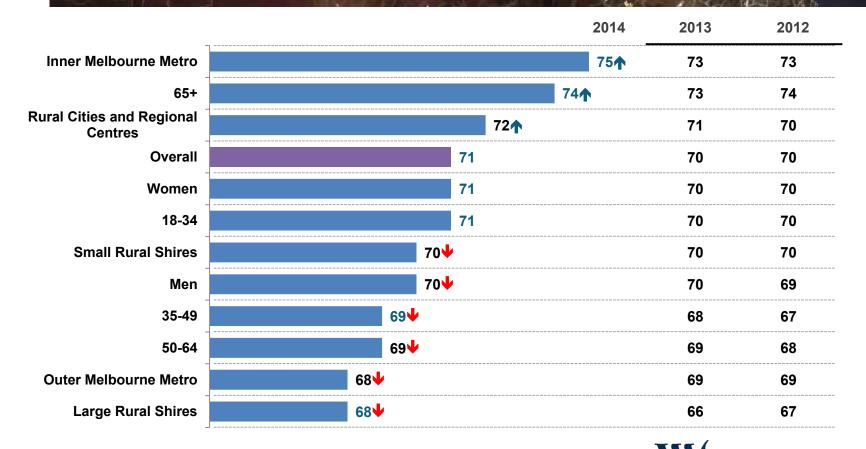


2014 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Recreational facilities' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 30

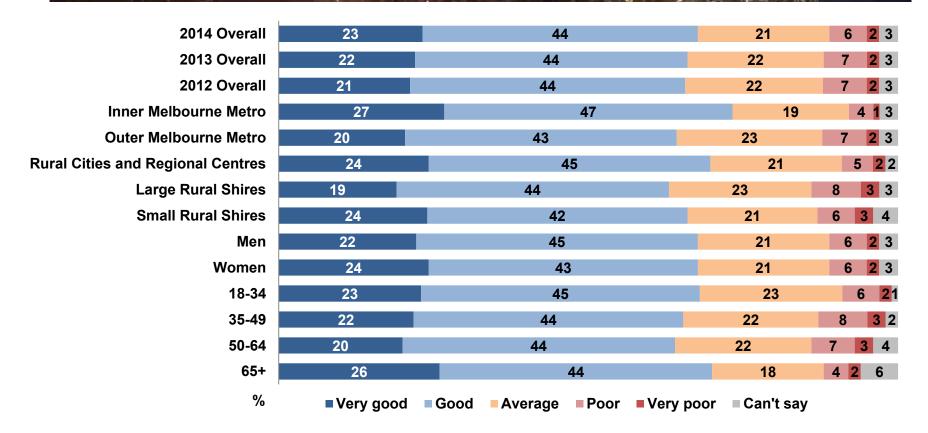
2014 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Recreational facilities' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 50

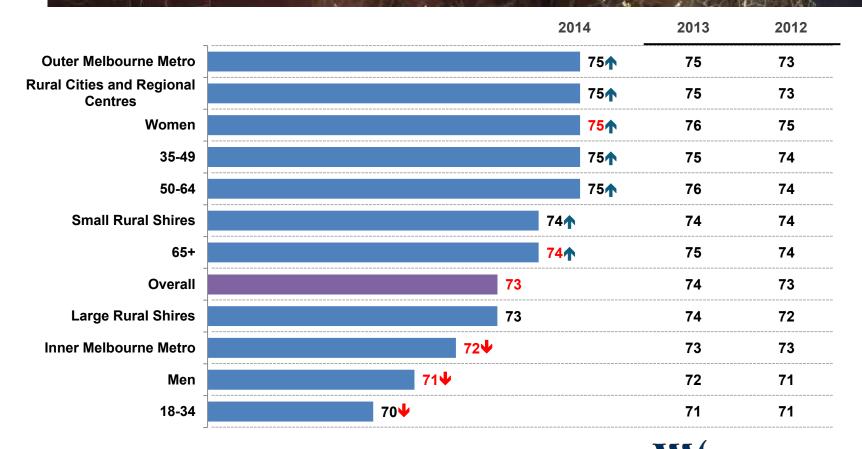


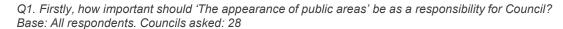
2014 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





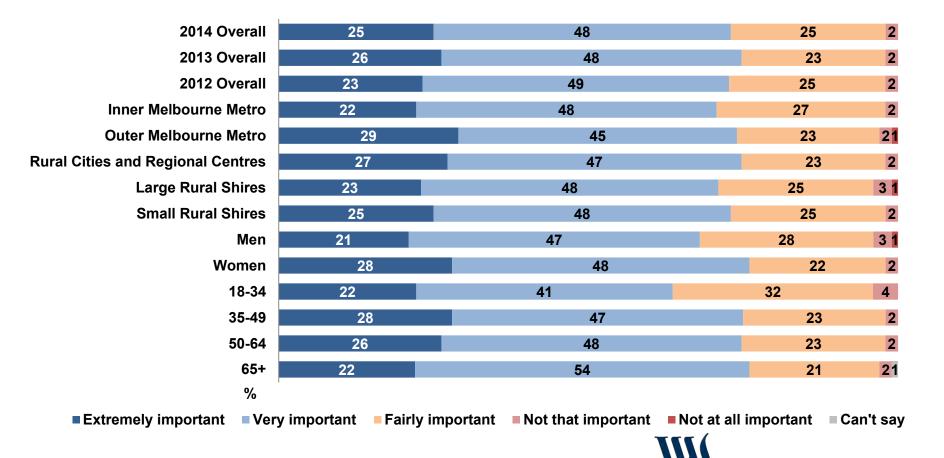
2014 THE APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC AREAS IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES







2014 THE APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC AREAS IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'The appearance of public areas' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 28

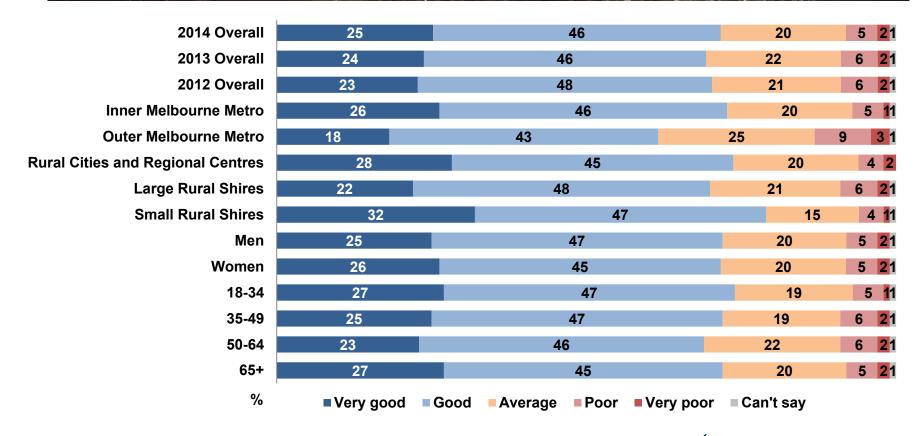
2014 THE APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC AREAS PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

		2014	2013	2012
Small Rural Shires		76♠	73	74
Inner Melbourne Metro	73♠		72	71
Rural Cities and Regional Centres	73∱		72	71
18-34	73♠		72	73
65+	73♠		72	72
Overall	72		71	71
Men	72		71	71
Women	72		71	72
35-49	72		70	70
Large Rural Shires	71♥		69	70
50-64	71♥		69	70
Outer Melbourne Metro	66♥		67	68

Q2. How has Council performed on 'The appearance of public areas' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 43

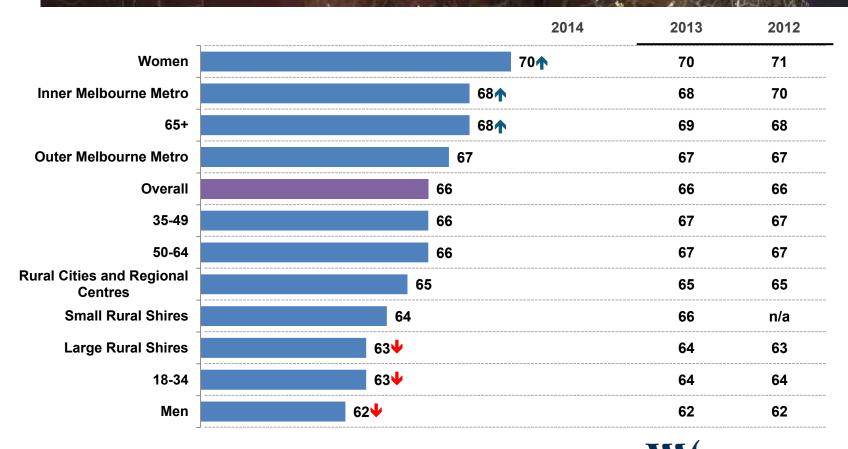


2014 THE APPEARANCE OF PUBLIC AREAS PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





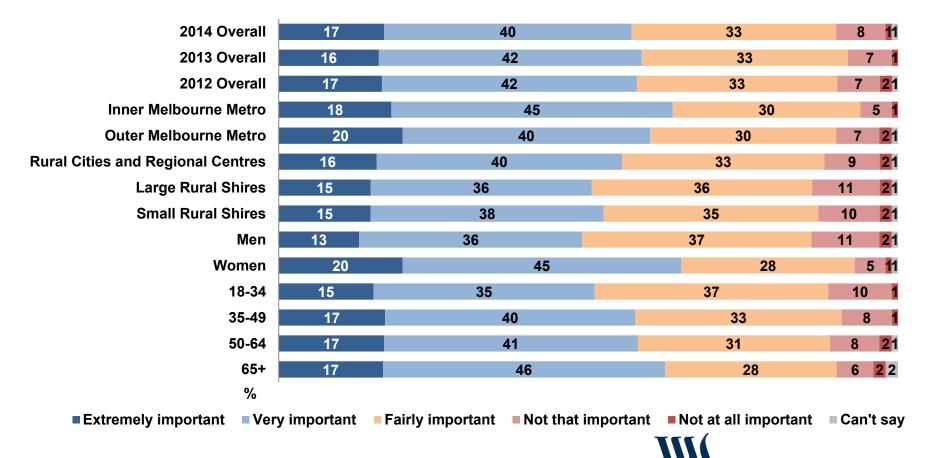
2014 ART CENTRES AND LIBRARIES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Art centres and libraries' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19



2014 ART CENTRES AND LIBRARIES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Art centres and libraries' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19

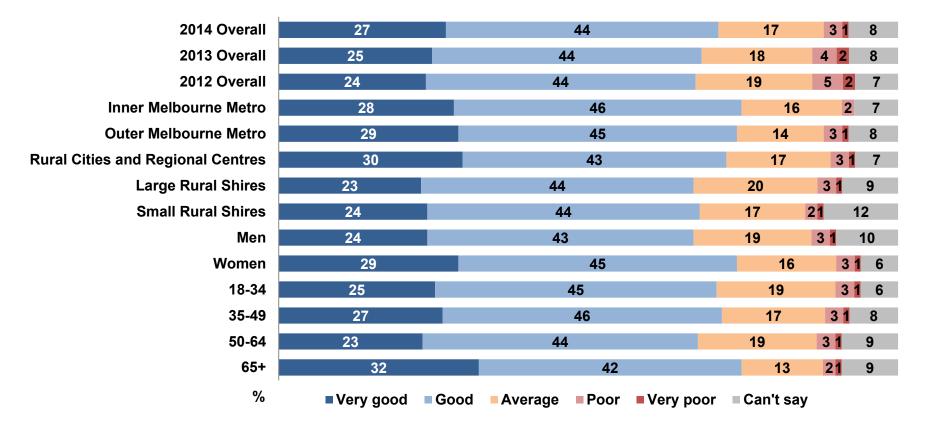
2014 ART CENTRES AND LIBRARIES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

		2014	2013	2012
65+		78♠	76	76
Inner Melbourne Metro		77♠	76	74
Outer Melbourne Metro		77♠	76	73
Women		77♠	74	74
Rural Cities and Regional Centres		76∱	75	74
35-49		76♠	73	72
Overall	75		73	73
Small Rural Shires	75		59	63
Men	74♥		72	71
18-34	74♥		73	73
Large Rural Shires	73♥		71	73
50-64	73♥		72	71

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Art centres and libraries' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 33

