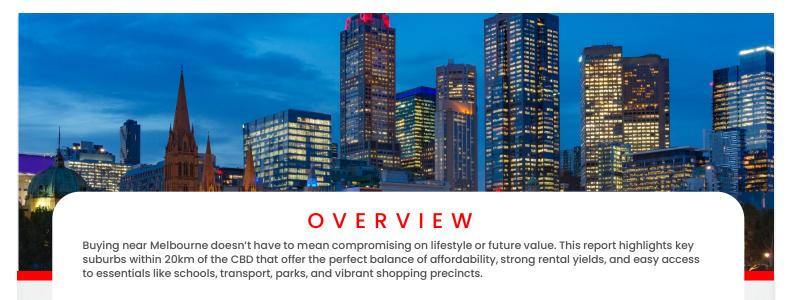


Smart Moves: Capital Cities Edition
Melbourne Metro 2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2025



### What the Data is Telling Us

Melbourne's property market is finding its rhythm again. After years of volatility, prices are stabilising with houses up 2.5% to \$953K and units edging up 0.2% to \$629K. Sales volumes have also jumped (+11.1% for houses, +7.3% for units). This isn't just a recovery; it's a sign of renewed buyer confidence and a more affordable market compared to pre-COVID highs.

#### The Supply Gap and the Opportunity

But here's the catch: demand is rising faster than supply. Even with \$12.9B in projects planned for 2025, most of the pipeline is skewed toward units (4,873) and townhouses (1,984), with only 855 stand-alone houses in the mix. That imbalance means detached homes will remain scarce and prices will keep climbing. For buyers, the current window of moderate growth is an opportunity to act before the next upswing. For investors, strong rental yields (4.6% for units, 3.1% for houses) and low vacancy (1.8%) make Melbourne a compelling play.

#### Who This Guide Is For

This guide is for buyers, investors, and first-home buyers who want suburbs that balance affordability, growth potential, and lifestyle. We've spotlighted areas within 20km of the CBD that tick all the boxes: access to schools, transport, parks, and shopping precincts, while offering smart entry points into a market that's gearing up for long-term growth.

Bottom line: Melbourne is shifting toward a seller's market. Affordable stock is shrinking, infrastructure investment is booming, and the question isn't if prices will rise, it's whether you'll move before they do.

### MELBOURNE METRO AT A GLANCE

HOUSES ANNUAL CHANGE^ UNITS UNEMPLOYMENT SALES RATE 4.6% MEDIAN PRICE MEDIAN SALE PRICE RENTAL PRICE \$953K \$629K AVERAGE HOME LOAN MEDIAN RENTAL PRICE SALES \$639,250 \$580 \$595 MEDIAN PRICE YIELDS RENTAL PRICE VACANCY RATE 1.8% 3.1% 4.6%

<sup>\*</sup>The median price quoted captures sale transactions from 1st January to 30th September 2025, or Q1 –Q3 2025. \*\*The average home loan figure is derived from the June Quarter 2025 Housing Affordability Report by the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) and Adelaide Bank. \*\*\*Project development is based on the aggregate of estimated construction value for residential, commercial, industrial, mixed-use and infrastructure projects scheduled to commence construction in 2025, as stated by the relevant data authority. 'Annual change is reflective of median price change from Q3 2024 to Q3 2025. Figures displayed in infographics are for the period Q3 2025. Source: APM Pricefinder, REIA, SQM Research, Cordell Connect, Department of Jobs and Small Business. © PRD 2025.

### PRD. METHODOLOGY

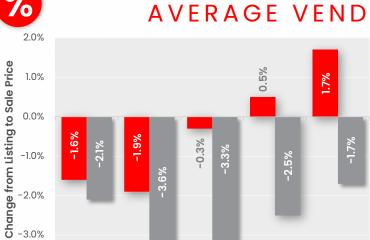
This Smart Moves: Capital Cities Edition for Melbourne Metro analyses all suburbs within a 20km radius of the Melbourne CBD. The following criteria were considered:

- **Property trends criteria** all suburbs have a minimum of 20 sales transactions for statistical reliability purposes. Based on market conditions, suburbs have either positive or as close as possible to neutral price growth between 2024 and 2025\*.
- Investment criteria as of September 2025, suburbs chosen will have an on-par or higher rental yield than Melbourne Metro and an on-par or lower vacancy rate.
- Affordability criteria chosen affordable and liveable suburbs have a median price below the relevant capital city metro area, which in this report is Melbourne Metro. We calculated the percentage premiums that needed to be added to the Victoria (VIC) average home loan, which was \$639,250\*\* as of June Quarter 2025. Premiums of 18.9% for houses and -15.5% for units were needed to reach the median price of suburbs chosen in this report. This percentage is below what is required to reach Melbourne Metro's median prices (49.2% for houses and -1.6% for units). This makes the chosen suburbs identified in this report more affordable to buyers, creating an opportunity for first home buyers.
- **Development criteria** suburbs chosen have new developments commencing construction for 2025, with a high proportion of commercial and infrastructure projects. This ensures the suburbs show signs of sustainable economic growth. Suburbs chosen must also show a reasonable amount of new ready-to-sell stock planned for construction to ensure buyers have access to some new supply.
- **Liveability criteria** all identified suburbs have low crime rates, availability of amenities within a 5km radius (i.e., schools, green spaces, public transport, shopping centres and health care facilities), and an unemployment rate on par or lower in comparison to the VIC average (as determined by the Department of Jobs and Small Business, June Quarter 2025 release).

# **TOP 10** PERFORMING SUBURBS WITHIN 20KM FROM THE MELBOURNE CBD

Area	Suburb	Туре	Median Price 2024	Median Price 2025*	Price Growth	Projects 2025***
Inner	Carlton North	House	\$1,582,500	\$1,817,052	14.8%	\$8.4M
iiiiei	Middle Park	Unit	\$850,000	\$957,500	12.6%	\$900K
North	Coolaroo	House	\$540,000	\$620,000	14.8%	\$23.5M
North	Fawkner	Unit	\$550,000	\$620,300	12.8%	\$17.6M
South	Bentleigh	House	\$1,641,500	\$1,775,000	8.1%	\$4.2M
30441	Bentleigh East	Unit	\$950,000	\$1,100,000	15.8%	\$10.7M
East	Canterbury	House	\$3,237,500	\$3,728,750	15.2%	\$30.4M
Lust	Blackburn South	Unit	\$700,000	\$860,000	22.9%	\$500K
West	Keilor Downs	House	\$774,000	\$870,000	12.4%	\$3.1M
West	Sunshine	Unit	\$470,000	\$600,000	27.7%	\$73.3M

<sup>\*</sup>The median price quoted captures sale transactions from 1st January to 30th September 2025, or Q1 –Q3 2025. \*\*The average home loan figure is derived from the June Quarter 2025 Housing Affordability Report by the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) and Adelaide Bank. \*\*\*Project development is based on the aggregate of estimated construction value for residential, commercial, industrial, mixed-use and infrastructure projects scheduled to commence construction in 2025, as stated by the relevant data authority. ^Annual change is reflective of median price change from Q3 2024 to Q3 2025. Figures displayed in infographics are for the period Q3 2025. Source: APM Pricefinder, REIA, SQM Research, Cordell Connect Department of Jobs and Small Business. © PRD 2025



