



# **2022 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey**

## **Benalla Rural City Council**

Coordinated by the Department of Jobs,  
Precincts and Regions on behalf of  
Victorian councils



# Contents

<b><u>Background and objectives</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>Waste management</u></b>	<b><u>63</u></b>
<b><u>Key findings and recommendations</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>Environmental sustainability</u></b>	<b><u>65</u></b>
<b><u>Detailed findings</u></b>	<b><u>12</u></b>	<b><u>Emergency and disaster management</u></b>	<b><u>67</u></b>
<u>Overall performance</u>	<u>13</u>	<b><u>Planning for population growth</u></b>	<b><u>69</u></b>
<u>Customer service</u>	<u>27</u>	<b><u>Roadside slashing and weed control</u></b>	<b><u>71</u></b>
<u>Communication</u>	<u>33</u>	<b><u>Maintenance of unsealed roads</u></b>	<b><u>73</u></b>
<u>Council direction</u>	<u>38</u>	<b><u>Tourism development</u></b>	<b><u>75</u></b>
<u>Individual service areas</u>	<u>42</u>	<b><u>Response to COVID-19</u></b>	<b><u>77</u></b>
<u>Community consultation and engagement</u>	<u>43</u>	<b><u>Detailed demographics</u></b>	<b><u>79</u></b>
<u>Lobbying on behalf of the community</u>	<u>45</u>	<b><u>Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences</u></b>	<b><u>81</u></b>
<u>Decisions made in the interest of the community</u>	<u>47</u>	<b><u>Appendix B: Further project information</u></b>	<b><u>86</u></b>
<u>Condition of sealed local roads</u>	<u>49</u>		
<u>Condition of local streets and footpaths</u>	<u>51</u>		
<u>Parking facilities</u>	<u>53</u>		
<u>Family support services</u>	<u>55</u>		
<u>Elderly support services</u>	<u>57</u>		
<u>Recreational facilities</u>	<u>59</u>		
<u>Appearance of public areas</u>	<u>61</u>		



## Background and objectives

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**The Victorian Community Satisfaction Survey (CSS) creates a vital interface between the council and their community.**

**Held annually, the CSS asks the opinions of local people about the place they live, work and play and provides confidence for councils in their efforts and abilities.**

Now in its twenty-third year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

- councils' overall performance, with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- value for money in services and infrastructure
- community consultation and engagement
- decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities, services and
- overall council direction.

When coupled with previous data, the survey provides a reliable historical source of the community's views since 1998. A selection of results from the last ten years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

### Serving Victoria for 23 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop this State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 23 years of results, the CSS offers councils a consistent, long-term measure of how they are performing – essential for councils that work over the long term to provide valuable services and infrastructure to their communities.

Participation in the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is optional. Participating councils have various choices as to the content of the questionnaire and the sample size to be surveyed, depending on their individual strategic, financial and other considerations.

A large, dark blue, stylized letter 'W' graphic that spans the right side of the page. It has a glowing, network-like pattern of white lines and nodes, resembling a map or a data network, overlaid on its structure.

## **Key findings and recommendations**



# Benalla Rural City Council – at a glance

## Overall council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Benalla 53



State-wide 59



Small Rural 58

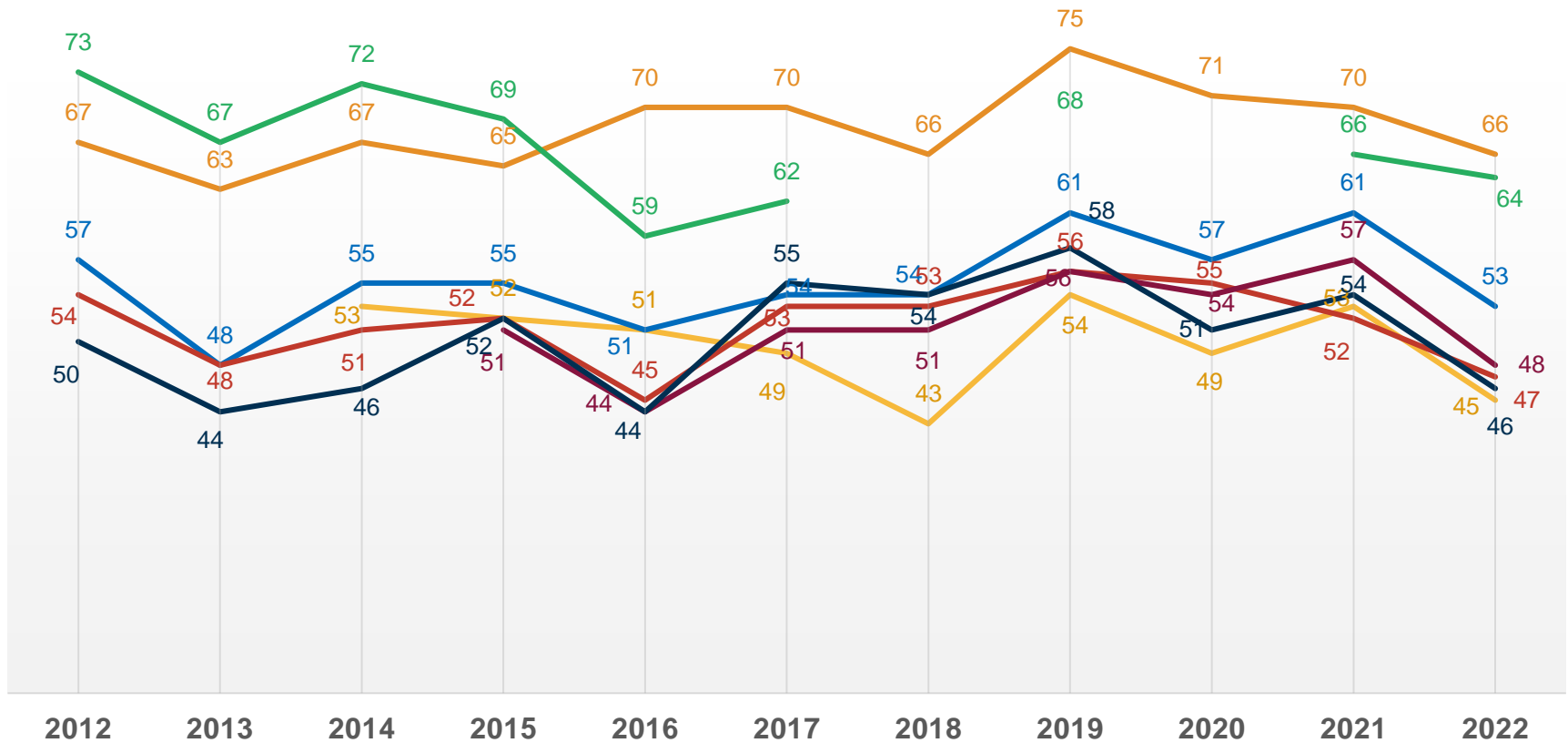
## Council performance compared to State-wide and group averages

	Areas where Council performance is significantly higher	The three areas where Council performance is significantly lower by the widest margin
Compared to State-wide average	Parking facilities	Local streets & footpaths Sealed local roads Consultation & engagement
Compared to group average	Parking facilities	Local streets & footpaths Consultation & engagement Community decisions



## Summary of core measures

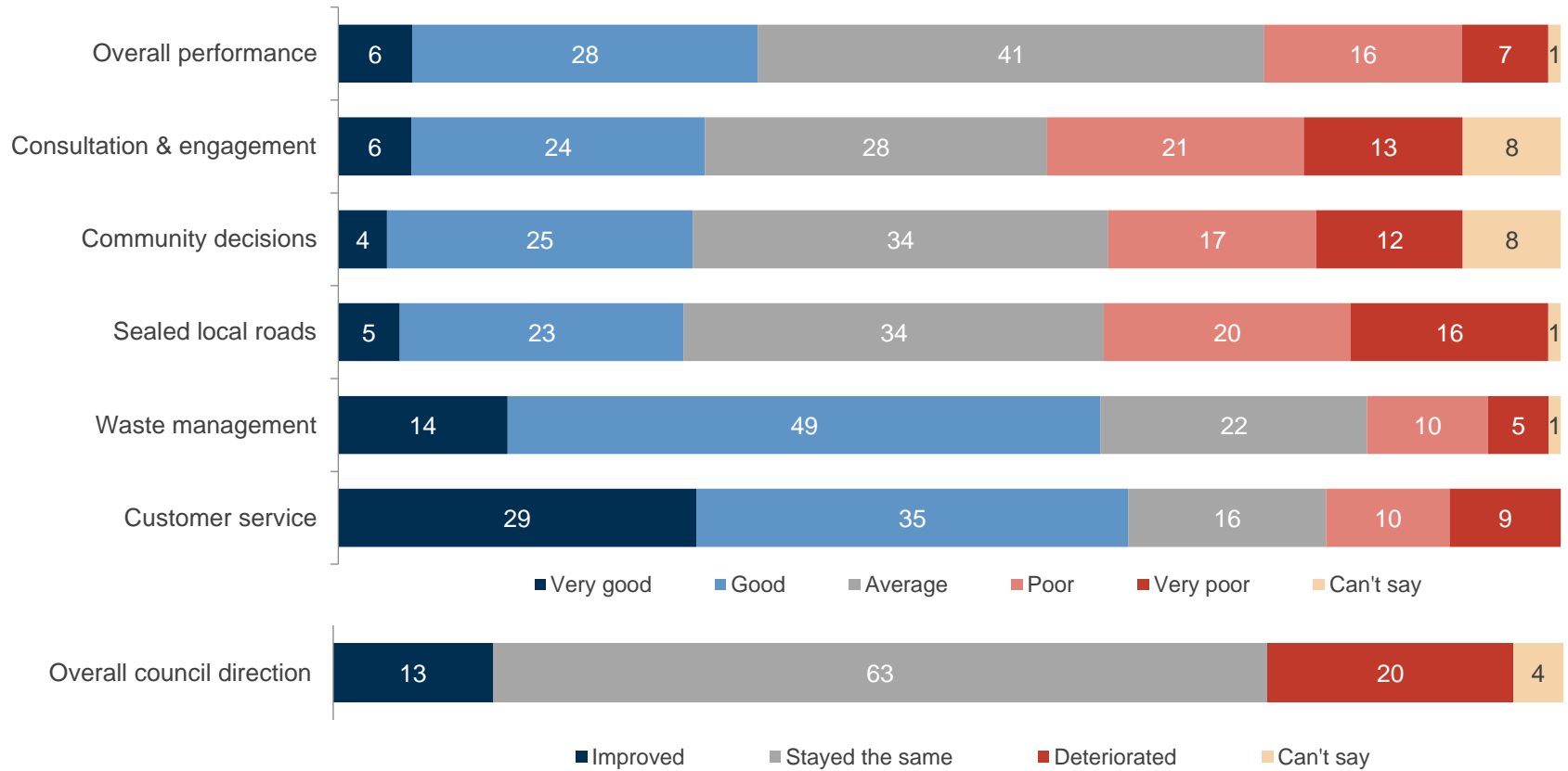
Index scores








## Summary of core measures

Core measures summary results (%)








## Summary of Benalla Rural City Council performance

Services		Benalla 2022	Benalla 2021	Small Rural 2022	State-wide 2022	Highest score	Lowest score
	Overall performance	53	61	58	59	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-64 years
	Value for money	45	55	51	53	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
	Overall council direction	46	54	51	50	Aged 35-49 years, Men	Aged 50-64 years
	Customer service	66	70	67	68	Women, Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
	Appearance of public areas	69	75	73	71	Aged 50-64 years	Aged 18-49 years, Men
	Emergency & disaster mngt	66	70	68	66	Aged 35-49 years	Men
	Parking facilities	66	69	60	57	Rural residents, Women	Men
	Recreational facilities	65	70	69	69	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
	Elderly support services	65	71	70	67	Urban residents, Women, Aged 18-34 years	Rural residents
	COVID-19 response	65	70	69	69	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years








# Summary of Benalla Rural City Council performance

Services		Benalla 2022	Benalla 2021	Small Rural 2022	State-wide 2022	Highest score	Lowest score
	Waste management	64	66	68	68	Aged 65+ years	Aged 50-64 years
	Family support services	62	64	64	65	Aged 65+ years	Aged 35-49 years
	Tourism development	56	60	62	60	Aged 35-49 years, Rural residents, Women	Men
	Environmental sustainability	55	62	59	61	Urban residents	Rural residents
	Lobbying	48	53	54	53	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
	Population growth	48	56	49	52	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
	Community decisions	48	57	54	54	Rural residents	Women, Urban residents
	Consultation & engagement	47	52	54	54	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-64 years, Men
	Sealed local roads	45	53	50	53	Urban residents, Aged 65+ years, Women	Rural residents



## Summary of Benalla Rural City Council performance

Services		Benalla 2022	Benalla 2021	Small Rural 2022	State-wide 2022	Highest score	Lowest score
	Slashing & weed control	45	51	50	49	Aged 18-34 years	Rural residents
	Local streets & footpaths	42	50	55	57	Men	Women
	Unsealed roads	36	48	42	41	Urban residents, Aged 65+ years	Rural residents



## Focus areas for the next 12 months

### Overview

Benalla Rural City Council's overall performance rating (index score of 53, down eight points) declined significantly in 2022, returning to lower levels last seen in 2017 to 2018. This reflects significant declines in perceptions of Council performance across the vast majority of service areas over the last 12 months.

### Key influences on perceptions of overall performance

Decisions made in the community's interest is the strongest driver of perceptions of overall performance, yet it is among the lowest rated service areas, with significantly declining performance over the past year. Consultation and engagement also exerts a strong influence on overall performance, but is similarly a low rated area experiencing a significant decline in perceptions. Focusing on improvement in these areas represents the greatest opportunity for Council to strengthen overall performance.

### Comparison to state and area grouping

On overall performance, overall direction and across the majority of service areas, Council rates significantly lower than both the State-wide and Small Rural group averages. Parking facilities is the only area where Council performs significantly higher than the State-wide and Small Rural group averages. On customer service, and emergency and disaster management, Council rates in line with both averages.

### Strengthen current position

Council should look to arrest declining ratings of the appearance of public areas and environmental sustainability, and strengthen waste management performance, as improvements in these areas will also drive up perceptions of Council's performance. In addition, attention over the next year should focus on improving perceptions of Council's lowest rated areas – unsealed roads and local streets and footpaths – both of which have experienced significant declines in 2022 and are now at their lowest recorded levels.

# DETAILED FINDINGS

# Overall performance



## Overall performance

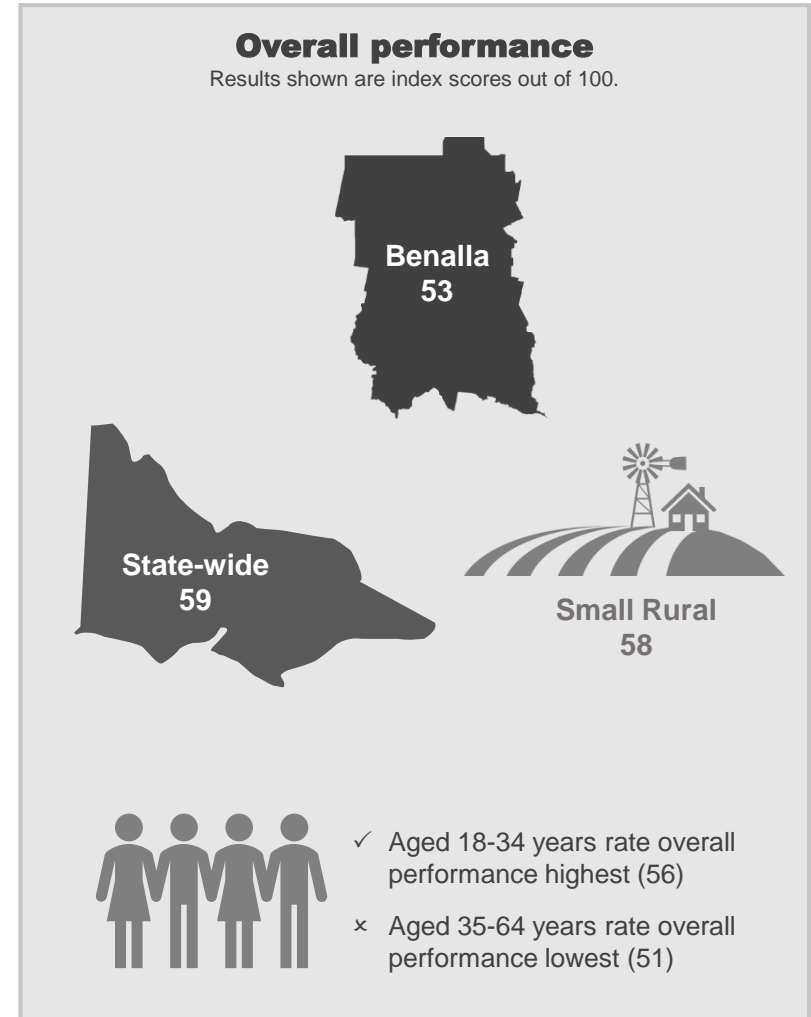
The overall performance index score of 53 for Benalla Rural City Council represents a significant eight-point decline on the 2020 result.

- Overall performance ratings have returned to lower levels last seen in 2017 to 2018.

Benalla Rural City Council's overall performance is significantly lower than the Small Rural group and State-wide averages for councils (index scores of 58 and 59 respectively).

- Almost all demographic and geographic cohorts recorded a significant decrease in overall performance ratings over the past year.
- The largest declines in perceptions of overall performance are seen among residents aged 35 to 49 years (index score of 51, down 12 points), men (53, down 10), and Rural residents (52, down nine).
- Ratings are highest among residents aged 18 to 34 years (index score of 56), and lowest among those aged 50 to 64 years (51).

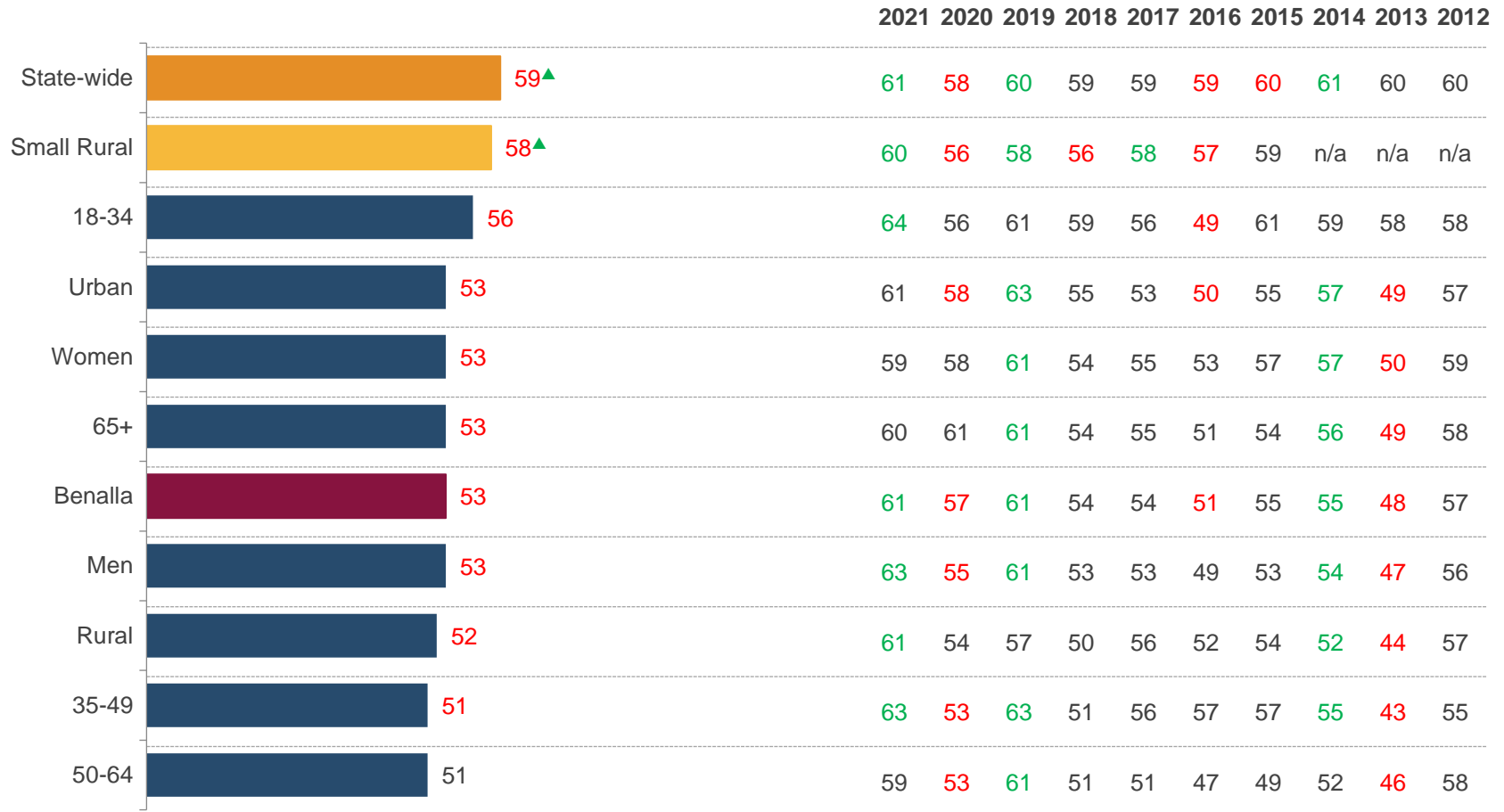
A quarter of residents (25%, down from 40%) rate value for money they receive from Council in infrastructure and services as 'very good' or 'good'. Over a third (36%, up from 22%) now rate Council as 'very poor' or 'poor'. A further 35% (unchanged) continue to rate Council as 'average' on providing value for money.





# Overall performance

## 2022 overall performance (index scores)



Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Benalla Rural City Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?

