

People affected by homelessness

The causes, pathways to and consequences of homelessness are complex and vary for different population groups: families, young people, women and children escaping domestic violence, Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders, people with substance use problems, people with mental illness, older men, and so on. Structural factors include poverty, unemployment, lack of affordable housing, insufficient public housing, and gender-based violence.^{46,50-58} These structural issues can be compounded by co-existing, and often related, family and individual level factors such as substance abuse, disability, and financial and health problems.^{46,47}

The impact of homelessness on personal wellbeing is profound. People experiencing homelessness are more likely to suffer a number of health conditions, including respiratory and skin infections; accidents and injuries; sexual and reproductive health issues; mental illness including depression; poor nutrition; dental problems as a result of poor oral hygiene and diet; skin problems such as sunburn, abscesses and dermatitis; and chronic diseases such as diabetes, bronchitis, and hepatitis.⁵³ For some people, health issues such as mental illness or substance use precipitate their homelessness.^{47,55,57}

Families with children are the fastest growing group in the homeless population in Australia, and are estimated to make up approximately a third of the nation's homeless population.⁵⁶ Children and young people may become homeless through the breakdown of family relationships, or they may be homeless with their families.⁴⁸ There are many risks to their wellbeing: they are more likely to suffer health conditions such as asthma, low immunisation rates, vision problems, intellectual disability and developmental delay.^{48,56-58} They also commonly experience psychological problems including depression, anxiety and low self-esteem; and their mental and emotional wellbeing can be seriously affected by having lived in an environment of fear, uncertainty and insecurity over a protracted period.⁵⁶ Social difficulties include isolation as a result of losing social support, family, friends and stable schooling; and their growth and development can be severely hindered by homelessness, family breakdown and poverty.⁵⁸ Children and young people who experience homelessness are more likely to become homeless as adults and raise families who, in turn, may also become homeless; this is largely as a result of the disrupted education that many experience.¹²⁸

The impact on people of long-term homelessness is substantial; they almost always report traumatic childhoods, growing up in poverty and major, often repeated childhood trauma.¹²⁹ Most have limited economic resources, chronic ill health and drug and alcohol problems, and have experienced long-term unemployment and repeated physical assaults.¹²⁹ Such homelessness remains a strong indicator of entrenched disadvantage and social exclusion.

Homelessness, capital cities

Homelessness is strongly linked to disadvantage, with poverty and unstable housing resulting in a higher risk of poor health, social exclusion, interrupted education, and unemployment.^{49,50} Homelessness is associated with poor health and wellbeing through inadequate nutrition, hygiene issues, exposure to the elements, increased risk of injury and communicable diseases, social isolation, and stress.⁵³ People without stable housing are also at significantly higher risk of physical and sexual abuse, violence and emotional trauma.^{57,58} For homeless people, there are often barriers to accessing health care, including ongoing services for the prevention and treatment of ill health.⁵⁹ Further details are in Appendix A.

Indicator definition: Homeless people as defined here includes people who are in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out; and those staying temporarily with other households, mapped as a rate per 10,000 population.

Note: See note on the following text page regarding the 2011 homeless data.

Table 16: Estimated homeless people, by capital city, 2006

Number and rate per 10,000 population

Data	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Total
Number	3,372	2,590	2,327	1,070	1,732	247	706	360	12,404
Rate	8.2	7.2	13.2	9.7	12.0	12.3	66.6	11.1	9.8

Capital cities

The number of homeless people in 2006 was estimated to be highest in Sydney (3,372 homeless people), Melbourne (2,590) and Brisbane (2,327). However, the rate in Darwin was substantially higher (66.6 homeless people per 10,000 population) than those of the other capital cities.

In **Sydney** in 2006, the largest numbers of homeless people were estimated to be in Sydney - East (210 homeless; almost twice that of any other area in Sydney, and the highest rate at 44.9 per 10,000 population), with other notable numbers in Sydney - South, Blacktown - South-West, Penrith - West and Parramatta - Inner, all with more than 100 homeless people.

The largest numbers of homeless people (80 or more people) in **Melbourne** were estimated to be in the inner city area of Melbourne - Remainder (100 homeless), in the south in Frankston - West and Casey - Cranbourne, and in Yarra - North.

The largest number of homeless people in **Brisbane** was estimated to be in the inner city area of City/Spring Hill (160 homeless; almost twice that of than any other Brisbane area, and the highest rate, at 128.8 homeless people per 10,000 population). Other areas with 80 or more homeless people included Herston/Newstead (61.9 per 10,000), Stretton-Karawatha/Kingston, and Pine Rivers Balance.

Adelaide's homeless people were also principally located in the central city SLA of Adelaide, with 144 homeless (more than three times that of any other Adelaide SLA), and the city's highest rate at 86.4 per 10,000 population).

In **Perth**, the largest numbers of homeless people were recorded in Perth - Remainder (149

homeless; and a rate of 142.0 homeless people per 10,000 population), Swan (108) and Stirling - Central (101). Perth - Inner (with an estimated 92 homeless people, 853.4 per 10,000 population) and Fremantle - Inner (53, 639.3), had the highest rates of any capital city SLA in Australia.

The highest numbers of homeless in **Hobart** were in Clarence (59), Glenorchy (48) and Hobart - Remainder (45), although the rate in Hobart - Inner (16 people, 348.6) was by far the highest (and the third highest capital city rate).

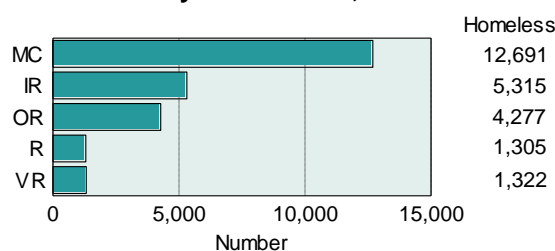
The largest numbers of homeless in **Darwin** were in Darwin South West (264 homeless, 128.7 per 10,000 population), although the city's highest rate was in Litchfield - Part A (17 homeless, 138.0 per 10,000 population). Darwin North West (184), Darwin North East (103) and Litchfield - Part B (70) all had high rates.

The numbers of homeless people in **Canberra** were generally lower, with the largest recorded in Canberra Central (72 homeless; and a rate of 32.8 per 10,000 population) followed by Canberra North (38) and Belconnen West (37).

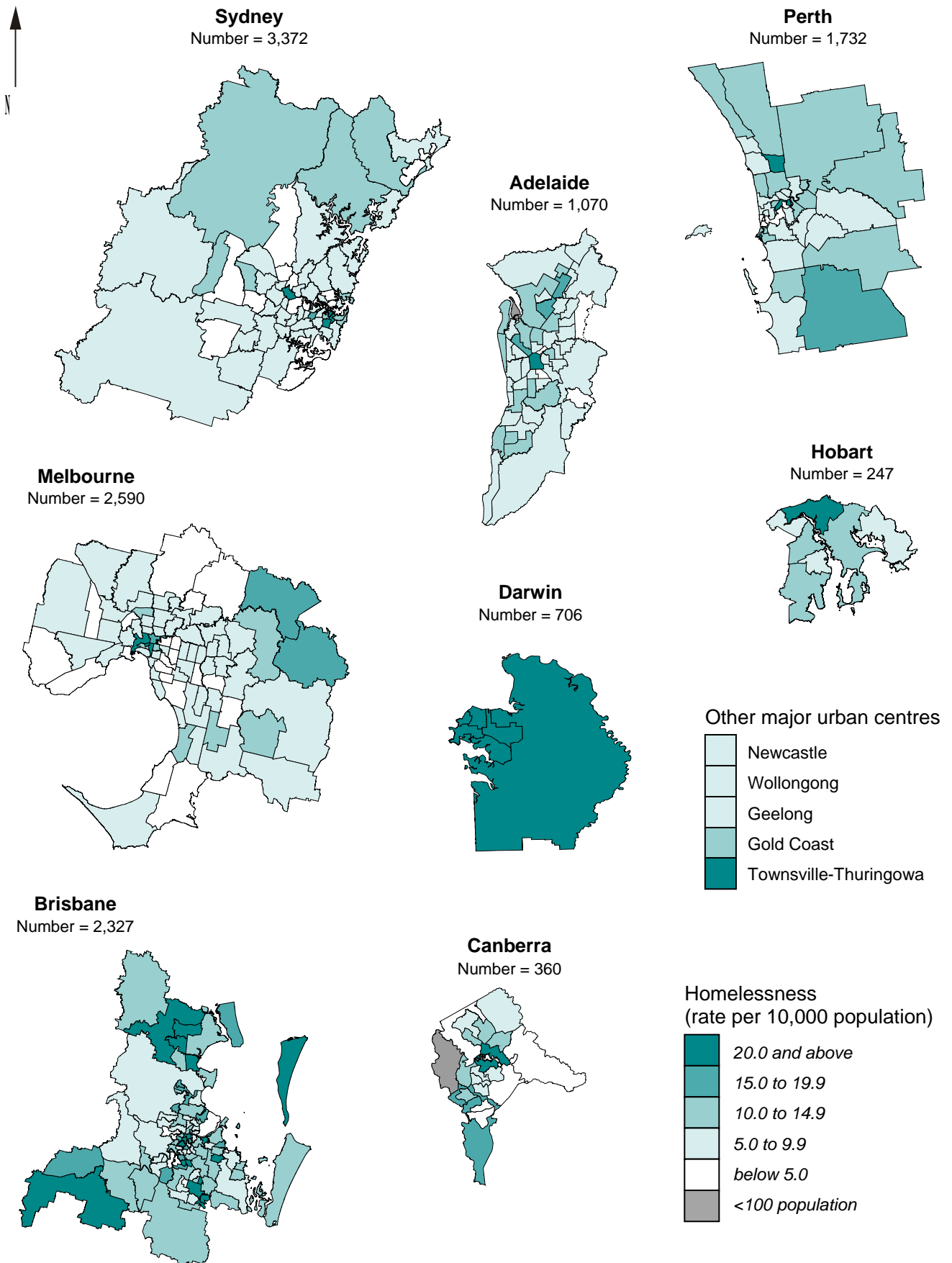
Remoteness

The number of homeless people declined markedly across the Remoteness classes, although this population group was clearly present throughout each State.

Figure 12: Estimated homeless people, by remoteness, 2006



Map 15: Estimated homeless people, major urban centres, 2006
 rate per 10,000 population by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU using data supplied by ABS, based on the ABS 2006 Census

Homelessness, Australia

Notes: See comments on previous text page for details of this indicator. 'Non-metropolitan' refers to the area of the State or Territory outside of the capital city. 'Total' refers to the whole State or Territory.

