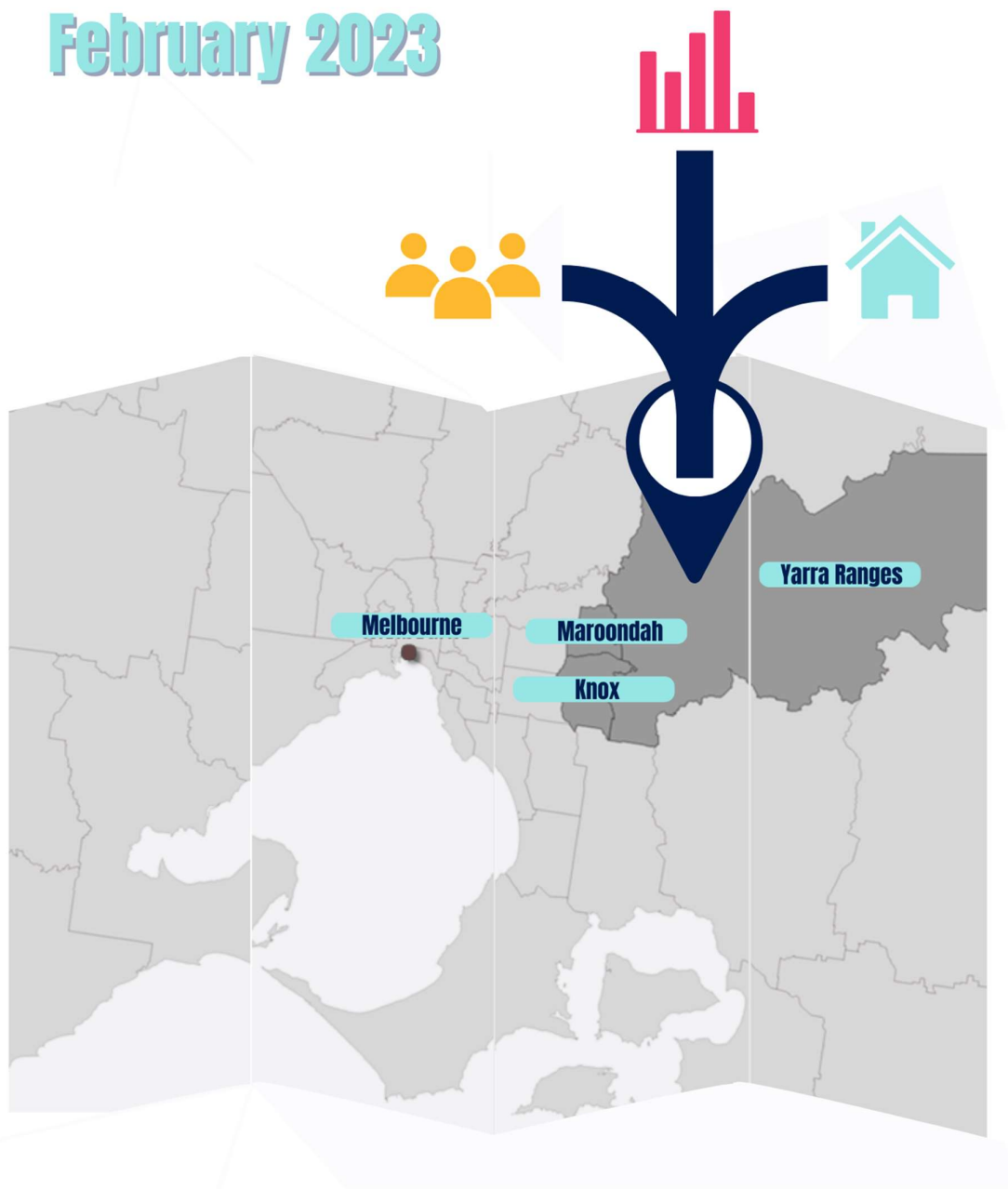


Outer Eastern LLEN

Environmental Scan

February 2023



Prepared for the Outer Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network by .id (informed decisions)

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1. Executive Summary

The Outer Eastern Local Learning & Employment Network (OELLEN) is a community organisation that initiates partnerships with schools, employers, community and families to support young people to make positive choices and further engage them in education, training and employment pathways in the local government areas of Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges. OELLEN operates by partnering with local services and serves the community by working with local services, which improve the Region's economy and autonomy.

The OELLEN region's population in 2021 was nearly 434,000 and is projected to grow to over 519,000 by 2036. However, the region is growing at a slower rate than Greater Melbourne. The residents in the OELLEN region are older than Greater Melbourne.

The region is mainly composed of families with a larger average household size and a lower median household income compared to Greater Melbourne. Median mortgage and rental payments are similar to Greater Melbourne, with a smaller proportion of households paying over 30% of household income towards a home loan but a higher proportion paying over 30% towards rental payments than Greater Melbourne.

The OELLEN region has fewer recent arrivals from overseas, than Greater Melbourne. Residents aged 10-17 and 18-25 years are less likely to be born overseas than the overall OELLEN region population, but 18-25-year-olds are more likely to be born overseas than 10-17-year-olds. In terms of First Nations Peoples, the region had a higher proportion of 10-25-year-old First Nations people than Greater Melbourne.

Health and need for assistance data show that disability rates are similar in the OELLEN region as Greater Melbourne but a higher proportion of 0-17-year-olds than 18-25-year-olds needed assistance due to disability. In terms of long-term health conditions, the OELLEN region's younger residents have higher incidence rates of one or more long-term health condition than their counterparts in Greater Melbourne. The most prevalent long-term health conditions for 0-17 and 18-25-year-olds are asthma and mental health, respectively.

OELLEN region residents have lower Year 12 completion rates and a lower proportion of Bachelor or Higher degrees or University attendance than Greater Melbourne. However, youth unemployment rates are lower in the OELLEN region and the youth labour force participation

and engagement is higher. The most common employment industries for 15-17 and 18-25-year-olds are Accommodation and Food Services and Retail, respectively.

Fewer Year 12 completers in the OELLEN region continued education or training compared to Greater Melbourne, with a lower uptake of Bachelor or Higher Degree study and apprenticeships/traineeships.

2. Introduction

Victorian Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENs) aim to improve educational and employment outcomes for young people. They work with schools, government agencies, community groups, and businesses to provide various services and programs, such as mentoring, skills development, and job placement assistance. These networks help to connect young people with the resources and opportunities they need to succeed and work to break down the barriers that can prevent them from reaching their full potential.

The Outer Eastern Local Learning & Employment Network (OELLEN) is a community organisation funded by the Victorian Government that initiates partnerships with schools, employers, community and families to support young people to make positive choices and further engage them in education, training and employment pathways in the local government areas of Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges.

Key strategies of OELLEN are:

- **Expansion** - Broaden the applied learning opportunities available for students.
- **Assistance** - Support schools with careers-related strategies.
- **Engagement** - Support schools to engage with business and industry.

The latest available information is used in this report to provide a relevant and timely evidence base with which the LLEN and partner organisations can make effective and informed decisions regarding their region's young people and the services or assistance they need. The 2022 Environmental Scan is a useful reference for OELLEN and other local organisations, all levels of government, local businesses, community groups, education and training providers and other stakeholders. It is also designed to provide input into OELLEN's own strategic planning activities.

3. Geographic Profile

The OELLEN region covers three Local Government Areas (LGAs): the City of Knox, the City of Maroondah and Yarra Ranges Council. All three LGAs are located within Greater Melbourne, therefore, wherever possible, this document will benchmark the statistics about

the three OELLEN LGAs with those of Greater Melbourne for comparison sake and as a way of illustrating how OELLEN residents compare to those of wider metropolitan Melbourne.



The geographic extent of the Outer Eastern Local Learning and Employment Network

The LGAs within the OELLEN region are different. Yarra Ranges is a semi-rural area. The western suburbs of the LGA are more urban than the eastern townships and suburbs, which are more similar to regional Victorian townships (and demographics). The City of Maroondah is an established LGA with limited growth and expansion opportunities where the population will age in place and any new housing opportunity will be in the form of infill. Lastly, the City of Knox is the largest of the three LGAs, from a population perspective and includes several areas expected to grow in population, such as Bayswater and Scoresby.

Regarding socio-economic characteristics, Knox and Maroondah are two of the least socioeconomically disadvantaged in the region, whereas Yarra Ranges was slightly more disadvantaged, based on 2016 SEIFA data. All LGAs are some of the least disadvantaged LGAs in Victoria.

From a population growth perspective, all three OELLEN LGAs grew at rates lower than Greater Melbourne. Since 2016, the average annual growth rate for OELLEN's population was

0.2% per annum, compared to 1.1% for Greater Melbourne. Between 2020 and 2021, the OELLEN's population shrunk by 1.4%, whereas Greater Melbourne's, shrunk by 1.6%. The OELLEN region covers 2,643 sq.km and has a current (2021) estimated population of 433,983, equating to a population density of 164 people per square kilometre. Since the 2016 Census, the region's population has increased by just 3,604 residents or 0.8%. According to the Victoria in Future population projections (2019), the population of the OELLEN region is expected to grow to 519,147 by 2036 (source: Department of Transport and Planning).

3.1 City of Knox

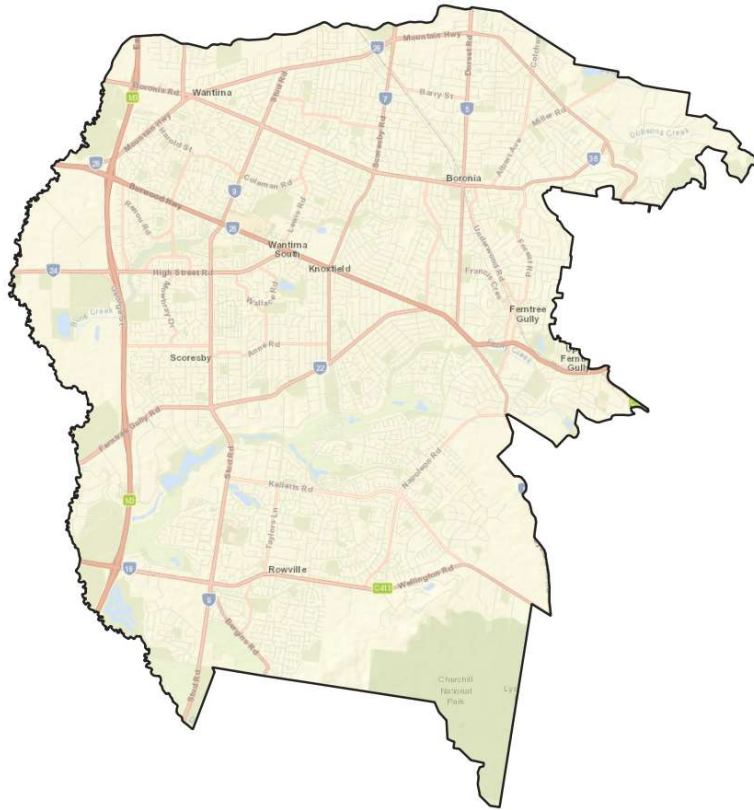
POPULATION (2021): 160,484

GEOGRAPHICAL SIZE (sq. km): 113.8

POPULATION DENSITY (pop/sq.km): 1,410

POPULATION PROJECTION, 2036: 191,532

KEY INDUSTRIES: Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Manufacturing, Construction and Education and Training.



The City of Knox Local Government Area

3.2 City of Maroondah

POPULATION (2021): 116,080

GEOGRAPHICAL SIZE (sq. km): 61.4

POPULATION DENSITY (pop/sq.km): 1,891

POPULATION PROJECTION, 2036: 143,794

KEY INDUSTRIES: Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, Education and Training and Construction



The City of Maroondah Local Government Area

3.3 Yarra Ranges Council

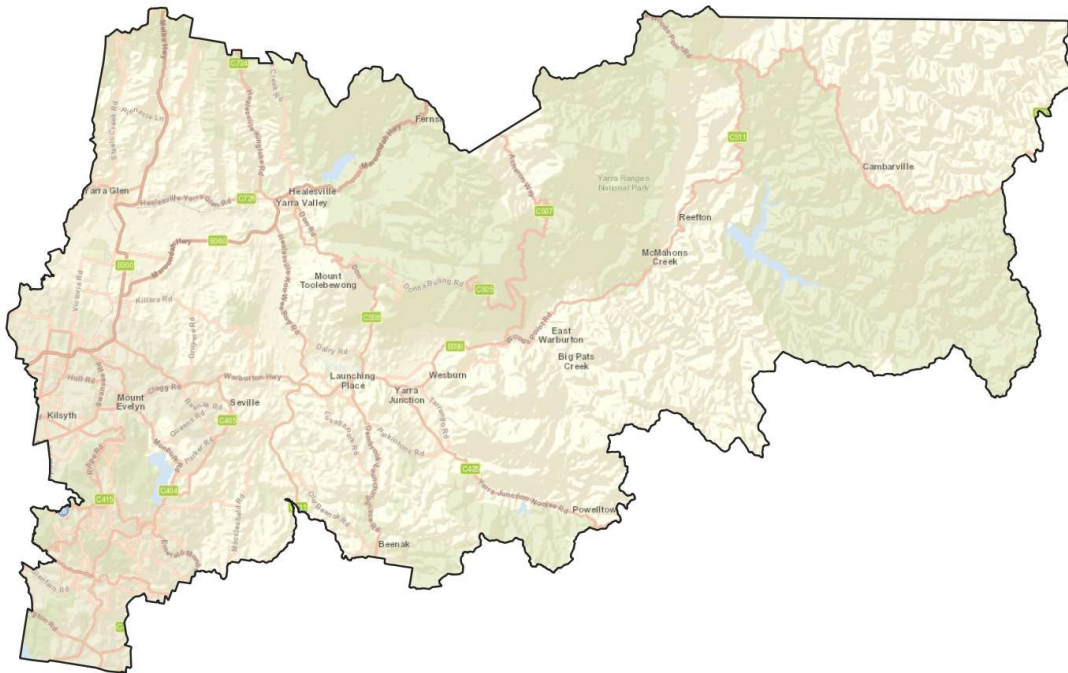
POPULATION (2021): 157,419

GEOGRAPHICAL SIZE (sq. km): 2,468

POPULATION DENSITY (pop/sq.km): 63.8

POPULATION PROJECTION, 2036: 183,821

KEY INDUSTRIES: Construction, Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Manufacturing and Education and Training.



The Yarra Ranges Council Local Government Area

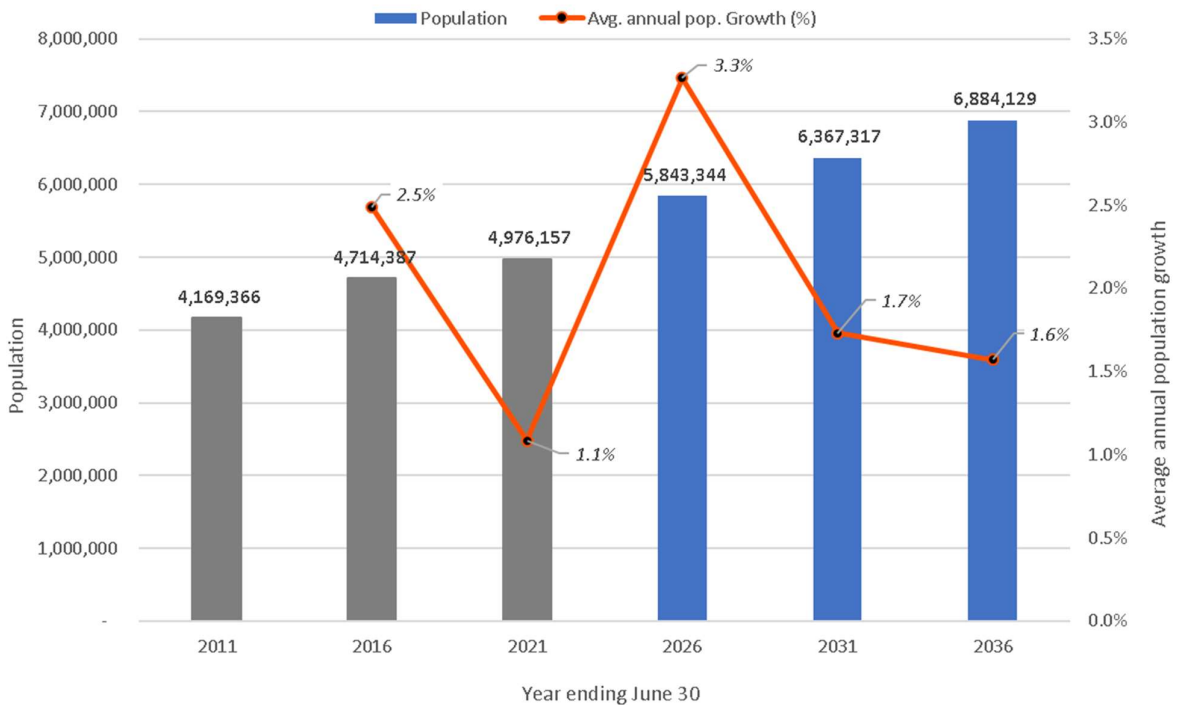
4. Population growth and projections

Key findings for the OELLEN region

- Population growth in OELLEN LGAs was lower than Greater Melbourne's population growth.
- The population of the OELLEN region in 2021 was nearly 434,000 and projected to grow to over 519,000 by 2036.
- The LGAs within the OELLEN region are older than the Greater Melbourne average.
- There were 41,500 residents aged 10-17-years in 2021, with a 20% increase forecasted by 2036.
- There were 39,600 residents aged 18-25 years in 2021, with a 26% increase forecasted by 2036.

The three LGAs within the OELLEN region have grown at different rates and are projected to grow at different rates. Different levels of available land and housing development opportunities drive population growth. Yarra Ranges Council has recorded the highest rate of population growth in recent years (0.3% p/a since 2016), followed by the City of Maroondah (0.2% p/a since 2016) and the City of Knox (0.02% p/a since 2016). All OELLEN region LGAs grew slower than Greater Melbourne (1.1% p/a since 2016).

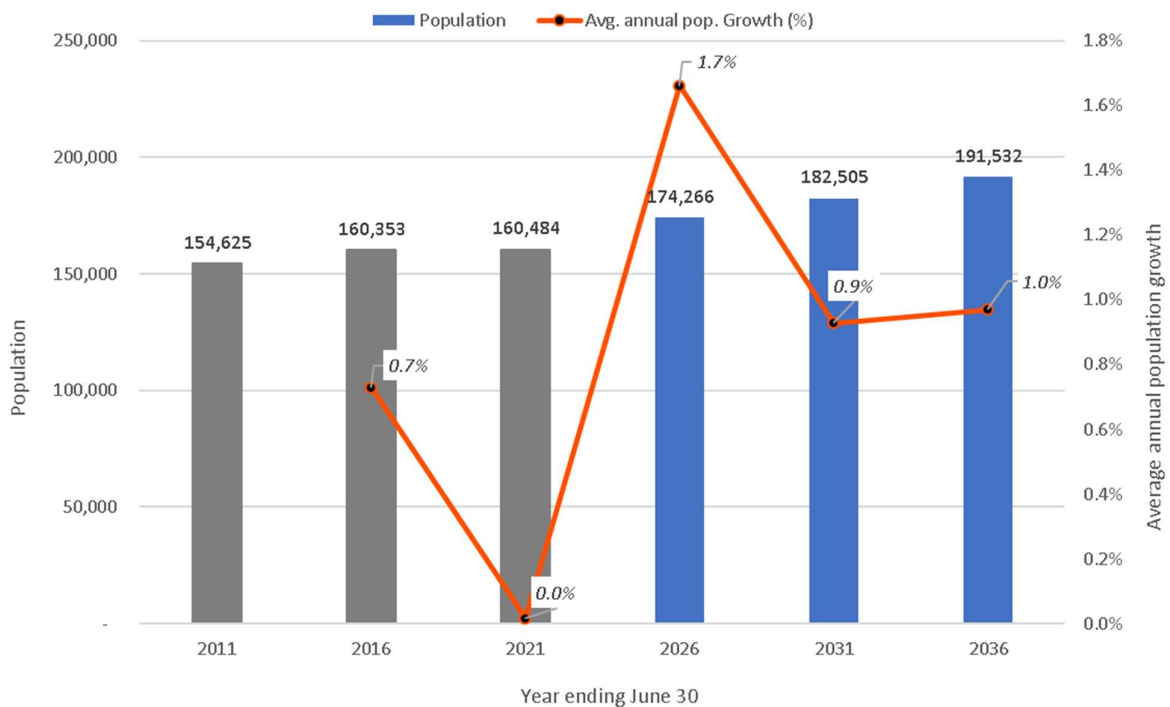
As a whole, Greater Melbourne’s population has grown to almost 5 million residents by 2021 but the rate of population growth decreased significantly between 2016 and 2021, a lower growth trend that was affected by Covid-19 driven population decline between 2020 and 2021, when Greater Melbourne lost almost 78,700 residents, a decline of 1.56%. Victoria in Future population projections, which were created in 2019, before Covid-19, show a population growth of almost 870,000 between 2021 and 2026, which translates into a growth rate of 3.3% per annum and is likely too high given the 2021 population was 330,000 higher than the actual population as recorded by the 2021 Census. Between 2026 and 2036, the population of Greater Melbourne is expected to grow at 1.6-1.7% per annum and reach almost 6.9 million by 2036.



