

MLHD at a glance

POPULATION AND HEALTH INDICATOR DATA 2024

Revised April 2024

The purpose of this document is to provide a concise summary of available health and population data for the residents of Murrumbidgee Local Health District as of April 2024. Please access the [MLHD population and health statistics webpage](#) for more in-depth reports and local data or [HealthStatsNSW](#) for latest published data for NSW, LHDs and LGAs.

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**Murrumbidgee
Local Health District**

EPIDEMIOLOGY

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Murrumbidgee LHD



Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) spans 125,243 square kilometres across southern New South Wales, stretching from the Snowy Mountains in the east to the plains of Hillston in the northwest and along the Victorian border. As one of 15 **local health** districts and specialty networks across the NSW health system, it operates 33 public hospitals, 12 community health centres, employs approximately 4,000 staff and is supported by 33 Local Health Advisory Committees.

The MLHD as of June 30, 2022, had an **estimated resident population** (ERP) of 249,164. 19.2% of the population are aged under 15 years and 21.5% are aged 65 years or over. The age structure differs by LGA with some areas having 28 to 32 per cent of the population aged 65 years and over.

The main change in the population is the increasing proportion and number of older people impacting the demand on health services:

- MLHD population increased by more than 1000 people aged 65+ every year since 2016 Census.
 - there is a projected increase of 8000 people aged 75+ years from 2021 to 2031
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Aboriginal Australians generally experience worse health outcomes than non-Aboriginal people. Chronic diseases occur more often and at a much younger age. Aboriginal people have been disadvantaged across many areas of life which continues to affect their health today. MLHD has a relatively high proportion of Aboriginal residents compared to NSW.

- The Aboriginal population is 14,553 (2021 URP)
 - Aboriginal people make up 5.9% of the MLHD population compared to 3.4% of NSW
 - Traditional custodians of the land covered by the District are the Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta, Baraba Baraba, Wemba Wemba and Nari Nari.
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The Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community may experience barriers when accessing local health services. Refugees in particular may have health problems due largely to physical and psychological trauma, deprivation of basic resources and poor access to health care prior to arrival. The MLHD had 18,560 people who spoke a language other than English at home and made up 7.5% of the MLHD population (2021, 26.5% in NSW) with approximately 3,200 people experiencing difficulty with spoken English.

Communities that are socially disadvantaged have lower levels of education and incomes with higher financial stress and vulnerability of families, as well as lower health literacy levels. They also have lower private health cover rates with subsequent higher demand on the public health system. 9% of the MLHD population live in areas of highest socioeconomic disadvantage in Australia (2021 Census). There are pockets of very high disadvantage in many LGAs particularly Wagga Wagga, Griffith, and Murray River.

MLHD has a significantly higher hospitalisation rate for all causes and potentially preventable causes compared to NSW. MLHD also has significantly high rates of death from suicide and incidence of cancers.

The MLHD population has a higher prevalence of many lifestyle health risk factors than NSW averages, most significantly smoking and being above healthy weight.

Population

Population 249 164 (2022 ERP)

21.5% of the population are 65+ yrs (53,491)

Population increases by 1000 people aged 65+ yrs every year

Projected increase of 8000 people aged 75+ yrs from 2021 to 2031

The proportion of the population aged less than 65 years is projected to decrease whereas the proportion aged 65 years and over will increase to over 25% in most LGAs and some to over 30%

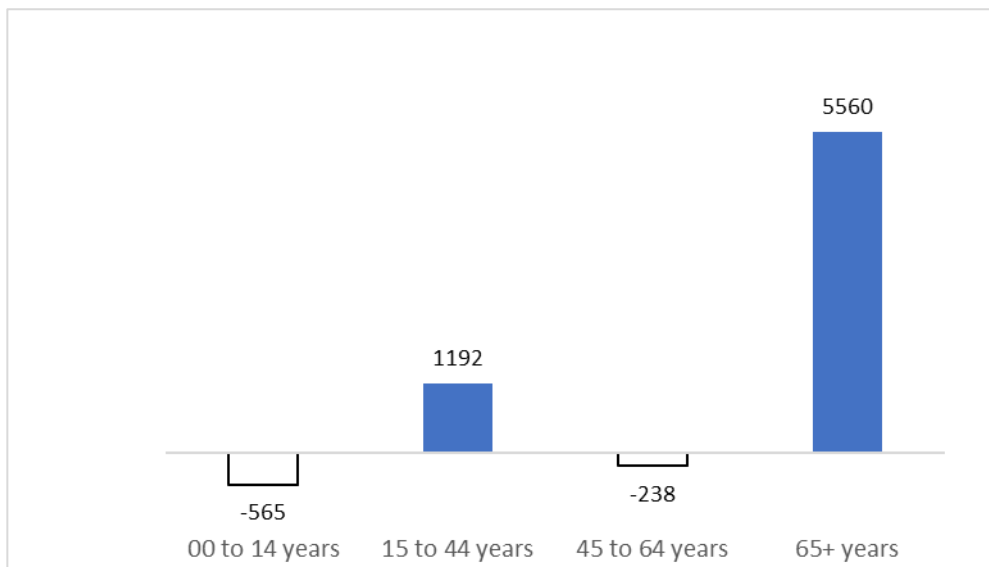
The average person born in MLHD can expect to live to: 79.7 years for males and 84.5 years for females (NSW 82.4 males and 86.6 females, 2020)

The MLHD population has increased by 5,949 people from 2016 to 2021 (2.5%)
Census years

Federation, Greater Hume, Griffith, Lockhart, Murray River and Wagga Wagga LGAs have increased by 3% or more from 2016 to 2021

Details by LGA

POPULATION CHANGE BY AGE GROUP MLHD, CENSUS 2016 TO 2021



Social disadvantage

All LGAs are considered more disadvantaged than the Australian average

Narrandera and Junee LGAs have highest levels of disadvantage among MLHD LGAs

There are pockets of very high disadvantage in many LGAs particularly Wagga Wagga, Griffith, and Murray River.

9% of the MLHD population live in areas of very high socioeconomic disadvantage

1 in 17 people have a profound or severe disability (15,341; 6.6% of MLHD; 6.0% of NSW)

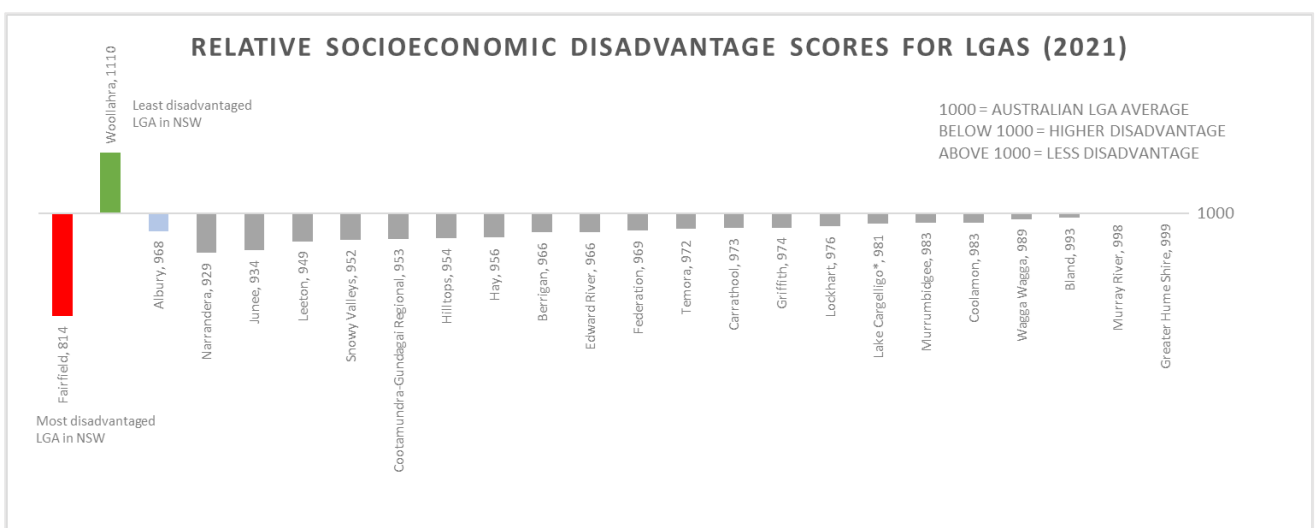
5.4% of families are low income, welfare-dependent families (with children) (4.6% in NSW) and 5.4% of women (15-54 yrs) in MLHD received a single-parenting payment (3.1% in NSW).

