



## COMMUNITY PULSE REPORT 2011 Version I

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# Acknowledgements

## Special thanks to all our community data collectors

- The Smile Spies, and students Ben Waterhouse and John Mitchell and in particular Carol Tutchener for her work on setting up the Smiles Per Hour index
- The members of the Citizens Monitoring Network
- Earthcare - St Kilda and Mary Ellen Talmage
- All the Community Pulse schools, teachers and kids and Meg Selman who keeps it cooking.
- Joel Meadows, past Community Pulse Co-ordinator, whose passion for the job will be missed.
- Julie Kruss and Jaye Strachan for temporarily filling in the Community Pulse Co-ordinator role in the Joel's absence
- The Community Pulse Steering Committee for their unfaltering interest in and insight for this project.

Thanks to those in the community and in council who have met, discussed, shaped and worked on this report.

## For more information

### Community Pulse Online Update

CP Updates are available on line reporting on any new CP data that is in, as well as information on CP events or volunteering opportunities. If you want to keep your finger on the Pulse, then [sign up](#) to receive CP Update.

Contact Community Pulse Co-ordinator, Alicia Hooper, on 9209 6338 or [alhooper@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:alhooper@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

### Volunteering Opportunities

Residents of Port Phillip are in the best position to point out changes in their neighbourhood that might be imperceptible to policy-makers or that statisticians might tell us do not exist. What have you noticed changing in your neighbourhood? How would you track those changes? What effects have they had in your neighbourhood? In helping to collect the data community members are helping to determine what sort of data is important to collect, what sort of data should be informing council policy?

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer. You might like to collect data for an existing measure, or have ideas about how to measure a cultural, social, economic or environmental shift that is not yet established.

Or you might like to sit on the Community Pulse Steering Committee. The Committee meets bi-monthly to set the direction of the project and make decisions on important Community Pulse matters. If you are interested in being elected to the Community Pulse Steering Committee please contact the Community Pulse coordinator with your details.

Contact Community Pulse Co-ordinator, Alicia Hooper, on 9209 6338 or [alhooper@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:alhooper@portphillip.vic.gov.au)

### General Inquiries

For any other inquiries relating to Community Pulse contact **Community Pulse Co-ordinator via Assist, Alicia Hooper, on 9209 6338, [alhooper@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:alhooper@portphillip.vic.gov.au)**

## Introduction

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*Welcome to the 2011 Community Pulse<sup>1</sup> Report. The Community Pulse is largely the volition of Port Phillip community members. In 2001 we asked residents how they could tell if our community was improving. Residents devised thirteen indicators to help us track changes in 'the stuff that really matters'. Nearly ten years on and residents from all areas of the community are actively collecting data to give us this picture on how our community is fairing.*

## **What is the Community Pulse?**

The Community Pulse helps our community to track long term trends on issues that they are passionate about and stimulate broader community awareness and action. The Community Pulse is particularly useful for things that may be changing at a pace that is difficult to detect, such as the gradual erosion of affordable housing.

The **indicators** have targets incorporated into their wording. These targets reflect many of the community aspirations outlined in the City of Port Phillip's Community Plan 2007 – 2017 which have in turn informed the Council's strategic directions of Engaging and Governing the City, Taking Action on Climate Change, Strengthening our Diverse and Inclusive Community and Enhancing Liveability as set down in the Council Plan 2009 – 2013.

Each indicator contains a series of **measures**. The measures are individual data sets (e.g. 'penguin population on the St Kilda Breakwater') that indicate whether we are heading towards or away from sustainability.

Measures that are collected regularly are marked in **black**, those that are yet to be properly established or not included in this year's cycle are marked in **grey**.

The measures of each indicator are assessed by the Community Pulse Steering Committee, commented on and rated with a smiley, grumpy or indifferent face. Only the information in the measures is considered in making these comments and ratings.


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<sup>1</sup> formerly known as SCPI – Sustainable Community Progress Indicators

## Community Pulse Snapshot

Indicator	Description	Rating
Connectedness	Do we know our neighbours? Can we count on them and them on us?	
Native plants and animals	Can Port Phillip's local plants and animals thrive?	
Crime & Safety	Do we feel safe in our homes and on the streets of Port Phillip?	
Sustainable usage	Are we using our resources efficiently and responsibly?	
Affordable housing	Is Port Phillip a place we can all afford to live in?	
Transport	Are we utilising active and public transport to get around Port Phillip?	
Participation	Are we involved in our community? Are we making a difference?	
Employment and Volunteering	Are there a range of working and volunteering opportunities available in Port Phillip?	
Pollution - air, water, noise and waste	Are we recycling? Are we keeping our streets and beaches clean? Do we care for the bay?	
Cost of living	Can we all afford the day-to-day cost of living?	
Diversity	Do people from diverse cultures really feel welcome here?	
Local icons and character	Can we still see the old Port Phillip amongst the new?	
Neighbourhood Shopping Needs	Can you buy the things you need locally?	

### Key:

			
Moving towards sustainability	Progress is mixed	Moving away from sustainability	Under construction

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## CONNECTEDNESS

### Do we know our neighbours? Can we count on them and them on us?

#### Progress



The results are largely positive across the five measures that make up social connectedness. Households are less transient; with a decline in the number of residents living here for less than five years and an increase in those who have lived here for more than five years. The number of primary and secondary students grew in 2009. The latter figure is set to increase in 2011 with the enrolment of 150 extra year-seven students at the newly completed Albert Park College. There were more street and block parties registered across the municipality for the 2010/11 season. The average number of smiles you are likely to see in our street has jumped from 11 to 13 SpH.

#### *What we said last time*



The Street Parties project has ebbed slightly in 2007-08 after their high water mark in 2006-07. On average you'll see more smiling on Port Phillip streets, and more people you recognise with more households living in Port Phillip longer. The networks of 'neighbours that people know well enough to talk to' has improved since 2006, though there is still a proportion of residents (6%) who feel there is no-one in their neighbourhood they could regularly talk to. Local primary school enrolments continue to rise and the sharp decrease in secondary school enrolments due to the closure of Albert Park Secondary College has levelled out.

#### Measures

- How long a household lives in the City of Port Phillip
- Enrolment in local schools
- Social links between neighbours
- Street parties
- Smiles per Hour Ratings

## Neighbourhoods

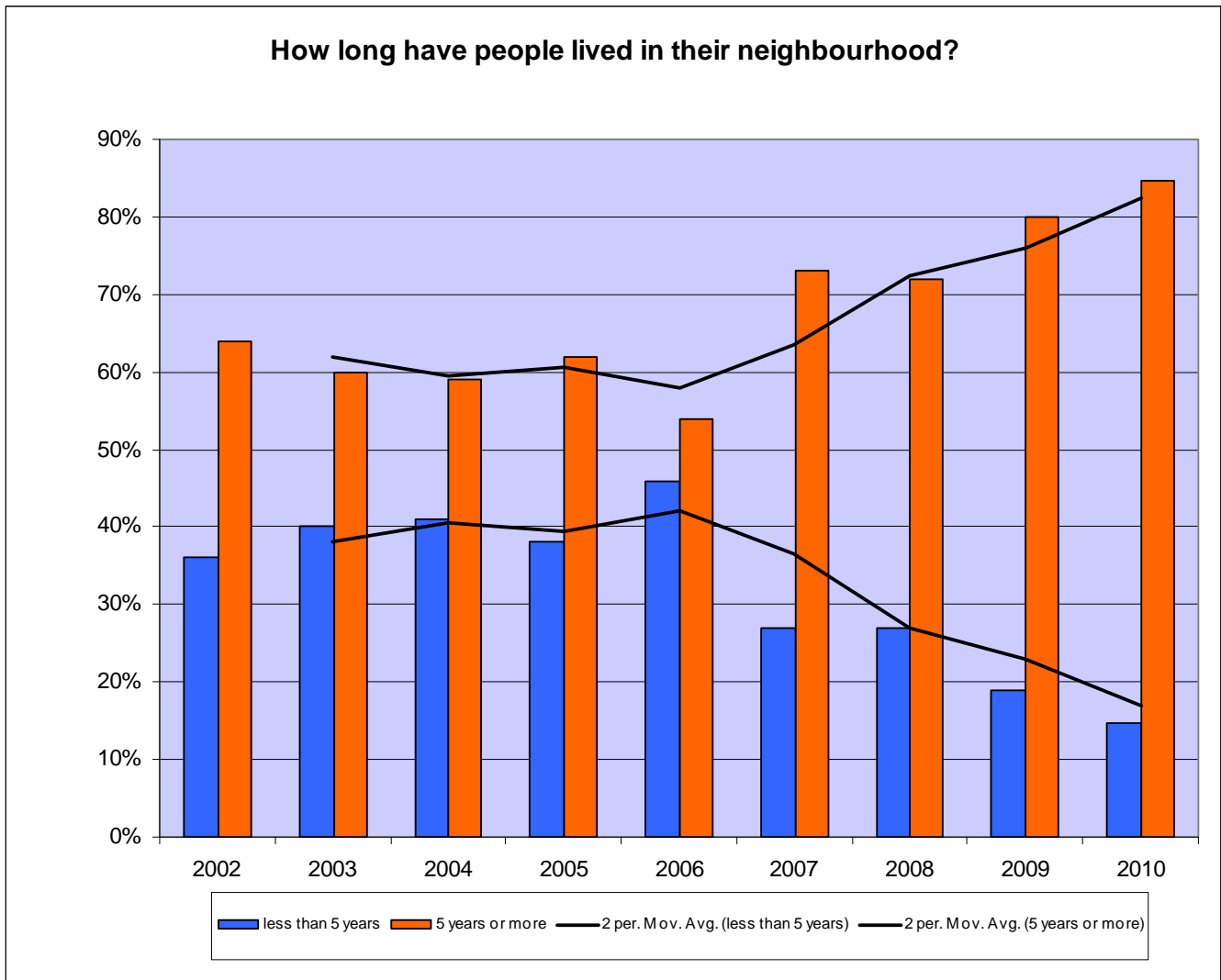


Figure 1. Source: CoPP 2002-2010 Community Satisfaction Survey, \*Note question was asked slightly differently in 2004 survey and sample size varies after 2008.

Figure 1 shows a positive trend in number of households that have lived in Port Phillip for more than five years, up from 72% in 2008 to 80% in 2009 and 85% in 2010. Correspondingly the percentage of households that have lived in Port Phillip for 'less than 5 years' has dropped from 27% in 2007 and 2008 to 16% in 2009 and 15% in 2010. In 2006 46% of residents had lived in Port Phillip for less than five years. A two period moving average helps to visually represent the diverging trend from 2006 onwards which suggests we are becoming less transient.

The length of time lived in a neighbourhood has a positive influence on the amount of emotional energy a resident invests which in turn has an effect on the resident's sense of safety, subjective wellbeing and self-reported health. Residential longevity builds social networks and provides a base from which people can work with a unified voice.



## School Enrolments

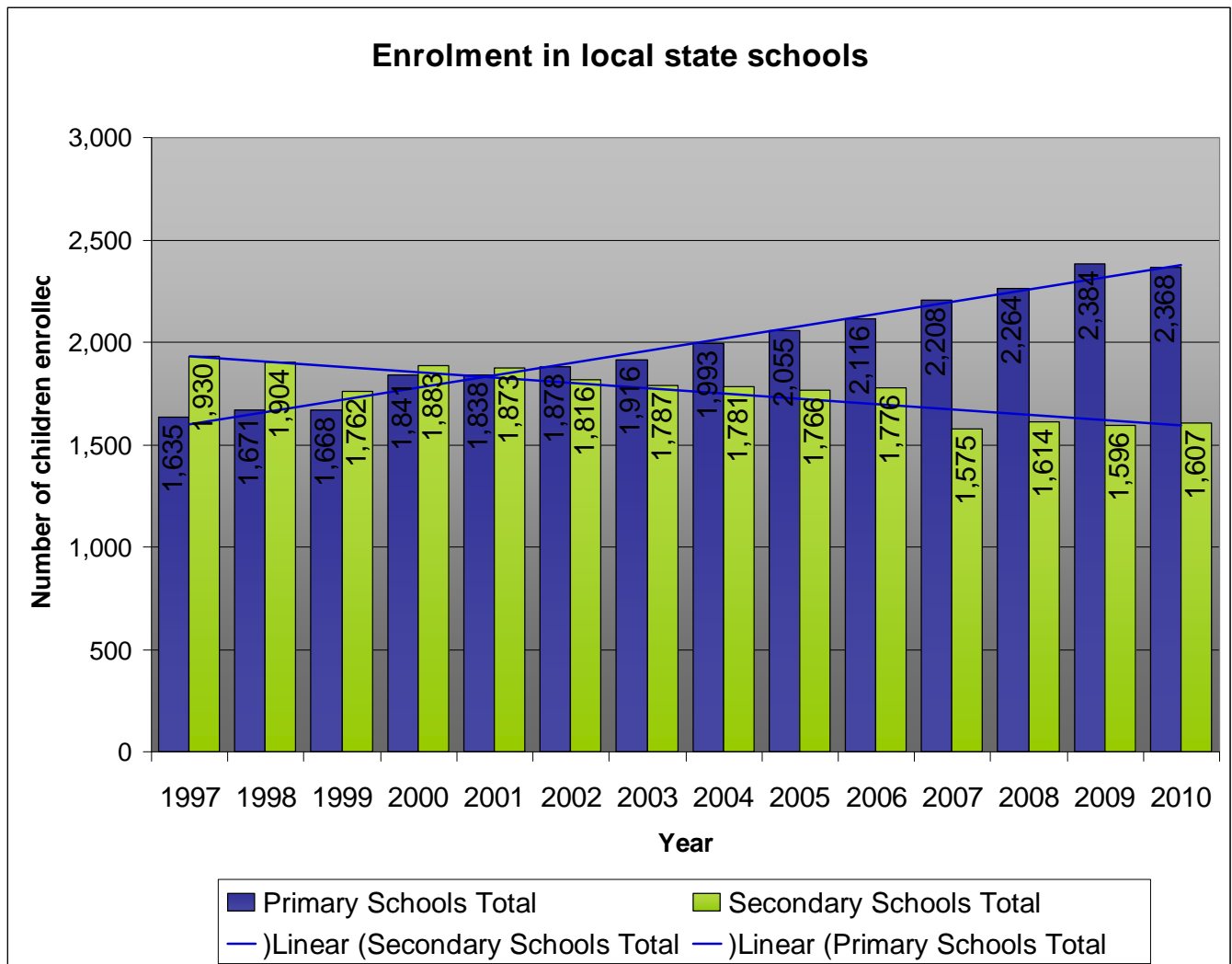


Figure 2. Source: Department for Education and Early Childhood Development

Figure 2 shows a diverging trend in the number of Port Phillip primary and secondary state school enrolments in the last 10 years, with the number of primary school enrolments increasing and the number of secondary school enrolments decreasing, more markedly with the closure of Albert Park College School at the end of 2006. Secondary school enrolments have stabilised since 2007 and increased slightly from 1575 to 1614 in 2008. Whilst there has been a slight slip in the number of high school enrolments over the last two years, the 150 extra year-seven enrolments taken on in 2011 at the new Albert Park College is set to boost total secondary school enrolments in Port Phillip by 9%.

## Talking to Neighbours

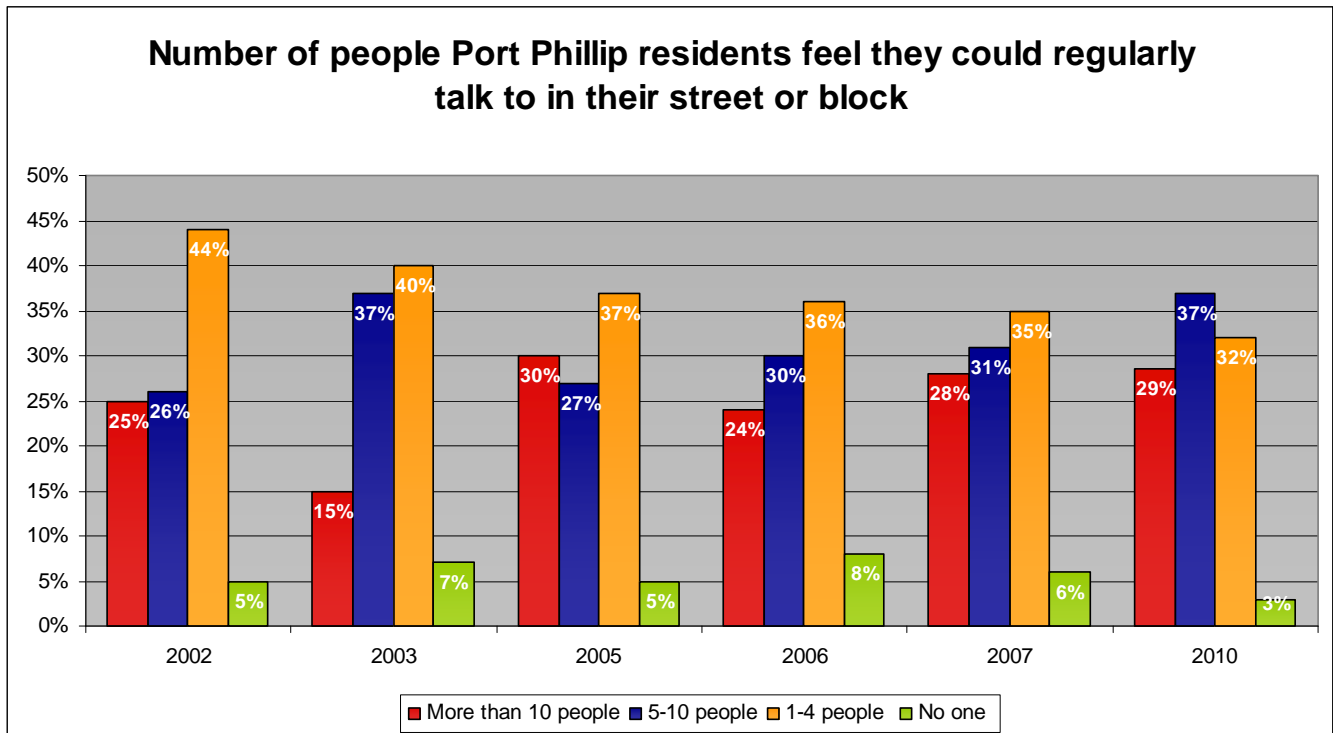


Figure 3. Source: CoPP 2002, 2003, 2005 & 2006 Community Satisfaction Indicators (CSI) survey. Note question was not asked in 2004 survey or in 2008 or 2009.

Figure 3 shows an increase in the number of Port Phillip residents who feel that they can regularly talk to between five and ten and more than ten people in their street or block (37% and 29% in 2010 up from 31% and 28% when the question was last posed to residents in 2007). The number of residents who feel they can regularly talk to between one and four people in the street or block has dropped from 35% in 2007 to 32% in 2010. The number of residents who feel there is no one in their street or block they can talk to has fallen to 3%, the lowest figure since the Customer Satisfaction Surveys began 2002. Research into social context and connectedness suggests connected neighbourhoods experience higher educational achievement, better performing government institutions, faster economic growth and less crime and violence, which contributes to individual and collective health and happiness.

## Street Parties



Figure 4. Source: Community Health and Development, CoPP

For six years the City of Port Phillip has supported Port Phillip Community Group in bringing neighbours closer together through their 'street parties' program. Figure 4 shows that the number of street parties registered in Port Phillip increased considerably since the project's inception. In 2009/2010, 27 neighbourhoods have taken the opportunity to close the street and roll out the barbie. Season 2010/11 has not yet been called to a close and already over 30 street and block parties have been held. Since 2004, 161 street parties have been registered in Port Phillip. And they are just the ones we know about! Many residents have reported increased interaction in their neighbourhood since their street party and have further fostered the culture of friendliness by forming child-minding or 'walking school bus' groups, and organising garage sales or swap meets.

