

Whitehorse City Council

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



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Background and objectives

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

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

Now in its twenty-fifth year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

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

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last ten years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

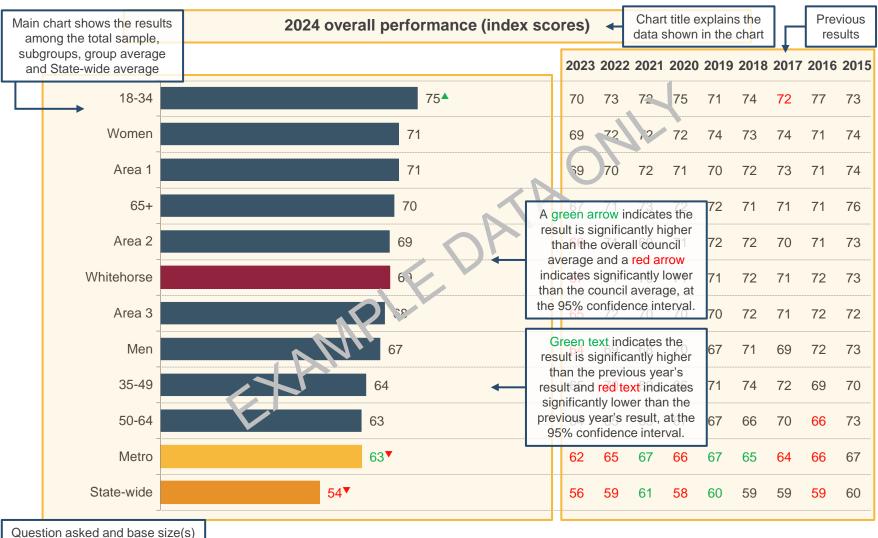
Serving Victoria for 25 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 25 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

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

How to read index score charts in this report





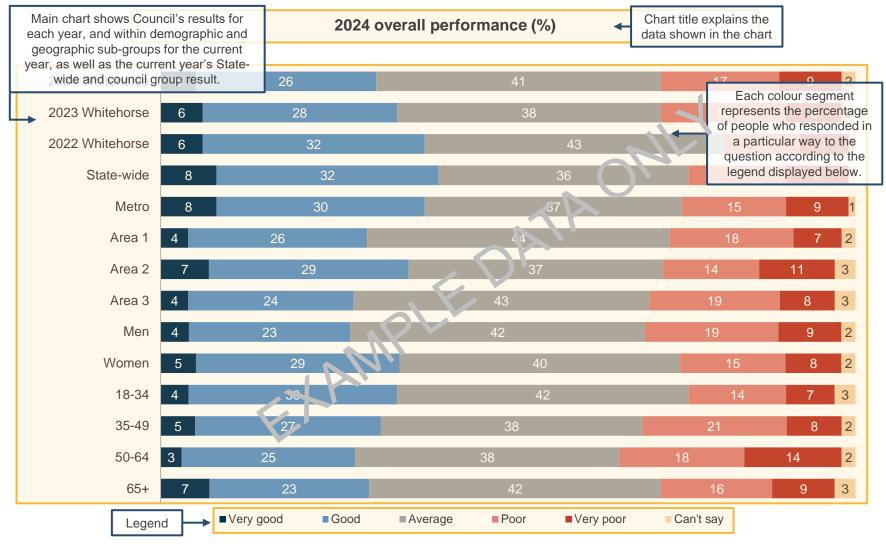
Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Whitehorse City Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 9

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

How to read stacked bar charts in this report







Whitehorse City Council – at a glance



Overall council performance

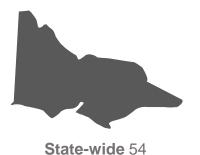
Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Whitehorse 66



Metropolitan 63



Council performance compared to group average



Summary of core measures



Index scores



Performance



money



Community Making
Consultation Community

Decisions



Sealed Local Roads



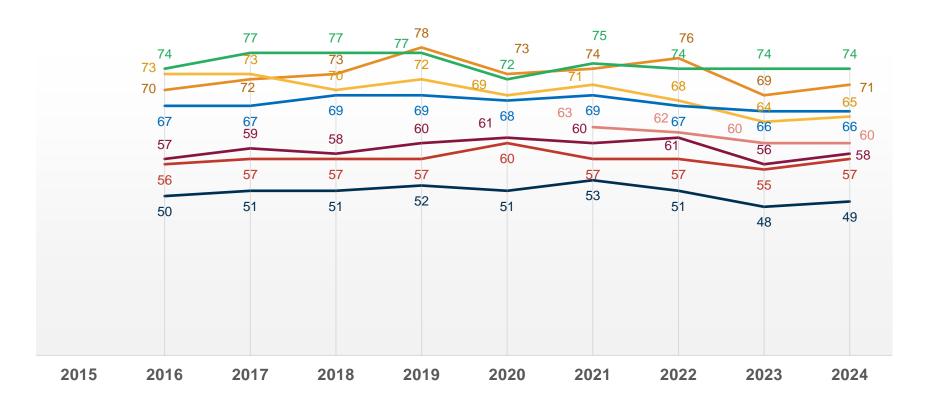
Waste management



Customer Service



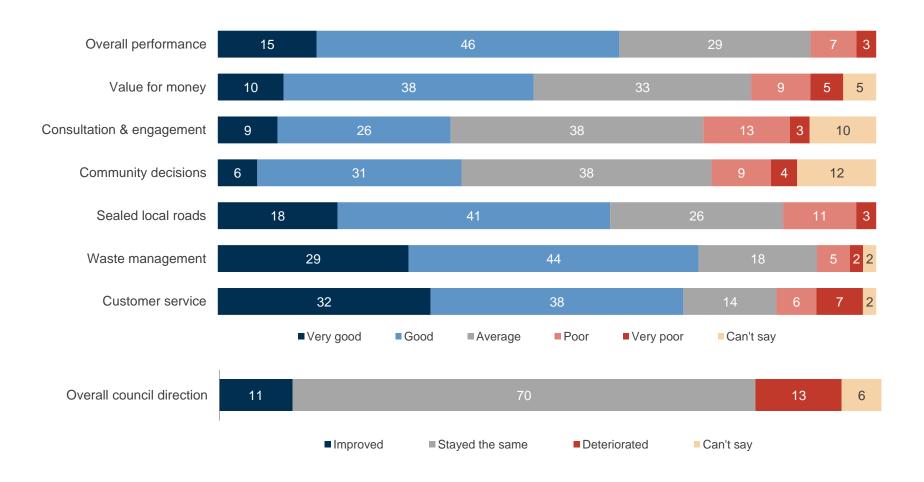
Overall Council Direction



Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Whitehorse City Council performance



Services		Whitehorse 2024	Whitehorse 2023	Metro 2024	State-wide 2024	Highest score	Lowest score
M	Overall performance	66	66	63	54	18-34 years	50-64 years
\$	Value for money	60	60	57	48	18-34 years	50-64 years
+	Overall council direction	49	48	49	45	18-34 years	50-64 years
Ė	Customer service	71	69	71	67	Women, 18-34 years	50-64 years
	Art centres & libraries	76	75	76	73	65+ years	Box Hill residents, Men
ず	Recreational facilities	75	73	74	68	18-34 years	50-64 years
	Waste management	74	74	70	67	65+ years	50-64 years, Nunawading West residents
<u>.</u>	Appearance of public areas	72	71	70	68	18-34 years	50-64 years
E	Community & cultural	70	69	69	66	Women	Men
٨	Environmental sustainability	65	63	65	60	Box Hill residents	Nunawading West residents, Nunawading East residents

Summary of Whitehorse City Council performance



Services		Whitehorse 2024	Whitehorse 2023	Metro 2024	State-wide 2024	Highest score	Lowest score
A	Sealed local roads	65	64	61	45	18-49 years	50+ years, Nunawading East residents
1111	Family support services	65	63	66	63	18-34 years	65+ years
	Enforcement of local laws	63	62	62	61	18-34 years	Men, 35-64 years
	Informing the community	60	58	62	56	18-34 years	35-64 years, Men
**	Community decisions	58	56	57	50	18-34 years	50-64 years
	Consultation & engagement	57	55	56	51	18-34 years, Nunawading East residents	50-64 years
<u>. 1.</u>	Lobbying	56	54	54	50	18-34 years	50-64 years
	Planning & building permits	51	51	49	45	18-34 years	50-64 years

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Community perceptions of Whitehorse City Council's overall performance have stabilised over the last 12 months, following slight declines in the previous two evaluations, and positive perceptions of Council performance across individual service areas have been maintained.

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance

Council should focus on improving performance in the individual service area that most influences perceptions of overall performance, namely, decisions made in the interest of the community. Council should also work to improve perceptions of performance in other related and influential areas, such as planning and building permits, and community consultation and engagement.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Whitehorse City Council performs significantly higher than the State-wide result on most individual service areas evaluated. Council performs largely in line with the Metropolitan group averages but rates significantly higher on waste management and the condition of its sealed local roads.

Shore up and build upon gains achieved to date

Over the next 12 months Council should seek to shore up its significantly improved results among 18 to 34 year olds and to improve perceptions of key service areas among older cohorts, particularly 50 to 64 year olds who remain the most critical of Council. In the coming year, efforts to improve perceptions among this latter cohort around Council's communication, consultation, decision making and lobbying, particularly around planning issues, will help to enhance overall ratings of Council.

DETAILED FINDINGS







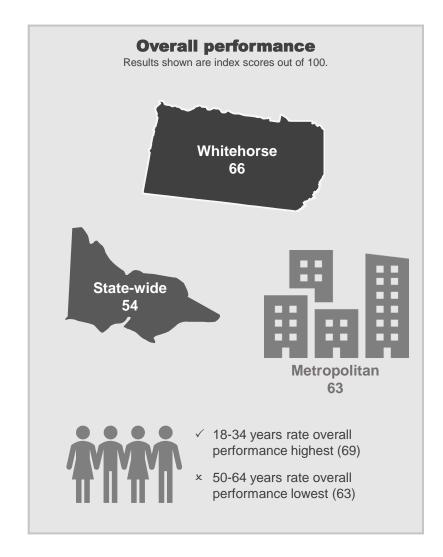
The overall performance index score of 66 for Whitehorse City Council is unchanged from the 2023 result, which was the lowest recorded in this series following a two year decline.

Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than both the State-wide and Metropolitan group averages for councils (index scores of 54 and 63 respectively).

 Performance ratings across demographic and geographic cohorts are not significantly different from the Council average.

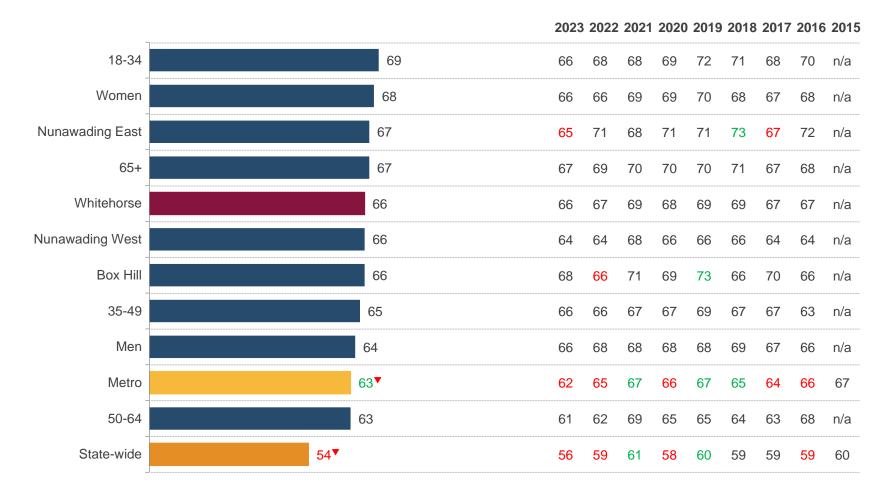
Almost half of residents (48%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. This is more than three times those who rate value for money as 'very poor' or 'poor' (14%). However, 33% rate Council as 'average' in providing value for money.

 Perceptions of Council's overall performance and value for money are most positive among residents aged 18 to 34 years and remain least positive among those aged 50 to 64 years.



