

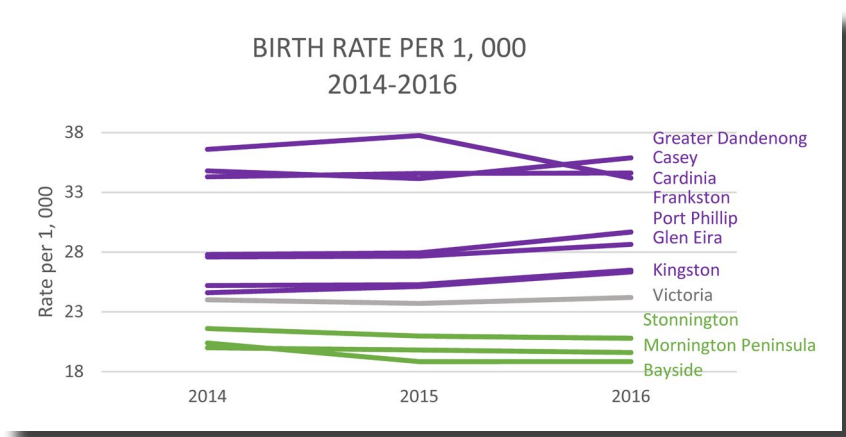
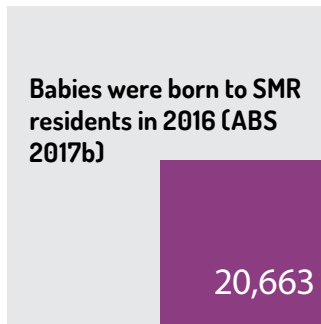
Sexual and Reproductive Health Snapshot

SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

The release of Victoria's first ever Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Strategy in 2017 highlighted the need for evidence-based data and research to accurately inform the design and improvement of SRH programs and services. Furthermore, social determinants of health must be considered due to their impact on sexual health behaviours, access and opportunities. This snapshot will provide insight into the most recently available demographic, fertility, contraception and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) data for the Southern Metropolitan Region (SMR).

There are 689, 859 (51%) women and 671, 289 (ABS 2017a) (49%) men in the SMR.

BIRTH RATES



TEENAGE PREGNANCY

Teenage parenting is not always a result of an unplanned pregnancy. Teen pregnancies are often planned and wanted, and can be a positive experience for all involved. However, teenage mothers are more likely to experience negative outcomes including poverty, substance abuse and reduced engagement with education (Marino et al. 2016).

GREATER DANDENONG

9.8

In 2015, Greater Dandenong had 15 to 19 year old birth rates (9.8) higher than the state average of 9.4 per 1,000 young women

FRANKSTON

8.9

Frankston had 15 to 19 year old birth rates (8.9) lower than the state average of 9.4 per 1,000 young women

CARDINIA

8.8

Cardinia had 15 to 19 year old birth rates (8.8) lower than the state average of 9.4 per 1,000 young women

CASEY

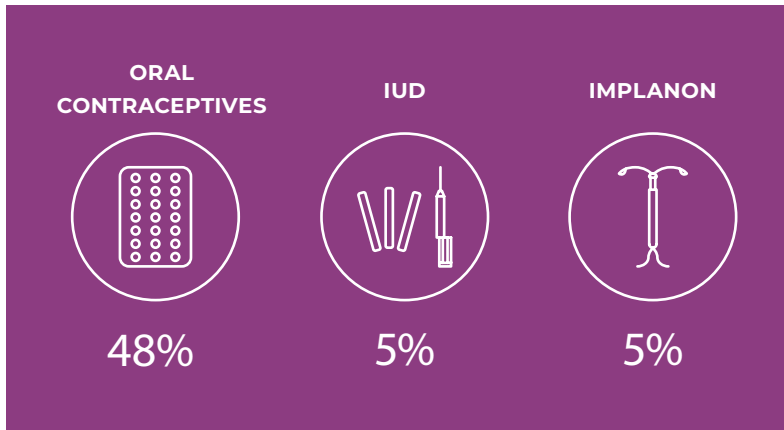
8.7

Casey had 15 to 19 year old birth rates (8.7) lower than the state average of 9.4 per 1,000 young women

FERTILITY MANAGEMENT

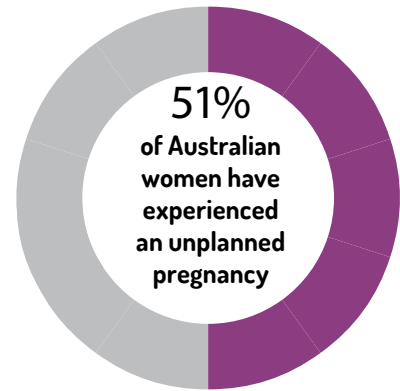
Oral contraceptives are the most popular form of contraception in Australia; 48% of women using a form of contraception use oral contraceptives, compared with only 5% who use an IUD and 5% who use an Implanon (Garett et al. 2015).

