



2019 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey

Baw Baw Shire Council

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

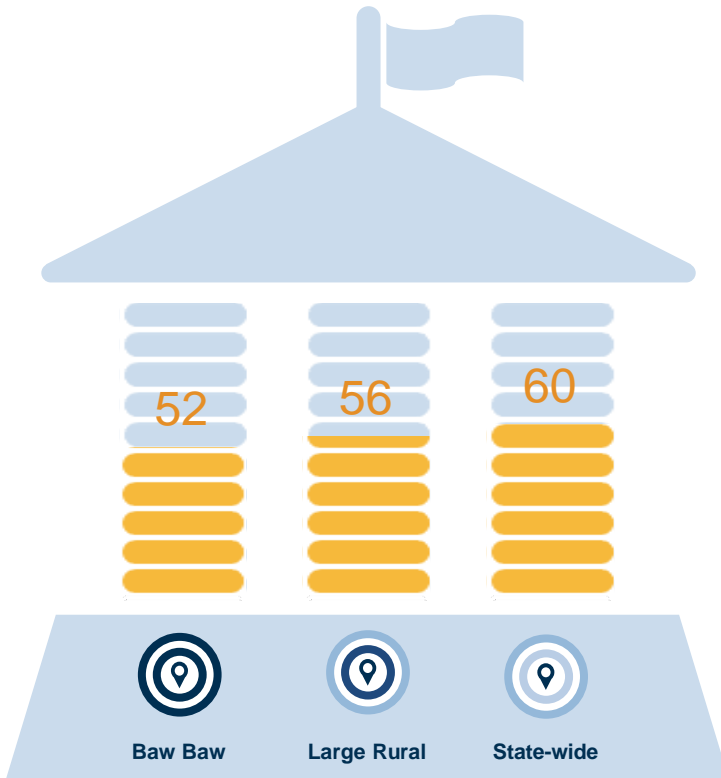


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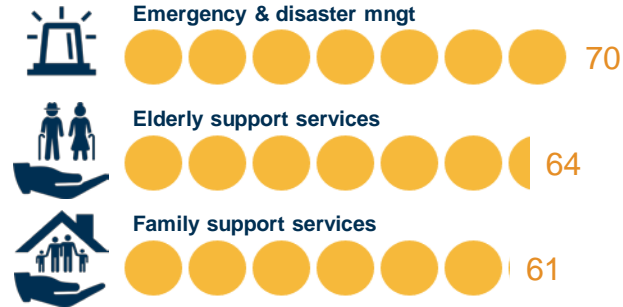
Baw Baw Shire Council – at a glance



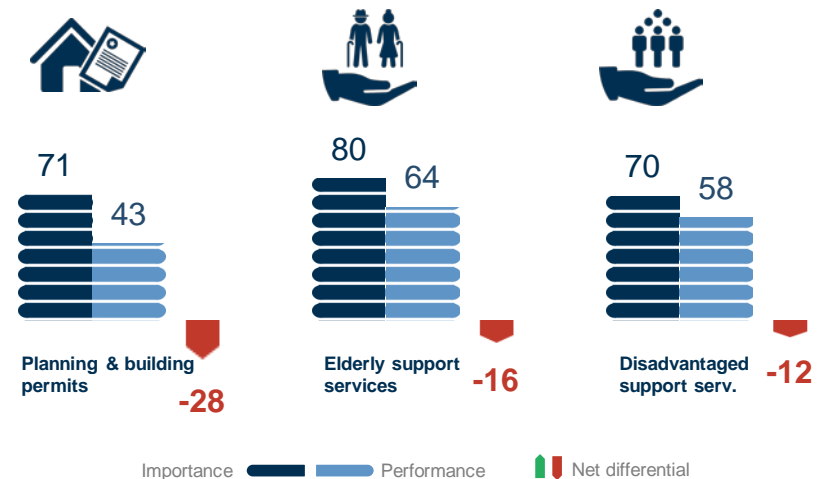
Overall Council performance

Results shown are index scores out of 100.

Top 3 performing areas



Top 3 areas for improvement



Note: Net differentials are calculated based on the un-rounded importance and performance scores, then rounded to the nearest whole number.



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.



The image features a large, stylized graphic of the letters 'N' and 'W' in a dark blue color. The letters are filled with a satellite-style map of the United States, showing state boundaries and major cities. The background of the entire page is white.

Key findings and recommendations



Overall performance

The overall performance index score of 52 for Baw Baw Shire Council represents a two-point improvement on the 2018 result. Although this is not a significant improvement, it reverses the trend after declining across 2014 to 2016.

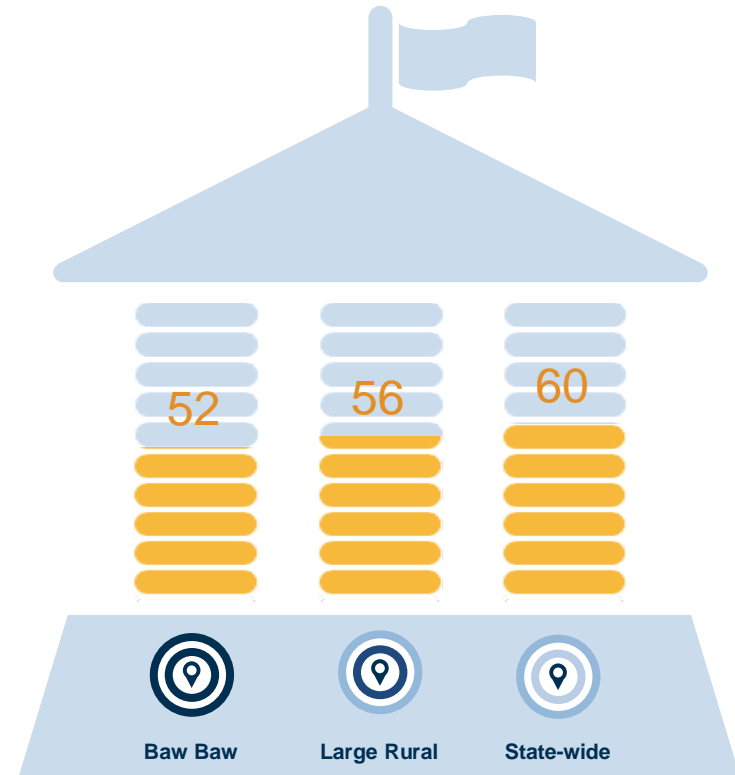
- Overall performance remains five points down on Council's peak result of 57 achieved in 2014.

Baw Baw Shire Council's overall performance is rated statistically significantly lower (at the 95% confidence interval) than the average rating for councils State-wide and in the Large Rural group (index scores of 60 and 56 respectively).

- There are no significant differences across the demographic cohorts compared to the council average.

Residents are just 11 points more likely to rate Council's performance as 'very good' or 'good' (35%) than 'very poor' or 'poor' (24%). Two in five (41%) sit mid-scale, rating Council's overall performance as 'average'.

Overall Council performance



Results shown are index scores out of 100.



Customer contact and service

Contact with council

Around two-thirds (68%) of Baw Baw Shire Council residents have had contact with Council in the last 12 months. Rate of contact is up from 2018 (62%) and is at its highest level since tracking began in 2012.

- Most groups report higher levels of contact with Council in the preceding 12 months than during the same period in 2018. The most significant increases occurred among residents aged 18 to 34 years (76%, up 22% from 2018) and women (72%, up 10% from 2018).
- Residents aged 65+ years had the least contact with council (56%), and significantly less contact than the council average.

Overall, newsletters sent via email (27%) and mail (22%) are considered the best way for Council to inform residents about news, information and upcoming events. Newsletters sent by email and mail are considered the optimal method by both those over 50 and under 50 years. Residents under 50 years of age also look to social media (21%) for updates, while their older counterparts look next to council advertising (20%) or newsletters inset in a local newspaper (19%).

Customer service

Baw Baw Shire Council's customer service index of 66 is five index points higher than the 2018 result. Performance on this measure is rated in line with the Large Rural group average (index score of 69) but significantly lower than the State-wide average for councils (index score of 71).

Just under a third of residents (30%) rate Council's customer service as 'very good', with another 31% rating it as 'good', representing a 10% increase in 'very good' ratings compared with 2018.

- Perceptions of customer service increased significantly among residents aged 18 to 34 years (index score of 73, up 17 index points from 2018) and women (index score of 72, up nine index points from 2018) in the past year.
- Men, on the other hand, rate Council lowest and significantly lower than the council average for customer service (index score of 59).



Top performing areas and areas for improvement

Top performing areas

Beyond customer service, the top three performing service areas for Baw Baw Shire Council are:

- Emergency and disaster management (index score of 70)
- Elderly support services (index score of 64)
- Family support services (index score of 61).

Nonetheless, Council's performance ratings are significantly lower than Large Rural group and State-wide averages for both elderly (index scores of 67 and 68 respectively) and family support services (index scores of 65 and 67 respectively).

Council did not experience any significant increases in ratings in the past year, and index scores are statistically consistent with 2018 results in most areas.

Areas for improvement

The most significant decline in 2019 was a five point drop on the measure of community decisions (index score of 43). Council's performance is significantly lower than the average ratings for councils State-wide and the Large Rural group on this measure (index scores of 55 and 52 respectively).

- Performance is now ten points down on Council's peak rating of 53 index points in 2015.
- Men (index score of 41, down six points from 2018), residents of the Central Ward (index score of 39, down eight points from 2018), and residents aged 35 to 64 years (index score of 37 among 35 to 49 year olds and 38 among 50 to 64 year olds, each cohort down 10 points from 2018) declined significantly in their impressions of Council's performance in this area between 2018 and 2019.

Sealed local roads (index score of 40) and planning and building permits (index score of 43) are additional areas that stand out as in need of Council attention. Council rates lowest in these service areas and rates significantly lower than State-wide and Large Rural group averages on both.

In keeping with this almost one in five residents volunteer community consultation (16%) and/or sealed road maintenance (16%) as areas in need of improvement.

Notwithstanding desired areas of improvement, residents would rather see service cuts to keep council rates at current levels (52%) than rate rises to improve service quality (27%) by a margin of almost two to one. (Another 21% 'can't say'.)



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:

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

Other service areas with a positive influence on overall performance include:

- The condition of local streets and footpaths in your area
- Planning and building permits.

Emergency and disaster management and elderly support services have the strongest positive performance index and a moderately positive influence on the overall performance rating. Currently, Baw Baw Shire Council is performing well in these areas (performance index of 70 and 64 respectively). Baw Baw Shire Council should continue to attend to these service areas, however there are greater gains to be had elsewhere.

Family support services and enforcement of local laws also have high performance ratings, but have negligible influence on the overall performance rating.

Improvement in Baw Baw Shire Council's decisions made in the community's interest and community consultation and engagement would have the strongest influence on overall performance perceptions.

Additionally, improving the condition of local streets and footpaths as well as planning and building permits could have a moderate influence on overall performance perceptions.



Focus areas for coming 12 months

Perceptions of Council are largely consistent with 2018 results, having declined significantly in only one service area.

In terms of priorities for the year ahead, Baw Baw Shire Council should focus on maintaining and improving performance in the individual service areas that most influence perception of overall performance and where Council is currently performing lower relative to other service areas:

- Decisions made in the interest of the community
- Community consultation
- Sealed local roads
- Planning and building permits

Council should also focus attention on service areas where stated importance exceeds rated performance by more than fifteen points. Key priorities include:

- Planning and building permits (margin of 28 points)
- Elderly support services (margin of 16 points)

More generally, consideration should also be given to residents aged 35 to 64 years and residents of the East Ward, 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 residents aged 18 to 34 years, and use these lessons to build on performance experience and perceptions.



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

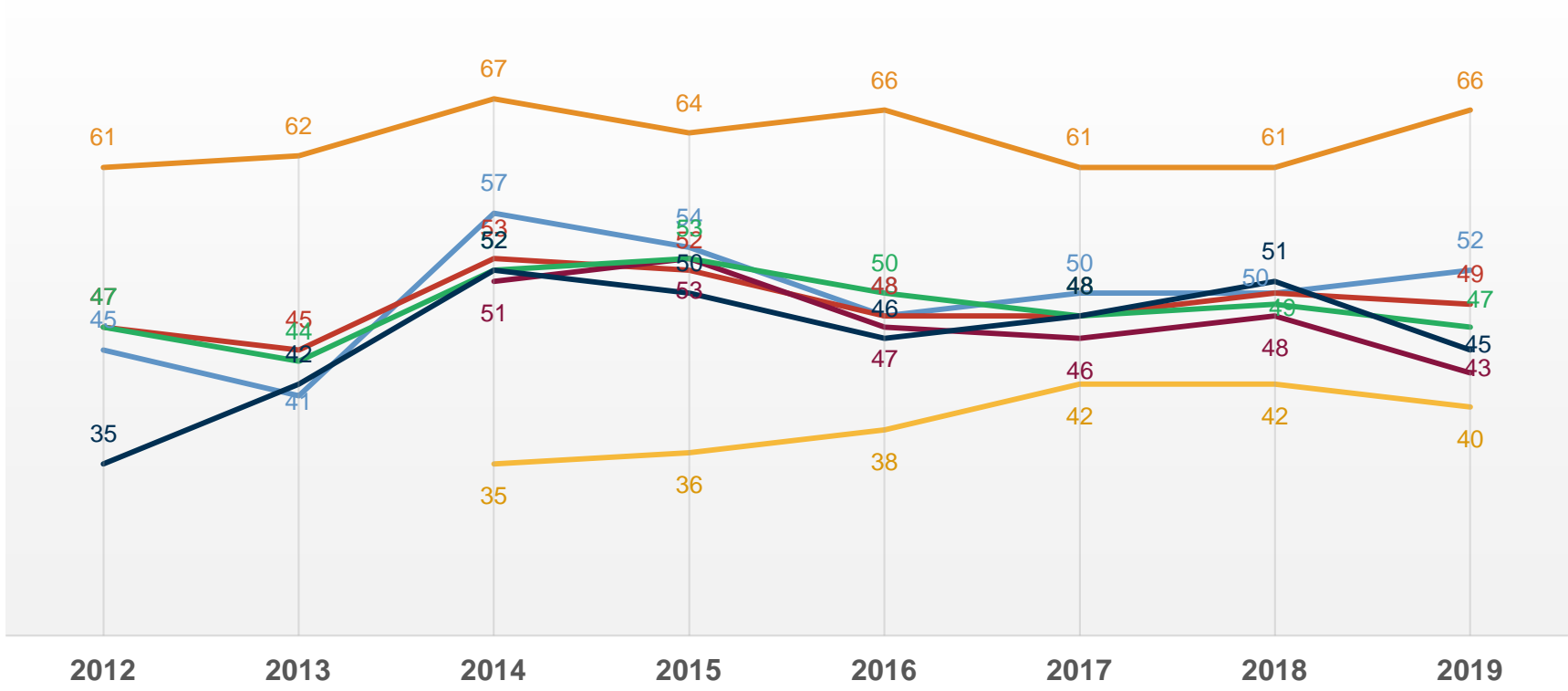


Summary of findings



Summary of core measures

Index scores





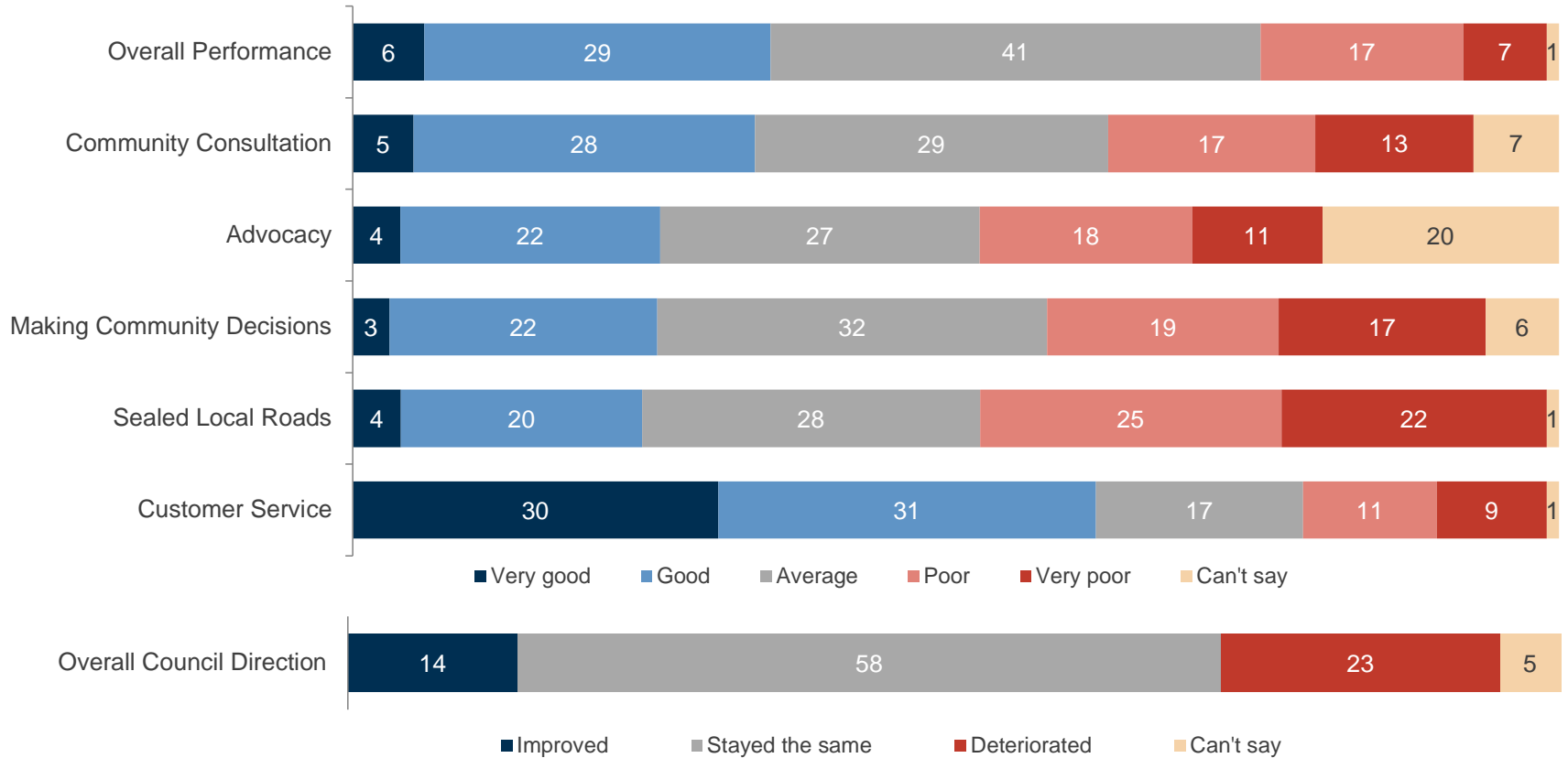
Summary of core measures

Performance Measures	Baw Baw 2019	Baw Baw 2018	Large Rural 2019	State-wide 2019	Highest score	Lowest score
Overall Performance	52	50	56	60	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
Community Consultation (Community consultation and engagement)	49	50	54	56	Aged 18-34 years, West ward	Aged 35-49 years
Advocacy (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	47	49	52	54	Aged 65+ years, Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
Making Community Decisions (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	43	48	52	55	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 35-49 years
Sealed Local Roads (Condition of sealed local roads)	40	42	47	56	Central ward	East ward
Customer Service	66	61	69	71	Aged 18-34 years	Men, Aged 50-64 years
Overall Council Direction	45	51	51	53	Aged 18-34 years	Aged 50-64 years



Summary of key community satisfaction

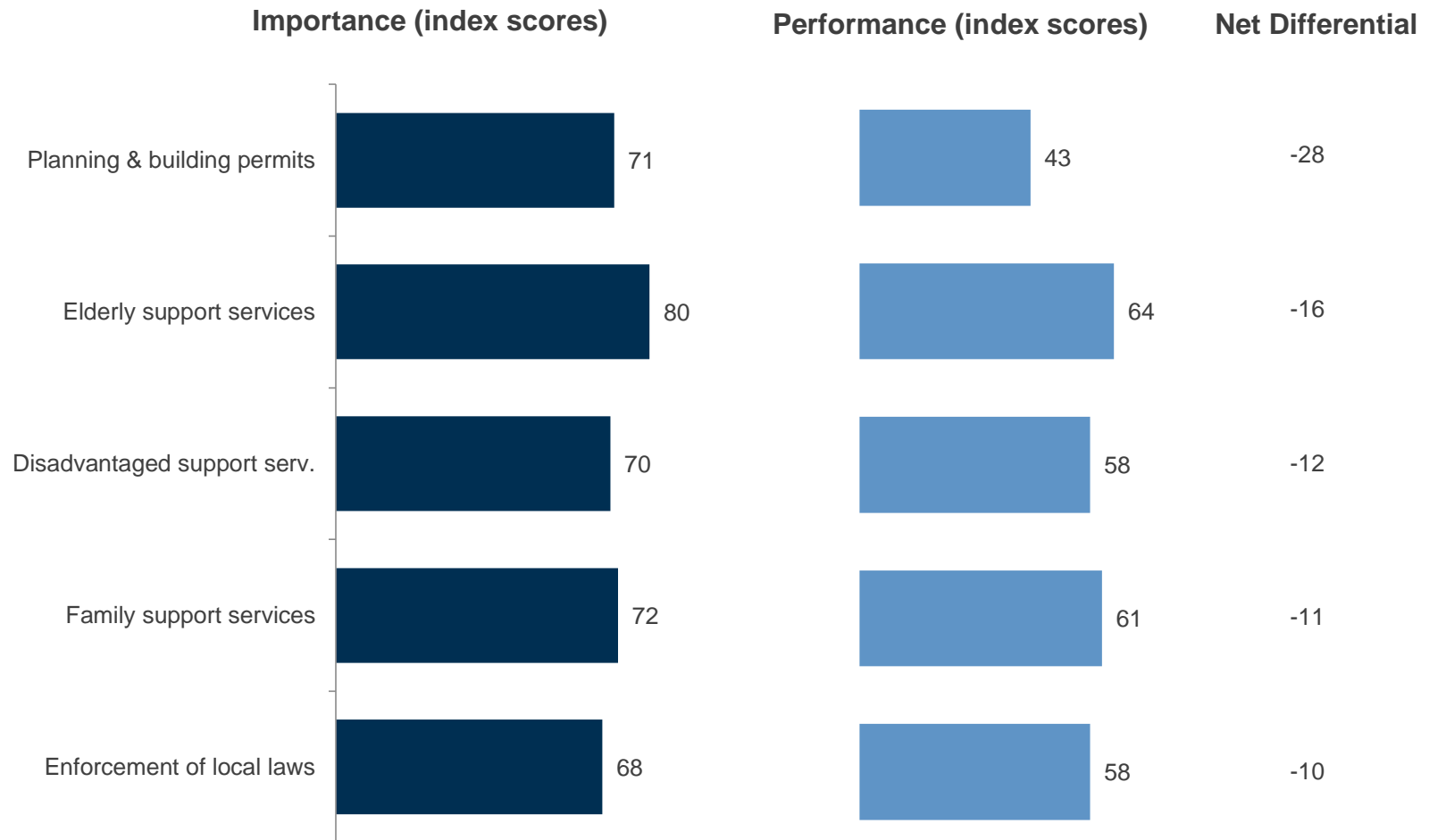
Key measures summary results (%)





Individual service areas importance vs performance

Service areas where importance exceeds performance by 10 points or more, suggesting further investigation is necessary:





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).