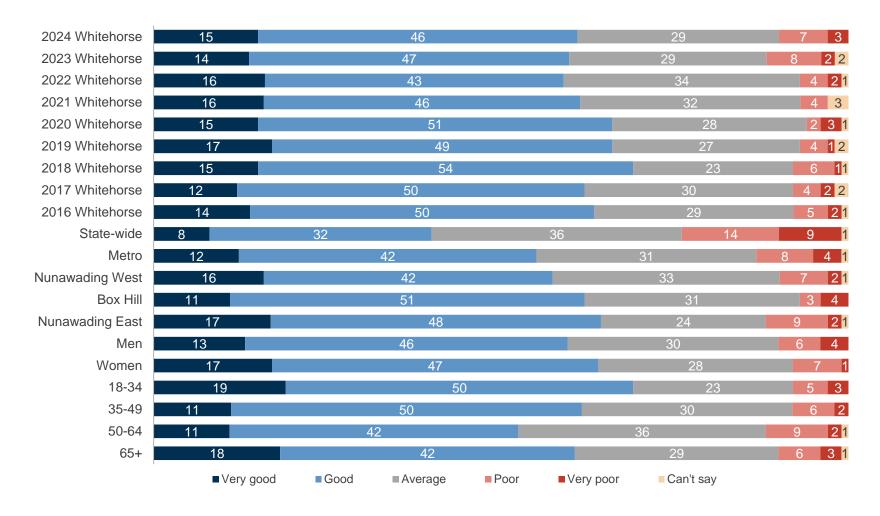


2024 overall performance (index scores)





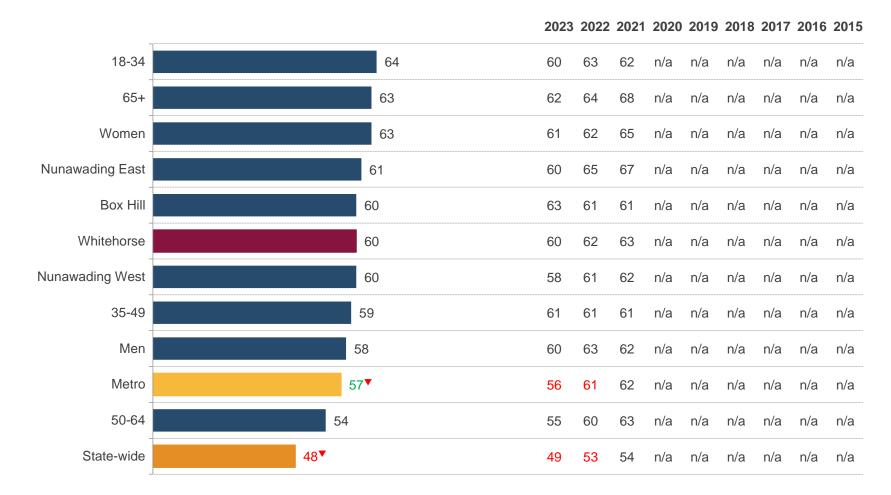
2024 overall performance (%)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



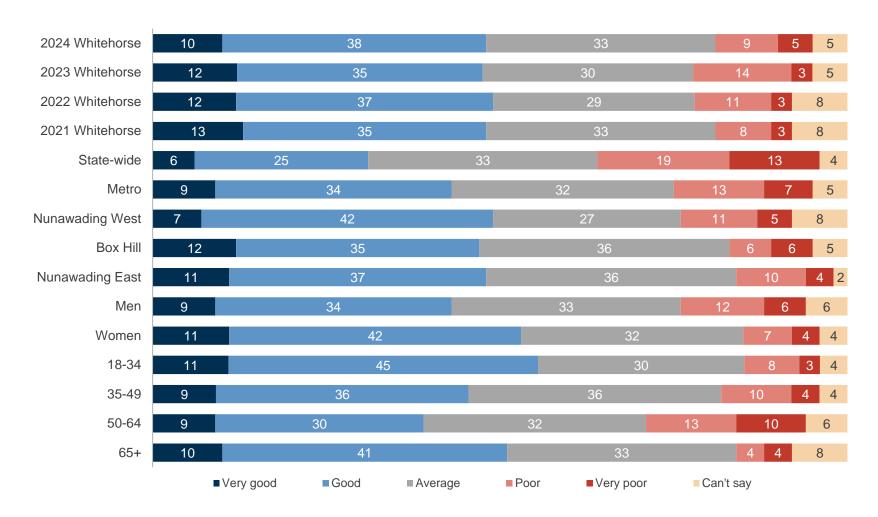
2024 value for money (index scores)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



2024 value for money (%)



Top performing service areas

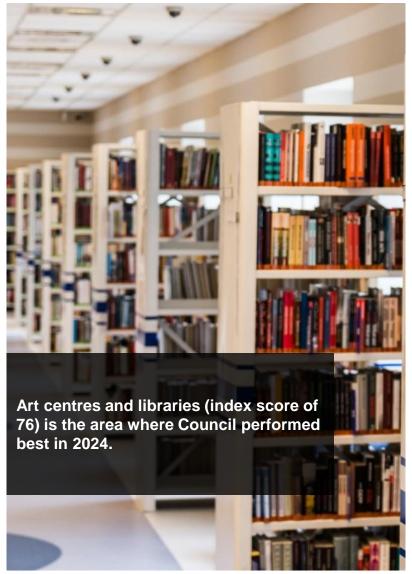
Art centres and libraries (index score of 76) remains the area where Council performs best, and ratings are significantly higher than average for Nunawading East residents this year (index score of 80). Council performs in line with the Metropolitan group and significantly higher than the State-wide average for this area.

Recreational facilities is Council's next highest rated service area, followed by waste management and the appearance of public areas (index scores of 75, 74 and 72 respectively). Council continues to perform significantly above the State-wide average in these areas and higher than the Metropolitan group average on waste management. Positively, these areas are key influences on Council's overall performance rating.

Reflecting these strengths, the leading areas nominated by residents as the best thing about Council are parks and gardens (19%), recreational and sporting facilities (12%), waste management (9%) and library facilities / services / staff (7%).

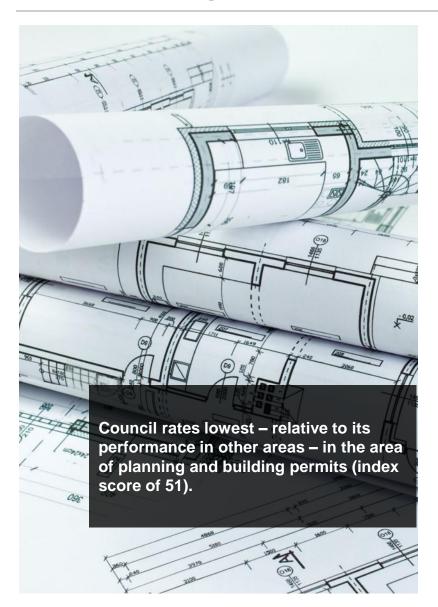
- Of note, ratings of recreational facilities are now significantly higher than average among 18 to 34 year olds (index score of 79), marking a significant seven point improvement and a series high result.
- Ratings have also improved seven points for 18 to 34 year olds on the appearance of public areas (index score of 76) after an eight point decline in 2023.





Low performing service areas





Council continues to rate lowest in the area of planning and building permits (index score of 51). In line with previous evaluations, this service area shows the largest disparity between perceptions of performance versus importance to residents (-23 points).

 Inappropriate / over development and town planning / permits / red tape remain among the most frequently cited areas in need of improvement (each mentioned by 7% of residents).

Lobbying is Council's next lowest-rated service area, followed closely by the related areas of consultation and engagement, and decisions made in the interest of the community (index scores of 56, 57 and 58 respectively).

Community decisions is the service area that has the strongest influence on the overall performance rating, and Council should prioritise improvements to boost overall community sentiment.

 In each of these lower performing service areas ratings are lowest among residents aged 50 to 64 years. Given that this group also has the least positive perceptions of Council's overall performance, they warrant extra attention in the year ahead.

Individual service area performance



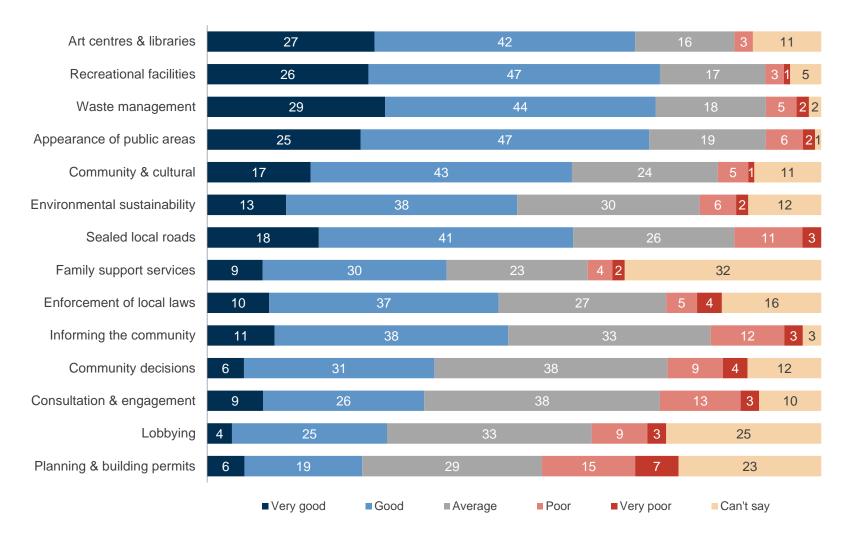
2024 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



2024 individual service area performance (%)



Individual service area importance



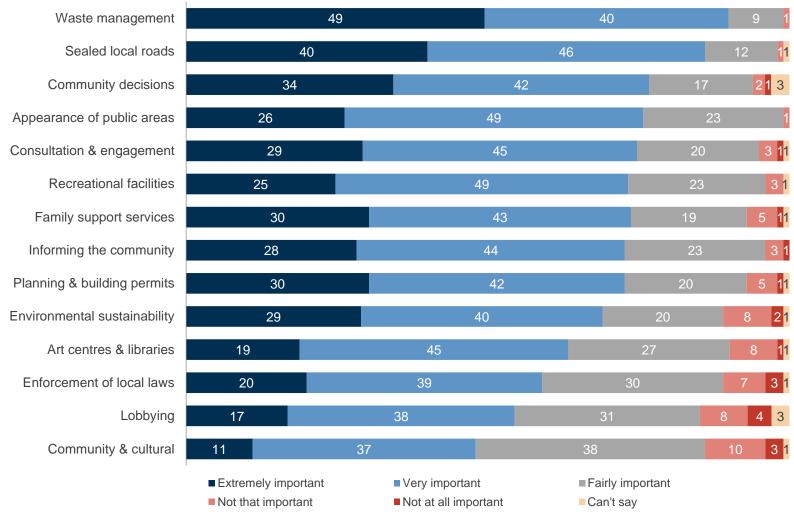
2024 individual service area importance (index scores)



Individual service area importance



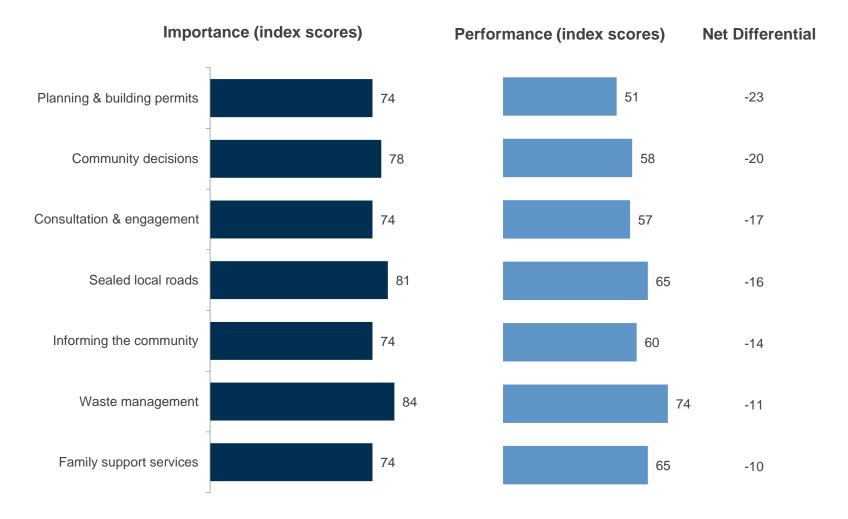
2024 individual service area importance (%)



Individual service areas importance vs performance



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



Influences on perceptions of overall performance



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

Decisions made in the interest of the community.

Good communication and transparency with residents about decisions Council has made in the community's interest provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council's performance.

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

- Enforcement of local laws
- · Informing the community
- · Recreational facilities
- The condition of sealed local roads
- Waste management
- The appearance of public areas
- · Community consultation and engagement
- · Planning and building permits.

Looking at these key service areas only, recreational facilities, waste management and the appearance of public areas have high performance index scores (75, 74 and 72 respectively) and a moderate influence on the overall performance rating.

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

Other service areas with a moderate influence on overall perceptions, but where Council performs relatively less well, are planning and building permits and community consultation (index scores of 51 and 57 respectively).

Addressing resident concerns about Council policies and processes around planning and building permits, and ensuring residents feel heard on key local issues, can also help to shore up positive overall ratings of Council performance.

Regression analysis explained



We use regression analysis to investigate which individual service areas, such as community consultation, condition of sealed local roads, etc. (the independent variables) are influencing respondent perceptions of overall council performance (the dependent variable).

In the charts that follow:

- The horizontal axis represents Council's performance index score for each individual service.
 Service areas appearing on the right side of the chart have a higher index score than those on the left.
- The vertical axis represents the Standardised Beta Coefficient from the multiple regression performed.
 This measures the contribution of each service area to the model. Service areas near the top of the chart have a greater positive effect on overall performance ratings than service areas located closer to the axis.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

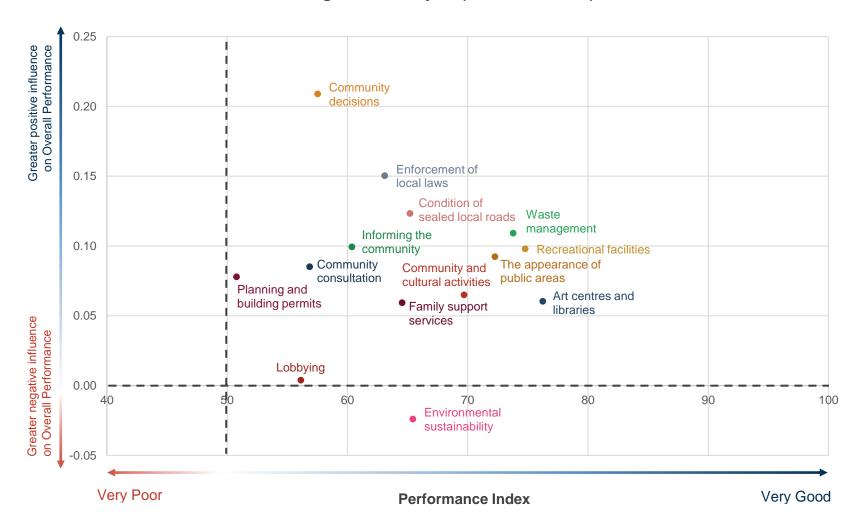
- The first chart shows the results of a regression analysis of all individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas with a weak influence on overall performance (i.e. a low Standardised Beta Coefficient) have been excluded from the analysis.

