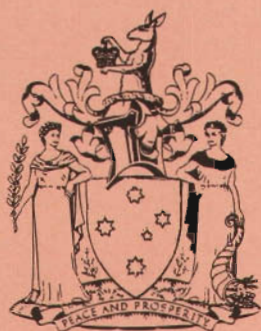


ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF THE STATE OF VICTORIA



1 Geography and Government

INTRODUCTION

Victoria covers an area of about 227,600 square kilometres. It is therefore slightly smaller than Great Britain which (if inland water is included) contains 229,900 square kilometres.

TABLE 1.1 AREA OF STATES AND TERRITORIES

State or Territory	Area in square kilometres	Length of coastline in kilometres	Percentage of total area
Western Australia	2,525,500	12,500	32.88
Queensland	1,727,200	7,400	22.48
Northern Territory	1,346,200	6,200	17.52
South Australia	984,000	3,700	12.81
New South Wales	801,600	1,900	10.44
Victoria	227,600	1,800	2.96
Tasmania	67,800	3,200	0.88
Australian Capital Territory	2,400	(a)35	0.03
Australia	7,682,300	36,735	100.00

(a) Jervis Bay Territory.

Physical location

The most southerly point of Wilsons Promontory, latitude 39° 08' S., longitude 146° 22' 30" E., is the southernmost point of the mainland of Victoria and similarly of the mainland of Australia; the northernmost point is where the western boundary of the State meets the Murray River, latitude 33° 59' S., longitude 140° 58' E; the point furthest east is Cape Howe, situated in latitude 37° 31' S., longitude 149° 58' E. The westerly boundary lies upon the meridian 140° 58' E., and extends from latitude 33° 59' S. to latitude 38° 04' S., a distance of 451 kilometres.

Coastline

The Victorian coastline comprises many types of environments. Broad sandy beaches and impressive cliffed headlands along the ocean coast contrast with mangrove-fringed mudflats and marshland of the sheltered embayments and estuaries. There are approximately 1,300 kilometres of ocean coast between Cape Howe and the South Australian border; in addition three large embayments - Port Phillip Bay (270 kilometres), Western Port Bay (150 kilometres), and Corner Inlet (80 kilometres) - partially enclose protected waters where most of the ports and harbours are situated.

Physical divisions

The chief physical divisions of Victoria are shown below. Each of these divisions has certain physical features (elevation, geological structure, climate, and soils) which distinguish it from the others.

1. Murray Basin Plains:
 - (a) The Mallee
 - (b) The Riverine Plains
 - (c) The Wimmera
2. Central Highlands:
 - A. The Eastern Highlands
 - B. The Western Highlands:
 - (a) The Midlands
 - (b) The Grampians
 - (c) The Dundas Tablelands
3. Western District Plains:
 - (a) The Volcanic Plains
 - (b) The Coastal Plains
4. Gippsland Plains:
 - (a) The East Gippsland Plains
 - (b) The West Gippsland Plains
5. Southern Uplands:
 - (a) The Otway Ranges
 - (b) The Barrabool Hills
 - (c) The Mornington Peninsula
 - (d) The South Gippsland Highlands
 - (e) Wilsons Promontory

The following table lists Victoria's highest mountains:

TABLE 1.2 HEIGHT OF SELECTED MOUNTAINS, VICTORIA
(metres)

<i>Mountain</i>	<i>Height</i>	<i>Mountain</i>	<i>Height</i>
Bogong	1,986	Niggerhead	1,843
Feathertop	1,922	Mckay	1,843
Nelse North	1,883	Cobberas No. 1	1,838
Fainter South	1,877	Cope	1,837
Loch	1,874	Spion Kopje	1,836
Hotham	1,861	Buller	1,804

ABS STATISTICAL GEOGRAPHY**Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)**

The statistical division structure of Victoria was formed in 1974 by combining legal local government areas into coherent socio-economic zones.

Since January 1986, ABS statistical geography has been based on the Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC). The current ASGC was implemented in January 1991, following an extensive

review designed to accommodate future population growth, especially in the eastern and south-eastern parts of the Melbourne Statistical Division (MSD). The previous review occurred in the mid-1960's.

