



# 2010 Early Childhood Community Profile

## Summary sheet for the Shire of Wellington

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

- There were 503 births notified to the local Maternal and Child Health services in Wellington during 2008-09. This represents a decrease of 0.8 per cent since 2006-07 and an increase of 10.1 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 42,576 people residing in Wellington. Of these, 4,650 were aged between 0 to 8 years, representing 10.9 per cent of Wellington's total population.
- The population aged 0 to 8 years in Wellington is projected to increase by 0.8 per cent by 2026, while the total population in Wellington is expected to increase by 13.7 per cent over this period.
- Using the Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage, Wellington was ranked 26 out of 79 LGAs in Victoria. A rank of 1 was assigned to the most disadvantaged LGA in Victoria.
- Of the 2,571 families with children aged between 0 and 8 years in Wellington, 79.4 per cent were couple families and 20.6 per cent were one parent families.
- There were 436 Aboriginal persons in Wellington, representing 1.1 per cent of the total population. 22.0 per cent of the Aboriginal population in Wellington were aged 0 to 8 years.

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

- 47.3 per cent of infants in Wellington were fully breastfed at 3 months and 35.4 per cent of infants were fully breastfed at 6 months.
- 93.7 per cent of children in Wellington were fully immunised at 12-<15 months, 96.8 per cent were fully immunised at 24-<27 months and 86.4 per cent were fully immunised at 60-<63 months.
- 494 Prep children were surveyed in the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) in Wellington during 2009. Of these, 19.0 per cent were vulnerable on one or more domains and 10.4 per cent were vulnerable on two or more domains.
- In 2008, 78.2% students enrolled in government schools in Wellington were achieving a reading accuracy score of 90% or more on Level 5 texts, 82.5% of Year 1 students were reading Level 15 texts with over 90% accuracy and 92.4% of Year 2 students were achieving 90% accuracy or higher on Level 20 texts.

### Families in Wellington.

- Based on the 2009 VCHWS survey results, 47.0% of children aged 6 months to 12 years were reported to have been read to almost every day in the Gippsland 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, 6.3% of main carer's of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Gippsland 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, 62 substantiated cases of child abuse were recorded in Wellington, representing a rate of 13.3 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, 84.8% of families with children aged 0 to 8 in Wellington 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.<sup>3</sup>

- 95.2% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Gippsland 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 Gippsland 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%).
- 95.3% of children aged 0 to 12 years in the Gippsland 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 Wellington.

- During 2008 - 2009, there were 13.2 hospital separations for gastroenteritis per 1,000 children aged 0 to 1 in Wellington. This is greater than the rate of hospital separations in Victoria (9.5 per 1,000 children aged under 1) .
- In 2008 - 2009, 96.0 per cent of infants in Wellington received a home consultation visit and 69.4 per cent of children in Wellington attended the 3.5 year key ages and stages visit.
- The kindergarten participation rate in Wellington during 2009 was 84.3%. This was less than the kindergarten participation rate in Victoria (92.7%).
- Prep students attending government schools in Wellington were absent for an average 15.1 days over the 2009 school year. Year 1 students were absent for an average 13.7 days and Year 2 students were absent for an average 13.9 days over the 2009 school year.

## Early childhood services for families in Wellington.

- As at August 2010, there were 32 primary school education providers in Wellington - 25 government, 6 Catholic and 1 independent.
- In 2009, there were 17 funded kindergarten programs in Wellington. Of these, 1 were kindergarten programs located within a long day care setting.
- As at 22 July 2010, Wellington had 1 multi-service Children's Centres completed or under development, funded by state and local government. These were:

Name of Children's Centre	Status
Rosedale Community Centre	Licensed and Operating

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

Data sourced from the 2010 Early Childhood Community Profiles - DEECD

<sup>1</sup> 2006 Census data unless otherwise specified

<sup>2</sup> Reporting period is 2008-09 financial year unless otherwise specified

<sup>3</sup> Sourced from 2009 VCHWS survey