

2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey Data Tables

Version 1.01, release date January 2026

Explanatory notes and definitions of regions and groups reported

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1. Introduction

This document provides explanatory notes for users of the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey (RWS) Data Tables, and definitions of the regions and groups that are reported in the Data Tables.

Each measure is reported on a separate tab, with a ‘contents’ tab that can be used to direct you to the measure you are interested in. The data can be sorted in any way that is suitable (for example, by state, or by type of region or group).

Information about the Regional Wellbeing Survey and the data we collect is available at www.regionalwellbeing.org.au.

2. Explanatory notes

The data in the data table spreadsheet were produced from the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey.

The *2022 RWS Data Tables* can be accessed via our website at:

<https://www.regionalwellbeing.org.au/the-data-tables/>.

2.1 How to use the 2022 Data Tables

The 2022 RWS Data Tables are presented in an excel spreadsheet, with each measure reported on a separate tab at the bottom of the excel screen. The following tabs are included:

- Cover tab
- Short explanatory notes tab explaining where this document can be found
- Contents tab containing links to each of the different measures reported
- Total respondents tab reports the total number of people who completed the 2022 RWS for each region/group reported. Note that not all questions were asked of each respondent, and not all respondents answered every question presented to them. Total responses for each individual measure reported is therefore different.
- Each measure is then reported on a separate tab

Each data tab includes the region or group being reported, the type of region or group being reported, and the relevant state or territory that the region or groups being reported is from. The measure being reported is described at the top of the sheet, and the results are presented as a mean (average) score as well as a proportion (%) of the total respondents. The total number of responses for each group being reported for each measure is also included.

2.2 Data use and permissions

You may reproduce the data in the 2022 RWS Data Tables spreadsheet for any purpose, providing you acknowledge the data source. Data should be cited as being sourced from the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey Data Tables, version 1.01, January 2026.

2.3 Representativeness and reliability of the data

The data presented in the Data Tables spreadsheet are from a survey of adult residents of Australia. All surveys have some bias in the responses they receive. The 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey data have, except where otherwise noted, been weighted to adjust for differences between demographics observed in the sample and known benchmarks taken from the 2016 and 2021 (where available) Census of Population and Housing. The weighting procedure used was the ‘Rake Weights’ procedures in the IBM SPSS Statistics 27 software package. Data for the general Australian population were weighted by the following characteristics: (i) gender, (ii) age, (iii) whether the respondent was a farmer or non-farmer, and (iv) geographic region. Data for the Australian farming

population were weighted by the following characteristics: (i) gender, (ii) age, (iii) geographic region and (iv) Agricultural industry category.

The Regional Wellbeing Survey 'Wellbeing, Resilience and Liveability in Regional Australia' report, downloadable from the 'findings – reports' section of our website, includes a more detailed discussion of reliability of the survey data, which should be referred to when interpreting the data in this spreadsheet.

2.3.1 Caution about small sample sizes

While weighting has addressed key sources of survey response bias, it is likely that some response bias remains. Confidence in the representativeness of data is highest when there are larger sample sizes. Where the number of people who answered a question is low - particularly where it is below 100 - data should be considered less reliable. Responses for groups where less than 50 people responded have been removed.

2.3.2 Confidence Intervals

Data in these Data Tables are presented with 95% confidence intervals. A confidence interval is a measure of how confident we can be in the results. It tells us the boundaries between which the response of a given item would be 95% likely to fall if the survey was repeated multiple times with a similar sample. In general, confidence is higher if there is a large sample size and little deviation in responses.

2.4 Reporting survey questions for different regions

Sometimes data are reported for larger regions, but not smaller regions. This is done when the number of responses to a survey question was small, and as a result there are not enough responses to break them down into small regions. This usually occurs for questions that were not asked of all survey participants, or for regions in which a smaller number of survey responses were received. Where this occurs, the number of responses is recorded in the Data Tables, but no actual data is displayed (cells are blank).

3. About the regions

3.1 Australia

Australia includes all of Australia, including all of the major cities. In total, 16243 people from Australia took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional Australia

Regional Australia includes all of Australia except the cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth and Canberra. In total 11559 people from regional Australia took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Urban Australia

Urban Australia includes the cities and surrounding suburban areas of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth and Canberra. In total, 4348 people from these cities took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

3.2 States and Territories

The total number of people that participated in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey from each state and territory, as well as the total responses from regional areas and urban areas of each state/territory, are reported for each measure.

