WAGGA WAGGA LGA
DATABOOK

MPHN HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
2022-2025

hna
community feedback

hna
yarns on the couch

CONVERSATIONS ON THE COUCH
TAKING THE PULSE ON PRIMARY HEALTH

phn
MURRUMBIDGEE
An Australian Government Initiative

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Murrumbidgee Health Needs Assessment, in line with the firstHealth Board endorsed framework, with governance provided by Clinical Councils, the Community Advisory Committee and the Planning and Integration sub-committee, uses a population approach to needs assessment using person centred planning with a strong commitment to community input.

Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network (MPHN) analyses data from robust gold standard comparable sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in the first instance supplemented by other sources. A decision-making tool is used at MPHN which identifies and prioritises needs based on variables that score local impact relative to national data, where MPHN is in the lowest third of the nation. Further, a Data Prioritisation Tool (refer page 24 for details) is used at a Local Government Area (LGA) level to identify areas where issues/needs are higher in comparison to the New South Wales (NSW) and Murrumbidgee averages. This highlights the LGAs in the lower half of the Murrumbidgee region and is summarised separately in the region profiles on MPHN's website. The matrix scoring is described at the end of this document in more detail. Throughout this document variables scoring three or greater using the matrix are denoted by their respective colour coding, these variables are likely to have higher impact within this LGA.

The use of an LGA approach ensures we are working in alignment with the Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) health clusters. This allows a more considered co-ordinated approach to services and reduces on duplication of service delivery.

Inequity in healthcare remains a significant issue for many areas in the Murrumbidgee region. Comprehensive socio-economic profiling allows identification of areas where this may affect uptake of healthcare services and consequent poorer health outcomes for those living in these areas. MPHN emphasises in identification of priorities for the region the particular local government areas where efforts should be concentrated in order to address the inequity.

Monitoring of emerging health conditions remains a priority for MPHN with ongoing consultations aimed at identification of emerging issues and subsequent interventions.

MPHN undertakes consultation with key partners, health professionals and community members. Multiple formats are used to undertake these consultations including:

CONVERSATIONS ON THE COUCH

A community consultation approach to capture the needs of people who would not normally engage through a formal process. Community members are invited to meet in a neutral location with high thoroughfare to allow people to chat MPHN staff in a face-to-face environment to discuss health matters important to them. There is no set agenda or questions and is simply an opportunity for people to let MPHN know about health matters important to them and their community. Information gathered during these conversations is collected and used to help MPHN better understand the health needs of our communities.

YARNS ON THE COUCH

Yarns on the Couch is an extension of our Conversations on the Couch with a focus on Aboriginal health. Data collected at both activities is used to help guide the Health Needs Assessment.

HNA COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

There are two options for survey feedback, one short form survey called HNA Mini, and one longer form survey of 17 questions called HNA Community Feedback. Both these survey mechanisms have also been modified to target Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, or those who care for this population group. All these surveys are available year-round and aim to gather information about emerging health needs.

OTHER FEEDBACK MECHANISMS

There are several other opportunities for MPHN to capture feedback from our stakeholders. This includes, but not limited to:

• Incidental feedback from community and health care practitioners to MPHN staff during the normal course of business operations.

• An audit annually of general practice and health care providers to inform workforce capacity.

• MPHN co-design and formal consultation with specific population groups as part of commissioned project work.

• Engagement with MPHN's partners in our various consortium, alliance and steering committee groups. These groups cover various issues relating to Aboriginal health; older people and aged care; mental health, alcohol and other drug, and suicide prevention and aftercare; chronic disease; and emergency response.

• Engagement and feedback with Local Health Advisory Committees (LHACS) which are situated in 33 locations throughout the Murrumbidgee region.

• Feedback from MPHN's governance members, including Board Directors, and members the Community Advisory Committee and four Clinical Councils.

• Review of data collected by its commissioned services throughout the year and other internal data sources to confirm service provision and identify service gaps that may exist.

• Media and social media monitoring for local emerging health needs and issues.

Once all information is gathered and analysed by MPHN, data is provided back to communities and health providers for validation of the developed priorities from the data.

DATA DISCLAIMER

This report is presented for the purpose of disseminating information for the benefit of people living in Murrumbidgee communities. The report includes data freely available on public websites such as the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Data in this report remain confidential and primarily for MPHN's internal use. This report may be shared externally with express permission at the discretion of MPHN's CEO. If the latter is the case data may be used by an external organisation for planning purposes but should not be shared outside that organisation.

Data from Commonwealth secure confidential websites have not been included in this report. Data have not been interpreted.

MPHN has taken all steps to ensure the information in this report is as accurate as possible and correct at time of report. Data may vary to other publically available sources due to differing sources accessed.

MPHN does not guarantee, and accepts no legal liability whatsoever arising from, or connected to, the use of any material contained in this report. MPHN recommends users exercise their own skill and care with respect to use of this report.