The ASGC is an hierarchical structure designed to cover the whole of Australia, without omission or overlap. Within Victoria's statistical division structure there are 12 statistical divisions, 50 sub-divisions, 238 statistical local areas (SLA), and 7,501 collection districts (CD). The ASGC also contains 14 labour force regions, of which 9 are in the MSD and 5 are in the Rest of Victoria (ROV). Labour Force regions are used extensively for ABS social surveys, including the Labour Force Survey. Victoria also has 7 statistical districts, which are urban areas outside the MSD with a population exceeding 25,000. The smallest geographic unit normally used in ABS published material is the SLA. Special data runs and electronic products like 4-Site can utilise CD level data.

In order to meet census collector requirements, approximately 9.3 per cent of CDs changed between 1986 and 1991. A total of 17 SLAs changed status within the ASGC in January 1991, either through splitting or recombining. The SLA structure in Victoria (238 SLAs) is largely equivalent to that for Local Government Areas (210 LGAs), with the exception that 22 LGAs are split and 5 SLAs cover unincorporated areas.

The ASGC is being increasingly used by government agencies and other organisations to facilitate geographic comparability. The SLA/LGA unit is usually the key when looking for concordance across government department regions which differ from the ASGC.

CLIMATE

General conditions

The major topographical determinant of the climate is the Great Dividing Range, running east-west across the State, and rising to nearly 2,000 metres in the eastern half. This acts as a barrier to the moist south-east and south-west winds and together with its proximity to the coast, causes the south of the State to receive more rain than the north.

To the south of Victoria, except for Tasmania and its islands, there is no land for 3,000 kilometres. This vast area of ocean has a moderating influence on Victoria's climate in winter. Snow, which is a common winter occurrence at similar latitudes on the eastern seaboard of the great land masses of the northern hemisphere, is rare in Victoria below elevations of 600 metres. To the north of Victoria, the land mass of Australia becomes very hot in the summer, and on several days at this time of year the temperature over the State may rise to between 35°C and 40°C, often with a strong northerly wind.

Climate in Melbourne

The proximity of Port Phillip Bay bears a direct influence on the climate of the metropolitan area. The hottest months in Melbourne are normally January and February, when the average maximum temperature is 26°C. Inland, Watsonia has an average of 27°C, while along the Bay, Aspendale and Black Rock, subject to any sea breeze, have an average of 25°C. This difference does not persist throughout the year, however,

and in July average maxima at most stations are within 1°C of one another at approximately 13°C. The hottest day on record in Melbourne was 13 January 1939, when the temperature reached 45.6°C. This is the second highest temperature ever recorded in an Australian capital city. In Melbourne, the average number of days per year with maxima over 35°C is about nine, but there were twenty-five in the summer of 1897-98 and there has been only one year with no occurrence, namely 1984. The average annual number of days over 30°C is approximately twenty-nine.

Nights are coldest at places a considerable distance from the sea, and away from the city where heat retention by buildings, roads, and pavements may maintain the air at a slightly higher temperature. The lowest temperature ever recorded in the city was -2.8°C on 21 July 1869, and the highest minimum ever recorded was 30.6°C on 1 February 1902.

In Melbourne the overnight temperature remains above 20°C on about four nights per year. During the early years of record, temperatures below 0°C were recorded during most winters. However, over more recent years, the urban 'heat island' effect has resulted in such low temperatures occurring only once in two years on average. Minima below -1°C have been experienced during the months of May to August, while even as late as October extremes have been down to 0°C. During the summer, minima have never been below 4°C.

Wide variations in the frequencies of occurrences of low air temperatures are noted across the Melbourne metropolitan area. For example, there are approximately ten annual occurrences of 2°C or less around the Bay, but frequencies increase to over twenty in the outer suburbs and probably to over thirty a year in the more frost susceptible areas. The average frost-free period is about 200 days in the outer northern and eastern suburbs, gradually increasing to over 250 days towards the city, and approaching 300 days along parts of the bayside. The means of the climatic elements for the seasons in Melbourne, computed from all available official records, are given in Table 1.3.