Table 17: Estimated homeless people, by State/Territory, Australia, 2006

Number and Rate per 10,000

Area	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total
Non-metropolitan – no.	3,010	1,409	4,770	663	1,370	350	936	..	12,508
Non-metropolitan – rate	12.4	10.6	22.4	16.3	27.0	12.7	110.1	..	17.5
Total – number	6,357	4,013	7,015	1,764	3,117	617	1,659	366	24,910
Total – rate	9.7	8.1	18.0	11.7	16.0	13.0	86.9	11.3	12.5

Non-metropolitan areas

Note: The 2011 ABS homeless data are only available at the larger Statistical Area Level 3, so have not been mapped in this Atlas. The total estimated homeless rate for Australia has decreased from 12.5 homeless people per 10,000 population in 2006 to 11.2 in 2011. Refer to the notes and reference (ABS 2012c) in Appendix A.

The largest numbers of homeless people in the non-metropolitan areas of Australia in 2006 were estimated to be in Queensland (4,770 homeless people) and New South Wales (3,010). However, the rate was substantially higher in the Northern Territory (110.1 homeless people per 10,000 population, and more than six times the rate of the total non-metropolitan areas).

Non-metropolitan **New South Wales** had a low overall rate, with the largest numbers of homeless people in coastal areas, particularly in the north, in Byron (138 homeless people; a rate of 48.0 homeless people per 10,000 population), Coffs Harbour - Part A (95, 19.9), Tweed - Part B (86, 43.1) and - Tweed-Heads (71, 14.1), and Ballina (82, 21.3). Port Stephens and Bega Valley had 74 and 69 homeless people, respectively.

The number of homeless people in the non-metropolitan areas of **Victoria** was relatively low compared to the other States and the Northern Territory, with the highest recorded for Greater Shepparton - Part A (58 homeless; a rate of 13.0 per 10,000 population). Other areas estimated to have more than 35 homeless people included Mildura - Part A (52 homeless; 11.3 per 10,000 population), Wodonga (44, 13.3), Greater Bendigo - Part B (41, 36.2) and Corio - Inner (37, 6.7).

In general, the coastal areas in the non-metropolitan areas of **Queensland** are estimated to have the most homeless people, with the State's largest number estimated for Mackay - Part A (182 homeless, and a rate of 25.0 per 10,000 population), followed by Thuringowa - Part A (107, 20.7), Bowen (102, 82.4), Cooloola (excluding Gympie) (96, 48.9), Cairns - Central Suburbs (93, 43.5) and Rockhampton (89, 15.1). Emerald had

the largest number of homeless of the State's inland SLAs (87 homeless people, 60.6 per 10,000 population).

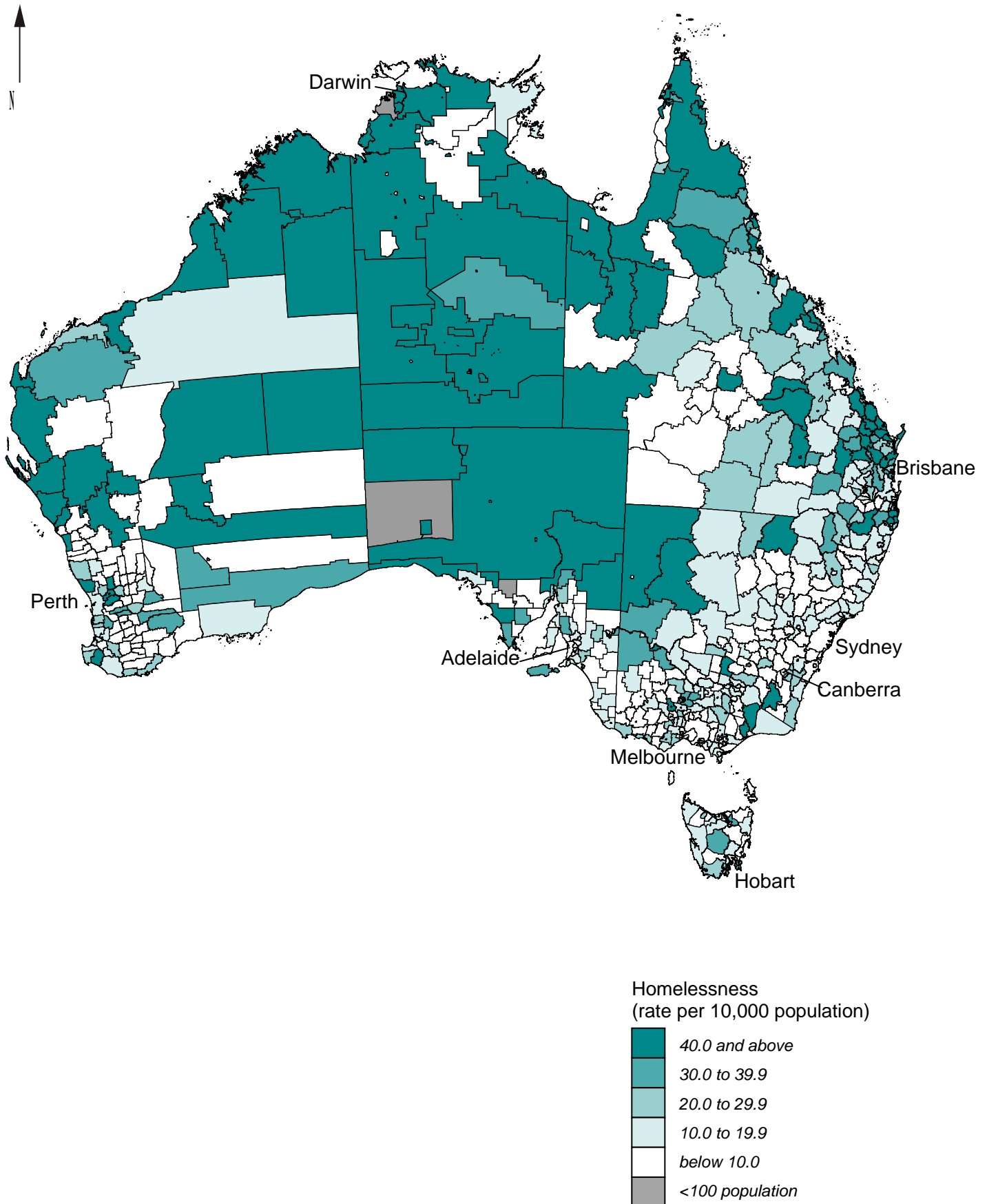
The largest numbers of homeless people in the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia were estimated for SLAs in the far north, in Anangu Pitjantjatjara (74 homeless and the highest rate in the State, at 331.8 per 10,000 population) and Unincorporated Far North (52 homeless and the State's second highest rate at 331.6 per 10,000 population). The next highest estimates were closer to Adelaide in Murray Bridge (43 homeless, 24.3 per 10,000 population), and in the north of the State, in Port Augusta (31, 22.3). All other SLAs were estimated to have fewer than 25 homeless people.

The largest numbers of homeless people in the non-metropolitan areas of **Western Australia** were estimated to be in the far north of the State, in Wyndham-East Kimberley (134 homeless people, and a rate of 203.1 per 10,000 population), Broome (128, 98.0) and Halls Creek (104, 332.0). The next highest numbers were in Mandurah (64 homeless people, 11.5), Kalgoorlie/Boulder - Part A (60, 21.2) and Port Hedland (58, 48.5).

There were estimated to be relatively few homeless people in non-metropolitan SLAs in **Tasmania**, with the largest numbers recorded in Launceston - Part B (61 homeless, a rate of 10.3 per 10,000 population), Huon Valley (40, 28.6), Devonport (33, 13.7) and Central Coast - Part A (24, 13.6). All other SLAs were estimated to have 20 or fewer homeless people.

The largest numbers of homeless people in the **Northern Territory** in 2006 were estimated to be in Katherine (190 homeless; almost 75% more than the number recorded for any other SLA in the non-metropolitan areas of the Territory, and a rate of 231.9 per 10,000 population). Thamarrurr (110 homeless people; 569.7 per 10,000 population), Sandover (82, 295.9), Anmatjere (53, 548.1) and Alice Springs - Charles (48, 105.6) recorded the next largest numbers of homeless people.

Map 16: Estimated homeless people, Australia, 2006
 rate per 10,000 population by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU using data supplied by ABS, based on the ABS 2006 Census

Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, capital cities

Affordable, safe and appropriate housing has significant benefits for people's health, social inclusion and access to labour markets.^{53,135} The distribution of households in public rental accommodation remains an indicator of socioeconomic disadvantage; and reflects historic government policies, which led to substantial declines in public housing stock, and the transfer of some stock to community-managed housing.^{47,52,96} Recent increases in the Northern Territory are largely the result of specific funding for Indigenous community housing in non-metropolitan areas.^{95,96}

Indicator definition: Occupied private dwellings rented from a state or territory government housing authority, as a proportion of all occupied private dwellings.

Table 18: Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, by capital city, 2011

Per cent								
Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Total
4.5	2.6	3.7	6.4	3.4	5.9	6.9	7.3	4.0

Capital cities

The largest number of private dwellings rented from the government housing authority in 2011 was in Canberra (7.3%), with similar proportions in Darwin (6.9%) and Adelaide (6.4%). Of note is that the number of dwellings in Darwin is some four fifths of that at the 2006 Census, with 13% fewer of these dwellings in a larger housing stock.

The highest proportions of these rented dwellings in **Sydney** were located in two distinct areas, the larger group to the west and south-west of the city centre, and including Blacktown South - West (14.6%) and Parramatta - South (12.2%); and in a band from the city centre and south to Botany Bay, including Sydney - South (13.2%). The lowest percentages for this indicator were in a large area to the north of the harbour and in the inner east, in Woollahra and Mosman.

Dwellings in **Melbourne** rented from the government housing authority were concentrated in inner SLAs, with the highest proportions in Yarra - North (10.8%), Richmond (10.7%), Melbourne - Remainder (8.5%), and Port Phillip - West and Moonee Valley - Essendon (both 7.5%). Lower proportions were in SLAs throughout the metropolitan area.

The distribution of housing authority rented dwellings in **Brisbane** showed no distinct pattern, with the highest proportions in a mix of inner and fringe areas, including in the grouped areas of Loganlea (12.8%), Stretton-Karawatha/Kingston (12.7%), Darra-Sumner/Wacol (12.2%). The lowest proportions were largely in areas located on the metropolitan fringe.

In **Adelaide**, the Playford SLAs of - Elizabeth (21.5%) and Port Adelaide Enfield - Park (20.2%) had the two highest capital city rates for dwellings rented from the government housing authority. The lowest proportions were largely recorded in SLAs to the east, north-east and south-east of the city.

SLAs in **Perth** with high proportions of dwellings rented from the housing authority were located along the Swan River in the inner area of Fremantle - Remainder (9.9%) and further out in the suburb of Belmont (8.7%). SLAs with less than 1% of dwellings in this category were largely in inner areas, or on the coast.

The highest proportion of dwellings rented from the government housing authority in **Hobart** was recorded in the SLA of Brighton (17.0%, the third highest capital city proportion), and the lowest in Sorell Part A (1.8%).

