

Population health profile of the NSW Outback

Division of General Practice: supplement

Population Profile Series: No. 31a

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Interpretation of differences between data in this profile and similar data from other sources needs to be undertaken with care, as such differences may be due to the use of different methodology to produce the data.

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Population health profile of the NSW Outback Division of General Practice: supplement

This profile is a supplement to the *Population health profile of the NSW Outback Division of General Practice*, dated November 2005, available from www.publichealth.gov.au. This supplement includes an update of the population of the NSW Outback Division of General Practice, as well as additional indicators and aspects of the Division's socioeconomic status, use of GP services and health. The contents are:

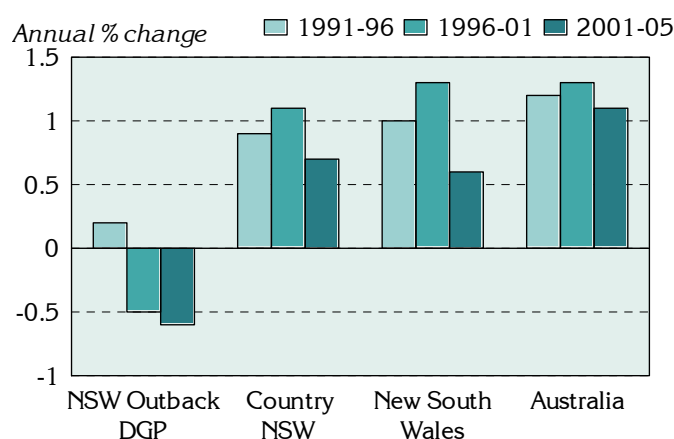
- Population [updated to June 2005]
- Additional socio-demographic indicators
- Unreferred attendances – patient flow/ GP catchment
- Avoidable hospitalisations: hospital admissions resulting from ambulatory care sensitive conditions
- Avoidable mortality

For further information on the way Division totals in this report have been estimated, please refer to the 'Notes on the data' section of the *Population health profile*, November 2005 (www.publichealth.gov.au).

Population

The NSW Outback Division had an Estimated Resident Population of 16,962 at 30 June 2005.

Figure 1: Annual population change, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1991 to 1996, 1996 to 2001 and 2001 to 2005



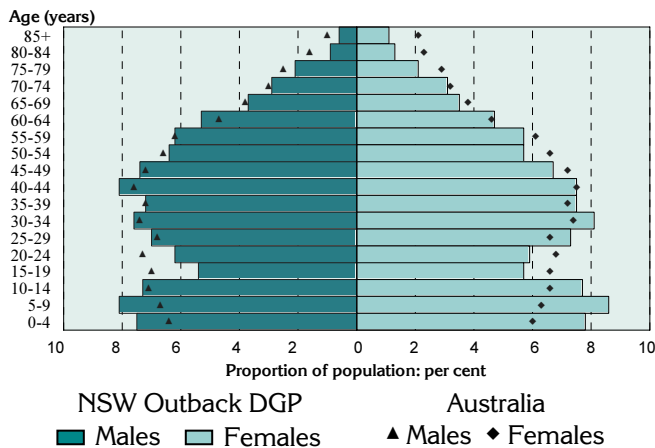
Over the five years from 1991 to 1996, the Division's population increased by 0.2% on average each year, well below that in country New South Wales (0.9%), New South Wales (1.0%) and Australia as a whole (1.2%). From 1996 to 2001, the population declined (by 0.5% per annum) compared with increases for the other areas. The decline of 0.6% per year from 2001 to 2005 was again in contrast to growth in country New South Wales (0.6%), New South Wales (0.6%) and Australia (1.1%).

Table 1: Population by age, NSW Outback DGP and Australia, 2005

Age group (years)	NSW Outback DGP		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
0-14	3,983	23.5	3,978,221	19.6
15-24	1,967	11.6	2,819,834	13.9
25-44	5,113	30.1	5,878,107	28.9
45-64	4,093	24.1	4,984,446	24.5
65-74	1,126	6.6	1,398,831	6.9
75-84	536	3.2	954,143	4.7
85+	143	0.8	315,027	1.5
Total	16,962	100.0	20,328,609	100.0

As shown in the accompanying table and the age-sex pyramid below (Figure 2), the NSW Outback DGP had more young people at ages 0 to 14 years (23.5%) and people 25 to 44 years (30.1%), than Australia as a whole (19.6% and 28.9%). Conversely, the 15 to 24 years age group had a lower proportion 11.6%, compared to Australia (13.9%). Similarly the 45 years and over age groups all had lower proportions compared to Australia.

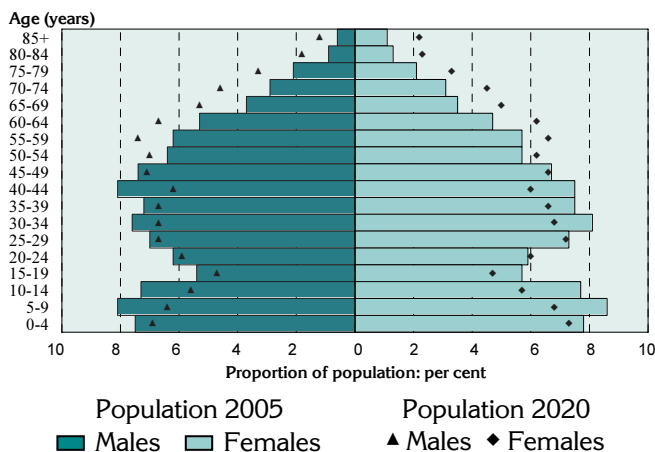
Figure 2: Population in NSW Outback DGP and Australia, by age and sex, 2005



The most notable differences in the age distribution of the Division's population (when compared to Australia overall) are:

- at younger ages – relatively more children aged 0 to 14 years;
- from 15 to 24 years – notably fewer males and females; and
- at ages 25 to 34 years – higher proportions of males and females; and
- at older ages – lower proportions of both males and females aged 65 years and over.

