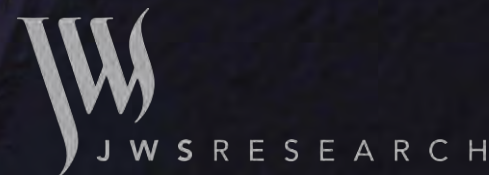




**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY
SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
2014**

RESEARCH REPORT

**COORDINATED BY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, PLANNING AND LOCAL
INFRASTRUCTURE ON BEHALF OF VICTORIAN COUNCILS**



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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to the report of results and recommendations for the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for South Gippsland Shire Council.

Each year Local Government Victoria (LGV) coordinates and auspices this State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey throughout Victorian local government areas. This coordinated approach allows for far more cost effective surveying than would be possible if councils commissioned surveys individually.

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

The main objectives of the survey are to assess the performance of South Gippsland Shire Council across a range of measures and to seek insight into ways to provide improved or more effective service delivery. The survey also provides councils with a means to fulfil some of their statutory reporting requirements as well as acting as a feedback mechanism to LGV.



SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLING

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

Survey sample matched to the South Gippsland Shire Council was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 10% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents in the Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=401 completed interviews were achieved in South Gippsland Shire Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 31 January – 11 March 2014.

The 2013 results against which 2014 results are compared involved a total of n=400 completed interviews in South Gippsland Shire Council conducted in the period of 1 February – 24 March, 2013.

The 2012 results against which results are compared involved a total of n=400 completed interviews in South Gippsland Shire Council conducted in the period of 4 May – 30 June 2012.



SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLING

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 South Gippsland Shire 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.



SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLING

Within tables and index score charts throughout this report, statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level are represented by upward directing blue 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 red indicate a significantly lower result than in 2013, for example, below the result among 18-34 year olds in the council is significantly lower than the result achieved among this group in 2013. Results shown in blue indicate a significantly higher result than in 2013, for example, below the result among 35-49 year olds is significantly higher than the result achieved among this group in 2013.

OVERALL PERFORMANCE – INDEX SCORE (EXAMPLE EXTRACT ONLY)



Note: For details on the calculations used to determine statistically significant differences, please refer to Appendix B.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Further Information

Further information about the report and explanations about the State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey can be found in [Appendix B](#), including:

- [Background and objectives](#)
- [Margins of error](#)
- [Analysis and reporting](#)
- [Glossary of terms](#)

Contacts

For further queries about the conduct and reporting of the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on (03) 8685 8555.



A satellite night view of South Africa, showing the country's coastline and major cities illuminated by city lights. The road network is visible as a dense web of white lines. The surrounding ocean is dark blue. The text "KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Perceptions of Gippsland Shire Council's **overall job performance** are fair and have not moved by more than a point or two in the last three years (index score of 50 in 2012, 48 in 2013, and 49 in 2014).
- Gippsland's overall performance ratings are 8 points lower than the average for other large rural shires and 12 points lower than the state average.
- Perceptions of **council direction** (whether performance has improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same) are slightly more negative (index score of 42 on a 100-point scale) than overall job performance, though again, perceptions are relatively unchanged on this measure since 2012. Residents are far more likely to say performance on council direction has deteriorated (25%) than improved (10%). Most, 60%, believe council direction is the same as twelve months ago.

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Like overall job performance, perceptions of council direction rate lower than the Large Rural Shires group (index score of 51) and State-wide (53) averages.
- The Council scores highest when it comes to customer service (63), though customer service scores have decreased in the past year (-5). Council rates in the middle of the index scale on community consultation (51, -3 from 2013) and advocacy (49, -2 from 2013). The most significant declines in perceptions of community consultation and advocacy occurred among Strzelecki residents.
- Residents seem to be most concerned about the maintenance of sealed roads, and 36% volunteer sealed road maintenance as the one area most in need of improvement.



KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- An approach we recommend is to further mine the survey data to better understand the profile of these over and under-performing demographic groups. This can be achieved via additional consultation and data interrogation, or self-mining the SPSS data provided or via the dashboard portal available to the council.
- Please note that the category descriptions for the coded open ended responses are summaries only. We recommend further analysis of the detailed cross tabulations and the actual verbatim responses, with a view to the responses of the key gender and age groups, especially any target groups identified.
- **A complimentary personal briefing by senior JWS Research representatives is also available to assist in providing both explanation and interpretation of the results. Please contact JWS Research on 03 8685 8555.**

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**Highest result in
2014**

- Customer service

**Lowest result in
2014**

- Overall council direction

**Most favourably
disposed towards
Council**

- 18-34 year-olds

**Least favourably
disposed towards
Council**

- 35-49 year-olds



A satellite night view of the United Kingdom, showing the dense network of roads and city lights. The text "SUMMARY OF FINDINGS" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

2014 SUMMARY OF CORE MEASURES INDEX SCORE RESULTS

Performance Measures	South Gippsland 2012	South Gippsland 2013	South Gippsland 2014	Large Rural Shires 2014	State-wide 2014
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	50	48	49	57	61
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (Community consultation and engagement)	53	54	51	55	57
ADVOCACY (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	51	51	49	54	56
CUSTOMER SERVICE	65	68	63	68	72
OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION	43	42	42	51	53

