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ISSN 1838-0190

June 2011

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Population, housing and transport indicators for NSW

by

Talina Drabsch

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SUMMARY

The areas of population, housing and transport are of great importance and can reflect the wellbeing or otherwise of a community. They are complex areas and in many ways involve questions of how to best balance the needs of various groups within society and ensure equitable access to resources. These topics are closely related. Population size, its projected growth, and where that growth is likely to occur, impacts upon housing demand and supply and drives transport requirements.

Consideration of population related matters, particularly what is considered the ideal population size and how it is constituted, frequently provokes heated debate whether discussion is focused on a specific city, a regional area, or Australia as a whole. This paper provides data for a variety of population indicators, including current population numbers, fertility and death rates, age distribution, ethnicity, population growth, population distribution and projected population numbers.

The issues surrounding housing are complex and evolving. As the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has noted:

During the second half of the twentieth century, the typical housing life-cycle moved from renting in early adulthood, to home purchase and mortgages as partnerships were formed and children born, to outright home ownership in older age. Today, declining marriage and fertility rates, dissolution of households through separation and divorce, an ageing population, increased life expectancy and challenges in housing affordability are altering this cycle.¹

This paper includes data on: the types of dwellings people occupy; the average sale and rental prices in NSW; the relative cost of housing compared to income; an overview of social housing and homelessness; and the location of housing compared to places of employment.

The *State of Australian Cities 2010 Report* acknowledged that the number of passenger and freight trips in Australia is increasing faster than the capacity of the transport network. The transport network is crowded more than ever before. The avoidable cost of congestion in Australian cities was calculated to be \$9.4 billion in 2005. Congestion also impacts quality of life and work/life balance as a result of longer working days because of the time required to commute between work and home.²

Transport issues are also related to a number of environmental concerns as the

¹ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Welfare 2009*, AIHW, Canberra, 2009, p 12.

² Infrastructure Australia, *State of Australian Cities 2010 Report*, p 103.

environment is impacted by:³

- the distance that people travel to their place of work or essential facilities;
- the mode of transport used or the number of travellers using a transport option;
- transport technology and fuel efficiency;
- fuel prices; and
- availability and quality of public transport, or pedestrian and cycling facilities.

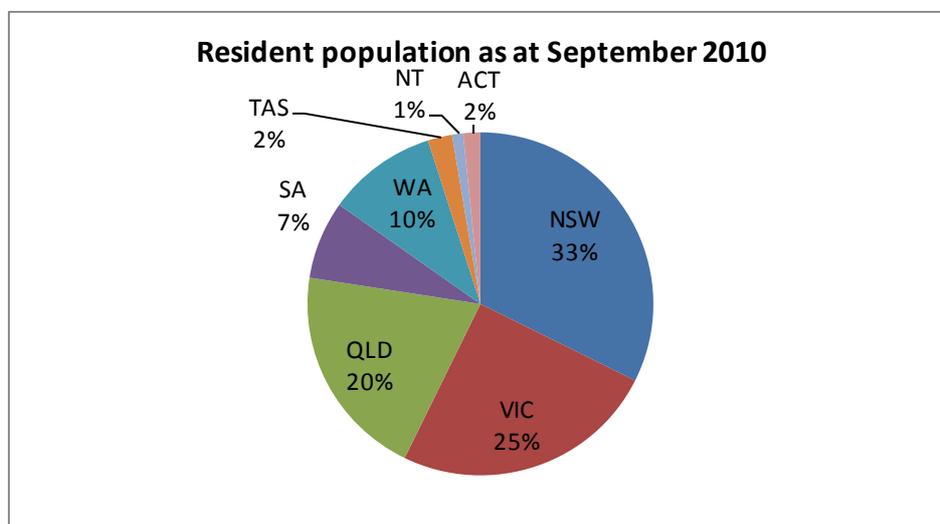
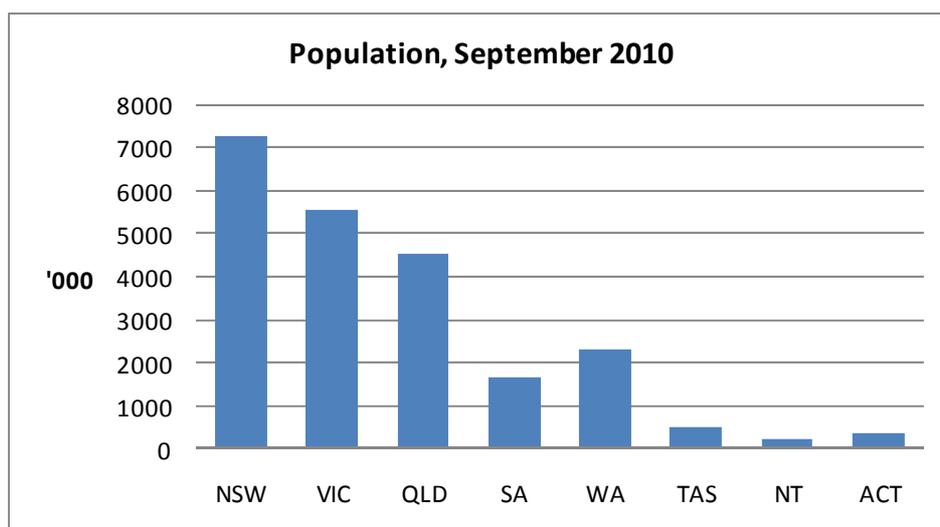
The section of this paper concerned with transport indicators covers: the number of registered vehicles and license holders; annual passenger and vehicle kilometres travelled; the mode of transport used when travelling to work; public transport use; air travel; road casualties and deaths; road expenditure; and domestic freight.

The focus in this paper, as in all the papers in the Statistical Indicators series, is NSW. Some data on the other States and Territories are included, as are some data on the regions within NSW. This paper draws on a variety of sources which are identified within the information for each indicator. However, this paper is particularly indebted to the work of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

POPULATION

Public commentary on the topic of 'population' often centres on: discussions of historical and current population growth; notions of what is a sustainable population for Australia together with consideration of some population projections; and the composition of Australia's population in terms of age and ethnicity. Fertility and death rates, and the movement in these over time and what that represents, are also closely related to population growth or decline. This section of the paper provides a snapshot of some of the data relevant to the above issues, primarily focusing on NSW, but comparisons with the other States and Territories are provided where relevant.

As at September 2010, 7,253,400 people (almost 1/3 of all Australians) resided in NSW. More than three-quarters of Australians live in the eastern seaboard States of Queensland, NSW and Victoria.



Population growth

The population growth of Australia has two components:

1. Natural increase (the number of births less the number of deaths); and
2. Net overseas migration.

However, when the population growth of an individual State or Territory is considered, a third element needs to be added:

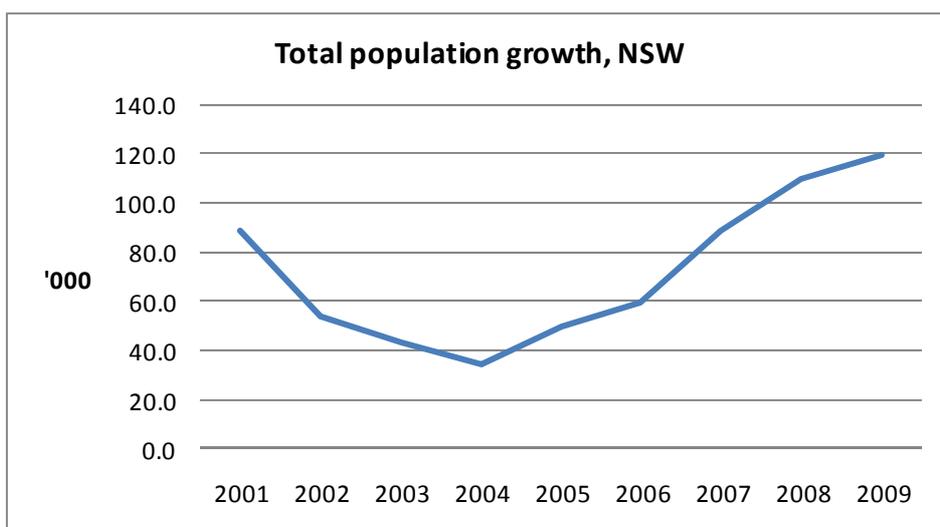
3. Net interstate migration.

The following table shows the various components of population growth in NSW between 2001 and 2009. The annual population growth rate in 2009 was 1.7%, the highest it had been since 2001.

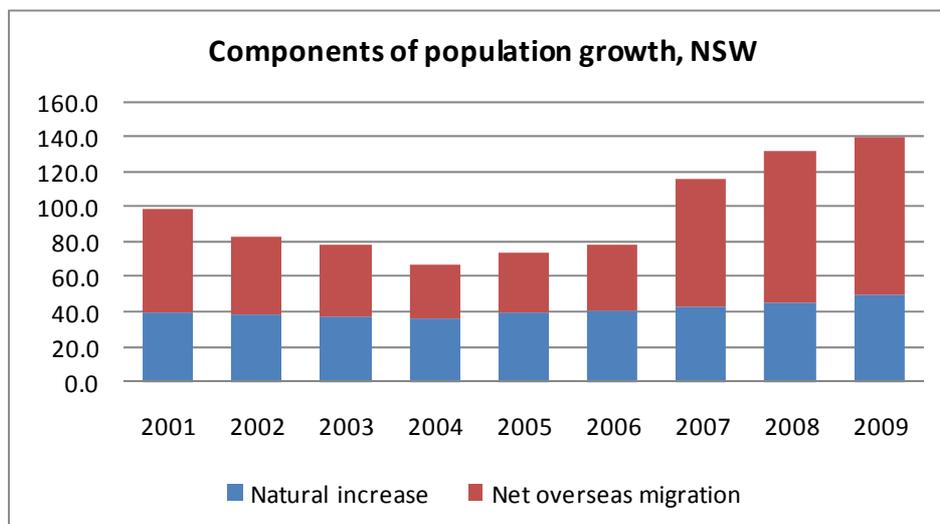
Population growth, NSW

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Births	'000	85.4	83.2	83.6	82.9	84.6	86.2	89.0	92.3	97.9
Deaths	'000	45.7	45.2	46.1	46.4	45.6	46.1	46.2	47.7	48.0
Natural increase	'000	39.7	38.0	37.5	36.5	39.0	40.1	42.8	44.7	49.9
Net overseas migration	'000	58.6	44.4	40.9	29.8	35.2	38.5	73.5	87.2	89.5
Net interstate migration	'000	-16.3	-25.1	-32.5	-31.1	-26.3	-25.6	-27.4	-21.9	-19.8
Total population growth	'000	89.0	53.7	43.6	34.6	49.3	59.6	88.9	109.9	119.5
Annual growth rate	%	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.6	1.7
Total fertility rate	rate	1.781	1.725	1.731	1.716	1.752	1.780	1.825	1.872	1.966

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011



The graph below shows the role played by natural increase and net overseas migration in population growth in NSW. It reveals how net overseas migration is playing a larger role in driving population growth over time.



However, NSW also loses part of its population as a result of net interstate migration. In the September 2010 quarter, NSW lost 2231 people to other States and Territories. Queensland received the greatest influx of people from other States and Territories followed by Western Australia.

Components of population change, September 2010.

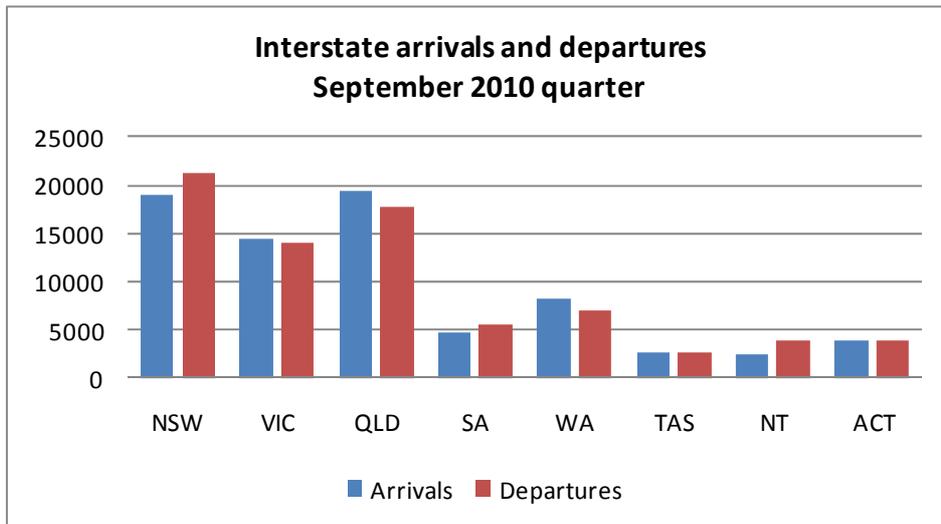
	Natural increase	NOM	NIM	Change over previous quarter
NSW	10884	12110	-2231	20763
VIC	8190	12608	384	21182
QLD	9243	7488	1688	18419
SA	1502	2566	-808	3260
WA	4549	6908	1202	12659
TAS	604	239	49	892
NT	571	192	-288	475
ACT	800	363	4	1167
AUS	36352	42476		78828

Source: ABS, *Australian Demographic Statistics, September 2010*, 3101.0, March 2011

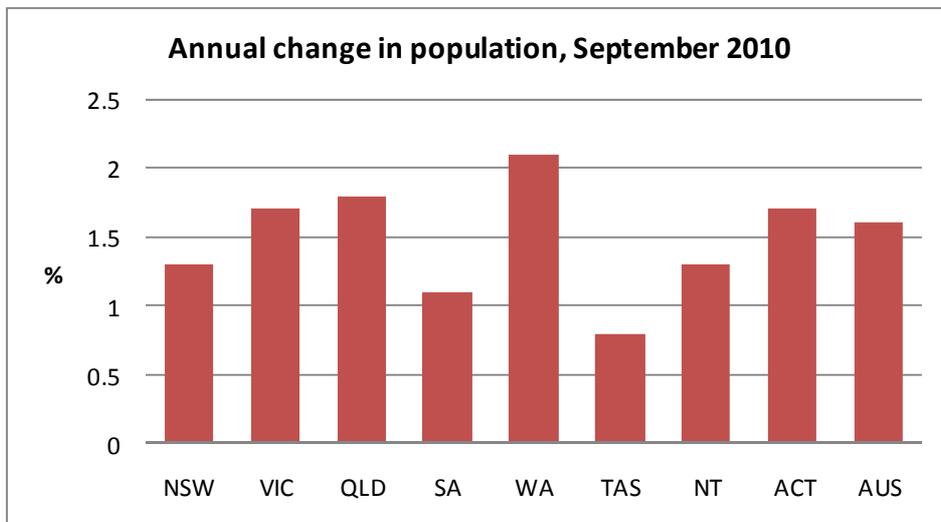
Interstate arrivals and departures – September 2010 quarter

	Arrivals	Departures
NSW	18925	21156
VIC	14338	13954
QLD	19363	17675
SA	4711	5519
WA	8159	6957
TAS	2567	2518
NT	2482	3770
ACT	3835	3831
AUS	75380	75380

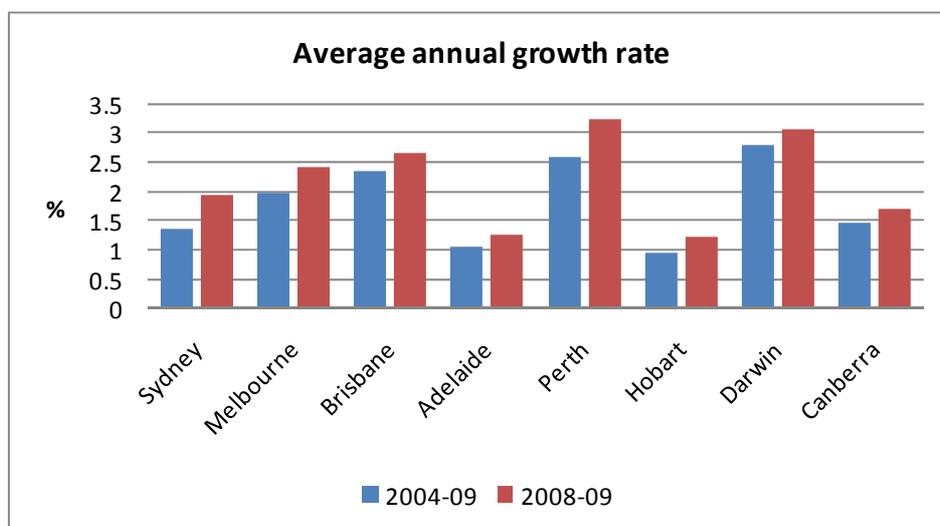
Source: ABS, *Australian Demographic Statistics, September 2010*, 3101.0, March 2011



The following chart shows how Western Australia had the fastest growing population followed by Queensland, the ACT and Victoria as at September 2010.



