



January 2025

Wyndham Health Status Assessment

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Introduction

Located in the western suburbs of Melbourne, Wyndham is one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities.

As a meeting place for people of the Kulin Nation, Wyndham has a rich and diverse Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Wadawurrung and Bunurong were the first people to occupy the area now known as Wyndham. Today, the City of Wyndham is rich in cultural diversity, and is home to one of the most multicultural communities in the country according to the most recent Census. Each year, more and more people choose to make Wyndham their home. Over the next 25 years, it is projected that an additional 200,000 people will call the City of Wyndham home, bringing our population close to half a million.

The Local Government Act requires Council to provide good governance for the benefit and wellbeing of the community. The Public Health and Wellbeing Act requires Council to prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. Council, with its broad range of responsibilities, has a role and can make an impact across a wide range of initiatives that contribute to the health and wellbeing of its residents.

In undertaking this responsibility, Council takes a holistic view of health and wellbeing and recognises that the way in which individuals and the whole community experience physical, mental, emotional, and social wellbeing is determined by the circumstances in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. Council has a major role in protecting, improving and promoting the health of residents to make sure everyone is provided with an environment in which they can achieve the best possible personal health and wellbeing. Council is not a health service provider; for this reason, public health and wellbeing in Wyndham is a collective responsibility and Council works as a facilitator and advocate, connecting our various service delivery partners to meet diverse community needs. Council also undertakes health service planning to better understand the health needs and gaps across the municipality, which provide the evidence base for supporting advocacy for the attraction of required services.

The purpose of this Health Needs Assessment is to:

- Evaluate residents' **health status**, including long-term health conditions, lifestyle behaviours, and mental health.¹
- Examine **existing service systems**, such as primary and acute usage.
- Identify current and future healthcare **needs**.
- Build the evidence base that support's Council's health planning work, including the ongoing work within the identified Health Focus areas of the Council's draft Council Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-29.

¹ *Council has used national and state data sources, including the Victorian Population Health Survey (VPHS; 2024) and Australia Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), to identify health needs, service gaps, and access issues.

Summary of Findings

The healthcare system in Wyndham is under pressure from a rapidly growing population, rising costs, and lack of available infrastructure. The population has grown significantly over the past 20 years and is forecast to exceed **485,000** by 2046, with **125,000 residents in Tarneit** alone². The community is highly diverse with almost half of all residents born overseas and one of the largest First Nations communities in Greater Melbourne³.

The distribution of health services varies across the municipality. Established areas, like **Werribee** and **Hoppers Crossing**, are well resourced. There is a small concentration of services around the **Point Cook** town centre, and good connections to the hospital precinct at Hoppers Lane. In contrast, current infrastructure especially in **Tarneit, Truganina, Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale**, lags population growth. Access to centralised services from other parts of Wyndham is hindered by **congested roads** and **inefficient public transport**.

Health needs vary across the lifespan and in Wyndham, where **families with children make up most households**, pre-natal and early childhood health is paramount to supporting future positive health outcomes. There is a growing prevalence of **overweight** children, and the proportion of children experiencing **developmental delays is rising** in some parts of Wyndham^{4,5}. Maternal and Child Health services play a crucial role in improving child health outcomes but are under strain, with less than 65% participation⁶.

Mental health and asthma affect a large portion of the population across all age groups² and **over 50% of adults are overweight and obese**⁷, putting them at risk of weight-related chronic health conditions including heart disease and Type 2 diabetes. **Smoking rates have decreased** over time; however, **vaping** has become a rising concern particularly among youth^{7,8}.

Many healthcare providers are moving to mixed-billing systems, meaning **more expenses are passed on** to patients and **reductions in funding**, such as Medicare-rebated psychology sessions, have further strained services. 28.5% of adults skipped a GP appointment due to cost. The rise of telehealth during the pandemic has improved accessibility to services but it is not suitable for all conditions and individuals. **Preventative care has suffered**, with delays in health checks, cancer screenings, and elective surgeries, potentially leading to poorer long-term health outcomes. In acute care, there are **long wait times for local emergency services**⁹.

² <https://forecast.id.com.au/wyndham>

³ <https://profile.id.com.au/wyndham>

⁴ National Health Survey. Accessed via NWMPHN Health Status Assessment 2022

⁵ Australian Early Development Census, 2021. Wyndham, VIC. <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data-explorer/?id=181518>

⁶ Wyndham City Council. Oct 2024

⁷ Victorian Population Health Survey 2024. Early release data

⁸ Young People's use of Vapes and e-Cigarettes. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/smoking/young-peoples-vapes-e-cigarettes>

⁹ Public hospital emergency department non-urgent wait time, 2024

Various initiatives have been introduced to address barriers to healthcare, including the introduction of an **Urgent Care Clinic (UCC)** in Werribee and repurposing infrastructure, such as using Maternal and Child Health **(MCH) rooms for consulting spaces**. Council is also investing heavily in the development and improvement of outdoor spaces, encouraging more active lifestyles.

Currently, acute care, specialist services, and allied health practitioners are concentrated in Werribee and Hoppers Crossing. Meanwhile, there are unmet needs in the newly developing areas, including the northern suburbs of Tarneit and Truganina, and the western suburbs of Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale. Health services must be scalable and equitably distributed according to the community's changing needs.

Health Snapshot



4.1%
of people living with
disability



22.4%
of Wyndham people have a
long-term health condition



In Wyndham the Top Three long
term health conditions reported are:

- 1 Asthma
- 2 Mental health condition
- 3 Arthritis



1%
of people live in
social housing
(ABS Census 2021)



1%
of people reported
experiencing
homelessness
(ABS Census 2021)



76.9%
of people that reported
their health status as good,
very good or excellent.



57.9%
of people living in Wyndham are
overweight or obese, higher than
the Victorian average of 50.8%.



15.8%
of people living in
Wyndham consume
sugary drinks daily, higher
when compared with
10.1% of Victorian people



54.5%
of people living in
Wyndham don't engage in
enough physical activity,
higher when compared to
44.1% of Victorian people



36.6%
of people living in Wyndham
meet the recommended intake
of fruit and vegetable daily,
lower when compared with the
Victorian average of 43.2%



20.7%
of people living in
Wyndham smoke
or vape daily.



9.7%
of adults reported running
out of food and not being
able to afford to buy more
in past 12 months

28.8%
Worried about
running out of
money to buy food



23.5%
of Wyndham
adults reported
experiencing
loneliness



12.4%
of people reported
experiencing racism
or discrimination in
the past 12 months



25.9%
of Wyndham adults
reported experiencing
depression and
anxiety

(Source: The Victorian Population Health Survey (VPHS), 2022 & 2024) ** Note all figures relate to % of the Wyndham adult population



94.8%
of Wyndham children are immunised
by 5 years of age
(Source: Australian Immunisation Register)



1304
recorded family violence incidents in Wyndham
during 2023/24 (per 100,00 residents)
(Source: Crime Statistics Agency)

The Wyndham Community

Population and Geography

Wyndham's population is projected to grow by 51%, reaching over 485,000 people by 2046, with Tarneit alone expected to house 125,000 residents. Growth is concentrated in Tarneit, Werribee, Truganina, and Manor Lakes (*Table 1*). Geographically, Wyndham spans 542km², combining coastline, rural areas, and urban development.

Current transport infrastructure includes five train stations, though an additional four are recommended to improve access for current and future growth.

Table 1. Suburb population growth and per cent change, 2024-2046

Suburb	2024	2030	2035	2040	2046	% change 2024-46
Hoppers Crossing	36,275	36,428	36,504	36,636	36,653	1.04
Little River - Rural West	794	775	1,459	3,273	5,894	642.3*
Manor Lakes	15,069	23,269	27,178	29,810	31,342	108.0
Point Cook	67,771	70,423	72,698	76,038	78,398	15.7
Tarneit	69,268	87,080	100,950	112,823	125,288	80.9
Truganina	41,491	47,561	51,828	54,850	55,553	33.9
Werribee	54,974	67,012	76,781	81,373	87,985	60.0
Werribee South	2,650	3,025	3,016	3,038	3,095	16.8
Williams Landing - Laverton North	10,477	11,184	11,507	11,802	12,068	15.2
Wyndham Vale	26,519	35,183	42,333	48,078	52,323	97.3

Source: <https://forecast.id.com.au/wyndham>

*The significant growth in Little River-Rural West is concentrated around the private Eynesbury development, which may be re-gazetted to Melton City Council in the future.

Cultural Diversity

- Nearly half of all residents were born overseas (48%) and speak a language other than English at home (49.8%).
- 6% of people are unable to speak English well or at all.
- Punjabi, Hindi, and Mandarin are the most spoken languages besides English.
- India, the Philippines, and China are among the top five most common countries of birth.
- Diversity is concentrated in Tarneit, Truganina, Williams Landing and Manor Lakes.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Residents

Wyndham is home to the largest First Nations community in Greater Melbourne (2,511 people), more than half of whom are aged under 25. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples experience some of the highest differences in health status across the country, making the availability of culturally appropriate services essential in Wyndham.

Age Profile

Children aged 0-11 years and adults aged 25 to 49 years are the two largest age cohorts. The population is also aging, and pre-retirees and retirees will become the second largest age cohort by 2046 (19.1%) (Table 2). Additional health services across the lifespan, including maternity services, hospitals, paediatric, and aged care services, will be required over the next 20 years.

Table 2. Wyndham population forecasts by service age group, 2021-2046

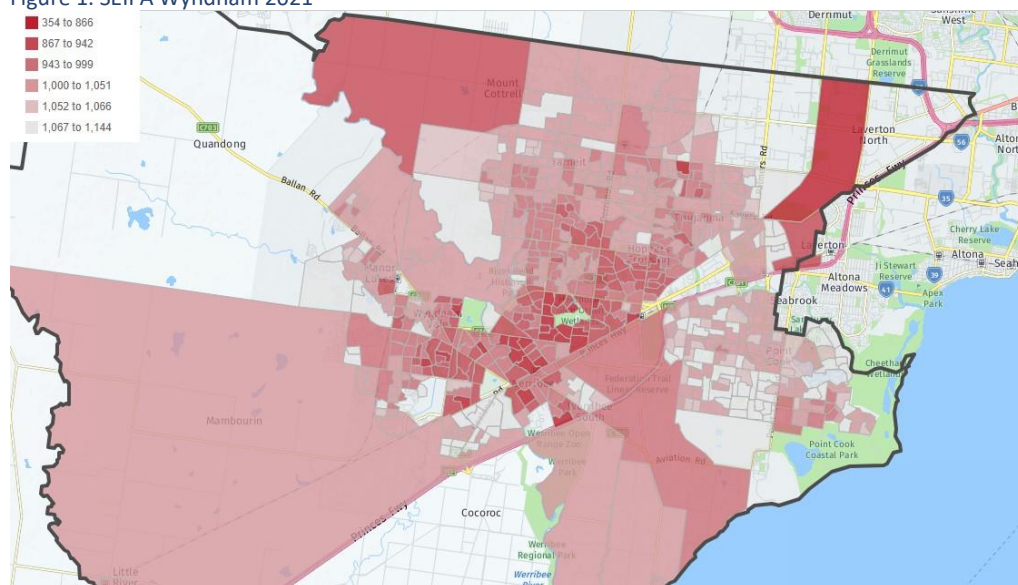
	2021		2031		2046		Change 2021-46
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Children 0-11 years	63,768	21.5	72,211	18.4	85,434	17.5	21,665
Young people 12 - 24 years	46,859	15.8	70,610	18.0	81,900	16.8	35,042
Adult workforce 25 - 49 years	127,520	43.1	167,082	42.7	193,881	39.7	66,360
Pre-retirees and retirees 50 - 69 years	44,186	14.9	59,774	15.3	93,541	19.1	49,355
Seniors 70+	13,877	4.7	22,004	5.6	33,845	6.9	19,967
Total persons	296,210	100.0	391,681	100.0	488,601	100.0	192,390

Source: <https://forecast.id.com.au/wyndham>

Socioeconomic Factors

The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage measures concentrations of households with low income, low education attainment and low skill occupations.¹⁰ High levels of disadvantage are concentrated in some areas of Werribee and Hoppers Crossing (Figure 1) where more than 1 in 4 households earn less than \$800 per week. People on lower incomes are more likely to report mental health issues and lower self-reported health.¹¹ In contrast, the SEIFA Index in areas of Williams Landing and Point Cook is higher than the Victorian and nationwide scores, indicating more households with high income and skilled employment (Appendix 1).

