



Report

Women in Melbourne's West

A Data Book
for Program and
Service Planning in Health

VOLUME 2: Health Status

Book

Data Notes

The tables and figures in this report have been compiled using a range of sources, including the *Victorian Burden of Disease Study*, the *Victorian Population Health Survey*, the *Community Indicators Victoria Survey*, the *Victorian Admitted Episode Dataset*, the Alcohol and Drug Information System, the Victorian Cervical Cancer Registry, and the *Victoria Police Law Enforcement Assistance Program Database*.

The information presented in this report is limited by the scope of the data captured at the originating source. Many large-scale population-based surveys and data collection instruments are not necessarily designed with women's 'lived realities' in mind, let alone the experiences of sub-groups of women. Notwithstanding the problem that data collection methods are often designed from masculine perspectives (burden of disease methodology being a prime example) sex disaggregated data can be found in most existing datasets and databases. But information that might be important to understanding the lives of sub-groups of women remains 'hidden' at the broader population level. Sub-groups currently excluded from the bigger picture include women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, women with disabilities, and indigenous women. And while it is acknowledged that problems with data sources exist, there is a significant lag in progress on refining methods of collecting information so they are more sensitively tuned to women and the differences between them.

The large-scale population-based statistical information contained in this report can therefore be thought of as a first step in putting together a picture of the health status of women in Melbourne's west. It gives impetus to health planners at the local level to find out more about the health status and health needs women; in other words, to undertake detailed needs analyses of women in all their diversity. Readers might wish to contact Women's Health West for information about how to conduct such research; and indeed to find out about the research that the organisation is conducting (and has conducted) along these lines.

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
ACSC	Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions
ADIS	Alcohol and Drug Information System
ATSI	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
BMI	Body Mass Index
CI	Confidence Interval
CIV	Community Indicators Victoria
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
DALE	Disability Adjusted Life Expectancy
DALY	Disability Adjusted Life Years
DEEWR	Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
DHS	Department of Human Services
DIAC	Department of Immigration and Citizenship
DVC	(Former) Department for Victorian Communities
ERP	Estimated Resident Population
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
LE	Life Expectancy
LEAP	Law Enforcement Assistance Program
LGA	Local Government Area
MCHS	Maternal and Child Health Services
PCP	Primary Care Partnership
No.	Number
NWMR	North and West Metropolitan Region
SLA	Statistical Local Area
VAED	Victorian Admitted Episode Dataset
VCCR	Victorian Cervical Cytology Registry
VHISS	Victorian Health Information Surveillance System
VicHealth	Victorian Health Promotion Foundation
VPHS	Victorian Population Health Survey
WMSR	Western Metropolitan Sub-region
WWDA	Women With Disabilities Australia
YLD	Years Lived with Disability
YLL	Years of Life Lost