



# Penrith Disability Snapshot Westir Data Report

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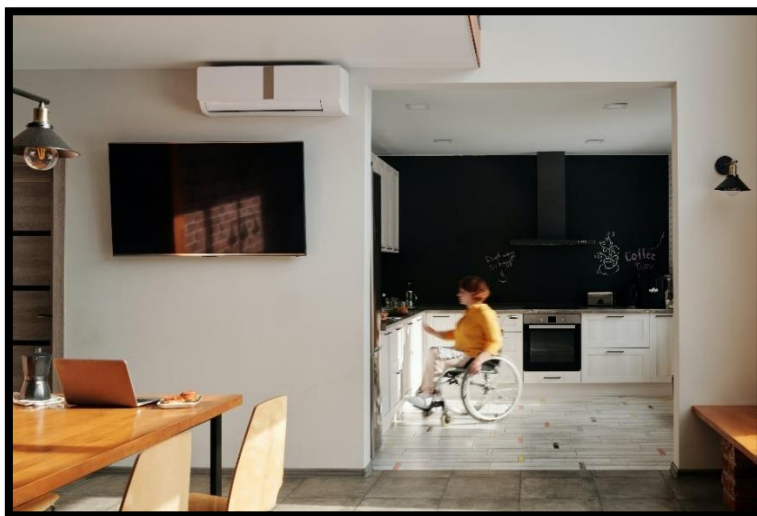


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## Abbreviations

ABI	Acquired Brain Injury
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANROWS	Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety
BOCSAR	NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
DCJ	NSW Department of Communities and Justice (formerly FACS)
DFV	Domestic and Family Violence
GWS	Greater Western Sydney
LGA	Local Government Area
LHD	Local Health District
LTHC	Long Term Health Condition
NA	Not Applicable or Not Available
NDIA	National Disability Insurance Agency
NDIS	National Disability Insurance Scheme
NSW	New South Wales
OTE	Other than English (Language)
PSS	Personal Safety Survey
SA	Statistical Area
SDAC	Survey of Ageing, Disability and Carers
WESTIR Limited	Western Sydney Regional Information and Research Service



## Regions

All regions analysed in this paper are compiled from Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) boundaries. Most regions are based on local government area (LGA) boundaries.

Where data is not available on an LGA level, ABS boundaries for the **Penrith Statistical Area 3** (SA3) are used (see Map 1).

Penrith LGA is compared to Greater Western Sydney and New South Wales. **Greater Western Sydney** (GWS) consists of the following 13 LGAs (see Map 1):

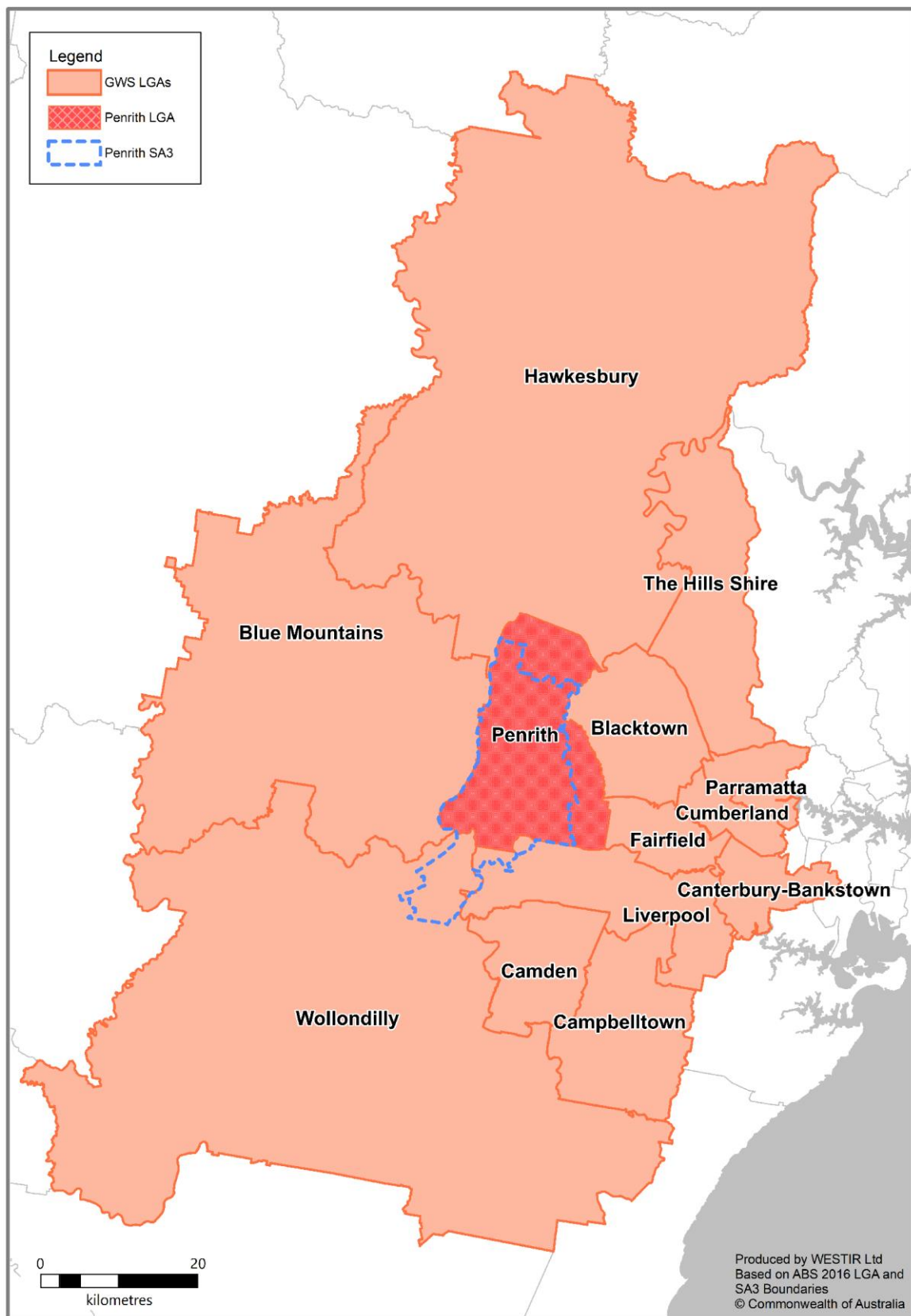
- Blacktown
- Blue Mountains
- Camden
- Campbelltown
- Canterbury-Bankstown
- Cumberland
- Fairfield
- Hawkesbury
- Liverpool
- Parramatta
- Penrith
- The Hills Shire
- Wollondilly

ABS boundaries for Local Health Districts (LHD) are also used. The LHD incorporating Penrith LGA is the **Nepean Blue Mountains LHD**. Comparison is made to **GWS LHDs**, which consists of:

- **Nepean Blue Mountains LHD**, made up of Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Lithgow and Penrith LGAs.
- **South Western Sydney LHD**, made up of Camden, Campbelltown, Canterbury-Bankstown, Fairfield, Liverpool, Wingecarribee and Wollondilly LGAs.
- **Western Sydney LHD**, made up of Blacktown, Cumberland, Parramatta and the Hills Shire LGAs.