Figure 1. SEIFA Wyndham 2021

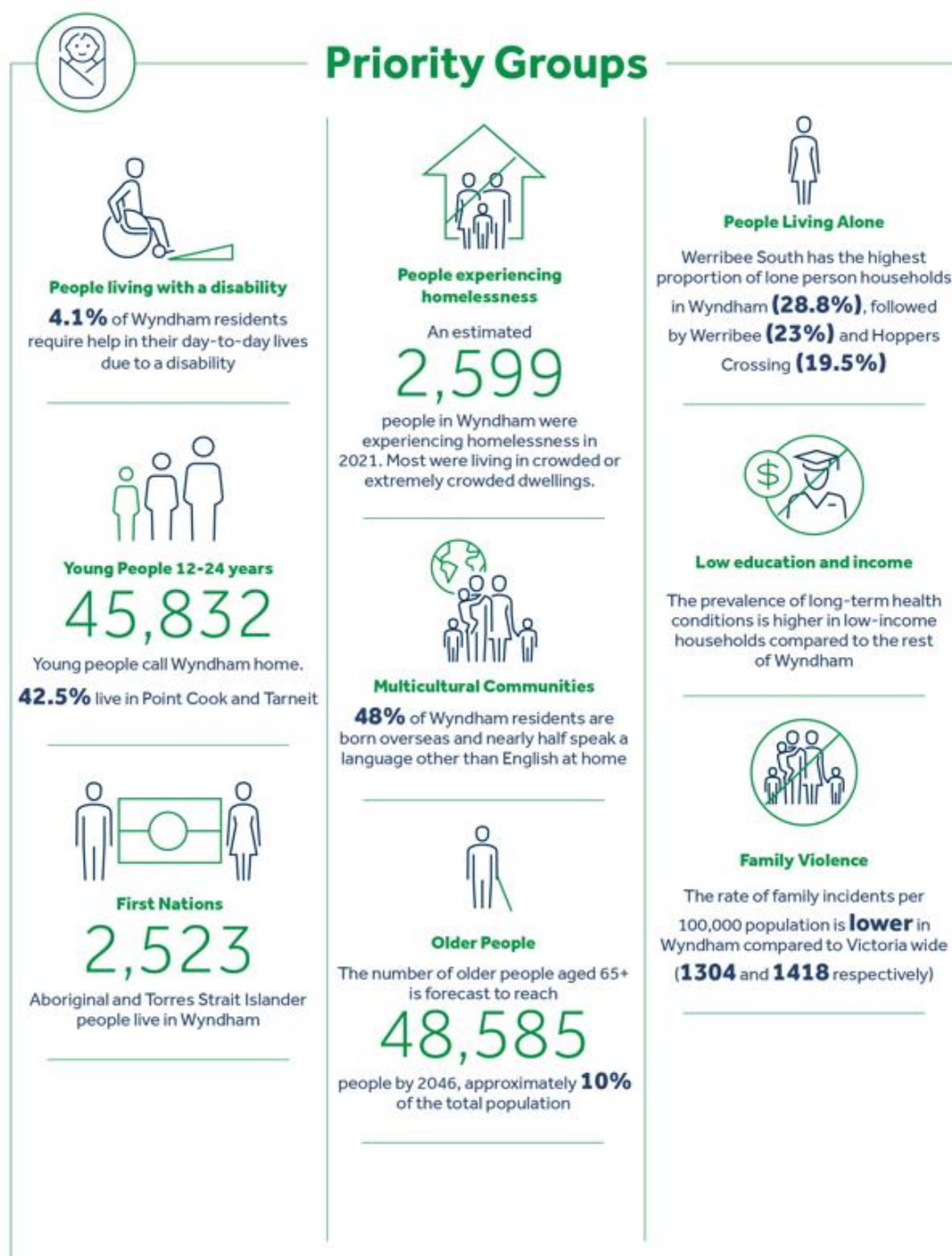


Source: <https://atlas.id.com.au/wyndham>

¹⁰ Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2021. <https://profile.id.com.au/wyndham/seifa-disadvantage>

¹¹ Australian Council of Social Services. Work, Income and Health Inequality – A Snapshot of the Evidence, 2021

Priority Groups



Priority groups - health considerations

- Access to mental health services and sexual health education is crucial as **young people** navigate key developmental stages.
- **First Nations** people require culturally safe healthcare services, addressing disparities in chronic diseases and mental health.

- **People experiencing homelessness** face barriers to consistent healthcare, often resulting in unmet mental and physical health needs and difficulties managing conditions.¹²
 - The number of people experiencing homelessness in Wyndham rose by 30% (2016-2021); the majority were 20 to 29 years of age.
- **Women and children escaping family violence** require support services including short-term accommodation and counselling
- Sexual and reproductive health are in demand services, particularly for females aged 15-45 years. (See *Appendix 17* for women's health indicators)
- Loneliness and social isolation can exacerbate mental health challenges, especially among **older adults** and **individuals living alone**.
- **Multicultural communities** may face language and cultural barriers as well as stigma associated with obtaining healthcare.
- Adequate support services and an inclusive social and physical environment are key to supporting people **living with a disability**.

For additional data on priority groups, see *Appendix 2*.

Psychosocial Factors

Gambling

In the September quarter of the 2024/25 financial year, over \$30 million dollars was lost on electronic gaming machines. The number of venues and machines remained steady at 13 venues and 893 machines. Losses in Wyndham were higher than Melton (\$24.9m) and lower than the losses in Hume (\$37.4m) (*Appendix 3*).¹³ Problem gamblers are more likely to be diagnosed with depression and anxiety than those with a moderate risk of problem gambling and, are also more likely than non-gamblers to smoke daily.¹⁴

Mortgage and Rental Stress

A household may be experiencing household stress if they are spending more than 30% of their gross income on housing.¹⁵ Mortgage stress is more prevalent in the newly developed areas of Wyndham where families typically have larger mortgages due to less time paying them down.

- **16.5%** of mortgage holders in Wyndham are **experiencing mortgage stress**; comparable to Greater Melbourne (16.8%) and Victoria (15.5%).
- **More than 1 in 5** mortgage holders in some parts of **Truganina and Tarneit** are spending greater than 30% of their gross income on a mortgage.

¹² Health of People Experiencing Homelessness, 2024

¹³ Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission. Monthly expenditure data by Local Government Area. Accessed Oct 2024

¹⁴ <https://responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au/resources/gambling-victoria/>

¹⁵ Mortgage costs >30% of income, <https://atlas.id.com.au/wyndham>

- Since August 2021, interest rates have increased from 0.10% to 4.35%. It is expected that considerably more households currently experience mortgage stress in 2024/25.

Established areas of Wyndham, including Little River and Mossfiel (in Hoppers Crossing), experience higher rates of rental stress (*Appendix 4 & 5*).

- **More than a quarter (27.9%)** of the 7,700 renting households were spending more than 30% of their gross income on rent.
- Rates of rental stress are comparable to Greater Melbourne (30%) and Victoria 30.9%).¹⁶

Safety

In 2023/2024, **20,144 crimes were recorded in Wyndham**; 5,986 per 100,000 people.¹⁷ This is considerably lower than the rate Victoria wide (7,925 per 100,000). Over a quarter of crimes occurred in **Werribee (5,463; 27.1%)**, followed by **Hoppers Crossing (3,367; 16.7%)** and **Tarneit (3,301; 16.4%)** (*Appendix 6*).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, **incidents of family violence rose** by 16.1%, increasing from 3,246 to 3,423 reported cases per year (2020-2021). In June 2024, 4,390 family violence incidents were recorded. Wyndham had the **fourth highest rate of family violence incidents** in the North-West Metro Region (NWMR), at 1,304.5 per 100,000 people, higher than the region total of 1203.0.

Health Status

Child and Family Health

- **5.5% of Wyndham mothers smoked** during their pregnancy, comparable to the rate across the NWMPHN (5.2%) and lower than Victoria wide (9.5%)¹⁸.
- Smoking rates during pregnancy have **remained stable** since 2017 despite the known risks¹⁹ (*Appendix 7*).
- **8.5 per 100 children are obese**, down from 9.5 in 2015. Rates of overweight children in Wyndham align with Victorian levels (2018).²⁰
- **94.8% of children are fully immunised** by age five, consistent with national levels (94.7%) and up from 92.7% in 2015.²¹

Child Development

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) is a national assessment tool used to measure a child's development by the time they start school. The AEDC measures 5 areas of development -

¹⁶ <https://atlas.id.com.au/wyndham>

¹⁷ Crime Statistics Agency. Latest Crime Data by Area, 2024.

¹⁸ National Perinatal Data Collection annual update 2022—data visualisation tables

¹⁹ <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/pregnancy-and-smoking>

²⁰ National Health Survey. Accessed via NWMPHN Health Status Assessment 2022

²¹ Social Health Atlas of Australia. 2023 release.

- Physical health and wellbeing,
- Social competence,
- Emotional maturity,
- Language and cognitive skills, and
- Communication skills and general knowledge.

There is a slightly greater proportion of children in Wyndham who are developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains compared to Victoria wide (10.2% and 11.4% respectively).

Overall vulnerability across Wyndham has **remained stable over time**. However, since 2016, developmental vulnerability on some domains has **decreased** in children from Point Cook and **increased** in Truganina (*Appendix 8*).

Health Behaviours

Compared to adults Victoria wide, Wyndham adults -

- Are less likely to meet physical activity recommendations.
- Consume insufficient fruit and vegetables.
- Regularly consume take-away foods and sugary drinks, and
- Sit 8 or more hours per day (*Appendix 9*).

28.7% of adults in Wyndham are **obese**; a significantly higher proportion than across Victoria (23%). Another **30%** are **overweight**.²² Obesity has been linked to several long-term health conditions such as heart disease, stroke, and Type 2 diabetes²³.

Compared to non-Indigenous Australians, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders **were more likely to be obese** (LGA level data unavailable). Daily smoking and most recently, vaping, are also prevalent in some first nations communities, while prevalence of **risky drinking is still high but declining**.²⁴

Alcohol and other drugs

- **10%** of Wyndham adults smoke daily, and **20% smoke or vape daily**.
- Compared to Victoria wide, the **lifetime risk of alcohol related harm amongst adults is lower** in Wyndham (9.5% and 8.4%, respectively) and **more Wyndham adults are abstaining** from drinking alcohol (30.2% over a 12-month period).
- Alcohol consumption is less prevalent in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities (CALD) due to cultural differences and religious factors.²⁵

²² Victorian Population Health Survey 2024. Early release data

²³ World Health Organisation Obesity: Health consequences of being overweight. (2024).

²⁴ National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey 2022-2023

²⁵ NWMPHN 2023

Chronic Conditions

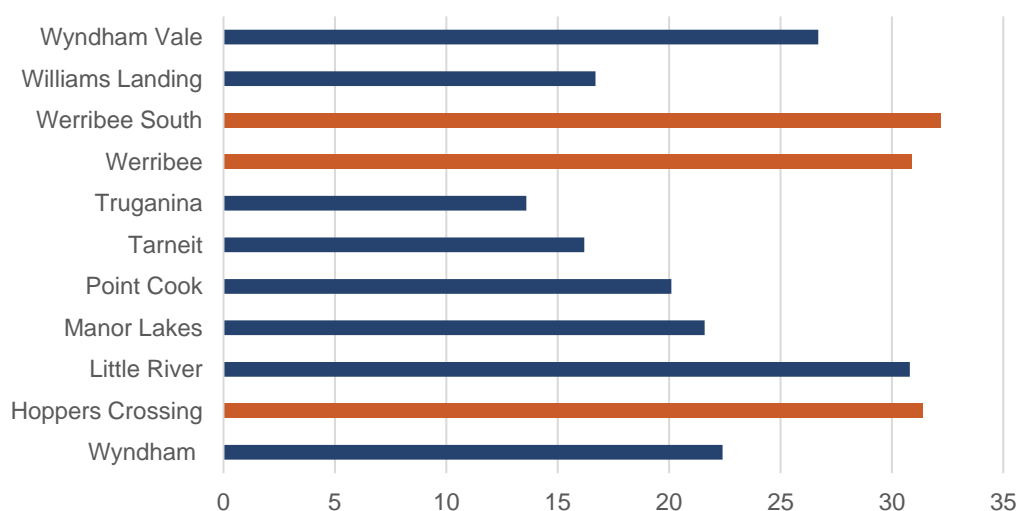
Long-term health conditions affect **nearly a quarter** of the Wyndham population (22.4%).²⁶ In suburbs with older populations, including Werribee South, Werribee, and Hoppers Crossing, **over 30% of residents** had been diagnosed with a long-term health condition, compared to 22.4% Wyndham wide (*Figure 3*).

The top 3 long-term health conditions are -

1. Asthma 6.5%
2. Mental health conditions (5.7%)
3. Arthritis (4.6%)

Diabetes was a close fourth, affecting 4.4% of the population. Prevalence of long-term health conditions of all types is lower in Wyndham compared to other growth areas in Greater Melbourne (*Table 3*). As the population ages, **incidence of age-related disease is likely to increase**, including arthritis and heart disease.

Figure 2. Percent Population with a Long-Term Health Condition, Wyndham & Suburbs, 2021



Source: <https://profile.id.com.au/wyndham/long-term-health?WebID=190>

Table 3. Per cent people aged 18+ diagnosed with a chronic disease, 2021.

