

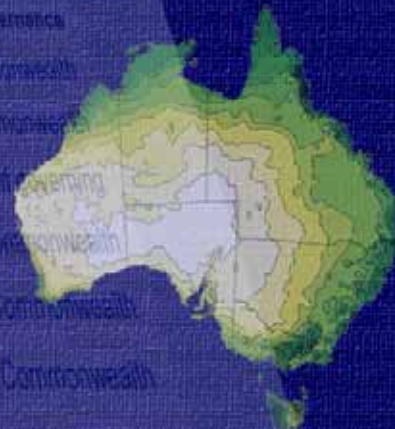


Australian Government

Department of Transport and Regional Services

Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics

about Australia's regions



Territory	Population	Land area (km ²)	Governance
ACT	350,000	2,358	Commonwealth
Christmas Island	1,446	135	Commonwealth
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	602	14	Commonwealth
NT	4	81	Commonwealth
Heard and McDonald Islands	Uninhabited	337	Commonwealth
Jervis Bay			Commonwealth
Norfolk Island	1,359		Self governing
NT	200,000		

regional economic...

Region	Population	Land area (km ²)	GDP	Per capita GDP
ACT	350,000	2,358	\$12,000	\$34,300
NT	200,000	2,358	\$1,000	\$5,000

May 2004

about the BTRE

Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics (BTRE)

The BTRE, operating within the Department of Transport and Regional Services, contributes to the development of Government transport and regional development policy by undertaking applied economic and social research on current and emerging issues. As much of its work is published, the BTRE also improves public understanding of the factors influencing transport and regional services in Australia.

(<http://www.btre.gov.au>)

about this booklet

Environmental and competitive pressures, new technology, and changing demographics and social values have resulted in fundamental social and economic change in Australia's regions. In this climate, there is a widely recognised need for improved access to factual information about conditions in Australia's regions.

This booklet provides an accessible introduction to social, economic and environmental statistics for Australia's regions. Information is presented under the broad themes of: **population; social pressures; regional economies; transport and communication; education and health; and environmental issues.** These themes have been selected to broadly reflect the priorities identified in the Government's *Stronger Regions, A Stronger Australia* statement.

The booklet presents the most recent available data for each topic. It is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of social and economic conditions in Australia's regions. The data sources used have a range of limitations, and readers should rely on their own skill and judgement in applying any information to particular issues or circumstances. For further information on a specific topic, please refer to the original data source or to the list of *Useful contacts* (page 41).

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Australia's regions

Regions do not always have commonly accepted boundaries. Regions can be defined by formal boundaries (as in the case of State or local governments), by a sense of economic and social interdependence, by natural environments and landscapes, or by other connections that distinguish them from neighbouring areas.

In this booklet, the main spatial concept used to summarise information about Australia's regions is the **ABS Remoteness Structure**. This classification groups Census Collection Districts into five broad classes of remoteness, which share common characteristics in terms of physical distance from services and opportunities for social interaction. These classes are: Major Cities of Australia; Inner Regional Australia; Outer Regional Australia; Remote Australia; and Very Remote Australia. Remoteness classes cut across State and local government boundaries, enabling a better understanding of the patterns of socio-economic experience across Australia's regions.

The concept of remoteness used to design the ABS Remoteness Structure is based upon measuring road distance from any point to the nearest ABS Urban Centre in each of five population size classes. For example, any location within a short distance of an urban centre of more than 250 000 persons belongs to the Major Cities of Australia class. The population size of the urban centre is used as a proxy for the availability of a range of services.

MAP 1 REMOTENESS CLASSES IN AUSTRALIA, 2001



Examples of localities in each remoteness class

Major Cities of Australia: Melbourne CBD, Newcastle CBD, Fremantle, Surfers Paradise

Inner Regional Australia: Hobart, Noosa, Wodonga, Bunbury, Tamworth

Outer Regional Australia: Darwin, Whyalla, Cairns, Swan Hill, Gunnedah

Remote Australia: Alice Springs, Mount Isa, Port Lincoln, Esperance

Very Remote Australia: Longreach, Coober Pedy, Tennant Creek, Kununurra

Source: ABS ASGC Remoteness Structure, 2001
 Note: Christmas Island & Cocos (Keeling) Islands are part of Very Remote Australia. Other external territories are excluded from the classification.

population

TABLE 1 SELECTED POPULATION INDICATORS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2003

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Pop. ('000 persons)	13 188	4 149	2 037	325	183	19 881
Share of total pop.	66.3%	20.9%	10.2%	1.6%	0.9%	100.0%
Total pop. growth, 1998 to 2003	6.6%	7.5%	2.8%	0.4%	2.5%	6.3%
Area ('000 km ²)	14	220	803	1 021	5 646	7 704
Pop. density (persons/km ²)	918.9	18.9	2.5	0.3	0.0	2.6
Pop. share living in same State/Territory as 5 years ago (2001)	96%	96%	96%	94%	91%	95%

*Sources: ABS **Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 2002–03** (Cat. 3218.0); ABS ASGC 2001 geographical area data; ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing, internal migration (place of usual residence) data. Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.*

Note: Population estimates for 2003 are preliminary.

TABLE 2 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION GROWTH BY STATE/TERRITORY AND REMOTENESS CLASS, 1998 TO 2003

State/ Territory	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total
NSW	6%	6%	2%	-2%	-1%	5%
VIC	6%	7%	1%	-6%	nr	6%
QLD	12%	11%	6%	2%	5%	10%
SA	3%	8%	-2%	3%	-5%	3%
WA	7%	16%	2%	1%	2%	7%
TAS	nr	2%	0%	-4%	-6%	1%
NT	nr	nr	7%	-1%	5%	4%
ACT	4%	-9%	nr	nr	nr	4%
Total	7%	8%	3%	0%	2%	6%

Source: ABS *Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 2002–03* (Cat. 3218.0). Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Population growth rates relate to the total growth between 1998 and 2003. Population estimates for 2003 are preliminary.

TABLE 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAs) WITH FASTEST POPULATION INCREASES/DECREASES, 1998 TO 2003

<i>Fastest increases</i>			<i>Fastest decreases</i>		
LGA	Class	Average annual growth rate (%)	LGA	Class	Average annual growth rate (%)
Melton, VIC	Major cities*	8.9	Dundas, WA	Remote*	-5.5
Perth, WA	Major cities	8.7	Meekatharra, WA	V. remote	-4.4
Palmerston, NT	Outer reg.	6.4	Leonora, WA	V. remote*	-4.2
Melbourne, VIC	Major cities	6.1	Coolgardie, WA	Outer reg.*	-4.1
Camden, NSW	Major cities*	5.5	East Pilbara, WA	V. remote	-3.8
Wanneroo, WA	Major cities*	5.2	Jabiru, NT	Remote	-3.6
Broome, WA	Remote*	5.0	Yilgarn, WA	Remote	-3.5
Sydney, NSW	Major cities	4.9	Ashburton, WA	V. remote	-3.3
Capel, WA	Inner reg.	4.8	Tennant Creek, NT	V. remote	-3.2
Casey, VIC	Major cities*	4.8	Gnowangerup, WA	Remote	-3.2

Source: *ABS Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 2002–03* (Cat. 3218.0). LGAs coded to remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Table excludes LGAs with population of less than 1 000 at June 1998. Population estimates for 2003 are preliminary.