Contact for data queries: hna@mphn.org.au

WAGGA WAGGA LGA

WAGGA WAGGA
Nearest Regional
Referral Hospital

POSTCODE	TOWNS
2330	Westbrook
2650	Alfredtown, Ashmont, Belfrayden, Big Springs, Bomen, Book Book, Borambola, Boorooma, Brucedale, Bulgary, Burrandana, Cartwrights Hill, Collingullie, Currawarna, Downside, East Wagga Wagga, Estella, Euberta, Eunanoreenya, Gelston Park, Glenfield Park, Gregadoo, Hillgrove, Kooringal, Kyeamba, Lake Albert, Lloyd, Maxwell, Mount Austin, Oberne Creek, Oura, Pulletop, Rowan, San Isidore, South Wagga Wagga, Springvale, Tatton, The Gap, Tolland, Turvey Park, Wagga Wagga, Wagga Wagga North, Wallacetown (borders with Junee), Westby, Yarragundry
2651	Forest Hill
2652	Gumly Gumly, Humula, Ladysmith, Mangoplah, Tarcutta, Uranquinty
2661	Kapooka

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Wagga Wagga Local Government Area (LGA) is the most populated LGA within the Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network (MPHN), and second in population density for the Murrumbidgee region. Wagga Wagga has the only major regional referral hospital in the region.

Wagga Wagga is made up of multiple suburbs. Median weekly household income varies considerably between suburbs (Highest= $3,185 in Springvale; Lowest= $944 in Ashmont), as does the socio-economic index, with four suburbs less than the NSW index score.

Estimated growth between 2021 to 2041 in Wagga Wagga LGA is expected to be 18.7 per cent with growth across all age groups, but in greater among the those aged greater than or equal to 65 years. Wagga Wagga has a similar total fertility rate compared to the Murrumbidgee region and NSW. The Wagga Wagga region is comparable to other MPHN LGAs for the proportion of its population born in Australia.

The population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is 6.7 per cent, which is higher than the Murrumbidgee average (5.8 per cent) and NSW (3.5 per cent) average. Compared to the NSW average for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, a higher proportion of Wagga Wagga's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is aged 0-14 years.

Premature deaths are higher in males and females in the Wagga Wagga LGA compared to NSW and the Murrumbidgee region rates. Premature deaths from cancer, circulatory system diseases, diabetes, and ischaemic heart disease are higher in the Wagga Wagga LGA than both the Murrumbidgee region and NSW. The incidence rates for prostate cancer, breast cancer and bowel cancer are all higher than the Murrumbidgee region and NSW averages.

When contrasted the NSW and other LGAs across the Murrumbidgee region, Wagga Wagga LGA has a higher prevalence of those aged greater than or equal to 15 years, and those aged 0-14 years who report living with a mental health condition, such as depression or anxiety.

The rates of sexual and domestic assault are higher in Wagga Wagga LGA compared to the Murrumbidgee and NSW. In contrast, the rate of liquor offences in the LGA are lower than the Murrumbidgee average but higher than the NSW average. The rates of use or possession of cocaine and ecstasy in the Wagga Wagga region is higher than both the Murrumbidgee and NSW average.

POPULATION AND GEOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION	POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 2021-2041	LGA AREA KM²	POPULATION DENSITY PERSONS/KM²
2021 — ABS			
N=242,976 67,609	7,432 (18.7%)	4,825	13.8

ESTIMATED POPULATION CHANGE 2021-2041			
2021 — NSW PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT			
UNDER 19 YEARS	20-64 YEARS	65+ YEARS	TOTAL YEARS
2021 N=17,862 2041 N=17,459 –403 (–2.3%)	2021 N=37,303 2041 N=39,538 2,235 (6.0%)	2021 N=10,670 2041 N=16,271 5,610 (52.4%)	2021 N=65,835 2041 N=73,267 7,432 (18.7%)

TOWN BASED POPULATIONS AND DEMOGRAPHY

	POPULATION	MEDIAN AGE	NUMBER PRIVATE DWELLINGS	AVERAGE PEOPLE PER HOUSEHOLD	NUMBER OF FAMILIES	AVERAGE CHILDREN PER FAMILY
2021 — ABS						
Ashmont	3,747	36	1,674	2.3	919	1.9
Estella	2,541	34	1,023	2.6	623	1.9
Forest Hill	3,081	25	983	2.8	658	2.0
Glenfield Park	5,078	35	2,175	2.4	1,389	1.9
Kooringal	7,404	35	3,304	2.4	1,966	2.0
Lake Albert	6,291	43	2,519	2.6	1,809	1.9
Mount Austin	4,035	37	1,829	2.3	939	1.9
Springvale	1,851	41	566	3.4	504	2.2
Tatton	2,560	40	932	2.8	688	2.0
Tolland	3,459	34	1,515	2.5	878	2.0
Turvey Park	3,572	35	1,536	2.5	949	1.9
Wagga Wagga	7,189	38	3,960	1.7	3,960	1.9

	MEDIAN WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME	MEDIAN MONTHLY MORTGAGE REPAYMENT	MEDIAN WEEKLY RENT
2021 – ABS			
Ashmont	$994	$1,103	$220
Estella	$1,920	$1,667	$380
Forest Hill	$1,788	$1,300	$310
Glenfield Park	$1,508	$1,406	$330
Kooringal	$1,404	$1,324	$270
Lake Albert	$1,891	$1,625	$340
Mount Austin	$1,124	$1,148	$250
Springvale	$3,185	$2,232	$420
Tatton	$2,337	$1,939	$385
Tolland	$1,207	$1,300	$220
Turvey Park	$1,785	$1,517	$338
Wagga Wagga	$1,355	$1,517	$295

