

Hunter District Data Profile

Central Coast





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Introduction

This document presents a brief data profile for the Hunter district. It contains a series of tables and graphs that show the characteristics of persons, families, and communities. It includes demographic, housing, child development, community safety and child protection information.

Where possible, we present this information at the local government area (LGA) level.

In the Hunter district there are seven LGAs:

- Cessnock
- Dungog
- Lake Macquarie
- Maitland
- Newcastle
- Port Stephens
- Singleton

The data presented in this document is from a number of different sources, including:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
- Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR)
- NSW Health Stats
- Australian Early Developmental Census (AEDC)
- NSW Government administrative data.



The majority of these sources are publicly available. We have provided source statements for each table and graph. This tells you where the data comes from and where you can find more information.

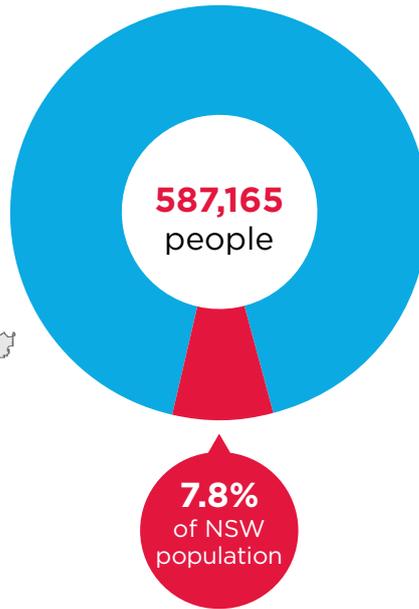
Please note, the information in the original sources may change as authors (e.g. ABS, NSW Healthstats) update the data. As such, we have also recorded the date we accessed the information.

If you would like additional suburb-level and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific data, the following sources are available to you:

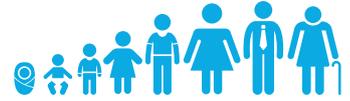
- The ABS provides demographic, cultural and linguistic diversity, employment and housing data at a suburb level through Quick Stats: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats>. For example, for the Fairy Meadow suburb, select 'Fairy Meadow, NSW: State Suburb (SSC)' from the drop down menu.
- The ABS also ranks suburbs on the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA): http://stat.data.abs.gov.au/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=SEIFA_SSC. For more information on the SEIFA, see page 28.
- BOSCAR records criminal offences at a suburb level: https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_datasets/Datasets-.aspx. Follow the 'Suburb' link in the Geographic breakdown category for a spreadsheet containing all suburb-level crime data.
- Information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons, families and dwellings, including comparisons with non-Indigenous people, is also available at LGA level through the ABS 2016 Census Community Profiles: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20Census%20Community%20Profiles>. For example, for information about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Wollongong, select 'Wollongong (C), NSW: Local Government Area (LGA)' from the drop down menu, and follow the link for the 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Profile'.

Hunter District

Demographics



Census 2016



Median age = 40
NSW median age = 38



26,665 people in this district are
Aboriginal and/or
Torres Strait Islander
(4.5%)

Economic Environment



16.3%
Bachelor degree level or above
23.4% NSW average



7.2%
Unemployment rate
NSW: 6.3%



276,944
Total labour force



\$612
Median weekly personal income
\$664 NSW average

Social Environment



16.1%
People born overseas
34.5% NSW average



7.5%
Households where a non-English language is spoken at home
26.5% NSW average



1,581
Migrants in 2017



2,623
Domestic assaults in 2018

Children, Young People and Families



2.7%
Mothers giving birth aged 19 and under
1.9% NSW average



9,583
Children and young people at risk of significant harm 2016-17



2,637
Children and young people in out-of-home care 2016-17



8.8%
Children developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more AEDC domains 2018

Disability



6.3%
People need assistance with core activity
5.4% NSW average



2.6
Average no. of people per household
2.6 NSW average



13,028
Social housing dwellings, June 2018
8.6% of NSW dwellings



10,363
Public and AHO housing tenancies - June 2018
9.3% of NSW tenancies

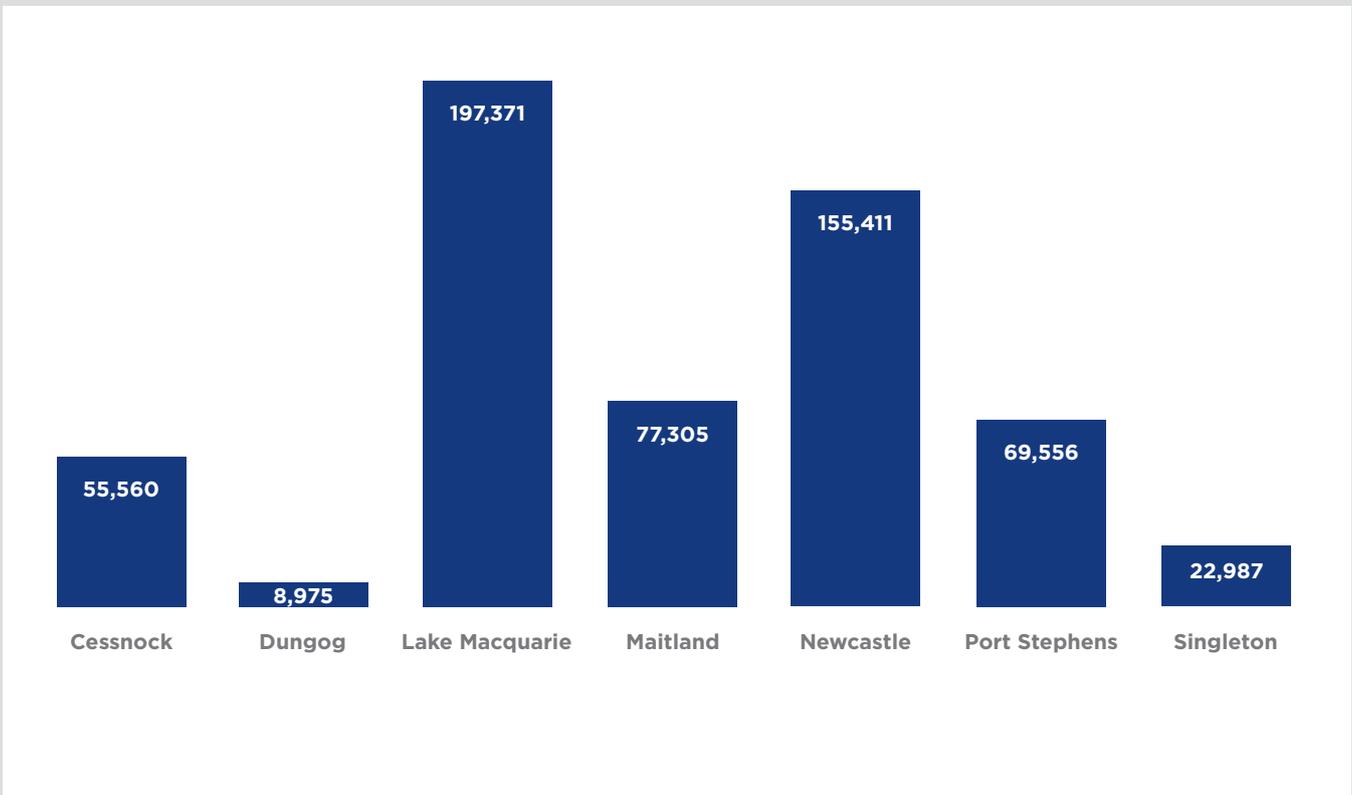
Households and social housing

Demographic Data

Population – Hunter

The population in the Hunter district was estimated at 587,165 in the 2016 Census (see Figure 1). This district is made up of seven local government areas (LGAs). The largest LGA is Lake Macquarie with an estimated population of 197,371. The smallest LGA is Dungog with an estimated population of 8,975.

Figure 1. Population of Hunter district, by LGA



Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

The median age in New South Wales is 38 years of age. In the Hunter district, the LGAs of Cessnock and Newcastle are closest to the state average, with their median ages being 38 and 37, respectively. Lake Macquarie, Dungog, and Port Stephens have older populations, with their median ages being 42, 45, and 45 respectively. Maitland and Singleton have the youngest populations, both with a media age of 36.

Table 1 shows a breakdown of age for each LGA in the Hunter district.

Table 1. Age breakdown of the population by LGA in Hunter district

Age Group (years)	Cessnock		Dungog		Lake Macquarie		Maitland		Newcastle		Port Stephens		Singleton		Hunter	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	3,792	6.8	483	5.4	11,845	6.0	5,761	7.5	9,113	5.9	3,849	5.5	1,537	6.7	36,380	6.2
5-9	3,994	7.2	610	6.8	12,323	6.2	5,869	7.6	8,924	5.7	4,392	6.3	1,752	7.6	37,864	6.5
10-14	3,590	6.5	573	6.4	11,941	6.0	5,271	6.8	8,170	5.3	4,275	6.1	1,575	6.8	35,395	6.0
15-19	3,454	6.2	557	6.2	12,210	6.2	4,943	6.4	8,899	5.7	4,111	5.9	1,683	7.3	35,857	6.1
20-24	3,443	6.2	373	4.2	10,893	5.5	4,808	6.2	13,701	8.8	3,531	5.1	1,472	6.4	38,221	6.5
25-29	3,520	6.3	363	4.0	10,382	5.3	5,248	6.8	12,540	8.1	3,301	4.7	1,461	6.4	36,815	6.3
30-34	3,634	6.5	449	5.0	11,356	5.8	5,327	6.9	11,357	7.3	3,389	4.9	1,442	6.3	36,954	6.3
35-39	3,301	5.9	477	5.3	11,168	5.7	5,006	6.5	9,955	6.4	3,547	5.1	1,427	6.2	34,881	5.9
40-44	3,567	6.4	517	5.8	12,461	6.3	5,175	6.7	10,085	6.5	4,295	6.2	1,637	7.1	37,737	6.4
45-49	3,611	6.5	619	6.9	13,021	6.6	5,129	6.6	9,899	6.4	4,376	6.3	1,701	7.4	38,356	6.5
50-54	3,373	6.1	701	7.8	13,065	6.6	4,847	6.3	9,853	6.3	4,867	7.0	1,630	7.1	38,336	6.5
55-59	3,731	6.7	741	8.3	13,453	6.8	4,687	6.1	9,728	6.3	4,810	6.9	1,529	6.6	38,679	6.6
60-64	3,443	6.2	712	7.9	12,654	6.4	4,155	5.4	8,471	5.5	4,864	7.0	1,222	5.3	35,521	6.1
65 and above	9,112	16.4	1,789	20.0	40,602	20.6	11,084	14.4	24,721	16.0	15,950	22.9	2,926	12.7	106,184	18.1
Total	55,565	100	8,964	100	197,374	100	77,310	100	155,416	100	69,557	100	22,994	100	587,180	100
Total in NSW															7,480,228	7.8

Source: Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

In the Hunter district, 4.5% (n=26,665) of the population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (see Table 2). The majority of these people are children and young people; 54.9% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the Hunter district are under 25 years old. This is higher than the NSW state average, where only 28.6% of the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander population are under 25 years old.

