

Kingston City Council

Coordinated by the Department of Government Services on behalf of Victorian councils



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Background and objectives

The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the council and their community.

Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.

Now in its twenty-fourth year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance, with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- · value for money in services and infrastructure
- community consultation and engagement
- · decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities, services and
- · overall council direction.

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last ten years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 24 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 24 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional. Participating councils have various choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.



Kingston City Council – at a glance



Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Kingston 62



Metropolitan 62



State-wide 56

Council performance compared to group average



Summary of core measures



Index scores















Overall Performance

Value for money

Community Consultation

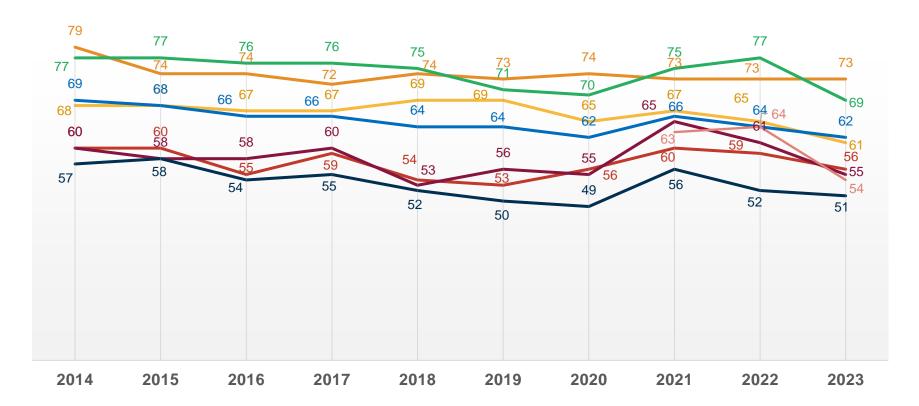
Making Community **Decisions**

Sealed Local Roads

management

Customer Service

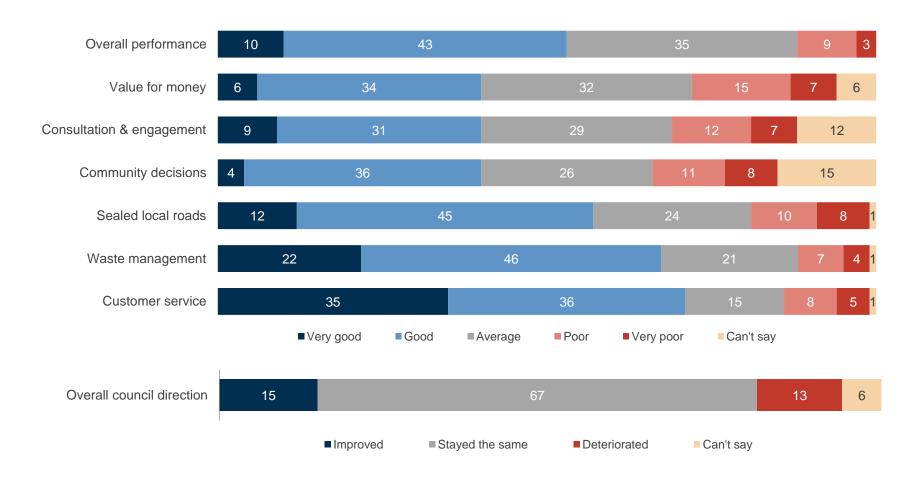
Council Direction



Summary of core measures



Core measures summary results (%)



Summary of Kingston City Council performance



Services		Kingston 2023	Kingston 2022	Metro 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
M	Overall performance	62	64	62	56	Aged 65+ years	Men
S	Value for money	54	64	56	49	Women	Men
+	Overall council direction	51	52	49	46	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Customer service	73	73	71	67	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
\$ /	Art centres & libraries	75	-	75	73	Aged 50-64 years	Aged 18-34 years
外	Recreational facilities	71	-	72	68	Central residents, Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
	Waste management	69	77	68	66	Aged 50-64 years	Aged 18-34 years
	Family support services	68	-	65	63	Aged 18-34 years, North residents	Men, Aged 35-49 years
5 7	Community & cultural	67	-	67	66	North residents	Central residents
泣	Emergency & disaster mngt	67	-	65	65	Women, Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years, Men

Summary of Kingston City Council performance



Servic	es	Kingston 2023	Kingston 2022	Metro 2023	State- wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
<u>.</u>	Appearance of public areas	67	-	68	67	North residents	South residents, Aged 35-49 years, Central residents
AA	Elderly support services	65	-	64	63	Aged 65+ years	Aged 18-34 years
	Informing the community	61	-	60	57	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
وُع	Environmental sustainability	61	-	62	60	Aged 35-49 years	North residents, Aged 18-34 years, Aged 65+ years
A	Sealed local roads	61	65	61	48	North residents	Aged 50-64 years, South residents
****	Disadvantaged support serv.	60	-	61	59	North residents, Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years, South residents
	Enforcement of local laws	60	-	62	61	Aged 18-34 years, Women	Aged 65+ years, Men, South residents
Tipe (Local streets & footpaths	58	62	57	52	North residents	South residents
	Consultation & engagement	56	59	55	52	Women, Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Parking facilities	56	-	54	55	Central residents	Aged 50-64 years

Summary of Kingston City Council performance



Services		Kingston 2023	Kingston 2022	Metro 2023	State-wide 2023	Highest score	Lowest score
**	Community decisions	55	61	55	51	Women, Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
	Traffic management	54	-	55	55	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
<u></u>	Lobbying	51	-	53	51	Women	Men
	Town planning policy	51	-	52	50	South residents, Aged 35-49 years, Women	Central residents, Aged 65+ years, Men
	Population growth	48	-	49	48	Aged 35-49 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Planning & building permits	48	-	50	47	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 65+ years

Focus areas for the next 12 months



Overview

Perceptions of Council's overall performance is not significantly different from last year, but has declined year on year for the last two years. It is now among the lowest levels seen in 10 years. That said, Kingston City Council's overall performance remains in line with the Metropolitan group average (where a significant decline in perceptions occurred this year). In four of the five service areas evaluated in 2022, perceptions of Council's performance declined significantly in the last 12 months.

Key influences on perceptions of overall performance

Town planning is among Council's lower rated service areas and its relatively stronger influence on overall perceptions of Council make it a priority for improvement. Making decisions in the interest of the community is equally as influential, and perceptions of Council's performance in this service area have declined significantly for two years running. Communicating with residents about Council decision making and on matters relating to town planning can help to shore up positive overall opinion of Council.

Comparison to state and area grouping

Importantly, Council performs as well or significantly higher than the State-wide and Metropolitan group averages on all service areas evaluated, and on the core metrics including overall performance. Of note is Council's performance in family support services, where it outperforms both the State-wide and Metropolitan group averages.

Monitor and rebuild on declines

While perceptions of Council's performance on waste management declined significantly this year, it remains one of Council's strongest performing service area (and performs in line with the Metropolitan group average). Council should look to improve its performance in this area to ensure that further declines in perceptions do not occur. Customer service is another area where Council is continually well regarded – efforts here should be applauded and maintained.

DETAILED FINDINGS





The overall performance index score of 62 for Kingston City Council represents a two point (not significant) decline on the 2022 result, continuing a downward trend for a second year running.

 Overall performance is now among the lowest level seen in 10 years.

That said, Kingston City Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the State-wide average and in line with the Metropolitan group average (index scores of 56 and 62 respectively).

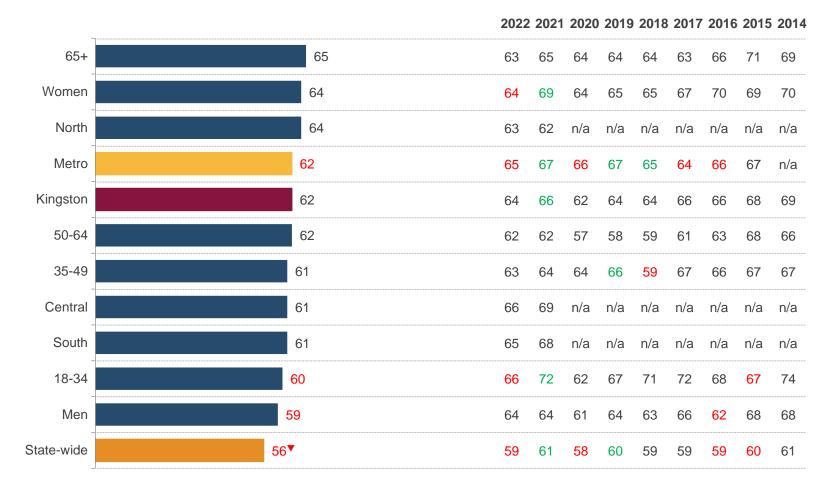
- No significant differences are noted among those from different demographic or geographic groups compared to the average.
- Significant declines in perceptions of Council's overall performance were evident this year among 18 to 34 year olds (60, down six index points) and men (59, down five index points). These are the cohorts where attention should be first focused.

More than two in five residents (40%) rate the value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services provided to their community as 'very good' or 'good'. This is more than three times as many as those who rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor' (12%). A further 35% rate Council as 'average' on value for money.