POPULATION OTHER TOWNS			
2021 – ABS			
Alfredtown	80	Hillgrove	30
Belfrayden	12	Humula	129
Big Springs	1,358	Kapooka	395
Bomen	40	Kyeamba	67
Book Book	130	Ladysmith	39
Boorooma	1,741	Lloyd	1,509
Borambola	117	Mangoplah	291
Brucedale	184	Maxwell	90
Bulgary	13	Oberne Creek	49
Burrandana	23	Oura	246
Cartwrights Hill	169	Pulletop	67
Collingullie	258	Rowan	105
Currawarna	194	San Isidore	349
Downside	124	Tarcutta	425
Euberta	139	The Gap	76
Eunanoreenya	165	Uranquinty	910
Gelston Park	160	Westbrook	151
Gregadoo	274	Yarragundry	72
Gumly Gumly	450		

DEMOGRAPHY

SEIFA			
2016 – ABS			
	INDEX SCORE (BASED ON AUSTRALIAN SCORE OF 1000)	MINIMUM SCORE FOR SA1S IN AREA	MAXIMUM SCORE FOR SA1S IN AREA
NSW	*1,001.7*	*323*	*1184*
MPHN	*969.9*	*478*	*1144*
Wagga Wagga Shire	**1,000**	**494**	**1144**
Ashmont	779		
Estella	1,068		
Forest Hill	1,000		
Glenfield Park	1,014		
Kooringal	970		
Lake Albert	1,056		
Mount Austin	841		
Springvale	1,122		
Tatton	1,094		
Tolland	847		
Turvey Park	1,025		
Wagga Wagga	1,000		

AGE GROUPS								
2020 – ERP								
	PERSONS 0-14 YEARS	PERSONS 15-24 YEARS	PERSONS 25-44 YEARS	PERSONS 45-64 YEARS	PERSONS 65+ YEARS	PERSONS 70+ YEARS	PERSONS 75+ YEARS	PERSONS 85+ YEARS
NSW	*18.5%*	*12.8%*	*28.0%*	*24.6%*	*15.7%*	*10.7%*	*7.0%*	*2.2%*
MPHN	*19.6%*	*12.0%*	*22.6%*	*25.7%*	*18.9%*	*13.3%*	*8.7%*	*2.7%*
Wagga Wagga	**13,599 (20.7%)**	**9,406 (14.3%)**	**17,384 (26.4%)**	**15,006 (22.8%)**	**10,375 (15.8)**	**5,811 (10.9%)**	**4,617 (7.0%)**	**1,380 (2.1%)**

GENDER				
2021 – ABS				
	MALES		FEMALES	
	N	%	N	%
NSW	*3,984,166*	*49.4*	*4,087,995*	*50.6*
MPHN	*125,500*	*50.3*	*126,798*	*49.7*
Wagga Wagga	**32,883**	**48.6**	**34,728**	**51.4**

EDUCATION

2020 – ABS

	PEOPLE WHO LEFT SCHOOL AT YEAR 10 OR BELOW, OR DID NOT GO TO SCHOOL	FULL-TIME PARTICIPATION IN SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION AT AGE 16	PARTICIPATION IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING - NON-INDIGENOUS POPULATION	SCHOOL LEAVER PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION
NSW	33.0 per 100	84.1%	17.8 per 100	28.3%
MPHN	42.0 per 100	74.2%	18.6 per 100	10.9%
Wagga Wagga	**40.9 per 100**	**74.2%**	**18.2 per 100**	**15.4%**

EMPLOYMENT

2020 – ABS

	LEARNING OR EARNING AT AGES 15 TO 19	UNEMPLOYMENT
NSW	85.0%	4.9%
MPHN	81.7%	4.8%
Wagga Wagga	**7,833 (84.1%)**	**2,079 (5.7%)**

WEEKLY INCOME

2021 – ABS

	LESS THAN $650 TOTAL HOUSEHOLD WEEKLY INCOME	MORE THAN $3,000 TOTAL HOUSEHOLD WEEKLY INCOME
NSW	16.3%	26.9%
MPHN	22.3%	13.9%
Wagga Wagga	**16.8%**	**19.4%**

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

2020 – ABS

	AGE PENSIONERS	DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSIONERS	FEMALE SOLE PARENT PENSIONERS
NSW	59.0%	4.6%	3.1%
MPHN	60.3%	6.3%	5.4%
Wagga Wagga	**6,373 (61.4)**	**2,260 (5.5%)**	**888 (5.0)**

	PEOPLE RECEIVING AN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT	PEOPLE RECEIVING AN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT LONG-TERM	YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16 TO 24 RECEIVING AN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT
NSW	6.2%	5.6%	5.0%
MPHN	7.1%	6.4%	6.1%
Wagga Wagga	**2,771 (6.8%)**	**2,521 (6.1%)**	**391 (7.0%)**

INCOME SUPPORT

2020 – ABS

	LOW INCOME, WELFARE-DEPENDENT FAMILIES (WITH CHILDREN)	HEALTH CARE CARD HOLDERS	PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD HOLDERS	SENIORS HEALTH CARD HOLDERS
NSW	4.6%	6.7%	21.1%	10.9%
MPHN	5.4%	7.3%	27.3%	10.3%
Wagga Wagga	**878 (5.6%)**	**4,472 (8.1%)**	**11,808 (22.2%)**	**1,207 (11.6%)**

HOUSEHOLDS		
2020 – ABS		
	HOUSEHOLDS IN DWELLINGS RECEIVING RENT ASSISTANCE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	DWELLINGS RENTED FROM THE GOVERNMENT HOUSING AUTHORITY
NSW	*18.3%*	*4.7%*
MPHN	*17.9%*	*3.4%*
Wagga Wagga	**4,636 (12.6%)**	**1,146 (1.5%)**