Table 2. Population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in Hunter, by Age

Age Group (years)	Cessnock		Dungog		Lake Macquarie		Maitland		Newcastle		Port Stephens		Singleton		Hunter	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	445	11.1	47	10.4	939	11.7	535	13.1	597	11.0	439	13.2	160	12.2	3,162	11.9
5-9	506	12.6	71	15.7	954	11.9	521	12.8	560	10.2	408	12.3	164	12.6	3,184	12.0
10-14	460	11.5	50	11.0	992	12.4	503	12.3	508	9.3	395	11.9	153	11.7	3,061	11.5
15-19	386	9.6	60	13.3	851	10.6	437	10.7	532	9.7	332	10.0	130	9.9	2,728	10.2
20-24	380	9.5	23	5.1	702	8.7	338	8.3	610	11.1	294	8.9	120	9.2	2,467	9.3
25-29	280	7.0	22	4.9	500	6.3	327	8.0	479	8.8	206	6.2	100	7.6	1,914	7.2
30-34	252	6.3	21	4.6	447	5.6	245	5.9	397	7.2	163	4.9	66	5.1	1,591	6.0
35-39	234	5.9	19	4.2	418	5.2	194	4.8	292	5.3	141	4.3	61	4.7	1,359	5.1
40-44	215	5.4	18	4.0	421	5.2	218	5.3	304	5.6	179	5.4	59	4.5	1,414	5.2
45-49	216	5.4	28	6.2	428	5.3	206	5.1	276	5.0	167	5.0	73	5.6	1,394	5.2
50-54	175	4.4	17	3.8	379	4.8	169	4.1	277	5.1	181	5.4	58	4.4	1,256	4.7
55-59	170	4.2	23	5.1	307	3.8	148	3.6	216	3.9	143	4.3	74	5.6	1,081	4.0
60-64	110	2.8	14	3.2	257	3.2	92	2.3	177	3.2	110	3.3	34	2.6	794	3.0
65 and above	169	4.3	38	8.5	428	5.3	152	3.7	253	4.6	163	4.9	57	4.3	1,260	4.7
Total	3,998	100	451	100	8,023	100	4,085	100	5,478	100	3,321	100	1,309	100	26,665	100
% of LGA pop.	7.2		5.0		4.1		5.3		3.5		4.8		5.7		% of district pop. 4.5	

Source: ABS Community Profiles, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20Census%20Community%20Profiles> (accessed 4 October 2019)



Country of birth

In the Hunter district, 83.9% of residents were born in Australia (see Table 3). This is much higher than the New South Wales state average of 65.5%. The most common birth places, other than Australia, were England, New Zealand, and Germany.

Table 3. Country of Birth in Hunter, by LGA

Cessnock			Dungog		
Country	No.	%	Country	No.	%
Australia	47,595	85.7	Australia	7,772	86.7
Other top responses					
England	1,042	1.9	England	191	2.1
New Zealand	519	0.9	New Zealand	49	0.5
Scotland	207	0.4	Germany	28	0.3
Philippines	179	0.3	Scotland	17	0.2
Germany	159	0.3	United States of America	17	0.2

Lake Macquarie			Maitland		
Country	No.	%	Country	No.	%
Australia	168,251	85.3	Australia	66,988	86.7
Other top responses					
England	5,155	2.6	England	1,412	1.8
New Zealand	2,266	1.1	New Zealand	782	1.0
Germany	883	0.4	India	407	0.5
Scotland	874	0.4	Philippines	359	0.5
Philippines	695	0.4	South Africa	309	0.4

Newcastle			Port Stephens			Singleton		
Country	No.	%	Country	No.	%	Country	No.	%
Australia	126,389	81.3	Australia	56,262	81.0	Australia	19,291	84.0
Other top responses								
England	3,222	2.1	England	2,666	3.8	New Zealand	429	1.9
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	1,718	1.1	New Zealand	877	1.3	England	374	1.6
New Zealand	1,624	1.0	Scotland	364	0.5	Philippines	129	0.6
India	1,156	0.7	Germany	338	0.5	South Africa	119	0.5
Philippines	812	0.5	South Africa	264	0.4	United States of America	51	0.2

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Languages spoken at home

In the Hunter district, 89.1% of residents spoke only English at home (see Table 4). This is much higher than the New South Wales state average of 68.5%.

The proportion of households where a non-English language was spoken at home was highest in Newcastle (11.6%) and Lake Macquarie (6.5%), compared to Cessnock (3.2%) and Dungog (1.9%).

Table 4. Languages spoken at home in Hunter, by LGA

Cessnock			Dungog		
	No.	%		No.	%
English only spoken at home	49,842	89.7	English only spoken at home	8,282	92.4
Households where a non-English language is spoken	669	3.2	Households where a non-English language is spoken	65	1.9
Top responses other than English					
Thai	80	0.1	German	9	0.1
German	59	0.1	Afrikaans	9	0.1
Spanish	51	0.1	French	7	0.1
Italian	49	0.1	Tagalog	7	0.1
Tagalog	47	0.1	Mandarin	7	0.1
Lake Macquarie			Maitland		
	No.	%		No.	%
English only spoken at home	180,098	91.3	English only spoken at home	70,392	91.1
Households where a non-English language is spoken	4,924	6.5	Households where a non-English language is spoken	1,592	5.6
Top responses other than English					
Mandarin	572	0.3	Mandarin	175	0.2
Italian	551	0.3	Cantonese	164	0.2
Macedonian	514	0.3	Tagalog	163	0.2
German	447	0.2	Afrikaans	146	0.2
Spanish	399	0.2	Malayalam	139	0.2

Table 4. Languages spoken at home in Hunter, by LGA (continued)

Newcastle			Port Stephens		
	No.	%		No.	%
English only spoken at home	131,814	84.8	English only spoken at home	62,212	89.5
Households where a non-English language is spoken	7,240	11.6	Households where a non-English language is spoken	1,413	5.1
Top responses other than English					
Mandarin	1,916	1.2	Italian	172	0.2
Macedonian	1,136	0.7	Spanish	154	0.2
Italian	827	0.5	German	153	0.2
Greek	765	0.5	Greek	125	0.2
Arabic	700	0.5	French	122	0.2
Singleton					
	No.	%			
English only spoken at home	20,595	89.7			
Households where a non-English language is spoken	393	4.7			
Top responses other than English					
Afrikaans	75	0.3			
Mandarin	54	0.2			
Tagalog	50	0.2			
Filipino	42	0.2			
German	37	0.2			

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Migration stream

Only 2.0% of migrants arriving in NSW between 1 January and 31 December 2017 settled in the Hunter district (see Table 5).

The largest number of migrants to the District settled in the Newcastle LGA. Most of these were skilled migrants (n=372) followed by family migrants (n=310) and then humanitarian migrants (n=99).

In total, 104 humanitarian migrants settled in the Hunter district. The majority of these migrants settled in the Newcastle LGA.

Table 5. Migration Stream in Hunter, by LGA, between 1 January and 31 December 2017

LGA	Migration Stream			Total
	Family	Humanitarian	Skilled	
Cessnock	43	0	10	53
Dungog	0	0	0	0
Lake Macquarie	215	5	164	384
Maitland	108	0	110	218
Newcastle	310	99	372	781
Port Stephens	62	0	28	90
Singleton	20	0	35	55
Hunter	758	104	719	1,581
Total NSW	27,200	6,514	47,002	80,794

Source: Department of Social Services, Settlement Data Reports January 2017 to 31 December 2017: <https://www.data.gov.au/dataset/ds-dga-8d1b90a9-a4d7-4b10-ad6a-8273722c8628/details> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Children and Young People

Government schools

The following tables provide information about the government schools in the seven LGAs that make up the Hunter district. These tables provide information on the following factors:

No. of FTE enrolments	The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) enrolments indicates the number of students who attended the school over the course of the academic year. For example, 39.2 means 39 students were enrolled full time for one academic year and one student was enrolled for a fifth of the year.
% of ATSI	The percentage of FTE students enrolled who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
% of LBOTE	The percentage of students (headcount) who have a language background other than English (LBOTE). A student has a LBOTE if they, or their parents or guardians, speak a language other than English at home.
ISCEA value	<p>The Index of Community Socio-Education Advantage (ICSEA) provides information about the socio-educational backgrounds of a school's students. This is worked out by looking at the parents' occupation and education, a school's geographical location, and the proportion of Indigenous students.</p> <p>The ICSEA is set at an average of 1000. The lower the ICSEA level, the lower the educational advantage of students who go to this school. The highest score of a public school in New South Wales is 1245, and the lowest score is 543.</p>
% School attendance	The attendance rate is the number of actual FTE student days attended by full-time students in Years 1-10 in Semester One as a percentage of the total number of possible student-days attended in semester one.

There are 189 government schools in the Hunter district:

- 25 in Cessnock,
- 8 in Dungog,
- 64 in Lake Macquarie,
- 20 in Maitland,
- 42 in Newcastle,
- 21 in Port Stephens and
- 9 in Singleton

The largest government school in the district is Warners Bay High School in Lake Macquarie (1209.8 FTE enrolments) and the smallest is Martins Creek Public School in Dungog LGA (8 FTE enrolments).



The government school in the Hunter district with the largest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students is Waratah West Public School in Newcastle LGA (51%) followed by Biraban Public School (47%) and Windale Public School (38%) in Lake Macquarie LGA.

The school with the highest proportion of LBOTE students is Jesmond Public School in Newcastle LGA (74%).

The school in the Hunter district with the highest ISCEA value is Merewether High School in Newcastle LGA (1202). The school with the lowest ISCEA value is Windale Public School in Lake Macquarie (798).

Lake Macquarie Sport High School has the lowest school attendance (81.5%), and Biddabah Public School - also in Lake Macquarie LGA - has the highest (96.2%).

Table 6a. Profile of Government Schools in the Cessnock LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Abermain Public School	300	25	np	879	92.8
Bellbird Public School	237	17	0	925	91.8
Black Hill Public School	102	7	np	998	95.1
Branxton Public School	399	9	4	951	93.7
Cessnock East Public School	217	32	np	868	92.6
Cessnock High School	561.2	23	3	870	82.9
Cessnock Public School	313	20	3	887	90
Cessnock West Public School	405	20	2	883	91.4
Congewai Public School	16	0	0	981	94.6
Ellalong Public School	127	9	np	941	92.5
Greta Public School	180	12	np	925	93.8
Kearsley Public School	148	22	np	882	93.7
Kitchener Public School	82	11	0	916	92.8
Kurri Kurri High School	799.6	16	3	899	85.1
Kurri Kurri Public School	668	18	2	880	91.6
Laguna Public School	60	0	np	1014	89.6
Millfield Public School	70	13	np	931	94
Mount View High School	968.6	14	3	915	85.6
Mulbring Public School	45	16	0	934	92.8
Nulkaba Public School	382	9	4	965	
Paxton Public School	47	15	0	907	92.5
Pelaw Main Public School	225	8	3	933	91.6
Stanford Merthyr Infants School	76	13	np	946	94.7
Weston Public School	183	19	3	872	91.6

Table 6b. Profile of Government Schools in the Dungog LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Clarence Town Public School	124	18	0	929	93.2
Dungog High School	621.6	12	2	940	90.8
Dungog Public School	289	18	np	934	93
Glen William Public School	27	np	0	952	92.7
Gresford Public School	83	14	np	942	94.7
Martins Creek Public School	8	0	0	1012	93.2
Paterson Public School	111	5	0	1004	92.2
Vacy Public School	116	np	np	999	93.9

Table 6c. Profile of government schools in the Fairfield LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Arcadia Vale Public School	105	8	8	977	93.2
Argenton Public School	31	np	np	900	91.4
Awaba Public School	38	np	np	981	95
Barnsley Public School	330	12	2	944	93.8
Belmont High School	849	8	5	971	93
Belmont North Public School	183	14	6	915	92.9
Belmont Public School	315	17	7	932	91.3
Biddabah Public School	427	np	6	1053	96.2
Biraban Public School	141	47	5	841	89.3
Blackalls Park Public School	215	15	3	936	93.6
Blacksmiths Public School	85	16	np	989	94.3
Bonnells Bay Public School	471	14	5	948	92.8
Boolaroo Public School	59	14	np	916	91.6

Table 6c. Profile of government schools in the Fairfield LGA (continued)

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Booragul Public School	212	12	5	934	92.5
Cardiff High School	695	11	7	975	88.7
Cardiff North Public School	159	6	8	993	93.8
Cardiff Public School	237	10	8	985	94.2
Cardiff South Public School	303	11	7	985	95.1
Caves Beach Public School	408	6	5	1035	94.2
Charlestown East Public School	265	3	6	1029	94.1
Charlestown Public School	148	7	25	1016	93.8
Charlestown South Public School	219	8	9	1039	94.6
Coal Point Public School	242	np	9	1069	95
Cooranbong Public School	223	11	10	955	95.9
Dora Creek Public School	105	10	np	954	93.3
Dudley Public School	282	4	9	1072	94.3
Edgeworth Heights Public School	406	12	4	960	93.6
Edgeworth Public School	575	17	6	941	92.5
Eleebana Public School	596	2	10	1089	95.1
Fassifern Public School	62	24	np	916	92.2
Fennell Bay Public School	169	20	7	928	91.1
Floraville Public School	549	5	5	1038	94.2
Garden Suburb Public School	212	8	12	1024	95.7
Glendale East Public School	241	14	3	937	92.6
Glendale High School	779	14	6	936	87.1
Hillsborough Public School	259	5	9	1030	94.7
Hunter Sports High School	698.6	20	5	919	84.8
Jewells Primary School	395	7	6	1022	94.6
Kahibah Public School	343	4	10	1053	94.8