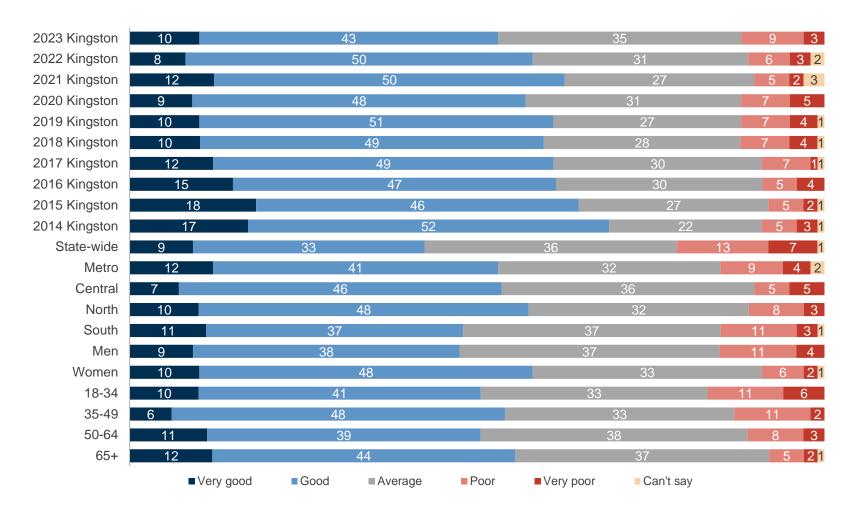


2023 overall performance (index scores)





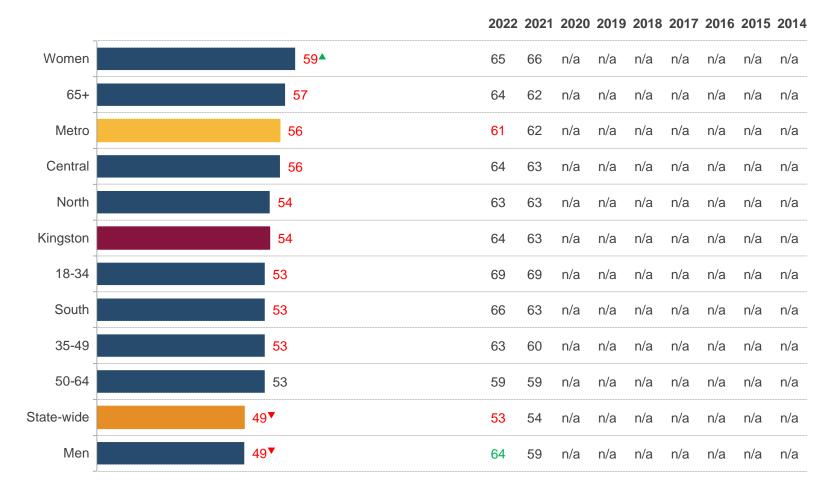
2023 overall performance (%)



Value for money in services and infrastructure



2023 value for money (index scores)

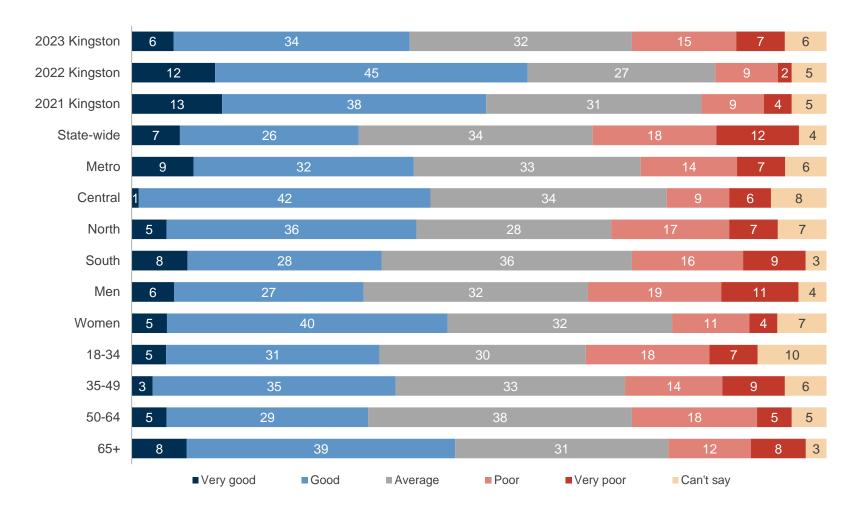


Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Value for money in services and infrastructure



2023 value for money (%)



Top performing service areas

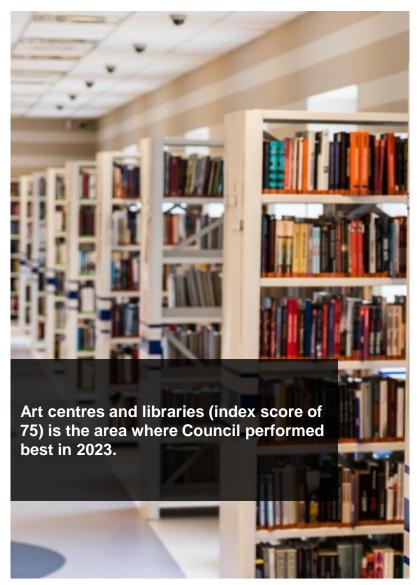
Art centres and libraries (index score of 75) is the area where Council performed best in 2023, maintaining its high performance in this service area.

 Residents aged 18 to 34 years are significantly more critical (index score of 67) than average of Council's performance in this service area.

Recreational facilities and waste management are Council's next highest rated service areas (index scores of 71 and 69 respectively).

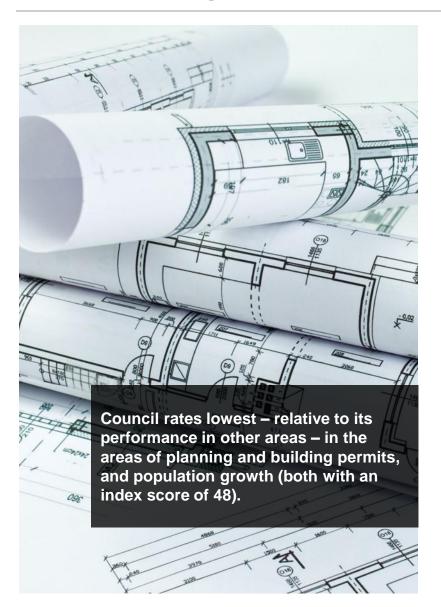
- In the area of recreational facilities, Council currently performs among the lowest levels recorded in the past 10 years (noting this service area was not measured in 2021 and 2022).
- While one of Council's better performing service areas, perceived waste management performance nonetheless declined by a significant eight index points and is now at the lowest level in 10 years. This impact was felt equally across the three geographic regions, meaning the issue is Councilwide. Moreover, 7% of residents volunteer this service as one of the top areas for improvement.

It is worth noting that Council performs in line with the Metropolitan group and significantly higher than the State-wide averages in the aforementioned service areas.



Low performing service areas





Council rates lowest in the areas of planning and building permits, and planning for population growth (both with an index score of 48).

- In the service area of planning and building permits, younger residents aged 18 to 34 years are significantly more positive (index score of 55) and those aged 65+ years are significantly more critical (index score of 41) of Council than the average.
- In the area of population growth, no significant differences compared to the average were noted among residents from the different geographic and demographic groups.

Town planning policy and lobbying are Council's next lowest performing service areas (both with an index score of 51).

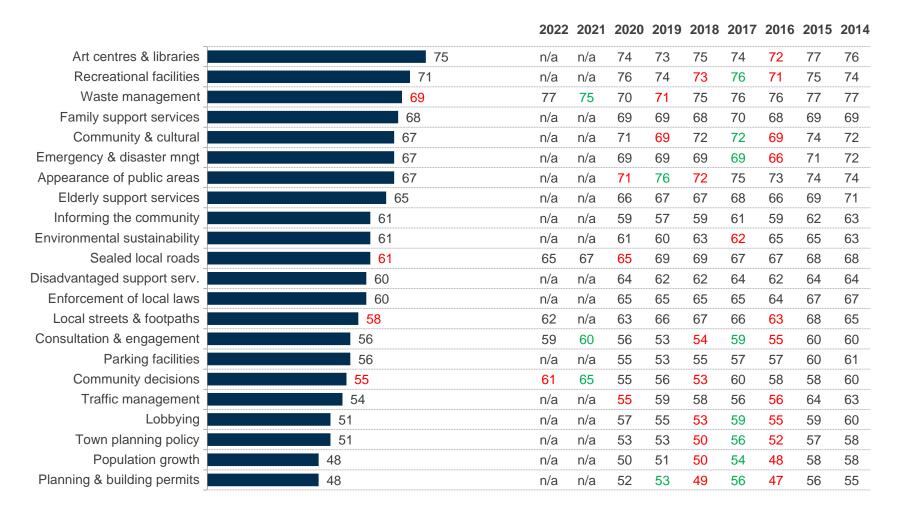
Encouragingly, Council performance rates in line with the Metropolitan group and State-wide averages for all four of its lowest performing service areas.

Residents volunteer town planning and permits (7%) and inappropriate development or overdevelopment (7%) as areas Council most need to address.

Individual service area performance



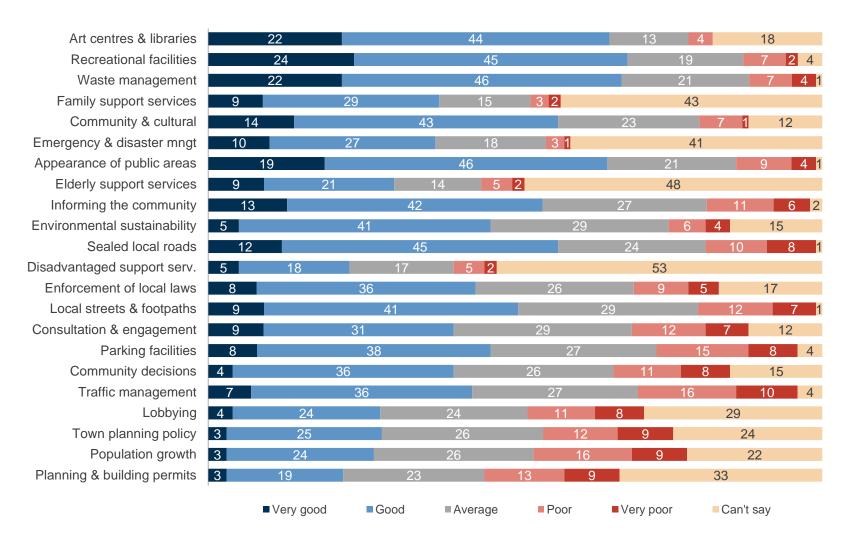
2023 individual service area performance (index scores)



Individual service area performance



2023 individual service area performance (%)



Influences on perceptions of overall performance



The individual service area that has the strongest influence on the overall performance rating (based on regression analysis) is:

Town planning.

Consulting with residents and addressing their concerns about local planning issues provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council's performance.

Following on from that, other individual service areas with a moderate to strong influence on the overall performance rating are:

- Decisions made in the interest of the community
- Recreational facilities
- Community consultation and engagement
- The condition of local streets
- Planning and building permits
- Family support services
- Waste management
- · The enforcement of local laws.

Looking at these key service areas only, recreational facilities, waste management and family support services have a high performance index (71, 69 and 68

respectively) and a moderate influence on the overall performance rating. Maintaining these positive results should remain a focus but there is greater work to be done elsewhere.