HOUSEHOLDS		
2020 – ABS		
	*MORTGAGE STRESS	*RENTAL STRESS
NSW	*9.6%*	*27.9%*
MPHN	*8.2%*	*25.7%*
Wagga Wagga	**512 (6.8%)**	**4,456 (27.1%)**

Low income households (households in bottom 40% of income distribution)

FAMILIES			
2018 – ABS			
	SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED LESS THAN 15 YEARS	JOBLESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED LESS THAN 15 YEARS	*CHILDREN IN FAMILIES WHERE THE MOTHER HAS LOW EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
NSW	*19.9%*	*12.0%*	*19.6%*
MPHN	*23.5%*	*13.2 %*	*25.0%*
Wagga Wagga	**1,591 (24.7%)**	**831 (12.9%)**	**3,109 (24.5%)**

Children aged less than 15 years living in families where the female parent's highest level of schooling was year 10 or below/ female parent did not attend school

ETHNICITY			
2018 – ABS			
	AUSTRALIAN-BORN POPULATION	PEOPLE BORN (OVERSEAS) IN PREDOMINANTLY ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES	PEOPLE BORN IN PREDOMINANTLY NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES
NSW	*65.5%*	*6.7%*	*21.1%*
MPHN	*82.2%*	*3.2%*	*5.4%*
Wagga Wagga	**52,510 (84.2%)**	**1,932 (3.1%)**	**3,909 (5.3%)**

ETHNICITY			
2018 – ABS			
	PEOPLE BORN IN A PREDOMINANTLY NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING (NES) COUNTRY RESIDENT IN AUSTRALIA FOR FIVE YEARS OR MORE	PEOPLE BORN IN A PREDOMINANTLY NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING (NES) COUNTRY RESIDENT IN AUSTRALIA FOR LESS THAN FIVE YEARS	PEOPLE BORN OVERSEAS REPORTING POOR PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH
NSW	*16.1%*	*4.1%*	*3.4%*
MPHN	*3.6%*	*1.4%*	*0.9%*
Wagga Wagga	**2,370 (3.8%)**	**1,363 (2.2%)**	**428 (0.7%)**

ETHNICITY			
2020 — ABS			
COUNTRY	WAGGA WAGGA	NSW	MPHN
China	264 (0.4%)	(3.1%)	(0.2%)
India	651 (1.0%)	(1.9%)	(0.9%)
Italy	50 (0.1%)	(0.7%)	(0.6%)
Vietnam	53 (0.1%)	(1.1%)	(0.1%)
Philippines	423 (0.7%)	(1.2%)	(0.5%)
Malaysia	113 (0.2%)	(0.4%)	(0.1%)
Germany	127 (0.2%)	(0.4%)	(0.2%)
Greece	28 (>0.1%)	(0.4%)	(0.0%)
Sri Lanka	132 (0.2%)	(0.4%)	(0.1%)
Lebanon	264 (0.4%)	(3.1%)	(0.2%)

DWELLINGS WITH NO MOTOR VEHICLE	
2016 — ABS	
NSW	*9.2%*
MPHN	*5.4%*
Wagga Wagga	**1,325 (5.9%)**

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

INDIGENOUS STATUS		
2020 — ERP		
ABORIGINAL POPULATION AS PROPORTION OF TOTAL POPULATION		
	NUMBER	%
NSW	*288,565*	*3.5*
MPHN	*15,408*	*5.8*
Wagga Wagga	**4,633**	**6.7**

INDIGENOUS STATUS

2020 – ERP (NON-ABS)

	0-4 YEARS		5-9 YEARS		10-14 YEARS		15-19 YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	35,878	12.4	32,475	11.3	30,562	10.6	27,034	9.4
MPHN	2,036	13.2	1,809	11.7	1,754	11.4	1,421	9.2
Wagga Wagga	672	14.5	595	12.8	541	11.7	454	9.8

	20-24 YEARS		25-29 YEARS		30-34 YEARS		35-39 YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	25,822	8.9	23,468	8.1	18,297	6.3	15,880	5.5
MPHN	1,330	8.6	1,127	7.3	981	6.4	852	5.5
Wagga Wagga	443	9.6	364	7.9	296	6.4	255	5.5

	40-44 YEARS		45-49 YEARS		50-54 YEARS		55-59 YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	13,315	4.6	14,480	5.0	13,599	4.7	11,881	4.1
MPHN	679	4.4	678	4.4	708	4.6	662	4.3
Wagga Wagga	197	4.3	204	4.4	159	3.4	161	3.5

	60-64 YEARS		65+ YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	9,585	3.3	16,290	5.6
MPHN	486	3.2	885	5.7
Wagga Wagga	109	2.4	184	4.0

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

2020 – ABS

PARTICIPATION IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING - ABORIGINAL POPULATION

	NUMBER	ASR PER 1,000
NSW	50,250	17.8
MPHN	2,715	18.6
Wagga Wagga	88	20.4

CANCER SCREENING

2015 TO 2016 – ABS

BREAST SCREENING - ABORIGINAL WOMEN 50 - 69 YEARS

	NUMBER	%
NSW	15845	38.2
MPHN	852	32.5
Wagga Wagga	175	39.5

MOTHERS, BABIES AND CHILDREN

TOTAL FERTILITY RATE		
2020 — ABS		
	BIRTHS	TOTAL FERTILITY RATE
NSW	95,459	1.73
MPHN	2,949	2.26
Wagga Wagga	954	2.06

MOTHERS AND BABIES				
2017 TO 20019 — ABS				
	LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES		SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY	
	LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES	% LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES	SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY	% SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY
NSW	14,579	5.2	25,876	9.0
MPHN	309	4.5	1,488	17.1
Wagga Wagga	137	5.5	431	16.8