	Wyndham	Melton	Hume	Western Region	Victoria
Asthma	6.5	8.4	7.5	7.5	8.4
Mental Health	5.7	7.2	7.0	7.1	8.8
Arthritis	4.6	5.7	6.6	6.0	8.0
Diabetes	4.4	4.9	5.5	4.9	4.7
Heart Disease	2.1	2.5	3.1	2.8	3.7

²⁶ Long Term Health Conditions (2021). <https://profile.id.com.au/wyndham/long-term-health?WebID=10>

Cancer (any)	1.3	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.8
Stroke	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9

Source: <https://profile.id.com.au/wyndham/long-term-health?WebID=190>, Hume and Melton

Chronic conditions: priority groups

- Mental health conditions are prevalent across **all priority groups** except for Older People who are more likely to be diagnosed with **arthritis, diabetes, or heart disease** (Table 4).
- **18.1% of First Nations peoples** have been diagnosed with a **mental health condition**.
- **Women** and **low-income households** experience higher rates of mental health conditions compared to the general population.
- People from **CALD backgrounds** may be **less likely to seek help for their mental health** due to culturally inappropriate services or being unaware of what support is available.²⁷
- **Asthma** is most common amongst women, First Nations people, young people, and people from low-income households.
- **Diabetes** was prevalent in **people living with a disability and older people** (Table 4).

Table 4. Top Three most common Long-Term Health Conditions by Wyndham Priority Group, 2021

Priority Group	Long-term health condition – most prevalent	Long-term health condition – second most prevalent	Long-term health condition – third most prevalent
Women	Asthma (30.2%)	Mental health (29.7%)	Arthritis (25.1%)
First Nations	Mental Health (18.1%)	Asthma (16.8%)	Arthritis (6.7%)
Young People 18-24yrs	Mental Health (8.6%)	Asthma (7.2%)	Diabetes (0.6%)
Older People 65+	Arthritis (28.2%)	Diabetes (20.1%)	Heart Disease (15.5%)
Low Income Households	Arthritis/Mental Health (8.2%)	Asthma (7.7%)	Diabetes (6.6%)
Non-English speakers	ND	ND	ND
People living with a disability	Mental Health (29.4%)	Arthritis (25.5%)	Diabetes (18.0%)

Source: ABS Census 2021. Accessed via. idProfile Wyndham

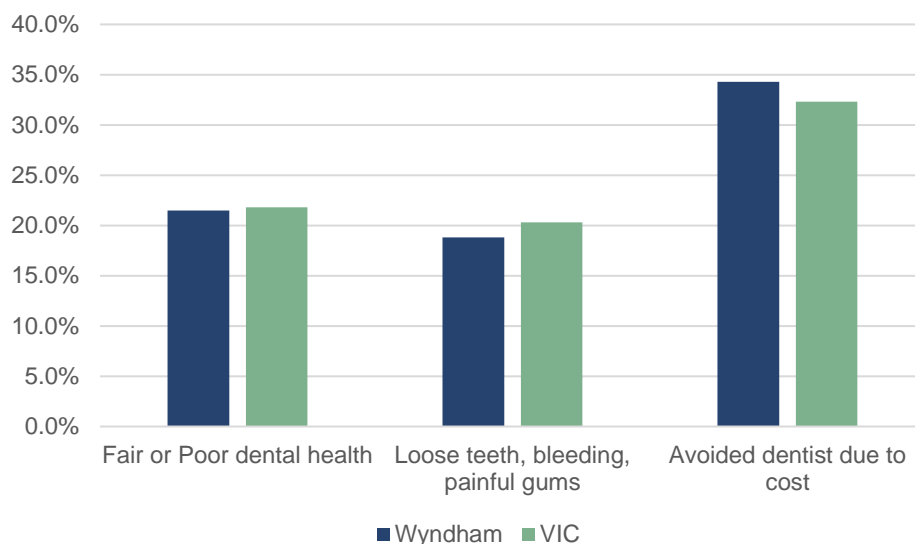
Dental Health

Public dental care is available to eligible Victorians through Dental Health Services Australia; however, considerable wait times apply. At the time of writing, there was an 11.4 month waiting list for general dental and 7.7 months for specialist dental care.²⁸ Compared to Victoria wide, a slightly higher proportion of Wyndham residents are avoiding dental care because of the cost (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Oral Health, Wyndham & Victoria, 2023

²⁷ Department of Health and Aged Care. Mental Health Services for People of Culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. (2018)

²⁸ Victorian Agency for Health Information. Dental Care. <https://vahi.vic.gov.au/reports/victorian-health-services-performance/dental-care>



Source: Victorian Population Health Survey 2023 (early release)

Health Service Usage

The following section outlines the usage and availability of healthcare services across Wyndham (at suburb level or Statistical Area 2 (SA2) where possible).

Early Years

5,288 births were recorded in Wyndham in 2023/24, the majority from families living in Tarneit and Truganina: on average **over 100 births per week**. The large number of births is adding pressure to Council's Maternal and Child Health (MCH) service, as well as other local child and family services²⁹.

- Participation in the Wyndham Universal MCH (UMCH) service **declined to 45%** during the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing to **62% in 2023/24**.
- Participation rates at all 10 Key Ages and Stages **remain lower** than the State Government targets.

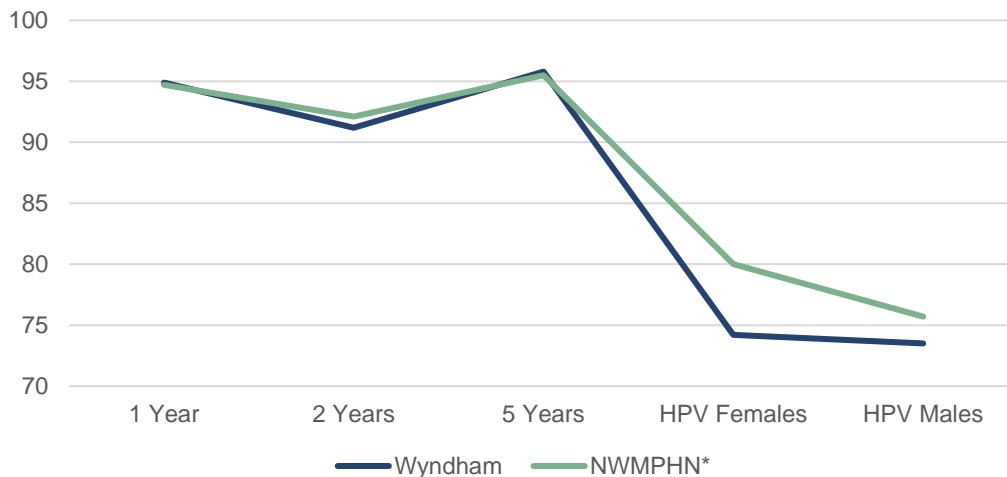
Prevention and Early Detection

Immunisations

Over **95%** of 5-year-olds are vaccinated, but Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination rates remain under **75%** (*Appendix 10; Figure 4*).

Figure 4. Vaccination rates, Wyndham & NWMPHN

²⁹ Wyndham CDIS database, October 2024



Source: DOH 2021 accessed via NWMPHN 2023 Health Status Assessment

Screening

Screening programmes are an effective public health method for early detection and treatment of cancer.

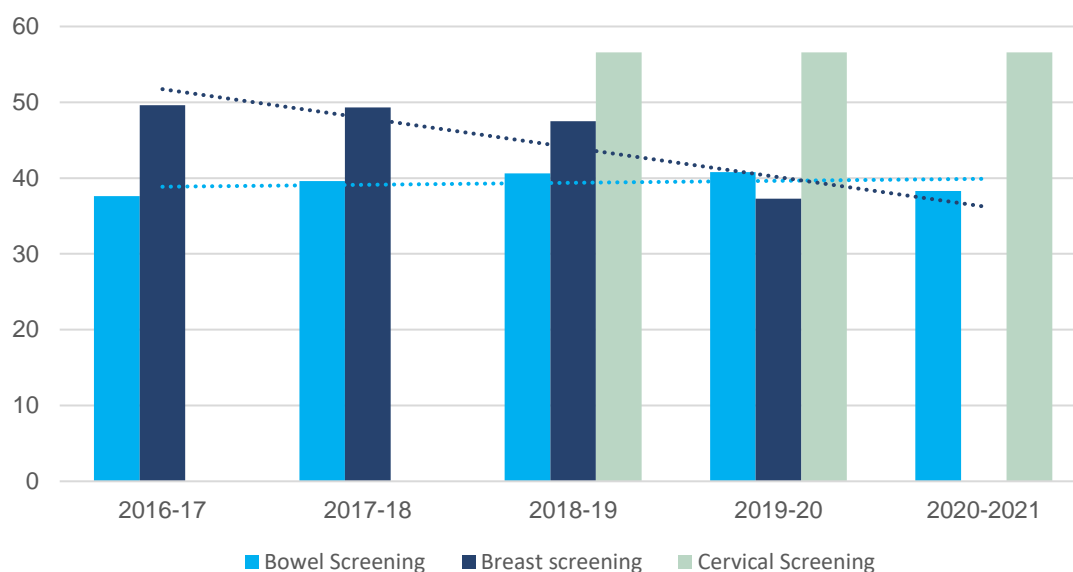
Three national programmes currently operate in Australia –

- Bowel (50-74 years – every two years),
- Breast (females 50-74– every two years) and,
- Cervical cancer (females 25-74 years - every five years).

Wyndham is **below** both national and state participation levels for all three screening programs.

- Participation with bowel screening was increasing before a drop off in 2020/21.
- At the suburb level, participation with bowel screening is at its **lowest in Truganina**, however, is on the rise (*Appendix 11*).
- Bowel screening participation **rates remain below the national and state rates** (42.4% and 45.2% respectively) despite participation increasing.
- Participation with **breast screening** has been on a **downward trend** since a peak at 49.3% in 2017-2019.
- **Cervical screening** has remained **stable**. Young women (20 to 24 years) are the least likely to engage in cervical screening (*Appendix 12*).

Figure 5. Percentage cancer screening participation, Wyndham, 2016-2021



Source: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer-screening/national-cancer-screening-programs-participation/contents/summary>

Health care attendances

Compared to the NWMPHN, Wyndham residents –

- See their GP at a similar rate.
- Engage with specialist services at a considerably lower rate.
- Have fewer appointments with allied health services (*Table 5*).

In 2022-2023, **93.4% of GP visits** in Wyndham were bulk billed, **down** from **97.6%** in 2021-22. Only 24% of clinics in Victoria still fully bulk bill and the average out-of-pocket cost for patients is \$41.19.³⁰

Out of 60 general practice clinics across Wyndham, 20 of them fully bulk bill.

Table 5. Medicare subsidised attendance rates for health care services, Wyndham and NWMPHN 2022-23

	Wyndham		NWPHN	
	% people who received service	Services per 100 people	% people who received service	Services per 100 people
GP Attendances	87.16%	672.77	84.76%	666.88
Specialist attendances	22.95%	63.30	28.35%	87.47
Nursing and Aboriginal Health Workers (total)	6.04%	8.68	5.85%	10.01
First Nations Health Check*	10.6%	N/A	12.8%	N/A
Allied Health	33.82%	85.83	37.33%	110.28
Diagnostic Imaging (total)	35.02%	85.34	36.78%	93.37
Physiotherapy	4.74%	13.92	4.09%	12.46
Podiatry	3.47%	9.38	4.97%	15.70
Psychiatry	0.99%	3.90	1.85%	9.07
Speech Pathology	0.13%	0.35	0.12%	0.36

³⁰ Cleanbill. National General Practitioner Listings. (2024).

Occupational Therapy	0.12%	0.29	0.10%	0.26
Osteopathy	0.95%	2.68	1.15%	3.50
Dietetics	1.16%	1.76	0.89%	1.65
Chiropractic Services	1.29%	3.94	1.03%	3.41
Clinical Psychologist	1.00%	5.47	2.21%	13.31
Audiology	0.10%	0.23	0.17%	0.38

Sources: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Medicare-subsidised services by Statistical Area Level 2 & PHN 2022-2023

*Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2024) [Health checks and follow-ups for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#), AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 28.11.2024.

- Attendances at GPs **declined by 15%** in Wyndham between 2021-22 and 2022-23 (*Appendix 13*).
- 19.4% of adults were unable to see a GP when they needed to.
- **28.9%** of adults reported **cost** as a reason for not seeing a GP, higher than the Victorian average (22.9%).

Alcohol and Drug Support

In 2019, **over 300** Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Support Services were accessed by Wyndham residents, via both telephone and online.

- Wyndham had the second lowest engagement with both telephone and online services in the NWMPHN (*Appendix 14*).

Sexual and Reproductive Health

- Calls to 1880 My Options, a sexual and reproductive health line, were concentrated in outer western suburb like Wyndham, Melton and Hume (29 calls per 1,000 population women aged 15-44 years).³¹
 - Majority of calls were regarding abortion services
 - 40% of callers are born overseas
 - Almost half (48%) were considered economically vulnerable (held a healthcare card)

Hospitalisations

The Victorian health system aims to transfer 90% of patients from ambulance to hospital within 40 minutes.