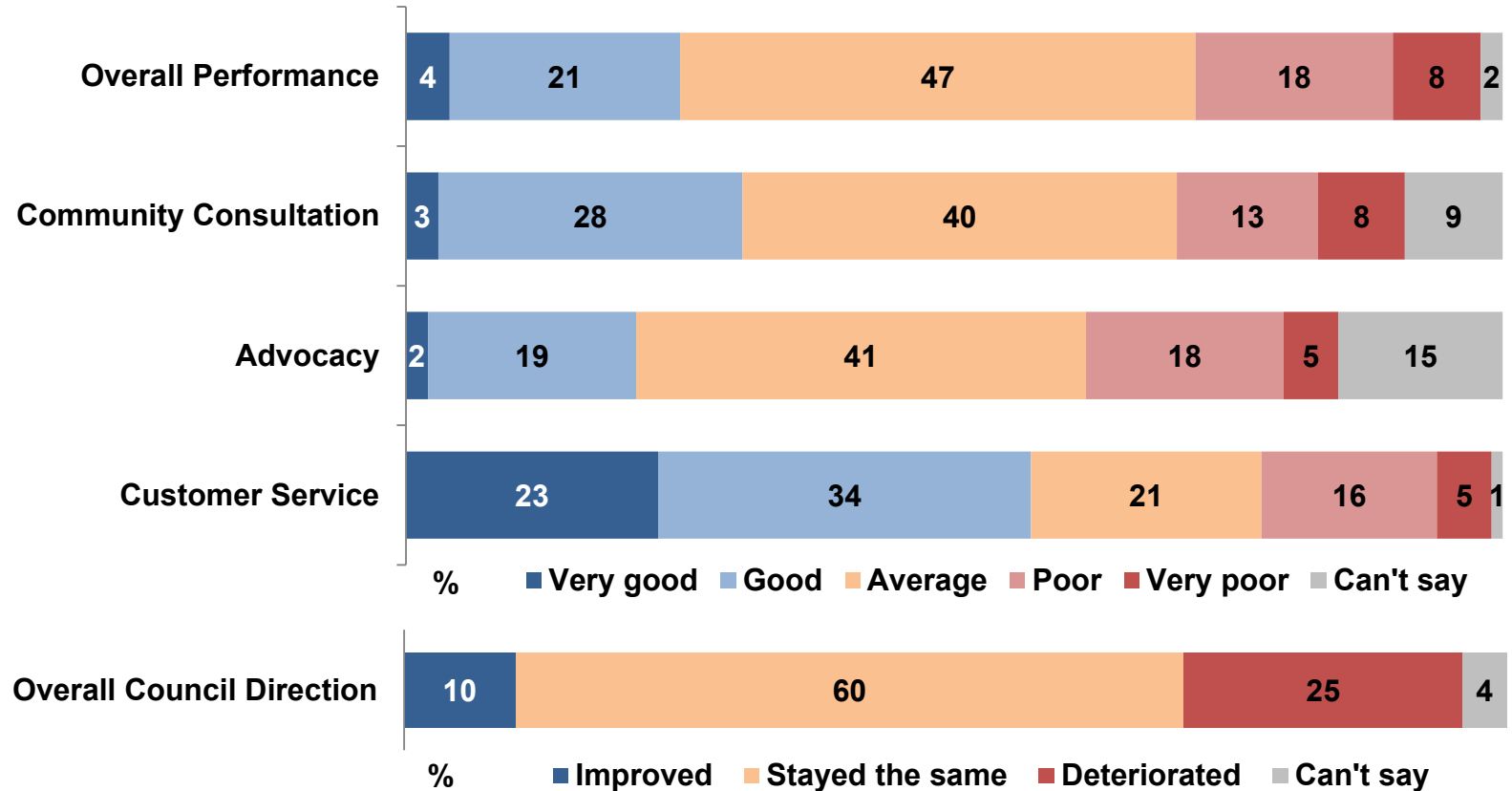


2014 SUMMARY OF CORE MEASURES DETAILED ANALYSIS

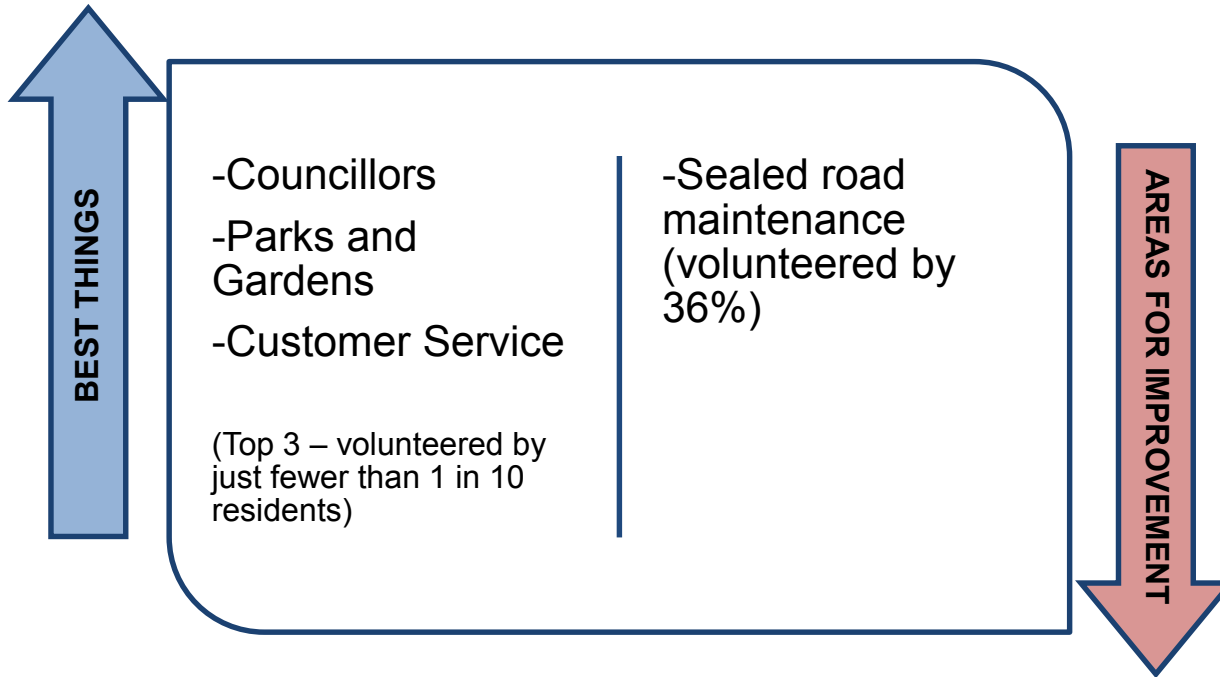
Performance Measures	South Gipp 2014	vs. South Gipp 2013	vs. Large Rural Shires 2014	vs. State-wide 2014	Highest score amongst	Lowest score amongst
OVERALL PERFORMANCE	49	1 points higher	8 points lower	12 points lower	18-34 year olds	35-49 year olds
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (Community consultation and engagement)	51	3 points lower	4 points lower	6 points lower	18-34 year olds	35-49 year olds
ADVOCACY (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	49	2 points lower	5 points lower	7 points lower	18-34 year olds	35-49 year olds
CUSTOMER SERVICE	63	5 points lower	5 points lower	9 points lower	Women	Men
OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION	42	Equal	9 points lower	11 points lower	18-34 year olds	35-49 year olds



2014 SUMMARY OF KEY COMMUNITY SATISFACTION PERCENTAGE RESULTS



POSITIVES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT SUMMARY



- Residents offer a diffuse list of positives and drawbacks to their community. Individual community benefits fail to garner significant consensus (the top benefit is named by 9% of residents), whereas more than one-third of residents volunteer concerns about sealed road maintenance.



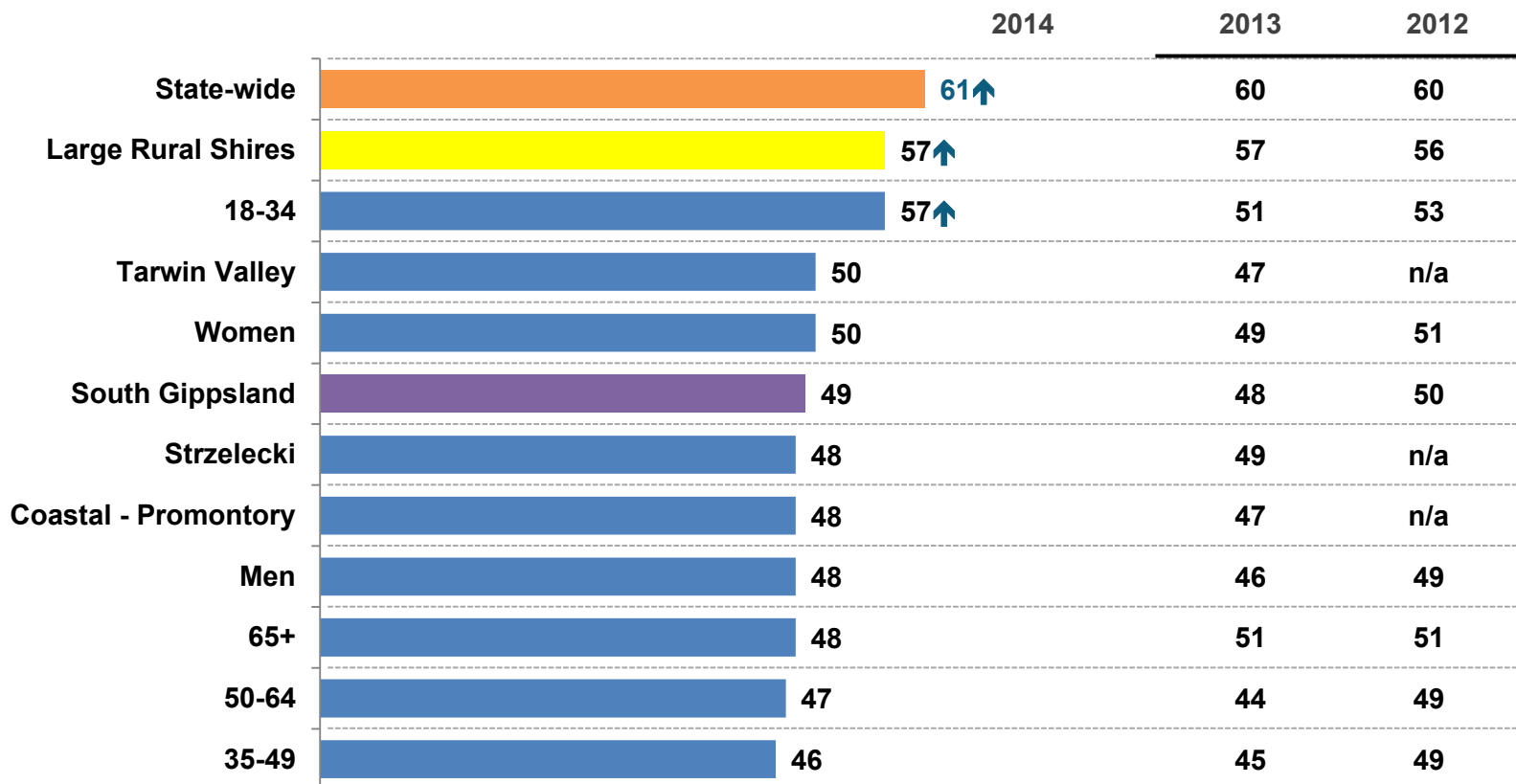
A satellite night view of South America, showing city lights and a road network overlay. The text "DETAILED FINDINGS" is overlaid in white on the left side of the map.

DETAILED FINDINGS

A satellite night view of South Africa, showing the country's coastline and interior. The land is dark brown, and the sea is dark blue. A dense network of white lines represents roads and highways, with several bright yellow and white spots indicating major cities and urban areas. The text "KEY CORE MEASURE" and "OVERALL PERFORMANCE" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font on the left side of the image.

KEY CORE MEASURE
OVERALL PERFORMANCE

OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



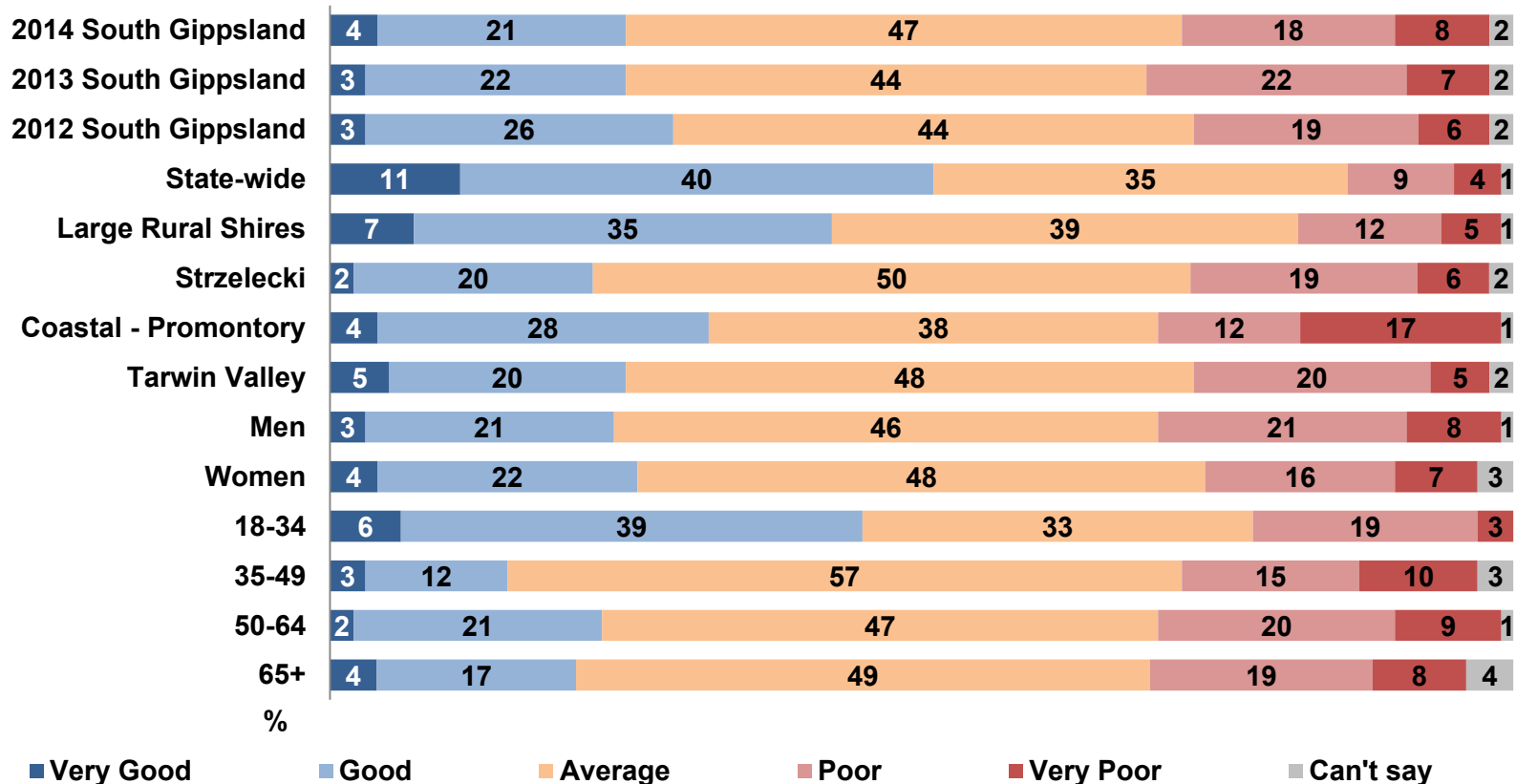
Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of South Gippsland Shire Council, not just on one or two issues, BUT OVERALL across all responsibility areas? Has it been very good, good, average, poor or very poor?

