



FACTS ABOUT WOMEN AND MEN IN VICTORIA

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Introduction

The Office of Women's Policy, through its policy and program areas, has adopted a focus on representation and equity; education, work and economic independence; health, wellbeing and community strengthening; and justice and safety.

The contents of this document have been selected to give a broad picture of the relative situation of women and men in Victoria.

Population

Women comprise 51 per cent of the Victorian population.

Table 1: Estimated population by age at 30 June 2004

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
0-14	467 930	10	491 285	10
15-24	329 495	7	340 644	7
25-64	1 328 153	27	1 304 205	26
65+	363 782	7	285 931	6
Total	2 489 360	51	2 422 065	49

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. *Population by Age and Sex*, cat no 3201.0

In 2001, the largest proportion of Indigenous women were young women aged less than 25 years.

Table 2: Indigenous population by age

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
0-14	4842	19	4899	20
15-24	2265	9	2305	9
25-64	5184	21	4837	19
65+	420	2	326	1
Total	12 711	51	12 367	49

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001. *Census of Population and Housing*

Representation and Equity

Victorian Parliament and Local Government

In the Legislative Assembly women represent 31 per cent of members, while in the Legislative Council women represent 30 per cent of councillors. Overall, women represent 30 per cent of members in both houses of the Victorian Parliament.

Following the Local Government elections in November 2005, 191 out of the 634 councillors were women, representing 30 per cent.

Table 3: Members of Parliament and Local Government

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
Legislative Assembly	27	31	61	69
Legislative Council	13	30	31	70
Total	40	30	92	70
Councillors	191	30	443	70
Mayors	28	35	51	65

Source: Parliament of Victoria 2004. www.parliament.vic.gov.au
Department of Victorian Communities 2006. www.doi.vic.gov.au

Judiciary

At December 2005, women comprised 29 per cent of the judiciary at all levels.

Table 4: Members of the Judiciary 2005

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
Magistrate	31	31	69	69
County Court Judge	19	34	37	66
Supreme court Judge	5	15	29	85

Source: Department of Justice 2005. *Law Calendar*

Victoria Police

41 per cent of new police recruits during 2004-05 were women, while 19 per cent of the total sworn police personnel were women.

Table 5: Victoria Police personnel at 30 June 2005

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
Rank of Inspector and above	15	4	358	96
Rank of Senior Sergeant and below	2058	20	8336	80
<i>Total Sworn</i>	<i>2073</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>8694</i>	<i>81</i>
Recruits in training	93	47	104	43
Unsworn personnel	1646	69	749	31
<i>Total Police</i>	<i>3182</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>9547</i>	<i>75</i>

Note: excludes protective services officers and reservists

Source: Victoria Police 2005. *Victoria Police Annual Report 2004-2005*

Boards and Committees

At June 2005, 41 per cent of members on Government boards and committees were women. This has increased from 29 per cent in 1999.

Table 6: Representation on boards and committees at 30 June 2005 (per cent)

	Females	Males
Government boards and committees	41	59
Directors on Company Boards*	9	91

* Data for 2005 was not available at time of publication

Source: Office of Women's Policy 2005. Internal data

Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency 2005. *2004 EOWA Australian Census of Women Board Directors*

Education, Work and Economic Independence

School Education

39 per cent of women and 33 per cent of men in the 2001 Census had completed Year 12 or equivalent.

Table 7: Highest level of school completed

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
Year 8 or below	211 236	11	178 418	10
Year 9 or equivalent	136 444	7	140 232	8
Year 10 or equivalent	286 085	15	298 602	17
Year 11 or equivalent	257 435	14	254 580	14
Year 12 or equivalent	744 678	39	583 983	33
Still at school	73 777	4	69 355	4
Did not go to school	26 221	1	19 371	1

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001. *Census of Population and Housing*

The apparent retention rate of full-time students from Year 7 to Year 12 in 2004 was higher for females (88 per cent) than males (74 per cent).