At **Werribee Mercy Hospital** in September 2024, **62.75%** of patients were transferred within 40 minutes, compared to **54.66% at Sunshine Hospital** and **68.16% statewide**.³²

Accessibility of Australia's hospitals can be measured by -

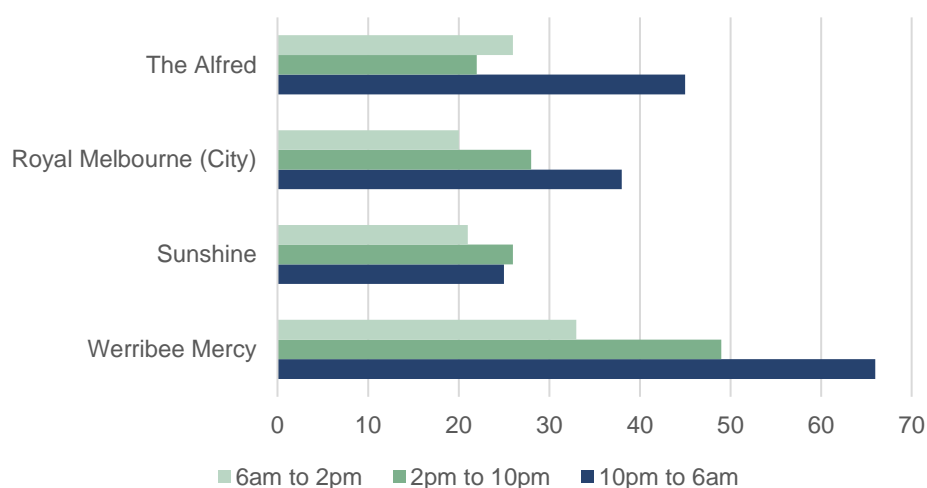
- Waiting times to access services,
- Geographic location, socioeconomic status and Indigenous status of the people who use hospital services, and
- Number and location of services and hospitals.

³¹ Realising access: Abortion and contraception inequities and enablers in Victoria

³² Victorian Agency for Health Information. Ambulance Patient Transfers. (2024). <https://vahi.vic.gov.au/emergency-care/ambulance-patient-transfers>

At Werribee Mercy, non-urgent patients can be **waiting over an hour overnight** and just **over half an hour throughout the day before receiving treatment**, compared to a maximum median time of 26 minutes at Sunshine hospital. Wait times at Werribee Mercy are **considerably longer** than at major central Melbourne hospitals including The Royal Melbourne Hospital and The Alfred Hospital.³³

Figure 6. Estimated Median Time to Treatment: Non-Urgent Patients, 2025



Source: <https://vahi.vic.gov.au/reports/emergency-department-non-urgent-wait-time>

Potentially preventable hospital admissions are separated into three categories -

- Acute: E.g. ear, nose, and throat conditions
- Chronic: E.g. Asthma, hypertension, diabetes complications
- Vaccine preventable: E.g. pneumonia.

In Wyndham, there were **2,137** potentially preventable hospital admissions per 100,000 population in 2021/22. Chronic conditions were the most common, including iron deficiency anaemia (*Appendix 15*).

Health Services Availability

General Practice

- There are **1.2 GPs per 1,000 population** in Wyndham.
- The average out of pocket cost for a GP in Australia is **\$41.68**.³⁴
- The average out of pocket cost in Wyndham was **\$78** (2019/20).

Table 6. Number of GPs and FTE Hours, Wyndham & NWMPHN, 2019-2020

	No. GPs	GP Full-time equivalent	GP FTE per 1,000 residents	% services provided in patients' own catchment	% patients with out-of-pocket costs & (Ave amount out of pocket)
Brimbank	327	245.2	1.2	50%-70%	28.8% (\$69)
Hobsons Bay	147	86.3	0.9	>70%	47.6% (\$144)
Maribyrnong	208	112.2	1.2	<50%	43.6% (\$142)

³³ Victorian Agency for Health Information. Emergency department non-urgent wait times. (2024)

³⁴ <https://medicalcostsfinder.health.gov.au/services/G23?specialty=019999>

Wyndham	434	338.1	1.2	>70	28.6% (\$78)
NWMPHN	3023	2101.8	1.1		40.5%

Source: AIHW Patients' out-of-pocket spending on Medicare services, 2016–17. Accessed via NWMPHN Health Status Report 2023.

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-welfare-overview/health-welfare-expenditure/data?&page=2>

- In Wyndham, the percentage of provider fees covered by Medicare has consistently remained **higher** than the Victorian and Australian rate.
- In October 2024, around **92% of fees in Wyndham** are covered by the MBS.

Figure 7. Percentage of provider fees covered by MBS, Wyndham, Victoria & Australia, Oct 1984-Oct 2024



Source: AIHW. Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) funded services. October 2024

Hospital services

- Nationally, there are 2.46 public hospital beds per 1,000 people (Vic = 2.23), however this figure has been steadily declining.³⁵
- There are **410 hospital beds in Wyndham** (1.22 per 1,000).³⁶
- There are **298 public hospital beds in Wyndham** (0.88 per 1,000 population).
- Wyndham requires 797 public hospital beds to service the current population (2023 ERP).
- By 2046, Wyndham will require over 1,200 public hospital beds to service the community. *
- The expansion of the Mercy Hospital emergency department is underway, which will see the existing emergency department's capacity double.
- The Point Cook Community Hospital is due for completion in 2026 (number of beds TBD).

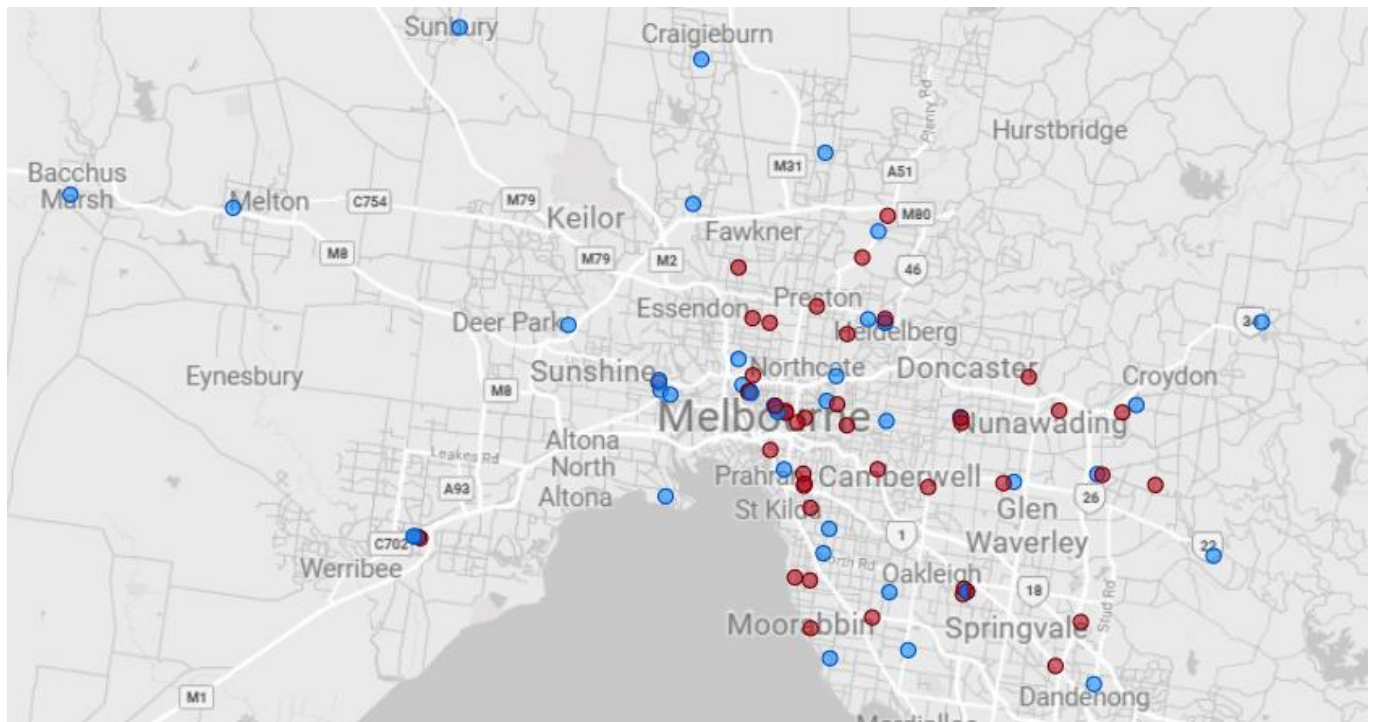
³⁵ AIHW. Hospital Resources 2020–21: Australian hospital statistics

*Some of the demand for hospital services will continue to be catered for by Sunshine hospital and the new Point Cook and Melton hospitals due for completion in 2026 and 2029 respectively.

³⁶ See Appendix for full list of hospital services in Wyndham, including same-day services.

- Compared to the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, there are significantly fewer acute care services available in the west (*Figure 8*).

Figure 8. Hospitals Greater Melbourne, 2024



Source: <https://studio.healthmap.com.au/>; Blue = Public Red = Private

Urgent Care Clinics

The State Government introduced Urgent Care Clinics (UCC) in mid-2023. These are fully bulk billed clinics, introduced to take the pressure off hospital emergency departments when immediate but not life-threatening care is required. Wyndham's UCC is located at Station Place in Werribee.

Aged Care

A temporary decrease in the ratio of aged care places from 78 per 1,000 people over the age of 70 years, to 60.1 has been recently introduced.

- There are **1,286 aged care places** available in Wyndham; **90.6 places per 1,000 eligible population**.
- At the reduced ratio, Wyndham would require 853 places.
- Assuming the ratio returns to 78 and remains stable over the next 22 years, by 2046, Wyndham will require **2,638 residential aged care places**.
 - The greatest need will be in Werribee and Point Cook

Similarly to other health services in Wyndham, aged care places are concentrated around **Werribee**, where 57% of places are located. Hoppers Crossing and Point Cook are lacking sufficient local aged care options (*Appendix 16*).

Community Health

Community health services deliver a range of primary health, social care, and community-based programs. They are funded primarily by the State and Commonwealth Government.³⁷ **IPC Health** located at Hoppers Crossing and Wyndham Vale, is a state-funded community health provider offering primary healthcare. Their services typically come at no or low cost to the consumer.

Other community health providers in Wyndham include –

- **Anglicare Victoria** - run a Reach Out Program for young people with substance use issues.
- **Tweddle** – child and family health and wellbeing.
- **Headspace** – mental health support.
- **Utopia** – Refugee and asylum seeker health.
 - Due to budgetary constraints, from 2023, Utopia moved to mixed billing, where a one off \$80 appointment per year is an out-of-pocket cost for patients.

State and Federal Government fund **Specialist Homelessness Services** (SHS) to help people find housing and access support, including transitional housing, access food and medical treatment if needed. The number of people accessing homelessness support for the first time **increased by 15.6%** between 2022-23 and 2023-24, the second highest amongst LGAs with similar sized populations. A total over 4,506 people in Wyndham accessed services for the first time in 2023/24 (*Table 7*).