01 2025

Q2 2025

Unit

Q3 2025

Q4 2024

House

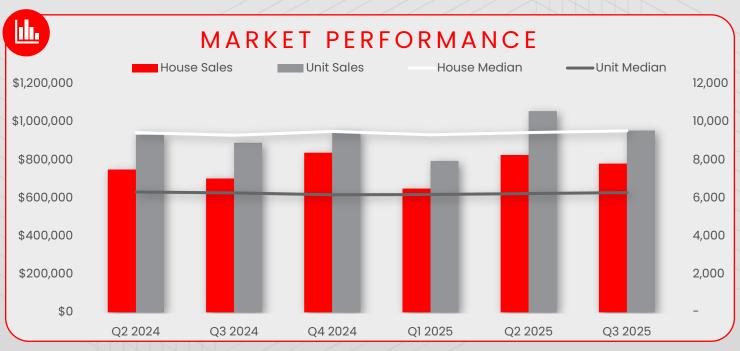
-4.0%

03 2024

## AVERAGE VENDOR DISCOUNT

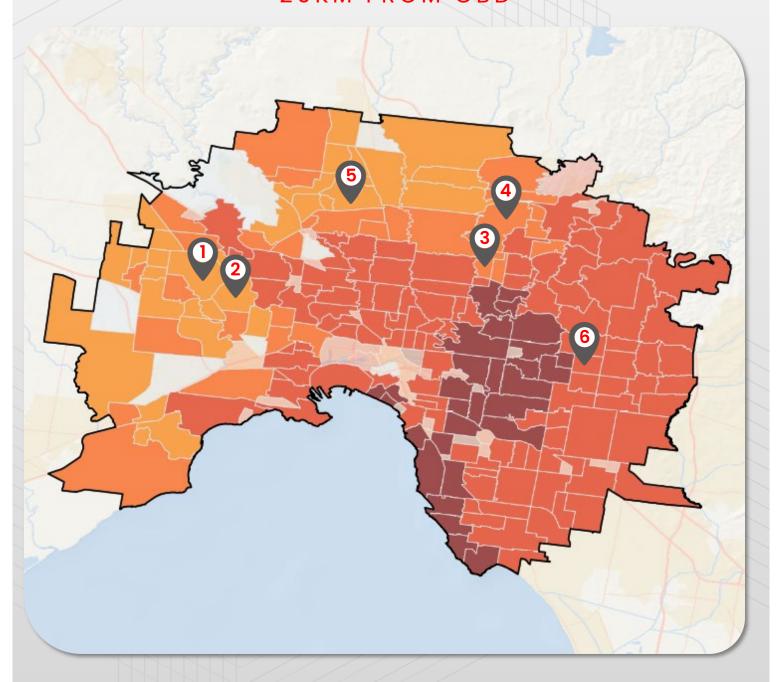
Average vendor discounts have swung to a premium of 1.7% for houses and tightened to a discount of -1.7% for units in the past 18 months to Q3 2025. The Melbourne Metro market currently appears split, with houses favouring sellers as buyers must offer above the first **listed price**, while units continue to favour buyers. That said, the overall market trend is shifting towards the seller's market. Therefore, buyers need to act fast.

The dominant proportion sold in Melbourne Metro in 2025# were in the premium price point of \$1,100,000 and above for houses (53.4%) and \$750,000 and above for units (32.5%). This is beneficial for owners who are looking to capitalise on their investments. That said, the most affordable price brackets are still available, with 23.7% of houses sold at less than \$799,999 and 23.9% of units sold at less than \$449,999, in good news for first home buyers. Opportunities exist across all price segments within the Melbourne Metro market.





# MELBOURNE METRO MEDIAN HOUSE PRICES 2025\* 20KM FROM CBD





# LEGEND

Data not available

\$0 - \$500,000

\$500,000 - \$800,000

\$800,000 - \$1,000,000

\$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000

\$2,000,000+

- 20km from CBD

Translucent colours for <20 sales

# Melbourne AFFORDABLE & LIVEABLE SUBURBS RENTAL YIELD

	Suburb	House
1	St Albans	3.7%
2	Sunshine North	3.5%
3	Heidelberg West	4.0%

	Suburb	Unit
4	Bundoora	5.4%
5	Broadmeadows	5.3%
6	Box Hill	5.7%

## RENTAL GROWTH 2025€

House rental yield in Melbourne Metro was 3.1% as of September 2025, outperforming Sydney Metro (2.7%) and on par with Brisbane Metro (3.1%). Median house rental price did decline by -10.8% in the past 12 months to Q3 2025, at \$580 per week, along with a significant 170.9% surge in the number of houses rented (to 6,403 rentals). A similar trend can be seen in the unit market, highlighting strong demand across both property types. Despite the short-term rental price adjustments, Melbourne is appealing to long-term investors, especially with a lower entry price than Sydney Metro.

4<sup>+</sup> bedroom houses and 1<sup>-</sup>bedroom units have provided investors with the highest annual rental growth of +1.7% and +19.0%, to achieve \$590 and \$500 per week, respectively.

In September 2025, **Melbourne Metro** recorded **a vacancy rate of 1.8%**, above Sydney Metro (1.3%) and Brisbane Metro (1.0%). Vacancy rates have shown a slight increasing trend over the past 6 months, due to a higher number of investors entering the market. However, Melbourne Metro's vacancy rate of 1.8% **remains well below the Real Estate Institute of Australia's benchmark of 3.0%**, **signalling quicker occupancy of rental properties and**, **subsequently**, **rental income cash flow**. The result indicates a conducive and sustainable environment for investors, even if the median house and unit sale price (thus, entry price) have increased in the past 12 months to Q3 2025.



