

# THE STATE OF MURRINDINDI'S CHILDREN



A SNAPSHOT  
*Report*  
2016





The State of Murrindindi's Children, September 2016

Published on behalf of the State of Murrindindi's Children Working Group by the Berry Street Childhood Institute

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# Acknowledgements



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It has been produced by the following members of the working group:

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Particular acknowledgement is recognised to those people who attended and contributed to the two community consultations. The report framework and content were discussed and developed at the workshops attended by a wide range of organisations that work with children and young people.

This report is for information purposes only. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate the working group organisations will not accept any liability for any loss or damage which may be incurred by any person acting on the reliance upon the information.

# FOREWORD

As communities focus on their recovery after a natural disaster, a central task is to ensure their activity is not just directed to replacement of what has been lost, but becomes a foundation for the future. For most communities and many people, disaster is a turning point in their history and it is not possible to return to the earlier state. The real measure of recovery is how the community is a few years later.

This report into Murrindindi's Children shows the community's commitment to knowing and to taking initiative in tackling problems and supporting achievements. It corroborates international research that after disasters there is a complex web of resilience and vulnerability. Patterns of disadvantage and vulnerability coexist with patterns of resilience and development - sometimes reflected in different parts of the community, sometimes reflected in different parts of people's lives.

To maintain momentum towards a new future for a disaster affected community, the task is to encompass the complexity of these patterns and consolidate achievements while tackling disadvantage. This report reflects this complexity in the lives of Murrindindi's children. There is much that the community can be proud of; some figures show the commitment and work of families to ensure that although 2009 and 2010 were very difficult years, they have regained their quality of life. At the same time, there are areas where there is a need to pool resources, ideas and good will to help Murrindindi children reach the State attainments.

This report has a wealth of information and will provide an important baseline for activities in Murrindindi over the next years as the children who went through Black Saturday grow into adulthood. I commend those who have prepared it and those who will implement what arises from it.

**Rob Gordon PhD**

*Consultant Psychologist.*



# INTRODUCTION

## SoMC Snap Shot

Murrindindi Shire covers 3889 square kilometres, nearly half of which is crown land. The population of 13,595 people is spread across many distinct townships with no large central population base. The population of Murrindindi Shire is ageing and this is expected to increase in the coming years. Many of our young people tend to leave the area for tertiary education or employment. But many return with young families because they value the affordable housing and country lifestyle for their children. The southern and western boundaries are an hour from Melbourne yet many of our regionally based services are located in centres further away than the CBD. Public transport is limited within the shire and there is a heavy reliance on private vehicles to get around.

The 2009 bushfires had a large and lasting impact on many of the communities within Murrindindi with over 40% of the shire burnt, and many homes and lives lost. The resilience and determination communities have shown throughout the recovery period will long be remembered.

In 2014 the Connect for Kids Steering Committee engaged Anne Leadbeater Consulting to explore the potential in the Shire of Murrindindi for the wider community to adopt a collective impact approach that improves cradle to career outcomes for children and young people.

Several key themes emerged in the community conversation that followed;

- Reliable data was required to achieve common agreement on specific areas of vulnerability with less emphasis on assumptions and anecdotal information
- There was an appetite for a shift towards improved collaborative planning and evidence based targeted interventions
- A strong desire that the Shire would be a place where all children and young people feel safe and secure and thrive

Anne's final report provided a key recommendation that work be undertaken to collate and analyse all available cradle to career, family, health, education and employment data for the Murrindindi Shire.

Berry Street Victoria as the project sponsor, with funding provided by the DARA foundation, drew together core stakeholders and established a Project Steering Committee. The project launched with two facilitated community forums introducing the report concept and asking the following key questions:

- What needs to be present for children and young people to succeed and have a good childhood?
- What do you believe are the issues of significant vulnerability for children and young people in the Murrindindi Shire?
- What would be the indicators that children and young people thrive, achieve and belong in the community?

This report presents a comprehensive data profile based on the investigation of available population and community data sets, addressing key indicators of health, educational attainment and community wellbeing of children in the Shire from birth to 18 years of age.

As you would expect from a strong and resilient community that is the Murrindindi Shire, there are many strengths and healthy indicators. The report provides an opportunity for the community to reflect on these strengths and to consolidate them.

It is also an important opportunity to develop a joined up approach to better understanding the issues of vulnerability that have been identified, and to respond collectively and in a way that is well planned, coordinated, viable and sustained.

# Executive SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to promote better use of quality data and evidence for local community capacity building, service planning and program evaluation, by collating and analyzing all available cradle to career, family, education and employment data for the Murrindindi Shire.

The report provides evidence for both the strengths and vulnerabilities of children and young people in the Shire and establishes baseline evidence to inform a collective community conversation.

In terms of the wellbeing of children and their families, the following are some of the key indicators when comparing the Murrindindi Shire to the Victorian data average:

## AREAS OF STRENGTH

- Breastfeeding rates for babies fully breastfed until six months of age in the Murrindindi Shire are well above the state average in pursuit of the World Health Organization's recommendation that infants are exclusively breastfed until around six months
- The rates of children visiting a maternal and child health nurse and receiving their milestone assessments are generally on track or high, with the exception of the eight week assessment.
- The proportion of children between school years 5 and 9 being bullied is well below the state average
- Crimes committed by a young person aged 0-17 is well below the state average and trending down
- Rate of young people who feel they have a say in their community is well above the state average

## AREAS FOR ATTENTION

- Children on child protection orders is much lower than the state average, while a higher than state average rate of re-reports to child protection services occurs for children aged 0-8
- The percentage of school leavers involved in employment or further education is well below the State average
- In 2012 the birth rate for teenagers between 15 and 19 years of age was 13.3 per 1000 head of population, compared to the Victorian rate of 10.4
- The number of young people with sexually transmissible infections is higher than the state average
- In relation to Food security, the number of people who have run out of food in the last twelve months is about 10% higher than the state average

# Demographics POPULATION

VICTORIA

MURRINDINDI

## Estimated Resident Population (ERP)

The ERP in Murrindindi consists of 6915 Males (51.2%) and 6579 (48.8%) Females. Children aged 0-19 made up 22.7% of the population. People aged 65 years and over made up 19.4% of the Population.

Source: ABS, Data by Region, 29.06.2015

5,739,341 **13,494**

## Birth Rate Total Population

**Trend:** The birth rate in Murrindindi Shire has decreased; 2009 = 179, 2010 = 132, 2011 = 130, 2012 = 128, and a slight increase in 2013 = 135

Source: ABS, Data by Region, 29.06.2015

73,969 **135**

## Fertility Rate - Total Population

Source: ABS, Data by Region, 29.06.2015

1.82 **1.99**

## Fertility Rate - 15-19 years

**Trend:** In 2012, the birth rate for women aged 15-19 years of age in Murrindindi was 13.3 per 1000 head of population, compared to the Victorian rate of 10.4

Source: VCAMS Portal, DEECD

10.4 **13.3**

## Indigenous Population

**Trend:** 2011 Census - There were 98 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people. Of these, 49 (50%) were male and 49 (50%) were female.

Source: ABS 2011, DOH, LGA Profiles 2013, Murrindindi

37,990  
(0.8%) **98  
(0.7%)**

## Immigration

Born Overseas  
Humanitarian arrivals as a % of new settlers

Source: ABS 2011, DOH, LGA Profiles 2013, Murrindindi

27.7% **12.4%**  
7.2% **0.0%**

## Estimated Resident Population by Age and Sex

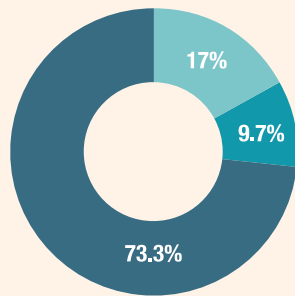
AGE	FEMALES	MALES	MURRINDINDI POPULATION	MURRINDINDI POPULATION as a %	VICTORIAN POPULATION	VICTORIAN POPULATION as a %
0-4	332	385	717	5.3	368 931	6.4
5-9	368	377	745	5.5	349 644	6.1
10-14	375	406	781	5.8	332 630	5.8
15-19	368	390	758	5.6	355 783	6.2
20-24	273	322	595	4.4	415 608	7.2
25-29	273	311	584	4.3	443 049	7.7
30-34	285	330	615	4.5	424 414	7.4
35-39	397	342	739	5.5	392 646	6.8
40-44	502	477	979	7.3	417 167	7.3
45-49	513	478	991	7.4	380 506	6.7
50-54	556	566	1122	8.3	377 866	6.6
55-59	549	541	1090	8.1	340 425	5.9
60-64	479	532	1011	7.5	301 684	5.3
65-69	469	631	1100	8.2	264 285	4.6
70-74	304	340	644	4.8	194 045	3.4
75-79	201	242	443	3.3	150 546	2.6
80-84	157	144	301	2.2	115 655	2.0
85 and over	178	101	279	2.0	114 457	2.0
<b>Total No</b>	<b>6579</b>	<b>6915</b>	<b>13,494</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5 739 341</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table Source: ABS, Data by Region, 29.06.2015

