



PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FACT SHEET December 2018

243 (38%) of the 637 Councillors who were originally elected in October 2016 are female. 11 councillors were elected in the City of Greater Geelong in October 2017, including 3 women.

There are 79 local governments and a total of 648 councillor positions in Victoria. At the time of writing, Central Goldfields Shire Council is currently in administration, so their 7 councillors are excluded from this audit.

Additionally, the Victorian State Election in November 2018 saw several councillors elected to state parliament, with countbacks/by-elections scheduled to take place in January 2019. These four vacant positions have also been excluded from this audit.

This gives us a total of 637, with 237 women councillors – a total of 37.2%.

Data history: 24/8/2000: 157 councillors, 26.6%; 30/4/01: 160 councillors, 26.9%, 2/10/01: 165 councillors, 27.6%, 16/06/02: 164 crs of 601 27.3%; : 14/08/02: 166 councillors, 27.7%; 10/10/2003: 177 councillors of 621, 28.5%, 2/4/2004: 178 councillors, 29%; 8/3/2005: 181 councillors of 620, 29%; 9/1/2006: 191 of 635, 30%; 30/6/2008: 197 of 635, (31%); 30/08/09: 188 of 631, (29.8%); 15/12/2010: 183 councillors (29.5%), 31/10/2012: 215 councillors (34%)

Note: Red highlights immediate post-election results. Councillors numbers alter occasionally between elections.

Local governments with more than 40% of women councillors – 44% (35 actual)

- Ararat 42% (3/7)
- Boroondara 50% (5/10)
- Brimbank 64% (7/11)
- Campaspe 44% (4/9)
- Corangamite 71% (5/7)
- Darebin 66%(6/9)
- Gannawarra 42% (3/7)
- Glen Eira 44% (4/9)
- Glenelg 42% (3/7)
- Greater Bendigo 55% (5/9)
- Greater Shepparton 44% (4/9)
- Hobsons Bay 57% (4/7)
- Hume 45%(5/11)
- Indigo 57% (4/7)
- Kingston 44% (4/9)
- Loddon 40% (2/5)
- Macedon Ranges 55% (5/9)
- Manningham 55% (5/9)
- Maribyrnong 71% (5/7)
- Maroondah 44% (4/9)
- Melbourne 45% (5/11)
- Melton 55% (5/9)
- Moonee Valley 55% (5/9)
- Moreland 45% (5/11)
- Mornington Peninsula 45% (5/11)
- Murrindindi 71% (5/7)
- South Gippsland 44% (5/9)
- Southern Grampians 43% (3/7)
- Stonnington 55% (5/9)
- Strathbogie 43% (3/7)
- Surf Coast 55% (5/9)
- Whitehorse 50% (5/10)
- Wodonga 43% (3/7)
- Yarra City 55% (5/9)
- Yarriambiack 57% (4/7)

Data history: 2000: 12% (9); 2004: 22%(18); 2008: 28% (22); 2009: 18% (14); 2010 16% (13); May 2012 18% (14); Dec 2015 35% (28)

All councils in Victoria now have female councillors

Data history – Councils with no women elected: **Oct2001:**5 councils 6%, **Aug2002:**4 councils 5%; **Apr2004:**5 councils, 6%; **Mar05:**7 councils 9%; **Jan2006:**5 councils 6%; **Jan2008:**4 councils 5%; **Jun2008:**after by-elections, 2 councils 3%; **Dec2010:**5 local governments (6%) **Dec 2012,** all councils have female councillors

Metro/Interface/Rural/Regional comparisons

<i>Women Councillors</i>	<i>0 women councillors</i>	<i>1 woman councillor</i>	<i>2+women councillors</i>	<i>40%+ women councillors</i>
Metropolitan/Interface	0	3	27	18



Acting on the Victorian Local Government Women's Charter

Rural	0	9	29	13
Regional	0	1	11	5
Total councils (78)	0	13	67	36
Excl Central Goldfields which has administrators				

Local governments with female mayors elected in 2018/2019 : 40% (32 women mayors)

- Baw Baw
- Booroondara
- Brimbank
- Buloke
- Ballarat
- Casey
- Darebin
- East Gippsland
- Gannawarra
- Glenelg
- Greater Bendigo
- Greater Dandenong
- Greater Shepparton
- Hume
- Kingston
- Loddon
- Macedon Ranges
- Manningham
- Melbourne
- Moreland
- Moonee Valley
- Mount Alexander
- Murrindindi
- Nillumbik
- Southern Grampians
- Strathbogie
- Surf Coast
- Swan Hill
- West Wimmera
- Wodonga
- Wyndham
- Yarra City

Data history: Aug2000:(15)19%; Oct2001: (18) 23%, Aug2002: (22) 28%, Oct2003⊕29) 37%; Apr2004: (24) 30%; Dec2005: (24) 30%; Jan2006: (29) 37%, Jan2007: (20) 25%; Jun2008: (19) 24%, Jan2009: (20) 25%, Dec2009: (16) 20% Dec2010: (18) 23%; Dec2011 23% (18); Dec 2012 38% (30); December 2013 25% (20); Dec 2014 38% (30); Dec 2015 34% (27)

There is only one female councillor in 13 local governments (17%) :

- Banyule
- Bayside
- Colac-Otway
- Hindmarsh
- Mansfield
- Moorabool
- Moyne
- Pyrenees
- Queenscliffe
- Towong
- Wangaratta
- West Wimmera
- Yarra Ranges

Data history: Aug2000: 24 councils, 30.7%, Oct2001:21 councils, 27%, Aug2002: 23 councils 29%, Oct2003: 19 councils 24%; Apr2004: 17 councils 21.5%; Jan2006: 10 councils 13%; Jun07: 11 councils 14%; Jan2008: 10 councils 13%; Jun2008 after by-elections: 9 councils 11%; Dec2010: 14 councils 18%. Dec2012: 10 councils 13%.

NEXT COUNCIL ELECTIONS – OCTOBER 2020

Resources

[A Gender Agenda](#)

+ [additional inserts](#)

[50:50 by 2025 - video](#)

[Your community, country and council – Aboriginal women run for election \(video\)](#)

[Women in LG fact sheet](#)

[Victorian Local Government Women's Charter](#)

[VLGA's Local Women Leading Change Facebook page](#)

For more information, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Women's Engagement and Project Officer **Deborah Wu** on 9349 7999 or deborah@vlga.org.au.