Historic and projected population totals and average annual growth rate for Greater Melbourne

4.1 City of Knox

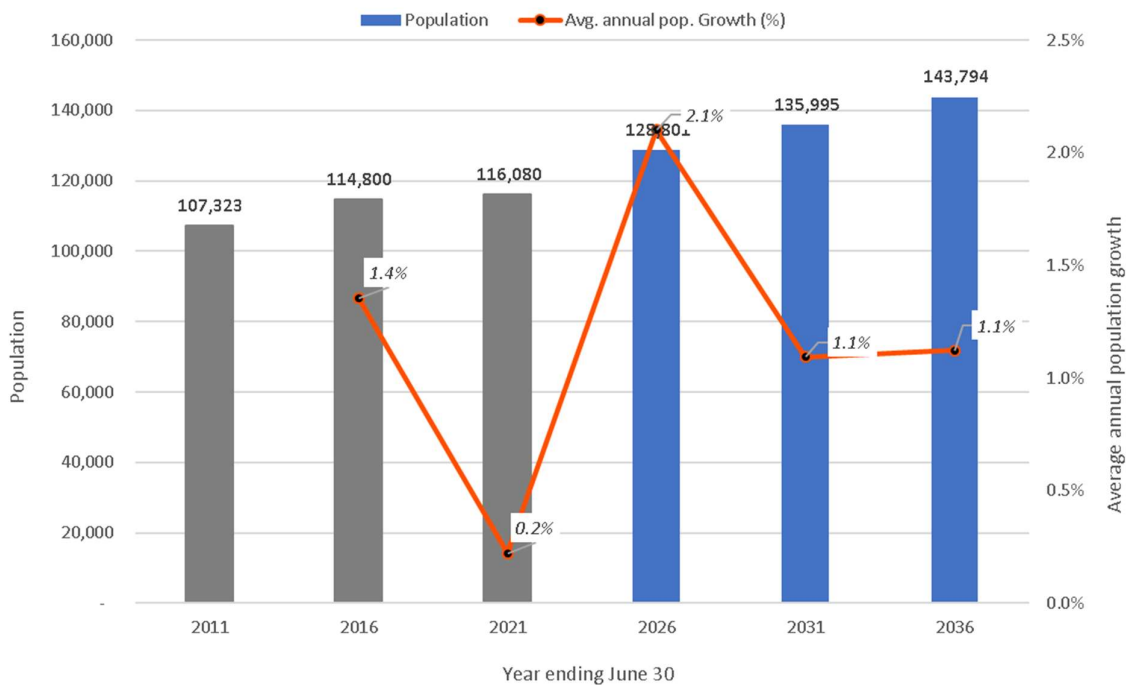
The City of Maroondah’s population grew at 0.7% per annum between 2011 and 2016 but stagnated at 0% population change between 2016 and 2021 (growth of 131 residents over five years), with a decline of 1.6% recorded between 2020 and 2021 (a loss of 2,537 residents). The Department of Transport and Planning “Victoria in Future” population projections anticipate the population of the LGA to grow by 1.7% per year to 2026 (which is likely affected by the age of the forecasts and recent population decline not being taken into account yet) and then slow down to 1% per annum thereafter. By 2036, the population of the City of Maroondah is projected to be 191,532.



Historic and projected population totals and average annual growth rate for the City of Knox

4.2 City of Maroondah

The City of Maroondah’s population grew at 1.4% per annum between 2011 and 2016 but decreased to 0.2% between 2016 and 2021, with a decline of 1.74% recorded between 2020 and 2021 (a loss of 2,055 residents). The Department of Transport and Planning “Victoria in Future” population projections anticipate the population of the LGA to grow by 2.1% per year to 2026 (which is likely affected by the age of the forecasts and recent population decline not being taken into account yet) and then slow down. By 2036, the population of the City of Maroondah is projected to be 143,794.

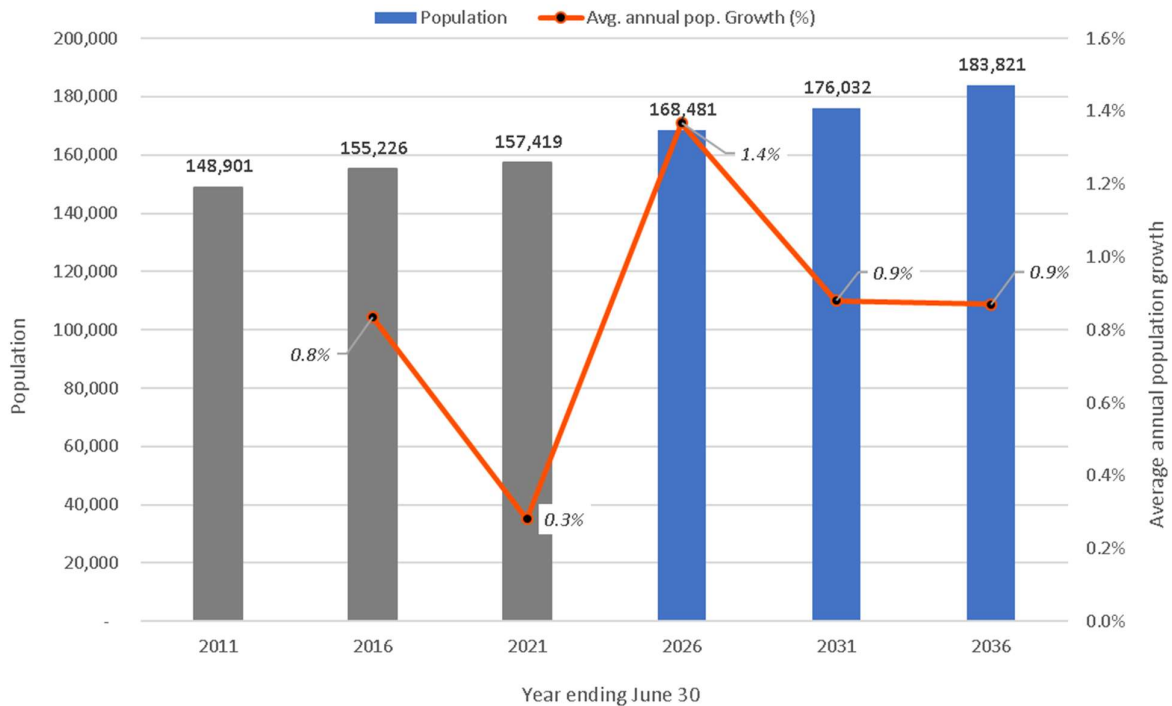


Historic and projected population totals and average annual growth rate for the City of Maroondah

4.3 Yarra Ranges Council

Yarra Ranges’ population grew at 0.8% per annum between 2011 and 2016 but decreased to 0.3% per annum between 2016 and 2021, with a decline of 0.8% recorded between 2020 and 2021 (a loss of 1,238 residents). The Department of Transport and Planning “Victoria in Future” population projections anticipate the population of the LGA to grow by 1.4% per year to 2026 (which is likely affected by the age of the forecasts and recent population decline not

being taken into account yet) and then slow down. By 2036, the population of Yarra Ranges Shire is projected to be 183,821.



Historic and projected population totals and average annual growth rate for Yarra Ranges Council

4.4 The population of young residents in the OELLEN region

The LGAs within the OELLEN region are older than the Greater Melbourne average. The median age of City of Maroondah residents was 39 years, whereas the median age in the City of Knox and Yarra Ranges was 40 years. Greater Melbourne’s median age was 37 years.

Information regarding the total number and proportion of young residents within the region can assist with planning and understanding whether there will be a need for more youth-oriented services in the OELLEN region and whether some LGAs will see higher levels of youth population growth.

There will be 8,396 more residents aged 10-17 years in the OELLEN region in 2036 than in 2021. This represents a 20% increase in the region's 10-17-year olds. However, as a

proportion of the total population, 10-17-year-olds will make up 9.6% of the total OELLEN population in 2036, the same proportion as in 2021.

LGA	10-17-year-olds (total)		2021-2036
	2021	2036	
Knox	14,849	18,042	+ 3,193
Maroondah	10,833	13,754	+ 2,921
Yarra Ranges	15,809	18,091	+ 2,282
OELLEN LGAs	41,491	49,887	+ 8,396

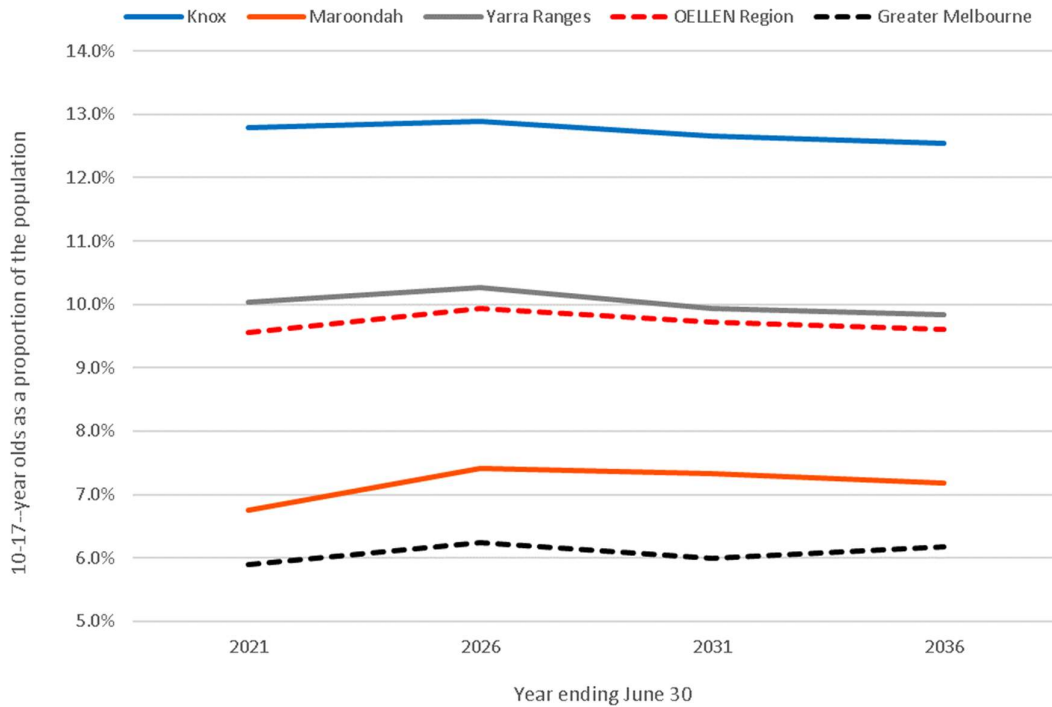
Number of 10-17-year-olds in OELLEN LGAs, 2021-2036

There will be 10,178 more residents aged 18-25 years in the OELLEN region in 2036 than in 2021. This represents a 26% increase in the number of 18-25-year-olds in the region. As a proportion of the total population, 18-25-year-olds will also make up 9.6% of the total OELLEN population in 2036, compared to 9.1% in 2021, a 0.5% increase.

LGA	18-25-year-olds (total)		2021-2036
	2021	2036	
Knox	15,355	18,345	+ 2,990
Maroondah	10,281	14,406	+ 4,125
Yarra Ranges	13,977	17,040	+ 3,063
OELLEN LGAs	39,613	49,791	+ 10,178

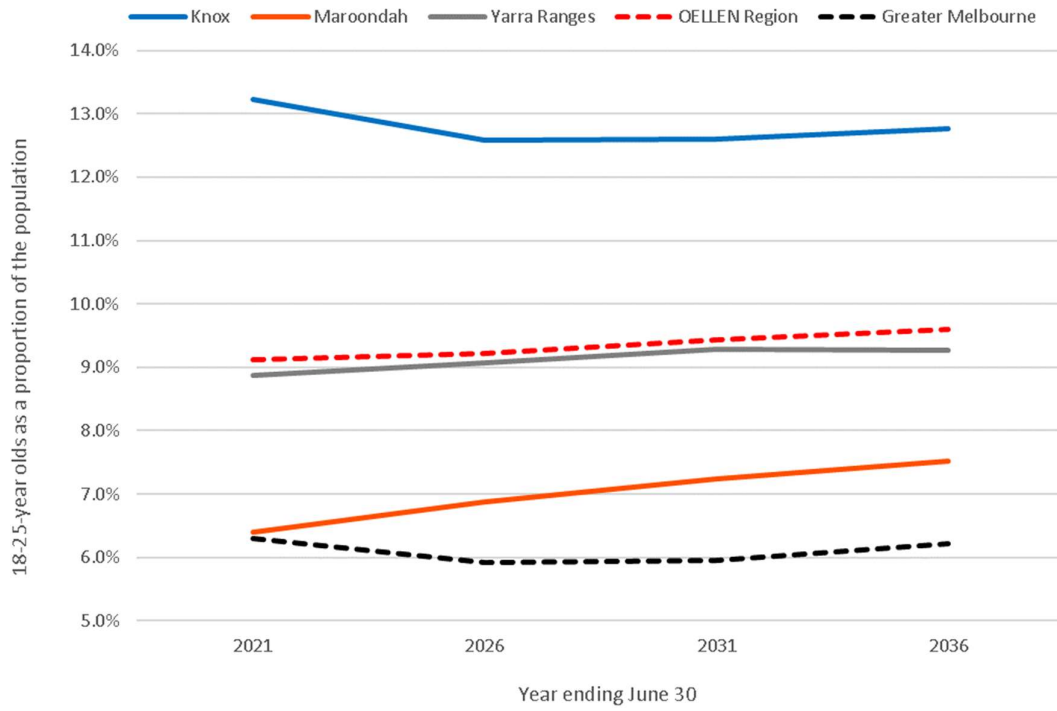
Number of 18-25-year-olds in OELLEN LGAs, 2021-2036

Residents aged 10-17 years will make up the same proportion of the total population in the OELLEN region by 2036 (9.6%), although the proportion will increase by 2026 and 2031 before declining again to 2021 levels. In 2021, Knox had the highest proportion of the population aged 10-17 years, followed by Yarra Ranges, which was close to the OELLEN average. Maroondah was lowest in the OELLEN region. All three LGAs had a higher proportion of residents aged 10-17 years in 2021 compared to Greater Melbourne, and the Department of Transport and Planning "Victoria in Future" population projections anticipate this will continue to be the case by 2036.



10-17-year-olds as a proportion of total population, 2021-2036

Residents aged 18-25 will make up a higher proportion of the population in the OELLEN region by 2036. As with 10-17-year-olds, in 2021, the City of Knox had the highest proportion of the population aged 18-25 years (13.2%), followed by Yarra Ranges close to the OELLEN average and lastly, the City of Maroondah, which in 2021 is nearly identical as the Greater Melbourne proportion of residents aged 18-25 years (6.4%). By 2036, however, the proportion of Maroondah residents aged 18-25 years is expected to increase by 1.1%, whereas Greater Melbourne’s will decrease by 0.1%. According to the Victoria in Future population projections, Maroondah’s projected increase in the proportion of 18-25-year-olds is the largest projected increase of all OELLEN LGAs.



18-25-year-olds as a proportion of total population, 2021-2036

5. Cultural diversity

Key findings for the OELLEN region

- A lower proportion of OELLEN region residents were born overseas than Greater Melbourne.
- The OELLEN region also has a lower proportion of recent arrivals in Australia, than Greater Melbourne.
- Young residents aged 10-17 and 18-25 years are less likely to be born overseas than the overall population in the region, but 18-25-year-olds are more likely to be born overseas than 10-17-year-olds.
- Most OELLEN region 10-25-year-olds speak English only, with less than 1 in 5 speaking another language.
- The OELLEN region had a higher proportion of 10-25-year-old First Nations people than Greater Melbourne.

Cultural diversity statistics are important when planning for communities and understanding a population's demographics as they provide a picture of the makeup of a community and can inform decisions related to services and resources necessary to meet the population's needs. They can also help identify and address any potential disparities or inequalities that may exist within a community. Additionally, cultural diversity statistics can benefit organisations such as OELLEN and government agencies tailor their outreach and communication efforts to serve the diverse population better.

Just over one quarter (25.1%) of OELLEN residents were born overseas, a proportion notably lower than in Greater Melbourne, where 35.7% of the population was born overseas. Within the OELLEN region, the City of Knox had the highest proportion of overseas-born residents (33.1%), followed by the City of Maroondah (25.3%) and Yarra Ranges with 16.8%. However,

the Yarra Ranges overseas born statistic was closer to Regional Victoria's where 12.4% of residents were born overseas.

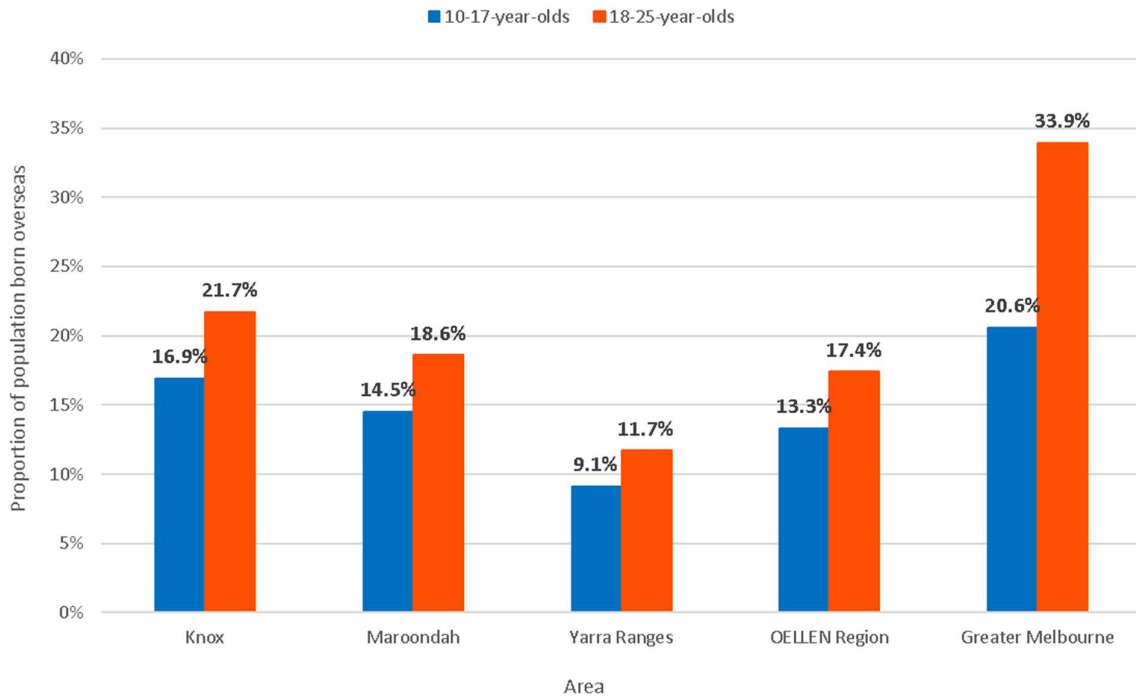
The OELLEN region is also home to a lower proportion of recent overseas arrivals, that is, recent arrivals who live in the three LGAs within the region from 2016 to 2021. 11.6% of overseas-born OELLEN region residents (12,543 people) arrived in Australia between 2016 and 2021. This proportion was lower than in Greater Melbourne (19.7%). Within the region, Yarra Ranges had the lowest proportion of overseas-born residents who were recent arrivals to Australia (7.8%), followed by the City of Knox (11.1%) and Maroondah (16%).

5.1 Overseas born 10-25-year-olds

The cultural diversity statistics of OELLEN region's 18-25-year-old residents differ from the total population. A lower proportion of 10-17 and 18-25-year-olds living in the OELLEN region are born overseas than the population as a whole.

In 2021, 13.3% of OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds were born overseas, a proportion lower than in Greater Melbourne (20.6%). Within the region, the City of Knox had the highest proportion of overseas-born 10-17-year-olds (16.5%), followed by the City of Maroondah (14.5%) and Yarra Ranges (9.1%).

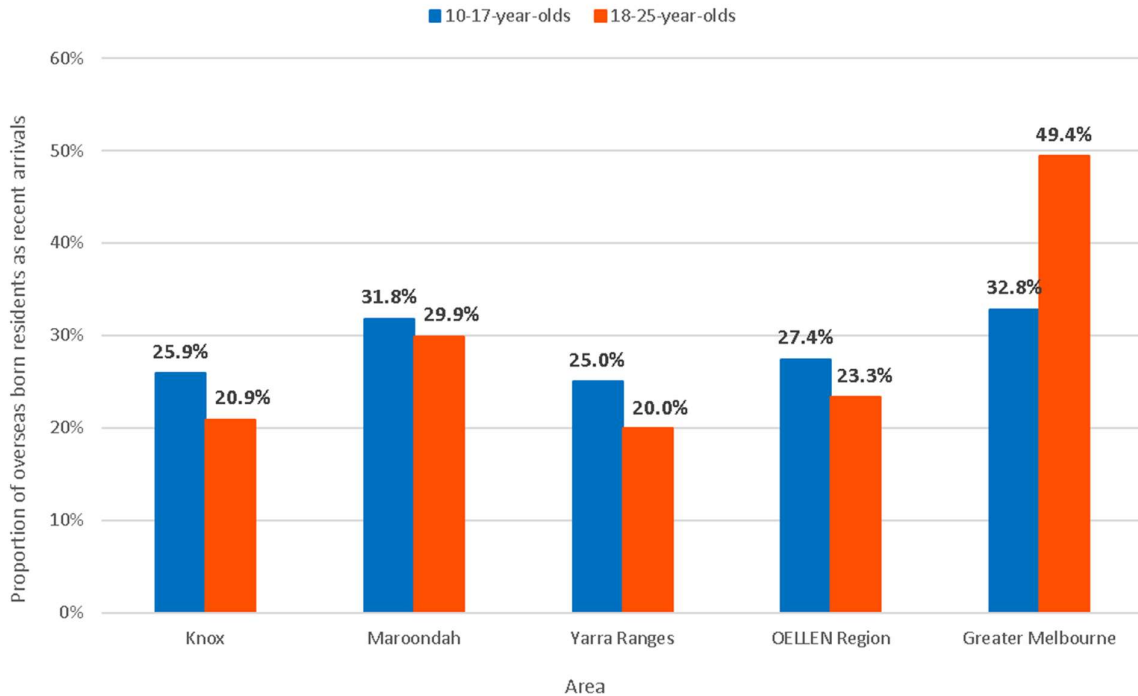
Overall, 1.5% of OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds were born in China, 1.2% in India, 0.9% in Malaysia, 0.9% in England and 0.8% in Myanmar. Similarly, 1.8% of OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds were born in China, 1.5% in India, 1.4% in Malaysia, 1.1% in England and 1.1% in Myanmar.



Proportion of OELLEN region's 10-25-year-old residents who were born overseas

In total, there were 4,317 overseas born 10-17-year- living in the OELLEN region in 2021. Of those, 27.4% arrived in Australia between 2016 and 2021 and are considered “recent arrivals”. This proportion is lower than Greater Melbourne’s 10-17-year-old overseas arrivals who came to Australia in the same period, 32.8%. Within the OELLEN region, Maroondah had the highest proportion of 10-17-year olds who are recent arrivals (31.8%), with Knox and Yarra Ranges at 25.9% and 25%, respectively.

There were 5,697 overseas-born 18-25-year-olds living in the OELLEN region in 2021. Of those, 1,329 were recent arrivals, representing 23.3% of all 18-25-year-olds. This proportion was significantly lower than in Greater Melbourne, where 49.4% of overseas-born 18-25-year-olds came to Australia between 2016 and 2021 and is reflective of the overseas student cohort present in Greater Melbourne. Within the OELLEN region, Maroondah again had the highest proportion of recent arrivals in the 18-25 age cohort (29.9%), followed by Knox and Yarra Ranges with similar figures (20.9% and 20%, respectively).



Proportion of OELLEN region's 10-25-year-old overseas born residents who are recent arrivals to Australia (between 2016 and 2021).

5.2 Languages spoken at home

Language statistics show the proportion of the population who speak a language at home other than English. They indicate how culturally diverse a population is and the degree to which different ethnic groups and nationalities retain their language. Language statistics assist in identifying specific cultural and ethnic groups in the area and the services required by the multicultural community. In the OELLEN region, 77.8% of the population speaks English only. This is much higher than in Greater Melbourne, where only 61.1% speak English. The most spoken non-English languages in the OELLEN region, for the entire population, are Mandarin and Cantonese.