Base: All respondents Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



J W S R E S E A R C H

OVERALL PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of South Gippsland Shire 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 statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



J W S R E S E A R C H

21

An aerial night photograph of a city, likely San Francisco, showing a dense network of roads and buildings illuminated by streetlights and city lights. The lights create a complex web of yellow and white lines against the dark landscape. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

KEY CORE MEASURE
CUSTOMER SERVICE

CONTACT LAST 12 MONTHS SUMMARY

Overall contact with South Gippsland Shire Council

- 61%, up 6 points on 2013

Most contact with South Gippsland Shire Council

- Aged 35-49 years

Least contact with South Gippsland Shire Council

- Aged 65+ years

Customer Service rating

- Index score of 63, down 5 points on 2013

Most satisfied with Customer Service

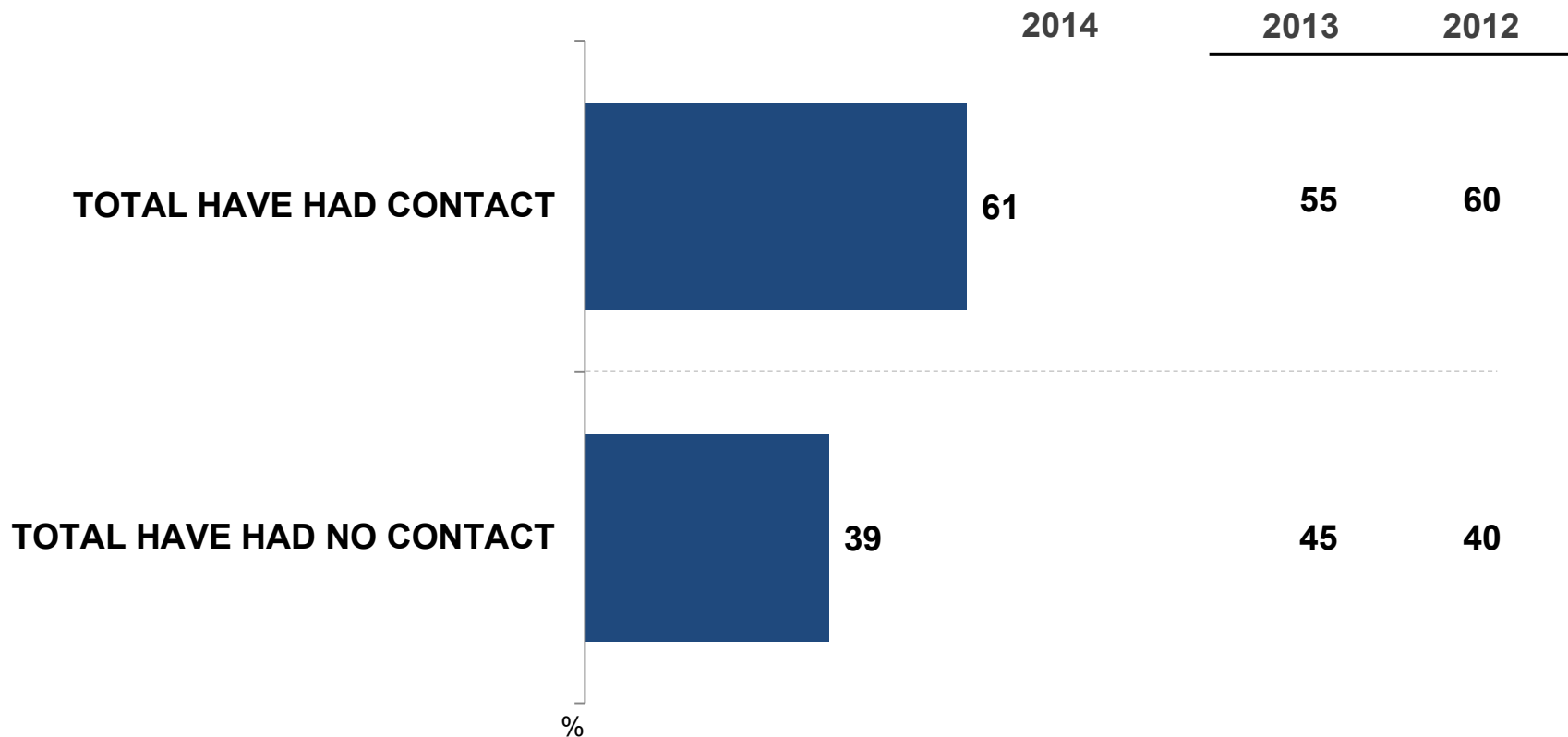
- Women

Least satisfied with Customer Service

- Men



2014 CONTACT WITH COUNCIL LAST 12 MONTHS



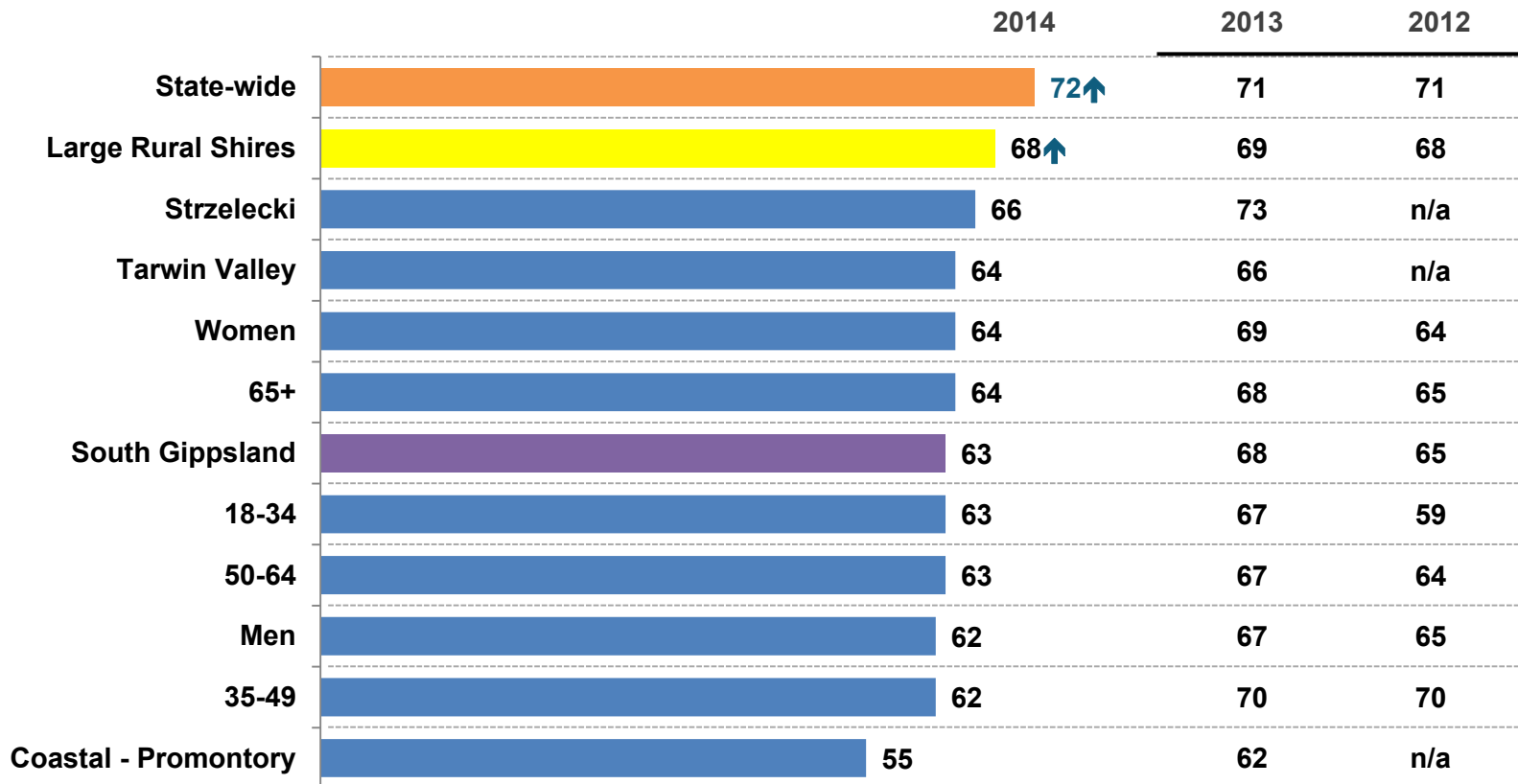
Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with South Gippsland Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 54 Councils asked group: 16



J W S R E S E A R C H

2014 CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE INDEX SCORES



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate South Gippsland Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do NOT mean ACTUAL OUTCOME but rather the actual service that was received.

