

about Australia's regions


 BUREAU OF
btre
 TRANSPORT & REGIONAL ECONOMICS

regional economies

TABLE 10 SELECTED STATE/TERRITORY ECONOMIC INDICATORS, 2001-02

State/Territory	GDP (2001-02)	Per capita (2001-02)	GDP per capita (2001-02)	Total GDP (2001-02)	Exports of goods & services per capita (2001-02)	Private (2001-02)	Public (2001-02)
NSW	\$41 171	\$26 914	2.2%	3.6%	\$5 973	\$6 209	\$1 300
VIC	\$19 359	\$30 943	2.6%	4.9%	\$6 359	\$7 230	\$1 050
QLD	\$15 520	\$31 479	3.1%	4.9%	\$6 550	\$6 550	\$1 550
SA	\$5 265	\$30 048	2.7%	3.2%	\$7 524	\$5 380	\$961
WA	\$7 495	\$40 369	1.8%	3.3%	\$6 700	\$8 274	\$1 637
TAS	\$1 976	\$26 310	1.6%	1.5%	\$16 322	\$4 117	\$1 657
NT	\$ 661	\$45 328	2.8%	4.4%	\$20 896	\$10 926	\$3 212
ACT	\$3 824	\$43 163	3.9%	4.8%	\$1 928	\$5 489	\$2 464
AUT	\$3 824	\$43 163	3.9%	4.8%	\$7 745	\$6 703	\$1 369

May 2003

about the Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics

www.btre.gov.au

- What will be future demand for regional public transport services?
- What has been the strategic purpose of government policies and programmes targeted at the development of regions?
- How much do natural disasters cost the community?

These are some of the questions the Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics (BTRE) has recently addressed.

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.

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* (inside back cover).

ABS data has been used with permission from the
Australian Bureau of Statistics.

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, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
Pop. ('000 persons)	12 927	4 034	2 016	326	183	19 485
Share of total pop.	66.3%	20.7%	10.3%	1.7%	0.9%	100.0%
Total pop. growth, 1996 to 2001	6.8%	7.3%	3.1%	1.6%	3.6%	6.4%
Area ('000 km ²)	14	220	803	1 021	5 646	7 704
Pop. density (persons/km ²)	900.8	18.4	2.5	0.3	0.0	2.5
Pop. share living in same State/Territory as 5 years ago	96%	96%	96%	94%	91%	95%

Sources: ABS **Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001** (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 2001 are preliminary.

TABLE 2 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION GROWTH BY STATE/TERRITORY AND REMOTENESS CLASS, 1996 TO 2001

State/ Territory	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Total
NSW	7%	7%	3%	-1%	-1%	7%
VIC	6%	6%	1%	-5%	nr	6%
QLD	10%	10%	5%	1%	5%	9%
SA	3%	7%	-2%	3%	2%	3%
WA	8%	17%	5%	3%	1%	8%
TAS	nr	0%	-1%	-6%	-9%	0%
NT	nr	nr	13%	4%	9%	10%
ACT	4%	-7%	nr	nr	nr	4%
Total	7%	7%	3%	2%	4%	6%

Source: ABS **Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001** (Cat. 3218.0).
Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

Notes: Population growth rates relate to the total growth between 1996 and 2001. Population estimates for 2001 are preliminary.

TABLE 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAs) WITH FASTEST POPULATION INCREASES / DECREASES, 1996 TO 2001

<i>Fastest increases</i>			<i>Fastest decreases</i>		
LGA	Class	Average annual growth rate (%)	LGA	Class	Average annual growth rate (%)
Sydney, NSW	Major cities	18.1	Meekatharra, WA	V. remote	-7.2
Palmerston, NT	Outer reg.	11.1	Leonora, WA	V. remote*	-6.5
Burke, QLD	V. remote	7.9	Dundas, WA	Remote*	-5.5
Perth, WA	Major cities	7.3	Coolgardie, WA	Outer reg.*	-5.3
Camden, NSW	Major cities*	6.7	Yilgarn, WA	Remote	-4.7
Broome, WA	Remote*	6.3	Wiluna, WA	V. remote	-4.6
Dardanup, WA	Inner reg.	6.2	Jabiru, NT	Remote	-4.4
Halls Creek, WA	V. remote	6.1	Ashburton, WA	V. remote	-4.1
Roxby Downs, SA	Remote	5.7	Duaringa, QLD	Outer reg.*	-3.7
Melbourne, VIC	Major cities	5.6	Tennant Creek, NT	V. remote	-3.7

Notes: Table excludes LGAs with population of less than 1 000 at June 1996. Population estimates for 2001 are preliminary.