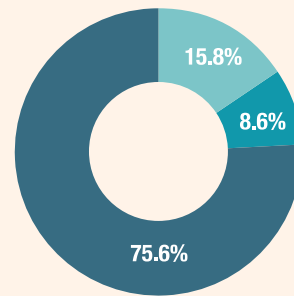




**2011 Children & Young People  
Estimated Resident Population**



**Projected 2021 Children & Young People  
Estimated Resident Population**



Data Source: ABS, Murrindindi Population Health Profile 2013

It is projected by the year 2021, the population of children aged 0-14 years will decrease by 1.2% and the population of young people aged 15-24 years will decrease by 1.1%

## FAMILY

	VICTORIA	MURRINDINDI
<b>Family Composition</b>		
Couple family (with dependents)	46%	39.3%
Couple family (without dependents)	36.7%	48%
Sole parent family	15.5%	11.9%
Male headed one parent family	17.2%	24.1%
Female headed one parent family	82.8%	75.9%
<b>Percentage of low income families with children</b>		
	8.7%	8.8%
<small>Source: ABS 2011, DOH, LGA Profiles 2013, Murrindindi</small>		
<b>Unemployment rate</b>		
Unemployment Rate Total - 2015 Quarter 1	6.5%	4.97%
Unemployment Rate - Youth 15-24 years	12.04%	10.33%
<small>Source: Regional Development Victoria Information Portal 2015</small>		

# EDUCATION

	VICTORIA	MURRINDINDI
<b>Education Level</b>		
Tertiary qualification	45.7%	28.8%
No qualification	DATA GAP	DATA GAP
Year 12 or equivalent	51.7%	38.1%
Year 11 or equivalent	12.2%	15.6%
Year 10 or equivalent	14.1%	20.4%
<b>Proficiency in English</b>		
Speaks English only	72.4%	91.7%
Households where two or more languages are spoken	25.7%	5.0%
Percentage with low English proficiency	4.0%	0.5%
<b>Adult Literacy Level</b>		
Currently not available through the ABS collection	DATA GAP	DATA GAP
<small>Source: ABS 2011, DOH, LGA Profiles 2013, Murrindindi</small>		

# ECONOMICS

	VICTORIA	MURRINDINDI
<b>SEIFA</b>		
<b>Trend:</b> Decreased 2006 (rank 49, 7th decile) to 2011 (rank 45, 6th decile)		<b>997</b>
<small>Source: ABS 2011</small>		Median: 996.6 Rank (2011): 45th
The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) ranks areas according to their relative socio-economic disadvantage. The SEIFA index is derived from Census variable data such as low income, unemployment, low educational attainment and dwellings without motor vehicles. <small>(ABS 2011)</small>		91.7%
		5.0%
		0.5%
The average score for areas across Australia is 1,000. Areas with a score above 1,000 are less disadvantaged. Murrindindi Shire has a score of 997. This places it within the sixth decile of the index, and suggests it has an average level of disadvantage. <small>(ABS 2011)</small>		
<b>Economic Growth Data (GRP)</b>		
<b>Murrindindi trend:</b>	<b>\$341,205m</b>	<b>\$511m</b>
Increased 2013 to 2014 (+1.0%)	GRP\$m	GRP\$m
<b>Victorian trend:</b>		
Increased 2013 to 2014 (+1.0%)		
<small>Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR, 2015) &amp; Regional Development Victoria Information Portal</small>		

# Our Community

Children and young people have opportunities to be active and civically engaged in the community

<p><b>The area has easy access to recreational &amp; leisure facilities - opportunities to play</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: Indicators of Community Strength 2008</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>82%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>60.4%</b></p>
<p><b>Area has good facilities and services (shops, childcare, schools and libraries)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: Indicators of Community Strength 2008</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>85%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>62.2%</b></p>
<p><b>Participation in arts and cultural activities</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: Indicators of Community Strength 2008</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>63.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>63.7%</b></p>
<p><b>Participation in citizen engagement</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: Indicators of Community Strength 2008</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>50.5%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>61.7%</b></p>



## FReeZA

FReeZA is a State Government initiative targeting young people aged between 12-25 years that Murrindindi Shire Council has delivered for 15 years successfully.

The program is based around planning and putting on events for young people, developing skills, and getting involved in the local music scene.

Previous events have included band nights, hip-hop events, dance parties and festivals.

Annually the program engages over 1,000 young people via the numerous hosted events, with approximately 15 young people taking on leadership roles in the youth led committee structures.

Young people with an interest in music, entertainment, volunteering and event management, meet to plan and deliver FReeZA events. They make up the FReeZA committee. The committee also attend training that is relevant to their areas of interest that further supports their career pathway exposure.

Through youth-led FReeZA committees, young people have the chance to:

- decide what types of events and cultural activities are performed in their community
- help create music events and cultural activities in their community
- make decisions and lead projects
- participate in their communities as volunteers
- form close networks with local businesses, schools and other community organisations

# Our Families

Children, young people and families are supported by positive relationships

<p><b>Proportion of children at school entry whose parents report high levels of family stress in the past month</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2012 to 2013 (-0.3%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2012 to 2013 (-0.2%)</p> <p><small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p> <p>Murrindindi has been higher than the state average since 2009, however decreased significantly in 2011 and has remained stable;</p> <p>2009 - 23.2%</p> <p>2010 - 17.8%</p> <p>2011 - 11.2%</p> <p>2012 - 12.5%</p> <p>2013 - 12.2%</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>11.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>12.2%</b></p> 
<p><b>Number of families accessing Family and Community Support Services</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-20.0)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> State trend: Increased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (+1,077)</p> <p><small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>29441</b></p> <p><b>(0.51%)</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>101</b></p> <p><b>(0.7%)</b></p> 

## The *Break-it-Down* Yea High School Composting Project

The community of Yea and surrounds has been targeting healthy eating and food access as part of the Lower Hume Integrated Health Promotion Plan since 2012. The Yea & District Memorial Hospital facilitated a community development model that addresses local food security and healthy eating data using community members as the managers of their own projects.

This project was funded by the Hamer Sprout Fund and has run at Yea High School for the last two years. It worked with 14 and then 17 VCAL students from Yea High School to run a weekly bike-based food scrap collection and composting program. The food scraps and compost materials from 11 businesses, organisations and residences in Yea were hot-composted out the back of the Yea Police Station to make quality compost for the Yea Community Garden beds and 3 other community-based edible gardens. It also seeded a number of other replica hot compost systems including at Yea High School, Yea Primary, Highlands Primary and Sacred Heart Primary. So far more than 6000kg of waste has been composted and re-distributed for local, fresh, healthy food production in the area. The Yea High School has since started a Certificate II in Agriculture in 2015.

\*Supplied by Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd\*



# Children, young people and families are supported by a secure environment

<p><b>General Practitioners per 1,000 population – GP Family Check-up Rates</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles , Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>1.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>0.9%</b></p>
<p><b>GP attendances (persons), per 1,000 population</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles , Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>5452.1</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>5703.1</b></p>
<p><b>Households with housing costs 30% or more of Gross Income (National Housing Affordability Benchmark)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (-0.3%)  <b>State trend:</b> State trend: Increased 2006 to 2011 (+2.7%)  <small>Source: CIV 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>20.4%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>16.5%</b></p>
<p><b>NB:</b> Change in data source from 2007 CIV to 2011 ABS            One measure of Housing Affordability has been calculated through the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics. The data shows the percentage of households spending 30% or more of their gross household income on rent or mortgage payments.</p>		
<p><b>Households with rental costs 30% or more of Gross Income</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2006 to 2011 (+10.5%)  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2006 to 2011 (+12%)  <small>Source: CIV 2011</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>39%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>39.6%</b></p>
<p><b>Mortgage Stress</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>11.4%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>15.1%</b></p>
<p><b>Rental Stress</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>25.1%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>24.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Social Housing as a percentage of total dwellings</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>3.8%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>1.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Number of Social Housing Dwellings</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>84037</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>134</b></p>
<p><b>Transport limitations - Limitations and restrictions perceived in day to day travel</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2007 to 2011 (-10.7%)  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2006 to 2011 (+3.4%)  <small>Source: CIV 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>23.7%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>23.6%</b></p>
<p>Transport Limitations were measured in the Vic Health Indicators Survey. Respondents were asked if their day-to-day travel had been limited or restricted in the previous 12 months</p>		
<p><b>Percentage of population near public transport</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>74.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>6.1%</b></p>

# Children, young people and families are supported by a secure environment

<p><b>Transport - Household with no vehicle</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>8.7%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>3.6%</b></p>
<p><b>Persons who ran out of food in the previous 12 months and couldn't afford to buy anymore</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2008 to 2011 (+6.9%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2008 to 2011 (-1.0%)  <small>Source: CIV 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>4.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>14.7%</b></p>

Food Security was measured in the 2011 Victorian Population Health Survey. Respondents were asked if there had been any times in the previous 12 months when they had run out of food and could not afford to buy more.