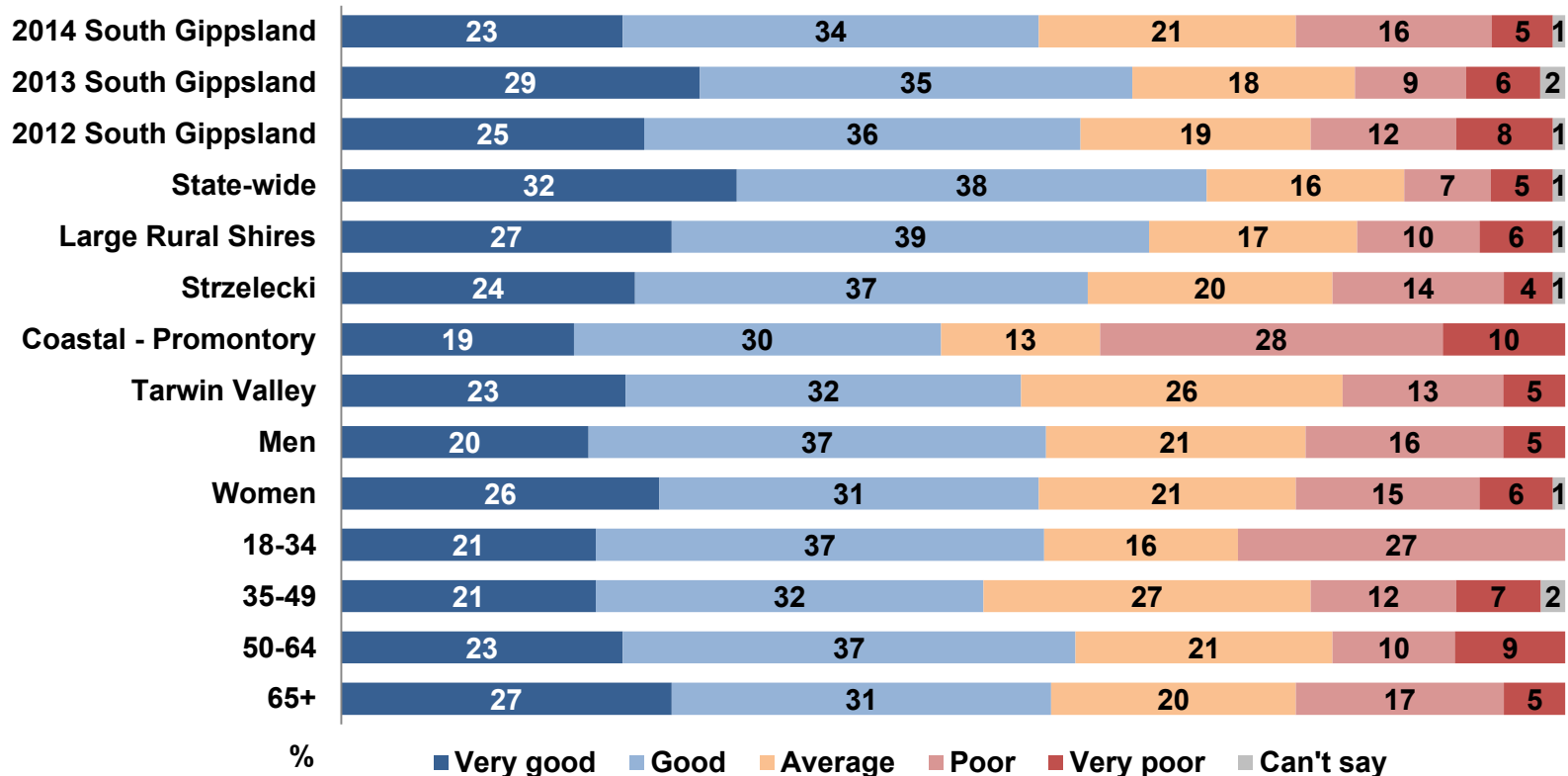
Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.

Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



J W S R E S E A R C H

2014 CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate South Gippsland Shire Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do NOT mean 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 statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



J W S R E S E A R C H

An aerial night photograph of a city, likely Sydney, Australia, showing a dense network of roads and buildings illuminated by streetlights and city lights. The lights create a bright, glowing pattern against the dark landscape and the surrounding dark blue water of the harbor. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**KEY CORE MEASURE
COUNCIL DIRECTION INDICATORS**

COUNCIL DIRECTION SUMMARY

Council Direction over last 12 months

- 60% stayed about the same, equal points on 2013
- 10% improved, equal points on 2013
- 25% deteriorated, down 1 point on 2013

Most satisfied with Council Direction

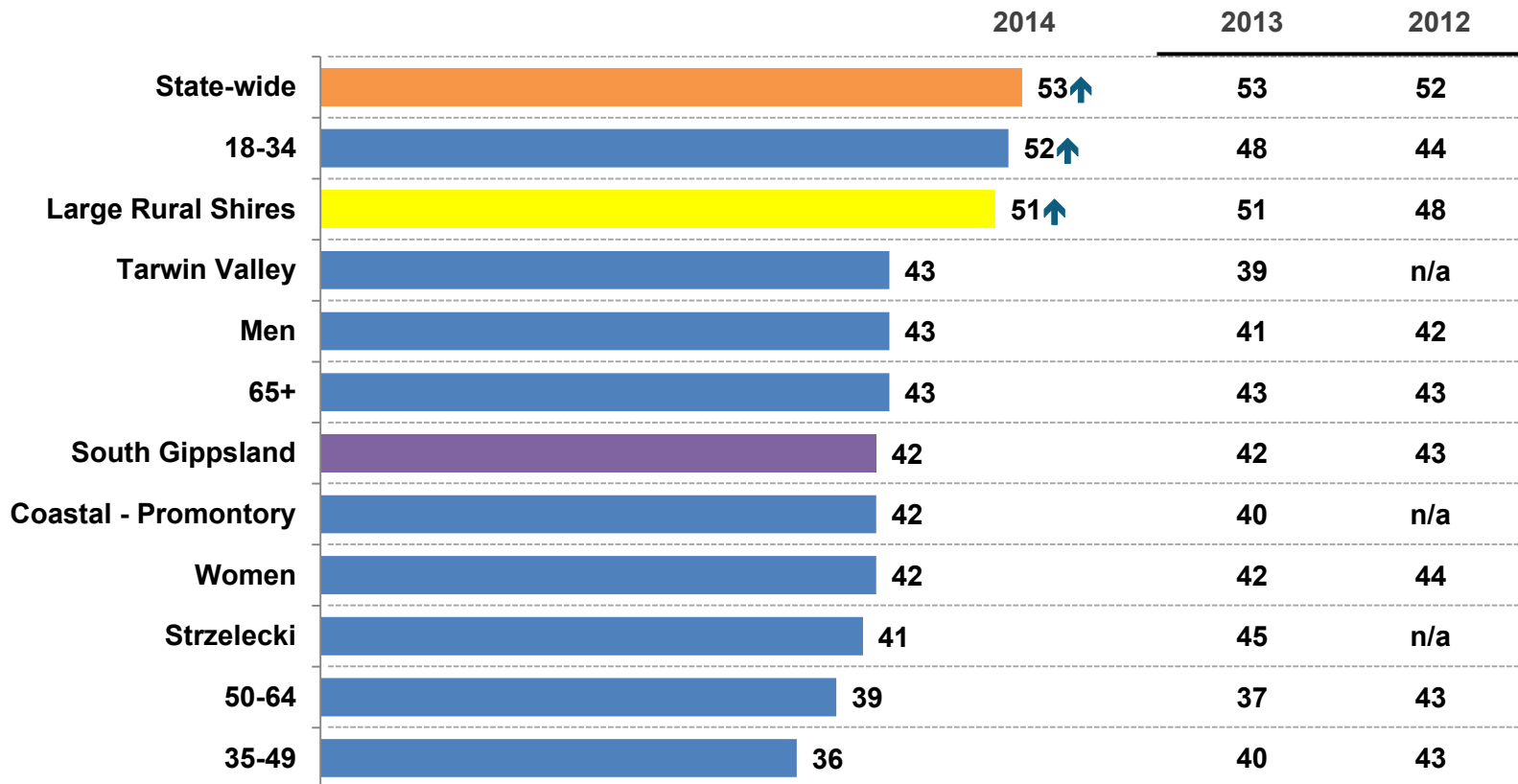
- Aged 18-34 years

Least satisfied with Council Direction

- Aged 35-49 years



2014 OVERALL SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL DIRECTION LAST 12 MONTHS INDEX SCORES



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of South Gippsland Shire Council's overall performance?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17