Other service areas that have a moderate influence on overall perceptions, but where Council performs less well, are community decisions, consultation and engagement, the condition of local streets and enforcement of local laws (performance index of 55, 56, 58 and 60 respectively).

Good consultation and transparency with residents about key local issues and Council decision making and continuing efforts in street maintenance and law enforcement can also help to shore up positive overall opinion of Council.

However, most in need of attention are Council's planning and building permits, which are poorly rated (performance index of 48) and have a moderate influence on overall community opinion.

It will be important to address resident concerns about Council's approach to planning and building permits to help improve overall ratings of Council performance.

Regression analysis explained



We use regression analysis to investigate which individual service areas, such as community consultation, condition of sealed local roads, etc. (the independent variables) are influencing respondent perceptions of overall council performance (the dependent variable).

In the charts that follow:

- The horizontal axis represents the council performance index for each individual service.
 Service areas appearing on the right side of the chart have a higher performance index than those on the left.
- The vertical axis represents the Standardised Beta Coefficient from the multiple regression performed.
 This measures the contribution of each service area to the model. Service areas near the top of the chart have a greater positive effect on overall performance ratings than service areas located closer to the axis.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

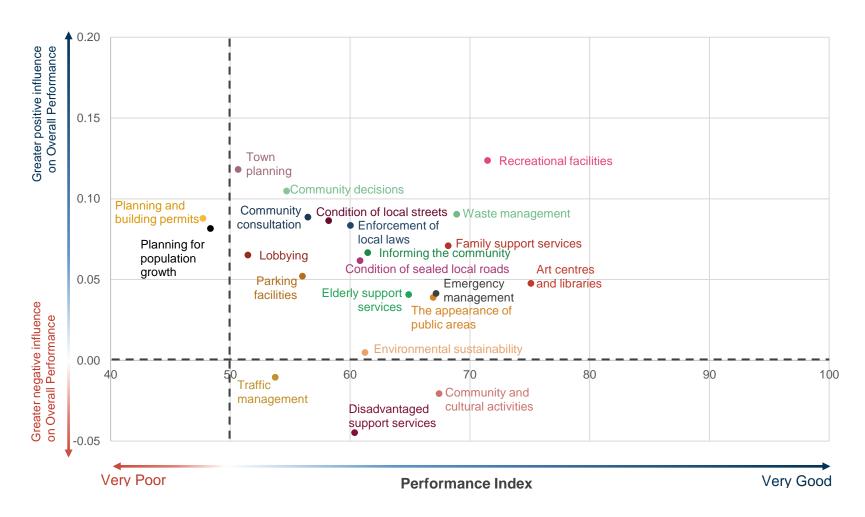
- 1. The first chart shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
- 2. The second chart shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas with a weak influence on overall performance (i.e. a low Standardised Beta Coefficient) have been excluded from the analysis.

Key insights from this analysis are derived from the second chart.

Influence on overall performance: all service areas



2023 regression analysis (all service areas)

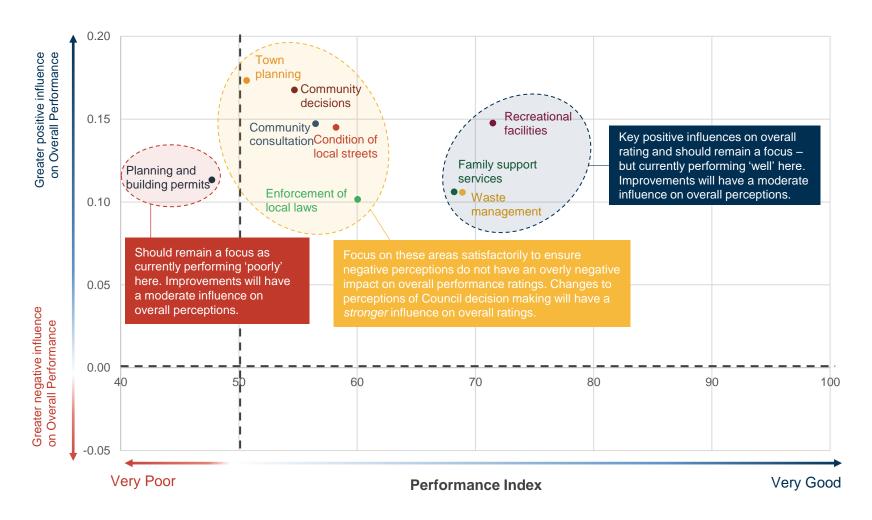


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R^2 value of 0.650 and adjusted R^2 value of 0.629, which means that 63% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at p = 0.0001, F = 31.81. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.

Influence on overall performance: key service areas



2023 regression analysis (key service areas)



Areas for improvement



2023 areas for improvement (%) - Top mentions only -





Customer service

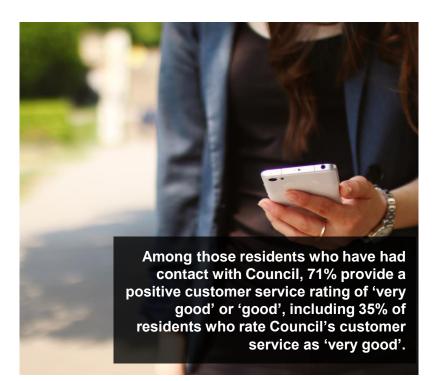
Contact with council and customer service



Contact with council

Almost two in three Council residents (64%) have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact is higher than last year by three percentage points, which was an increase on the previous year.

 Although there have been some fluctuations over time in the rate with which residents contact Council, this has remained largely steady over the years.



Customer service

Council's customer service index of 73 is unchanged from 2022. Council has maintained this high level of performance in this area over many years now.

Customer service is rated significantly higher than State-wide average and in line with the Metropolitan group average (index scores of 67 and 71 respectively).

More than seven in ten residents (71%) provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good'.

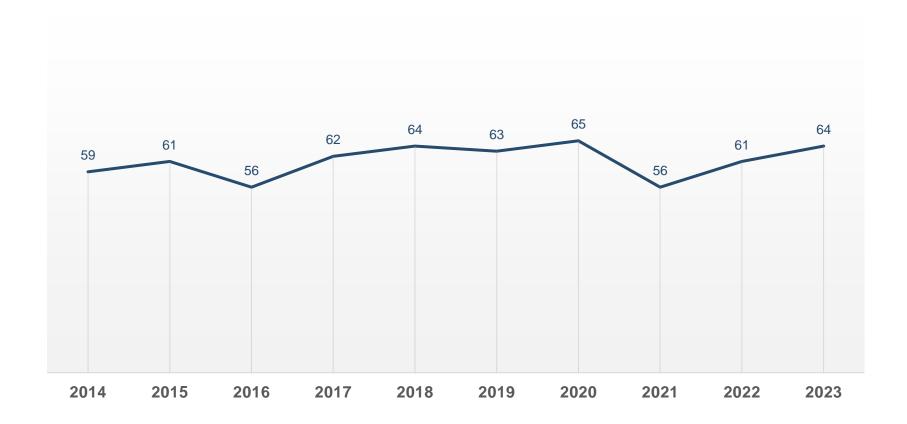
 Perceptions of customer service are equally positive, compared to the average, among residents of the different demographic and geographic groups.

While not statistically significant, it is worth noting that residents aged 50 to 64 years have a higher contact rate with Council (74%) than the average and are more critical about Council performance in this area (index score of 67).

Contact with council



2023 contact with council (%) Have had contact



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Kingston City Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Contact with council



2023 contact with council (%)



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Kingston City Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (index scores)

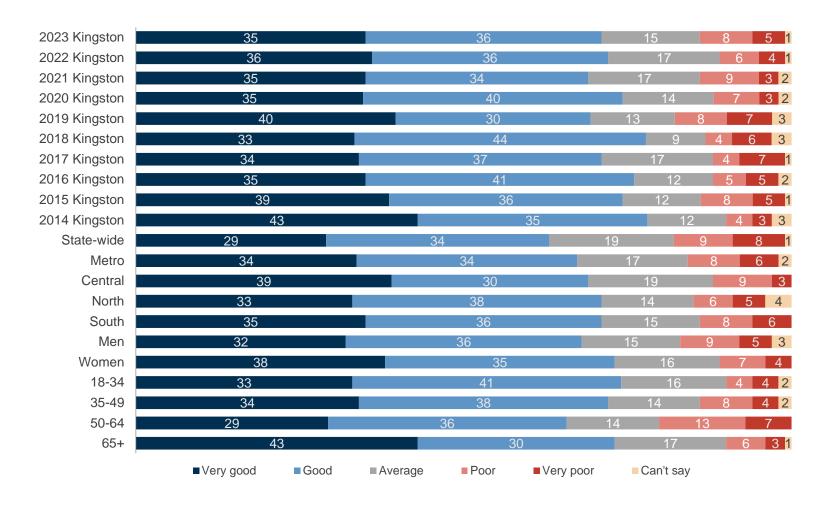


Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Kingston City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received. Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 16 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

Customer service rating



2023 customer service rating (%)





Council direction

W

Over the last 12 months, 67% of residents believe the direction of Council's overall performance has stayed the same, unchanged from 2022.

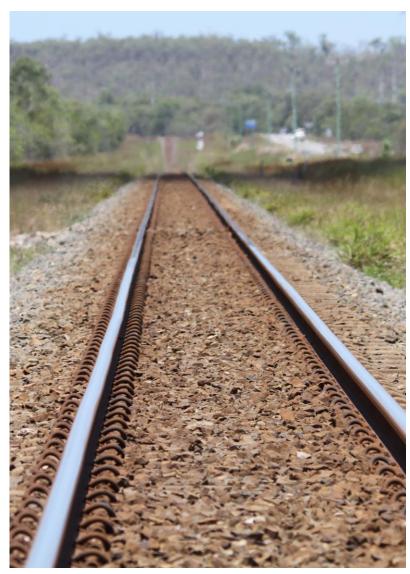
- 15% believe the direction has improved (unchanged on 2022) in the last 12 months.
- 13% believe it has deteriorated, up two percentage points on 2022.

The index score of 51 for Council's overall direction represents a one point (not significant) decline from 2022. Council performance in this area is significantly higher than the State-wide average (index score 46) and on par with the Metropolitan group average (49).

 Perceptions of the direction of Council's overall performance declined significantly this year among residents in the Central area (46, down nine points).