Key insights from this analysis are derived from the second chart.

Influence on overall performance: all service areas



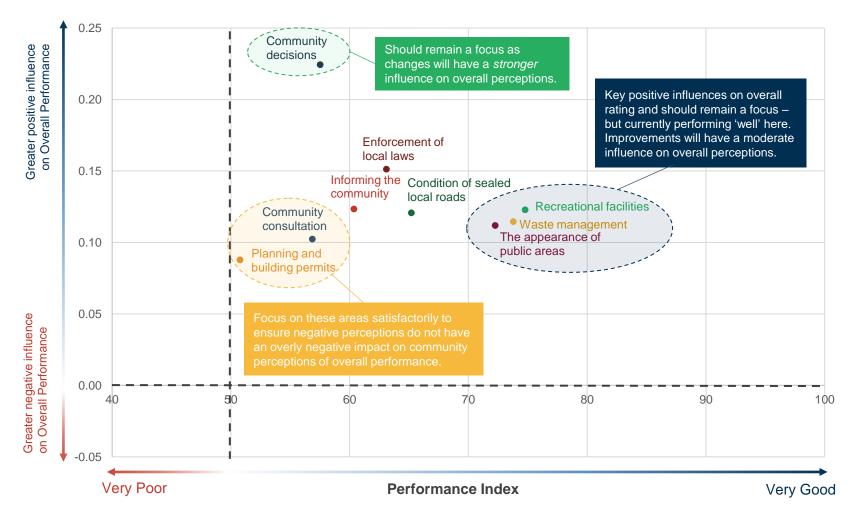
2024 regression analysis (all service areas)



The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R^2 value of 0.611 and adjusted R^2 value of 0.600, which means that 60% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 54.56. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.

Influence on overall performance: key service areas



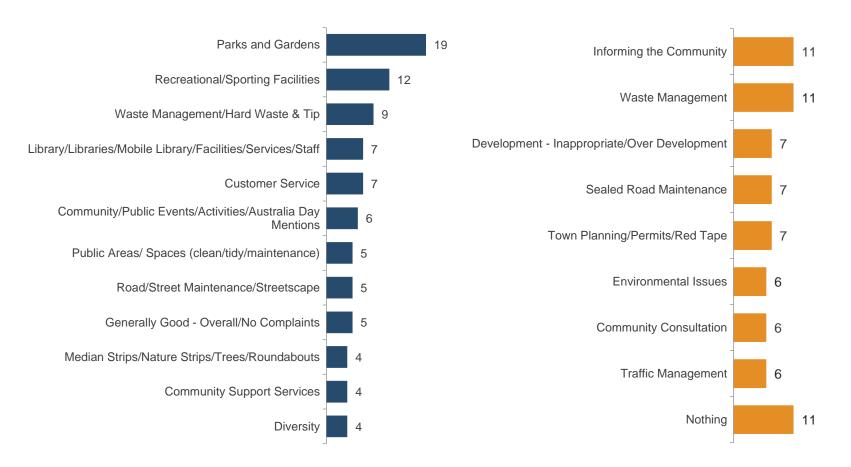


Best things about Council and areas for improvement



2024 best things about Council (%) - Top mentions only -

2024 areas for improvement (%) - Top mentions only -



Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Whitehorse City 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 State-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 8



Customer service

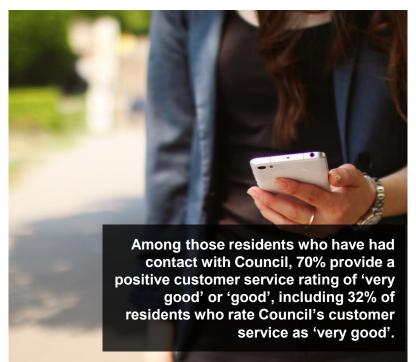
Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

More than three in five households (64%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact is five percentage points higher than last year, and the highest since 2017.

Rate of contact is highest among 35 to 64 year old residents (67%) and lowest among 18 to 34 year olds (59%). Rate of contact among men significantly increased to a record high for this cohort (65% compared to 53% in 2023).



Customer service

Whitehorse City Council's customer service index score of 71 marks a two-point (not significant) increase from 2023. Customer service is now rated on par with the Metropolitan group and significantly higher than the State-wide average (index scores of 71 and 67 respectively).

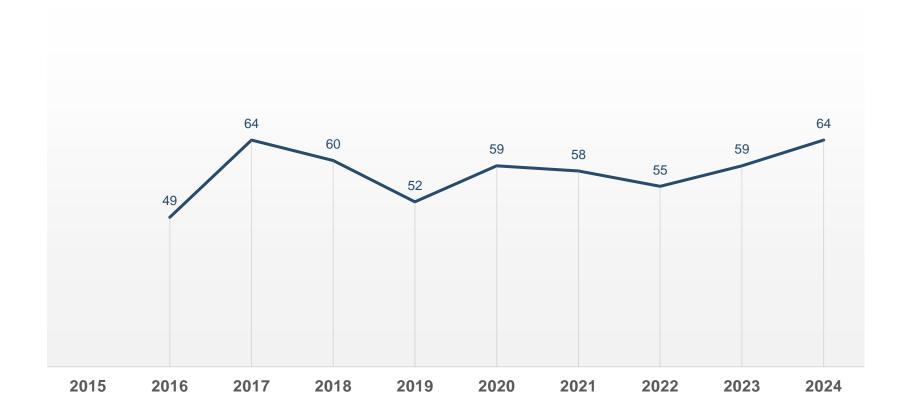
Among those who had contact with Council, seven in ten (70%) provide a positive customer service rating, while just 13% rate it as 'poor' or 'very poor'.

- Perceptions of Council's customer service are most positive among women and 18 to 34 year olds (index score of 74 for each) and least positive among residents aged 50 to 64 years (63 – a series-low result for this cohort).
- Customer service ratings have significantly improved among 18 to 34 year olds, suggesting that recent efforts to enhance interactions with these residents have been effective.
- Council should focus on improving perceptions of its customer service among 50 to 64 year olds over the coming 12 months, as this group has the highest rate of contact with Council but the least positive perceptions of both its customer service and overall performance.

Contact with council



2024 contact with council (%) Have had contact



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

Contact with council



2024 contact with council (%)



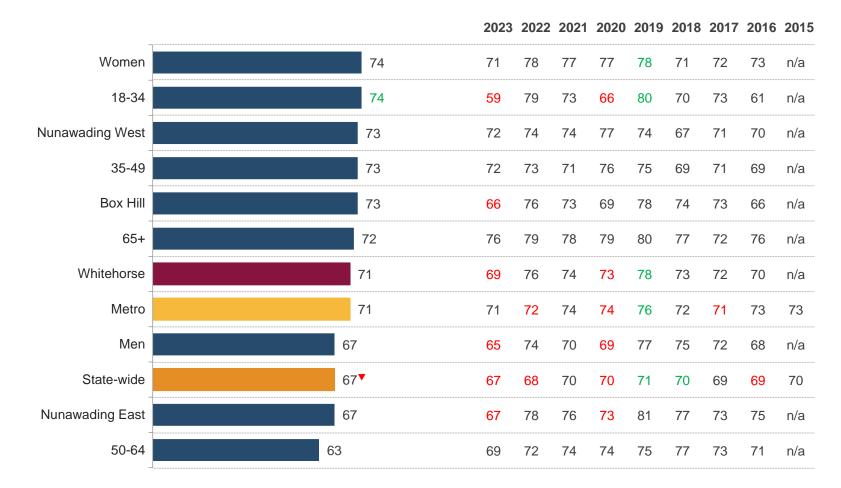
Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Whitehorse City Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 36 Councils asked group: 6 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



2024 customer service rating (index scores)



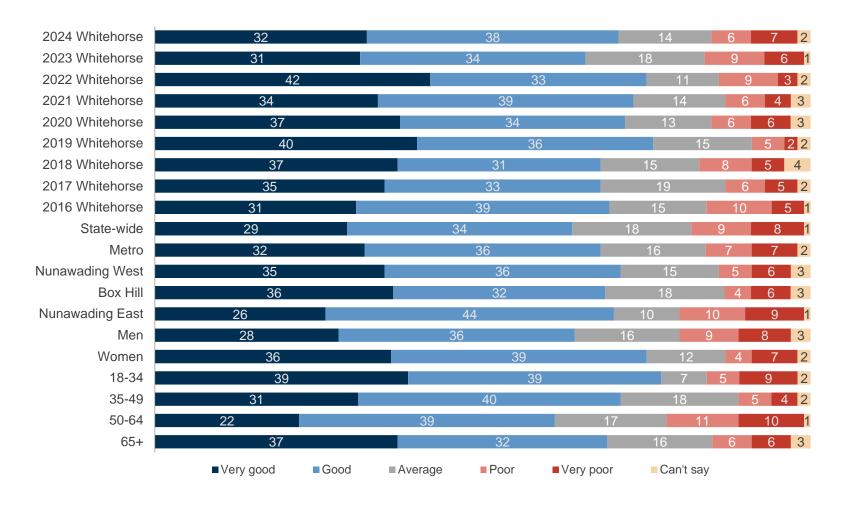
Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Whitehorse City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 13

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

Customer service rating



2024 customer service rating (%)





Communication

The preferred form of communication from Whitehorse City Council about news and information and upcoming events is a Council newsletter sent via email or mail (32% for each).

The next most preferred forms of communication are social media (13%, up four percentage points from 2023) and text message (10%), but these continue to trail far behind emailed and mailed newsletters.

- Among residents aged <u>under 50 years</u>, emailed newsletters (33%) continue to be preferred over mailed newsletters (25%). However, preference for the email format has declined seven percentage points back to 2022 levels after a sharp increase in 2023. Conversely, preference for social media (17%) has increased six percentage points, almost back to 2022 levels after a sharp decline in 2023.
- Among those aged <u>50 years and over</u>, newsletters via mail (41%, up seven percentage points) are now preferred over email (30%, down seven percentage points). This marks a return to the preference for mail over email, which has been the long term trend for this age group.



Best form of communication



2024 best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



Council Website



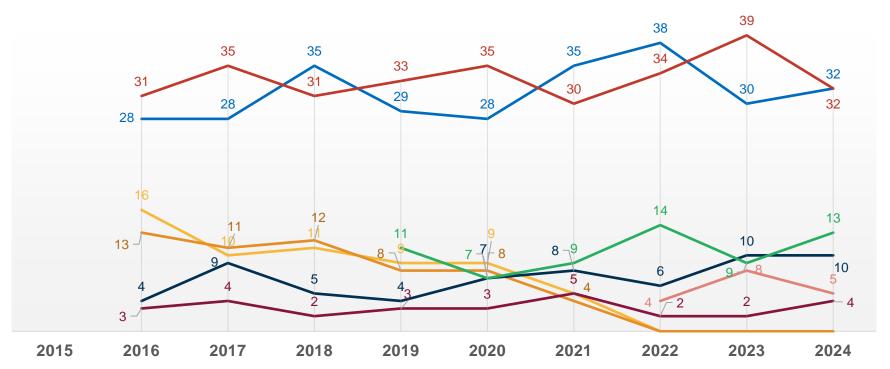
Text Message



Social Media



Council Newspaper
Displayed in Shops
and Council Facilities



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

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019. 'Council newspaper displayed in shops and council facilities' was included in 2022.

Best form of communication: under 50s



2024 under 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local **Newspaper**



Council **Newsletter** via Mail



Council **Newsletter** via Email



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



Council Website



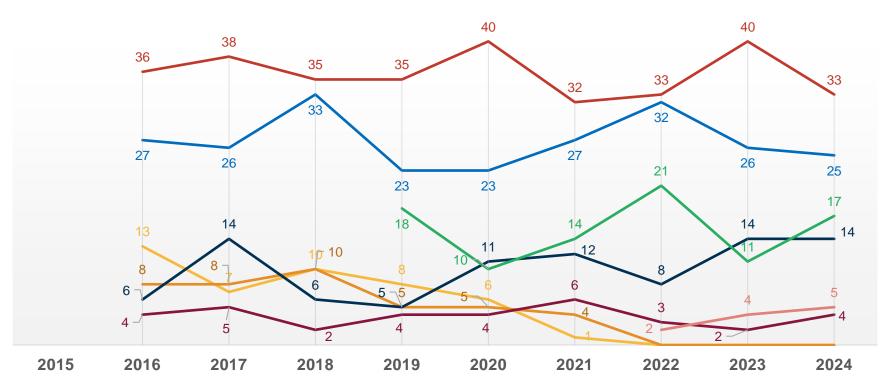
Text Message



Social Media



Council Newspaper Displayed in Shops and Council Facilities



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

Base: All respondents aged under 50. Councils asked State-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019. 'Council newspaper displayed in shops and council facilities' was included in 2022.

Best form of communication: 50+ years



2024 50+ years best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



Council Website



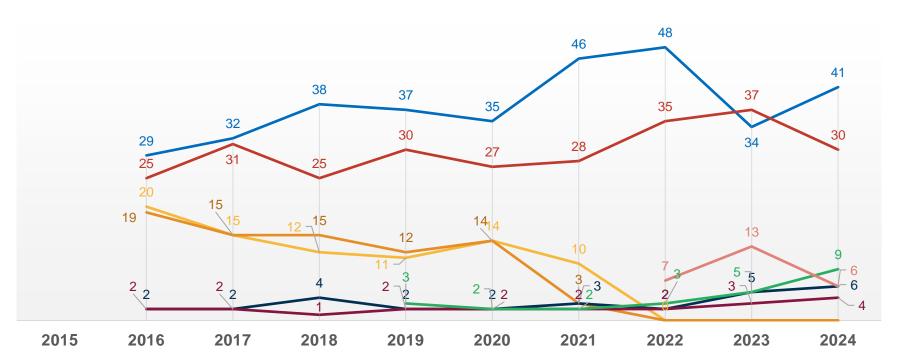
Text Message



Social Media



Council Newspaper
Displayed in Shops
and Council Facilities



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

Base: All respondents aged 50+ years. Councils asked State-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 10



Council direction

Perceptions of the direction of Whitehorse City Council's overall performance (index score of 49) are similar to 2023. This marks an end to the previous decline from a peak result in 2021 (index score of 53) to 2023 (index score of 48).