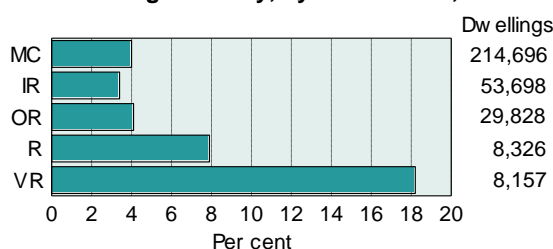
In **Darwin**, SLAs other than Litchfield - Part A and Litchfield - Part B had more than 5% of dwellings rented from the housing authority. The highest proportions were in Palmerston (9.9%) and Darwin North East (9.7%).

There were relatively high proportions of dwellings across **Canberra**, with the highest in the contiguous areas of Canberra North (11.3%), South and Central (both 10.6%). Kamba, Tuggeranong North West, Belconnen West and Eastern Fringe had the next highest proportions.

Remoteness

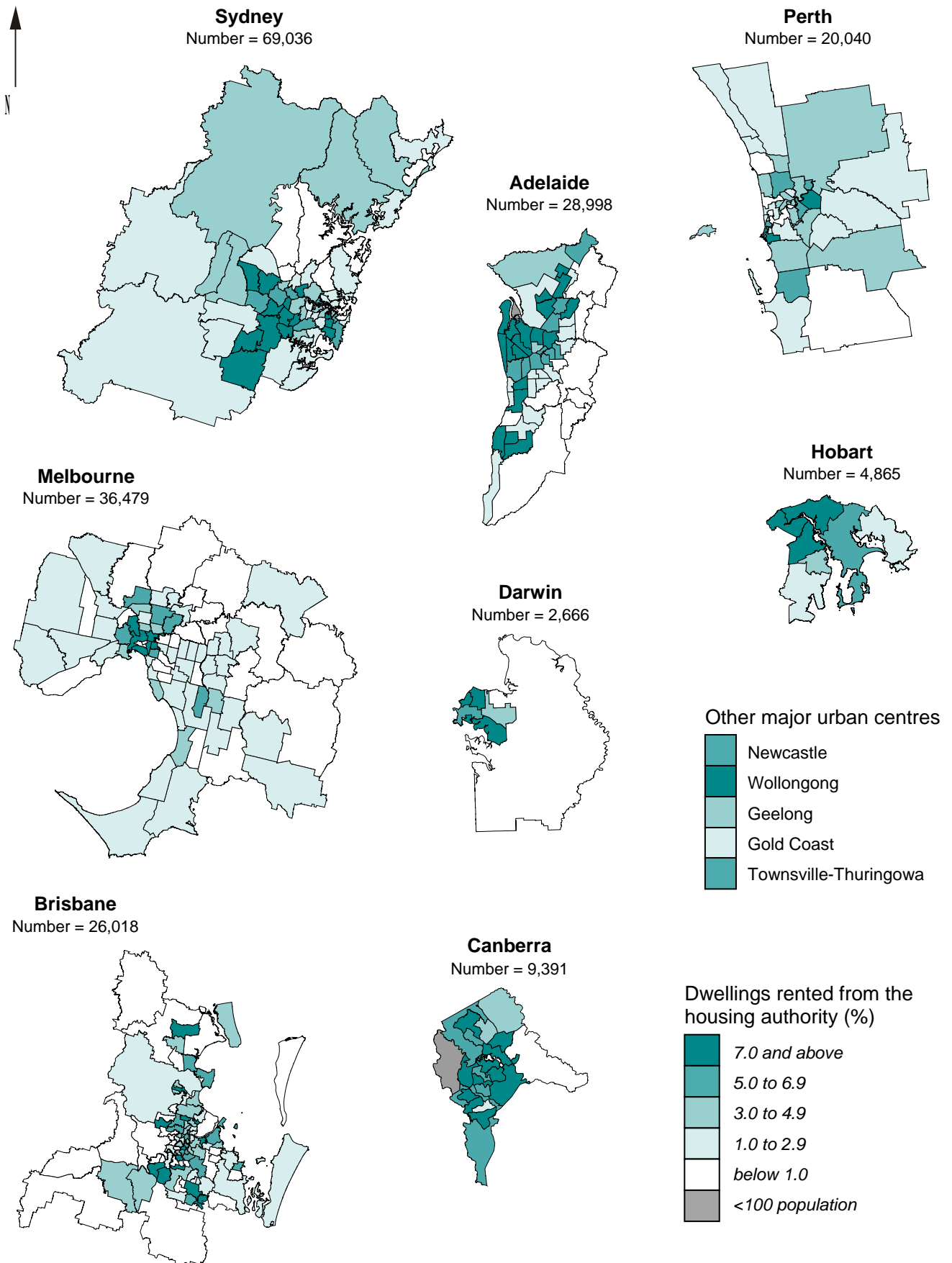
The proportion of the private dwelling stock rented from government housing authorities was similar across the first three remoteness classes (3.4% to 4.1%), higher in the Remote areas (7.9%) and substantially higher in the Very Remote areas (18.2%).

Figure 13: Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, by remoteness, 2011



Map 17: Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, major urban centres, 2011

per cent by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on data from ABS 2011 Census

Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, Australia

Notes: See comments on previous text page for details of this indicator. 'Non-metropolitan' refers to the area of the State or Territory outside of the capital city. 'Total' refers to the whole State or Territory.

Table 19: Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, by State/ Territory, Australia, 2011

<i>Per cent</i>									
Area	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total
Non-metropolitan	4.2	3.4	3.3	5.5	6.0	4.9	21.7	.	4.1
Total	4.4	2.8	3.5	6.1	4.0	5.4	12.3	7.3	4.1

Non-metropolitan areas

Whereas there were fewer of these dwellings in Darwin in 2011 than in 2006, outside of Darwin the situation was very different. In 2006, there were 1,578 dwellings rented from Territory Housing; by 2011, this number had more than trebled to 4,808 dwellings. Thus, in 2011, the Northern Territory (21.7%) had the highest proportion of dwellings rented from the housing authority outside of the capital cities. The lowest levels were recorded in the non-metropolitan areas of Queensland (3.3%) and Victoria (3.4%).

High rates of dwellings rented from the government housing authority in **New South Wales** were recorded in a mix of regional towns and rural and remote SLAs. More than 7% of dwellings were rented from the government housing authority in Central Darling (12.9%), Brewarrina (10.3%), Wollongong - Inner (8.5%) and Balance (7.6%), Lake Macquarie - East (8.5%), Shoalhaven - Part A (8.2%), Shellharbour (7.5%), and Bourke and Moree Plains (both 7.1%).

There are few of these dwellings across much of non-metropolitan **Victoria**, with the highest proportions generally in regional centres. Only seven SLAs recorded proportions of 7.0% or above: these areas included Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk (7.9%) and - Central (7.1%), Campaspe - Echuca (7.8%), Wodonga (7.5%), and Swan Hill - Central (7.1%) and - Robinvale (7.0%).

In the non-metropolitan areas of **Queensland**, the highest proportions of dwellings rented from the government housing authority are generally located in a number of small, island-based Indigenous communities in the Torres Strait and on Cape York, with the next highest rates in SLAs located along the Northern Territory border, extending inland and down to the State's southern border. The former group (with rates above 50%) included Napranum (90.7%), Wujal Wujal (90.0%), Iama (86.6%), Hope Vale (83.3%), Kubin (82.6%), Yorke (78.3%), Warraber (72.2%), Erub (71.6%), Mer (71.4%), Mornington (68.6%), St Pauls (68.6%), Yarrabah (67.8%), Saibai (66.7%), Mabuig and Hammond (both 64.4%), New

Mapoon (62.3%), Poruma (61.8%), Palm Island (60.4%), Pormpuraaw (59.1%), Dauan (58.3%), Doomadgee (53.5%). Rates above 50% were also recorded in Woorabinda (72.8%), located in the mid-east of the State.

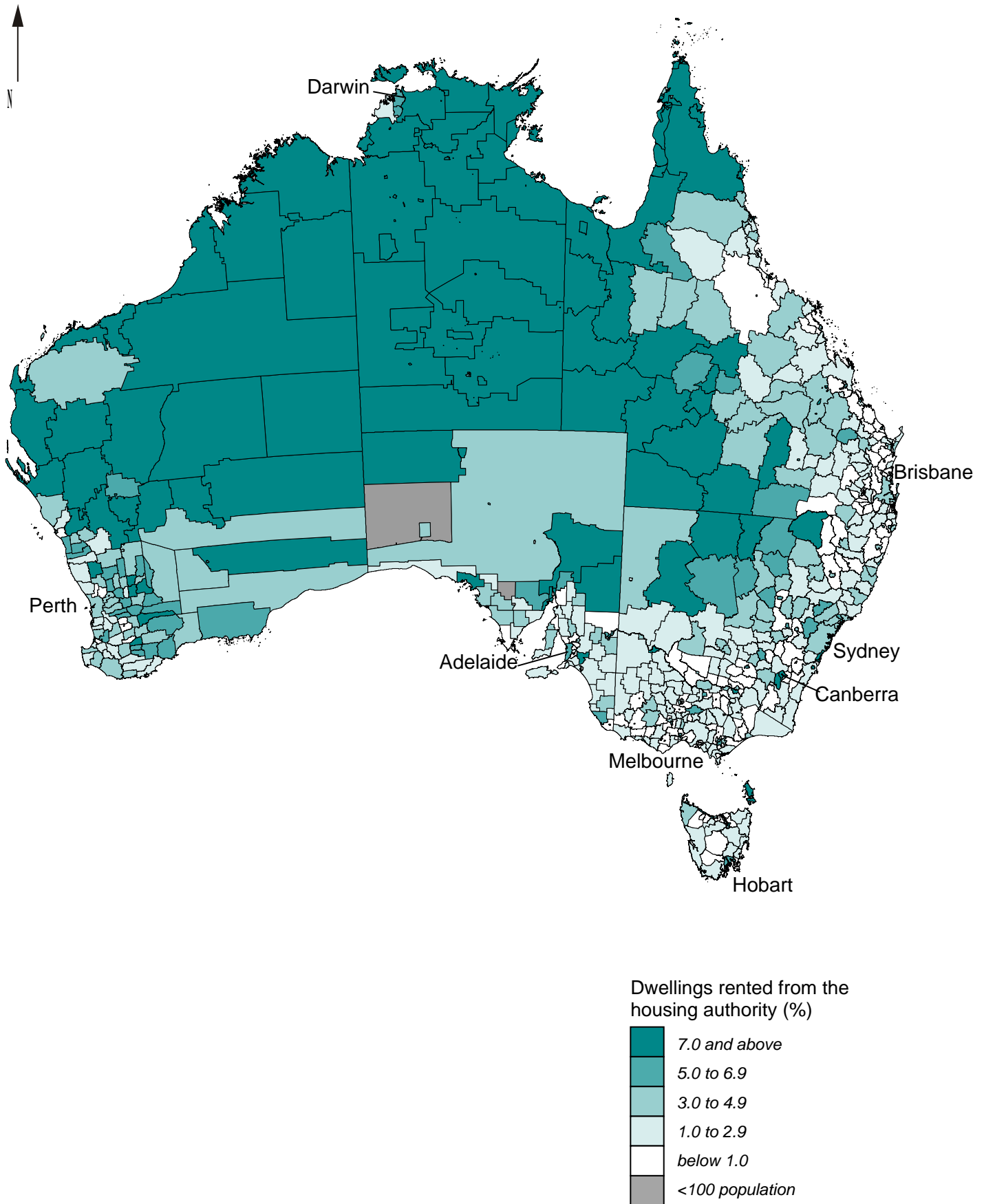
The SLA of Anangu Pitjantjatjara (34.0%), in the far north-west recorded the highest proportion of rented dwellings in non-metropolitan **South Australia** in 2011, with high proportions also recorded in the larger regional towns of Whyalla (21.1%), Port Augusta (14.4%), Port Pirie (12.7%), Ceduna (10.9%), Port Lincoln (10.8%) and Mount Gambier (10.3%).

