August 2024

Community Wellbeing Indicators Report

CITY OF SYDNEY

Contents

Snapshot

Understanding our changing communities

The community wellbeing indicators report (hereby 'the report') brings together quantifiable measures that reflect how City of Sydney residents are faring.

Our report responds directly to the Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision community strategic plan. This is the City of Sydney's long term strategy to encourage healthy, connected and equitable communities, promote inclusiveness, diversity and resilience, and strengthen Sydney's competitiveness and productivity.

The community wellbeing indicators framework features 91 indicators and 129 measures grouped into 4 domains. The framework was first populated and published in 2016, followed by another version published in 2019.[1] This report provides an update to the community wellbeing indicators framework.

Many measures in this report have time series data from at least 2011, tracking changes and highlighting emerging trends in community sentiment. Trends provide the City of Sydney with a strong foundation for evidence-based policies and planning.

Future versions of this report will continue to extend the time series for all indicators featured here.

How are we tracking overall?

Our communities have faced unprecedented challenges since the 2019 report was released. For example, residents experienced Covid lockdown restrictions in 2020 and 2021, and are currently navigating cost-of-living issues.

This has had an impact on a number of time series indicators in this report, such as those relating to personal wellbeing, which present a downward trend. For example, satisfaction with 'standard of living', and 'future security' have dropped since the 2019 report. Similar declines are seen for ratings of physical and mental health (section A), placing these indicators further away from their targets.

Other indicators not progressing as desired include relative socio-economic inequality, food security, and housing affordability. We recognise these shortfalls and advocate in these areas.

At the same time, it appears local communities are capable of coping with challenging situations. Resident appreciation of a diverse society, and agreement that 'most people can be trusted' (section A) remains consistent with 2019 findings.

More residents believe they can get help from their neighbours, and in turn, most residents are willing to help their neighbours (section A). Participation in community engagement activities remain stable and above target (section C). These results indicate the local area continues to possess a strong foundation for building community wellbeing.

Indicators relating to feelings of safety in the daytime and after dark, and local area satisfaction, have also seen improvements. The local area remains a strong economic performer, seeing growth in its Gross Regional Product (GRP) and workforce numbers, despite pandemic lockdowns.

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[1] City Of Sydney Wellbeing Indicator Framework, Institute For Sustainable Futures, UTS; *https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/community-indicators-report*
Please note that the CWI framework consists of five domains. This report contains outcomes relating to domains 1-4 of the framework, described on page iii. Targets and data relating to the fifth domain can be found in the City of Sydney's biannual Green Reports: *https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports#:~:text=We're%20striving%20for%20our,Planning%20and%20the%20ShadeSmart%20Award.*

Measuring wellbeing

Wellbeing: Assessing social progress in the 21st century

This community wellbeing indicators report contains 129 measures to assess community wellbeing. It covers themes ranging from health and safety, culture, democracy, community engagement, and the local economy.

Examining everyday living conditions and our social progress involves more than just economic metrics such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP).[2] The report acknowledges subjective feelings of wellbeing, everyday experiences of sociocultural conditions, and quality of life are vital in understanding our progress as a society.

Our plans and strategies that help ensure our local area and its residents, workers, visitors, and businesses continue to thrive will be informed by the wellbeing indicators.

International governing bodies, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)[3] and the United Nations,[4] have adopted wellbeing frameworks to measure and monitor sociocultural, economic and political factors that affect our quality of life.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) adopted a similar approach in 2002, developing the Measures of Australia's Progress dashboard to provide insight on life in Australia.[5] Similarly, Stats NZ developed Indicators Aotearoa New Zealand measuring the nation's wellbeing.[6] And as a direct result of its 2019 wellbeing budget

"Measuring progress of societies has become fundamental for development and policy-making in general. Improving the quality of our lives should be the ultimate target of public policies."

Angel Guerra, Secretary-General, OECD

examining needs and shortfalls, New Zealand introduced the Living Standards Framework dashboard.[7] Australia followed suit in 2023, with the Treasury releasing its Measuring What Matters dashboard to monitor national wellbeing.[8]

Wellbeing and building resilience

In the past several years, Australia has experienced major emergencies, such as flooding and bushfires, and the Covid pandemic that disrupted energy and transportation networks, impacted productivity for certain industries and uprooted communities. These events, along with other emergencies such as financial downturns and terrorist threats, can potentially lead to socio-economic upheavals, placing our communities in a vulnerable position.

As global cities such as Sydney enter the 21st century, they face additional stressors in the form of growing building and population density, housing supply shortfalls, growing inequality, ageing or inadequate infrastructural systems, and long-term impacts arising from climate change.

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[2] The OECD Better Life Index; oecdbetterlifeindex.org/blog/is-gdp-still-useful.htm
[3] The UNDP Human Development Index; hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi
[4] The UNDP Human Development Index: https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI
[5] Measures of Australia's Progress, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2013; https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1370.0.00.002
[6] Wellbeing data for New Zealanders, Stats NZ; https://statisticsnz.shinyapps.io/wellbeingindicators/
[7] New Zealand Government 2022; https://www.treasury.govt.nz/information-and-services/nz-economy/higher-living-standards/measuring-wellbeing-lsf-dashboard
[8] Australian Government, 2023; https://treasury.gov.au/policy-topics/measuring-what-matters/dashboard

Sydney's future success depends on our capacity to mediate and adapt to these challenges – and to even thrive under such conditions.

As recognised by social sustainability and urban resilience research,[9] and in the City of Sydney resilience strategy 2023-2028,[10] integral to this goal is the formation and maintenance of social cohesion and connectedness, feelings of trust and economic equity, along with ensuring that communities are financially and food secure.

These factors enable communities to recover and rebuild faster after experiencing major stresses, and better prepared for future emergency events. Enhancing community wellbeing facilitates resilience.

How the City of Sydney monitors wellbeing

We measure wellbeing through the community wellbeing indicators framework.[11]

The framework features material and immaterial themes relevant to community wellbeing, such as the quality of our local area, health and safety, housing, employment and productivity, income, educational attainment, social connections, community engagement and cultural participation.

It contains over 100 indicators, grouped into the following five domains:

A. Healthy, safe, and inclusive communities
B. Culturally rich and vibrant communities
C. Democratic and engaged communities
D. Dynamic, resilient local economies
E. Sustainable environments.

This report presents the third version of targets and data for domains A through D of the framework.

Targets and data relating to domain E have not been included here as they can be found in the City of Sydney's biannual green reports.[12]

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[9] 100 Resilient Cities, The Rockefeller Foundation: https://resilientcitiesnetwork.org/downloadable_resources/UR/Social-Cohesion-Handbook.pdf
[10] Resilience Strategy 2023 - 2023, City of Sydney: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/resilience-strategy
[11] City of Sydney Wellbeing Indicator Framework, Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS, 2011: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/-/media/corporate/files/2020-07-migrated/files_d/draftcommunitywellbeingindicators.pdf?download=true
[12] City of Sydney Green Reports, City Sustainability Unit: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/green-reports
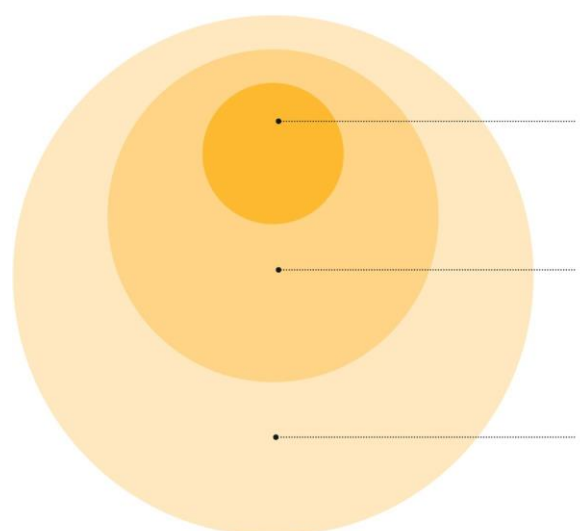
City of Sydney's spheres of influence

Control
Core business, statutory responsibilities, service provision.
City of Sydney facilities and services, buildings and other assets.
Direct decision-making and action is possible (and necessary).

Influence
Areas in which the City has partial or shared responsibility or influence.
Advocacy, lobbying, education and communication are possible.
Action may be possible in collaboration with other organisations
    and/or levels of government.

Concern
Wide range of issues important to the community but outside the City's control.
Awareness and understanding are important.
Incorporated into strategic vision (e.g. SS2030).
Possible educative, advocacy, lobbying role.

Adoption of the framework

Responding to international consensus that societal progress cannot be measured solely in economic terms, we commissioned the Institute for Sustainable Futures at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) to develop an indicator framework in 2011. After undergoing community consultation, the framework was adopted by Council in 2012.

Council identified ongoing tracking as a core component of the framework, enabling reporting against the community strategic plan (Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision)[13] and the 4-year delivery plan. Other project outcomes noted in the Council adoption document include:

> "Providing a comprehensive evaluation of community need to assist in prioritising of infrastructure, services and activities.

> Facilitating comparison with other comparable government jurisdictions both locally and internationally."

Data to populate the framework come from many sources such as our wellbeing survey and floorspace and employment survey. The framework also uses data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census of Population and Housing, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, and HealthStats NSW. Data is collated, validated, and analysed to assess over time on each of the indicators.

Indicators and our charter

We follow Local Government Act (1993) and Regulations, and the City of Sydney Act (1988).

Asides from providing key services to our communities, connect with and pursue the community's vision, we advocate for equitable resource allocation from state and federal governments for issues such as transport, health, and education, and provide civic leadership enabling the local area to become more sustainable.

We exert different degrees of influence over each indicator in the framework.

Of the 129 measures used to assess community need and wellbeing, we only have direct control for a limited number of them. But we can influence around 70% of indicator outcomes, through advocacy or working with other organisations and governments. About a quarter of indicator outcomes are not within our control, but are of concern to our communities, and are important to monitor and account for in our work.

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[13] The Community Strategic Plan has a minimum 10-year scope, and updates are mandated by the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework under the Local Government Act (1993).

In a time where socio-economic and cultural spheres across the world are experiencing changes, and where community needs are shifting in relation to emerging discourses and challenges, how community wellbeing is understood or measured in quantitative terms is constantly being revised.

Council recognised this when it adopted the community wellbeing indicators framework, anticipating that…

> "…the number of indicators and measures will continue to change over time as new information becomes available, priorities change or data sources are varied or new data emerge…"

The framework will be periodically reviewed to ensure continued relevancy of each indicator. Amendments to the original set of measures will also be assessed on the basis of their ability to evaluate progress.

Using this report

Context

The chart below shows the total resident population in the City of Sydney area since 2006 (line), and yearly changes to the resident population since 2006 (bars, in thousands). As of 30 June 2023, the City of Sydney has an estimated resident population of 231,086, an increase of 66,489 people since 2006.

Border closures arising from Covid restrictions impacted resident figures, with 2020 and 2021 seeing a drop in resident numbers, especially for those aged 18 to 24. Resident numbers started to rebound in 2022.

As a result, based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021 Census, the median age of our residents has increased from 32 in 2016 to 34 in 2021, though still younger compared to the median age of 37 for Greater Sydney in 2021.

More than 2 in 5 residents are aged 18 to 34 years (44%), with the largest age group being the 25- to 29-year-olds (16%).

Our local area is also multicultural, with over half of residents born overseas (52%), and over a third speaking a language other than English at home (38%). Aside from English, the top languages used at home include Mandarin, Cantonese, Thai, Spanish, and Indonesian.[14]

Family households remain the majority (47%). The proportion of lone households has increased from 37% in 2016 to 41% in 2021. In contrast, the proportion of group households have decreased from 15% in 2016 to 12% in 2021.

Measures in this report should be contextualised in terms of this young and culturally diverse population, especially when comparing non-indexed figures over time.
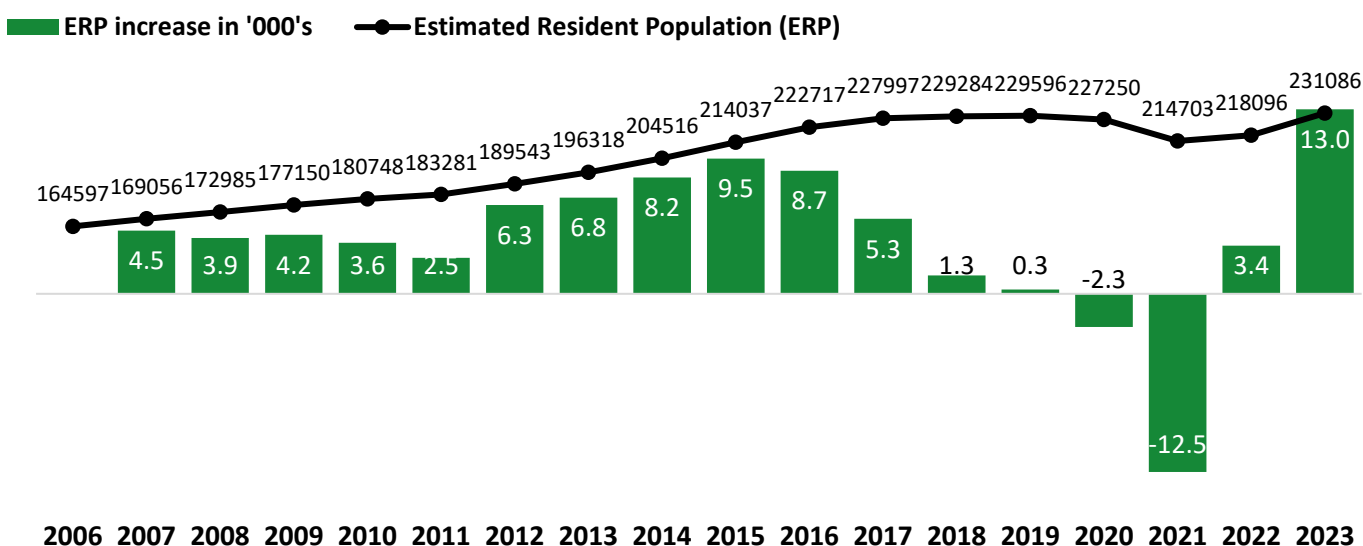
Estimated City of Sydney LGA resident population growth since 2006, as a cumulative total (line) and in estimated net terms each year at June (bars)[15]

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[14] City of Sydney estimates based on Census Community Profiles, and Census QuickStats, Australian Bureau of Statistics: https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA17200. Figures have been rebased to exclude 'Not Stated' cases.
[15] ABS Estimated Resident Population (Regional Population, 26 March 2024): Australian Bureau of Statistics: https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population/2022-23#data-downloads

Time series, update frequency

Time series data for each measure in this report are provided back to 2006 where possible, to enable long-term trends to be observed.

This report aims to use the most recent data available to update any time series indicators. There are cases where there are substantial time-lags between data collection and release, which may prevent the use of more recently collected data.

This tends to be the case when data collections are large and requires more time for the agencies collecting them to process. An example of this is the ABS Census data. It may take up to 18 months between Census night and the release of Census data. For a select number of data sources, disruptions arising from Covid have impacted data collection and release timelines.

For time series indicators in this report, yearly intervals will be provided except in cases when data has been collected less frequently and/or irregularly. Where data has been collected and/or released several times a year, they are averaged or otherwise annualised as appropriate.

Geographical scales

Where data is available, the results are presented for the City of Sydney area (LGA) (see map on page xii).

Local area data is not available for some measures (such as select health outcomes). Where this is the case, estimates will be based on broader geographies. This will be mentioned in the footnotes.

Sources and suggested citation

Measures in this report are sourced from different datasets and research documents, which will be cited in the footnotes.

Data sources are divided into 2 categories:

Primary / City of Sydney sources
These refer to research conducted by the City of

Sydney, including resident and community surveys, the floorspace and employment survey, monitoring reports and counts, and other administrative data.

Please cite our research with the following:

> City of Sydney community wellbeing indicators Report (2024), City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics. Available at: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/community-indicators.

Secondary sources
These refer to the research conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, NSW Health, and other government agencies and peak industry bodies.

If referring to measures that use data from a secondary source, citing this report is not appropriate. Instead, check the link provided in the footnotes for any updates and use the suggested citation for the source itself.

Data from secondary sources were validated from February through June 2024. Primary research is up to date at the time of publication. While all care has been taken to ensure a high degree of accuracy, the contributors to this report accept no responsibility for any injury, loss, or damage arising from use, error or omissions. Users of this report are invited to notify the City of Sydney's research team of any discrepancies.

Progress icons

Throughout this report, target progress icons appear next to each indicator. These are used to signal how the measures are progressing in relation to their associated targets, as outlined in the framework and in the community strategic plan (Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision).

Many targets are aspirational. They represent where we would want to be, and our hopes to enable the community to realise these goals in the longer term.

The targets and desired trends are described in the text of the report.

In the context of this report, our target for a measure occasionally refers to a specific numerical value. More often, the 'target' for a measure is for it to progress over time in a particular way, trending upwards, or downwards or remaining stable in relation to the baseline.

Progress Icons:

Target or trend not met

The desired trend in the time series has not been realised and/or a specific numerical target has not been met.

Progressing or pending further updates

Progress has been made towards a specific target but it has not been met yet and/or it can't be determined due to pending data.
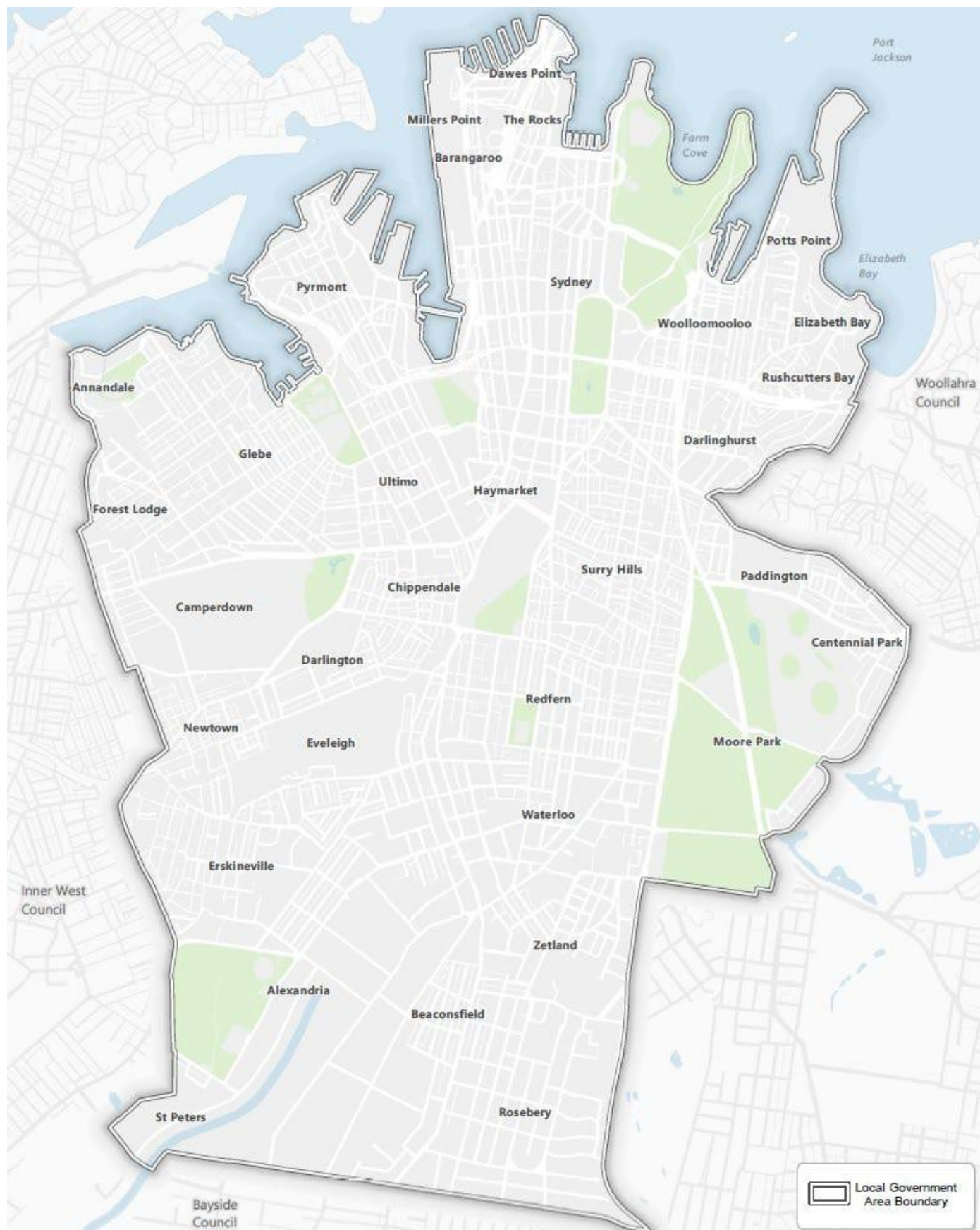

Target or trend met

The desired trend in the time series has been realised and/or a specific numerical target has been met.

Information only, no target

Sometimes there is no target associated with a measure.
These measures are important to fully understand community wellbeing over time but are neutral in terms of progress.

City of Sydney's area

Key terms and definitions

Community wellbeing indicators

The full set of measures used by the City of Sydney, divided into 5 domains (as listed on page iii). These are also called the indicators or the community wellbeing indicators.

Domain

This is a high-level conceptual grouping of indicator areas. Within each of the 5 domains, indicators are further grouped under thematically linked area headings.

Indicator

Represents a component of society essential in our monitoring of wellbeing. For example, health services or community engagement. The state of these indicators has implications, or are of conceptual interest, for planning and tracking. Indicators can refer to a single measure, or a set of measures.

Measure

A specific data point or statistic used to gauge the state of the indicator. Multiple measures may be allocated to one indicator. For example, an indicator may be health services, while the measures for this would include post-natal services and general practitioners.

Baseline

Refers to the first measure in a time series, against which comparisons can be made with future data to establish trends over time. Baseline figures in the indicators start from 2006 where possible, or the next available data point available.

Desired trend

The direction of time series data deemed ideal for a given measure. This report often refers to desired trend as a target, with emerging patterns over time described as increasing or decreasing, trending up or trending down. In some cases, a measure is ascribed a specific minimum or maximum target value to strive towards.

Target

Often used interchangeably with desired trend (see above). A target occasionally refers to a specific numerical target value, which has been identified in the indicator framework.

Unless otherwise stated, once this numerical target value has been achieved, the ongoing objective is to maintain the measure at the target level.

Defining Sydney

Although the City of Sydney has overall responsibility for the local area, there are many stakeholders who share an interest in parts or all of the geographic area. Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision recognises the role the City of Sydney plays as the centre of a global city.

The following seeks to provide some clarity regarding the different geographies and responsibilities.

The City of Sydney

The council as an organisation overseeing the administration and operations of the central Sydney and surrounds.

The Council

The elected councillors of the City of Sydney.

Local area

The geographic area administered by the City of Sydney and its physical elements. The area is bounded by Port Jackson to the north, Woollahra Municipal Council and Randwick City Council to the east, the Bayside to the south, and Inner West Council to the west.

Central Sydney/ CBD area

This area extends from Circular Quay, Central Station, Domain/ Hyde Park, and Darling Harbour. It includes major civic functions, government offices, cultural and entertainment assets.

Greater Sydney, Sydney Region, and Sydney Metropolitan

These terms constitute the parts that make up the larger Sydney area. This may include the Central Coast, the Southern Highlands, and Illawarra in some definitions. Usually defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as the Sydney Statistical Division (the geographic boundary and/or population differences are marginal).

Healthy, safe, & inclusive communities

Healthy, safe and inclusive communities

Introduction

Health, safety, and inclusivity are broad and multidimensional concepts. Within the context of wellbeing, they can mean being able to live free of illnesses, social isolation, and financial stress. They can also mean being able to live in an environment where a person feels respected, welcomed, safe and secure, and are treated equitably.

The community wellbeing indicators report monitors health, safety, and inclusivity by reviewing residents' physical, mental, and social wellbeing. It also acknowledges that our surrounding environments – home, school, work, urban amenities and natural spaces – are integral to understanding wellbeing, and the indicators reflect this.

Addressing health, wellbeing, and quality of life, includes themes such as feelings of trust and community, the degree of community involvement through sports or volunteering, the relationships embedded within our communities, safety and crime, and household income levels.

The indicators in this domain can be broadly framed as social indicators but they can overlap with other domains. For example, employment and education (in section D of this report) includes a wide array of life outcomes that are essential in providing a complete understanding of social wellbeing. We assign these indicators to other domains based on practical reasons but this doesn't reduce their importance as extra social measures.

A population that feels healthy, safe, and included is better able to participate in employment, education, social, and community activities. It also reduces costs for health-related services and infrastructure. While we can't expect incidences of poor health and crime to be eliminated entirely, and must accommodate individuals living with a disability and other conditions affecting day-to-day activities, we can strive to optimise health and improve feelings of wellness and inclusion for everyone.

Encouraging and facilitating the health of our communities is a core principle in the community strategic plan, Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision.[16]

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[16] Sustainable Sydney 2030 – 2050 Continuing the Vision: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/sustainable-sydney-2030-2050
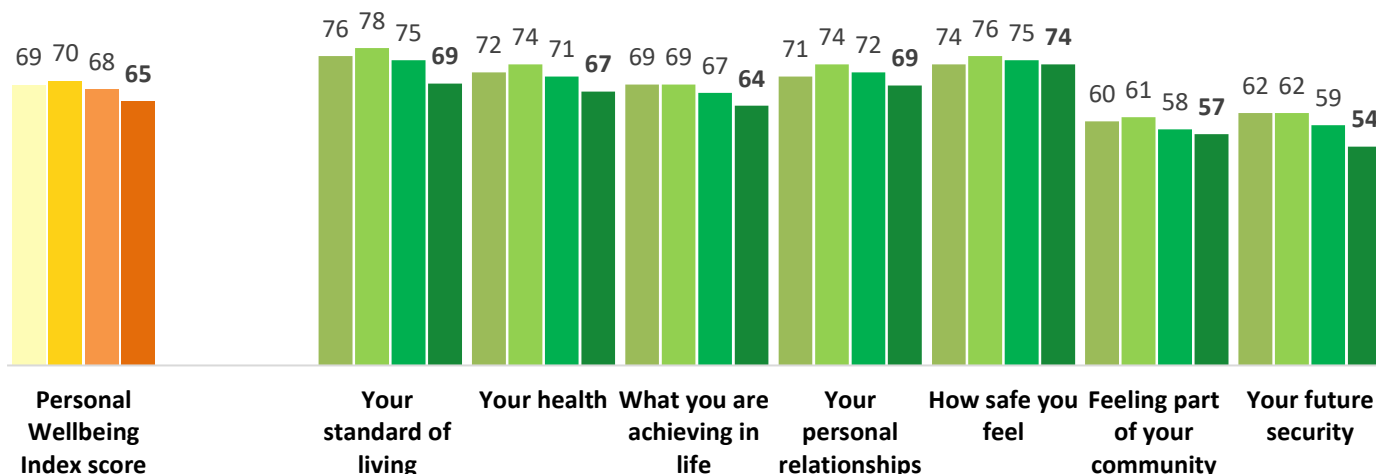
2

2011 **2015** **2018** **2023**

	Personal Wellbeing Index score	Your standard of living	Your health	What you are achieving in life	Your personal relationships	How safe you feel	Feeling part of your community	Your future security
2011	69	76	72	69	71	74	60	62
2015	70	78	74	69	74	76	61	62
2018	68	75	71	67	72	75	58	59
2023	**65**	**69**	**67**	**64**	**69**	**74**	**57**	**54**

How residents respond when asked:
***Thinking about your personal wellbeing, how satisfied are you with** each of the following?[17]*
Averaged scores out of 100.

Personal health and wellbeing

Subjective wellbeing

The measure for this indicator is the Personal Wellbeing Index (PWI).[18] It is based on our residents' responses towards the following 7 questions:

Thinking about your personal wellbeing, how satisfied are you with:

- your standard of living?
- your health?
- what you are currently achieving in life?
- your personal relationships?
- how safe you feel?
- feeling part of your community?
- your future security?

The PWI is calculated as the standardised average score across these questions.

The target is for the PWI score to trend upwards over time, to reach at least 75.

The baseline (2011) is 69 out of 100.

The latest update (2023) is **65 out of 100**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the PWI score has decreased since 2015. The target score of 75 has not been reached.

The chart above shows the PWI score, and the mean scores for each of the 7 contributing questions, on a scale of 1-100. Scores for each question have dropped since 2018, most notably for 'standard of living', 'future security', and 'health'.

This mirrors national results from 2022, where PWI scores have dropped due to a combination of Covid and cost-of-living concerns.[19]

Although the latest PWI score has yet to reach the target score of 75, Sydney's high quality of life has been recognised in the Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Index. Sydney is ranked seventh (out of 173 cities) in 2024.[20]

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[17] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

[18] International Wellbeing Group (2013). Personal Wellbeing Index: 5th Edition. Melbourne: Australian Centre on Quality of Life, Deakin University: www.acqol.com.au/instruments#measures

[19] Cummins, R.A., Mead, R., and the Australian Unity-Deakin University Wellbeing Research Partnership (2021). The Australian Unity Wellbeing Index 20th Anniversary Commemorative Edition: https://www.acqol.com.au/uploads/surveys/20yr-anniversary-report.pdf
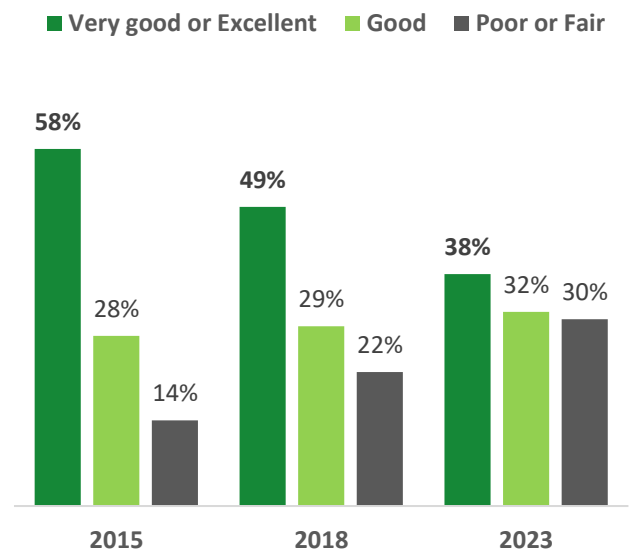
[20] The Global Liveability Index report 2024; The Economist Intelligence Unit Limited 2024: https://www.eiu.com/n/campaigns/global-liveability-index-2024/
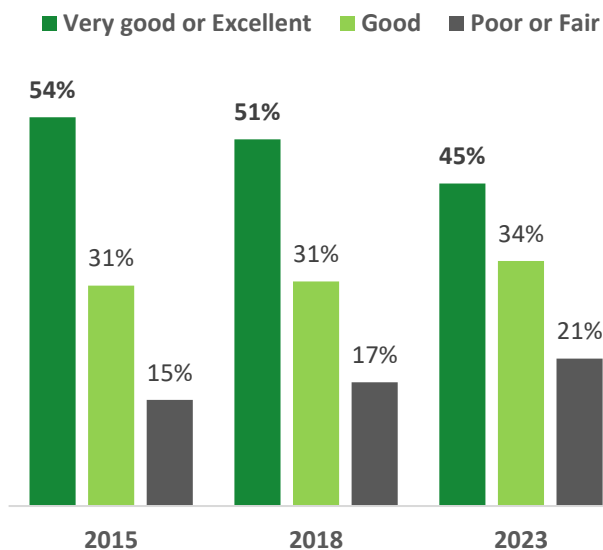
■ Very good or Excellent **■ Good** **■ Poor or Fair**

■ Very good or Excellent **■ Good** **■ Poor or Fair**

How residents respond when asked: In general, how would you rate your physical health?

