



FOOTBALL VICTORIA FACILITIES STRATEGY 2025-2035





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Football Victoria acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Nation occupants of Australia and the Torres Strait and extend our acknowledgement to all First Nations peoples within the state of Victoria upon whose lands we play on.

We respectfully embrace their continued cultural and spiritual connection to Country and pay respect to all their ancestors. I pledge and commitment to all First Nations peoples of Victoria.

Football Victoria acknowledges the significant contribution made by stakeholders in developing this Strategy. Thank you to the football community, government partners and other organisations that have contributed.

Football Victoria acknowledges the support provided by Football Australia, the A-League Clubs, the Victorian Government and local councils. These partners participated in a range of strategic and project planning activities which enabled Football Victoria to deliver a collaborative, achievable and sustainable Facilities Strategy.

The implementation of the Football Victoria Facilities Strategy will be led by Lachlan Cole, Head of Government Relations and Strategy, and embedded in organisation wide operations.

CONTENTS

Welcome from the CEO	4
Executive Summary	5
Our Vision	7
Infrastructure Priorities	8
Strategic Priorities	11
About Football Victoria	12
Our Participants	17
Our Facilities	22
Our Stakeholders	28
Our Facilities Framework	30
Zone Priorities	34
Appendices	50



WELCOME FROM THE CEO

Dan Birrell | Chief Executive Officer

It is with great pride that I present the
Football Victoria Facilities Strategy 2025 -2035.

Football in Victoria is experiencing unprecedented growth, quickly becoming the sport of choice for our community, with a phenomenal 43% surge in participation since 2022. This growth reflects the incredible passion for our game, but it also highlights the pressing need to invest in facilities that are accessible, inclusive, and built for the future.

The next decade will be critical in ensuring that the infrastructure supporting our game keeps pace with its growing demand.

This Strategy provides a clear and evidence-based roadmap to guide that investment. It reflects extensive engagement with our clubs, councils, government partners and broader football community. It builds on our collective aspirations and aligns with our shared vision - equitable football for all, anywhere, anytime, anyway.

At the heart of this work is a commitment to creating environments where players of all ages, genders and backgrounds can thrive. Whether it's unlocking capacity in growth areas, renewing ageing infrastructure in established suburbs, or expanding access in regional communities - this Strategy provides the blueprint.

On behalf of Football Victoria, I thank all who contributed to its development. I look forward to working together to bring it to life and deliver the facilities our game needs and our participants deserve.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Football Victoria Facilities Strategy (FVFS) sets the strategic direction and priorities for football facility development through to 2035.

The exponential growth of community football participation across Victoria has seen more people playing football than ever before, with participation growing by 43% between 2022 and 2024.

The level of participation growth is placing pressure on facilities and increasing expectations on local government and other land managers to develop facilities.

Community football facilities are the home for grassroots participation, enabling clubs and competitions to thrive across Victoria.

The need to create a balanced approach to facility development is essential, with the level of participation growth outstripping supply in many municipalities.

Approaches to increasing facility capacity in areas of need will vary, with a focus on creating new facilities in growth councils to established council's investment in capacity and sustainably of existing facilities.

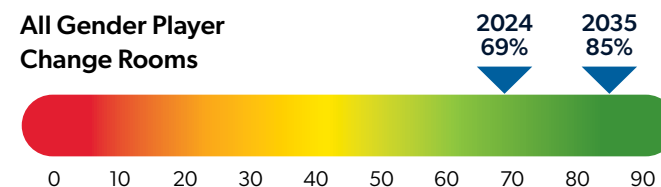
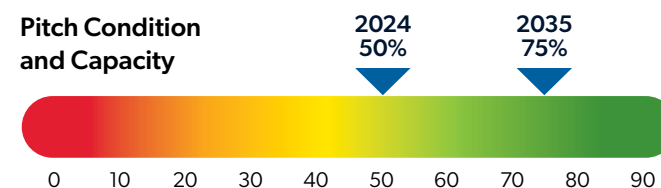
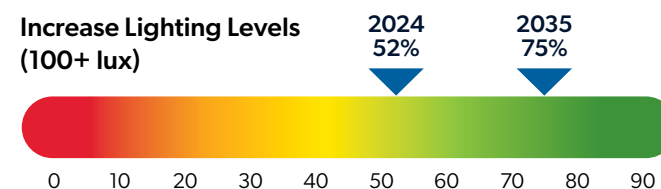
The FVFS to 2035 will:

- Establish a 10-year plan to guide investment into statewide football facility development.
- Provide the opportunity for stakeholders to be involved in determining the future of football facilities across Victoria.
- Create alignment between the needs of clubs, communities and councils/land managers.
- Establish the evidence base for sustainable facility development.
- Build support for facility project implementation.

The growth of football in Victoria continues to be well supported through significant investment from all levels of government in recent years.

The FVFS will strengthen the case for ongoing investment in football facilities that are inclusive and fit for purpose. It will foster an aligned vision and a collaborative approach to supporting the game's growth through quality facility development.

Core Infrastructure Targets to 2035



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

To achieve the strategy's ambitious goals, Football Victoria will drive action through a targeted, coordinated and collaborative approach. Key delivery principles include:

Strategic and data-driven planning

We will align facility development with participation trends, population growth, and local community needs using robust data and forecasting tools.

Targeted infrastructure expansion

We will strategically expand the reach and diversity of football facilities to address infrastructure gaps and meet demand in fast-growing communities.

Partnership and collaboration

We will work in partnership with all levels of government, schools, developers, football stakeholders, and community partners to leverage funding and maximise delivery outcomes.

We will collaborate with other state sporting organisations to optimise operational outcomes and multipurpose use of new and existing facilities to support community activation.

Capacity, performance and sustainability

We will advocate for facility upgrades that will prioritise increasing usage capacity, improving surface quality, and supporting participation outcomes.

Inclusion and accessibility

We will collaborate with all partners to embed intersectionality principles across our infrastructure to deliver inclusive, accessible, and safe facilities that support diverse participation - across gender, ability, background and life stage.

Innovation and future-readiness

We will support facility design and operations that incorporate innovation and advances in technology - ensuring infrastructure is adaptable, efficient, and aligned with evolving needs and expectations.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES



Increase Lighting Levels
(100+ Lux)

**55
PROJECTS**



Pitch Condition and Capacity

**70
PROJECTS**



All Gender Player
Change Rooms

**80
PROJECTS**



Dedicated Football Funding

\$20-30M
WORLD GAME FACILITIES
FUND (4 YEARS)

OUR VISION

A thriving, inclusive and sustainable
network of football facilities that grow
the game and connect communities.



INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

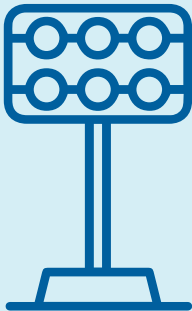
Football Victoria has identified several infrastructure priorities that will enable the sport and its stakeholders to deliver on our vision of delivering a thriving, inclusive and sustainable network of football facilities that grows the game and connects communities.

PRIORITY 1: DELIVER LOCAL HIGH PRIORITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



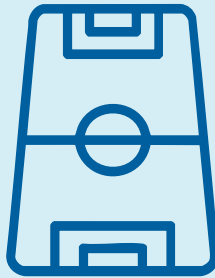
AMENITIES
180 Projects
\$107m

TARGET
85% of all player change rooms to be gender accessible by 2035



LIGHTING
531 Projects
\$100m

TARGET
75% of all competition pitches to achieve 100+ lux by 2035



PITCHES
425 Projects
\$47m

TARGET
75% of all competition pitches to be rated good or excellent by 2035

Note: Project quantities reflect the total number of required projects across the state of Victoria under Football Australia’s “Securing Our Football Future” - noting refined FV priority targets and outcomes over the following 10 year cycle are reflected throughout the Strategy. Project values are based on point-in-time analysis conducted for Football Australia’s “Securing Our Football Future” by Astrolabe Group, based on data available as of December 2024.

PRIORITY 2: DELIVER FOOTBALL HUB PROJECTS AROUND THE STATE

Football Victoria have identified key football hub projects to provide regional access and equity, pathway opportunities, and unlock participation growth[^]:

1. Geelong Southern Sub-Regional Football Hub*
2. Moonee Valley Football Hub*
3. Beveridge Central Sporting Complex*
4. Warrnambool Regional Football Hub (Brierly Reserve)*
5. Mildura Regional Football Hub (Old Aerodrome Sporting Complex)*
6. Baranduda Fields Sporting Complex
7. Gippsland Sports & Entertainment Park (GSEP)
8. Geelong Northern Regional Football Hub
9. South East Sports Hub

[^]Projects listed for map reference, not in order of priority/importance.

*Identified in Football Australia's Securing Our Football Future Strategy as high priority infrastructure projects for Victoria.



INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES (CONTINUED)

PRIORITY 3: DELIVER HOME OF THE MATILDAS STAGE 2 & COMMENCE PLANNING OF STAGE 3

Stage 2 of the Home of the Matildas is envisioned to enhance the precinct's inclusivity, capacity, and versatility through the development of changerooms, formal seating, storage and public amenities on the Eastern side of the venue's primary pitch. Planning for Stage 3 involves a detailed investigation into the provision of additional synthetic surfaces within the broader precinct as participation continues to grow.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



1. RETURN OF THE WORLD GAME FACILITIES FUND

The World Game Facilities Fund (WGFF) was established by the Victorian Government in 2018 and delivered more than \$25 million of investment into the enhancement of grass roots football facilities across the state.

The former WGFF was a proven example of collaborative investment, enabling local councils and clubs to leverage government and Football Victoria investment into high-impact local infrastructure projects that met community needs.

Football Victoria will advocate and work behind the scenes with the Victorian Government to reinstate the fund with a renewed commitment of \$20–\$30 million over four years.

A reinstated WGFF would:

- Strengthen strategic partnerships between government, Football Victoria, councils and clubs
- Deliver gender-inclusive, accessible and safe facilities across the state
- Support growth while boosting local economies and creating healthier, more connected communities
- Unlock co-investment opportunities and long-term value for public funds

Football Victoria is ready to work with government on a shared vision to deliver the infrastructure that a growing game and a growing Victoria needs.

2. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

Football Victoria is committed to strengthening our capacity in government relations and infrastructure planning.

A new department will be created to support advocacy, planning, and strengthen relationships with all levels of government to drive investment in football facilities.

3. FACILITY GUIDELINES AND RESOURCES

Football Victoria will establish Preferred Football Facility Guidelines to provide clear, consistent standards for the planning, design and development of football infrastructure across all levels.