Figure 3: Population projections for NSW Outback DGP, by age and sex, 2005 and 2020



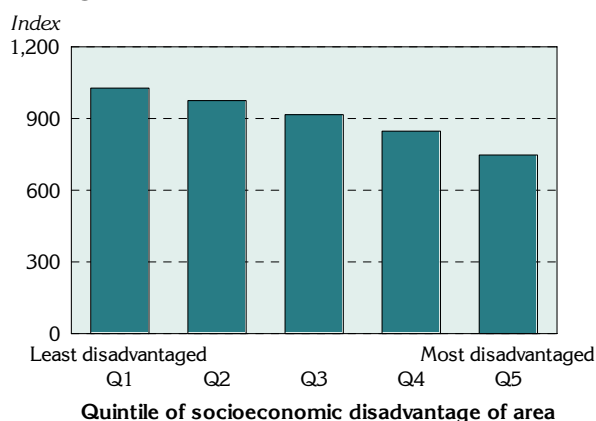
The population projections for the Division show a number of changes in age distribution, with the 2020 population projected to have:

- lower proportions of males aged 0 to 49 years, and females aged 0 to 19 and 25 to 49 years; and
- from age 50 years – relatively more males and females (most pronounced at ages 60 to 74 years).

Additional socio-demographic indicators

Please refer to the earlier *Population health profile of the NSW Outback Division of General Practice*, dated November 2005, available from www.publichealth.gov.au, for other socio-demographic indicators.

Figure 4: Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage, NSW Outback DGP, 2001



One of four socioeconomic indexes for areas produced at the 2001 ABS Census is the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage.

The NSW Outback DGP has an index score of 904, below the score for Australia of 1000: this score varies widely across the Division, from a low of 747 in the most disadvantaged areas to 1027 in the least disadvantaged areas.

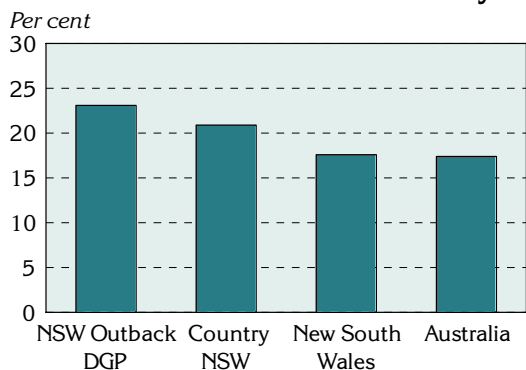
Note: each 'quintile' comprises approximately 20% of the population of the Division.

A new indicator, produced for the first time at the 2001 ABS Census, shows the number of jobless families with children under 15 years of age. There were notably more jobless families in the NSW Outback DGP (23.1%), compared to country New South Wales as a whole (20.9%) (Figure 5, Table 2).

With the introduction of the 30% rebate for private health insurance premiums, there was a once-off registration process, providing information of the postcode and residence of those who had such insurance (these data are not available at this area level for later dates). In 2001, the Division had a higher proportion of the population with private health insurance (47.0%), compared to country New South Wales (44.9%) (Figure 5, Table 2).

Figure 5: Socio-demographic indicators, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 2001

Jobless families with children under 15 years old



Private health insurance, 30 June

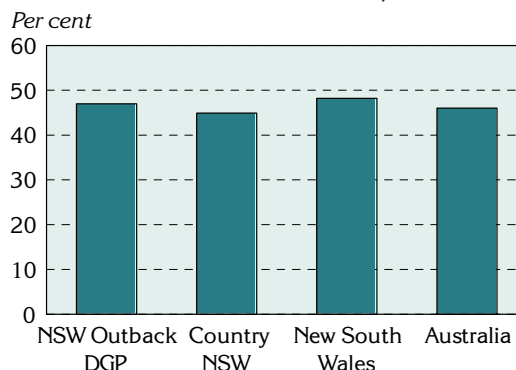
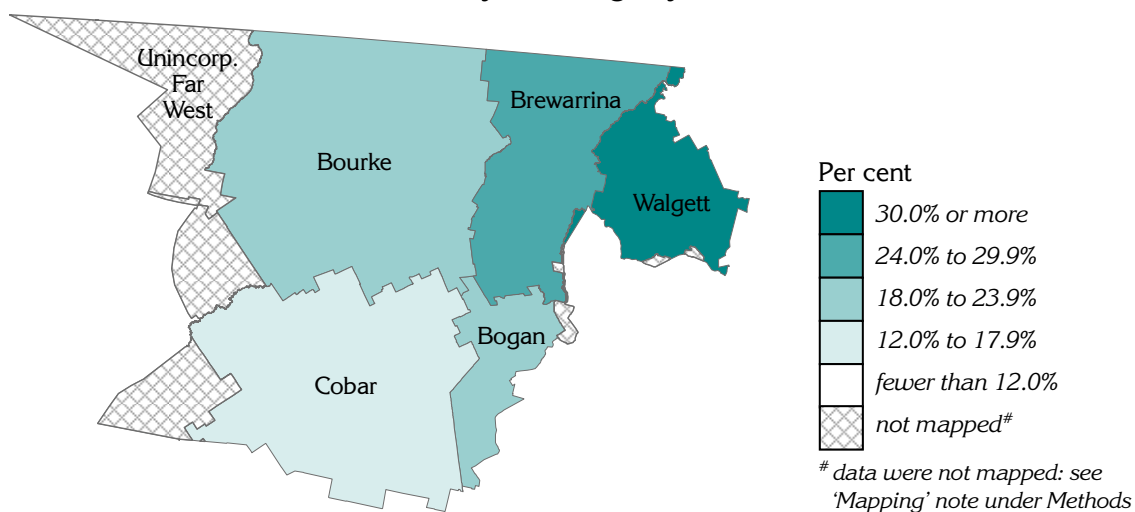