No significant differences among residents from different demographic or geographic cohorts were found in the perceptions of the direction of Council's overall performance compared to the average however:

- The most satisfied with overall council direction are those aged 18 to 34 years (index score of 57).
- The least satisfied with council direction are those aged 50 to 64 years (45) and residents in the Central area (46).



Overall council direction last 12 months



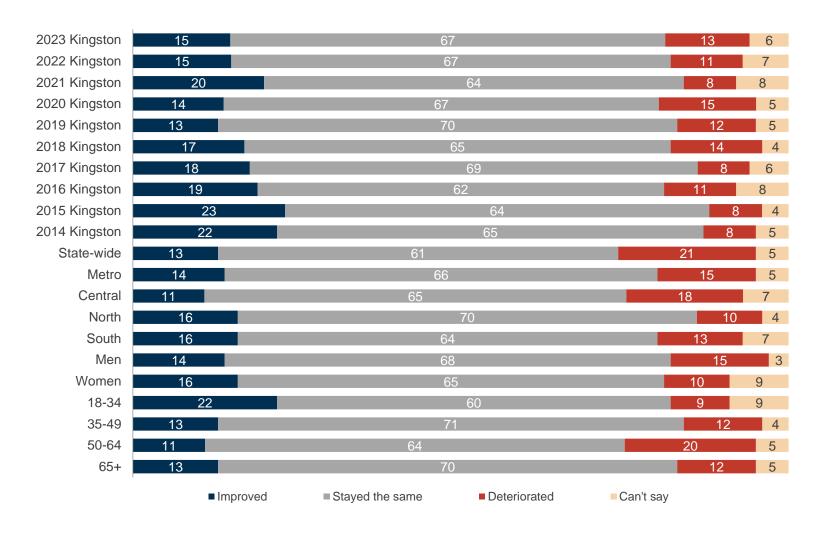
2023 overall council direction (index scores)



Overall council direction last 12 months



2023 overall council direction (%)



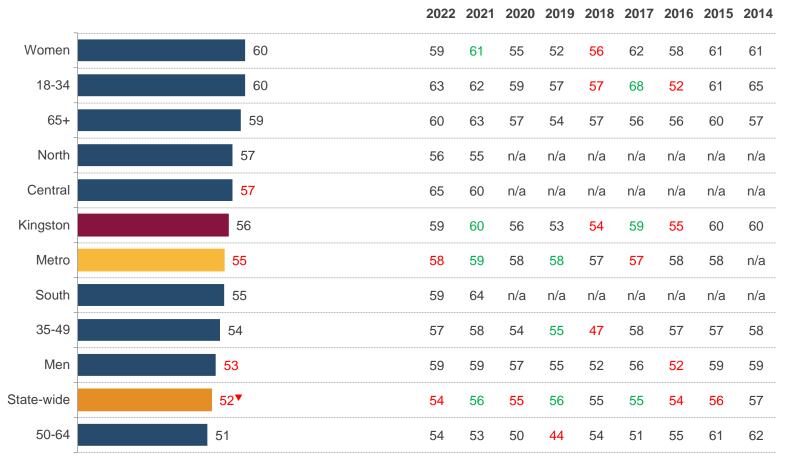


Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

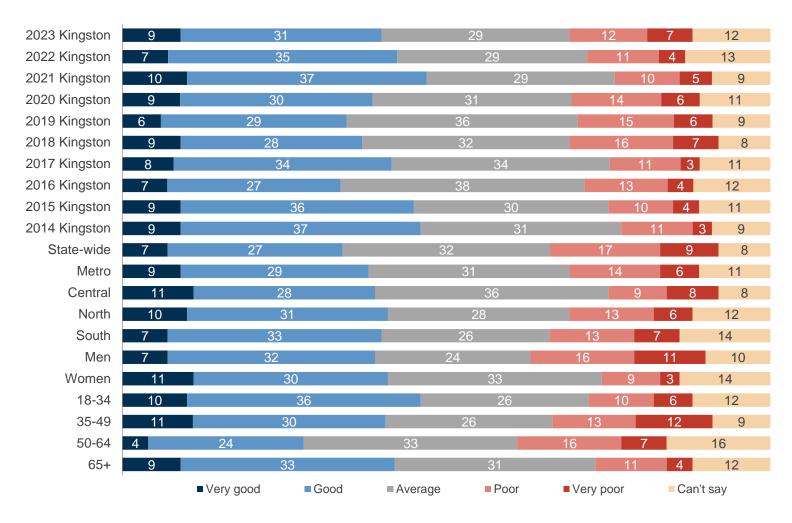


Community consultation and engagement performance





2023 consultation and engagement performance (%)

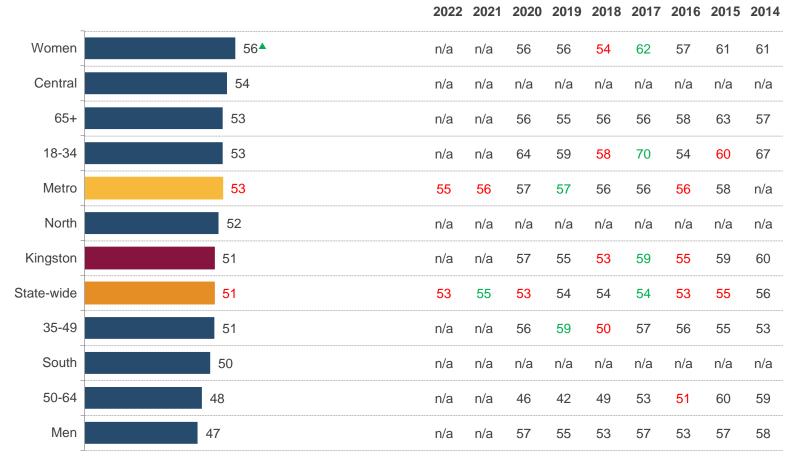


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (index scores)

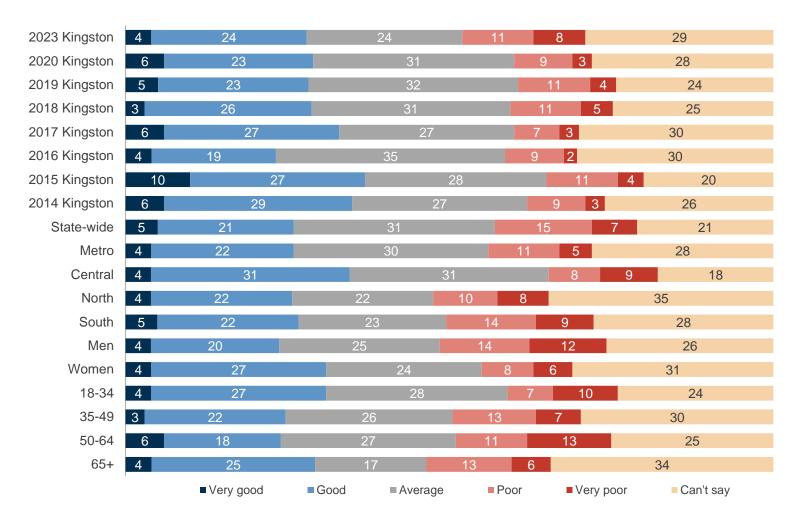


Lobbying on behalf of the community performance





2023 lobbying performance (%)



Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2023 community decisions made performance (index scores)

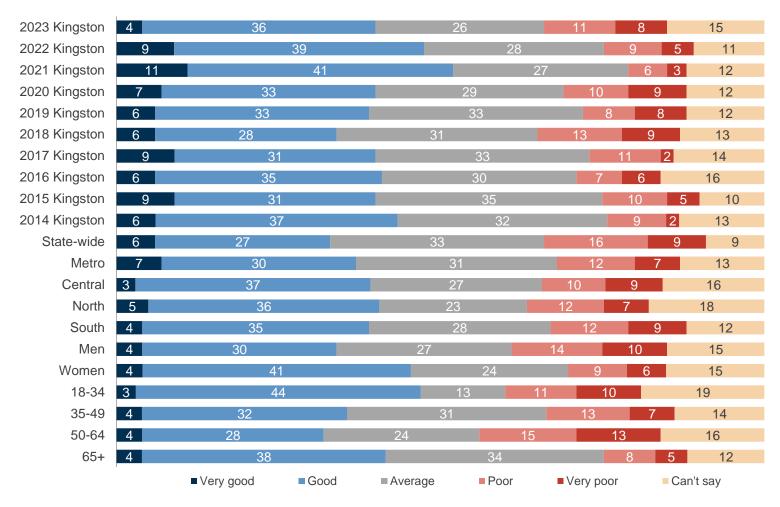


Decisions made in the interest of the community performance





2023 community decisions made performance (%)



The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

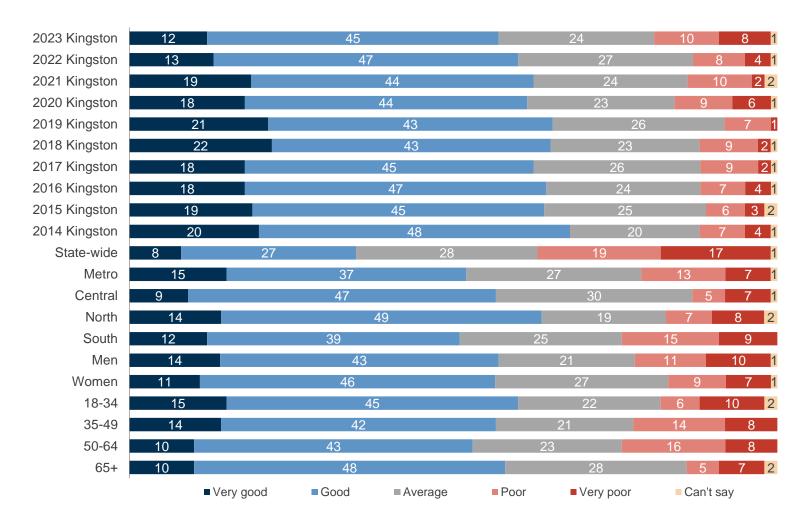


The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance





2023 sealed local roads performance (%)



Informing the community performance





2023 informing community performance (index scores)