Over the last 12 months, 11% of residents think the direction of Council's overall performance has improved (similar to 10% in 2023). This is slightly lower than the 13% who believe it has deteriorated (similar to 14% in 2023). However, seven in ten residents (70%) think the direction of Council's overall performance has stayed the same (unchanged from 2023).

- The <u>most</u> satisfied with council direction are 18 to 34 year old residents (index score of 54 – significantly higher than average).
- The <u>least</u> satisfied with council direction are 50 to 64 year old residents (index score of 46).
- Encouragingly, perceptions among 18 to 34 year olds and Box Hill residents have improved after a significant decline in 2023.



Overall council direction last 12 months



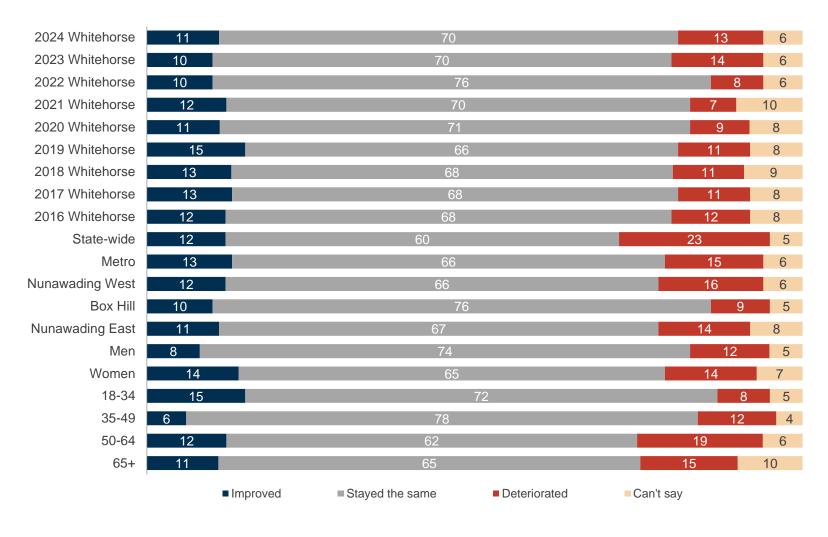
2024 overall council direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



2024 overall council direction (%)





Community consultation and engagement importance





2024 consultation and engagement importance (index scores)

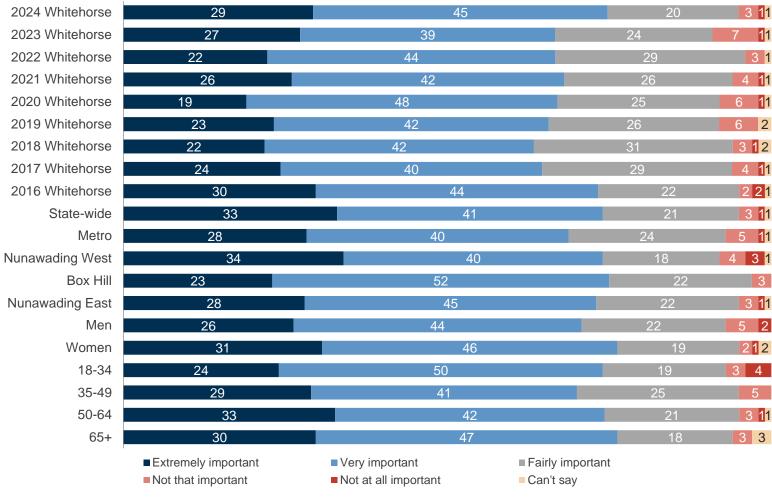


Community consultation and engagement importance





2024 consultation and engagement importance (%)

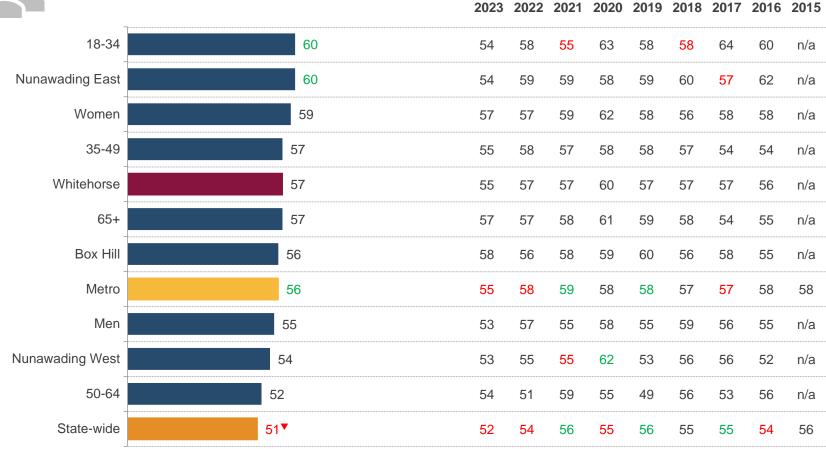


Community consultation and engagement performance





2024 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

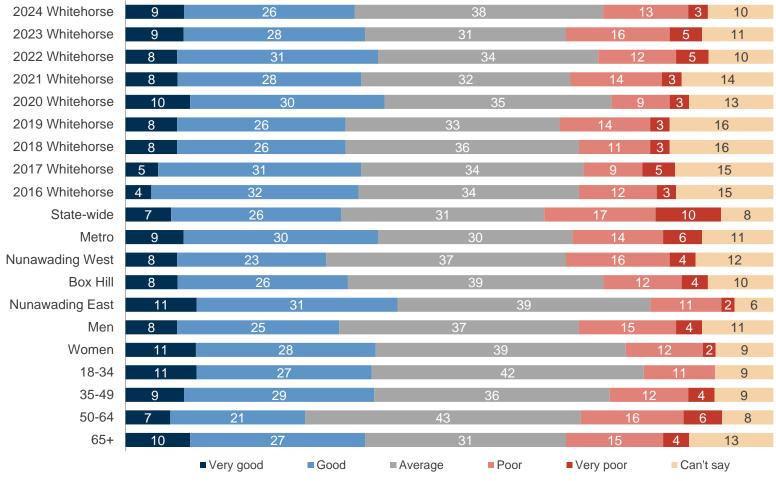


Community consultation and engagement performance





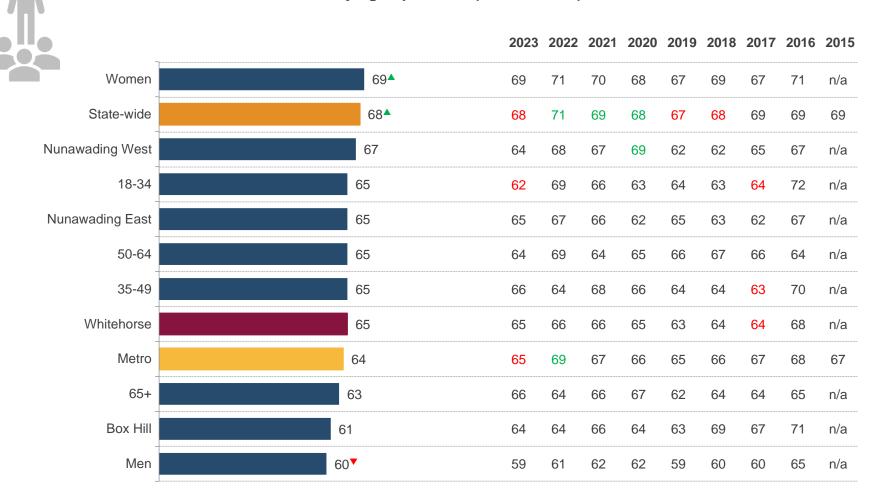
2024 consultation and engagement performance (%)



Lobbying on behalf of the community importance



2024 lobbying importance (index scores)

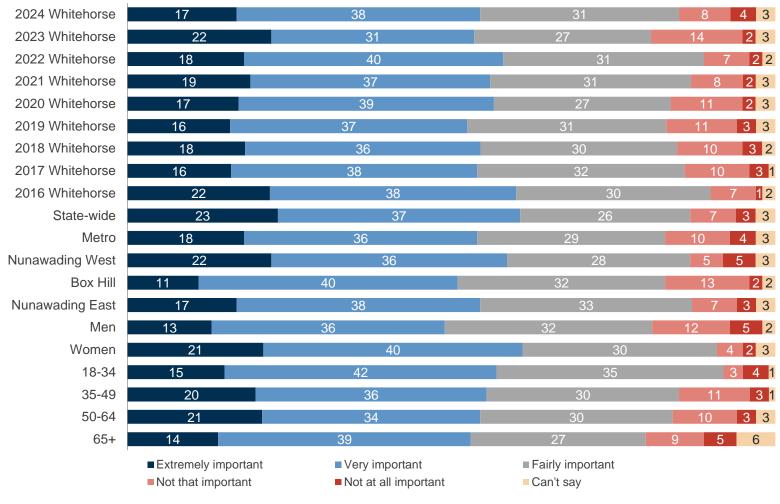


Lobbying on behalf of the community importance





2024 lobbying importance (%)



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance



2024 lobbying performance (index scores)

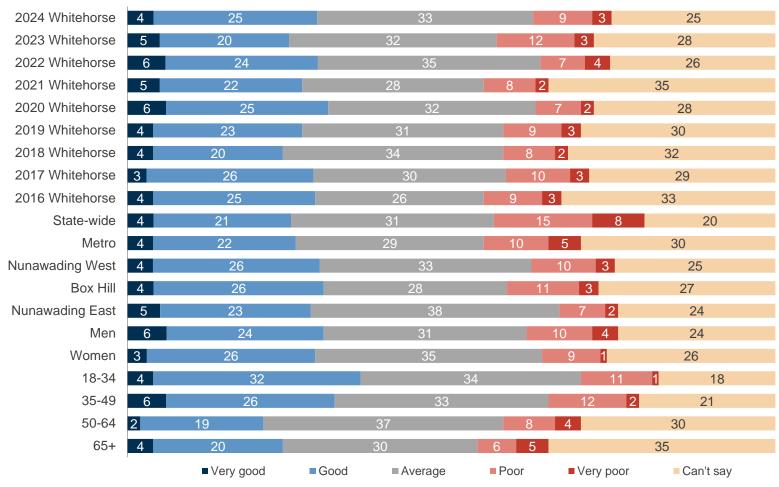


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2024 lobbying performance (%)

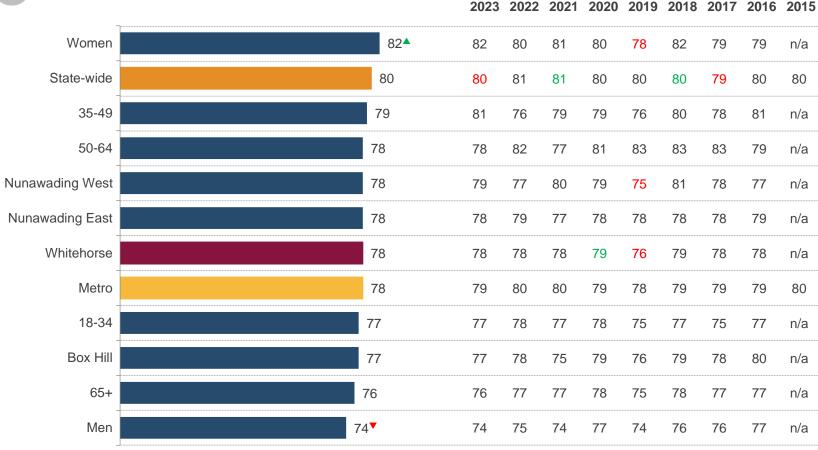


Decisions made in the interest of the community importance





2024 community decisions made importance (index scores)

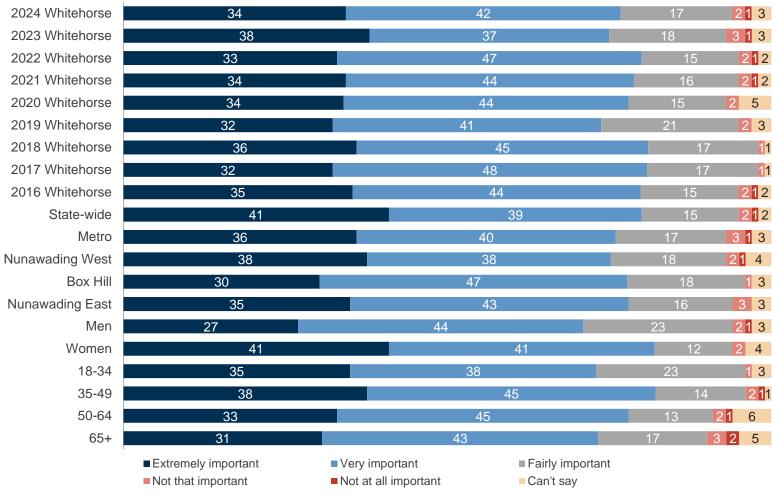


Decisions made in the interest of the community importance





2024 community decisions made importance (%)



Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2024 community decisions made performance (index scores)

