



BUSINESS AREA: SPATIAL SERVICES

Case Study

Victorian Women’s Health Atlas

The Atlas provides an interactive resource to support the work of local government authorities and regional women’s health services throughout Victoria.

It assists in making evidence-based decisions about service design, emerging priorities and program planning for health planners. Users can view and interact with a map of Victoria to display statistics of each LGA, toggling between male and female results by indicators from four priority health areas; sexual health & reproduction, gender equality, mental health and violence against women. Where disparity across genders or geographical regions is identified, fact sheets can be printed and used to support advocacy and health planning outcomes.

A “gendered approach” means recognising diversity and disadvantage within an area. This will assist to identify and prioritise where resources should be allocated to plan for and achieve fair outcomes for both women and men.

“Access to reliable data is critical to our efforts to improve health outcomes. It is an important tool in program and policy design and evaluation. The Victorian Women’s Health Atlas makes visible the differing experiences of women and men and provides an evidence base for planning and monitoring which will contribute to lasting improvements in women’s health.”

Rita Butera

Executive Director, Women’s Health Victoria

Customer Profile

www.whv.org.au

Company

Women’s Health Victoria

Location

Victoria

Industry

Government and Health

Product

Victorian Women’s Health Atlas

Solution

Provides a user-friendly, interactive and intuitive website that visualises key statistics, whilst providing context and narrative as to what the user is viewing.

Benefits

- Translates volumes of static data into a dynamic and engaging resource
- Easy to use for a non-technical audience
- Suitable for use on desktop PCs and tablet devices
- Standardised views ensure women’s health services can access a resource that presents data they can trust.



The Issue

The existing approach to women's health reporting comprised of hundreds of pages of data in static formats (hardcopy and pdf). The process for production, publication and maintenance of each region's data book was labour intensive. The reporting formats were not standardised and efforts were duplicated across the nine women's health regions. Despite the inherent location dimension of the data, the existing reporting did not present information spatially with maps.

The lack of mapping functionality made it difficult to identify patterns and anomalies throughout the landscape and provided challenges to benchmark LGAs across Victoria based on women's health outcomes. The sheer volume of information in hardcopy format meant health planners could not easily locate or visualise the information required to support decision making or present recommendations.

The Solution

Spatial Vision implemented the Victorian Women's Health Atlas. The website is built entirely from open-source components including a PostgreSQL / PostGIS database, HTML5 technology and printable reports outputs using Jasper Report utilities.

It provides a user-friendly, interactive and intuitive website that visualises key statistics, whilst providing context and narrative as to what the user is viewing.

Key features include:

Fast, intuitive user experience with no need for a plugin

Quality mapping functionality underpinned by Leaflet js

Data visualisation and interrogation capabilities

Data driven fact sheets enabled by Jasper Reports

Mapscope WMS providing context for visualised data

The Benefits

- ✔ Translates volumes of static data into a dynamic and engaging resource
- ✔ Easy to use for a non-technical audience
- ✔ Suitable for use on desktop PCs and tablet devices
- ✔ Standardised views ensure women's health services can access a resource that presents data they can trust
- ✔ Map-based presentation of data enables identification of patterns and anomalies, and supports LGA-based benchmarking across Victoria
- ✔ Significantly reduces the workload and cost associated with production, publication and maintenance of data resources
- ✔ Highly extensible enabling additional data and functionality to be added in the future
- ✔ Cost effective solution - no proprietary licensing costs; minimal ongoing hosting and support costs

Just like the atlas, your data is more powerful as a visualisation.

[Get in touch.](#)

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**Spatial
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