



2019 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey

Surf Coast Shire Council

Coordinated by the Department of
Environment, Land, Water and Planning
on behalf of Victorian councils

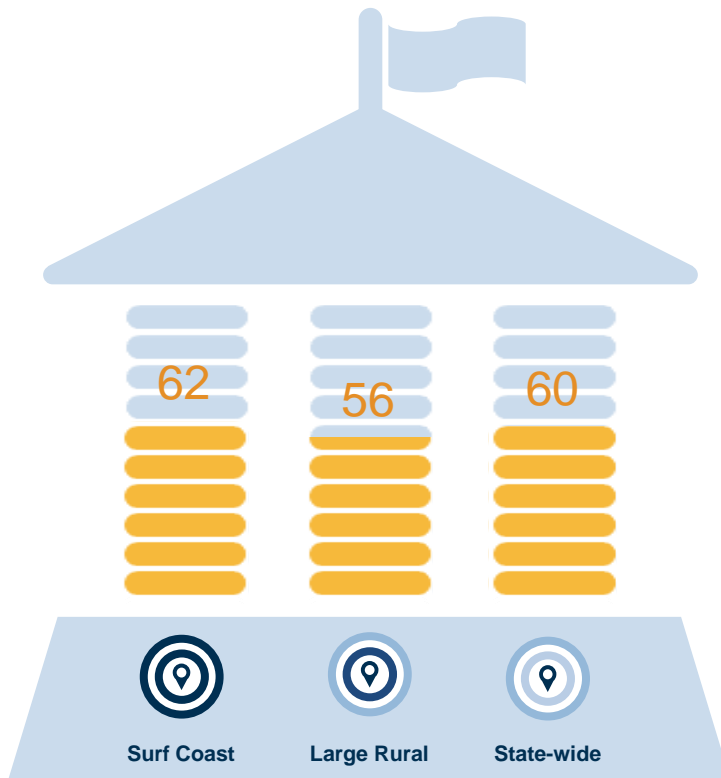


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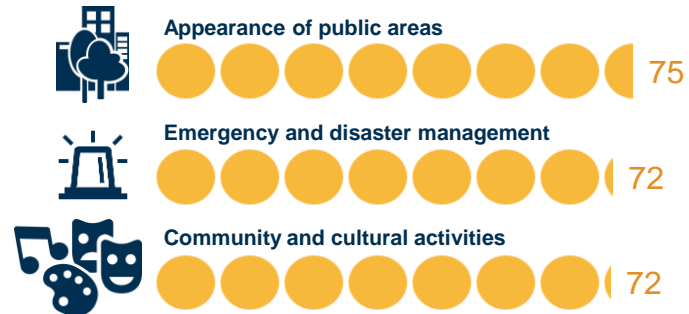
Surf Coast Shire Council – at a glance



Overall Council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.

Top 3 performing areas



Bottom 3 performing areas





Background and objectives



Background and objectives

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 twentieth year, this survey provides insight into the community's views on:

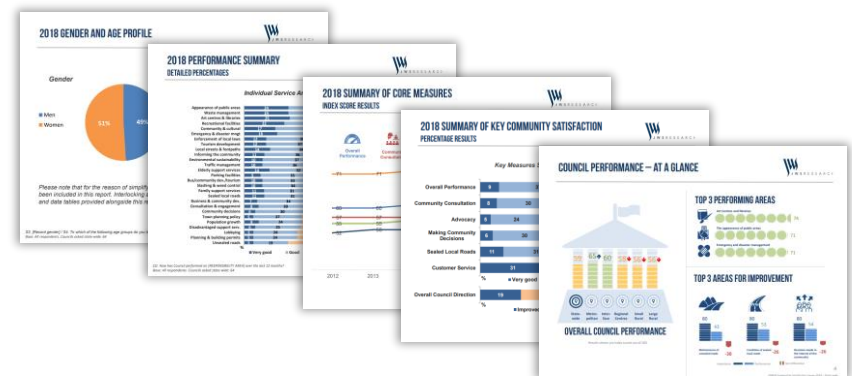
- councils' overall performance with benchmarking against State-wide and council group results
- community consultation and engagement
- advocacy and lobbying on behalf of the community
- customer service, local infrastructure, facilities and
- overall council direction.

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 seven years shows that councils in Victoria continue to provide services that meet the public's expectations.

Serving Victoria for 20 years

Each year the CSS data is used to develop the State-wide report which contains all of the aggregated results, analysis and data. Moreover, with 20 years of results, the CSS offers councils a long-term, consistent 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.





Key findings and recommendations



Overall performance

The overall performance of Surf Coast Shire Council is tracking steadily, with an index score of 62 (the same as last year).

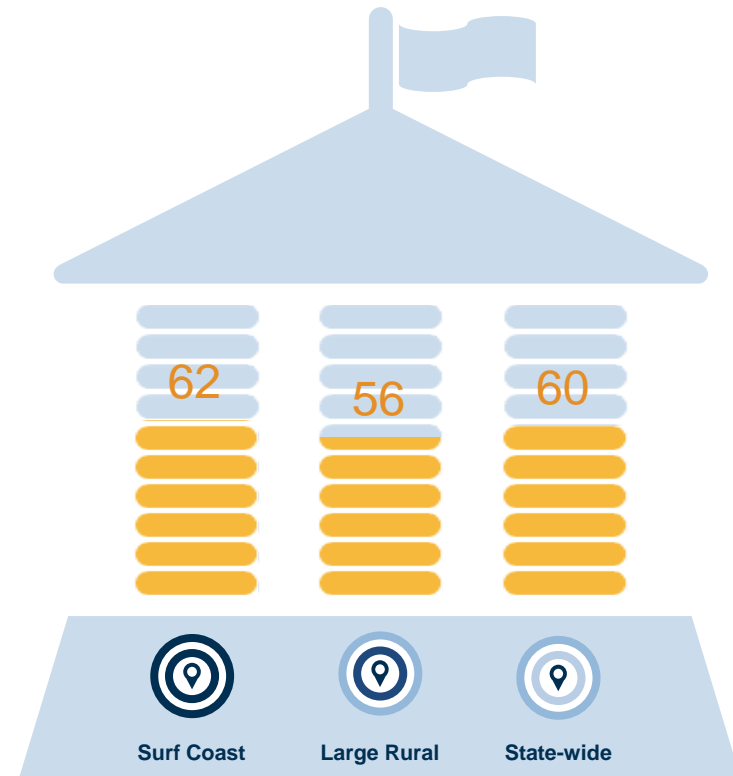
- Overall performance is only four points down on Council's 2015 peak result of 66.

Surf Coast Shire Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the average rating for Large Rural councils, and is rated similar to State-wide councils performance (index scores of 56 and 60 respectively).

- Those aged 18 to 34 years, from Lorne, and non-resident ratepayers gave significantly higher scores than the Council average (index scores of 70, 68 and 67 respectively). There are no other significant differences across the demographic or geographic cohorts compared to the Council average.
- People from Lorne gave a significantly higher overall performance score this year compared to 2018 (up twelve points to 68).

The majority of people rate Surf Coast Shire Council's overall performance as 'very good' or 'good' (51%), while only 12% rate it as 'very poor' or 'poor'. A further 35% sit mid-scale, rating Council's overall performance as 'average'; the remaining 2% 'can't say'.

Overall Council performance



Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Customer contact and service

Contact with council

Contact with Council remains steady, around two-thirds (64%) of Surf Coast Shire Council residents and non-residents have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. This is not significantly different to the 2018 result (61%).

- There are no significant differences across the demographic or geographic cohorts compared to the Council average.
- Non-resident ratepayers had significantly more contact with Council in 2019 compared to last year (up fourteen points to 61%).

The main methods of contacting Council are 'by telephone' (39%) and 'in person' (27%). These were also the primary methods most recently used.

Customer service

Surf Coast Shire Council's customer service index is 77, which represents a significant eight-point increase from last year. Performance on this measure is also rated higher than the State-wide and Large Rural group council averages (index scores of 71 and 69 respectively).

- Those aged 18 to 34 years gave the highest customer service rating (index score of 83), which is a significantly higher score than the Council average and up a significant 18 points from 2018.
- There are a number of other significant increases from last year, namely 35 to 49 year olds and people from Torquay (both with index scores of 79 and both up 11 points from 2018), 'residents' generally (index score of 77, up eight points), and men (index score of 75, up 10 points).

Just over a third of the community (37%) rate Council's customer service as 'very good', with 40% rating it as 'good', representing an 11 point increase in positive ratings ('very good' plus 'good') compared to last year. This year only 6% of people rated their customer service experience negatively ('poor' or 'very poor') – compared to 17% last year.

Customer service ratings based on the method used in the most recent contact are highest for 'telephone' (index score of 81). This is significantly higher than 2018 results (up eight points from 73).



Top performing areas and areas for improvement

Top performing areas

The top three performing service areas for Surf Coast Shire Council are:

- Appearance of public areas (index score of 75)
- Emergency and disaster management (index score of 72)
- Community and cultural (index score of 72).

Notably, the appearance of public areas and community and cultural areas are both rated significantly higher than the State-wide and Large Rural group council averages.

Those aged 18 to 34 years and non-resident ratepayers both gave significantly higher scores for the appearance of public areas than the Council average (index scores of 81 and 79 respectively).

People from Winchelsea gave significantly lower index scores for emergency and disaster management performance (index score of 66).

Areas for improvement

The lowest performing service areas are:

- Unsealed roads (index score of 47)
- Planning and building permits (index score of 47)
- Population growth (index score of 48).

This is despite Surf Coast Shire Council having a significantly higher score for unsealed roads than the State-wide and Large Rural group council averages (index scores of 44 and 41 respectively).

Non-resident ratepayers and people from Lorne gave significantly higher scores for unsealed roads than the Council average (index scores of 59 and 57 respectively). People in Winchelsea gave a significantly lower score than the Council average (index score of 38).

People in Torquay and 'residents' generally gave significantly lower scores for unsealed roads compared to last year (down nine points to 48 and down five points to 43 respectively).



Influences on perceptions of overall performance

The individual service areas that have the strongest influence on the overall performance rating (based on regression analysis) are:

- Community consultation and engagement
- Decisions made in the interest of the community.

Other service areas with a moderate to strong influence on overall performance include:

- Town planning
- Maintenance of unsealed roads.

Looking at key service areas only, the appearance of public areas has the strongest positive performance index and a moderately positive influence on the overall performance rating. Currently, Surf Coast Shire Council is performing very well in this area (index score of 75) and in waste management (index score of 68) and they should remain a focus of attention.

Recreational facilities and community and cultural activities each have a slightly weaker influence on the overall performance rating, but with relatively high performance ratings they should also remain a focus of attention.

Surf Coast Shire Council's decisions made in the community's interest as well as community consultation and engagement have lower (though still positive) performance ratings overall. However, given their strong influence, continuing efforts in these areas has the capacity to lift Council's overall performance rating.

Council's general town planning and maintenance of unsealed roads have some of the lowest performance ratings (49 and 47 respectively) but a moderately strong influence on overall performance. Areas like these, with index scores with scope for improvement and an influence on overall performance perceptions present an opportunity for overall performance ratings gains if improvements are made.

In summary, good communication and transparency with residents about decisions the Council has made in the community's interest as well as improved town planning and maintenance of unsealed roads could help drive up overall opinion of the Council's performance.



Focus areas for coming 12 months

Perceptions of Council's performance in individual service areas mainly held steady or increased significantly in the past year. There were only two instances where performance decreased significantly (waste management and lobbying). Perceptions of Council's overall direction also holds steady. This is a positive result for council.

In terms of priorities for the year ahead, Surf Coast Shire Council should focus on maintaining and improving performance in the individual service areas that most influence perception of overall performance:

- Community consultation and engagement
- Decisions made in the interest of the community.

Council should also focus attention on service areas where current performance levels are low and remain significantly lower than the State-wide and Large Rural group council averages.

- An area that stands out as being most in need of Council attention is town planning policy (index score of 49).

More generally, consideration should also be given to those aged 50 to 64 years and people from Winchelsea, who appear to be driving negative opinion in a number of areas in 2019.

- It is also important not to ignore, and to learn from, what is working amongst other groups, especially people from Lorne and 'non-resident ratepayers', and use these lessons to build on performance experience and perceptions.

On the positive side, Council should look to build upon its improved performance on community consultation and engagement and making community decisions as well as focus on town planning policy over the next 12 months.



Further areas of exploration

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, 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 generic summaries only. We recommend further analysis of the detailed cross tabulations and the actual verbatim responses, with a view to understanding the responses of the key gender and age groups, especially any target groups identified as requiring attention.

A 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

A large, stylized letter 'W' that serves as a background graphic. It is filled with a satellite night-time image of the United States, showing city lights and state boundaries. The 'W' is positioned on the right side of the page, with its leftmost stroke extending towards the center.

Summary of findings



Summary of core measures

Index scores


Overall
Performance


Community
Consultation

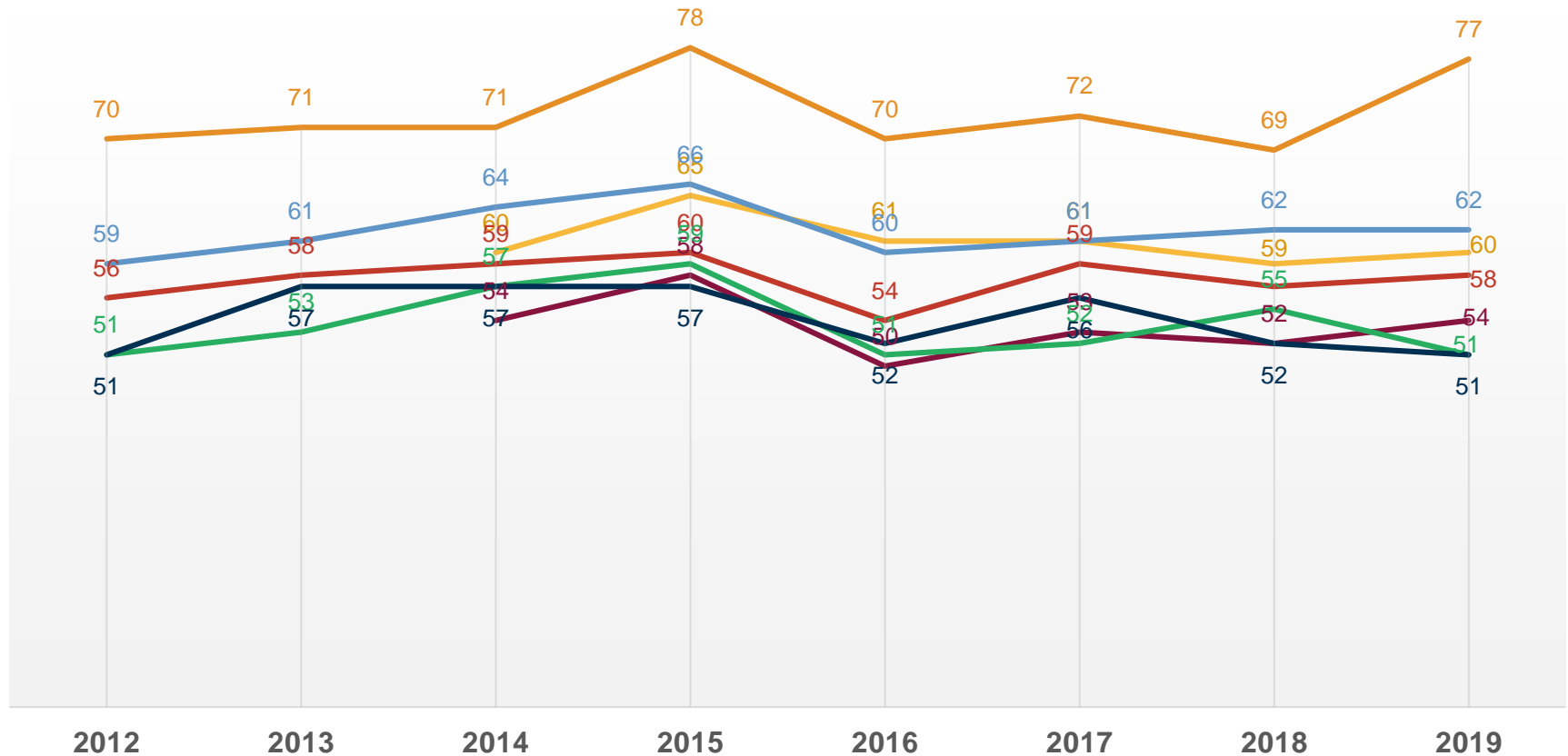

Advocacy


Making
Community
Decisions


Sealed
Local
Roads


Customer
Service


Overall
Council
Direction





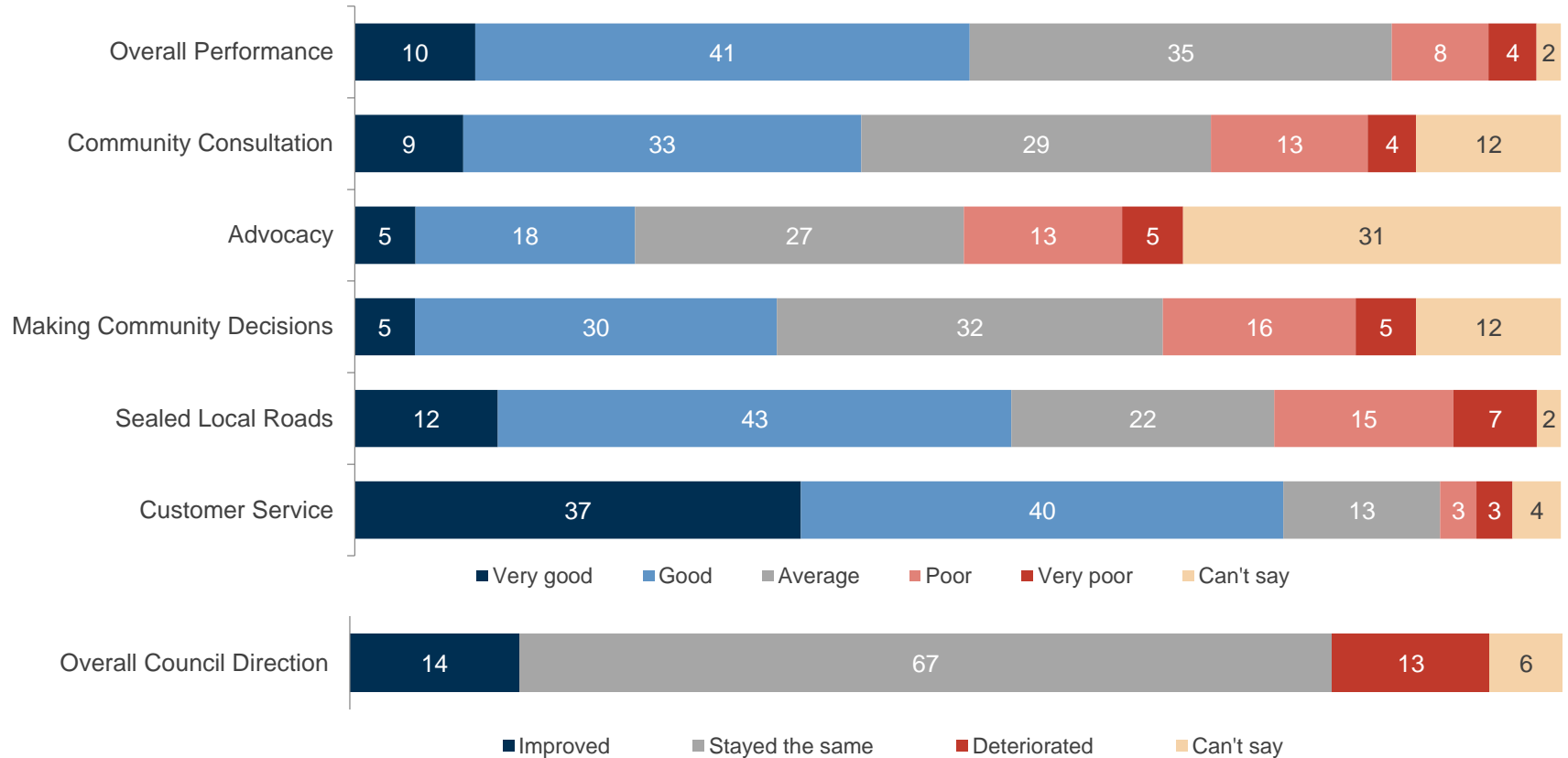
Summary of core measures

Performance Measures	Surf Coast 2019	Surf Coast 2018	Large Rural 2019	State-wide 2019	Highest score	Lowest score
Overall Performance	62	62	56	60	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Community Consultation (Community consultation and engagement)	58	57	54	56	Lorne	Winchelsea
Advocacy (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	51	55	52	54	Non-Residents	Winchelsea
Making Community Decisions (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	54	52	52	55	Non-Residents	Torquay
Sealed Local Roads (Condition of sealed local roads)	60	59	47	56	Non-Residents, Lorne	Winchelsea
Customer Service	77	69	69	71	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years
Overall Council Direction	51	52	51	53	Lorne	Aged 50-64 years



Summary of key community satisfaction

Key measures summary results (%)





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 charts are based on unweighted data, which means the service performance indices in the regression charts may vary by +/- 1-2 points on the indices reported in charts and tables elsewhere in this report.

The regressions are shown on the following two charts.

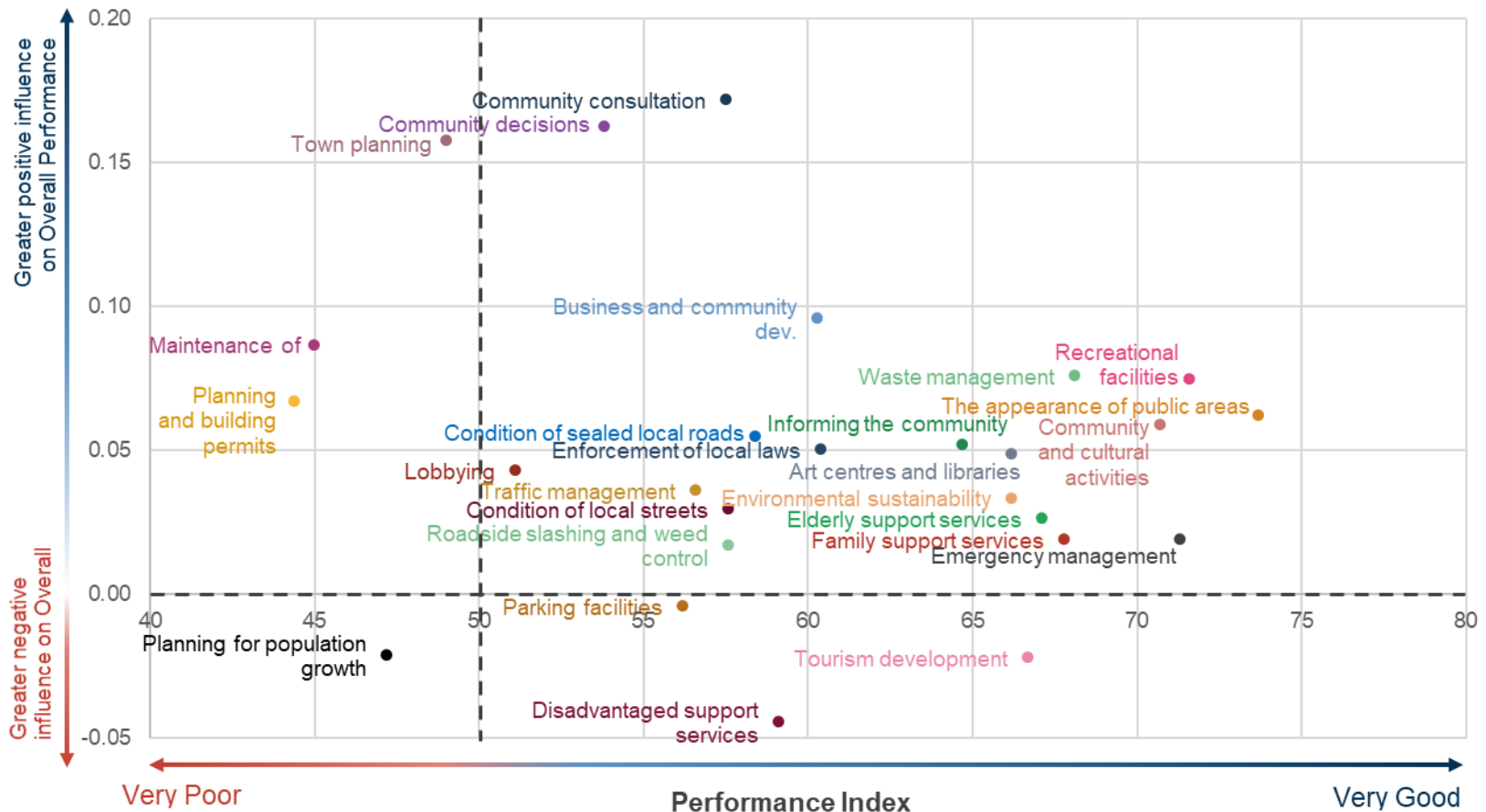
1. **The first chart** shows the results of a regression analysis of *all* individual service areas selected by Council.
2. **The second chart** shows the results of a regression performed on a smaller set of service areas, being those with a moderate-to-strong influence on overall performance. Service 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

2019 regression analysis (all service areas)

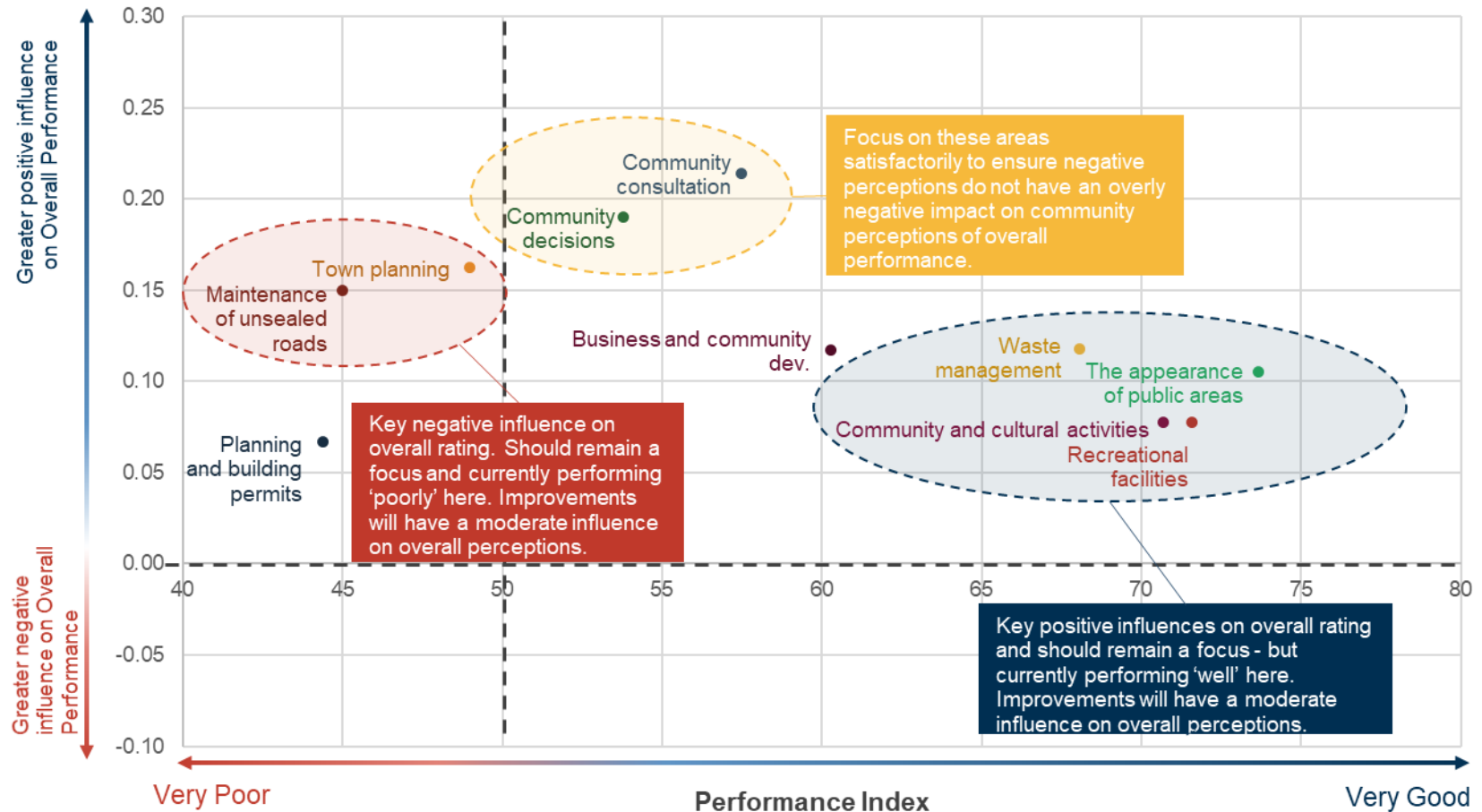


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R-squared value of 0.663 and adjusted R-square value of 0.639, which means that 66% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at $p = 0.0001$, $F = 28.18$. 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

2019 regression analysis (key service areas)



The multiple regression analysis model above (reduced set of service areas) has an R-squared value of 0.643 and adjusted R-square value of 0.5634, 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 $p = 0.0001$, $F = 70.04$.