We will develop clear guidelines and resources for futsal facilities, facility hierarchies, and sustainable pitch usage. These tools will support councils, clubs, and stakeholders in facility planning, usage, and funding applications.

OUR ORGANISATION



FOOTBALL VICTORIA

Football Victoria (FV) is the governing body for football in Victoria. FV has a clear purpose to inspire and enable Victorians from all walks of life to live and love football, for life.

As a member federation of Football Australia (FA) and through the national body's affiliation with FIFA (Federation of International Football Associations), FV is responsible for the administration, promotion and delivery of football and futsal (indoor football) across the state.

FV plays an important role in advocating for the needs of the game to enable it to thrive across the state. FV works in partnership with clubs, leagues, local government and other stakeholders to continue to grow participation and access to football for all Victorians.

PURPOSE

Inspire, unite and enable ALL Victorians to live and love football for life.

VISION

Equitable football for ALL, anywhere, anytime, anyway.



OUR STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2028



OUR PILLARS

OUR CLUBS & COMPETITIONS

Our Clubs & Competitions unite and lead the way in governance, capability and financial sustainability.

OUR PARTICIPANTS

Our Participants can engage with the game in a safe, inclusive and equitable environment.

OUR PATHWAYS

Our Pathways attract, identify, support and nurture talent

OUR FACILITIES

Our Facilities are safe, inclusive and meet the needs of all participants.

OUR FUTURE

Future is underpinned by innovation and a strong commercial model

OUR FACILITIES PILLAR

OUR OBJECTIVES

Our Facilities are safe, inclusive and meet the needs of all participants.

OUR COMMITMENT

Football Victoria will always advocate for and support the development of high level facilities that meet the needs of our growing football community.

OUR PRIORITIES

- Understand the current supply and utilisation of football facilities in Victoria.
- Enhance the existing network of football facilities in Victoria.
- Partner with clubs to grow the provision of football facilities.

Painted Hills Recreation Reserve - Doreen



FOOTBALL VICTORIA ZONES

Victoria is divided into 12 football zones (8 metro and 4 regional), with dedicated Development Coordinators working in partnership with clubs and local government authorities to assist with facility planning and advocacy.

Each football zone has unique challenges relating to facility provision, capacity and capability. The Football Victoria Facilities Strategy aims to outline facility development solutions that are tailored to each area to ensure that the recommendations of the Strategy are achievable and sustainable. An overview of each zone's participation growth, facility condition status, and priority projects are provided from page 34 of this Strategy.

METRO ZONES x8



REGIONAL ZONES x4



OUR PARTICIPANTS



STATE-WIDE FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION

Football is one of the most participated sports in Victoria and continues to experience significant annual growth.

Since 2022, participation in MiniRoos and junior football has surged by 15%, with over 70,000 young players now engaged across Victoria - a clear indicator of the sport's accelerating grassroots momentum.

Football participation rebounded following the COVID pandemic, with total participation growing from 81,097 in 2022 to 115,946 in 2024.

This level of growth represents an unprecedented 43% increase in participation across three football seasons and was led by sharp increases in MiniRoos (+64.6%) and Junior (+39.3%). Senior participation increased by 16.2% and Over 35s increased by 26.5% across the same period.

The addition of 34,849 football participants state-wide since 2022 has created immense pressure on the existing network of volunteers and facilities – with further growth in 2025 compounding this strain.

Football Victoria is committed to partnering with local and state government and other land managers to find infrastructure solutions that respond to the growth of football in a targeted, balanced and sustainable way.

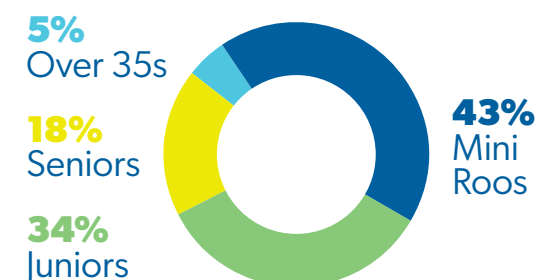
2024 FOOTBALL PLAYERS



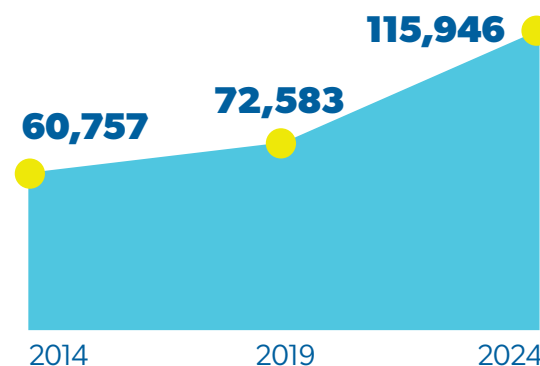
73% Metropolitan players

27% Regional players

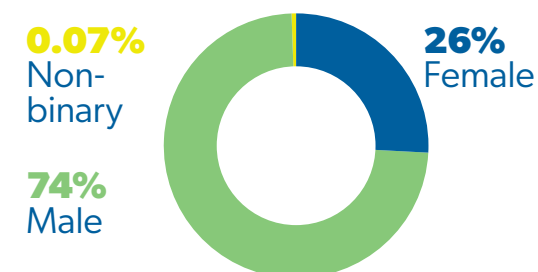
2024 PLAYER TYPE



2014–2024 PLAYERS



2024 GENDER PROFILE

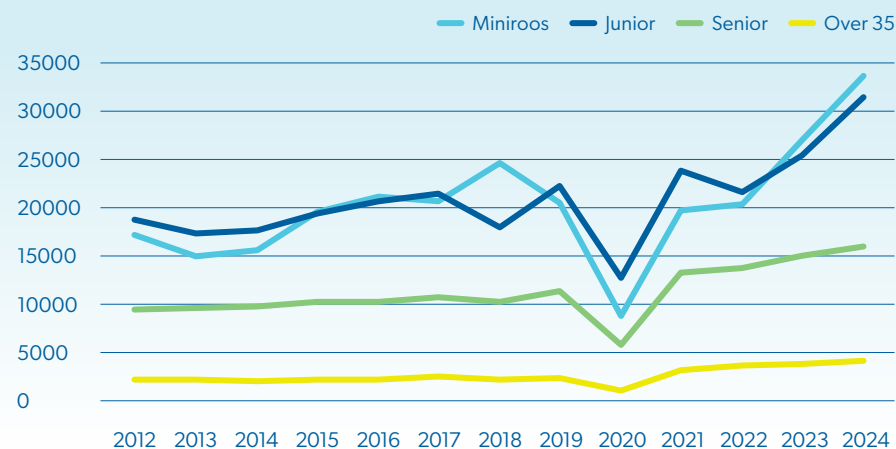


Note: Participant registrations relate to club-based registrations for FV affiliated competitions and programs. Participation statistic provided in this report excludes school programs, activations, and non-affiliated FV competitions.

METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL ANALYSIS

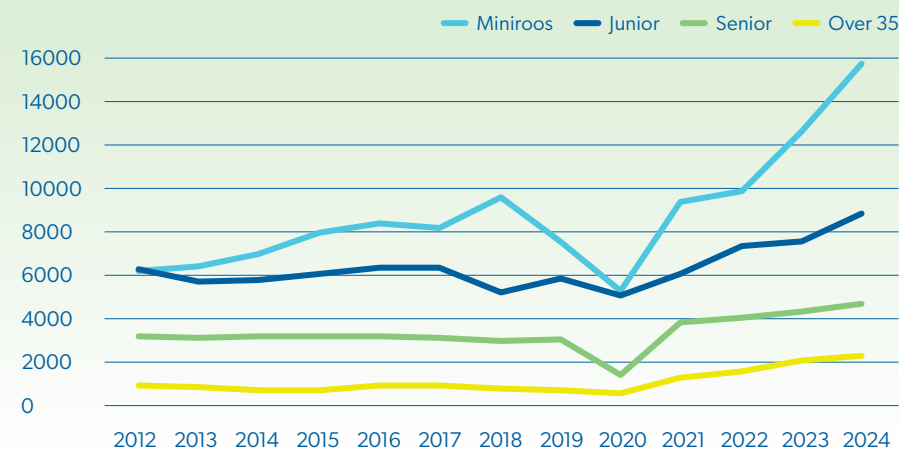
METROPOLITAN FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

- The eight metropolitan football zones consist of 31 LGAs that provide 728 pitches at 336 venues.
- Participation in the metropolitan zones has increased from 58,162 participants in 2022 to 84,207 participants in 2024, representing a 45% increase in participation.
- Adding 26,045 football participants across this period has placed significant pressure on facilities across Greater Metropolitan Melbourne.



REGIONAL FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

- The four regional football zones consist of 48 LGAs providing 247 pitches across 108 venues.
- Participation in regional football zones has increased from 22,935 participants in 2022 to 31,739 participants in 2024, representing a 38% increase in participation.
- Continuing to grow football in Regional Victoria will require careful planning to provide the right facilities and upgrades in the right locations.



POPULATION INFLUENCES

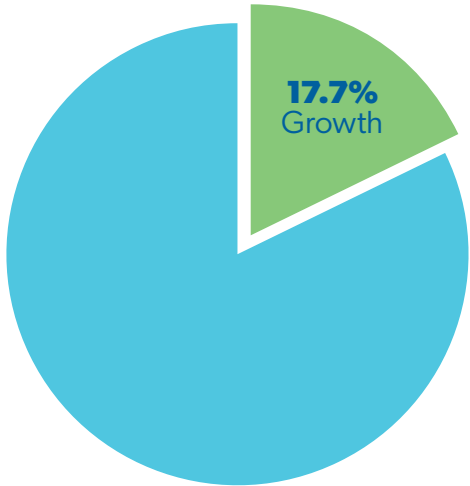
The number of people living in Victoria will continue to grow and change and these shifts in population and community demographics will have an impact on football.

Victoria’s population will increase by 1.2 million residents between 2025 and 2035. Population growth is expected across both metropolitan and regional areas (Refer Map in appendices).

