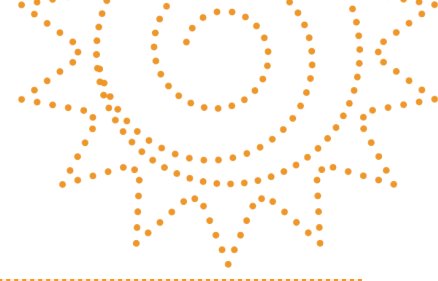


# Women & Girls in the Buloke Shire

A snapshot of gender equality in our region.

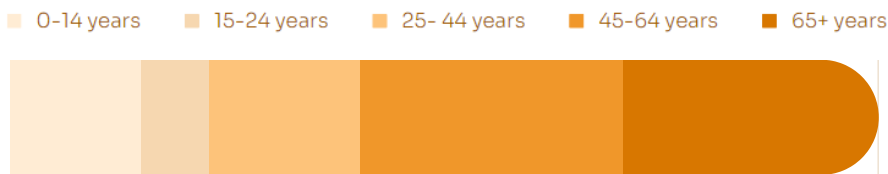


## Population Overview



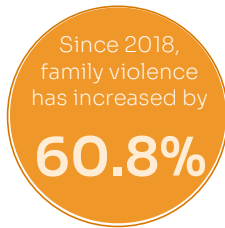
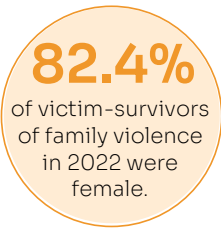
In 2021, there were 2,991 women and girls living in the Buloke Shire, from a total population 6,177. Of these, 1.6% of women and girls identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, while 6.82% of were born overseas.

### Age distribution of females living in the Buloke Shire



## Violence Against Women

Although preventable, gender-based violence and family violence are significant challenges in the Buloke Shire.



## Sexual & Reproductive Health



**62**

babies were born in Buloke during 2021.

Both the birth rate and the adolescent birth rate were higher than the state average.

**81.9**  
/1000

women of child-bearing age

**16.8**  
/1000

women & girls aged 13-19

Chlamydia was the most diagnosed STI in 2020.

**However, the rate was lower than the VIC average.**

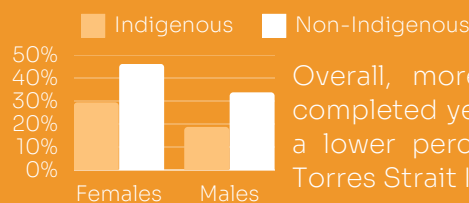


In 2020, the uptake of modern contraception (IUDs and Implanon) was lower than the state LGA average.

## Education



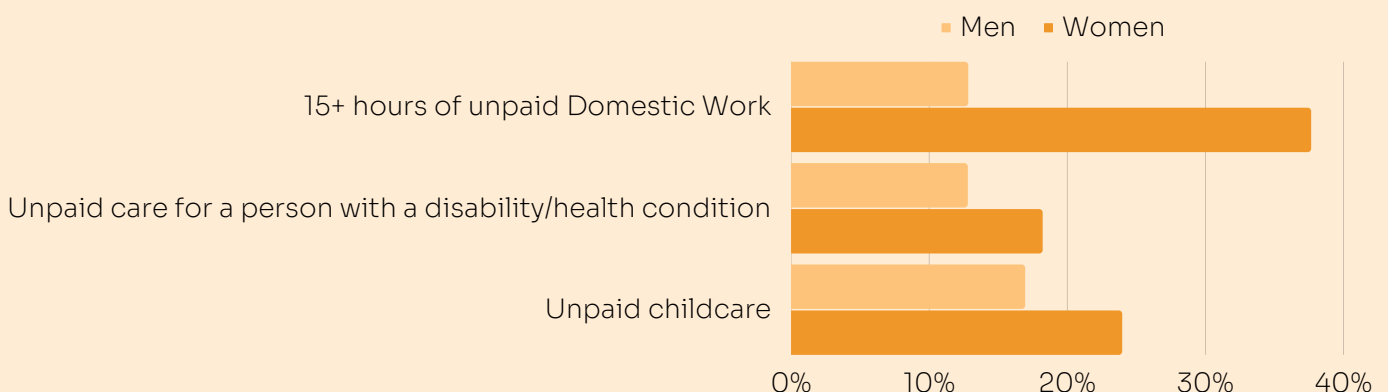
Of all Buloke students enrolled in tertiary education, approximately 64.9% were female.