SLAs with high proportions of dwellings rented from the housing authority covered much of **Western Australia**, other than in the more populous south-west. The highest proportions were recorded in the SLAs of Ngaanyatjaraku (59.0%), Halls Creek (49.4%), Upper Gascoyne (35.6%), Wiluna (31.9%), Meekatharra (29.0%), Derby-West Kimberley (24.1%), Yalgoo (23.2%), Broome (20.5%), Wyndham-East Kimberley (19.9%) and Mount Magnet (18.9%).

The distribution across **Tasmania** was relatively uniform. The highest proportions of dwellings rented from the government housing authority were found in areas along the north coast and in the Tamar Valley with George Town - Part A (10.0%), Devonport (9.6), Burnie - Part A (9.2%), Flinders (8.1%), Launceston - Part B (7.5%) and Waratah/Wynyard - Part A (7.3%), all with proportions above the Tasmanian average.

The highest proportions of these dwellings in the non-metropolitan areas of **Northern Territory** are in towns and small Indigenous, community-based SLAs. Rates above 45% were recorded in Belyuen (77.8%), Thamarrurr (72.0%), Tiwi Islands (60.3%), Arltarlpilta, Yuendumu, Lajamanu and Anmatjere (all 56.2%), Hanson (55.2%), Tableland, Elliott District, Tennant Creek - Balance and Alpururulam (all 49.9%), Kunbarlanjnja and West Arnhem (both 49.6%), Marn Garr, Angurugu and East Arnhem - Balance (all 49.1%), and Sandover (45.6%).

Map 18: Dwellings rented from the government housing authority, Australia, 2011
 per cent by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on data from ABS 2011 Census

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People living with disability or mental illness, and their carers

People who live with disability (including mental illness) face many barriers to employment, health and wellbeing, and social inclusion.⁷ These include interrupted or inadequate education; a lack of access to vocational and educational training; the debilitating effects of the disability; inappropriate job design or working environment; little assistance following the gaining of employment; fear of losing eligibility for crucial benefits; and negative employer and community attitudes.^{7,60,68} In particular, stigma, discrimination and a lack of understanding of mental illness can be significantly reduce opportunities for people with mental illness accessing employment.⁶⁰

Characteristics which contribute positively to the ability of a person experiencing a mental illness to obtain and maintain employment have been identified as work readiness; work attitudes and motivation; interpersonal relations and work quality; duration of the employment; and available mental health supports.^{8,61} Issues that have a negative impact on employment outcomes included multiple impairments (cognitive, perceptual, affective and interpersonal), decreased life experiences, associated substance abuse, the episodic nature of the illness, obstacles within the service delivery system (such as discrimination) and the negative symptoms of the illness being confused with lack of motivation.^{9,10} Factors which are not predictive of employment outcomes include age, and number and length of hospitalisations.⁸

Unemployment is a complex and diverse experience, and its effects are mediated by a large number of social and individual factors.¹¹ While many people with psychiatric or other forms of disability do not experience significant employment disruption over the course of their working life, others however, find gaining and maintaining employment extremely difficult.⁶² The psychological wellbeing of people living with disability (particularly those who are young) is enhanced by their economic and social participation.^{61,63}

The lack of employment of people living with disability is costly for the Australian economy. In 2009, it was estimated that the financial cost of mental illness in people aged 12-25 years was \$10.6 billion, of which \$7.5 billion (70.5%) was productivity lost due to lower employment, absenteeism and premature death of young people with mental illness.⁶⁴ Overall, people with disability achieve lower educational qualifications than people without disability, and generally have poorer labour market outcomes.^{65,67} However, because the experience of disability stems from the interaction of individual and broader factors, it is possible to reduce the impact of disability on a person's participation in all aspects of life through early intervention, and environmental and societal modifications.⁶⁶

The indicators listed in bold type are included in this sub-section. The remaining indicators listed below and other indicators can be found online at www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/.

- People aged 0 to 64 years and living in the community who have a profound or severe disability
- **People aged 15 to 59 years and living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed**
- People who provide assistance to people with a disability
- **People with long-term mental health problems, who are unemployed**
- **Prevalence of psychological distress**

People living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, capital cities

People of working age living with disability generally experience lower levels of employment than other Australians.⁶⁷ In 2009, nearly half (46%) of working-age people with disability were not in the labour force, and more than half of these (59%) were permanently unable to work.⁶⁷ While the severity of the disability may limit participation in the labour market, other factors are also significant, particularly discrimination.⁶⁸

Indicator definition: People aged 15 to 59 years and living in the community whose responses to the 2011 ABS Census resulted in them being categorised as having a profound or severe disability, and who were not employed, as a proportion of the population aged 15 to 59 years.

Table 20: People aged 15 to 59 years and living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, by capital city, 2011

Per cent									
Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Total	
1.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.1	2.3	0.9	1.0	1.5	

Capital cities

In 2011, the proportion of the population aged 15 to 59 years, with a profound or severe disability, who were living in the community and were not employed, ranged from 1.0% in both Canberra and Darwin, to 2.0% in Hobart.

For **Sydney**, the proportions of the population in this group were highest in a large group of SLAs in the west, including Parramatta - South (3.7%), Fairfield - East (3.5%) and - West (2.8%), Liverpool - East (3.4%), Bankstown - North-East (3.2%) and - North-West (3.0%), Blacktown - South-West (2.8%) and Campbelltown - South (2.7%); and in the north, in Wyong - North-East (3.0%). The lowest proportions were in SLAs on the north shore, and in and to the east and south of the city centre.

SLAs in **Melbourne** with the highest proportions of the population with a disability who were unemployed were located to the north and north-west of the city, in Hume - Broadmeadows (4.2%), Whittlesea - South-West (3.2%) and Melton Balance (2.9%); and to the south-east, in Greater Dandenong - Dandenong (2.9%) and Casey - Hallam (2.5%). The lowest proportions were generally in the inner city and eastern suburbs.

People in **Brisbane** in this category were in several locations, principally in the outer areas in the south and south-west, and along the coast in the outer north. SLAs with the highest proportions, of above 3.0%, included Redland Balance (6.8%, the highest capital city rate), Bribie Island (3.7%), Caboolture - Central (3.6%), Waterford West (3.5%), Deception Bay (3.4%), Archerfield/ Coopers Plains, Loganlea and Morayfield (all 3.3%), Stretton-Karawatha/Kingston (3.2%) and Caboolture - East (3.1%).

In **Adelaide**, high proportions of this population lived in Playford - Elizabeth (5.5%) and - West Central (4.4%), the second and third highest capital city rates, and in Onkaparinga - North Coast and - Hackham (both 3.9%). Low rates were in the east, south and south-east of the city.

SLAs in **Perth** had relatively low proportions of the population with these characteristics, with the highest being in the middle and outer SLAs of Kwinana (1.8%), Armadale (1.7%) and Bassendean (1.6%).

In **Hobart**, Brighton (4.1%) and Derwent Valley - Part A had the highest rates, with other high rates in Glenorchy (3.2%) and Sorrell - Part A (3.0%).

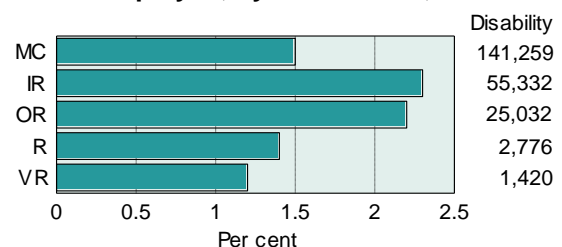
The proportions of this population group in **Darwin** were all low, with the highest in the outer SLA of Litchfield - Part B (1.3%).

Proportions in **Canberra** were also generally low, ranging from no cases in Kowen and Majura, to 1.4% in Belconnen West.