Rainfall

The average annual number of days of rain (0.2mm or more in 24 hours) is over 150 on the West Coast and in West Gippsland, and exceeds 200 over the Otway Ranges. The average number of wet days a year is reduced to 100 at a distance of approximately 160 kilometres inland from the coast. The distribution of rainfall in Victoria by districts is given in Table 1.4.

Distribution of average rainfall in Victoria is shown in Figure 1 on page 20. Average rainfall ranges from 250mm for the driest parts of the Mallee to 2,600mm at Falls Creek in the Alps.

TABLE 1.3 MEANS OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS, MELBOURNE

Meteorological element	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Mean atmospheric pressure (hectopascals)	1,015.0	1,013.2	1,018.4	1,018.5
Mean maximum temperature of air in shade (°C)	19.5	25.1	20.2	14.0
Mean minimum temperature of air in shade (°C)	9.4	13.7	10.7	6.3
Mean relative humidity at 9 a.m. (per cent, saturation = 100)	64	61	72	79
Mean rainfall (mm)	186	154	168	149
Mean number of days of rain	40	25	34	44
Mean amount of evaporation (mm) (a)	359	564	276	138
Mean daily amount of cloudiness (scale 0 to 8) (b)	4.9	4.2	4.8	5.2
Mean daily hours of sunshine (c)	6.6	8.4	5.6	4.5
Mean number of days of fog	1.4	0.6	5.8	10.3

(a) Measured by Class A Pan (records commenced 1967).

(b) Scale: 0 = clear, 8 = overcast.

(c) Measured at Laverton (records commenced 1968).

TABLE 1.4 RAINFALL IN DISTRICTS, VICTORIA
(mm)

District	Year						Average (a)
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	
North Mallee	357	316	348	358	273	300	308
South Mallee	414	378	408	429	294	319	354
North Wimmera	415	400	441	431	313	408	410
South Wimmera	616	547	630	568	460	562	504
Lower North	420	364	537	519	376	401	432
Upper North	516	452	634	613	437	500	515
Lower Northeast	910	688	954	927	925	794	782
Upper Northeast	1,289	1,068	1,341	1,334	1,237	1,117	1,107
East Gippsland	576	639	868	910	862	782	778
West Gippsland	959	828	982	999	975	1,033	918
East Central	965	859	931	1,094	923	1,061	893
West Central	611	690	635	741	675	634	614
North Central	858	815	920	932	782	803	728
Western Plains	659	634	592	641	622	642	631
West Coast	849	724	760	858	854	955	776

(a) Average for 79 years 1913 to 1991.

AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL

1. This map is intended for general purposes only. Rainfall information required for particular purposes should be obtained from the Victorian Regional Office of the Bureau of Meteorology, G.P.O. Box 1638M, Melbourne, 3001.
2. Isohyets are based on average rainfalls computed from station records prior to 1989. The length of these records varies from 25 years to more than 100 years.
3. It should be noted that as the averages refer to unequal periods of years they are affected in varying degrees by prolonged spells of dry and wet seasons and therefore are not strictly comparable.
4. Isohyets are in millimetres.