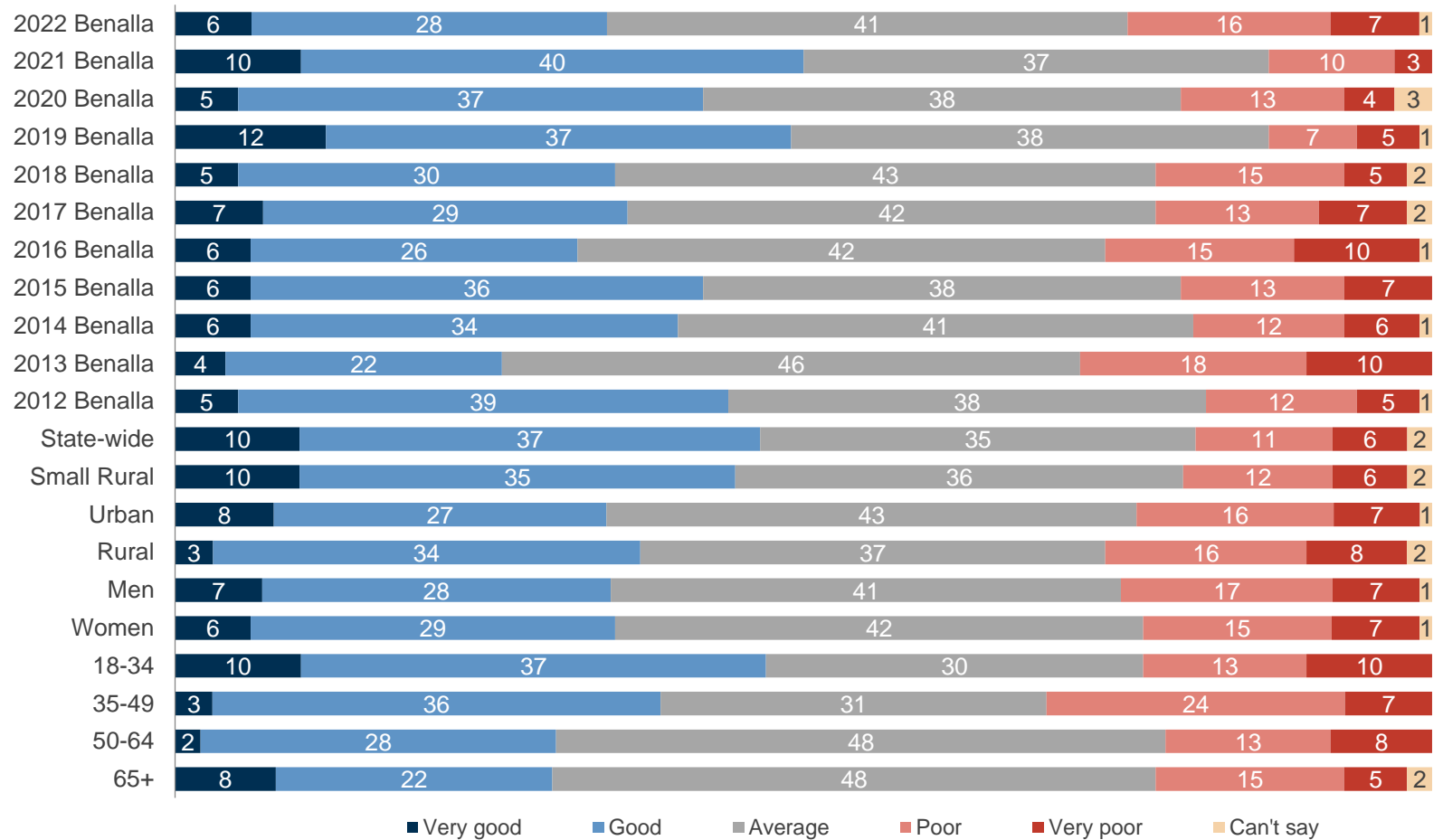
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Overall performance

## 2022 overall performance (%)



Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Benalla Rural City Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?

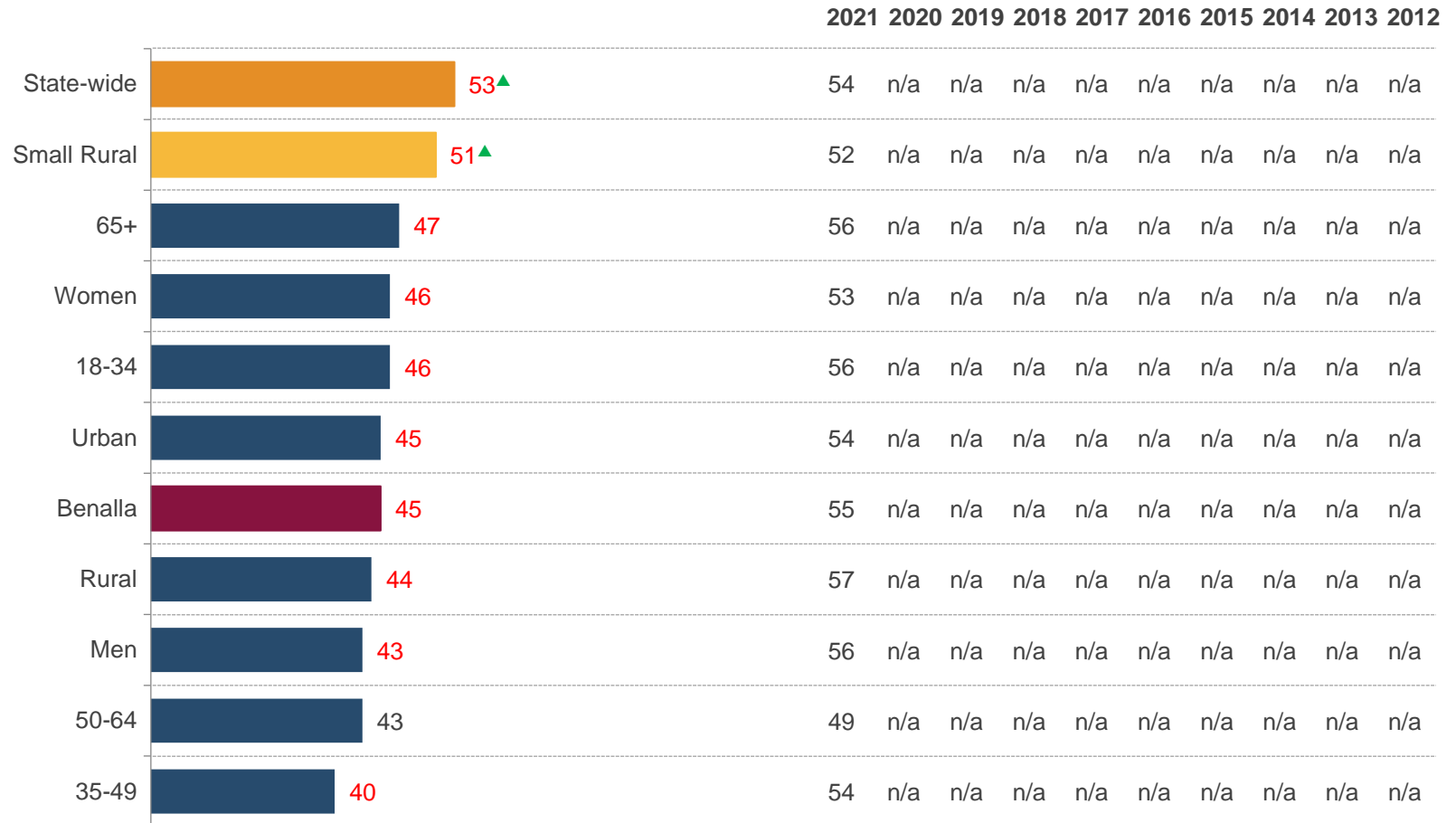
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19





# Value for money in services and infrastructure

## 2022 value for money (index scores)



Q3b. How would you rate Benalla Rural City Council at providing good value for money in infrastructure and services provided to your community?

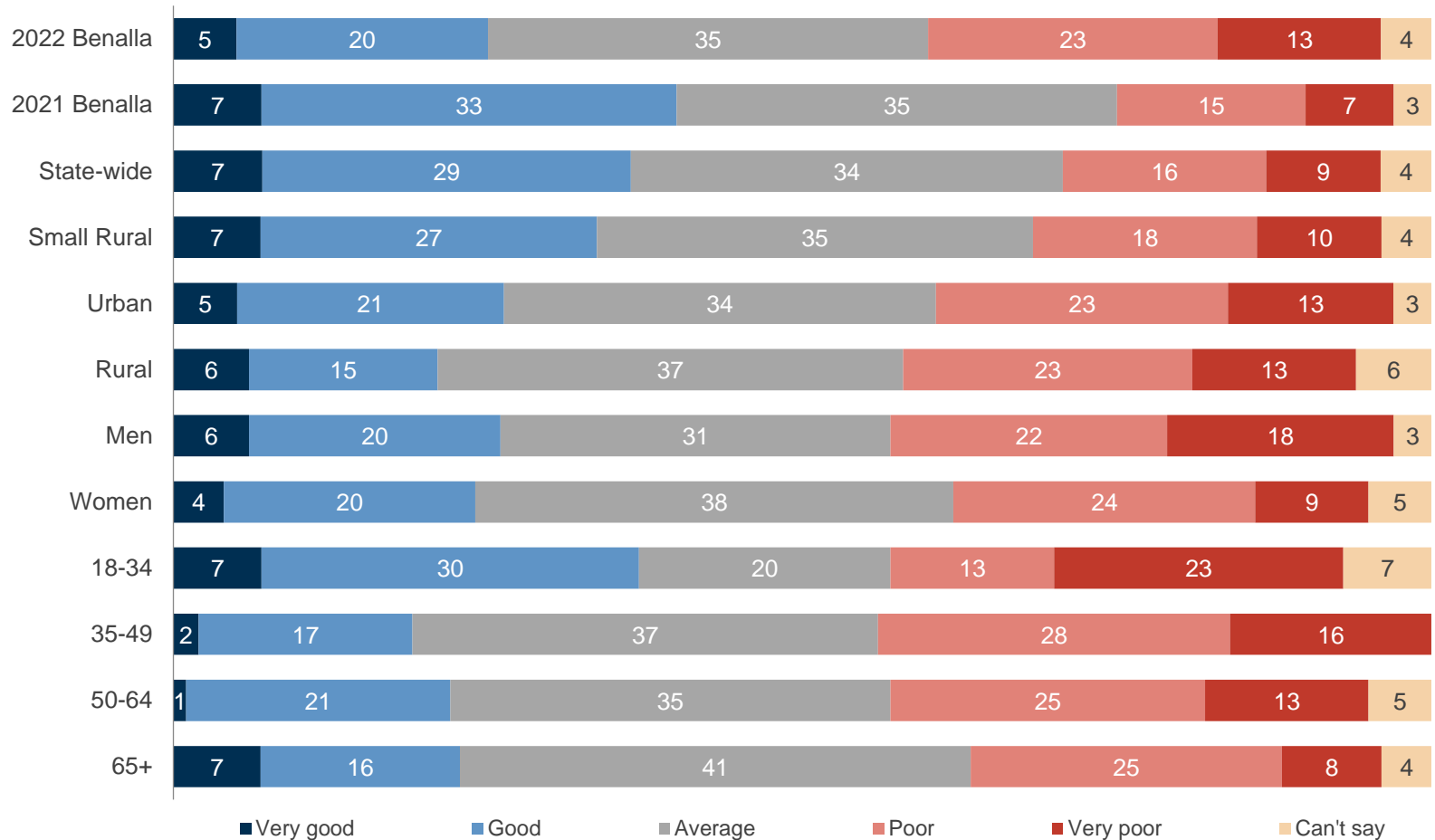
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 19

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



## Value for money in services and infrastructure

2022 value for money (%)



Q3b. How would you rate Benalla Rural City Council at providing good value for money in infrastructure and services provided to your community?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 66 Councils asked group: 19



## Top performing service areas

The appearance of public areas is Council's highest performing area in 2022 (index score of 69), although ratings have declined significantly over the past year (down six points).

Performance in this area is on par with the State-wide average, but significantly lower than the Small Rural group average (71 and 73 respectively). Ratings of this area among most demographic and geographic cohorts declined significantly in 2022.

Emergency and disaster management, and parking facilities, are Council's next highest rated areas (index score of 66 for each), followed by:

- Recreational facilities
- Elderly support services
- COVID-19 response (65 for each).

With the exception of parking facilities, ratings in all of these areas fell significantly in 2022.

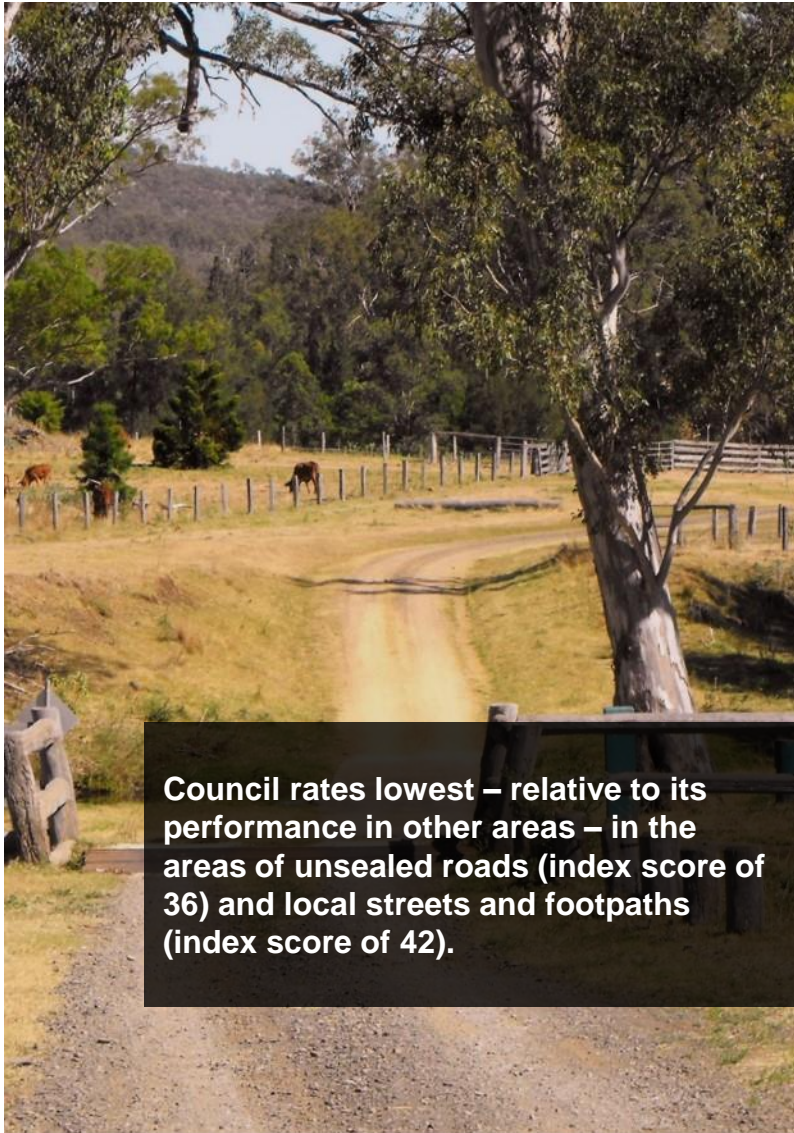
Council performs significantly higher than the Small Rural group and State-wide averages on parking facilities, but significantly lower than both on recreational facilities and COVID-19 response.

For elderly support services, Council performs significantly lower than the Small Rural group average.





## Low performing service areas



All but three of the 18 service areas evaluated experienced significant declines in performance over the past year.

Council rates lowest in the area of unsealed roads (index score of 36) which recorded the largest decline of all the service areas (down 12 points in the last year). Council's next lowest rated area, local streets and footpaths, fell by eight points to an index score of 42.

- In both areas, Council rates significantly lower than State-wide and Small Rural group averages.
- Perceptions of performance on unsealed roads declined significantly across all demographic and geographic groups, with ratings among Rural residents significantly lower than average (index score of 29).
- Ratings of local streets and footpaths fell significantly among urban residents, women, and those aged 18 to 49 years.

Large declines in performance were also seen in relation to community decisions (index score of 48, down nine points), population growth (48, down eight) and sealed local roads (45, down eight).



# Individual service area performance

## 2022 individual service area performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Appearance of public areas	69	75	n/a	76	n/a	73	72	75	77	72	74
Emergency & disaster mngt	66	70	n/a	74	n/a	71	69	69	69	66	n/a
Parking facilities	66	69	n/a	69	n/a	70	65	63	64	66	66
Recreational facilities	65	70	n/a	67	n/a	65	66	69	69	65	69
Elderly support services	65	71	n/a	74	n/a	69	68	72	76	71	74
COVID-19 response	65	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Waste management	64	66	n/a	68	n/a	62	59	69	72	67	73
Family support services	62	64	n/a	70	n/a	67	63	67	72	65	67
Tourism development	56	60	n/a	65	n/a	58	54	54	58	n/a	n/a
Environmental sustainability	55	62	n/a	58	n/a	59	56	60	60	56	n/a
Lobbying	48	53	55	56	54	55	48	52	53	47	54
Population growth	48	56	n/a	57	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
Community decisions	48	57	54	56	51	51	44	51	n/a	n/a	n/a
Consultation & engagement	47	52	55	56	53	53	45	52	51	48	54
Sealed local roads	45	53	49	54	43	49	51	52	53	n/a	n/a
Slashing & weed control	45	51	n/a	57	n/a	48	51	49	52	47	n/a
Local streets & footpaths	42	50	n/a	53	n/a	48	48	48	50	47	45
Unsealed roads	36	48	n/a	47	n/a	40	42	42	44	40	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on [RESPONSIBILITY AREA] over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

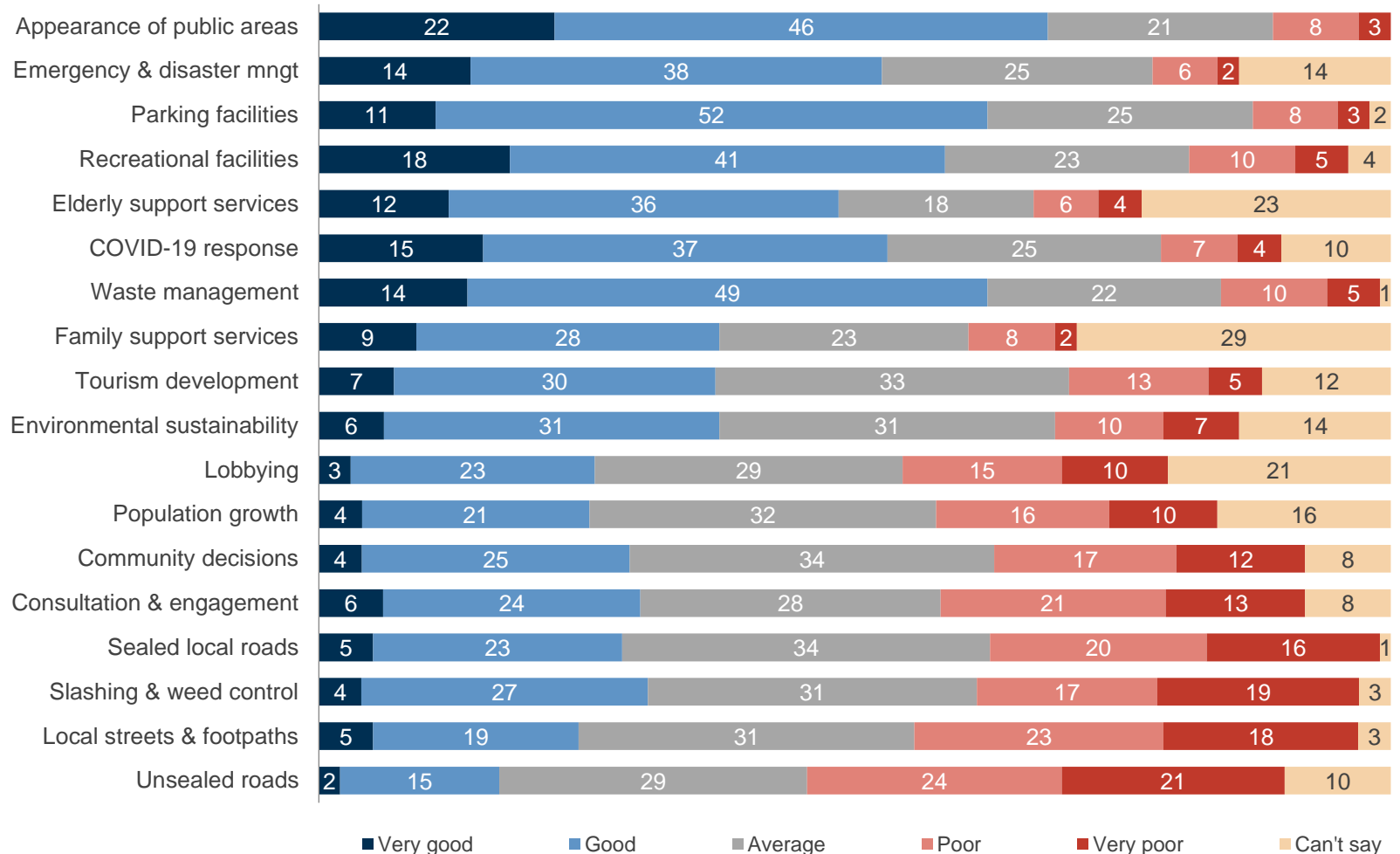
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.





# Individual service area performance

## 2022 individual service area performance (%)





## Influences on perceptions of overall performance

The individual service area that has the strongest influence on the overall performance rating (based on regression analysis) is:

- Decisions made in the interest of the community.

**Good communication and transparency with residents about decisions Council has made in the community's interest provides the greatest opportunity to drive up overall opinion of Council's performance. Currently, this is one of Council's poorest performing areas (index score of 48).**

Following on from that, other individual service areas with a moderate to strong influence on the overall performance rating are:

- Community consultation and engagement
- The appearance of public areas
- Waste management
- Environmental sustainability.

Looking at these key service areas, the appearance of public areas and waste management have a high performance index (69 and 64 respectively) and are strong influences on the overall performance rating.

Maintaining these positive results should remain a focus – but there is greater work to be done elsewhere.

Another service area that has a moderate influence on overall perceptions, but performs relatively less well, is environmental sustainability (performance index of 55).

**A focus on Council's sustainability programs can also help shore up positive overall opinion of Council.**

However, in addition to its decision making processes, the area most in need of attention is Council's community consultation and engagement, which is poorly rated (performance index of 47) and a strong influence on overall community opinion.

**It is therefore important to focus on consulting and engaging with the community on key issues to help improve overall ratings of Council performance.**



## Regression analysis explained

We use regression analysis to investigate which individual service areas, such as community consultation, condition of sealed local roads, etc. (the independent variables) are influencing respondent perceptions of overall council performance (the dependent variable).

In the charts that follow:

- The horizontal axis represents the council performance index for each individual service. Service areas appearing on the right side of the chart have a higher performance index than those on the left.
- The vertical axis represents the Standardised Beta Coefficient from the multiple regression performed. This measures the contribution of each service area to the model. Service areas near the top of the chart have a greater positive effect on overall performance ratings than service areas located closer to the axis.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

1. **The first chart** shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
2. **The second chart** shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service areas with a weak influence on overall performance (i.e. a low Standardised Beta Coefficient) have been excluded from the analysis.