# Smiles Per Hour

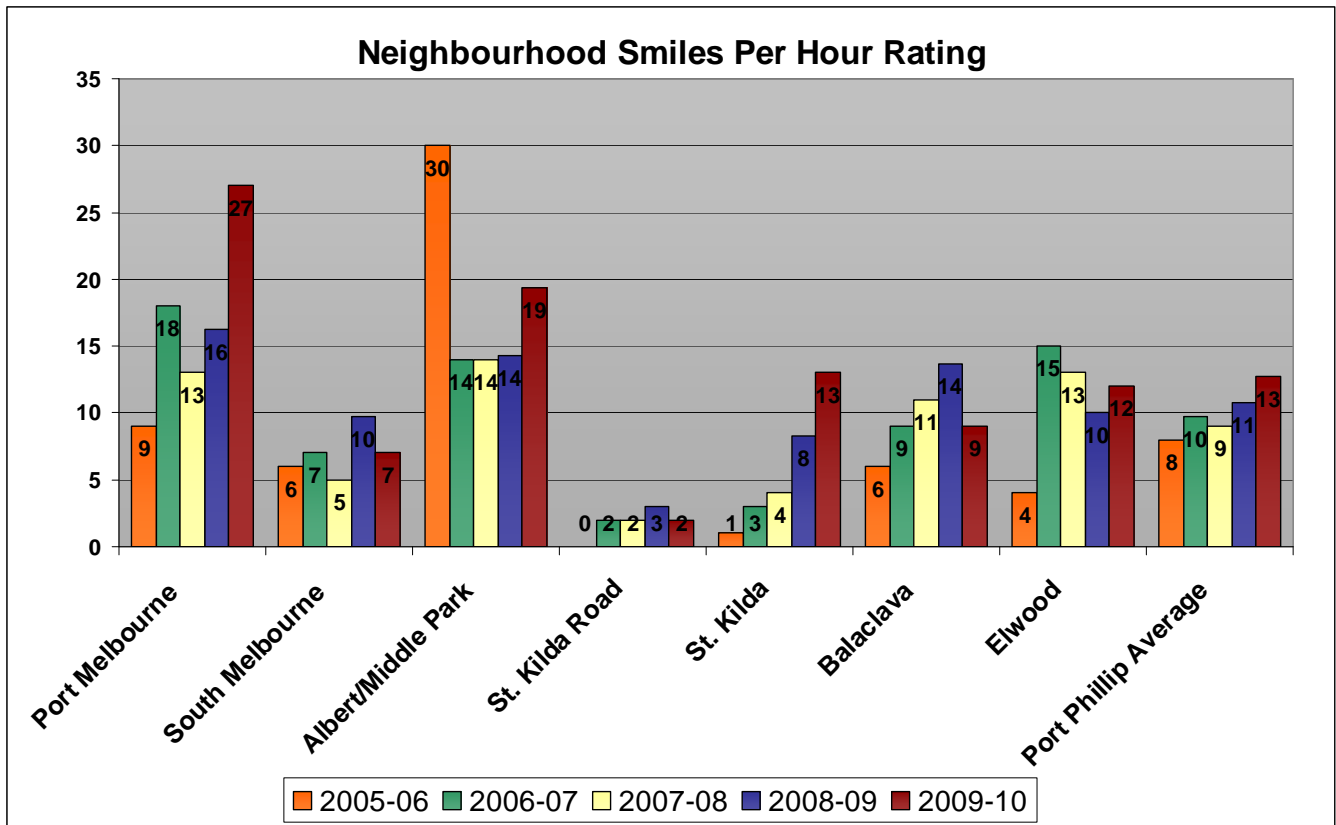


Figure 4. Source: SpH Smiles Spies

Figure 4 shows Port Melbourne has edged out Albert/Middle Park for the second year in a row with an average Smiles per Hour rating of 27. The win was secured by their final, insuperable SpH rating for 2009/10, 40 Smiles per Hour! Albert/Middle Park scored a gallant 20 and St Kilda, with 2009/10's most improved rating scored 13 Smiles per Hour. The collective, socially connective work of the Smiles per Hour project - its smile spies and its smiling ambassadors - has seen the Port Phillip average increase from 11 to 13 Smiles per Hour in 2009/10.



## CONSERVE LOCAL NATIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS

### Can Port Phillip's local plants and animals thrive?

#### Progress



Despite some concern earlier in the year, it seems 2010 has been a good year for our native fauna. The Earthcare St Kilda team have reported an increase both in the estimated population and in local breeding sites which reverses a three-year trend. The native bush and water birds of Albert Park are also doing quite well. In 2010, resident ornithologist, Mary Ellen Talmage, recorded an increase in the total number of bush and water bird breeding species, the highest it has been since 1984 when Mary Ellen began her records.

#### *What we said last time:*



The Penguin population remains at a relatively high level though numbers have dipped slightly in the last three years. Despite a number of changes in the Port Phillip Bay ecology, it is still too soon to tell whether the dredging of Port Phillip Bay has had an effect on the bay ecosystem and the breakwater population. Despite a tapering in the number of bush and water bird species in Albert Park in the last year, the overall trend shows the total number of both bush and water bird breeding species has increased incrementally since 2002, with the combined total of breeding species rising from 18 in 2002 to 32 in 2008

#### Measures

- Number of bird species and breeding pairs in Albert Park
- Estimate of penguin population on the St Kilda Breakwater

# Number of bird species in Albert Park

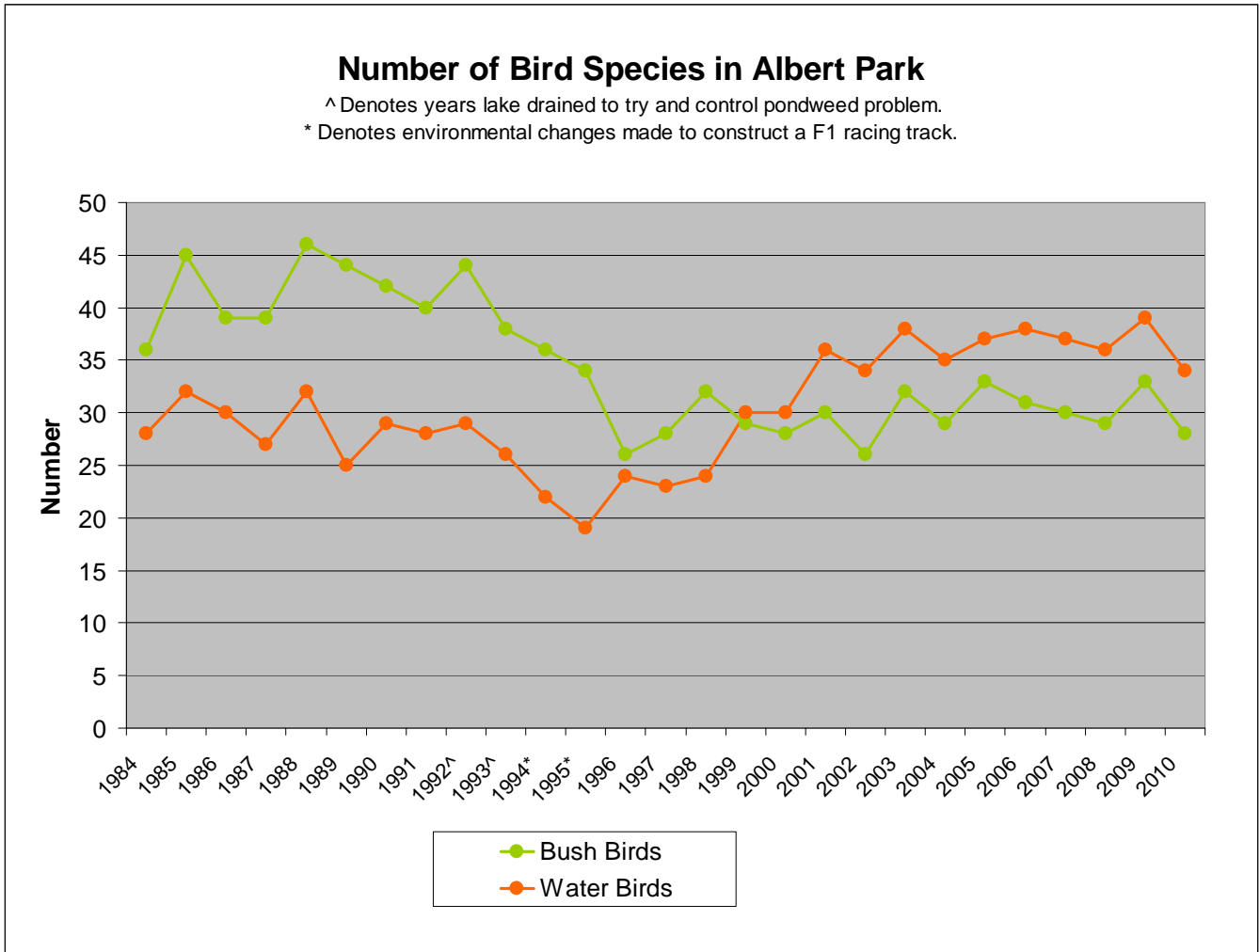


Figure 6. Source: Mary Ellen Talmage

<sup>^</sup> denotes year Albert Park lake was drained for the purpose of controlling a pond weed problem.

<sup>\*</sup> denotes year Environmental changes were made in Albert Park to construct a F1 racing track.

## Number of Breeding Bird Species in Albert Park

^ Denotes years lake drained to try and control pondweed problem.  
 \* Denotes environmental changes made to construct a F1 racing track.

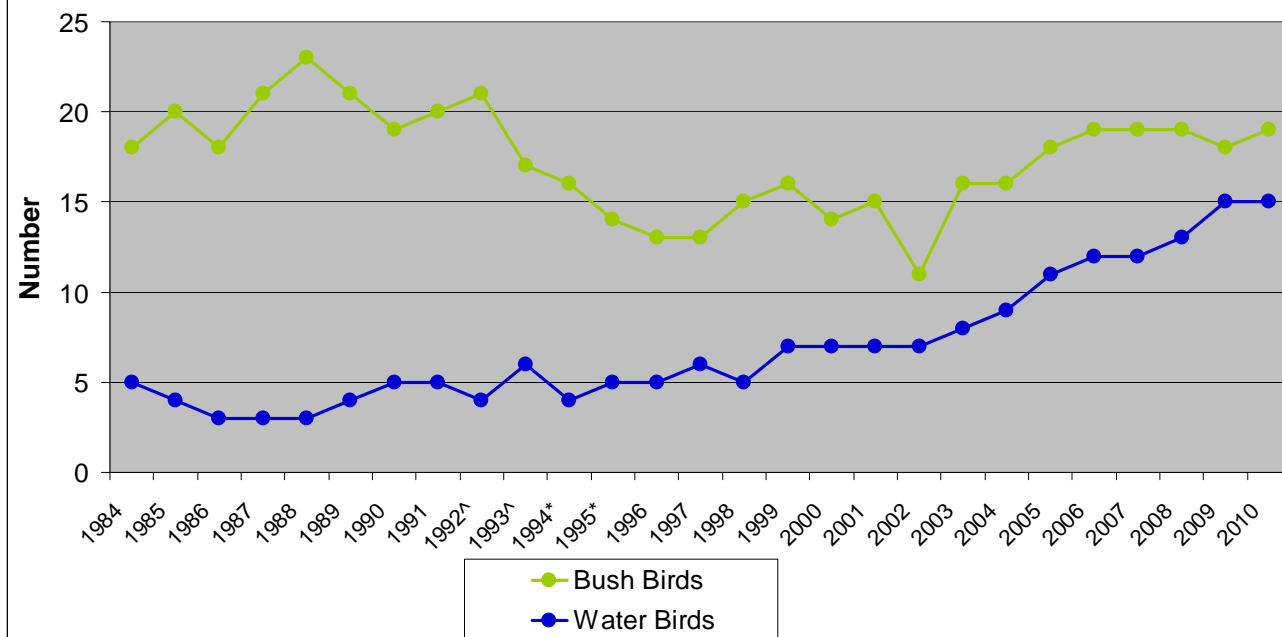


Figure 7. Source: Mary Ellen Talmage

^ denotes year Albert Park lake was drained for the purpose of controlling a pond weed problem.

\* denotes year Environmental changes were made in Albert Park to construct a F1 racing track.

Figures 6 and 7 come from the work of Mary Ellen Talmage who has been observing and counting birds in Albert Park since the late 1970s. She comments: "The species count only shows how many actual bird species are seen in the park per year. A bird species only needs to be recorded once in order to be included in the yearly species tally. If a species disappears and another one appears, whether new or recorded in previous years, the species tally remains the same. In addition it does not reflect abundance, whether a species is common or rarely seen, or whether they appear in flocks or are single sightings."

The number of bush bird species in Albert Park (figure 6) has decreased from 33 to 28 in the last year and water bird species numbers have also decreased from 39 to 34. Correspondingly the overall bird species residing in Albert Park fell from 72 in 2009 to 62 in 2010.

The total number of both bush and water birds breeding in Albert Park has increased slightly from 33 to 34. The combined total represents the highest number of breeding species since Mary Ellen began her records in 1984. Mary Ellen also notes that of the 19 bush bird and 15 water bird species breeding at the lake only six species (five bush and one water bird) are non-indigenous.

## Penguin Population

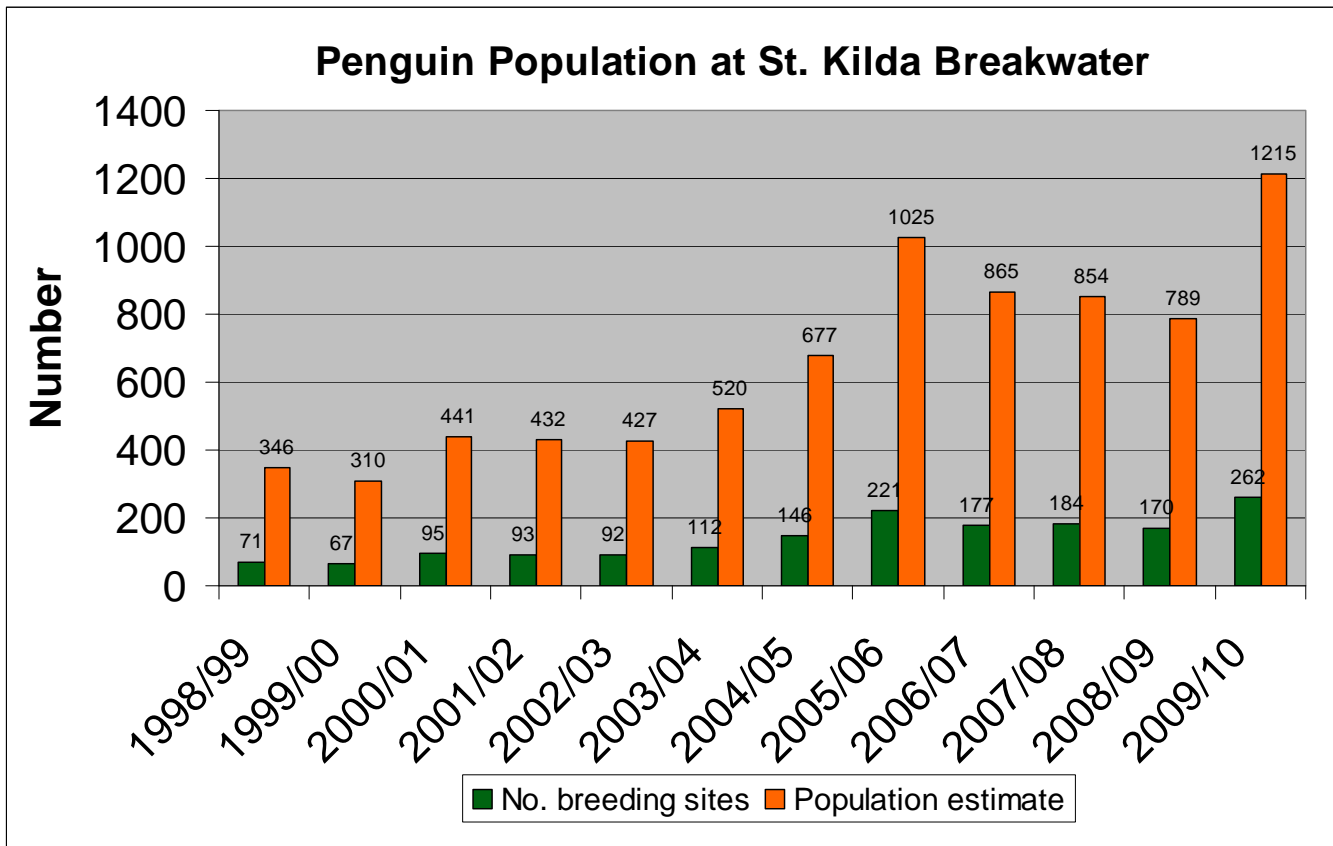


Figure 8. Source: Earthcare St Kilda

Figure 8 shows estimated penguin population on the St. Kilda Breakwater based on the count of breeding sites. This data has been collected by Earthcare St Kilda twice monthly since 1998. The graph shows penguin numbers have increased by 53%. The trend of the last three years has been reversed in 2009/10 with local Little Penguin population reaching 1215. The number of penguin breeding sites has grown too, up by 35% to 262.

It is at this time of year (April-May), after the breeding season, that the Little Penguins are forced to stay on land while they moult. Because they are unable to fish the Little Penguins typically lose 50% of their body weight. Once the Little Penguins have their new feathers it is crucial they find food and recover their body weight. Penguin mortality is slightly higher at this time than other time of the year. To find out more about our resident penguin population go to [Earthcare St Kilda](#). To find out what else is happening around Port Phillip Bay, say g'day to the [Port Phillip bay-keeper](#).





## CRIME AND SAFETY

### Do we feel safe in our homes and on the streets of Port Phillip?

#### Progress



Overall we are safer. Many Port Phillip residents think that crime rates have increased or are about the same as 5 years ago, when in fact crime rates have been decreasing for the last ten years. The slight downturn recorded in 2009 in the percentage of syringes disposed of appropriately was corrected in 2010. The City of Port Phillip Needle and Syringe program has recently been recognised for its success in health promotion. By investing in innovative 'preventive' health measures millions of dollars has been saved on health service provision.

#### *What we said last time:*



Results have continued to remain steady. Again, crime rates have decreased, but perception of crime rates is still increasing. Many Port Phillip residents think little has changed in the crime rates of the past 5 years or crime has increased.

#### Measures

- Syringes disposed of appropriately
- Actual crime
- Perceptions of crime

## Safe syringe disposal

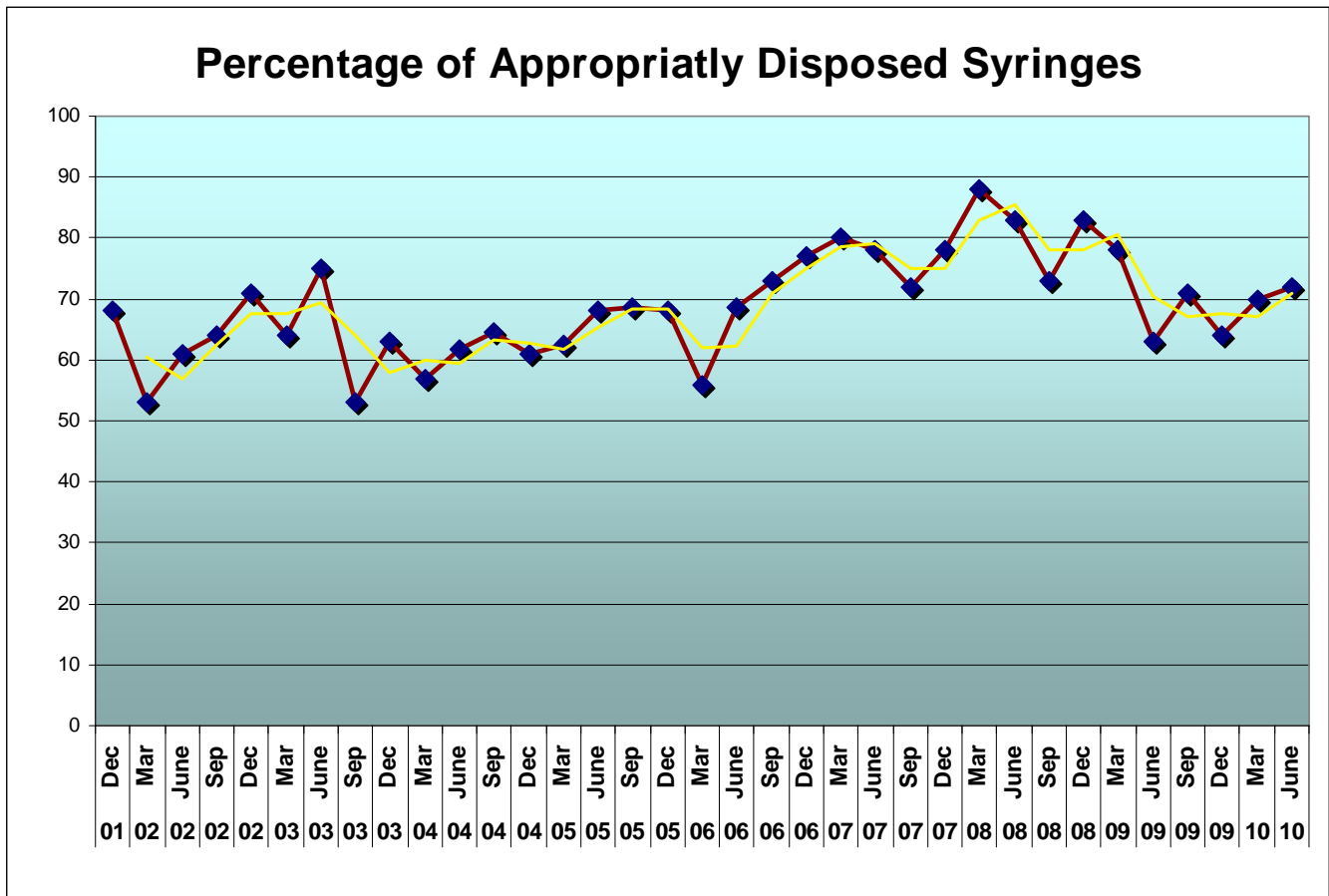


Figure 9. Source: Doug Martin, Co-ordinator, Health Services CoPP

Figure 9 shows a slight dip in the percentage of syringes appropriately disposed of in sharp safe containers compared with syringes manually collected by the street-cleaning service. The number of appropriately disposed of syringes dropped to 63% in June 2009 and 64% in December 2010 before climbing back to 72% in June 2010. The yellow line shows an overall positive trend in syringes appropriately disposed of since the Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) began which indicates the strategic placement of the sharp safe containers in public places across the municipality has contributed to the comprehensive collection of syringes. This data shows the majority of injecting drug users dispose of syringes and other injecting paraphernalia responsibly. According to the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, NSPs have achieved 'a \$1-for-\$4 return on investment which equates to \$15.9 million in St Kilda.