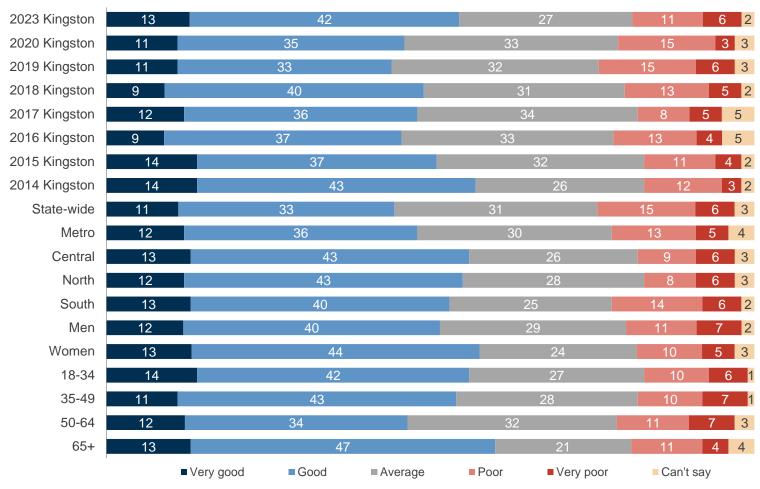


Informing the community performance





2023 informing community performance (%)

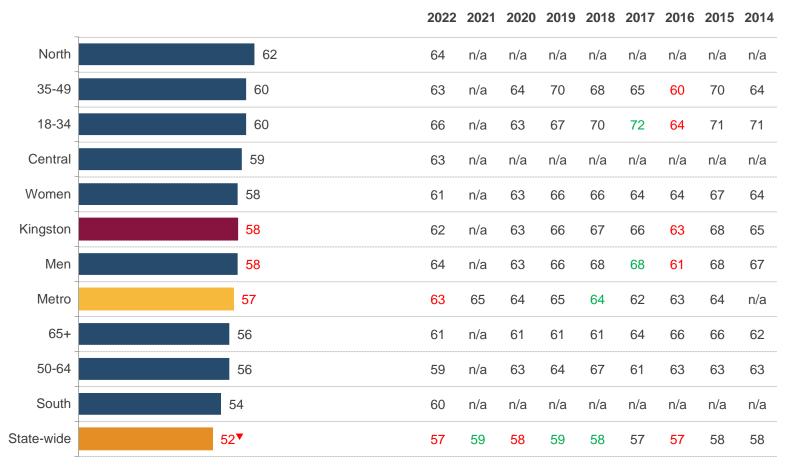


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





2023 streets and footpaths performance (index scores)

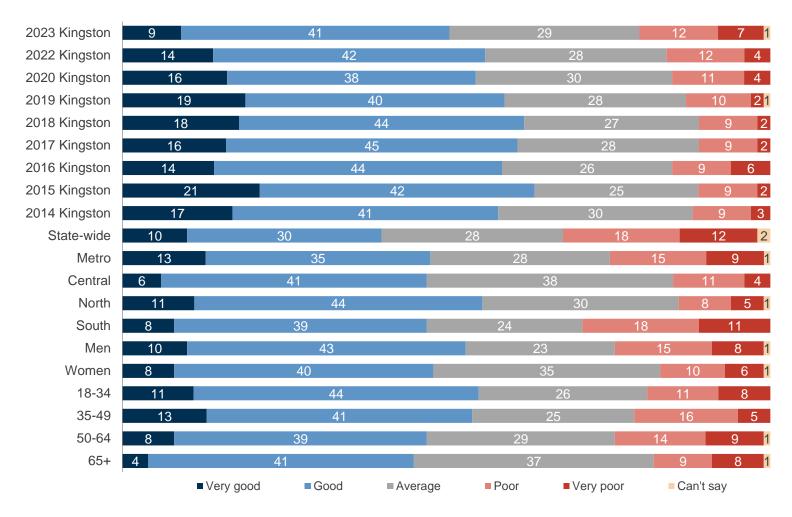


The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance





2023 streets and footpaths performance (%)

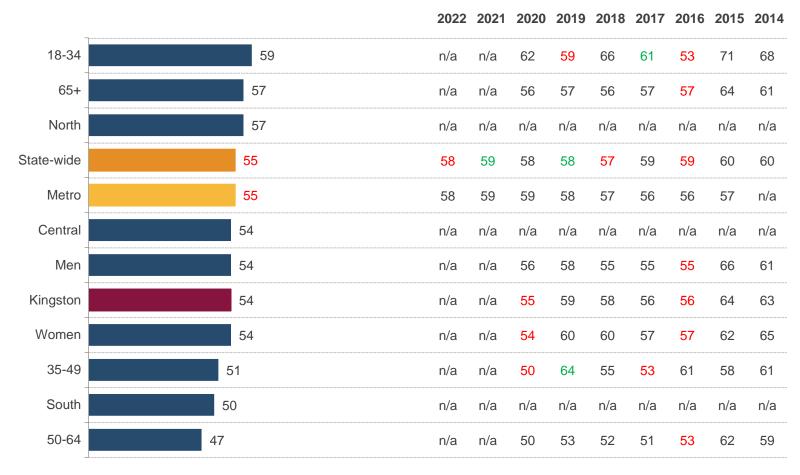


Traffic management performance





2023 traffic management performance (index scores)

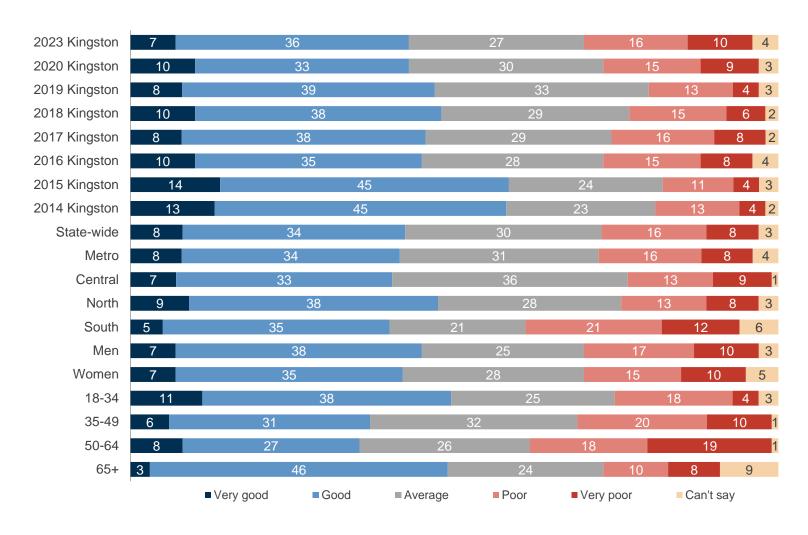


Traffic management performance





2023 traffic management performance (%)



Parking facilities performance





2023 parking performance (index scores)

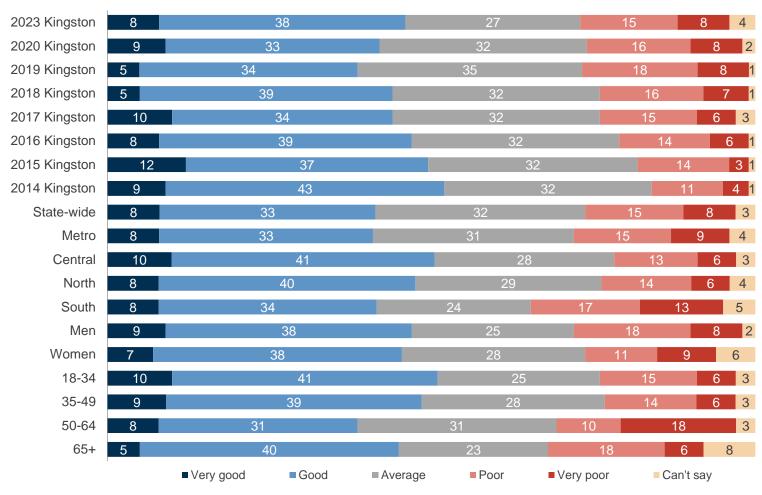


Parking facilities performance





2023 parking performance (%)



Enforcement of local laws performance





2023 law enforcement performance (index scores)

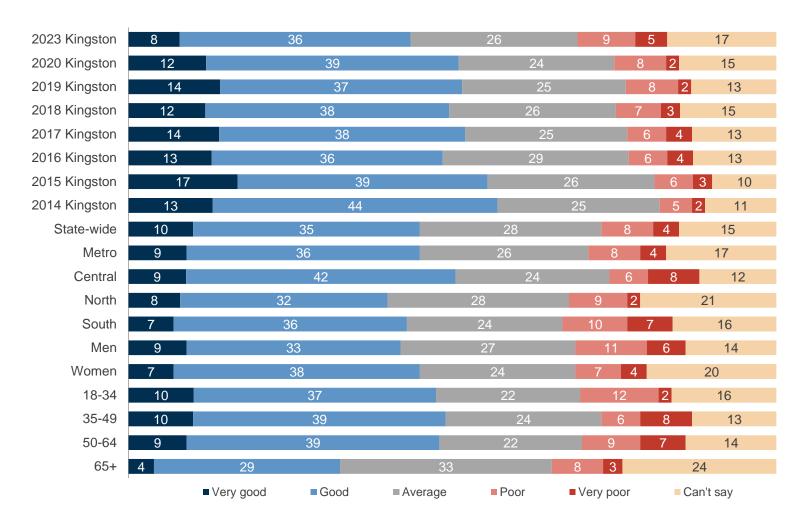


Enforcement of local laws performance





2023 law enforcement performance (%)



Family support services performance





2023 family support performance (index scores)

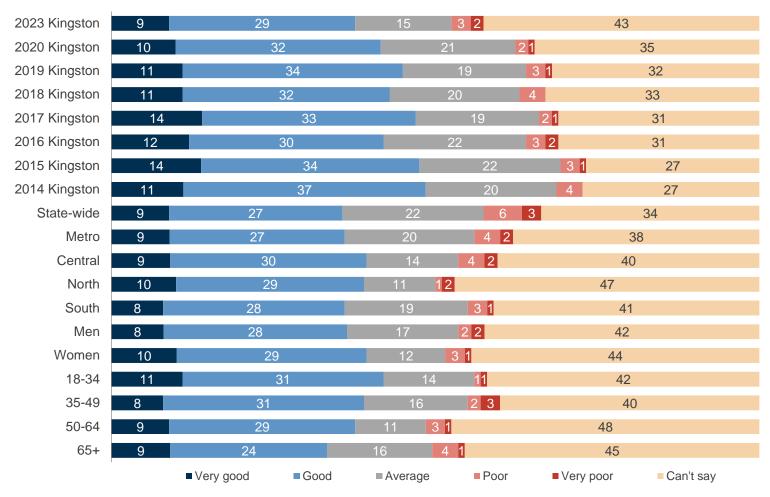


Family support services performance





2023 family support performance (%)