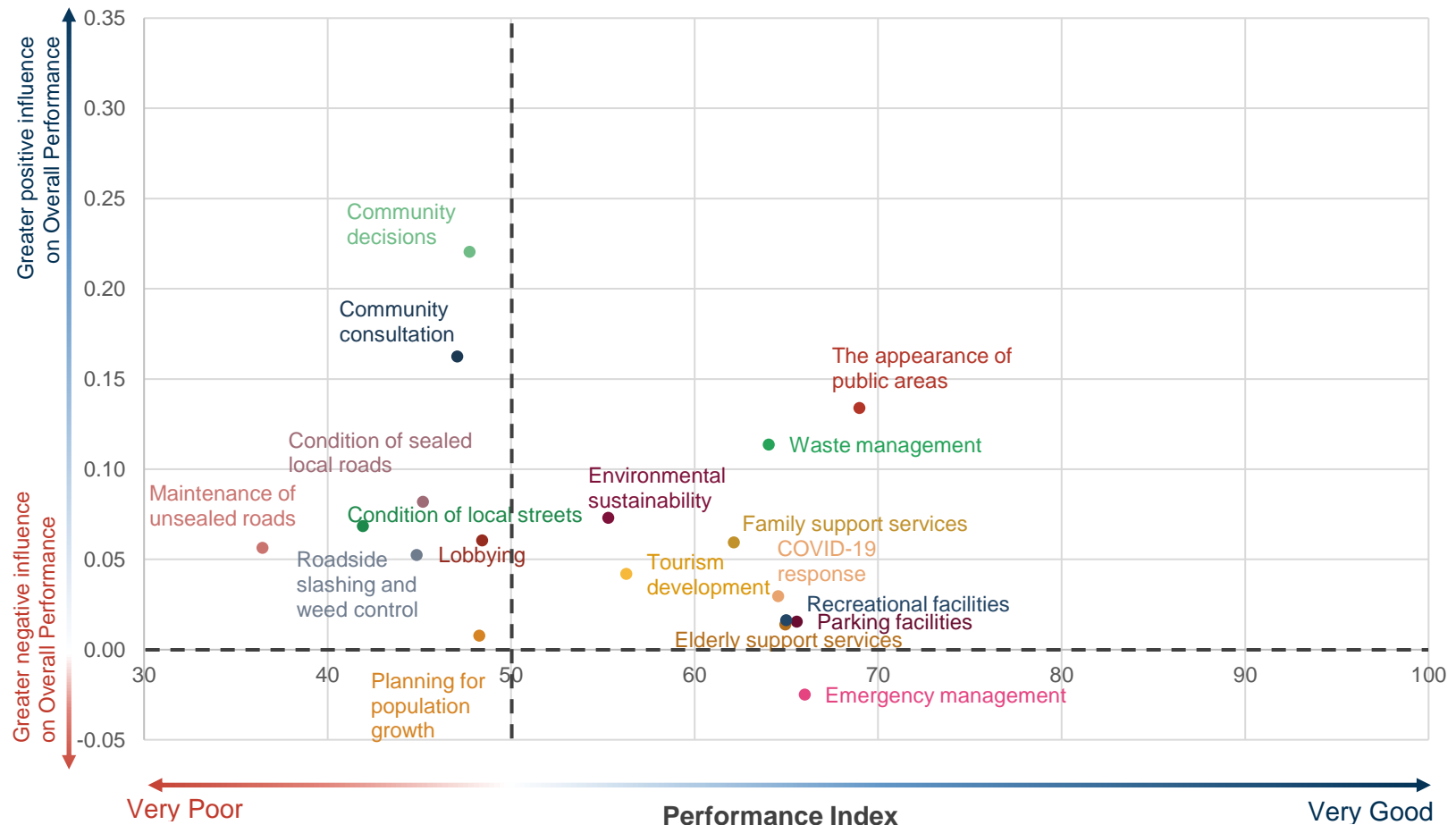
**Key insights from this analysis are derived from the second chart.**





# Influence on overall performance: all service areas

## 2022 regression analysis (all service areas)

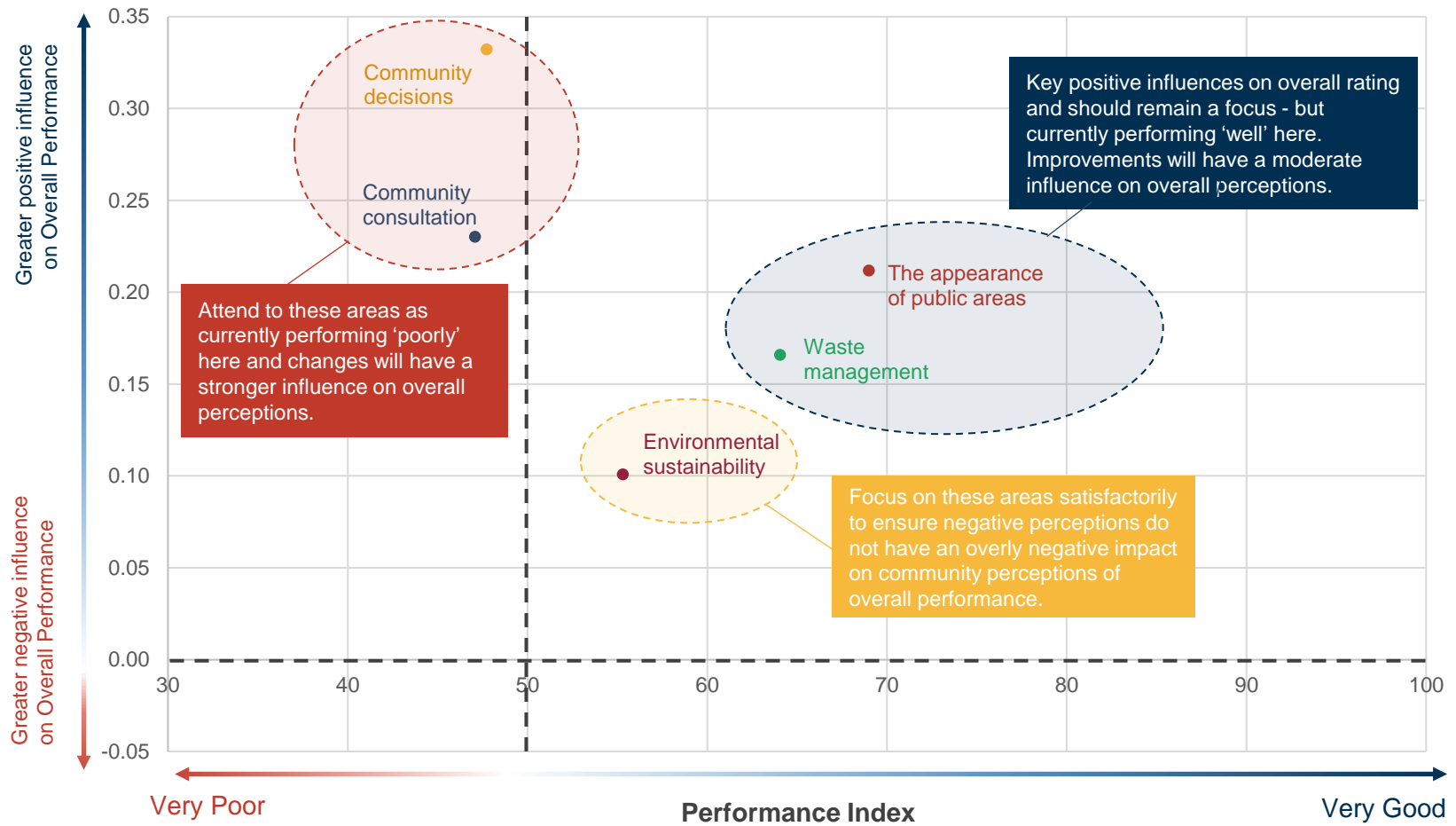


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an  $R^2$  value of 0.640 and adjusted  $R^2$  value of 0.623, which means that 64% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at  $p = 0.0001$ ,  $F = 37.67$ . This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.



# Influence on overall performance: key service areas

## 2022 regression analysis (key service areas)



The multiple regression analysis model above (reduced set of service areas) has an  $R^2$  value of 0.599 and adjusted  $R^2$  value of 0.594, which means that 60% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at  $p = 0.0001$ ,  $F = 117.87$ .



# **Customer service**



## Contact with council and customer service

### Contact with council

Just over three in five (63%) residents have had contact with Council in the last 12 month. Rate of contact has fallen, arresting an upward trend seen since 2017.

In 2022, residents aged 35 to 49 years have a significantly higher rate of contact with Council, compared to average.



**Among those residents who have had contact with Council, 64% provide a positive customer service rating of 'very good' or 'good', including 29% of residents who rate Council's customer service as 'very good'.**

### Customer service

Council's customer service index of 66 remains relatively stable on the 2021 result (index score of 70). Despite this positive result, Council continues to lose ground, with customer service ratings slipping further from their highest recorded index score of 75 in 2019.

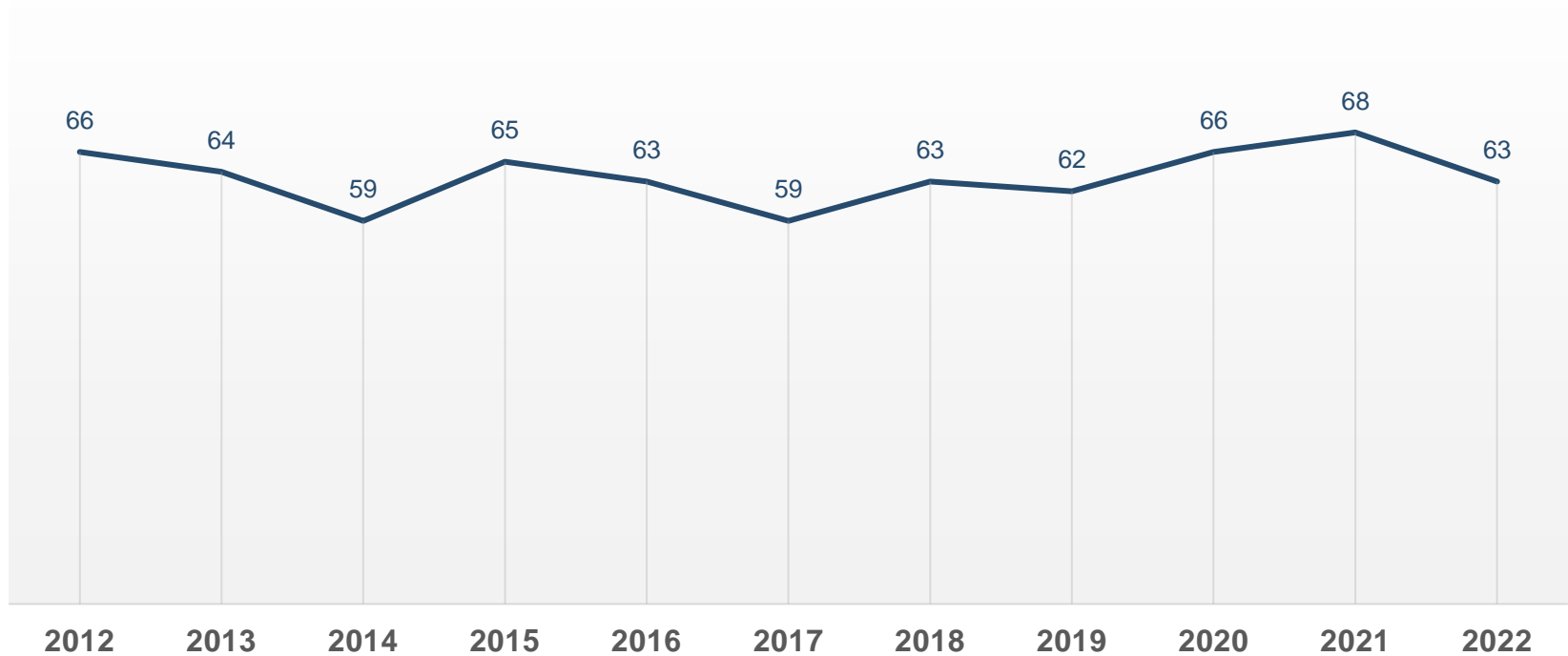
Notwithstanding this, customer service continues to be rated in line with State-wide and Small Rural group averages (index scores of 68 and 67 respectively).

- Customer service ratings among Rural residents declined significantly over the last 12 months (62, down 12 index points), and, in contrast to 2021 results, are now lower than for Urban residents (68).



## Contact with council

**2022 contact with council (%)**  
Have had contact



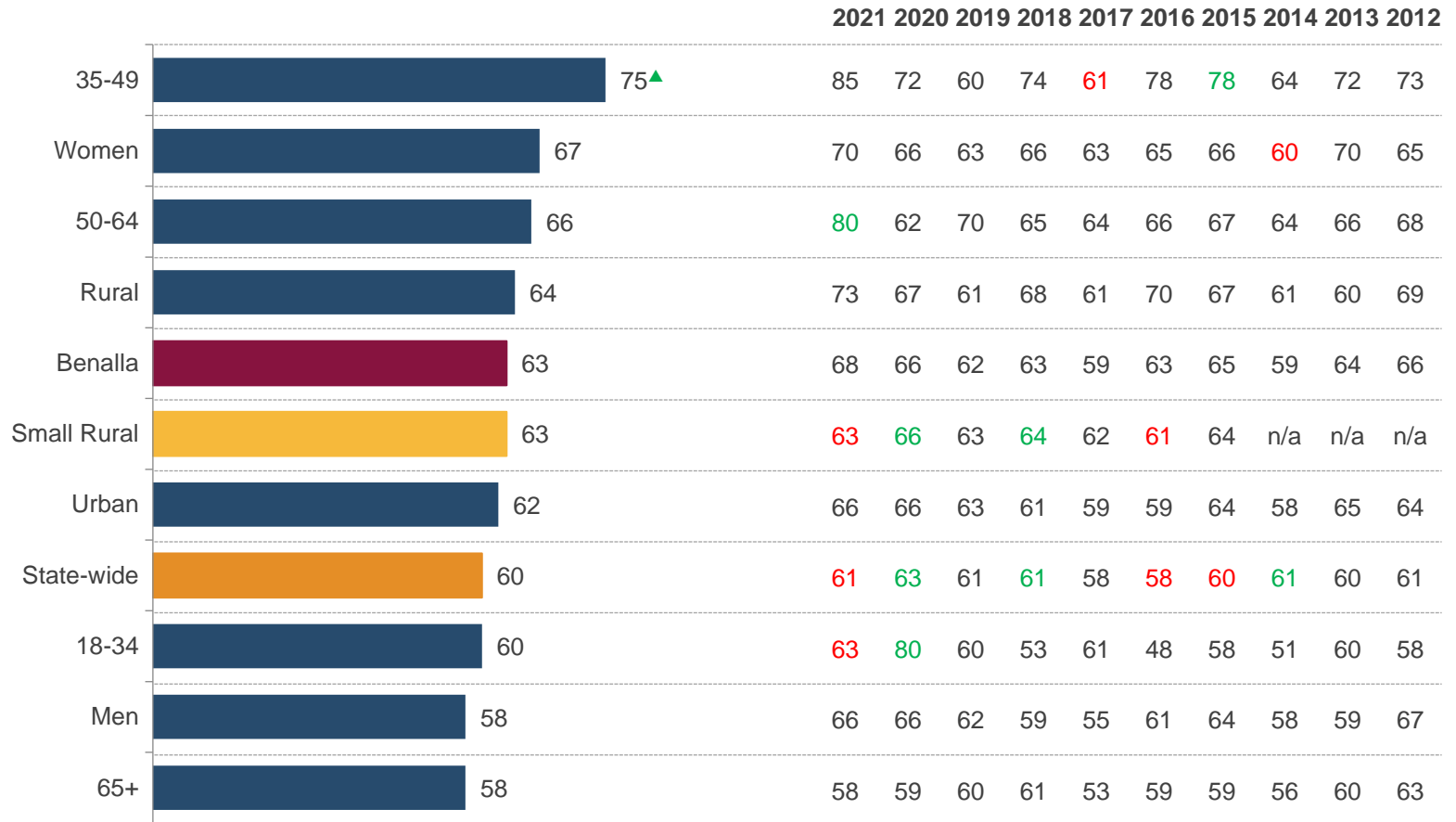
Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Benalla Rural City Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 42 Councils asked group: 15



## Contact with council

### 2022 contact with council (%)



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Benalla Rural City Council?  
This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

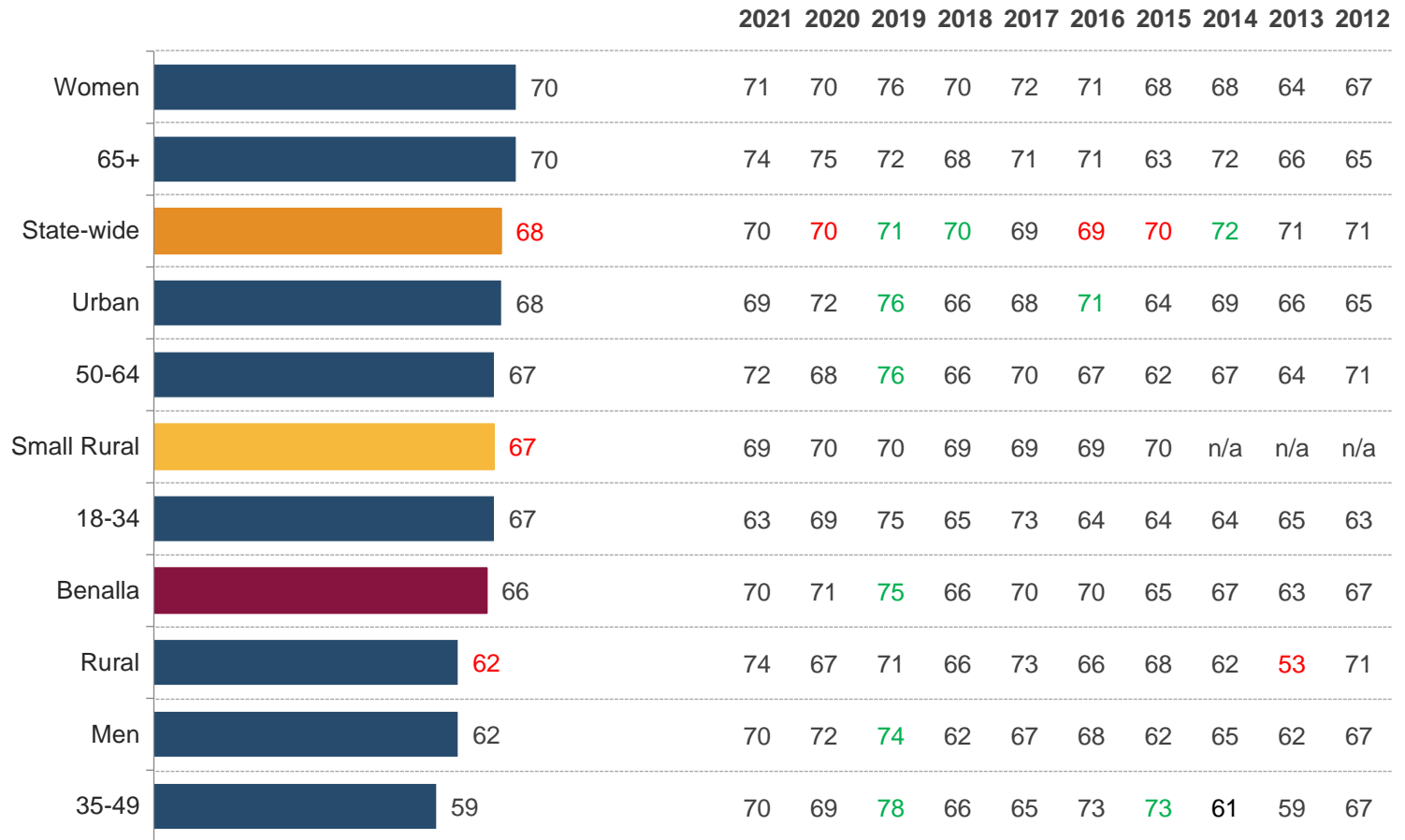
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 42 Councils asked group: 15

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Customer service rating

## 2022 customer service rating (index scores)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Benalla Rural City Council for customer service?

Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.

Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.

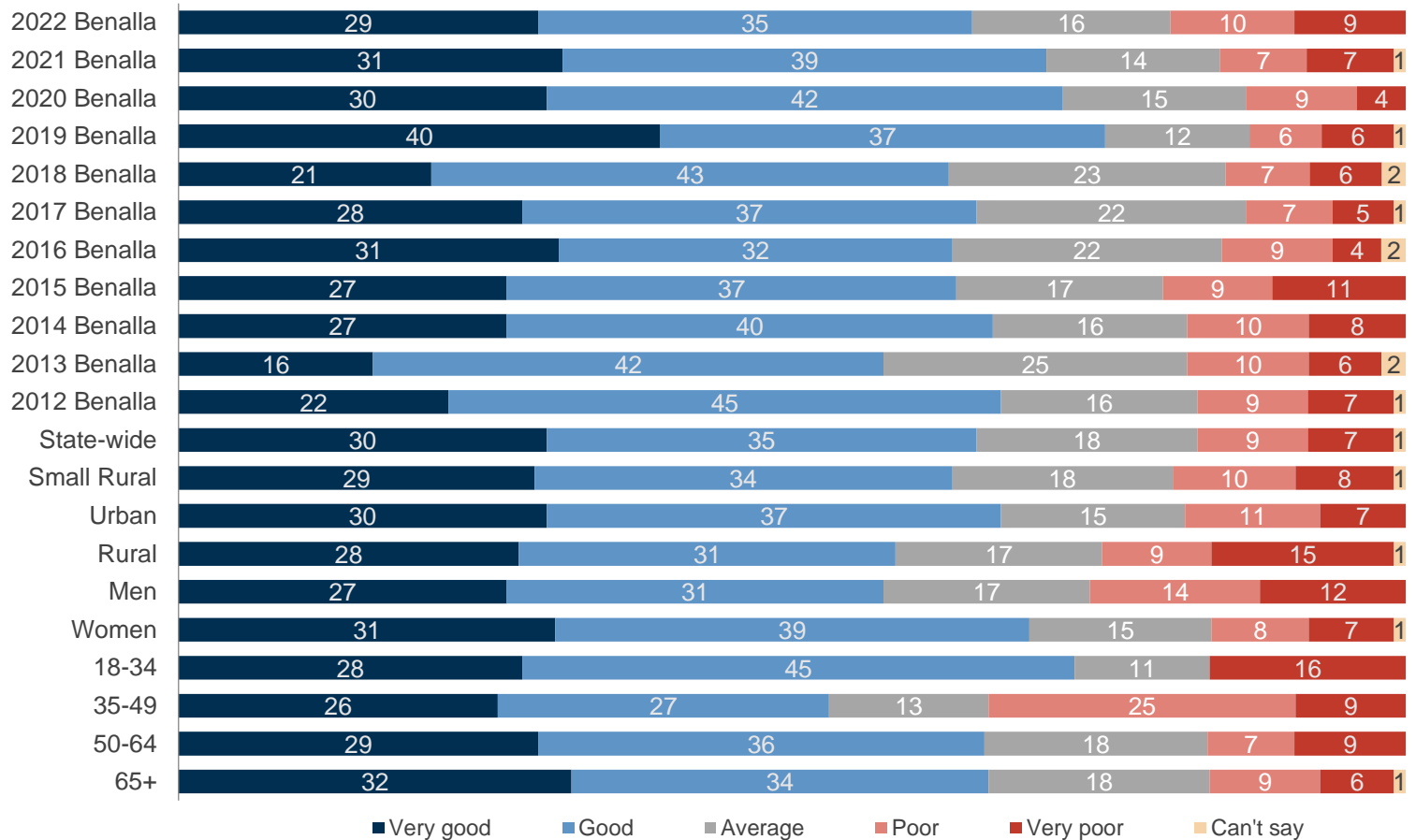
Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



## Customer service rating

### 2022 customer service rating (%)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Benalla Rural City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.

Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.

Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19





# Communication



## Communication

The preferred form of communication from Council about Council news and information and upcoming events remains a newsletter sent via mail (36%, 35% in 2021).

- A newsletter sent via mail continues to be preferred by both residents under 50 years (33%, up slightly from 30%) and over 50 years of age (38%, unchanged).
- Among those aged under 50 years, preference for an emailed newsletter has increased by six points since 2021 (to 22%), while the preference for social media updates has declined by four points (to 20%).
- Preference for emailed newsletters among those aged over 50 years remains steady (19%, 17% in 2021), while preference for social media remains marginal (4%, unchanged).
- Among those aged over 50 years, preference for advertising in a local newspaper has increased (up four points to 17%).





