

GenWest

<https://genwest.org.au/>

Sexual and Reproductive Health

Sexual and reproductive health is a fundamental human right and is expressed through diverse sexualities and forms of sexual expression. This includes the right to healthy and respectful relationships, the right to exercise reproductive choices, access to accurate information, and access to timely and effective health services that are affordable, inclusive, safe and appropriate. Sexual and reproductive concerns for women can include: menstruation, fertility, preventive screening, contraception, abortion, pregnancy, childbirth, pregnancy loss, sexually transmissible infections, health conditions (such as endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome, menstrual disorders) and menopause/early menopause. Despite Victoria having legislation to ensure women have the right to exercise reproductive choices, there remain barriers and service gaps that affect access to affordable healthcare, including contraception and abortion services, across the state.

SRH

Fact Sheet

<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Measures</i>
Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K)	Rate (per 1,000) by PATIENT location No. of services by PATIENT location Rate (per 1,000) by PRESCRIBER location No. of services by PRESCRIBER location Rate (per 1,000) by PHARMACY location No. of services by PHARMACY location
Adolescent Birth	2-year rate (per 1,000)
Birth	Rate (per 1,000) Count
Total Fertility Rate	Rate (lifetime)
Contraceptive Implant (MBS 14206)	Rate (per 1,000) by PATIENT location No. of services by PATIENT location Rate (per 1,000) by PROVIDER location No. of services by PROVIDER location
Contraceptive IUD (MBS 35503)	Rate (per 1,000) by PATIENT location No. of services by PATIENT location Rate (per 1,000) by PROVIDER location No. of services by PROVIDER location
Chlamydia	Rate (per 10,000) Number of notifications
Gonorrhoea	Rate (per 10,000) Number of notifications

<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Measures</i>
Hepatitis B	Rate (per 10,000) Number of notifications
Syphilis	Rate (per 10,000) Number of notifications
HIV	Rate (per 10,000) Number of notifications

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K)

Abortion is a common, safe and legal medical procedure used to end a pregnancy by medication or surgery. Medication abortion involves using prescribed mifepristone and misoprostol to end a pregnancy up to nine weeks of gestation. Medication abortion can be provided in primary care settings, such as GP or community health clinics, via telehealth with appropriate support mechanisms in place, or in hospitals. Current Australian regulations require GPs and pharmacists to receive specialist training to become a certified prescriber or dispenser of medication abortion. By patient location local government area, 9,370 medication abortion services were provided to Victorian female patients in 2022, an increase of 1,384 services (17.3%) compared with 2021 (7,986 services). By patient location local government area, the average rate of medication abortion in Victoria in 2022 was 5.34 services per 1,000 females of reproductive age, compared with 4.54 services per 1,000 in 2021. The distribution of medication abortion services in Victoria varies considerably between suppliers (prescriber or pharmacy location) and recipients (patient location).

Gender Analysis

Access to abortion is fundamental to women’s sexual and reproductive healthcare, is a human right and an important public health issue. State and federal governments have a duty of care to ensure that essential health services, including medication abortion and abortion services in general, are available, affordable, and accessible to all Australian women, in public hospitals and in primary care (Subasinghe et al. 2021). This is critical to ensure that women can access abortion services that are safe, timely and close to their home and social support networks. The Victorian Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2022-2030 includes a focus on improving safe and respectful access to medical abortion services in primary care both in person and via telehealth, particularly in regional areas.

Ref: Subasinghe AK et al (2021) Early medical abortion services provided in Australian primary care. MJA 215(8): 366-370.

Help/support in Victoria for abortion information and services:

- 1800 My Options (Phone: 1800 696 784 / Website: 1800myoptions.org.au)

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K) - Rate (per 1,000) by PATIENT location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	5.60	N/A	5.6	N/A	5.3	N/A	5.3
2021	4.19	N/A	4.5	N/A	4.5	N/A	4.5
2020	3.92	N/A	4.6	N/A	4.6	N/A	4.6
2019	3.68	N/A	4.1	N/A	3.9	N/A	3.9
2018	3.28	N/A	3.5	N/A	3.6	N/A	3.6

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for PBS Item 10211K – Mifepristone and misoprostol – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PATIENT location LGA, during the calendar year 2022, per 1,000 females aged 12 to 54 years residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name MS-2 Step™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K) - No. of services by PATIENT location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	311	N/A	311.3	N/A	118.7	N/A	118.7
2021	233	N/A	253.9	N/A	101.3	N/A	101.3
2020	225	N/A	224.0	N/A	93.3	N/A	93.3
2019	211	N/A	195.0	N/A	80.4	N/A	80.4
2018	188	N/A	163.9	N/A	70.1	N/A	70.1