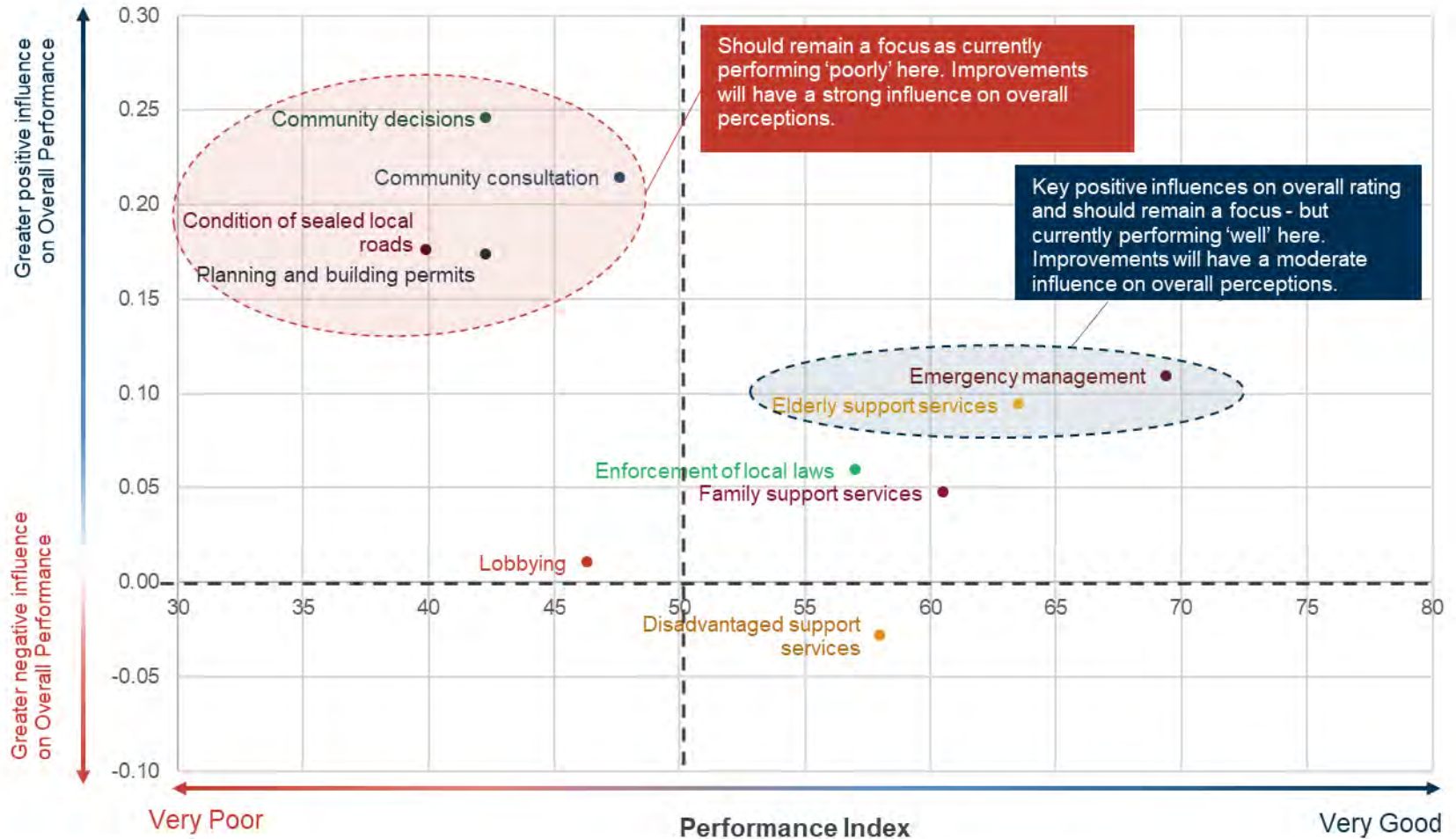
In the chart that follows:

- 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 chart is 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.



Influence on overall performance: key service areas

2019 regression analysis (key service areas)

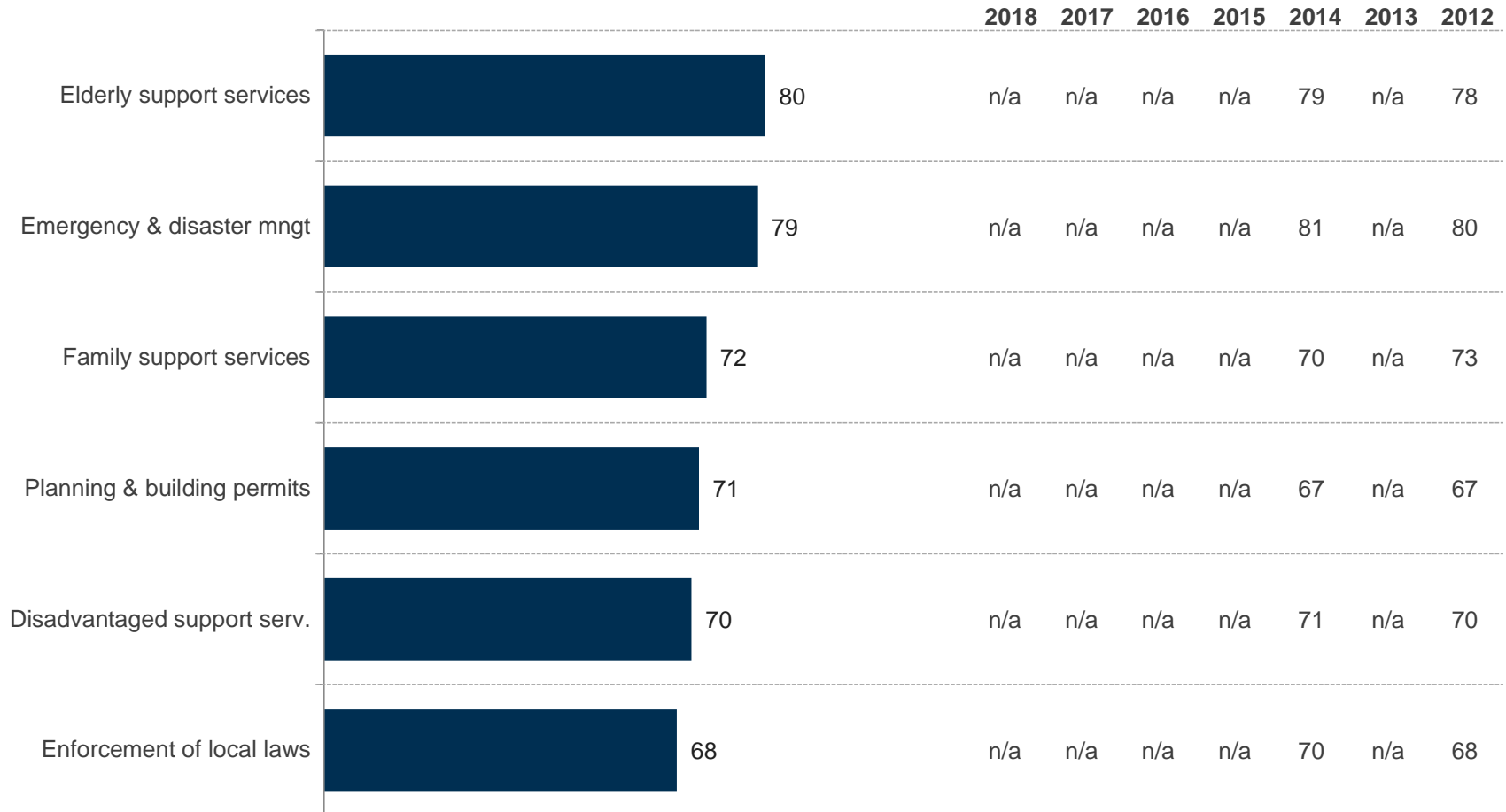


The multiple regression analysis model above (all service areas) has an R-squared value of 0.588 and adjusted R-square value of 0.578, which means that 59% of the variance in community perceptions of overall performance can be predicted from these variables. The overall model effect was statistically significant at $p = 0.0001$, $F = 55.61$. This model should be interpreted with some caution as some data is not normally distributed and not all service areas have linear correlations.



Individual service area importance

2019 individual service area importance (index scores)

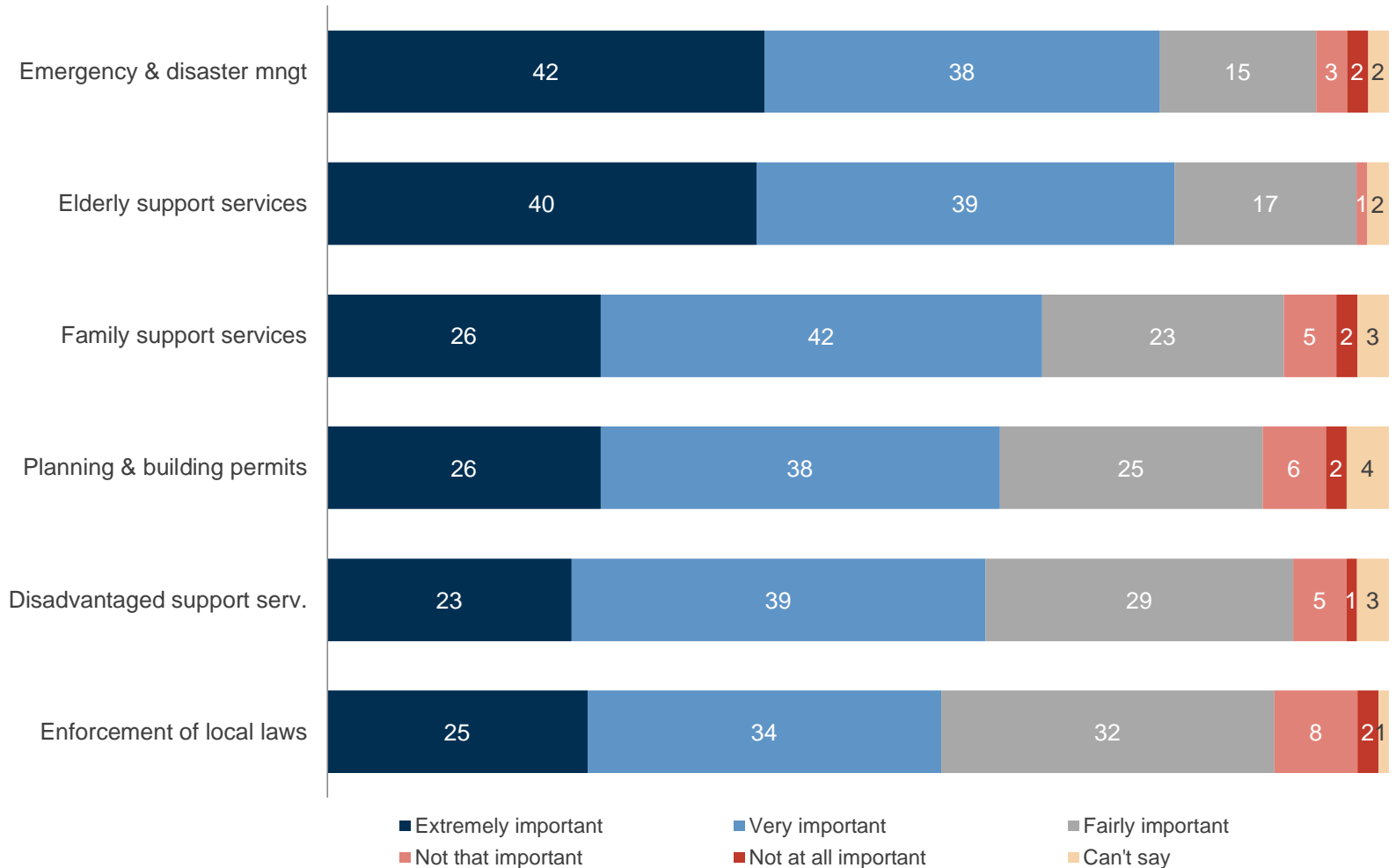


Q1. Firstly, how important should [RESPONSIBILITY AREA] be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 7
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Individual service area importance

2019 individual service area importance (%)



Q1. Firstly, how important should [RESPONSIBILITY AREA] be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 7



Individual service area performance

2019 individual service area performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Emergency & disaster mngt	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	67
Elderly support services	64	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	n/a	69
Family support services	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	67	n/a	64
Enforcement of local laws	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	n/a	64
Disadvantaged support serv.	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62	n/a	62
Consultation & engagement	49	50	48	48	52	53	45	47
Lobbying	47	49	48	50	53	52	44	47
Community decisions	43	48	46	47	53	51	n/a	n/a
Planning & building permits	43	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	54	n/a	48
Sealed local roads	40	42	42	38	36	35	n/a	n/a

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

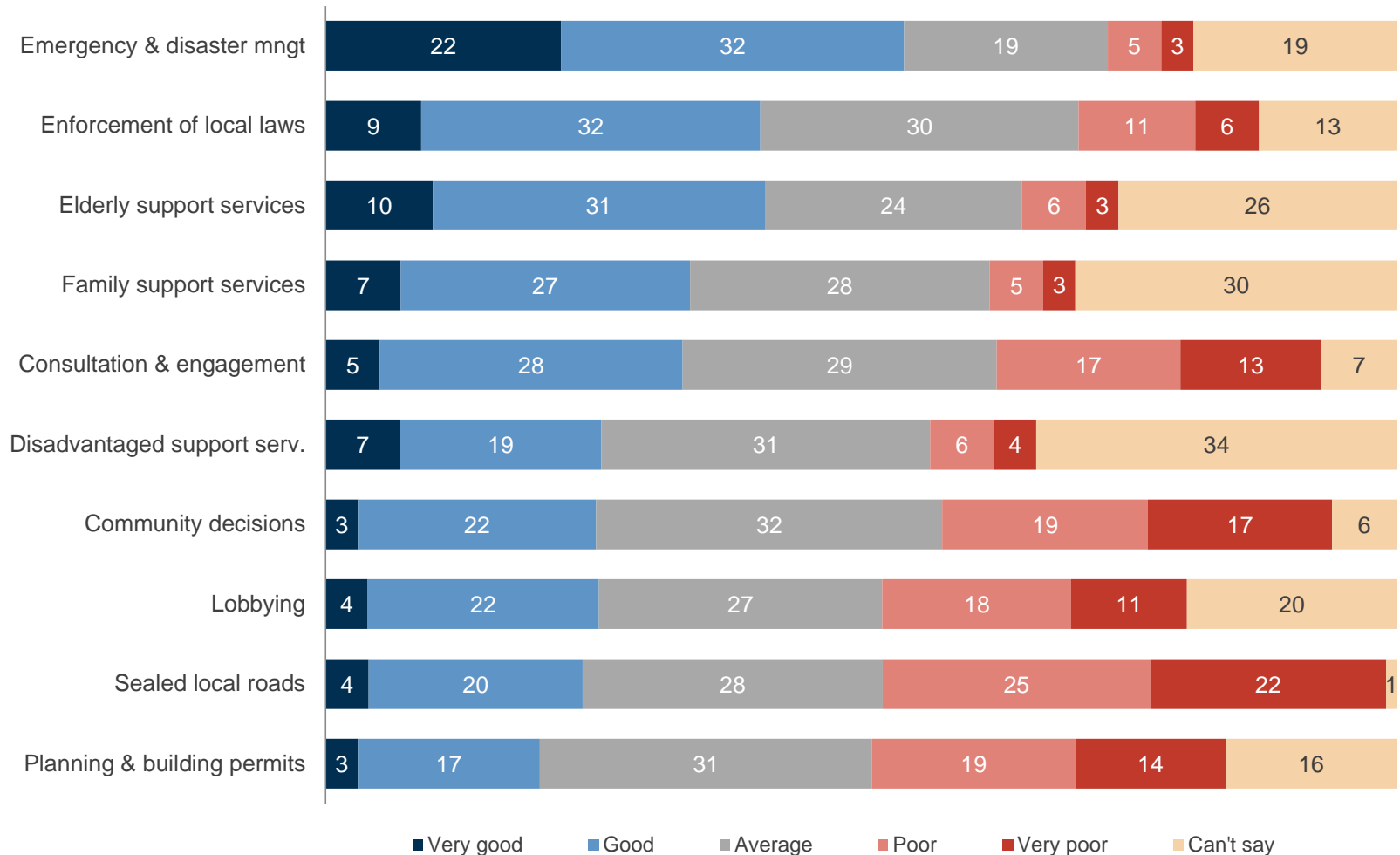
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Individual service area performance

2019 individual service area performance (%)



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



Individual service area performance vs State-wide average

Significantly Higher than State-wide Average

- Not applicable

Significantly Lower than State-wide Average

- Consultation & engagement
- Lobbying
- Enforcement of local laws
- Family support services
- Elderly support services
- Disadvantaged support serv.
- Planning permits
- Making community decisions
- Sealed local roads



Individual service area performance vs group average

Significantly Higher than Group Average

- Not applicable

Significantly Lower than Group Average

- Consultation & engagement
- Lobbying
- Enforcement of local laws
- Family support services
- Elderly support services
- Disadvantaged support serv.
- Planning permits
- Making community decisions
- Sealed local roads



Areas for improvement

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

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Community Consultation	16	n/a	16	15	n/a	7	n/a	n/a
Sealed Road Maintenance	16	n/a	21	26	n/a	35	n/a	n/a
Town Planning/Permits/Red Tape	11	n/a	4	3	n/a	1	n/a	n/a
Communication	9	n/a	10	10	n/a	7	n/a	n/a
Financial Management	7	n/a	10	8	n/a	6	n/a	n/a
Council Management	6	n/a	2	5	n/a	3	n/a	n/a
Parking Availability	5	n/a	9	3	n/a	2	n/a	n/a
Rates - Too expensive	5	n/a	7	7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Traffic Management	5	n/a	2	2	n/a	3	n/a	n/a
Nothing	5	n/a	4	8	n/a	7	n/a	n/a

Q17. What does Baw Baw 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 in the accompanying dashboard.

DETAILED FINDINGS



Overall
performance



Overall performance

2019 overall performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	60▲	59	59	59	60	61	60	60
18-34	57	54	56	51	63	57	46	54
Large Rural	56▲	56	54	54	56	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	54	51	50	48	55	59	41	47
West ward	54	49	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	54	50	49	52	50	61	46	45
Central ward	53	50	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Baw Baw	52	50	50	48	54	57	41	45
Men	50	49	49	49	53	54	39	43
East ward	50	52	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	49	49	46	41	51	54	35	40
35-49	48	48	47	47	52	52	38	42

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

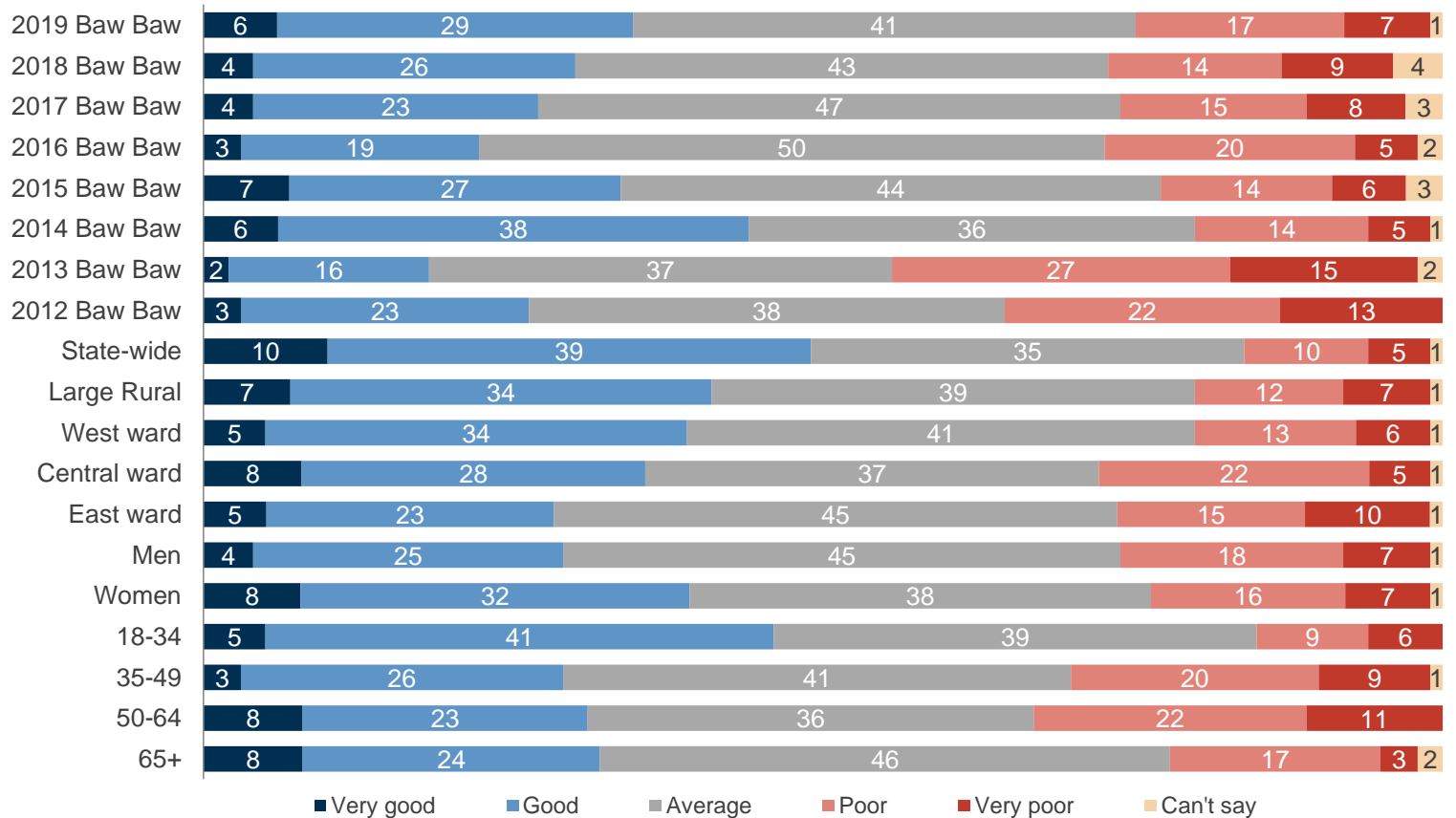
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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 Baw Baw 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