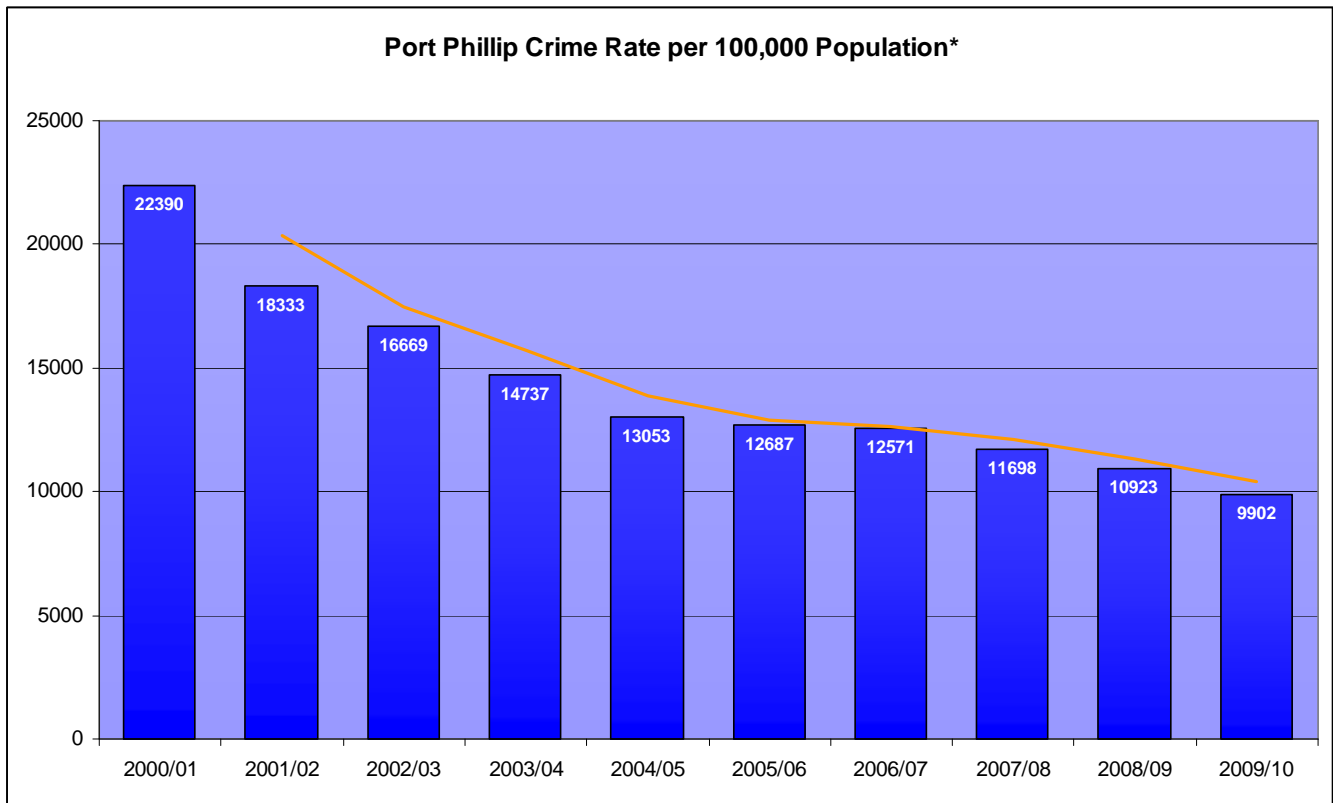


Figure 10. Source: Victoria Police. \* Rates for 2009/10 were calculated using estimated resident population figures as at 30 June 2009 and obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS Cat. No. 3218.0) released on 30 March 2010. Note : the number of crimes recorded may be retrospectively updated if charges are dropped

Figure 10 shows a continued decline in the total crime reported in Port Phillip. 2009/10 represents an all time low with 9,517 crimes recorded (9,902 per population of 100,000) down 7.3% on last year with 10,266 crimes registered in 2008/09 (10,923 per population 100,000). In 2009/10 there were 1,111 crimes recorded against the person (1,282 per 100,000 population) and 7,664 crimes recorded against property (8,155 per 100,000 population) representing a decrease of 7.8% and 14.4% respectively on last years figures. Though the current population in the City of Port Phillip is estimated at 93,645, figures are averaged per 100,000 to permit comparison across municipalities. In comparison with the other municipalities in Police Service Area R1D2 shows total crime in Port Phillip is higher than Stonington (9,188 per population of 100,000) though lower than Yarra (13,255 per population 100,000). The Victorian state average is 6,666 per population of 100,000.

## Perception of Crime in Port Phillip Neighbourhoods

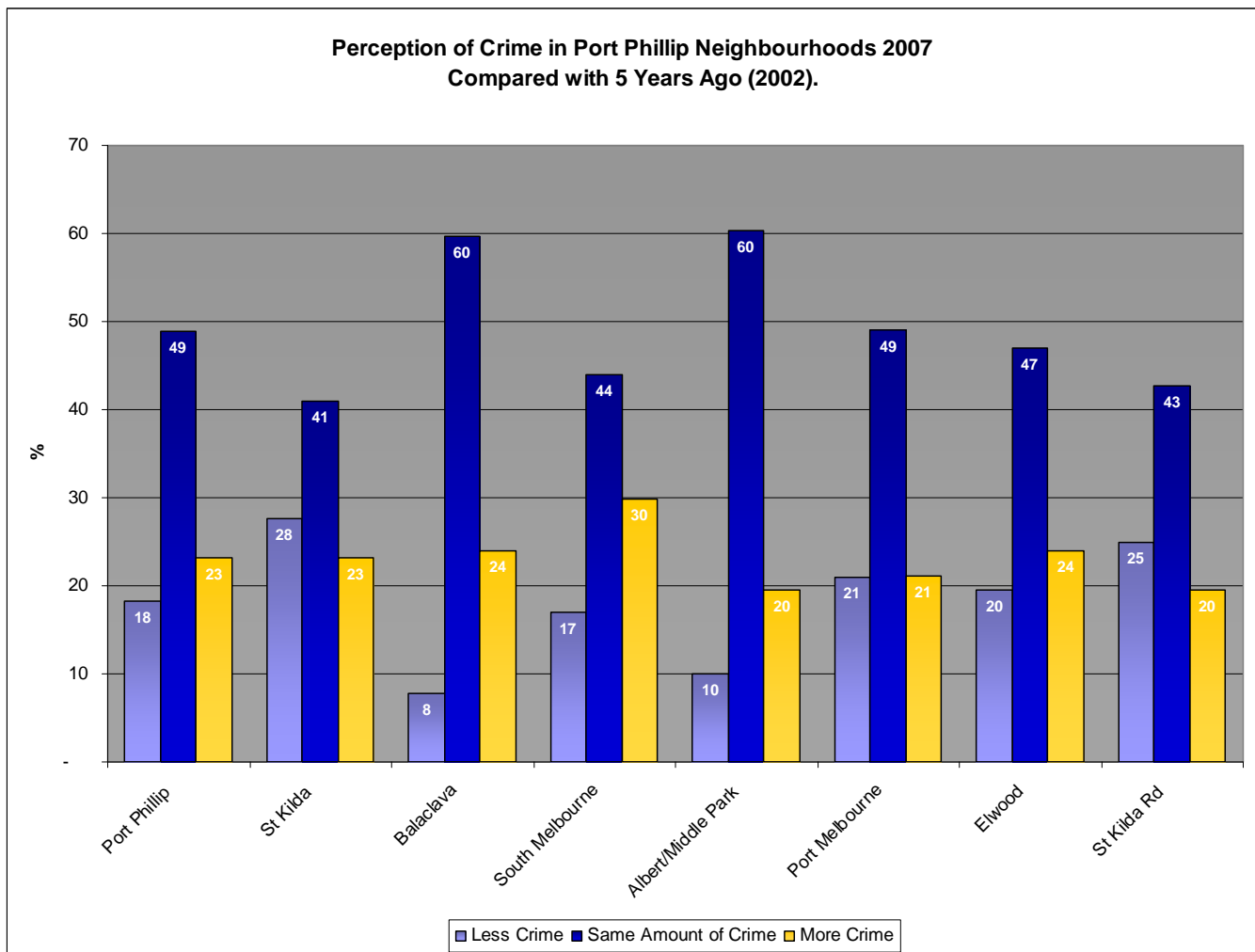


Figure 11. Source: Health and Wellbeing Plan 2007-11 CoPP

Figure 11 shows the results of a survey conducted as part of the City of Port Phillip's Health and Wellbeing Plan 2007-11 in which 700 residents were randomly sampled across seven neighbourhoods. The graph shows 49% of people felt that the level of crime in Port Phillip has not changed in the past 5 years, 23% believe there is more crime and 18% feel there is less crime. Most of the improvements were noted in Port Melbourne, St Kilda and St Kilda Rd with residents perceiving these areas to experience less crime than 5 years ago. Even though actual crime decreased between 2002 and 2007, perception of crime has increased over the same period.



## SUSTAINABLE USAGE

### Are we using our resources efficiently?

#### Progress



Our progress in sustainable usage is mixed, we have made considerable improvement in reducing the amount of water we are using and our households are consuming slightly less electricity and gas. This is a good sign we are becoming more aware of the impact our consumption and fossil fuel dependence has on the environment. However, taken altogether, Port Phillip residents are leaving a bigger eco-footprint than our Victorian and Australian counterparts and three worlds more than our share.

#### What we said last time:



Residential water consumption has maintained decreased consumption from 2000 to 2006. Other measures for this indicator have not been adopted yet. Residential water consumption has decreased in recent years, but the take up of renewable energy options has been minimal. Council is trialling a Sustainable Design Scorecard that once adopted will allow better measurement of environmentally sensitive development and buildings throughout Port Phillip.

#### Measures

- Residential water usage
- Residential gas usage
- Residential electricity usage & Total electricity use per sector
- Consumption Atlas (Greenhouse gas, Water & Eco Footprint)

### Residential electricity use in Port Phillip

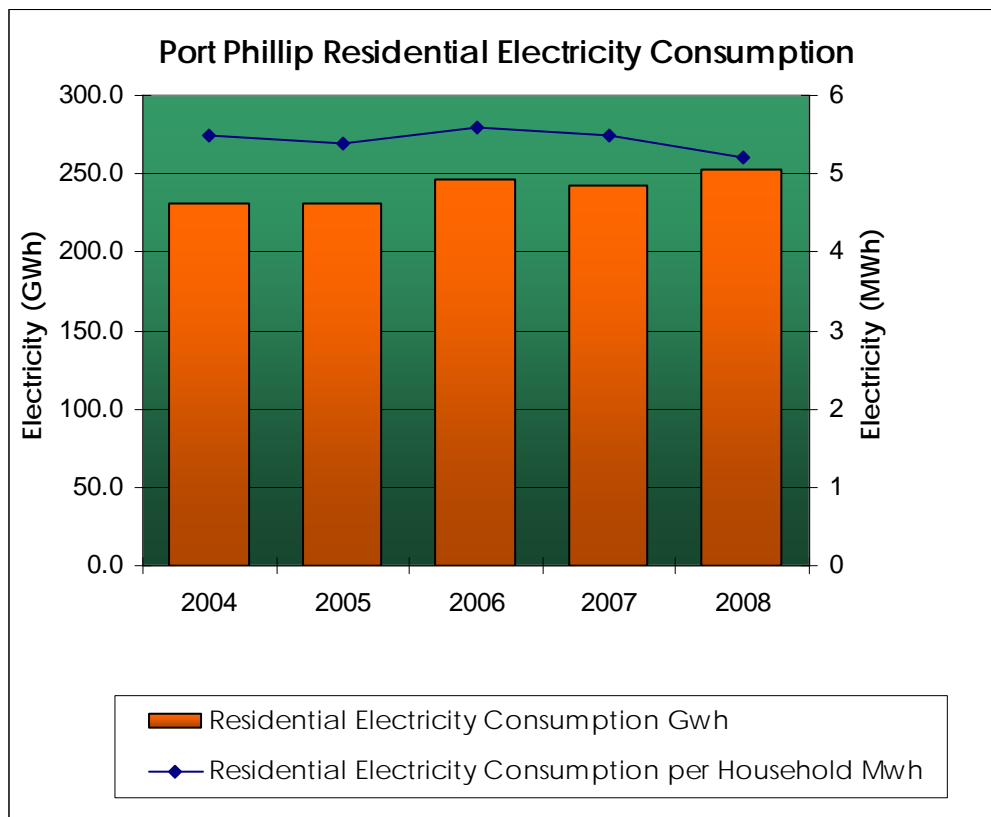


Figure 12 shows an increase in the total residential electricity consumption from 242.7 GWh in 2007 to 253 GWh in 2008. However a greater increase in population figures means the ‘per household’ rate is 5.2 Mwh compared to 5.5 Mwh in 2007. The average Port Phillip household is still producing 7 tonnes of CO2 every year from metered electricity use in the home, which is equivalent to 400 black balloons every day. A DSE Victoria-wide research project can be found [here](#).

## Residential gas use in Port Phillip

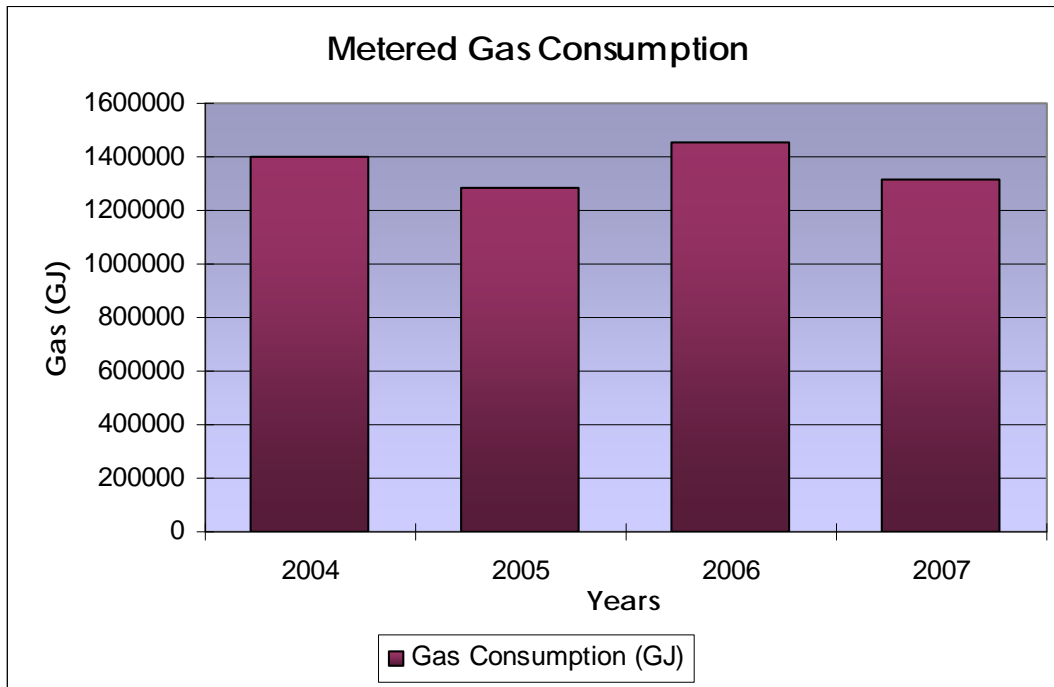


Figure 13. Source: DSE In partnership with MEFL and NAGA.

Figure 13 shows a slight upwards trend in the total residential metered gas consumption despite a reduction in the amount of gas consumed in Port Phillip households from 1455826 GJ in 2006 to 1314964 in 2007. However, as the same DSE research shows, a sharper increase in the number of Metering Installation Registration Number (MIRNs) means the both the gas consumption per MIRN and the amount of CO2 produced per MIRN has decreased. The inefficiency of converting coal to electricity (approximately 25% efficiency source to customer as opposed to 85% efficiency of gas combustion) means using natural gas in the home cuts CO2 emissions by half in the case of cooktops and ovens. Gas heaters produce approximately one third the CO2 emissions electric heaters do. In Australia in 2006/07, 83% of electricity consumed was generated by coal<sup>2</sup>, by diversifying our energy portfolio to include a number of decentralised renewable energy sources we can lessen our dependence on fossil fuels

<sup>2</sup> Energy in Australia ABARE 2008

## Residential water use in Port Phillip

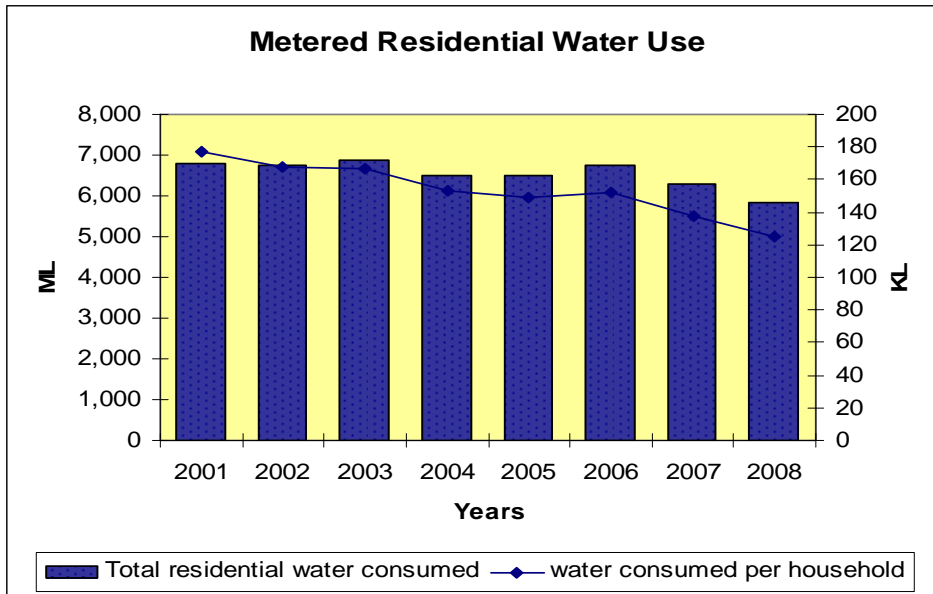


Figure 14. Source: SE Water

Figure 14 shows that the volume of water consumed in Port Phillip households has decreased after peaking in 2003 (6894 ML) dropping to 5817 ML in 2008. Correspondingly, the average annual water consumption per household has steadily decreased since 2003 from 166 KL to 129 KL.

