Local demographics for young children aged 0 to 8 years and their families.\textsuperscript{1}

- There were 1,301 births notified to the local Maternal and Child Health services in Maribyrnong during 2008-09. This represents an increase of 6.6 per cent since 2006-07 and an increase of 30.4 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 69,825 people residing in Maribyrnong. Of these, 7,753 were aged between 0 to 8 years, representing 11.1 per cent of Maribyrnong’s total population.

- The population aged 0 to 8 years in Maribyrnong is projected to increase by 19.7 per cent by 2026, while the total population in Maribyrnong is expected to increase by 25.4 per cent over this period.

- Using the Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage, Maribyrnong was ranked 7 out of 79 LGAs in Victoria. A rank of 1 was assigned to the most disadvantaged LGA in Victoria.

- Of the 4,257 families with children aged between 0 and 8 years in Maribyrnong, 79.3 per cent were couple families and 20.7 per cent were one parent families.

- There were 259 Aboriginal persons in Maribyrnong, representing 0.4 per cent of the total population. 18.1 per cent of the Aboriginal population in Maribyrnong were aged 0 to 8 years.

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

- 59.4 per cent of infants in Maribyrnong were fully breastfed at 3 months and 47.6 per cent of infants were fully breastfed at 6 months.

- 93.4 per cent of children in Maribyrnong were fully immunised at 12-<15 months, 91.4 per cent were fully immunised at 24-<27 months and 81.8 per cent were fully immunised at 60-<63 months.

- 722 Prep children were surveyed in the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) in Maribyrnong during 2009. Of these, 25.1 per cent were vulnerable on one or more domains and 12.6 per cent were vulnerable on two or more domains.

- In 2008, 76.8% students enrolled in government schools in Maribyrnong were achieving a reading accuracy score of 90% or more on Level 5 texts, 77.3% of Year 1 students were reading Level 15 texts with over 90% accuracy and 90.8% of Year 2 students were achieving 90% accuracy or higher on Level 20 texts.

Families in Maribyrnong.

- Based on the 2009 VCHWS survey results, 52.3% of children aged 6 months to 12 years were reported to have been read to almost every day in the Western Metropolitan region. This was more 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, 4.0% of main carer’s of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Western 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, 48 substantiated cases of child abuse were recorded in Maribyrnong, representing a rate of 6.2 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, 96.7% of families with children aged 0 to 8 in Maribyrnong 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.  

- 92.9% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Western 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%).

- 95.8% of parents of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Western Metropolitan region reported that having someone they could turn to for advice when having problems. This proportion was lower than, but not significantly different to the proportion reported across Victoria (97.1%).

- 92.6% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Western Metropolitan region were from households where the parent or guardian agreed that their neighbourhood was safe. This proportion was lower than, but not significantly different to the proportion reported across Victoria (95.1%).

Supports and services in Maribyrnong.

- During 2008 - 2009, there were 5.4 hospital separations for gastroenteritis per 1,000 children aged 0 to 1 in Maribyrnong. This is less than the rate of hospital separations in Victoria (9.5 per 1,000 children aged under 1).

- In 2008 - 2009, 101.7 per cent of infants in Maribyrnong received a home consultation visit and 54.0 per cent of children in Maribyrnong attended the 3.5 year key ages and stages visit.

- The kindergarten participation rate in Maribyrnong during 2009 was 85.9%. This was less than the kindergarten participation rate in Victoria (92.7%).

- Prep students attending government schools in Maribyrnong were absent for an average 14.6 days over the 2009 school year. Year 1 students were absent for an average 13.9 days and Year 2 students were absent for an average 14.2 days over the 2009 school year.

Early childhood services for families in Maribyrnong.

- As at August 2010, there were 14 primary school education providers in Maribyrnong - 8 government, 6 Catholic and 0 independent.

- In 2009, there were 20 funded kindergarten programs in Maribyrnong. Of these, 10 were kindergarten programs located within a long day care setting.

- As at 22 July 2010, Maribyrnong had 2 multi-service Children's Centres completed or under development, funded by state and local government. These were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Children's Centre</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yarraville Children's Centre</td>
<td>Under construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Bulldogs Children's Centre</td>
<td>Licensed and Operating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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