## Best form of communication

2022 best form of communication (%)



Advertising in  
a Local  
Newspaper



Council  
Newsletter  
via Mail



Council  
Newsletter  
via Email



Council  
Newsletter as  
Local Paper Insert



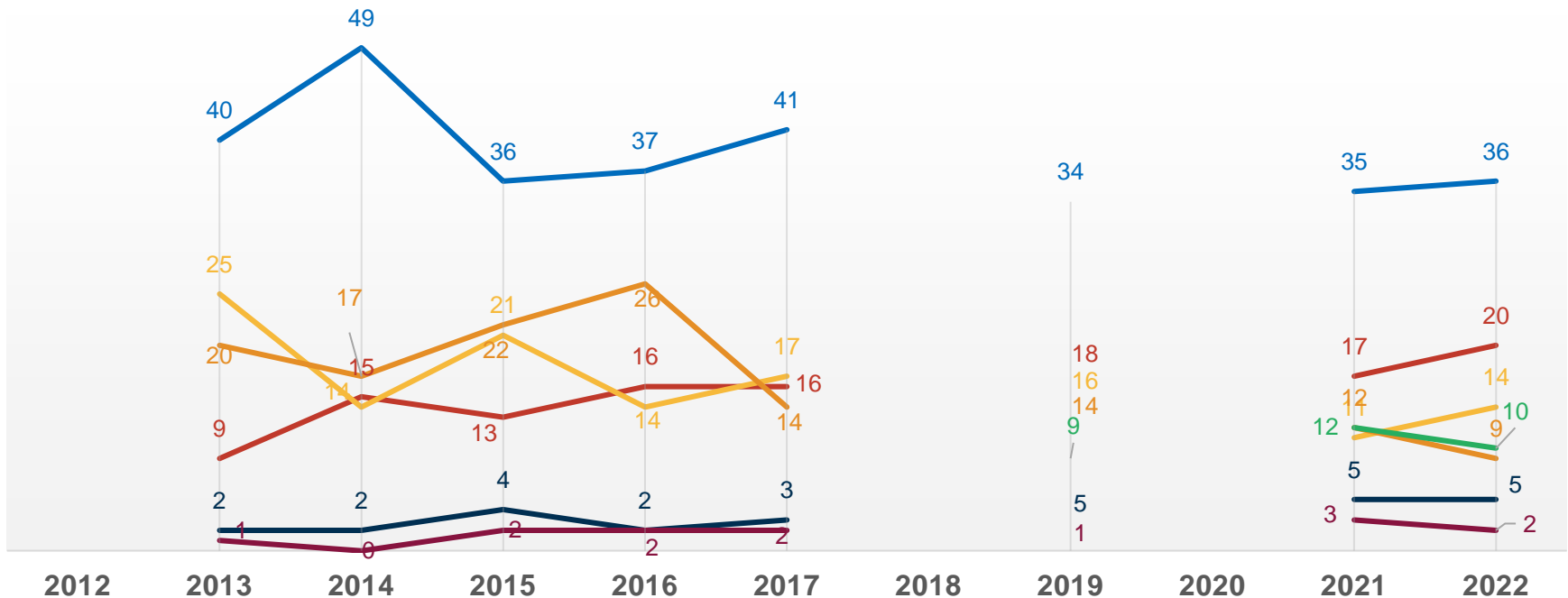
Council  
Website



Text  
Message



Social  
Media



Q13. If Benalla Rural City Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

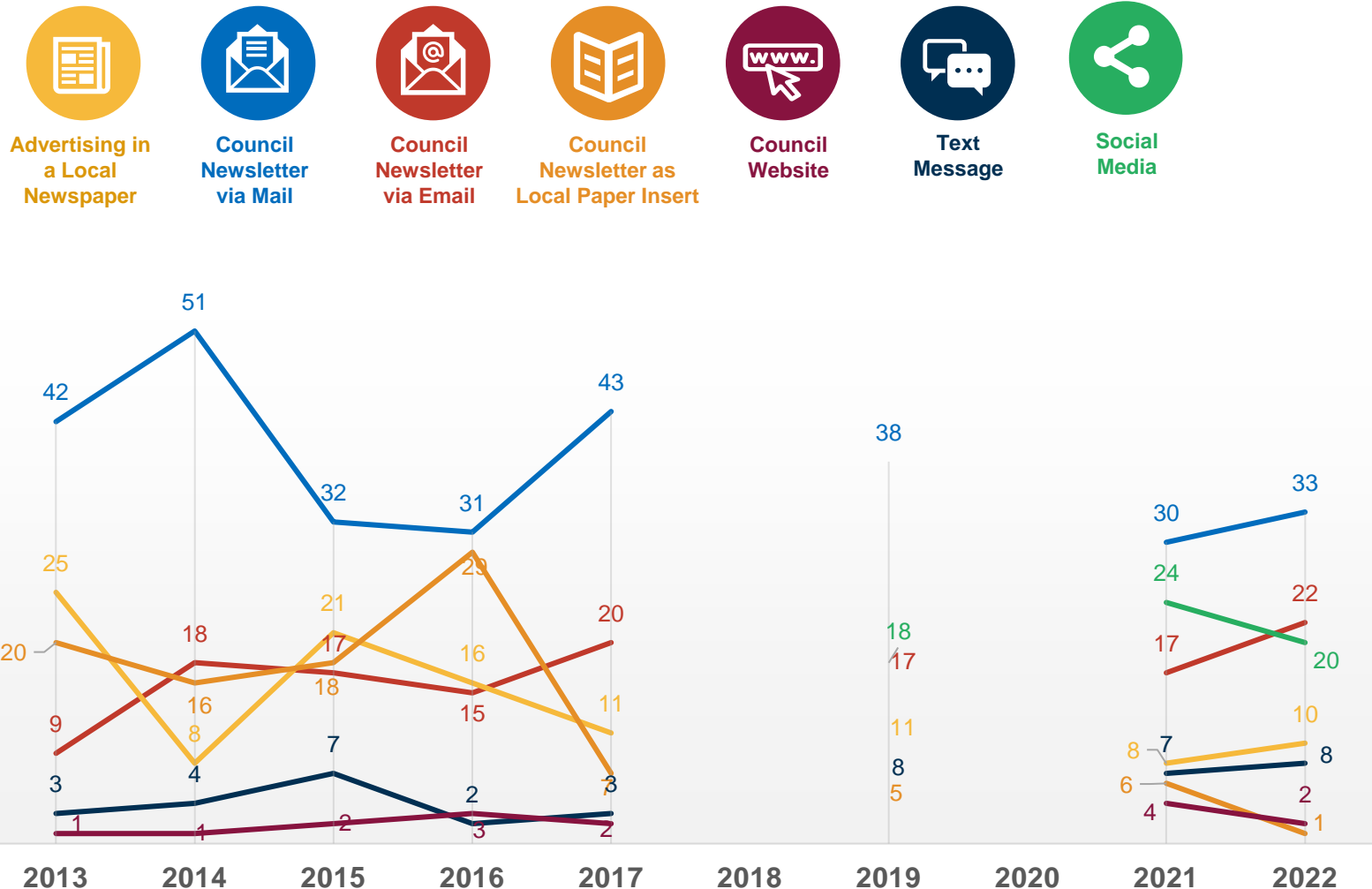
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 39 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.



## Best form of communication: under 50s

2022 under 50s best form of communication (%)



Q13. If Benalla Rural City Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents aged under 50. Councils asked State-wide: 39 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.



## Best form of communication: over 50s

2022 over 50s best form of communication (%)



Advertising in  
a Local  
Newspaper



Council  
Newsletter  
via Mail



Council  
Newsletter  
via Email



Council  
Newsletter as  
Local Paper Insert



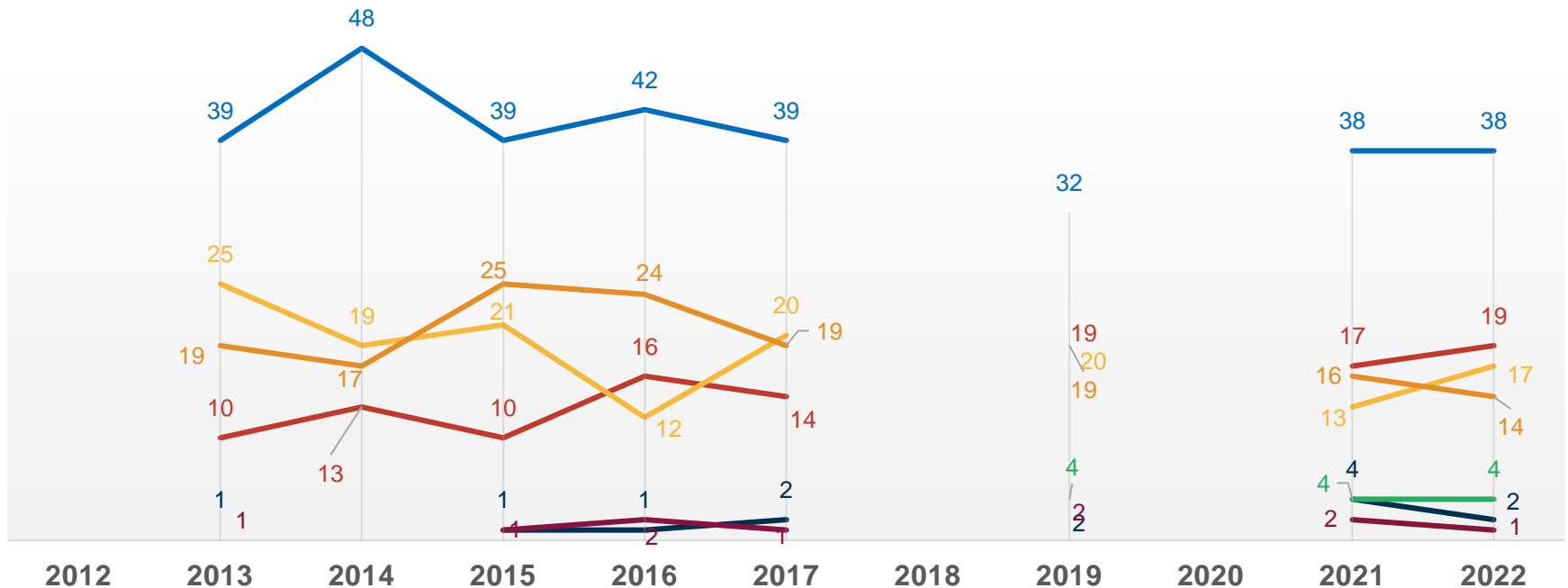
Council  
Website



Text  
Message



Social  
Media



Q13. If Benalla Rural City Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents aged over 50. Councils asked State-wide: 39 Councils asked group: 10

Note: 'Social Media' was included in 2019.



# **Council direction**



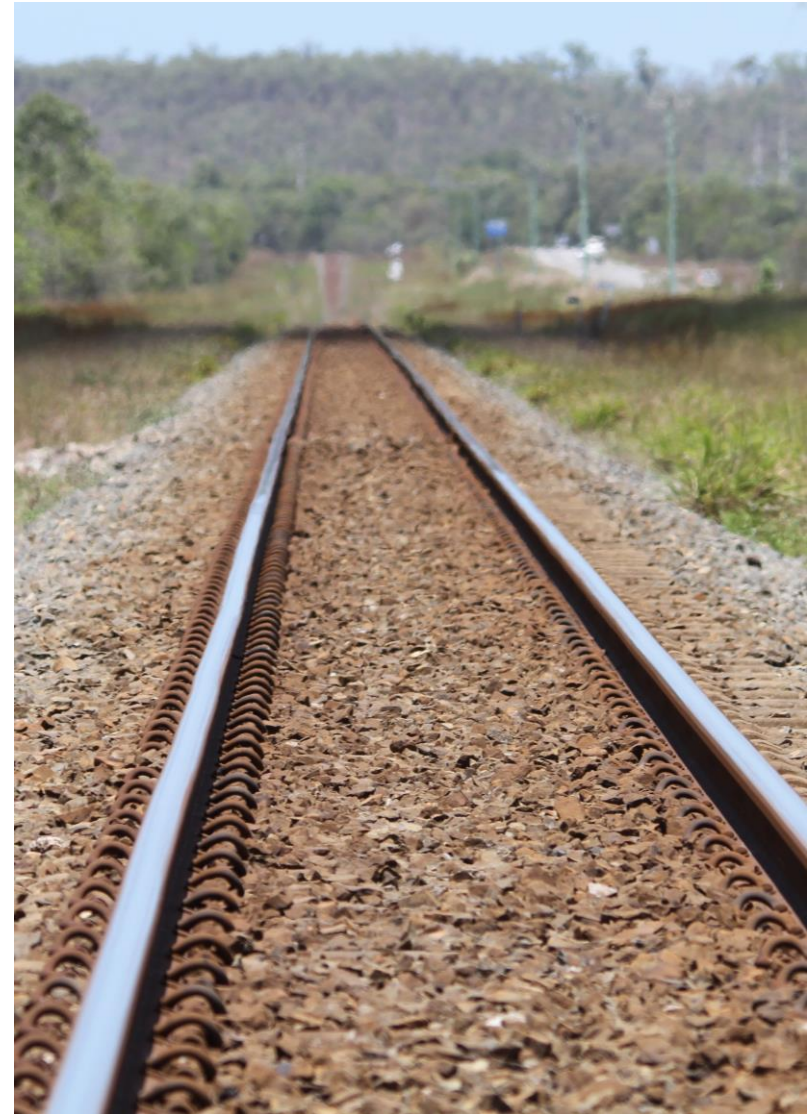


## Council direction

Over the last 12 months, 63% believe the direction of Council's overall performance has remained the same (65% in 2021). Fewer residents describe the direction of Council performance as having improved in 2022 (13%) than in 2021 (20%).

- A further 20% believe it has deteriorated, up eight points on 2021
- Most demographic and geographic cohorts recorded a significant decline in perceptions of the direction of Council's overall performance
- The most satisfied with Council direction are men and those aged 35 to 49 years
- The least satisfied with Council direction are women and those aged 50 to 64 years

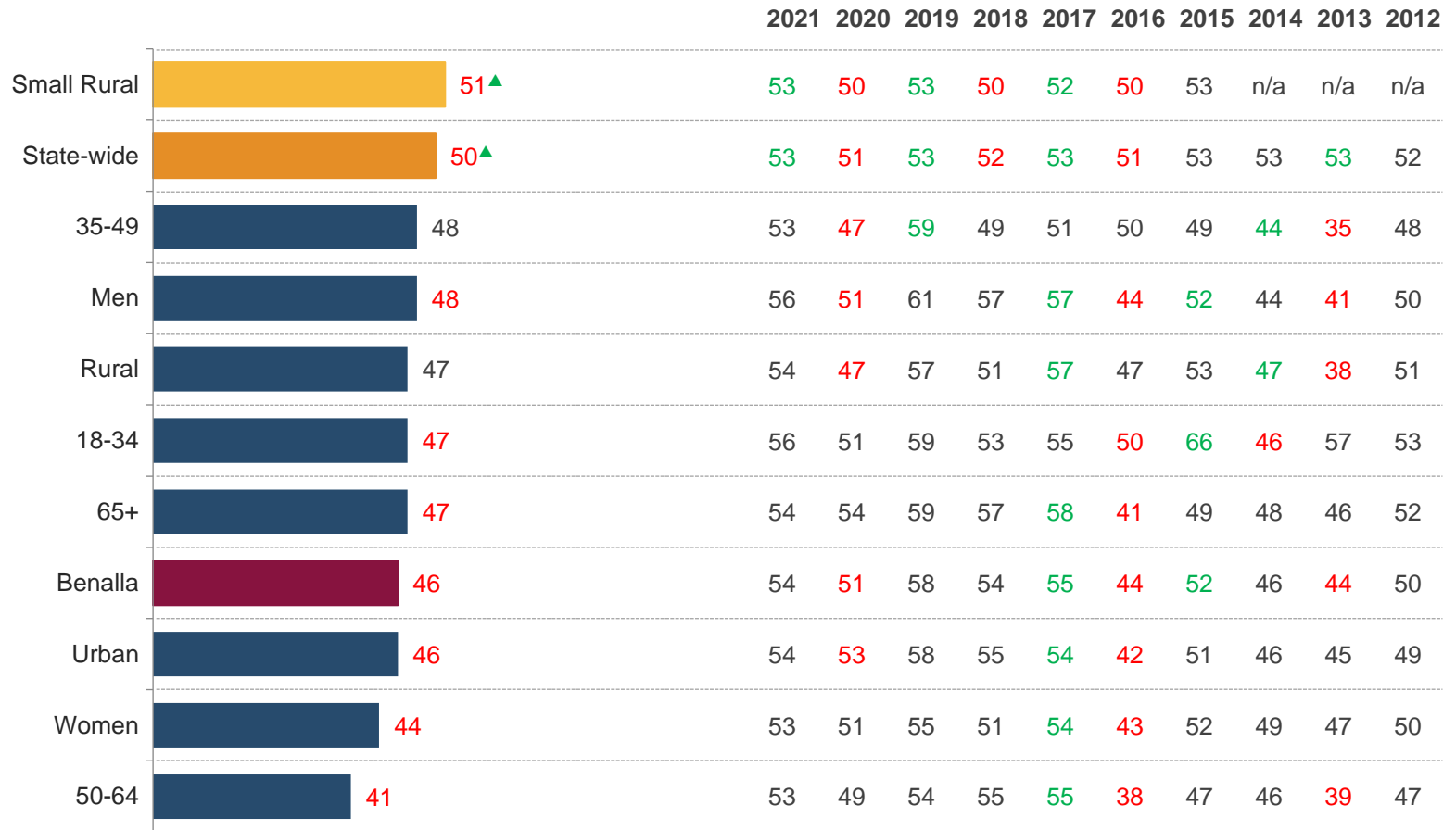
Council rates significantly lower than both the State-wide and Small Rural group averages on council direction.





# Overall council direction last 12 months

## 2022 overall council direction (index scores)



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Benalla Rural City Council's overall performance?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

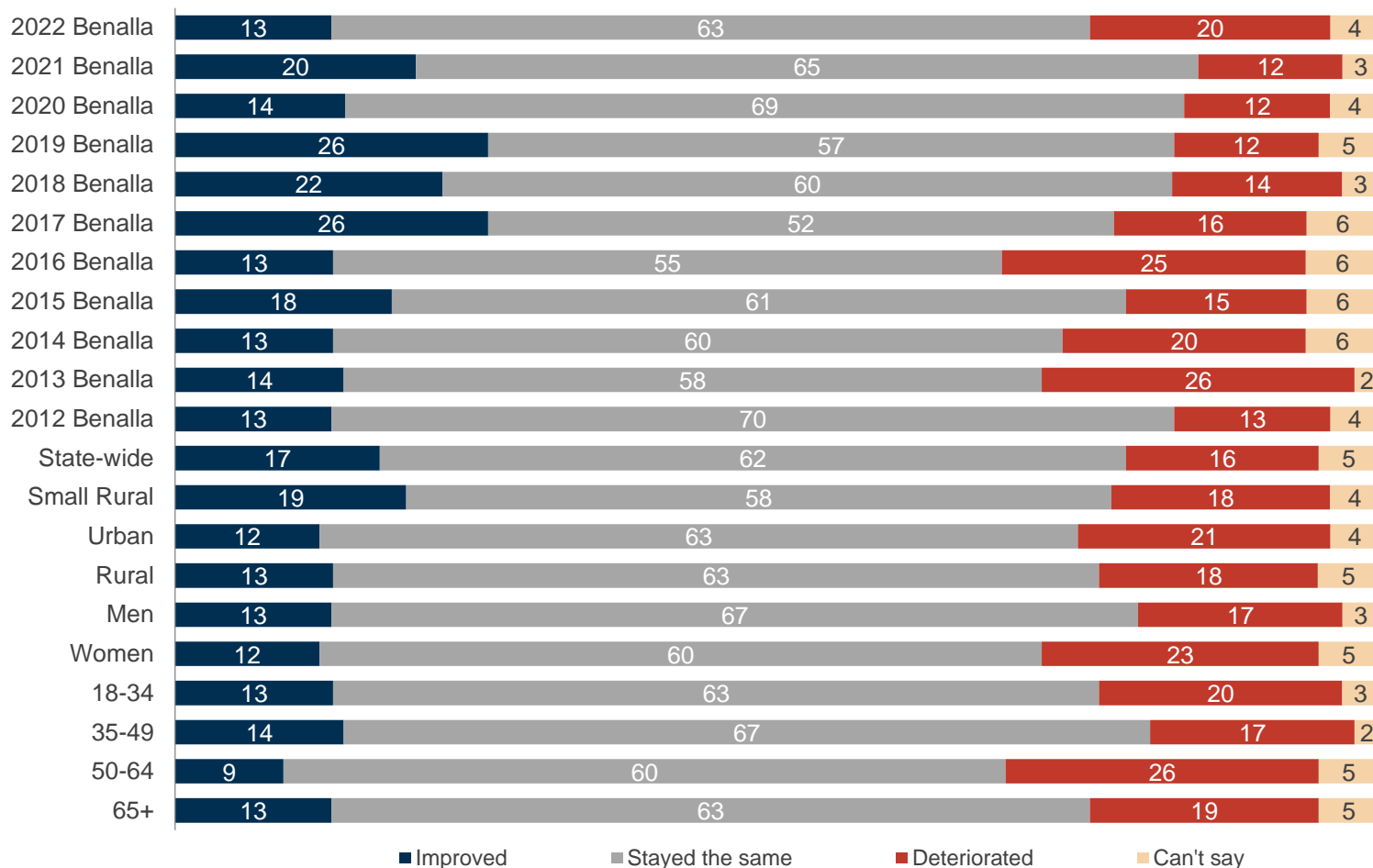
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.





## Overall council direction last 12 months

### 2022 overall council direction (%)



A large, dark blue, stylized letter 'W' graphic that spans the right side of the page. It has a glowing, network-like pattern of white lines and nodes, resembling a map or a data visualization, overlaid on its surface.