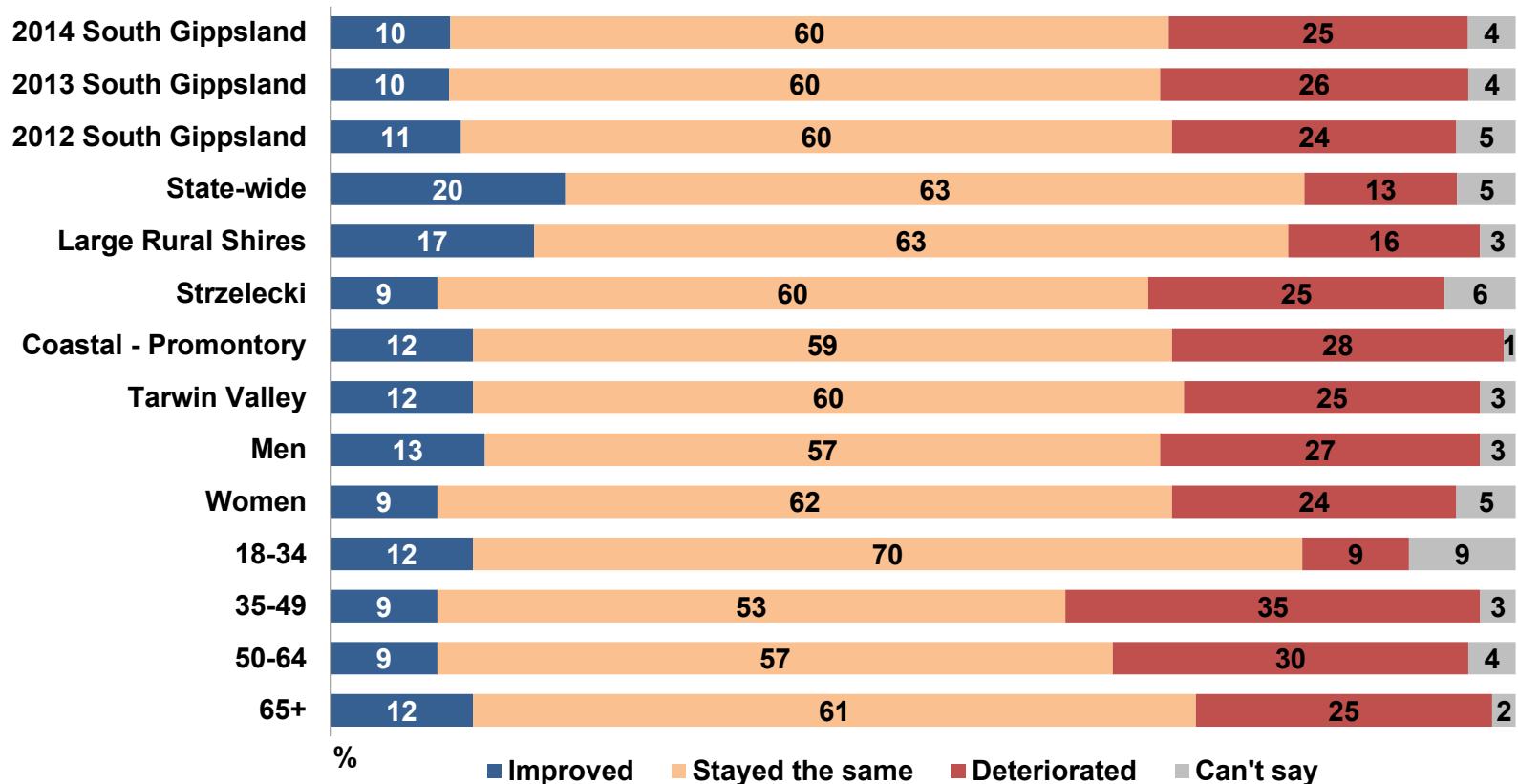


J W S R E S E A R C H

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2014 OVERALL COUNCIL DIRECTION LAST 12 MONTHS

DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of South Gippsland Shire Council's overall performance?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



J W S R E S E A R C H

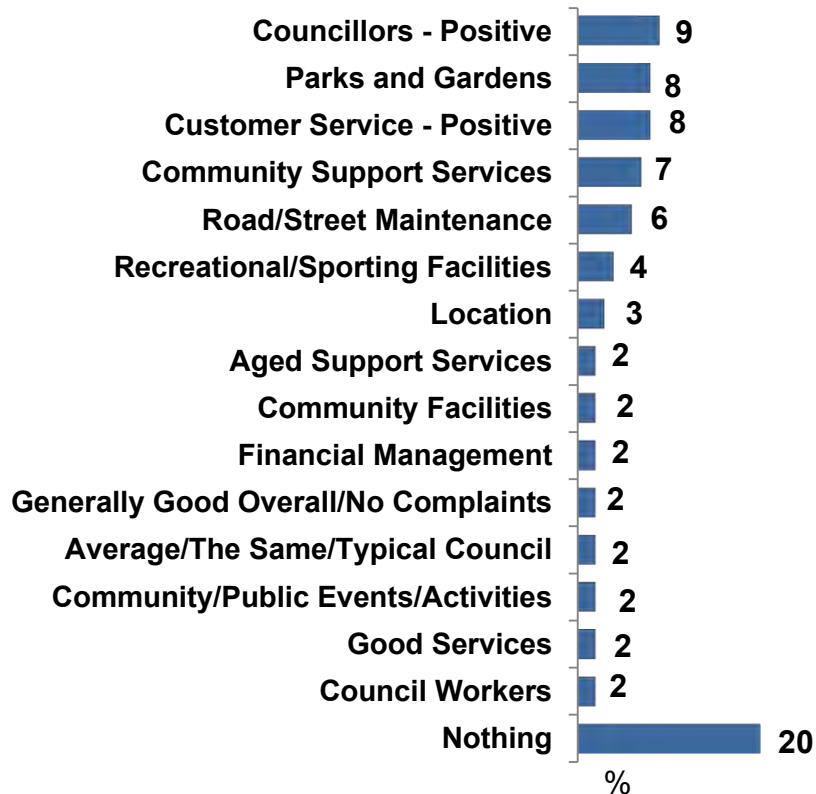
30

A satellite night view of South America, showing the continent illuminated by city lights and a dense network of roads. The lights are concentrated in major urban centers and along coastal areas. The surrounding oceans are dark, and the text 'POSITIVES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT' is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

**POSITIVES AND AREAS FOR
IMPROVEMENT**

2014 BEST THINGS ABOUT COUNCIL

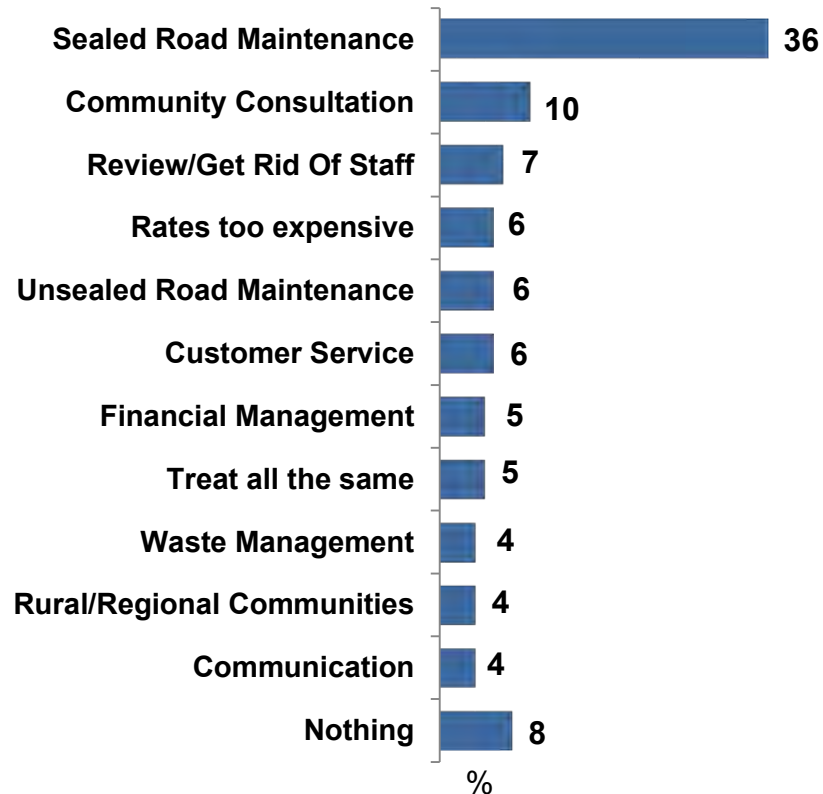
DETAILED PERCENTAGES (TOP ISSUES OR SERVICES)



Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about South Gippsland Shire Council? It could be about any of the issues or services we have covered in this survey or it could be about something else altogether?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 28 Councils asked group: 8



2014 COUNCIL NEEDS TO IMPROVE DETAILED PERCENTAGES (TOP ISSUES OR SERVICES)



Q17. What does South Gippsland Shire Council MOST need to do to improve its performance?
Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 35 Councils asked group: 10



