

## **Contents**

			•		
Background and objectives	<u>3</u>	Art centres and libraries	<u>94</u>		
Key findings and recommendations	<u>4</u>	Community and cultural activities	<u>98</u>		
Detailed findings	<u>12</u>	Waste management	<u>102</u>		
Overall performance	<u>13</u>	Business and community development and	<u>106</u>		
<u>Customer service</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>tourism</u>			
Communication	<u>40</u>	General town planning policy	<u>110</u>		
Council direction	<u>45</u>	Planning and building permits	<u>114</u>		
Individual service areas	<u>49</u>	Environmental sustainability	<u>118</u>		
Community consultation and engagement	<u>50</u>	Emergency and disaster management	<u>122</u>		
Lobbying on behalf of the community	<u>54</u>	Planning for population growth	<u>126</u>		
Decisions made in the interest of the	<u>58</u>	Business and community development	<u>130</u>		
community		Tourism development	<u>134</u>		
Condition of sealed local roads	<u>62</u>	Detailed demographics	<u>138</u>		
Informing the community	<u>66</u>	Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error	<u>141</u>		
Condition of local streets and footpaths	<u>70</u>	and significant differences			
Parking facilities	<u>74</u>	Appendix B: Further project information	<u>146</u>		
Enforcement of local laws	<u>78</u>				
Family support services	<u>82</u>				
Recreational facilities	<u>86</u>				
Appearance of public areas	<u>90</u>				

#### **Background and objectives**

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Serving Victoria for 24 years**

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 24 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

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



## **Latrobe City Council – at a glance**



#### **Overall council performance**

Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Latrobe 59



**Regional Centres** 56



State-wide 56

# Council performance compared to group average



## **Summary of core measures**



#### **Index scores**









Waste management



Customer Overall Council Direction

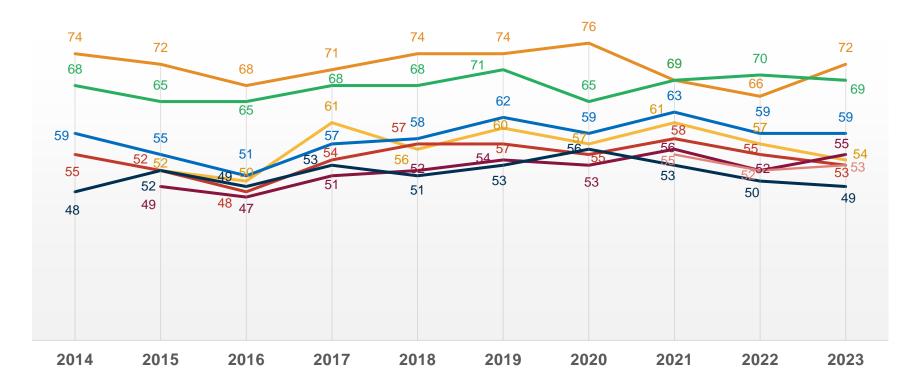


Value for money

Community Consultation

Making Community Decisions

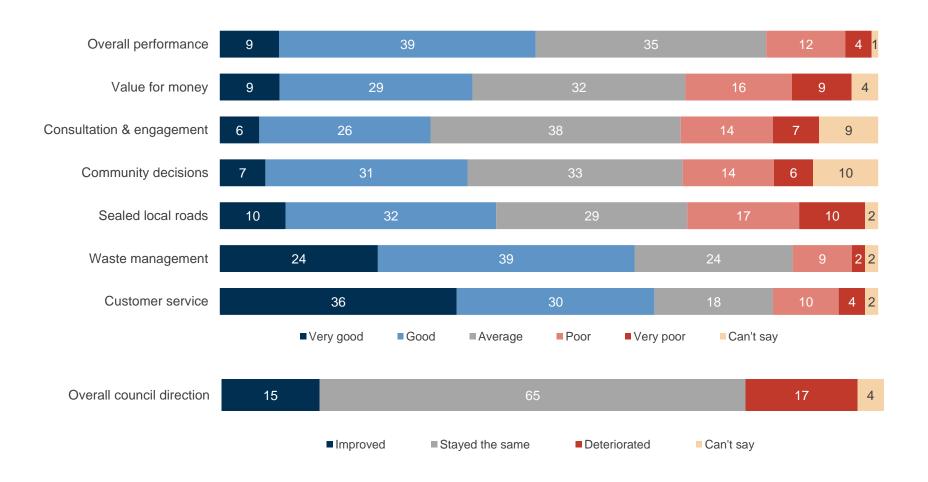
Sealed Local Roads



## **Summary of core measures**



#### Core measures summary results (%)



## **Summary of Latrobe City Council performance**



Services		Latrobe 2023	Latrobe 2022	Regional Centres 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
<b>(%</b>	Overall performance	59	59	56	56	Women, Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
<b>S</b>	Value for money	53	52	50	49	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
+	Overall council direction	49	50	47	46	Women	Men
÷	Customer service	72	66	68	67	Central residents	East residents
<b>\$</b> /	Art centres & libraries	79	79	77	73	West residents	Central residents
外	Recreational facilities	72	74	69	68	Women	Aged 18-34 years, Men
	Waste management	69	70	67	66	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-64 years
<b>E</b>	Community & cultural	66	66	66	66	Aged 35-49 years	Men
À	Emergency & disaster mngt	64	65	65	65	Women	Men, Aged 18-34 years
<u>.</u>	Appearance of public areas	64	67	71	67	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years

## **Summary of Latrobe City Council performance**



Services		Latrobe 2023	Latrobe 2022	Regional Centres 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
	Family support services	64	66	64	63	Men, Aged 18-34 years, East residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Enforcement of local laws	62	63	64	61	Aged 18-49 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Business & community dev.	58	58	57	57	West residents	Central residents
2	Environmental sustainability	58	60	61	60	Aged 35-49 years, Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
	Bus/community dev./tourism	56	56	61	59	West residents, Women	Central residents, Aged 50-64 years
	Population growth	56	54	56	48	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
Yā	Tourism development	55	57	61	61	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years, Central residents
*6	Community decisions	55	52	50	51	West residents, Women	Aged 50-64 years
	Informing the community	55	57	55	57	East residents	Aged 50-64 years
	Planning & building permits	54	52	53	47	Aged 18-34 years, Women	Aged 50-64 years, Men

## **Summary of Latrobe City Council performance**



Services		Latrobe 2023	Latrobe 2022	Regional Centres 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
<u></u>	Lobbying	54	54	52	51	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
A	Sealed local roads	54	57	49	48	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
	Town planning policy	53	55	50	50	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
	Consultation & engagement	53	55	50	52	East residents	Central residents, Aged 50-64 years
fortal .	Local streets & footpaths	53	57	53	52	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
<b>⇔</b> Î	Parking facilities	49	52	53	55	East residents	West residents

#### Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Latrobe City Council's overall performance rating (index score of 59) is unchanged from 2022 (when it reported a significant decline of four points). On almost all other metrics evaluated, Council's performance ratings are either identical or only a few points different to 2022 results. The exceptions are customer service (significantly improved by six index points) and local streets and footpaths (significantly declined by four index points).

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance

Community consultation and engagement, and town planning, are among Council's lower rated service areas and both have a relatively stronger influence on overall perceptions. Council should make these service areas a priority for improvement. The condition of local streets and footpaths also impacts on perceptions, albeit to a lesser degree. That said, Council's performance rating for the condition of local streets and footpaths suffered the only significant decline this year, and efforts to abate this decline should be made here too.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Council's performance in comparison with the State-wide and Regional Centres group averages varies. On individual service areas, Council performs significantly better than the two comparative groups for community decisions, sealed local roads, recreational facilities and town planning. Conversely, Council performs significantly lower for the appearance of public areas, business and community and tourism development and parking facilities. On overall performance, Council performs significantly better than both group averages.

Maintain stronger performing areas

Council's performance in arts centres and libraries has significantly improved in past years and remains its top performing area. While performance here is strong, ratings among Central residents are significantly lower than average, so improvement in this area would assist in lifting the overall art centres and libraries rating. On the appearance of public areas, patterns of small declines are beginning to emerge. This is a trend Council should seek to abate, as perceptions here have an influence on the overall performance rating.

# **DETAILED FINDINGS**





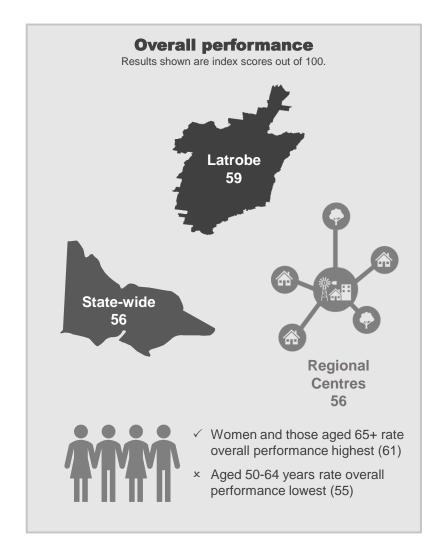


The overall performance index score of 59 for Latrobe City Council is the same as in 2022, having been unable to recover any ground following a significant decline in 2022. That said, Council's stability this year is positive, given both the Regional Centres and Statewide group overall performance averages both declined significantly. Latrobe City Council's 2023 overall performance rating is also higher than it has been in the past.

In addition, this year, Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the average rating for councils in the Regional Centres group and the State-wide average for councils (index scores of 56 for both).

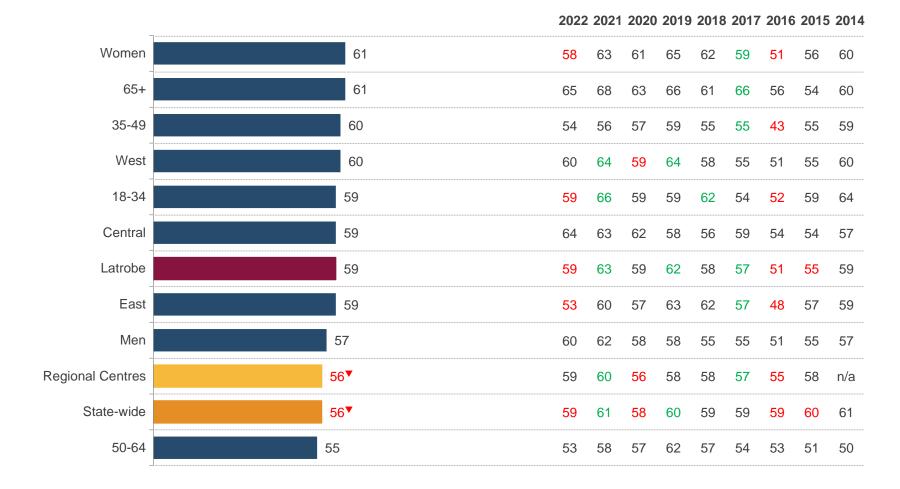
 Performance ratings across each of the demographic and geographic cohorts evaluated are not significantly different from the Council average.

Nearly four in 10 residents (38%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. One quarter (25%) rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor' on this metric, three percentage points less than last year. A further 32% rate Council as 'average' in terms of providing value for money.



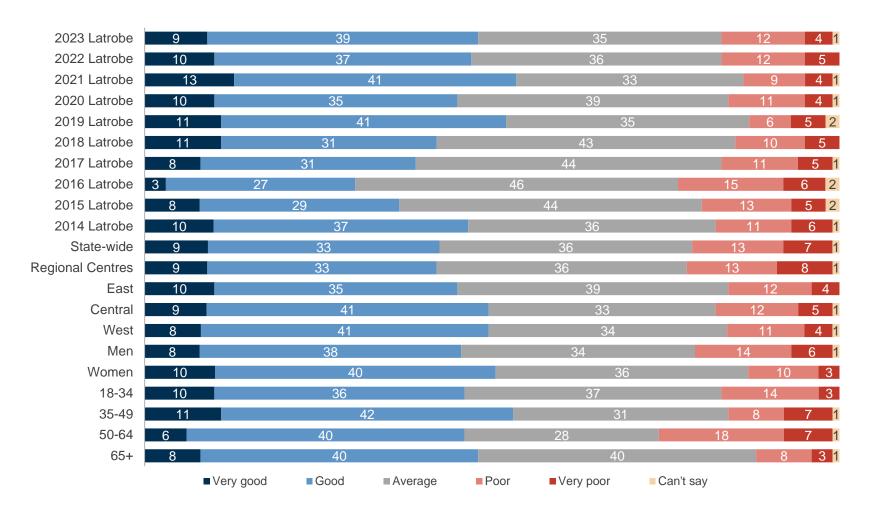


#### 2023 overall performance (index scores)





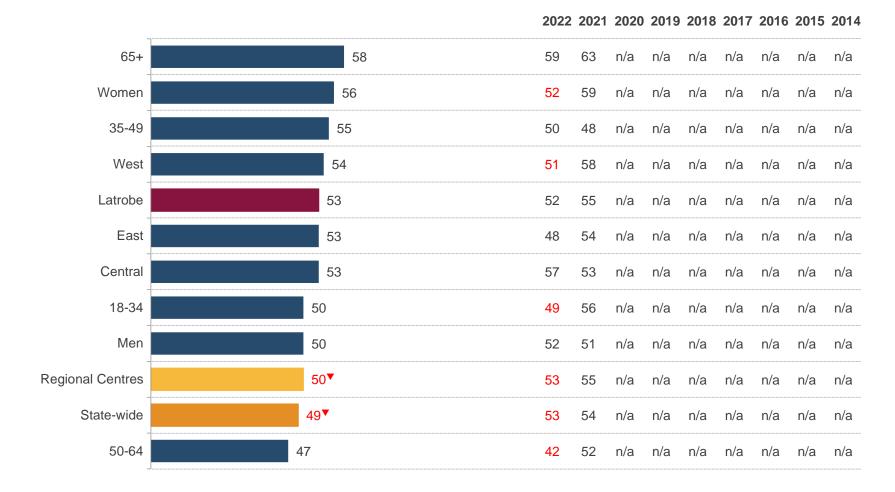
#### 2023 overall performance (%)



## Value for money in services and infrastructure



#### 2023 value for money (index scores)

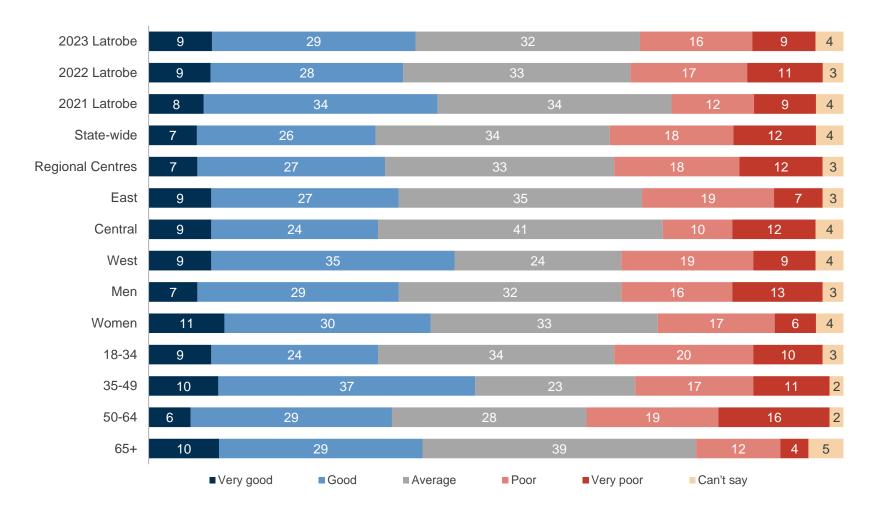


Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

## Value for money in services and infrastructure



#### 2023 value for money (%)



## **Top performing service areas**

Art centres and libraries (index score of 79) continues to be Council's top-rated service area, maintaining the strong improvements made in 2021 and 2022. Council performs in line with the Regional Centres group average and significantly higher than the State-wide group average in this service area.

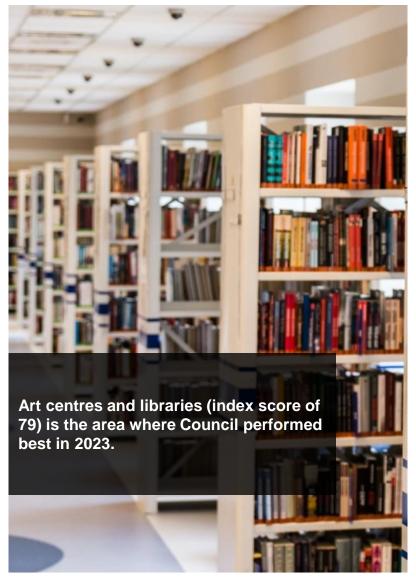
Recreational facilities is Council's next highest rated service (72), followed by waste management (69) and community and cultural activities (66).

Positively, community and cultural activities and waste management are key positive influences on overall performance and are both performing well. All geographic or demographic cohorts have similar ratings of waste management, none significantly higher or lower than last year or compared to Council's average.

Conversely, for community and cultural activities:

- Women rate performance significantly higher (70) compared to the Council average, while men rate performance significantly lower (62).
- Residents aged 35 to 49 years rate performance significantly higher than in 2022 (71 this year, up seven points on 2022) and compared to average.
- East residents report a significant six-point increase on their 2022 rating (up to 66 in 2023) and those in Central report a seven-point decline (down to 63).





### Low performing service areas





Council rates lowest in parking facilities (index score of 49). Council's next lowest performing service areas (each with an index score of 53) are the condition of local streets and footpaths, consultation and engagement, and town planning policy.

 Council rates significantly lower than the State-wide and Regional Centres group averages for parking facilities, and is significantly higher than both in the area of town planning policy.

The condition of local streets and footpaths comprises the only area where Council's performance significantly declined this year, returning to a series low last seen in 2016. The decline is mostly driven by:

- Central residents (index score of 52, down a significant nine points on 2022)
- Residents aged 18 to 34 years (46, down 13 points and significantly lower than the Council average).