Individual service area performance

2019 individual service area performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Appearance of public areas	75	76	73	73	76	75	n/a	n/a
Emergency & disaster mngt	72	74	73	75	73	71	70	68
Community & cultural	72	70	67	65	69	70	66	64
Recreational facilities	71	72	70	69	73	72	70	70
Tourism development	68	68	66	66	70	68	n/a	n/a
Family support services	68	66	64	65	68	68	63	62
Waste management	68	72	74	72	75	75	n/a	n/a
Art centres & libraries	68	65	65	61	65	64	n/a	n/a
Elderly support services	67	66	66	65	69	69	64	64
Environmental sustainability	66	65	63	63	66	64	65	64
Informing the community	64	63	62	61	66	63	63	62
Enforcement of local laws	64	61	62	60	67	65	64	64
Business & community dev.	62	63	59	60	62	62	n/a	n/a
Sealed local roads	60	59	61	61	65	60	n/a	n/a
Local streets & footpaths	59	62	63	62	65	63	59	56
Slashing & weed control	59	61	58	59	64	60	60	65
Traffic management	59	55	57	56	57	58	n/a	n/a
Parking facilities	59	57	57	56	58	59	n/a	n/a
Consultation & engagement	58	57	59	54	60	59	58	56
Disadvantaged support serv.	58	56	58	58	63	63	n/a	n/a
Community decisions	54	52	53	50	58	54	n/a	n/a
Lobbying	51	55	52	51	59	57	53	51
Town planning policy	49	51	49	50	58	54	n/a	n/a
Population growth	48	49	51	52	58	54	55	51
Planning & building permits	47	50	48	50	56	53	55	50
Unsealed roads	47	50	50	51	57	52	n/a	n/a

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

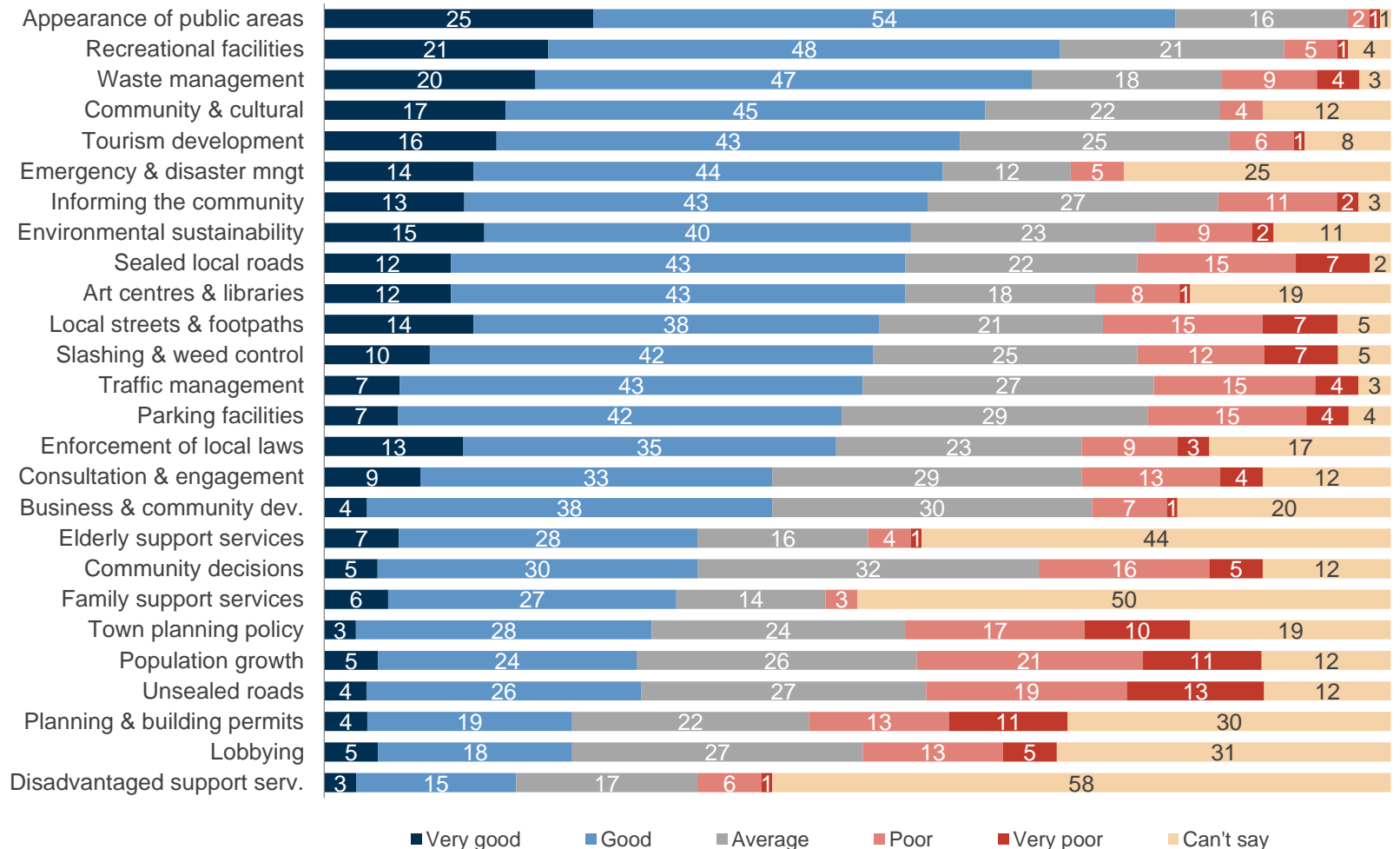
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Individual service area performance

2019 individual service area performance (%)



Individual service area performance vs State-wide average



Significantly Higher than State-wide Average

- Informing the community
- Parking facilities
- Appearance of public areas
- Community & cultural
- Environmental sustainability
- Slashing & weed control
- Unsealed roads
- Sealed local roads
- Tourism development

Significantly Lower than State-wide Average

- Lobbying
- Disadvantaged support serv.
- Art centres & libraries
- Town planning policy
- Planning permits
- Population growth



Individual service area performance vs group average

Significantly Higher than Group Average

- Consultation & engagement
- Informing the community
- Local streets & footpaths
- Family support services
- Recreational facilities
- Appearance of public areas
- Community & cultural
- Waste management
- Environmental sustainability
- Slashing & weed control
- Unsealed roads
- Sealed local roads
- Business & community dev.
- Tourism development

Significantly Lower than Group Average

- Disadvantaged support serv.
- Art centres & libraries
- Town planning policy



Best things about Council

2019 best things about Council (%) - Top mentions only -

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Recreational/Sporting Facilities	10	14	10	12	6	11	n/a	n/a
Waste Management	8	9	6	6	3	7	n/a	n/a
Customer Service	8	5	8	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Parks and Gardens	7	5	7	5	5	4	n/a	n/a
Beach/Foreshore/Waterfront/Lake/River/Creek/Port	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Environmental	6	5	6	5	6	7	n/a	n/a
Public areas	6	5	5	6	7	6	n/a	n/a
Community Engagement/Involvement	6	7	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Community Support Services	5	5	3	7	4	6	n/a	n/a
Community Facilities	4	5	3	2	3	5	n/a	n/a
Development	4	4	6	4	4	7	n/a	n/a
Location	4	3	4	1	3	2	n/a	n/a

Q16. Please tell me what is the ONE BEST thing about Surf Coast 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 state-wide: 21 Councils asked group: 6











Note: Significant differences have not been applied to this chart.

A verbatim listing of responses to this question can be found within the accompanying dashboard.



Areas for improvement

2019 areas for improvement (%) - Top mentions only -

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Sealed Road Maintenance	 13	14	11	6	8	10	n/a	n/a
Development - Inappropriate/Over Development	 11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Community Consultation	 9	14	7	9	10	9	n/a	n/a
Town Planning/Permits/Red Tape	 8	8	10	5	3	4	n/a	n/a
Waste Management	 8	4	3	5	5	4	n/a	n/a
Infrastructure	 7	4	5	5	6	8	n/a	n/a
Recreational/Sporting Facilities	 5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Communication	 5	6	8	8	9	9	n/a	n/a
Treat All The Same /All Areas	 5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nothing	 6	5	10	9	7	11	n/a	n/a

Q17. What does Surf Coast Shire Council MOST need to do to improve its performance?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 43 Councils asked group: 12

Note: Significant differences have not been applied to this chart.

A verbatim listing of responses to this question can be found within the accompanying dashboard.

DETAILED FINDINGS



Overall performance



Overall performance

2019 overall performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	70▲	66	61	63	68	70	62	59
Lorne	68▲	56	57	61	72	58	53	55
Non-resident ratepayer	67▲	67	69	n/a	n/a	66	69	67
Men	62	60	58	60	64	63	63	58
Surf Coast	62	62	61	60	66	64	61	59
Torquay	61	65	63	63	68	66	60	52
Women	61	65	64	59	67	65	59	59
Anglesea	61	64	64	65	65	62	58	54
35-49	60	60	55	55	63	64	61	59
Residents	60	61	58	n/a	n/a	64	58	56
State-wide	60	59	59	59	60	61	60	60
65+	60	64	64	64	67	63	62	58
Winchelsea	59	57	56	49	60	63	58	58
50-64	58	59	63	57	65	61	60	58
Large Rural	56▼	56	54	54	56	n/a	n/a	n/a

Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Surf Coast 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?

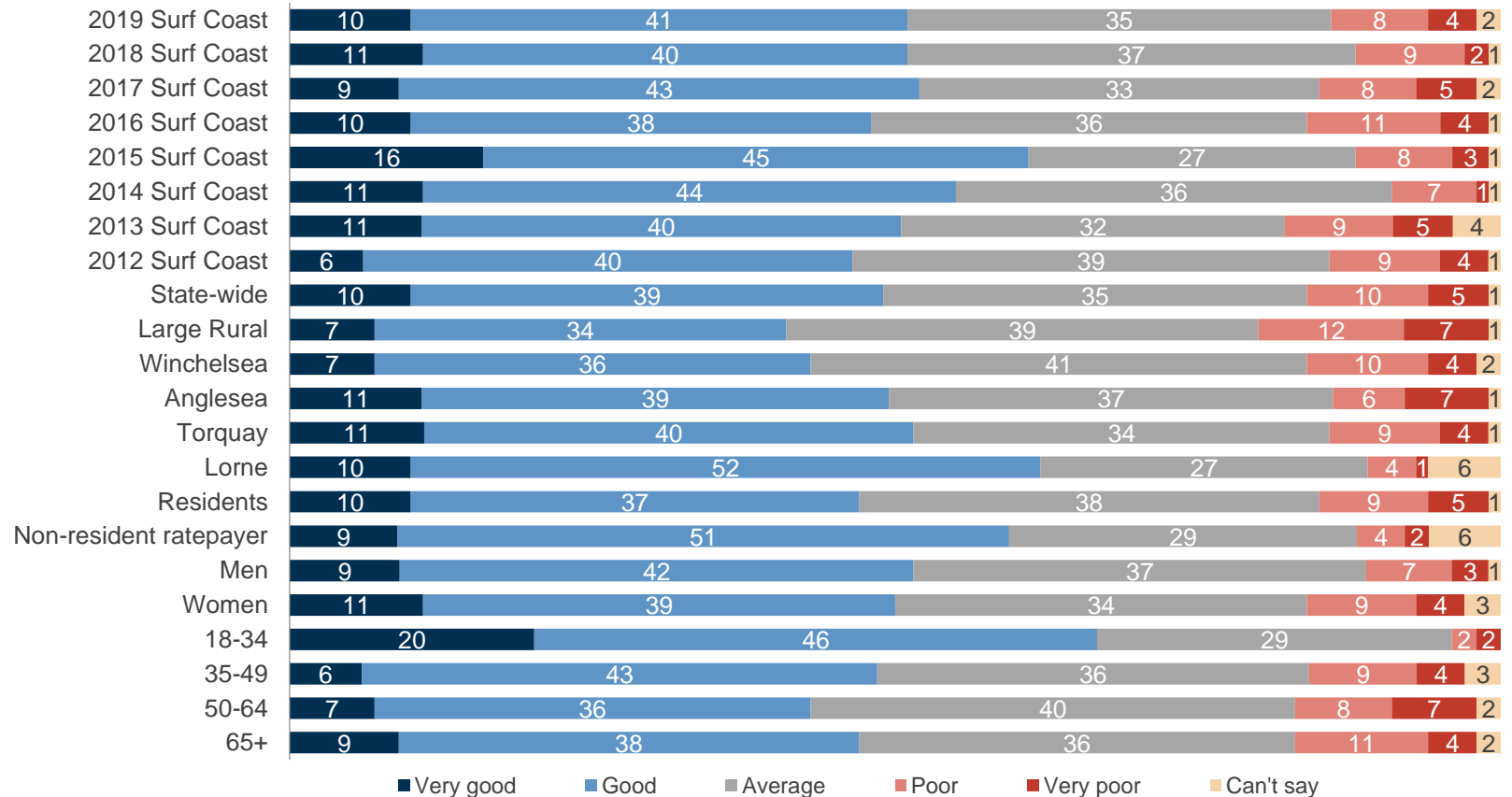
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Overall performance

Overall performance (%)



Q3. ON BALANCE, for the last twelve months, how do you feel about the performance of Surf Coast 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 state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

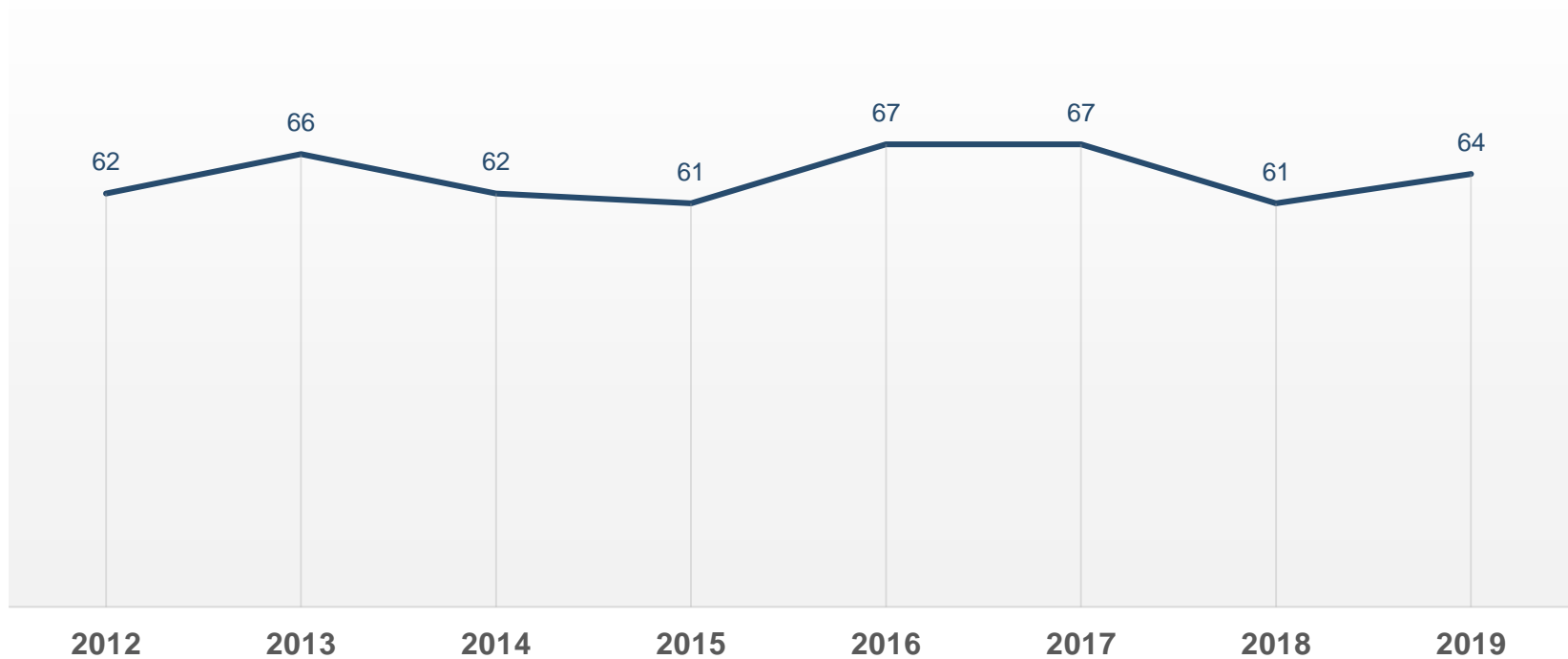


Customer service



Contact with council

2019 contact with council (%)
Have had contact





Contact with council

2019 contact with council (%)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
50-64	71	63	66	65	60	60	66	67
35-49	70	64	75	68	69	72	76	66
Torquay	67	60	67	70	64	75	72	60
Women	67	59	67	69	61	65	66	64
Lorne	66	69	60	63	51	63	79	64
Anglesea	65	55	61	58	49	61	61	75
Residents	65	65	73	n/a	n/a	69	71	68
Surf Coast	64	61	67	67	61	62	66	62
State-wide	63	63	58	58	60	61	60	61
Large Rural	61	59	57	57	59	n/a	n/a	n/a
Non-resident ratepayer	61	47	48	n/a	n/a	44	51	46
Men	60	62	66	66	62	60	65	60
65+	59	61	61	61	60	61	57	55
18-34	56	54	65	77	54	52	59	58
Winchelsea	55	65	75	72	70	65	71	73

Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Surf Coast Shire Council in any of the following ways?

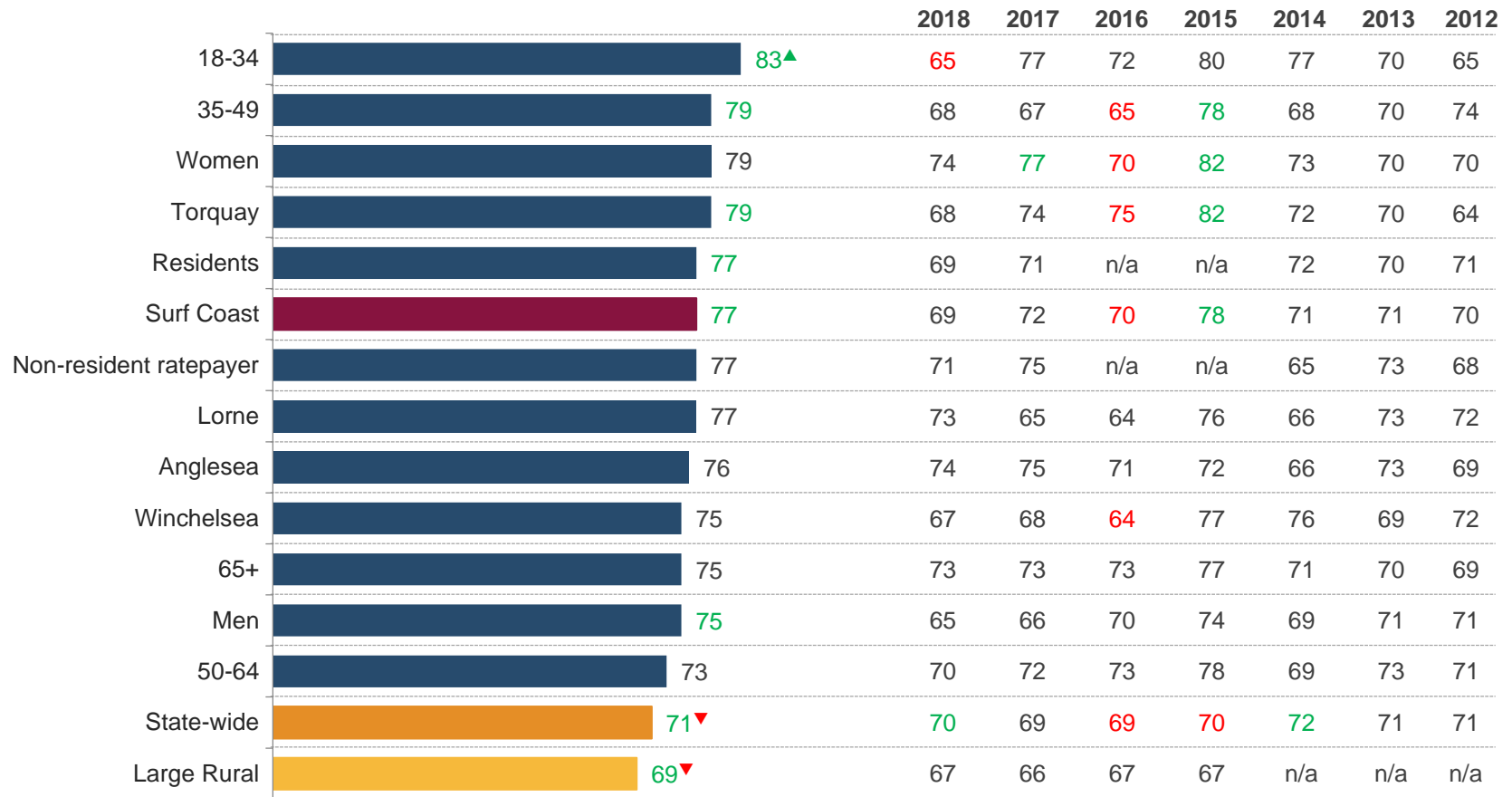
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 7

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



Customer service rating

2019 customer service rating (index scores)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Surf Coast Shire 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.

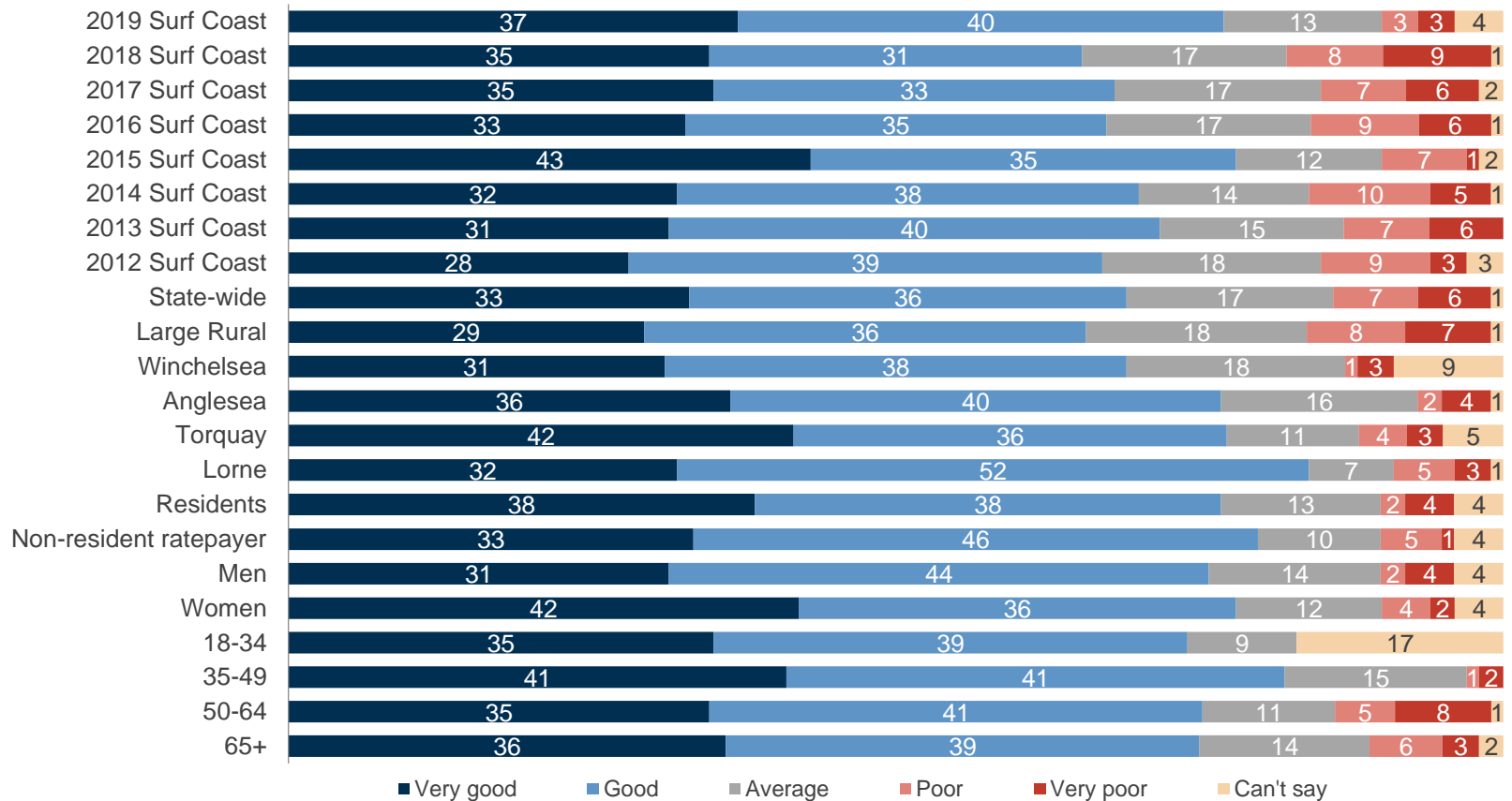
Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Customer service rating

Customer service rating (%)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Surf Coast Shire 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: 63 Councils asked group: 18



Method of contact with council

2019 method of contact (%)



In Person



In Writing



By Telephone



By Text Message



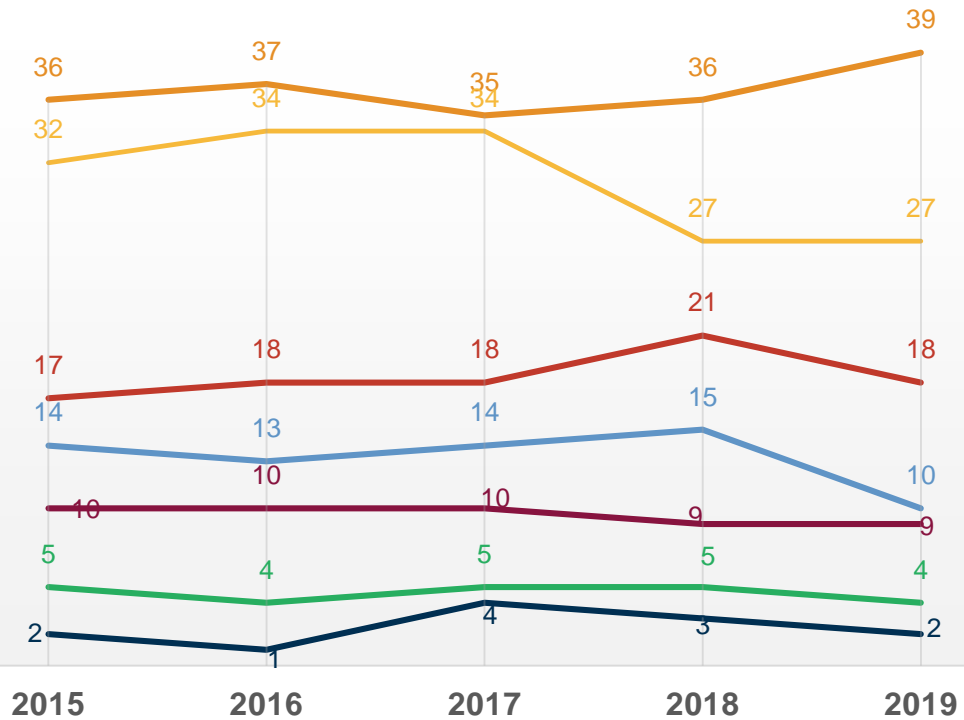
By Email



Via Website



By Social Media



Q5a. Have you or any member of your household had any recent contact with Surf Coast Shire Council in any of the following ways?

