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| Data quality statement |
| Victorian public health and wellbeing outcomes dashboard |
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# Summary information

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| Date  | When the information asset was made available for use. | Public release: Jan 2024 |
| Governance | The Custodian title and branch. | Asset owner: Executive Director, Policy and ProgramsData custodians: Multiple – for details see Victorian public health and wellbeing (VPHW) outcomes framework data dictionaryNote: The datasets underlying the aggregate estimates in the data asset are owned by a range of internal and external data custodians. The data asset owner does not own any of the datasets in the data asset. |
| Description | Brief description of the information asset, the purpose for which it was originally collected/created and an overview of anything that may have impacted its quality. | The outcomes dashboard supports reporting against the VPHW outcomes framework. The outcomes dashboard tracks changes in a wide range of public health and wellbeing outcomes over time, and measures inequity by encouraging examination of data by different demographic and geographic breakdowns. The data asset brings together data from a wide range of existing data sets. Impacts to quality of the datasets relating to collection, completeness, and consistency primarily lie with the custodians of each dataset. The biggest to risk to data quality relating to the work of the project team includes timeliness/currency of the data, and accuracy of analysis. |
| Legislation and authority | The legislation and authority under which the information asset was collected or created. | The outcomes dashboard supports fulfilment of the public commitment to report against the VPHW outcomes framework in the third year of every four-year planning cycle. It also supports several provisions of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008:* The development of VPHW and Municipal public health and wellbeing plans require an examination of health and wellbeing data.

The role of the Secretary includes establishing and maintaining an information system that includes data on the determinants of health, and the health status of Victorians (s17). |
| Scope and coverage | * About whom, or what was the data collected, for example the target audience, population, or event.
* What the information asset is intended to represent, what it covers or does not cover.
* Who the information asset is intended for.
* Original purpose for collecting the data.
* Geographical coverage (for example: local. state or federal level).
* Constraints or restrictions and any omissions due to privacy or commercial in confidence matters.
 | The outcomes dashboard includes only measures from the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing outcomes framework – no other measures. These measures cover a broad range of population health and wellbeing topics, spanning social, behavioural, and environmental determinants of health, as well as outcomes relating to hospitalisations, deaths, and disease. Data is representing residents of the state of Victoria only. The dashboard is intended for use by Department of Health Staff to inform policy and programs, as well as the prevention and population health sector, local government, researchers, and other interested stakeholders. The data in the dashboard includes only aggregate population level estimates, such as proportions and rates. Data has been suppressed in line with practices of the custodian (eg. numbers less than 5, or proportions with margin of error greater than 50). Where data is available, the dashboard provides data broken down by Local Government Area, and Local Public Health Unit catchments, as well as other demographic breakdowns such as sex and gender, age, cultural and linguistic diversity, level of psychological distress, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. |
| Reference period | The period for which the data was collected, including any gaps. | Data is included from 2011 onwards where appropriate to measure progress since the year of the first VPHW plan 2011-2014. Some datasets have had significant change in methodology since this time, or have experienced disruptions in collection due to the COVID-19 pandemic that limit the reporting period. These caveats have been noted in the Interpretation Warnings feature of the dashboard. |
| Frequency and timing | How often the data asset is updated, published and/or made available for use, and whether it belongs to a particular time series. | Data in the dashboard will be updated as datasets become available from the custodians, or as new datasets are added. Datasets in the outcomes dashboard are released at intervals between 1 to 4 years, and will become available at different times throughout the year. The dashboard will be updated as needed, with updates likely occurring once every two months. |
| Formats available | Available formats that the information asset is available in, such as CSV file, Excel spreadsheet, database. | The primary asset is the Power BI dashboard, accessible on a health.vic.gov webpage |
| Other notes | Other information that is important to the user of this information asset. | All data in the dashboard has been reviewed and approved by data custodians where required.  |

# Data quality description

## Accessibility – ease of access

Users can access the outcomes dashboard via the health.vic.gov webpage. The outcomes dashboard is available to all members of the public. The dashboard has been designed in line with accessibility requirements. The dashboard contains information on how to accurately interpret the population health data presented, and instructions on how to navigate the dashboard to maximise ease of access

## Accuracy – data describes reality

All data sources in the outcomes dashboard have been assessed as well established, reliable collections of population health data. Surveys are representative of the Victorian population, and administrative datasets are managed through formal data governance arrangements. Known caveats associated with each of the datasets are referenced appropriately within the dashboard.

