






CITY OF WODONGA VIC

Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

2025 - 2029



Wodonga Council acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First Peoples of the Country. We also acknowledge them as Traditional Owners and Custodians across various lands. We pay our respect to their Ancestors, Elders, children and young people. We acknowledge the strength and resilience of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and recognise their continuous connections to lands, waters and communities across the country.

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Message from the Mayor

The Wodonga Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 – 2029 outlines the council's commitment to fostering a healthy, safe and thriving community for all.

Grounded in the understanding that health is shaped by a broad range of social, environmental and economic factors, this plan takes a whole-of-community approach to improving health outcomes and reducing health inequities across Wodonga.

The council recognises the critical role it plays in creating the conditions that support people to live healthier lives - through the planning and design of public spaces, access to services, partnerships with community organisations and targeted health promotion efforts.

As a local government, we are uniquely placed to influence the social determinants of health and to support our community in making healthy choices easier and more accessible.

This plan is underpinned by seven key health and wellbeing priorities.

1. Improving wellbeing. Promoting mental health, social connection and resilience across the community, with a focus on working in partnership with key stakeholders to create supportive environments for wellbeing.

2. Increasing active living. Creating environments that support physical activity through walkable neighbourhoods, recreational infrastructure and active transport options, alongside partnerships with key stakeholders to promote healthier lifestyles.

3. Increasing healthy eating. Supporting access to affordable, nutritious food and working with the community to strengthen local food systems, including through the support of community gardens focused on food production.

4. Promoting gender equity and reducing gender-based violence. Promoting gender equity and working to reduce and respond to gender-based violence through community partnerships and awareness campaigns.

5. Reducing harm from alcohol and drug use. Working with a network of businesses, police and health agencies on systems, environments and direct programs aimed at reducing the harmful use of alcohol and other drugs.

6. Reducing harm from tobacco and e-cigarette use. Supporting tobacco reforms through education, enforcement and smoke-free initiatives that protect community health - particularly in outdoor dining areas, playgrounds, sporting venues and other public spaces - while also promoting awareness and compliance with Victorian tobacco laws.

7. Tackling climate change and its impact on health. Building climate resilience and addressing the health implications of extreme weather, heat and air quality through sustainable planning, emergency preparedness and the provision of supportive physical environments that promote community health and wellbeing.

The council's leadership, collaboration and long-term investment in health-enabling environments will be essential to achieving these outcomes. This plan aligns with the *Wodonga 2050 Community Vision* and reinforces our commitment to equity, inclusion and wellbeing for current and future generations.

By embedding health and wellbeing into everything we do, the council aims to ensure that all people in Wodonga have the opportunity, resources and support to lead healthy, fulfilling lives.



Cr Michael Gobel
Mayor, Wodonga Council

What is public health, and why is a Health and Wellbeing Plan important?

Public health focuses on the health of the community and works to prevent people from becoming unwell. This is important because good health and wellbeing underpin the quality of life for individuals, families and communities, enabling everyone to lead happy, fulfilling and meaningful lives.

The Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (the Act) requires all local governments to prepare a Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (the Plan) within 12 months of council elections. The Plan outlines the council's strategic approach to protecting, promoting and improving the health and wellbeing of its community.

Specifically, the plan:

- Identifies the health status and wellbeing needs of the local community;
- Establishes clear priorities and objectives for addressing identified public health challenges;
- Coordinates actions across council services and with community partners to address social, economic, environmental and health determinants;
- Meets legislative requirements under the Act by demonstrating the council's commitment to achieving better health outcomes for all community members; and,
- Provides a framework for collaboration, ensuring shared accountability and integrated health promotion activities.



