



Local identity & participation

Moreland City Council Health Profile

Version 1

November 2020

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Key insights

Feeling of belonging

- Overall, 89% of residents felt a part of their community in 2018. Feeling of belonging has steadily increased from 80% in 2014 to 84% in 2016 and 89% in 2018.
- Of those who did not feel a part of their community, one third of respondents stated the reason for their response was that they keep to themselves or that others keep to themselves.

Social connection

- In 2018, 94% of people in Moreland said that they can get help from family, friends or neighbours when they need it. This is an increase from 2016 when 91% agreed with this statement.
- Overall Victorians feel less socially connected during the pandemic (VicHealth 2020).

Loneliness

- There are more than 16,000 people living alone in Moreland, and approximately 5,000 people living alone in Moreland without Internet access. It should be noted that living alone does not directly equate to loneliness as people who live alone may not be lonely and people who do not live alone may be lonely.
- Support for social isolation has been identified by community service providers as one of the most significant community needs during the pandemic, particularly among older people, CALD communities, and international students (Moreland City Council, 2020).

Participation in arts & cultural events

- In 2017, 63.5% of residents reported that they engage in arts and cultural activities.
- This included visiting galleries and museums, attending festivals, attending live music, and attending other performing arts.

Volunteering

- In 2016, 16.7% of the Moreland population reported doing some form of volunteering. The Moreland volunteering rate is lower than Greater Melbourne with 17.6% of the population volunteering.
- In 2016, one quarter of volunteers in Moreland were in their twenties.
- In 2016, the majority (57.5%) of volunteers in Moreland are female.

Access to Internet

- There were over 9,500 households with no access to the Internet in 2016, or 16% of households.
- Glenroy and Coburg were the suburbs with the highest number of households with no access to the Internet, each with approximately 1,500 households with no access.

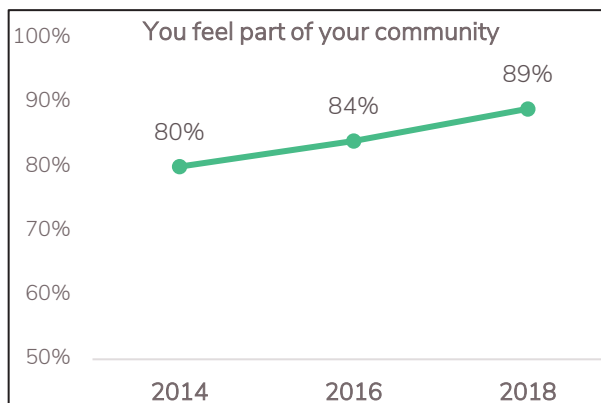
Feeling of belonging

Measure: People who feel part of the Moreland community

Overall, 89% of Moreland residents felt a part of their community in 2018. This is an increase from 2016 when 84% agreed that they felt a part of the Moreland community.

In addition to the 89% of residents who agreed that they felt part of their community, 9% disagreed with the statement, and 2% were neutral.

Of those who did not feel a part of their community, one third of respondents stated the reason for their response was that they keep to themselves or that others kept to themselves.



Source: Moreland City Council Community Indicator Survey 2018



PANDEMIC

VicHealth research has shown that groups that were feeling less connected during Covid-19 lockdown restrictions include those with a self-reported disability (33%), those who were unemployed (36%), those in a lower income bracket (30%), and young people aged 18 to 24 who were more likely to report that they have had difficulties staying connected with others (39%). Those speaking a language other than English at home (39%) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (51%) were also more likely to report difficulties maintaining connections. Restrictions on movement and social interactions due to Covid-19 is also likely to disrupt these connections and may decrease the number of positive social interactions that LGBTQIA+ people experience (VicHealth, 2020).



PRIORITY GROUPS

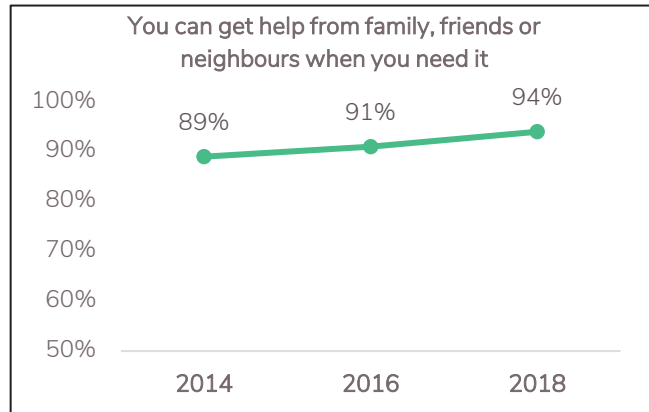
The proportion of LGBTIA+ individuals who did not feel valued by society was higher (17%) than others (12%), though other perceptions of connection with the community were similar to the average for all survey respondents (Victorian Population Health Survey, 2017).