**Map 1: Penrith (LGA and SA3), location in Greater Western Sydney**



# 1. Introduction

The aim of this paper is to report on the demographic status and trends of people living with disabilities in the Penrith Local Government Area (LGA), NSW. The Penrith LGA is located in the Greater Western Sydney region and recorded a population of 196,064 people in the 2016 Australia Census. This paper was commissioned by Penrith City Council in May 2021.

The paper discusses who among Penrith's approximately 200,000 residents needed assistance with their core activities, based on data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census 2016 and other sources. Such figures are cross tabulated by demographics including age, gender, degree of core activity limitation, and Indigenous status. The paper also examines Penrith LGA by suburb to reflect on how many Penrith residents were living with a disability while living in a lone person household, speaking a language other than English (OTE) at home, and participating in the labour force.

The paper concludes with an overview of the number and proportion of Penrith residents with disabilities by their education level, housing tenure, type of disability, and potential experience of domestic and family violence. Reflections on people living with disabilities attending schools, or people providing unpaid assistance to people living with disability, are also provided.

## 1.2 Data sources and terminology

This paper draws on data from five sources, as noted throughout, and listed in the accompanying databook (available upon request). These sources, briefly introduced below, are:

- i. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) most recent Australian Census of Population and Housing (2016), including the datasets Place of Usual Residence, Place of Enumeration, and Homelessness Estimates
- ii. ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) (2018)
- iii. National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) most recent National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participant data (2020)
- iv. ABS Personal Safety Survey (2018)
- v. Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR)

In each of these sources, disability is defined in different ways. The analysis in this paper predominantly adopts the ABS Census definition, which is based on peoples need for assistance with self-care activities. Using this term is appropriate as it is the best proxy for disability status within the Census. Drawing on this variable, this paper also refers to people living with disability as people with need for assistance in core activities. However, it must be noted that as with many Census and survey indicators, the variable has limitations. For example, people with a core activity need for assistance may not identify as being disabled. Equally, others may identify as disabled but not require assistance to fulfil any or all self-





care activities. This is particularly critical considering the ABS Census variable 'core activity need for assistance' measures the number of people with a profound or severe disability, excluding people with a mild or moderate disability. Due to such limitations, the conclusions drawn from this analysis must be interpreted with care.

#### i. ABS Census of Population and Housing

The ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016 is the primary source of information analysed in this paper. To provide a demographic snapshot of people living with disability in Penrith LGA, the primary variable analysed in this paper is 'core activity need for assistance'. The 'core activity need for assistance' variable was introduced to the Australian Census in 2006 and serves as an indicator of disability status. As the ABS explains:

*This variable ('core activity need for assistance') measures the number of people with a profound or severe disability. This population is defined as people who need assistance in their day to day lives with any or all of the following core activities - self care, mobility or communication because of a disability, long-term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age. It is applicable to all persons.<sup>1</sup>*

The variable is formed by combining four questions asked in the Australian Census. These questions are included in Appendix 1. The questions refer to three core activity areas: self-care, mobility, and communication. People who need assistance in one or more of these core activity areas due to a disability, long-term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age are defined as people living with a profound or severe disability, and thus counted as a person with disability through the ABS Census.<sup>2</sup>

#### ii. ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC)

The variable of 'core activity need for assistance', while invaluable, it is not the sole source of information about people living with disability in Penrith LGA. Another source is the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC). As the ABS state,

*...of all ABS collections of disability data, only the (SDAC) is considered to comprehensively measure disability populations, and to provide rates of prevalence at the national and state levels.*

The SDAC variable 'disability status' is related to the ABS 'need for assistance with core activities' Census variable. According to the ABS, "the purpose of the Census is to identify

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<sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics 2017, 'Core Activity Need for Assistance (ASSNP)', Understanding the Census and Census Data, available at <https://bit.ly/2QcB3pi>

<sup>2</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016, 'Core Activity Need for Assistance', Census Dictionary, available at <https://bit.ly/2SqnjYA>.



people with a 'profound or severe core activity limitation' using similar criteria to the SDAC".<sup>3</sup>

The SDAC was first conducted in 1981. Since 2009, it has been conducted every 3 years.<sup>4</sup> Data for the SDAC is collected via personal visits to households (including private dwellings and self-care retirement villages) and the completion of paper forms in establishments that provide long-term care accommodation. This paper draws on the findings of the most recent SDAC, which was undertaken in 2018. In conducting the 2018 survey, it is important to note that the survey did not reach all locations, meaning that the findings exclude people who were living in places such as hotels, religious and educational institutions, homeless shelters, correctional institutions, boarding houses, and more.<sup>5</sup>

### iii. National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participation

The third data source utilised in this report is the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) data regarding participation in the NDIS. The definition of disability employed in the NDIS is narrow compared to the ABS Census and SDAC definitions. This is because the NDIS "seeks to target those people with disability who have a significant impairment to their functional capacity".<sup>6</sup> According to the NDIA, prospective NDIS participants "will meet the disability requirement if they meet each of the following requirements:

- "The prospective participant has a disability that is attributable to one or more intellectual, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairments *or* to one or more impairments attributable to a psychiatric condition;
- The prospective participant's impairment/s are, or are likely to be, permanent;
- The prospective participant's impairment/s result in substantially reduced functional capacity to undertake, or psychosocial functioning in undertaking, one or more of the following relevant activities: communication; social interaction; learning; mobility; self-care; or self-management", such as social and economic participation, and the likeliness of requiring lifetime support.<sup>7</sup>

Several NDIS datasets are made publicly available online. The first NDIS dataset utilised in this paper is aggregated participant data on an LGA level. The second dataset included in this analysis is the number of people receiving support by disability type, which due to the degree of detail, is currently only available on Local Health District (LHD) or state levels. As

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<sup>3</sup> ABS 2016, 'Core Activity Need for Assistance', Census Dictionary, available at <https://bit.ly/3bShU3A>

<sup>4</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2018, 'Survey of Disability, Ageing and Caring (SDAC)', MeTEOR Metadata Online Registry, available at <https://bit.ly/3flcrgN>

<sup>5</sup> ABS 2019, 'Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings Methodology', available at <https://bit.ly/34jggUc>

<sup>6</sup> For further detail on defining disability in the NDIS, see NDIA 2019, 'Access to the NDIS – The disability requirements' available at <https://bit.ly/3yTYNjg>

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*



such, to understand the types of disabilities experienced in Penrith, this paper draws on data Nepean Blue Mountains LHD, where Penrith LGA is located.