How residents respond when asked: In general, how would you rate your mental health? [21]

Self-reported health

This indicator has 2 measures: residents' rating of their physical health, and residents' ratings of their mental health. Residents were asked:

In general, how would you rate your:

- physical health?
- mental health?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents who rate their physical or mental health as being very good or excellent[22] to trend upward and reach at least 60%.

	Baseline 2015	Latest update 2023
Physical health	54%	**45%**
Mental health	58%	**38%**

Contrary to the desired trend, residents' self-reported ratings for physical and mental health have dropped since 2015. The target of 60% has not been reached.

The drop in self-reported health is of concern, especially with mental health ratings seeing a decline from 58% in 2015 to 38% in 2023.

This drop in self-reported ratings of mental health is not solely a local issue. There are reports indicating that psychological distress at the national level has been on the rise cross genders and ages over the past decade.[23]

Other data sources reported by health agencies indicate that the proportion of NSW residents aged 16+ who experience high or very high psychological stress has been on the rise since 2013, affecting 17% of NSW adults in 2021.[24]
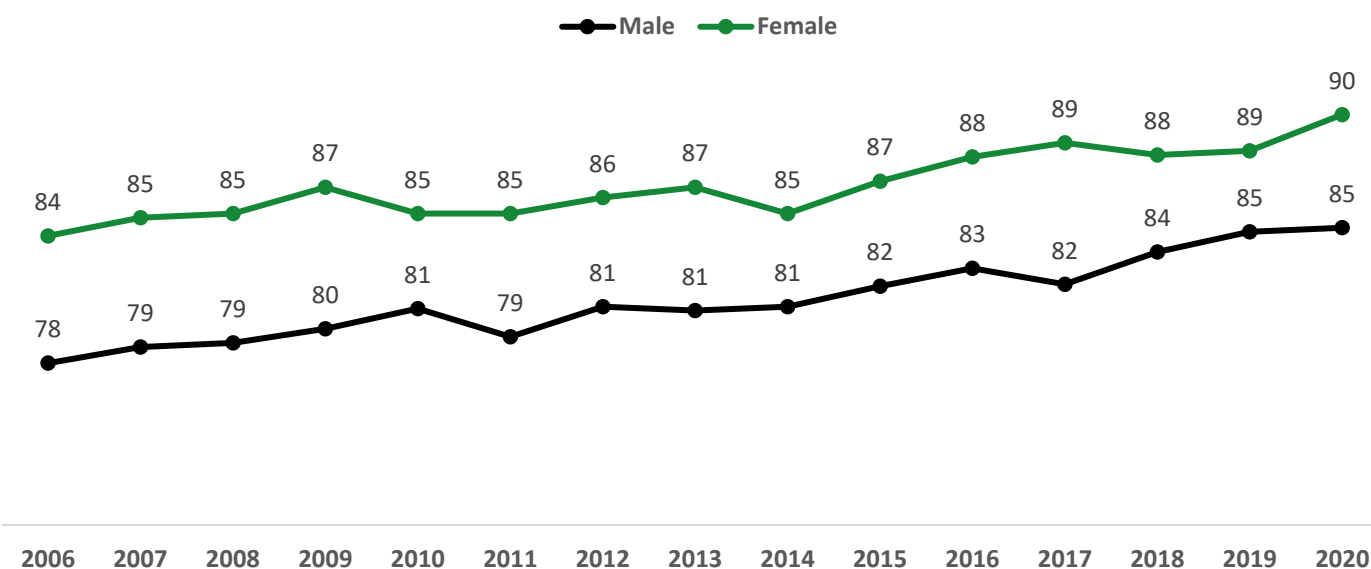
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[21] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.
[22] Other sources may report this statistic slightly differently. For example, NSW Ministry of Health, Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, combines the top three ratings (such as Excellent, Very good, Good) rather than the top two.
[23] Household, Income, and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey (2023). Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic and Social Research: https://melbourneinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/hilda/publications/hilda-statistical-reports
[24] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/indicator?name=-men-hidistress-phs&location=NSW&view=Trend&measure=prevalence&groups=

Male **Female**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Female	84	85	85	87	85	85	86	87	85	87	88	89	88	89	90
Male	78	79	79	80	81	79	81	81	81	82	83	82	84	85	85

Life expectancy at birth in years for *females* and *males*[25]

Health outcomes

Life expectancy

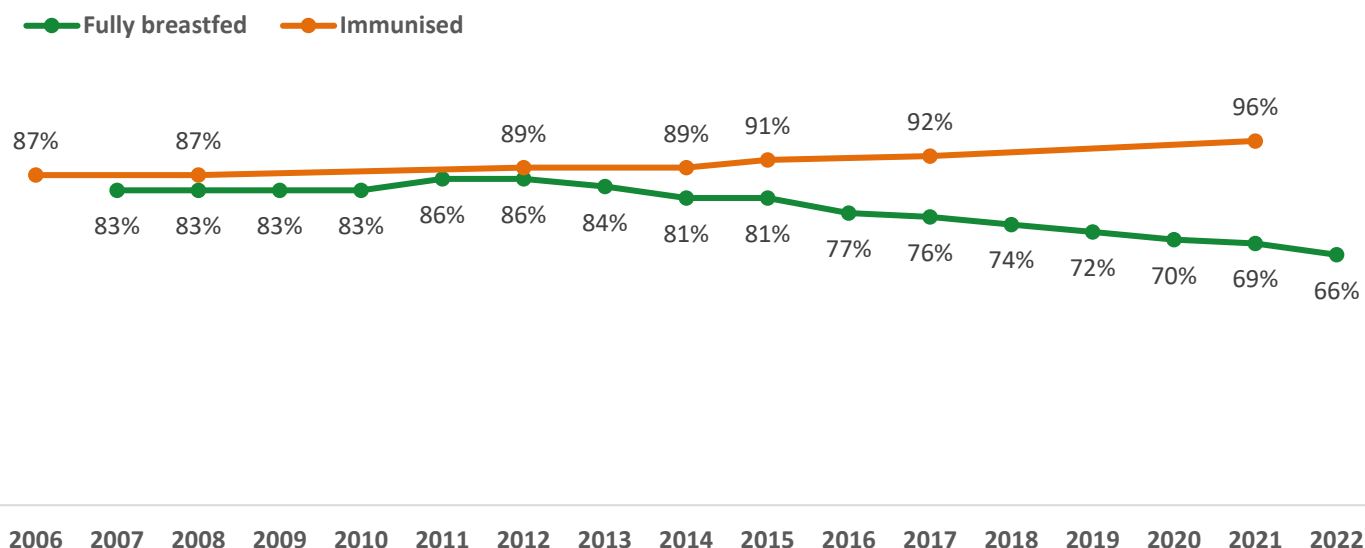There are 2 measures for this indicator: life expectancy at birth for females, and life expectancy at birth for males.

The target for this indicator is for life expectancy at birth to trend upward over time.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2020
Life expectancy - Females	84	**90**
Life expectancy - Males	78	**85**

In line with the desired trend, life expectancy at birth is trending upwards for females and males.

Fully breastfed ● **Immunised** ●

Immunised: 87% 87% 89% 89% 91% 92% 96%

Fully breastfed: 83% 83% 83% 83% 86% 86% 84% 81% 81% 77% 76% 74% 72% 70% 69% 66%

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

***Fully immunised** rates at **12-14 months** (local area estimates)[26] and
proportion of **newborns fully breastfed** on discharge from hospital (LHD estimates)[27].*

Newborn and infant care:

The chart above features 2 separate indicators. Both indicators relate to the earliest years of life. No other relationship is implied between them.

Immunisation

For this indicator, the measure is for the proportion of children at 1 year of age (defined as children aged 12-14 months) to be fully immunised.

The target for this indicator is for immunisation rates to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 87%.

The latest update (2021) is **96%.**

In line with the desired trend, immunisation rates are increasing over time.

Breastfeeding

The measure for this indicator is for the proportion of newborns being fully breastfed upon discharge from the hospital.

For this indicator, the target is for the proportion of newborn babies being fully breastfed to increase over time.

The baseline (2007) is 83%.

The latest update (2021) is **66%.**

Contrary to the desired trend, data shows breastfeeding of newborns upon discharge from the hospital is trending downwards since 2012.

This measure only captures babies who are fully breastfed. It does not include partially breastfed babies, such as those supplemented with formula.

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[26] Social Health Atlas of Australia (March 2024, and earlier releases); Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU), Torrens University Australia: https://phidu.torrens.edu.au/current/maps/sha-aust/lga-single-map/nsw-act/atlas.html
[27] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics
Because local government area data is not available for this indicator, data from the two Local Health Districts that include the City of Sydney have been averaged and presented here as estimates.
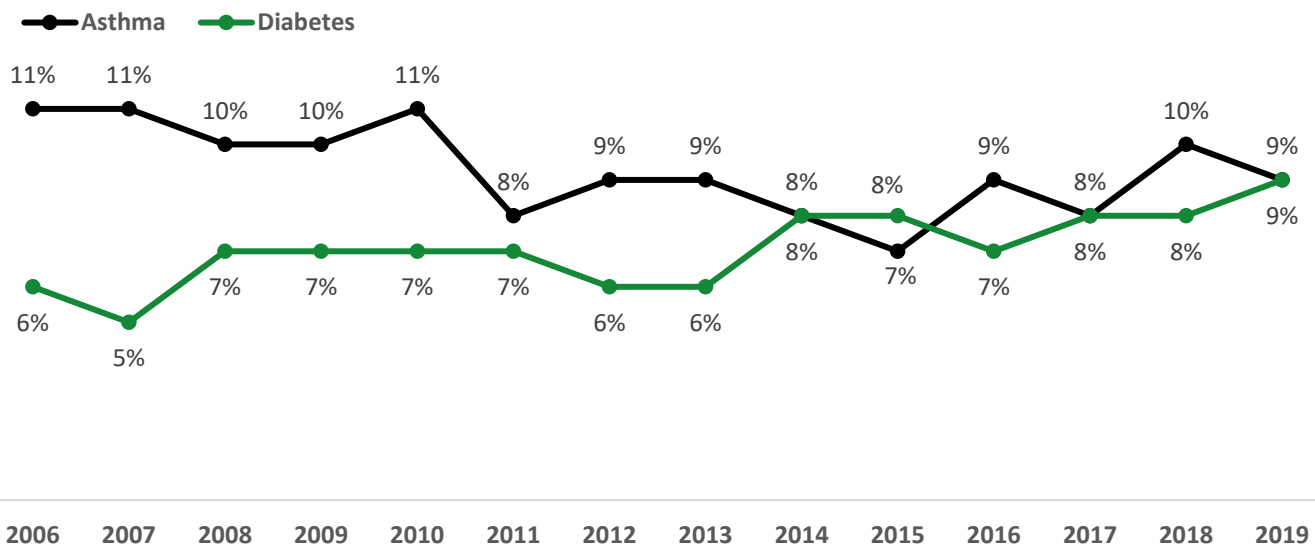
Prevalence of asthma (LHD estimates) and
type 1 and type 2 **diabetes** (LHD estimates) in the adult population.[28]

Prevalence of major diseases:

The chart above features 2 separate indicators.
No other relationship is implied between them.

Asthma

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of adults aged 16 and over who are estimated to be living with asthma.

For this indicator, the target is for the proportion of adults living with asthma to decrease over time.

The baseline (2006) is 11%.

The latest update (2019) is **9%**.

Although the time series shows that the incidence of asthma fluctuates over the years, the latest results show that the proportion of adults living with asthma is lower than the 2006 baseline.

Diabetes

The measure for this indicator is for the proportion of adults aged 16 and over who are estimated to be living with diabetes. The measure includes those who have either diabetes, or those who have high blood glucose and did not have gestational diabetes.

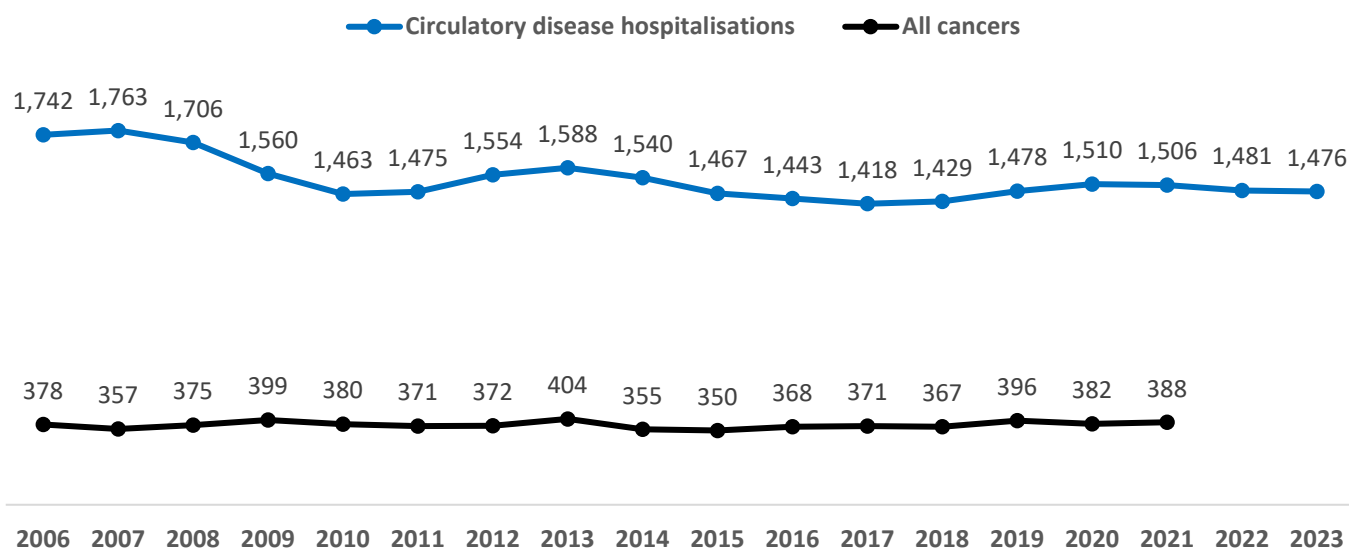For this indicator, the target is for the proportion of adults living with diabetes to decrease over time.

The baseline (2006) is 6%.

The latest update (2019) is **9%**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the time series shows the proportion of adults living with diabetes trending upwards.

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[28] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics
Because local government area data is not available for this indicator, data from the two Local Health Districts that include the City of Sydney have been averaged and presented here as estimates.
The data presented are modelled estimates based on self-reported population-weighted health survey data. Some of the differences in the results may be explained by the improved sampling design of the survey implemented since 2012.

Circulatory disease hospitalisations ● **All cancers**

Circulatory disease hospitalisations: 1,742 1,763 1,706 1,560 1,463 1,475 1,554 1,588 1,540 1,467 1,443 1,418 1,429 1,478 1,510 1,506 1,481 1,476

All cancers: 378 357 375 399 380 371 372 404 355 350 368 371 367 396 382 388

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

*Rate of **new cases of cancer** per annum, **per 100,000 population**[29] and rate of **circulatory disease hospitalisations**, per annum, **per 100,000 population**[30]*

Prevalence of major diseases:

The chart above features two separate indicators.
No relationship is implied between these indicators.

Cancer

The measure for this indicator is the number of new cases of all cancer types diagnosed per 100,000 population per year.

The target for this indicator is for the cancer incidence rate to decrease over time.

The baseline (2006) is 378.

The latest update (2021) is **388.**

Cancer incidence rates have shown no notable improvement over time. Although rates have decreased slightly between 2015 to 2018, the latest update is slightly above the baseline.

Cardiovascular disease

The measure for this indicator is the rate of circulatory disease hospitalisations per 100,000 population per year, as a 3-year rolling average.

The target for this indicator is for cardiovascular disease hospitalisations to decrease over time.

The baseline (2006) is 1,742.

The latest update (2023) is **1,476**.

In line with the desired trend, the time series shows that the rate of cardiovascular disease hospitalisations is generally trending downwards, with the latest update below the baseline rate.

*Before 2018, patients treated in the emergency department were excluded from this indicator, due to changes in NSW hospital admission criteria. This may affect time series comparisons.

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[29] City of Sydney estimates based on customised data from Cancer Institute NSW. Please note that figures are subject to continuous revision, due to updates to the NSW Cancer Registry (NSWCR) and available population data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
[30] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics

High or very high psychological distress
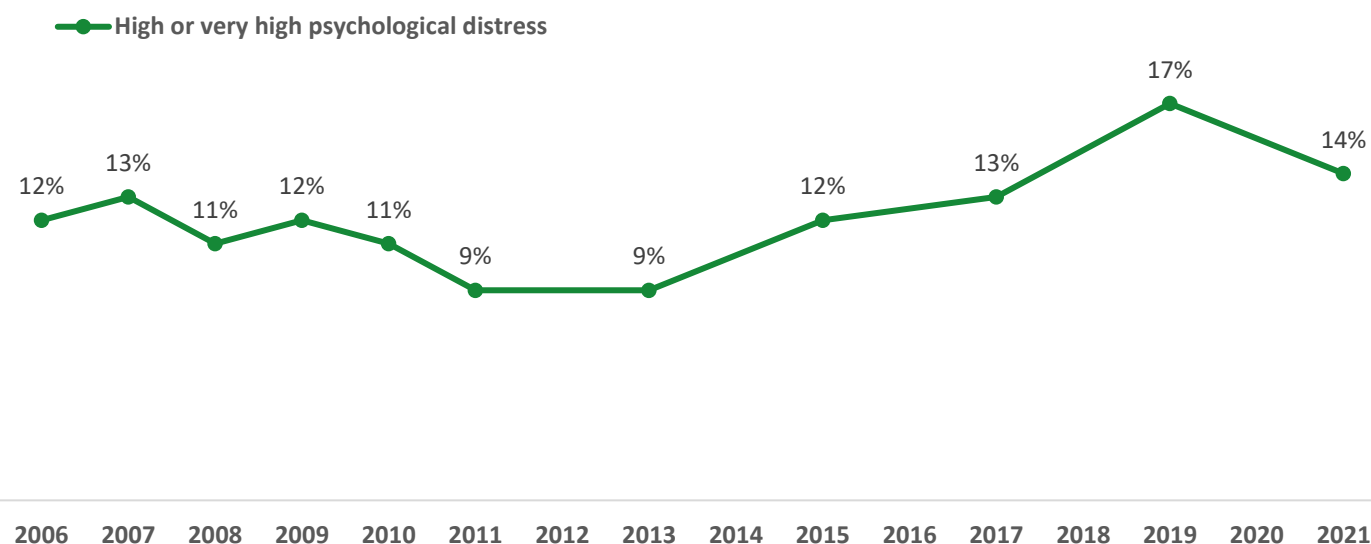
*Rates of high or very high **psychological distress in adults** (LHD estimates).[31]*

Psychological distress

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of adults aged 16 and over who are in psychological distress based on the Kessler 10 scale.

The Kessler 10 scale measures anxiety, depression, agitation, and psychological fatigue in the most recent 4-week period. A Kessler 10 score of 22 or over indicates high or very high psychological distress.

There is a strong association between high Kessler scale scores and incidence of mental health conditions.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of adults in high or very high psychological distress to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 12%.

The latest update (2021) is **14%**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of adults in high or very high psychological distress has been increasing since 2011, reaching 17% in 2019.

Although the proportion of adults experiencing high or very high psychological distress has dropped slightly in 2021, it remains higher than previous time periods.

This trend is not unique to the local health districts used for calculating results for the City of Sydney's area. As aforementioned (page 4), similar trends of increasing psychological distress have been recorded at the NSW population level.

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[31] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics
Because local government area data is not available for this indicator, data from the two Local Health Districts that include the City of Sydney have been averaged and presented here as estimates.
The data presented are modelled estimates based on self-reported population-weighted health survey data. Some of the differences in the results may be explained by the improved sampling design of the survey implemented since 2012.
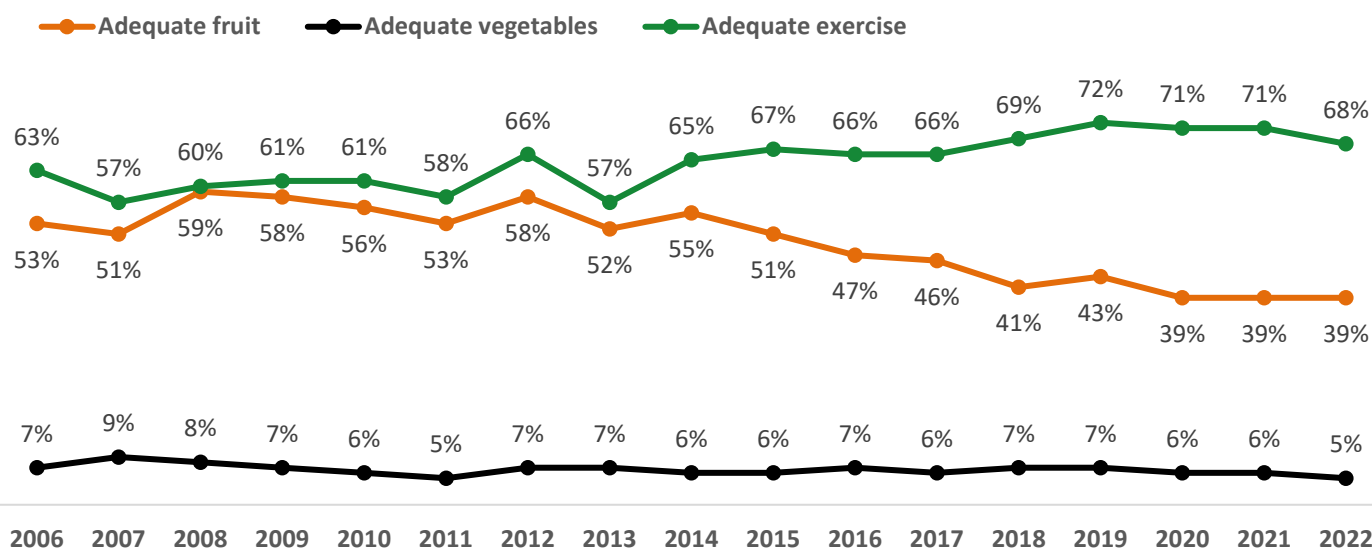
Proportion of adults getting **adequate physical exercise, and fruit and vegetable in diet** (LHD estimates)[32].

Health risk factors

Nutrition and exercise

The measures for this indicator are the proportions of adults aged 16 and over who get adequate exercise and nutrition, as tabulated below.

Adequate physical exercise is defined as at least 150 minutes in total, over 5 separate occasions, per week. Adequate nutrition is defined as having 2 or more fruit serves and 5 or more vegetable

serves a day. Guidelines for differing adult age groups may change over time.[33]

The targets for this indicator are for the proportions of adults getting adequate physical exercise, and fruit and vegetable intake to be stable or to trend upwards over time.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2022	Result	
Physical exercise	63%	**68%**	▲	The proportion of adults getting adequate physical exercise is trending upwards. The latest update has dipped slightly from 2019 results, but is higher than the 2006 baseline.
Fruit in diet	53%	**39%**	■	Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of adults getting adequate fruit has been trending downwards since 2014. The latest update shows that just under 2 in 5 adults have adequate fruit in their diet.
Vegetables in diet	7%	**5%**	■	Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of adults getting vegetables remains at a very low level – only 1 in 20 eat an adequate amount of vegetable serves.

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[32] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics
Because local government area data is not available for this indicator, data from the two Local Health Districts that include the City of Sydney have been averaged and presented here as estimates.
The data presented are modelled estimates based on self-reported population-weighted health survey data. Some of the differences in the results may be explained by the improved sampling design of the survey implemented since 2012.
[33] National Health and Medical Research Council. Australian Dietary Guidelines. Canberra: National Health and Medical Research Council: www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-dietary-guidelines
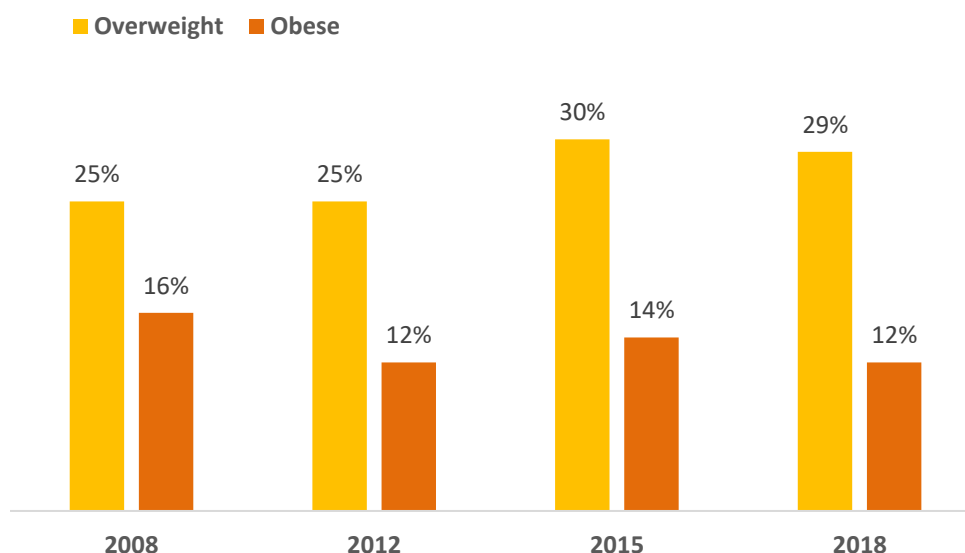
■ Overweight ■ Obese

*Proportion of **overweight** and **obese adults** based on self-assessed body-mass index measurements.[34]*

Body Mass Index (BMI)

There are 2 measures for this indicator: the proportion of adults aged 18 and over who are overweight and obese.

An individual is defined as overweight if their BMI ranges between 25 and less than 30. An individual is defined as obese if their BMI is 30 or greater.

The targets for this indicator are for the proportions of overweight and obese adults to trend downwards over time.

	Baseline 2008	Latest update 2018
Overweight	25%	**29%**
Obese	16%	**12%**
Total	41%	**41%**

Overall, 41% of adult residents in the local area are either overweight or obese, consistent with the 2008 baseline. In turn, state-level results for the same period shows that the proportion of overweight or obese adults (aged 16 and over) has increased.[35]

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of overweight adults in the local area has increased over time. Almost 3 in 10 adults (29%) are overweight in 2018.
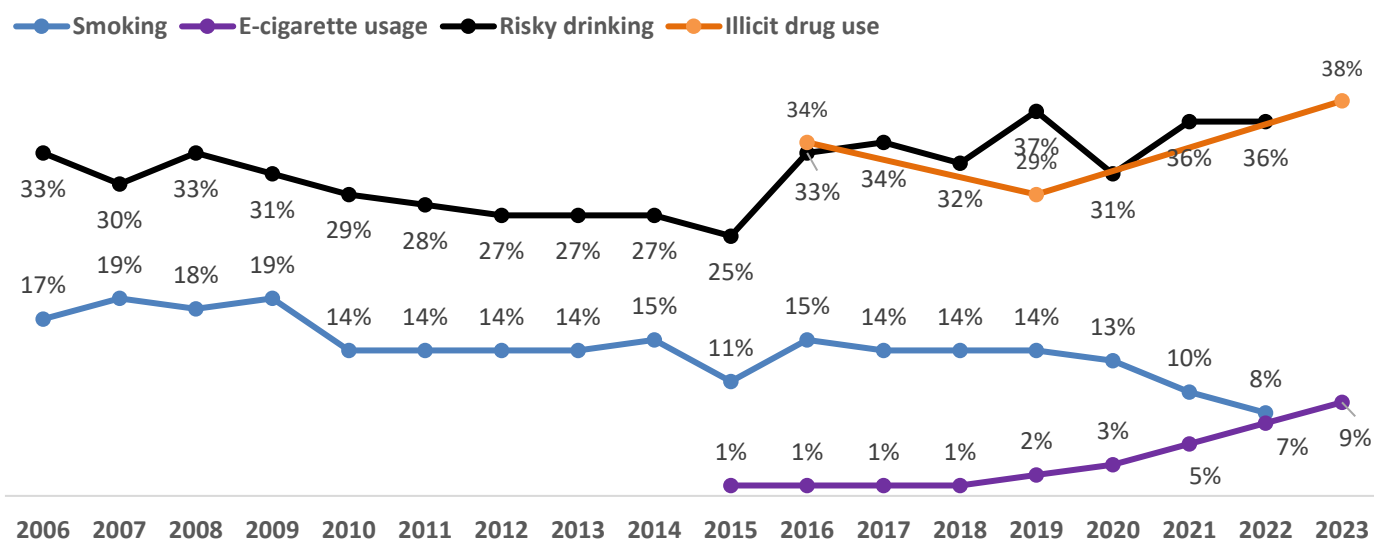
The time series shows that the proportion of obese adults in the local area for 2012, 2015, and 2018 has remained lower than the 2008 baseline results, indicating a downward trend.

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[34] City of Sydney estimations based on the Social Health Atlas of Australia (March 2024, and earlier releases); Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU), Torrens University Australia: https://phidu.torrens.edu.au/current/maps/sha-aust/lga-single-map/nsw-act/atlas.html

[35] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics

Rates of currently smoking, currently vaping, and risky drinking in adults aged 16+ (LHD estimates)[36] and *rates of illicit drug use in the population aged 14+ (SA4 estimates)* [37]

Recreational substances:

The chart above shows 4 separate indicators that relate to recreational substance use. No relationship is implied between these indicators.

Risky drinking

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of adults aged 16 and over engaging in risky drinking, defined as consuming over 2 standard alcoholic drinks on a day when consuming alcohol.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of population engaging in risky drinking to decrease over time.
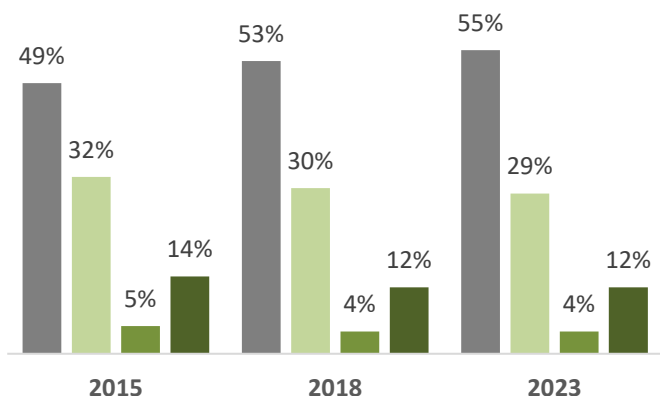
The baseline (2006) is 33%.

The latest update (2022) is **36%**.

The proportion of adults engaging in risky drinking decreased from 2008 to 2015, but has since been on the rise. Contrary to the desired trend, the figure from the latest update is higher than the 2006 baseline.

Smoking

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of adults aged 16 and over who currently smoke.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of adults who smoke to decrease over time.

The baseline (2006) is 17%.

The latest update (2023) is **8%**.

In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows that the proportion of adults who are current smokers has decreased over time. The proportion of current smokers is almost half that observed in 2016.

E-cigarette usage

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of adults aged 16 and over who are currently e-cigarette users.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of adults who use e-cigarettes to trend downwards over time.

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[36] HealthStats NSW; Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health: https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/topics
Because local government area data is not available for this indicator, data from the two Local Health Districts that include the City of Sydney have been averaged and presented here as estimates.
The data presented are modelled estimates based on self-reported population-weighted health survey data. Some differences in the results may be explained by the improved survey sampling design implemented since 2012.
[37] National Drug Strategy Household Survey (2022 - 2023), Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW):
www.aihw.gov.au/reports/illicit-use-of-drugs/2016-ndshs-detailed/contents/table-of-contents
Data is for the ABS Statistical Area 4 (covering the City of Sydney, and parts of Botany Bay and Inner West councils).