2 BEDROOMS -0.8%

\$625

3 BEDROOMS

\$550

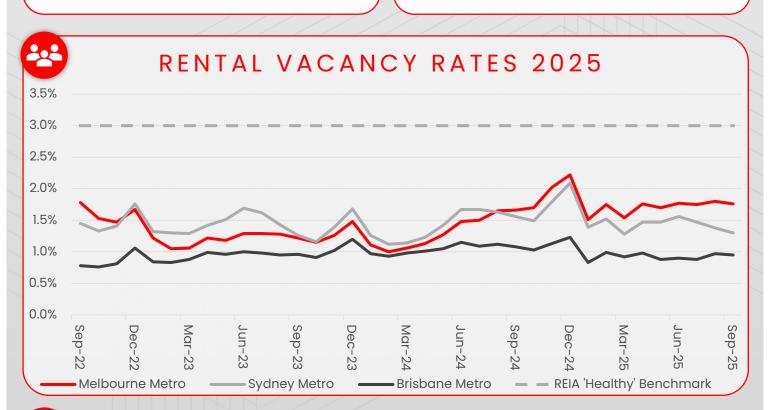
4+ BEDROOMS +1.7%

\$590

IINITS.

] BEDROOM +19.0% 2 BEDROOMS +9.2% 3+ BEDROOMS

+19.0% +9.2% \$500 \$650 -2.6% \$760





### RENTAL YIELD 2025§

MELBOURNE METRO



UNITS

4.6%

BRISBANE METRO



HOUSES



UNITS

4.1%

SYDNEY METRO



HOUSES



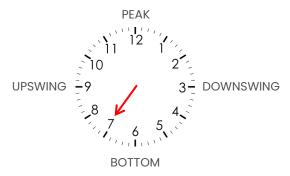
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4.3%





# HOUSES PROPERTY CLOCK

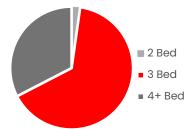


# SMART MOVES SUBURBS FOR HOUSES



# ST ALBANS

Located approximately **15.8km** from the Melbourne CBD.



 Median House Price
 \$685,000

 2 Bed Median Price
 \$615,000

 3 Bed Median Price
 \$658,000

 4+ Bed Median Price
 \$770,000

Annual Median Price Growth

Vacancy Rate (Sep-25)

0.8%

Rental Yield (Sep-25) 3.7%

**Key Amenity** Brimbank **(5km)** Shopping Centre

Total Projects \$75.0M^

Residential 62 Townhouses
Ready-to-sell 4 Dwellings
Planned 2025 89 Units

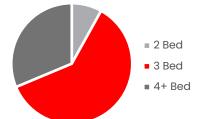
Unemployment 9.2%



### **SUNSHINE NORTH**

3020

Located approximately **12.7km** from the Melbourne CBD.



 Median House Price
 \$756,000

 2 Bed Median Price
 \$692,500

 3 Bed Median Price
 \$743,000

 4+ Bed Median Price
 \$968,888

Annual Median

Vacancy Rate (Sep-25)

Rental Yield (Sep-25)

3.5%

Key Amenity Sunshine Plaza Shopping Centre

Total Projects \$81.3M^

Residential113 TownhousesReady-to-sell4 DwellingsPlanned 202528 Units

Unemployment 7.1%

9

### **HEIDELBERG WEST**

3081

Located approximately **12.0km** from the Melbourne CBD.



 Median House Price
 \$760,000

 2 Bed Median Price
 \$845,000

 3 Bed Median Price
 \$744,500

 4+ Bed Median Price
 \$902,500

Annual Median
Price Growth

Vacancy Rate
(Sep-25)

-2.7%\*\*

2.1%

Rental Yield (Sep-25) 4.0%

Key Amenity Warringal Shopping Centre

Total Projects \$87.5M^

Residential 51 Townhouses Ready-to-sell 38 Dwellings Planned 2025 128 Units

Unemployment 6.8%



# UNITS PROPERTY CLOCK



# SMART MOVES SUBURBS FOR UNITS



**Total Projects** 

(\$)