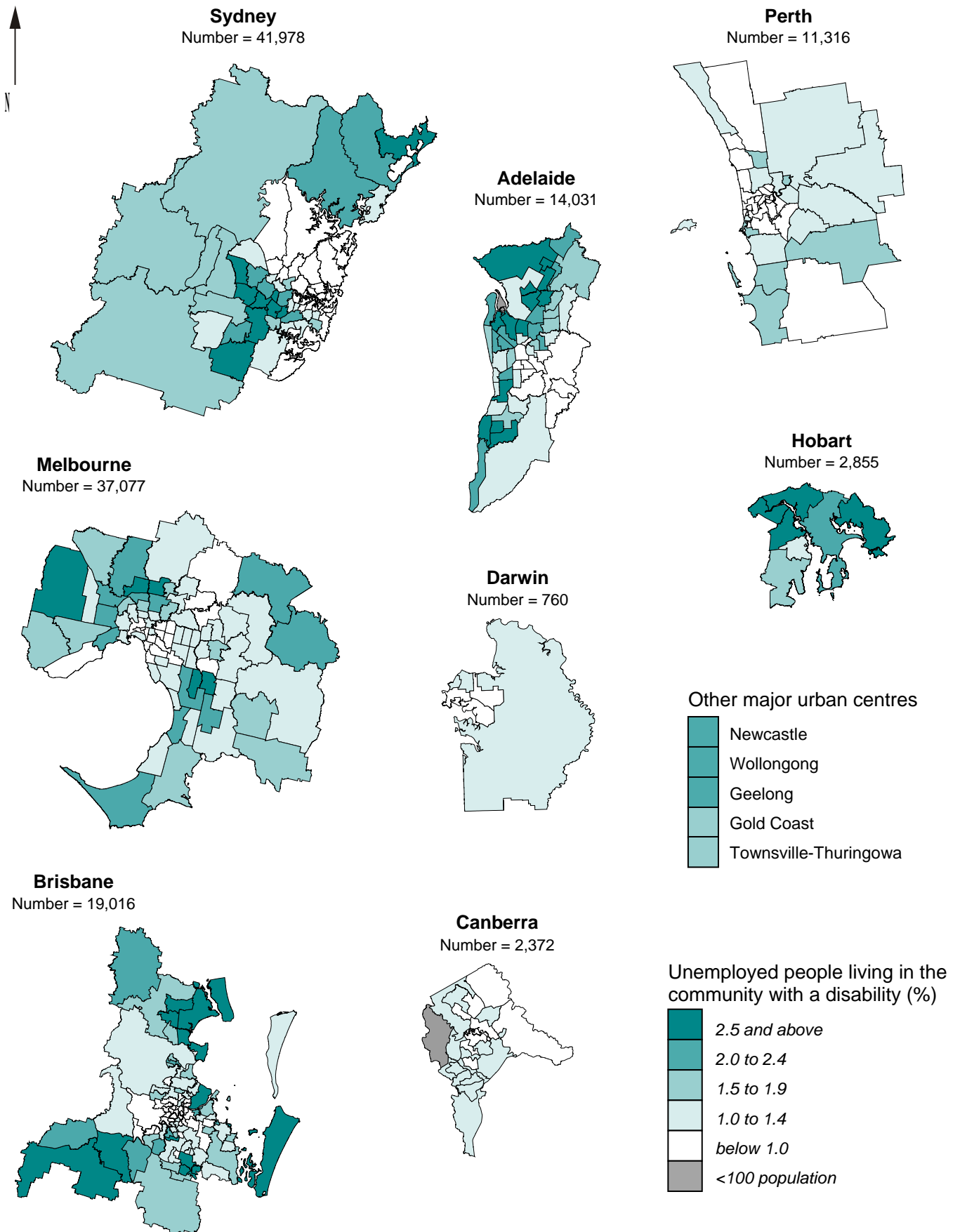
Remoteness

The highest proportions of the population living in the community who had a profound or severe disability and were unemployed were in the Inner and Outer Regional remoteness classes. The categorisation of people in the CDEP scheme by the ABS as 'employed' is likely to have influenced the low proportion in the Very Remote class.

Figure 14: People aged 15 to 59 years who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, by remoteness, 2011



Map 19: People aged 15 to 59 years and living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, major urban centres, 2011 per cent by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on data from ABS 2011 Census

People living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, Australia

Notes: See comments on previous text page for details of this indicator. 'Non-metropolitan' refers to the area of the State or Territory outside of the capital city. 'Total' refers to the whole State or Territory.

Table 21: People aged 15 to 59 years and living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, by State/ Territory, Australia, 2011

<i>Per cent</i>									
Area	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total
Non-metropolitan	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.3	1.4	2.8	1.5	..	2.2
Total	1.8	1.7	1.8	2.1	1.2	2.6	1.2	1.0	1.7

Non-metropolitan areas

In areas outside of the capital cities, the proportion of the population living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and were unemployed, ranged from 1.4% of the population aged 15 to 59 years in Western Australia, to 2.8% in Tasmania. Again, note that categorisation of people in the CDEP scheme as employed is likely to have had an impact on the proportions in remote areas with relatively large Indigenous populations.

Relatively high proportions of the population with these characteristics were found in many SLAs in **New South Wales**. The highest proportions were in Clarence Valley Balance (5.5%), Kempsey and Weddin (both 4.6%), Nambucca (4.3%), Greater Taree, Tenterfield and Kyogle (all 4.1%), and Warrumbungle Shire, Walgett, Great Lakes and Urana (all 4.0%).

Relatively high proportions of the population living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and were unemployed were also spread across much of **Victoria**, with percentages above 4% in Central Goldfields Balance (4.9%) and - Maryborough (4.2%), Loddon - South (4.9%), Yarra Ranges - Part B (4.8%), Yarriambiack - South (4.3%) and - North (4.2%), and Northern Grampians - St Arnaud (4.1%). Very few areas had proportions in the lowest category mapped.

SLAs in **Queensland** with the highest percentages of the population with these characteristics were largely located around Brisbane, and in a group to the south of Cairns. The five highest rates in Australia were recorded in Tara and Kolan (both 7.5%), Nanango (6.9%), Mount Morgan (located south of Cairns, 6.5%) and Hervey Bay - Part B (6.4%). Rates of 4% or more (in areas with more than 20 people in this category) were also recorded in Woocoo and Wondai (both 5.9%), Biggenden (5.5%), Tiara (5.2%), Hervey Bay - Part A (4.7%), Maryborough and Miriam Vale (4.6%), Isis (4.5%), Kilkivan

(4.4%), Cherbourg (4.3%), Cooloola (excluding Gympie) and Laidley (4.2%), Rosalie - Part B and Herberton (4.1%), and Esk (4.0%). As shown in the map, many of the central and far western areas of the State had low proportions.

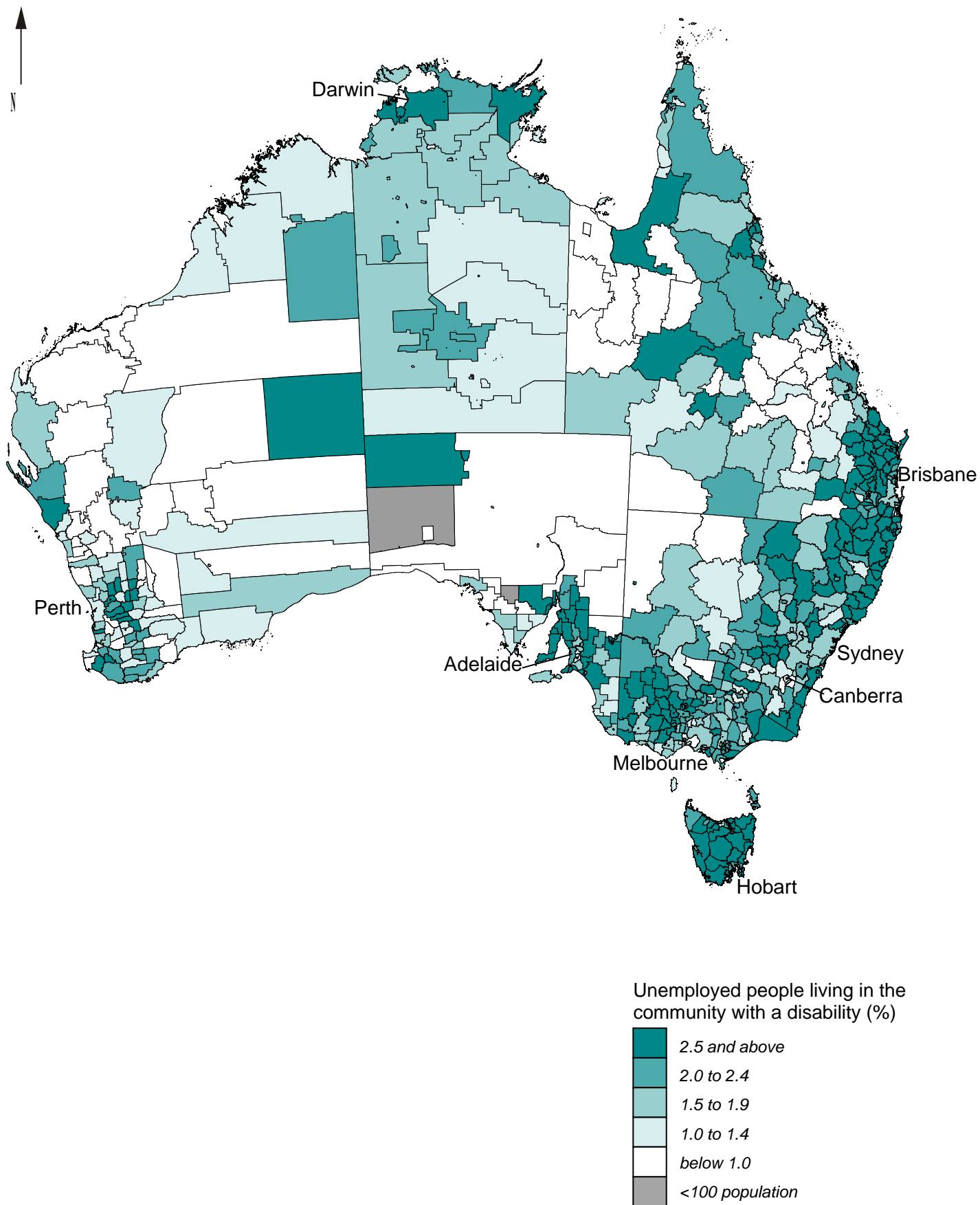
The proportion of the population with a profound or severe disability who were unemployed and lived in the non-metropolitan areas of **South Australia** was highest in the mid-north, and on the Yorke and Fleurieu Peninsulas, in particular in the SLAs of Peterborough (6.0%), Port Pirie City Districts - City (4.3%), Copper Coast (4.2%) and Goyder (4.0%). The lowest percentages were in SLAs in the far north (other than a rate of 2.6% in Anangu Pitjantjatjara), in the north-east, and in parts of Eyre Peninsula.

There were low proportions of the population with these characteristics across most of non-metropolitan **Western Australia**, with the highest proportions in SLAs located in the south-west. Of areas with more than 20 people in this category, the highest rates were in the SLAs of Kellerberrin (4.2%), Beverley (3.9%), Brookton (3.5%) and Nannup (3.3%).

With the greatest proportion of the population with these characteristics in the non-metropolitan areas, the majority of the SLAs in **Tasmania** were mapped in the highest range (2.5% and above). The largest proportions were in Tasman (6.2%), Break O'Day (5.3%), Central Highlands (5.2%), Derwent Valley - Part B (4.5%), George Town - Part A (4.2%), Waratah/Wynyard - Part A (3.7%), Kentish (3.6%) and Huon Valley (3.5%).

Overall, few SLAs in the **Northern Territory** had high proportions of the population with a profound or severe disability who were unemployed. The highest proportions were in the small Indigenous communities of Angurugu and Marngarr (both 3.4%, with 6 and 18 people, respectively, in this category), and in East Arnhem - Balance (3.4%) nearby. High rates were also recorded in SLAs near to Darwin, in Cox-Finnis (3.2%, 11 people), South Alligator (2.8%, 15) and Coomalie (2.7%, 18).

Map 20: People aged 15 to 59 years and living in the community who have a profound or severe disability and are not employed, Australia, 2011
 per cent by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on data from ABS 2011 Census

People with long-term mental health problems who are unemployed, capital cities

Employment plays a critical role in the life and recovery of people with experience of mental illness; and offers an opportunity to improve levels of confidence, social status and identity, and in some cases, clinical improvement.⁶⁸ However, accessing and maintaining employment can be difficult, especially without supportive work environments; and people with experience of mental illness are more likely to be unemployed when they have lower education levels, and where they also suffer from additional disabilities.^{68,69}

Indicator definition: Estimated population aged 20 to 59 years who reported having current long-term mental and behavioural disorders and who are unemployed, expressed as an age-standardised rate per 1,000 population; further details of these estimates are in Appendix B.