To complement the publicly available online data and provide information that is most accurate for Penrith LGA, WESTIR Ltd has submitted a Tailored Data Request to the NDIA. The request was submitted on Monday, 24 May 2021 and sought data regarding the number of NDIS participants by disability type and age group in Penrith LGA only. At the time of publication, WESTIR Limited await the outcome of this request. If, or when, the requested information is made available, WESTIR Limited will provide an addendum to this report.

#### iv. ABS Personal Safety Survey

The ABS Personal Safety Survey (PSS) is a nationwide, voluntary survey that collects information from a sample of people aged 18 and over about “the nature and extent of violence experienced since the age of 15”.<sup>8</sup> This report includes discussions of the most recent PSS, which was conducted between November 2016 and June 2017. A total of 21,242 people completed the questionnaire in this period. Approximately, three quarters of respondents were female (n=15,589) and one quarter was male (n=5,653).<sup>9</sup>

The PSS presents findings on various forms and experiences of violence. In 2016, information was sought on violence such as physical assault, sexual assault, physical or sexual threat, and stalking. Where violence was experienced, information was sought on the perpetrator, including their gender and relationship to the survey respondent, such as partner, ex-partner, known person, and stranger.

Through the PSS’s collection of a respondent’s socio-demographic characteristics, the ABS develop estimates as to the extent of violence experienced among demographic groups, such as people living with disability. In this survey, “disability status is determined based on the respondents’ conditions at the time of the survey”.<sup>10</sup> This means that a person’s disability status at the time of the survey “does not necessarily indicate whether they had a disability or a long-term health condition at the time” of the violent incident.<sup>11</sup> The ABS also acknowledge that the survey was limited, in that the sample under-represented people with a profound or severe communication disability and excluded people living in non-private dwellings, such as care facilities.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> ABS 2017, ‘Personal Safety, Australia methodology’, available at <https://bit.ly/3wK4zT5>

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>10</sup> ABS 2018, ‘Experiences of Violence and Personal Safety of People with Disability, 2016’, available at <https://bit.ly/2SxtJWg>

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid*



## v. BOCSAR

The final data source used in this report is NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR). BOCSAR records reported incidents of crime, categorised by crime or incident type and LGA. BOCSAR also provides estimated rates of incidents per 100,000 of a population, demonstrating the prevalence of a crime within an area. However, BOCSAR does not provide publicly available information on the number of incidents involving people living with a disability. As such, BOCSAR data is used in this paper alongside the ABS Personal Safety Survey to posit the prevalence of violence among people living with a disability.

When considering the analysis of BOCSAR figures provided later in this paper, it is important to understand that BOCSAR records only display reported instances of a crime. For example, domestic and family violence (DFV) – the central focus of the BOCSAR analysis in this paper – is acknowledged by bodies such as the NSW Police and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) as a significantly underreported crime.<sup>13</sup> Even so, viewing BOCSAR data alongside figures from the ABS Personal Safety Survey highlights key findings about forms of violence (such as DFV) perpetrated on people living with disability.

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<sup>13</sup> AIHW 2018, 'Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia', available at <https://bit.ly/3fH5s7L>; NSW Police n.d., 'Domestic Violence Information Sheet', available at <https://bit.ly/3vI0pRc>



## 2. People with need for assistance with core activities

In 2016, a total of 10,153 people living in Penrith LGA required assistance with core activities, representing approximately 5.2% of the LGA population. As such, Penrith LGA was home to a smaller proportion of people living with disability compared to GWS (5.6%) and NSW overall (5.4%).

To better understand the lives and needs of people living with disability in Penrith LGA, the following section outlines demographic information regarding Penrith residents who required assistance with core activities. Categorised by age groups, this section reflects on the gender, degree of core activity limitation, and Indigenous status of Penrith LGA residents with disability.

### 2.1 Gender

According to the 2016 Census, more women needed assistance with core activities (n=5,258) than men (n=4,888) across Penrith LGA. This echoes the trend seen across GWS and NSW, where females with disability outnumbered males with disability (see Table 1).

Gendered differences are seen among age groups. As seen in Table 1 and Figure 1, young Penrith LGA residents in need of assistance were more likely to be male in 2016. Meanwhile, older people in need of assistance were more likely to be female. There are several possible explanations for these trends. For example, for young people, these findings may support the argument that disabilities such as autism are more likely to be undiagnosed among girls compared to boys.<sup>14</sup>

For age groups over 60 years, the comparatively higher count of women in need of assistance may be reflective of the longer life expectancy of women compared to men in Australia. Reporting may also differ by gender, with some research suggesting that older men are less likely than women to report if they have a disability.<sup>15</sup> Regardless, research asserts that gendered differences in disability are minimal.

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<sup>14</sup> Autism Awareness Australia 2021, 'Autism and girls', available at <https://bit.ly/3hNwGfP>; Child Mind Institute, n.d., 'Why Nany Autistic Girls Are Overlooked', available at <https://bit.ly/3fBLU4A>

<sup>15</sup> MA Rodrigues, LA Facchini, E Thumé and F Maia, 2009, 'Gender and incidence of functional disability in the elderly: A systematic review', *Cad Saude Publica*, 25, pp.S464-S476.