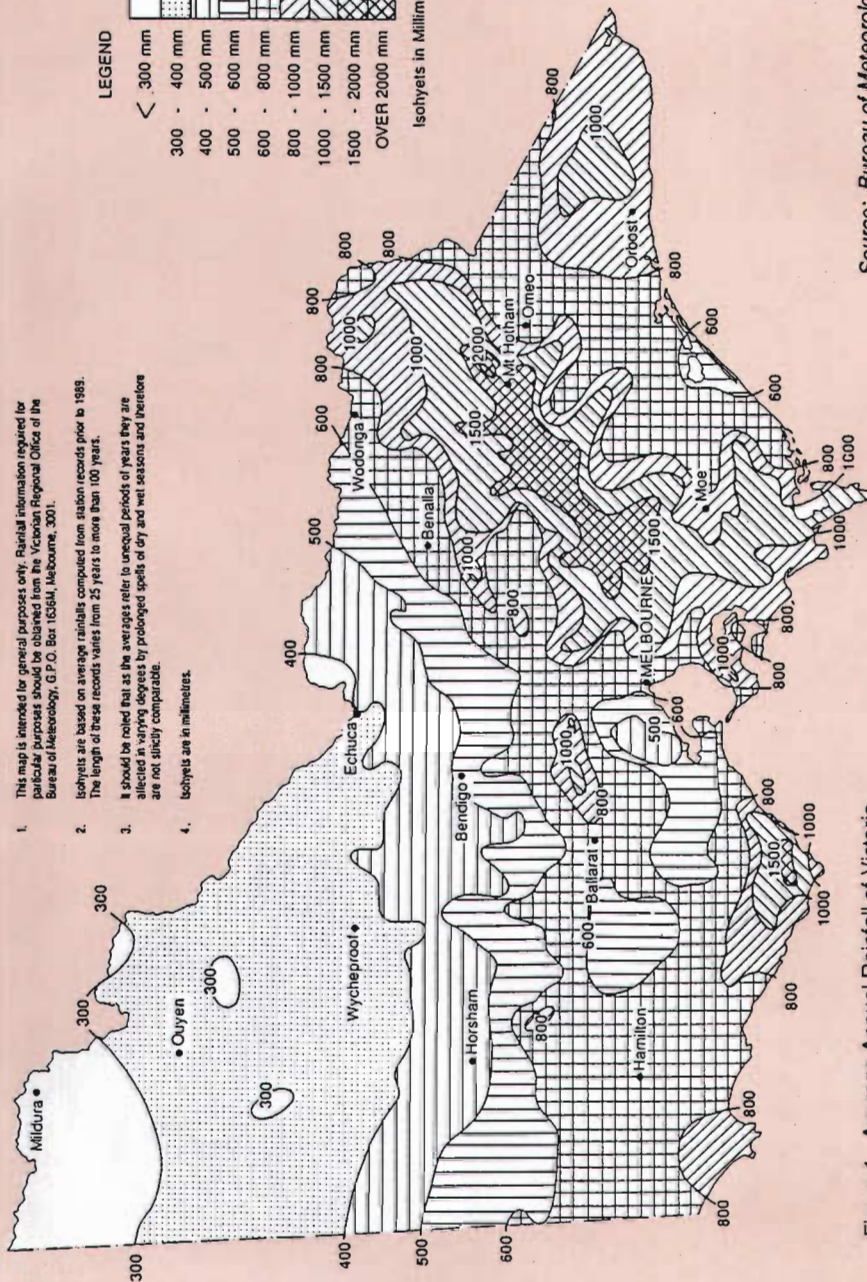
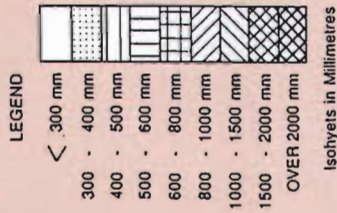


Figure 1. Average Annual Rainfall of Victoria

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

GOVERNMENT

The system of government in Victoria provides for responsible Cabinet government based on a legislature of two Houses, the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) and the Legislative Council (Upper House), both elected by Australian citizens over the age of 18. Voting is compulsory.

The Constitution

From 1855 until 1975, the Constitution of Victoria was contained in the Schedule to an Act of the United Kingdom in 1855, but Victoria finally adopted a Constitution of its own with the Constitution Act 1975.

Under the Victorian Constitution, the ultimate executive power is vested in the Crown, and is exercised by the Governor as the Monarch's representative. The Governor is the titular head of the government, while the Premier is the effective head of government. Further information on the powers and function of the Governor may be found on page 60 of the Victorian Year Book 1986.

The Constitution is affected by the Commonwealth Constitution enacted by the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900, an act of the Imperial Parliament, by which legislative and executive powers upon certain specified matters were granted to the Commonwealth Parliament and the Commonwealth Government, some of them exclusively, and provision was made that, in case of inconsistency of valid laws, the Commonwealth law should prevail.