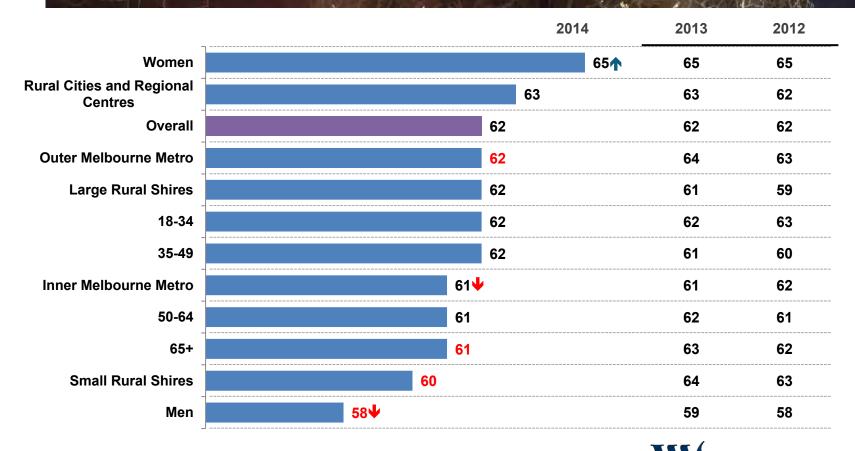


2014 ART CENTRES AND LIBRARIES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





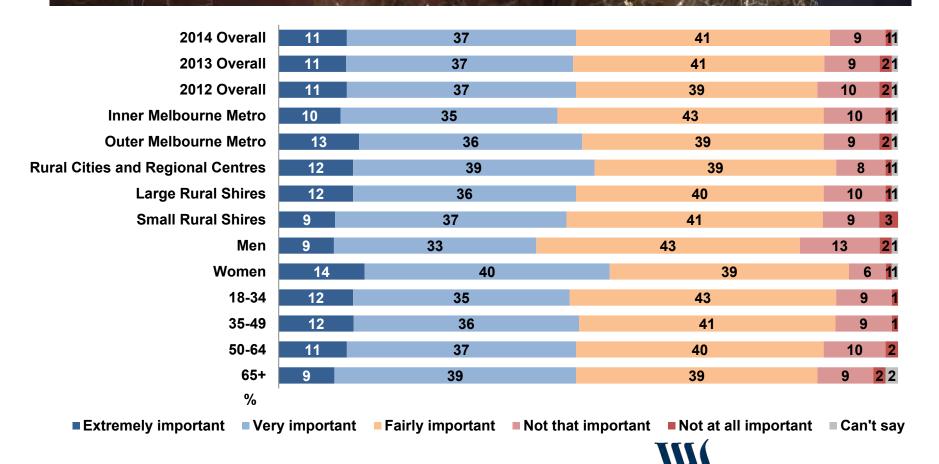
2014 COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Community and cultural activities' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 21

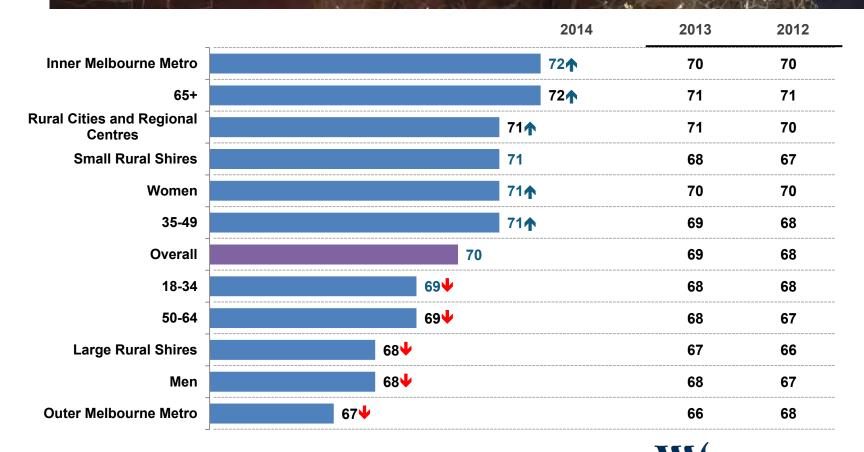


2014 COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Community and cultural activities' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 21

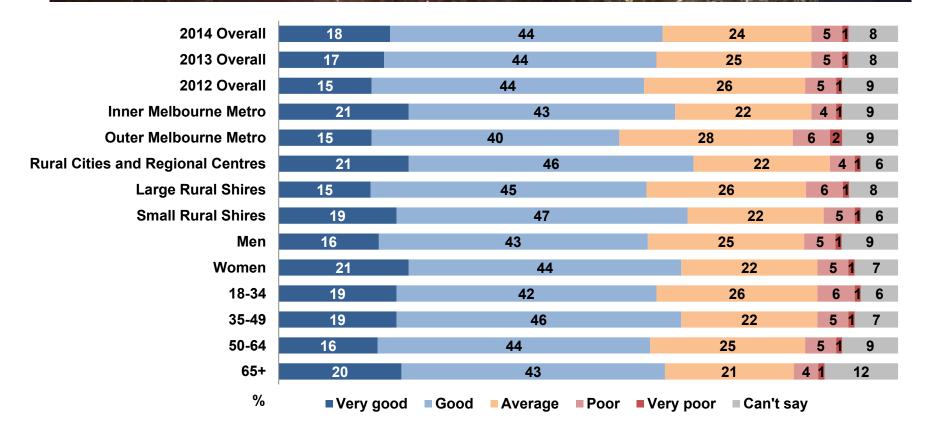
2014 COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community and cultural activities' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 33

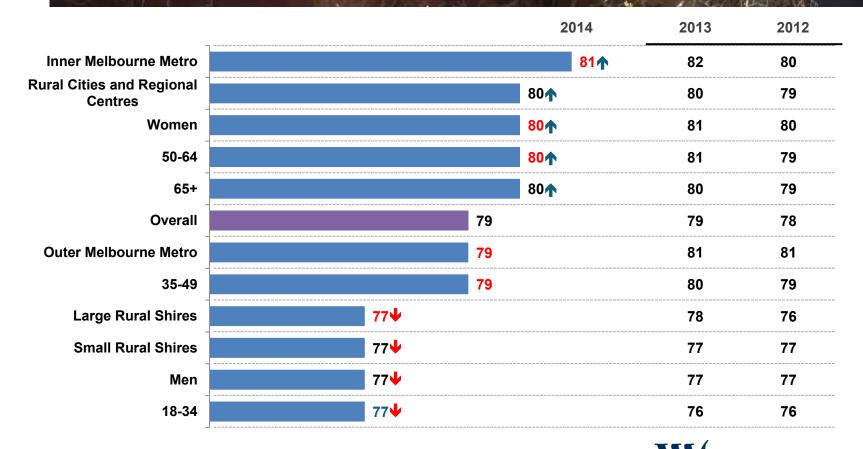


2014 COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





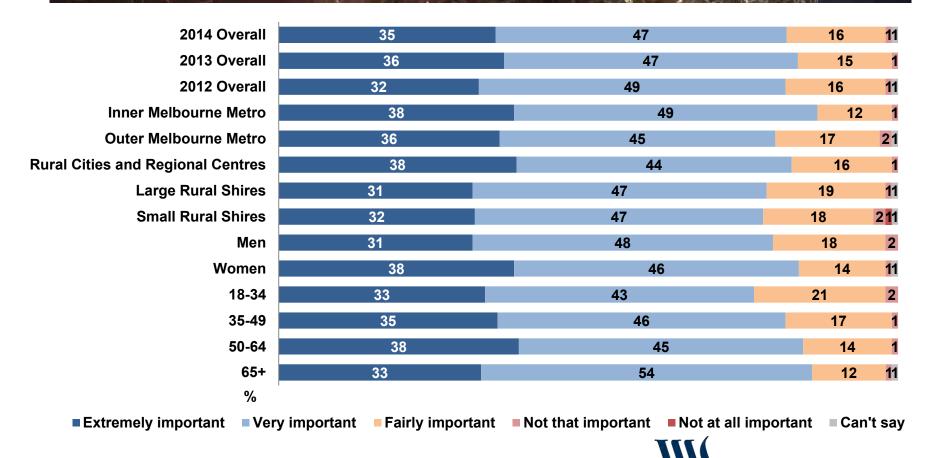
2014 WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Waste management' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 28

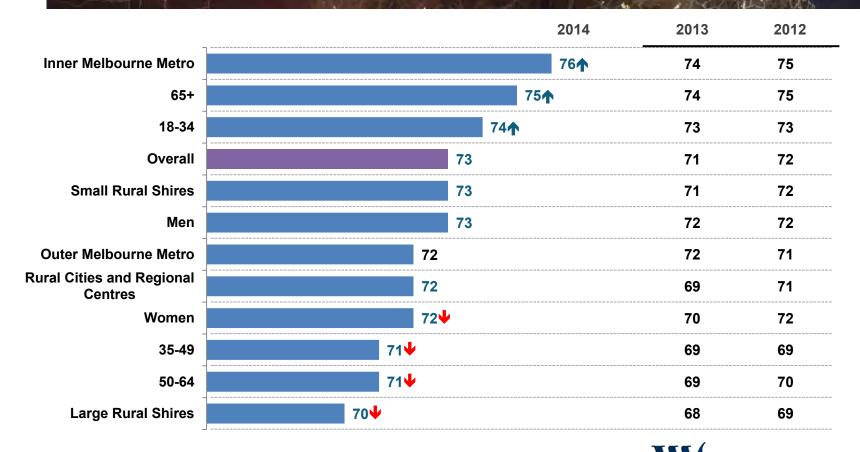


2014 WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Waste management' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 28

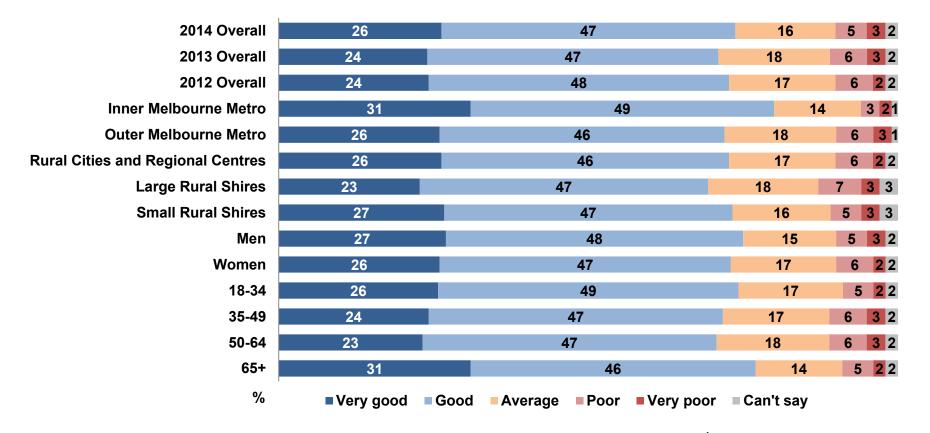
2014 WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Waste management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 48

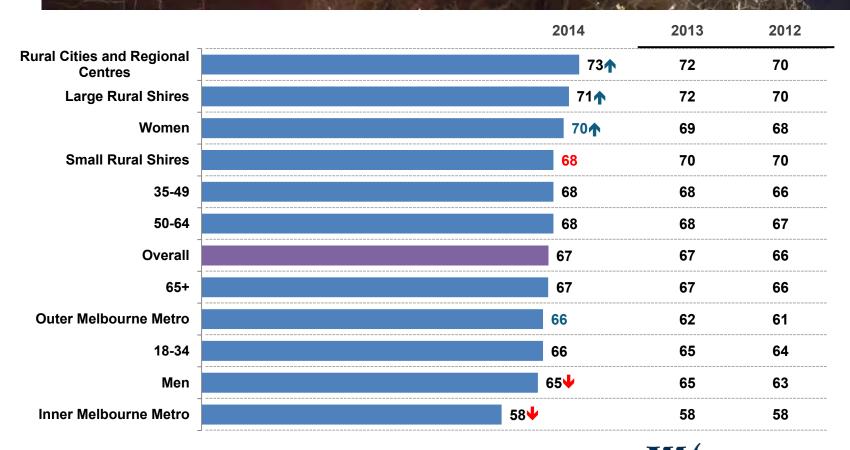


2014 WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES

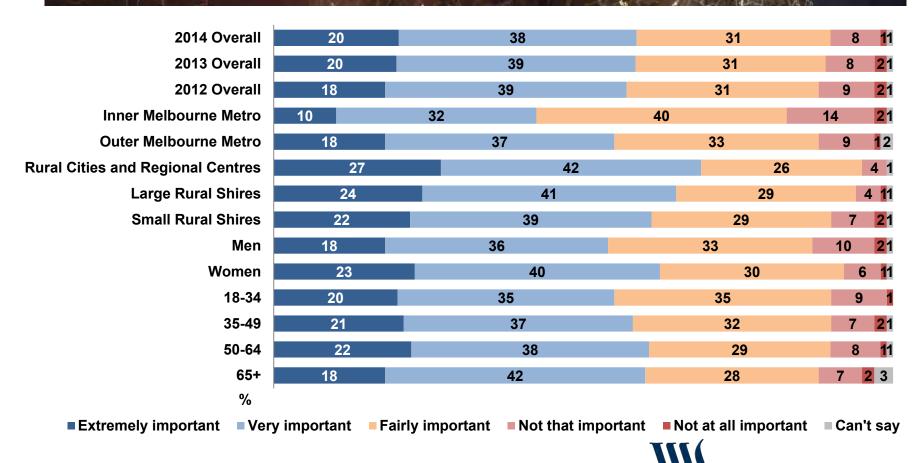


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Business and community development and tourism' be as a responsibility for Council?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 21