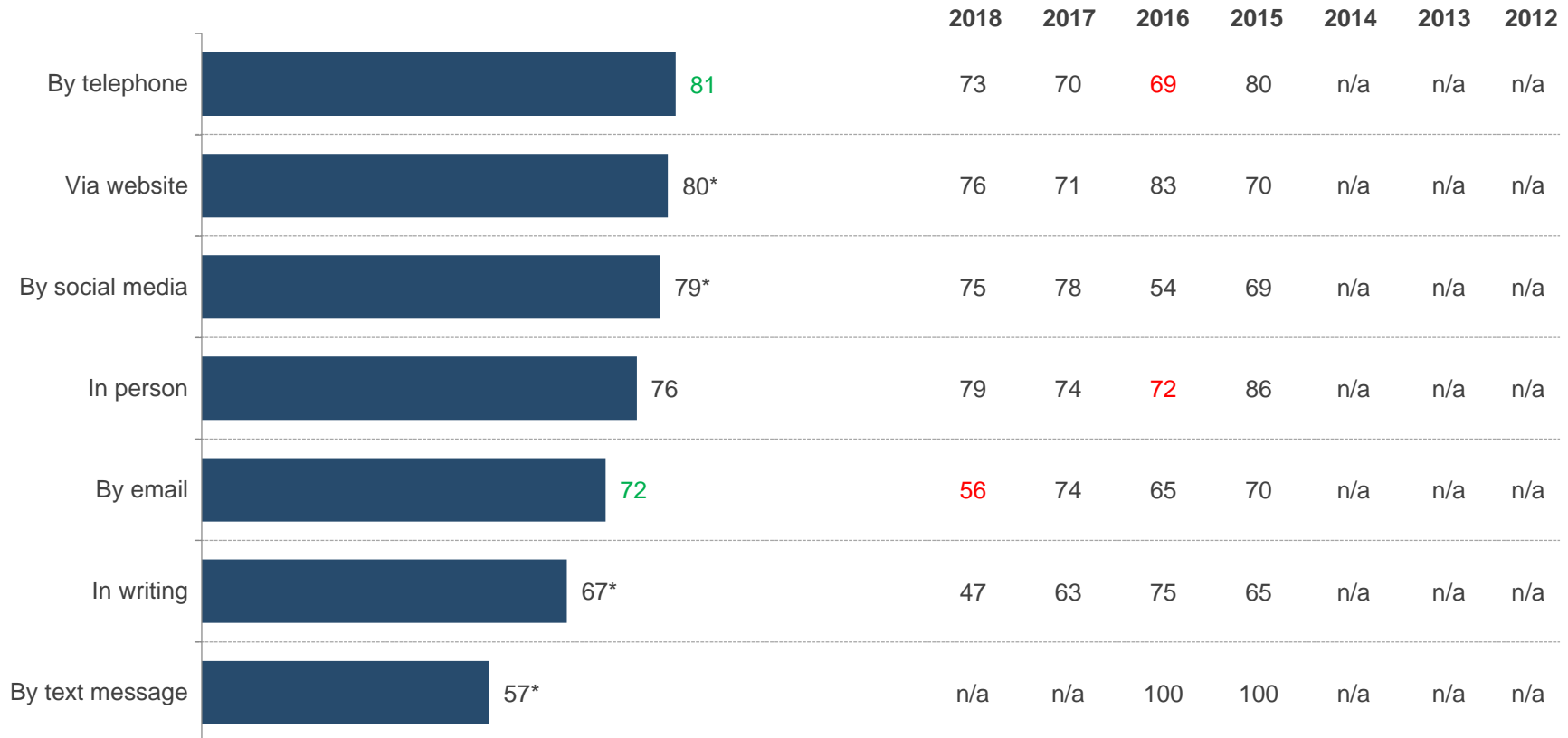
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 7

Note: Respondents could name multiple contacts methods so responses may add to more than 100%



Customer service rating by method of last contact

2019 customer service rating (index score by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Surf Coast Shire 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: 63 Councils asked group: 18

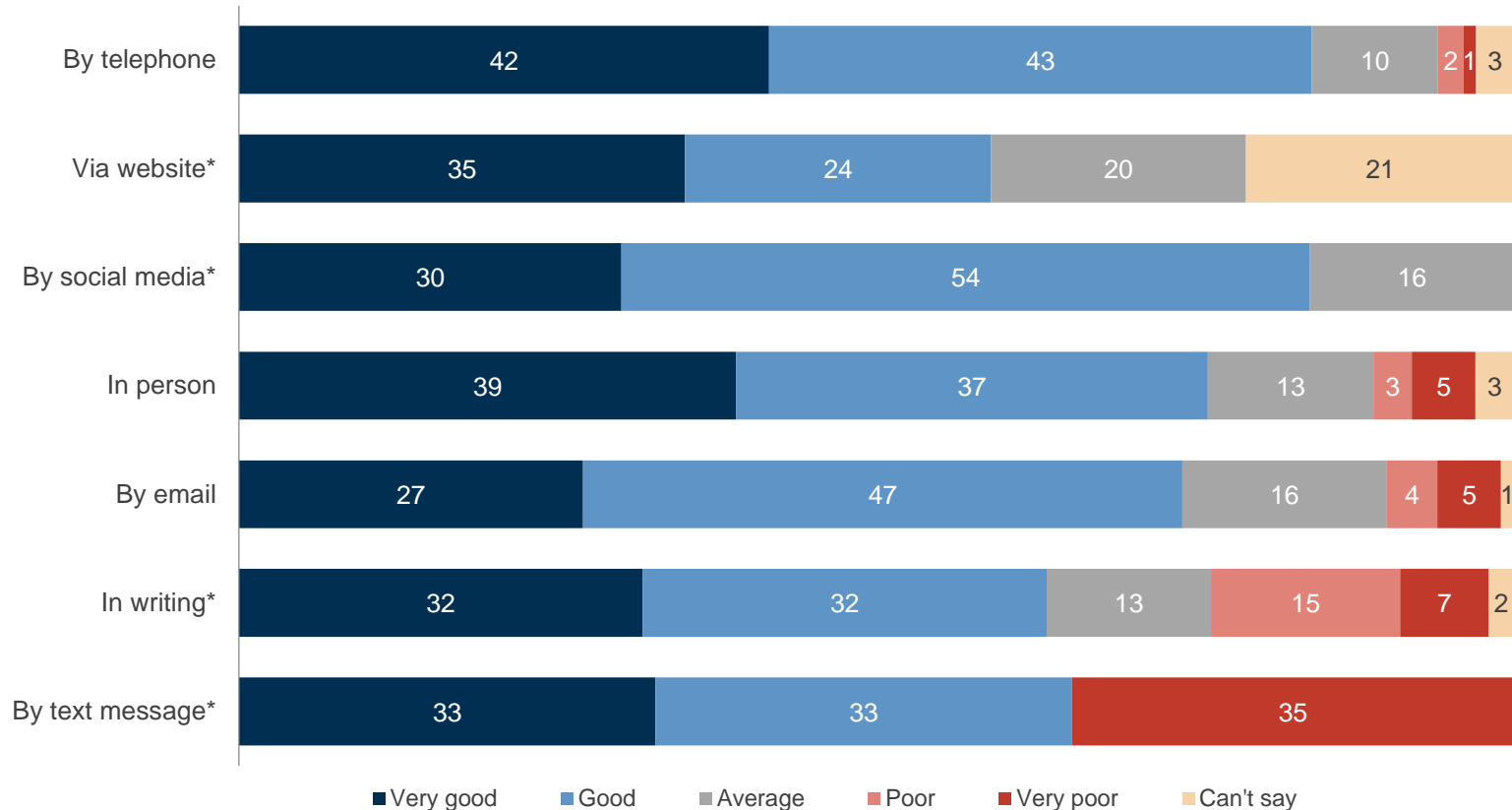
Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

*Caution: small sample size < n=30



Customer service rating by method of last contact

2019 customer service rating (% by method of last contact)



Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Surf Coast Shire 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: 25 Councils asked group: 7

*Caution: small sample size < n=30



Council direction



Council direction summary

Council direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 67% stayed about the same, up 4 points on 2018 • 14% improved, down 4 points on 2018 • 13% deteriorated, down 2 points on 2018
Most satisfied with Council direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorne residents
Least satisfied with Council direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged 50-64 years



Overall council direction last 12 months

2019 overall direction (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Lorne	58▲	54	56	52	64	42	53	51
Non-resident ratepayer	54	54	56	n/a	n/a	56	66	55
65+	53	52	56	56	58	59	59	52
State-wide	53	52	53	51	53	53	53	52
18-34	53	59	63	55	60	60	57	54
Men	51	50	52	53	53	55	57	48
Surf Coast	51	52	56	52	57	57	57	51
Women	51	53	59	52	61	59	57	55
Large Rural	51	52	52	48	51	n/a	n/a	n/a
Residents	50	51	56	n/a	n/a	58	54	50
Winchelsea	50	51	54	45	54	58	54	53
35-49	50	46	52	47	52	57	55	50
Anglesea	50	51	58	59	58	59	61	48
Torquay	49	52	56	55	56	59	53	38
50-64	47	50	52	52	59	54	59	50

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

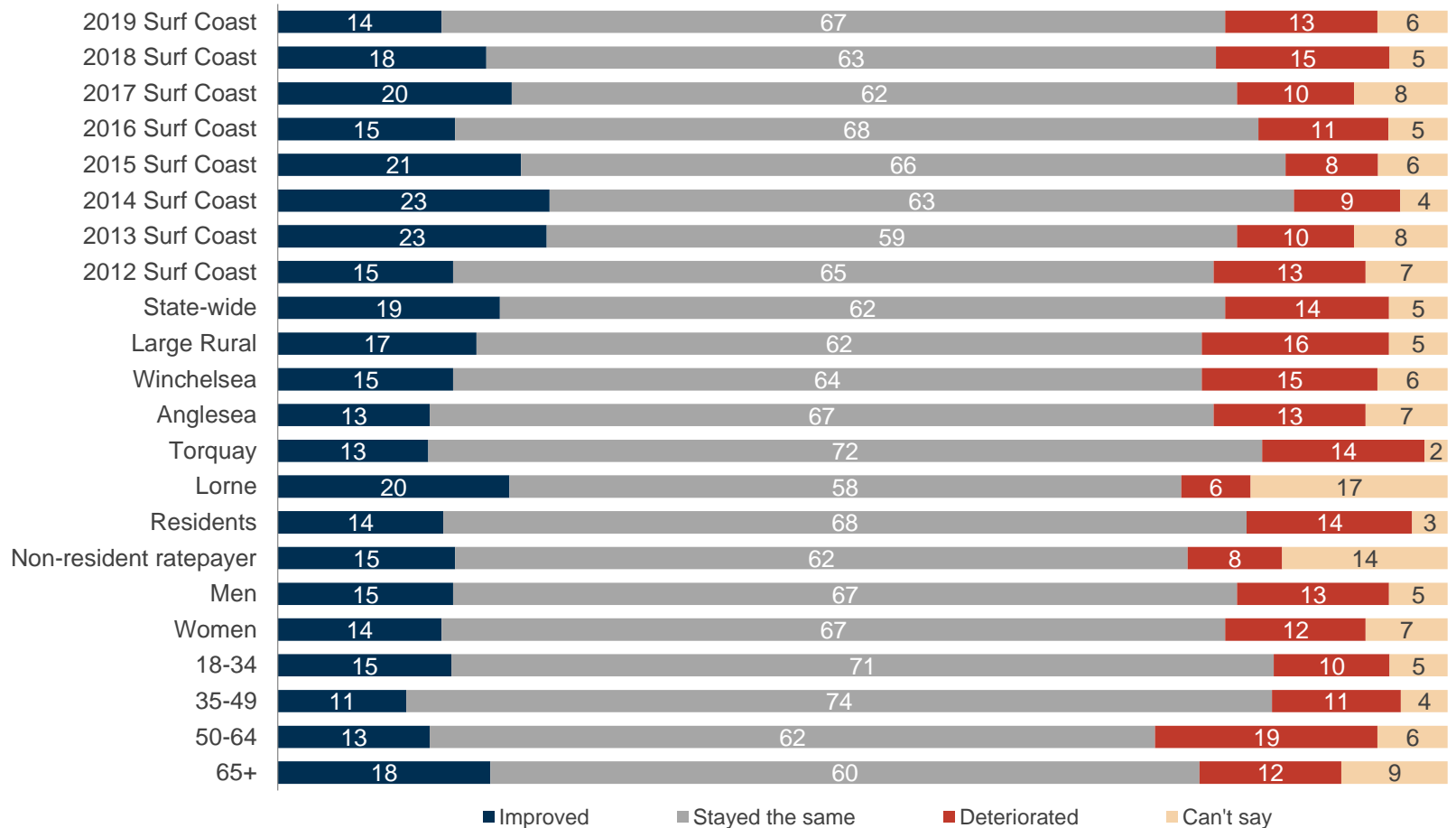
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Overall council direction last 12 months

2019 overall council direction (%)



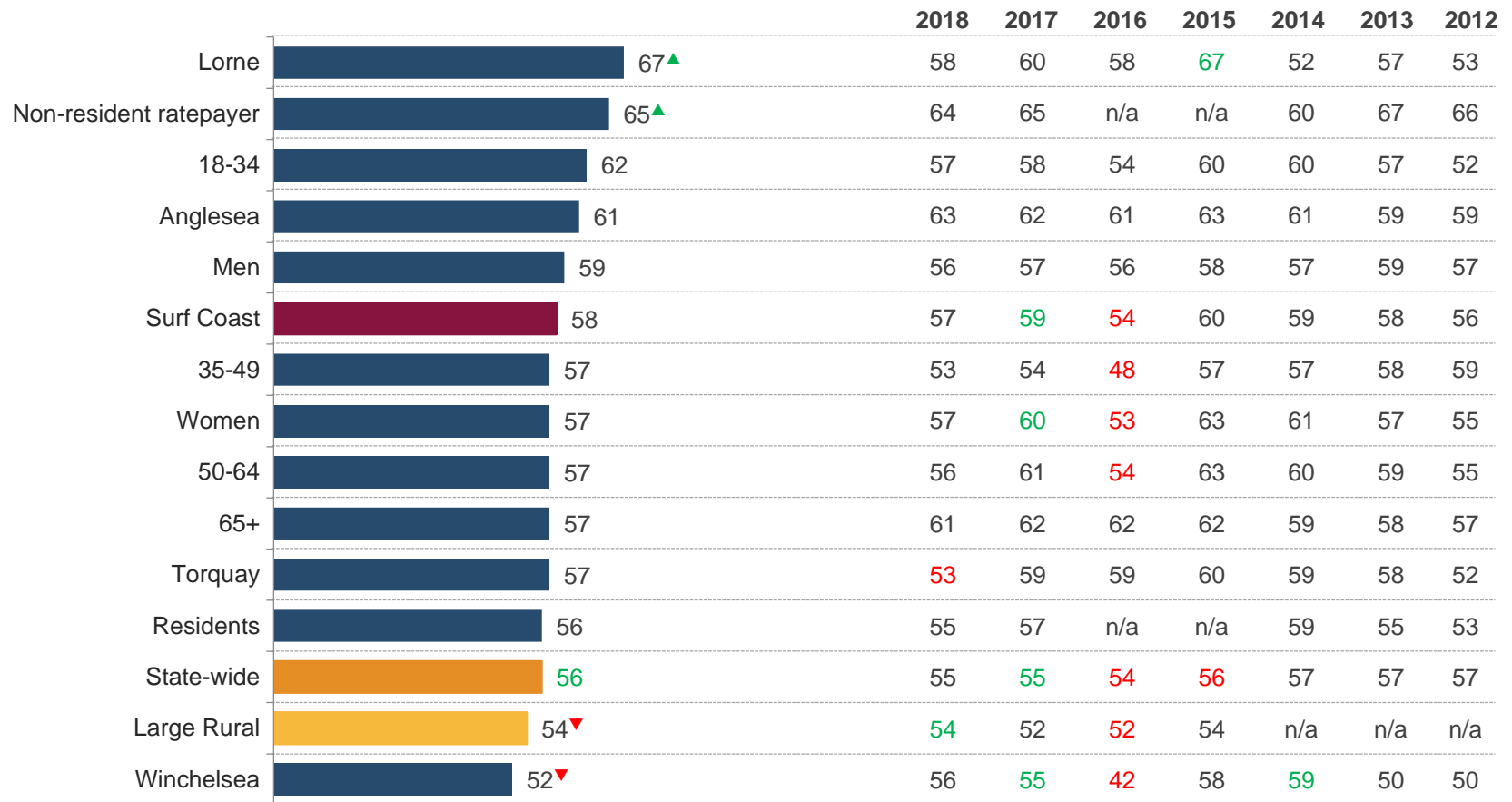
A large, stylized letter 'W' that serves as a background graphic. It is filled with a satellite image of the Western United States, showing state boundaries and major cities. The 'W' is dark blue and black, with the satellite imagery in shades of blue, green, and white. The text 'Individual service areas' is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the page.

Individual service areas



Community consultation and engagement performance

2019 Consultation and engagement performance (index scores)



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

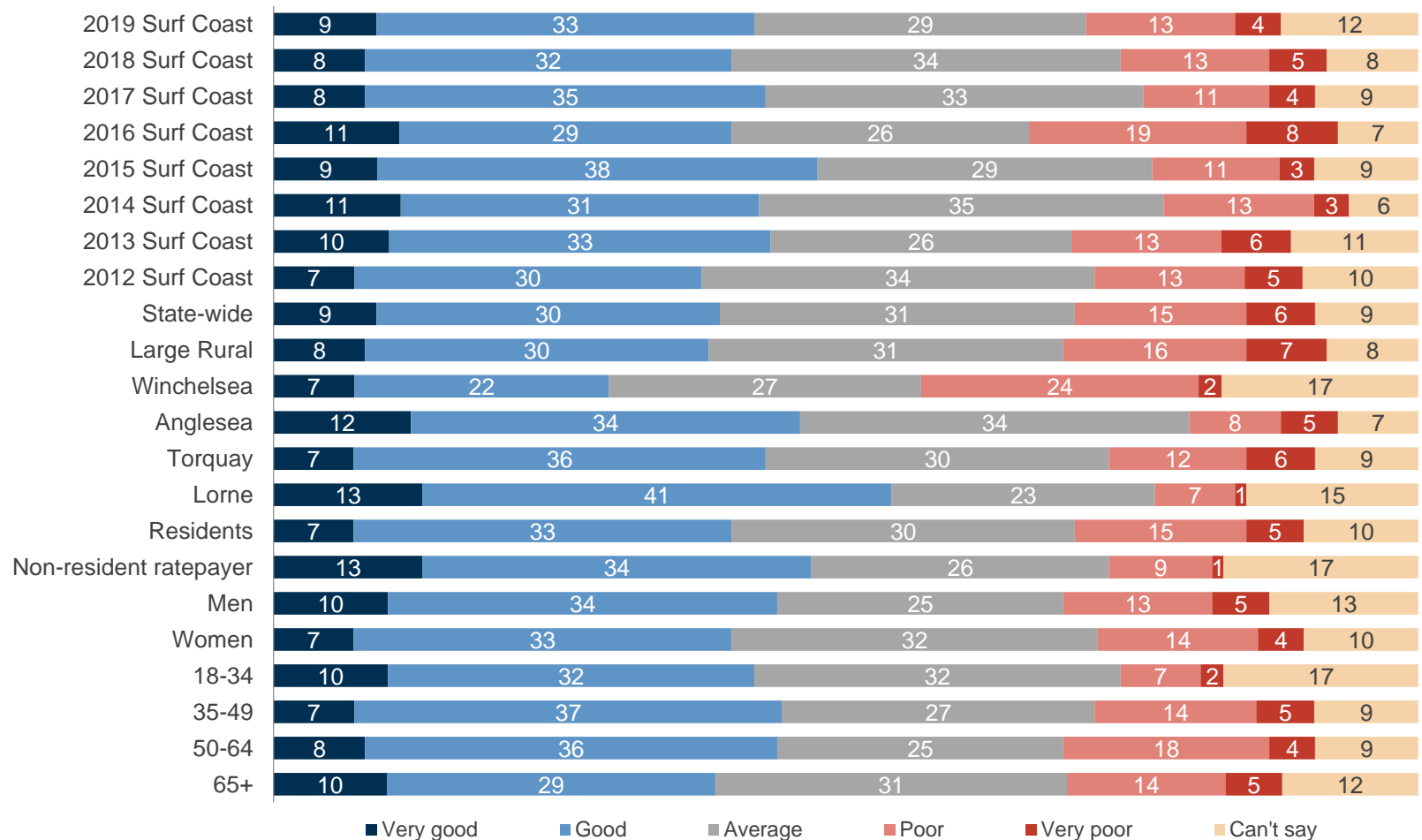
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Community consultation and engagement performance

2019 Consultation and engagement performance (%)





Lobbying on behalf of the community performance

2019 Lobbying performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Non-resident ratepayer	60▲	59	57	n/a	n/a	59	61	60
Lorne	57	57	50	51	63	39	43	49
State-wide	54▲	54	54	53	55	56	55	55
Anglesea	54	58	54	55	53	63	52	53
18-34	53	61	52	53	64	61	55	51
Women	53	54	54	51	59	58	53	52
65+	52	55	56	57	59	56	54	53
Torquay	52	54	52	55	63	57	53	42
Large Rural	52	52	51	50	53	n/a	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	51	55	52	51	59	57	53	51
35-49	51	51	47	46	57	55	50	52
Men	50	55	51	52	59	56	53	51
Residents	49	54	51	n/a	n/a	57	51	49
50-64	48	52	57	50	59	56	54	50
Winchelsea	45▼	52	52	45	57	57	50	50

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

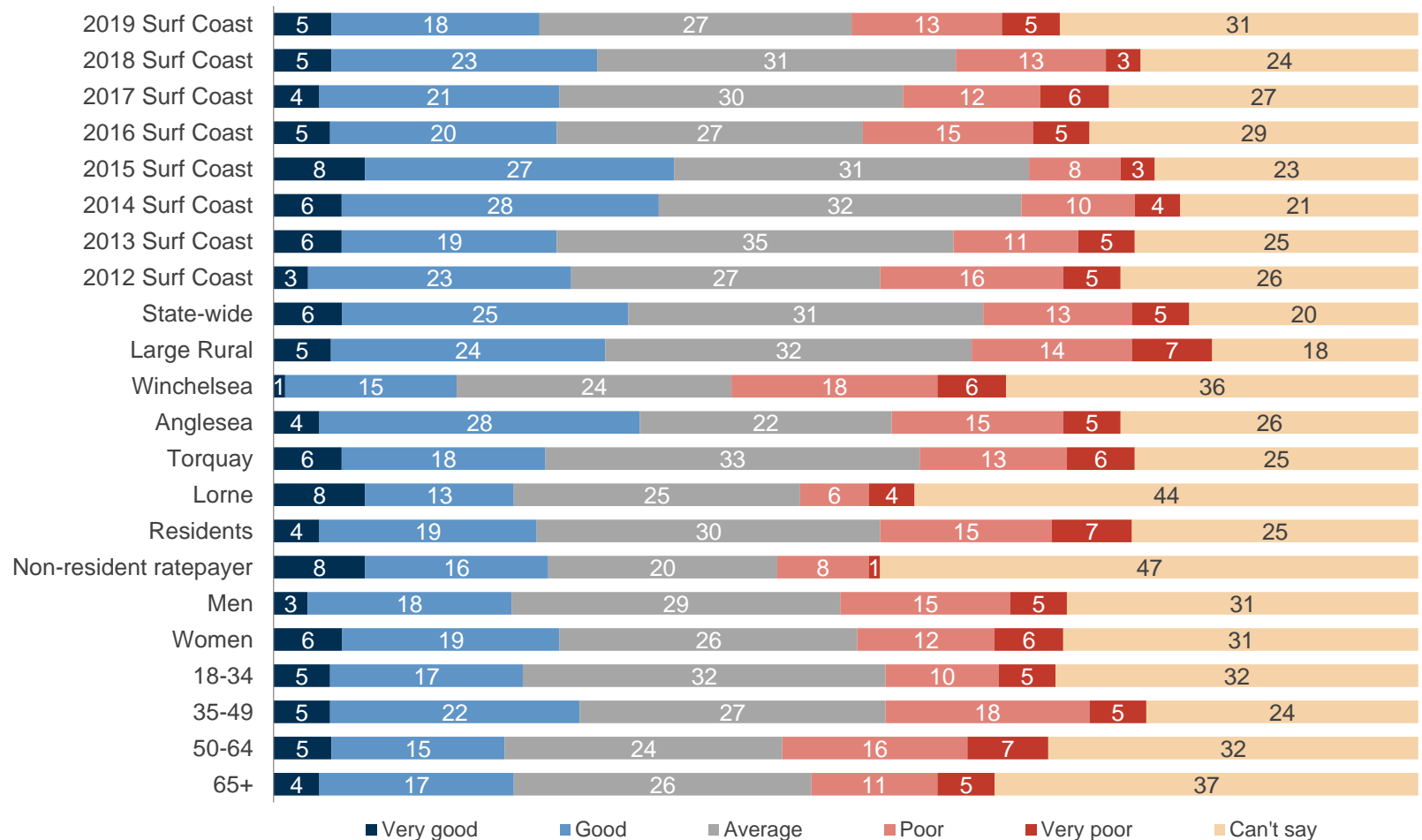
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance

2019 Lobbying performance (%)



Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



2019 Community decisions made performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Non-resident ratepayer	62▲	58	59	n/a	n/a	55	n/a	n/a
Lorne	61▲	55	51	46	61	37	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	59	54	58	58	59	56	n/a	n/a
18-34	58	56	53	51	62	58	n/a	n/a
Men	56	51	51	52	55	53	n/a	n/a
State-wide	55	54	54	54	55	57	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	54	52	53	50	58	54	n/a	n/a
65+	54	55	57	57	59	55	n/a	n/a
Women	53	54	55	49	61	55	n/a	n/a
35-49	53	49	48	46	54	51	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	53	52	53	41	52	57	n/a	n/a
50-64	53	51	55	47	59	54	n/a	n/a
Residents	52	51	51	n/a	n/a	54	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	52	52	51	50	52	n/a	n/a	n/a
Torquay	51	52	51	54	62	53	n/a	n/a

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

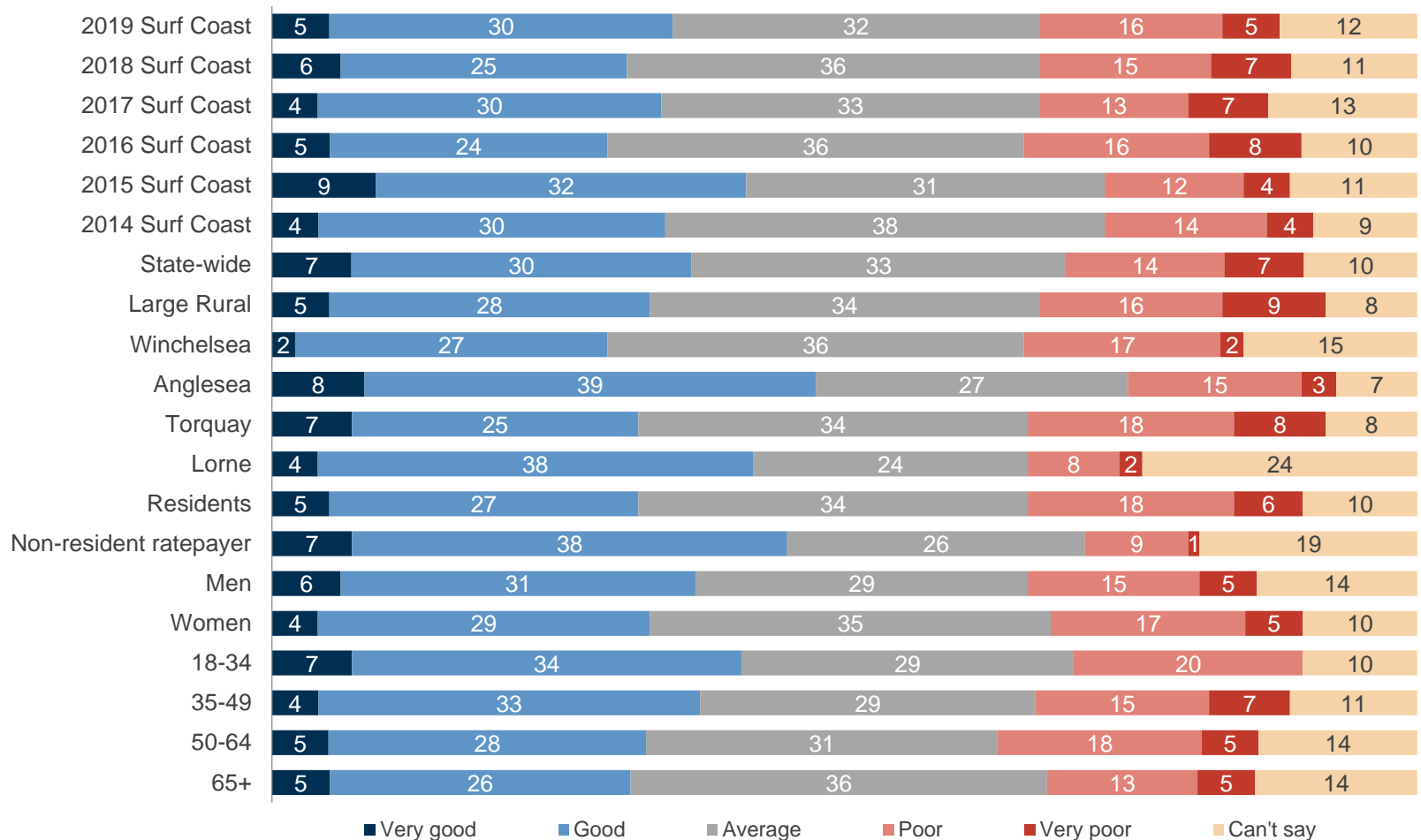
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



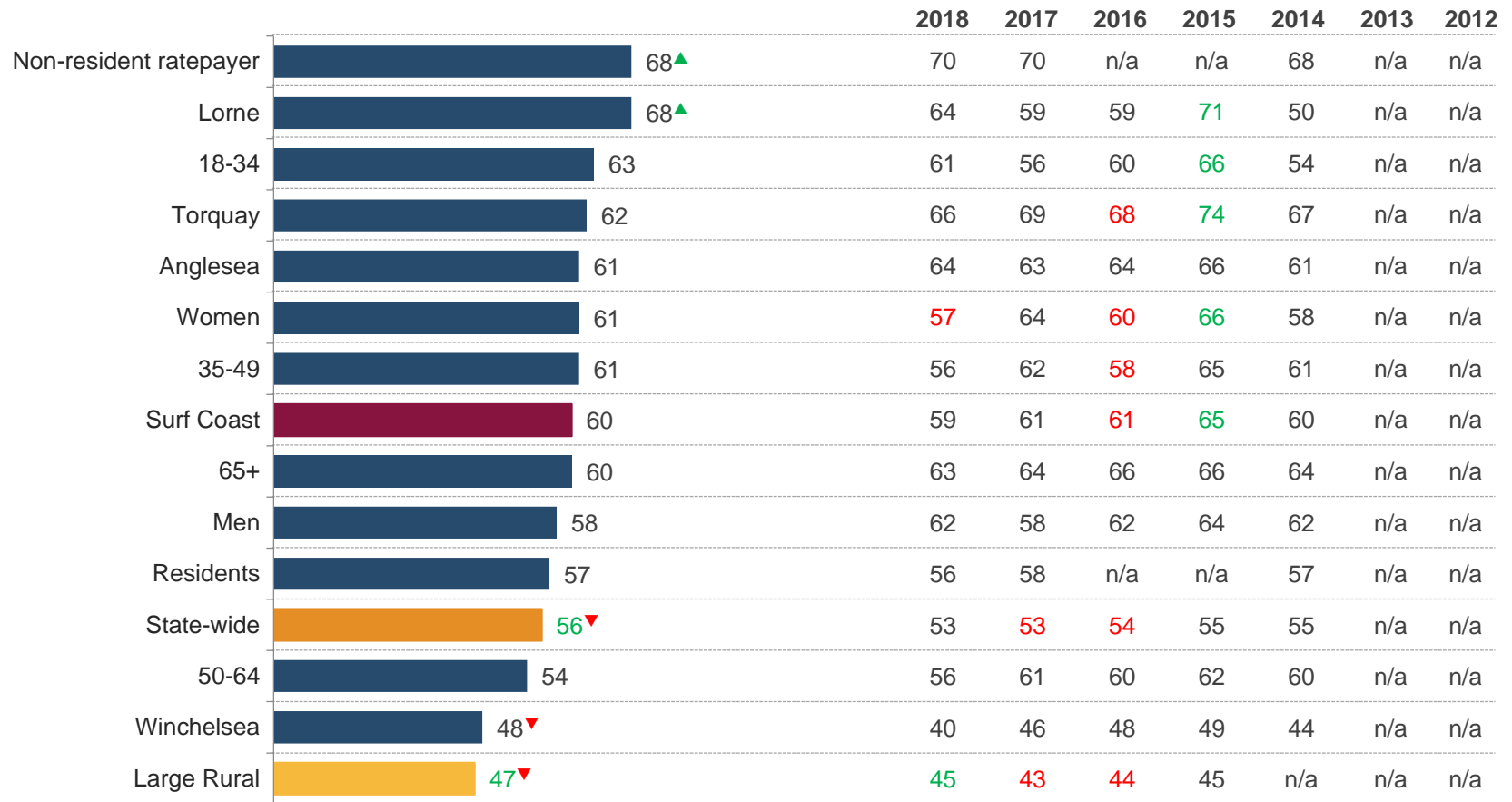
2019 Community decisions made performance (%)



