

Precinct

Monash

6.1 Precinct Profile

6.2 Public Space

6.3 Public Life

- Northern Plaza
- Scenic Boulevard & Howleys Road
- Finch Street Playground
- Samada Street Reserve



Precinct Profile Demographics

Monash

A precinct population characterised by its university

- The Monash precinct is characterised by the large campus of Monash University situated in the centre of the precinct
- Monash has the lowest population and population density of all six precincts
- The 12,000 residents are predominately students, hence the age pyramid shows a spike at the age group between 20-29, 70% of the precinct's population is below the age of 35yrs
- 40% of the population have Asian ancestry, which is the highest of all six precincts
- The majority of residents live in households with 2 or more people

46% = Greater Melbourne average population under 35

498 = Melbourne average population density per km²



● 200-825 ● 70-200
● 20-70 ○ 0-20

32% residents live within 1000 metres of the station

Source: ABS 2021 Census



= Average population density per km²

12,758 residents

Source: ABS 2021 Census

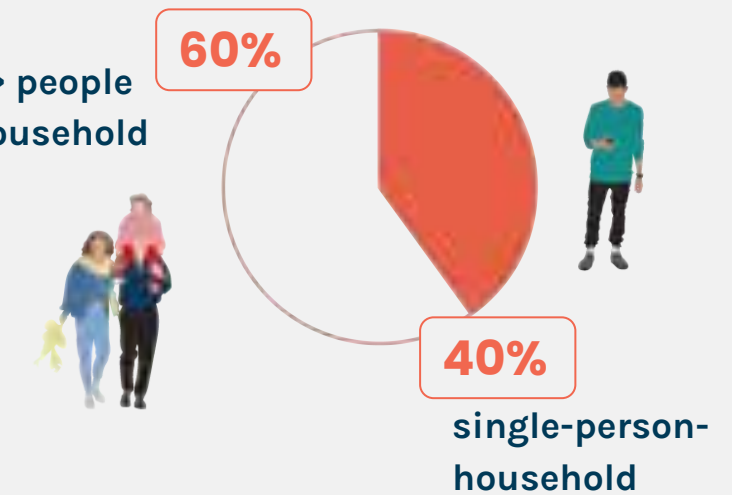


A young student population

70% under 35yrs

Source: ABS 2021 Census

> 2 people household



The majority live in households with more than 1 person

3,693 households

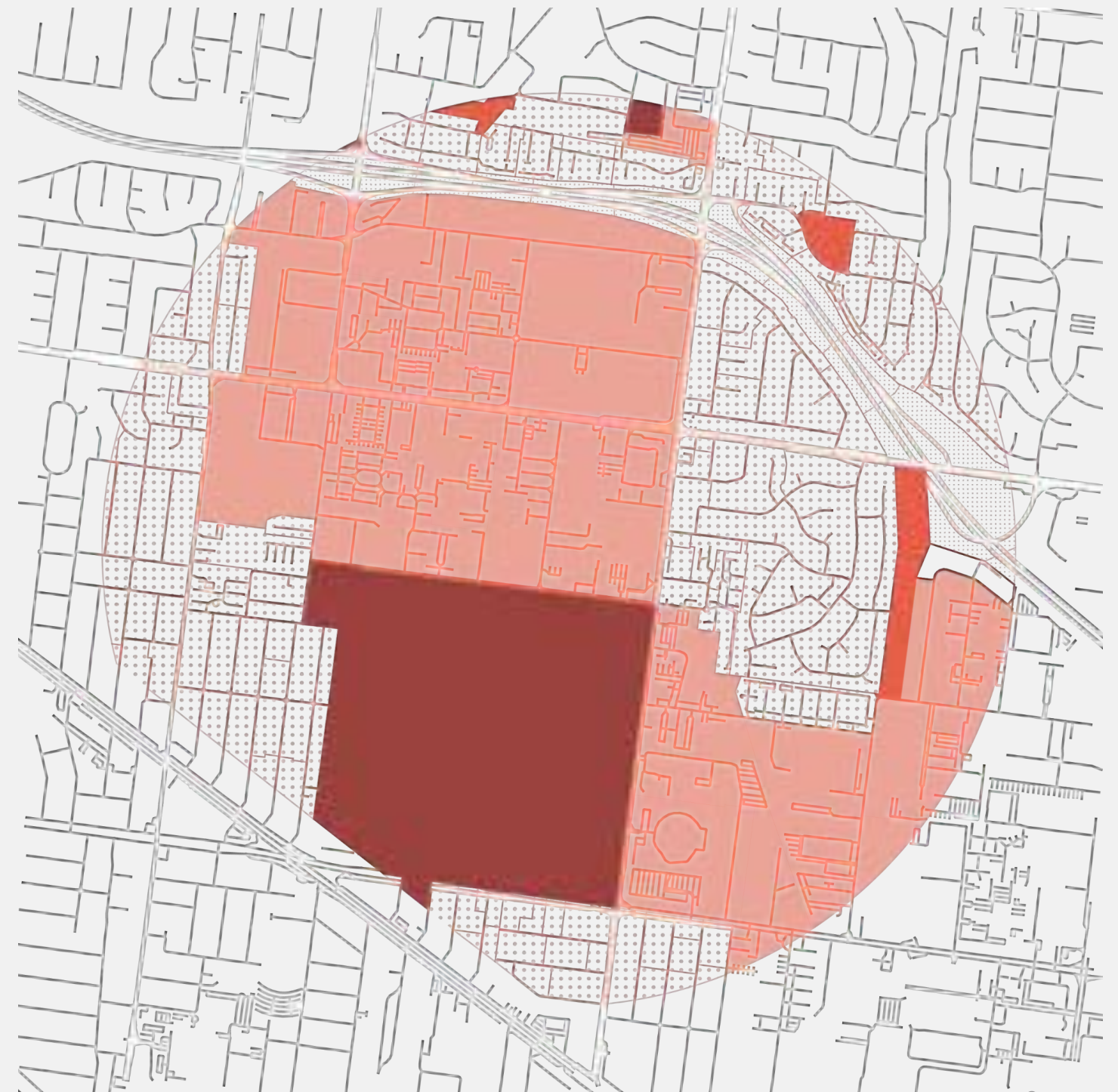
Source: ABS 2021 Census

Precinct Profile Landuse

Monash

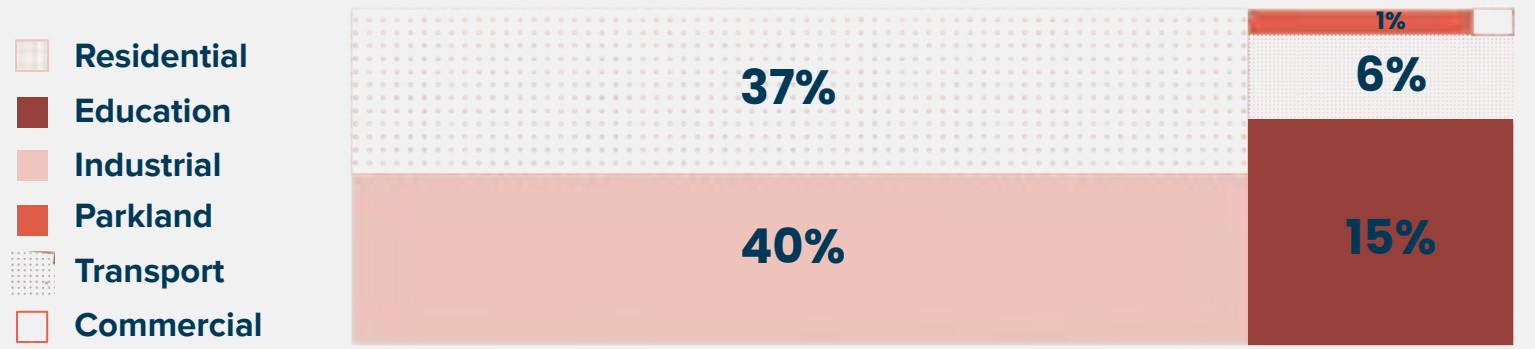
The precinct with the lowest residential land-use, but the highest industrial and educational land-use

- Monash has the lowest residential land-use of all six precincts. 37% of land is used for housing - mostly comprised of detached single family homes and a high share of student accommodation at Monash University
- 40% of all land-use is zoned as industrial, which is the highest share of all six precincts. There is a large development potential around the planned SRL-station
- Monash Campus alone comprises 15% of the whole precinct
- Another large land-use is the M1 Highway in the north, which makes up 6% of all land in the precinct



Source: ABS 2021 Census

Land Use



Monash Public Spaces

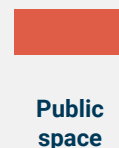


Public Space: Monash

Public Spaces in Monash

The precinct has a small number of disconnected public public spaces, supplemented with a diverse range of semi-public spaces at Monash University

- The industrial, educational, and transport land zoning has lead to major fragmentation of the precinct’s public spaces, hence an urban pattern of scattered, smaller public spaces
- The public spaces and plazas of Monash University are not shown in the map as these spaces are not on public land. These spaces are accessible to the public, but with restricted use
- Monash has the lowest public space per capita ratio of all six precincts (Monash University’s semi-public spaces are not included)



Sources:
Public spaces from the SRLA, Population data from ABS Census 2021

Public Spaces

<p>1.8% Park area percentage to precinct (1,600m)</p>	<p>4.0 m² Public space per capita (1,000m)</p>	<p>12.4 m² Public space per capita (1,600m)</p>
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Public Space: Monash

Infrastructure and Facilities of Public Spaces

- Northern plaza (within Monash University) is the best equipped public space, offering almost all basic facilities with the exception of playgrounds
- Finch Street Playground only offers few basic facilities and no additional facilities
- Samada Reserve offers more facilities such as barbeques and fitness equipment
- There are several small public spaces with a relatively few basic facilities and little to no add-ons



Inventory List

		Samada Reserve	Finch Street Playground	Northern Plaza
Lighting				✓
Rubbish Bins		✓		✓
Paved paths		✓	✓	✓
Public toilets				✓
Seats		✓	✓	✓
Bike Racks				✓
Playgrounds		✓	✓	
Barbeques		✓		✓
Signage		✓		✓
Skateparks				
Water bodies				
Artificial playground shades				✓
Ancillary sports structure				
Picnic Shelters				✓
BMX tracks				
Dog exercise areas				
Drinking fountains		✓		✓
Fitness equipment		✓		

Source: the SRLA. (Note the inventory list is comprised of all amenities found within the six precincts. Therefore an item may be listed in the inventory but not be present in all precincts. Only amenities which have been ticked are present within the district)

Public Space: Monash

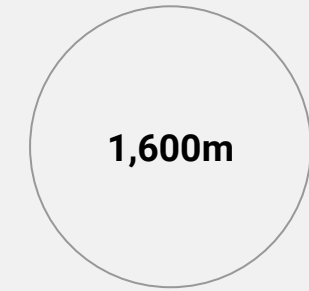
Tree Canopy

Lowest tree coverage of all precincts

- Monash has the lowest tree coverage of all six precincts, particularly due to the large industrial land-uses and the M1 highway cutting through the northern end of the precinct
- Despite this, Monash University campus provides a high level of canopy cover across its internal pedestrian network
- The station core has a particularly low tree coverage