# **Individual service areas**



# Community consultation and engagement performance



## 2022 consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	54▲	54	55	57	61	52	39	60	56	53	54
State-wide	54▲	56	55	56	55	55	54	56	57	57	57
Small Rural	54▲	56	54	56	54	55	55	56	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	49	50	55	57	52	53	46	53	53	48	57
Rural	48	54	54	56	49	55	48	53	49	44	51
Benalla	47	52	55	56	53	53	45	52	51	48	54
Urban	47	52	55	55	54	53	43	52	52	49	55
65+	46	50	56	55	51	56	42	50	56	49	57
35-49	45	57	55	53	55	54	53	56	46	43	52
Men	45	54	55	54	54	54	44	52	48	48	52
50-64	45	50	52	56	48	51	44	46	46	47	53

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community consultation and engagement' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

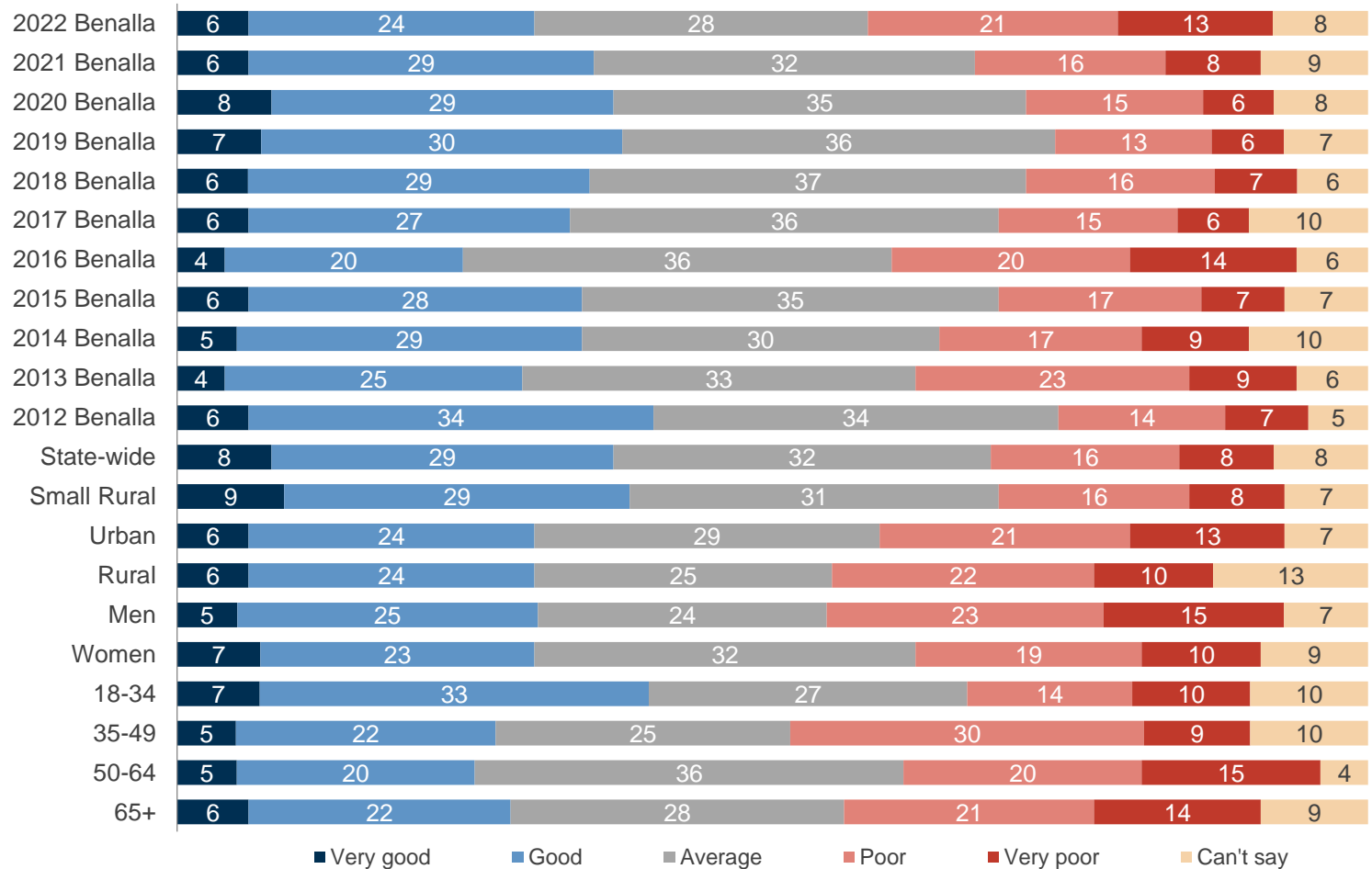
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Community consultation and engagement performance



2022 consultation and engagement performance (%)





# Lobbying on behalf of the community performance



## 2022 lobbying performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	54▲	55	52	55	53	55	54	56	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	53▲	55	53	54	54	54	53	55	56	55	55
18-34	51	54	59	57	56	59	46	55	58	47	49
Women	49	51	55	56	53	55	50	52	55	48	55
Urban	49	53	55	57	54	55	48	52	53	49	53
Benalla	48	53	55	56	54	55	48	52	53	47	54
65+	48	50	56	58	52	55	48	55	58	52	58
Rural	48	53	54	54	51	56	48	54	54	42	54
35-49	48	59	51	54	53	54	52	54	47	43	56
Men	47	54	55	56	55	55	47	53	52	47	52
50-64	46	51	51	55	53	53	47	45	48	47	51

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 49 Councils asked group: 13

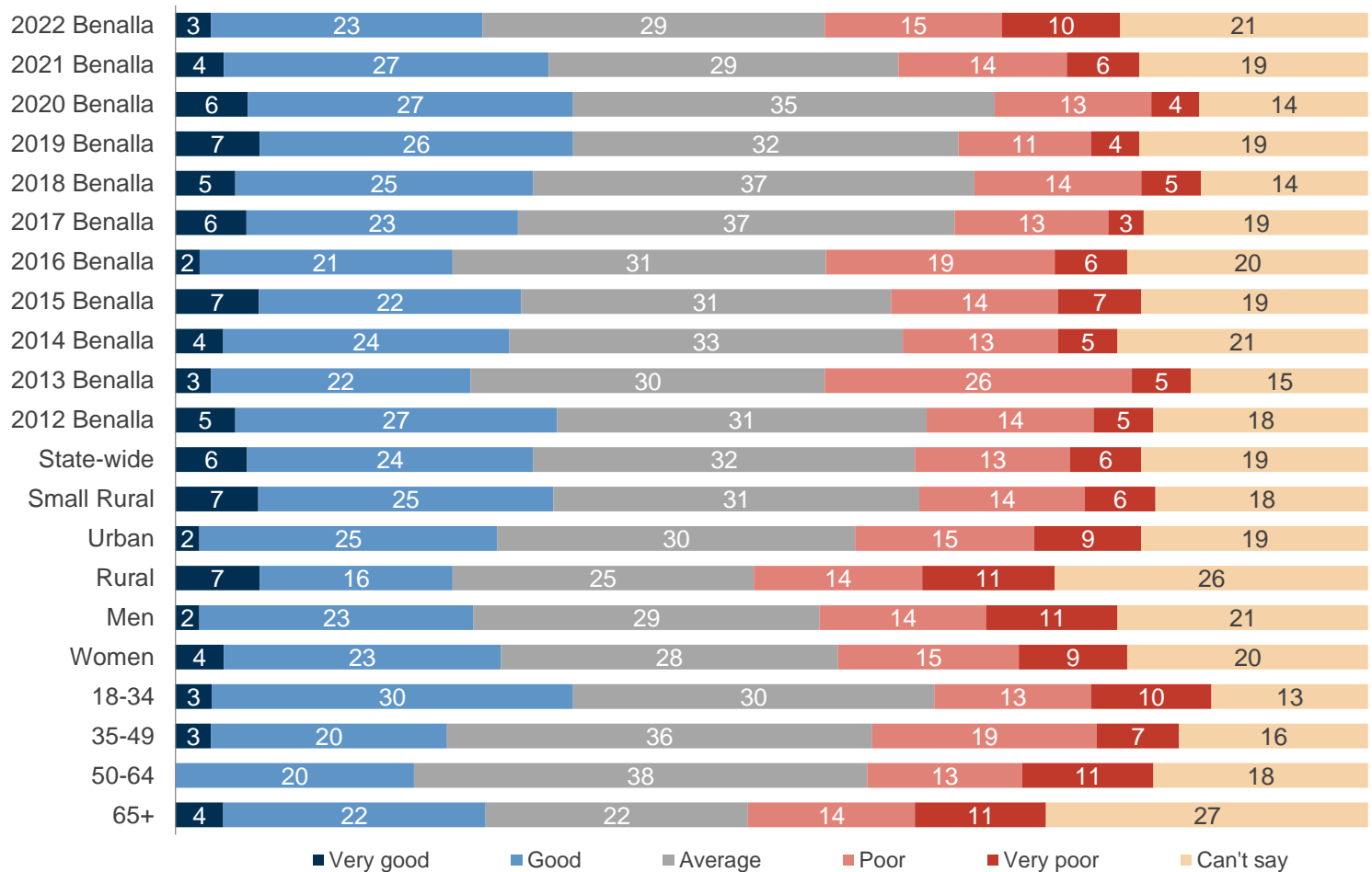
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Lobbying on behalf of the community performance



2022 lobbying performance (%)



# Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



## 2022 community decisions made performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	54▲	56	53	55	54	54	54	55	57	n/a	n/a
Small Rural	54▲	56	53	55	52	55	53	56	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rural	51	58	51	53	49	55	45	51	n/a	n/a	n/a
18-34	50	58	51	58	54	52	43	58	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	49	58	53	56	53	49	43	52	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	48	54	52	56	52	50	40	46	n/a	n/a	n/a
Benalla	48	57	54	56	51	51	44	51	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	48	65	54	54	44	48	53	54	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	47	54	58	56	54	52	42	48	n/a	n/a	n/a
Urban	47	56	56	57	52	49	44	50	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	47	56	55	57	49	52	45	50	n/a	n/a	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Decisions made in the interest of the community' over the last 12 months?

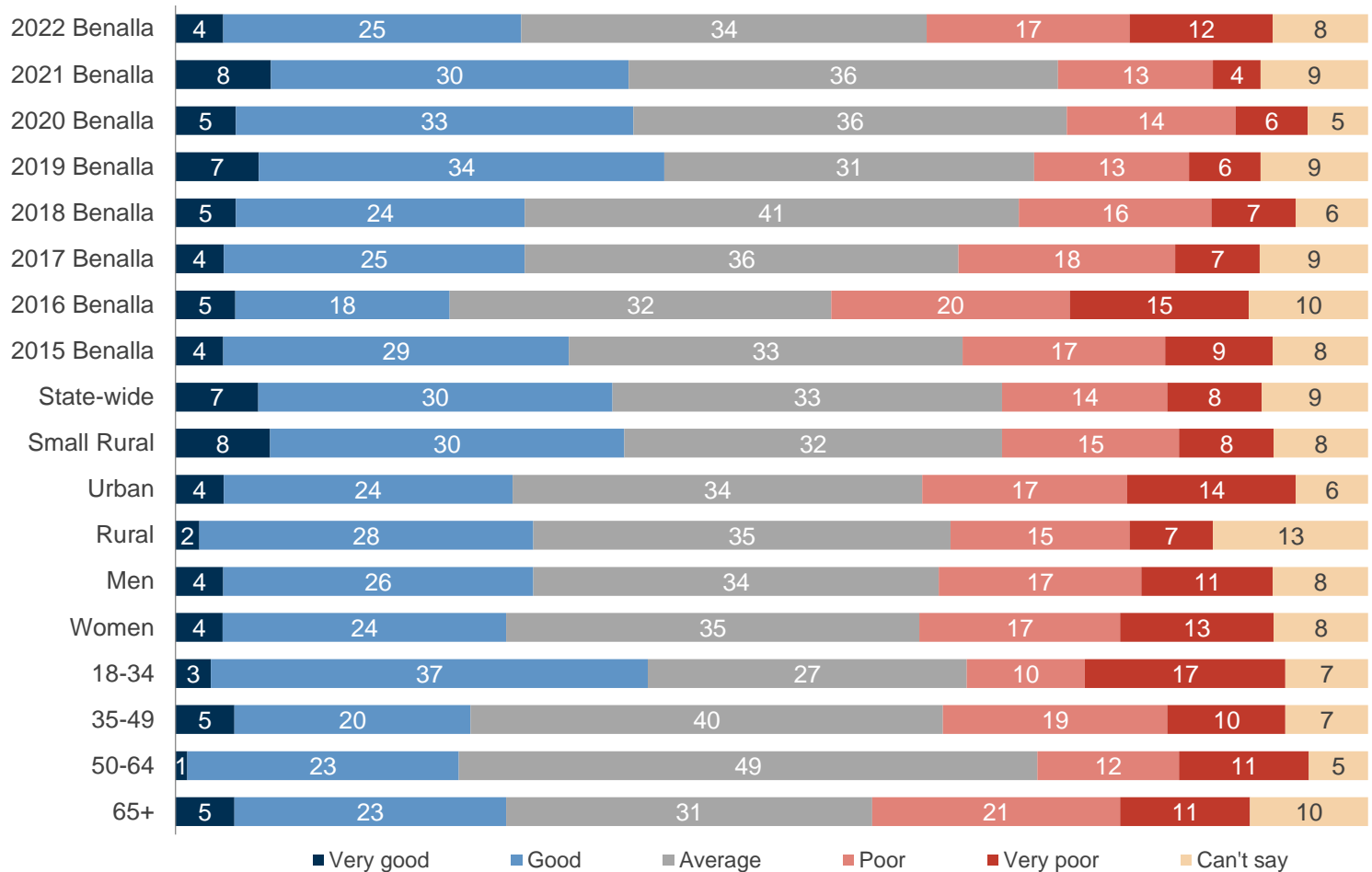
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

# Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



2022 community decisions made performance (%)





# The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



## 2022 sealed local roads performance (index scores)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	57	54	56	53	53	54	55	55	n/a	n/a
Small Rural	53	51	53	49	50	52	52	n/a	n/a	n/a
Urban	54	51	56	47	51	53	54	57	n/a	n/a
65+	52	52	57	43	47	49	51	52	n/a	n/a
Women	53	48	55	42	49	52	52	56	n/a	n/a
35-49	56	52	50	43	50	56	54	53	n/a	n/a
Benalla	53	49	54	43	49	51	52	53	n/a	n/a
Men	53	50	53	44	49	51	51	49	n/a	n/a
18-34	56	44	52	50	55	55	52	54	n/a	n/a
50-64	53	44	54	39	46	47	50	53	n/a	n/a
Rural	52	42	49	30	45	47	47	44	n/a	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of sealed local roads in your area' over the last 12 months?

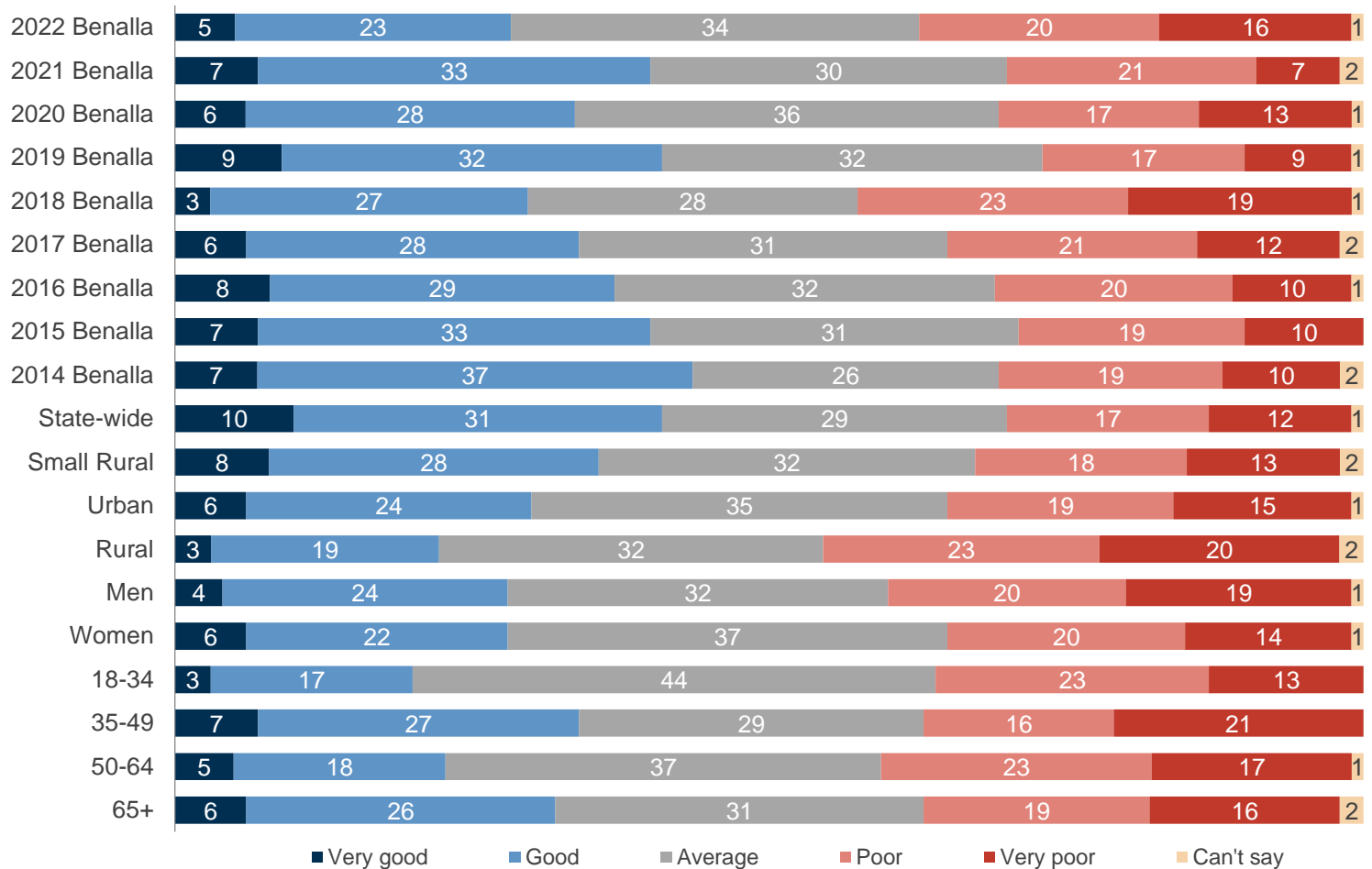
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

# The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



## 2022 sealed local roads performance (%)



# The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance



## 2022 streets and footpaths performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	57▲	59	58	59	58	57	57	58	58	58	57
Small Rural	55▲	58	57	57	57	57	58	59	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	45	50	n/a	54	n/a	48	44	48	50	50	47
50-64	44	47	n/a	52	n/a	46	47	43	48	41	44
Rural	44	51	n/a	52	n/a	50	52	43	46	44	41
Benalla	42	50	n/a	53	n/a	48	48	48	50	47	45
35-49	42	54	n/a	50	n/a	51	53	53	48	49	43
18-34	41	58	n/a	56	n/a	48	50	51	58	58	52
Urban	41	49	n/a	53	n/a	47	46	49	52	48	47
65+	41	46	n/a	53	n/a	46	43	46	48	44	43
Women	40	49	n/a	51	n/a	47	51	47	51	44	44

Q2. How has Council performed on 'The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area' over the last 12 months?

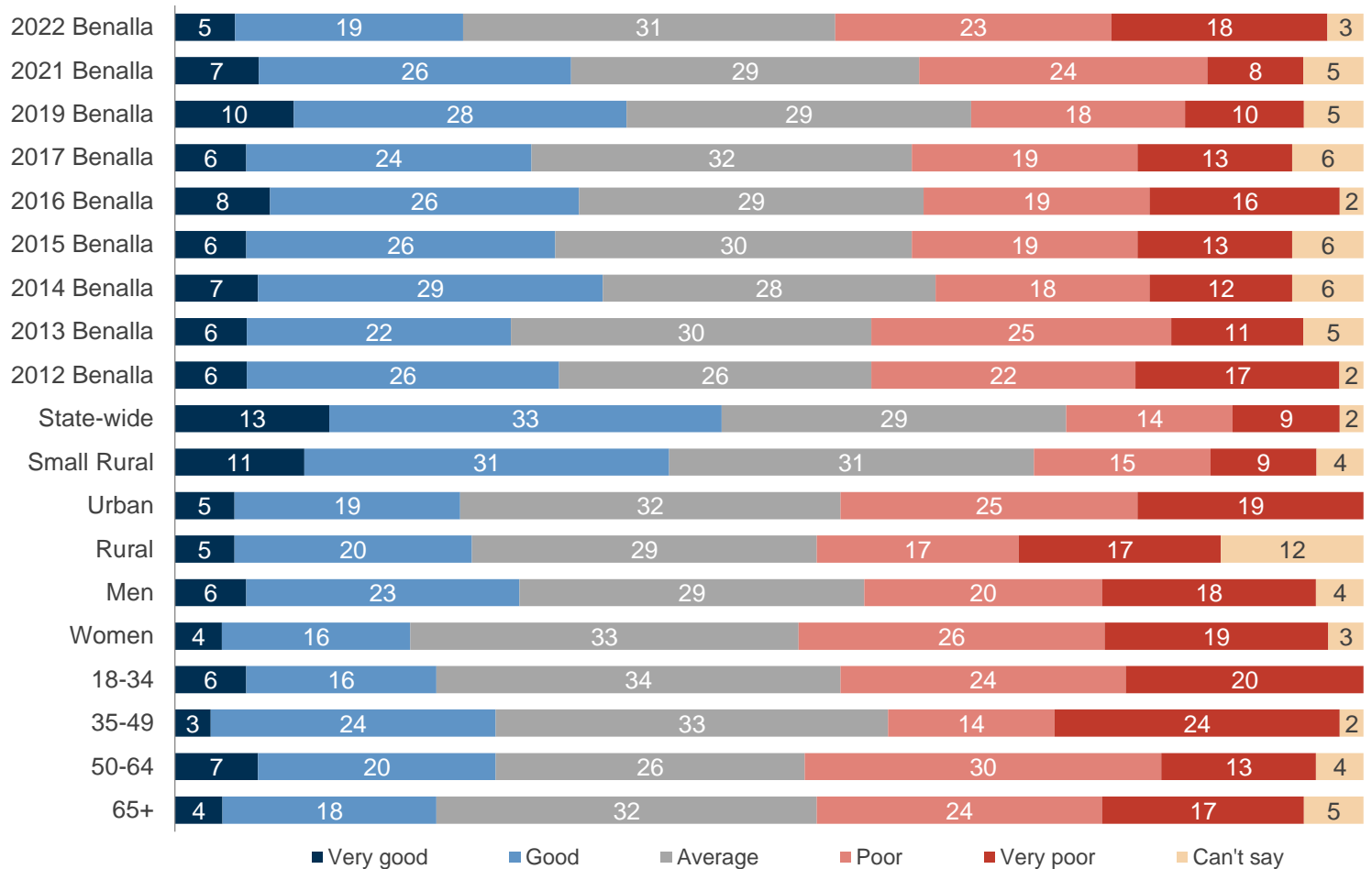
Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 33 Councils asked group: 7

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

# The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance



## 2022 streets and footpaths performance (%)





## Parking facilities performance



### 2022 parking performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Rural	69	66	n/a	70	n/a	71	65	63	64	65	65
Women	69	67	n/a	71	n/a	68	67	64	63	66	67
65+	68	69	n/a	70	n/a	68	65	62	65	67	64
Benalla	66	69	n/a	69	n/a	70	65	63	64	66	66
35-49	65	69	n/a	72	n/a	73	72	68	69	64	66
Urban	64	70	n/a	69	n/a	69	65	63	64	66	66
18-34	63	69	n/a	67	n/a	73	61	65	64	70	67
50-64	63	70	n/a	67	n/a	69	62	59	61	63	66
Men	62	71	n/a	68	n/a	72	63	62	65	66	65
Small Rural	60▼	62	60	60	60	63	61	62	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	57▼	58	55	56	56	55	56	57	57	57	56

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Parking facilities' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 20 Councils asked group: 3