In 2008-09, Sydney had the fourth slowest average annual growth rate of the capital cities at 1.93%, but was ahead of Canberra, Adelaide and Hobart. Perth was experiencing the greatest annual growth at 3.25%.



Source: ABS, *Australian Demographic Statistics, September 2010*, 3101.0, March 2011.

Population growth in NSW is not evenly distributed. The coastal regions outside the Greater Metropolitan Region of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong experienced an average annual population increase of 1.2% whereas the inland regions of NSW grew by an average of just 0.3% per year in that same period.

Average annual population increase and growth rates in NSW regions, 1981–2006

Regions	Average annual population increase (growth rate)				
	1981–86	1986–91	1991–96	1996–2001	2001–06
Sydney Statistical Division	38,400 (1.1%)	40,300 (1.1%)	41,700 (1.1%)	49,400 (1.2%)	30,700 (0.7%)
Greater Metropolitan Region (GMR)	41,400 (1.0%)	48,200 (1.1%)	47,500 (1.1%)	58,000 (1.2%)	37,400 (0.8%)
Coastal regions outside GMR	14,100 (3.2%)	17,800 (3.4%)	11,900 (2.0%)	10,400 (1.6%)	8,200 (1.2%)
Inland	3,800 (0.4%)	7,500 (0.8%)	1,700 (0.2%)	5,700 (0.6%)	2,500 (0.3%)
New South Wales	59,300 (1.1%)	73,400 (1.3%)	61,200 (1.0%)	74,100 (1.2%)	48,200 (0.7%)

Notes: 'GMR₁' comprises all statistical local areas (SLAs)/local government areas (LGAs) in the Sydney Statistical Division (SD), Newcastle Statistical Subdivision (SSD) and Wollongong SSD.

'Coastal regions outside GMR₁' comprises all SLAs/LGAs in the Richmond–Tweed SD, Mid-North Coast SD and the following LGAs: Great Lakes, Shoalhaven, Eurobodalla and Bega Valley.

'Inland' comprises all SLAs/LGAs not included in either the GMR₁ or coastal regions outside GMR₁.

Source: DECCW, *NSW State of the Environment Report 2009*, Chapter 1.2.

The Local Government Areas in NSW with the *largest* growth between 2009 and 2010 were in Sydney, namely:

1. Blacktown (8300 people)
2. Parramatta (5100 people)
3. Sydney (4500 people)
4. The Hills Shire and Liverpool (3400 people each)

The Local Government Areas in NSW with the *fastest* growth between 2009 and 2010 were also in Sydney:

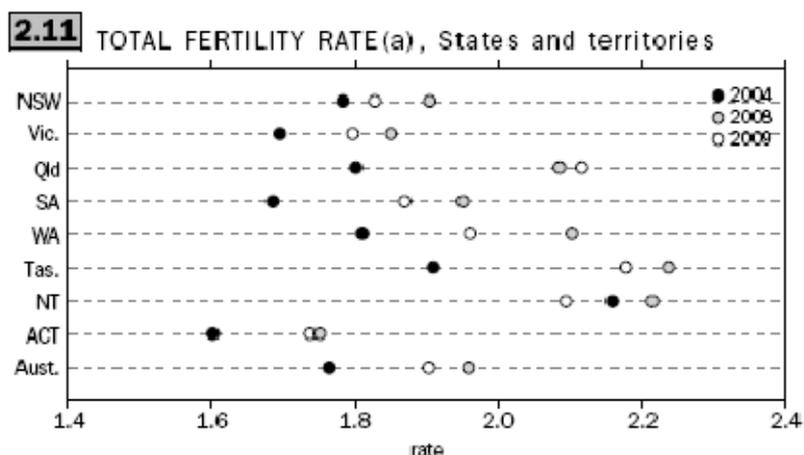
1. Canada Bay (3.7%)
2. Parramatta (3%)
3. Camden (2.9%)
4. Auburn and Blacktown (up by 2.8% each).

Outside of the Sydney Statistical Division (SD), the Hunter SD experienced the largest population increase between 2009 and 2010 (8000 people), followed by the Illawarra SD (5400 people) and Mid-North Coast SD (4000 people). The South Eastern SD experienced the fastest growth rate, with its population increasing by 1.5% in a year. The Far West SD was the only region to experience a fall in population between 2009 and 2010 (losing about 130 people).

Source: ABS, *Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2009-10*, 3218.0, March 2011.

Fertility and death rates

The chart below compares the fertility rates of each of the States and Territories in 2004, 2008 and 2009. In 2009, NSW had the third lowest fertility rate with only Victoria and the ACT having a smaller rate.



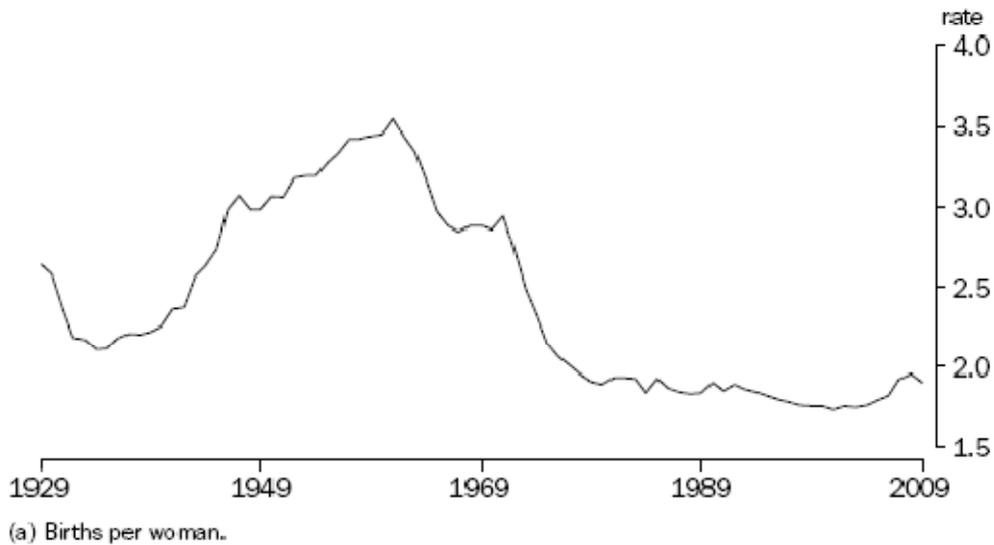
Source: ABS, *Births, Australia, 2009*, 3301.0, November 2010.

The fertility rate has fluctuated throughout the last 100 years.⁴ In the early 1920s the fertility rate was 3.1 babies per woman before falling to 2.1 by 1934. It reached 3.5 babies per woman in 1961, at the peak of the baby boom. However, the fertility rate dropped rapidly in the 1960s owing to the impact of the widespread availability of the oral contraceptive pill. The reinterpretation of the law regarding abortion in the early 1970s is thought to have had an impact on the fertility rate at that time, as the number of births to young women decreased, with a simultaneous increase in the median age of mothers. The fertility rate stabilised throughout the 1980s before falling again in the 1990s, reaching a low of 1.73 in 2001. The rate of 1.96 babies per woman in Australia in 2008 represented a 30 year high.

The long term trend in the fertility rate for Australia is illustrated by the graph below.

⁴ The information in this paragraph regarding the historical influences on the fertility rate is sourced from ABS, *Births, Australia, 2009*, 3301.0, November 2010.

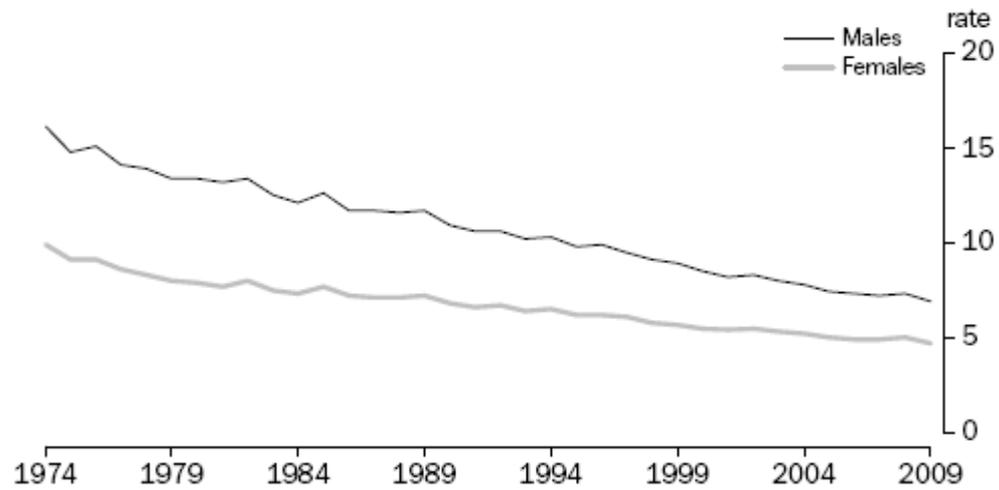
2.1 TOTAL FERTILITY RATE(a), Australia—1929 to 2009



The death rate also influences the growth or decline in population numbers. The following chart compares the death rate for each of the States and Territories in 2009 and shows how it has fallen since 1989. NSW has one of the lowest death rates in Australia.



Source: ABS, *Deaths, Australia, 2009*, 3302.0, November 2010.

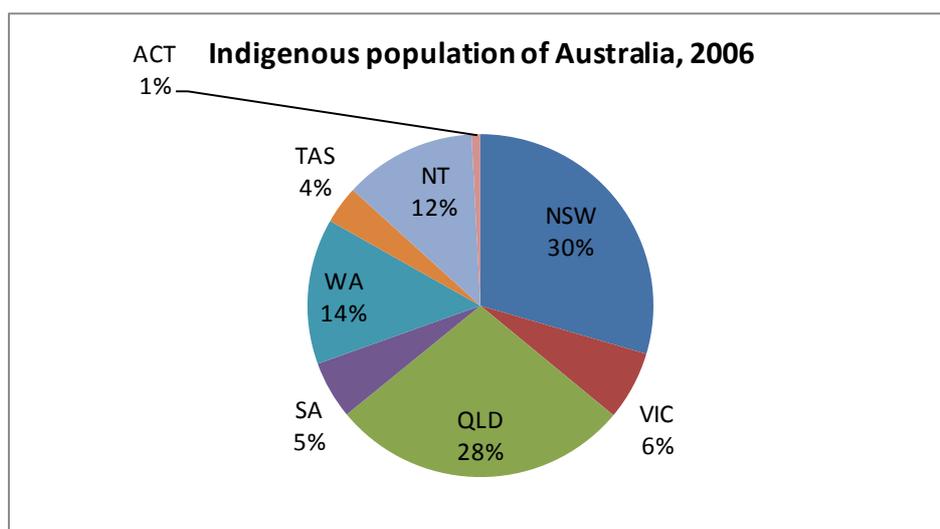
2.3 STANDARDISED DEATH RATES (a), Australia

(a) Deaths per 1,000 standard population. Standardised death rates are calculated using the

Ethnicity

Indigenous Australians

As the table below reveals, 30% of Australia's Indigenous population in 2006 resided in NSW (152,685 persons out of 517,043). It is a young population group with 49% of the NSW Indigenous population being under the age of 20 years (compared to 25.8% of the NSW population as a whole).



Source: ABS, *Australian Demographic Statistics, September 2010*, 3101.0, March 2011.

76% of the Indigenous population in NSW lives in major cities or inner regional areas compared to 52.7% of the total Australian Indigenous population.

Proportion of Indigenous population by remoteness, 2006

	NSW	AUS
Major cities	43%	31.8%
Inner regional	33%	20.9%
Outer regional	18%	21.9%
Remote	4%	9.6%
Very remote	1%	15.8%

Source: ABS, *Population characteristics, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006*, 4713.0, May 2010

Born overseas

As at June 2006, 27% of people in NSW were born overseas. The most common country of birth was the UK at 4.3%, followed by China at 2.1% and New Zealand at 1.8%. 1/5 of people in NSW speak a language other than English in the home.

Selected countries of birth, NSW, 2006

Australia	5,009,005	73.5%
United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man	293,123	4.3%
New Zealand	121,627	1.8%
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	143,311	2.1%
Italy	63,185	0.9%
Vietnam	74,023	1.1%
India	70,805	1.0%
Philippines	67,212	1.0%
Greece	42,946	0.6%
Germany	36,272	0.5%
South Africa	37,880	0.6%
Malaysia	27,002	0.4%
Netherlands	21,765	0.3%
Lebanon	64,458	0.9%
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	44,209	0.6%
United States of America	25,754	0.4%
Sri Lanka	22,190	0.3%
Croatia	25,796	0.4%
Poland	18,174	0.3%
Korea, Republic of (South)	37,888	0.6%
Ireland	20,557	0.3%
Indonesia	25,213	0.4%
Fiji	33,371	0.5%
Malta	19,939	0.3%
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	21,539	0.3%
Total Overseas-born	1,807,082	26.5%
Total New South Wales	6,816,087	

Source: ABS, *Migration, Australia, 2007-08*, 3412.0, July 2009.

The proportion of the Australian population that is overseas born has fluctuated throughout the years. In the 1891 census, 32% of the population was listed as having been born overseas but by 1901 it had fallen to 23% before decreasing again to 10% by 1947. High levels of post-war migration meant the proportion of the population that was born overseas rose rapidly, and then:

From the beginning of the 1970s until the late 1980s, the proportion of the population born overseas remained steady at about 20%, and following an increase in immigration levels at the end of the 1980s, rose to 23% in 1990. Further arrivals of migrants in the 1990s contributed to the increase in the overseas-born population, with their proportion of the overall resident population rising to 27% by 30 June 2009.⁵

⁵ ABS, *Migration, Australia, 2008-09*, 3412.0, July 2010.

