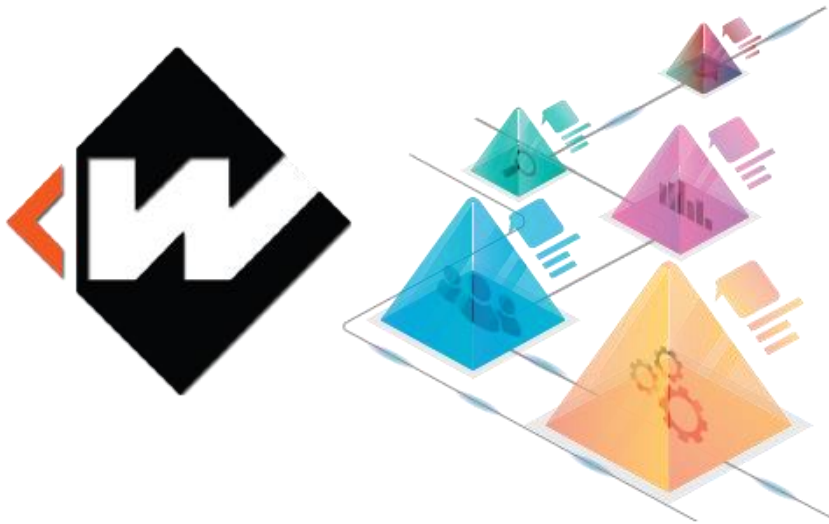




# Profile of Children Aged 0-8 Years Living in Greater Western Sydney

*By Barbara Beard, Social Research and Information Officer*

October 2015



© WESTIR Limited A.B.N 65 003 487 965 A.C.N. 003 487 965

This work is Copyright. Apart from use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part can be reproduced by any process without the written permission from the Executive Officer of WESTIR Ltd.

All possible care has been taken in the preparation of the information contained in this publication. However, WESTIR Ltd expressly disclaims any liability for the accuracy and sufficiency of the information and under no circumstances shall be liable in negligence or otherwise in or arising out of the preparation or supply of any of the information

WESTIR Ltd is partly funded by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services.

**WESTIR LTD**

ABN: 65 003 487 965

| ACN: 003 487 965



mail@westir.org.au

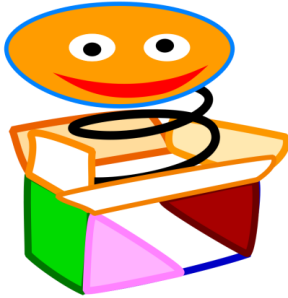


(02) 9635 7764



Suite 7, Level 2  
154 Marsden Street  
Parramatta, NSW 2150  
PO Box 136 Parramatta 2124

# Profile of Children aged 0-8 years living in GWS



Barbara Beard  
WESTIR Ltd+  
2015



## Profile of children aged 0-8 years in Greater Western Sydney

Research, text, maps & photographs by Barbara Beard of WESTIR Ltd  
October 2015

©WESTIR Limited A.B.N 65 003 487 965      A.C.N. 003 487 965

This work is Copyright. Apart from use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part can be reproduced by any process without the written permission from the Executive Officer of WESTIR Ltd.

All possible care has been taken in the preparation of the information contained in this publication. However, WESTIR Ltd expressly disclaims any liability for the accuracy and sufficiency of the information and under no circumstances shall be liable in negligence or otherwise in or arising out of the preparation or supply of any of the information aforesaid.

WESTIR Ltd is partly funded by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services

Location: Suite 402, Level 4, 146 Marsden Street, Parramatta NSW 2150

Postal address: PO Box 208, Parramatta NSW 2124

Phone: (02) 9635 7764

Facsimile: (02) 9635 8395

Email: [mail@westir.org.au](mailto:mail@westir.org.au)

# Profile of children aged 0-8 years living in GWS

---

Introduction .....	4
The Children of Greater Western Sydney .....	5
Babies born in GWS .....	20
Children and Health .....	35
Children with need for assistance with Core Activities .....	39
Children and Education .....	40
Children and their families .....	45
Children and Housing .....	48
Children and Residential Mobility .....	50
References .....	52
Appendix .....	53

## Introduction

WESTIR is frequently asked for statistics about the children who live in Greater Western Sydney. The requests come from Government Departments, Councils, and Non-Government organisations large and small. The common denominator in all these requests is the need to provide better targeted services for children, particularly those in crisis. The aim of this paper is to provide a comprehensive resource containing all of the available data in one easy to use format. Comparisons with the larger geographical areas of Greater Sydney, NSW and Australia have been included where possible. The data has been sourced from the ABS Census, the Australian Early Development Census, Australia's Mothers and Babies, the NSW Perinatal Data Collection, and the Public Health Information Development Unit.

Unfortunately data about the most vulnerable children has not been available at a local level. WESTIR often bemoans the inaccessibility of some data. There is a reasonable amount of data relating to children at risk but it is only at State level. The data is clearly collected but not released. Our wish list of data for small areas would include:

- Children in Out of home care
- Child protection notifications
- Babies born with pre-existing drug addiction
- Victims of assault or death
- Overweight and obesity
- Dental Health
- Mental Health
- Children living in poverty/family economic situation

## The Children of Greater Western Sydney

### Number of children aged 0-8 years of age

In 2011 there were 254,669 children aged between 0 and 8 years in GWS. The number of children in each single year reflects the increase in births (See chapter on Births in GWS). Children aged 6 years were born in the first full year of the baby bonus being paid. Those aged 3 years and 2 years were born at the time the method of payment of the baby bonus changed from lump sum to increments. Those under the age of one in 2011 were children whose mothers were able to access paid parental leave. New release areas in some LGAs of GWS could also influence the number of births in particular year.

Blacktown & Liverpool had a higher proportion of children 0-8 years as well as large scale new housing developments, which may attract young families. Blue Mountains had a low number of children 0-8 years but the population had a high median age indicating fewer young families. Camden had a low number of children but they made up a larger proportion of the population. Areas with new developments such as Blacktown, Liverpool & Camden appear to attract younger families

**Table 1: Children aged 0-8 years, 2011**

Number of 0-8 year olds in GWS and comparative regions, 2011											
	0 years	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	Total 0-8 yrs	Total Population
Auburn	1,198	1,224	1,156	1,060	1,004	991	923	887	866	9,309	73,739
Bankstown	2,591	2,746	2,753	2,819	2,882	2,754	2,731	2,614	2,619	24,509	182,351
Blacktown	4,948	5,152	5,080	5,124	5,118	4,896	4,752	4,554	4,541	44,165	301,098
Blue Mountains	847	923	942	1,001	981	1,057	1,019	998	974	8,742	75,941
Camden	842	892	940	874	1,031	967	912	895	994	8,347	56,720
Campbelltown	2,073	2,201	2,164	2,283	2,167	2,210	2,004	2,023	2,129	19,254	145,969
Fairfield	2,198	2,473	2,437	2,701	2,562	2,513	2,508	2,508	2,632	22,532	187,766
Hawkesbury	857	804	871	823	895	915	838	869	869	7,741	62,353
Holroyd	1,741	1,729	1,620	1,583	1,530	1,448	1,336	1,285	1,299	13,571	99,164
Liverpool	2,708	2,776	2,840	2,759	3,007	2,808	2,839	2,852	2,838	25,427	180,142
Parramatta	2,728	2,675	2,483	2,390	2,270	2,111	2,006	1,976	1,854	20,493	166,858
Penrith	2,661	2,731	2,773	2,666	2,731	2,606	2,521	2,447	2,464	23,600	178,465
The Hills Shire	1,967	2,178	2,216	2,338	2,496	2,525	2,472	2,394	2,474	21,060	169,872
Wollondilly	572	589	661	677	670	679	692	681	698	5,919	43,261
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>27,931</b>	<b>29,093</b>	<b>28,936</b>	<b>29,098</b>	<b>29,344</b>	<b>28,480</b>	<b>27,553</b>	<b>26,983</b>	<b>27,251</b>	<b>254,669</b>	<b>1,923,699</b>
Lithgow	233	237	252	283	275	246	260	219	238	2,243	20,163
Wingecarribee	462	516	531	519	557	546	613	523	577	4,844	44,397
Greater Sydney	59,246	61,111	59,396	59,695	59,454	57,529	55,808	54,266	54,324	520,829	4,391,673
Rest of NSW	29,924	31,391	32,060	32,484	33,422	32,741	31,804	31,411	31,584	286,821	2,512,954
NSW*	89,293	92,612	91,558	92,283	92,984	90,350	87,670	85,749	85,968	808,467	6,917,656

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro \*Includes 'no usual address' & 'migratory offshore'

The proportion of children in each age range may also reflect policy decisions with the proportion of children in each of the years from 0-5 years being higher than those aged in each of the years from 6-8 years. Blacktown and Camden had the highest proportion of children aged 0-8 years (14.7%), ahead of Liverpool (14.1%), and Holroyd and Wollondilly with 13.7% each. Blue Mountains had the lowest proportion of children aged 0-8 years (11.5%). Blue Mountains has not followed the same trend of increasing births. The number and percentage of children aged 0, 1 and-2 years were at the lowest levels over the eight years and were more in line with NSW than the rest of GWS. The Blue Mountains population had a higher median age, more lone person households and a lower proportion of younger people which was also similar to the rest of NSW. Although Wollondilly had one of the higher proportions of children aged 0-8 years, the number and proportion of children decreased through the range from 1.6% of the population aged 8 years down to only 1.3% aged 0 years in 2011. Overall, GWS had a much higher proportion of 0-8 year olds (13.2%) than Greater Sydney (11.9%) and NSW (11.7%).

**Table 2: Proportion of children aged 0-8 years, 2011**

Proportion of 0-8 years olds in GWS and comparative regions, 2011											
	0 years	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	Total 0-8 yrs	Total Population
Auburn	1.6%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	12.6%	100.0%
Bankstown	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	13.4%	100.0%
Blacktown	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	14.7%	100.0%
Blue Mountains	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	11.5%	100.0%
Camden	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%	1.5%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.8%	14.7%	100.0%
Campbelltown	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	13.2%	100.0%
Fairfield	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	12.0%	100.0%
Hawkesbury	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	12.4%	100.0%
Holroyd	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	13.7%	100.0%
Liverpool	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	14.1%	100.0%
Parramatta	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	12.3%	100.0%
Penrith	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	13.2%	100.0%
The Hills Shire	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.5%	12.4%	100.0%
Wollondilly	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	13.7%	100.0%
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Lithgow	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%	1.1%	1.2%	11.1%	100.0%
Wingecarribee	1.0%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%	10.9%	100.0%
Greater Sydney	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	11.9%	100.0%
Rest of NSW	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	11.4%	100.0%
NSW*	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	11.7%	100.0%

Source: ABS Census, Table Builder Pro

### Children 0-8 years in Greater Sydney & NSW

Just over a quarter of a million children aged 0-8 years lived in GWS in 2011. These children made up 48.9% of all children aged 0-8 years in Greater Sydney and 31.5% of all children aged 0-8 years in New South Wales.

Blacktown LGA had a total of 44,165 children in this age range which was 8.5% of all children aged 0-8 years in GWS and 5.5% in NSW. These proportions indicate a very young population. Blacktown made up 6.9% of the Greater Sydney population and 4.4% of the NSW population but the proportion of 0-8 years were both much higher. The proportions of children generally align with overall population size with smaller populations being home to a smaller proportion of GWS's 0-8 year olds and larger LGAs having a larger proportion of GWS's 0-8 year olds. For example, Wollondilly with the smallest population contained 1.1% of all children aged 0-8 years in GWS while Blacktown with the largest population accounted for 8.5% of children aged 0-8 years in GWS. Although Camden was home to only 1.3% of Greater Sydney's population it was home to 1.6% of all 0-8 year olds in GWS.

Auburn made up 1.7% of the Greater Sydney population but had 1.8% of 0-8 year olds. In each of the GWS LGAs, except Blue Mountains and Fairfield, the proportion of 0-8 year olds was higher than the proportion the total population made up of each region. Table 12 provides the number of children in each LGA of GWS and the proportion they make of both Greater Sydney and NSW. It also shows the total population of each LGA and as a proportion of both Greater Sydney and NSW.

**Table 3: Total children aged 0-8 years, 2011**

0-8 year olds as % of Greater Sydney & NSW, 2011						
	Total 0-8 yrs	% of Greater Sydney	% of NSW	Total Population	% of Greater Sydney	% of NSW
Auburn	9,309	1.8%	1.2%	73,739	1.7%	1.1%
Bankstown	24,509	4.7%	3.0%	182,351	4.2%	2.6%
Blacktown	44,165	8.5%	5.5%	301,098	6.9%	4.4%
Blue Mountains	8,742	1.7%	1.1%	75,941	1.7%	1.1%
Camden	8,347	1.6%	1.0%	56,720	1.3%	0.8%
Campbelltown	19,254	3.7%	2.4%	145,969	3.3%	2.1%
Fairfield	22,532	4.3%	2.8%	187,766	4.3%	2.7%
Hawkesbury	7,741	1.5%	1.0%	62,353	1.4%	0.9%
Holroyd	13,571	2.6%	1.7%	99,164	2.3%	1.4%
Liverpool	25,427	4.9%	3.1%	180,142	4.1%	2.6%
Parramatta	20,493	3.9%	2.5%	166,858	3.8%	2.4%
Penrith	23,600	4.5%	2.9%	178,465	4.1%	2.6%
The Hills Shire	21,060	4.0%	2.6%	169,872	3.9%	2.5%
Wollondilly	5,919	1.1%	0.7%	43,261	1.0%	0.6%
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>254,669</b>	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>1,923,699</b>	<b>43.8%</b>	<b>27.8%</b>
Lithgow	2,243	0.4%	0.3%	20,163	0.5%	0.3%
Wingecarribee	4,844	0.9%	0.6%	44,397	1.0%	0.6%
Greater Sydney	520,829	100.0%	64.4%	4,391,673	100.0%	63.5%
Rest of NSW	286,821	N/A	35.5%	2,512,954	N/A	36.3%
NSW*	808,467	N/A	100.0%	6,917,656	N/A	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro



### Number of children by pre-school (0-4 years) and infants school age (5-8 years)

Table 4 shows the number of children aged 0-8 years in two groups; pre-school aged children 0-4 years and infants' school aged children 5-8 years. The titles of pre-school and infant's school have been allocated to indicate an age range at which children may be expected to be attending a particular institution. There may be some children older than 5 years attending preschool as well as children younger than 5 years and older than 8 years attending infants' school.

Blacktown had the highest proportion of pre-school aged children (8.4%) ahead of Holroyd (8.3%) and Camden (8.1%). Camden had the highest proportion of infants school children (6.6%) followed by Wollondilly (6.4%), Liverpool (6.3%) and Blacktown (6.2%). Holroyd appeared to be experiencing a 'baby boom' with a much higher proportion of pre-school children (8.3%) than infants school children (5.4%), as was Parramatta (7.5% and 4.8% respectively). Blue Mountains had the lowest proportion of pre-schoolers (6.2%) within GWS LGAs and the third lowest proportion of infant's school children (5.3%).

Table 4: Pre-school and infants school children, 2011

Number of 0-8 year olds in GWS and comparative regions, 2011							
	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total	0-8 yrs	Total Population
	No	% of Total pop.	No	% of Total pop.	No	% of Total pop.	
Auburn	5,642	7.7%	3,667	5.0%	9,309	12.6%	73,739
Bankstown	13,791	7.6%	10,718	5.9%	24,509	13.4%	182,351
Blacktown	25,422	8.4%	18,743	6.2%	44,165	14.7%	301,098
Blue Mountains	4,694	6.2%	4,048	5.3%	8,742	11.5%	75,941
Camden	4,579	8.1%	3,768	6.6%	8,347	14.7%	56,720
Campbelltown	10,888	7.5%	8,366	5.7%	19,254	13.2%	145,969
Fairfield	12,371	6.6%	10,161	5.4%	22,532	12.0%	187,766
Hawkesbury	4,250	6.8%	3,491	5.6%	7,741	12.4%	62,353
Holroyd	8,203	8.3%	5,368	5.4%	13,571	13.7%	99,164
Liverpool	14,090	7.8%	11,337	6.3%	25,427	14.1%	180,142
Parramatta	12,546	7.5%	7,947	4.8%	20,493	12.3%	166,858
Penrith	13,562	7.6%	10,038	5.6%	23,600	13.2%	178,465
The Hills Shire	11,195	6.6%	9,865	5.8%	21,060	12.4%	169,872
Wollondilly	3,169	7.3%	2,750	6.4%	5,919	13.7%	43,261
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>144,402</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>110,267</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>254,669</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>1,923,699</b>
Lithgow	1,280	6.3%	963	4.8%	2,243	11.1%	20,163
Wingecarribee	2,585	5.8%	2,259	5.1%	4,844	10.9%	44,397
Greater Sydney	298,902	6.8%	221,927	5.1%	520,829	11.9%	4,391,673
Rest of NSW	159,281	6.3%	127,540	5.1%	286,821	11.4%	2,512,954
NSW*	458,730	6.6%	349,737	5.1%	808,467	11.7%	6,917,656

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro \*Includes 'no usual address' & 'migratory offshore'

The maps on the following pages illustrate the information in Table 4. The maps are based on SA1s, the smallest geographical area in the ABS geographical framework. The ABS designed the SA1 for use in the Census of Population and Housing as the smallest unit for the processing and release of Census data. The ranges in the map are based on 'natural break' which uses an algorithm to place appropriate points where data are not evenly distributed. Natural break is useful in identifying spatial patterns (Table Builder manual). The ranges are illustrated by using different colours for different ranges to clearly illustrate areas with high numbers and areas with low numbers. The resulting maps are called thematic maps. When looking at the maps bear in mind that a large coloured area may be made up of more than one SA1. This occurs when a group of SA1 have similar qualities and therefore fall within the same range.

Map 1 illustrates the distribution of children aged 0-4 years in GWS. The legend shows the highest number of children aged 0-4 years in an SA1 to be 305 persons. This particular SA1 is located in the suburb of The Ponds which is located in the North East of Blacktown LGA. A neighbouring SA1 had a total of 250 children aged 0-4 years. These SA1s are only two in a group of 15 in The Ponds which have a high number of children aged two to four. Ropes Creek on the western border of Blacktown also had a high number of 0-4 year olds (162 children).

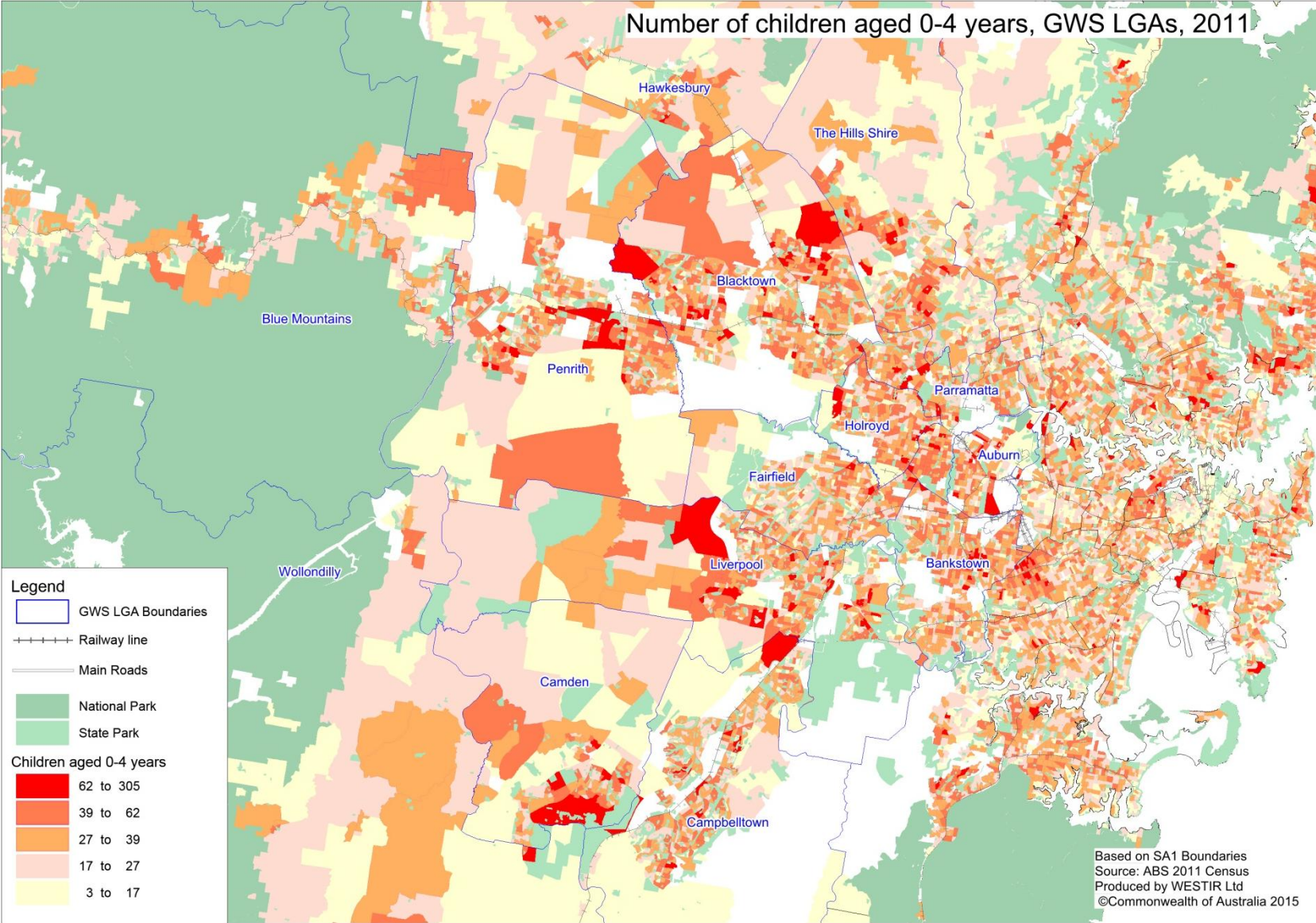
Map 2 illustrates the distribution of children aged 5-8 years in GWS. Although many children live in the city, it is clear that areas further from the city have more children. In particular, larger numbers of children appear to be associated with newer housing development. The Ponds had a high number of 0-4 year olds and 5-8 year olds as did Kellyville and Beaumont Hills in The Hills Shire, and Claremont Meadows in Penrith. Note: The census data in this section is based on place of usual residence.