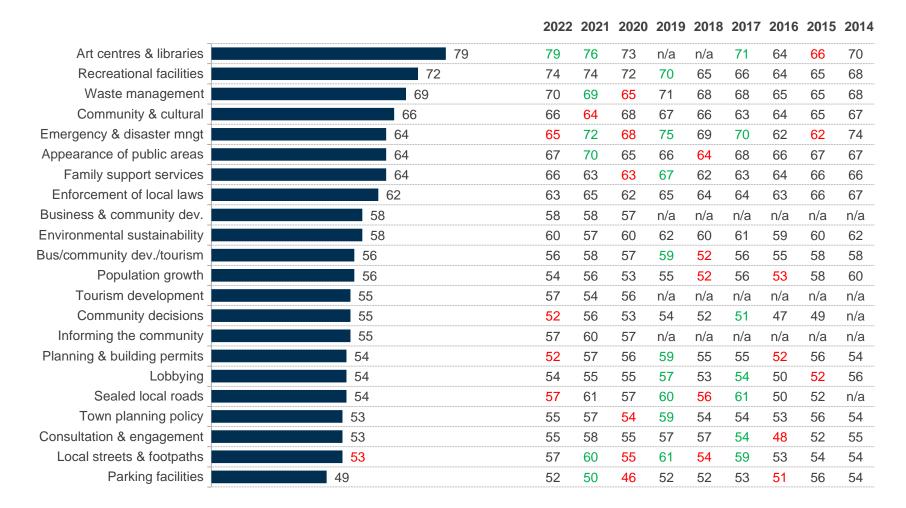
Significant changes in index scores for parking facilities performance occurred among:

- East residents (59, which is up seven points on 2022 and is significantly higher than the Council average).
- Central residents (51, down seven points on 2022)
- West residents (41, down eight points on 2022).
   Ratings among West residents are also significantly lower than the Council average.

### Individual service area performance



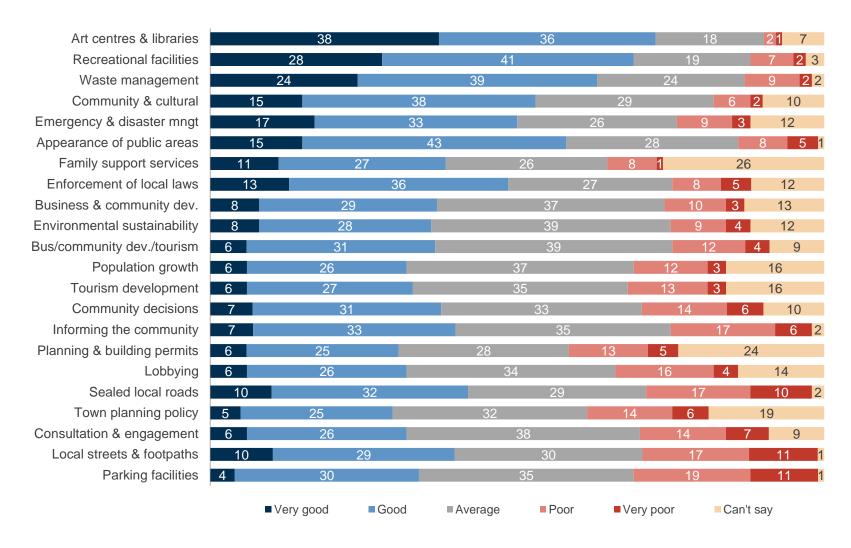
#### 2023 individual service area performance (index scores)



#### Individual service area performance



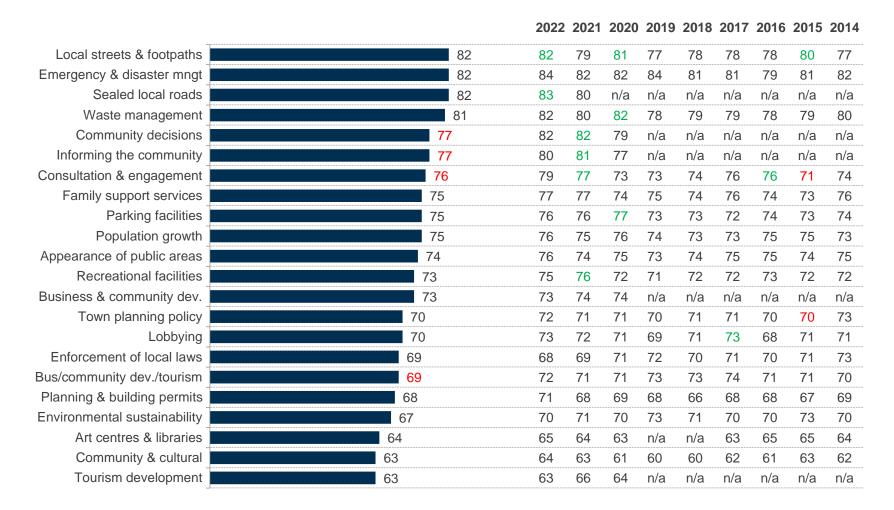
#### 2023 individual service area performance (%)



### Individual service area importance



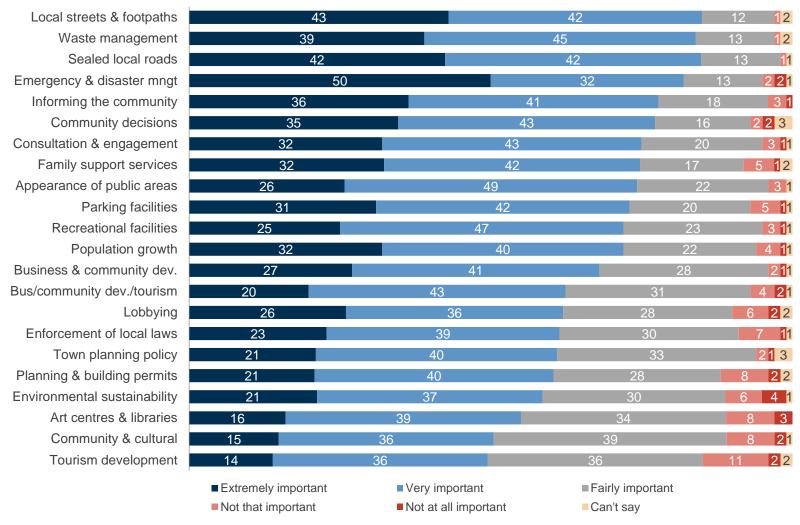
#### 2023 individual service area importance (index scores)



## Individual service area importance



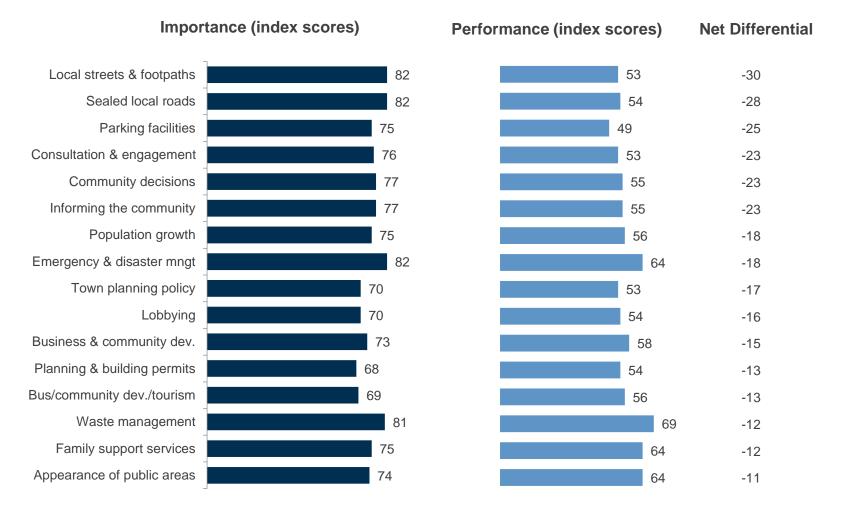
#### 2023 individual service area importance (%)



## Individual service areas importance vs performance



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



### Influences on perceptions of overall performance



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

Community consultation and engagement.

Greater focus on consulting with residents on key local issues and Council activities provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council's performance.

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

- Town planning
- · Decisions made in the interest of the community
- · The condition of sealed local roads
- The condition of local streets
- Waste management
- Community and cultural activities
- The appearance of public areas.

Looking at these key service areas only, waste management and community and cultural activities have a high performance index (69 and 66 respectively) and Council also performs relatively well on the appearance of public areas (64).

These service areas have a moderate influence on the overall performance rating and maintaining these positive results should remain a focus – but there is greater work to be done elsewhere.

Other service areas with a stronger influence on overall perceptions but where Council performs relatively less well are the condition of local streets, town planning, the condition of sealed local roads, and decisions made in the interest of the community (index of 53, 53, 54 and 55 respectively).

Ensuring that sealed roads and local streets are well maintained and promoting good communication and transparency with residents in Council decision making, particularly around planning, can also help shore up positive overall opinion of Council.

## Regression analysis explained



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

In the charts that follow:

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

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

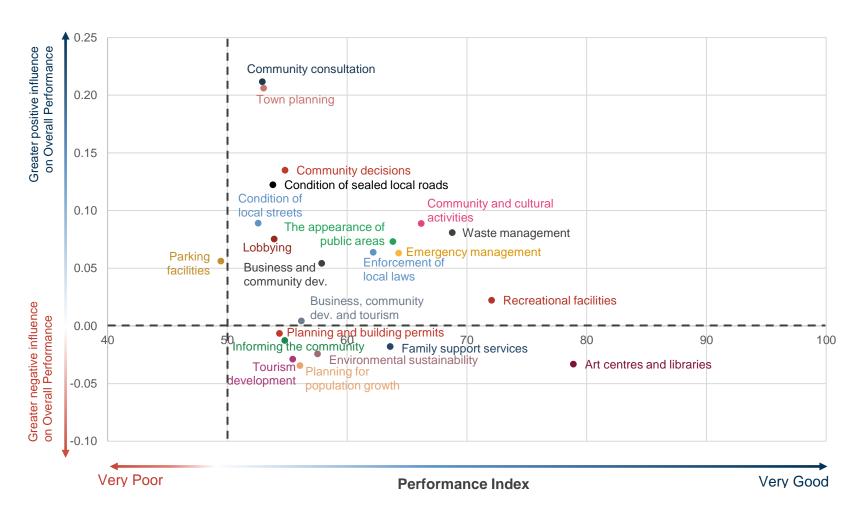
- 1. The first chart shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas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

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

## Influence on overall performance: all service areas



#### 2023 regression analysis (all service areas)

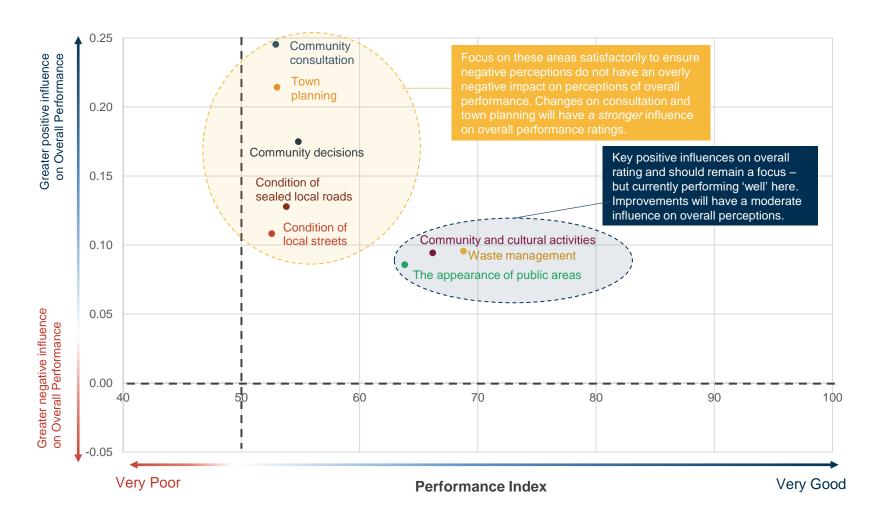


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an  $R^2$  value of 0.615 and adjusted  $R^2$  value of 0.593, which means that 59% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 27.41. 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



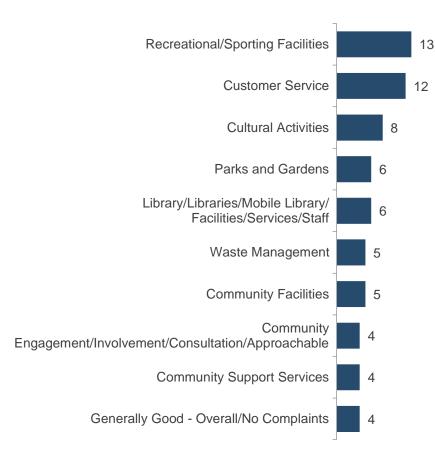
#### 2023 regression analysis (key service areas)



## **Best things about Council and areas for improvement**



# 2023 best things about Council (%) - Top mentions only -



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



Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Latrobe 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?



**Customer service** 

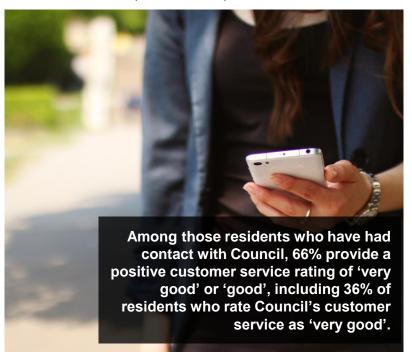
#### **Contact with council and customer service**



#### Contact with council

A little over half of Council residents or their household (55%) had contact with Council in the last 12 months, eight percentage points lower than last year. Rate of contact has been declining over time, down from a peak of 71% in 2020. Significant declines in the level of contact since 2022 were reported by:

- Residents aged 18 to 34 years (from 73% to 59%)
- Men (from 63% to 48%)
- West residents (66% to 51%).



#### **Customer service**

Council's customer service index (72) is a significant six points higher than 2022. Customer service is rated in line with the Regional Centres group average and significantly higher than the State-wide group average.

Residents are most likely to contact Council by phone (31%) or in person (21%), followed by email (17%). All three channels declined in use by two percentage points since 2022. These small declines are in line with the declining rate of contact.

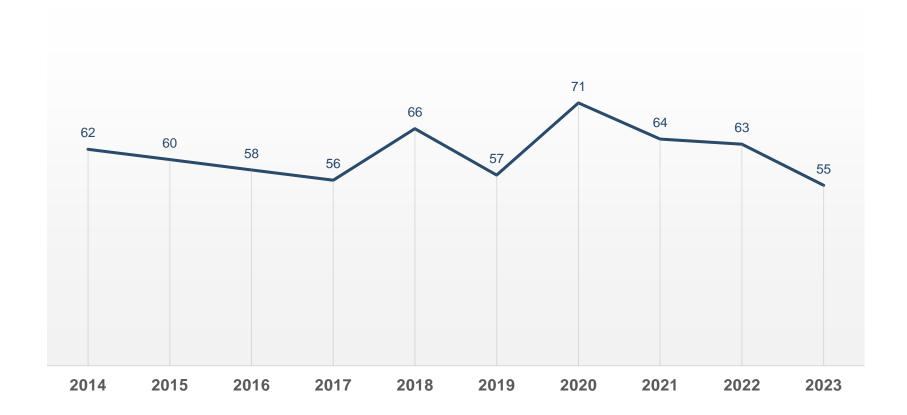
Customer service ratings are highest for those who communicated with Council via the website (index score of 85, although a small sample size), followed by in person (79) and telephone (72). Satisfaction with customer service for those who contacted Council via email has increased a significant 12 points to an index score of 64 in 2023.

Perceptions of customer service remained consistent among almost all geographic and demographic cohorts since 2022. The exception is residents aged 18 to 34 years, among who perceptions of customer service increased significantly (index score of 71, up 11 index points).

#### **Contact with council**



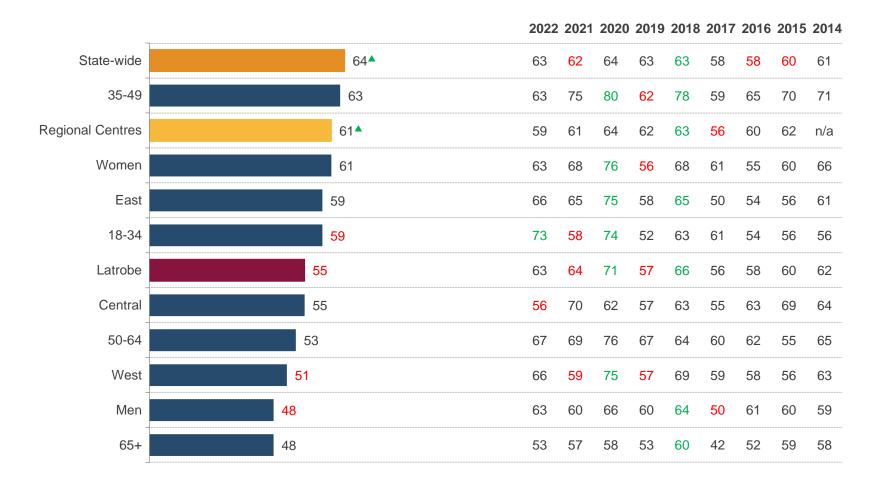
# 2023 contact with council (%) Have had contact



#### **Contact with council**



#### 2023 contact with council (%)



## **Customer service rating**



#### 2023 customer service rating (index scores)



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

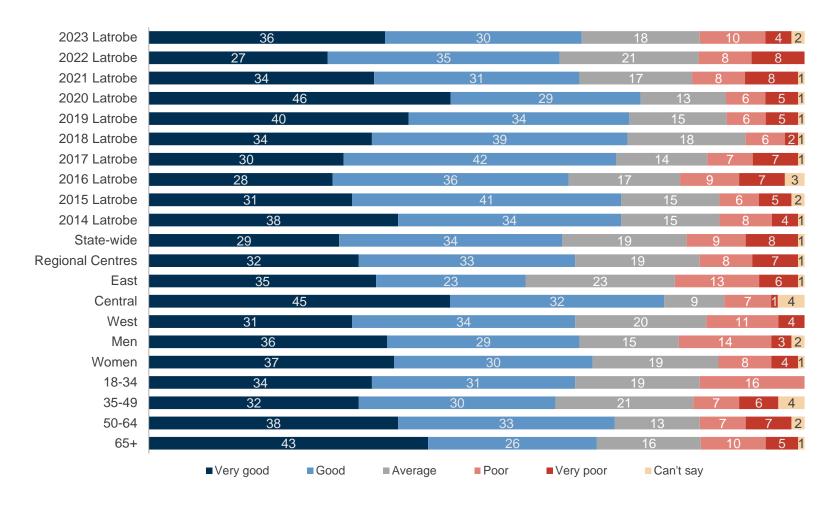
Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.

Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 9

## **Customer service rating**



#### 2023 customer service rating (%)



### **Method of contact with council**



### 2023 method of contact (%)















In Person

**In Writing** 

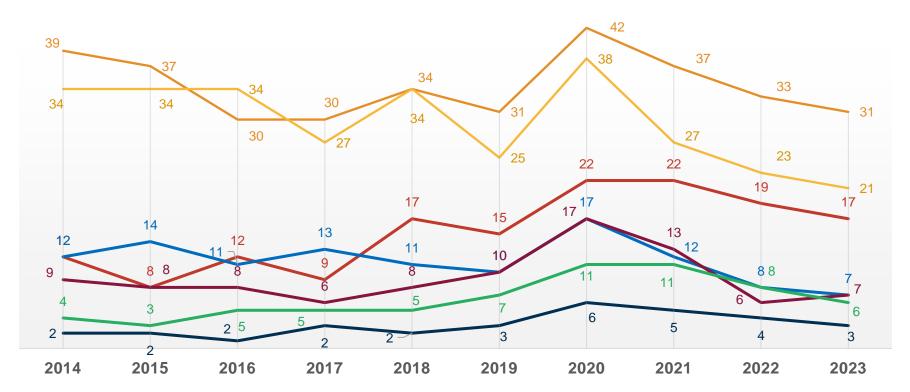
By Telephone

By Text Message

By Email

Via Website

By Social Media



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

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

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 4

## **Customer service rating by method of last contact**



2023 customer service rating (index score by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Latrobe 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: 25 Councils asked group: 4

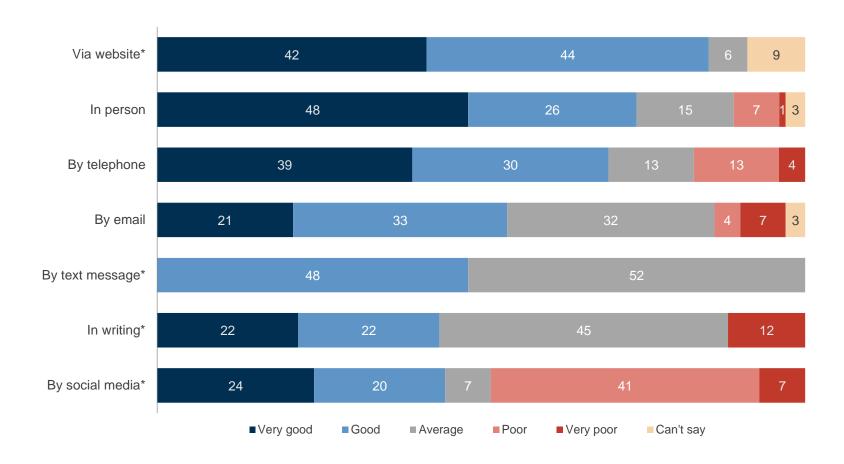
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

\*Caution: small sample size < n=30

## **Customer service rating by method of last contact**



2023 customer service rating (% by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Latrobe 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: 25 Councils asked group: 4

\*Caution: small sample size < n=30



### Communication

The preferred form of communication from Council about news and information and upcoming events is a newsletter sent via mail (23%). A close second (and increasing five percentage points since last year) is preference for a newsletter via email (20%).

- The preferred form of communication among residents under 50 years of age is social media (31%), followed by a newsletter via mail (24%) and then email (18%). Preferences among under 50s appear to fluctuate greatly from year to year, with either social media or newsletter via mail switching positions each year since 2021.
- The preferred form of communication among those aged 50 years or older is tied between three different methods of distribution; advertising in local newspapers, or a newsletter via email or mail (all 21%). A newsletter as an insert in the local paper is almost equally popular, preferred by 18% of older residents.

The greatest change since 2022 in communication preferences has been a decline in the preference from all residents for a newsletter as an insert in a local newspaper (down six percentage points to 11%)



### **Best form of communication**



### 2023 best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



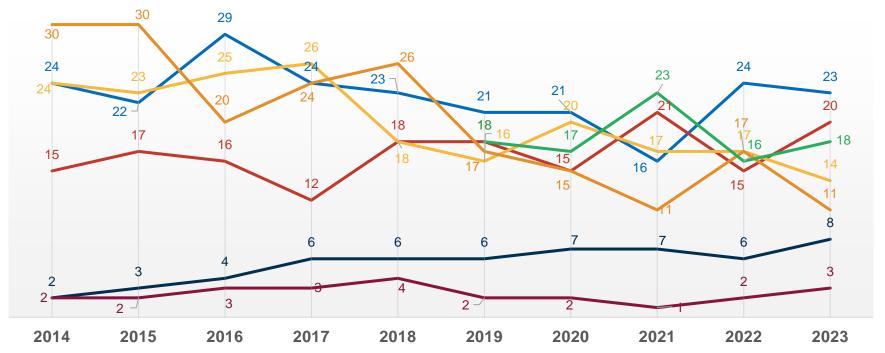
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Latrobe 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: 40 Councils asked group: 6 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

### Best form of communication: under 50s



### 2023 under 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



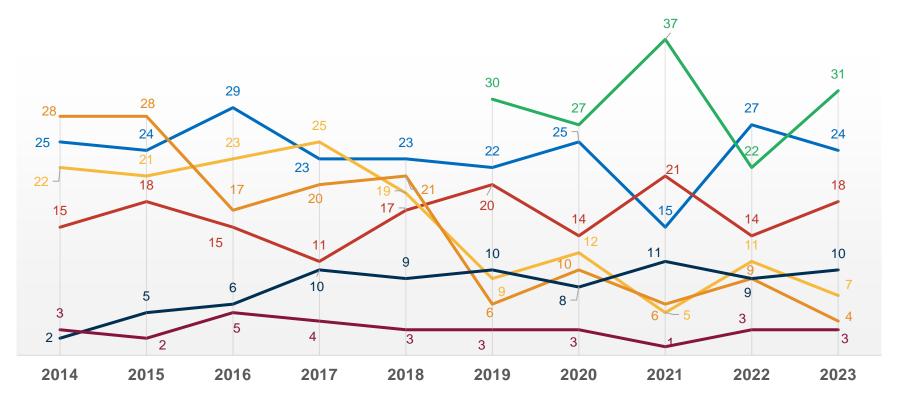
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Latrobe 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: 40 Councils asked group: 6 Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.

### **Best form of communication: over 50s**



### 2023 over 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in a Local Newspaper



Council Newsletter via Mail



Council Newsletter via Email



Council Newsletter as Local Paper Insert



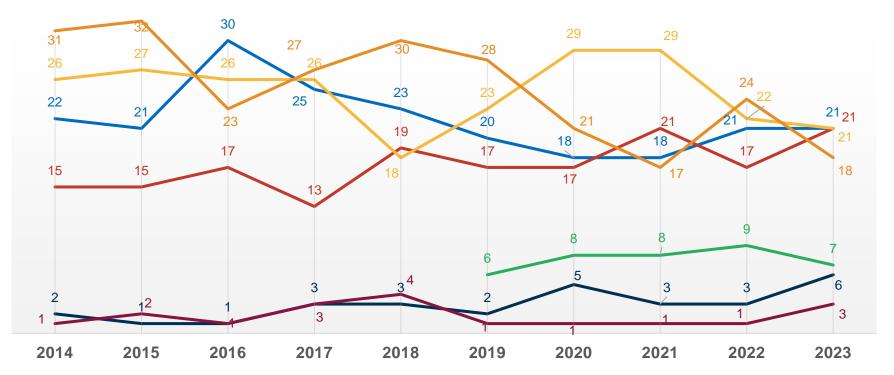
Council Website



Text Message



Social Media



Q13. If Latrobe 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 over 50. Councils asked State-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 6

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.



### **Council direction**

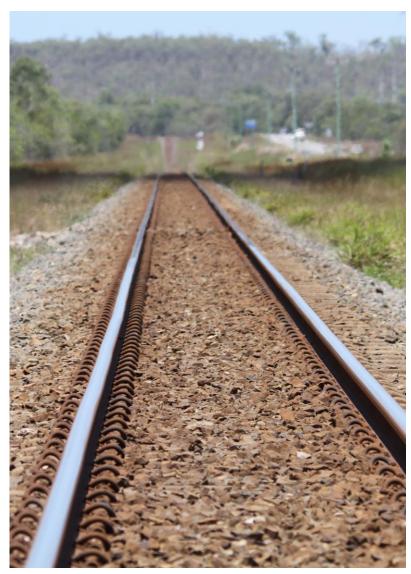
W

Perceptions of the direction of Council's overall performance, with an index score of 49, have declined marginally (not significantly) since 2022, down one index point. Though the decline this year or in recent years has not been statistically significant, since 2021, perceptions of Council's overall direction have incrementally decreased from a peak rating of 56 in 2020.

That said, Latrobe City Council's index score for overall Council direction is rated in line with the Regional Centres group average and significantly higher than the State-wide average.

Over the last 12 months, almost two thirds of residents (65%) believe the direction of Council's overall performance has stayed the same, down one percentage point since last year.

- 15% believe the direction has improved in the last 12 months (unchanged since 2022).
- 17% believe it has deteriorated, up two percentage points.
- The most satisfied with council direction are women (index score of 53).
- In contrast, the least satisfied with council direction are men (index score of 45).



### **Overall council direction last 12 months**



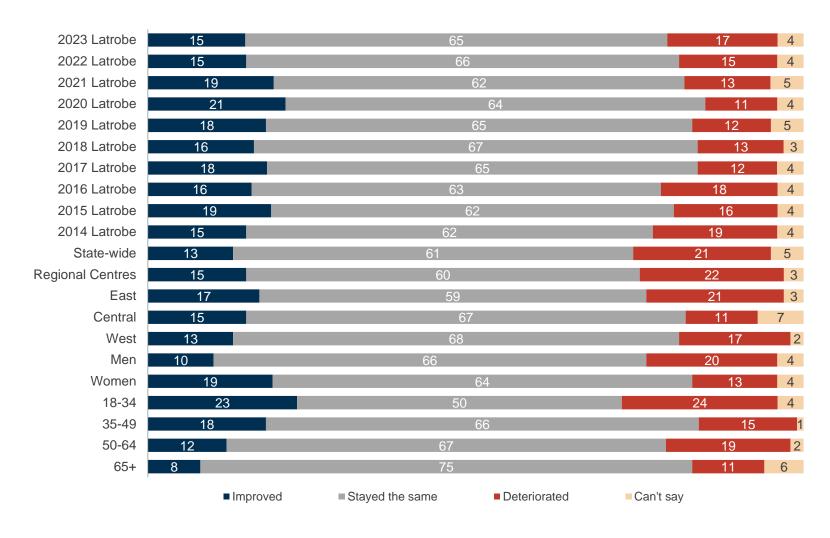
### 2023 overall council direction (index scores)



### **Overall council direction last 12 months**



### 2023 overall council direction (%)





## **Community consultation and engagement importance**





2023 consultation and engagement importance (index scores)