## Murrindindi Children's Network

On 12 October, 2012, the Murrindindi Children's Network was formed. The network is made up of members comprising anyone working with early years and families in the Shire of Murrindindi. This includes, child care, pre schools, primary schools, service agencies, playgroups, community health services, etc. We have a shared vision and are guided by the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan where it applies to children and families.

One vital service the network provides is to organise the annual conference. It was the desire of members to build the learning and development of the range of professionals working in this area.

Due to the tyranny of distance and cost it is often prohibitive for workers to attend professional development without having to travel for several hours and pay several hundred dollars for a day long conference/training. The Murrindindi Children's Network develops an intensive program centred around a particular theme and provides quality training and development for professionals in the local area.

2016 will be our third year providing an annual conference. In previous years the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and has promoted better working relationships between the workers.

Another vital service the network provides is via social media. The Murrindindi Children's Network has its own facebook page: [www.facebook.com/murrindindichildrensnetwork](http://www.facebook.com/murrindindichildrensnetwork)

The page provides links and tips and the latest research to families in the Shire. It appeals to a mix of parents and professionals and aims to be a place where discussions can happen and information/experiences can be shared.



# Safe and Secure

## Staying Safe

<p><b>Proportion of family violence incidents where children and young people are involved as other parties</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2010-2011 to 2011-2012 (+11.7%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2010-2011 to 2011-2012 (+0.8%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>36.3%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>39.7%</b></p>
<p><b>Children on child protection orders per 1000 children aged 0-17 years</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> N/A</p> <p>Source: Early Childhood Community Profile, Murrindindi, DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>5.4</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>2.8</b></p>
<p><b>Number and rate of child protection re-reports within a year (ages 0-8)</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2007-2008 to 2008-2009 (0.0%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2007-2008 to 2008-2009 (-0.4%)</p> <p>Source: Early Childhood Community Profile, Murrindindi, DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>5526</b></p> <p><b>(31.2%)</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>(36.4%)</b></p>

In 2008 - 2009, 36.4% of children aged 0 to 8 years in Murrindindi (S) were re-reported to child protection services within 12 months of a report. This rate has decreased from 54.2% in 2003 - 2004. The rate of children re-reported within 12 months has been decreasing at an average rate of 6.4% per year over the past six years.

<p><b>Number of investigations of child abuse notifications for children aged 0-17 that were substantiated</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2009-2010 to 2010-2011 (+2.5)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable 2009-2010 to 2010-2011 (+0.6)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>8107</b></p> <p><b>(6.7 per 1000)</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>(5.6 per 1000)</b></p>
<p><b>Children in out of home care aged 0-17 years (per 1,000 children)</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2011 to 2012 (+1.5)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2011 to 2012 (+0.4)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>5</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>3.6</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care who are placed in accordance with the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Nil</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2011 to 2012 (-1.3%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>56.1%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>Nil</b></p>
<p><b>Rate of hospital separations, all principle diagnosis, per 1,000 children</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2004-2005 to 2008-2009</p> <p>- Increased at an average rate of 4.1% per year</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> State trend: Increased 2007-2008 to 2008-2009 (average 2.1 per year)</p> <p>Early Childhood Community Profile, Murrindindi, DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>231.2</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>218.3</b></p>

### Hospital Separation:

Separation from a healthcare facility occurs anytime a patient or resident leaves because of death, discharge, sign out against medical advice or transfer.

### Top 3 causes of hospital separations per 1000 children (0-8 years)

#### VICTORIA

1. Asthma unspecified: 7.9
2. Other pre-term infant: 7.7
3. Dental caries unspecified: 6.3

#### MURRINDINDI

1. Asthma unspecified: 6.2
2. Other pre-term infant: 7.7
3. Dental caries unspecified: 7.7

(Hume region only data)

Over the past five years, the rate of hospital separations per 1,000 children aged 0 to 8 years in Murrindindi (S) has increased by an average rate of 4.1 per cent per year, from 178.8 in 2004 - 2005 to 218.3 in 2008 - 2009.



## Adolescents Are Securely Housed

<b>Numbers of Organisations to Support Homelessness in Murrindindi</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>Number of Crisis/Transitional Properties in Murrindindi</b>	<b>Nil</b>	
<b>Social Housing as a % of total dwellings</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A <b>State trend:</b> N/A <small>Department of Health (2013) Murrindindi Population Health Profile 2013</small>	<b>VICTORIA</b> <b>3.8%</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI</b> <b>1.9%</b>
<b>Did You Know?</b> Rural Housing Network Limited conducts outreach to Alexandra fortnightly to assist households who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Yea appointments are also available on the same day if required. <i>Refer to Data Collected for the Whole Population</i>		
<b>Crimes where the victim was a child or young person aged 0-17</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2010-2011 to 2011-2012 (+3.0) <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2010-2011 to 2011-2012 (+0.8) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small>	<b>VICTORIA</b> <b>10</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI</b> <b>9.6</b>
<b>Crimes where the offender was a child or young person aged 0-17 (per 1,000)</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2010-2011 to 2011-2012 (-7.1) <b>State trend:</b> Stable 2009-2010 to 2010-2011 (+0.6) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small>	<b>VICTORIA</b> <b>24.4</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI</b> <b>14.2</b>
<b>Number of young people aged 12-18 years convicted and placed on a community order (rate per 100,000)</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Data unavailable due to low numbers <b>State trend:</b> Stable 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-0.4) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small>	<b>VICTORIA</b> <b>2.4</b>	<b>MURRINDINDI</b> <b>N/A</b>



# Happy and Healthy Children

## Children have a healthy childhood

<p><b>Low birth weight</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A (not collected prior to 2013)  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 1985-2006 (+1.4%)  <small>Source: DoH 2013</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>6.6%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>7.3%</b>
<p><b>Babies fully breastfed at 3 months</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (+8.3%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-0.7%)  <small>Source: Early Childhood Community Profile, Murrindindi, DEECD</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>51%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>59.7%</b>
<p><b>Babies fully breastfed at 6 months</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (+10.2%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-1%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>33.8%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>48.9%</b>
<p><b>Children have their 8 week Maternal, Child &amp; Health Nurse assessment (2013/2014)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-13.9%)  <b>State trend:</b> State trend: Increased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (+.5%)  <small>Source: MCHS Annual Report 12-13 &amp; 13-14</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>96%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>92.8%</b>
<p><b>Indigenous Children have their 8 week Maternal, Child &amp; Health Nurse assessment</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-83.3%)  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (+5.4%)  <small>Source: MCHS Annual Report 12-13 &amp; 13-14</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>84.2%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>66.7</b>
<p><b>Children have their 4 month Maternal, Child &amp; Health Nurse assessment</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-4.3%)  <b>State trend:</b> State trend: Stable between 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (no change)  <small>Source: MCHS Annual Report 12-13 &amp; 13-14</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>93.6%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>95.7%</b>
<p><b>Indigenous Children have their 4 month Maternal, Child &amp; Health Nurse assessment</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-50%)                      NB 2012-2013 documented 150%  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (+6.3%)  <small>Source: MCHS Annual Report 12-13 &amp; 13-14</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>81.6%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>100.0%</b>
<p><b>Children have their 3.5 years Maternal, Child &amp; Health Nurse assessment</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (+6.9%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-1.6%)  <small>Source: MCHS Annual Report 12-13 &amp; 13-14</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>64.9%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>83.3%</b>
<p><b>Indigenous Children have their 3.5 years Maternal, Child &amp; Health Nurse assessment</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (+97.6%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-3.1%)  <small>Source: MCHS Annual Report 12-13 &amp; 13-14</small></p>	VICTORIA <b>64.9%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>114.3%</b>

The figure shown right; 114.3% for the Murrindindi Shire is reflective of all visits to The MCHN from Children aged 3-6. The additional 14.3% can be attributed to, however not limited to; additional appointments by the same Family/Child, late visits (Children 2 years and below attend after they have turned 3 years old etc.