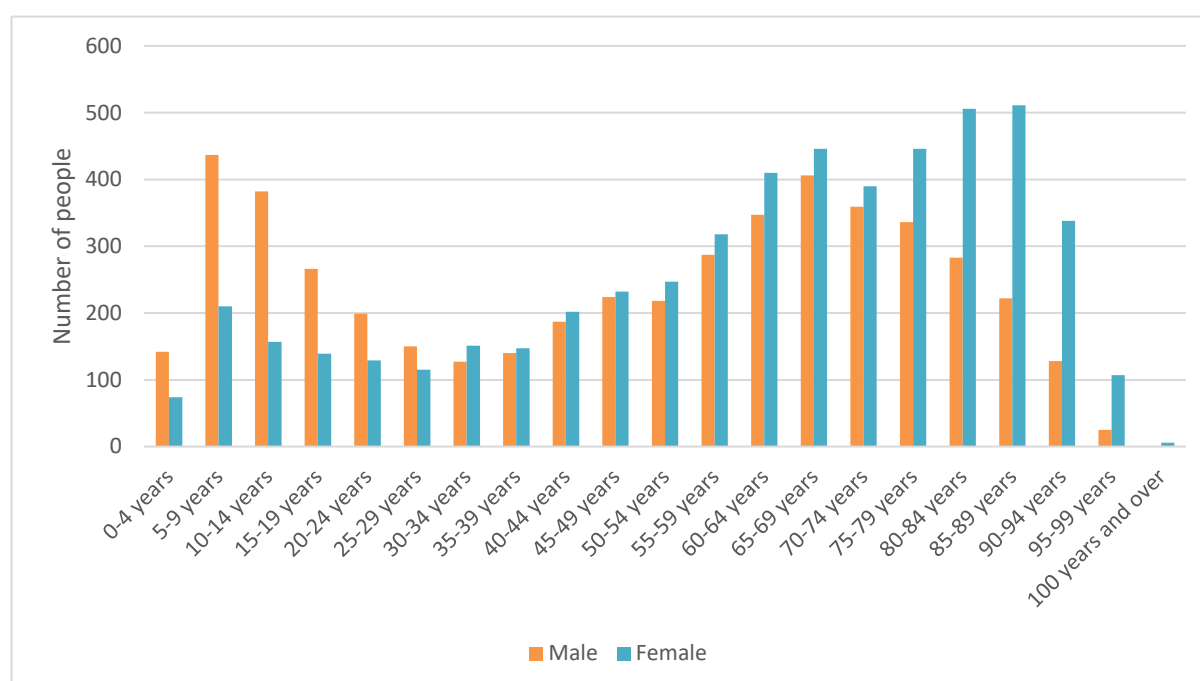
**Table 1: Penrith residents with need for assistance, by age group and gender (2016)**

Age group	Penrith LGA			Total GWS	Total NSW
	Male	Female	Total		
0-4 years	142	74	221	2,106	5,321
5-9 years	437	210	648	5,243	14,964
10-14 years	382	157	538	4,767	13,940
15-19 years	266	139	404	3,824	11,561
20-24 years	199	129	327	2,956	8,946
25-29 years	150	115	265	2,627	7,971
30-34 years	127	151	283	2,879	8,215
35-39 years	140	147	288	3,250	9,016
40-44 years	187	202	389	4,388	12,611
45-49 years	224	232	455	5,646	15,803
50-54 years	218	247	469	7,197	20,006
55-59 years	287	318	601	8,953	24,402
60-64 years	347	410	753	10,319	28,557
65-69 years	406	446	853	11,136	31,559
70-74 years	359	390	744	10,842	31,568
75-79 years	336	446	783	11,699	36,031
80-84 years	283	506	787	12,232	41,865
85-89 years	222	511	736	10,925	43,375
90-94 years	128	338	467	6,296	27,617
95-99 years	25	107	130	1,651	7,942
100 years and over	0	6	5	133	767
<b>Total Penrith</b>	4,888	5,268	10,153	-	-
<b>Total GWS</b>	59,404	69,645	-	129,058	-
<b>Total NSW</b>	185,224	216,823	-	-	402,049

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells.



**Figure 1: Penrith residents with need for assistance, by age group and gender (2016)**



Source: Based on ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence

## 2.2 Degree of core activity limitation

The degree of a person's core activity limitation is classified by the ABS in the SDAC as either 'mild or moderate' or 'severe or profound'. The categories are based on a person's ability to perform a core activity task. Importantly, the classification of a person's degree of core activity limitation is only available in SDAC findings. The classification is not provided in ABS Census data. As such, a person's degree of core activity limitation cannot be cross tabulated with Census demographics such as education level or housing tenure. Listed below are the distinctions between profound, severe, moderate, and mild limitations, according to the SDAC. More detail can be found on the ABS website:<sup>16</sup>

- Profound: the person always needs help with a core activity task.
- Severe: the person sometimes needs help with a core activity task, or has difficulty understanding or being understood.
- Moderate: the person needs no help, but has difficulty with a core activity task.
- Mild: the person needs no help and has no difficulty with any of the core activity tasks, but uses aids or equipment and has an additional limitation, such as they cannot use public transport or easily walk 200 metres.

<sup>16</sup> ABS 2016, SDAC Glossary, available at <https://bit.ly/3ve8Hu1>



Across most age groups in Penrith LGA, females with a mild or moderate core activity limitation outnumbered males with the same degree of limitations. However, more males than females under 14 and over 65 had a mild or moderate limitation (see Table 2).

For severe or profound core activity limitations, the gender distinction is quite evident. Overall, more women were severely or profoundly limited. However, for the youngest age group (0 to 14 years), the number of males with a severe or profound limitation in Penrith LGA (n=1,566) was over double the number of females (n=729). In later age groups, this trend reversed in Penrith LGA, with more women over 65 years experiencing a severe or profound limitation (n=2,224) than men (n=1,521).

Despite the use of different age groups, the SDAC findings support the Census trends observed earlier in this paper. For example, as Figure 2 demonstrates, people with a core activity limitation between 0 and 14 years of age are more likely to be male, both for those with mild or moderate limitations (56.3% male, 42.3% female) and severe or profound limitations (68.8% male and 32.0% female). For both genders, these counts also highlight the greater frequency of severe and profound limitations in the first 15 years of life (n=2,276) compared to mild or moderate limitations (n=723), indicating the demand for early intervention and support.

From Table 2, it is also possible to observe some increase in the number of people with a profound or severe disability between 2016 and 2018. The third final column lists the number of people who required assistance at the time of the 2016 Census, categorised by the age groups established in SDAC. While the datasets cannot be seamlessly matched due to their different methodologies, it does appear that the number of people with a profound or severe disability in Penrith LGA increased between the 2016 Census (n=10,153) and the 2018 SDAC (n=10,717). While a decrease appears to have occurred among people aged 65 years and over, the number of young people with a severe or profound disability seemingly rose, especially for people aged between 0 and 14 years (n=1,410 in 2016 to n=2,276 in 2018) and 15 to 24 years (n=733 in 2016 and n=1,014 in 2018).