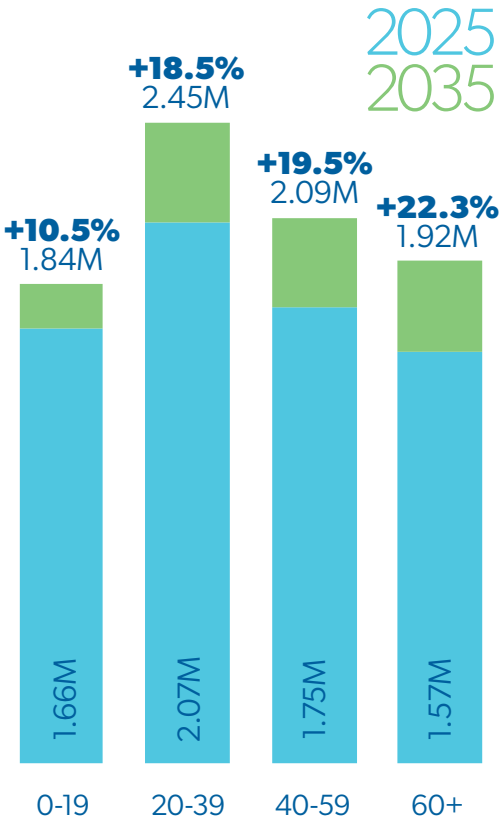
Population growth is occurring in diverse ways across the state. Growth council populations are expanding rapidly. New communities are emerging on Melbourne’s urban fringe. Established metropolitan areas are becoming increasingly dense and major regional centres are attracting more residents through new residential development.

Continued population growth and demographic change will drive an increase in football participation. This will trigger an immediate need for our sport and our partners to deliver additional facility capacity.

VICTORIA’S POPULATION
2025-2035



VICTORIA’S POPULATION
2025-2035 BY AGE



GROWTH PROJECTIONS

Football Victoria acknowledges that the popularity of our sport means most existing football facilities are overused, creating issues with maintenance and pitch renovation.

We also understand that additional football participants will compound this issue, which is why this strategy is focused on building the capacity of existing facilities and developing new facilities where they are most needed.

Comparing Metro and Regional Victoria

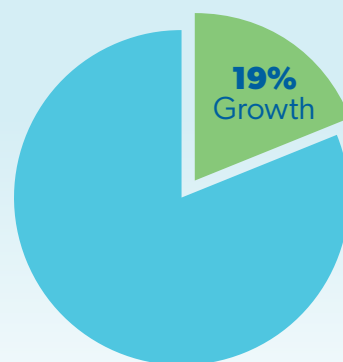
- Player penetration rates (FV players per population) in Victoria are 1.6% in metropolitan areas and 1.8% in regional areas.
- The current pitch-to-participant ratio is 1:116 in metropolitan areas and 1:128 in regional Victoria.
- The Northern and Central Metropolitan Zones record the highest pitch-to-participant ratios at 1:217 and 1:143 respectively, highlighting significant facility pressures in these areas. The Wimmera South Coast recorded the highest pitch-to-participant ratios at 1:140 in regional Victoria.
- The current pitch-to-population ratio is 1:7,143 in metropolitan areas and 1:6,991 in regional Victoria. An industry benchmark of one pitch per 5,000 population is often used in facility planning, highlighting the current perceived shortfall in pitch provision.

Note: Industry benchmark pitch to population ratio is 1:5,000

METRO VICTORIA FOOTBALL PARTICIPANTS

2024 **84,315**
2035 **100,508**

1:7,143 Pitch to pop. 2024

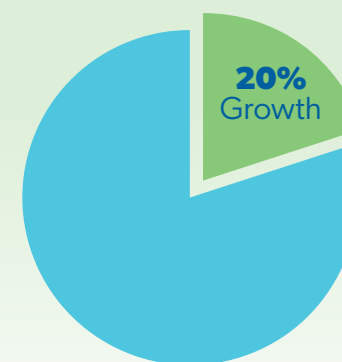


The current penetration rate in Metropolitan Victoria is 1.6%. If this rate is retained, we can expect an additional 16,193 football participants by 2035.

REGIONAL VICTORIA FOOTBALL PARTICIPANTS

2024 **31,631**
2035 **37,968**

1:6,991 Pitch to pop. 2024



The current penetration rate in Regional Victoria is 1.8%. If this rate is retained, we can expect an additional 6,337 football participants by 2035.

OUR FACILITIES



ABOUT OUR FACILITIES

Infrastructure Assessment

Half of the football pitches audited in 2024 were assessed as being in moderate or poor condition, highlighting a significant need for investment in drainage and irrigation to support pitch renewal and maintenance.

Only 52% of pitches were identified as having 100+ lux lighting. Providing adequate lighting is a key contributor to maximising pitch capacity and increasing flexibility of use.

69% of player change facilities and 75% of match official change facilities were deemed gender accessible. While significant progress has been made, ongoing investment is needed to upgrade facilities to ensure they meet the needs of all genders.

Local government identified facility capacity for both training and competition, and pitch surface quality, as key challenges. Addressing these issues is critical to ensuring safe, high-quality playing environments, sustaining participation levels, and supporting the continued growth and retention of players across all ages and abilities.

Regional Victoria has a slightly higher proportion of lit pitches (65%) compared to metropolitan areas (59%), but a lower proportion of gender-accessible player change facilities (67% vs 69%) and match official change facilities (71% vs 76%).

METRO VICTORIA

Established councils face space constraints, while growth councils are challenged by rising costs and limited land availability for new facilities.

REGIONAL VICTORIA

Facilities in regional cities are typically council-managed, while those in smaller rural areas are often overseen by volunteer committees of management.



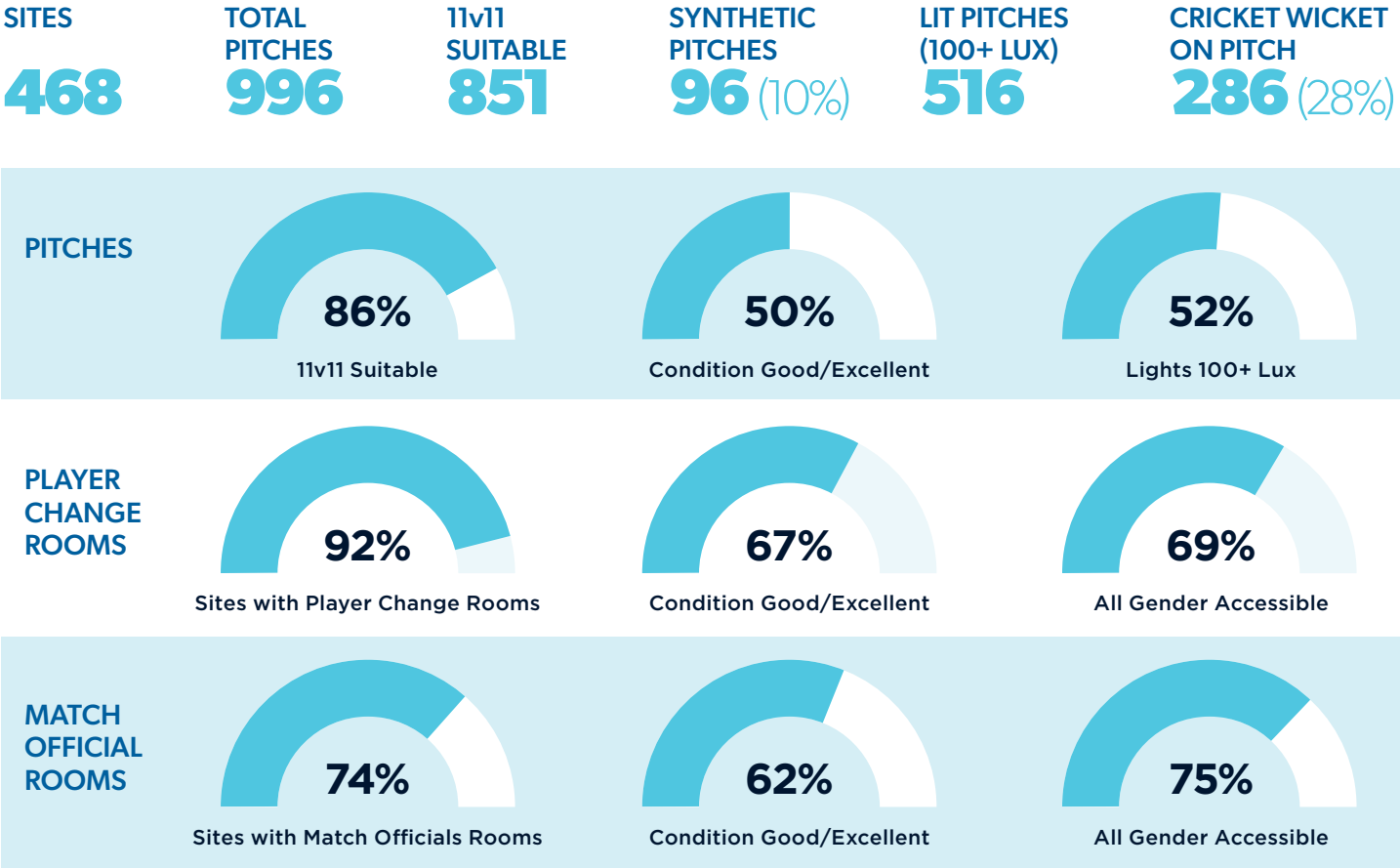
FOOTBALL FACILITIES OVERVIEW

Football facilities across Victoria are the home of competitions, participation programs, talent development pathways, events and carnivals.

The collection and analysis of facility data has provided the evidence base for development of the Football Victoria Facilities Strategy and will allow for the ongoing assessment of future facility needs.

Facilities Audit

An audit of football facilities was undertaken in 2024, with 468 football venues and almost 1,000 pitches audited via on-site inspections to understand existing facility provision, condition and compliance.



FACILITY SPOTLIGHT: HOME OF THE MATILDAS

The Home of the Matildas (HOTM) is a landmark development in Australian football, providing state-of-the-art facilities for elite athletes while fostering community involvement and the growth of women's soccer nationwide. The HOTM is located within the La Trobe University Sports Park in Bundoora, and officially opened on July 3, 2023, ahead of the FIFA Women's World Cup. It serves as the national training base for the Australian women's soccer team and supports Football Victoria's administration and high-performance programs. The complex boasts a FIFA and AFC-compliant main pitch with an 800-seat grandstand and associated amenities to support spectators.

It also includes multiple training pitches alongside a high-performance gym, recovery areas, medical and rehabilitation facilities. To fully realise the potential of the Home of the Matildas as both a national and community asset, Stage 2 of the development will require further investment to deliver additional changerooms, formal seating, and vital community amenities. This next phase will elevate the venue's standing against AFC regulations and requirements while significantly expanding access for grassroots and community use, helping meet growing demand for facilities and to continue ensuring that more women and girls can participate in football at all levels.



INDOOR & SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL VENUES



Football Victoria is committed to fostering the growth of futsal and five-a-side football. Football Victoria will support the development of accessible and high-quality facilities for players throughout the state, while unlocking indoor venues as alternative training venues for cases of inclement weather and poor outdoor pitch conditions.

The Knox Regional Football Centre in Wantirna South is Victoria's first purpose-built outdoor five-a-side football facility. It features nine fully enclosed synthetic pitches with lighting, designed for fast-paced, small-sided games. The 5v5 Championships played at the Knox Regional Football Centre, is affiliated with Football Victoria.

