

Year 7 Liveability

To access the Australian Urban Observatory, go to **auo.org.au**

In this lesson you will focus on the first three of nine major domains included in liveability.

- In your own words, define the term **'indicator'** using examples.
- Click on the link **"What we measure"** to understand the data collected by the AUO.
- Click on **"Read more"** for each indicator, discuss them as a class and answer the questions below:



Liveability

Liveable communities are _____ , _____ , _____ and _____

What are some factors that affect liveability?



Walkability

A local walkable neighbourhood allows a person to access services within a 20-minute return walk or 1600m from their home. What three factors are used to calculate walkability?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Social infrastructure

Write down five measures of social infrastructure:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

- Watch this video to understand the site: <https://auo.org.au/using-the-indicators/>

Indicator: A measure to monitor and track progress on an issue over time and used to understand if a situation is improving, staying the same or getting worse over time .

Decile: Divides the data into ten equal intervals. In the AUO the lower 5 deciles are shaded pink (less liveable representing 0-50%) and the upper 5 deciles are shaded green (more liveable representing 50-100%).



- To explore the map, you will need to create a login. Click on “**Sign up**”
 - Select Melbourne as the city and choose the *Social Infrastructure Index*. The map is shaded according to **decile** values.
1. Describe the pattern you observe across Melbourne based on the shading used.

2. Change the summary scale between Local Government Area, Suburb and Neighbourhood located on the right hand side of the map.

Does the pattern stay the same? Describe what you see.

Summary scale

☐ None

☒ Local Govt Area

☐ Suburb

☐ Neighbourhood

3. Choose the suburb scale and perform a search using the magnifying glass in the top left corner. The percentile results can be changed by clicking on the blue layers icon on the right hand side menu. Complete the table below by looking at the **indicator** information that appears:



Suburb	Colour	Percentiles		Does this suburb fit the general pattern or is it an exception?
		National	Local Gov't	
Mickleham				
Melton				
Richmond				
Bentleigh East				
Werribee				
Koo Wee Rup				



- **Pattern:** You have already identified the overall pattern above.
- **Quantification:** Use the National percentiles to add some quantitative examples to your answer. Try to provide three examples of different shades to help support your pattern.
- **Exceptions:** You have spotted some exceptions in the table above, or include some new ones.

Your Neighbourhood

Can you find the neighbourhood where you live? Zoom in until you can see the street names. This may require you to change the city from Melbourne to a regional city.

- What suburb and Local Government Area do you live in? _____

6. Complete the table below based on your neighbourhood using various **indicators** under social infrastructure. To find out what each **indicator** measures click on the green tab on the right-hand side labelled "**Indicator information**" and click on the 'i' to see a pop-up box with definition.

Indicator information

Selected indicator:

1 Community and sport social infrastructure (2021)

Average:	1 / 3
Range:	0 to 2 / 3
Interquartile Range:	1 to 1 / 3

Indicator	What it measures	Colour	City Percentile	Average
Culture and Leisure				
Community and Sport				
Education				
Health				
Average distance to GP				

7. Think about how important these services are to your own personal liveability. Rank them in order from the one you consider to be the most important to the one you consider to be the least important.

Indicator	Your ranking
Culture and Leisure	
Community and Sport	
Education	
Health	
Average distance to GP	

8. Based on your rankings, how would you rate the liveability of your neighbourhood?



9. Providing opportunities for people to socialize and connect is important to build a community and develop a 'sense of place'. Of the **indicators** listed in the table above, which do you think is the most important for allowing people to engage with others, their culture and create a sense of belonging? Provide some reasons or examples to support your answer.

10. Within your suburb, is there a neighbourhood you would prefer to live in based on the **indicator** maps? Or are all the results similar? Click through the various maps to compare and provide quantitative data to support your findings.

11. Provide two suggestions for how the social infrastructure and liveability of your suburb could be improved in relation to the **indicators**.