Victorian Government responsibilities

The Victorian Government is responsible for such things as health, education, law enforcement, administration of justice, the control of resources, and the provision of roads, water, sewerage, power, and other services. Under Victorian law a complete system of courts, a police force, a teaching service, and many statutory bodies have been established.

Victorian government departments and statutory authorities

Victorian government departments and statutory authorities administer legislation, implement government policy, provide policy advice to government, and supply goods and services to the people of Victoria.

Information concerning Victorian government departments and statutory authorities may be found in previous editions of the Victorian Year Book. More recent information may be found in the Victorian Government Directory, which is compiled by Information Victoria - Department of Finance.

Victorian representation in the Commonwealth Parliament

The federation of the Australian colonies formally commenced on 1 January 1901. The House of Representatives was seen as representing the people and directly chosen by the people for a maximum three year term on single Member constituencies. The Senate was seen as representing the rights of the States, and Senators are appointed for a six year term with half of them retiring every three years.

The Senate

The Senate originally consisted of thirty-six members, six Senators being returned from each State. The Parliament is authorised by the Constitution to increase or decrease the number of members. The growth of the population since Federation having been such as to warrant a considerable enlargement of the Parliament, a Representation Act was passed in 1948 to provide for increased membership by raising from six to ten the number of Senators from each State. A further Representation Act was passed in 1983 increasing the number of Senators for each State from ten to twelve. The counting of votes in elections for the Senate is one of proportional representation.

Members are elected on the basis of adult suffrage by the people of the State which they represent. As provided by the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918, enrolment as an elector is compulsory for all qualified persons, except those who are Aboriginal natives of Australia. Aborigines, although entitled to enrol, are not required to do so. Voting is compulsory for all enrolled persons in terms of an amendment of 1924 which operated for the first time at elections held on 14 November 1925. The term of office of a Senator is normally six years and commences on the first day of July following his election. One-half of the members retire at the end of every third year and are eligible for re-election.

Elections for the Senate were last held on 24 March 1990. The Victorian membership of the Senate as at December 1992 was as follows:

TABLE 1.5 VICTORIAN MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AT DECEMBER 1992

<i>Member</i>	<i>Political party</i>	<i>Year of retirement</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Political party</i>	<i>Year of retirement</i>
Alston, Richard K	Lib.	1996	Patterson, Kay C L	Lib.	1996
Button, The Hon. John N	A.L.P.	1993	Powell, Janet F	A.D.	1993
Cooney, Barney	A.L.P.	1996	Ray, The Hon. Robert F	A.L.P.	1996
Evans, The Hon. Gareth J. Q.C.	A.L.P.	1993	Short, James R	Lib.	1993
Kemp, Rod	Lib.	1996	Spindler, Sid	A.D.	1996
Lewis, Austin W R	Lib.	1993	Zakharov, Alice O	A.L.P.	1993

A.L.P. = Australian Labour Party. Lib. = Liberal Party. A.D. = Australian Democrats

The House of Representatives

State membership of the House of Representatives is on a population basis with the proviso that each State shall have at least five members. The Constitution provides further that the number of member of the House of Representatives shall be, as nearly as practicable, double the number of Senators. With the enlargement of the Senate from thirty-six to sixty members, the membership of the House of Representatives was increased, from the date of the 1949 elections, from seventy-four to 121, not including a member for the Australian Capital Territory, which achieved representation for the first time at this election, and a member for the Northern Territory, which had been represented since 1922.

Subsequent redistributions have increased the number of members of the House of Representatives in line with population growth. At the last election in March 1990, the following numbers of members of the House were elected: New South Wales 51; Victoria 38; Queensland 24; Western Australia 14; South Australia 13; Tasmania 5; plus the Australian Capital Territory 2 and the Northern Territory 1, making a total of 148 seats.

Members of the House of Representatives are elected for the duration of the Parliament - which is limited to three years - by the people of the electorate whom they represent. As provided by the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918, enrolment for electors is the same as for the Senate. Voting is on the preferential system.