Table 7. Homelessness first report, growth councils VIC, 2022-2023

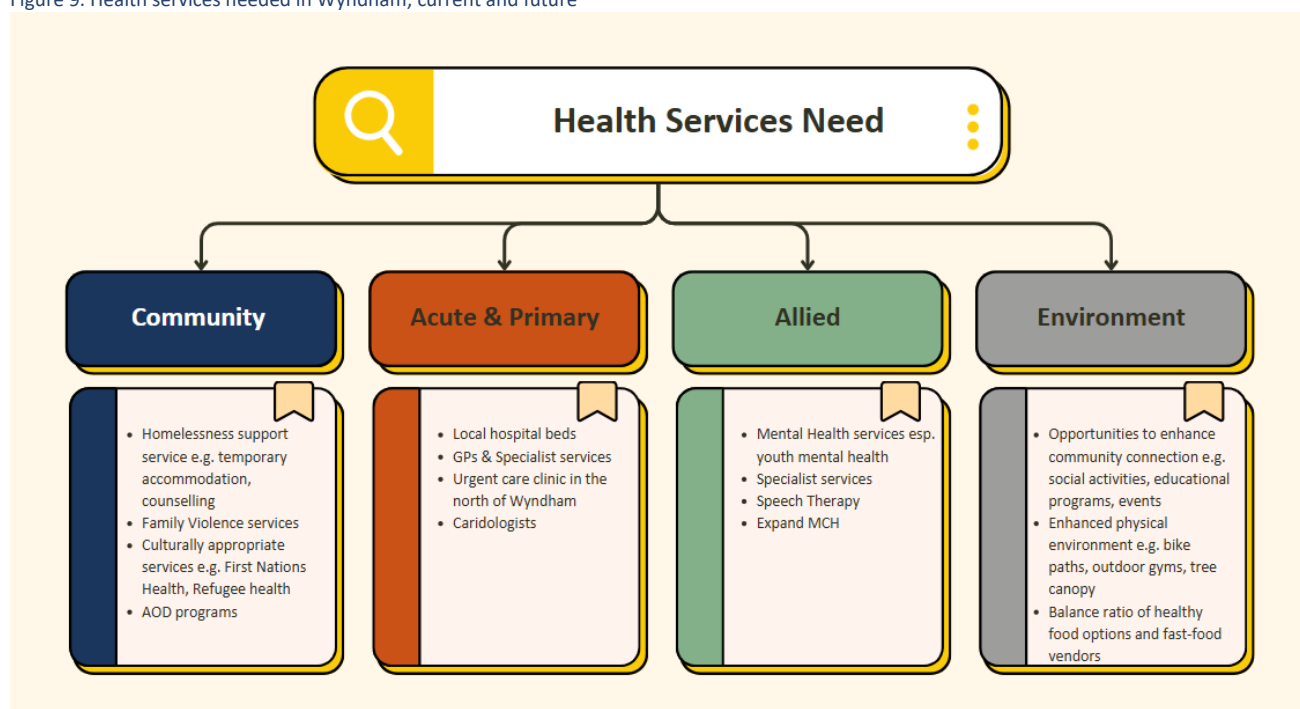
Financial year	2022–23					2023–24				
LGA	Wyndham	Hume	Melton	Whittlesea	Casey	Wyndham	Hume	Melton	Whittlesea	Casey
Homeless	1,405	862	813	545	1,077	1,645	997	874	643	1,158
At risk	2,489	1,808	2,599	1,050	2,642	2,862	1,859	2,612	1,274	2,495
Total	3,899	2,668	3,411	1,597	3,716	4,506	2,853	3,487	1,917	3,654
% change total 2022-2024	-	-	-	-	-	15.6%	6.9%	2.2%	20.0%	-0.5%

Source: AIHW, <https://dataexplorer.aihw.gov.au/webapi/jsf/tableView/tableView.xhtml>

³⁷ [Community Health Program. June 2018.](#)

Services Required

Figure 9. Health services needed in Wyndham, current and future



Health Service Gaps and Opportunities

Data from Health Direct Australia's *HealthMap* has been used to map the location of a selection of health services operating in Wyndham. This highlighted several geographical gaps in service availability, particularly in suburbs under development, including Tarneit and Manor Lakes.

Using the data regarding health status, and a visual representation of service locations, a set of key findings and recommendations have been developed to support Council's advocacy and health service planning.

Key Findings

Access to healthcare across Wyndham is not consistent, with notable service gaps in the suburbs of Tarneit, Truganina, Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale. These areas have limited availability of general health services and even fewer specialist services, prompting residents to travel outside their suburb, and in some cases beyond the local government area, to access services. Access issues highlight the need for additional, strategically located health clinics in Tarneit, Manor Lakes, Truganina, and Wyndham Vale to better meet local demand.

Specialist services are underutilised in Wyndham compared to Victoria wide³⁸. Several factors could be influencing engagement with specialist services, including:

³⁸ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Medicare-subsidised services by Statistical Area Level 2 & PHN 2022-2023

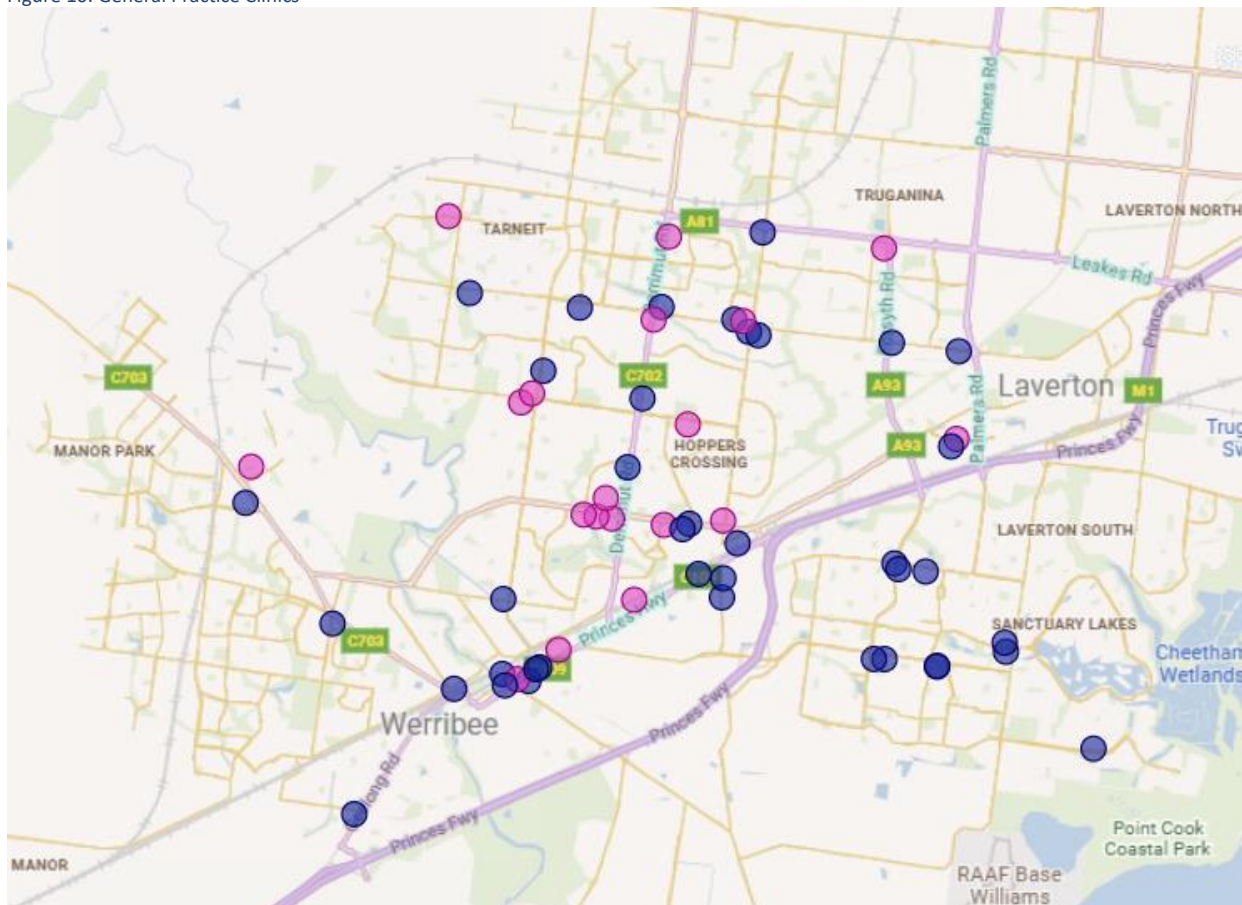
- Out-of-pocket costs.
- Long wait times often associated with specialist care in the public system.
- A lack of local service availability.
- Lower prevalence of chronic health conditions in the region compared to other areas.

The mapping also shows spatial gaps in availability of mental health services, though due to the availability of telehealth, it's important to consider that local service availability doesn't fully reflect residents' access options for mental health support.

A selection of key healthcare services are mapped below to show the geographical distribution of services. For an interactive map of key health services in Wyndham, [click here](https://bit.ly/wyndham-health-services) or type <https://bit.ly/wyndham-health-services> into your browser. **(Hold down the Ctrl key on your keyboard to select multiple filters)**

General Practice

Figure 10. General Practice Clinics



Pink = Bulk Billed **Blue** = Mixed billing

There are clear geographical gaps in General Practice (GP) availability in

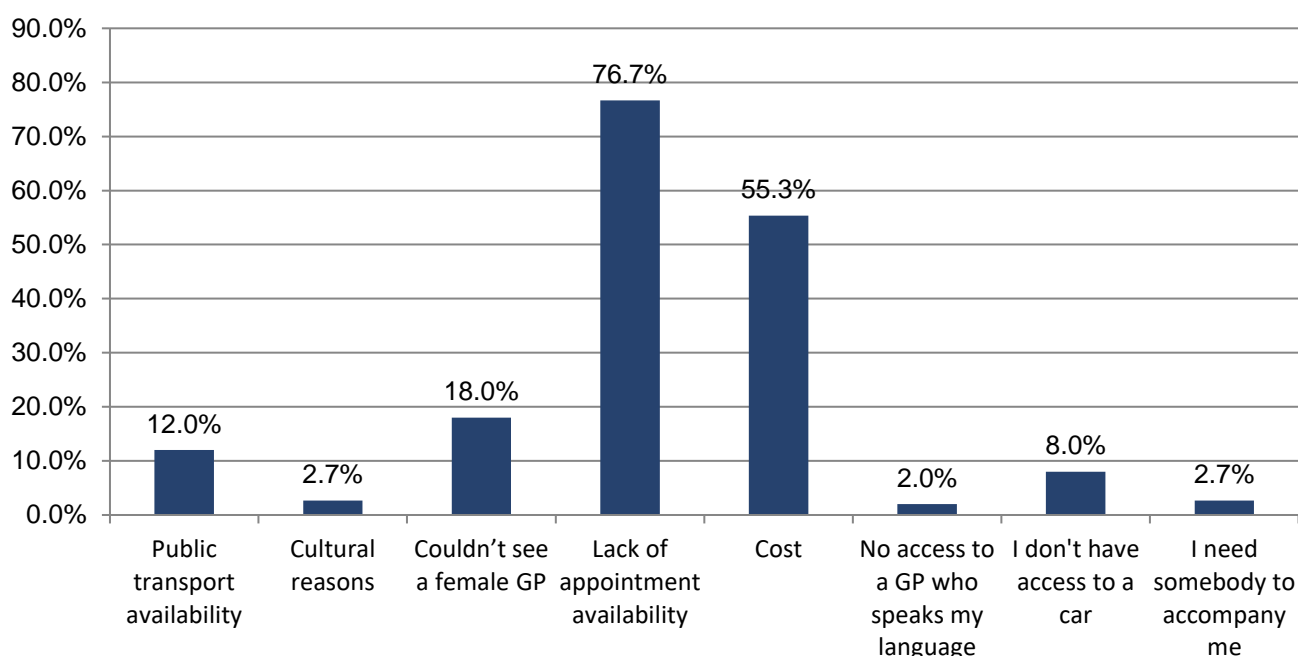
- Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale
- Tarneit West and north of the train line at Tarneit and Truganina.

Closer investigation indicates that there is fewer than 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP operating in these suburbs. This is lower than the Wyndham and Victorian average of 1.1 and 1.4 FTE per 1,000 population respectively.

Around a third of Wyndham GP clinics continue to fully bulk-bill GP appointments and these clinics (in pink) are predominantly located in Hoppers Crossing and Werribee. In a People's Advisory Panel (PAP) Survey (Appendix Pg 41) issued in April 2025, 45.8% of respondents said they travel outside their suburb to see a GP and 68.1% of those people travel to see a bulk-billed GP. There are no fully bulk-billing GPs available in Point Cook.

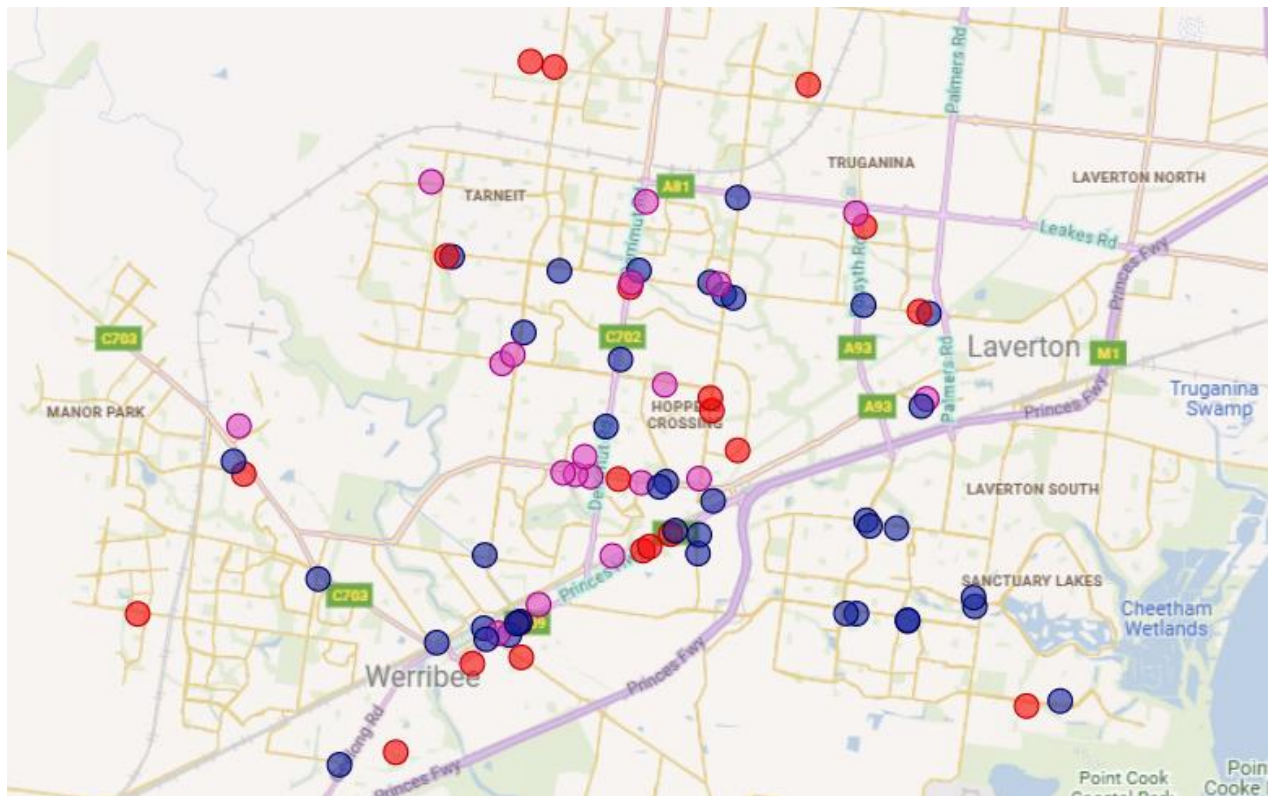
More than half of respondents in the PAP survey delayed seeing a GP in the past 12 months, the most common reasons for delay were lack of appointment availability (76.7%) and cost (55.3%).