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for PBS Item 10211K – Mifepristone and misoprostol – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PATIENT location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name MS-2 Step™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K) - Rate (per 1,000) by PRESCRIBER location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	14.20	N/A	13.2	N/A	4.9	N/A	4.9
2021	9.90	N/A	13.7	N/A	4.0	N/A	4.0
2020	2.53	N/A	12.8	N/A	4.0	N/A	4.0
2019	3.45	N/A	10.8	N/A	3.8	N/A	3.8
2018	2.16	N/A	9.4	N/A	2.9	N/A	2.9

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for PBS Item 10211K – Mifepristone and misoprostol – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PRESCRIBER location LGA, during the calendar year 2022, per 1,000 females aged 12 to 54 years residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name MS-2 Step™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K) - No. of services by PRESCRIBER location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	789	N/A	790.3	N/A	155.9	N/A	155.9
2021	550	N/A	848.1	N/A	144.4	N/A	144.4
2020	145	N/A	717.9	N/A	128.5	N/A	128.5
2019	198	N/A	598.0	N/A	108.5	N/A	108.5
2018	124	N/A	514.9	N/A	80.3	N/A	80.3

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for PBS Item 10211K – Mifepristone and misoprostol – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PRESCRIBER location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name MS-2 Step™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K) - Rate (per 1,000) by PHARMACY location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	10.58	N/A	6.0	N/A	3.2	N/A	3.2
2021	6.48	N/A	4.2	N/A	2.5	N/A	2.5
2020	4.93	N/A	4.0	N/A	2.6	N/A	2.6
2019	2.40	N/A	3.8	N/A	2.2	N/A	2.2
2018	2.68	N/A	3.8	N/A	1.7	N/A	1.7

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for PBS Item 10211K – Mifepristone and misoprostol – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PHARMACY location LGA, during the calendar year 2022, per 1,000 females aged 12 to 54 years residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name MS-2 Step™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Medication Abortion (PBS 10211K) - No. of services by PHARMACY location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	588	N/A	343.3	N/A	92.6	N/A	92.6
2021	360	N/A	245.4	N/A	72.2	N/A	72.2
2020	283	N/A	222.0	N/A	65.4	N/A	65.4
2019	138	N/A	203.0	N/A	54.8	N/A	54.8
2018	154	N/A	217.6	N/A	46.7	N/A	46.7

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for PBS Item 10211K – Mifepristone and misoprostol – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PHARMACY location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name MS-2 Step™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Adolescent Birth

Of all women giving birth in Victoria in 2021, 0.8 per cent were younger than 20 years of age. Across all Victorian local government areas, the average adolescent birth rate for the two-year period 2019 to 2020 was 8.22 live births per 1,000 teenage women. This represents a decline of over 53% compared with the 2011-2012 two-year period (17.7 births per 1,000 teenage women). This is consistent with the Australia-wide long-term trend of gradually declining adolescent birth rates.

Gender Analysis

Declining adolescent birth rates in Australia are attributed to improvements in the availability of effective contraception and in sexuality education. Many young women plan to become pregnant and have a positive experience of pregnancy and parenting. However, compared with older women, adolescent women are less likely to know how to access antenatal care services, more likely to experience complications during pregnancy and childbirth (including early labour), less likely to be financially secure, and more likely to experience emotional distress. Smoking rates during pregnancy are 3.7 times higher for adolescent mothers (32.8% in 2020) compared with all Australian mothers (8.8% in 2020).

Help/support in Victoria for unintended or unplanned pregnancy:

- 1800 My Options (Phone: 1800 696 784 / Website: 1800myoptions.org.au)

Adolescent Birth - 2-year rate (per 1,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2020	7.26	N/A	5.5	N/A	8.2	N/A	8.2
2019	8.84	N/A	5.8	N/A	9.1	N/A	9.1
2018	9.20	N/A	6.1	N/A	9.5	N/A	9.5
2017	9.20	N/A	7.3	N/A	10.6	N/A	10.6
2016	11.01	N/A	8.2	N/A	12.2	N/A	12.2

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of live births to women younger than 20 years in the two-year period Jan 2019-Dec 2020, by LGA, per 1,000 women aged 13-19 residing in that LGA. Note: Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Victoria. Department of Health. Consultative Council on Obstetric & Paediatric Mortality & Morbidity (CCOPMM). De-identified custom report via Safer Care Victoria; (2) ABS Census 2016.