The baseline (2006) is 17%.

The latest update (2023) is **8%**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of adults who are current e-cigarette users has increased. The latest update shows that almost 1 in 10 adults use e-cigarettes, a notable increase from the 2015 baseline.

Illicit drug use

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of the population aged 14 and over that use illicit drugs.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of population using illicit drugs to decrease over time.

The baseline (2016) is 34%.

The latest update (2023) is **38%**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of people using illicit drugs dropped in 2019, but then increased. The latest update is higher than baseline results in 2016.

■ **Neither** ■ **As a spectator** ■ **As a participant** ■ **Both**

■ **Very unsatisfied or unsatisfied**
■ **Neutral**
■ **Very satisfied or satisfied**
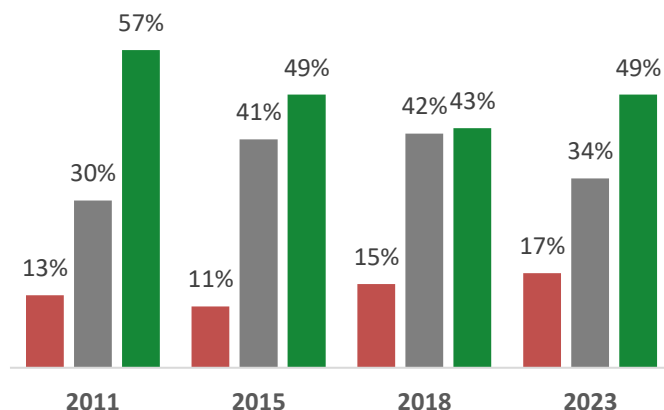
Resident attendance at sports matches or competitions

How residents respond when asked: How satisfied are you with opportunities to participate in sporting or recreational activities in your local area? [38]

Sports and recreation

Attendance at sporting events

This indicator has 2 measures: the proportions of residents that have attended sporting matches and competitions in the past 12 months as spectators or participants.

The targets for this indicator is for resident attendance in sport, as spectators or as participants, to both trend upwards over time.

Spectators:

The baseline (2015) is 46%.

The latest update (2023) is **41%**.

Participants:

The baseline (2015) is 18%.

The latest update (2023) is **17%**.

■ Contrary to the desired trend, the latest updates show decreases in sports spectatorship and participation. The proportion of residents who say they were neither spectators nor participants has increased since 2015.

Satisfaction with opportunities for sporting or recreational activities

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who are 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' when asked:

Thinking about your local area, how satisfied are you with opportunities to participate in sporting or recreational activities.

The target is for the proportion of residents satisfied with opportunities to participate in sporting or recreation to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 57%*.
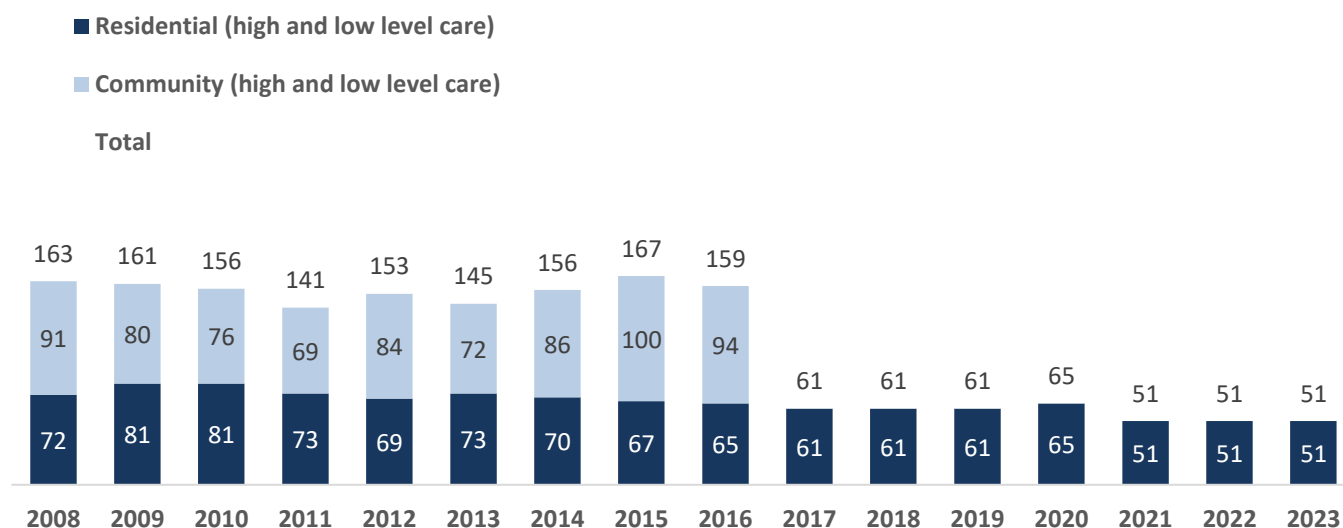
The latest update (2023) is **49%**.

■ Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of residents satisfied with opportunities to take part in sports and recreation is lower than the baseline, but higher than the 2018 results.

*Question was phrased in 2011 as 'do you agree or disagree that there are enough opportunities in your local area for you to participate in sporting or recreational activities?' This may explain the response distribution from 2011.

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[38] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.

[39] Photo credit: Chris Southwood/ City of Sydney (King George V (KGV) Recreation Centre, The Rocks, October 2023).

15

■ **Residential (high and low level care)**

■ **Community (high and low level care)**

Total

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	163	161	156	141	153	145	156	167	159	61	61	61	65	51	51	51
Community	91	80	76	69	84	72	86	100	94							
Residential	72	81	81	73	69	73	70	67	65	61	61	61	65	51	51	51

Government-funded aged care places per 1,000 people aged over 70 years of age, by major categories. [40]

Health services

Aged care places

The measure for this indicator is the number of aged care places per 1,000 residents aged over 70.

The target for this indicator is for the supply of aged care places to trend upwards over time relative to demand.

The baseline (2008) is 163 places per 1,000.

The latest update (2023) is **51** places per 1,000. (This figure only accounts for residential care places).*

● There is no data on community aged care places from 2017 onwards, which impacts trend observations and comparisons.

■ Looking exclusively at residential age care, the number of places per 1,000 local area residents aged over 70 has declined.

The chart above shows changes over time to the number of government-funded community aged-care places (in light blue, up to 2016) and residential aged care places (in dark blue) per 1,000 people aged over 70 in the local area.
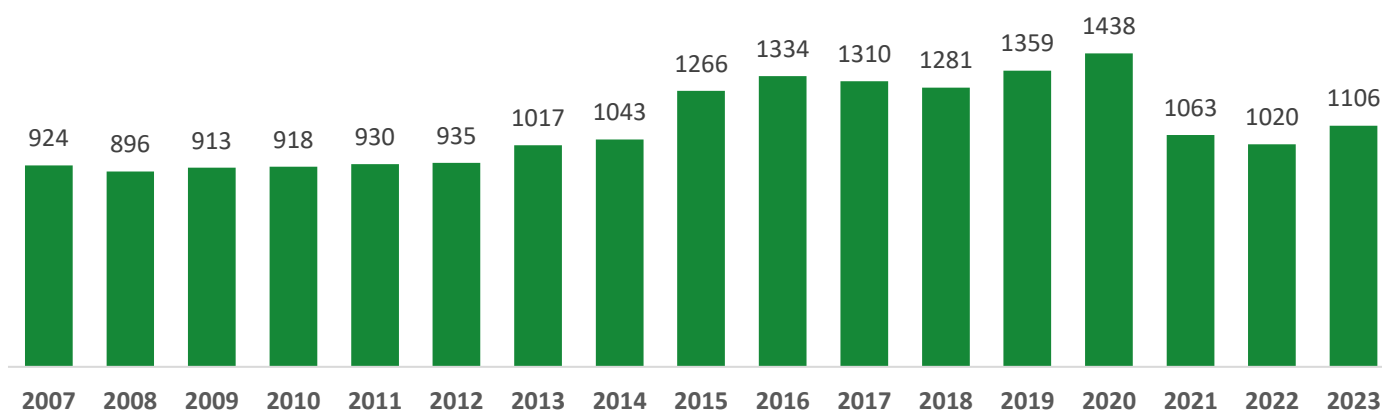
The absolute number of community and residential age care places in the local area have steadily increased since 2013. Due to rapid population growth and an ageing demographic, the number of community and residential aged care places per 1,000 persons aged over 70 has shown minimal improvement over time.

With the absence of data on community aged care places in the local area from 2017 onwards, it is difficult to assess if current supply is capable of meeting demand.

*The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare stopped collecting data on community care places in 2017. Funding for community aged care now goes directly to aged care recipients, which means that providers are no longer obligated to apply for or report places.

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[40] City of Sydney estimates based on custom data provided by GEN and Aged Care Data Unit, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Number of residents per full-time equivalent General Practitioner

Year	Value
2007	924
2008	896
2009	913
2010	918
2011	930
2012	935
2013	1017
2014	1043
2015	1266
2016	1334
2017	1310
2018	1281
2019	1359
2020	1438
2021	1063
2022	1020
2023	1106

Number of residents per full-time equivalent General Practitioners[41]

Post-natal services (not charted)

This indicator has 3 measures, featuring yearly rates of:

- under 1-year olds visited by community nurses
- under 4-year-olds visiting early childhood health centres
- under 4-year-olds attending early childhood health nurse appointments.

The targets for all 3 measures in this indicator is for them to trend upwards.

There is no data available to measure the progress of this indicator.

General Practitioners

The measure for this indicator is the number of residents per full-time equivalent[42] General Practitioners (GP).

The target for this indicator is for the number of residents per GP to remain stable or trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2007) is 924.

The latest update (2023) is **1106***

Contrary to the desired trend, the number of residents per GP has been increasing since 2013. This may be the result of rapid population growth in the local area, where supply has not yet caught up to demand.

The number of residents per GP has dropped in 2021 and 2022, likely the result of a decrease in the overall local area population due to Covid border closures. As of 2023, the local area population figure has recovered, exceeding pre-pandemic levels.

The latest update on the number of residents per GP from 2023 is higher than the 2007 baseline.

*Data on General Practitioners is sourced from the National Health Workforce Data Set (NHWDS). From 2011 to 2017, data was collected at the Statistical Area 3 level. Later data releases are available at the local government area level.

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[41] Health Workforce Data portal: https://hwd.health.gov.au/webapi/jsf/dataCatalogueExplorer.xhtml

[42] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the full-time equivalent rate for medical practitioners is 40 hours. See: Glossary, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare: https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-welfare-services/workforce/glossary

Places per resident child ■ Child care places (total)

2006	...	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0.5		0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7

Child care places (total): 3,226 — 4,502 — 4,501 — 5,081 — 5,879 — 6,642 — 6,814 — 7,001 — 7,271 — 7,318 — 7,427 — 6,746

*Number of operating **child care places** in the City of Sydney area and **child care places per resident child** aged 0-5.[43]*
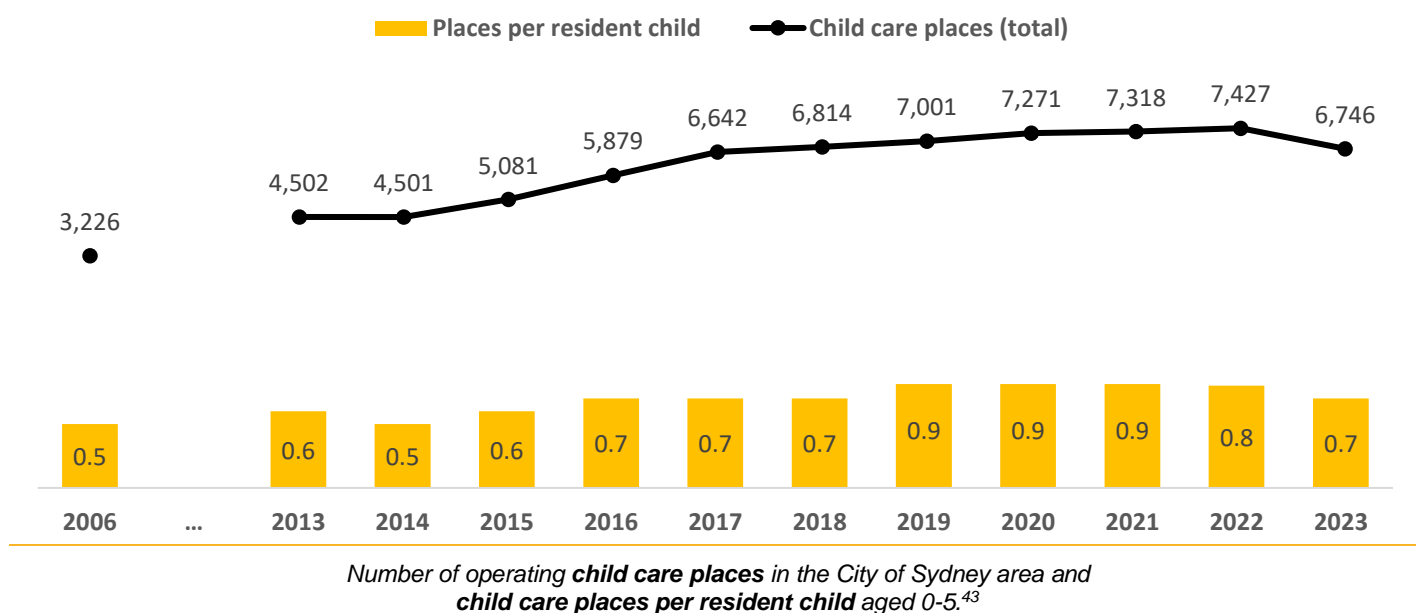
Learning to earning: services

Childcare places

The measure for this indicator is the number of childcare places per child in need.

Child in need accounts for the childcare demands of residents, and workers living outside city boundaries needing childcare in the City of Sydney area.

The target for this measure will be reviewed when the next Childcare Needs Analysis is undertaken. Covid affected the City's ERP projections and may have changed resident and worker childcare needs.

Until a new target have been finalised, the number of childcare places per resident child has been presented.

The baseline (2006) is 0.5 places per resident child.

The latest update (2023) is **0.7 places per resident child.**

Actual counts of childcare places (**6,746** operating childcare places in 2023) have dropped since 2022 (7,427) but have still doubled the number in 2006 (3,226).

Primary school places (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is local places per primary-school aged child at government and non-government run schools.

The target for this indicator is for every resident primary-aged child to have a place at local schools.

The baseline (2010) is 1.0 places per child.

The latest update (2024) is **1.0** places per child.[44]

The target for this measure has been met in all years monitored.

Class size Kindergarten to Year 6 (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is average class size in NSW government primary schools (Kindergarten to year 6).

The target for this indicator is for average class size to trend downwards over time or remain stable.

The baseline (2006) is 24.6 children per class.

The latest update (2024) is **23.2 children per class**.[45]

In line with the desired trend, the average class size has been decreasing every year since 2014.

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[43] City of Sydney Early Education and Care Centre Monitoring Report (2018); City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit.
[44] City of Sydney collated information from Department of Education, and Catholic and independent schools.
[45] Average government primary school class sizes by year, NSW Department of Education: https://data.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/nsw-education-average-government-primary-school-class-sizes-by-year#content
Please note that, local government area data is not available for this indicator. Instead, data for NSW are presented here as estimates.
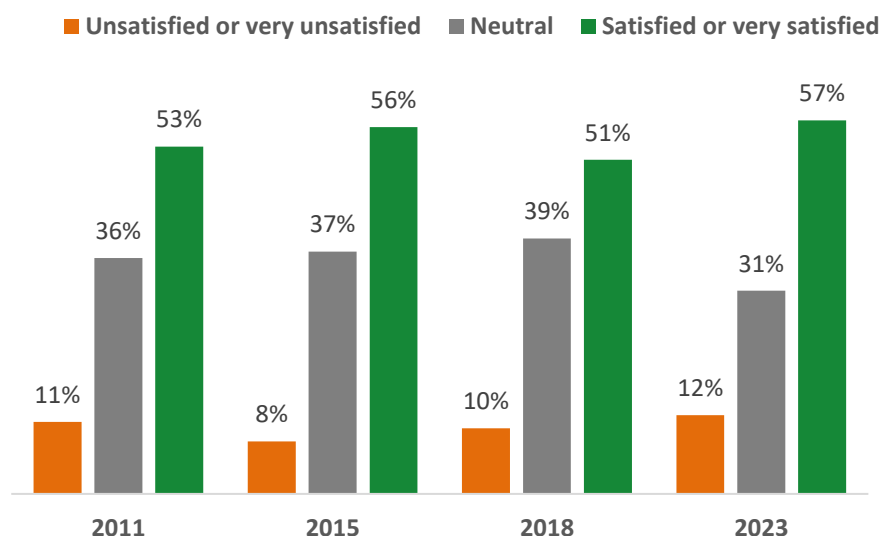
■ Unsatisfied or very unsatisfied ■ Neutral ■ Satisfied or very satisfied

*How residents respond when asked: Thinking about your local area, how satisfied are you with **access to learning and education opportunities**? [46]*

Satisfaction with access to learning and education

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who reply very satisfied or satisfied when asked:

> Thinking about your local area, how satisfied are you with access to learning and education opportunities?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of satisfied residents to trend upwards over time or remain stable.

The baseline (2011) is 53%.

The latest update (2023) is **57%**.

In line with desired trend, the latest update shows that the proportion of respondents satisfied with access to learning and education opportunities has increased since 2018, and is on par with satisfaction levels observed in 2015.

Internet access (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of households with access to the internet.

The target for this indicator is for internet access at home to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 73%.

The latest update (2023) is **93%**.*

In line with desired trend, the latest update shows an increase in internet access at home.

*The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census stopped collecting data on digital access since 2016.[47] The latest update is based on data collected from the City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2023).

Question phrasing between the wellbeing survey and the ABS Census differs, which may impact results. Caution should be used when making time series comparisons.

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[46] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.
[47] Data from 2016 sourced from ABS Community profiles: https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/community-profiles/2016/CED142 . Latest data is derived from the City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2023).

■ 2009 ■ 2012 ■ 2015 ■ 2018 ■ 2021
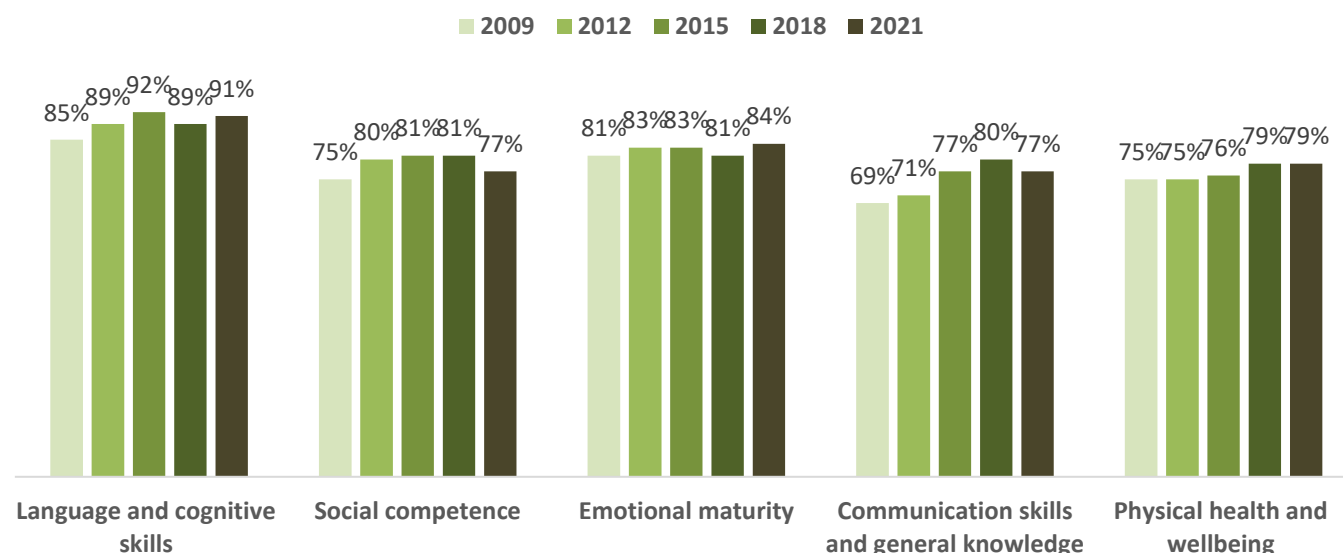
Proportion of children, in their first year of school, who are **'on track' in each of five AEDC development domains.**[48]

Learning to earning: outcomes

Early development

The 5 measures for this indicator are the proportions of year 1 school children on track for each of the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) developmental categories, as shown below.

Data from the AEDC is collected by teachers for children in the first year of full-time school. Children are regarded as being on track in a domain if they are above the 25th percentile.

	Baseline 2009	Latest update 2021
Language and cognitive skills	85%	**91%**
Social competence	75%	**77%**
Emotional maturity	81%	**84%**
Communication and general knowledge	69%	**77%**
Physical health and wellbeing	75%	**79%**

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of year 1 children developmentally on track in each category to increase over time or remain stable.

▲ In line with the desired trend, the proportion of year 1 children developmentally on track is trending upwards over time or stable in every category, relative to the 2009 baseline.

Early development vulnerability (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of year 1 school children who are developmentally vulnerable in two or more of the AEDC developmental categories. Children are regarded as being developmentally vulnerable in a domain if they are below the 10th percentile.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of year 1 children who are developmentally vulnerable to decrease over time.

The baseline (2009) is 11%.

The latest update (2021) is **9%.**

▲ In line with the desired trend, the proportion of year 1 children who are developmentally vulnerable is trending downwards over time.

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[48] Australian Early Development Census online data explorer: Australian Early Development Census (an Australian Government initiative): www.aedc.gov.au/data.

■ 2006 ■ 2011 ■ 2016 ■ 2021
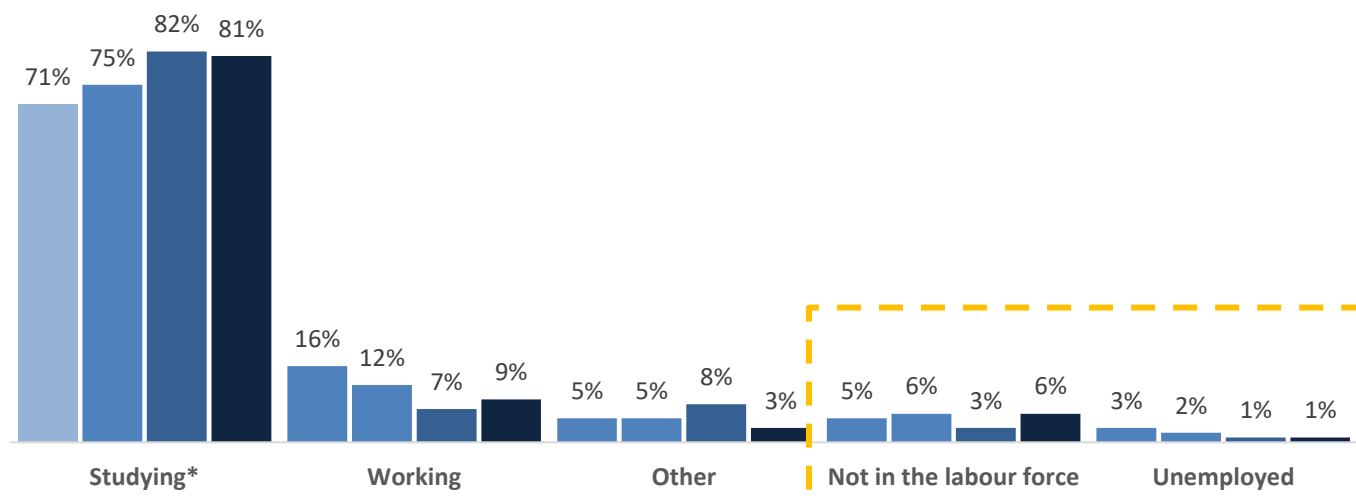
*Circumstances of **15- to 19-year-olds who were no longer attending secondary school** on Census night (August)[49]*
*The studying category includes those employed persons who both study and work.

School retention and completion (not charted)

There are 2 measures for this indicator:

- the proportion of 17-year-olds not attending any educational institution
- the proportion of 20 to 24-year-olds who have completed at least a Year 12 or equivalent qualification.

The targets for this indicator are for the proportion of 17-year-olds not attending any educational institution to decrease, and for the proportion of 20 to 24-year-olds to have attained at least Year 12 qualification to trend upwards, over time.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2021
17-year-olds not attending any educational institution	13%	**5%**
20 to 24-year-olds who have completed Year 12	91%	**94%**

In line with the desired trend, the proportion of 17-year-olds retained in educational, and at least a Year 12 or equivalent qualification held at 20 to 24 years of age, have both increased.

Circumstances of school leavers

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of 15 to 19-year-old school leavers (defined as those who are no longer attending secondary school) who are neither 'earning nor learning': that is neither working nor studying.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of school leavers who are neither earning nor learning to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 8%.

The latest update (2021) is **7%**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the latest update shows an increase in the proportion of 15 to 19-year-olds not working or studying since 2018. The latest data almost matches the baseline figures, showing that 6% of school leavers are not in the labour force, and 1% are unemployed.

*The 2021 ABS Census was conducted during Covid border restrictions. A proportion of international students would not have been counted in the data. This may have resulted in a higher proportion of those aged 15 to 19 in the 'neither earning nor learning' category.

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[49] City of Sydney calculations using the ABS Census TableBuilder Pro application: https://tablebuilder.abs.gov.au/ City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and employment and exclude 'not stated' cases. Census is conducted every five years and data released approximately 18 months later.

■ Unsafe or very unsafe
■ Safe or very safe
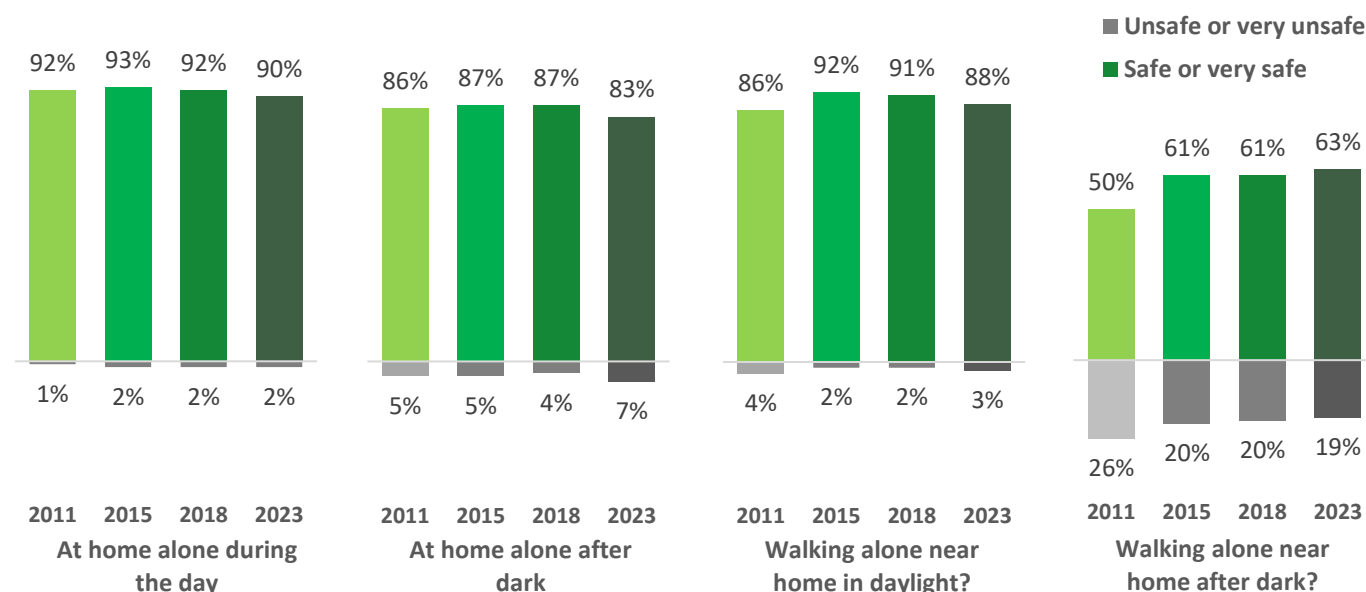
How residents respond when asked: How safe or unsafe do you feel in each of these situations?[51]

Personal safety

Perceptions of safety

The measures for this indicator are the proportions of residents saying they feel safe or very safe in the situations shown in the table below. Residents who say they are never in those situations are excluded from calculations.

There are very high specific numerical targets for this indicator as tabulated below.

	Specific target	Baseline 2011	Latest update 2023	
Walking alone, near home, after dark	At least 70%	50%	**63%**	🟠
Walking alone, near home, in daylight	At least 95%	86%	**88%**	🟠
At home alone after dark	At least 85%	86%	**83%**	🟥
At home alone in daylight	At least 95%	92%	**90%**	🟥

The chart only shows the proportion of respondents answering safe or very safe, and unsafe or very unsafe. The rating scale also included a neutral/ not concerned option, which is not charted.

Since 2018, the proportion of residents who feel safe in most of the listed situations have decreased – results for at home alone after dark and at home alone in daylight have now dropped below the 2011 baseline. The exception would be walking alone near home after dark, where feelings of safety have steadily increased over time. None of the numerical targets have been met.

Nonetheless, the proportion of residents who feel safe in most of the listed situations continues to be high. This is reflected by The Economist Intelligence Unit's Safe Cities Index 2021 ranking, where Greater Sydney is ranked 4th out of 60 cities compared globally.[52]

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[51] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.
The chart displays only the proportion of respondents answering safe or very safe and unsafe or very unsafe. The rating scale also included a neutral/ not concerned option which have been included in the calculation, but not charted.
[52] Safe Cities Index 2021; The Economist Intelligence Unit Limited; https://safecities.economist.com/
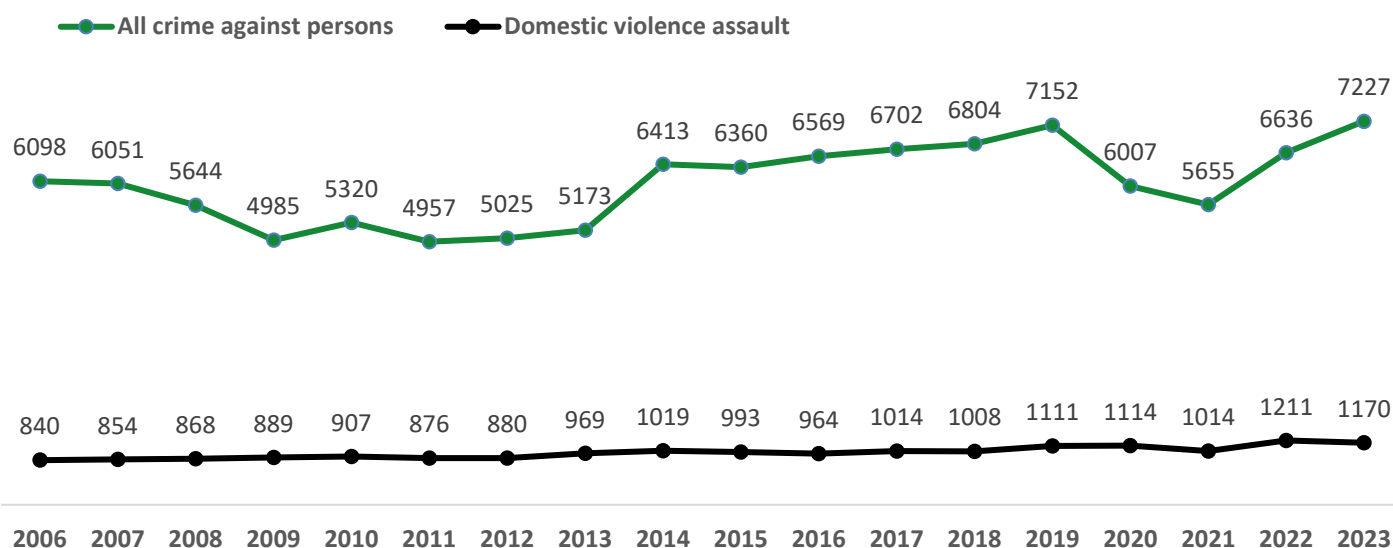
Recorded count of **crimes against person offences** and recorded count of **domestic assault offences**[53]

Crime:

Crimes against person

The measure for this indicator is the total reported incidence of crime against persons such as assault, robbery, murder, abduction, blackmail, and intimidation that occurred and are processed in our area. Victims and perpetrators are not necessarily local area residents.