<p><b>Immunisation Rate 12 - &lt; 15 months</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-1.3%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-0.9%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>91.7%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>91.5%</b></p>
<p><b>Immunisation Rate 24 - &lt; 27 months</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-1.2%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (-0.2%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>93.1%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>92.1%</b></p>
<p><b>Immunisation Rate 60 - &lt; 63 months</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (+1.4%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Increased 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 (+1.2%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>92.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>92.7%</b></p>
<p><b>Parents concerned about their child's oral health</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> N/A</p> <p>Source: Outcomes for Children at school entry SEHQ 2013</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>14.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>18.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of children with emotional or behavior difficulties</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2010-2012. Increased in 2013 (+.8%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2010-2013</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>4.4%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>5.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of children who are bullied - Years 5-6</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-5.8%)</p> <p>Decreased from 2010 to 2014 (excluding 2011) by 6.8%</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-1.1%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>13.8%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>10.7%</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of children who are bullied - Years 7-9</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-1.2%)</p> <p>Decreased 2010 to 2014 by 8.5%</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-1.9%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>18.5%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>13.6%</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of children at school entry whose parents reported high levels of family stress in the past month</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased steadily from 2009 to re-align with state average. 2009 - 23.2%, 2010 - 17.8%, 2011 - 11.2%, 2012 - 12.5%, 2013 - 12.2%</p> <p>Overall, a decrease of -11%</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2009 to 2013 (+0.7%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>11.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>12.2%</b></p>
<p><b>Children who attended a school or community breakfast club</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2009 to 2012 (+8.9%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> DATA GAP</p> <p>Source: AEDI 2012</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>DATA GAP</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>8.9%</b></p>

# Improving the oral health of Murrindindi Shire kids and their families

Smiles 4 Miles is an oral health promotion program for kindergarten-aged children developed by Dental Health Services Victoria and implemented in partnership with Lower Hume Primary Care Partnership (LHPCP) in Murrindindi Shire. Services achieve the Smiles 4 Miles award by implementing healthy eating and oral health policies, engaging with families about the importance of oral health, and educating children through a variety of fun learning experiences based on the Smiles 4 Miles key messages – Drink well, Eat well and Clean well.



Since 2013, 7 early year services and 27 Murrindindi Family Day Care (MFDC) educators have participated in the program, reaching 1350 children and their families. Of these 5 early year services and 21 MFDC educators have received their Smiles 4 Miles awards, for their commitment to promoting the key messages. Also 24 early year service educators and 20 MFDC educators have completed Smiles 4 Miles training sessions, giving them the skills and resources to implement the program.

Yea, Alexandra and Kinglake libraries and Maternal and Child Health Centre's (M&CH) have participated in Smiles 4 Miles themed story time sessions and 1st mother's group workshops presented by LHPCP. Each story time session involved stories, songs and books promoting the drink well, eat well and clean well messages. Each 1st mother's group session included valuable healthy eating and oral health information, available dental benefits and public dental clinic referral pathways. LHPCP have provided resource kits for the libraries and M&CH centers so they can continue to promote these key messages.

## Adolescents have good physical and mental health

<p><b>Rate of sexually transmissible infections in young people per 100,000</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased from 2010 to 2011 (-204.60)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Increased from 2010 to 2011 (+98.6)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>403.60%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>712.8%</b></p>
<p><b>Adolescents' rate of intentional self harm per 1,000</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Collected but not publically available due to low numbers (Hume Region trend: Stable 2007-2008 to 2008-2009 (0.0))</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable 2007-2008 to 2008-2009 (0.0)</p> <p>Source: Adolescent Community Profile. DEECD 2010</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>0.6</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>0.7</b></p>
<p><b>Adolescents' rate of psychiatric hospitalisation per 1,000</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2008-2009 (0.0) to 2009-2010 (+5.9)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Increased 2008-2009 to 2009-2010 (+0.6)</p> <p>Source: Adolescent Community Profile. DEECD 2010</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>6.7</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>5.9</b></p>
<p>During 2009 - 2010, there were 5.9 psychiatric hospitalisations per 1,000 adolescents in Murrindindi. This is higher than the psychiatric hospitalisation rate in the Hume region (5.8 per 1,000 adolescents) and lower than the rate in Victoria (6.7 per 1,000 adolescents).</p> <p>Murrindindi was ranked 39 out of 68 LGAs in terms of the psychiatric hospitalisation rate during 2009 - 2010.</p> <p>The psychiatric hospitalisation rate in Murrindindi was lower than that across Victoria for two of the five years between 2004 - 2005 and 2008 - 2009</p>		
<p><b>Births per 1,000 women aged 15-19</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2010 - 10.4, 2011 - 10.6 and 2012 10.4 (.2 variances)</p> <p>Source: Adolescent Community Profile. DEECD 2010 &amp; VCAMS Portal DEECD</p> <p>Data Gap: Data for the Murrindindi Shire does not exist pre 2012, data collated by Region.</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>10.4</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>13.3</b></p>

## Children with special needs are well supported

The ABS Census can help to identify people with a 'profound or severe core activity limitation' using similar criteria used in the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers. This population is defined as people with a disability who need assistance in their day to day lives with any or all of the following core activities - self care, body movements or communication.

<p><b>Number of people with a profound or severe disability ages 0-4</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (+0.7%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (0.0%)</p> <p>Source: ABS 2011, Basic community profile</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>1.0%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>1.4%</b></p>
<p><b>Number of people with a profound or severe disability ages 5-14</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased between 2006 to 2011 (+1.2%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (+0.6%)</p> <p>Source: ABS 2011, Basic community profile</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>2.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>3.1%</b></p>
<p><b>Number of people with a profound or severe disability ages 15-19</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (+0.3%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Increased 2006 to 2011 (+1.0%)</p> <p>Source: ABS 2011, Basic community profile</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>2.0%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>2.0%</b></p>

# The Development of Our Children

## Australian Early Development Census

“The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC), previously known as the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) is a measure of how young children are developing in different communities. It involves collecting information to help create a snapshot of early childhood development across Australia. The AEDC is a population measure of children’s development as they enter school. Based on the scores from a teacher-completed checklist, the AEDC measures five domains of early childhood development”: Physical health and wellbeing, Social competence, Emotional maturity, Language and cognitive skills (school based) and Communication skills/general knowledge. Source: AEDI 2015 Report, Murrindindi Shire.

The AEDC domain results are reported as numbers and percentages and provide an accurate representation of children who are “on track”, developmentally at risk” or “developmentally vulnerable” - as per below definitions:

The AEDC 2015 scores are measured against the 2009 scores, which provided a reference point against which later AEDC results can be compared.



### Developmentally ‘on track’

The cut-off for an AEDC score to represent on track uses the baseline cut offs from the 2009 AEDI data collection. In 2009 children who scored above the 25th percentile (in the top 75%) of the national population were classified as ‘on track’.

If more children are doing better nationally in 2012 than 2009, then more than 75% of children will be on track 2012.

### Developmentally ‘vulnerable’

The cut-off for an AEDC score to represent vulnerable uses the baseline cut-offs from the 2009 AEDI data collection. In 2009 children who scored below the 10th percentile (in the lowest 10%) of the national population were classified as vulnerable.

If more children are doing better nationally in 2012 than in 2009, then fewer than 10% of children will be vulnerable in 2012.

### Developmentally ‘at risk’

The cut-off for an AEDC score to represent at risk uses the baseline cut-offs from the 2009 AEDI data collection. In 2009 children who scored between the 10th and the 25th percentile of the national population were classified ‘at risk’

### Developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains

The percentage of children in the community who have at least one or more AEDI domain score/s below the 10th percentile.

### Developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains

The percentage of children in the community who have at least two or more AEDI domain scores below the 10th percentile.

# Summary of Murrindindi AEDC 2015

The AEDC was completed in Murrindindi for 150 children in their first year of formal full-time school. The data collected was contributed by 22 Teachers in 18 Schools, both Government and Non-Government. In this sample, 3 children were Indigenous, 2 children were born in a country other than Australia and 3 children had English as a second language.

Community demographic factors must be considered when interpreting the results, as they have a significant impact on child development. Please see below key considerations:

- Sex - Boys are more likely to be developmentally vulnerable on the AEDC domains compared with girls. In Murrindindi 50% were Male and 50% were Female.
- Indigenous children are more than twice as likely to be developmentally vulnerable than non-indigenous children.
- Children who are not proficient in English, independent of whether they speak another language or not, are more likely than other children to be developmentally vulnerable.
- Research shows a high quality early childhood education experience enhances all-round development in children. Information about children diagnosed with special needs is not included.
- It may be useful to consider how well children in local communities are settling into the school environment and what may be influencing their transitions to school.

# Peep in Murrumbidgee



PEEP (Parent Early Education Program) is a UK based early learning program which aims to contribute towards improving the life chances of children.

Its purpose is to raise educational attainment, especially in literacy. The PEEP program focuses on how to make the most of learning opportunities in every day life at home - listening, talking, playing, singing and sharing books every day. By working with adults about their children's very early learning, PEEP supports parents and carers in their role as the first educators of their children.

At the heart of the program are a number of core activities including - discussion of a topic relating to children's development, giving parents/carers a chance to share information, ideas and experiences together; songs and rhymes, sharing books and stories, and joint activities.

In 2012, approximately 40 participants from all around the Shire were trained in the PEEP program. Since then, groups have been run in Eildon, Marysville, Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake. Around 50 families have been through the program and all reports and feedback from the families have illustrated how valuable a program it is.

The PEEP program will continue in Kinglake until the end of 2018 and is an extremely valuable education tool, especially for new parents. At present, due to a lack of funding sources, the Kinglake program is the only one available in the Shire.

