

2010 Early Childhood Community Profile

Summary sheet for the City of Hume



Local demographics for young children aged 0 to 8 years and their families.¹

- There were 2,554 births notified to the local Maternal and Child Health services in Hume during 2008-09. This represents a decrease of 1.4 per cent since 2006-07 and an increase of 16.2 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 162,260 people residing in Hume. Of these, 22,430 were aged between 0 to 8 years, representing 13.8 per cent of Hume's total population.
- The population aged 0 to 8 years in Hume is projected to increase by 52.3 per cent by 2026, while the total population in Hume is expected to increase by 63.3 per cent over this period.
- Using the Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage, Hume was ranked 16 out of 79 LGAs in Victoria. A rank of 1 was assigned to the most disadvantaged LGA in Victoria.
- Of the 12,517 families with children aged between 0 and 8 years in Hume, 82.3 per cent were couple families and 17.7 per cent were one parent families.
- There were 895 Aboriginal persons in Hume, representing 0.6 per cent of the total population. 23.7 per cent of the Aboriginal population in Hume were aged 0 to 8 years.

Health, learning, wellbeing, development and safety indicators for children in the local area.²

- 39.8 per cent of infants in Hume were fully breastfed at 3 months and 28.2 per cent of infants were fully breastfed at 6 months.
- 92.8 per cent of children in Hume were fully immunised at 12-<15 months, 94.4 per cent were fully immunised at 24-<27 months and 87.1 per cent were fully immunised at 60-<63 months.
- 2,123 Prep children were surveyed in the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) in Hume during 2009. Of these, 29.5 per cent were vulnerable on one or more domains and 16.5 per cent were vulnerable on two or more domains.
- In 2008, 73.1% students enrolled in government schools in Hume were achieving a reading accuracy score of 90% or more on Level 5 texts, 77.5% of Year 1 students were reading Level 15 texts with over 90% accuracy and 91.7% of Year 2 students were achieving 90% accuracy or higher on Level 20 texts.

Families in Hume.

- Based on the 2009 VCHWS survey results, 43.8% of children aged 6 months to 12 years were reported to have been read to almost every day in the Northern Metropolitan 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, 5.5% of main carer's of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Northern Metropolitan region were classified as being of high risk of psychological distress. This proportion was higher, but not significantly different to that reported across Victoria (3.7%).
- In 2008 - 2009, 147 substantiated cases of child abuse were recorded in Hume, representing a rate of 6.6 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, 86.2% of families with children aged 0 to 8 in Hume remained in public housing 12 months or more after initial allocation. This was less than the percentage in Victoria (87.3%).



Indicators relating to the local community.³

- 95.2% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Northern Metropolitan 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%).
- 97.8% of parents of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Northern Metropolitan region reported that having someone they could turn to for advice when having problems. This proportion was higher than, but not significantly different to the proportion reported across Victoria (97.1%).
- 91.5% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Northern Metropolitan region were from households where the parent or guardian agreed that their neighbourhood was safe. This proportion was significantly lower than the proportion reported across Victoria (95.1%).

Supports and services in Hume.

- During 2008 - 2009, there were 10.9 hospital separations for gastroenteritis per 1,000 children aged 0 to 1 in Hume. This is greater than the rate of hospital separations in Victoria (9.5 per 1,000 children aged under 1) .
- In 2008 - 2009, 101.2 per cent of infants in Hume received a home consultation visit and 49.5 per cent of children in Hume attended the 3.5 year key ages and stages visit.
- The kindergarten participation rate in Hume during 2009 was 86.8%. This was less than the kindergarten participation rate in Victoria (92.7%).
- Prep students attending government schools in Hume were absent for an average 17.7 days over the 2009 school year. Year 1 students were absent for an average 17.9 days and Year 2 students were absent for an average 17.1 days over the 2009 school year.

Early childhood services for families in Hume.

- As at August 2010, there were 44 primary school education providers in Hume - 29 government, 9 Catholic and 6 independent.
- In 2009, there were 42 funded kindergarten programs in Hume. Of these, 15 were kindergarten programs located within a long day care setting.
- As at 22 July 2010, Hume had 3 multi-service Children's Centres completed or under development, funded by state and local government. These were:

<i>Name of Children's Centre</i>	<i>Status</i>
Malcolm Creek Children Centre	Licensed and Operating
Craigieburn Child & Family Centre	Under construction
Dimboola Rd Early Learning Centre	Under construction

- There is a Best Start partnership operating in the LGA of Hume.

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