Football Victoria has significantly enhanced its involvement in futsal, aiming to unify and develop the sport across the state. Football Victoria coordinates and manages the State Futsal Championships, which serve as the premier futsal event in Victoria. The annual event provides a vital platform for players to showcase their talents, refine their technical skills, and compete at the highest level within the state.

The Football Victoria Facilities Strategy to 2035 aims to increase the availability and quality of indoor facilities, including those for small-sided games like 5-a-side and futsal. The Strategy supports the development of, access to, and upgrade of all forms of football facilities including indoor facilities.

SHARED FACILITY OPPORTUNITIES

Indoor with basketball and netball

Football Victoria is committed to enhancing the connectivity between futsal courts and basketball and netball courts within indoor stadiums.

We support and advocate for collaborative planning to improve access, optimise shared infrastructure, and support inclusive, year-round activation of multi-sport indoor facilities. Futsal Facility Guidelines will be developed by FV to assist with future court design and activation.

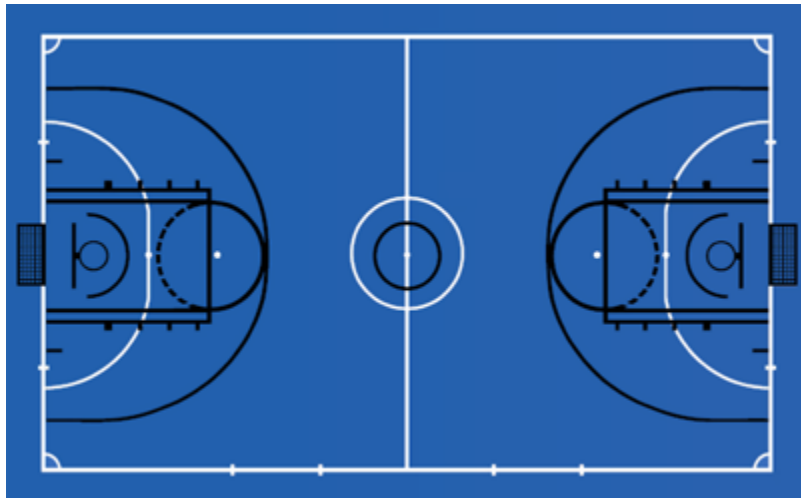


Image: Futsal and basketball line marking for indoor stadium

Outdoor with cricket

Where appropriate Football Victoria supports the development of innovative field of play designs that can accommodate the needs of multiple sports.

'Winged' ovals like the one featured below are thoughtfully designed and compliant multi-use facilities that combine a central oval for cricket and two adjoining rectangular football pitches.



Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve – Composite Football/Cricket Overlay

OUR STAKEHOLDERS



PARTNER INSIGHTS

Football Victoria recognises and greatly values the essential contribution of our government partners and football community in operating, managing, and developing football facilities throughout the state.

A detailed engagement process was undertaken to ensure our stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide input into the development of the FVFS.

Key stakeholders engaged:

- Football Australia
- Football Victoria Executive
- Football Victoria Affiliated Community Clubs
- Metropolitan Local Government Authorities
- Regional Local Government Authorities
- Sport and Recreation Victoria
- A League Clubs

Challenges for Clubs:

- Facility capacity for training
- Pitch surface quality
- Inadequate social rooms/canteens
- Capacity of player change facilities

71% of the 79 clubs who completed the online survey indicated that their facilities did not fully meet their needs for competition and training.

Clubs indicated that access to funding and government advocacy would have the biggest impact on achieving their facility development aspirations.

Challenges for Local Government:

- Participation growth is outpacing facility provision, placing increasing pressure on councils to deliver new facilities.
- Council budgets and available funding are stretched, while facility development costs have risen significantly.
- Rising expectations for the quality and standard of facilities are challenging councils' ability to meet community demand.
- 'Season creep' is bringing forward the start of the winter season, limiting access for summer tenants and making it harder for councils to complete pitch renovations.
- When clubs are promoted, councils face growing expectations to fund necessary facility upgrades.
- The lack of football-specific funding programs (sport or government-led) leaves councils with little incentive to prioritise football projects over other sport, recreation, and open space needs.

FACILITY NEEDS & PRIORITIES

Our stakeholders identified several key facility related issues, challenges and priorities for consideration in the development of the FVFS.



FACILITY UPGRADES

More pitches with lighting and change facilities will boost capacity across the existing network.

BROADER COMMUNITY USE

Provision of sheltered spectator areas and seating supports community engagement, social connection, and safety in all weather conditions.

ELITE LEVEL FACILITIES

Investing in HOTM and talent-focused venues is essential to strengthen football pathways.



NOT ONE SIZE FITS ALL

Facility challenges vary across metro, growth, and regional councils, requiring tailored responses to demand.

EQUITABLE ACCESS

Collaboration with Cricket Victoria is required to manage season creep and support equitable use of community grounds.

BROADER USE

Multipurpose use of existing facilities supports activation and unlocks broader funding opportunities.



CAPACITY VIA PARTNERSHIPS

Partnering with schools, developers and other sporting codes offers innovative ways to expand facility access.

MORE FACILITY RESOURCES

Clear football facility guidelines and planning tools are needed to support effective planning and development.

ACCESS TO FUNDING

Access to funding and grants is the key enabler for stakeholders to deliver facility priorities.



OUR FACILITIES FRAMEWORK



FOOTBALL FACILITIES FRAMEWORK

Football Victoria’s Facilities Framework outlines our vision, strategic objectives and focused actions for football facilities and infrastructure. The Facilities Framework will guide our approach to strategic planning, inform investment decisions and guide coordinated action across government, local councils and football stakeholders.

Our Facilities Framework is designed to enable government, councils, and sporting bodies to align priorities, address gaps in facility provision, and guide investment towards infrastructure that fosters participation, inclusion, and community wellbeing.

OUR VISION	A thriving, inclusive and sustainable network of football facilities that grows the game and connects communities.					
OUR OBJECTIVES	Plan for the growth of our game	Expand our facilities footprint	Enhance the capacity and sustainability of facilities	Ensure inclusive and equitable access to our facilities	Foster partnerships and shared investment	Embrace innovation that responds to football need
STRATEGIC RESPONSE	Leverage strategic, data-driven planning to align facility provision with participation trends, demographic change and evolving community needs	Strategically expand the reach and diversity of football facilities to address infrastructure gaps and support the needs of growing communities	Drive facility upgrades that expand capacity, enhance performance and deliver lasting environmental and community benefits	Prioritise inclusive, accessible facilities to grow participation by acknowledging intersectionality principles that reflect the diverse needs of the football community	Leverage partnerships and co-investment across government, schools, football and community stakeholders to optimise facility delivery and impact	Adopt innovative facility design, technology and operations to keep football infrastructure adaptable, future-ready and aligned to evolving player and community needs

ZONE PRIORITIES



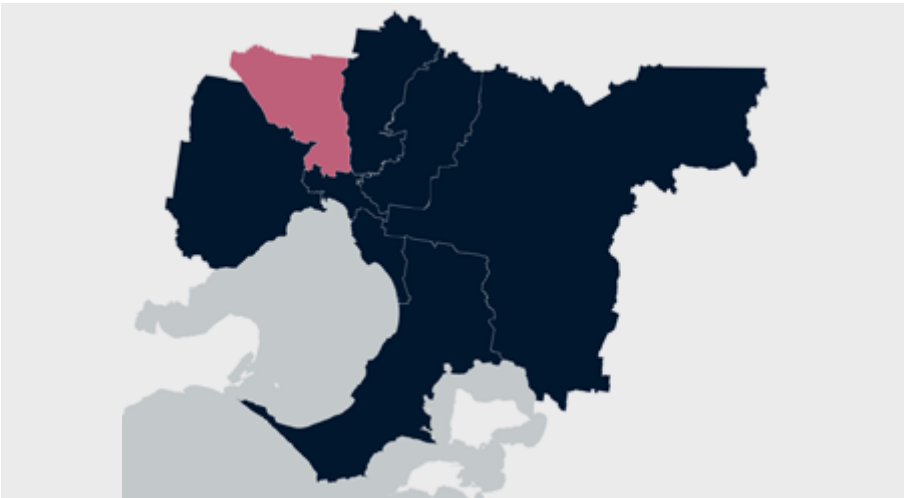
METROPOLITAN ZONES

The 8 football zones in the metropolitan area are defined by 31 LGAs that provide 728 pitches at 336 venues. The table below provides the list of LGAs for each zone and the total number of FV affiliated players.



NORTH-WEST ZONE 8,419 - Hume - Merri-Bek - Moonee Valley	NORTH-EAST ZONE 8,484 - Boroondara - Manningham - Nillumbik - Whitehorse	SOUTH-EAST ZONE 9,025 - Bayside - Glen Eira - Kingston	SOUTHERN ZONE 10,464 - Casey - Frankston - Greater Dandenong - Mornington Peninsula
NORTHERN ZONE 17,381 - Banyule - Darebin - Whittlesea - FV Venues	EASTERN ZONE 8,183 - Cardinia - Knox - Maroondah - Monash - Yarra Ranges	CENTRAL ZONE 9,167 - Maribyrnong - Melbourne - Port Phillip - Stonnington - Yarra	WESTERN ZONE 13,008 - Brimbank - Hobsons Bay - Melton - Wyndham

NORTH-WEST METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **6,086** 2024 **8,419**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

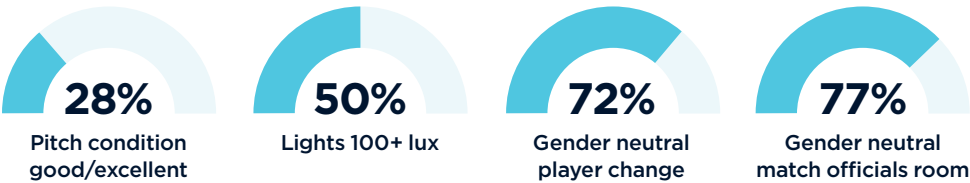
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,483	3,111	1,555	270

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Moderately exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
35	72	36	1:117	1:8,039*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