Elderly support services performance





2023 elderly support performance (index scores)

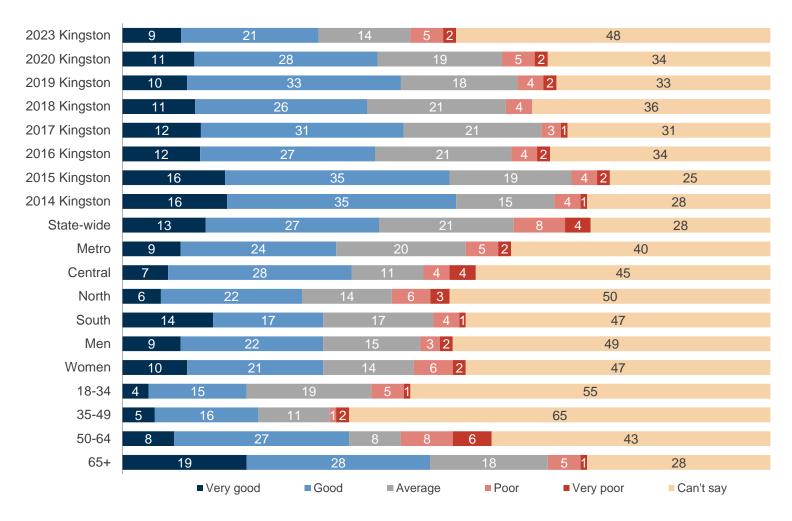


Elderly support services performance





2023 elderly support performance (%)

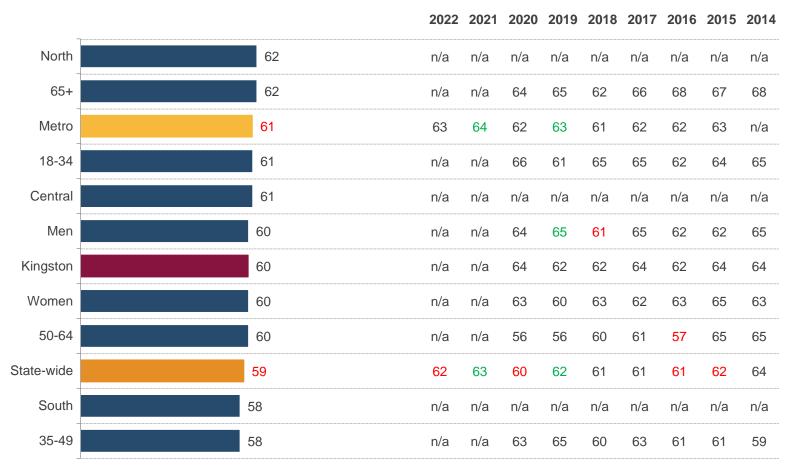


Disadvantaged support services performance





2023 disadvantaged support performance (index scores)

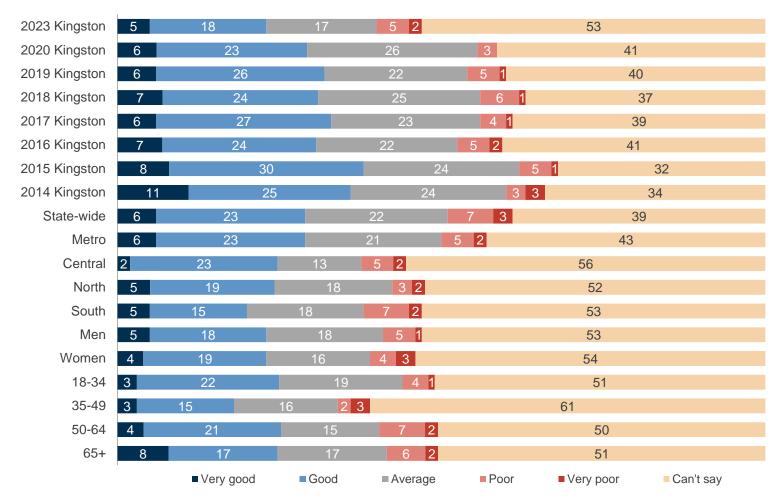


Disadvantaged support services performance





2023 disadvantaged support performance (%)

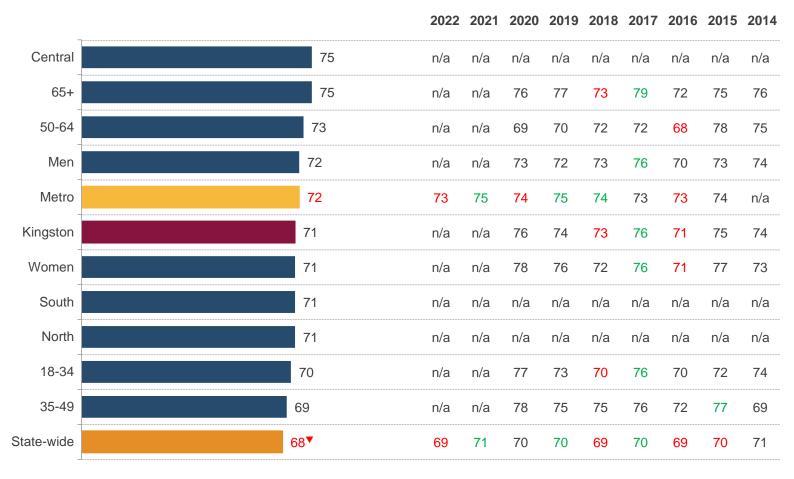


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

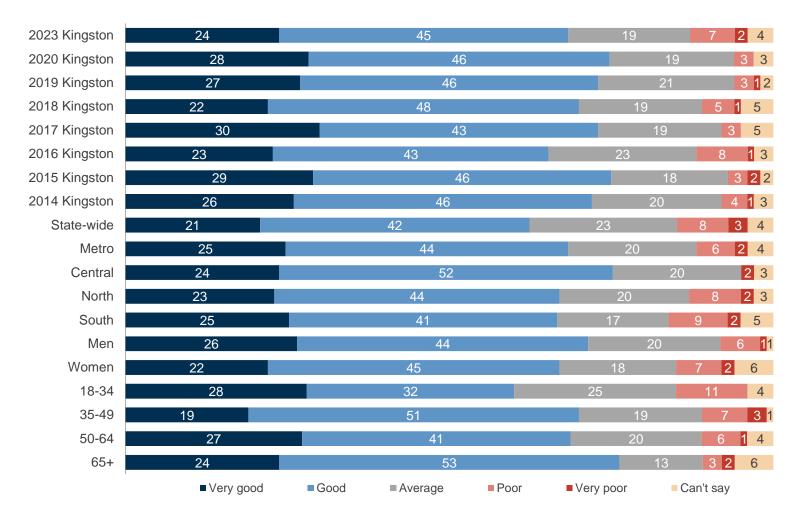


Recreational facilities performance





2023 recreational facilities performance (%)



The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (index scores)

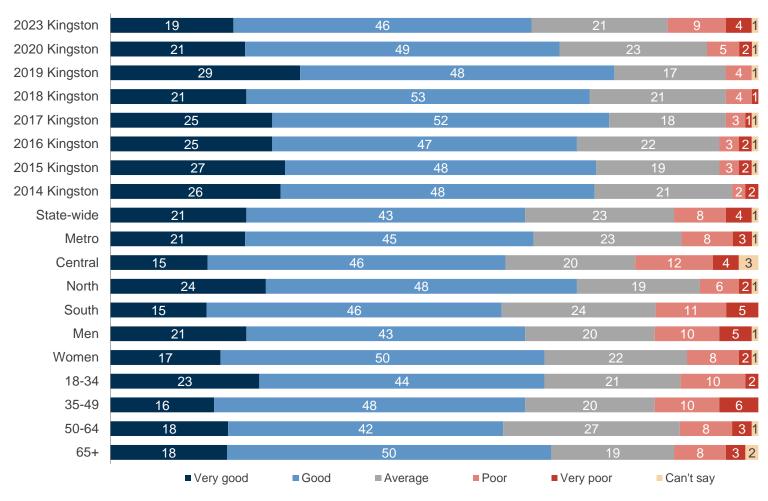


The appearance of public areas performance





2023 public areas performance (%)

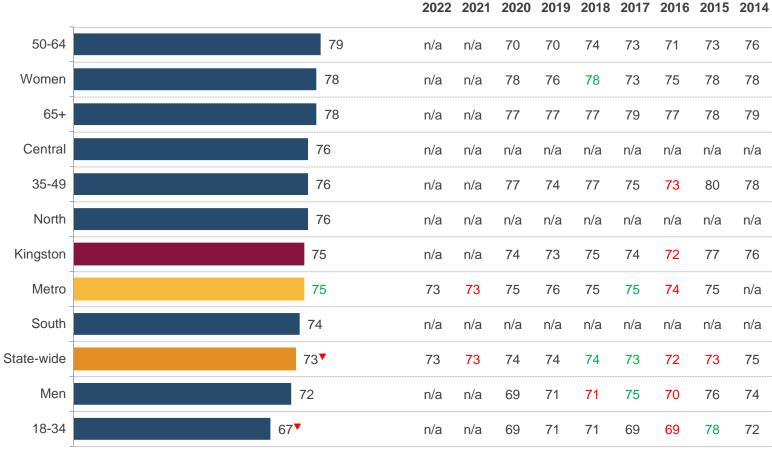


Art centres and libraries performance





2023 art centres and libraries performance (index scores)

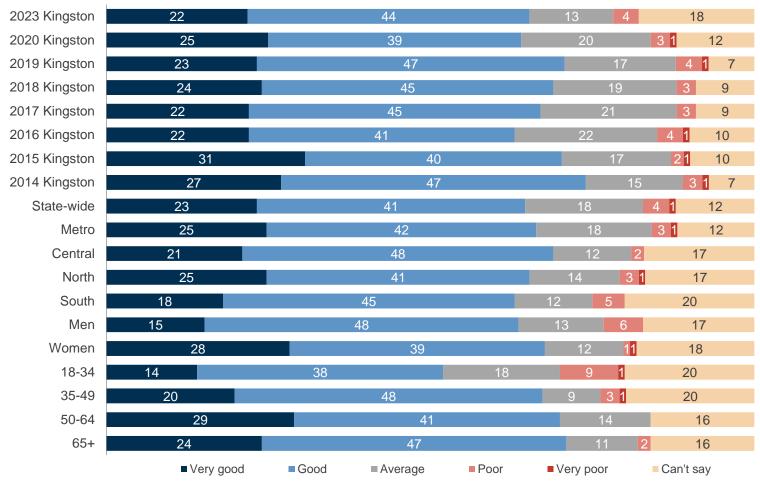


Art centres and libraries performance





2023 art centres and libraries performance (%)