Table 2: Socio-demographic indicators, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 2001

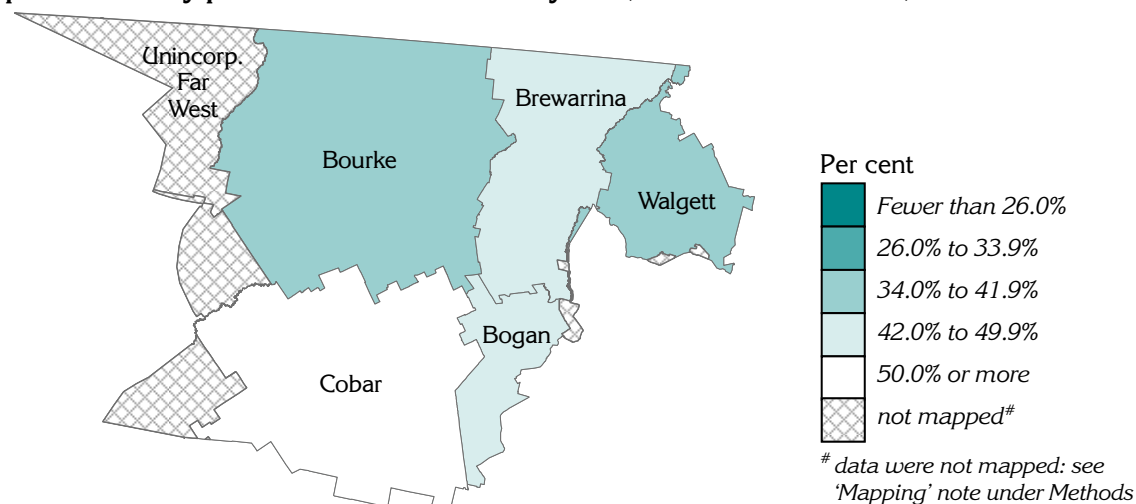
Indicator	NSW Outback DGP		Country NSW		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Jobless families with children under 15 years old	443	23.1	54,883	20.9	121,409	17.6	357,563	17.4
Private health insurance (30 June)	8,114	47.0	1,061,580	44.9	3,062,382	48.2	8,671,106	46.0

Details of the distribution of jobless families and of the population covered by private health insurance are shown by Statistical Local Area (SLA) in Maps 1 and 2, respectively.

Map 1: Jobless families with children under 15 years of age by SLA, NSW Outback DGP, 2001



Map 2: People covered by private health insurance by SLA, NSW Outback DGP, 30 June 2001



GP services to residents of the NSW Outback DGP

The following tables include information, purchased from Medicare Australia, of the movement of patients and GPs between Divisions. Note that the data only include unreferral attendances recorded under Medicare: unreferral attendances not included are those for which the cost is met by the Department of Veterans' Affairs or a compensation scheme; or are provided by salaried medical officers in hospitals, community health services or Aboriginal Medical Services, and which are not billed to Medicare. At any attendance, one or more services may have been provided.

More than three quarters (78.5%) of GP unreferral attendances to residents of NSW Outback DGP were provided in the Division (ie. by a GP with a provider number in the Division): this represented 75,014 GP unreferral attendances (Table 3). A further 12.0% of unreferral attendances were provided in Dubbo/Plains DGP.

Table 3: Patient flow – People living¹ in NSW Outback DGP by Division where attendance occurred², 2003/04

Division		Unreferral attendances	
Number	Name	No.	% ³
233	NSW Outback DGP	75,014	78.5
230	Dubbo/Plains DGP	11,435	12.0
229	NSW Central West DGP	1,087	1.1
231	South East NSW DGP	685	0.7
206	Western Sydney DGP (now WentWest & part Hawkesbury-Hills)	417	0.4
201	Central Sydney DGP	397	0.4
217	Hunter Urban DGP	375	0.4
Other	..	6,180	6.5
Total	..	95,590	100.0

¹ Based on address in Medicare records

² Division of GP based on provider number

³ Proportion of all unreferral attendances of patients with an address in Division 233 by Division in which attendance occurred

Over four fifths (84.7%) of unreferral attendances provided by GPs with a provider number in NSW Outback DGP were also to people living in the Division (ie. their Medicare address was in the Division) (Table 4). A further 2.6% of unreferral attendances provided by the Division's GPs were to people living in Dubbo/Plains DGP, with 1.3% in NSW Central West DGP.