Table 8: School retention rates

	Females	Males
Year 7 to Year 12	88	74
Year 10 to Year 12	89	77

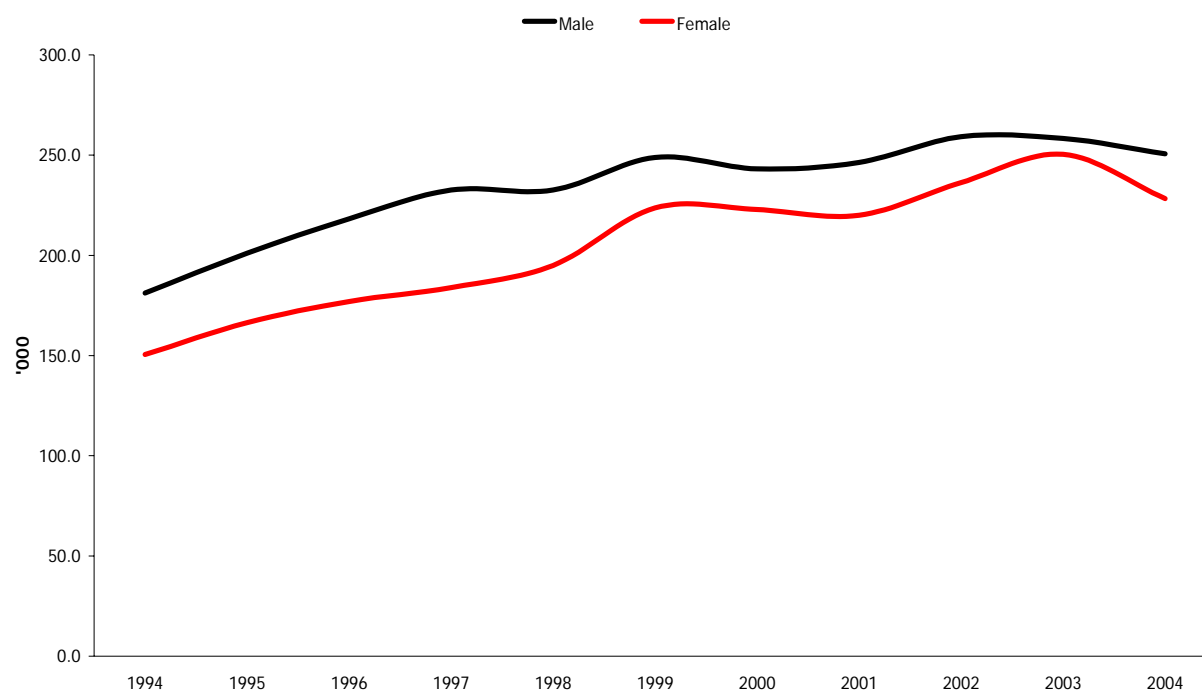
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. *Schools 2004*, cat no 4221.0

Vocational Education

As at 31 March 2005, women made up 37 per cent of apprentices and trainees in Victoria.

The proportion of females and males undertaking vocational education has steadily increased over the past 10 years.

Figure 1: Students in vocational education and training, 1994-2004



Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research 2005. *Students and Courses 2004*

Labour Force Participation and Unemployment

Women made up 45 per cent of the Victorian workforce in November 2005. The participation rate for females was 57 per cent compared to 72 per cent for males.

Table 9: Unemployment and participation rate

	Females	Males
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.3
Participation Rate	57	72

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Labour Force, November 2005* cat no 6202.0

Employment Type

Women made up 33 per cent of the total persons employed full-time and 71 per cent of persons employed part-time.

Table 10: Labour force status (number)

	Females	Males
Employed Full-time	571 200	1 164 600
Employed Part-time	522 300	210 600
Unemployed and looking for full time work	38 400	50 200
Unemployed and looking for part time work	29 000	15 100

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Australian Labour Market Statistics, October 2005*, cat no 6105.0

Income

In August 2005, women's full-time adult total earnings, which includes overtime payments were 81 per cent of male full-time earnings. When overtime payments are removed women's full-time ordinary earnings were 86 per cent of male earnings. The divide is even greater when we include part-time work with women's earnings only making up 64 per cent of men's.

Table 11: Average weekly earnings

	Females	Males
	\$	\$
Full-time adult ordinary earnings	905.60	1051.8
Full-time adult total earnings	920.60	1140.2
All employees total earnings	622.00	974.80

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Average Weekly Earnings, August 2005*, cat no 6302.0

Industries

77 per cent of persons employed in the health and community services industry were women.

The majority of female workers were employed in the health and community services industry (19 per cent) followed by the retail industry (17 per cent).

Table 12: Employment by industry

	Females		Males	
	Employed	Per cent with industry	Employed	Per cent with industry
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	27 100	31	59 200	69
Mining	1100	16	5900	84
Manufacturing	92 800	28	239 500	72
Electricity Gas and Water Supply	5400	25	16 100	75
Construction	26 200	13	172 100	87
Wholesale Trade	35 000	32	74 900	68
Retail Trade	194 400	52	179 800	48
Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	66 500	56	53 000	44
Transport & storage	25 400	23	86 700	77
Communication Services	17 700	32	38 100	68
Finance & Insurance	52 900	52	48 100	48
Property & Business Services	120 900	44	156 300	56
Government Administration & Defence	44 900	55	37 300	45
Education	116 700	69	51 500	31
Health & Community Services	207 900	77	60 900	23
Cultural & Recreational Services	37 800	49	38 600	51
Personal & other Services	45 700	48	49 300	52

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Labour Force Australia Detailed, May 2005*, cat no 6291.0.55.001 data cubes

Senior Positions

In 2005, 27 per cent of Managers and Administrators were women, and 54 per cent of women were professionals.