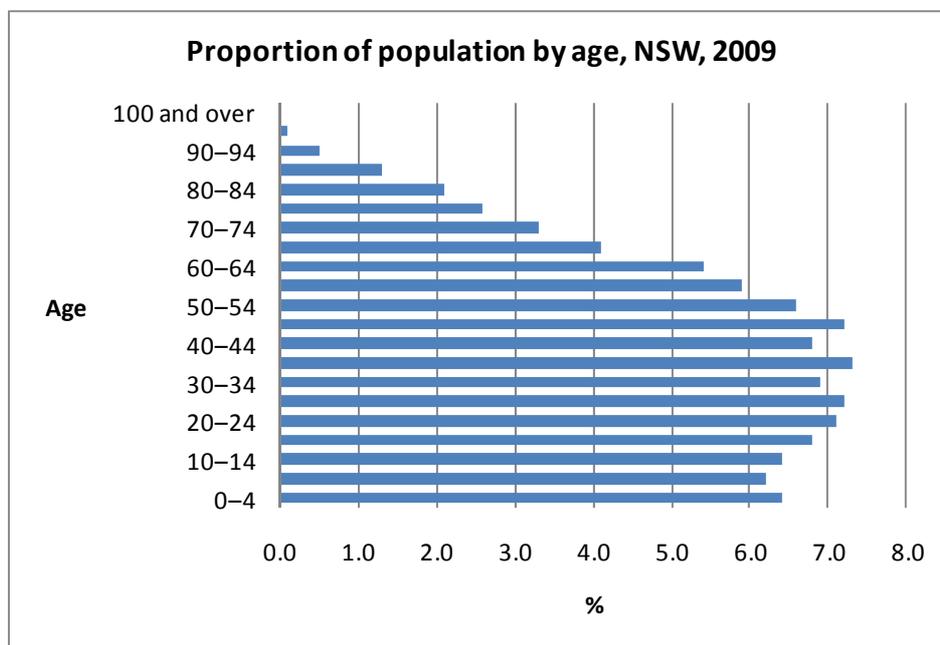
Age

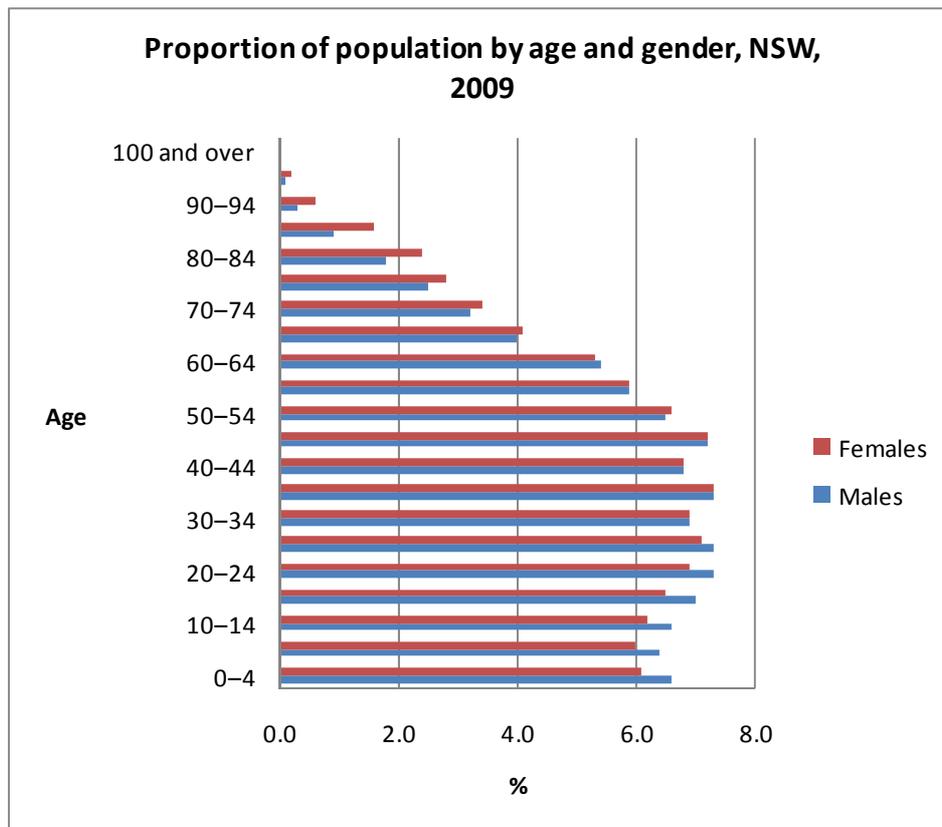
As the following table shows, 67.1% of the population of NSW in 2009 was of working age (between the ages of 15 and 64 years). 18.9% were under the age of 15 years and 13.9% were over the age of 65 years. 1.9% of the population of NSW were elderly (85 years and over). The median age of a person in NSW was 37.1 years, which is older than the Australian average of 36.9 years. Only Tasmania and South Australia had an older median age at 39.6 and 39.1 years respectively.

Population composition – age – NSW

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Aged 0–14 years	%	20.4	20.2	20.0	19.8	19.7	19.6	19.3	19.1	18.9
Aged 15–64 years	%	66.5	66.6	66.8	66.8	66.9	66.9	67.1	67.1	67.1
Aged 65 years and over	%	13.1	13.1	13.2	13.3	13.4	13.5	13.6	13.8	13.9
Aged 85 years and over	%	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9
Median age–Total population	years	35.9	36.1	36.3	36.5	36.6	36.8	36.9	37.1	37.1

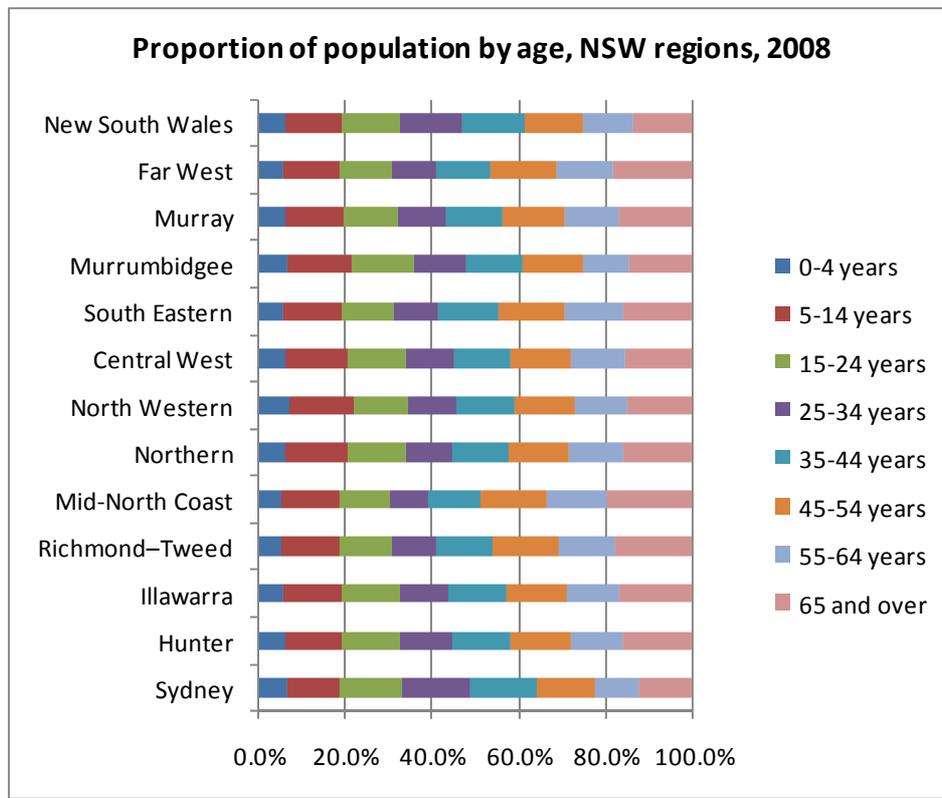
Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011





The ageing of Australia's population has received much attention in recent years, as a greater proportion of the population moves into retirement. The ageing of the population is thought to be due to increased longevity, lower fertility and mortality rates, and migration levels. The change in the distribution between the working and non-working population has given rise to concerns about how to best manage pressures on the health and aged care systems, as well as general issues relating to housing, labour force participation (including mature age workforce participation), and skilled labour shortages.

As the graph below shows, the NSW region with the largest proportion of its population aged 65 and over is the Mid-North Coast (19.7% is aged 65 plus), followed by the Far West (18.1%) and Richmond-Tweed (17.8%). The regions with the greatest proportion of its population under the age of 15 years is North Western NSW (21.9%) followed by the Murrumbidgee (21.3%) and Northern (20.5%) regions.



Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011

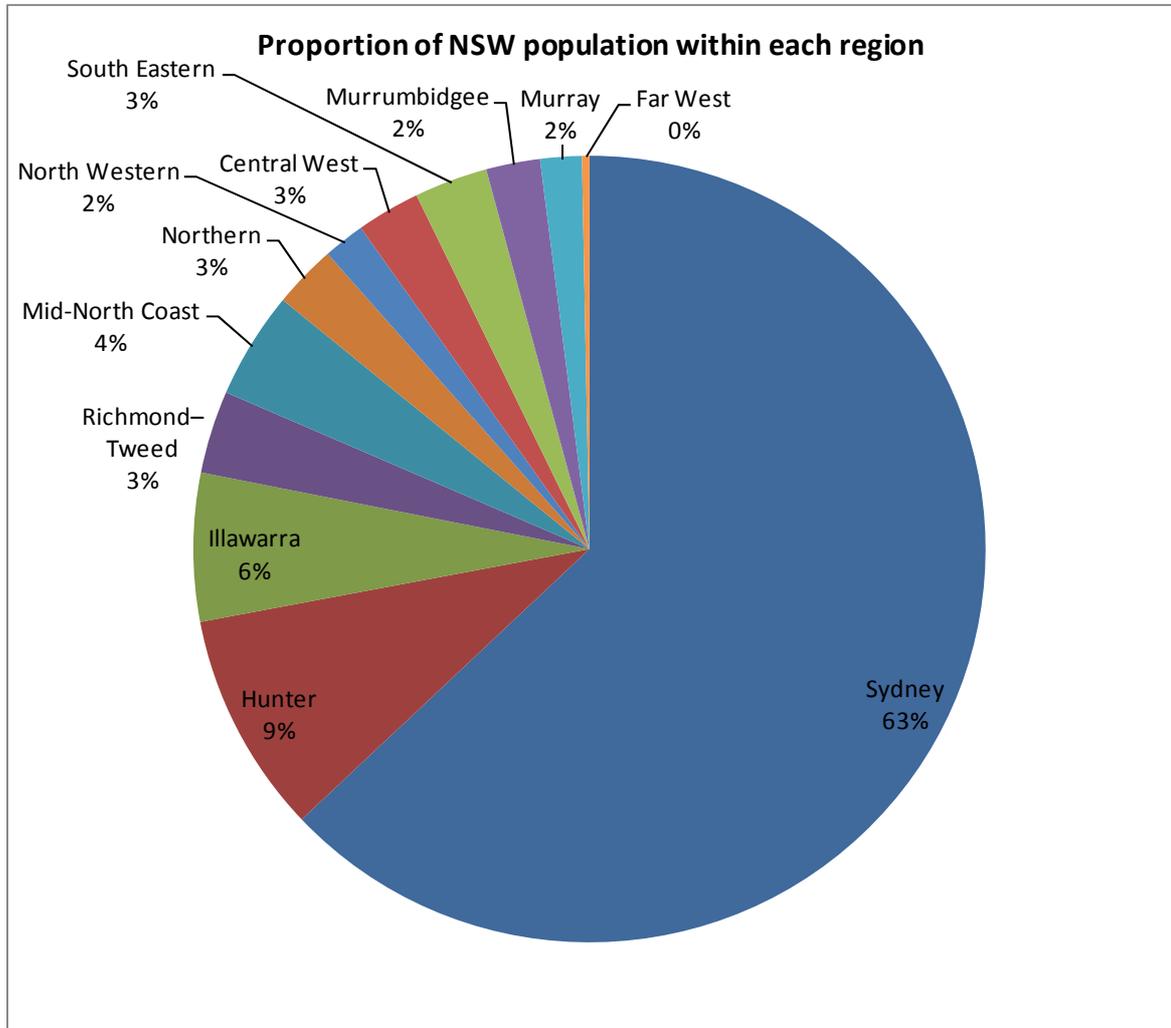
Population distribution and density

The following table sets out the number of people in each of the 12 Statistical Divisions (SDs) of NSW. The overwhelming majority of people live in Sydney (63%) with another 15% in the Hunter and Illawarra SDs combined. The smallest region in terms of the number of people is the Far West SD with 22,737 persons or 0.3% of the NSW population. The density of the regions varies from a low of 0.2 persons per km² in the Far West SD to a high of 371.1 persons per km² in the Sydney SD (the NSW average being 8.9 persons per km²).

Population by region of NSW, 2008

	Total persons	Proportion of NSW population	Population density
Statistical Division	no.	%	Persons/km ²
Sydney	4,399,722	63.0	371.1
Hunter	632,851	9.1	22.2
Illawarra	423,487	6.1	51.9
Richmond–Tweed	237,361	3.4	23.5
Mid-North Coast	304,323	4.4	12.1
Northern	181,667	2.6	1.9
North Western	116,736	1.7	0.6
Central West	180,074	2.6	2.9
South Eastern	212,238	3.0	4.2
Murrumbidgee	155,868	2.2	2.5
Murray	117,108	1.7	1.3
Far West	22,737	0.3	0.2
New South Wales	6,984,172	100.0	8.9

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010*, 1338.1, January 2011



Population projections

The following table shows the projected growth in population for each of the States and Territories between 2006 and 2056. The population of NSW is projected to increase by almost 50% to reach 10.2 million people in 2056. Interestingly, Queensland is projected to succeed Victoria as the second most populous State by 2056. It is important to note that:

The projections are not predictions or forecasts, but are simply illustrations of the growth and change in population which would occur if certain assumptions about future levels of fertility, mortality, internal migration and overseas migration were to prevail over the projection period. The assumptions incorporate recent trends which indicate increasing levels of fertility and net overseas migration for Australia.⁶

Population projections

	2006	2016	2026	2036	2046	2056	% change 2006-56
NSW	6,816,087	7,603,799	8,395,056	9,092,352	9,676,667	10,210,214	49.8%
VIC	5,126,540	5,900,761	6,662,217	7,354,160	7,966,769	8,538,277	66.6%
QLD	4,090,908	5,052,437	6,037,991	6,983,568	7,876,322	8,738,890	113.6%
SA	1,567,888	1,729,745	1,884,360	2,013,217	2,114,525	2,204,536	40.6%
WA	2,059,381	2,526,995	3,000,489	3,452,825	3,880,144	4,293,381	108.5%
TAS	489,951	543,630	605,306	663,794	720,250	778,284	58.8%
NT	210,627	248,566	285,002	321,892	360,356	401,563	90.7%
ACT	334,119	376,983	416,524	450,829	480,580	509,272	52.4%

* The figures above are based on Series B data which largely reflects current trends in fertility, life expectancy at birth, net overseas migration and net interstate migration.

Source: ABS, *Population Projections, Australia, 2006 to 2101*, 3222.0, September 2008.