New South Wales

New South Wales (NSW) includes all of NSW including the large metropolitan areas of Sydney and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 6046 people from NSW took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional New South Wales includes all of NSW except the large metropolitan areas of Sydney and surrounding suburban areas. The Metropolitan areas of Sydney and surrounding suburbs are reported as urban New South Wales. In total, 4379 people who live in regional NSW and 1655 who live in urban NSW took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Victoria

Victoria (Vic) includes all of Victoria including the large metropolitan areas of Melbourne and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 5078 people from Victoria took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional Victoria includes all of Victoria except the large metropolitan areas of Melbourne and surrounding suburban areas. The Metropolitan areas of Melbourne and surrounding suburbs are reported as urban Victoria. In total, 4024 people who live in regional Victoria and 1045 who live in urban VIC took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Queensland

Queensland (Qld) includes all of Queensland including the large metropolitan areas of Brisbane and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 1565 people from Queensland took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional Queensland includes all of Queensland except the large metropolitan areas of Brisbane and surrounding suburban areas. The Metropolitan areas of Brisbane and surrounding suburbs are reported as urban Queensland. In total, 781 people who live in regional Queensland and 780 who live in urban Queensland took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

South Australia

South Australia (SA) includes all of SA including the large metropolitan areas of Adelaide and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 1174 people from SA took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional South Australia includes all of SA except the large metropolitan areas of Adelaide and surrounding suburban areas. The Metropolitan areas of Adelaide and surrounding suburbs are reported as urban South Australia. In total, 806 people who live in regional SA and 364 who live in urban SA took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Western Australia

Western Australia (WA) includes all of WA including the large metropolitan areas of Perth and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 985 people from WA took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional Western Australia includes all of WA except the large metropolitan areas of Perth and surrounding suburban areas. The Metropolitan areas of Perth and surrounding suburbs are reported

as urban Western Australia. In total, 608 people who live in regional WA and 370 who live in urban WA took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Tasmania

Tasmania (Tas) includes all of Tasmania including the city of Hobart and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 807 people from Tasmania took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Northern Territory

Northern Territory (NT) includes all of NT including the city of Darwin and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 165 people from NT took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

Australian Capital Territory (ACT) includes all of ACT including the city of Canberra and surrounding rural areas. In total, 134 people from ACT took part in the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

3.3 Remoteness

Five groups of remoteness are reported in the 2022 RWS Data Tables based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Remoteness Structure. These include:

- Major cities of Australia (4348 RWS survey respondents in 2022)
- Inner regional Australia (7921 RWS survey respondents in 2022)
- Outer regional Australia (3227 RWS survey respondents in 2022)
- Remote Australia (318 RWS survey respondents in 2022)
- Very remote Australia (93 RWS survey respondents in 2022)

These classes of remoteness are classified on the bases of relative access to services, measured using the Accessibility and Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+) and published by the ABS. For more information see:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/D964E42C5DF5B6D4CA257B03000D7ECB?opendocument>.

3.4 Regional Development Areas (RDAs)

A Regional Development Area is an Australian Government initiative bringing together all levels of government to enhance the development of Australia's regions. A network of RDA committees has been established across Australia to achieve this objective, and are created and maintained by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

Several Regional Development Areas (RDAs) are reported in the 2022 RWS Data Tables. These RDA boundaries are based on 2016 definitions, built from the ABS LGA/PSMA 2015 boundary dataset. More information can be found at <https://data.gov.au/data/dataset/rda-2015-16>. Where an RDA name changed between 2016 and 2022, the 2022 name is used.

A description of each of the RDAs reported in the RWS Data Tables can be found in Table 1. Where there were too few responses from an individual RDA, it was grouped with one or more neighbouring RDAs. In total, 40 individual RDAs across Australia were reported, 5 were reported individually as well as part of a larger group, and 8 were reported as part of a larger group only.

Table 1 Regional Development Areas (RDAs)