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

*Source: ABS **Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001** (Cat. 3218.0). LGAs coded to remoteness classes by BTRE.*

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, 2001

Territory	Population	Land area (km²)	Governance
Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Uninhabited	2	Commonwealth
Australian Antarctic Territory	Transient	5 896 500	Commonwealth
Australian Capital Territory	321 680	2 358	Self governing
Christmas Island	1 446	135	Commonwealth
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	602	14	Commonwealth
Coral Sea Islands	4	81	Commonwealth
Heard and McDonald Islands	Uninhabited	367	Commonwealth
Jervis Bay	544	73	Commonwealth
Norfolk Island	1 359	35	Self governing
Northern Territory	200 019	1 349 129	Self governing
All Territories	525 654	7 248 694	

Sources: ABS *Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001* (Cat. 3218.0); Norfolk Island Census 2001; National Mapping Division, Geoscience Australia.

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 2000–2001, SAAP provided 45 450 periods of domestic violence related support, 54% of them outside major cities. Reported domestic violence rates were highest in very remote Australia (14.5 SAAP periods per 1 000 population), followed by remote Australia (10.0), outer regional (4.0), inner regional (2.6) and major cities (1.6). 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 2001, 2 454 Australians committed suicide. The male suicide rate (20 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 (11 deaths per 100 000 population) than in the rest of Australia (15 deaths per 100 000 population). Between 1998 and 2001, suicide rates in Queensland and the NT were consistently above the national average. (*Source: ABS **Information Paper: Suicides, Australia, 2001** (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 2000, NSW had the highest rate for robbery offences with 206 victims per 100 000 people, compared with a national average of 122. Property crimes were highest in WA with a rate of 8 617 per 100 000, compared with the national average of 6 530. 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, 2000** (Cat 4510.0); ABS **Measuring Australia's Progress, 2002** (Cat. 1370.0)).
- 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

	<i>Benefit recipients as share of remoteness class population (%)</i>					
<i>Payment type</i>	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
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, 2001

Share of persons aged 15+ in remoteness class (%)	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote*	Australia
<i>Given your current needs & financial responsibilities, you and your family are:</i>					
Prosperous/very comfortable	16	13	9	22	14
Reasonably comfortable	52	52	49	51	51
Just getting along	29	30	36	24	30
Poor/very poor	4	4	6	2	4
<i>Since January 1[^], due to a shortage of money:</i>					
Asked for financial help from friends/family	17	15	21	12	17
Asked for help from welfare/ community organisation	5	5	8	4	5
Went without meals	4	5	6	6	5
Could not pay mortgage/rent on time	9	9	11	8	9

Notes: * Remote data is less reliable due to a small sample size of 219. The survey did not collect data from very remote Australia.

[^] Data was collected between August and December 2001.

Source: Unit record data from Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) sample survey, wave 1 (2001). Data provided by Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, The University of Melbourne, but funded by FACS. (<http://www.melbourneinstitute.com/hilda>).