Social connection

Measure: People who feel they can get help from family, friends, or neighbours when they need it

In 2018, 94% of people in Moreland said that they can get help from family, friends or neighbours when they need it. This is an increase from 2016 when 91% agreed with the statement.

In addition to the 94% of residents who agreed that they could get help from family, friends, or neighbours when they need it, 5% disagreed and 1% were neutral.



Source: Moreland City Council Community Indicator Survey 2018



PANDEMIC

Social isolation support was the second highest community need in Moreland during the pandemic and was more prevalent in certain population groups including older people, people with a disability, international students and/or temporary visa holders and culturally and linguistically diverse communities (Moreland City Council, 2020). Additionally, Australians over 65 are the most digitally excluded population group and are the least able to use digital technologies for social connection and service access (Thomas, et al., 2017).



PRIORITY GROUPS

Some aspects of social connection were lower for people who identify as LGBTQIA+. Being able to get help from family and neighbours when required was much lower, however there no significant difference in getting help/assistance from friends when needed (Victorian Agency for Health Information, 2017).

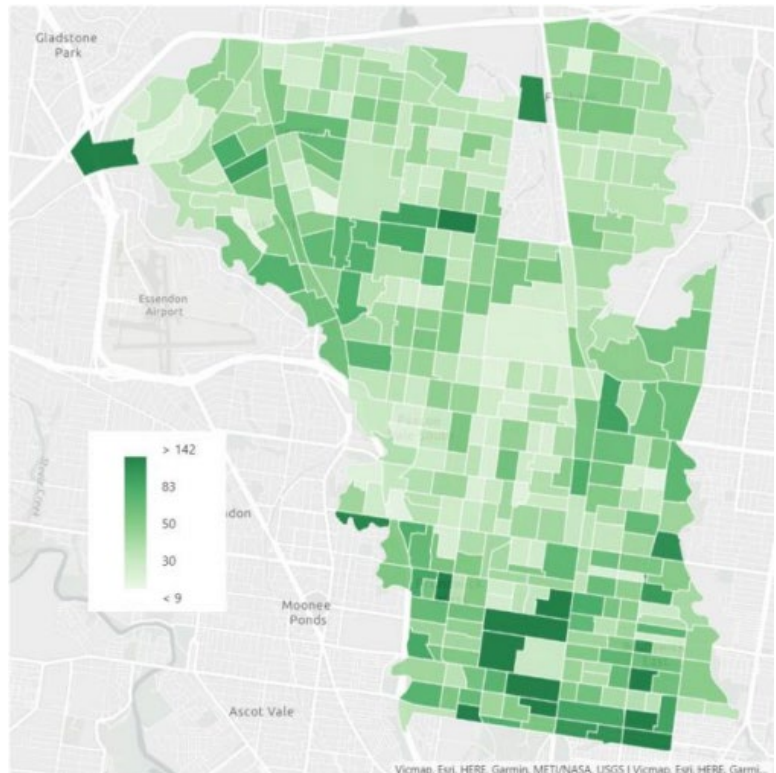
Loneliness

Measure: People living alone

There are more than 16,000 people living alone in Moreland, and approximately 5,000 people living alone in Moreland without Internet access. It should be noted that living alone does not directly equate to loneliness as people who live alone may not be lonely and people who do not live alone may be lonely. For example, loneliness can be an issue for those living in households; carers can face high levels of loneliness due to their caring role even though they may not live alone.

For more information on people living alone in Moreland, view the [Moreland City Council People Living Alone Brief](#).

Suburb	People living alone
Brunswick	3,000
Coburg	2,280
Glenroy	2,043
Brunswick West	1,945
Pascoe Vale	1,846
Brunswick East	1,598
Fawkner	1,044
Pascoe Vale South	715
Coburg North	654
Hadfield	591
Oak Park	527
Gowanbrae	203
Total	16,446



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 population census total lone person households by Statistical Area 1 (SA1). Map prepared by Moreland Research Team on Power BI.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Population Census 2016



PANDEMIC

Loneliness and social isolation are increasingly concerning issues facing communities. Recent research has identified that loneliness is the most commonly experienced personal stressor related to Covid-19, with 22% reporting high levels of loneliness and one in two (50%) people reporting that they feel lonelier since the pandemic begun (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2020; Lim, et al., 2020).

