

Women & Girls in Swan Hill Rural City

A snapshot of gender equality in our region.

Population Overview



In 2021, there were 10,652 women and girls living in Swan Hill, from a total population 10748. Of these, 4.8% of women and girls identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, while 16.2% were born overseas.

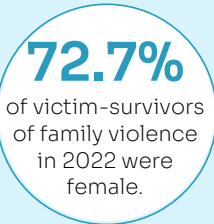
Age distribution of females living in the Swan Hill

0-14 years 15-24 years 25-44 years 45-64 years 65+ years



Violence Against Women

Although preventable, gender-based violence and family violence are significant challenges in Swan Hill.



Sexual & Reproductive Health



288

babies were born in Swan Hill during 2021.

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

73.0
/1000

women of child-bearing age

13.5
/1000

women & girls aged 13-19

Chlamydia was the most diagnosed STI in 2020.

The rate equal to the VIC LGA average.

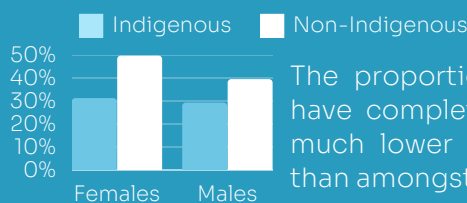


In 2020, the uptake of modern contraception (IUDs and Implanon) was higher than the state LGA average.

Education



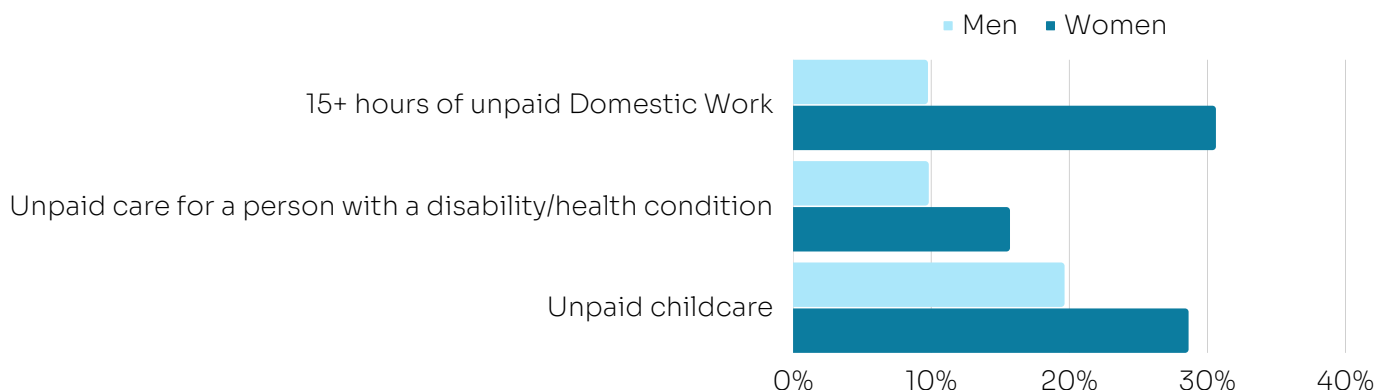
Of all Swan Hill students enrolled in tertiary education, approximately 65.34% were female.



The proportion of women and girls who have completed year 12, or equivalent, is much lower amongst Indigenous women than amongst non-Indigenous women.

Care & Unpaid Work

Women in the Swan Hill do more care and unpaid work than the men in do. In 2021:



Mental Health & Well-being

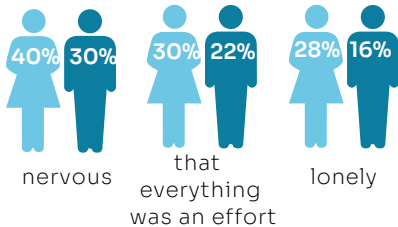
Women and girls in Swan Hill experience high rates of mental health and well-being challenges. In 2021:

16.5%
of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander women & girls

9.4%
of Non-Indigenous women & girls in Swan Hill

reported living with a long-lasting mental health condition

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



Employment

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

57.0% of women had a weekly income of **≤\$799** vs 42.2% of men.

41.5% of women worked **Full-Time** compared to 72.0% of men.

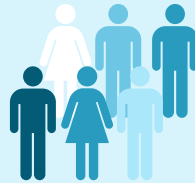
Women represented 28.2% of general **managers** while 71.8% were men.

Perceptions of Safety

When asked how they felt walking home alone at night, only 59.2% of women in the Macedon Ranges indicated that they felt safe.



Local Council



The current Local Council of the Swan Hill include 4 men and 2 women. The positions of mayor and deputy mayor are both currently held by men.

Useful Resources

Promoting Gender Equity in the Swan Hill

<https://www.shdh.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Gender-Equity-in-Swan-Hill.pdf>

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>

Change the Story: Our Watch

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

Support Services

The Orange Door in the Mallee

9am-5pm Monday-Friday
1800 290 943
14-18 McCallum Street, Swan Hill 3585

Mallee Domestic Violence Services

24/7
1800 290 943
144-146 Lime Ave, Mildura VIC 3500

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, Swan Hill 2021 Census Community Profiles,
<https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/community-profiles/2021/LGA26610>

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 - Swan Hill
<https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au/reports%2Ffactsheets%2FViolence%20Against%20Women%2FSwan%20Hill%2FVWHAtlas%20Fact%20Sheet%20Violence%20Against%20Women%20Swan%20Hill.pdf>

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

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Women's Health

LODDON MALLEE