IMMUNISATION						
2018 — ABS						
	CHILDREN FULLY IMMUNISED AT 1 YEAR OF AGE		CHILDREN FULLY IMMUNISED AT 2 YEARS OF AGE		CHILDREN FULLY IMMUNISED AT 5 YEARS OF AGE	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	90,965	94.0	90,512	90.2	97,477	94.6
MPHN	2,770	95.2	2,777	93.2	2,696	96.0
Wagga Wagga	837	94.9	861	93.2	896	96.4

CHILD CARE				
2016 — ABS				
	UNPAID CHILD CARE TO OWN CHILD/ CHILDREN		UNPAID CHILD CARE TO OTHER CHILD/ CHILDREN	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	1,194,612	19.6	423,262	6.9
MPHN	34,939	18.3	14,389	7.5
Wagga Wagga	10,060	20.2	3,924	7.9

RISK FACTORS CHILDREN								
2020 — ABS								
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 2-17 YEARS WHO WERE OVERWEIGHT (BUT NOT OBESE) (MODELLED ESTIMATES)*		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 2-17 YEARS WHO WERE OBESE (MODELLED ESTIMATES)*		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 2-17 YEARS WHO WERE OVERWEIGHT (BUT NOT OBESE) (MODELLED ESTIMATES)*		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 2-17 YEARS WHO WERE OBESE (MODELLED ESTIMATES)*	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	137,863	17.4	59,650	7.5	125,141	16.6	54,849	7.3
MPHN	4,889	18.8	2,866	11.1	4,423	17.7	2,668	10.7
Wagga Wagga	**1,464**	**20.2**	**796**	**11.0**	**1,246**	**18.1**	**733**	**10.7**

VULNERABLE CHILDREN				
2021 — AEDC				
	DEVELOPMENTALLY VULNERABLE ON ONE OR MORE DOMAINS		DEVELOPMENTALLY VULNERABLE ON TWO OR MORE DOMAINS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	19,067	21.2	9,510	10.5
MPHN	647	23.5	336	12.2
Wagga Wagga	**190**	**23.5**	**105**	**12.9**

	PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING - DEVELOPMENTALLY VULNERABLE		PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING - DEVELOPMENTALLY AT RISK		PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING - DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	8,513	9.4	11,246	12.4	70,671	78.1
MPHN	278	10.1	314	11.4	2,168	78.5
Wagga Wagga	**74**	**9.1**	**94**	**11.6**	**644**	**79.3**

	SOCIAL COMPETENCE - DEVELOPMENTALLY VULNERABLE		SOCIAL COMPETENCE - DEVELOPMENTALLY AT RISK		SOCIAL COMPETENCE - DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	8,458	9.4	13,175	14.6	68,789	76.1
MPHN	293	10.6	396	14.4	2,070	75.0
Wagga Wagga	**95**	**11.7**	**123**	**15.1**	**594**	**73.2**

	EMOTIONAL MATURITY - DEVELOPMENTALLY VULNERABLE		EMOTIONAL MATURITY - DEVELOPMENTALLY AT RISK		EMOTIONAL MATURITY - DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	6,550	7.3	12,300	13.7	71,203	79.1
MPHN	235	8.5	424	15.4	2,093	76.1
Wagga Wagga	**75**	**9.3**	**139**	**17.2**	**592**	**73.4**

VULNERABLE CHILDREN				
2021 — AEDC				
	LANGUAGE AND COGNITIVE SKILLS (SCHOOLS-BASED) - DEVELOPMENTALLY AT RISK		LANGUAGE AND COGNITIVE SKILLS (SCHOOLS-BASED) - DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*8,092*	*9.0*	*76,676*	*84.9*
MPHN	*271*	*9.8*	*2,256*	*81.8*
Wagga Wagga	**70**	**8.6**	**669**	**82.4**

	COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE - DEVELOPMENTALLY AT RISK		CHILDREN DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK IN COMMUNICATION DOMAIN	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*14,068*	*15.6*	*68,741*	*76.0*
MPHN	*377*	*13.6*	*2,148*	*77.8*
Wagga Wagga	**97**	**11.9**	**639**	**78.7**

HPV				
2021				
	HPV VACCINE COVERAGE: FEMALES AGED 12-13 YEARS IN MID-2013, WHO RECEIVED DOSE 3 BY 2016		HPV VACCINE COVERAGE: MALES AGED 12-13 YEARS IN MID-2013, WHO RECEIVED DOSE 3 BY 2016	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*36,127*	*83.0*	*35,834*	*78.2*
MPHN	*1,342*	*87.4*	*1,313*	*86.2*
Wagga Wagga	**342**	**79.6**	**331**	**80.2**

OLDER PEOPLE

OLDER PERSONS				
2016 – ABS				
	LIVING ALONE, 65+ YEARS		LIVING ALONE; WITH DISABILITY; LOW INCOME, 65+ YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*275,196*	*24.4*	*29,883*	*2.6*
MPHN	*11,625*	*25.0*	*1,088*	*2.3*
Wagga Wagga	**2,301**	**27.9**	**226**	**2.7**

	LIVING ALONE, 85+ YEARS		LIVING ALONE; WITH DISABILITY; LOW INCOME, 85+ YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*52,065*	*41.8*	*3,677*	*2.9*
MPHN	*11,625*	*33.2*	*85*	*1.3*
Wagga Wagga	**2,301**	**48.0**	**21**	**2.2**