54,000 people are Pensioner Concession Card holders (27% of the population compared to 21% NSW)

24% of children were assessed as developmentally vulnerable in one or more domains in their first year of school (2021), the major contributors being low emotional maturity and social competence.

Details by LGA

Maps



Culturally And Linguistically Diverse population

18,560 people speak a language other than English at home and make up 7.5% of the MLHD population (26.5% in NSW, 2021)

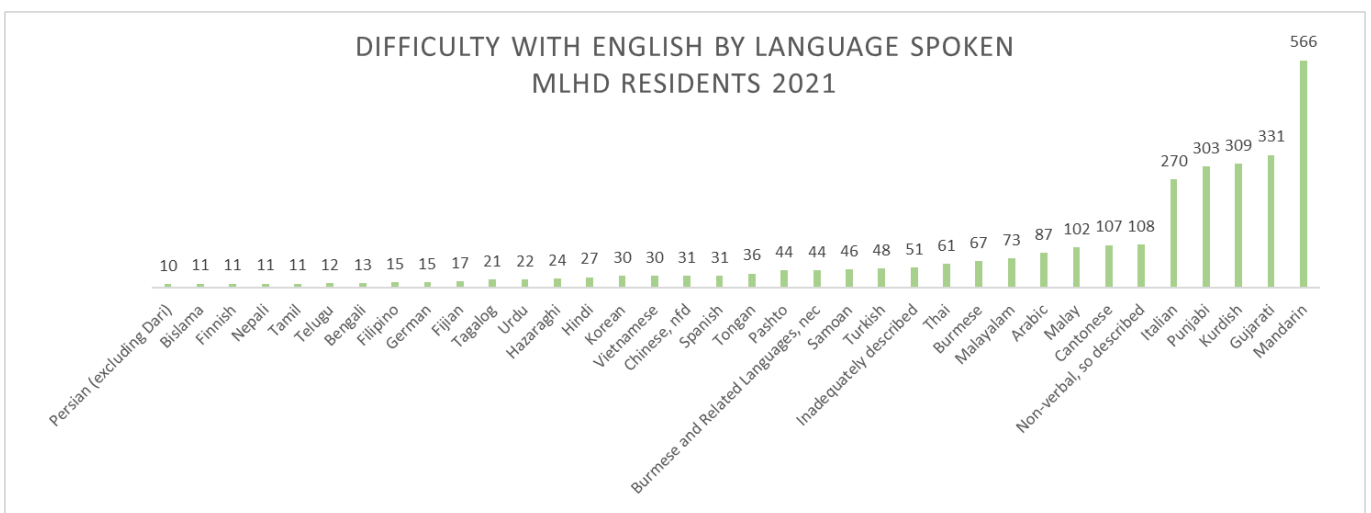
17,558 people were born in a non-English speaking country, 7.1% of MLHD

Permanent migrants entering Australia under the Offshore Humanitarian Program (refugee) have settled in Griffith (34), Wagga (200) and Leeton (10) from 2012 to 2016, Albury had 209.

Major languages other than English spoken at home in MLHD are Italian; Punjabi; Mandarin

Major languages spoken by people who reported having difficulty with spoken English were Mandarin, Gujarati, Kurdish, Punjabi and Italian (around 3,200 people total).

Details by LGA



Aboriginal people

Aboriginal population 14,550 (2021 URP)

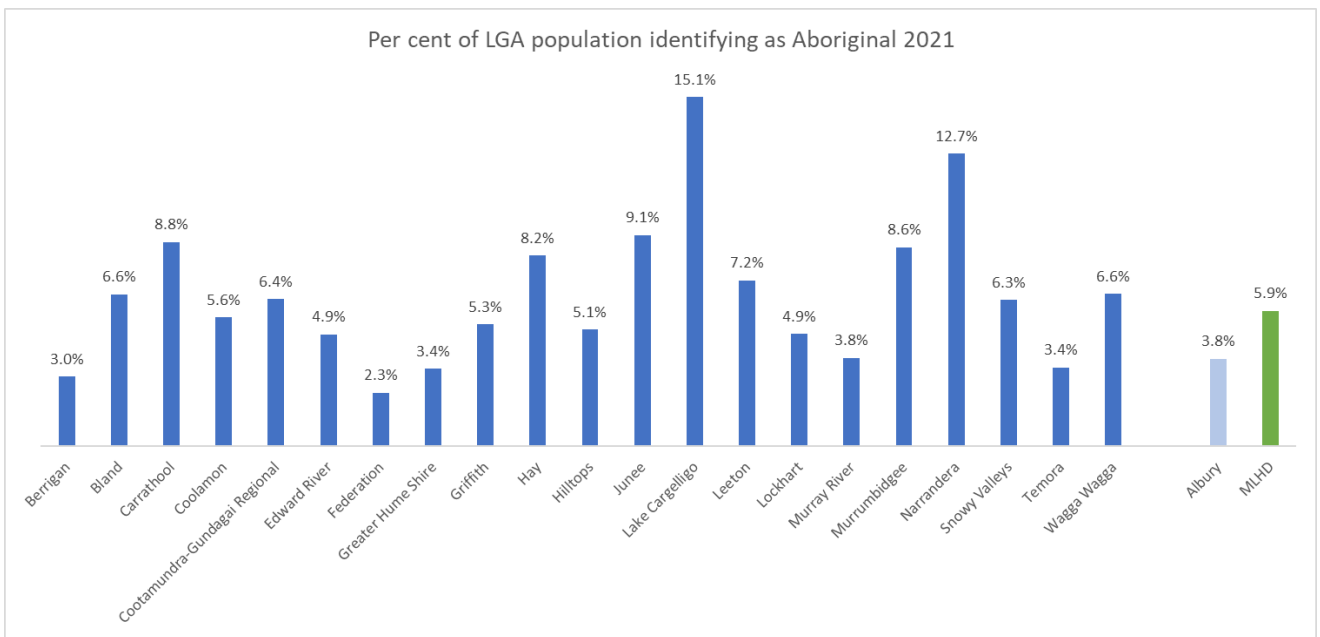
Aboriginal people make up 5.9% of the MLHD population 3.4% of NSW

Traditional custodians of the land covered by the District are the Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta, Baraba Baraba, Wemba Wemba and Nari Nari

Aboriginal people born in NSW can expect to live on average, 8-9 years less than non-Aboriginal people: males 71 years, females 76 years (2015-2017)

Only 9% of the Aboriginal population were aged 65+ years (compared to 23% Non-Aboriginal population).