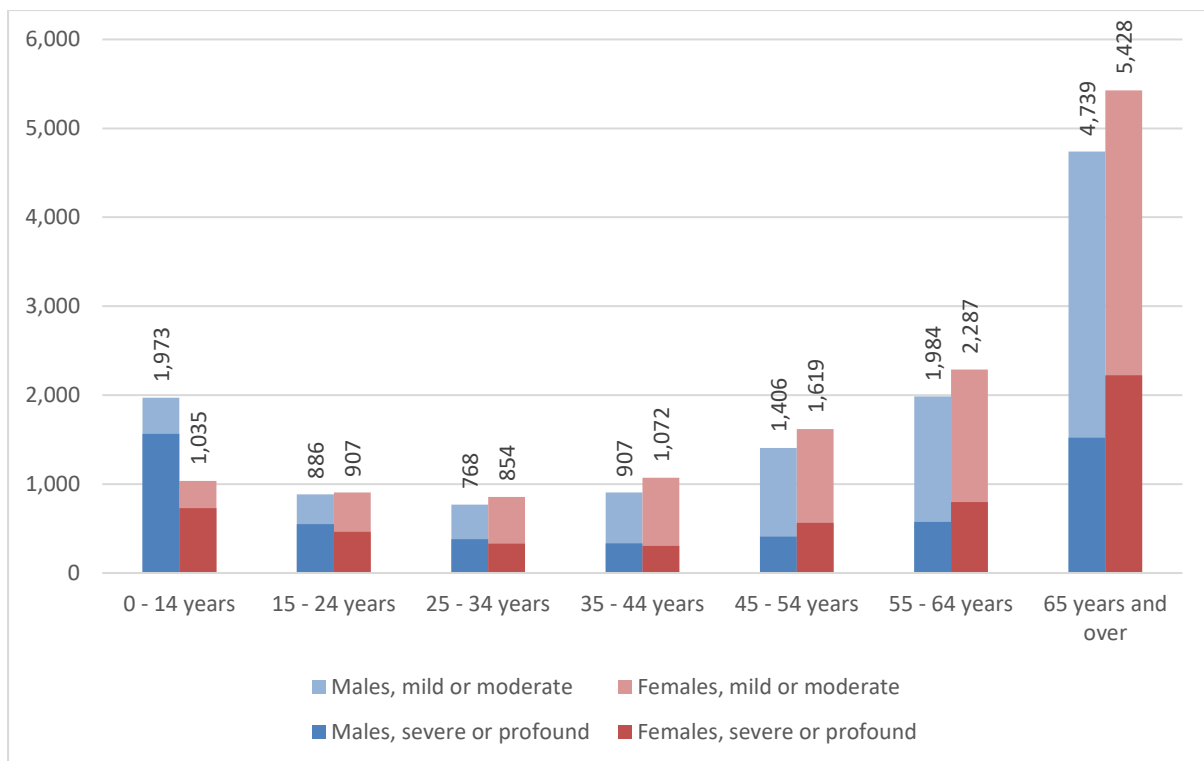
**Table 2: Degree of core activity limitation, by gender and age group, Penrith LGA (2018)**

Age group	Mild or moderate core activity limitation			Severe or profound core activity limitation			Total people with core activity limitation, Penrith (SDAC 2018)	Total people with core activity need for assistance, Penrith (Census 2016) <sup>(c)</sup>	Total GWS	Total NSW
Gender	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons				
<b>0 - 14 years</b>	407	306	723	1,566	729	2,276	2,999	1,410	36,833	110,100
<b>15 - 24 years</b>	336	444	756	550	463	1,014	1,770	733	30,453	87,300
<b>25 - 34 years</b>	388	523	935	380	331	721	1,656	540	26,867	71,400
<b>35 - 44 years</b>	573	769	1,331	334	303	616	1,947	676	31,539	91,900
<b>45 - 54 years</b>	998	1,056	2,043	408	563	999	3,042	919	44,590	141,600
<b>55 - 64 years</b>	1,411	1,489	2,901	573	798	1,402	4,303	1,353	59,715	213,500
<b>65+ years</b>	3,218	3,204	6,421	1,521	2,224	3,752	10,173	4,516	136,432	630,400
<b>Total Penrith</b>	7,348	7,783	15,150	5,287	5,418	10,717	25,867	10,153	-	-
<b>Total GWS<sup>(a)</sup></b>	83,464	86,501	170,168	59,789	64,930	125,048	-	-	295,216	-
<b>Total NSW<sup>(b)</sup></b>	316,719	326,558	644,021	194,538	204,122	399,344	-	-	-	1,043,365

Source: ABS, SDAC 2018, modelled estimate of indicators from the 2018 SDAC for LGAs, Tables 1, 2 and 3, and 2016 ABS Census of Population and Housing, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: (a) GWS totals are calculated by combining the totals for the 13 LGAs of GWS. (b) The total estimated number of people living with disability is drawn from the NSW estimates (44300DO001\_2018, Table 1.1). (c) As the SDAC age groups are fixed, this column lists the number of people in the same age groups who had a core activity need for assistance, according to the ABS Census 2016.



**Figure 2: Penrith LGA residents by degree of core activity limitation, by gender and age group (2018)**



Source: Based on ABS, SDAC 2018, modelled estimate of indicators from the 2018 SDAC for LGAs, Tables 1, 2 and 3.

### 2.3 Indigenous status

In Penrith LGA, a total of approximately 552 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people required assistance with a core activity. This means that people who identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander represented 5.5% of the Penrith LGA population with disability (see Table 3). As a rate of the total Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander population in Penrith LGA (n=7,740), 7.1% of local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people required core activity assistance.

As a percentage of total people in Penrith with need for assistance, Aboriginal people are most represented in the younger age ranges: 10-14 years, 15-19 years, 5-9 years, and 25 to 29 years (see Table 3). Even so, these counts remain very low. As the ABS caution, privacy standards require that small numbers be adjusted, as to avoid the release of data that may identify individuals. Therefore, smaller counts (n<40) including those in Table 3 should be interpreted with care.



**Table 3: Penrith residents with need for assistance, by age group and Indigenous status (2016)**

Age group	People with need for assistance who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander		Total people with need for assistance
	Count	Percentage (%) <sup>(a)</sup>	
0-4 years	16	7.7%	221
5-9 years	83	13.1%	648
10-14 years	81	15.8%	538
15-19 years	57	13.9%	404
20-24 years	28	8.3%	327
25-29 years	27	11.3%	265
30-34 years	24	8.5%	283
35-39 years	26	9.0%	288
40-44 years	35	7.5%	389
45-49 years	41	9.0%	455
50-54 years	16	4.1%	469
55-59 years	25	3.8%	601
60-64 years	36	4.8%	753
65-69 years	16	2.0%	853
70-74 years	11	1.3%	744
75-79 years	15	1.9%	783
80-84 years	11	1.4%	787
85-89 years	5	0.7%	736
90-94 years	0	0.0%	467
95-99 years	0	0.0%	130
100+ years	0	0.0%	5
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>10,153</b>
<b>Total GWS</b>	<b>3,497</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>129,058</b>
<b>Total NSW</b>	<b>16,491</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>402,049</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells.



### 3. Suburb snapshots

There are currently 36 suburbs located within Penrith LGA. The following section outlines disability trends in each of these suburbs. Importantly, Penrith LGA's 36 suburbs include five shared suburbs, which are shared between Penrith and either Hawkesbury LGA (Agnes Banks) or Liverpool LGA (Badgerys Creek, Kemps Creek, Luddenham, and Wallacia). The following findings includes residents of these shared suburbs, but only those who resided within the Penrith LGA 2016 boundaries.