Table 4: GP catchment – Unreferral attendances provided by GPs¹ in NSW Outback DGP by Division of patient address², 2003/04

Division		Unreferral attendances	
Number	Name	No.	% ³
233	NSW Outback DGP	75,014	84.7
230	Dubbo/Plains DGP	2,279	2.6
229	NSW Central West DGP	1,114	1.3
231	Barwon DGP	867	1.0
217	Hunter Urban DGP	626	0.7
414	Southern Queensland Rural	476	0.5
Other	..	8,200	9.3
Total	..	88,576	100.0

¹ Division of GP based on provider number

² Based on address in Medicare records

³ Proportion of all unreferral attendances to GPs with a provider number in Division 233 by Division of patient address

Avoidable hospitalisations: hospital admissions resulting from ambulatory care sensitive conditions

The rationale underlying the concept of avoidable hospitalisations is that timely and effective care of certain conditions, delivered in a primary care setting, can reduce the risk of hospitalisation. Admissions to hospital for these ambulatory care sensitive (ACS) conditions can be avoided in three ways. Firstly, for conditions that are usually preventable through immunisation or nutritional intervention, disease can be prevented almost entirely. Secondly, diseases or conditions that can lead to rapid onset problems, such as dehydration and gastroenteritis, can be treated. Thirdly, chronic conditions, such as congestive heart failure, can be managed to prevent or reduce the severity of acute flare-ups to avoid hospitalisation.

This measure does not include other aspects of avoidable morbidity, namely potentially preventable hospitalisations (hospitalisations resulting from diseases preventable through population based health promotion strategies, e.g. alcohol-related conditions; and most cases of lung cancer) and hospitalisations avoidable through injury prevention (e.g. road traffic accidents).

For information on the ambulatory care sensitive conditions and ICD codes included in the analysis in this section, please refer to the *Atlas of Avoidable Hospitalisations in Australia: ambulatory care-sensitive conditions*, available from www.publichealth.gov.au.

In 2001 to 2002, the 1,013 admissions from ambulatory care sensitive (ACS) conditions accounted for 13.7% of all admissions in the NSW Outback DGP (Table 6, Figure 7), substantially above the levels in New South Wales (8.6%) and Australia (8.7%).

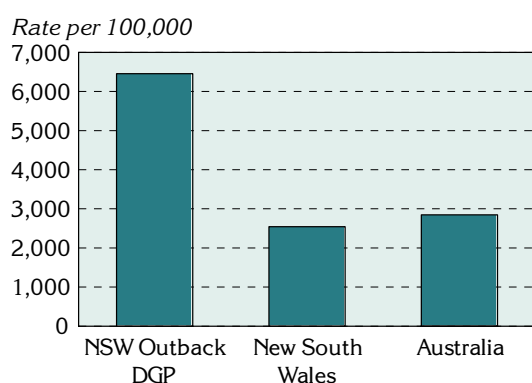
Table 5: Avoidable¹ and unavoidable hospitalisations, NSW Outback DGP, New South Wales, and Australia, 2001/02

Category	NSW Outback DGP			New South Wales			Australia		
	No.	Rate ²	%	No.	Rate ²	%	No.	Rate ²	%
Avoidable ¹	1,013	6,454.9	13.7	170,066	2,543.8	8.6	552,786	2,847.5	8.7
Unavoidable	6,390	39,943.9	86.3	1,810,901	27,255.3	91.4	5,818,199	29,970.7	91.3
Total	7,403	46,352.9	100.0	1,980,967	29,798.8	100.0	6,370,985	32,818.2	100.0

¹ Admissions resulting from ACS conditions

² Rate is the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population

Figure 6: Avoidable hospitalisations¹, NSW Outback DGP, New South Wales and Australia, 2001/02



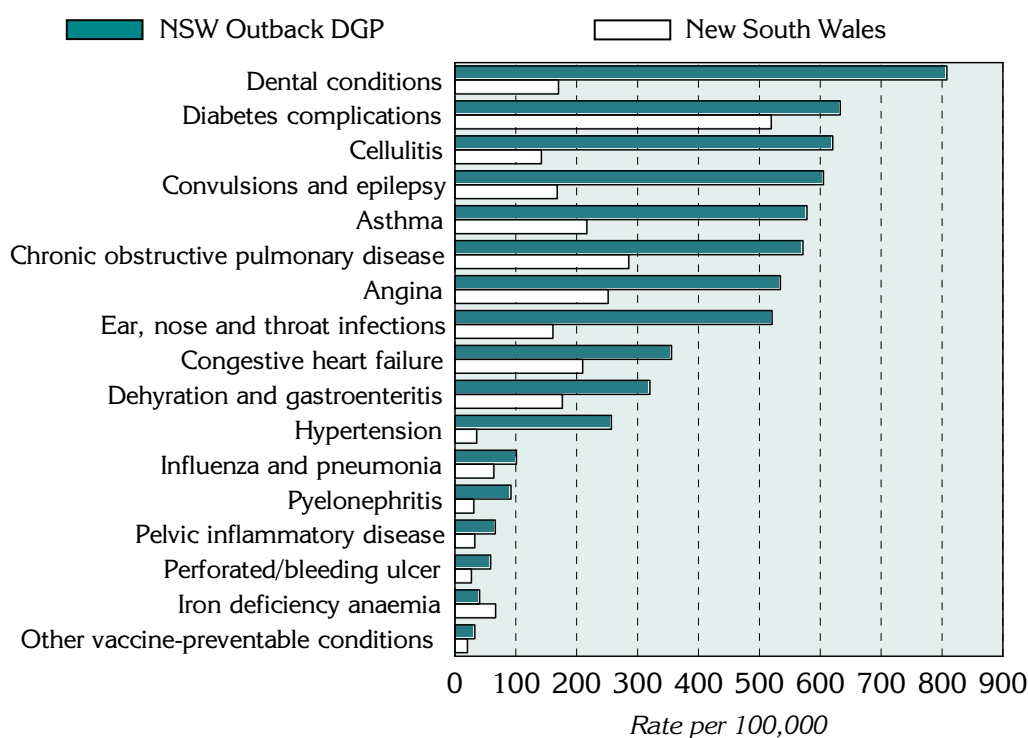
The rate of avoidable hospitalisations in NSW Outback DGP is substantially higher, a rate of 6,454.9 admissions per 100,000 population, compared to both New South Wales (a rate of 2,543.8) and Australia (2,847.5).