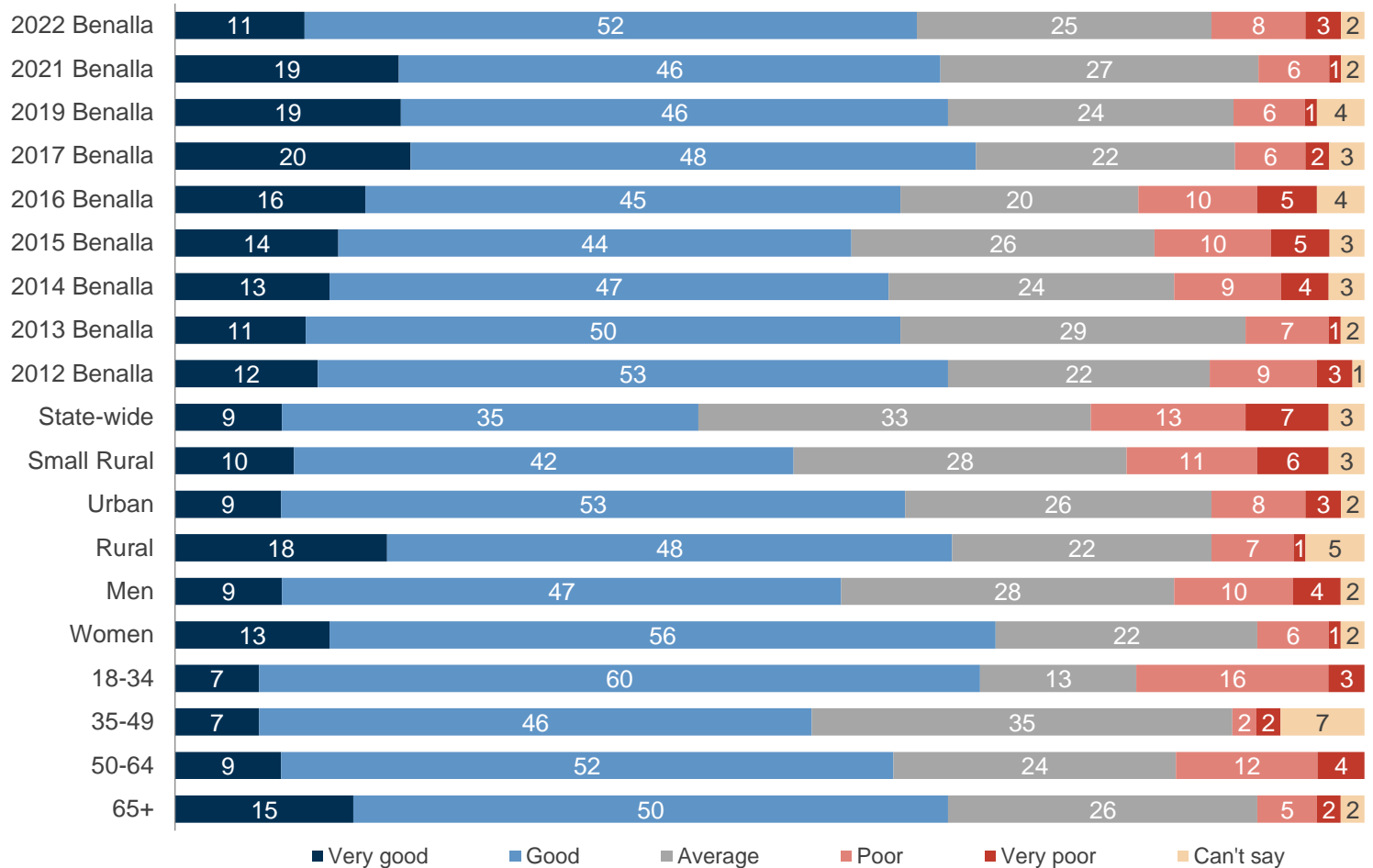
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



## Parking facilities performance



### 2022 parking performance (%)





# Family support services performance



## 2022 family support performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
65+	65	69	n/a	73	n/a	68	68	68	76	70	70
State-wide	65▲	66	66	67	66	67	66	67	68	67	67
Small Rural	64	66	66	68	67	68	66	67	n/a	n/a	n/a
18-34	64	59	n/a	67	n/a	65	57	67	70	68	68
Women	64	62	n/a	71	n/a	68	62	67	73	65	70
Urban	62	64	n/a	72	n/a	66	62	68	73	66	68
Benalla	62	64	n/a	70	n/a	67	63	67	72	65	67
Rural	61	66	n/a	65	n/a	71	64	63	68	62	64
Men	61	67	n/a	69	n/a	65	64	66	70	65	65
50-64	59	58	n/a	68	n/a	64	60	63	66	64	65
35-49	55▼	67	n/a	70	n/a	69	65	68	74	58	66

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Family support services' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 29 Councils asked group: 8

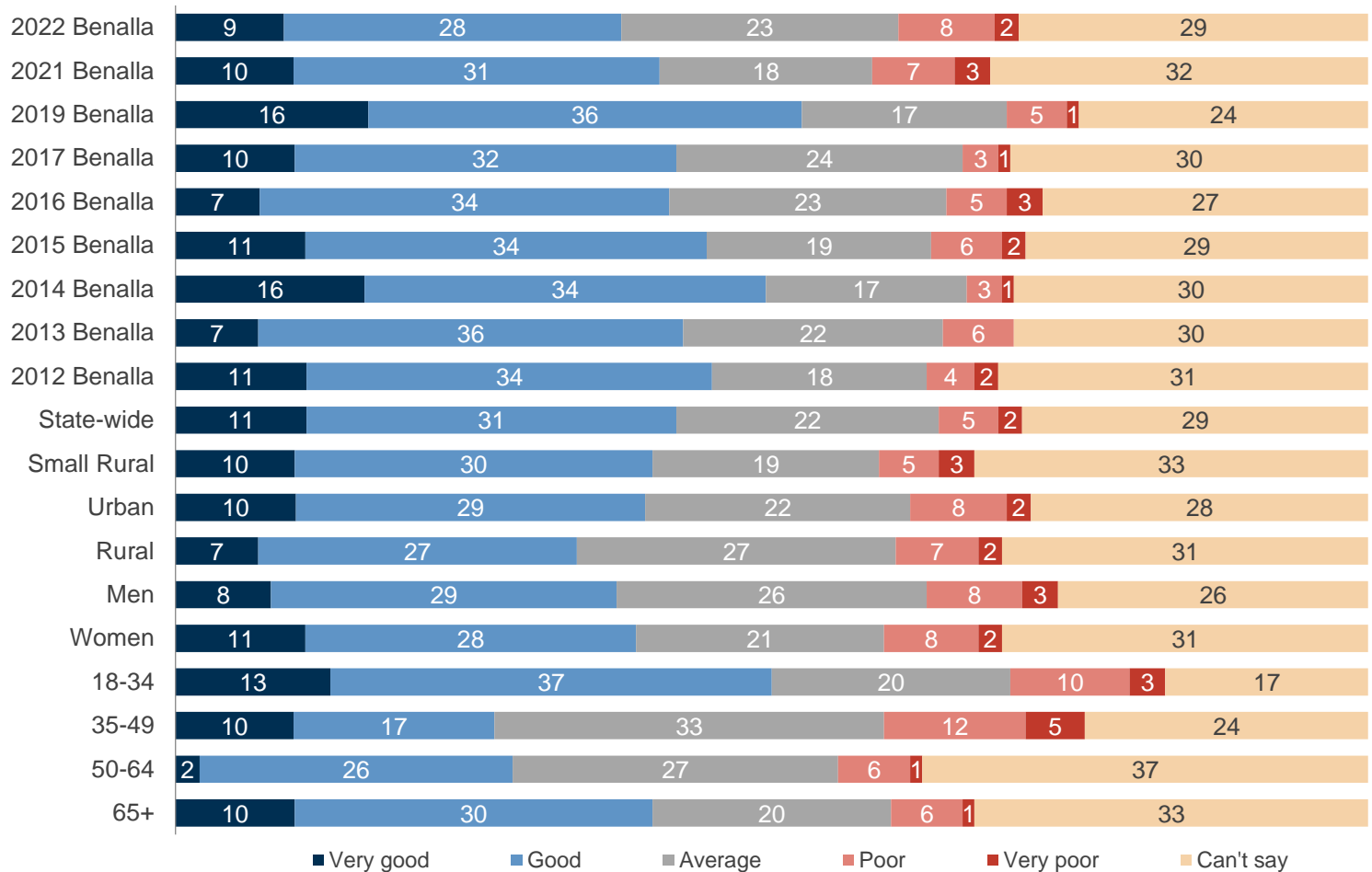
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Family support services performance



## 2022 family support performance (%)







# Elderly support services performance



## 2022 elderly support performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	70▲	72	71	71	69	71	70	72	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	67	69	68	68	68	68	68	69	70	69	69
Urban	66	73	n/a	75	n/a	69	68	75	77	71	75
Women	66	69	n/a	73	n/a	69	71	73	77	69	75
18-34	66	67	n/a	71	n/a	61	62	72	75	76	69
65+	65	71	n/a	76	n/a	73	72	75	77	71	75
Benalla	65	71	n/a	74	n/a	69	68	72	76	71	74
35-49	64	78	n/a	72	n/a	72	70	68	76	62	74
50-64	64	68	n/a	73	n/a	68	67	72	74	72	75
Men	64	73	n/a	74	n/a	70	65	72	74	72	72
Rural	61	64	n/a	70	n/a	70	69	66	72	66	68

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Elderly support services' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 32 Councils asked group: 11

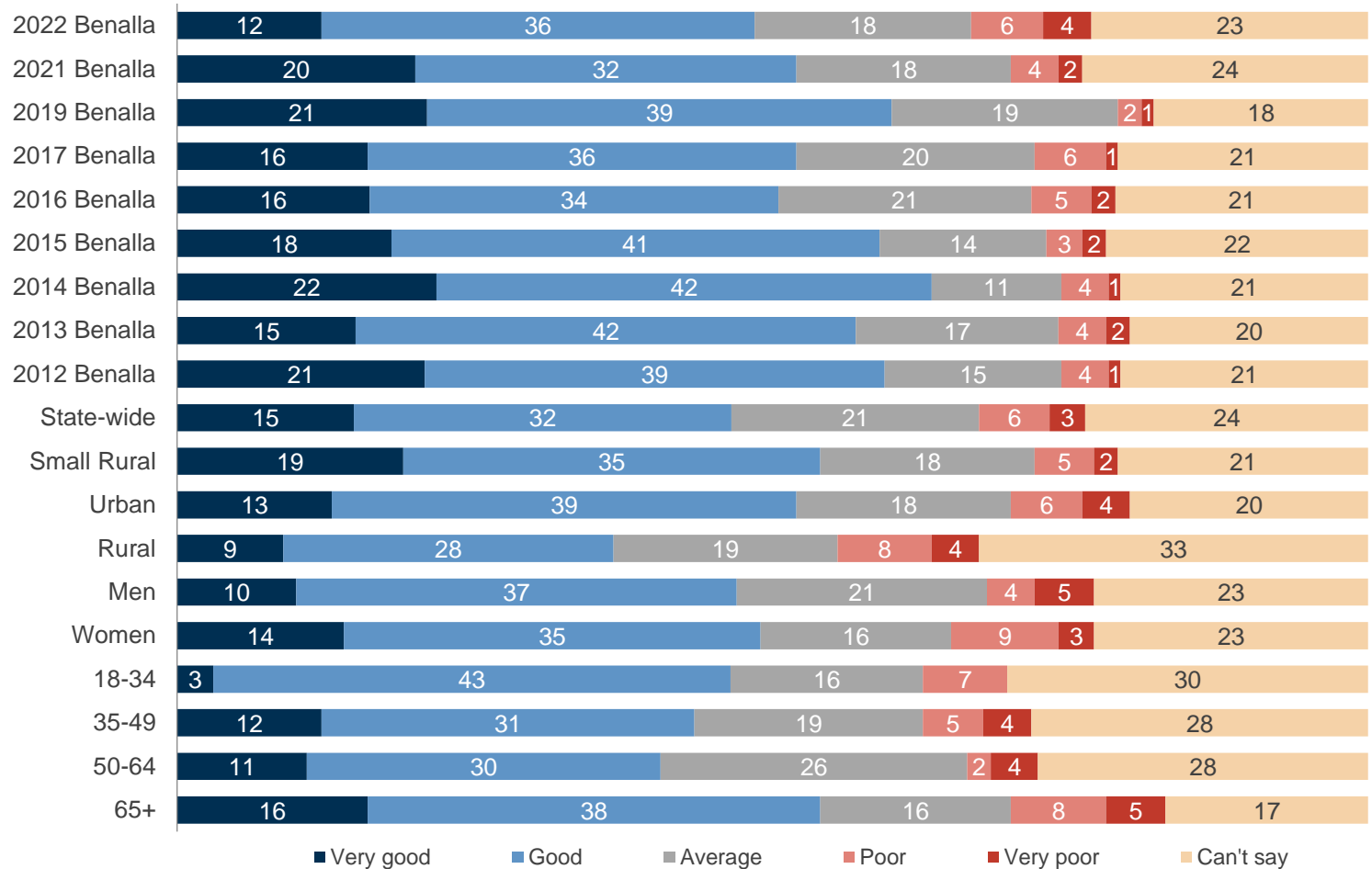
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Elderly support services performance



2022 elderly support performance (%)





## Recreational facilities performance



### 2022 recreational facilities performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
65+	70▲	73	n/a	72	n/a	73	72	73	75	72	76
State-wide	69▲	71	70	70	69	70	69	70	71	70	70
Small Rural	69▲	69	68	68	69	69	68	70	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	66	68	n/a	68	n/a	65	65	69	69	65	70
Urban	65	70	n/a	69	n/a	64	66	71	71	66	70
Benalla	65	70	n/a	67	n/a	65	66	69	69	65	69
Rural	64	68	n/a	62	n/a	70	66	64	66	59	66
Men	64	72	n/a	66	n/a	65	67	69	69	64	68
18-34	62	64	n/a	58	n/a	55	62	66	67	63	65
50-64	62	70	n/a	69	n/a	69	60	66	67	65	69
35-49	58▼	68	n/a	65	n/a	58	70	68	67	57	62

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Recreational facilities' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 43 Councils asked group: 13

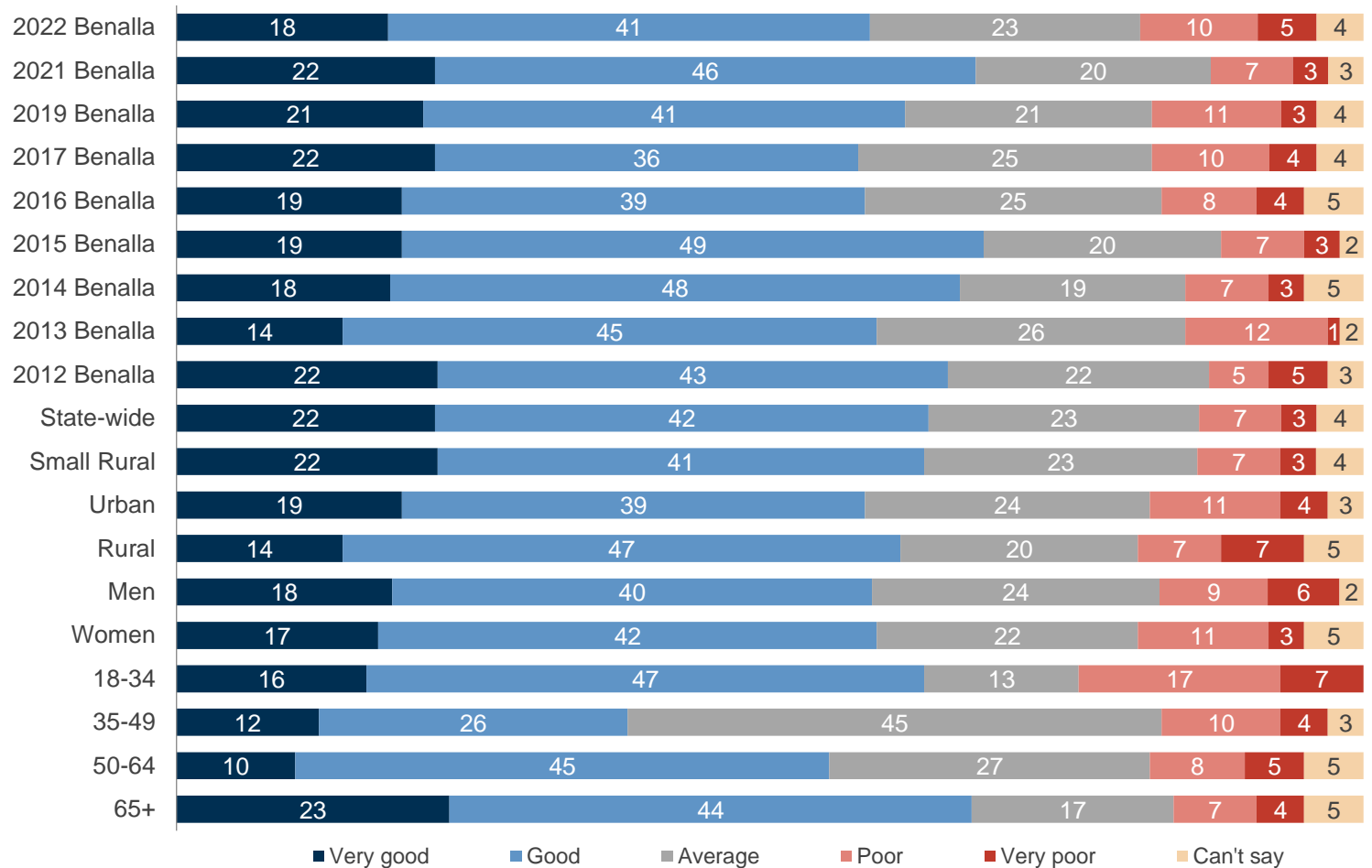
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



## Recreational facilities performance



2022 recreational facilities performance (%)





# The appearance of public areas performance



## 2022 public areas performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	73▲	75	72	73	72	74	73	74	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	71	73	72	72	71	71	71	72	72	71	71
50-64	71	78	n/a	78	n/a	75	70	74	75	72	75
Rural	70	76	n/a	72	n/a	76	72	69	75	70	73
Women	70	74	n/a	77	n/a	73	74	76	77	73	75
65+	69	74	n/a	75	n/a	72	72	73	76	71	72
Benalla	69	75	n/a	76	n/a	73	72	75	77	72	74
Urban	69	75	n/a	77	n/a	71	72	78	78	72	75
18-34	68	74	n/a	70	n/a	67	69	78	79	72	72
Men	68	77	n/a	74	n/a	72	70	75	76	71	74
35-49	68	77	n/a	80	n/a	77	78	79	77	73	77

Q2. How has Council performed on 'The appearance of public areas' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 43 Councils asked group: 14

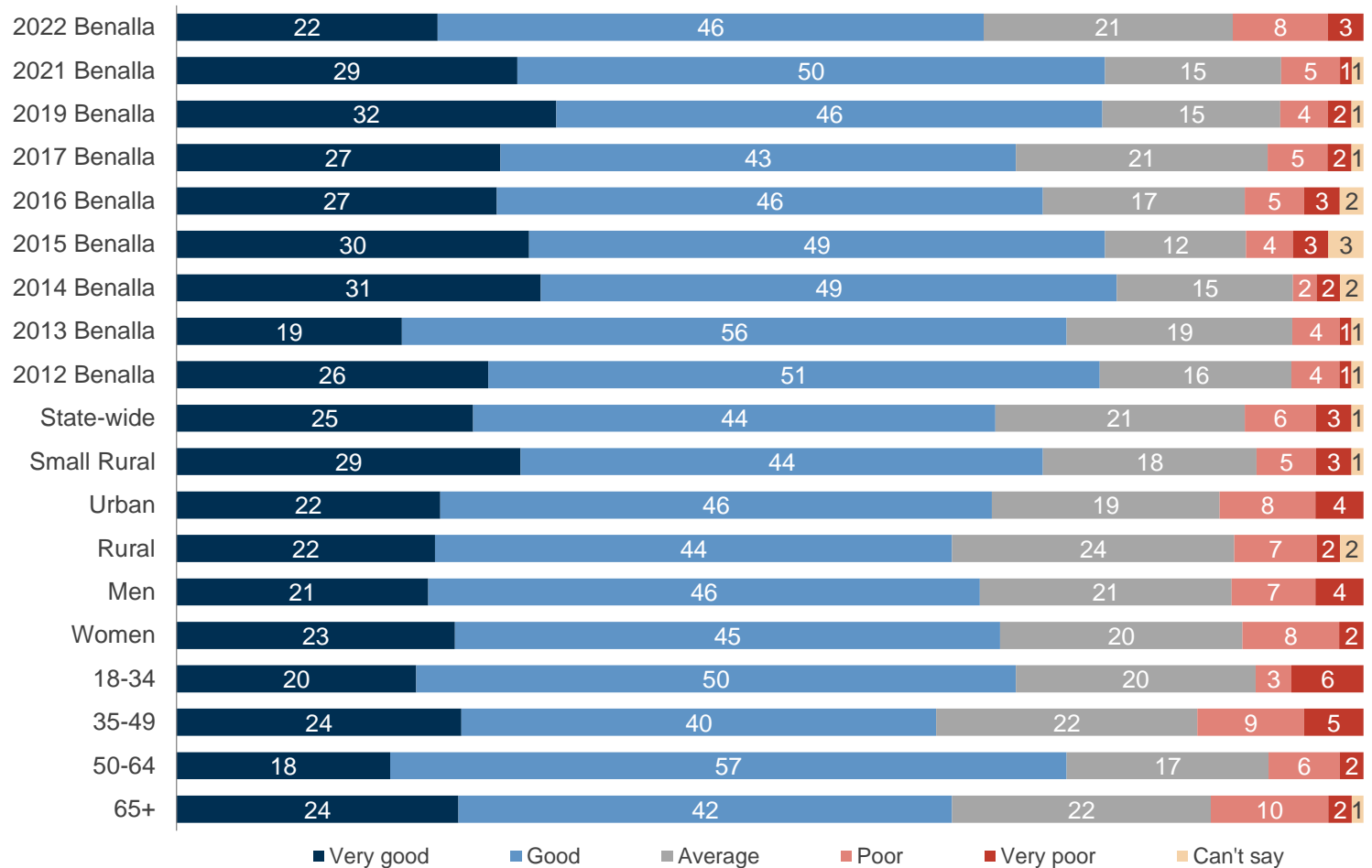
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# The appearance of public areas performance



2022 public areas performance (%)





# Waste management performance



## 2022 waste management performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	68▲	68	64	66	69	70	69	71	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	68▲	69	65	68	70	71	70	72	73	71	72
65+	67	71	n/a	72	n/a	66	66	70	75	67	73
Rural	66	68	n/a	65	n/a	64	62	66	74	67	73
Women	66	65	n/a	72	n/a	65	61	70	72	65	72
Benalla	64	66	n/a	68	n/a	62	59	69	72	67	73
18-34	64	59	n/a	67	n/a	62	53	72	70	71	76
Urban	63	66	n/a	69	n/a	61	58	71	71	67	73
Men	62	67	n/a	64	n/a	59	57	69	72	69	73
35-49	60	70	n/a	63	n/a	57	62	70	72	66	70
50-64	59	58	n/a	68	n/a	60	53	65	70	65	73

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Waste management' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