Details by LGA



Hospitalisations There were 118,089 hospital admissions for MLHD residents in the 2021-22 year, significantly less than the previous year with 120,862. Age-standardised rates for both years were significantly higher than NSW. The 2019-20 to 2021-22 admission rates were affected by reduced surgery and admission practices due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

6,558 Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations (PPH) in 2021-22 (close to 5.6% of all admissions). PPH for 2020-21 to 2021-22 years were significantly lower than 2018-19 and 2019-20 years. Age-standardised rates in MLHD were significantly higher than NSW and all other LHDs except Far West and Mid North Coast.

22,503 Hospital bed days a year were potentially preventable (2021-22), 3,400 from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, 3,300 Congestive Cardiac Failure and 3,100 cellulitis. The highest number of PPH admissions were for urinary tract infections (863), dental conditions (819) and COPD (738).


14% of all hospital admissions in MLHD were for dialysis (2021-22)

Significantly higher hospitalisation rate for all causes and potentially preventable causes in MLHD compared to NSW (2021-22)

Significantly higher rate of preventable hospitalisations in Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Cootamundra-Gundagai and Narrandera LGAs (2019-20 to 2020-21)

Significantly higher rate than NSW for hospitalisation for cardiovascular disease, injury, diabetes, cancer, respiratory diseases (incl COPD and asthma) and dialysis, lower rates for mental disorders and nervous system and sense disorders.

HealthStats NSW

A day in Murrumbidgee				
6 people die	2 people die from heart disease/stroke	2 people die from cancer	1 death was potentially preventable	
313 residents of MLHD are admitted to hospital	10 hospital admissions are related to smoking	3 hospital admissions are related to above healthy weight	4 hospital admissions are for COPD	19 hospital admissions were potentially preventable
7 babies are born	1 baby is born to a mother who smoked	350 residents of MLHD presented to ED	4900 people visit a GP	650 people visit a specialist

2023 Update

Mental Health

43 deaths from suicide on average a year (2019-2021)

The suicide rate has been increasing since 2013.

Significantly higher suicide rate compared to NSW (2021). The hospitalisation rate for self-harm in persons all ages was significantly higher than NSW in 2021/22 with the highest rates in those aged 15-24 years, contributed to by the significantly higher rate in females, rates for males were not different from NSW.

15.5% of adults experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress in MLHD the prevalence has increased from 2015 to 2021 but is not significantly different from NSW at 16.9%.

Self-harm related hospitalisation rate significantly higher than NSW for residents of: Wagga Wagga, Hilltops and Albury LGAs (2019-20 to 2020-21).

HealthStats NSW

Cancer

Significantly higher incidence of total cancers for males as well as deaths from all cancers. Males also had higher incidence and death rates from prostate cancer, oesophageal and leukaemia as well as incidence of testicular cancer. Females had higher incidence of kidney cancer. (Compared to NSW: 2017-2021)

Significantly high **incidence** of cancers (total) by LGA (2017-2021):

Persons: Bland, Carrathool, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Snowy Valleys, Wagga Wagga, Junee, and Federation.

Males: Bland, Carrathool, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Snowy Valleys, Wagga Wagga, Junee, and Federation.

Females: Wagga Wagga

Significantly high **mortality** from cancers (2017-2021):

Persons: Edward River, Leeton, Greater Hume, Narrandera, Snowy Valleys, and Federation.

Males: Leeton, Greater Hume, Snowy Valleys, and Federation.

Females: Edward River, and Narrandera

Significantly high **incidence** of cancer compared to NSW (by type 2017-2021):

Bowel: Wagga Wagga, Snowy Valleys

Breast: Wagga Wagga

Prostate: Bland, Carrathool, Griffith, Leeton, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Snowy Valleys, Wagga Wagga

Colon: Carrathool, Wagga Wagga, Snowy Valleys

Lung: Junee, Leeton, Federation

Skin: Wagga Wagga

Oesophageal: Berrigan, Federation, Greater Hume and Coolamon

Unknown primary: Murray River, Greater Hume and Snowy Valleys

Bladder: Murrumbidgee

Significantly high **mortality** compared to NSW (by type 2017-2021)

Prostate cancer: Greater Hume

Colon: Bland, Greater Hume

Bowel cancer: Greater Hume

Oesophageal: Greater Hume

Leukaemia: Federation, Albury, Narrandera, and Coolamon

Unknown primary: Snowy Valleys, Lachlan







Cancer Institute NSW

Murrumbidgee population health indicators in a year

<p>2181</p> <p>deaths in 2021 in MLHD</p> <p>significantly higher rate than NSW</p>	<p>368</p> <p>deaths per year were potentially preventable in 2020-2021</p> <p>significantly higher rate than NSW</p>	<p>571</p> <p>deaths from heart disease & stroke</p> <p>2020-2021</p> <p>significantly higher rate than NSW</p>	<p>43</p> <p>deaths from suicide on average a year</p> <p>(2019-2021)</p>
<p>Hospital admissions</p> <p>118,089 /year</p> <p>for MLHD residents</p> <p>significantly higher rate than NSW (2021-22)</p> <p>2023_10 Update</p>	<p>6558 admissions and 22,500 days in hospital were potentially preventable</p> <p>(2021-22)</p>	<p>14%</p> <p>of all admissions for MLHD residents were for dialysis</p> <p>(2021-22)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>infant deaths</p> <p>infant mortality rate of 2.7 in MLHD in NSW 3.0 deaths per 1,000 live births (2016-2020)</p>
<p>2,142</p> <p>new cancers diagnosed in 2021 in MLHD</p> <p>significantly higher rate than NSW for males</p> <p>2024 Update</p>	<p>714</p> <p>deaths from cancers in 2021 in MLHD</p>	<p>New cancers</p> <p>434 prostate</p> <p>216 lung</p> <p>204 melanoma</p> <p>196 breast</p> <p>diagnosed in 2021 in MLHD</p>	<p>Cancer deaths</p> <p>136 lung</p> <p>55 prostate</p> <p>53 pancreatic</p> <p>45 colon</p> <p>in 2021 in MLHD</p>

Murrumbidgee lifestyle health risk factors

Health Survey 2023
Accessed April 2024

<p>15.3%</p> <p>of adult's smoke</p> <p>11.7% in NSW</p>		<p>17%</p> <p>of mothers smoked sometime during pregnancy</p> <p>8% in NSW</p>		<p>66.6%</p> <p>of adults are above healthy weight</p> <p>59.4% in NSW</p>
	<p>37.4%</p> <p>of adults don't get enough exercise</p> <p>35.5% in NSW</p>	<p>55%</p> <p>of children report sedentary behaviours</p> <p>57% in NSW</p>	<p>15.2%</p> <p>of adults high or very high psychological distress</p> <p>18.1% in NSW</p>	
<p>32.3%</p> <p>of adult's drink at harmful levels</p> <p>27.1% in NSW</p>		<p>16.6%</p> <p>of adults have diabetes</p> <p>11.3% in NSW NSW</p> <p>Health Survey, 2019</p>		<p>77.7%</p> <p>of people rated their health as good, very good or excellent</p> <p>79.9% in NSW</p>

Health and lifestyle

15.3% of adults smoke (MLHD 2023, 11.7% in NSW)

32.3% of adults drink alcohol at harmful levels to health (MLHD 2023, NSW 27.1%)

37.4% of adults reported insufficient exercise (NSW 2021, 35.5%)

4.3% of adults reported adequate vegetable consumption (NSW 2023, 5.3%) and 30.1% reported adequate fruit intake (NSW 2023, 37.8%)

66.6% of adults were above healthy weight (MLHD 2023, NSW 59.4%)

31.9% of adults have obesity (MLHD 2023, significantly higher than NSW 24.6%)

55% of mothers having babies in MLHD in 2022 were above healthy weight (significantly higher than NSW 44%)

14.3% of non-Aboriginal mothers had smoked during pregnancy (MLHD 2022; NSW 6.1%) compared to 50.0% of Aboriginal mothers (NSW 39.6%) a total of 16.3% of mothers (NSW 7.9%). The rate has been steadily decreasing since 2001. In 2022, 33% of mothers who smoked, quit in the 2nd half of pregnancy (37% Non-Aboriginal and 23.4% Aboriginal).