**Photo 1: Beaumont Hills 2010**

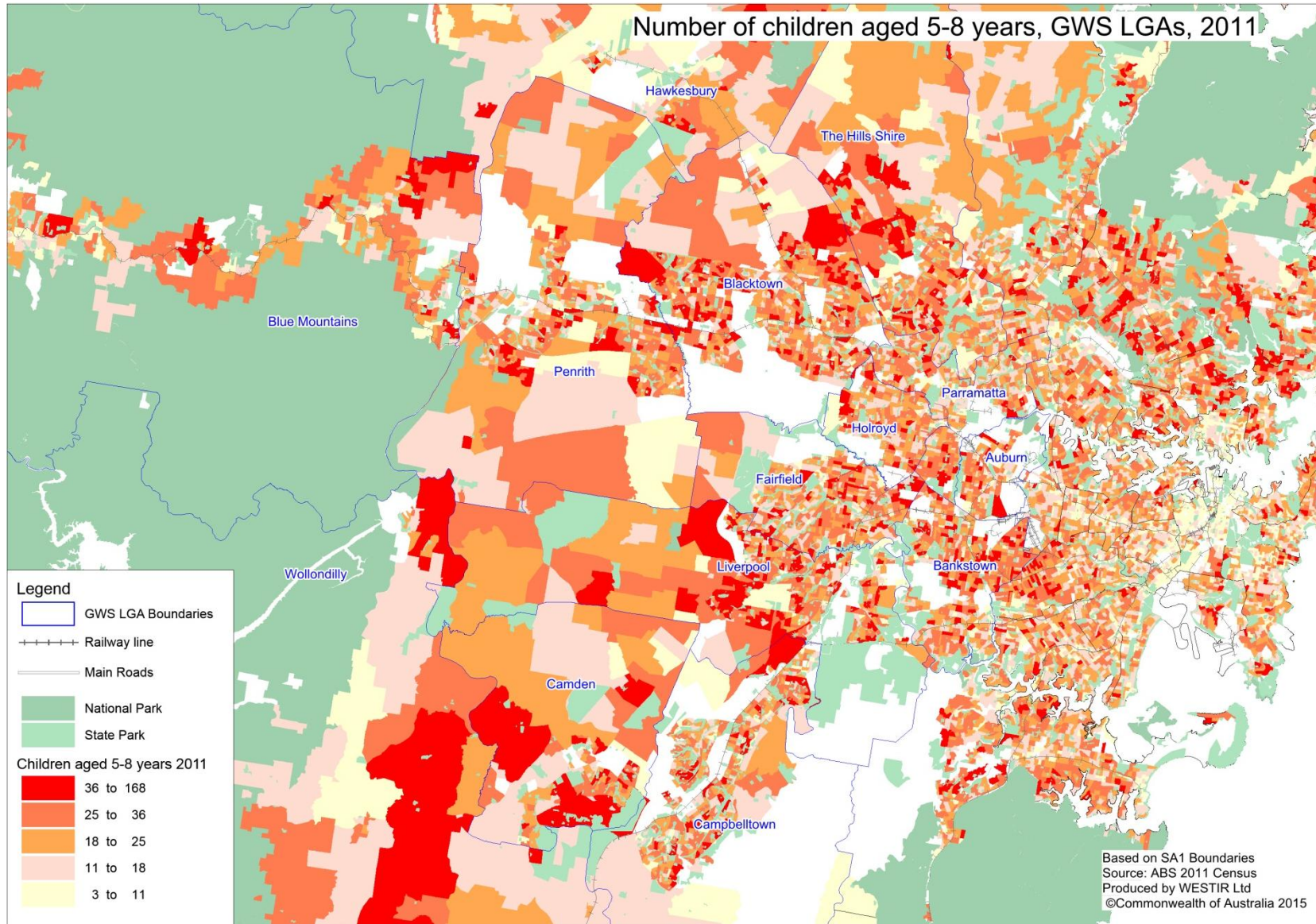


**Source: WESTIR Ltd GWS Collection, B. Beard, 2010**

Map 1



Map 2



## Indigenous status

In 2011 a total of 7,089 children in GWS aged 0-8 years identified as Indigenous; 4,004 children aged 0-4 years (2.8%) and 3,085 children aged 5-8 years (2.8%). Blacktown had the highest number of Indigenous children , 1,114 children aged 0-4 years (4.4%) and 897 children aged 5-8 years (4.8%).

Campbelltown had the highest proportion of Indigenous children with 6.4% aged 0-4 years (700 children) and 6.2% aged 5-8 years (518 children). Penrith, Blacktown, Campbelltown, and Hawkesbury had higher proportions of children than GWS & NSW. Lithgow, part of the larger western region but not part of GWS, had a high proportion of Indigenous children: 9.3% of children aged 0-4 years (119 children) and 8.5% of children aged 5-8 years (82 children)

**Table 5: Indigenous status of children aged 0-8 years, 2011**

Number of children 0-8 years by Indigenous status, GWS LGAs & NSW, 2011													
Region	Indigenous Status	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 yrs	Region	Indigenous Status	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 yrs
		No	%	No	%				No	%	No	%	
Auburn	Non-Indigenous	5,198	92.2%	3,377	92.0%	8,575	Liverpool	Non-Indigenous	12,858	91.3%	10,364	91.4%	23,222
	Indigenous	25	0.4%	22	0.6%	47		Indigenous	309	2.2%	272	2.4%	581
	Not stated	417	7.4%	270	7.4%	687		Not stated	919	6.5%	703	6.2%	1,622
Bankstown	Non-Indigenous	12,734	92.3%	9,926	92.6%	22,660	Parramatta	Non-Indigenous	11,639	92.7%	7,386	93.0%	19,025
	Indigenous	139	1.0%	104	1.0%	243		Indigenous	143	1.1%	98	1.2%	241
	Not stated	919	6.7%	687	6.4%	1,606		Not stated	768	6.1%	462	5.8%	1,230
Blacktown	Non-Indigenous	23,145	91.0%	16,994	90.7%	40,139	Penrith	Non-Indigenous	12,318	90.8%	9,133	91.0%	21,451
	Indigenous	1,114	4.4%	897	4.8%	2,011		Indigenous	639	4.7%	489	4.9%	1,128
	Not stated	1,162	4.6%	853	4.6%	2,015		Not stated	606	4.5%	413	4.1%	1,019
Blue Mountains	Non-Indigenous	4,305	91.7%	3,735	92.3%	8,040	The Hills Shire	Non-Indigenous	10,806	96.5%	9,576	97.1%	20,382
	Indigenous	138	2.9%	105	2.6%	243		Indigenous	66	0.6%	47	0.5%	113
	Not stated	250	5.3%	208	5.1%	458		Not stated	323	2.9%	241	2.4%	564
Camden	Non-Indigenous	4,249	92.8%	3,528	93.7%	7,777	Wollondilly	Non-Indigenous	2,919	92.1%	2,522	91.7%	5,441
	Indigenous	145	3.2%	119	3.2%	264		Indigenous	114	3.6%	110	4.0%	224
	Not stated	187	4.1%	119	3.2%	306		Not stated	138	4.4%	118	4.3%	256
Campbelltown	Non-Indigenous	9,545	87.6%	7,321	87.5%	16,866	GWS	Non-Indigenous	132,690	91.9%	101,479	92.0%	234,169
	Indigenous	700	6.4%	518	6.2%	1,218		Indigenous	4,004	2.8%	3,085	2.8%	7,089
	Not stated	645	5.9%	525	6.3%	1,170		Not stated	7,716	5.3%	5,698	5.2%	13,414
Fairfield	Non-Indigenous	11,506	93.0%	9,444	93.0%	20,950	Lithgow	Non-Indigenous	1,055	82.6%	837	86.8%	1,892
	Indigenous	160	1.3%	114	1.1%	274		Indigenous	119	9.3%	82	8.5%	201
	Not stated	707	5.7%	602	5.9%	1,309		Not stated	103	8.1%	45	4.7%	148
Hawkesbury	Non-Indigenous	3,855	90.7%	3,182	91.0%	7,037	Wingecarribee	Non-Indigenous	2,378	92.0%	2,064	91.4%	4,442
	Indigenous	200	4.7%	149	4.3%	349		Indigenous	93	3.6%	98	4.3%	191
	Not stated	194	4.6%	164	4.7%	358		Not stated	113	4.4%	97	4.3%	210
Holroyd	Non-Indigenous	7,613	92.8%	4,991	93.0%	12,604	NSW	Non-Indigenous	414,139	90.3%	316,418	90.5%	730,557
	Indigenous	112	1.4%	41	0.8%	153		Indigenous	21,411	4.7%	16,382	4.7%	37,793
	Not stated	481	5.9%	333	6.2%	814		Not stated	23,182	5.1%	16,936	4.8%	40,118

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

## Country of birth

Data for country of birth was only available for 0-4 years and 5-9 years ranges but not single years. The vast majority of children in GWS aged 0-9 years were born in Australia. A total of 131,594 children 0-4 years (91.1%) were born in Australia compared with only 3.6% (5,231 persons) born overseas. 5.2% did not state their birthplace. In the 5-9 year range, a total of 95,354 children (86.5%) were born in Australia compared to 8.9% (9,802 persons) born overseas and 4.6% who did not state their birthplace. Auburn had the highest proportion of children 0-4 years born overseas (7.7%) ahead of Parramatta (7.4%). In Hawkesbury LGA only 0.6% of children aged 0-4 years were born overseas. Auburn also had the highest proportion of children aged 5-9 years who were born overseas (17.8% or 652 children) ahead of Holroyd (15.4% or 826 children) and Parramatta (15.3% or 1,217 children). GWS had a higher proportion of children born overseas than NSW.

Table 6: Country of birth, 2011

Country of Birth, children aged 0-9 years, 2011								
Region	Age range	Australia*		Born Overseas		Not stated		Total
		No	%	No	%	No	%	
Auburn	0-4 years	4,804	85.2%	437	7.7%	399	7.1%	5,640
	5-9 years	2,785	75.9%	652	17.8%	231	6.3%	3,668
Bankstown	0-4 years	12,484	90.5%	395	2.9%	911	6.6%	13,790
	5-9 years	9,398	87.7%	722	6.7%	602	5.6%	10,722
Blacktown	0-4 years	23,267	91.5%	984	3.9%	1,170	4.6%	25,421
	5-9 years	15,763	84.1%	2,177	11.6%	804	4.3%	18,744
Blue Mountains	0-4 years	4,413	93.9%	63	1.3%	222	4.7%	4,698
	5-9 years	3,739	92.5%	118	2.9%	183	4.5%	4,040
Camden	0-4 years	4,372	95.5%	56	1.2%	151	3.3%	4,579
	5-9 years	3,576	94.8%	103	2.7%	92	2.4%	3,771
Campbelltown	0-4 years	9,980	91.6%	278	2.6%	637	5.8%	10,895
	5-9 years	7,310	87.4%	582	7.0%	473	5.7%	8,365
Fairfield	0-4 years	11,154	90.2%	473	3.8%	743	6.0%	12,370
	5-9 years	8,689	85.6%	938	9.2%	528	5.2%	10,155
Hawkesbury	0-4 years	4,044	95.3%	27	0.6%	173	4.1%	4,244
	5-9 years	3,310	94.6%	54	1.5%	134	3.8%	3,498
Holroyd	0-4 years	7,252	88.4%	444	5.4%	508	6.2%	8,204
	5-9 years	4,245	79.2%	826	15.4%	291	5.4%	5,362
Liverpool	0-4 years	12,703	90.2%	468	3.3%	914	6.5%	14,085
	5-9 years	9,703	85.6%	1,016	9.0%	620	5.5%	11,339
Parramatta	0-4 years	10,835	86.3%	924	7.4%	792	6.3%	12,551
	5-9 years	6,263	78.8%	1,217	15.3%	468	5.9%	7,948
Penrith	0-4 years	12,767	94.2%	220	1.6%	569	4.2%	13,556
	5-9 years	9,221	91.8%	435	4.3%	388	3.9%	10,044
The Hills Shire	0-4 years	10,475	93.6%	441	3.9%	278	2.5%	11,194
	5-9 years	8,736	88.5%	926	9.4%	211	2.1%	9,873
Wollondilly	0-4 years	3,044	96.0%	21	0.7%	106	3.3%	3,171
	5-9 years	2,616	95.3%	36	1.3%	94	3.4%	2,746
<b>GWS</b>	<b>0-4 years</b>	<b>131,594</b>	<b>91.1%</b>	<b>5,231</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>7,573</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>144,398</b>
	<b>5-9 years</b>	<b>95,354</b>	<b>86.5%</b>	<b>9,802</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>5,119</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>110,275</b>
Lithgow	0-4 years	1,181	92.6%	4	0.3%	90	7.1%	1,275
	5-9 years	902	93.7%	20	2.1%	41	4.3%	963
Wingecarribee	0-4 years	2,466	95.3%	34	1.3%	88	3.4%	2,588
	0-8 years	2,107	93.3%	69	3.1%	82	3.6%	2,258
<b>NSW</b>	<b>0-4 years</b>	<b>420,868</b>	<b>91.7%</b>	<b>15,516</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>22,350</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>458,734</b>
	<b>5-9 years</b>	<b>384,278</b>	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>31,733</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>18,599</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>434,610</b>

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro (\*incl. External Territories)

## Birthplace of parents

Auburn had the highest proportion of children 0-8 years with both parents born overseas (62.7%) compared with only 3.2% in Hawkesbury and Wollondilly. Although the number of children with both parents born overseas was very low in some LGAs, frequently a larger proportion had a mother or father born overseas. The LGA with the highest proportion of children 0-8 years with both parents born in Australia was Wollondilly with 78.5% followed by Hawkesbury (77.5%) and Camden (70.9%). This compared with only 11.5% of children in Auburn and 17.3% in Fairfield having both parents born in Australia. Overall in GWS, 34.3% of children 0-8 years had both parents born overseas, 10.0% had a father born overseas, 7.0% had a mother born overseas and 41.4% had both parents born in Australia.

Table 7: Parents birthplace, GWS 2011

Where parents of children aged 0-8 years were born, 2011											
Region	Both parents born overseas		Father only born overseas		Mother only born overseas		Both parents born in Australia		Not stated - birthplace for either or both parents not stated		Total persons aged 0-8 years
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
Auburn	5,833	62.7%	874	9.4%	644	6.9%	1,071	11.5%	887	9.5%	9,309
Bankstown	9,182	37.5%	3,830	15.6%	2,018	8.2%	7,254	29.6%	2,226	9.1%	24,510
Blacktown	16,943	38.4%	3,796	8.6%	2,745	6.2%	17,693	40.1%	2,988	6.8%	44,165
Blue Mountains	481	5.5%	1,033	11.8%	810	9.3%	5,868	67.1%	550	6.3%	8,742
Camden	656	7.9%	805	9.6%	595	7.1%	5,920	70.9%	371	4.4%	8,347
Campbelltown	5,105	26.5%	1,725	9.0%	1,244	6.5%	9,522	49.5%	1,659	8.6%	19,255
Fairfield	13,411	59.5%	1,829	8.1%	1,309	5.8%	3,887	17.3%	2,097	9.3%	22,533
Hawkesbury	247	3.2%	568	7.3%	485	6.3%	5,998	77.5%	442	5.7%	7,740
Holroyd	6,449	47.5%	1,539	11.3%	953	7.0%	3,577	26.4%	1,053	7.8%	13,571
Liverpool	10,418	41.0%	2,672	10.5%	1,743	6.9%	8,525	33.5%	2,068	8.1%	25,426
Parramatta	9,405	45.9%	2,183	10.7%	1,616	7.9%	5,616	27.4%	1,673	8.2%	20,493
Penrith	3,045	12.9%	2,204	9.3%	1,531	6.5%	15,376	65.2%	1,444	6.1%	23,600
The Hills Shire	6,032	28.6%	2,110	10.0%	1,643	7.8%	10,563	50.2%	713	3.4%	21,061
Wollondilly	188	3.2%	401	6.8%	378	6.4%	4,648	78.5%	303	5.1%	5,918
<b>GWS</b>	<b>87,395</b>	<b>34.3%</b>	<b>25,569</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>17,714</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>105,518</b>	<b>41.4%</b>	<b>18,474</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>254,670</b>
Lithgow	68	3.0%	107	4.8%	71	3.2%	1,811	80.8%	184	8.2%	2,241
Wingecarribee	186	3.8%	443	9.1%	357	7.4%	3,600	74.3%	259	5.3%	4,845
<b>NSW</b>	<b>165,963</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>73,740</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>58,936</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>457,176</b>	<b>56.5%</b>	<b>52,650</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>808,465</b>

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

## Language Spoken at Home

In Auburn 23.6% (2,197 children) of children aged 0-8 years spoke English at home compared to 66.7% (6,209 children) who spoke a Language Other Than English (LOTE) at home. In Fairfield, 60.0% (13,529 children) spoke a LOTE at home; 51.6% (12,645 children) in Bankstown; 46.6% (6,328 children) in Holroyd and 46.0% (9,428 children) in Parramatta. Wollondilly had the lowest proportion of children 0-8 years who spoke a LOTE at home (2.7% or 161 children), followed by Hawkesbury (3.3% or 259 children) and Blue Mountains (4.4% or 385 children). Lithgow and Wingecarribee also had very low proportions of children who spoke a LOTE at home with 2.3% and 3.7% respectively. Overall in GWS 60.9% (155,081 children) of children aged 0-8 years spoke only English at home and 32.7% (83,400 children) spoke a language other than English at home. The proportion of children in GWS who spoke a LOTE at home (32.7%) was much higher than in NSW (18.9%).