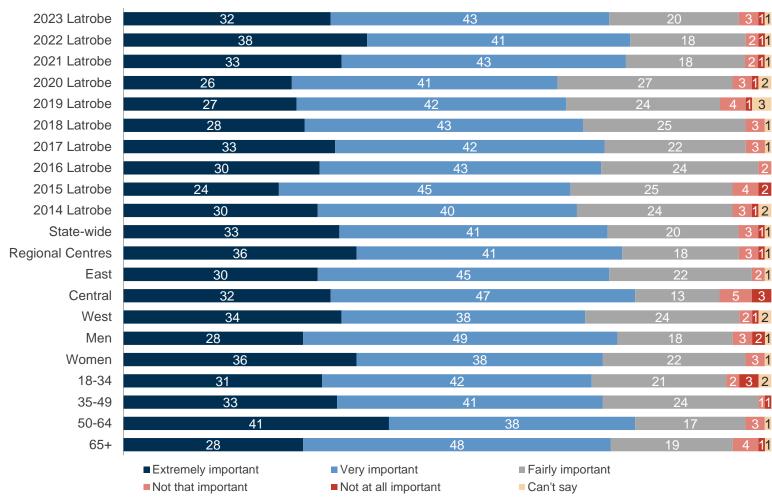


## **Community consultation and engagement importance**





#### 2023 consultation and engagement importance (%)



## Community consultation and engagement performance





#### 2023 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

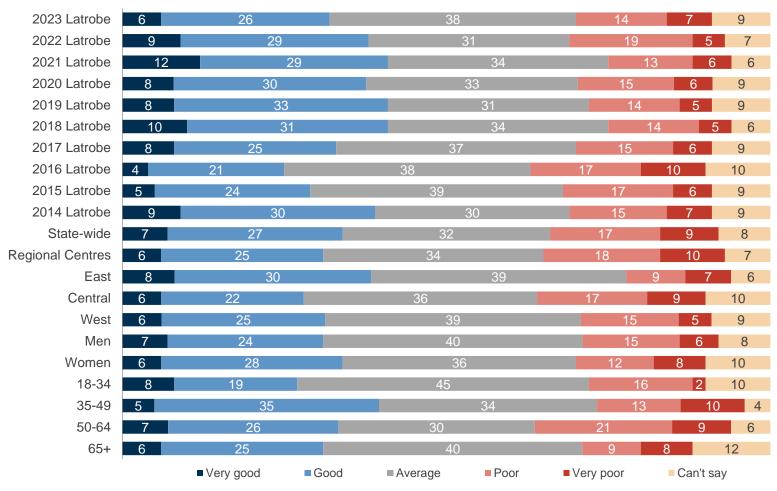


## Community consultation and engagement performance





### 2023 consultation and engagement performance (%)



### Lobbying on behalf of the community importance





### 2023 lobbying importance (index scores)

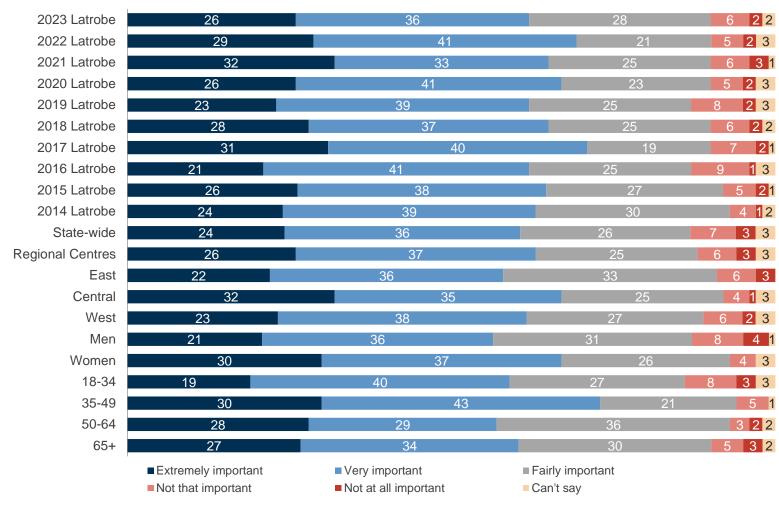


## Lobbying on behalf of the community importance





### 2023 lobbying importance (%)

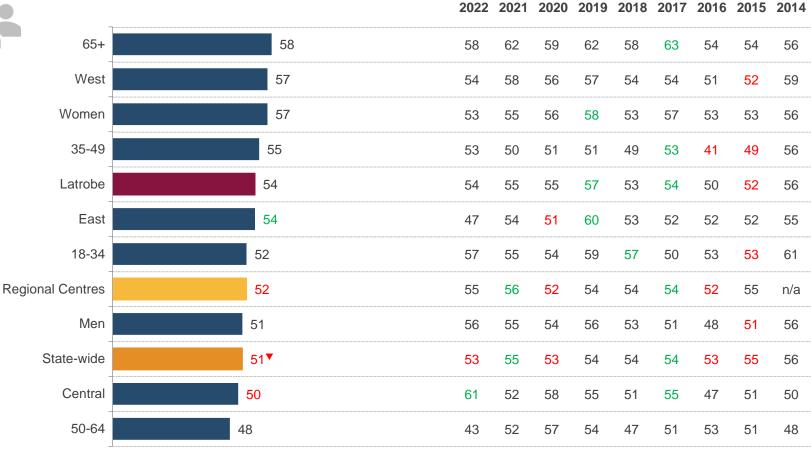


## Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





### 2023 lobbying performance (index scores)

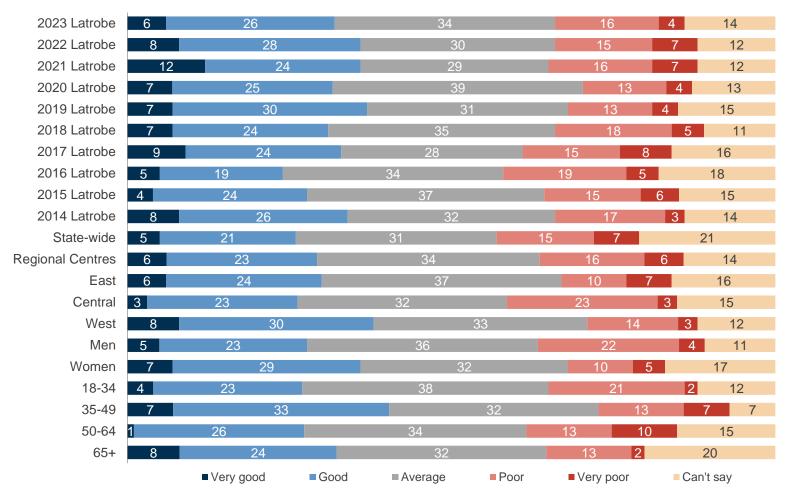


## Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





### 2023 lobbying performance (%)

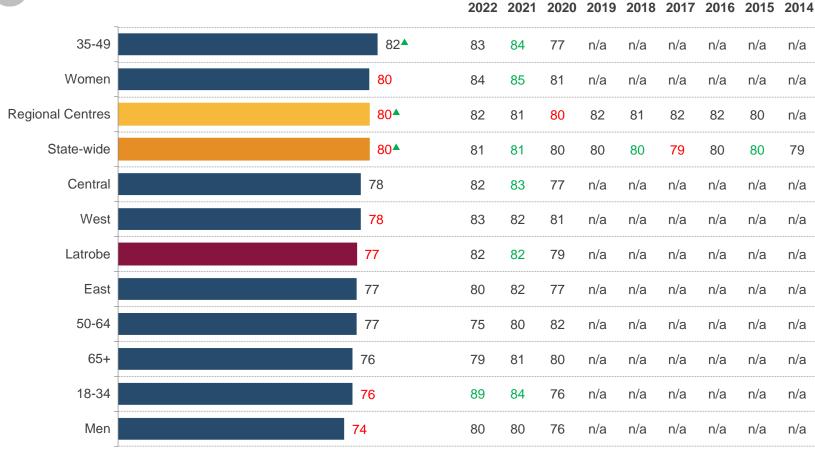


# **Decisions made in the interest of the community importance**





### 2023 community decisions made importance (index scores)

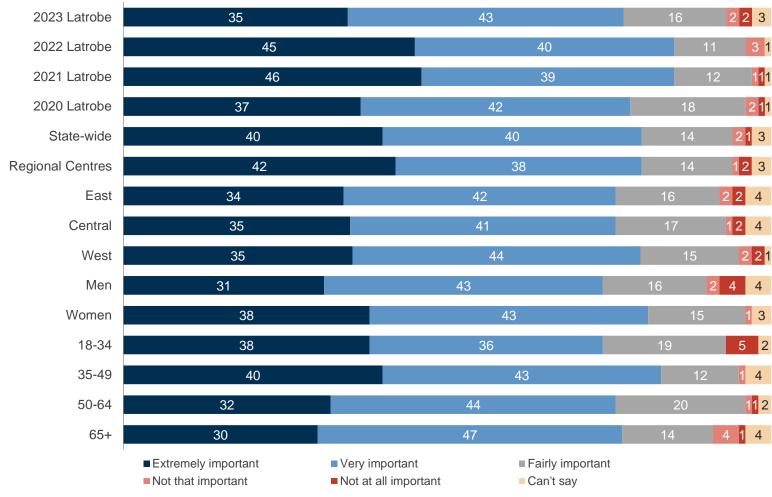


# **Decisions made in the interest of the community importance**





### 2023 community decisions made importance (%)

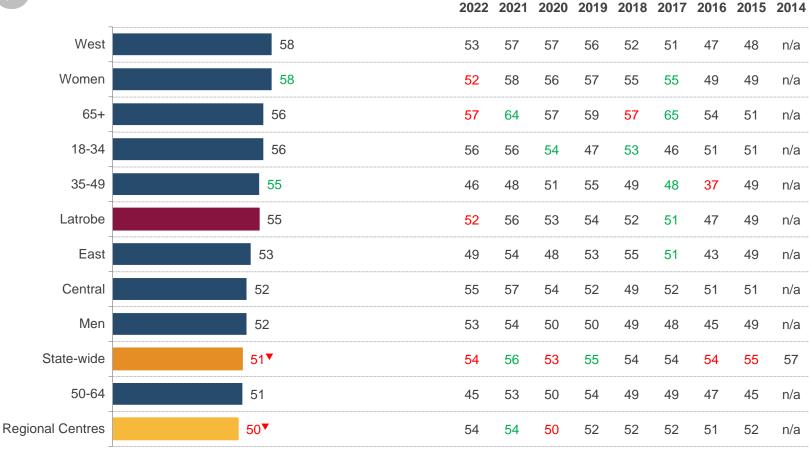


# **Decisions made in the interest of the community performance**





#### 2023 community decisions made performance (index scores)

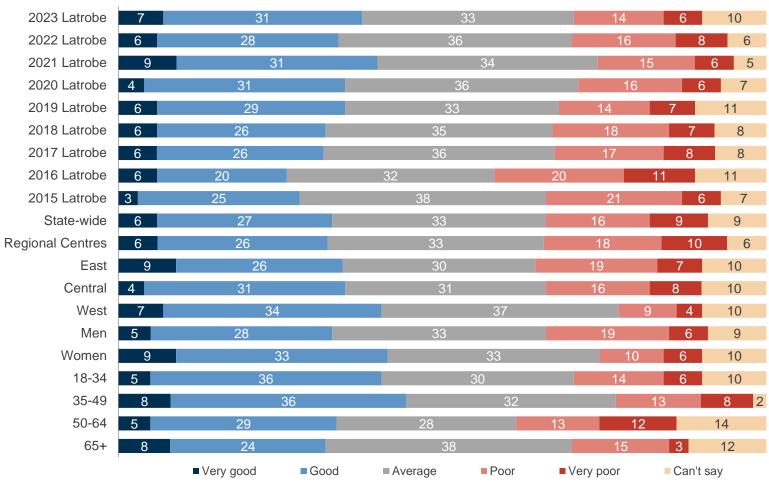


# **Decisions made in the interest of the community performance**





#### 2023 community decisions made performance (%)



## The condition of sealed local roads in your area importance





#### 2023 sealed local roads importance (index scores)

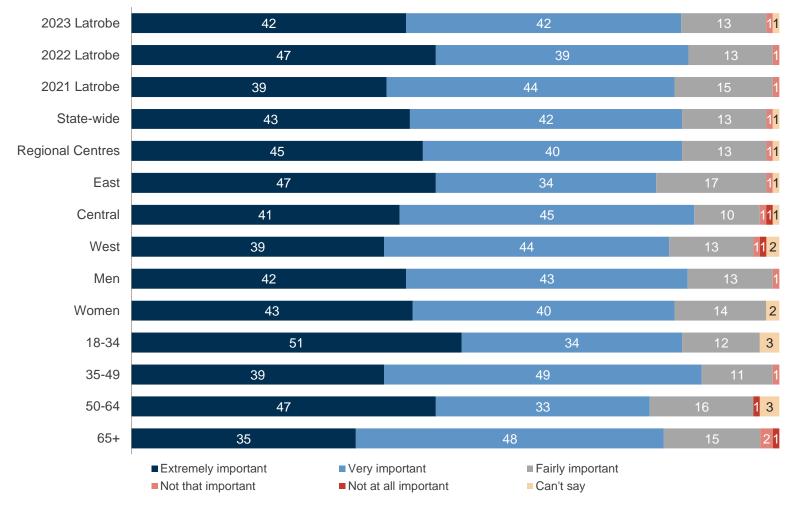


# The condition of sealed local roads in your area importance





### 2023 sealed local roads importance (%)

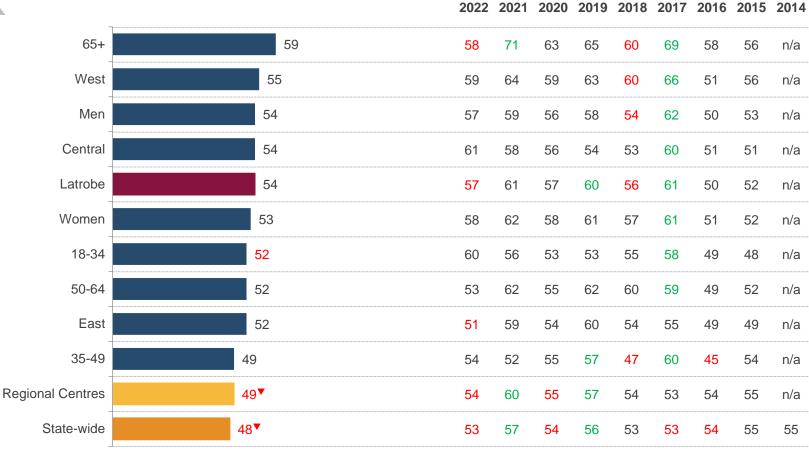


# The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





#### 2023 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

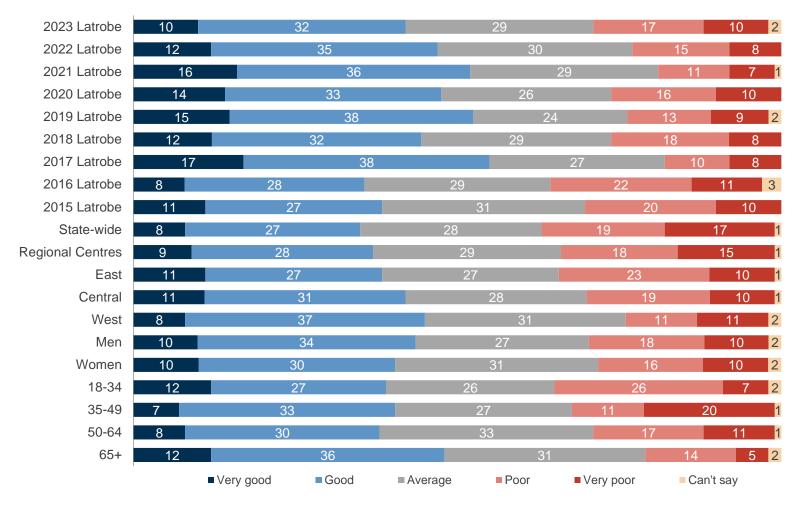


# The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





### 2023 sealed local roads performance (%)



## Informing the community importance





#### 2023 informing community importance (index scores)

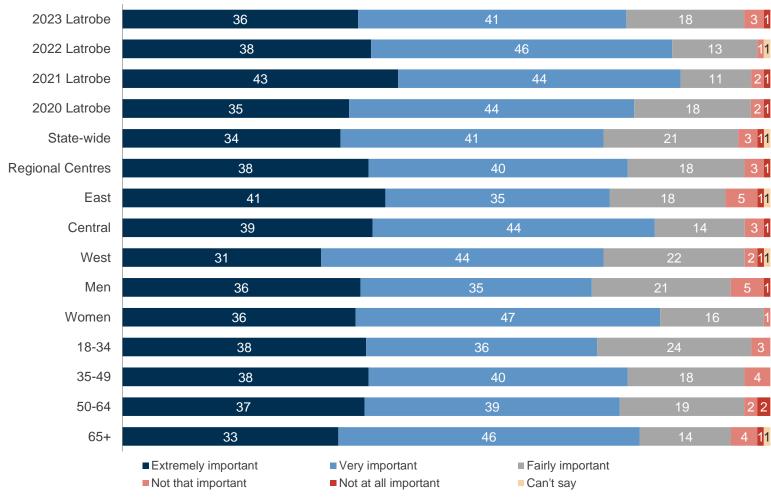


## Informing the community importance





#### 2023 informing community importance (%)

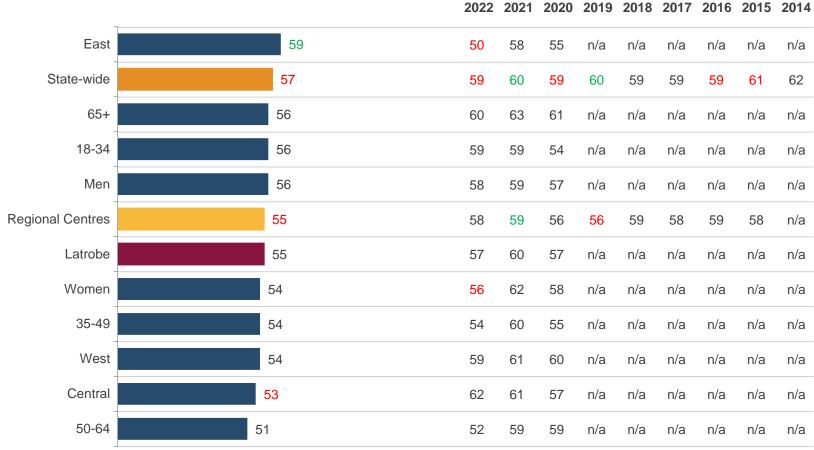