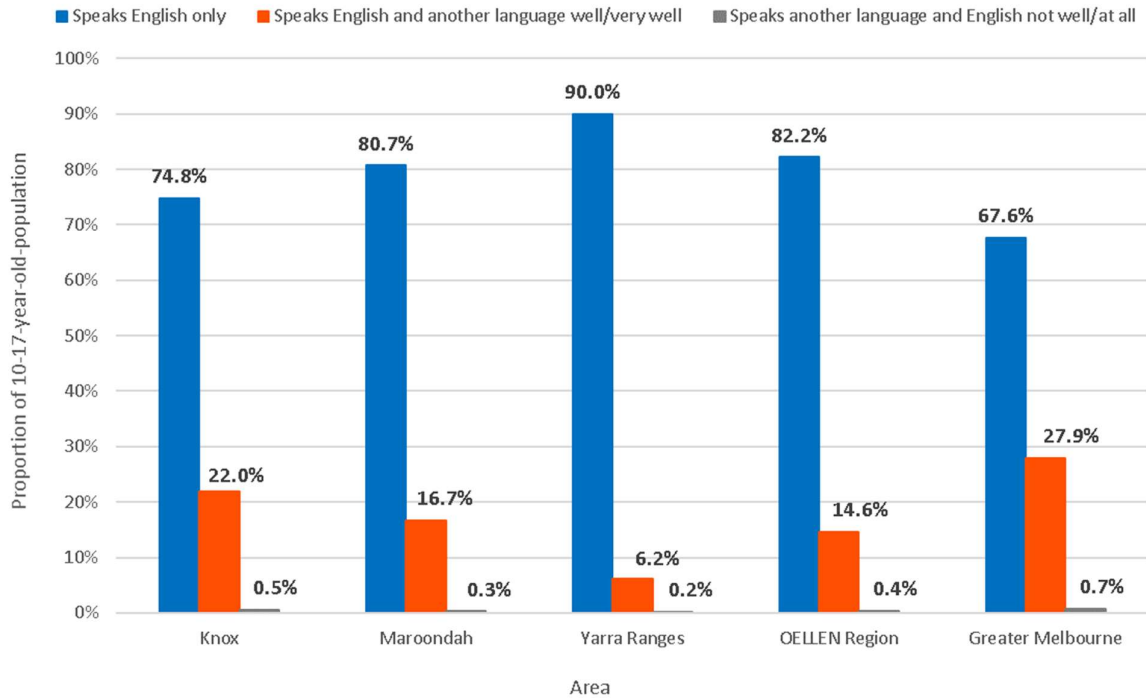
82.2% of OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds spoke English only, with 3.4% speaking Mandarin, 1% Cantonese, 0.8% Chin Haka (from Myanmar), 0.7% speaking Sinhalese and 0.6%, Hindi.

The languages spoken at home statistics for 18-25-year-olds in the OELLEN region are similar to the younger cohort, with 82.5% speaking English only, 2.6% speaking Mandarin, 1.5% Cantonese, 0.7% speaking Chin Haka, 0.7% speaking Sinhalese and 0.5% speaking Vietnamese.

Proficiency in English measures the self-assessed proficiency in spoken English of people who speak a language other than English at home. This information helps service providers determine whether to communicate with the local population in languages other than English. Almost 78% of the OELLEN population speak English only. A smaller proportion, 16%, speak another language and English well or very well. Lastly, 3% of the OELLEN population speak another language but do not speak English well or at all. This is considered poor English proficiency. The City of Knox has the highest proportion of total residents with poor English proficiency (4.3%), followed by the City of Maroondah (3.8%) and Yarra Ranges (1.2%).

From a younger population standpoint, 82.2% of OELLEN 10-17-year-olds speak English only, a proportion significantly higher than in Greater Melbourne (67.6%). On the other hand, 14.6% speak another language and also English well/very well, a proportion lower than that for Greater Melbourne's 10-17-year-olds (27.9%). In addition, a very small proportion of OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds have poor English proficiency (0.4%). In absolute terms, this translates to 158 people.

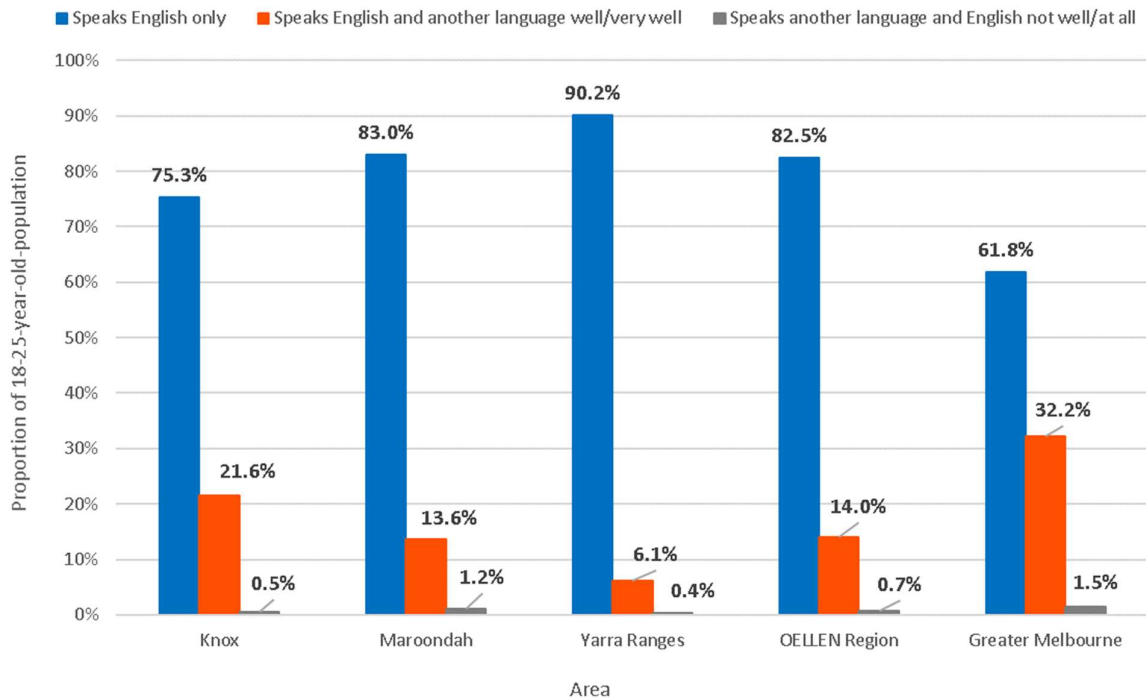
Within the OELLEN region, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion of 10-17-year-olds who speak English only and the lowest proportion of residents of this age speaking other languages. The City of Knox had the most diverse 10-17-year-old population in the region, with 22% of 10-17-year-olds speaking another language and being proficient in English and 0.5% of residents in this cohort with poor English proficiency.



English proficiency for OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds

In 2021, 82.5% of OELLEN's 18-25-year-olds spoke English only, again a proportion significantly higher than in Greater Melbourne, where 61.8% of 18-25-year-olds spoke English only. Conversely, 14% of OELLEN's 18-25-year-olds speak another language and English well/very well, a proportion more which is double that for Greater Melbourne's 18-25-year-olds (32.2%). Lastly, only 0.7% of OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds had poor English proficiency. In absolute terms, this was 263 residents of this age. In Greater Melbourne, a slightly higher proportion of residents of this age had poor English proficiency, 1.5%.

Within the region, Yarra Ranges again had the highest proportion of English -only speakers (90.2%) and the lowest proportions of speakers of other languages or of poor English proficiency. In the City of Knox, three-quarters of 18-25-year-olds speak English only, with almost 22% speaking another language and English and 0.5% not being able to speak English well. The City of Maroondah had the highest proportion of 18-25-year-olds with poor English proficiency (1.2%).



English proficiency for OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds

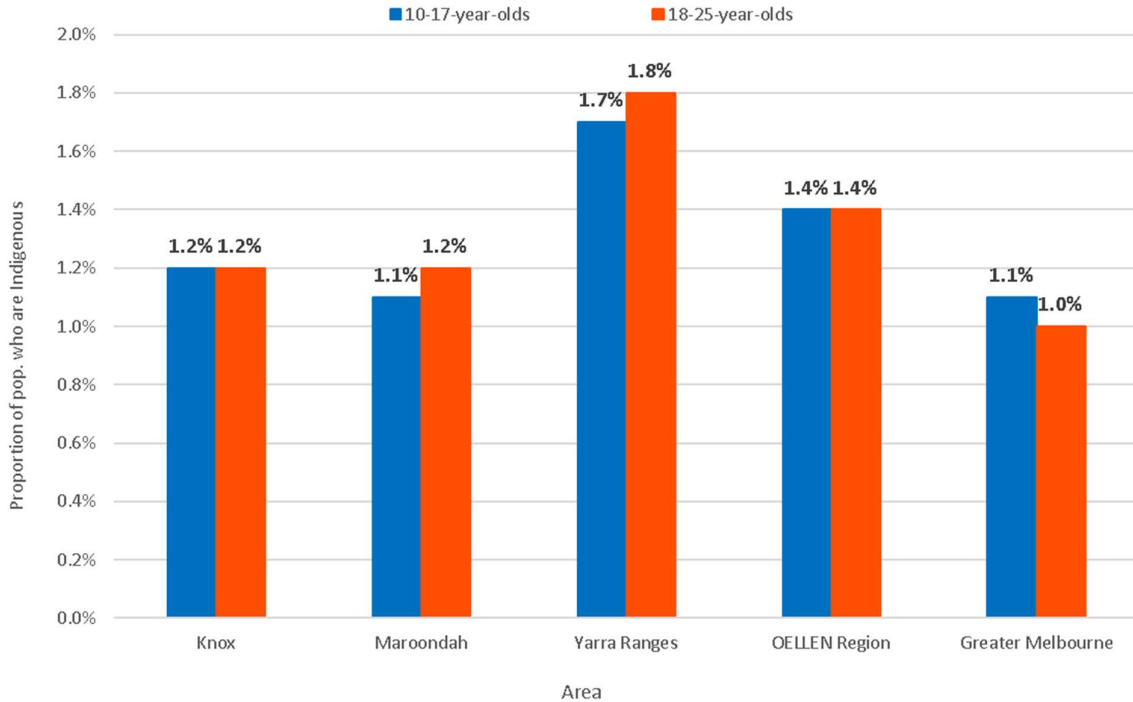
5.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

In 2021, 3,471 people living in the OELLEN region were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders. They represent 0.8% of the total OELLEN population, a proportion slightly higher than the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders representation in Greater Melbourne (0.7%). Of the three OELLEN LGAs, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion of Indigenous residents (1.1%), followed by Knox and Maroondah at 0.6%.

For the two younger age groups, a more significant proportion of OELLEN's 10-17-year-olds are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders (1.4%) than for the age cohort in Greater Melbourne as a whole (1.1%). In absolute terms, 581 OELLEN residents aged 10-17 are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders. Within the region, Yarra Ranges has the highest proportion (1.7%), followed by Knox (1.2%) and lastly, Maroondah (1.1%).

An identical proportion of 18-25-year-olds as 10-17-year-olds are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders in the OELLEN region, 1.4%. In absolute terms, this translates to 543 residents aged 18-25 years. But, again, this proportion is higher than for that age cohort in Greater Melbourne

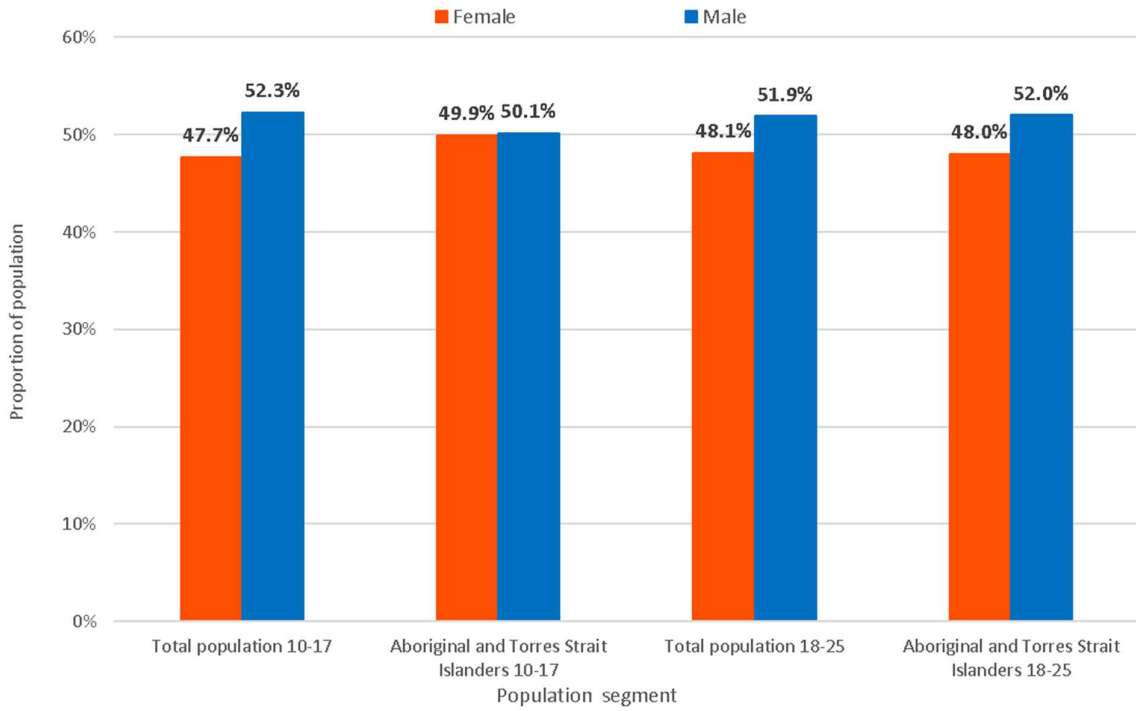
(1.0%). Within the region, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion (1.8%), followed by Maroondah and Knox at 1.2% of the 18-25-year-old population.



Proportion of OELLEN's 10-17 and 18-25-year-olds who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders

The sex breakdown is slightly different for OELLEN region's total population and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. In the 10-17-year-old age group, there is a more significant gap between total population's females (47.7%) and males (52.3%). However, for Indigenous 10-17-year-olds, the gap is much closer, with 49.9% being female and 50.1% being male.

For OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds, the proportion gap between females and males for the overall population is similar to that of the Indigenous population of the same age, 48% female and 52% male.



Sex breakdown for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander residents in the OELLEN region, by age

6. Health and disability

Key findings for the OELLEN region

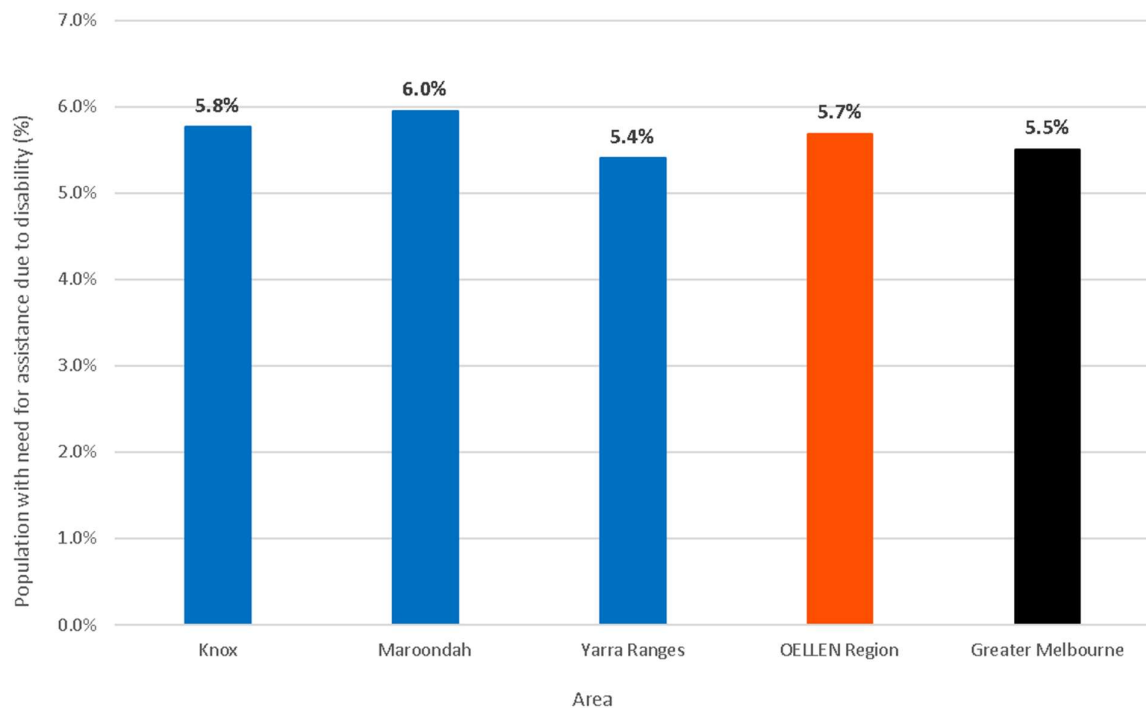
- Overall disability rates are similar in the OELLEN region as Greater Melbourne.
- A larger proportion of 0-17-year-olds have a need for assistance in the OELLEN region than 18-28-year-olds.
- For both age groups, the proportion of residents with a disability are higher than in Greater Melbourne.
- Overall rates of residents with long-term health conditions are higher in the OELLEN region than Greater Melbourne.
- More 0-17 and 18-25-year-olds have at least one long-term health condition in the OELLEN region than in Greater Melbourne.
- Asthma was the most prevalent long-term health condition for OELLEN region's 0-17-year-olds.
- Mental health was the most prevalent health condition for OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds.

Need for assistance due to disability and long-term health conditions statistics are a helpful indicator in helping understand if the local population requires any additional assistance or services for disability-related or health-related needs. Focusing on the 10-17 and 18-24-year-old population shows whether this segment within the OELLEN region experiences higher or lower levels of disability or long-term health issues than the same age cohort in Greater Melbourne.

6.1 Need for assistance due to disability

Disability statistics relate directly to need for assistance due to a severe or profound disability. The information may be used in planning local facilities, services such as day-care and occasional care, and providing information and support to carers. OELLEN region's disability statistics help understand the prevalence of people who need support in the community.

Compared to Greater Melbourne, a slightly higher proportion of SELLEN region residents need assistance due to disability (5.7% compared to 5.5%). The City of Maroondah is the LGA within the region with the highest proportion of residents requiring assistance, 6.0% and Yarra Ranges is the lowest, with 5.4%. Disability is strongly related to a population's age, and yet the population of Yarra Ranges, with a median age of 40 years, has a lower proportion of residents needing assistance due to disability than the younger Knox or Maroondah populations.

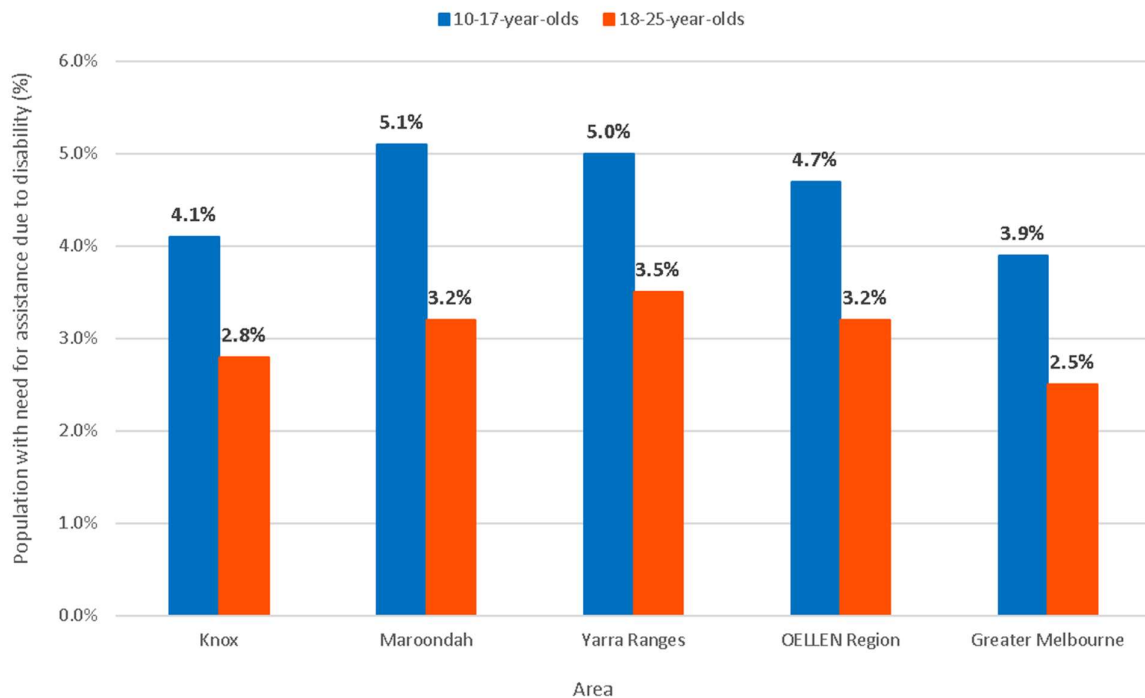


Need for assistance due to disability in the OELLEN region, 2021

A larger proportion of 10-17-year-olds have a need for assistance due to disability in the OELLEN region (4.7%) than in Greater Melbourne, 3.9%. Within the OELLEN region,

Maroondah has the highest proportion of 10-17-year-olds with a need for assistance due to disability (5.1%) and Knox, the lowest (4.1%).

Compared to 10-17-year-olds, lower proportions of 18-25-year-olds have a need for assistance due to disability across the OELLEN region and Greater Melbourne. In 2021, a higher proportion of OELLEN region residents in this age cohort had a disability (3.2%) compared to Greater Melbourne (2.5%). Within the region, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion with 3.5% whereas Knox was again the lowest, with 2.8% of 18-25-year-olds having a disability.



Need for assistance due to disability in the OELLEN region for 10-17 and 18-25-year-olds, 2021

6.2 Long-term health conditions

For the first time in Australian Census history, the 2021 Census included information about the incidence of selected long-term health conditions in the community. The Census question asked respondents if they have been diagnosed with a specific condition (or other condition) from a list of ten conditions plus "other". Combined, these ten conditions comprise

approximately 60% of Australia's deaths, and even those that are not deadly contribute substantially to the disease burden.

It is well known that socio-economic factors also contribute to morbidity and health outcomes, with lower-socio economic characteristics correlated with higher incidence of some health conditions. Including this topic in the Census enables these factors to be explored in more detail. Also, in society, health conditions tend to increase with age. For these reasons, it is recommended that long-term health conditions data for be viewed in conjunction with age structure.