Community and cultural activities performance





2023 community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

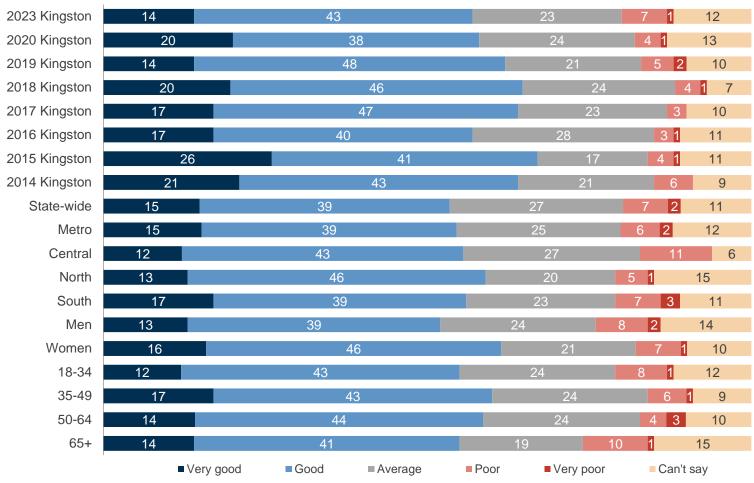


Community and cultural activities performance





2023 community and cultural activities performance (%)



Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (index scores)

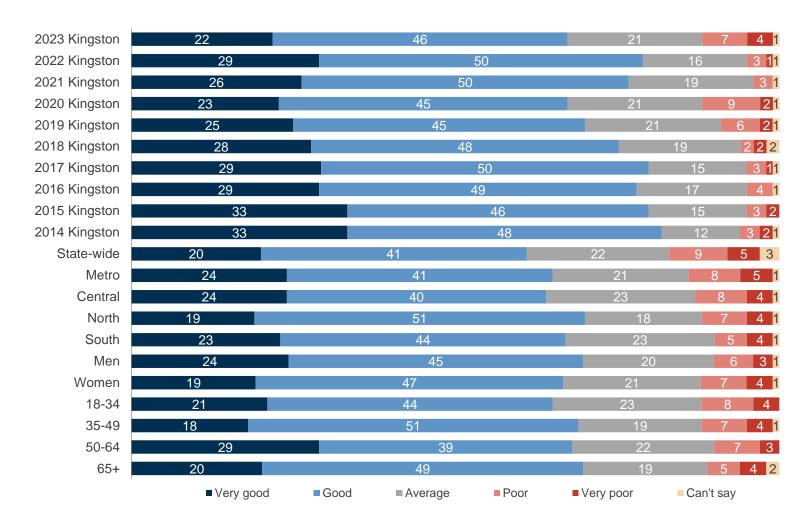


Waste management performance





2023 waste management performance (%)



Council's general town planning policy performance





2023 town planning performance (index scores)

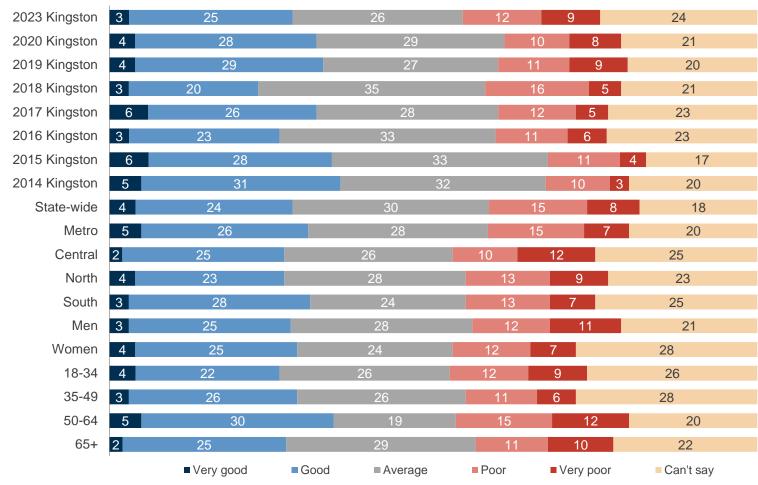


Council's general town planning policy performance





2023 town planning performance (%)

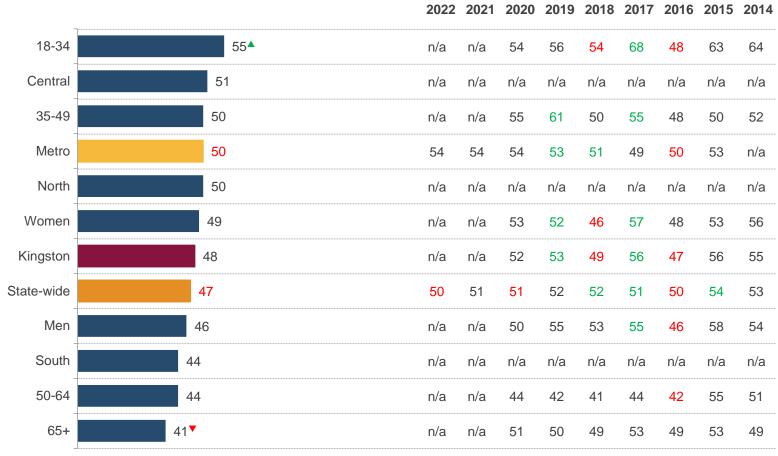


Planning and building permits performance





2023 planning and building permits performance (index scores)

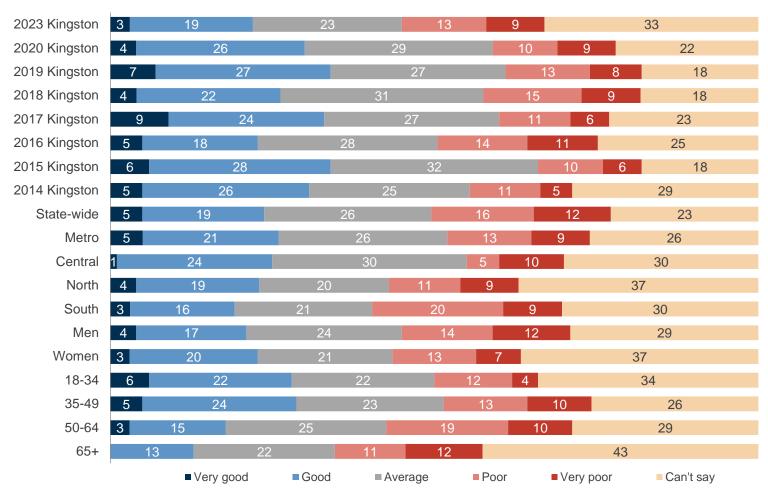


Planning and building permits performance





2023 planning and building permits performance (%)



Environmental sustainability performance





2023 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

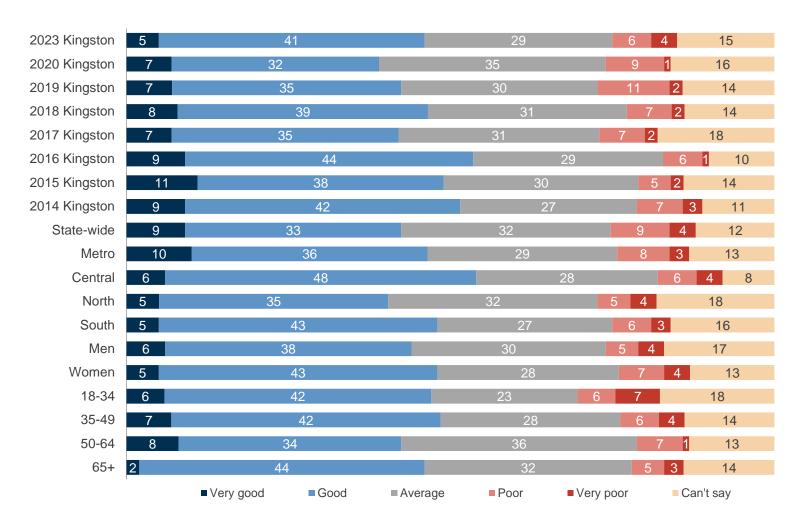


Environmental sustainability performance





2023 environmental sustainability performance (%)



Emergency and disaster management performance





2023 emergency and disaster management performance (index scores)

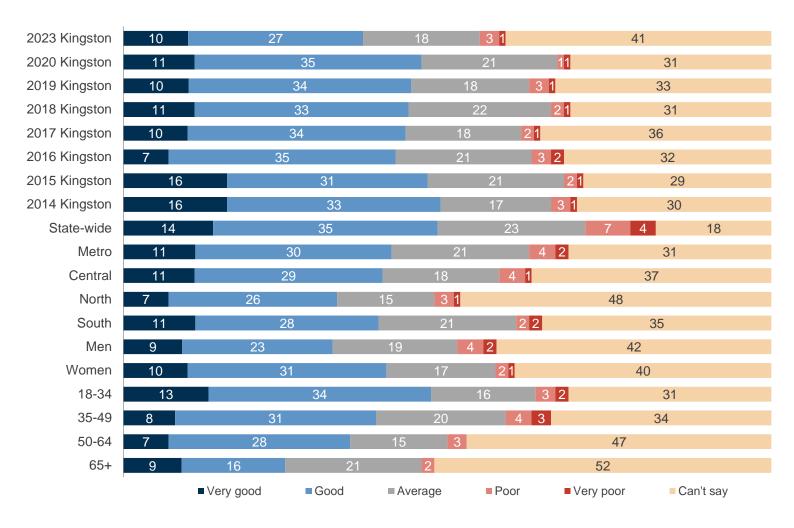


Emergency and disaster management performance





2023 emergency and disaster management performance (%)