16.6% of adults reported ever being diagnosed with diabetes (MLHD 2019; NSW 11.3%)

30.9% of adults reported ever being diagnosed with High Blood Pressure (MLHD 2018, NSW 24.8%)

HealthStats NSW

35.8% of adults reported ever being diagnosed with High cholesterol (MLHD 2018; NSW 29.5%)

Notifiable conditions

There were 17,545 notifiable conditions reported for residents of MLHD (including Albury LGA) in 2023, down from 114,361 in 2022 which included approximately 108,600 Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) notifications compared to 9,600 in 2023. In 2023 there were approximately 3,300 notifications of influenza and 2,060 Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). The majority of the remainder of notifications were made up of bloodborne and sexually transmitted infections (1,258) and enteric/gastro-intestinal infections (1,019) both had increased significantly in number (compared to previous 5 year averages).

The 2016 to 2020 average annual influenza notifications were close to 2000 per year, this dropped to 2 cases in 2021 then increased to 3,229 cases in 2022 and 3,303 in 2023. MLHD averaged approximately 40 deaths associated with influenza annually (2014-2019) prior to the COVID pandemic. The impact of seasonal influenza was reduced due to the precautions taken to limit the spread of COVID-19 in 2020-2021 where there were 23.5 deaths annually. The reported rate of influenza vaccination among older residents has also increased to over 89% (2020-2021) compared to around 70% in the years 2000-2018

There were 1000 cases of blood borne or sexually transmitted infections notified in MLHD on average per year (includes Albury LGA). The majority of these are chlamydia (approx. 900 in 2023, significantly more than 2018-2022 averages). There were also higher notification numbers of gonorrhoea, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and Syphilis in 2023 compared to 2018-2020.

Infection with *Chlamydia trachomatis* has become a major public health problem because of the long-term consequences of infection experienced predominantly by women. These relate mainly to the development of pelvic inflammatory disease and include chronic pelvic pain, ectopic pregnancy, and infertility. A high proportion of infections are asymptomatic, resulting in untreated disease, ongoing transmission, and an increased risk of sequelae.

There were 578 cases of campylobacter notified in 2023. Campylobacter is one of the most common causes of bacterial gastroenteritis it is mainly spread to humans by eating or drinking contaminated food (mainly poultry), water or unpasteurised milk. Campylobacter can also be spread via the hands of an infected people, or from contact with cats, dogs and farm animals that carry the bacteria. Hand hygiene and appropriate food preparation and storage are the keys to prevention.

Other enteric (gastrointestinal) diseases were also reported at higher than average levels in 2023 including:

- Rotavirus 109
 - Cryptosporidiosis 56
 - Shigellosis 23
 - Shiga toxicogenic *Escherichia coli* (STEC/VTEC) 23
-

Details by disease

Other notable conditions reported in the 2023 year were mosquito borne viruses with 4 cases of Murray Valley Encephalitis and 7 cases of Barmah Forest Virus, but lower than usual numbers of Ross River Virus (78 compared to previous average of over 100).

Full immunisation rates for children in MLHD in 2021 were at 94% of Aboriginal and 96% non-Aboriginal infants at 1 year of age; 96% at 2 years for Aboriginal and 94% for non-Aboriginal; and 98% of Aboriginal and 97% non-Aboriginal children at age 5. Rates were higher in MLHD than the average for NSW.

Appendix 1

Table 1 - Estimated Resident Population and Projections to 2031 – all ages and 65+ years and 75+ years

Key to table

ERP 2022	Estimated Resident Population – is latest estimate of population from Australian Bureau of Statistics as of August 2023, for 30 June 2022
PRJ 2031	Projected Population for 2031 from NSW Department of Planning (2022 projection series).
2021 to 2031	Is the increase (+ve) or decrease (-ve) in the population from projections for 2021 to 2031.
65+ %	the percent of the population aged 65 years or over either for the URP or the projection
75+ %	the percent of the population aged 75 years or over either for the URP or the projection

Local Government Area	All ages			65 and over population					75 and over population				
	ERP 2022	PRJ 2031	2021 to 2031	ERP 2022	65+ %	PRJ 2031	65+ %	2021 to 2031	ERP 2022	75+ %	PRJ 2031	75+ %	2021 to 2031
Berrigan	8653	9279	511	2843	32.9	3012	32.9	331	1268	14.7	1524	16.4%	340
Bland	5494	6046	43	1248	22.7	1640	22.7	330	573	10.4	839	13.9%	221
Carrathool	2829	2729	-41	416	14.7	551	14.7	101	186	6.6	236	8.6%	37
Coolamon	4465	4943	616	1022	22.9	1184	22.9	151	479	10.7	628	12.7%	126
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	11404	11106	-34	3229	28.3	3101	28.3	102	1524	13.4	1573	14.2%	158
Edward River	8457	9089	15	2108	24.9	2618	24.9	424	981	11.6	1400	15.4%	381
Federation	12854	13039	445	3931	30.6	4731	30.6	957	1805	14.0	2559	19.6%	893
Greater Hume Shire	11267	12100	1217	2425	21.5	2889	21.5	553	1010	9.0	1383	11.4%	445
Griffith	27014	28908	1845	4472	16.6	5756	16.6	1154	2093	7.7	2831	9.8%	651
Hay	2834	2741	-120	665	23.5	759	23.5	146	346	12.2	337	12.3%	52
Hilltops	19239	19089	460	4569	23.7	5382	23.7	916	2071	10.8	2807	14.7%	840
Junee	6465	7293	539	1260	19.5	1483	19.5	263	537	8.3	746	10.2%	252
Lake Cargelligo	1793	1576	-158	354	19.7	442	19.7	58	142	7.9	231	14.6%	50
Leeton	11454	11271	-31	2059	18.0	2709	18.0	585	995	8.7	1397	12.4%	364
Lockhart	3370	3834	537	804	23.9	942	23.9	166	365	10.8	482	12.6%	135
Murray River	13016	13930	1504	3728	28.6	4582	28.6	1079	1633	12.5	2346	16.8%	758
Murrumbidgee	3566	3934	39	769	21.6	1000	21.6	231	319	8.9	440	11.2%	107
Narrandera	5721	5551	-238	1336	23.4	1384	23.4	87	679	11.9	684	12.3%	120
Snowy Valleys	14936	14350	2	3479	23.3	3663	23.3	327	1548	10.4	1969	13.7%	499
Temora	5996	6576	285	1599	26.7	1693	26.7	105	778	13.0	876	13.3%	127
Wagga Wagga	68337	69500	3665	11175	16.4	14129	16.4	3459	5193	7.6	6888	9.9%	2166
MLHD	249164	256883	11099	53491	21.5	63649	21.5	11524	24525	9.8	32177	12.5%	8721