Table 13: Employment by Occupation

	Females		Males	
	Employed '000	Per cent within Occupation	Employed '000	Per cent within Occupation
Managers & Administrators	46 600	27	127 700	73
Professionals	242 600	54	212 300	46
Associate Professionals	111 000	42	152 900	58
Tradespersons & Related Workers	24 100	11	199 000	89
Advanced Clerical & Service Workers	74 500	88	9800	12
Intermediate Clerical, Sales & Service Workers	277 300	71	115 200	29
Intermediate Production & Transport Workers	25 400	14	158 000	86
Elementary Clerical, Sales & Service Workers	152 000	66	79 300	34
Labourers & Related Workers	77 100	37	129 200	63

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Labour Force Australia Detailed, May 2005*, cat no 6291.0.55.001 data cubes

Health, Wellbeing and Community Strengthening

Life Expectancy

In 2004, the life expectancy at birth in Victoria was higher for women (83.3 years) than men (78.5 years). The estimated Indigenous life expectancy at birth in Australia was much lower than the general population, at 65 years for women and 60 years for men.

Table 14: Life expectancy at birth (years of age)

	Females	Males
Victoria	83.3	78.5
Australia	83.0	78.1
Indigenous Australians	65.1*	60*

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Deaths Australia 2004* Cat no 3302.0

*ABS Experimental indigenous life tables 1996-2001, NSW and Victoria, *Deaths Australia 2004* (ABS Cat 3302.0)

Fertility

The total fertility rate in Victoria remained stable from 1997 to 2004 at around 1.7 births per 1000 women. However, a shift can be seen in the age-specific fertility rates in the seven years from 1997 to 2004. In 1997 there was a higher rate of births in the 15-19 year age bracket, the 20-24 and the 25-29 year age brackets, while there has been an increase in the fertility rate in the preceding age brackets.

Table 15: Age specific fertility rates (births per 1000 women)

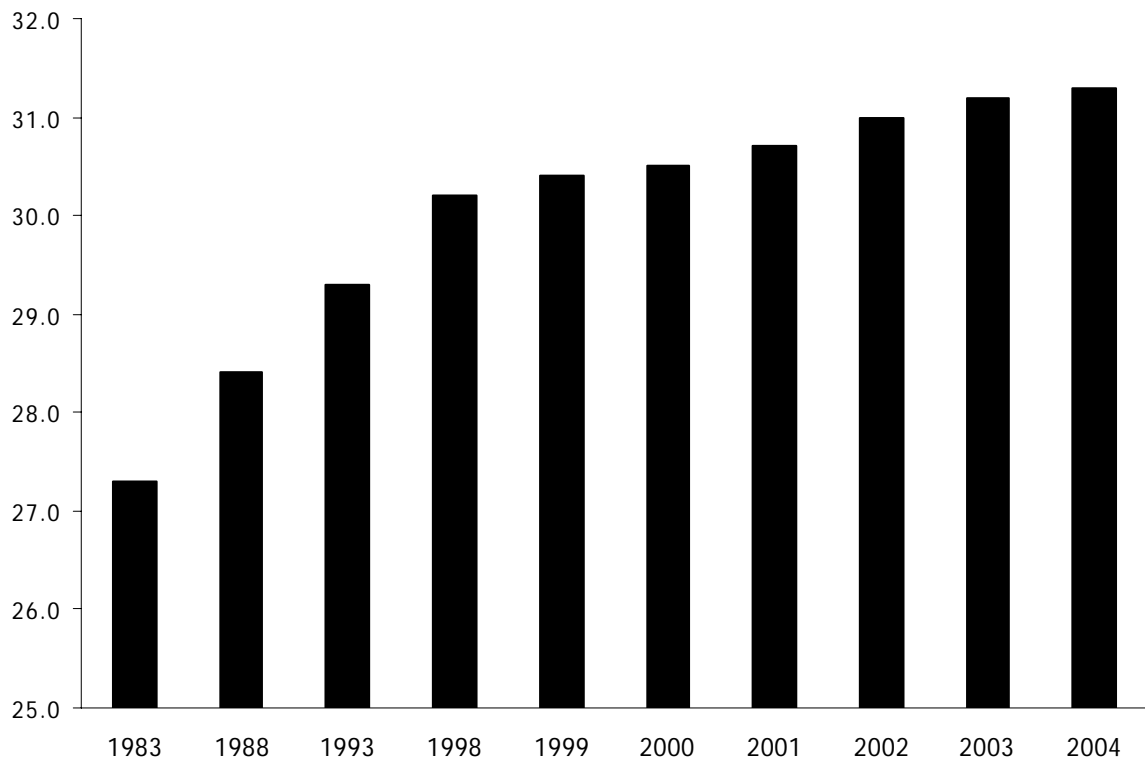
	1997	2004
15 – 19 years	12.4	10.6
20 - 24 years	49.6	40.3
25 – 29 years	108.0	94.2
30 – 34 years	111.7	121.4
35 – 39 years	47.9	62.5
40 – 44 years	8.0	11.3
45 – 49 years	0.3	0.5
Total fertility rate	1.69	1.7

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Births, Australia, 1997* Cat no 3301.0

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Births, Australia, 2004* Cat no 3301.0

The median age of mothers has continually increased over the past 20 years from 27 years in 1983 to 31 years of age in 2004.