Long-term health conditions about the OELLEN region's young people reveal whether incidence levels are higher in some parts and also how the OELLEN region and LGAs within compare to the Greater Melbourne average. A list of most common long-term health conditions in the OELLEN region can also be used to help prioritise service delivery, funding or further research into the conditions affecting the region's youth.

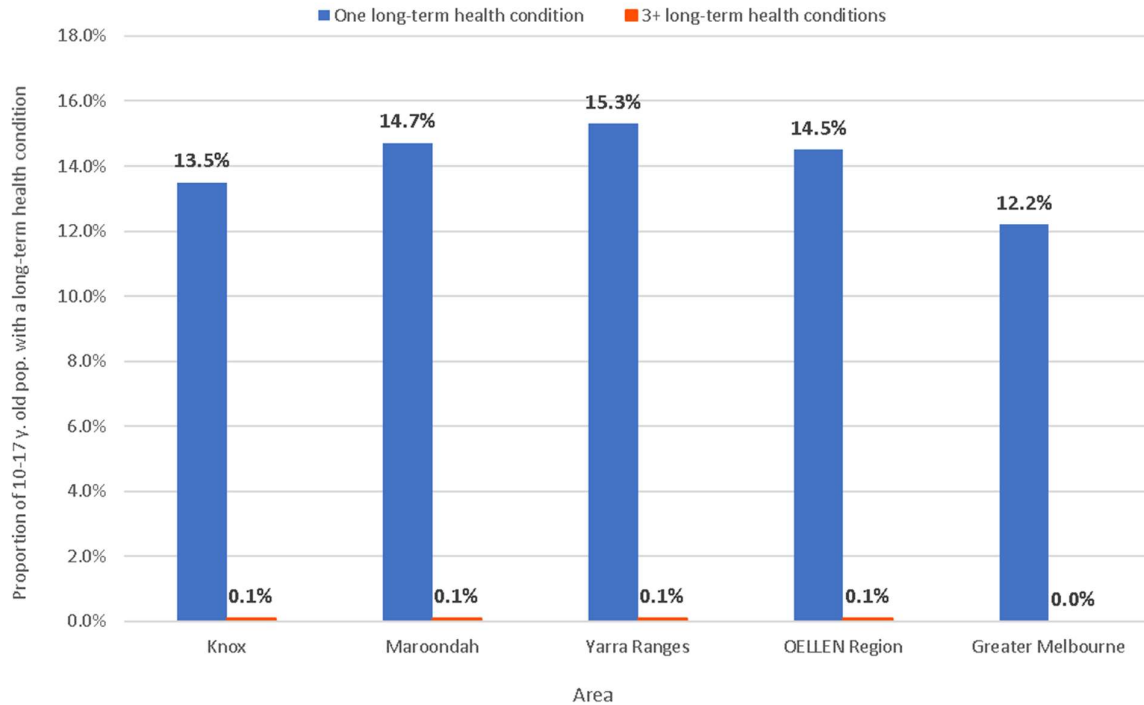
Overall, the proportion of residents in the OELLEN region with at least one long-term health condition is higher than in Greater Melbourne:

- **City of Knox:** 33.4% of the population with at least one long-term health condition
- **City of Maroondah:** 34.2%
- **Yarra Ranges Council:** 35.2%
- **OELLEN region:** 34.3%
- **Greater Melbourne:** 29.5%

A larger proportion of OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds have one long-term health condition (14.5%), than Greater Melbourne (12.2%). Within the OELLEN region, Yarra Ranges' 10-17-year-olds have the highest incidence of one long-term health condition (15.3%), which in absolute terms represents 2,418 residents aged 10-17 years. In the City of Maroondah, 14.7% of the 10-17-year-old population has one long term condition, representing 1,590 residents. The City of Knox has the lowest proportion (13.5%), representing 1,997 residents. Overall, there are 6,006 residents aged 10-17 years with at least one long-term health condition in the OELLEN region.

Very low proportions of 10-17-year-olds are affected by three or more long-term health conditions within the OELLEN region. In total, only 29 residents aged 10-17 years in the

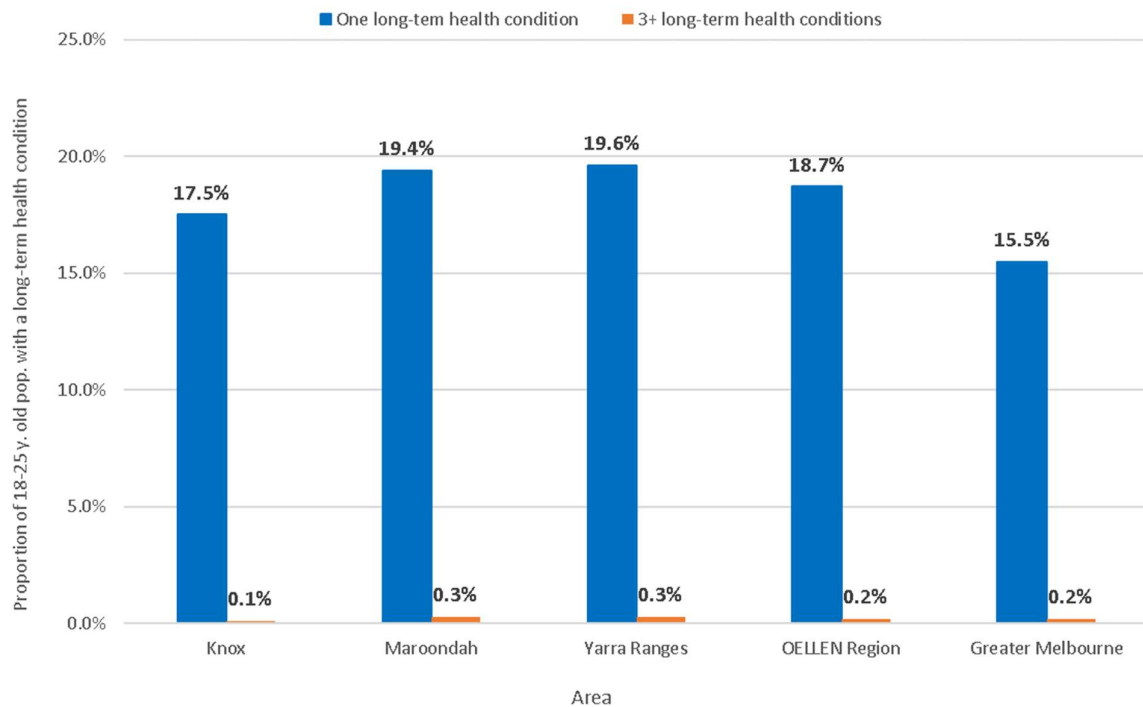
region had three or more long-term health conditions. Proportionally, all three OELLEN LGAs had the same proportion of 10-17-year-olds with three or more conditions (0.1%), with Yarra Ranges having the highest absolute number of people (19 people).



Long-term health conditions for OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds, 2021

The region's 18-25-year-olds had higher incidence rates of long-term health conditions than 10-17-year-olds. Overall, 18.7% of OELLEN's 18-25-year-olds have one long-term health condition, equating to 7,401 residents. The proportion is higher than in Greater Melbourne, where 15.5% of 18-25-year-olds have one long-term health condition.

Yarra Ranges was once again highest in the region, with 19.6% of 15-24-year-olds having a long-term health condition (2,734 people). Similarly, in Maroondah, 19.4% of 18-25-year-olds have a long-term health condition (1,995 people), followed by Knox with 17.5% (2,681 residents).



Long-term health conditions for OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds, 2021

The types of long-term health conditions affecting the OELLEN's 10-17-year-olds and 18-25-year-olds are slightly different.

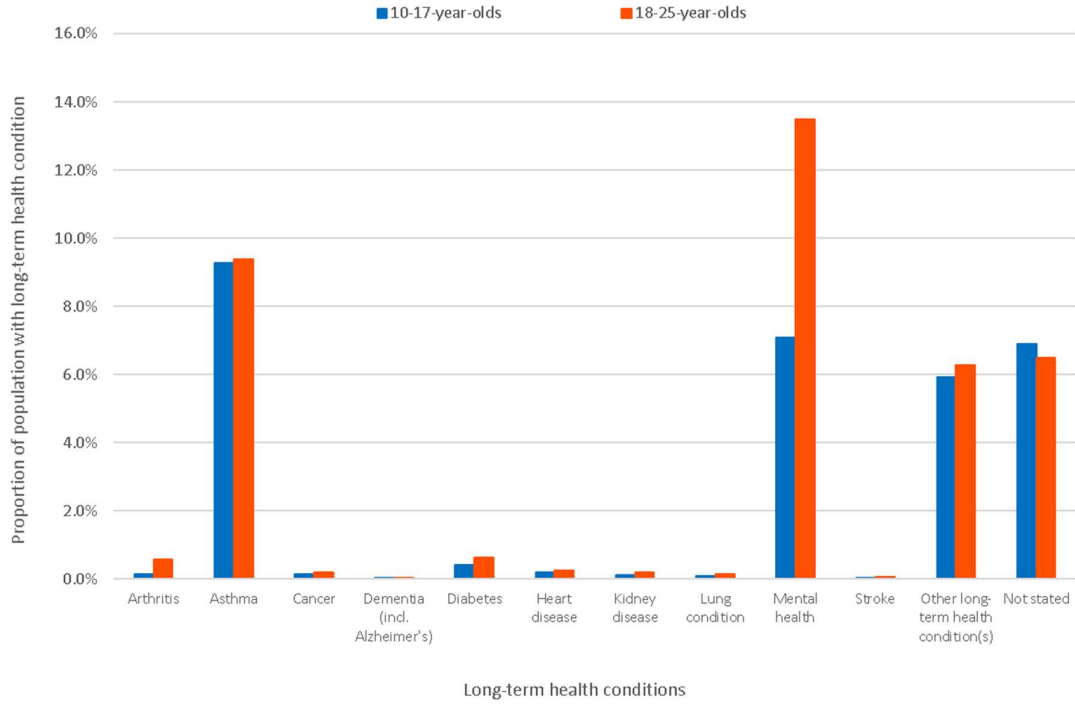
OELLEN region's 10-17-year-olds are mainly affected by:

- **Asthma:** 9.3%
- **Mental health:** 7.1%
- **Other long-term health condition:** 4.1% – *this includes any long-term health condition not provided as a clear choice in the Census form.*
- **Diabetes:** 0.4%
- **Heart disease:** 0.2%

OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds are mainly affected by:

- **Mental health:** 13.5%
- **Asthma:** 9.4%
- **Other long-term health condition:** 6.3%
- **Diabetes:** 0.6%

- **Arthritis: 0.6%**



Type of long-term health conditions affecting SELLEN region's 10-17 and 18-25-year-olds, 2021

7. Household characteristics

Key findings for the OELLEN region

- The OELLEN region is mainly composed of families, with a high proportion of couple families or one-parent families with children.
- The average household size is decreasing but still higher than Greater Melbourne.
- Most households are owned with a mortgage but with a lower proportion of renters compared to Greater Melbourne.
- The median household income is slightly lower than Greater Melbourne's, with a similar proportion of low-income households but fewer high-income households.
- Median mortgage and rental payments are similar to Greater Melbourne, with a smaller proportion of households paying over 30% towards mortgage but higher for rental payments.

The OELLEN region's household and family structure is one of the most important demographic indicators. It reveals the area's residential role and function, era of settlement. In addition, it provides key insights into the level of demand for services and facilities as most are related to age and household types.

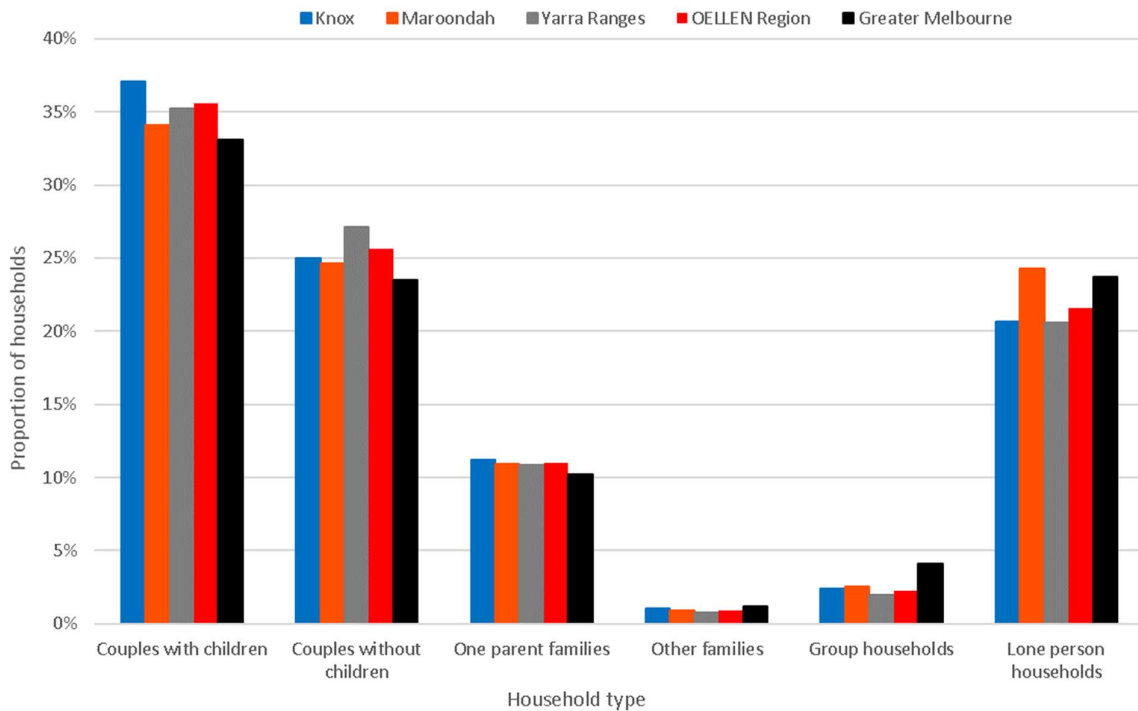
7.1 Household composition

The OELLEN region's household composition shows a largely family-oriented area where over 35% of households are families with children, almost 26% of households are couples without children, and mostly represent older couples without children (empty nesters) rather than younger couples without children likely to start a family. Almost 22% of households are lone-person households (mainly composed of older lone-person households rather than younger or middle-aged lone-person households).

Compared to Greater Melbourne, the OELLEN region has a higher proportion of couples with children, couples without children and a slightly higher proportion of one-parent families. Conversely, the OELLEN region has lower proportions of group households or lone person households than Greater Melbourne.

Within the region, the City of Knox has the highest proportion of couples with children (37.1% of all households), followed by Yarra Ranges (35.2%) and Maroondah (34.1%). Yarra Ranges has the highest proportion of couples without children (27.1%), followed by Knox (25%) and Maroondah (24.6%).

Maroondah has the highest proportion of lone-person households (24.3%) which are mostly older lone persons. Knox and Yarra Ranges have lower proportions of lone-person households (20.7% and 20.6%, respectively). One-parent families are higher in Knox (20.7%) than in Maroondah or Yarra Ranges (10.9% for both), and group household representation is also highest in Maroondah.



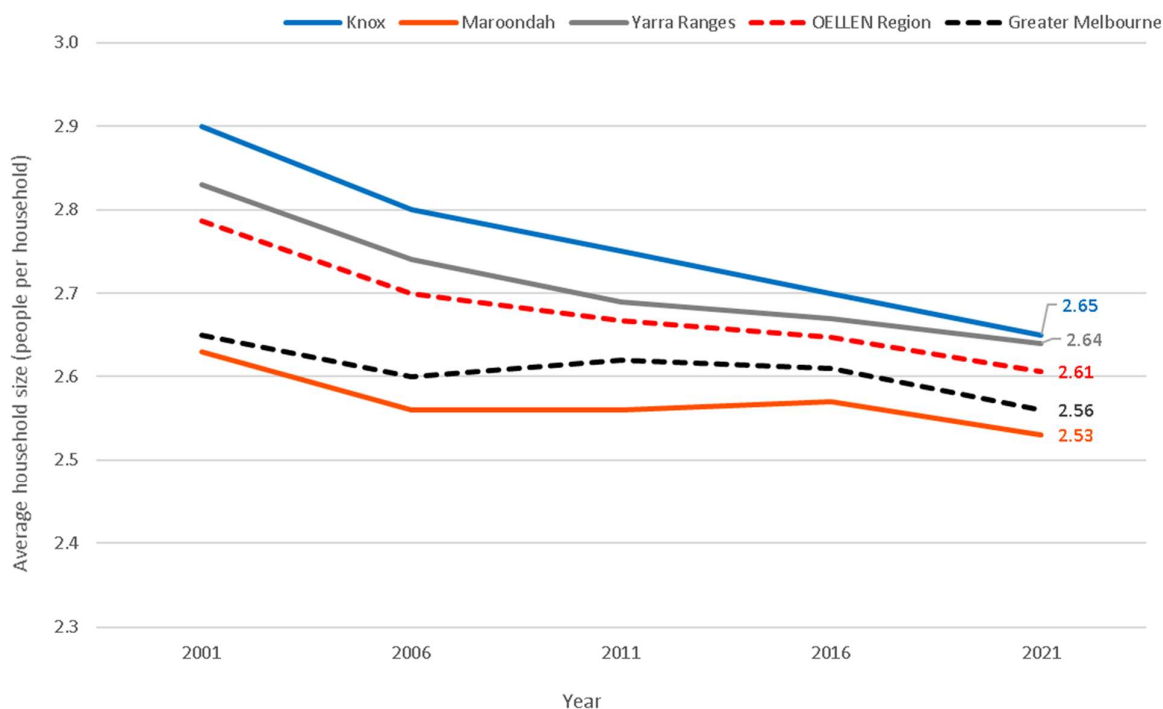
Household composition in the OELLEN region, 2021

7.2 Average household size

The OELLEN region's average household size (people per household) has been higher than the Greater Melbourne average over the past 20 years. The high figure is due to the typology of households in the region – predominantly families with children living in stand-alone houses with 3 or more bedrooms.

Within the OELLEN region, the City of Knox has the largest average household size at 2.65 (as of 2021). Knox has had the largest average household size for the past 20 years but as with all OELLEN LGAs, has been decreasing. Yarra Ranges' average household size is second highest in the region with 2.64 residents per household and is only marginally lower than Knox's. Maroondah's average household size is the lowest in the region, at 2.53. Overall, it is expected that the OELLEN region will continue to have a decreasing average household size as the population ages. However, if the region continues to attract families and larger households, and as the suburban lifecycles change in a way where younger families move into areas currently occupied by older couples without children or older lone persons, average household size could increase in the future.

The Victoria in Future projections assumes that the OELLEN region's average household size will decline to 2.21 by 2036, likely driven by ageing in place and a more significant number of smaller, older households. By comparison, the projections have Greater Melbourne's 2036 average household size at 1.95 persons per household.



Average household size in the OELLEN region, 2011-2021

7.3 Housing tenure

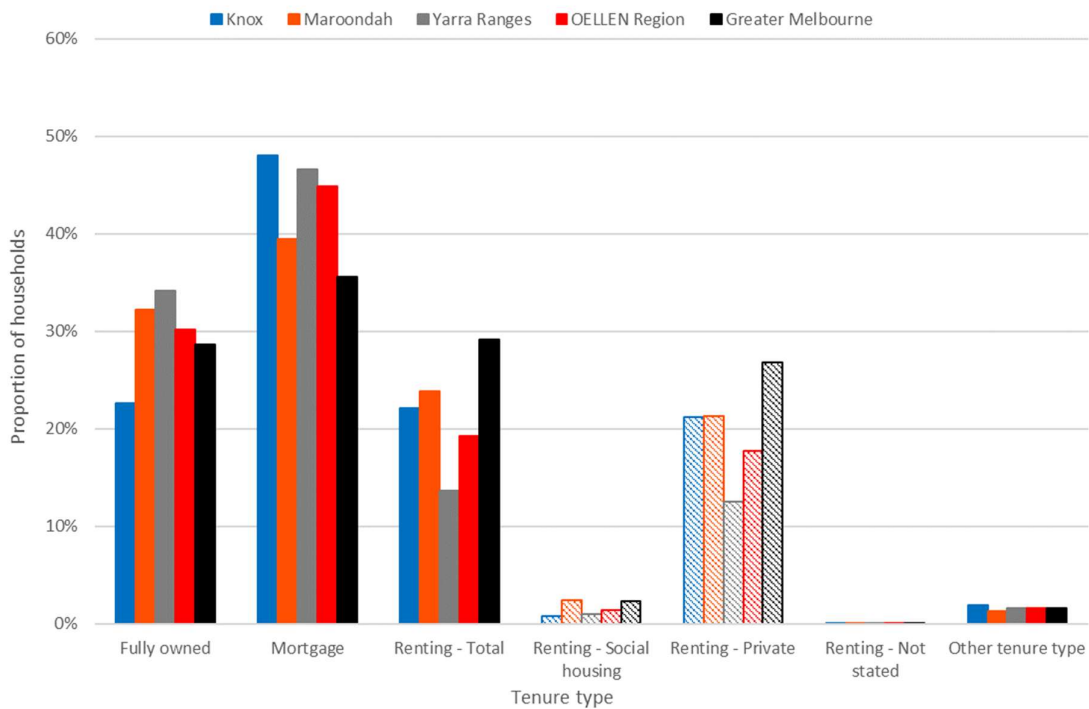
OELLEN region's housing tenure data provides insights into its socio-economic status and role in the housing market. For example, a high concentration of private renters may indicate a transient area attractive to young singles and couples. In contrast, a concentration of homeowners indicates a more settled area with mature families and empty-nesters.

Tenure can also reflect built form, with a significantly higher share of renters in high-density housing and a substantially larger proportion of home-owners in separate houses. However, this is not always the case. In conjunction with other socio-economic status indicators in the OELLEN region, tenure data is helpful for analysing housing markets, housing affordability and identifying public housing areas.

Most households in the OELLEN region are owned with a mortgage (44.8%), a proportion higher than in Greater Melbourne (35.6%). Just over 30% (30.2%) of households are fully-owned, similar to Greater Melbourne (28.7%). Lastly, the proportion of rented households is lower in the OELLEN region than in Greater Melbourne with 19.2% of households in the OELLEN rented, compared to 29.2% in Greater Melbourne. Most rented households are

privately rented (17.8%), with only 1.4% of households (1,970 in total) being social housing. By comparison, 2.3% of Greater Melbourne's households are rented social housing. Within the OELLEN region, Yarra Ranges has the highest proportion of fully-owned households (34.2%), followed by Maroondah (32.2%) and lastly Knox (22.6%). Knox has the highest proportion of households owned with a mortgage (48%), indicating that the area has a younger housing market with more households still repaying home loans. Yarra Ranges also had a high proportion of households owned with a mortgage (46.6%), with Maroondah at 39.5%.