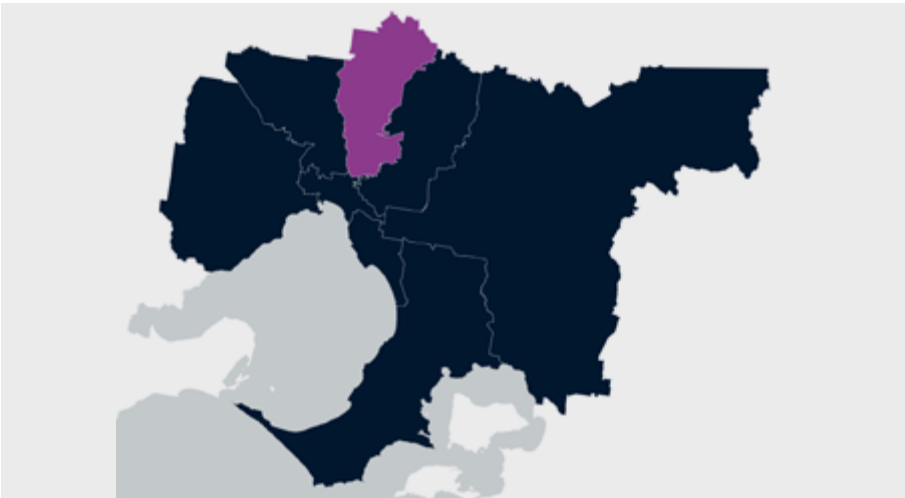


PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
ABD Stadium/ Broadmeadows Valley Park	Synthetic Pitch Renewal	Hume City Council
Bradford Avenue Reserve	Pitch Upgrade & All Gender Facilities	Hume City Council
Dwyer Street Reserve	New Football Facility	Hume City Council
Gibb Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Hume City Council
Langama Park	All Gender Facilities	Hume City Council
Merrifield West Precinct	New Football Facility	Hume City Council
De Chene Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Merri-bek City Council
Moomba Park	All Gender Facilities	Merri-bek City Council
Rupert Wallace Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Merri-bek City Council
AJ Davis Reserve/ Essendon Keilor College	Moonee Valley Football Hub	Moonee Valley City Council
JH Allan Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Moonee Valley City Council
Keilor East Leisure Centre	Synthetic Pitch Renewal	Moonee Valley City Council

NORTHERN METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **9,676** 2024 **17,381**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

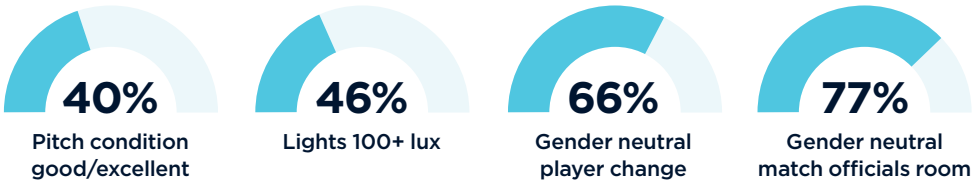
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
5,987	7,110	3,151	1,133

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Marginally exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
36	80	37	1:217	1:6,765*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

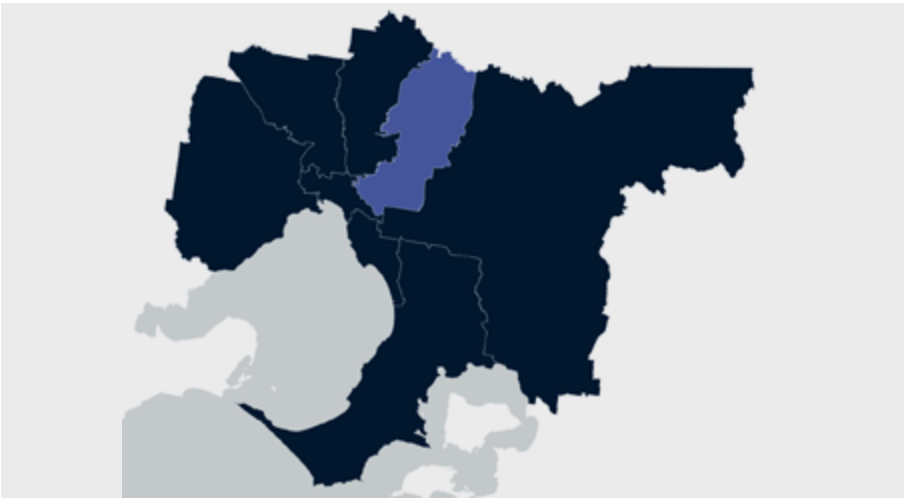


PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Olympic Park	All Gender Facilities	Banyule City Council
Partingtons Flat Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Banyule City Council
Yallambie Park	All Gender Facilities	Banyule City Council
B.T Connor Reserve	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade	Darebin City Council
HLT Oulton Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Darebin City Council
JC Donath Reserve - East	All Gender Facilities	Darebin City Council
John Cain Memorial Park	Lighting Upgrade	Darebin City Council
Mayer Park	All Gender Facilities	Darebin City Council
Ashley Park Reserve	New Football Facility	Whittlesea City Council
Central Wollert Sports Reserve (Alkira)	New Football Facility	Whittlesea City Council
Hillsview Recreation Reserve	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade	Whittlesea City Council
Painted Hills Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Whittlesea City Council

NORTH-EAST METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **7,238** 2024 **8,484**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

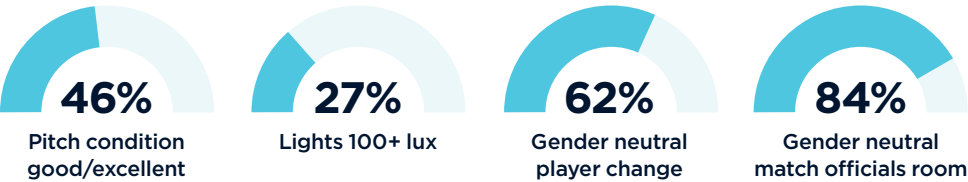
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,210	3,198	1,523	553

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Moderately exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
40	77	21	1:115	1:7,409*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

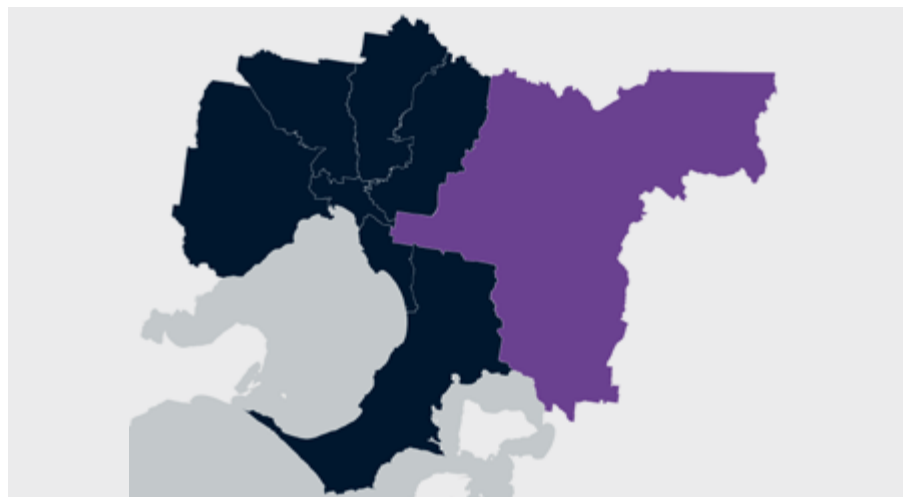


PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Hartwell Sportsground	All Gender Facilities	Boroondara City Council
Warner Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Boroondara City Council
Watson Park	All Gender Facilities	Boroondara City Council
Willsmere Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Boroondara City Council
Anderson Park	Synthetic Pitch & Lighting Upgrade	Manningham City Council
Timber Ridge Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Manningham City Council
Eltham North Reserve	Synthetic Pitch Renewal	Nillumbik Shire Council
Ballyshannassy Park	All Gender Facilities	Whitehorse City Council
Mahoneys Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Whitehorse City Council
Mirrabooka Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Whitehorse City Council
RHL Sparks Reserve	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade	Whitehorse City Council

EASTERN METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **6,107** 2024 **8,183**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

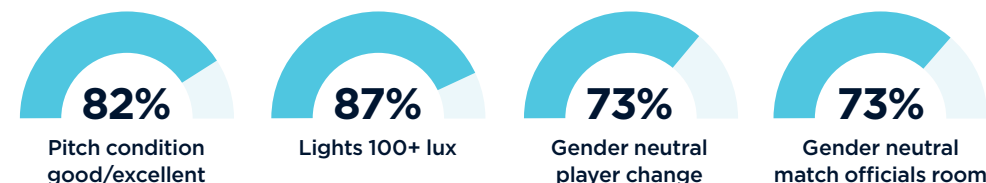
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,191	2,838	1,891	263

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Moderately exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
46	99	86	1:81	1:7,396*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Lang Lang Community Recreation Precinct	New Pitch & All Gender Facilities	Cardinia Shire Council
McMullen Road Recreation Reserve	New Football Facility	Cardinia Shire Council
Carrington Park	All Gender Facilities	Knox City Council
Park Ridge Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Knox City Council
Jubilee Park	Synthetic Pitch Renewal	Maroondah City Council
Brandon Park Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Monash City Council
Caloola Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Monash City Council
Larpent Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Monash City Council
Don Road Sporting Complex	All Gender Facilities	Yarra Ranges Shire Council
Esther Park	Lighting Upgrade	Yarra Ranges Shire Council

SOUTH-EAST METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **7,281** 2024 **9,025**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

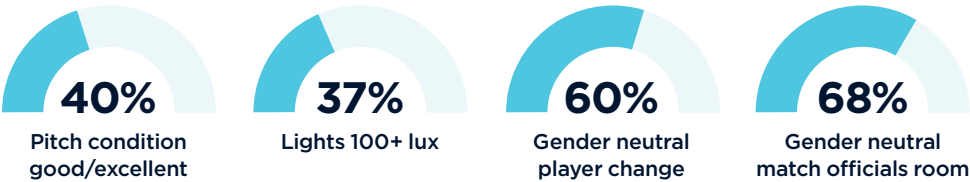
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
4,078	3,343	1,276	328

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Marginally exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
31	65	24	1:139	1:6,535*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

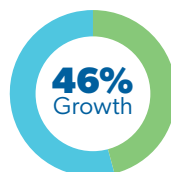
VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Balcombe Park	Pitch Upgrade	Bayside City Council
Dendy Park	Pitch Upgrade & All Gender Facilities	Bayside City Council
Shipston Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Bayside City Council
Sillitoe Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Bayside City Council
Bailey Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Glen Eira City Council
Lord Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Glen Eira City Council
Mackie Road Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Glen Eira City Council
Marlborough Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Glen Eira City Council
Edithvale Common	Lighting Upgrade	Kingston City Council
Kingston Heath Soccer Complex	Pitch Upgrade	Kingston City Council
Namatjira Park	Pitch Upgrade	Kingston City Council

SOUTHERN METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **7,102** 2024 **10,343**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