regional economies

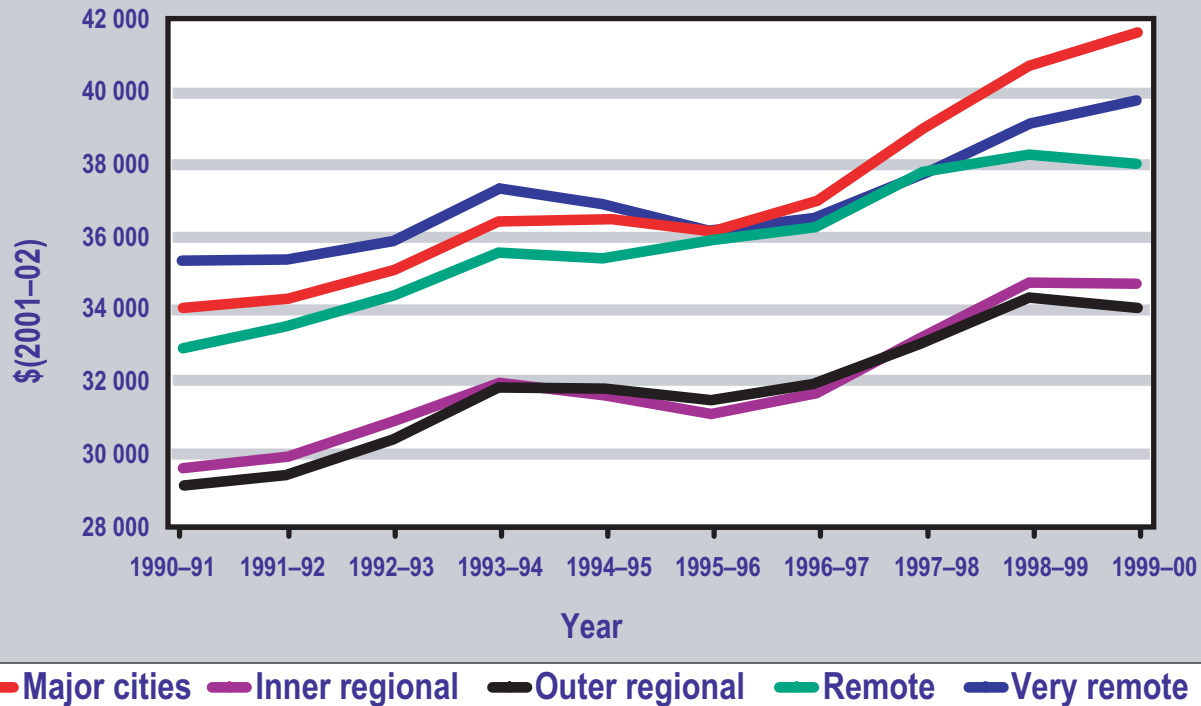
TABLE 10 SELECTED STATE/TERRITORY ECONOMIC INDICATORS, 2001–2002

State/ Territory	Gross State Product (GSP)		Av. annual growth, 1996–97 to 2001–02		Exports of goods & services per capita	Investment per capita	
	Total (\$m)	Per capita	GSP per capita	Total GSP		Private	Public
NSW	243 171	\$36 614	2.3%	3.6%	\$5 973	\$6 209	\$1 328
VIC	179 369	\$36 943	3.6%	4.8%	\$6 359	\$7 295	\$1 094
QLD	115 530	\$31 479	3.1%	4.9%	\$7 524	\$6 550	\$1 559
SA	45 765	\$30 136	2.7%	3.2%	\$6 709	\$5 386	\$969
WA	77 495	\$40 399	1.8%	3.3%	\$18 322	\$8 274	\$1 637
TAS	11 976	\$25 310	1.6%	1.5%	\$5 611	\$4 117	\$1 657
NT	9 061	\$45 328	2.8%	4.4%	\$20 896	\$10 926	\$3 212
ACT	13 928	\$43 168	3.9%	4.8%	\$1 928	\$5 489	\$2 464
Australia	695 663	\$35 693	2.7%	3.9%	\$7 745	\$6 703	\$1 369

Source: ABS *Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 2001–2002* (Cat. 5220.0).

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

**FIGURE 1 AVERAGE REAL TAXABLE INCOME BY REMOTENESS CLASS,
1990–1991 TO 1999–2000**



Source: Australian Taxation Office *Taxation Statistics*, 1990–1991 to 1999–2000. Estimation for remoteness classes by BTRE.

