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This document provides explanatory notes for users of the 2021 Regional Wellbeing Survey (RWS) Data Tables, and definitions of the regions and groups that are reported in the Data Tables.

Each measure is reported on a separate tab, with

New South Wales (NSW) includes all of NSW including the large metropolitan areas of Sydney and surrounding suburban areas. In total, 2956 people from NSW took part in the 2021 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Regional New South Wales includes all of NSW except the large metropolitan areas of Sydney and surrounding suburban areas. The Metropolitan areas of Sydney and surrounding suburbs are reported as urban New South Wales. In total, 2604 people who live in regional NSW and 342 who live in urban NSW took part in the 2021

as urban Western Australia. In total, 639 people who live in regional WA and 77 who live in urban WA took part in the 2021 Regional Wellbeing Survey, although not all these people answered every question on the survey.

Tasmania (Tas) includes all of Tasmania

RDA	State/ Territory	Total responses in 2021	LGAs located in this RDA (note that in the 2021 RWS, responses were achieved from the majority of LGAs listed, but not from all)
Central Coast and Hunter (RDAs grouped)	NSW	250	Central Coast, Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter Shire, part of Mid-Coast
Central West	NSW	267	Bathurst Regional, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Lithgow, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Weddin
Far South Coast	NSW	355	Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, Shoalhaven
Far South Coast and Illawarra (RDAs grouped)	NSW	391	Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, Kiama, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Wollongong
Far West and Orana (RDAs grouped)	NSW	245	Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Cobar, Coonamble, Dubbo, Gilgandra, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Unincorporated NSW, Walgett, Warren, Warrumbungle Shire, Western Plains Regional
Hunter	NSW	215	Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter Shire, part of Mid-Coast
Mid North Coast	NSW	164	Bellingen, Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Nambucca, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Part of Mid-Coast
Murray	NSW	249	Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Edward River, Federation, Greater Hume Shire, Murray River, Wentworth

RDA	State/ Territory	Total responses in 2021	LGAs located in this RDA (note that in the 2021 RWS, responses were achieved from the majority of LGAs listed, but not from all)
Barwon South West	Vic	546	Colac-Otway, Corangamite, Glenelg, Greater Geelong, Moyne, Queenscliffe, Southern Grampians, Surf Coast, Warrnambool
Gippsland	Vic	580	Bass Coast, Baw Baw, East Gippsland, Latrobe, South Gippsland and Wellington
Grampians	Vic	438	Ararat, Ballarat, Golden Plains, Hepburn, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Moorabool, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, West Wimmera, Yarriambiack
Hume	Vic	784	Alpine, Benalla, Greater Shepparton, Indigo, Mansfield, Mitchell, Moira, Murrindindi, Strathbogie, Towong, Wangaratta, Wodonga
Loddon Mallee	Vic	688	Buloke, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Loddon, Macedon Ranges, Mildura, Mount Alexander, Swan Hill
Melbourne	Vic	279	Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara, Brimbank, Cardinia, Casey, Darebin, Frankston, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maribyrnong, Maroondah, Melbourne, Melton, Monash, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Mornington Peninsula, Nillumbik, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Whitehorse, Whittlesea, Wyndham, Yarra, Yarra Ranges
Central and Western Queensland	Qld	125	Banana, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Central Highlands, Diamantina, Gladstone, Livingstone, Longreach, Rockhampton, Winton, Woorabinda

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

The 2021 RWS Data Tables report responses from the Lake Eyre Basin and the Murray Darling Basin.

Lake Eyre Basin (LEB) is a large catchment area that crosses parts of north-west NSW, south-west QLD, north-east SA and south-east NT. A total of 139 people living in LEB responded to the 2021 RWS. A map of the LEB can be found at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/sitecollectiondocuments/water/leb-map.pdf>.

The 2021 RWS Data Tables reports responses from the MDB as a whole, as well as from the northern parts of the MDB (QLD and northern NSW) and the southern parts of the MDB (SA, Victoria and southern parts of NSW). The Northern and Southern Basin were defined based on the definitions. Under this definition, the southern basin contains: New South Wales Murray and Lower Darling, Northern Victoria, Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges, Lachlan, Victorian Murray, Wimmera-Mallee (surface water), South Australian Murray Region, South Australian River Murray, Australian Capital Territory (surface water), Murrumbidgee. The Northern Basin contains: Gwydir, Intersecting Streams, Barwon-

DRFA declarations

Across Australia, there is a system for declaring an area as disaster affected. This enables LGAs to be declared under one or more of four Disaster Recover Funding Arrangements (DRFA) categories,

Several socio-demographic groups are reported in the 2021 RWS Data Tables. Table 3 describes the groups and the responses received for each group.