Table 8: Language spoken at home, GWS 2011

Language spoken at home by children aged 0-8 years, 2011							
Region	Language Spoken at home	Total 0-8 years		Region	Language Spoken at home	Total 0-8 years	
		No	%			No	%
Auburn	English	2,197	23.6%	Liverpool	English	13,013	51.2%
	Speaks LOTE	6,209	66.7%		Speaks LOTE	10,418	41.0%
	Not stated	904	9.7%		Not stated	1,999	7.9%
	Total	9,310	100.0%		Total	25,430	100.0%
Bankstown	English	9,881	40.3%	Parramatta	English	9,381	45.8%
	Speaks LOTE	12,645	51.6%		Speaks LOTE	9,428	46.0%
	Not stated	1,984	8.1%		Not stated	1,680	8.2%
	Total	24,510	100.0%		Total	20,489	100.0%
Blacktown	English	29,199	66.1%	Penrith	English	20,156	85.4%
	Speaks LOTE	12,481	28.3%		Speaks LOTE	2,364	10.0%
	Not stated	2,486	5.6%		Not stated	1,079	4.6%
	Total	44,166	100.0%		Total	23,599	100.0%
Blue Mountains	English	7,932	90.7%	The Hills Shire	English	15,810	75.1%
	Speaks LOTE	385	4.4%		Speaks LOTE	4,638	22.0%
	Not stated	425	4.9%		Not stated	611	2.9%
	Total	8,742	100.0%		Total	21,059	100.0%
Camden	English	7,511	90.0%	Wollondilly	English	5,532	93.4%
	Speaks LOTE	553	6.6%		Speaks LOTE	161	2.7%
	Not stated	283	3.4%		Not stated	228	3.9%
	Total	8,347	100.0%		Total	5,921	100.0%
Campbelltown	English	13,960	72.5%	GWS	English	155,081	60.9%
	Speaks LOTE	4,002	20.8%		Speaks LOTE	83,400	32.7%
	Not stated	1,292	6.7%		Not stated	16,191	6.4%
	Total	19,254	100.0%		Total	254,672	100.0%
Fairfield	English	7,186	31.9%	NSW	English	612,231	75.7%
	Speaks LOTE	13,529	60.0%		Speaks LOTE	152,831	18.9%
	Not stated	1,816	8.1%		Not stated	43,406	5.4%
	Total	22,531	100.0%		Total	808,468	100.0%
Hawkesbury	English	7,162	92.5%	Lithgow	English	2,053	91.7%
	Speaks LOTE	259	3.3%		Speaks LOTE	52	2.3%
	Not stated	320	4.1%		Not stated	133	5.9%
	Total	7,741	100.0%		Total	2,238	100.0%
Holroyd	English	6,161	45.4%	Wingecarribee	English	4,493	92.8%
	Speaks LOTE	6,328	46.6%		Speaks LOTE	181	3.7%
	Not stated	1,084	8.0%		Not stated	168	3.5%
	Total	13,573	100.0%		Total	4,842	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro



## English proficiency

English proficiency of children who spoke a language other than English improved with age, or alternatively, improved upon entry to school and access to English as Second Language (ESL) classes. 9.7% of children aged 0-4 years in GWS did not speak English at all but in the 5-8 year age range this had decreased to only 0.3%. More than half of all children in both age ranges spoke English only. Overall in GWS, 37.2% of 0-4 year olds and 37.4% of all 5-8 year olds spoke a language other than English with various levels of proficiency in English. 9.4% of 0-4 year olds and 24.6% of 5-8 year olds spoke a LOTE but spoke English 'Very Well' and a further 8.5% of 0-4 year olds and 9.6% of 5-8 year olds spoke English 'Well'. Proficiency in speaking English is self assessed and may not reflect actual proficiency. The person/s filling out the Census form reports each household member's proficiency in spoken English based on their idea of what exactly constitutes speaking English 'Very well', 'Well' or 'Not well'. There is no guidance in

the census form of how to assess proficiency. Some people may have high expectations of how well they should speak English and assess their own English skill as 'not well' but may well speak English better than someone who has assessed their skill as 'very well'. A large table including data for each LGA is located in the appendix of this document.

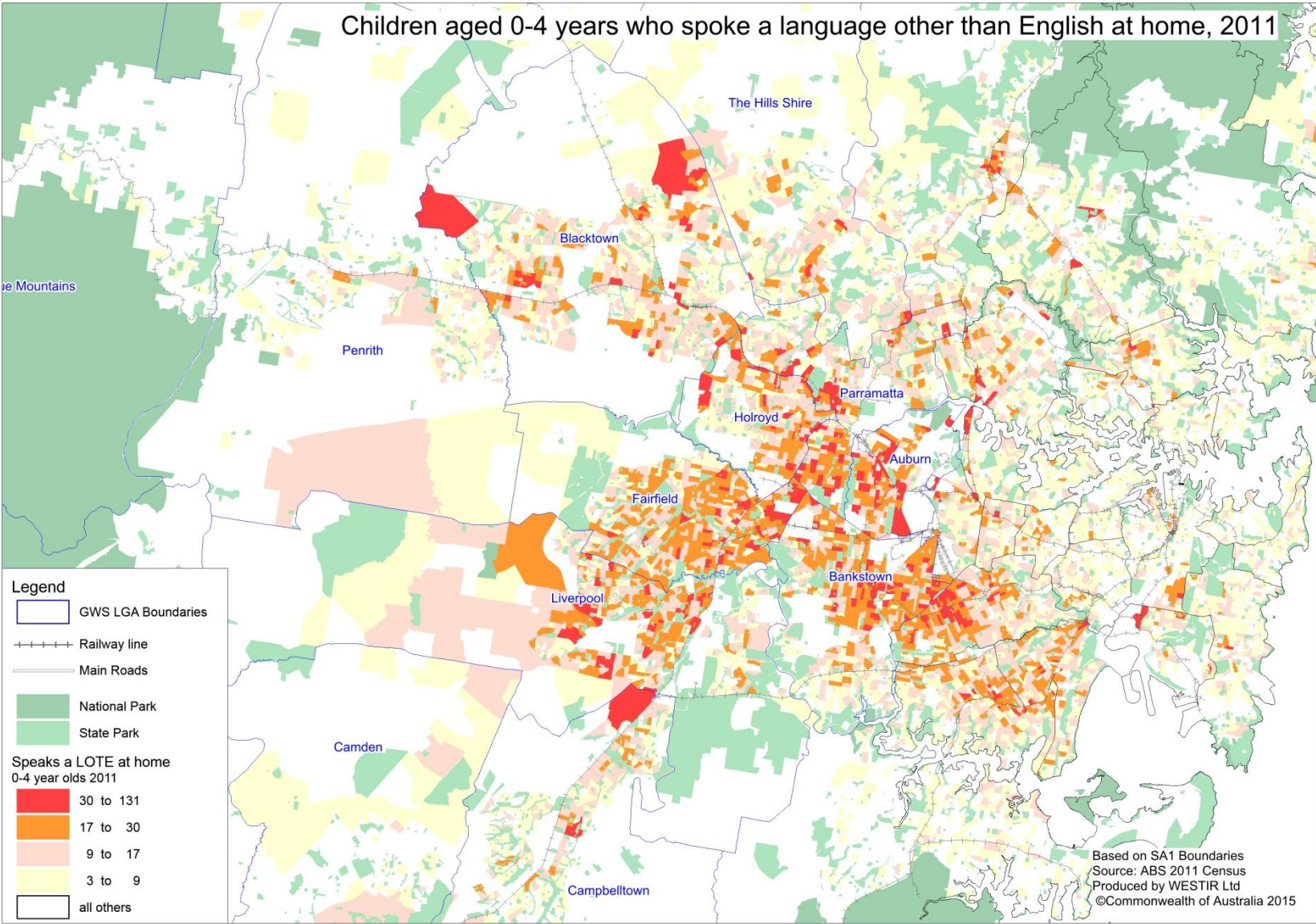
**Table 9: English Proficiency, GWS 2011**

Proficiency in English of children 0-8 years, GWS, 2011								
Speaks a language other than English & speaks English	0-4 years		5-8 years		GWS Total 0-8 years		NSW Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Very well	11,278	9.4%	23,534	24.6%	34,812	16.2%	67,596	8.9%
Well	10,172	8.5%	9,205	9.6%	19,377	9.0%	34,473	4.5%
Not well	11,450	9.6%	2,736	2.9%	14,186	6.6%	26,709	3.5%
Not at all	11,524	9.7%	321	0.3%	11,845	5.5%	22,759	3.0%
N/A -Speaks English Only	74,951	62.8%	59,974	62.6%	134,925	62.7%	612,231	80.2%
Total	119,375	100.0%	95,770	100.0%	215,145	100.0%	763,768	100.0%

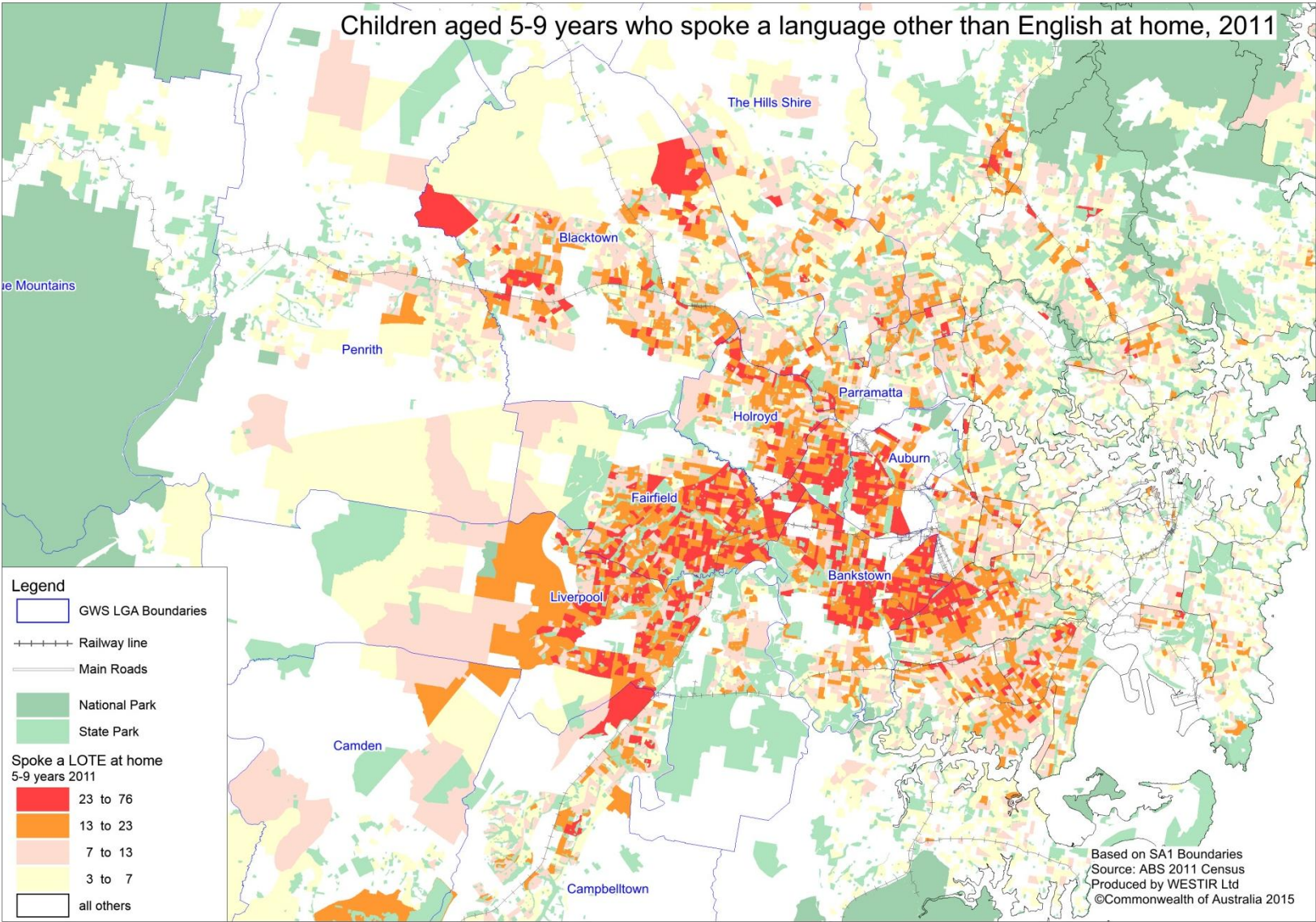
**Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro** Note: Total excludes children whose proficiency was 'not stated'.

Maps 3 and 4 on the following pages illustrate the number of children who spoke a LOTE at home in 2011. The first map (Map 3) shows the number of children aged 0-4 years who spoke a LOTE at home. The second map (Map 4) shows the number of children aged 5-9 years who spoke a LOTE at home. Both maps show that a higher number of children in living in GWS than the rest of Sydney spoke a LOTE, particularly among 5-9 year olds. Table 9 shows that the proportion of children in GWS who spoke a LOTE at home was twice that of NSW as a whole. There were small pockets of children who spoke a LOTE scattered throughout Greater Sydney but overall, the numbers were higher in GWS. One point to note is that on the North Shore, the higher number of children who spoke a LOTE at home tended to cluster around the northern rail line; an area of high density private rental dwellings. The St George area also had clusters of children who spoke a LOTE at home. These clusters also tended to be in areas with high density private rental dwellings.

Map 3



Map 4



## Ancestry

The ancestry question in the ABS Census allows people to provide two responses for ancestry. It does not ask where people were born but which ancestry they feel they have an affiliation. It is logical that children 0-8 years would not necessarily be filling in the Census but rather a parent or carer on their behalf. Table 10 shows the Top 50 ancestry responses for children aged 0-8 years in GWS.

The most common response for ancestry was Australian with 89,502 responses. This was almost twice as many responses as English with 45,700. Lebanese was the next most common response with 17,611 followed by Chinese (13,082 responses), Indian (13,082 responses), Irish (9,977 responses) and Italian (9,219 responses). The remaining ancestries in the Top 10 were Vietnamese (7,777 responses), Filipino (7,292 responses) and Scottish (7,108 responses).

Table 10: Top 100 Ancestry responses, GWS, 2011

Top Fifty ancestry responses for children aged 0-8 years, GWS, 2011					
Position in top 50	Ancestry (multi-response)	No of responses	Position in top 50	Ancestry (multi-response)	No of responses
1	Australian	89,502	26	Spanish	1,585
2	English	45,700	27	Dutch	1,493
3	Lebanese	17,611	28	Khmer (Cambodian)	1,401
4	Chinese	13,566	29	Egyptian	1,355
5	Indian	13,082	30	Sri Lankan	1,350
6	Irish	9,977	31	Afghan	1,311
7	Italian	9,219	32	Macedonian	1,256
8	Vietnamese	7,777	33	Polish	1,216
9	Filipino	7,292	34	South African	1,206
10	Scottish	7,108	35	Chilean	1,115
11	Maltese	4,331	36	Fijian	1,063
12	Greek	3,731	37	Bangladeshi	1,012
13	Samoaan	3,565	38	Australian Aboriginal	932
14	German	3,474	39	Fijian Indian	928
15	Maori	2,669	40	Syrian	911
16	Pakistani	2,334	41	Indonesian	909
17	Iraqi	2,305	42	Chaldean	884
18	Turkish	2,218	43	Sudanese	841
19	Korean	2,186	44	Palestinian	748
20	Croatian	2,123	45	Cook Islander	743
21	Arab, nfd	1,965	46	Iranian	721
22	Assyrian	1,932	47	Lao	673
23	New Zealander	1,924	48	African, so described	671
24	Tongan	1,895	49	Portuguese	670
25	Serbian	1,711	50	Russian	656

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro, Ancestry Multi-response

Note: Each person may have up to two responses to the Ancestry question in the Census. Therefore, ancestry tables will not have the same totals as population or language spoken tables. Ancestry tables show the ancestry to which a person has or feels an affiliation to and is not the same as birthplace. nfd – Not further defined

## Babies born in GWS

The following chapter tells the story of births in GWS. The tables and statistics also reflect the history of the Baby Bonus Payment in Australia. According to The Budget Review 2013-14, the baby bonus was first introduced in 2004 as a non-means tested benefit. In 2009, it became means tested, ceased to be lump sum being paid in instalments instead. In 2011 Paid Parental Leave (PPL) was introduced providing a better option for working mothers and in 2014 the Baby Bonus was abolished. In the review, Michael Klapdor also suggested changes in the policy had influenced the timing of births (APH, Hansard). The McCrindle blog notes that “when the 2002 Baby Bonus was first introduced, it was predicted by some that the incentive would encourage an increase in teenage, single and young mums” but ABS and McCrindle Research data show that this was not the case and in fact teenage fertility rates had been decreasing for the past three decades (McCrindle Blog, 2013).

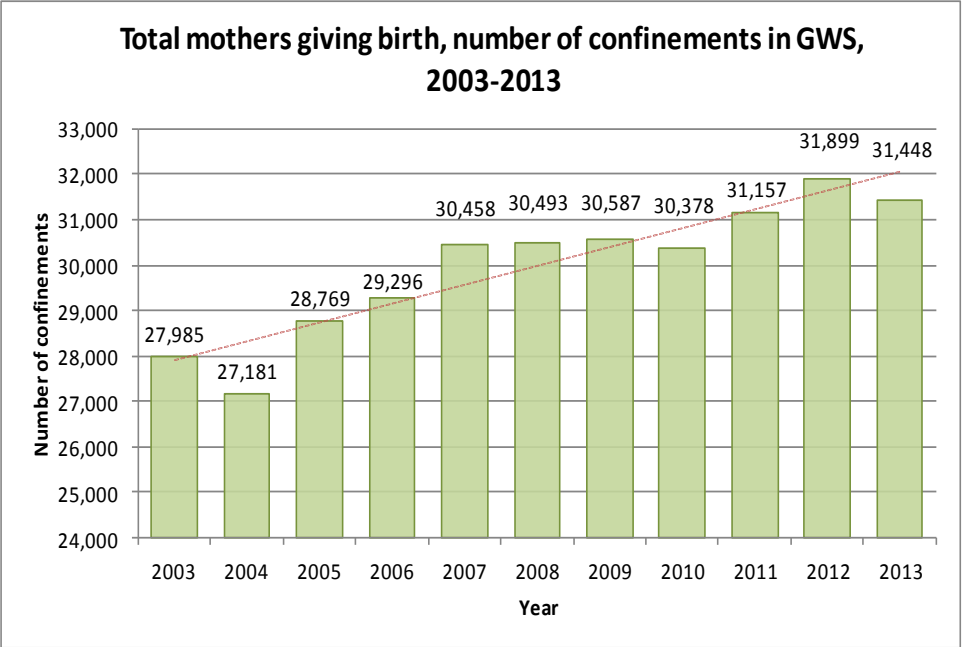
Births in GWS show evidence of the effect of policy change and decreasing teenage fertility. The number of births in GWS increased in 2005 following the introduction of the baby bonus in 2004. Higher numbers of births in 2008 and 2009 reflect the change from lump sum to instalments and the bonus becoming subject to means testing. Births decreased 2010 but rose again in 2011, the year PPL was introduced. The increase was maintained 2012 (see Table 7). The baby bonus was abolished in 2013. It is yet to be seen if the proposed changes aimed at preventing mothers accessing PPL in addition to workplace maternity payments will have a similar effect on the timing of births to coincide with previous rather than future policy. The tables also indicate that the baby bonus was not an enticement for “teenage, single and young mothers’ to fall pregnant in order to claim the lump sum. The changes described above for total births, do not generally apply to teenage births. Although the number of teenage births rose slightly in 2011, this coincided with the introduction of the PPL which suggests that being able to access paid leave from employment may have been an enticement for some young mothers.

The number of births in each LGA appears to be connected to the median age and general population growth of that LGA. Auburn had the lowest median age of all LGAs in GWS, a population increase of 33% and the highest increase in the number of births. Blue Mountains and Fairfield had very small population increases and a high median age which made it unsurprising that each experienced a decrease in the number of confinements from 2003-13. Although The Hills Shire experienced strong population growth (22%), the median age of the LGA was 38 years in 2011 and the number of confinements increased by only 4% from 2003-13, indicating that new residents were not at the family formation stage of their lives.

## Number and proportion of confinements

The number of babies born in Greater Western Sydney has been growing over the past 10 years. The total number of babies born increased from 27,985 confinements in 2003 to 31,448 confinements in 2013. The highest number of confinements in GWS in one year occurred in 2012 with a total of 31,899 confinements.

**Table 11: Total confinements in GWS, 2003-2013**



Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

Approximately one third of all confinements in NSW were mothers in GWS. However, at the LGA level, there have been increases and decreases. Blacktown had the highest number of confinements (5,517), but Parramatta had the largest increase in confinements (52%). A number of LGAs, such as Blue Mountains, Campbelltown, Fairfield and Hawkesbury, experienced decreases in the number of confinements. Wingecarribee also had a decrease in the number of confinements but is not included in the overall GWS figures. One third of all births in NSW were in GWS.