Table 22: Estimated population aged 20 to 59 years with long-term mental health problems, who are unemployed, by capital city, 2007-08

Age-standardised rate per 1,000 population

Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Total
5.4	6.2	5.1	8.8	6.0	4.8	6.2	3.0	5.9

Capital cities

The highest rate of people aged 20 to 59 years reporting long-term mental health problems and who were unemployed was estimated for Adelaide, and the lowest for Canberra.

The inner city SLAs of Sydney - Inner (11.8 per 1,000 population), - East (11.4), - West (9.8) and - South (8.8), and Waverley (8.3), were estimated to have the highest rates of people with these characteristics in **Sydney**. The lowest rates were largely evident on the north shore, in Ku-ring-gai, Baulkham Hills - South and - Central, and Hornsby - North and - South.

In **Melbourne**, more than 9 people per 1,000 population in the SLAs of Mornington Peninsula - South (12.3 per 1,000 population), Yarra Ranges - North (11.2), Cardinia - South (10.9), Port Phillip West (9.2) and Yarra Ranges Central (9.0), were estimated to have a mental health problem and to be unemployed. Inner and middle suburbs to the east, north-east and south-east had the lowest rates.

In **Brisbane**, the highest rates of the population aged 20 to 59 years with mental health problems and who were unemployed were estimated for the outer SLAs of Bribie Island (17.4 per 1,000 population), Redland Balance (16.7) and Caboolture - Hinterland (10.4). Apart from City/Spring Hill and New Farm, the next highest rates were in middle and outer suburbs. The lowest rates were generally confined to areas in the inner region, just north or south of the Brisbane River.

Reflecting the overall high rate in **Adelaide**, all SLAs, other than Adelaide Hills - Central, were mapped in the top three ranges. The highest rates were estimated for the Playford SLAs of - Elizabeth (14.0 per 1,000 population), - West Central (12.6), - Hills (11.1) and - West (11.0); the

Port Adelaide Enfield SLAs of - Park (12.3), - Port (11.6) and - Inner (10.6); Charles Sturt - North-East (11.2) in the north-west; and Onkaparinga - North Coast (11.6) in the outer south.

The highest rates in **Perth** were estimated for Perth - Inner (13.5 per 1,000 population) and - Remainder (11.4), with other high rates in outer-suburban SLAs including Rockingham, Serpentine-Jarrahdale and Kwinana. Excluding areas with no people with these characteristics (Peppermint Grove and Fremantle - Inner), the lowest rates were in Joondalup - South, Melville, Nedlands, Cambridge, Canning and Claremont.

In **Hobart**, the highest rates were estimated for Derwent Valley - Part A (7.6 per 1,000 population), Brighton (6.8), Glenorchy (6.2) and Sorell Part A (5.7), and the lowest were in Kingborough - Part A (3.4).

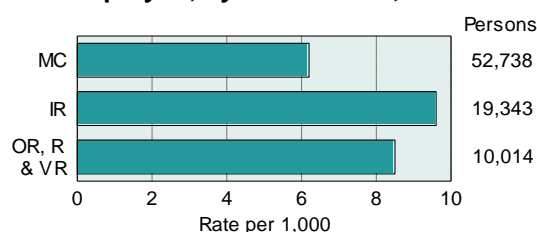
Litchfield - Part B (8.3), Darwin South West (7.4), Palmerston (6.5) and Darwin North West (5.4) had the highest estimated rates in **Darwin**.

Canberra Central and South were the only grouped SLAs estimated to have rates above the lowest range (four or more people per 1,000 population).

Remoteness

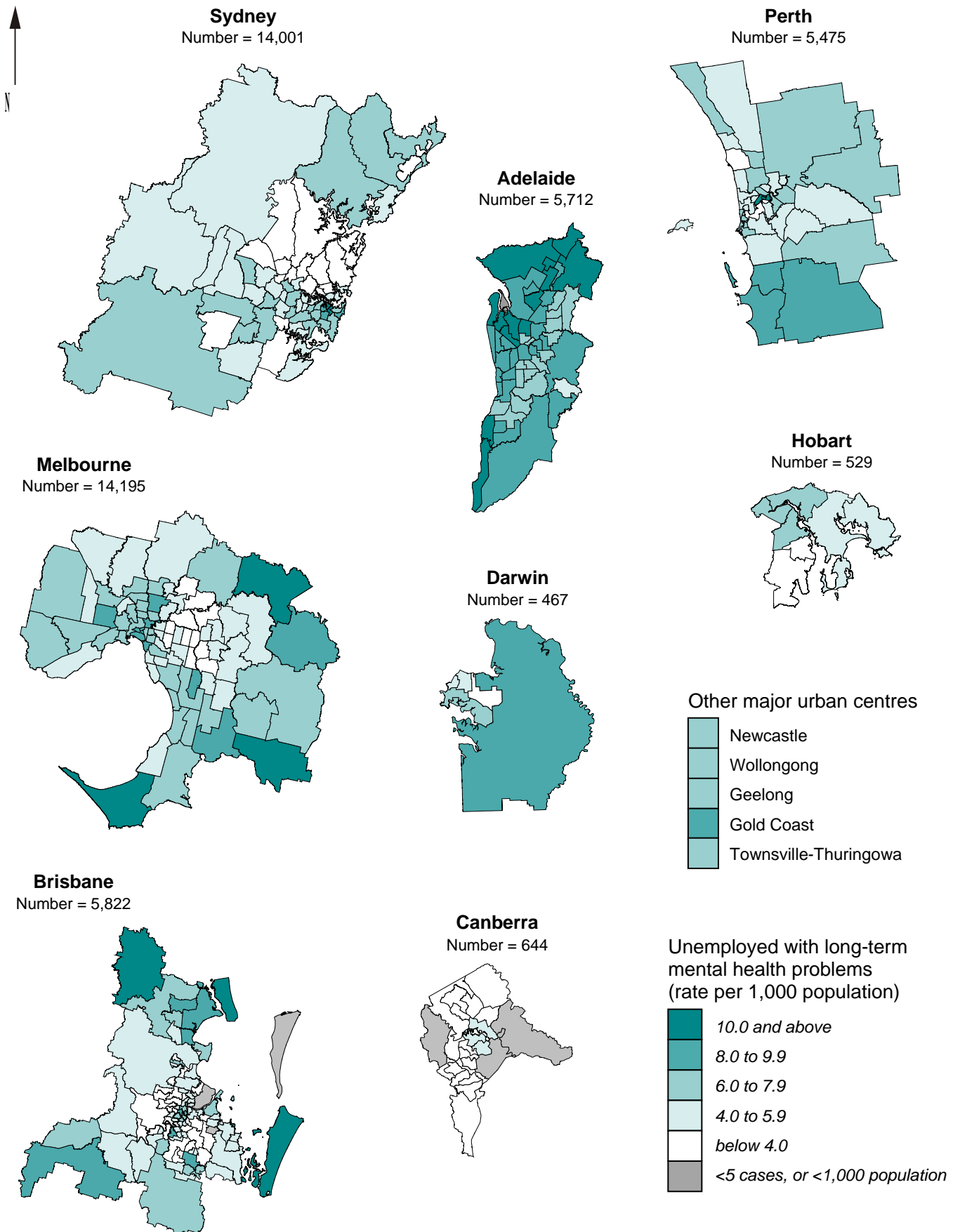
Rates were higher in areas outside of the Major Cities remoteness class.

Figure 15: Estimated population aged 20 to 59 years with mental health problems, who are unemployed, by remoteness, 2007-08



Map 21: Estimated population aged 20 to 59 years with long-term mental health problems, who are unemployed, major urban centres, 2007-08

standardised rate per 1,000 population by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on unpublished data supplied by ABS (provided as a consultancy)

People with long-term mental health problems who are unemployed, Australia

Notes: These estimates were not made for the most remote areas of Australia. This is of particular relevance to the Northern Territory; as a result totals are not available for the Northern Territory. See comments on previous text page for other details of this indicator. 'Non-metropolitan' refers to the area of the State or Territory outside of the capital city. 'Total' refers to the whole State or Territory.

Table 23: Estimated population aged 20 to 59 years with long-term mental health problems, who are unemployed, by State/ Territory, Australia, 2007-08

Age-standardised rate per 1,000 population

Area	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total
Non-metropolitan ¹	8.7	9.9	9.2	14.3	12.5	6.7	9.5
Total ¹	6.5	7.0	7.2	10.1	7.4	5.9	..	3.0	7.0

¹ Estimates have not been made for SLAs in the remote areas of Australia: the 'Non-metropolitan' and 'Total' figures do not therefore represent the entire population of these areas. See Appendix B for further details.

Non-metropolitan areas

The highest rates of the population aged 20 to 59 years reporting long-term mental health problems and who were unemployed were estimated for the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia and Western Australia; the lowest rate was in Tasmania. Rates in all the non-metropolitan areas were estimated to be higher than those in the capital cities.

SLAs in the north of non-metropolitan **New South Wales**, on the coast in Nambucca (17.1), Clarence Valley - Coast (14.7) and Balance (15.1), Great Lakes (14.7); and inland, in Walgett (14.2) and Brewarrina (14.0) had the highest rates of the population with these characteristics, with a similar rate in Eurobodalla (14.0). Lower rates were estimated for SLAs across much of the State.

In non-metropolitan **Victoria**, the highest rates of long-term mental health problems and unemployment were estimated for the SLAs of Central Goldfields Balance (17.5 per 1,000 population), and Pyrenees - North (14.1), to the north-west of Melbourne; East Gippsland - Orbost (15.2) and Balance (14.3), in the east of the State; and Bass Coast Balance (14.9) and Philip Island (14.0), Wellington - Alberton (14.3), and South Gippsland - East (14.1), in the south-east. The lowest rates were in SLAs in and around Geelong.

Many of the more remote areas of non-metropolitan **Queensland** were not mapped for this variable. Of those mapped, the highest rates were estimated for Cook (18.7 per 1,000 population) and Herberton (17.4) in the far north, and further south in Mount Morgan (16.4), Hervey Bay - Part B (16.4), Miriam Vale (16.0), Kolan (15.6) and Tiaro (15.3). The lowest rates were estimated for a group of SLAs covering an area from Roma to Belyando; as well as a number of SLAs closer to Brisbane, and on the Gold Coast.

Many of the SLAs in the non-metropolitan areas of **South Australia**, for which data were available, were estimated to have rates above 14 people per 1,000 population, with rates as high as 20 per 1,000 population estimated for the SLAs of Robe (23.3), Alexandrina - Coast (21.5), Flinders Ranges (21.3), Victor Harbor (21.1), Peterborough (20.8), and Yankalilla (20.4): these are the highest rates in Australia. Roxby Downs, with a rate of 7.8 people per 10,000 population, was the only SLA mapped in the lowest range.