#### 3.1 Suburb overview

A brief introduction to the suburbs of Penrith LGA is important to contextualise findings regarding people living with disability. In 2016, the most populous suburb in Penrith LGA was Glenmore Park. Glenmore Park's 23,002 residents represented 11.7% of the area's population in 2016. The suburb, located south of the M4 Motorway and accessible via the Northern and Mulgoa Roads, is a significant housing estate in the Penrith LGA.

The next most populous suburb was St Clair, also an established housing estate on the south side of the M4 Motorway, and home to 19,895 or 10.1% of Penrith LGA's population in 2016. The administrative, business, and cultural centre of Penrith LGA, Penrith, was the third most populous suburb in 2016, home to 6.8% of the LGA's residents in 2016 (n=13,295). The Penrith LGA suburbs with the fewest residents (regardless of the LGA boundary) were Badgerys Creek (n=229), Regentville (n=809), Agnes Banks (n=911), Luddenham (n=1150) and Castlereagh (n=1,168). An overview of the 2016 population of each Penrith suburb is provided in Appendix 2.

#### 3.2 Disability and age group

Across Penrith LGA in 2016, most people with need for assistance (n=10,153) were over the age of 50 (n=6,334). Over 2,000 (n=2,153) adults between 18 and 49 years of age were also in need of assistance, as were 1,659 people under 18 years of age. The below analyses outline trends across these suburbs, both in total and by three broad age groups: minors (0 to 17), adults (18 to 49) and older adults (50+). People with need for assistance are listed by age group in Table 4 and Figure 3. Map 2 also highlights Penrith LGA suburbs by the number of people living with disability recorded in the 2016 Census.



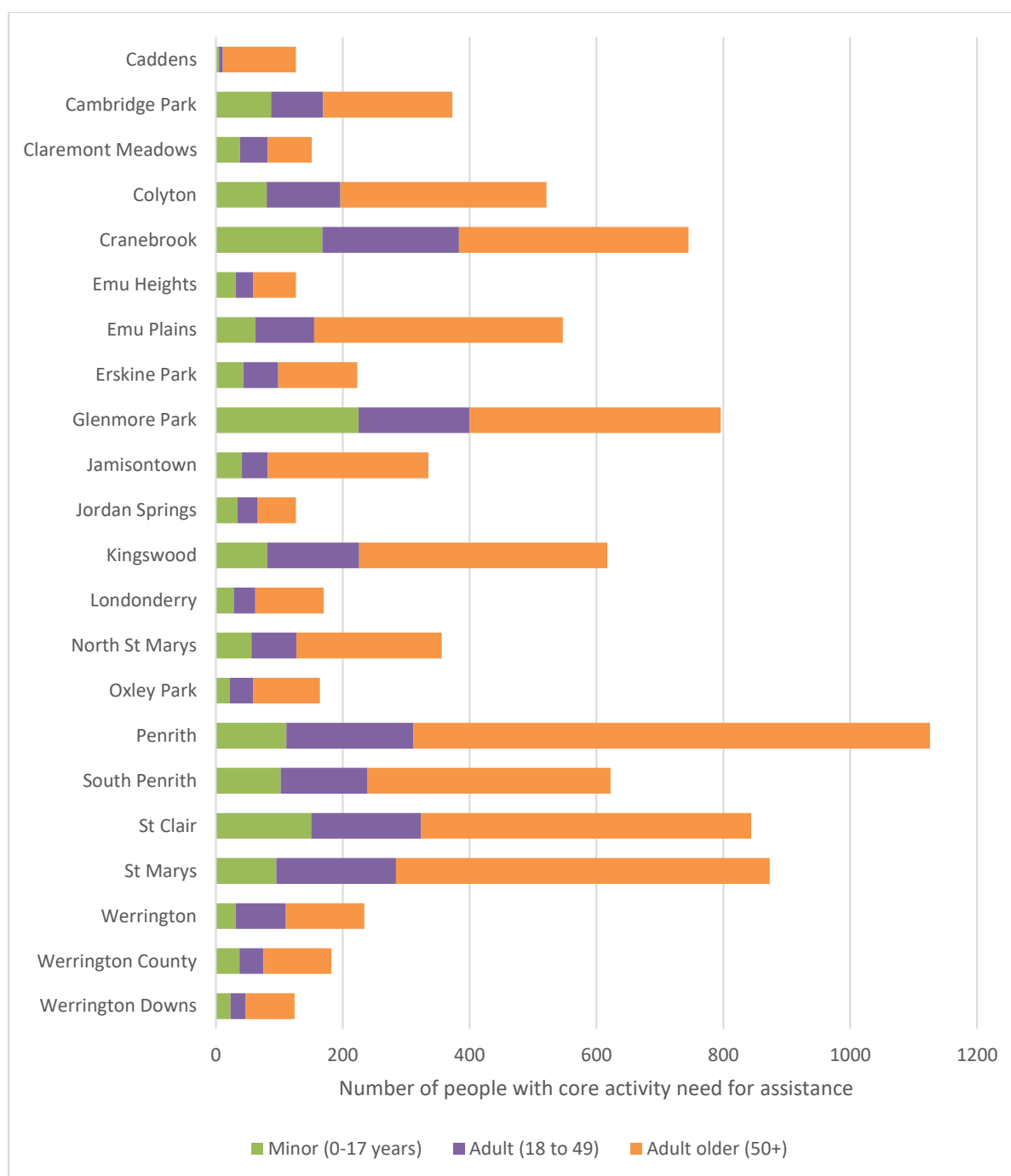
**Table 4: Penrith residents with need for assistance, by suburb and age group (2016)**