1,600m diameter

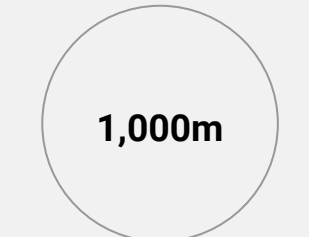


Precinct

21,216 Trees

1.61 Trees per capita

1,000m diameter

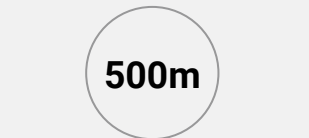


Centre

9,249 Trees

2.2 Trees per capita

500m diameter



Station

799 Trees

0.76 Trees per capita

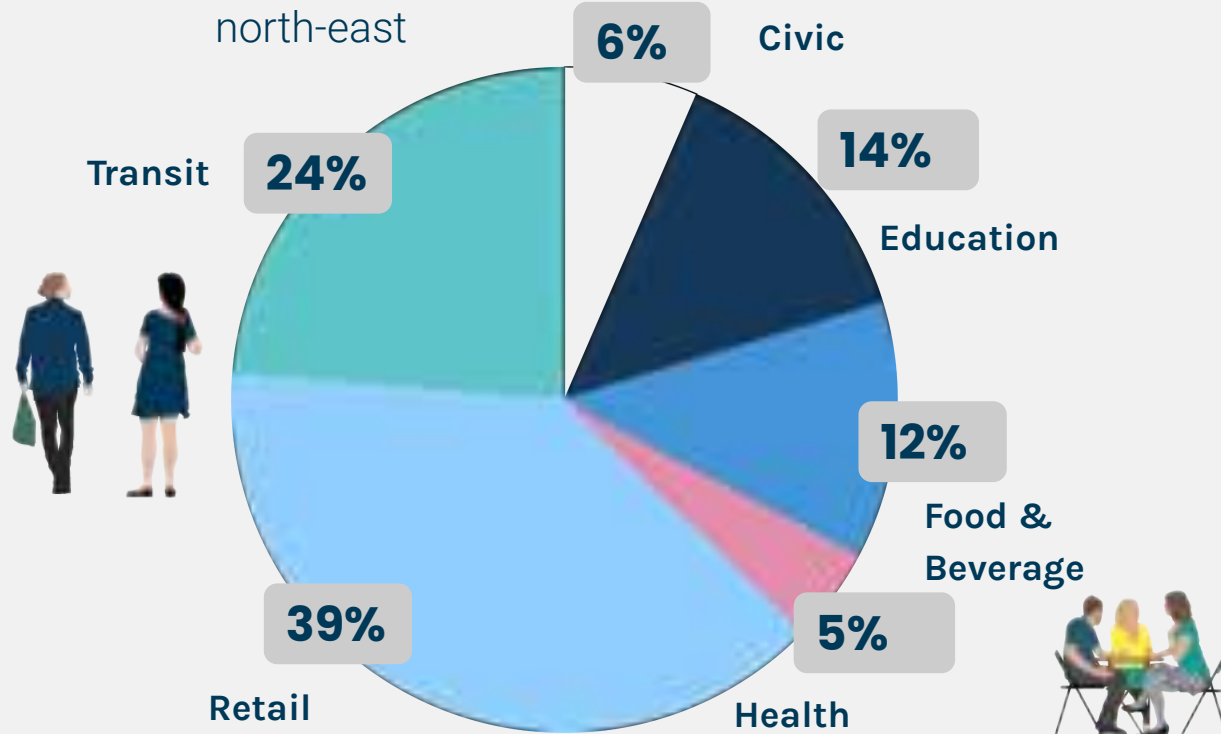
Sources:
Public spaces from the SRLA,
population data from ABS Census
2021, Tree canopy data from
Vicmap Tree Extent 2021

Monash Public Life

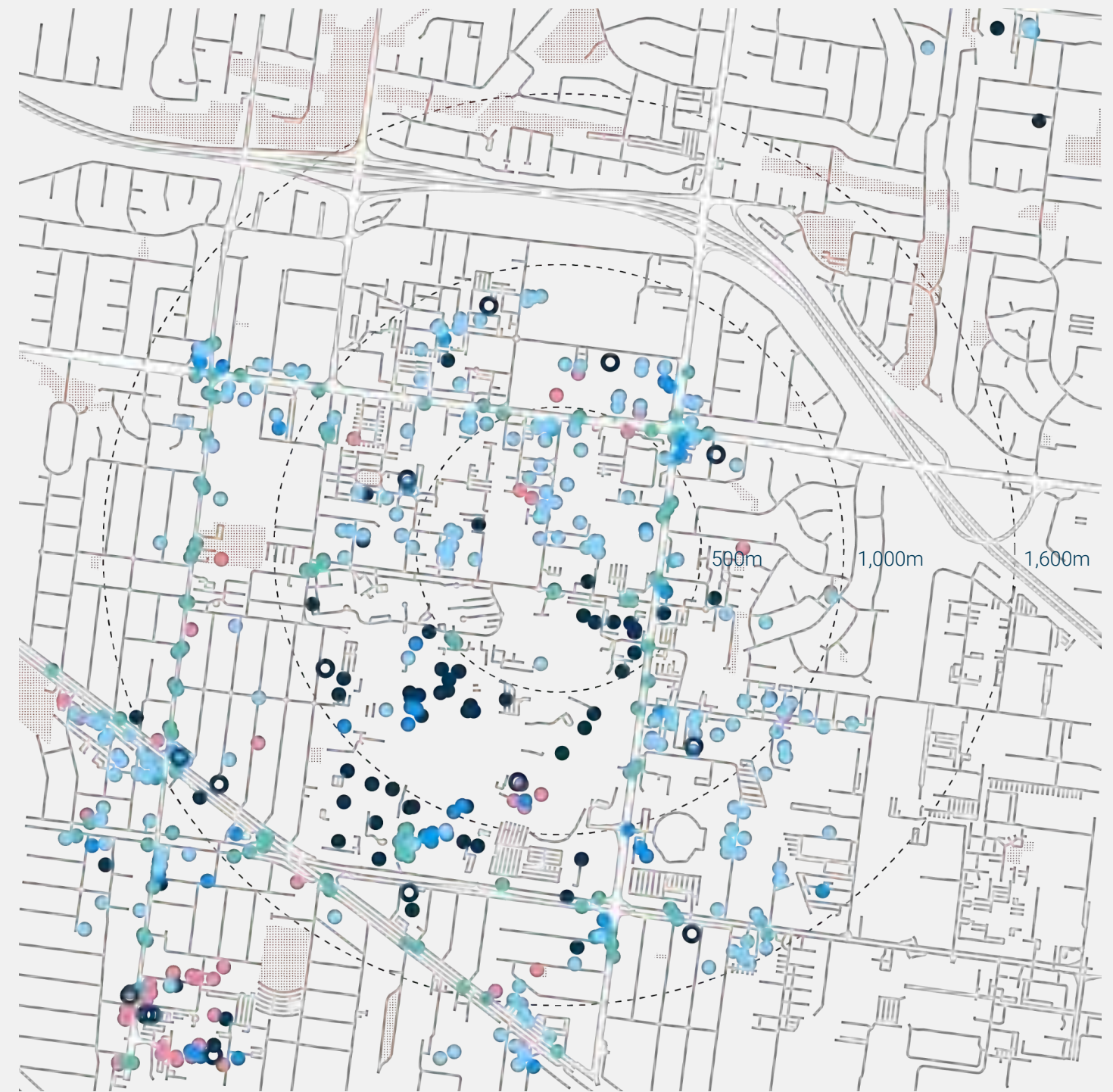
Public Life: Monash
Amenities

Transit, retail, and education dominate the precinct

- Monash has the second lowest number of amenities of all six precincts
- The majority of retail amenities are large scale supply stores without access to normal customers
- Due to the M1 highway amenities are completely missing within the 1,600m radius ring to the north-east



Share of amenities. Source: Google Maps - point of interest data



- Education
- Civic
- Food & Beverage
- Health
- Transit
- Retail
- Parks and green spaces

75 Amenities within 500m radius of the station

Source: Google Maps

Public Life: Monash

Active Frontages

2,500m recorded

A precinct core with no active frontages

- The Monash precinct core is noteworthy for its lack of small individual storefront units, with a diversity of functions and quality materials
- Most of the frontages are characterised by large industrial or commercial structures with monotonous and closed frontages at the ground level
- The ground floor frontages of Monash University along the boundary zones of the campus are particularly poor and not active



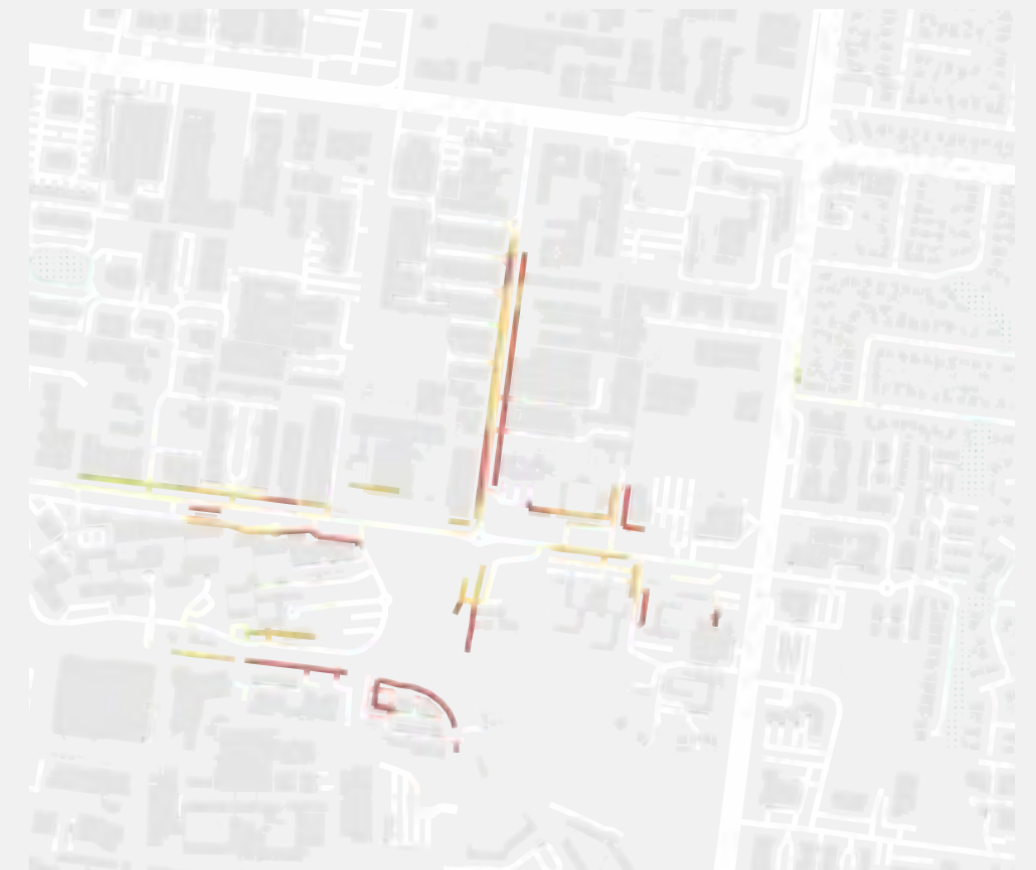
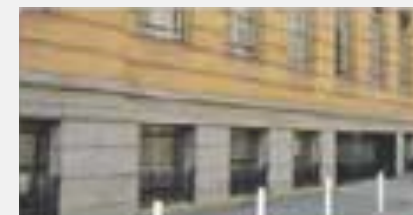
Active