Table 6c. Profile of government schools in the Fairfield LGA (continued)

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Lake Macquarie High School	346	17	6	898	81.5
Marks Point Public School	151	18	np	931	93.5
Morisset High School	684.8	12	6	932	86.9
Morisset Public School	224	20	11	933	90.3
Mount Hutton Public School	155	23	7	928	92.4
Nords Wharf Public School	147	5	np	1028	95.4
Pelican Flat Public School	60	18	np	941	95.5
Rathmines Public School	329	8	8	1008	93
Redhead Public School	270	7	6	1075	95.8
Speers Point Public School	138	10	5	968	
Swansea High School	662.9	11	5	976	87.8
Swansea Public School	235	16	4	919	93.8
Teralba Public School	70	19	9	944	93.1
Toronto High School	953.5	15	4	950	86.5
Toronto Public School	164	20	4	915	92.3
Valentine Public School	578	3	5	1074	95.5
Wangi Wangi Public School	108	21	10	970	94.6
Warners Bay High School	1290.8	3	7	1034	92.5
Warners Bay Public School	444	6	6	1033	93.8
West Wallsend High School	564.8	15	3	923	89.4
West Wallsend Public School	219	11	4	928	93.1
Whitebridge High School	904.9	7	7	1002	88.8
Windale Public School	171	38	np	798	92.4
Wiripaang Public School	208	31	6	825	89.2
Wye Public School	204	15	5	933	93.7

Table 6d. Profile of Government Schools in the Maitland LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Ashtonfield Public School	618	7	10	991	93.7
Bolwarra Public School	423	3	6	1048	94.6
Francis Greenway High School	655.4	14	6	915	86.7
Gillieston Public School	165	18	9	926	91.1
Largs Public School	145	9	np	969	93.6
Lochinvar Public School	167	16	4	948	92.3
Maitland East Public School	555	7	6	983	93.3
Maitland Grossmann High School	1194.8	7	5	994	89.6
Maitland High School	962.8	15	4	934	87.9
Maitland Public School	431	13	2	956	93.1
Metford Public School	305	22	8	879	91.2
Millers Forest Public School	67	27	0	856	92.8
Morpeth Public School	219	8	5	1018	93.8
Nillo Infants School	58	np	10	1062	94
Rutherford High School	1020.6	19	5	900	85.1
Rutherford Public School	950	17	7	933	92.1
Telarah Public School	421	21	5	878	89.1
Tenambit Public School	370	19	5	899	90.1
Thornton Public School	658	10	6	959	92.6
Woodberry Public School	205	33	np	800	88.6

Table 6e. Profile of Government Schools in the Newcastle LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Adamstown Public School	271	9	10	1029	93
Belair Public School	515	2	13	1105	95.3
Beresfield Public School	289	13	3	928	91.1
Callaghan College Jesmond Campus	634.4	11	12	967	na
Callaghan College Wallsend Campus	1116	13	10	955	89.9
Callaghan College Waratah Technology Campus	741	15	19	940	88.1
Carrington Public School	106	17	11	980	92.4
Elermore Vale Public School	401	9	18	999	94.5
Glendore Public School	583	12	15	989	92.8
Hamilton North Public School	160	8	11	1023	95.6
Hamilton Public School	303	7	17	1078	93.8
Hamilton South Public School	434	4	12	1120	95.4
Heaton Public School	193	9	49	951	93.5
Hunter School of Performing Arts	1152.8	4	8	1080	92.5
Islington Public School	152	7	33	972	93.7
Jesmond Public School	196	9	74	924	91.8
Kotara High School	1064.5	3	11	1048	91.9
Kotara South Public School	327	5	8	1078	94.8
Lambton High School	1121.9	5	14	1045	92.8
Lambton Public School	397	7	11	1024	95.7
Maryland Public School	476	10	15	986	93.8
Mayfield East Public School	265	9	14	1007	93.5
Mayfield West Public School	368	8	15	995	93.4

Table 6e. Profile of Government Schools in the Newcastle LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Merewether Heights Public School	343	np	10	1115	94.4
Merewether High School	1072.4	1	22	1202	95.9
Merewether Public School	160	18	12	999	91.4
Minmi Public School	111	6	np	1002	94.6
New Lambton Heights Infants School	71	np	12	1098	96
New Lambton Public School	646	2	26	1120	95.9
New Lambton South Public School	462	3	14	1087	95
Newcastle East Public School	239	3	18	1139	93.9
Newcastle High School	1074.2	9	8	1006	86.4
Plattsburg Public School	231	20	15	899	92.2
Shortland Public School	240	15	22	911	91.9
Stockton Public School	241	12	5	994	94.1
Tarro Public School	158	14	4	904	90.7
The Junction Public School	576	3	15	1120	94.7
Tighes Hill Public School	357	7	11	1080	94.5
Wallsend Public School	285	14	17	936	92
Wallsend South Public School	533	7	12	1065	95.2
Waratah Public School	354	18	15	961	93
Waratah West Public School	84	51	9	825	91.7

Table 6f. Profile of government schools in the Wollondilly LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Anna Bay Public School	329	10	6	954	93.3
Bobs Farm Public School	40	np	23	967	91.4
Fern Bay Public School	73	19	14	957	92.4
Grahamstown Public School	351	17	5	930	94.3
Hinton Public School	86	np	0	1014	92.8
Hunter River High School	815	19	4	906	87.5
Iona Public School	46	np	24	1029	93.1
Irrawang High School	827.6	17	4	925	87.1
Irrawang Public School	333	32	4	839	89.9
Karuah Public School	128	23	8	882	90.9
Medowie Public School	343	10	3	985	93.9
Mount Kanwaray Public School	35	np	0	988	92.1
Raymond Terrace Public School	391	27	5	878	91.1
Salt Ash Public School	87	np	np	946	92.8
Seaham Public School	202	11	np	985	94.3
Shoal Bay Public School	430	11	9	977	93.3
Soldiers Point Public School	343	5	7	1016	93.6
Tanilba Bay Public School	577	12	3	934	91.1
Tomaree High School	1113	8	7	973	87.7
Tomaree Public School	352	7	7	994	93.3
Wirreanda Public School	617	9	5	987	94.5

Table 6g. Profile of Government Schools in the Singleton LGA

Government school	No. of FTE enrolments	% of ATSI	% of LBOTE	ISCEA value	% School attendance
Broke Public School	78	13	13	954	93.2
Jerrys Plains Public School	31	np	np	873	91.5
King Street Public School	365	22	3	871	91.4
Kirkton Public School	21	np	np	916	95.2
Milbrodale Public School	12	np	0	869	sp
Mount Pleasant Public School	68	15	np	922	93.8
Singleton Heights Public School	575	17	7	925	93.4
Singleton High School	1160.4	14	4	933	86.8
Singleton Public School	466	12	7	961	93.2

Source: NSW Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, Master dataset: NSW government school locations and student enrolment numbers (2017) <https://data.cese.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/nsw-public-schools-master-dataset> (accessed 7 October 2019), Student attendance rate by individual government schools (2011-2017): <https://data.cese.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/student-attendance-rate-by-school> (accessed 7 October 2019).

The Department of Education also provides information about suspensions and expulsions from government schools at the district level¹.

Table 7 shows that the Hunter New England² district has a higher proportion of students who received short suspensions (four days or less) in 2018 compared to the NSW state average. In 2018, 6.1% of students received short suspensions in Hunter New England, compared to 4.0% in NSW. The proportion of students who received long suspensions (4-20 school days) was also higher; 2.7% in the Hunter New England district compared to 1.5% in the state.

In the Hunter New England district, 48 students were expelled for misbehaviour in 2018. This is a substantial population of the total expulsions for misbehaviour in the state; 27.4% of the 175 total expulsions.

Table 7. Suspensions and expulsions from government schools in Hunter New England district, 2018

	Hunter New England ¹	New South Wales
Total short suspensions ²	10,748	52,755
Total number students short suspended	6,323	32,343
Students short suspended as % of enrolment	6.1%	4.0%
Total long suspensions	3,939	17,235
Total number students long suspended ³	2,801	12,355
Students long suspended as % of enrolment	2.7%	1.5%
Students expelled for misbehaviour	48	175
Students expelled for unsatisfactory participation	<5 ⁴	122

Source: NSW Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), Suspensions and Expulsions in NSW government schools (2015-2018): <https://data.cese.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/suspensions-and-expulsions-in-nsw-government-schools> (accessed 9 October 2019)

¹ The CESE data is based on previous district boundaries where Hunter and New England were one district. The data presented here has not been updated to reflect the new divisions between the Hunter and New England districts.

² includes students on short suspension (four days or less) on more than one occasion

³ includes students on long suspension (four to 20 school days) on more than one occasion

⁴ In order to protect individual students' identities, values 5 and under are represented as <5

¹ To our knowledge, LGA data is unavailable.

² The CESE data is based on previous district boundaries where Hunter and New England were one district. The data presented here has not been updated to reflect the new divisions between the Hunter and New England districts.

Early childhood development

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) measures the early childhood development of children in Australia in their first year of full-time school. It measures this across five domains that predict later health, education and social outcomes:

- physical health and wellbeing
- social competence
- emotional maturity
- language and cognitive skills (school-based)
- communication skills and general knowledge

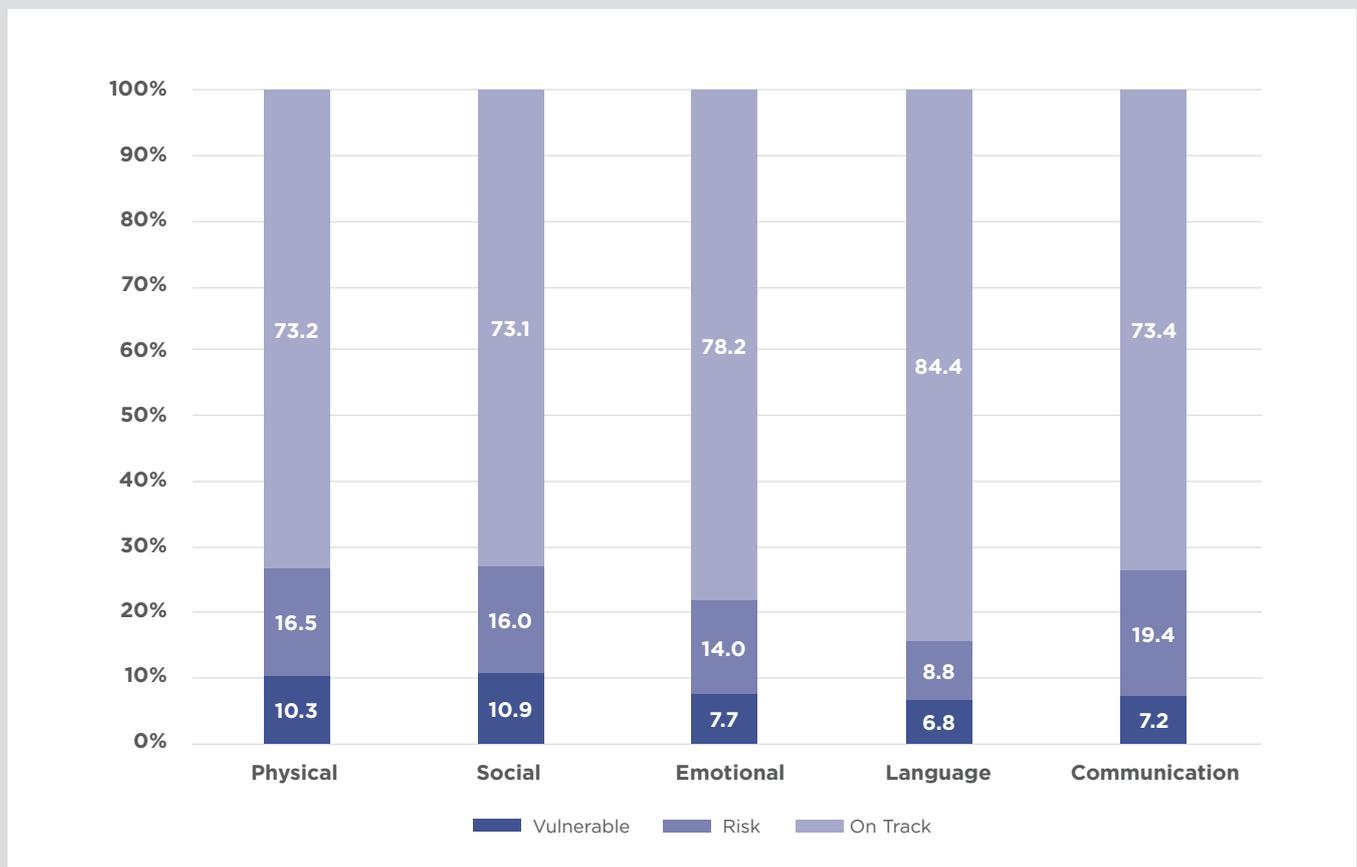
MORE INFORMATION

More information about the AEDC domains can be found in the [About the AEDC Domains](#) fact sheet.