Figure 2: Median age of Mothers



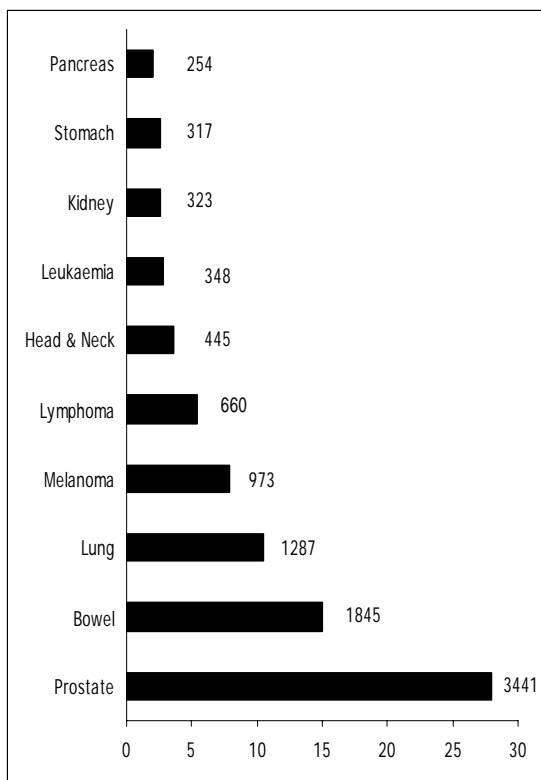
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005. *Births, Australia, 2004* Cat no 3301.0

Causes of Death

The highest incidence of cancer sites for men are prostate, bowel and lung cancer; while for women the leading cancer sites are breast, bowel and melanoma cancer.

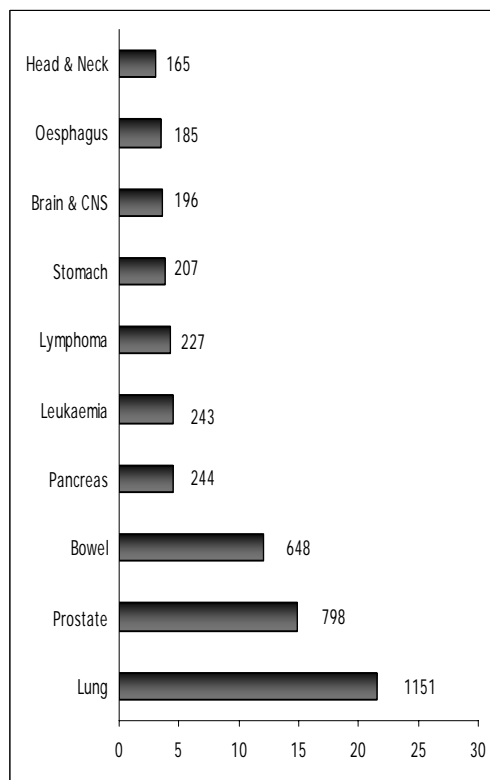
In 2002, the leading cancer sites causing mortality were - for men - lung followed by prostate and bowel cancer, and - for women - mortality was linked to breast, lung and bowel cancer.

Figure 3: Incidence of leading cancer sites 2003



Source: Anti Cancer Council of Victoria 2003.
Canstat: Cancer in Victoria 2003

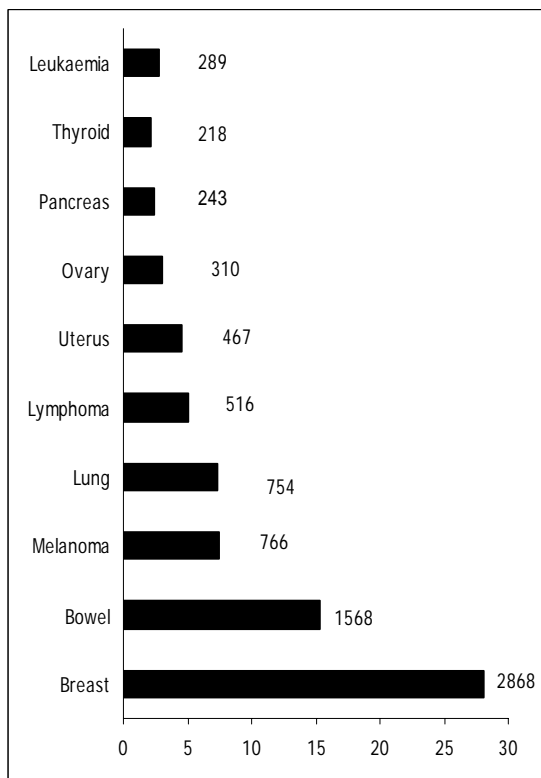
Figure 4: Mortality of leading cancer sites 2003