Frontages with a A and B rating



Inactive

Frontages with a D and E rating

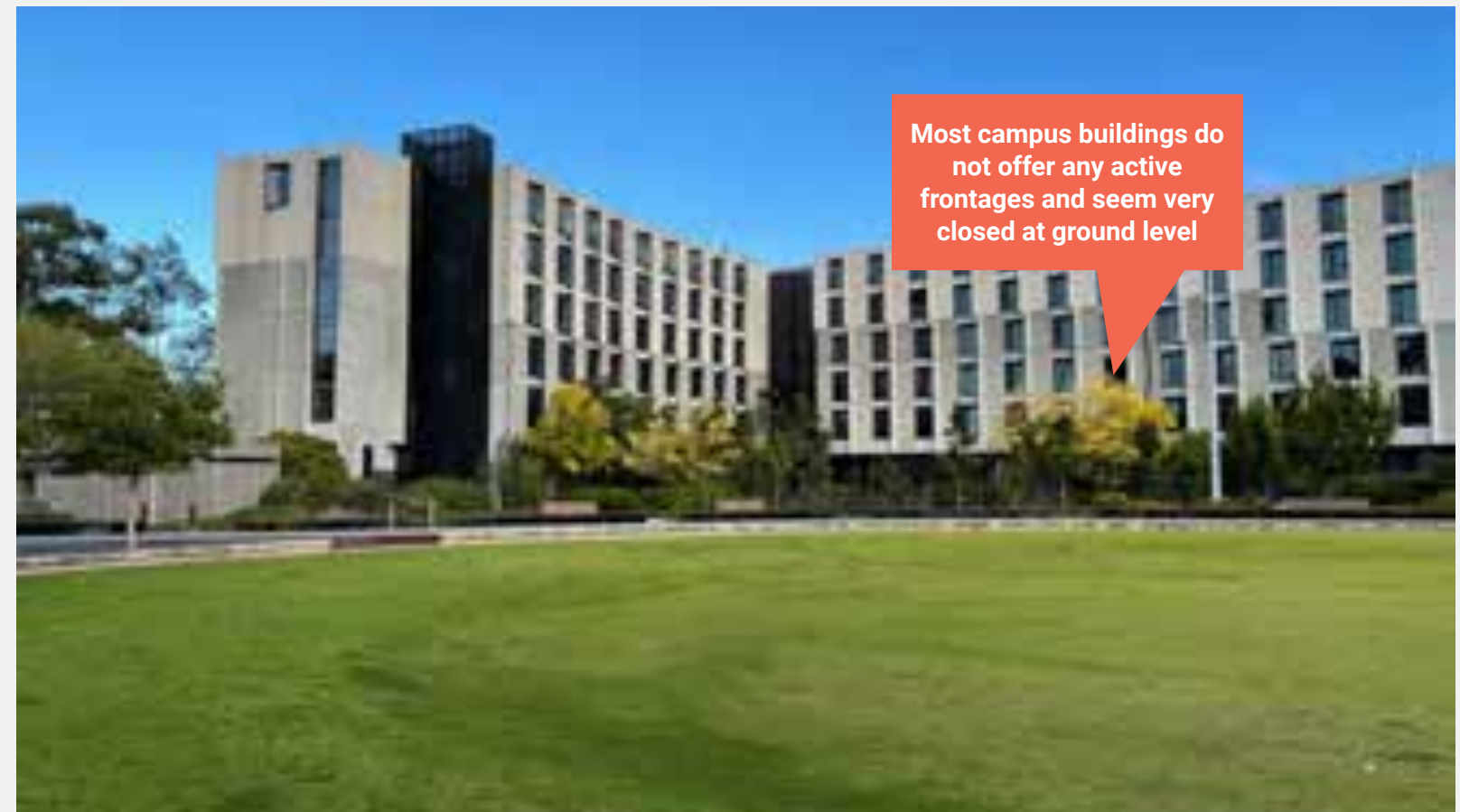
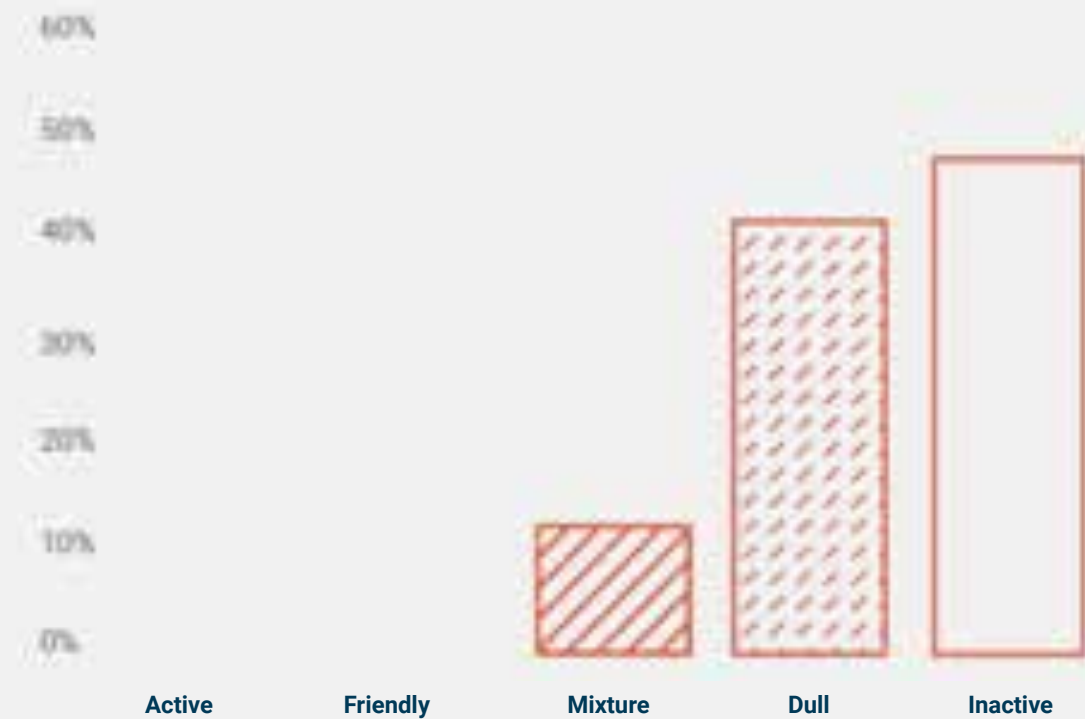


Public Life: Monash

Active Frontages

An inward facing University campus with large-scale commercial and industrial buildings

- The majority of facades in the precinct core are rated Dull or inactive
- The majority of campus buildings are inactive and uninteresting at ground level and do not interact with the spaces in front or offer something to look at

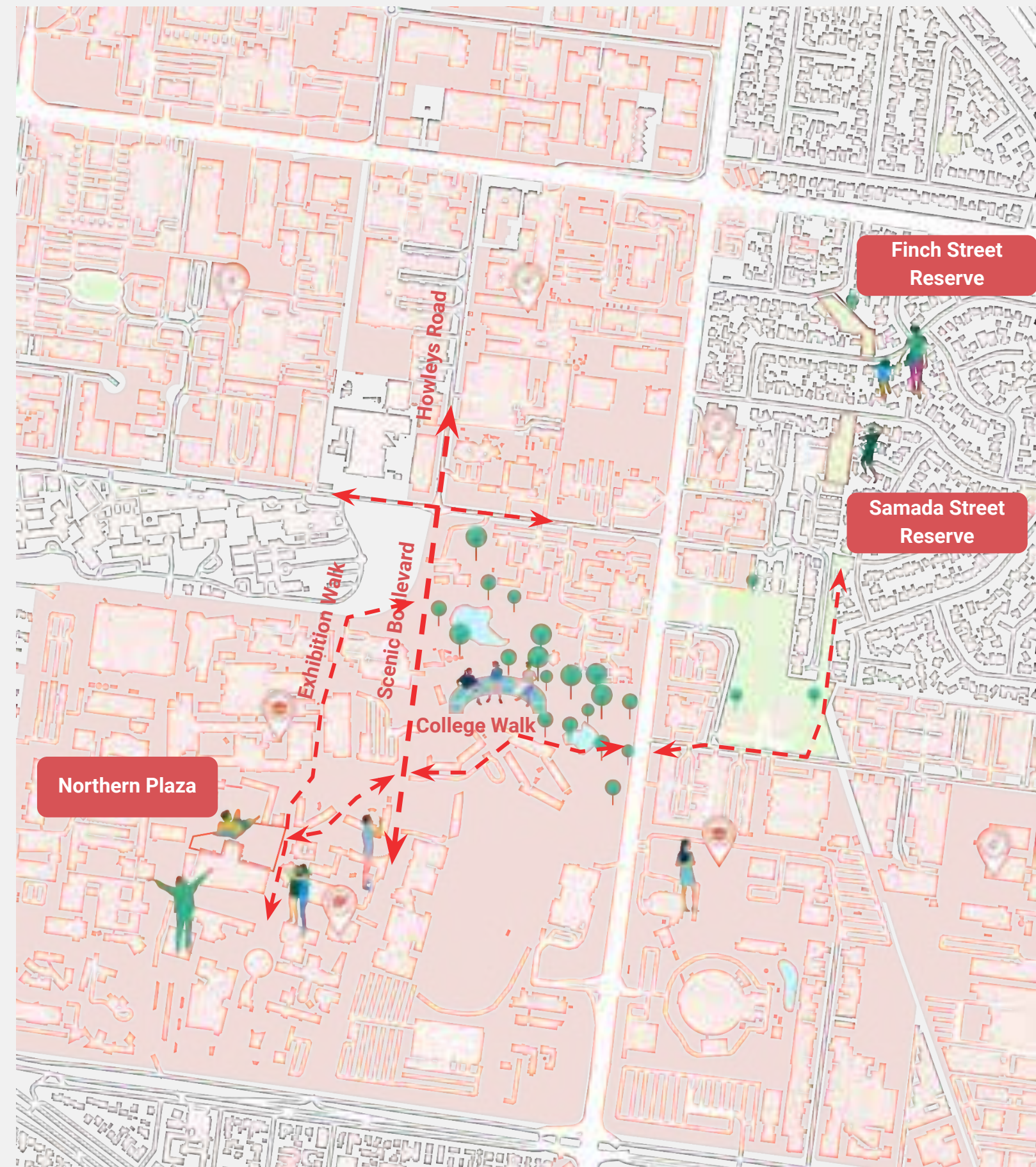


Public Life: Monash

Focal Points of Public Life in Monash

Although campus life is lively and diverse, it is insular and not well integrated with its surroundings

- Monash University is a very lively and vibrant campus, in particular around Northern Plaza and Lemon Scented Lawns, however this public life does not “spill out” to the rest of the precinct
- Most pedestrian traffic is on the separated walkway system within the campus, which is not integrated with the surrounding residential or industrial functions
- Scenic Boulevard, the southern continuation of Howleys Road, as well as the linear public space corridor via Finch Street and Samada Street Reserve, are key connections for public life, however they are currently fragmented and are unattractive to pedestrians



Public Life: Monash

Monash

Public Life Surveys

- Stationary activities were surveyed in three spaces
- Five movement counts were also conducted

1,312 Stationary Observations 

3,997 Movement Counts 

Date of surveys

19.10.2023

21.10.2023

Weather

24°C 

23°C 



Surveyed sites



Monash Northern Plaza

Public Space Qualities: Monash

Northern Plaza

A high quality, walkable campus square with lots of life, opportunities to sit, talk, and relax

- Lemon Scented Lawns is one of the largest gardens on the Campus. The public life surveys were conducted on Northern Plaza, right next to the gardens
- The square is the heart of campus life, with several important walkways ending or crossing here

Public Space Qualities



Public Life: Monash

Exhibition Walk

Movement Counts

Who is moving along Exhibition Walk?