The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



2019 Sealed local roads performance (index scores)



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

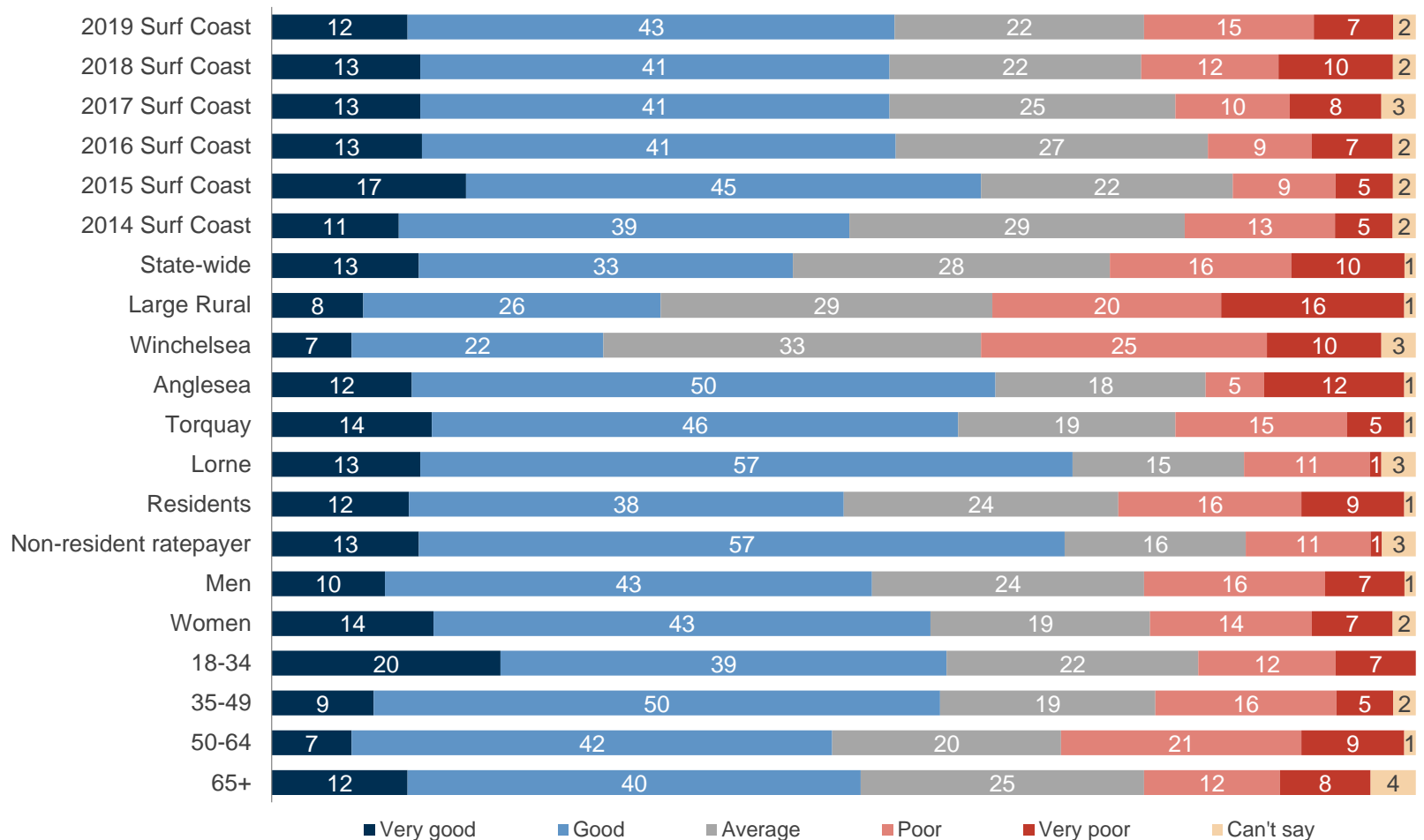
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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

The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



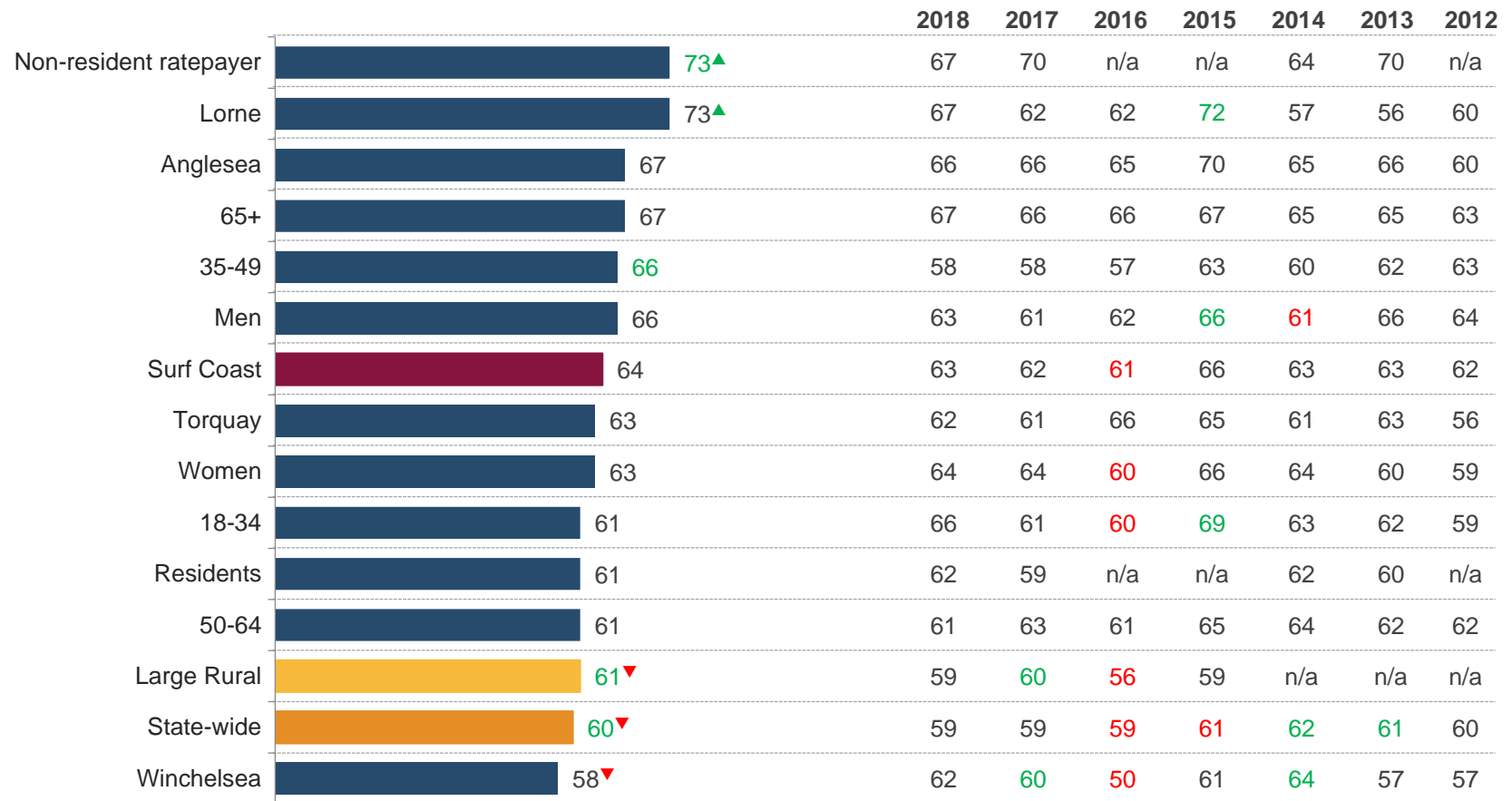
2019 Sealed local roads performance (%)





Informing the community performance

2019 Informing community performance (index scores)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Informing the community' over the last 12 months?

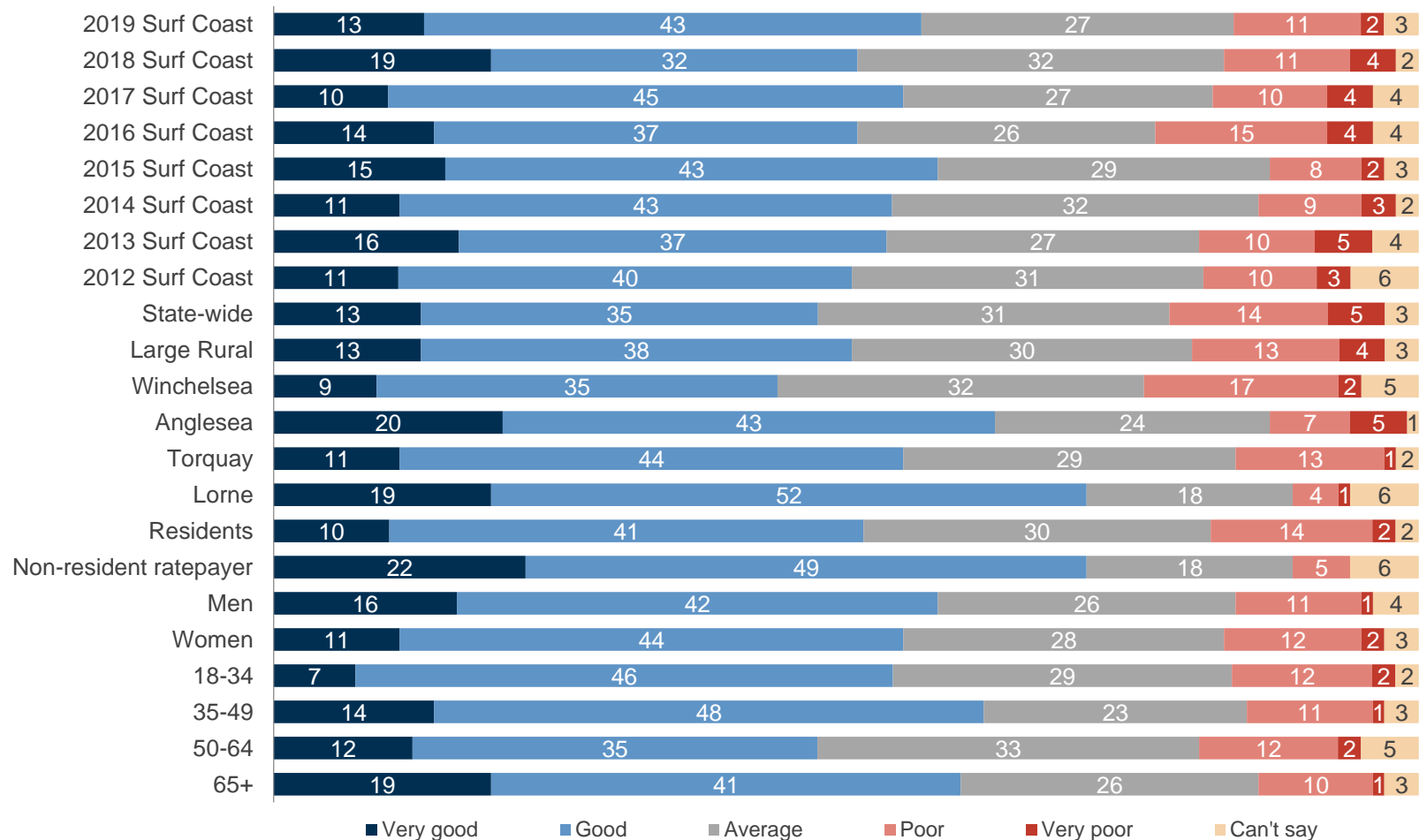
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 6

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



Informing the community performance

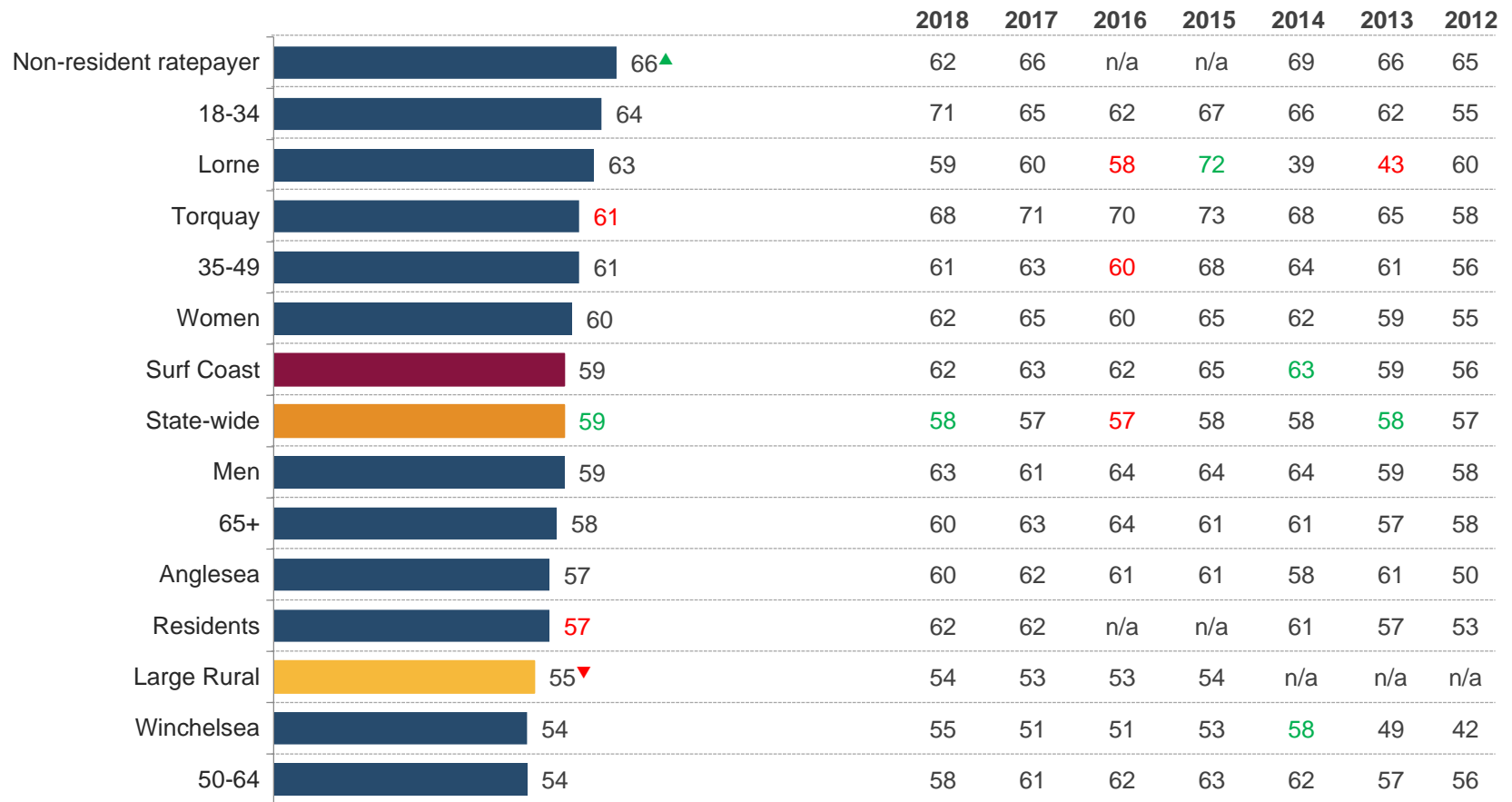
2019 Informing community performance (%)



The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance



2019 Streets and footpaths performance (index scores)



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

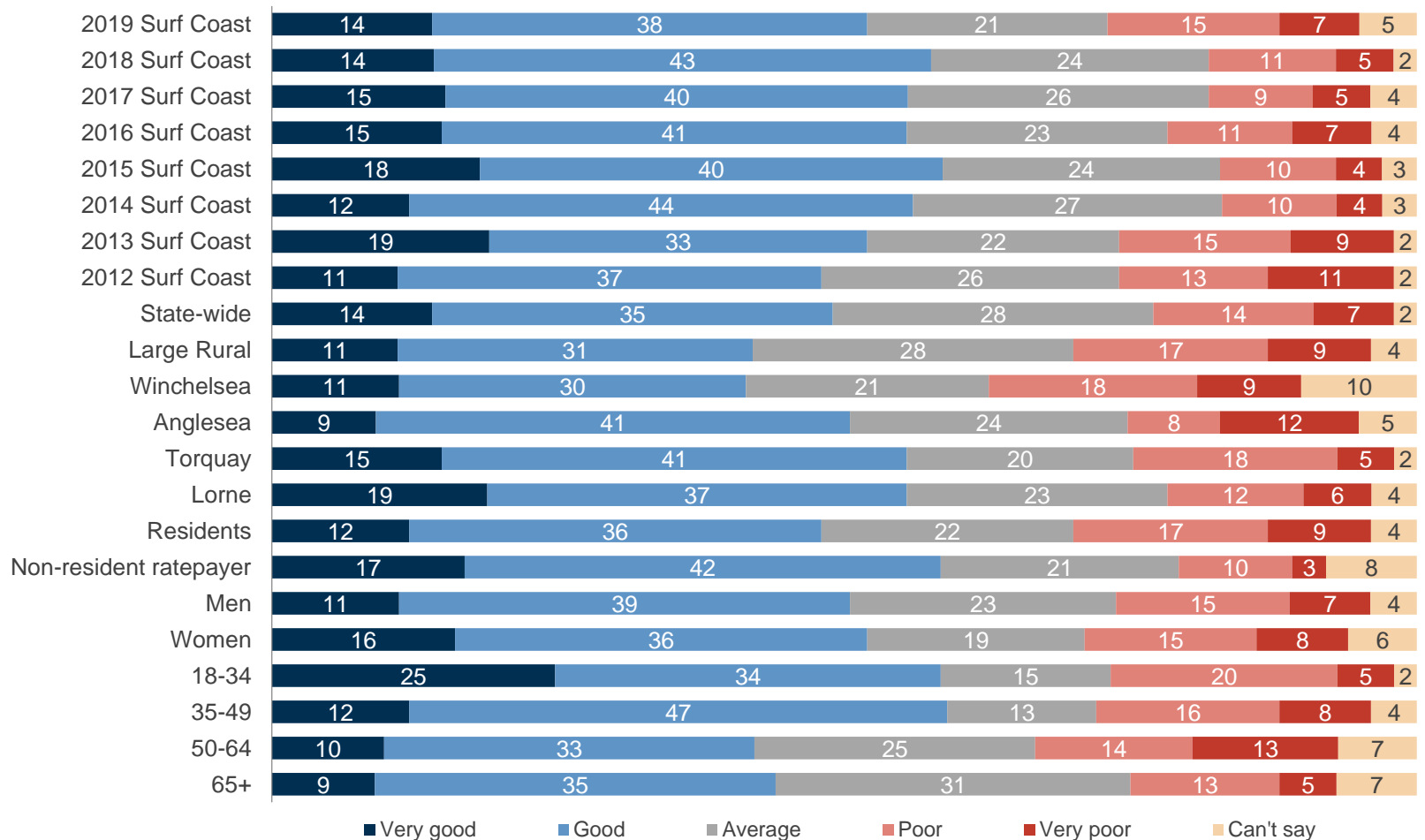
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 32 Councils asked group: 8

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

The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area performance



2019 Streets and footpaths performance (%)





Traffic management performance

2019 Traffic management performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	68▲	58	56	60	57	60	n/a	n/a
Non-resident ratepayer	62	59	60	n/a	n/a	61	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	62	58	57	55	56	58	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	59	60	62	62	59	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	59	57	57	57	56	57	n/a	n/a
Torquay	59	54	58	59	59	59	n/a	n/a
Lorne	59	54	52	53	69	61	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	59	55	57	56	57	58	n/a	n/a
Women	58	53	57	56	59	60	n/a	n/a
State-wide	58	57	59	59	60	60	60	58
Residents	57	54	56	n/a	n/a	58	n/a	n/a
65+	56	58	60	57	56	57	n/a	n/a
35-49	56	50	53	53	58	59	n/a	n/a
50-64	55	55	60	57	58	58	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	53	54	57	54	50	52	n/a	n/a

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

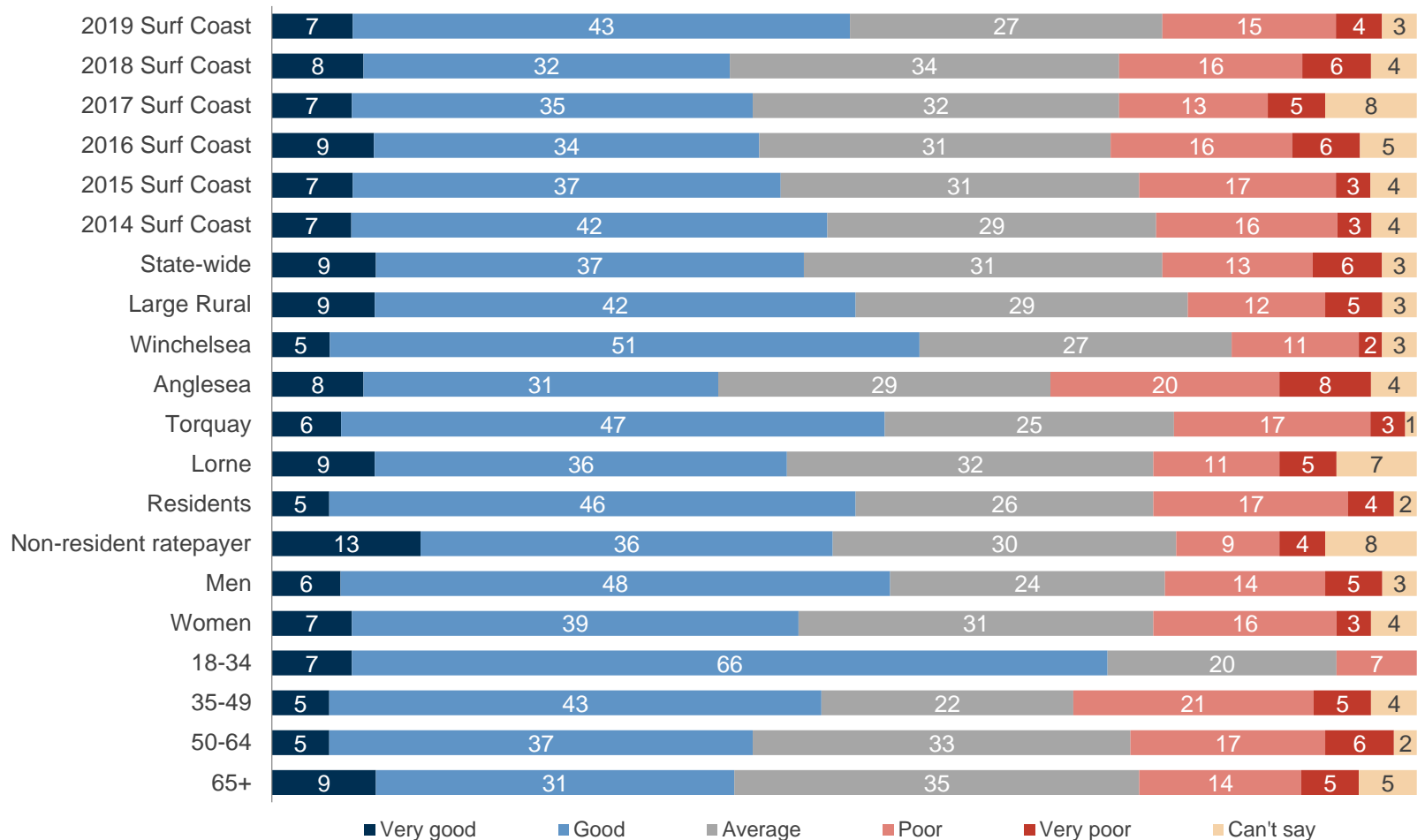
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 16 Councils asked group: 3

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



Traffic management performance

2019 Traffic management performance (%)





Parking facilities performance

2019 Parking performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	65▲	58	52	66	58	66	n/a	n/a
35-49	61	59	60	51	60	57	n/a	n/a
Non-resident ratepayer	60	59	61	n/a	n/a	55	n/a	n/a
Women	60	57	58	56	57	59	n/a	n/a
Lorne	60	44	43	59	64	49	n/a	n/a
Torquay	60	61	60	57	57	59	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	59	57	57	56	58	59	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	58	59	60	58	59	n/a	n/a	n/a
Residents	58	57	55	n/a	n/a	60	n/a	n/a
50-64	57	56	59	54	60	56	n/a	n/a
Men	57	57	55	56	60	59	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	57	55	55	55	61	64	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	56	57	57	55	56	60	n/a	n/a
State-wide	56▼	56	55	56	57	57	57	56
65+	52▼	56	56	55	56	57	n/a	n/a

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

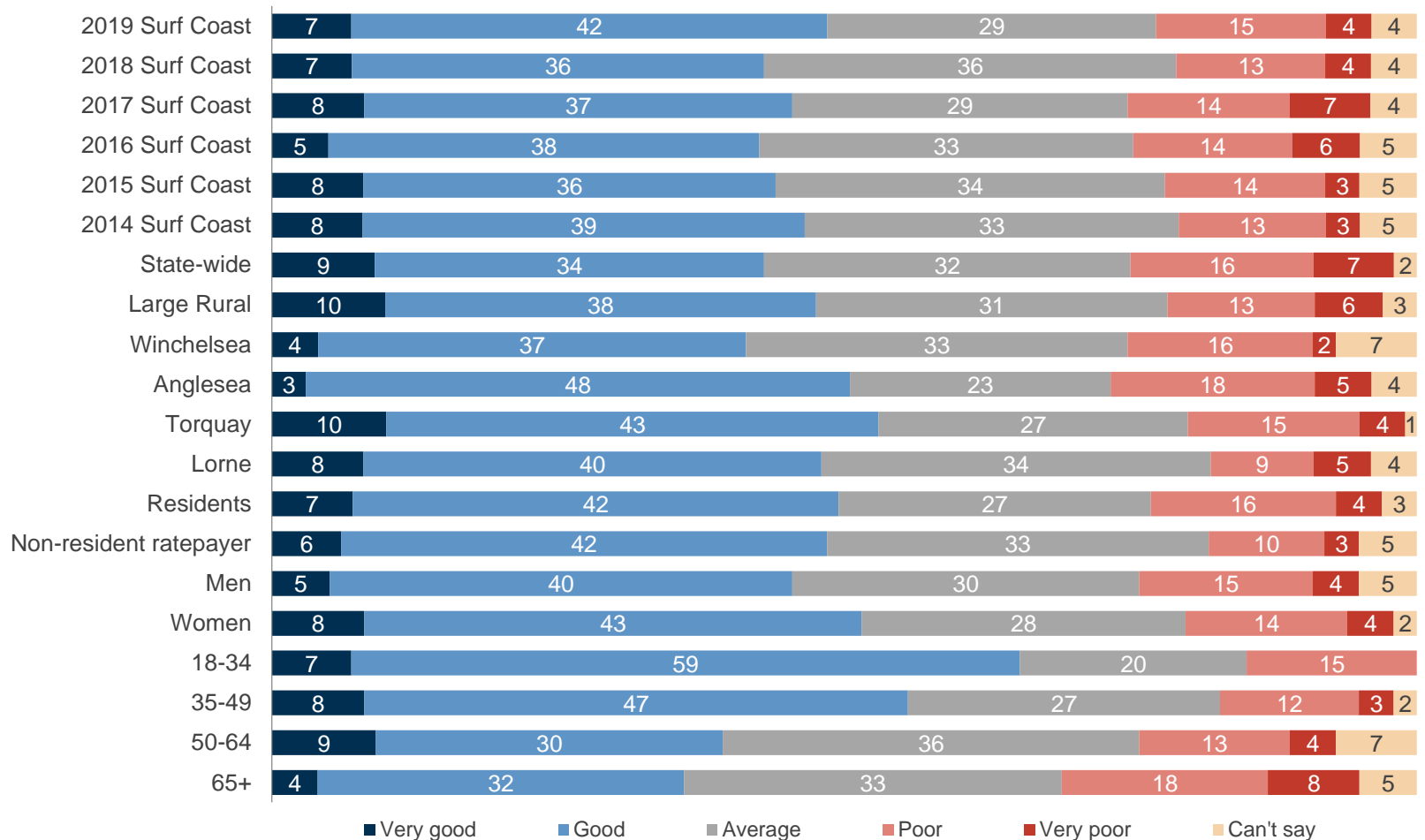
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 21 Councils asked group: 4

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



Parking facilities performance

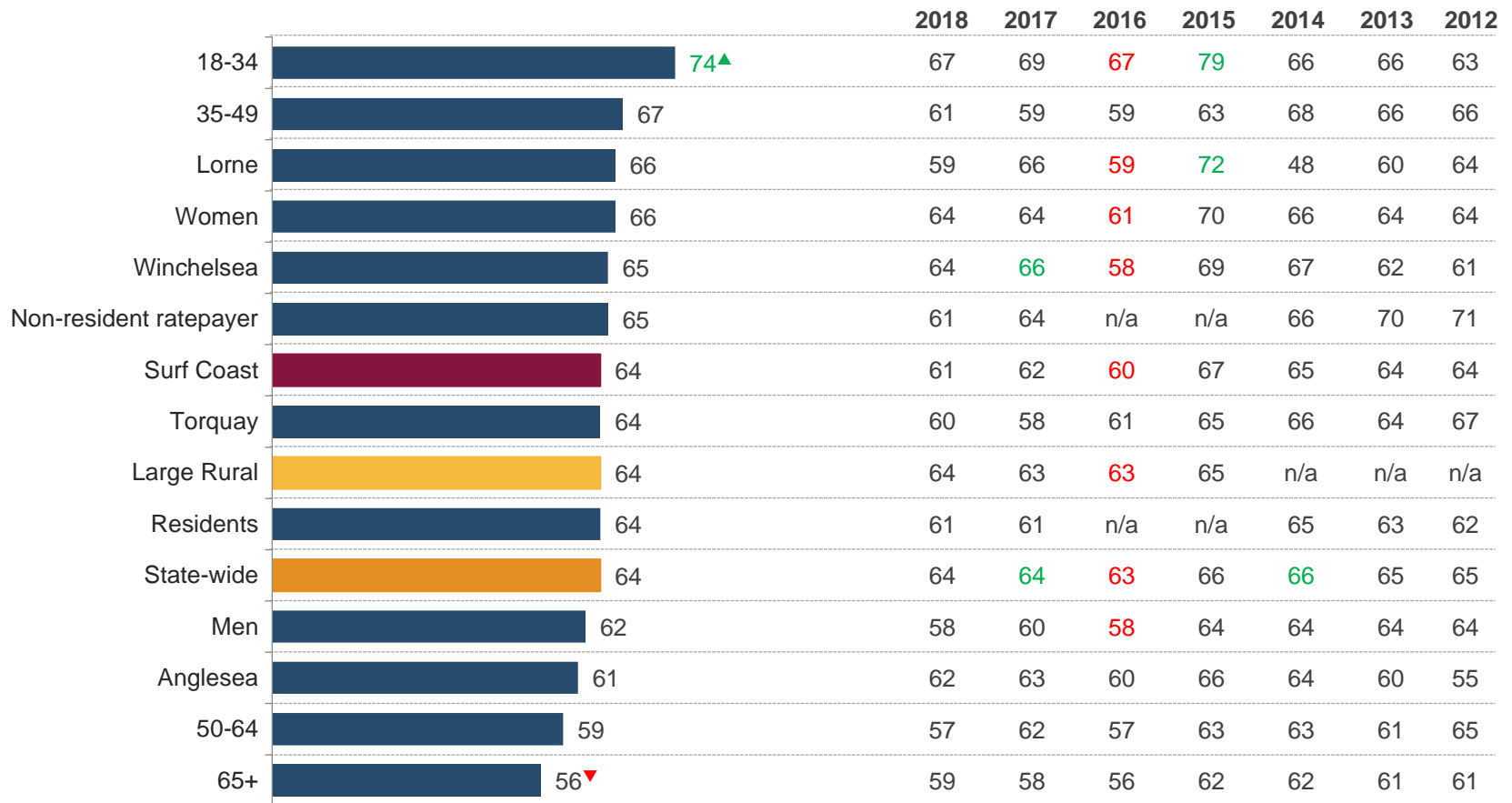
2019 Parking performance (%)





Enforcement of local laws performance

2019 Law enforcement performance (index scores)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Enforcement of local laws' over the last 12 months?