Socio-demographic group	Description	Total responses in 2021
Female	All 2021 RWS participants who identified as female	5575
Male	All 2021 RWS participants who identified as male	4307
Aged 18-29	All 2021 RWS participants aged 18 to 29 years old	165
Aged 30-44	All 2021 RWS participants aged 30 to 44 years old	923
Aged 45-64	All 2021 RWS participants aged 45 to 64 years old	3732
Aged 65+	All 2021 RWS participants aged 65 years and older	4920
Aged 18-29 (Female)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as female	121
Aged 30-44 (Female)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as female	682
Aged 45-64 (Female)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as female	2408
Aged 65+ (Female)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 65 years and older who identified as female	2257
Aged 18-29 (Male)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as male	39
Aged 30-44 (Male)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as male	229
Aged 45-64 (Male)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as male	1297
Aged 65+ (Male)	All 2021 RWS participants aged 65 years and older who identified as male	2632
Regional Australia (female)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia who identified as female	4922
Regional Australia (male)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia who identified as male	3830
Urban Australia (female)	2021 RWS participants living in urban Australia who identified as female	632
Urban Australia (male)	2021 RWS participants living in urban Australia who identified as male	457
Regional Australia (aged 18-29)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 18 to 29 years old	125
Regional Australia (aged 30-44)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 30 to 44 years old	758
Regional Australia (aged 45-64)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 45 to 64 years old	3331
Regional Australia (aged 65+)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 65 years or older	4416

Socio-demographic group	Description	Total responses in 2021
Urban Australia (aged 18-29)	2021 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 18 to 29 years old	38
Urban Australia (aged 30-44)	2021 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 30 to 44 years old	156
Urban Australia (aged 45-64)	2021 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 45 to 64 years old	386
Urban Australia (aged 65+)	2021 RWS participants living in urban Australia aged 65 years or older	497
Regional Australia (female, 18-29)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 18 to 29 years old who identified as female	94
Regional Australia (female, 30-44)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 30 to 44 years old who identified as female	569
Regional Australia (female, 45-64)	2021 RWS participants living in regional Australia aged 45 to 64 years old who identified as female	2144

Socio-demographic group	Description	Total responses in 2021
More than 1 person in household	2021 RWS participants living in a household with more than one person	7635
Children under 15 in the household	2021 RWS participants who have children aged under 15 living in the household	1206
Children 15 or over financially dependent in the household	2021 RWS participants who have children aged 15 or older who are financially dependent on them	1062

Different types of farmers, farm workers and socio-demographic groups of farmers are reported in the 2021 RWS Data Tables. A person was classified as a farmer if on the 2021 RWS survey form they selected any of the following:

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

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

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

Table 4 describes the groups and the responses received for each group.

Type of farmer	Description	Total responses in 2021
Farmer	All 2021 RWS participants who were classified as farmers	2425
Farm worker	All 2021 RWS participants who were classified as farm workers	332

Type of farmer	Description	Total responses in 2021
Farmer aged 18-39	2021 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 18 to 39 years old	116
Farmer aged 40-54	2021 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 40 to 54 years old	385
Farmer aged 55-64	2021 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 55 to 64 years old	663
Farmer aged 65+	2021 RWS participants who were farmers and aged 65 years or older	1179
NSW farmers	2021 RWS participants who were farmers in NSW	725
VIC farmers	2021 RWS participants who were farmers in Victoria	844
QLD farmers	2021 RWS participants who were farmers in Queensland	320
SA farmers	2021 RWS participants who were farmers in South Australia	178
WA farmers	2021 RWS participants who were farmers in Western Australia	202
TAS farmers	2021 RWS participants who were farmers in Tasmania	132
Cotton growers	2021 RWS participants who were classified as cotton growers (indicated cotton growing was their most important or a major farm activity)	88
Dairy farmers	2021 RWS participants who were classified as dairy farmers (indicated dairy farming was their most important or major farm activity)	158
Crop growers	2021 RWS participants who were classified as crop growers (indicated crop growing was their most important or a major farm activity, including rice, grain, fodder, sugar or other crops)	238
Graziers	2021 RWS participants who were classified as graziers (indicated beef or sheep grazing was their most important or major farm activity)	1121
Fruit, vegetable or winegrape growers	2021 RWS participants who were classified as fruit, vegetable or winegrape growers (indicated fruit, wine grape or vegetable growing was their most important or a major farm activity)	263
Mixed cropping and grazing	2021 RWS participants who were classified as mixed crop growers and graziers (classified as both crop growers graziers as defined above)	416
Farmer in MDB	2021 RWS participants who were farmers residing within the Murray Darling Basin	1180
Farmer not in MDB	2021 RWS participants who were farmers not residing within the Murray Darling Basin	1245
Farmer in Northern MDB	2021 RWS participants who were farmers residing within northern Murray Darling Basin	396
Farmer in Southern MDB	2021 RWS participants who were farmers residing within southern Murray Darling Basin	784
Irrigator in MDB	2021 RWS participants who were irrigators residing within the Murray Darling Basin	352

Type of farmer	Description	Total responses in 2021
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