Appendix 2

Table 2 - Estimated Resident Population and characteristics by LGA

Key to table

ERP 2022	Estimated Resident Population – is latest estimate of population from Australian Bureau of Statistics as of August 2023, for 30 June 2022
Median Age	The age in years where 50% of the population and below this age and 50% over this age
PRJ 2031	Projected Population for 2031 from NSW Department of Planning (2019 projection series).
65+ %	the percent of the population aged 65 years or over either for the URP or the projection
SEIFA	The Socioeconomic index of relative disadvantage based on 2021 ABS Census Characteristics indicating lower levels of education and incomes, lower skilled workforce with higher financial stress and vulnerability of families. 1000 is the standard for all Australia – a score below 1000 indicates disadvantage and scores above less disadvantage
SEIFA Decile	Ranks and groups all LGAs in NSW. Decile 1 - 10% most disadvantaged LGAs to Decile 10 – least disadvantaged LGAs in NSW

Local Government Area	Population ERP 2022		Aboriginal population URP 2021		65+ yrs population ERP 2022		Median Age Years	Projected population 2031		65+ yrs projected population 2031		SEIFA disadvantage ranking in NSW#	
	Num.	Num.	%	Num.	%	Num.		Num.	%	Score	Rank		
Berrigan	8653	263	3.0	2843	32.9	52.8	9279	3012	33.5	966	4		
Bland	5494	365	6.6	1248	22.7	43.5	6046	1640	25.8	993	7		
Carrathool	2829	253	8.8	416	14.7	36.6	2729	551	30.0	973	5		
Coolamon	4465	244	5.6	1022	22.9	43.1	4943	1184	29.1	983	6		
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	11404	728	6.4	3229	28.3	49.1	11106	3101	32.2	953	3		
Edward River	8457	410	4.9	2108	24.9	46.2	9089	2618	28.4	966	4		
Federation	12854	300	2.3	3931	30.6	51.4	13039	4731	31.5	969	5		
Greater Hume Shire	11267	376	3.4	2425	21.5	43.7	12100	2889	26.7	999	7		
Griffith	27014	1434	5.3	4472	16.6	37.7	28908	5756	23.8	974	5		
Hay	2834	238	8.2	665	23.5	48.3	2741	759	30.8	956	3		
Hilltops	19239	974	5.1	4569	23.7	44.6	19089	5382	29.7	954	3		
Junee	6465	587	9.1	1260	19.5	41.4	7293	1483	23.6	934	2		
Lake Cargelligo	1793	269	15.1	354	19.7	NA	1576	442	24.5	981	6		
Leeton	11454	823	7.2	2059	18.0	37.5	11271	2709	25.8	949	3		
Lockhart	3370	162	4.9	804	23.9	46.1	3834	942	30.8	976	5		
Murray River	13016	492	3.8	3728	28.6	49.7	13930	4582	32.5	998	7		
Murrumbidgee	3566	290	8.6	769	21.6	44.9	3934	1000	24.6	983	6		
Narrandera	5721	723	12.7	1336	23.4	43.6	5551	1384	27.9	929	2		
Snowy Valleys	14936	944	6.3	3479	23.3	45.1	14350	3663	30.9	952	3		
Temora	5996	207	3.4	1599	26.7	47.5	6576	1693	29.9	972	5		
Wagga Wagga	68337	4471	6.6	11175	16.4	35.2	69500	14129	25.1	989	7		
MLHD	249164	14550	5.9	53491	21.5		256,883	63649	27.5				
NSW			3.4		17.4	38.7			20.5	1000	=Aust		

1= highest disadvantage (top 10% of LGAs in NSW)

Shading indicates areas higher or "worse" than NSW with darkest shading the "highest" LGAs in MLHD.

Appendix 3

Table 3 – Social and cultural characteristics by LGA

Key to table

ERP 2022	Estimated Resident Population – is latest estimate of population from Australian Bureau of Statistics as of August 2023, for 30 June 2022
Median Age	The age in years where 50% of the population and below this age and 50% over this age
Developmental vulnerability	2021 Australian Early Development Census, in first year of schooling based on domains of Physical health and wellbeing, Social competence, Emotional maturity, Language and cognitive skills (school-based), Communication skills and general knowledge
SEIFA	The Socioeconomic index of relative disadvantage based on 2021 ABS Census Characteristics indicating lower levels of education and incomes, lower skilled workforce with higher financial stress and vulnerability of families. 1000 is the standard for all Australia – a score below 1000 indicates disadvantage and scores above less disadvantage
SEIFA Decile	Ranks and groups all LGAs in NSW. Decile 1 - 10% most disadvantaged LGAs to Decile 10 – least disadvantaged LGAs in NSW

Local Government Area	Population URP 2021	Aboriginal % of URP 2021	65+ yrs % of ERP 2021	Median Age	Children developmentally vulnerable 1 or more domains 2021	Non-English Speaking Country of Birth %	NES* Difficulty with spoken English %	SEIFA disadvantage score	Decile ranking in NSW#
Berrigan	8653	3.1	32.9	51.4	36.7	4.1	0.3	966	4
Bland	5494	6.1	22.7	43.3	23.5	3.0	0.2	993	7
Carrathool	2829	8.6	14.7	36.6	18.9	10.8	1.8	973	5
Coolamon	4465	5.4	22.9	45.2	3.6	2.0	0.1	983	6
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	11404	6.4	28.3	48.4	20.2	3.5	0.6	953	3
Edward River	8457	4.4	24.9	46.0	31.0	3.1	0.2	966	4
Federation	12854	2.3	30.6	51.0	14.4	3.2	0.2	969	5
Greater Hume Shire	11267	3.3	21.5	43.9	20.0	3.0	0.0	999	7
Griffith	27014	5.3	16.6	37.2	26.6	19.2	4.4	974	5
Hay	2834	7.9	23.5	47.6	9.8	3.5	0.6	956	3
Hilltops	19239	5.1	23.7	44.4	17.4	4.3	0.6	954	3
Junee	6465	9.4	19.5	40.8	16.9	5.7	1.7	934	2
Lake Cargelligo	1793	15.1	19.7	40.0	32.2	3.2	0.3	981	6
Leeton	11454	7.4	18.0	37.0	30.9	8.2	1.9	949	3
Lockhart	3370	4.9	23.9	47.6	26.8	1.7	0.2	976	5
Murray River	13016	3.8	28.6	49.3	23.0	3.9	0.6	998	7
Murrumbidgee	3566	8.5	21.6	47.5	34.3	3.8	0.3	983	6
Narrandera	5721	12.6	23.4	43.1	21.7	3.3	0.2	929	2
Snowy Valleys	14936	6.4	23.3	44.9	26.5	4.5	0.3	952	3
Temora	5996	3.1	26.7	47.1	13.6	3.0	0.2	972	5
Wagga Wagga	68337	6.6	16.4	35.0	23.5	8.5	1.3	989	7
MLHD	249164	5.8	21.5		23.5	7.1	1.2		
NSW		3.4	17.4	39	21.1	23.0	4.0	1000	=Aust

1 = highest disadvantage (top 10% of LGAs in NSW), *NES = non-English speaking country of birth
Shading indicates areas higher or "worse" than NSW with darkest shading the "highest" LGAs in MLHD.