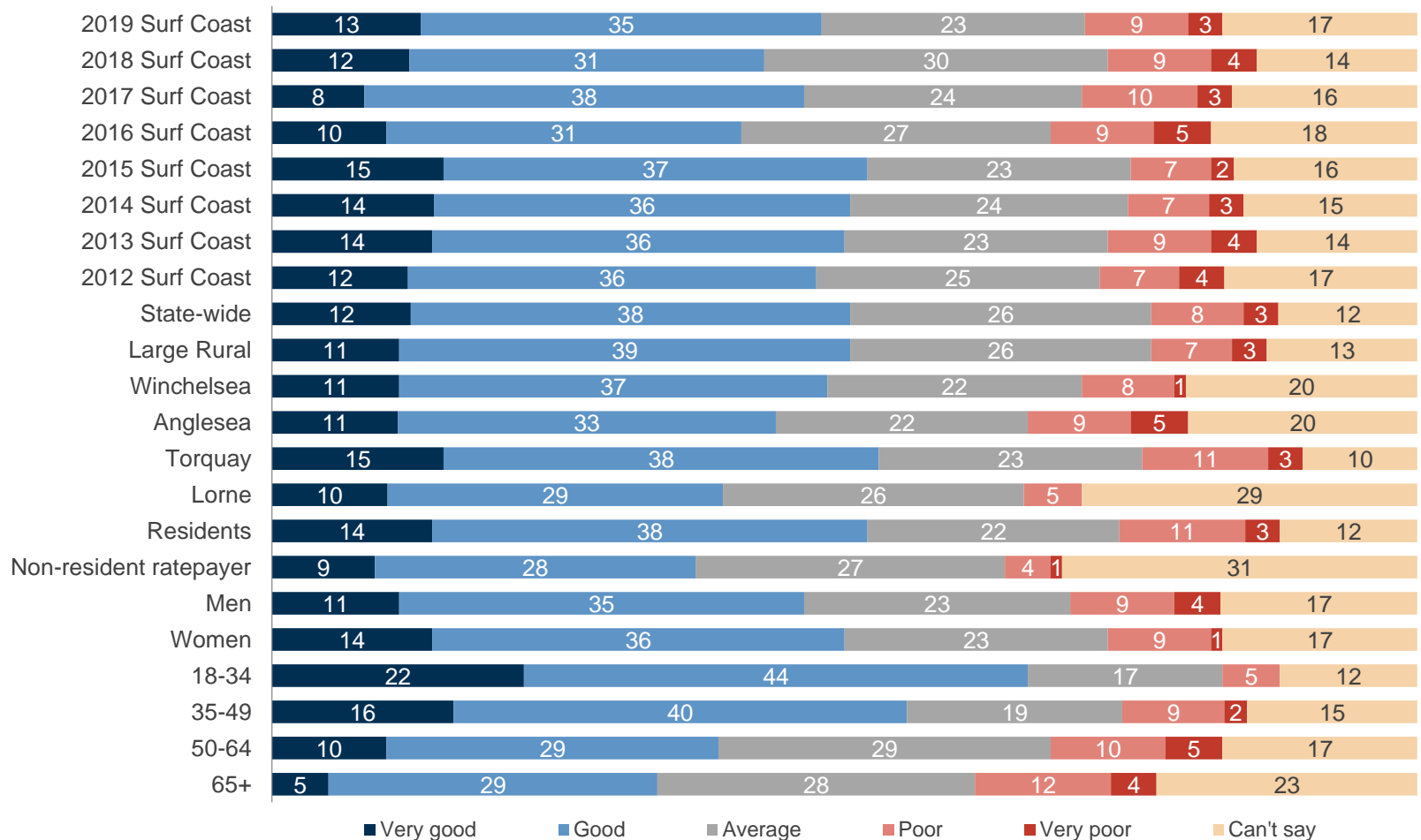
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 34 Councils asked group: 8

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



Enforcement of local laws performance

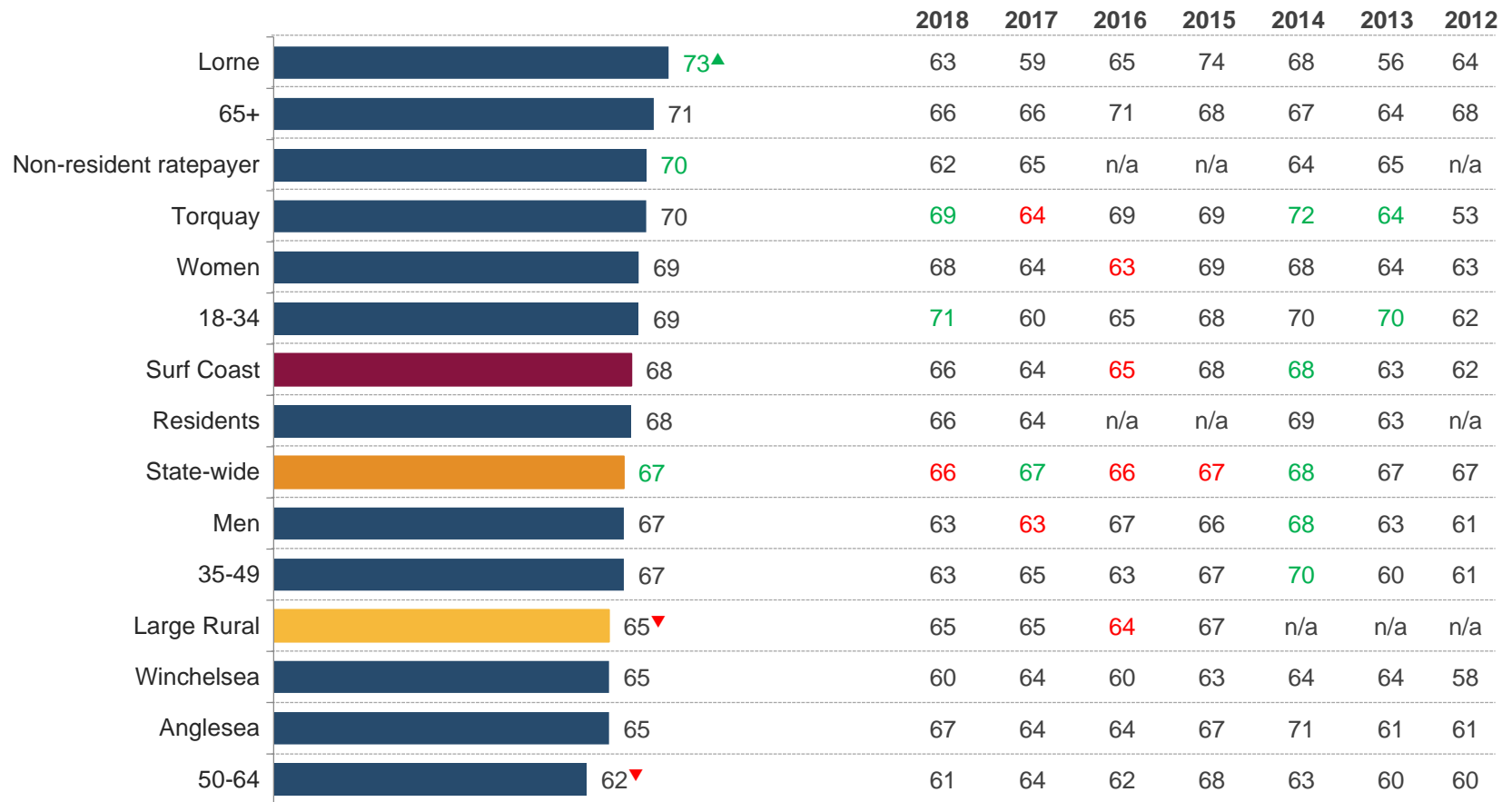
2019 Law enforcement performance (%)





Family support services performance

2019 Family support performance (index scores)



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

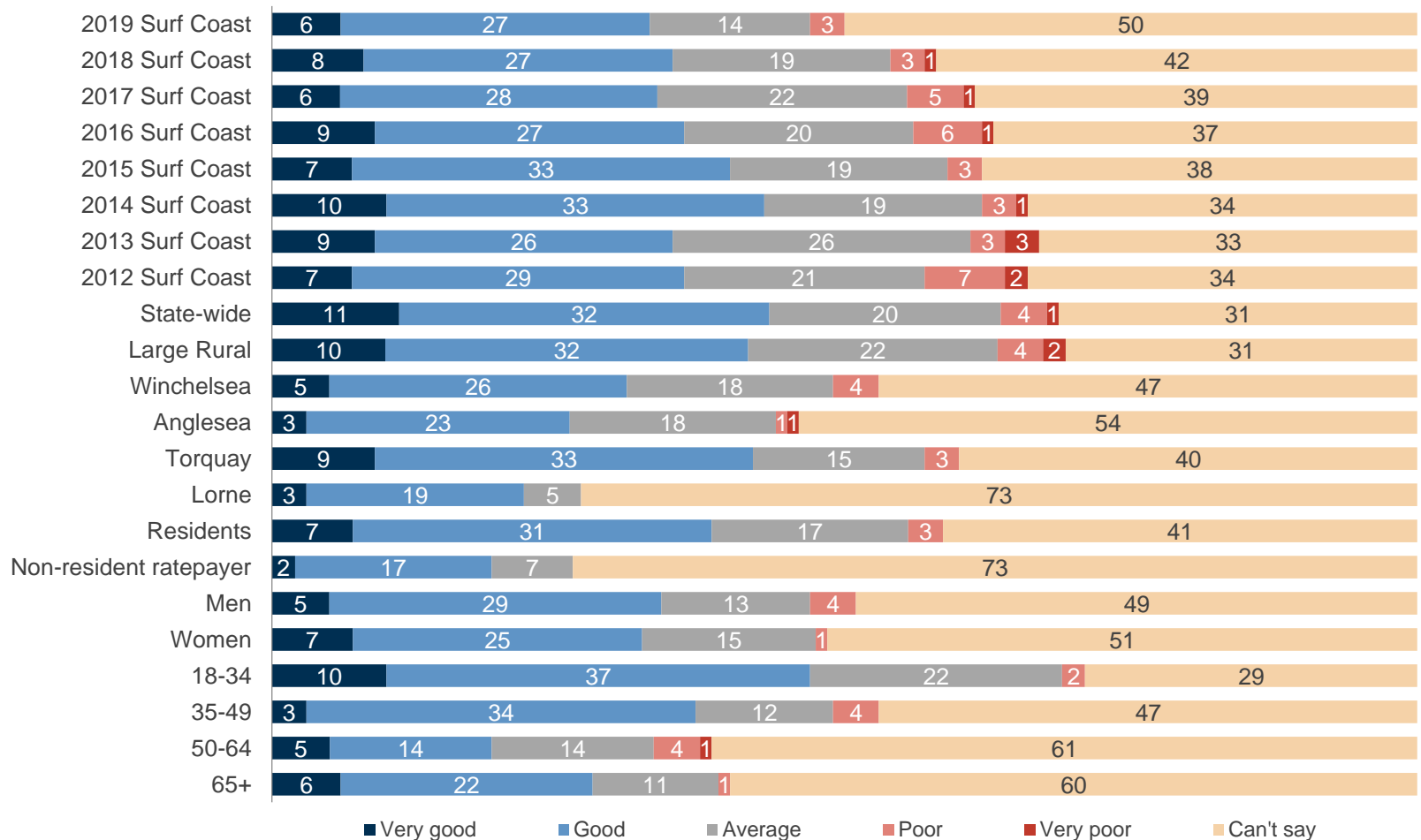
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 9

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



Family support services performance

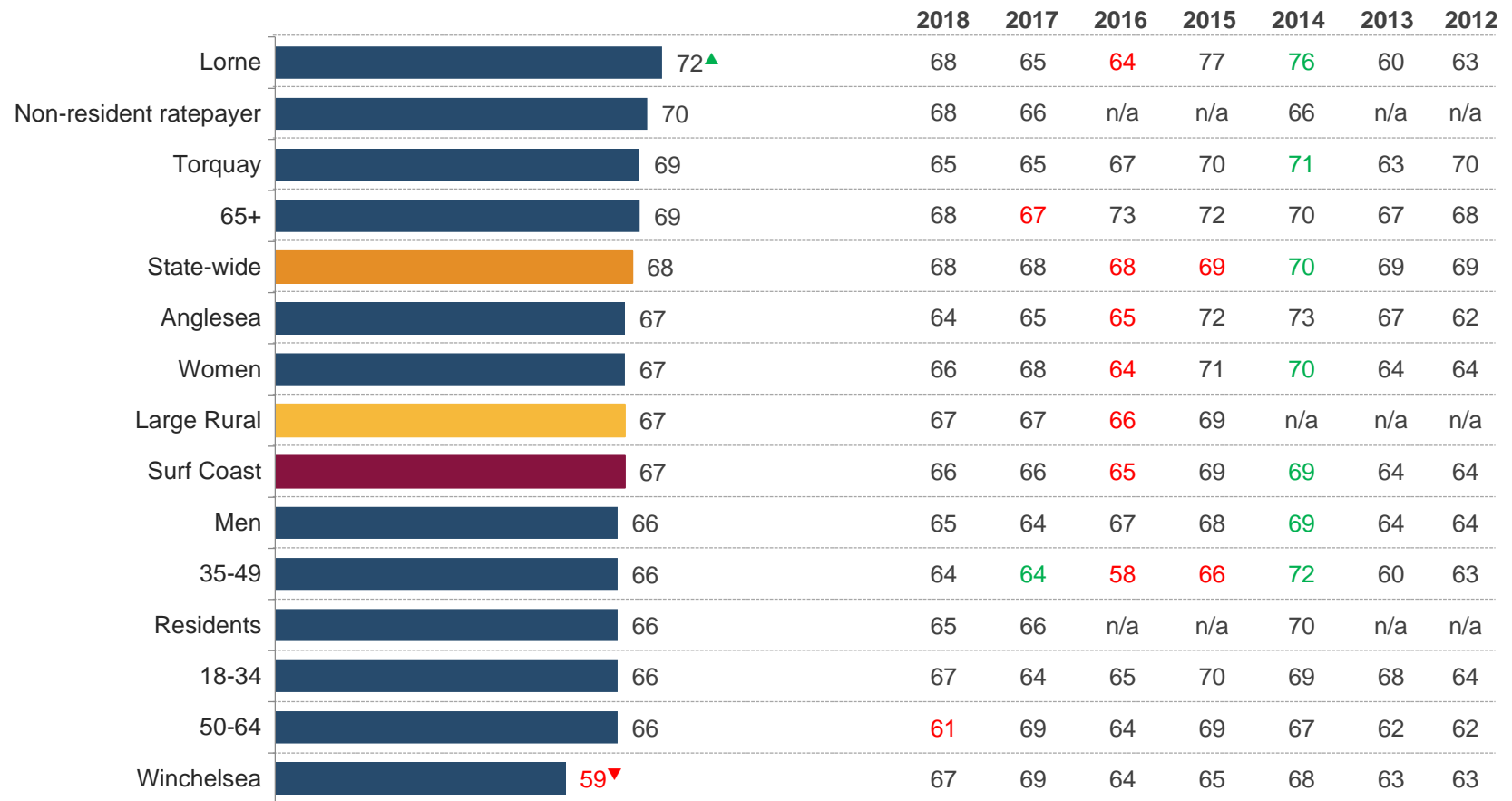
2019 Family support performance (%)





Elderly support services performance

2019 Elderly support performance (index scores)



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

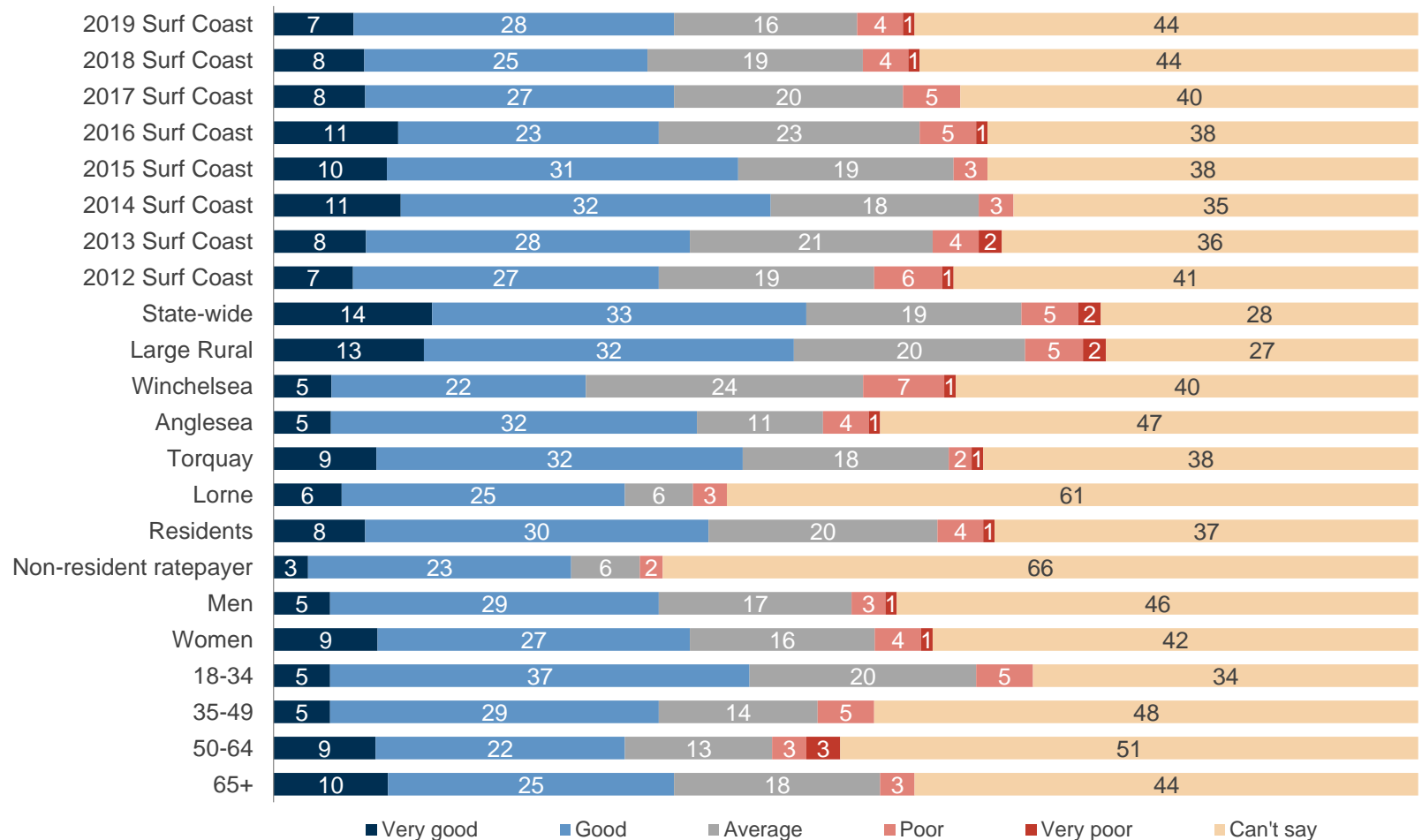
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 32 Councils asked group: 9

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



Elderly support services performance

2019 Elderly support performance (%)





Disadvantaged support services performance

2019 Disadvantaged support performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Non-resident ratepayer	67▲	60	60	n/a	n/a	64	n/a	n/a
Lorne	66▲	51	55	59	64	64	n/a	n/a
65+	64▲	60	59	64	65	64	n/a	n/a
State-wide	62▲	61	61	61	62	64	62	63
Large Rural	61▲	61	61	61	62	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	60	57	59	62	61	64	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	59	51	54	58	61	64	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	58	56	58	58	63	63	n/a	n/a
Torquay	57	61	59	66	65	65	n/a	n/a
35-49	56	49	59	53	61	63	n/a	n/a
Residents	56	55	57	n/a	n/a	63	n/a	n/a
Women	56	54	56	54	65	62	n/a	n/a
18-34	55	56	53	59	64	64	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	55	51	58	50	61	59	n/a	n/a
50-64	54	58	61	56	63	61	n/a	n/a

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

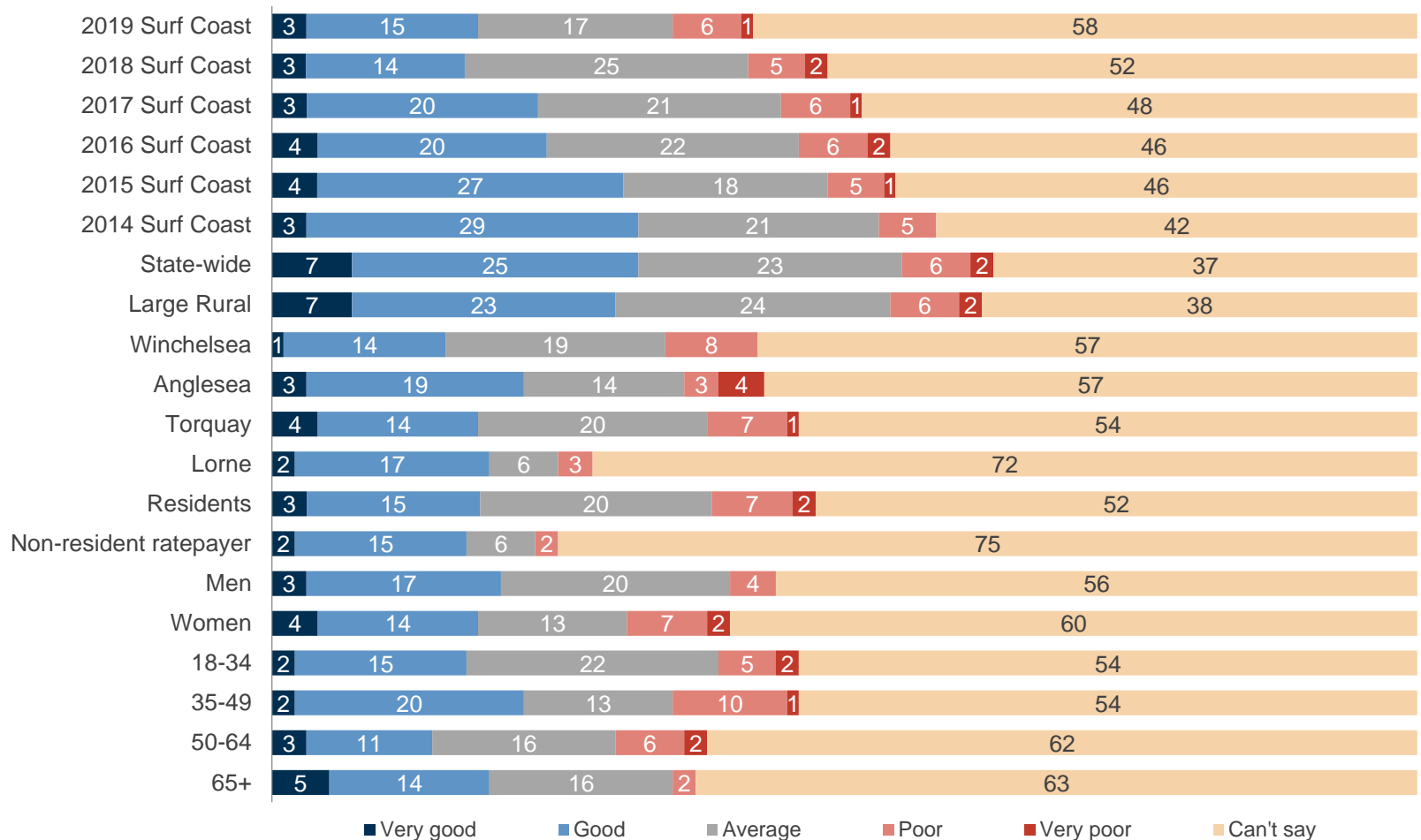
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 16 Councils asked group: 5

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



Disadvantaged support services performance

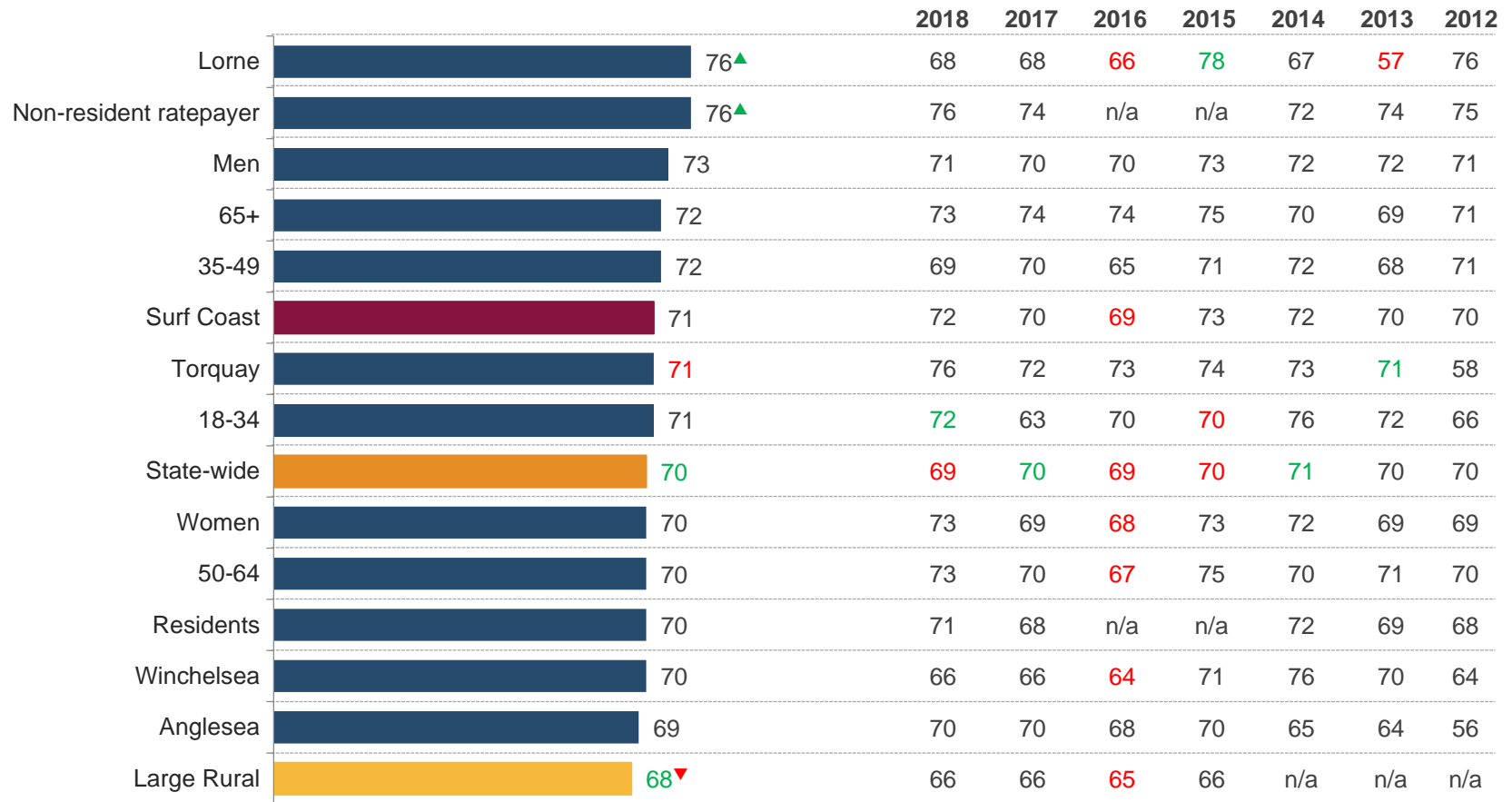
2019 Disadvantaged support performance (%)





