

**Gender  
Equality  
Report—  
Summary**



“Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.”

← KOFI ANNAN  
—SECRETARY  
GENERAL OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS

Gender equality creates communities where everyone can participate on an even playing field and is a “necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world” (UN 2015).

Gender equality is a human right (UN 1948) and the health and strength of nations can be measured by how equitable the community is (World Economic Forum, 2018).

Increasing gender equality:

- ▶ Enables women to be safe in their own communities
- ▶ Increases job opportunities for women and men in industries which are currently gendered
- ▶ Allows both women and men to have the time and opportunity to bond with and care for their children

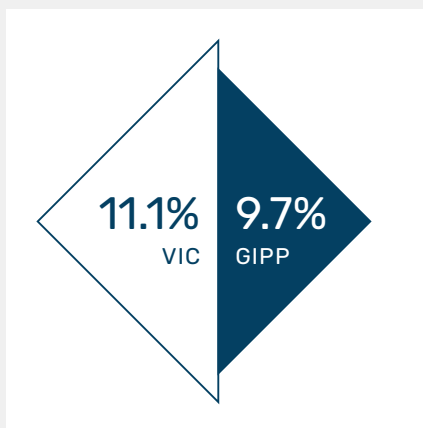
- ▶ Enables women to control their social and economic choices, without stigma

Australia could experience some distinct benefits by achieving gender equality:

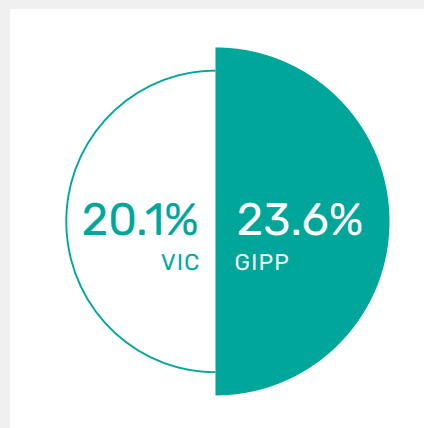
- ▶ Increasing female participation in the workforce by 6% has the potential to add \$25 billion annually to the Australian economy (Grattan Institute 2012)
- ▶ Gender equal political representation has shown that women increase spending on social health programs, showing a measurable improvement in the physical and mental health of communities (UN 2012)
- ▶ Eliminating family violence would save Victoria \$3.4 billion each year (State of Victoria 2016)

# Women in Gippsland

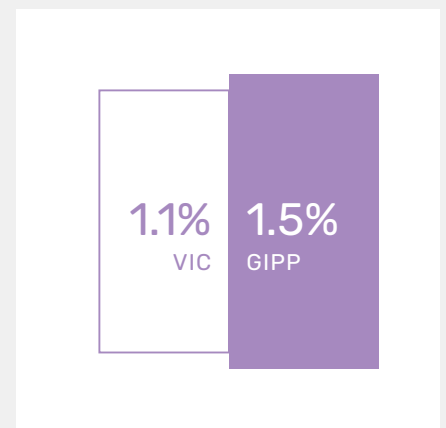
Gippsland has a female population of 141,059, which is 50.9% of the total population of 271,266.



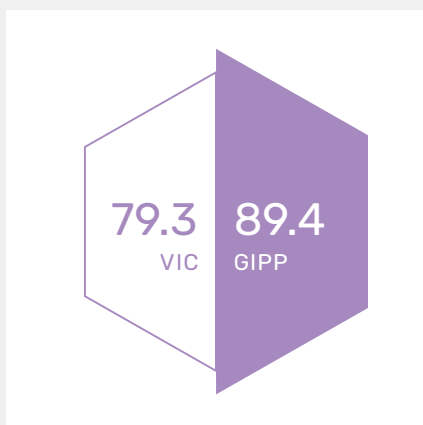
AGED 15-24



AGED 65+



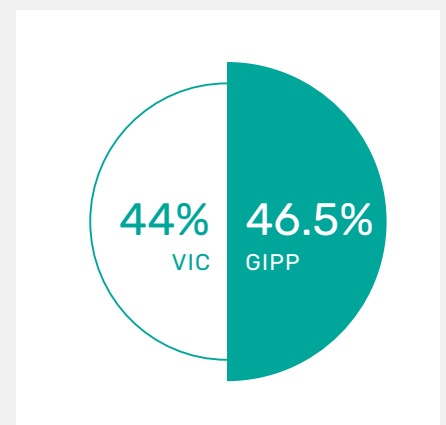
ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER



PER 10,000 DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER

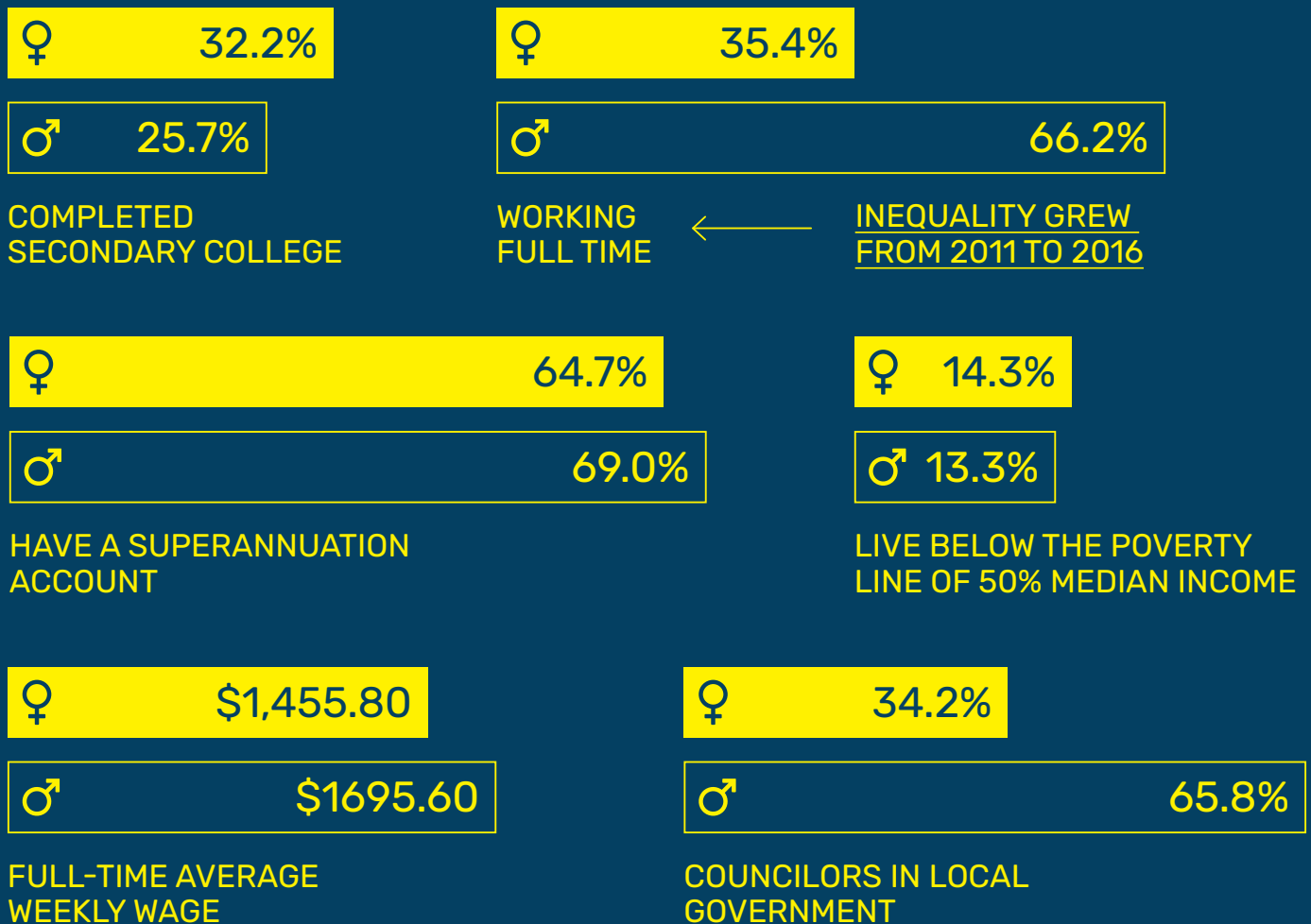


PER 10,000 INSTANCES OF FAMILY VIOLENCE



FEEL SAFE WALKING HOME

# Economic Participation and Leadership



GWH is leading work to promote gender equality in communities, workplaces and in leadership roles across Gippsland to change this picture.

Bringing about change in communities and workplaces is a key component for increasing gender equality across our society. GWH partners with communities

and workplaces to identify how they may improve gender equality in their context. For example – GWH staff have been endorsed by Our Watch to implement the national Workplace Equality and Respect Standards. This includes facilitating a self-assessment process and developing an action plan, as well as ongoing access to resources and support.

# Care and Domestic Work

♀ 29.5%

♂ 11.9%

SPEND 15+ HOURS  
DOING UNPAID WORK

♀ 12.4%

♂ 8.3%

PROVIDE UNPAID  
DISABILITY CARE

♀ 81.6%

♂ 18.4%

SINGLE PARENTS

♀ 20.8%

♂ 17.6%

HAVE VOLUNTEERED  
IN THE PAST YEAR

← MORE LIKELY COMMUNITY  
OR ART ORGANISATIONS

← MORE LIKELY SPORT  
OR ART ORGANISATIONS



GWH is leading work to recognise and value the economic benefit that we derive from the caring and unpaid work that women do in our communities, and to challenge the gendered expectations associated with this work, to change this picture.