TABLE 11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAs) WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST AVERAGE REAL TAXABLE INCOMES, 1999–2000

<i>Highest incomes</i>			<i>Lowest incomes</i>		
LGA	Real av. taxable income	Increase over ten years (%)	LGA	Real av. taxable income	Increase over ten years (%)
Mosman, NSW *	\$96 066	70.0	Kent, WA ∞	\$24 370	2.0
Woollahra, NSW *	\$87 421	54.9	Isisford, QLD •	\$25 639	-1.1
Hunter's Hill, NSW *	\$79 462	61.4	Cuballing, WA ^	\$26 441	11.7
Ku-ring-gai, NSW *	\$74 114	42.2	Tambellup, WA ^	\$26 470	-3.2
Yalgoo, WA ∞	\$72 373	103.7	Perry, QLD ^	\$26 802	8.8
North Sydney, NSW *	\$71 196	53.2	Kolan, QLD ^	\$26 816	9.6
Nedlands, WA *	\$68 413	37.8	Jerramungup, WA ∞	\$26 904	3.8
Peppermint Grove, WA *	\$66 876	47.2	Karoonda East Murray, SA ^	\$26 930	30.8
Cottesloe, WA *	\$66 852	47.4	Goyder, SA ^	\$26 933	15.2
Stonnington, VIC *	\$66 690	43.9	Southern Mallee, SA ∞	\$27 052	23.8

Source: Australian Taxation Office **Taxation Statistics**, 1990–1991 to 1999–2000. Analysis and allocation to LGA boundaries by BTRE.

Notes: Incomes expressed in terms of 2001–2002 dollars. The symbol after the LGA name denotes the remoteness class accounting for the majority of the LGA's population (Major cities=*; Outer regional ^=^; Remote=∞; Very remote=•).

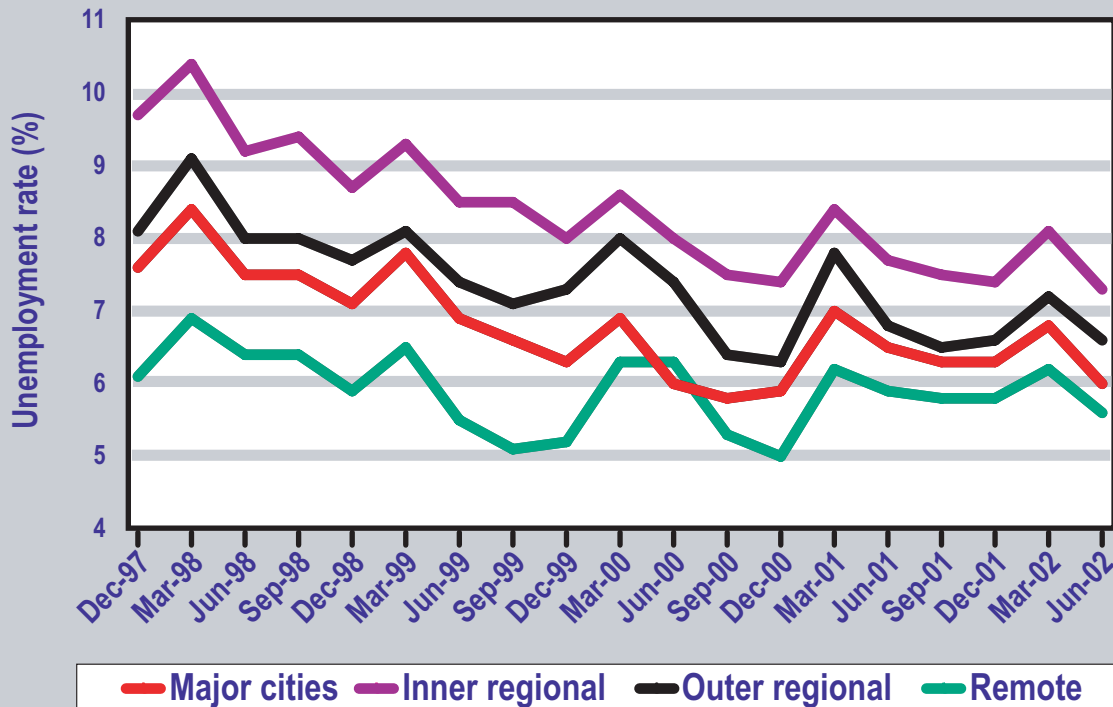
TABLE 12 LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW BY REMOTENESS CLASS, 2001

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	Australia
<i>Employment</i>						
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%
<i>Unemployment</i>						
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%
<i>Labour force participation rate</i>						
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, 1997–2002



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.