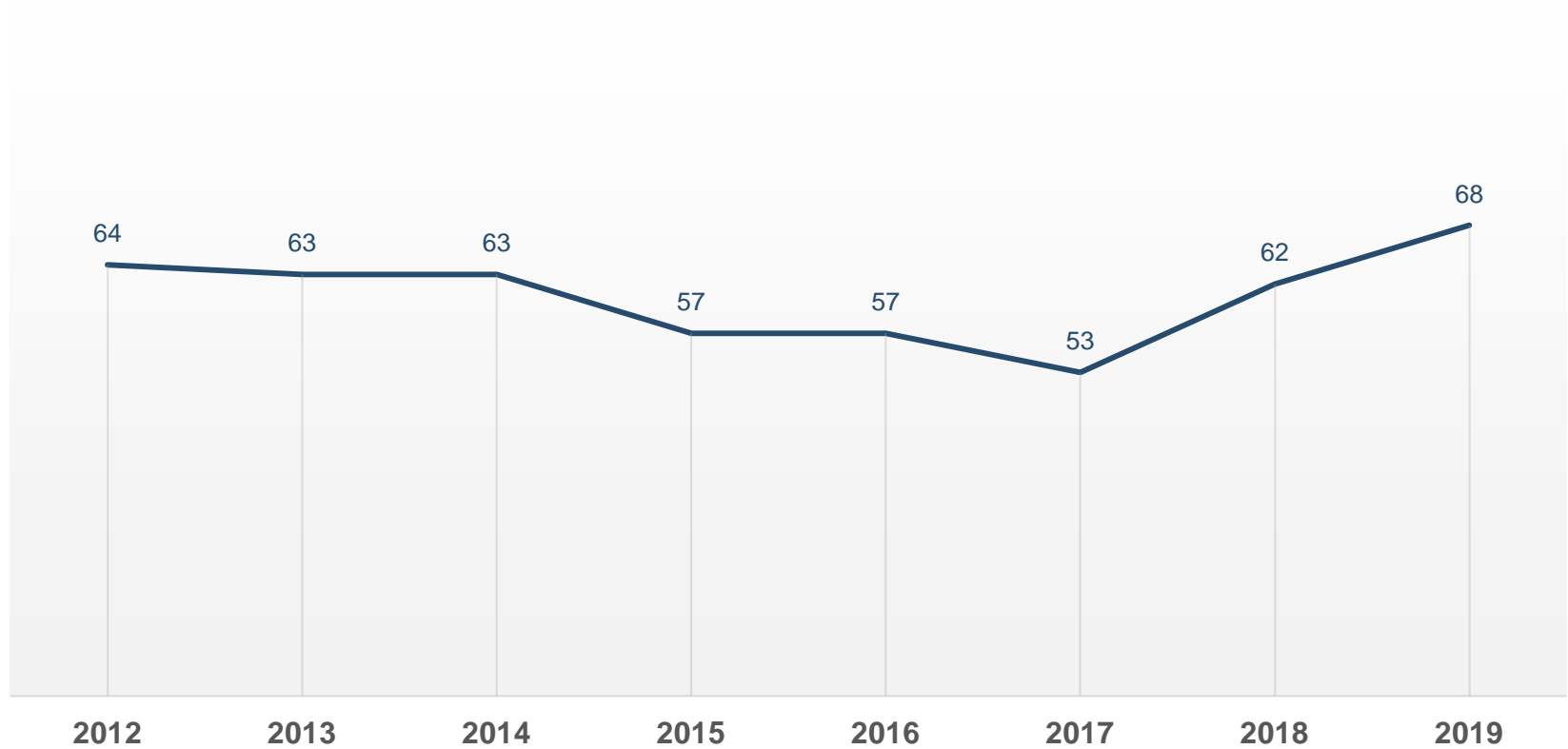


Customer service



Contact with council

2019 contact with council (%)
Have had contact

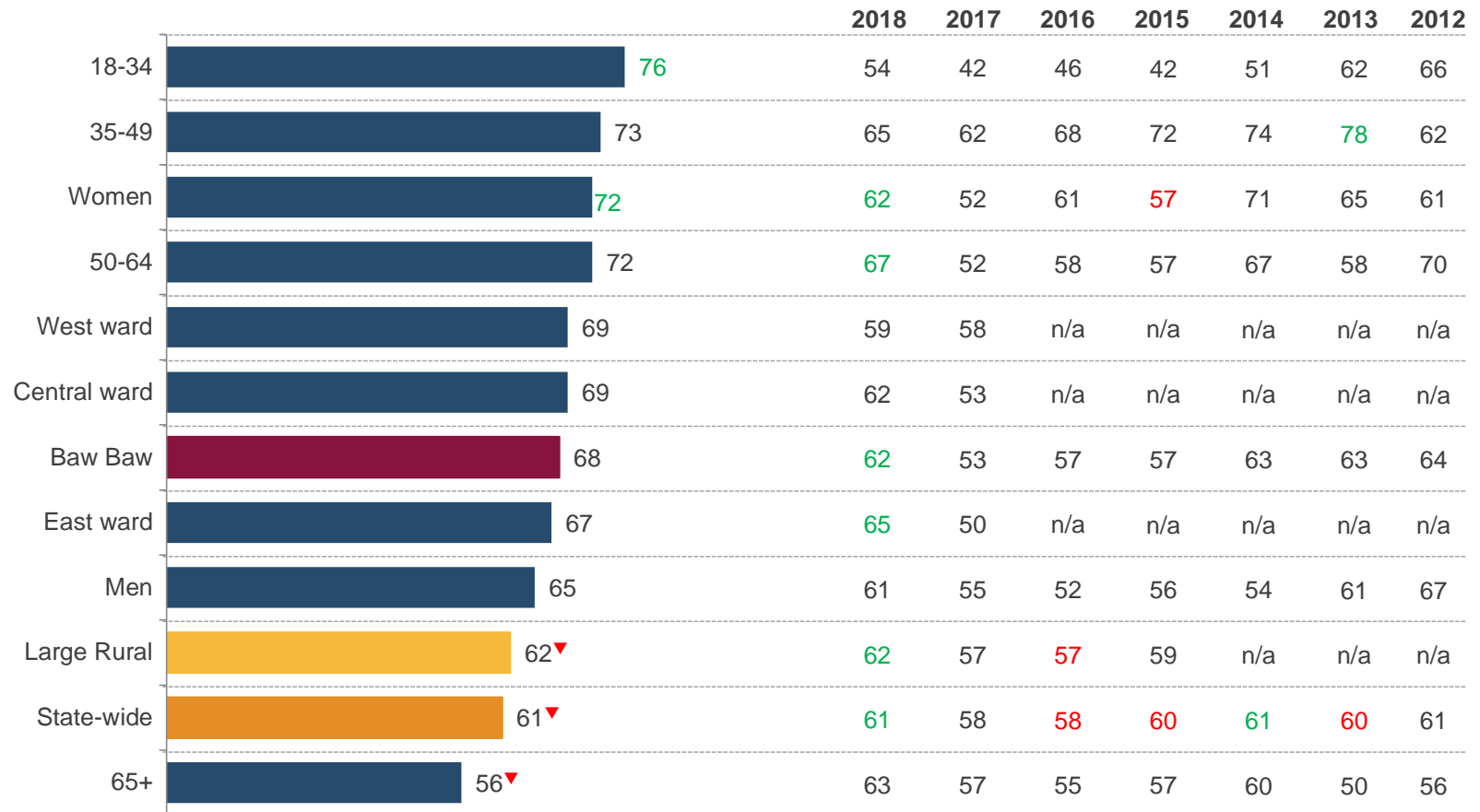


Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Baw Baw Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 11



Contact with council

2019 contact with council (%)



Q5. Over the last 12 months, have you or any member of your household had any contact with Baw Baw Shire Council? This may have been in person, in writing, by telephone conversation, by text message, by email or via their website or social media such as Facebook or Twitter?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 38 Councils asked group: 11
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Customer service rating

2019 customer service rating (index scores)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	56	63	69	63	63	69	60
Women	63	67	65	69	71	65	66
State-wide	70	69	69	70	72	71	71
Large Rural	67	66	67	67	n/a	n/a	n/a
West ward	59	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	65	67	68	63	69	69	67
Central ward	61	62	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Baw Baw	61	61	66	64	67	62	61
East ward	63	61	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	55	53	68	65	68	61	60
50-64	67	62	56	67	68	55	60
Men	60	56	67	60	62	60	57

Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Baw Baw 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.

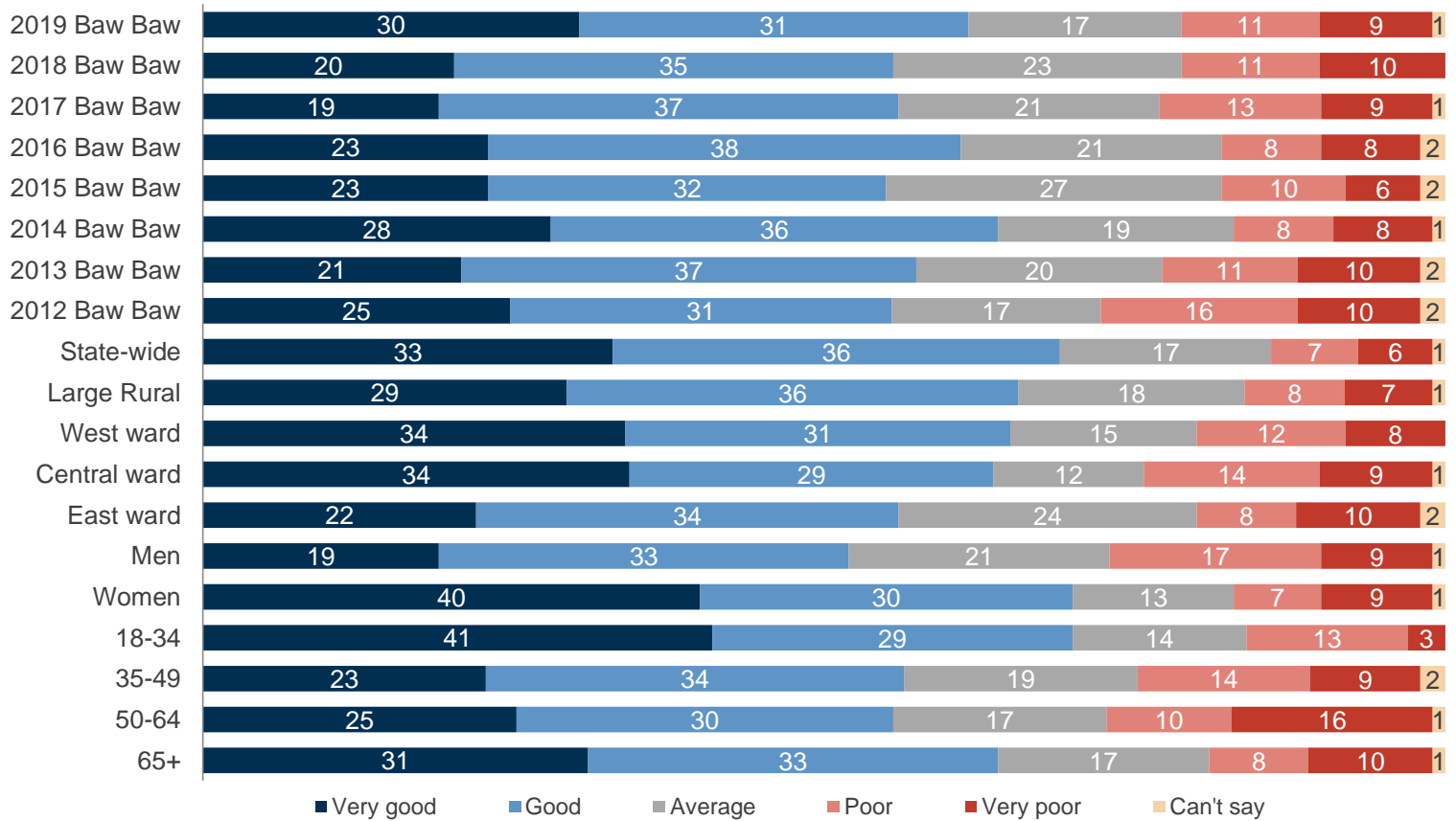
Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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 Baw Baw 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



Communication



Communication summary

Overall preferred forms of communication

- Newsletter sent via email (27%)

Preferred forms of communication among over 50s

- Newsletter sent via email (26%)

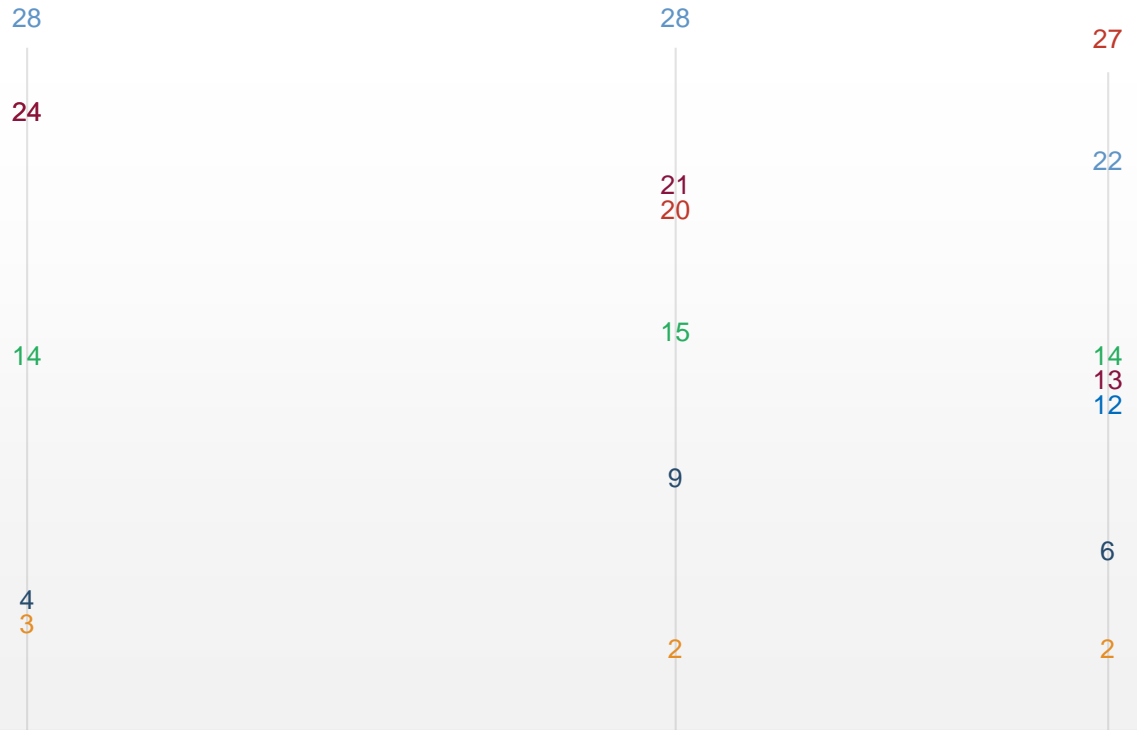
Preferred forms of communication among under 50s

- Newsletter sent via email (29%)



Best form of communication

2019 best form of communication (%)



2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

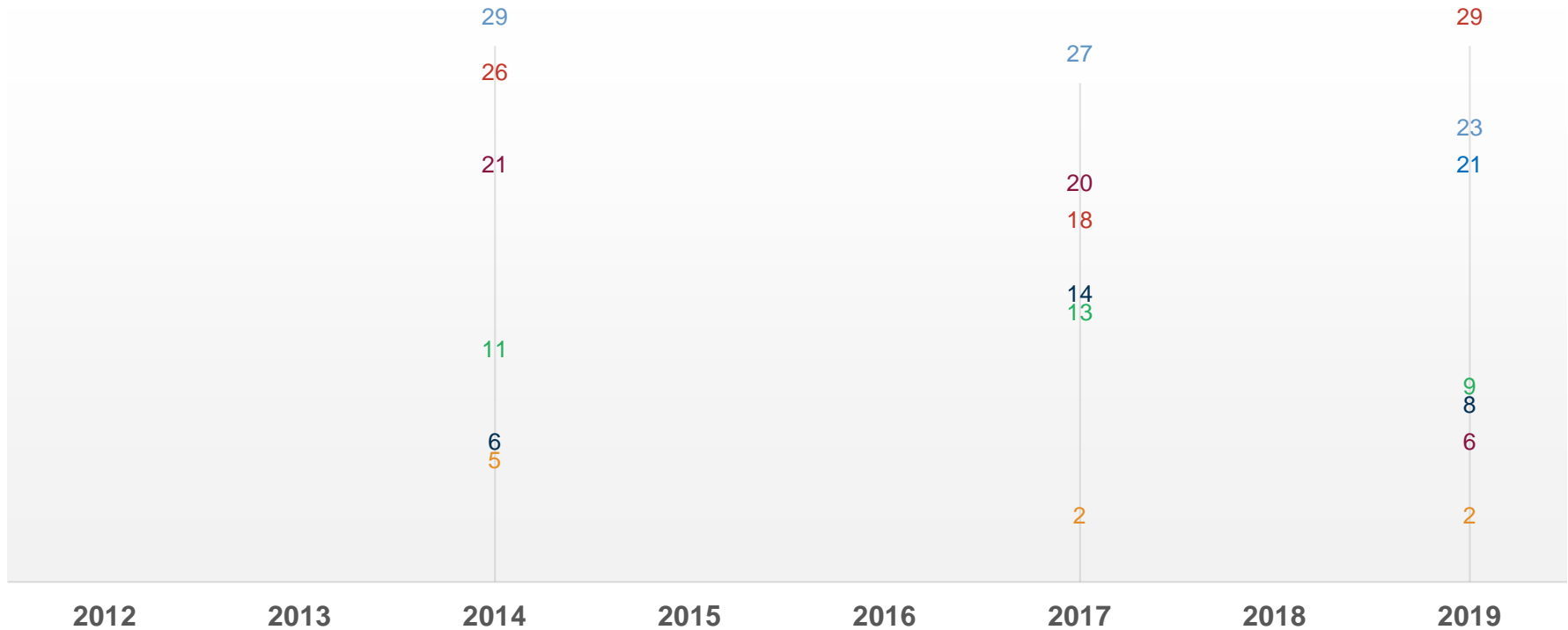
Q13. If Baw Baw Shire Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 10



Best form of communication: under 50s

2019 under 50s best form of communication (%)



Q13. If Baw Baw Shire Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?
 Base: All respondents aged under 50. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 10



2019 best form of communication: over 50s

2019 over 50s best form of communication (%)



Q13. If Baw Baw Shire Council was going to get in touch with you to inform you about Council news and information and upcoming events, which ONE of the following is the BEST way to communicate with you?
 Base: All respondents aged over 50. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 10



Council direction



Council direction summary

Council direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58% stayed about the same, down 3 points on 2018 • 14% improved, down 4 points on 2018 • 23% deteriorated, up 7 points on 2018
Most satisfied with Council direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged 18-34 years
Least satisfied with Council direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged 50-64 years
Rates vs services trade-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27% prefer rate rise • 52% prefer service cuts



Overall council direction last 12 months

2019 overall direction (index scores)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
18-34	54▲	53	50	46	52	46	48
State-wide	53▲	53	51	53	53	53	52
Large Rural	51▲	52	48	51	n/a	n/a	n/a
Central ward	48	54	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	48	52	50	44	51	53	44
West ward	46	48	49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Baw Baw	45	51	48	46	50	52	42
35-49	45	50	49	45	52	45	37
65+	43	51	46	46	49	59	55
Men	43	50	46	48	48	51	40
East ward	42	51	46	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	39	48	45	43	51	49	37

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

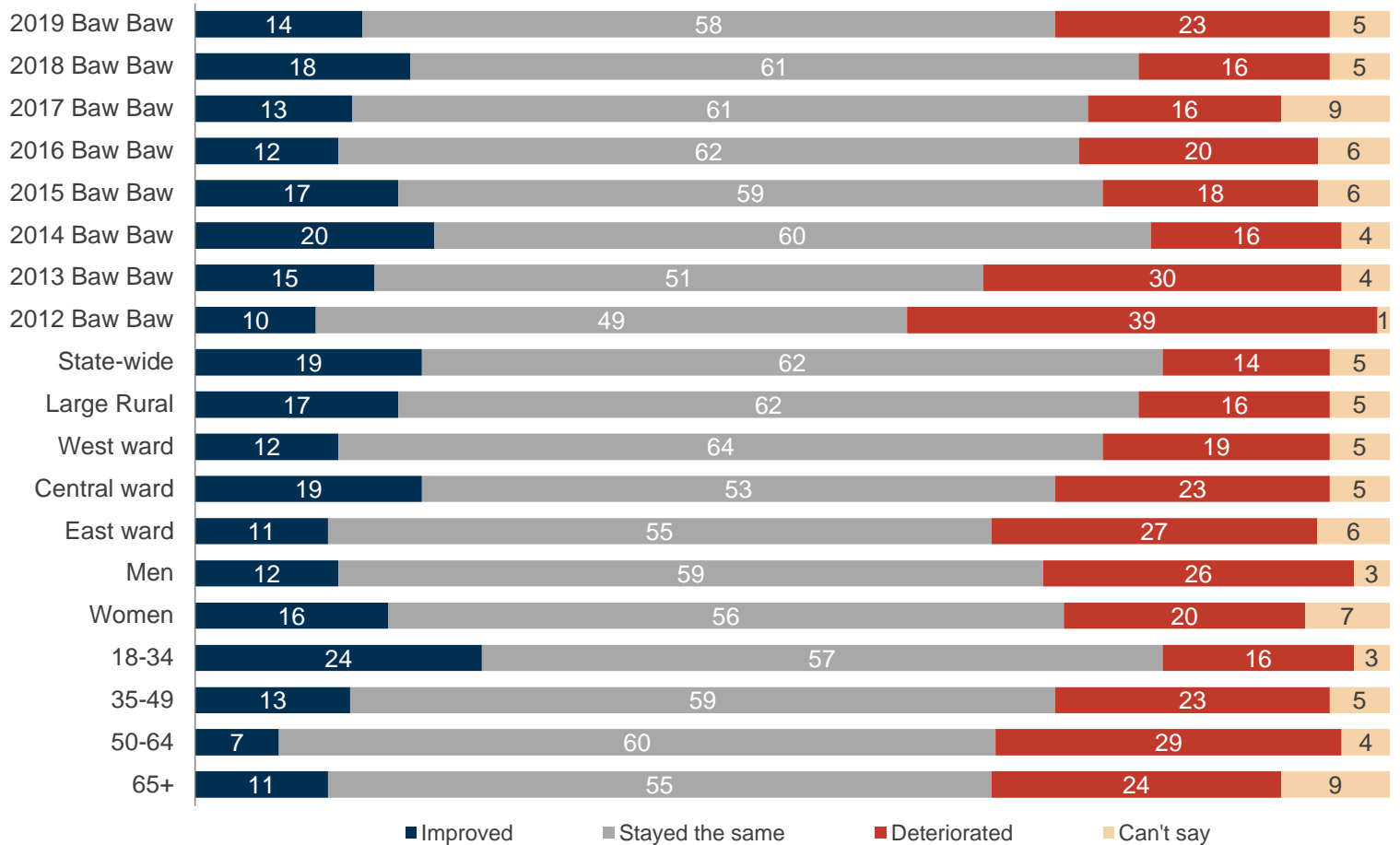
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Overall council direction last 12 months

2019 overall council direction (%)

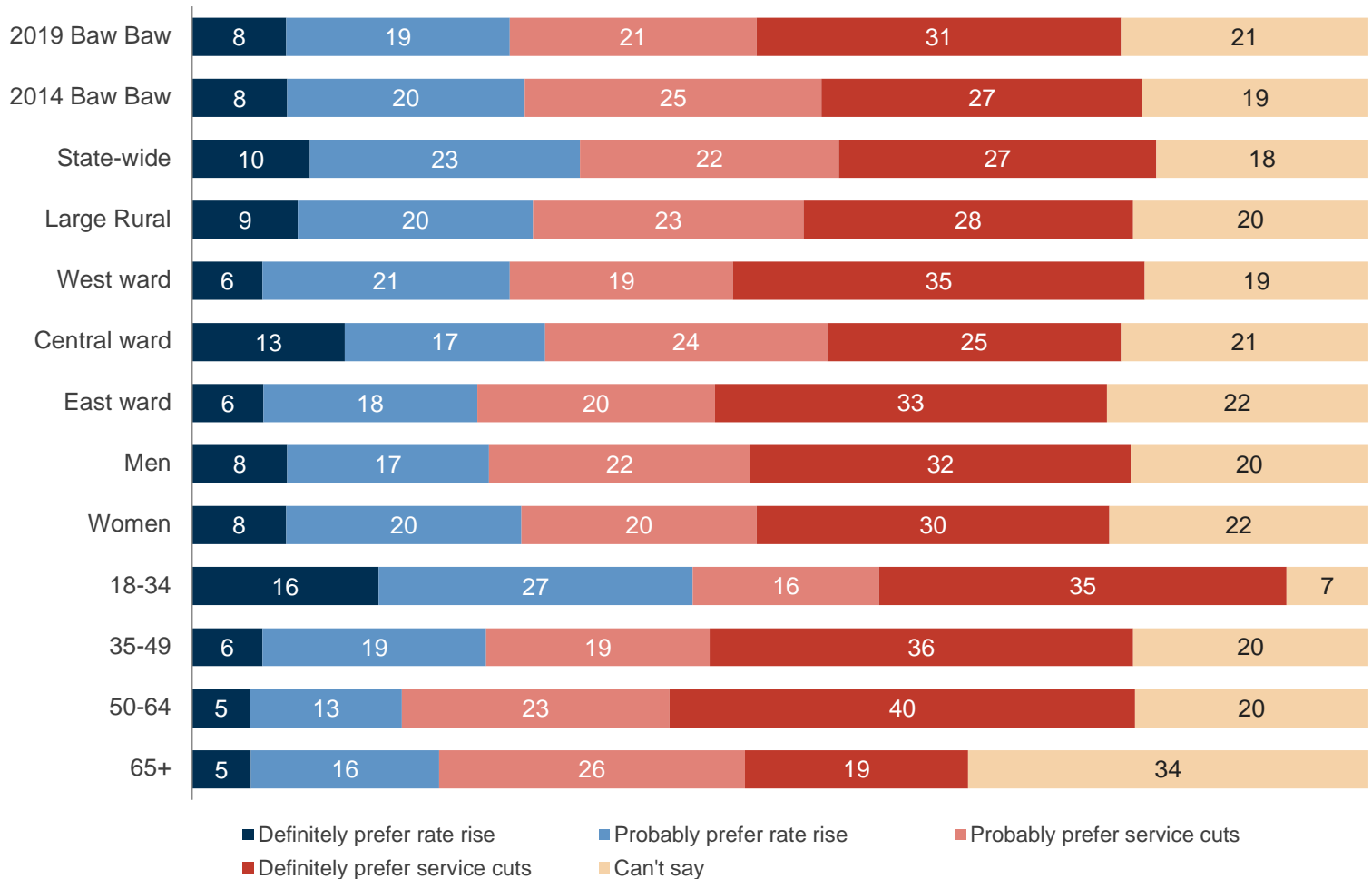


Q6. Over the last 12 months, what is your view of the direction of Baw Baw Shire Council's overall performance?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18



Rates / services trade-off

2019 rates / services trade-off (%)



Q10. If you had to choose, would you prefer to see council rate rises to improve local services OR would you prefer to see cuts in council services to keep council rates at the same level as they are now?

Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 15 Councils asked group: 4

The image features a large, stylized graphic of the letters 'N' and 'W' in a dark blue color. The letters are filled with a satellite-style map of North America, showing landmasses and a network of glowing white lines representing roads or infrastructure. The background is white.

Individual service areas



Community consultation and engagement performance

2019 Consultation and engagement performance (index scores)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	55	55▲	54	56	57	57	57
18-34	54	59	49	58	52	52	55
Large Rural	54▲	52	52	54	n/a	n/a	n/a
West ward	54	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women	52	49	48	53	55	47	50
65+	49	45	51	48	56	44	42
Baw Baw	49	48	48	52	53	45	47
East ward	46	45	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	46	46	49	50	51	43	44
50-64	46	43	43	50	51	39	41
Central ward	46	48	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	44	43	49	52	53	47	48

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

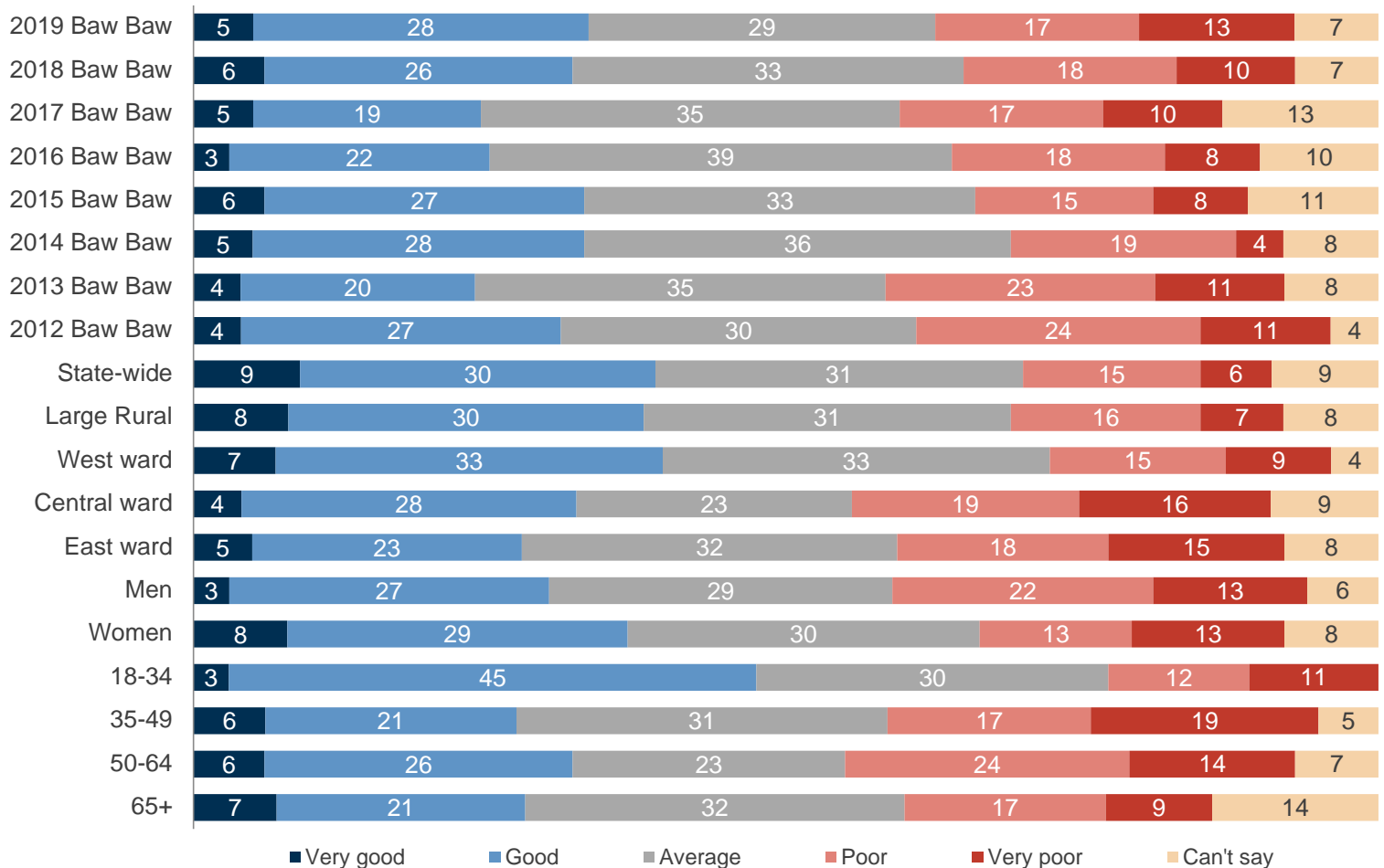
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Community consultation and engagement performance

2019 Consultation and engagement performance (%)

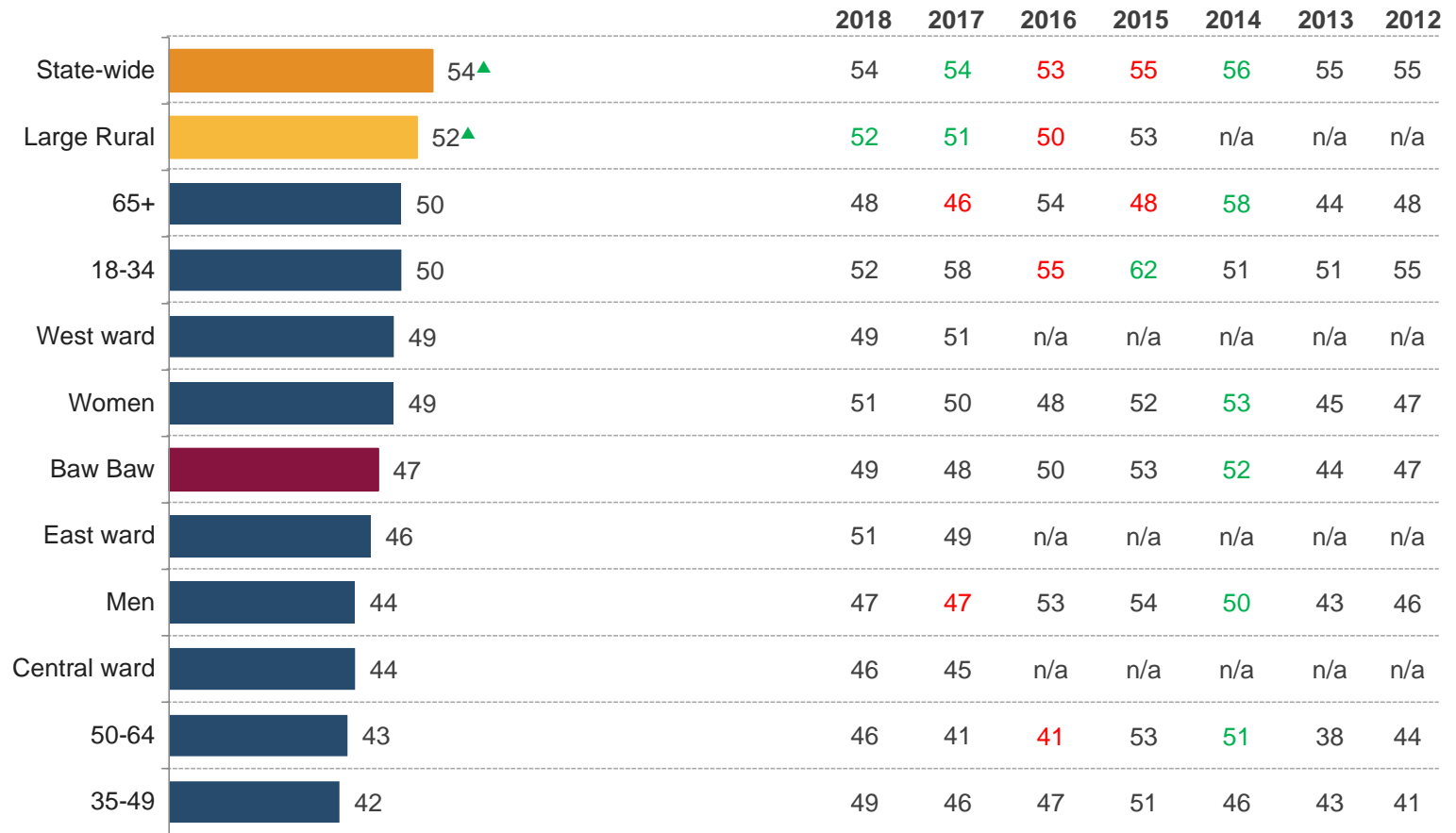


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Community consultation and engagement' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance

2019 Lobbying performance (index scores)



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

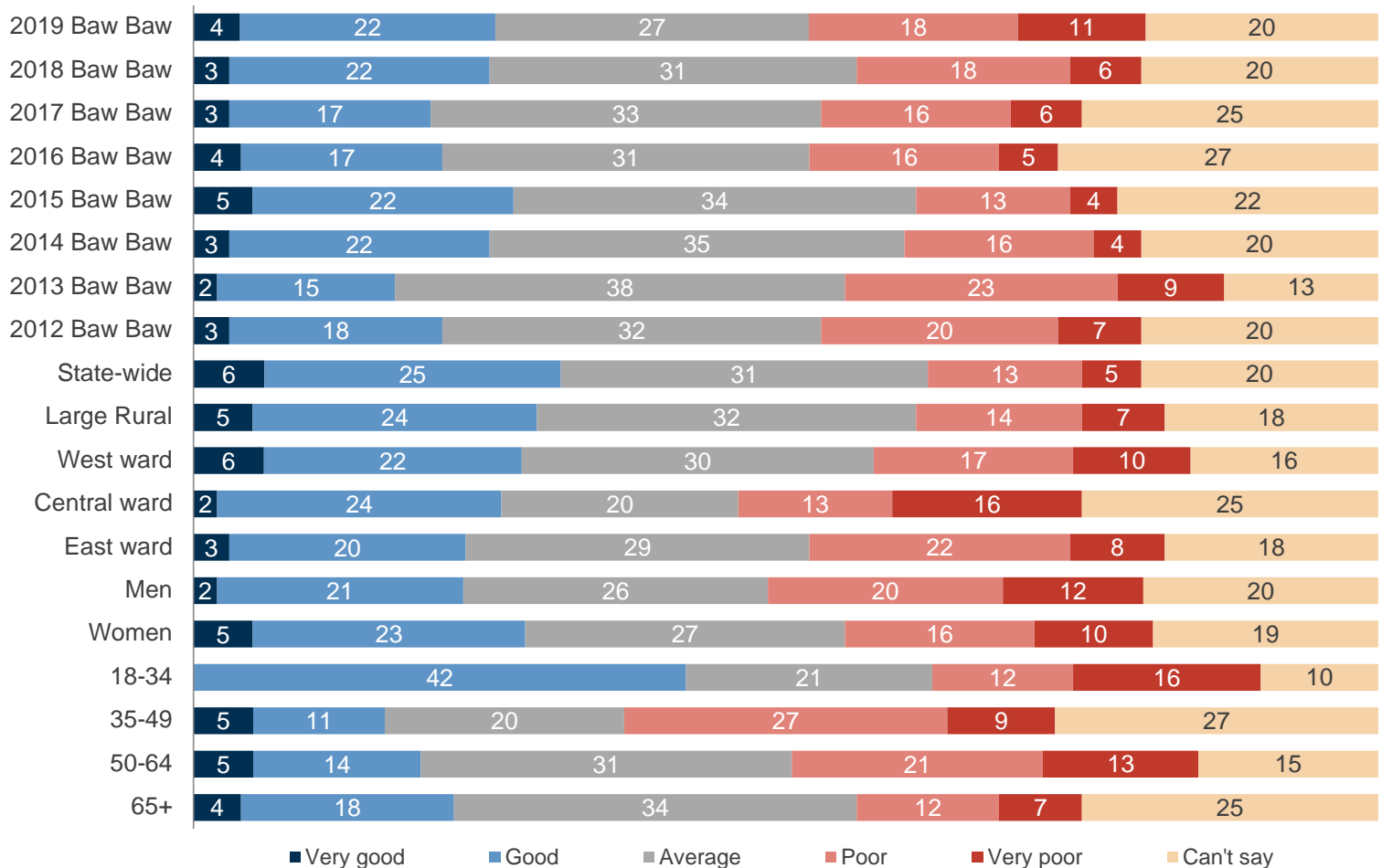
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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



Lobbying on behalf of the community performance

2019 Lobbying performance (%)

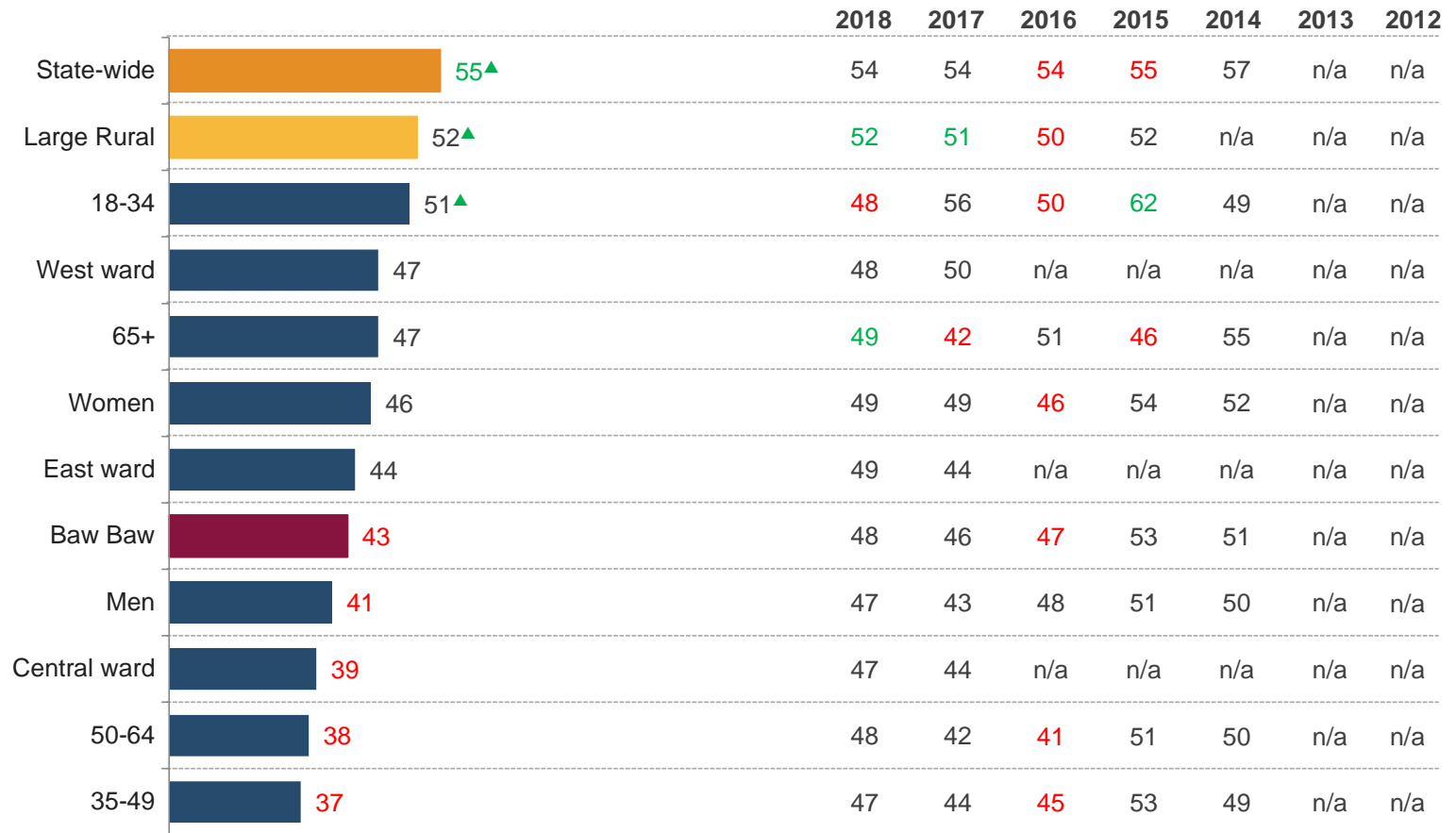


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Lobbying on behalf of the community' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



2019 Community decisions made performance (index scores)



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

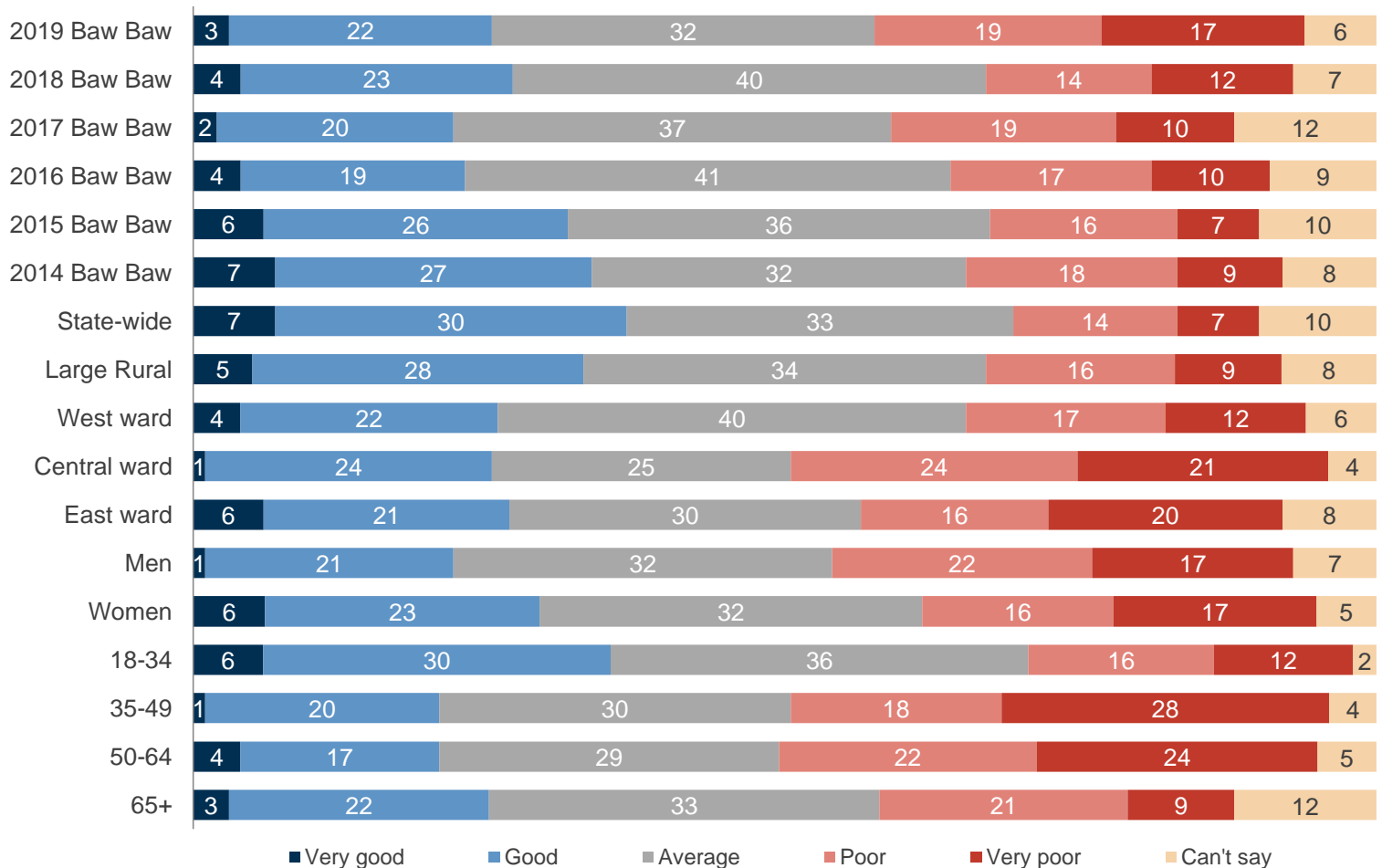
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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

Decisions made in the interest of the community performance



2019 Community decisions made performance (%)



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

The condition of sealed local roads in your area performance



2019 Sealed local roads performance (index scores)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
State-wide	53	53▲	54	55	55	n/a	n/a
Large Rural	45	43	44	45	n/a	n/a	n/a
Central ward	45	42	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	43	46	44	37	44	n/a	n/a
West ward	44	46	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	42	38	41	33	32	n/a	n/a
Baw Baw	42	42	38	36	35	n/a	n/a
Women	42	46	35	38	37	n/a	n/a
35-49	41	38	33	30	30	n/a	n/a
18-34	44	48	38	39	27	n/a	n/a
50-64	39	37	34	36	36	n/a	n/a
East ward	37	39	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

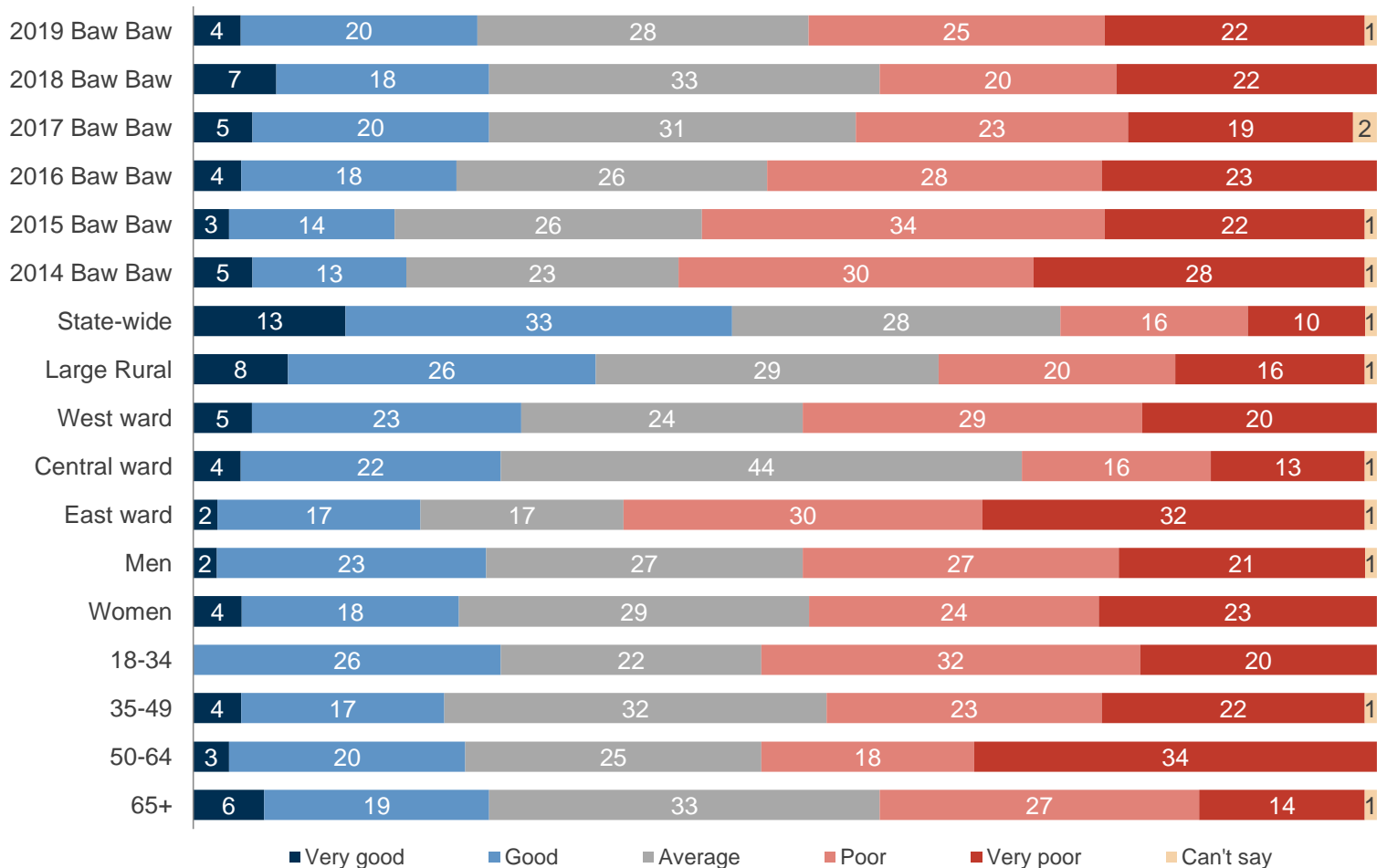
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 18

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 (%)



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



Enforcement of local laws importance

2019 Law enforcement importance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Women	74▲	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	74	n/a	72
West ward	72	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	71	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	72	n/a	68
State-wide	71▲	71	71	70	71	70	71	70
35-49	69	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	68
Baw Baw	68	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	68
Large Rural	68	68	68	69	70	n/a	n/a	n/a
East ward	68	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
18-34	67	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	67	n/a	72
Central ward	65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
50-64	65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	71	n/a	66
Men	62▼	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	65	n/a	65

Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Enforcement of local laws' be as a responsibility for Council?