Elections for the House of Representatives were last held on 24 March 1990. Victorian membership of the House of Representatives as at October 1992 was as follows:

TABLE 1.6 VICTORIAN MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

<i>Member</i>	<i>Political Party</i>	<i>Electorate</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Political Party</i>	<i>Electorate</i>
Aldred, Kenneth J	Lib.	Deakin	Howe, Hon. Brian L	A.L.P.	Batman
Andrews, Kevin J	Lib.	Menzies	Jenkins, Harry A	A.L.P.	Scullin
Atkinson, Rodney A	Lib.	Isaacs	Jones, Hon. Barry O	A.L.P.	Lalor
Bailey, Frances E	Lib.	McEwen	Kemp, Dr. David A	Lib.	Goldstein
Beale, Julian H	Lib.	Bruce	Lloyd, Bruce	N.P.	Murray
Broadbent, Russell E	Lib.	Corinella	McArthur, Fergus S	Lib.	Corangamite
Cameron, Ewen C	Lib.	Indi	McGauran, Peter J	N.P.	Gippsland
Charles, Robert E	Lib.	La Trobe	Nugent, Peter E	Lib.	Aston
Cleary, Philip R	Ind.	Wills	O'Keefe, Neil P	A.L.P.	Burke
Costello, Peter H	Lib.	Higgins	Peacock, Hon. Andrew S	Lib.	Kooyong
Crean, Hon. Simon F	A.L.P.	Hotham	Reid, Hon. Nicholas B	Lib.	Bendigo
Duffy, Hon. Michael	A.L.P.	Holt	Reith, Peter K	Lib.	Flinders
Fisher, Peter S	N.P.	Mallee	Riggall, John P	Lib.	McMillan
Ford, Frank A	Lib.	Dunkley	Ronaldson, Michael J	Lib.	Ballarat
Griffiths, Hon. Alan G	A.L.P.	Maribyrnong	Scholes, Hon. Gordon G	A.L.P.	Corio
Halverson, Robert G	Lib.	Casey	Staples, Hon. Peter R	A.L.P.	Jagajaga
Hand, Hon. Gerard L	A.L.P.	Melbourne	Theophanous, Dr. Andrew	A.L.P.	Calwell
Hawker, David P	Lib.	Wannon	Willis, Hon. Ralph	A.L.P.	Gellibrand
Holding, Hon. Allan C	A.L.P.	Melbourne Ports	Wooldridge, Dr Michael R	Lib.	Chisholm

A.L.P. = Australian Labour Party. Lib. = Liberal Party of Australia. N.P. = National Party of Australia. IND. = Independent

TABLE 1.7 ELECTORS ON JOINT ROLLS, VICTORIA, 30 JUNE

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of electors enrolled</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of electors enrolled</i>
1987	2,702,932	1990	2,805,773
1988	2,680,181	1991	2,835,591
1989	2,773,200	1992	2,904,865

Source: Australian Electoral Commission

Victorian Government Ministry

A simultaneous election for the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of the Victorian Parliament was held on 3 October 1992. The Liberal Party/National Party Coalition, under the leadership of the Hon. Jeffrey Kennett, was elected to office.

Following the 1992 election the state of the parties was as follows: Legislative Council (Upper House) - Liberal Party 24 seats, Australian Labour Party 14 seats, National Party 6 seats. Legislative Assembly (Lower House) - Liberal Party 52 seats, Australian Labour Party 27 seats, National Party 9 seats.