2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES

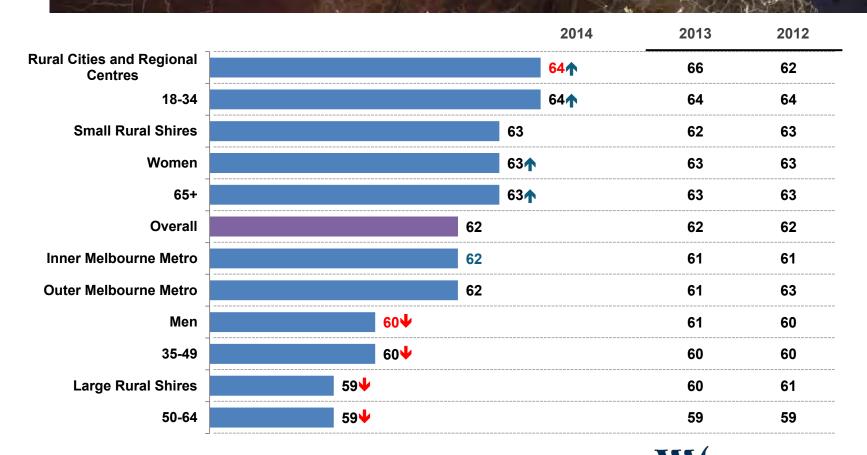


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Business and community development and tourism' be as a responsibility for Council?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 21

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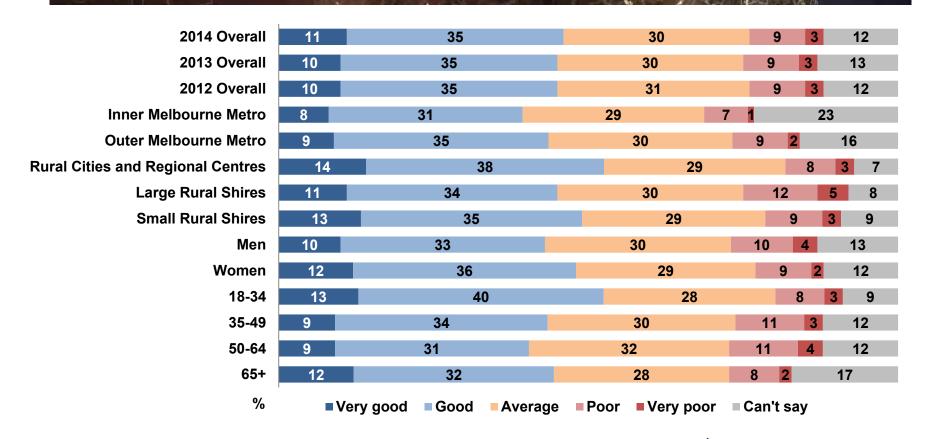
2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Business and community development and tourism' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 36

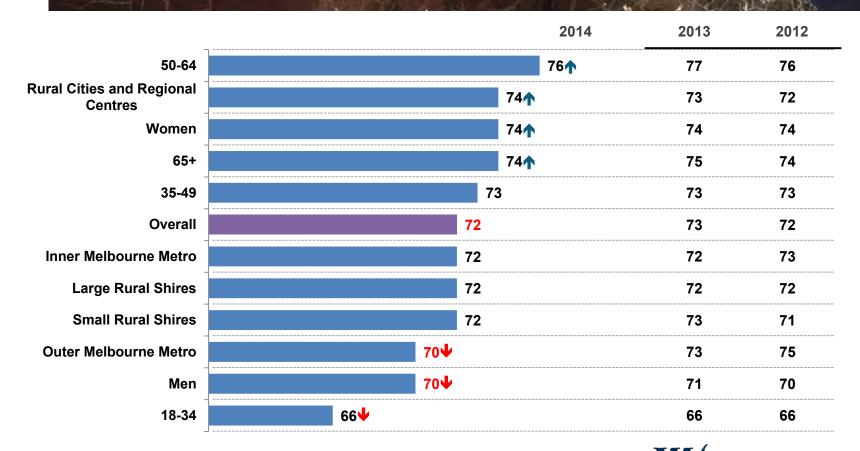
J W S R E S E A R C H

2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Business and community development and tourism' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 36

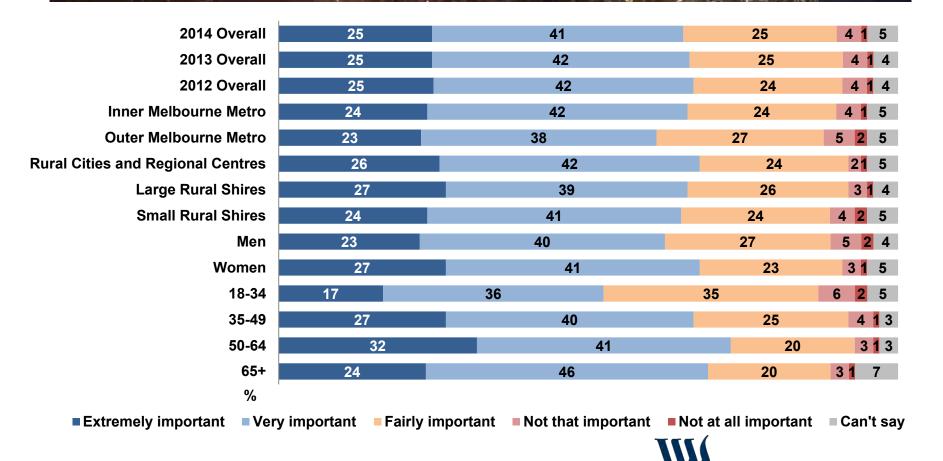
2014 COUNCIL'S GENERAL TOWN PLANNING POLICY IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Council's general town planning policy' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 20



2014 COUNCIL'S GENERAL TOWN PLANNING POLICY IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Council's general town planning policy' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 20

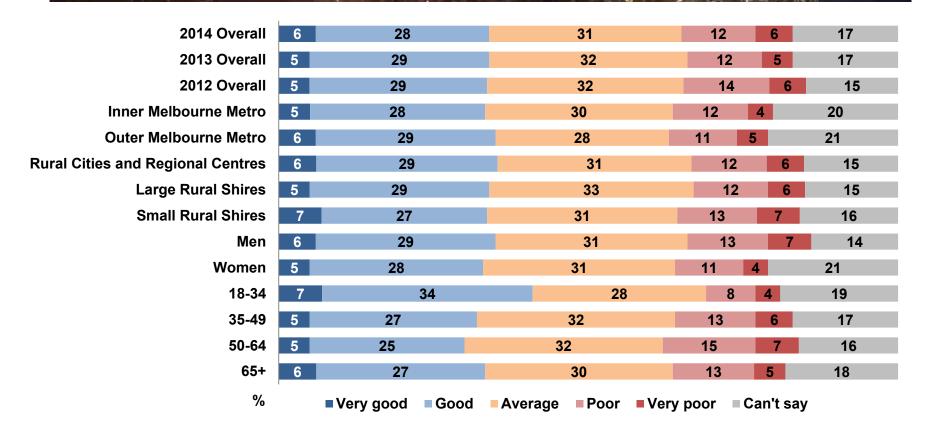
2014 COUNCIL'S GENERAL TOWN PLANNING POLICY PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

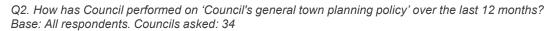
		2014	2013	2012
18-34		60♠	60	59
Inner Melbourne Metro		56♠	54	55
Outer Melbourne Metro		56	55	54
Women		56♠	55	54
Overall Rural Cities and Regional Centres	5:	5	55	54
	5:	5	56	52
65+	5:	5	55	54
Large Rural Shires	54₩		54	50
Small Rural Shires	54		55	56
Men	54♥		54	53
35-49	53♥		53	52
50-64	51♥		50	50

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Council's general town planning policy' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 34

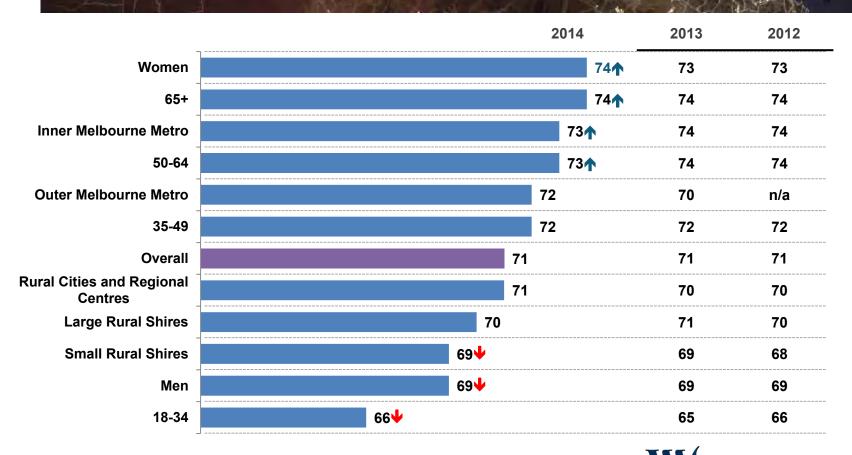


2014 COUNCIL'S GENERAL TOWN PLANNING POLICY PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





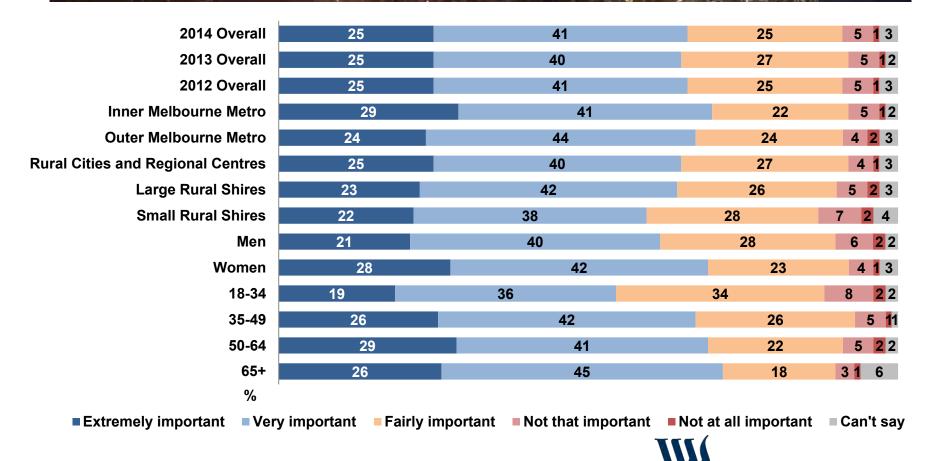
2014 PLANNING AND BUILDING PERMITS IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Planning and building permits' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 21

