



# 2010 Early Childhood Community Profile

## Summary sheet for the City of Warrnambool

### Local demographics for young children aged 0 to 8 years and their families.<sup>1</sup>

- There were 426 births notified to the local Maternal and Child Health services in Warrnambool during 2008-09. This represents a decrease of 5.9 per cent since 2006-07 and an increase of 5.4 per cent since 2000-01. This compares to an increase in birth notifications across Victoria of 2.3 per cent since 2006-07 and 18.6 per cent since 2000-01.
- At 30 June 2008, there was an estimated 32,712 people residing in Warrnambool. Of these, 3,809 were aged between 0 to 8 years, representing 11.6 per cent of Warrnambool's total population.
- The population aged 0 to 8 years in Warrnambool is projected to increase by 20.3 per cent by 2026, while the total population in Warrnambool is expected to increase by 24.5 per cent over this period.
- Using the Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage, Warrnambool was ranked 41 out of 79 LGAs in Victoria. A rank of 1 was assigned to the most disadvantaged LGA in Victoria.
- Of the 2,110 families with children aged between 0 and 8 years in Warrnambool, 80.0 per cent were couple families and 20.0 per cent were one parent families.
- There were 392 Aboriginal persons in Warrnambool, representing 1.3 per cent of the total population. 21.4 per cent of the Aboriginal population in Warrnambool were aged 0 to 8 years.

### Health, learning, wellbeing, development and safety indicators for children in the local area.<sup>2</sup>

- 54.0 per cent of infants in Warrnambool were fully breastfed at 3 months and 44.5 per cent of infants were fully breastfed at 6 months.
- 94.3 per cent of children in Warrnambool were fully immunised at 12-<15 months, 96.4 per cent were fully immunised at 24-<27 months and 91.7 per cent were fully immunised at 60-<63 months.
- 434 Prep children were surveyed in the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) in Warrnambool during 2009. Of these, 20.0 per cent were vulnerable on one or more domains and 11.1 per cent were vulnerable on two or more domains.
- In 2008, 83.3% students enrolled in government schools in Warrnambool were achieving a reading accuracy score of 90% or more on Level 5 texts, 84.8% of Year 1 students were reading Level 15 texts with over 90% accuracy and 92.8% of Year 2 students were achieving 90% accuracy or higher on Level 20 texts.

### Families in Warrnambool.

- Based on the 2009 VCHWS survey results, 44.6% of children aged 6 months to 12 years were reported to have been read to almost every day in the Barwon South West region. This was less than, but not significantly different to the proportion of children being read to almost every day across Victoria (48.3%).
- Based on the 2009 VCHWS, 2.9% of main carer's of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Barwon South West region were classified as being of high risk of psychological distress. This proportion was lower, but not significantly different to that reported across Victoria (3.7%).
- In 2008 - 2009, 63 substantiated cases of child abuse were recorded in Warrnambool, representing a rate of 16.5 per 1,000 children aged 0 to 8 years in the area. This compares to a rate of 7.0 per 1000 children across Victoria.
- Over 2007 - 2008, 89.2% of families with children aged 0 to 8 in Warrnambool remained in public housing 12 months or more after initial allocation. This was greater than the percentage in Victoria (87.3%).



### Indicators relating to the local community.<sup>3</sup>

- 93.9% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Barwon South West region were from households who reported being able to get support from friends, family and neighbours in times of crisis/need. This proportion was similar to the proportion reported across Victoria (95.2%).
- 97.4% of parents of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Barwon South West region reported that having someone they could turn to for advice when having problems. This proportion was similar to the proportion reported across Victoria (97.1%).
- 94.7% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Barwon South West region were from households where the parent or guardian agreed that their neighbourhood was safe. This proportion was similar to the proportion reported across Victoria (95.1%).

### Supports and services in Warrnambool.

- Due to small numbers of hospital separations for gastroenteritis among children aged 0 to 8 in Warrnambool, the rate of hospital separations for gastroenteritis during 2008 - 2009 could not be derived. During 2008 - 2009, there were 9.9 hospital separations for gastroenteritis per 1,000 children aged 0 to 1 in the broader Barwon
- In 2008 - 2009, 100.0 per cent of infants in Warrnambool received a home consultation visit and 64.1 per cent of children in Warrnambool attended the 3.5 year key ages and stages visit.
- The kindergarten participation rate in Warrnambool during 2009 was 109.9%. This was greater than the kindergarten participation rate in Victoria (92.7%).
- Prep students attending government schools in Warrnambool were absent for an average 15.2 days over the 2009 school year. Year 1 students were absent for an average 14.6 days and Year 2 students were absent for an average 14.6 days over the 2009 school year.

### Early childhood services for families in Warrnambool.

- As at August 2010, there were 11 primary school education providers in Warrnambool - 6 government, 4 Catholic and 1 independent.
- In 2009, there were 9 funded kindergarten programs in Warrnambool. Of these, 1 were kindergarten programs located within a long day care setting.
- As at 22 July 2010, Warrnambool had 1 multi-service Children's Centres completed or under development, funded by state and local government. These were:

*Name of Children's Centre*

Warrnambool Children's Centre

*Status*

Licensed and Operating

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Data sourced from the 2010 Early Childhood Community Profiles - DEECD

1 2006 Census data unless otherwise specified

2 Reporting period is 2008-09 financial year unless otherwise specified

3 Sourced from 2009 VCHWS survey