Table 12: Number of Confinements 2003-2013

Total mothers giving birth: Number of Confinements by Local Government Area, GWS 2003 to 2013												
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2003-2013
Auburn	1,069	1,105	1,170	1,249	1,327	1,394	1,378	1,485	1,633	1,757	1,720	61%
Bankstown	2,768	2,631	2,798	2,896	3,031	2,938	2,907	2,872	2,885	3,058	3,006	9%
Blacktown	4,618	4,494	4,952	4,941	5,247	5,191	5,334	5,335	5,519	5,505	5,517	19%
Blue Mountains	904	859	978	877	946	891	896	841	853	839	835	-8%
Camden	833	828	781	840	853	832	853	861	844	883	940	13%
Campbelltown	2,360	2,135	2,282	2,341	2,427	2,456	2,366	2,334	2,369	2,354	2,336	-1%
Fairfield	2,766	2,588	2,627	2,581	2,763	2,713	2,589	2,429	2,564	2,743	2,477	-10%
Hawkesbury	950	880	917	918	886	865	924	869	900	842	818	-14%
Holroyd	1,361	1,428	1,570	1,656	1,799	1,840	1,953	1,948	2,007	2,030	2,047	50%
Liverpool	3,032	2,873	2,968	3,104	3,060	2,962	3,029	2,981	3,010	3,130	3,087	2%
Parramatta	2,148	2,219	2,329	2,370	2,636	2,868	2,893	2,998	3,171	3,307	3,257	52%
Penrith	2,733	2,628	2,801	2,822	2,870	2,885	2,877	2,798	2,871	2,863	2,862	5%
The Hills Shire	1,898	1,960	2,023	2,115	2,057	2,034	2,029	2,051	1,989	2,001	1,973	4%
Wollondilly	545	553	573	586	556	624	559	576	542	587	573	5%
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>27,985</b>	<b>27,181</b>	<b>28,769</b>	<b>29,296</b>	<b>30,458</b>	<b>30,493</b>	<b>30,587</b>	<b>30,378</b>	<b>31,157</b>	<b>31,899</b>	<b>31,448</b>	<b>12%</b>
Lithgow	223	223	239	237	281	241	238	235	257	244	228	2%
Wingecarribee	510	460	491	431	496	483	458	499	433	420	423	-17%
Total NSW	84,335	83,543	88,228	90,392	93,525	93,705	93,705	93,591	94,333	96,496	94,000	11%
GWS as NSW %	33.2%	32.5%	32.6%	32.4%	32.6%	32.5%	32.6%	32.5%	33.0%	33.1%	33.5%	0.8%

Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

The following table (Table 13) shows the proportion of confinements in each of the GWS LGAs. Blacktown as the largest LGA by population also had the largest proportion of confinements with almost one fifth (17.5%) of confinements being in Blacktown. Parramatta increased from 7.7% of confinements in 2003 to 10.4% of confinements in 2013. Wollondilly had the lowest proportion with 1.8% of confinements in 2013, down from 1.9% in 2003. Auburn and Holroyd both had an increase of 1.6% in the proportion of confinements from 2003 to 2013. Fairfield had the largest proportional decrease of 2.0% with the proportion of confinements decreasing from 9.9% of all confinements in 2003 to 7.9% in 2013.

Table 13: Proportion of total GWS confinements, 2003-2013

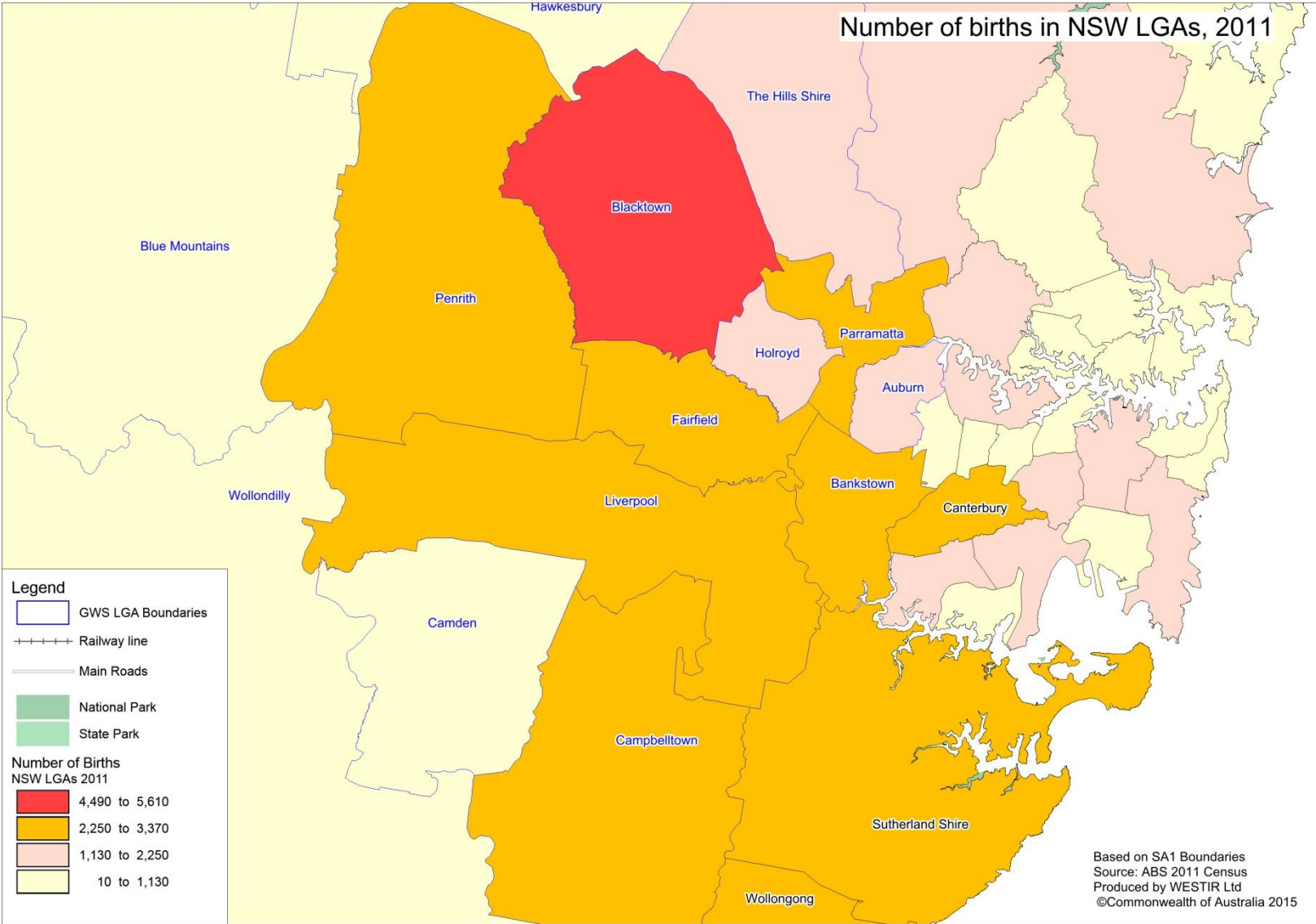
Total mothers giving birth: % of Confinements by Local Government Area, NSW 2001 to 2013												
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2003-2013
Auburn	3.8%	4.1%	4.1%	4.3%	4.4%	4.6%	4.5%	4.9%	5.2%	5.5%	5.5%	1.6%
Bankstown	9.9%	9.7%	9.7%	9.9%	10.0%	9.6%	9.5%	9.5%	9.3%	9.6%	9.6%	-0.3%
Blacktown	16.5%	16.5%	17.2%	16.9%	17.2%	17.0%	17.4%	17.6%	17.7%	17.3%	17.5%	1.0%
Blue Mountains	3.2%	3.2%	3.4%	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.6%	2.7%	-0.6%
Camden	3.0%	3.0%	2.7%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%	3.0%	0.0%
Campbelltown	8.4%	7.9%	7.9%	8.0%	8.0%	8.1%	7.7%	7.7%	7.6%	7.4%	7.4%	-1.0%
Fairfield	9.9%	9.5%	9.1%	8.8%	9.1%	8.9%	8.5%	8.0%	8.2%	8.6%	7.9%	-2.0%
Hawkesbury	3.4%	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	2.8%	3.0%	2.9%	2.9%	2.6%	2.6%	-0.8%
Holroyd	4.9%	5.3%	5.5%	5.7%	5.9%	6.0%	6.4%	6.4%	6.4%	6.4%	6.5%	1.6%
Liverpool	10.8%	10.6%	10.3%	10.6%	10.0%	9.7%	9.9%	9.8%	9.7%	9.8%	9.8%	-1.0%
Parramatta	7.7%	8.2%	8.1%	8.1%	8.7%	9.4%	9.5%	9.9%	10.2%	10.4%	10.4%	2.7%
Penrith	9.8%	9.7%	9.7%	9.6%	9.4%	9.5%	9.4%	9.2%	9.2%	9.0%	9.1%	-0.7%
The Hills Shire	6.8%	7.2%	7.0%	7.2%	6.8%	6.7%	6.6%	6.8%	6.4%	6.3%	6.3%	-0.5%
Wollondilly	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.8%	2.0%	1.8%	1.9%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	-0.1%
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

The following map (Map 5) shows the number of births in LGAs across Greater Sydney. It clearly shows the higher number of babies being born in GWS. Blacktown, as the LGA with the largest population, had the highest number of births. Canterbury, Sutherland Shire and Wollongong were the only LGAs outside of GWS where the number of births was in the second range of between 2,250 – 3,370 births. Not all GWS LGAs had a high number of births. The outer LGAs of Blue Mountains, Wollondilly, Camden and Hawkesbury all had fewer than 1,130 births in 2011. The map also shows that GWS LGAs generally had a higher number of confinements than the rest of Greater Sydney.



Map 5



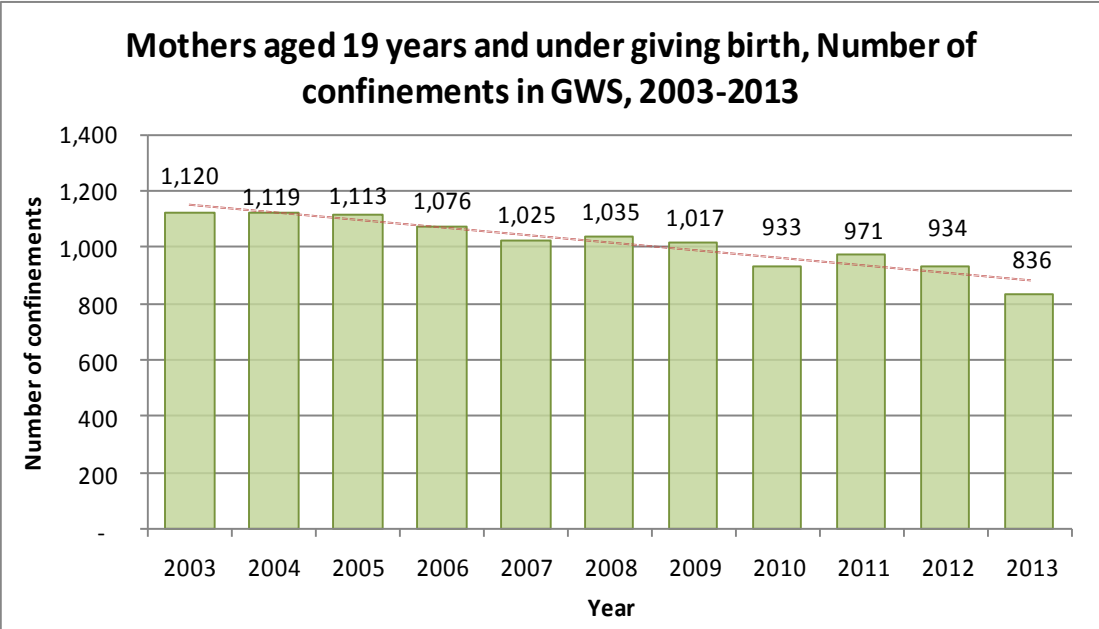
## Maternal Age – Teen Mums, Older Mums and those in between

The average age of mothers in Australia increased from 29.5 years in 2003 to 30.1 years in 2012 (Australia’s Mothers and Babies, 2012). The age of mothers giving birth in GWS is also changing over time. The number of teen mums has always been low and is getting lower, while the number of mothers aged 35 years and over is getting higher.

### Teenage Mothers – aged 19 years or under

The number of confinements where the mother was aged 19 years or less in 2013 was 836 mothers, down from 1,120 mothers in 2003. Although the numbers have fluctuated slightly during this period of time, the overall trend is one of fewer teenage mothers as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Teenage mothers, decreasing trend, 2003-2013



Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

All LGAs experienced a decrease in the number of teen mums except The Hills Shire. Although The Hills Shire shows an increase of 18%, there were only 11 teenage mothers in 2003 with an increase to 13 teenage mothers in 2013 making up just 0.7% of all confinement in The Hills Shire. The largest decrease was in Bankstown (-54%), followed by Blue Mountains (-41%), and Liverpool (-40%). Although there were few teenage mothers, the Mothers and Babies Report states that 35% of teenage mothers in Australia reported smoking while pregnant compared to 13% of all mothers.

**Table 14: Teenage mothers, GWS, 2003-2013**

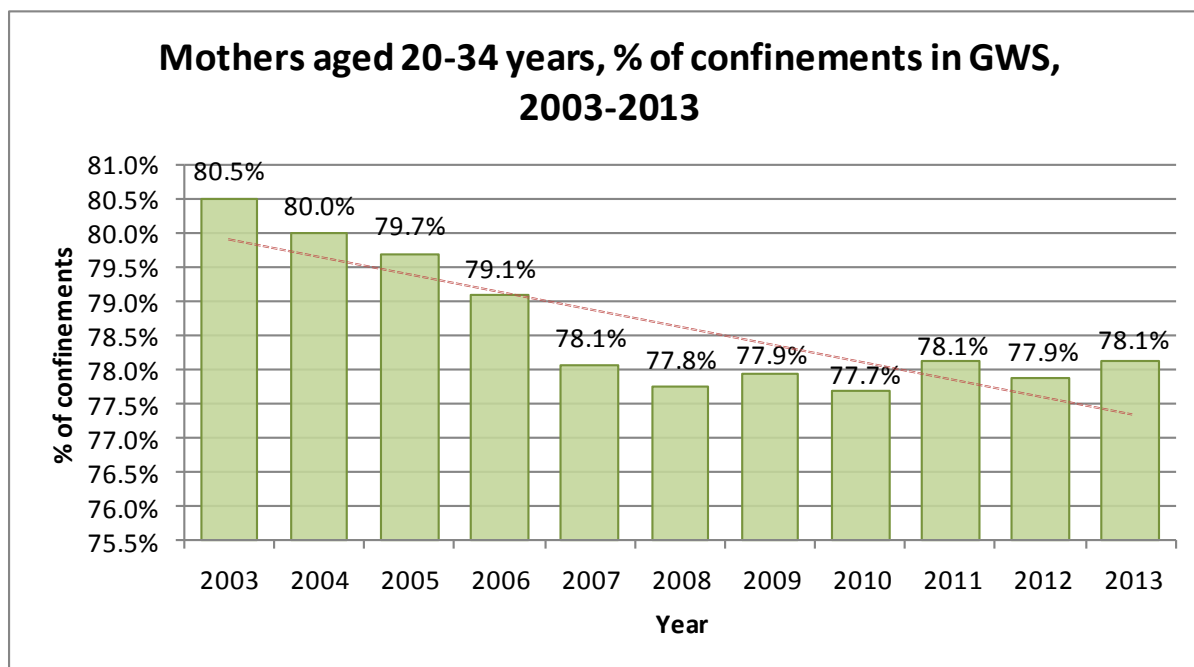
Mothers aged 19 years and under giving birth: Number of Confinements by Local Government Area, GWS 2003 to 2013												
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	% Change 2003-2013
Auburn	47	57	36	37	41	43	37	42	25	26	32	-32%
Bankstown	107	94	99	92	82	84	75	73	64	57	49	-54%
Blacktown	262	253	283	250	252	236	251	235	248	252	224	-15%
Blue Mountains	37	32	27	44	30	24	36	25	33	31	22	-41%
Camden	21	17	16	22	15	15	24	18	14	23	18	-14%
Campbelltown	156	156	146	157	143	179	145	111	126	120	109	-30%
Fairfield	80	88	101	60	75	79	70	69	70	69	54	-33%
Hawkesbury	42	33	28	38	33	36	42	29	45	31	26	-38%
Holroyd	36	42	46	42	37	42	46	38	43	31	31	-14%
Liverpool	116	97	114	110	96	112	75	88	91	103	70	-40%
Parramatta	47	67	55	61	53	42	54	47	37	39	47	0%
Penrith	140	145	141	130	139	113	140	118	143	125	126	-10%
The Hills Shire	11	20	10	18	10	10	10	10	9	8	13	18%
Wollondilly	18	18	11	15	19	20	12	30	23	19	15	-17%
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>-25%</b>
Lithgow	18	17	23	21	27	18	23	26	29	18	17	-6%
Wingecarribee	21	9	20	21	11	14	16	27	11	17	14	-33%
Total NSW	3,342	3,354	3,400	3,439	3,330	3,323	3,252	3,156	3,053	3,125	2,812	-16%

Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

### Mothers aged 20-34 years

The number of mothers aged 20-34 years decreased from 80.5% of all confinements in 2003 to 78.1% of all confinements in 2013. There have been fluctuations in the proportion of mothers in this age range. These fluctuations included a decrease in 2010 to 77.7% before rising again to 78.1% in 2013. However, the overall trend is one of decrease.

Figure 2: Mother aged 20-34 years, 2003-2013



Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

As a percentage of all confinements the number of mothers in this age range has been declining. However, the number of confinements of mothers aged 20-34 years in GWS increased by 9% from 2003 to 2013. Within the individual LGAs, there have been increases and decreases. In Auburn the number of confinements increased by 64% from 853 confinements in 2003 to 1,403 confinements in 2013. This was the largest proportional increase. Parramatta had an

increase of 56% and Holroyd an increase of 52%. These increases have been balanced by decreases in other LGAs. Hawkesbury experienced a decrease of 16% with the number of confinements dropping from 757 mothers in 2003 to 638 mothers in 2013. Fairfield had a 15% decrease from 2,246 confinements in 2003 to 1,916 in 2013. Blue Mountains also decreased with the number of confinements falling by 14% from 665 confinements in 2003 to 574 confinements in 2013. The 9% increase in confinements for mothers aged 20-34 years in GWS was higher than the increase of 7% for the whole of NSW. The large percentage change in birth in Auburn, Holroyd and Parramatta may be explained by these three LGAs having a higher proportion of persons in the 20 to 34 years age range in their population coupled with a high overall population increase (WESTIR 2011 Census Topic Paper 1, 2012). Whereas the population of Blue Mountains grew by only 2% between 2001 & 2011 combined with the lowest proportion of people aged 20-34 years of all LGAs in GWS.