Currency: Jan 2019 - Dec 2020

Link: <https://www.bettersafecare.vic.gov.au/about-us/about-scv/councils/ccopmm>

Birth

There were 294,369 births registered in Australia in 2020, a decrease of 11,463 births (3.7%) compared with 2019. Of these, just over half (51.3%) were boys, resulting in a sex ratio at birth of 105.2 male births per 100 female births. There were 74,617 births registered in Victoria in 2020, a decrease of 3,846 births (4.9%) compared with 2019 (78,463 births). In Victoria, women aged 30-34 continue to have the highest fertility, followed by women aged 25-29. In the 30 years from 1998 to 2018, the Australian fertility rate by age for women aged 15-19 has halved, for women aged 20-24 has reduced by a third, for women aged 25-29 has remained stable, for women aged 30-34 has doubled, for women aged 35-39 has tripled, and for women aged 40-44 has quadrupled.

Gender Analysis

According to National Core Maternity Indicators for 2019 (released in 2021), three quarters of all pregnant women in Victoria (74.4%) commenced antenatal care in the first trimester, with lowest uptake by women under 20 years. For Victorian women with low-risk pregnancy giving birth for the first time, 51.1% had an induction of labour (up from 33.1% in 2004), 32.1% gave birth by caesarean section (up from 24.7% 2004), and 31.4% had an instrument-assisted birth (up from 27.0% in 2004). Women's expectations and options in relation to pregnancy and birth can be limited by access to services, social supports, health literacy, and geographic location.

Birth - Rate (per 1,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2020	24.65	N/A	28.5	N/A	21.8	N/A	21.8
2019	26.61	N/A	30.4	N/A	22.4	N/A	22.4
2018	28.94	N/A	30.4	N/A	23.3	N/A	23.3
2017	30.52	N/A	31.2	N/A	23.9	N/A	23.9
2016	31.48	N/A	31.7	N/A	24.2	N/A	24.2

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of live births in 2020, per 1,000 women of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Care should be taken when interpreting changes in fertility rates for Victoria from 2015 to 2018 due to registry system changes and processing of backlogs which may have inflated the birth counts for 2016 and 2017. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Australian Bureau of Statistics, 3301.0 - Births, Australia, 2020; (2) ABS Census 2016.

Currency: 2020

Link: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/births-australia/2020>

Birth - Count

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2020	2393	N/A	2,086.6	N/A	928.5	N/A	928.5
2019	2583	N/A	2,200.9	N/A	977.4	N/A	977.4
2018	2809	N/A	2,215.1	N/A	993.5	N/A	993.5
2017	2963	N/A	2,254.3	N/A	1,039.1	N/A	1,039.1
2016	3056	N/A	2,280.1	N/A	1,046.7	N/A	1,046.7

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of live births in 2020, by LGA. Notes: (1) Care should be taken when interpreting changes in fertility rates for Victoria from 2015 to 2018 due to registry system changes and processing of backlogs which may have inflated the birth counts for 2016 and 2017. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 3301.0 - Births, Australia, 2020.

Currency: 2020

Link: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/births-australia/2020>

Total Fertility Rate

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) measures the average number of babies born to a woman throughout her reproductive lifetime. In 2020, Victoria's total fertility rate was 1.43 babies per woman, a decline of 0.1% compared with 2019 (1.53 babies per woman), and the lowest of any state or territory. Australia's Total Fertility Rate declined to a record low of 1.58 babies per woman in 2020. The TFR for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers in Australia in 2020 was 2.25 babies per woman. Since 1976, the TFR for Australia has been below replacement level (insufficient to replace the woman and her partner). The TFR required for replacement is currently considered to be around 2.1 babies per woman.

Gender Analysis

The long-term decline in fertility of younger women as well as the continued increase in fertility of older women reflects a shift towards later childbearing. Together, this has resulted in a rise in the median age of mothers and a fall in Australia's total fertility rate. Family size aspirations are impacted by economic and employment security, relationship stability, personal parenting confidence, and the extent to which child rearing is valued and supported in the community. Policies that lower the direct and indirect costs to families of raising children and allow parents to combine paid employment with childrearing are likely to boost the total fertility rate.