OLDER PERSONS				
2016 – ABS				
	PEOPLE WITH A PROFOUND OR SEVERE DISABILITY AND LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY, 65+ YEARS		MODELLED ESTIMATES OF PERSONS WITH ONE OR MORE ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED, 65+ YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*170,636*	*14.9*	*414,338*	*36.7*
MPHN	*5,293*	*12.3*	*15,435*	*35.4*
Wagga Wagga	**1,036**	**11.8**	**2,773**	**35.0**

OLDER PERSONS				
2018 – ABS				
	PEOPLE WITH MODERATE OR MILD CORE ACTIVITY LIMITATION, 65+ YEARS - MODELLED ESTIMATES		PEOPLE WITH SEVERE CORE ACTIVITY LIMITATION, 65+ YEARS – MODELLED ESTIMATES	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*234,212*	*29.5*	*98,912*	*11.8*
MPHN	*15,650*	*33.6*	*6,101*	*13.0*
Wagga Wagga	**2,989**	**32.4**	**1,262**	**13.0**

POPULATION HEALTH
MORTALITY

MEDIAN AGE OF DEATH				
2016 TO 2020 – ABS				
	MALES		FEMALES	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	MEDIAN AGE (YEARS)	NUMBER OF DEATHS	MEDIAN AGE (YEARS)
NSW	138,921	79.0	129,720	85.0
MPHN	5,976	78.0	5,161	84.0
Wagga Wagga	1,163	78.0	1,139	85.0

'Premature mortality' refers to deaths that occur at an age earlier than a selected cut-off. For this analysis, deaths among people aged under 75 are considered premature.

PREMATURE DEATHS				
2016 TO 2020 – ABS				
	MALES		FEMALES	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	54,579	292.0	33,272	178.1
MPHN	2,426	370.3	1,291	205.8
Wagga Wagga	506	445.0	298	262.6

PREMATURE DEATHS BY CAUSE						
2016 TO 2020 – ABS						
	DEATHS FROM CANCER, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM BREAST CANCER (FEMALES), 0 TO 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	36,591	97.7	7,425	19.8	2,757	14.8
MPHN	1,451	110.1	265	19.8	104	16.7
Wagga Wagga	333	147.5	58	25.7	30	26.5

	DEATHS FROM CIRCULATORY SYSTEM DISEASES, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISEASES, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM EXTERNAL CAUSES, 0 TO 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	15,586	41.7	7,338	19.6	6,259	16.7	10,092	27.2
MPHN	680	52.0	340	26.1	305	22.7	451	41.1
Wagga Wagga	142	63.0	72	31.9	44	19.6	99	42.6

AVOIDABLE DEATHS BY CAUSE							
2016 TO 2020 — ABS							
	DEATHS FROM SELECTED EXTERNAL CAUSES OF MORTALITY (FALLS; FIRES, BURNS; SUICIDE AND SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES; ETC.) AGED 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM SUICIDE AND SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES AGED 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM OTHER EXTERNAL CAUSES OF MORTALITY (TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS; ACCIDENTAL DROWNING AND SUBMERSION; ETC.) AGED 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM TRANSPORT ACCIDENTS AGED 0 TO 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	4,738	12.8	4,115	11.1	5,354	14.5	1,678	4.5
MPHN	215	19.4	192	17.9	236	21.7	115	10.5
Wagga Wagga	**NW***	**23.7**	**NW***	**21.4**	**NW***	**18.9**	**NW***	**6.7**

NW = number withheld due to small sample size causing issues with identification/anonymity.

	DEATHS FROM CANCER, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM COLORECTAL CANCER, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM BREAST CANCER (FEMALES), 0 TO 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	10,601	28.3	3,878	10.4	2,757	14.8
MPHN	458	35.1	163	12.5	104	16.7
Wagga Wagga	**104**	**46.1**	**38**	**16.9**	**30**	**26.5**

	DEATHS FROM DIABETES, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM CIRCULATORY SYSTEM DISEASES, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASES, 0 TO 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	2,638	7.0	12,557	33.6	7,338	19.6	3,044	8.1
MPHN	118	9.0	557	42.4	340	26.1	110	8.3
Wagga Wagga	**29**	**12.9**	**112**	**49.7**	**72**	**31.9**	**21**	**9.3**

Potentially avoidable deaths, a subset of all premature mortality (deaths under 75 years), and include deaths considered to be potentially preventable (those amenable to screening and primary prevention) and potentially treatable (those amenable to therapeutic interventions).

AVOIDABLE DEATHS BY CAUSE				
2016 TO 2020 — ABS				
	DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISEASES, 0 TO 74 YEARS		DEATHS FROM CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE, 0 TO 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000	NUMBER OF DEATHS	ASR PER 100,000
NSW	4,128	11.0	3,833	10.2
MPHN	217	16.0	195	14.2
Wagga Wagga	**30**	**13.4**	**25**	**11.2**

HEALTH CONDITIONS

	HEALTH CONDITIONS							
	2017 TO 2018 — ABS							
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISEASES		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH ASTHMA		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL AND BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*1,465,620*	*18.8*	*827,910*	*10.6*	*175,425*	*2.2*	*813,094*	*20.9*
MPHN	*47,533*	*20.0*	*31,355*	*13.0*	*6,690*	*2.5*	*25,718*	*21.8*
Wagga Wagga	**12,683**	**20.4**	**8,365**	**13.4**	**1,663**	**2.7**	**7,042**	**22.3**

