

### Location

Altona Meadows is bounded to the north by the Princes Freeway, Laverton Creek and the Werribee railway line. The eastern border is formed by a line following the edge of residential development, down to Queen Street and following Laverton Creek. Port Phillip Bay is to the south east of the neighbourhood, with Skeleton Creek and Crellin Avenue South forming the western boundary.



### Community's thoughts

In describing their neighbourhood residents, enjoy the way Altona Meadows has been subdivided, creating a lot of courts and cul-de-sacs. These encourage people to get to know their neighbours and foster a sense of community. Residents think Altona Meadows is still relatively affordable for both renters and buyers, although prices have begun to increase.

Key issues for residents are public transport and traffic congestion, specifically poor linkages between buses and trains and the congestion associated with the Princes Freeway.

### Land uses

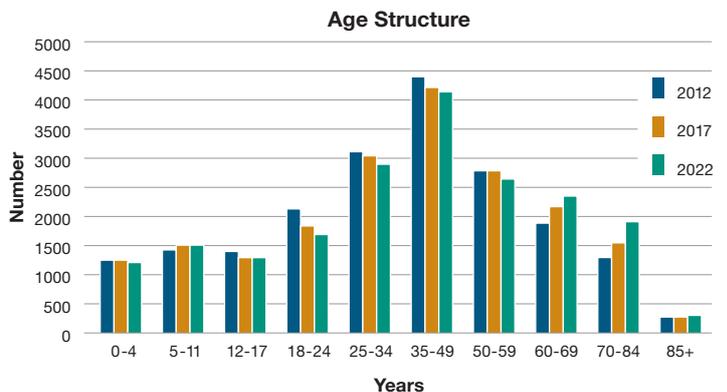
The majority of Altona Meadows is made up of residential, conservation, parks and recreational land uses. Environmental features are a key element across Hobsons Bay. Within Altona Meadows, these include the Truganina Coastal Parklands and the Cheetham Wetlands. The wetlands form part of the much larger internationally significant Ramsar Wetlands.

### Population

Altona Meadows has a population of just over 18,729 people, making it the most populated neighbourhood in Hobsons Bay. Over the next decade, the population of Altona Meadows is forecast to remain stable, with an ageing population and maturing families.

### Age structure

The ageing of the Altona Meadows population is forecast to continue over the next decade, with a decrease among most groups up to 50 years of age. The number of older residents, particularly those aged in their 60s and over, will experience the greatest increase.



### Overseas born residents

Altona Meadows has 6,524 residents (34.8 per cent) who were born overseas which is 4 per cent above the municipal figure. The main countries of birth are the United Kingdom, India, Malta, Vietnam and the Philippines. The vast majority of overseas born residents have a non-English speaking background (83 per cent), compared to Hobsons Bay (23.1 per cent).



# Altona Meadows

## Neighbourhood Profile

### Residents needing assistance

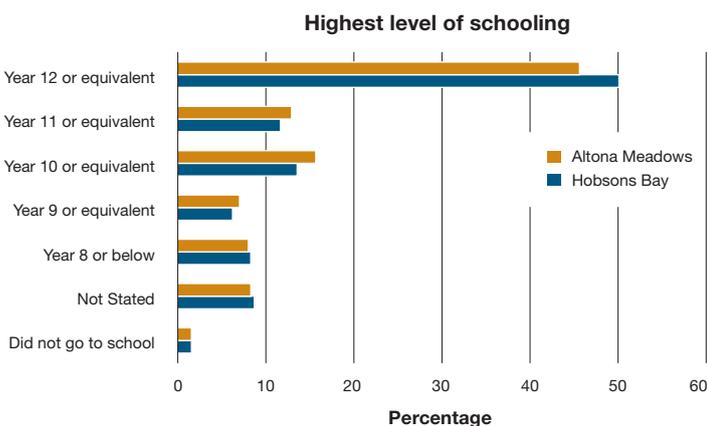
An estimated 3,200 residents of Altona Meadows (17.1 per cent) have a disability and approximately 1,000 residents (5.3 per cent) need help with a core activity involving self care, communication and mobility.

### Education

There are two government primary schools, one Catholic primary school and no secondary schools in Altona Meadows.

Approximately 21 per cent of residents are enrolled in education, similar to the participation rate for Hobsons Bay.

Almost 46 per cent of residents have completed Year 12 or an equivalent, approximately 4 per cent below the municipal rate.



### Employment

In 2011, just over 93 per cent of Altona Meadows residents were employed, marginally lower than the rate for Hobsons Bay (94.4 per cent). The main change in employment between 2006 and 2011 was an increase in part-time work.

The unemployment rate in 2011 was approximately 7 per cent, compared to the municipal rate of 5.6 per cent.

The key industries of employment for Altona Meadows residents are manufacturing, retail and transport.

### Income

At the 2011 Census, the average weekly income per worker in Australia was \$1,026. In Altona Meadows, 1,960 residents (12.6 per cent) aged 15 years and over have incomes above that level, but this is well below the Hobsons Bay figure of 19.4 per cent.

A further 6,166 residents (39.8 per cent) have incomes below \$400 per week which is higher than the municipal figure of 36.7 per cent. (The poverty line for a single working person is \$459.83 per week).

### Housing

Most of the residential development in Altona Meadows dates from the late 1970s through to the 1990s. As a result most of the housing is brick veneer and detached, with limited medium density housing.

There are 7,386 private dwellings in Altona Meadows and the majority are separate houses (89.8 per cent).

Approximately one third of households own their home, one third have a mortgage and a further one quarter are renting. Compared to Hobsons Bay, Altona Meadows households are more likely to have a mortgage and fewer are renting.

In describing housing affordability in Altona Meadows, a resident who is renting commented, *"It's not too bad still. I've actually just moved and I ended up staying in this area because I can't afford anywhere else."*

### Proposed future development

- A new arts exhibition space at Central Square shopping centre
- Redevelopment of the A.B. Shaw play space at Laverton Park
- New public toilets at H.D. Graham Reserve
- Planning for the upgrade of the shared pedestrian/cycle path, east of Point Cook Road, along the southern side of Skeleton Creek.

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