¹ Admissions resulting from ACS conditions

Dental conditions; diabetes complications; cellulitis; convulsions and epilepsy; asthma; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; angina; and ear, nose and throat infections were the conditions with the highest rates of avoidable hospitalisations in the NSW Outback DGP (Figure 8, Table 7). Many of these rates (and others in the chart) are substantially above those for New South Wales overall.

Table 7 shows the number, rate and proportion of avoidable hospitalisations, for the individual ACS conditions, as well as the vaccine-preventable; acute; and chronic sub-categories. Almost two-thirds of avoidable hospitalisations are attributable to chronic health conditions. The predominance of hospitalisations for chronic conditions in this period can be primarily attributed to the large number of admissions for diabetes complications. Dental conditions; and cellulitis have the highest rates of avoidable hospitalisations for the acute conditions.

Figure 7: Avoidable hospitalisations¹ by condition, NSW Outback DGP and New South Wales, 2001/02



¹ Admissions resulting from ACS conditions: excludes nutritional deficiencies, gangrene and ruptured appendix as less than ten admissions

Table 6: Avoidable hospitalisations¹ by condition, NSW Outback DGP, New South Wales and Australia, 2001/02

Sub-category/ condition	NSW Outback DGP		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	Rate ²	No.	Rate ²	No.	Rate ²
Vaccine-preventable	22	133.7	5,630	84.5	16,573	85.4
Influenza and pneumonia	16	101.1	4,280	64.1	13,021	67.1
Other vaccine preventable	6	32.6	1,350	20.4	3,552	18.3
Chronic³	440	2,970.2	106,803	1,587.0	352,545	1,816
Diabetes complications	93	632.7	34,975	519.5	141,345	728.1
Iron deficiency anaemia	6	40.6	4,494	67.0	16,451	84.7
Hypertension	35	257.0	2,398	35.7	6,354	32.7
Congestive heart failure	42	355.8	14,270	209.7	42,447	218.6
Angina	75	534.4	16,987	251.8	49,963	257.4
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	78	571.5	19,359	285.6	54,853	282.6
Asthma	111	578.2	14,289	216.8	41,009	211.3
Acute	554	3,091.6	62,543	946.0	200,913	1,035
Dehydration and gastroenteritis	49	320.2	11,725	176.4	37,766	194.5
Convulsions and epilepsy	112	605.1	11,093	168.1	31,137	160.4
Ear, nose and throat infections	106	521.0	10,615	161.1	32,075	165.2
Dental conditions	155	807.9	11,196	170.3	43,667	224.9
Perforated/bleeding ulcer	8	58.6	1,830	27.1	5,795	29.9
Ruptured appendix	#	..	1,212	18.5	3,866	19.9
Pyelonephritis	15	92.0	2,038	31.0	7,386	38.0
Pelvic inflammatory disease	10	66.3	2,134	32.7	6,547	33.7
Cellulitis	99	620.5	9,451	142.0	28,204	145.3
Gangrene	#	..	1,249	18.6	4,470	23.0
Total avoidable hospitalisations⁴	1,013	6,454.9	170,066	2,543.8	552,786	2,847.5

¹ Admissions resulting from ACS conditions

² Rate is the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population

³ Excludes nutritional deficiencies as less than ten admissions

⁴ Sub-category and condition numbers and rates do not add to the reported total avoidable admissions: five conditions (influenza & pneumonia, other vaccine preventable, diabetes complications, ruptured appendix and gangrene) are counted in 'any diagnosis', so may be included in more than one condition group

Not shown or not calculated as there are fewer than five admissions over the period

Avoidable mortality

Avoidable and amenable mortality comprises those causes of death that are potentially avoidable at the present time, given available knowledge about social and economic policy impacts, health behaviours, and health care (the latter relating to the subset of amenable causes).

For information on the avoidable and amenable mortality conditions and ICD codes included in the analysis in this section, please refer to the *Australian and New Zealand Atlas of Avoidable Mortality*, available from www.publichealth.gov.au.

Almost three quarters (71.3%) of all deaths in NSW Outback DGP at ages 0 to 74 years over the period 1997 to 2001 are considered to be avoidable, consistent with the proportion for country New South Wales (71.6%) (Table 8). However, the rate in the Division is substantially (68%) higher than that in country New South Wales, a differential of 1.68.

Deaths amenable to health care (amenable mortality, a subset of avoidable mortality) accounted for 25.8% of all deaths at ages 0 to 74 years in NSW Outback DGP, compared to 28.3% in country New South Wales.