## Percentage of Children Developmentally Vulnerable

AEDC DOMAIN	Murrindindi			Murrindindi Comparing Results			Victoria		
	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %	2009 to 2012 %	2012 to 2015 %	2009 to 2015 %	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %
Physical	7.7	15.5	9.5	+7.8	-6.0	+1.8	7.7	7.8	7.9
Social Competence	6.9	13.5	8.2	+6.6	-5.3	+1.3	8.4	8.1	8.7
Emotional Maturity	9.3	14.8	8.2	+5.5	-6.6	-1.1	8.3	7.2	8.0
Language	4.6	12.3	10.9	+7.7	-1.4	+6.3	6.1	6.1	6.3
Communication	8.5	11.0	10.2	+ 2.5	-0.8	+1.7	8.3	8.0	7.6

**NB: Figures may not add up due to rounding**

**Legend:** Significant Increase No Significant Change Significant Decrease

According to the Australian Early Development Census, vulnerable children in the Murrindindi Shire significantly increased in 4 out of 5 domains from 2009 to 2012. This significantly improved in 3 out of 5 domains from 2012 to 2015, as per the table above.

## Percentage of Children Developmentally at risk

AEDC DOMAIN	Murrindindi			Murrindindi Comparing Results			Victoria		
	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %	2009 to 2012 %	2012 to 2015 %	2009 to 2015 %	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %
Physical	23.8	19.4	15.6	-4.4	-3.8	-8.2	11.7	11.1	11.2
Social Competence	19.2	18.1	17.0	-1.1	-1.1	-2.2	14.0	13.3	14.1
Emotional Maturity	16.3	16.8	14.3	+0.5	-2.5	-2	14.5	13.5	14.5
Language	13.8	11.6	10.2	-2.2	-1.4	-3.6	9.9	9.9	8.9
Communication	17.7	25.8	16.3	+ 8.1	-9.5	-1.4	15.0	14.6	13.6

**NB: Figures may not add up due to rounding**

**Legend:** Significant Increase No Significant Change Significant Decrease

Percentage of children developmentally at risk, in the Murrindindi Shire has significantly decreased in 1 out of the 5 domains from 2009 to 2015.



## Children developmentally at risk or developmentally vulnerable:

### Physical health & wellbeing:

- Have at least sometimes experienced coming unprepared for school by being dressed inappropriately, coming to school hungry or tired.
- Range from those who have not developed one of the three skills (independence, handedness, coordination), to those who have not developed any of these skills.
- Range from those who have an average ability to perform skills requiring gross and fine motor competence and good or average overall energy levels, to those who have poor fine and gross motor skills, poor overall energy levels and physical skills.

### Social Competence and wellbeing:

- Have average to poor overall social skills, low self-confidence and are rarely able to play with various children and interact cooperatively.
- Only sometimes or never accept responsibility for actions, show respect for others and for property, demonstrate self-control, and are rarely able to follow rules and take care of materials.
- Only sometimes or never work neatly, independently, and rarely able to solve problems, follow class routines and do not easily adjust to changes in routines.
- Only sometimes or never show curiosity about the world, and are rarely eager to explore new books, toys or unfamiliar objects and games.

### Emotional Maturity:

- Never or almost never show most of the helping behaviours including helping someone hurt, sick or upset, offering to help spontaneously, and inviting others to join in.
- Often show most of the anxious behaviours; they get into physical fights, kick or bite others, take other people's things, are disobedient or have temper tantrums.
- Often show most of the hyperactive behaviours; they could be restless, distractible, impulsive, they fidget and have difficulty settling to activities.

### Language and cognitive skills (school based):

- Do not have most of the basic literacy skills; have problems with identifying letters or attaching sounds to them, rhyming, may not know the writing directions and how to write their own name.
- May not show interest in books and reading, or maths and number games, or both and may have difficulty remembering things.
- Have only up to one of the advanced literacy skills; cannot read or write simple words or sentences, and rarely write voluntarily.
- Have marked difficulty with numbers, cannot count, compare or recognize numbers, may not be able to name all the shapes and may have difficulty with time concepts.

### Communication and general knowledge:

- Range from being average to very poor in effective communication, may have difficulty in participating in games involving the use of language, may be difficult to understand and/or have difficulty in understanding others and may show little general knowledge.

## Children 'on track' in Murrindindi

AEDC DOMAIN	Murrindindi			Murrindindi Comparing Results			Victoria		
	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %	2009 to 2012 %	2012 to 2015 %	2009 to 2015 %	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %
<b>Physical Health &amp; Wellbeing</b> - physical readiness for the school day, physical independence, gross and fine motor skills	68.5	65.2	74.8	-3.3	+9.6	+6.3	80.6	81.1	80.9
<b>Social Competence &amp; Wellbeing</b> - overall social competence, responsibility and respect, approaches to learning, readiness to explore new things	73.8	68.4	74.8	-5.4	+6.4	+1.0	77.6	78.6	77.2
<b>Emotional Maturity</b> - pro-social and helping behaviour; rarely or never shows anxious and fearful behaviour, aggressive behaviour or hyperactivity and inattention	74.4	68.4	77.6	-6.0	+9.2	+3.2	77.3	79.3	77.5
<b>Language &amp; Cognitive Skills (school based)</b> - basic literacy, interest in literacy/numeracy and memory, advanced literacy and basic numeracy	81.5	76.1	78.9	-5.4	+2.8	-2.6	84.0	84.0	84.7
<b>Communication Skills and General Knowledge</b> - storytelling ability, imaginative play, communication with adults and children	73.8	63.2	73.5	-10.6	+10.3	-0.3	76.7	77.4	78.8

Source: [www.rch.org.au/aedi](http://www.rch.org.au/aedi)

**Legend:** Significant Increase No Significant Change Significant Decrease

Children "on track" in Murrindindi significantly increased in 4 out of 5 domains from 2012 to 2015.

## Children who are vulnerable in one/two or more domains

AEDC DOMAIN	Murrindindi			Murrindindi Comparing Results			Victoria		
	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %	2009 to 2012 %	2012 to 2015 %	2009 to 2015 %	2009 %	2012 %	2015 %
Children who are vulnerable in one of more domains	20.2	28.4	23.1	+8.2	-5.3	+2.9	20.3	19.5	19.9
Children who are vulnerable in two or more domains	8.5	18.1	11.6	+9.6	-6.5	+3.1	10.0	9.5	9.9

Source: [www.rch.org.au/aedi](http://www.rch.org.au/aedi)

**Legend:** Significant Increase No Significant Change Significant Decrease

## The Alice Sloan Leadership Program

The Alice Sloan Leadership program (ASLP) was developed through a partnership between the Outdoor education Group (OEG), Berry Street, Alexandra Secondary College and the Alice Sloan Trust. The Alice Sloan Trust was founded by Jennie and John Sloan after their daughter Alice tragically died following an accident while on school camp. The program has been running for 10 years and enables young women who are in year 11 at Alexandra Secondary College to participate in a 10 day outdoor expedition which is facilitated by OEG and then go on to complete year long program which is aimed at enhancing leadership skills. The year long program involves completing various public speaking engagements, fundraising activities, being peer leaders to grade 6 girls as they transition to secondary college and attending Y-Lead, an annual youth leadership conference. The overall aims of the program are to enhance the leadership capacity of women in the local community and improve participants overall emotional wellbeing.





# Our Learning and Education

Children are involved in early learning and playgroup activities

<b>Number of community playgroup sessions offered per week</b>	MURRINDINDI	
<b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A (not collected prior to 2013) <b>State trend:</b> Increased 1985-2006 (+1.4%) <small>Source: Murrindindi Shire; Children's Service Development Officer</small>		17
These playgroup sessions operate in 10 different locations within the Murrindindi Shire		
<b>Kindergarten attendance at age 4</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased from 2009 to 2012 (+25.1%) and decreased in 2013 (-17.7%) <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2012 to 2013 (+.2%) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD 2013</small>	VICTORIA <b>98.2%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>84.9%</b>
<b>Kindergarten participation rate - Aboriginal Children</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Not available. To ensure confidentiality (<=5 children) <b>State trend:</b> Increased from 2011 to 2012 (+5.3%) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD 2013</small>	VICTORIA <b>75.4%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>Not publically available</b>
<b>Children reported to have had a non-parental early childhood education and/or care experience in the year before school</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2009 to 2012 (+8.2%) <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2009 to 2012 (+6.3%) <small>Source: AEDI 2012</small>	VICTORIA <b>97.6%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>98.7%</b>
<b>Children who attended preschool, including preschool in a day care centre, in the year before school</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2009 to 2012 (+5.5%) <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2009 to 2012 (+3.2%) <small>Source: AEDI 2012</small>	VICTORIA <b>93.9%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>98.7%</b>
<b>Proportion of children at school entry with emotional or behavioural difficulties</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased from 2012 to 2013 (+.8%) <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2012 to 2013 (+0.1%) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small>	VICTORIA <b>4.4%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>5.9%</b>
<b>Proportion of children at school entry whose parents report concerns with their behaviour</b> <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2012 to 2013 (-2.7%) <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2012 to 2013 (+0.4%) <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small>	VICTORIA <b>13.3%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>15.2%</b>