- Exhibition Walk runs from north to south through Monash campus, passing Northern Plaza (see map [here](#), page 186)
- The peaks of people walking and staying overlap, with weekdays being very busy while on weekends the campus is almost empty
- The demographics of people of moving and staying overlap often, the only difference is that more men seem to walk along Exhibition Walk, but do not stay at the Northern Plaza
- Considering Exhibition Walk as the main entrance point to Northern Plaza 1 out of 11 people walking past are staying at the square for a moment, making the space a very sticky and attractive place compared to other studied spaces

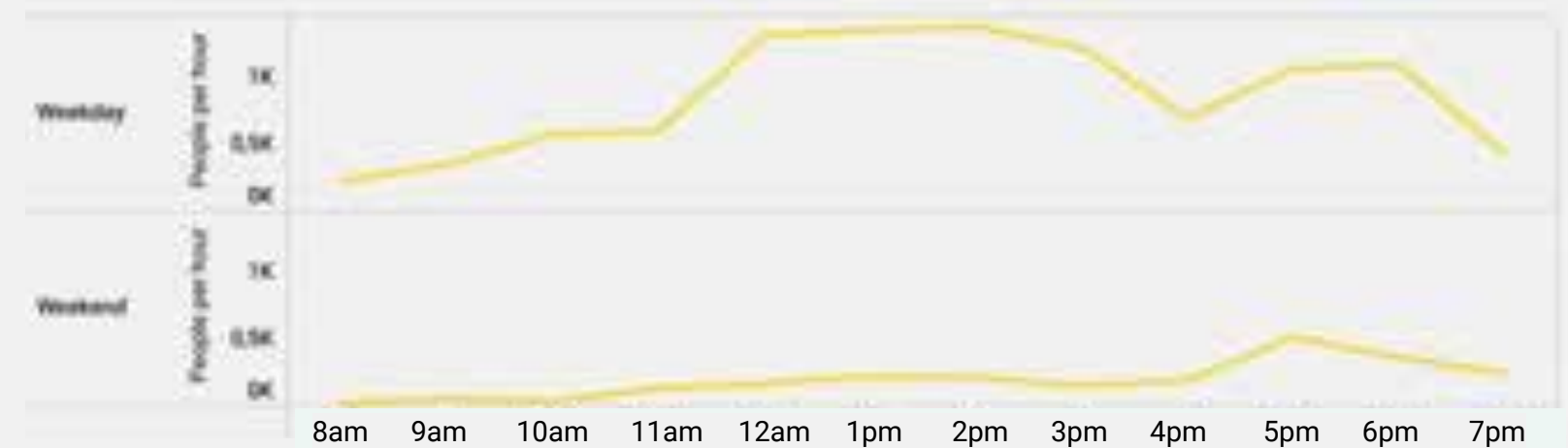
Count overview

12,582
counts

1,195
stationary
observations

Only 1 out of 11 people moving along Exhibition Walk, pass the Northern Plaza and choose to stay for a moment

Movement flow count

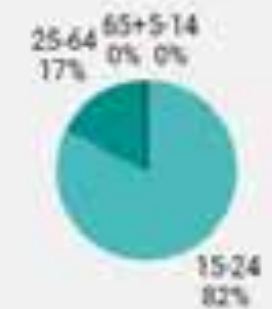


Demographics of people moving

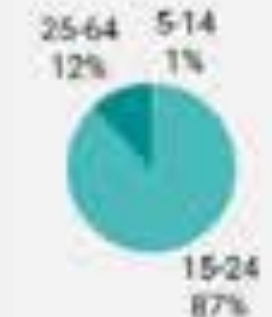
Gender



Age:



Demographics of people staying



Public Life: Monash

Northern Plaza

Age Demographics

Who is using Northern Plaza?

- The main user groups of the square are students, teaching and professional staff of the University
- Therefore the users of the campus square are very homogenous. There are no children or seniors, 87% are in the age group of 15- 24 yrs, with 12% in the age group of 25-64 yrs
- User demographics correspond to the local resident demographics

1,195 observations

Weekday	984
Weekend	211

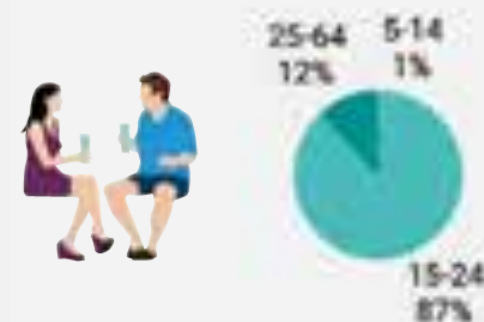


Stationary flow count



Demographics

Users



Neighbouring residents



Residents living within 200 metres of the survey site



Public Life: Monash

Northern Plaza

Gender Demographics

Who is using Northern Plaza?

- There is an even gender split of users in the square which corresponds to local resident demographics and the overall student demographics of Monash University

Usage throughout the day:

- There is a large difference between weekdays and weekends with triple as much activity during weekdays. This indicates that most students do not live in the area or/and use other lunch options on weekends
- Weekday peaks are during lunch time and dinner time, which corresponds to the main function of the square with several restaurant options and outdoor seating
- On weekend evenings and mornings the square is empty of people

1,195 observations

Weekday	984
Weekend	211

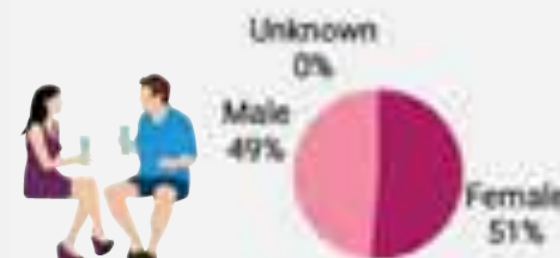


Stationary flow count



Demographics

Users



Neighbouring residents



Public Life: Monash

Northern Plaza

Activities

What are they doing?

- The square is a key meeting point for students having a break, therefore the main activities observed are being in conversation, and eating and drinking, which highlights the important social function of the campus square
- There were other activities observed, but in very low numbers
- The absence of public life on weekend evenings shows that the square does not offer evening activities like a bar or club. It has a rather monofunctional character of being an outdoor lunch place, only for students

1,195 observations

- In conversation
- Eating / Drinking
- Using Electronics
- Engaged with commerce
- Reading / Writing
- Waiting in line
- Play
- Taking care of child/children
- Exercise
- Observing / People Watching
- Civic work
- Waiting for taxi



Stationary flow count



What are visitors doing?



Public Life: Monash

Northern Plaza

Other Findings

High numbers of people sitting down

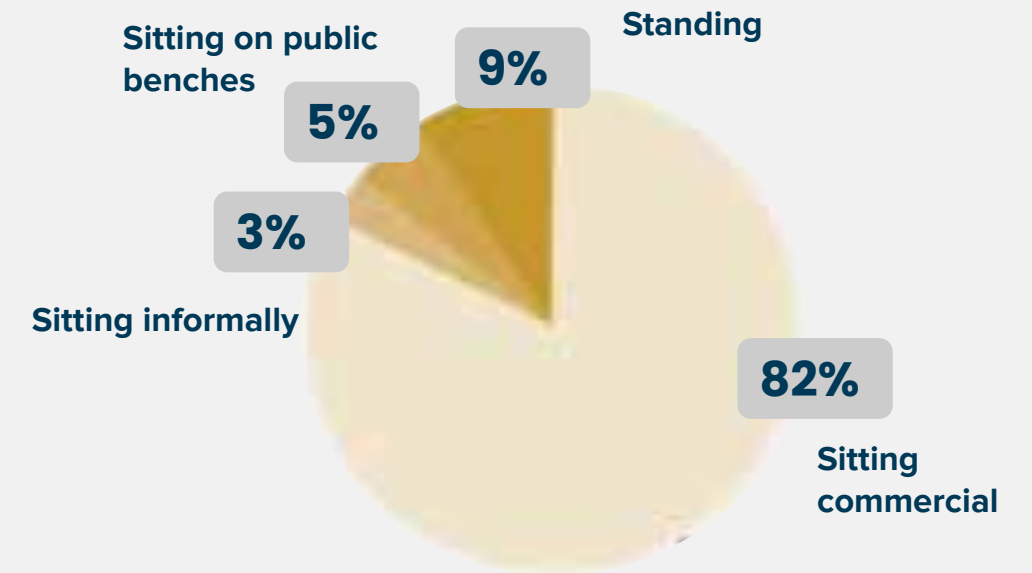
- The majority of people using the space are sitting in the commercial seating of restaurants and cafés
- 91% of all observed people were sitting down. This is by far the highest share of all 26 studied public spaces, which shows the great diversity, quality, and quantity of seating options on the Plaza

Low usage at the edge towards Lemon Scented Lawns:

- The western part of Northern Plaza is used by only 9% of all observed people making it the least used area
- $\frac{3}{4}$ of all activities cluster in the south-east-corner of the square