Privately rented households were most common in Maroondah (23.8% of all households), followed by Knox (22.1%). Yarra Ranges has the lowest proportion of privately rented households (12.6%). While the proportion of households rented as social housing in the OELLEN region is below that of Greater Melbourne, within the region Maroondah has the highest proportion (2.4%, 1,064 households), followed by Yarra Ranges (1%, 583 households) and Knox (0.8%, 323 households).



Housing tenure characteristics in the OELLEN region, 2021

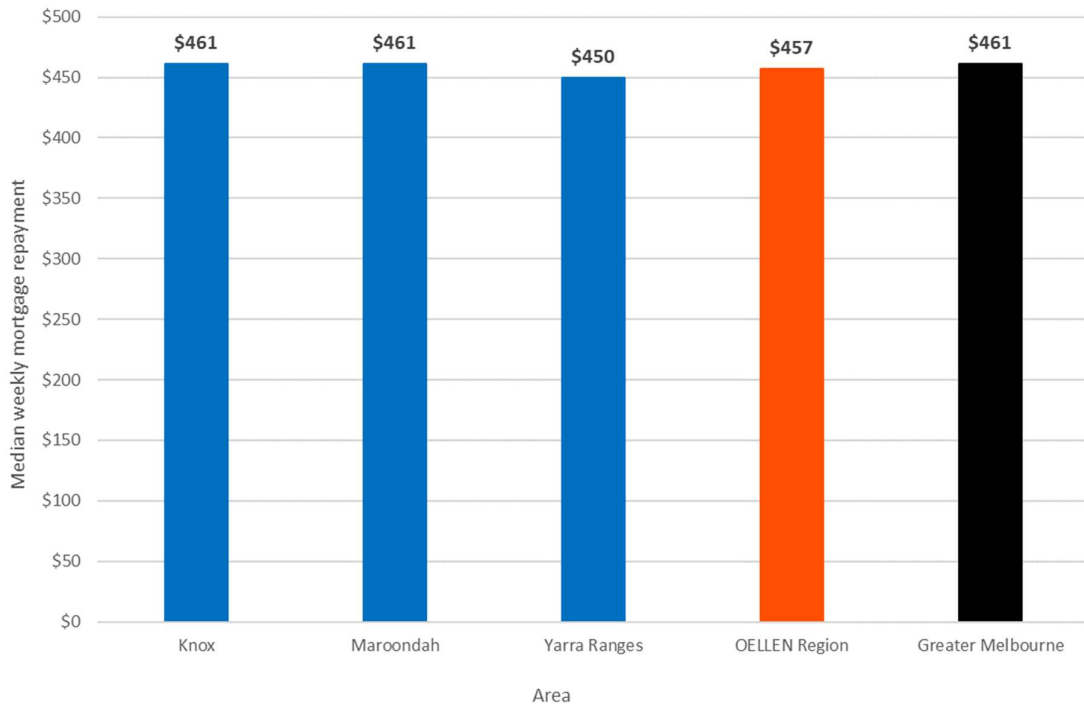
7.4 Cost of housing

The cost of housing can be expressed in terms of absolute values (housing loan repayments and housing rental payments) and the proportion of household income used to service housing payments. Both indicators provide insight into the affordability of a place and potentially how accessible migrating to an LGA is for people looking to access housing. However, high housing costs can also force some residents to migrate out of an area if housing costs become too high.

7.4.1 Housing loan repayments and rental payments

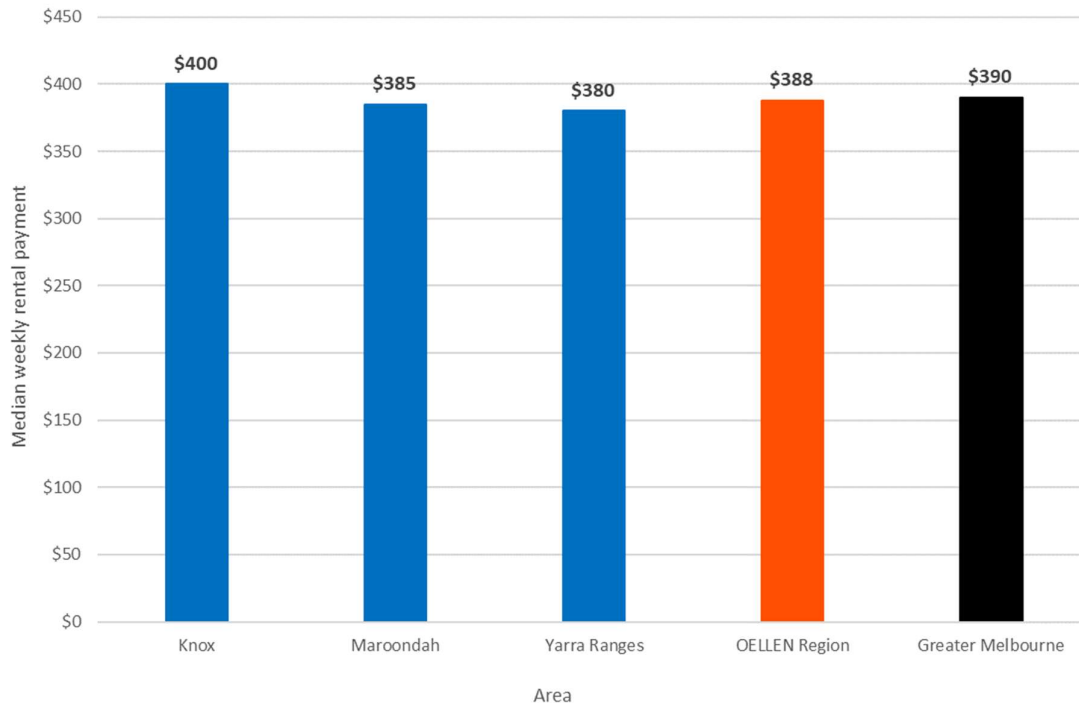
The median weekly mortgage repayments in the OELLEN region in 2021 were \$457, similar to Greater Melbourne's (\$461). Given that the information regarding housing loan repayments was collected in 2021 (10th August 2021), the housing market was different with lower interest rates. It is anticipated that these median weekly repayments have increased since then as the RBA cash rate has risen from 0.1% in August 2021 to 3.1% in December 2022.

Within the region, Knox and Maroondah had the same median weekly mortgage repayments (\$461) as Greater Melbourne, whereas Yarra Ranges was lower, at \$451 per week.



Median weekly mortgage repayments in the OELLEN region, 2021

Median weekly rental payments in the OELLEN region are slightly lower than the Greater Melbourne median, with \$388 per week in the region compared to \$390 in Greater Melbourne. Within the region, Knox had the highest median (\$400), followed by Maroondah (\$385) and Yarra Ranges (\$380).



Median weekly rental payments in the OELLEN region, 2021

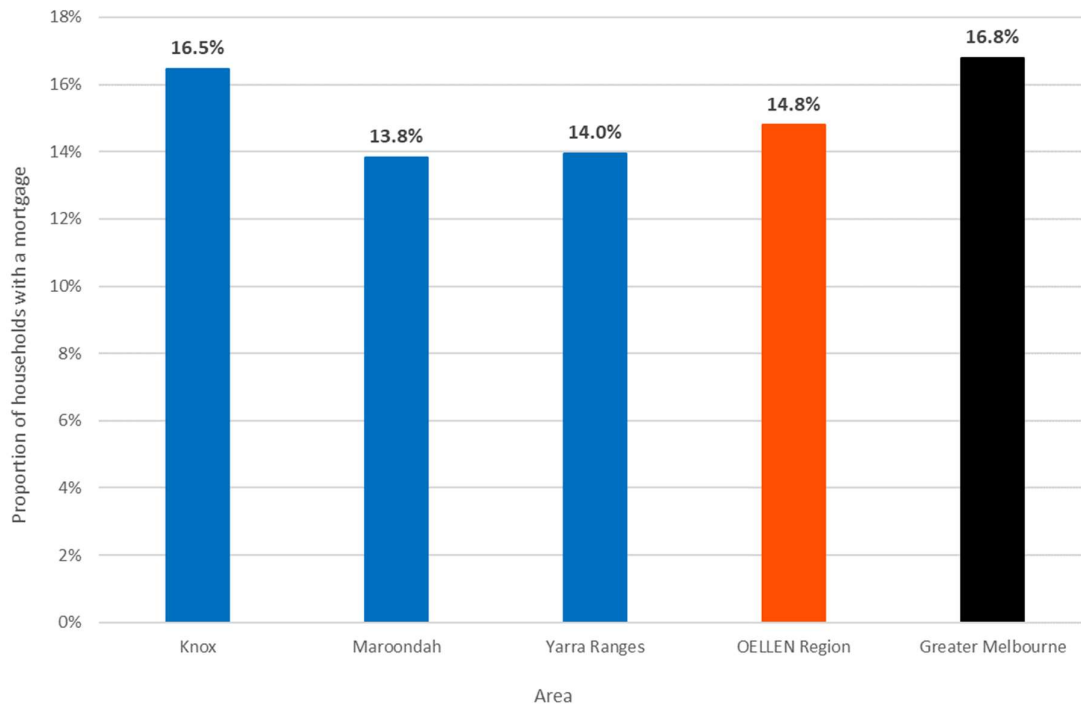
7.4.2 Housing costs > 30% of income

There are many definitions of housing stress, but the most used definitions look at households spending more than 30% of income on housing costs. The data used in this section presents households who have a mortgage or are otherwise paying off a dwelling in the OELLEN region or are renting - and paying more than 30% of their usual gross weekly income on mortgage repayments or rental payments.

Housing affordability has become a significant social and economic problem in recent years. 30% is usually agreed as the maximum percentage of income households can reasonably afford to spend on housing.

In 2021, 14.8% of OELLEN households with a mortgage paid more than 30% of their household income towards mortgage repayments. In absolute terms, this was 10,041 households. Compared to Greater Melbourne, this percentage was lower (16.8% in Greater Melbourne). Within the region, Knox had the highest proportion of mortgaged households

which paid more than 30% of their household income towards a mortgage (16.5%), followed by Yarra Ranges (14%) and Maroondah (13.8%).



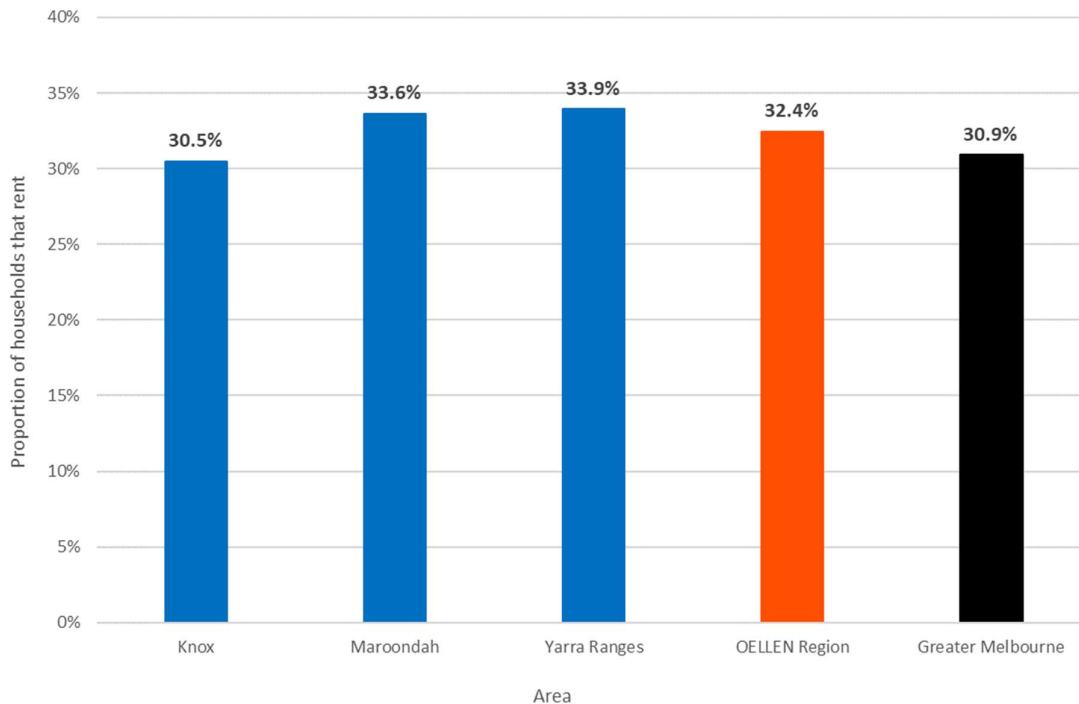
Proportion of OELLEN households with a mortgage where cost of mortgage is more than 30% of household income, 2021

Some suburbs that recorded the highest proportion of households paying more than 30% towards a mortgage were:

- Wantirna South, Knox (21.6%)
- Wantirna, Knox (20.2%)
- Warburton – Upper Yarra Valley, Yarra Ranges (19.3%)
- Kilsyth, Maroondah (18.3%)
- Bayswater, Knox (17.8%).

As mentioned previously, it can be assumed that these percentages have increased, given home loan interest rate increases since the 2021 Census, therefore, some suburbs or communities where a high proportion of household income went towards servicing a mortgage are likely paying even more in 2023.

In 2021, 32.4% of OELLEN households that rent paid more than 30% of their household income towards rental payments. In absolute terms, this was 9,875 households. Compared to Greater Melbourne, this percentage was higher (30.9% in Greater Melbourne). Within the region, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion of rented households which paid more than 30% of their household income towards rent (33.9%), followed by Maroondah (33.6%) and Knox (30.5%).



Proportion of OELLEN rented households where cost of rent is more than 30% of household income, 2021

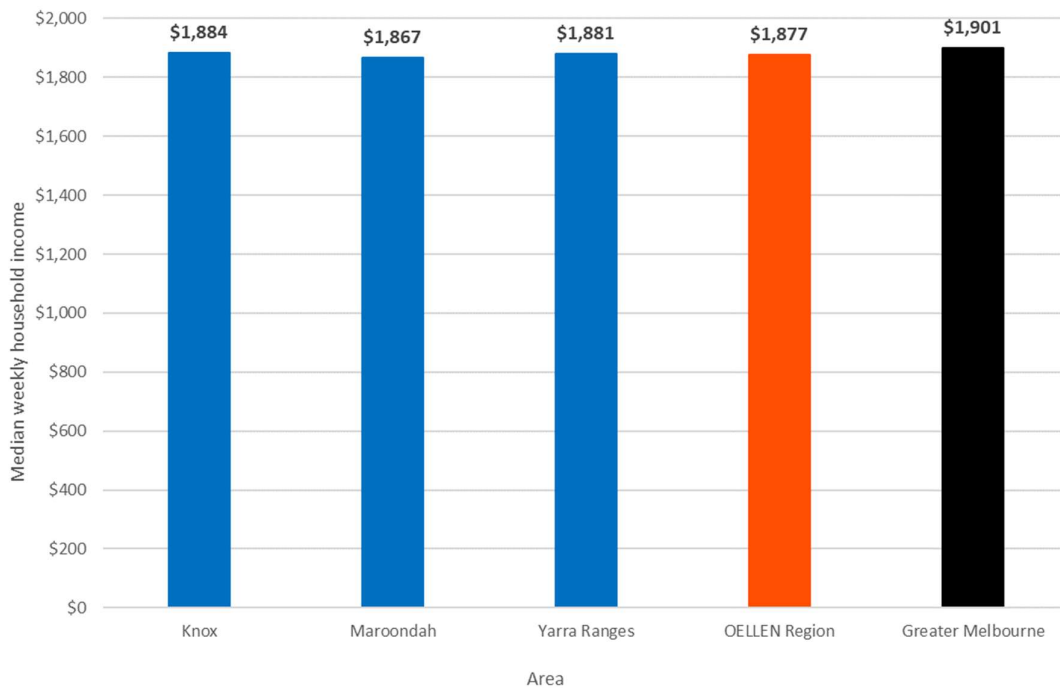
Some suburbs that recorded the highest proportion of households paying more than 30% towards rent were:

- Warburton – Upper Yarra Valley, Yarra Ranges (45.9%)
- Yarra Junction - Wesburn - Millgrove, Yarra Ranges (43.4%)
- Kilsyth South, Maroondah (39.6%)
- Upper Ferntree Gully, Knox (38.2%)
- Monbulk – Silvan, Yarra Ranges (38.0%).

7.5 Household income

Households form the standard 'economic unit' in our society. The OELLEN region's household income is one of the most important indicators of socio-economic status. It is important to note that income data is not necessarily a measure of wealth. For example, if an area has many retirees, this will produce a higher proportion of low-income households, but the retirees may have considerable capital wealth.

Median weekly household incomes in the OELLEN region are lower than in Greater Melbourne (\$1,877 compared to \$1,901 in Greater Melbourne). Within the region, Knox has the highest median household income of \$1,884 per week, followed by Yarra Ranges (\$1,881) and Maroondah (\$1,867).



Weekly median incomes in the OELLEN region, 2021

High- and low-income households can be derived from the Census household income data.

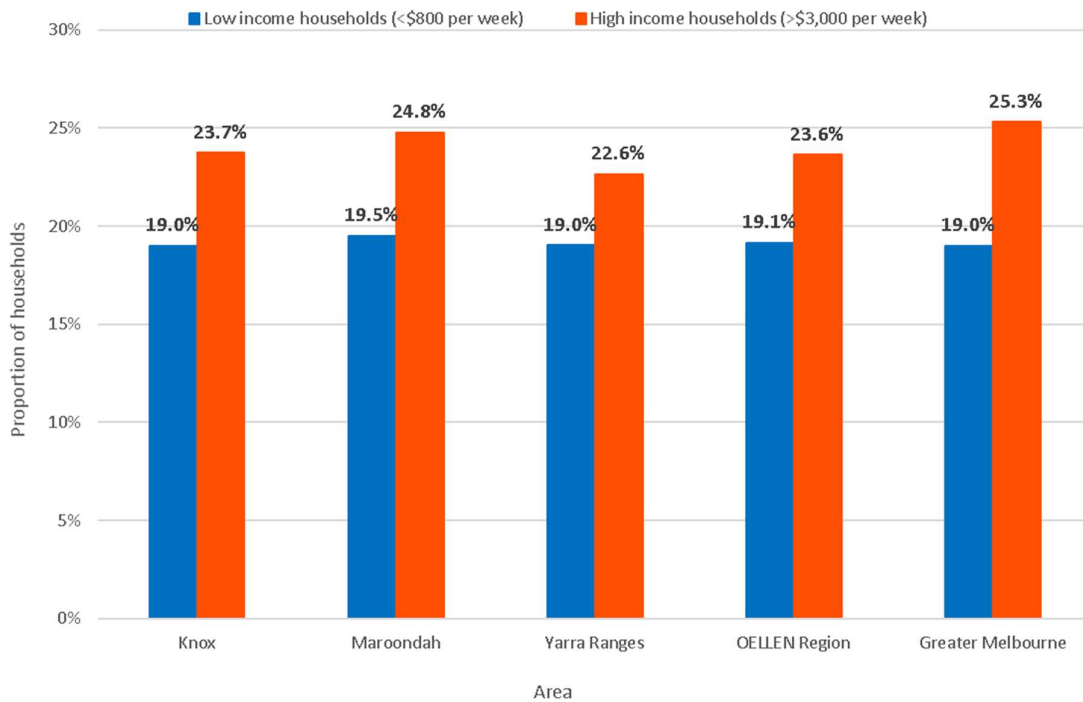
- Low-income households are those receiving less than \$800 per week (before tax in 2021).

- High-income households are those receiving more than \$3,000 per week (before tax in 2021).

Similar proportions of households in the OELLEN region and Greater Melbourne are low-income households. In absolute terms, 30,061 households in the OELLEN region are low-income households, comprising 19.1% of all households. Within the region, Maroondah had the highest proportion of low-income households (19.5%), followed by Knox and Yarra Ranges (19%).

On the other hand, the OELLEN region had a lower proportion of high-income households than Greater Melbourne. In absolute terms, 37,122 households in the OELLEN region are high-income households, comprising 23.6% of all households. Within the region, Maroondah had the highest proportion high-income households (24.8%), followed by Knox (23.7%) and Yarra Ranges (22.6%).

The income a household generates is linked to the number of workers in the household; the number who are unemployed or on other income support benefits, and the type of employment undertaken by the household members. It is important to remember that households vary in size, so some areas have a more significant number of dependents per income generated than others.



Low and high-income households in the OELLEN region, 2021

8. Education development and achievement

Key findings for the OELLEN region

- OELLEN Region's 15+ year-olds have lower Year 12 completion rates than Greater Melbourne.
- Most residents have no post-secondary qualifications, and a higher proportion have Vocational qualifications while a lower proportion have Bachelor or Higher degrees.
- A smaller proportion of 18-25 year-olds in OELLEN attend university, but a slightly higher proportion attend TAFE or Vocational institutions compared to Greater Melbourne.

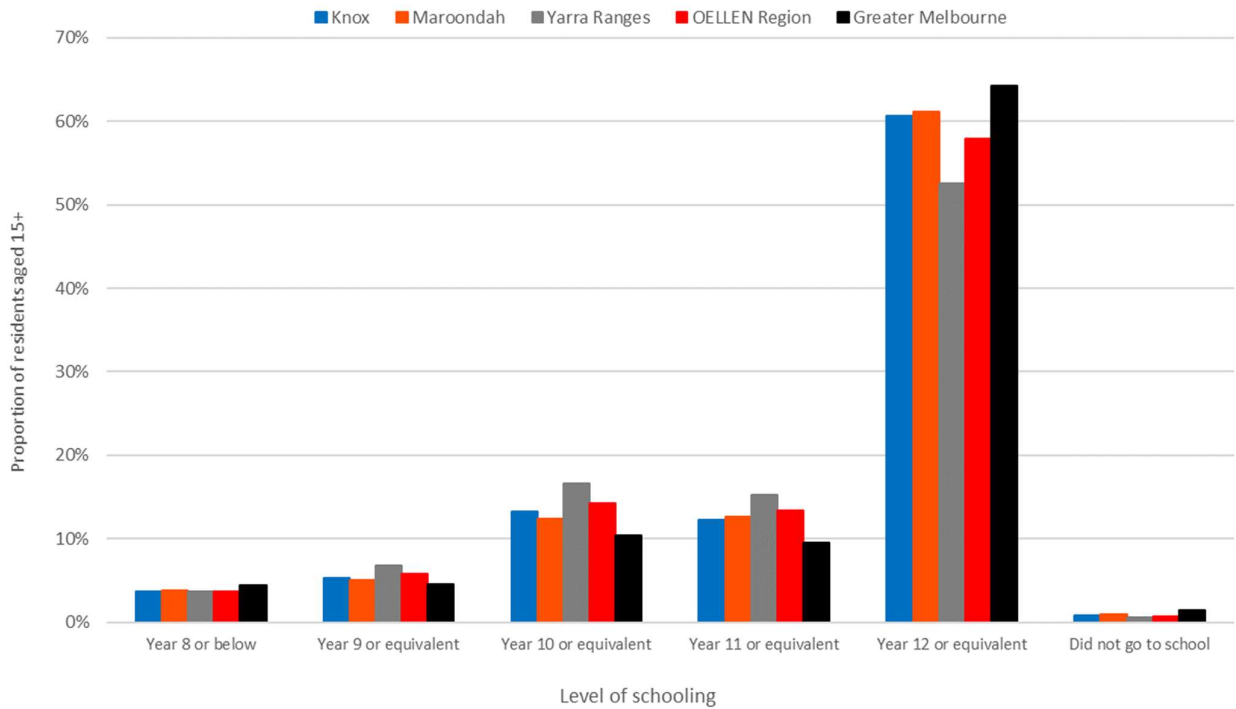
8.1 Highest level of high school achieved

The level of schooling data is a useful indicator of socio-economic status in Yarra Ranges Council. With other indicators, such as proficiency in English, the data informs planners and decision-makers about people's ability to access services. Combined with other qualifications data it also allows assessment of the skill base of the population.