The AEDC results can tell us if children are developmentally on track or if they need more support through their school years.

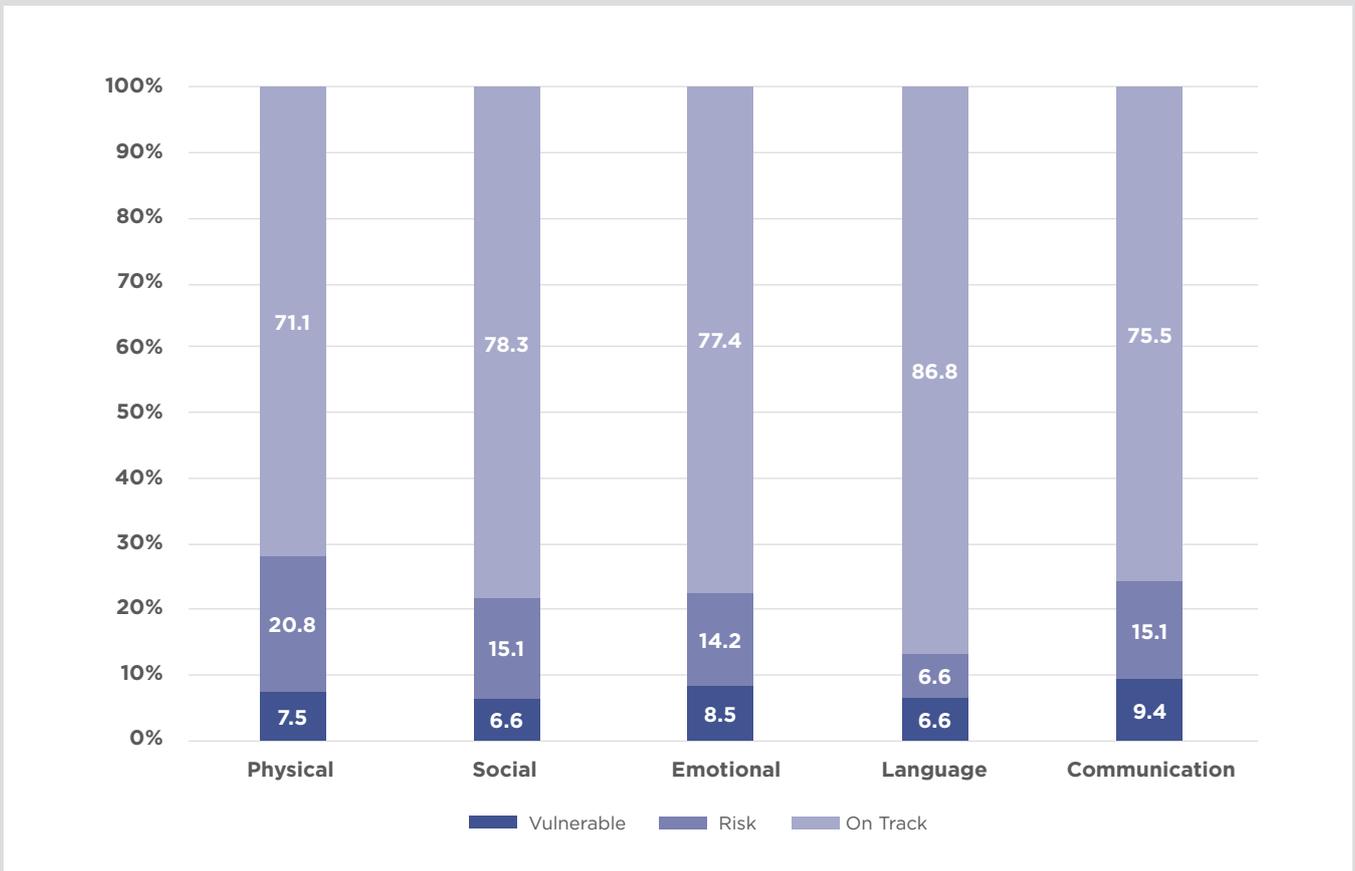
In the 2018 AEDC, the majority of children in the Hunter district were developmentally on track (see Figures 2-8). In all seven LGAs, over 70% of children were developmentally on track for each of the five AEDC domains. The proportion of children developmentally 'at risk' and 'vulnerable' was greater in Cessnock and Singleton, than in Dungog.

Figure 2. 2018 AEDC results for Cessnock LGA



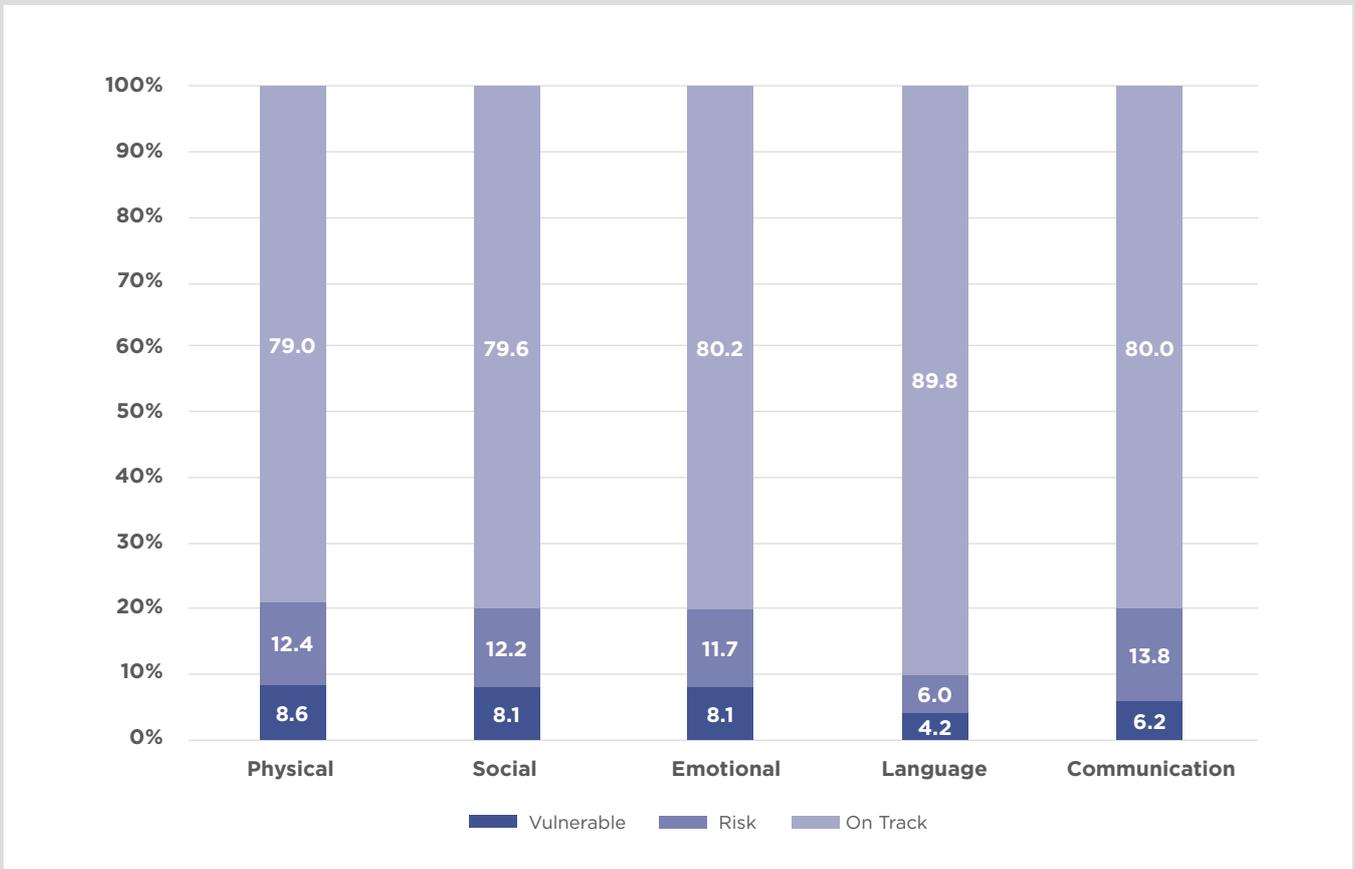
Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135132> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Figure 3. 2018 AEDC results for Dungog LGA



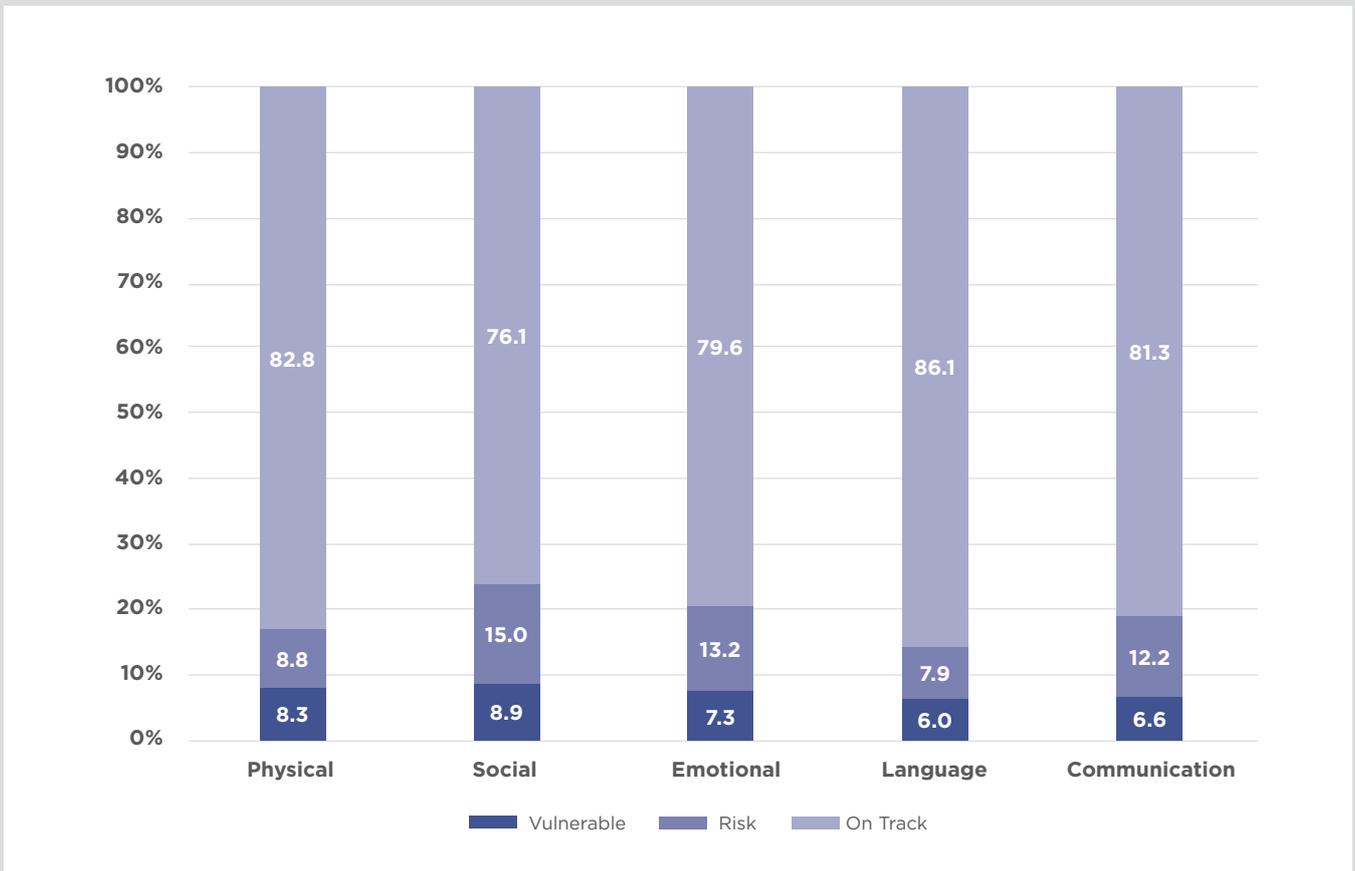
Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135144> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Figure 4. 2018 AEDC results for Lake Macquarie LGA