**Table 15: Mothers aged 20-34 years, 2003-2012**

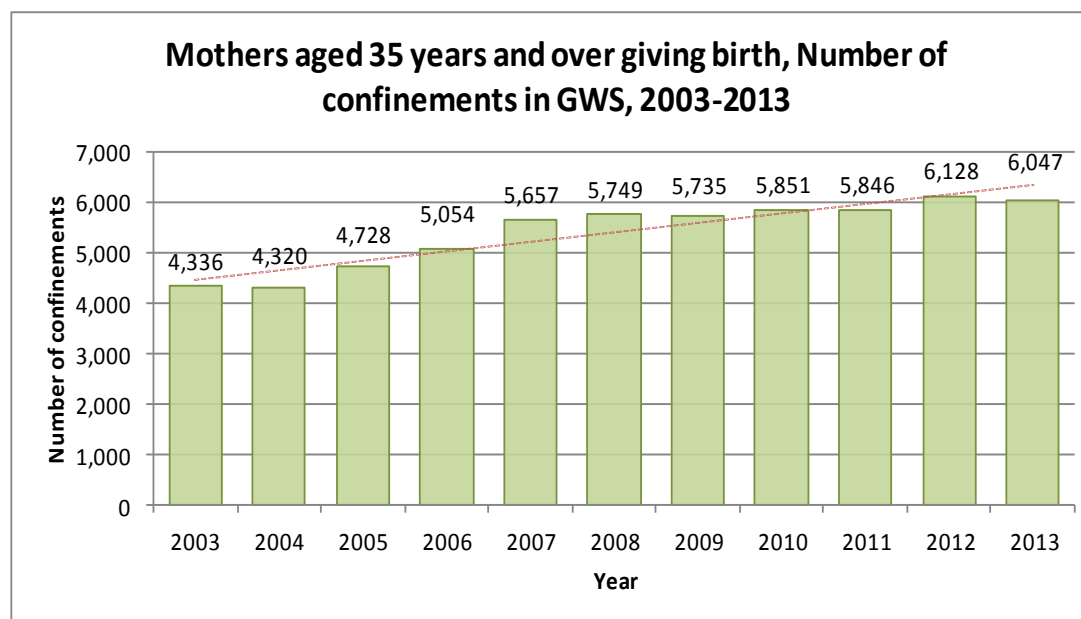
Mothers aged 20-34 years giving birth: Number of Confinements by Local Government Area, GWS 2003 to 2013												
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2003-2013
Auburn	853	878	932	1,007	1,041	1,087	1,091	1,192	1,353	1,448	1,402	64%
Bankstown	2,170	2,141	2,231	2,284	2,372	2,310	2,287	2,248	2,293	2,439	2,393	10%
Blacktown	3,731	3,560	3,942	3,948	4,140	4,053	4,196	4,196	4,332	4,265	4,242	14%
Blue Mountains	665	624	727	613	679	613	613	562	573	546	574	-14%
Camden	719	699	632	684	685	658	671	658	646	704	733	2%
Campbelltown	1,927	1,661	1,814	1,827	1,935	1,887	1,859	1,862	1,862	1,857	1,864	-3%
Fairfield	2,246	2,048	2,064	2,039	2,145	2,102	1,979	1,854	1,994	2,119	1,916	-15%
Hawkesbury	757	700	755	726	678	660	710	673	713	649	638	-16%
Holroyd	1,117	1,188	1,285	1,365	1,460	1,490	1,596	1,570	1,643	1,643	1,693	52%
Liverpool	2,506	2,385	2,406	2,509	2,419	2,339	2,403	2,367	2,357	2,444	2,440	-3%
Parramatta	1,678	1,749	1,838	1,828	2,018	2,265	2,304	2,357	2,547	2,650	2,613	56%
Penrith	2,255	2,162	2,300	2,322	2,334	2,330	2,318	2,252	2,287	2,266	2,290	2%
The Hills Shire	1,446	1,491	1,534	1,539	1,435	1,455	1,390	1,367	1,342	1,366	1,313	-9%
Wollondilly	459	456	468	475	435	460	418	436	398	441	454	-1%
<b>GWS</b>	<b>22,529</b>	<b>21,742</b>	<b>22,928</b>	<b>23,166</b>	<b>23,776</b>	<b>23,709</b>	<b>23,835</b>	<b>23,594</b>	<b>24,340</b>	<b>24,837</b>	<b>24,565</b>	<b>9%</b>
Lithgow	178	173	190	183	217	180	181	167	197	183	177	-1%
Wingecarribee	370	347	370	311	362	335	331	359	303	296	307	-17%
Total NSW	64,663	63,538	66,553	67,349	68,810	68,280	68,061	67,687	69,049	70,546	69,094	7%

Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

### Older mothers – aged 35 years and over

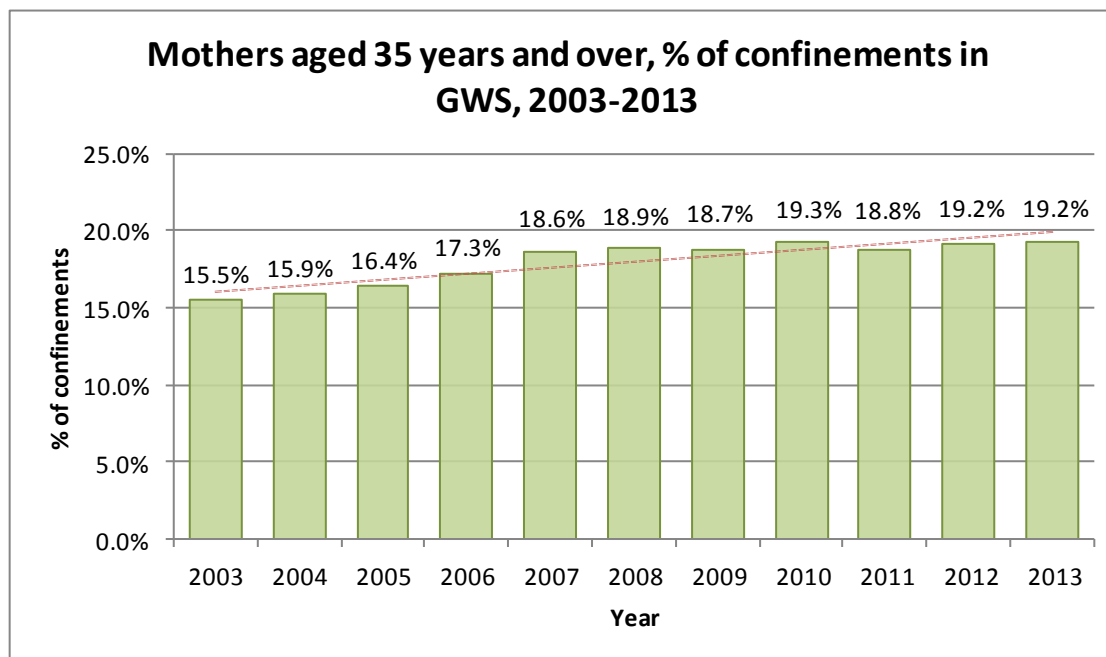
Australian Mothers and Babies (2012) notes, the proportion of mothers aged 35 years and over giving birth in Australia increased from 18.8% in 2003 to 22.4% in 2012. It also stated that 4.3% of births in Australia in 2012 were to mothers aged 40 years and over compared to 3.2% in 2003. The age of mothers giving birth in Australia in 2012 ranged from 15 years to 56 years (Australia's Mothers and Babies, 2012). Figure 3 shows the same increase occurring in GWS. In 2003 there were 4,336 confinements of mothers aged 35 years and over but this had increased to 6,047 births by 2013. This equates to an increase of 39% from 2003 to 2013 in the number of mothers aged 35 years and over giving birth. The percentage of mothers aged 35 years and over giving birth rose from 15.5% of all confinements in 2003 to 19.2% of all confinements in 2013. This trend is illustrated in Figure 3 by number of births and by percentage of all births in Figure 4.

Figure 3: Number of mothers aged 35 years and over, 2003-2013



Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

Figure 4: Proportion of mothers aged 35 years and over, 2003-2013



Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

The highest number of confinements of mothers aged 35 years and over in 2013 was in Blacktown (1,051 confinements). This was a 68% increase in the annual number of confinements since 2003. The largest percentage increase was in Camden (103%), but the actual number of confinements rose from 93 in 2003 to 189 in 2013. The only LGA in Table 5 to experience a decrease in the number of mother aged 35 years or over giving birth was Wingecarribee. The LGA decreased by 14% from 119 births in 2003 to 102 in 2013. Wingecarribee is not included as part of GWS, but is included in the service region of some departments and organisations. Hawkesbury LGA had the smallest increase in the number of confinements of mothers aged 35 years and over of only 2%; the number of births rising from 151 in 2003 to 154 in 2013. The increase for GWS as a whole was 39% compared to 35% for NSW.

Table 16: Number of mothers aged 35 years and over, 2003-2013

Mothers aged 35 years and over giving birth: Number of Confinements by Local Government Area, GWS 2003 to 2013												
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2003-2013
Auburn	169	170	202	205	245	264	250	251	255	283	286	69%
Bankstown	491	396	468	520	577	544	545	551	528	562	564	15%
Blacktown	625	681	727	743	855	902	887	904	939	988	1,051	68%
Blue Mountains	202	203	224	220	237	254	247	254	247	262	239	18%
Camden	93	112	133	134	153	159	158	185	184	156	189	103%
Campbelltown	277	318	322	357	349	390	362	361	381	377	363	31%
Fairfield	440	452	462	482	543	532	540	506	500	555	507	15%
Hawkesbury	151	147	134	154	175	169	172	167	142	162	154	2%
Holroyd	208	198	239	249	302	308	311	340	321	356	323	55%
Liverpool	410	391	448	485	545	511	551	526	562	583	577	41%
Parramatta	423	403	436	481	565	561	535	594	587	618	597	41%
Penrith	338	321	360	370	397	442	419	428	441	472	446	32%
The Hills Shire	441	449	479	558	612	569	629	674	638	627	647	47%
Wollondilly	68	79	94	96	102	144	129	110	121	127	104	53%
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>4,336</b>	<b>4,320</b>	<b>4,728</b>	<b>5,054</b>	<b>5,657</b>	<b>5,749</b>	<b>5,735</b>	<b>5,851</b>	<b>5,846</b>	<b>6,128</b>	<b>6,047</b>	<b>39%</b>
Lithgow	27	33	26	33	37	43	34	42	31	43	34	26%
Wingecarribee	119	104	101	99	123	134	111	113	119	107	102	-14%
Total NSW	16,330	16,651	18,275	19,604	21,385	22,102	22,392	22,748	22,231	22,825	22,094	35%

Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

The proportion of all confinements in GWS to mothers aged 35 years and over rose by 3.7% from 2003-2013. Parramatta was the only LGA where the proportion of mothers aged 35 years and over giving births decreased (from 19.7% to 18.3%, a decrease of 1.4%). In the other LGAs, the increase in this group of mothers varied from 0.5% in Holroyd to 9.6% in The Hills Shire. The small increases in the number of women aged 35 years and over giving birth in Auburn, Holroyd and Parramatta are balanced by these same LGAs having the largest increase in the number of confinements for younger women aged 20-34 years. This may be partly explained by the median age of the total population in some LGAs. The median age of residents in Auburn was 31 years in 2011, 34 years in Holroyd, 33 years in Parramatta and 38 years in The Hills Shire. The median age of the Camden population was also 34 years but there was a large increase in the proportion of confinements of women in the older age range.



Blue Mountains had the highest proportion of confinements with mothers aged 35 years and over. In 2003, 22.3% of confinements were mothers aged 35 years and over, but this steadily rose to 30.2% in 2010, then 31.2% in 2012 before dropping back to 28.6% in 2013. The median age of the total Blue Mountains population in 2011 was 42 years and the number of confinements for mothers of all ages decreased by 8.0% from 904 confinements in 2003 to 835 in 2013.

**Table 17: Proportion of mothers aged 35 years and over, 2003-2013**

Mothers aged 35 years and over giving birth: % of Confinements by Local Government Area, GWS 2001 to 2013												
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2003-2013
Auburn	15.8	15.4	17.3	16.4	18.5	18.9	18.1	16.9	15.6	16.1	16.6	0.8
Bankstown	17.7	15	16.7	17.9	19	18.5	18.7	19.2	18.3	18.4	18.8	1.1
Blacktown	13.5	15.2	14.7	15	16.3	17.4	16.6	16.9	17	17.9	19	5.5
Blue Mountains	22.3	23.6	22.9	25.1	25	28.5	27.6	30.2	29	31.2	28.6	6.3
Camden	11.2	13.5	17	16	17.9	19.1	18.5	21.5	21.8	17.7	20.1	8.9
Campbelltown	11.7	14.9	14.1	15.2	14.4	15.9	15.3	15.5	16.1	16	15.5	3.8
Fairfield	15.9	17.5	17.6	18.7	19.7	19.6	20.9	20.8	19.5	20.2	20.5	4.6
Hawkesbury	15.9	16.7	14.6	16.8	19.8	19.5	18.6	19.2	15.8	19.2	18.8	2.9
Holroyd	15.3	13.9	15.2	15	16.8	16.7	15.9	17.5	16	17.5	15.8	0.5
Liverpool	13.5	13.6	15.1	15.6	17.8	17.3	18.2	17.6	18.7	18.6	18.7	5.2
Parramatta	19.7	18.2	18.7	20.3	21.4	19.6	18.5	19.8	18.5	18.7	18.3	-1.4
Penrith	12.4	12.2	12.9	13.1	13.8	15.3	14.6	15.3	15.4	16.5	15.6	3.2
The Hills Shire	23.2	22.9	23.7	26.4	29.8	28	31	32.9	32.1	31.3	32.8	9.6
Wollondilly	12.5	14.3	16.4	16.4	18.3	23.1	23.1	19.1	22.3	21.6	18.2	5.7
<b>GWS Total</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
Lithgow	12.1	14.8	10.9	13.8	13.2	17.8	14.3	17.9	12.1	17.6	14.9	2.8
Wingecarribee	23.3	22.6	20.6	23	24.8	27.7	24.2	22.6	27.5	25.5	24.1	0.8
Total NSW	19.4%	19.9%	20.7%	21.7%	22.9%	23.6%	23.9%	24.3%	23.6%	23.7%	23.5%	4.1%

Source: NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

## Smoking in pregnancy

Smoking during pregnancy increases the risk of miscarriage, low birth weight, pre-term delivery as well as effects on the health of the baby, not only at birth but impacting into adulthood (Quit Org. Au, 2015)

Overall smoking rates have decreased from 20.1% of females in Australia in 2001 to 15.6% of females in 2011-12 (ABS Cat. 4125.0, Gender Indicators, January 2013). The rate of females smoking while pregnant in NSW in 2008-10 was 8.6%, a decrease from 9.6% in 2004-06. The proportion of women who smoked while pregnant was as high as 30.9% in Lithgow and as low as 2.7% in The Hills Shire. The proportion of women smoking while pregnant had decreased in the majority of LGAs. However, Bankstown had increased from 9.6% in 2004-06 up to 13.4% in 2008-10. Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Liverpool and Wollondilly also experienced an increase in the proportion of women smoking while pregnant. The details of each LGA in GWS and comparative regions can be found in Table 18.

Table 18: Smoking during pregnancy, 2004-10

Smoking during pregnancy by Local Government Area, GWS, 2004-10						
LGA	2004-6			2008-10		
	Women	All women	%smoked	Women	All women	%smoked
Auburn	257	3,499	7.3	204	4,256	4.8
Bankstown	801	8,320	9.6	1,182	8,726	13.5
Blacktown	2,602	14,396	18.1	2,123	15,865	13.4
Blue Mountains	338	2,737	12.3	241	2,628	9.2
Camden	247	2,365	10.4	375	2,542	14.8
Campbelltown	1,585	6,622	23.9	1,885	7,155	26.3
Fairfield	721	7,865	9.2	1,042	7,720	13.5
Hawkesbury	479	2,748	17.4	375	2,655	14.1
Holroyd	387	4,693	8.2	351	5,707	6.2
Lithgow	242	704	34.4	219	711	30.9
Liverpool	864	8,764	9.9	1,335	8,981	14.9
Parramatta	553	6,892	8.0	407	8,776	4.6
Penrith	1,583	8,288	19.1	1,330	8,562	15.5
The Hills Shire	283	6,108	4.6	167	6,120	2.7
Wingecarribee	240	1,392	17.2	249	1,442	17.3
Wollondilly	332	1,930	17.2	331	1,763	18.8
<b>GWS</b>	<b>11,032</b>	<b>85,227</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>11,348</b>	<b>91,456</b>	<b>12.4</b>
Sydney Statistical Division	17,060	178,430	9.6	16,741	193,697	8.6
NSW	37,510	264,682	14.2	33,956	283,113	12.0

Source: Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU). Social Health Atlas of Australia: Medicare Local (online). At: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/maps-data/data/> (accessed April 2015).

## Low Birth Weight

Low birth weight is defined as less than 2500 grams and is an important measure of maternal health and care during pregnancy. Low birth weight increases the risk of poor health or death of the baby, longer hospitalisation after birth and a higher likelihood of developing disabilities. Premature birth or poor intrauterine growth may be factors in babies with low birth weight. Multiple births are also a factor in babies of low birth weight as well as ill health of the mother during pregnancy. (Health Stats NSW). Babies of low birth weight are more likely to be born to mothers aged under 20 years and over 40 years and mothers who smoked during pregnancy. The proportion of mothers in Lithgow who smoked whilst pregnant decreased between 2004-06 and 2008-10 but the proportion of low weight babies increased. Lithgow and Campbelltown had a high proportion of mothers who smoked during pregnancy and low birth weight babies. However, Camden had a high proportion of smokers and yet the proportion of low birth

weight babies was not among the highest in GWS. Indigenous mothers are twice as likely to have a baby of low birth weight as non-Indigenous mothers. Socioeconomic status of mothers also influences birth weight with the most disadvantaged mothers being 1.3 times more likely to have a baby of low birth weight than mothers with the least disadvantage. The proportion of low birth weight babies overall and in GWS has remained fairly static (AIHW, 2015).

Table 19: Low birth weight, 2001-10

Low birth weight babies by Local Government Area,GWS, 2004-10						
LGA	2004-6			2008-10		
	Low birth	Births	% low birth	Low birth	Births	% low birth
Auburn	208	3,545	5.9	249	4,308	5.8
Bankstown	514	8,430	6.1	510	8,855	5.8
Blacktown	1,067	14,649	7.3	1,203	16,144	7.5
Blue Mountains	172	2,788	6.2	138	2,671	5.2
Camden	137	2,412	5.7	142	2,584	5.5
Campbelltown	551	6,722	8.2	544	7,256	7.5
Fairfield	547	7,966	6.9	553	7,835	7.1
Hawkesbury	166	2,789	6.0	168	2,693	6.2
Holroyd	316	4,762	6.6	385	5,811	6.6
Lithgow	57	712	8.0	77	726	10.6
Liverpool	597	8,900	6.7	605	9,120	6.6
Parramatta	399	6,989	5.7	537	8,907	6.0
Penrith	554	8,419	6.6	551	8,717	6.3
The Hills Shire	326	6,224	5.2	294	6,202	4.7
Wingecarribee	92	1,416	6.5	66	1,460	4.5
Wollondilly	112	1,964	5.7	104	1,791	5.8
<b>GWS</b>	<b>5,666</b>	<b>86,559</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5,983</b>	<b>92,894</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Sydney Statistical Division	11,180	181,391	6.2	11,849	196,770	6.0
NSW	17,067	268,955	6.3	17,579	287,460	6.1

Source: Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU). Social Health Atlas of Australia: Medicare Local (online). At: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/maps-data/data/> (accessed April 2015).

## Children and Health

### Childhood Immunisation

“Apart from the provision of clean water, vaccines have had a more profound effect on world health, especially of children, than any other public health measure.” E Richard Moxon, Action Research Professor of Child Health, University of Oxford, UK quoted by Andrew J Pollard in Childhood Immunisation: what is the future?..(<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2083746/> ).

Vaccination can help eradicate a disease, as was the case with smallpox (WHO, <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/smallpox/en/>). Although Australia no longer has ‘home grown’, cases of measles, it is still necessary to protect children against cases originating overseas. Immunisation is still needed to protect against diseases such as measles which can be brought into the country by travellers. Polio has not occurred locally in Australia for the past 30 years, but as it is still endemic in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan, there is always the risk of importation of the virus from overseas; the most recent case being in 2007. The patient, who did recover, had flown from Pakistan while ill. This necessitated other patients being informed and offered vaccination to prevent an outbreak of polio in Australia. Not all children who receive a vaccination will develop immunity to a disease. Immunised children may still catch a particular disease but the severity would be less. Immunisation relies on ‘herd immunity’ which is when the majority of the population are immunised resulting in either slowing or stopping the disease completely. This helps protect vulnerable people in the community, such as those who are too young to be vaccinated or have medical problems that stops them from being vaccinated. (“Myths and Realities, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition 2013: available on <http://www.immunise.health.gov.au>). The Department of Health and Ageing regularly updates its publication “Myths and Realities – Responding to arguments against vaccination” in order to inform the community of issues relating to vaccination in order to maintain the high rates of immunisation and address concerns raised regarding vaccination.

Childhood immunisation in Australia is above 90% of children at ages 1, 2 and 5. However, this is an average with some local government areas within GWS falling below this level. The proportion of children fully immunised at 1 year of age is generally higher than the proportion of children fully immunised at 5 years of age. This may be due to a certain number of the younger children having an adverse reaction to their first vaccines or it could be due to other emerging health issues. The Blue Mountains had the lowest proportion of fully vaccinated children aged 1, 2 and 5 years with only 85.4% of children aged 5 years being fully immunised. This is much lower than NSW (90.1%) and Sydney (89.7%). Camden had the highest proportion of fully immunised 5 year olds (93.0%). Lithgow had the highest proportion of fully immunised 1 years olds (94.7%) but this dropped to only 86.3% of 5 year olds. Wollondilly had a high proportion of fully immunised 1 year olds (94.3%), increasing to 95.8% of 2 year olds before dropping to 92.7% of 5 year olds.