Suburb	Minor (0-17 years)	Adult (18 to 49)	Adult older (50+)	Total people with need for assistance
Agnes Banks*	3	0	10	12
Badgerys Creek*	0	0	0	0
Berkshire Park	11	11	36	62
Caddens	5	6	115	126
Cambridge Gardens	17	27	48	97
Cambridge Park	87	82	204	364
Castlereagh	0	9	38	42
Claremont Meadows	38	44	69	152
Colyton	80	116	325	525
Cranebrook	168	215	362	747
Emu Heights	31	28	67	127
Emu Plains	62	93	392	556
Erskine Park	43	55	125	218
Glenmore Park	225	175	396	803
Jamisontown	41	41	253	340
Jordan Springs	34	31	61	126
Kemps Creek*	3	7	77	86
Kingswood	81	145	391	615
Leonay	24	14	59	96
Llandilo	18	5	43	66
Londonderry	28	34	108	167
Luddenham*	11	5	18	34
Mount Vernon	3	5	30	39
Mulgoa	9	12	49	70
North St Marys	56	71	229	358
Orchard Hills	7	18	61	86
Oxley Park	22	37	105	163
Penrith	111	200	815	1,127
Regentville	4	9	17	32
South Penrith	102	137	383	628
St Clair	150	173	521	848
St Marys	95	189	589	870
Wallacia*	5	4	31	43
Werrington	31	79	124	234
Werrington County	37	38	107	177
Werrington Downs	23	24	77	125
<b>Total Penrith</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>2,153</b>	<b>6,334</b>	<b>10,153</b>
<b>Total GWS</b>	<b>14,526</b>	<b>23,159</b>	<b>91,375</b>	<b>129,058</b>
<b>Total NSW</b>	<b>41,541</b>	<b>66,805</b>	<b>293,698</b>	<b>402,049</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Asterix (\*) denotes suburbs that are shared between Penrith LGA and another LGA.

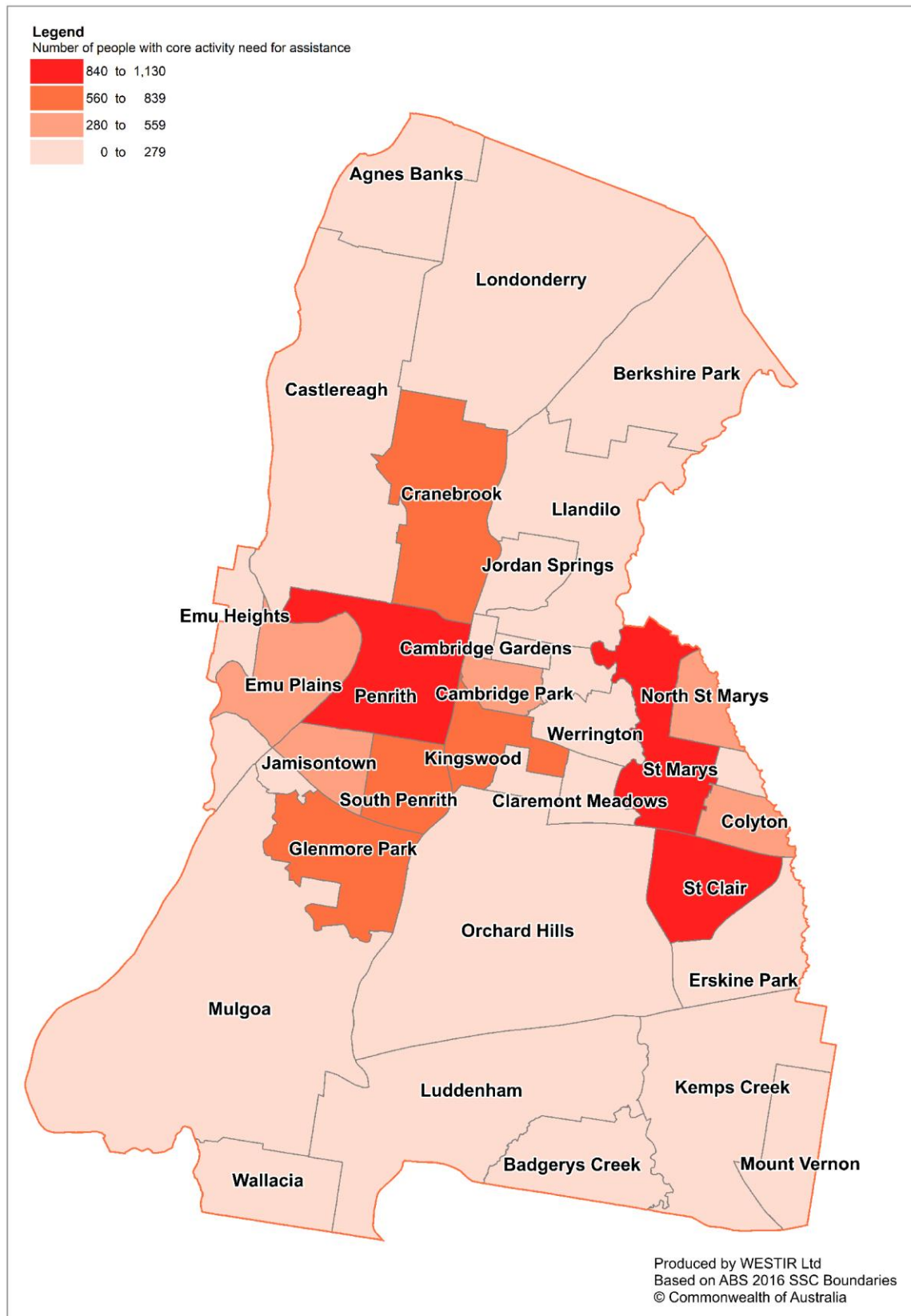


**Figure 3: Penrith residents with need for assistance, by suburb and age group (2016)**



Source: Based on ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Excludes suburbs with fewer than 100 people with core activity need for assistance.

**Map 2: Penrith residents with need for assistance by suburb (2016)**



### Total (all ages)

As seen in the visualisations above (Table 4, Figure 3, and Map 2), the Penrith LGA suburb that was home to the highest number of people in need of assistance was Penrith (n=1,127). Considering Penrith is the third most populous suburb in the LGA, this finding is interesting, and perhaps reflective of the presence of residential aged care estates in this suburb. In total numbers of people needing assistance, Penrith was followed by St Marys (n=870), St Clair (n=848), Glenmore Park (n=803), and Cranebrook (n=747).

### Older adults (50 years and over)

The suburb of Penrith was also home to the highest number of older adults (aged 50 years and over) with a core activity need for assistance (n=815). Like the suburbs with the greatest total number of people with need for assistance, Penrith was followed by St Marys (n=589), St Clair (n=521), Glenmore Park (n=396) and Emu Plains (n=392) (see Table 4). Emu Plains, which does not rank as a suburb with a high number of total people in need of assistance, may appear in this list regarding older adults due to the density of retirement villages and aged care centres in the suburb, such as Uniting Edinglassie Emu Plains.

### Adults (18 to 49 years)

Of all Penrith LGA suburbs, the 2016 Census recorded that the highest number of adults (aged 18 to 49 years) with need for assistance in core activities lived in Cranebrook (n=215). Following Cranebrook in this count were the suburbs of Penrith (n=200), St Marys (n=189), Glenmore Park (n=175), St Clair (n=173), and Kingswood (n=145).