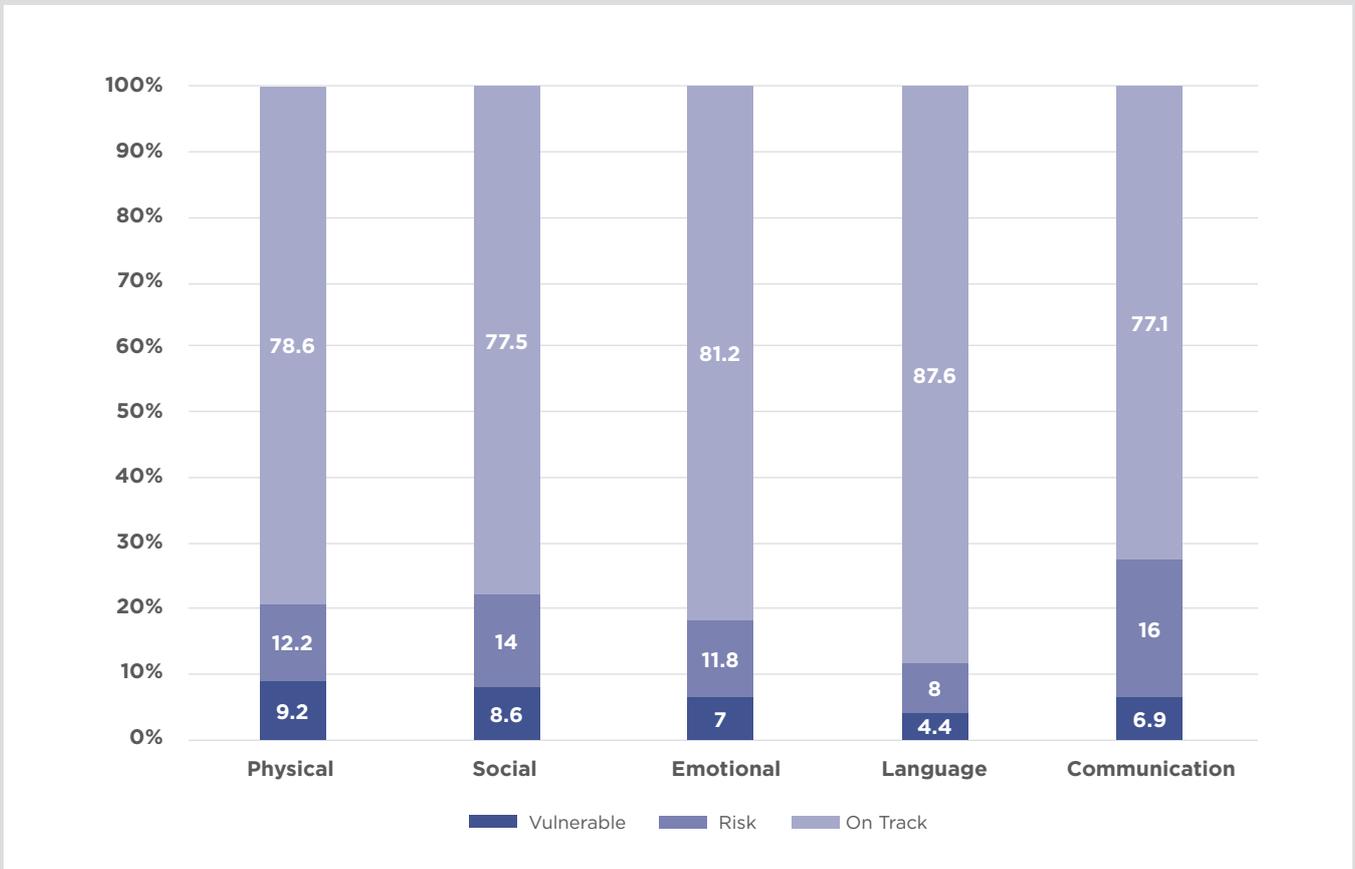
Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135180> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Figure 5. 2018 AEDC results for Maitland LGA



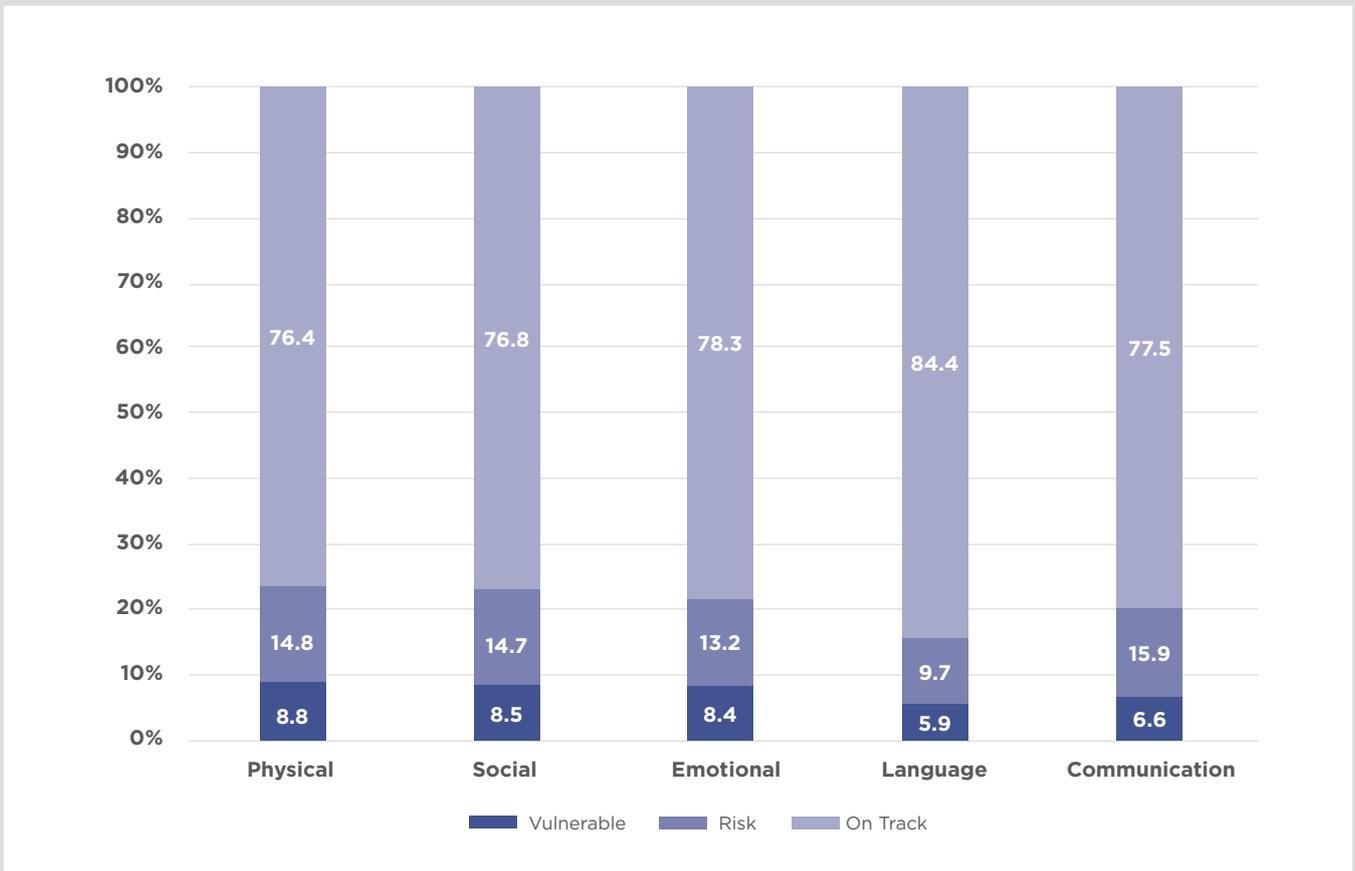
Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Figure 6. 2018 AEDC results for Newcastle LGA



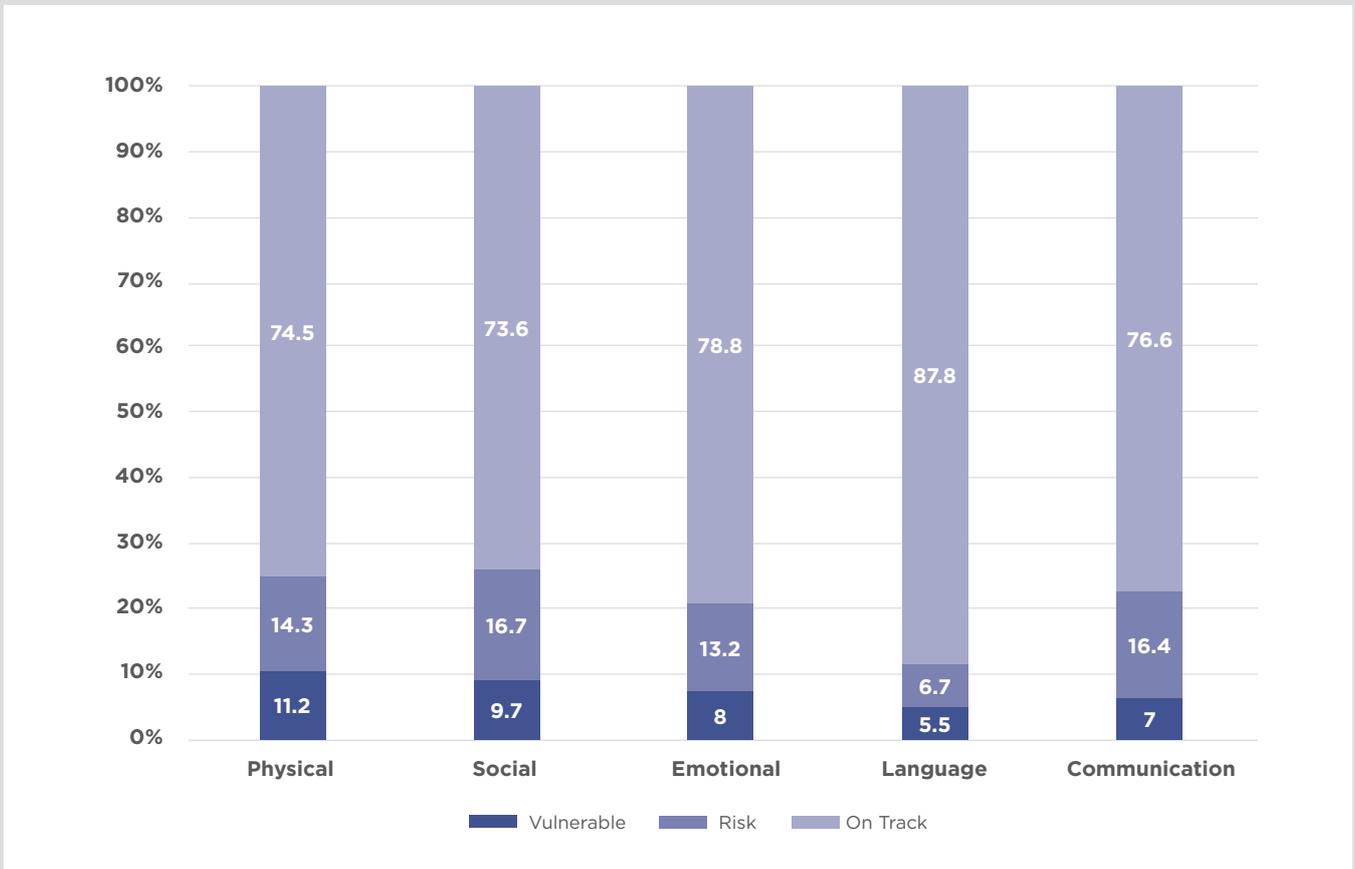
Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135202> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Figure 7. 2018 AEDC results for Port Stephens LGA



Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135212> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Figure 8. 2018 AEDC results for Singleton LGA



Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135220> (accessed 4 October 2019)

The AEDC also has two summary indicators that measure developmental vulnerability across all five domains.