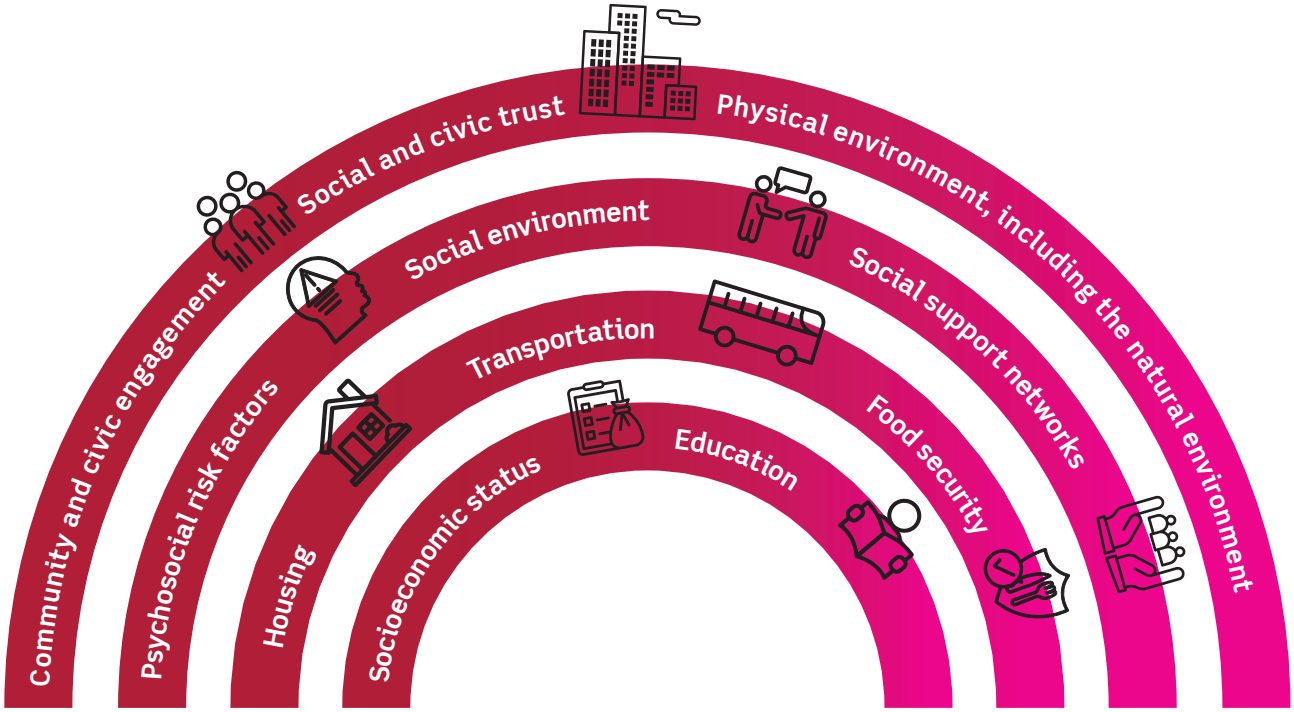


Wodonga Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Planning Framework (2025–2029)

Social determinants of health

There are many factors which influence the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities, including the conditions in which people are born, live, grow and work.

These conditions are known as the social determinants of health, which are shaped by policy, resources, social norms and economics.



[Department of Health, Victoria State Government, Social determinants of health | health.vic.gov.au]

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023-2027

The Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023 - 2027 identifies high level priorities for improving the health and wellbeing of the Victorian community. These must be considered by each Council when developing their Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The council will be focus on seven of the 10 state priorities that align with the local health and wellbeing data profile.

[Victorian State Government, 2023, Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023 – 2027]

The priorities that council will focus on are:

- Reducing harm from tobacco and e-cigarette use;
- Improving wellbeing;
- Increasing healthy eating;
- Increasing active living;
- Reducing harm from alcohol and drug use;
- Tackling climate change and its impact on health; and,
- Preventing all forms of violence.

Victoria health priorities alignment

Council Plan themes

State health priorities	Liveable and connected communities	Thriving local economy	Resilient infrastructure and environment	Effective leadership and sustainable future
Reducing harm from tobacco and e-cigarette use	Increasing active living	Increasing active living	Tackling climate change and its impact on health	Preventing all forms of violence
Reducing harm from alcohol and drug use	Increasing healthy eating	Increasing healthy eating	Improving wellbeing	Increasing healthy eating
Preventing all forms of violence	Preventing all forms of violence		Increasing healthy eating	Improving wellbeing
Increasing healthy eating	Reducing harm from alcohol and drug use		Increasing active living	
Increasing active living	Reducing harm from tobacco and e-cigarette use			

VicHealth Strategy 2023-2033

The VicHealth Strategy 2023 - 2033 provides important guidance in developing a Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The three aspirations outlined in the Strategy are:

- Healthier, longer lives;
- Economic value; and,
- Fairer health outcomes.

The key approaches underpinning the strategy are:

- Equity being at the heart of the council's work; and,
- Partnering with community, stakeholders and other government agencies.

[VicHealth, 2023, VicHealth Strategy 2023 – 2033]

Ensure local planning aligns with VicHealth aspirations and use principles to evaluate impact and equity of programs.

Ovens Murray Population Health Catchment Plan

The Population Health Catchment Plan identifies priority population health issues for the Ovens Murray catchment and how these will be progressed.