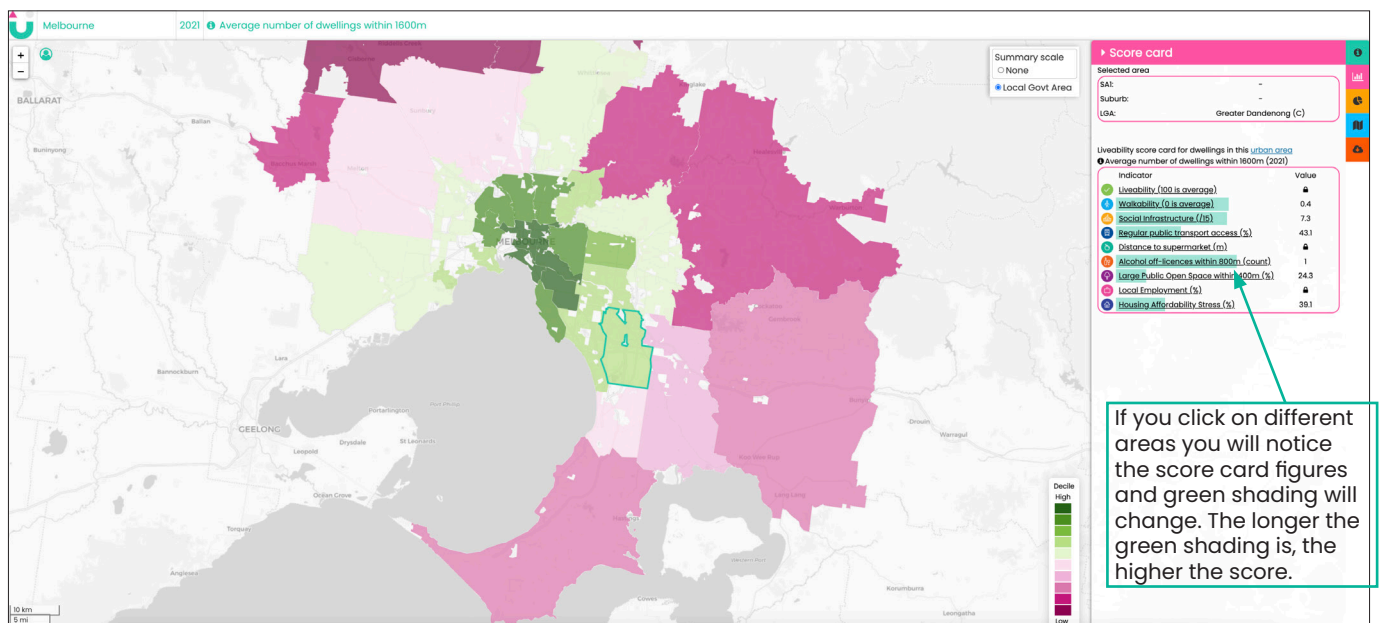


Walkability

The walkability **indicator** maps are visible at a Local Government Area scale only. For regional areas, try opening two windows so that you can compare your area to Melbourne side-by-side or alternatively work in pairs.



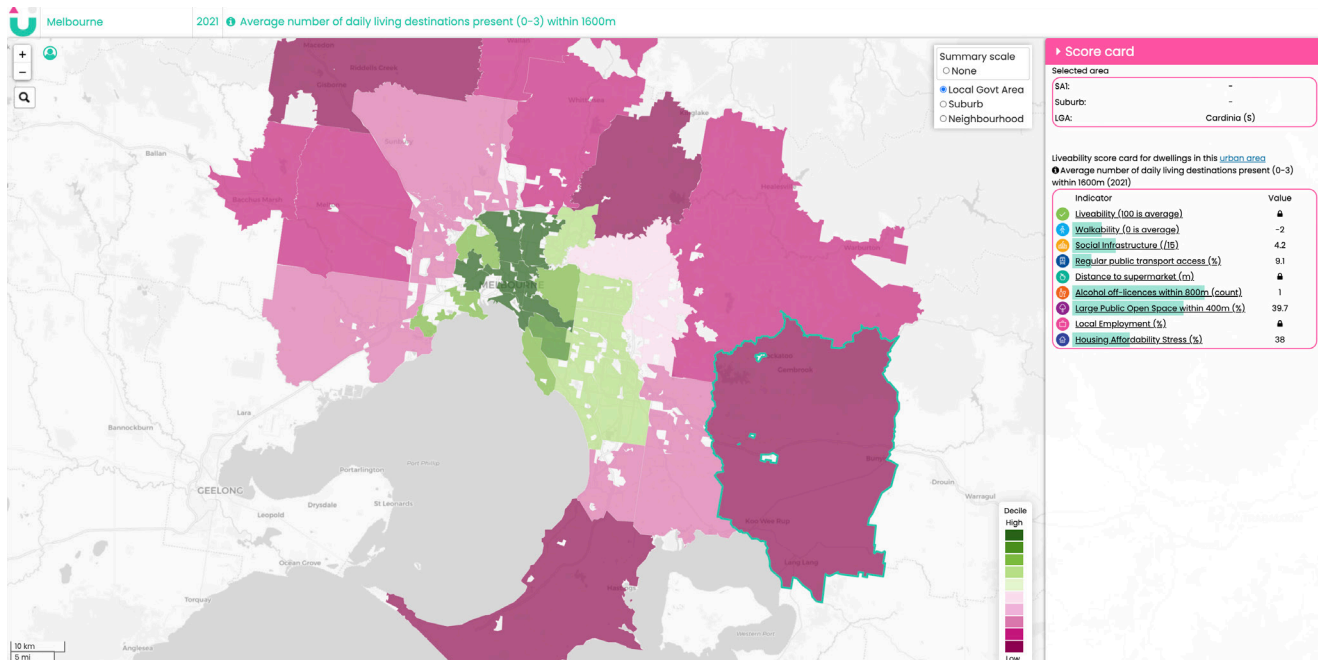
- Select any of the walkability **indicators**.
- Click on the pink tab on the right-hand side of the site and then choose a location. This will bring up a score card for the Local Government Area (LGA).