Recreational facilities performance

2019 Recreational facilities performance (index scores)



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

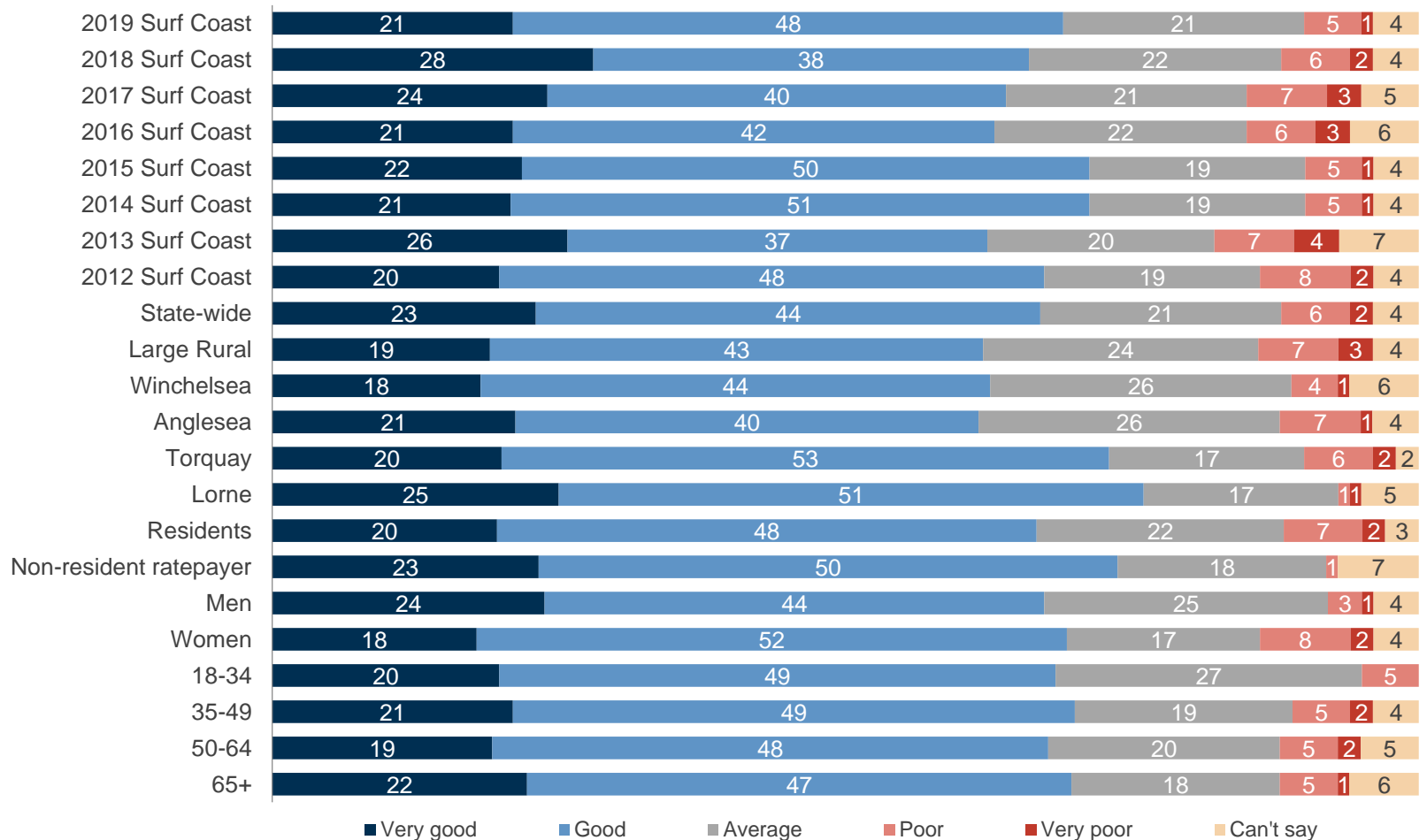
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 39 Councils asked group: 9

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



Recreational facilities performance

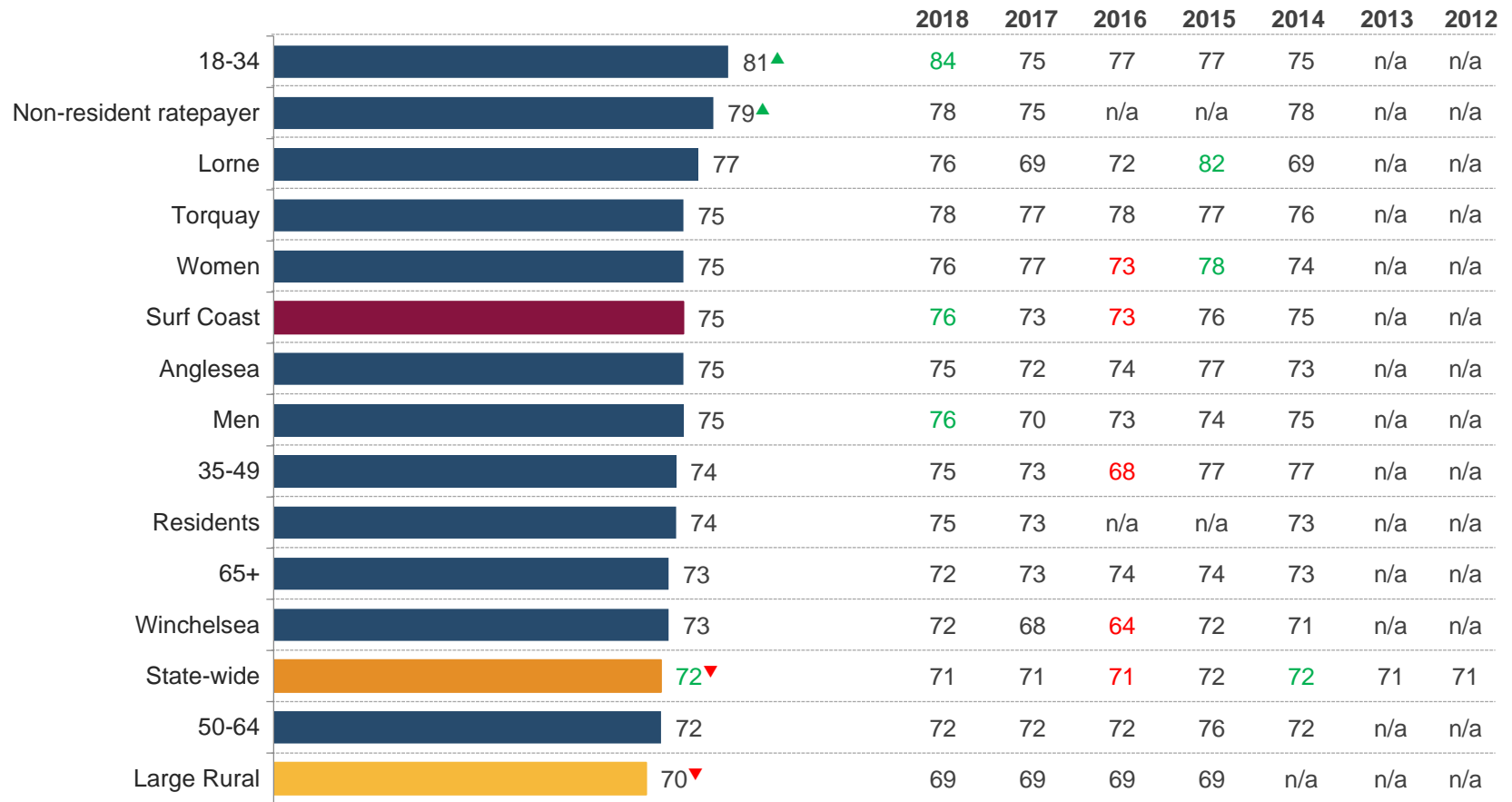
2019 Recreational facilities performance (%)





The appearance of public areas performance

2019 Public areas performance (index scores)



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

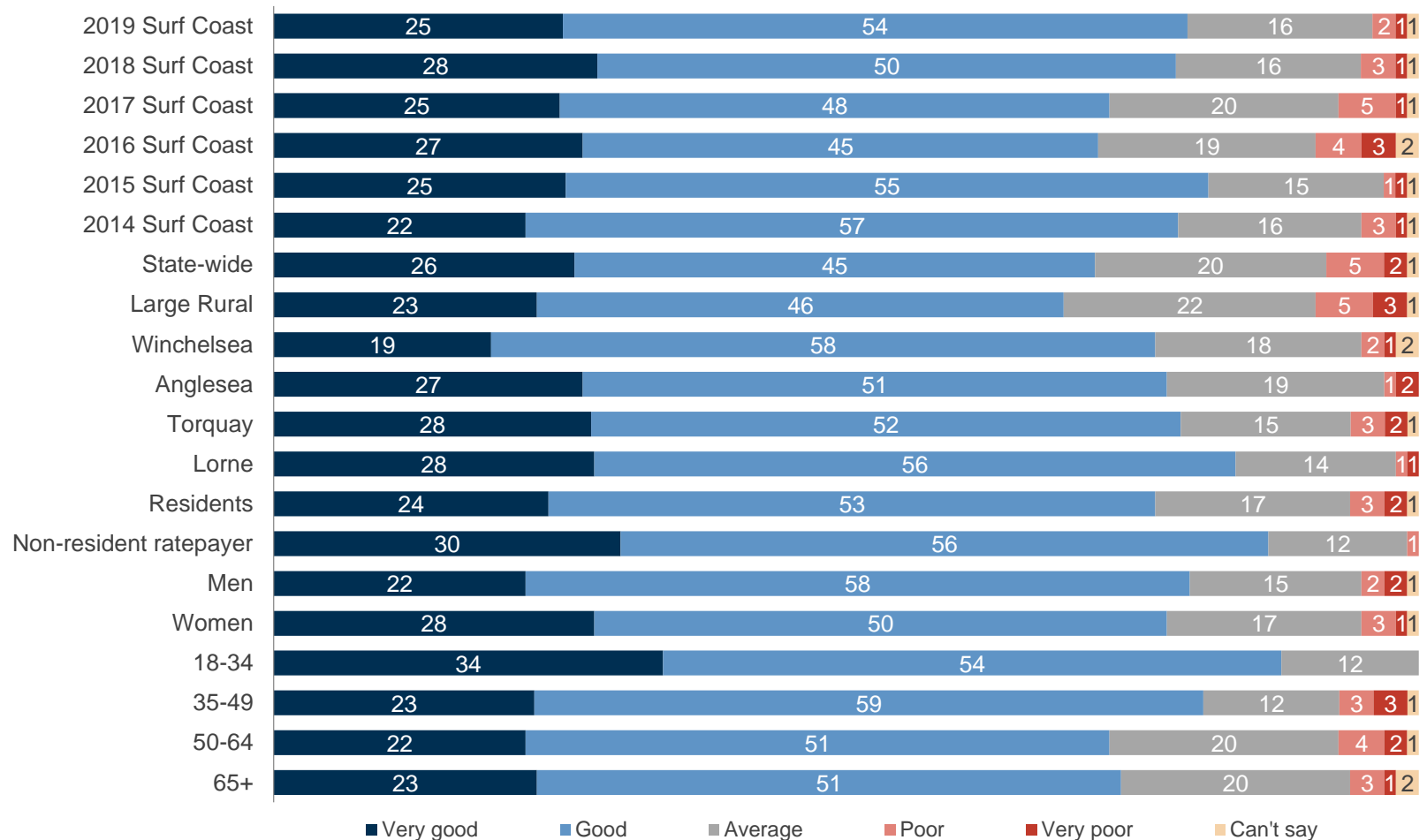
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 8

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



The appearance of public areas performance

2019 Public areas performance (%)





Art centres and libraries performance

2019 Art centres and libraries performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	74▲	74	73	72	73	75	73	73
18-34	73▲	69	65	58	64	65	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	73▲	71	70	70	73	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	68	63	65	64	66	66	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	68	66	68	60	66	65	n/a	n/a
Torquay	68	66	65	63	66	69	n/a	n/a
Lorne	68	64	61	62	72	62	n/a	n/a
Residents	68	65	65	n/a	n/a	65	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	68	65	65	61	65	64	n/a	n/a
35-49	67	60	65	57	65	65	n/a	n/a
Men	67	67	64	58	64	63	n/a	n/a
Non-resident ratepayer	67	66	65	n/a	n/a	62	n/a	n/a
65+	67	67	66	66	67	64	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	66	62	64	59	62	60	n/a	n/a
50-64	62▼	63	64	64	64	63	n/a	n/a

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Art centres and libraries' over the last 12 months?

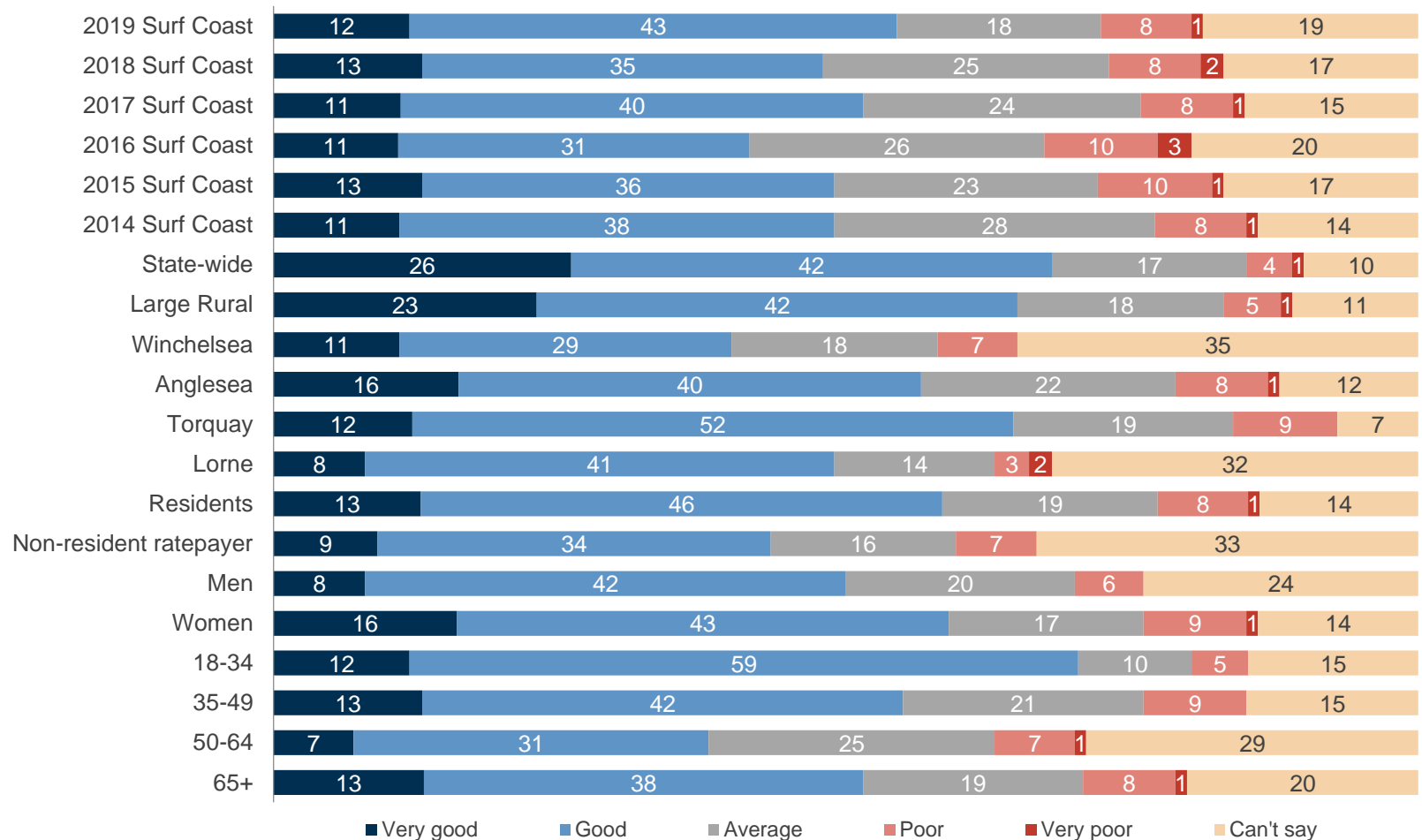
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 25 Councils asked group: 5

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



Art centres and libraries performance

2019 Art centres and libraries performance (%)





Community and cultural activities performance

2019 Community and cultural activities performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	74	76	64	66	68	70	66	63
Women	74	72	70	66	71	73	67	65
Non-resident ratepayer	73	74	68	n/a	n/a	68	71	72
Torquay	73	72	68	69	72	74	68	56
Lorne	72	68	62	62	73	59	49	65
Anglesea	72	70	68	64	69	66	70	62
65+	72	70	68	68	69	68	61	65
Surf Coast	72	70	67	65	69	70	66	64
35-49	71	67	68	61	69	72	70	66
Residents	71	69	66	n/a	n/a	70	65	62
Men	69	68	63	63	68	66	66	63
State-wide	69 ▼	69	69	69	69	70	69	68
Winchelsea	68	67	64	59	64	68	62	59
50-64	68	67	66	64	70	67	65	63
Large Rural	67 ▼	67	69	67	69	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

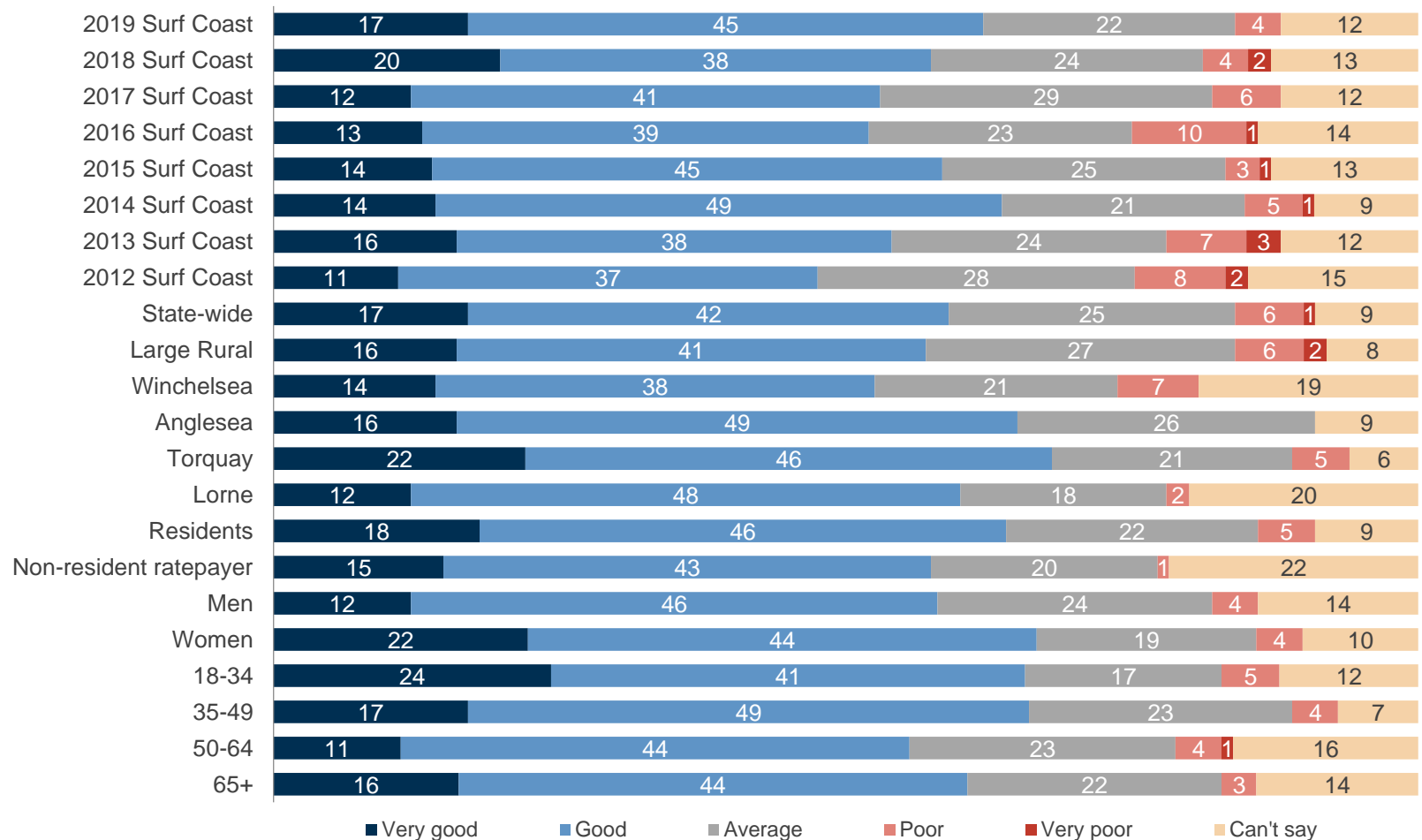
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 24 Councils asked group: 7

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



Community and cultural activities performance

2019 Community and cultural activities performance (%)





Waste management performance

2019 Waste management performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Non-resident ratepayer	72	74	77	n/a	n/a	73	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	72	74	78	73	74	78	n/a	n/a
65+	71	74	78	75	77	75	n/a	n/a
Lorne	70	63	64	61	71	64	n/a	n/a
18-34	69	69	72	70	74	74	n/a	n/a
Men	69	73	72	72	77	75	n/a	n/a
State-wide	68	70	71	70	72	73	71	72
Surf Coast	68	72	74	72	75	75	n/a	n/a
Women	67	71	75	73	72	74	n/a	n/a
Torquay	67	75	75	78	78	78	n/a	n/a
Residents	66	71	73	n/a	n/a	75	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	66	67	71	68	73	72	n/a	n/a
35-49	66	72	72	72	72	75	n/a	n/a
50-64	65	72	72	72	76	74	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	64▼	67	68	66	68	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

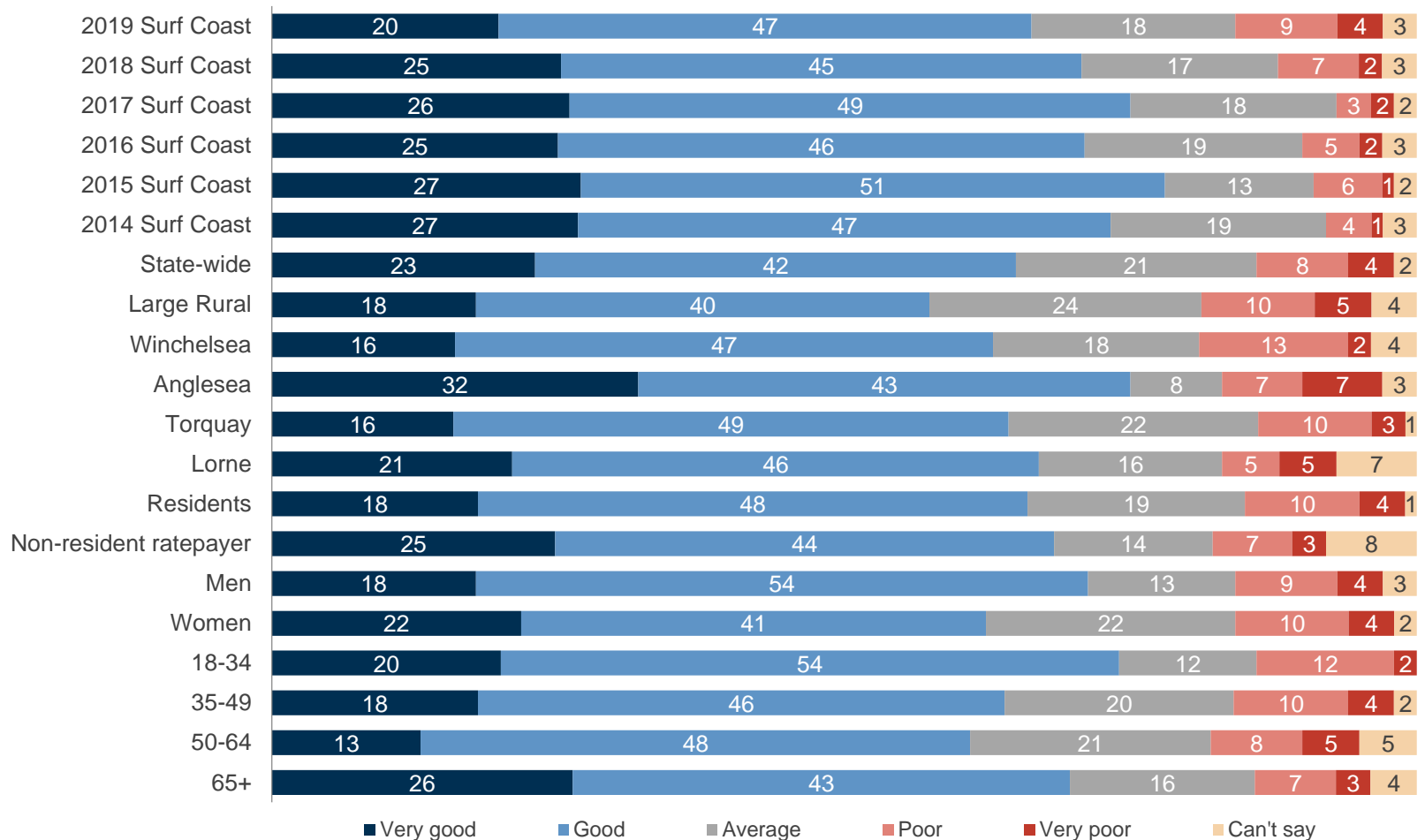
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 40 Councils asked group: 8

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



Waste management performance

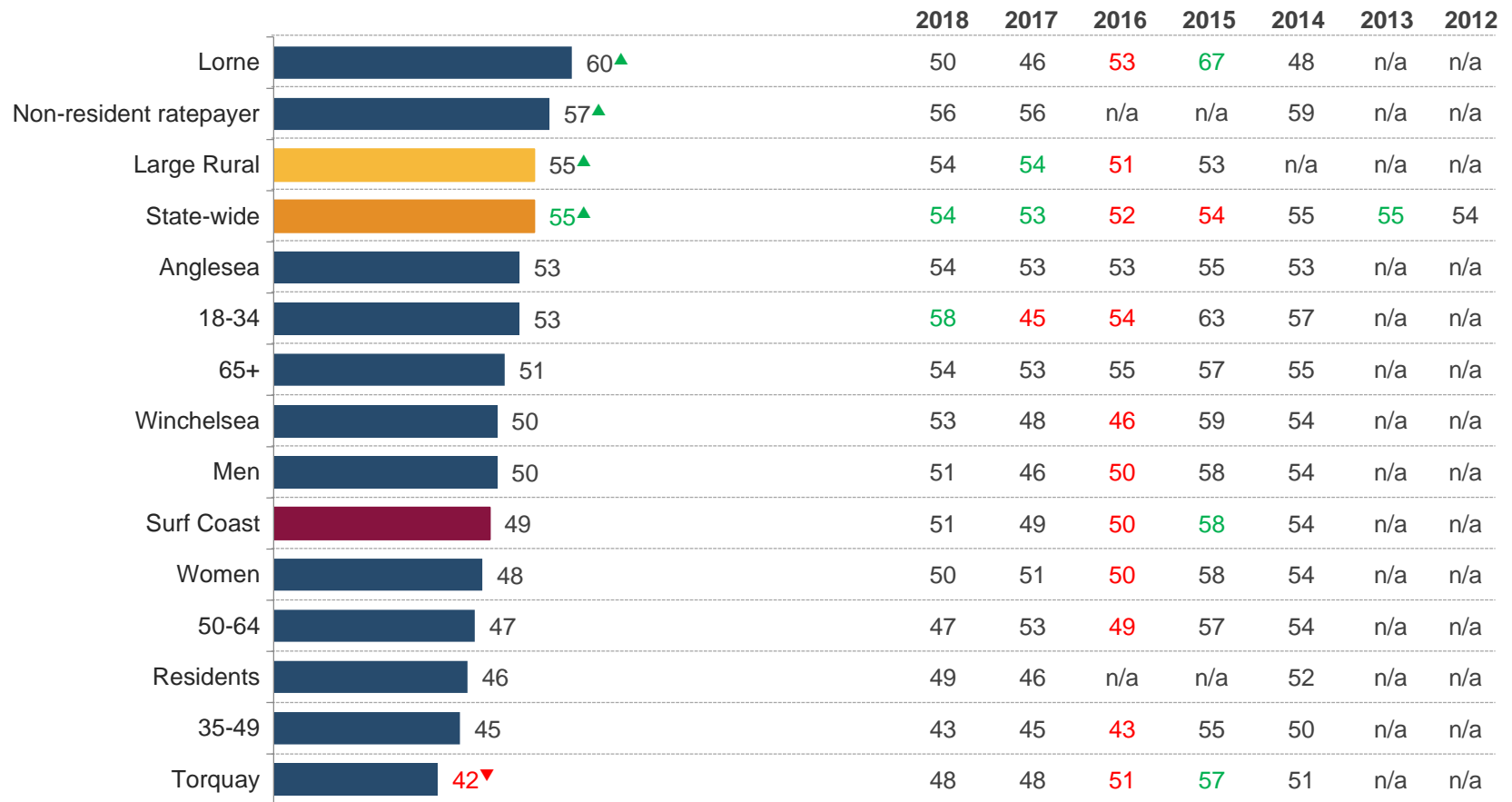
2019 Waste management performance (%)





Council's general town planning policy performance

2019 Town planning performance (index scores)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Council's general town planning policy' over the last 12 months?

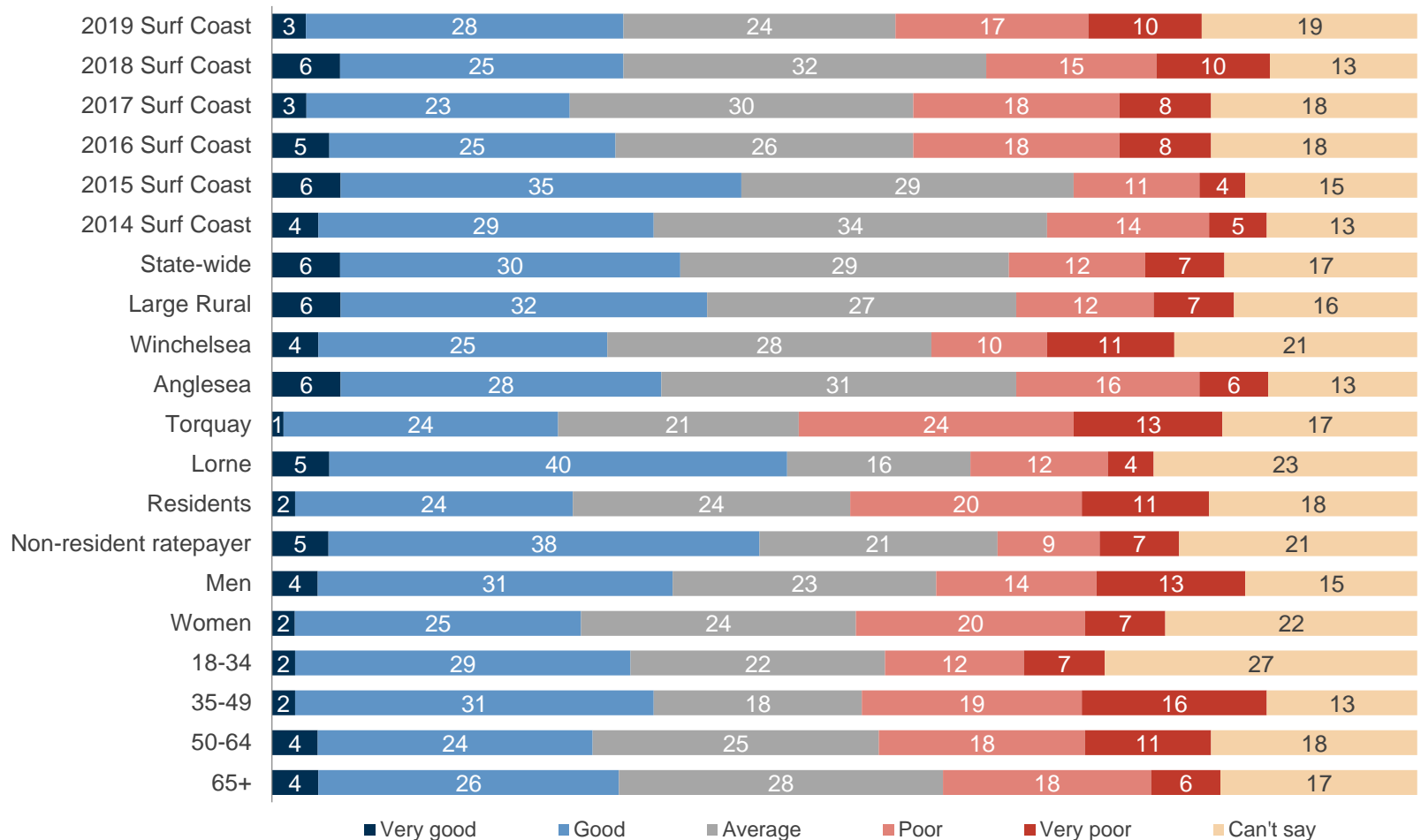
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 19 Councils asked group: 5

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



Council's general town planning policy performance

2019 Town planning performance (%)





Planning and building permits performance

2019 Planning and building permits performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	58▲	55	50	57	61	59	57	46
Lorne	56▲	50	47	49	61	54	48	48
Non-resident ratepayer	54▲	52	55	n/a	n/a	55	57	57
State-wide	52▲	52	51	50	54	53	55	54
Winchelsea	50	52	50	46	53	55	56	51
Large Rural	49	49	48	50	54	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	48	45	42	45	54	51	54	53
Men	47	49	47	49	54	52	56	50
Surf Coast	47	50	48	50	56	53	55	50
Women	47	50	50	52	57	54	53	51
Residents	45	49	46	n/a	n/a	52	54	48
Anglesea	44	47	52	48	51	48	59	44
Torquay	44	50	46	55	59	52	51	53
50-64	43	50	52	47	52	53	53	51
65+	42	50	52	52	56	50	53	52

Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning and building permits' over the last 12 months?