## Residential eco-footprint in Port Phillip

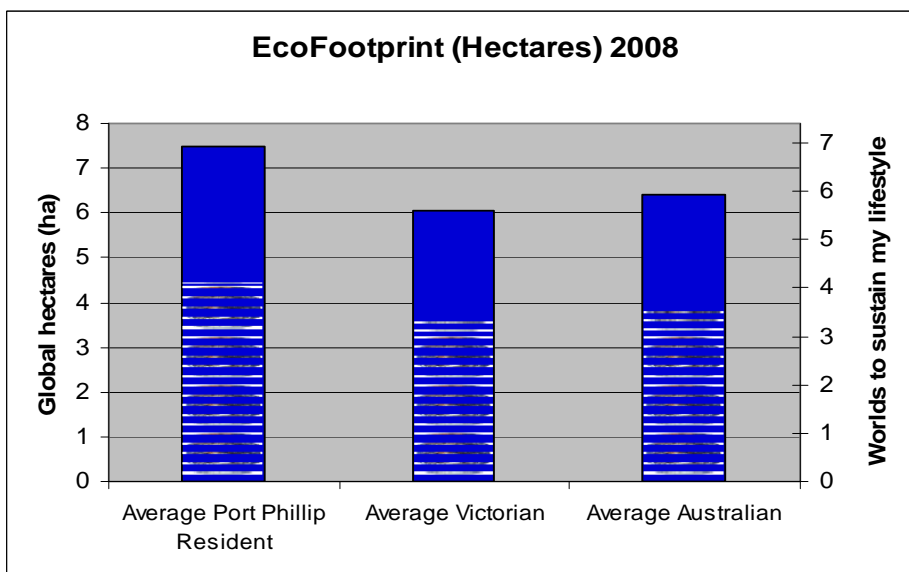


Figure 15. Source: Australian Conservation Foundation Consumption Atlas and WWF Living Planet Report 2006.

Figure 15 shows the average City of Port Phillip resident to have an ecological footprint (7.47 ha per capita) greater than the average Australian (6.4 ha per capita). To put that in context, the ACF Consuming Australia report reveals Australians have the fourth largest eco-footprint in the world. Australians require 3.49 worlds to sustain their consumptive habits, City of Port Phillip residents use up 4.07 worlds worth of resources. The global average is 2.2 worlds, but the reality is that we only have one.



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### Is Port Phillip a place that people with different incomes can afford to live in?

#### Progress



The annual income required to purchase a median-priced house in the City of Port Phillip sharply decreased in 2009, while the cost of a median-priced house in the City of Port Phillip has slightly increased. The number of rooming houses in Port Phillip has decreased since 1997, though less sharply since 2003. The percentage of community run rooming houses has increased in this time as the number of privately run rooming houses has fallen.

#### *What we said last time:*



Affordable housing in Port Phillip is becoming increasingly scarce. Continuing this upward trend, the income required to service a mortgage (median price) in Port Phillip increased markedly in 2007 and 2008. For renters, well over 25% of their income is being spent on rent. The trend in the number of rooming houses in Port Phillip continues to fall though there has been an increase (63 to 65) from 2006 to 2007. Most of the measures from this indicator are from 1997, 2000 and 2003.

#### Measures

- Home ownership affordability
- Private rental affordability
- Proportion of social housing to total dwellings in Port Phillip
- Number of rooming houses in Port Phillip
- Number and type of dwellings in Port Phillip



## Home Ownership Affordability.

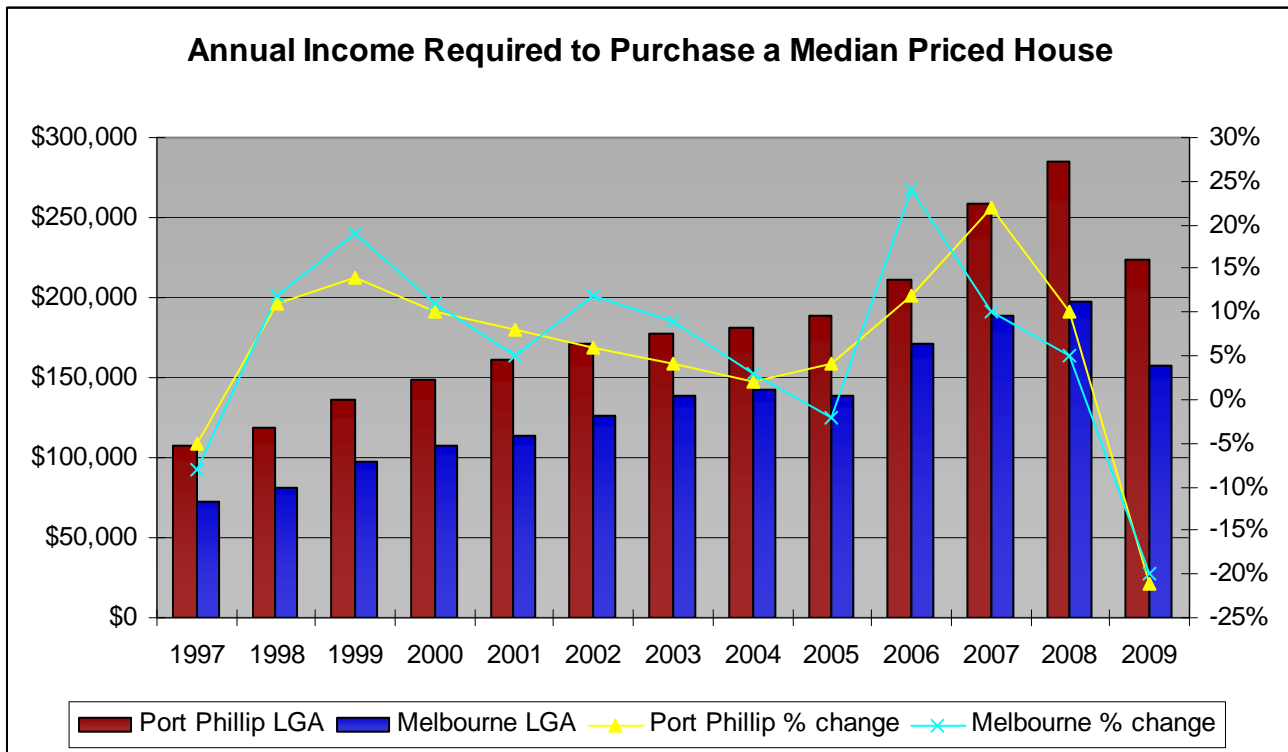


Figure 16. Data Sources: [www.housingin victoria.com.au](http://www.housingin victoria.com.au). For houses and units: Valuer General Guide to Property Values, various years; For all dwellings: Valuer General unit record files; Reserve Bank of Australia, Reserve Bank Bulletin, Statistical Tables, Financial Markets, Interest Rates, Table F05 Indicator Lending Rates (Housing Loans; Variable; Banks; Standard) (Yearly Median)

Note: (i) The Inner Melbourne Region comprises the four municipalities of Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Yarra. (ii) Housing loan assumptions are (a) loan repayments will be less than 30% household income (b) the amount borrowed will be 90% of the affordable house price and (c) the term of the loan will be 25 years.

The threshold income required to purchase a median priced house in the City of Port Phillip decreased by 21% in 2009 from \$284,964 to \$223,872, reversing a 12 year upward trend. Data from the Housing in Victoria website indicates the cost of a median-priced house in the Port Phillip increased by 2%, from \$915,963 in 2008 to \$936,500 in 2009. Both the marked drop in annual income required to purchase a median-priced house and mild increase in the cost of a median-priced house are comparable to other inner city LGAs. Melbourne's threshold income, for example, decreased by 20% (from \$197,892 in 2008 to \$157,774 in 2009), while a median-priced house in the LGA increased by 4% (\$636,086 in 2008 to \$660,000 in 2009).

## Home Ownership Affordability

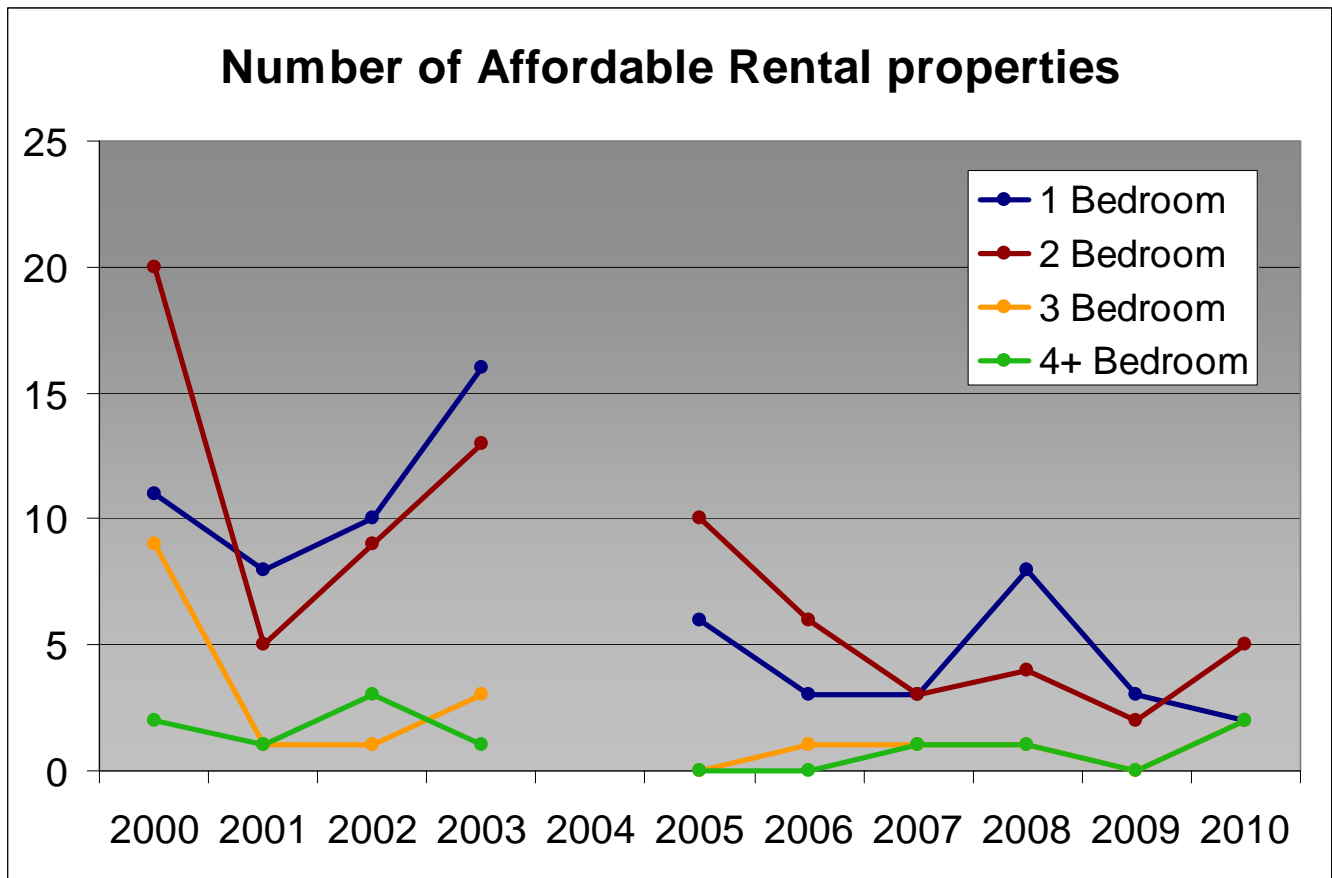


Figure 17. Data Sources: Office of Housing, Rental Report, September quarter, various years

Note: (i) This private rental affordability indicator assumes a match between dwelling size and particular household types receiving Centrelink incomes as follows: 1-bedroom: Singles on Newstart; 2-bedrooms: Single parent with 1 child; 3-bedrooms: Couple on Newstart with 2 children; 4-bedrooms: Couple on Newstart with 4 children  
(ii) For each bedroom size/household type, rent assistance is subtracted from the rent, and the resulting rent is divided by the Centrelink income for that household type  
(iii) Private rental dwellings are affordable where the rent to income ratio is less than 30%  
(iv) For more detailed notes see the Office of Housing Rental Report.

Figure 17 shows that in 2010 there were eleven private rental properties considered affordable for low-income households in the whole of the City of Port Phillip (five two-bedroom properties and two one-, three- and four-bedroom properties). This figure whilst forming part of an overall downward trend represents an improvement on 2009 when only five rental properties considered affordable and there were no affordable three or four-bedroom rental properties. Research recently conducted by the Swinburne institute for Social Research (May 2007) reveals the municipality's median annual income of \$59,000 is not sufficient to cover the cost of two and three bedroom rental dwelling. Whilst the annual median income is sufficient for one and two bedroom units, the rental costs of the properties are markedly higher than metropolitan Melbourne.

## Percentage of social housing to total dwellings in Port Phillip

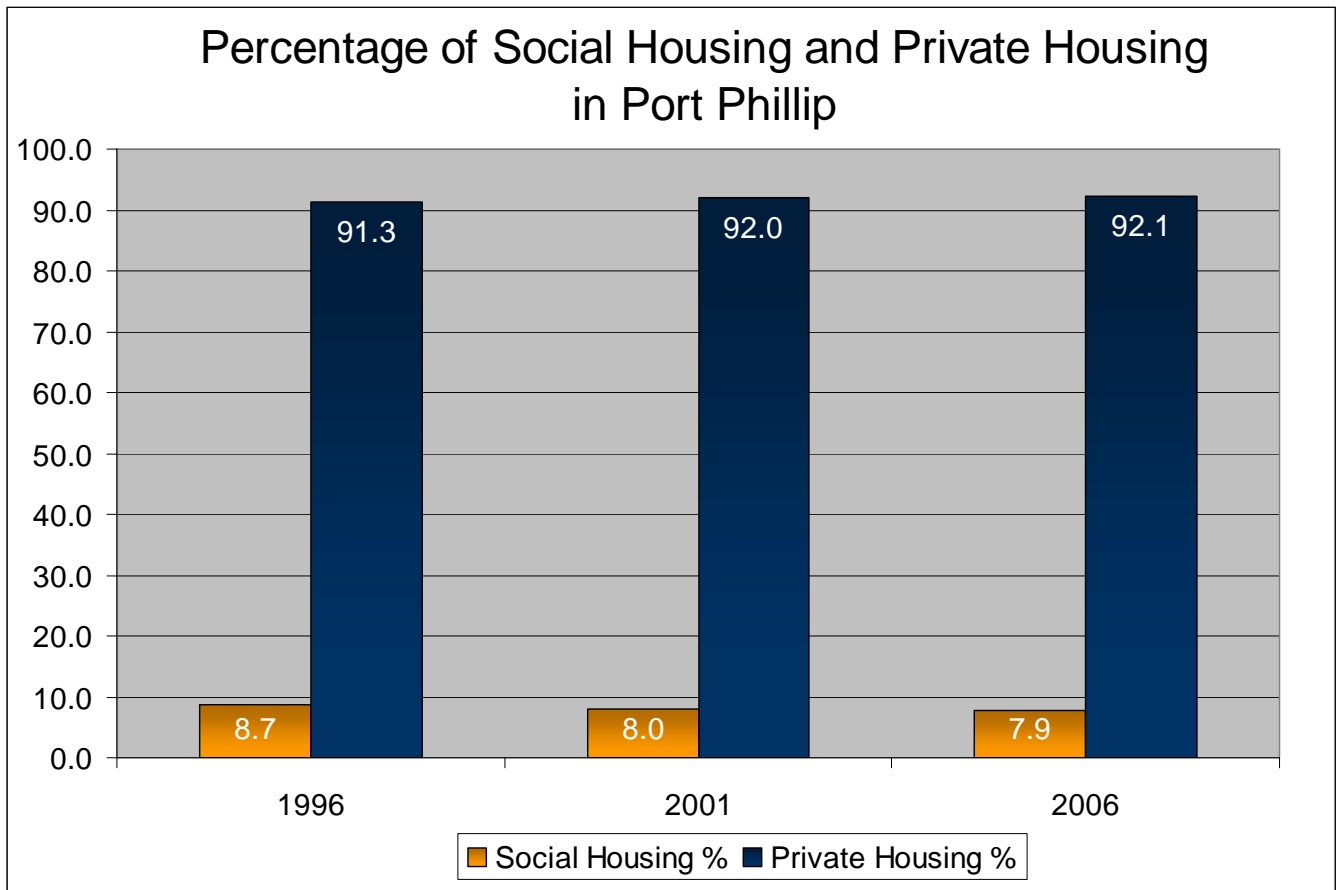


Figure 18. Source: Gary Spivak, Housing Development Officer CoPP.

## Proportion of social housing to total dwellings in Port Phillip

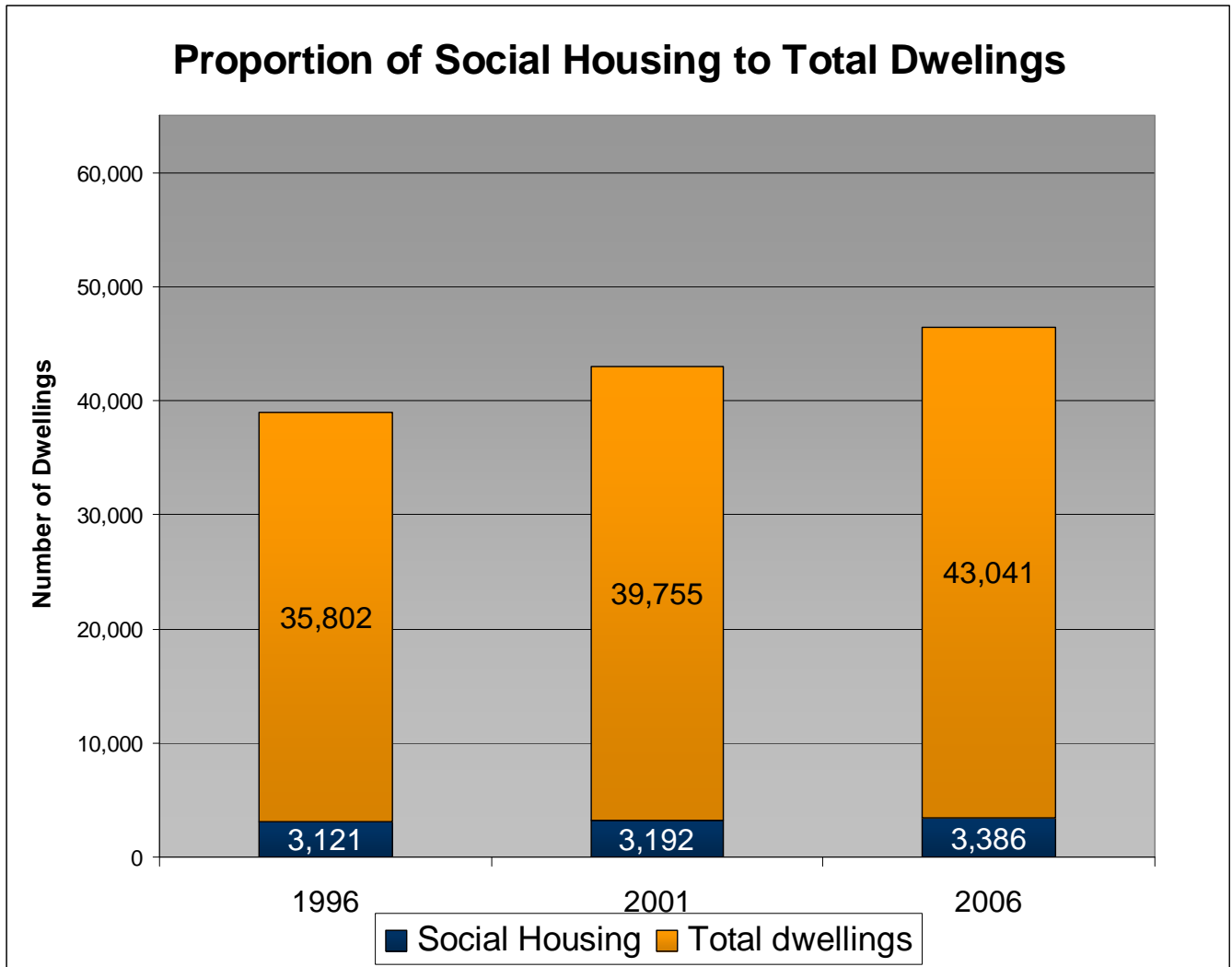


Figure 19. Source: Gary Spivak, Housing Development Officer CoPP.

Figure 18 and 19 show while the total number of dwellings in Port Phillip has increased 41% from 39,648 in 1996 to 56,008 in 2006, the proportion of social housing to private housing has decreased from 8% to 6% over the same period.

