



2012-13 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

The Hon Ryan Smith MP

Minister for Youth Affairs

18 May 2012

Young people in Victoria

**Just over 1 million
Victorians are between
the ages of 12-25**



The majority of young Victorians are healthy, active and participating in education, employment and community life.

Young Victorians face different challenges from previous generations that will affect their life experiences into the future, including:

- delayed transition from family life to independent living;
- interaction via social media;
- economic uncertainty;
- a greater sense of personal empowerment; and
- growing and changing communities.

Young people make up 20 per cent of the Victorian population

This is a critical generation

We can't overstate the importance of young people as the drivers of Victoria's future economic prosperity.

Their involvement in the economy and community will underpin our health, education and community infrastructure.

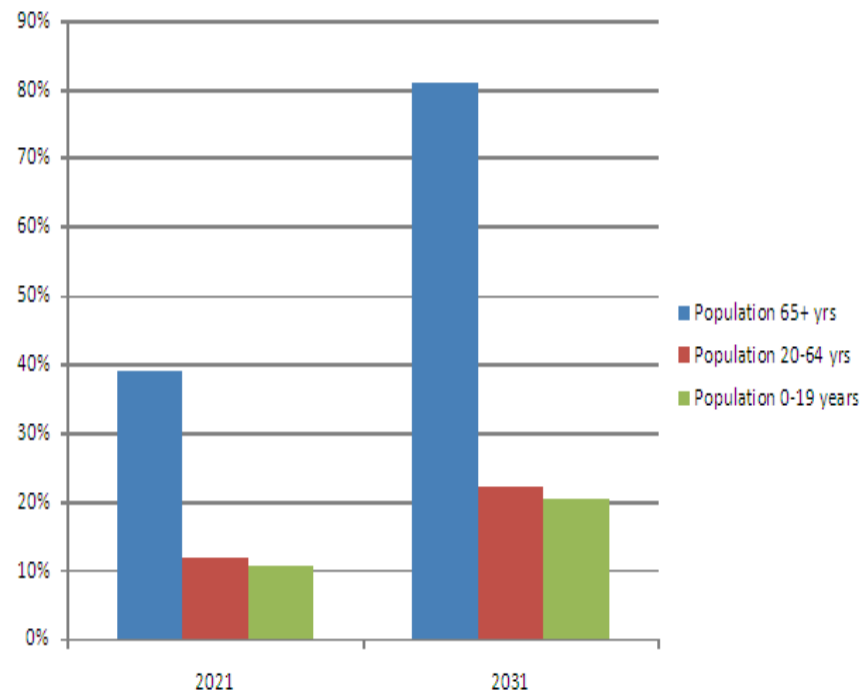
Their ideas and innovations will build and develop our industries.

This generation will make the future decisions in our governments and local communities.

This is why supporting this generation is such a priority for this government.



Estimated Victorian population growth from 2011 to 2021 and 2031
selected age cohorts



The Victorian Government will work closely with all Victorians – young people, families, the youth, community, business and philanthropic sectors – to ensure the best possible opportunities for young Victorians.

Youth Statement – *Engage, Involve, Create*

Vision

That all young Victorians experience healthy, active and fulfilling lives and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential, participate in the workforce and be involved in their community

Principles

- Empowering all young people
- Listening, responding to and promoting young people
- Delivering through partnerships
- Remaining relevant for young people
- Understanding families and communities

Aims

1. Young people are **engaged** – education and training, further education and training pathways, employment
2. Young people are **involved** – decision-making, activities and programs, communities
3. Young people can **create** – change, enterprise, culture

Priorities

1. Getting young people involved
2. Services that meet the needs of young people
3. Create new ideas and partnerships



Youth Affairs budget for 2012-13 is \$16.3m

Youth Affairs Programs	Involve	Engage	Create
Advance	✓	✓	
Be Heard! and SYN media	✓	✓	✓
Engage!	✓	✓	
FReeZA	✓	✓	✓
Involve committee	✓	✓	
National Youth Week	✓	✓	✓
Rock Eisteddfod		✓	✓
Scouts and Guides		✓	
webWise	✓	✓	
Youth Action Strategy	✓	✓	✓
Youth Central	✓	✓	✓
Youth Parliament	✓	✓	

New funding for Youth Affairs in 2012-13



The Government's FReeZA program will receive additional funding:

- \$1.6 million over four years, in addition to \$2 million annual expenditure.
- FReeZA will continue to deliver drug, alcohol and smoke free events for young people across Victoria.
- More than 130,000 young Victorians each year will participate in these events.
- More than 800 young people will get involved in FReeZA Committees across the state to design and run these popular events. These young people will gain practical skills, training and mentoring opportunities through their involvement in the Committee.

For further information, go to:



www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au

www.youth.vic.gov.au