In 2018, 8.8% of children in the Hunter district were developmentally vulnerable on two or more AEDC domains (see Table 8). This is slightly less than the NSW state average of 9.6%. Cessnock had the highest proportion of children developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains at 11.3%. Only 8.4% of children in Newcastle were developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains.

Table 8. Percentage of children developmentally vulnerable in Hunter district, by LGA, 2018

	Developmentally vulnerable on 1 or more domain		Developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains		Total no. of children measured
	No.	%	No.	%	
Cessnock	177	22.8	88	11.3	821
Dungog	21	19.8	10	9.4	108
Lake Macquarie	394	17.7	204	9.1	2,368
Maitland	218	18.3	113	9.4	1,289
Newcastle	366	19.6	157	8.4	1,973
Port Stephens	144	18.7	76	9.8	814
Singleton	65	19.9	32	9.8	374
Hunter	1,385	17.9	680	8.8	7,747
NSW	18,583	19.9	9,001	9.6	97,731

Source: AEDC Data Explorer: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer> (accessed 4 October 2019)



Vulnerable children and young people

Using the Their Futures Matter (TFM) Human Services Dataset, TFM identified three vulnerable groups of children and young people in NSW:

Young children aged 0-5	Children aged 5 or younger at 30 June 2017 with one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 or more parental risk factors• 2 or more perinatal risk factors• Assessment as at ROSH
Children aged under 15 and affected by mental illness	Children under 15 years at 30 June 2017 with one or more the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of NSW mental health services (hospital or ambulatory)• Parental use of NSW mental health services (hospital or ambulatory)
Children and young people aged 15-18 and affected by mental illness	Children and young people between 15-18 years at 30 June 2017 with one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of NSW mental health services (hospital or ambulatory)• Parental use of NSW mental health services (hospital or ambulatory)

For each vulnerable group, TFM identified five indicators associated with poor outcomes later in life. They also identified the proportion of this group with this indicator. TFM identified these indicators by undertaking predictive modelling and analysis, using the TFM Human Services Data set. This dataset brings together data collected by ten different government agencies. It includes data on child protection, housing, justice, health, education and commonwealth service use.

Table 9 shows the top five indicators for each vulnerable group in the Hunter district.

Table 9. Indicators of vulnerable children and young people in the Hunter district

Vulnerable group	Indicator	% of group with indicator
Young children aged 0-5	Parents have interacted with justice system	33
	Mother smoked during pregnancy	32
	Child had concern report	30
	Mother aged 21 and under at childbirth	19
	Parents have been in social housing	11
Children aged under 15 and affected by mental illness	Child had a concern report	46
	Mother smoked during pregnancy	37
	Parents have interacted with justice system	33
	Mother aged 21 and under at childbirth	21
	Parents have been in social housing	20
Children and young people aged 15-18 and affected by mental illness	NAPLAN Year 7 band less than 6	50
	Had concern report in the last three years	38
	Hospital admission in the last three years	28
	Family have been in social housing	25
	Has appeared in court	7

Source: Their Futures Matter, FACS District Data pack, Hunter district

Table 10 shows the number and proportion of children in each of the vulnerable groups by LGA. It also shows us what proportion of this group identify as Aboriginal.

For example, in Cessnock, 4,243 children are under the age of five. Of these children, 42% (n=1,772) were identified as vulnerable and 24% of these vulnerable children identified as Aboriginal. By comparison, in Dungog, 31% of children under the age of five were vulnerable and 19% of these vulnerable children identified as Aboriginal.

When looking at children aged 15 and under, 19% were affected by mental illness in Cessnock and 18% were affected by mental illness in Maitland.

When looking at young people aged between 15 and 18, 21% were affected by mental illness in Cessnock. This is followed by 20% in Lack Macquarie and 19% in both Port Stephens and Maitland.

Table 10. Vulnerable groups of children and young people in the Hunter district, by LGA

		Cessnock	Dungog	Lake Macquarie	Maitland	Newcastle	Port Stephens	Singleton
Young children aged 0-5	No. of C/YP aged under 5	4,243	548	13,184	5,904	10,612	4,064	1,805
	No. of <i>vulnerable</i> C/YP aged under 5	1,772	169	4,078	1,974	2,832	1,389	571
	% of <i>vulnerable</i> C/YP aged under 5	42%	31%	31%	33%	27%	34%	32%
	% who identify as Aboriginal	24%	19%	18%	22%	17%	24%	23%
Children aged under 15 and affected by mental illness	No. of C/YP aged under 15	8,763	1,403	26,443	11,913	19,713	9,164	3,585
	No. of C/YP aged under 15 affected by mental illness	1,164	205	3,983	2,093	2,823	1,559	459
	% of C/YP aged under 15 affected by mental illness	19%	15%	15%	18%	14%	17%	13%
	% of identify as Aboriginal	27%	17%	22%	23%	23%	24%	29%
Children and young people aged 15-18 and affected by mental illness	No. of C/YP aged 15-18	2,658	443	8,519	3,794	5,680	2,918	1,028
	No. of C/YP aged 15-18 affected by mental illness	562	71	1,693	734	1,039	541	176
	% of C/YP aged 15-18 affected by mental illness	21%	16%	20%	19%	18%	19%	17%
	% of identify as Aboriginal	20%	11%	19%	22%	22%	21%	20%

Source: Their Futures Matter, FACS District Data pack, Hunter district

Contact with child protection services

In 2016-17, 1.9% (n=2,637) of children and young people aged 18 and under were in out-of-home care (OOHC) in the Hunter district. The majority of these children and young people were in the Lake Macquarie LGA (n=916).

In 2016-17, 6.9% (n=9,583) of children and young people aged 18 and under were found to be at risk of significant harm (ROSH). The majority of these children were again in the Lake Macquarie LGA (n=2,949).

Dungog had a smallest number of children reported at ROSH or in OOHC.

Table 11. Child Protection Overview in the Hunter district, by LGA, 2016-17

	Total number of children and young people reported		Total number of children and young people at risk of significant harm		Total number of children and young people in out-of-home care, as of 30 June 2017		Total number of CYP 18 and under
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Cessnock	1,774	12.5	1,389	9.8	303	2.1	14,153
Dungog	191	9.0	151	7.1	58	2.7	2,113
Lake Mac-quarie	3,844	8.4	2,949	6.4	916	2.0	45,963
Maitland	2,079	9.9	1,556	7.4	389	1.9	20,952
Newcastle	2,647	8.1	1,943	5.9	501	1.5	32,845
Port Ste-phens	1,480	9.3	1,163	7.3	376	2.4	15,884
Singleton	594	9.6	432	7.0	94	1.5	6,213
Hunter	12,609	9.1	9,583	6.9	2,637	1.9	138,123
NSW	230,343	13.2	168,819	9.7	36,304	2.1	1,742,488

Source: FACS Datacube, accessed 8 October 2019



Economic Environment

Education

In the Hunter district, 16.3% of people aged 15 and over reported having completed a Bachelor degree level and above as their highest level of educational attainment. 12.2% reported completing Year 12 and 21.7% completed a Certificate III or IV (see Table 12).

Table 12. Level of highest educational attainment in Hunter, by LGA (people aged 15 years and over)

Highest level of educational attainment	Cessnock		Dungog		Lake Macquarie		Maitland		Newcastle		Port Stephens		Singleton		Hunter		NSW
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Bachelor Degree level and above	3,299	7.5	883	12.1	25,183	15.6	7,688	12.7	30,271	23.4	6,305	11.1	1,901	10.5	75,530	16.3	23.4
Advanced Diploma and Diploma level	2,799	6.3	666	9.1	14,489	9.0	5,226	8.7	11,267	8.7	5,074	8.9	1,301	7.2	40,822	8.8	8.9
Certificate level IV	1,663	3.8	264	3.6	6,058	3.8	2,756	4.6	4,701	3.6	2,333	4.1	725	4.0	18,500	4.0	2.8
Certificate level III	8,558	19.4	1,334	18.3	28,756	17.8	11,115	18.4	17,626	13.6	10,617	18.6	3,746	20.7	81,752	17.7	12.0
Year 12	4,386	9.9	638	8.7	17,518	10.9	6,850	11.3	18,724	14.5	6,067	10.6	2,029	11.2	56,212	12.2	15.3
Year 11	1,828	4.1	239	3.3	5,727	3.6	2,481	4.1	3,927	3.0	2,171	3.8	788	4.3	17,161	3.7	3.3
Year 10	8,109	18.4	1,263	17.3	25,697	15.9	10,374	17.2	15,848	12.3	9,419	16.5	3,045	16.8	73,755	15.9	11.5
Certificate level II	80	0.2	3	0.0	178	0.1	81	0.1	113	0.1	62	0.1	21	0.1	538	0.1	0.1
Certificate level I	3	0.0	0	0.0	15	0.0	6	0.0	13	0.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	40	0.0	0.0
Year 9 or below	6,140	13.9	890	12.2	17,550	10.9	6,700	11.1	11,130	8.6	5,990	10.5	2,019	11.1	50,419	10.9	8.4
No education attainment	101	0.2	13	0.2	373	0.2	131	0.2	506	0.4	155	0.3	32	0.2	1,311	0.3	0.9
Not stated	6,008	13.6	905	12.4	14,059	8.7	5,241	8.7	11,495	8.9	6,882	12.1	1,970	10.9	46,560	10.1	10.3

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Employment

There were 276,944 of people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in the Hunter district (see Table 13). Of these, 55.2% were employed full time, 32.5% were employed part-time and 7.2% were unemployed.

The proportion of people who were unemployed was highest in Cessnock (8.7%) and lowest in Dungog (5.5%).

Table 13. Employment in Hunter district, by LGA

	Worked full-time		Worked part-time		Away from work		Unemployed		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cessnock	12,738	53.7	7,571	32.0	1,316	5.6	2,059	8.7	23,684	100
Dungog	2,254	54.7	1,404	34.1	233	5.7	227	5.5	4,118	100
Lake Macquarie	50,244	54.9	30,476	33.3	4,543	5.0	6,295	6.9	91,558	100
Maitland	21,447	57.3	11,458	30.6	1,789	4.8	2,741	7.3	37,435	100
Newcastle	43,399	55.0	25,820	32.7	3,816	4.8	5,829	7.4	78,864	99.9
Port Stephens	15,925	53.5	10,009	33.6	1,669	5.6	2,151	7.2	29,754	99.9
Singleton	6,859	59.5	3,333	28.9	634	5.5	705	6.1	11,531	100
Hunter	152,866	55.2	90,071	32.5	14,000	5.1	20,007	7.2	276,944	100
NSW		59.2		29.7		4.8		6.3		100

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Income

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in the Hunter district was \$612 (see Table 14).

Table 14. Median weekly income in Hunter, by LGA (people aged 15 years and over)

	Personal	Family	Household
Cessnock	\$540	\$1,414	\$1,177
Dungog	\$578	\$1,474	\$1,226
Lake Macquarie	\$609	\$1,610	\$1,313
Maitland	\$644	\$1,664	\$1,415
Newcastle	\$660	\$1,778	\$1,368
Port Stephens	\$571	\$1,431	\$1,180
Singleton	\$684	\$1,981	\$1,682
Hunter	\$612	\$1,621	\$1,337
NSW	\$664	\$1,780	\$1,486

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

All LGAs in the Hunter District, excluding Singleton, had higher proportions of low-income households, compared to the state average (see Table 15). In Cessnock, 24% of households earned less than \$650 a week, compared to the NSW state average of 19.7%.