Appendix 4

Table 4 – Population change (URP) by LGA, MLHD, all ages and 65 years and over, Census 2016 to Census 2021

Key to table

URP 2021	Usual Resident Population – the count of usual residents of an area from Australian Bureau of Statistics Census as of August 2021
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Local Government Area	All ages			65 and over		
	Change 2016 to 2021			2021 URP	Change 2016 to 2021	
	2021 URP	(Num)	(%)		(Num)	(%)
Berrigan	8,679	202	2.4%	2,830	400	16.5%
Bland	5,544	-403	-6.8%	1,271	-13	-1.0%
Carrathool	2,861	139	5.1%	440	37	9.2%
Coolamon	4,364	41	0.9%	1,030	22	2.2%
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	11,393	235	2.1%	3,229	348	12.1%
Edward River	8,449	-393	-4.4%	2,098	116	5.9%
Federation	12,905	637	5.2%	3,926	548	16.2%
Greater Hume Shire	11,163	809	7.8%	2,456	394	19.1%
Griffith	27,091	1458	5.7%	4,479	348	8.4%
Hay	2,885	-57	-1.9%	676	30	4.6%
Hilltops	19,269	775	4.2%	4,634	476	11.4%
Junee	6,422	135	2.1%	1,249	239	23.7%
Lake Cargelligo	1,779	8	0.5%	356	-10	-2.7%
Leeton	11,456	283	2.5%	2,061	31	1.5%
Lockhart	3,327	206	6.6%	803	101	14.4%
Murray River	12,840	1149	9.8%	3,663	535	17.1%
Murrumbidgee	3,367	-473	-12.3%	727	67	10.2%
Narrandera	5,708	-136	-2.3%	1,329	42	3.3%
Snowy Valleys	14,901	494	3.4%	3,457	255	8.0%
Temora	6,051	-45	-0.7%	1,652	185	12.6%
Wagga Wagga	67,633	5249	8.4%	11,197	1716	18.1%
Murrumbidgee LHD	248,087	10313	4.3%	53,563	5867	12.3%

Shaded areas – LGAs of note for high growth/decline percentage

Appendix 5

Table 5 – Notifiable conditions for MLHD residents including Albury LGA

Notifiable conditions	2023	2022	2018 to 2022 average	2023 compared to 2018-2022 average#
Bloodborne and sexually transmitted	1,258	1,025	1140.8	HIGHER
Chancroid	0	0	0.0	
Chlamydia	940	802	837.6	HIGHER
Gonorrhoea	135	87	99.8	HIGHER
Hepatitis B - Newly Acquired	1	0	1.0	
Hepatitis B - Unspecified	50	32	27.0	HIGHER
Hepatitis C - Newly Acquired	4	2	0.8	HIGHER
Hepatitis C - Unspecified	73	79	136.4	LOWER
Hepatitis D	1	0	0.0	
LGV	1	0	1.0	
Syphilis - >2 years or unk duration	21	13	17.0	
Syphilis - Infectious*	32	10	20.2	HIGHER
Enteric	1,019	882	779.0	HIGHER
Botulism	0	0	0.0	
Campylobacter	578	619	472.0	
Cholera	0	0	0.0	
Cryptosporidiosis	56	19	28.0	HIGHER
Giardiasis	94	69	90.6	
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome	0	0	0.2	
Hepatitis A*	2	0	1.2	
Hepatitis E	1	0	0.4	
Listeriosis	2	5	0.4	
Rotavirus	109	37	30.2	HIGHER
STEC/VTEC	23	18	13.6	HIGHER
Salmonellosis	128	113	139.8	
Shigellosis	23	1	2.6	HIGHER
Typhoid	2	0	0.0	
Paratyphoid	1	1	0.0	HIGHER
Respiratory and other	15,066	112,196	2436.0	LOWER
Influenza	3,303	3,229	1713.0	HIGHER
Lead Poisoning	23	25	39.4	LOWER
Legionellosis*	10	14	5.4	
Leprosy	0	0	0.0	
Meningococcal Disease*	3	1	2.8	
Novel Coronavirus 2019*	9,627	108,574	1585.0	LOWER
Pneumococcal Disease (Invasive)	36	33	30.6	
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	2,058			
Tuberculosis	6	7	10.8	
Vaccine-preventable	29	21	196.4	LOWER

Notifiable conditions	2023	2022	2018 to 2022 average	2023 compared to 2018-2022 average#
Adverse events following immunisation**	15	14	64.4	LOWER
Haemophilus influenzae type b	0	0	1,122.2	
Measles*	0	0	0.0	
Mumps	2	0	831.0	HIGHER
Pertussis*	12	7	102.4	LOWER
Rubella*	0	0	0.8	
Tetanus	0	0	29.2	
Vectorborne	97	224	0.6	LOWER
Barmah Forest*	7	1	120.8	HIGHER
Chikungunya	0	0	0.0	
Dengue*	3	0	0.8	
Japanese Encephalitis	0	9	17.4	
Malaria	0	3	19.2	
Murray Valley Encephalitis	4	0	831.8	HIGHER
Ross River*	0	211	0.0	LOWER
Zika virus*	5	0	544.8	
Zoonoses	4	11	0.0	
Anthrax	78	0	21.6	
Brucellosis*	0	1	82.6	
Leptospirosis	14	1	0.0	HIGHER
Monkeypox	0	0	1.2	
Psittacosis*	0	1	0.4	
Q fever	7	8	1.0	
Miscellaneous	0	2	31.2	HIGHER
Acute Rheumatic Fever*	1	0	14.8	
Rheumatic Heart Disease	6	0	128.6	HIGHER
CJD (classic)*	0	2	5.4	
Chlamydia - Congenital	52	0	0.0	
iGAS	0	0	0.2	HIGHER
Other	2	0	24,064.0	HIGHER
Grand Total	0	114,361	1,740.0	LOWER

*Confirmed and Probable cases; **Suspected cases;

Statistically significant difference in number of notifications in latest year compared to average of 5 years 2018 to 2022
Novel coronavirus has been notifiable since 2020. Therefore, the YTD mean included is for previous two years instead of five years. The novel coronavirus included all the reportable cases (Either PCR or RAT positive). iGAS and RSV were notifiable since July and September 2022 respectively. Therefore, the YTD mean of these conditions included no cases to compare with.

Social determinants of health Murrumbidgee LHD

<p>Population</p> <p>249 164</p> <p>2022 ERP</p>	<p>21.5%</p> <p>of the population are</p> <p>65+ yrs</p> <p>(53,491)</p>	<p>Population increases by 1000 people aged 65+ every year</p>	<p>Projected increase of 8000 people aged 75+ yrs from 2021 to 2031</p>	<p>The average person born in MLHD can expect to live to:</p> <p>males 80 years</p> <p>females 85 years</p> <p>(NSW 82 males and 87 females, 2020)</p>
<p>Aboriginal population</p> <p>14,550</p> <p>2021</p>	<p>Aboriginal people make up</p> <p>5.9%</p> <p>of the MLHD population</p> <p>3.4% of NSW</p>	<p>Only 9% of the Aboriginal population were aged 65+ years</p>	<p>Traditional custodians of the land covered by the District are the Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta, Baraba Baraba, Wemba Wemba and Nari Nari</p>	<p>Aboriginal people born in NSW can expect to live to:</p> <p>males 71 years</p> <p>females 76 years</p> <p>(2015-2017)</p>
<p>Speak a language other than English</p> <p>18 560</p>	<p>People who speak a language other than English make up</p> <p>8%</p> <p>of the MLHD population</p> <p>(27% in NSW)</p>	<p>Non-English speaking country of birth</p> <p>17 558</p> <p>7% of MLHD</p>	<p>Permanent migrants entering Australia under the Offshore Humanitarian Program have settled in Griffith, Wagga and Leeton (2012 to 2016)</p>	<p>Major languages other than English</p> <p>Italian</p> <p>Punjabi</p> <p>Mandarin</p>
<p>All LGAs are considered more disadvantaged than Australian average</p>	<p>9% of the MLHD population live in areas of very high socioeconomic disadvantage</p>	<p>1 in 17 people have a profound or severe disability</p> <p>15,341 people, 6.6% of MLHD 6.0% of NSW</p>	<p>5.8% of families low income, welfare-dependent families (with children) – compared to 4.7% in NSW</p>	<p>54,000 Concession card holders (27% of the population compared to 21% NSW)</p>

