# CITY OF WHITEHORSE
Oral health profile

This profile is designed to provide local government with **population oral health data** and **risk factor indicators** to undertake **comprehensive public health and wellbeing planning**.

POTENTIALLY PREVENTABLE DENTAL HOSPITALISATIONS
Potentially preventable hospitalisations due to dental conditions for children aged 0-9 years 2014-15 to 2018-19[1]


Rate per 1,000 population — Whitehorse, Victoria (2014-15 to 2018-19)
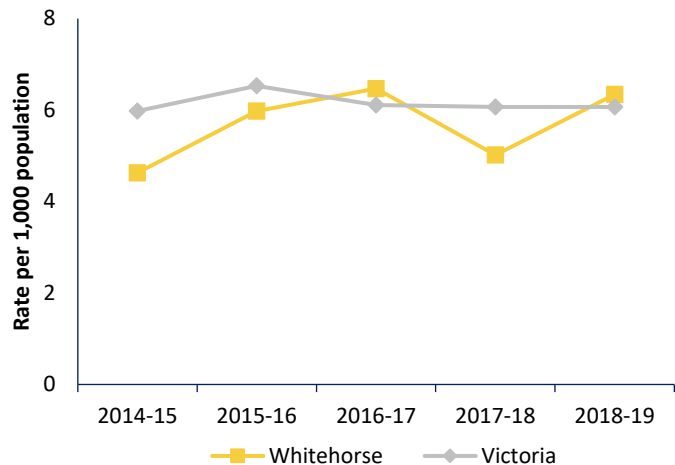
EXPERIENCE OF TOOTH DECAY
Proportion of children with at least one decayed, missing or filled primary (baby) or permanent (adult) tooth[2]


	3-5 years old	6 years old	12 years old
Whitehorse	15.9%	42.4%	45.8%
Victoria	30.1%	47.7%	52.4%
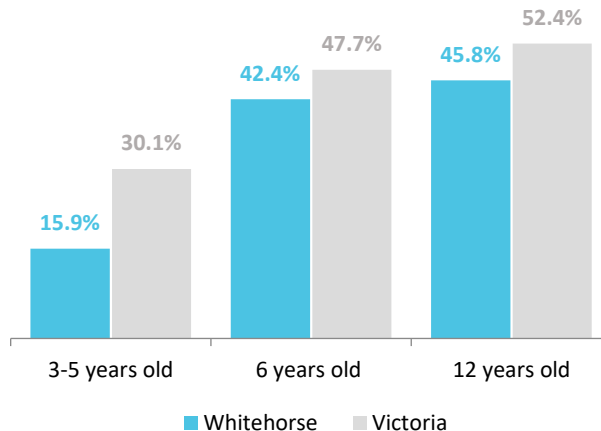
SEVERITY OF TOOTH DECAY
Average number of decayed, missing or filled primary (baby) or permanent (adult) teeth[2]

	3-5 years old	6 years old	12 years old
Whitehorse	0.60	1.93	1.20
Victoria	1.30	2.19	1.54
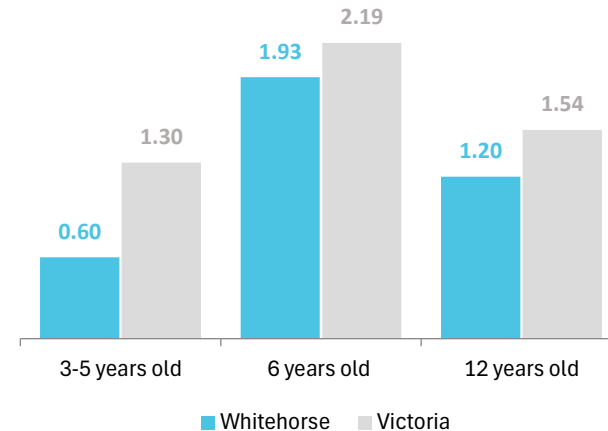
SMOKING STATUS
Smoking increases the risk of severe gum disease and oral cancer.

Proportion of daily smokers[3]

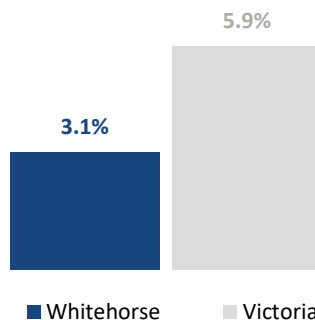| Whitehorse	Victoria
6.6%	12.0%
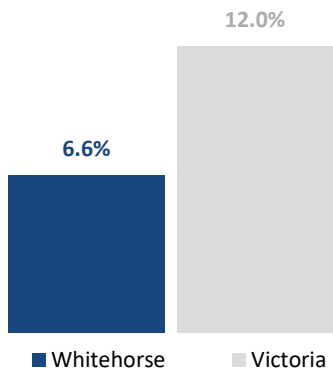
FOOD INSECURITY
Food insecurity is associated with poorer oral health.

Proportion of people who ran out of money to buy food in the last 12 months[3]

Whitehorse	Victoria
3.1%	5.9%

WATER FLUORIDATION
Drinking fluoridated water reduces tooth decay.

ALL TOWNS IN WHITEHORSE WITH POPULATION > 1,000 ARE OPTIMALLY FLUORIDATED[4]

1. 2020. Victorian Health Information Surveillance System, Victorian Department of Health and Human Services. (Updated data will be available in 2025)
2. 2024. Dental Health Services Victoria public dental dataset (combined data 2019/20 - 2022/23).
3. 2022. Victorian Population Oral Health Survey. Victorian Agency for Health Information, Victorian Department of Health.
4. 2024. Is my water fluoridated?, Victorian Department of Health.

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