RDA	State/ Territory	Total responses in 2022	LGAs located in this RDA (note that in the 2022 RWS, responses were achieved from the majority of LGAs listed, but not from all)
Central Coast and Hunter (RDAs grouped)	NSW	164	Central Coast, Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter Shire
Central West	NSW	382	Bathurst Regional, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Lithgow, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Weddin
Far West and Orana (RDAs grouped)	NSW	201	Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Cobar, Coonamble, Dubbo Regional, Gilgandra, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Unincorporated NSW, Walgett, Warren, Warrumbungle Shire, Western Plains Regional
Hunter	NSW	568	Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter Shire
Illawarra Shoalhaven (RDAs grouped)	NSW	253	Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Wollongong
Mid North Coast	NSW	558	Bellingen, Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Nambucca, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Mid-Coast
Murray	NSW	212	Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Edward River, Federation, Greater Hume Shire, Murray River, Wentworth
Northern Inland	NSW	333	Armidale Regional, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Narrabri, Tamworth Regional, Tenterfield, Uralla, Walcha
Northern Rivers	NSW	384	Ballina, Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley, Tweed
Orana	NSW	185	Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Coonamble, Dubbo Regional, Gilgandra, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Walgett, Warren, Warrumbungle Shire, Western Plains Regional
Riverina	NSW	545	Bland, Carrathool, Coolamon, Griffith, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional, Hay, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Snowy Valleys, Temora, Wagga Wagga
Southern NSW and ACT	NSW	1459	Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, Goulburn Mulwaree, Hilltops, Kiama, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, Snowy Monaro Regional, Upper Lachlan Shire, Wingecarribee, Yass Valley
Sydney	NSW	975	Bayside, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Burwood, Camden, Campbelltown, Canada Bay, Canterbury-Bankstown, Cumberland, Fairfield, Georges River, Hawkesbury, Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Inner West, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Liverpool, Mosman, North Sydney, Northern Beaches, Parramatta, Penrith, Randwick, Ryde, Strathfield, Sutherland Shire, Sydney, The Hills Shire, Waverley, Willoughby, Wollondilly, Woollahra
Barwon South West	Vic	738	Colac-Otway, Corangamite, Glenelg, Greater Geelong, Moyne, Queenscliffe, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Warrnambool

RDA	State/ Territory	Total responses in 2022	LGAs located in this RDA (note that in the 2022 RWS, responses were achieved from the majority of LGAs listed, but not from all)
Gippsland	Vic	733	Bass Coast, Baw Baw, East Gippsland, Latrobe, South Gippsland and Wellington
Grampians	Vic	772	Ararat, Ballarat, Golden Plains, Hepburn, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Moorabool, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, West Wimmera, Yarriambiack
Hume	Vic	1115	Alpine, Benalla, Greater Shepparton, Indigo, Mansfield, Mitchell, Moira, Murrindindi, Strathbogie, Towong, Wangaratta, Wodonga
Loddon Mallee	Vic	896	Buloke, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Loddon, Macedon Ranges, Mildura, Mount Alexander, Swan Hill
Melbourne	Vic	813	Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara, Brimbank, Cardinia, Casey, Darebin, Frankston, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maribyrnong, Maroondah, Melbourne, Melton, Monash, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Mornington Peninsula, Nillumbik, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Whitehorse, Whittlesea, Wyndham, Yarra, Yarra Ranges
Brisbane City	Qld	272	Brisbane
Central and Western Queensland	Qld	103	Banana, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Central Highlands, Diamantina, Gladstone, Livingstone, Longreach, Rockhampton, Winton, Woorabinda
Darling Downs and South West	Qld	244	Balonne, Bulloo, Goondiwindi, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Quilpie, Southern Downs, Toowoomba, Western Downs
Gold Coast	Qld	97	Gold Coast
Ipswich and West Moreton	Qld	91	Ipswich, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim, Somerset
Logan and Redlands	Qld	80	Logan, Redlands
Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast (RDAs grouped)	Qld	291	Moreton Bay, Noosa, Sunshine Coast
Townsville and North West	Qld	86	Boulia, Burdekin, Burke, Carpentaria, Charters Towers, Cloncurry, Doomadgee, Flinders, Hinchinbrook, McKinlay, Mornington, Mount Isa, Palm Island, Richmond, Townsville
Townsville and North West and Greater Whitsunday (RDAs grouped)	Qld	134	Boulia, Burdekin, Burke, Carpentaria, Charters Towers, Cloncurry, Doomadgee, Flinders, Hinchinbrook, Isaac, Mackay, McKinlay, Mornington, Mount Isa, Palm Island, Richmond, Townsville, Whitsunday