*The majority of the LGA's population fits within the stated remoteness class.

TABLE 4 ETHNIC DIVERSITY & INDIGENOUS PERSONS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Language spoken at home ('000 persons)						
English only	9 233.7	3 538.1	1 728.9	271.8	101.6	15 014.0
Australian Indigenous	1.9	0.8	3.3	4.5	39.4	51.0
Other language	2 567.1	127.3	78.5	8.7	9.5	2 802.9
Overseas born						
Persons ('000)	3 414.9	425.2	196.2	30.0	13.3	4 105.6
Pop. share	27.6%	11.1%	10.3%	9.9%	8.0%	21.9%
Share of overseas born who speak:						
Language other than English at home	52.7%	20.1%	25.6%	19.3%	22.4%	47.5%
English 'not well or not at all'	11.8%	2.7%	4.4%	2.6%	4.3%	10.4%
Indigenous persons						
Males ('000)	59.8	40.5	44.9	16.8	35.4	202.0
Females ('000)	63.2	41.4	47.1	17.1	35.6	208.0
Pop. share	1.0%	2.1%	4.8%	11.1%	42.8%	2.2%

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). Derivations by BTRE.

TABLE 5 AGE BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 1996 AND 2001

		Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Median age, 2001		35	36	35	33	29	35
Share of pop. in each age group, 2001	<14	20.0%	22.3%	23.0%	25.0%	27.7%	20.8%
	15–24	14.3%	12.6%	11.9%	11.6%	15.1%	13.7%
	25–44	30.8%	26.8%	28.3%	32.3%	32.8%	29.8%
	45–64	22.6%	24.2%	24.2%	22.5%	18.7%	23.1%
	65+	12.3%	14.1%	12.6%	8.6%	5.6%	12.6%
	Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Share of pop. in selected age groups, 1996	15–24	15.2%	13.2%	12.8%	12.7%	15.5%	14.5%
	65+	12.1%	13.2%	11.7%	7.9%	5.2%	12.1%

Source: ABS 2001 & 1996 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). 1996 estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Did you know? The Shire of Torres in Queensland and the Shire of Halls Creek in WA are the LGAs with the lowest median age (23). The District Council of Victor Harbor in SA has the highest median age of 50 years.

TABLE 6 OVERVIEW OF AUSTRALIA'S TERRITORIES, 2003

Territory	Population	Land area (km²)	Governance
Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Uninhabited	2	Commonwealth
Australian Antarctic Territory	Transient	5 896 500	Commonwealth
Australian Capital Territory	322 850	2 358	Self governing
Christmas Island	1 501	135	Commonwealth
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	601	14	Commonwealth
Coral Sea Islands*	4	81	Commonwealth
Heard and McDonald Islands	Uninhabited	367	Commonwealth
Jervis Bay	558	73	Commonwealth
Norfolk Island*	1 359	35	Self governing
Northern Territory	198 351	1 349 129	Self governing
All Territories	525 264	7 248 694	

Sources: ABS *Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 2002–03* (Cat. 3218.0); National Mapping Division, Geoscience Australia; Norfolk Island Census 2001.

Note: *Population data relates to 2001, rather than 2003.

social pressures

- **Domestic violence** affects the social, emotional, physical and financial wellbeing of many Australians. The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) provides transitional accommodation and related support to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including women and children escaping domestic violence. In 2002–03, SAAP provided 49 300 periods of domestic violence related support, 50% of them outside major cities. Reported domestic violence rates were highest in very remote Australia (18.1 SAAP periods per 1 000 population), followed by remote Australia (10.8), outer regional (3.7), inner regional (2.5) and major cities (1.9). Domestic violence often goes unreported, and so these statistics are only indicative. *(Source: AIHW unpublished data)*
- **Suicide** is a prominent public health problem, with significant human and economic costs. In 2002, 2 320 Australians committed suicide. The male suicide rate (19 deaths per 100 000 population) is much higher than the female rate (5 deaths per 100 000 population). Suicide rates tend to be lower in the capital cities (10 deaths per 100 000 population) than in the rest of Australia (14 deaths per 100 000 population). Between 1992 and 2002, suicide rates in Queensland and the NT were consistently above the national average. *(Source: ABS **Suicides — Recent Trends, Australia, 1992 to 2002** (Cat. 3309.0.55.001) and related unpublished data)*

- **Crime** rates tend to be higher on average in capital cities than in other parts of Australia. However, very high rates of crime are observed in some small rural localities with high levels of disadvantage. In 2002, NSW had the highest rate for robbery offences with 176 victims per 100 000 population, compared with a national average of 106. Property crimes were highest in WA with a rate of 8 823 per 100 000 population, compared with the national average of 6 025. Murder, assault and sexual assault were most prevalent in the NT, while crime rates in Victoria and Tasmania tended to be below national rates for most offence categories. (*Source: ABS **Recorded Crime, Australia, 2002** (Cat 4510.0)*)
- In 1998, 2.3 million Australians were **carers**, meaning they provided ongoing informal assistance to the elderly or persons with disabilities/long-term conditions. Females are more likely than males to be carers. On average, capital cities had a similar carer rate to the rest of Australia, with 13% of people having caring responsibilities. The NT had the lowest carer rate (8%), while Victoria (outside Melbourne) had the highest rate (16%). (*Source: ABS **Caring in the Community, 1998** (Cat. 4436.0) and related unpublished data*)
- There were 4.4 million **volunteers** aged 18 and over in 2000, an increase from 3.2 million in 1995. The volunteer rate was 28% for capital cities, compared to 38% outside capital cities. Sydney had the lowest volunteer rate (25%), and WA (outside Perth) had the highest rate of 45%. (*Source: ABS **Voluntary Work, Australia, 2001** (Cat 4441.0)*)

TABLE 7 HOUSING TENURE AND COSTS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
<i>Dwelling tenure type</i>						
Fully owned	39%	42%	42%	37%	29%	40%
Being purchased	27%	27%	23%	17%	9%	26%
Being rented	27%	24%	26%	31%	39%	26%
Other/not stated	7%	7%	9%	15%	24%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Dwellings being purchased</i>						
Median weekly repayments	\$218	\$175	\$163	\$167	\$119	\$201
Repayments as share of gross household income	18%	17%	17%	16%	12%	17%
<i>Dwellings being rented</i>						
Median weekly rental	\$169	\$129	\$116	\$98	\$61	\$154
Rental as share of gross household income	23%	21%	18%	13%	9%	22%

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Income share derivations and estimation of tenure data for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Dwellings being purchased includes those purchased under rent-buy schemes. Dwellings being rented includes public housing rental.

