

## Attachment to one's city

Attachment is measured by a direct survey question asked of the general public by the International Social Survey Programme's 1995–96 'National Identity' module (described on page 18):

***How close—how emotionally attached—do you feel to . . . your town or city?***

18% *Very close [100 points]*

56% *Close [67 points]*

23% *Not very close [33 points]*

4% *Not close at all [0 points]*

—

100% *(325 cases, Melbourne)*

*[Mean = 62 points]*

Melbourne residents feel only moderately close and emotionally attached to the city: 18% feel 'very close', 56% feel close, 23% feel 'not very close' and 4% feel 'not at all close'. The average is 62 points.

Comparison with other cities shows that Melbourne, Sydney, and Adelaide/Brisbane/Perth residents all have similar levels of attachment to their cities. But Australians generally are a little less emotionally attached to their cities than residents of many other cities.

### Emotional attachment to one's city. Mean points

Prague	81	Higher*
Tokyo	78	Higher*
Budapest	77	Higher*
Vienna	77	Higher*
Madrid	76	Higher*
Sofia	75	Higher*
Warsaw	68	
<b>Adelaide/ Brisbane/ Perth</b>	<b>67</b>	
Moscow	66	
<b>Sydney</b>	<b>64</b>	
Toronto	64	
<b>Melbourne</b>	<b>62</b>	
Auckland	62	
Oslo	62	
Stockholm	61	
USA (cities over 1 million)	59	
Manila	58	Lower*
London	50	Lower*

\*Significantly different from Melbourne,  $p < .05$ .

Regression analysis suggests that there are no Australian social groups which are distinctively attached to their cities, nor any that are distinctively cool.

**Jonathan Kelley**