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, 2000–2001

State/ Territory			Livestock products	Horticulture	Grain	Other crops	<i>Total agriculture</i>	
	Livestock						Share	Value (\$m)
NSW	25%		26%	17%	31%	33%	26%	8 837
VIC	21%		43%	25%	17%	17%	24%	8 301
QLD	35%		8%	24%	7%	29%	21%	7 250
SA	6%		8%	21%	22%	8%	13%	4 417
WA	10%		11%	8%	24%	10%	13%	4 387
TAS	2%		4%	3%	0%	2%	2%	755
NT	2%		0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	270
ACT	0%		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20
Total	%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	nr
	\$m	9 738	5 965	6 536	7 494	4 504	nr	34 237

Source: ABS *Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 2000–2001* (Cat. 7121.0).

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 2000–2001 were cattle and calves (\$6.4 billion), wheat (\$5.1 billion), milk (\$3.1 billion) and wool (\$2.5 billion).

TABLE 16 VISITOR EXPENDITURE FOR STATES/TERRITORIES, 1998

State/ Territory	Visitor expenditure (\$m)				Region with highest total exp. (outside capital city)	
	Domestic visitors	Overseas visitors	All visitors	Share of exp. in capital city	Domestic visitors	Overseas visitors
NSW	13 030	2 887	15 917	50%	Hunter	Hunter
VIC	9 101	1 467	10 568	58%	Western	Geelong & Peninsula
QLD	10 393	1 942	12 335	24%	Gold Coast	Gold Coast
SA	2 799	253	3 052	63%	Fleurieu Peninsula	Flinders Ranges & Far North
WA	3 995	764	4 759	53%	South West	South West & Peel
TAS	1 454	99	1 553	36%	Launceston	Launceston
NT	1 137	231	1 368	43%	Alice Springs	Petermann
ACT	955	115	1 070	100%	nr	nr
Australia	42 990	7 760	50 750	47%	Gold Coast	Gold Coast

Source: Bureau of Tourism Research Occasional Papers 31 and 32.

Notes: Domestic visitor expenditure relates to both day and overnight visitors. Excludes expenditure on motor vehicles, capital items and international visitor expenditure on airfares and packages. 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, 2000

Main transport mode	<i>Passenger's home region (%)</i>					Australia
	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote	Very remote	
Car	84	91	92	90	84	87
Coach	3	3	3	3	2	3
Rail	5	3	1	0	0	4
Air	7	3	3	5	11	5
Other/not stated	1	1	1	2	3	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Bureau of Tourism Research National Visitor Survey 2000. 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

