

# Health services

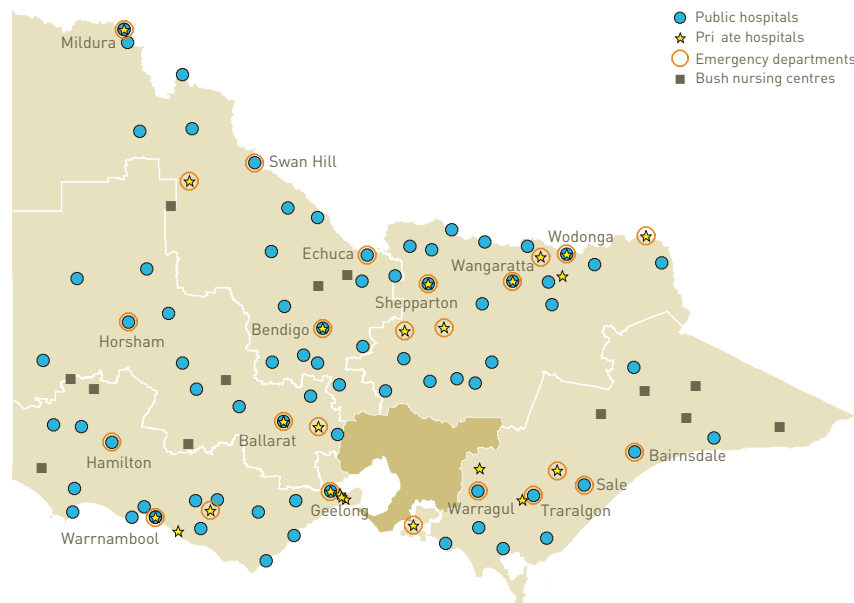
## Hospital provision in regional Victoria

Regional Victoria contains 96 hospital facilities the majority being publicly funded. The number of hospital beds per 1,000 people is 2.7 in regional Victoria – a higher ratio than in Melbourne where there are 2.3 beds per 1,000. Nevertheless, lower population densities in regional Victoria can create access difficulties because longer distances may need to be travelled to use hospital facilities.

## Transport and access to health services

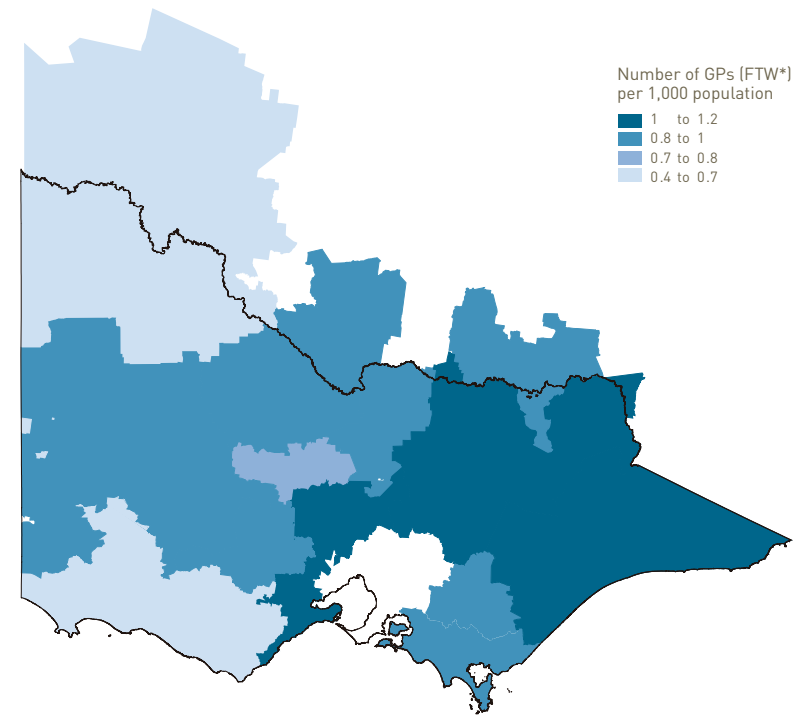
The provision of transport to enable access to medical services can be a challenge for small or remote regional communities. Sometimes gaining access to basic care services can involve distances being travelled. This may even discourage visits to doctors for ailments which may later prove more serious or difficult to treat.

## Location of hospitals, 2005<sup>1</sup>



## General practitioners per 1,000 population<sup>2</sup>

Divisions of General Practice, 2005



Sources <sup>1</sup>DHS 2005 "Health & aged care services in Victoria"; AIHW 2005 *Hospital Statistics 2003-04* <sup>2</sup>ABS Census 2001; General Practice Divisions Victoria website 2005.