Within the OELLEN region, most residents aged 15 years and older completed Year 12 (or equivalent), with 58% in this category. This rate was lower than the proportion of Greater Melbourne residents who completed Year 12 (64%). On the other hand, 24% of OELLEN region's residents have a "Year 10 or below" level of schooling in the OELLEN region, a proportion higher than in Greater Melbourne (19%).

Within the region, the City of Maroondah had the highest proportion of residents with a Year 12 or equivalent level of schooling (61.1%), followed by the City of Knox (60.7%). Yarra Ranges had the lowest level of Year 12 completion, 52.5%.

Conversely, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion of residents with a “Year 10 or below” level of schooling (27%), followed by Knox (22%) and Maroondah (21%).



Highest level of high school achieved for OELLEN residents aged 15+ years, 2021

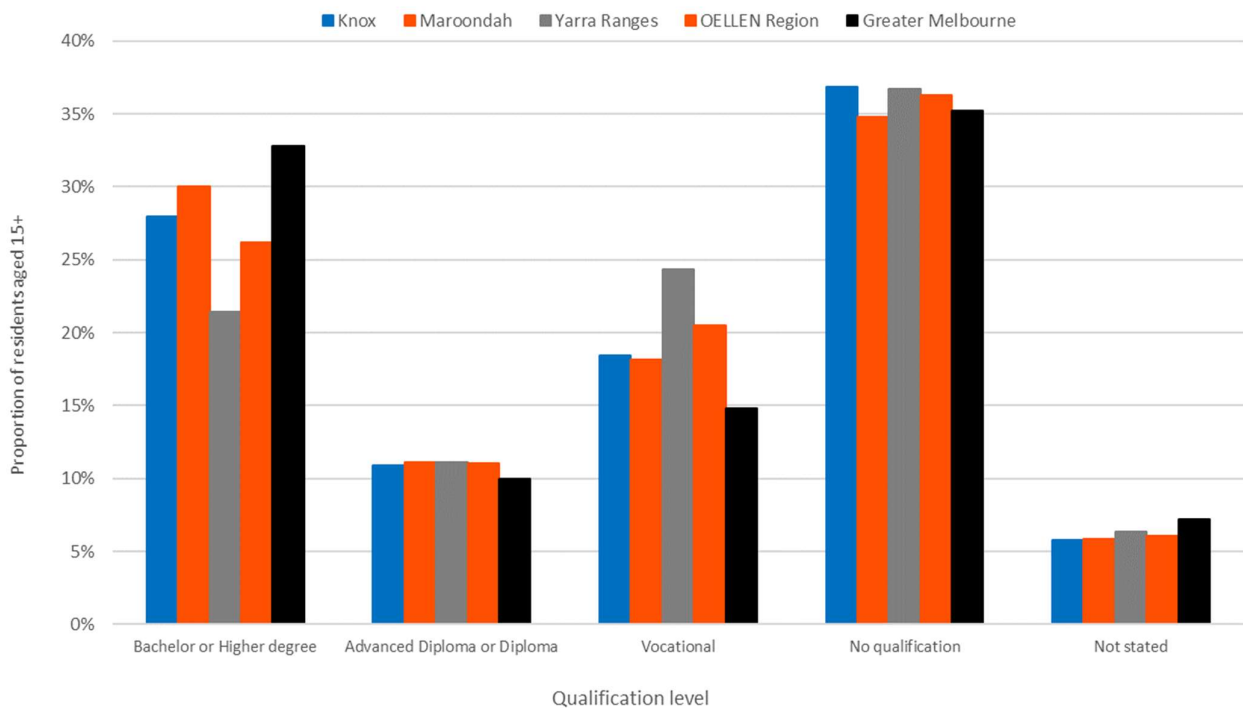
8.2 Highest qualification achieved

Educational qualifications relate to education outside of primary and secondary school and are one of the most important indicators of socio-economic status. With other data sources, such as employment status, income and occupation, OELLEN region's educational qualifications help to evaluate the area's economic opportunities and socio-economic status and identify skill gaps in the labour market.

Most OELLEN region residents aged 15 years and older have no qualification outside of primary or secondary school. In 2021, 36.3% had no qualification, a proportion slightly higher than in Greater Melbourne (35.2%). A “Bachelor or Higher degree” was the highest qualification for 26.2% of OELLEN region's residents aged 15 and older but was lower than that of Greater Melbourne (32.8%). A larger proportion of OELLEN residents had a Vocational qualification than Greater Melbourne, 20.5% compared to 14.8%. Lastly, a slightly larger

proportion of OELLEN than Greater Melbourne residents had an “Advanced diploma or diploma” (11.1% compared to 10% in the Greater Capital City).

Within the OELLEN region, the City of Maroondah had the highest proportion of residents with a “Bachelor or Higher Degree” (30.1%), followed by the City of Knox (28%) and Yarra Ranges (21.4%). Yarra Ranges had a significantly higher proportion of residents with a “Vocational” qualification (24.3%) than Knox (18.4%) or Maroondah (18.1%). The proportions of residents with an “Advanced Diploma or Diploma” were similar in all three LGAs. Lastly, the proportion of residents aged 15 years or older with no qualifications was highest in the City of Knox (36.9%), followed by Yarra Ranges (36.7%) and the City of Maroondah (34.8%).



Highest qualification achieved for OELLEN residents aged 15+ years, 2021

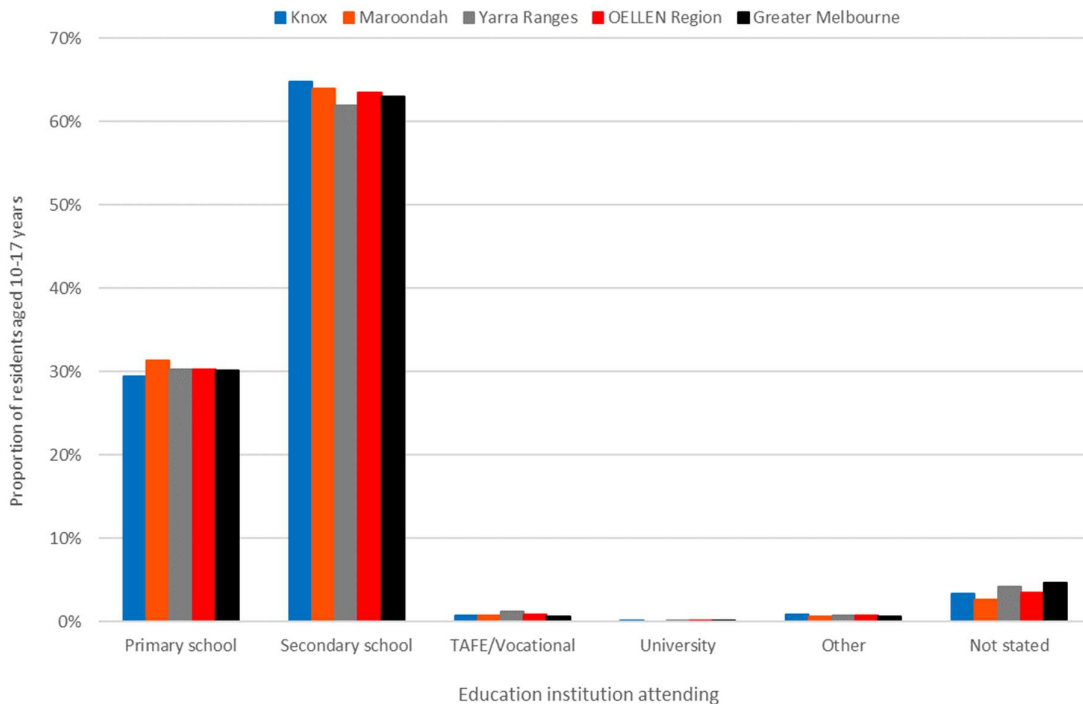
8.3 Education institution attending

The share of the OELLEN region’s population attending educational institutions reflects the age structure of the population, as the number of children attending school influences it; proximity to tertiary education, which can mean young adults leaving home to be nearer to educational facilities and; the degree to which people are seeking out educational

opportunities in adulthood, especially in their late teens and early twenties. Consequently, the statistics for the region’s 10-17 and 18-25-year-olds will naturally be different as the age of residents is strongly related to the institution, they attend at that particular life stage.

In 2021, most of the OELLEN region’s 10-17-year-olds attended secondary school (63.4%), a proportion slightly higher than in Greater Melbourne (62.9%) which is likely affected by age structure differences within this broad cohort. A smaller proportion (30.2%) attended primary school, representing the younger part of the cohort. This proportion was similar to Greater Melbourne (30.1%). In the OELLEN region, 0.9% of 10-17-year-olds (i.e., 15+ year olds) attended a TAFE/Vocational institution and 0.1% a university. In Greater Melbourne, a lower 0.6% attended a TAFE/Vocational institution.

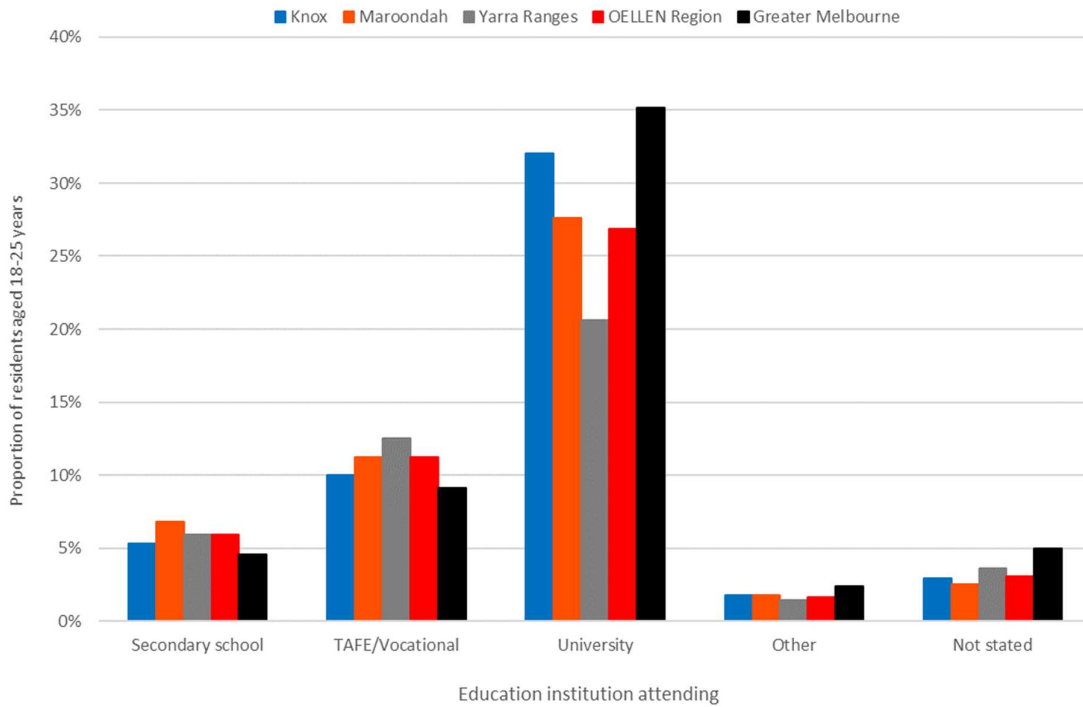
Within the OELLEN region, secondary school attendance was highest in Knox (64.7%), followed by Maroondah (63.9%) and Yarra Ranges (61.9%). Primary school attendance was similar in all three OELLEN region LGAs, with Maroondah having the highest proportion (31.3%), followed by Yarra Ranges (30.3%) and Knox (29.4%). Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion of 10-17-year-olds attending a TAFE or Vocational institution (1.2%), followed by Knox and Maroondah (0.7% each).



Education institution attendance characteristics of the OELLEN region’s 10-17-year-olds, 2021

Most of OELLEN region’s 18-25-year-olds attended a university. In 2021, 26.9% of the region’s 18-25-year-olds were in this category, a proportion lower than Greater Melbourne (35.2%). A further 11.2% attended a TAFE/Vocational institution, a proportion higher than for Greater Melbourne (9.1%) with small proportions (5.9%) still attending secondary school.

Within the region, Knox had the highest proportion of 18-25-year-olds attending university (32%), followed by Maroondah (27.6%) and lastly, Yarra Ranges (20.6%). TAFE/Vocational attendance was highest in Yarra Ranges (12.5%), then Maroondah (11.2%) and Knox (10%). Secondary school attendance was also low within the region, with Maroondah having the highest proportion of 18-25-year-olds in secondary school (6.8%), followed by Yarra Ranges (5.9%) and Knox (5.3%).



Education institution attendance characteristics of the OELLEN region’s 18-25-year-olds, 2021

9. Employment

Key findings for the OELLEN region

- The overall unemployment rate is lower in the OELLEN region than in Greater Melbourne.
- The youth unemployment rate for 15-17-year-olds and 18-25-year-olds is lower than in Greater Melbourne.
- Youth labour force participation is higher in the OELLEN region than in Greater Melbourne. Youth disengagement is lower in the OELLEN region, meaning a lower proportion of younger residents disengaged from education or employment.
- Most employed 15-17-year-olds in the OELLEN region work in the Accommodation and Food Services industry, whereas most 18-25-year-olds are employed in the Retail industry.
- A much more significant proportion of employed 15-17-year-olds than 18-25-year-olds work within the OELLEN region.

The OELLEN region's employment statistics are an important indicator of socio-economic status. The levels of full or part-time employment, unemployment and labour force participation indicate the strength of the local economy and social characteristics of the population. This section assesses employment, unemployment and labour force participation for the OELLEN region's population and the region's younger residents.

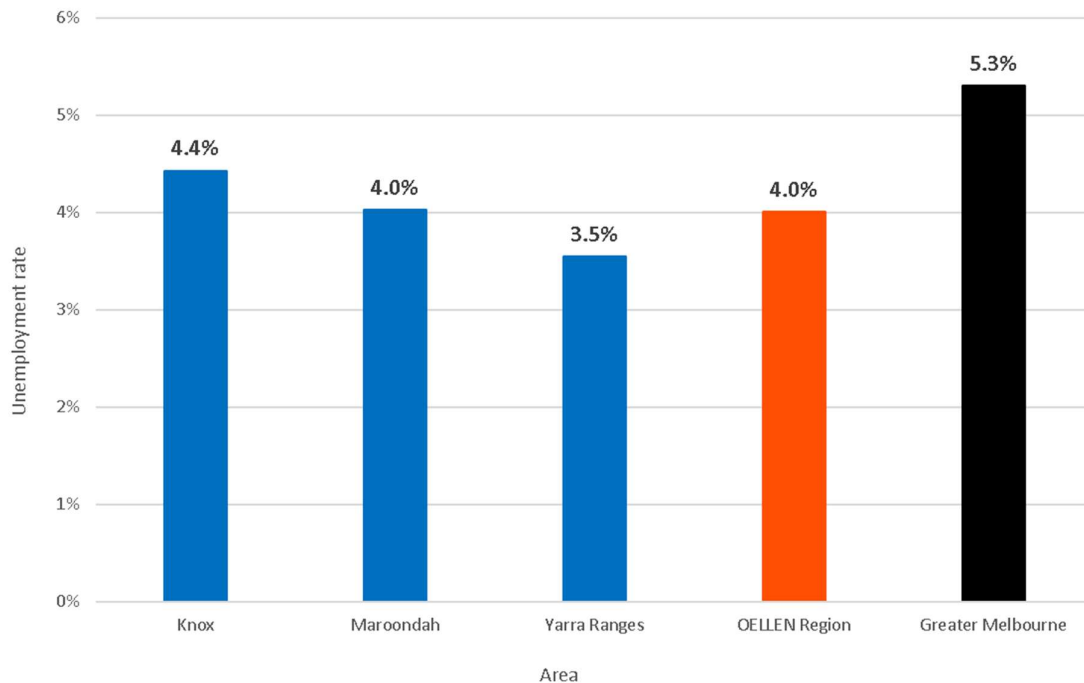
The two most important measures are:

Unemployment rate - the number of people looking for work, as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed over 15)

Labour force participation rate - the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population over 15.

9.1 Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate of OELLEN residents who are in the labour force is lower than that of Greater Melbourne. 4.0% compared to 5.3%. Within the region, the City of Knox had the highest unemployment rate in 2021, with 4.4% of the labour force unemployed. The City of Maroondah had the second highest rate of 4.0%, and Yarra Ranges had the lowest unemployment rate, with 3.5% of the labour force.

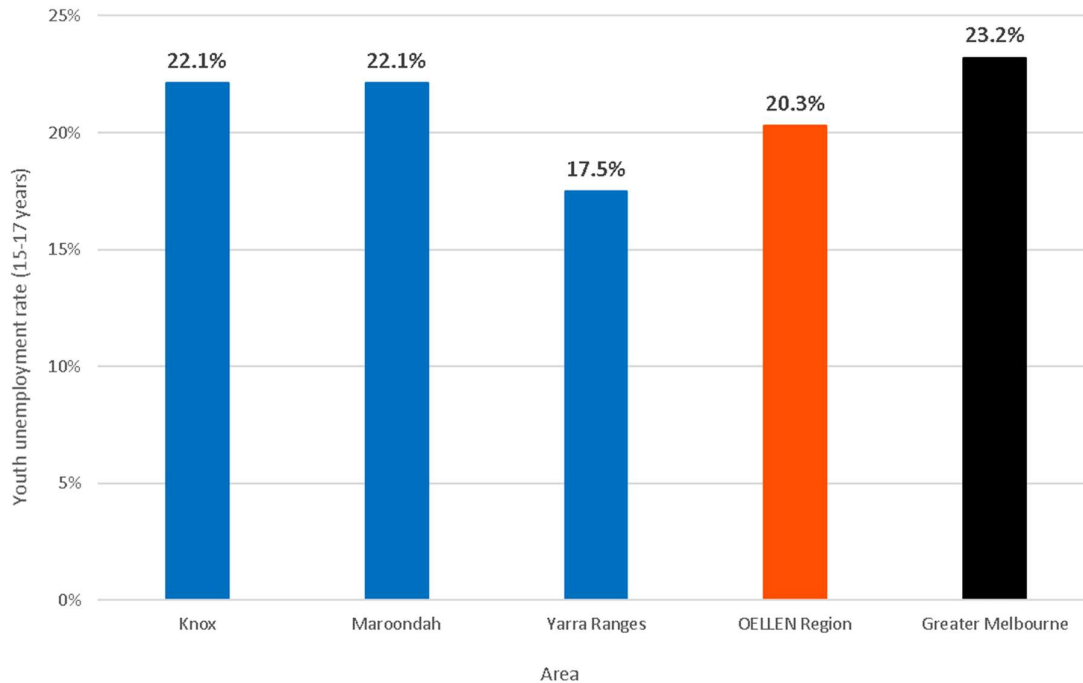


Unemployment rate across the OELLEN region, 2021

9.2 Youth unemployment rate

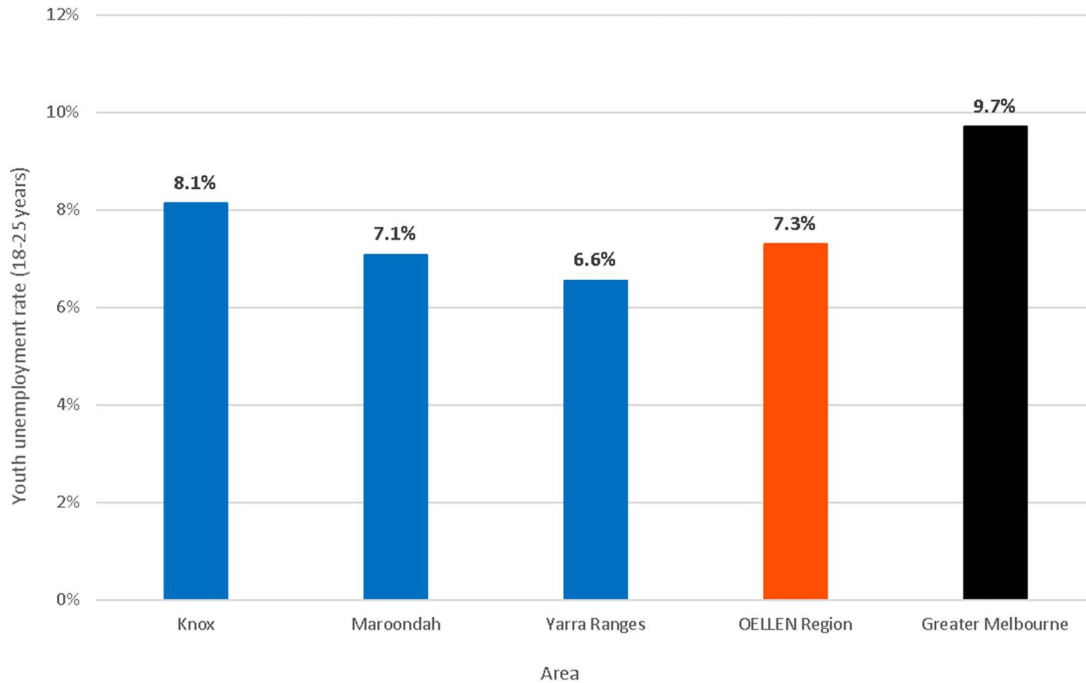
Youth unemployment applies the same principles and refers to the same data as the previous section but focuses only on residents aged 15-25 years (with statistics for 15-17 and 18-25-year-olds split out).