The priorities are:

1. Improving mental wellbeing
2. Improving screening for preventable cancers

The Population Health Catchment Plan is built on three pillars, which together support the population health outcomes for the community.
These pillars are:

- System enablers including leadership, information resources, and practical support for the Ovens Murray catchment;
- Priority health issue initiatives which will be designed in partnership with community and stakeholders to deliver high value outcomes based on local needs; and,
- Holistic system improvement which is focused on shifting systems towards prevention.

[Albury Wodonga Health, 2023, Ovens Murray Population Health Catchment Plan]

Align local strategies with catchment-wide efforts for collective impact and contribute to system-wide prevention shifts.

Partnerships and collaboration

Key partner agencies and organisations include:

- The Victorian Government
- Ovens Murray Public Health Unit
- Albury Wodonga Health
- Gateway Health
- Junction Support Services
- Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health
- Mungabareena Aboriginal Corporation
- Albury-Wodonga Ethnic Communities Council
- Victoria Police (Wodonga)
- Government agencies, community services, education providers, networks and groups

The council has responsibility for developing and implementing the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, however, to do this effectively, it works in partnership with agencies, organisations and our community.

Guiding principles

1. Fairness and inclusion
2. Protect and support the environment to improve health
3. Collaboration and integration
4. Prevention and systems change
5. Evidence-driven action

Applying these principles, the plan promotes equitable access, environmental responsibility, strong partnerships, proactive health initiatives and data-driven decision-making, ultimately enhancing health and wellbeing for all.



The council's role in influencing community health and wellbeing

Strategic leadership and support

- Partner with agencies to enhance community health and wellbeing
- Support community access to health and wellbeing services
- Promote community involvement, social connection and civic engagement

Urban and environmental planning

- Design safe and inclusive neighbourhoods that encourage physical activity and social interaction
- Create spaces that adapt to and support the community through climate change

Equity and advocacy

- Lead efforts to ensure equitable access to services and facilities
- Promote community understanding of equity and respect
- Advocate to state and federal governments for policies and resources that improve community health.

Statutory public health responsibilities

- Develop and enforce public health standards
- Provide immunisation services to the Wodonga community
- Maintain a clean and sanitary environment across the municipality



The council's services

Every day, Wodonga Council delivers a multitude of services to the community and manages and maintains community assets such as recreation and leisure facilities, local roads, bridges, footpaths, drains, parks, playgrounds, community buildings and much more.

Each of these services and assets contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community.

The council's service areas and teams are outlined below.





Council integrated planning

The Council Plan and Wodonga 2050 Community Vision are key to shaping the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The Council Plan 2025 – 2029 outlines the council's and the community's vision for the future, what the council will focus on for the next four years and how it will measure progress as it strives towards that vision.

The engagement undertaken when reviewing the Community Vision underpins both the Council Plan and the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The Council Plan is structured around four key themes that reflect the community feedback received during the engagement process:

1. Liveable and connected communities

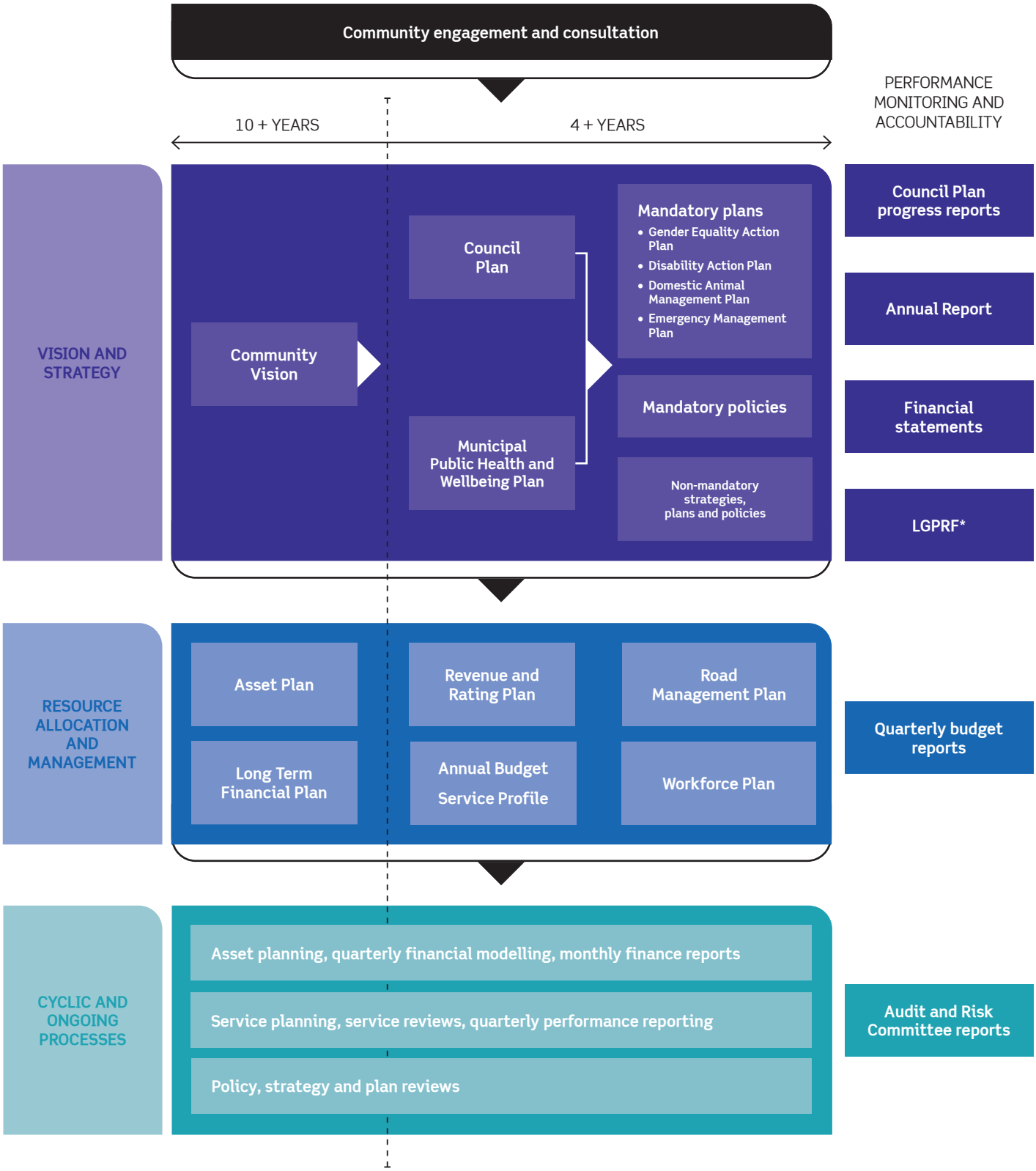
2. Thriving local economy

3. Resilient infrastructure and environment

4. Effective leadership and sustainable future

As these themes represent the council's strategic priorities and reflect the community's vision, they also form the foundation of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework



* Local Government Performance Reporting Framework

Implementation approach

- Systems-based
- Integrated with community planning
- Monitored and responsive

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan will be delivered through a systems-based approach with a range of partnerships, agreements and formal networks that look at the interconnectedness of the community and optimise sector collaboration and sustainable outcomes.



Development of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (the Plan) has been developed in collaboration with key partners and is underpinned by extensive research and engagement.

The planning process has included:

- A review of the Council Plan 2021 – 2025, incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan;
- Research about the health and wellbeing profile of the community;
- An analysis of the policy framework influencing the development of the Plan;
- Consultation and engagement with internal and external stakeholders who have a role in supporting the development and implementation of the Plan; and,
- Extensive consultation and engagement with the community.

The engagement which occurred during the development of the Community Vision provides critical insight into the health and wellbeing aspirations and needs of the community.

Further engagement with key health and wellbeing partners, the business community, Councillors and council officers in developing the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan has strengthened the understanding of the community's health and wellbeing needs. This process has helped to define the desired outcomes, key focus areas, who the council will partner with to advance these outcomes and the methods for measuring impact.

Wodonga's health and wellbeing profile

Population size and age[1]

A forecasted 34.96% population growth

46,561 in 2025

62,837 by 2046

A larger proportion of 0 to 17 year olds

The median age is 38

A smaller percentage of Seniors at 10.2% compared to regional Victoria's 13%

Gender[2]

51.3% female and 48.7% male, showing a slightly higher percentage of females residing in Wodonga.

Highest percentage of males are in the 10 to 14 year old bracket and highest percentage of females are in the 30 to 34 year old bracket.

Employment rates show 45.4% of females work part-time rather than full-time. With 18.1% of males in Wodonga working part-time.

Females have a lower unemployment rate, 3.8% compared to males at 4.5%.

The female resident population's top three occupations were Professional (22.7%), Community and Personal Service Workers (21.8%) and Clerical and Administrative Workers (19.3%).

Where for males, the top three occupations were Technicians (26.5%), Labourers (13.9%) and Machinery Operators and Drivers (13.5%).

Women completed over double (16.6%) that of men (8.1%) in domestic work (unpaid) at 15 to 29 hours per week.

Disadvantage

Socio-economic indexes for areas[3]
Overall Wodonga's community is more disadvantaged than the wider Regional Victoria, at 973.1 compared to 985.