TABLE 8 RECIPIENTS OF SELECTED GOVERNMENT BENEFITS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, SEPTEMBER QUARTER 2001

Benefit recipients as share of remoteness class population (%)

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
<i>Payment type</i>						
Age Pension	8.8	10.5	9.4	6.1	4.1	9.1
Disability Support Pension	3.1	4.0	4.0	3.3	2.9	3.4
Parenting Payment Single	2.0	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.2	2.3
Parenting Payment Partnered	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.3	2.4	1.0
Family Tax Benefit A	8.6	10.3	10.3	9.6	10.7	9.1
Family Tax Benefit B	5.9	6.9	6.9	6.7	7.7	6.3
Carer Allowance	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.7	1.4
Carer Payment	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4
AUSTUDY	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Youth Allowance	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.4	1.7	2.1
Newstart Allowance	1.4	2.4	2.6	2.9	1.7	1.8

Source: Centrelink, 2002. Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Note: Explanations of the different payment types can be found at <http://www.centrelink.gov.au>

TABLE 9 SELF-REPORTED FINANCIAL PRESSURE BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2002–03

Share of persons aged 15+ in remoteness class (%)	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote & Very Remote*	Total
<i>Given your current needs & financial responsibilities, you and your family are:</i>					
Prosperous/very comfortable	15	12	11	17	14
Reasonably comfortable	52	52	48	48	51
Just getting along	30	31	36	32	31
Poor/very poor	3	4	5	3	4
<i>Since January 1[^], due to a shortage of money:</i>					
Asked for financial help from friends/family	13	13	16	10	13
Asked for help from welfare/community organisation	3	4	6	5	4
Went without meals	3	4	6	4	4
Could not pay mortgage/rent on time	8	8	9	9	8

14 Source: Unit record data from Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) sample survey, wave 2 (2002–03). Data provided by Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, The University of Melbourne, but funded by FACS. (<http://www.melbourneinstitute.com/hilda>)

Notes: * Remote and very remote data is less reliable due to a small sample size of 296.

[^] Data was collected between August 2002 and March 2003.

regional economies

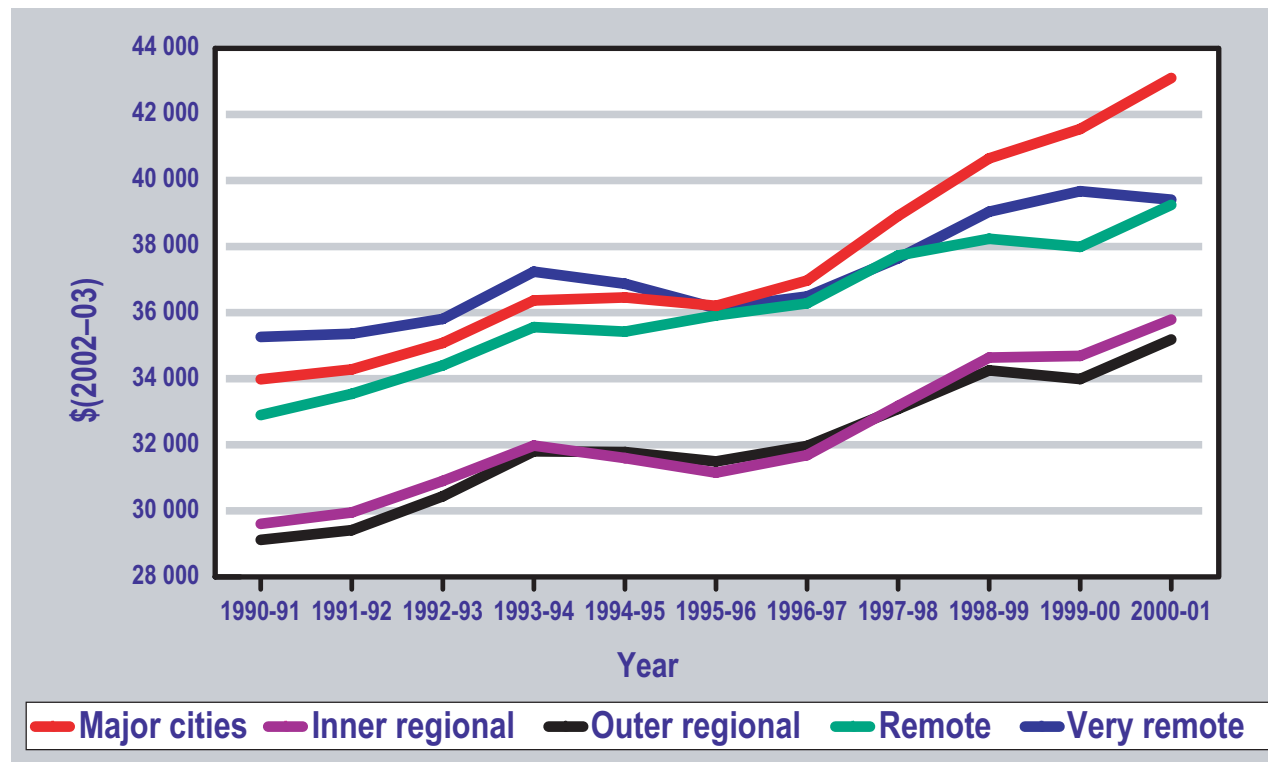
TABLE 10 SELECTED STATE/TERRITORY ECONOMIC INDICATORS, 2002–03

State/ Territory	Gross State Product (GSP)		Av. annual growth, 1997–98 to 2002–03		Exports of goods & services per capita	Investment per capita	
	Total (\$m)	Per capita	Total GSP	GSP per capita		Private	Public
NSW	257 559	\$38 858	3.0%	2.0%	\$5 941	\$7 194	\$1 538
VIC	187 013	\$37 963	3.9%	2.6%	\$5 799	\$8 454	\$1 290
QLD	125 127	\$33 393	4.9%	3.0%	\$7 987	\$8 043	\$1 495
SA	47 347	\$31 270	1.9%	1.5%	\$6 269	\$6 891	\$907
WA	81 107	\$41 604	2.9%	1.4%	\$19 383	\$9 748	\$1 539
TAS	12 339	\$26 133	1.5%	1.5%	\$5 657	\$4 594	\$1 129
NT	8 722	\$44 137	3.1%	2.1%	\$16 928	\$13 517	\$1 989
ACT	14 519	\$45 794	3.6%	3.0%	\$2 293	\$7 012	\$2 309
Australia	734 209	\$37 172	3.5%	2.3%	\$7 690	\$7 896	\$1 427

Source: ABS *Australian National Accounts: State Accounts*, 2002–03 (Cat. 5220.0)

Notes: Chain volume measures are used throughout this table. Investment refers to gross fixed capital

FIGURE 1 AVERAGE REAL TAXABLE INCOME BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 1990–1991 TO 2000–01



Source: Australian Taxation Office *Taxation Statistics*, 1990–91 to 2000–01. Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

TABLE 11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAs) WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST AVERAGE REAL TAXABLE INCOMES, 2000–01