GWH works to challenge gendered views through:

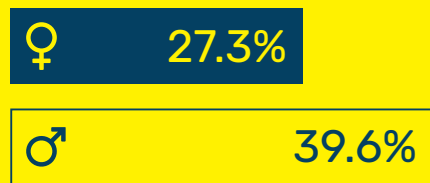
- ▶ Advocacy campaigns as part of the State and Federal elections.
- ▶ Submissions including National Women's Health Strategy 2020-2030, National

Inquiry into Sexual Harassment in Australian Workplaces 2019.

- ▶ Participation in public consultations such as Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2019- 2023) and Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.
- ▶ Social media action

We make these resources available to our partners to support further action. Contact us if you would like to know more.

# Prevention of Violence Against Women



LOW SUPPORT FOR GENDER EQUAL RELATIONSHIPS

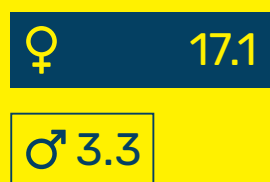
# 32x

INDIGENOUS WOMEN ARE 32 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE HOSPITALISED FROM FAMILY VIOLENCE

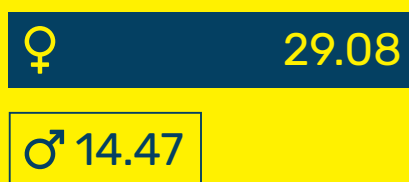


PER 10,000 EXPERIENCED FAMILY VIOLENCE IN 2018

LATROBE HAS THE STATE'S HIGHEST RATE



PER 10,000 EXPERIENCED A SEXUALLY RELATED OFFENSE IN 2018



PER 10,000 STALKED, HARASSED OR THREATENED IN 2018

LATROBE HAS OVER TRIPLE THE STATE AVERAGE

GWH is leading work to create the cultural change necessary to prevent violence against women and change this picture.

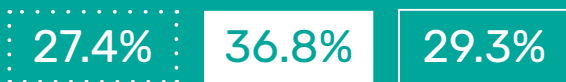
GWH leads the Gippsland Free From Violence Coalition. This Coalition brings together partners from diverse sectors including local government, sports, education and the arts to create and sustain cultural change within communities across Gippsland. The Coalition collaborates to 'change the story' on the gendered drivers of violence against women. We do this work through action on five key complementary pillars for action:

- 1–Governance,
- 2–Advocacy and Leadership,
- 3–Capacity Building,
- 4–Workforce Capacity Building and Development, and
- 5–Evidence Building and Impact Demonstration

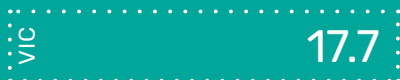
Key achievements of GWH to date have been:

- ▶ The Make The Link™ campaign and resources
- ▶ Workforce capacity building and training, including the MATE bystander.

# Sexual and Reproductive Health



YOUNG PEOPLE PRACTICING SAFE SEX BY USING A CONDOM



PER 1,000 TEENAGE BIRTH RATE 2012



PER 10,000 DIAGNOSED WITH CHLAMYDIA



PER 1,000 IUD CONTRACEPTIVE



PER 1,000 IMPLANT CONTRACEPTIVE



PER 1,000 TEENAGE BIRTH RATE 2017

GWH is leading work that supports women in Gippsland to have positive, respectful, safe sexual relationships, and reproductive choice, to change this picture.

GWH leads the Gippsland Sexual and Reproductive Health Alliance. The Alliance is implementing Gippsland Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy by actions to:

- ▶ Increase the number of Gippsland schools delivering comprehensive, inclusive relationship and sexual health education

- ▶ Increase young people's use of safe sex practices
- ▶ Increase awareness about respectful relationships and access to sexual and reproductive health information and services for adults with minor intellectual disability in Gippsland by end June 2021
- ▶ Improve affordable and confidential access to emergency contraception and termination
- ▶ Increase health professionals' knowledge of endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome and menopause

This document provides a picture of gender inequality in Gippsland and outlines the work Gippsland Women's Health is doing to bring about change. We do all of our work in partnership, so if you can see an opportunity to contribute to this work, we would welcome your involvement.

Get in touch to find out more  
[www.gwhealth.asn.au](http://www.gwhealth.asn.au)

United Nations (2015): Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development retrieved 9.10.19 from [https://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E)

United Nations (1948): Universal Declaration of Human Rights retrieved 9.19.19 from <https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

World Economic Forum, 2018, 'The Global Gender Gap Report 2018), World Economic Forum, retrieved 1.3.19 from [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_GGGR\\_2018.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2018.pdf)

Grattan Institute (2012): Game changers: Economic reform priorities for Australia. Retrieved 23.9.19 from [https://grattan.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Game\\_Changers\\_Web.pdf](https://grattan.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Game_Changers_Web.pdf)

State of Victoria (2016): Safe and Strong: A Victorian Gender Equality Strategy. Retrieved 23.9.19 from <https://www.vic.gov.au/safe-and-strong-victorian-gender-equality>