Housing stress and homelessness[4]
7.9% of households experience housing stress i.e. spend 30% or more of their income on housing costs. 2.1% of people were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Diversity and inclusion[5]

Cultural diversity
11.3% of people were overseas-born, with 6.9% speaking a language other than English at home.

The largest increase in residents from non-English speaking countries between 2016 and 2021 was Vietnam (171 people), India and the Democratic Republic of Congo (both 117 people) and the Philippines (67 people).

25.4% of people self-reported themselves as having a disability. 36.3% increase between 2016 and 2021. The largest increase was seen in five to 19 year olds. (75%).

9.7% of adults identify as being LGBTIQA+ which is lower than the Victorian average of 11%.

38% of people have a long-term health condition. With the highest number (12.8%) having a mental health condition. 24.4% of Wodonga residents sought professional help for a mental health-related problem.

1. .id community, City of Wodonga Community Profile and Population Forecast 2025
2. .id community, City of Wodonga Community Profile 2025
3. .id community, City of Wodonga Community Profile and Social Atlas 2025
4. .id community, City of Wodonga Housing Monitor 2025
5. .id community, City of Wodonga Community Profile and Social Atlas 2025, Victorian Population Health Survey 2023

Diversity and inclusion, continued ...

Increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

Increase of 50.7% (490 people) between 2016 and 2021, representing an average increase in annual population change of 8.45% per year through this period. 45.7% were aged between 0 and 17.

Experience of discrimination and racism

13.9% of adults experienced discrimination and 3.4% experienced racism in the last 12 months.

Harm from alcohols, drugs, tobacco and vaping[6]

Compared with the Victorian average, in Wodonga

More adults either smoke tobacco or vape at 19.6% in Wodonga compared to the Victorian average of 18.5%.

16.4% of adults are at increased risk of harm from alcohol-related disease or injury annually in Wodonga, compared to 13.1% at a state level.

Alcohol-fueled family violence is higher at 171.36 per 100,000 compared to 136.93 per 100,000 population at a state level.

Drug-related offences are higher at 335.5 per 100,000, compared to 218.5 per 100,000

Community wellbeing and connection[6]

24.9% of adults experience loneliness, more than the Victorian average of 23.3%.

More adults are experiencing high or very high psychological distress (25.4% in 2023 compared with 21.3% in 2020).

14% of adults do not feel valued by society (or not often).

Preventing all forms of violence[7]

Across Australia one in four women experienced violence by an intimate partner or family member (27%) compared to one in eight men (12%).

In Wodonga

Family incident rate per 100,000 population was 2422 higher than the Victorian average of 1503.8 (Dec 2024).

There were 350 assaults and related offences recorded in 2024.

In the Ovens Murray region

Wodonga had the highest rates of alleged offender incidents, criminal incidents, family incidents, offences and victimisation per 100,000 in 2024.

Total offender incidents has risen 22.1% from 2023 (1386) to 2024 (1692).

Nearly half (47%) of all criminal incidents were recorded as taking place at a residential location.

Physical activity and accessing healthy food[8]

Compared to the Victorian average, in Wodonga

More adults are overweight or obese at 62.2% compared to 54.4%.

More adults experienced food insecurity in the past 12 months at 13.4% compared to 8%.

More adults consume sugar / sweetened beverages daily or several times a week at 42.9% compared to 34.4%.

56.9% of adults did not meet fruit and vegetable consumption guidelines.

More adults did not do any moderate to vigorous physical activity in the previous 12 months at 21.5% compared to 16.8%.

Fewer people participate in community sport. Wodonga is ranked 38 out of 40 in regional Victoria and has a participation rate of 12.3%

6. Victorian Population Health Survey 2020 and 2023, Victorian Crime Statistics Agency 2023 and 2024
7. Victorian Crime Statistics Agency 2023 and 2024, Albury Wodonga Health - Health Needs Assessment 2023
8. Victorian Population Health Survey 2023, Albury Wodonga Health - Health Needs Assessment 2023, Vic Health Sport Participation

Themes, strategies, initiatives and indicators

1. Liveable and connected communities



The council will foster an environment where people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds can live an active and healthy lifestyle, and will feel part of Wodonga's diverse and growing community.

Wodonga's diverse community lives well, actively participates in their city and has a strong sense of belonging. The community embraces diversity, fosters social inclusion and values community safety. Key priorities to facilitate a liveable and connected community include active living and wellbeing, housing and food security, a sense of safety, minimising harm from violence and other drugs, development of social connections and opportunities for civic participation.