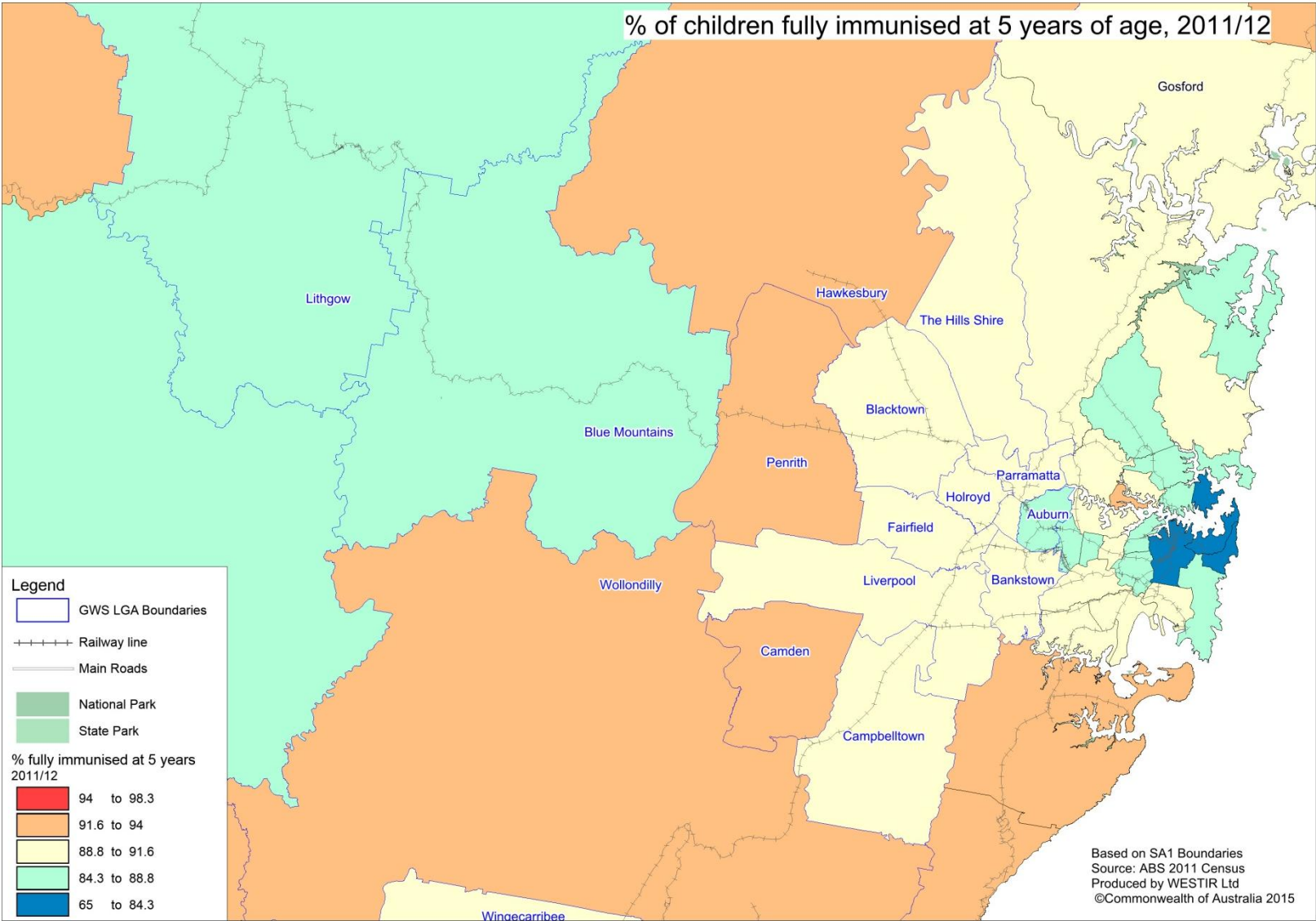
Table 20: Immunisation, GWS, 2011-12

Childhood Immunisation, LGAs in Greater Western Sydney, 2011/12									
Region	2011/12			2011/12			2011/12		
	Children fully immunised at 1 year of age	Children registered at 1 year of age	% children fully immunised at 1 year of age	Children fully immunised at 2 years of age	Children registered at 2 years of age	% children fully immunised at 2 years of age	Children fully immunised at 5 years of age	Children registered at 5 years of age	% children fully immunised at 5 years of age
Auburn	1,219	1,359	89.7	1,150	1,283	89.6	916	1,045	87.6
Bankstown	2,702	2,990	90.4	2,871	3,096	92.7	2,738	3,029	90.4
Blacktown	4,811	5,304	90.7	5,032	5,449	92.4	4,807	5,344	89.9
Blue Mountains	814	915	89.0	882	967	91.2	833	975	85.4
Camden	851	920	92.5	894	929	96.2	955	1,027	93.0
Campbelltown	2,223	2,425	91.6	2,247	2,405	93.4	2,096	2,321	90.3
Fairfield	2,437	2,666	91.4	2,507	2,732	91.7	2,516	2,779	90.6
Hawkesbury	810	872	92.9	865	923	93.8	825	899	91.8
Holroyd	1,751	1,908	91.8	1,694	1,848	91.7	1,487	1,642	90.6
Lithgow	245	258	94.7	231	244	94.9	232	269	86.3
Liverpool	2,832	3,101	91.3	2,811	3,062	91.8	2,865	3,180	90.1
Parramatta	2,596	2,847	91.2	2,415	2,643	91.3	2,143	2,379	90.1
Penrith	2,678	2,883	92.9	2,728	2,881	94.7	2,565	2,794	91.8
The Hills Shire	2,113	2,272	93.0	2,225	2,391	93.0	2,406	2,635	91.3
Wingecarribee	472	524	90.1	480	517	93.0	511	571	89.6
Wollondilly	592	628	94.3	596	622	95.8	654	705	92.7
GWS	28,427	31,088	91.4	28,916	31,231	92.6	27,805	30,752	90.4
Sydney	59,310	64,860	91.4	59,590	64,850	91.9	56,104	62,561	89.7
NSW	88,816	96,966	91.6	90,436	97,917	92.4	87,219	96,840	90.1

Source: Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU). Social Health Atlas of Australia: Medicare Local (online). At: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/maps-data/data/> (accessed April 2015).

Map 6 highlights the variation in immunisation rates for children aged 5 years. Areas around Sydney city had the lowest proportion of fully vaccinated children at five years. The areas with the highest immunisation rates were in the rural parts of NSW which are not shown in this map. There did not appear to be any particular pattern to this map with areas of low vaccination rates side by side with higher rates. Not one of the Greater Sydney LGAs was in the highest range of fully vaccinated 5 year olds. Vaccination of children did not appear to be related to geographical location.

Map 6



## Infant and childhood deaths

The PHIDU states that death rates for infants and children under the age of five have halved in the past two decades. This is due to increased awareness of injury and risk factors for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), as well as reductions in vaccine-preventable diseases. The rates for Indigenous children and those in remote areas remain higher than the national rate for non-Indigenous children. Socioeconomic factors also play a part in infant mortality with maternal factors, environmental contamination, nutritional deficiency, injury, individual preventive measures and access to effective medical treatment all playing a part. (PHIDU Notes on the data, Infant deaths, 2008-2012). Lithgow had the highest Infant Death Rate (IDR) of 5.9 per 1,000 births and Blue Mountains and The Hills Shire had the lowest (2.1 per 1,000 births). The Sydney IDR was 3.5 IDR per 1,000 births. Infant deaths are the death of children in the first year of life. The number of deaths for children aged 1 to 4 years was low and in some LGAs a figure was not given when there were less than four deaths.

Table 21: Infant & childhood deaths, 2008-2012

Infant and childhood deaths, LGAs in Greater Western Sydney, 2008-2012						
Region	2008 to 2012			2008 to 2012		
	Infant deaths (No.)	Births	Average annual IDR* per 1000 births	Deaths of children aged 1 to 4 years	Children aged 1 to 4 years	Average annual rate per 100,000
Auburn	34	7,453	4.5	#	..	..
Bankstown	63	14,777	4.3	9	11,207	16.0
Blacktown	131	26,733	4.9	20	20,055	19.9
Blue Mountains	9	4,333	2.1	0	3,917	0.0
Camden	13	4,238	3.0	#	..	..
Campbelltown	69	11,833	5.8	12	8,836	27.2
Fairfield	60	13,341	4.5	12	10,212	23.5
Hawkesbury	13	4,400	2.9	5	3,448	29.0
Holroyd	26	9,535	2.7	#	..	..
Lithgow	7	1,184	5.9	#	..	..
Liverpool	76	14,896	5.1	10	11,468	17.4
Parramatta	62	14,933	4.2	14	9,592	28.4
Penrith	55	14,155	3.9	14	10,819	25.9
The Hills Shire	21	10,076	2.1	5	9,250	11.4
Wingecarribee	11	2,327	4.7	0	2,180	0.0
Wollondilly	7	2,888	2.5	#	..	..
New South Wales	1,873	497,335	3.8	307	370,410	16.6
Sydney	1,158	327,098	3.5	178	239,834	14.8
AUSTRALIA+	5,887	1,518,042	3.9	1,094	1,147,670	19.1

Source: Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU). Social Health Atlas of Australia: Medicare Local (online). At: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/maps-data/data/> (accessed April 2015).

# Not shown, actual number less than 4. '+'The total for Australia may include external territories and 'unknowns', not included in State and Territory totals

\*IDR – Infant Death Rate

## Children with need for assistance with Core Activities

The 2006 Census was the first that included a question relating to disability. The question asks if a person has need for assistance or supervision with self care, body movement activities or communication activities. If the reason for assistance is due to old or young age, short term disability of less than 6 months or because of English language difficulties, the person is coded as not needing assistance. People over the age of 40 years who provided a reason of 'old age' only are coded as needing assistance, as are those who answer with 'long term health condition, lasting more than six months' and 'disability'.

The proportion of children needing assistance was very low with 1.1% of 0-4 year olds and 2.7% of 5-8 year olds in GWS. The increasing percentage of children with need for assistance may be due to parents assuming their 0-4 year old is requiring assistance due to their age not a disability. As a child ages and still requires assistance, it may only be then that the parents look to reasons other than age. This may also be the reason for the decreasing proportion of children for whom a need for assistance is not stated. At the age of 0-4 years the question may not be answered due to uncertainty of the correct answer but at 5-8 years it may become clearer that any assistance needed is due to a health condition or disability. A detailed table with figures for each of the LGAs in GWS as well as Lithgow and Wingecarribee LGAs may be found in the appendix.

Table 22: Need for assistance, GWS, 2011

Need for assistance with core activities, GWS, 2011						
Need for Assistance	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Has need for assistance	1,563	1.1%	2,975	2.7%	4,538	1.8%
Does not have need for assistance	131,920	91.4%	100,984	91.6%	232,904	91.5%
Not stated	10,921	7.6%	6,303	5.7%	17,224	6.8%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro



## Children and Education

### Readiness for school

The most recent published data for the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) was from the Census conducted in 2012. The Census measures five domains of childhood development:

1. Physical Health & Wellbeing,
2. Social Competence,
3. Emotional Maturity,
4. Language & Cognitive Skills (school based)
5. Communication Skills and General Knowledge.

The Early Development instrument contains about 100 questions and is completed in the first year of schooling by the teacher of the child. The scores are collated for each domain with the overall scores being ranked and deemed to be 'on track', 'at risk' or 'vulnerable'. Children vulnerable in one or more domains are more likely to live in remote areas or come from socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. Most Indigenous children were

developmentally on track, but they were more than twice as likely to be developmentally vulnerable in one or more areas, than non-Indigenous children.

Bankstown had the highest proportion of children vulnerable on one or more domains (28.8%) and in two or more domains (15.8%). Blue Mountains had the lowest proportion of children vulnerable in one or more domains (11.5%) and in two or more domains (4.3%).

**Table 23: AEDC, 2012**

Early childhood development, AEDC, 2012						
Region	Developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains			Developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains		
	2012			2012		
	Children developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains	Children assessed in AEDC (first year of school)	%Children developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains	Children developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains	Children assessed in AEDC (first year of school)	%Children developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains
Auburn	250	922	27.1	119	920	12.9
Bankstown	753	2,618	28.8	417	2,638	15.8
Blacktown	1,176	4,936	23.8	569	4,948	11.5
Blue Mountains	102	887	11.5	38	890	4.3
Camden	135	930	14.5	48	931	5.2
Campbelltown	516	2,179	23.7	246	2,183	11.3
Fairfield	693	2,495	27.8	334	2,506	13.3
Hawkesbury	171	842	20.3	88	846	10.4
Holroyd	296	1,506	19.7	124	1,512	8.2
Lithgow	43	246	17.5	18	247	7.3
Liverpool	641	2,856	22.4	291	2,869	10.1
Parramatta	469	2,135	22.0	201	2,154	9.3
Penrith	514	2,610	19.7	245	2,623	9.3
The Hills Shire	373	2,586	14.4	158	2,595	6.1
Wingecarribee	89	474	18.8	30	475	6.3
Wollondilly	101	668	15.1	35	668	5.2
Greater Sydney	10,936	56,591	19.3	4,903	56,815	8.6
Rest of NSW	6,713	32,058	20.9	3,245	32,172	10.1
New South Wales	17,722	88,921	19.9	8,189	89,260	9.2
Australia	59,933	272,282	22.0	29,543	273,275	10.8

Source: Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU). Social Health Atlas of Australia: Medicare Local (online).

At: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/maps-data/data/> (accessed April 2015).

### Children in the year before school

The data in this section also comes from the AEDC. The data captures formal and informal care of preschoolers including relatives and others if this information is known to the teacher completing the questions. Additional questions indicate proficiency in English from the view point of the teacher as opposed to self reporting in the ABS Census. Support Information for children with special needs which is based on a medical diagnosis is also included. The number of children surveyed in the AEDC in 2012 is very close to the number of 4 year old children counted in each LGA of GWS in the 2011 ABS Census which provides additional validity to the data collected. The slight differences would be accounted for by children within the age range of 4-6 years commencing kindergarten at different times.

The proportion of children who had non-parental early childhood education and/or care in the year before school varied from 88.8% in Campbelltown through to 97.1% in The Hills Shire. All but three LGAs had more than 90% of children in the year before school having some form of non-parental care. The figures were quite different for formal care. Auburn had the lowest proportion of children attending Preschool, including preschool in a day care centre and Hawkesbury LGA had the highest proportion. The LGAs with the lowest proportion of children attending preschool were Auburn (51.4%), Campbelltown (60.0%), Holroyd (60.2%), Fairfield (61.3%), Liverpool (61.3%), Bankstown (64.1%) and Blacktown (64.5%). The LGAs with the highest proportion of children attending preschool were Hawkesbury (81.3%), Wingecarribee (80.7%), Blue Mountains (79.0%), Wollondilly (77.9%), Lithgow (77.6%) and The Hills Shire (76.6%).

The proportion of children who spoke a language other than English at home ranged from 87.6% in Auburn through to 2.4% in Wollondilly. Blue Mountains (5.1%), Hawkesbury (4.2%), Wollondilly (2.4%), Lithgow (4.5%) and Wingecarribee (6.0%) had the lowest proportion of LOTE speakers. This contrasted greatly with Auburn (87.6%), Fairfield (78.1%), Bankstown (69.1%) and Holroyd (65.4%). Children who spoke a language other English at home were quite proficient in English with only a low proportion that were not proficient. In Fairfield 15.6% of children who spoke a LOTE at home were not proficient in English, 14.5% in Penrith and Bankstown and 13.2% in Hawkesbury. However, when looking at the number of children who were not proficient in English there were 330 children in Fairfield but only 58 in Penrith. Wingecarribee had a total of 31 children who spoke a LOTE at home with 25 of those proficient and 6 who were not proficient (19.4%).

The support information shows that 6.2% (59 children) of children in the Blue Mountains had special needs status in their first year at school. In Blacktown the proportion was 4.9% with 251 children. Wingecarribee had a total of 40 children (7.8%) with special needs status. The Hills Shire had the lowest proportion with 3.6% (110 children). (See Table 24).

Table 24: Additional AEDC data, 2012

Non-parental early childhood education and/or care in the year before school, AEDC 2012													
LGA	Number of Children surveyed	Non-parental early childhood education and/or care in the year before school				Children who speak a language other than English at home						Support Information: Children with special needs status#	
		Daycare, preschool, family day care, care from a relative, nanny or other		Preschool, including preschool in a day care centre		Children who speak a language other than English		Proficient in English		Not proficient in English			
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Auburn	1,001	726	89.7	416	51.4	877	87.6%	764	85.7	113	12.7	41	4.1
Bankstown	2,727	2,134	90.6	1,510	64.1	1,885	69.1%	1,609	84.6	276	14.5	122	4.5
Blacktown	5,149	4,229	89.6	3,044	64.5	2,110	41.0%	1,835	86.4	275	12.9	251	4.9
Blue Mountains	956	849	96.0	698	79.0	49	5.1%	45	90.0	4	8.0	59	6.2
Camden	979	869	95.9	642	70.9	105	10.7%	95	90.5	10	9.5	56	5.7
Campbelltown	2,321	1,795	88.8	1,213	60.0	789	34.0%	698	87.3	91	11.4	118	5.1
Fairfield	2,681	2,017	90.3	1,368	61.3	2,095	78.1%	1,765	83.6	330	15.6	154	5.7
Hawkesbury	900	833	96.6	701	81.3	38	4.2%	33	86.8	5	13.2	50	5.6
Holroyd	1,717	1,416	90.4	942	60.2	1,123	65.4%	1,020	89.7	103	9.1	64	3.7
Liverpool	3,065	2,322	90.2	1,578	61.3	1,757	57.3%	1,559	88.0	198	11.2	154	5.0
Parramatta	1,877	1,523	91.8	1,088	65.6	1,118	59.6%	995	88.4	123	10.9	75	4.0
Penrith	2,744	2,274	93.3	1,676	68.8	398	14.5%	340	85.0	58	14.5	144	5.2
The Hills Shire	3,067	2,862	97.1	2,258	76.6	897	29.2%	809	89.8	88	9.8	110	3.6
Wollondilly	699	633	96.5	511	77.9	17	2.4%	16	94.0	1	5.9	29	4.1
Lithgow	266	237	93.3	197	77.6	12	4.5%	12	100.0	0	0.0	18	6.8
Wingecarribee	515	448	94.9	381	80.7	31	6.0%	25	80.6	6	19.4	40	7.8

Source: Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU). Social Health Atlas of Australia: Medicare Local (online)

At: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/maps-data/data/> (accessed April 2015) (uses data from the AEDC, 2012)

#children with additional health and developmental needs are those who have chronic medical, physical or an intellectual disability that requires special assistance. Teachers were asked to base their response on medical diagnosis

^Includes only children where teachers knew if they had a non-parental early childhood education and/or care experience or no, in the year before entering formal full-time school.

## Educational Institution Attending

Table 25 highlights the age children attend preschool and the different ages they commenced formal schooling. The proportion of children attending preschool was highest for 4 years olds, which is generally the year before they commence school. A total of 17,813 children (49.6%) aged 4 years in 2011 were attending pre-school. There were no children 6 years or over attending preschool. This table focuses more on the age at which children attend various institutions rather than which one they attend (Table 25). The youngest a child can commence school is the age of 4 years and they should be at school the year they turn 6 years. This table reflects this policy. The number of children in the 'Not applicable' category also reduced to zero. One interesting point in this table was that a higher proportion of 4 year old children were attending a non-government infants/primary school. Four year olds made up 4.5% of children attending a non-government school compared to 0.4% of children attending a Catholic school and 0.7% attending a government school.

**Table 25: Educational Institution attending by individual age, 2011**

Educational Institution attending for 0-8 year olds, GWS, 2011										
Number of children										
Type of Educational Institution	0 years	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	Total
Pre-school	-	-	-	12,198	17,813	5,876	-	-	-	35,887
Infants/Primary - Govt.	-	-	-	-	447	12,439	15,877	15,603	15,852	60,218
Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	-	-	-	82	4,037	5,255	5,257	5,141	19,772
Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	-	-	-	-	454	1,996	2,584	2,446	2,567	10,047
Not stated	-	-	-	2,438	1,843	2,286	3,794	3,632	3,638	17,631
Not applicable #	27,932	29,093	28,935	14,382	8,622	1,814	-	-	-	110,778
Other	-	-	-	81	85	31	40	45	55	337
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,932</b>	<b>29,093</b>	<b>28,935</b>	<b>29,099</b>	<b>29,346</b>	<b>28,479</b>	<b>27,550</b>	<b>26,983</b>	<b>27,253</b>	<b>254,670</b>
% of children										
Type of Educational Institution	0 years	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	6 years	7 years	8 years	Total
Pre-school	-	-	-	34.0%	49.6%	16.4%	-	-	-	100.0%
Infants/Primary - Govt.	-	-	-	-	0.7%	20.7%	26.4%	25.9%	26.3%	100.0%
Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	-	-	-	0.4%	20.4%	26.6%	26.6%	26.0%	100.0%
Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	-	-	-	-	4.5%	19.9%	25.7%	24.3%	25.5%	100.0%
Not stated	-	-	-	13.8%	10.5%	13.0%	21.5%	20.6%	20.6%	100.0%
Not applicable #	25.2%	26.3%	26.1%	13.0%	7.8%	1.6%	-	-	-	100.0%
Other	-	-	-	24.0%	25.2%	9.2%	11.9%	13.4%	16.3%	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

# Includes those persons who do not attend an institution

The following table (Table 26) provides the same information as the table above but presents it as age ranges and the proportion of children attending each type of institution. The majority of children aged 0-4 years who were attending an educational institution were attending pre-school (20.8%) but the overall majority of children were not attending any institution. This would include newborn babies and children in different types of formal and informal day-care. There were also small numbers of children aged 4 years who were already enrolled in formal schooling in this age range as seen in Table 25. Once children reach the 5-8 year age range they were generally enrolled in formal schooling. More than half (54.2%) of all 5-8 year olds in GWS attended a Government Infants/Primary school. The next largest group were those attending a Catholic Infants/Primary school (17.9%). A further 8.7% of children aged 5-8 years were attending an Other Non-Government Infants/Primary school. The not stated category with 12.1% of 5-8 year olds is higher than expected and may indicate a degree of confusion over the categorisation of schools into Government, Catholic and Other non-Government. The number and proportion of children in the 'Not applicable' category dropped to only 1.6% of all 5-8 year olds.