Count chart

1,195 observations



Hot Spots

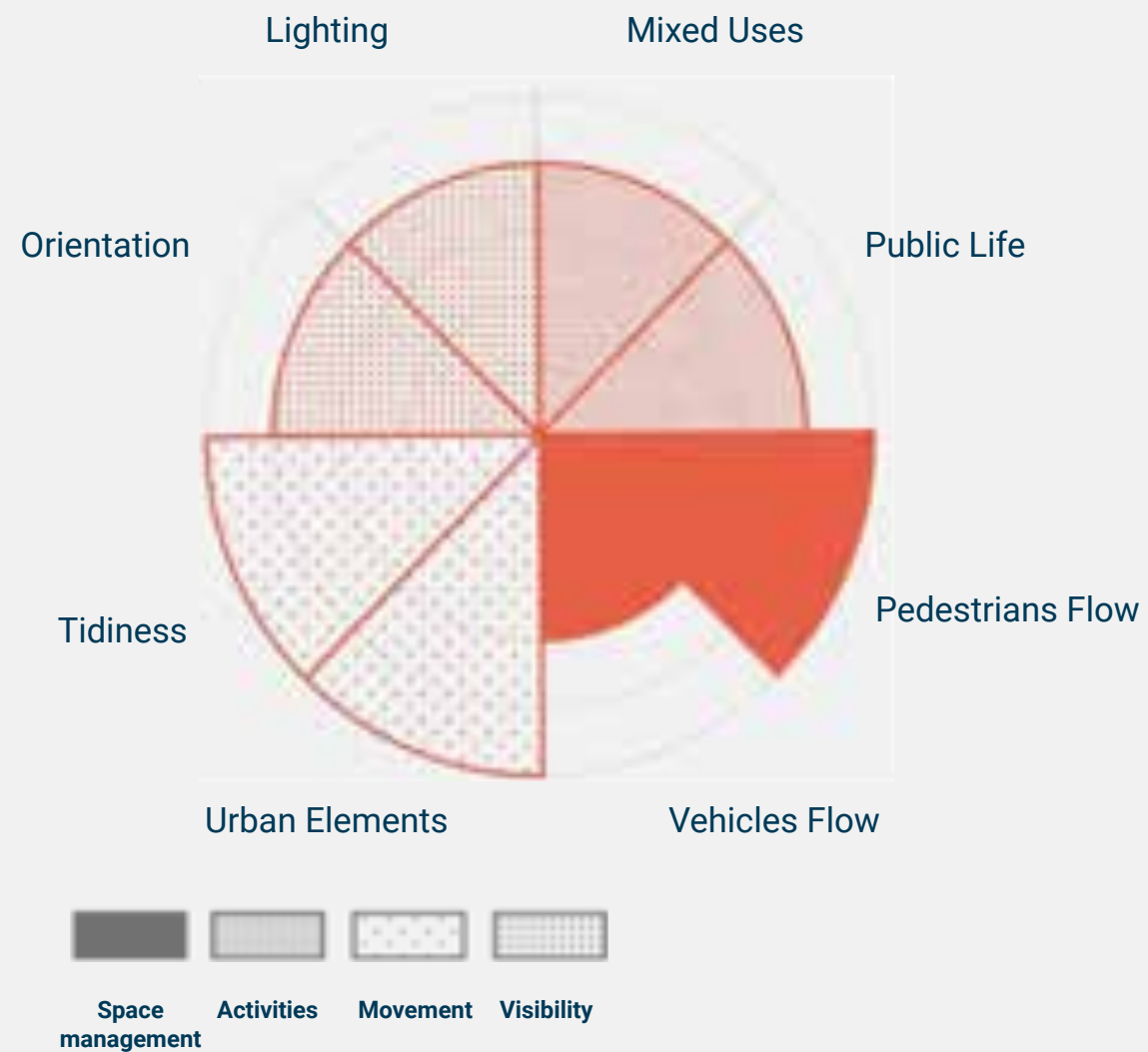


Safety Index: Monash

Northern Plaza

A well designed and maintained public space with lots of public life and pedestrian flows, however most activity is limited to weekdays

Safety Index





Monash Scenic Boulevard & Howleys Road

Public Life: Monash

Scenic Boulevard

Movement Counts

- Scenic Boulevard and the northern continuation Howleys Road are the major access roads for Monash Campus running in a north-south direction, connecting and crossing major car parks and walkways
- Scenic Boulevard separates the campus area in the west with reading halls, a library, and office buildings from the sports fields and housing functions of the campus on the east side

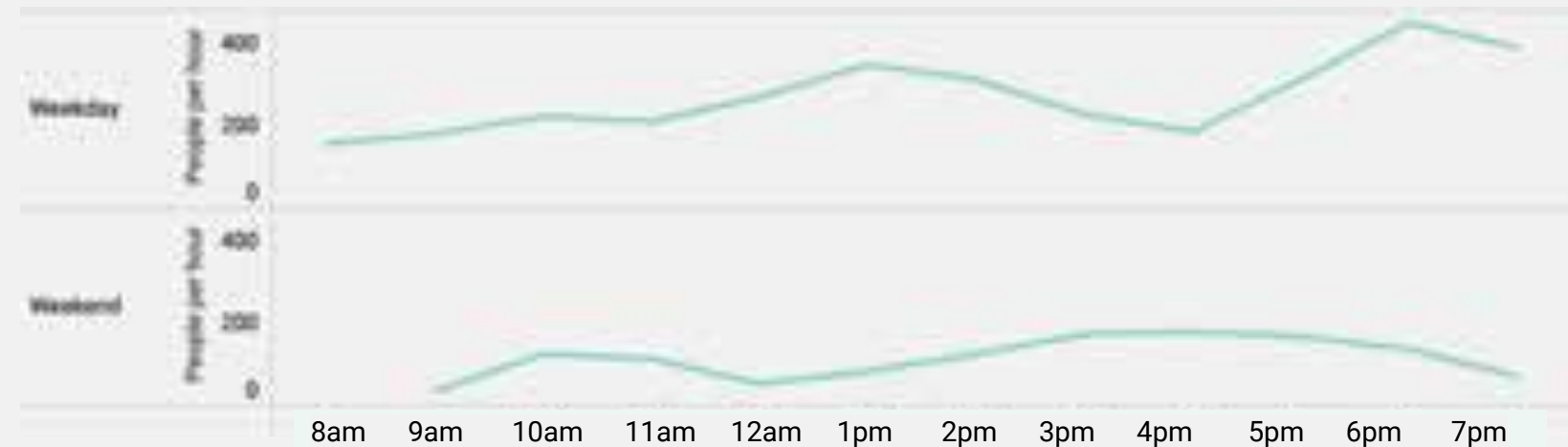
Who is moving along Scenic Boulevard?

- Considering how many students are studying in the area and how busy some of the campus walkway are, Scenic Boulevard has very low pedestrian traffic
- The observed people were by 57% male and 43% female, which does not correspond with the local residential gender split, which is predominantly female
- The age groups of people walking also differ from the local residents. There are some seniors and children walking along Scenic Boulevard, that are not represented as living in the area

Count overview

4,536 counts

Movement flow count



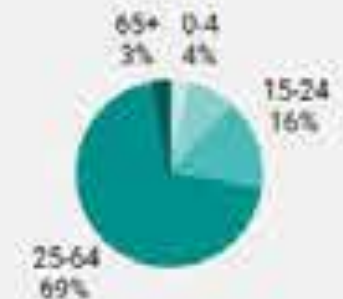
Demographics of people moving



Gender



Age:



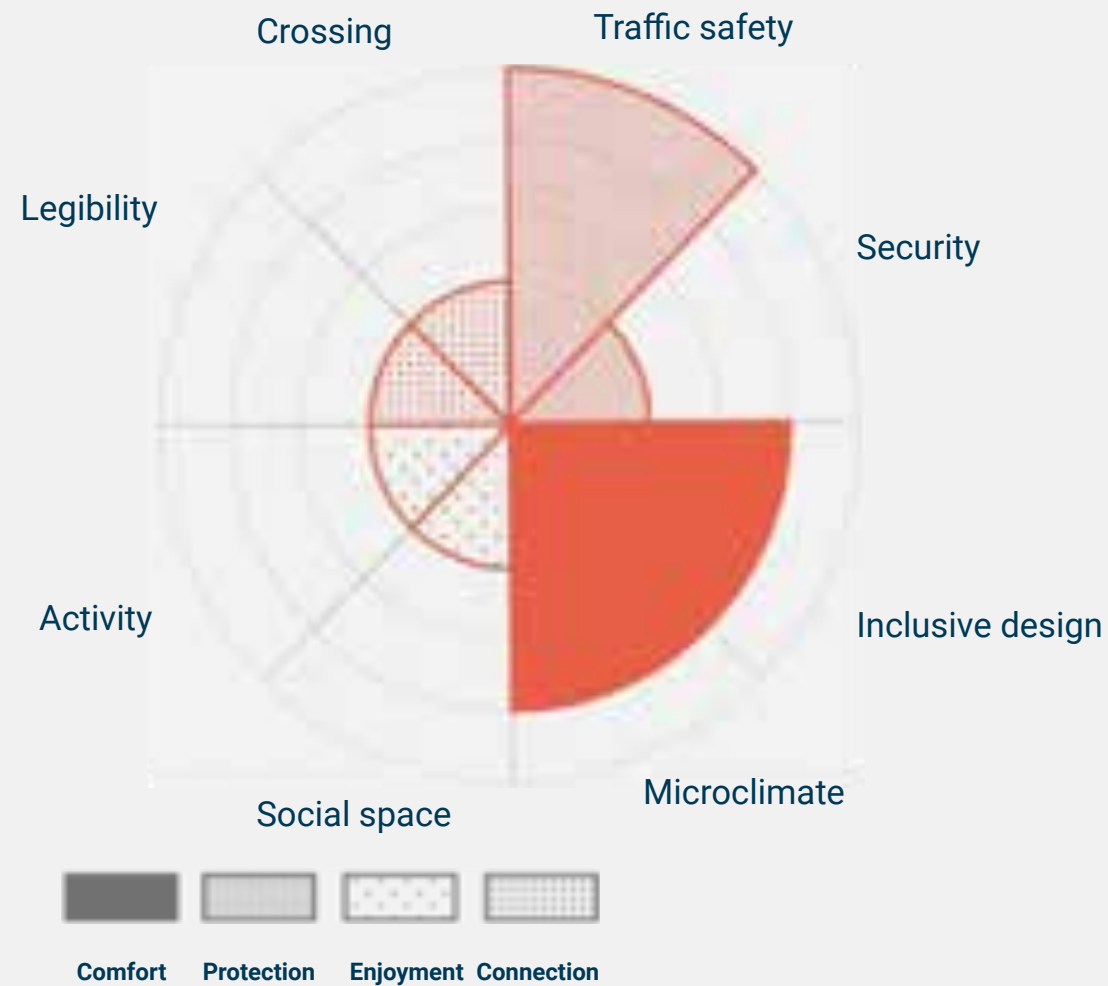
Walkability Score: Monash

Scenic Boulevard



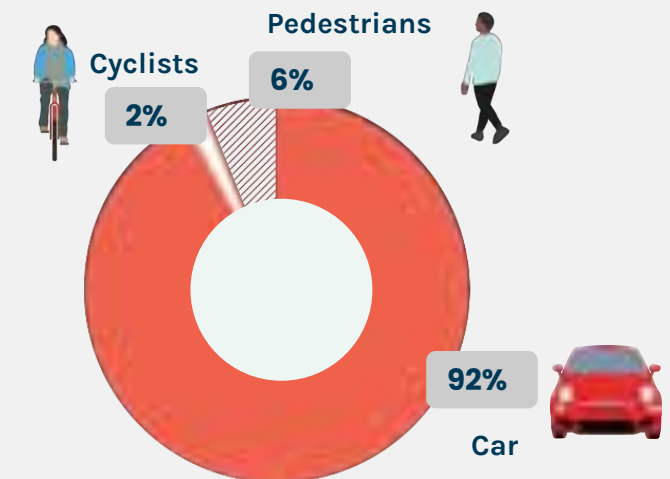
Scenic Boulevard is predominantly designed for cars and not very attractive to walk along. Orientation is difficult, there is a lack of social spaces, and a lack of public life

Walkability Score



The car-centric character of Scenic Boulevard is also shown in the traffic counts. 92% of traffic using the road is cars.