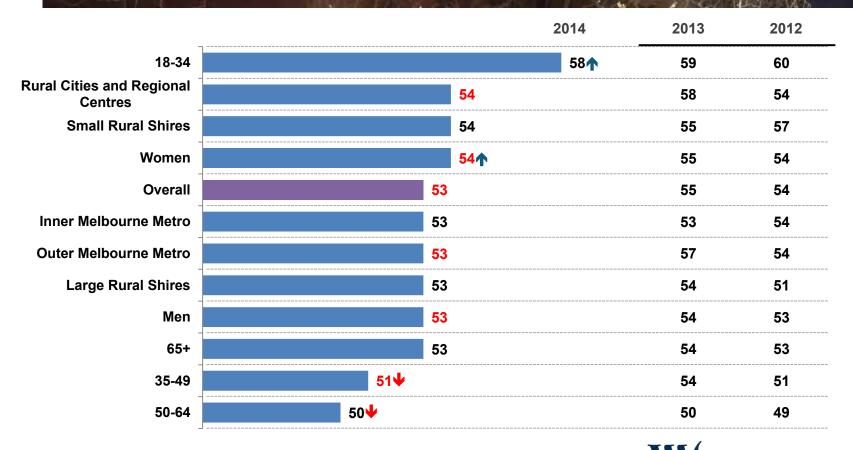


2014 PLANNING AND BUILDING PERMITS IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Planning and building permits' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 21

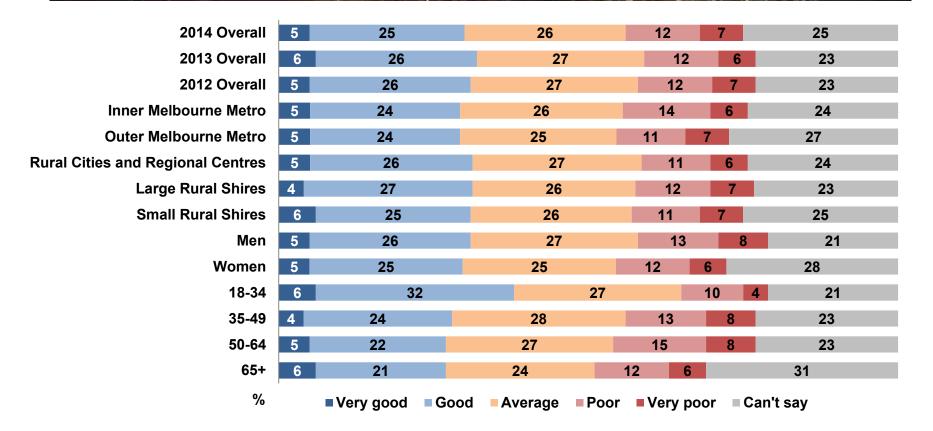
2014 PLANNING AND BUILDING PERMITS PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning and building permits' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 33

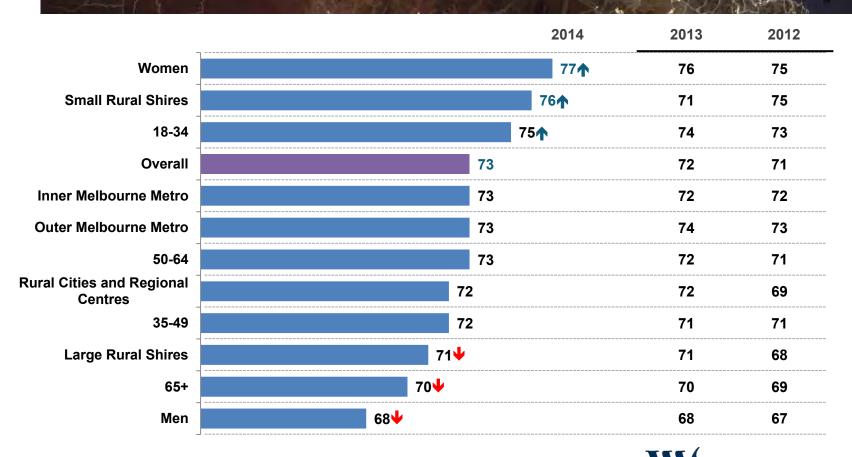


2014 PLANNING AND BUILDING PERMITS PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





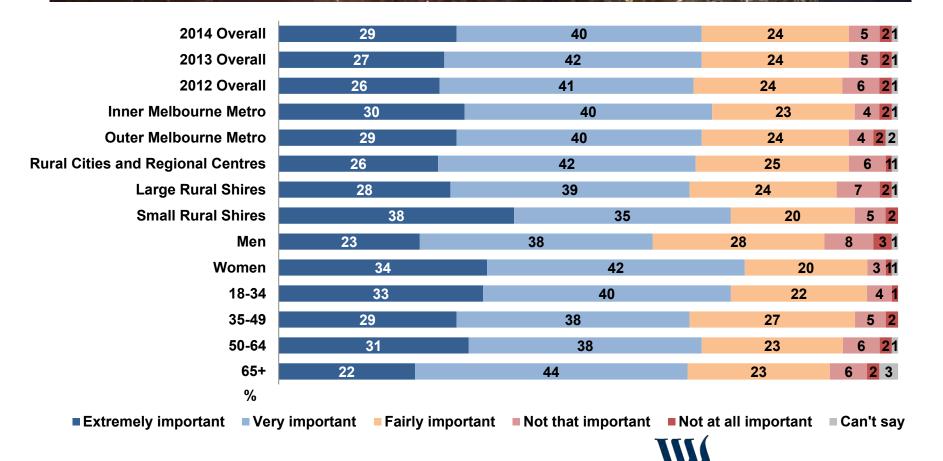
2014 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Environmental sustainability' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19

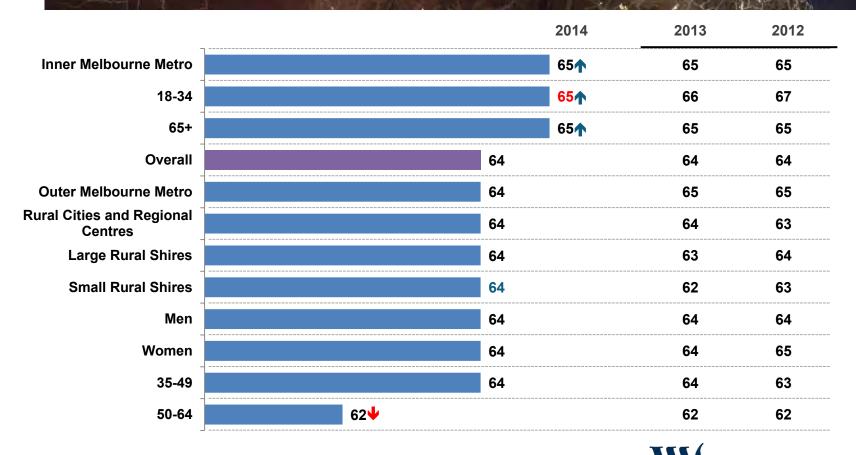


2014 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Environmental sustainability' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19

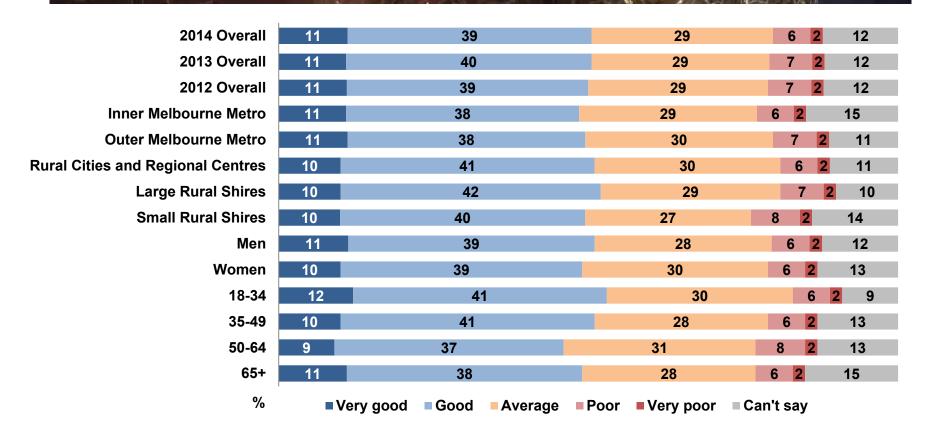
2014 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Environmental sustainability' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 32

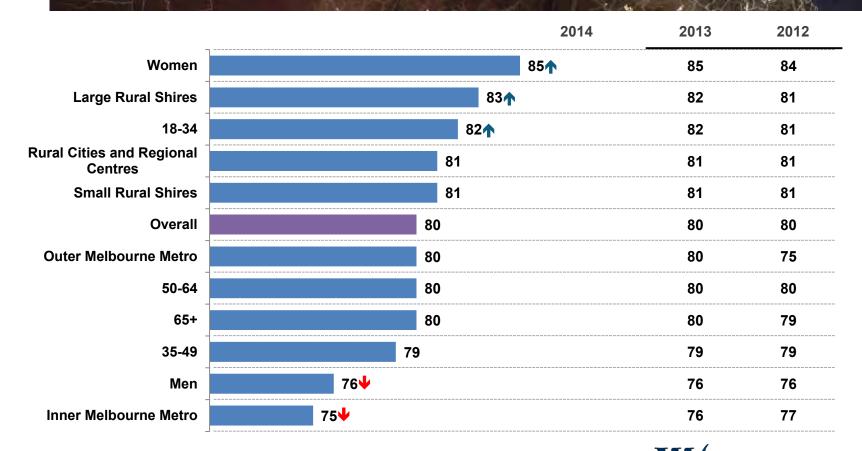


2014 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





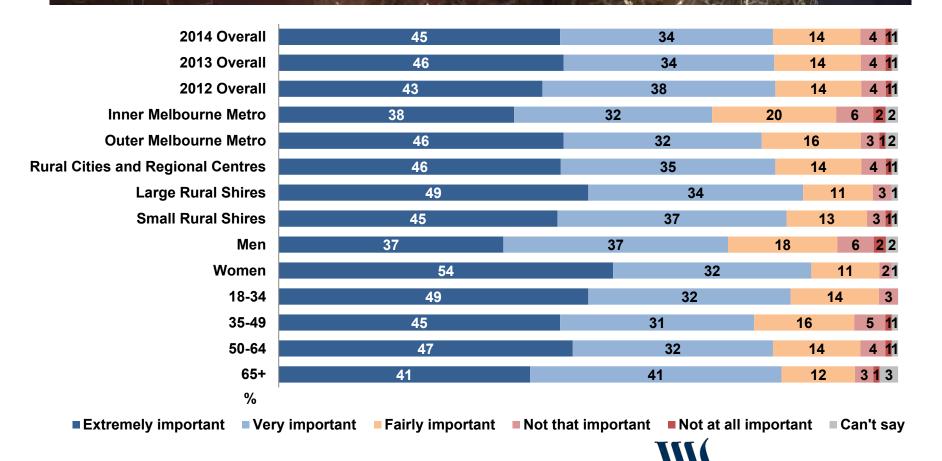
2014 EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Emergency and disaster management' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 14

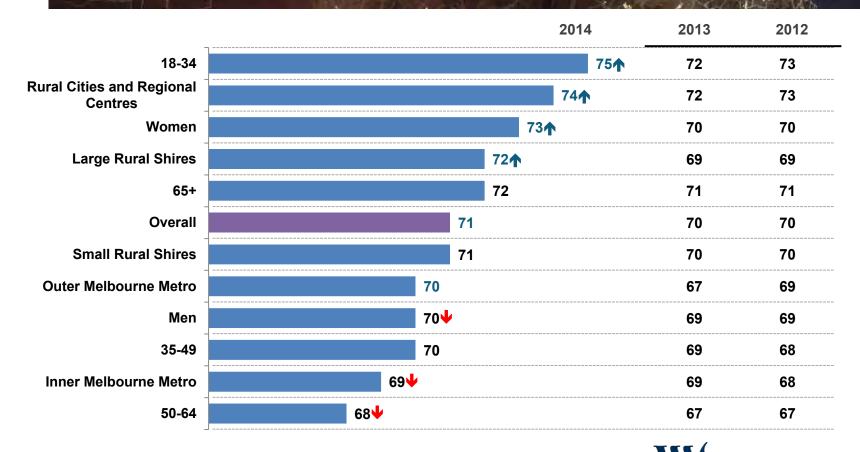


2014 EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Emergency and disaster management' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 14