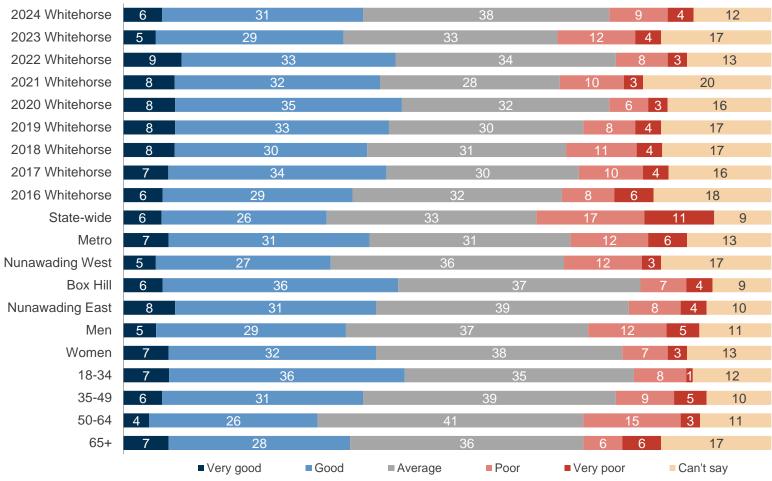


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2024 community decisions made performance (%)

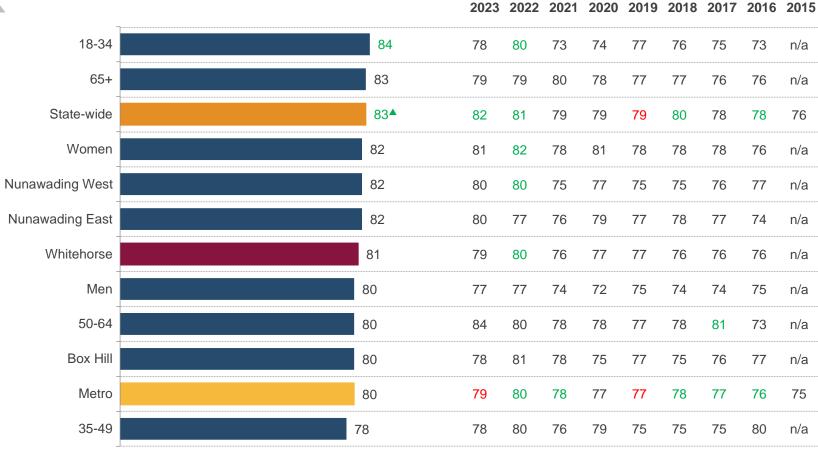


The condition of sealed local roads in your area importance





2024 sealed local roads importance (index scores)

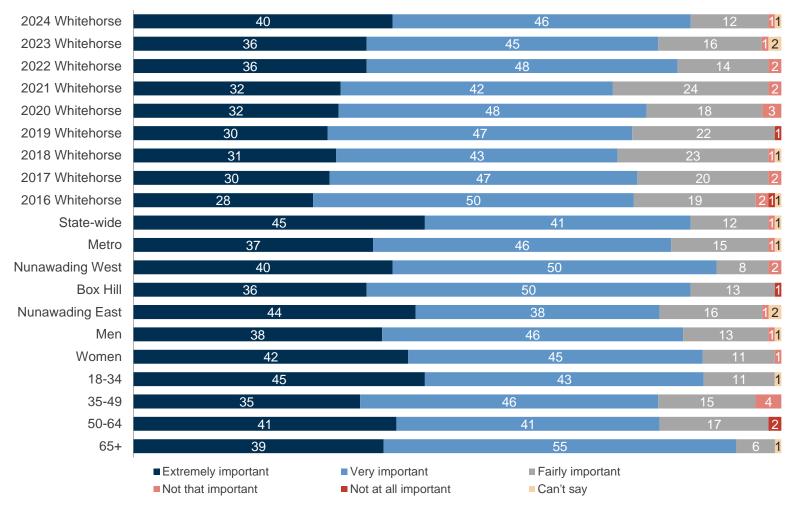


The condition of sealed local roads in your area importance





2024 sealed local roads importance (%)



The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2024 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

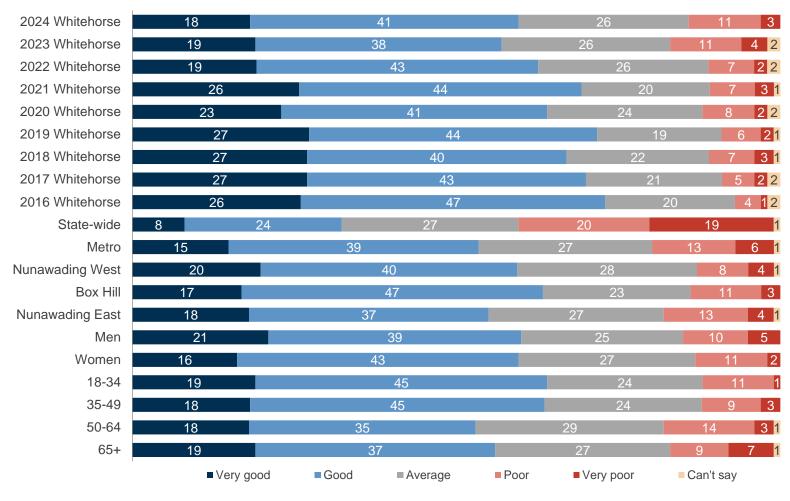


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2024 sealed local roads performance (%)

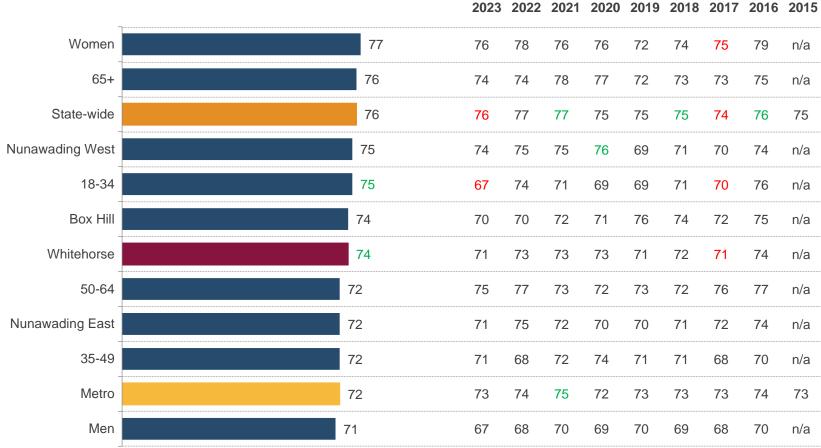


Informing the community importance





2024 informing community importance (index scores)

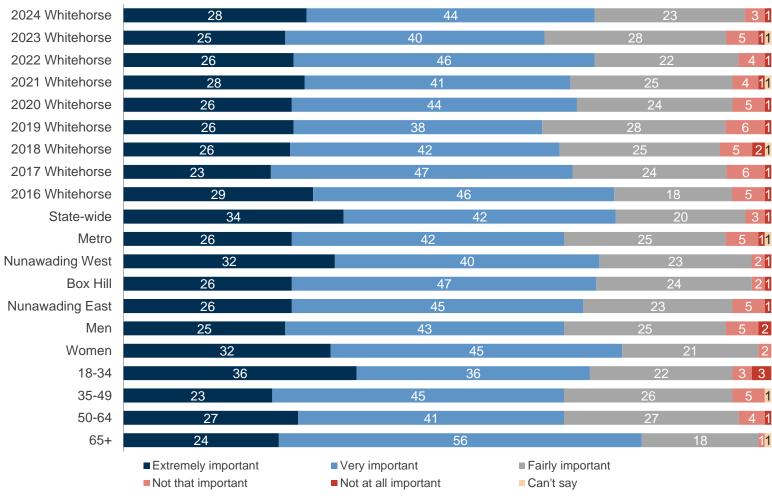


Informing the community importance





2024 informing community importance (%)

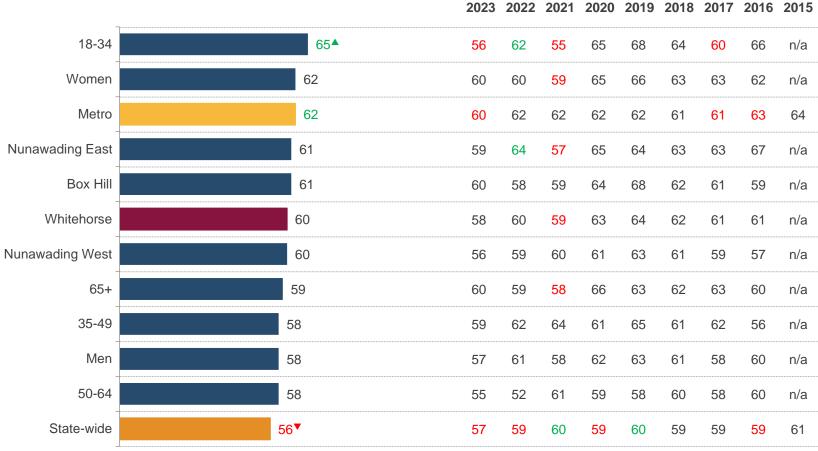


Informing the community performance





2024 informing community performance (index scores)

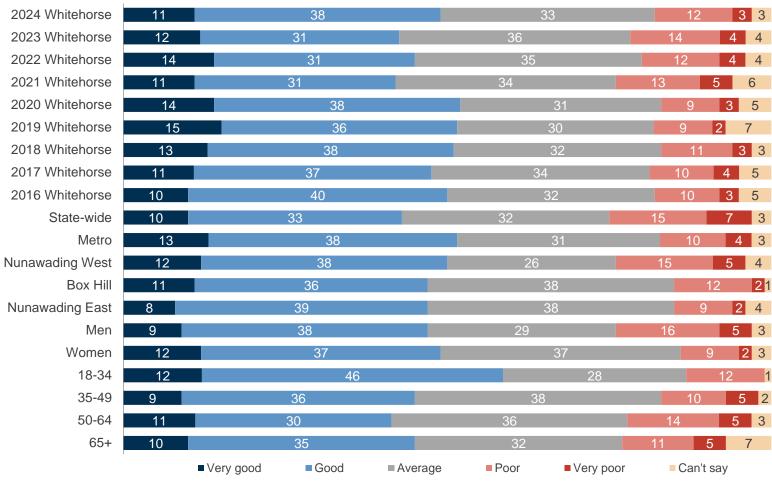


Informing the community performance





2024 informing community performance (%)

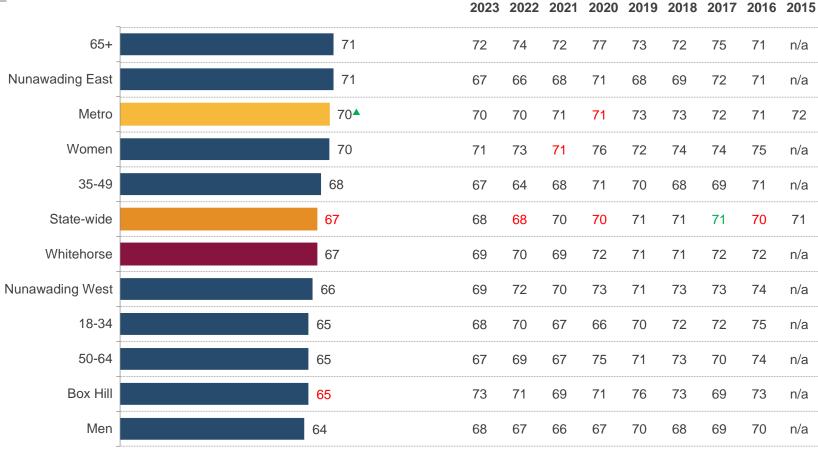


Enforcement of local laws importance





2024 law enforcement importance (index scores)

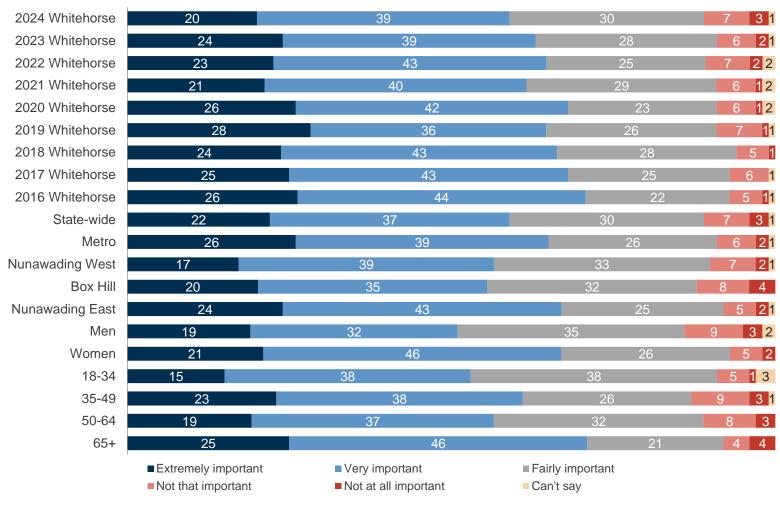


Enforcement of local laws importance





2024 law enforcement importance (%)



Enforcement of local laws performance





2024 law enforcement performance (index scores)

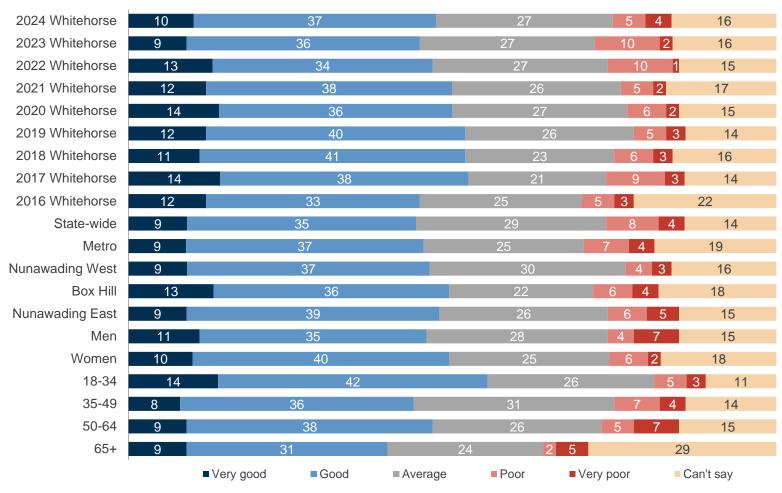


Enforcement of local laws performance





2024 law enforcement performance (%)