<i>Highest incomes</i>			<i>Lowest incomes</i>		
LGA	Real av. taxable income	Increase since 1990–91 (%)	LGA	Real av. taxable income	Increase since 1990–91 (%)
Mosman, NSW*	\$103 734	78.2	Jerramungup, WA [∞]	\$28 096	5.3
Woollahra, NSW*	\$95 760	64.3	Kolan, QLD [^]	\$28 126	11.6
Hunter's Hill, NSW*	\$86 461	69.2	Perry, QLD [^]	\$28 130	10.0
Ku-ring-gai, NSW*	\$78 531	46.1	Kent, WA [∞]	\$28 199	14.5
North Sydney, NSW*	\$75 552	58.2	Monto, QLD [^]	\$28 490	10.1
Nedlands, WA*	\$72 264	40.8	Streaky Bay, SA [∞]	\$28 541	14.6
Stonnington, VIC*	\$71 986	50.3	Wickepin, WA [^]	\$28 584	13.3
Peppermint Grove, WA*	\$71 528	52.7	Cuballing, WA [^]	\$28 590	17.2
Cottesloe, WA*	\$71 394	52.7	Tasman, TAS [^]	\$28 729	14.5
Mosman Park, WA*	\$70 925	66.2	Clifton, QLD [#]	\$28 769	20.2

Source: Australian Taxation Office *Taxation Statistics*, 1990–91 to 2000–01. Analysis and allocation to LGA boundaries by BTRE.

Note: Incomes expressed in terms of 2002–03 dollars. The symbol after the LGA name denotes the remoteness class accounting for the majority of the LGA's population (Major cities=*; Inner regional=#; Outer regional=[^]; Remote=[∞]).

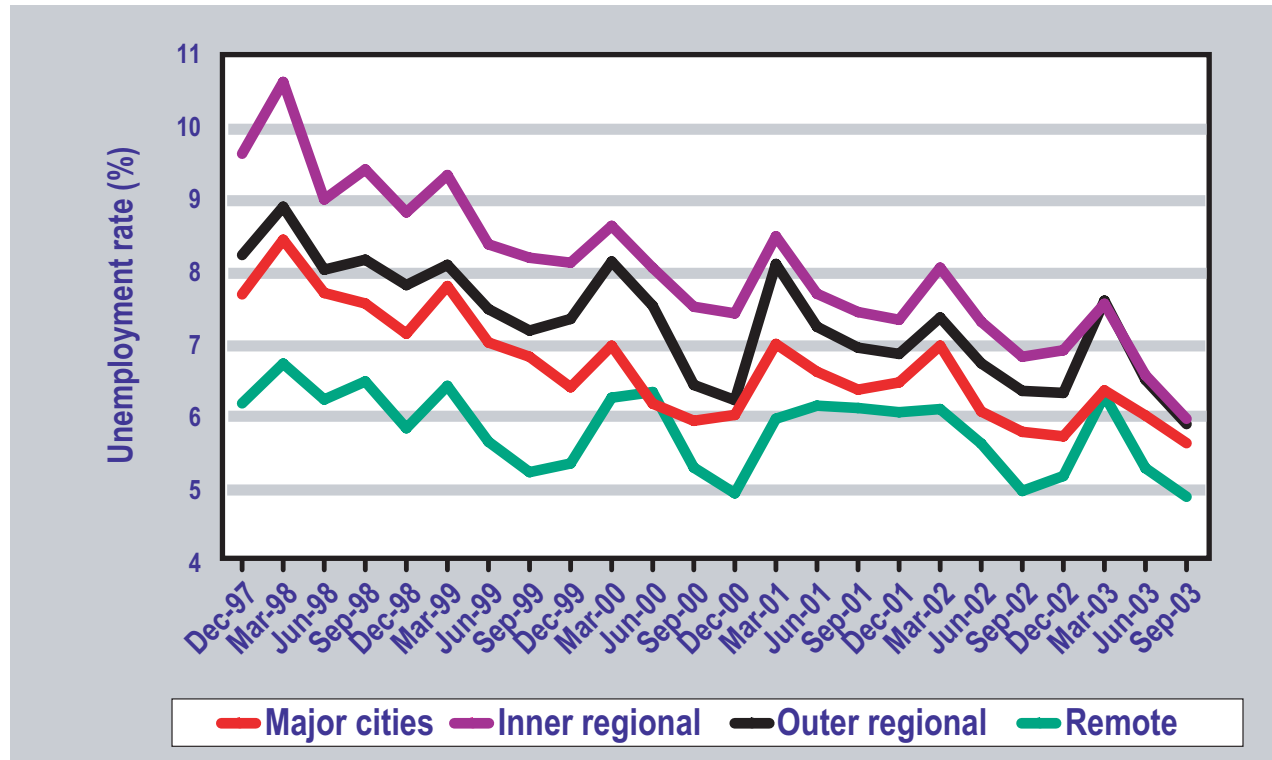
TABLE 12 LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Employment						
Persons ('000)	5 652.9	1 562.4	807.8	141.3	67.5	8 298.6
Part time employed as share of total employed	31.8%	35.3%	32.1%	27.9%	33.3%	32.4%
Self employed as share of total employed	14.9%	20.4%	24.0%	25.1%	16.4%	17.0%
Unemployment						
Persons ('000)	424.5	143.5	69.2	8.8	3.5	660.7
Unemployment rate—males	7.5%	9.1%	8.6%	6.4%	5.0%	8.0%
Unemployment rate—females	6.3%	7.6%	7.0%	5.2%	4.6%	6.6%
Labour force participation rate						
Males	72%	68%	71%	77%	72%	71%
Females	56%	52%	54%	61%	56%	55%

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). Derivations by BTRE.

Notes: Table relates only to persons aged 15 and over. Those who worked 34 hours or less in the week prior to census night are considered part time employed. Self employed persons refers to own account workers and employers.

FIGURE 2 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 1997 TO 2003



Source: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) Small Area Labour Markets database (synthetic estimates based on ABS Labour Force Survey & Census, & Centrelink benefits data). Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Due to BTRE concerns about the impact of definitional changes on the time-series data for very remote Australia, the category has been excluded.

TABLE 13 EMPLOYMENT FOR INDUSTRY SECTORS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

<i>Sectoral share of employed persons in remoteness class (%)</i>	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Agriculture/Mining	1	8	19	31	27	5
Manufacturing	13	12	9	5	3	12
Infrastructure	14	14	13	12	10	14
Govt & defence	4	4	5	5	20	5
Health/Education	17	19	16	14	14	17
Private services	50	43	38	32	26	47
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Infrastructure sector includes Construction, Communications, Transport, Electricity, gas & water. Private services sector includes Wholesale, Retail, Accommodation cafes & restaurants, Property & business, Finance & insurance, Cultural & recreational, Personal & other services.

20

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Did you know? WA's Shire of Kent is the most agriculture dependent LGA in Australia (71% of employment is in agriculture). WA's Shire of Yalgoo is the most mining dependent (50% of employment is in mining). Victoria's City of Greater Dandenong is the most dependent on manufacturing, at 31% of employment.