Source: Anti Cancer Council of Victoria 2003.
Canstat: Cancer in Victoria 2003

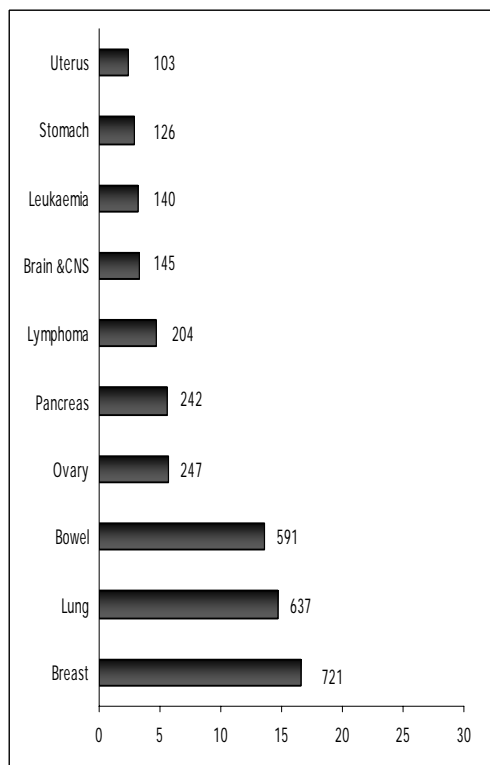
Male

Figure 5: Incidence of leading cancer sites 2003



Source: Anti Cancer Council of Victoria 2003.
Canstat: Cancer in Victoria 2003

Figure 6: Mortality of leading cancer sites 2003



Source: Anti Cancer Council of Victoria 2003.
Canstat: Cancer in Victoria 2003

Female

In 1999, the leading causes of death for both men and women was heart disease.

Table 16: Leading causes of death/ disability/ burden of disease

	Death		Disability		Burden of disease	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	Ischaemic heart disease	Ischaemic heart disease	Depression	Depression	Ischaemic heart disease	Ischaemic heart disease
2	Lung Cancer	Stroke	Hearing Loss	Dementia	Stroke	Stroke
3	Stroke	Breast Cancer	Alcohol abuse/dependence	Osteoarthritis	Lung Cancer	Breast Cancer
4	Suicide	Lung Cancer	Dementia	Asthma	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Dementia
5	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Bowel Cancer	Asthma	Diabetes mellitus	Depression	Diabetes

Source: Department of Human Services 1999. *Victorian burden of disease study: mortality*
 Department of Human Services 1999. *Victorian burden of disease study: morbidity*

Disabilities

In 1999, the leading disability for both men and women was depression. Twenty per cent of both males and females in Victoria were reported as having a disability. Twelve per cent of females and 9 per cent of males were reported as having moderate to profound core activity restriction.

Table 17: Disabilities

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent of females	number	per cent of males
Profound/severe core activity restriction	187 600	8	135 700	6
Moderate core activity restriction	96 300	4	73 800	3
Mild core activity restriction	120 000	5	141 900	6
Schooling or employment restrictions	36 000	1	61 000	2
Without specific limitations or restrictions	58 300	2	81 700	3
All with reported disability	498 200	20	494 100	20

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2003. *Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003* cat no 4430.0

Tobacco and Alcohol Use

In 2004, Victorian men (19 per cent) were more likely to smoke daily than women (16 per cent)

Table 18: Smoking Status (per cent)

	Females	Males
Daily	16	19
Weekly	1	3
Less than weekly	1	2
Ex-smokers	23	28
Never smoked	58	48

Note: Those aged 14 or above participated in the survey

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2005. *2004 National Drug Strategy Household Survey: State and Territory supplement*

Most women consumed alcohol less than weekly (40 per cent), while men were more likely to report consuming alcohol on a weekly basis (47 per cent).

Table 19: Alcohol use (per cent)

	Females	Males
Daily	5	11
Weekly	35	47
Less than weekly	40	29
Ex-drinker	8	6
Never a full serve of alcohol	11	6

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2005. *2004 National Drug Strategy Household Survey: State and Territory supplement*

Caring and Childcare

Women are more likely to be a primary carer (12 per cent) than men (5 per cent).