Low uptake of Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) remains a significant barrier, women need to be educated and have access to make informed choices.



UNPLANNED PREGNANCY

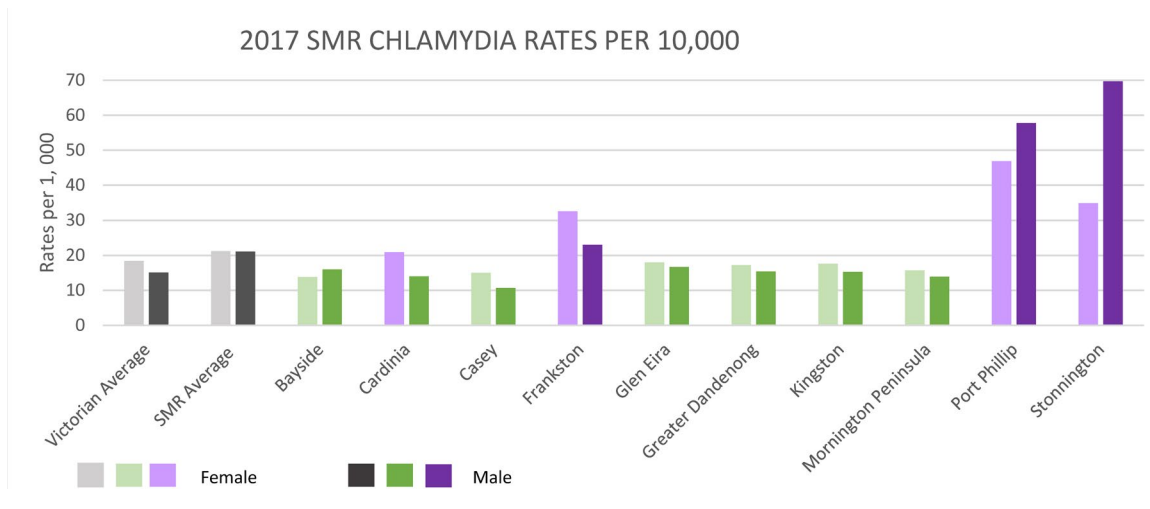
Victorian specific data on pregnancy outcomes is not collected or published but studies suggest that half (51%) of Australian women have experienced an unplanned pregnancy (Marie Stopes 2008) and 1 in 3 Australian women will have a termination in their lifetime (Rowe et al. 2015).



CHLAMYDIA

Chlamydia is the most commonly diagnosed sexually transmitted infection. Often there are no signs of symptoms, and if left untreated can cause infertility in women (Women’s Health Victoria 2018b).

In 2017 6, 216 cases of chlamydia were diagnosed in the SMR, this is 679 more cases than 2016.



HEPATITIS

Hepatitis B is a virus that can cause inflammation of the liver (Melbourne Sexual Health Centre 2017).

In 2017 three LGAs have a higher number of diagnosed hepatitis B cases than the Victorian average of 1.1 per 10, 000 Females and 1 per 10, 000 males (Women’s Health Victoria 2018c).