Table 7: Avoidable and unavoidable mortality (0 to 74 years) by area, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001

Mortality category	NSW Outback DGP		Country NSW		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹
Avoidable	315	394.0	29,442	234.3	66,151	213.6	189,845	211.8
% of total	71.3	..	71.6	..	71.4	..	71.5	..
(Amenable)	(114)	(144.8)	(11,638)	(91.2)	(26,374)	(85.0)	(76,249)	(85.1)
(% of total)	(25.8)	(..)	(28.3)	(..)	(28.5)	(..)	(28.7)	(..)
Unavoidable	127	159.4	11,700	92.1	26,468	85.3	75,582	84.3
% of total	28.7	..	28.4	..	28.6	..	28.5	..
Total mortality	442	553.4	41,142	326.4	92,619	299.0	265,427	296.1
%	100.0	..	100.0	..	100.0	..	100.0	..

¹ Rate is the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population

Rates of avoidable mortality were higher for males than for females in each of the comparator areas. NSW Outback DGP's rate of avoidable mortality for males was 470.3 deaths per 100,000 males, compared to the rate of 329.2 for females. However, the rate of amenable mortality for males in the Division was lower, 151.9, compared to 143.4 for females, a rate ratio of 0.94 (Figure 9, Table 9).

Figure 8: Avoidable and amenable mortality by sex (0 to 74 years), NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001

Note: the different scales

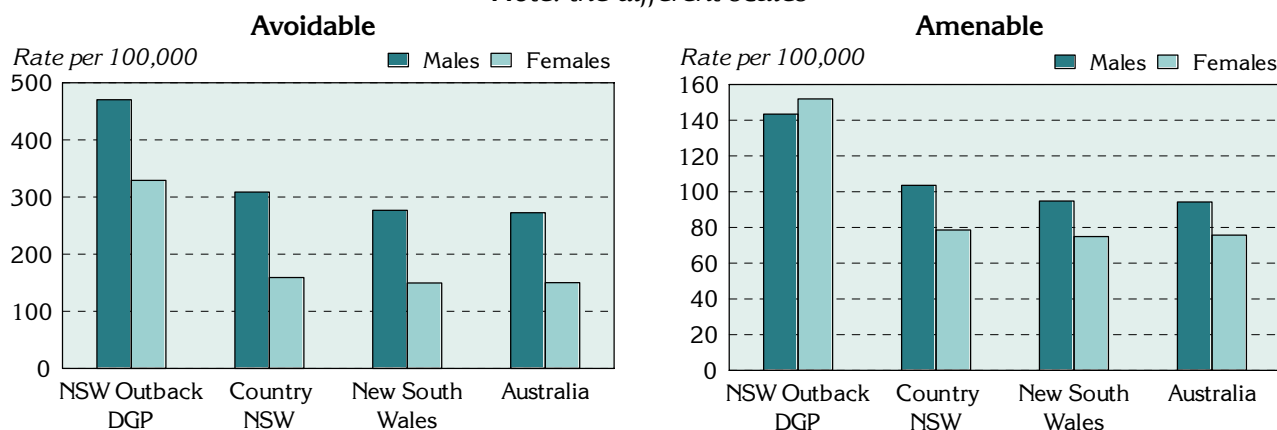


Table 8: Avoidable and amenable mortality (0 to 74 years) by sex, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001

Mortality category and sex	NSW Outback DGP		Country NSW		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹
Avoidable								
Males	208	470.3	19,569	308.5	43,074	276.8	123,026	272.6
Females	108	329.2	9,873	159.1	23,077	149.6	66,819	150.1
Total	315	394.0	29,442	234.3	66,151	213.6	189,845	211.8
Rate ratio–M:F²	..	1.43	..	1.94	..	1.85**	..	1.82**
Amenable								
Males	64	143.4	6,743	103.6	14,811	94.8	42,568	94.3
Females	50	151.9	4,895	78.6	11,562	74.9	33,681	75.7
Total	114	144.8	11,638	91.2	26,374	85.0	76,249	85.1
Rate ratio–M:F²	..	0.94	..	1.32	..	1.27**	..	1.25**

¹ Rate is the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population

² Rate ratio (M:F) is the ratio of male to female rates; rate ratios differing significantly from 1.0 are shown with * p < 0.05; ** p < 0.01

Another way of measuring premature mortality is to calculate the number of years of life lost (YLL)¹, which takes into account the years a person could have expected to live at each age of death based on the average life expectancy at that age.

The numbers of YLL for NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia over the period of analysis are shown in Table 10 by mortality category. However, given the substantial variation in the populations of these areas, a comparison of the proportion of YLL for each area is also shown.

YLL from avoidable mortality accounted for 70.5% of total YLL (0 to 74 years) for NSW Outback DGP, lower than the 71.8% for country New South Wales. At the same time, the proportion of YLL from amenable mortality for NSW Outback DGP (24.6%) was lower than that for country New South Wales (27.6%).

Table 9: Years of life lost from avoidable mortality (0 to 74 years), NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001

Mortality category	NSW Outback DGP		Country NSW		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	% of total	No.	% of total	No.	% of total	No.	% of total
Avoidable	5,824	70.5	502,860	71.8	1,147,183	71.8	3,327,375	71.9
(Amenable)	(2,034)	(24.6)	(192,960)	(27.6)	(444,143)	(27.8)	(1,298,430)	(28.0)
Unavoidable	2,434	29.5	197,182	28.2	451,496	28.2	1,303,289	28.1
Total	8,258	100.0	700,042	100.0	1,598,679	100.0	4,630,664	100.0

¹ Years of life lost were calculated using the remaining life expectancy method (this provides an estimate of the average time a person would have lived had he or she not died prematurely). The reference life table was the Coale and Demeny Model Life Table West level 26 female (for both males and females), with the YLL discounted to net present value at a rate of 3 per cent per year.