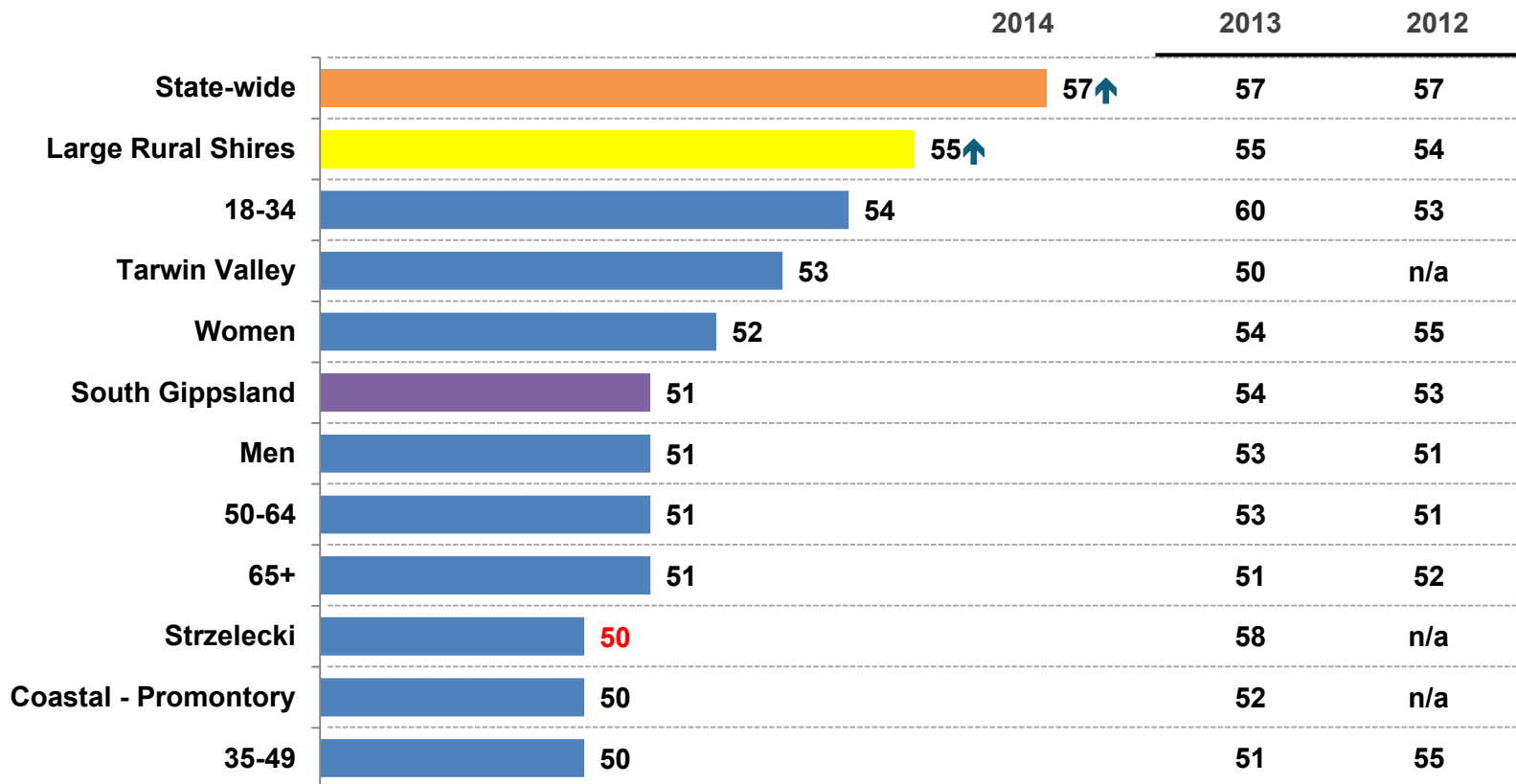
J W S R E S E A R C H

33

A satellite night view of the United States, showing a dense network of glowing yellow and white lines that represent individual service areas. The lines are most concentrated in the eastern half of the country and around major metropolitan areas. The text "INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AREAS" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AREAS

2014 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has South Gippsland Shire Council performed on 'Community Consultation and Engagement' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17

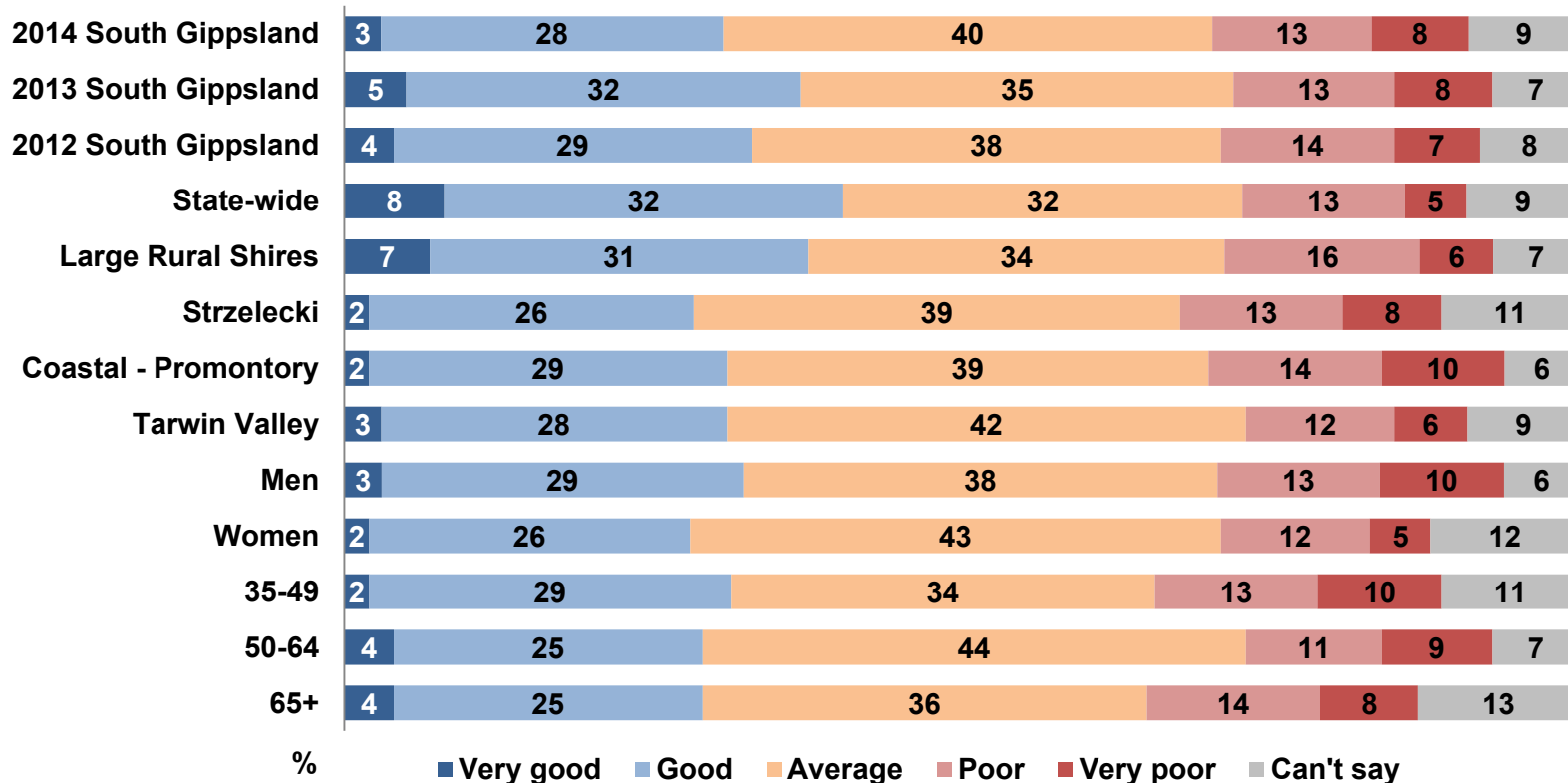


J W S R E S E A R C H

35

Note: please see page 6 for explanation about significant differences

2014 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



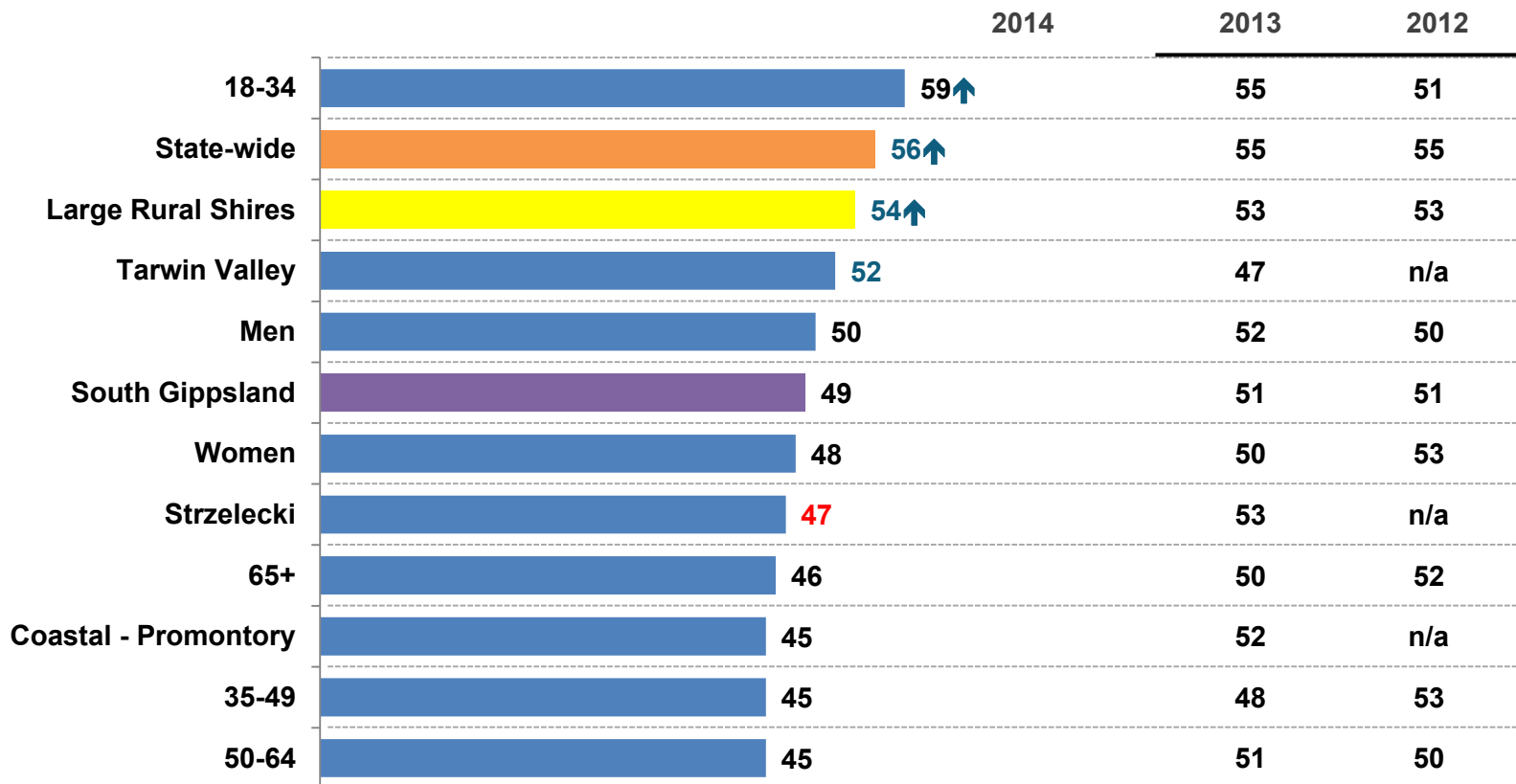
Q2. How has South Gippsland Shire Council performed on 'Community Consultation and Engagement' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