Total Fertility Rate - Rate (lifetime)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2020	1.67	N/A	1.5	N/A	1.8	N/A	1.8
2019	1.78	N/A	1.6	N/A	1.9	N/A	1.9
2018	1.88	N/A	1.7	N/A	2.0	N/A	2.0
2017	1.90	N/A	1.7	N/A	1.9	N/A	1.9
2016	1.88	N/A	1.7	N/A	1.9	N/A	1.9

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The average number of children that a woman in a particular LGA could expect to bear during her reproductive lifetime if current fertility rates in that LGA continue. Notes: (1) Care should be taken when interpreting changes in fertility rates for Victoria from 2015 to 2018 due to registry system changes and processing of backlogs which may have inflated the birth counts for 2016 and 2017. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 3301.0 - Births, Australia, 2020.

Currency: 2020

Link: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/births-australia/2020>

Contraceptive Implant (MBS 14206)

The contraceptive implant is a Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) method. A small hormonal implant the size of a matchstick is inserted under the skin – usually on the inner side of the upper arm – where it can be felt, but not easily seen. The rod implant can stay in place for up to three years and is 99.9% effective in preventing pregnancy. The rod implant is used by women of all ages for a variety of reasons, not limited to preventing pregnancies. By patient location local government area, Medicare processed 22,673 claims for contraceptive implants provided to Victorian female patients in 2022, a decrease of 1,694 services (7.0%) compared with 2021 (24,367 services). By patient location local government area, the average rate of contraceptive implant uptake in Victoria in 2022 was 7.46 services per 1,000 females, compared with 8.21 services per 1,000 in 2021. The distribution of contraceptive implant services in Victoria varies considerably between suppliers (provider location) and recipients (patient location).

Gender Analysis

While oral contraception is the most commonly used contraceptive method, health professionals regard LARC (Long Acting Reversible Contraception) as best practice. LARC methods are more effective at preventing unintended pregnancy, have high continuation rates, and require minimal upkeep by the patient compared to other methods. Despite this, uptake of LARC in Australia is low. Some identified barriers include: the specialised nature of LARC provision and lack of trained providers, lack of local access (particularly in rural and regional areas), and misconceptions about the suitability of LARC methods. The Victorian Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2022-2030 continues a priority focus on increasing awareness of, access to, and uptake of LARC.

Help/support in Victoria for contraception information and services:

- 1800 My Options (Phone: 1800 696 784 / Website: 1800myoptions.org.au)

Contraceptive Implant (MBS 14206) - Rate (per 1,000) by PATIENT location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	7.55	N/A	6.6	N/A	7.5	N/A	7.5
2021	8.03	N/A	7.1	N/A	8.2	N/A	8.2
2020	8.09	N/A	7.9	N/A	9.0	N/A	9.0
2019	9.57	N/A	8.9	N/A	9.5	N/A	9.5
2018	9.64	N/A	8.6	N/A	9.3	N/A	9.3

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for MBS Item 14206 – Hormone or living tissue implantation by cannula – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PATIENT location LGA, during the calendar year 2021, per 1,000 females residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name Implanon NXT™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021. Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive Implant (MBS 14206) - No. of services by PATIENT location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	733	N/A	552.0	N/A	287.0	N/A	287.0
2021	780	N/A	580.7	N/A	308.4	N/A	308.4
2020	785	N/A	575.9	N/A	314.0	N/A	314.0
2019	929	N/A	641.7	N/A	334.1	N/A	334.1
2018	936	N/A	620.6	N/A	324.6	N/A	324.6

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for MBS Item 14206 – Hormone or living tissue implantation by cannula – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PATIENT location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name Implanon NXT™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive Implant (MBS 14206) - Rate (per 1,000) by PROVIDER location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	8.20	N/A	7.4	N/A	6.7	N/A	6.7
2021	8.16	N/A	7.7	N/A	7.5	N/A	7.5
2020	8.53	N/A	8.4	N/A	8.1	N/A	8.1
2019	9.97	N/A	10.2	N/A	8.2	N/A	8.2
2018	9.43	N/A	10.0	N/A	8.0	N/A	8.0

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for MBS Item 14206 – Hormone or living tissue implantation by cannula – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PROVIDER location LGA, during the calendar year 2022, per 1,000 females residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name Implanon NXT™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021. Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive Implant (MBS 14206) - No. of services by PROVIDER location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	796	N/A	605.6	N/A	285.8	N/A	285.8
2021	793	N/A	620.6	N/A	307.2	N/A	307.2
2020	828	N/A	604.9	N/A	310.0	N/A	310.0
2019	968	N/A	730.6	N/A	332.2	N/A	332.2
2018	915	N/A	710.9	N/A	323.2	N/A	323.2

