



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Snapshot of Gippsland's health and wellbeing

A new fact sheet, released by Gippsland Primary Health Network, provides a snapshot of the Gippsland community including health, wellbeing, education, social and employment data.

Gippsland PHN is committed to population health planning as an ongoing core function and gathers data and information from many sources, including the local community and health professionals.

Gippsland PHN Chief Executive officer, Amanda Proposch, said Gippsland had unique health and wellbeing priorities.

"The community snapshot helps us identify what is needed in Gippsland to address these priorities," Ms Proposch said. "Many factors affect health and the snapshot provides social and health indicators for the region including health, population, employment, education, housing and access to services with data comparisons between Gippsland and Victoria."

Data includes:

- Gippsland has an older population with 24.8% aged 65 years or older, compared to 16.8% across Victoria.
- The population is increasing rapidly in Baw Baw and Bass Coast
- Children in low income or welfare dependent families – 15.4% Gippsland 9.3% Victoria
- Adults who report feeling undervalued by society – 12.5% Gippsland 11% Victoria
- Children years 5-6 report being bullied – 18.9% Gippsland 15.9% Victoria
- Adults who had no money to buy food in the past year – 7.9% Gippsland 5.9% Victoria
- Aged pension (people 65 years and over) – 67.4% Gippsland 58.1% Victoria
- Gaming machine losses per head (adults) - \$591 Gippsland \$553 Victoria
- People who travel to work by public transport – 1.5% Gippsland 12.6% Victoria
- Full-time participation in secondary school education at age 16 – 81.2% Gippsland 88.5% Gippsland
- Current smokers (adults per 100 people) – 19 Gippsland 16 Victoria
- Consumed alcohol at levels likely to increase lifetime risk of harm (adults per 100 people) – 65 Gippsland 60 Victoria



- Health and social assistance is the largest employing industry in Gippsland and it has grown from 11.3% of employment in February 2020 to 16% in November 2022
- The Australian Digital Inclusion Index (<https://www.digitalinclusionindex.org.au/>) has been developed to measure the digital divide between populations. The low Gippsland index highlights low digital inclusion (64.2 compared to 72.0 across Victoria), impacting access to a broad range of services, including health.

Ms Proposch said Gippsland PHN would continue to work with the community and partners to identify solutions that meet the needs of communities, providers and other stakeholders.

She said feedback and discussion about the content of the snapshot were welcome and encouraged interested people to email [tellgippslandphn@gphn.org.au](mailto:tellgippslandphn@gphn.org.au).

To read the community snapshot, go to <https://gphn.org.au/what-we-do/health-planning-research-and-evaluation/fact-sheets/>

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