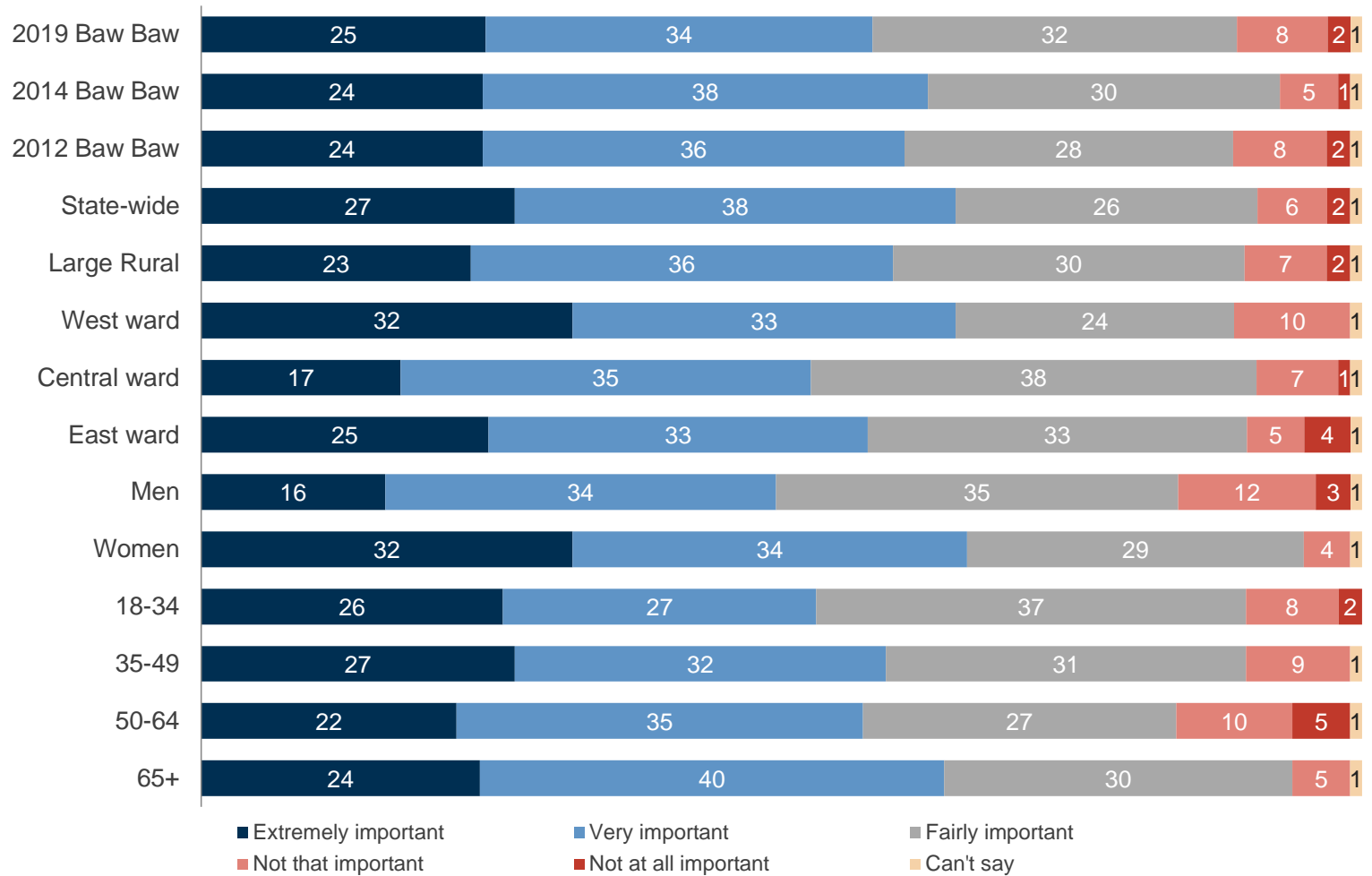
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 23 Councils asked group: 4

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



Enforcement of local laws importance

2019 Law enforcement importance (%)

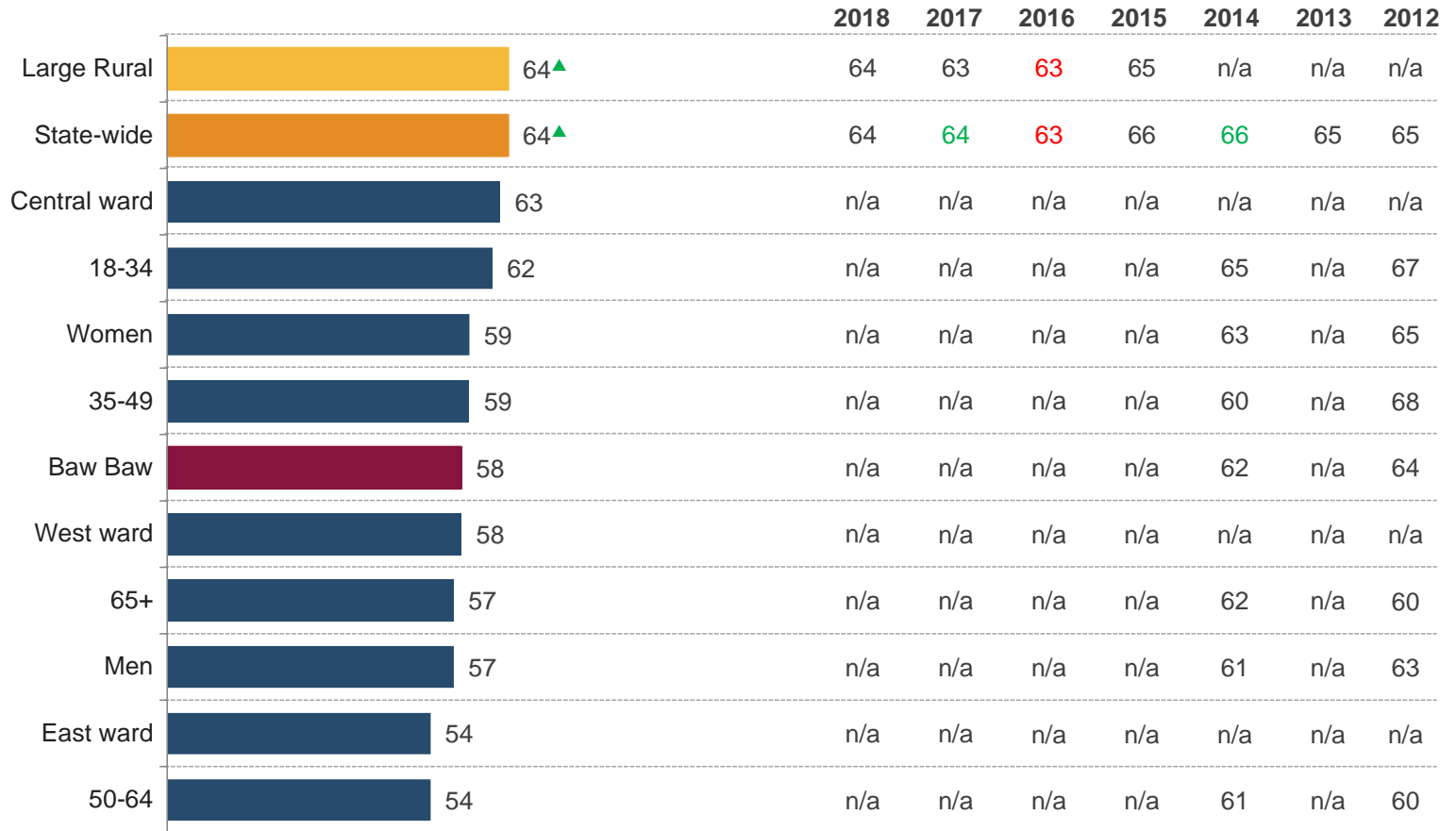


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Enforcement of local laws' be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 23 Councils asked group: 4



Enforcement of local laws performance

2019 Law enforcement performance (index scores)

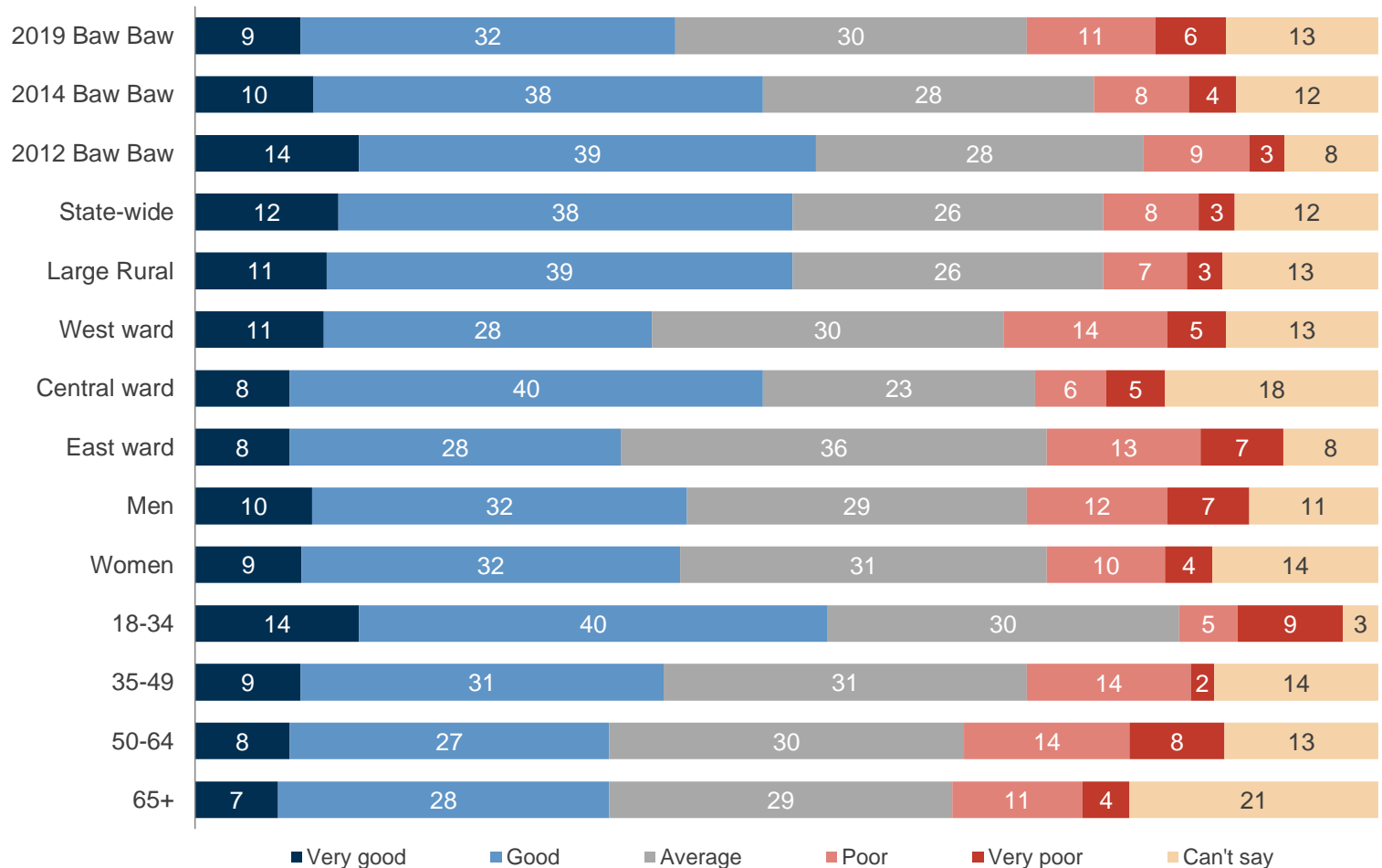


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Enforcement of local laws' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 34 Councils asked group: 8
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Enforcement of local laws performance

2019 Law enforcement performance (%)



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



Family support services importance

2019 Family support importance (index scores)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Women	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	75	n/a	77
18-34	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	73	n/a	77
Central ward	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	74	73	73	73	72	73	73
Large Rural	72	72	72	72	n/a	n/a	n/a
West ward	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
35-49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	n/a	75
Baw Baw	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	73
50-64	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	n/a	68
East ward	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
65+	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	70
Men	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	65	n/a	68

Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Family support services' be as a responsibility for Council?

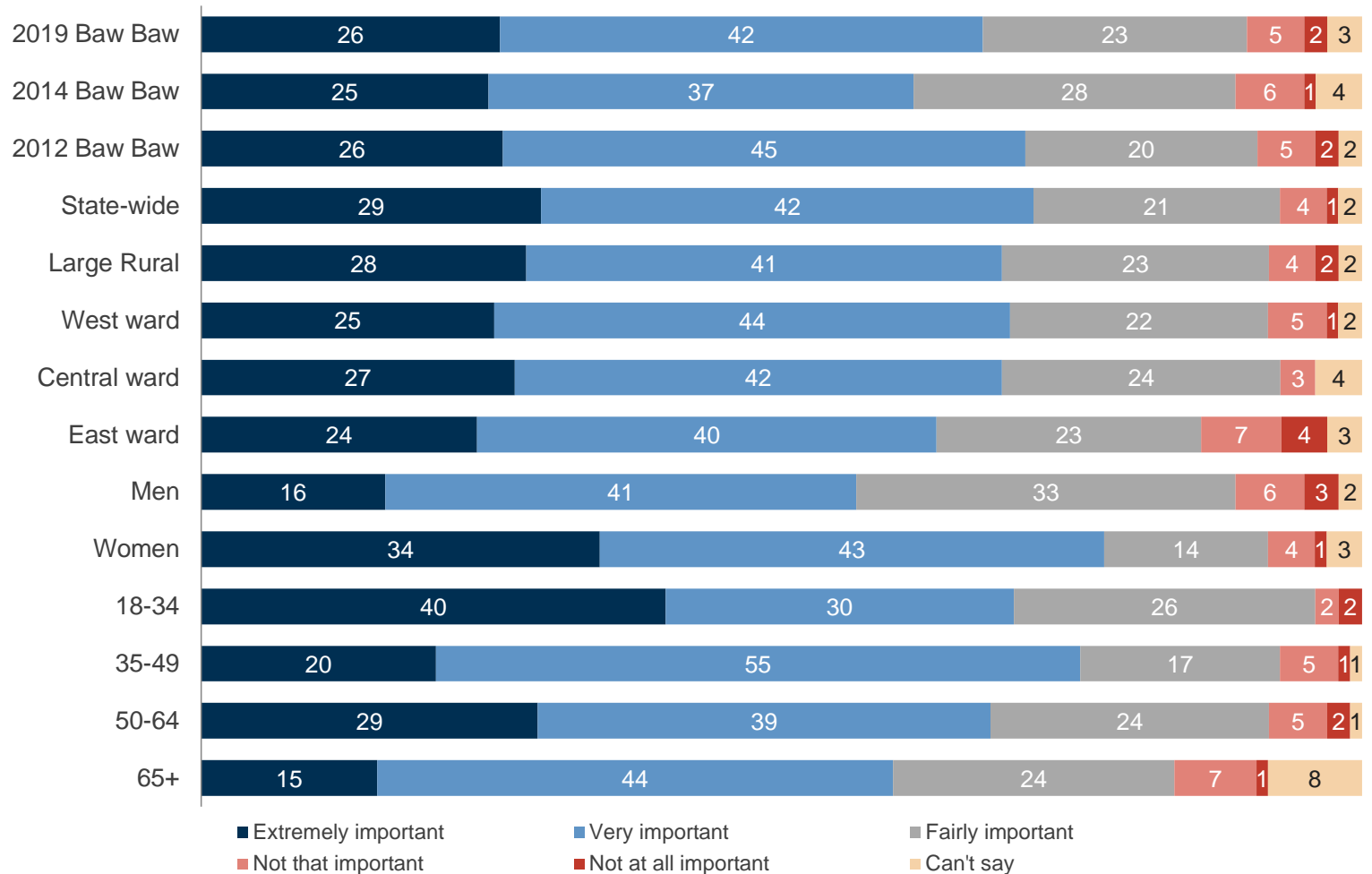
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 21 Councils asked group: 6

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



Family support services importance

2019 Family support importance (%)

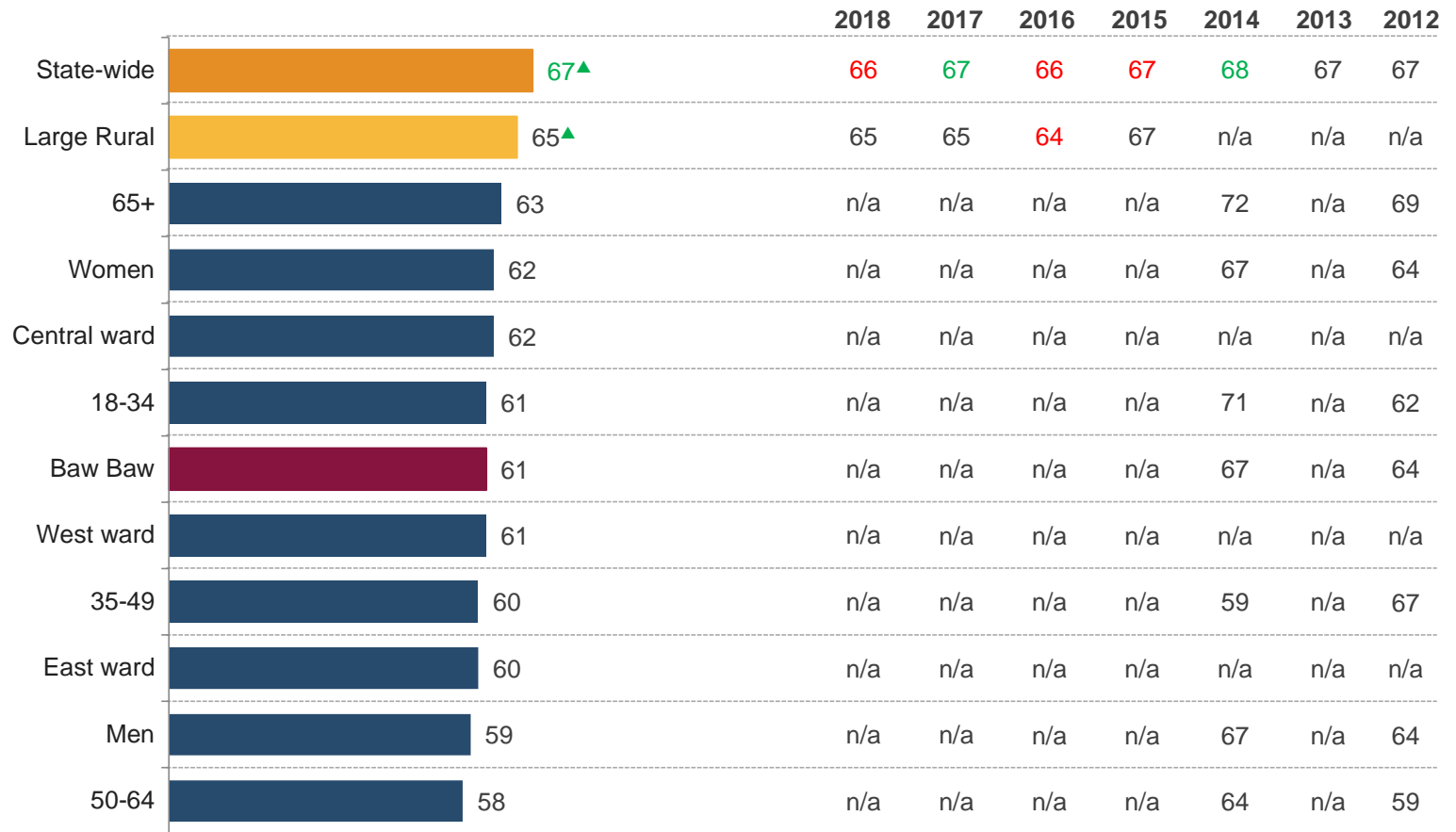


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Family support services' be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 21 Councils asked group: 6



Family support services performance

2019 Family support performance (index scores)

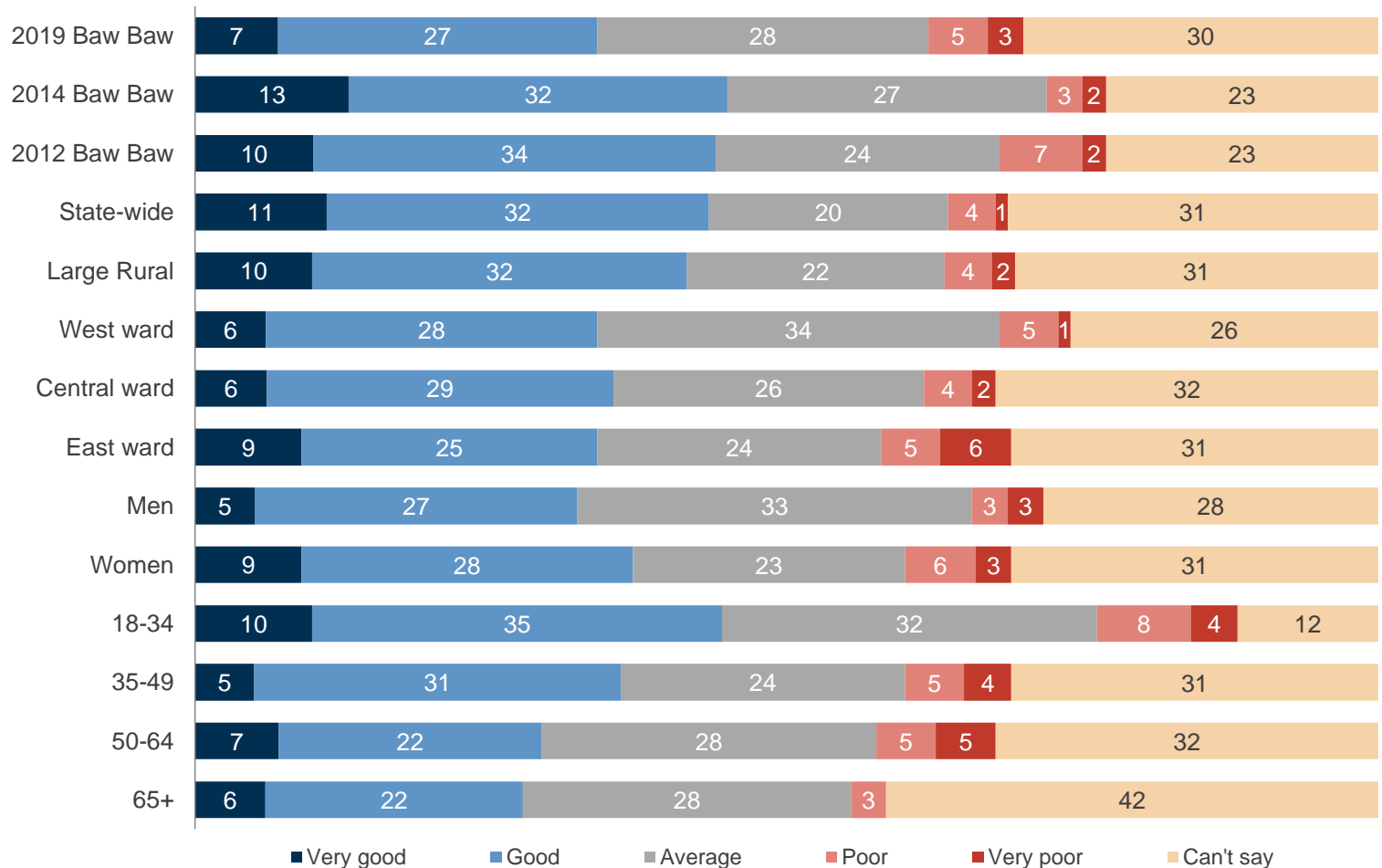


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Family support services' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 31 Councils asked group: 9
 Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.