RDA	State/ Territory	Total responses in 2022	LGAs located in this RDA (note that in the 2022 RWS, responses were achieved from the majority of LGAs listed, but not from all)
Tropical North	Qld	91	Aurukun, Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Cook, Croydon, Douglas, Etheridge, Hope Vale, Kowanyama, Lockhart River, Mapoon, Mareeba, Napranum, Northern Peninsula Area, Pormpuraaw, Tablelands, Torres, Torres Strait Island, Weipa, Wujal Wujal, Yarrabah
Wide Bay Burnett	Qld	158	Bundaberg, Cherbourg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, North Burnett, South Burnett
Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island	SA	217	Adelaide Hills, Alexandrina, Kangaroo Island, Mount Barker, Victor Harbor, Yankalilla
Adelaide Metropolitan	SA	303	Adelaide, Burnside, Campbelltown, Charles Sturt, Holdfast Bay, Marion, Mitcham, Norwood Payneham and St Peters, Onkaparinga, Playford, Port Adelaide Enfield, Prospect, Salisbury, Tea Tree Gully, Unley, Walkerville, West Torrens
Barossa, Gawler, Light and Adelaide Plains	SA	72	Adelaide Plains, Barossa, Gawler, Light, Mallala
Eyre Peninsula	SA	61	Ceduna, Cleve, Elliston, Fraklin Harbour, Kimba, Lower Eyre Peninsula, Maralinga Tjarutja, Port Lincoln, Streaky Bay, Tumby Bay, Whyalla, Wudinna
Eyre Peninsula and Far North (RDAs grouped)	SA	96	Anangu Pitjantjatjara, Ceduna, Cleve, Coober Pedy, Elliston, Flinders Ranges, Franklin Harbour, Kimba, Lower Eyre Peninsula, Maralinga Tjarutja, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln, Roxby Downs, Streaky Bay, Tumby Bay, Unincorporated SA, Whyalla, Wudinna
Limestone Coast	SA	108	Grant, Kingston, Mount Gambier, Naracoorte and Lucindale, Robe, Tatiara, Wattle Range
Murraylands and Riverland	SA	228	Berri and Barmera, Karoonda East Murray, Loxton Waikerie, Mid Murray, Murray Bridge, Renmark Paringa, Southern Mallee, The Coorong
York and Mid North	SA	144	Barunga West, Clare and Gilbert Valleys, Copper Coast, Goyder, Mount Remarkable, Northern Areas, Orroroo/Carrieton, Peterborough, Port Pirie City and Dists, Wakefield, Yorke Peninsula
Great Southern	WA	134	Albany, Broomehill-Tambellup, Cranbrook, Denmark, Gnowangerup, Jerramungup, Katanning, Kent, Kojonup, Plantagenet, Woodanilling
Kimberley, Goldfields Esperance, Mid-West Gascoyne and Pilbara (RDAs grouped)	WA	139	Asburton, Broome, Carnamah, Carnarvon, Chapman Valley, Coolgardie, Coorow, Cue, Derby-West Kimberley, Dundas, East Pilbara, Esperance, Exmouth, Greater Geraldton, Halls Creek, Irwin, Kalgoorlie/Boulder, Karratha, Laverton, Leonora, Meekatharra, Menzies, Mingenew, Morawa, Mount Magnet, Murchison, Ngaanyatjarraku, Northampton, Perenjori, Port Headland, Ravensthorpe, Sandstone, Shark Bay, Three Springs, Upper Gascoyne, Wiluna, Wyndham-East Kimberley, Yalgoo

RDA	State/ Territory	Total responses in 2022	LGAs located in this RDA (note that in the 2022 RWS, responses were achieved from the majority of LGAs listed, but not from all)
Perth	WA	320	Armadale, Bassendean, Bayswater, Belmont, Cambridge, Canning, Claremont, Cockburn, Cottesloe, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Gosnells, Joondalup, Kalamunda, Kwinana, Melville, Mosman Park, Mundaring, Nedlands, Peppermint Cove, Perth, Rockingham, South Perth, Stirling, Subiaco, Swan, Victoria Park, Vincent, Wanneroo
Perth and Peel (RDAs grouped)	WA	371	Armadale, Bassendean, Bayswater, Belmont, Boddington, Cambridge, Canning, Claremont, Cockburn, Cottesloe, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Gosnells, Joondalup, Kalamunda, Kwinana, Mandurah, Melville, Mosman Park, Mundaring, Murray, Nedlands, Peppermint Cove, Perth, Rockingham, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, South Perth, Stirling, Subiaco, Swan, Victoria Park, Vincent, Wanneroo, Waroona
South West	WA	178	Augusta-Margaret River, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Bunbury, Busselton, Capel, Collie, Dardanup, Donnybrook-Balingup, Harvey, Manjimup, Nannup
Wheatbelt	WA	155	Beverley, Brookton, Bruce Rock, Chittering, Corrigin, Cuballing, Cunderdin, Dalwallinu, Dandaragan, Dowerin, Dumbleyung, Gingin, Goomalling, Kellerberrin, Kondinin, Koorda, Kulin, Lake Grace, Merredin, Moora, Mount Marshall, Mukinbudin, Narembeen, Narrogin, Northam, Nungarin, Pingelly, Quairading, Tammin, Toodyay, Trayning, Victoria Plains, Wagin, Wandering, West Arthur, Westonia, Wickepin, Williams, Wongan-Ballidu, Wyalkatchem, Yilgarn, York
RDA Tasmania	Tas	797	Break O'Day, Brighton, Burnie, Central Coast, Central Highlands, Circular Head, Clarence, Derwent Valley, Devonport, Dorset, Flinders, George Town, Glamorgan/Spring Bay, Glenorchy, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kentish, King Island, Kingborough, Latrobe, Launceston, Meander Valley, Northern Midlands, Sorell, Southern Midlands, Tasman, Waratah/Wynyard, West Coast, West Tamar
RDA Northern Territory	NT	164	Alice Springs, Barkly, Belyuen, Central Desert, Coomalie, Darwin, East Arnhem, Katherine, Litchfield, MacDonnell, Palmerston, Roper Gulf, Tiwi Islands, Unincorporated NT, Victoria Daly, Wagait, West Arnhem, West Daly
RDA Australian Capital Territory	ACT	131	All suburbs within the ACT including Unincorporated ACT. The territory of the ACT is a single LGA.