Overall, more females than males have completed year 12 or equivalent. However, a lower percentage of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders have completed it.

## Care & Unpaid Work

Women in the Buloke Shire do more care and unpaid work than the men in the Buloke Shire do. In 2021:



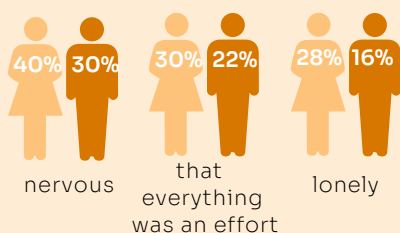
## Mental Health & Well-being

Women and girls in Buloke experience high rates of mental health and well-being challenges. In 2021:

**25.5%** of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander women & girls reported living with a long-lasting mental health condition

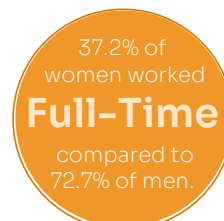
**11.93%** of Non-Indigenous women & girls in Buloke.

During COVID-19 lockdowns,, women in Victoria were more likely than men to feel:



## Employment

Women in Buloke are still not equal in the workplace. In 2021:



## Perceptions of Safety

When asked how they felt walking home alone at night, 78.9% of women in Buloke indicated that they felt safe.



## Local Council



The current Local Council of Buloke Shire includes 3 women and 4 men. The position of mayor is currently held by a man. However, the position of mayor was held by a woman in 2018 and 2019.

## Useful Resources

### Buloke Shire Gender Equality Action Plan

<https://www.buloke.vic.gov.au/gender-equality-action-plan>

### Safe and Strong: The Victorian Gender Equality Strategy

[https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-05/Safe-and-Strong-Victorian\\_Gender\\_Equality\\_Strategy.pdf](https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-05/Safe-and-Strong-Victorian_Gender_Equality_Strategy.pdf)

### Change the Story: Our Watch

<https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/>

## Support Services

### The Orange Door in Mallee

9am-5pm Monday-Friday  
1800 290 943  
113 Madden Avenue, Mildura 3500

### Centre for Non-Violence

9am-5pm Monday-Friday  
1800 5884292  
96/98 Pall Mall, Bendigo 3550

### 1800 RESPECT

24/7 National hotline for anyone experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, family violence or sexual assault. Also available to friends, family and frontline workers.  
1800 737 732

## Sources of data:

ABS 2022, Buloke 2021 Census Community Profiles,  
<https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/community-profiles/2021/LGA21270>

ABS 2022, Births - Australia Data Downloads - Table 3: Births, Summary Local Government Area 2011-2021  
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/births-australia/latest-release>

CrimeStatsVic 2023, Latest Crime Data by Area, - Family Violence Dashboard  
<https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data-by-area>

WHV 2021, Victorian Women's Health Atlas Violence Against Women Fact Sheet - Buloke  
<https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au/reports%2Ffactsheets%2Fviolence%20Against%20Women%2FBuloke%2FVWHAAtlas%20Fact%20Sheet%20Violence%20Against%20Women%20Buloke.pdf>

WHV 2021, Victorian Women's Health Atlas Sexual and Reproductive Health Fact Sheet - Buloke  
<https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au/reports%2Ffactsheets%2FSexual%20and%20Reproductive%20Health%2FBuloke%2FVWHAAtlas%20Fact%20Sheet%20Sexual%20and%20Reproductive%20Health%20Buloke.pdf>

Document last updated in January 2023.

# Women's Health