Table 20: Carers

	Female		Male	
	number	per cent of all carers	number	per cent of all carers
Primary carer	80 900	12	35 700	5
Carers	369 200	53	321 300	47

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2003. *Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003* cat no 4430.0

The need and use of all forms of childcare services is linked to both parents working in paid employment. Private provider of long day care and outside school hours care were the services most likely to be used by parents.

Table 21: Use of childcare services

	Private long day		Community based long day		Family Day care		In-home care		Outside School Hours Care	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Sole parent work related	6111	15	2578	10	4094	20	21	5	9240	24
Both parents work related	30820	74	19922	79	13306	65	259	64	28475	73
Sole parent not work related	936	2	610	2	1183	6	22	5	567	1
Two parents, 1 or both not work related	3669	9	2134	8	2041	10	101	25	895	2
Total children	41536	100	25244	100	20624	100	403	100	39177	100

Source: Department of Family and Community Services 2005. 2004 Australian Government Census of Child Care Services,

Community Strengthening

Table 22: Community participation (per cent)

	Females	Males
Attend community events	58	53
Members of organised groups	51	52
Volunteers	43	45

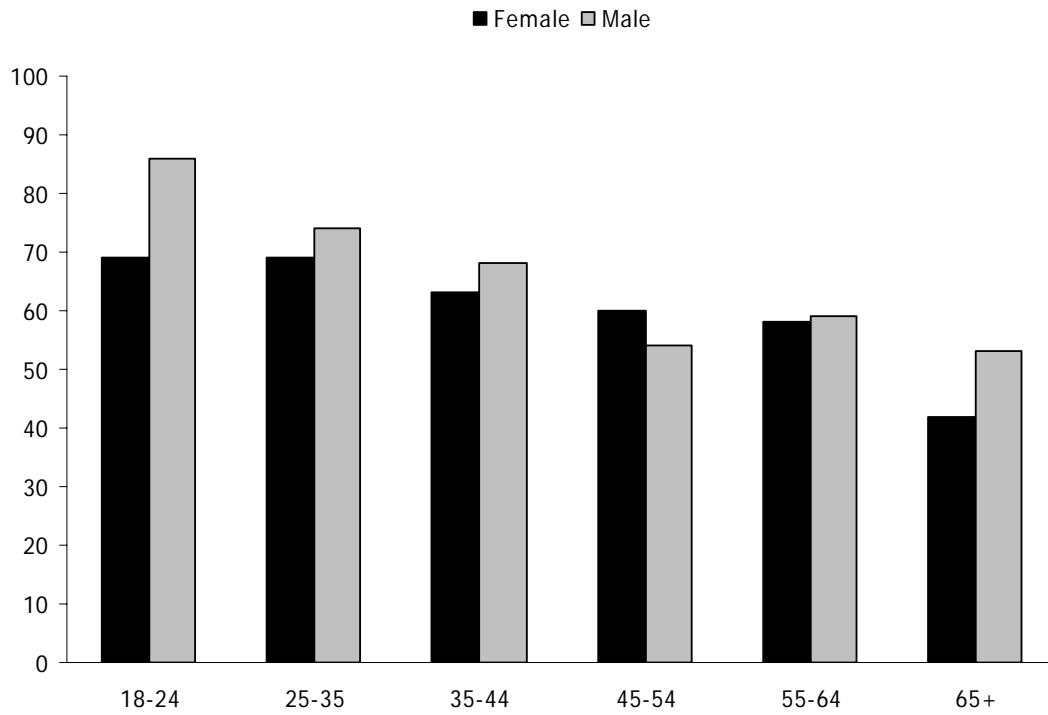
Source: Department for Victorian Communities 2005.

Sport and Recreation

In 2002, men were more likely to have participated in sport and recreation in the past 12 months compared to women in all age groups, with the exception of the 45-54 year old age category.

Amongst women, those aged 18-35 years were more likely to have participated in sport or recreation in the past 12 months than any other age group.

Figure 7: Participation rate in sport and recreation by age (past 12 months)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2002. *Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, 2002*, cat no 4177.0

Justice and Safety

Victims

In 2004-05, there were 197 victims of homicide recorded by the police, of which 60 (30 per cent) were female victims.

Of the victims of offences recorded by police, there were 990 female victims of rape and 2689 female victims of sexual assault.

In 2004-05 there was a 5.4 per cent increase in the number of family violence incidents reported to police.