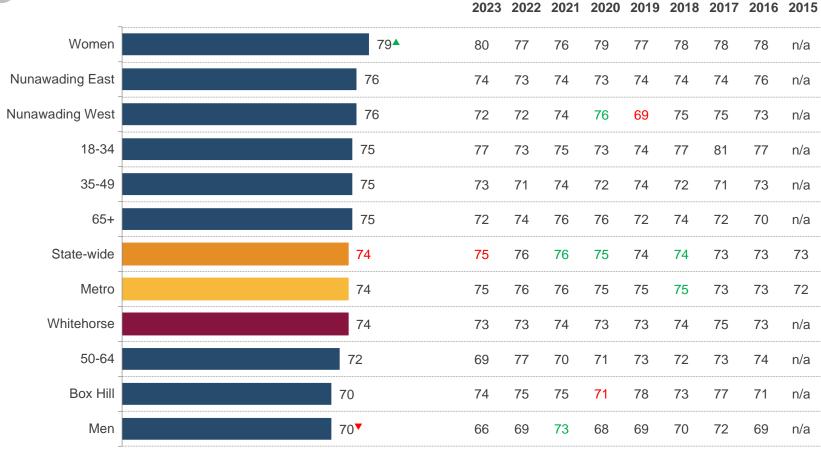


Family support services importance





2024 family support importance (index scores)

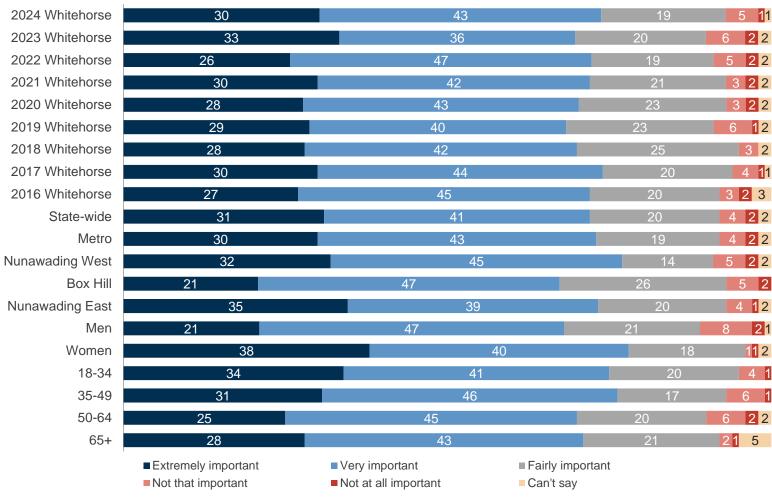


Family support services importance





2024 family support importance (%)



Family support services performance





2024 family support performance (index scores)

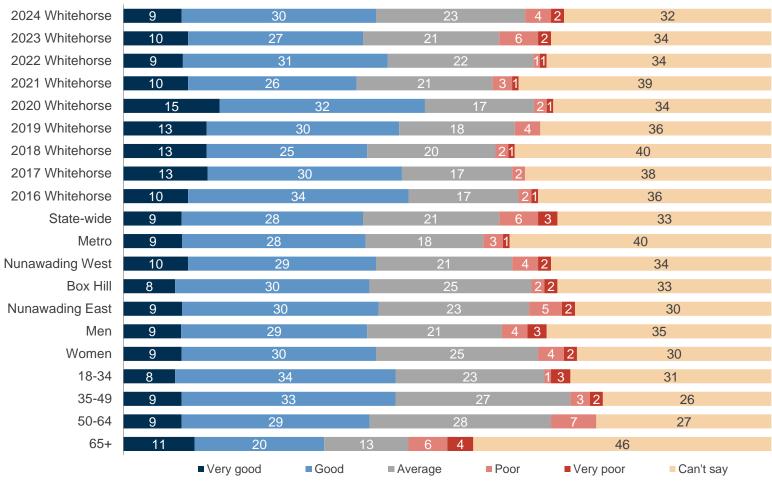


Family support services performance





2024 family support performance (%)



Recreational facilities importance





2024 recreational facilities importance (index scores)

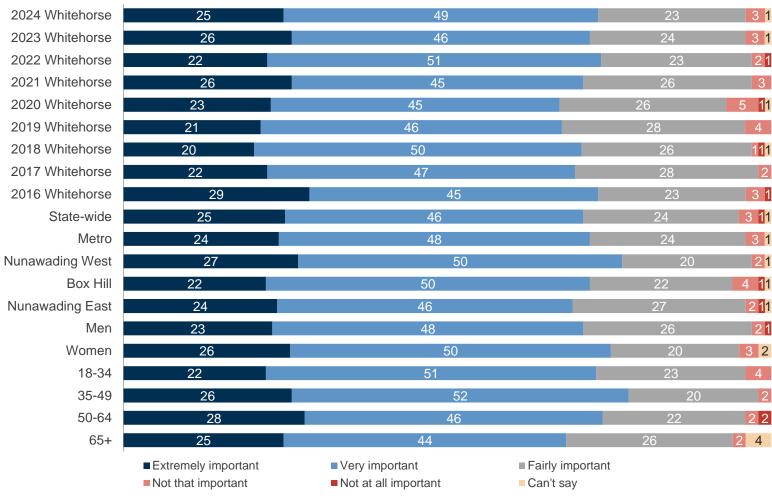


Recreational facilities importance





2024 recreational facilities importance (%)



Recreational facilities performance





2024 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

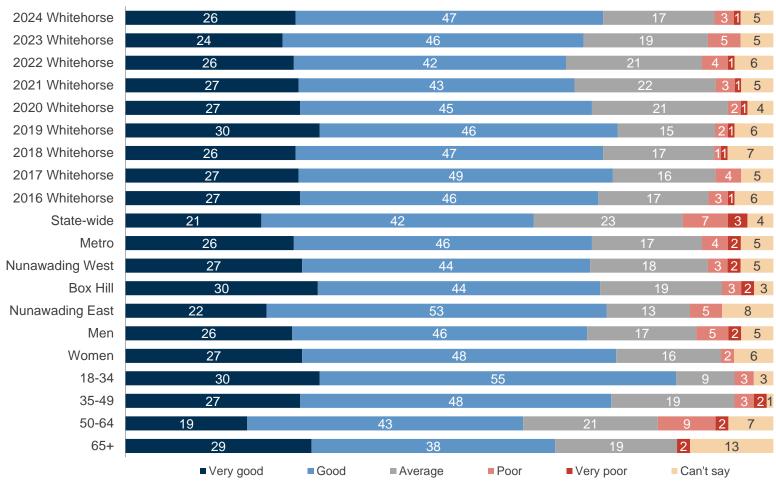


Recreational facilities performance





2024 recreational facilities performance (%)



The appearance of public areas importance





2024 public areas importance (index scores)

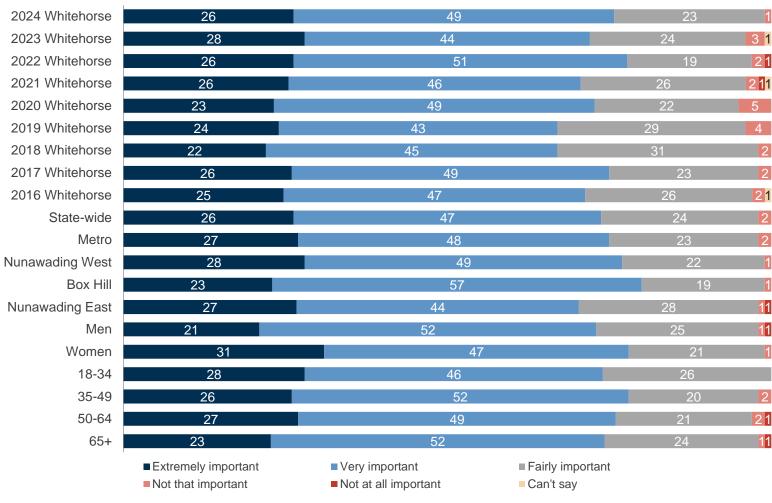


The appearance of public areas importance





2024 public areas importance (%)



The appearance of public areas performance





2024 public areas performance (index scores)

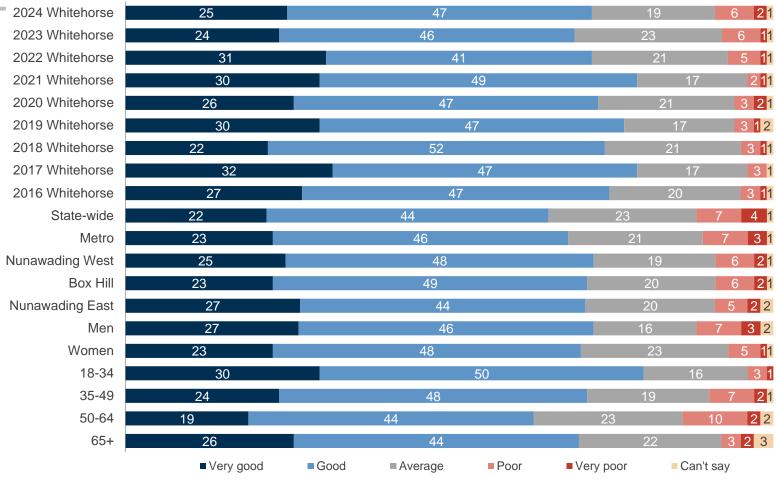


The appearance of public areas performance





2024 public areas performance (%)

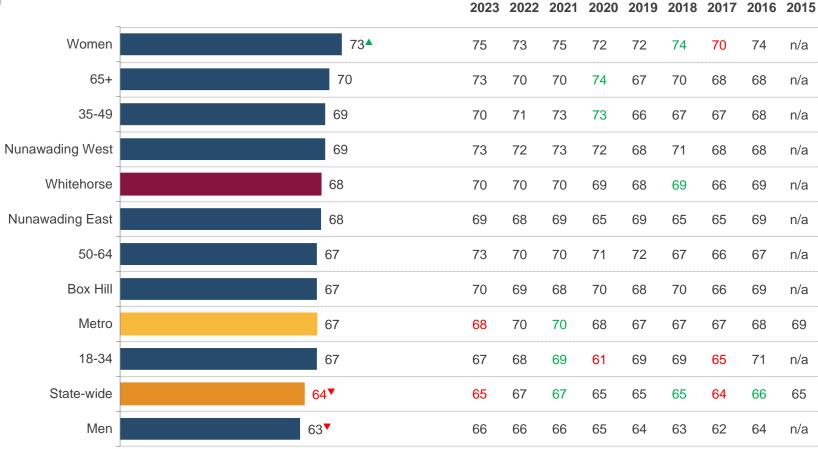


Art centres and libraries importance





2024 art centres and libraries importance (index scores)

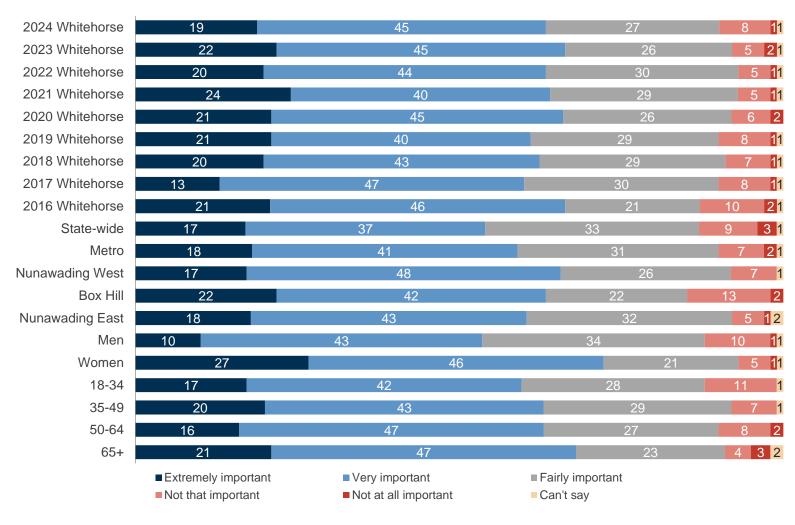


Art centres and libraries importance





2024 art centres and libraries importance (%)