TABLE 14 BUSINESS LOCATIONS WITH PAID EMPLOYEES BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 1998

		Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Business locations ('000)		628.2	201.3	124.4	20.6	8.8	983.3
Share in each size category (no. employees)	1-4	71%	75%	77%	74%	69%	73%
	5-19	22%	20%	19%	21%	23%	21%
	20+	7%	5%	4%	5%	7%	6%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: ABS Business Register 1998. Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Many businesses operate out of several locations and will be counted several times in this table. Non-employed businesses have been excluded.

Did you know? Small businesses (those with less than 20 employees) employ around half of Australia's workforce. While not included in the above table, businesses with no paid employees account for the majority of businesses in Australia.

TABLE 15 GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BY STATE/TERRITORY, 2001-02

State/ Territory							<u>Total agriculture</u>	
	Livestock	Livestock products	Horticulture	Grain	Other crops	Share	Value (\$m)	
NSW	26%	23%	18%	31%	31%	26%	10 233	
VIC	21%	46%	26%	13%	14%	23%	9 282	
QLD	32%	7%	24%	6%	32%	20%	8 081	
SA	7%	8%	19%	21%	10%	13%	5 206	
WA	9%	10%	8%	29%	11%	14%	5 542	
TAS	2%	5%	4%	0%	2%	2%	903	
NT	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	321	
ACT	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20	
Total	%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	nr	
	\$m	11 435	6 751	6 749	9 321	5 333	nr	
							39 588	

Source: ABS *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2001-02* (Cat. 7503.0)

Notes: Livestock products include wool, milk, eggs & honey. Horticulture includes fruit, nuts, grapes, nursery production & vegetables. Grain includes wheat, barley, sorghum, rice & oats. Other crops include cotton, sugar cane, legumes & oilseeds.

Did you know? In terms of production value, Australia's most important agricultural commodities in 2001-02 were cattle and calves (\$7.1 billion), wheat (\$6.4 billion), milk (\$3.7 billion) and wool (\$2.7 billion).

TABLE 16 VISITOR EXPENDITURE FOR STATES/TERRITORIES, 1999

<i>State/ Territory</i>	<i>Visitor expenditure (\$m)</i>				<i>Region with highest total exp. (outside capital city)</i>	
	<i>Domestic visitors</i>	<i>Overseas visitors</i>	<i>All visitors</i>	<i>Share of exp. in capital city</i>	<i>Domestic visitors</i>	<i>Overseas visitors</i>
NSW	14 578	3 190	17 768	50%	Hunter	Illawarra
VIC	8 987	1 473	10 460	57%	Western	Western
QLD	11 246	2 512	13 758	23%	Gold Coast	Gold Coast
SA	2 817	325	3 142	62%	Fleurieu Peninsula	na
WA	4 284	940	5 224	55%	South West	Pilbara & Kimberley
TAS	1 513	112	1 625	41%	Launceston	na
NT	1 083	390	1 473	43%	Alice Springs	Petermann
ACT	947	117	1 064	100%	nr	nr
Australia	45 484	9 059	54 543	46%	Gold Coast	Gold Coast

Source: Bureau of Tourism Research *Tourism Expenditure by Domestic Visitors in Australia's Regions, 1999 & Tourism Expenditure by International Visitors in Australia's Regions, 1999.*

Notes: Domestic visitor expenditure relates to both day and overnight visitors. Excludes expenditure on motor vehicles, capital items and international airfares. Petermann includes Uluru. Western VIC includes Great Ocean Road.

transport and communication

TABLE 17 TRANSPORT MODE USAGE FOR DOMESTIC INTER-REGIONAL, NON-COMMUTER, PASSENGER TRIPS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2002

<i>Main transport mode</i>	<i>Passenger's home region (%)</i>					<i>Australia</i>
	<i>Major cities</i>	<i>Inner regional</i>	<i>Outer regional</i>	<i>Remote</i>	<i>Very remote</i>	
Car	84	91	92	91	87	87
Coach	3	3	3	2	2	3
Rail	5	3	1	1	0	4
Air	7	3	3	5	8	6
Other/not stated	1	1	1	1	2	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Bureau of Tourism Research National Visitor Survey 2002. Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Relates to domestic travel only. Includes daytrips (roundtrip distance of at least 50km) and overnight trips (destination must be at least 40km from home). Excludes persons under 15 and routine trips (e.g. commuting, weekly shopping trip). Other transport mode includes ferries.

TABLE 18 METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

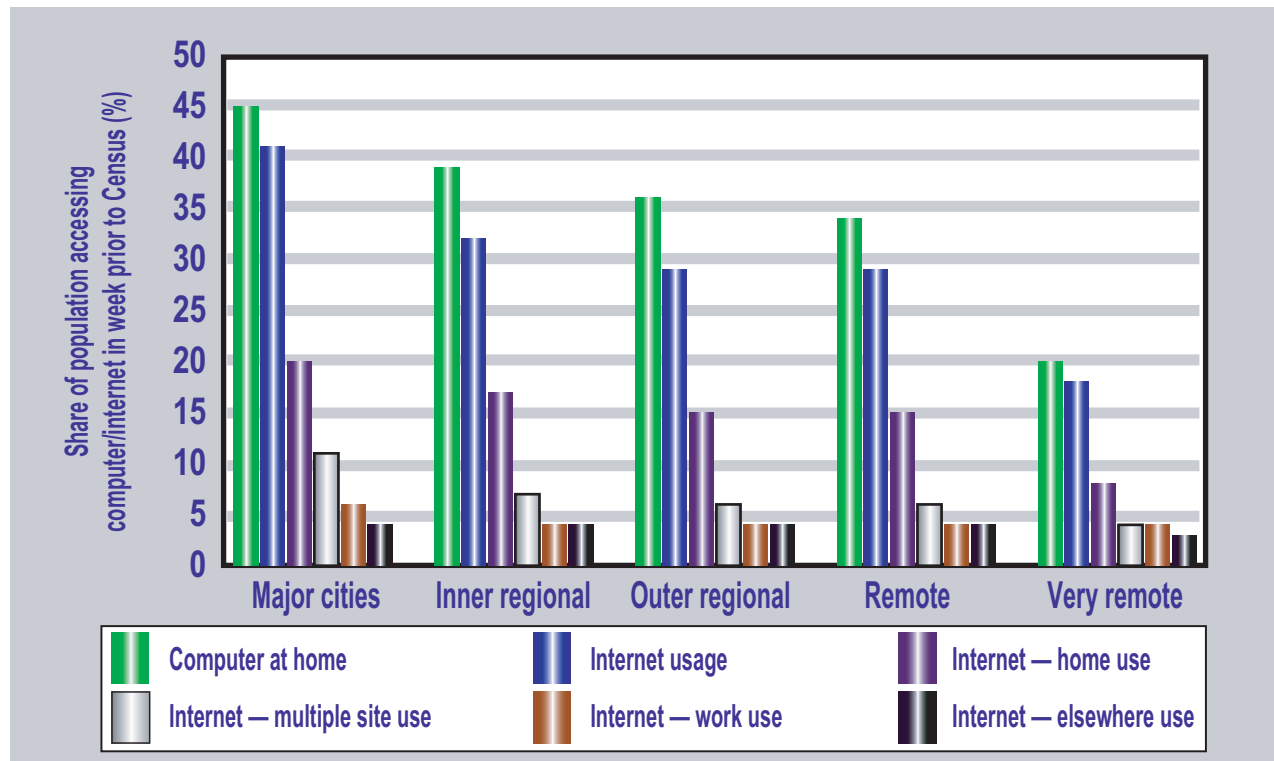
<i>Method</i>	<i>Passenger's home region (%)</i>					Australia
	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	
Car—driver	70.1%	76.7%	72.2%	63.2%	39.4%	71.0%
Car—passenger	7.0%	8.6%	9.1%	9.7%	10.3%	7.6%
Truck	1.6%	2.7%	3.0%	2.8%	2.5%	2.0%
Motorbike/scooter	0.6%	0.9%	1.3%	1.3%	1.1%	0.7%
Bicycle	1.0%	1.3%	1.9%	2.3%	2.3%	1.2%
Walked only	3.4%	5.5%	8.0%	13.7%	34.8%	4.7%
Bus	3.9%	0.9%	1.2%	2.1%	4.1%	3.1%
Train/tram	6.2%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	4.4%
Other response/ multiple travel methods	6.3%	3.0%	3.3%	4.9%	5.3%	5.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data).