Table 24: Victims of crime against the person

	Females		Males	
	number	per cent	number	per cent
Homicide	60	30	137	70
Rape	990	88	131	22
Sexual Assault	2689	76	814	34
Robbery	616	30	1420	70
Assault	10 320	40	15 121	60
Abduction/kidnap	263	66	128	44
Total	14 938	45	17 751	55

Source: Victoria Police 2005. *Victoria Police Provisional Crime Statistics, 2004-05*

The main reason for seeking assistance from the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) in 2003-04 for females aged 25 and over and females with children was to escape domestic violence. For men, the breakdown of a relationship or family was the main reason for seeking assistance.

Table 25: Main reason for seeking assistance from SAAP, 2003-04 (per cent)

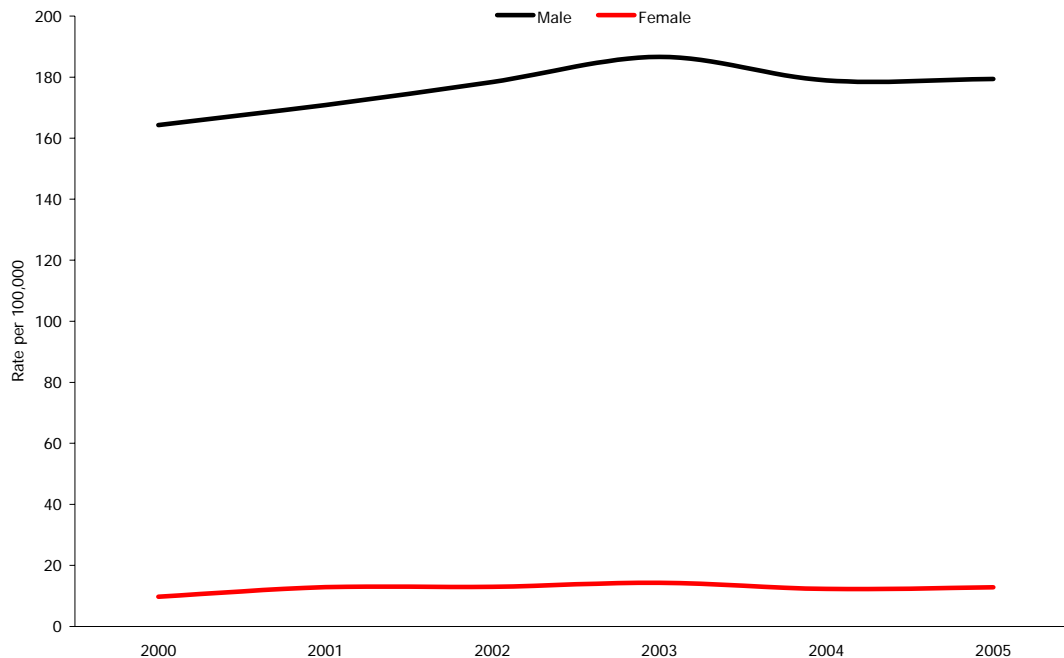
	Male <25	Male +25	Female <25	Female +25	Male with children	Female with children
Relationship/family breakdown	17	4	22	5	13	7
Physical/emotional abuse	2	<1	3	3	1	4
Domestic Violence	1	<1	12	31	2	45
Sexual Abuse	<1	<1	2	1	<1	<1

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2005. *SAAP National Data Collection Annual Report 2003-04, Victoria Supplementary Tables*

Offenders

The adult imprisonment rate for women in Victoria has remained relatively stable since 2000.