## Informing the community performance





### 2023 informing community performance (index scores)

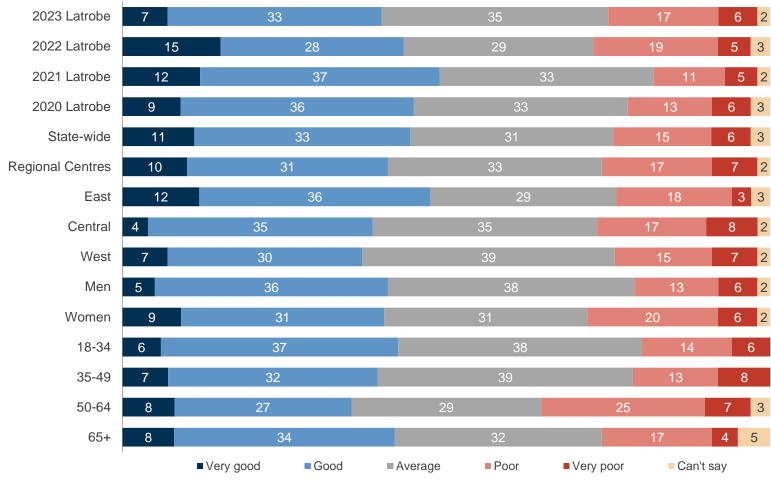


## Informing the community performance





### 2023 informing community performance (%)



# The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area importance





#### 2023 streets and footpaths importance (index scores)

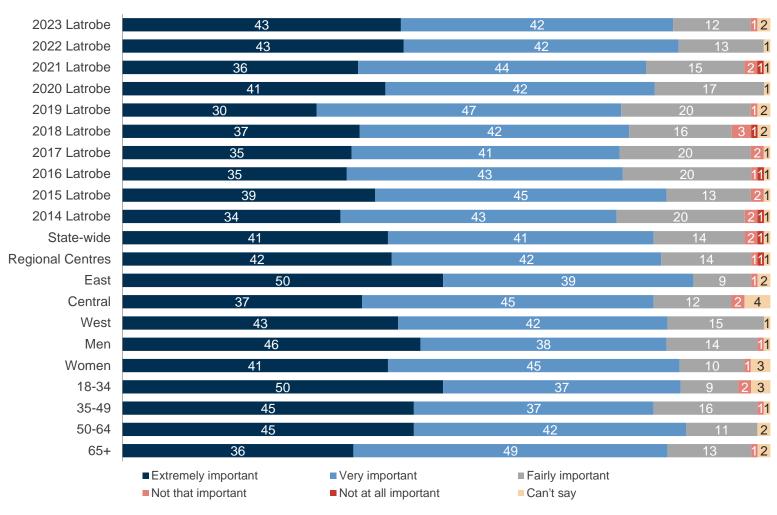


# The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area importance





#### 2023 streets and footpaths importance (%)



# The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





### 2023 streets and footpaths performance (index scores)

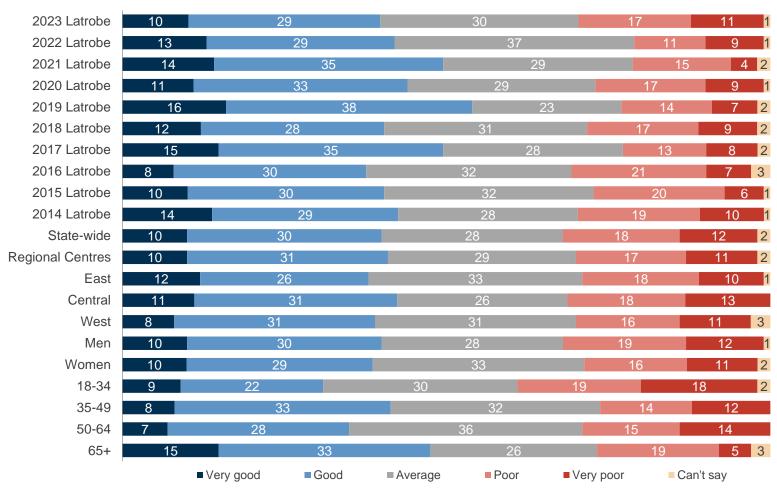


# The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





#### 2023 streets and footpaths performance (%)

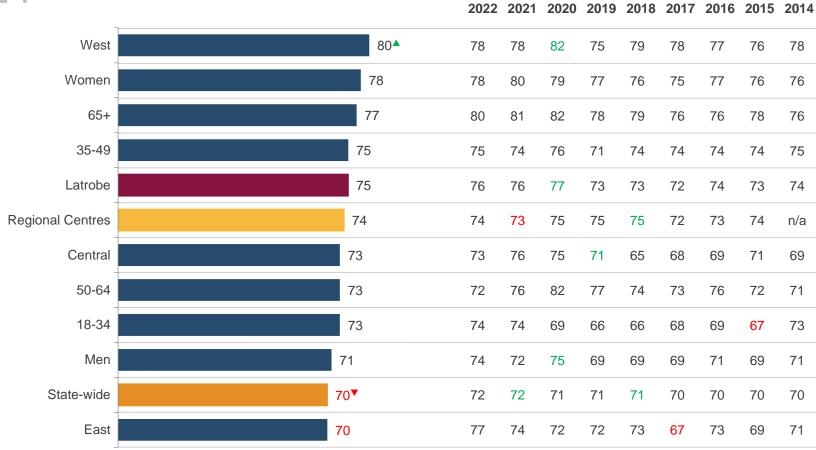


# Parking facilities importance





#### 2023 parking importance (index scores)

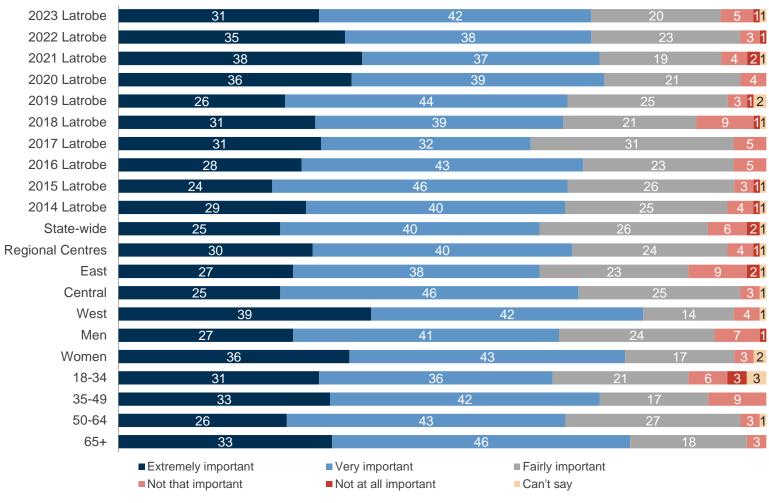


# **Parking facilities importance**





### 2023 parking importance (%)

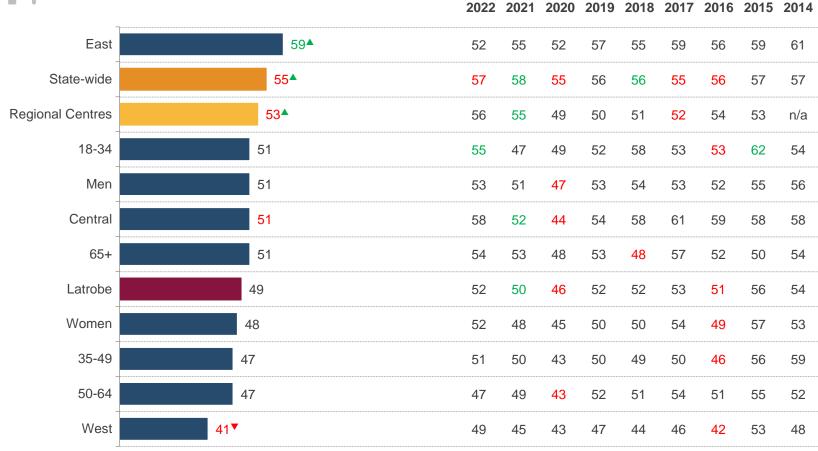


# **Parking facilities performance**





### 2023 parking performance (index scores)

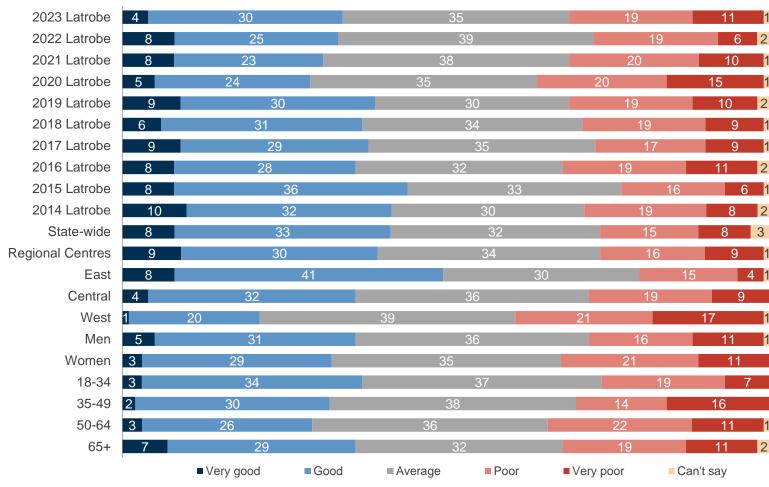


# **Parking facilities performance**





### 2023 parking performance (%)

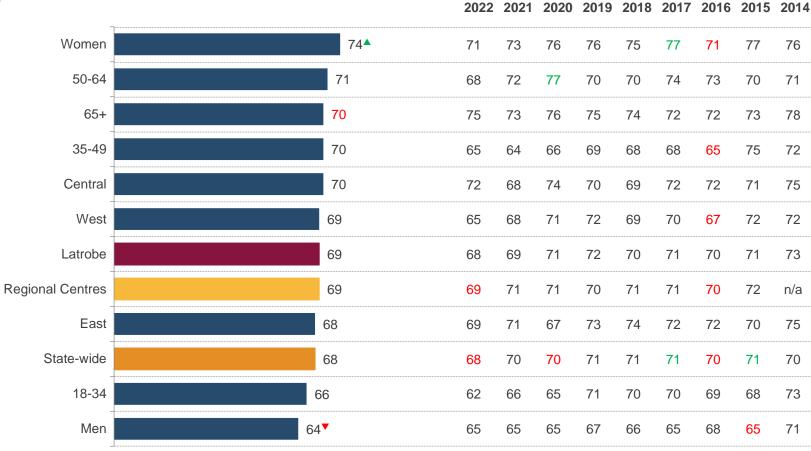


## **Enforcement of local laws importance**





#### 2023 law enforcement importance (index scores)

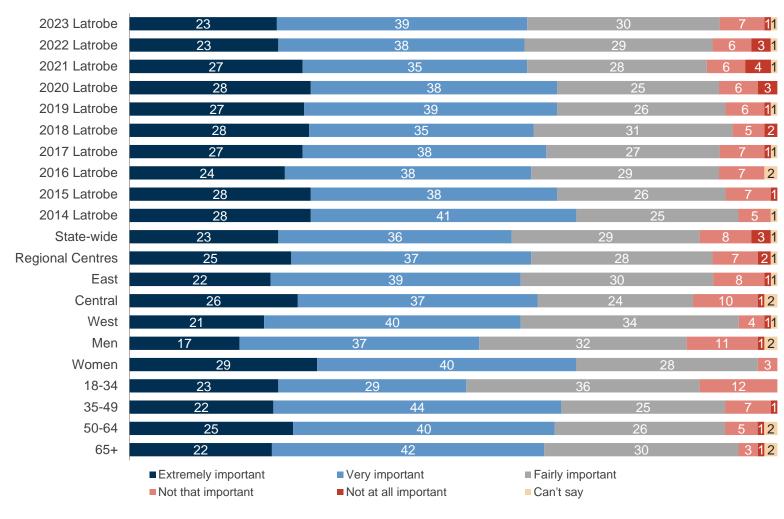


## **Enforcement of local laws importance**





#### 2023 law enforcement importance (%)

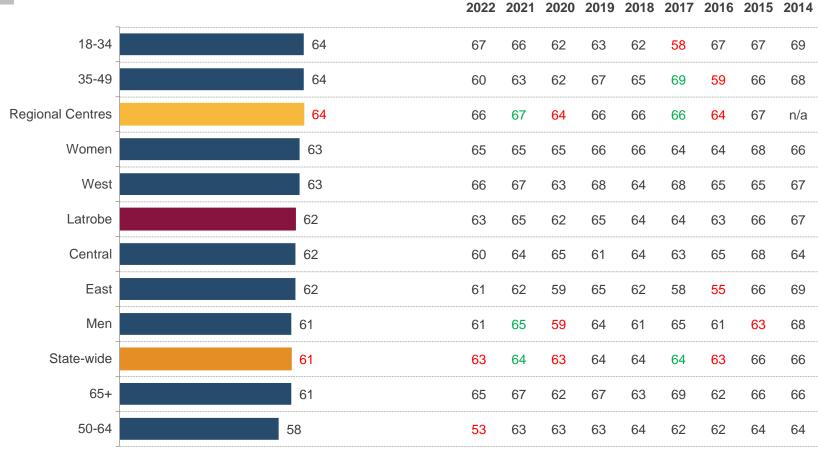


## **Enforcement of local laws performance**





#### 2023 law enforcement performance (index scores)

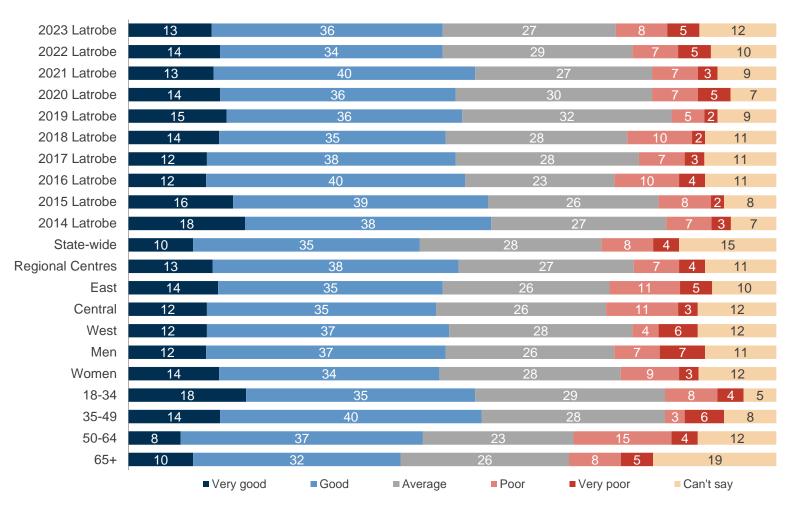


# **Enforcement of local laws performance**





#### 2023 law enforcement performance (%)



# Family support services importance





#### 2023 family support importance (index scores)

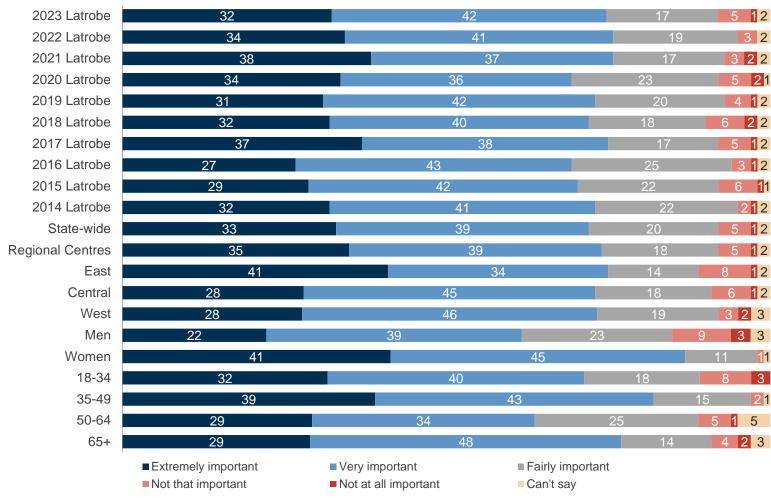


## **Family support services importance**





### 2023 family support importance (%)



# Family support services performance





#### 2023 family support performance (index scores)

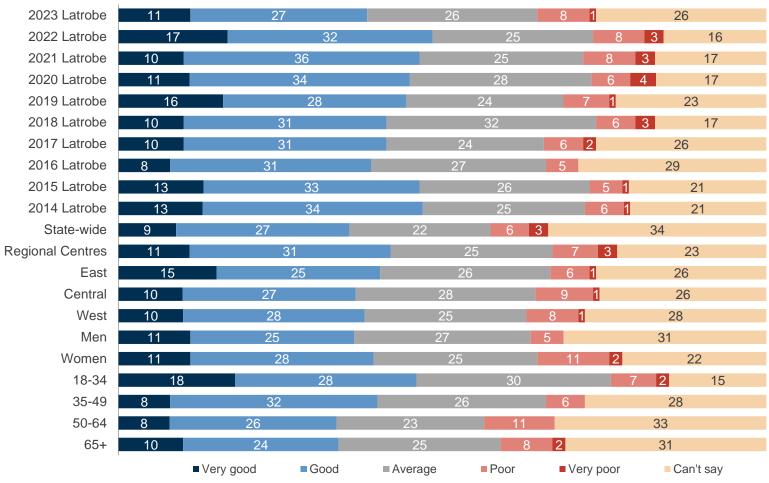


# Family support services performance





#### 2023 family support performance (%)

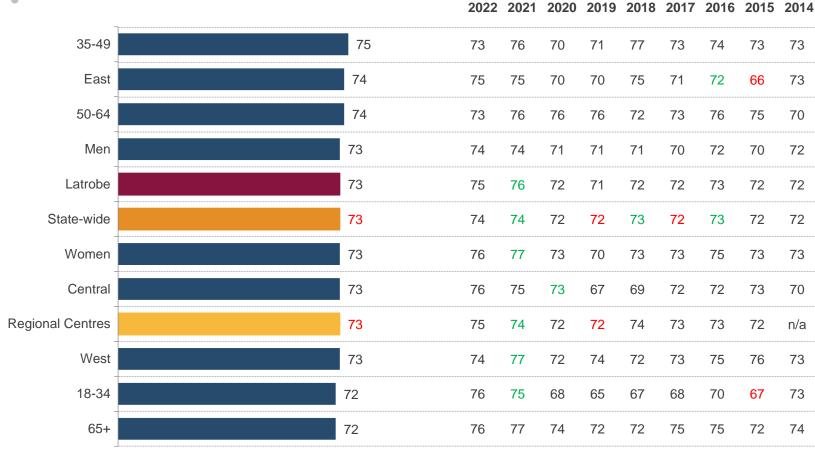


# **Recreational facilities importance**





### 2023 recreational facilities importance (index scores)

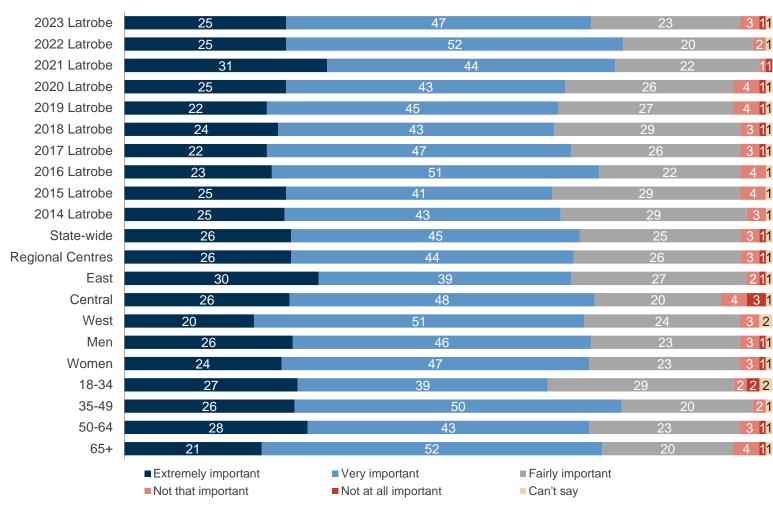


# **Recreational facilities importance**





### 2023 recreational facilities importance (%)



# Recreational facilities performance





#### 2023 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

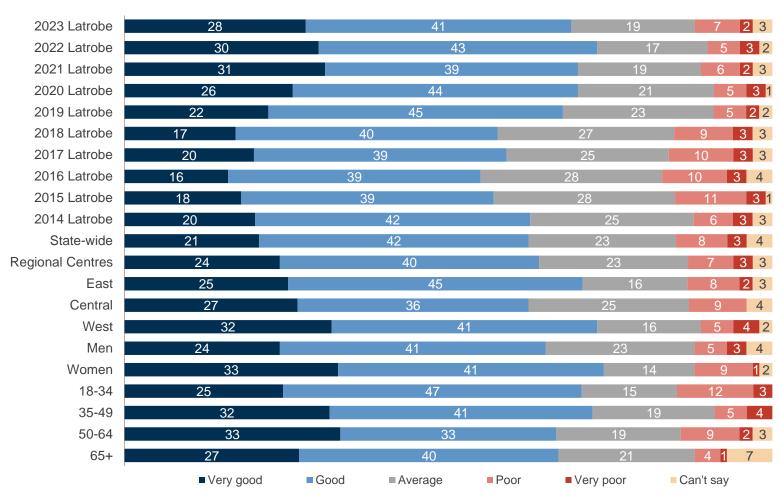