The target for this indicator is for the total count of crime against persons offences to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 6,098 incidents.

The latest update (2023) is **7,227** incidents.

The number of crimes has been rising since 2015 but dropped in 2020 and 2021, likely due to the Covid restrictions. The number of crimes started to rebound in 2022.

The number of crimes against persons has increased since 2013. But factoring population growth, the ratio of crimes to population has remained stable. The exceptions would be 2020 and 2021, likely due to Covid restrictions.

Family violence

The measure for this indicator is the total reported incidence of domestic violence assault.

Many victims and perpetrators recorded under this indicator are likely to be residents. The criteria for including crimes under this indicator is that they occur and are processed in our local area.

The target for this indicator is for domestic violence assault incidence to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 840 incidents.

The latest update (2023) is **1,170** incidents, an increase of 39% from the baseline.

The absolute number of domestic violence assaults has continued to trend upwards over time. While this figure should be viewed in relation to population growth in the local area, domestic violence is often underreported, a situation possibly exacerbated during Covid stay-at-home orders.[54]

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[53] NSW Recorded Crime Statistics; NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research: www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx
[54] National Council of Social Service, September 2022 – Report Two, Domestic and Family Violence. https://www.ncoss.org.au/policy-advocacy/policy-research-publications/aftershock-addressing-the-economic-and-social-costs-of-the-pandemic-and-natural-disasters-report-1-mental-health/

Stealing and theft (ex. Fraud)
Malicious damage
Fraud
Total

Year	Total	Fraud	Malicious damage	Stealing and theft
2006	34766	4016	4368	26382
2007	35529	3832	4488	27209
2008	31916	4513	4465	22938
2009	27904	4284	3819	19801
2010	25767	4659	3619	17489
2011	25510	4241	3660	17609
2012	26525	5553	3396	17576
2013	27370	7349	3437	16584
2014	25249	6852	2932	15465
2015	23023	6534	2775	13714
2016	22056	5644	2793	13619
2017	19896	4663	2544	12689
2018	19745	4434	2719	12592
2019	20428	4024	2523	13881
2020	13472	2816	2047	8609
2021	12241	2758	1811	7672
2022	14269	2543	2116	9610
2023	15765	2549	2010	11206

*Recorded count of **property crime offences**.*[55]

Property crime

The measure for this indicator is the total reported incidence of property crime that occurred and are processed in our area. Victims and perpetrators are not necessarily residents.

The target for this indicator is for property crime to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 34,766 incidents.

The latest update (2023) for this measure is **15,765** incidents, a 55% drop from the baseline.

▲ In line with the desired trend, the time series charted above shows property crime trending downwards. The figure has increased slightly since 2020 and 2021 when Covid restrictions were in place, but remains notably lower than the 2006 baseline figure.

Incidents and interventions (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of applications for CCTV footage that results in footage being released to assist police investigations and prosecutions.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of applications resulting released footage to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2010) is 58%.

The latest update (2022) is **65%**.[56]

▲ In line with the desired trend, the proportion of applications, which result in the release of relevant CCTV footage, is trending upwards over time.

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[55] 49 NSW Recorded Crime Statistics; NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research:
www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx
[56] City of Sydney Street Safety Camera Program Annual Reports; City of Sydney Security and Emergency Management Unit:
www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/community/health-and-safety/street-safety/street-safety-cameras

Other road user serious injuries
Pedestrian serious injuries
Pedal cyclist serious injuries

Road user fatalities
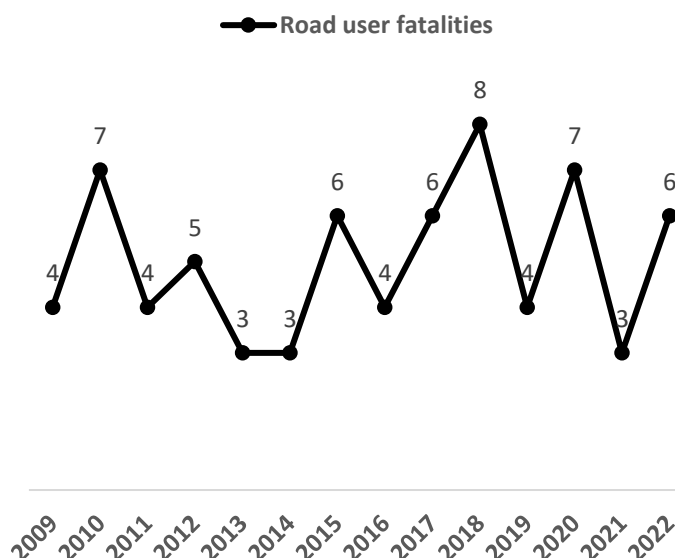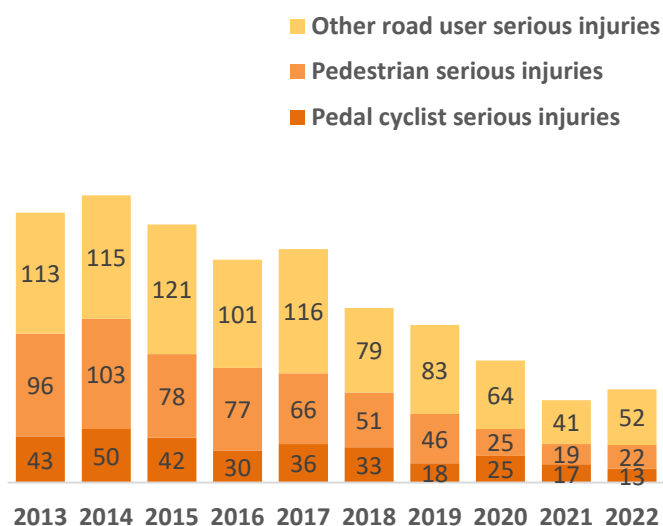
Fatalities and major injuries arising from traffic incidents, by type of road user.[57]

Road safety

The 4 measures for this indicator are the number of fatalities and serious injuries from traffic incidents, by road user group. Traffic incidents included in the table below have occurred and are processed in our local area, even though the victims are not necessarily residents.

The targets for this indicator are for all four measures to trend downwards over time.

	Baseline 2013	Latest update 2022	Result	
Pedestrian serious injuries	96	**22**	▲	In line with the desired trend, serious injuries to pedestrians, pedal cyclists, and other road users have decreased between 2013 and 2022.
Pedal cyclist serious injuries	43	**13**	▲	
Other road user (motor vehicle drivers or passengers) serious injuries	113	**52**	▲	Falling serious injuries rates may be caused by changing travel patterns from Covid.[58] It may also be due to a Transport for NSW's revised data collection methodology.[59]

	Baseline 2009	Latest update 2022	Result	
Road user fatalities	4	**6**	●	The number of fatalities is too low to make a conclusion on the direction of the trend.

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[57] Crash and casualty statistics - LGA view; Centre for Road Safety, Transport for NSW
roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/statistics/interactivecrashstats/lga_stats.html?tablga=1#
[58] Transport for NSW, NSW Road Safety Progress Report 2021:
https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/system/files/media/documents/2023/Road%20Safety%20Progress%20Report%202021.pdf
[59] NSW Health amended their Hospital Admission Policy in 2017, so that Emergency Department (ED)-only admissions are not considered nor included as admitted patients in the Admitted Patient Data Collection. Only severe injuries that have been hospitalised, but are not ED-only admissions, are accounted for. This has affected the serious injury numbers being reported by Transport for NSW.
https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/statistics/serious-injuries

Strata (in 000s) ● **Non-strata (in 000s)**

Year	Non-strata	Strata
2006	$610	$470
2007	$700	$496
2008	$725	$462
2009	$800	$535
2010	$891	$582
2011	$843	$569
2012	$910	$635
2013	$1,090	$693
2014	$1,180	$760
2015	$1,418	$828
2016	$1,570	$880
2017	$1,650	$900
2018	$1,470	$870
2019	$1,673	$937
2020	$1,790	$890
2021	$2,190	$986
2022	$1,900	$878
2023	$2,020	$941
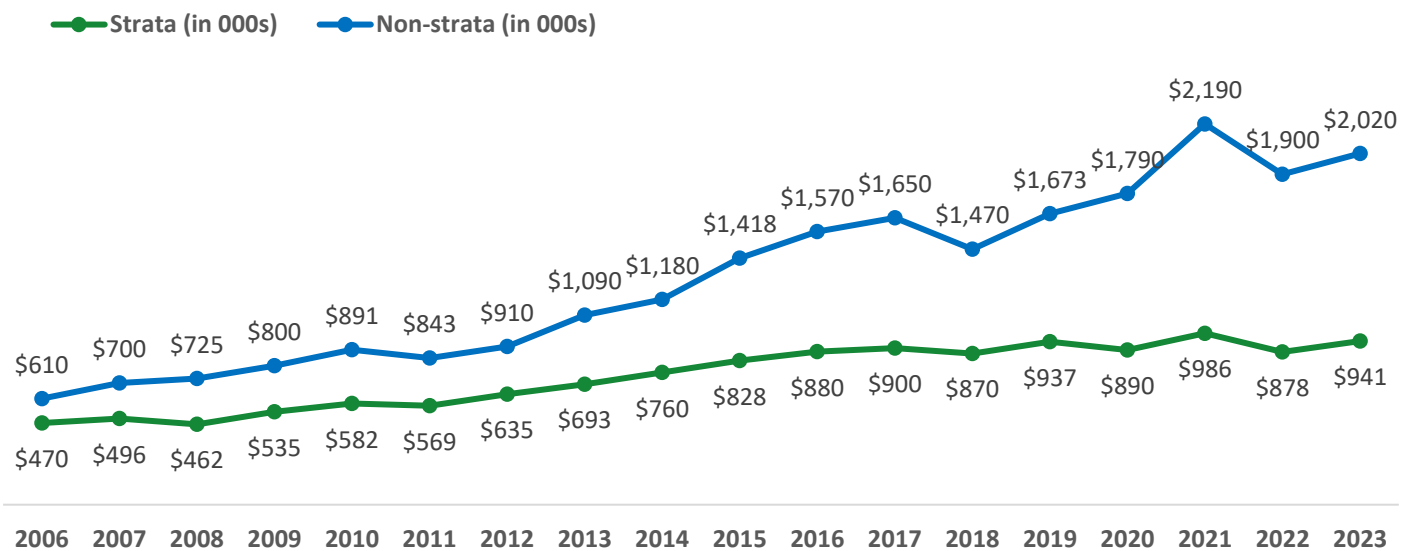
*Median **residential property sales prices (in 000s)** for the December quarter by property type[60]*

Housing affordability

Median sales prices

The 2 measures for this indicator include median residential property sales price for townhouses and houses (non-strata titles), and flats and units (strata titles).

This indicator has no targets and is monitored for information only.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2023
Houses and townhouses (non-strata titles)	$610,000	**$2,020,000**
Flats and units (strata titles)	$470,000	**$941,000**

The chart above shows changes to median residential property sales (in 000s) over time. The latest update shows sales prices for houses and townhouses (blue line) increasing +231% from the baseline. For flats and units (green line), sales prices increased +100% from the baseline. [61]

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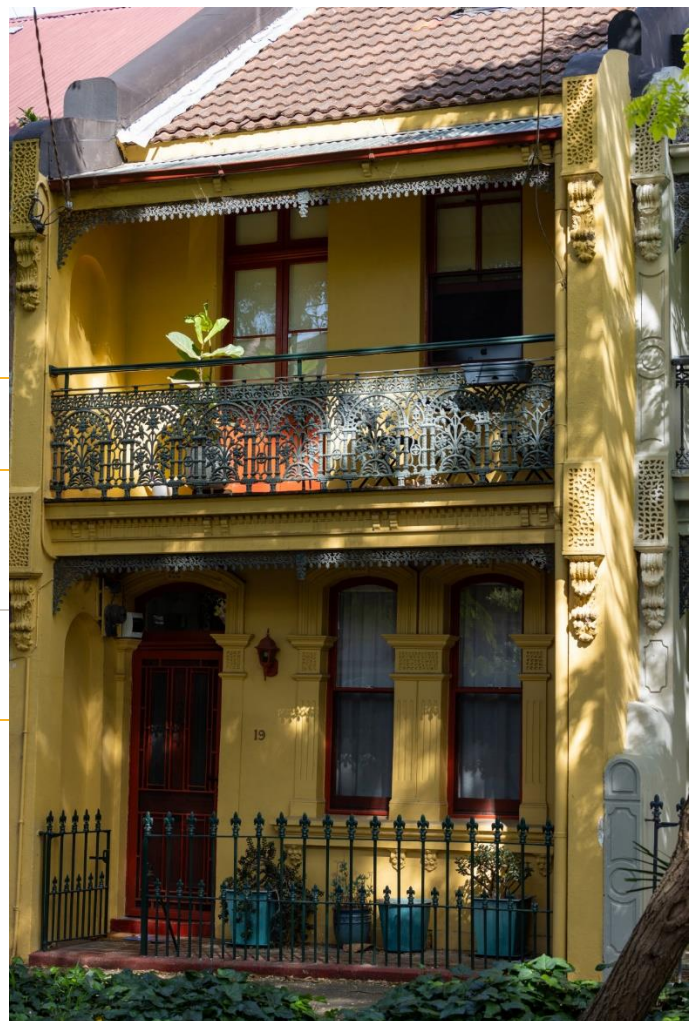
[60] Rent and Sales Reports, Department of Family and Community Services, NSW Government: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/statistics/rent-and-sales/dashboard
New procedures were introduced in the production of Rent and Sales tables from 2017. Comparison with data from old procedures may not be valid.
[61] Photo credit: Abril Felman/ City of Sydney (Redfern, October 2023).
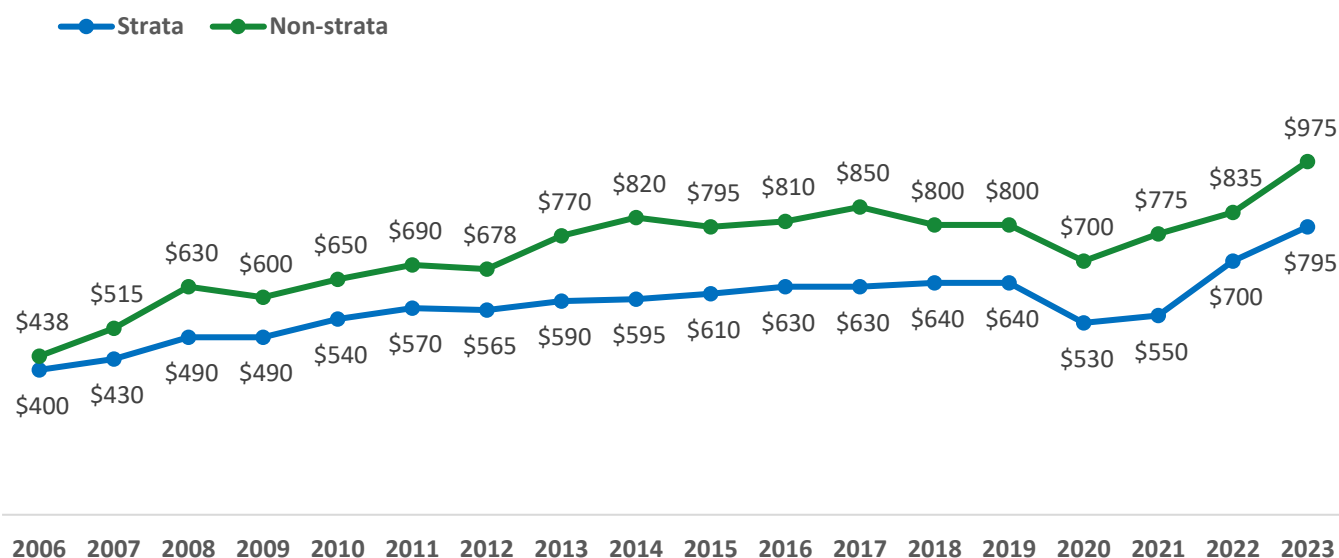
Strata — **Non-strata**

*Median **residential weekly rents** for the December quarter by property type.[62]*

Median rental prices

The 2 measures for this indicator include median weekly rents for townhouses and houses (non-strata titles), and flats and units (strata titles). Data is for the quarter ending in December.

This indicator has no targets and is monitored for information only.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2023
Houses and townhouses (non-strata titles)	$438	**$975**
Flats and units (strata titles)	$400	**$795**

The charted time series above shows the change over time in median weekly rents.

The latest update shows that rental prices for houses and townhouses (blue line) increased +102% from baseline. The rental price increase from the baseline for flats and units (green line) is +99%.

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[62] Rent and Sales Reports, Department of Family and Community Services, NSW Government: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/statistics/rent-and-sales/dashboard

New procedures were introduced in the production of Rent and Sales tables from 2017. Comparison with data from old procedures may not be valid.

[63] Photo credit: Sarah Rhodes/ City of Sydney (Waterloo, May 2019).
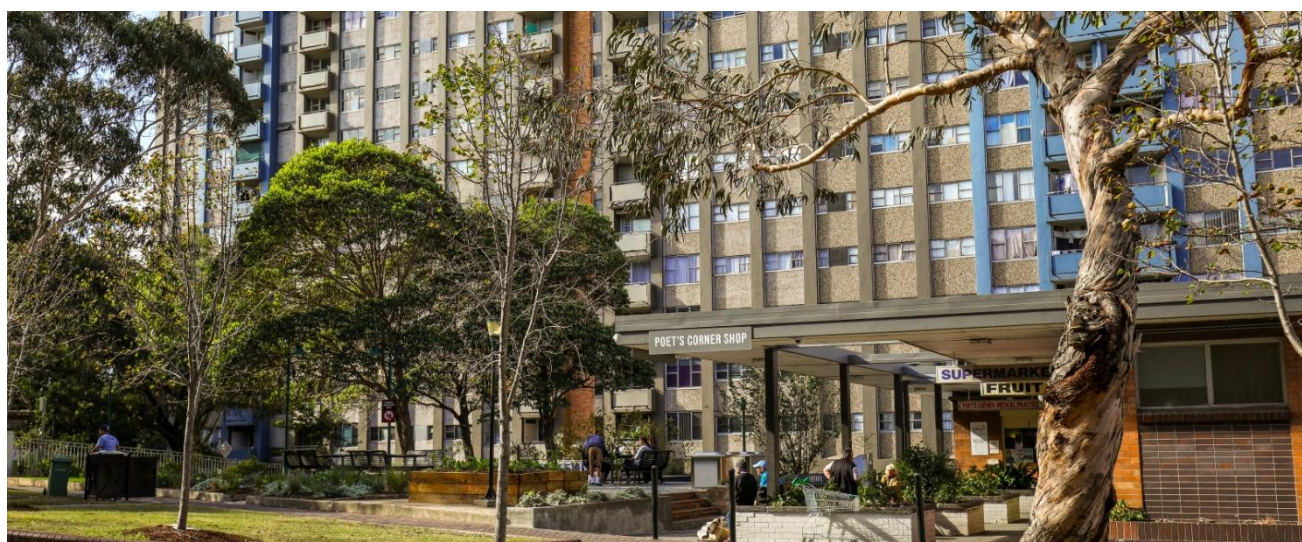
Housing stress (not charted)

This indicator has 3 measures:

- households with rent/ mortgage payments more than 30% of their (non-equivalised) pre-tax household income – as a proportion of all local area households.

- households in housing stress. These are low-income households (defined here as the lower 40th percentile on the Greater Sydney income scale) with rent/ mortgage payments more than 30% of their household income – as a proportion of all local area households.

- low-income households with rent/ mortgage more than 30% of their household income.

The target for this indicator is for all 3 measures to trend downwards over time.

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of households in housing stress, and the proportion of low-income renters/ mortgagees in housing stress, have not dropped between 2016 and 2021.

Although there is a slight decrease in the percentage of households spending over 30% on rent/ mortgage, rising housing prices may be pushing low-income households out of the local area, to seek homes elsewhere in Greater Sydney.

	Baseline 2011*	Latest update 2021[65]	
Households with rent/ mortgage payments greater than 30% of household income	34%	**33%**	🟡
Households in housing stress – households on a low income with housing payments greater than 30% of household income.	19%	**22%**	🟥
Low-income households (that rent or mortgage) in housing stress.	67%	**71%**	🟥

*The baseline (2011) defines housing stress as where rent/ mortgage payments are 'equal to or greater than 30%' of household income. As of 2021, housing stress is redefined as where payments are 'greater than 30%', in line with the latest standard used by the ABS[66] and the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI).[67]

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[64] Photo credits: Katherine Griffiths/ City of Sydney (Redfern, May 2018).
[65] City of Sydney calculations using the ABS Census TableBuilder Pro application:
https://tablebuilder.abs.gov.au/ City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and employment and exclude 'not stated' cases. Census is conducted every five years and data released approximately 18 months later.
[66] Housing – Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2022: https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/detailed-methodology-information/concepts-sources-methods/survey-income-and-housing-user-guide-australia/2019-20/housing
[67] Understanding the 30:40 indicator of housing affordability stress, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, 2019: https://www.ahuri.edu.au/analysis/brief/understanding-3040-indicator-housing-affordability-stress

■ Social housing ■ Affordable housing

	2007	...	2012	...	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Affordable housing	447		619		665	753	845	835	854	854	1028	1213	1268
Social housing	9397		9849		9849	9800	9716	9561	9451	9630	9630	9705	9691
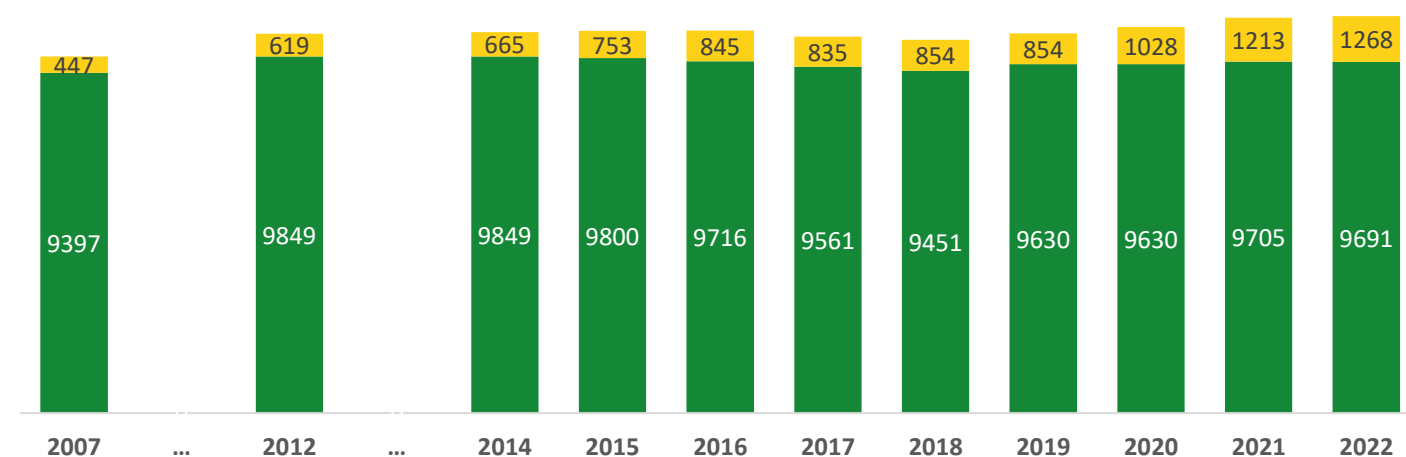
Affordable rental housing stock and *social housing stock*, as at June, since 2007[68]

Affordable rental housing

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of all private dwellings considered affordable rental housing.[69]

Affordable rental housing is supplied and managed by City West Housing or community housing providers. It is meant for very low to moderate income earners, who may be essential service workers. This definition reflects our current use of this term, rather than that contained in the indicator framework.

The target is for 7.5% of all private dwellings to be affordable rental housing by 2030, as outlined in the Sustainable Sydney 2030 – 2050 Continuing the Vision community strategic plan.

The baseline (2007) is 447 or 0.5% of private dwellings.

The latest update (2023) is **1,283 or 1.0%** of private dwellings.

■ Contrary to the desired trend, the latest update shows minimal growth in affordable rental housing supply, falling short of the 7.5% private housing stock target by 2030.

Social housing

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of all private dwellings considered social housing.

Social housing is built for low-income earners and those experiencing disadvantage. It is supplied and/or managed by Housing NSW, community housing providers, or the Aboriginal Housing Office. This definition reflects our current use of this term, rather than that contained in the framework.

The target is for social housing to make up 7.5% of all private housing stock by 2030, as stated in the Sustainable Sydney 2030 – 2050 Continuing the Vision community strategy plan. Although current social housing stock exceeds this target, more is needed to keep pace with projected total housing stock growth.

The baseline (2007) is 9,397 or 10.5% of private dwellings.

The latest update (2023) is **9,691 or 7.9%** of private dwellings.

● Although the defined target of 7.5% is met, the proportion of social housing supply to total housing has declined since the baseline.

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[68] City of Sydney Annual Housing Audits; City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/city-monitors

[69] The term "private dwellings" as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) applies to all housing except for: boarding houses; student accommodation; and residential care services (such as aged-care facilities). There were 122,723 private dwellings and 15,861 non-private dwellings in the City area in June 2023.

Sleeping rough   **Crisis accommodation**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Crisis accommodation	438	541	477	456	471	446	476	488	600	495	592	505	288	269	299	392
Sleeping rough	399	418	363	310	274	346	365	417	433	329	373	334	272	225	277	280
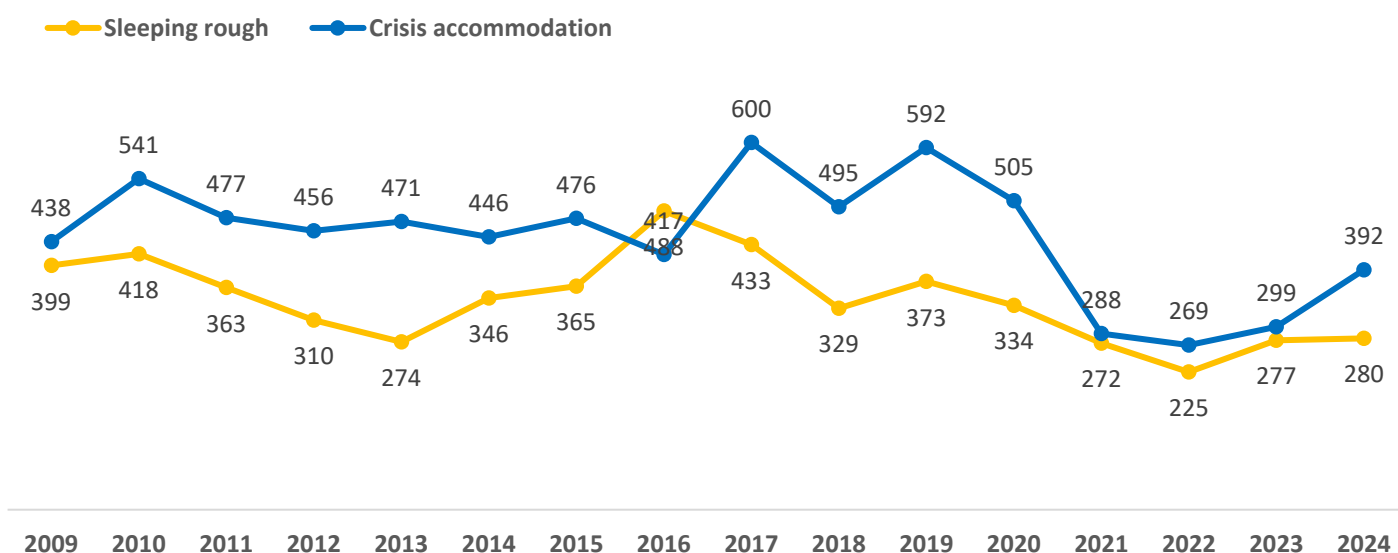
*Count of **people in crisis accommodation and sleeping rough**, a higher value of the winter (Aug) and summer (Feb) count* is shown.[70]*

Homelessness:

The chart above shows measures for 2 separate indicators together.

Crisis accommodation

The measure for this indicator is overnight counts of people sleeping in crisis accommodation such as hostels and shelters. The count is conducted at night twice a year, once in winter (August) and once in summer (February). The higher of the 2 values is charted.*

This indicator has no targets, and measures are monitored for information only.

The baseline (2009) is 438.

The latest update (2024) is **392**.*

Crisis accommodation figures charted above indicate supply rather than demand, as these facilities typically operate at, or close to, full capacity.

Sleeping rough

The measure for this indicator is overnight counts of people sleeping rough. The count is conducted at night twice a year, once in winter (August) and once in summer (February). The higher of the two values is charted.*

The target for this indicator is for sleeping rough counts to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2009) is 399.

The latest update (2024) is **280**.*

While the count of homeless sleeping rough has been trending downwards, this is coming from an eight-year high point reached in 2016.

*Crisis accommodation and sleeping rough counts were suspended from August 2020 to 2022 due to Covid. From 2023 onwards, only February (summertime) counts have been provided. As such, February figures have been used for 2020 to 2024.

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[70] City of Sydney Biannual Street Count; City of Sydney Social Programs and Services Unit: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/public-health-safety-programs/street-counts
Updated twice yearly, though counts were halted in August 2020, 2021, and 2022 due to Covid.

Total homelessness (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the ABS Census homelessness count conducted in August.

The Census' approach to homelessness includes individuals residing in boarding houses or overcrowded dwellings or are couch surfing. It also includes individuals living in crisis accommodation or sleeping rough (page 31). See footnote for further definitions of homelessness.[71]

The target for this indicator is for homelessness to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 3,037.

The latest update (2021) is **5,110**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the latest update shows an increase in homelessness in the local area.

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[71] Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2021, Australian Bureau of Statistics: www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/2049.0Main+Features12016?OpenDocument.
Person is considered homeless if their current dwelling is inadequate; they have no tenure; if their initial tenure is short and not extendable; the dwelling does not allow them to have control of, and access to, space for social relations.