Family support services performance

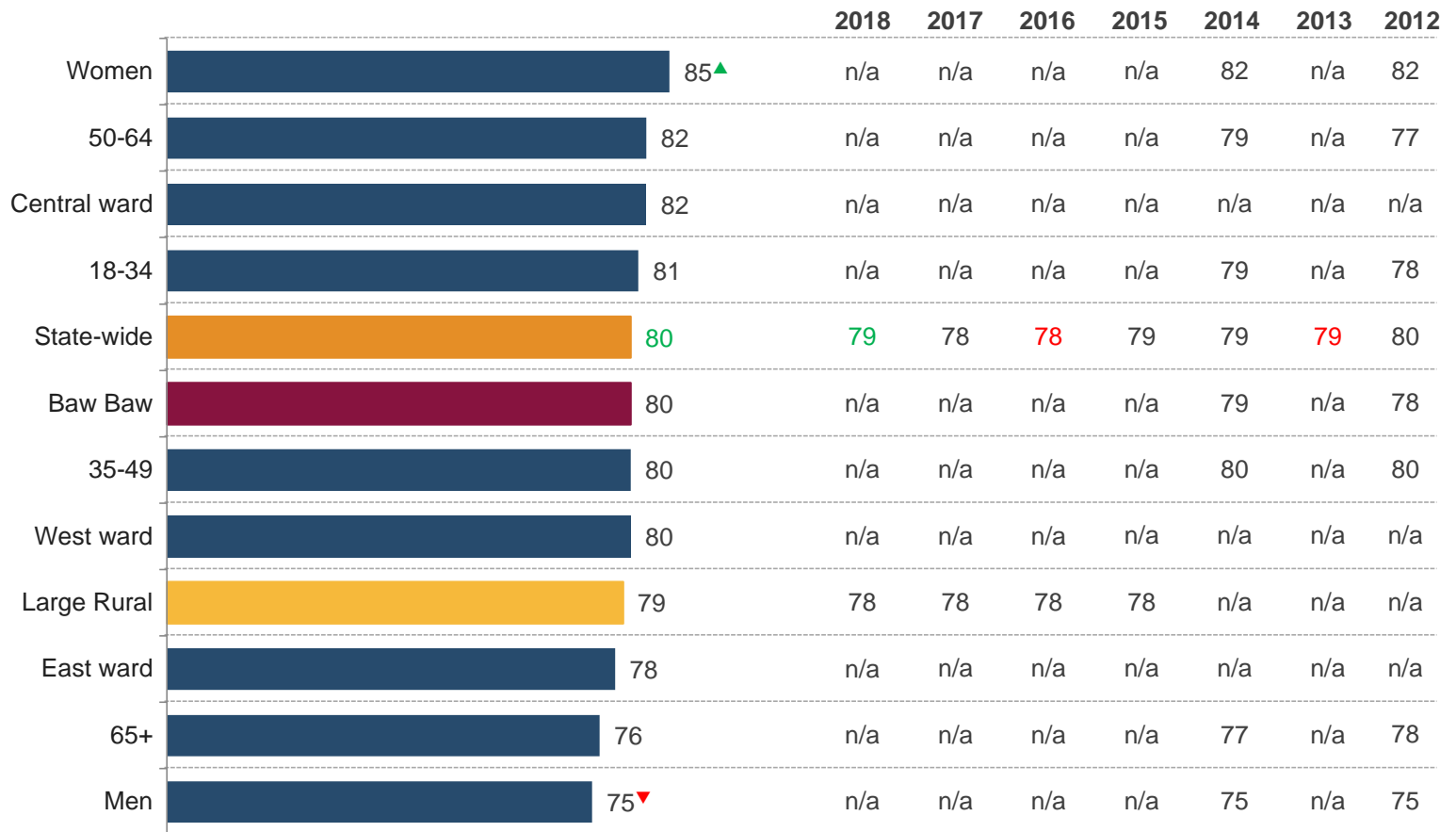
2019 Family support performance (%)





Elderly support services importance

2019 Elderly support importance (index scores)



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Elderly support services' be as a responsibility for Council?

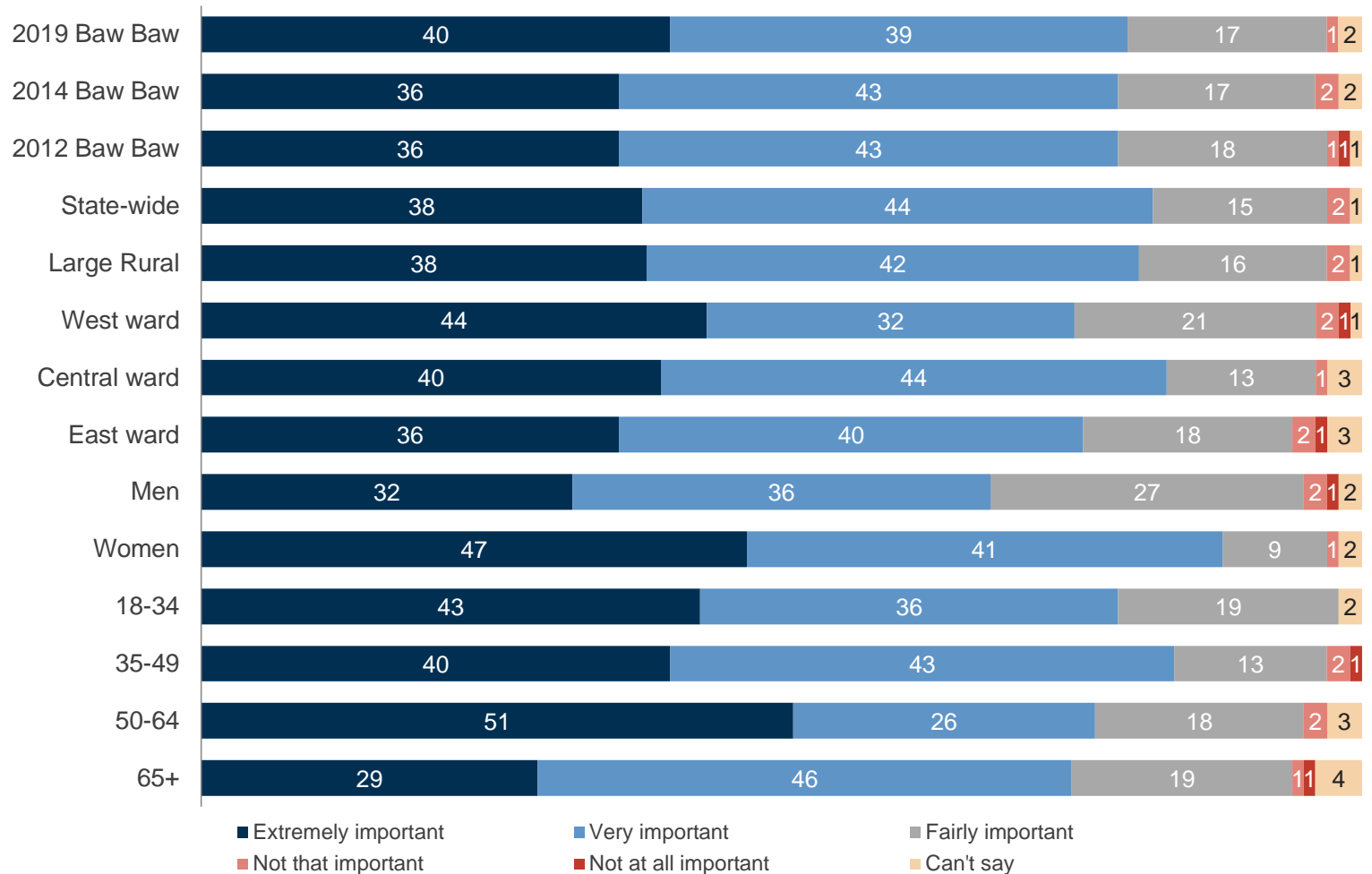
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 21 Councils asked group: 5

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



Elderly support services importance

2019 Elderly support importance (%)

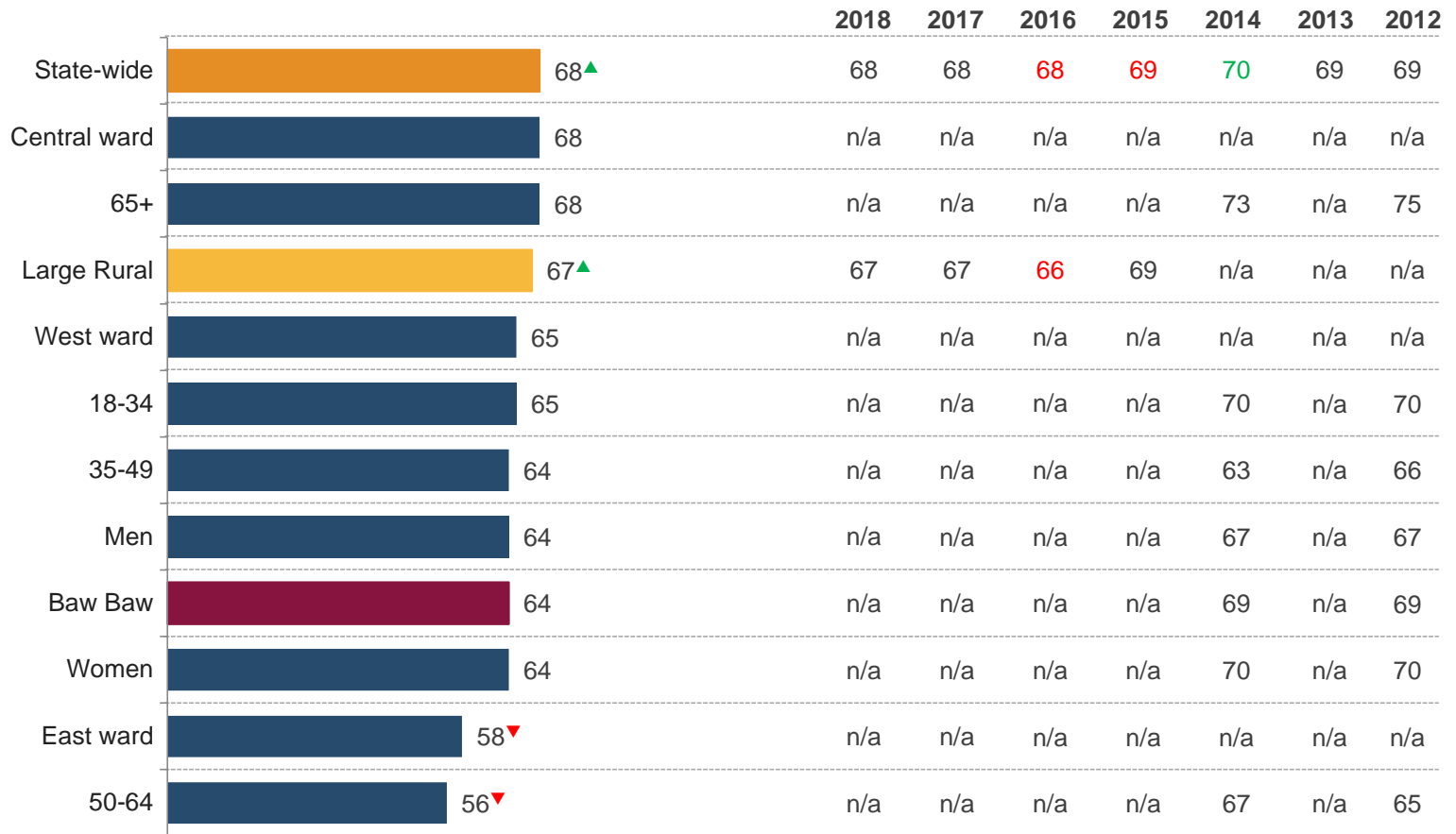


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Elderly support services' be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 21 Councils asked group: 5



Elderly support services performance

2019 Elderly support performance (index scores)



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

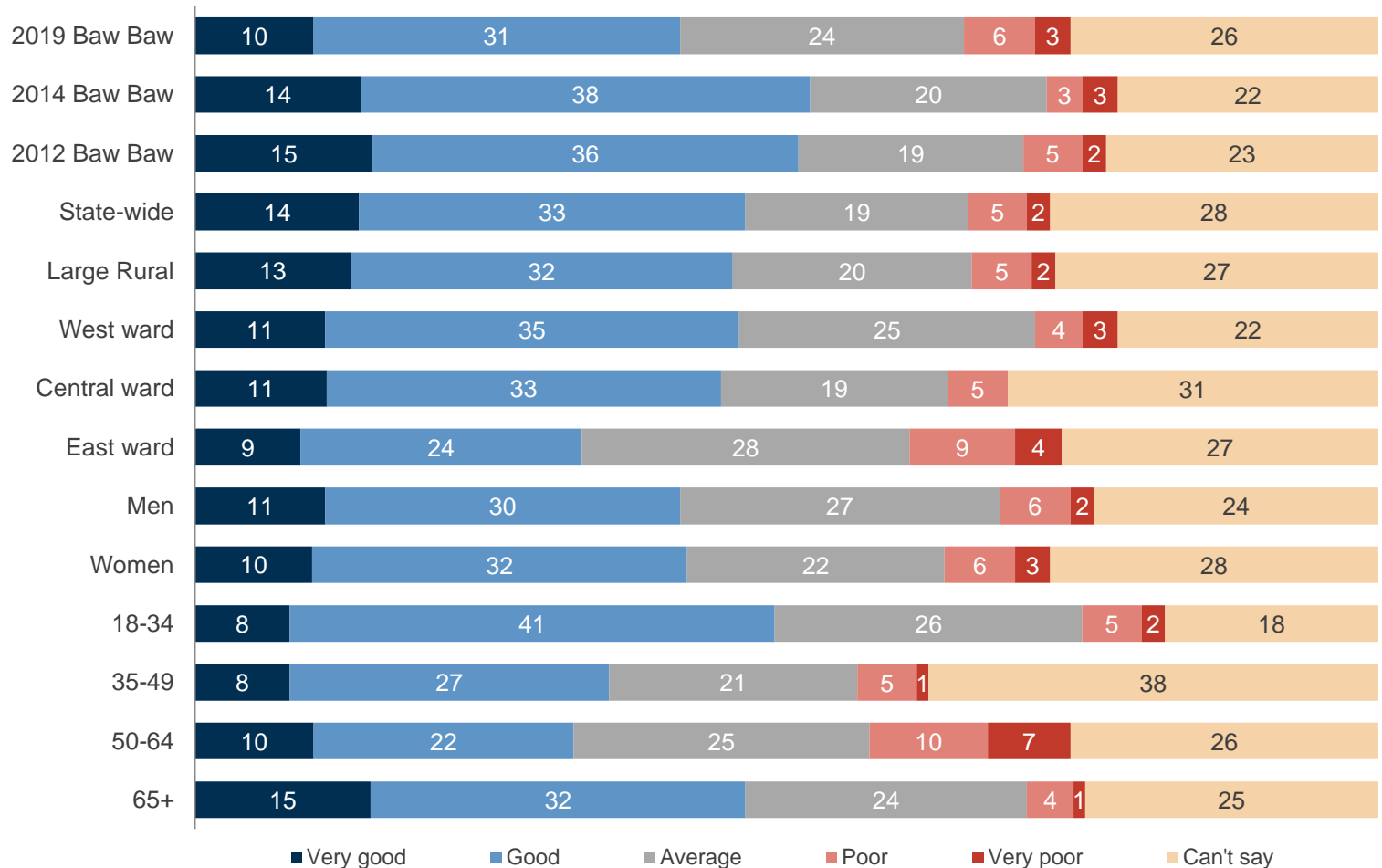
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 32 Councils asked group: 9

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



Elderly support services performance

2019 Elderly support performance (%)

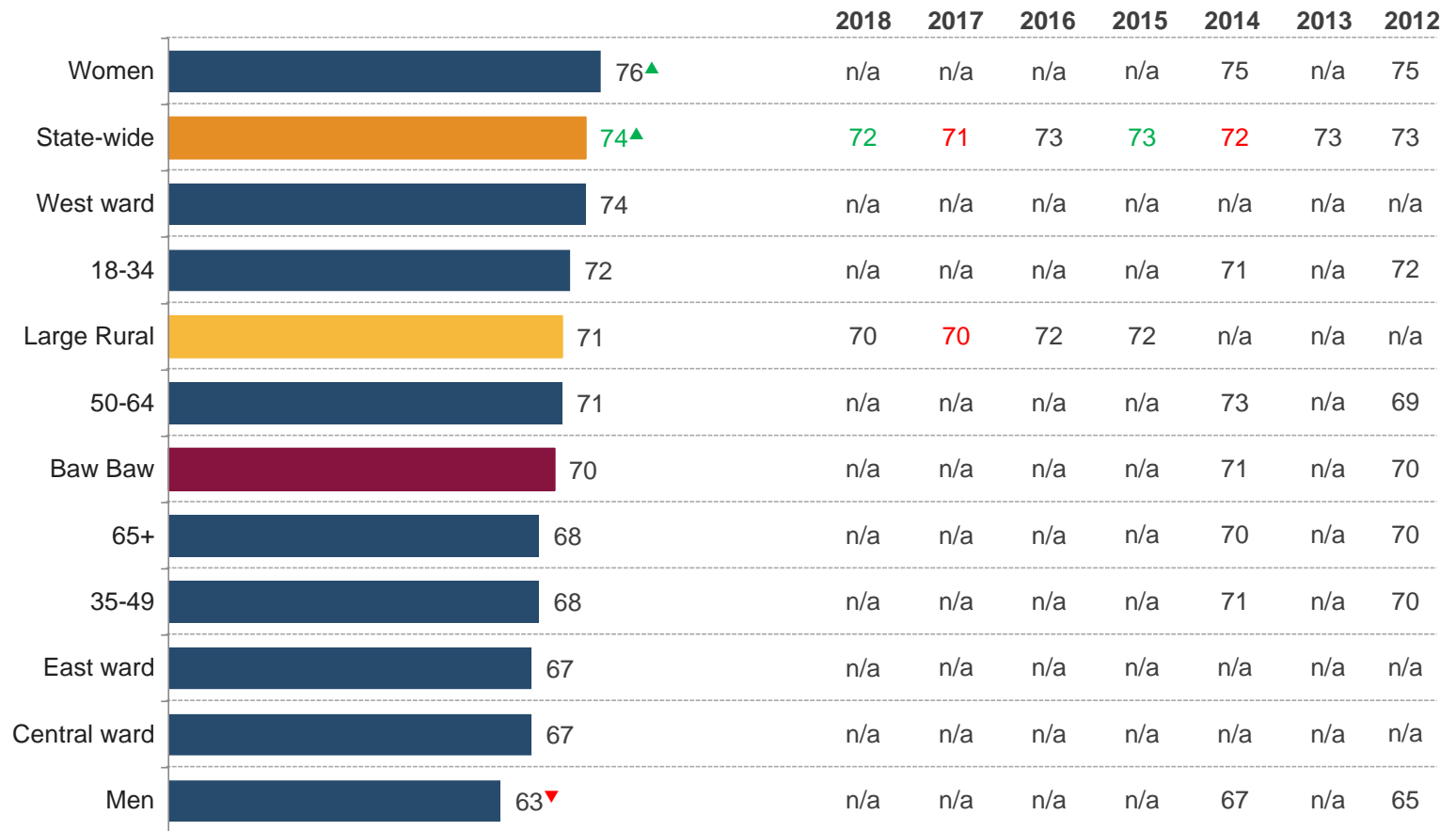


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Elderly support services' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 32 Councils asked group: 9



Disadvantaged support services importance

2019 Disadvantaged support importance (index scores)



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Disadvantaged support services' be as a responsibility for Council?