Traffic counts on Scenic Boulevard



Walkability Score: Monash

Howleys Road



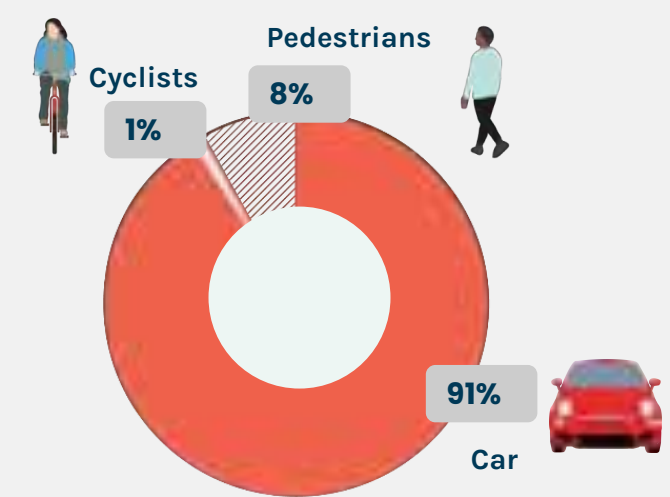
Inactive frontages, few connections and crossing options, no activities and social spaces, however a lot of greenery

Walkability Score



The car-centric character of Howleys Road is also shown in the traffic counts. 91% of traffic users on the road are cars.

Traffic counts on Howleys Road



Public Life: Monash

College Walk

Movement Counts

- College Walk runs in an east-west direction crossing over Scenic Boulevard, hence connecting the campus with the student homes and sport facilities
- Along College Walk, movement counts were conducted at three locations (two on the eastern side and one on the western side of Scenic Boulevard)

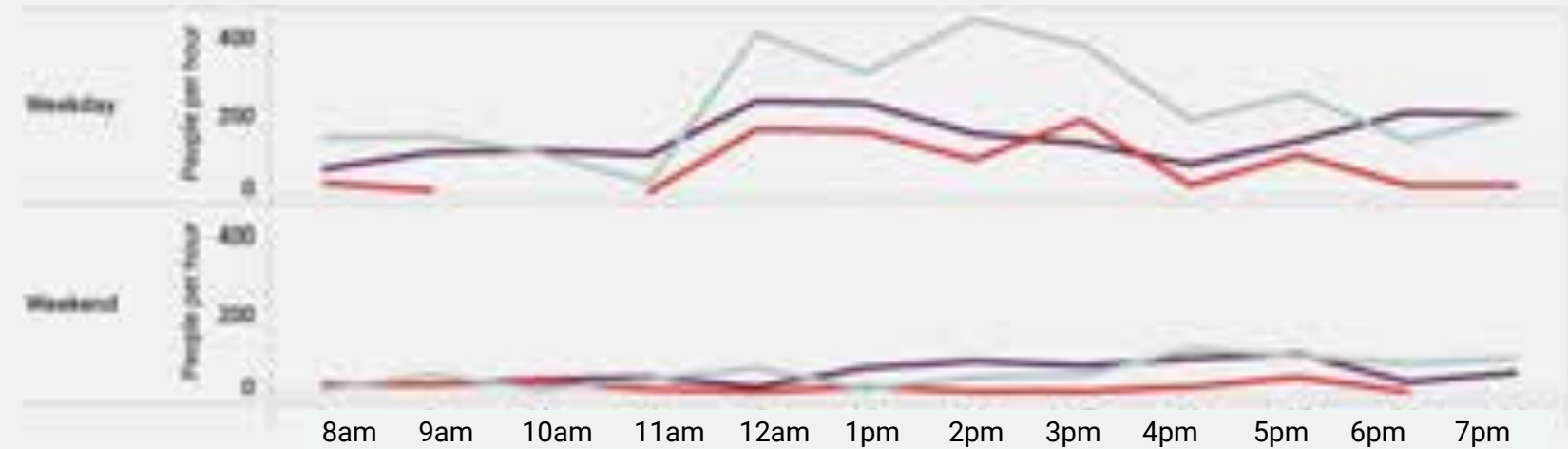
Who is moving along College Walk?

- College Walk West is the quietest of the three counting locations. The closer it gets to the campus the busier the walkway gets
- There is a strong difference between weekdays and weekends with weekends being much quieter
- Males dominate use of the walkway, which does not correspond with the local resident demographic and campus demographic
- College Walk could be a key walking connection between the residential areas in the north-east as well as the linear parks Samada Street Reserve and Finch Street Reserve

Count overview

6,864 counts

Movement flow count



- College Walk West
- College Walk East
- College Walk by Scenic Boulevard



Demographics of people moving

Gender



Age:





Monash Finch Street Reserve

Public Life: Monash

Finch Street Reserve

Age Demographics

- Finch Street Reserve is a small playground in a residential neighbourhood, north-east of Monash Campus with swings, slides, and other climbing and play equipment
- The surveys on weekday were disturbed by tree cutting activities, which might have affected usage patterns of the park, however the weekend count also showed an absence of public life during the day

Who is using Finch Street Reserve?

- There were very low activity levels at the playground
- Very few teenagers, children, and dog-owners were observed noting this space is also a off-leash area for dog
- No seniors were observed using the public space, despite 16% of the local residents being seniors

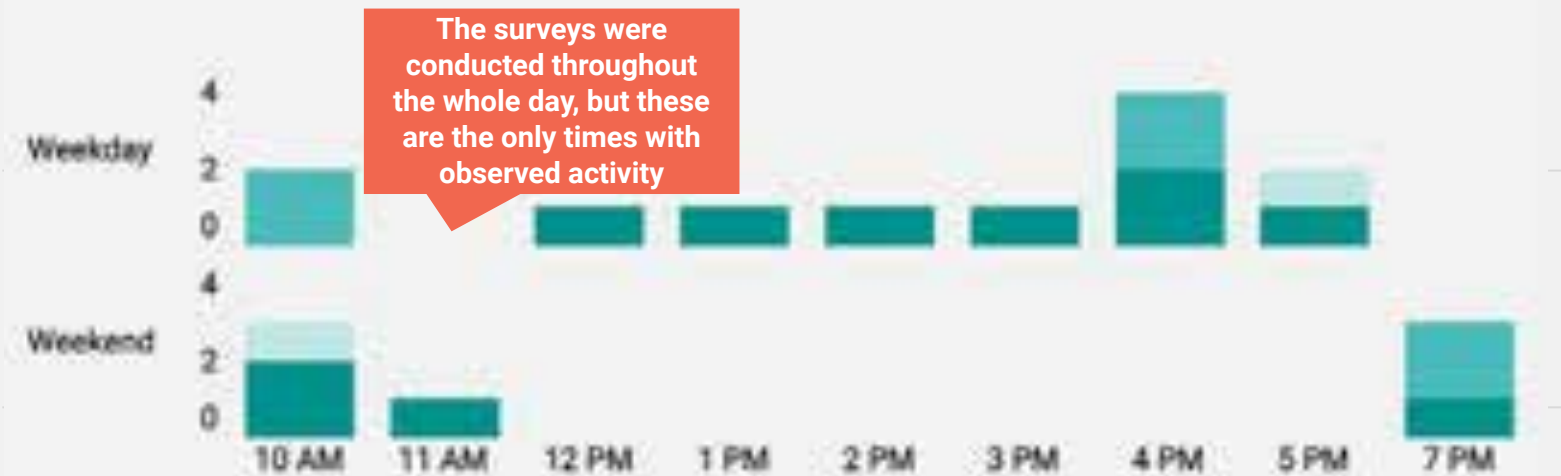
19 observations

Weekday	12
Weekend	7

- 0-4
- 15-24
- 25-64



Stationary flow count

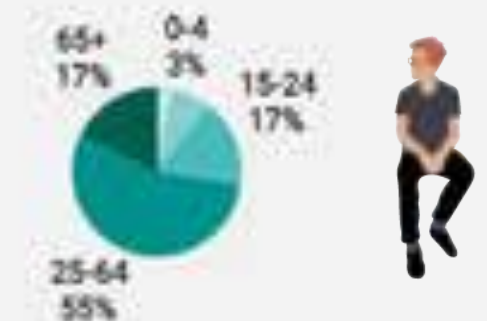


Demographics

Users



Neighbouring residents



Public Life: Monash

Finch Street Reserve

Gender Demographics

Who is using Finch Street Reserve?

- A bit more male than female users corresponding with the demographics of local residents
- During the day the playground is completely quiet indicating that usage is usually only short term and solely for local residents after work/school, or on weekend mornings

19 observations

Weekday	12
Weekend	7

Female
Male

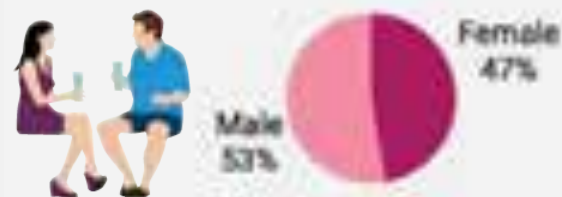


Stationary flow count



Demographics

Users



Neighbouring residents



Public Life: Monash

Finch Street Reserve

Activities

What are they doing?

- Low diversity of activities
- Main function of the park was to go for a walk with the dog
- The playground is a meeting point for children and teenagers of the neighbourhood
- The tree cutting activities during the survey day were captured as civic work
- With the civic work of tree cutting that happened during the weekday count, weekdays and weekends have similarly low activity levels

19 observations

- Taking care of pets
- Civic work
- Using Electronics
- Exercise
- In conversation
- Taking care of child/children
- Eating / Drinking
- Play
- Waiting in line



Stationary flow count



What are visitors doing?





Monash Samada Street Reserve

Public Life: Monash

Samada Street Reserve

Age Demographics

- Samada Street Reserve playground lies within a residential neighbourhood north-east from Monash University
- The Reserve offers a playground with options for different age groups, tables, seating, a bbq and drinking fountain

Who is using Samada Street Reserve?

