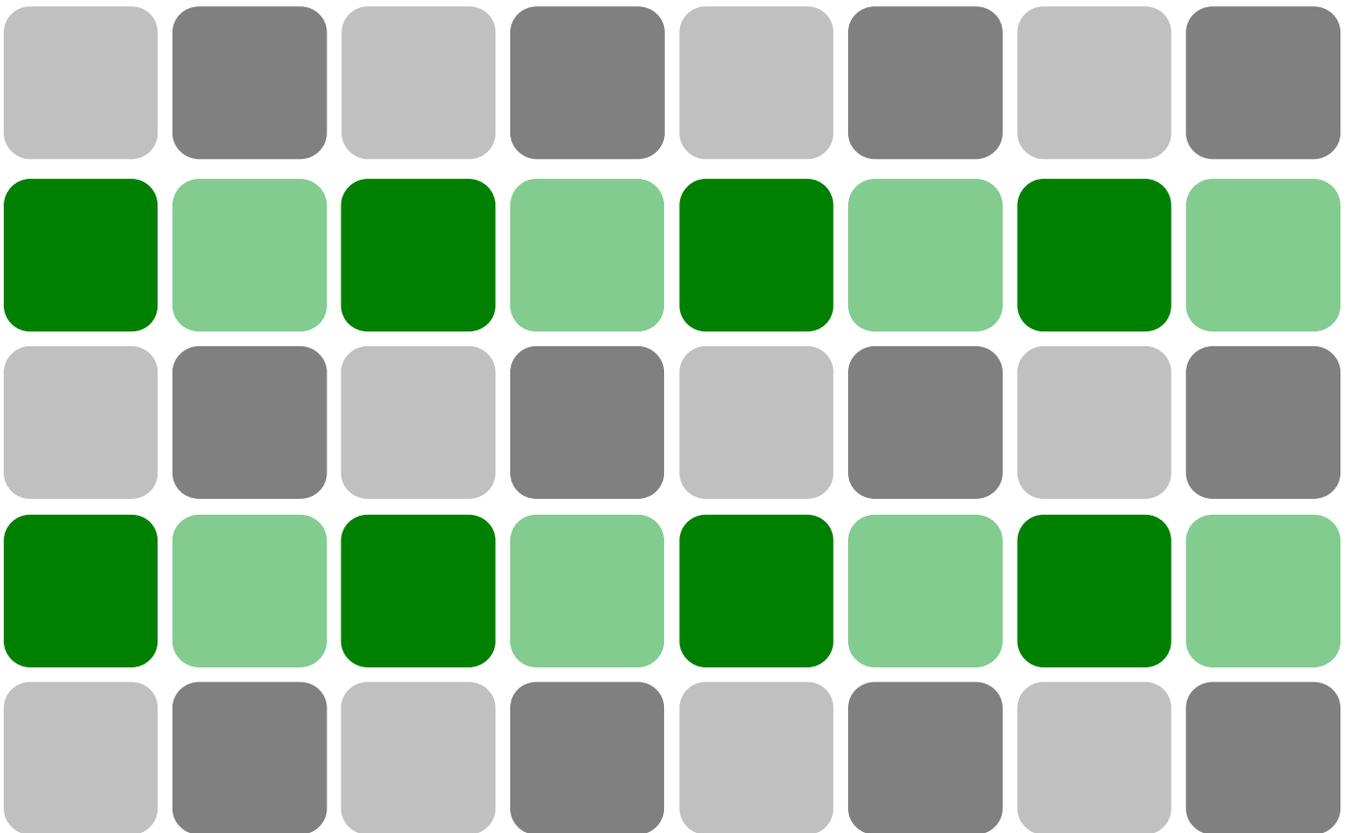


## Top twenty data sources for describing community wellbeing in Victoria



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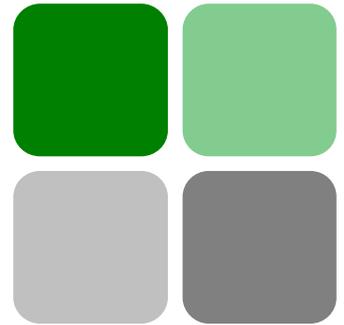
January 2012

This report updates the earlier *Top Fifteen data sources for describing community wellbeing*.

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## Introduction

We have selected the top twenty data sources to help you describe community wellbeing in Victoria. They cover a broad range of topics from population, workforce, social and multicultural features, services and facilities, children and families, health, disadvantage, participation, amenity, economy, industry and transport.

For each resource you will find:

- a list of topics or subject areas the resource contains;
- a key telling you the geographic area the data describes (see below); and
- a link to the data source.

