



Data

Women in Melbourne's West

A Data Book
for Program and
Service Planning in Health

VOLUME 1: Social Profile



Disclaimer

This report for Women's Health West was prepared by WLK Consulting and was shaped by the research, data analysis and design of Wei Leng Kwok.

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Produced by Women's Health West

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ISBN 978-0-9585404-2-1

Foreword

It is with pleasure that I present *Women in Melbourne's West: A Data Book for Program and Service Planning in Health, Volumes 1 and 2*. This data book contains up-to-date statistical information about the social profile and health status of women in Melbourne's west, using the most reputable and readily available data sources held nationally and in Victoria, and collating them into one, easy to use and extensively referenced resource.

Women's Health West commissioned this data book because of our perceived need for information about women's lives and their experiences - information that sits within a 'social model of health' framework; information that takes seriously the ways in which health, safety and wellbeing are determined by factors that go beyond individual or biological disposition. It is our experience that other organisations in the western metropolitan region share our desire for information to ensure that our planning is responsive to and respectful of women's needs, recognising that without such information our programs and services often end up being a very bad fit for (at least) half the population.

One type of information that we have found is increasingly in demand is statistical information - particularly as it relates to the demographic and socio-economic profile of women, as well as their health status. While access to such information is readily available through publicly held datasets and databases, many of us lack the time required in our busy roles to sift through the sources and extract what we need - let alone organise it in a coherent or illuminating way.

Women's Health West is committed to improving the health, safety and wellbeing of women in Melbourne's diverse western region. By providing this information we hope to support other organisations that are working in collaboration with us to meet the needs of women and redress the gender and structural inequalities that limit women's lives. You can use the snapshot tool in Adobe Acrobat Reader to copy and paste charts, graphs and other relevant information into submissions and planning documents to help either illuminate or illustrate the case for additional services, resources or the like.

This resource is sure to become a valuable part of planning for women's health in the sub-region, forming one of several key ways that we can understand the lives of women - from literature reviews and primary research with women, to needs analyses and health impact assessments. And the fuller the picture we have, the better our chances of developing and providing programs and services that are appropriate and relevant to women's experiences.

Dr Robyn Gregory
Chief Executive Officer
Women's Health West

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Data Notes

The tables and figures in this report have been compiled using a range of sources, including the Australian Bureau of Statistics *Census of Population and Housing*, conducted on 8 August 2006. The following notes apply to the use of Census information in this report.

1. Census information is made available to the public in a variety of ways. Readers are asked to note the different Census sources used throughout this report – especially the catalogue numbers, release dates, and type of count ('place of enumeration' or 'place of usual residence').
2. Information on Census night is collected through small area collection districts. The raw data are then aggregated to approximate gazetted suburbs and local government areas. These aggregates might or might not reflect actual suburb or local government area boundaries. Raw Census figures can be adjusted to fit actual suburbs/local government areas through a sophisticated methodology that uses aerial photography, planning schemes and street directories. This has not been attempted in the current work; which is why the tables and figures in this report can look different to those in which such adjustments have been made. Examples of profiles using adjusted Census figures include those produced by profile.id for their Community Profile series.
3. Readers are also asked to note that percentages shown in tables throughout this report might not add up to 100 because of rounding of decimal places.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ATSI	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
CBD	Central Business District
DEEWR	Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
DHS	Department of Human Services
DIAC	Department of Immigration and Citizenship
EGM	Electronic Gaming Machine
ERP	Estimated Resident Population
FYROM	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
IRSED	Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage
LGA	Local Government Area
LOTE	Languages Other than English
NDA	National Disability Administrators
PCP	Primary Care Partnership
MRCNW	Migrant Resource Centre North West
nfd	Not further defined
No.	Number
NWMR	North and West Metropolitan Region
PDCU	Perinatal Data Collection Unit
SEIFA	Socio-economic Indices for Small Areas
SLA	Statistical Local Area
WMSR	Western Metropolitan Sub-region
WWDA	Women With Disabilities Australia