Figure 11. Reasons for delaying a GP visit, 2025



When considering clinics which have new planning permits (below in red), the geographical spread of services becomes slightly more equitable in Manor Lakes, Tarneit and Truganina. However, nationwide GP shortages and costs associated with attracting international GPs means the availability of GP services remains an ongoing issue.

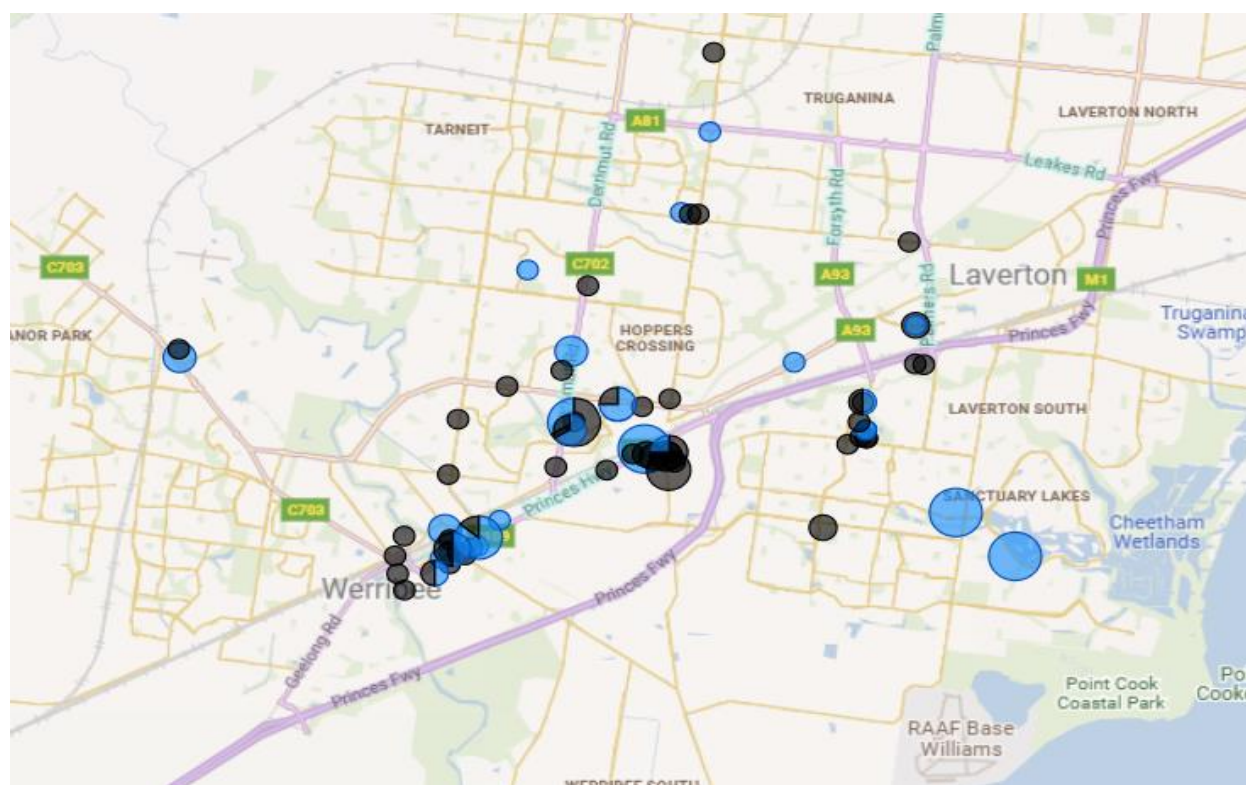
Figure 12. GP Services - mixed, bulk billing and permitted clinics



Pink = Bulk Billed, Blue = Mixed billing, Red = future clinic

Mental Health and Specialist Services

Figure 13. Mental health services

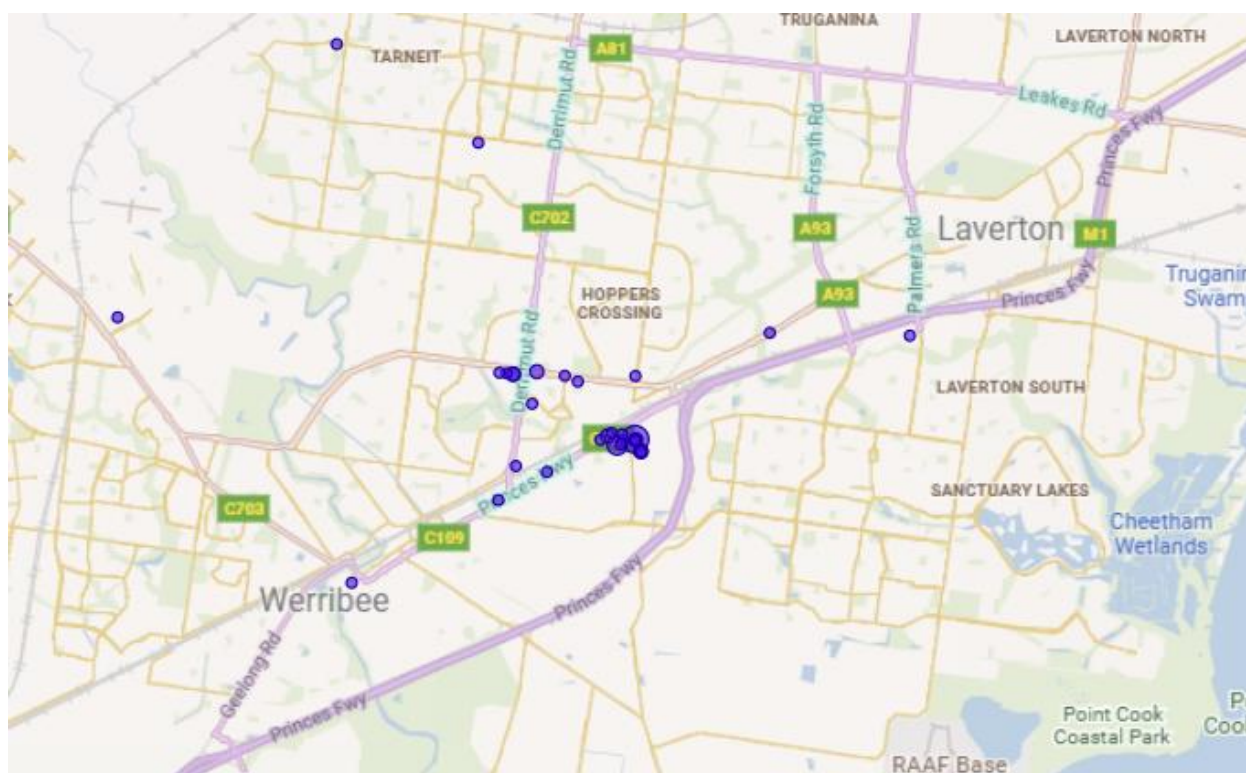


Black = Psychologist & Psychiatrist, **Blue** = Counselling*

Similarly to GP services, mental health and specialist services are predominantly concentrated around Werribee and Hoppers Crossing, particularly specialist services (*Figure 14*), which typically co-locate around hospitals where there is increased access to fit-for-purpose consulting rooms. This is evident in *Figure 14* where many specialist services are located in and around St Vincent's Private, Wyndham Private Clinic and Werribee Mercy Hospital.

*Psychologists and Counsellors have been separated because, depending on education and status with a professional registration board, counselling services may not be eligible for a Medicare rebate, thus impacting service accessibility.

Figure 14. Specialist health services



Summary and Recommendations

The assessment across Wyndham has highlighted a dual challenge: a lack of service availability and, in several locations, a significant spatial or geographic accessibility gap, and not exclusively for GPs.

The suburbs of Tarneit, Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale exemplify this issue, facing both constraints simultaneously. For example, some GPs in these areas are often fully booked one to two weeks in advance, and there are noticeable gaps in the distribution of GP clinics.

Importantly, these challenges extend beyond geographic distribution. Even within existing service areas, there is a shortfall in capacity—there simply are not enough services to meet current demand.

As noted earlier, many adults in Wyndham are delaying GP visits due to both cost and limited availability. This has contributed to extended emergency department wait times and a high rate of preventable hospitalisations. There is a clear need for accessible and affordable health services in Wyndham.

The data supports the case that services are required in and around the developing areas of Wyndham. Considerations that are supported from this service planning work, indicate that health services in Wyndham should:

- Provide bulk billed services.
- Be in accessible locations e.g. close to a train station and/or bus terminal or in a town centre.
- Co-located with other complimentary services.

- Consider the spatial distribution of other services in the area.

Council should consider the following recommendations:

- Use our role as responsible authority for leading health and wellbeing planning to act on opportunities to **attract services to Wyndham**
- **Advocacy** for improving the health needs of Wyndham residents, through our Health Focus areas.
- **Continue to partner** with Western Health in the development of the future Point Cook Hospital.
- **Strengthen the partnership** with North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network to share data and collaborate on joint priorities to strengthen health service attraction in Wyndham.
- **Continue to work with the Wyndham Health Advisory Committee** to drive and inform the work of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Appendix

Appendix 1. Socioeconomic Determinants of Health, Wyndham 2021

	Bachelor's degree or higher (%)	Unemployed – looking for work (%)	Household Income <\$800 per week (%)	Household Income >\$5,000 per week (%)
Hoppers Crossing	20.5	7.6	20.6	2.9
Little River	19.2	5.8	15.5	4.7
Manor Lakes	39.2	6.3	8.2	4.5
Point Cook	41.1	6.2	10.3	8.3
Tarneit	37.7	7.3	10.3	3.8
Truganina	39.4	6.7	9.6	4.0
Werribee	21.3	6.9	20.9	2.7
Werribee South	16.6	4.4	21.5	5.3
Williams Landing	47.7	5.9	7.8	9.3
Wyndham Vale	24.1	7.3	15.2	2.3

Source: ID Profile Wyndham; Orange = more disadvantage, Blue = less disadvantage

Appendix 2. Priority Group Statistics by Suburb, 2021

	Born overseas %	Speak a language other than English	First Nations people	People Aged 65+ %	Young People (12 - 25 years) %	% lone person households	Long Term Health Condition	Need for assistance	Women and children escaping family Violence	Number of people experiencing homelessness
	%	%	No.	%	%	%	%	%	No.	No.
Hoppers Crossing	38.4	37.7	342	14.1	18.2	19.5	31.4	6.4	ND	ND
Little River	23.7	23.8	13	15.0	5.0	15.3	30.8	6.4	ND	ND
Manor Lakes	50.2	51.6	119	4.0	13.3	8.4	21.6	3.9	ND	ND
Point Cook	52.1	51.2	381	5.9	16.8	10.7	20.1	3.2	ND	ND
Tarneit	57.0	64.2	217	4.1	17.5	9.7	16.2	2.7	ND	ND
Truganina	58.3	67.4	209	3.5	15.8	9.0	13.6	2.1	ND	ND
Werribee	34.6	32.0	798	13.1	17.1	23.0	30.9	6.6	ND	ND
Werribee South	25.1	7.7	14	20.8	15.3	28.8	32.2	5.9	ND	ND
Williams Landing	58.0	61.5	31	4.0	17.2	11.6	16.7	2.4	ND	ND
Wyndham Vale	40.1	39.2	362	7.3	18.0	15.8	26.7	5.1	ND	ND
Wyndham	48.0	49.8	2,508	7.7	17.1	14.5	22.4	4.1	W -1058; C - 295	2,599

Source: <https://profile.id.com.au/wyndham>; [Crimestatistics.vic.gov.au](https://crimestatistics.vic.gov.au); ABS Tablebuilder 2012 Census, Population and Housing.