## Children and young people are achieving at school NAPLAN

<p><b>Children meeting national standards in literacy - Year 3</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-0.7%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-1.4%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>94.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>92.7%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in literacy - Year 5</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-0.6%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-2.3%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>94.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>97.8%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in literacy - Year 7</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2013 to 2014 (+2.6%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (0.0%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>95.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>96.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in literacy - Year 9</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-1.0%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-1.0%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>93.3%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>91.0%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in numeracy - Year 3</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2013 to 2014 (-1.1%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-0.7%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>95.5%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>96.0%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in numeracy - Year 5</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2013 to 2014 (+1.9%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (+0.3%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>94.7%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>97.8%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in numeracy - Year 7</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2013 to 2014 (+1.5%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-0.2%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>95.5%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>96.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Children meeting national standards in numeracy - Year 9</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2013 to 2014 (+4.1%)  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2013 to 2014 (+2.6%)  <small>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>94.8%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>94.6%</b></p>

## RadRecreation - 'Let's Take it Outside'

RadRecreation (RadRec) is a 10 week program which was born from a partnership between Berry Street and the Outdoor Education Group (OEG) as a way of providing opportunities for young people to enjoy our stunning local environment whilst enjoying the company of their peers. Designed for youth who are not studying or working and aged between 15 – 20 years old, RadRec combines a range of physical activities with other wellbeing elements.

The program commences with a visit to the Murrindindi Wellbeing Equine Assisted Learning centre where the participants spend time doing therapeutic group work with horses. This type of interaction with horses helps teach self-awareness as participants can observe how the horses respond to their energy.

Other weeks include bushwalking through the Cathedral Ranges, mountain biking on the Goulburn Valley Rail Trail to the Cheviot Tunnel, Sea Kayaking on Lake Eildon and a day of high ropes at Wanggai Bush Camp in Eildon. It has been found that 'Green Exercise' can improve mood and health in ways that nothing else can. This program is 'challenge by choice' meaning participants can decide how much, or little, of each activity they wish to do and no minimum fitness level is required.

Storytelling, self-reflection, mindfulness and journaling are some other aspects of program that promote wellbeing and provide participants with extra skills to meet life's challenges. A leathercraft workshop provides an outlet for creativity and it is always incredible to see the passion and productivity that comes out of the day. There is an opportunity within this program to not only create new social connections, but to also feel supported by the community as vocational pathways become clearer. Towards the end of the program we invite local people from a variety of sectors to come and speak with the participants about their journeys into their chosen fields. It has been wonderful to see how enthusiastic community members have been in engaging our local youth through the program and supporting new opportunities for their futures.





## Young people are engaged in learning or earning

<p><b>Proportion of people who report feeling connected to their school (data available only for Government schools) - Years 5-6</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-0.4%). Below the state average from 2010 to 2014, however has remained stable since 2012</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (-0.1%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>85.7%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>81.3%</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of people who report feeling connected to their school (data available only for Government schools) - Years 7-9</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2013 to 2014 (+2.2%)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2013 to 2014 (+0.6%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>62.3%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>65.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Proportion of people aged 19 years who have attained Year 12 or equivalent</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2010 to 2011 (-45.6%). 125.5% in 2010</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Increased 2010 to 2011 (+2.6%)</p> <p>Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD 2011</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>84.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI</p> <p><b>79.9%</b></p>
<p><b>School completion rates for Indigenous students Year 12 or equivalent attainment at age 19 (number of attainments)</b></p> <p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Unavailable due to low number of attainment</p> <p>North Eastern Victoria Increased 2012 to 2013 (+1)</p> <p><b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2012 to 2013 (-3)</p> <p>Source: DEECD internal data 2013</p>	<p>VICTORIA</p> <p><b>330</b></p>	<p>NORTH EAST VICTORIA</p> <p><b>68</b></p>





## School Leaving Data

The ABS Census can help to identify people with a 'profound or severe core activity limitation' using similar criteria used in the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers. This population is defined as people with a disability who need assistance in their day to day lives with any or all of the following core activities - self care, body movements or communication.

<p><b>Percentage of engaged school leavers (involved in full time work and/or study)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2006 to 2011 (-8.5%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (+0.1%)  <small>Source: Community Indicators Victoria 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>72.0%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>56.8%</b></p>
<p><b>Percentage of disengaged school leavers (not involved in work or study at all)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2006 to 2011 (+1.3%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2006 to 2011 (-0.4%)  <small>Community Indicators Victoria 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>15.0%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>21.2%</b></p>
<p><b>Additional Data</b>  <b>Number of young people attending alternative education programs 2014</b>            DATA GAP  <small>Source: LLEN</small></p>		

## Families are supportive of learning

<p><b>Children are regularly read to/encouraged in their reading at home</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A - only available for 2012  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: AEDI 2012 reported by teachers</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>93.9%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>94.3%</b></p>
<p><b>Children whose parent(s) caregiver(s) are actively engaged with the school in supporting their child's learning</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> N/A - only available for 2012  <b>State trend:</b> N/A  <small>Source: AEDI 2012 reported by teachers</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>94.0%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>98.1%</b></p>
<p><b>Children in households with internet/home internet access</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2007 to 2011 (+3.2%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2007 to 2011 (+0.7%)  <small>Source: CIV 2013</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>79.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>74.2%</b></p>

In Murrindindi, 74.2% of persons lived in households that had Internet access of any form at their dwelling, compared to 72.3% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 79.6%.

Of the total population of Murrindindi, 65.7% lived in households that had home Internet access via a broadband connection, compared to 64.4% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 72.4%.

## The *Re-engagement* program

Since the 2009 Black Saturday bush fires, levels of non-attendance amongst students enrolled at Alexandra Secondary College have increased. The leadership team at Alexandra Secondary College, headed-up by then principal Andrew Johnston came together to look for ways of addressing this issue. A partnership with Berry Street was formed and the Re-engagement Program was developed. In early discussions around the concern at growing levels of non-attendance and disengagement from school, it was found that there was a number of students who were rarely attending school due to issues related to mental illness (namely anxiety and depression) and family relationship breakdown. These students were losing touch with education while taking time out to deal with their presenting issues, and were then finding it increasingly difficult to re-engage with school when the time came or when their issues were more manageable.

The assistance offered through the Re-engagement program consists of individual case management and 1:1 therapeutic support for young people and their families in negotiating the re-engagement process. The goals of the intervention are set by the young person and may involve participation in a staged return to school process, participation in the “pop-up classroom” or transition into vocational training or employment. The “pop-up classroom” is held once a week at the Berry Street offices in Alexandra and involves young people completing work which is at their level with the support of a qualified teacher. Young people also complete a gym session in the afternoon as a way of improving overall health and wellbeing and in order to increase their social interaction and community participation. Young people are also given the opportunity to participate in other programs including RadRecreation and a 4 week program which assisted participants to get their learners permit.

The program commenced in July 2015 and so far has assisted 12 young people to return to school on a full or part time basis or commence employment including school based apprenticeships and traineeships. For more information regarding the Re-engagement Program, please contact Berry Street on **(03) 5770 2200**.



# Data Gaps

(Courtesy of the Greater Shepparton State of the Children Report 2014)

	To be Released	Collected but not publicly available	Collected but only state data publicly available (Victoria)	Not collected by a known source
<b>AEDC</b>				
Indigenous local data: Source: DEECD, AEDC Numbers are too small to release public information		✓		
<b>HAPPY AND HEALTHY CHILDREN</b>				
<b>CHILDREN HAVE A HEALTHY CHILDHOOD</b>				
Antenatal Care: Women access antenatal care during their pregnancy Source: Victorian Perinatal Data Collection, Department of Health		✓		
Maternal use of nicotine in pregnancy Source: DEECD 2010			18.3%	
Maternal use of alcohol in pregnancy Source: DEECD 2010			59.8%	
Maternal use of other drugs in pregnancy				✓
Oral health status: Proportion of children brushing their teeth twice a day Source: DEECD 2010			63.5%	
Children aged 6 months-12 years who had ever had a filling Source: DEECD 2010			27.5%	
Sport and Leisure/physical activity: Children doing adequate amount of exercise and physical activity Source: DEECD 2010			60.3%	
Regular access to healthy food: Proportion of children 4-12 years reporting to eat at least the minimum recommended service of fruit and vegetables Source: DEECD 2010			34.7%	

## ADOLESCENTS HAVE GOOD PHYSICAL HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

Number of young people with STI's: Safe sex-young people (10-17) practicing safe sex by using a condom 58.1%

Source: DOH, Hume Region, 2013

Drug and Alcohol use rates:  
Proportion of adolescents who have drunk alcohol in the last 30 days 23.8% (12 - 14)  
52.3% (15 - 17)

Source: DEECD 2010

Drug & Alcohol use rates:  
Proportion of adolescents who have smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days 5.6% (12 - 14)  
17.7% (15 - 17)