**Table 26: Educational Institution attending by age ranges, 2011**

<b>Education Institution Attending, children aged 0-8 years, GWS, 2011</b>						
<b>Type of Institution</b>	<b>0-4 years</b>		<b>5-8 years</b>		<b>Total 0-8 years</b>	
	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Pre-school	30,011	20.8%	5,876	5.3%	35,887	14.1%
Infants/Primary - Govt.	447	0.3%	59,771	54.2%	60,218	23.6%
Infants/Primary - Catholic	82	0.1%	19,690	17.9%	19,772	7.8%
Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	454	0.3%	9,593	8.7%	10,047	3.9%
Not stated	4,281	3.0%	13,350	12.1%	17,631	6.9%
Not applicable#	108,964	75.5%	1,814	1.6%	110,778	43.5%
Other	166	0.1%	171	0.2%	337	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,405</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>110,265</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>254,670</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro**

# Includes those persons who do not attend an institution

## Children and their families

### Family type

It is important to note that this table reports household/family type of the household where the child was on census night, not their usual residence as this was the only data available with age ranges of children. The ABS found it necessary to make changes to these tables due to confidentiality concerns. This explains why there are a number of children living in households 'with no children' and 'lone person' households. The child would have been a visitor to that household while the usual resident/s would normally not have children or live alone. Children in 'lone person households' may be visiting a grandparent, non-custodial parent, other relative or friend. The category 'visitors only household' may be explained by families in vacation rental accommodation.

The majority of children in GWS aged 0-8 years (87.1%) lived in a one family household. 73.0% of children 0-8 years lived in a 'one family, couple family with children' household and 13.8% lived in a 'one parent family' household. A further 5.5% of children in a 'couple family with children household' lived with one or more other families. The number of children living in multiple family households appeared to decrease with the figures showing fewer children aged 5-8 years living in multiple family households than those aged 0-4 years. GWS had a higher proportion of children living in one parent households (16.5%) than Greater Sydney (13.7%). The proportion of children in a lone parent family who lived in 'two or more family households', was higher for 0-4 year olds than 5-8 year olds in both GWS and Greater Sydney. 2.6% of children aged 0-4 years in a lone parent family lived in a two family household but this dropped to 2.3% of 5-9 year olds. Families with children, either couple or lone parent, were more likely than families with no children to live in multifamily households. (See Table 27).

Greater Sydney had a higher proportion of children living in a 'couple family with children' than GWS. Overall 81.8% of children aged 0-8 years in Greater Sydney lived in a couple family with children compared to 76.5% in GWS. However, GWS children aged 0-8 years were more likely to live in multifamily households than Greater Sydney.

Table 27: Household/Family type, GWS 2011

Household/Family type for children 0-8 years, GWS& Greater Sydney, 2011												
Family/Household Type	Greater Western Sydney						Greater Sydney					
	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years		0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
<b>One family household:</b>												
Couple family with no children	513	0.4%	234	0.2%	747	0.3%	1,456	0.5%	717	0.3%	2,173	0.4%
Couple family with children	98,162	73.5%	72,826	72.4%	170,988	73.0%	234,862	78.4%	170,489	76.6%	405,351	77.6%
One parent family	15,703	11.8%	16,510	16.4%	32,213	13.8%	26,650	8.9%	30,206	13.6%	56,856	10.9%
Other family	33	0.0%	33	0.0%	66	0.0%	55	0.0%	46	0.0%	101	0.0%
<b>Two family household:</b>												
Couple family with no children	442	0.3%	264	0.3%	706	0.3%	851	0.3%	485	0.2%	1,336	0.3%
Couple family with children	7,919	5.9%	3,803	3.8%	11,722	5.0%	13,560	4.5%	6,581	3.0%	20,141	3.9%
One parent family	3,458	2.6%	2,296	2.3%	5,754	2.5%	5,438	1.8%	3,682	1.7%	9,120	1.7%
Other family	106	0.1%	75	0.1%	181	0.1%	176	0.1%	93	0.0%	269	0.1%
<b>Three or more family household:</b>												
Couple family with no children	90	0.1%	37	0.0%	127	0.1%	133	0.0%	60	0.0%	193	0.0%
Couple family with children	793	0.6%	291	0.3%	1,084	0.5%	1,106	0.4%	434	0.2%	1,540	0.3%
One parent family	312	0.2%	159	0.2%	471	0.2%	426	0.1%	220	0.1%	646	0.1%
Other family	19	0.0%	7	0.0%	26	0.0%	28	0.0%	9	0.0%	37	0.0%
Lone person household	583	0.4%	360	0.4%	943	0.4%	1,171	0.4%	799	0.4%	1,970	0.4%
Group household	52	0.0%	34	0.0%	86	0.0%	109	0.0%	57	0.0%	166	0.0%
Visitors only household	386	0.3%	238	0.2%	624	0.3%	1,175	0.4%	779	0.4%	1,954	0.4%
Other non-classifiable household	4,558	3.4%	3,246	3.2%	7,804	3.3%	10,995	3.7%	7,343	3.3%	18,338	3.5%
Not applicable	476	0.4%	139	0.1%	615	0.3%	1,350	0.5%	534	0.2%	1,884	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,605</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100,552</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>234,157</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>299,541</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>222,534</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>522,075</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

Note: This table is based on place of enumeration and therefore reports the household/family type of the household the child was in the night of the census not their usual residence

### Child relationship in family

The fifth question in the 2011 ABS Census asked people what their relationship was to Person 1. The information is then taken and analysed but it is possible that some errors could be made in coding where a child of both parents may be coded as step child of one of the adults in the house. Usually this is due to the child being allocated the position of person 2 on the form rather than the other parent, which can then result in the analysis incorrectly coding the child.

The data from 2011 shows that almost all children aged 0-8 years live in a household where they are the natural, or adopted child of both parents, or lone parent (96.1%). This was higher for 0-4 year olds (97.2%) than for 5-8 year olds (94.8%). More children were the step child of the male parent (1.6% or 3,857 persons) than the step child of the female parent (0.7% or 1,743 persons). The higher proportion of step children of a male parent than a female parent may simply be due to who fills out the census form in the household and becomes Person 1 on the form. There were 1,019 children (0.4%) aged 0-8 years who were coded as a foster child of Person 1. Children living with their grandparent/s would be included in the 'otherwise related child (under 15)' category.

Table 28: Child relationship, 2011

Relationship of child in household, GWS, 2011						
Relationship	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Natural, or adopted child of both parents or lone parent	134,062	97.2%	100,844	94.8%	234,906	96.1%
Step-child of male parent	1,254	0.9%	2,603	2.4%	3,857	1.6%
Step-child of female parent	799	0.6%	944	0.9%	1,743	0.7%
Foster child, so stated	519	0.4%	500	0.5%	1,019	0.4%
Otherwise related child (under 15)	1,150	0.8%	1,286	1.2%	2,436	1.0%
Unrelated child (under 15)	201	0.1%	153	0.1%	354	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,985</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>106,330</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>244,315</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro



## Children and Housing

### Dwelling Type

Most children aged 0-8 years who lived in GWS in 2011 lived in a separate house (78.2% or 199,631 children). A further 11.9% (20,271 children) lived in a semi-detached row, or terrace house and 9.3% (23,725 children) lived in a flat, unit or apartment. There were 16,078 children (11.1%) aged 0-4 years living in a Flat, unit or apartment in a one or more storey block, but this decreased to 6.9% (7,647 children) of children aged 5-8 years old. In addition, the proportion of children living in a separate house increased from 75.5% of 0-4 year olds to 81.7% of 5-8 year olds. This suggests that parents with children prefer to live in a separate house rather than higher density dwellings and the desire to live in a separate house increases as their children ages. It may also be that as a child ages there potentially one or more siblings factored into the equation for where they should live.

Table 29: Dwelling type, GWS, 2011

Dwelling type by children aged 0-8 years, GWS, 2011						
Dwelling type	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Separate house	109,354	75.5%	90,277	81.7%	199,631	78.2%
Semi-detached row or terrace house	18,233	12.6%	12,038	10.9%	30,271	11.9%
Flat, unit or apartment, one or more storey block	16,078	11.1%	7,647	6.9%	23,725	9.3%
Flat, unit or apartment attached to a house	265	0.2%	111	0.1%	376	0.1%
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	60	0.0%	29	0.0%	89	0.0%
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	24	0.0%	18	0.0%	42	0.0%
House or flat attached to a shop, office, etc.	184	0.1%	129	0.1%	313	0.1%
Not stated	106	0.1%	70	0.1%	176	0.1%
Not applicable	511	0.4%	143	0.1%	654	0.3%
Total	144,815	100.0%	110,462	100.0%	255,277	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

## Tenure Type

More than half (52.3%) of all children aged 0-8 years lived in a dwelling 'owned with a mortgage'. There were 74,964 (51.8%) children aged 0-4 years living in a dwelling owned with a mortgage and 58,564 (53.0%) children aged 5-8 years. Only 8.0% of 0-4 year olds (11,518 children) lived in a dwelling 'owned outright' but this increased to 9.9% of children aged 5-8 years (10,882 children). These figures suggest that as a child ages, their family's financial position may change which at times enables a family to pay off their mortgage or for those renting, obtaining a dwelling with a mortgage. A total of 5,814 children aged 0-4 years (4.0%) and 5,174 children aged 5-8 years (4.7%) lived in a dwelling rented from a State or Territory housing authority. Renting from a real estate agent was the third most common type of tenure with 54,158 children aged 0-8 years (21.2%). In 2011, dwellings rented from Housing co-operatives, community or church groups accounted for less than one per cent of dwellings for children aged 0-8 years.

New South Wales had a higher proportion of children aged 0-8 years living in homes owned outright (9.9%) compared to GWS (8.8%). However, GWS had a higher proportion of children aged 0-8 years living in dwelling owned with a mortgage (52.3%) compared to NSW (51.0%). The overall proportion of children aged 0-8 years living in dwelling rented from a real estate agent was the same in GWS and NSW (21.2%). However, a larger proportion of children in GWS lived in a dwelling rented from a state housing authority (4.3%) than in NSW (3.3%).

**Table 30: Tenure type, 2011**

Tenure for dwelling of 0-8 year olds, GWS & NSW, 2011												
Tenure	Greater Western Sydney						New South Wales					
	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years		0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Owned outright	11,518	8.0%	10,882	9.9%	22,400	8.8%	40,631	8.8%	39,889	11.4%	80,520	9.9%
Owned with a mortgage	74,964	51.8%	58,564	53.0%	133,528	52.3%	230,516	50.1%	183,133	52.2%	413,649	51.0%
<b>Rented:</b>								0.0%		0.0%		0.0%
Real estate agent	32,448	22.4%	21,710	19.7%	54,158	21.2%	104,352	22.7%	67,087	19.1%	171,439	21.2%
State or territory housing authority	5,845	4.0%	5,174	4.7%	11,019	4.3%	14,449	3.1%	12,555	3.6%	27,004	3.3%
Person not in same household	8,600	5.9%	5,814	5.3%	14,414	5.6%	32,341	7.0%	21,458	6.1%	53,799	6.6%
Housing co-op, community/church group	710	0.5%	537	0.5%	1,247	0.5%	2,483	0.5%	2,007	0.6%	4,490	0.6%
Other landlord type	2,140	1.5%	1,440	1.3%	3,580	1.4%	7,506	1.6%	4,912	1.4%	12,418	1.5%
Landlord type not stated	734	0.5%	558	0.5%	1,292	0.5%	2,818	0.6%	1,963	0.6%	4,781	0.6%
Other tenure type	522	0.4%	408	0.4%	930	0.4%	1,713	0.4%	1,399	0.4%	3,112	0.4%
Tenure type not stated	6,821	4.7%	5,236	4.7%	12,057	4.7%	20,593	4.5%	15,027	4.3%	35,620	4.4%
Tenure type not applicable	510	0.4%	141	0.1%	651	0.3%	2,443	0.5%	1,283	0.4%	3,726	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,812</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>110,464</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>255,276</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>459,845</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>350,713</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>810,558</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

## Children and Residential Mobility

### Address one year ago

The vast majority of children aged 0-8 years had not changed their address in the previous year. Place of residence one year ago does not apply for children aged less than one year of age. Generally, between ten and fifteen per cent of children had a different address in Australia one year prior to the census. However, as a child's age increased the proportion with an address elsewhere in Australia in the previous year gradually decreased, from 16.1% for children aged 1 year down to 10.4% for 8 year old children. Perhaps mobility becomes more difficult once a child commences school. Although the number of children with an address overseas the previous year was very low, it also decreased from 1.5% of children aged 1 year down to 1.1% of children aged 8 years. This table being usual residence one year ago is measuring quite a short period of time. The next section tells a slightly different tale for a period of 5 years.

Table 31: Place of residence one year ago, GWS 2011

Place of usual residence one year ago, GWS, 2011										
Address one year ago	0 years		1 year		2 years		3 years		4 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Same as in 2011	-	0.0%	22,740	78.2%	22,875	79.1%	23,399	80.4%	23,842	81.2%
Elsewhere in Australia	-	0.0%	4,672	16.1%	4,498	15.5%	4,144	14.2%	3,989	13.6%
Overseas in 2010	-	0.0%	446	1.5%	430	1.5%	386	1.3%	406	1.4%
Not stated	-	0.0%	1,235	4.2%	1,134	3.9%	1,171	4.0%	1,108	3.8%
Not applicable	27,932	100.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	27,932	100.0%	29,093	100.0%	28,937	100.0%	29,100	100.0%	29,345	100.0%
Address one year ago	5 years		6 years		7 years		8 years		Total 0-8 years	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Same as in 2011	23,431	82.3%	22,995	83.5%	22,638	83.9%	23,115	84.8%	185,035	72.7%
Elsewhere in Australia	3,597	12.6%	3,236	11.7%	3,008	11.1%	2,841	10.4%	29,985	11.8%
Overseas in 2010	340	1.2%	305	1.1%	279	1.0%	289	1.1%	2,881	1.1%
Not stated	1,113	3.9%	1,008	3.7%	1,056	3.9%	1,007	3.7%	8,832	3.5%
Not applicable	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	3	0.0%	-	0.0%	27,935	11.0%
<b>Total</b>	28,481	100.0%	27,544	100.0%	26,984	100.0%	27,252	100.0%	254,668	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

### Address 5 years ago

Children aged 0-4 years did not have an address 5 years ago and as such place of residence five years ago does not apply to them. For this reason the following table does not include children 0-4 years.

Children aged 5-8 years were far more mobile over a five year period rather than just one year as in the previous table (Table 31). More than half (53.6% or 59,119 children) of all 5-8 year olds lived at the same address as five years ago. A further 36.0% (39,663) had an address elsewhere in Australia and 5.7% had an overseas address in 2006. This meant that 41.7% of children in GWS aged 0-8 years had moved house within the previous 5 years. The address five years ago for an additional 4.7% of children was not stated. The children aged 5-8 years in GWS were slightly less mobile than those living in Greater Sydney or NSW with just under half (49.8%) of children in NSW and just over half (51.6%) of children in Greater Sydney having the same address as five years previously compared to 53.6% in GWS. When children had a different address, the children of Greater Sydney were more likely to have lived overseas (6.7%) compared to GWS (5.7%) and NSW (5.1%). The proportion of children whose address five years ago was not stated was similar for all three regions.

The data supplied by ABS is for either one year or five years but not the intervening years making it impossible to know if people those who move are moving after nearly five years or even multiple times during the five years.

**Table 32: Place of residence 5 years ago, GWS, 2011**

Address five years ago, Children 5-8 years, GWS, Greater Sydney & NSW, 2011						
Address 5 years ago	GWS		Greater Sydney		NSW	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Same as in 2011	59,119	53.6%	114,490	51.6%	174,173	49.8%
Elsewhere in Australia	39,663	36.0%	82,378	37.1%	141,491	40.5%
Overseas in 2006	6,306	5.7%	14,900	6.7%	17,819	5.1%
Not stated	5,176	4.7%	10,155	4.6%	16,249	4.6%
Total	110,264	100.0%	221,923	100.0%	349,732	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

## References

ABS Australian Health Survey: First Results, 2011–12 (cat. no. 4364.0.55.001);

ABS Cat. 4125.0, Gender Indicators, Jan 2013

Parliamentary Library -

[http://www.aph.gov.au/About\\_Parliament/Parliamentary\\_Departments/Parliamentary\\_Library/pubs/rp/BudgetReview201314/BabyBonus](http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/BudgetReview201314/BabyBonus)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare - <http://www.aihw.gov.au/child-health/risk-factors/> - accessed 25/6/2015

Australia's Mothers and Babies 2012 available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=60129550054>

Department of Health - [http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab\\_lbwt](http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab_lbwt) - accessed 25/6/15

McCrindle Research - <http://www.mccrindle.com.au/the-mccrindle-blog/the-baby-bonus-generation>

"Myths and Realities – Responding to arguments against vaccination" 5<sup>th</sup> Edition 2013

[http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/AD34C3D063510C0CCA257D49001E73D4/\\$File/full-publication-myths-and-realities-5th-ed-2013.pdf](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/AD34C3D063510C0CCA257D49001E73D4/$File/full-publication-myths-and-realities-5th-ed-2013.pdf)

NSW Perinatal Data Collection (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health Available at

[http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab\\_mbth\\_age/mab\\_mbth\\_age\\_lgamap?&topic=Mothers%20and%20babies&topic1=topic\\_mab&code=mum%20mab](http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab_mbth_age/mab_mbth_age_lgamap?&topic=Mothers%20and%20babies&topic1=topic_mab&code=mum%20mab)

Quit Organisation - <http://www.quit.org.au/reasons-to-quit/smoking-and-pregnancy>

PHIDU 2008-2012 – Notes on the data – Infant mortality <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/phidu/help-info/about-our-data/indicators-notes/sha-aust/health-status/deaths-child-1-4.html>

Table Builder Manual – accessed on the ABS website 29/10/15

<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/tablebuilder%20manual%20chapter%209?opendocument&navpos=240>

WESTIR Ltd, 2011 Census Topic Paper 1 – Population. Published 2012 available at [www.westir.org.au](http://www.westir.org.au)

## Appendix

### Proficiency in English for all GWS LGAs, 2011

Proficiency in English of children 0-8 years, 2011							
LGA	Speaks a language other than English & speaks English	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
		No	%	No	%	No	%
Auburn	Very well	696	12.3%	1,474	40.2%	2,170	23.3%
	Well	695	12.3%	761	20.7%	1,456	15.6%
	Not well	990	17.6%	275	7.5%	1,265	13.6%
	Not at all	1,188	21.1%	36	1.0%	1,224	13.1%
	Not stated	750	13.3%	247	6.7%	997	10.7%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	1,322	23.4%	875	23.9%	2,197	23.6%
	Total	5,641	100.0%	3,668	100.0%	9,309	100.0%
Bankstown	Very well	2,011	14.6%	4,130	38.5%	6,141	25.1%
	Well	1,560	11.3%	1,301	12.1%	2,861	11.7%
	Not well	1,567	11.4%	364	3.4%	1,931	7.9%
	Not at all	1,489	10.8%	46	0.4%	1,535	6.3%
	Not stated	1,571	11.4%	589	5.5%	2,160	8.8%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	5,592	40.6%	4,289	40.0%	9,881	40.3%
	Total	13,790	100.0%	10,719	100.0%	24,509	100.0%
Blacktown	Very well	1,890	7.4%	3,692	19.7%	5,582	12.6%
	Well	1,691	6.7%	1,365	7.3%	3,056	6.9%
	Not well	1,735	6.8%	277	1.5%	2,012	4.6%
	Not at all	1,705	6.7%	40	0.2%	1,745	4.0%
	Not stated	1,859	7.3%	712	3.8%	2,571	5.8%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	16,540	65.1%	12,658	67.5%	29,198	66.1%
	Total	25,420	100.0%	18,744	100.0%	44,164	100.0%
Blue Mountains	Very well	84	1.8%	127	3.1%	211	2.4%
	Well	48	1.0%	14	0.3%	62	0.7%
	Not well	44	0.9%	4	0.1%	48	0.5%
	Not at all	60	1.3%	0	0.0%	60	0.7%
	Not stated	244	5.2%	182	4.5%	426	4.9%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	4,217	89.8%	3,717	91.9%	7,934	90.8%
	Total	4,697	100.0%	4,044	100.0%	8,741	100.0%
Camden	Very well	100	2.2%	194	5.1%	294	3.5%
	Well	62	1.4%	47	1.2%	109	1.3%
	Not well	71	1.6%	21	0.6%	92	1.1%
	Not at all	66	1.4%	0	0.0%	66	0.8%
	Not stated	180	3.9%	96	2.5%	276	3.3%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	4,100	89.5%	3,410	90.5%	7,510	90.0%
	Total	4,579	100.0%	3,768	100.0%	8,347	100.0%
Campbelltown	Very well	662	6.1%	1,323	15.8%	1,985	10.3%
	Well	472	4.3%	379	4.5%	851	4.4%
	Not well	562	5.2%	108	1.3%	670	3.5%
	Not at all	498	4.6%	10	0.1%	508	2.6%
	Not stated	831	7.6%	451	5.4%	1,282	6.7%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	7,864	72.2%	6,095	72.9%	13,959	72.5%
	Total	10,889	100.0%	8,366	100.0%	19,255	100.0%
Fairfield	Very well	1,366	11.0%	3,545	34.9%	4,911	21.8%
	Well	1,576	12.7%	2,035	20.0%	3,611	16.0%
	Not well	2,010	16.2%	695	6.8%	2,705	12.0%
	Not at all	2,087	16.9%	75	0.7%	2,162	9.6%
	Not stated	1,469	11.9%	489	4.8%	1,958	8.7%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	3,862	31.2%	3,323	32.7%	7,185	31.9%
	Total	12,370	100.0%	10,162	100.0%	22,532	100.0%
Hawkesbury	Very well	57	1.3%	67	1.9%	124	1.6%
	Well	42	1.0%	17	0.5%	59	0.8%
	Not well	30	0.7%	0	0.0%	30	0.4%
	Not at all	40	0.9%	0	0.0%	40	0.5%
	Not stated	193	4.5%	132	3.8%	325	4.2%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	3,889	91.5%	3,274	93.8%	7,163	92.5%
	Total	4,251	100.0%	3,490	100.0%	7,741	100.0%