Which LGA has the highest walkability score in the score card? _____

12. Look back at the first page to look at the factors which are used to measure walkability. Why do you think this LGA has the highest score?

13. Why do outer suburbs generally have lower walkability? It might help to also look at the walkability indicators on number of dwellings, street intersections and daily living destinations within 1600m to help you with your answer.



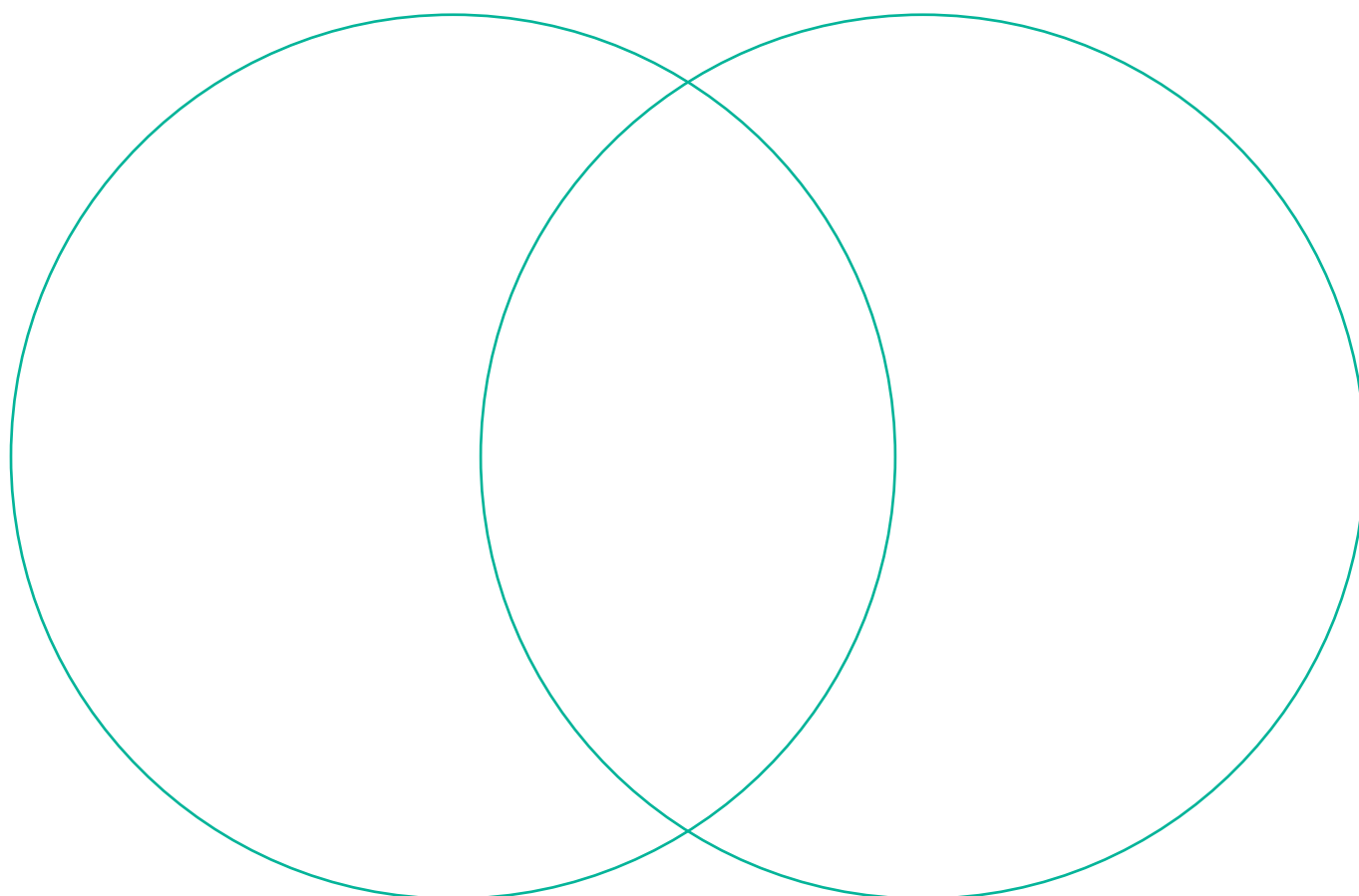
14. During COVID-19 lockdowns in your LGA, how important was walkability as a measure of your overall liveability? Compare it to other factors or indicators that were more or less important.

15. Compare your LGA with another LGA that has a different colour or is in a different part of Melbourne. Select the area and the green tab on the right hand side menu to see the indicator information for both areas and then complete the Venn diagram to list similarities and differences between these two regions. Try to include some quantitative data such as number of intersections, distances, percentiles for various indicators.



LGA:

LGA:



Extension

Research the idea of a **20-Minute Neighbourhood** within Victoria. You may find some videos to watch. Assess your own neighbourhood based on the services provided and create a report to highlight your findings. Also think about how this idea could improve environmental sustainability.