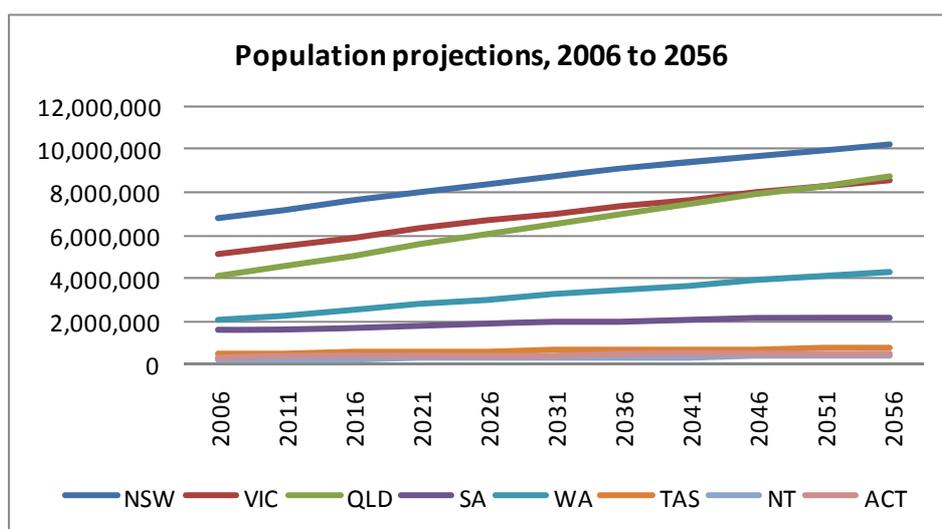
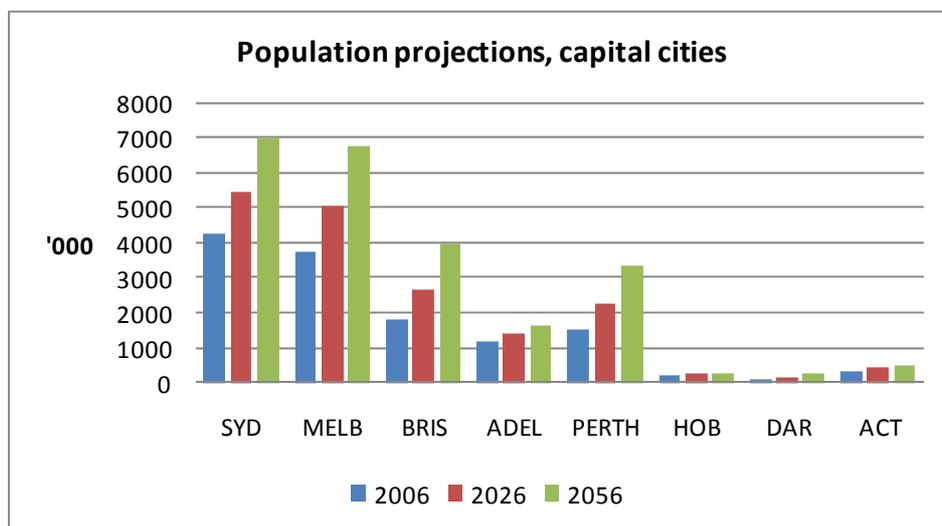
The following table sets out the population projections for each of the Australian capital cities, except for the ACT where the projection is for the Territory as a whole. The population of Sydney is projected to increase by 63% between 2006 and 2056 to reach 7 million people. Melbourne is projected to reach a similar population with 6.8 million people in 2056. The populations of Brisbane, Perth and Darwin are expected to more than double by 2056.

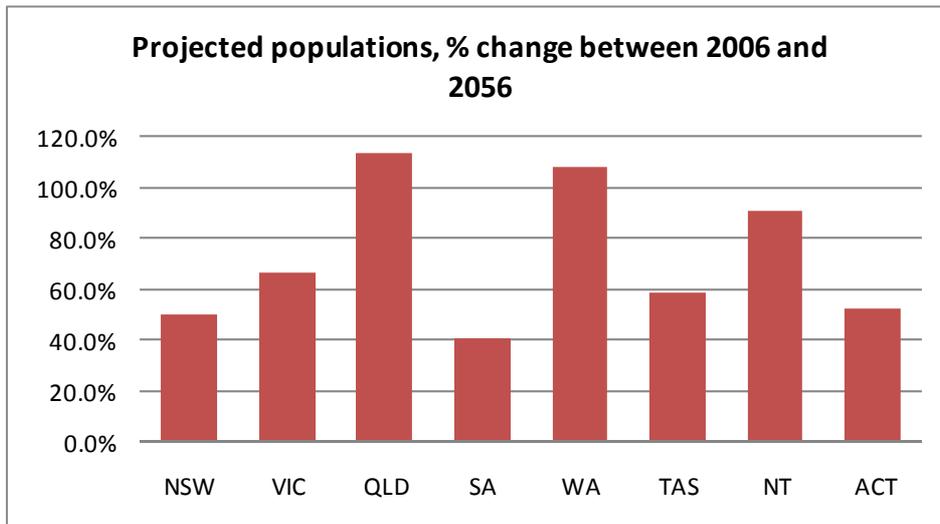
⁶ ABS, *Population Projections, Australia, 2006 to 2101*, 3222.0, September 2008.

Population projections, capital cities, '000

	2006	2026	2056
SYD	4282.0	5426.3	6976.8
MELB	3743.0	5038.1	6789.2
BRIS	1819.8	2681.1	3979.3
ADEL	1145.8	1384.5	1651.8
PERTH	1518.7	2267.6	3358.4
HOB	205.5	245.3	279.7
DAR	114.4	165.2	243.0
ACT	334.1	416.5	509.3

Source: ABS, *Population Projections, Australia, 2006 to 2101, 3222.0*, September 2008.





HOUSING

The importance of housing cannot be overstated. It 'plays a major role in the health and wellbeing of Australians and provides the security that allows people to participate in the social, economic and community aspects of their lives. The availability of affordable and appropriate housing also plays a significant role in addressing homelessness'.⁷

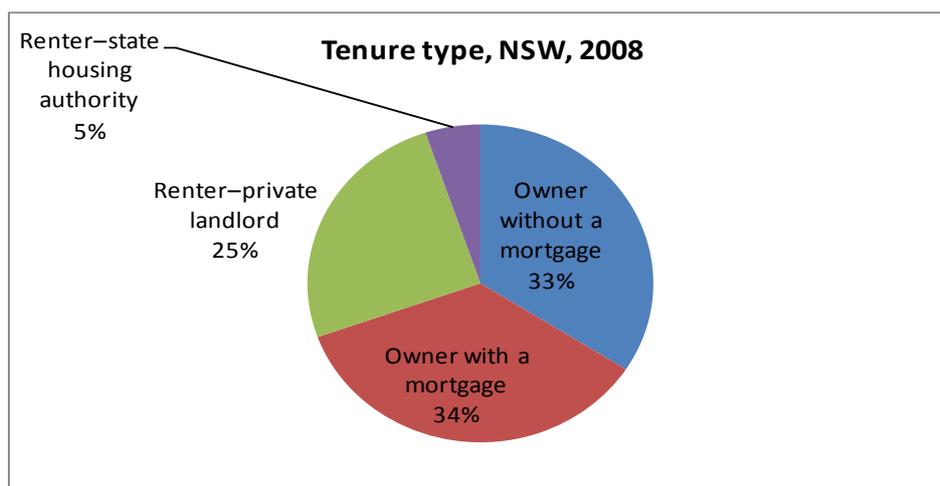
There were 2.5 million private dwellings in NSW as at December 2010, of which 70% were separate houses, 19% were flats, units or apartments and 10% were semi-detached, row/terrace or townhouses. Each dwelling had an average of three bedrooms and 2.6 persons.⁸

Tenure

Two-thirds of households in NSW are owners with or without a mortgage. More than 34% of households in NSW in 2008 were owners with a mortgage and another 33% were owners without a mortgage. Almost ¼ of households in NSW rent their home privately and 5% rent their home through the State housing authority.

Tenure type, NSW, % of households

	2004	2006	2008
Owner without a mortgage	35.4	34.9	33.1
Owner with a mortgage	33.2	33.5	34.4
Renter—private landlord	22.4	22.8	24.6
Renter—state housing authority	5.1	5.0	5.0



Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010*, 1338.1, January 2011.

⁷ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Welfare 2009*, AIHW, Canberra, 2009, p 241.

⁸ ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010*, 1338.1, January 2011.

House prices

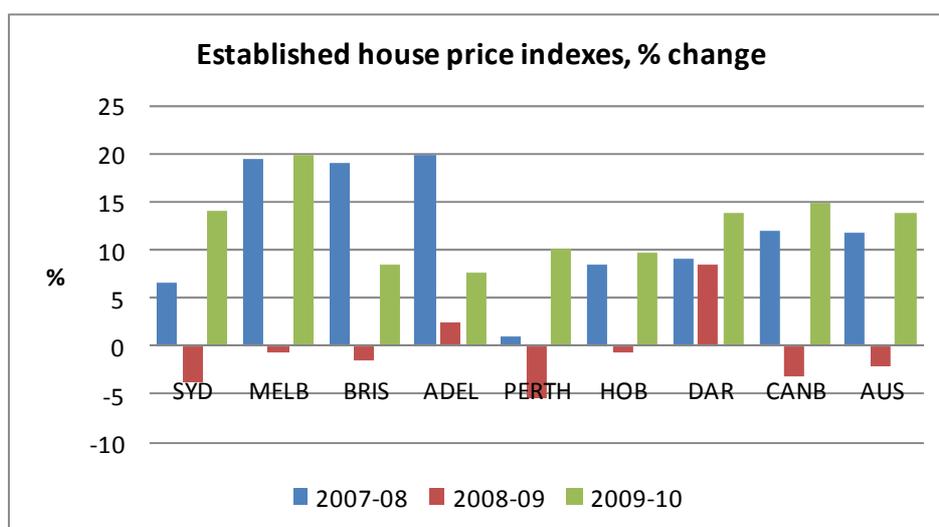
The following table compares the annual change in the established house price index for each of the Australian capital cities. After numerous capital cities experienced a drop in the house price index in 2008-09, house prices were moving in a positive direction again in 2009-10 in all jurisdictions. The established house price index in Sydney moved by 14% in 2009-10, which was slightly higher than the Australian average of 13.8%.

Established house price indexes, % change

Period	SYD	MELB	BRIS	ADEL	PERTH	HOB	DAR	CANB	AUS
2007-08	6.7	19.4	19	19.8	1	8.5	9	12	11.7
2008-09	-3.8	-0.6	-1.4	2.4	-5.5	-0.6	8.5	-3.1	-2.2
2009-10	14	19.9	8.5	7.6	10.1	9.8	13.9	14.9	13.8

NB: The Australian value is the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

Source: ABS, *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities, March Quarter 2011*, 6416.0, May 2011.



The median rent in the Sydney Statistical Division in the March quarter 2011 was \$430 compared to \$370 for NSW as a whole. This was an increase of 7.5% over the last year for Sydney. Rental prices across NSW rose by an average of 5.7%.

The average sale price for a dwelling in the Sydney Statistical Division in the December 2010 quarter was \$525,000 (up 5% in the last year) compared to an average of \$440,000 across NSW (up 3.5%).

Median rents and sales – all dwellings

	Inner ring	Middle ring	Outer ring	Sydney SD	NSW
Rent (\$/wk)					
Mar Qtr 2011	\$520	\$430	\$375	\$430	\$370
Qtly change	0.00%	0.00%	1.40%	0.00%	0.00%
Ann change	8.30%	7.50%	7.10%	7.50%	5.70%
Sales (\$'000s)					
Dec Qtr 2010	\$693	\$565	\$430	\$525	\$440
Qtly change	2.80%	5.50%	1.20%	3.80%	2.80%
Ann change	8.10%	6.60%	2.40%	5.00%	3.50%

Source: Housing NSW, *Rent and Sales Report*, no 95.

Housing costs

The lack of affordable housing in NSW has attracted much attention in recent years, as has the topic of mortgage/rental stress as the cost of housing seems to absorb an ever-increasing portion of income. Some are having difficulty in meeting mortgage repayments, for various reasons. The top nine regions in Australia in 2008 when ranked by incidence of 30 plus days of mortgage arrears were in NSW:⁹

1. Fairfield – Liverpool
2. Gosford – Wyong
3. Outer South Western Sydney
4. Outer Western Sydney
5. Newcastle
6. Central Western Sydney
7. Wollongong
8. Blacktown
9. Canterbury - Bankstown

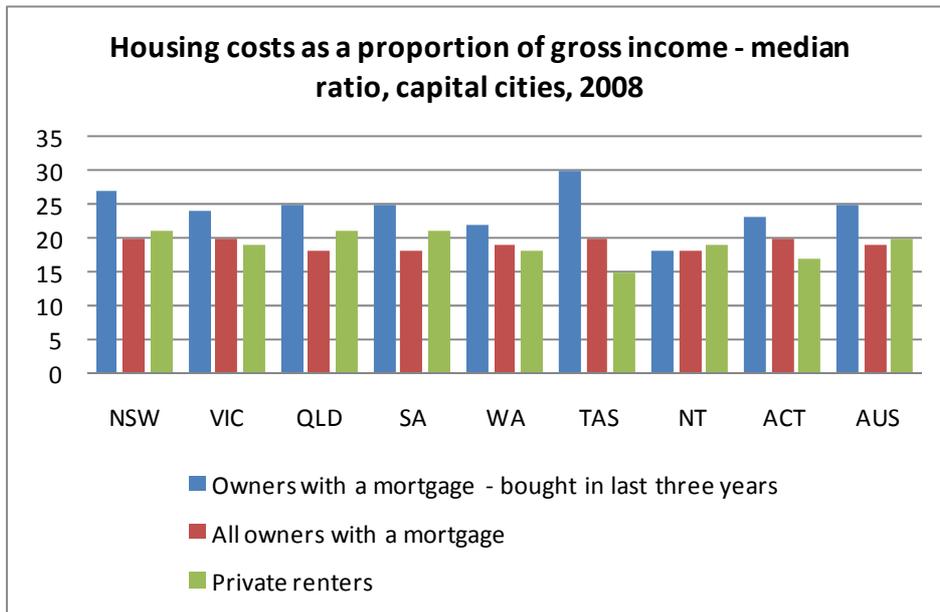
The table below compares housing costs as a proportion of gross income for each of the States and Territories. Of those who required a mortgage to purchase a home in Sydney in the three years before 2008, the median ratio of housing costs was 27% of gross income. This was the second highest of the States and Territories, second only to Tasmania where the ratio was 30%. The median ratio for private renters in Sydney was a little lower at 21% of gross income in 2008, the highest of the capital cities together with Brisbane and Adelaide. NSW had the second highest average loan for first home buyers at \$300,300 (up from \$180,900 in 2002). Northern Territory had the greatest average loan for first home buyers at \$302,700.

Housing costs as a proportion of gross income – median ratio

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS
Recent home buyers in the last 3 years – Owners with a mortgage – Capital city (2008)	27	24	25	25	22	30	18	23	25
All owners with a mortgage – Capital city (2008)	20	20	18	18	19	20	18	20	19
Private renters – Capital city - (2008)	21	19	21	21	18	15	19	17	20
First home buyers average loan – State/Territory – mean - \$'000 (2010)	300.3	271.9	279.6	237.1	292.7	199.6	302.7	287.7	281.6

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010*, 1338.1, January 2011.

