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PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FACT SHEET January 2010

(Accurate December 2009; previous update August 2009 Fact Sheet 15C)

The data below includes results from 79 council elections in November 2008 and subsequent changes to December 2009. All 79 councils will go to election again in November 2012.

There are 79 local governments and a total of 631 councillors in Victoria. In September 2009, 11 Brimbank councillors were replaced by Victorian Government appointed administrators. This arrangement is in place until 2012.

183 (29.5%) of the current 620 Councillors are female.

Data history: 24/8/2000: 157 councillors, 26.6%; 30/4/01: 160 councillors, 26.9%, 2/10/01:165 councillors, 27.6%, 14/08/02: 166 councillors, 27.7%; 10/10/2003:177 councillors, 28.5%, 2/4/2004: 178 councillors, 29% - note total numbers of councillors altered occasionally during these years; 8/3/2005: 181 councillors of 620, 29%; 9/1/2006: 191 of 63, 30%; 30/6/2008: 197 of 635, (31%); 30/08/09: 188 of 631, (29.8%).

Local governments with more than 40% of women councillors - 16% (13 actual)

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Baw Baw 44% (4/9) | • Latrobe 44% (4/9) | • Port Phillip 57% (4/7) |
| • Benalla 43% (3/7) | • Monash 45% (5/11) | • Wyndham 44% (4/9) |
| • Casey 45% (5 /11) | • Moonee Valley (4/9) 44% | • Yarra 44% (4/9) |
| • East Gippsland 44% (4/9) | • South Gippsland 44% (4/9) | • Yarriamback 43% (3/7) |
| • Greater Dandenong (5/11) 45% | | |

Data history: 2000: 12% or 9 actual; 2004: 22% or 18 actual; 2008: 28% or 22 actual; August 2009: 18% or 14 actual.

Metro/Interface/Rural/Regional comparisons

Women Councillors	0 women councillors	1 woman councillor	2+women councillors	40%+ women councillors
Metropolitan/Interface	2 (incl Brimbank)	3	18	7
Rural	4	9	19	5
Regional	0	2	9	1
Total local governments (79)	6	14	46	13

There are 16 local governments with female mayors (20%):

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ararat • Ballarat • Casey • Colac-Otway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frankston • Golden Plains • Hepburn • Latrobe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surf Coast • Moonee Valley • Monash • Moreland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whittlesea • Wyndham • Yarra • Yarriamback
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Data history: 24/8/2000: 15 mayors, 19%; 2/10/01: 18 mayors, 23%, 14/08/2002: 22 mayors, 28%, 10/10/2003: 29 mayors, 37%; 2/4/04: 24 mayors, 30%; 15/12/05: 24, 30%; 9/1/06: 29 mayors 37%, 21/06/07: 20 mayors, 25%; 30/06/08: 19 mayors, 24%, 30/01/09: 20 Mayors 25%.

There are no female councillors in 6 local governments (8%) incl. Brimbank:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardinia • Gannawarra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindmarsh • Moorabool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pyrenees • Brimbank (since Sept 09)
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Data history: 2/10/2001: 5 councils 6%, 14/08/2002: 4 councils 5%; 2/4/2004: 5 councils, 6%; 8/3/05: 7 councils 9%; 9/1/2006: 5 councils 6%; January 2008: 4 councils 5%; June 2008: after by-elections, 2 councils 3%.

There is only one female councillor in 14 local governments (18%) :

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boroondara • Colac-Otway • Darebin • Glenelg • Greater Bendigo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepburn • Knox • Loddon • Mansfield • Moyne 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queenscliffe • Southern Grampians • Swan Hill • West Wimmera
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Data history: 24/8/2000: 24 councils, 30.7%, 2/10/01: 21 councils, 27%, 14/08/2002: 23 councils 29%, 10/10/2003: 19 councils 24%; 2/4/2004: 17 councils 21.5%; 9/1/2006: 10 councils 13%; 21/6/07: 11 councils 14%; January 2008: 10 councils 13%; June 2008 after by-elections: 9 councils 11%.

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Publications available from the Women's Participation in Local Government Coalition:

- *A Gender Agenda* – kit for women who want to stand for local government and those who want to assist others to stand (3rd edition)
- *Now You're a Councillor* – kit for newly elected women councillors (3rd edition)
- *Victorian Local Government Women's Charter*

WPILGC webpage: <http://women.vlga.org.au>

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Local Government Professionals (LGPro), Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), Victorian Immigrant and Refugee Women's Association (VIRWC), Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA), Victorian Women's Trust (VWT), Women's Electoral Lobby Victoria (WEL), Women's Planning Network (WPN), YWCA Victoria