3.5 Local Government Areas (LGAs)

A Local Government Area (LGA) is an administrative division of a country that a local government is responsible for. In 2022 there were a total of 560 LGAs across Australia, based on the 2021 Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) edition (3) of the LGA structure. The 2021 ASGS was current as of July 2021. These ASGS LGAs are an ABS approximation of gazetted LGA boundaries, as defined by each State and Territory Local Government Department.

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/non-abs-structures.>

In the 2022 Regional Wellbeing Survey we received at least some responses from people residing in 490 of Australia's 560 LGAs. Where there were too few responses from an individual LGA, it was grouped with one or more neighbouring LGAs. We received enough responses from 85 LGAs to report them as individual LGAs. The remaining LGAs are reported as part of a larger group. We report a total of 76 grouped LGA categories (some of which include an LGA that is also reported individually). When LGAs are reported as a group, the individual LGAs that make up that group are typically included in the name of that group, or exclusions are specified. There are, however, some grouped LGAs where this approach would lead to a long and unwieldy name – typically where a large urban area consisting of a relatively large number of LGAs is reported. In these cases, a short, representative name is used and a reference to this document is appended. Please see Table 2 below for the full details of the contents of these exceptional aggregations of LGAs.

Table 2. Exceptional aggregated LGAs

Grouped LGA name	State	Total responses in 2022	Constituent LGAs
Central & Eastern Sydney (grouped LGAs)	NSW	264	Bayside (A), Burwood (A), Canada Bay (A), Georges River (A), Inner West (A), Randwick (A), Strathfield (A), Sutherland (A), Sutherland Shire (A), Sydney (C), Waverley (A), and Woollahra (A).
Northern Sydney (grouped LGAs)	NSW	71	Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Northern Beaches, Ryde, Willoughby
Western Sydney (grouped LGAs)	NSW	355	Blacktown, Camden, Campbelltown (NSW), Canterbury-Bankstown, Cumberland, Fairfield, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, The Hills, Wollondilly
Eastern Melbourne (grouped LGAs)	VIC	297	Banyule (C), Boroondara (C), Knox (C), Manningham (C), Maroondah (C), Monash (C), Nillumbik (S), Whitehorse (C), Whittlesea (C), and Yarra Ranges (S).
North Western Melbourne (grouped LGAs)	VIC	220	Blacktown, Camden, Campbelltown (NSW), Canterbury-Bankstown, Cumberland, Fairfield, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, The Hills, Wollondilly
South Eastern Melbourne (grouped LGAs)	VIC	296	Bayside (C), Cardinia (S), Casey (C), Frankston (C), Glen Eira (C), Greater Dandenong (C), Kingston (C) (Vic.), Mornington Peninsula (S), Port Phillip (C), and Stonnington (C).
Perth North	WA	188	Bassendean, Bayswater, Cambridge, Claremont, Cottesloe, Joondalup, Kalamunda, Mosman Park, Mundaring, Nedlands, Peppermint Grove, Perth, Stirling, Subiaco, Swan, Vincent, Wanneroo

Perth South	WA	132	Armadale, Belmont, Canning, Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Gosnells, Kwinana, Melville, Rockingham, South Perth, Victoria Park
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3.6 Natural Resource Management regions (NRM regions)

Across Australia, a network of natural resource management (NRM) regions has been established. In each region, an NRM organisation has been established to address natural resource management issues that require landscape-scale action. Boundaries of these NRM regions change over time. The 2022 RWS Data Tables used NRM region definitions contained in the ‘Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions (2016)’ geospatial dataset available at

<https://www.environment.gov.au/fed/catalog/search/resource/details.page?uuid=c7ba56b2-29a1-4239-a1d3-e7ab069725cc>.

Where sufficient responses were achieved from an NRM region within NSW, it is reported as part of the Data Tables. Where there were too few responses from an individual NRM region, it was grouped with one or more neighbouring NRM regions. NRM regions for other states will be reported in a future version of these data tables.