Appendix 7

LGAs ranked by socioeconomic health risk factors

Key to table

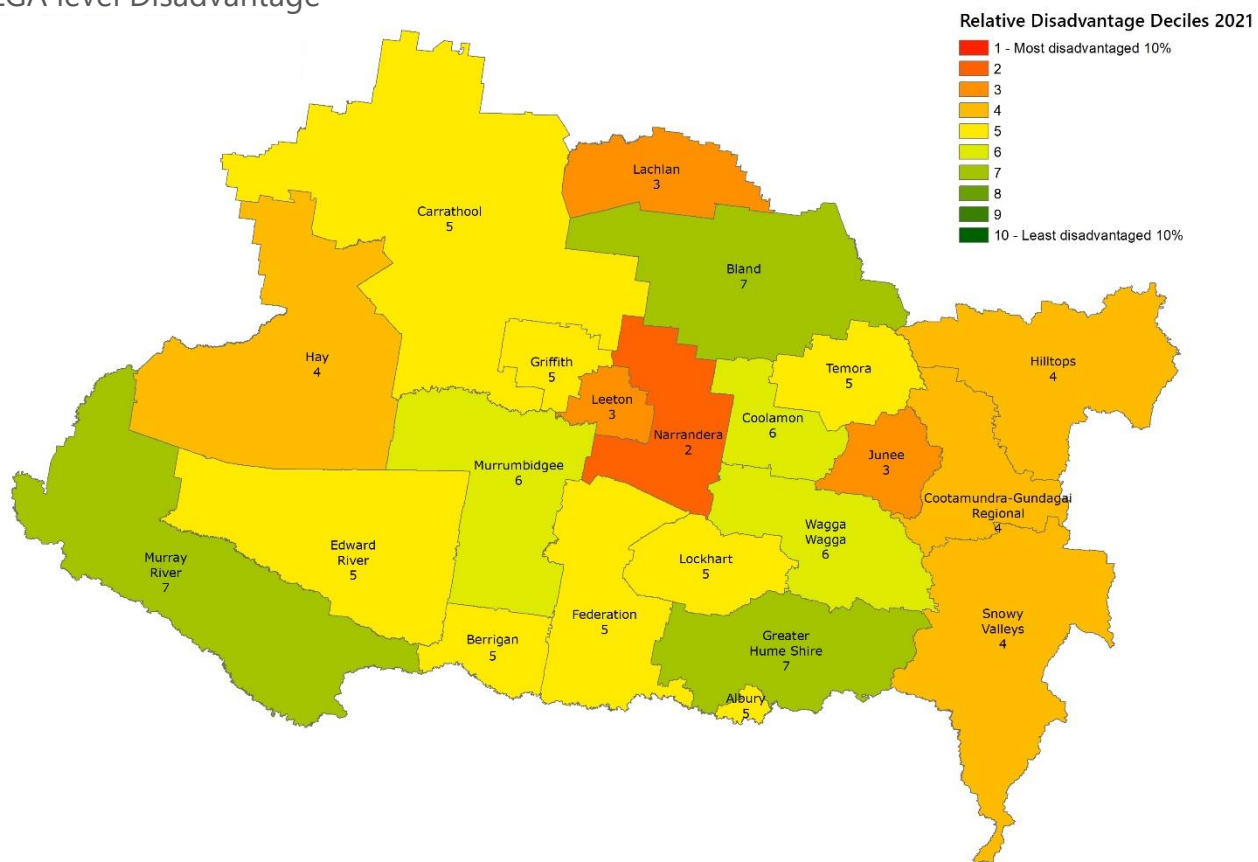
Selected social determinants from Australian Bureau of Statistics Census as of August 2021

Figures	Percentage of total LGA population
Coloured rank	Rank among all LGAs in MLHD - top "worst" is red – to lowest dark blue
Overall rank	Count of the number of times the LGA was in the top 3 "highest risk" LGAs in MLHD

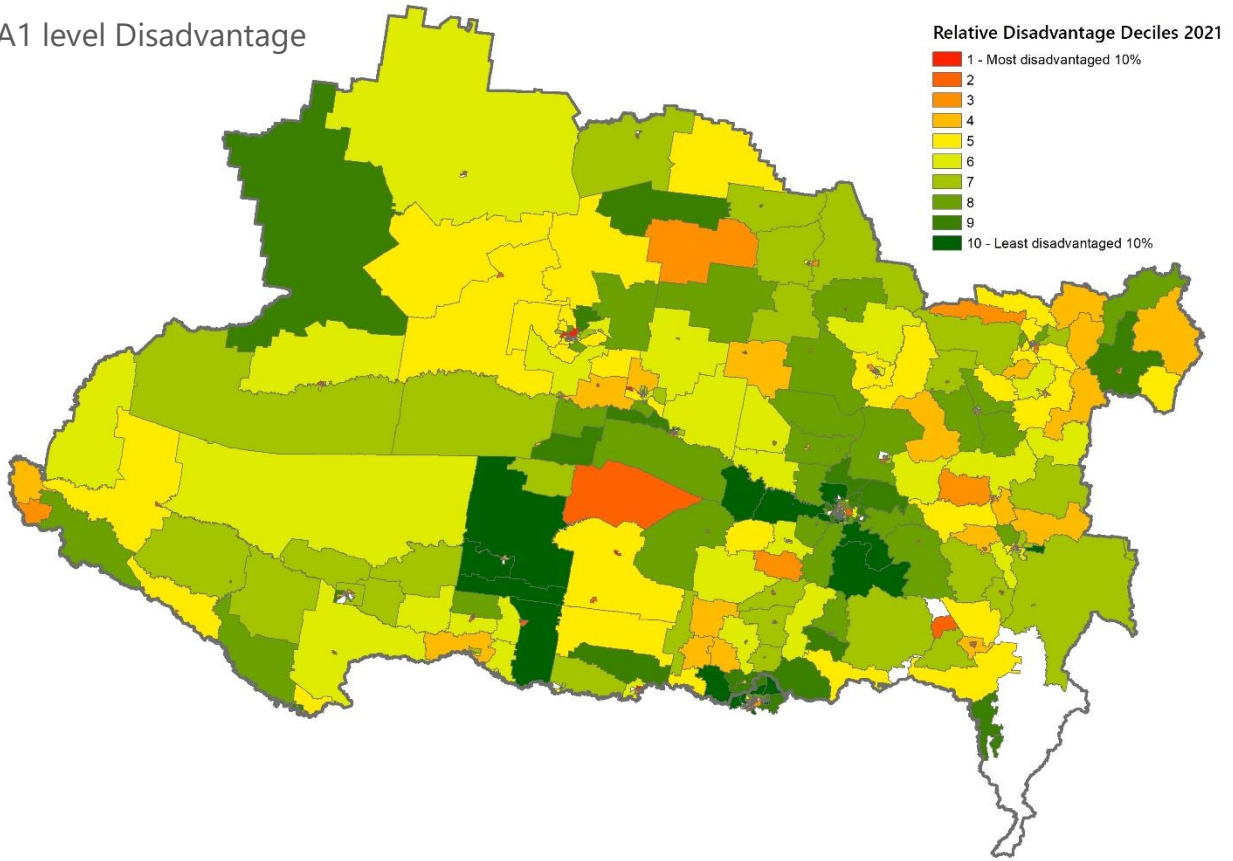
MLHD LGAs	Albury	Berrigan	Bland	Carrathool	Coonamb	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional	Edward River	Federation	Greater Hume Shire	Griffith	Hay	Hilltops	Junee	Lake Campello	Leeton	Lockhart	Murray River	Murrumbidgee	Narrandera	Snowy Valleys	Temora	Wagga Wagga	New South Wales
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (Census) (%)	3.8	3.0	6.6	8.8	5.6	6.4	4.8	2.3	3.4	5.3	8.3	5.1	9.2	15.1	7.2	4.9	3.8	8.6	12.7	6.3	3.4	6.6	3.4
Households where mortgage repayments are more than 30% of imputed household income (%)	10.3	12.5	9.2	7.7	9.2	7.9	8.2	10.3	10.8	10.5	6.9	11.4	7.5	16.4	9.5	11.1	10.3	9.1	10.1	9.6	9.0	9.3	17.3
Households where rent payments are more than 30% of imputed household income (%)	31.2	27.8	15.2	13.7	22.2	28.3	30.0	29.8	23.9	22.9	21.7	31.5	28.4	15.2	26.0	20.6	26.7	13.9	27.7	24.7	29.0	28.3	35.5
Persons born overseas: Not proficient in English (%)	8.2	3.2	1.9	12.2	2.0	8.4	3.7	3.1	0.7	18.5	7.6	7.6	18.6	11.9	16.6	3.2	7.3	5.1	2.8	3.1	3.4	10.4	12.8
Persons completed year 12 or equivalent (%)	47.6	32.7	33.9	38.4	34.4	34.7	36.1	33.1	38.4	42.1	35.4	36.4	30.5	33.9	34.5	34.7	36.3	34.8	32.7	35.9	34.4	49.4	58.9
Persons with no long-term health condition(s) (%)	55.0	47.4	55.0	57.1	53.0	50.7	51.0	49.9	54.5	59.8	50.1	52.4	45.4	68.9	54.1	51.8	55.2	51.4	51.1	52.8	53.8	56.9	61.0
Speaks a language other than English at home (%)	8.6	3.0	2.7	9.8	1.3	3.1	3.0	2.3	2.1	23.2	4.1	5.2	4.6	3.1	9.7	1.9	3.5	4.1	3.4	4.4	2.5	9.1	26.6
65+ yrs (%)	19.0	32.1	22.0	15.8	23.4	27.6	24.1	29.6	21.8	16.0	22.5	23.4	18.6	19.8	17.3	25.6	28.0	20.7	22.8	22.6	26.7	15.9	17.2
Count of Rankings 1 to 3	1	4	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	4	2	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0