⁹ Urban Research Centre, *The experience of mortgage distress in Western Sydney*, UWS, 2010, p 13.



The following table provides some more detail on housing costs in NSW. It compares the housing-related costs in Sydney with the rest of NSW. It looks at the housing costs for: those with a mortgage; those without a mortgage; renters; as well as NSW as a whole. For owners with a mortgage, the median housing costs per week in Sydney were \$432, with a median gross weekly household income of \$2153. For the balance of NSW, the median housing costs were \$283 per week for owners with a mortgage out of a median gross weekly household income of \$1656.

Renters in Sydney were paying a median price of \$300 per week out of a household income of \$1383, compared to \$188 out of a median weekly household income of \$887 for renters in the rest of NSW.

Housing occupancy costs, NSW, 2007-08

		Owners with a mortgage				Owners without a mortgage	Private renters	Total households
		Recent first home buyers	Recent change over buyers	Total recent home buyers	Total owners with a mortgage			
SYDNEY SD								
Housing costs as a proportion of gross income–median ratio	%	27	23	27	20	3	21	16
Median housing costs per week	\$	577	639	583	432	30	300	220
Median gross weekly household income	\$	2,000	2,748	2,296	2,153	972	1,383	1,435
Proportion of all households	%	4.2	5.1	9.4	36.5	28.0	27.7	100.0
Estimated number of households	'000	67.9	82.2	150.1	585.3	449.5	444.6	1,603.0
BALANCE OF NSW								
Housing costs as a proportion of gross income–median ratio	%	28	19	25	18	3	21	10
Median housing costs per week	\$	436	324	382	283	26	188	83
Median gross weekly household income	\$	1,483	1,657	1,635	1,656	684	887	1,041
Proportion of all households	%	3.5	4.4	7.9	31.2	40.8	19.8	100.0
Estimated number of households	'000	36.9	45.8	82.6	327.6	427.6	207.5	1,048.7
NSW								
Housing costs as a proportion of gross income–median ratio	%	28	22	26	19	3	21	14
Median housing costs per week	\$	527	471	495	371	28	260	155
Median gross weekly household income	\$	1,919	2,152	1,990	1,963	805	1,251	1,285
Proportion of all households	%	4.0	4.8	8.8	34.4	33.1	24.6	100.0
Estimated number of households	'000	104.8	128.0	232.8	912.9	877.2	652.1	2,651.7

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

Social housing

Related to the issue of housing affordability is the availability of social housing. With the current demand for affordable housing in Australia exceeding supply, and with a continued decline of affordable private rental accommodation, it is likely that the demand for social housing will only increase.¹⁰ Social housing comprises both community (not for profit organisations) and public (government) rental housing, including Indigenous-specific housing. It seeks to provide a more affordable and secure alternative to private rental arrangements. However, 'over time, the focus of social housing in Australia has moved away from supplying affordable properties for rental or home purchase to low and middle income working families, towards providing accommodation on a priority needs basis to households with special needs or in challenging circumstances'.¹¹ Households in social housing generally: have very low incomes; receive a government pension as their main source of income; are mostly single persons; and are older than the population in general.¹² In addition to those in social housing, there is a large number of people on the waiting list for public housing. In Australia in 2010 there were more than 170,000 households on the waiting list.

Total households in social housing, 30 June 2009

Program type		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
Public rental housing	No.	117242	62565	50579	30616	40774	11364	10620	4976	328736
	%	81.5	82.6	75.8	77.8	84.6	91.8	93.6	58.9	81
SOMIH	No.	4083	198	3048	2152	1758	343	-	-	11582
	%	2.8	0.3	4.6	5.5	3.6	2.8	-	-	2.9
Mainstream community housing	No.	16639	7556	5610	2650	4329	406	643	NA	37833
	%	11.6	10	8.4	6.7	9	3.3	5.7	NA	9.3
Indigenous community housing	No.	4429	1701	6192	3366	1031	135	24	3354	20232
	%	3.1	2.2	9.3	8.6	2.1	1.1	0.2	39.7	5
Crisis Accommodation Program	No.	1511	3705	1326	543	293	127	60	122	7687
	%	1.1	4.9	2	1.4	0.6	1	0.5	1.4	1.9
Total households	No.	145230	77822	68854	39327	48185	12375	11347	8452	406070

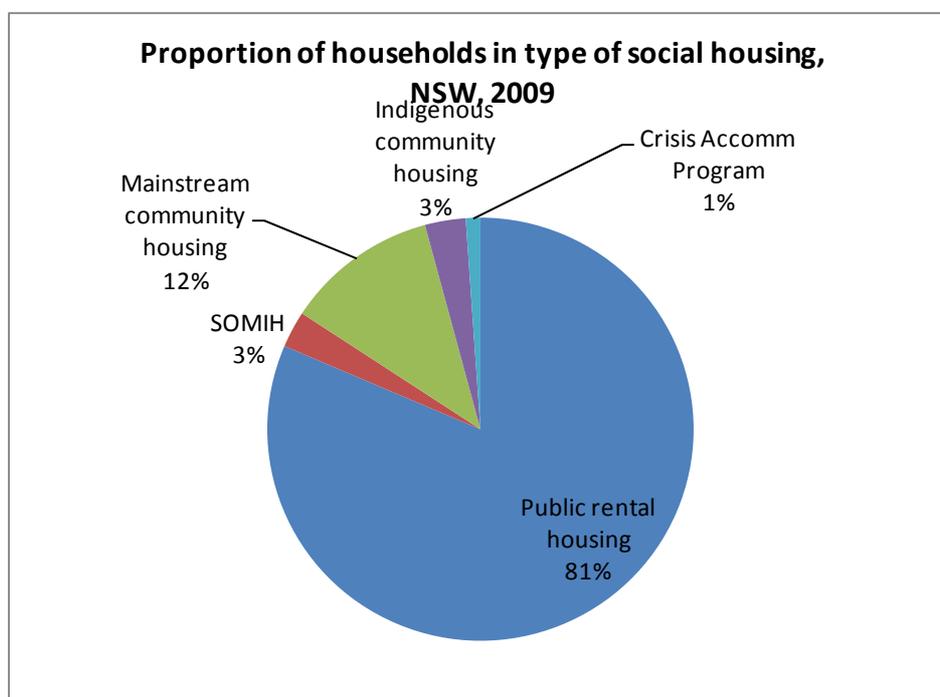
SOMIH: State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *A profile of social housing in Australia*, AIHW, Canberra, 2010.

¹⁰ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Welfare 2009*, AIHW, Canberra, 2009.

¹¹ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *A profile of social housing in Australia*, AIHW, Canberra, 2010, p 1.

¹² Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *A profile of social housing in Australia*, AIHW, Canberra, 2010.

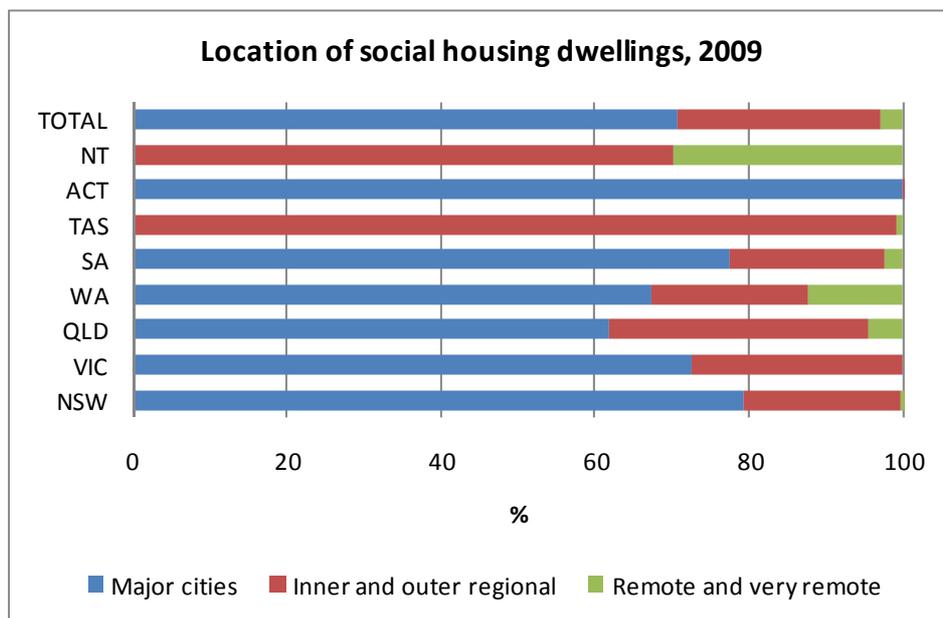


The following table looks at where social housing dwellings are located in each State and Territory. 79.3% of social housing dwellings in NSW are found in its major cities (the highest proportion of any of the States), with 20.3% in the inner and outer regional areas of NSW. The Northern Territory has the largest proportion of social housing located in remote and very remote areas at 30%.

Location of social housing dwellings, 30 June 2009

		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
Major cities	No.	110014	53120	37867	26401	37794	0	11449	0	276645
	%	79.3	72.5	61.7	67.2	77.4	0	99.9	0	70.8
Inner and outer regional Australia	No.	27140	20155	20807	8087	9913	12433	12	3731	103278
	%	20.3	27.5	33.9	20.6	20.3	99.2	0.1	70.1	26.4
Remote and very remote Australia	No.	629	31	2661	4805	1145	103	0	1595	10969
	%	0.5	0	4.3	12.2	2.3	0.8	0	29.9	2.8
Total	No.	138783	73306	61335	39293	48852	12536	11461	5326	390892

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *A profile of social housing in Australia*, AIHW, Canberra, 2010.



In NSW in 2008/09, there were more than 146,000 dwellings under social housing management. 85% of these formed public housing, 11% were community housing, 3% were Aboriginal Housing Office dwellings, and 1% was crisis accommodation.

Social housing, NSW

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
ASSETS (NO.)					
Dwellings under management					
Public housing	128,270	127,627	126,325	125,557	124,468
Community housing	12,241	12,892	14,140	15,397	16,141
Crisis accommodation	1,414	1,439	1,484	1,502	1,511
Aboriginal Housing Office dwellings	4,202	4,282	4,321	4,248	4,256
Total dwellings under management	146,127	146,240	146,270	146,704	146,376
Public and community dwellings completed in the year	691	779	883	995	1,224
CUSTOMERS AND ASSISTANCE PROVIDED (NO.)					
Tenancies					
Public housing	122,884	121,870	120,516	119,108	117,363
Community housing	12,474	13,227	14,660	16,325	16,639
Aboriginal Housing Office tenants	4,061	4,112	4,152	4,122	4,101
Total tenancies managed	139,419	139,209	139,328	139,555	138,103
New public housing tenancies	9,082	8,988	8,870	7,895	6,311
Approved applicants for public housing	69,067	53,328	44,870	43,134	39,484
Private rental assistance	35,494	35,358	33,292	29,872	34,187

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

Homelessness

Homelessness is an important housing issue and it incorporates those in temporary accommodation arrangements as well as those sleeping out. It is an issue that affects regional and remote areas as well as metropolitan regions. Family homelessness is an issue of growing concern, with more than a quarter of homeless people in 2005 being members of homeless families with children, increasing from 17% of homeless people in 2001.¹³ As the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has noted:

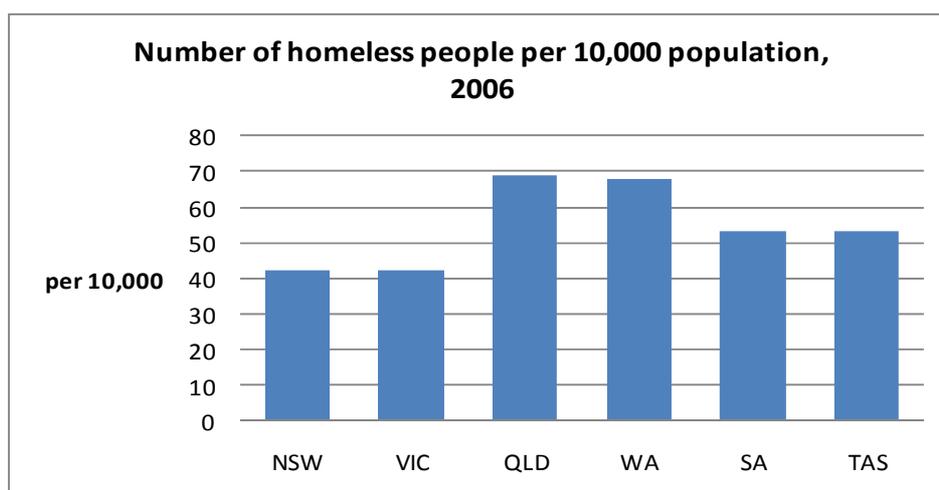
A home for most Australians is a dwelling that provides shelter, safety, security and privacy. It is widely acknowledged that affordable, secure and appropriate housing is also essential for good health, education, employment and community safety outcomes, and that achievement of these outcomes contributes to people's ability to participate actively in their communities.¹⁴

The table below compares the rate of homelessness per 10,000 people in each of the States and Territories in 2001 and 2006. The number of homeless persons in NSW has remained steady at 42 per 10,000 people, the lowest rate of the Australian States together with Victoria.

Number of homeless people per 10,000 population

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
2001	42	44	70	64	52	52	40	288	53
2006	42	42	69	68	53	53	42	248	53

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Welfare 2009*, AIHW, Canberra, 2009.



¹³ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Welfare 2009*, AIHW, Canberra, 2009.

¹⁴ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Australia's Welfare 2009*, AIHW, Canberra, 2009, p 241.

The rate of homelessness in Australia's capital cities varies from a low of 39 per 10,000 population in Sydney to a high of 234 per 10,000 population in Darwin.

Number of homeless people per 10,000 population, capital cities, 2006

Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Perth	Adelaide	Hobart	Canberra	Darwin
39	41	45	47	47	53	42	234

The following table notes the accommodation arrangements of the homeless and those in marginal housing in NSW in 2001 and 2006. Of the 27,374 homeless persons in 2006, 40% were staying with friends or relatives, 28% were in a boarding house, 19% were part of the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program and 13% were in improvised dwellings or sleeping out.

Accommodation arrangements of homeless and marginally housed people, NSW

		2001	2006
Boarding house	%	29	28
Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)	%	15	19
Friends/relatives	%	45	40
Improvised dwellings/sleepers out	%	11	13
<i>Total</i>	%	100	100
Total homeless persons	no.	26,676	27,374
Homelessness per 10,000 population	rate	42.2	41.8

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

Housing and employment

Population, housing and transport issues are intertwined in numerous ways. One key area is the distance workers need to travel to their place of employment. As Infrastructure Australia has noted, 'The relationship between where a home is located, and where jobs, facilities and services are located generates transport demand'.¹⁵

The following table compares the proximity of places of residence and employment for various areas within Sydney as well as across NSW. Within Sydney, 17.3% of people live less than five kilometres from their place of employment. Across the rest of NSW the proportion is higher, with 19.5% of people living within five kilometres of their place of employment. However, 1.4% of people in NSW live more than 50 kilometres from their suburb of employment, increasing to as high as 4.4% of those in the Gosford-Wyong region.