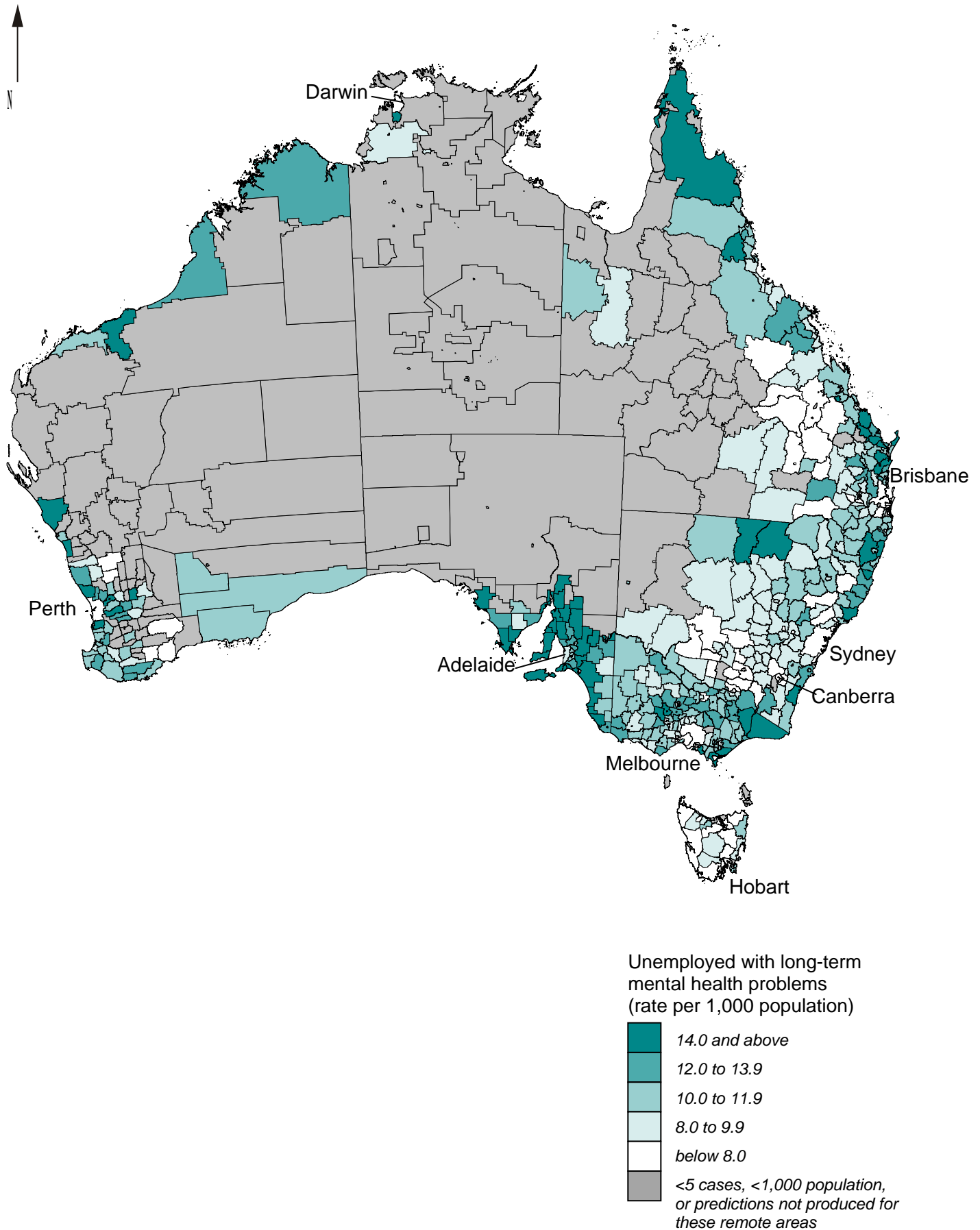
The highest rates of the population in the non-metropolitan areas of **Western Australia** with long-term mental health problems and who were unemployed, were estimated for SLAs in the south-west of the State (Kellerberrin (17.0 people per 10,000 population), Gingin (16.6), Murray (14.9) Beverley (14.7), Northam (14.5) and Mandurah (14.0)) and further north, in Irwin (15.0) and Northampton (14.7), and Port Hedland (16.1). The SLAs of Wongan-Ballidu and Dalwallinu, just north-east of Perth; and Gnowangerup, Lake Grace, and Jerramungup, in the outer south, had the lowest rates.

There were generally small numbers of people with these characteristics across non-metropolitan **Tasmania**, with the lowest rates estimated for Meander Valley - Part A, Launceston - Part C and - Part B, West Tamar - Part A, and Northern Midlands - Part A. Although still relatively low, the highest rates, just above 10 people per 1,000, were estimated for Break O'Day (10.8), Tasman (10.5) and Kentish (10.1).

Of the nine areas mapped in the non-metropolitan areas of the **Northern Territory**, the highest rates were estimated for the SLAs of Coomalie (18.3 per 1,000 population), Jabiru (10.6), and Katherine (9.4), with lower rates in the Alice Springs SLAs of - Ross (6.0), - Larapinta (6.1), and - Charles (6.7).

Map 22: Estimated population aged 20 to 59 years with long-term mental health problems, who are unemployed, Australia, 2007-08

standardised rate per 1,000 population by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on unpublished data supplied by ABS (produced as a consultancy)

Prevalence of psychological distress, capital cities

People who gave responses in the 2007-08 National Health Survey which resulted in them being assessed as having 'high' or 'very high' psychological distress under the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K-10), as distinct from 'low' or 'moderate', are reported here. Based on previous research, a high or very high K-10 score may indicate a need for professional mental health care.⁷¹

Indicator definition: Estimated population aged 18 years and over assessed as having a high or very high level of psychological stress as indicated by the K-10, expressed as a percentage (age-standardised); further details of these estimates are in Appendix B.

Table 24: Estimated population aged 18 years and over with high/ very high psychological distress, by capital city, 2007-08

Per cent (age-standardised rate per 100 population)

Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Total
12.0	12.1	11.8	12.3	9.9	9.4	10.8	10.0	11.7

Capital cities

The estimated prevalence of high/very high psychological distress, as indicated by the K-10, varies across the capital cities, with the highest rates in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. In each of the cities, the distribution of this population group reflects the pattern of socioeconomic disadvantage.

In **Sydney**, rates of above 12% were estimated for SLAs located in a band, from Botany Bay in the east to Penrith - East in the west, and south to Campbelltown - South. The highest rates were estimated for Parramatta - South (16.8%), Bankstown - North-East (16.7%), and Fairfield - East (16.6%); and the lowest for Ku-ring-gai (6.9%), Mosman (8.4%), and Hornsby - North (8.5%).

SLAs in **Melbourne** with the highest rates were largely located to the north and west of the city centre, including Hume - Broadmeadows (18.0%), Whittlesea - South-West (16.3%) and Brimbank - Sunshine (16.1%); with similar rates in Greater Dandenong - Dandenong (15.8%) and Balance (14.6 %) to the south-east. The lowest rates were in SLAs to the east, south-east and north-east.

The highest rates in **Brisbane** were estimated for Stretton-Karawatha/Kingston (16.5%), Redland Balance (16.1%) and Darra-Sumner/Wacol (16.0%), Loganlea (15.3%) and Marsden (15.2%), in the south; and Caboolture Central (15.2%) and Deception Bay (15.1%) in the north. Rates above the city average were also in these areas, other than for a few inner-city SLAs, south of the river. The lowest rates were in inner and middle suburbs to the east and west of the city.

Areas with the highest rates of high/very high psychological distress in **Adelaide** were Playford - Elizabeth (18.0%) and - West Central (16.9%) in the outer north; Port Adelaide Enfield - Park (17.2%, - Port (15.7%), and - Inner (15.3%) in the north-west; and Onkaparinga - North Coast

(15.4%) in the outer south. Low rates were estimated for SLAs to the east, south and south-east of the city.

Compared to the other capital cities, **Perth** had a relatively low prevalence of high/very high psychological distress. The highest rates were estimated for Perth - Inner (13.7%), Kwinana (12.4%), Stirling - Central (12.1%), and Wanneroo - South (11.8%). The lowest rates were estimated for the inner city areas of Peppermint Grove, Nedlands, Cambridge and Cottesloe.

Although **Hobart** had the lowest overall rate of high/very psychological distress, considerable variation in rates was still evident, ranging from 7.5% in Kingborough - Part A, to over 10% in Brighton (12.6%), Derwent Valley part A (12.0%), Glenorchy (11.4%) and Sorell (10.4%).

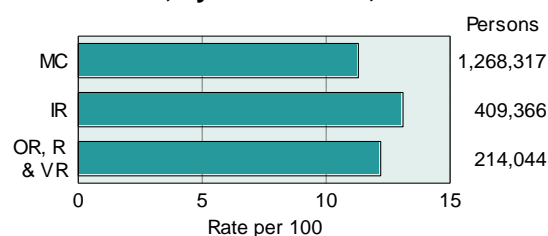
In **Darwin**, rates were highest in Palmerston (11.6%); a little lower in Litchfield - Part B (11.1%), Darwin South West (10.9%) and Darwin North West (10.8%); and lowest in Litchfield - Part A (8.7%) and Darwin North East (9.9%).

Rates were consistent across **Canberra**, with most SLA groups mapped in the second lowest range, other than for Eastern Fringe, which had the highest estimated rate (13.8 %).

