

Women in NSW 2012 – Rural women

This fact sheet provides information on rural NSW from *Women in NSW 2012* and other sources.

A profile of NSW women – Census 2011

Where women in NSW live		Change since 2006
Greater Sydney	63.5%	+0.6%
Rest of NSW	36.5%	-0.6%

Notes: In this Profile section, Greater Sydney includes the Blue Mountains and Central Coast. Changes to the classification of geographical areas between the 2006 and 2011 Census mean the boundaries of Greater Sydney (2011) and Sydney (2006) are very similar, but not identical.

Aboriginal women*

68% of Aboriginal women in NSW live outside Greater Sydney, while 32% live in Greater Sydney.

Note: * Includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women

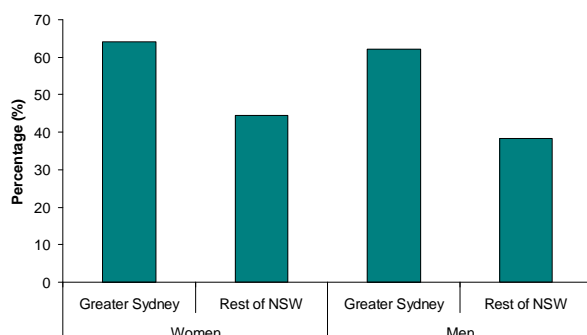
Cultural and linguistic diversity

- 16.2% of women living outside Greater Sydney were born overseas, compared with 40.1% of women in Greater Sydney
- 9.3% of women living outside Greater Sydney speak a language other than English at home, compared with 38.0% of women living in Greater Sydney.

Education and learning

High school

The figure below shows the percentage of women and men who have completed year 12 or equivalent, in Greater Sydney and the rest of NSW, in 2011.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012) *Census 2011*

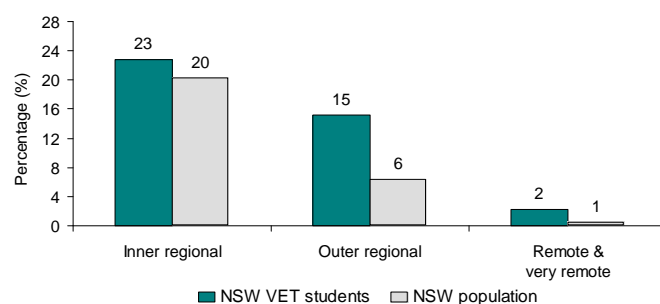
Population: People aged 18 to 64 years

Notes: Greater Sydney includes Central Coast and Blue Mountains

Vocational education and training (VET)

As the figure below illustrates, 20% of NSW women live in inner regional areas, while 23% of female VET students are from these areas. The proportion of female VET students who come from outer regional and remote NSW is also greater than their share of the female population in NSW.

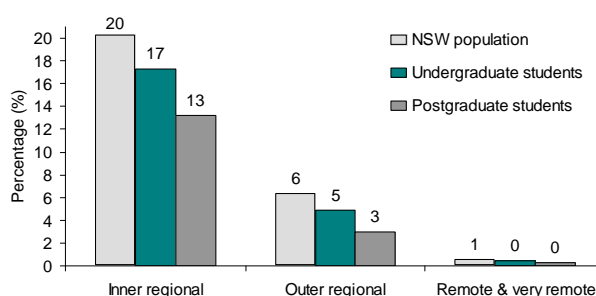
Women participating in VET courses, by region, NSW, 2010



Higher education

In contrast to the figures for VET above, proportionately fewer women from regional and remote NSW are enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate study compared to their proportion of the female population in NSW.

Female undergraduate and postgraduate domestic students, by region, NSW, 2010



Adult and community education

Rural and regional women are well-represented in government-funded adult and community education, making up 52.3% of total female enrolments.

Health and wellbeing

The table below shows the percentage of women aged 16 years and over with specified health status, in the Greater metropolitan (metro) area and the rest of NSW, in 2010.

Health Status	Greater metro	Rest of NSW
More than 2 standard drinks on a day when consuming alcohol	18.6	22.3
Current smoking	12.6	15.5
Adequate physical activity	51.5	48.9
Overweight or obese	45.4	54.0
High or very high psychological distress	12.3	12.6
Screening mammogram in the last 2 years (women aged 50-69 years)	75.5	77.8
Pap test in the last 2 years (women aged 20-69 years)	66.5	72.1
Excellent, very good or good self-rated health status	78.0	79.5
Difficulties getting health care when needing it	16.4	31.2

Source: Centre for Epidemiology and Research (2011), *2010 Report on Adult Health from the NSW Population Health Survey*, NSW Health

Note: Greater metropolitan includes Central Coast, Illawarra Shoalhaven, Nepean Blue Mountains, and Sydney

Work and financial security

This table shows the percentage of women and men at different weekly income levels, in Greater Sydney and the Rest of NSW, in 2011.

Weekly Income level	Females		Males	
	Greater Sydney	Rest of NSW	Greater Sydney	Rest of NSW
Nil or negative income	10.2	6.4	8.9	5.2
\$1-\$299 (\$1-\$1,599 per year)	17.2	20.2	14.6	16.1
\$300-\$599 (\$15,600-\$31,199 per year)	37.3	47.3	16.5	35.7
\$600-\$999 (\$31,200-\$51,999 per year)	15.6	14.8	20.0	18.0
\$1,000-\$1,249 (\$52,000-\$77,999 per year)	10.6	6.9	17.3	12.6
\$1,500 or more (\$78,000+ per year)	9.0	4.4	22.8	12.4
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012), *Census 2011*

Population: People aged 15 years and older

Note: Greater Sydney includes Central Coast and Blue Mountains

Unemployment

Of the top 10 areas in NSW with the highest rates of female unemployment in February 2012, 6 were in rural or regional NSW. The top 3 were:

Gosford-Wyong	7.8%
Murray-Murrumbidgee	6.4%
Richmond-Tweed/Mid-North Coast	6.2%

Superannuation

In 2007 the median superannuation balance for all NSW women was \$18,238, compared to \$30,555 for men.

Women and men in regional NSW hold lower median superannuation balances than those in Sydney: on average \$6,700 less for regional women and \$7,300 less for regional men.

Leadership and representation

The proportion of Legislative Assembly seats outside Greater Sydney that is held by women is **23.7%**. The proportion of Legislative Assembly seats held by women in Greater Sydney is lower, at **20.4%**.

Source: NSW Electoral Commission electoral maps and NSW Parliament website

Note: In this case, Greater Sydney includes the NSW electoral districts of Blue Mountains, Campbelltown, Gosford, Hawkesbury, Heathcote, Terrigal and Wollondilly

Safety and access to justice

The areas in NSW in 2010 with the highest rate of Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders granted per 100,000 of the population were all rural. The top six of these areas were:

Region	Rate per 100,000
Far West	1,315
North Western	776
Northern	634
Murrumbidgee	559
Central West	490
Murray	464
NSW average	342

By contrast, the area in Sydney with the highest rate of ADVOs granted was Outer South Western Sydney, with 459 per 100,000 of the population.

For more information, and to download *Women in NSW 2012*, go to www.women.nsw.gov.au. You can also provide feedback on the Report to womennsw@fac.nsw.gov.au, or by calling Women NSW on 9248 1840.



Translation service

Arabic	خدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفوية المجانية اتصل على الرقم 131 450
Chinese	免費的翻譯傳譯服務 致電 131 450
Spanish	Servicio Gratuito de Traducción e Interpretación Lláme al 131 450
Vietnamese	Dịch vụ Phiên dịch và Thông dịch Miễn phí Điện thoại 131 450