## Number of rooming houses in Port Phillip

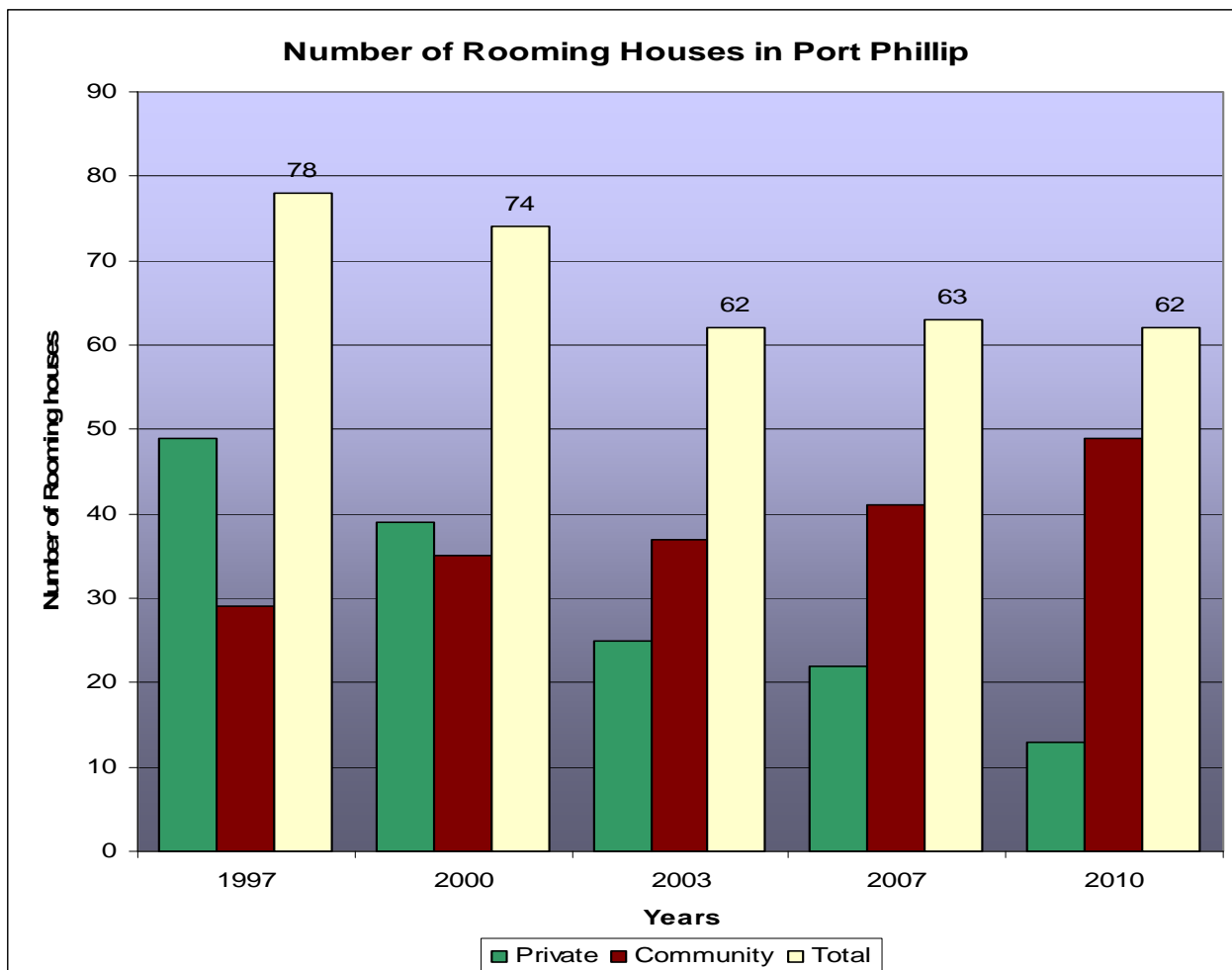


Figure 20. Source: Gary Spivak, Housing Development Officer CoPP

Figure 20 shows that the number of community run rooming houses in Port Phillip has been relatively stable between 2003 and 2010. The number of private rooming houses has decreased by 40% since 2007, while the number of community rooming houses has increased by 19%.



## TRANSPORT

### Are we utilising active and public transport means to get around Port Phillip?

#### Progress



The data shows that green travel methods to work and to school continue to be on the rise. Data collected by the CoPP sustainable transport officer on 'how children get to school' has shown that active travel methods had increased to over 50% of school trips in 2007 when the program was taken over by Bicycle Victoria. ABS Census data on 'travel to work', shows commuter transport is becoming more environmentally friendly with active transport and public transport steadily increasing over the ten year period from 1996 to 2006. The ABS is collected every five years and will be conducted in 2011.

#### *What we said last time:*



Here we are progressing towards sustainability in green travel methods to work and school. Data collected on non-car transport methods to work have shown a high increase in travel by tram/light rail, riding (bicycle) and walking which may be contributable to the success of 'Travelsmart' programs as well as the increase in flexibility in the workplace with more people working from home. The method for school travel has remained steady since August 2004 where the difference between the two methods was the best recorded (only 4% difference), with 55% percent of people travelling by car and 45% travelling by green transport in March 2006 (a 10% difference).

#### Measures

- How people get to work
- How children get to school
- Number of cars registered in Port Phillip
- Number of car parking permits per household

## Travel to work methods utilised by employed people in Port Phillip

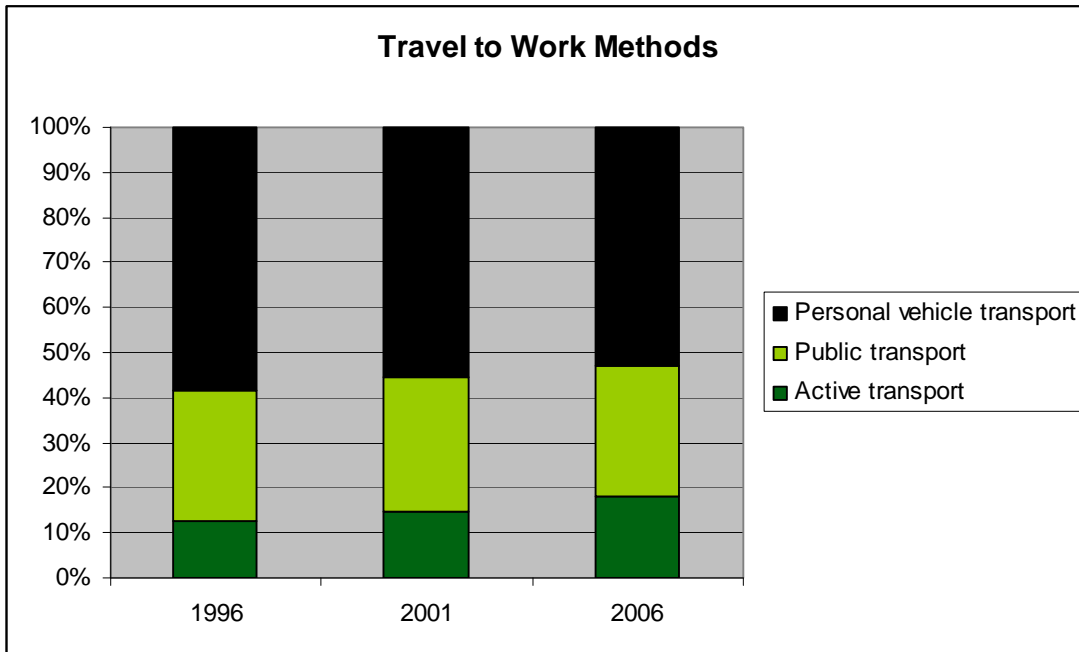


Figure 21. Source: ABS 1996, 2001, 2006 Census of Population and Housing. NB. ABS Census data is updated every five years, the next Census will be conducted in 2011.

Figure 21 shows that residents are increasing selecting travel to work by modes of active transport (walking, bike riding etc), Although in percentage terms personal vehicle transport is at its lowest level on 10 years, 53% as opposed to 59% in 1996, a closer look at the Census data shows the total number of cars on the road for the trip to work is higher than ever, 21,728 in 2006 as opposed to 19,263 in 1996. This is an increase of nearly 12% of cars on the road for the trip to work originating in Port Phillip. This is just under the growth in population of 13.6% from 1996 to 2006.

Walking and Cycling now make up 19% of the modal split for the journey to work; this is up from 13% in 1996. The number of Port Phillip residents walking or cycling to work is now 7,412 up from 4,208 in 1996, an increase of 76%. Public transport modes have remained quite steady in percentage terms across the three Census years, though total numbers have risen to 11,928 from 9,412 in 1996, an increase of nearly 27%.

### Port Phillip 'Super Tuesday' Counts

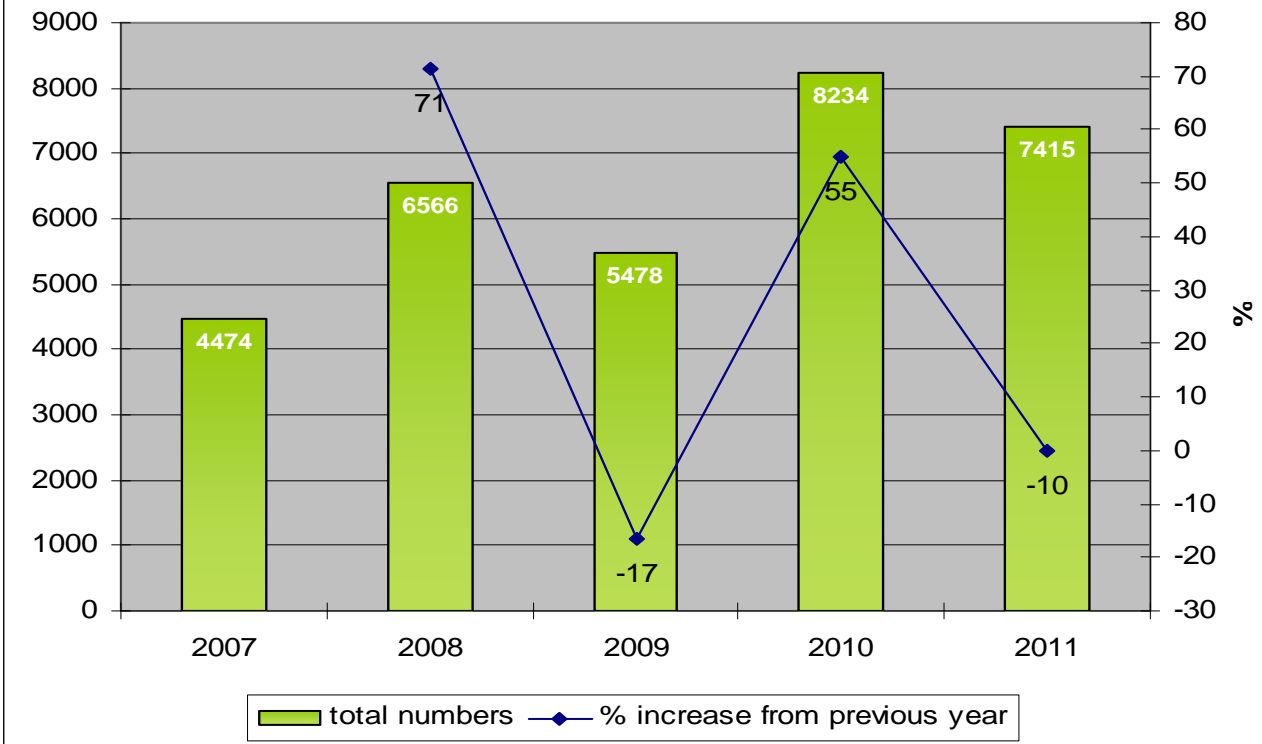


Figure 22. Source: Bicycle Victoria

Figure 22 represents the 'Super Tuesday' counts collected annually by Bicycle Victoria (BV). Commuter cycling decreased in 2011 with 7415 cyclists recorded en route to work between 7-9am, down by 10% on last year's count of 8234. This number includes cyclist counted at collection points taken in previous years (26). In 2011 there was a net gain of five collection points at which a total of 898 cyclists were recorded.



## How children get to school in Port Phillip

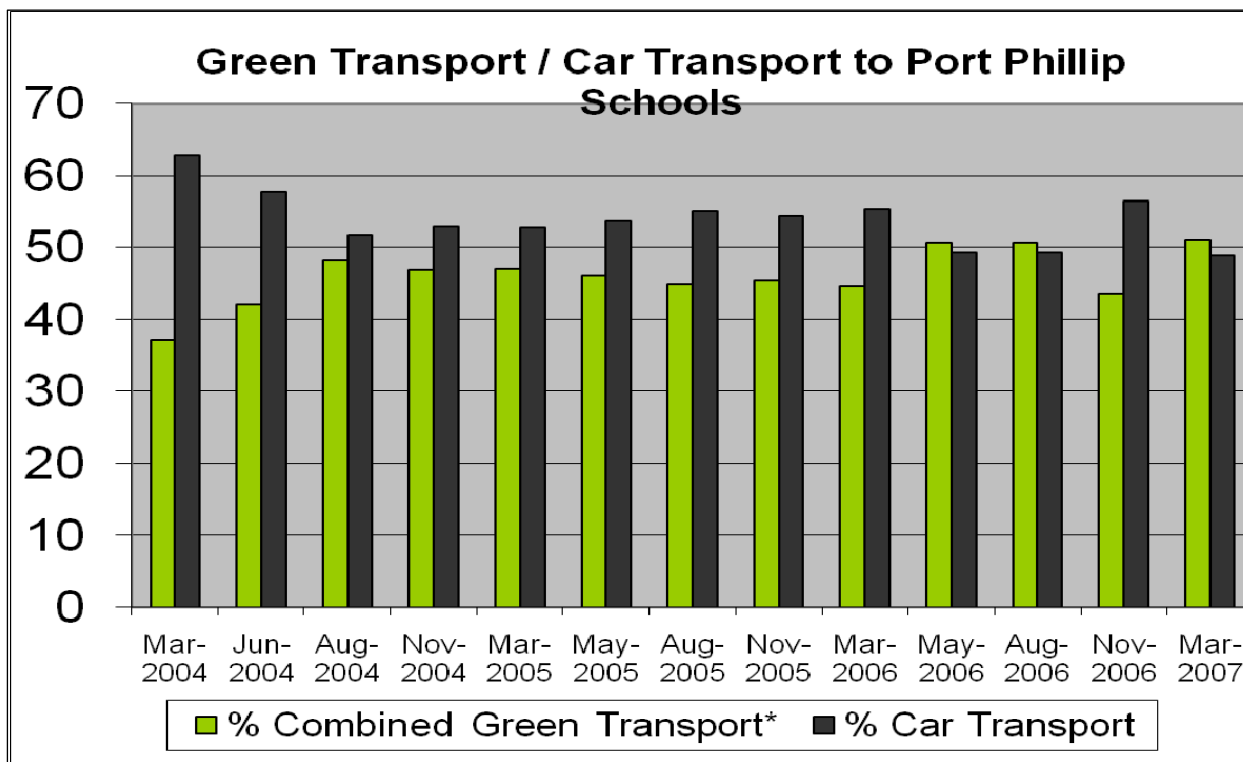


Figure 23 Source: Meg Selman, Sustainable Transport Officer CoPP  
\* denotes combined public and active transport to schools.

Research into 'to-school' travel shows that in the 1980's approximately 80% of kids used to get to school under their own steam. In the early 2000's this percentage figure had flipped, approximately 20% of kids were walking, riding, scooting and skating to school. Figure 23 depicts the progress of a City of Port Phillip sustainable transport campaign in reversing this trend. The graph shows that in March 2007 51% of trips to Port Phillip primary schools in were made by public or active transport. This campaign continues across Victoria championed by an independent, not-for-profit organisation, Bicycle Victoria (BV). From 2007, BV assumed co-ordination of the 'Hands Up – How Kids get to School' project. The active transport data is captured through an [on-line survey](#) and the results used to demonstrate need for safer routes to school and improved amenity. The City of Port Phillip supports active transport initiatives through a range of strategies including: implementing traffic calming treatments, extending signal crossing times, providing school crossing supervision and advocating for lower speeds in 'home' and 'school' zones.

## Residential car parking permits.

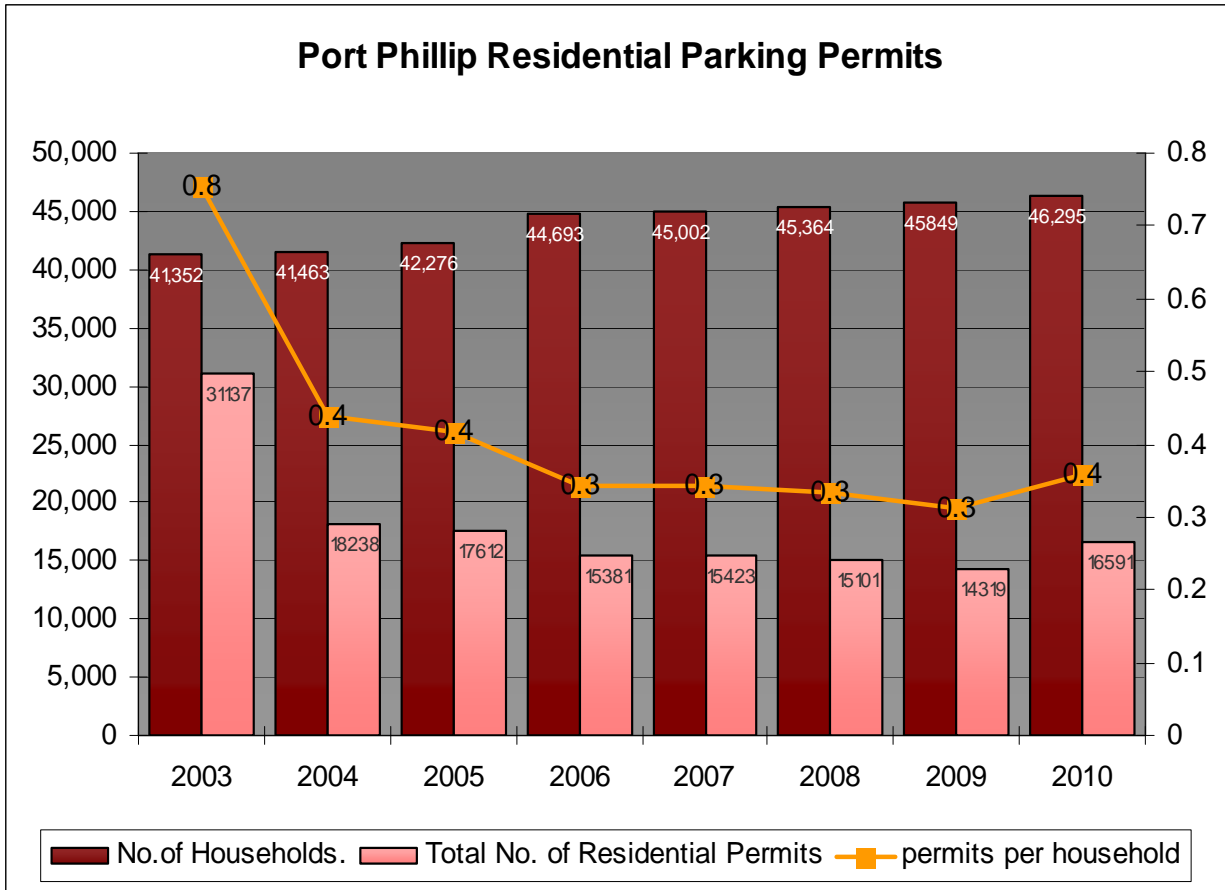


Figure 24. Residential Parking Permits. Source Parking Permits Administrator, CoPP

Figure 24 shows the number of residential parking permits increased in 2010 reversing a six year trend. The number of residential parking permits (including visitor permits) grew from 14319 in 2009 to 16591 in 2010. While the number of households in the municipality has also increased, the rate of increase is not as great as the number of parking permits issued, as indicated by the increased number of permits per household.



## PARTICIPATION

**Are we involved in our community? Are we making a difference? Do we even vote?**

### Progress



At the 2008 local government elections we had a voter turnout of over 50% for the first time since the 1999 election. However, this figure is low compared with other municipalities. Results continue to remain steady with a consistently large proportion of the population who feel they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events.