Remoteness

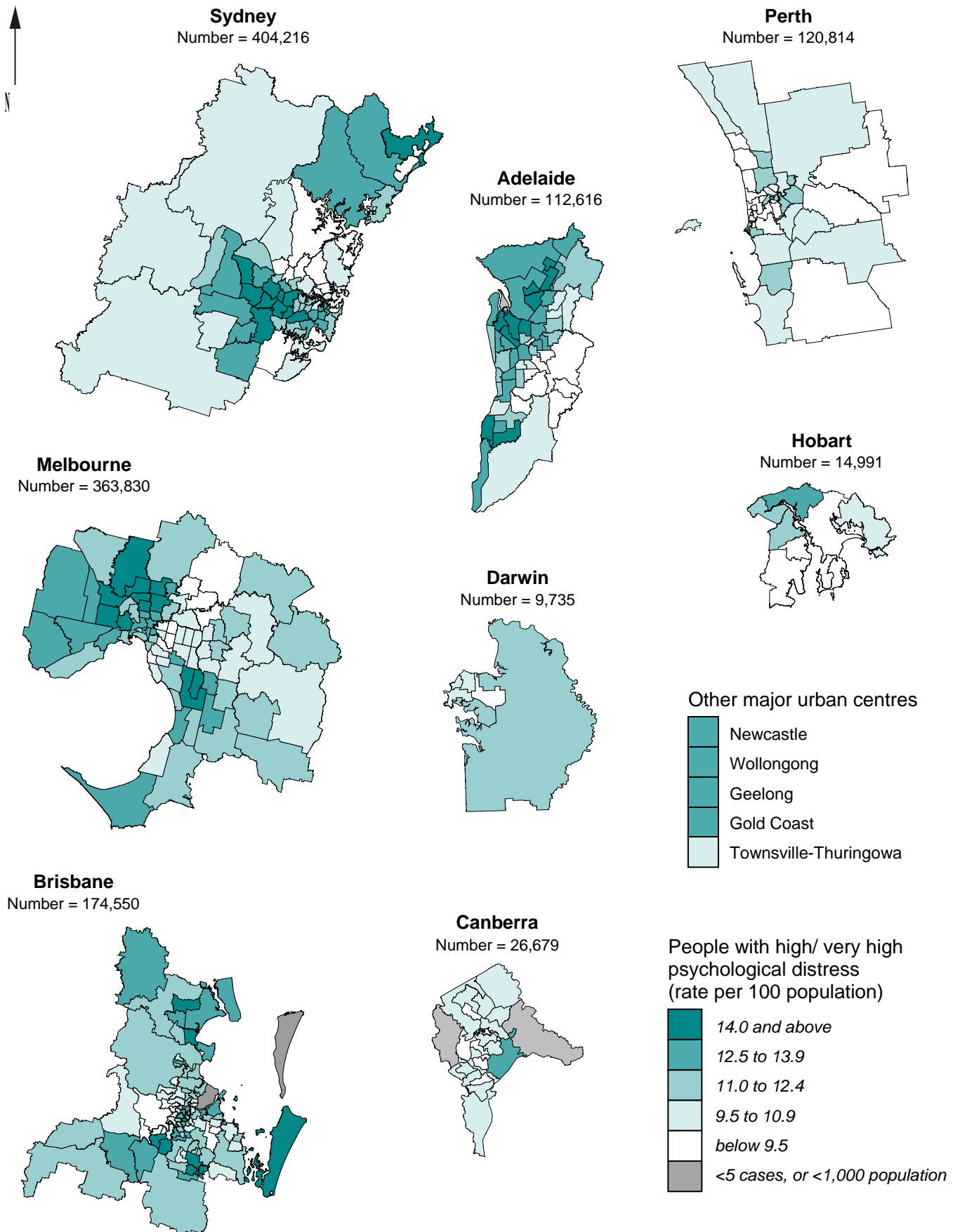
Rates of high/very high psychological distress were somewhat higher in remoteness classes outside of the Major Cities.

Figure 16: Estimated population aged 18 years and over with high/ very high psychological distress, by remoteness, 2007-08



Map 23: Estimated population aged 18 years and over with high/ very high psychological distress, major urban centres, 2007–08

standardised rate per 100 population by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on unpublished data supplied by ABS (produced as a consultancy)

Prevalence of psychological distress, Australia

Notes: These estimates were not made for the most remote areas of Australia. This is of particular relevance to the Northern Territory; as a result, totals are not available for the Northern Territory. See comments on previous text page for other details of this indicator. 'Non-metropolitan' refers to the area of the State or Territory outside of the capital city. 'Total' refers to the whole State or Territory.

Table 25: Estimated population aged 18 years and over with high/ very high psychological distress, by State/ Territory, Australia, 2007-08

Per cent (age-standardised rate per 100 population)

Area	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Total
Non-metropolitan ¹	12.3	11.7	11.9	11.5	9.7	10.6	11.8
Total ¹	12.1	12.0	11.9	12.1	9.9	10.1	..	10.0	11.7

¹ Estimates have not been made for SLAs in the remote areas of Australia: the 'Non-metropolitan' and 'Total' figures do not therefore represent the entire population of these areas. See Appendix B for further details.

Non-metropolitan areas

There is little difference in the estimated prevalence of high/very high psychological distress, as indicated by the K-10, between the metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas of Australia, with the largest difference in Tasmania.

In non-metropolitan **New South Wales**, the highest rates were in SLAs located along the coast, and inland in the north of the State, with rates above 14% estimated for Brewarrina (15.2%), Walgett (14.7%), Kempsey (14.4%), Nambucca (14.3%) and Tweed - Tweed Heads (14.2%) and - Tweed Coast (14.1%). The lowest rates were estimated for SLAs in the south of the State.

Three main areas were estimated to have above-average prevalence of high/very high psychological distress in **Victoria**: one to the north-west of Melbourne, another in the east of the State and the third in and around Geelong. The highest rate was estimated for Corio - Inner (14.3%), with slightly lower rates in Geelong, Geelong West and Bellarine Inner; Central Goldfields - Maryborough and Balance (both 14.1%) and Bendigo Eaglehawk had the highest rates in this cluster of SLAs; as did Latrobe - Morwell (13.7%) and - Moe (13.6%) in the east. Areas with the lowest rates were evident across the State.

A group of SLAs along the coast, from Brisbane to south of Mackay (including Mount Morgan (17.4%), Hervey Bay - Part B (16.1%), Kolan (15.8%) and Nanango (15.0%)); and another, in the far north of **Queensland** (Cook (15.6%) and Herberton (15.0%)), were characterised by high rates of high/very high psychological distress. Low rates were mainly concentrated in an area from Belyando and Nebo, to Balonne and Waggamba on the southern border. Data are not shown for much of inland Queensland, as the estimates were not considered to be reliable.

No data were available for many SLAs in **South Australia**, which have small populations, or are considered to be remote. The highest rates were estimated for adults living in the towns of Peterborough (16.3%), Port Pirie (14.2%), Whyalla (13.7%), and Port Augusta (13.5%) and Murray Bridge (13.3%). Roxby Downs and Kimba had the lowest rates; and a number of areas around Adelaide and in the south-east also had low rates.

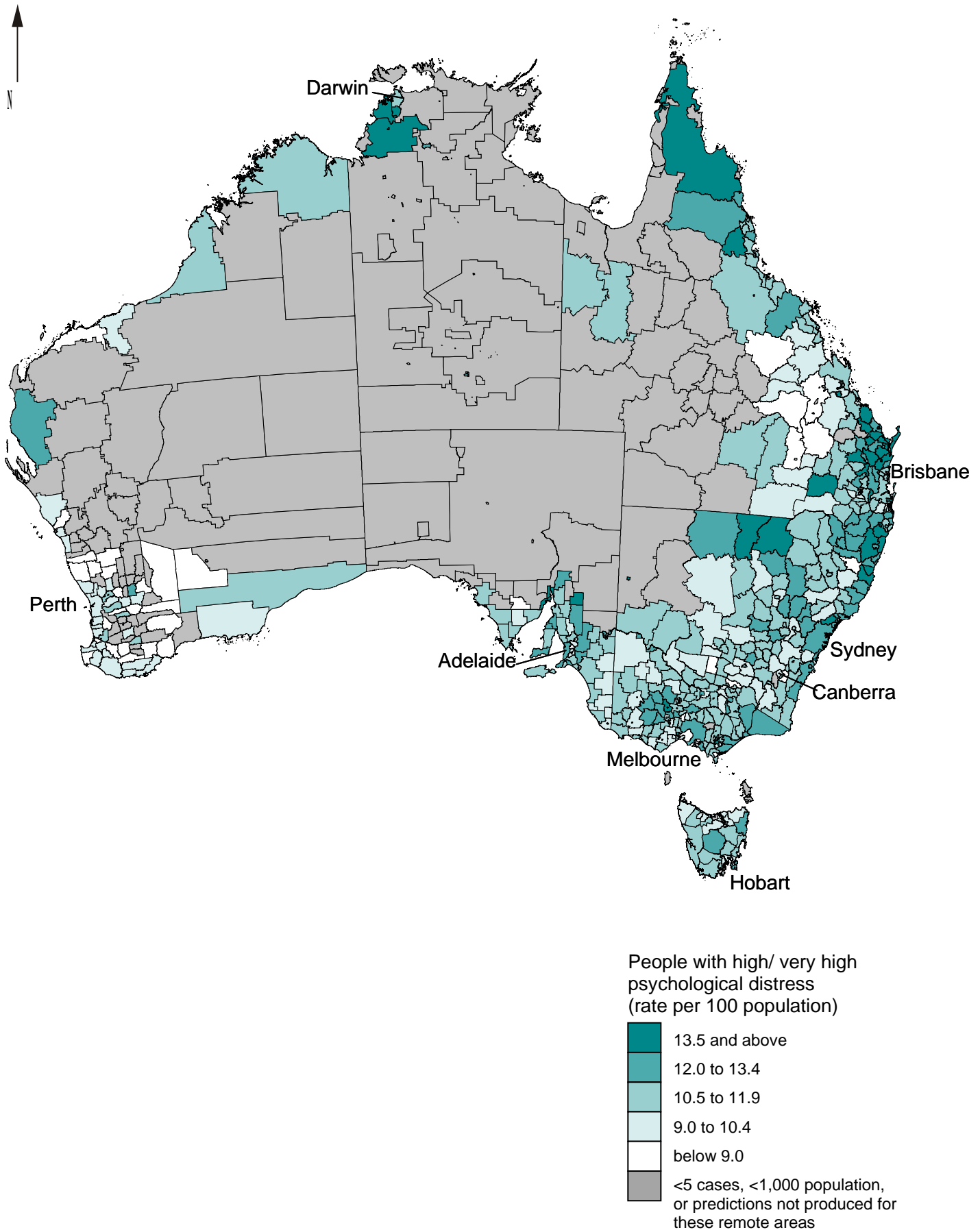
Rates were relatively low across the non-metropolitan areas of **Western Australia**, with the highest in Carnarvon and Kellerberrin (both 12.1%). Other relatively high rates were recorded in SLAs in Broome and Wyndham-East Kimberley in the far north, in Geraldton and in numerous SLAs in the south-west, where many of the lowest rates were also evident. Again, estimates were not produced for many areas.

In non-metropolitan **Tasmania**, the prevalence of high/very high psychological distress ranged from 8.8% in Meander Valley - Part A to 12.8% in Break O'Day. Higher rates were generally estimated for SLAs on the north (George Town - Part A (12.3%)) and south-west coast (Tasman (12.1%)), as well as in central Tasmania (Central Highlands (12.1%) and Southern Midlands (11.8%).

Coomalie (14.7%), Daly (14.5%), Alice Springs - Stuart (13.2%) and Katherine (12.7%) had the highest rates of the very few SLAs in the non-metropolitan areas of **Northern Territory** for which estimates could be made. Prevalence rates below the non-metropolitan average were estimated for Jabiru (with a rate of 10.1%) and the Alice Springs SLAs of - Ross (10.9%) and - Larapinta (11.4%).

Map 24: Estimated population aged 18 years and over with high/ very high psychological distress, Australia, 2007–08

standardised rate per 100 population by Statistical Local Area/ Statistical Local Area group



Source: Compiled in PHIDU based on unpublished data supplied by ABS (provided as a consultancy)

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