Source: DEECD 2010

Drug & Alcohol use rates:  
Proportion of adolescents (12-14) who have ever used drugs (marijuana, glue or chromed, other illegal drugs) 3.7% (mari)  
7.9% (glue)  
1% (other)

Source: DEECD 2010

Drug & Alcohol use rates:  
Proportion of adolescents (15-17), who have ever used drugs (marijuana, glue or chromed, other illegal drugs) 16% (mari)  
7% (glue)  
4.7% (other)

Source: DEECD 2010

Mental Health: Proportion of adolescents with the highest level of psychological distress 13%

Source: DEECD 2010

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS ARE WELL SUPPORTED

Number of children referred to ECIS (Early Childhood Intervention Services) ✓

Number of children and adolescents with disability or developmental delay: Children diagnosed/identified with a developmental delay prior to 1 year ✓

## LEARNING EARLY & SCHOOL SUCCESS

### CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED IN EARLY LEARNING AND PLAYGROUP ACTIVITIES

Kindergarten attendance at age 3 ✓

Participation of Aboriginal children in 3 year-old kindergarten 39.2% (of estimated population Aboriginal young people)

Source: Victoria's vulnerable children - our shared responsibility Baseline performance data report 2013

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ACHIEVING AT SCHOOL

NAPLAN: Children meeting national standards in writing (Year 3-5-7-9) ✓  
 Source: DEECD 2010

NAPLAN: Indigenous local data ✓  
 Source: DEECD 2010

NAPLAN: LBOTE local data ✓  
 Source: DEECD 2010

## YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ENGAGED IN LEARNING OR EARNING (GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS DATA ONLY)

School attendance data: Average absence days from school in 2012  
 Source: Victoria's vulnerable children - our shared responsibility Baseline performance data report 2013  
 Victoria  
 Year 5: 14.4  
 Year 7: 15.4  
 Year 9: 21.0

School attendance data: School completion rates for CALD students ✓

Suspension data ✓

Expulsion data  
 Source: DEECD, internal data, 2013  
 LGA  
 NE Victoria  
 Total 95  
 Rural 14  
 Metro 8

Students apparent retention rate Year 10-12  
 Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD  
 Victoria  
 82.1%  
 NE Victoria  
 75.6%

ATSI students apparent retention Year 10-12  
 Source: VCAMS Portal DEECD  
 Victoria  
 56.7%

School leaving data: Learning or earning at age 15 ✓

School leaving data: Numbers of pregnant or young mothers attending school ✓

School leaving data: Number of children being home schooled ✓

## SAFE & SECURE

### ADOLESCENTS ARE SECURELY HOUSED

Young homeless ✓  
 Source: Centrelink

Unreasonable to live at home ✓  
 Source: Centrelink

Transient families ✓

### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SAFE IN THEIR COMMUNITY

Sexual assault clients ✓  
 Source: Victorian Centre Against Sexual Assault

## SUPPORTED FAMILIES

### CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES ARE SUPPORTED BY A SECURE ENVIRONMENT

Services bulk billed

Source: DHS, 2010-2011

Victoria  
79.1%  
Australia  
80.2%

Respite care, including  
waiting list



### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE ACTIVE AND CIVICALLY ENGAGED IN THE COMMUNITY

Engagement with interpreters  
to assist families



## Murrindindi Resilience Project

A collaborative project activated via the Murrindindi Youth Partnership in 2015 with all 16 State and Catholic schools in the municipality focusing on increasing the level of resilience for young people. The project is centred on the Resilient Youth Australians resilience survey, of which Andrew Fuller, leading child psychologist, is a Director.

The Resilience Survey is an on-line survey which collects, collates and analyses the strengths of young people from Grade 3 to Year 12 in terms of 40 developmental assets, the incidence of depressive disorders and hopefulness, and the relationship of these two key risk and protective factors.

The Resilience Survey is a self-report which captures student voice across three gold standard, scientifically validated, reliable, and internationally accepted measures:

1. Developmental Assets Profile (DAP);
2. General Health Questionnaire (GHQ12);
3. Children's Hope Scale (CHS).

The validity, reliability and overall high quality of the information captured by the Resilience Survey means that the results are:

- An accurate measure of the resilience and wellbeing of the young people in Murrindindi's schools
- A sound basis for planning and implementing targeted resilience building initiatives
- Enables the analyse of cross-sectional and longitudinal data
- Provide funders with proof to provide resources for successful programs and services

The project has been committed to for three years and will guide collaboration and strategic focus for members of the Murrindindi Youth Partnership in supporting student resilience over this time frame.

# Data Only

## COLLECTED FOR THE WHOLE POPULATION

### Children have a healthy childhood

<p><b>Physical activity levels - % sedentary (0 minutes of physical activity)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2010 to 2011-2012 (-1.0%)  <b>State trend:</b> Stable between 2010 to 2011-2012 (+0.2%)  <small>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey, DOH, 2011-2012</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>5.5%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>2.9%</b></p>
<p><b>Physical activity levels - % insufficient time and/or sessions (less than 150 minutes or more minutes, but fewer than 5 sessions)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2010 to 2011-2012 (+12.9%)  <b>State trend:</b> Decreased 2010 to 2011-2012 (-0.8%)  <small>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey, DOH, 2011-2012</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>26.6%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>31.3%</b></p>
<p><b>Physical activity levels - % sufficient time and sessions (150 minutes and five or more sessions)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2010 to 2011-2012 (-6.8%)  <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2010 to 2011-2012 (+3.6%)  <small>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey, DOH, 2011-2012</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>63.9%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>62.8%</b></p>
<p><b>Compliance with fruit and vegetable guidelines (% whole population who do not meet dietary guidelines)</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (-13.9%)  <b>State trend:</b> State trend: Increased 2012-2013 to 2013-2014 (+.5%)  <small>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey, DOH, 2011-2012</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>48.2%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>46.4%</b></p>
<p><b>Prevalence of overweight and obesity</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> 2008; Overweight - 36.4%, Obese - 13.6%, Total = 50%            Increased 2008 to 2011-2012 (+13.6%)  <b>State trend:</b> 2008; Overweight - 31.9%, Obese - 16.7%, Total = 48.6%  <small>Source: Victorian Population Health Survey, DOH, 2011-2012</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA            Overweight - 32.5%            Obese - 17.3%  <b>= 49.8% Total</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI            Overweight - 44%            Obese - 19.6%  <b>= 63.6% Total</b></p>

### Adolescents have good physical and mental health

<p><b>Avoidable Mortality Suicide - number (per 100,000) Age 0-74 years</b>  <b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Not available by LGA  <b>State trend:</b> Not available prior to 2011-2012  <small>Source: University of Adelaide, Public Health Information 2015</small></p>	<p>VICTORIA  <b>2009 - 2012</b>  <b>2000</b>  <b>(10)</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI  <b>2009 - 2012</b>  <b>111</b>  <b>(26.3)</b></p>
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From 2009 to 2013 in Victoria;  
 Age 5-14 = 11 suicides (rate = 0.3)  
 Age 15-17 = 62 suicides (rate 6.0)  
 47 = metro Melbourne (rate = 1.5)  
 26 = rural Victoria (rate = 2.2)  
 Data is not available publically at a local government area

Source: ABS 2013



# Children and young people are safe in their community

<p><b>People who feel safe or very safe when walking alone in local area during the day</b></p>	<p>VICTORIA <b>97%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI <b>98%</b></p>
<p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2007 to 2011 (+1.1%) <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2007 to 2011 (+1.0%) <small>Source: CIV 2011</small></p>		
<p><b>People who feel safe or very safe when walking alone in local area during the night</b></p>	<p>VICTORIA <b>70.3%</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI <b>94.1%</b></p>
<p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2007 to 2011 (+10.9%) <b>State trend:</b> Increased 2007 to 2011 (+3.8%) NB: Change in data source from 2007 CIV to 2011 ABS <small>Source: CIV 2011</small></p>		

# Adolescents are Securely Housed

<p><b>Number of Presentations for housing/homelessness or at risk of homelessness assistance at Rural Housing Network Limited 2014-2015</b></p>	<p>MURRINDINDI <b>36</b></p>
<p><b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2013-2014 to 2014-2015 (+3) <small>Source: CIV 2011</small></p>	
<p><b>Presenting Reasons for Housing/Homelessness Assistance 2014-2015:</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Difficulties 23</li> <li>• Housing Affordability stress 10</li> <li>• Housing Crisis 3</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Additional Data</b> <b>Murrindindi Shire Library membership &amp; Participation</b></p>	
<p>Total: 4282 (2013-2014)</p>	
<p><small>Source: Murrindindi Shire Library Internal Data</small></p>	



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# Looking for More Data

For further information regarding children and young people , refer to the following data sources:

## Department of Education and Early Childhood Development:

- ❖ Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System (VCAMS)  
The Office for Children (Victorian Government) collates data from a range of sources on the safety, health, development, learning and wellbeing of children and young people in Victoria.  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/research/Pages/vcams.aspx>
- ❖ The State of Victoria's Children Report 2011  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/research/pages/reportdatachildren.aspx>