### What we said last time:



Our results here have remained steady. The proportion of the population who feel they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events and activities is steady. The next council election will be held in November 2008

### Measures

- Percentage of population who feel they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events and activities of their choosing
- Voter turnout at council elections
- Participation in social, cultural and sporting clubs, and community programs and/or activities

## Proportion of Port Phillip population who feel they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events and activities of their choosing

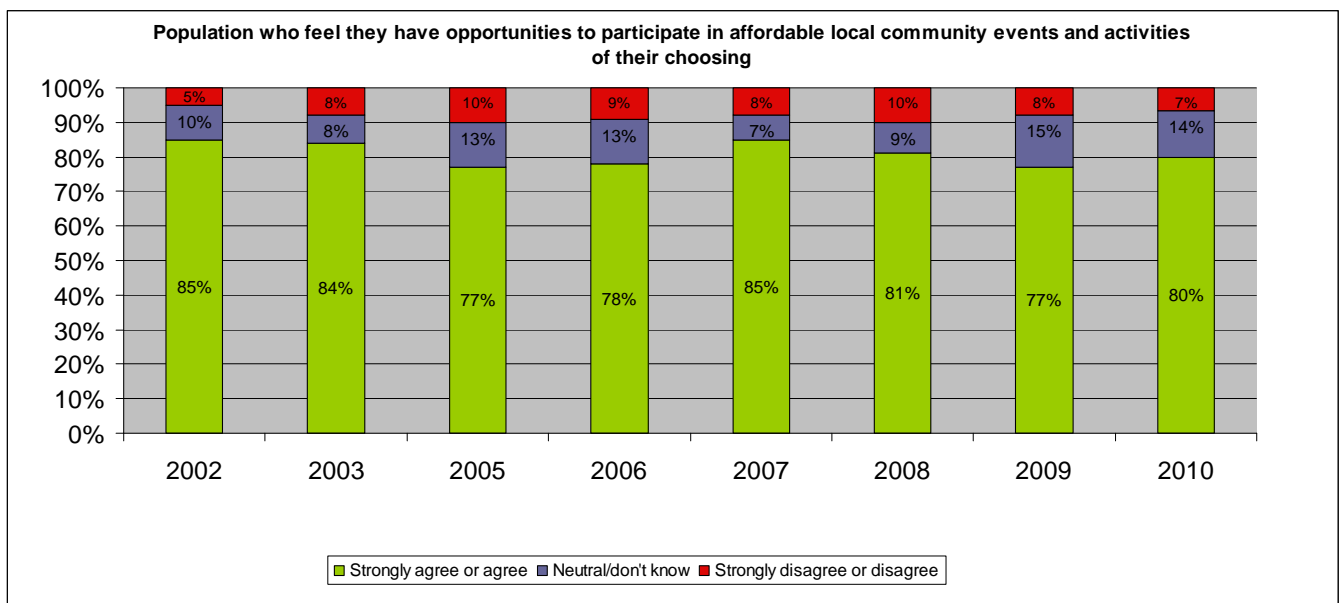


Figure 25. Source: CoPP 2002 – 2010 Community Satisfaction Survey. Note: question was not asked in 2004 survey and sample size varies after 2008. Response categories were altered in 2009 'Neutral/don't know' was replaced with 'adequate'

Figure 25 shows that 80% of the population strongly agree or agree that they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events and activities of their choosing. 7% of the population strongly disagree or disagree that they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events and activities of their choosing.

## Port Phillip Council Elections – Voter Turnout

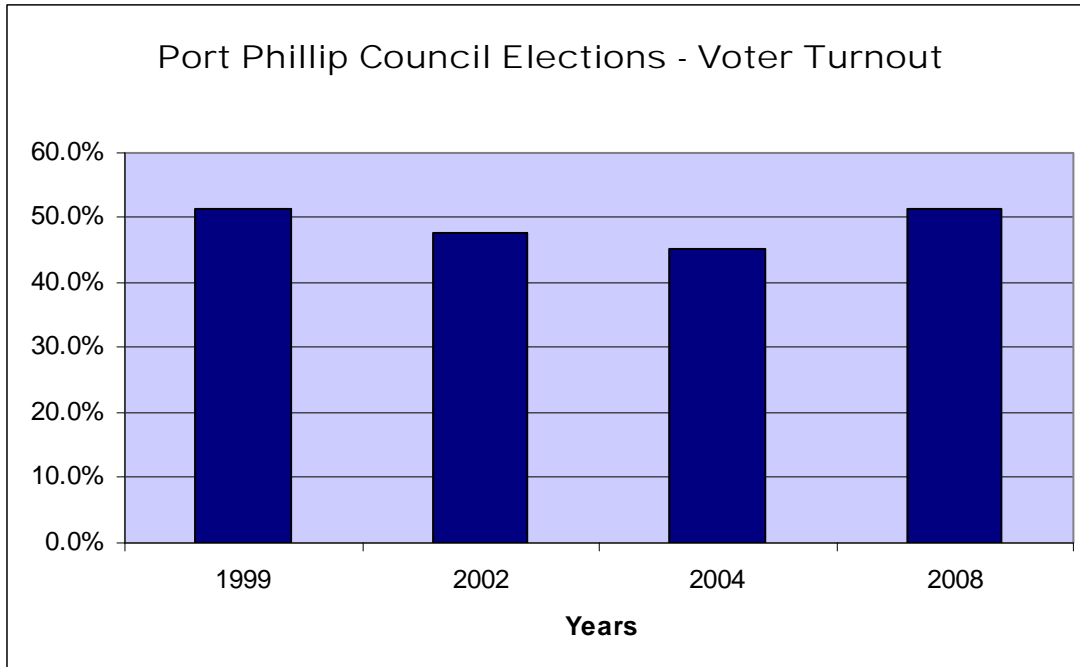


Figure 26. Source: VEC 2008

Figure 26 shows a voter turnout over 50% for the first time since the 1999 election. Council elections are now held every 4 years with votes registered through postal votes in some electorates and in person in others.

The City of Port Phillip like other municipalities accepting votes in person has a relatively low voter turn out, though this may also be due to the high number of CEO (Chief Executive Officer) voters. A CEO voter owns property in the municipality and is therefore entitled to vote. Yet, because they live in another municipality, their voting is not compulsory.

It is also worth noting that in 2008, Port Phillip underwent a substantial ward restructure making a detailed neighbourhood analysis impossible.

## Participation in social, cultural and sporting clubs, and community programs and/or activities.

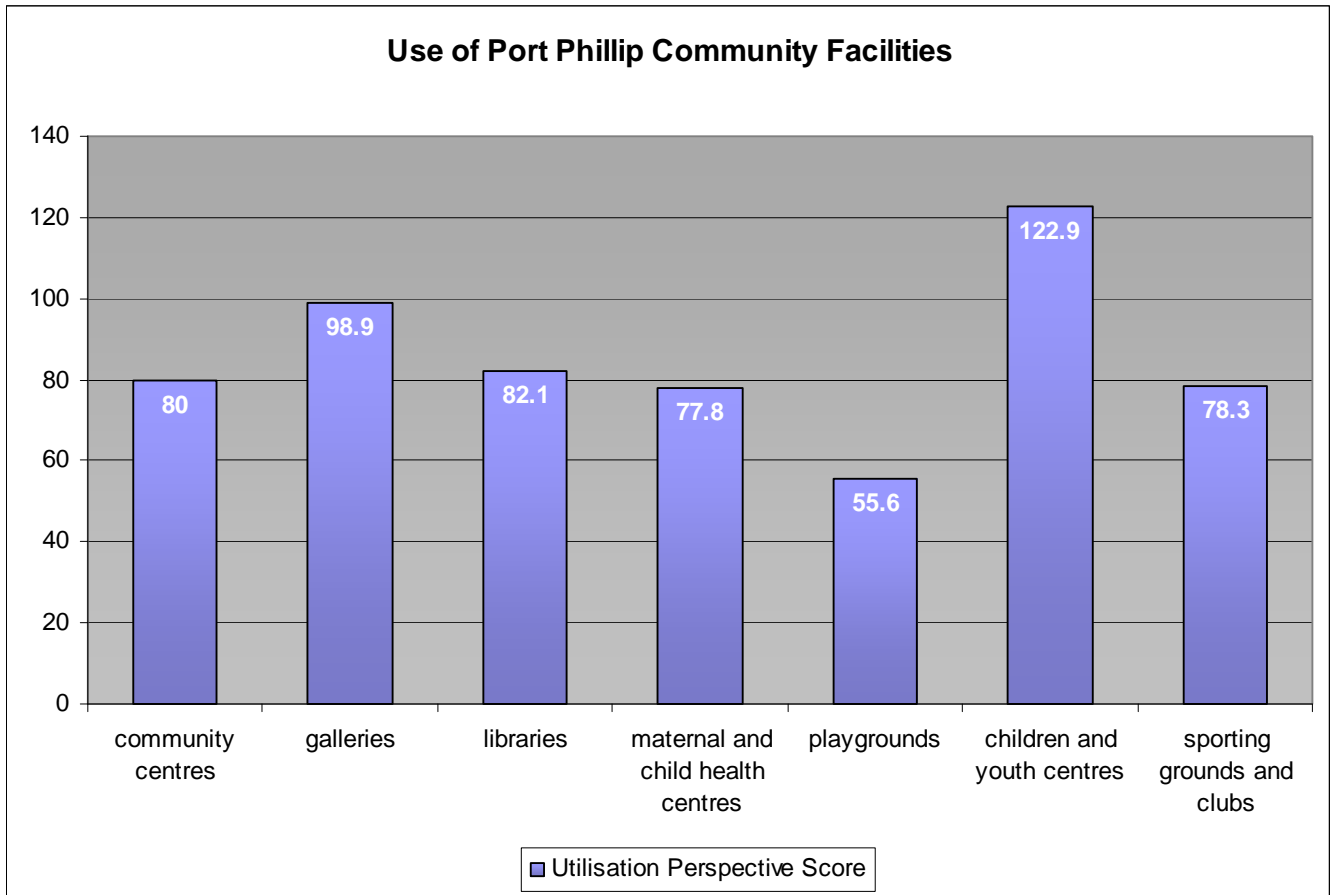


Figure 27: Source Kathy Williams, Community Facility Officer, CoPP

Figure 27 shows the 2007/08 Utilisation Perspective Scores (UPS) for community facilities across Port Phillip. The UPS is the average of three element scores based on: open hours as a % of optimum hours (98.5 hours per week - 9 hours daytime + 5 hours evening usage); used hours as a % of open hours; and facility demand as a percentage of its capacity. The resulting UPS gives a general overview of the facility's utilisation in terms of demand and open hours. Scores under 100 indicate under use, where capacity exceeds demand and scores over 100 indicate over use where demand exceeds capacity.



## EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

### Can people find paid or volunteer jobs in Port Phillip?

#### Progress



Progress for this indicator is mixed. While our working population has steadily grown over the last 15 years, the percentage of Port Phillip residents who perform unpaid work is lower than in Southern Metro and regional Victorian areas.

#### What we said last time:



Data for this indicator has not been collected in recent years, but a baseline has been established.

#### Measures

- Percentage of people who live and work in the City of Port Phillip
- Paid in Port Phillip.
- Unpaid work in Port Phillip

### Location where residents work.

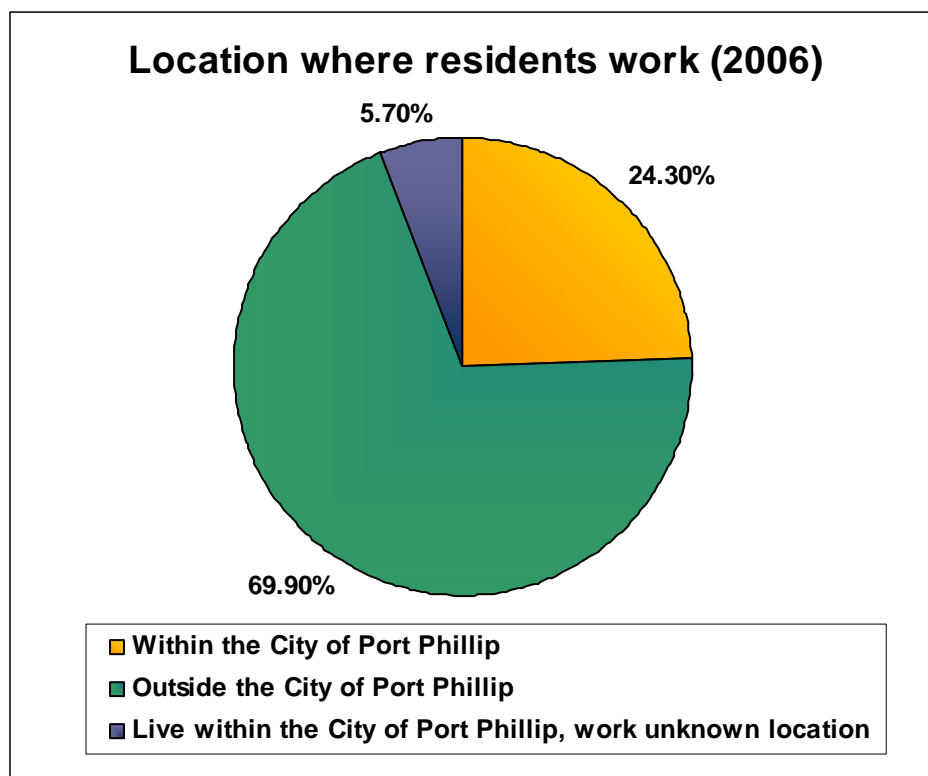


Figure 28. Source ABS Census. Note ABS Census data is collected every five years and will next be conducted in 2011

Figure 28 shows a greater percentage (69.9%) of Port Phillip residents work in other municipalities, though almost one quarter of our working population are employed in the area.

## Paid work in Port Phillip.

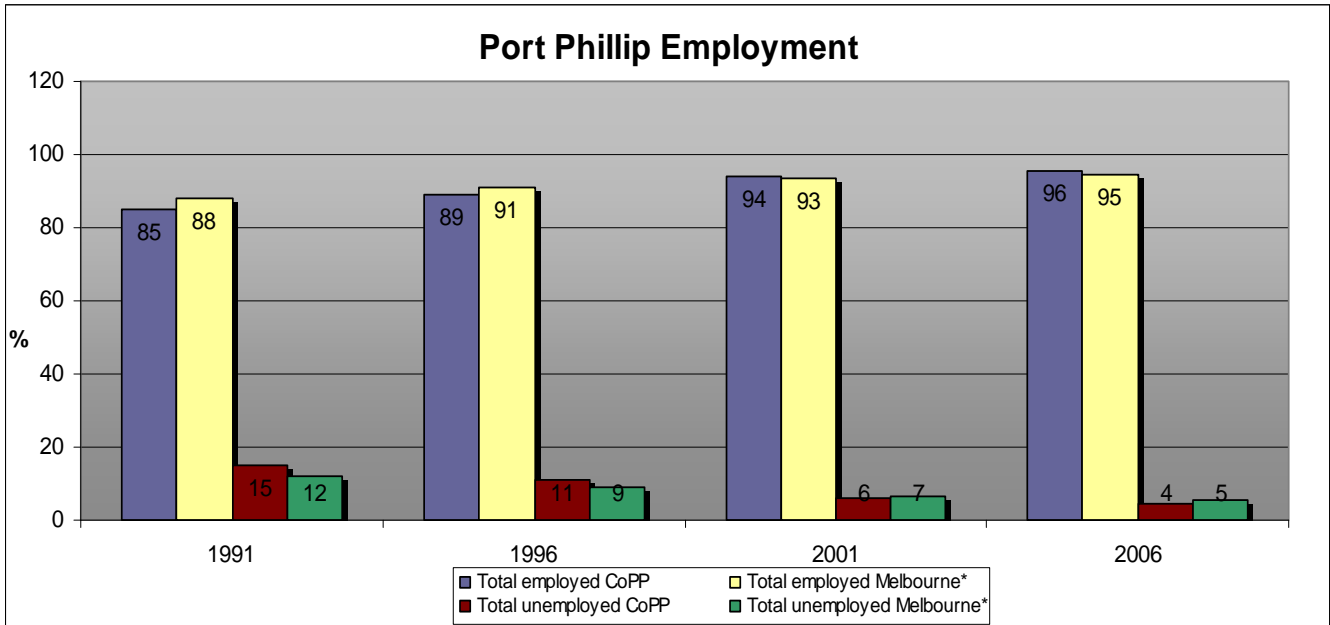


Figure 29. Source ABS Census. Note: \* refers to Melbourne statistical division

Figure 29 reveals a strengthening employment rate in Port Phillip, with unemployment figures lower than in the Melbourne statistic division for the first time in 2001. The percentage of employed Port Phillip residents (95.6%) topped the number of Melbourne statistical division residents employed (94.6%) in 2006. The unemployment rate in December 2008 was 11441 or 5.7% of the residential population.

## Unpaid work in Port Phillip

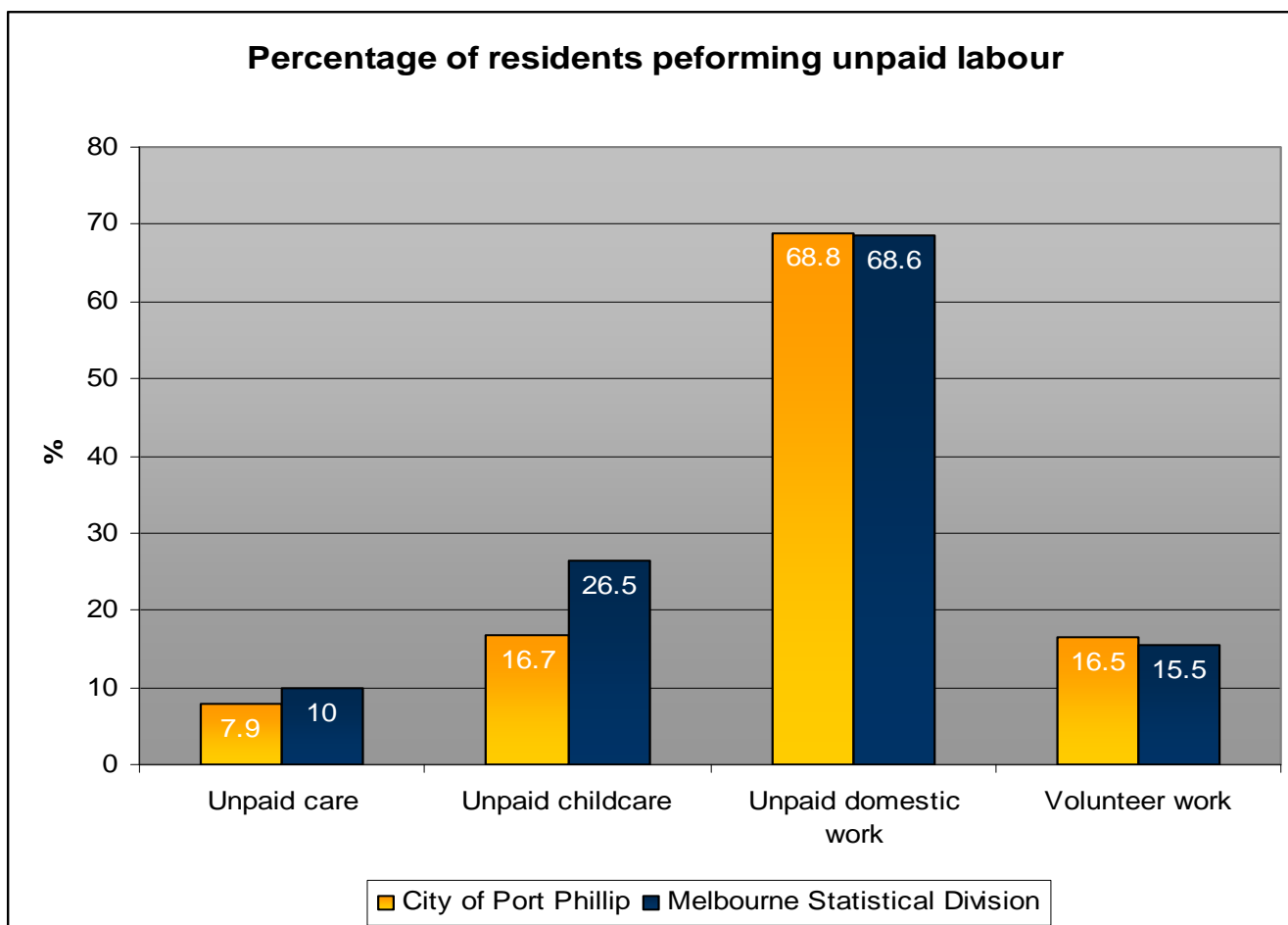


Figure 30. Source: ABS Census 2006. \* Denotes Melbourne statistical division.

Figure 30 shows that taken overall there is less unpaid work performed in the City of Port Phillip than in the Melbourne Statistical division. It seems from the high number of 'not stated' responses (15.7%) to the Census question on performing voluntary work that people are unsure of what sort of activity constitutes 'volunteer work'.