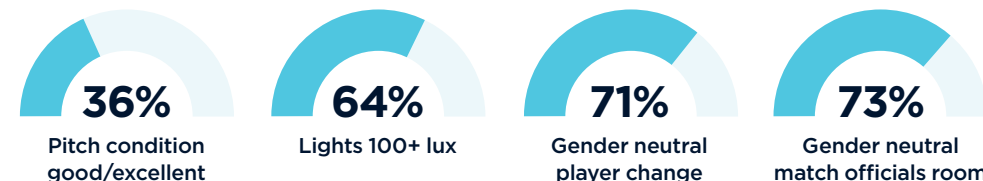
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
4,159	3,945	1,984	255

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Marginally exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
61	149	95	1:70	1:5,944*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

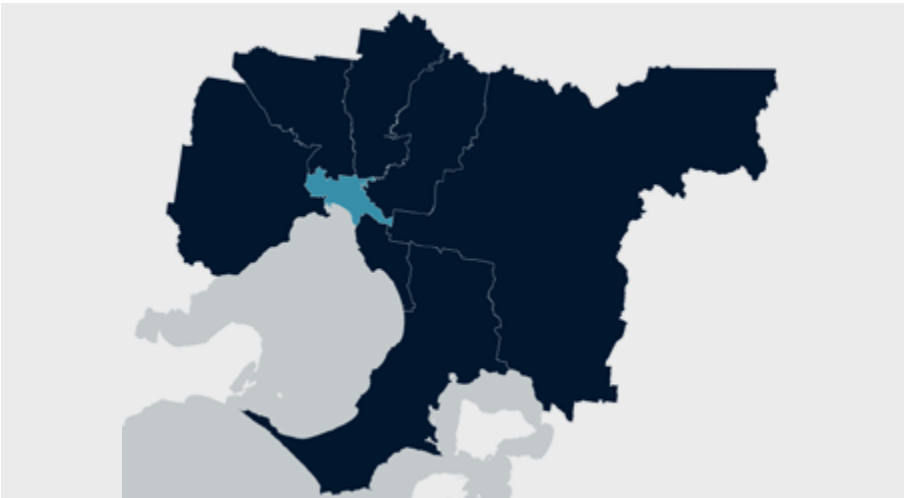


PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Casey Fields	Casey Mini Stadium	City of Casey
Prospect Hill Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	City of Casey
Lyndale Secondary College	Pitch & Lighting Upgrade	City of Greater Dandenong
Parkfield Reserve	All Gender Facilities	City of Greater Dandenong
South-East Sports Hub [^]	New Football Facility	City of Greater Dandenong
Warner Reserve	Pitch & Lighting Upgrade	City of Greater Dandenong
Lawton Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Frankston City Council
Barber Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Dallas Brooks Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Emil Madsen Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

CENTRAL METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **6,193** 2024 **9,167**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

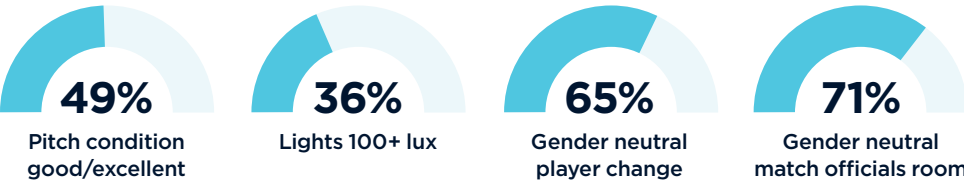
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,934	2,663	2,126	444

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Significantly exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
40	64	23	1:143	1:9,313*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Dobson Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Maribyrnong City Council
Hansen Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Maribyrnong City Council
J.J Holland Park	Lighting Upgrade	Melbourne City Council
Newmarket Reserve	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade	Melbourne City Council
Elwood Park	Pitch Upgrade	Port Phillip City Council
Lagoon Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Port Phillip City Council
Central Park	All Gender Facilities	Stonnington City Council
Sir Zelman Cowan Park	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade & All Gender Facilities	Stonnington City Council
Fairlea Sporting Precinct	Pitch & Lighting Upgrade	Yarra City Council
Kevin Bartlett Reserve – Bastow 2	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade	Yarra City Council
Kevin Bartlett Reserve – Gillion Pavilion	All Gender Facilities	Yarra City Council

WESTERN METRO



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **9,133** 2024 **13,008**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

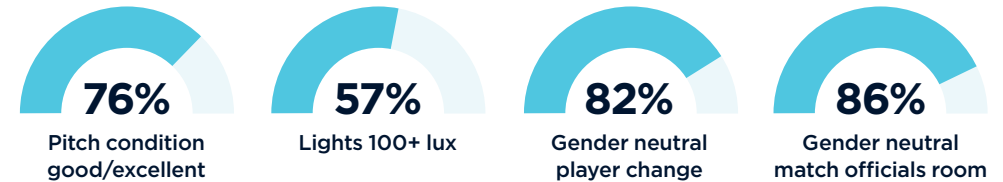
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
5,463	4,956	2,138	451

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Moderately exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
48	113	64	1:115	1:7,509*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



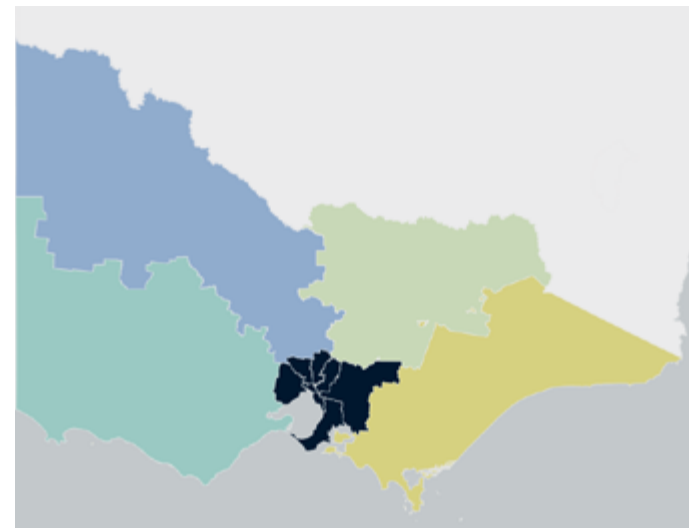
PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Churchill Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Brimbank City Council
Ralph Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Brimbank City Council
A W Bond Reserve	Pitch Upgrade & All Gender Facilities	Hobsons Bay City Council
Edwards Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Hobsons Bay City Council
Kurunjang Reserve	Synthetic Renewal & All Gender Facilities	Melton City Council
Plumpton North Active Open Space	New Football Facility	Melton City Council
Rockbank East Active Open Space	New Football Facility	Melton City Council
Taylors Hill Recreation Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Melton City Council
Thornhill Park Active Open Space	New Football Facility	Melton City Council
Weir Views East Active Open Space	New Football Facility	Melton City Council
Manor Lakes Southern Sports Reserve	New Football Facility	Wyndham City Council
Polly Parade Reserve	New Football Facility	Wyndham City Council
Wyndham Vale North Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Wyndham City Council

REGIONAL ZONES

The 4 football zones in regional areas are defined by 48 LGAs that provide 247 pitches at 108 venues. The adjacent table provides the list of LGAs for each zone and the total number of FV affiliated players.



LODDON MALLEE

- Buloke
- Campaspe
- Gannawarra
- Greater Bendigo
- Hindmarsh
- Loddon
- Macedon Ranges
- Mildura
- Mitchell
- Mount Alexander
- Swan Hill
- Yarriambiack

WIMMERA SOUTH COAST

- Ararat
- Ballarat
- Central Goldfields
- Colac Otway
- Corangamite
- Glenelg
- Golden Plains
- Greater Geelong
- Hepburn
- Horsham
- Moorabool
- Moyne
- Northern Grampians
- Pyrenees
- Queenscliffe
- Southern Grampians
- Surf Coast
- Warrnambool
- West Wimmera

GOULBURN NORTH-EAST

- Alpine
- Benalla
- Greater Shepparton
- Indigo
- Mansfield
- Moira
- Murrindindi
- Strathbogie
- Towong
- Wangaratta
- Wodonga

GIPPSLAND

- Bass Coast
- Baw Baw
- East Gippsland
- Latrobe
- South Gippsland
- Wellington

LODDON MALLEE



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **4,270** 2024 **6,617**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

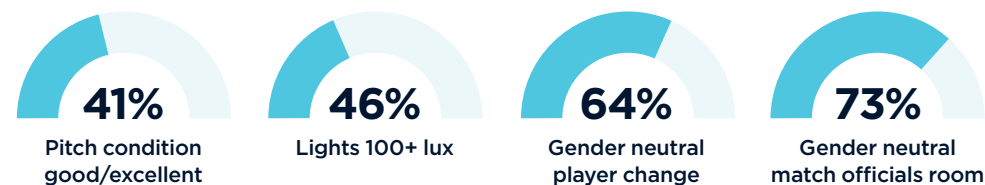
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,675	1,983	697	262

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Moderately exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
20	54	25	1:122	1:7,672*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Marong Active Open Space	New Football Facility	City of Greater Bendigo
Shadforth Park	Pitch Upgrade	City of Greater Bendigo
Strathdale Park (Beischer Oval)	Pitch Upgrade	City of Greater Bendigo
Truscott Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	City of Greater Bendigo
Barkly Square Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Dixon Field	Lighting Upgrade	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Romsey Recreation Reserve	Pitch & Lighting Upgrade	Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Old Aerodrome Sporting Complex	All Gender Facilities	Mildura Rural City Council
Beveridge Central Sporting Complex	New Regional Football Hub	Mitchell Shire Council
Newbridge Rec Reserve, Wallan East	New Football Facility	Mitchell Shire Council
Wesley Hill Recreation Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Mount Alexander Shire Council
Ken Harrison Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Swan Hill Rural City Council

WIMMERA SOUTH COAST



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **7,909** 2024 **13,176**

PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
6,094	3,681	2,289	1,112

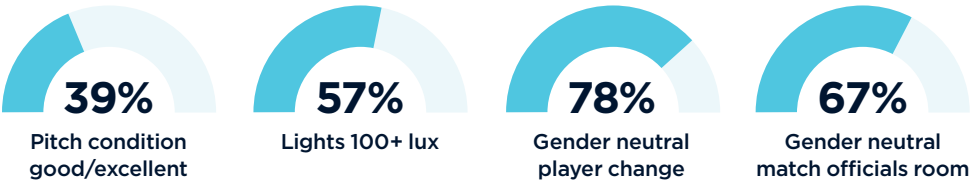
PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
44	94	54	1:140	1:7,816*

*Moderately exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.



PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

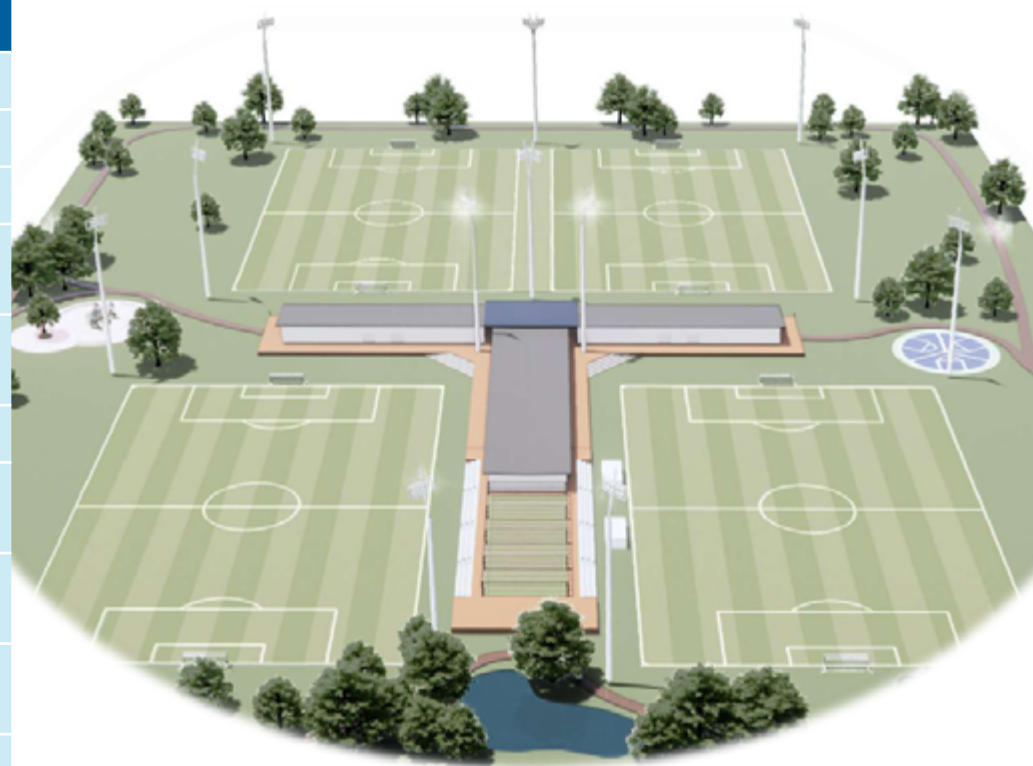
Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Jubilee Oval	All Gender Facilities & Lighting Upgrade	Central Goldfields Shire Council
Morshead Park	Synthetic Pitch Renewal	City of Ballarat
Royal Park	Pavilion & Social Space Upgrade	City of Ballarat
Armstrong Creek Sub-Regional Precinct	Sub-Regional Football Hub	City of Greater Geelong
Coastside Drive Recreation Precinct	New Football Facility	City of Greater Geelong
Devlins Road Precinct	New Football Facility	City of Greater Geelong
Myers Reserve	All Gender Facilities	City of Greater Geelong
Northern Geelong	Regional Football Hub	City of Greater Geelong
Reserve Road Precinct	New Football Facility	City of Greater Geelong

PRIORITY OUTCOMES CONTINUED

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Sovereign Drive Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	City of Greater Geelong
Colac Football Hub	New Football Facility	Colac Otway Shire Council
Mockridge Park	Synthetic Pitch Upgrade	Corangamite Shire Council
Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve	Pitch Upgrade & All Gender Facilities	Hepburn Shire Council
Victoria Park	Pitch & Lighting Upgrade & All Gender Facilities	Hepburn Shire Council
Haven Recreation Reserve	New Multisport Precinct	Horsham Rural City Council
Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Moorabool Shire Council
JJ Colledge Oval, Southcombe Park	Lighting Upgrade	Moyne Shire Council
Pedrina Park	All Gender Facilities	Southern Grampians Shire Council
Banyul Warri Fields	Synthetic Pitch Renewal	Surf Coast Shire Council
Brierly Recreation Reserve	Regional Football - Sports Community Hub	Warrnambool City Council



GOULBURN NORTH EAST



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **3,982** 2024 **5,487**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

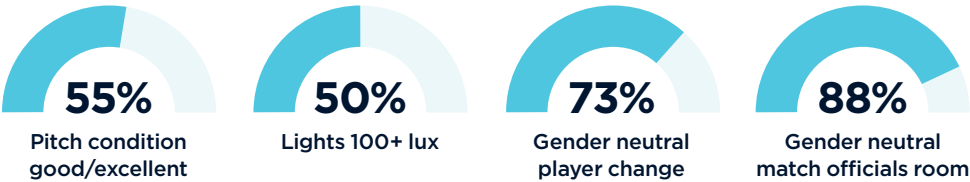
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,073	1,565	505	344

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Marginally exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
18	42	21	1:131	1:6,345*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Frank Howley Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Greater Shepparton City Council
Vibert Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Greater Shepparton City Council
Yackandandah Sports Park	Lighting Upgrade	Indigo Shire Council
College Park	Lighting Upgrade	Mansfield Shire Council
Apex Reserve	Lighting Upgrade	Moira Shire Council
South Wangaratta Reserve	Pitch & Lighting Upgrade	Rural City of Wangaratta
Baranduda Fields	Stage 2 Implementation – Pitch Developments	Wodonga City Council
Willow Park	All Gender Facilities	Wodonga City Council

GIPPSLAND



PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2021 **4,516** 2024 **6,459**



PARTICIPATION COHORTS – 2024

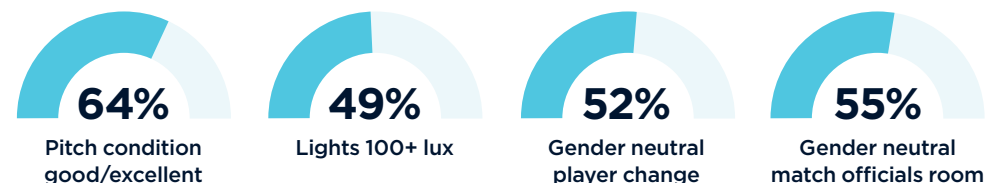
MINIROOS	JUNIOR	SENIOR	OVER 35s
3,094	1,709	1,160	496

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY

*Marginally exceeds benchmark of 1:5,000 pitch to population ratio.

VENUES	PITCHES	PITCHES (>100 LUX)	PITCH-PLAYER RATIO	PITCH-POP. RATIO
27	57	28	1:113	1:5,459*

PITCH PROVISION SUMMARY



PRIORITY OUTCOMES

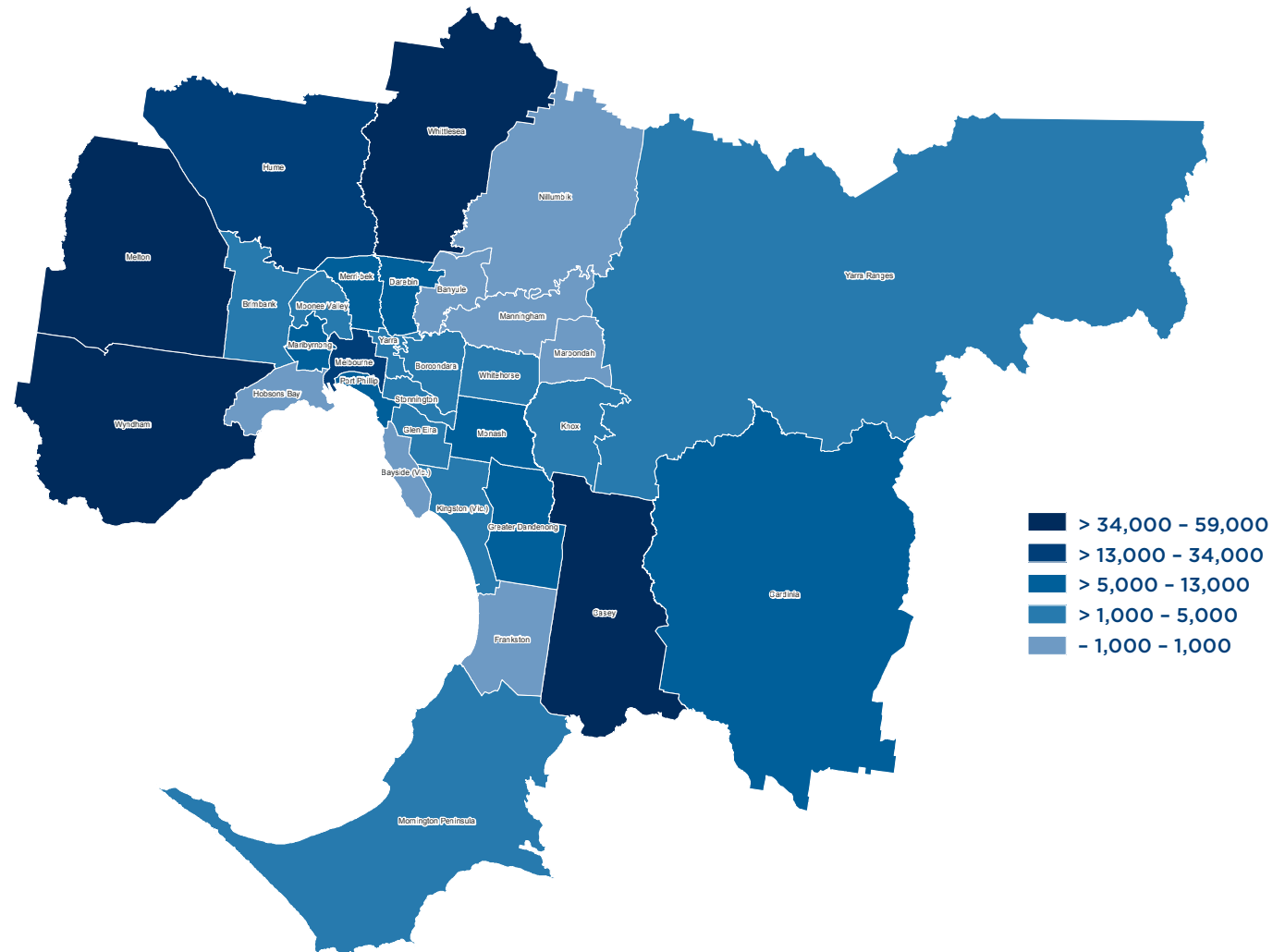
Projects are not listed in order of priority/importance