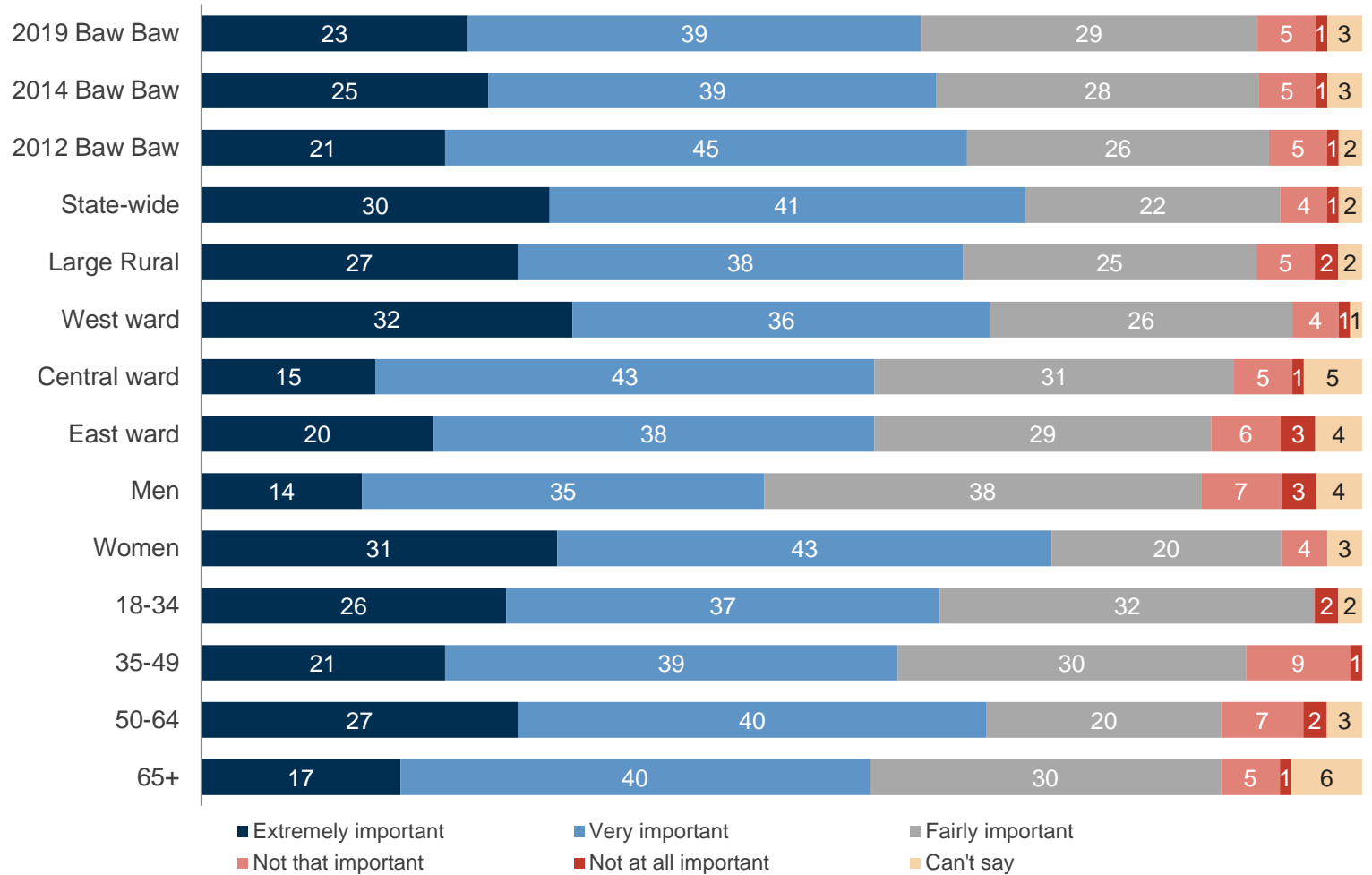
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 9 Councils asked group: 3

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



Disadvantaged support services importance

2019 Disadvantaged support importance (%)

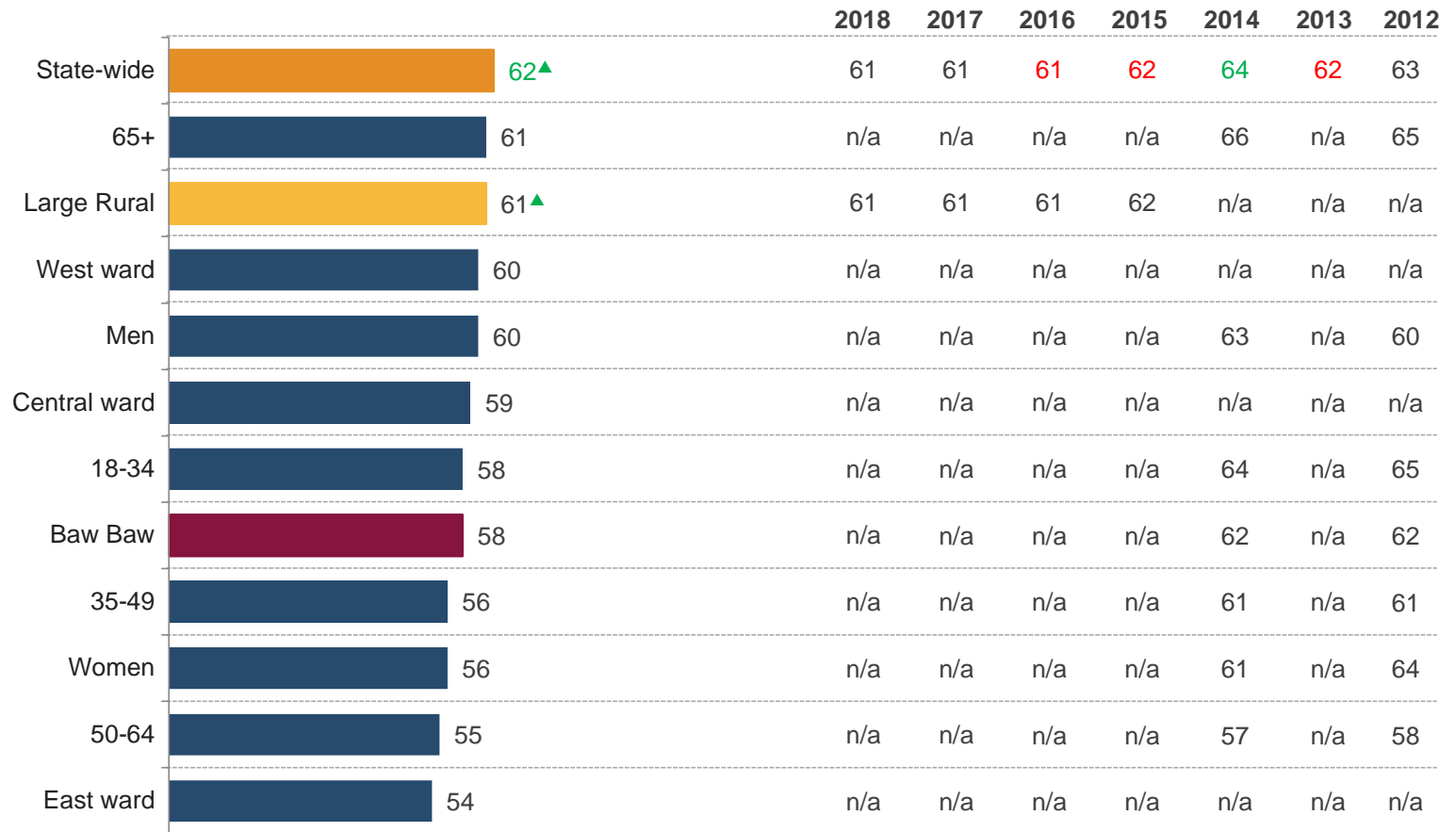


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Disadvantaged support services' be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 9 Councils asked group: 3



Disadvantaged support services performance

2019 Disadvantaged support performance (index scores)



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

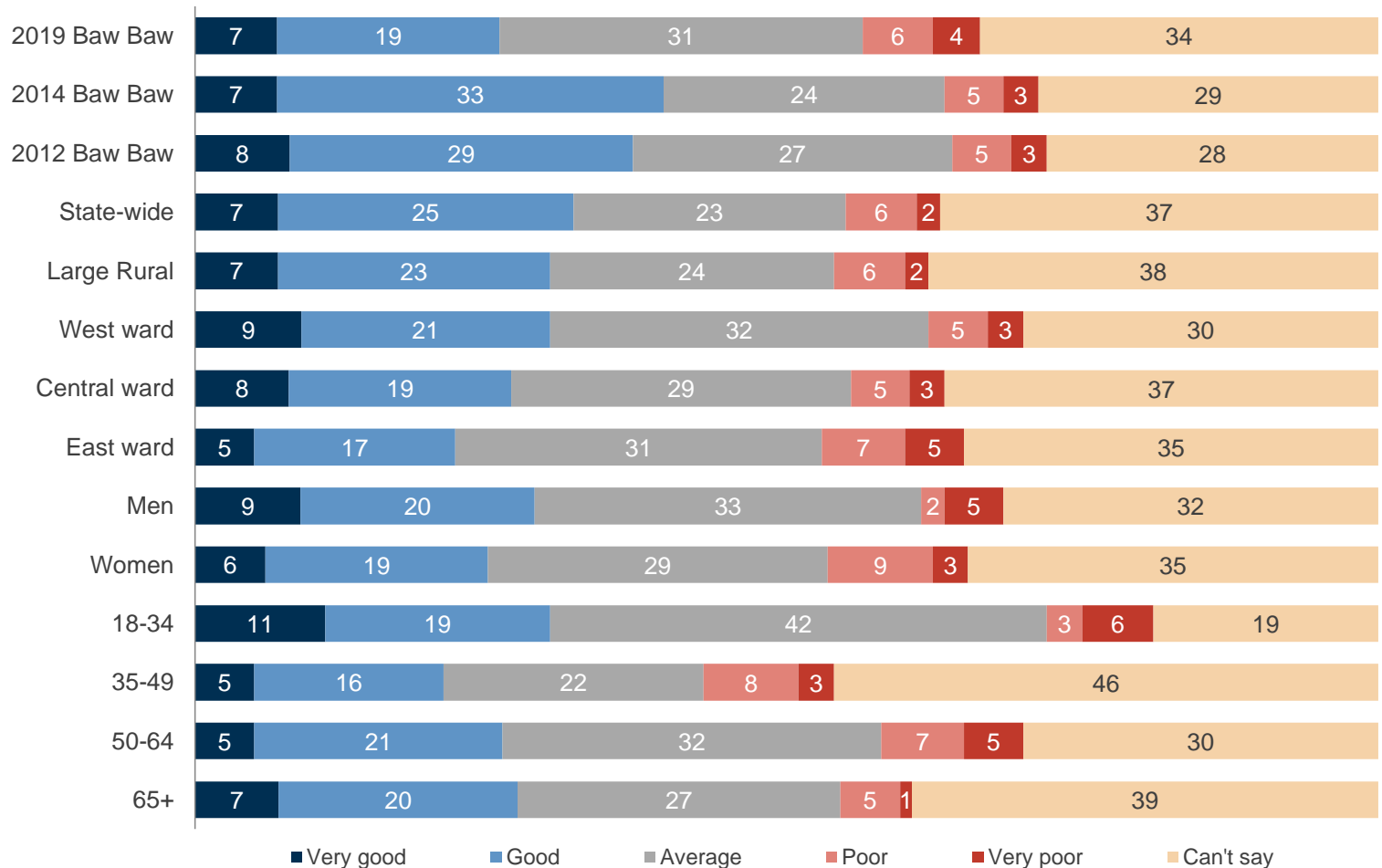
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 16 Councils asked group: 5

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



Disadvantaged support services performance

2019 Disadvantaged support performance (%)

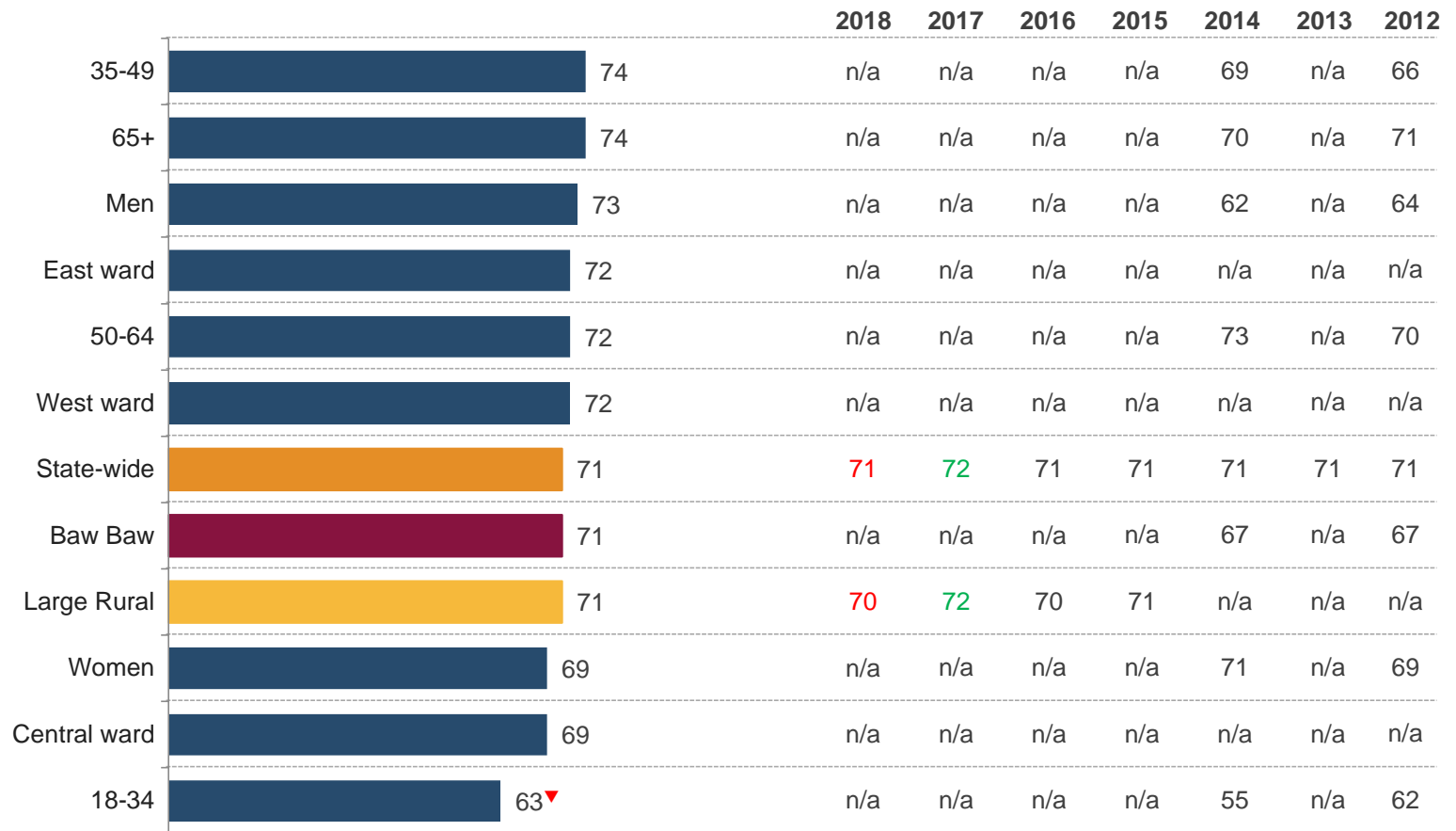


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Disadvantaged support services' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 16 Councils asked group: 5



Planning and building permits importance

2019 Planning and building permits importance (index scores)



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Planning and building permits' be as a responsibility for Council?

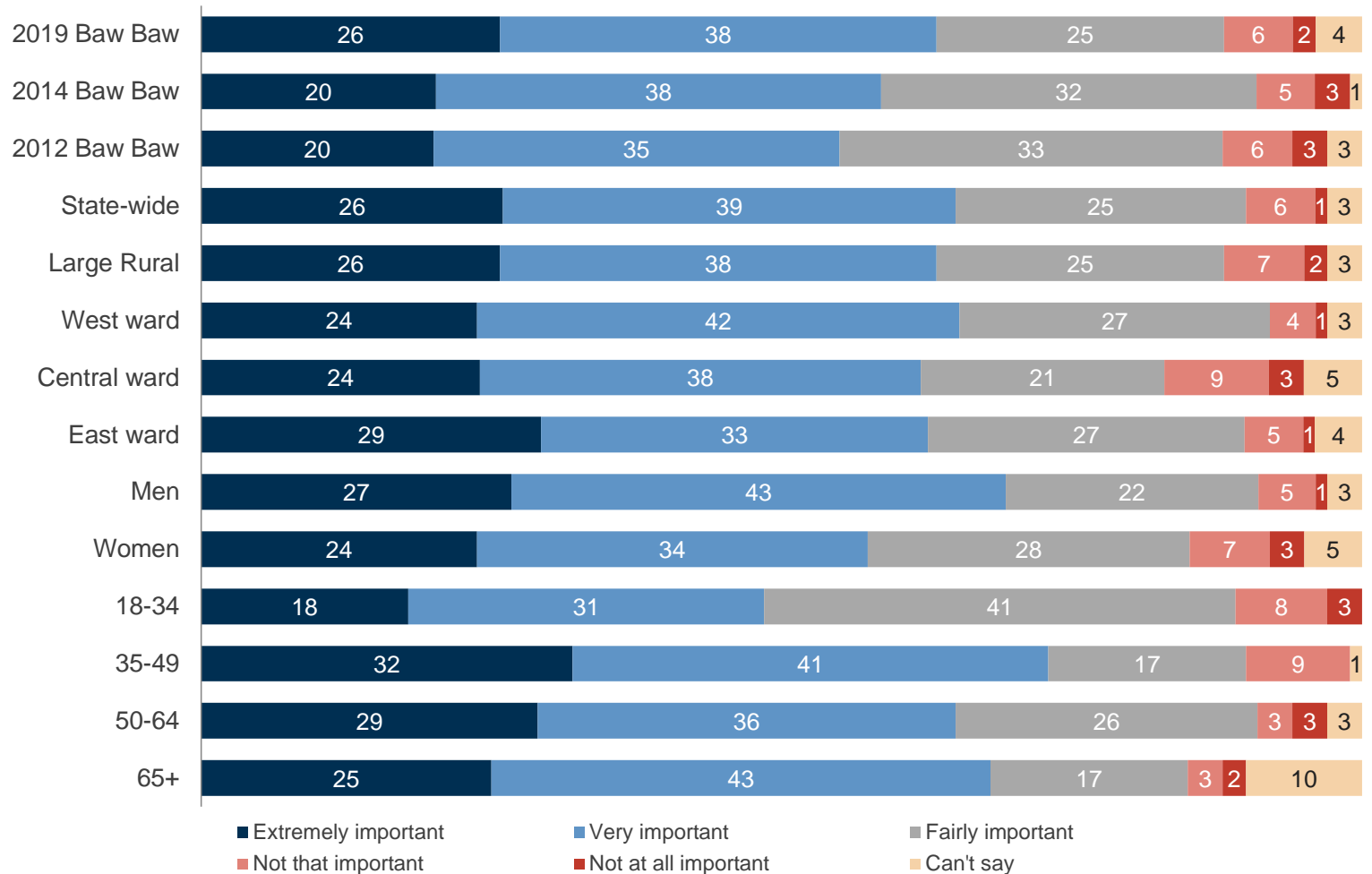
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 20 Councils asked group: 4

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



Planning and building permits importance

2019 Planning and building permits importance (%)

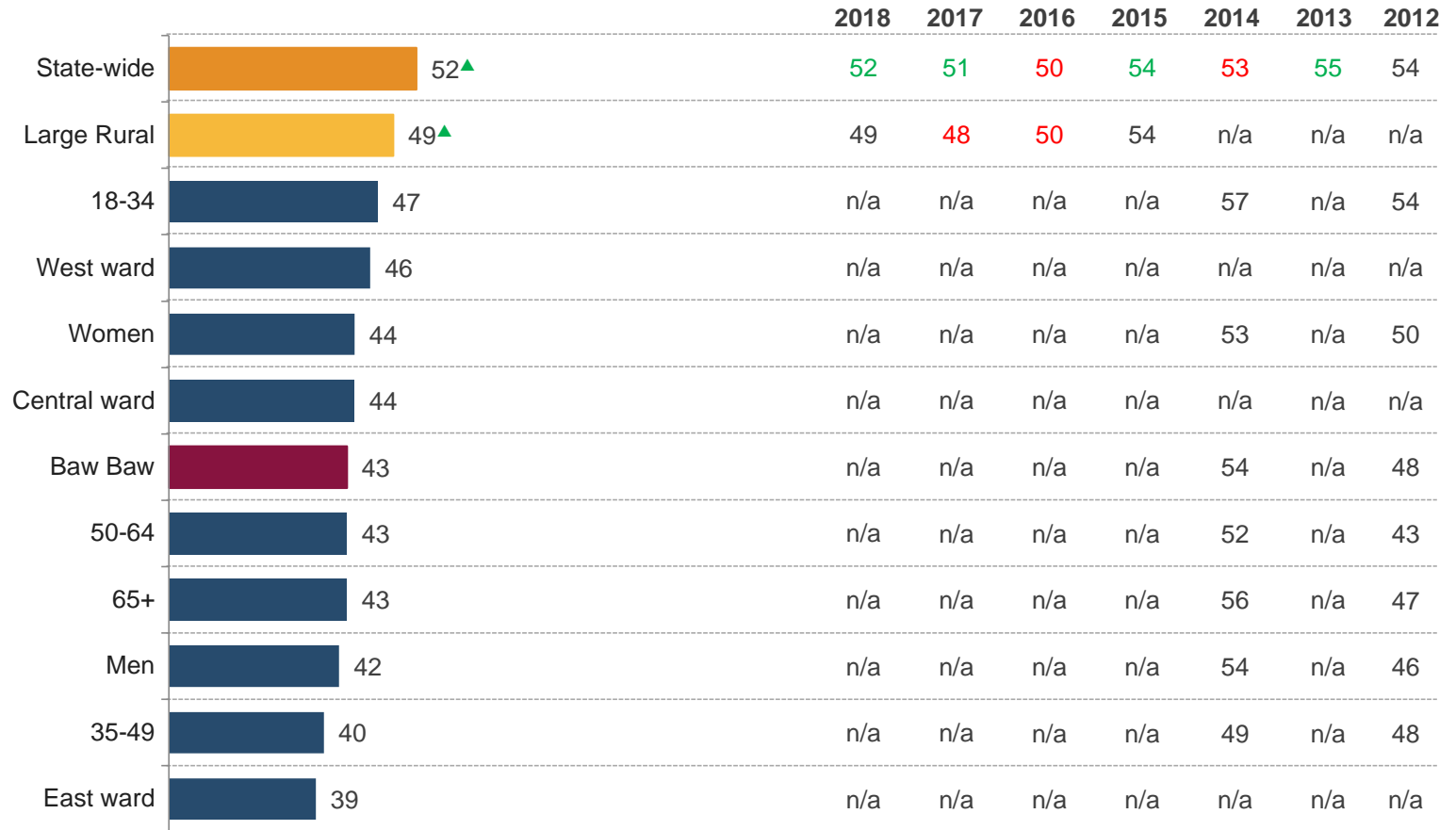


Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Planning and building permits' be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 20 Councils asked group: 4



