

NEW SOUTH WALES

IN BRIEF



1988



NEW SOUTH WALES

New South Wales is one of six federated States which, together with the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory, constitute the Commonwealth of Australia. Within the State there are three levels of government — the Commonwealth Government with specific powers derived from a written constitution, the State Government with residual powers and local government authorities with powers based upon a State Act of Parliament.

The area of the State is 801,600 square kilometres and at 30 June 1987 the estimated resident population was 5,605,300. Despite its large area, N.S.W. has a highly urbanised society with approximately 74 per cent of the population living in population centres of 20,000 persons or more (including approximately 55 per cent in Sydney, the State capital, 5 per cent in Newcastle and 4 per cent in Wollongong). A wide range of manufacturing and agricultural activity is undertaken throughout the State. The major part of the employed labour force is in wholesale and retail trade (19 per cent), community services (16), and manufacturing (15), with only about 5 per cent being employed in agriculture.

Natural features divide the State into four main zones extending from north to south — the coastal zone (varying in width from 80 kilometres in the north to 30 kilometres in the south), the tablelands, the western slopes of the tablelands, and the western plains (which occupy nearly two-thirds of the area of the State).

The State is situated entirely within the temperate zone, its climate being generally mild and mostly free from extremes of heat and cold. The range of mean temperatures between the hottest and coldest months in Sydney is less than 11°C. Rainfall varies widely over the State, gradually diminishing from an annual average of about 2,000 millimetres in parts of the north coast to about 200 millimetres in the far north-west.

Population	Unit	1985	1986	1987
Estimated resident population, 30 June	'000	5,464.5	5,531.5	5,605.3
Persons counted at the Census, 30 June	'000	4,777.1	5,126.2	5,401.9
Age groups (proportion of population) —	percent			
Under 6 years		10.6	9.1	9.1
6-14 years		15.7	15.4	14.0
15-17 years		8.4	8.9	5.0
18-64 years		59.1	60.5	61.0
65 years or more		9.2	10.1	11.0
Country of birth (proportion of population) —				
Australia		80.7	79.7	77.8
Overseas		19.3	20.3	22.4
Distribution (proportion of population) —				
Rural		11.1	11.8	12.0
Urban		88.7	88.2	87.9
Persons in major urban centres —	'000			
Sydney		2,765.2	2,876.5	2,989.1
Newcastle		251.1	259.0	255.8
Wollongong		197.1	206.7	206.8
Central Coast		101.8	139.3	162.7
Maitland		38.0	38.9	43.2
Wagga Wagga		33.0	36.8	37.6
Albury-Wodonga (part in N.S.W.)		32.0	35.1	37.2
Tamworth		27.3	29.7	30.7
Orange		26.3	27.6	28.9
Dubbo		20.1	24.0	25.8
Lismore		22.1	24.0	24.9
Broken Hill		27.6	26.9	24.5
Goulburn		21.7	21.8	21.8

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Vital Statistics	Unit	1977	1986	1987
Births	No.	77,998	84,531	86,060
Rate per 1,000 est. resident population, 30 June		15.6	15.3	15.4
Deaths	"	40,380	42,167	42,136
Rate per 1,000 est. resident population, 30 June		8.1	7.6	7.5
Marriages	"	36,159	41,319	40,650
Rate per 1,000 est. resident population, 30 June		7.2	7.5	7.3
Divorces	"	15,781	11,661	12,044
Rate per 1,000 est. resident population, 30 June		3.2	2.1	2.1
Life expectancy at birth		1976	1985	1983
Males	years	69.0	72.1	72.5
Females		76.2	78.7	78.8
Deaths per 100,000 mean estimated resident population	No.	857	809	762
Diseases of the heart	"	313	272	256
Malignant neoplasms	"	155	185	188
Cerebrovascular disease	"	122	98	88