Appendix 3. EGM losses NWMPHN, 2024

LGA	1st Quarter Total Losses	Total EMGs Sept 24	Total Venues Sept 24
Whittlesea	\$39,905,575.69	780	12
City of Melbourne	\$26,231,537.33	752	10
Hume	\$37,444,710.68	833	14
Brimbank	\$45,582,837.56	953	15
Melton	\$24,897,903.33	523	7
Hobsons Bay	\$13,307,533.79	535	9
Wyndham	\$34,106,337.07	893	13
Maribyrnong	\$18,506,076.37	470	9
Moonee Valley	\$21,590,184.70	746	11

Appendix 4. Wyndham Small Areas with Greatest Proportion of Mortgage and Rental Stress, 2021

	Mortgage		Rent	
	Small area	%	Small area	%
1	Truganina - Southwest	21.9	Little River - Rural West	39.4
2	Truganina - North	21.5	Little River - Mambourin	35.5
3	Tarneit (West) - Mount Cottrell	21.1	Werribee Central (South)	35.3
4	Truganina	20.8	The Grange	34.4
5	Tarneit - South	19.9	Mossfiel	34.4

Appendix 5. Mortgage and Rental Stress, Wyndham, Greater Melbourne & Victoria, 2021

	Wyndham	Greater Melbourne	Victoria
Mortgage Stress	7,156 (16.5%)	110,658 (16.8%)	862,658 (15.5%)
Rental Stress	7,700 (27.9%)	166,257 (30.9%)	210,437 (30.9%)

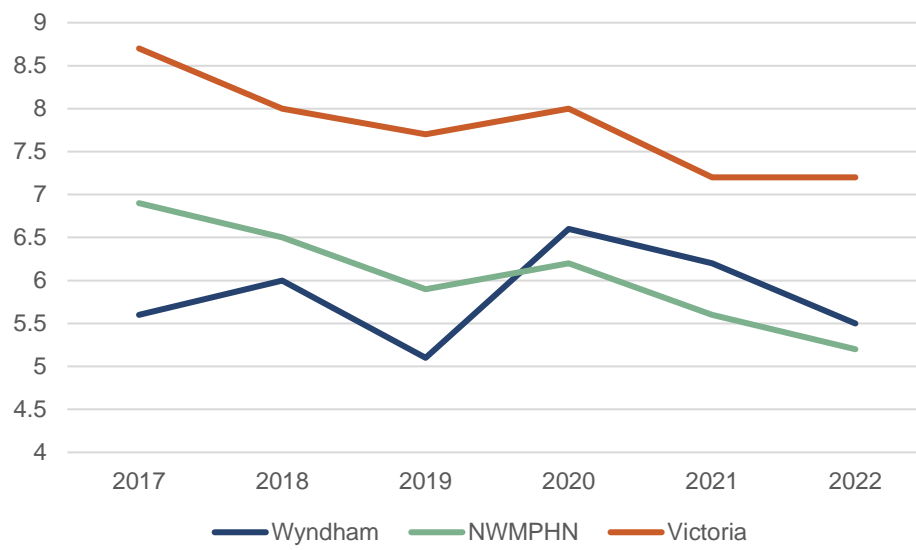
Source: <https://atlas.id.com.au/wyndham>

Appendix 6. Crime Statistics by Suburb, June 2024

	Recorded Offences
Little River – Rural West	195
Hoppers Crossing	3,367
Williams Landing – Laverton North/Laverton	1,369
Manor Lakes	604
Point Cook	2,605
Tarneit	3,301
Truganina	1,489
Werribee	5,463
Werribee South	188
Wyndham Vale	1,284
Wyndham Total	20,122

Source: Crime Statistics Agency, <https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-victorian-crime-data/download-data>

Appendix 7. Per cent of mothers that smoked during pregnancy, 2017-2022



Appendix 8. AEDC, 2023

Wyndham community	Number of children	Number and Percentage of children developmentally vulnerable (N (%))						
		Physical health and wellbeing	Social competence	Emotional maturity	Language and cognitive skills (school-based)	Communication skills and general knowledge	Vulnerable on one or more domains of the AEDC	Vulnerable on two or more domains of the AEDC
Australia	305,015	28,341 (9.8%)	27,788 (9.6%)	24,271 (8.5%)	21,107 (7.3%)	24,064 (8.4%)	63,264 (22.0%)	32,718 (11.4%)
Victoria	73,492	5,604 (8.1%)	6,253 (9.0%)	5,342 (7.7%)	4,993 (7.2%)	5,134 (7.4%)	13,777 (19.9%)	7,085 (10.2%)
Wyndham	4,815	400 (8.9%)	457 (10.2%)	358 (8.0%)	364 (8.1%)	416 (9.2%)	976 (21.7%)	515 (11.4%)
Local Community								
Hoppers Crossing	421	42 (10.8%)	48 (12.3%)	32 (8.2%)	44 (11.3%)	43 (11.0%)	103 (26.5%)	54 (13.8%)
Laverton	35	6 (19.4%)	5 (16.1%)	6 (19.4%)	1 (3.2%)	5 (16.1%)	13 (41.9%)	6 (19.4%)
Point Cook	1,255	84 (7.1%)	94 (8.0%)	65 (5.5%)	64 (5.4%)	81 (6.9%)	197 (16.8%)	96 (8.2%)
Tarneit	1,094	77 (7.5%)	94 (9.2%)	69 (6.8%)	89 (8.7%)	100 (9.8%)	228 (22.4%)	105 (10.3%)
Truganina	754	81 (11.4%)	83 (11.7%)	74 (10.5%)	71 (10.0%)	82 (11.6%)	173 (24.4%)	102 (14.4%)
Werribee	389	36 (10.2%)	35 (9.9%)	31 (8.8%)	26 (7.4%)	38 (10.7%)	80 (22.6%)	44 (12.4%)
Werribee South/Cocoroc	94	2 (2.3%)	10 (11.6%)	8 (9.3%)	9 (10.5%)	5 (5.8%)	15 (17.4%)	10 (11.6%)
Williams Landing	152	10 (7.0%)	11 (7.7%)	8 (5.6%)	8 (5.6%)	10 (7.0%)	25 (17.7%)	11 (7.7%)
Wyndham Vale	621	62 (10.5%)	77 (13.1%)	65 (11.1%)	52 (8.8%)	52 (8.8%)	142 (24.2%)	87 (14.7%)

Source: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/>

Appendix 9. Lifestyle behaviours. Wyndham & Victoria, 2017 & 2023

	% adult population Wyndham	% adult population Victoria
Did not consume the recommended amount of fruit and vegetables*	57.4	51.7
Did not do any moderate or vigorous physical activity	18.0	16.8
Average time spent sitting on a weekday – 8 or more hours	33.0	27.9
Daily consumption of sugar sweetened drinks	36.7	34.4
Frequent Take-away food consumption – At least once per week ³⁹	16.3	15.2
Proportion (%) of people who smoke tobacco or vape	20.6	18.5
Proportion (%) of people at increased risk of harm from alcohol-related disease or injury	8.4	13.1

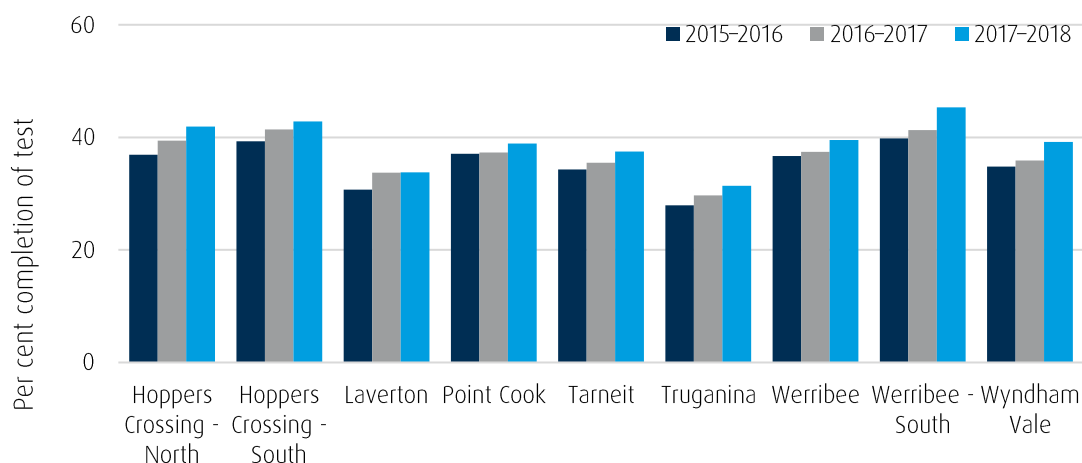
Source: *Victorian Population Health Survey 2017. All other data in the latest 2023 early release

Appendix 10. Immunisation Rates, NWMPHN, 2020-2021

	1 Year	2 Years	5 Years	HPV Females	HPV Males
Hobsons Bay	95.1	93.9	95.3	91.5	87.1
Wyndham	94.9	91.2	95.8	74.2	73.5
Maribyrnong	95.7	93.5	94.8	90.9	83.7
Brimbank	94.1	91.0	95.9	80.2	73.8
Melton	95.6	92.8	97.1	68.8	68.1
NWMPHN*	94.7	92.1	95.5	80	75.7
Victoria	-	-	-	80	76.5

Source: DOH 2021 accessed via NWMPHN 2023 Health Status Assessment

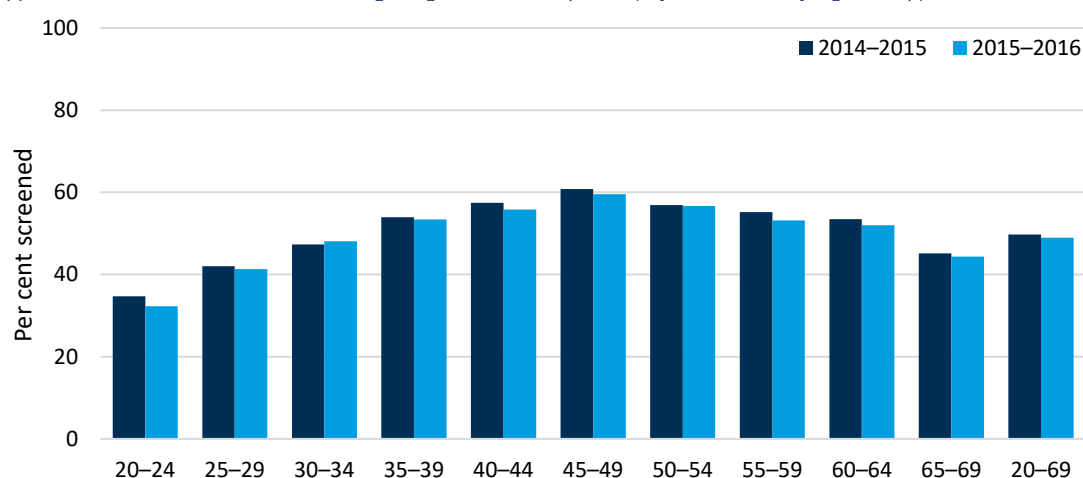
Appendix 11. National Bowel Cancer Screening Programme Participation (SA2)



³⁹ Victorian Population Health Survey 2017. <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/population-health-systems/victorian-population-health-survey>

Source: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer-screening/national-cancer-screening-programs-participation/contents/summary>

Appendix 12. National Cervical Screening Programme Participation (Wyndham SA3 by Age Group)



Source: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer-screening/national-cancer-screening-programs-participation/contents/summary>

Appendix 13. Medicare subsidised attendance rates for health care services, Wyndham 2021-2023.