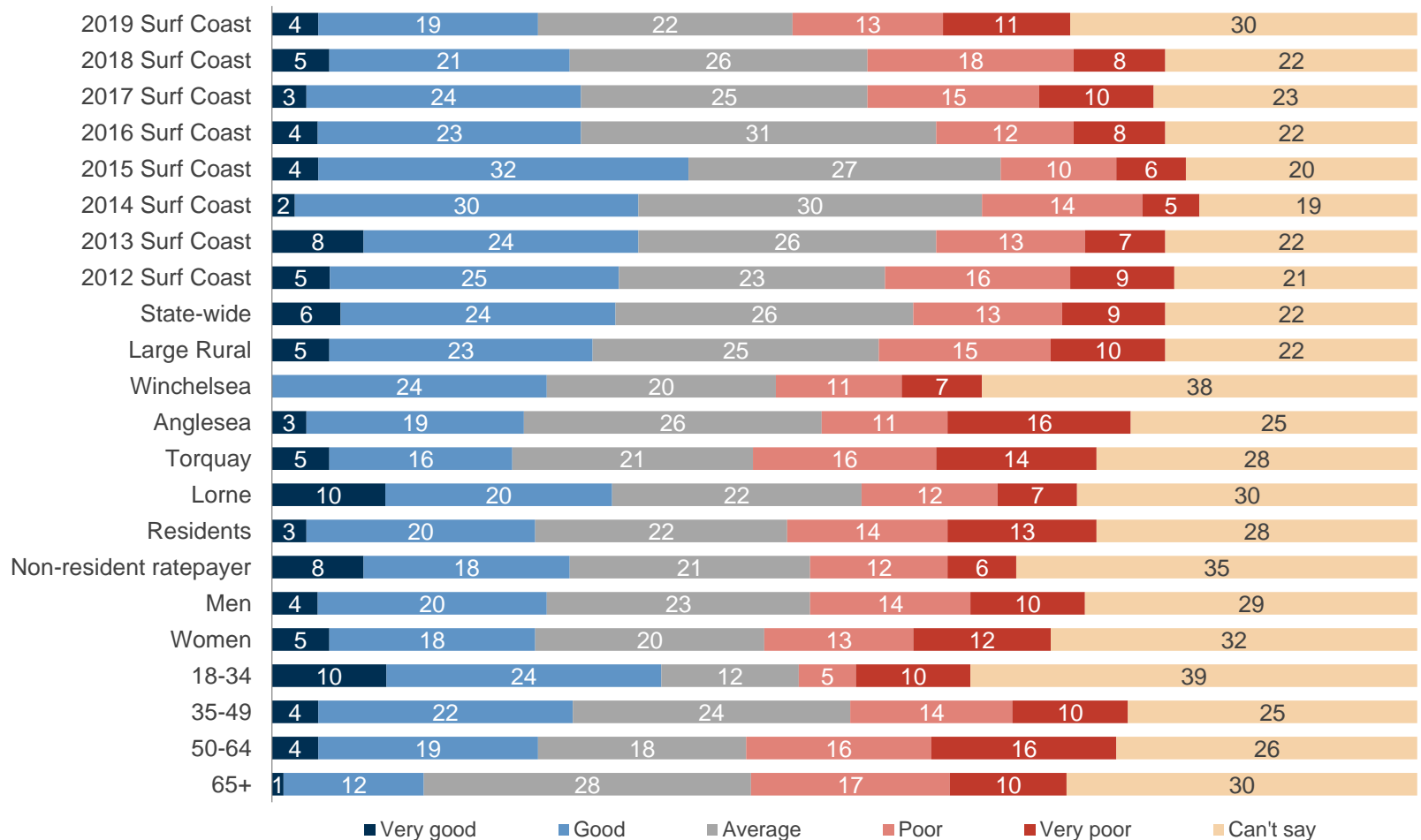
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 7

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



Planning and building permits performance

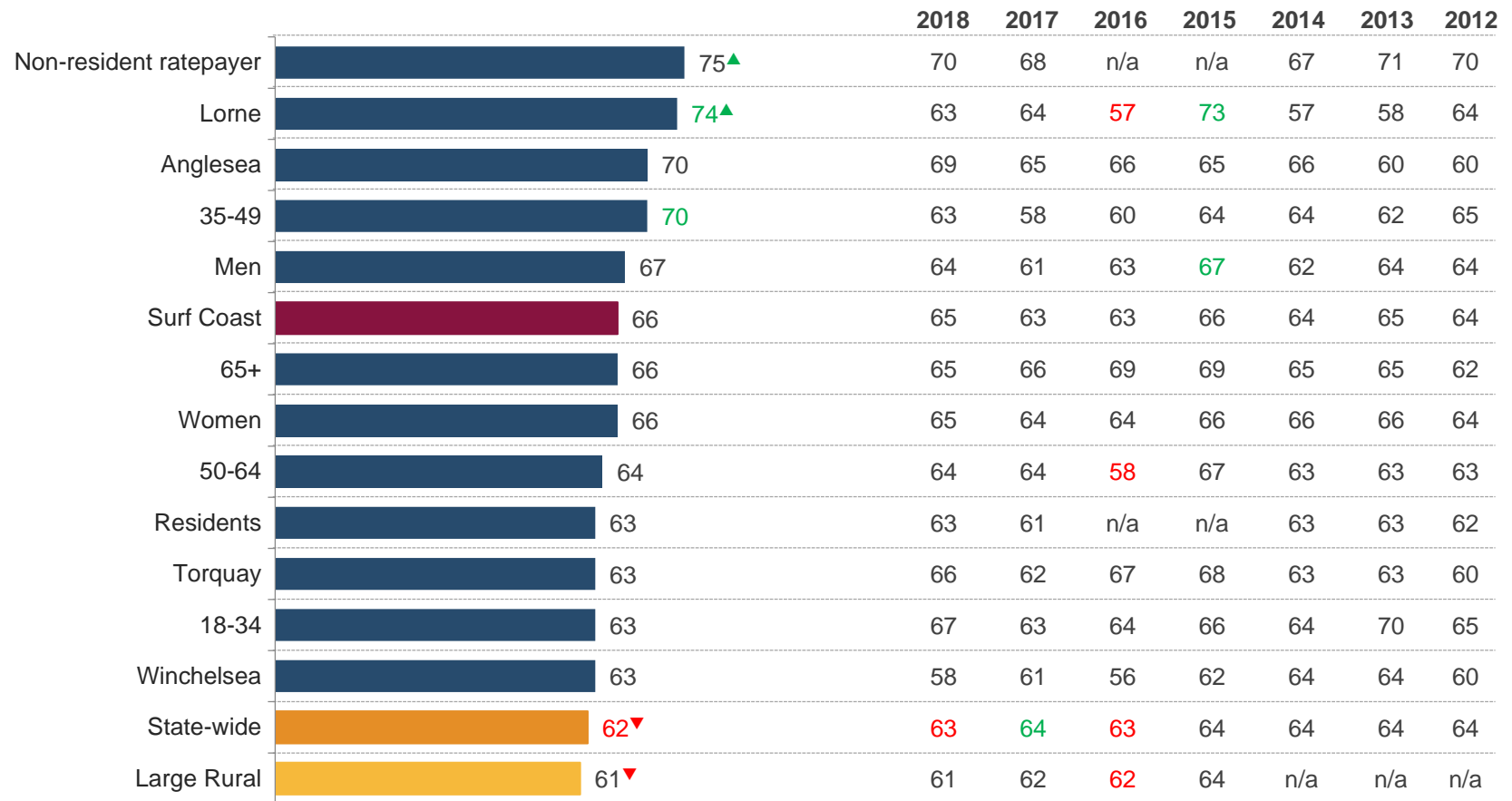
2019 Planning and building permits performance (%)





Environmental sustainability performance

2019 Environmental sustainability performance (index scores)



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

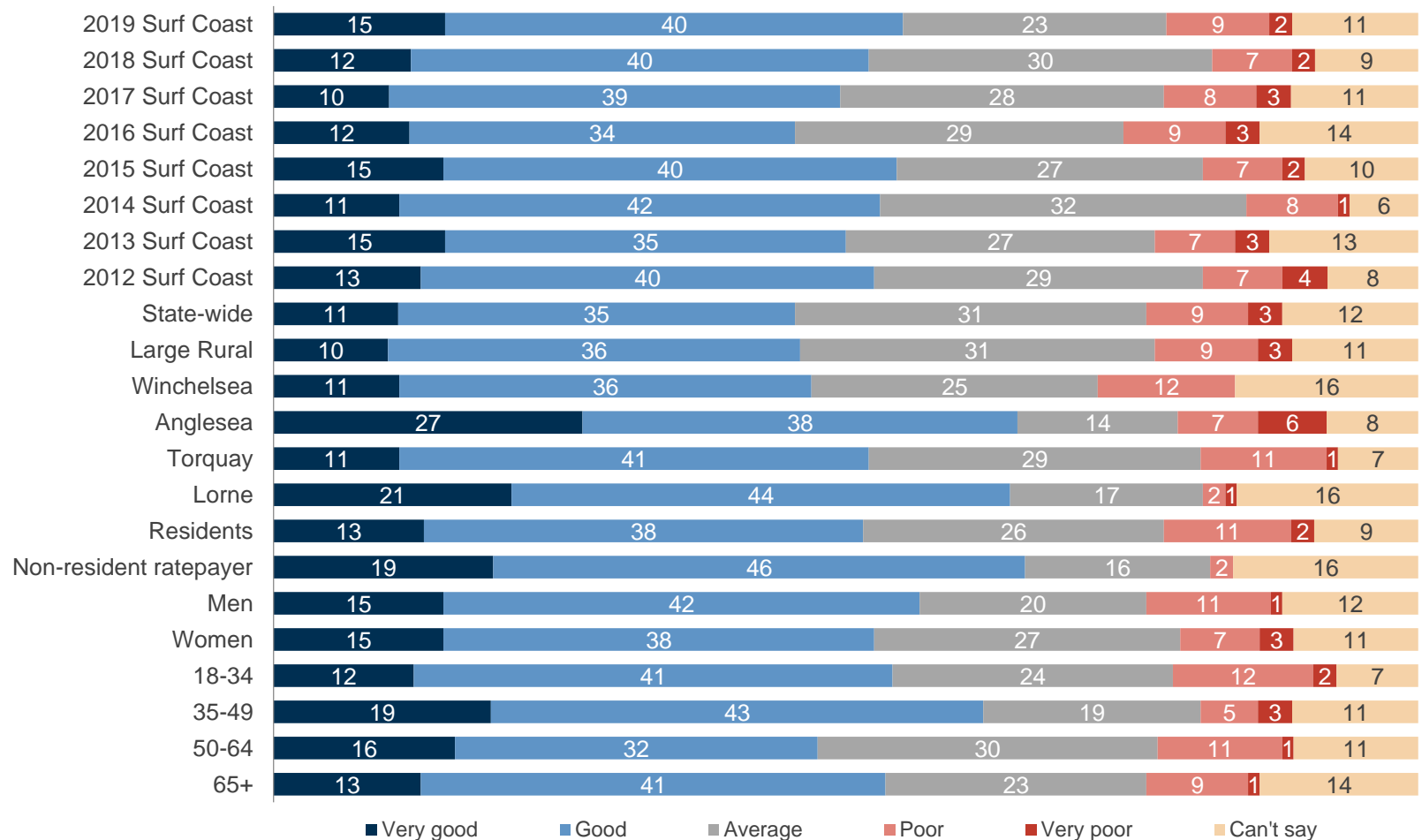
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 7

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



Environmental sustainability performance

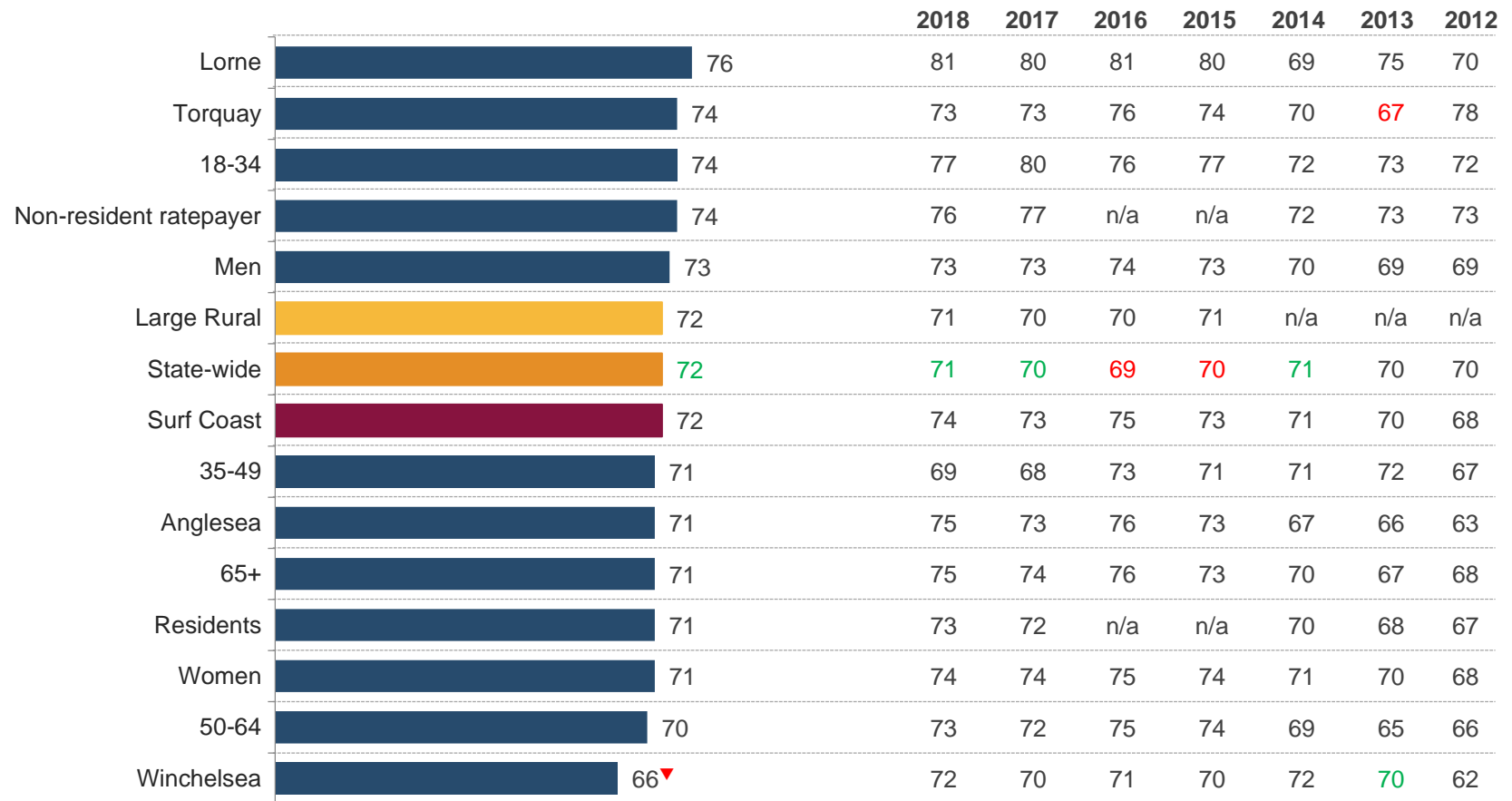
2019 Environmental sustainability performance (%)





Emergency and disaster management performance

2019 Emergency and disaster management performance (index scores)



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

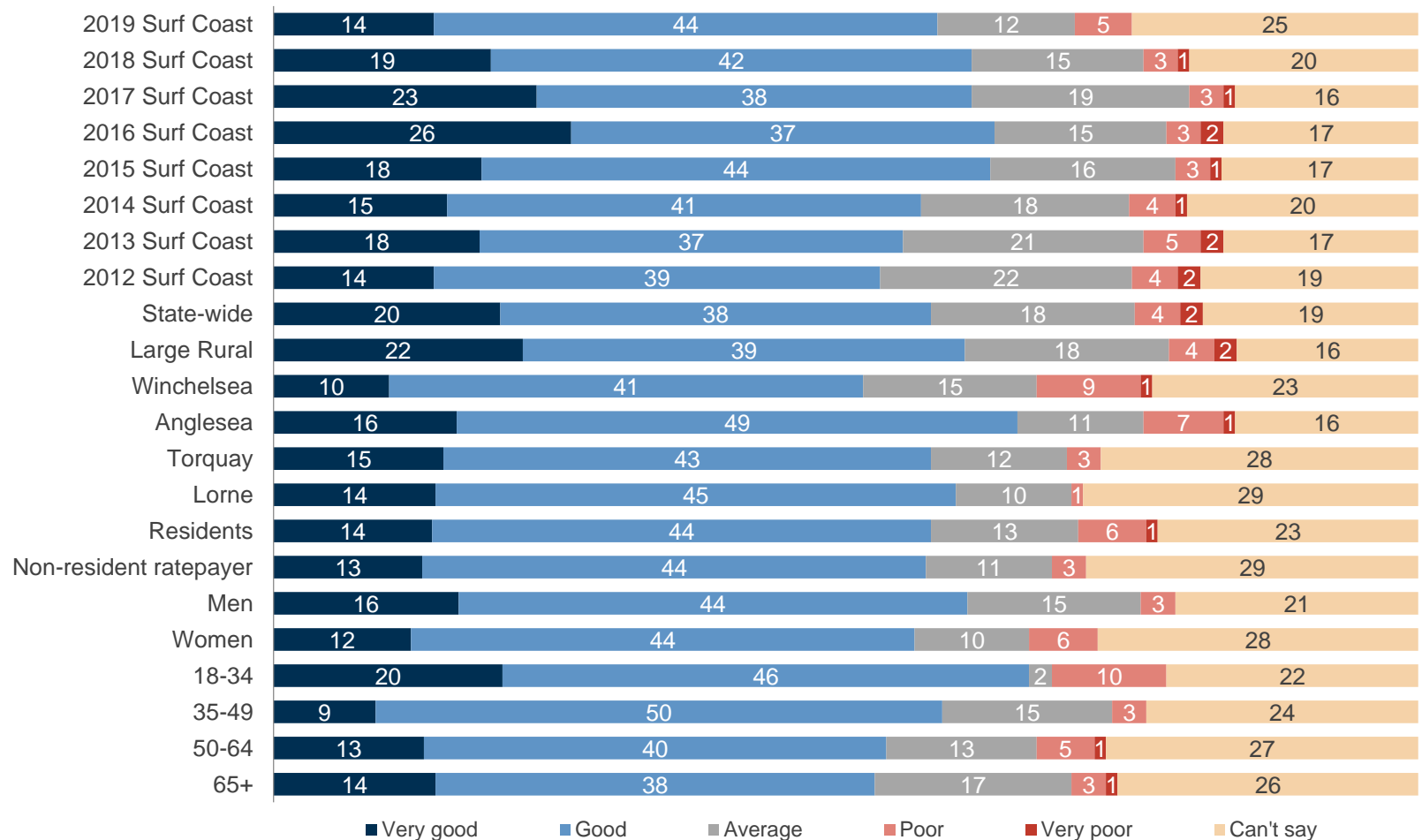
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 24 Councils asked group: 9

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



Emergency and disaster management performance

2019 Emergency and disaster management performance (%)





Planning for population growth in the area performance

2019 Population growth performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Lorne	59▲	41	43	48	62	39	50	47
Non-resident ratepayer	59▲	51	55	n/a	n/a	57	63	61
18-34	54	52	48	52	68	59	54	54
Anglesea	53	51	57	57	60	53	51	50
State-wide	52▲	52	52	51	54	54	54	52
Winchelsea	50	53	51	53	61	55	57	53
65+	49	53	55	58	59	54	57	53
Large Rural	49	48	48	47	50	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	49	50	48	52	61	54	57	51
Surf Coast	48	49	51	52	58	54	55	51
Women	47	47	53	53	55	53	52	51
50-64	45	46	54	48	58	52	55	51
Residents	45	48	50	n/a	n/a	52	53	48
35-49	43	44	46	51	50	50	55	47
Torquay	41▼	47	50	51	54	52	50	34

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

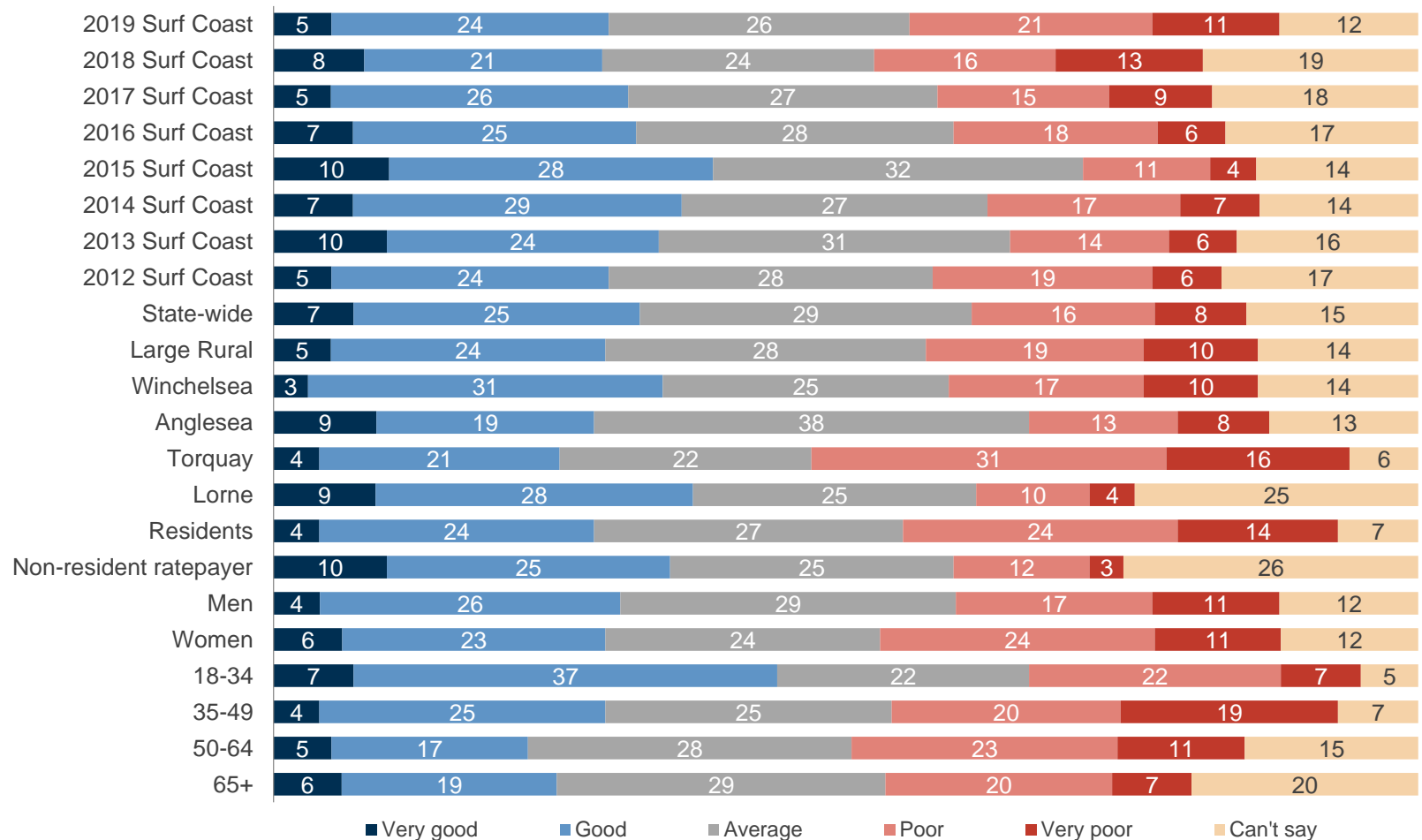
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 17 Councils asked group: 5

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



Planning for population growth in the area performance

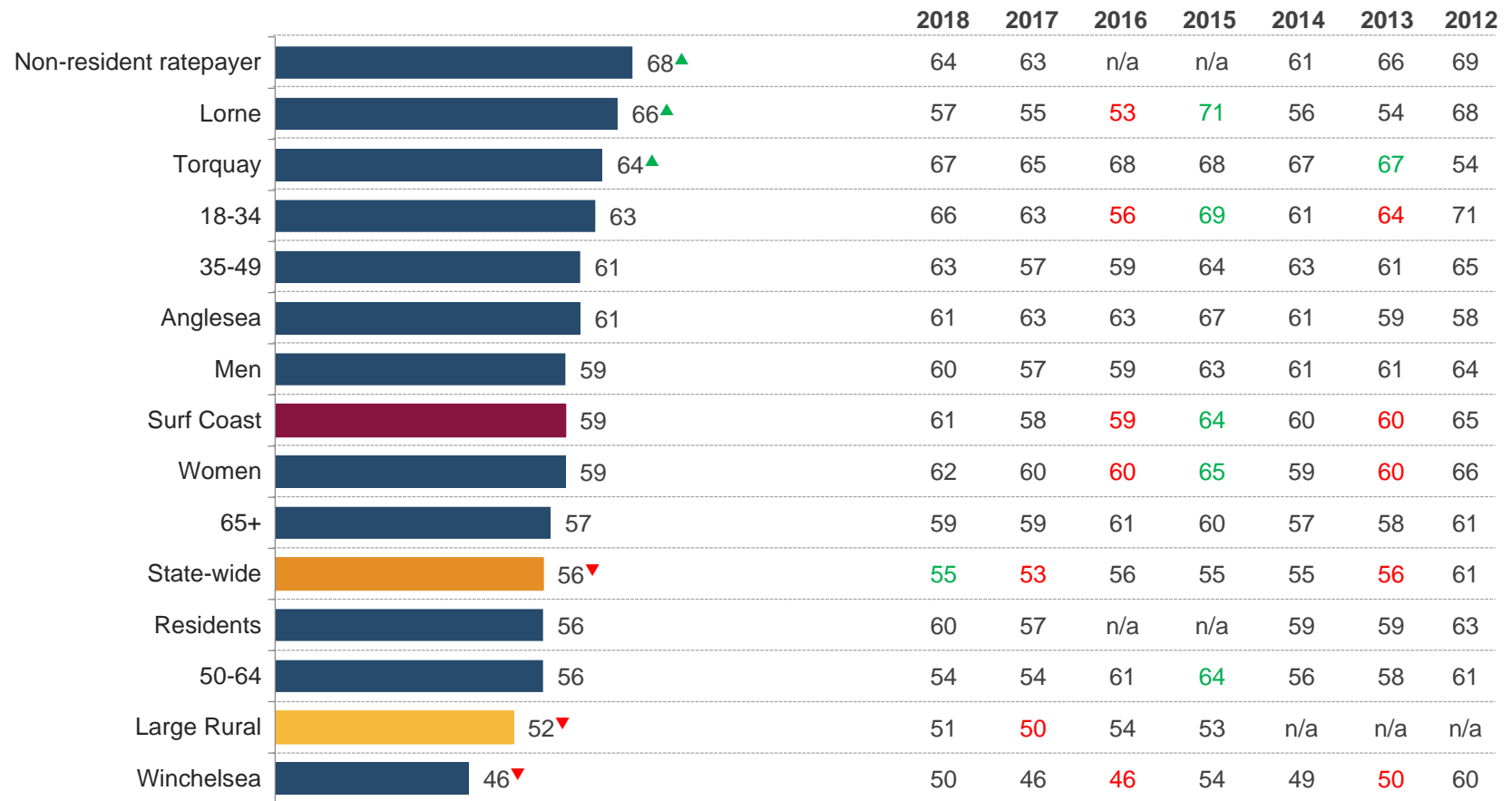
2019 Population growth performance (%)