Participation in arts & cultural activities

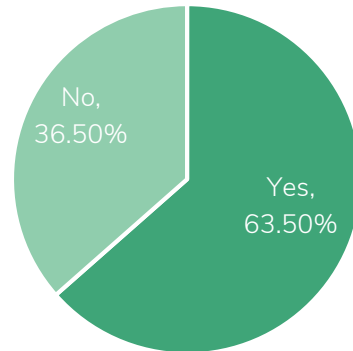
Measure: Engagement in arts and cultural activities

In 2017, nearly two thirds (63.5%) of residents reported that they engage in arts and cultural activities. This included visiting galleries and museums, attending festivals, attending live music, and attending other performing arts.

Table. Breakdown of arts and cultural activities reported by residents

Activity	%
Attending festivals	30%
Visiting galleries/museums	34%
Attending live music	27%
Attending other performing arts	22%
Total residents who reported that they engage in arts and cultural activities	63.5%

Does the person usually participate in arts and/or cultural activities?



Source: Moreland City Council Household Survey 2017



PANDEMIC

Arts and cultural activities have been significantly impacted during the pandemic lockdowns with many being forced to close or shift online (Moreland City Council, 2020).

Volunteering

Measure: Rates of volunteering

In 2016, 16.7% of the Moreland population reported doing some form of volunteering. The Moreland volunteering rate is lower than Greater Melbourne with 17.6% of the population volunteering. The majority (57.5%) of volunteers in Moreland are female. One quarter of volunteers in Moreland are aged 20-29 years.

Table. Volunteers in Moreland by age

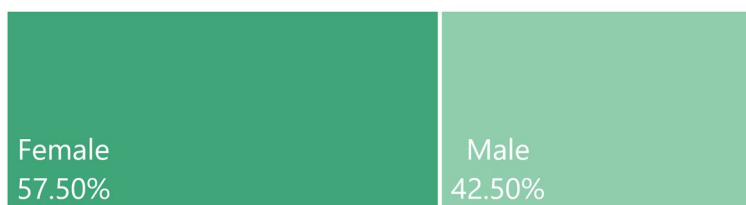
Age	Number of volunteers	% of population
10-19	1,097	4.9%
20-29	5,649	25.1%
30-39	5,322	23.6%
40-49	4,581	20.3%
50-59	2,861	12.7%
60-69	1,721	7.6%
70-79	907	4.0%
80+	398	1.8%
Total	22,537	100%



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Population Census 2016

Table. Volunteers in Moreland by sex

Sex	Number of volunteers	% of volunteers
Female	12,965	57.5%
Male	9,572	42.5%



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Population Census 2016



PANDEMIC

There has been an increased demand for skilled volunteers during the pandemic to provide support and food relief to the Moreland community. Volunteers with knowledge of specific languages and with skills in food relief have particularly been in demand (Moreland City Council, 2020).



PRIORITY GROUPS

LGBTQIA+ adults have significantly higher rates of volunteering in local community groups compared to non-LGBTQIA+ adults (Victorian Agency for Health Information, 2017).

Equitable access to Internet

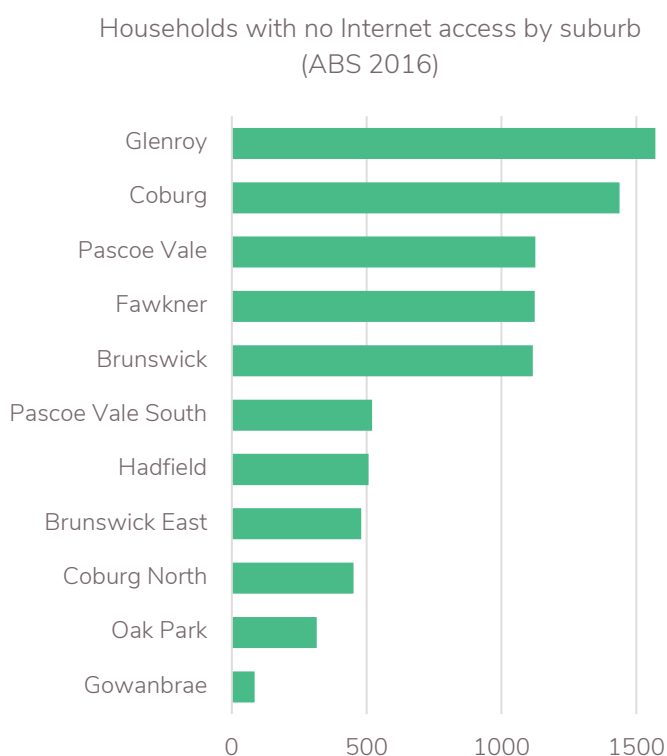
Measure: Population who have access to Internet from the dwelling