Note: Other response includes ferries and taxis. Data relates to persons who worked away from home on the day of the census.

Did you know? Between 1996 and 2001, for Australia as a whole, travelling by train to work increased by 12%, car (as driver) by 9% and cycling by 5%, while car (as passenger) declined by 4% and taxi usage by 15%.

FIGURE 3 COMPUTER AND INTERNET USAGE BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001



Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data).

COMMUNICATIONS ACCESS

- In September 2002, 9% of Australians accessed the Internet via broadband services.
- Regional variations in internet access are influenced by the fact that older age groups and Indigenous people have a lower propensity for home internet use, while higher income earners and families with children have a higher propensity for home internet use.
- National long-distance weighted average prices have decreased in real terms by between 6.2% and 9.7% each year from 1997-98 to 2000-01.
- In 2002, there were 12.6 million mobile phones and 10.7 million fixed telephone lines in operation in Australia. 97% of households have a fixed phone.
- Terrestrial mobile coverage extends to 13.7% of Australia's geographic landmass, and covers 96% of the population.
- In 2001-02, the payphone market consisted of 71 710 payphones. Of these, 36 875 were customer operated, 33 778 were Telstra operated, 886 were Optus/Payphone Industry Association operated and 171 were public telephone typewriter (TTY) payphones.

Sources: *NOIE Information Economy Index, 2003; Regional Telecommunications Inquiry Report, 2002; Telecommunications Service Inquiry, 2000.*

education and health

TABLE 19 ATTENDANCE AT GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

%	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Primary school attendance						
Government	69	75	77	81	88	71
Catholic	21	17	18	15	9	19
Other non-government	10	9	5	3	3	9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Secondary school attendance						
Government	58	67	77	83	88	63
Catholic	23	19	16	12	5	21
Other non-government	18	14	7	5	7	16
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
16 year olds still at school (or in further education)*						
Males	82	81	78	66	37	81
Females	85	85	83	74	42	84

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). Derivations by BTRE.

* As share of all 16 year olds, including those with unknown educational status.

TABLE 20 FURTHER EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Share of persons aged 15+ with a highest qualification of:						
Postgraduate degree	2.3%	1.0%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	1.8%
Graduate diploma/ certificate	1.5%	1.2%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	1.4%
Bachelor degree	11.4%	6.7%	5.9%	5.9%	4.6%	9.7%
Diploma/ Adv. diploma	6.5%	5.3%	4.6%	4.4%	3.3%	6.0%
Certificate	15.2%	17.5%	16.4%	16.4%	11.7%	15.8%
Bachelor degree or higher level qualification						
Males—2001 ('000)	736	114	44	6	3	910
Females—2001 ('000)	774	147	65	11	4	1 009
All persons—2001 ('000)	1 510	262	109	17	7	1 919
All persons—1996 ('000)	1 145	194	86	14	6	1 451

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). 1996 estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Did you know? North Sydney is the LGA with the highest share of persons aged 15+ who have a bachelor degree or higher level qualification at 38.9%. The Shire of Mount Morgan in Queensland has the lowest share at 2.6%.

TABLE 21 SELECTED INDICATORS OF HEALTH STATUS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 1997–1999

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very Remote	Australia
<i>Life expectancy at birth (years)</i>						
Male	77.9	76.7	76.0	75.3	72.2	76.2
Female	83.9	83.3	82.6	82.7	78.5	81.8
<i>Selected causes of death —standardised mortality ratio (SMR)</i>						
Cancer	1.0	*1.0+	*1.0+	1.0	1.0	nr
Ischaemic heart disease	1.0	*1.1	*1.1	*1.1	*1.3	nr
Stroke	1.0	*1.0+	1.0	0.9	1.2	nr
Diabetes	1.0	*1.1	*1.3	*1.7	*3.8	nr
Respiratory diseases	1.0	*1.0+	*1.2	*1.3	*1.9	nr
Suicide	1.0	*1.2	*1.2	*1.4	*1.6	nr
Motor vehicle accidents	1.0	*1.7	*1.9	*2.4	*3.6	nr
Total – all causes	1.0	*1.1	*1.1	*1.1	*1.5	nr

Source: AIHW *Rural, regional and remote health: a study on mortality* (Cat. PHE-45).

Notes: SMR is the number of deaths observed in a regional or remote area, divided by the number of deaths expected in that area if the age-specific death rates observed in Major cities were applied to that area.

* Significantly different from 1.00 at the 95% level (that is, rates are significantly different from those for people in Major cities).

+ Indicates there were significantly more deaths than expected (but less than 1.05 times more).

TABLE 22 SELECTED SELF-REPORTED HEALTH RISK FACTORS BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

<i>Share (%) of males/ females over 18 years of age in remoteness class who reported:</i>		Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional, remote, very remote	Australia
Current smoker	Male	27.5	25.8	31.3	27.6
	Female	20.2	22.1	25.2	21.1
Risky/high alcohol risk	Male	12.0	15.5	16.7	13.3
	Female	8.3	8.8	9.0	8.5
Sedentary / low exercise level	Male	64.4	65.0	66.6	64.8
	Female	73.3	73.9	76.1	73.7
Overweight/obese Body Mass Index	Male	53.3	55.8	59.1	54.5
	Female	36.6	41.7	41.3	38.2
Low/no usual daily intake of fruit	Male	53.1	54.4	55.4	53.7
	Female	42.0	39.1	44.7	41.7

Source: ABS National Health Survey 2001.

Notes: Low daily intake of fruit equals one serve or less.