Proximity of usual resident to current suburb of employment, October 2008, NSW

	Worked from own home	Worked without a fixed location	Less than 5km	5km to less than 10km	10km to less than 20km	20km to less than 50km	50km or more	Total
Labour Force Regions	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	'000
Sydney MSR								
Inner Sydney	3.5	2.8	40.7	18.2	5.3	3.2		250.7
Eastern Suburbs	2.8	3.2	28.1	21.4	7.0		0.0	204.9
St George–Sutherland	5.2	4.8	13.5	10.6	20.9	9.4	0.0	343.3
Canterbury–Bankstown	4.2	3.2	15.6	11.9	15.0	4.3		242.1
Fairfield–Liverpool	3.7	4.7	13.3	8.8	15.5	13.5		284.1
Outer South Western Sydney	3.6	6.4	11.9	9.2	8.7	25.1	2.2	185.6
Inner Western Sydney	5.2	4.9	11.2	25.1	16.8	2.0	0.0	138.0
Central Western Sydney	2.9	7.2	14.1	8.4	18.7	6.8	0.0	226.4
North Western Sydney	3.4	5.1	12.5	10.3	13.4	19.6	1.2	458.4
Lower Northern Sydney	6.4	3.2	25.0	19.8	13.3		0.0	242.2
Central Northern Sydney	5.3	4.1	10.9	11.1	22.9	12.2	0.6	322.4
Northern Beaches	7.0	7.5	19.4	13.3	16.7	6.6		196.1
Gosford–Wyong	3.5	4.5	14.4	9.4	11.5	9.8	4.4	239.5
<i>Total Sydney MSR</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>17.3</i>	<i>12.9</i>	<i>14.7</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>3,333.9</i>
<i>Balance of NSW</i>	<i>6.1</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>19.5</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>9.2</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>1,896.3</i>
Total New South Wales	4.9	4.2	18.1	10.8	12.7	9.3	1.4	5,230.2

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

¹⁵

Infrastructure Australia, *State of Australian Cities 2010 Report*, p 103.

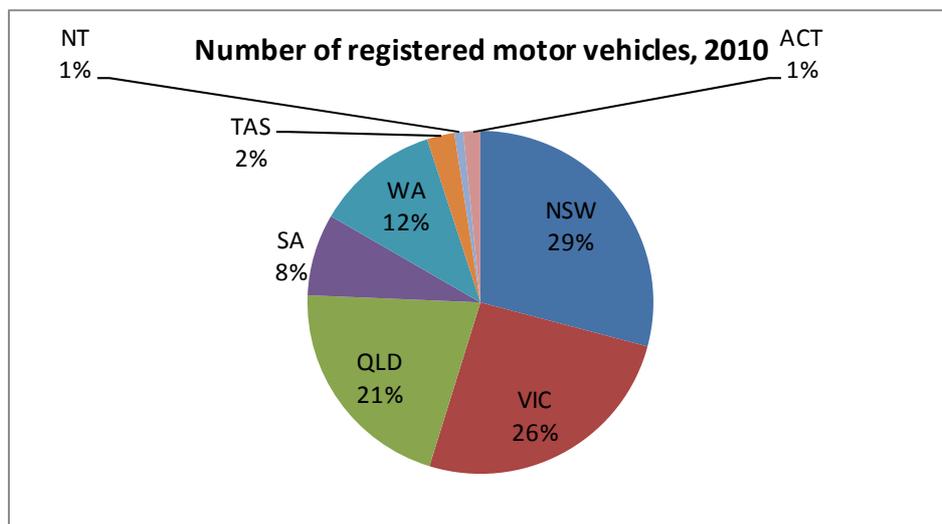
TRANSPORT

Various modes of transport include: road; rail; aviation; and shipping. This section of the paper looks at: the number of registered vehicles and licence holders; kilometres travelled; road casualties and deaths; means of travel; the use of public transport; and non-motorised forms of travel such as cycling and walking. Some consideration is also given to transport infrastructure and the transportation of road and air freight.

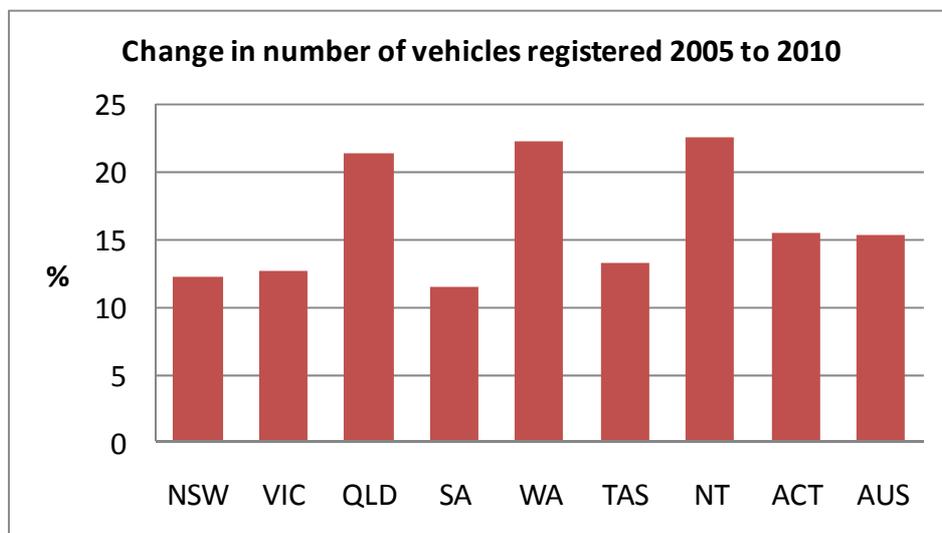
Registered vehicles

There were 16,061,098 motor vehicles registered in Australia in 2010. More than half of these were registered in NSW or Victoria as shown by the chart below. There were 4,681,471 motor vehicles registered in NSW in 2010, a 12.3% increase since 2005 (the Australian average was 15.4%). The Northern Territory, Western Australia and Queensland experienced the greatest growth in the number of registered vehicles over the last five years.

More than three-quarters (76.4%) of all motor vehicles registered in Australia in 2010 were passenger vehicles. The proportion in NSW was slightly higher with 79% of all vehicles registered in NSW being passenger vehicles.

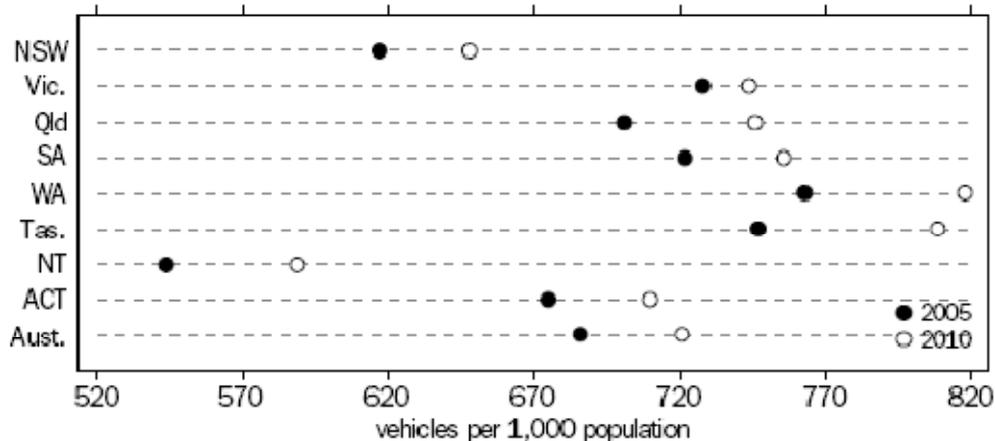


Source: ABS, *Motor Vehicle Census, March 2010*, 9309.0, February 2011.



The following graph compares the number of motor vehicles per 1000 people in 2005 and 2010 for each of the States and Territories. There were 648.3 motor vehicles per 1000 people in NSW in 2010 compared to an Australian average of 721.1 vehicles per 1000 people. Only the Northern Territory had a smaller rate.

MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET PER POPULATION (a), State/territory of registration



(a) Both Estimated Resident Population data and Motor Vehicle Census data are at 31 March.

Source: ABS Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Source: ABS, *Motor Vehicle Census, March 2010*, 9309.0, February 2011, p 5.

The number of licence holders in NSW has steadily increased since 2002, from 4,242,500 to 4,721,000 people. 83.4% of people aged 16 years and over in NSW in 2009 held a licence.

Number and proportion of licence holders in NSW

		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number	'000	4,242.5	4,317.5	4,345.1	4,397.0	4,474.2	4,576.6	4,642.3	4,721.0
Proportion	%	81.6	82.3	82.2	82.4	83.0	83.5	83.5	83.4

Source: ABS, NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011

Kilometres travelled

Passengers in Sydney travelled an estimated total of 55.24 billion kilometres in 2008-09. The overwhelming majority of kilometres travelled were by passenger car (80.9%). 10.7% of distance travelled was by rail and 4.3% was by bus.

Total passenger km travelled – Sydney (billion passenger km)

	Passenger cars	Commercial vehicles	Motor cycles	Rail	Light rail	Bus	Ferry	Total
2001-02	41.52	1.82	0.17	5.06	0.02	2.20	0.12	50.92
2002-03	42.18	1.87	0.16	5.07	0.02	2.20	0.12	51.63
2003-04	44.28	1.91	0.17	5.12	0.02	2.20	0.12	53.82
2004-05	44.55	1.86	0.18	5.16	0.02	2.26	0.12	54.16
2005-06	44.34	1.85	0.20	5.28	0.02	2.27	0.12	54.08
2006-07	44.75	1.85	0.22	5.46	0.03	2.31	0.12	54.73
2007-08	44.48	1.87	0.23	5.75	0.03	2.36	0.12	54.84
2008-09	44.70	1.84	0.25	5.92	0.03	2.38	0.12	55.24

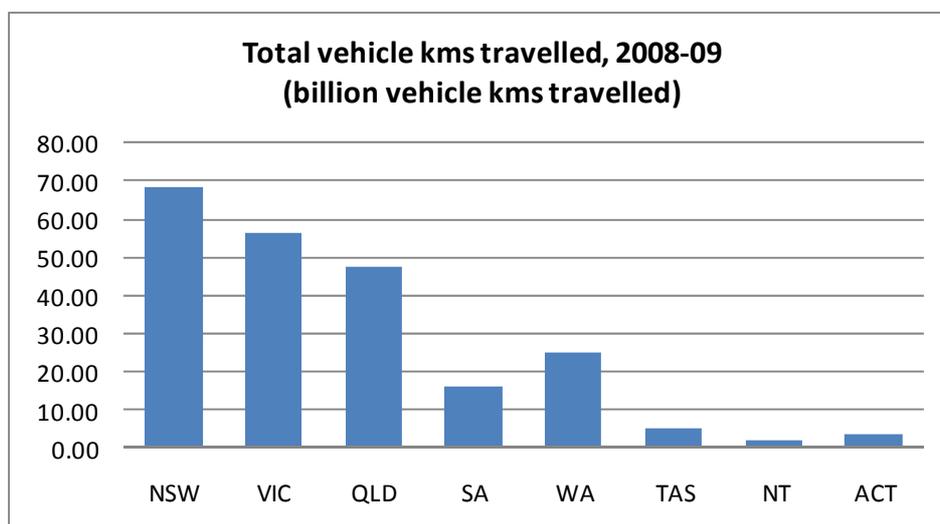
Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Yearbook 2011: Australian infrastructure statistics*, March 2011.

NSW was responsible for 30.4% of the 224.06 billion vehicle kilometres travelled in Australia in 2008-09.

Total vehicle km travelled (billion vehicle kms travelled)

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Total
2000-01	61.50	51.06	39.14	15.20	21.00	4.67	1.76	3.18	197.51
2001-02	62.85	52.86	40.64	15.50	21.52	4.79	1.79	3.26	203.18
2002-03	64.01	54.53	41.97	16.01	22.10	4.97	1.82	3.36	208.78
2003-04	66.72	56.67	44.61	16.26	23.14	5.20	1.87	3.51	217.99
2004-05	67.15	56.83	45.31	16.07	23.54	5.16	1.87	3.52	219.44
2005-06	67.13	56.64	45.94	16.01	23.50	5.20	1.88	3.52	219.81
2006-07	67.94	57.14	47.17	16.22	24.11	5.29	1.94	3.56	223.38
2007-08	67.87	57.30	47.91	16.19	24.55	5.30	1.98	3.56	224.66
2008-09	68.19	56.39	47.27	16.28	25.09	5.24	2.01	3.59	224.06

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Yearbook 2011: Australian infrastructure statistics*, March 2011.



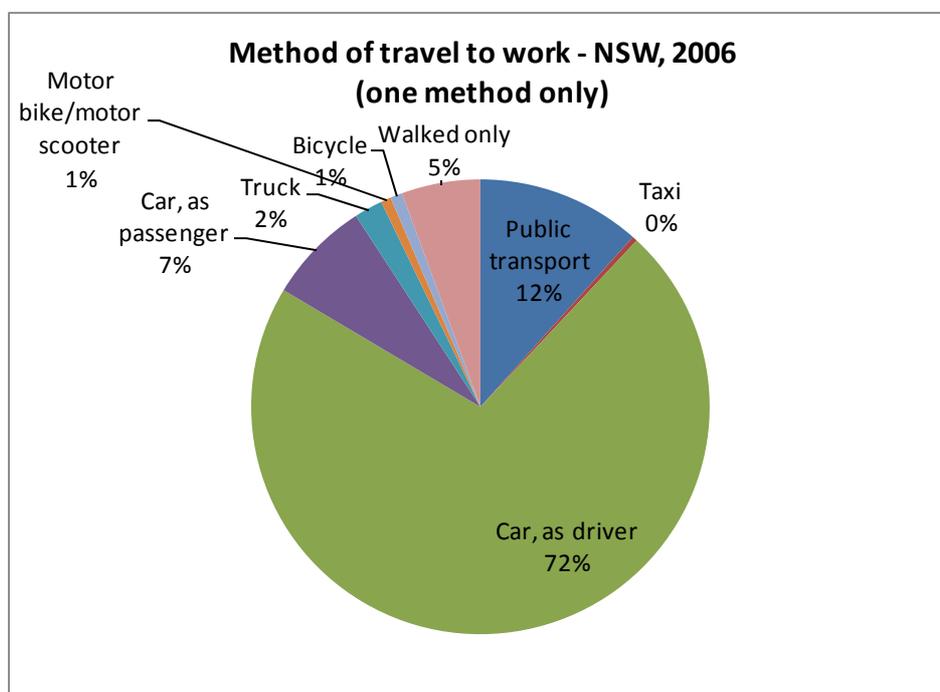
Mode of travel to work

The most common means of travelling to work in NSW in 2006 was by driving a car (1,629,528 people) with an additional 166,871 people travelling as a passenger in a car. 12% of people in NSW caught public transport and 5% walked to work. 93,564 people used public transport in addition to another method of travel.