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for MBS Item 14206 – Hormone or living tissue implantation by cannula – services provided to female patients (all ages), by PROVIDER location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand name Implanon NXT™ is included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive IUD (MBS 35503)

The contraceptive IUD is a Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) method in which a small intrauterine device (IUD) is put into the uterus. The two types available in Australia are the copper IUD and the hormonal IUD. Both can stay in place for at least 5 years and are more than 99 per cent effective in preventing pregnancy. Women of all ages use contraceptive IUD for a variety of reasons, not limited to preventing pregnancies. By patient location local government area, Medicare processed 20,542 claims for contraceptive IUDs provided to Victorian female patients in 2022, a decrease of 815 services (3.8%) compared with 2021 (21,357 services). By patient location local government area, the average rate of IUD uptake in Victoria was 6.67 services per 1,000 females in 2022, compared with 7.11 services per 1,000 in 2021. The distribution of contraceptive IUD services in Victoria varies considerably between suppliers (provider location) and recipients (patient location).

Gender Analysis

While oral contraception is the most commonly used contraceptive method, health professionals regard LARC (Long Acting Reversible Contraception) as best practice. LARC methods are more effective at preventing unintended pregnancy, have high continuation rates, and require minimal upkeep by the patient compared to other methods. Despite this, uptake of LARC in Australia is low. Some identified barriers include: the specialised nature of LARC provision and lack of trained providers, lack of local access (particularly in rural and regional areas), and misconceptions about the suitability of LARC methods (particularly of IUDs for young women). The Victorian Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2022-2030 continues a priority focus on increasing awareness of, access to, and uptake of LARC.

Help/support in Victoria for contraception information and services:

- 1800 My Options (Phone: 1800 696 784 / Website: 1800myoptions.org.au)

Contraceptive IUD (MBS 35503) - Rate (per 1,000) by PATIENT location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	3.35	N/A	5.2	N/A	6.7	N/A	6.7
2021	3.27	N/A	5.4	N/A	7.1	N/A	7.1
2020	2.73	N/A	4.7	N/A	6.7	N/A	6.7
2019	2.71	N/A	4.4	N/A	6.1	N/A	6.1
2018	2.52	N/A	3.9	N/A	5.7	N/A	5.7

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for MBS Item 35503 – Intra uterine contraceptive device, introduction of - services provided to female patients (all ages), by PATIENT location LGA, during the calendar year 2022, per 1,000 females residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand names Mirena™ and Kyleena™ are included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021. Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive IUD (MBS 35503) - No. of services by PATIENT location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	325	N/A	389.6	N/A	260.0	N/A	260.0
2021	318	N/A	396.3	N/A	270.3	N/A	270.3
2020	265	N/A	314.9	N/A	226.0	N/A	226.0
2019	263	N/A	298.3	N/A	209.9	N/A	209.9
2018	245	N/A	264.6	N/A	192.8	N/A	192.8

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for MBS Item 35503 – Intra uterine contraceptive device, introduction of - services provided to female patients (all ages), by PATIENT location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand names Mirena™ and Kyleena™ are included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive IUD (MBS 35503) - Rate (per 1,000) by PROVIDER location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	2.29	N/A	7.7	N/A	5.5	N/A	5.5
2021	2.31	N/A	7.7	N/A	5.9	N/A	5.9
2020	1.85	N/A	6.6	N/A	5.4	N/A	5.4
2019	1.44	N/A	6.4	N/A	5.1	N/A	5.1
2018	1.50	N/A	5.6	N/A	4.6	N/A	4.6

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of claims for MBS Item 35503 – Intra uterine contraceptive device, introduction of - services provided to female patients (all ages), by PROVIDER location LGA, during the calendar year 2022, per 1,000 females residing in that LGA. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand names Mirena™ and Kyleena™ are included in this category. (4) Counts of <6 are assigned an arbitrary value of 3 to enable rate calculation. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023; (2) ABS Census 2021. Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Contraceptive IUD (MBS 35503) - No. of services by PROVIDER location

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2022	222	N/A	577.7	N/A	260.9	N/A	260.9
2021	224	N/A	575.1	N/A	270.7	N/A	270.7
2020	180	N/A	462.0	N/A	225.6	N/A	225.6
2019	140	N/A	443.7	N/A	211.0	N/A	211.0
2018	146	N/A	391.7	N/A	194.0	N/A	194.0

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of claims for MBS Item 35503 – Intra uterine contraceptive device, introduction of - services provided to female patients (all ages), by PROVIDER location LGA, during the calendar year 2022. Notes: (1) Includes services that qualify for Medicare benefits and for which claims have been processed. (2) Does not include services that may have been provided to public patients in hospitals, to outpatients in public hospitals, or in emergency departments of public hospitals. (3) Brand names Mirena™ and Kyleena™ are included in this category. (4) Counts of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 are reported as <6. Zero is reported as 0. (5) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Services Australia. Medicare Benefits Schedule. Custom report extracted 28 June 2023.