Social Welfare		1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
Age and invalid (incl. wife/carer) pension payments *	\$m	1,134.2	2,730.3	2,967.5
Age (incl. wife/carer) pensioners at 30 June	'000	451.2	489.0	487.9
Invalid (incl. wife/carer) pensioners at 30 June	"	99.8	120.5	128.6
Widow's pension payments *	\$m	141.3	331.0	340.3
Widow pensioners at 30 June	'000	52.4	55.2	53.7
Supporting parents' benefit payments *	\$m	56.2	477.8	525.4
Number at 30 June	'000	17.8	68.0	66.4
Family allowance payments *	\$m	336.1	550.4	496.8
Children and students covered at 30 June	'000	1,474.4	1,426.7	1,402.4
Unemployment benefits paid *	\$m	285.2	1,236.4	1,326.1
Number receiving benefit at 30 June	'000	108.8	214.6	203.3
Veterans' disability and service pension payments *	\$m	225.9	902.2	967.5
Pensioners at 30 June *	'000	227.8	279.2	267.9

Health		1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
Public hospitals, 30 June	No.	285	258	256
Beds, 30 June	"	28,987	26,531	26,069
Daily average bed occupancy	"	21,318	18,686	18,726
In-patients treated (excl. newly-born babies)	'000	854.8	886.0	912.9
		1976	1985	1986
Medical practitioners — Census count, 30 June	No.	7,739	10,324	12,281
Persons per medical practitioner	"	617	497	441
Dentists — Census count, 30 June	"	1,603	2,018	2,273
Persons per dentist	"	2,980	2,540	2,377

Education		1977	1986	1987
Schools	No.	3,000	3,081	3,062
Government	"	2,223	2,233	2,210
Non-government	"	777	848	852
Teachers	'000	55.0	63.3	63.9
Students	"	1,029.2	1,026.1	1,031.0
Primary	per cent	61.5	56.4	56.0
Secondary	"	38.5	43.6	43.8
Government	"	78.7	73.2	73.2
Non-government	"	21.3	26.4	26.6
Universities, students enrolled, April	No.	61,640	68,933	67,561
Advanced education courses, students enrolled, April	"	32,702	57,580	59,643
		1976	1985	1986
Technical, etc. colleges, total enrolments	"	228,738	391,721	402,572

(* Includes A.C.T.)