J W S R E S E A R C H

2014 LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE INDEX SCORES



Q2. How has South Gippsland Shire Council performed on 'Lobbying on Behalf of the Community' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17

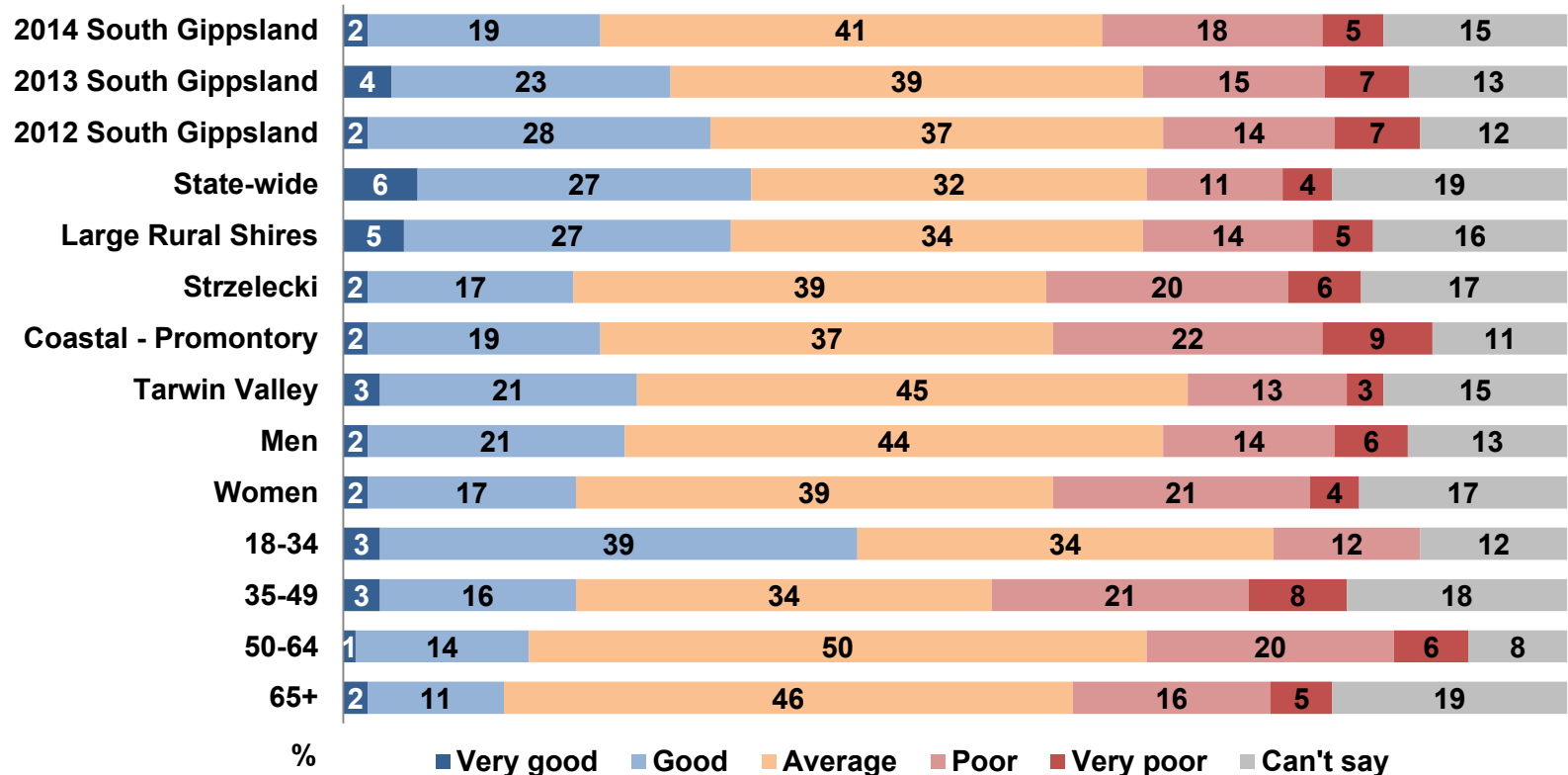


J W S R E S E A R C H

37

Note: please see page 6 for explanation about significant differences

2014 LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE DETAILED PERCENTAGES



Q2. How has South Gippsland Shire Council performed on 'Lobbying on Behalf of the Community' over the last 12 months?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked statewide: 67 Councils asked group: 17



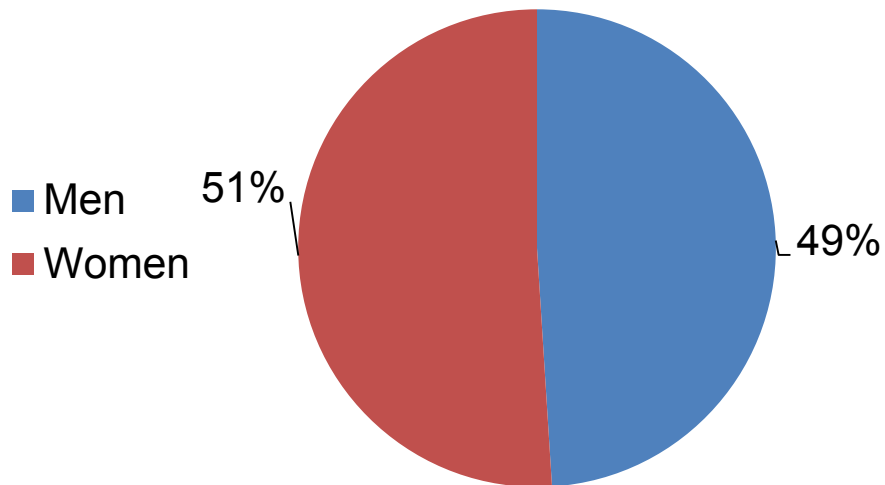
J W S R E S E A R C H

A satellite night view of South America, showing the continent's outline against the dark ocean. The landmass is illuminated by a dense network of glowing yellow and white lines representing roads and city lights. Major urban centers like Lima, Bogotá, and São Paulo are particularly bright. The text "DETAILED DEMOGRAPHICS" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the continent.