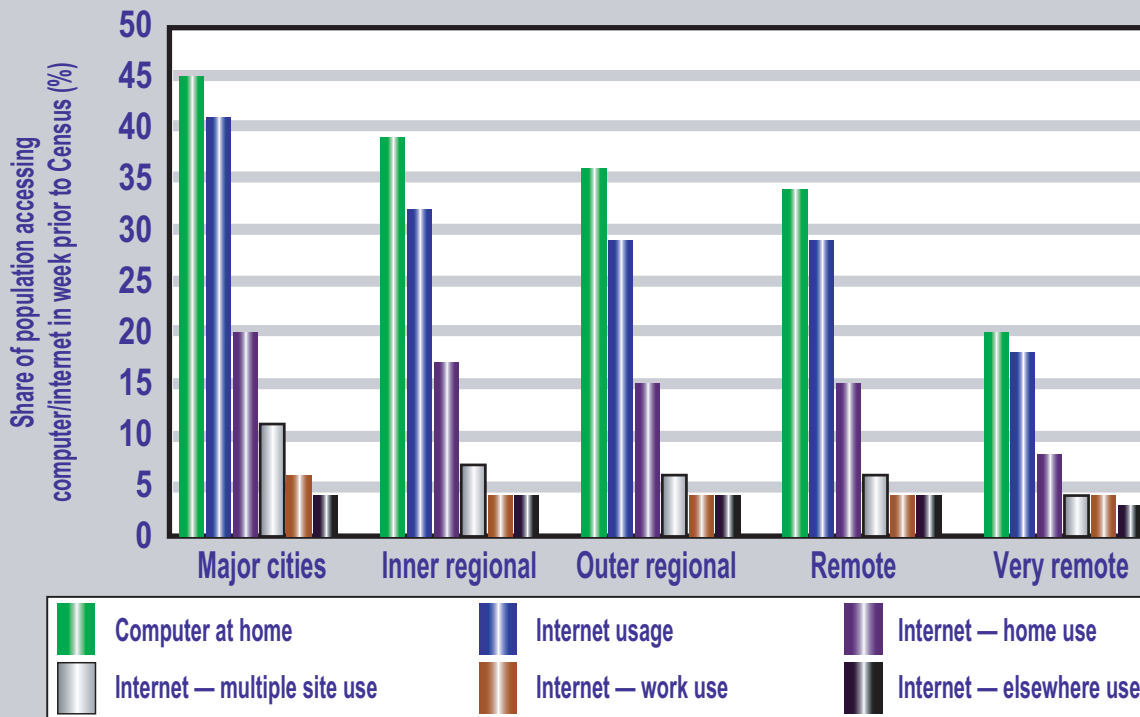
<i>Method</i>	<i>Passenger's home region (%)</i>					<i>Australia</i>
	<i>Major cities</i>	<i>Inner regional</i>	<i>Outer regional</i>	<i>Remote</i>	<i>Very remote</i>	
Car—driver	70.1%	76.7%	72.2%	63.2%	39.4%	71.0%
Car—passenger	7.0%	8.6%	9.1%	9.7%	10.3%	7.6%
Truck	1.6%	2.7%	3.0%	2.8%	2.5%	2.0%
Motorbike/scooter	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

- National long distance weighted average prices have decreased in real terms by between 6.2% and 9.7% each year from 1997–1998 to 2000–2001.
- In 2002, there were over 12 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.
- The number of Internet service providers (ISPs) has grown from 460 in 1998 to 1 133 in 2002. 664 ISPs were listed in metropolitan areas and 505 in the rest of Australia.
- Internet-based commerce in Australia is expected to grow from \$61 million in 1997–1998 to \$1.3 billion in 2001–2002.
- In 2001–2002, 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: Regional Telecommunications Inquiry Report, 2002; Telecommunications Service Inquiry, 2000; Kim Davies, Australian ISP List, <http://www.cynosure.com.au>, viewed November 2002; Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's Telecommunications Report 2000–2001.

Note: The total number of ISPs is lower than the aggregate of metropolitan and other ISPs because companies that serve both locations have not been double-counted.

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 STATE/
TERRITORY, 2001**

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Total
<i>Life expectancy at birth</i>									
Male	76.9	77.5	76.9	77.0	77.3	76.0	70.8	78.5	77.0
Female	82.4	82.7	82.3	82.5	82.8	81.2	76.5	82.9	82.4
Infant mortality rate (per 1000 live births)	5.3	4.8	5.9	4.6	5.1	6.2	10.7	3.0	5.3
<i>Selected causes of death—standardised rates per 100 000 population</i>									
Cancer	160	165	163	164	156	176	169	156	162
Ischaemic heart disease	106	99	118	113	97	118	144	94	107
Stroke	50	45	49	46	41	54	41	43	47
Diabetes	10	16	12	12	15	17	44	13	13
Motor vehicle traffic accidents	8	9	10	10	9	11	20	4	9
Drug induced	6	5	5	5	6	4	8	6	5

Sources: ABS Deaths, Australia, 2001 (Cat. 3302.0); ABS Causes of Death, Australia, 2001 (Cat. 3303.0) & related unpublished data.

Did you know? Of all ABS Statistical Divisions, Canberra has the highest male life expectancy of 79 years, whilst Moreton in Queensland has the highest female life expectancy of 83 years. The lowest life expectancy of males and females is in the NT (outside Darwin) with 68 and 73 years respectively.