	Unit	Sydney	Bal. of N.S.W.	N.S.W.		Unit	1975-77	1985-88	1988-87
Average Weekly Household Expenditure, 1984									
Current housing costs (selected dwelling)	\$	60.79	36.86	62.06	Transport				
Fuel and power	"	9.62	10.01	9.78	State Government railways —				
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	"	76.85	68.68	73.14	Earnings	\$m	351.8	1,062.4	1,121.2
Alcoholic beverages	"	13.90	11.80	13.13	Working expenses	"	551.3	1,476.4	1,473.0
Tobacco	"	5.93	5.15	5.65	Excess of earnings over working expenses	"	(-1199.6)	(-1394.0)	(-1352.7)
Clothing and footwear	"	28.89	21.70	26.26	Passenger journeys	mil.	184.4	218.6	224.1
Household furnishings and equipment	"	28.33	28.74	28.65	Goods and livestock carried	'000 tonnes	33,777	53,449	64,747
Household services and operation	"	16.73	15.27	16.20	Road transport —				
Medical care and health expenses	"	14.52	13.28	14.07	New motor vehicles registered	'000	212.2	227.5	172.6
Transport	"	57.01	57.58	57.22	Cars and station wagons	"	152.1	161.6	129.7
Recreation	"	45.90	36.15	42.34	Utilities and panel vans	"	29.1	33.2	21.1
Personal care	"	7.29	5.77	6.74	Trucks and truck-type vehicles	"	14.1	13.1	9.7
Miscellaneous commodities and services	"	30.61	23.21	27.91	Buses	"	1.0	7.8	4.1
Total commodity or service expenditure	"	398.37	333.22	373.31	Motor cycles	"	16.8	11.7	8.0
Labour		1977	1986	1987	Motor vehicles on the register at 30 June	"	2,252.5	3,023.6	3,023.0
Labour force status (November survey) —					Cars and station wagons	"	1,752.1	2,257.8	2,266.5
Civilian population aged 15 and over	'000	3,678.2	4,298.9	4,376.3	Utilities and panel vans	"	251.2	391.3	391.6
Not in the labour force	"	1,455.3	1,695.2	1,721.1	Trucks and truck-type vehicles	"	141.5	202.2	201.1
Total labour force	"	2,222.9	2,591.7	2,655.2	Buses	"	11.8	48.1	51.7
Employed persons	"	2,101.3	2,379.7	2,447.0	Motor cycles	"	95.8	124.3	112.0
Males	per cent	64.4	60.6	60.2	Drivers' and riders' licences at 30 June	"	2,722.2	3,516.9	3,589.8
Females	"	35.6	39.4	39.8	Road accident casualties —				
Unemployed persons	'000	119.5	212.1	208.2	Killed	No.	1,279	1,115	960
Males	per cent	55.2	62.2	57.1	Per 10,000 estimated mean resident population	"	2.5	2.0	1.7
Females	"	44.8	37.8	42.9	Injured	"	n.c.	9,485	n.y.a.
Unemployment rate	"	5.4	8.2	7.8	Per 10,000 estimated mean resident population	"	n.c.	17.3	n.y.a.
Males	"	4.7	8.4	7.5					
Females	"	6.7	7.9	8.4					
Industry of employed persons —									
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	per cent	5.5	5.0	4.7	Agriculture				
Manufacturing	"	22.4	17.1	17.2	Area of establishments with agriculture, 31 March	'000 ha	59,550	60,034	60,804
Construction	"	7.3	6.6	6.6	Number of establishments at 31 March	No.	35,798	36,880	37,355
Wholesale and retail trade	"	19.7	20.8	20.5	Growing wheat	"	14,804	14,571	13,169
Transport and storage	"	5.7	6.1	6.0	With sheep and lambs	"	21,552	22,174	21,790
Finance, etc.	"	8.9	11.6	11.4	With milk cattle	"	3,407	3,258	3,111
Community services	"	14.8	16.9	16.8	With meat cattle	"	21,331	22,258	22,207
Other industries	"	15.8	16.1	17.1	Production of selected crops —				
Working days lost in industrial disputes	'000	1,456.5	398.7	598.8	Wheat for grain	'000 tonnes	5,589	5,988	4,855
Index of weighted average minimum weekly award rates of adult male wage and salary earners, December		1984	1985	1986	Oats for grain	"	394	531	735
Earnings, average weekly of all male employees, September quarter	\$	412.00	452.80	458.60	Barley for grain	"	307	312	614
Building		1976-77	1985-86	1986-87	Sorghum for grain	"	315	296	392
New residential buildings approved	'000	36.8	37.2	31.8	Rice	"	845	701	588
New residential buildings commenced	"	37.0	35.4	30.7	Sugarcane (for crushing)	"	1,507	1,342	1,276
New residential buildings completed	"	35.9	37.4	30.7	Cotton (seed cotton)	mil. kg	534	542	499
Houses	per cent	73.5	75.9	71.3	Wool production (greasy — shorn and crutched)	"	217	223	230
Other residential buildings	"	26.5	24.1	28.7	Whole milk	mil. litres	940	904	914
Value of all building completed	\$m	1,781.2	4,723.3	4,539.2	Number of livestock at 31 March —				
New residential buildings	"	858.6	2,101.8	1,839.2	Milk cattle	'000	420	410	405
Alterations and additions to residential buildings	"	96.0	407.0	434.2	Meat cattle	"	4,067	4,362	4,445
Loans approved to individuals for housing	"	1,752	4,118	4,544	Sheep	"	49,621	51,498	52,192
					Pigs	"	794	782	830

(n.c. not comparable with later years) (n.y.a. not yet available)