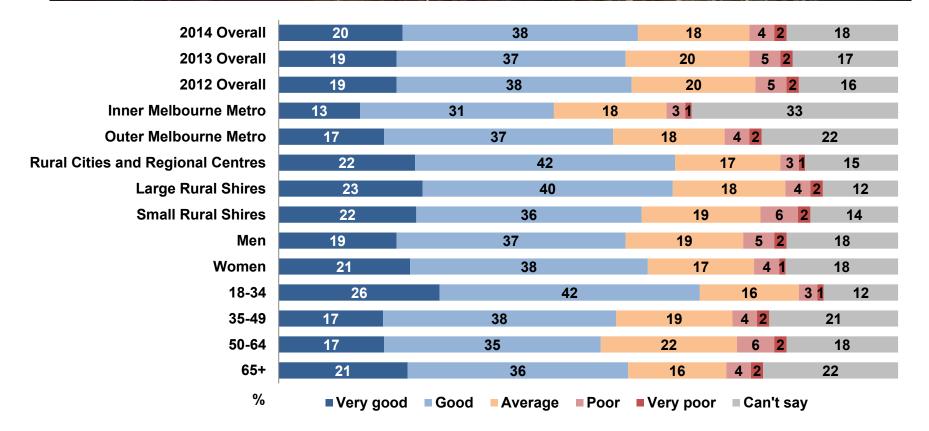
2014 EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Emergency and disaster management' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 23

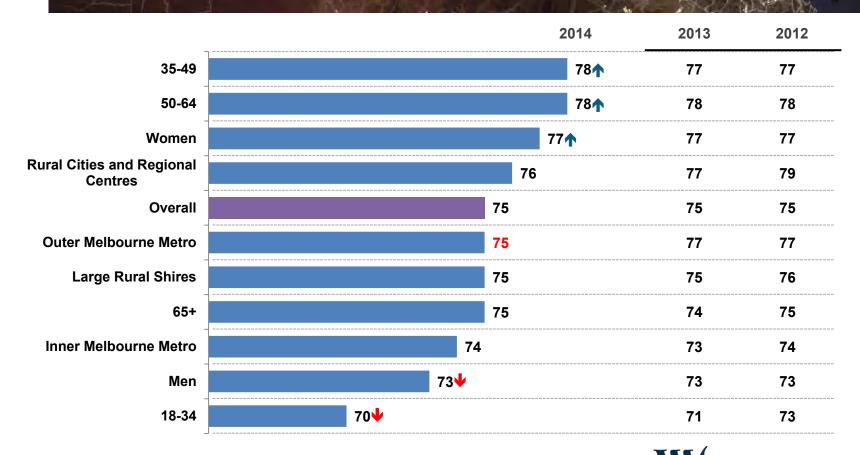


2014 EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES





2014 PLANNING FOR POPULATION GROWTH IN THE AREA IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES

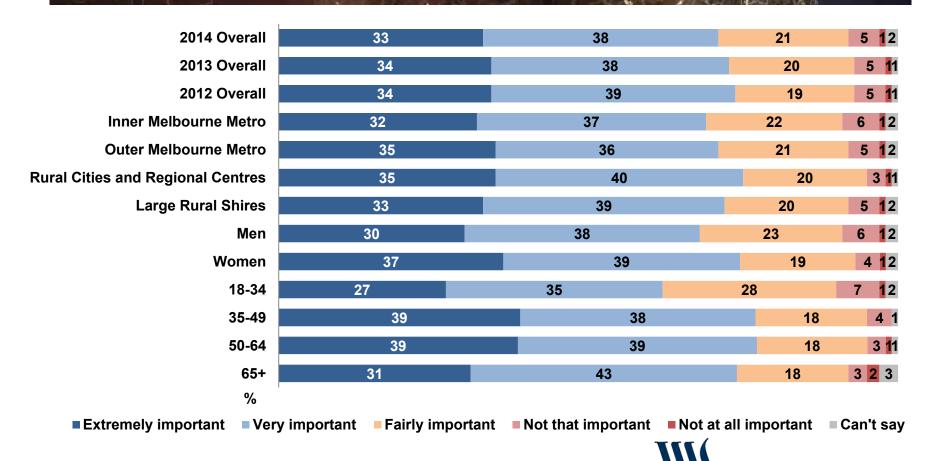


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Planning for population growth in the area' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 15



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2014 PLANNING FOR POPULATION GROWTH IN THE AREA IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Planning for population growth in the area' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 15

J W S R E S E A R C H

2014 PLANNING FOR POPULATION GROWTH IN THE AREA PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

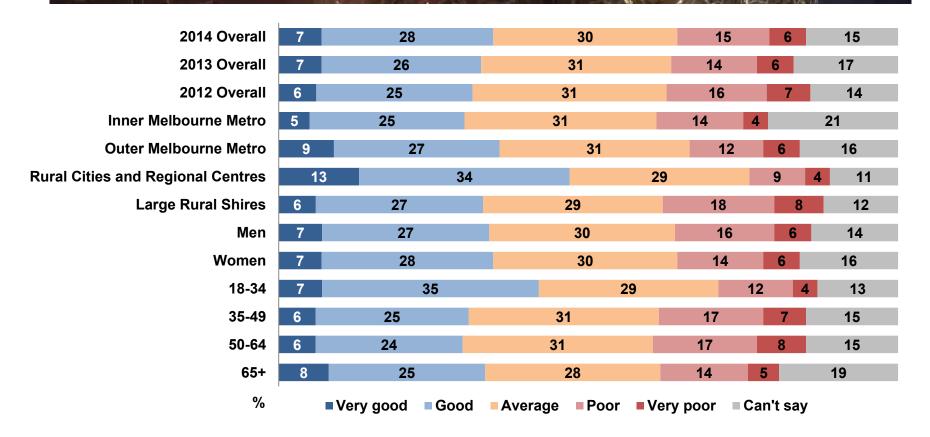
		2014	2013	2012
Rural Cities and Regional Centres		62♠	60	59
18-34		59♠	59	58
Outer Melbourne Metro		57♠	56	53
Women		55	54	52
65+		55	55	52
Overall		54	54	52
Inner Melbourne Metro		5 4	51	52
Men		54	54	52
35-49	52	2♥	51	48
Large Rural Shires	51'	V	53	50
50-64	51'	Ψ	50	49
-	J			

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning for population growth in the area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 18



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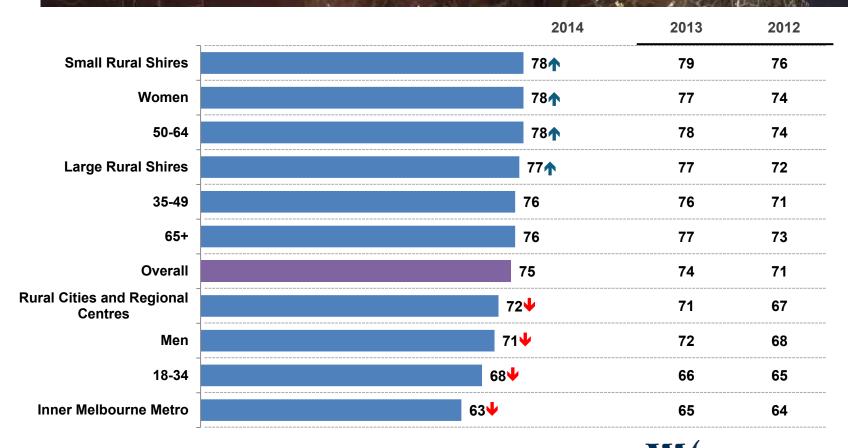
2014 PLANNING FOR POPULATION GROWTH IN THE AREA PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning for population growth in the area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 18



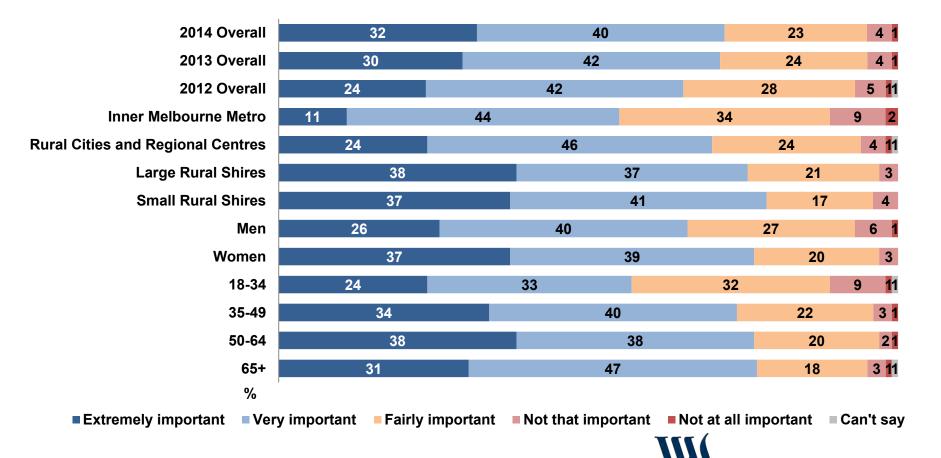
2014 ROADSIDE SLASHING AND WEED CONTROL IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Roadside slashing and weed control' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 7



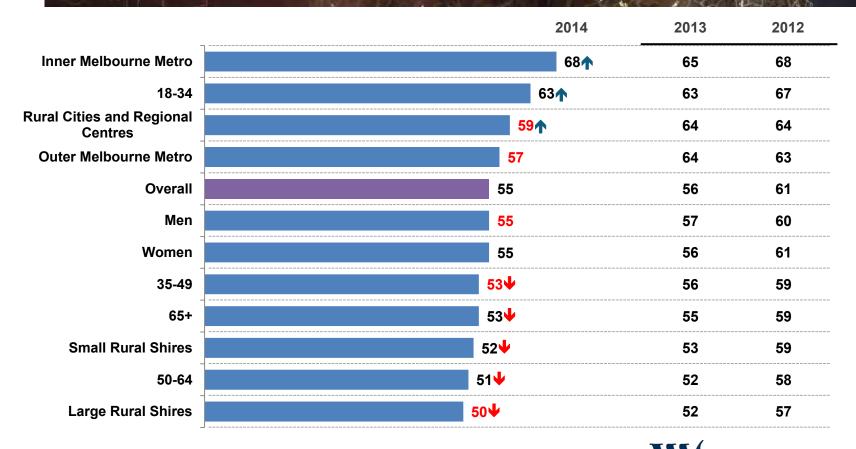
2014 ROADSIDE SLASHING AND WEED CONTROL IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Roadside slashing and weed control' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 7

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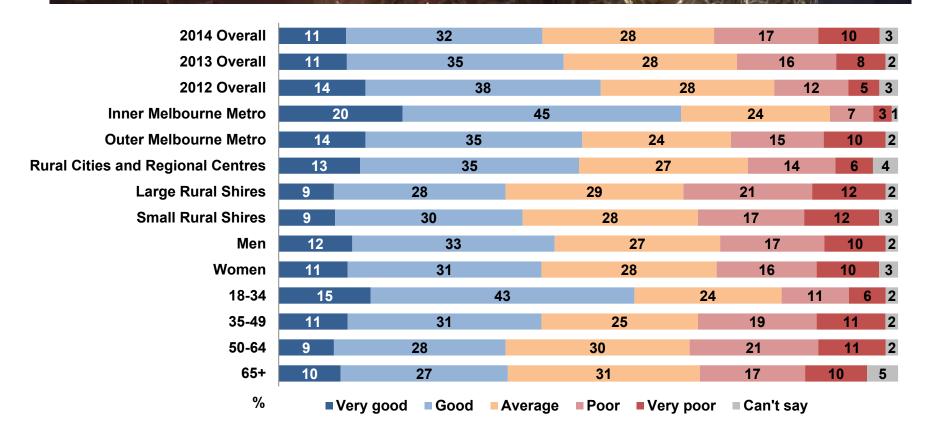
2014 ROADSIDE SLASHING AND WEED CONTROL PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

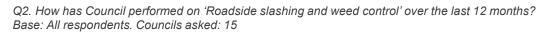


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Roadside slashing and weed control' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 15