Income and relative inequality

City of Sydney ● **Greater Sydney** ● **NSW**

$2,310

$1,926

$1,587

$1,237

$1,173

$1,035

$1,444

$1,234

$1,750

$1,486

$2,099

$1,849

2006   2011   2016   2021
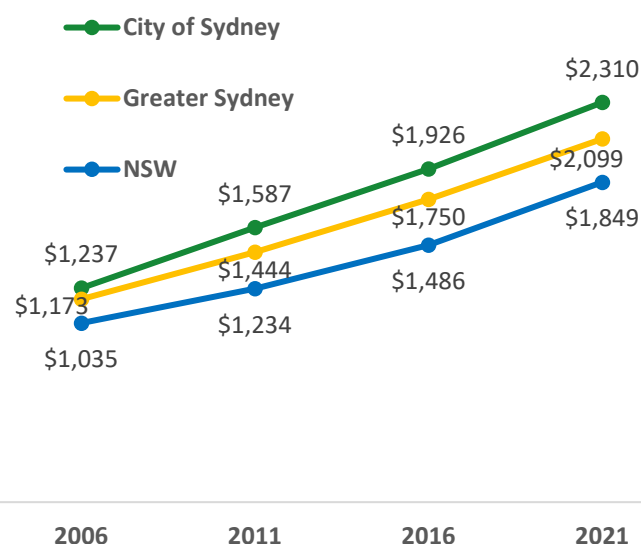
Median weekly household income before tax, by geography.[72]

■ Lowest group
■ Medium group
■ Medium highest group
■ Highest group

	2006	2011	2016	2021

22% 20% 22% 36% | 22% 18% 23% 37% | 23% 16% 23% 38% | 20% 19% 24% 37%
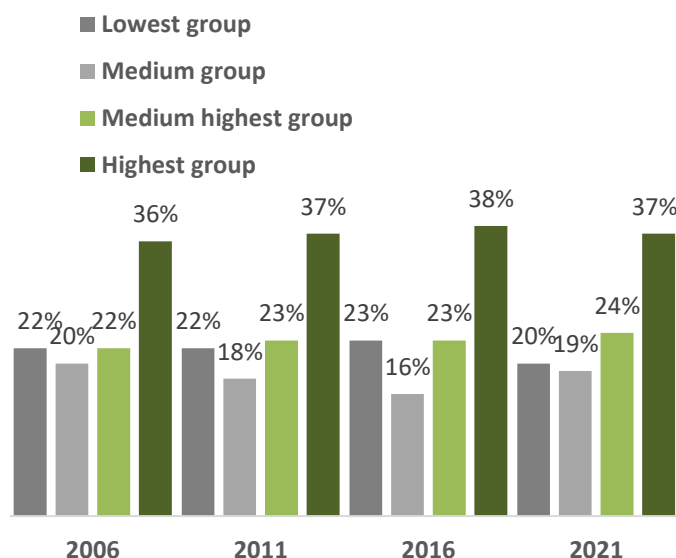
*Proportion of **local households in each NSW income quartile** for weekly household income before tax.[73]*

Income and relative inequality

Household incomes

The measure for this indicator is median weekly household income before tax.

Half of all households earn below the median household income, and half earn above it.

Median income represents typical household circumstances better than average income, which can be inflated by a small number of very high earning households. Median and average income should not be compared or confused.

The target for this indicator is for weekly household income to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is $1,237.

The latest update (2021) is **$2,310.**

▲ In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows that median household income has increased.

The City of Sydney's area median household income has increased faster compared to Greater Sydney ($1,173 in 2006 to $2,099 in 2021), and NSW ($1,035 in 2006 to $1,849 in 2021).

The chart on the right shows how income wealth is distributed in the local area over time.

By definition, NSW households are distributed evenly across the 4 quartiles. This means there should be 25% of households in the lowest, medium, medium highest, and highest income quartiles.

The chart shows that in the City of Sydney's area, there is a higher proportion (37%) of households earning the highest quartile income (defined as households earning $3,135 or more on a weekly basis in 2021). This can partly be explained by a high proportion of local area jobs being in highly skilled occupations.

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[72] 2021 Census Community Profiles; Australian Bureau of Statistics: https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA17200
[73] Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2021. Compiled and presented by .id profile.id.com.au/sydney/household-income-quartiles

"Societies with smaller income differences between rich and poor are more cohesive: community life is stronger, levels of trust are higher and there is less violence. The vast majority of the population seem to benefit from greater equality."[74]

P80/20 Distribution of income (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the ratio of weekly household income at the top 80th percentile to that at the top 20th percentile.[75]

A lower ratio indicates greater equality – the income at the top of the low-income range is closer those earning higher incomes.

The target for this indicator is for the P80/P20 ratio to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 5.3.

The latest update (2021) is **3.9**.

In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows a decrease in the P80/P20 ratio, indicating increased equality.

A lower ratio may also occur where low-income earners cannot afford to live in the local area and are priced out. What appears to be increased equality may be a reduction in the socioeconomic diversity our resident profile.

Socio-economic disadvantage (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of suburbs that score below the Australian average on the ABS Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage (IRSD).

This index summarises select economic, social and education factors that affect households in an area.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of suburbs scoring below the Australian average on the IRSD to trend downwards over time.

The baseline (2006) is 8 out of 29 suburbs analysed.

The latest update (2016) is **8** out of 35 suburbs.[76]

The latest update shows that the number of suburbs with IRSD scores below the Australian average has remained unchanged from the baseline, even with a growing number of suburbs being included in the analysis.

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[74] The Equality Trust, a UK non-profit organisation working to improve quality of life: www.equalitytrust.org.uk/
[75] City of Sydney estimates based on ABS Census of Population and Housing (2006, 2011, 2016, and 2021), Customised data report, Australian Bureau of Statistics. Prepared for the City of Sydney. This measure is calculated based on the equivalised income.
[76] Socio-Economic Indexes for Australia (SEIFA); Australian Bureau of Statistics (released 27 April 2023). https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/socio-economic-indexes-areas-seifa-australia/latest-release#index-of-relative-socio-economic-disadvantage-irsd-

■ **Financially insecure**   ■ **Food insecure**
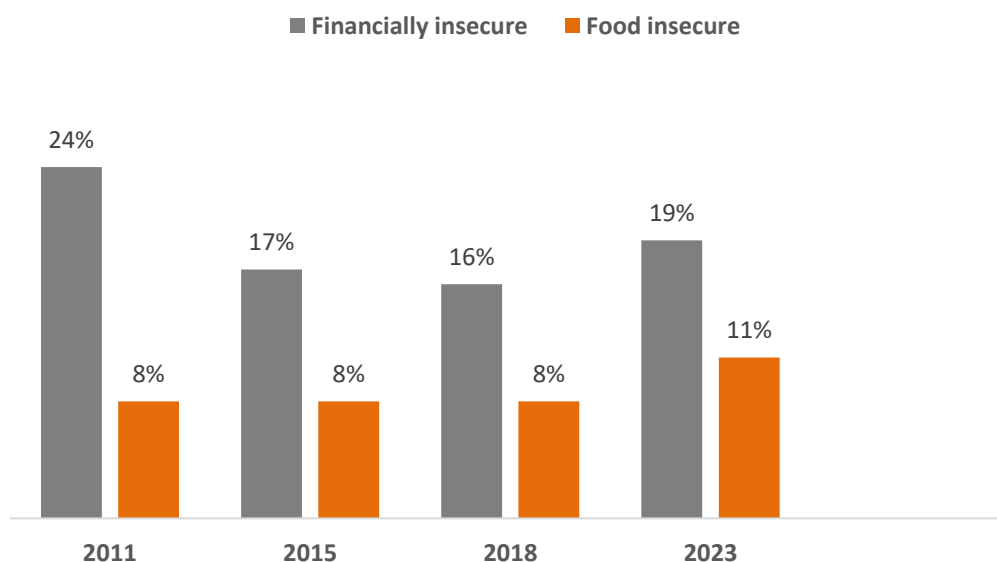
How residents respond when asked: related to your experience of financial stress…
- *In an emergency, **could you raise $2,000 within two days**?*
- *At any point **in the past year, did you run out of food and could not afford to buy more**?[77]*

Financial stress

The 2 measures for this indicator are the proportions of people who self-identify as experiencing a type of financial stress, assessed via the following questions:

- in an emergency, could you raise $2,000 within two days?

- at any point in the past year, did you run out of food and could not afford to buy more?

The targets for this indicator are for the proportion of residents in both types of financial stress to trend downwards over time. Specific targets are shown in the table below.

	Specific target	Baseline 2011	Latest update 2023	Result	
Financially insecure	Less than 10%	24%	**19%**	🟥	Contrary to the desired trend, the latest update shows that rates of financial insecurity have increased since the 2018 update (16%) but is lower than the 2011 baseline (24%). The target of 10% has not been met.
Food insecure	Less than 5%	8%	**11%**	🟥	The numerical target of 5% has also not been met. The latest update shows that rates of food insecurity has increased compared to the 2011 baseline (8%) and previous survey years (also 8% in 2015 an 2018).

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[77] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

■ Yes, definitely ■ Sometimes ■ No, not at all ■ Unsure
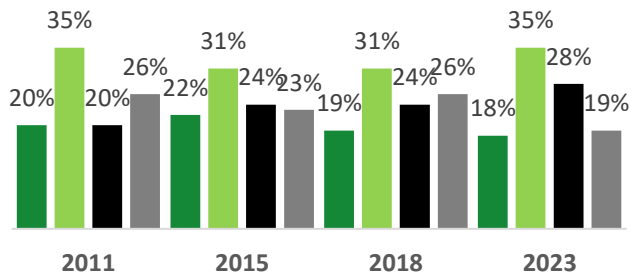
*How residents respond when asked: When needed, **can you get help from your neighbours**?*

■ Yes, definitely ■ Sometimes ■ No, not at all ■ Unsure
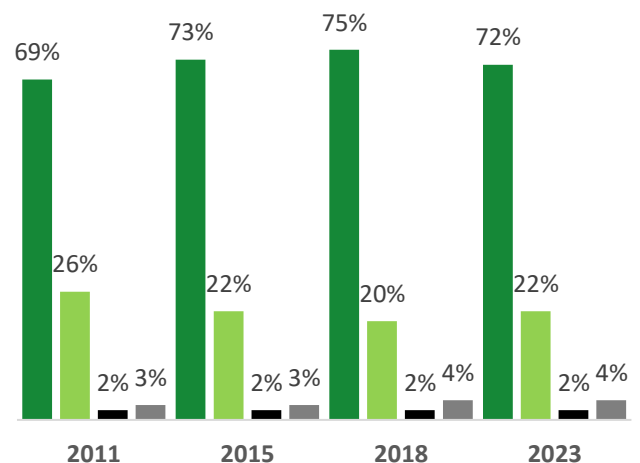
*How residents respond when asked: When needed, would you be **willing to help your neighbours?** " [78]*

Community connectedness

Social support

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who reply with sometimes or yes, definitely when asked:

> When needed, can you get help from your neighbours?

The baseline (2011) is 55%.

The latest update (2023) is **53%.**

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents who can get help from their neighbours if needed to trend upwards over time, reaching at least 90%.

⬤ While the proportion of residents who believe they can get help from their neighbours has increased since the 2018 results, it is still below the target of 90%.

If the measure instead looked at residents' willingness to help neighbours, the target would have been exceeded by 5% in all survey years. Across all survey years, 95% of residents say they will sometimes or yes, definitely help their neighbours.

Comparing the 2 questions reveals a disconnect between the actual and perceived availability of help from neighbours. Although almost half of residents are not confident as to whether their neighbours will help them when needed (47% say no, not at all or are unsure), only 5% of residents are unsure or unwilling to help their neighbours.

The proportion of residents definitely willing to help their neighbours increased from 69% in 2011 to 72% in 2023.

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[78] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

■ Yes, most people can be trusted

*Residents agreeing that **most people can be trusted**.*

■ Satisfied or very satisfied
■ Neutral
■ Unsatisfied or very unsatisfied

How residents respond when asked:
Thinking about your personal wellbeing, how satisfied
*are you with **feeling part of your community**?[79]*
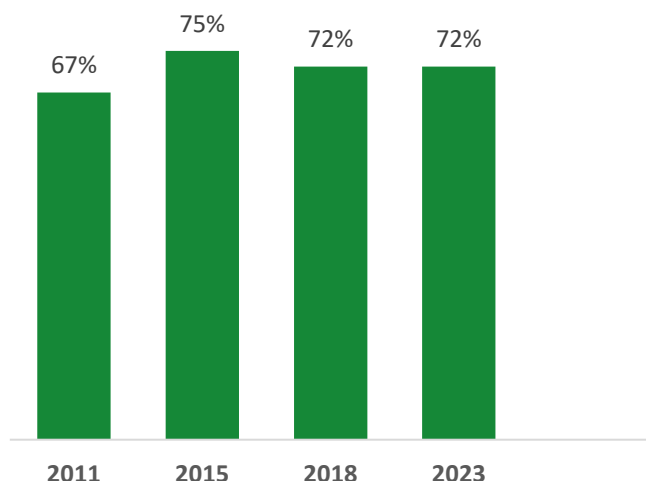
Trust

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents agreeing that most people can be trusted.

The target is for the proportion of residents who agree that most people can be trusted to trend upwards over time and remain at least 65%.

The baseline (2011) is 67%.

The latest update (2023) is **72%**.

The specific target of 65% has been met in all survey years, and the latest update (72%) is above the 2011 baseline (67%). But contrary to the desire trend, the proportion of residents who agree most people can be trusted remains lower than in 2015 (75%).
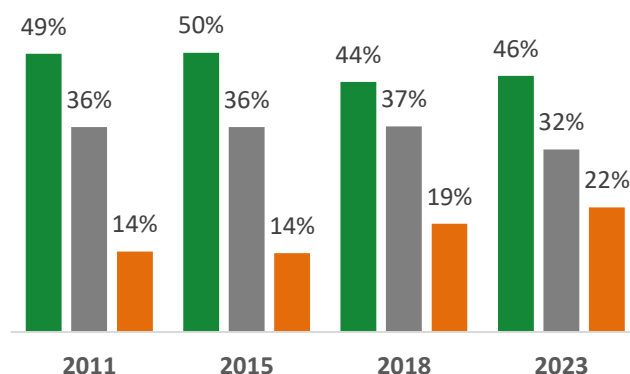
Feeling part of the community

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied when asked:

Thinking about your personal wellbeing, how satisfied are you with feeling part of your community?

The target is for the proportion of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied to trend upward over time, reaching at least 75%.

The baseline (2011) is 49%.

The latest update (2023) is **46%**.

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of people satisfied with feeling part of the community is lower than the 2011 baseline. It has continued trending downwards since 2015. The specific target of 75% has not been met.

Building community cohesion takes time. Results should be contextualised within the City of Sydney's population characterised by a high degree of transience and rapid growth. For example, the population is expected to increase to over 309,000 persons by 2041, a 44% growth from 2021.

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[79] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

No ■ **Once or twice** ■ **Yes, often** ■

Bar chart showing responses for 2011, 2015, 2018, 2023:
- 2011: No 57%, Once or twice 28%, Yes, often 15%
- 2015: No 52%, Once or twice 26%, Yes, often 22%
- 2018: No 56%, Once or twice 24%, Yes, often 20%
- 2023: No 60%, Once or twice 20%, Yes, often 21%
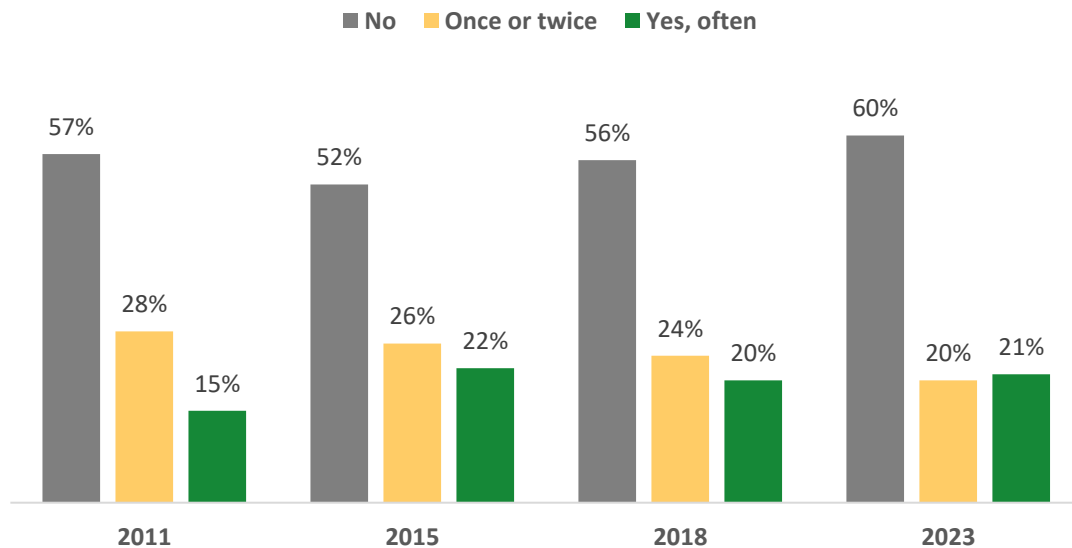
*How residents respond when asked: In the last 12 months, have you **volunteered for an organisation or group** (unpaid)?[80]*

Volunteering

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who say once or twice or yes, often when asked:

In the last 12 months have you volunteered for an organisation or group (unpaid)?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents volunteering to trend upwards over time and to remain at least 25%.

The baseline (2011) is 43%.

The latest update (2023) is **40%**.

● The 25% target was exceeded in all 3 survey years. Yet the latest update shows that the proportion of residents volunteering has decreased since 2018 (44%), and is lower than the 2011 baseline.

* In 2011, the question was worded as 'Do you help out as a volunteer?', with the answer options being: yes, often, sometimes, when needed, and no. The 2 middle options have been merged for trend comparison purposes in the charts.

Parental participation in schools (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents with school-aged children who say once or twice or yes, often when asked:

In the last 12 months have you helped out with school activities such as P&C or canteen?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of parents helping out at school to trend upwards over time and to remain at least 40%.

The baseline (2011) is 57%.

The latest update (2023) is **53%**.

● Although the 40% target has been exceeded across all survey years, the latest update (not charted) shows a decrease in the proportion of parents helping out in school compared to the 2018 results (62%). The latest update is also lower than the 2011 baseline.

*In 2011, the question was worded as 'Are you actively involved with activities in their school (e.g. P&C, Canteen)?', with the answer options being: yes or no.

[80] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

Summary

Data from the ABS Census, HealthStats NSW, the City's wellbeing survey, and many other sources are used to help assess the health, safety, and social cohesion of our communities.

Of the 69 measures for which there are targets or desired trends, 25 are on target, 15 are progressing in the desired direction, and 5 are without data or are awaiting data updates. Our communities are progressing in the areas of:

- life expectancy and decrease in prevalence of major diseases
- learning services and outcomes
- road safety
- median household income.

But there are 24 measures not progressing as desired. These are thematically grouped as:

- subjective personal wellbeing
- views on sports and recreation
- financial security and food security
- housing affordability.

Most of the measures not progressing as desired are categorised as influence areas in the control-influence-concern model (page iv).

For the domain on healthy, safe, and inclusive communities, there are no indicators which the City of Sydney can directly control.

Healthy, safe, and inclusive communities summary	Target or trend met	Progressing or pending further updates	Not met	Information only, no target
Control	-	-	-	-
Influence	23	12	22	6
Concern	4	5	5	
Total	27	20	24	5

Results table A1: Wellbeing and health outcomes

Measure	Year/ Geo*	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Personal health and wellbeing						
Subjective wellbeing Personal Wellbeing Index	2023	**65**	out of 100 (avg of 7 measures)	Increasing ≥ 75.0	🟥	Influence
Self-reported health: Physical health	2023	**45%**	of 16+ y.o. rate their phys. health Very good or Excellent	Increasing ≥ 60%	🟥	Influence
Self-reported health: Mental health	2023	**38%**	of 16+ y.o. rate their men.health Very good or Excellent	Increasing ≥ 60%	🟥	Influence
Health outcomes						
Life expectancy at birth: Females	2020	**90**	years	Stable or increasing	🔺	Influence
Life expectancy at birth: Males	2020	**85**	years	Stable or increasing	🔺	Influence
Newborn and infant care: Immunisation	2021	**96%**	at 1 year of age	Increasing	🔺	Concern
Newborn and infant care: Breastfeeding newborns	2021 *LHD*	**66%**	fully breast fed at discharge from hospital	Increasing	🟥	Concern
Prevalence of major diseases: Asthma	2019 *LHD*	**9%**	of 16+ y.o. population	Decreasing	🔺	Influence
Prevalence of major diseases: Diabetes	2019 *LHD*	**9%**	of 16+ y.o. population	Decreasing	🟥	Influence
Prevalence of major diseases: All cancers	2021	**388**	New cases p.a. per 100'000 persons	Decreasing	🟥	Influence
Prevalence of major diseases: Cardiovascular disease	2023	**1,476**	Hospitalisations p.a. per 100'000 persons	Decreasing	🔺	Influence
Prevalence of major diseases: Psychological distress	2020 *LHD*	**14%**	of 16+ y.o. residents in high or very high psychol. distress	Decreasing	🟥	Influence

*Indicated if data presented is based on a different geography than the LGA.

LHD - Local Health District. City of Sydney falls under two LHDs - Sydney and South Eastern Sydney. Data from the two have been averaged and presented here as estimates.

Results table A2: Health risk factors and health services

Measure	Year/ Geo*	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Health risk factors						
Nutrition and exercise: Physical exercise	2022 *LHD*	**88%**	of 16+ y.o. are getting enough	Increasing	▲	Influence
Nutrition and exercise: Fruit intake	2022 *LHD*	**39%**	of 16+ y.o. are getting enough	Increasing	■	Influence
Nutrition and exercise: Vegetable intake	2022 *LHD*	**5%**	of 16+ y.o. are getting enough	Increasing	■	Influence
Body Mass Index (BMI): Overweight	2018	**29%**	of 18+ y.o. are overweight	Decreasing	■	Influence
Body Mass Index (BMI): Obese	2018	**12%**	of 18+ y.o. are obese	Decreasing	▲	Influence
Recreational substances: Risky drinking	2022 *LHD*	**36%**	of 16+ y.o. who consume at risky levels	Decreasing	■	Influence
Recreational substances: Smoking	2022 *LHD*	**8%**	of 16+ y.o. who are current smokers	Decreasing	▲	Influence
Recreational substances: Vaping	2023 *LHD*	**9%**	of 16+ y.o. who are current e-cig. users	Decreasing	■	Influence
Recreational substances: Illicit drug use	2022- 2023 *SA4*	**38%**	of 14+ y.o. used illicit drugs in 2022 - 2023	Decreasing	■	Influence
Health Services						
Aged care places: Residential (high and low-level care)	2023	**51**	places per 1,000 70+ year olds	Increasing	■	Concern
Aged care places Community (high and low-level care)			No data**	Increasing	●	Concern
General practitioners	2023	**1106**	Residents per FSE GPs	Decreasing	■	Concern
Post-natal services			No data	Increasing	●	Concern
Sports and recreation						
Opportunities to participate in local area	2023	**49%**	of 16+ y.o. agree or strongly agree	Increasing	■	Influence
Attendance at sporting events: As participants	2023	**41%**	of 16+ y.o. participated in the past year	Increasing	■	Influence
Attendance at sporting events: As spectators	2023	**17%**	of 16+ y.o. spectated in the past year	Increasing	■	Influence

*Indicated if data presented is based on a different geography than the LGA.

LHD - Local Health District. City of Sydney falls under two LHDs - Sydney and South Eastern Sydney. Data from the two have been averaged and presented here as estimates.

SA4 - ABS Statistical Area Level 4 - Sydney - City and Inner South

FSE - Full-Time Service Equivalent - is an estimated measure of medical workforce activity (similar to FTE). For medical practitioners, this is defined as 40 hours a week.

**From 2017 onwards, data on community aged care places is no longer being collected.

Results table A3: Learning to earning, services, and outcomes

Measure	Year/ Geo*	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Learning to earning: services						
Childcare places	2023	**0.7**	places per resident child**	N/A**		Influence
Primary school places	2024	**1.0**	places per resident child	Increasing ≥ 1.0	▲	Influence
Class size Kindergarten - primary	2024 *NSW*	**23.2** *NSW*	children per class on average	Stable or decreasing	▲	Influence
Education services: Satisfaction with access	2023	**57%**	of 16+ y.o. are satisfied or very satisfied	Increasing	▲	Influence
Education services: Internet access***	2023	**93%**	of households access the internet from dwelling	Increasing	▲	Concern
Learning to earning: outcomes						
Early development in five domains	2021	**77%-91%**	of Year 1 school children developmentally on track	Stable or increasing	▲	Influence
Early development vulnerability	2021	**9%**	of Year 1 school children are vunerable in 2+ domains	Decreasing	▲	Influence
School retention	2021	**5%**	of 17 y.o. not attending any educational institution	Decreasing	▲	Influence
School completion	2021	**94%**	of 20-24 y.o. completed at least Year 12 or equivalent	Increasing	▲	Influence
School leaver circumstances	2021	**7%**	of 15-19 y.o. school leavers are neither earning or learning	Decreasing	■	Influence

*Indicated if data presented is based on a different geography than the LGA.

**Measure and target will be revised as part of the 2019 Child Care Needs Analysis

***Question about internet access dropped from 2021 ABS census, data now sourced from Wellbeing Survey. Please note that the question phrasing between the ABS Census and the Wellbeing Survey is different, which may affect time-series comparisons.

Results table A4: Personal safety

Measure	Year/ Geo*	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Personal safety						
Perception of safety walking alone near home after dark	2023	**63%**	of 16+ y.o. residents feel safe or very safe	≥ 70%	🟡	Influence
Perception of safety walking alone near home in daylight	2023	**88%**	of 16+ y.o. feel safe or very safe	≥ 95%	🟡	Influence
Perception of safety alone at home after dark	2023	**83%**	of 16+ y.o. feel safe or very safe	≥ 85%	🟥	Influence
Perception of safety alone at home in daylight	2023	**90%**	of 16+ y.o. feel safe or very safe	≥ 95%	🟥	Influence
Crime						
CCTV footage searches	2022	**65%**	released to assist police	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Property crime	2023	**15,765**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🔺	Influence
Crime against person (total)	2023	**7,227**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🟡	Influence
- Domestic violence	2023	**1,170**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🟡	Concern
Road Safety						
Road user fatalities	2022	**6**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🟡	Influence
Pedestrian serious injuries	2022	**22**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🔺	Influence
Pedal cyclist serious injuries	2022	**13**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🔺	Influence
Other road user serious injuries	2022	**52**	incidents p.a.	Decreasing	🔺	Influence

Results table A5: Housing affordability

Measure	Year	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Housing affordability						
Median sales prices Houses (non-strata)	2023	**$2,020**	($ '000s)	N/A		Influence
Median sales prices Flats and units	2023	**$941**	($ '000s)	N/A		Influence
Median weekly rental prices Houses	2023	**$975**		N/A		Influence
Median weekly rental prices Flats and units	2023	**$795**		N/A		Influence
Housing costs ≥ 30%** All households	2021	**33%**	of all households rent or mortgage >30% of income	Decreasing	🟡	Influence
Housing stress & low-income All households	2021	**22%**	of all households are in housing stress & on low income	Decreasing	🟥	Influence
Housing stress Low-income households***	2021	**71%**	of low-income renters and buyers (rent or mortgage >30% of income)	Decreasing	🟥	Influence
Social housing	2023	**7.9%**	of private dwelling stock	Increasing 7.5%	🟡	Influence
Affordable housing	2023	**1.0%**	of private dwelling stock	Increasing 7.5%	🟥	Influence
Homelessness						
Homelessness: Census count Homeless persons	2021	**5,110**	incl. sleeping out, 'couch-surfers', in boarding houses, overcrowding	Decreasing	🟥	Influence
Homelessness: City count Crisis accommodation	2024	**392**	persons	N/A		Influence
Homelessness: City count Rough sleepers	2024	**280**	persons	Decreasing	🟡	Influence

**The definition of 'housing stress' has changed since baseline measurements were taken. Housing stress was defined as where rent/mortgage payments are 'equal or greater than 30%' of household income and is now defined as where rent/mortgage payments are 'greater than 30%' of household income'.

***Low income is here defined as households in the first two income quintiles (non-equivalised) on the Greater Sydney income scale.

Results table A6: Income and inequality and community connectedness

Measure	Year	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Income and inequality						
Median total household income	2021	**$2,310**	per week, before tax	Increasing	🔺	Concern
Distribution of household income Equivalised	2021	**3.9**	ratio of household income at top of 80th percentile vs 20th	Decreasing	🔺	Concern
Socio-economic disadvantage Index of Relative Socio-economic	2021 Disadvantage	**8**	out of 35 suburbs score < Australian average	Decreasing	🟡	Concern
Financial insecurity	2023	**19%**	of 16+ y.o. residents unable to raise $2000	Decreasing < 10%	🟥	Concern
Food insecurity	2023	**11%**	of 16+ y.o. that in past year ran out, couldn't afford more food	Decreasing < 5%	🟥	Concern
Community connectedness						
Feeling part of the community	2023	**46%**	of 16+ y.o. residents are Satisfied or Very satisfied	Increasing ≥ 75%	🟥	Influence
Trust	2023	**72%**	of 16+ y.o. agree that "most people can be trusted"	Increasing ≥ 65%	🟡	Influence
Volunteering	2023	**40%**	of 16+ y.o. residents*	Increasing ≥ 25%	🟡	Influence
Parental participation in schools	2023	**53%**	of parents of school-aged children helped out at school*	Increasing ≥ 40%	🟡	Influence
Social support	2023	**53%**	of 16+ y.o. perceiving neighbourly support is available**	≥ 90%	🟡	Influence

*Includes those that answered yes, often, or once or twice in the last 12 months.

**Includes those that answered yes or sometimes. Base includes those who responded with unsure.

Culturally rich and vibrant communities

Culturally rich and vibrant communities

Introduction

Fostering and maintaining a diverse range of cultural offerings and encouraging participation in these activities enhances people's quality of life and sense of community.

Culture involves a wide range of media and activities such as music, dance, art, poetry, film, photography, writing, performance, craft, fashion or interior design, website and game design. These creative endeavours increase feelings of wellbeing and give life meaning in tangible and intangible ways.

Sydney's cultural life also has economic implications, driving the creative industries and attracting visitors. Linkages exist between this domain and domain four (section D in this report), where creative industries and tourism are examined.

"While money matters, ideas can be more important. Opportunities can sometimes be created out of little more than a fertile imagination and a determination to achieve.

As a city government, we have a responsibility to maximise these opportunities, and create an environment where ideas, imagination and creativity can flourish. We also have an obligation to ensure that we use our resources to effectively encourage and support cultural and creative activity."

Clover Moore AO, Lord Mayor, City of Sydney[82]

Supporting local cultural production, creative diversity, and accessible activities and spaces are our core objectives.

Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision, community strategy plan acknowledges the importance of culture in giving Sydney "its character and creates a shared identity for our diverse and growing population".[83] It further acknowledges that culture provides a foundation for creating an inclusive society integral to strengthening social connections, especially during times of change.

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[82] [82] Creative City: Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014 – 2024, City of Sydney; https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/creative-city-cultural-policy-action-plan
[83] Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision, Community Strategic Plan, City of Sydney, 2022: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/community-strategic-plan

Agree or strongly agree
Neutral
Disagree or strongly disagree
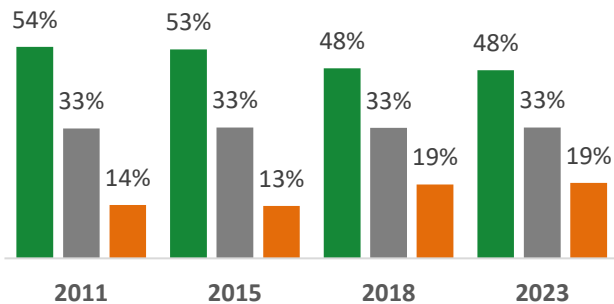
No engagement in any activity
1 type
2 type
3+ type

How residents respond when asked: Agree or disagree… **There are enough opportunities in your local area for you to participate in arts or cultural activities***?*
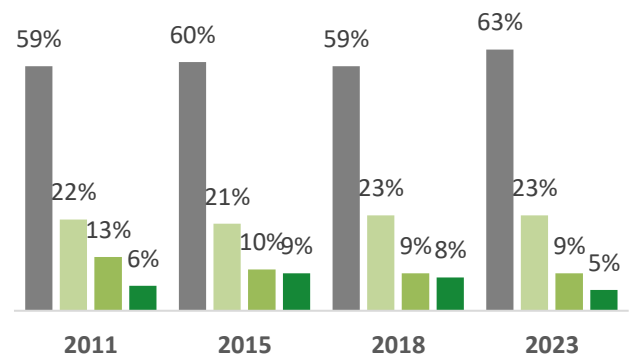
Active engagement in listed types of cultural activities, events, performances and venues, *in the past year.*[84]

Arts and cultural engagement

Opportunities to participate

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who reply agree or strongly agree in response to the following statement:

> There are enough opportunities in my local area to participate in arts and cultural activities such as art classes, performance and creating music.