Mining and Energy	Unit	1975-76	1984-85	1985-86
Employment in mining establishments (average over year)	No.	24,892	26,325	26,649
Value added in mining establishments	\$m	734.2	1,709.4	2,155.0
Value of minerals produced	"	976.8	2,683.6	3,030.8
Coal	"	631.7	1,948.6	2,299.6
Metallic minerals	"	210.8	384.7	348.9
Construction materials	"	89.1	287.1	316.2
Other non-metallic minerals	"	45.2	63.2	66.1
Black coal production	'000 tonnes	1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
Electricity generated	mill. kWh	45,986	77,186	88,507
Gas (available for issue through mains)	mill. MJ	31,793	47,136	47,960
		14,689	92,532	93,689
Manufacturing		1974-75	1983-84	1984-85
Employment (average over whole year)	'000	478.2	363.3	364.8
Value added	\$m	5,899.5	12,713.4	14,059.8
Basic metal products	per cent	15.3	12.8	13.2
Fabricated metal products, transport equip. and other machinery and equipment	"	31.7	28.8	28.7
Food, beverages and tobacco	"	13.0	16.2	15.5
Chemical, petroleum and coal products	"	10.1	12.0	11.6
Paper, paper products, printing and publishing	"	8.8	10.0	10.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	"	6.3	5.6	5.7
Wood, wood products and furniture	"	4.8	5.1	5.1
Non-metallic mineral products	"	4.9	4.5	4.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	"	5.2	5.0	5.1
Output of selected products —		1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
Beef and veal	'000 tonnes	598.3	318.9	362.0
Mutton and lamb	"	164.1	171.4	173.0
Butter	tonnes	6,014	1,220	829
Cheese	"	9683	13,048	13,411
Ice cream	'000 litres	75,223	72,817	74,225
White flour	tonnes	491,357	532,511	547,758
Confectionery	"	38,086	33,288	36,644
Aerated waters	'000 litres	363,973	379,225	385,908
Raw steel	'000 tonnes	6,441	5,607	5,080
Timber sawn (Australian grown)	'000 cu m	943	952	917
Clay bricks	mil.	655.4	746.6	698.9
Ready mixed concrete	'000 cu m	2,850	4,587	4,492
Woven cloth (all types)	'000 sq m	57,553	83,250	84,755
Synthetic resins	tonnes	190,827	242,674	245,655
External Trade		1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
Value of overseas imports into N.S.W.	\$m	4,278.5	15,150.9	16,131.2
Food, live animals, beverages and tobacco	per cent	6.3	5.3	5.9
Mineral fuels, lubricants, etc.	"	5.5	4.0	3.3
Chemicals and related products	"	10.2	9.1	8.9
Machinery and transport equipment	"	36.1	43.2	41.4
Value of overseas exports of N.S.W. origin	\$m	2,718.4	7,363.2	8,359.5
Meat and meat preparations	per cent	5.6	3.9	5.6
Wheat and other cereals	"	14.4	11.4	7.0
Wool and other textile fibres	"	14.0	14.3	14.8
Coal, coke and briquettes	"	19.7	28.6	26.3
Iron and steel	"	10.7	4.0	3.4

Retail Trade	Unit	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Retail sales of goods (excl. motor vehicles)	\$m	16,867.7	18,641.4	20,170.5
Grocers, confectioners and tobacconists	"	4,515.7	5,078.9	5,566.7
Butchers	"	639.7	753.1	812.2
Other food stores	"	1,162.9	1,315.7	1,403.6
Department and general stores	"	2,384.7	2,618.5	2,824.4
Hotels, liquor stores and licensed clubs	"	2,037.0	2,198.5	2,363.8
Clothing, fabric and footwear stores	"	1,862.2	2,095.7	2,156.1
Domestic hardware stores and jewellers	"	438.3	526.5	564.6
Electrical goods stores	"	823.9	883.7	923.2
Furniture and floor coverings stores	"	818.1	874.6	893.5
Chemists	"	810.4	855.9	873.4
Newspapers	"	695.6	746.4	837.7
Other	"	679.1	873.0	1,075.0