Method of travel to work - NSW

	One method only								Public transport and other method
	Public transport	Taxi	Car, as driver	Car, as passenger	Truck	Motor bike/motor scooter	Bicycle	Walked only	
1981	256 812	11 767	1 105 606	188 679	na	32 294	15 682	122 544	na
1986	225 068	10 632	1 164 920	171 024	na	26 294	18 851	118 626	na
1991	211 372	8 407	1 197 033	168 743	na	17 269	16 970	123 248	86 035
1996	225 515	9 496	1 396 204	176 686	na	16 423	17 305	114 538	97 989
2001	249 096	8 223	1 487 981	168 862	54 094	14 157	17 730	114 927	112 728
2006	265 113	8 219	1 639 528	166 871	45 953	16 495	19 274	127 446	93 564

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Yearbook 2011: Australian infrastructure statistics*, March 2011.



The *NSW State of the Environment Report 2009* identified the existence of an opportunity to encourage active travel given that approximately one-quarter of

trips in a vehicle on an average day are less than two kilometres in length.¹⁶ However, there are a number of obstacles to simply encouraging greater use of non-motorised forms of transport. For example, Pucher, Garrard and Greaves have studied cycling trends in Sydney and Melbourne and found that cycling levels in Melbourne are twice as high as in Sydney and have been growing three times as fast due to more favourable topography, climate and road network, plus more supportive public policies. Melbourne also has more and better integrated cycling infrastructure and more extensive cycling programs, advocacy and promotional events. This research further suggests that is also safer compared to Sydney, which lacks traffic-protected cycling facilities and more aggressive motorist behaviour toward cyclists.¹⁷ Pucher, Garrard and Greaves found that, 'In short, cycling in Sydney tends to be mainly for recreational purposes and is mostly on the weekend. In contrast, cycling in Melbourne tends to be more utilitarian and spread evenly over the week'.¹⁸ The most significant barriers to cycling in Sydney were thought to be the many natural barriers – large central harbour, many bays and inlets, and rivers – which cause large gaps in transport routes, require diversions to a limited number of crossing points, and increase travel distances, in addition to Sydney's hilly topography.

¹⁶ DECCW, *NSW State of the Environment Report 2009*, Chapter 3.3.

¹⁷ Pucher J, Garrard J and Greaves S, 'Cycling down under: a comparative analysis of bicycling trends and policies in Sydney and Melbourne', *Journal of Transport Geography* 19 (2011) 332-345.

¹⁸ Pucher J, Garrard J and Greaves S, 'Cycling down under: a comparative analysis of bicycling trends and policies in Sydney and Melbourne', *Journal of Transport Geography* 19 (2011) 332 at 335.

Public transport

Sydney and its surrounding regions are served by the largest physical public transport system in Australia, including heavy rail, light rail, bus and ferry.¹⁹ The table below shows the proportion of trips made by public transport by Sydney residents on an average weekday. 11.2% of trips were by public transport in 2008/09 with almost half of these being by train.

Proportion of trips by public transport, Sydney, NSW – average weekday

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Train	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.2
Public bus	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Private bus	2.1	2	2	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3
Ferry	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total PT	10.7	10.5	10.3	10.2	10.6	10.7	11	11.2

Source: Transport Data Centre, *2008/09 Household Travel Survey: Summary Report*, 2010.

The following table notes the reasons why people in NSW elect to use public transport, the most common being avoidance of parking problems, as well as it being cheaper and faster.

Reasons for travelling to work by public transport, Sydney, weekdays 2008/09

Reason	%
Avoids parking problems	54
Cheaper	33
Faster	26
Do not have a car	24
Less stressful than other forms	18
Live or work close to public transport	18
Don't drive/no licence	14
Arrives closer to destination	13
Enjoy time to read and relax	11
Environmental reasons	8
Car used by someone else	8
Other	2
Employer assistance in public transport costs	2

The table below indicates that most people who travel to work by car do so for reasons of convenience. Other common reasons include public transport services being indirect and too slow.

¹⁹ David Hensher and Xiaofen Chen, What does it cost to travel in Sydney? Spatial and equity contrasts across the metropolitan region. Institute of Transport and Logistic Studies, University of Sydney, February 2010.

Reasons for travelling to work by car, Sydney, weekdays, 2008/09

Reason	%
Prefer convenience/independence of car	47
PT services are too indirect	38
PT services are too slow	24
PT doesn't go where required	17
Use car for work trips	15
PT timetable constraints	13
Employer provides/subsidises car/parking	12
PT is unavailable here	12
PT services are too infrequent	12
Use car for other non-work trips	11
PT services are unreliable	7
Carpooling arrangements	6
PT uncomfortable	3
Other	2

Air travel

In 2008/09 there were more than 35.7 million air passenger movements in NSW. 91% of these were through Sydney's Kingsford Smith airport. Newcastle airport in Williamstown had the second largest number of passenger movements followed by Ballina and Coffs Harbour airports.

	Passenger movements		Aircraft movements	
	2006–07	2008–09	2006–07	2008–09
Airport	no.	no.	no.	no.
Albury	212,264	282,451	8,917	9,614
Armidale	86,215	95,559	2,946	2,597
Ballina	323,791	334,190	4,463	4,002
Bathurst	24,152	22,926	1,895	1,821
Broken Hill	48,405	55,809	2,453	2,738
Coffs Harbour	323,565	321,678	7,478	6,787
Dubbo	171,026	173,032	10,294	7,397
Grafton	9,001	20,106	1,007	1,804
Griffith	62,625	58,799	2,692	2,822
Lismore	66,880	60,992	2,680	2,535
Lord Howe Island	32,454	33,442	1,250	1,276
Merimbula	64,881	54,718	2,956	2,811
Moree	21,774	26,728	1,312	1,278
Moruya	20,837	20,129	2,721	2,841
Narrabri	12,863	16,844	1,319	1,328
Narrandera	16,507	13,690	2,483	2,949
Orange	58,252	54,560	2,519	2,468
Parkes	31,697	30,599	1,775	1,794
Port Macquarie	116,945	189,279	5,265	5,348
Sydney (Kingsford Smith)	31,016,186	32,345,879	260,334	267,422
Tamworth	98,199	116,669	3,510	2,911
Taree	9,376	20,516	1,949	3,588
Wagga Wagga	203,798	209,279	8,316	7,460
Williamstown (Newcastle)	958,087	1,172,938	16,022	15,113
New South Wales	33,989,780	35,730,812	356,556	360,704

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

Casualties

The UN Decade of Action for Road Safety which aims to halve the road toll globally was launched in NSW on 11 May 2011. The various governments in Australia will be working on the development of a new national road safety strategy as part of that action.²⁰

The road toll in NSW in 2010 was 421 people, the second lowest toll since 1945, despite five times the number of vehicles on the roads, double the number of licensed drivers and more than double the population.

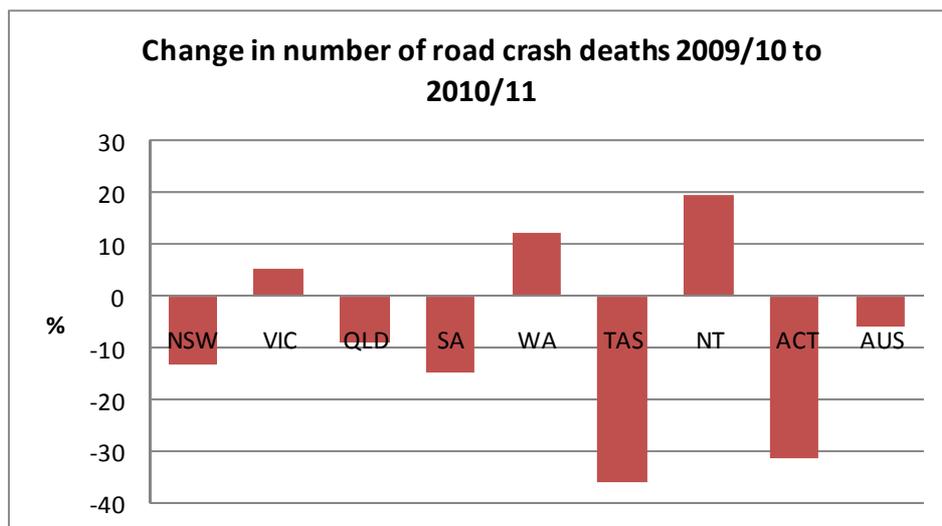
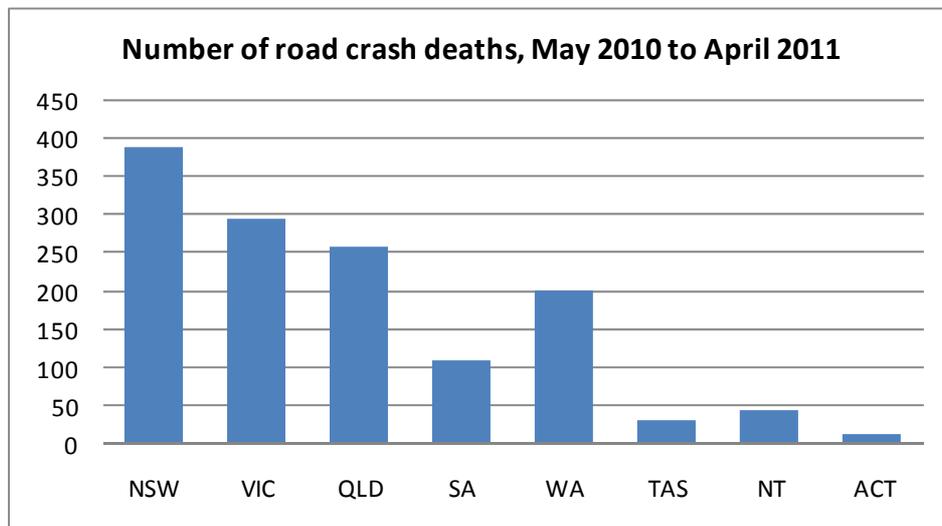
The table below compares the number of road crash deaths in each of the States and Territories in the year ending April 2011. 29% of all road crash deaths in Australia occurred in NSW. However, the number of road crash deaths in NSW decreased at an average of 4.9% each year over the last five years. Western Australia is the only State to experience an increase in the number of road crash deaths across the last five years. However, Victoria and the Northern Territory also experienced an increase in the number of deaths in the last year.

Number of road crash deaths

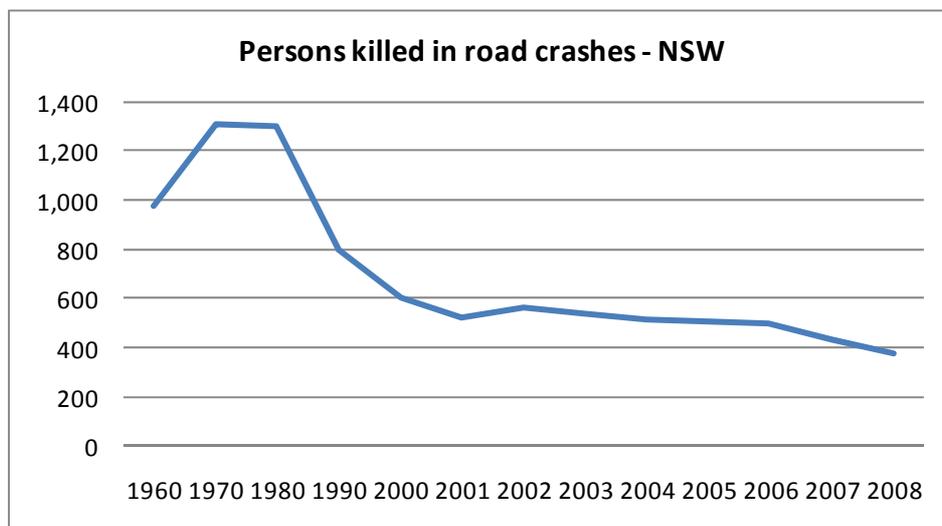
	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS
May 2010 - April 2011	387	295	257	108	201	30	43	13	1334
% change from May 2009 - April 2010	-13.4	5.4	-8.9	-15	12.3	-36.2	19.4	-31.6	-5.9
Av annual change over last 5 years	-4.9	-3.2	-5.5	-3	0.9	-10.9	-4.4	-4	-4

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Road Deaths Australia - April 2011*.

²⁰ Hon D Gay MLC, *NSWPD*, 12/5/11, p 789.



The road death toll in NSW has been decreasing since 2002, with a significant decrease in the number of persons killed from the 1980s onwards, as illustrated by the following graph.



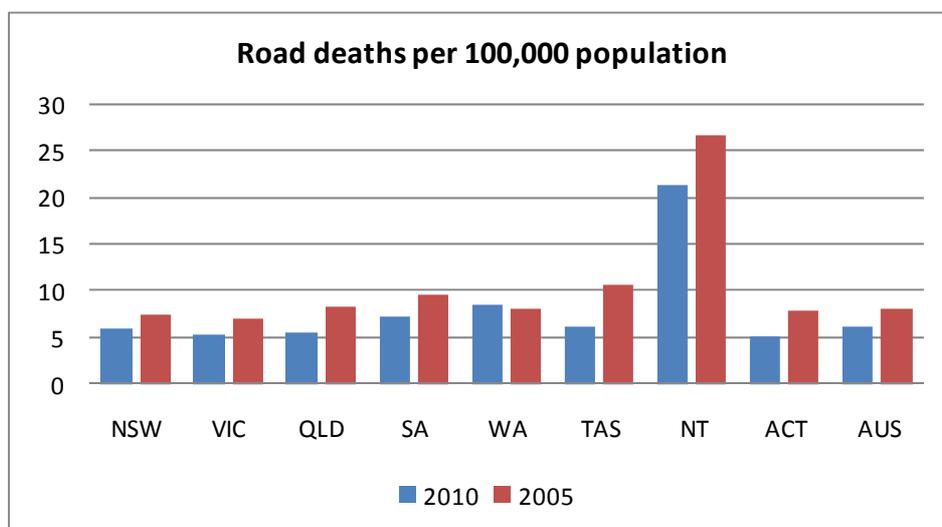
Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

The following table compares the road death rate per 100,000 people for each of the States and Territories. 5.8 people per 100,000 died on the roads in NSW in 2010, lower than the Australian rate of 6.1 per 100,000. The highest rates were in the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Road deaths per 100,000 population

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS
2010	5.8	5.2	5.5	7.2	8.4	6.1	21.3	5	6.1
2005	7.5	6.9	8.3	9.5	8.1	10.5	26.7	7.9	8

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Road Deaths Australia - April 2011*.



Alcohol, fatigue and speed are all major contributing factors to road traffic casualties and crashes. Speed was the contributing factor in 16.7% of crashes in NSW in 2008, followed by fatigue at 8.8% and alcohol at 4.3% (see table

below).

The highest rate of road fatalities in NSW in 2008 was in South Eastern NSW at 14.1 per 100,000 people. The lowest rate was in Sydney at 2.9 per 100,000.