An interactive map of the locations of NRM regions can be found at
<https://nrmregionsaustralia.com.au/nrm-regions-map/>.

The total number of responses achieved from different NRM regions (individual and grouped) is listed in Table 3.

Table 3 Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions

NRM region	State/ Territory	Location	Total responses in 2022
Central Tablelands	NSW	East NSW	393
Central West	NSW	Central NSW	158
Greater Sydney	NSW	East NSW	1140
Hunter	NSW	East NSW	723
Murray	NSW	South NSW	199
North Coast	NSW	North-east NSW	787
North West NSW	NSW	North NSW	155
Northern Tablelands	NSW	North NSW	188
Riverina	NSW	South NSW	652
South East NSW	NSW	South-east NSW	1597
Western	NSW	West NSW	44
Corangamite	Vic	South Vic	*
East Gippsland	Vic	East Vic	*
Glenelg Hopkins	Vic	South-west Vic	*
Goulburn Broken	Vic	North Vic	*
Mallee	Vic	North-west Vic	*
North Central	Vic	North Vic	*
North East	Vic	North Vic	*
Port Phillip and Western Port	Vic	South Vic	*
West Gippsland	Vic	East Vic	*
Wimmera	Vic	West Vic	*

NRM region	State/ Territory	Location	Total responses in 2022
Burdekin (formerly North Queensland Dry Tropics)	Qld	East Qld	*
Burnett Mary	Qld	South-east Qld	*
Cape York, Desert Channels, Northern Gulf, Southern Gulf (grouped NRM regions)	Qld	North and West Qld	*
Fitzroy, Mackay Whitsunday (grouped NRM regions)	Qld	East Qld	*
South East Queensland (formerly Healthy Land and Water)	Qld	South-east Qld	*
Southern Queensland Landscapes	Qld	South Qld	*
Wet Tropics (formerly Terrain NRM)	Qld	North-east Qld	*
Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges	SA	South SA	*
Northern and Yorke and Kangaroo Island (grouped NRM regions)	SA	South SA	*
SA Arid Lands and Eyre Peninsula (grouped NRM regions)	SA	North-east and South SA	*
South Australian Murray Darling Basin (formerly Murraylands and Riverland)	SA	East SA	*
South East (formerly Limestone Coast)	SA	South-east SA	*
Northern Agricultural	WA	West WA	*
Peel-Harvey and Perth (grouped NRM regions)	WA	South-west WA	*
Rangelands	WA	North, North-west and central WA	*
South Coast	WA	South WA	*
South West	WA	South-west WA	*
Wheatbelt	WA	Central-west WA	*
Cradle Coast	Tasmania	West Tas	*
North	Tasmania	North-east Tas	*
South	Tasmania	South-east Tas	*
Northern Territory	NT	All NT	*
ACT	ACT	All ACT	*

*: Data for these non-NSW NRM regions will be provided in a future, updated release of these data tables.

3.7 Regional Partnership Regions (Victoria)

In 2016, the Victorian Government established nine 'Regional Partnerships'. Each is made up of a region that includes several local government areas, and in which a partnership of community and business leaders has been established. For more information on Regional Partnership regions, see <https://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/regional-partnerships/partnerships>.

Table 4. Regional partnership regions

RP Region	State/Territory	Total Responses in 2022
Barwon	Vic	320
Central Highlands	Vic	500
Gippsland	Vic	734
Goulburn	Vic	474
Great South Coast	Vic	418
Loddon Campaspe	Vic	630

Mallee	Vic	266
Ovens Murray	Vic	641
Wimmera Southern Mallee	Vic	272

3.8 Murray Darling Basin (MDB)

The 2022 RWS Data Tables report responses from the Murray Darling Basin.

The 2022 RWS Data Tables reports responses from the MDB as a whole, as well as from the northern parts of the MDB (QLD and northern NSW) and the southern parts of the MDB (SA, Victoria and southern parts of NSW). The Northern and Southern Basin were defined based on the *Water resource plan areas for surface water* definitions. Under this definition, the southern basin contains: New South Wales Murray and Lower Darling, Northern Victoria, Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges, Lachlan, Victorian Murray, Wimmera-Mallee (surface water), South Australian Murray Region, South Australian River Murray, Australian Capital Territory (surface water), Murrumbidgee. The Northern Basin contains: Gwydir, Intersecting Streams, Barwon-Darling Watercourse, Condamine-Balonne, Namoi, New South Wales Border Rivers, Macquarie-Castlereagh, Queensland Border Rivers-Moonie, Warrego-Paroo-Nebine catchments.