Desired outcomes		Focus areas		Deliver	Partner	Advocate
1.1	Active living and wellbeing	1.1.1	Provide facilities and amenities that support active living across the city and within neighbourhood settings	✓	✓	
		1.1.2	Partner with the community in the promotion of active living through recreational opportunities, participation in sport and active transport options	✓	✓	
		1.1.3	Work with key partners to optimise food security and nutritional health for all residents		✓	✓
		1.1.4	Partner with strategic agencies on health promotion campaigns focusing on healthy eating and wellbeing		✓	
1.2	Safe and free from harm	1.2.1	Continue to promote the value of universal Maternal and Child Health services as a valuable health promotion opportunity with life-long benefits	✓	✓	
		1.2.2	Employ a "safer places by design" approach to the development of public settings and community infrastructure	✓	✓	
		1.2.3	Promote gender equity and work to reduce and respond to gender-based violence through community partnerships and campaigns	✓	✓	✓
		1.2.4	Work with strategic partners, including the local safety committee, to deliver a range of initiatives focused on safety and crime prevention	✓	✓	✓
		1.2.5	Work with a network of businesses, police and health agencies on the systems, environments and direct programs aimed at reducing harmful use of alcohol and other drugs	✓	✓	✓

Desired outcomes		Focus areas		Deliver	Partner	Advocate
1.3	Connected active citizens	1.3.1	Administer the Community Funding Request program and Sponsorship and Donation program to optimise community-initiated projects that influence quality of life offerings in Wodonga	✓	✓	
		1.3.2	Facilitate opportunities for community engagement and connection in the council's cultural services, community events and neighbourhood settings, with an aim to reduce isolation and foster mental wellbeing	✓	✓	
		1.3.3	Facilitate the council's volunteer program across council services	✓	✓	
1.4	Inclusive for all	1.4.1	Work to eliminate barriers to everyday life for people with disability through infrastructure, systems and service improvements	✓	✓	✓
		1.4.2	Work alongside the First Nations community in Wodonga to build relationships, progress reconciliation and celebrate cultural heritage	✓	✓	✓
		1.4.3	Facilitate social inclusion and wellbeing for people of all genders and sexualities through strategic partnerships and programs	✓	✓	✓
		1.4.4	Welcome, include and celebrate cultural diversity through strategic partnerships and public programs	✓	✓	
		1.4.5	Empower, respect and value young people in Wodonga by providing meaningful engagement opportunities, targeted programs and clear pathways for growth and participation	✓	✓	✓
		1.4.6	Work in partnership to facilitate ageing well in Wodonga with a focus on equity, accessibility and community connectedness in facilities, programs and services	✓	✓	✓
1.5	Housing for all	1.5.1	Facilitate opportunities for the development of diverse and affordable housing stock across the city	✓	✓	✓
		1.5.2	Advocate for community services and supports for people experiencing housing insecurity			✓

Key initiatives
In line with the Wodonga Housing Strategy, establish relationships with community housing providers and promote funding streams available to developers and builders to support the development of affordable housing stock across the city
Deliver Maternal and Child Health Services across the city, promoting physical, emotional and social health and wellbeing to families
Design and implement the Community Wellbeing Action Plan – focused across life stages from adolescence to young adulthood, adulthood and older adulthood
Support local agencies executing food initiatives across the municipality
Plan for and maintain community spaces to facilitate physical activity including local parks and play spaces, urban squares and open space and shared cycling, walking trails, footpath and road networks
Develop and implement a Disability Action Plan in partnership with a council-coordinated Access Advisory Group
Adopt the Wodonga Integrated Transport Strategy

Liveable and connected communities - direct strategic indicators	Data source
Meet utilisation of aquatic facilities performance target	Local Government Performance Reporting
Meet participation in Maternal and Child Health programs performance target	
Meet indigenous participation in Maternal and Child Health performance target	
Number of health and community forums facilitated	Wodonga Council Performance Reporting
Percentage of initiatives completed from the Disability Action Plan	
Deliver Physical Activity Strategy	
Number of community funding requests, sponsorship/donation, Young Achiever Scheme awards administered	
Deliver Community Wellbeing Action Plan	

Liveable and connected communities - indirect strategic indicators	Data source
Proportion of adults undertaking sufficient physical activity	Victorian Public Health Survey
Decrease in the prevalence of food insecurity	
Increase in people in Wodonga reporting good to high levels of health and wellbeing	
Increase in people who feel safe and free from harm in Wodonga	
Decrease in proportion of adults experiencing loneliness	
Decrease of the Socio-economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) - Relative Disadvantage (IRAD) score	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Increase in proportion of housing available for low-income earners	PopTrack Market Data

Supporting strategies and plans

■ Adopted strategy/plan ■ To be developed

Albury Wodonga Sport and Recreation Strategy
Community Wellbeing Action Plan
Cultural Services Plan
Disability Action Plan
Domestic Animal Management Plan
Municipal Early Years Plan
Municipal Emergency Management Plan
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
Physical Activity Strategy
Play Space Strategy
Two Cities One Community Smart Community Strategy

2. Thriving local economy



Everyone in Wodonga's community should benefit from economic prosperity.