Tourist Accommodation		1978-79	1985-86	1986-87
Hotels and motels, etc. with facilities at 30 June	No.	1,125	1,447	1,489
Hotels	"	251	263	242
Motels	"	874	1,184	1,247
Takings from accommodation	\$m	157.1	429.6	516.0
Hotels	"	43.8	148.8	198.0
Motels	"	113.3	280.8	318.0
Number of guest rooms at 30 June	No.	28,263	39,073	40,773
Hotels	"	7,262	9,848	10,026
Motels	"	21,001	29,225	30,743
Caravan parks, short-term, at 30 June (incl. A.C.T.)	No.	506	589	596
Capacity, total caravan sites, cabins, flats, etc.	"	65,188	78,329	75,611

Prices		1977	1986	1987
Average retail prices of food, Sydney, December Qr —				
Milk, bottled, delivered (2 x 600 ml)	cents	51	92	96
Butter (500 g)	"	92	168	180
Bread, white loaf, sliced (680 g)	"	51	109	113
Flour, self-raising (1 kg/2 kg)	"	43	184	212
Beef, steak, rump (2 lb/1 kg)	"	290	853	871
Lamb, leg (2 lb/1 kg)	"	194	430	437
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	"	109	228	224
Potatoes (2 lb/1 kg)	"	25	99	76
Eggs (55 g, 1 doz.)	"	101	154	159
Sugar, white (2 kg pkt)	"	61	158	158
Tea (250 g pkt)	"	102	142	143
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)	"	n.a.	54.9	55.4

Consumer Price Index, Sydney, December quarter —				
All groups	Base: 1980-81=100.0	77.0	160.1	171.8
Food	"	69.7	153.7	159.9
Clothing	"	81.1	151.9	162.7
Housing	"	74.7	156.9	171.9
Household equipment and operation	"	79.7	159.7	169.7
Transportation	"	73.8	176.2	191.1
Tobacco and alcohol	"	73.6	185.1	201.9
Health and personal care	"	81.8	145.1	161.0
Recreation and education	Base: March Qr 1982=100.0	n.a.	137.6	147.2
Price index of building materials, Sydney —				
All groups, December —		99.8	106.2	113.7
Used in house building	Base: 1985-86=100.0			
Used in building other than house building	Base: 1979-80=100.0	167.8	179.9	197.0

(n.a. not available)

Public Finance	Unit	1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
State Government				
Current and capital outlay	\$m	5,280	15,348	18,811
Education	Per cent	29.4	25.6	n.y.a.
Health	"	17.0	15.6	n.y.a.
Public order and safety	"	5.7	6.1	n.y.a.
Road transport	"	7.0	7.1	n.y.a.
Revenue	\$m	4,548	13,073	14,134
Taxation	\$m	1,583	4,587	5,229
Payroll taxes	Per cent	32.6	29.7	26.6
Land taxes	"	7.0	6.5	6.6
Financial transaction taxes	"	10.7	16.7	19.6
Gambling taxes	"	12.4	11.6	10.9
Motor vehicle taxes	"	14.8	13.8	13.0
Grants received	\$m	2,443	6,589	7061
Other revenue	"	520	1,897	1,844
Financing transactions	"	714	2,273	2,677

Local Government Ordinary Services —		1976	1985	1986
Revenue	\$m	734	2,137	2,285
Rates, fees	per cent	60.2	46.3	46.7
Government grants	"	13.8	16.8	18.2
Garbage charges	"	3.0	3.7	3.8
Road reimbursements	"	6.7	7.4	7.0
Interest	"	2.7	6.2	7.2
Other revenue	"	13.6	17.6	17.1
Outlay on goods, services and land	\$m	710	1,955	2,127
General public services	per cent	10.9	12.6	12.6
Public order and safety, Education, Health, Welfare and Housing	"	4.6	6.8	6.5
Household garbage	"	8.0	5.4	5.6
Other community amenities	"	9.8	11.2	11.9
Libraries and other recreation and culture	"	3.0	15.9	16.3
Construction of roads and bridges	"	41.7	33.6	33.4
Other transport	"	0.8	5.1	5.2
Other goods and services	"	21.2	9.4	8.4