The Ministry consisted of the following members as at 6 October 1992:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The Hon. Jeff Kennett	Premier
The Hon. Pat McNamara	Minister for Ethnic Affairs
	Minister for Police and Emergency Services
	Minister for Corrections
	Minister for Tourism
The Hon. Alan Brown	Minister for Agriculture
The Hon. Geoff Coleman	Minister for Public Transport
The Hon. Phil Gude	Minister for Natural Resources
	Minister for Industry and Employment
	Minister for Industry Services
	Minister for Small Business
	Minister for Youth Affairs
The Hon. Don Hayward	Minister for Education
The Hon. Rob Knowles	Minister for Housing
	Minister for Aged Care
The Hon. Rob MacLellan	Minister for Planning
The Hon. Jim Plowman	Minister for Energy and Minerals
	Minister assisting the Treasurer on State Owned Enterprises
The Hon. Tom Reynolds	Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing
The Hon. Ian Smith	Minister for Finance
The Hon. Alan Stockdale	Treasurer
The Hon. Marie Tehan	Minister for Health Services
	Minister for Community Services
	Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs
The Hon. Jan Wade	Attorney-General
	Minister for Fair Trading
	Minister responsible for Women's Affairs

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Hon. Bill Baxter	Minister for Roads and Ports
The Hon. Mark Birrell	Minister for Conservation and Environment
	Minister for Major Projects
The Hon. Roger Hallam	Minister for Regional Development
	Minister for Local Government
	Minister responsible for WorkCare
The Hon. Haddon Storey, QC	Minister for Tertiary Education and Training
	Minister for the Arts
	Minister for Gaming

MINISTRIES, VICTORIA 1943 TO 1992 (a)

<i>Ministry and name of Premier</i>	<i>Date of assumption of office</i>	<i>Date of retirement from office</i>	<i>Duration of office (days)</i>
Albert Arthur Dunstan	18 September 1943	2 October 1945	746
Ian Macfarlan, K.C.	2 October 1945	21 November 1945	51
John Cain	21 November 1945	20 November 1947	730
Thomas Tuke Hollway	20 November 1947	3 December 1948	380
Thomas Tuke Hollway	3 December 1948	27 June 1950	572
John Gladstone Black McDonald	27 June 1950	28 October 1952	855
Thomas Tuke Hollway	28 October 1952	31 October 1952	3
John Gladstone Black McDonald	31 October 1952	17 December 1952	48
John Cain	17 December 1952	31 March 1955	835
John Cain	31 March 1955	7 June 1955	69
Henry Edward Bolte, G.C.M.G.	7 June 1955	23 August 1972	6,288
Rupert James Hamer, E.D.	23 August 1972	5 June 1981	3,209
Lindsay Hamilton Thompson, C.M.G.	5 June 1981	8 April 1982	299
John Cain (b)	8 April 1982	10 August 1990	3,046
Joan Elizabeth Kirner	10 August 1990	6 October 1992	786
Jeffrey Gibb Kennett	6 October 1992	-	-

(a) A complete list since responsible government in 1855 can be found on pages 741-2 of the Victorian Year Book 1984.

(b) The Hon. John Cain is the son of the Hon. John Cain who held the office of Premier on three occasions between 1945 and 1955.

Local government administration

At 30 June 1989, Victoria was divided, for local government purposes, into 210 municipal districts and the Yallourn Works Area, which was severed from the municipal districts of which it then formed a part by the State Electricity Commission (Yallourn Area) Act 1947. For certain purposes it is deemed to be a borough and municipal administration is the responsibility of the Commission, assisted by an Advisory Council. The 210 municipalities comprise 68 cities, 1 rural city, 5 towns, 6 boroughs, and 130 shires.

The only unincorporated areas of Victoria are French Island (154 square kilometres) in Western Port, Lady Julia Percy Island (1.3 square kilometres) off Port Fairy, Bass Strait islands (3.8 square kilometres), Gippsland Lakes (part) (309 square kilometres), and Tower Hill Lake Reserve (5.0 square kilometres) which is within the Shire of Warrambool.

Councils may make by-laws on a number of specified subjects. They exercise functions relating to roads and bridges, for which they have a construction and maintenance responsibility; drainage, water supply and sewerage; building control; community welfare, including infant and pre-school centres, home help, elderly citizens, meals-on-wheels and garbage; parking areas and traffic engineering.

TABLE 1.8 RATEABLE PROPERTIES, VICTORIA, 30 SEPTEMBER

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of rateable properties</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of rateable properties</i>
1986	1,782,130	1989	1,862,832
1987	1,803,015	1990	1,915,037
1988	1,832,255	1991	1,927,409