Table 15. Household income in Hunter district, by LGA

	% of households with less than \$650 gross weekly income	% of households with more than \$3000 gross weekly income
Cessnock	24	9.7
Dungog	22.6	11.4
Lake Macquarie	21.4	13.1
Maitland	19.0	13.3
Newcastle	22.2	14.6
Port Stephens	23.2	10.0
Singleton	17.6	19.3
NSW	19.7	18.7

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Socio-economic advantage and disadvantage

The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is a measure used to rank areas in Australia according to socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. It is based on information from the five-yearly Census of Population and Housing.

The information presented below is based on the Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD). The IRSAD summarises information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an area.

In the Hunter district, out of the seven LGAs, Newcastle has the highest SEIFA score (996) and is ranked the highest (see Table 16). This means Newcastle is relatively advantaged compared to the other LGAs in the Hunter district.

Conversely, out of the seven LGAs, Cessnock has the lowest SEIFA score (904) and is ranked the lowest. This means Cessnock is relatively disadvantaged compared to the other LGAs in the Hunter district.

Table 16. LGA Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage

	Score ¹	NSW Rank ²	NSW Decile ³
Cessnock	904	12	1
Dungog	973	83	7
Lake Macquarie	979	89	7
Maitland	966	75	6
Newcastle	996	96	8
Port Stephens	959	70	6
Singleton	974	85	7

Source: ABS, Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), 2016, 2033.0.55.001, accessed 7 October 2019, <https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/2033.0.55.0012016?OpenDocument>

- ¹ **Score:** A low IRSAD score indicates that an area is relatively disadvantaged compared to an area with a higher score.
- ² **Rank:** All areas are ranked from the lowest to the highest score. The area with the lowest score is ranked number one, the area with the highest score is ranked 129. The State Rank can only be used to compare areas with a single state/territory.
- ³ **Decile:** All areas are ordered from the lowest to highest score, the lowest 10% of areas are given a decile number of 1 and so on, up to the highest 10% of areas which are given a number of 10. This means that areas are divided into 10 groups, depending on their score. Decile 1 is the most disadvantaged relative to other deciles.

Social Environment

Community safety and crime

In the Hunter district, 2,623 domestic violence-related assaults and 2,704 non-domestic violence-related assaults occurred between January and December 2018 (see Table 17).

Domestic violence-related assault was most likely to occur in the Maitland LGA, with a rate of 597.6 per 100,000 people. Maitland was also ranked the highest for non-domestic violence-related assaults.

Table 17. Incidents of crime recorded by the NSW Police Force in the Hunter district, by LGA, January - December 2018

	Domestic violence-related assault			Non-domestic violence-related assault		
	No.	Rate per 100,000 population	Rank in NSW ¹	No.	Rate per 100,000 population	Rank in NSW
Cessnock	306	532.0	39	207	359.9	63
Dungog	31	337.4	72	20	217.7	98
Lake Macquarie	737	362.4	66	700	344.2	69
Maitland	484	597.6	28	373	460.6	47
Newcastle	618	380.6	62	1,053	648.6	13
Port Stephens	351	489.3	49	266	370.8	58
Singleton	96	408.8	58	85	362.0	62

Source: Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Local Government Area Excel crime table: https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx (accessed 4 October 2019)

¹ Ranked by rate of domestic and non-domestic violence per 100,000 population, from 1-129 (where number 129 equals the lowest rate, and number one equals the highest).



In the Hunter district, cannabis-related offences were most common. Singleton had the highest rate of possession and/or use of cannabis at 319.4 per 100,000 of the population. This was followed by Cessnock which had a rate of 276.4.

Amphetamine-related offences were next most common. Cessnock had the highest rate of possession and/or use of amphetamine at a rate of 257.3 per 100,000 of the population. This was followed by Singleton at 208.7 per 100,000 of the population.

Table 18. Recorded drug offences (possession and/or use) in Hunter district, Jan-Dec 2018, by LGA

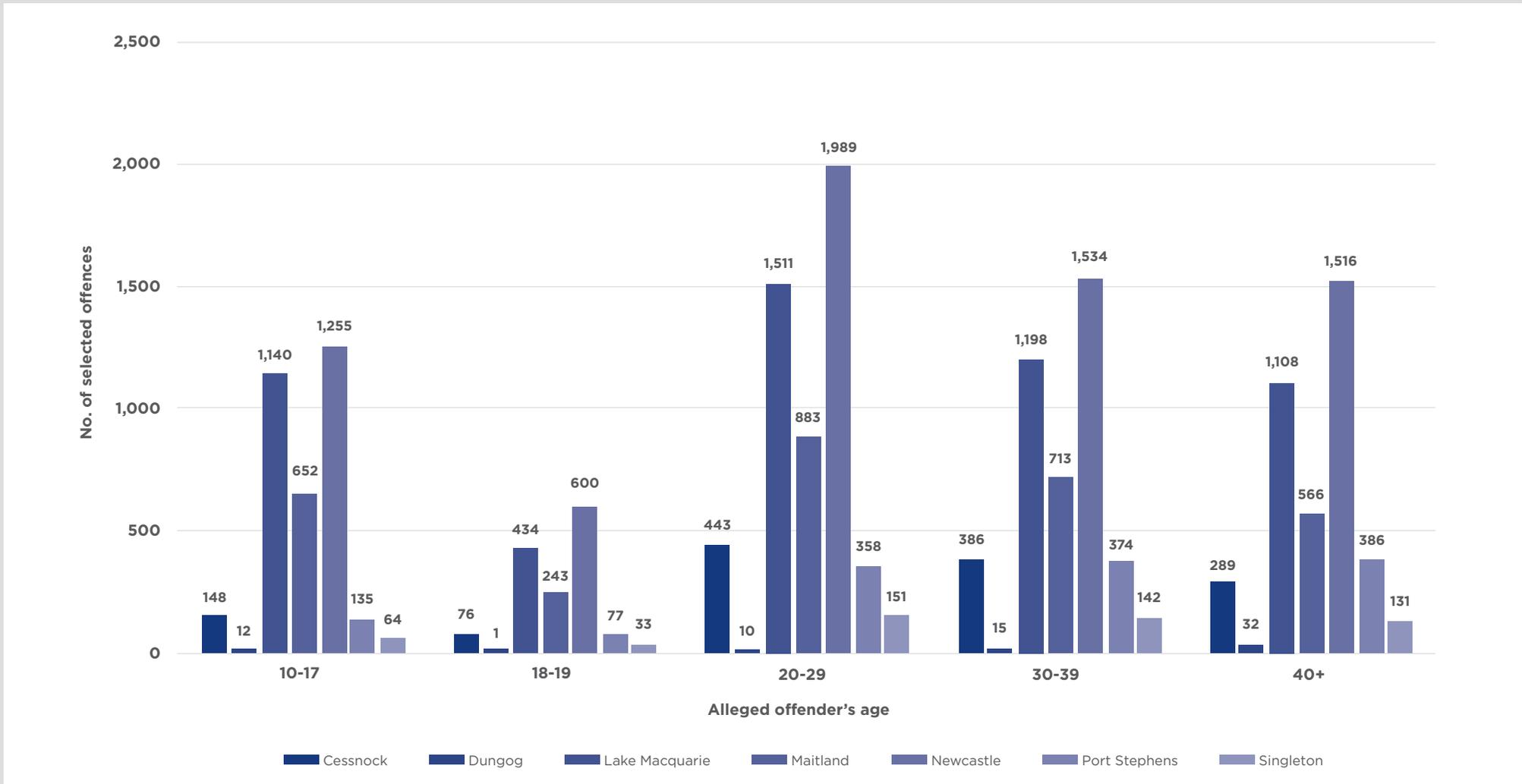
	Cessnock		Dungog		Lake Macquarie		Maitland		Newcastle		Port Stephens		Singleton	
	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000	No.	Rate per 100,000
Cocaine	1	1.7	0	0.0	9	4.4	4	4.9	14	8.6	4	5.6	1	4.3
Narcotics	4	7.0	0	0.0	2	1.0	1	1.2	11	6.8	5	7.0	0	0.0
Cannabis	159	276.4	12	130.6	318	156.4	173	213.6	228	140.4	149	207.7	75	319.4
Amphetamine	148	257.3	1	10.9	189	92.9	137	169.2	162	99.8	87	121.3	49	208.7
Ecstasy	16	27.8	0	0.0	21	10.3	32	39.5	46	28.3	4	5.6	1	4.3
Other drugs	21	36.5	2	21.8	53	26.1	48	59.3	66	40.7	24	33.5	9	38.3

Source: Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Local Government Area Excel crime table: https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx (accessed 4 October 2019)



When looking at the age of alleged offenders in the Hunter district, 20-29 year olds committed the largest number of offences. This was followed by 30-39 year olds and 40 year olds and above (see Figure 9). This was common across Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Newcastle, and Singleton.

Figure 9. Age of alleged offenders proceeded against by NSW Police for incidents of selected offences¹ in the Hunter district, 2018²



Source: Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Local Government Area Excel crime table: https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx (accessed 4 October 2019)

¹ For the full list of selected offences please see the original source

² The year the alleged offenders were proceeded against, rather than the year the incident was recorded

Maternal Health

Teenage pregnancy

Teenage parenthood is associated with a number of adversities, including low socio-economic status, educational under-achievement and drugs abuse. In turn, young parenthood can act to further entrench some of these problems and perpetuate a cycle of disadvantage.

In 2018, 191 mothers aged 19 and under gave birth in the Hunter district (see Table 19). This accounts for 2.7% of all births in this district. This proportion is higher than the NSW state average of 1.9%.

The LGA of Cessnock had the highest proportion of young mothers aged 19 and under in 2018, 5.1%.

Table 19. Young mothers who gave birth¹ in Hunter district, by LGA, 2018

LGA	No. of mothers 19 and under	% of mothers giving birth aged 19 and under	Total no. of births
Cessnock	41	5.1	790
Dungog	5	4.6	108
Lake Macquarie	52	2.4	2,195
Maitland	31	2.8	1,097
Newcastle	39	2.1	1,813
Port Stephens	16	2.5	651
Singleton	7	2.3	319
Hunter	191	2.7	6,973
NSW	1,792	1.9	94,145

Source: NSW Healthstats: http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab_mbth_age/mab_mbth_age_lgmap (accessed 4 October 2019)

¹ Number of mothers who gave birth (stillbirth or live birth) in NSW, regardless of place of permanent residence