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents perceiving sufficient opportunities to participate to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 54%.

The latest update (2023) **48%.**

Contrary to the desired trend, the perceived opportunity to participate in arts or cultural activities in the local area has not changed since 2018, and remains lower than the 2011 baseline.

Active engagement

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who participated (through performing, as an organiser, or for a hobby)* at least once when asked:

> In the last 12 months, did you engage with each of the following**:

- acting, dancing or other performance;
- live music and/or singing performance;
- visual arts and crafts/ galleries;
- creative writing;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performances and arts;
- gaming or coding/ programming;
- museums and collecting?

The target is for the proportion of residents actively engaged in cultural activities, events, performances, and venues to trend upwards.

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[84] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

The baseline (2011) is 41%.

The latest update (2023) is **37%.**

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of residents actively engaged* in cultural activities, events, performances and venues has not trended upwards. The proportion of residents who did not engage in any cultural activities has increased since 2018.

*Question phrasing for identifying respondents who actively engage with cultural activities has changed since 2018. Instead of having the categories hobbyist, organiser, or in any paid capacity, the survey now asks respondents if they are participants (performing, as an organiser, or for a hobby).

**In 2011, the last 3 items listed were not asked – these were included in the wellbeing survey in 2015. Music and singing were listed as separate categories, as were visual arts and other art and craft activities. When comparing between years, these categories were merged to ensure there is no double counting.

- **Did not attend any activity**
- **Attended 1 - 3 types**
- **Attended 4+ types**

- **Attended Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultural events**
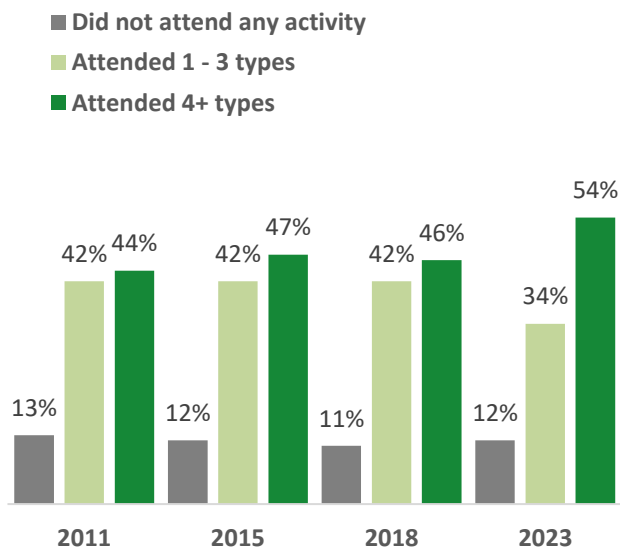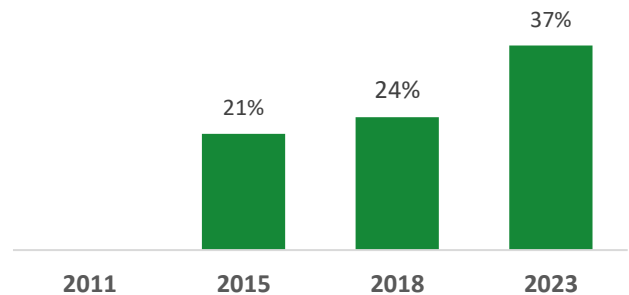

*Resident **attendance at listed types of cultural activities**, **events, performances and venues,** in the past year?*

Attendance at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander activities, events, performances and venues, in the past year.[86]

Attendance

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who were spectators (being part of the audience or attendee)* at least once when asked:

In the last 12 months, how did you engage with each of the following**:

- acting, dancing or other performance;
- live music and/or singing performance;
- visual arts and crafts/ galleries;
- creative writing;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performances and arts;
- gaming or coding/ programming;
- museums and collecting?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents attending cultural activities, events, performances, and venues to trend upwards.

The baseline (2011) is 87%.

The latest update (2023) is **88%.**

The latest update shows attendance at cultural activities is trending slightly up. Compared to previous survey years, a greater proportion of residents attend 4+ types of cultural activities.

*Question phrasing changed since 2018.

**There were 5 items to this list in 2011, expanding to 7 items in 2015, 2018, and 2023.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultural activities

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who have been spectators to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performances and arts.

The target is for the proportion of residents attending Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural activities, events, performances, and venues to trend upwards.

The baseline (2015) is 21%.
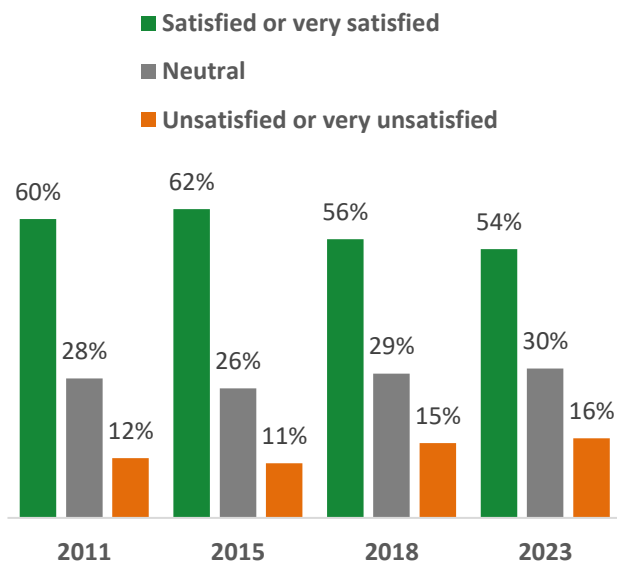
The latest update (2023) is **37%.**

In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows an increase in attendance at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural activities.

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[86] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

■ Satisfied or very satisfied
■ Neutral
■ Unsatisfied or very unsatisfied

*Resident satisfaction with the **number and quality of arts and cultural events** in your local area?*
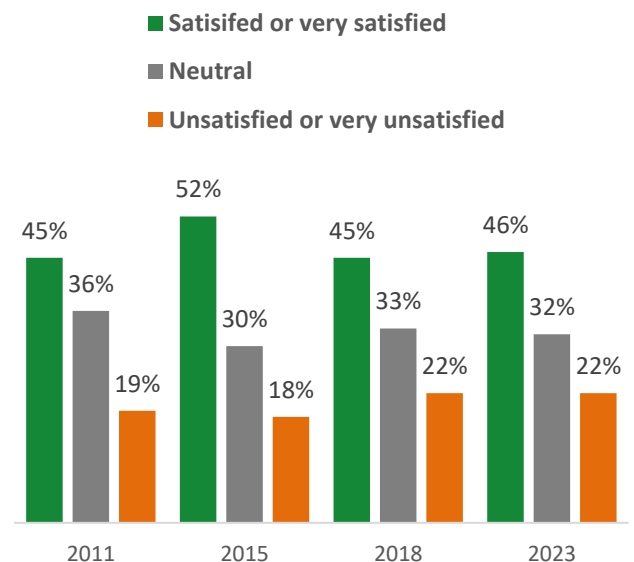
■ Satisfied or very satisfied
■ Neutral
■ Unsatisfied or very unsatisfied

*Resident satisfaction with the **range and quality of creative expression in the public domain** such as art installations, murals, busking and street art in your local area?[87]*

Arts and culture perceptions

Overall satisfaction – arts and cultural events

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied when asked:

How satisfied are you with the number and quality of arts and cultural events such as festivals, performances and exhibitions in your local area?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents satisfied with arts and cultural events to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 60%.

The latest update (2023) is **54%.**

Contrary to the desired trend, the latest update shows a decrease in resident satisfaction with arts and cultural events since 2015*.*

Creative expression in the public domain

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of respondents who are very satisfied or satisfied when asked:

How satisfied are you with the range and quality of creative expression in the public domain such as art installations, murals, busking and street art in your local area?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of respondents satisfied with the public art to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 45%.

The latest update (2023) is **46%.**

Resident satisfaction with creative expression in the public domain has stabilised, but remains comparatively lower than the 2015 results. Satisfaction is now on par with that seen in 2011.

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[87] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias

88 Photo credit: Chris Southwood/ City of Sydney (Darlington, November 2022. Featuring artist Fintan Magee and artiwork, Lost Figures).

52
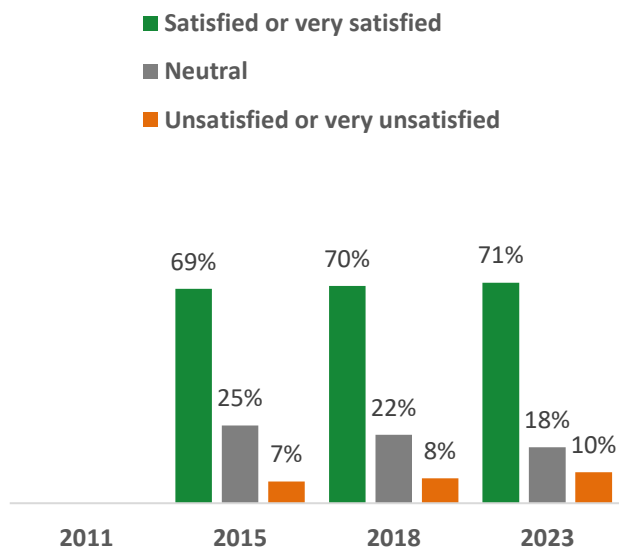
*Resident satisfaction with **access to libraries**[89]*
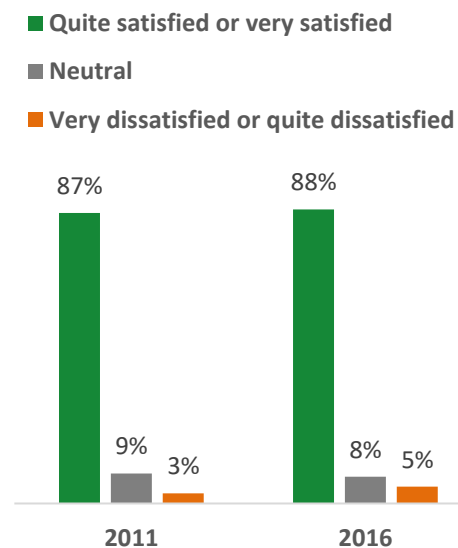
*Library **user satisfaction with local libraries?**[90]*

Library services

Libraries access

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied when asked:

How satisfied are you with access to libraries in your local area?

The target for this indicator is for the perceived access to library services and facilities to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2015) is 69%.

The latest update (2023) is **71%.**

In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows slight increase in satisfaction towards library access.

Libraries satisfaction

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of library users who are very satisfied or quite satisfied when asked:

On a scale of 1 – 5, how satisfied are you with the local libraries?

The target for this indicator is for library ratings to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 87%.

The latest update (2016) is **88%.**

The latest update from 2016 shows slight increase in library user satisfaction. But research on library satisfaction has not been updated for some time. More current data is needed to assess progress.

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[89] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.
[90] City of Sydney Customer Satisfaction Survey (2011, 2016); City of Sydney Customer Services Unit. Commissioned research.

Creative industries

■ **Workers in CBD** ■ **Workers outside of CBD**

■ **Businesses in CBD** ■ **Businesses outside of CBD**

*The **number of workers in the creative industries** sector by location*
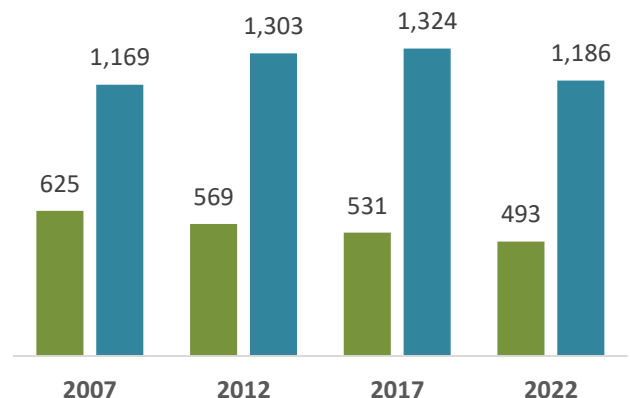

*The **number of businesses in the creative industries** sector by location[91]*

Creative industries sector growth

Workforce growth

The measure for this indicator is the growth in the proportion of workers in the creative industries sector in our local area.

The sector includes creative manufacturing; retailing of art, antiques, or art supplies; galleries, archives, and museums; libraries; publishing; producing and distributing music, film, or video; broadcasting; services for architecture, advertising, or design; and performers and operators for performing arts venues.

This indicator has no target and is monitored for information only.

The baseline (2007) is 32,448 workers.

The latest update (2022) is **32,380 workers** or **a drop of -0.2%** since baseline.

Creative industries workforce figures have dropped in the CBD and non-CBD, indicating these workers may be relocating outside of the local area. Creative industries workers make up an increasingly smaller proportion of local area workers, from 8.4% in 2007 to 6.2% in 2022.

Business growth

The measure for this indicator is the growth in the proportion of businesses in the creative industries sector in our local area.

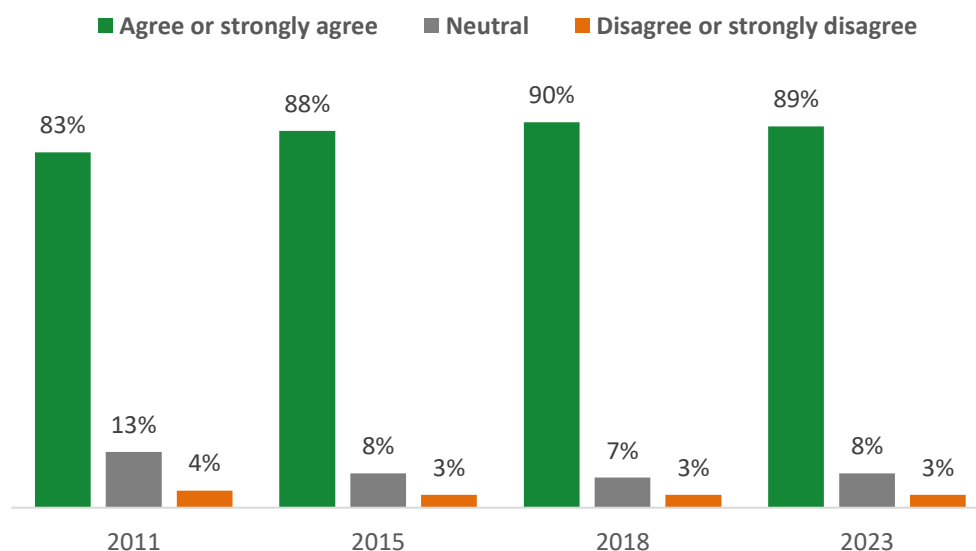This indicator has no target and is monitored for information only.

The baseline (2007) is 1,794 businesses.

The latest update (2022) is **1,679 businesses** or **a drop of -6.4%** since baseline.

Much like Creative industries workforce trends, the number of CBD and non-CBD based creative businesses have reduced. The latest update shows that the figure is below baseline levels.

Creative industries businesses increasingly make up a smaller proportion of total businesses in our local area, from 9.2% in 2007 to 8.7% in 2012, 7.9% in 2017, and the latest update being 7.8% in 2022. Please see section D for an overview how the creative sector compares to other industries.

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[91] City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Surveys data: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/surveyingour-community/floor-space-and-employment-survey. Updated every five years and released approximately 18 months later.

■ **Agree or strongly agree**   ■ Neutral   ■ **Disagree or strongly disagree**

	2011	2015	2018	2023
Agree or strongly agree	83%	88%	90%	89%
Neutral	13%	8%	7%	8%
Disagree or strongly disagree	4%	3%	3%	3%

How residents respond when asked: Agree or disagree… It is
a good thing for society to be made up of people from different cultures and communities?[92]

Cultural diversity

Appreciation of diversity

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who agree or strongly agree when asked:

> Agree or disagree… It is a good thing for a society to be made up of people from different cultures and communities?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of respondents who appreciate diversity in society to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 83%.

The latest update (2018) is **89%**.

● The latest update shows that since 2018, there has been a slight drop in the proportion of residents who agree it is a good thing for society to be made up of people from different cultures and communities. Nonetheless, the proportion of residents who appreciate diversity remains high, and is above 2011 baseline levels.

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[92] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias
[93] Photo credit: Katherine Griffiths (Haymarket, Chinatown, June 2023).

Summary

The City of Sydney wellbeing survey and floor and employment survey aid in assessing community involvement in arts and culture.

Of the 9 measures for which there are targets or desired trends for the cultural domain, 3 are progressing as desired, whereas 2 are stable. More data is required further for 1 measure to determine progress.

But there are 3 measures not progressing as desired. They relate to opportunities to actively participate in arts and cultural activities, the perceived satisfaction with arts and cultural events, and perceived satisfaction with the range and quality of public art expression in the local area.

Our wellbeing survey includes questions about barriers limiting residents' participation in arts, culture, and community activities. The top reasons continue to be the scarcity of time, followed by cost. In fact, the affordability of events and activities is becoming more pronounced as a barrier for residents. The barriers to participation results are outside the scope of this report but does inform our ongoing work to foster art creation and cultural accessibility.

Most of the indicators in this domain are categorised as influence areas in the control-influence-concern model (page iv). Only the indicators about libraries access, libraries satisfaction, and creative expression in the public domain are under our direct control.

Results summary table B1: Culturally rich and vibrant communities

Measure	Year	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Arts and cultural engagement						
Arts and cultural activities: Enough opportunities to participate	2023	**48%**	of 16+ y.o. agree or strongly agree	Increasing	🟥	Influence
Arts and cultural activities: Active participation	2023	**37%**	of 16+ y.o. participated as a hobbyist, organiser, or for payment	Increasing	🟥	Influence
Arts and cultural activities: Attendance	2023	**88%**	of 16+ y.o. attended cultural activity(ies)	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Attendance at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performances and arts	2023	**37%**	of 16+ y.o. attended in the past year	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Arts and culture perceptions						
Overall satisfaction with arts and cultural events in local area	2023	**54%**	of 16+ y.o. are satisfied or very satisfied	Increasing	🟥	Influence
Creative expression in the public domain	2023	**46%**	of 16+ y.o. are satisfied or very satisfied	Increasing	🟡	Control
Creative industries sector growth						
Workforce growth	2022	**-0.2%**	since 2007	N/A		Influence
Business growth	2022	**-6.4%**	since 2007	N/A		Influence
Cultural diversity						
Appreciation of diverse society	2023	**89%**	of 16+ y.o. agree or strongly agree	Increasing	🟡	Influence
Library services						
Libraries satisfaction	2016	**88%**	of 15+ y.o. library users are quite or very satisfied	Increasing	🟡	Control
Libraries access	2023	**71%**	of 16+ y.o. are satisfied or very satisfied	Increasing	🔺	Control

Democratic and engaged communities

Democratic and engaged communities

Introduction

We encourage residents, workers, students, and businesses in building community. A healthy and connected city, whether large or small, is made up of individuals and groups willing and able to take part in shaping society.

Participation can occur in many ways, from volunteering with community organisations, working with political parties or lobby groups, or by making opinions heard through community consultations, demonstrating, and voting. All of these are actions of community participation, democracy in action, and ways to have a say in decision-making.

Our residents want transparency from government, and to be involved in how decisions are made. Holding government to account and maintaining confidence in the integrity of public institutions is critical to social cohesion and promotes a level playing field for businesses.

"An inclusive society must have the institutions, structures, and processes that empower local communities, so they can hold their governments accountable. It also requires the participation of all groups in society in decision-making processes."[96]

Our approach to community engagement is articulated in the Sustainable Sydney 2030 – 2050 Continuing the Vision community strategic plan[97] and the community engagement strategy and community participation plan 2023.[98] The social sustainability policy and action plan 2018 – 2028 also recognises the importance of engaged communities.[99]

Community engagement means involving people in the decisions that affect their lives. It enables good governance and informed decision-making.

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[96] World Bank. 2013. Inclusion Matters: The Foundation for Shared Prosperity. New Frontiers of Social Policy; Washington, DC. openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/16195

[97] Sustainable Sydney 2030 - 2050 Continuing the Vision, Community Strategic Plan, City of Sydney, 2022: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/community-strategic-plan

[98] Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan 2023 update: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/community-engagement-strategy

[99] A City for All. Towards a socially just and resilient Sydney. City of Sydney Social Sustainability Policy & Action Plan 2018-2028: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/social-sustainability-policy-action-plan
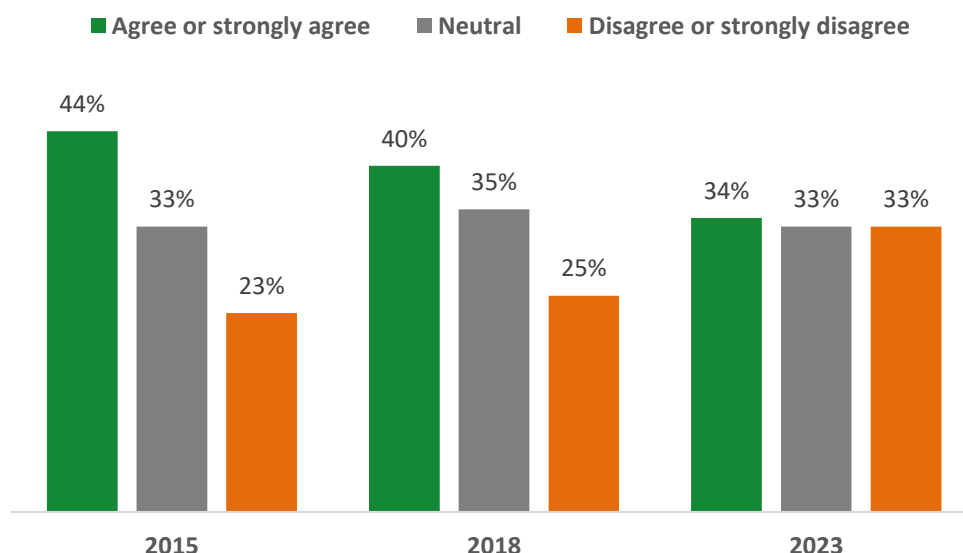
Agree or strongly agree ■ **Neutral** ■ **Disagree or strongly disagree**

	2015	2018	2023
Agree or strongly agree	44%	40%	34%
Neutral	33%	35%	33%
Disagree or strongly disagree	23%	25%	33%

How residents respond when asked: Agree or disagree…
*There are **enough opportunities for me to have a say on issues that are important to me**?[100]*

Community engagement

Opportunity to have a say

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who strongly agree or agree that:

There are enough opportunities for me to have a say on issues that are important to me?

The target is for the proportion of residents who feel there are sufficient opportunities to have a say to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2015) is 44%.

The latest update (2023) is **34%.**

Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of residents who agree there are sufficient opportunities to have a say has decreased. In the latest update, the proportion of residents who strongly agree or agree are almost equal to the proportion of residents who strongly disagree or disagree.

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[100] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias
[101] Photo credit: Katherine Griffiths/ City of Sydney (Ultimo Community Centre, March 2019).
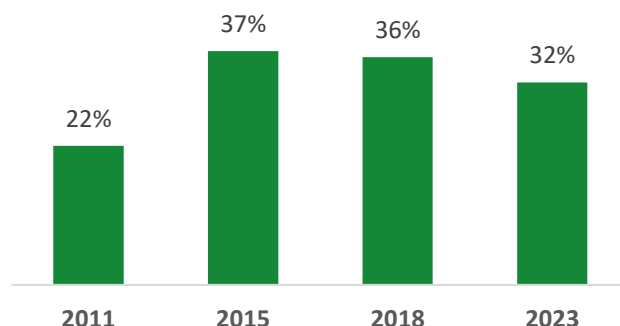
■ **Participated in at least one community engagement activity**

■ **Participated in community decision-making**
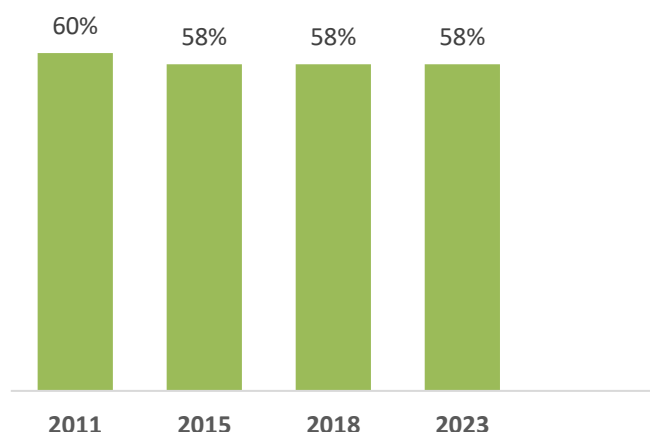
Resident participation rates in community engagement activities in the preceding 12 months.

Resident participation rates in decision-making activities in the preceding 12 months.[102]

Community engagement

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents saying yes, often, or one or twice, when asked:

In the last 12 months, have you:

- attended a community meeting, public hearing or discussion

- met with, phoned, or written to any local politician

- joined a protest or demonstration

- participated in an online discussion about political or local community issues?

The target is for at least 50% of residents to participate in community engagement, and for the proportion to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 60%.

The latest update (2023) is **58%**.

In line with the desired trend, the minimum target has been met across all survey years. The proportion of residents engaging in the activities listed above has remained stable.

Decision-making involvement

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents ticking yes, often or one or twice, at least once, when asked:

In the last 12 months, have you:

- attended a body-corporate meeting

- sat on a decision-making board or committee, such as a corporate board, school council, sports club committee or church committee?

The target is for at least 25% of residents to participate in community decision-making, and for this to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 22%*.

The latest update (2023) is **32%**.

The 25% target has been met. But the latest update shows that the proportion of residents participating in decision-making activities has decreased since 2015.

In 2011, the question was phrased: are you on a decision-making board or committee, such as a corporate board, school council, sports club committee, church committee, body corporate or resident action group?. This may explain the lower outcome.

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[102] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.

■ **Have taken up Australian citizenship**
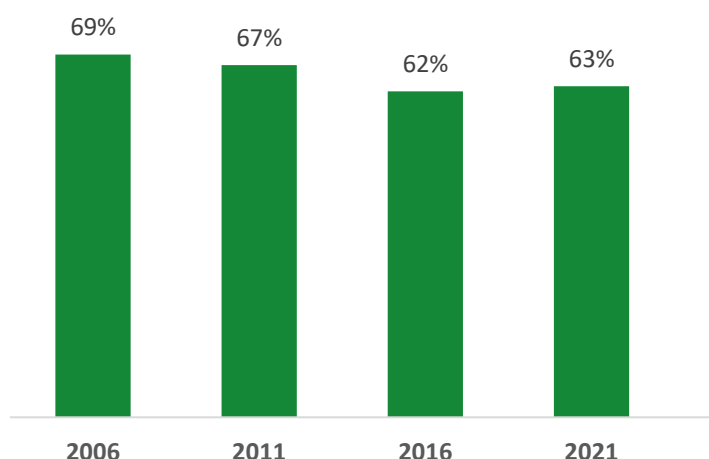
Citizenship uptake rate by overseas-born residents.[103]

Citizenship

Citizenship uptake rates

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of local area residents born overseas, and have arrived in Australia 5 years or more before an ABS census year, who became Australian citizens.

The target is for citizenship uptake rates for overseas-born residents to increase over time.

The baseline (2006) is 69%.

The latest update (2021) is **63%.***

The proportion of overseas born residents who have become Australian citizens has stabilised since 2016, but remains lower than levels seen in 2006 and 2011. This is possibly the result of changes to federal government citizenship requirements.

*From 2007, overseas-born residents need to lawfully reside in Australia for at least 4 years to be eligible to apply for citizenship. The official timeframe from date of citizenship application to ceremony is 20 to 24 months (2018). Before 2007, the residence period requirement was 2 years.

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[103] City of Sydney calculations using the ABS Census TableBuilder Pro application: https://tablebuilder.abs.gov.au/ City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and employment and exclude 'not stated' cases. Census is conducted every five years and data released approximately 18 months later.

Voter engagement **Voter turnout**

Female councillors **Male councillors**
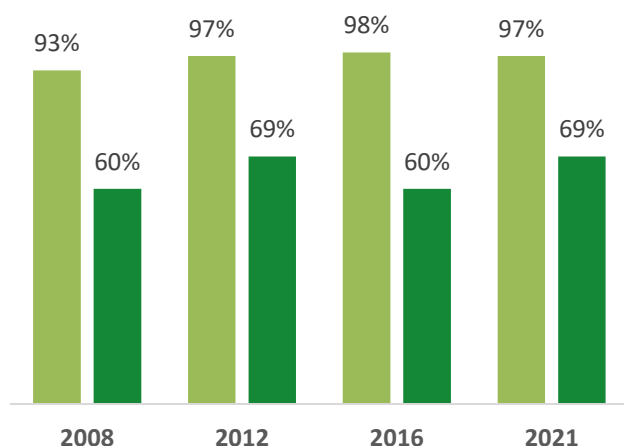
*Voter engagement (formal voting);
and Voter turnout (of enrolled voters)*
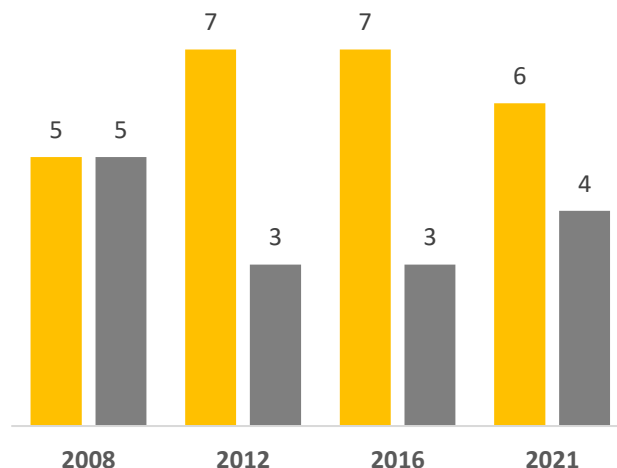
*Women elected in
City of Sydney local council elections.*[104]

Elections, representation, and democracy

Voter engagement

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of enrolled voters voting in local government elections who cast formal votes.

The target is for the proportion of formal votes to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2008) is 93%.

The latest update (2021) is **97%.**

In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows that the proportion of voters casting formal votes has stabilised.

Voter turnout

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of enrolled voters casting a vote in local government elections.

The target is for the proportion of voter turnout to trend upwards over time.

The baseline for voter turnout (2008) is 60%.

The latest update (2021) **is 69%.**

In line with the desired trend, voter turnout in the 2021 local council elections is on par with levels seen in 2012 (69%).

Women on local Council

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of City of Sydney local councillors who identify as female.

The target is for the proportion of councillors identifying as female to be at least 50%.

The baseline (2008) is 50% (5 out of 10 councillors).
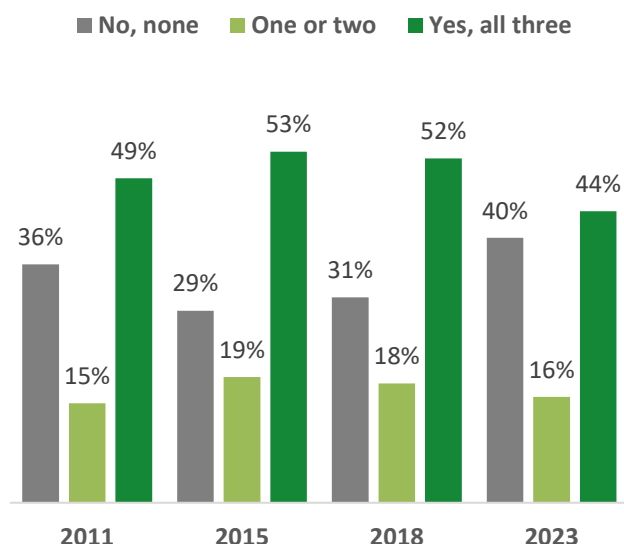
The latest update (2021) is **60% (6 out of 10).**

The target has been met in all election years monitored.

