

# PAPER 7: CONCEPTUALISING MEASURES OF EMPLOYMENT

## PAPER FOCUS:

STUDY DESIGN: **Review & Methods**

STUDY LOCATION: **VIC**

POPULATION: **Adults**



**BUILT ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES:** Walkability, Transport, Public Open Space, Food Access, Local Employment, Housing, Crime & Safety, Social Infrastructure

**HEALTH & WELLBEING OUTCOMES:** Walking (Transport / Recreation), Outdoor Recreation, Cycling, Fitness, Sitting Time, Obesity, Mental Health



## WHAT WE DID:

- Reviewed planning and policy documents and the scientific literature to identify urban employment measures.
- An academic assessment of the 'usefulness' of the identified measures from a spatial perspective.
- Created a conceptual framework using a social determinants of health lens to understand associations between employment and behaviours, intermediate outcomes, and long-term outcomes.

## WHAT WE FOUND:

- Based on the evidence, the three main neighbourhood attributes that influence urban employment are: access to employment, including the distance to, and density and types of different jobs; local employment; and neighbourhood employment level.
- Six potential spatial measures can be used to assess selected neighbourhood attributes as they relate to urban employment access.
- The spatial indicator measures can be generated using routinely collected administrative data (i.e. census data); therefore can be applied across Australia and replicated over time.

## SO WHAT?

- Employment is a well-known social determinant of health and wellbeing and important for the liveability of a region.
- Spatial measures of employment can be used to inform future planning decisions that integrate policies across multiple sectors, thereby improving employment accessibility in an urban context.
- The spatial measures will be created as part of the next stage of research. Once created, they will be linked with population health and social survey data to test the pathways identified in the conceptual framework.

Conceptualising and measuring spatial indicators of employment through a liveability lens (in press) | Hannah Badland, Melanie Davern, Karen Villanueva, Suzanne Mavoa, Allison Milner, Rebecca Roberts, Billie Giles-Corti | *Social Indicators Research*, 2015. doi:10.1007/s11205-015-0978-06

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