GREATER DANDENONG

4.1 per 10, 000, women compared to 3.95 per 10, 000 men

STONNINGTON

1.4 per 10, 000, women to 0.77 per 10, 000 men

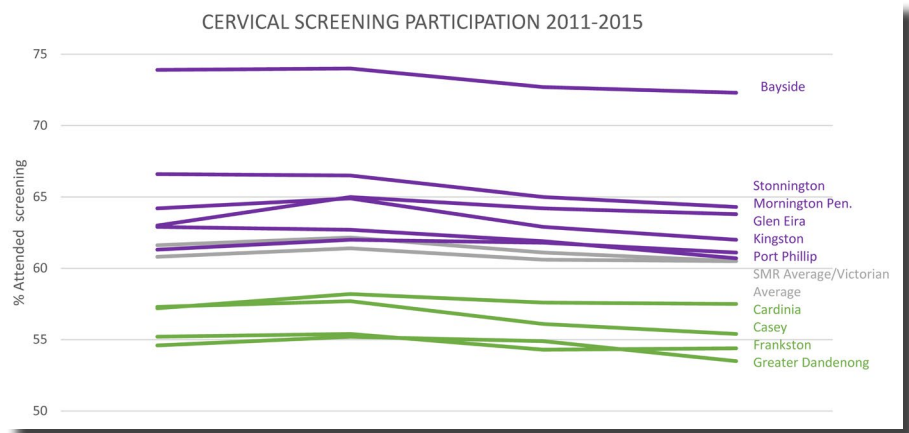
CASEY

1.2 per 10, 000, women compared to 1.24 per 10, 000 men

CERVICAL SCREENING

In December 2017, a five-yearly Cervical Screening Test replaced the two-yearly Pap test (Department of Health n.d).

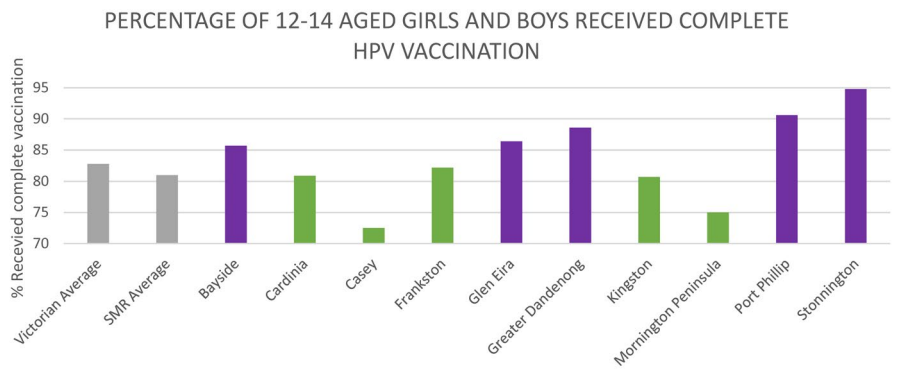
Four LGAs have cervical screen coverage rates that are lower than the Victorian average (Victorian Cervical Cytology Registry 2015).



HPV VACCINATION

In 2015 81% of 12-14 aged girls and boys in the SMR received complete HPV Immunisation (3 doses). This is lower than the Victorian coverage rate of 82.8%.

Five LGAs had higher coverage rates than the Victorian average (National HPV Vaccination Program Register 2015)



YOUNG PEOPLE AND SAFE SEX

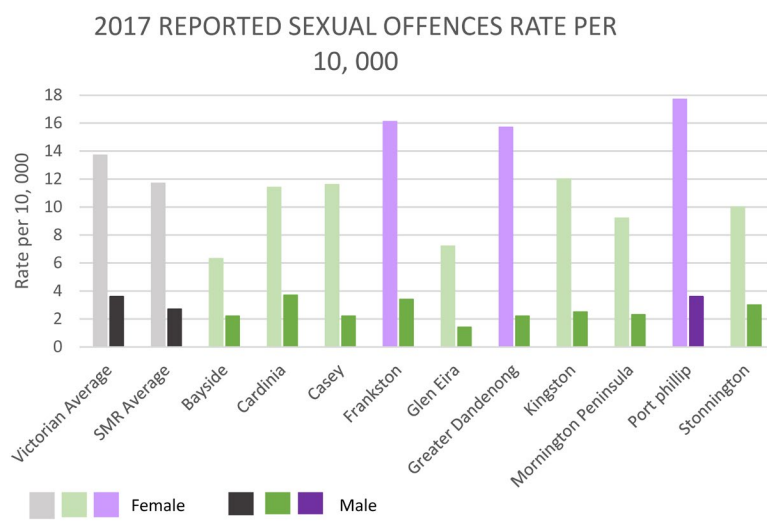
	Percentage of sexually active adolescents who practice safe sex by using a condom (Department of Education and Training 2011)	Percentage of sexually active females that have used contraception to avoid pregnancy (Department of Education and Training 2011)
VICTORIAN AVERAGE	51.8	78.9
SMR AVERAGE	51.8	76.1

SEXUAL OFFENCES

Sexual offences are acts, or intent of acts, of a sexual nature against another person, which are non-consensual. This includes rape, indecent assault, sexual offences against children, and other sexual offences.

1 in 5 women have experienced sexual violence since the age of 15.

Frankston, Greater Dandenong and Port Phillip have sexual offence rates that are higher for females than the Victorian average (Women's Health Victoria 2018d)



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