The youth unemployment rate in the OELLEN region in general is lower than that of Greater Melbourne. However, the unemployment rate is higher for 15-17-year-olds than 18-25-year-olds. In 2021, 20.3% of OELLEN region's 15-17-year-olds in the labour force were unemployed, a proportion lower than 23.2% in Greater Melbourne. Within the region, Knox and Maroondah had the highest unemployment rates for 15-17-year-olds, at 22.1% for both LGAs. Yarra Ranges had the lowest unemployment rate for 15-17-year-olds at 17.5%.



Youth unemployment rate (15-17-year-olds) across the OELLEN region, 2021

The unemployment rate for the OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds was also lower than that of Greater Melbourne (7.3% compared to 9.7%). Within the region, Knox had the highest unemployment rate for 18-25-year-olds (8.1%), followed by Maroondah (7.1%) and lastly 6.6% for Yarra Ranges' 18-25-year-olds.

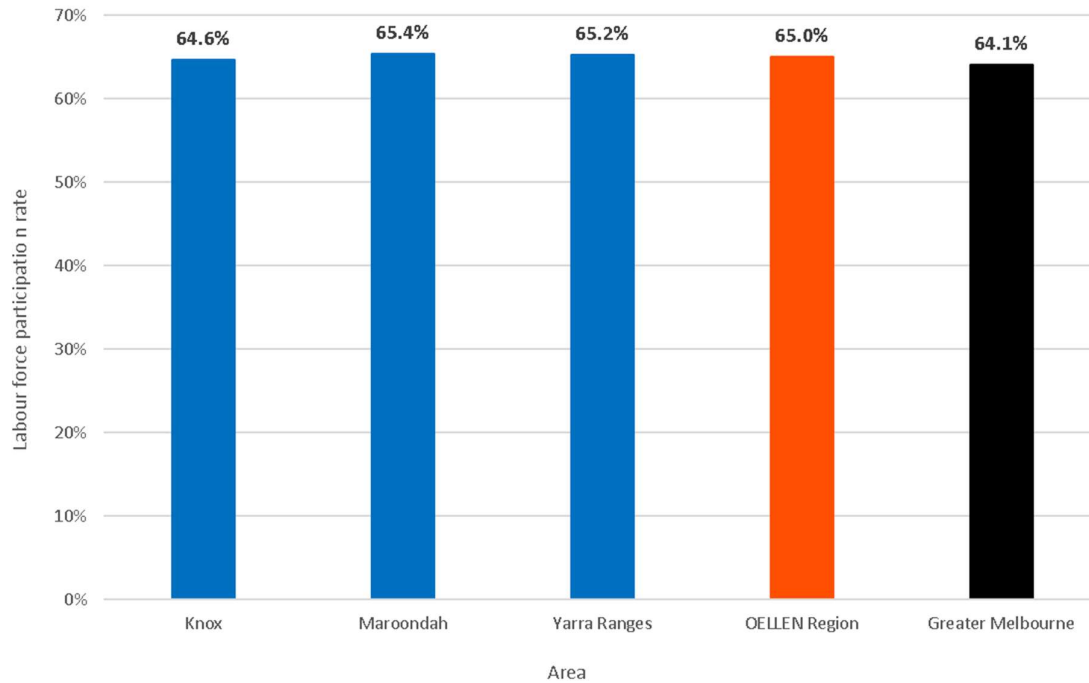


Youth unemployment rate (18-25-year-olds) across the OELLEN region, 2021

9.3 Labour force participation

The 'Labour force' refers to all persons aged 15 years and over who are either employed or unemployed but looking for work and available to start. Both full and part-time work counts towards the labour force. The 'Participation Rate' is defined as the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15+ years.

The OELLEN region's labour force participation rate is slightly higher than that of Greater Melbourne, 65% compared to 64.1% in the greater capital city. Within the region, Maroondah had the highest labour force participation rate (65.4%), closely followed by Yarra Ranges (65.2%) and Knox (64.6%).



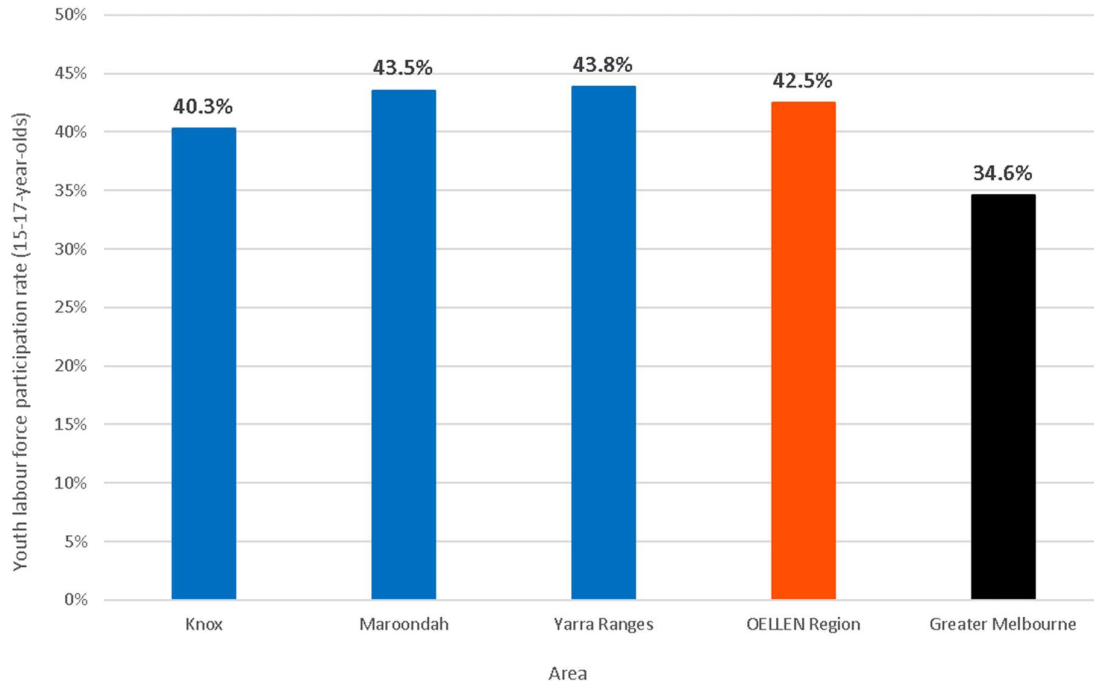
Labour force participation rate across the OELLEN region, 2021

9.4 Youth labour force participation

Youth labour force participation applies the same principles and refers to the same data as the previous section but focuses only on residents aged 15-25 (split up into 15-17 and 18-25 subgroups). Many 15-25-year-olds participate in education so that labour force participation would be understandably lower than the overall population average, however, the broad labour force participation also includes many older residents who are retired, therefore, the two labour force participation cohorts represent residents in different life stages.

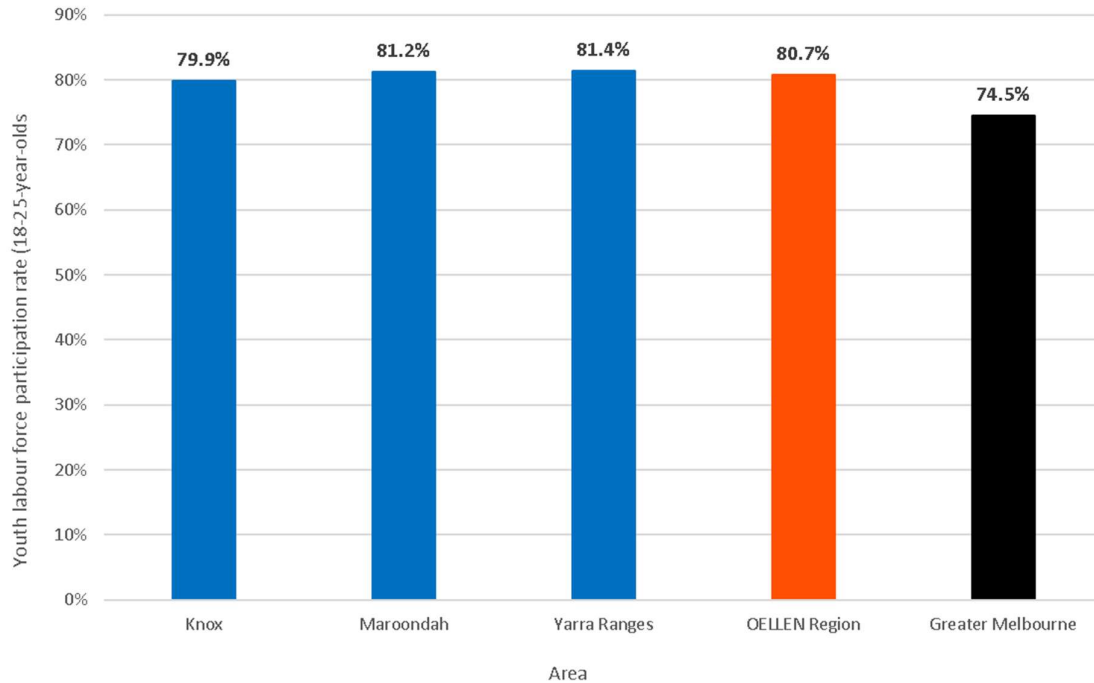
Disengagement (explored in the next section of the report) is a better way of understanding disengagement of younger residents who do not partake in education or employment.

The OELLEN region's overall youth labour force participation rate is higher than Greater Melbourne's. For 15-17-year-olds, the OELLEN region's labour force participation rate was 42.5%, higher than the 34.6% for Greater Melbourne's 15-17-year-olds. Within the region, Yarra Ranges had the highest labour force participation rate in this age group, with 43.8%, followed by Maroondah (43.5%) and Knox (40.3%).



Youth labour force participation rate (15-17-year-olds) across the OELLEN region, 2021

The labour force participation rate of 18-25-year-olds is much higher than that of 15-17-year-olds. In the OELLEN region, 80.7% of 18-25-year-olds participated in the labour force, a proportion higher than that of Greater Melbourne (74.5%) where, as illustrated earlier, the proportion of 18-25-year-olds attending tertiary education is higher and would therefore have an inverse relationship with labour force participation. Within the OELLEN region, Yarra Ranges had the highest labour force participation rate for 18-25-year-olds, where 81.4% were in the labour force as either employed or unemployed but looking for work. Maroondah's participation rate for this age group was very similar (81.2%), with Knox being lowest at 79.9%.



Youth labour force participation rate (18-25-year-olds) across the OELLEN region, 2021

9.5 Employment status of parents

Employment status of parents records the labour force status of parents/partners in couple and lone-parent families.

Within the OELLEN region, 16.2% of couple families had both parents employed full-time. This was almost identical to Greater Melbourne. Within the region, Knox had the highest proportion of families where both parents were employed (17.2%), whereas Yarra Ranges, had the lowest (15.2%).

The OELLEN region had a lower proportion of parents where one parent was employed full-time and the other, unemployed, than Greater Melbourne, with 1.2% of the region's families in this category, compared to 1.5% in Greater Melbourne. However, the variation within the region's LGAs was minimal.

A very low proportion of families had both parents unemployed (0.1%), which in absolute terms was 432 families. Greater Melbourne's proportion was low (0.2%) but higher than the OELLEN region.

3.5% of families in the OELLEN region were one-parent families where the lone parent was employed full-time. However, when assessed as a proportion of one-parent families, 32.7% of one-parent families in the OELLEN region had a parent who worked full-time. Greater Melbourne, by comparison, had a lower proportion of full-time employed lone parents in one-parent families (3% of all families or 29.5% of all lone-person families).

2.8% of families in the OELLEN region were one-parent families, where the lone parent worked part-time. This represents 28.7% of all one-parent families. Greater Melbourne, by comparison, had a lower proportion of part-time employed lone parents in one-parent families (2.3% of all families or 22.4% of all lone-person families).

Lastly, only 0.3% of one-parent families had an unemployed lone parent. This represents 2.7% of all one-parent families. Greater Melbourne, by comparison, had a lower proportion of unemployed lone parents in one-parent families (0.4% of all families or 4.0% of all lone-person families).

Family/employment composition	Knox	Maroondah	Yarra Ranges	OELLEN Region	Greater Melbourne
Couple family: <i>Both employed, worked full-time</i>	17.2%	16.3%	15.2%	16.2%	16.1%
Couple family: <i>One employed full-time, other unemployed</i>	1.3%	1.2%	1.0%	1.2%	1.5%
Couple family: <i>Both unemployed</i>	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
One parent family: <i>Employed, worked full-time</i>	3.6%	3.7%	3.3%	3.5%	3.0%
One parent family: <i>Employed, worked part-time</i>	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%	2.8%	2.3%

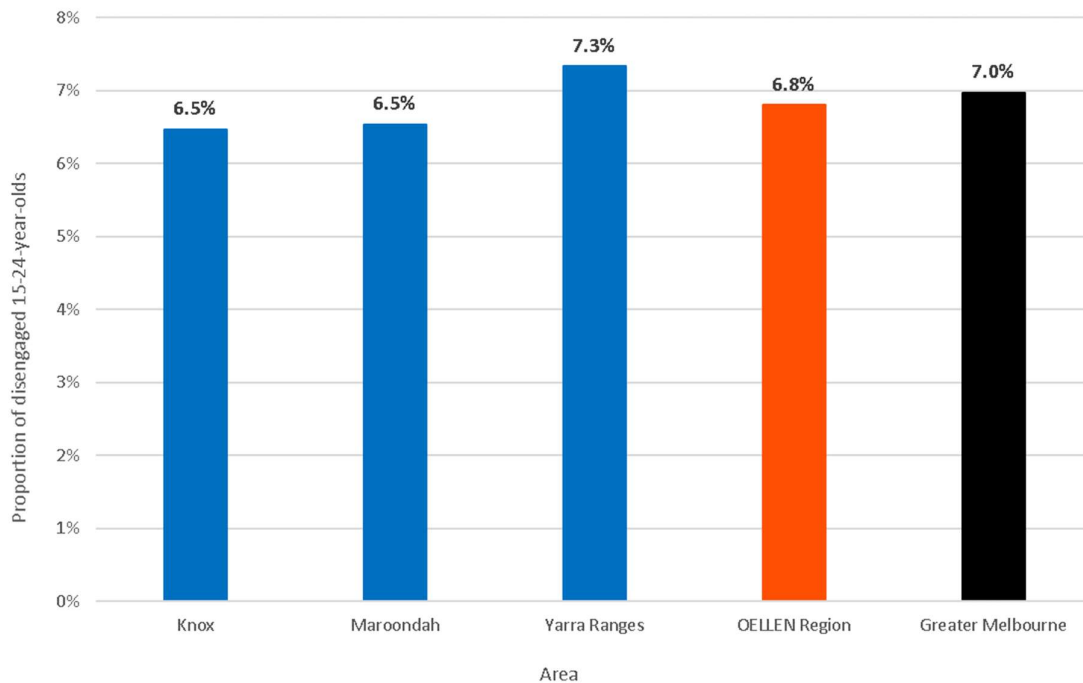
One parent family: Unemployed	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
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Employment status of parents in the OELLEN region for selected family types, 2021

9.6 Youth disengagement

Youth disengagement relates to residents aged 15-24 years who do not participate in education (full-time or part-time) or employment (full-time or part-time). People in this age group are generally expected to be starting in life, either in employment or looking for work, full-time study, or a combination of both. Those 15-24 year-olds who are not in either of these categories are a particularly vulnerable group who may have failed to engage with the employment or education system. Large numbers of people in this category can indicate a lack of access to employment or education facilities or a population in need of targeted services to assist them in gaining a foothold in society.

Youth disengagement is slightly lower in the OELLEN region than in Greater Melbourne, with 6.8% of the region's 15-24-year-olds not participating in education or employment, compared to 7% in Greater Melbourne. Within the OELLEN region, Yarra Ranges had the highest level of youth disengagement with 7.3%, followed by Maroondah and Knox at 6.5% each.



Youth disengagement from education and employment, OELLEN region, 2021

9.7 Industries of employment

Industries of employment characteristics for 15-25-year-olds reveal the different industries in which a region's young people are employed.

For the 15-17-year-old cohort, the industries of employment breakdown showed 46.6% of employed residents of this age working in the "Accommodation and Food Services" in the OELLEN region. In total, 2,421 people aged 15-17 years in the OELLEN region worked in this industry. In Greater Melbourne, a larger 49.3% of employed 15-17-year-olds worked in the "Accommodation and Food Services" industry.

The second most common industry of employment for OELLEN region's 15-17-year-olds was "Retail Trade" where 25.6% (1,328 people) were employed. By comparison, a slightly lower 25.1% of Greater Melbourne's 15-17-year-olds worked in this industry.

The third largest industry of employment for OELLEN region's 15-17-year-olds was Construction (6.4%, 335 people), and was notably higher than the proportion of this age group employed in the industry in Greater Melbourne (3.8%).

Other notable differences between the region and Greater Melbourne were more OELLEN region 15-17-year-olds working in manufacturing and fewer working in education and training.

Industry of employment	15-17-year-olds	
	OELLEN region	Greater Melbourne
Accommodation and Food Services	46.6%	49.3%
Retail Trade	25.6%	25.1%
Construction	6.4%	3.8%
Arts and Recreation Services	4.7%	5.1%
Manufacturing	4.5%	4.1%
Education and Training	2.3%	3.1%
Other Services	2.0%	1.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	1.1%	1.3%
Wholesale Trade	0.8%	0.6%
Administrative and Support Services	0.8%	0.6%

Industries of employment for the OELLEN region's 15-17-year-olds

For 18-25-year-olds, "Retail Trade" was the largest employing industry, with 19.6% (5,816 employed people) working in this industry. "Retail Trade" was also the highest employing industry for Greater Melbourne's 18-25-year-olds, but at a smaller proportion (18.7%). Over 15% of OELLEN region's employed 18-25-year-olds worked in the "Construction" industry (4,510 people), a proportion significantly higher than in Greater Melbourne where only 10.4% of employed people in this age cohort worked in "Construction".

A lower proportion of OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds worked in the "Accommodation and Food Services" industry (12.7%, 3,765 people) than in Greater Melbourne (14.7%). Other notable differences between the OELLEN region's and Greater Melbourne's employed 18-25-year-olds were more employed OELLEN 15-17-year-olds employed in manufacturing and other services and fewer employed in education and training or professional, scientific and technical services.

Industry of employment	18-25-year-olds	
	OELLEN region	Greater Melbourne
Retail Trade	19.6%	18.7%
Construction	15.2%	10.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	12.7%	14.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	10.7%	10.6%
Education and Training	6.1%	6.5%
Manufacturing	5.5%	4.4%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	4.9%	6.3%
Other Services	4.3%	3.3%
Public Administration and Safety	2.6%	3.0%
Administrative and Support Services	2.6%	3.0%

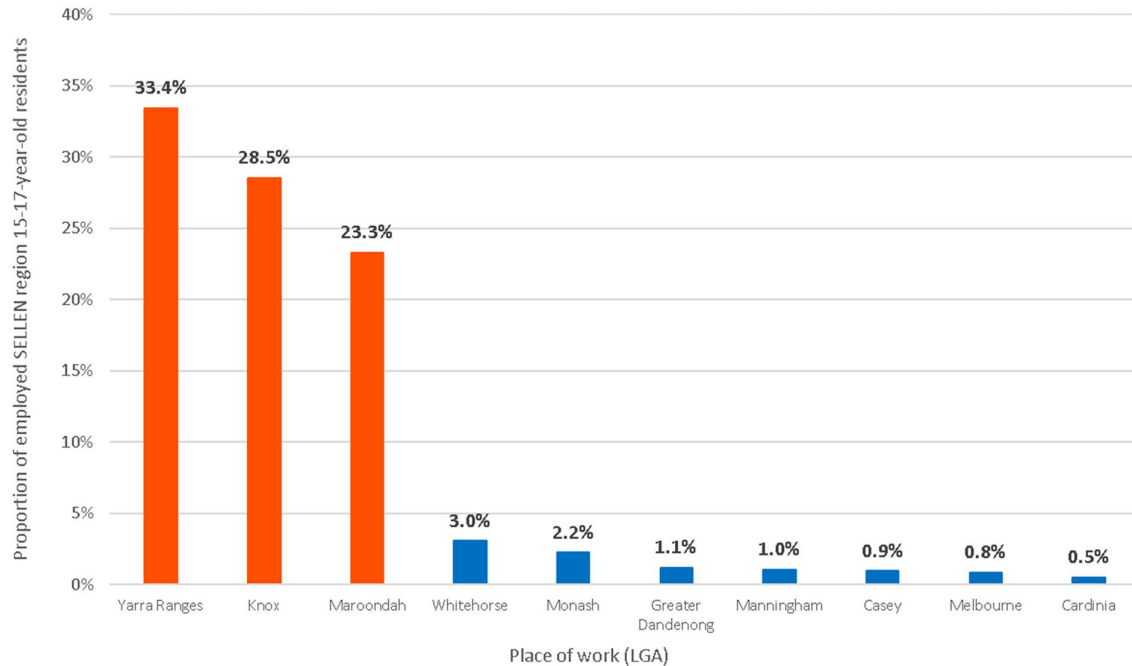
Industries of employment for the OELLEN region's 18-25-year-olds

9.8 Journey to work

"Journey to Work" data shows how many residents work locally, how many commute out of the area and where they commute to. In this section, information about journey to work

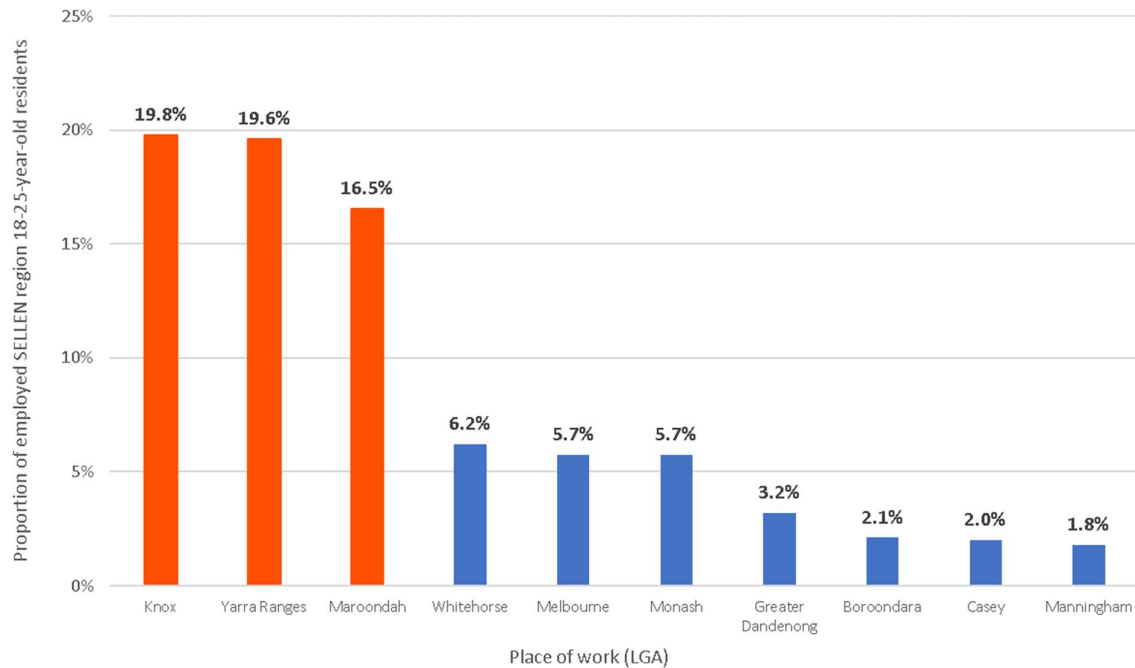
characteristics of resident 15-25-year-olds shows how many work within the OELLEN region, and if they work outside of the region, which LGA do they travel to for work?