Economic prosperity and participation are key factors influencing the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. With prosperity and economic participation, health and wellbeing outcomes are enhanced. Key economic levers include having lifelong learning, thriving local businesses, diverse employment opportunities and pathways.

Desired outcomes		Focus areas		Deliver	Partner	Advocate
2.1	Lifelong learning	2.1.1	Plan for and deliver quality kindergarten services and Early Years programs that support optimal childhood development and growth	✓	✓	✓
		2.1.2	Support and encourage lifelong learning through the support of community centre and neighbourhood house facilities, the Senior Citizens Community Hub and Hyphen library program	✓	✓	
		2.1.3	Advocate for education and training opportunities which respond to the skill needs of industry and businesses operating locally			✓
		2.1.4	Advocate for continued presence of higher and vocational education and training providers in the city to improve employment outcomes			✓
2.2	Business and employment	2.2.1	Provide a coordinated service that supports the establishment of new business in the city	✓	✓	
		2.2.2	Facilitate partnerships and connections between education providers and local businesses operating locally to connect potential employees to local businesses		✓	
		2.2.3	Work with education and service providers to promote the skills of young people, employment pathways and skill development		✓	✓

Key initiatives
Deliver a range of early years programs, activities and initiatives that meet the care, health, education and early childhood needs of children and young families
Partner with educational institutions to deliver programs and initiatives targeting young people
Address educational disadvantage through partnership with the State Government School Readiness Program
Plan for the Best Start, Best Life Reform roll-out from 2026
Deliver the Albury Wodonga Destination Management Plan 2024 - 2028

Thriving local economy - direct strategic indicators	Data source
Maintenance of quality rating across Wodonga Council-operated Kindergartens	National Quality Standard Reporting
Meet number of library loans per unit of population performance targets	Local Government Performance Reporting
Meet library visits per unit of population performance target	
Increase engagement rates of the Better Approvals “Business Concierge Service”	Wodonga Council Performance Reporting

Thriving local economy - indirect strategic indicators	Data source
Increase in the number of individuals engaged within the workforce	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Increase in percentage of population who have completed year 12 or equivalent	

Supporting strategies and plans

■ Adopted strategy/plan ■ To be developed

Albury Wodonga Destination Management Plan
Cultural Services Plan
Municipal Early Years Plan
Precinct plans
Wodonga Economic Development and Investment Atraction Strategy
Wodonga Growth Strategy
Wodonga Housing Strategy
Wodonga Industrial Land Strategy

3. Resilient infrastructure and environment



We will respect and nurture the natural environment while providing for the needs of a growing city.

Our built and natural environment plays a critical role in supporting and strengthening the health and wellbeing of our community. An important part of belonging in our community is having access to places and spaces that are well designed, safe and accessible. Places and spaces facilitate social connections and improve physical activity and mental wellness, such as sport and recreation facilities, parks, tracks and trails, libraries, neighbourhood houses and community spaces. Transport is key to supporting our community to move around easily and be engaged in their local community.

The design of our built and natural environment can mitigate health impacts from our changing climate through provision of shade, tree canopies, facility design and location, accessible buildings designed as a place of refuge during extreme weather and diverse and affordable housing options that are sustainable.

Desired outcomes		Focus areas		Deliver	Partner	Advocate
3.1	Places and spaces	3.1.1	Identify future community facility and recreational requirements across the city through the new Wodonga Growth Strategy and precinct masterplans	✓		
		3.1.2	Promote environmentally sustainable design in the development of new neighbourhoods and housing	✓	✓	✓
		3.1.3	In line with the council's Tree Management Plan, continue the city's tree canopy in open spaces and streetscapes to reduce heat impacts	✓		
		3.1.4	Provide a network of high-quality pedestrian and shared pathways connecting people to facilities, services and open space in the development and execution of an Integrated Transport Strategy	✓	✓	
		3.1.5	Advocate for improved public transport options			✓
3.2	Environments for health	3.2.1	Support physical environments for community health and wellbeing in diverse commercial and community settings through education, monitoring, regulating and enforcing legislation	✓	✓	
		3.2.2	Promote disease prevention and infection control through monitoring, education, mitigation and compliance	✓	✓	✓
		3.2.3	Educate the community on waste reduction, re-use and recycling to minimise environmental impacts	✓	✓	✓