Residential

Ready-to-sell

Planned 2025

Unemployment

Rate

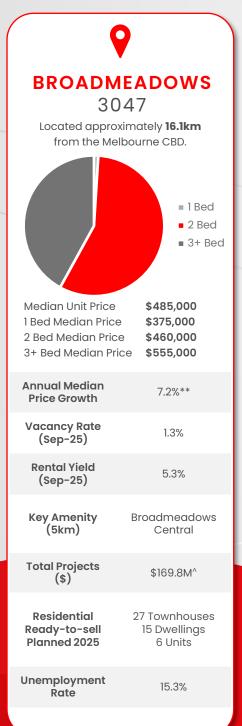
\$474.9M^

6 Townhouses

32 Dwellings

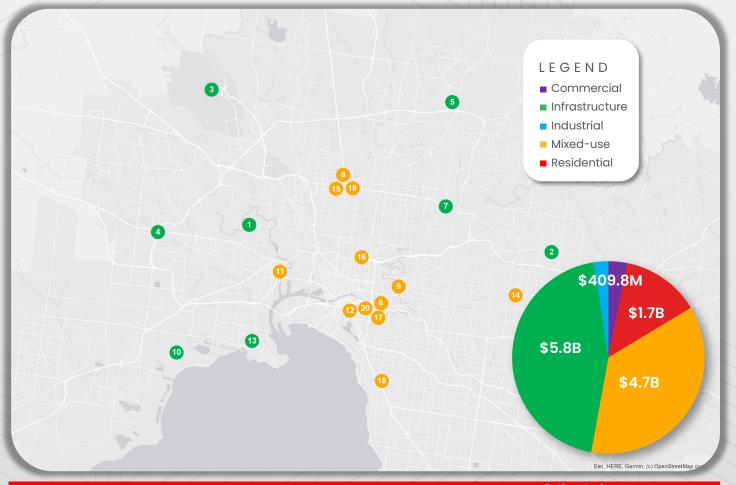
10 Units

2.8%





# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT MAP 2025\*



Location	Project <sup>£</sup>	Туре	Estimated Value <sup>µ</sup>	Suburb
1	Former Maribyrnong Defence Site Redevelopment (Federal Government)	Infrastructure	\$2,500,000,000	Maribyrnong
2	Doncaster Busway - Eastern Freeway Section (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$500,000,000	Doncaster East
3	Melbourne Airport Runway Development Program/Third Runway (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$500,000,000	Melbourne Airport
4	M80 Ring Road Upgrade Princes Freeway To Western Highway (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$410,000,000	Derrimut
5	La Trobe University Health & Wellbeing Hub (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$400,000,000	Bundoora
6	1 Little Lesney Street & Wiltshire Street Office (Commercial - Office + Retail)	Mixed-Use	\$300,000,000	Richmond
7	Austin Hospital Emergency Department Stabilisation - Main Works (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$275,000,000	Heidelberg
8	14-22 Gaffney Street Mixed Use Village (Various Tenants)	Mixed-Use	\$250,000,000	Coburg North
9	25 River Boulevard Build-to-Rent Apartments - Riverside Richmond (476 BTR Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$230,000,000	Richmond
10	Maidstone Street Altona Level Crossing Removal - Werribee Line (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$200,000,000	Altona
11	11-19 Whitehall Street Build-to-Rent Mixed Use Development (456 BTR Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$200,000,000	Footscray
12	11-27 Dorcas Street Mixed Use Development - Middleton Lane (Residential - 246 Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$200,000,000	South Melbourne
13	Maddox Road & Champion Road Newport Level Crossing Removal - Werribee Line (State Government)	Infrastructure	\$200,000,000	Newport
14	Vicinity Centres Box Hill Central Northern Precinct Stage 1 (Residential - 366 Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$191,000,000	Box Hill
15	511-537 Sydney Road Mixed Use Build-to-Rent-to-Own Development (326 BTR Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$160,000,000	Coburg
16	26-52 Queens Parade Build-to-Rent Residential Towers - Palladian (333 BTR Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$150,000,000	Fitzroy North
17	671 Chapel Street & 1 Forrest Hill Mixed Use Residential Development (Residential - 126 Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$150,000,000	South Yarra
18	8 Gordon Street Mixed Use Development Elsternwick Gardens (Residential - 172 Apartments + Commercial)	Mixed-Use	\$130,000,000	Elsternwick
19	81A Bell Street Mixed Use Development (Commercial + Residential - 433 Apartments & 11 Townhouses)	Mixed-Use	\$105,300,000	Coburg
20	111 Cubitt Street Office Building Cremorne (Various Tenants)	Mixed-Use	\$100,000,000	Cremorne



To widen the opportunities for prospective buyers, the below tables provide further alternatives to the top ten suburbs (note: the table below presents seven more suburbs, adding to the 3 house and 3 unit suburbs explored in the previous sections of the report). The same methodology was applied to select the suburbs below. These suburbs were not chosen as key suburbs due to not being able to fulfil one or more of the criteria set but provide an affordable alternative to Melbourne Metro median house/unit prices.