A total of 4983 people living in the MDB responded to the 2022 RWS, including 905 from northern MDB and 4078 from southern MDB. A map of the MDB, including northern and southern parts of the MDB, can be found at <https://www.mdba.gov.au/importance-murray-darling-basin/where-basin>.

3.9 Primary Health Networks (PHNs)

Since 2020, the Data Tables include reporting for Primary Health Networks. There are 31 PHN's across Australia. Data are reported for each PHN as part of the Data Tables. These PHN's are based on the 2017 boundaries used by the National Recovery and Resilience Agency; the boundary definitions are available at <https://data.gov.au/dataset/ds-dga-ef2d28a4-1ed5-47d0-8e3a-46e25bc4f66b/details?q=phn>. To find out more about PHNs, go to <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/PHN-Home>.

Table 5 Primary Health Networks

PHN	State / Territory	Total Responses in 2022
Central and Eastern Sydney	NSW	264
Hunter New England and Central Coast	NSW	1222
Murrumbidgee	NSW	801
Nepean Blue Mountains	NSW	463
North Coast	NSW	787
Northern Sydney	NSW	71
South Eastern NSW	NSW	1383
South Western Sydney	NSW	388
Western NSW	NSW	494
Western Sydney	NSW	105
Murray	NSW/Vic	1908
Eastern Melbourne	Vic	297
Gippsland	Vic	734
North Western Melbourne	Vic	380
South Eastern Melbourne	Vic	296

PHN	State / Territory	Total Responses in 2022
Western Victoria	Vic	1512
Brisbane North	Qld	172
Brisbane South	Qld	355
Central Queensland, Wide Bay, Sunshine Coast	Qld	330
Darling Downs and West Moreton	Qld	307
Gold Coast	Qld	120
Northern Queensland	Qld	214
Western Queensland	Qld	66
Adelaide	SA	304
Country SA	SA	866
Country WA	WA	606
Perth North	WA	188
Perth South	WA	183
Tasmania	Tas	797
Northern Territory	NT	164
Australian Capital Territory	ACT	131

4. About the groups

4.1 Socio-demographic groups

Several socio-demographic groups are reported in the 2022 RWS Data Tables. Table 6 describes the groups and the responses received for each group.

Table 6 Socio-demographic groups

Socio-demographic group	Description	Total responses in 2022
Female	All 2022 RWS participants who identified as female	9123
Male	All 2022 RWS participants who identified as male	6064
Aged 18-29	All 2022 RWS participants aged 18 to 29 years old	964
Aged 30-44	All 2022 RWS participants aged 30 to 44 years old	2334
Aged 45-64	All 2022 RWS participants aged 45 to 64 years old	5058
Aged 65+	All 2022 RWS participants aged 65 years and older	6636
Aged 18-29 (Female)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as female	690
Aged 30-44 (Female)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as female	1672
Aged 45-64 (Female)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as female	3327
Aged 65+ (Female)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 65 years and older who identified as female	6636
Aged 18-29 (Male)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as male	246

Socio-demographic group	Description	Total responses in 2022
Aged 30-44 (Male)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as male	638
Aged 45-64 (Male)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as male	1680
Aged 65+ (Male)	All 2022 RWS participants aged 65 years and older who identified as male	3352
Regional Australia (female)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia who identified as female	6637
Regional Australia (male)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia who identified as male	4321
Urban Australia (female)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia who identified as female	2457
Urban Australia (male)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia who identified as male	1721
Regional Australia (aged 18-29)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 18 to 29 years old	477
Regional Australia (aged 30-44)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 30 to 44 years old	1327
Regional Australia (aged 45-64)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 45 to 64 years old	3793
Regional Australia (aged 65+)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 65 years or older	5314
Urban Australia (aged 18-29)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 18 to 29 years old	480
Urban Australia (aged 30-44)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 30 to 44 years old	997
Urban Australia (aged 45-64)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 45 to 64 years old	1250
Urban Australia (aged 65+)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 65 years or older	1293
Regional Australia (female, 18-29)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as female	355
Regional Australia (female, 30-44)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as female	1035
Regional Australia (female, 45-64)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as female	2556
Regional Australia (female, 65+)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 65 years or older who identified as female	2594
Regional Australia (male, 18-29)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as male	111
Regional Australia (male, 30-44)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as male	278
Regional Australia (male, 45-64)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as male	1201
Regional Australia (male, 65+)	2022 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 65 years or older who identified as male	2668
Urban Australia (female, 18-29)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as female	333