## Recreational facilities performance





#### 2023 recreational facilities performance (%)



# The appearance of public areas importance





#### 2023 public areas importance (index scores)

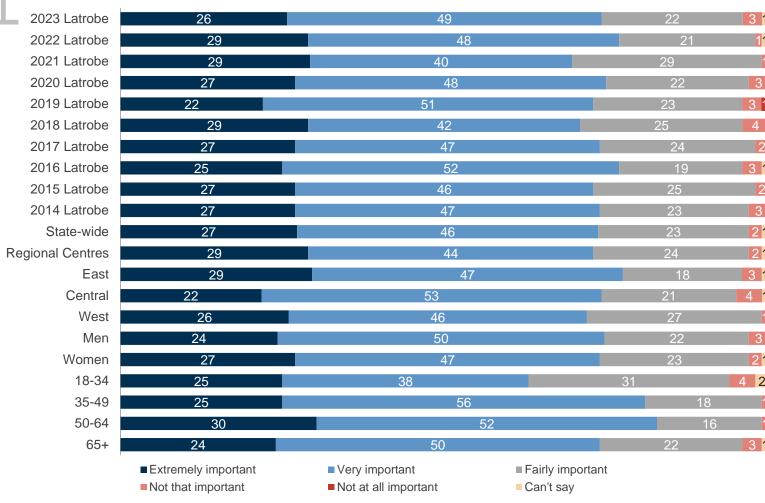


# The appearance of public areas importance





#### 2023 public areas importance (%)



# The appearance of public areas performance





### 2023 public areas performance (index scores)

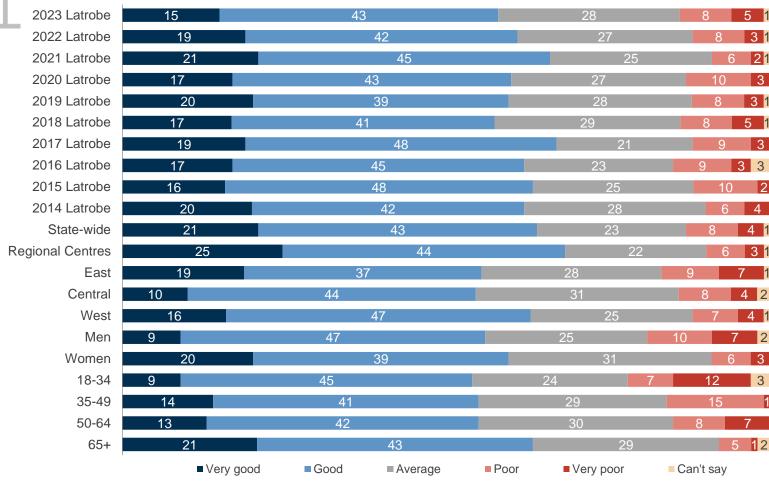


## The appearance of public areas performance





### 2023 public areas performance (%)



# **Art centres and libraries importance**





#### 2023 art centres and libraries importance (index scores)

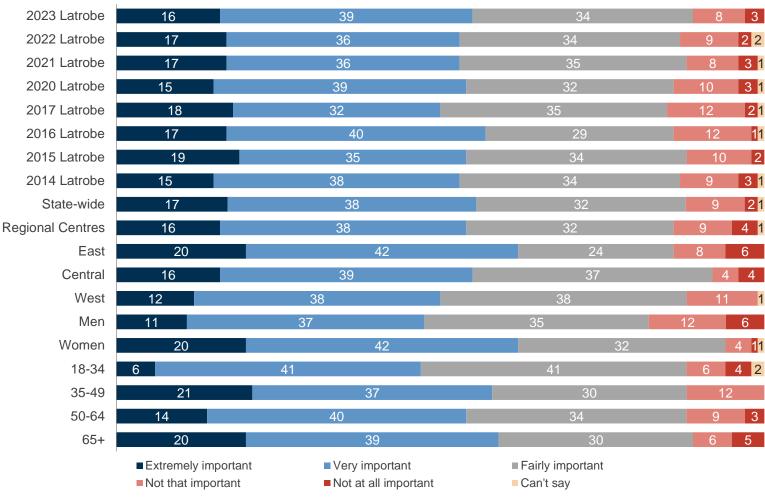


## **Art centres and libraries importance**





#### 2023 art centres and libraries importance (%)



### Art centres and libraries performance





#### 2023 art centres and libraries performance (index scores)

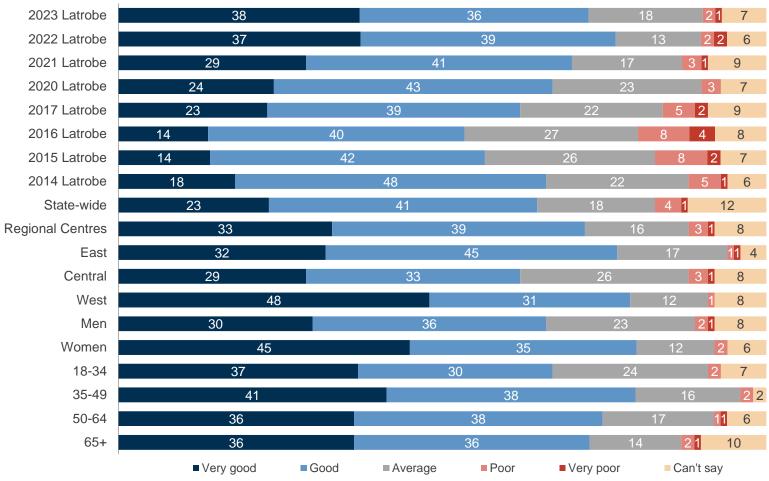


# **Art centres and libraries performance**





#### 2023 art centres and libraries performance (%)



# Community and cultural activities importance





#### 2023 community and cultural activities importance (index scores)

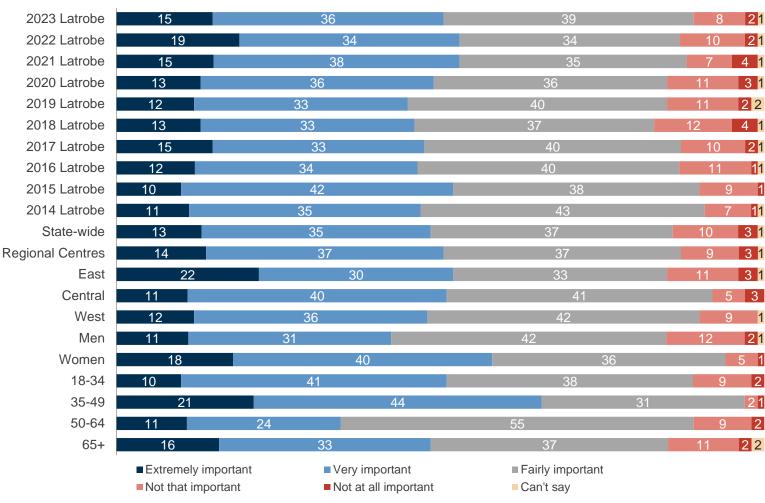


# **Community and cultural activities importance**





#### 2023 community and cultural activities importance (%)

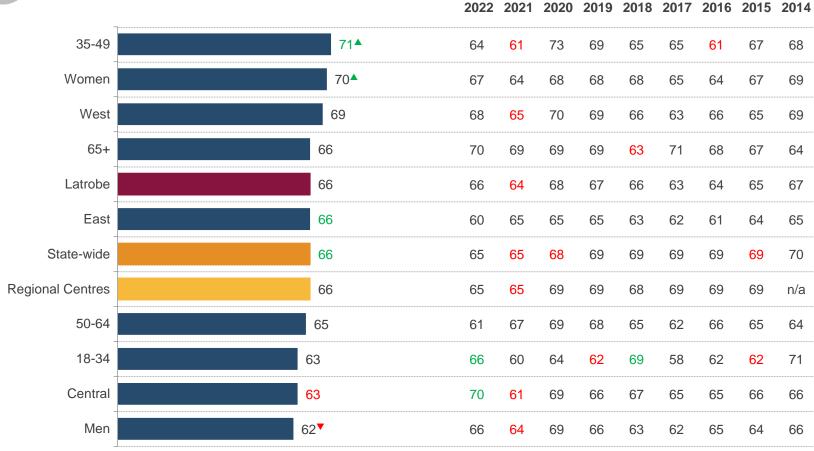


# Community and cultural activities performance





2023 community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

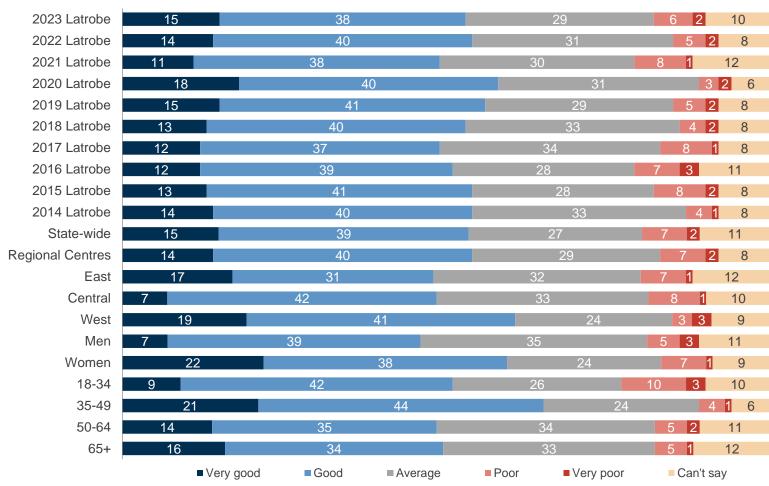


# **Community and cultural activities performance**





#### 2023 community and cultural activities performance (%)



# **Waste management importance**





#### 2023 waste management importance (index scores)

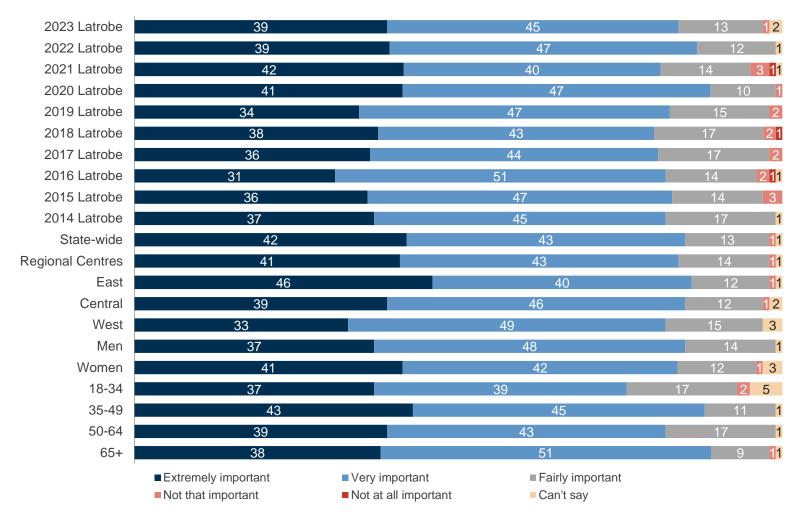


## **Waste management importance**





#### 2023 waste management importance (%)

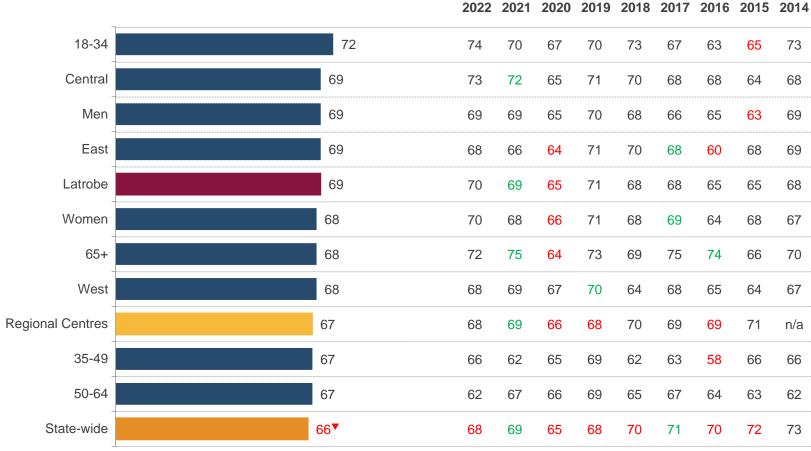


## **Waste management performance**





#### 2023 waste management performance (index scores)

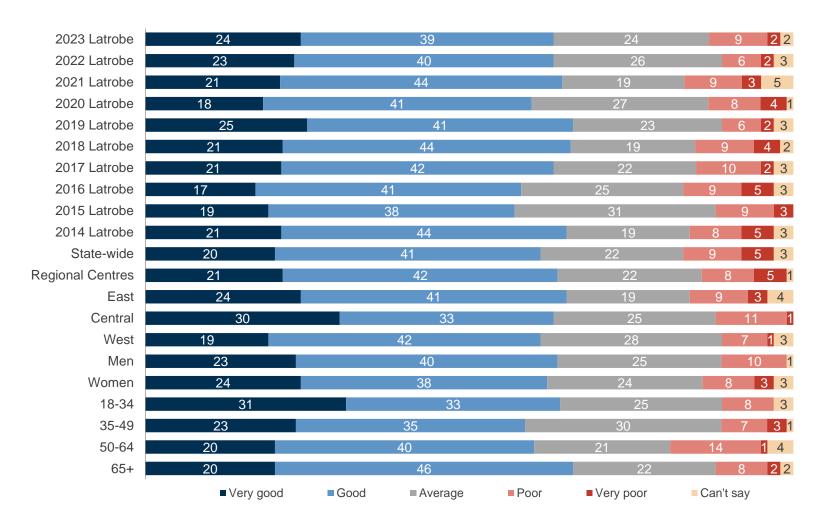


## **Waste management performance**





#### 2023 waste management performance (%)

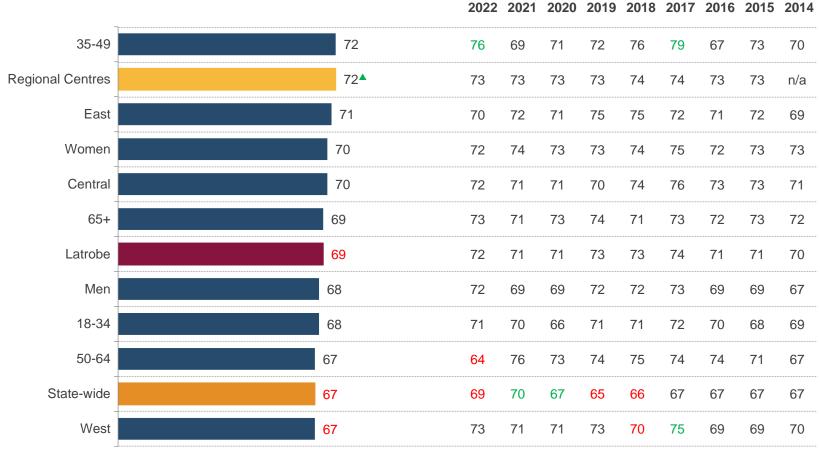


# **Business and community development and tourism importance**





#### 2023 business/development/tourism importance (index scores)

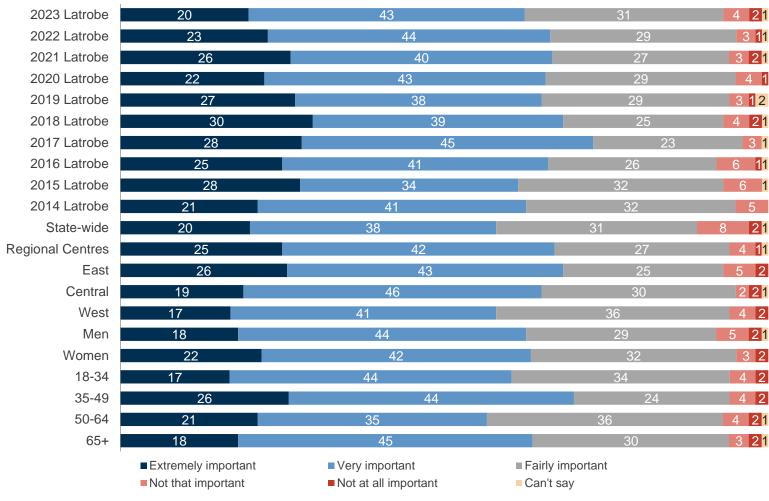