Desired outcomes		Focus areas		Deliver	Partner	Advocate
3.3	Natural environment	3.3.1	Provide and facilitate diverse opportunities to access and enjoy the natural environment	✓	✓	
		3.3.2	Support and encourage community gardens as avenues for recreation, social connection and food supply	✓	✓	

Key initiatives	
Continue to maintain and update public maps to clearly display bike and walking paths, trails, public toilets and accessible facilities across the municipality	Participate in the Victorian Arbovirus Disease Control Program
Design and deliver the Wodonga Growth Strategy	Implement the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2022
Review and update the Sustainability Strategy 2022 – 2026	Deliver the Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan 2022-2027
Deliver the Play Space Strategy 2024 - 2029	

Resilient infrastructure and environment - direct strategic indicators	Data source
Meet time taken to action food complaints target	Local Government Performance Reporting
Percentage of food safety assessments completed	
Percentage of Play Space Strategy 2024 – 2029 delivered, including playground renewal program	Wodonga Council Performance Reporting
Meet satisfaction with appearance of public areas performance target	LGV Annual Community Satisfaction Survey
Meet community satisfaction with recreational facilities performance target	
Meet community satisfaction with the condition of local street and footpaths performance target	
Meet amount of waste diverted from landfill performance target	Local Government Performance Reporting
Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications	

Supporting strategies and plans

■ Adopted strategy/plan ■ To be developed

Albury Wodonga Sport and Recreation Strategy
Asset Plan
Climate Change Action Adaptation Plan
Cultural Services Plan
Domestic Animal Management Plan
Municipal Emergency Management Plan
Play Space Strategy
Road Management Plan
Sustainability Strategy
Two Cities One Community Smart Community Strategy
Wodonga Growth Strategy
Wodonga Housing Strategy
Wodonga Industrial Land Strategy
Wodonga Open Space Strategy

4. Effective leadership and sustainable future



The council will proactively lead our growing city through transparent decision-making, sound planning and positive collaboration. The community's interest will be at the centre of everything we do.

The health and wellbeing of our community is impacted by the way we lead and work with others. The council plays a central role in advocating for and collaborating with others to ensure our community has equitable access to services and supports it needs. We promote gender equity and respectful relationships, and model inclusive and meaningful interactions. Our community are active participants in the decisions which affect them.

Desired outcomes		Focus areas		Deliver	Partner	Advocate
4.1	Advocacy and partnering	4.1.1	Support and advocate for community services which provide immediate relief, intervention and prevention to those in need, including affordable housing, food security and relief		✓	✓
		4.1.2	Facilitate and partner with community wellbeing networks to optimise sector knowledge, community access and experience, and partnership opportunities	✓	✓	
4.2	Active citizenship	4.2.1	Engage and consult with the community around key projects and decisions through appropriate, timely, effective and inclusive practices	✓	✓	
4.3	Emergency response and recovery	4.3.1	Work with the community to build capacity and resilience and respond to emergency events	✓	✓	
4.4	Gender equity	4.4.1	Provide leadership in the promotion and advancement of gender equity	✓	✓	
		4.4.2	Undertake and embed Gender Impact Assessments across council strategies, services and systems	✓		

Key initiatives
Investigate an appropriate platform for the community to access community services and supports
Facilitate volunteer capacity building workshops to ensure emergency preparedness
Deliver evidenced based health promotion campaigns or initiatives tackling health and wellbeing priorities in the municipality
Deliver the Strategic Advocacy Plan
Work with the Commission for Gender Equality and Municipal Association of Victoria to ensure best practice

Effective leadership and sustainable future - direct strategic indicators	Data source
Percentage of Strategic Advocacy Plan delivered	Wodonga Council Performance Reporting
Completion rates of Gender Impact Assessments	Wodonga Council Performance Reporting
Vulnerable Persons Register is maintained	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Vulnerable Persons Portal
Meet community satisfaction with community consultation and engagement performance target	LGV Annual Community Satisfaction Survey
Deliver the Community Wellbeing Action Plan	Wodonga Council Performance Reporting

Effective leadership and sustainable future - indirect strategic indicators	Data source
Reduction in the rates of family violence	Crime Statistics Victoria
Reduction in the number of individuals under the age of 17 impacted by family violence	Crime Statistics Victoria

Supporting strategies and plans

■ Adopted strategy/plan ■ To be developed

Community Wellbeing Action Plan
Financial Plan
Gender Equality Action Plan
Municipal Emergency Management Plan
Revenue and Rating Plan
Strategic Advocacy Plan
Workforce Plan

CITY OF WODONGA VIC