### **HOUSES**

Suburbs	Median House Price 2025	lyr Price Growth	10yrs Price Growth	House Sales 2025	lyr Sales Growth	Price % to MEL Metro	House Rental Yield	Vacancy Rates	Total \$\$ 2025 Project*	Total Stand- alone New Stock	Total New Land Lots
Broadmeadows	\$630,000	7.3%	71.4%	110	-31.7%	-33.9%	4.1%	1.3%	\$169.8M	48	27
Braybrook	\$747,500	1.7%	42.4%	76	-5.0%	-21.6%	4.0%	1.0%	\$37.5M	83	40
Fawkner	\$800,000	3.6%	60.0%	161	-5.3%	-16.1%	4.0%	1.3%	\$17.6M	53	-
Sunshine	\$803,500	-2.0%	60.7%	102	-1.9%	-15.7%	3.5%	0.9%	\$73.3M	64	-
Bundoora	\$877,500	2.0%	48.2%	232	-20.0%	-8.0%	4.1%	1.5%	\$474.9M	48	-
Reservoir	\$903,500	-0.7%	55.8%	382	-22.2%	-5.2%	3.1%	0.8%	\$78.4M	305	-
Altona North	\$921,000	-4.1%	46.2%	186	-6.5%	-3.4%	3.7%	1.3%	\$117.1M	245	44

### **UNITS**

Suburbs	Median Unit Price 2025	lyr Price Growth	10yrs Price Growth	Unit Sales 2025	lyr Sales Growth	Price % to MEL Metro	Unit Rental Yield	Vacancy Rates	Total \$\$ 2025 Project*	Total Stand- alone New Stock	Total New Land Lots
St Albans	\$545,000	6.9%	71.7%	192	-16.2%	-13.4%	4.2%	0.8%	\$75.0M	155	-
Brunswick East	\$550,000	0.0%	6.8%	270	-23.5%	-12.6%	6.2%	0.9%	\$81.6M	188	-
South Yarra	\$557,500	-0.4%	-7.9%	640	-29.4%	-11.4%	5.8%	2.1%	\$153.7M	126	-
South Melbourne	\$590,500	-4.4%	2.0%	222	-29.5%	-6.1%	5.1%	3.2%	\$265.3M	246	33
Brunswick	\$591,000	3.7%	19.4%	354	-27.0%	-6.0%	5.2%	1.2%	\$302.8M	436	-
Sunshine North	\$592,155	0.7%	66.8%	86	26.5%	-5.9%	3.7%	0.9%	\$81.3M	145	-
Preston	\$600,000	-4.8%	33.6%	412	-17.4%	-4.6%	5.6%	1.0%	\$87.9M	162	-

# ABOUT PRD'S RESEARCH DIVISION

PRD's property research division provides reliable and unbiased data, insights and consultancy to clients in both metropolitan and regional locations across Australia.

Our extensive research capabilities and specialised approach ensure our clients can make the most informed and financially sound decisions about residential and commercial properties.

### KNOWLEDGE

Access to accurate and objective research is the foundation of all good property decisions. PRD shares on-the-ground experience and decades of knowledge to deliver innovative and effective solutions to our clients.

We take a holistic approach and focus on understanding new issues impacting the property industry, such as the environment and sustainability, the economy, demographic and psychographic shifts, and commercial and residential design, and forecast future implications around such issues based on historical data and facts.

### PEOPLE

Our in-house research team is skilled in deriving macro and micro-quantitative information from multiple credible sources, so we can ensure we provide strategic advice and financially sound direction regarding property and market performance.

### RESEARCH SERVICES

Our research services span over every suburb, local government area, and state within Australia. We have the ability and systems to monitor market movements, demographic changes and property trends. We use our knowledge of market sizes, price structure and buyer profiles to identify opportunities for clients and provide market knowledge that is unbiased, thorough and reliable.



**PRD Research Division** 



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#### Our services include:

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- Market analysis including profiling & trends
- Primary qualitative & quantitative research
- · Demographic & target market analysis
- · Geographic information mapping
- Project analysis including product & pricing recommendations
- · Rental & investment return analysis



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