TABLE 23 HEALTH LABOUR FORCE BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Share of health professionals (%)						
General medical practitioners	10.8	7.9	8.3	9.0	9.4	10.0
Medical practitioners in training	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.9
Specialist medical practitioners	6.4	3.4	2.7	1.8	0.6	5.4
Registered nurses	46.1	54.0	57.2	59.3	66.1	48.8
Registered midwives	3.7	4.4	5.3	6.1	6.5	4.0
Retail pharmacists	4.4	3.5	3.9	3.3	2.8	4.1
Other health*	27.6	26.2	22.2	19.6	13.8	26.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All health professionals						
Share of total employed persons (%)	3.7%	3.6%	2.8%	2.1%	1.8%	3.5%
Per 100 000 pop.	1 597	1 389	1 136	910	655	1 497

Source: ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing (place of usual residence data). Per capita estimates by BTRE.

* Includes dentists, optometrists, chiropractors, naturopaths & veterinarians.

TABLE 24 HEALTH SERVICES BY STATE/TERRITORY, 2001–02

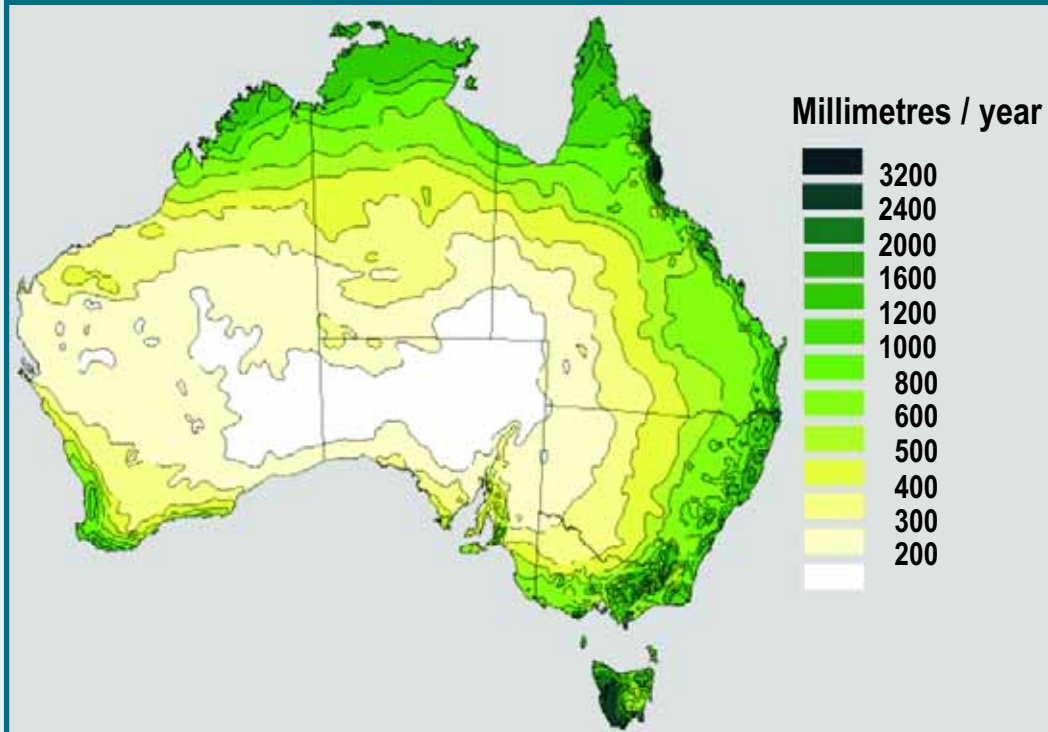
<i>State/ Territory</i>	<i>Part of State</i>	<i>Acute & psychiatric hospital beds</i>		<i>Residential aged care places</i>
		<i>Public</i>	<i>Private</i>	
NSW & ACT	Capital city	10 249	4 916	32 640
	Rest of the State	7 823	1 919	20 044
VIC	Capital city	7 655	5 272	24 513
	Rest of the State	3 986	1 040	11 601
QLD	Capital city	4 323	2 894	12 063
	Rest of the State	5 557	2 873	14 588
SA & NT	Capital city	3 448	1 856	10 966
	Rest of the State	2 169	158	3 357
WA	Capital city	3 356	na	9 849
	Rest of the State	1 786	na	2 731
TAS	Capital city	525	na	1 741
	Rest of the State	584	na	2 175
Australia	Capital city	29 556	18 119*	91 772
	Rest of Australia	21 905	6 629*	54 496

Source: ABS *Private Hospitals Australia, 2001–02* (Cat. 4390.0); AIHW *Australian Hospital Statistics, 2001–02* (Cat. HSE-20); AIHW *Residential Aged Care in Australia, 2001–02* (unpublished data).

Notes: * includes WA & TAS

environmental issues

MAP 2 AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL BASED ON 30-YEAR CLIMATOLOGY, 1961–1990



Australia is one of the driest inhabited continents. Water is a valuable resource, essential to support an increasing human population, and to sustain economic development, and ecosystem health and biodiversity.

Australia's river basins and groundwater supplies experience variable flows and climactic conditions, which impacts on resource availability.

TABLE 25 WATER CONSUMPTION BY STATE/TERRITORY, 1996–1997

	NSW & ACT	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	Australia
	<i>Gigalitres</i>							
Livestock, pastures, grains & other agriculture	3 405	3 549	726	640	402	70	4	8 795
Sugar, cotton & rice	3 061	nr	1 599	nr	60	nr	nr	4 720
Horticulture	715	498	217	352	157	44	5	1 987
Domestic	580	419	419	131	214	32	34	1 829
<i>Domestic per capita av. daily use (litres)</i>	244	252	344	243	333	183	506	274
Sewerage & drainage	553	770	279	48	29	14	14	1 707
Electricity & gas	23	1 193	69	1	21	0	0	1 308
Other	378	258	371	89	541	155	46	1 839
Total	8 716	6 687	3 680	1 261	1 424	314	103	22 186

Source: BTRE analysis of ABS **Water Account for Australia 1993–1994 to 1996–1997** (Cat. 4610.0). Per capita estimate uses estimated resident population data for 1996.

Notes: Water consumption = (mains water use + self-extracted water use)—(regulated discharge + in-stream use). 1 gigalitre = 1 000 000 000 litres. Horticulture includes vegetables, fruit and grapevines. Other includes manufacturing, mining, government, and other industry. Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