- Samada Street Reserve has a diverse mix of age groups using the space
- Almost half of the users are in the younger age groups and below 25yrs, but there are also 11% above 65 years
- There is a higher share of children using the park than those living in the neighbourhood, suggesting that the playground is also visited by people living a little bit further away

98 observations

Weekday	46
Weekend	52

- 0-4
- 5-14
- 15-24
- 25-64
- 65+

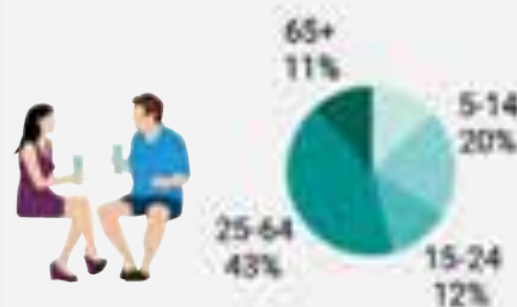


Stationary flow count



Demographics

Users



Neighbouring residents



Public Life: Monash

Samada Street Reserve

Gender Demographics

Who is using Samada Street Reserve?

- There is an even gender split of users corresponding with local residents

Usage throughout the day:

- Peak times are on weekend afternoons and evenings, as well as weekday evenings

98 observations

Weekday	46
Weekend	52

Female
Male
Unknown

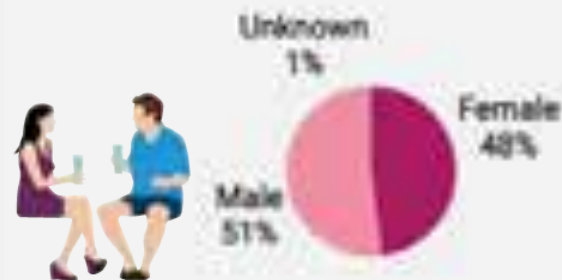


Stationary flow count

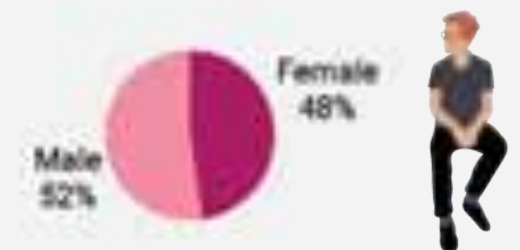


Demographics

Users



Neighbouring residents



Public Life: Monash

Samada Street Reserve

Activities

What are they doing?

- A high diversity of activities considering the size and amount of use
- Play was the the main activity observed, however other activities such as exercising, people watching, eating and drinking were also observed
- Parents looking after children are provided with additional infrastructure to make their stay in the reserve more fun e.g. exercise equipment

98 observations

- Play
- Observing / People Watching
- Exercise
- Taking care of child/children
- In conversation
- Eating / Drinking
- Using Electronics



Stationary flow count



What are visitors doing?



Public Life: Monash

Samada Street Reserve

Other Findings

High number of informal sitting:

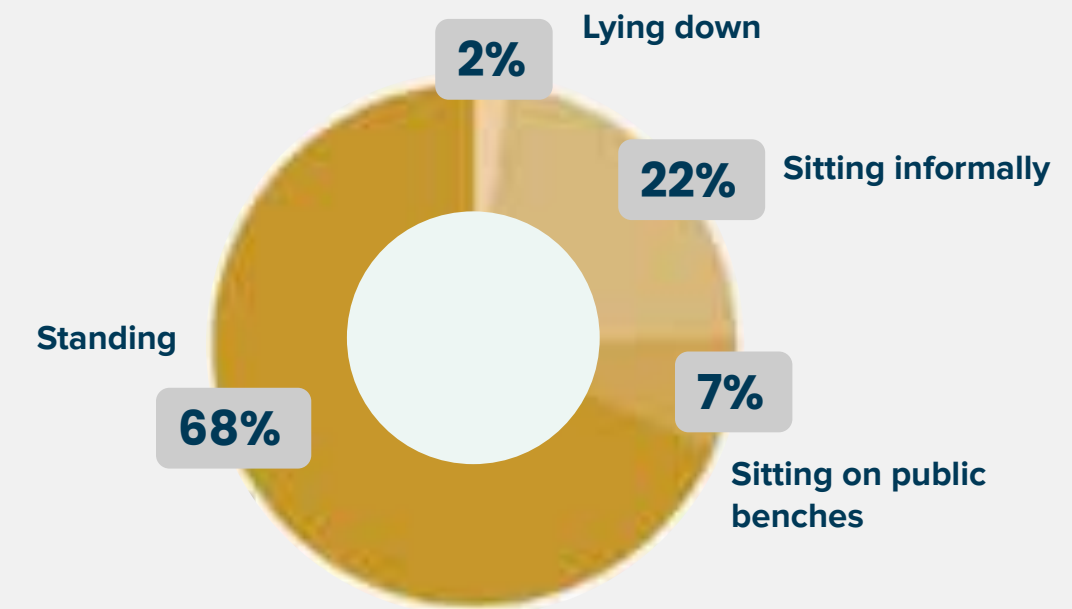
- The majority of people, 68% were standing, and a high share of 22% were sitting informally, indicating that there is a lack of seating options

Under-utilised southern part of the Reserve:

- Most activities are clustered around the northern edge of the reserve
- The southern part of the reserve seems underutilised and could offer additional invitations for people to play, exercise etc.

Count chart

98 observations



Hot Spots



Precinct

Clayton

5.1 Precinct Profile

5.2 Public Space

5.3 Public Life

- Clayton Road
- Wellington Road
- Station Forecourt
- Remembrance Gardens
- Carinish Road
- Fregon Reserve
- Meade Reserve



Precinct Profile Demographics

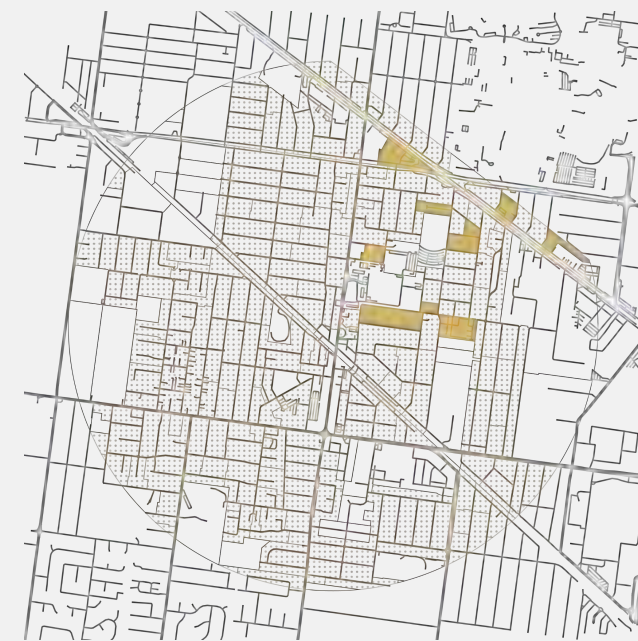
Clayton

A Young Student Population

- The demographics in Clayton are highly influenced by the educational functions of Monash University and Monash Health that are within or in close proximity to the precinct
- The majority of residents (64%) are in the student age group of 20-35 year olds
- High number of people born in Asia (35%), Europe (18%) and South Asia (14%). Special for Clayton is a higher number of Greek and Indian ancestry
- Rather low population density with 294 people per square kilometer
- The majority of residents live in households with more than one person

46% = Greater Melbourne average population under 35

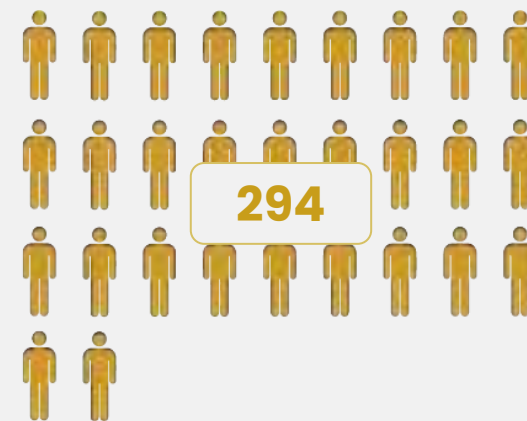
498 = Melbourne average population density per km²