	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH HEART, STROKE AND VASCULAR DISEASE		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH ARTHRITIS		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH OSTEOPOROSIS	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*385,093*	*4.9*	*1,216,498*	*15.5*	*334,562*	*4.2*
MPHN	*15,044*	*5.3*	*52,723*	*19.2*	*10,262*	*3.6*
Wagga Wagga	**3,370**	**5.5**	**12,242**	**20.3**	**2,510**	**4.1**

	CANCER INCIDENCE				
	2014 TO 2018 — NSW CANCER REGISTRY				
	PROSTATE CANCER DSER PER 100,000	BREAST CANCER DSER PER 100,000	BOWEL CANCER DSER PER 100,000	LUNG CANCER DSER PER 100,000	MELANOMA DSER PER 100,000
NSW	*70.8*	*63.3*	*37.6*	*43.1*	*52.9*
MPHN	*79.4*	*65.9*	*38.8*	*46.0*	*56.0*
Wagga Wagga	**99.0**	**74.7**	**43.8**	**44.4**	**57.9**

MENTAL HEALTH PREVALENCE

2021 — ABS

	PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WHO REPORTED THEY HAD A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION (INCLUDING DEPRESSION OR ANXIETY)		PEOPLE AGED 0-14 YEARS WHO REPORTED THEY HAD A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION (INCLUDING DEPRESSION OR ANXIETY)	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*617,947*	*9.4*	*28,463*	*1.9*
MPHN	*21,873*	*11.0*	*1,140*	*2.4*
Wagga Wagga	**6,592**	**12.2**	**377**	**2.7**

2017 TO 2018 — AIHW

	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WITH HIGH OR VERY HIGH PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS, BASED ON THE KESSLER 10 SCALE (K10) (MODELLED ESTIMATES)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WITH HIGH OR VERY HIGH PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS, BASED ON THE KESSLER 10 SCALE (K10) (MODELLED ESTIMATES)	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*321,815*	*10.8*	*427,731*	*14.0*
MPHN	*9,217*	*10.3*	*11,852*	*13.1*
Wagga Wagga	**2,364**	**10.4**	**3,211**	**13.2**

	EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS: TOTAL PRESENTATIONS FOR MENTAL AND BEHAVIOURAL DISORDERS		ADMISSIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH RELATED CONDITIONS, PERSONS - ALL HOSPITALS	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*103,101*	*1,283.8*	*2,601*	*1,077.9*
MPHN	*12,626*	*5,428.7*	*89*	*1,002.2*
Wagga Wagga	**1,542**	**2,388.8**	**2,601**	**1,077.9**

DISABILITY

2016 — ABS

	UNPAID ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY		PEOPLE WITH A PROFOUND OR SEVERE DISABILITY (INCLUDES PEOPLE IN LONG-TERM ACCOMMODATION), ALL AGES		PEOPLE WITH A PROFOUND OR SEVERE DISABILITY AND LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY, ALL AGES	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*709,415*	*11.6*	*398,746*	*5.6*	*346,451*	*4.9*
MPHN	*22,985*	*12.0*	*12,717*	*5.7*	*10,906*	*4.9*
Wagga Wagga	**5,728**	**11.5**	**3,013**	**5.0**	**2,564**	**4.2**

SELF ASSESSED HEALTH

2017 TO 2018 — ABS

	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER WITH FAIR OR POOR SELF-ASSESSED HEALTH	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*897,768*	*14.1*
MPHN	*31,578*	*15.3*
Wagga Wagga	**7,357**	**15.0**

CANCER SCREENING						
2015 TO 2016 — NSW CANCER COUNCIL						
	BREAST SCREENING RATE WOMEN 50 - 69 YEARS		CERVICAL SCREENING WOMEN 20 - 69 YEARS		BOWEL SCREENING PEOPLE 50 - 74 YEARS	
	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%	NUMBER	%
NSW	*900,743*	*52.8*	*2,204,749*	*55.3*	*512,013*	*38.3*
MPHN	*30,300*	*53.8*	*63,082*	*52.3*	*18,684*	*40.7*
Wagga Wagga	**6,927**	**61.6**	**17,825**	**56.1**	**4,268**	**40.1**

HEALTH BEHAVIOURS

RISK FACTORS						
2017 TO 2018 — ABS						
	ESTIMATED POPULATION, AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, WHO UNDERTOOK LOW, VERY LOW OR NO EXERCISE IN THE PREVIOUS WEEK (MODELLED ESTIMATES)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WITH ADEQUATE FRUIT INTAKE (MODELLED ESTIMATES)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO HAD HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*3,948,414*	*65.3*	*3,177,806*	*52.5*	*1,400,529*	*23.1*
MPHN	*129,479*	*70.2*	*96,169*	*51.6*	*47,297*	*23.6*
Wagga Wagga	**31,162**	**66.7**	**24,309**	**51.9**	**11,063**	**23.8**

	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE OVERWEIGHT (BUT NOT OBESE)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE OBESE		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE OVERWEIGHT (BUT NOT OBESE)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE OBESE	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*1,226,016*	*41.1*	*952,093*	*32.1*	*890,104*	*29.0*	*917,643*	*29.9*
MPHN	*38,354*	*42.5*	*34,877*	*37.4*	*27,538*	*29.6*	*33,267*	*34.9*
Wagga Wagga	**9,506**	**42.2**	**8,057**	**35.9**	**7,162**	**29.7**	**8,145**	**34.0**