[104] NSW Electoral Commission: https://pastvtr.elections.nsw.gov.au/LG2101/sydney/results
Results are updated every four years.

■ No, none **■ One or two** **■ Yes, all three**

■ Agree or strongly agree
■ Neutral
■ Disagree or strongly disagree

	2011	2015	2018	2023
No, none	36%	29%	31%	40%
One or two	15%	19%	18%	16%
Yes, all three	49%	53%	52%	44%

	2011	2015	2018	2023
Agree or strongly agree	44%	36%	34%	43%
Neutral	27%	27%	27%	26%
Disagree or strongly disagree	28%	37%	39%	30%

How residents respond when asked:
*If you wanted to, would you **know how to contact:***
Local councillors? State MPs? Federal MPs?

How residents respond when asked: Agree or disagree…
*I am **satisfied with the way democracy works in***
***Australia?*[105]**

Contacting political representatives

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents saying yes at least one when asked:

If you wanted to, would you know
how to contact …

- local councillors?

- state members of Parliament (MPs)?

- federal members of Parliament (MPs)?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents who know how to contact their political representatives to increase over time.

The baseline (2011) is 65%.

The latest update (2023) is **60%**.

■ Contrary to the desired trend, the proportion of residents who know how to contact at least one of their political representatives has decreased since 2015.

In 2023, of the 3 levels of government, residents were more likely to know how to contact state MPs (59%) compared to local councillors (57%) and federal MPs (56%). This may be due to the recency of the 2022 state election.
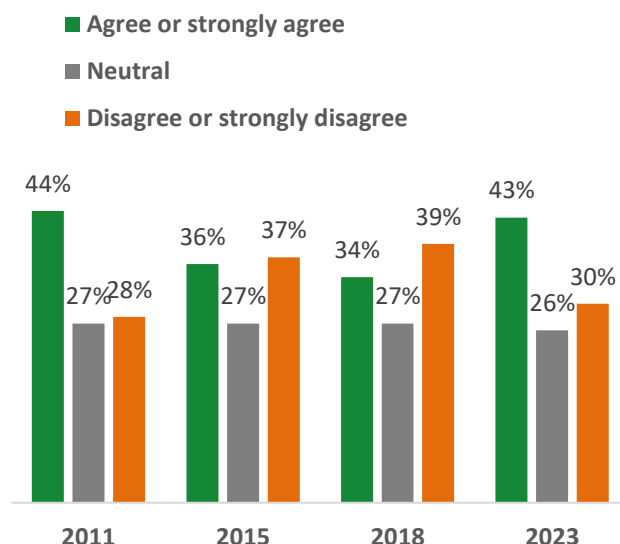
Satisfaction with democracy

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of residents who say they strongly agree or agree when asked:

Agree or disagree… I am satisfied with the way democracy works in Australia?

The target for this indicator is for the proportion of residents agreeing with the statement to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2011) is 44%.

The latest update (2023) is **43%**.

▲ In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows that satisfaction with democracy is higher compared to results in 2015 and 2018, almost reaching the same levels of satisfaction seen in 2011.

[105] City of Sydney Wellbeing Survey (2015, 2018, 2023), Resident Survey (2011 https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/community-indicators-report Data is weighted to correct for sample-bias.

Summary

The City of Sydney resident surveys, ABS Census, and NSW Electoral Commission data help assess how involved our communities are in decision-making activities.

All indicators in this domain are categorised as influence areas in the control-influence-concern model (page iv). None are under our direct control.

Of the 9 measures for which there are targets or desired trends, 5 are progressing as desired. Since the 2019 report, improvements have been seen with satisfaction towards democracy, and voter turnout. There are 2 measures not yet progressing as desired, which includes perceived opportunity to be heard on important matters and knowing how to contact political representatives.

Results table C1: Democratic and engaged communities

Measure	Year	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Community engagement						
Opportunity to have a say	2023	**34%**	of 16+ y.o. residents agree or strongly agree	Increasing	🟥	Influence
Community engagement activities	2023	**58%**	of 16+ y.o. participated in community activities	Increasing ≥ 50%	🔺	Influence
Decision-making bodies, involvement	2023	**32%**	of 16+ y.o. participated in the past year	Increasing ≥ 25%	🟡	Influence
Citizenship						
Citizenship uptake rates among City residents	2021	**63%**	of overseas born residents in AU for at least 4 years are citizens	Increasing	🟡	Influence
Elections, representation and democracy						
Voter engagement Local Government elections	2021	**97%**	formal voting	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Voter turnout Local Government elections	2021	**69%**	of enrolled voters	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Women on Local Council	2021	**60%**	6 out of 10 councillors	≥ 50%	🔺	Influence
Contacting political representatives	2023	**60%**	of 16+ y.o. know how to contact at least one level of political reps	Increasing	🟥	Influence
Satisfaction with democracy in Australia	2023	**43%**	of 16+ y.o. are satisfied or very satsified	Increasing	🔺	Influence

Dynamic resilient local economies

Dynamic resilient local economies

Introduction

Our economic development strategy 2025 - 2035[106] recognises conventional indicators of economic growth, such as income and production, do not fully capture how economic activity relates to community wellbeing. Economic growth encompasses a broad range of goals and activities. Knowledge, innovation, education, and skills are key determinants of economic productivity.

Local economic participation is linked to social aspects of community wellbeing. For example, opportunities to participate in local economies have implications for individual feelings of community membership and wellbeing. The type and location of economic activity, who it involves, and how it changes over time, underpins experiences of living, working, and visiting Sydney.

Providing for economically sustainable, innovative, and vibrant communities is a core principle in the Sustainable Sydney 2030 – 2050 Continuing the Vision community strategic plan. Sydney's forward economy strategy also identifies priorities such as:

- Strengthen Sydney's global connections and accessibility
- Enhance creativity and innovation
- Promote economic inclusion in our communities.

"Each city represents an economic ecosystem in its own right, built around mutually supportive economic and social strengths as well as an intertwined fabric of jobs – not just the professionals in bright skyscrapers but all those who turn the lights on every morning, from retailers and teachers to nurses and cooks, from crime fighters to street cleaners. Maintaining healthy balance is a cornerstone of urban resilience."[107]

Since the 2019 community wellbeing indicators report was published, Covid restrictions have affected economic activity and workforce numbers in the local area. Industries such as hospitality, tourism, retail, education, and live music and events were particularly impacted. Although labour markets across Australia have mostly recovered after Covid restrictions were lifted,[108] rising costs and inequality continue to pose challenges.

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[106] City of Sydney economic development strategy 2025 - 2035; https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/vision-setting/sydney-forward-economy

[107] Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Cities of Opportunity, 2012; https://www.pwc.com/jp/ja/japan-news/assets/pdf/cities-opportunity2012report.pdf

[108] Impact of Covid on the Australian Labour Market, Parliament of Australia: https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/BriefingBook47p/COVID-19AustralianLabourMarket

Lower ranked cities ■ **Sydney's rank** ■ **Higher ranked cities**

Chart 1 (2011–2016):

Year	Higher ranked cities	Sydney's rank	Lower ranked cities
2011	4	5	21
2012	10	11	16
2014	8	9	21
2016	9	10	20

Chart 2 (2018–2023):

Year	Higher ranked cities	Sydney's rank	Lower ranked cities
2018	14	15	141
2019	10	11	145
2020	10	11	145
2021	14	15	141
2022	16	17	139
2023	17	18	138
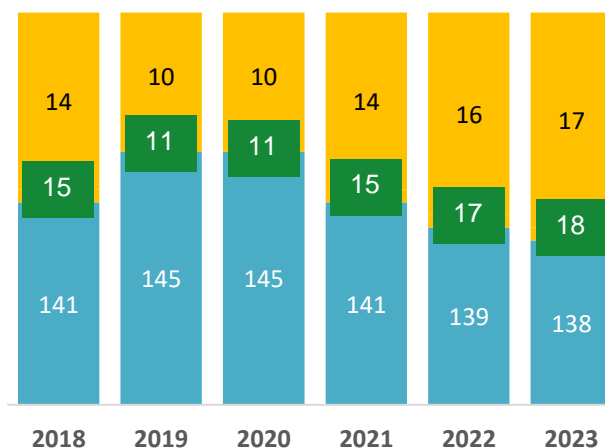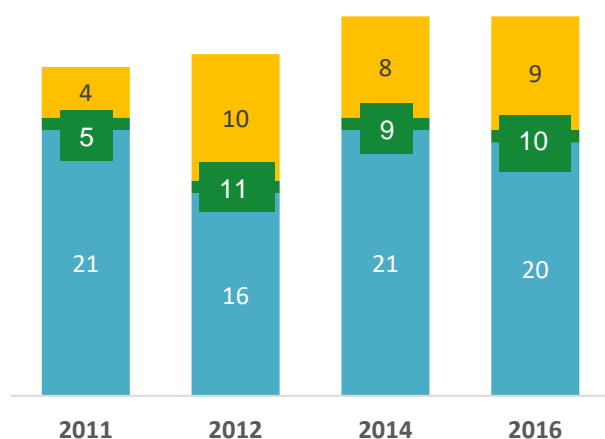
Sydney's rank in PricewaterhouseCoopers **'Cities of Opportunity' index** *(2011 – 2016)*
and Kearney's **'Global Cities Index'** *(2018 – present)* * [109][110]

Economic prosperity and competitiveness

Global competitiveness

The measure for this indicator is Sydney's overall ranking in PriceWaterhouseCoopers' (PWC) Cities of Opportunity index from 2011 - 2016, and in Kearney's Global Cities Index after 2018.*

Both indices rank cities across the world based on their perceived performance across several metrics.

PWC's metrics include intellectual capital and innovation; technological readiness; global connectedness; transportation and infrastructure; health, safety, and security; liveability and demographics; sustainability and natural environment; economic clout, ease of doing business, and cost of doing business and living.

Kearney's metrics include business activity; human capital; information exchange; cultural experiences; and political engagement.

The target is for Sydney's overall ranking in both indices to remain stable or trend upward over time.

The baseline (2011) from PWC's Cities of Opportunity ranks Sydney 5th out of 26 cities. This puts Sydney in the top 20th percentile.

The latest update (2023) from Kearney's Global Cities Index ranks Sydney **18th out of 156 cities**, just outside of the top 10th percentile.

In Kearney's Global Cities Index, Sydney ranks within the top 20 cities, out of the 156 cities featured. But Sydney's rankings have been falling since 2020 when it placed 11th, to placing 18th in 2023.

* PWC has not updated the Cities of Opportunity index since 2016. The community wellbeing indicators report now uses Kearney's Global Cities Index. The metrics used for assessment by PWC and Kearney differ slightly. Also, PWC's Cities of Opportunity index typically ranks 30 cities against each other, whereas Kearney's Global Cities Index ranks 156 cities. Use caution when making time-series comparisons between rankings from 2011 to 2016 and subsequent rankings.

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[109] PricewaterhouseCoopers: Cities of Opportunity 7, 2016: https://www.pwc.com.au/pdf/cities-of-opportunity-7-2016.pdf
Reports were completed approximately every two years. No new updates since 2016.
[110] Kearney: Global Cities Index 2023: https://www.kearney.com/service/global-business-policy-council/gcr/2023-full-report Updated annually.

69

Estimated GRP($b, 2021 real terms) ── **GRP growth, City of Sydney** ── **GDP growth, Australia**

GRP growth, City of Sydney: 3.3%, 6.2%, 3.4%, 1.8%, 2.4%, 2.2%, 4.8%, 4.3%, 4.9%, 5.9%, 4.9%, 3.3%, 2.1%, 3.7%, 0.1%, 3.1%, 2.6%, 3.1%

GDP growth, Australia: 2.8%, 3.8%, 3.7%, 1.9%, 2.1%, 2.5%, 3.9%, 2.6%, 2.5%, 2.2%, 2.8%, 2.3%, 2.9%, 2.2%, -0.3%, 2.1%, 4.3%, 1.1%

Estimated GRP: 81.3, 86.3, 89.2, 90.8, 93.0, 95.0, 99.6, 103.9, 109.0, 115.4, 121.1, 125.1, 127.7, 132.4, 132.5, 136.6, 140.2, 141.7

2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23

Value and growth of Gross City Product (GCP) versus growth in Australian Gross Domestic Product.[111] [112]

City economic growth

The measure for this indicator is the rate of growth in the City of Sydney area's Gross Regional Product (GRP).

The target for this measure is for GRP growth to exceed Australian GDP growth.

The baseline (2005/06), in 2021 real terms, is $81.3 billion.

The latest update (2022/23) is **$141.7 billion**, with an **average annual growth rate of 3.2%** over the past 10 years.

The chart above shows the change over time in GRP (green line) and GDP (yellow line), as well as the net value in billions of GRP (grey bars).

▲ The GRP has an average annual growth rate of 3.2% over the past 10 years. This is greater than the average annual GDP growth rate of 2.4% over the past decade. The GRP growth rate is lower than the GDP growth rate for 2021/22 and 2022/23, which warrants monitoring in the following years.

Employment growth (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the rate of growth in the size of the workforce.

The target for this measure is for workforce numbers to trend upwards over time.

The baseline (2007) is 385,421 workers.

The latest update (2022) is **519,839 workers**, a **34.9% increase** from baseline.

▲ In line with the desired trend, the latest update (not charted) shows that workforce size has increased between 2007 and 2022.

The latest update (2022) shows that local job growth is faster than population growth, increasing by 29.1% from 2007 to 2022. This is likely due to a drop in population numbers during Covid. The latest (2023) Estimated Resident Population shows that population numbers have now exceeded pre-pandemic levels.

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[111] National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR), compiled and presented in economy.id by .id (informed decisions): https://economy.id.com.au/sydney/gross-product
[112] City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Surveys data: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/surveyingour-community/floor-space-and-employment-survey. Updated every five years and released approximately 18 months later.

CBD **Non-CBD**
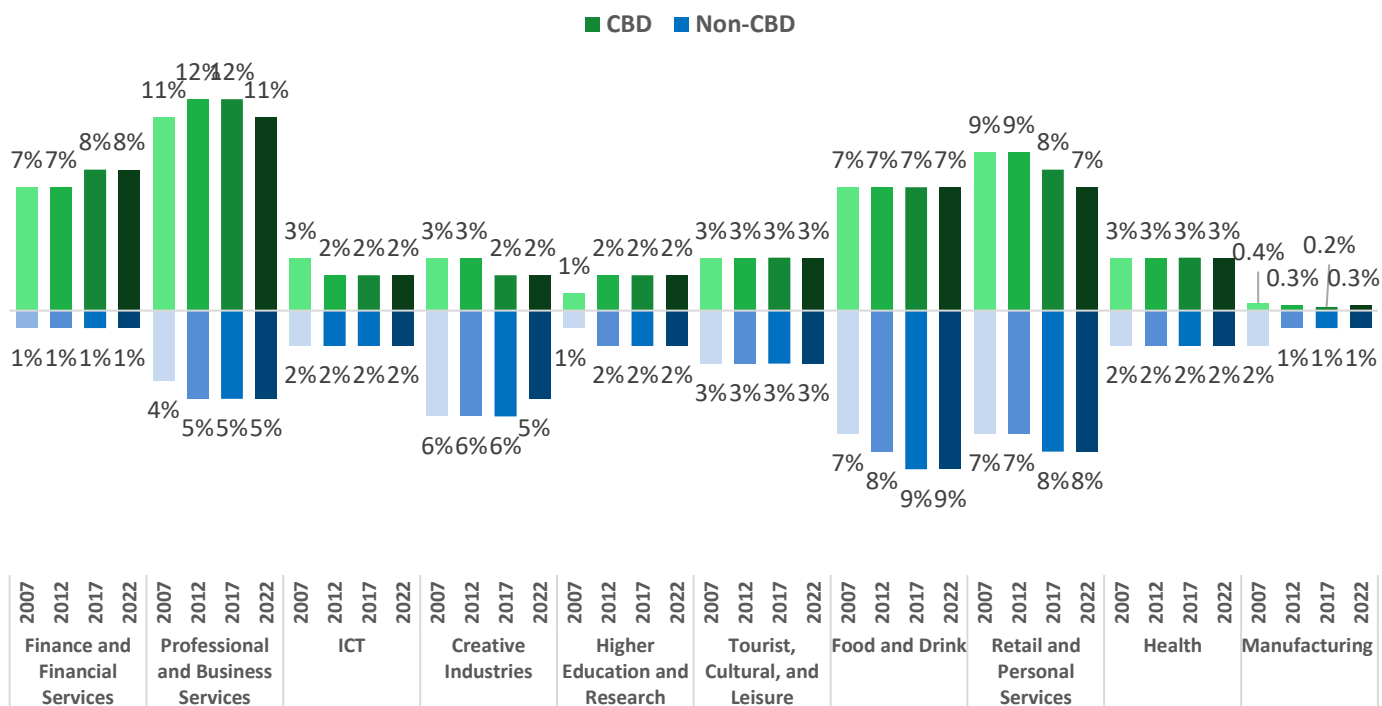
Businesses by industry and location as proportions of total businesses.[113]

Economic diversity

Business diversity

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of businesses by location (CBD and outside the CBD), as shown below.

This indicator has no targets and is monitored for information only.

	Businesses in CBD	Business outside CBD	Total
Baseline 2007	54%	46%	19,579
2012	52%	48%	21,636
2017	53%	47%	23,511
Latest update 2022	**53%**	**47%**	**21,613**

The chart above shows breakdowns by industry sector, derived from the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification[114] and matched against selected sectors identified in our economic development strategy (2010).[115]

The location diversity of businesses has remained stable over the past 10 years and is fairly even between the CBD and non-CBD.

The chart above suggests less business diversity inside the CBD (green bars) than outside the CBD (blue bars). In other words, CBD businesses are less evenly distributed across various industry sectors than businesses outside the CBD.

But business-to-worker ratios vary between industries. To understand business diversity, workforce numbers (next page) should be considered.

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[113] City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Surveys data: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/surveyingour-community/floor-space-and-employment-survey. Updated every five years and released approximately 18 months later.
[114] Australian Bureau of Statistics Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC) (cat 1292.0); www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0
[115] City of Sydney Economic Development Strategy, 2010: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/economic-development-strategy

71
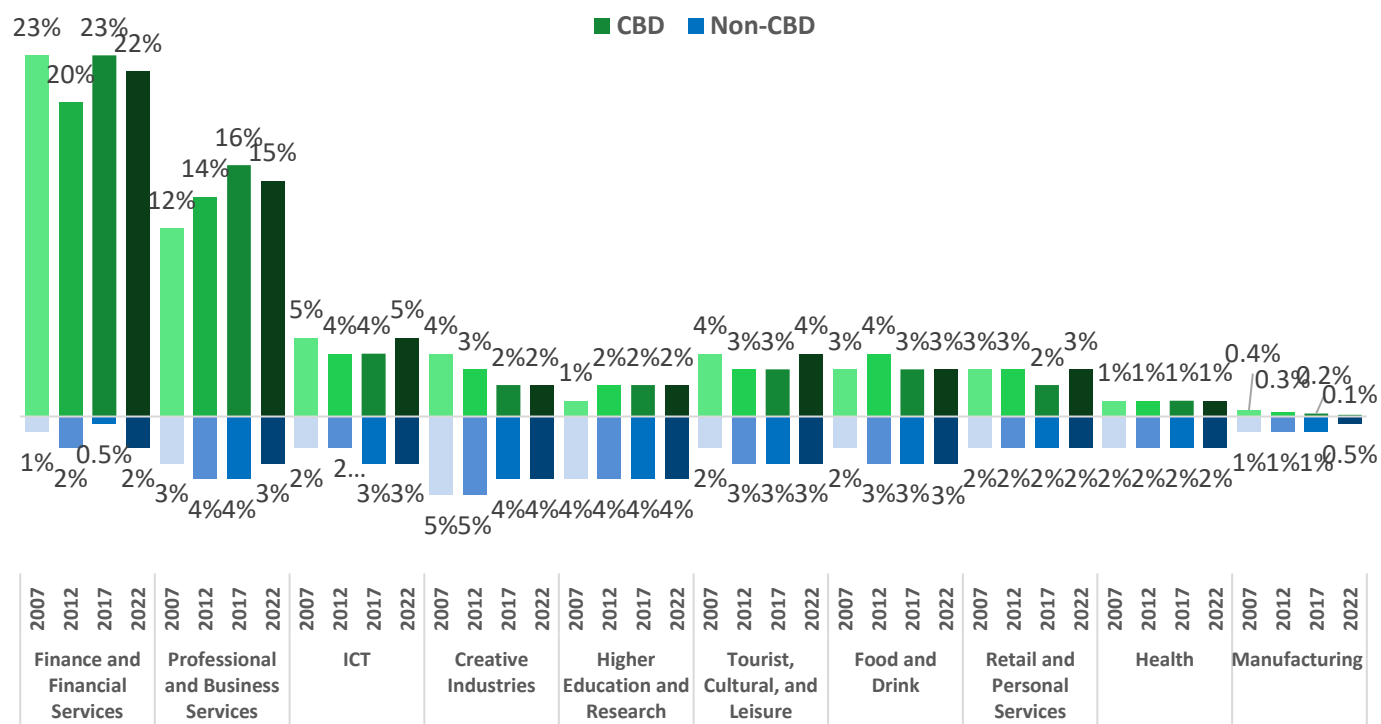
Employment by industry and location as proportions of total employment.[116]

Employment diversity

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of the workforce by location, as shown below.

This indicator has no targets and is monitored for information only.

	Workforce in CBD	Workforce outside CBD	Total
Baseline 2007	67%	33%	385,381
2012	64%	36%	435,769
2017	67%	33%	501,786
Latest update 2022	**67%**	**33%**	**519,839**

The chart shows industry sector breakdowns using Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification,[117] matched against sectors in our economic development strategy (2010).[118]

The number of workers in the local area has increased by 3.6% since 2017. Two thirds of the workforce are based in the CBD.

The chart shows greater employment diversity outside the CBD than in the CBD. Jobs outside CBD are more evenly distributed across industry sectors.

Finance and financial services in the CBD make up 8% of local area businesses (previous page), yet make up 22% of the local area workforce. This means a relatively small number of financial and business services organisations in the CBD employs a large proportion of the workforce.
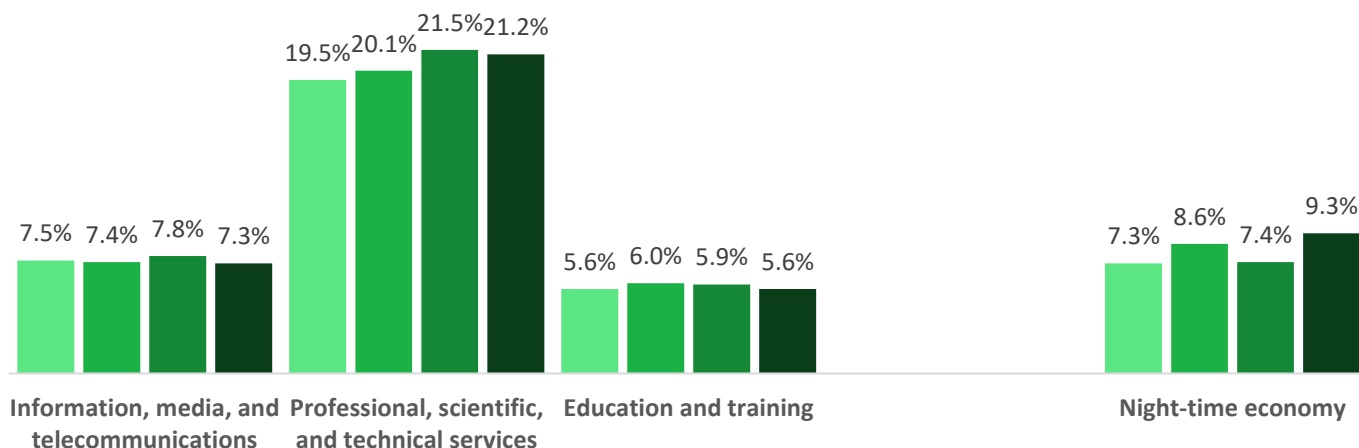
Overall, the proportion of workers in each industry sector remains consistent with 2017 results. Finance sector jobs dominate, followed by professional service jobs. Creative industries jobs have declined in the CBD and non-CBD since 2012, a possible sign that workers in this sector are moving farther afield (page 54).

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[116] City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Surveys data: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/surveyingour-community/floor-space-and-employment-survey. Updated every five years and released approximately 18 months later.
[117] Australian Bureau of Statistics Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC) (cat 1292.0); www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0
[118] City of Sydney Economic Development Strategy, 2010: https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/economic-development-strategy

■ 2007 ■ 2012 ■ 2017 ■ 2022

*Proportion of workers in the top three **knowledge industries** (a-c) **and** in the **night-time economy**.[119]*

Employment in target sectors:

Knowledge industries

There are 3 measures for this indicator: the proportion of the workforce employed in the three knowledge sectors identified in the 2010 State of Australian Cities report:

- information, media, and telecommunications

- professional, scientific, and technical services

- education and training

This indicator has no targets and is monitored for information only.

The table below shows proportions of workforce by <u>knowledge industries.</u>

	Baseline 2007	Latest update 2022
Information, media and telecommunications	7.5%	**7.3%**
Professional, scientific and technical services	19.5%	**21.2%**
Education and training	5.6%	**5.6%**

Employment (as proportion of the total workforce) has decreased marginally across all knowledge sectors. The latest update shows that the proportion of the total workforce in the information, media, and telecommunications sector is below baseline levels.

Night-time economy

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of the workforce employed in industries that contribute to the night-time economy. This would refer to industries in the Food, Drink and Entertainments groups of the 2006 ANZSIC Industry classification.[120]

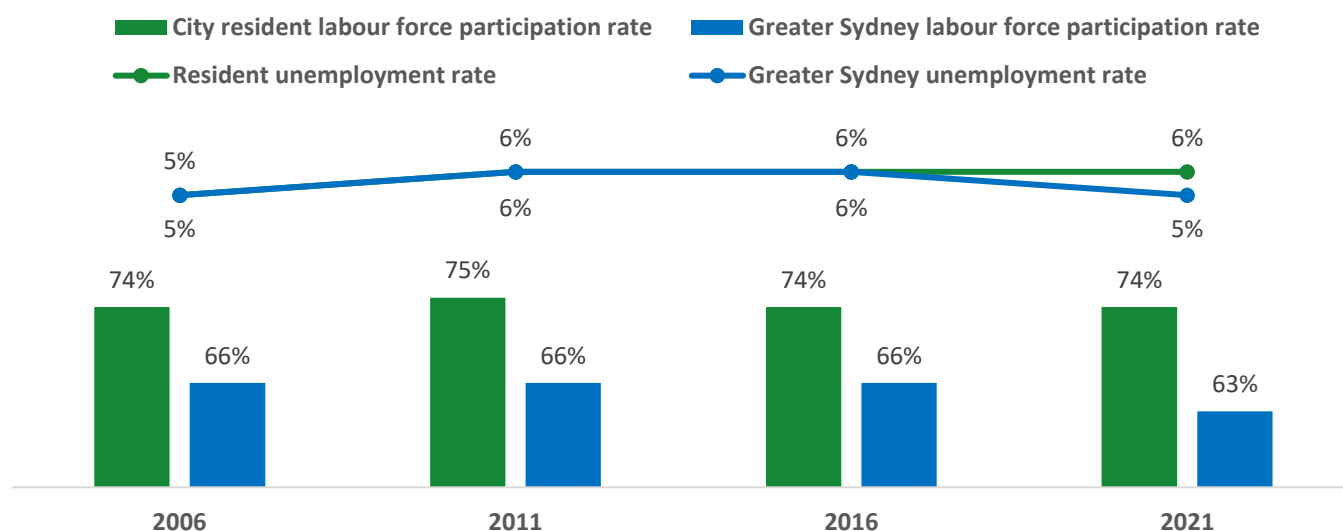This indicator has no targets and is monitored for information only.

The baseline (2007) is 7.3%.

The latest update (2022) is **9.3%**.

The proportion of workforce in the local area's night-time economy has increased, exceeding the baseline.

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[119] City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Surveys data: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/learn/research-and-statistics/surveyingour-community/floor-space-and-employment-survey. Updated every five years and released approximately 18 months later.
[120] Australian Bureau of Statistics Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC) (cat 1292.0); www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0

- City resident labour force participation rate
- Greater Sydney labour force participation rate
- Resident unemployment rate
- Greater Sydney unemployment rate

*City of Sydney resident **labour force participation** and **unemployment rates** compared to the Greater Sydney rates[121]*

Resident employment and education

Employment rate

This indicator has 2 measures:

- labour force participation and
- unemployment rates

for residents aged over 15.

There is no target for labour force participation: this measure is monitored for information only.

The target for the unemployment measure is to remain stable or trend downwards over time, and to remain below that of Greater Sydney.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2021
Labour force participation rate of residents aged over 15	74%	**74%**
Unemployment rate of residents aged over 15	5%	**6%**

Labour participation and unemployment in the local area remains unchanged. Labour participation has dropped for Greater Sydney in 2021, possibly affecting its unemployment rate.

The resident unemployment rate has stabilised at 6% since 2011. But as of 2021, it is higher than the Greater Sydney unemployment rate.

Local employment (not charted)

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of employed residents aged 15 and over, working in our area.[122]

The target is for the proportion of residents employed locally to trend upwards or remain stable.

The baseline (2006) is 60%.

The latest update (2021) is **63%**.

In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows the local employment rate stabilising.

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[121] City of Sydney calculations based on 2021 Census Community Profiles; Australian Bureau of Statistics: https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/1GSYD
City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and/ or employment and exclude not stated cases.
[122] City of Sydney calculations using the ABS Census TableBuilder Pro application: www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20TableBuilder
City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and employment and exclude not stated cases.
Census is conducted every five years and data released approximately 18 months later.

■ No non-school qualifications   ■ Certificate to Advanced Diploma level   ■ Bachelor's degree or higher
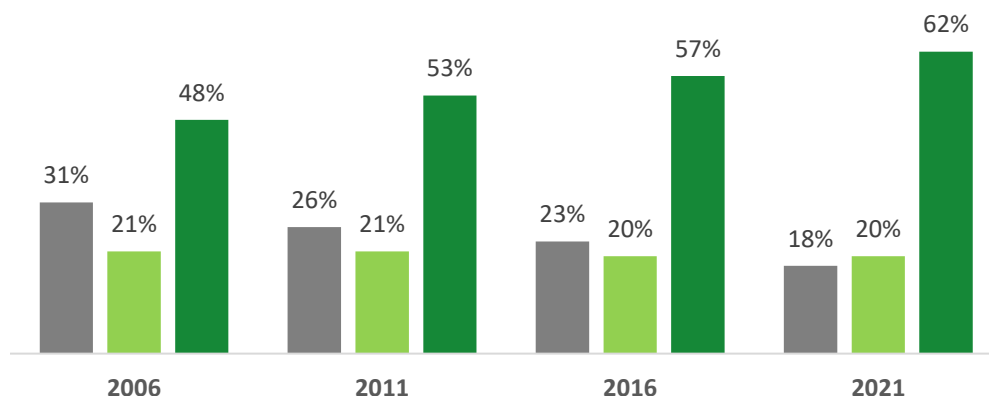
*Rate of highest **non-school qualification** held by residents[123]*

Educational qualifications

This indicator has 3 measures relating to the highest level of educational qualification held by residents aged 25 years or older, as shown below.