○ 0-20 ● 70-200
● 20-70 ● 200-825

56% residents live within 1000 metres of the station

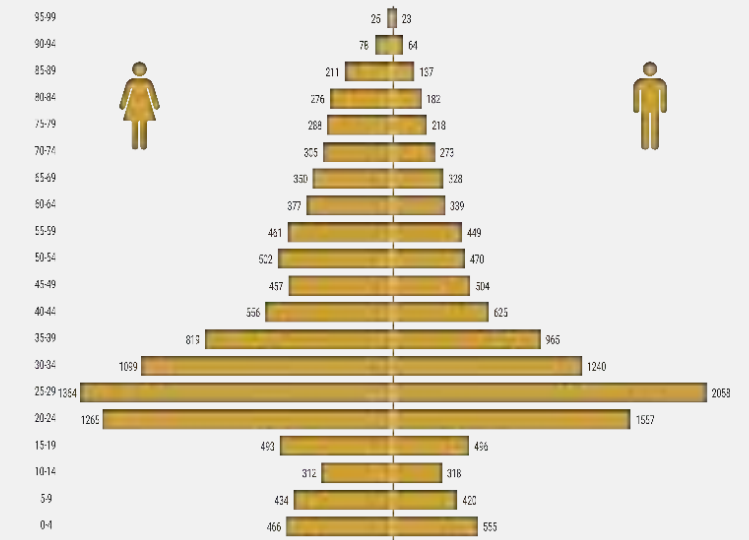
Source: ABS 2021 Census



= Average population density per km²

21,362 residents

Source: ABS 2021 Census



A young student population

64% under 35

Source: ABS 2021 Census

> 2 people household

63%



37%

single-person-household



Single household dominated

7,084 households

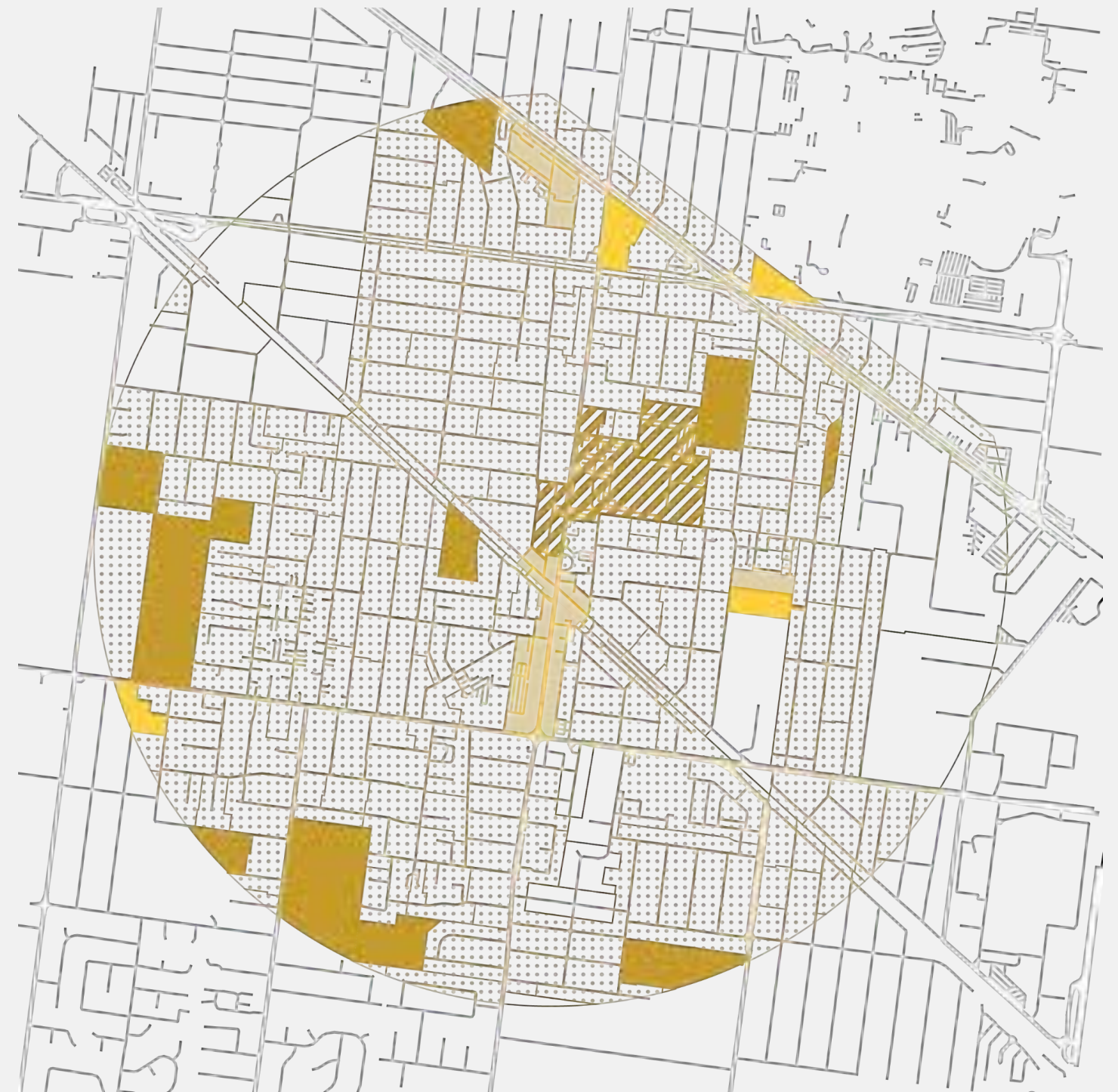
Source: ABS 2021 Census

Precinct Profile Landuse

Clayton

Residential precinct with industrial land uses on the edges and a commercial high street as well as hospital in the core

- 69% of the precinct is covered by residential land uses, in particular detached single family houses
- 18% of the land is used by industry, particularly along the eastern and western edge of the precinct
- Along Clayton Road in north-south direction stretches the commercial heart of the precinct with most amenities being located here. Commercial land uses make up 2% of the total land use
- The Monash Health is a key destination in the precinct located north of the commercial centre on Clayton Road
- 8% of the total land use is parkland, clustered towards the south and west of the precinct



Source: ABS 2021 Census

Land Use

- Residential
- Educational
- Commercial
- Parkland
- Healthcare
- Industrial



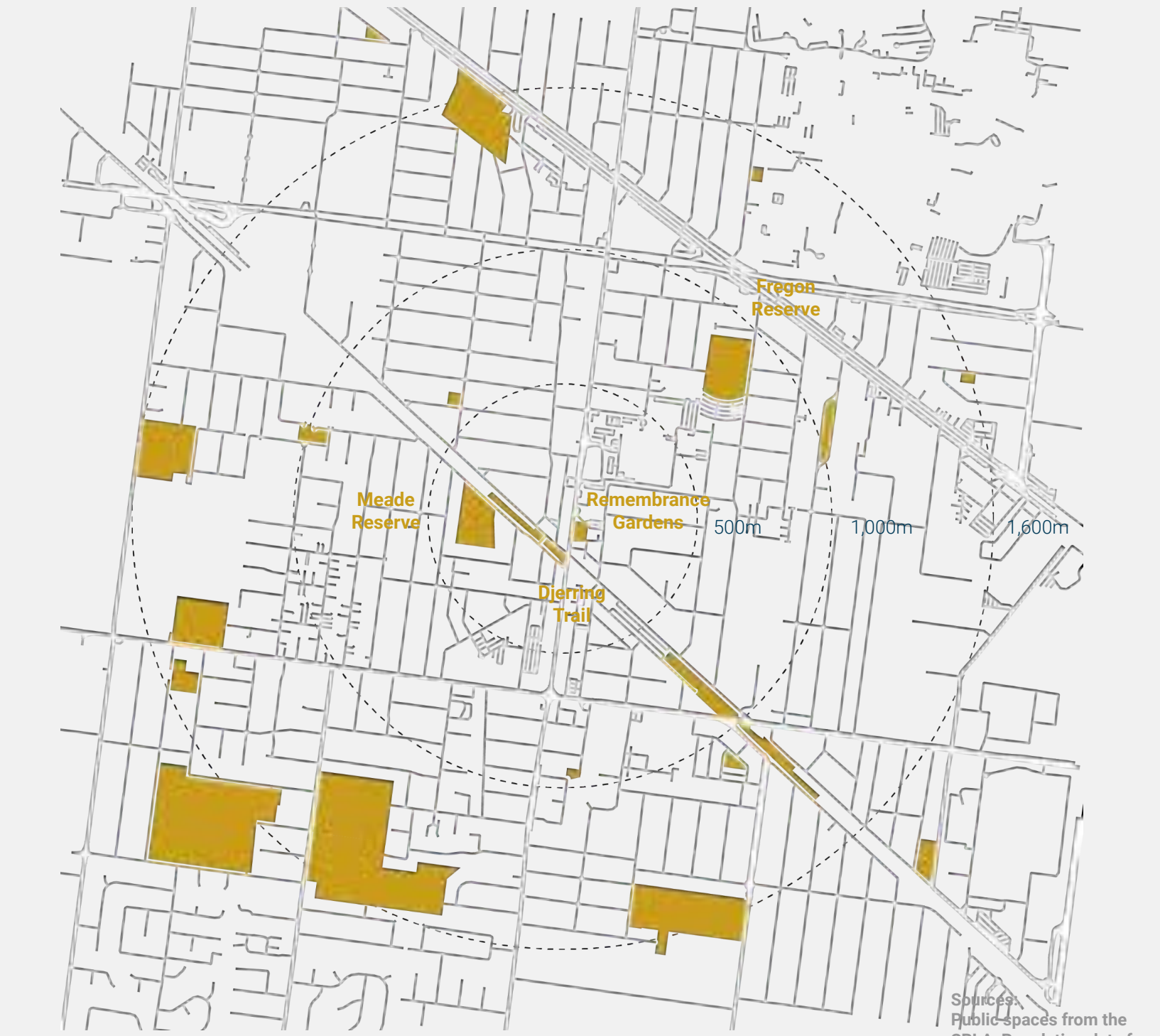
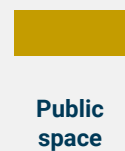
Clayton Public Space

Public Spaces: Clayton

Public Spaces in Clayton

A precinct lacking public spaces

- Clayton has very few public spaces in the precinct core. Most of the public space are along the precinct boundary
- The majority of public spaces are sports and recreation grounds with some smaller parks and gardens dispersed throughout the precinct
- While the number of parks is relatively low, Clayton has a large diversity of public spaces
- The newly established linear park and Djerring Trail provides much needed public space across the precinct



Public Spaces

5.9%
Park area
percentage to
precinct (1,600m)

7.8 m²
Public space per capita
(1,000m)

22.1 m²
Public space per capita
(1,600m)

Public Spaces: Clayton

Infrastructure and Facilities in Public Spaces

- Fregon Reserve and Meade Reserve are the best equipped public spaces in Clayton, yet Meade Reserve offers very little additional infrastructure
- The remaining public spaces are moderately served by a baseline level of equipment but have few of the 'nice-to-have' elements that would attract people and encourages public life



Inventory List

	Meade Reserve	Fregon Reserve	Remembrance Garden/ Clayton Hall	Djerring Trail POS
 Lighting	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Litter Bins	✓	✓		
 Paved paths	✓		✓	✓
 Public toilets	✓	✓	✓	
 Seats	✓	✓	✓	
 Bike Racks	✓			
 Playground	✓	✓		
 Barbeques		✓		
 Sign	✓	✓	✓	
 Skatepark				
 Water bodies				
 Artificial playground shades				
 Ancillary sports structure	✓	✓		
 Shelter for picnics	✓	✓		
 Bmx tracks				
 Dog area				
 Drinking fountain		✓		
 Exercise equipment				

Source: the SRLA. (Note the inventory list is comprised of all amenities found within the six precincts. Therefore an item may be listed in the inventory but not be present in all precincts. Only amenities which have been ticked are present within the district)

Public Spaces: Clayton

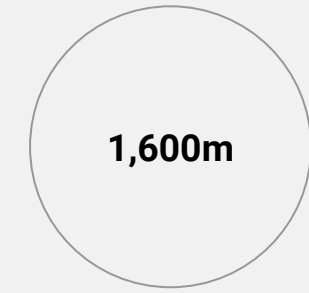
Tree Canopy

Relatively low tree coverage

- After Monash, Clayton has the second lowest numbers of trees
- Clayton has the lowest number of trees per capita of all the precincts studied in this report
- Tree coverage is especially sparse along the larger roads and within industrial areas trees are missing



1,600m diameter



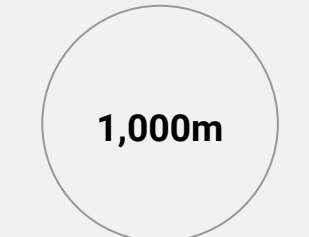
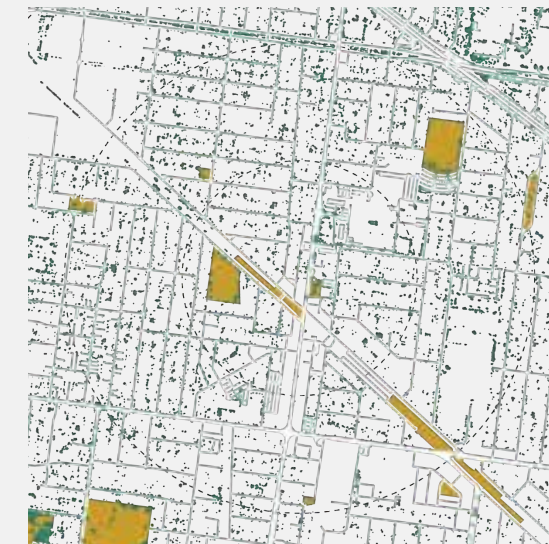
1,600m

Precinct

21,390 Trees

0.98 Trees per capita

1,000m diameter



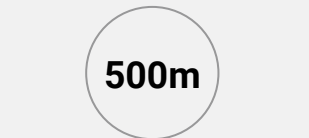
1,000m

Centre

10,662 Trees

0.87 Trees per capita

500m diameter



500m

Station

2,142 Trees

0.86 Trees per capita

Sources:
Public spaces from the SRLA,
population data from ABS Census
2021, Tree canopy data from
Vicmap Tree Extent 2021