Road traffic casualties and crashes by NSW Statistical Division, 2008

Statistical Division-2008	Persons killed		Persons injured		All reported crashes		Contributing factor		
	Number	Rate per 100,000	Number	Rate per 100,000	Number	Rate per 100,000	Alcohol %	Fatigue %	Speed %
Sydney	126	2.9	15,027	340.0	28,175	637.6	3.3	7.5	11.2
Hunter	44	6.9	2,199	346.0	3,728	586.5	5.8	10.0	21.3
Illawarra	37	8.7	1,395	328.0	2,366	556.2	5.1	8.6	23.5
Richmond-Tweed	29	12.2	897	376.3	1,596	669.4	6.7	10.2	34.1
Mid-North Coast	32	10.5	1,064	348.1	1,630	533.3	9.7	12.0	31.1
Northern	16	8.8	586	321.2	864	473.5	4.4	13.4	28.6
North Western	10	8.5	398	339.4	563	480.2	9.1	13.9	25.4
Central West	22	12.2	671	371.0	1,053	582.2	6.3	12.9	32.6
South Eastern	30	14.1	890	417.5	1,454	682.1	3.6	13.5	36.4
Murrumbidgee	18	11.5	503	321.3	737	470.8	6.6	15.1	22.9
Murray	7	6.0	350	297.6	574	488.0	6.4	11.8	21.6
Far West	3	13.1	68	297.8	93	407.3	6.5	8.6	19.4
NSW	374	5.3	24,048	342.8	42,833	610.6	4.3	8.8	16.7

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators*, December 2010, 1338.1, January 2011.

In NSW, males are more likely than females to be killed in a traffic accident – 8.2 per 100,000 compared to 2.5 per 100,000. They are also more likely to be injured in one. Persons aged 15 to 24 years old and those aged 75 years and over are more likely to be killed in a traffic accident than any other age groups.

Road traffic casualties by age and sex, NSW, 2008

	Persons killed		Persons injured	
	no.	rate per 100,000 population	no.	rate per 100,000 population
Sex				
Male	284	8.2	12,883	370.5
Female	90	2.5	10,845	306.5
Persons	374	5.3	24,048	342.8
Age group (years)				
0–14	8	0.6	1,316	98.8
15–24	91	9.5	5,888	612.5
25–34	54	5.5	4,452	454.1
35–44	65	6.5	3,722	371.8
45–54	44	4.6	3,140	326.4
55–64	36	4.6	2,069	263.6
65–74	32	6.4	1,078	215.2
75 and over	44	9.5	922	199.6
Persons	374	5.3	24,048	342.8

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010*, 1338.1, January 2011.

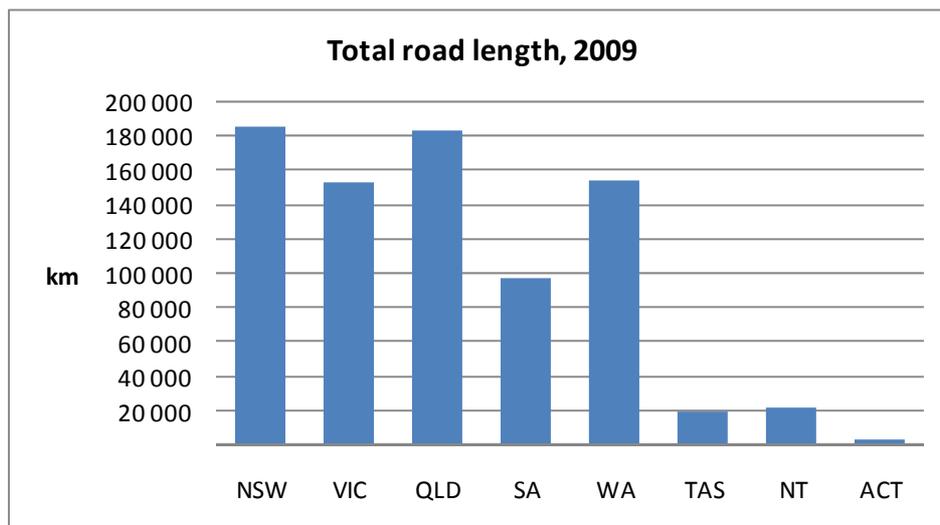
The social cost of road crashes in 2006 was an estimated \$17.85 billion (1.7% of GDP) but this was a real decrease of 7.5% when compared to 1996. The estimated human losses were approximately \$2.4 million per fatality, losses for a hospitalised injury were approximately \$214,000 per injury (including disability-related costs), and losses for non-hospitalised injury were approximately \$2,200 per injury.²¹

²¹

Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Cost of road crashes in Australia 2006: report 118*, February 2010.

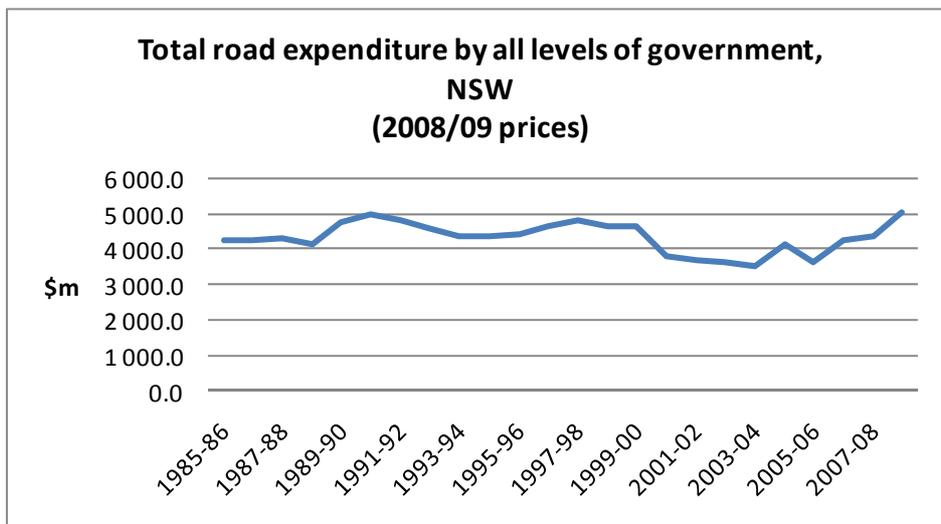
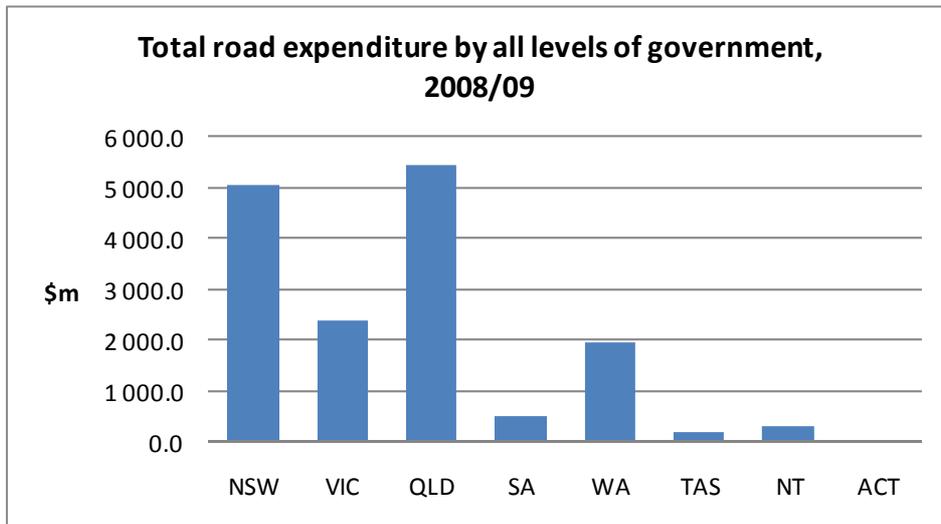
Roads

Roads in NSW in 2009 stretched for more than 180,000 km, more than in any other State or Territory. Over \$5043 million was spent on NSW roads in 2008/09, second only to Queensland in terms of total expenditure (\$5430 million).



Total road expenditure by all levels of government (2008/09 prices), \$m

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Total
2000-01	3 794.9	1 901.8	3 375.8	681.3	1 556.2	225.8	117.6	78.9	11 732.2
2001-02	3 684.6	1 904.1	2 760.7	663.6	1 596.3	254.1	108.4	96.2	11 068.1
2002-03	3 638.3	2 177.4	2 618.7	635.9	1 571.0	218.7	94.3	87.7	11 042.2
2003-04	3 509.2	1 564.5	3 033.8	598.1	1 457.4	141.7	95.4	76.8	10 477.0
2004-05	4 155.3	1 957.5	2 656.4	572.0	1 666.8	206.7	93.3	70.6	11 378.5
2005-06	3 611.9	1 796.5	2 938.2	733.7	1 375.3	262.5	252.8	86.5	11 057.3
2006-07	4 241.5	1 970.6	3 636.8	473.9	1 608.8	177.0	248.9	97.4	12 455.0
2007-08	4 372.6	2 192.6	4 527.0	692.0	2 029.1	199.9	231.1	119.6	14 363.9
2008-09	5 043.4	2 376.4	5 429.8	494.1	1 935.3	189.1	282.7	35.7	15 786.6



Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Yearbook 2011: Australian infrastructure statistics*, March 2011.

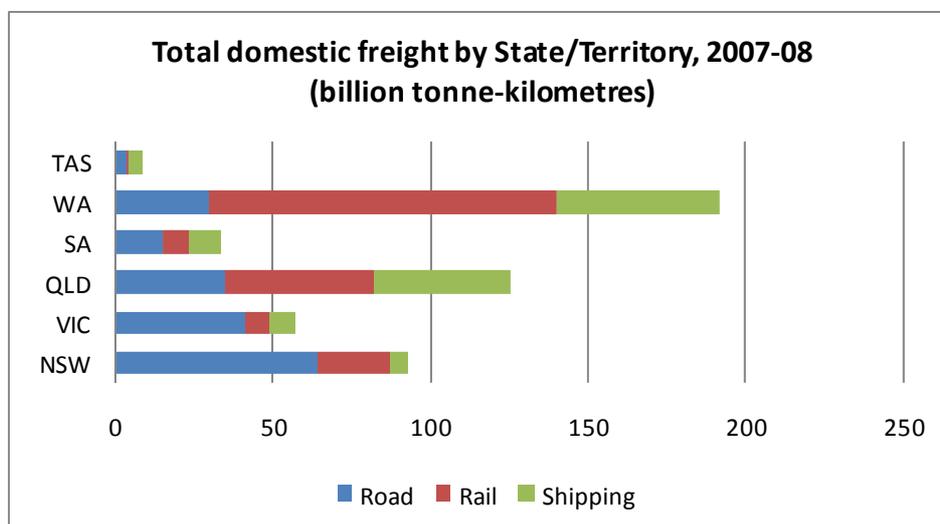
Freight

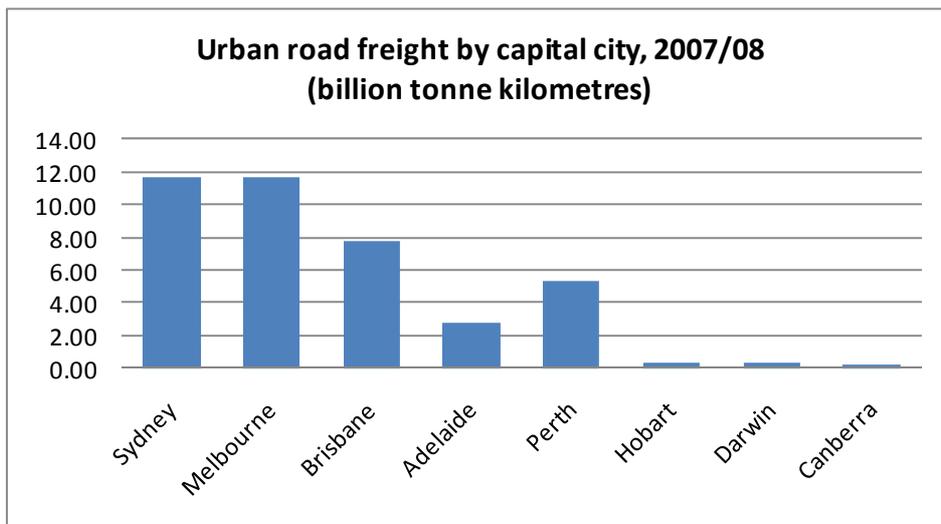
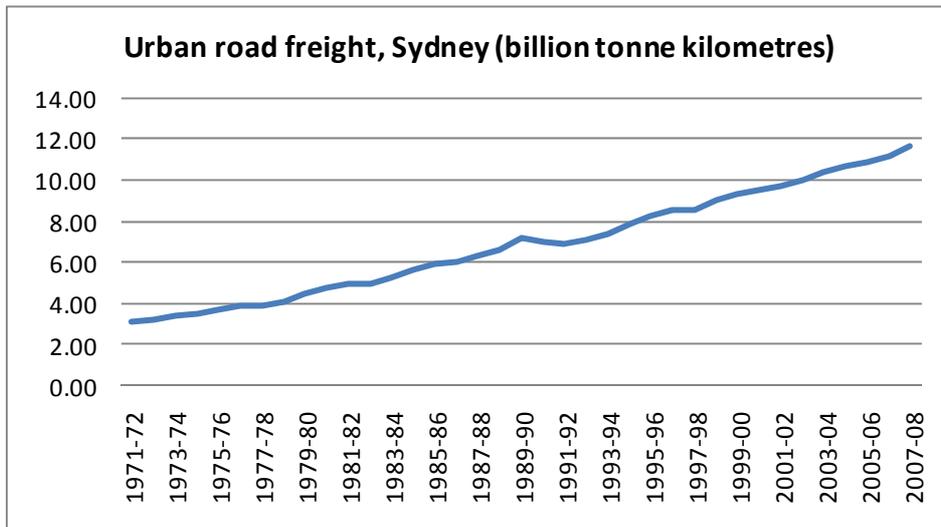
The total of domestic freight in NSW in 2007/08 was 93 billion tonnes (18% of all domestic freight in Australia). 69% of domestic freight in NSW was transported by road and another 25% by rail. Western Australia and Queensland transported the greatest amount of domestic freight at 191.6 and 125.6 billion tonnes respectively.

Total domestic freight by state/territory, 2007-08, billion tonne – kms

	Road	Rail	Shipping	Total excl air freight
NSW	64	23	6	93
VIC	41.2	7.7	8	57
QLD	34.8	47	43.8	125.6
SA	15	8.1	10.5	33.6
WA	29.8	110	51.8	191.6
TAS	3.5	0.5	4.4	8.4
NT	2.1	1.3	0	3.5
ACT	0.3	na	na	0.3
Total	190.8	197.6	124.5	512.9

Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, *Yearbook 2011: Australian infrastructure statistics*, March 2011.





The following table looks at the value of international merchandise air and sea freight moving in and out of various air and sea ports in NSW.

International merchandise air and sea freight, NSW

	Value	Gross weight
	2008–09	2008–09
	\$'000	tonnes
IMPORTS		
Air		
Sydney	30,137,205	181,741
Richmond	30,879	7
Other Ports NSW	5,517	141
Sea		
Sydney	42,481,514	11,252,966
Newcastle	1,185,198	1,092,648
Port Kembla	4,810,301	2,097,528
Kurnell	2,988,994	4,056,748
Twofold Bay	10,751	1,128
Port Botany	85,082	79,433
Other Ports NSW	4,208	3,701
EXPORTS		
Air		
Sydney	9,861,903	1,176,244
Richmond	16,038	5
Other Ports NSW	3,714	39
Sea		
Sydney	11,054,352	5,252,861
Newcastle	16,170,510	92,191,740
Port Kembla	5,280,158	15,315,485
Kurnell	45,573	41,300
Twofold Bay	103,914	1,159,191
Port Botany	31,724	4,797
Other Ports NSW	17,648	7,979

Source: ABS, *NSW State and Regional Indicators, December 2010*, 1338.1, January 2011