Banks and Other Private Finance		1976-77	1985-86	1986-87
Trading banks —				
Deposits, June	\$m	8,234	23,038	24,001
Loans, advances, and bills discounted, June	"	6,137	22,950	26,842
Savings banks: Depositors' balances at 30 June	\$	4,803	12,945	17,363
Per head of estimated population	"	969	2,352	3,171
Finance companies —				
Lease receivables at 30 June	\$m	n.a.	2,783	2,751
Total loans outstanding at 30 June	"	4,040	6,089	6,086
Permanent building societies, 30 June	No.	58	15	14
Loan outstanding at 30 June	\$m	1,637	5,689	5,374
Co-operative housing societies, 30 June	No.	3,117	233	224
Loan outstanding at 30 June	\$m	555	1,675	1,856
Credit co-operatives, 30 June	No.	345	218	207
Loan outstanding at 30 June	\$m	331	1,630	1,941

(n.a. not available) (n.y.a. not yet available)

Household Income	Unit	1975-78	1984-85	1985-86
Wages, salaries and supplements	\$m	15,649	39,330	43,206
Income of unincorporated enterprises —				
Farm	"	389	783	596
Non-farm	"	1,693	3,104	3,344
Income from dwellings	"	276	3,835	4,760
Transfers from general government and public trading enterprises	"	2,556	8,912	9,639
All other income	"	1,813	7,850	9,992
Total household income	"	22,376	63,794	71,537
Less —				
Income tax paid	"	3,295	10,623	n.y.a.
Other direct taxes, fees, fines, etc.	"	272	474	n.y.a.
Consumer debt interest and transfers overseas	"	320	1,222	n.y.a.
Household disposable income	"	18,489	51,475	n.y.a.

Private Final Consumption Expenditure	\$m	1975-78	1984-85	1985-86
Food	"	2,481	6,564	7,478
Cigarettes and tobacco	"	394	808	910
Alcoholic drinks	"	1,042	2,416	2,600
Clothing, etc.	"	1,329	2,902	3,249
Health	"	1,096	2,971	3,261
Dwelling rent	"	2,323	10,355	12,414
Gas, electricity and fuel	"	332	971	1,038
Household durables	"	1,506	3,051	3,320
Books, papers, artists goods, etc.	"	285	816	900
All other goods, n.e.i.	"	688	1,861	2,278
Travel and communication	"	2,375	6,503	6,884
All other services	"	2,554	7,273	7,869
Total expenditure	"	16,405	46,491	52,201

New South Wales Relative to Australia

Area	Period	Per cent
Population at 30 June	1987	10.4
Agricultural production —		34.5
Local value of production		
Wheat for grain, quantity produced	1984-85 to 1986-87	28.1
Wool, quantity produced	"	32.1
Rice, quantity produced	"	26.5
Cotton, quantity produced	"	97.5
Cattle for meat production, number at 31 March	1987	71.8
Cattle for milk production, number at 31 March	1987	22.5
Manufacturing production, value added	1981-82 to 1985-86	15.2
Black coal, value added	"	18.6
Manufacturing production, value added	1980-81 to 1984-85	47.3
Raw steel, quantity produced	1986-87	37.1
Bricks, clay, quantity produced	"	79.5
Bricks, clay, quantity produced	"	37.9

(n.y.a. not yet available) (n.e.i. not elsewhere included)

This brochure provides a brief indication of the wide range of statistics available from any office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics. It was published by the Australian Government Publishing Service for the N.S.W. Office of the ABS, St Andrew's House, Sydney Square, Sydney 2000, Ph. (02) 268 4611.

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Cover photograph: As part of the State's Bicentennial celebrations, a bullock team was driven from Tweed Heads to Sydney in January 1988. Photograph courtesy of Gerrard Mills.

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