## POLLUTION - AIR, WATER, NOISE AND WASTE

**Is the air we breathe clean enough? Are the streets and beaches clean?**

### Progress



We are moving toward sustainability with the proportion of recycling to total waste increasing. Our streets and beaches have continued to meet residents standards of cleanliness. The total number of noise complaints increased slightly. Due in part to an increase in complaints about barking dogs and commercial premises.

### *What we said last time:*



Our result here has remained steady. Recycling rates are up, with more residential waste being diverted from landfill for recycling, however, the total amount of waste has increased. The total number of noise complaints received by the council has fallen, however there has been a slight increase in residential noise complaints. Data relating to air quality, beach cleanliness & shopping centres/ street cleanliness is currently not available.

### Measures

- Litter in public places
- Residential waste and recycling
- Neighbourhood noise

## Litter in public places

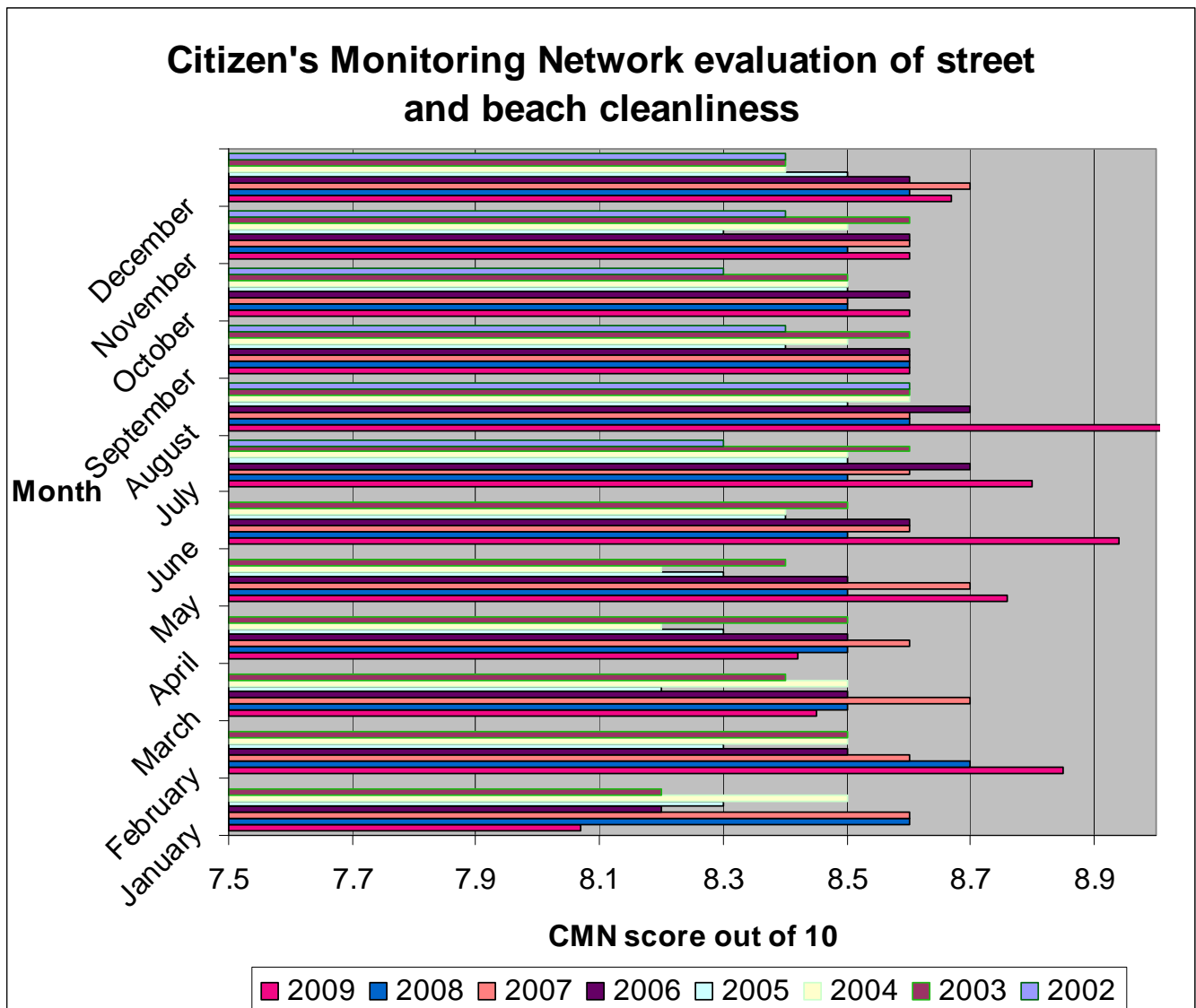


Figure 31. Source: Citizen's Monitoring Network. Data note: Citizen's monitoring network data, being a score out of 10 on specific cleanliness standards of shopping centres, beaches and local streets. Data managed by Darren Findlay, Coordinator Beach & Street Cleaning, CoPP

Figure 31 shows the Streets and Beach Cleaning team benchmark of 8.5 out of 10 was met each month in 2007 and 2008 with a yearly average of 8.6. In 2009 the average score was 8.7 demonstrating a high level of approbation for street and beach cleanliness within Port Phillip from a volunteer network of citizens.

## Annual residential rubbish and recycling rate in Port Phillip

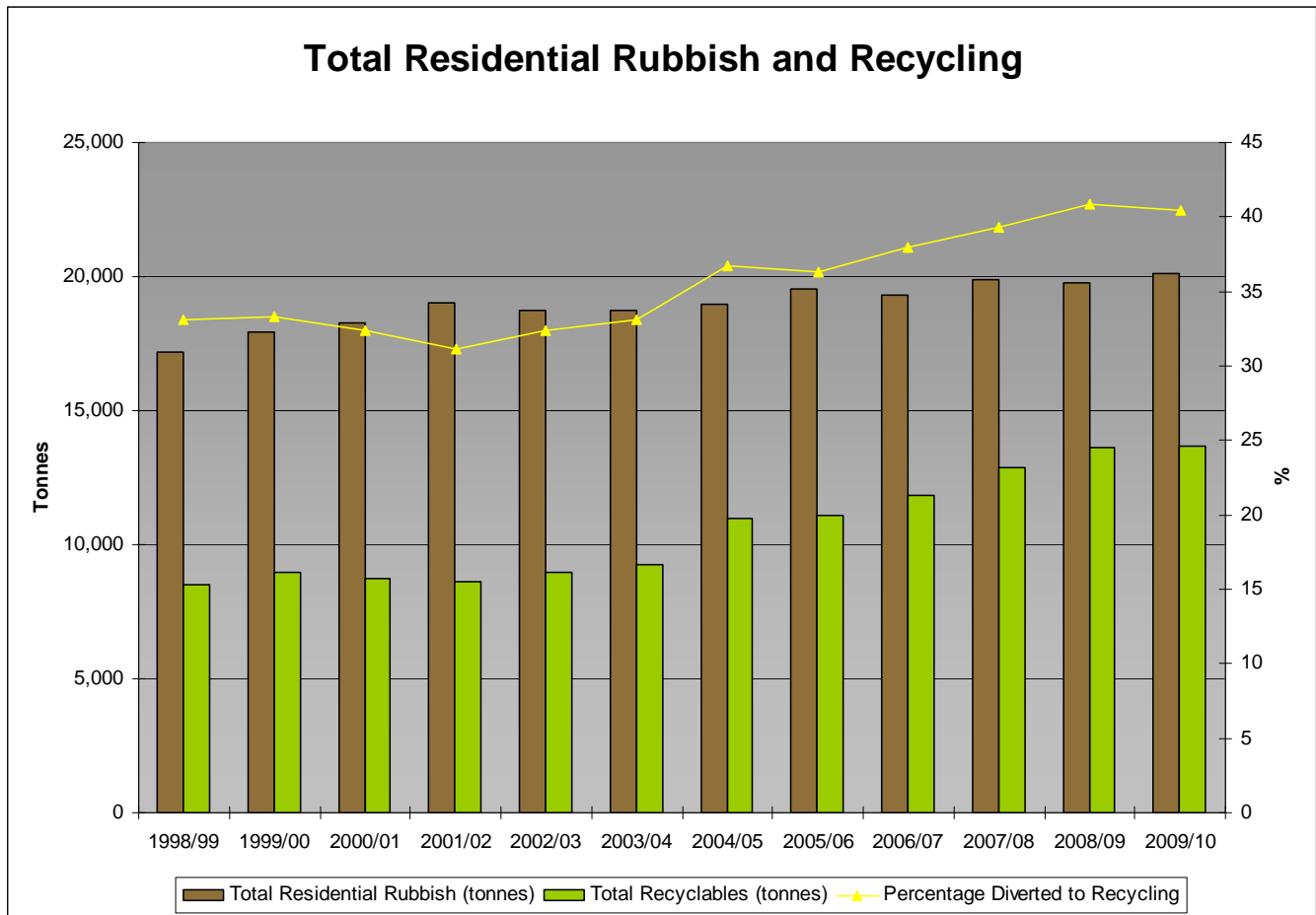


Figure 32. Source: Waste: Nick Dunstan - Waste Management; Population and Households: Department of Sustainability and Environment

Figure 32 shows a slight increase in the total residential rubbish from 19,755 tonnes in 2008/09 to 20,104 in 2009/10. The total residential recycling has steadily increased over the last eleven years from 8,504 tonnes in 1998/99 to 13,662 tonnes in 2009/10 which shows an ever greater proportion of the total waste collected is diverted into the recycling stream. In 2009/10 the proportion of recycling to total waste is 40.5% compared to 33.1% in 1998/99 and 31.1% in 2001/2002. This positive trend is will continue as technology develops and waste material come to be valued as an under utilised resource.

## Noise complaints received by council, broken down by noise-type

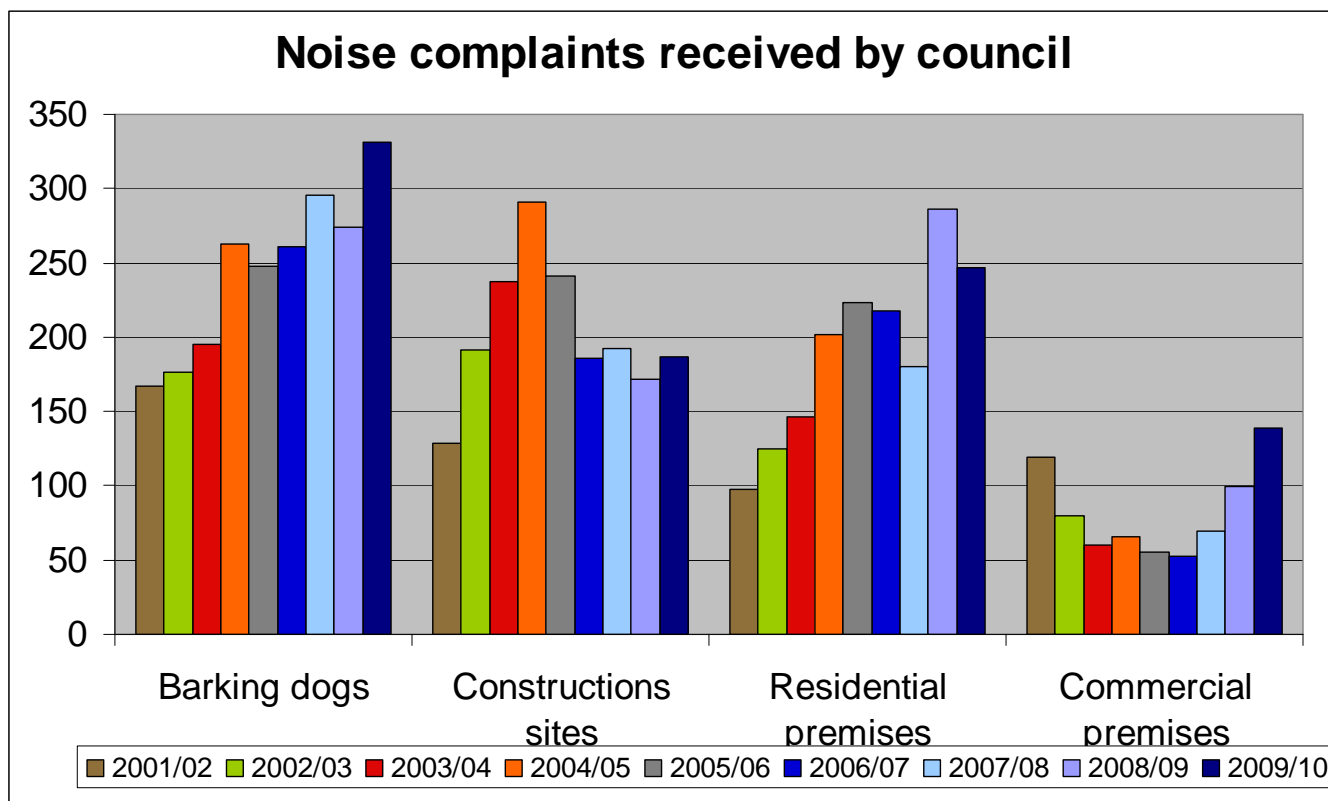


Figure 33. Source: Number of noise complaints received by council and logged in Council's Pathway system

Figure 33 Barking dogs make up the largest category of noise complaints to council as logged through the Pathway system (2211) followed by construction sites (1826). In 2009/10 complaints about noise from commercial premises (162) represented the most marked increase in noise complaints for any one category, up 64% on last year's figures (99). Of the 247 complaints recorded for residential premises, 39 were regarding noise from air conditioners.



## COST OF LIVING

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### Question: Can you afford to live here? What about others?

#### Progress



We are moving toward sustainability with the average cost of lunch in Port Phillip decreasing since 2003 and 5 out of the 7 vendors still operating over this period. However emergency relief agencies have reported a greater demand on their services. Without an increase in funding for the distribution of relief, agencies have been relying on food parcels collected from the South Melbourne market and distributed by Second Bite through the 'Help Yourself to Free Food Program'.

#### *What we said last time:*



The cost of lunch has risen in 2005 to an average of \$8.73 from a low of \$7.79 in 2004. Although the 94 cent increase was not found across all main shopping streets/ roads in Port Phillip (4 out of 6 slightly decreased their prices), it costs over \$10 to buy lunch in Armstrong & Acland Streets & Ormond Rd. shows the average cost of a salad roll and can of soft drink has gone down. Each of the 6 neighbourhoods tested with the exception of Port Melbourne (which registered a slight increase from \$7.20 to \$7.50) showed the cost of lunch has gone down since 2003.

#### Measures

- The cost of a salad roll and soft drink
- The number of local residents accessing emergency relief

## The Average Cost of Lunch in Port Phillip

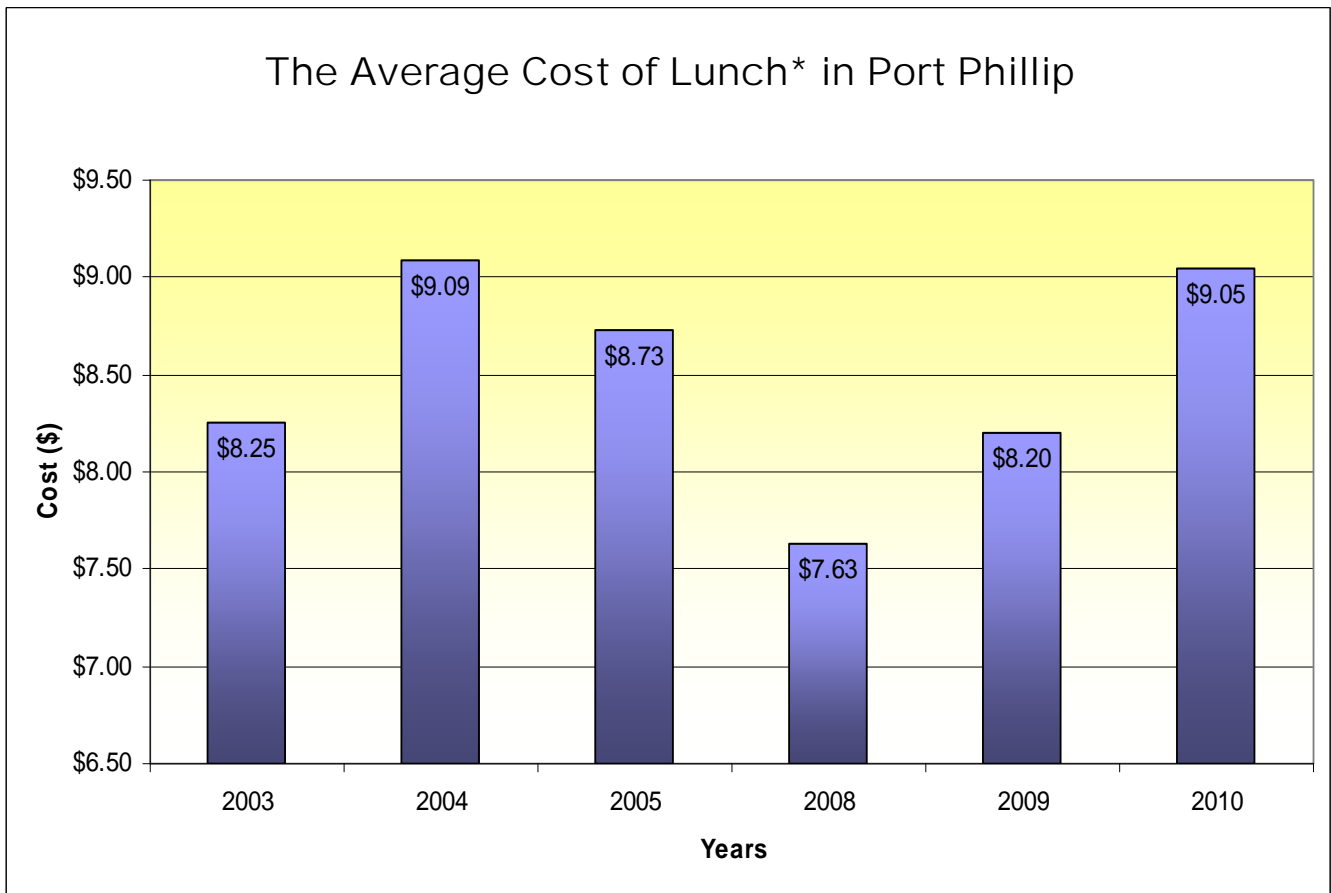


Figure 34. Source: Community Pulse community researchers, 2008 onwards South Port Uniting Care

Figure 34 shows the cost of the average lunch has increased by 10% in the last year, from \$8.20 in 2009 to \$9.05 in 2010. The cost of a salad roll and can of drink increased across all Port Phillip neighbourhoods with the exception of Port Melbourne where residents, workers and visitors saved \$0.50 (\$7.50 in 2010 compared with \$8.00 in 2009) on their lunch-time sustenance.

## The number of local residents accessing emergency relief.

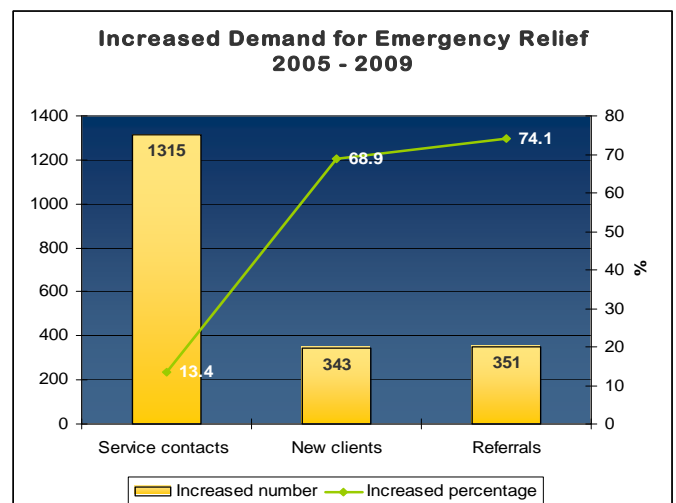
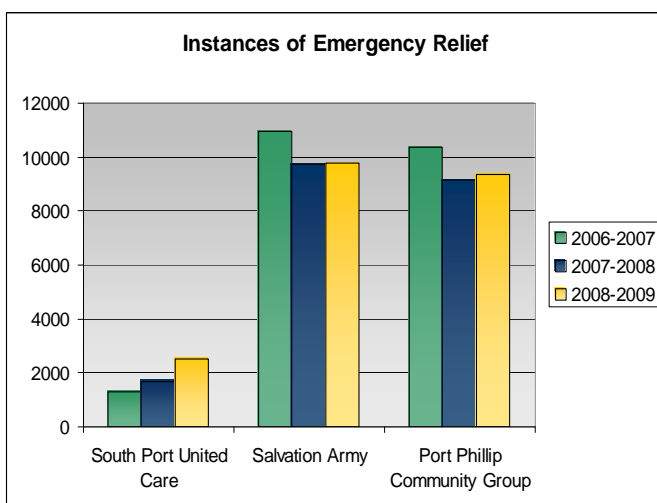


Figure 35a Source: Port Phillip Community Group, South Port Uniting Care and Salvation Army. Figure 35b Source: Port Phillip Community Group

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Figure 35a shows two out of three local emergency relief agencies distributed less relief in 2008/09 than they did in 2006/07. The net decrease seems to suggest that the global financial crisis has not provoked increased demand for material aid. However, as figure 35b demonstrates, the fast growing number of service contacts, new clients and referrals indicate the amount of emergency relief distributed by local agencies is dependent not on demand but supply. Figure 35b shows a 68.9% increase (2005-2009) in the number of new clients received by Port Phillip Community Group and a 74.1% increase in the number of referrals given over the same period.