## Growing up in Australia:

- ❖ The Australian Institute of Family Studies Growing up in Australia provides data from a longitudinal survey based on a nationally representative sample of children. The data is provided on a national and state level on topics such as children's development, family functioning, education etc. A limited amount of information is online, with more available by order.  
<http://www.growingupinaustralia.gov.au>

## The Australian Bureau of Statistics website

- ❖ The website present an array of free data about Victoria and Australia from various surveys. Some data is available at local government area level.  
[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)

## Community Indicators Victoria

- ❖ The University of Melbourne resource compiles data from a range of sources to create wellbeing reports, comprising 70 indicators for local government areas under 5 themes;

- Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities
- Sustainable Built and Natural Environments
- Dynamic, Resilient Local Economies
- Culturally Rich and Vibrant Communities
- Democratic and Engaged Communities

[www.communityindicators.net.au/](http://www.communityindicators.net.au/)



# Appendices

## 1. INDICATOR SUMMARY

### In a child friendly Shire...

#### Communities have...

##### QUALITY ORGANISATIONS, SERVICES, PROGRAMS

- Young people can access services when needed
- Early years provision
- Quality schools and flexible delivery models
- Family support and counseling services

##### CAPACITY

- Information and data
- Evidence based about what works
- Research

##### QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Playgrounds and recreation spaces
- Libraries
- Schools
- Internet access
- Transport

##### BROAD NETWORKS

- Opportunities to participate e.g. clubs and interests

##### WELL PLANNED SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

- Toxins/Pollution
- Quality natural environment
- Crime rate: People who feel safe or very safe when walking alone in local area during the day is above the state average.
- People who feel safe or very safe when walking alone in local area at night is above the state average.
- Road safety

##### COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS WORKING TOGETHER

- Partnerships undertaking strategic planning
- Joint use/integrated service delivery

#### Families are...

##### PROVIDING A POSITIVE LIFESTYLE

- Physical activity levels: DATA GAP
- Regular access to healthy food below the state average
- Numbers of young people with STI's above the state average
- Drug, alcohol, nicotine use rates (adolescents): DATA GAP
- Teenage births above the state average
- Families accessing Family and Community Support Services slightly above the state average
- Availability of housing and transport below the state average
- Persons who ran out of food in the previous 12 months and couldn't afford to buy anymore above the state average

##### SUPPORTED BY CHILD EXPERTISE

- MCH 4 month assessment above the state average
- MCH 3.5 years above the state average
- Access to bulk billing services: DATA GAP

##### CREATING A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- Kindergarten attendance at age 4 below the state average
- Access to parent early education programs above the state average
- Parents reading to children at home and participating in schools above the state average
- Children whose parents actively engage in supporting child learning above the state average
- Internet access at home below the state average

#### Children are...

##### Happy & Healthy

- Maternal use of substances in pregnancy: DATA GAP
- Low birth weight above the state average
- Breastfeeding rates above the state average at 3 and 6 months
- Immunisation rates over 90% in 2012-2013
- Dental health: DATA GAP
- Mental health (children & young people): Proportion of children & young people being bullied below the state average
- Mental health (children): Proportion of children with emotional or behavior difficulties above the state average
- Proportion of children at school entry whose parents report high levels of family stress in the past month above the state average
- Adolescents rate of intentional self harm above the state average
- Adolescents rate of psychiatric hospitalization below the state average
- Overweight or Obese: DATA GAP
- Ages 0-14 - Number of people with a profound or severe disability above the state average
- Ages 15-19 - Number of people with a profound or severe disability on par with the state average
- Rate of hospital separations below the state average

##### Engaged, learning & earning

- NAPLAN: Children meeting national standards in numeracy above the state average
- NAPLAN: Children (Year 5 & 7) meeting national standards in literacy (reading) above the state average
- NAPLAN: Children (Year 3 & 9) meeting national standards in literacy (reading) below the state average
- Connectedness to school: Below the state average Years 5-6
- Connectedness to school: Above the state average Years 7-9
- Proportion of young people aged 19 years who have attained Year 12 or equivalent below the state average
- Suspension and expulsion: DATA GAP
- Percentage of 15-19 year old school leavers above the state average

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**SAFE**

- Proportion of children at school entry whose parents report high levels of family stress in the past month above the state average

**MODELLING GOOD****CITIZENSHIP**

- The area has easy access to recreational & leisure facilities as well as good facilities and services like shops, childcare, schools and libraries; below the state average

**Well developed by their first year of school (AEDC)**

- 18.1% developmentally vulnerable on two or more of the following domains (Victoria 9.5%);
- Physical health and wellbeing; Children developmentally at risk (19.4%) or vulnerable (15.5%) have not developed one of the three skills (independence, handedness, coordination).
- Social competence & wellbeing; Children developmentally at risk (18.1%) or vulnerable (13.5%) Have average to poor overall social skills, low self confidence and are rarely able to play with various children and interact cooperatively
- Emotional maturity; Children developmentally at risk (16.8%) or vulnerable (14.8%) never or almost never show most of the helping behaviours including helping someone hurt, sick or upset, offering to help spontaneously, and inviting others to join in
- Language & cognitive skills; Children developmentally vulnerable (11.6%) or vulnerable (12.3%) do not have most of the basic literacy skills.
- Communication skills and general knowledge; Children developmentally at risk (25.8%) or vulnerable (11%) range from being average to very poor in effective communication.

**Safe and Secure**

- Proportion of family violence incidents where children and young people are involved as other parties above the state average
- Number of child protection reports and re-reports within a year, above the state average
- Number of investigations of child abuse notifications for children aged 0-17 that were substantiated below the state average
- Number of young people in out of Home Care below the state average
- Police reports of young assault victims below the state average

**Active Citizens**

- The area has good access to art, cultural event and activities
- Participation in citizen engagement above the state average

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(Adapted from the State of Bendigo's Children Report, 2011 & the State of Greater Shepparton's Children Report, 2014)

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# Additional Demographics

## DIVERSITY

	LGA Measure	Rank Amongst LGA's	Victoria Measure
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population	0.7%	38	0.8%
Percentage of Population born overseas	12.4%	41	27.7%
Percentage of Population born in non-English speaking country	5.1%	46	29.9%
Top 5 overseas countries of birth		United Kingdom 5.4% New Zealand 1.1% Germany 0.7% Netherlands 0.6% Italy 0.5%	
Percentage of Population speaking a language other than English at home	3.5%	51	24.2%
Top 5 languages spoken other than English		Italian 0.4% German 0.3% Greek 0.3% Mandarin 0.2% Dutch 0.2%	
Percentage with low English proficiency	0.5%	50%	4.0%
Top 5 Ancestries		English 43.3% Australian 27.7% Irish 6.9% Scottish 4.6% German 2.5%	
New settler arrivals per 100,000 population	171.3%	69	1,415.1
Humanitarian arrivals as a percentage of new settlers	0.0%	49	7.2%
Community acceptance of diverse cultures	46.8%	36	50.6%

Source: DOH, LGA Community Profiles, Murrindindi 2013

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

<b>Employed Labour Force</b>	REGIONAL VICTORIA <b>94.8%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>95.4%</b>
<b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Decreased 2006 to 2011 (-0.4%)	<b>Regional Victoria trend:</b> Stable between 2006 and 2011 (+0.5%)	
Source: ABS 2011		
<b>Unemployed Labour Force</b>	REGIONAL VICTORIA <b>5.2%</b>	MURRINDINDI <b>4.6%</b>
<b>Murrindindi trend:</b> Increased 2006 to 2011 (+0.4%)	<b>Regional Victoria trend:</b> Stable between 2006 and 2011 (-0.5%)	



## MAIN INDUSTRIES SECTORS OF EMPLOYMENT

### Construction

REGIONAL VICTORIA  
**8.9%**

MURRINDINDI  
**11.9%**

**Murrindindi trend:** Increased 2006 to 2011 (+2.1%)

**Regional Victoria trend:**  
Stable between 2006 and 2011 (+0.7%)

Source: ABS 2011

### Health Care & Social Science

REGIONAL VICTORIA  
**13.1%**

MURRINDINDI  
**11.6%**

**Murrindindi trend:** Increased 2006 to 2011 (+1.5%)

**Regional Victoria trend:**  
Stable between 2006 and 2011 (+1.6%)

### Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing

REGIONAL VICTORIA  
**8.2%**

MURRINDINDI  
**11.3%**

**Murrindindi trend:** Increased 2006 to 2011 (+0.8%)

**Regional Victoria trend:**  
Decreased 2006 and 2011 (-1.7%)

### Education & Training

REGIONAL VICTORIA  
**8.2%**

MURRINDINDI  
**8.9%**

**Murrindindi trend:** Stable 2006 to 2011 (+0.2%)

**Regional Victoria trend:**  
Stable between 2006 and 2011 (0.3%)

Source: ABS 2011



**BERRY**  
**STREET**  
We're for Childhood  
SINCE 1877