# **Business and community development and tourism importance**





#### 2023 business/development/tourism importance (%)



# **Business and community development and tourism performance**





#### 2023 business/development/tourism performance (index scores)

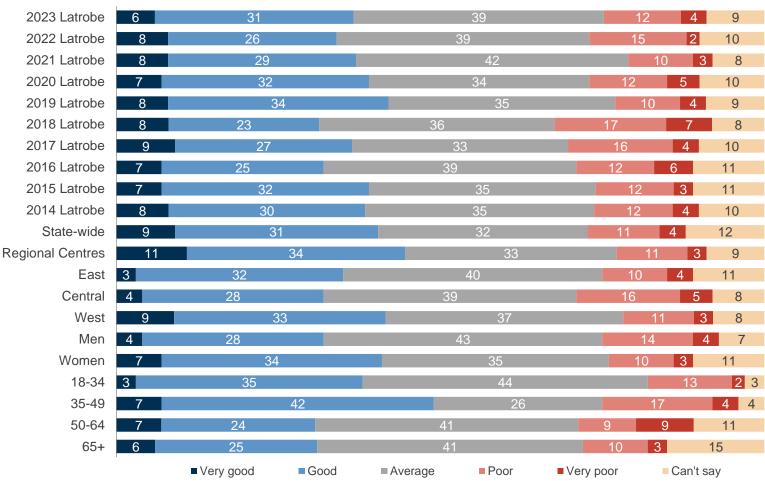


## **Business and community development and tourism performance**





#### 2023 business/development/tourism performance (%)



#### Council's general town planning policy importance





#### 2023 town planning importance (index scores)

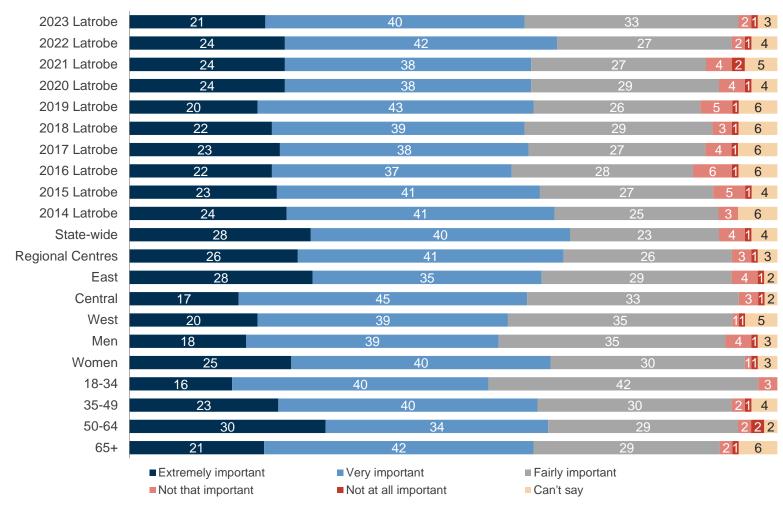


#### Council's general town planning policy importance





#### 2023 town planning importance (%)

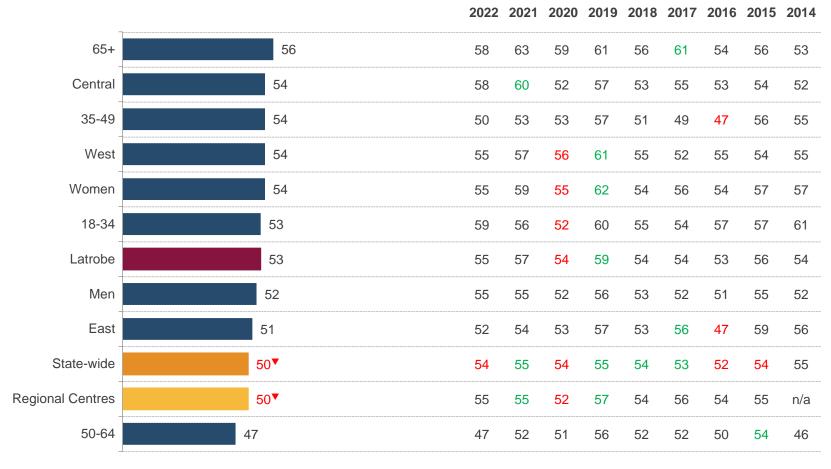


#### Council's general town planning policy performance





#### 2023 town planning performance (index scores)

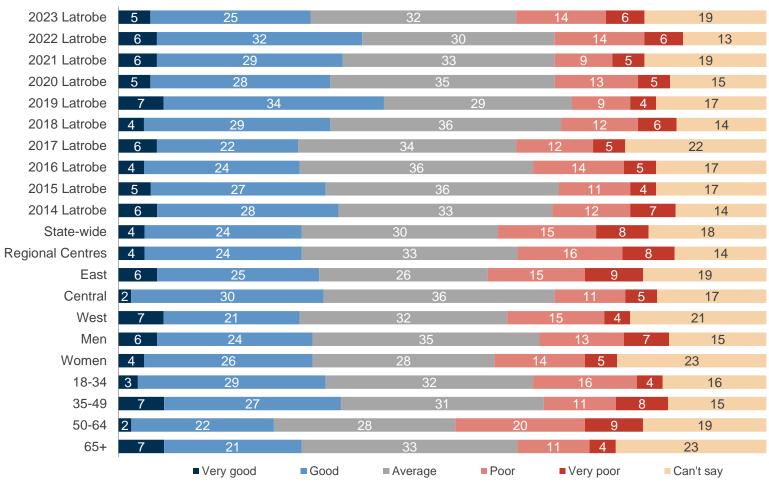


#### Council's general town planning policy performance





#### 2023 town planning performance (%)

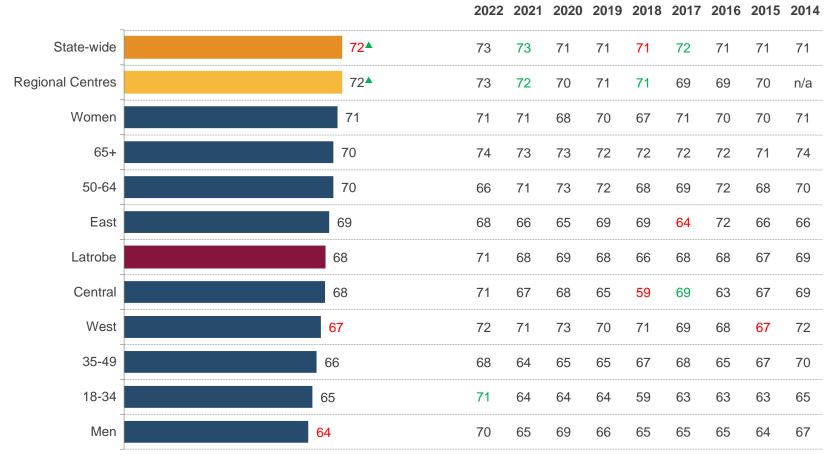


#### Planning and building permits importance





#### 2023 planning and building permits importance (index scores)

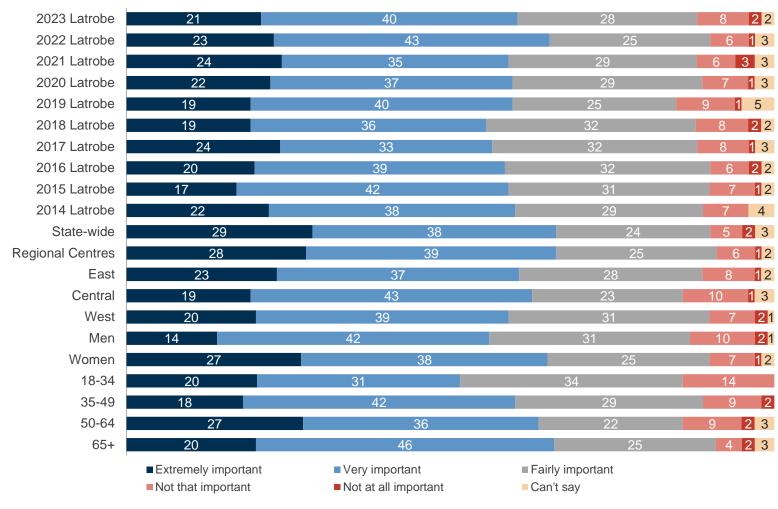


#### Planning and building permits importance





#### 2023 planning and building permits importance (%)

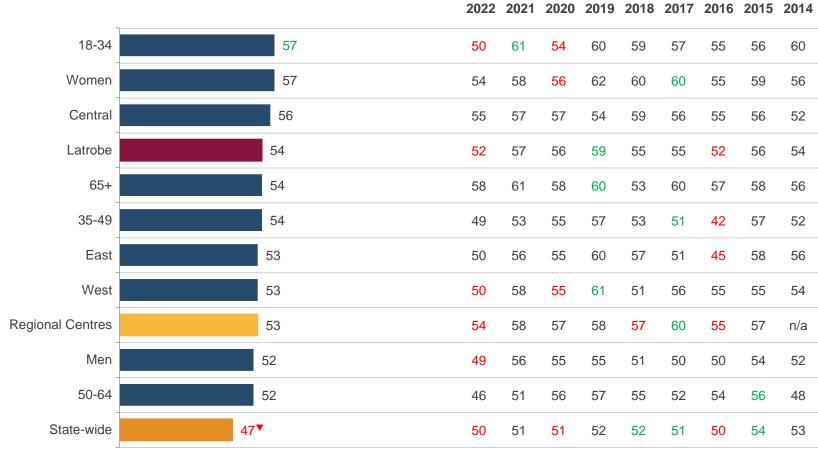


#### Planning and building permits performance





#### 2023 planning and building permits performance (index scores)

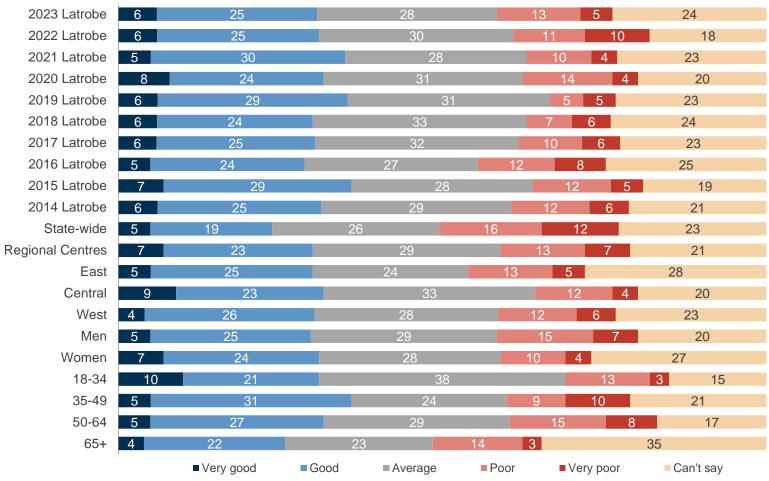


#### Planning and building permits performance





#### 2023 planning and building permits performance (%)

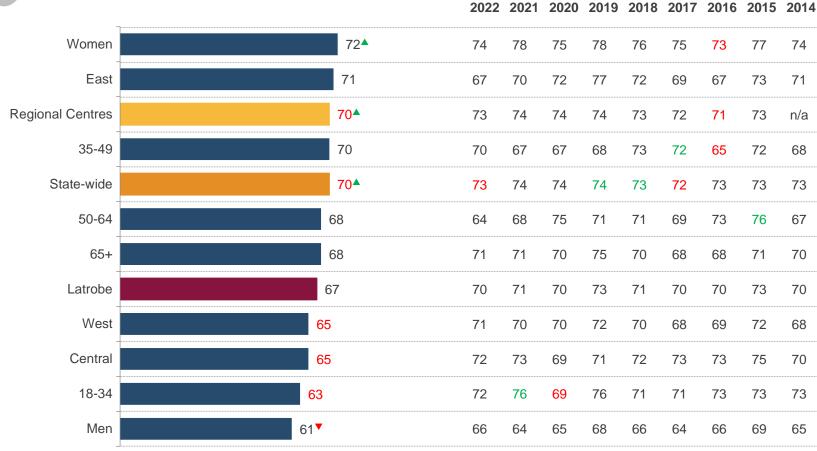


#### **Environmental sustainability importance**





#### 2023 environmental sustainability importance (index scores)

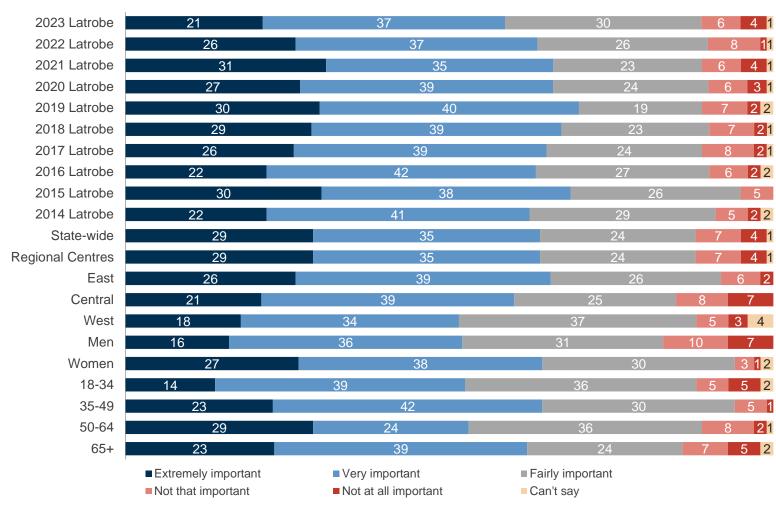


#### **Environmental sustainability importance**





#### 2023 environmental sustainability importance (%)



#### **Environmental sustainability performance**





#### 2023 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

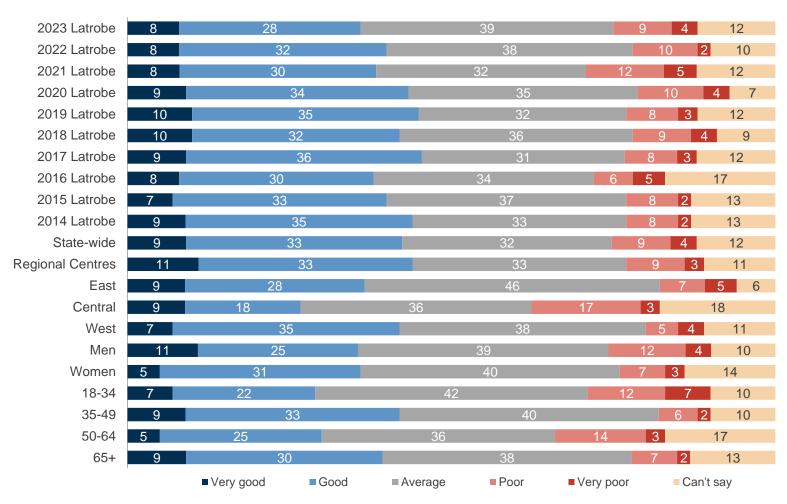


#### **Environmental sustainability performance**





#### 2023 environmental sustainability performance (%)

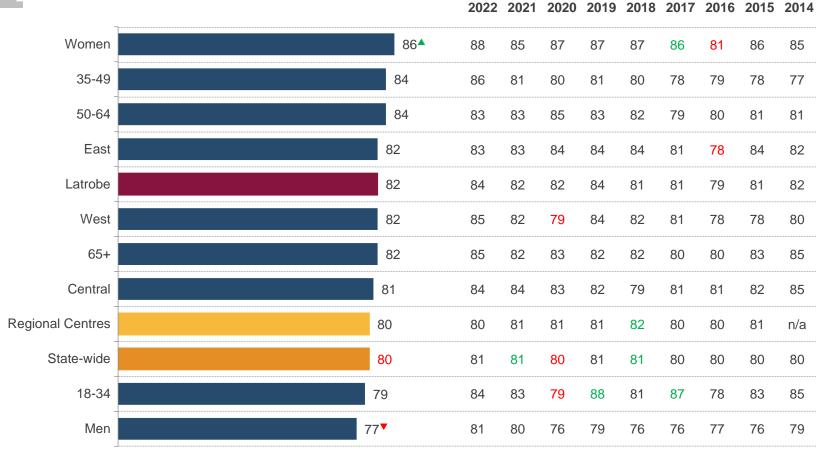


#### **Emergency and disaster management importance**





2023 emergency and disaster management importance (index scores)

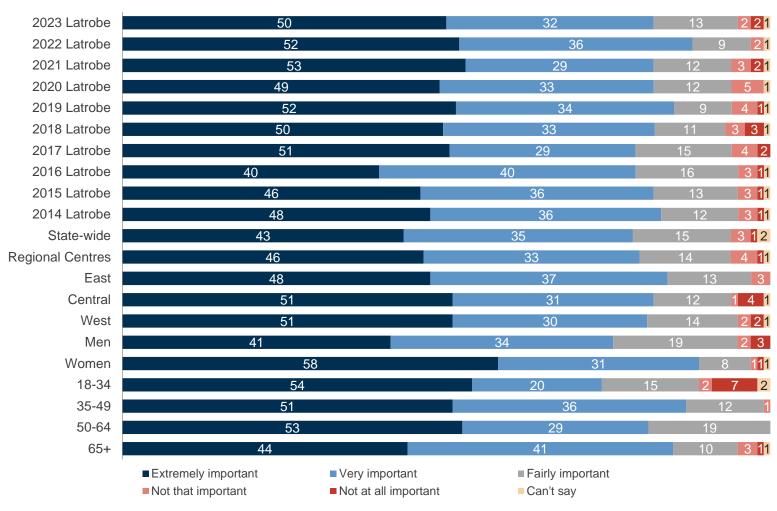


#### **Emergency and disaster management importance**





#### 2023 emergency and disaster management importance (%)



#### **Emergency and disaster management performance**





2023 emergency and disaster management performance (index scores)