Currency: 2022

Link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicare-statistics?context=1>

Chlamydia

Chlamydia is the most frequently reported notifiable infection in Victoria. There was a 31% reduction in total notifications between 2019 (25,093), 2020 (19,974) and 2021 (17,243). This decrease is likely due to changed health behaviours during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the total Victorian notifications in 2021, 7,798 (45%) were in women. For both males and females, the highest number of new cases in 2021 were in the 20-24 age group. The rate of chlamydia notifications increased 19-fold from the early 1990s to 2019, which may in part be explained by increased testing with newer, more sensitive tests.

Gender Analysis

Chlamydia has become a major public health problem because of the long-term consequences of infection experienced predominantly by women. A high proportion of infections in women are asymptomatic, resulting in untreated disease, ongoing transmission and an increased risk of complications. These relate mainly to the development of pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) and include chronic pelvic pain, ectopic pregnancy, infertility, and increased risk of pre-term labour. Rarely, males may also become infertile. Risk factors for chlamydia include a relatively high number of sexual partners, younger age of first intercourse, a new sexual partner and lack of use of barrier contraceptive measures. The infection can also be transmitted from mother to baby during vaginal birth.

Chlamydia - Rate (per 10,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	11.05	13.15	14.4	22.5	11.7	12.5	12.1
2020	14.41	16.21	20.5	24.2	16.4	14.3	15.4
2019	16.62	17.96	24.4	29.2	18.5	16.8	17.6
2018	19.40	20.53	26.2	29.0	20.8	18.1	19.4
2017	19.40	18.94	24.8	27.3	19.8	17.2	18.5

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of chlamydia cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.* (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Chlamydia - Number of notifications

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	215	256	229.1	332.3	97.9	118.0	107.9
2020	280	315	285.9	327.4	121.0	120.2	120.6
2019	323	349	338.1	388.9	144.5	145.7	145.1
2018	377	399	360.6	389.9	156.3	152.3	154.3
2017	377	368	342.6	367.0	151.4	144.8	148.1

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of chlamydia cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA. There can be multiple notifications for one person. Notes: (1) All ages are included. (2) Counts of 1, 2, 3 or 4 are reported as <5. Zero is reported as 0. (3) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.*

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Gonorrhoea

Gonorrhoea is an infectious, often symptomless disease, that is almost always transmitted via sexual contact. There was an overall 19% reduction in total Victorian notifications between 2019 (8,745), 2020 (6,473) and 2021 (7,050). These fluctuations are likely due to changed health behaviours during the COVID-19 pandemic. Notifications in females (1,574 cases) represented 22.3% of the 2021 total cases. Female notifications increased by 88 cases compared with 2020 (1,486 cases). By age, gonorrhoea was most frequently notified in women aged 20-29, and in men aged 25-34. Notifications are most commonly reported in men (76.8%) and continue to occur primarily among men who have sex with men (MSM) in urban settings.

Gender Analysis

Nearly all newly diagnosed Victorian women report heterosexual contact as their exposure. Of the cases with enhanced surveillance data available (48%), the majority (for both women and men) acquired their infection through a casual sexual contact (65%) and locally in Victoria (88%), which has been consistent over 10 years. The increasing notifications in men may be partly attributed to more effective and more frequent screening. Preventive measures include education about safe sex practices, including use of condoms, and early detection of infection by testing of those at risk. Gonorrhoea may increase susceptibility to sexually-acquired HIV infection and increase HIV infectiousness. Other serious complications, such as blindness from neonatal conjunctival infection and the various complications of pelvic inflammatory disease, are currently rare in Victoria. Note: Active enhanced surveillance data collection for gonorrhoea was ceased in October 2019.