	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE CURRENT SMOKERS (MODELLED ESTIMATES)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO WERE CURRENT SMOKERS (MODELLED ESTIMATES)	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*511,157*	*17.2*	*355,337*	*11.7*
MPHN	*18,807*	*21.9*	*12,499*	*14.1*
Wagga Wagga	**4,366**	**19.3**	**3,010**	**12.6**

	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO CONSUMED MORE THAN TWO STANDARD ALCOHOLIC DRINKS PER DAY ON AVERAGE (MODELLED ESTIMATES)		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FEMALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER WHO CONSUMED MORE THAN TWO STANDARD ALCOHOLIC DRINKS PER DAY ON AVERAGE (MODELLED ESTIMATES)	
	NUMBER	ASR PER 100	NUMBER	ASR PER 100
NSW	*676,575*	*22.7*	*258,306*	*8.5*
MPHN	*27,133*	*29.7*	*10,222*	*11.1*
Wagga Wagga	**5,829**	**25.8**	**2,252**	**9.4**

CRIME STATISTICS		
2021 — BOSCAR		
	SEXUAL ASSAULT ASR PER 100,000	DOMESTIC ASSAULT ASR PER 100,000	LIQUOR OFFENCES ASR PER 100,000
NSW	81.1	382.1	106.9
MPHN	100.8	429.2	197.1
Wagga Wagga	232.5	600.8	170.1

CRIME STATISTICS				
2021 — BOSCAR				
USE/POSSESS				
	COCAINE ASR PER 100,000	AMPHETAMINES ASR PER 100,000	ECSTASY ASR PER 100,000	CANNABIS ASR PER 100	NARCOTICS ASR PER 100,000
NSW	270.9	92.2	25.2	217.7	14.2
MPHN	16.0	96.7	17.2	257.5	2.3
Wagga Wagga	27.9	92.2	25.24	217.7	14.2

TECHNICAL NOTES
MPHN LGA DATA PRIORITISATION TOOL

MPHN's Data Prioritisation Tool applies a score based on the LGA result in relation to the state average and Murrumbidgee average results.

A score of zero to four is applied based on the difference between the LGA proportion or Age Standardised Rate (ASR) (see page 25 for explanation) result compared to the NSW average score.

Within the list of LGA scores, a score of one is given to the LGAs with either a higher or lower score than the average for the Murrumbidgee region.

The two scores are summed to give a total score.

To highlight the impacts, colour coding is applied to the range of 0 – 5 totals of both the NSW and Murrumbidgee averages combined.

MPHN's LGA Data Prioritisation Tool is also applied to socio-demographic variables such as age, gender etc.

MATRIX SCORING SYSTEM COMPARED TO THE NSW AVERAGE			
PROPORTION	ASR (TWO DIGIT RESPONSE)	ASR (THREE DIGIT RESPONSE)	SCORE
Less than 0 or negative score	Less than 0 or negative score	Less than 0 or negative score	0
0 and 10%	0 -10	0 – 100	1
10.1% – 29.9%	11 – 30	101–300	2
30% – 49.9%	31 – 50	301 – 500	3
>50%	51 +	501 +	4
Higher or lower than Murrumbidgee average dependent on orientation of response (positive or negative)			
all values above/below average			1

IMPACT SCORE	
0	LOW impact
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	HIGH impact

The following notes provide a definition for terms used in this report that may not be familiar to readers.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR AREAS (SEIFA)

The SEIFA score in this report is an index score that allows geographical ranking in Australia. The score measures socio-economic advantage and disadvantage, information is obtained from the five-yearly Australian Census.

SEIFA is a group of four indexes, which are used to rank areas broadly by their level of advantage or disadvantage. It consists of four measures:

- Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage-Disadvantage
- Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage
- Index of Education and Occupation
- Index of Economic Resources

Some examples of variables that are measured and form the indexes are (this is limited, there are more variables that are considered):

- Percentage of low-income households
- Unemployment rate
- Percentage of low-skilled occupations and people without qualifications
- Percentage of households without a car
- Percentage of people living overcrowded dwellings
- Percentage of people under 70 with a disability
- Percentage of children with jobless parents
- Percentage of people with poor English proficiency

SEIFA scores are expressed on a scale where lower numbers always mean more disadvantage and less advantage, while higher numbers mean less disadvantage and more advantage. They are standardised so that the average for Australia is always close to 1,000.

AGE STANDARDISED RATE (ASR)

A method of adjusting the crude rate to eliminate the effect of differences in population age structures when comparing crude rates for different periods of time, different geographic areas and/or different population sub-groups (e.g. between one year and the next and/or States and Territories, Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations).

Adjustments are usually undertaken for each of the comparison populations against a standard population (rather than adjusting one comparison population to resemble another). Sometimes a comparison population is referred to as a study population.

ASRs are usually used for valid comparisons of rates in different populations, such as incidence rates, prevalence rates, mortality rates and health service utilisation rates.

An example of why they are used is because the numbers of deaths per 100,000 population are influenced by the age distribution of the population. Two populations with the same age-specific mortality rates for a cause of death will have different overall death rates if the age distributions of their populations are different. Age standardized mortality rates adjust for differences in population age distribution by applying the observed age-specific mortality rates for each population to a standard population. The age-standardised mortality rate is a weighted average of the age-specific mortality rates per 100,000 persons, where the weights are the proportions of persons in the corresponding age groups of the standard population.