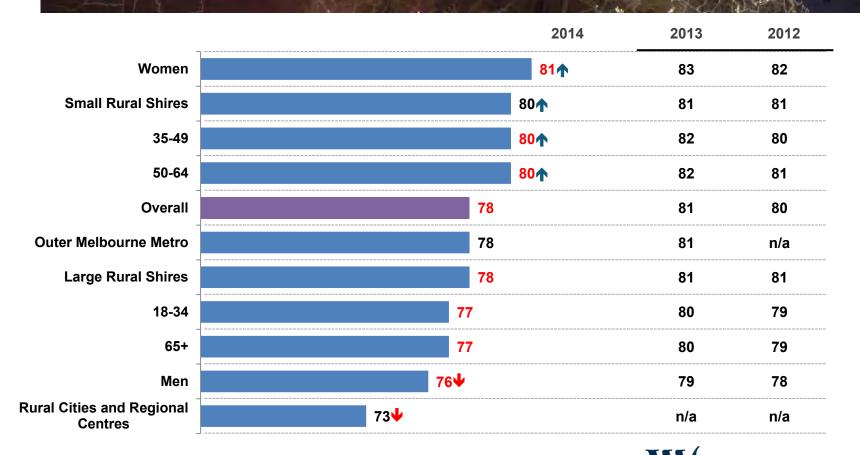
2014 ROADSIDE SLASHING AND WEED CONTROL PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES







2014 MAINTENANCE OF UNSEALED ROADS IN YOUR AREA IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES

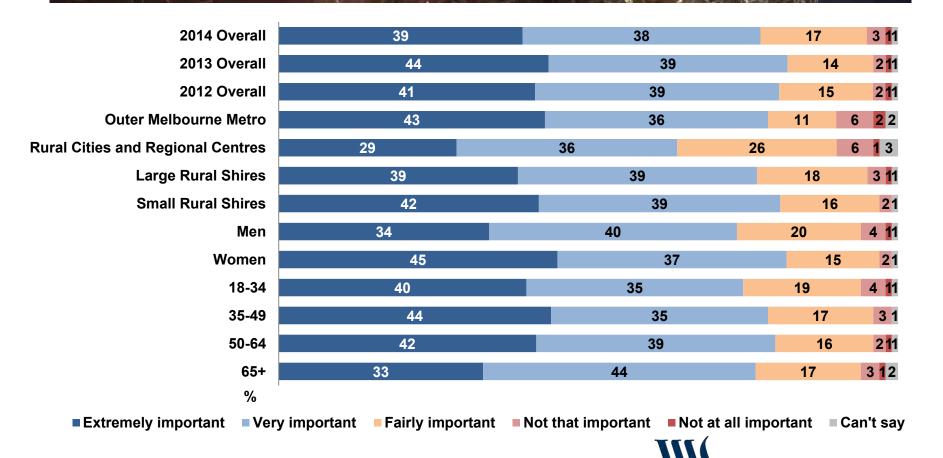


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 13

J W S R E S E A R C H

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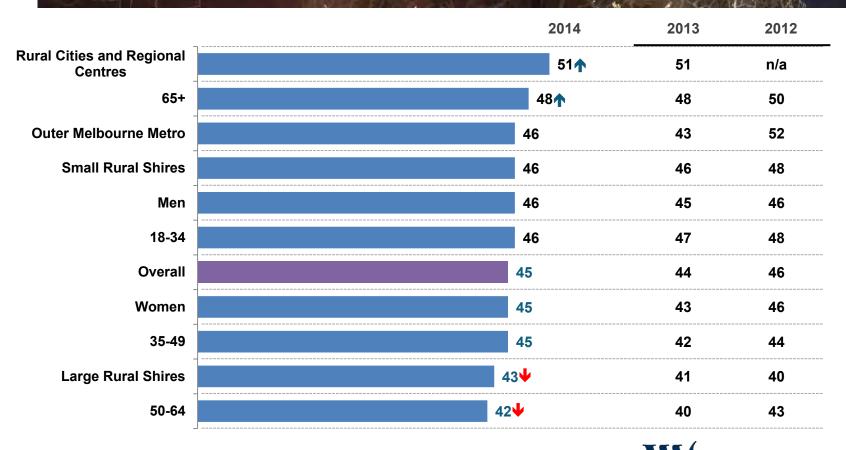
2014 MAINTENANCE OF UNSEALED ROADS IN YOUR AREA IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 13

JWSRESEARCH

2014 MAINTENANCE OF UNSEALED ROADS IN YOUR AREA PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES

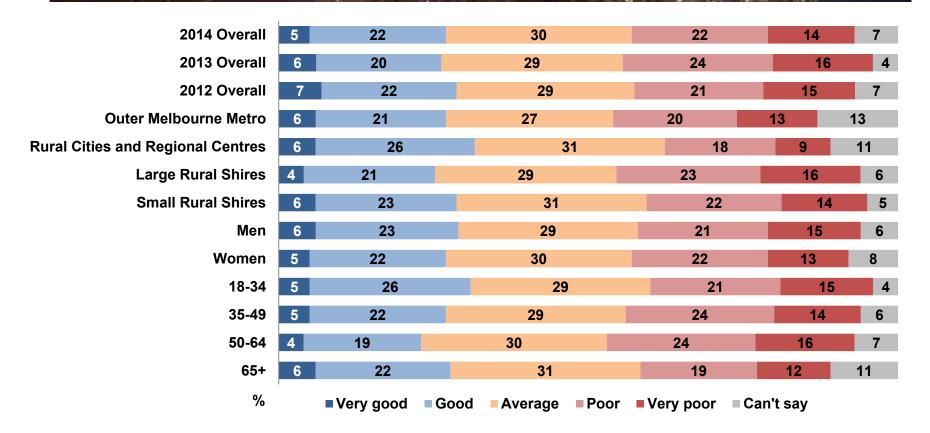


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19

J W S R E S E A R C H

154

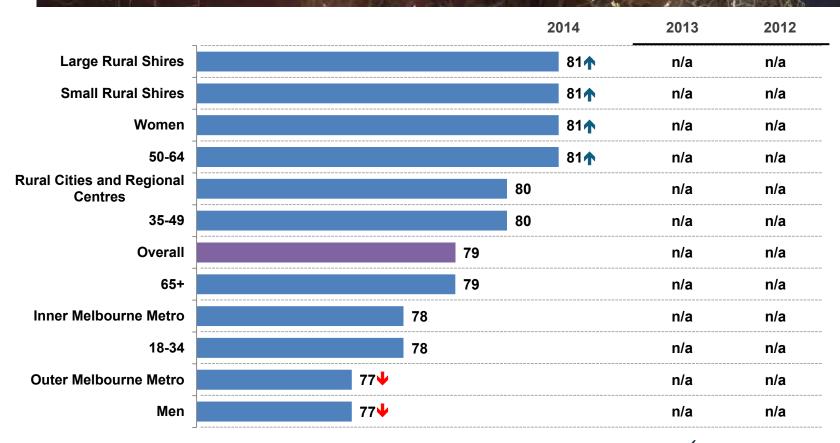
2014 MAINTENANCE OF UNSEALED ROADS IN YOUR AREA PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 19



2014 DECISIONS MADE IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



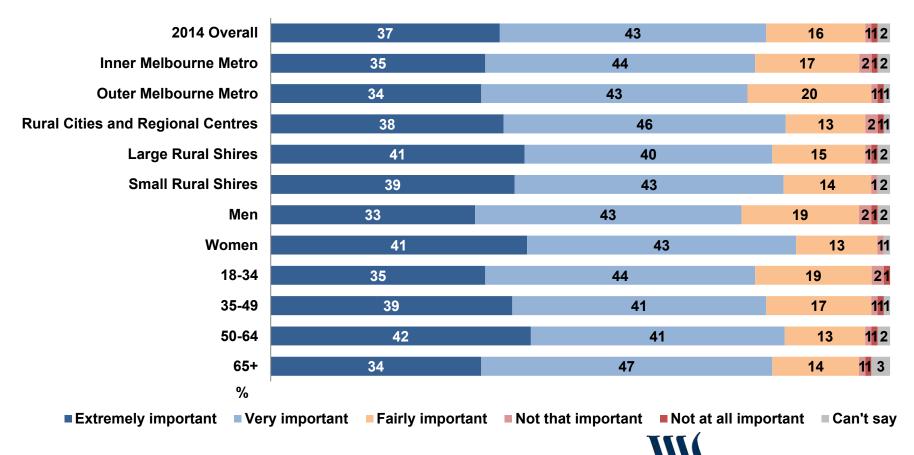
Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' be as a responsibility for Council?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 14



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2014 DECISIONS MADE IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES

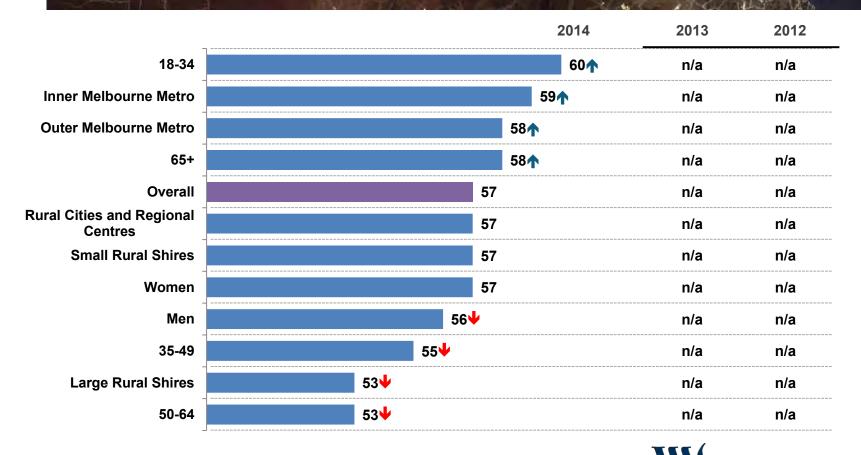


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' be as a responsibility for Council?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 14



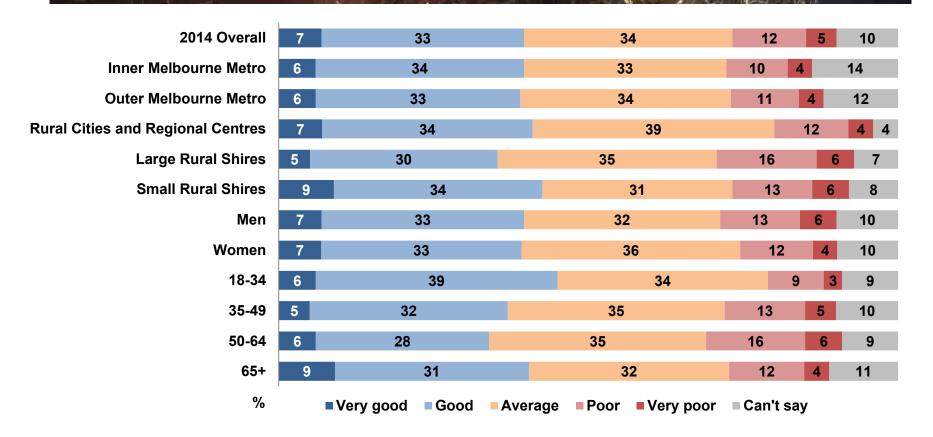
2014 DECISIONS MADE IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 43



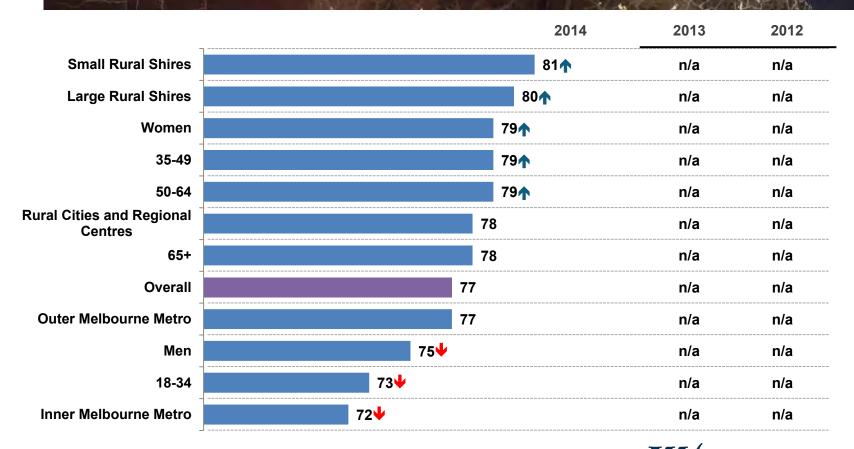
2014 DECISIONS MADE IN THE INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 43