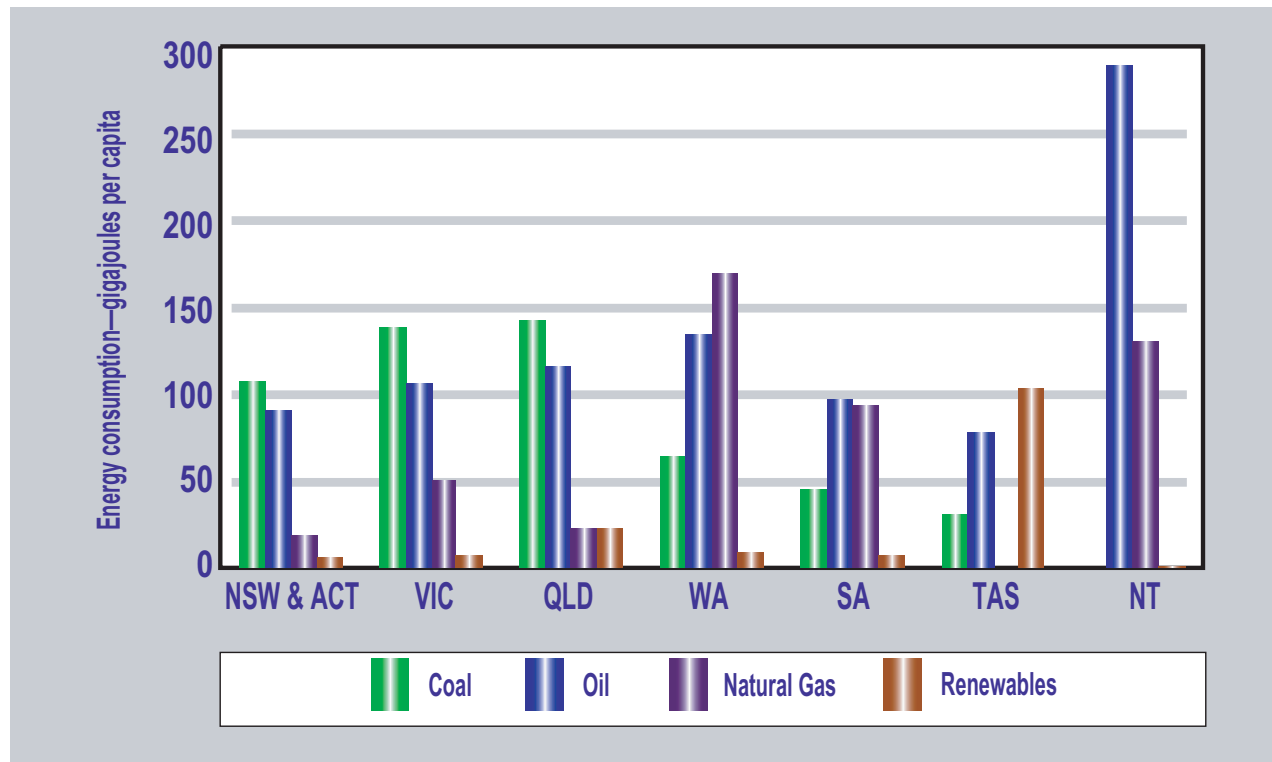
TABLE 26 AREAS OF HIGH RISK OR HAZARD OF DRYLAND SALINITY BY STATE/TERRITORY

	<i>Hectares at high risk or hazard</i>	<i>Projected hectares at high risk or hazard</i>	
	2000	2020	2050
NSW	181 000	579 000	1 300 000
VIC	670 000	1 310 000	3 110 000
QLD	na	na	3 100 000
SA	390 000	495 000	600 000
WA	4 363 000	5 230 000	8 800 000
TAS	54 000	70 000	90 000
NT/ACT	minor	unknown	unknown
Australia	5 658 000	7 684 000	16 900 000

Source: National Land and Water Resources Audit 2001, <http://www.environment.gov.au/atlas>

Did you know? Dryland salinity significantly decreases agricultural productivity, and threatens ecosystems and biodiversity. It also reduces the life of infrastructure resources as salt destroys the properties of bitumen and concrete structures. Some 20 000 km of major road and 1 600 km of railways occur in regions mapped to have areas of high risk. Estimates suggest these could be 52 000 km and 3 600 km respectively by the year 2050. Australian rural towns are also potentially affected. Over 200 towns could suffer damage to infrastructure and other community assets from dryland salinity by 2050.

FIGURE 4 PER CAPITA PRIMARY ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY FUEL TYPE, STATES/TERRITORIES, 2001–02



Source: BTRE analysis of ABARE Energy Statistics—Overview Dataset 2004.

Note: Renewables include biomass, hydroelectricity, solar energy and wind energy.

TABLE 27 AVERAGE ANNUAL COST OF NATURAL DISASTERS BY STATE/TERRITORY, 1967–2001

	Average annual cost (\$ million)						Total
	Flood	Severe Storms	Cyclones	Earthquakes	Bushfire	Landslide	
NSW	169.9	215.5	0.6	145.2	23.3	1.2	555.8
VIC	39.5	23.7	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	96.6
QLD	121.9	42.0	99.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	263.3
SA	19.2	16.7	0.0	0.0	12.2	0.0	48.1
WA	4.7	11.4	43.1	3.1	4.6	0.0	66.9
TAS	6.9	1.2	0.0	0.0	11.5	0.0	19.5
NT	9.1	0.0	138.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	147.4
ACT	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Australia	371.2	310.6	280.7	148.6	85.3	1.2	1 197.6
Share of total (%)	31.0	25.9	23.4	12.4	7.1	0.1	100.0

Source: BTRE analysis of Emergency Management Australia (EMATrack) database (unpublished).
<http://www.ema.gov.au>

Notes: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding. Figures in 2001 dollars. Excludes costs of deaths and injuries.

international comparisons

	Australia	Italy	Philippines	United Kingdom	United States of America
People per km ²	2	190	254	243	29
Pop. distribution					
Urban	91%	67%	59%	89%	77%
Rural	9%	33%	41%	11%	23%
Life expectancy					
Male	76.4	75.5	68.0	75.7	74.6
Female	82.0	81.9	72.0	80.7	80.4
Total fertility rate	1.7	1.2	3.2	1.6	1.9
Formal schooling (expected years)	16.6	14.7	11.2	16.4	15.2
Per capita GDP (\$US)	\$20 298	\$18 653	\$988	\$24 058	\$34 637
Unemployment rate	6.6%	10.5%	10.1%	5.5%	4.0%

Sources: United Nations Statistics Division, <http://unstats.un.org/demographic/social> (accessed January 2003); ABS *Measuring Australia's Progress*, 2002 (Cat.1370.0).

Notes: All figures for 2000 except: 2000–2005 estimated life expectancy and fertility rates; 1999–2000 estimates for years in school, excl Philippines (1995 estimates). Philippines unemployment rate is for October 2000, UK rate is for March–May 2000.

abbreviations and acronyms

'000	Thousands	Govt	Government
\$m	Million dollars	GSP	Gross state product
\$US	United States dollars	ISP	Internet service provider
ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics	km ²	Square kilometres
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	LGA	Local Government Area
ACT	Australian Capital Territory	na	Not available
Adv.	Advanced	nr	Not relevant
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	No.	Number
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification	NSW	New South Wales
Av.	Average	NT	Northern Territory
BTRE	Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics	Pop.	Population
Cat.	Catalogue number	QLD	Queensland
CBD	Central business district	reg.	regional
DOTARS	Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services	SA	South Australia
exp.	expenditure	SAAP	Supported accommodation assistance program
FACS	Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services	SMR	Standardised mortality ratio
GDP	Gross domestic product	TAS	Tasmania
		TTYs.	Telephone typewriters
		V.	Very
		VIC	Victoria
		WA	Western Australia

useful contacts *for regional statistics*

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Australian Tax Office

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Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

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Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

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Bureau of Tourism Research

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