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, 2000–2001

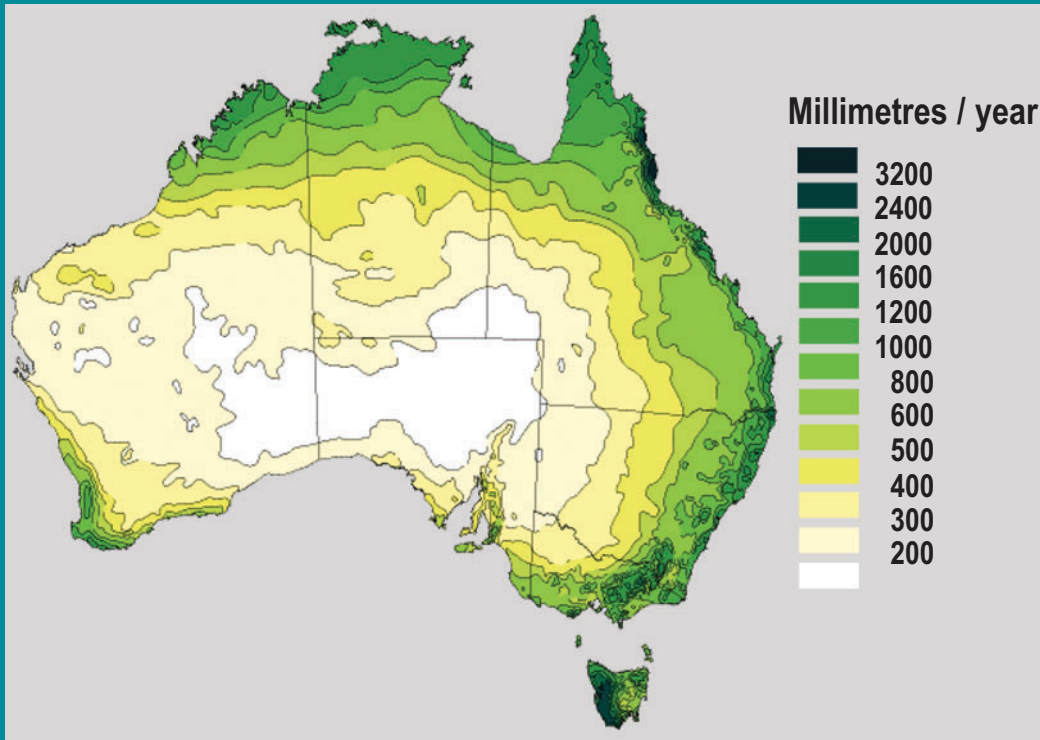
<i>State/ Territory</i>	<i>Part of State</i>	<i>Acute & psychiatric hospital beds</i>		<i>Residential aged care places</i>
		<i>Public</i>	<i>Private</i>	
NSW & ACT	Capital city	10 522	4 989	32 573
	Rest of the State	7 696	1 875	19 291
VIC	Capital city	7 991	5 197	24 321
	Rest of the State	4 241	1 044	11 382
QLD	Capital city	4 403	2 679	11 951
	Rest of the State	5 564	2 912	14 045
SA & NT	Capital city	3 445	1 981	10 931
	Rest of the State	2 203	152	3 269
WA	Capital city	3 485	na	9 745
	Rest of the State	1 951	na	2 655
TAS	Capital city	505	na	1 737
	Rest of the State	585	na	2 113
Australia	Capital city	30 352	17 837*	91 258
	Rest of Australia	22 240	6 628*	52 755

Source: ABS *Private Hospitals Australia, 2000–2001* (Cat. 4390.0); AIHW *Australian Hospital Statistics, 2000–2001* (Cat. HSE-20); AIHW *Residential Aged Care in Australia, 2000–2001: A statistical overview* (Cat. AGE-22).

Note: * 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.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2002, <http://www.bom.gov.au>

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.