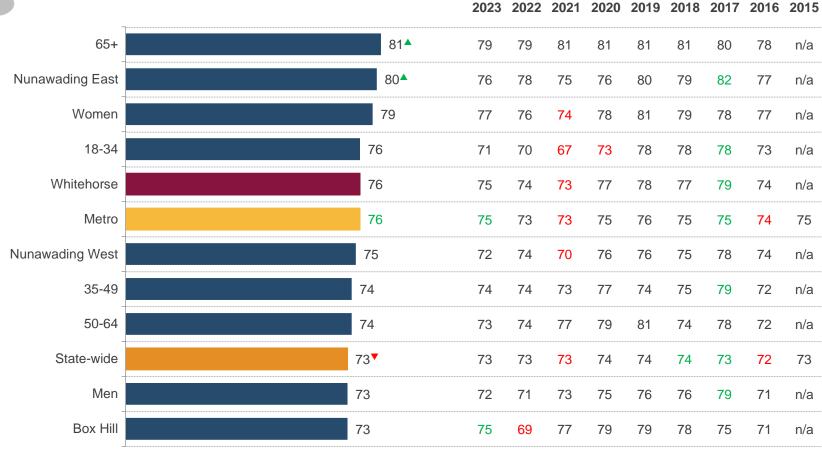


Art centres and libraries performance





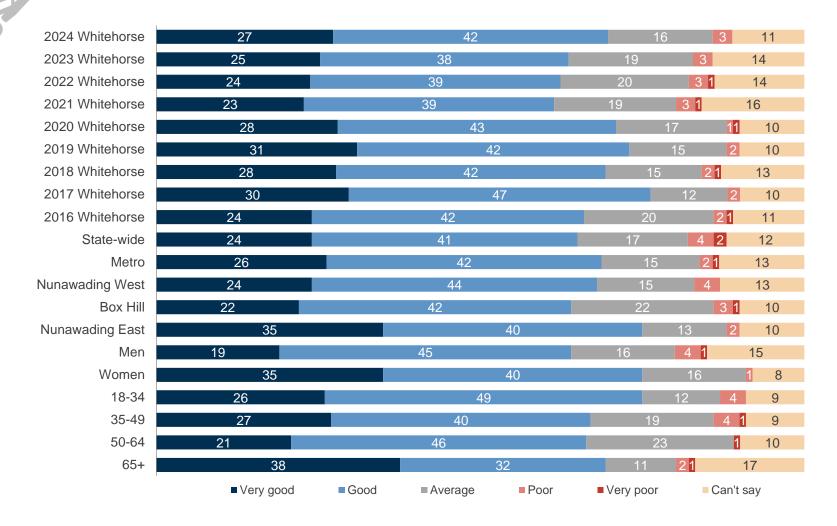
2024 art centres and libraries performance (index scores)



Art centres and libraries performance







Community and cultural activities importance





2024 community and cultural activities importance (index scores)

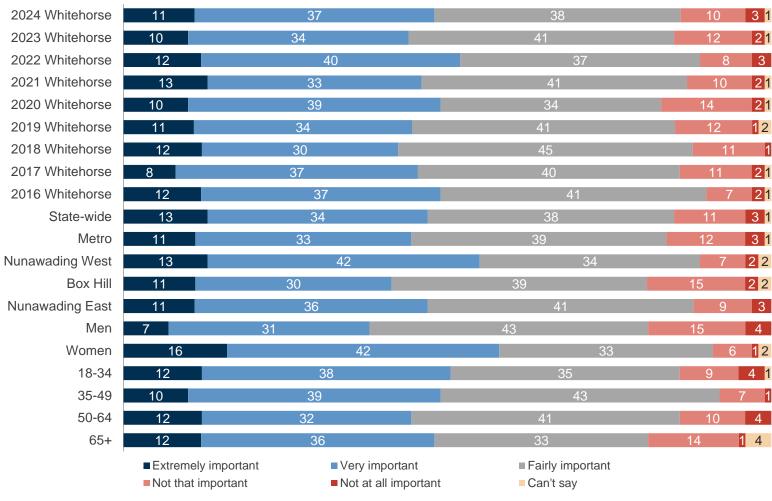


Community and cultural activities importance





2024 community and cultural activities importance (%)



Community and cultural activities performance





2024 community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

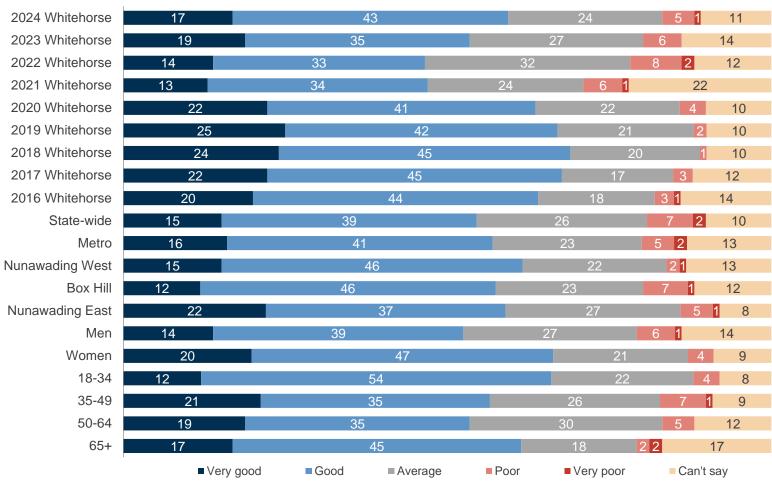


Community and cultural activities performance





2024 community and cultural activities performance (%)

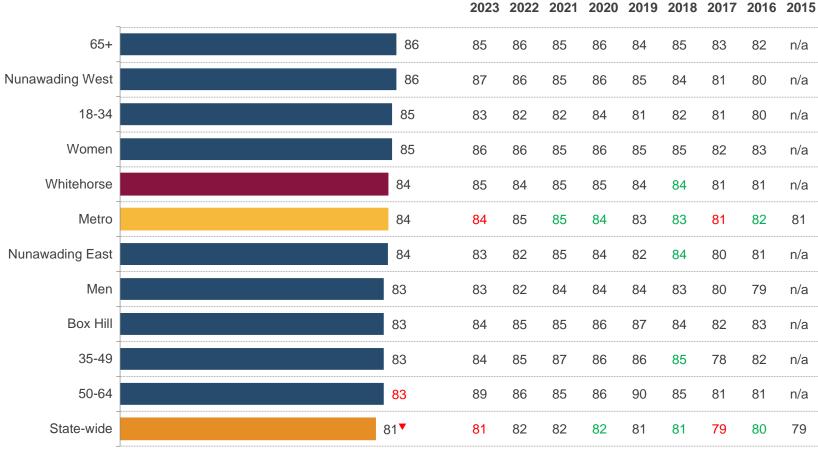


Waste management importance





2024 waste management importance (index scores)

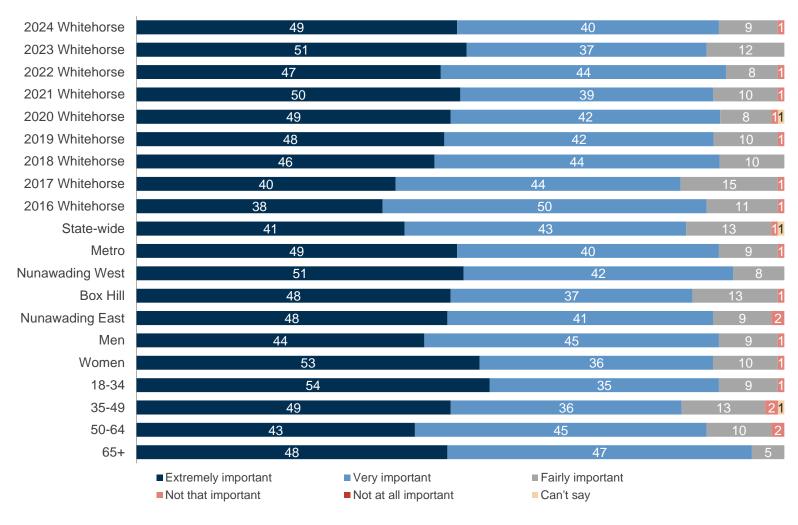


Waste management importance





2024 waste management importance (%)



Waste management performance





2024 waste management performance (index scores)

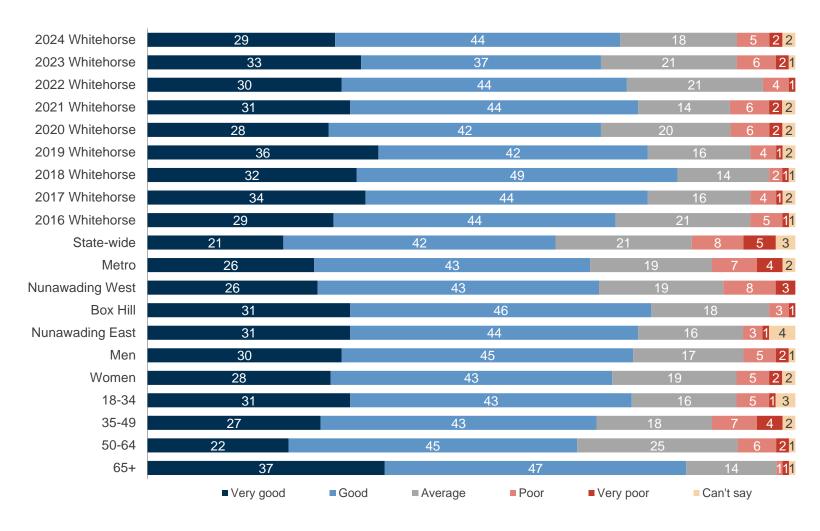


Waste management performance





2024 waste management performance (%)

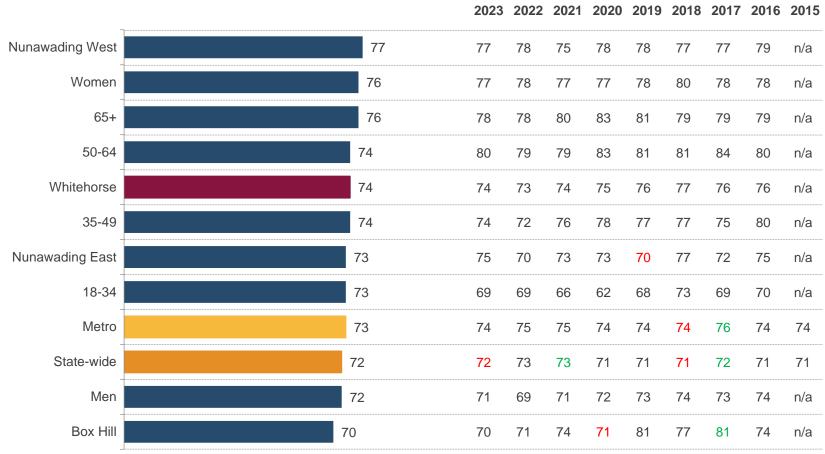


Planning and building permits importance





2024 planning and building permits importance (index scores)

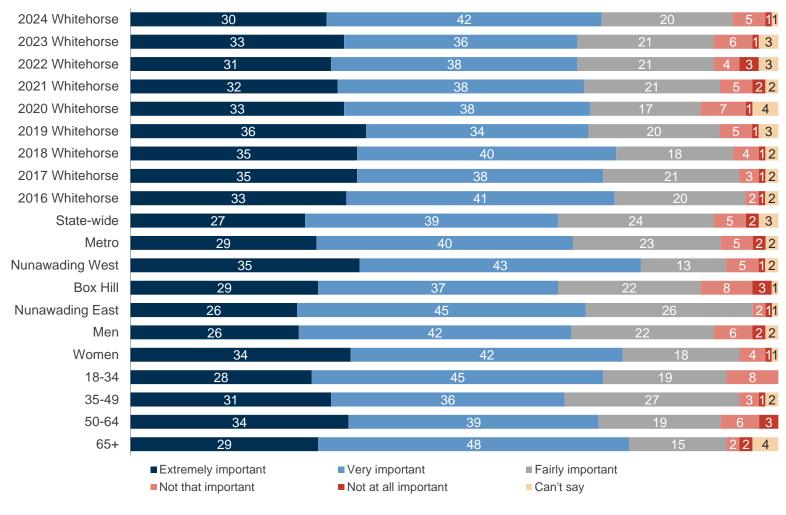


Planning and building permits importance





2024 planning and building permits importance (%)



Planning and building permits performance





2024 planning and building permits performance (index scores)

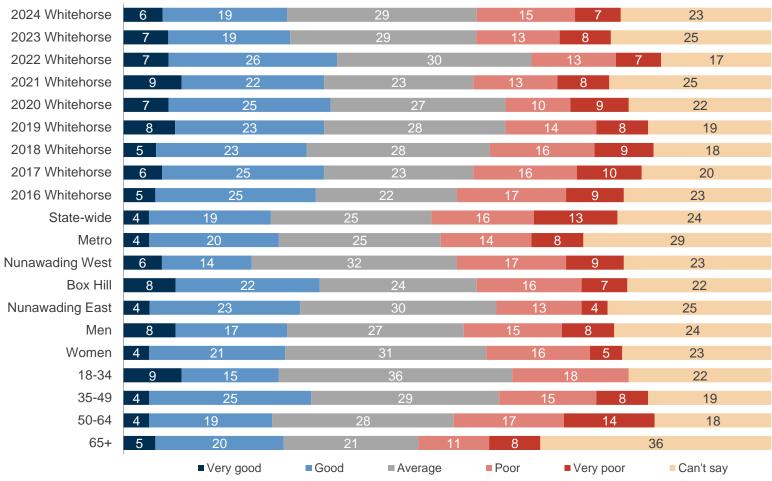


Planning and building permits performance





2024 planning and building permits performance (%)



Environmental sustainability importance





2024 environmental sustainability importance (index scores)

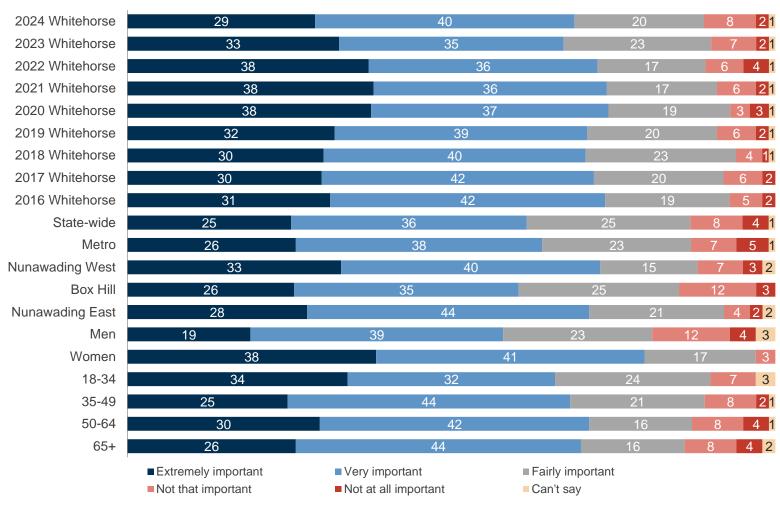


Environmental sustainability importance





2024 environmental sustainability importance (%)