Gonorrhoea - Rate (per 10,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	2.62	8.99	3.9	15.8	2.0	6.0	4.0
2020	3.81	9.62	4.1	13.5	1.9	5.5	3.7
2019	3.50	10.81	4.4	16.1	2.4	6.4	4.4
2018	2.47	10.81	3.9	15.8	2.1	6.6	4.4
2017	2.47	8.80	3.2	13.4	1.7	5.8	3.8

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of gonorrhoea cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.* (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Gonorrhoea - Number of notifications

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	51	175	60.4	228.6	20.5	67.3	43.9
2020	74	187	57.1	178.4	19.0	57.5	38.3
2019	69	210	61.4	217.7	22.2	67.0	44.6
2018	48	210	53.3	209.6	19.7	69.3	44.5
2017	48	171	43.9	177.3	16.4	60.3	38.4

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of gonorrhoea cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA. There can be multiple notifications for one person. Notes: (1) All ages are included. (2) Counts of 1, 2, 3 or 4 are reported as <5. Zero is reported as 0. (3) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.*

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is the most common blood-borne virus in Australia. There was an overall 24% reduction in total notifications between 2019 (1,704), 2020 (1,299) and 2021 (1,289). This decrease is likely due to changed health behaviours and reduced arrivals from overseas during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the 23 newly-acquired cases, 13 (56.5%) were in women. Of the 1,287 unspecified cases, 607 (47.2%) were in women (cases where the infection was acquired more than 24 months prior to diagnosis or the duration is unknown). By age, notifications of unspecified hepatitis B are highest in women aged 30-39 years, and highest in men aged 35-44 years. An estimated 57,000 people in Victoria were living with hepatitis B in 2021, around 36.5% of whom are undiagnosed (MacLachlan et al. 2023).

Ref: MacLachlan et al. (2023) Viral Hepatitis Mapping Project: Hepatitis B. National Report 2021. ASHM.

Gender Analysis

Hepatitis B causes liver inflammation and can increase the risk of developing chronic liver disease or liver cancer later in life. The virus is spread via contact with infected blood or body fluids, which can include mother to baby transmission. The majority of unspecified hepatitis B cases are diagnosed in people born overseas, and most cases are chronic infections acquired at birth or in early childhood. Immunisation provides 95% protection against hepatitis B infection, and vaccination is recommended for all babies and those in high-risk groups. It is a public health priority for people already living with chronic hepatitis B to be diagnosed and linked to ongoing care to reduce associated morbidity, mortality and transmission. The Victorian Government has set a target to eliminate hepatitis B as a public health concern by 2030. This includes addressing stigma - recognised as being a critical barrier to effective responses to viral hepatitis.

Hepatitis B - Rate (per 10,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	3.08	2.88	1.8	1.7	0.8	0.7	0.8
2020	2.88	3.65	1.9	2.0	0.8	0.9	0.8
2019	3.40	3.35	2.3	2.7	1.0	1.1	1.1
2018	2.37	4.48	2.0	2.9	1.0	1.0	1.0
2017	4.43	4.01	2.4	2.9	1.1	1.0	1.1

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of hepatitis B cases (total of both newly-acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning. (2) ABS Census 2021.*

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Hepatitis B - Number of notifications

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	60	56	29.3	29.3	8.7	9.1	8.9
2020	56	71	27.6	31.0	8.1	9.7	8.9
2019	66	65	33.9	39.0	10.5	12.4	11.4
2018	46	87	29.4	42.9	9.9	11.2	10.6
2017	86	78	35.9	42.3	10.4	11.9	11.1

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of hepatitis B cases (total of both newly-acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA. There can be multiple notifications for one person. Notes: (1) All ages are included. (2) Counts of 1, 2, 3 or 4 are reported as <5. Zero is reported as 0. (3) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.*

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Syphilis

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection that if not treated can affect the brain, spinal cord and other organs. There was an overall 16% reduction in total notifications between 2019 (2,609), 2020 (2,218) and 2021 (2,197). This decrease is likely due to changed health behaviours and reduced arrivals from overseas during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the 1522 infectious cases in 2021, 196 (12.9%) were in women, and of the 672 late stage cases in 2021, 139 (20.7%) were in women. By age, notifications of infectious syphilis were highest in women aged 20-34 years and in men aged 25-39 years. Before the pandemic, infectious syphilis was on the rise in Victoria, with an 11-fold increase in women, and a 2-fold increase in men from 2014 to 2019. In addition, congenital syphilis has re-emerged in Victoria, with 2 cases per year notified in 2017, 2018 and 2019, and 3 in 2020 and 2021.