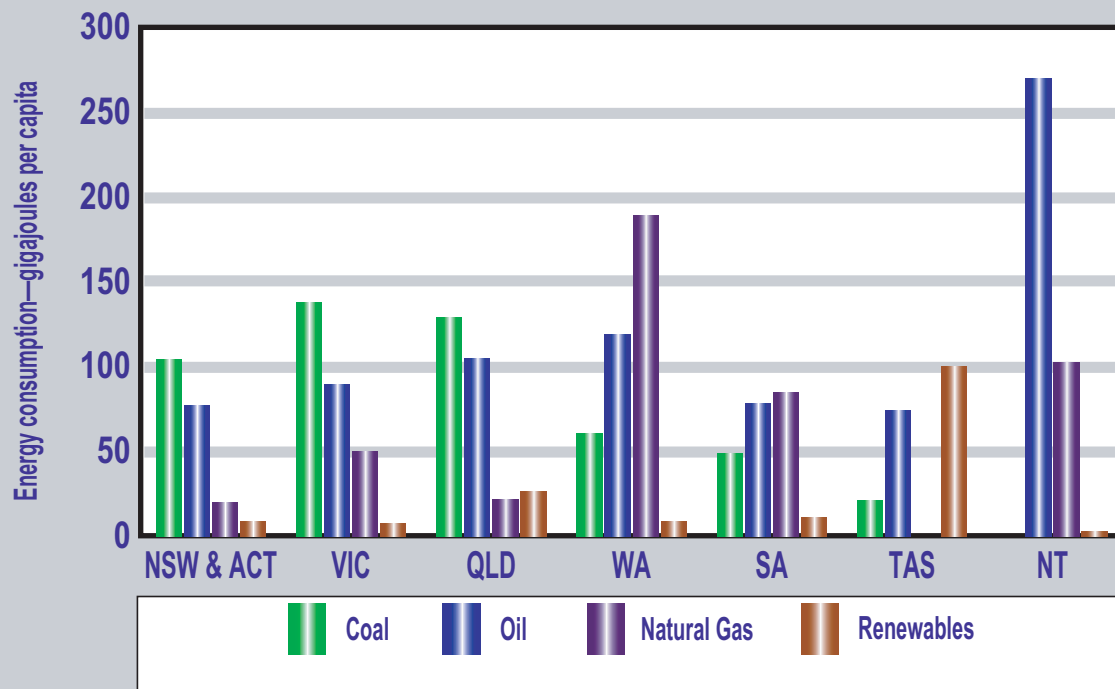
TABLE 26 AREAS OF HIGH RISK OR HAZARD OF DRYLAND SALINITY BY STATE/TERRITORY

	<i>Hectares at high risk or hazard 2000</i>	<i>Projected hectares at high risk or hazard</i>	
		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, 2000–2001



Source: BTRE analysis of ABARE Energy Statistics—Overview Dataset 2002 and unpublished data.

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

useful contacts *for regional statistics*

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Web: www.abs.gov.au

e-mail: client.services@abs.gov.au

Phone: 1300 135 070

Australian Tax Office

Web: www.ato.gov.au

e-mail: taxstats@ato.gov.au

Phone: 1800 806 214

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Web: www.aihw.gov.au

e-mail: info@aihw.gov.au

Phone: 02 6244 1000

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Web: www.workplace.gov.au

e-mail: mark.roddam@dewr.gov.au

Phone: 02 6121 7506

Environment Australia

Web: www.ea.gov.au

e-mail: ciu@ea.gov.au

Phone: 02 6274 1111

Centrelink

Web: www.centrelink.gov.au

e-mail: knowledge.desk@centrelink.gov.au

Phone: 02 6244 7270

Bureau of Tourism Research

Web: www.btr.gov.au

e-mail: bureau.tourism.research@industry.gov.au

Phone: 02 6213 7124

Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Web: www.abareconomics.com

e-mail: garmitage@abare.gov.au

Phone: 02 6272 2367

contacting us

Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics,
Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS)
GPO Box 501, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia.
Telephone: +61 2 6274 7210 Fax +61 2 6274 6816



internet: <http://www.btre.gov.au>
general email: btre@dotars.gov.au
data requests: data.team@dotars.gov.au
Updates of these tables will be available at
<http://www.btre.gov.au/docs/regstats/regional.htm>



The Department is committed to providing you with a high level of service in accordance with our *Client Service Charter*. If you have any suggestions about how to improve this publication, please contact us.

Indemnity: The Department of Transport and Regional Services has used due care and skill in preparing this booklet. However, as data used have been provided by third parties, the Commonwealth gives no warranty as to the accuracy, reliability, fitness for purpose, or otherwise of the data.

ISSN 1448-2460 ISBN 1-877081-27-2