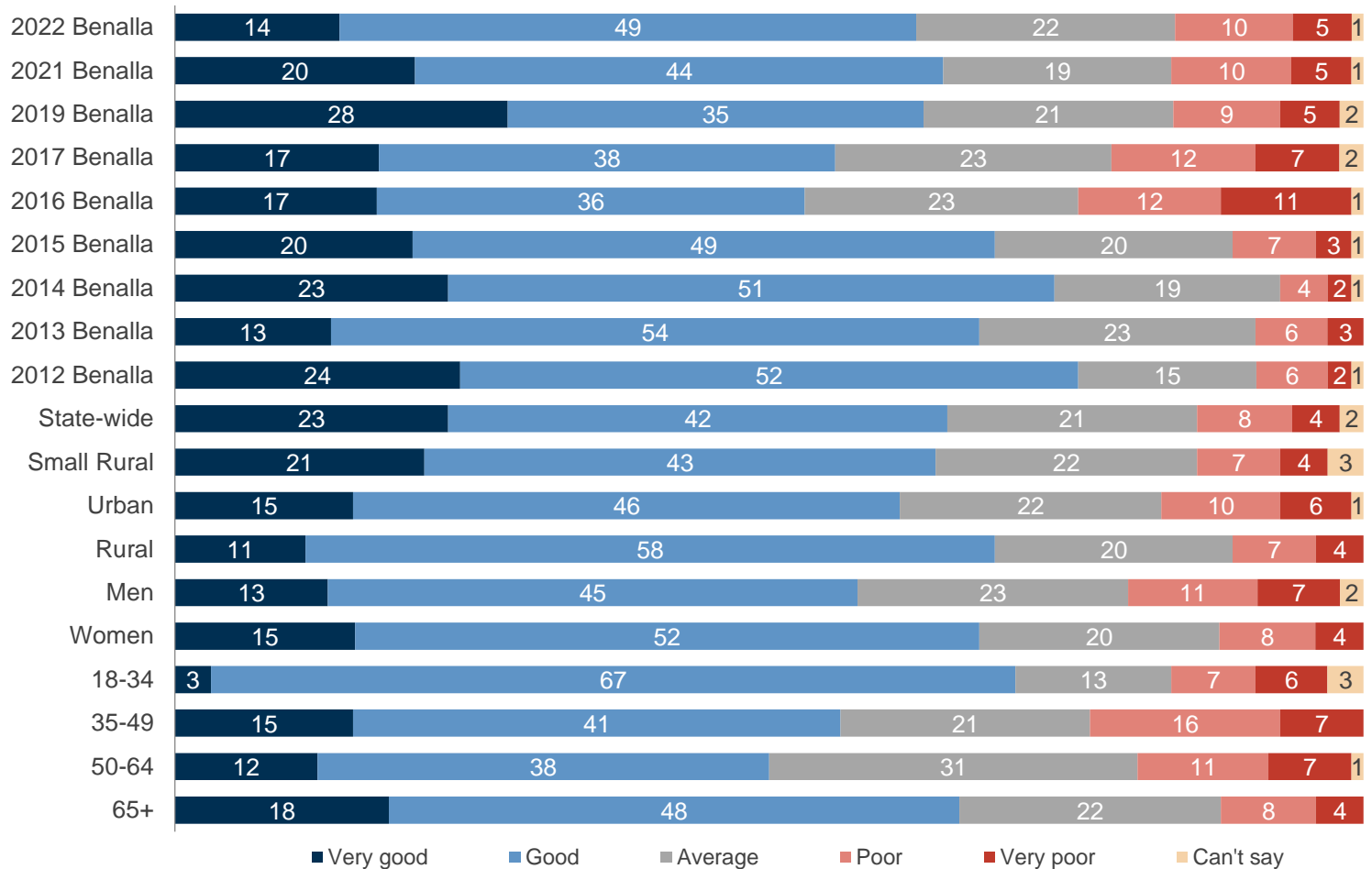
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Waste management performance



2022 waste management performance (%)







# Environmental sustainability performance



## 2022 environmental sustainability performance (index scores)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	61▲	62	60	62	63	64	63	64	64	64
Small Rural	59▲	61	57	59	62	63	61	63	n/a	n/a
Urban	57	63	n/a	58	n/a	60	55	60	62	57
35-49	56	68	n/a	54	n/a	61	61	61	58	52
65+	56	61	n/a	61	n/a	57	57	58	60	60
Women	56	59	n/a	61	n/a	58	58	62	60	55
Benalla	55	62	n/a	58	n/a	59	56	60	60	56
Men	55	66	n/a	55	n/a	60	54	58	59	58
18-34	55	62	n/a	54	n/a	65	50	69	64	59
50-64	54	59	n/a	60	n/a	57	57	54	57	55
Rural	50	60	n/a	57	n/a	58	59	59	55	52

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Environmental sustainability' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 8

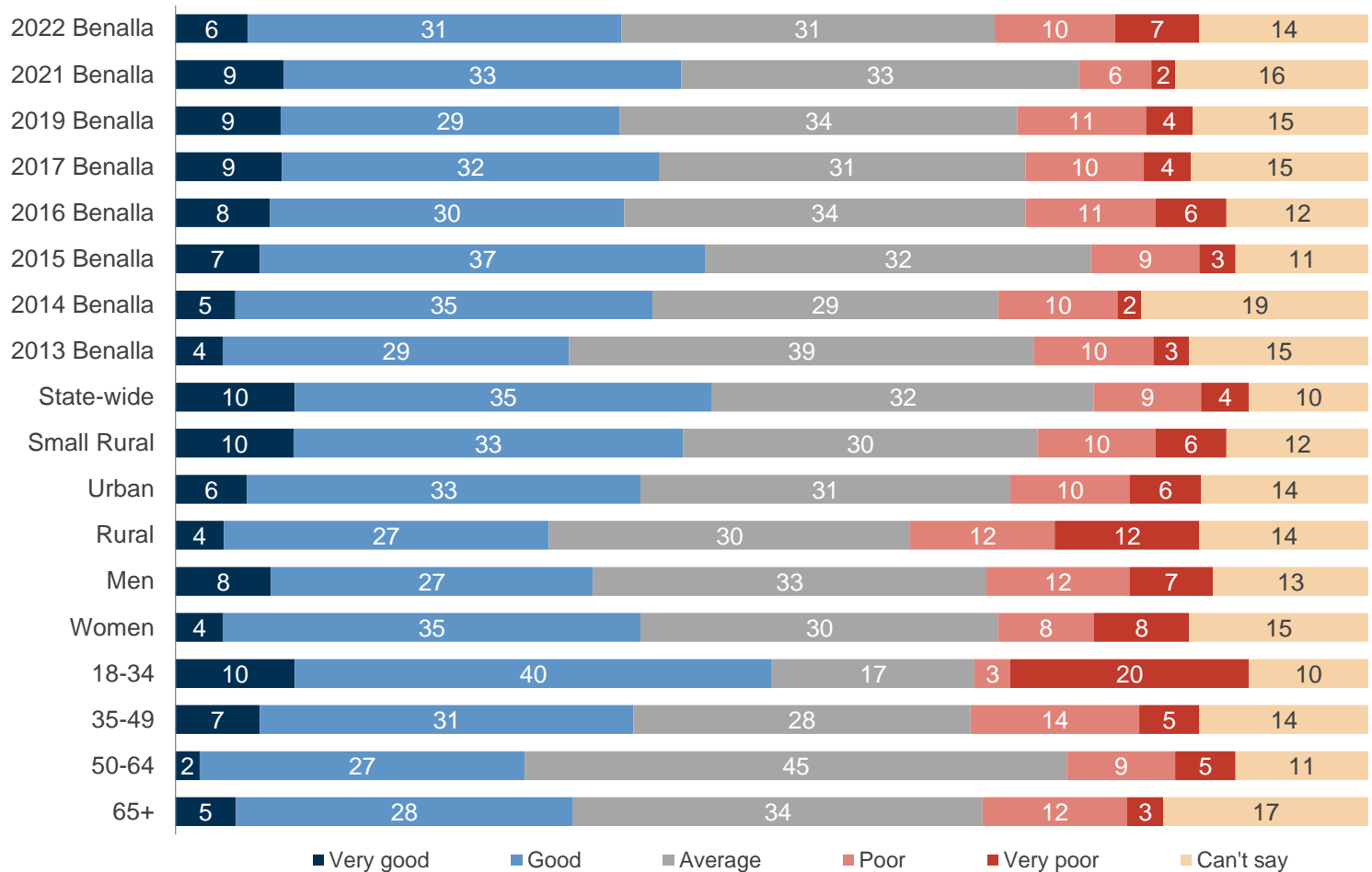
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Environmental sustainability performance



2022 environmental sustainability performance (%)





# Emergency and disaster management performance



## 2022 emergency and disaster management performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
35-49	69	74	n/a	77	n/a	73	74	72	72	66	n/a
Women	68	68	n/a	74	n/a	71	70	69	70	69	n/a
Small Rural	68	72	70	72	72	72	71	70	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	67	69	n/a	73	n/a	69	64	63	65	61	n/a
State-wide	66	71	68	72	71	70	69	70	71	70	70
Urban	66	72	n/a	76	n/a	72	69	71	71	67	n/a
Benalla	66	70	n/a	74	n/a	71	69	69	69	66	n/a
Rural	66	66	n/a	68	n/a	67	68	65	65	63	n/a
65+	65	70	n/a	74	n/a	69	69	69	71	68	n/a
18-34	64	67	n/a	70	n/a	73	70	72	70	73	n/a
Men	63	73	n/a	73	n/a	70	68	69	68	63	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Emergency and disaster management' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 5

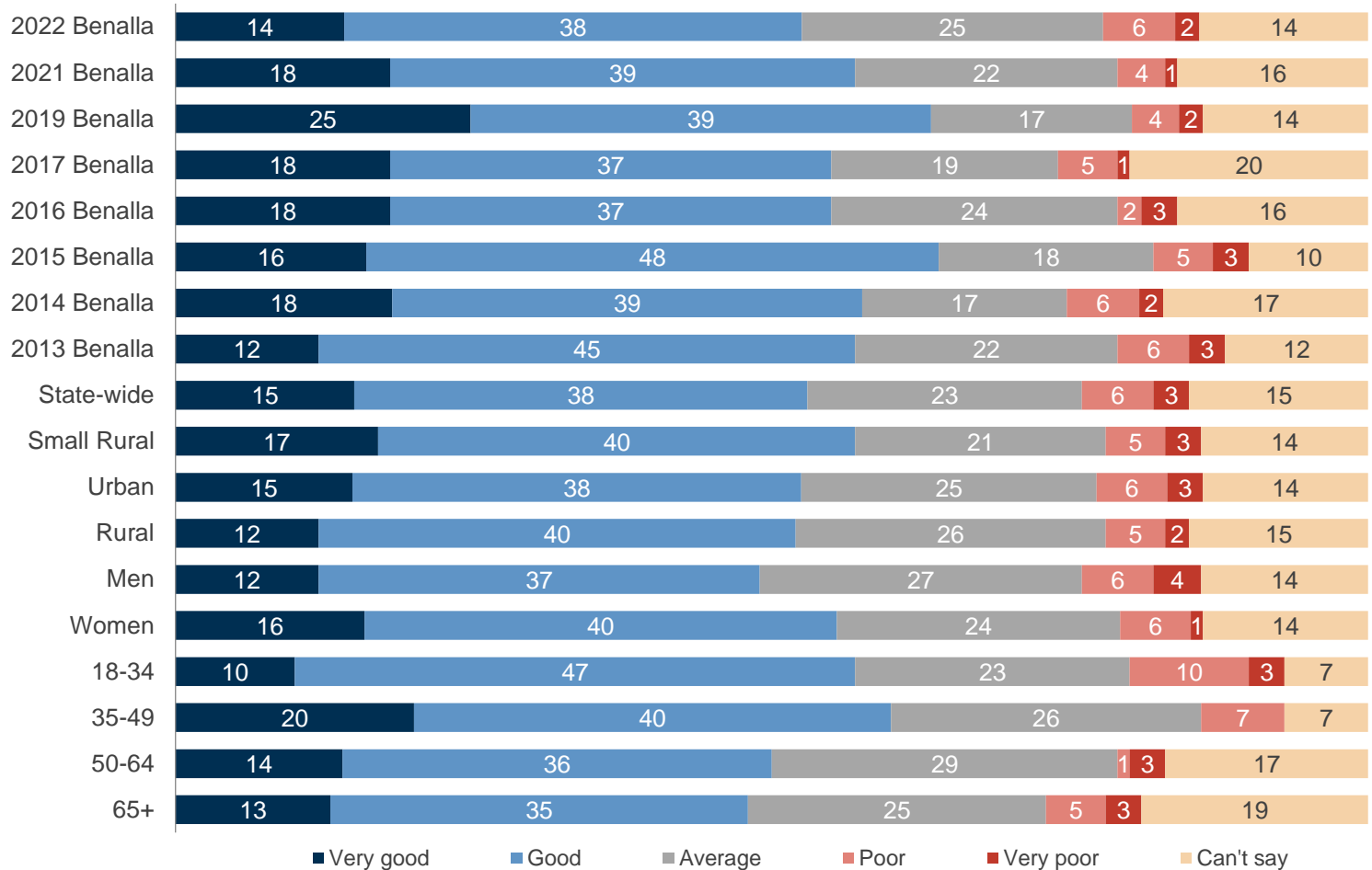
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Emergency and disaster management performance



2022 emergency and disaster management performance (%)





# Planning for population growth in the area performance



## 2022 population growth performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	53	61	n/a	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	56	n/a
State-wide	52▲	53	51	52	52	52	51	54	54	54	52
Women	49	54	n/a	56	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
Small Rural	49	52	44	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	49	55	n/a	59	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	n/a
Urban	49	56	n/a	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	n/a
Benalla	48	56	n/a	57	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
50-64	48	52	n/a	55	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	n/a
Men	47	58	n/a	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	48	n/a
Rural	46	55	n/a	54	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49	n/a
35-49	42	56	n/a	53	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning for population growth in the area' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 18 Councils asked group: 2

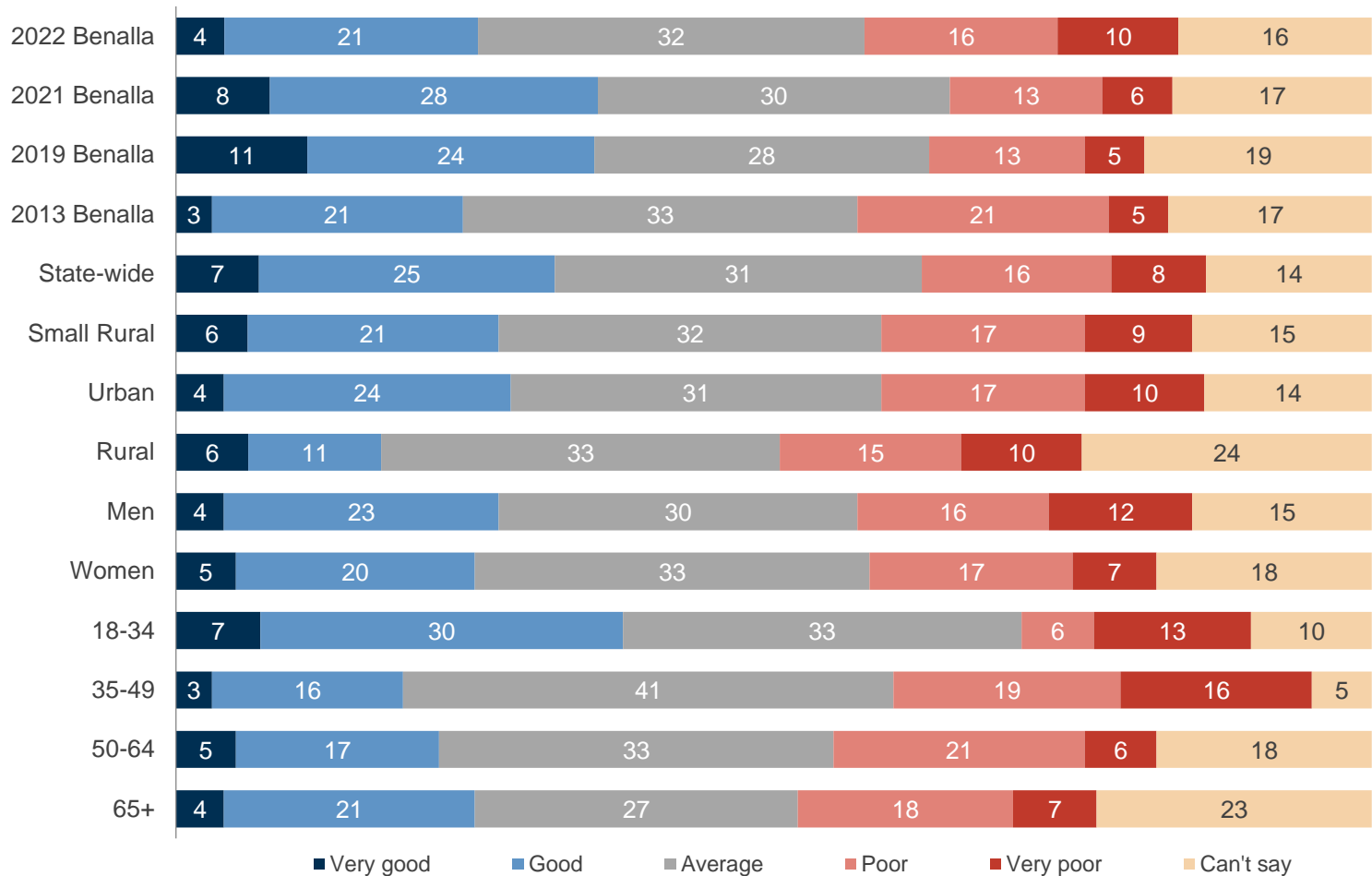
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Planning for population growth in the area performance



2022 population growth performance (%)





# Roadside slashing and weed control performance



## 2022 roadside slashing and weed control performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	50▲	49	48	55	54	51	51	52	n/a	n/a	n/a
18-34	49	56	n/a	59	n/a	49	61	61	64	57	n/a
State-wide	49▲	51	49	56	55	53	56	55	55	56	61
Urban	48	53	n/a	61	n/a	49	53	53	58	49	n/a
Women	47	51	n/a	58	n/a	47	52	48	54	45	n/a
65+	45	48	n/a	56	n/a	44	47	42	49	44	n/a
Benalla	45	51	n/a	57	n/a	48	51	49	52	47	n/a
Men	43	52	n/a	56	n/a	49	50	50	50	49	n/a
50-64	43	51	n/a	51	n/a	48	45	43	46	41	n/a
35-49	41	54	n/a	67	n/a	56	57	56	51	49	n/a
Rural	36▼	44	n/a	48	n/a	45	46	40	41	37	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Roadside slashing and weed control' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 14 Councils asked group: 6

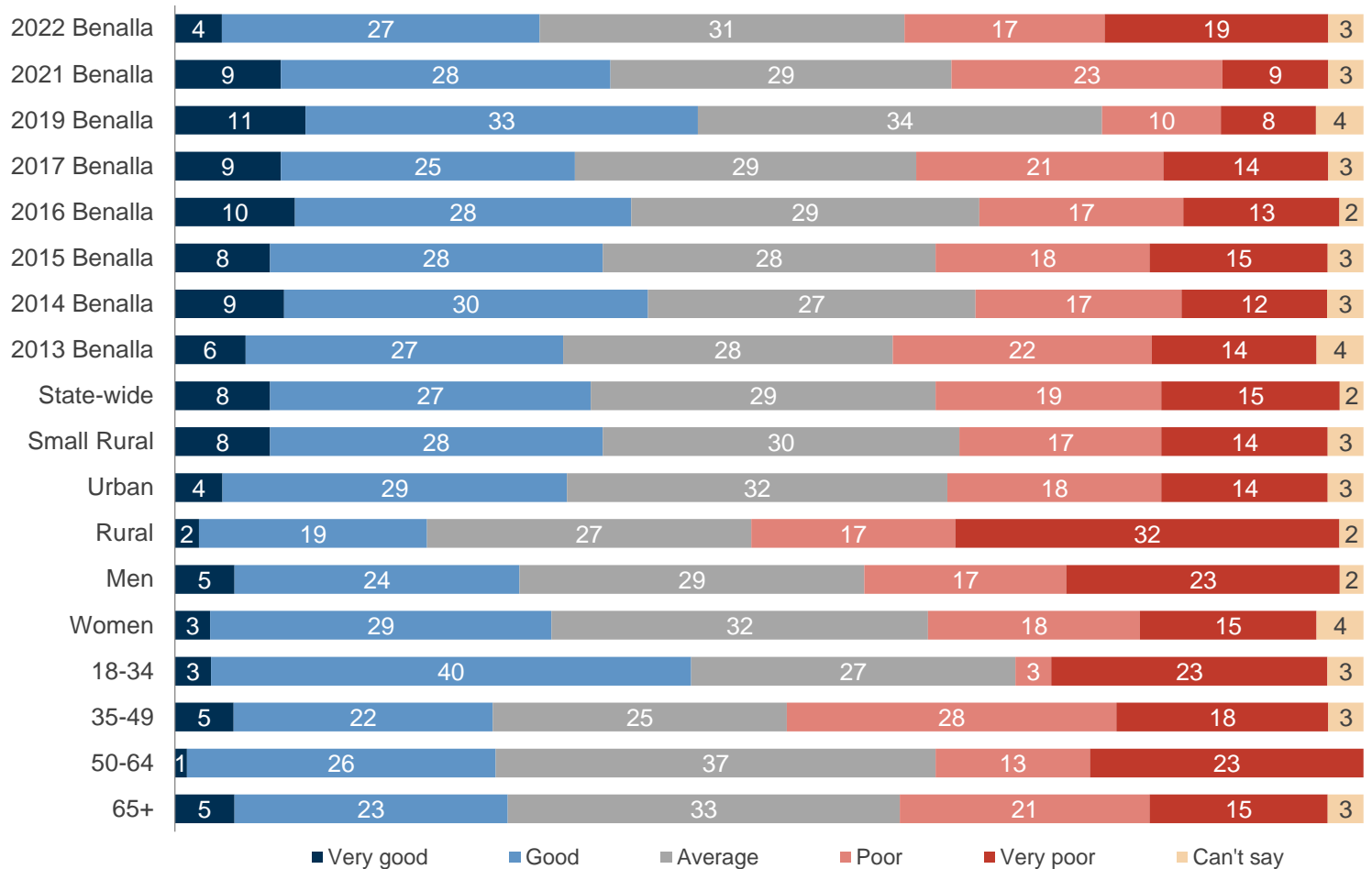
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Roadside slashing and weed control performance



## 2022 roadside slashing and weed control performance (%)







# Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance



## 2022 unsealed roads performance (index scores)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	44	43	43▲	40	43	44	45	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	45	44	44	43	44	43	45	45	44	46
Urban	52	n/a	51	n/a	44	47	48	49	43	n/a
65+	46	n/a	48	n/a	40	38	38	43	41	n/a
Women	44	n/a	46	n/a	39	44	42	45	40	n/a
Benalla	48	n/a	47	n/a	40	42	42	44	40	n/a
35-49	49	n/a	50	n/a	43	49	45	43	39	n/a
Men	52	n/a	47	n/a	41	41	43	43	41	n/a
50-64	48	n/a	45	n/a	36	37	39	40	36	n/a
18-34	50	n/a	45	n/a	43	51	51	52	47	n/a
Rural	37	n/a	37	n/a	31	33	30	35	32	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 24 Councils asked group: 10

