

Chapter 5: Living in Melbourne

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Fast Facts

1. Life expectancy is currently lower in inner areas, although this may change as high income households move in.
2. More Melburnians attend cultural activities than sporting events - visiting the cinema and botanical gardens came in at number one and two, with football at number five (2002).
3. Contacts with mental health services ranged from 127.8 contacts per 1,000 people in Cardinia to 659.8 contacts per 1,000 people in Port Phillip (2004-05). Hospital admission rates were highest in areas with older populations, such as on the Mornington Peninsula.
4. Between 1993-94 and 2003-04, Melbourne households' average weekly spending on household services & operation increased by 83%, medical care and health expenses went up by 80% and current spending on housing increased 44.18%. Clothing and footwear spending increased by only 3.7%.
5. Melbourne's average trip distance was 7.5 kms on a weekday and 7.9km on a weekend (1999).
6. Annual distances travelled by Melbourne passenger vehicles increased over 50% to 28,570 million kms between 1984-85 and 2001-02.
7. Most areas of Melbourne have more mobile phones per capita than fixed phone lines.
8. On average 89.5% of Melburnians feel multiculturalism makes life in their area better.
9. Melburnians report high levels of satisfaction with their general wellbeing and environment in comparison with other Australian capital cities.