Table continued next page

Proficiency in English of children 0-8 years, 2011 (Continued)							
LGA	Speaks a language other than English & speaks English	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
		No	%	No	%	No	%
Holroyd	0	980	11.9%	1,709	31.8%	2,689	19.8%
	Well	849	10.3%	651	12.1%	1,500	11.1%
	Not well	886	10.8%	173	3.2%	1,059	7.8%
	Not at all	969	11.8%	25	0.5%	994	7.3%
	Not stated	888	10.8%	280	5.2%	1,168	8.6%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	3,633	44.3%	2,528	47.1%	6,161	45.4%
	Total	8,205	100.0%	5,366	100.0%	13,571	100.0%
Liverpool	Very well	1,410	10.0%	3,309	29.2%	4,719	18.6%
	Well	1,319	9.4%	1,174	10.4%	2,493	9.8%
	Not well	1,401	9.9%	359	3.2%	1,760	6.9%
	Not at all	1,303	9.2%	46	0.4%	1,349	5.3%
	Not stated	1,511	10.7%	582	5.1%	2,093	8.2%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	7,143	50.7%	5,870	51.8%	13,013	51.2%
	Total	14,087	100.0%	11,340	100.0%	25,427	100.0%
Parramatta	Very well	1,278	10.2%	2,412	30.4%	3,690	18.0%
	Well	1,287	10.3%	962	12.1%	2,249	11.0%
	Not well	1,506	12.0%	314	4.0%	1,820	8.9%
	Not at all	1,536	12.2%	31	0.4%	1,567	7.6%
	Not stated	1,382	11.0%	404	5.1%	1,786	8.7%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	5,558	44.3%	3,824	48.1%	9,382	45.8%
	Total	12,547	100.0%	7,947	100.0%	20,494	100.0%
Penrith	Very well	411	3.0%	698	7.0%	1,109	4.7%
	Well	310	2.3%	233	2.3%	543	2.3%
	Not well	291	2.1%	53	0.5%	344	1.5%
	Not at all	340	2.5%	17	0.2%	357	1.5%
	Not stated	734	5.4%	355	3.5%	1,089	4.6%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	11,476	84.6%	8,682	86.5%	20,158	85.4%
	Total	13,562	100.0%	10,038	100.0%	23,600	100.0%
The Hills Shire	Very well	712	6.4%	1,475	14.9%	2,187	10.4%
	Well	554	4.9%	493	5.0%	1,047	5.0%
	Not well	628	5.6%	146	1.5%	774	3.7%
	Not at all	568	5.1%	12	0.1%	580	2.8%
	Not stated	459	4.1%	205	2.1%	664	3.2%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	8,272	73.9%	7,537	76.4%	15,809	75.1%
	Total	11,193	100.0%	9,868	100.0%	21,061	100.0%
Wollondilly	Very well	32	1.0%	77	2.8%	109	1.8%
	Well	17	0.5%	6	0.2%	23	0.4%
	Not well	20	0.6%	0	0.0%	20	0.3%
	Not at all	15	0.5%	0	0.0%	15	0.3%
	Not stated	125	3.9%	95	3.5%	220	3.7%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	2,959	93.4%	2,574	93.5%	5,533	93.5%
	Total	3,168	100.0%	2,752	100.0%	5,920	100.0%
GWS	Very well	11,278	8.6%	23,534	23.5%	34,812	15.1%
	Well	10,172	7.8%	9,205	9.2%	19,377	8.4%
	Not well	11,450	8.8%	2,736	2.7%	14,186	6.1%
	Not at all	11,524	8.8%	321	0.3%	11,845	5.1%
	Not stated	11,462	8.8%	4,464	4.5%	15,926	6.9%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	74,951	57.3%	59,974	59.8%	134,925	58.4%
	Total	130,837	100.0%	100,234	100.0%	231,071	100.0%
Lithgow	Very well	14	1.0%	8	0.8%	22	1.0%
	Well	9	0.7%	8	0.8%	17	0.8%
	Not well	14	1.0%	0	0.0%	14	0.6%
	Not at all	6	0.4%	0	0.0%	6	0.3%
	Not stated	176	12.8%	86	8.6%	262	11.1%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	1,152	84.0%	902	89.8%	2,054	91.7%
	Total	1,371	100.0%	1,004	100.0%	2,241	100.0%
Wingecarribee	Very well	44	1.7%	62	2.7%	106	2.2%
	Well	18	0.7%	13	0.6%	31	0.6%
	Not well	21	0.8%	0	0.0%	21	0.4%
	Not at all	18	0.7%	0	0.0%	18	0.4%
	Not stated	98	3.8%	78	3.5%	176	3.6%
	N/A -Speaks English Only	2,388	92.3%	2,104	93.2%	4,492	92.7%
	Total	2,587	100.0%	2,257	100.0%	4,844	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro

## Need for assistance for all GWS LGAs, 2011

Need for assistance with core activities, LGAs of GWS, 2011							
LGA	Need for Assistance	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
		No	%	No	%	No	%
Auburn	Has need for assistance	42	0.7%	47	1.3%	89	1.0%
	Does not have need for assistance	5,035	89.3%	3,331	90.8%	8,366	89.9%
	Not stated	564	10.0%	289	7.9%	853	9.2%
Bankstown	Has need for assistance	145	1.1%	256	2.4%	401	1.6%
	Does not have need for assistance	12,351	89.5%	9,726	90.8%	22,077	90.1%
	Not stated	1,298	9.4%	734	6.8%	2,032	8.3%
Blacktown	Has need for assistance	288	1.1%	556	3.0%	844	1.9%
	Does not have need for assistance	23,399	92.0%	17,187	91.7%	40,586	91.9%
	Not stated	1,736	6.8%	998	5.3%	2,734	6.2%
Blue Mountains	Has need for assistance	69	1.5%	143	3.5%	212	2.4%
	Does not have need for assistance	4,343	92.5%	3,701	91.5%	8,044	92.0%
	Not stated	283	6.0%	201	5.0%	484	5.5%
Camden	Has need for assistance	63	1.4%	129	3.4%	192	2.3%
	Does not have need for assistance	4,283	93.6%	3,506	93.0%	7,789	93.3%
	Not stated	230	5.0%	135	3.6%	365	4.4%
Campbelltown	Has need for assistance	141	1.3%	337	4.0%	478	2.5%
	Does not have need for assistance	9,882	90.7%	7,444	89.0%	17,326	90.0%
	Not stated	868	8.0%	582	7.0%	1,450	7.5%
Fairfield	Has need for assistance	145	1.2%	203	2.0%	348	1.5%
	Does not have need for assistance	11,059	89.4%	9,287	91.4%	20,346	90.3%
	Not stated	1,168	9.4%	672	6.6%	1,840	8.2%
Hawkesbury	Has need for assistance	46	1.1%	104	3.0%	150	1.9%
	Does not have need for assistance	3,934	92.6%	3,212	92.0%	7,146	92.3%
	Not stated	267	6.3%	177	5.1%	444	5.7%
Holroyd	Has need for assistance	68	0.8%	123	2.3%	191	1.4%
	Does not have need for assistance	7,452	90.8%	4,896	91.2%	12,348	91.0%
	Not stated	684	8.3%	348	6.5%	1,032	7.6%
Liverpool	Has need for assistance	137	1.0%	333	2.9%	470	1.8%
	Does not have need for assistance	12,654	89.8%	10,268	90.5%	22,922	90.1%
	Not stated	1,295	9.2%	740	6.5%	2,035	8.0%
Parramatta	Has need for assistance	125	1.0%	167	2.1%	292	1.4%
	Does not have need for assistance	11,356	90.5%	7,243	91.2%	18,599	90.8%
	Not stated	1,067	8.5%	535	6.7%	1,602	7.8%
Penrith	Has need for assistance	177	1.3%	326	3.2%	503	2.1%
	Does not have need for assistance	12,541	92.5%	9,233	92.0%	21,774	92.3%
	Not stated	844	6.2%	478	4.8%	1,322	5.6%
The Hills Shire	Has need for assistance	79	0.7%	174	1.8%	253	1.2%
	Does not have need for assistance	10,683	95.4%	9,409	95.4%	20,092	95.4%
	Not stated	435	3.9%	280	2.8%	715	3.4%
Wollondilly	Has need for assistance	38	1.2%	77	2.8%	115	1.9%
	Does not have need for assistance	2,948	93.1%	2,541	92.3%	5,489	92.7%
	Not stated	182	5.7%	134	4.9%	316	5.3%
GWS	Has need for assistance	1,563	1.1%	2,975	2.7%	4,538	1.8%
	Does not have need for assistance	131,920	91.4%	100,984	91.6%	232,904	91.5%
	Not stated	10,921	7.6%	6,303	5.7%	17,224	6.8%
Lithgow	Has need for assistance	11	0.9%	25	2.6%	36	1.6%
	Does not have need for assistance	1,124	87.9%	869	90.1%	1,993	88.9%
	Not stated	143	11.2%	70	7.3%	213	9.5%
Wingecarribee	Has need for assistance	36	1.4%	61	2.7%	97	2.0%
	Does not have need for assistance	2,416	93.4%	2,096	92.9%	4,512	93.1%
	Not stated	135	5.2%	100	4.4%	235	4.9%



## Education Institution Attending for all GWS LGAs, 2011

Education Institution Attending, children aged 0-8 years, GWS, 2011							
LGA	Type of Institution	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
		No	%	No	%	No	%
Auburn	Pre-school	795	14.1%	180	4.9%	975	10.5%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	12	0.2%	1,791	48.8%	1,803	19.4%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	0.0%	510	13.9%	510	5.5%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	16	0.3%	475	13.0%	491	5.3%
	Not stated	201	3.6%	627	17.1%	828	8.9%
	Not applicable#	4,607	81.6%	75	2.0%	4,682	50.3%
	Other	12	0.2%	9	0.2%	21	0.2%
	Total	5,643	100.0%	3,667	100.0%	9,310	100.0%
Bankstown	Pre-school	2,767	20.1%	433	4.0%	3,200	13.1%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	45	0.3%	4,986	46.5%	5,031	20.5%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	8	0.1%	2,104	19.6%	2,112	8.6%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	47	0.3%	1,400	13.1%	1,447	5.9%
	Not stated	525	3.8%	1,645	15.4%	2,170	8.9%
	Not applicable#	10,384	75.3%	131	1.2%	10,515	42.9%
	Other	16	0.1%	17	0.2%	33	0.1%
	Total	13,792	100.0%	10,716	100.0%	24,508	100.0%
Blacktown	Pre-school	5,063	19.9%	941	5.0%	6,004	13.6%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	81	0.3%	10,336	55.1%	10,417	23.6%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	14	0.1%	3,696	19.7%	3,710	8.4%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	63	0.2%	1,280	6.8%	1,343	3.0%
	Not stated	675	2.7%	2,167	11.6%	2,842	6.4%
	Not applicable#	19,502	76.7%	302	1.6%	19,804	44.8%
	Other	21	0.1%	25	0.1%	46	0.1%
	Total	25,419	100.0%	18,747	100.0%	44,166	100.0%
Blue Mountains	Pre-school	1,201	25.6%	293	7.2%	1,494	17.1%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	9	0.2%	2,324	57.4%	2,333	26.7%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	3	0.1%	520	12.9%	523	6.0%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	26	0.6%	457	11.3%	483	5.5%
	Not stated	97	2.1%	344	8.5%	441	5.0%
	Not applicable#	3,357	71.5%	75	1.9%	3,432	39.3%
	Other	4	0.1%	33	0.8%	37	0.4%
	Total	4,697	100.0%	4,046	100.0%	8,743	100.0%
Camden	Pre-school	1,184	25.9%	242	6.4%	1,426	17.1%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	7	0.2%	2,138	56.7%	2,145	25.7%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	3	0.1%	618	16.4%	621	7.4%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	32	0.7%	415	11.0%	447	5.4%
	Not stated	84	1.8%	276	7.3%	360	4.3%
	Not applicable#	3,266	71.4%	74	2.0%	3,340	40.0%
	Other	-	0.0%	7	0.2%	7	0.1%
	Total	4,576	100.0%	3,770	100.0%	8,346	100.0%
Campbelltown	Pre-school	2,258	20.7%	441	5.3%	2,699	14.0%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	31	0.3%	4,913	58.7%	4,944	25.7%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	6	0.1%	1,033	12.3%	1,039	5.4%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	34	0.3%	656	7.8%	690	3.6%
	Not stated	383	3.5%	1,137	13.6%	1,520	7.9%
	Not applicable#	8,172	75.0%	173	2.1%	8,345	43.3%
	Other	6	0.1%	12	0.1%	18	0.1%
	Total	10,890	100.0%	8,365	100.0%	19,255	100.0%
Fairfield	Pre-school	2,155	17.4%	510	5.0%	2,665	11.8%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	72	0.6%	5,401	53.2%	5,473	24.3%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	10	0.1%	1,793	17.6%	1,803	8.0%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	23	0.2%	493	4.9%	516	2.3%
	Not stated	499	4.0%	1,784	17.6%	2,283	10.1%
	Not applicable#	9,591	77.5%	167	1.6%	9,758	43.3%
	Other	21	0.2%	12	0.1%	33	0.1%
	Total	12,371	100.0%	10,160	100.0%	22,531	100.0%
Hawkesbury	Pre-school	1,075	25.3%	249	7.1%	1,324	17.1%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	7	0.2%	2,081	59.6%	2,088	27.0%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	0.0%	497	14.2%	497	6.4%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	23	0.5%	313	9.0%	336	4.3%
	Not stated	109	2.6%	300	8.6%	409	5.3%
	Not applicable#	3,032	71.3%	48	1.4%	3,080	39.8%
	Other	4	0.1%	4	0.1%	8	0.1%
	Total	4,250	100.0%	3,492	100.0%	7,742	100.0%
Holroyd	Pre-school	1,470	17.9%	236	4.4%	1,706	12.6%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	22	0.3%	2,708	50.5%	2,730	20.1%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	7	0.1%	1,363	25.4%	1,370	10.1%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	22	0.3%	211	3.9%	233	1.7%
	Not stated	241	2.9%	744	13.9%	985	7.3%
	Not applicable#	6,424	78.3%	103	1.9%	6,527	48.1%
	Other	20	0.2%	-	0.0%	20	0.1%
	Total	8,206	100.0%	5,365	100.0%	13,571	100.0%

Education Institution Attending, children aged 0-8 years, GWS, 2011 (continued)							
LGA	Type of Institution	0-4 years		5-8 years		Total 0-8 years	
		No	%	No	%	No	%
Liverpool	Pre-school	2,666	18.9%	509	4.5%	3,175	12.5%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	63	0.4%	5,701	50.3%	5,764	22.7%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	14	0.1%	1,938	17.1%	1,952	7.7%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	55	0.4%	1,365	12.0%	1,420	5.6%
	Not stated	509	3.6%	1,633	14.4%	2,142	8.4%
	Not applicable#	10,765	76.4%	182	1.6%	10,947	43.1%
	Other	16	0.1%	10	0.1%	26	0.1%
	Total	14,088	100.0%	11,338	100.0%	25,426	100.0%
Parramatta	Pre-school	2,318	18.5%	393	4.9%	2,711	13.2%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	33	0.3%	4,390	55.2%	4,423	21.6%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	3	0.0%	1,577	19.8%	1,580	7.7%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	25	0.2%	450	5.7%	475	2.3%
	Not stated	376	3.0%	987	12.4%	1,363	6.7%
	Not applicable#	9,776	77.9%	134	1.7%	9,910	48.4%
	Other	18	0.1%	15	0.2%	33	0.2%
	Total	12,549	100.0%	7,946	100.0%	20,495	100.0%
Penrith	Pre-school	3,058	22.6%	604	6.0%	3,662	15.5%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	38	0.3%	5,679	56.6%	5,717	24.2%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	8	0.1%	1,844	18.4%	1,852	7.8%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	25	0.2%	803	8.0%	828	3.5%
	Not stated	329	2.4%	937	9.3%	1,266	5.4%
	Not applicable#	10,087	74.4%	160	1.6%	10,247	43.4%
	Other	14	0.1%	13	0.1%	27	0.1%
	Total	13,559	100.0%	10,040	100.0%	23,599	100.0%
The Hills Shire	Pre-school	3,117	27.8%	665	6.7%	3,782	18.0%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	21	0.2%	5,719	58.0%	5,740	27.3%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	6	0.1%	1,843	18.7%	1,849	8.8%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	42	0.4%	963	9.8%	1,005	4.8%
	Not stated	177	1.6%	528	5.4%	705	3.3%
	Not applicable#	7,819	69.8%	139	1.4%	7,958	37.8%
	Other	14	0.1%	7	0.1%	21	0.1%
	Total	11,196	100.0%	9,864	100.0%	21,060	100.0%
Wollondilly	Pre-school	884	27.9%	180	6.5%	1,064	18.0%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	6	0.2%	1,604	58.3%	1,610	27.2%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	0.0%	354	12.9%	354	6.0%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	21	0.7%	312	11.3%	333	5.6%
	Not stated	76	2.4%	241	8.8%	317	5.4%
	Not applicable#	2,182	68.9%	51	1.9%	2,233	37.7%
	Other	-	0.0%	7	0.3%	7	0.1%
	Total	3,169	100.0%	2,749	100.0%	5,918	100.0%
GWS	Pre-school	30,011	20.8%	5,876	5.3%	35,887	14.1%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	447	0.3%	59,771	54.2%	60,218	23.6%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	82	0.1%	19,690	17.9%	19,772	7.8%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	454	0.3%	9,593	8.7%	10,047	3.9%
	Not stated	4,281	3.0%	13,350	12.1%	17,631	6.9%
	Not applicable#	108,964	75.5%	1,814	1.6%	110,778	43.5%
	Other	166	0.1%	171	0.2%	337	0.1%
	Total	144,405	100.0%	110,265	100.0%	254,670	100.0%
Lithgow	Pre-school	297	23.2%	71	7.4%	368	16.4%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	3	0.2%	557	57.8%	560	25.0%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	0.0%	184	19.1%	184	8.2%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	-	0.0%	19	2.0%	19	0.8%
	Not stated	62	4.8%	116	12.0%	178	7.9%
	Not applicable#	917	71.7%	16	1.7%	933	41.6%
	Other	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
	Total	1,279	100.0%	963	100.0%	2,242	100.0%
Wingecarribee	Pre-school	691	26.7%	170	7.5%	861	17.8%
	Infants/Primary - Govt.	6	0.2%	1,244	55.0%	1,250	25.8%
	Infants/Primary - Catholic	-	0.0%	360	15.9%	360	7.4%
	Infants/Primary - Other Non Govt.	12	0.5%	237	10.5%	249	5.1%
	Not stated	53	2.1%	203	9.0%	256	5.3%
	Not applicable#	1,817	70.3%	38	1.7%	1,855	38.3%
	Other	5	0.2%	8	0.4%	13	0.3%
	Total	2,584	100.0%	2,260	100.0%	4,844	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2011, Table Builder Pro