2014 THE CONDITION OF SEALED LOCAL ROADS IN YOUR AREA IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



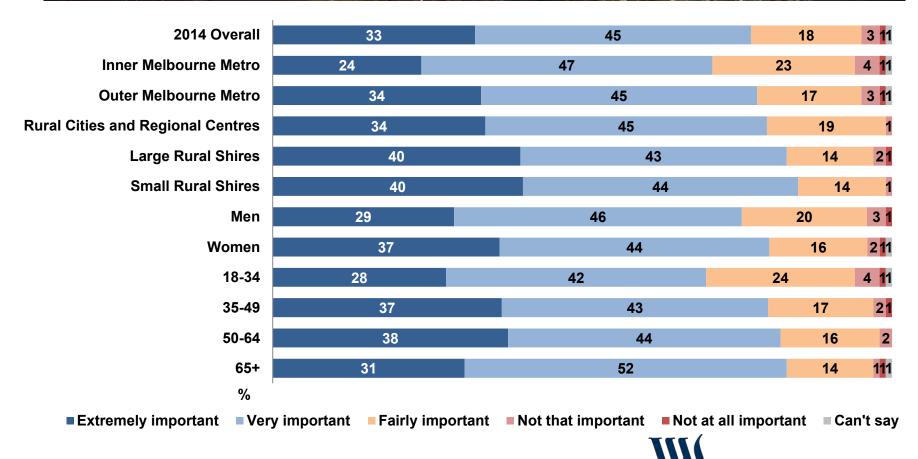
Q1. Firstly, how important should 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' be as a responsibility for Council?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 14



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2014 THE CONDITION OF SEALED LOCAL ROADS IN YOUR AREA IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES

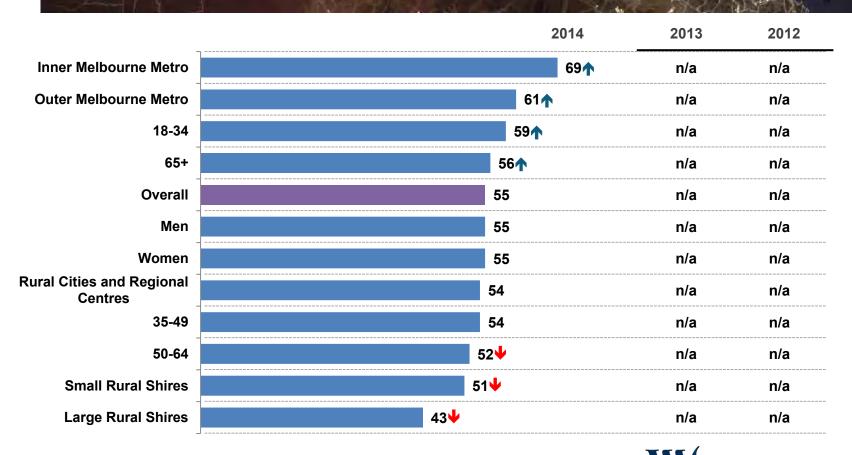


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' be as a responsibility for Council?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 14



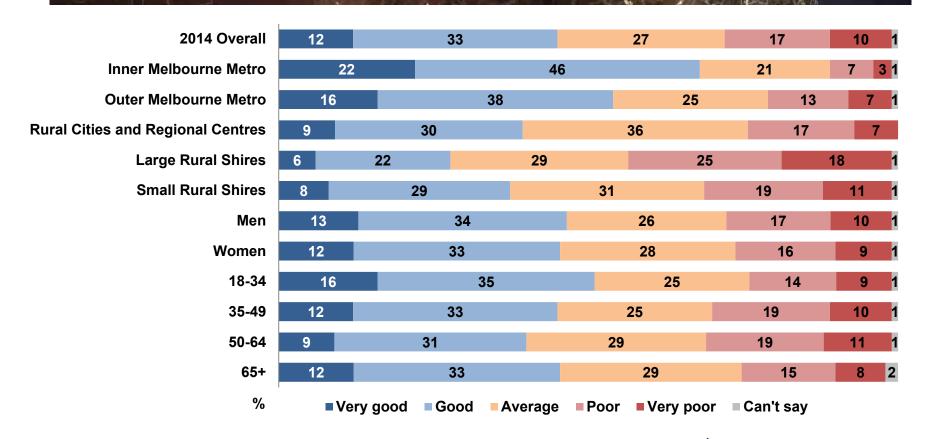
2014 THE CONDITION OF SEALED LOCAL ROADS IN YOUR AREA PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



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: 40



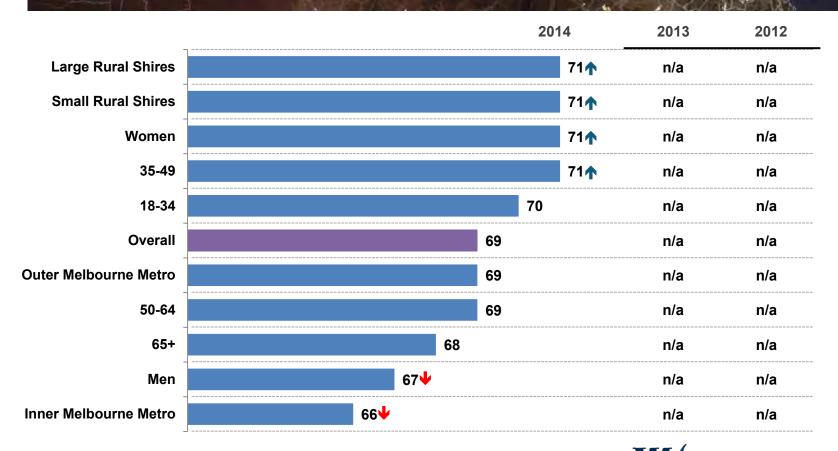
2014 THE CONDITION OF SEALED LOCAL ROADS IN YOUR AREA PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



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: 40



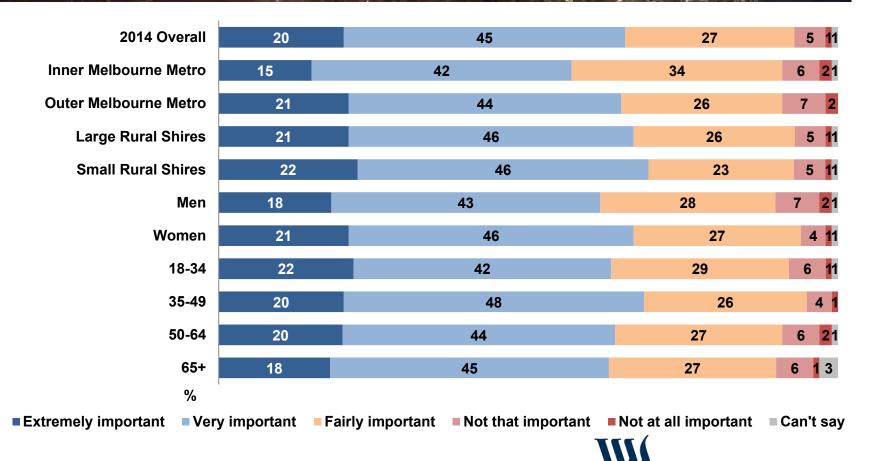
2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Business and community development' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 8



2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES

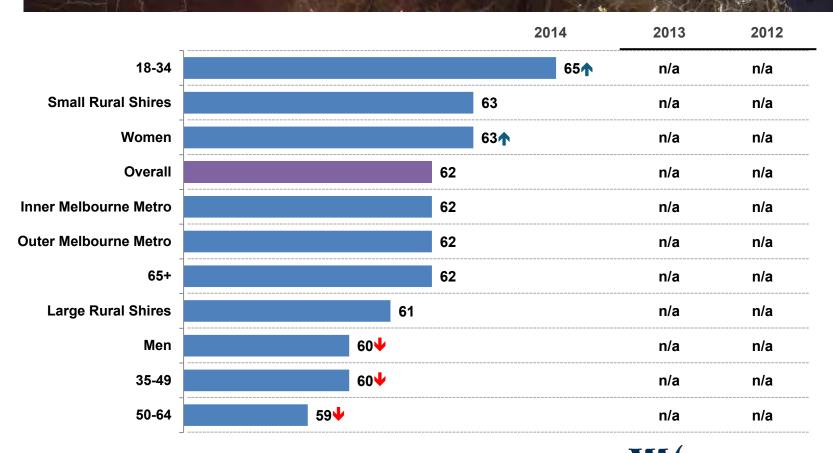


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Business and community development' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 8

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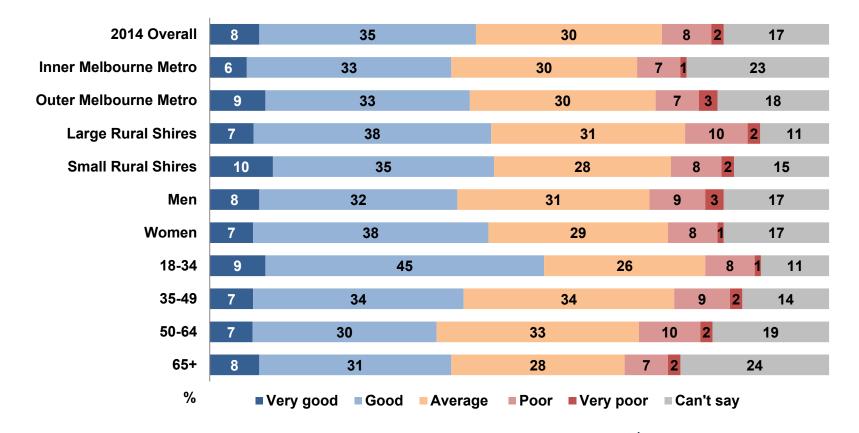
2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



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



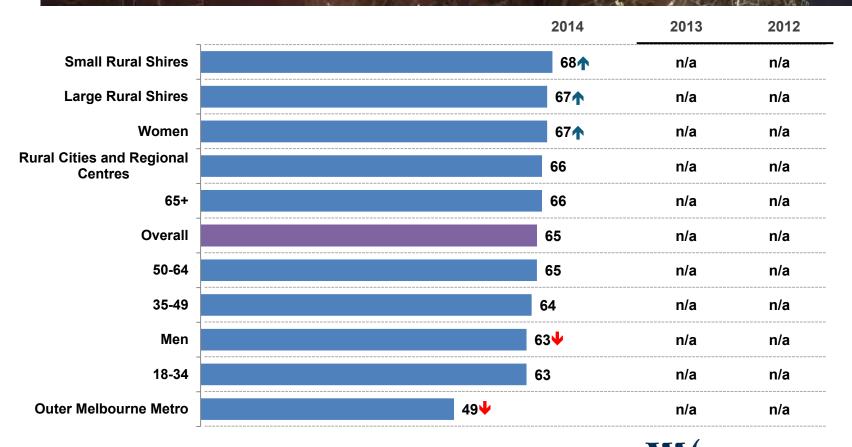
2014 BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



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



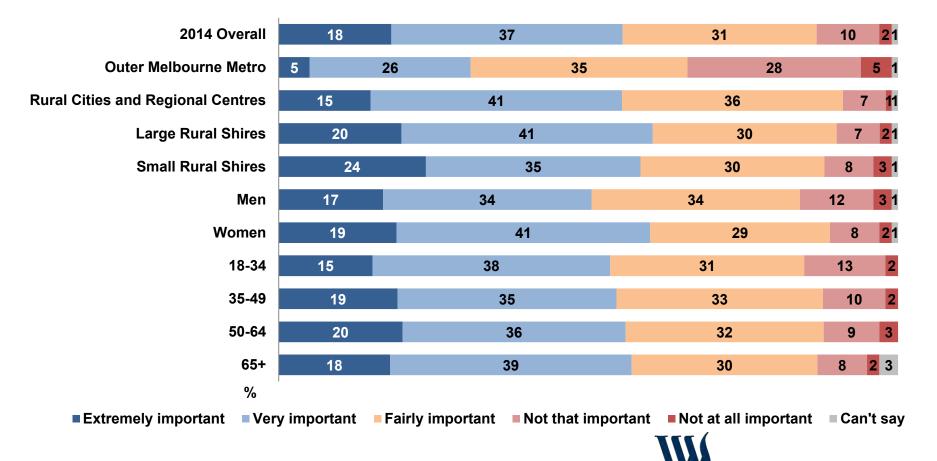
2014 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANCE INDEX SCORES



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Tourism development' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 7