Socio-demographic group	Description	Total responses in 2022
Urban Australia (female, 30-44)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as female	630
Urban Australia (female, 45-64)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as female	764
Urban Australia (female, 65+)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 65 years or older who identified as female	612
Urban Australia (male, 18-29)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as male	134
Urban Australia (male, 30-44)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as male	359
Urban Australia (male, 45-64)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as male	474
Urban Australia (male, 65+)	2022 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 65 years or older who identified as male	672
Carer (child)	2022 RWS participants who care for one or more children	889
Carer (other)	2022 RWS participants who cares for someone other than a child	716
Retired	2022 RWS participants who is retired	5859
Employed	2022 RWS participants who is employed	8592
Not in labour force	2022 RWS participants who is not in the labour force	
Sole person household	2022 RWS participants in a sole person household	3755
More than 1 person in household	2022 RWS participants living in a household with more than one person	10938

4.2 Farmers

Different types of farmers, farm workers and socio-demographic groups of farmers are reported in the 2022 RWS Data Tables. A person was classified as a farmer if on the 2022 RWS survey form they selected any of the following:

- They own or part-own a farm business
- They manage or co-manage a farm business
- They do administrative work for a farm business

A farm worker was classified as someone who worked on a farm (answered any question that indicated they worked on a farm) but were not a farmer defined above.

A farmer was classified as an irrigator if they indicated they irrigated all or part of their land from irrigation channels, rivers, lakes or groundwater. A farmer was classified as a dryland farmer if they indicated they are a dryland farmer on part or all of the land they manage.

Table 7 describes the groups and the responses received for each group.

Table 7 Farmers

Type of farmer	Description	Total responses in 2022
Farmer	All 2022 RWS participants who were classified as farmers	2020
Farm worker	All 2022 RWS participants who were classified as farm workers	468
Farmer or farm worker	All 2022 RWS participants who were classified as farmers or farm workers	2488
Regional farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in regional areas	1749
Urban farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in urban areas	251
Irrigator	All 2022 RWS participants who identified as irrigators	498
Dryland farmer	All 2022 RWS participants who identified as dryland farmers	1319
Female farmer	2022 RWS participants who were farmers and identified as female	921
Male farmer	2022 RWS participants who were farmers and identified as male	1057
Farmer aged 18-39	2022 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 18 to 39 years old	68
Farmer aged 40-54	2022 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 40 to 54 years old	203
Farmer aged 55-64	2022 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 55 to 64 years old	750
Farmer aged 65+	2022 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 65 years or older	936
NSW farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in NSW	648
VIC farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in Victoria	791
QLD farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in Queensland	190
SA farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in South Australia	146
WA farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in Western Australia	158
TAS farmers	2022 RWS participants who were farmers in Tasmania	68
Cotton growers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as cotton growers (indicated cotton growing was their most important or a major farm activity)	87
Dairy farmers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as dairy farmers (indicated dairy farming was their most important or major farm activity)	152
Crop growers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as crop growers (indicated crop growing was their most important or a major farm activity, including rice, grain, fodder, sugar or other crops)	708
Graziers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as graziers (indicated beef or sheep grazing was their most important or major farm activity)	1194

Type of farmer	Description	Total responses in 2022
Sheep graziers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as Sheep graziers (indicated sheep grazing was their most important or major farm activity)	654
Beef graziers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as Beef graziers (indicated beef grazing was their most important or major farm activity)	734
Fruit, vegetable or winegrape growers	2022 RWS participants who were classified as fruit, vegetable or winegrape growers (indicated fruit, wine grape or vegetable growing was their most important or a major farm activity)	166
Mixed cropping and grazing	2022 RWS participants who were classified as mixed crop growers and graziers (classified as both crop growers <i>and</i> graziers as defined above)	266
Farmer in MDB	2022 RWS participants who were farmers residing within the Murray Darling Basin	868
Farmer not in MDB	2022 RWS participants who were farmers not residing within the Murray Darling Basin	1132
Farmer in Northern MDB	2022 RWS participants who were farmers residing within northern Murray Darling Basin	220
Farmer in Southern MDB	2022 RWS participants who were farmers residing within southern Murray Darling Basin	648
Irrigator in MDB	2022 RWS participants who were irrigators residing within the Murray Darling Basin	198
Irrigator not in MDB	2022 RWS participants who were irrigators not residing within the Murray Darling Basin	292
Irrigator in Southern MDB	2022 RWS participants who were irrigators residing within southern Murray Darling Basin	178
Dryland farmer in MDB	2022 RWS participants who were dryland farmers residing within the Murray Darling Basin	554
Dryland farmer not in MDB	2022 RWS participants who were dryland farmers not residing within the Murray Darling Basin	759
Dryland farmer in Northern MDB	2022 RWS participants who were dryland farmers residing within northern Murray Darling Basin	166
Dryland farmer in Southern MDB	2022 RWS participants who were dryland farmers residing within southern Murray Darling Basin	388