In each of the areas in Table 11, the majority of avoidable mortality at ages 0 to 74 years occurred in the 65 to 74 year age group (Table 11), with 2,203.8 deaths per 100,000 population in NSW Outback Division. The 45 to 64 year age group accounted for the next highest rate of avoidable death in all of the comparators, with a rate 657.7 in NSW Outback Division.

Table 10: Avoidable and amenable mortality by age, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001

Mortality category and age (years)	NSW Outback DGP		Country NSW		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹
Avoidable								
0-14	18	75.8	738	29.0	1,836	27.5	5,669	28.8
15-24	9	81.4	938	62.6	2,241	50.9	7,045	52.8
25-44	40	139.7	3,317	99.6	8,119	82.9	24,356	83.9
45-64	132	657.7	9,755	343.5	22,358	311.1	64,282	304.9
65-74	116	2,203.8	14,694	1464.0	31,597	1,375.8	88,493	1,358.1
Total	315	394.0	29,442	234.3	66,151	213.6	189,845	211.8
Amenable								
0-24	10	25.6	645	15.5	1,658	14.8	5,083	15.4
25-44	6	23.3	784	23.0	1,878	19.2	5,946	20.5
45-64	52	265.9	4,060	142.9	9,444	131.4	27,464	130.3
65-74	45	884.6	6,148	613.7	13,394	582.9	37,756	579.4
Total	114	144.8	11,638	91.2	26,374	85.0	76,249	85.1

¹ Rate is the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population

Table 12 shows the number and age-standardised death rate by selected major condition group and selected causes included in the avoidable mortality classification.

The highest rates of avoidable mortality for the selected major condition groups in the NSW Outback DGP were for cardiovascular diseases, with a rate of 124.0 deaths per 100,000 population, and cancer, 111.7 deaths per 100,000 population (Table 12, Figure 10). For the selected causes within the condition groups, the two major causes of avoidable mortality were ischaemic heart disease and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, with rates of 86.8 per 100,000 population and 48.5 per 100,000, respectively.

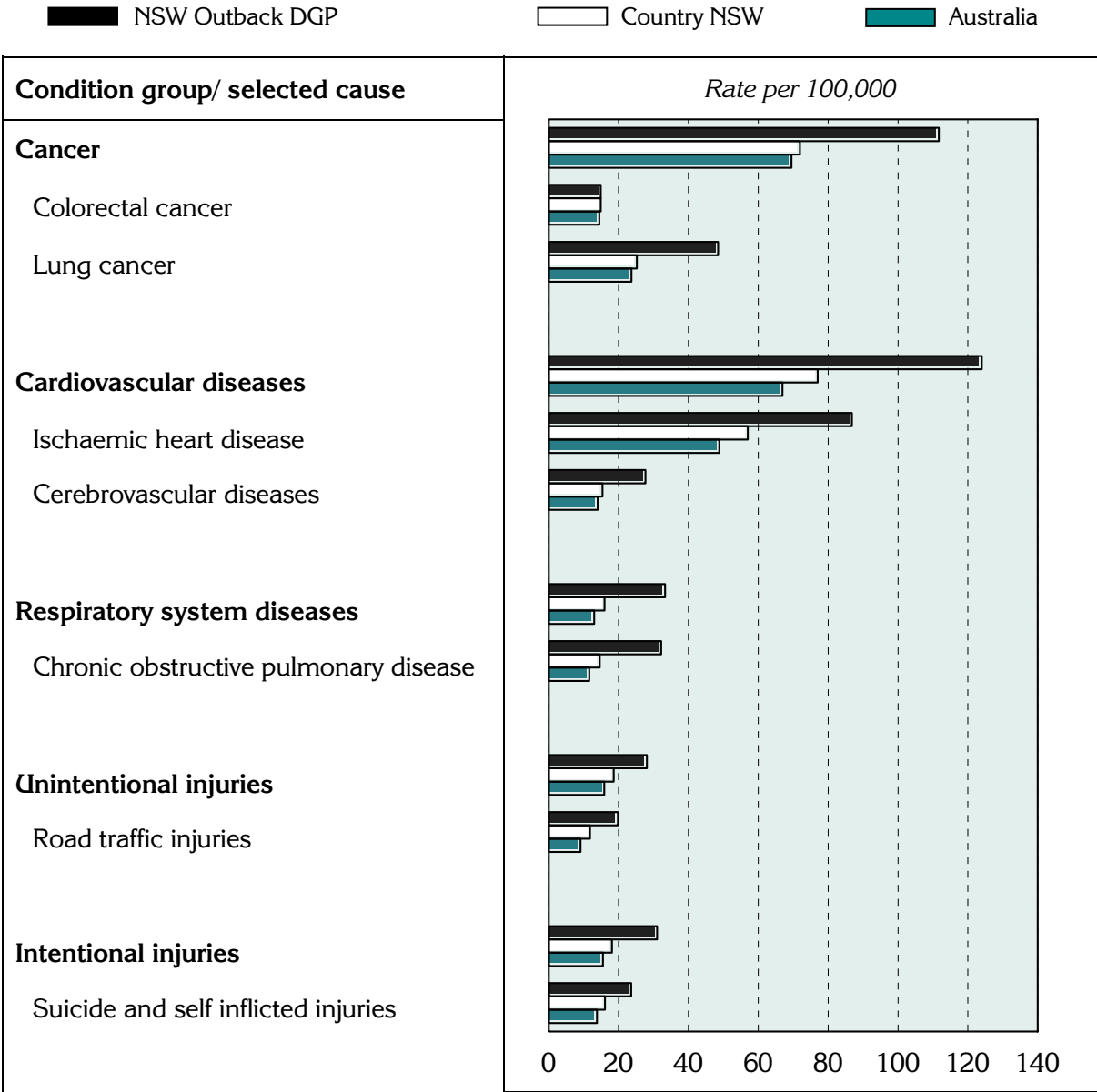
Table 11: Avoidable mortality (0 to 74 years) by major condition group and selected cause, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales, New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001