Planning and building permits performance

2019 Planning and building permits performance (index scores)



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

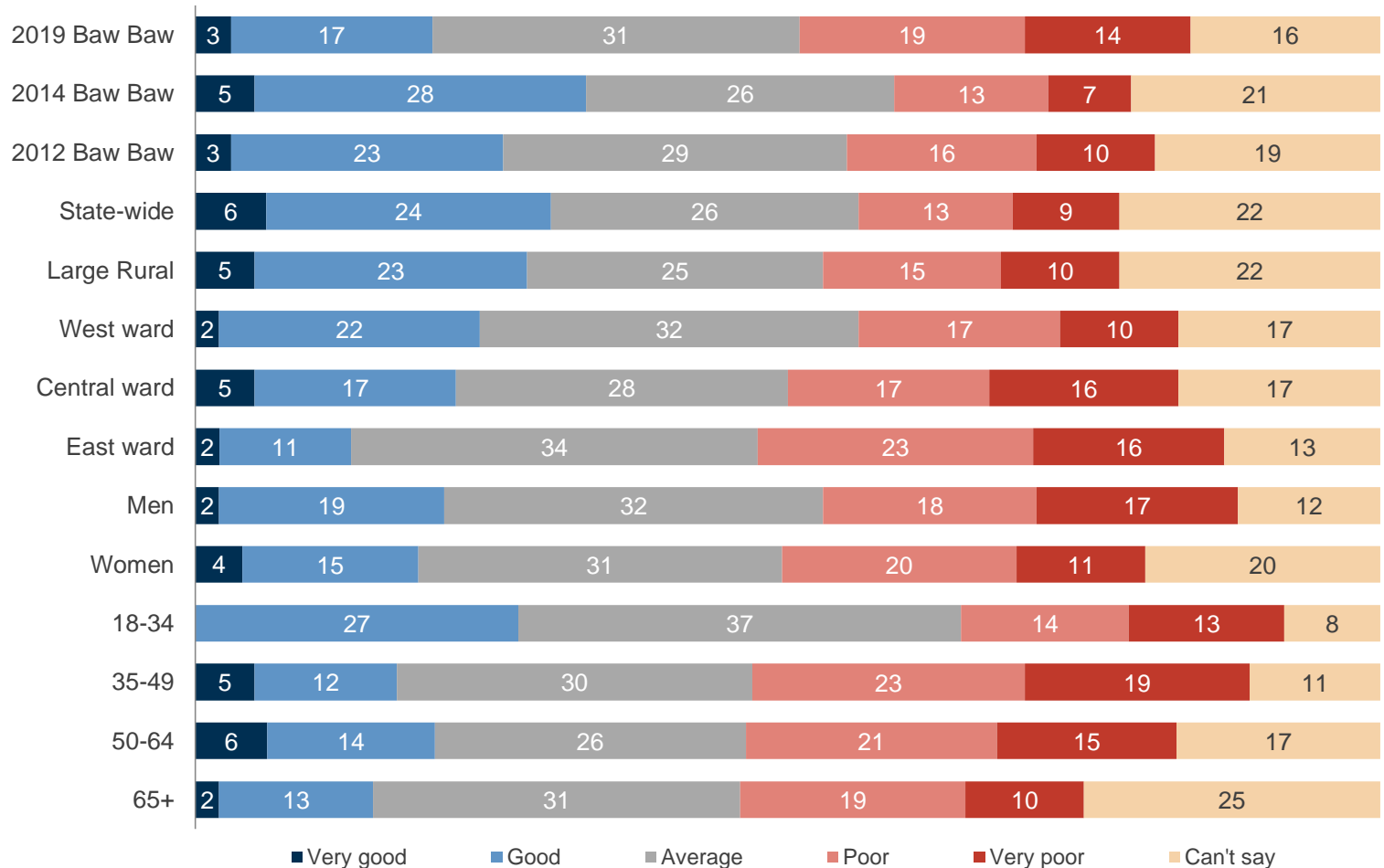
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 7

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



Planning and building permits performance

2019 Planning and building permits performance (%)

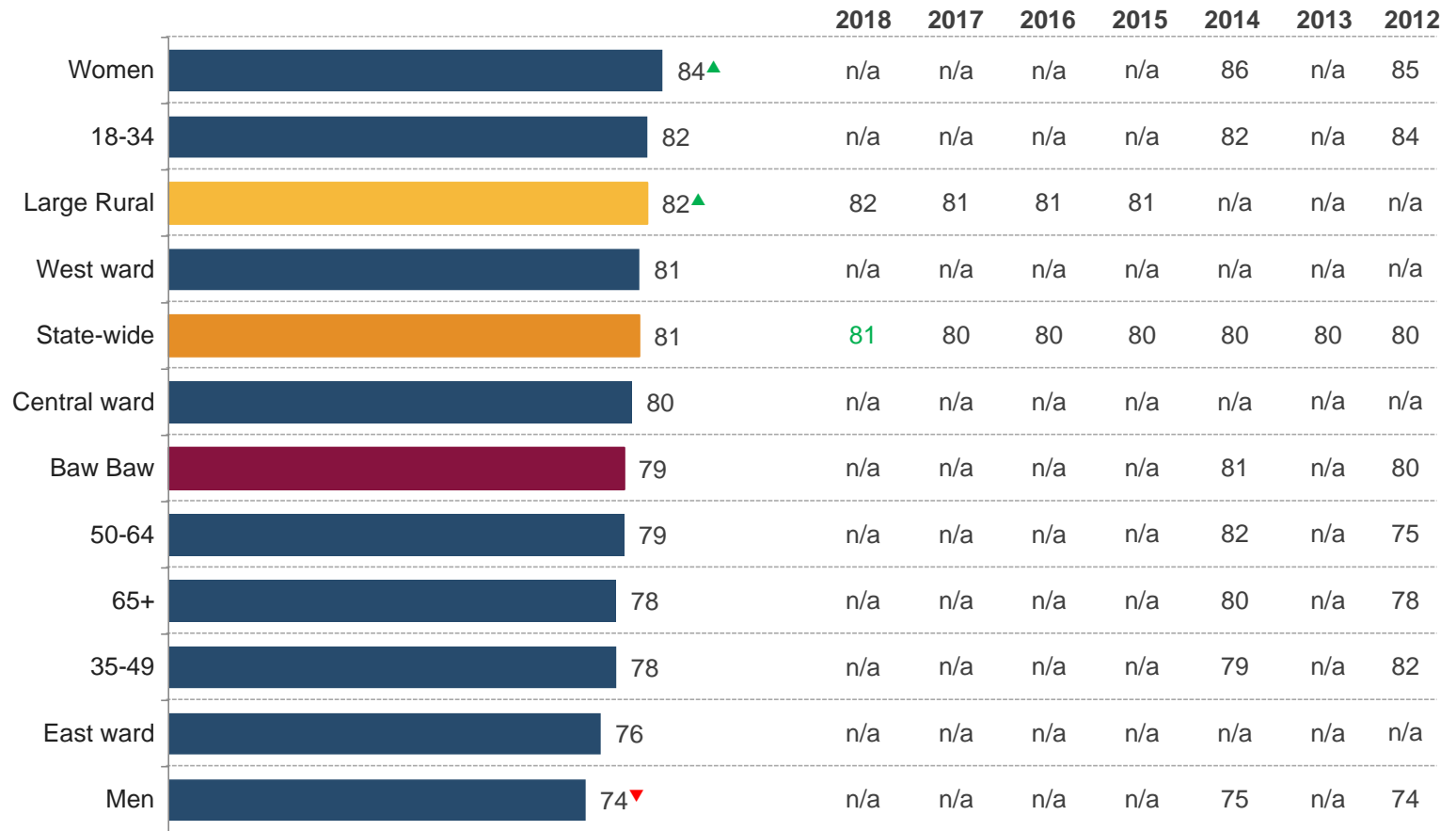


Q2. How has Council performed on 'Planning and building permits' over the last 12 months?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 27 Councils asked group: 7



Emergency and disaster management importance

2019 Emergency and disaster management importance (index scores)



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Emergency and disaster management' be as a responsibility for Council?

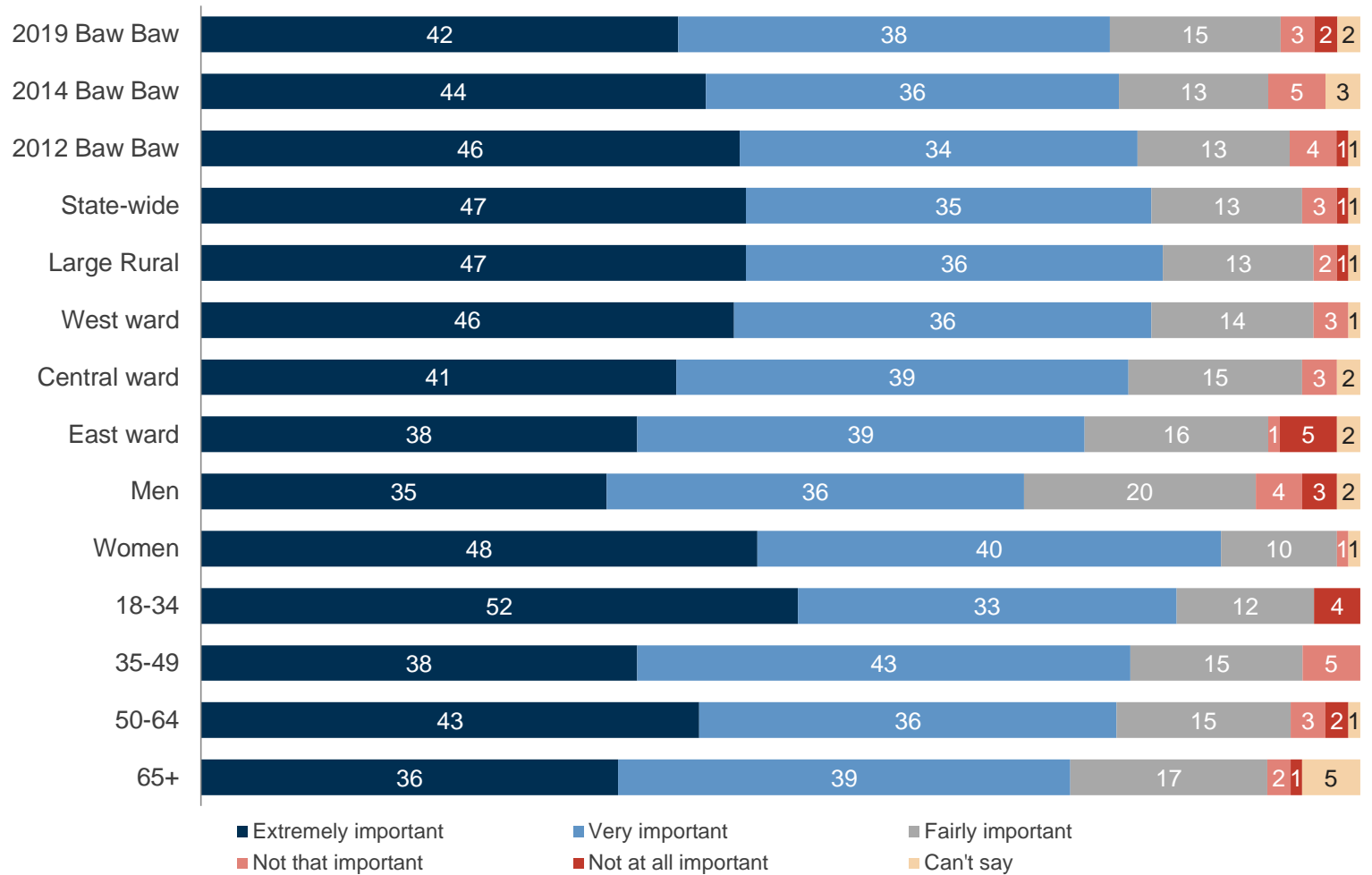
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 18 Councils asked group: 5

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



Emergency and disaster management importance

2019 Emergency and disaster management importance (%)



Q1. Firstly, how important should 'Emergency and disaster management' be as a responsibility for Council?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 18 Councils asked group: 5



Emergency and disaster management performance

2019 Emergency and disaster management performance (index scores)

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Women	74	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	n/a	68
65+	72	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	69	n/a	65
Large Rural	72	71	70	70	71	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	72	71	70	69	70	71	70	70
West ward	72	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Central ward	71	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
18-34	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	73	n/a	72
35-49	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	71	n/a	67
Baw Baw	70	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	n/a	67
50-64	67	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	66	n/a	63
East ward	66	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Men	65	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	71	n/a	65

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

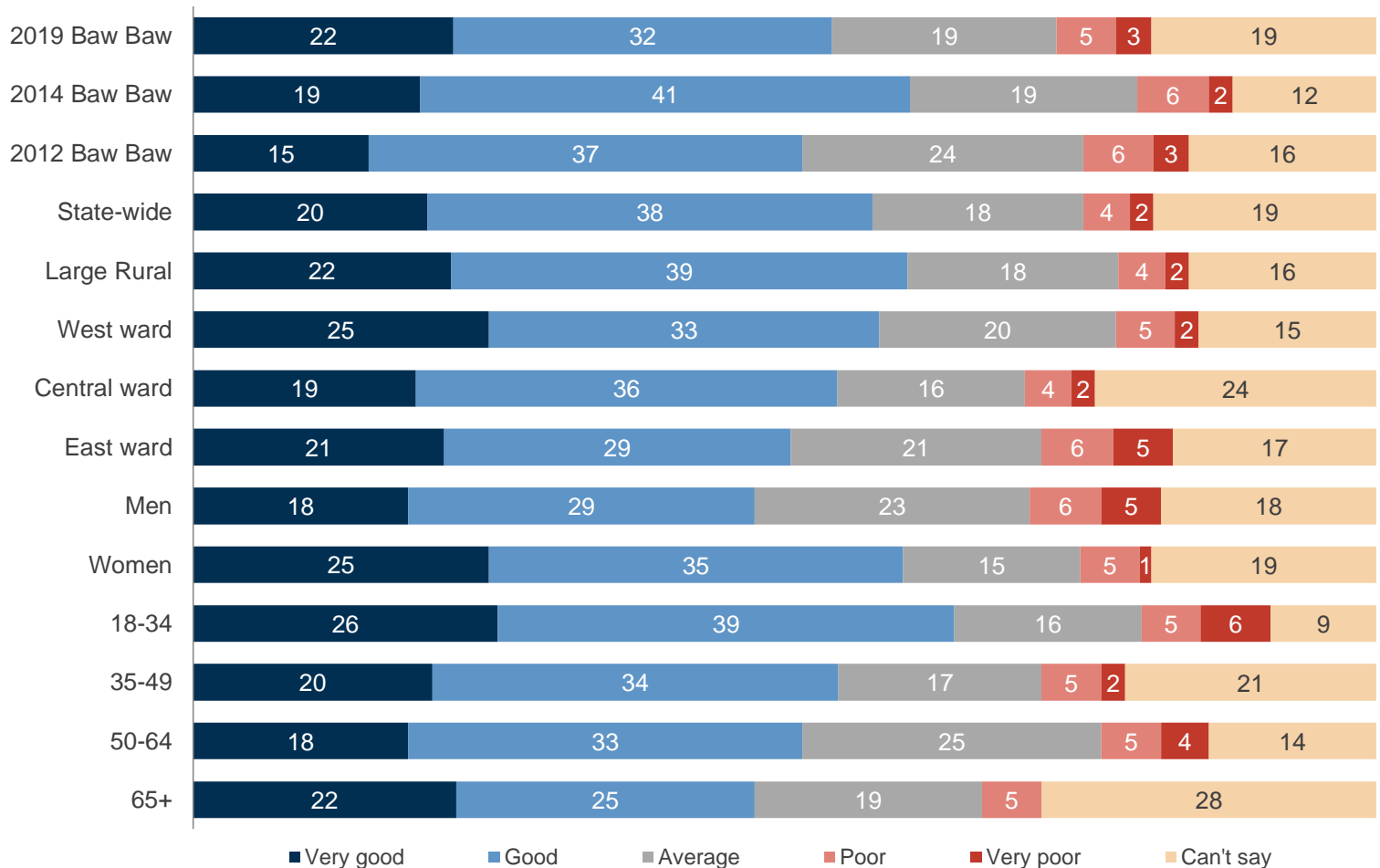
Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 24 Councils asked group: 9

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



Emergency and disaster management performance

2019 Emergency and disaster management performance (%)



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

The image features large, stylized letters 'N' and 'W' in a dark blue color. The letters are filled with a satellite night view of a city, showing a dense network of streets and bright spots representing city lights. The background is white.

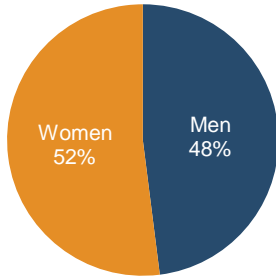
Detailed demographics



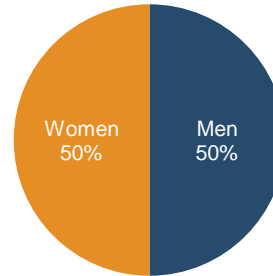
Gender and age profile

2019 gender

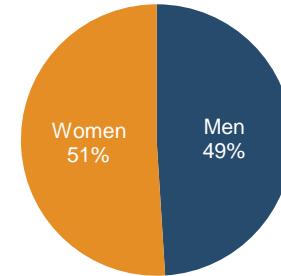
Baw Baw



Large Rural

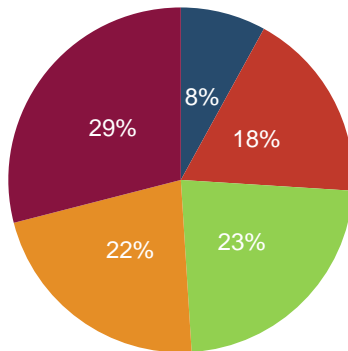


State-wide

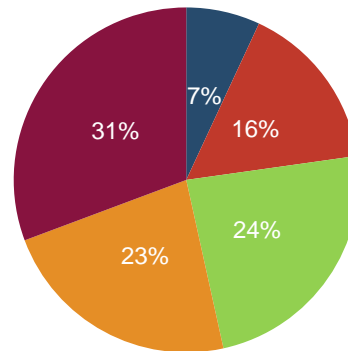


2019 age

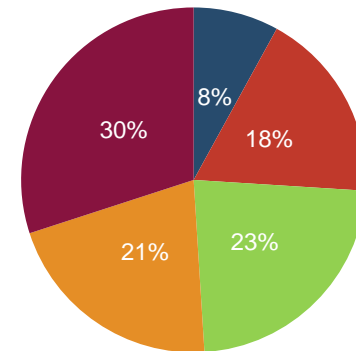
Baw Baw



Large Rural



State-wide



■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

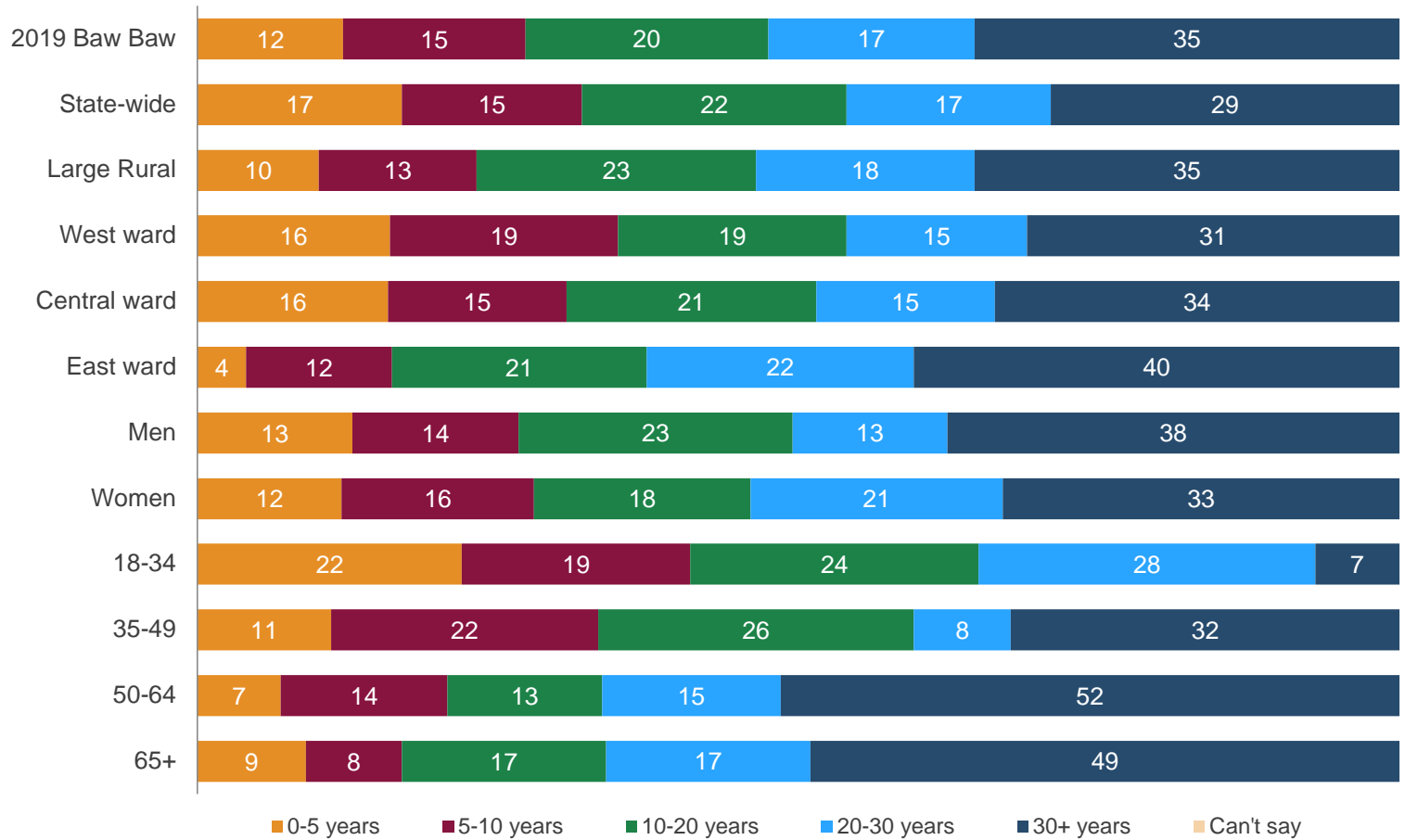
■ 18-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-49 ■ 50-64 ■ 65+

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.




Years lived in area

Years lived in area (%)



S5. How long have you lived in this area?/How long have you owned a property in this area?
 Base: All respondents. Councils asked state-wide: 13 Councils asked group: 5



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 Baw Baw Shire Council was n=400. 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=400 interviews is +/-4.9% 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 45.1% - 54.9%.

Maximum margins of error are listed in the table below, based on a population of 38,800 people aged 18 years or over for Baw Baw Shire Council, according to ABS estimates.

Demographic	Actual survey sample size	Weighted base	Maximum margin of error at 95% confidence interval
Baw Baw Shire Council	400	400	+/-4.9
Men	209	193	+/-6.8
Women	191	207	+/-7.1
West ward	138	143	+/-8.4
Central ward	126	126	+/-8.8
East ward	136	131	+/-8.4
18-34 years	43	102	+/-15.1
35-49 years	80	92	+/-11.0
50-64 years	118	88	+/-9.0
65+ years	159	118	+/-7.8



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:

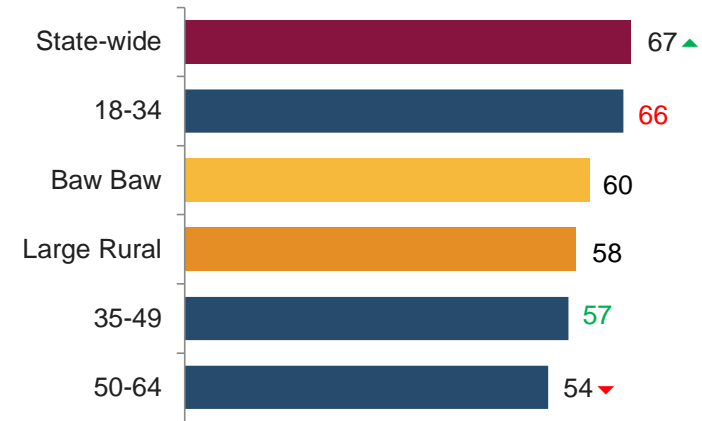
- ▲ The state-wide result is significantly higher than the overall result for the council.
- ▼ The result among 50-64 year olds is significantly lower than for the overall result for the council.

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.

The background of the slide features large, dark blue letters 'N' and 'W' in a serif font. The letters are filled with a satellite-style map of North America, showing landmasses in dark blue and green, and a network of white lines representing roads or infrastructure. The map is set against a dark, starry background, suggesting a night view of the continent.

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=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2018, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2017, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2016, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2015, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 30th March.
- 2014, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 31st January – 11th March.
- 2013, n=400 completed interviews, conducted in the period of 1st February – 24th March.
- 2012, n=400 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 Baw Baw 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 aged 18+ years in Baw Baw Shire Council.

Survey sample matched to the demographic profile of Baw Baw 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 Baw Baw Shire Council, particularly younger people.

A total of n=400 completed interviews were achieved in Baw Baw 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

Baw Baw 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 Baw Baw 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 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 Baw Baw 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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