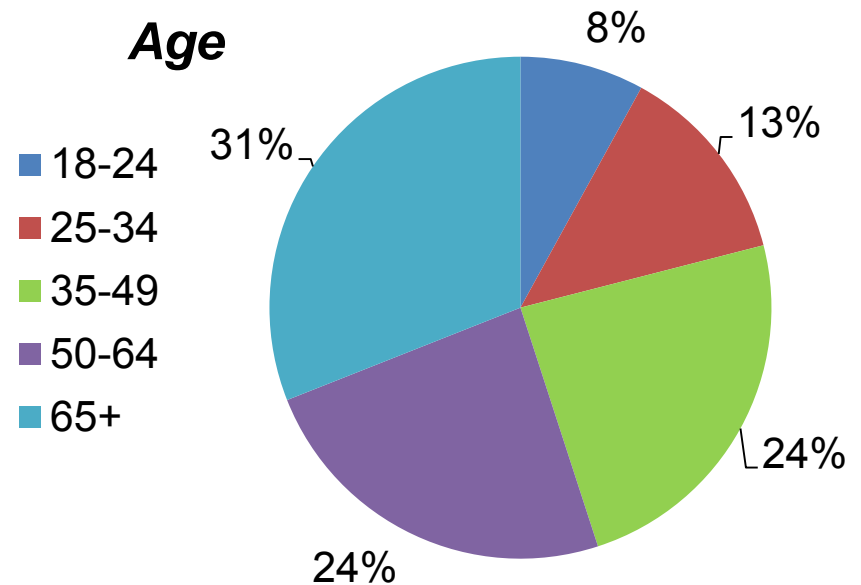
DETAILED DEMOGRAPHICS

2014 GENDER AND AGE

Gender




Age



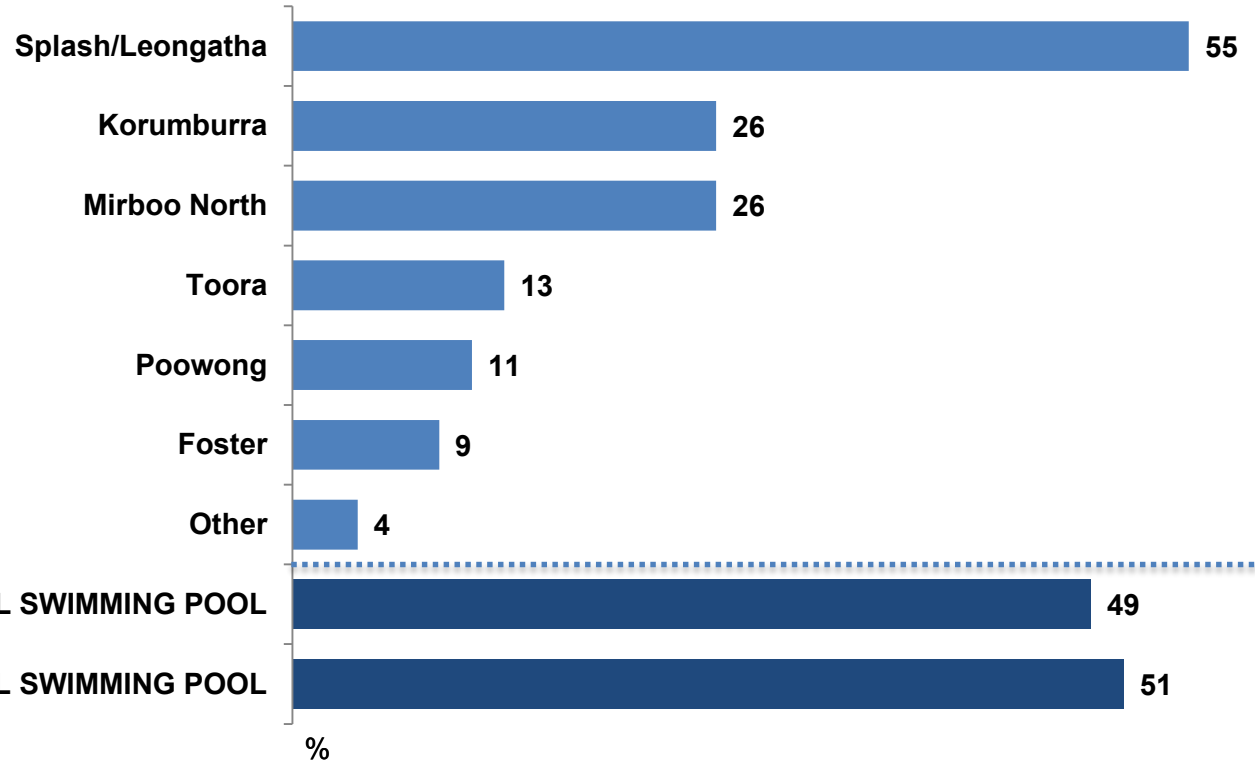
Please note that for the reason of simplifying reporting, interlocking age and gender reporting has not been included in this report. Interlocking age and gender analysis is still available in the dashboard and data tables provided alongside this report.



A satellite night view of South America, showing the continent's outline against the dark blue ocean. The landmass is illuminated by a dense network of glowing yellow and white lines representing roads and city lights. Major urban centers like Lima, Bogotá, and São Paulo are particularly bright. The text "TAILORED QUESTIONS" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font on the left side of the continent.

TAILORED QUESTIONS

USE AND EXPERIENCE OF COUNCIL SWIMMING POOLS



SG2a. In the past 12 months, have you or any member of your household used or experienced any of the Swimming Pools provided by South Gippsland Shire Council?

Base: All respondents.

SG2b. And can you tell me which of Council's Swimming Pools you, or members of your family, have visited in the past 12 months?

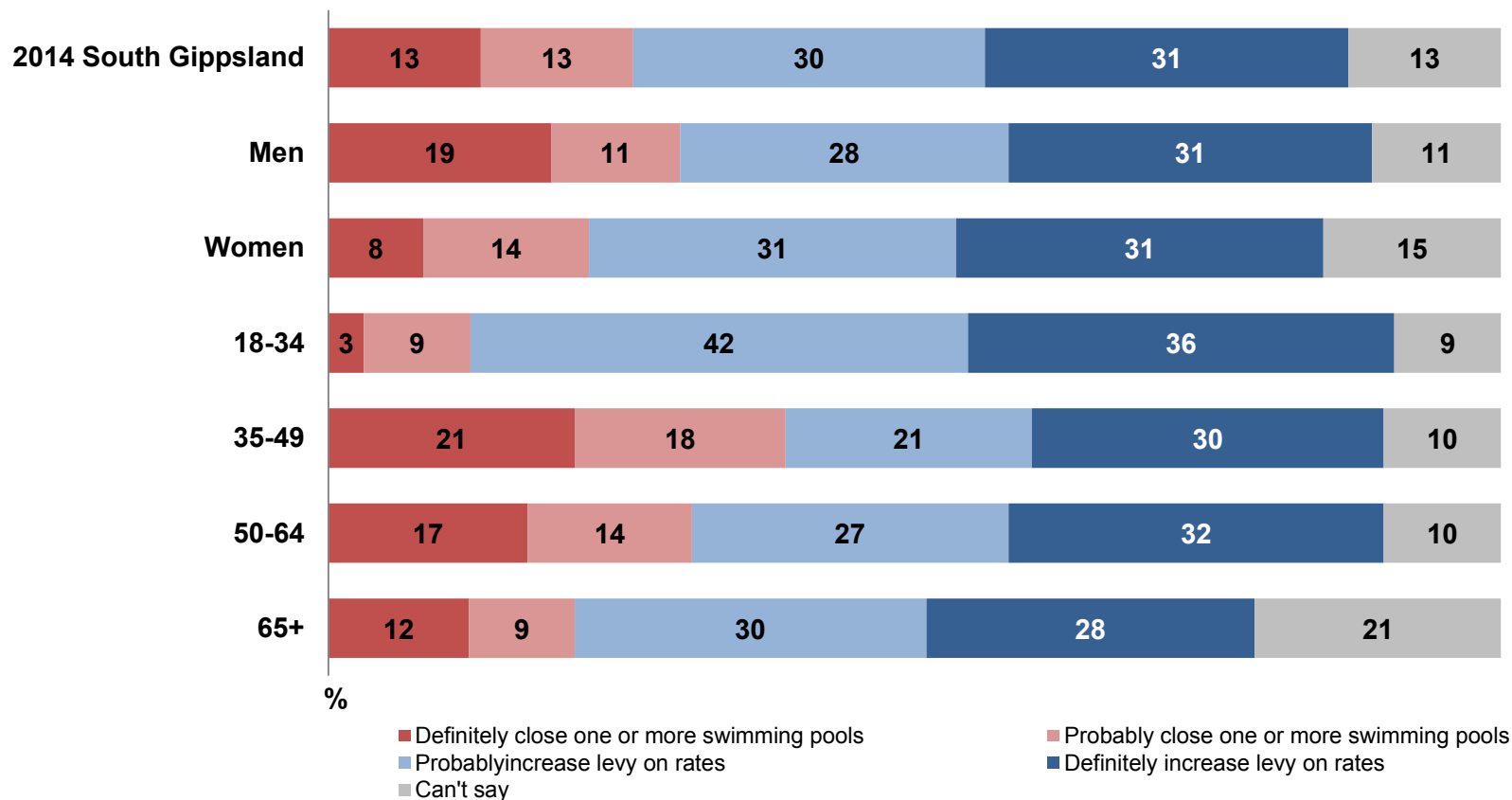
Base: All respondents/members of households who have experienced the swimming pools.



J W S R E S E A R C H

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WILLINGNESS TO INCUR RATE RISE VS CLOSING SWIMMING POOLS



SG2c. If you had to choose between the closure of one or more swimming pools OR pay an increased levy in your rates to retain them all, would you prefer to pay the levy for their retention?
 Base: All respondents.





**APPENDIX A:
DETAILED SURVEY TABULATIONS**

AVAILABLE IN SUPPLIED EXCEL FILE

A satellite night view of the United States, showing the glowing patterns of city lights and road networks across the continent. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**APPENDIX B:
FURTHER PROJECT INFORMATION**

APPENDIX B:

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Please note that as a result of feedback from extensive consultations with councils, in 2012 there were necessary and significant changes to the methodology and content of the survey, including:

- 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 South Gippsland Shire 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 2012-2014 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.**



APPENDIX B: MARGINS OF ERROR

The sample size for the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for South Gippsland Shire Council was n=401. 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 401 interviews is +/-4.9% 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 45.1% - 54.9%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 22,000 people aged 18 years or over for South Gippsland Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
South Gippsland Shire Council	401	400	+/-4.9
Men	186	197	+/-7.2
Women	215	203	+/-6.7
18-34 years	33	84	+/-17.3
35-49 years	66	95	+/-12.1
50-64 years	132	96	+/-8.5
65+ years	170	125	+/-7.5



APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

The Councils in the Large Rural Shires group are: Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Campaspe, Colac Otway, Corangamite, East Gippsland, Glenelg, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Moira, Moorabool, Moyne, South Gippsland, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Swan Hill and Wellington.

All participating Councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DTPLI website. In 2014, 67 of the 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in this survey.

Please note that the Councils that participated in 2012 and 2013 vary slightly to those participating in 2014.



APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Council Groups

Wherever appropriate, results for South Gippsland Shire Council for this 2014 Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other Councils in the Large Rural Shires group and on a State-wide basis. South Gippsland Shire Council is self-classified as a Large Rural Shires council according to the following classification list:

- Inner metropolitan councils
- Outer metropolitan councils
- Rural cities and regional centres
- Large rural shires
- Small rural shires

APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

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 benchmark 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.

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



APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

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



APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Index Scores Significant Difference Calculation

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

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

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.

APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

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 2014 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)
- Lobbying on behalf of community (Advocacy)
- Community consultation and engagement (Consultation)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)

APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Reporting of results for these Core questions can always be compared against other councils in the council group and against all participating councils state-wide.

Alternatively, some questions in the 2014 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey were optional. If comparisons for South Gippsland Shire Council for some questions cannot be made against all other councils in the Large Rural Shires group and/or all councils on a state-wide basis, this is noted for those results by a footnote of the number of councils the comparison is made against.

Councils also had the ability to ask tailored questions specific only to their council.

APPENDIX B: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Reporting

Every Council that participated in the 2014 State-wide Local Government Services Survey has received a customised report. In addition, the State Government is supplied with a Statewide summary report of the aggregate results of 'Core' and 'Optional' questions asked across all Council areas surveyed.

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.

The overall State-wide Local Government Services Report is available at www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au.



APPENDIX B:

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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

CSS: 2014 Victorian Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council group: One of five self-classified groups, comprising: inner metropolitan councils, outer metropolitan councils, rural cities and regional centres, large rural shires and small rural shires.

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.