Condition group/ selected cause	NSW Outback DGP		Country NSW		New South Wales		Australia	
	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹	No.	Rate ¹
Cancer	87	111.7	9,239	71.9	21,158	68.1	62,338	69.5
Colorectal cancer	12	14.9	1,936	14.9	4,318	13.9	13,008	14.5
Lung cancer	39	48.5	3,314	25.2	7,297	23.4	21,208	23.7
Cardiovascular diseases	97	124.0	10,101	77.0	21,925	70.3	59,945	66.9
Ischaemic heart disease	69	86.8	7,474	57.0	15,935	51.1	43,712	48.8
Cerebrovascular diseases	21	27.7	2,015	15.4	4,656	14.9	12,558	14.0
Respiratory system diseases	25	33.3	2,136	16.0	4,313	13.8	11,612	13.0
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	24	32.2	1,966	14.6	3,882	12.4	10,395	11.6
Unintentional injuries	24	28.1	2,027	18.6	4,540	15.0	14,224	15.9
Road traffic injuries	16	19.8	1,279	11.8	2,528	8.4	8,138	9.1
Intentional injuries	27	31.0	1,939	18.1	4,497	14.9	13,891	15.5
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	20	23.6	1,730	16.1	3,941	13.0	12,393	13.8

¹ Rate is the indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population

Rates in the Division were above those in country New South Wales and Australia for the condition groups and selected causes shown, with the exception of colorectal cancer, where the rates were consistent (Figure 10).

Figure 9: Avoidable mortality (0 to 74 years) by major condition group and selected cause, NSW Outback DGP, country New South Wales and Australia, 1997 to 2001



Notes on the data

Data sources and limitations

General

References to 'country New South Wales' relate to New South Wales excluding the Sydney Statistical Division.

Data sources

Table 12 details the data sources for the material presented in this profile.

Table 12: Data sources

Section	Source
Population	
Figures 1 and 2; Table 1	Estimated Resident Population, ABS, 30 June for the periods shown
Figure 3	Estimated Resident Population, ABS, 30 June 2005; Population Projections, ABS, 30 June 2020 (unpublished) ¹
Additional socio-demographic indicators	
Figure 4	ABS SEIFA package, Census 2001
Table 2; Figure 5; Map 1	Jobless families, ABS, 2001 (unpublished)
Table 2; Figure 5; Map 2	Private health insurance, from Hansard
GP services – patient flow/ GP catchment	
Tables 3 and 4	Medicare Australia, 2003/04
Avoidable hospitalisations: hospital admissions resulting from ambulatory care sensitive conditions	
Tables 5 and 6; Figures 6 and 7	National Hospital Morbidity Database at Australian Institute of Health & Welfare, 2001/02; data produced in HealthWIZ by Prometheus Information (not available in public release dataset)
Avoidable mortality	
Tables 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11; Figures 8 and 9	ABS Deaths 1997-2001; data produced in HealthWIZ by Prometheus Information (not available in public release dataset)

¹ The projected population at June 2020 is based on the 2002 ERP. As such, it is somewhat dated, and does not take into account more recent demographic trends: it is however the only projection series available at the SLA level for the whole of Australia.

Methods

For background information on the additional prevalence estimates presented in this profile, please refer to the 'Notes on the data' section of the *Population health profile*, November 2005 (www.publichealth.gov.au).

Please also refer to the November 2005 profile for information on the data converters.

Mapping

In some Divisions the maps may include a very small part of an SLA which has not been allocated any population; or has a population of less than 100 or has less than 1% of the SLAs total population; or there were less than five cases (i.e. jobless families, people with health insurance); these areas are mapped with a pattern.

Statistical geography of the NSW Outback DGP

For information on the postcodes in the Division, please refer the Department of Health and Ageing website <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-pcd-programs-divisions-divspc.htm>; also included in table format in the 'Notes on the data' section of the *Population health profile*, November 2005 (www.publichealth.gov.au).

Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) are defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to produce areas for the presentation and analysis of data. In this Division, SLAs are equivalent to Local Government Areas (LGAs): unincorporated areas of the State are also SLAs. The SLAs that comprise the Division are listed in Table 13.

Table 13: SLAs and population in NSW Outback DGP, 2005 on 2001 boundaries

SLA code	SLA name	Per cent of the SLA's population in the Division*	Estimate of the SLA's 2005 population in the Division
10950	Bogan	7.7	239
11150	Bourke	100.0	3,906
11200	Brewarrina	94.2	2,042
11750	Cobar	89.8	4,504
17900	Walgett	77.4	6,216
18809	Unincorporated Far West	6.7	#

* Proportions are approximate and are known to be incorrect in some cases, due to errors in the concordance used to allocate CDs to form postal areas

Not shown as the total population is less than 100

Acknowledgements

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Further developments and updates

When the re-aligned boundaries are released and DoHA have made known their geographic composition, PHIDU will examine the need to revise and re-publish these profiles (*Population health profile*, dated November 2005, and the *Population health profile: supplement*, dated March 2007).

PHIDU contact details

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