Internet access is defined as including internet access using desktop/laptop computers, mobile or smart phones, tablets, music or video players, gaming consoles, smart TVs etc., and includes Internet access through any type of connection including ADSL, fibre, wireless, satellite and mobile broadband (3G/4G).

There were over 9,500 households with no access to the Internet in 2016, which is 16% of all households in Moreland. Glenroy and Coburg were the suburbs with the highest number of households with no access to the Internet, each with approximately 1,500 households with no access.

For more information, see the [Moreland City Council Households without internet access Brief](#).

Suburb	No access to Internet (households)	% of total households
Glenroy	1,570	21%
Coburg	1,438	15%
Pascoe Vale	1,125	18%
Fawkner	1,123	26%
Brunswick	1,116	11%
Pascoe Vale South	520	15%
Hadfield	507	25%
Brunswick East	480	10%
Coburg North	451	17%
Oak Park	315	14%
Gowanbrae	84	9%
Total	9,521	16%



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Population Census 2016



PANDEMIC

Access to internet at home has become increasingly important to remain socially connected and participate in work and education during the pandemic. This has exposed and exacerbated the digital divide with the need for IT support being in the top issues reported in Moreland's Service Provider Research throughout the period of April-October 2020. Older residents, those with a disability, families (especially mothers) and those on low incomes reported being most impacted (Moreland City Council, 2020).



CLIMATE CHANGE

The projection that extreme weather events will increase in frequency in the future puts a strong demand on the need for equitable access to information. During such events it is vital for all residents to have access to information that can help keep them safe. Language and cultural barriers will need to be a focus in information distribution to ensure equity.



PRIORITY GROUPS

The percentage of households that do not have internet access in their home rises sharply for some demographics such as people aged over 65 (46% without internet), and low-income households (38% without internet), as well as a strong correlation generally with vulnerable and disadvantaged populations (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016).

Data sources

Australian Bureau of Statistics Census of Population and Housing 2016

The ABS Census of Population and Housing is a nationwide census of all households and residents. It is conducted every five years. The census collects data about the population including age, gender, relationships within households, usual residence, country of birth, language spoken at home, ancestry, education, employment, wages and religion. It also collects a small amount of household data.

The most recent data is 2016.

Inner North West Primary Care Partnership COVID-19 and mental health: Environmental scan 2020

The purpose of this environmental scan is to provide an overview of research and policy on COVID-19 and mental health to identify gaps and reduce duplication in the mental health space.

The most recent data is 2020.

Moreland City Council Community Indicator Survey 2018

The Moreland Community Indicators Survey is a bi-annual survey undertaken by Moreland City Council which asks residents to rate their level of agreement (or disagreement) with various statements. The data gathered concerns residents' perceptions of such issues as Council services, their local area, public transport, housing, economic circumstances, the environment and parks.

The most recent data is 2018.

Moreland City Council: Understanding community need in a pandemic 2020

Qualitative data collected and analysed from community service providers during the COVID-19 pandemic to understand level of service provision, community need, and organisational.

The most recent data is October 2020.

VicHealth Coronavirus Victorian Wellbeing Impact Study 2020

A survey of 2,000 Victorian adults to explore how their health and wellbeing was affected during the first lockdown of 2020. The survey covered general wellbeing, social connection, healthy eating, physical activity, financial hardship, smoking, alcohol consumption, as well as working and home life.

The most recent data is from 2020.

Victorian Agency for Health Information 2020

Safer Care Victoria and VAHI were created as a part of government reforms to improve quality and safety across Victoria's public healthcare system.

Victorian Population Health Survey 2017

The Victorian Population Health Survey (VPHS) provides an annual assessment of the health status and wellbeing of adults living in Victoria and provides data for key population health indicators.

The most recent data is 2017.