Gender Analysis

Although syphilis cases have predominantly been identified among gay and other men who have sex with men, 1 in 8 syphilis cases in Victoria are now in women, highlighting a shift into the female and heterosexual population. Females with syphilis are mostly diagnosed by GPs, and 77% report acquiring their infection from a casual or regular sexual partner of the opposite sex. Syphilis in women of reproductive age is a public health concern due to the risk of maternal to fetal transmission. Congenital syphilis can result in miscarriage, stillbirth, prematurity, low birth weight, and developmental defects in an affected baby. Interventions to address syphilis include: timely treatment of cases and sexual partners, screening of at-risk groups, antenatal screening, and patient education about transmission, prevention, and early symptom recognition.

Syphilis - Rate (per 10,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	0.67	2.77	0.6	4.8	0.6	2.3	1.5
2020	0.57	2.21	0.9	5.2	0.5	2.3	1.4
2019	1.08	3.76	0.9	5.7	0.6	2.4	1.5
2018	0.72	3.96	1.0	4.6	0.6	2.3	1.4
2017	1.39	3.40	0.9	4.9	0.6	2.2	1.4

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of syphilis cases (total of both newly-acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.* (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

Syphilis - Number of notifications

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	13	54	10.7	72.6	5.3	22.2	13.8
2020	11	43	13.1	69.3	5.2	21.9	13.5
2019	21	73	13.3	74.3	5.3	23.6	14.4
2018	14	77	13.3	63.1	5.4	20.9	13.1
2017	27	66	13.6	64.6	5.0	21.0	13.0

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of syphilis cases (total of both newly-acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA. There can be multiple notifications for one person. Notes: (1) All ages are included. (2) Counts of 1, 2, 3 or 4 are reported as <5. Zero is reported as 0. (3) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.*

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

HIV

The Victorian HIV population rate has remained stable at less than 5.0 per 100,000 people between 2018 and 2021. There was an overall 49% reduction in total notifications between 2019 (285), 2020 (204) and 2021 (145). This decrease is likely due to changed health behaviours and reduced arrivals from overseas. By sex, the proportion of HIV cases notified in women in 2021 was 11.5% (15 cases). Prior to 2020, the proportion of cases notified in women remained at 10% for ten years. Newly-acquired cases comprised 27.6% of all 2021 notifications. The proportion of newly-acquired cases was much lower for females (6.7 % of all female cases) than for males (33.3% of all male cases). The proportion of HIV notifications in overseas-born people was 43% in 2021. Notifications among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people comprised 1.0% of the Victorian 2021 total.

Gender Analysis

HIV is primarily acquired through sexual contact, and to a lesser extent via injection drug use. Notifications attributable to male-to-male sex have decreased in proportion to 57%, partly due to the availability of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and associated increases in testing. This decrease has led to a relative increase in the proportion of notifications among other population groups, including Australian-born women, overseas-born women, and heterosexual men. Women tend to be diagnosed later than men, with more established HIV infection. Antiretroviral treatment is more likely to cause side effects in women than in men, and may impair contraceptive efficacy.

HIV - Rate (per 10,000)

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	0.00	0.36	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.1
2020	0.13	0.31	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.2
2019	0.13	0.67	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.2
2018	0.13	0.41	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.2
2017	0.13	0.36	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.2

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The rate equals the number of HIV cases (total of both newly-acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

(1) Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.* (2) ABS Census 2021.

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>

HIV - Number of notifications

Time Period	Brimbank		Metro West Region Estimate		Victoria State Estimate		
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	All
2021	0	7	2.9	7.7	0.8	2.8	1.8
2020	<5	6	1.4	6.9	1.1	3.3	2.2
2019	<5	13	3.6	11.6	1.1	4.0	2.6
2018	<5	8	0.7	9.5	0.6	3.1	1.8
2017	<5	7	1.8	10.6	0.6	3.4	2.0

NB: The notes below are for the latest time period in the table.

For notes applying to earlier time periods, please refer to the relevant map/s in the online Atlas.

Data processing:

The number of HIV cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA. There can be multiple notifications for one person. Notes: (1) All ages are included. (2) Counts of 1, 2, 3 or 4 are reported as <5. Zero is reported as 0. (3) The number of cases reported here may differ from HIV specific reports and nationally reported figures as this report uses date of notification and HIV specific reports use earliest specimen collection date. (4) Statewide and region estimates are auto-generated by Atlas programming based on LGA values for female/male only, and may differ to Victorian estimates published elsewhere.

Source/s:

Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services. *Interactive infectious disease reports. Custom report supplied on 30 March 2023. Source data is subject to change due to ongoing data cleaning.*

Currency: 2021

Link: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/infectious-diseases-surveillance/interactive-infectious-disease-reports/local-government-areas-surveillance-report>