The geographic key is described below. Maps of these geographic boundaries, and others, can be found at the Victorian Government's website Maps Online (Department of Sustainability and Environment). <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/land/lnlc2.nsf/alltitle/Maps+and+Images>

*Key to geographic levels described by the following data sources*

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National: Australia



State: Victoria



Government region: Hume, Gippsland, Barwon South West, Grampians, Loddon Mallee, North West Metro, Eastern Metro, Southern Metro



LGA: Local Government Areas



Neighbourhood: Smaller than LGA level, ie postcode, suburb/town, collector district (approx 200 houses in Census data)

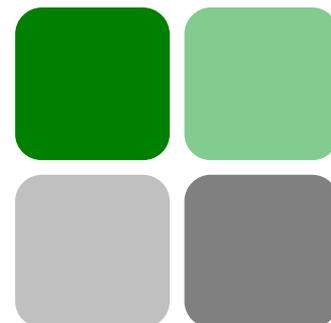


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The following data sets are not described in any particular order.

# 1

## Census (Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS))



Every five years the ABS conducts a Census of Population and Housing. Data may be obtained for small areas, in tables and tailored profiles.

Topics include:

- population demographics
- education
- employment and income
- dwellings, home ownership and housing costs
- family characteristics
- migration
- internet connections and motor vehicles

From 2006, the Census additionally included questions on caring, housework, volunteering and disability.



National



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au) under 'Census Data'

# 2

## Victoria in Future (population projections) (Department of Planning and Community Development)

Victoria in Future 2008 provides the State's official population and household projections.

The projections cover the period 2006 to 2056 for the state of Victoria, metropolitan Melbourne and the whole of regional Victoria. All other available areas (Statistical Local Areas, Local Government Areas, Statistical Subdivisions and Statistical Divisions) the projections span 2006 to 2026.



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research>

### 3

## Towns in Time and Suburbs in Time (Department of Planning and Community Development)

Time trends in ABS census data are described from 1981 through to 2006. Topics include population, age structure, dwellings, settlement patterns and labour force characteristics.



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/Regional-Victoria/towns-in-time>

## Victoria's Regional Centres: a generation of change

These reports provide a commentary on the Towns in Time data for Victoria's three largest regional centres of Geelong, Bendigo and Ballarat over the period 1981 to 2006.



Regional cities

Find at: <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/Demographics-and-Population/victorias-regional-centres-a-generation-of-change>

### 4

## Victorian Statistical Profiles (Department of Health)

Every year the DH compiles data from a wide range of sources for LGAs and towns/suburbs. Topics are organised under the following subject headings:

- geography
- population
- social and multicultural features
- aged and disability characteristics
- services and facilities
- child and family characteristics
- health



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: [www.health.vic.gov.au/modelling/planning.htm](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/modelling/planning.htm)

**5****Public Health Information Development Unit website (PHIDU)**

PHIDU collates data from a wide range of sources on their Social Health Atlas website. The site allows you to map or download the data. Topics include:

- population; projections
- fertility rate; mothers and babies; child care
- birthplace
- education
- labour force; learning or earning age 15 – 19
- income support recipients
- families
- housing and transport; residential and community care
- internet usage
- disadvantage
- community strength
- health



National



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: <http://www.publichealth.gov.au/>

**6****Workforce: small area labour market  
(Commonwealth Department of Education,  
Employment and Workplace Relations)**

Prepared by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, the workforce website presents estimates of the number of unemployed persons and unemployment rates for 1400 small areas across Australia.



National



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: <http://www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/LMI/Pages/SALM.aspx>

# 7

## Disadvantage maps: all Victorian LGAs (Department of Planning and Community Development)

DPCD has created LGA maps that highlight small areas of disadvantage based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) 2006. This index combines census variables relating to income, education, occupation, wealth and living conditions and ranks localities on a continuum of advantage to disadvantage.



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/demographic-research/socio-economic-indices-for-areas-seifa-maps>

## Change and disadvantage in regional Victoria (Department of Planning and Community Development)

Five reports provide maps of disadvantage for regional Victorian suburbs and towns (by LGA). The maps are based on the ABS IRSD (see above). Accompanying each map is a table that describes the population make up of the most disadvantaged suburbs/towns.



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/regional-analysis>

# 8

## Indicators of Community Strength (Department of Planning and Community Development)

The Indicators of Community Strength have been collected at the LGA level in 2008 and will be repeated in 2011. Topics include:

- ability to get help when needed
- community participation
- community attitudes
- perceptions of local area amenity



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: <http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/indicators-of-community-strength>

## 9

### The Department of Health Victorian Population Health Survey (Department of Health)

The Victorian Population Health Survey has been run by DH at the LGA level in 2008 and will be repeated in 2011. Topics include:

- health care use
- self reported health
- weight and height
- nutrition
- alcohol
- smoking
- physical activity
- psychological distress
- select health conditions
- social capital/networks (the Indicators of Community Strength are part of this survey).



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/healthstatus/survey/vphs.htm>

## 10

### Community Indicators Victoria (Melbourne University)

Community Indicators Victoria compiles data from a range of sources including a survey it ran in 2007.