2014 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES

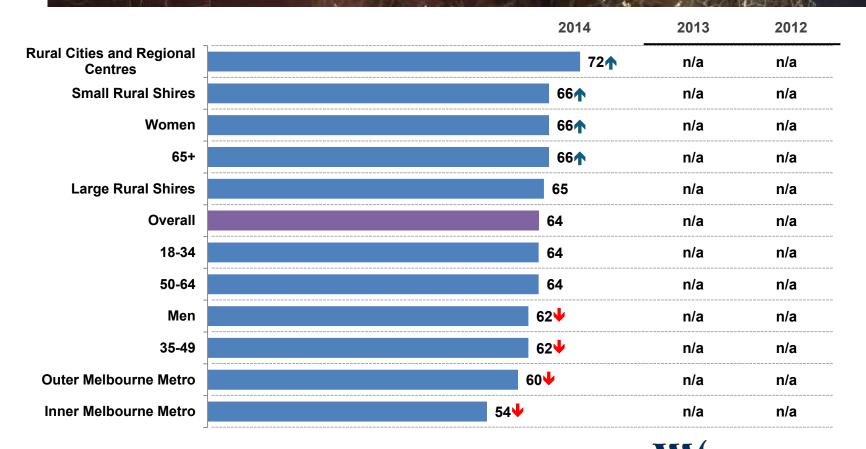


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Tourism development' be as a responsibility for Council? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 7

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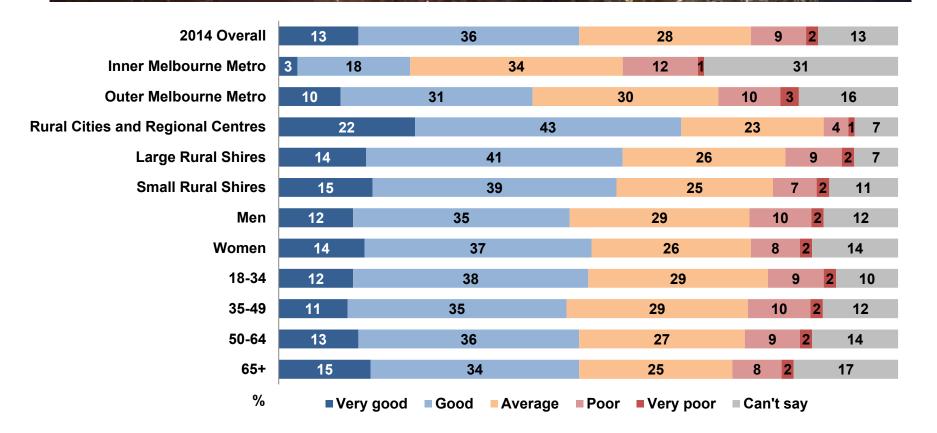
2014 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Tourism development' over the last 12 months? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 13



2014 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



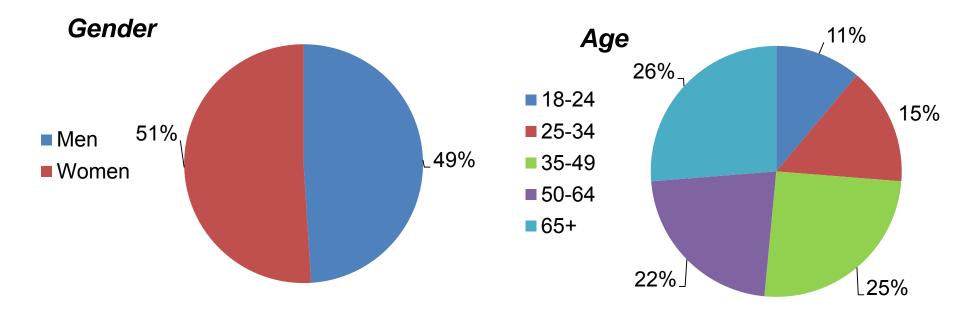


Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 13

WSRESEARCH



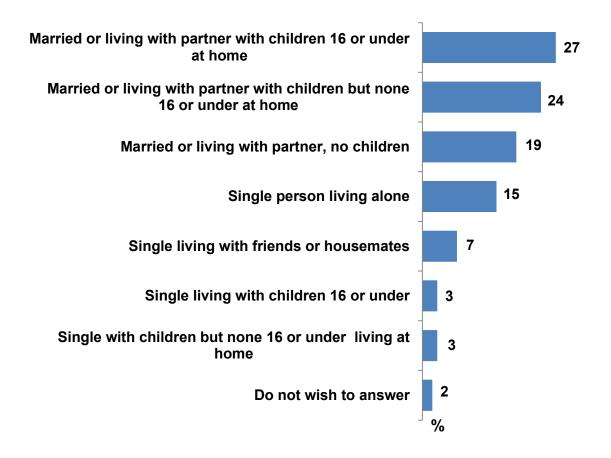
2014 GENDER AND AGE



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.

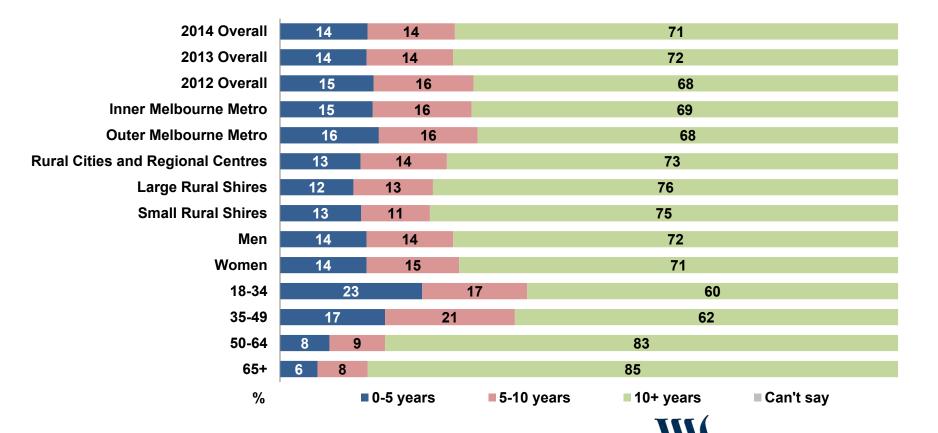
WSRESEARCH

HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE





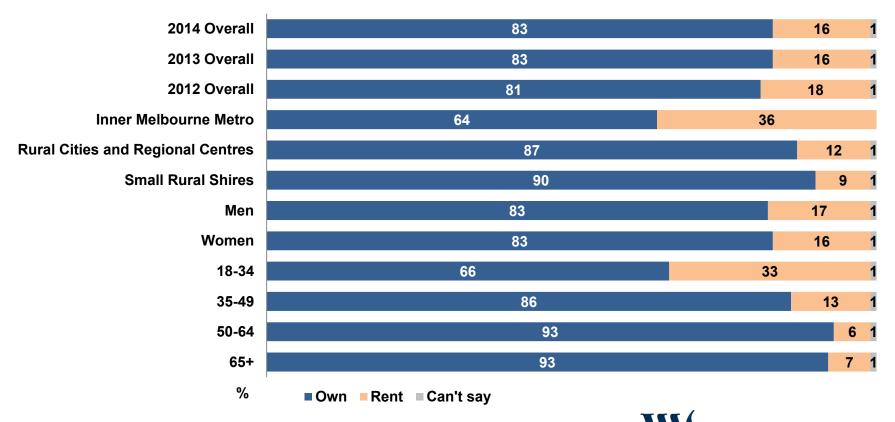
2014 YEARS LIVED IN AREA



S5. How long have you lived in this area?/How long have you owned a property in this area? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 23

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2014 OWN OR RENT

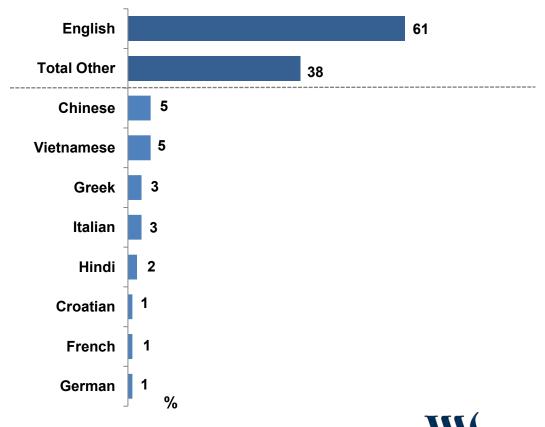


Q9. Thinking of the property you live in, do you or other members of your household own this property, or is it a rental property?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 4



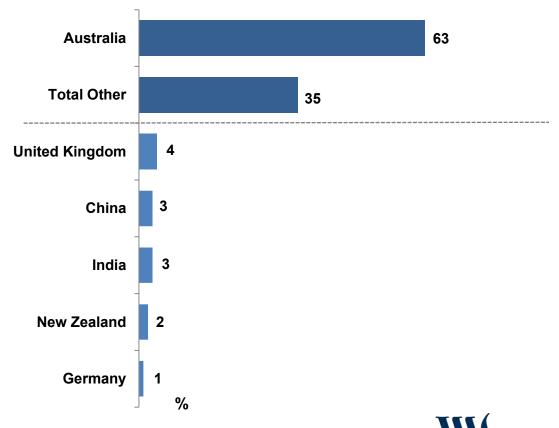
2014 LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME



Q11. What languages, other than English, are spoken regularly in your home? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 3



2014 COUNTRIES OF BIRTH



Q12. Could you please tell me which country you were born in? Base: All respondents. Councils asked: 2



APPENDIX A: BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Please note that as a result of feedback from extensive consultations with councils, in 2012 there were necessary and significant changes to the methodology and content of the survey, including:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Overall according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. **Comparisons in the period 2012-2014** have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

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APPENDIX A: MARGINS OF ERROR

The sample size for the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Overall was n=26,800. 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 26,800 interviews is +/-0.6% 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 49.4% - 50.6%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 3,699,000 people aged 18 years or over, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Overall	27906	26800	+/-0.6
Men	12272	13206	+/-0.9
Women	15634	13594	+/-0.8
18-34 years	3013	7008	+/-1.8
35-49 years	5325	6831	+/-1.3
50-64 years	9071	5982	+/-1.0
65+ years	10497	6980	+/-1.0

In 2014, 67 of the 79 Victorian councils participated in this survey. Please note that the Councils that participated in 2012 and 2013 vary slightly to those participating in 2014.

Inner Metropolitan	Outer Metropolitan	Regional Centres	Large Rural Shires	Small Rural Shires
Banyule	Brimbank	Ballarat	Bass Coast	Benalla
Bayside	Cardinia	Greater Bendigo	Baw Baw	Buloke
Boroondara	Casey	Greater Geelong	Campaspe	Central Goldfields
Glen Eira	Frankston	Greater Shepparton	Colac Otway	Gannawarra
Kingston	Greater Dandenong	Horsham	Corangamite	Golden Plains
Maroondah	Knox	Latrobe	East Gippsland	Hepburn
Melbourne	Manningham	Mildura	Glenelg	Hindmarsh
Monash	Melton	Wangaratta	Macedon Ranges	Indigo
Moonee Valley	Mornington Peninsula	Warrnambool	Mitchell	Loddon
Moreland	Whittlesea		Moira	Mansfield
Port Phillip	Yarra Ranges		Moorabool	Mount Alexander
Stonnington			Moyne	Murrindindi
Whitehorse			South Gippsland	Pyrenees
			Southern Grampians	Queenscliffe
			Surf Coast	Strathbogie
			Swan Hill	West Wimmera
			Wellington	Yarriambiack

Non-participating councils: Alpine, Ararat, Darebin, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Maribyrnong, Nillumbik, Northern Grampians, Towong, Wodonga, Wyndham, Yarra

Council Groups

In this 2014 Community Satisfaction Survey, councils have been able to self-classify according to the following classification list:

- > Inner metropolitan councils
- Outer metropolitan councils
- Rural cities and regional centres
- Large rural shires
- Small rural shires

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 benchmark survey and measured against the state-wide 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.

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



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
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 56

Index Scores Significant Difference Calculation

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

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

Where:

>\$1 = Index Score 1

>\$2 = Index Score 2

>\$3 = unweighted sample count 1

>\$4 = unweighted sample count 1

>\$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.

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 2014 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)
- Lobbying on behalf of community (Advocacy)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide.

Alternatively, some questions in the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Optional questions are noted for those results by a footnote of the number of councils who have asked the question.

Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Reporting

Every Council that participated in the 2014 State-wide Local Government Services Survey has received 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.

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.

The overall State-wide Local Government Services Report is available at www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au.

APPENDIX A: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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

CSS: 2014 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five self-classified groups, comprising: inner metropolitan councils, outer metropolitan councils, rural cities and regional centres, large rural shires and small rural shires.

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 sub-group 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.

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