## Coherence – internally consistent over time and with other sources

Most measures in the outcomes dashboard are calculated consistently over time. In the few cases where definitions or calculation methods have changed, these are noted in the metadata in the interpretation warnings and information icon. Where the change in how the data is captured causes a significant risk for misinterpretation of the data, the data from the years prior to the change have been removed. All metadata information is also available in the VPHW outcomes framework data dictionary.

**Completeness – includes all necessary elements or parts**

The datasets included in the outcomes dashboard are collected through a range of processes, including hospital administrative data, surveys, and notifications/registrations. For further detail on the datasets included, see the VPHW outcomes framework data dictionary.

For most datasets the collection methodology has remained consistent since 2011, allowing reliable comparisons of data over time. The project team takes advice from the data custodians about whether any changes to methodology limit the ability to present the data in time series. The Victorian population health survey underwent a significant change in methodology in 2015, disrupting the time series and removing the comparability of data before and after 2015. Any disruptions to data collection methods are noted in the data caveats or interpretation warnings in the dashboard.

Overall, the data in the outcomes dashboard has a high degree of completeness. There are a few exceptions to this:

* The COVID-19 pandemic caused disruption to collection of data (National Health Survey), and in some instances, changes to the questions asked in surveys (Victorian Population Health Survey). Therefore, in some instances the dashboard is missing measures that weren’t collected during this time, or is missing the whole year in the time series.
* Where available, data is broken down by geographical areas such as LGA. This leads to some instances where data has needed to be suppressed due to small numbers or high margins of error. This impacts a small number of measures. In instances where most of the data has been suppressed, the breakdown of the measure has been removed from the dashboard.

## Interpretability – makes sense and is understood

Details and metadata of all measures in the dashboard can be found in the Victorian Public health and wellbeing outcomes framework data dictionary. Information that is key to interpretation of each measure can be viewed by hovering your mouse over the information icon. The information icon contains information about the source of the data, how the measure was calculated, and any other relevant information (eg. subtle change of definition).

The dashboard contains interpretation guidance, with information on how to determine whether there have been significant changes in population health outcomes over time and a summary of the key features of the chart. The outcomes dashboard also includes a page explaining how suppression rules have been applied, and caveats associated with calculating the geographic and demographic breakdowns of data.

## Relevance – Meets the needs of users

The outcomes dashboard effectively reports against the Victorian public health and wellbeing outcomes framework, and accurately adheres to all specifications documented in the VPHW outcomes framework data dictionary. The outcomes dashboard encourages the accurate interpretation of the population health data and the examination of changes in population health outcomes and differences in outcomes between different groups of people. Having access to high quality population health data in the one place supports the department in the development of policy and programs, and prevention system actors with planning and reporting requirements. Feedback is collected through an online form that is available through the home page of the dashboard.

## Timeliness – the delay between the reference period and date of release

Each dataset will be requested from the data custodian as it becomes available. Depending on the dataset this will occur at intervals between 1 to 4 years (for details, see VPHW outcomes framework data dictionary). Given the nature of population health data collections, the most current data may be one or two years old due to the time required to clean, analyse, and prepare the data for release. The project team will aim to update the outcomes dashboard as soon as possible after the data is released by the custodian.

In some instances, the most current data can be up to 5 years old. This is due in part due to delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic (eg. Victorian Student Health and Wellbeing Survey), or due to lengthy data processing periods (National Causes of Death file).

# Disclaimer

This data asset is provided “as is”, without warranty to the suitability of the data for unspecified use. The burden of assessment of fitness of the data lies completely upon the user.

# Further information

For further information regarding this data quality statement please contact the Public Health division, Department of Health at prevention@health.vic.gov.au

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