Topics are included under five themes:

- healthy, safe and inclusive communities
- dynamic, resilient local economies
- sustainable built and natural environments
- culturally rich and vibrant communities
- democratic and engaged communities.



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: [http://www.communityindicators.net.au/wellbeing\\_reports](http://www.communityindicators.net.au/wellbeing_reports)

# 11

## National Regional Profiles 2005-2009 (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

The National Regional Profile provides data collated from a range of sources for geographies below the state level (LGA/ SLA/Statistical Subdivision and Statistical Division SD). Data for individual regions can be viewed as web pages, or downloaded as Excel spreadsheets.

Topics include:

- Economy: unemployment; pensions and allowances; taxation; income; wage and salary earners; household wealth; counts of businesses; entries and exits
- Population/people: Estimated Resident Population; Indigenous Estimated Resident Population; population density; census 2006; births; deaths
- Industry: building approvals; motor vehicles; tourist accommodation establishments; agricultural commodities; value of agricultural production
- Environment/energy: land area; water use on farms; crimes.



National



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/ausstats/nrpmmaps.nsf/>

# 12

## Country matters: a social atlas of regional and rural Australia (Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry)

Country Matters is an interactive social atlas that uses the latest ABS Population and Housing Census data to focus on the people and communities of non-metropolitan Australia. Data is available on population, labour force, education and training and families and households. This site allows for an easy comparison of data from the 2001 and 2006 Census.



National



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://adl.brs.gov.au/socialatlas/>

## 13

### The Melbourne Atlas and Regional Matters – An Atlas of Regional Victoria (DPCD)

A wide range of social, environmental and economic indicators are compiled from across Victorian Government in two atlases – one for metropolitan Melbourne and the other for regional Victorian. The indicators are described over time, at various geographic levels and by topics including population, land, water, housing, work, community, environment, skills, industry services, etc. While the data in these resources is from 2006, it is still an excellent resource for establishing what data is available across government and who to contact to access it.



State



Regional



LGA

Find the Regional Atlas at:

<http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/Regional-Victoria/regional-matters-an-atlas-of-regional-victoria-2005>

Find the Melbourne Atlas at:

<http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/home/publications-and-research/urban-and-regional-research/metropolitan/melbourne-atlas-2006>

## 14

### Victorian Transport Statistics Portal (Department of Transport (DOT))

DOT's public portal combines data from a range of sources about transport trends at LGA/SLA and suburb level.

Topics include:

- residents
- motor vehicles
- method of travel to work
- industry and occupation of employment
- key characteristics of the working population
- property sales data
- crash stats
- survey of travel attitudes and behaviours
- Victorian Integrated Survey of Travel and Activity (VISTA)



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www1.transport.vic.gov.au/VTSP/homepage.html>

**15**

### **Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System - VCAMS (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development)**

DEECD has an extensive internal information system that collates data from a range of sources to create 150 indicators on the safety, health, development, learning and wellbeing of children and young people in Victoria. The data is available as single indicators on the website, in LGA reports and two Victorian reports: The State of Victoria's Children and The State of Victoria's Young People.



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: [www.office-for-children.vic.gov.au/statewide-outcomes/](http://www.office-for-children.vic.gov.au/statewide-outcomes/)

**16**

### **Victorian Government Data Directory**

The vic.gov.au online access portal for raw Victoria government data. The site allows you to search or browse datasets in different formats. Topics include business, community, communication, education, employment, environment, health, planning, recreation, science and technology, society and transport.



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: [www.data.vic.gov.au](http://www.data.vic.gov.au)

**17**

### **Crime Statistics (Victoria Police)**

Victoria Police provide a wide range of administrative data on reported crimes by region, LGA and postcode.



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: [http://www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?Document\\_ID=781](http://www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?Document_ID=781)

## 18

### Centrelink data (Centrelink)

Statistics are available on the number of recipients of Centrelink benefits and the types of benefits for each postcode in Australia. Types of benefits include: Age Pension, Disability Support, Newstart, Rent Assistance. (Some Centrelink data is provided in item 5, PHIDU).



National



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/corporate/publications-and-resources/facts-and-figures/>

## 19

### Housing Rental Report (Department of Human Services)

The DHS Rental Report provides key statistics on Victoria's private rental market with reports updated quarterly. Time series data on affordable lettings by LGA and median rents by region are also available along with reports dating back to 2007.



State



Regional



LGA

Find at: <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/documents-and-resources/research,-data-and-statistics/current-rental-report>

## 20

### Parliamentary Library Resource Guide: Statistical Resources (Parliament of Australia)

The Parliament Library Resource Guide provides a comprehensive list of links to a broad range of topics including agriculture, economics, elections, families, minerals, population and transport.



National



State



Regional



LGA



Neighbourhood

Find at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/library/intguide/stats/>

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