

Community satisfaction and wellbeing

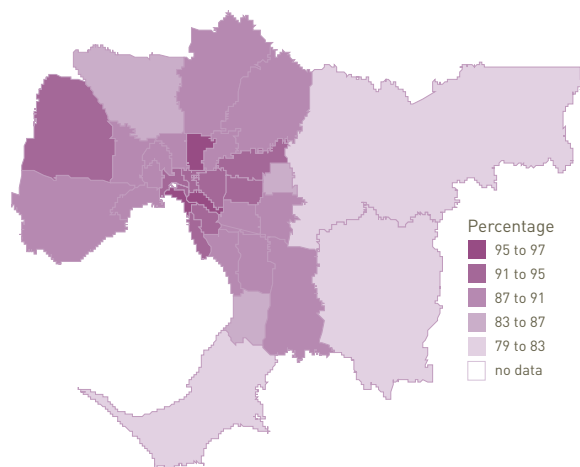
Community cohesion indicators

The Department for Victorian Communities (DVC) used a number of indicators to assess community strength and cohesion, including satisfaction with a place, feeling valued by society, and tolerance in a 2004 study. The study found a large majority of Melburnians like living in their communities. Highest rates of satisfaction were reported by residents of Mornington Peninsula and Manningham. DVC report that further analysis of the figures shows levels of satisfaction tend to be higher in areas with high socioeconomic status.

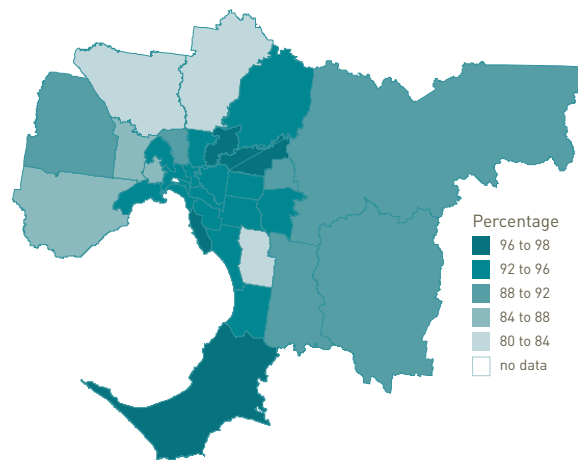
Feeling valued by society is more common in areas with higher proportions of elderly (65 years or more) and those with more settled populations.

As an indication of tolerance, residents were asked if they feel multiculturalism makes life in their area better. In all LGA's a high percentage of residents reported they felt multiculturalism makes life in their area better.

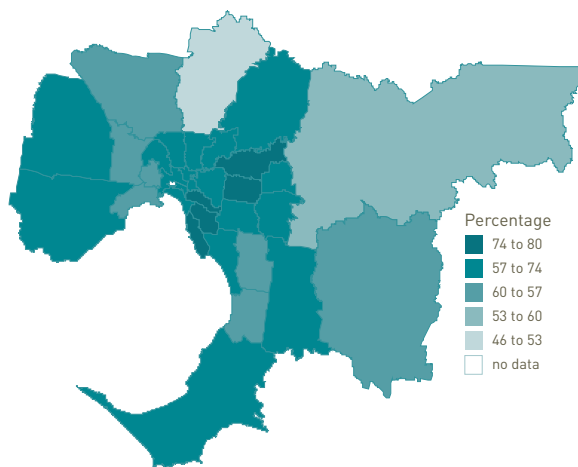
1 Proportion of residents who feel multiculturalism makes life in their area better Local Government Areas, 2004



2 Proportion of residents who like living in area Local Government Areas, 2004



3 Proportion of residents who feel valued by society Local Government Areas, 2004



Community perceptions of capital cities

Compared to most other Australian capital cities, more Melburnians reported feeling safe, according to a Deakin University study. Melburnians' satisfaction with their community is on a par with most other Australian capital cities.

4 Perceptions of safety and community in capital cities, 2001-04



National wellbeing index

On the Australian Unity National Wellbeing Index developed by Deakin University, Melburnians in 2004 reported above-average levels of satisfaction with their general wellbeing and also with their natural environment, just below Brisbane's levels.

5 National Wellbeing Index for capital cities, 2004