Colour graduation indicates: highest risk to lowest risk *Overall ranking is a count of the number of times the LGA is rated in the top 3 "highest risk" LGAs in the LHD

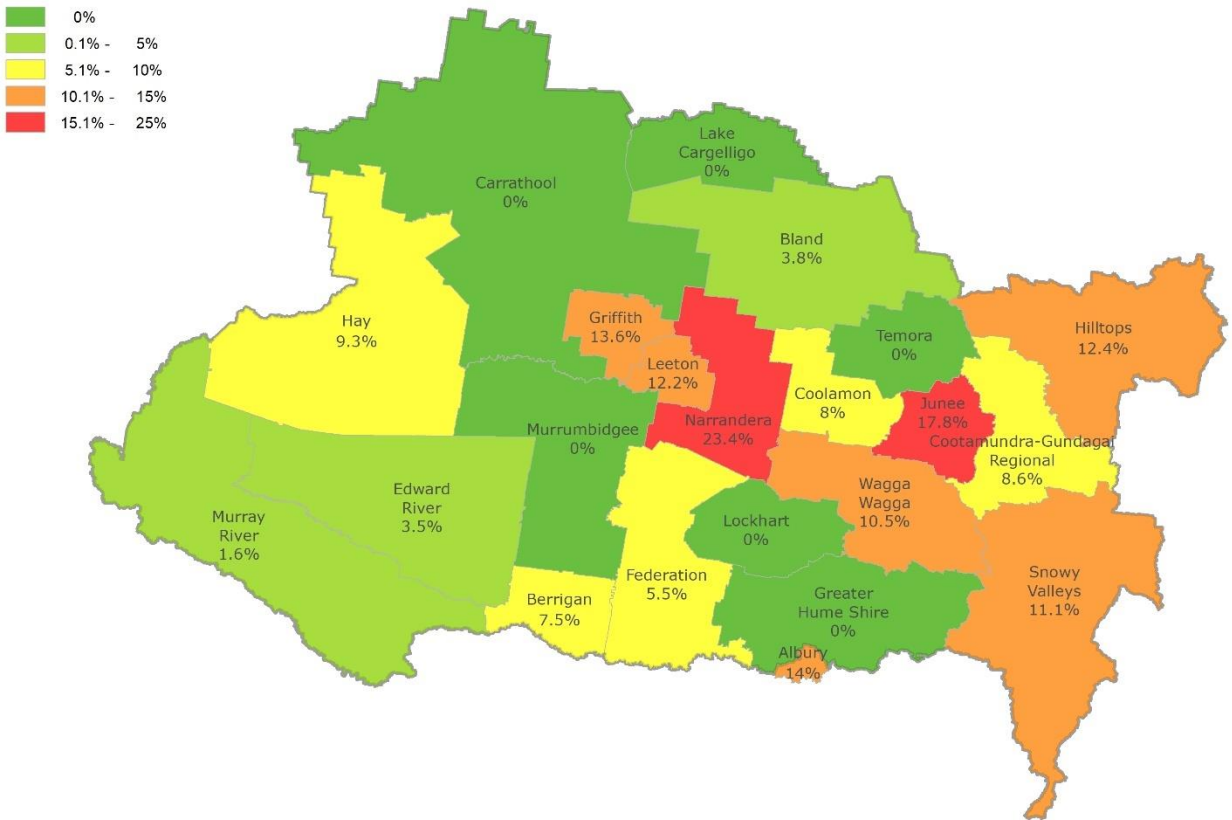
LGA level Disadvantage



SA1 level Disadvantage



Per cent of LGA population living in the most highly disadvantaged areas



Data Sources

The data quoted in this document are from two main sources the ABS Census and Health Statistics NSW, the methods, coding and additional information about the data can be accessed via the following websites:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics – [Census 2021](#) data from TableBuilder
2. Australian Bureau of Statistics – [Regional population by age and sex](#) – accessed October 2023
3. Social Health Atlas of Australia, Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU), <http://phidu.torrens.edu.au/>
4. NSW Department of Planning and Environment – population projections <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Research-and-Demography/Population-projections>
5. Health Statistics NSW, Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health 2023, Sydney. www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au
 - NSW Admitted Patient Data
 - ABS Deaths
 - NSW Health Survey: adult and children reports (2021, 2019)
 - NSW Perinatal Data Collection
6. Cancer Institute NSW online statistics: www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/research-and-data/cancer-data-and-statistics/data-available-now/cancer-statistics-nsw/cancer-incidence-and-mortality

Supporting information

Murrumbidgee Population Health and Demographic Reports can be found at www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/nsw-health/mlhd/about-us/our-strategy#toc-population-data-and-health-statistics

Additional reading

- National Rural Health Alliance Fact Sheets <http://ruralhealth.org.au/factsheets/thumbs>
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Burden of Disease and Injury, published 2023 <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-conditions-disability-deaths/burden-of-disease/overview>