Service	2021-22		2022-23			
	Percentage of people who had the service (%)	Services per 100 people	Percentage of people who had the service (%)	Services per 100 people	% change services per 100 people	% covered by Medicare
GP attendances	90.42%	795.13	87.16%	672.77	-15.4%	93.5%
Specialist attendances	24.27%	69.95	22.95%	63.30	-9.5%	61.8%
Allied Health attendances	31.94%	81.65	33.82%	85.83	5.1%	82.1%
Diagnostic Imaging	34.16%	83.52	35.02%	85.34	2.2%	89.4%
Nursing and Aboriginal Health Workers	6.42%	9.25	6.04%	8.68	-6.2%	90.1%
Audiology	0.06%	0.12	0.10%	0.23	91.7%	53.8%
Chiropractic Services	1.26%	3.63	1.29%	3.94	8.5%	96.6%
Clinical Psychologist	1.06%	6.01	1.00%	5.47	-9.0%	75.3%
Dietetics	1.09%	1.65	1.16%	1.76	6.7%	88.0%
Occupational Therapy	0.12%	0.31	0.12%	0.29	-6.5%	50.5%
Osteopathy	0.85%	2.33	0.95%	2.68	15.0%	88.5%
Physiotherapy	4.62%	13.52	4.74%	13.92	3.0%	87.9%
Podiatry	3.48%	9.19	3.47%	9.38	2.1%	93.7%
Psychiatry	1.03%	4.12	0.99%	3.90	-5.3%	70.2%
Speech Pathology	0.16%	0.40	0.13%	0.35	-12.5%	42.6%

Sources: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Medicare-subsidised services by Statistical Area Level 2 & PHN 2022-2023

Appendix 14. NWMPHN AOD program participation, 2018-2019

	Telephone services per 10,000 population	Online services per 10,000 population	NWMPHN funded AOD Program participation per 10,000 population	No. of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients NWMPHN-funded AOD Programs
Brimbank	23	7	17	9
Hobsons Bay	14	3	9	6
Hume	10	2	9	13
Maribyrnong	19	2	11	7
Melton	13	4	19	36
Wyndham	8	3	9	6

Source: *Turning Point*

Appendix 15. Potentially preventable hospitalisations, 2021-2022

	Number of PPH	PPH per 100,000 people (age-standardised)	Average length of stay (days)
Wyndham -			
Acute	2,370	827	2.8
Chronic	2,548	1,137	2.9
Vaccine-preventable	524	197	4.4
Wyndham total	5,384	2,137	3.0
NWMPHN total	39,102	2,192	3.7

Source: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/primary-health-care/potentially-preventable-hospitalisations-2020-22/data>

Appendix 16. Aged Care Locations, Wyndham, 2023

Name	Suburb	Residential places	Restorative Care Places	Type	Care Type	Australian Government funding 2022/23
Manor Court Werribee Aged Care Ltd	Werribee	100	0	Community based	Residential	\$6,796,929
Glendale Aged Care	Werribee	220	0	Charitable	Residential	\$16,889,615
Uniting AgeWell Manor Lakes	Wyndham Vale	84	0	Religious	Residential	\$5,741,999
Mercy Place Wyndham	Werribee	110	0	Charitable	Residential	\$7,793,745
Baptcare Wyndham Lodge Community	Werribee	150	0	Religious	Residential	\$10,599,817
Estia Health Werribee	Werribee	77	0	Private Incorporated Body	Residential	\$5,783,168
Werribee Mercy Hospital Transition Care Program	Werribee	0	10	Transition Care	Transition	\$442,383
Point Cook Manor	Point Cook	118	0	Private Incorporated Body	Residential	\$9,472,580
St Vincent's Care Services Werribee	Werribee	80	0	Religious	Residential	\$6,199,466
Annecto HCP Program - Western Metropolitan Region	Werribee	0	0	Charitable	Home Care	\$2,268,994
TriCare Williams Landing Aged Care Residence	Williams Landing	126	0	Private Incorporated Body	Residential	\$130,448
Sunset Views Manor	Tarneit	120	0	Private Incorporated Body	Residential	\$4,681,716
Kare Seniors Pty Ltd	Truganina	0	0	Private Incorporated Body	Home Care	\$2,264,150
Great Care Pty Ltd	Point Cook	0	0	Private Incorporated Body	Home Care	\$1,888,255
Mecwacare John Atchison Centre	Hoppers Crossing	101	0	Community based	Residential	\$4,273,436
M&I Home Care Pty Ltd	Tarneit	0	0	Private Incorporated Body	Home Care	\$1,179,155
Realcare Community Support Services Pty Ltd	Hoppers Crossing	0	0	Private Incorporated Body	Home Care	\$0

Appendix 17. Women's Health Indicators rate per 1,000 population (2019-2023)

	Wyndham	Metro West	Victoria
2- Year Adolescent Pregnancy rate (2019-2020)	11.23	5.5	8.2
Abortion rate (2022)	9.34	5.6	5.3
Birth Rate (2022)	36.84	25.3	20.5
Contraceptive implant (2022)	8.13	6.6	7.5
Endometriosis (2022)	2.25	2.8	2.9
Hysterectomy (2022)	1.87	1.6	2.1
Chlamydia rate (per 10,000 population; 2023)	16.4	24.8	16.3
Hepatitis B (per 10,000 population; 2023)	1.61	1.5	0.6

Source: Victorian Women's Health Atlas; Data per 1,000 population unless stated

Appendix 18. Hospital facilities Wyndham and Surrounds, 2024

Name	Public/Private	Services
Westpoint Endoscopy Day Hospital	Private – day procedure	Endoscopy
Hobsons Bay Endoscopy - Werribee	Private – day procedure	Endoscopy
Wyndham Clinic	Private – overnight	50 overnight bed mental health, alcohol and drug, and day surgery.
St Vincent's Private Hospital	Private – overnight	112 bed hospital with acute surgical, maternity, rehabilitation services.
Werribee Mercy Hospital	Public	298 bed hospital with Emergency department; Acute medical and surgical, mental health, maternity, subacute services.
Point Cook Community Hospital	Public	TBC
Sunshine Hospital	Public	Emergency Department; mental health; medical and surgical; maternity and paediatrics
Footscray Hospital	Public	Emergency Department; mental health; medical and surgical.

People's Advisory Panel – GP access survey

The healthcare system in Wyndham is under pressure from a rapidly growing population, rising costs, and lack of available health infrastructure. In addition, there is a nationwide General Practitioner (GP) shortage, with fewer medical graduates specialising in this area of medicine, reduced hours being worked, and significant costs associated with bringing internationally trained GPs to work in Australia.

According to the Australian government's Distribution Priority Area (DPA) classification system, Wyndham is an area of priority, resulting in increased support and incentives from the Federal Government for GPs who choose to work in Wyndham. Despite this, in some parts of the municipality, there are fewer than one Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP per 1,000 population, including at Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale, where there is 0.4 FTE per 1,000 population.

To understand the experiences of Wyndham residents in accessing local GP services, the Service Planning team developed a short survey that aimed to explore key factors influencing access to GP services, including availability of appointments, out-of-pocket costs, and travel requirements. This information will support local health service planning and identify advocacy opportunities to help improve accessibility across the municipality.

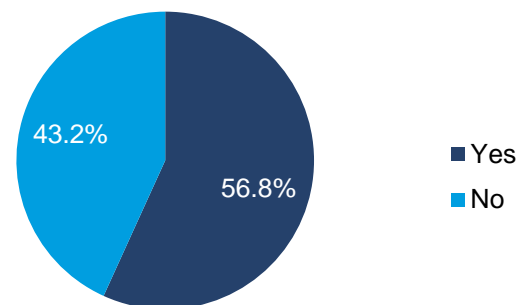
Participants

The survey was distributed to Wyndham's People's Advisory Panel (PAP), which consists of 1,842 residents located across the municipality. Over 50% of panel members speak a language other than English, and members represent all age groups, with the largest proportion aged between 35 and 44 years.

A total 294 responses were received; 16 responses were incomplete to varying degrees.

Respondents were predominantly aged 35 to 59 (62%), from families with children (53.4%) and live in Point Cook (21.2%), Werribee (19.1%) and Tarneit (15.1%).

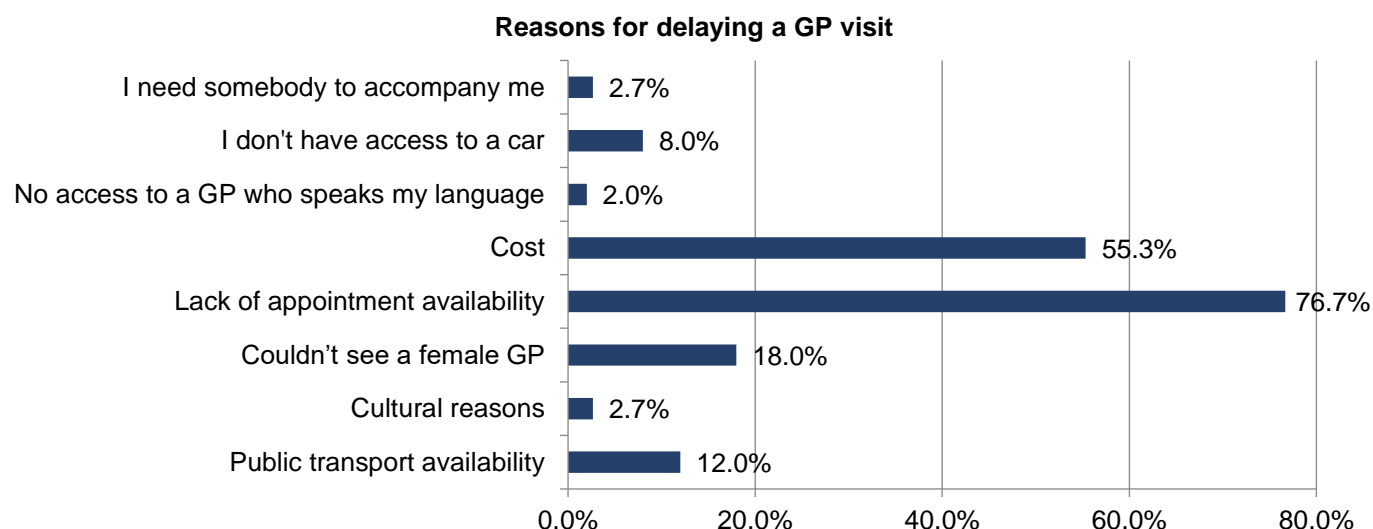
Percentage of people who have delayed a GP visit in previous 12 months



Results Summary

The preferred method of seeing a GP according to panel member respondents was overwhelmingly “in person at the clinic” (93.3%). Despite the rise in popularity of Telehealth during COVID, only 6% of respondents continue to prefer this method of healthcare provision.

More than half of respondents reported having delayed seeing a GP in the past 12 months (56.8%). The most common reasons for delaying were lack of appointment availability and cost.

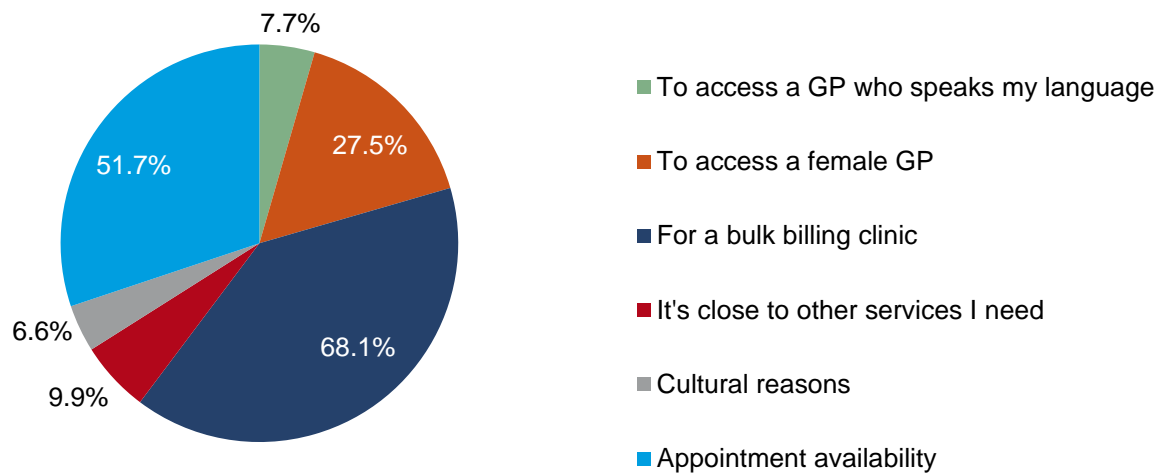


Travelling outside the suburb where a person lives is common. Almost half (45.8%) of respondents reported having to leave their home suburb to see a GP. Hoppers Crossing, Werribee and suburbs outside of Wyndham, were the most common locations which people were travelling to. Hoppers Crossing and Werribee are also the suburbs with the highest concentration of GP clinics, including those that offer bulk-billing to all people with a Medicare card.

Appointment availability, bulk-billing clinics, and access to a female GP were the most common reasons for why people are travelling. Other reasons included accessing “a GP who speaks my language”, to see a female doctor and continuing to see a GP from where they previously lived.

Residents Wyndham wide are travelling outside their suburb to access GP services, however the rates of reported travel varied. Around a third (34%) of respondents who live in Werribee and Hoppers Crossing reported travelling outside their suburb to see a GP, typically to see a regular GP (family GP). In contrast, 53.6% of respondents from Manor Lakes and Wyndham Vale travel to bulk billed clinic or due to lack of local appointment availability.

Why do you travel outside your suburb to see a GP?



In terms of physical proximity to services, more than half of respondents believe it is reasonable to travel between 10 and 20 minutes to access a GP service (52.5%) while 40.0% think a GP should only be up to 10 minutes away. One respondent reported an hour walk to the local GP due to lack of public transport options.

In addition to the results above, other important issues raised include -

- Lack of availability of afterhours and weekend services.
- Poor quality of care due to rushed appointments.
- Long wait times at bulk-billing clinics.
- High out of pocket expenses.
- A lack of 24/7 pharmacies.