VENUE	OUTCOME	LGA
Phillip Island Recreation Precinct	New Multisport Precinct	Bass Coast Shire Council
Thompson Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Bass Coast Shire Council
Wonthaggi North East Precinct	New Football Facility	Bass Coast Shire Council
Bellbird Park Recreation Reserve	Pitch Upgrade	Baw Baw Shire Council
Lillico Sporting Complex	New Football Facility	Baw Baw Shire Council
WORLD Sporting Precinct	Synthetic Pitch, Grass Pitch & All Gender Facilities	East Gippsland Shire Council
Gippsland Sports & Entertainment Park	Regional Football Hub	Latrobe City Council
Harold Preston Reserve	All Gender Facilities	Latrobe City Council
Walter Tuck Reserve	All Gender Facilities	South Gippsland Shire Council

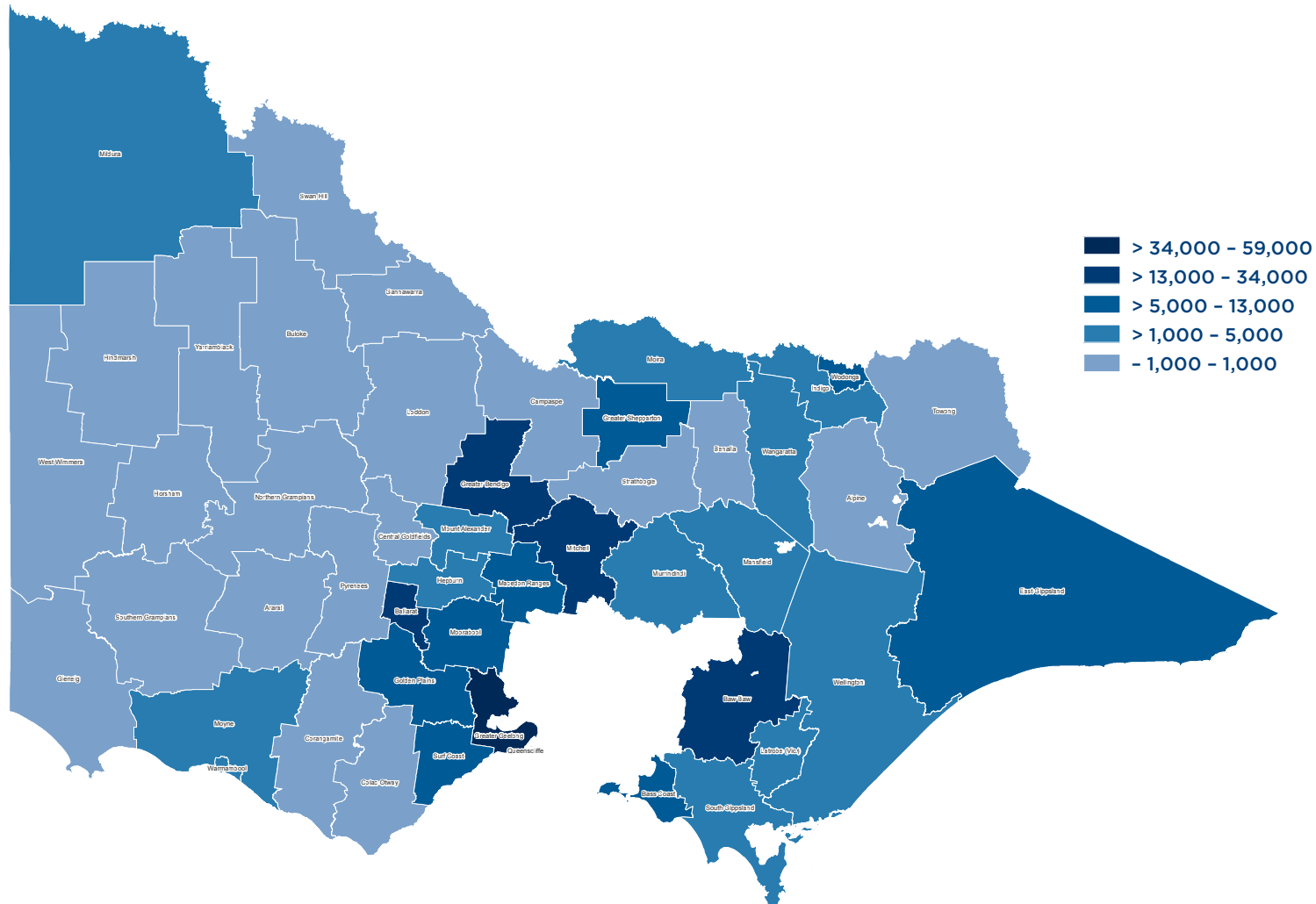
APPENDICES



METROPOLITAN LGA POPULATION GROWTH FROM 2025 TO 2035



52





ACTION PLAN

1. PLANNING FOR GROWTH

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
1.1	Support growth councils with evidence-based facility planning that responds to population growth and increasing participation rates across all formats and age groups.	HIGH
1.2	Ensure the outcomes and direction of the Facilities Strategy are integrated into local, regional, and state-wide planning frameworks.	HIGH
1.3	Advocate for the development of collaborative plans for high priority regions that identify strategic projects to support the growth of football.	HIGH
1.4	Establish Preferred Football Facility Guidelines to provide clear, consistent standards for the planning, design, and development of football infrastructure across all levels.	HIGH
1.5	Establish a Government Relations and Facilities department/function within FV with the appropriate level of resources to support partners in the delivery and implement of the Facilities Strategy.	HIGH
1.6	Ensure that facility provision ratios and participation forecasting models are clear, evidence-based, and used to guide long-term land use and infrastructure planning.	MEDIUM
1.7	FV to provide clear guidelines, tools and advice on sustainable facility usage (e.g. recommended player numbers per pitch, hours of use per surface, etc) to inform club and council operations and planning.	MEDIUM

2. EXPANDING OUR FACILITIES FOOTPRINT

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
2.1	Proactively identify and plan new football facilities in high-growth LGAs and regional centres where population and participation are increasing rapidly.	HIGH
2.2	Regularly maintain the statewide facilities database to understand current and future provision, condition and compliance.	HIGH
2.3	Prioritise new football projects that support the development of new clubs and community-based participation hubs in emerging football communities.	MEDIUM
2.4	Expand the footprint of football facilities in regional towns and rural areas to improve access and reduce travel barriers. Develop smaller, flexible facilities in these areas to accommodate diverse participation needs and formats.	MEDIUM
2.5	Engage with LGAs in regions with limited football infrastructure to support planning and funding for new provision.	MEDIUM

3. ENHANCING FACILITY CAPACITY & SUSTAINABILITY

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
3.1	Assist our local government partners to identify priority lighting projects that extend usable pitch hours and reduce pressure on existing pitches. Community competition lighting levels of 100 lux should be achieved where possible.	HIGH
3.2	Assist our local government partners to identify high-use pitches requiring surface upgrades, and prioritise drainage and irrigation improvements to maximise quality and year-round capacity.	HIGH

3.3	Strengthen advocacy for improved access to school facilities through formal Joint Use Agreements (JUAs), especially in growth corridors and space-constrained metropolitan areas.	HIGH
3.4	Identify high-demand football venues where upgrades to a hybrid surface would be appropriate to maximise participation opportunities and support year-round use for football.	MEDIUM
3.5	Develop and promote capacity planning guidelines to enable LGAs and clubs to sustainably manage facility use, ensuring that participation growth is balanced with long-term pitch quality and asset resilience.	MEDIUM

4. INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE ACCESS TO OUR FACILITIES

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
4.1	Assist local government partners to identify and prioritise venues requiring player and referee change room upgrades to meet gender-inclusive and accessible standards.	HIGH
4.2	Ensure all new and upgraded pavilions, change rooms, and player and spectator amenities are designed to comply with Fair Access Policy principles and modern gender equity expectations.	HIGH
4.3	Support facility scheduling and pitch allocations that actively prioritise access for women and girls, under-represented groups, and align with Council Fair Access Policies.	HIGH
4.4	Engage with culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities to understand needs and preferences (e.g. gender-segregated sessions or indoor opportunities for some cultural groups).	HIGH
4.5	Support clubs in creating welcoming environments and improving club governance and culture where most needed.	MEDIUM

4. INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE ACCESS TO OUR FACILITIES (CONTINUED)

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
4.6	Prioritise improved access to indoor spaces to support inclusive participation in futsal and small-sided formats - addressing barriers for CALD communities and female participants.	MEDIUM
4.7	Engage with rural LGAs and Committees of Management to address governance barriers that may impact equitable access to football facilities.	MEDIUM

5. FOSTER PARTNERSHIPS & SHARED INVESTMENT

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
5.1	Expand shared facility models with complementary sports (e.g. cricket, basketball) where this supports sustainable outcomes, joint advocacy, and multi-use of facilities.	HIGH
5.2	Work with Football Australia and the Victorian Government to advocate for the reinstatement of the World Game Facilities Fund to provide clubs and LGAs access to a dedicated football facilities funding program.	HIGH
5.3	Partner with Sport and Recreation Victoria and LGAs to ensure that Fair Access Policy principles are embedded in all shared investment projects.	HIGH
5.4	Establish a Football Victoria Parliamentary Friends of Football at State level to enhance the sport's development, infrastructure, visibility and community impact.	HIGH
5.5	Partner with LGAs to provide guidance and support on site master planning at existing and new sites.	HIGH

5. FOSTER PARTNERSHIPS & SHARED INVESTMENT (CONTINUED)

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
5.6	Provide guidance to clubs and LGAs on developing and managing sustainable JUAs - ensuring they deliver mutual benefit and promote inclusive access.	MEDIUM
5.7	Partner with Sport and Recreation Victoria and the Department of Education to leverage their existing partnership funding platform for schools - Shared Use Facilities Fund.	MEDIUM
5.8	Work with Football Australia and A League Clubs to develop a consistent approach to facilities planning and shared use of elite and community venues.	MEDIUM

6. EMBRACE INNOVATION

	ACTIONS	TIMELINE
6.1	Support the development and promotion of multipurpose and innovative facility designs, such winged ovals for shared use between football and cricket, appropriate design elements and line marking between futsal and basketball, and modular facility options.	HIGH
6.2	Encourage LED lighting upgrades to improve energy efficiency and (where appropriate) support the use of hybrid surfaces and sustainable synthetic pitch materials to enhance pitch capacity and sustainability.	HIGH
6.3	Investigate the use of non-traditional spaces for football participation – including parks with access to amenities, and potential partnerships with churches, private facilities and warehouses.	MEDIUM
6.4	Leverage team entry and fixture data to develop a pitch capacity and utilisation model that supports evidence-based planning by local government and Football Victoria.	MEDIUM





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