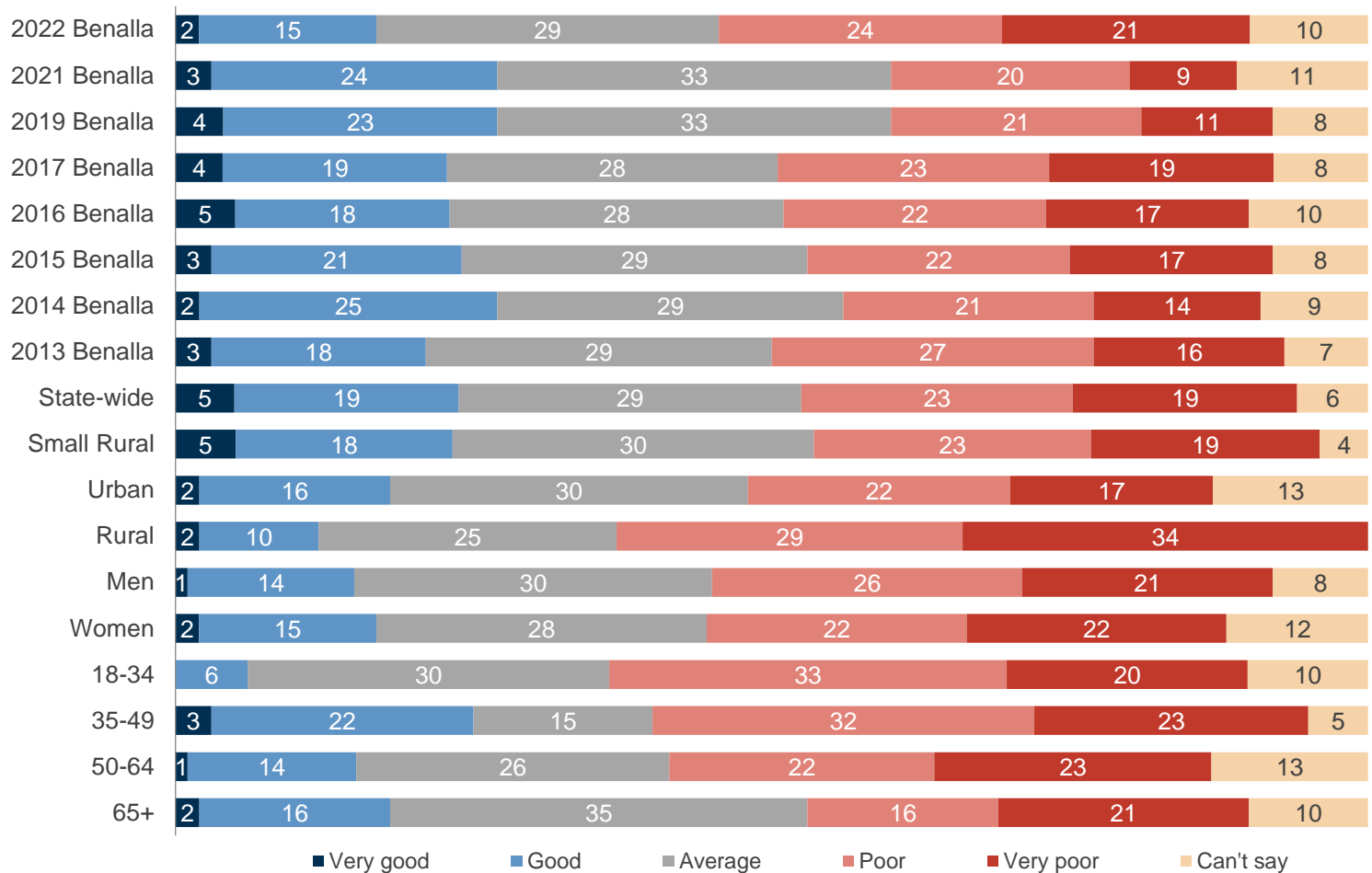
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance



## 2022 unsealed roads performance (%)





# Tourism development performance



## 2022 tourism development performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Small Rural	62▲	63	63	66	67	67	64	63	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	60▲	62	62	63	63	63	63	63	64	n/a	n/a
35-49	59	58	n/a	62	n/a	58	60	54	54	n/a	n/a
Rural	59	60	n/a	67	n/a	64	56	56	52	n/a	n/a
Women	59	58	n/a	66	n/a	61	55	54	62	n/a	n/a
Benalla	56	60	n/a	65	n/a	58	54	54	58	n/a	n/a
18-34	56	57	n/a	67	n/a	62	49	53	60	n/a	n/a
65+	55	62	n/a	65	n/a	55	55	53	62	n/a	n/a
Urban	55	60	n/a	64	n/a	56	53	52	61	n/a	n/a
50-64	55	61	n/a	65	n/a	58	52	54	57	n/a	n/a
Men	54	62	n/a	63	n/a	54	53	53	55	n/a	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Tourism development' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 13 Councils asked group: 5

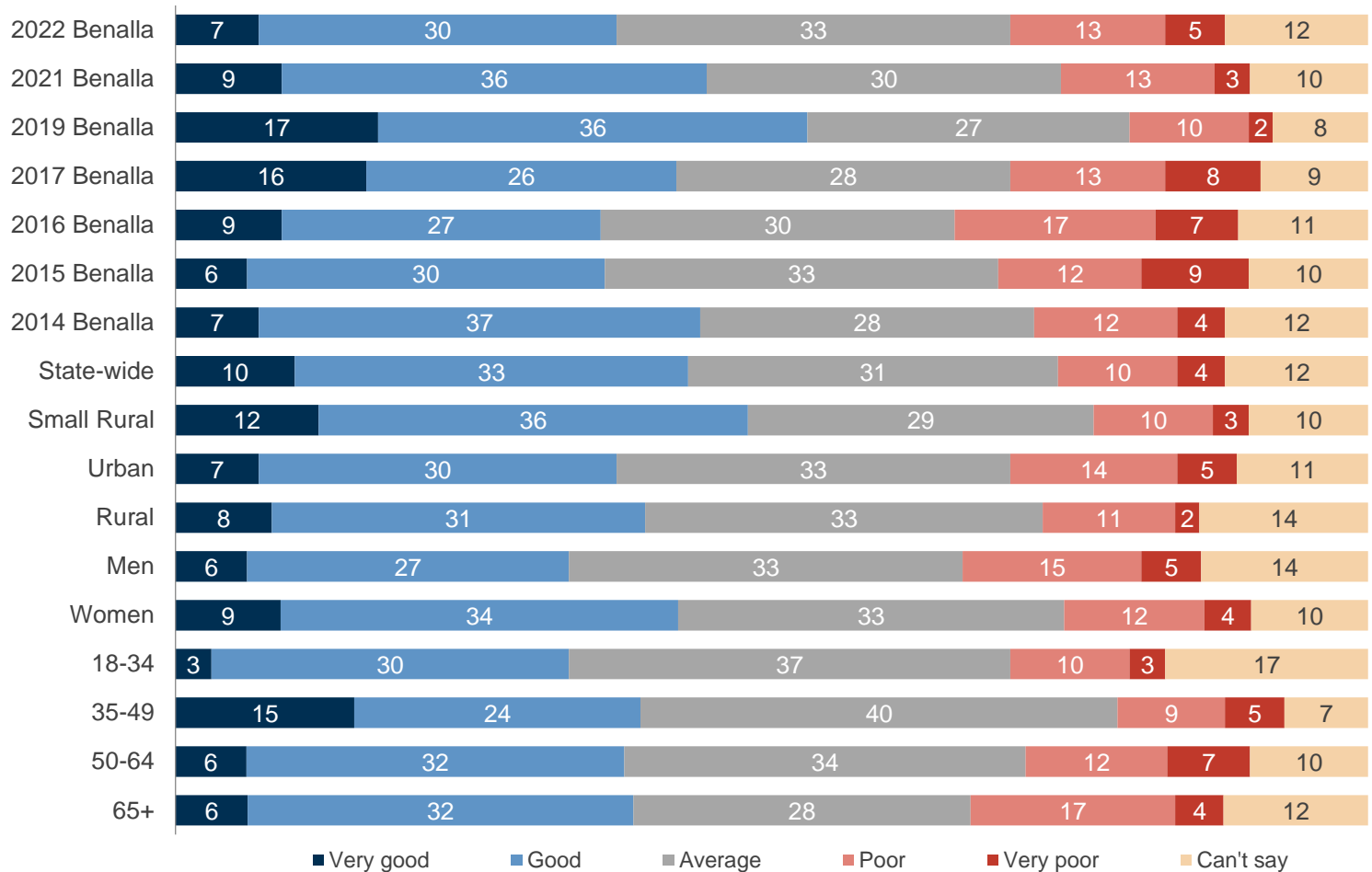
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# Tourism development performance



## 2022 tourism development performance (%)





# COVID-19 response performance



## 2022 COVID-19 response performance (index scores)

		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	69	68	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Small Rural	69▲	75	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	69▲	73	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	68	72	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	67	69	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rural	66	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Benalla	65	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Urban	64	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	62	66	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	62	71	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	53▼	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'COVID-19 response' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 30 Councils asked group: 6

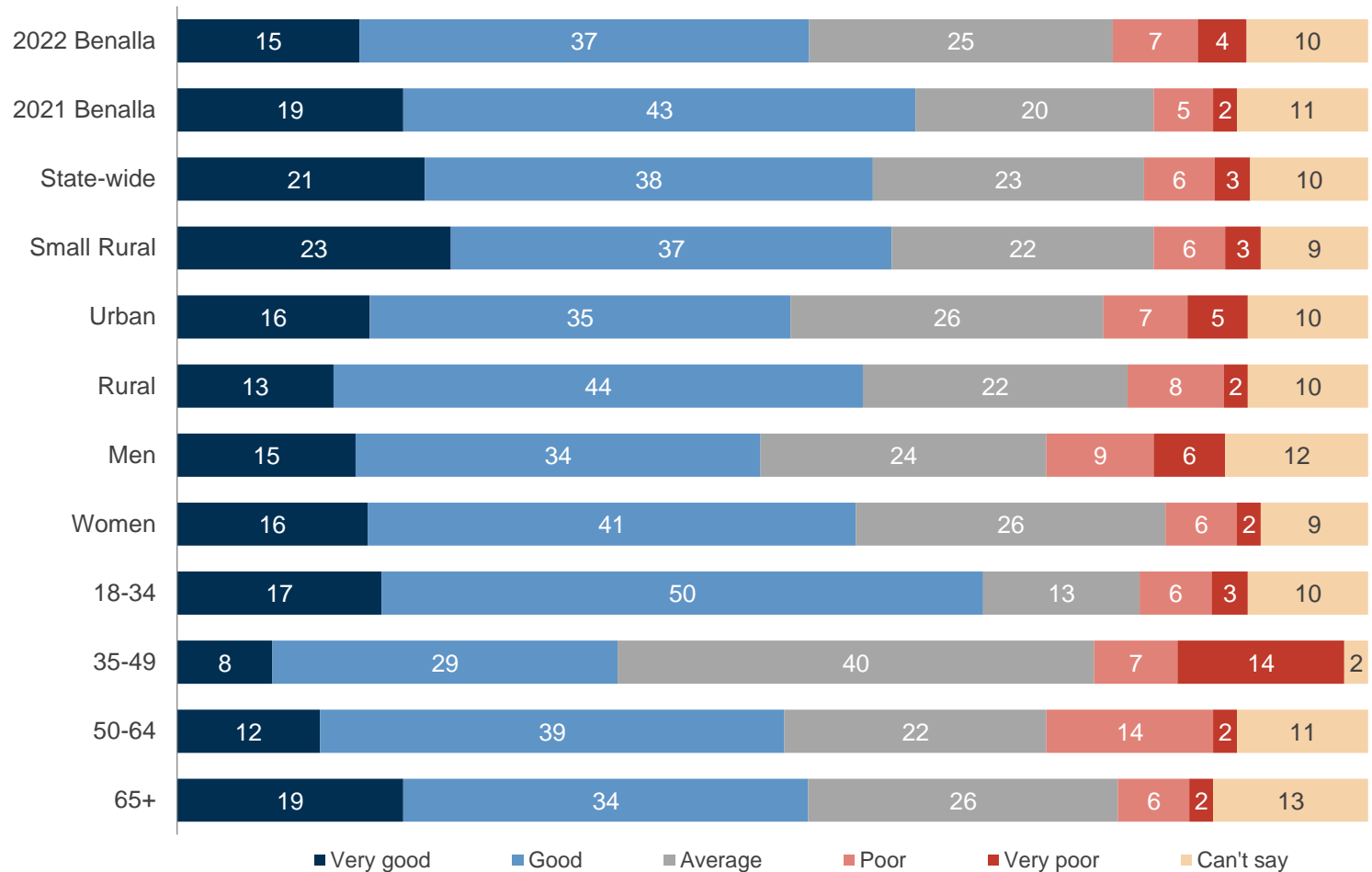
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



# COVID-19 response performance



## 2022 COVID-19 response performance (%)



A large, stylized, dark blue 'W' graphic that spans the right side of the page. Inside the 'W', there is a blurred, high-angle photograph of a crowd of people, possibly at a sporting event or festival, wearing various hats and clothing.

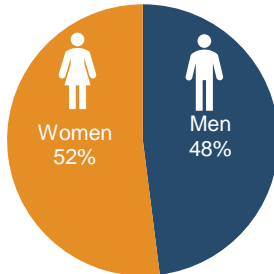
# **Detailed demographics**



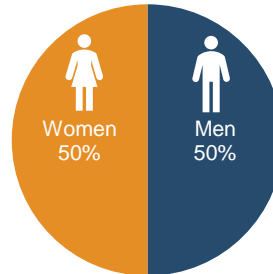
## Gender and age profile

### 2022 gender

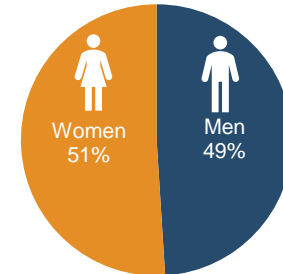
Benalla



Small Rural

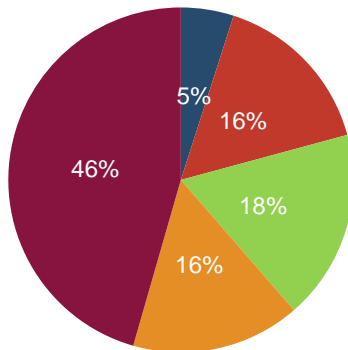


State-wide

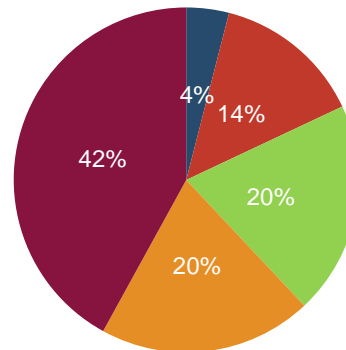


### 2022 age

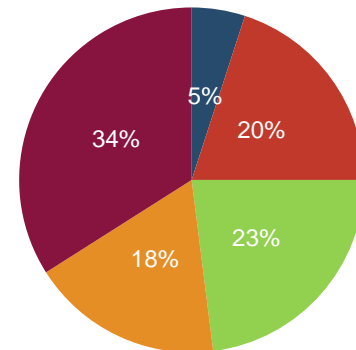
Benalla



Small Rural



State-wide



■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+


■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

S3. [Record gender] / S4. To which of the following age groups do you belong?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked State-wide: 67 Councils asked group: 19

Please note that for the reason of simplifying reporting, interlocking age and gender reporting has not been included in this report. Interlocking age and gender analysis is still available in the dashboard and data tables provided alongside this report.





# **Appendix A: Index scores, margins of error and significant differences**



## Appendix A: Index Scores

### Index Scores

Many questions ask respondents to rate council performance on a five-point scale, for example, from 'very good' to 'very poor', with 'can't say' also a possible response category. To facilitate ease of reporting and comparison of results over time, starting from the 2012 survey and measured against the state-wide result and the council group, an 'Index Score' has been calculated for such measures.

The Index Score is calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale), with 'can't say' responses excluded from the analysis. The '% RESULT' for each scale category is multiplied by the 'INDEX FACTOR'. This produces an 'INDEX VALUE' for each category, which are then summed to produce the 'INDEX SCORE', equating to '60' in the following example.

Similarly, an Index Score has been calculated for the Core question 'Performance direction in the last 12 months', based on the following scale for each performance measure category, with 'Can't say' responses excluded from the calculation.

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Very good	9%	100	9
Good	40%	75	30
Average	37%	50	19
Poor	9%	25	2
Very poor	4%	0	0
Can't say	1%	--	INDEX SCORE 60

SCALE CATEGORIES	% RESULT	INDEX FACTOR	INDEX VALUE
Improved	36%	100	36
Stayed the same	40%	50	20
Deteriorated	23%	0	0
Can't say	1%	--	INDEX SCORE 56



## Appendix A: Margins of error

The sample size for the 2022 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Benalla Rural City Council was n=400. Unless otherwise noted, this is the total sample base for all reported charts and tables.

The maximum margin of error on a sample of approximately n=400 interviews is +/-4.8% at the 95% confidence level for results around 50%. Margins of error will be larger for any sub-samples. As an example, a result of 50% can be read confidently as falling midway in the range 45.2% - 54.8%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 11,400 people aged 18 years or over for Benalla Rural City Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
<b>Benalla Rural City Council</b>	400	400	+/-4.8
<b>Men</b>	198	193	+/-6.9
<b>Women</b>	202	207	+/-6.9
<b>Urban</b>	298	302	+/-5.6
<b>Rural</b>	102	98	+/-9.7
<b>18-34 years</b>	30	82	+/-18.2
<b>35-49 years</b>	42	73	+/-15.3
<b>50-64 years</b>	84	63	+/-10.7
<b>65+ years</b>	244	183	+/-6.2



## Appendix A: Significant difference reporting notation

Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing green (▲) and downward directing red arrows (▼).

Significance when noted indicates a significantly higher or lower result for the analysis group in comparison to the 'Total' result for the council for that survey question for that year. Therefore in the example below:

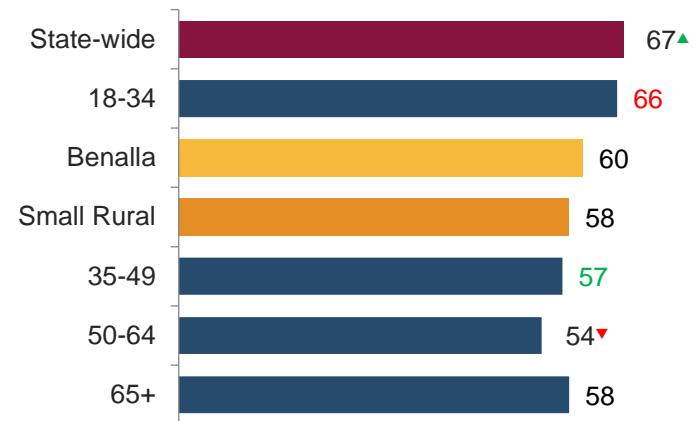
- ▲ The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- ▼ The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2021.

Therefore in the example below:

- The result among 35-49 year olds in the council is **significantly higher** than the result achieved among this group in 2021.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is **significantly lower** than the result achieved among this group in 2021.

**2022 overall performance (index scores)  
(example extract only)**





## Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation

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The test applied to the Indexes was an Independent Mean Test, as follows:

$$Z \text{ Score} = (\$1 - \$2) / \text{Sqrt} ((\$5^2 / \$3) + (\$6^2 / \$4))$$

Where:

- \$1 = Index Score 1
- \$2 = Index Score 2
- \$3 = unweighted sample count 1
- \$4 = unweighted sample count 2
- \$5 = standard deviation 1
- \$6 = standard deviation 2

All figures can be sourced from the detailed cross tabulations.

The test was applied at the 95% confidence interval, so if the Z Score was greater than +/- 1.954 the scores are significantly different.

A large, dark blue, stylized letter 'W' graphic dominates the right side of the page. Within the negative space of the 'W', there are faint, light blue background elements: a line graph with an upward trend in the top left, a bar chart with three bars of increasing height in the bottom left, and a grid pattern in the top right.

## **Appendix B: Further project information**



## Appendix B: Further information

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Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in this section including:

- Background and objectives
- Analysis and reporting
- Glossary of terms

### Detailed survey tabulations

Detailed survey tabulations are available in supplied Excel file.

### Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2022 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

**(03) 8685 8555** or via email:

**[admin@jwsresearch.com](mailto:admin@jwsresearch.com)**



## Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling

The 2022 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2021, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 28<sup>th</sup> January – 18<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2020, n=401 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 30<sup>th</sup> January – 22<sup>nd</sup> March.
- 2019, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2018, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2015, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2014, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31<sup>st</sup> January – 11<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2013, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February – 24<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2012, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 18<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Minimum quotas of gender within age groups were applied during the fieldwork phase. Post-survey weighting was then conducted to ensure accurate representation of the age and gender profile of the Benalla Rural City Council area.

Any variation of +/-1% between individual results and net scores in this report or the detailed survey tabulations is due to rounding. In reporting, ‘—’ denotes not mentioned and ‘0%’ denotes mentioned by less than 1% of respondents. ‘Net’ scores refer to two or more response categories being combined into one category for simplicity of reporting.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years in Benalla Rural City Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Benalla Rural City Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 60% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Benalla Rural City Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=400 completed interviews were achieved in Benalla Rural City Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 27<sup>th</sup> January – 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.





## Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2022, 67 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey. For consistency of analysis and reporting across all projects, Local Government Victoria has aligned its presentation of data to use standard council groupings. Accordingly, the council reports for the community satisfaction survey provide analysis using these standard council groupings. Please note that councils participating across 2012-2022 vary slightly.

### Council Groups

Benalla Rural City Council is classified as a Small Rural council according to the following classification list:

- Metropolitan, Interface, Regional Centres, Large Rural & Small Rural.

Councils participating in the Small Rural group are:

- Alpine, Ararat, Benalla, Buloke, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Hepburn, Hindmarsh, Indigo, Loddon, Mansfield, Murrindindi, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, Queenscliffe, Strathbogie, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack.

Wherever appropriate, results for Benalla Rural City Council for this 2022 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Small Rural group and on a state-wide basis. Please note that council groupings changed for 2015, and as such comparisons to council group results before that time can not be made within the reported charts.



## Appendix B: 2012 survey revision

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The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18 years or over in local councils, whereas previously it was conducted as a 'head of household' survey.
- As part of the change to a representative resident survey, results are now weighted post survey to the known population distribution of Benalla Rural City Council according to the most recently available Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates, whereas the results were previously not weighted.
- The service responsibility area performance measures have changed significantly and the rating scale used to assess performance has also changed.

As such, the results of the 2012 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey should be considered as a benchmark. Please note that comparisons should not be made with the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2011 and prior due to the methodological and sampling changes. Comparisons in the period 2012-2022 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.



## Appendix B:

### Core, optional and tailored questions

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#### Core, optional and tailored questions

Over and above necessary geographic and demographic questions required to ensure sample representativeness, a base set of questions for the 2022 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was designated as 'Core' and therefore compulsory inclusions for all participating Councils.

These core questions comprised:

- Overall performance last 12 months (Overall performance)
- Value for money in services and infrastructure (Value for money)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Waste management

Reporting of results for these core questions can always be compared against other participating councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide. Alternatively, some questions in the 2022 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.



## Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

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### Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2022 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the State government is supplied with this State-wide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all council areas surveyed, which is available at:

<https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/our-programs/council-community-satisfaction-survey>

Tailored questions commissioned by individual councils are reported only to the commissioning council and not otherwise shared unless by express written approval of the commissioning council.



## Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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**Core questions:** Compulsory inclusion questions for all councils participating in the CSS.

**CSS:** 2022 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

**Council group:** One of five classified groups, comprising: metropolitan, interface, regional centres, large rural and small rural.

**Council group average:** The average result for all participating councils in the council group.

**Highest / lowest:** The result described is the highest or lowest result across a particular demographic sub-group e.g. men, for the specific question being reported. Reference to the result for a demographic sub-group being the highest or lowest does not imply that it is significantly higher or lower, unless this is specifically mentioned.

**Index score:** A score calculated and represented as a score out of 100 (on a 0 to 100 scale). This score is sometimes reported as a figure in brackets next to the category being described, e.g. men 50+ (60).

**Optional questions:** Questions which councils had an option to include or not.

**Percentages:** Also referred to as 'detailed results', meaning the proportion of responses, expressed as a percentage.

**Sample:** The number of completed interviews, e.g. for a council or within a demographic sub-group.

**Significantly higher / lower:** The result described is significantly higher or lower than the comparison result based on a statistical significance test at the 95% confidence limit. If the result referenced is statistically higher or lower then this will be specifically mentioned, however not all significantly higher or lower results are referenced in summary reporting.

**State-wide average:** The average result for all participating councils in the State.

**Tailored questions:** Individual questions tailored by and only reported to the commissioning council.

**Weighting:** Weighting factors are applied to the sample for each council based on available age and gender proportions from ABS census information to ensure reported results are proportionate to the actual population of the council, rather than the achieved survey sample.

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