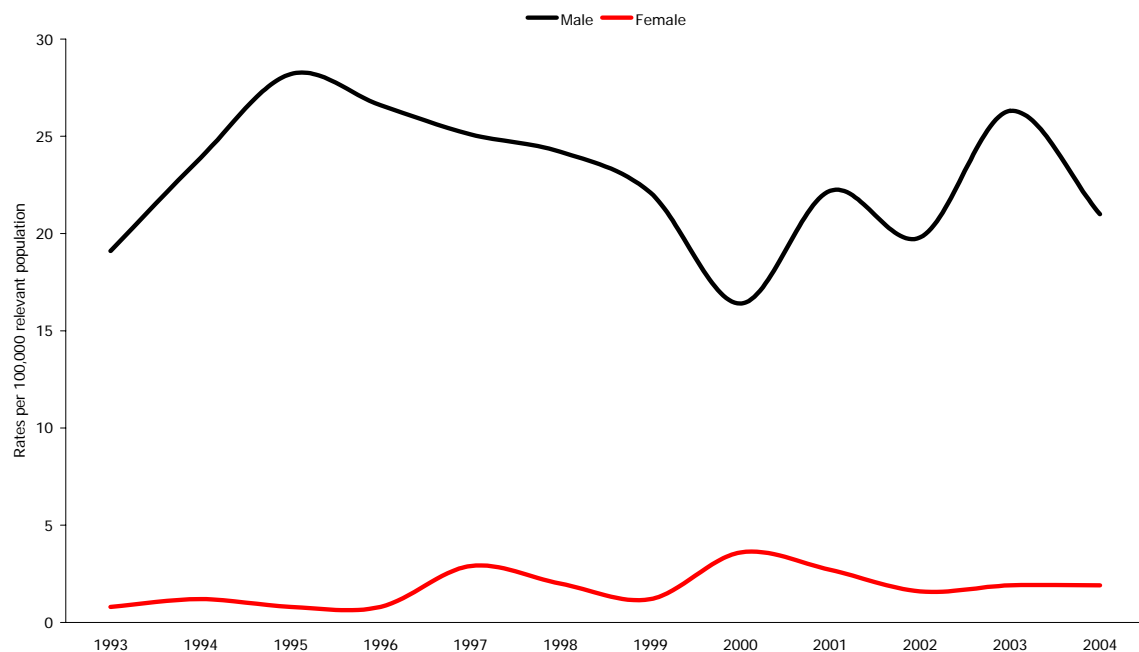
Figure 8: Adult imprisonment rate



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. *Prisoners in Australia, 2004*, cat no 4517.0

There has been a slight increase in the rate of female juvenile detention in Victoria from 0.8 in 1993 to 1.9 in 2003. With the exception of the Northern Territory, Victoria has the lowest rate of female juvenile detention and the lowest male juvenile detention rates in Australia.

Figure 9: Juvenile imprisonment rate (10-17 year olds)

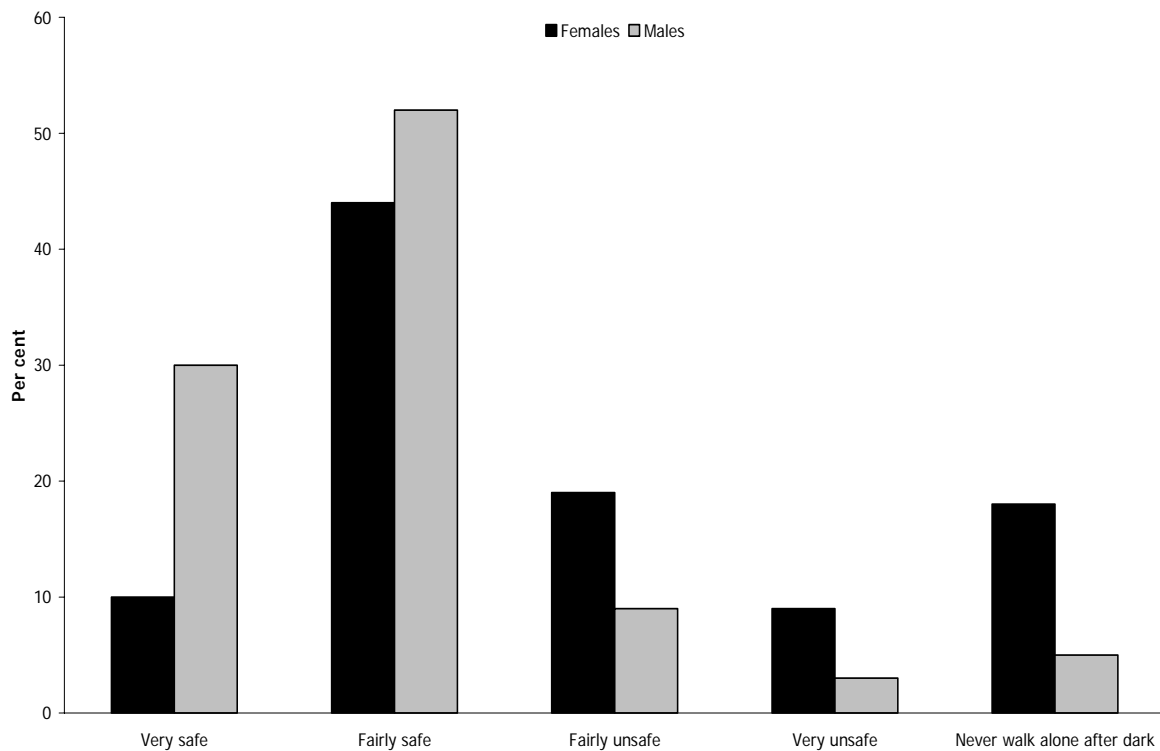


Source: Australian Institute of Criminology 2005. *Statistics on Juvenile Detention in Australia: 1981-2004, Technical and Background Paper No. 18.*

Safety

The 1999 Crime Victimization Survey found that females were less likely than males to feel either 'very safe' or 'safe' walking alone in their neighbourhood. Females were also more likely than males to indicate that they never walk alone in their neighbourhood after dark.

Figure 10: Perceptions of safety in the local neighbourhood after dark by sex 1999



Source: Crime Prevention Victoria 2002. *Women's experience of crime and safety in Victoria 2002*