Roadside slashing and weed control performance

2019 Roadside slashing and weed control performance (index scores)



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

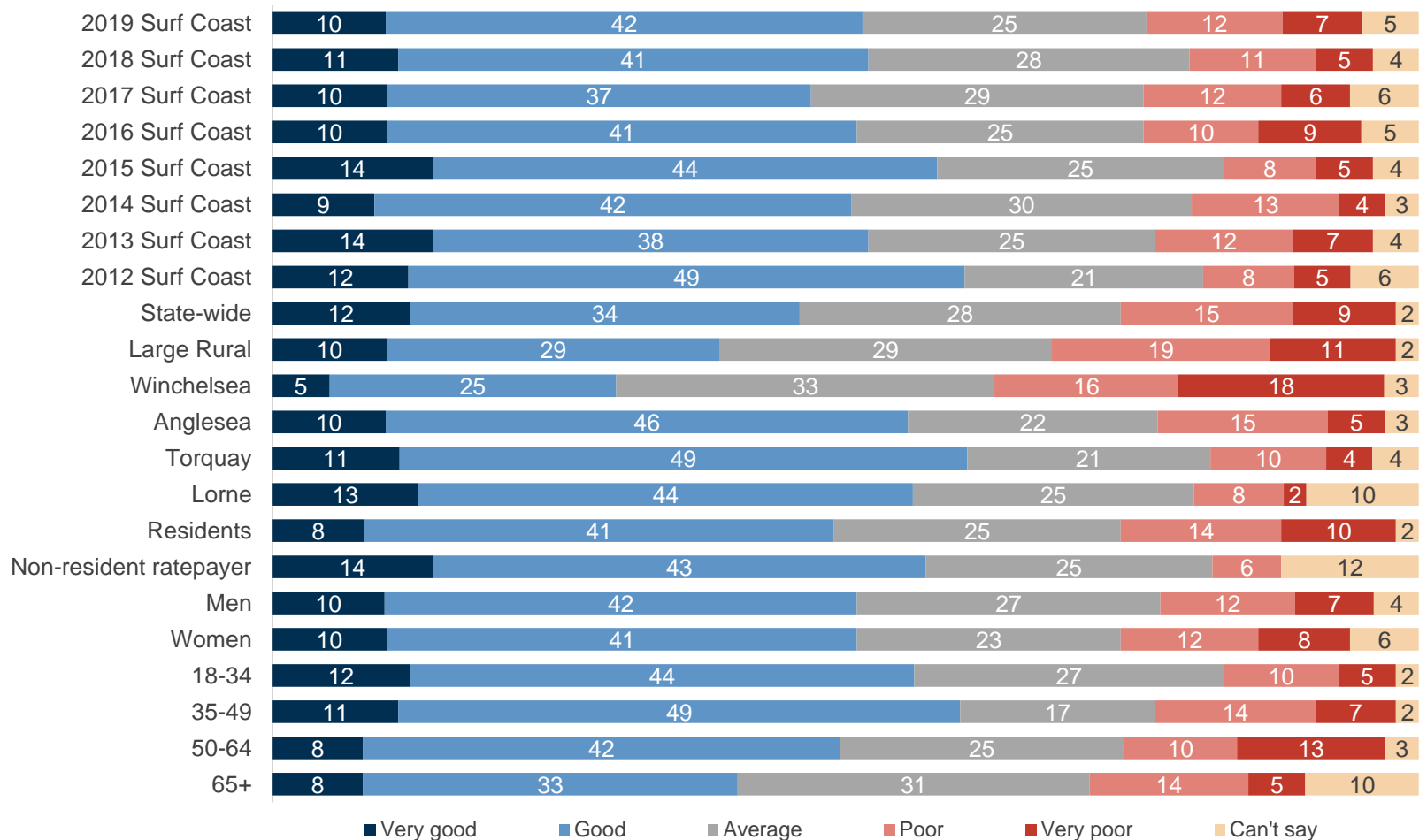
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 13 Councils asked group: 5

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



Roadside slashing and weed control performance

2019 Roadside slashing and weed control performance (%)





Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance

2019 Unsealed roads performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Non-resident ratepayer	59▲	56	59	n/a	n/a	57	n/a	n/a
Lorne	57▲	54	50	49	64	46	n/a	n/a
18-34	51	52	43	50	60	46	n/a	n/a
35-49	48	49	53	47	57	56	n/a	n/a
Anglesea	48	52	51	51	55	52	n/a	n/a
Torquay	48	57	56	58	65	60	n/a	n/a
Men	48	52	49	52	56	53	n/a	n/a
Surf Coast	47	50	50	51	57	52	n/a	n/a
Women	46	47	51	50	57	51	n/a	n/a
65+	45	49	53	57	54	53	n/a	n/a
State-wide	44▼	43	44	43	45	45	44	46
Residents	43	48	48	n/a	n/a	51	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	41▼	41	42	43	44	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	41	48	51	50	56	53	n/a	n/a
Winchelsea	38▼	33	40	41	45	40	n/a	n/a

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

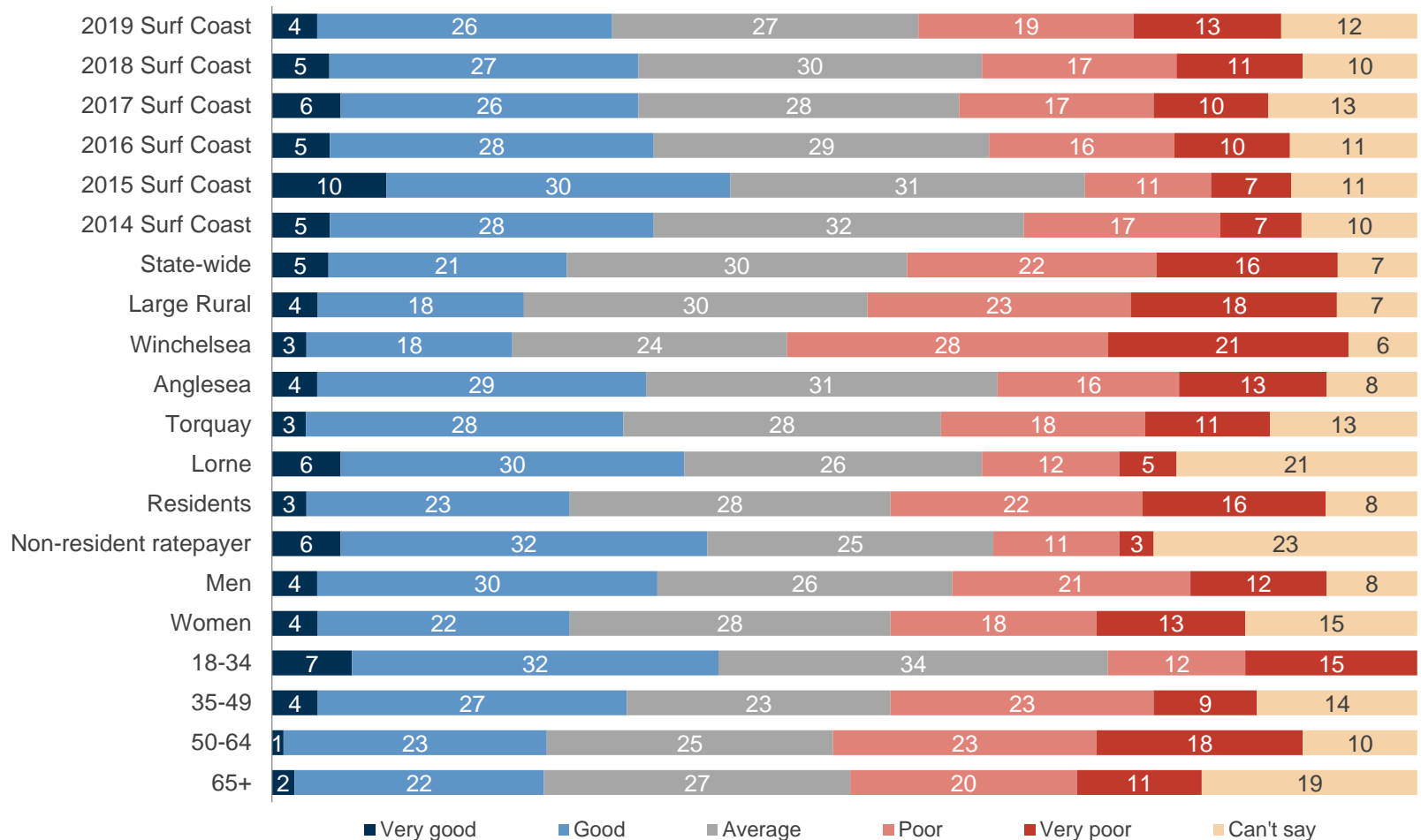
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 23 Councils asked group: 10

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



Maintenance of unsealed roads in your area performance

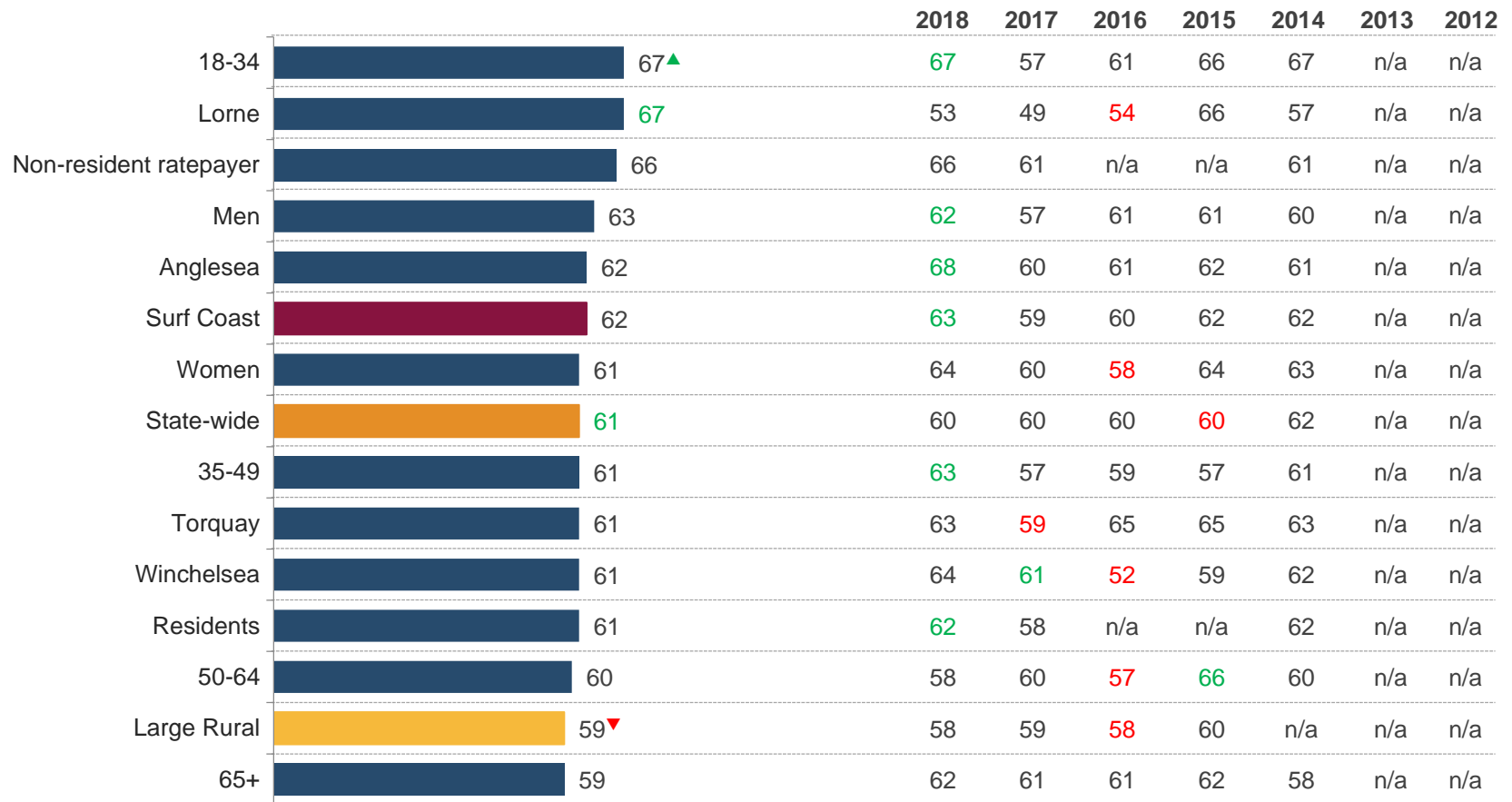
2019 Unsealed roads performance (%)





Business and community development performance

2019 Business/community development performance (index scores)



Q2. How has Council performed on 'Business and community development' over the last 12 months?

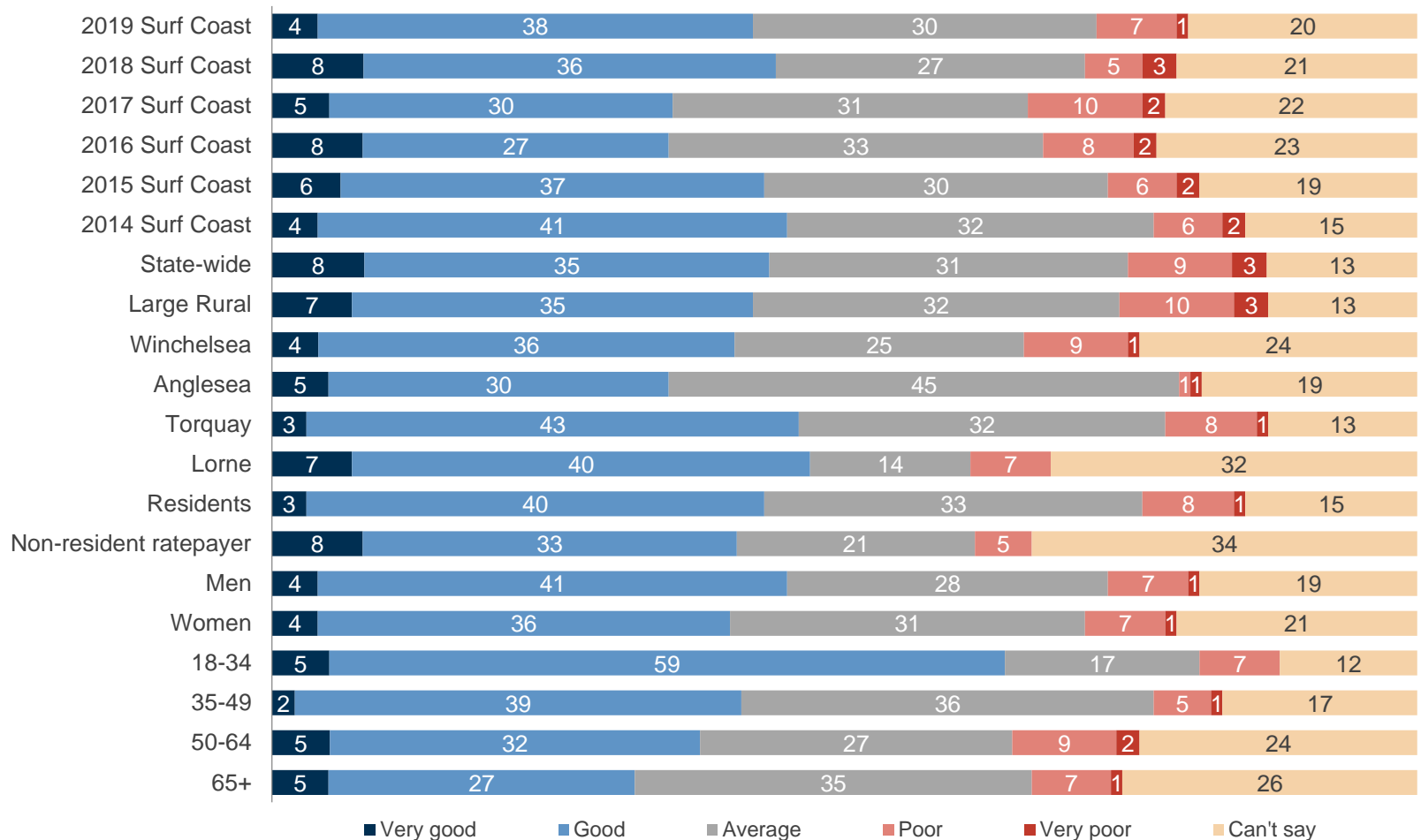
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 11 Councils asked group: 5

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



Business and community development performance

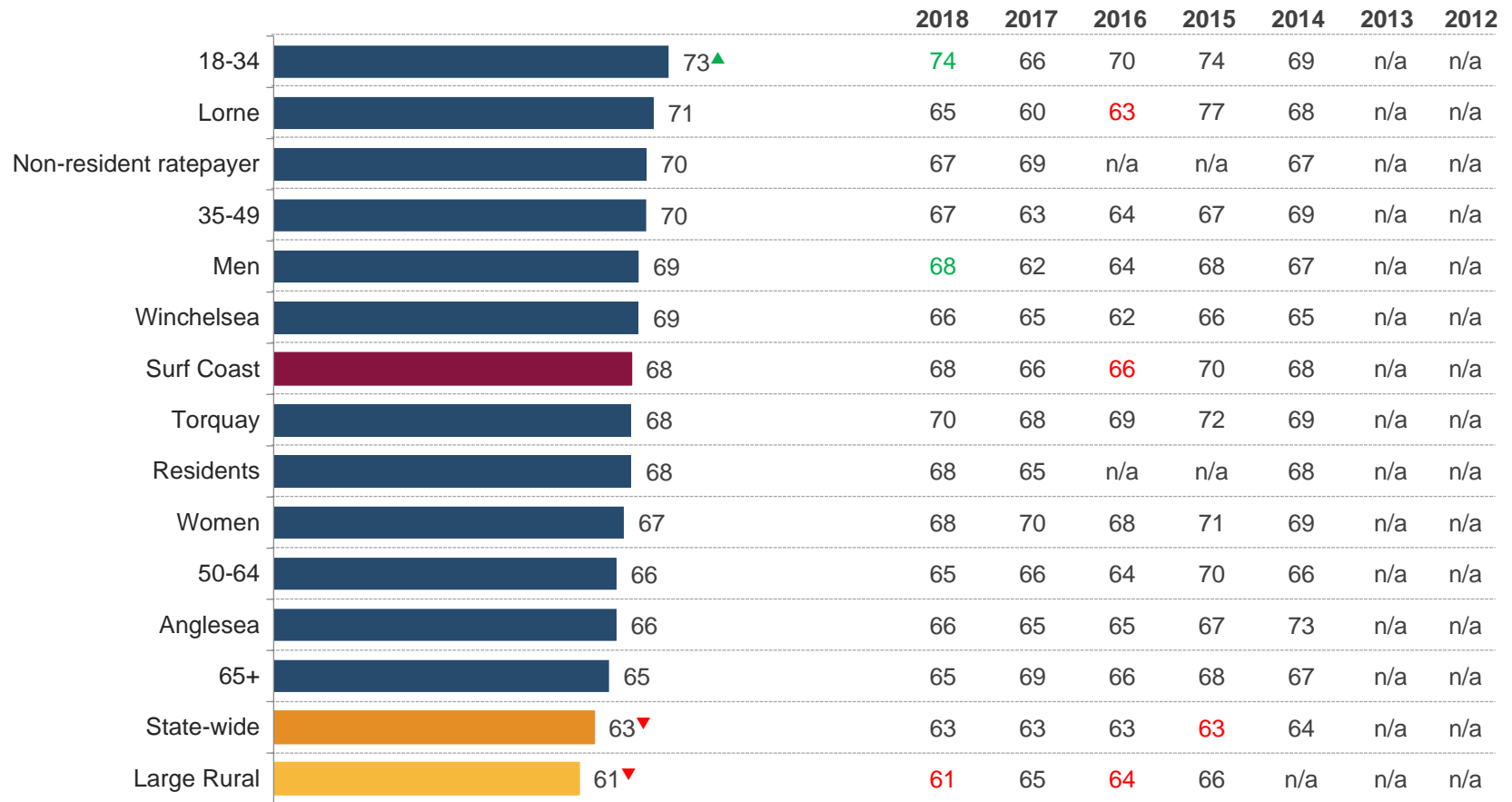
2019 Business/community development performance (%)





Tourism development performance

2019 Tourism development performance (index scores)



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

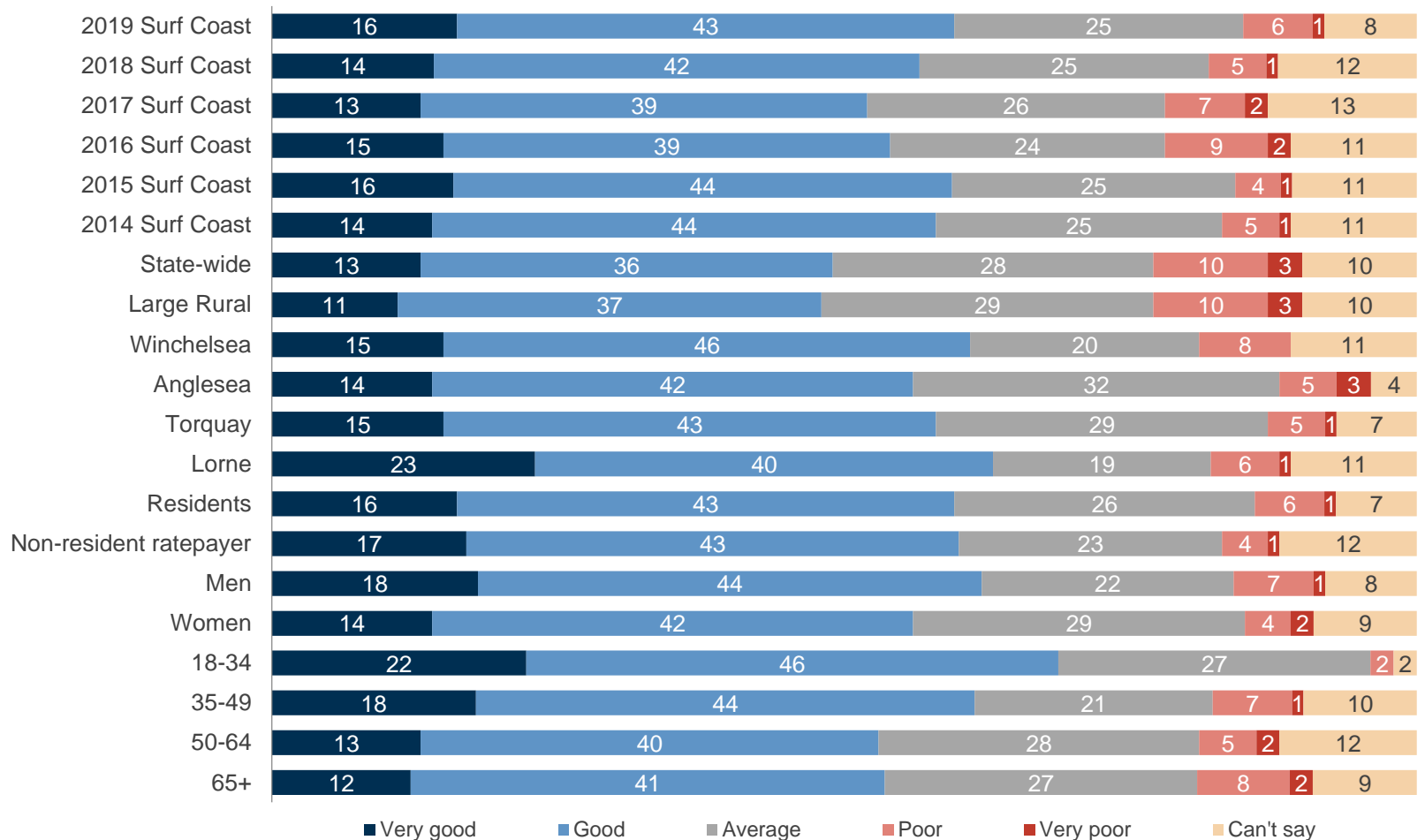
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 15 Councils asked group: 7

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



Tourism development performance

2019 Tourism development performance (%)



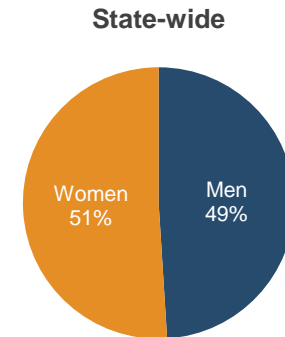
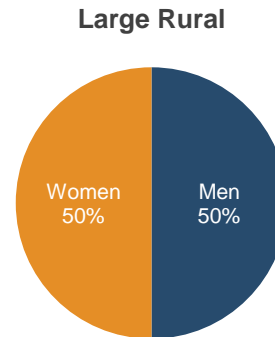
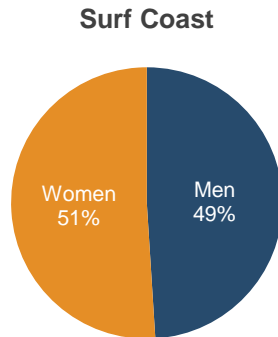
A large, stylized letter 'W' that serves as a background graphic. It is filled with a satellite night-time image of the United States, showing city lights and a network of roads. The 'W' is positioned on the right side of the page, with its leftmost stroke extending towards the center.

Detailed demographics

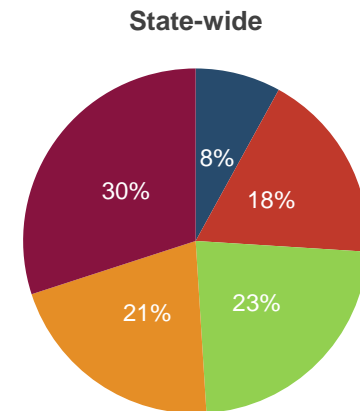
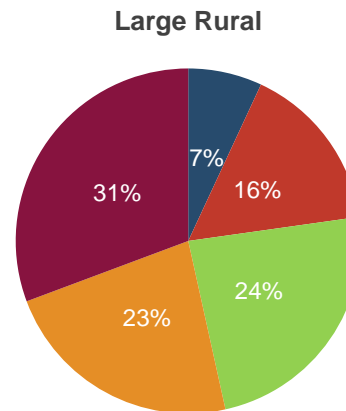
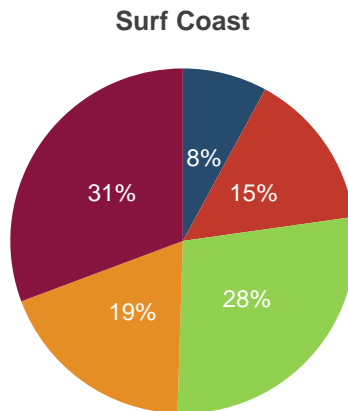


Gender and age profile

2019 gender



2019 age



■ 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: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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 large, stylized letter 'W' graphic that serves as a background element. It is filled with a satellite-style map of North America, showing landmasses in dark blue and oceans in a lighter blue. A network of glowing white lines, resembling a road or utility network, is overlaid on the map. Two bright, starburst-like light effects are visible: one on the western coast of the United States and another in the central part of the continent.

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 2019 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey for Surf Coast Shire Council was n=600. 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=600 interviews is +/-4.0% 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 46.0% - 54.0%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 23,800 people aged 18 years or over for Surf Coast Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Surf Coast Shire Council	600	400	+/-4.0
Men	294	197	+/-5.7
Women	306	203	+/-5.6
Winchelsea	127	97	+/-8.7
Anglesea	123	67	+/-8.8
Torquay	221	168	+/-6.6
Lorne	129	67	+/-8.6
18-34 years	41	90	+/-15.5
35-49 years	114	113	+/-9.2
50-64 years	168	74	+/-7.6
65+ years	277	123	+/-5.9



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:

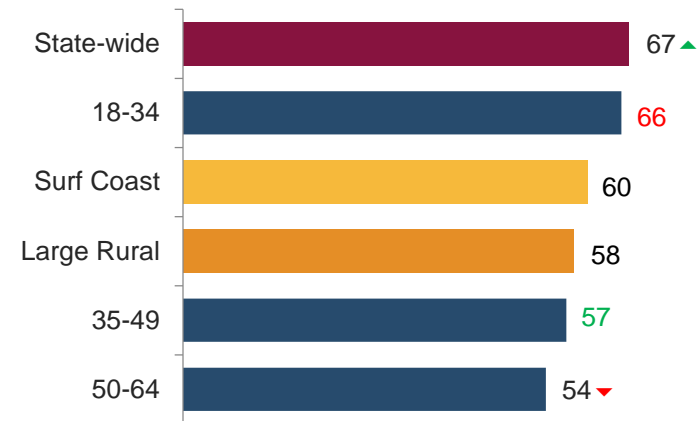
- ▲ The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- ▼ The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

Further, results shown in green and red indicate significantly higher or lower results than in 2018.

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 2018.
- The result among 18-34 year olds in the council is **significantly lower** than the result achieved among this group in 2018.

**Overall Performance – Index Scores
(example extract only)**





Appendix A: Index score significant difference calculation

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.



Appendix B: Further project information



Appendix B: Further information

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

- Survey methodology and sampling
- 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 2019 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, please contact JWS Research on

(03) 8685 8555 or via email:

admin@jwsresearch.com



Appendix B: Survey methodology and sampling

The 2019 results are compared with previous years, as detailed below:

- 2019, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=601 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=601 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2015, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.
- 2013, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 24th March.
- 2012, n=600 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 18th May – 30th 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 Surf Coast 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.

This survey was conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as a representative random probability survey of residents and non resident rate payers aged 18+ years in Surf Coast Shire Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Surf Coast Shire Council as determined by the most recent ABS population estimates was purchased from an accredited supplier of publicly available phone records, including up to 40% mobile phone numbers to cater to the diversity of residents within Surf Coast Shire Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=600 completed interviews were achieved in Surf Coast Shire Council. Survey fieldwork was conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March, 2019.



Appendix B: Analysis and reporting

All participating councils are listed in the State-wide report published on the DELWP website. In 2019, 63 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 2012-2019 vary slightly.

Council Groups

Surf Coast Shire Council is classified as a Large Rural council according to the following classification list:

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

Councils participating in the Large Rural group are:

Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Campaspe, Colac Otway, Corangamite, East Gippsland, Glenelg, Golden Plains, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Moira, Moorabool, Mount Alexander, Moyne, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Swan Hill and Wellington.

Wherever appropriate, results for Surf Coast Shire Council for this 2019 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have been compared against other participating councils in the Large 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: Analysis and reporting

2012 survey revision

The survey was revised in 2012. As a result:

- The survey is now conducted as a representative random probability survey of residents and non resident rate-payers 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 Surf Coast 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 2012-2019 have been made throughout this report as appropriate.



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 2019 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)
- Decisions made in the interest of the community (Making community decisions)
- Condition of sealed local roads (Sealed local roads)
- Contact in last 12 months (Contact)
- Rating of contact (Customer service)
- Overall council direction last 12 months (Council direction)

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 2019 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

Reporting

Every council that participated in the 2019 State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey receives a customised report. In addition, the state government is supplied with a state-wide 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 Community Satisfaction Report is available at <http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/local-government/strengthening-councils/council-community-satisfaction-survey>.



Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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

CSS: 2019 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.

Statewide 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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