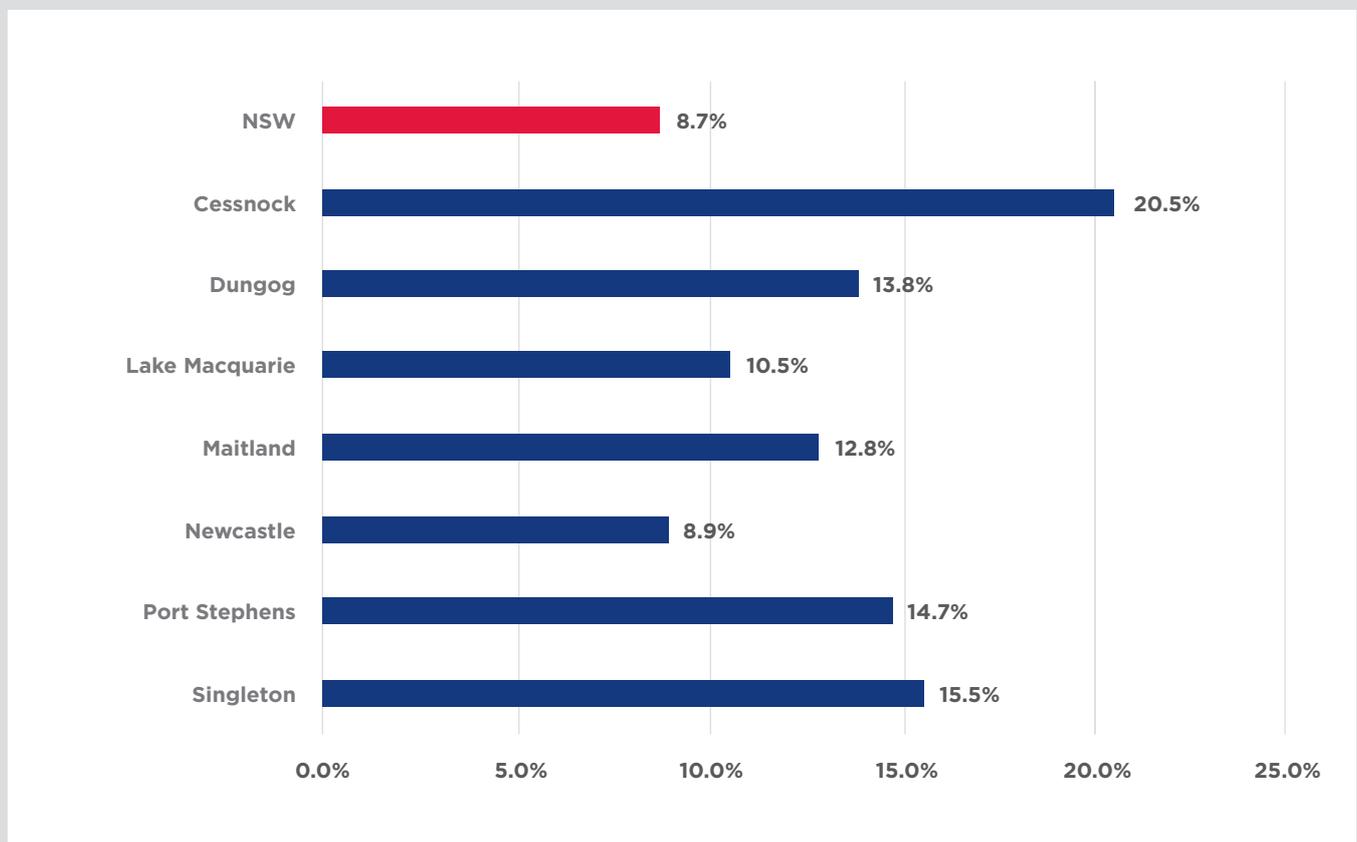
Smoking during pregnancy

Smoking during pregnancy is an important modifiable risk factor for low birthweight, pre-term birth, placental complications and perinatal mortality.

Between 2015-2017, mothers in the Hunter District were more likely to smoke during their pregnancy, compared to the NSW state as a whole (see Figure 10).

In the Hunter district, Cessnock had the highest proportion of mothers who smoked during their pregnancy, at 20.5%. Newcastle has the lowest proportion of mothers who smoked during their pregnancy, at 8.9%.

Figure 10. Proportion of mothers in the Hunter district who smoked during pregnancy, 2015-2017



Source: Healthstats NSW: http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab_smo_cat/mab_smo_cat_lga_trend (accessed 4 October 2019)

Australian Mothers Index

Since 2000, Save the Children has produced a Mother's Index showing where mothers do best and where they face the greatest hardships. This index compares countries world-wide, as well as Australian states and territories and LGAs.

The information in Table 20 is derived from the Local-level Mothers Index. Five indicators make up this index:

- maternal health - the proportion of pregnant women with at least one antenatal visit in the first trimester
- children's wellbeing - the proportion of children under 5 developmentally on track (measured by the AEDC)
- educational status - the proportion of women completing Year 12 or above
- economic status - average household income
- relative socioeconomic disadvantage - a measure of a mother's access to material and social resources and her ability to participate in society.

These indicators were used to rank every LGA in NSW, where 1 is the best rank and 152 is the worst.

Newcastle performed the best out of the seven LGAs in the Hunter district, receiving a rank of 27 out of 152 (see Table 20). Cessnock received the lowest rank of the seven LGAs, at 114 out of 152. This means that mothers in Cessnock are facing much greater hardships than mothers in Newcastle.

Table 20. Mothers Index Ranking in the Hunter district, by LGA

LGA	NSW Ranking
Cessnock	114
Dungog	48
Lake Macquarie	45
Maitland	49
Newcastle	27
Port Stephens	77
Singleton	47

Source: Harris, J and Wells, M, 2016, State of Australia's Mothers, Save the Children, Sydney, <https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2016/05/apo-nid63692-1201431.pdf> (accessed 4 October 2019)

Disability

Need for assistance with core activities

In the Hunter district, 6.3% of the population need help or assistance with core activities (see Table 21). This amounts to 36,744 people. In the Cessnock LGA, 7.2% of people need help or assistance with core activities. This was the highest proportion of all seven LGAs. In Singleton LGA, 4.5% of people need help or assistance with core activities. This was the smallest proportion of all seven LGAs.

Table 21. Need for assistance with core activities¹ in Hunter district, by LGA

	Has need for assistance		Does not have need for assistance		Need for assistance not stated		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Cessnock	4,001	7.2	46,452	83.6	5,104	9.2	55,560
Dungog	513	5.7	7,785	86.7	677	7.6	8,975
Lake Macquarie	13,085	6.7	174,570	88.4	9,713	4.9	197,371
Maitland	4,448	5.8	68,515	88.6	4,333	5.6	77,305
Newcastle	9,197	5.9	137,673	88.6	8,549	5.5	155,411
Port Stephens	4,455	6.4	59,709	85.8	5,396	7.8	69,556
Singleton	1,045	4.5	20,124	87.5	1,816	8.0	22,987
Hunter	36,744	6.3	514,828	87.7	35,588	6.0	587,165
NSW	402,048	5.4	6,558,727	87.7	519,452	6.9	7,480,228

Source: ABS, 2016 Census Community Profiles: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20Census%20Community%20Profiles> (accessed 4 October 2019)

¹ A person's need for help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility, and communication, because of a disability, long-term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age.

Housing

Households

In the Hunter district, the average number of people per households was 2.6 (see Table 22). This is the same as the NSW state average.

The majority of households in the Hunter district are family households (71%). Single person households make up 25.3% of all households. Only 3.7% of households in the district are group households.

Table 22. Household Composition in Hunter, by LGA

LGA	Single-person households		Group households		Family households		Total	Average people per household
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.
Cessnock	4,827	24.9	523	2.7	14,021	72.4	19,371	2.6
Dungog	779	23.9	58	1.8	2,416	74.3	3,253	2.5
Lake Macquarie	17,610	24.1	1,763	2.4	53,698	73.5	73,071	2.5
Maitland	5,948	21.7	662	2.4	20,758	75.8	27,368	2.7
Newcastle	17,490	29.2	4,103	6.8	38,386	64.0	59,979	2.4
Port Stephens	6,360	25.0	643	2.5	18,447	72.5	25,450	2.5
Singleton	1,719	22.2	166	2.1	5,850	75.6	7,735	2.7
Hunter	54,733	25.3	7,918	3.7	153,576	71.0	216,227	2.6
NSW		23.8		4.2		72.0		2.6

Source: ABS Quickstats, Census 2016: https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/LGA11720?opendocument (accessed 4 October 2019)

Tenure types

In the Hunter district, 33.9% of occupied private dwellings were owned outright, 34.4% were owned with a mortgage and 28.2% were rented (see Table 23).

Dungog had the highest proportion of private dwellings that were owned outright, at 42.4%. Maitland had the smallest proportion of private dwellings owned outright, at 28.9%.

Newcastle had the highest proportion of rented private dwellings, at 35.5%. Dungog had the smallest proportion of rented private dwellings at 17.6%.

Table 23. Tenure of occupied private dwelling in the Hunter district, by LGA

LGA	Owned outright		Owned with mortgage		Rented		Other tenure		Not stated	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cessnock	6,380	32.9	6,839	35.3	5,416	28.0	133	0.7	601	3.1
Dungog	1,380	42.4	1,207	37.1	572	17.6	20	0.6	75	2.3
Lake Macquarie	27,569	37.7	26,186	35.8	16,794	23.0	798	1.1	1,741	2.4
Maitland	7,902	28.9	10,479	38.3	8,073	29.5	257	0.9	666	2.4
Newcastle	17,928	29.9	18,773	31.3	21,295	35.5	437	0.7	1,552	2.6
Port Stephens	9,813	38.6	7,957	31.3	6,666	26.2	218	0.9	794	3.1
Singleton	2,371	30.6	2,943	38.0	2,200	28.4	58	0.7	171	2.2
Hunter	73,343	33.9	74,384	34.4	61,016	28.2	1,921	0.9	5,600	2.6
NSW		32.2		32.3		31.8		0.9		2.8

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 25 September 2019)

Housing affordability

One way to measure housing stress is to calculate the percentage of households who spend more than 30% of their household income on rent or mortgage payments.

In the Hunter district, Newcastle has the highest proportion of households in rental stress (14.2%) (see Table 14). This is above the NSW state average of 12.9%. All other LGAs were below the state average. Dungog had the smallest proportion of households in rental stress, at 6.1%.

In the Hunter district, Dungog had the highest proportion of households in mortgage stress, at 8.1%. This is slightly higher than the NSW state average of 7.4%. All other LGAs were below the state.

Table 24. Mortgage and rent payments in the Hunter district, by LGA¹

	Renting Households			Home-owning households		
	Average weekly rent	Rent payments are <30% of household income	Rent payments are ≥30% of household income	Average monthly mortgage payments	Mortgage repayments are <30% of household's income	Mortgage payments are ≥30% of household income
Cessnock	\$280	88.4%	11.6%	\$1,517	93.5%	6.5%
Dungog	\$245	93.9%	6.1%	\$1,662	91.9%	8.1%
Lake Macquarie	\$320	90.4%	9.6%	\$1,733	93.5%	6.5%
Maitland	\$320	88.9%	11.1%	\$1,733	93.4%	6.6%
Newcastle	\$340	85.8%	14.2%	\$1,768	94.6%	5.4%
Port Stephens	\$305	89.2%	10.8%	\$1,733	93.6%	6.4%
Singleton	\$280	92.4%	7.6%	\$1,950	93.2%	6.8%
NSW	\$380	87.1%	12.9%	\$1,986	92.6%	7.4%

Source: ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016%20QuickStats> (accessed 25 September 2019)

¹ The number of households where rent and mortgage payments were 30% or more of an imputed income measure are expressed in this table as a proportion of the total number of households in an area. The nature of the income imputation means that the reported proportion may significantly overstate the true proportion.

Social housing

As of 30 June 2018, there was 13,028 social housing residential dwellings in the Hunter district (see Table 25). Public housing accounted for 79.7% of these dwellings and community housing accounted for 15.3%. The majority of these dwellings were in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie.

Table 25. Social Housing Residential Dwellings in the Hunter district, as at 30 June 2018

	Public Housing		Aboriginal Housing Office		Community Housing		Indigenous Community Housing		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Cessnock	670	85.1	16	2.0	98	12.5	3	0.4	787
Dungog	27	96.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	3.6	28
Lake Macquarie	3,229	77.1	138	3.3	754	18.0	67	1.6	4,188
Maitland	1,407	78.2	59	3.3	313	17.4	21	1.2	1,800
Newcastle	3,865	80.7	115	2.4	775	16.2	34	0.7	4,789
Port Stephens	804	79.1	28	2.8	131	12.9	54	5.3	1,017
Singleton	385	91.9	9	2.1	22	5.3	3	0.7	419
Hunter	10,387	79.7	349	2.7	1,995	15.3	183	1.4	13,028
NSW	111,341	73.4	4,603	3.0	30,757	20.3	7,971	5.3	151,672

Source: FACS Administrative Data, unpublished.

As of 30 June 2018, there were 10,363 public housing and Aboriginal housing tenancies in the Hunter district (see Table 26). Public housing made up 96.7% of all tenancies and Aboriginal housing made up 3.2% of all tenancies.

Table 26. Public Housing and Aboriginal Housing Office Tenancies in the Hunter district, as at 30 June 2018

	Public Housing		Aboriginal Housing Office		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	
Cessnock	650	97.9	14	2.1	664
Dungog	27	100.0	0	0.0	27
Lake Macquarie	3,139	95.9	133	4.1	3,272
Maitland	1,369	96.6	48	3.4	1,417
Newcastle	3,684	97.0	113	3.0	3,797
Port Stephens	784	96.7	27	3.3	811
Singleton	366	97.6	9	2.4	375
Hunter	10,019	96.7	330	3.2	10,363
NSW	106,895	96.0	4,414	4.0	111,309

Source: FACS Administrative Data, unpublished.