The target for this measure is for the proportion of residents holding non-school qualifications to remain stable or trend upwards over time.

| Highest education level	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2021	Result	
Any types of non-school qualification	69%	**82%**	▲	In line with the desired trend, the latest updates show an increase in residents with non-school qualifications since 2006.
Bachelor's degree or higher	48%	**62%**	▲	In particular, the proportion of residents with bachelor or higher degrees has increased between 2006 and 2021.
Certificate to advanced diploma level qualification	21%	**20%**	●	The proportion of residents holding certificate to advanced diploma level qualifications decreased marginally between 2006 and 2021. This may be explained by the increasing proportion of residents who have obtained higher education degrees.

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[123] City of Sydney calculations based on 2021 Census Community Profiles; Australian Bureau of Statistics: https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/1GSYD
City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and/ or employment and exclude 'not stated' cases.
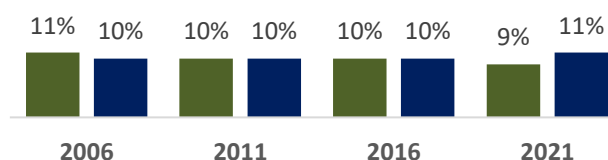
■ City of Sydney workers in highly skilled jobs
■ Greater Sydney workers in highly skilled jobs

■ City of Sydney workers upskilling
■ Greater Sydney workrs upskilling
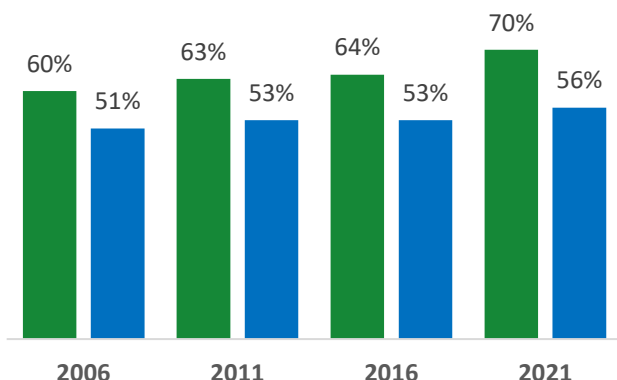
*Proportion of **workers in highly skilled occupations***

*Proportion of workers **upskilling**
via attendance **at tertiary institutions**[124]*

Workforce skills & productivity

Skilled and up-skilling workforce

The 2 measures for this indicator are the proportion of City workers who are residents or non-residents in highly skilled occupations[125] and upskilling via attendance at tertiary institutions.

The targets for this measure is for the proportion of both highly skilled and upskilling workers to remain stable or increase over time and remain consistently above Sydney metropolitan numbers.

	Baseline 2006	Latest update 2021
Highly skilled	60%	**70%**
Upskilling	11%	**9%**

▲ In line with the desired trend, the latest update shows an increase in the highly-skilled worker rate since 2006. The rate is also above that of Greater Sydney.

● There has been a decrease in workforce upskilling in the local area, and an increase in upskilling for the Greater Sydney area. In 2021, the local area upskilling rate is below that of Greater Sydney.

Travel time to work (not charted)

The 2 measures for this indicator are average commute times for residents commuting to work anywhere in the Sydney Metro area, and workers commuting from anywhere in the Sydney Metro area to workplaces in our area.[126]

The target for this measure is for average commute to work times to decrease over time.

	Baseline 2019	Latest update 2022
Residents	29 minutes	**28 minutes**

▲ In line with the desired trend, commuting to work times for local area residents has decreased slightly since the baseline (2019).

	Baseline 2007	Latest update 2022
Workers	44 minutes	**42 minutes**

▲ In line with the desired trend, the commute to work time for workers from anywhere in the Sydney Metro area to our area has decreased.

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[124] City of Sydney calculations using the ABS Census TableBuilder Pro application: www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20TableBuilder City of Sydney calculations count persons by place of residence and employment and exclude 'not stated' cases. Census is conducted every five years and data released approximately 18 months later.
[125] 'Highly skilled' workers are level of 1-3 in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) – i.e. Managers, Professionals, or Technicians and Trade workers.
[126] Household Travel Survey 2007/08 – 2015/16; Transport for NSW custom report for City of Sydney. Updated irregularly.

Local hotal arrivals (millions) ● **Metro hotel arrivals (millions)** ●

Hotel arrivals in the Sydney Metropolitan area and in the (approximate) City of Sydney area, each financial year.[127]

Tourism

Demand for tourist accommodation

There are 3 measures for this indicator, all relating to numbers of domestic and international visitors and their stay lengths at commercial accommodations:

- hotel arrivals in the Sydney Metropolitan area,
- hotel arrivals staying overnight locally,
- average hotel stay length (not charted).

The target for these measures is the demand for tourist accommodation to stay stable or trend upwards over time.

Hotel arrivals in the Sydney Metropolitan area:

	Baseline 2016	Latest update 2023
Sydney Metro hotel arrivals	7 million	**7.5 million**

○ The latest Sydney Metro visitor numbers are higher than in 2019/20, before Covid travel restrictions were introduced. But it is still lower than 2018/19 levels.
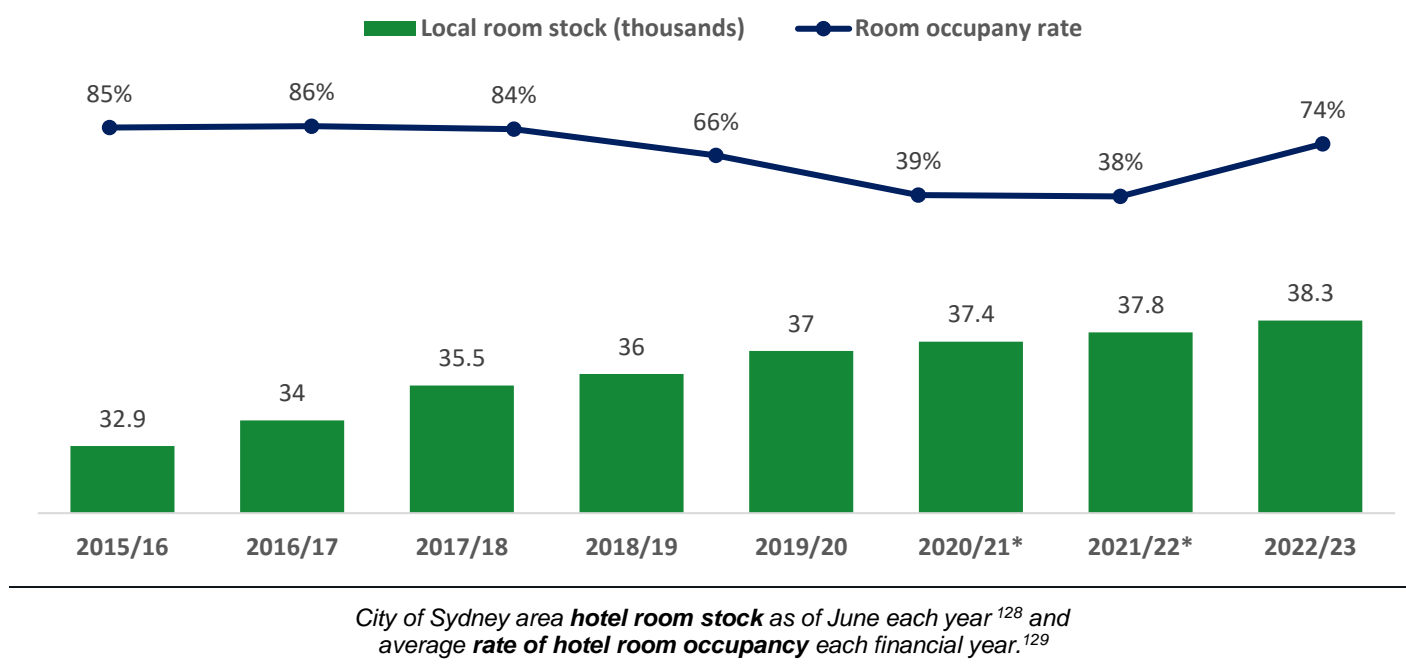
Hotel arrivals in the City of Sydney area:

	Baseline 2008	Latest update 2023
Hotel arrivals staying overnight locally	4.6 million	**5.6 million**
Average hotel stay length (not charted)	5.3 nights	**4.7 nights**

○ The number of visitors staying overnight in the local area is higher than in 2019/20, but not yet on par with 2018/19 figures. This is likely caused by the continued impact of Covid.

○ Contrary to the desired trend, the average length of hotel stay continues to be lower than the 2008 baseline.

*Visitor accommodation monitors were not produced in 2020/21 and 2021/22 due to Covid. Interstate and national border closures during this time may have affected domestic and international visitor numbers.

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[127] City of Sydney Visitor Accommodation Monitors, based on International and National Visitor Survey data, Tourism Research Australia; City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit; https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/city-monitor-reports
In lieu of local government area data (not available for this indicator), data from the SA2 ABS Statistical Areas that fall within City of Sydney boundaries have been presented here as estimates. Please note that the Domestic Visitor Survey switched to mobile phone interviews in 2019, which may affect estimates on growth rates.

Local room stock (thousands) — Room occupancy rate

*City of Sydney area **hotel room stock** as of June each year [128] and average **rate of hotel room occupancy** each financial year.[129]*

Supply and value of tourist accommodation

This indicator has 3 measures relating to the availability and value of hotel rooms, as shown below.

The target for this indicator is for hotel room stock[130] and nightly room takings to trend upwards over time, and for room occupancy to stay above 80%.

	Baseline 2016	Latest update 2023
Hotel room stock	32,888	**38,321**
Hotel room occupancy rate	85%	**74%**
Average takings per room	--	--

*Visitor accommodation monitors were not produced during 2020/21 and 2021/22 due to Covid.

In line with the desired trend, the hotel room stock has been trending upwards since 2016, even during Covid.

The latest hotel room occupancy rate has dropped below the desired target (80%). This is likely the result of Covid restrictions, combined with cost-of-living pressures serving as a deterrent for travel.

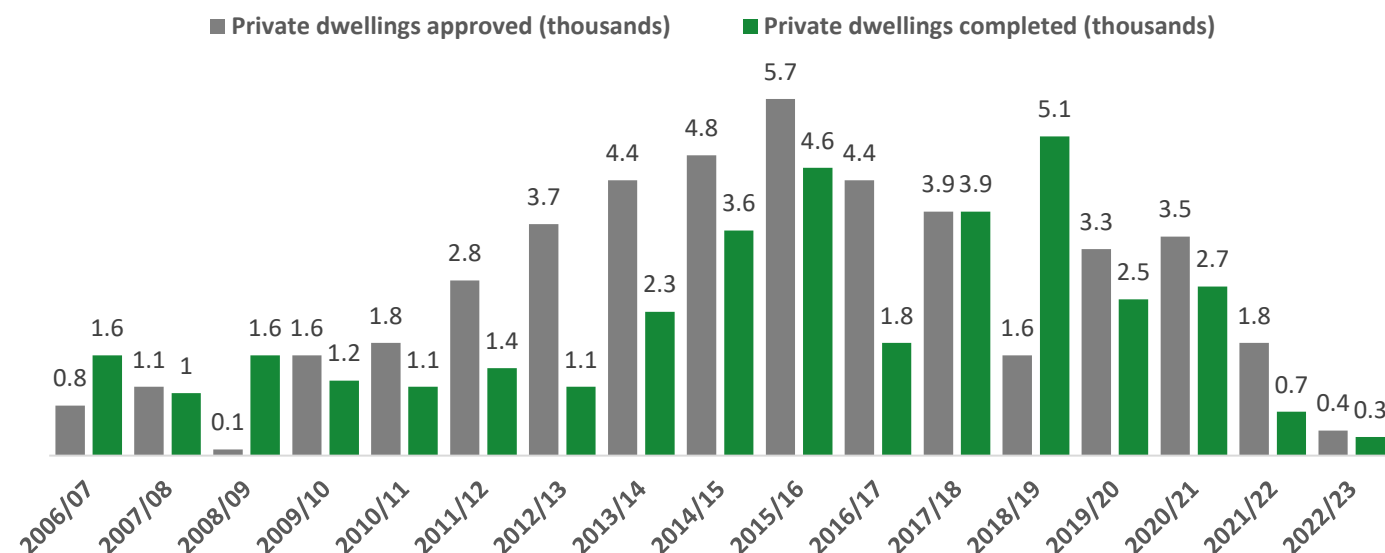There is no data available to measure hotel room takings per night.

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[128] City of Sydney Development Statistics Database; City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit. Updated continuously and subject to frequent retrospective correction.
[129] City of Sydney Visitor Accommodation Monitors, based on CBRE Research data; City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit; https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/city-monitor-reports
[130] Includes accommodation at hotels, pub rooms, serviced apartments, and backpacker beds.

■ Private dwellings approved (thousands) **■ Private dwellings completed (thousands)**

Residential development completions and approvals each financial year, in thousands.[131]

Property development

Residential development, number of dwellings

There are 2 measures for this indicator:

- annual number of private dwellings completed in our area, and

- annual number of private dwellings approved for development.

Private dwellings, as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), covers all housing except for boarding houses, student accommodation, and residential care services such as aged-care facilities. Private housing includes social housing, affordable rental housing, and privately owned or rented dwellings. This makes up roughly 89% of the city's total housing stock as of June 2023.*[132]

The target for this indicator is to reach a total of 138,000 private dwellings by 2030. As there were a total of 89,749 dwellings in the local area in 2007, an average of 2,200 dwellings each year will need to be completed to achieve this target.

	Baseline 2007	Latest update 2023
Number of private dwellings completed	1,572	**279**
Number of private dwellings approved	783	**404**

■ The number of private dwelling completions have dropped since 2021/22, possibly due to the continued impact of Covid, the increased cost of construction materials since 2021 due to supply constraints, and overall cost-of-living concerns. The necessary number of private dwelling completion each year, to reach the target of 138,000 dwellings by 2030, is not met.

■ Contrary to the desired trend, the number of approvals for private dwellings has declined, below the required number to support the required completions per year.

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[131] City of Sydney Development Statistics Database; City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit. Updated continuously and subject to frequent retrospective correction.
[132] There were 122,723 private dwellings and 15,861 non-private dwellings (primarily consisting of student accommodation rooms) in the City of Sydney area in June 2023.

■ **Floor space approved (m2, thousands)**   ■ **Floor space completed (m2, thousands)**
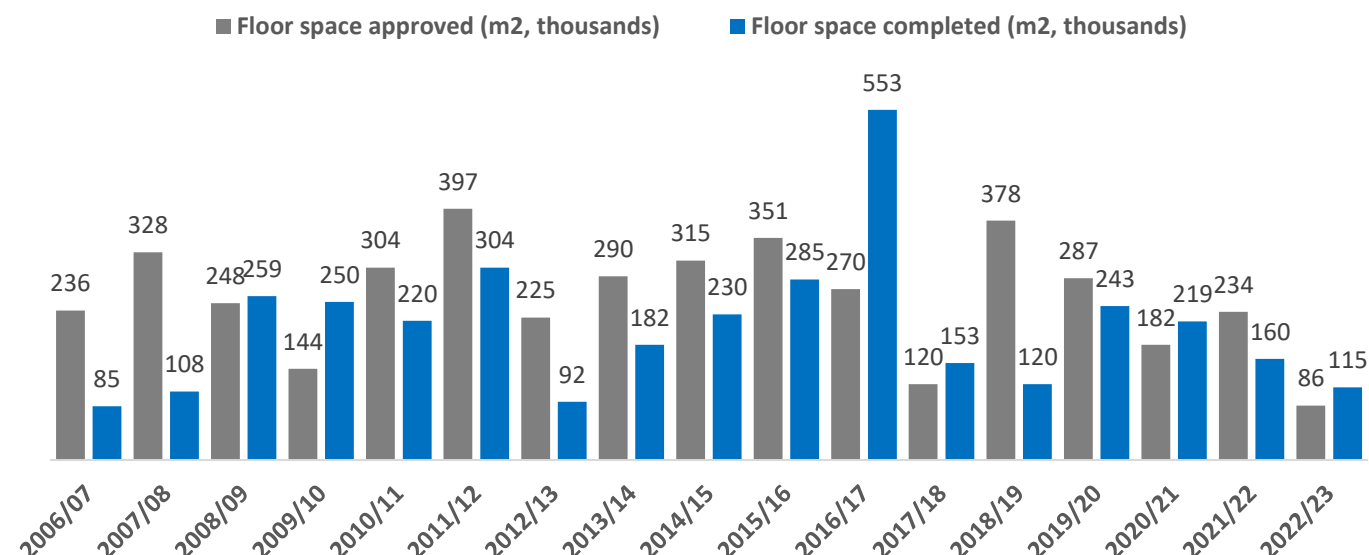
Commercial development completions and approvals *each financial year, in thousands of square metres.*[133]

Commercial development, floor space

There are 2 measures for this indicator:

- annual amount of floor space completed or substantially re-furbished, and

- annual amount of floor space approved for development or substantial refurbishment.

Commercial projects included in these measures are office, retail, entertainment/ leisure and other employment generating projects that fall into one of the following categories:

- new commercial developments

- refurbishments costing over $10 million

- additions and conversions where floor space is 1,000 square metres or more and cost is over $1 million.

Floor area presented excludes visitor accommodation.

This indicator has no target and is monitored for information only.

	Baseline FY 2007	Latest update FY 2023
Floor space completed (in square meters)	85,941	**114,729**
Floor space approved (in square meters)	165,939	**88,585**

Covid supply chain disruptions and restrictions such as having lower worker densities and mandatory isolation after exposure to the virus may have had an impact on the development of commercial floor space in the local area, resulting with lower-than-expected completion rates. These impacts are likely to lessen over time.

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[133] City of Sydney Development Statistics Database; City of Sydney Strategy and Urban Analytics Unit. Updated continuously and subject to frequent retrospective correction.

■ Residential applications ($, billions)

■ Non-residential applications ($, billions)

Applications total ($, billions)

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Total	$1.9	$2.0	$3.1	$3.3	$3.6	$3.0	$5.4	$4.0	$3.8	$2.9	$4.2	$1.8	$4.1	$1.4
Non-residential	$0.8	$0.9	$0.8	$1.2	$0.8	$0.9	$1.7	$1.6	$2.4	$2.3	$2.8	$1.0	$3.6	$1.2
Residential	$1.0	$1.1	$2.3	$2.1	$2.8	$2.1	$3.7	$2.4	$1.4	$0.5	$1.4	$0.7	$0.5	$0.2
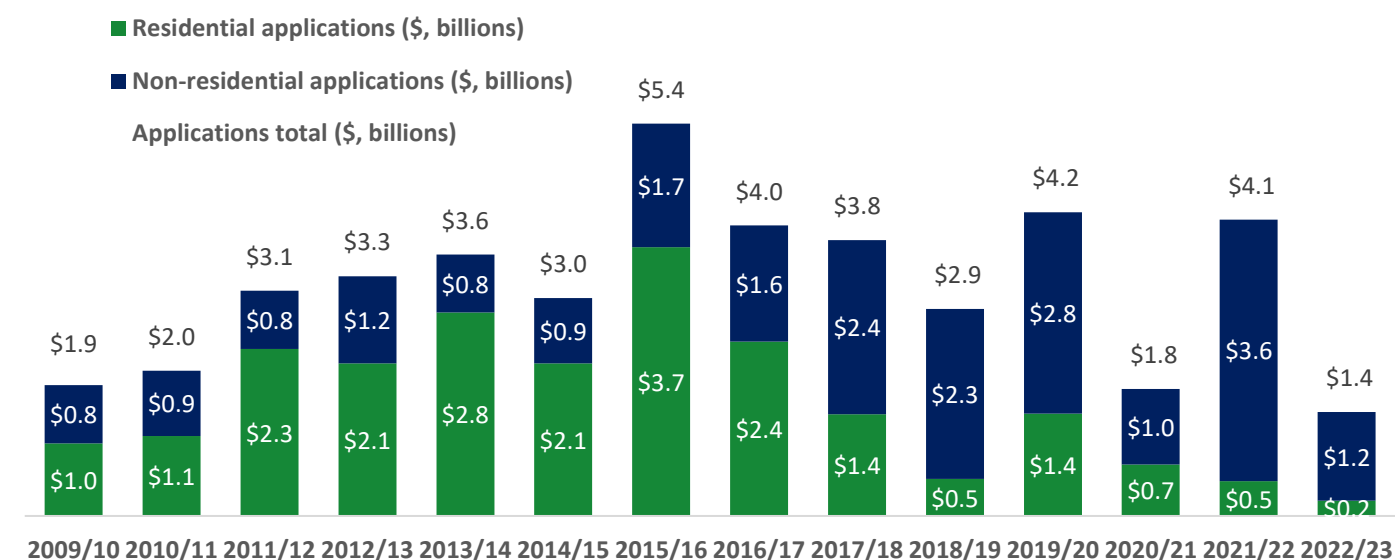
*Billions of dollars **value of approvals for residential developments
and non-residential developments**, and in total (includes hotels) each financial year.[134]*

Property development value

There are 2 measures for this indicator, looking at property development value relating to residential and non- residential development applications. These are applications that have been lodged, not necessarily completed.

This indicator has no target and is monitored for information only.

	Baseline 2010	Latest update 2023
Total value of residential applications	$1.0 billions	**$0.2 billions**
Total value of non-residential applications	$0.8 billions	**$1.2 billions**

In the time series, the value of residential development applications has exceeded the value of non-residential applications. This trend was not reversed until 2017/18. Since then, the value of non-residential development applications has been higher than residential development applications.

Residential development application values dropped in 2018/19, and again from 2020/21 onwards. The latter decline is likely the result of Covid restrictions and rising interest rates.

Non-residential development application values have also decreased in 2020/21 during Covid. Values increased in 2021/22, possibly because more applications were being lodged when lockdowns were gradually being eased.

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[134] City of Sydney Development Assessments Data; City of Sydney Planning Assessments Unit. Updated continuously and subject to frequent retrospective correction.

Office vacancy rate

9.6% 6.8% 4.0% 6.6% 8.3% 8.8% 8.9% 8.1% 8.7% 6.9% 6.0% 6.1% 4.7% 3.9% 4.8% 8.9% 9.7% 11.6%

2005/06 2006/07 2007/08 2008/09 2009/10 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 2017/18 2018/19 2019/20 2020/21 2021/22 2022/23*
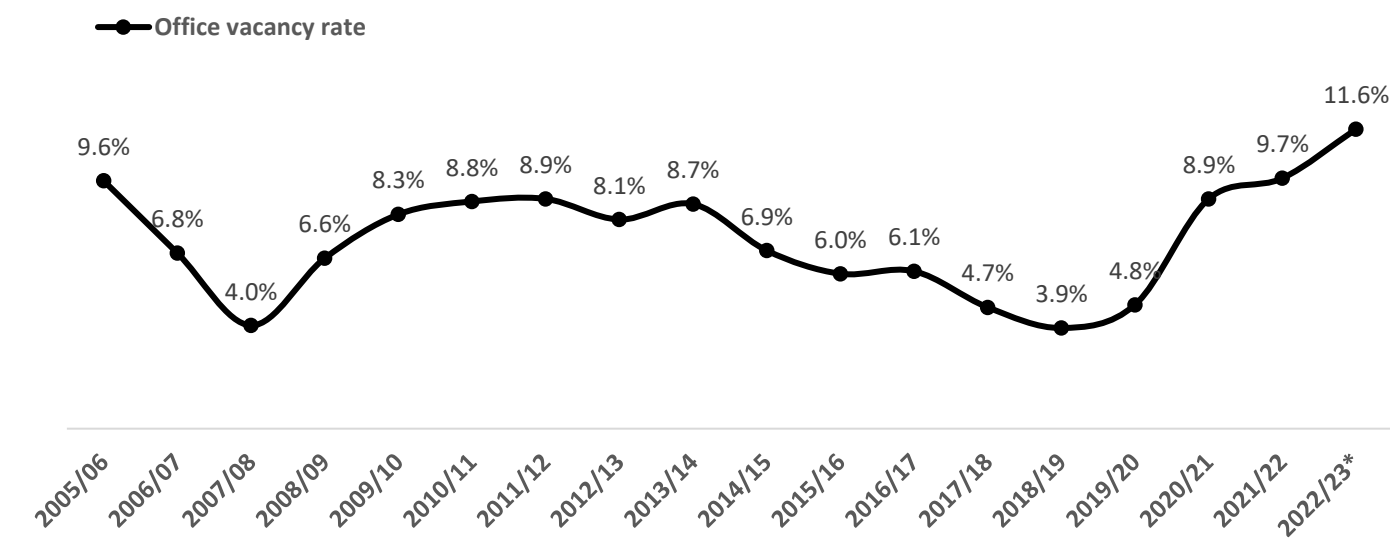
Office vacancy rate (average) each financial year.[135]

Office vacancy rate

The measure for this indicator is the proportion of commercial office space in the CBD that is vacant.

There are no targets for this indicator: it is monitored for information only.

The baseline (2006) is 9.6%.

The latest update (2023) is **11.6%.**

The chart above shows that the office vacancy rate has stabilized between 2009/10 and 2013/14, after which it has been steadily trending downwards. But due to Covid restrictions and stay-at-home orders, office vacancy rates increased in 2020/21, to levels significantly higher than the vacancy rate observed in the previous financial year.

The office vacancy rate has continued to rise since 2020/21 and the latest vacancy rate is higher than the baseline.

This increase in vacancy rates may be due to multiple factors. Office supply may have continued to increase even during Covid, yet demand has dropped. Demand also varies by office space quality, with businesses increasingly preferring high-quality premium offices, leaving low-quality older spaces vacant.[136] And although Covid restrictions have been lifted in 2022, there has been a shift towards flexible and remote working, which may see vacancy rates persist at a level higher than the pre-Covid period.

*The 2022/23 vacancy rate has been calculated as a preliminary estimate.

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[135] City of Sydney estimations based on Office Market Report; Property Council of Australia: https://www.propertycouncil.com.au/news-research/research/office-market-report
[136] Press Release, Property Council of Australia, 1 February 2024: https://www.propertycouncil.com.au/media-releases/office-supply-pushes-vacancy-rate-upwards-but-high-quality-office-space-proves-popular

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Summary

Our floorspace and employment survey, development statistics data, ABS Census and other sources help chart how well our economy and workforce are progressing.

All indicators in this domain are categorised as either influence or concern areas in the control-influence- concern model.

There 32 measures monitored in this section of the report. Of the 21 measures for which there are targets or desired trends, 9 are on target. Our area's economic growth, the educational qualifications of residents, and having a highly skilled workforce, are all tracking as desired.

Progress has stalled for resident unemployment rates, and the proportion of local area workforce involved in upskilling.

Due to the Covid pandemic restrictions and the rising cost of construction, hotel arrivals, hotel room occupancy rates, and the completion of new dwellings are still recovering or have slowed.

Dynamic resilient local economies summary

	Target or trend met	Progressing or pending further updates	Not met	Information only, no target
Control	-	-	-	-
Influence	5	4	1	3
Concern	4	3	3	9
Total	9	7	4	12

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138 Photo credit: Katherine Griffiths/ city of Sydney (Glebe Point Road, November 2022).

Results table D1: Economic prosperity, competitiveness and diversity

Measure	Year/ Geo*	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Economic prosperity and competitiveness						
Global competitiveness	2023** *G.SYD.*	**18**	Overall ranking out of 30 global cities	Stable or increasing	🟥	Concern
City economic growth City estimates	2023	**$141.7**	Gross Regional Product in $millions, in 2016 real volume	Exceed AU GDP growth***	🔺	Influence
Employment growth	2022	**519,839**	people in the workforce	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Economic diversity						
Business location diversity	2022	**53%**	of LGA businesses are in the CBD	N/A		Influence
Employment location diversity	2022	**67%**	of the LGA jobs are in the CBD	N/A		Influence
Employment in night-time economy	2022	**9.3%**	of total LGA workforce	N/A		Influence
Employment in knowledge industries Information, media and telecommunications	2022	**7.3%**	of total LGA workforce	N/A		Concern
Employment in knowledge industries Professional, scientific & technical services	2022	**21.2%**	of total LGA workforce	N/A		Concern
Employment in knowledge industries Education and training	2022	**5.6%**	of total LGA workforce	N/A		Concern

*Indicated if data presented is based on a different geography than the LGA.

**Rankings before 2016 were based on PriceWaterhouseCooper's Cities of Opportunity index. From 2016 onwards, rankings are based on Kearney's Global Cities Index.

***Based on 10-year average annual growth.

Results table D2: Education, employment, skills and productivity

Measure	Year	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Resident employment and education						
Resident labour force participation rate	2021	**74%**	of 15+ y.o. are in the labour force	N/A	🟠	Concern
Resident unemployment rate	2021	**6%**	of 15+ y.o. are unemployed	Stable or decreasing	🟠	Concern
Local employment of residents	2021	**63%**	of 15+ y.o. employed residents work in the LGA	Stable or increasing	🔺	Concern
Educational qualifications: Non-school qualifications Total	2021	**82%**	of 25+ y.o. residents	Stable or increasing	🔺	Concern
Educational qualifications: Bachelors degree or higher	2021	**62%**	of 25+ y.o. residents	Stable or increasing	🔺	Concern
Educational qualifications: Certificate to Advanced Dip.	2021	**20%**	of 25+ y.o. residents	Stable or increasing	🟠	Concern
Workforce skills & productivity						
Highly skilled workforce	2021	**70%**	of workers are in highly skilled occupations	Stable or incr. > Metro	🔺	Concern
Upskilling workforce	2021	**9%**	of workers (residents and non-residents) are attending tertiary institution	Stable or incr. > Metro	🟠	Concern
Commute to work time: Resident workers			No data	Decreasing	🔺	Influence
Commute to work time: All workers	2016	**47**	minutes, to LGA from anywhere in Sydney Metro	Decreasing	🔺	Influence

Results table D3: Tourism

Measure	Year/ Geo*	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Demand for tourist accommodation						
Hotel arrivals in the Sydney metropolitan area	2023 *Metro*	**7.5**	million	Stable or increasing	🟡	Influence
Hotel arrivals staying overnight in City of Sydney	2023	**5.6**	million	Stable or increasing	🟡	Influence
Average hotel stay length in City of Sydney	2023	**4.7**	nights	Stable or increasing	🟡	Influence
Supply for tourist accommodation						
Room stock	2023	**38,321**	rooms Hotel, pub, serviced apts, backpacker beds	Increasing	🔺	Influence
Hotel room occupancy rate	2023	**74%**	of stock	≥ 80%	🟥	Influence
Average takings per room per night			No data	Increasing	🟡	Influence

*Indicated if data presented is based on a different geography than the LGA.

Results table D4: Property development

Measure	Year	Result	Detail	Target		CoS Charter
Residential development dwelling numbers*						
Dwellings completed	2023	**279**	dwellings	Stable or increasing**		Concern
Dwellings approved	2023	**404**	dwellings	Stable or increasing**		Concern
Commercial development floor spa ce						
Floor space completed	2023	**114,729**	metres2	N/A		Concern
Floor space approved	2023	**88,585**	metres2	N/A		Concern
Property development value						
Value of approvals: Residential applications	2018	**$1.4**	billion	N/A		Concern
Value of approvals: Non-residential applications	2018	**$2.4**	billion	N/A		Concern
Office vacancy rate						
Office vacancy rate	2023	**11.6%**		N/A		Concern

*Numbers shown are for private dwellings (i.e. excludes boarding houses, student accommodation and aged care).

**To reach the target of 138,000 dwellings by 2030. 2,200 dwellings on average p.a. need to be completed to achieve that target.