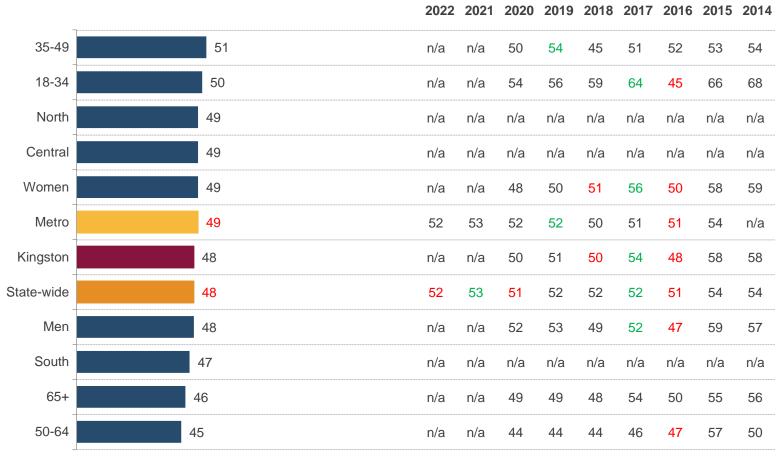


Planning for population growth in the area performance





2023 population growth performance (index scores)

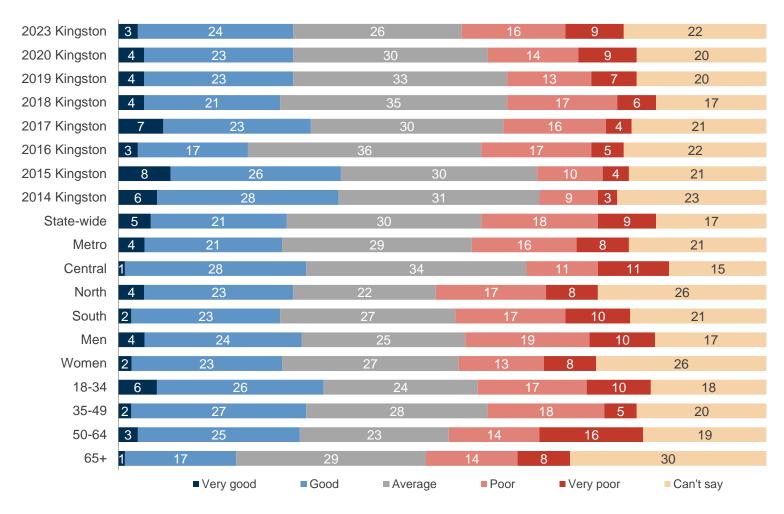


Planning for population growth in the area performance





2023 population growth performance (%)

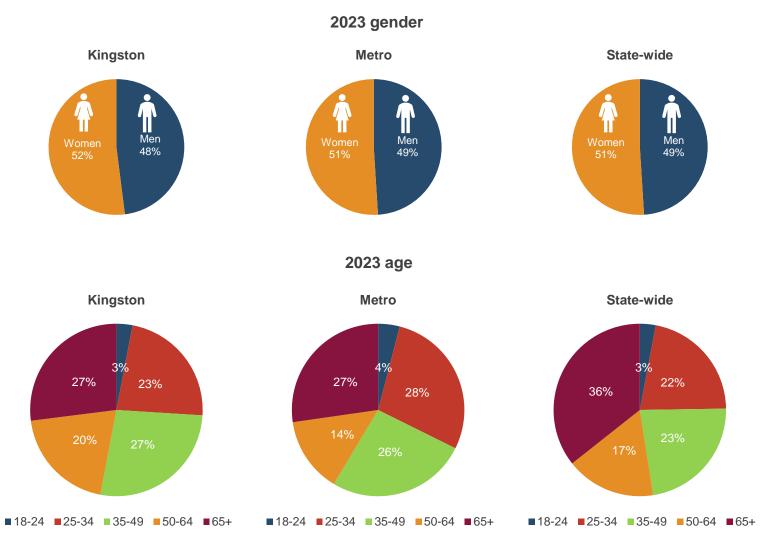


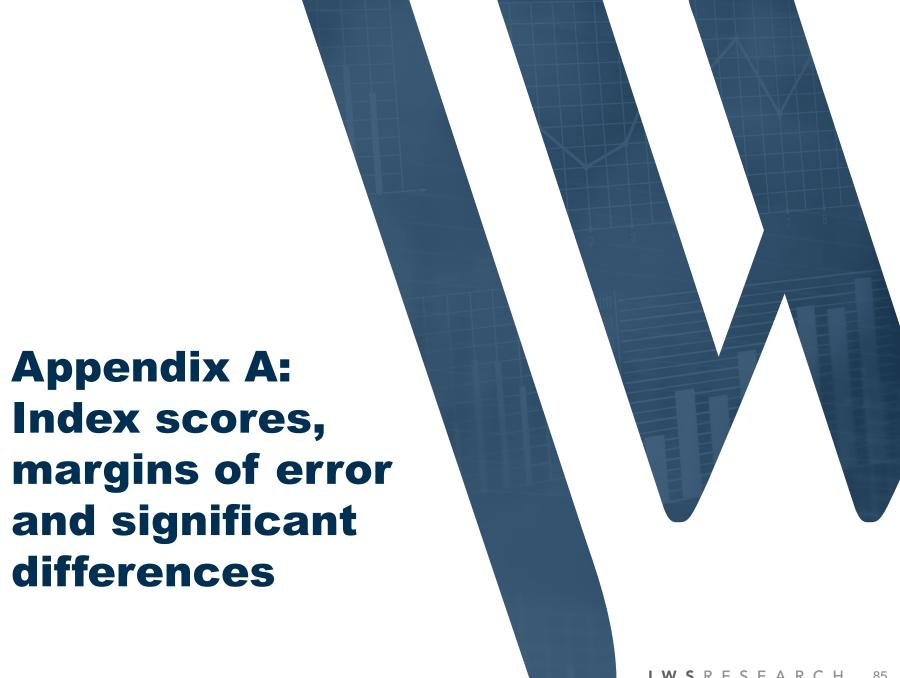


Detailed demographics

Gender and age profile







Appendix A: Index Scores



Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the statewide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 60

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%		INDEX SCORE 56

Appendix A: Margins of error



The sample size for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Kingston City Council was n=400. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=400 interviews is +/-4.9% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 45.1% - 54.9%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 126,500 people aged 18 years or over for Kingston City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Kingston City Council	400	400	+/-4.9
Men	198	192	+/-7.0
Women	202	208	+/-6.9
Central	78	80	+/-11.2
North	163	164	+/-7.7
South	159	156	+/-7.8
18-34 years	91	103	+/-10.3
35-49 years	141	109	+/-8.3
50-64 years	70	78	+/-11.8
65+ years	98	110	+/-9.9

Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation



Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green () and downward directing red arrows ().

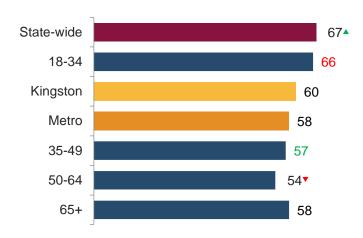
Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

- The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2022. Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is significantly higher than the result achieved among this group in 2022.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2022.

2023 overall performance (index scores) (example extract only)



Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation



The test applied to the Indexes was an Independent Mean Test, as follows:

Z Score =
$$(\$1 - \$2) / Sqrt ((\$5^2 / \$3) + (\$6^2 / \$4))$$

Where:

- \$1 = Index Score 1
- \$2 = Index Score 2
- \$3 = unweighted sample count 1
- \$4 = unweighted sample count 2
- \$5 = standard deviation 1
- \$6 = standard deviation 2

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

The test was applied at the 95% confidence interval, so if the Z Score was greater than +/- 1.954 the scores are significantly different.



Appendix B: Further project information

Appendix B: Further information



Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in this section including:

- · Background and objectives
- · Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email: admin@jwsresearch.com

Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling



The 2023 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2022, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 27th January – 24th March.
- 2021, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28th January – 18th March.
- 2020, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30th January – 22nd March.
- 2019, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February 30th March.
- 2015, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Kingston City Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, '—' denotes not mentioned and '0%' denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. 'Net' scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in Kingston City Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Kingston City Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Kingston City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=400 completed interviews were achieved in Kingston City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 27th January – 19th March, 2023.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting



All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2023, 66 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2023 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Kingston City Council is classified as a Metropolitan council according to the following classification list:

 Metropolitan, Interface, Regional Centres, Large Rural & Small Rural.

Councils participating in the Metropolitan group are:

 Banyule, Boroondara, Brimbank, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Melbourne, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Whitehorse. Wherever appropriate, results for Kingston City Council for this 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Metropolitan group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.

Appendix B: 2012 survey revision

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The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Kingston City Council according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2023 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.

Appendix B: Core, optional and tailored questions



Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Value for money in services and infrastructure (Value for money)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Waste management

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2023 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/our-programs/council-community-satisfaction-survey

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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Core questions: Compulsory inclusion questions for all councils participating in the CSS.

CSS: 2023 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five classified groups, comprising: metropolitan, interface, regional centres, large rural and small rural.

Council group average: The average result for all participating councils in the council group.

Highest / lowest: The result described is the highest or lowest result across a particular demographic subgroup e.g. men, for the specific question being reported. Reference to the result for a demographic sub-group being the highest or lowest does not imply that it is significantly higher or lower, unless this is specifically mentioned.

Index score: A score calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale). This score is sometimes reported as a figure in brackets next to the category being described, e.g. men 50+ (60).

Optional questions: Questions which councils had an option to include or not.

Percentages: Also referred to as 'detailed results', meaning the proportion of responses, expressed as a percentage.

Sample: The number of completed interviews, e.g. for a council or within a demographic sub-group.

Significantly higher / lower: The result described is significantly higher or lower than the comparison result based on a statistical significance test at the 95% confidence limit. If the result referenced is statistically higher or lower then this will be specifically mentioned, however not all significantly higher or lower results are referenced in summary reporting.

State-wide average: The average result for all participating councils in the State.

Tailored questions: Individual questions tailored by and only reported to the commissioning council.

Weighting: Weighting factors are applied to the sample for each council based on available age and gender proportions from ABS census information to ensure reported results are proportionate to the actual population of the council, rather than the achieved survey sample.

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John Scales

Founder jscales@jwsresearch.com

Katrina Cox

Director of Client Services kcox@jwsresearch.com

Mark Zuker

Managing Director mzuker@jwsresearch.com