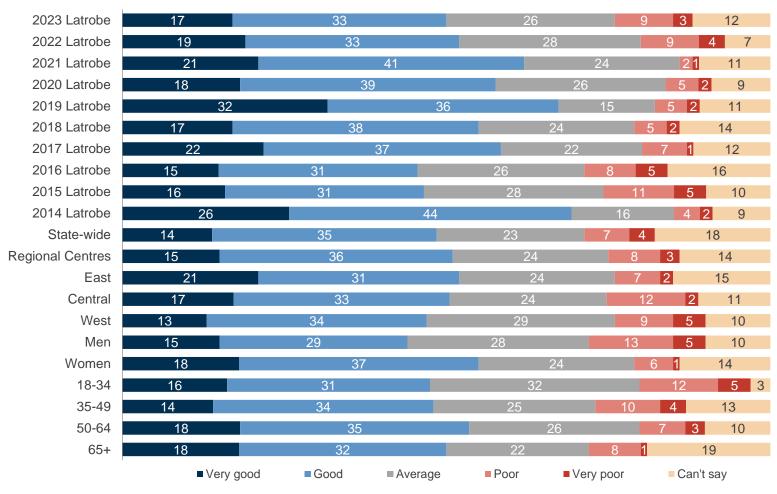


#### **Emergency and disaster management performance**





#### 2023 emergency and disaster management performance (%)



#### Planning for population growth in the area importance





#### 2023 population growth importance (index scores)

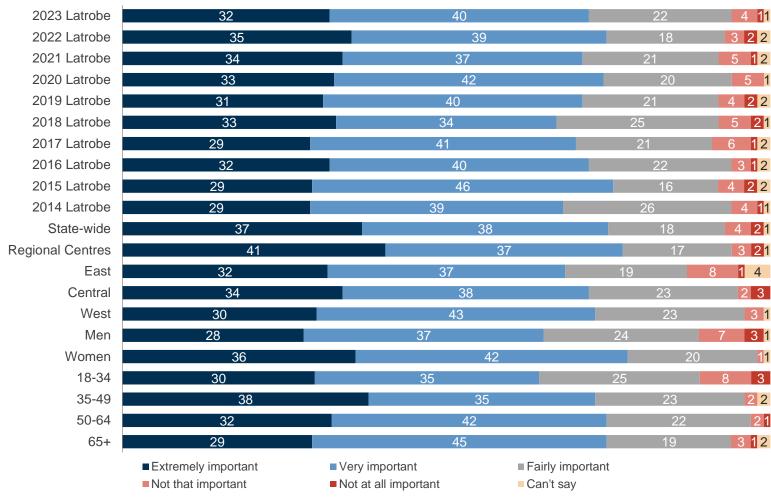


#### Planning for population growth in the area importance





#### 2023 population growth importance (%)

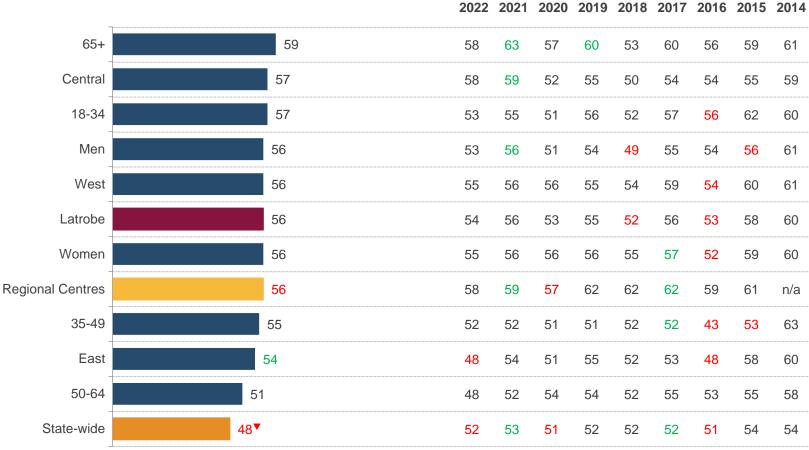


#### Planning for population growth in the area performance





#### 2023 population growth performance (index scores)

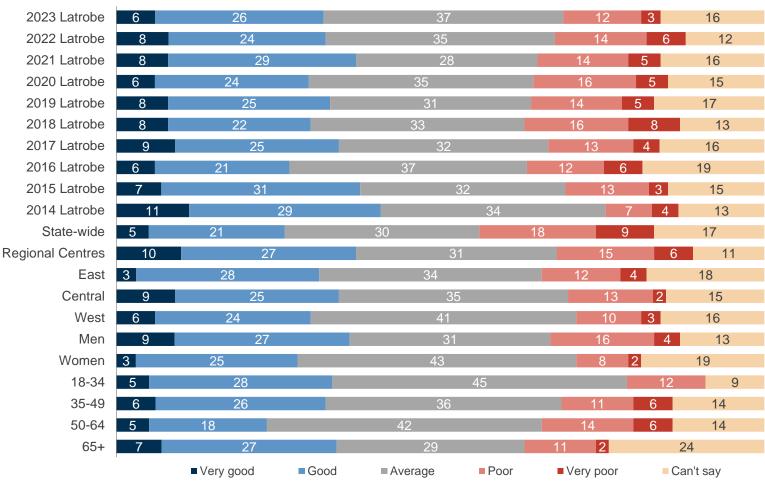


#### Planning for population growth in the area performance





#### 2023 population growth performance (%)

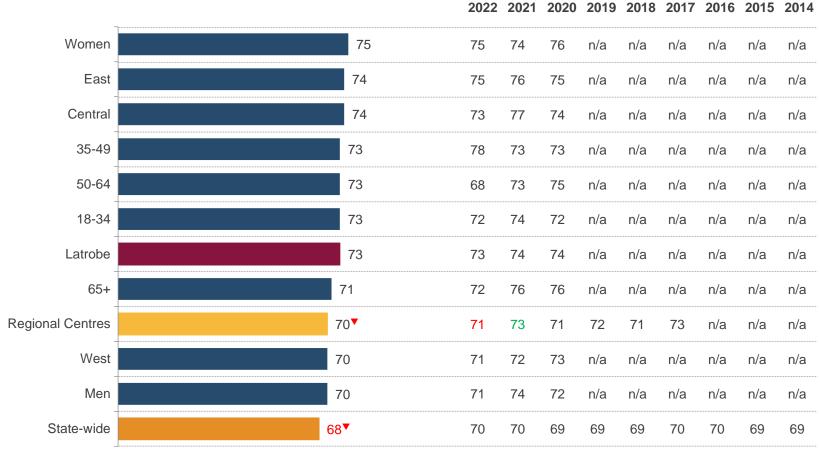


#### **Business and community development importance**





#### 2023 business/community development importance (index scores)

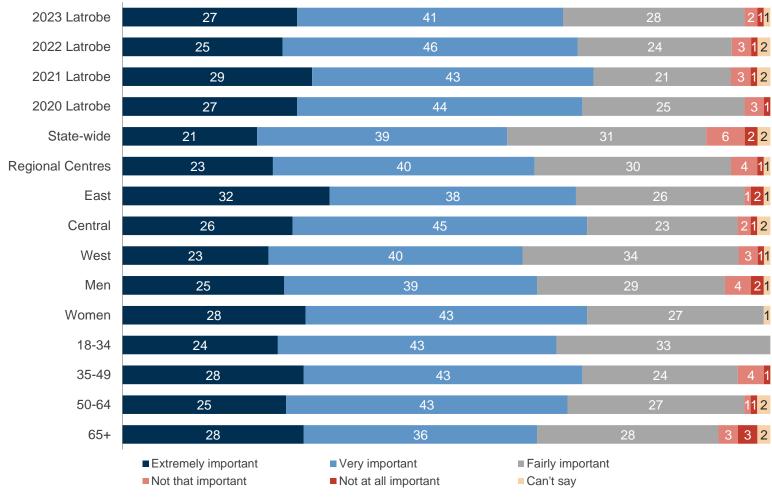


#### **Business and community development importance**





#### 2023 business/community development importance (%)

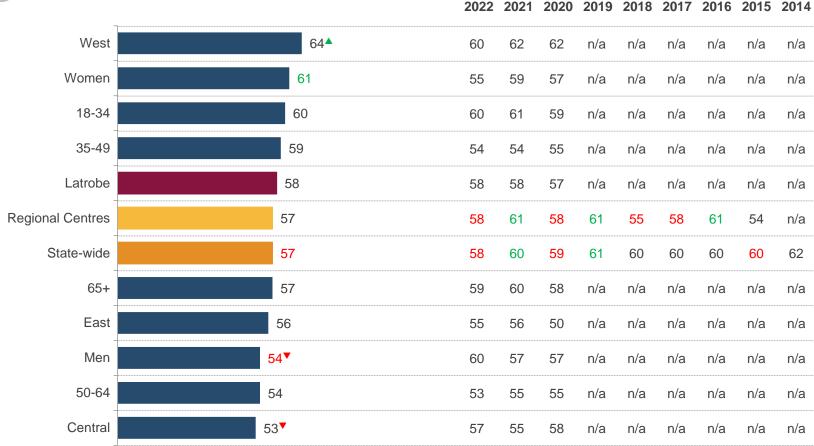


#### **Business and community development performance**





2023 business/community development performance (index scores)

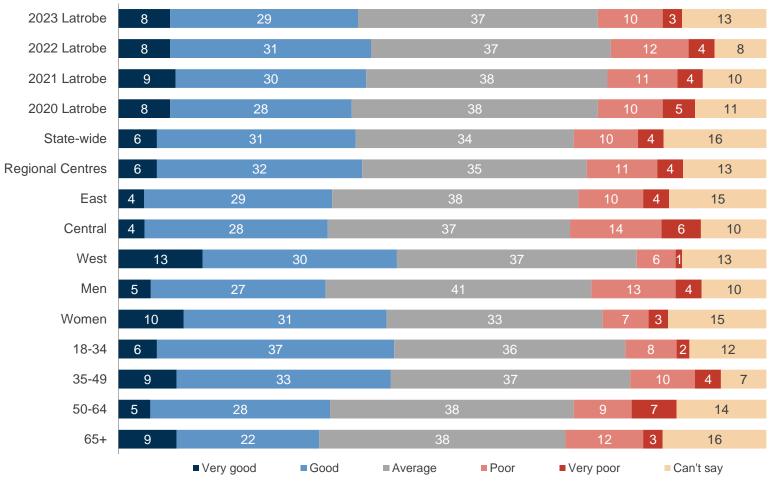


#### **Business and community development performance**





#### 2023 business/community development performance (%)



#### **Tourism development importance**





#### 2023 tourism development importance (index scores)

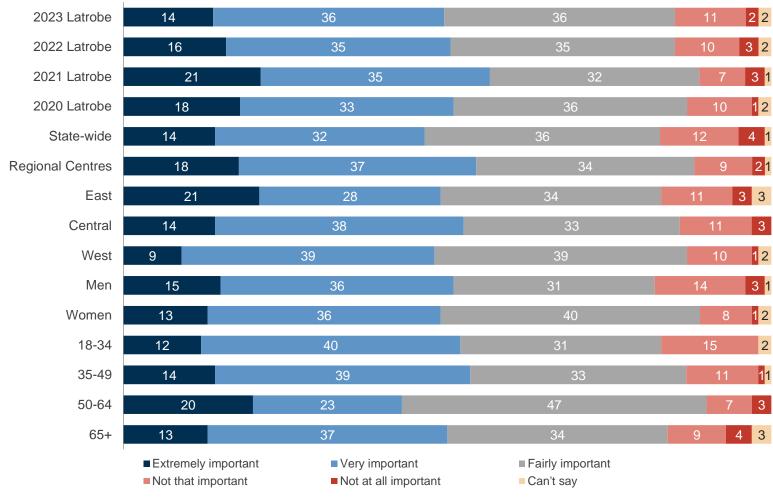


#### **Tourism development importance**





#### 2023 tourism development importance (%)

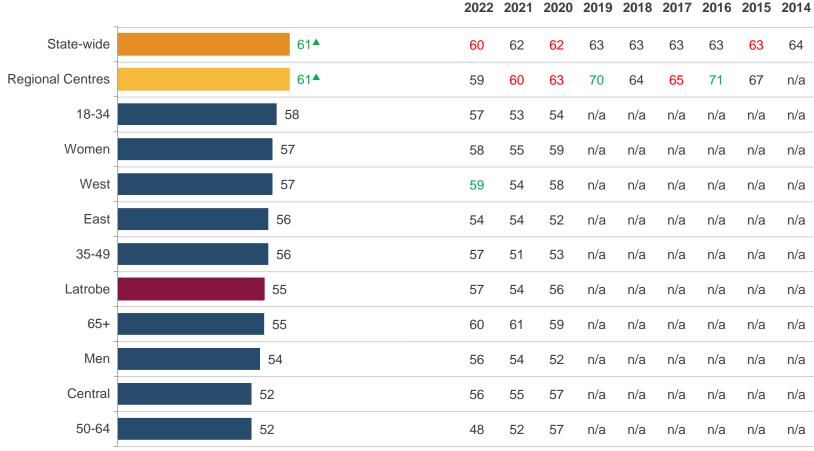


#### **Tourism development performance**





#### 2023 tourism development performance (index scores)

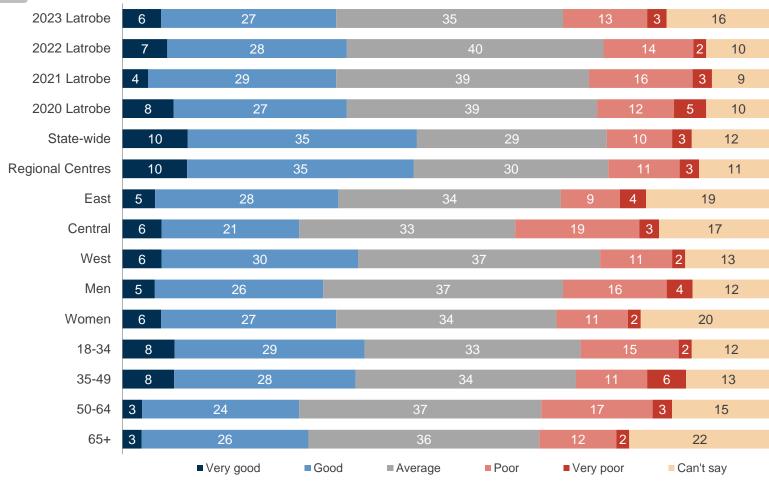


#### **Tourism development performance**





#### 2023 tourism development performance (%)

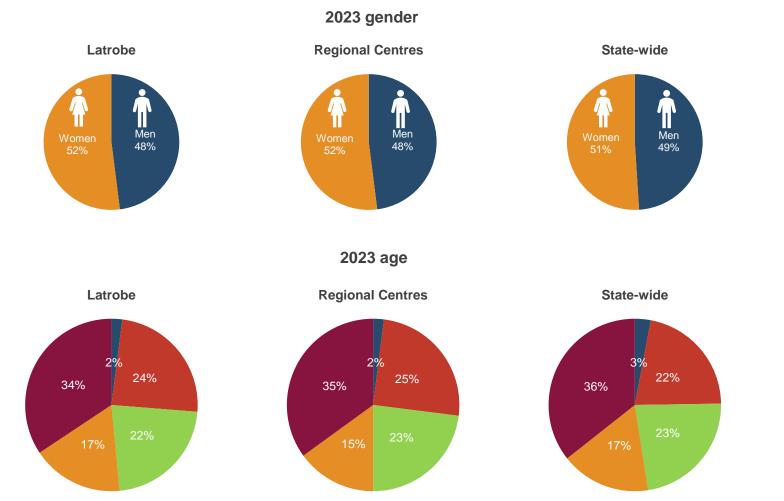




**Detailed demographics** 

#### **Gender and age profile**





**■**18-24 **■**25-34 **■**35-49 **■**50-64 **■**65+

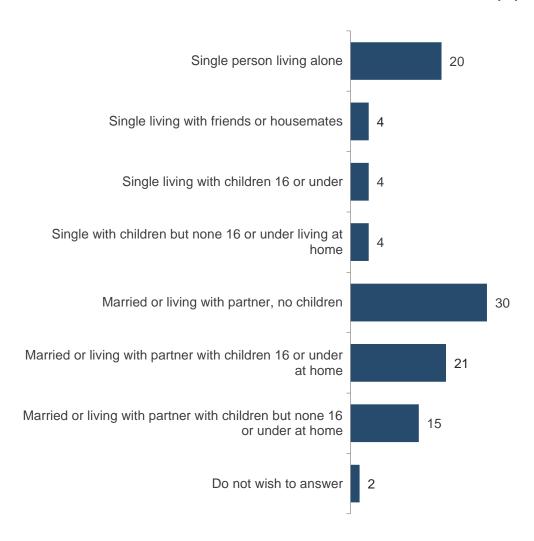
**■**18-24 **■**25-34 **■**35-49 **■**50-64 **■**65+

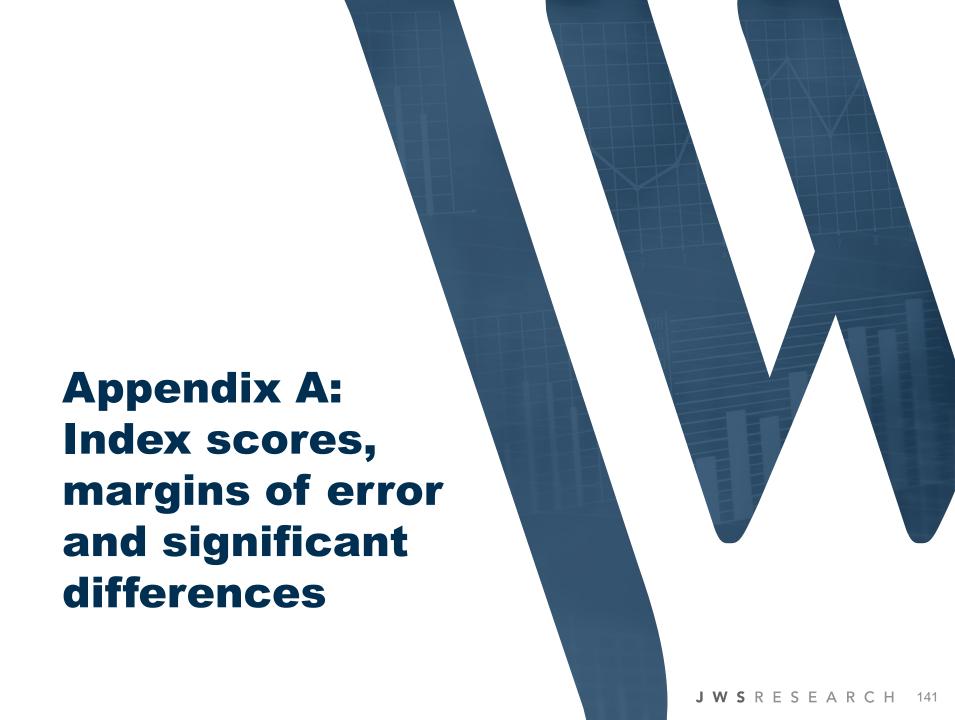
**■**18-24 **■**25-34 **■**35-49 **■**50-64 **■**65+

#### **Household structure**



#### 2023 household structure (%)





## Appendix A: Index Scores



#### **Index Scores**

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

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

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

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

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

## Appendix A: Margins of error

W

The sample size for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Latrobe City Council was n=400. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=400 interviews is +/-4.9% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 45.1% - 54.9%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 60,600 people aged 18 years or over for Latrobe City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Latrobe City Council	400	400	+/-4.9
Men	195	194	+/-7.0
Women	205	206	+/-6.8
East	120	118	+/-9.0
Central	122	124	+/-8.9
West	158	158	+/-7.8
18-34 years	51	106	+/-13.9
35-49 years	84	88	+/-10.7
50-64 years	88	69	+/-10.5
65+ years	177	137	+/-7.4

## Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation



Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green ( ) and downward directing red arrows ( ).

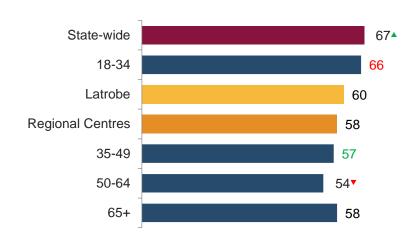
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2022. Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is significantly higher than the result achieved among this group in 2022.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2022.

### 2023 overall performance (index scores) (example extract only)



#### **Appendix A:** Index score significant difference calculation



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

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

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

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

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

JWSRESEARCH 146

Appendix B: Further project information

## Appendix B: Further information



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

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

#### **Detailed survey tabulations**

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

#### **Contacts**

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

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

## Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling

The 2023 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2022, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27<sup>th</sup> January – 24<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2021, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28<sup>th</sup> January – 18<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2020, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30<sup>th</sup> January – 22<sup>nd</sup> March.
- 2019, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.
- 2015, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2014, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.

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

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Latrobe 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 Latrobe City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=400 completed interviews were achieved in Latrobe City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 27<sup>th</sup> January – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

## Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2023, 66 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2023 vary slightly.

#### **Council Groups**

Latrobe City Council is classified as a Regional Centres council according to the following classification list:

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

Councils participating in the Regional Centres group are:

 Ballarat, Greater Bendigo, Greater Geelong, Horsham, Latrobe, Mildura, Wangaratta, Warrnambool and Wodonga. Wherever appropriate, results for Latrobe City Council for this 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Regional Centres group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.

## Appendix B: 2012 survey revision

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The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

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

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2023 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

#### **Appendix B:** Core, optional and tailored questions



#### Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

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

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

## Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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#### Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

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

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

#### **Appendix B: Glossary of terms**

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

CSS: 2023 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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