## DIVERSITY

### Do people from diverse cultures really feel welcome here?

#### Progress



The majority of Port Phillip residents continue to think that Port Phillip is an accepting place for people from diverse cultures and backgrounds. However the results have dipped to their lower limit. Economic diversity, as measured by weekly income is becoming less diverse with more Port Phillip residents earning between \$600 and \$1000 per week. More Diversity information (such as Port Phillip residents' age range, country of birth etc) will be updated soon after the 2006 Census is analysed.

#### *What we said last time:*



Most people believe that Port Phillip is an accepting place valuing diversity, which can also be seen in the higher proportion of people born overseas and from different incomes living in the city of Port Phillip as compared to Melbourne. However, when looking at the diversity of age range, as noted in the last report, with the population increasing in the already high 25-54 age range and decreasing in almost all the other ranges.

#### Measures

- Percentage of population that believes the City of Port Phillip is an accepting place for people from diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Diversity of Port Phillip community



## Acceptance of diversity.

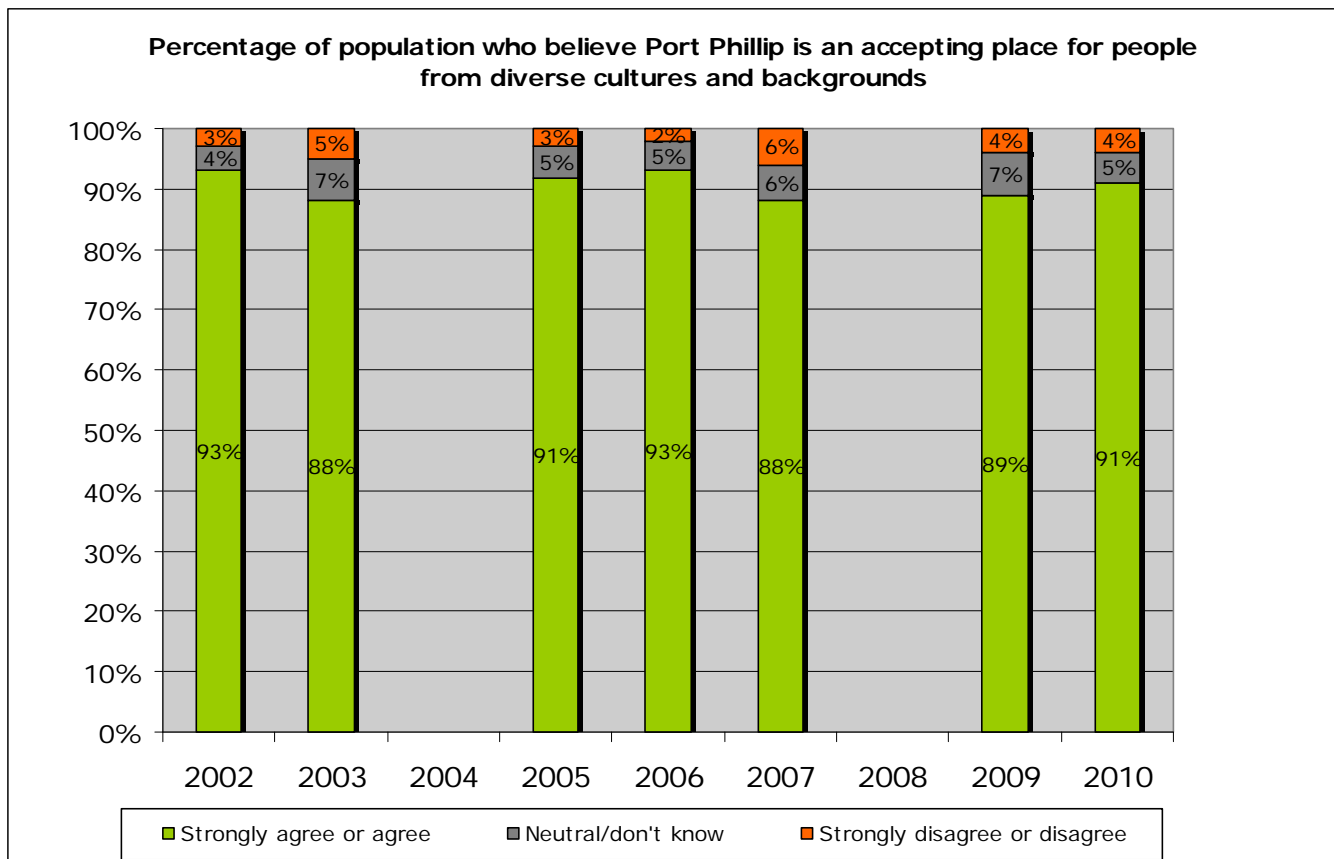


Figure 36. Source: CoPP 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007 Community Satisfaction Survey. \* Note: question was. not asked in 2004 or 2008 survey. From 2009 the response category of 'neutral/don't know' was changed to 'adequate'

Figure 36 shows that a consistently high percentage of people believe that the City of Port Phillip is an accepting place with between 88% (2003) to 93% (2002 and 2006) of residents surveyed holding this view. 2007 had seen this figure drop to its lower limit (88%). In 2010 the percentage of people who agree or strongly agree with the diversity statement increased to 91%. Despite a further 5% of the population viewing the community's acceptance of diversity as adequate it is difficult to mark the overall improvement to acceptance of diversity due to a change in the way the survey was asked\*.

## Household incomes quartiles

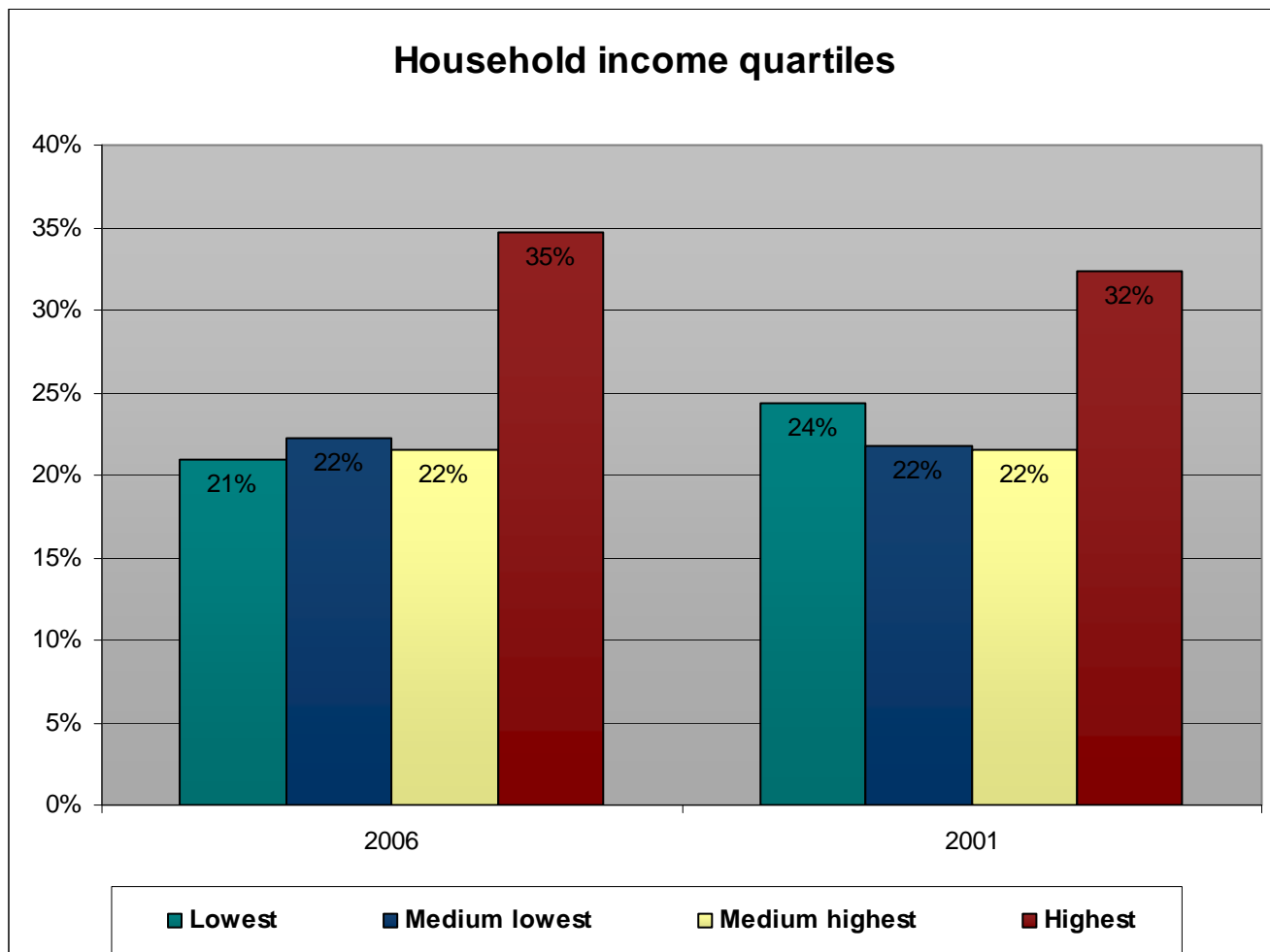


Figure 37. Source: ABS 2001, 2006 Census of Population and Housing

Income Quartiles	2006	2001
Lowest	\$0 – 29,747	\$0 – 24,037
Medium lowest	\$29,748 – 56,088	\$24,038 – 46,267
Medium highest	\$56,089 – 94,621	\$46,268 – 77,452
Highest	\$94,622 +	\$77,453 +

Household income quartiles allow us to compare relative income-earning capabilities across time. Figure 37 shows that in 2006 there was larger proportion of households in the highest income quartile (35% in 2006 compared with 32% in 2001), representing a 15% increase. Correspondingly, 2006 recorded a smaller proportion of households in the lowest income quartile (21% in 2006 compared with 24% in 2001), representing a 5.75% decrease.



## LOCAL ICONS AND CHARACTER

### Can we still see the old Port Phillip amongst the new?

#### Progress



As a shared social phenomenon, 'sense of place' is informed by the natural and built environment landscape, but also includes the people and businesses who occupy this landscape. Data for this indicator continues to be developed with a project that aims to identify icons that have become symbols that evoke particular shared values, love and lore of our particular geography. Project to be completed in 2011.

#### What we said last time:



Data for this indicator has stalled. Progress may be reported again in the future, see 2004 SCPI report for this data.

#### Measures

- *The value of culture in Port Phillip*
- *Maintenance or protection of heritage buildings, landscapes and other cultural icons*



## NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING NEEDS

### Can you buy the things you need locally?

#### Progress



The cost comparison of twelve healthy shopping basket items between seven Port Phillip neighbourhoods has produced some interesting results. With the exception of Albert/Middle Park, prices in the neighbourhoods that recorded the greatest cost for the healthy shopping basket items in the original survey (Elwood and Ripponlea) increased. With the exception of Port Melbourne, prices for the same items in the neighbourhoods that recorded the least cost (South Melbourne, St Kilda and Balaclava) has decreased.

#### What we said last time:



Data for this indicator has proved difficult to collate and analyse, but work is underway to provide data on changes in retail outlets in each suburb/neighbourhood in Port Phillip, and to survey resident's needs/desires for their local shops.

#### Measures

- *Neighbourhood Shopping needs*
- *Community Shopping Survey – What residents want from their local shops*

### Neighbourhood Shopping Needs.

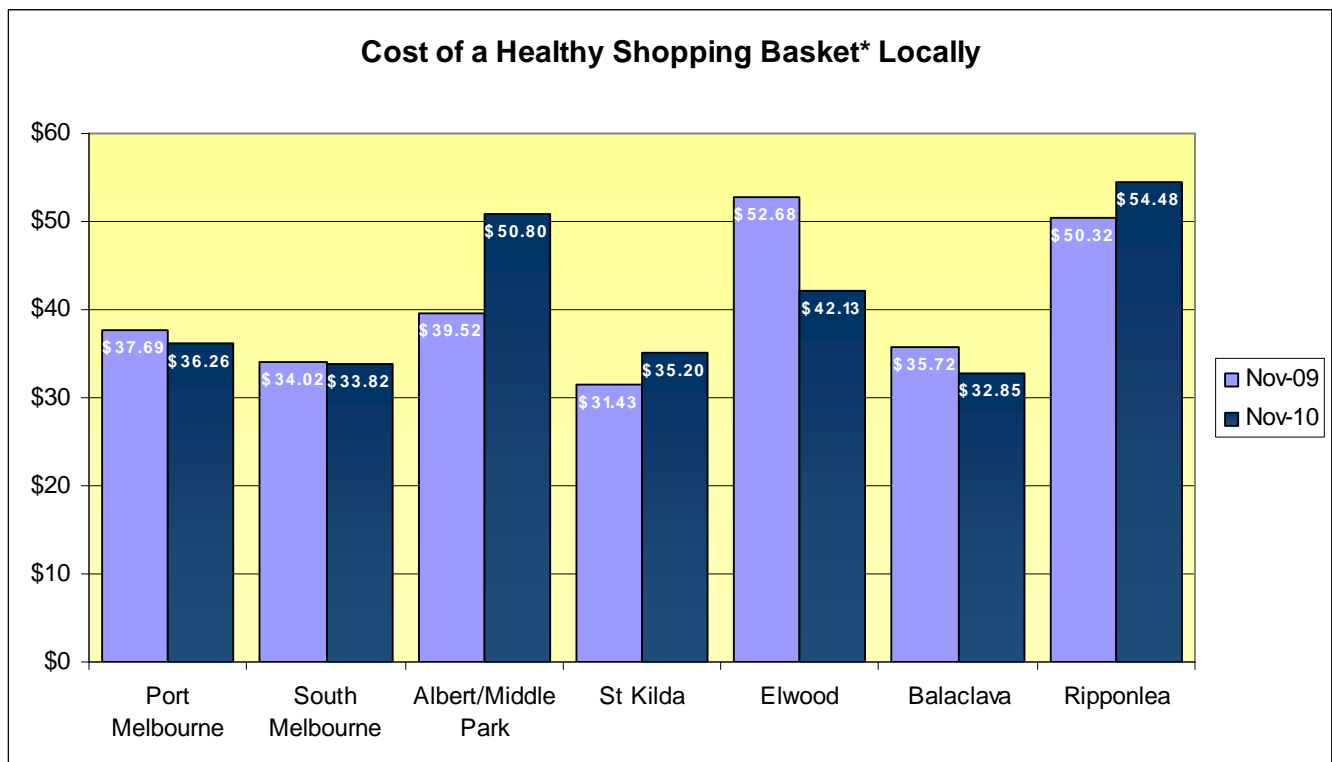


Figure 38. Source: Food Security in Port Phillip 2005 (Wood and Streker)

Figure 38, shows a \$23.05 disparity in the cost of twelve 'Healthy Shopping Basket' items purchased in St Kilda (\$31.43) compared with the same items purchased in Ripponlea (\$54.48). The price disparity has grown since the last time this data was collected in 2009 when a \$21.25 price difference was recorded between St Kilda (\$31.43) and Elwood (\$52.68). The greatest increase in cost occurred in areas without a large supermarket (defined as having 8+ registers). Despite a cost increase in these areas, overall the cost of the twelve items has increased by \$4.16 (1.5%) from \$281.38 in 2009 to \$285.54 in 2010

## Community Shopping Survey

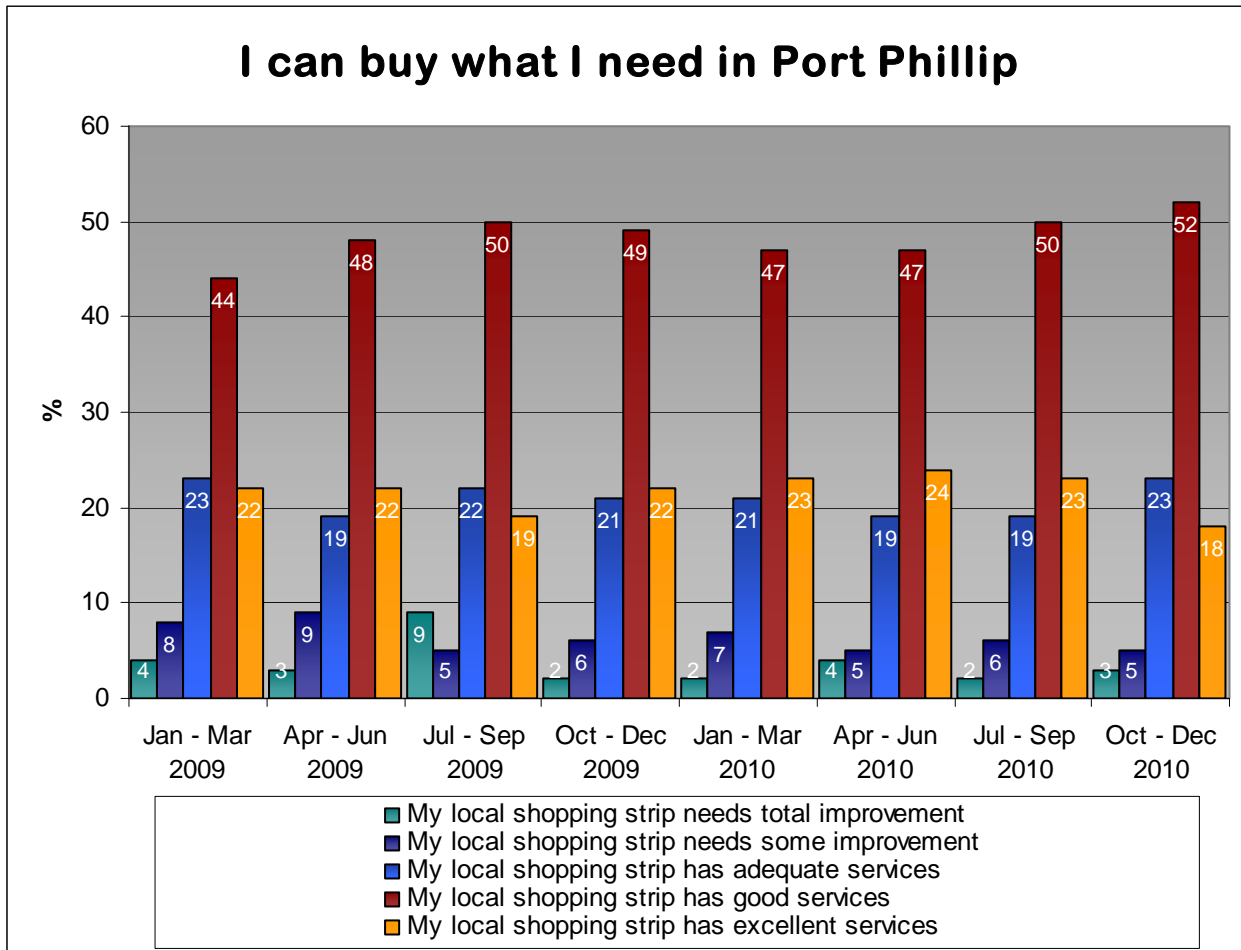


Figure 39 Source Customer Service Survey

Figure 39 shows a slight increase in the perceived availability of local business services in Port Phillip throughout 2009 and 2010. For the last 18 months the perception of local shopping areas that are in need of 'some' or 'total improvement' has oscillated between 8% and 9%. While there has been slightly greater shuffling between the service categories of 'adequate', 'good' and 'excellent', their combine total has inappreciably fluctuated between 90 and 93%.