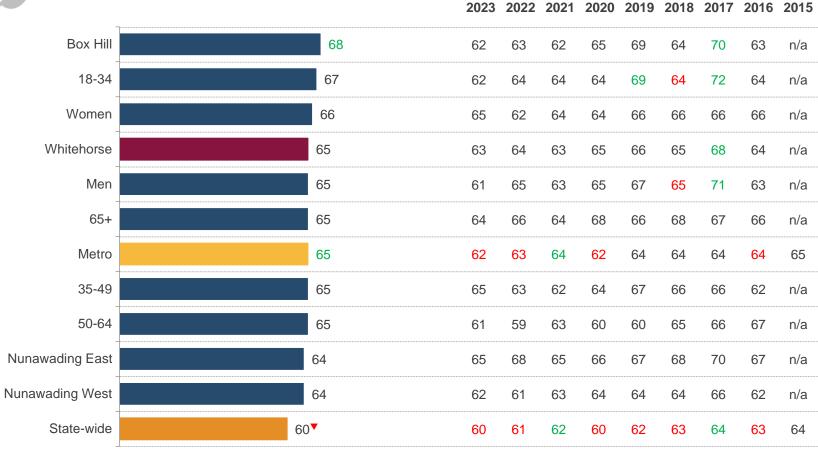


Environmental sustainability performance





2024 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

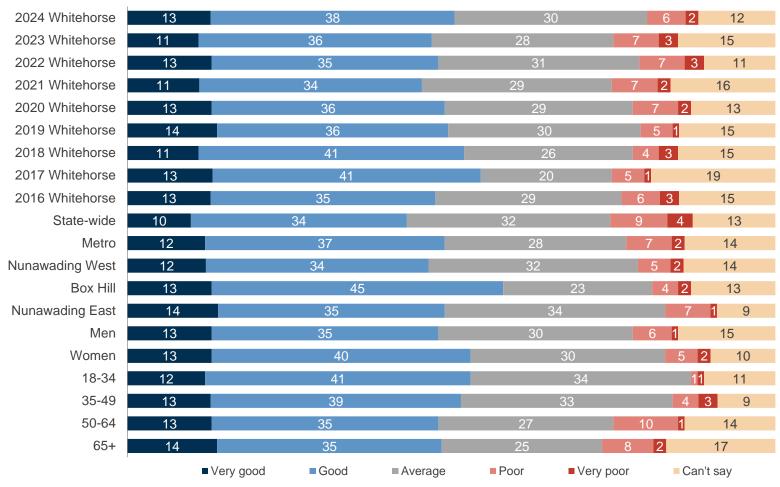


Environmental sustainability performance





2024 environmental sustainability performance (%)

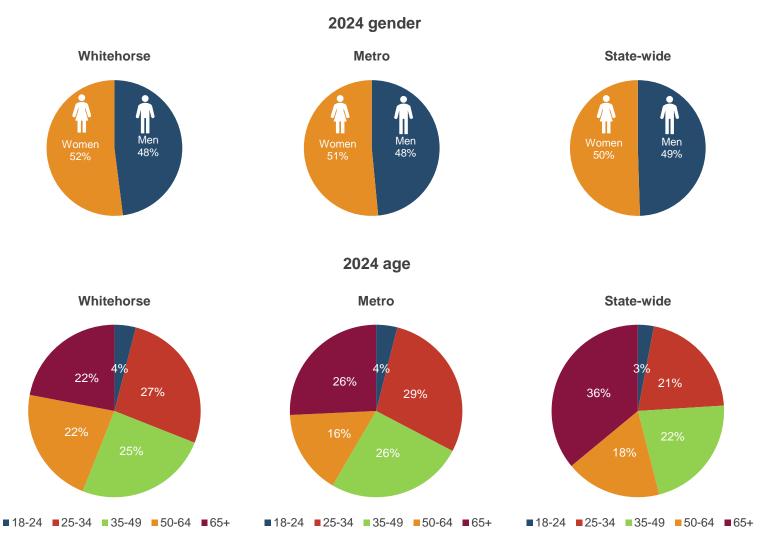




Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile



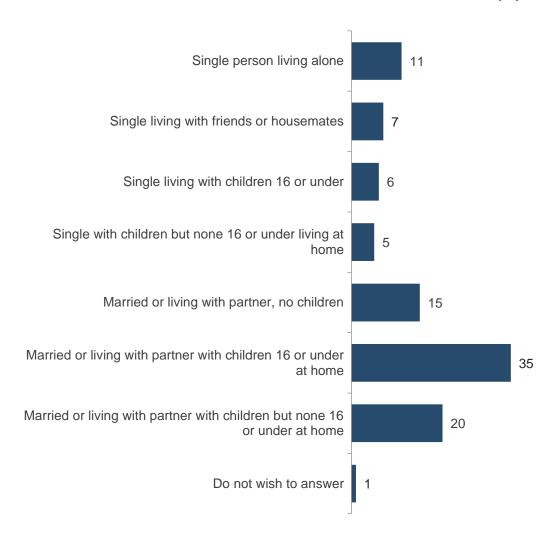


S3. [Record gender] / S4. To which of the following age groups do you belong?
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 62 Councils asked group: 13
Please note that for the reason of simplifying reporting, interlocking age and gender reporting has not been included in this report. Interlocking age and gender analysis is still available in the dashboard and data tables provided alongside this report. Councils interviewing residents on an annual basis included an "Other" option for gender, hence the State-wide and Metro gender results may not add to 100%.

Household structure



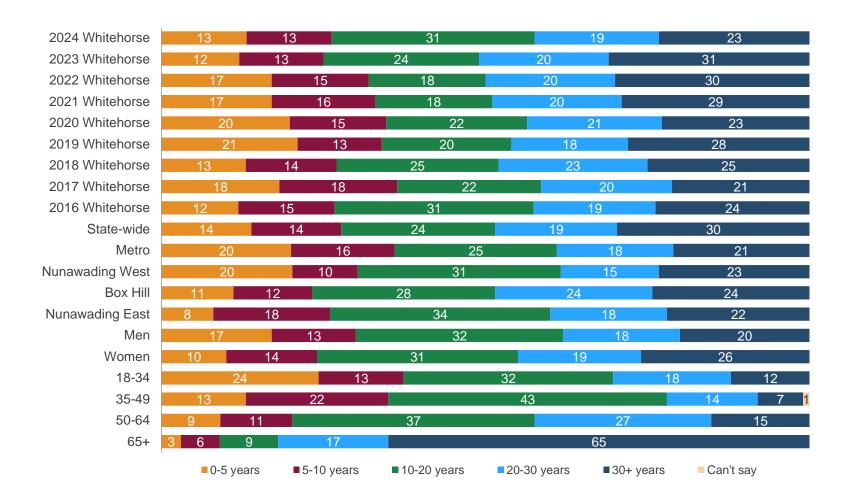
2024 household structure (%)



Years lived in area



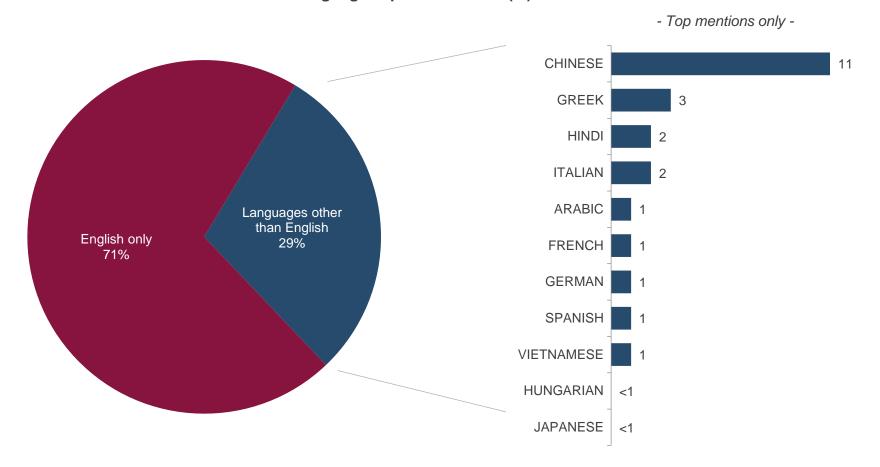
2024 years lived in area (%)



Languages spoken at home



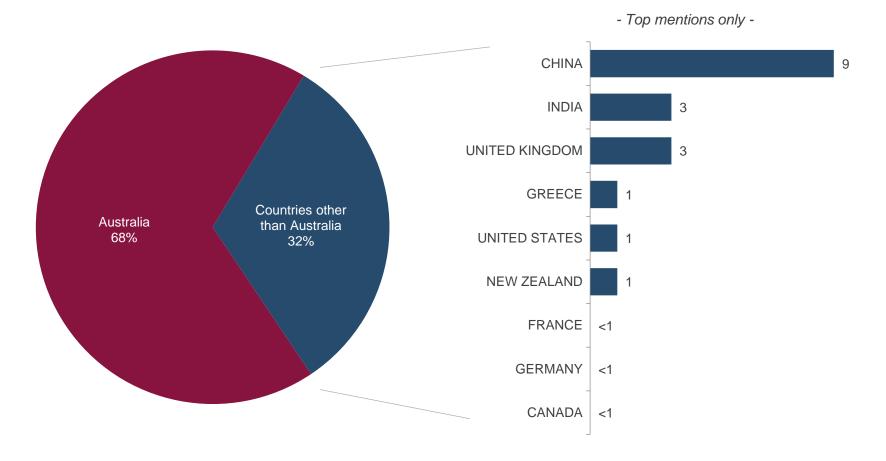
2024 languages spoken at home (%)

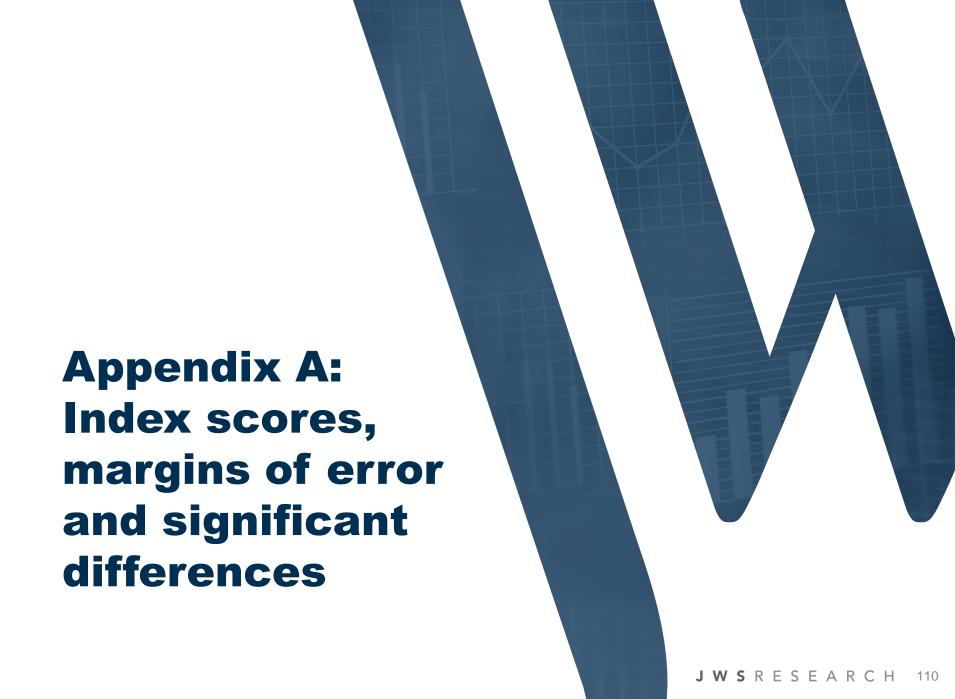


Country of birth



2024 country of birth (%)





Appendix A: Index Scores



Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the statewide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 60

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

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

Appendix A: Margins of error

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The sample size for the 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Whitehorse City Council was n=501. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=501 interviews is +/-4.4% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 45.6% - 54.4%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 138,800 people aged 18 years or over for Whitehorse City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Whitehorse City Council	501	400	+/-4.4
Men	244	193	+/-6.3
Women	257	207	+/-6.1
Nunawading West	182	151	+/-7.3
Box Hill	143	113	+/-8.2
Nunawading East	176	136	+/-7.4
18-34 years	74	123	+/-11.5
35-49 years	187	101	+/-7.2
50-64 years	123	90	+/-8.9
65+ years	117	87	+/-9.1

Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



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

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

Where:

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

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

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

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Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



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

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

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email: admin@jwsresearch.com

Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling



The 2024 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2023, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 19th March.
- 2022, n=501 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 24th March.
- 2021, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28th January – 18th March.
- 2020, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=500 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Whitehorse City Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, '—' denotes not mentioned and '0%' denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. 'Net' scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

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

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Whitehorse City Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Whitehorse City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=501 completed interviews were achieved in Whitehorse City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted across four quarters from 1st June 2023 – 18th March 2024.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



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

Council Groups

Whitehorse City Council is classified as a Metropolitan council according to the following classification list:

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

Councils participating in the Metropolitan group are:

 Banyule, Boroondara, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Manningham, Maroondah, Melbourne, Moonee Valley, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Whitehorse. Wherever appropriate, results for Whitehorse City Council for this 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Metropolitan group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time cannot be made within the reported charts.

Appendix B: Core, optional and tailored questions



Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Value for money in services and infrastructure (Value for money)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Waste management

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2024 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/our-programs/council-community-satisfaction-survey

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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

CSS: 2024 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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