In 2021, 85.2% of employed 15-17-year-olds in the OELLEN region also worked within the region (33% in Yarra Ranges, 29% in Knox and 23% in Maroondah). For those employed 15-17-year-olds who live in the OELLEN region but work outside the region, 3% (157 people) worked in Whitehorse, 2.2% (115 people) worked in Monash, 1.1% (59 people) worked in Greater Dandenong, 1% (54 people) in Manningham and 0.9% (48 people) in Casey.



Journey to work destinations for OELLEN region's employed 15-17-year-olds

The OELLEN region's 18-25-year-old workers are more mobile, while 55.9% work within the region (19.8% in Knox, 19.6% in Yarra Ranges and 16.5% in Maroondah), a larger proportion work in nearby LGAs, within Greater Melbourne. Over 6% (1,842 people) worked in Whitehorse, 5.7% in Melbourne (1,701 people), another 5.7% in Monash (1,699 people), 3.2% (942 people) in Greater Dandenong and 2.1% (624 people) in Boroondara.



Journey to work destinations for OELLEN region's employed 18-24-year-olds

10. High school and University students over time

Key findings for the OELLEN region

- In 2020, a lower proportion of Year 12 completers in the OELLEN region continued education or training compared to Greater Melbourne.
- The most common further education option was a Bachelor degree with lower uptake in the OELLEN region compared to Greater Melbourne.
- Certificate/diploma and apprenticeship/traineeship continuation were lower in the OELLEN region than Greater Melbourne.
- The OELLEN region and Greater Melbourne had similar proportions of non-continuing students employed or looking for work.

- The OELLEN region had lower Bachelor degree continuation and higher but declining certificate/diploma continuation since 2017.
- In 2021, OELLEN Year 12 completers had higher certificate/diploma study, employment, and similar unemployment compared to Victoria.

Understanding what OELLEN residents who were in high school or university as at the last Census are doing now can show what kind of higher education and employment characteristics young residents in the region have. This information provides insights into the:

- Level of higher schooling for OELLEN region's young residents who attended high school as at the last Census and
- The employment characteristics for OELLEN region's young residents who were attending a university as at the last Census.

Two datasets are utilised to describe these trends – the Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset (ACLD) and the Victorian Government's "On Track survey" which monitors the destination outcomes of Year 12 completers and Early Leavers six months after leaving school to find out if they are "on track to a bright future." (<https://www.vic.gov.au/on-track-survey>).

10.1 On Track Survey

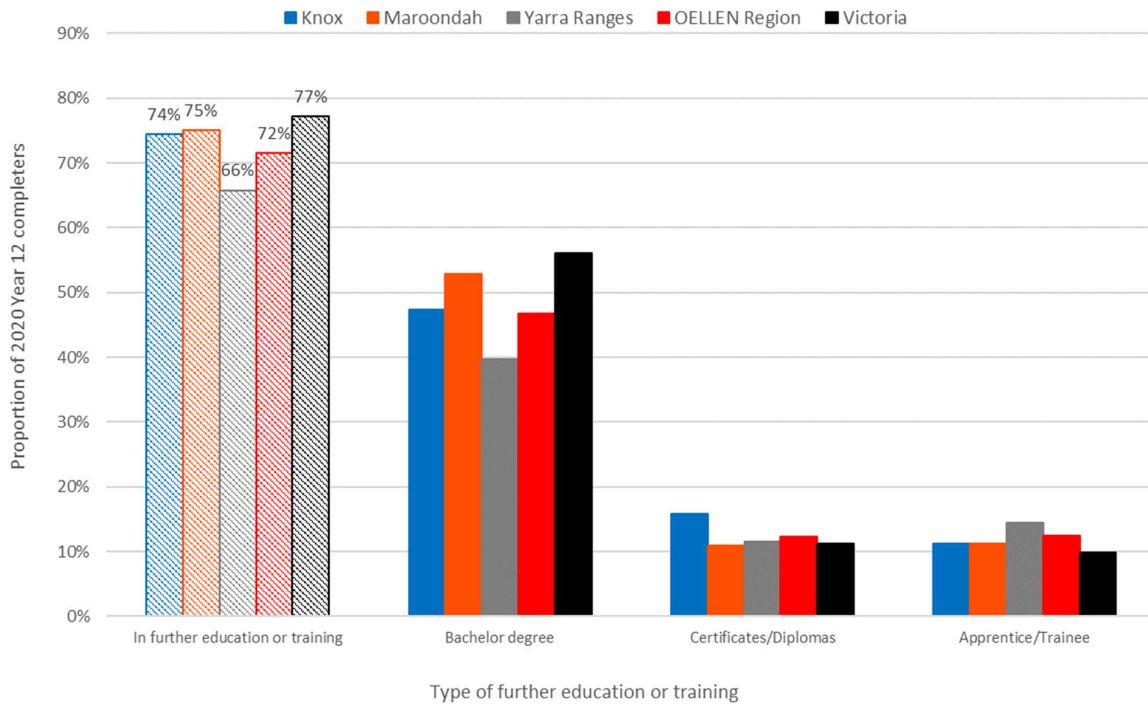
The On Track survey helps provide a comprehensive picture of what happens to young people after they leave school. This assists the Victorian Government to improve school, career, local job and training services.

The 2021 survey for the OELLEN region and LGAs within the region shows that most school leavers who completed Year 12 in 2020 continued further education or training. Still, this proportion was lower in the OELLEN region than in Greater Melbourne. In 2021, 72% of surveyed Year 12 completers in the OELLEN region continued further education or training. By comparison, 77% of Greater Melbourne's Year 12 completers continued further education

or training. Within the region, Maroondah had the highest rate of education or training continuation post-Year 12 (75%), followed by Knox (74%) and Yarra Ranges, where a notably lower 66% of Year 12 completers continued further education or training.

An additional breakdown of further education and training data shows that in all OELLEN region LGAs, the region as a whole and Greater Melbourne – enrolling in a Bachelor degree was the most common type of further education or training. In 2021, 47% of Year 12 completers in the OELLEN region continued further study with a Bachelor degree. In Greater Melbourne, this proportion was a higher 56%. Lower proportions of OELLEN region’s Year 12 completers continued further education via certificates or diplomas (12% in OELLEN region and 11% in Greater Melbourne) and lastly, 12% of OELLEN region’s Year 12 completers continued further post-Year-12 training via an apprenticeship or traineeship (12% in the region, compared to 10% in Greater Melbourne).

Within the region, Maroondah had the highest proportion of people who continued further study with a Bachelor degree (53% of all Year 12 completers), Knox had the highest proportion of people who continued further study with a Certificate or Diploma (16%) and Yarra Ranges, the highest proportion of people who took on further training via apprenticeships or traineeships (15%).

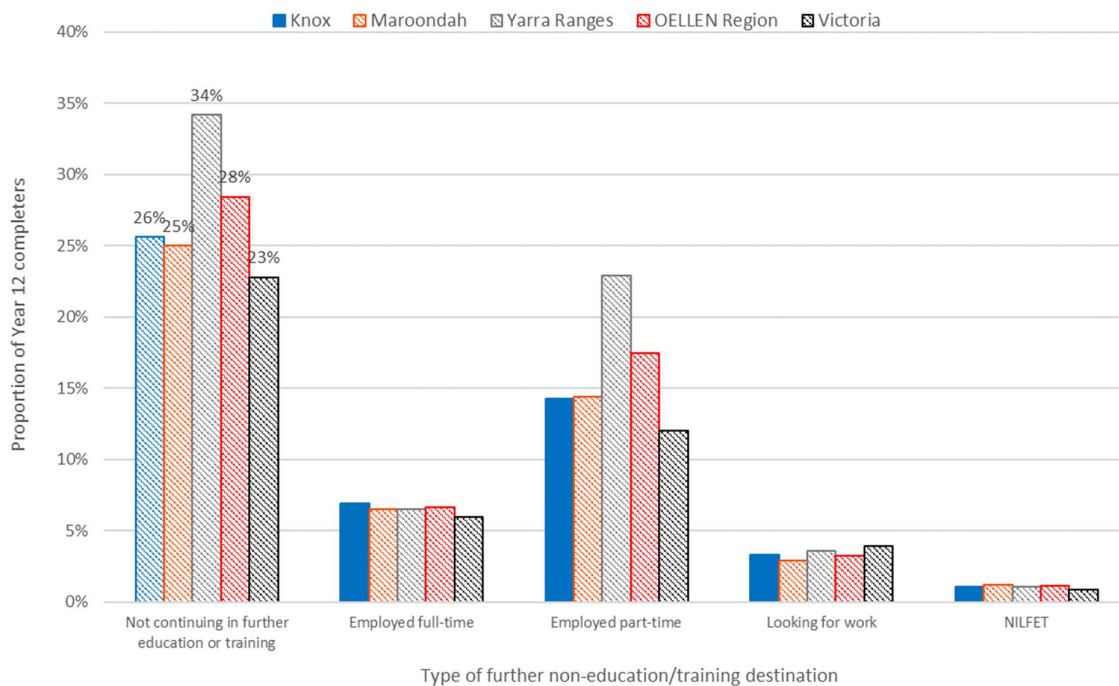


On Track survey results for further education/training of OELLEN region’s Year 12 completers

A larger proportion of Year 12 completers in the OELLEN region did not continue in further education or training (28%) compared to Greater Melbourne (23%). Within the region, Yarra Ranges had the highest proportion of Year 12 completers who did not continue in further education or training (34%), followed by Knox (26%) and Maroondah (25%).

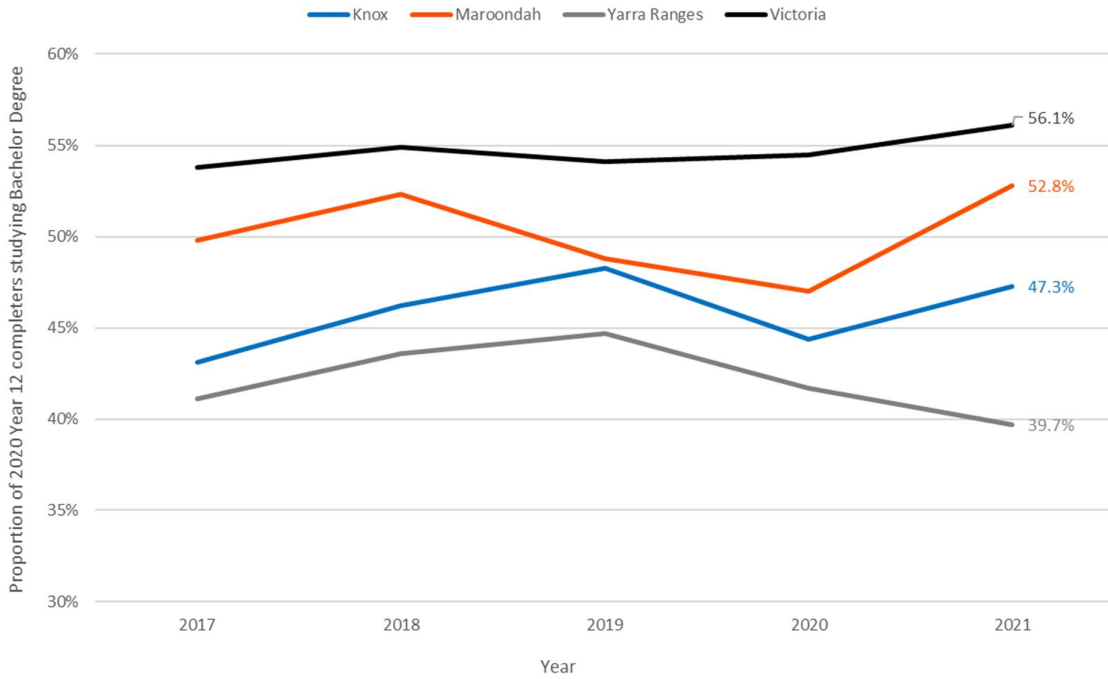
Similar proportions of people who did not continue education/training were employed full-time (approximately 7% across the OELLEN region and 6% in Greater Melbourne). However, part-time employment was higher in the OELLEN region (17%) than Greater Melbourne (12%), with Yarra Ranges having the highest proportion of part-time employed Year 12 completers (23%).

Relatively low and similar proportions of Year 12 completers from 2020 were looking for work in 2021 (3-4% within the region and 4% in Greater Melbourne). Lastly, the proportion of Year 12 completers from 2020 who are classed as NILFET (Not in the labour force, employment or training) was low in the OELLEN region (1%) and in Greater Melbourne (also 1%).



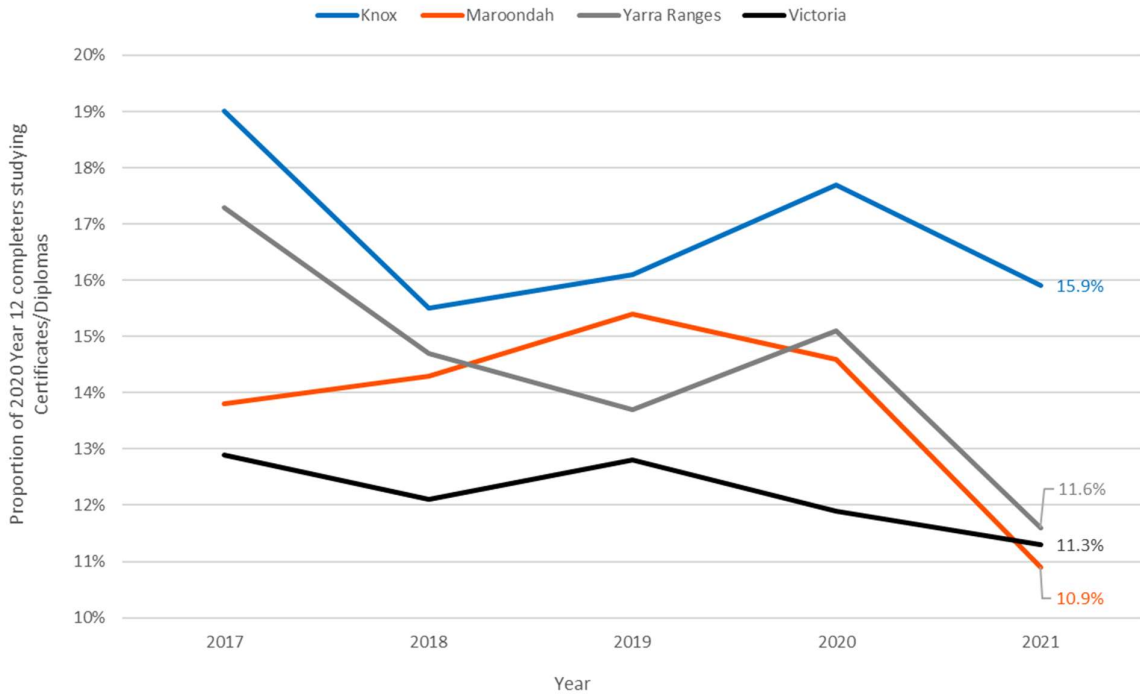
On Track survey results for further non-education/training destinations of OELLEN region’s Year 12 completers

The proportion of Year 12 completers who continue study via a Bachelor Degree in the region is lower than the Victorian average since at least 2017 according to the On Track survey. Proportions in Maroondah and Knox have increased since 2019, whereas Yarra Ranges' has declined in the proportion of Year 12 completers who choose to study with a Bachelor Degree.



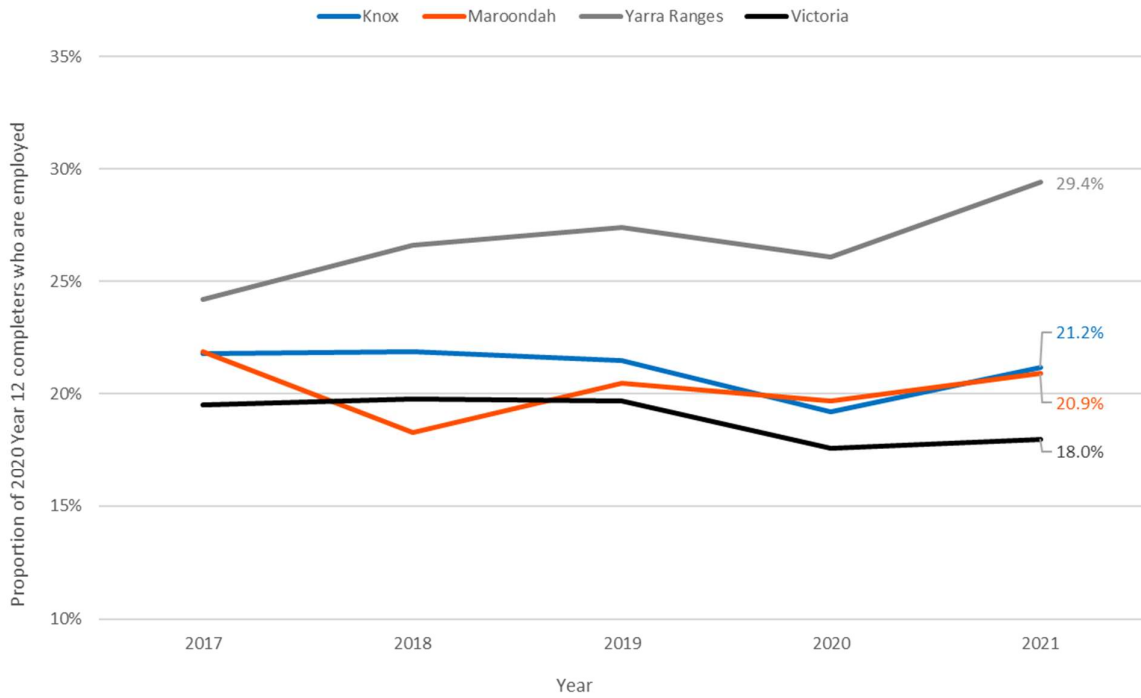
Year 12 completers studying Bachelor Degree, OELLEN region 2017-2021

The proportion of Year 12 completers who continue study via a Certificate or Diploma in the OELLEN region has been higher than the Victorian average since at least 2017 according to the On Track survey. Proportions in all three LGAs within the region are higher but have declined since 2019 and by 2021, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges had similar levels of Year 12 completers studying Certificates or Diplomas as Victoria, with Knox having a higher uptake.



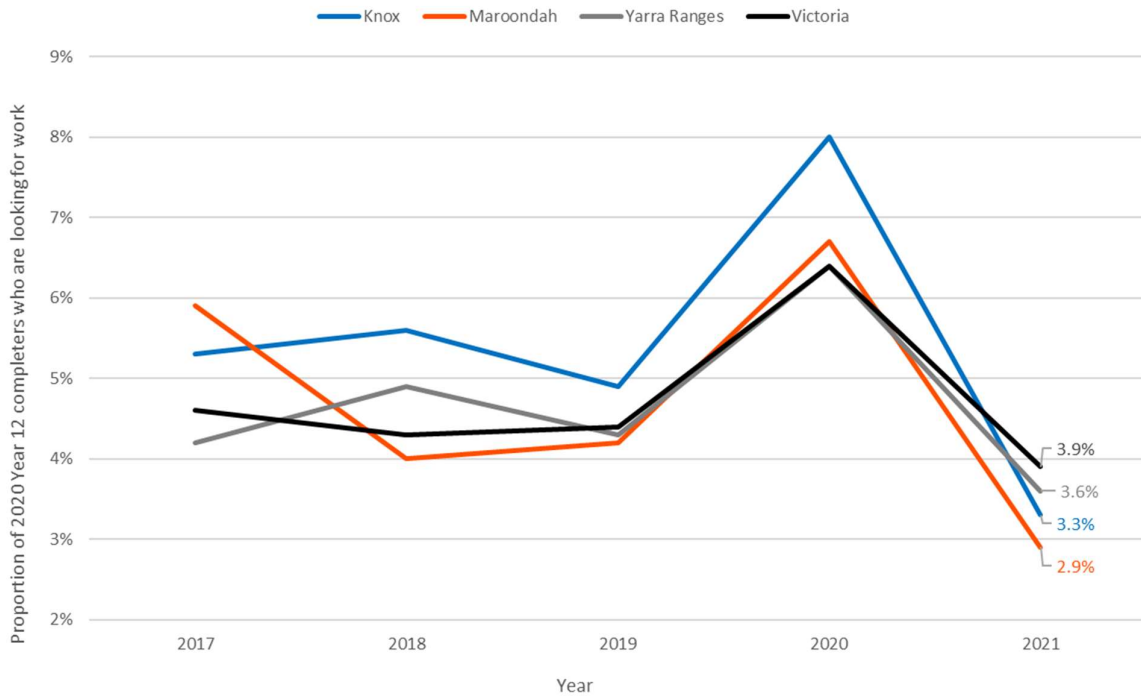
Year 12 completers studying Certificates/Diplomas, OELLEN region 2017-2021

The proportion of OELLEN region Year 12 completers who are employed has increased over time in Yarra Ranges (+5.2% since 2017) and decreased in Knox (-0.6% since 2017) and Maroondah (-1.0% since 2017). In Victoria, the proportion of Year 12 completers employed was lower than any OELLEN region LGA and decreased since 2017 (by 1.5%).



Year 12 completers who are employed, OELLEN region 2017-2021

In terms of unemployed OELLEN region residents who have completed Year 12 and are looking for work, these statistics have varied over time and were significantly impacted in 2020 as the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted Australia’s economy, employment trends and increased joblessness. However, the proportion of Year 12 completers from Knox looking for work has been consistently above Victoria’s average since at least 2017, with Maroondah and Yarra Ranges’ statistics similar to that of Victoria. In 2021, Knox (3.3%) and Maroondah (2.9%) had lower levels of Year 12 completers looking for work than Yarra Ranges (3.6%) or Victoria overall (3.9%).



Year 12 completers who are unemployed but looking for work, OELLEN region 2017-2021

In summary, Year 12 completers from the OELLEN region had lower levels of Bachelor Degree study than Victoria, higher levels of Certificates/Diplomas study, higher levels of employment and similar levels of unemployment as Victoria’s Year 12 completers as of 2021.