

# *Striving for optimal sexual and reproductive wellbeing for rural women*

Presenter: Shannon Hill, Women's Health Grampians

**GOAL 1**  
gather baseline data



**GOAL 2**  
identify barriers



**GOAL 3**  
identify strategies



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A project of the rural services  
of the Women's Health  
Association of Victoria



*Gippsland Women's  
Health Service*



*anecdotal evidence suggests  
rural women experience  
difficulty accessing sexual  
and reproductive support*

*population health data  
rarely represents  
facts about access to  
family planning services*

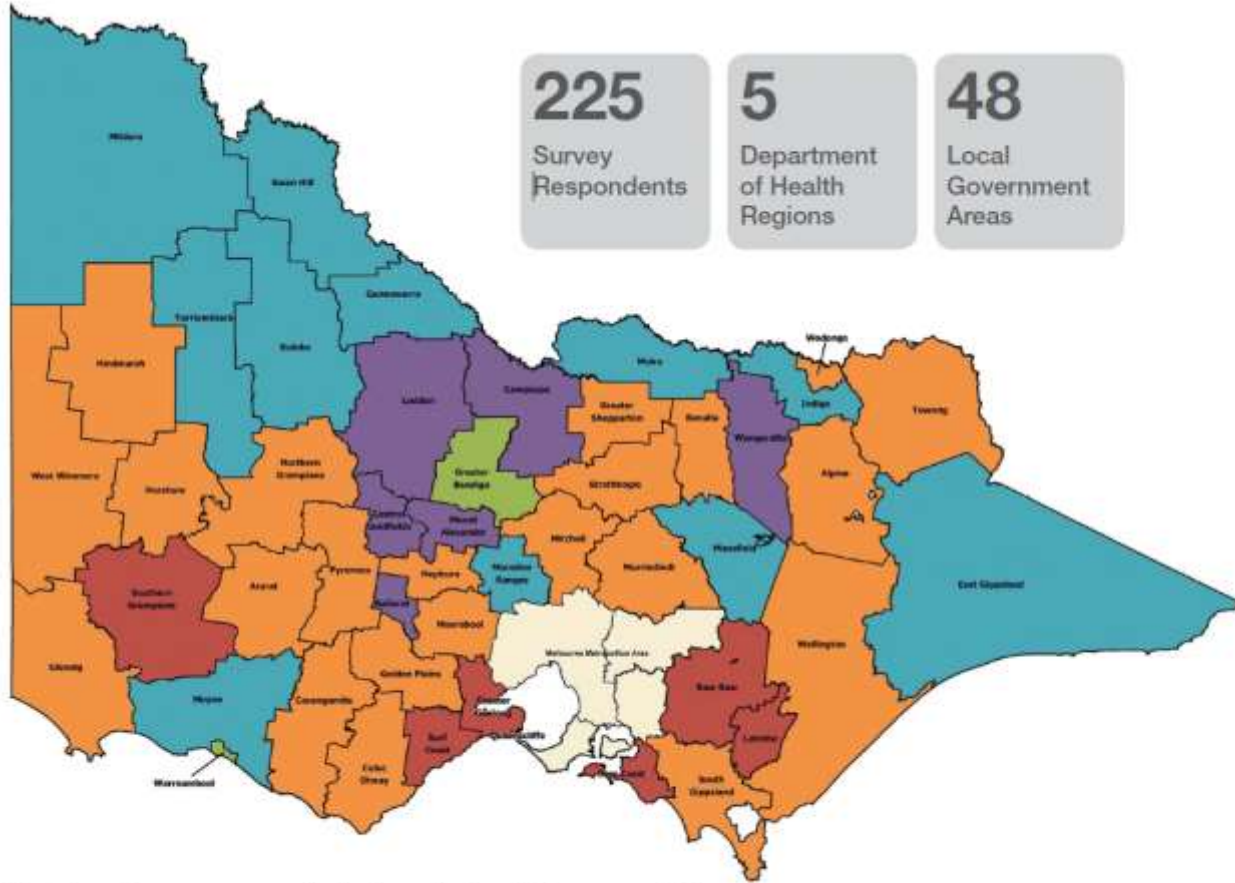
**how can we measure  
rural women's access to  
family planning services?**

*issues remain  
'invisible' and are not  
catered for in planning or  
resource allocation*

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Number of survey respondents in each Local Government Area



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## the key issues impacting rural women's access to:

**condoms**

**privacy**

48%

**availability**

25%

**travel**

18%

**contraception**

**availability**

37%

**travel**

23%

**cost**

16%

**emergency contraception**

**availability**

31%

**privacy**

31%

**travel**

17%

**pregnancy counselling**

**availability**

35%

**privacy**

20%

**travel**

19%

**abortion**

**travel**

28%

**availability**

27%

**privacy**

20%

**96% referred to services in Melbourne (50%) or out of town (46%)**

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## the key themes and recommended action areas:

**information**

service providers

referral pathways

community awareness

**privacy**

confidential practice

client choice

**availability**

female doctors

local services

out of hours

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## **Women's Health Grampians**

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