### Minors (0 to 18 years)

The highest number of minors with need for assistance resided in Glenmore Park (n=225), Cranebrook (n=168), St Clair (n=150), Penrith (n=111) and South Penrith (n=102). Glenmore Park's position in this measure may be explained by the high proportion of young people living in the suburb. Indeed, minors represented 29.3% of Glenmore Park's population in 2016, compared to 19.6% in Penrith suburb and 25.0% of the total LGA (see Appendix 3).

## 3.3 Lone person households

People with need for assistance who live in a lone-person household may face additional barriers. For example, a recent Swedish study found that people with disabilities living alone were more likely to experience low life satisfaction, compared to people living with disability who were living with others or people without disability living alone.<sup>17</sup> The study authors also suggested that this reflects the societal barriers limiting the possibility for people living with disabilities to create and sustain partner relationships, which “can lead to cohabitation

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<sup>17</sup> G Sandström, F Namatovu, J Ineland, D Larsson, N Ng, & M Stattin, 2021, ‘The Persistence of High Levels of Living Alone Among Adults with Disabilities in Sweden, 1993–2011’, *Population Research and Policy Review*, vol. 40, pp. 163–185.





and family formation” as well as social inclusion.<sup>18</sup> The isolation some may experience in living alone can also adversely affect self-worth and self-esteem.<sup>19</sup>

In 2016, 1,157 people in need of assistance in Penrith LGA were living in a lone person household. They represented 11.4% of people with a need for assistance. This is a similar proportion to that recorded across GWS (11.0%) and a smaller proportion than NSW-wide figure (14.0%). Considering 6.2% of all people – with or without disability – in Penrith LGA were living alone, these numbers reinforce concerns regarding isolation and other challenges among people living with disability.

The LGAs comparatively high proportion of people living with disability living alone was not standard across each suburb. In some suburbs, this rate was even higher, with approximately 1 in 5 people in need of assistance living alone. These suburbs were Penrith (n=248, 22.0%), Werrington (n=50, 21.4%) and Kingswood (n=117, 19.0%), as seen in Table 5.

Other suburbs such as Regentville and Berkshire Park appear to have recorded high rates of people living in lone person households while needing assistance (see Table 5), however, this cannot be argued with confidence due to the small counts recorded in these suburbs. With such small counts, the stated rates are amplified and potentially misleading. Furthermore, as the ABS state, such small numbers are randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data that may identify individuals.

Looking at the count of people living alone with a need for assistance, rather than the proportion, it is clear that the greatest number of these individuals lived in the suburbs of Penrith (n=248), St Marys (n=117) and Kingswood (n=117). This is visualised in Map 3.

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<sup>18</sup> Sandström et al. 2021

<sup>19</sup> National People with Disabilities and Carer Council, 2009, *Shut Out: The Experience of People with Disabilities and their Families in Australia*, National Disability Strategy Consultation Report, <https://bit.ly/3wv5lmD>



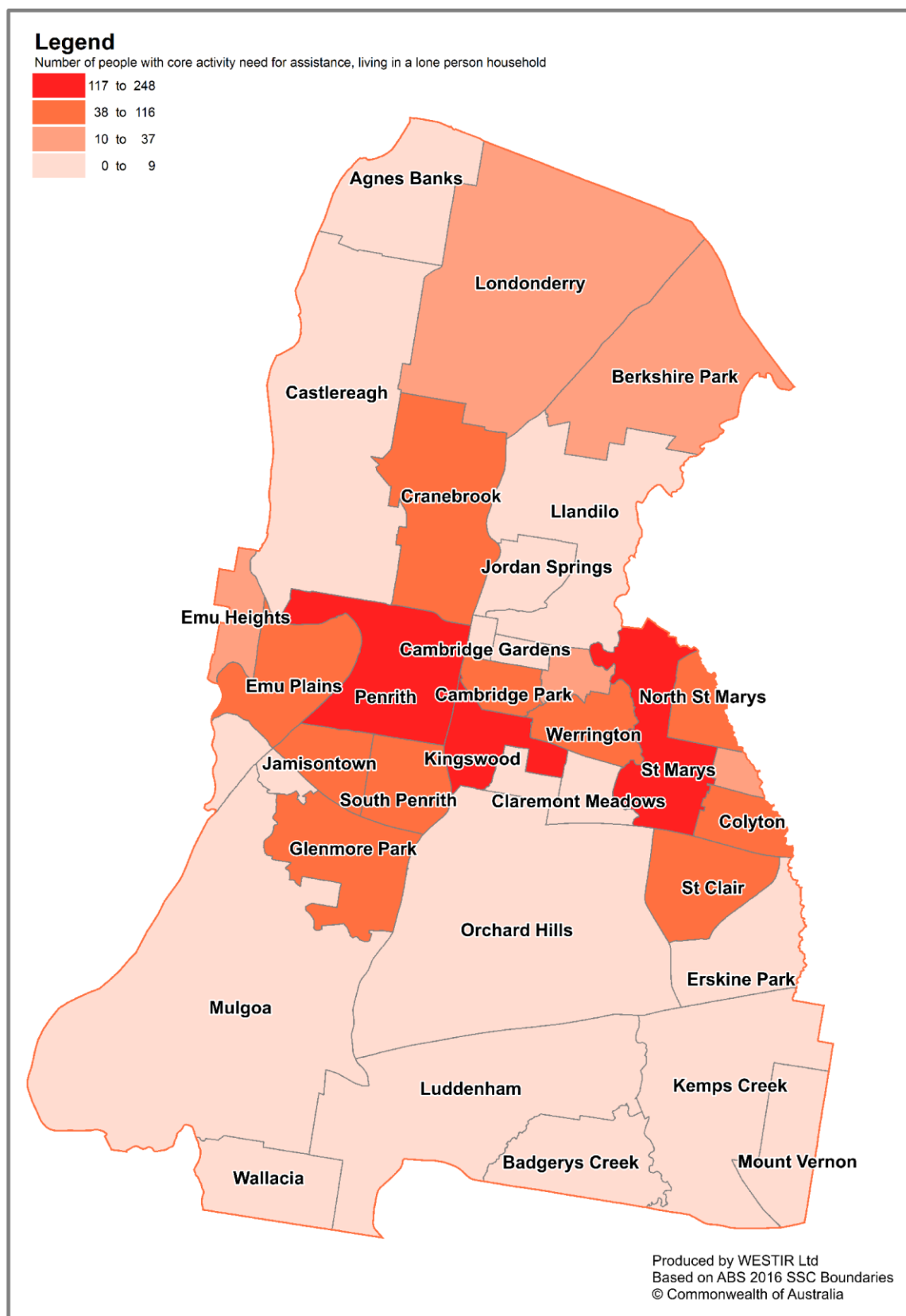
**Table 5: Penrith residents with need for assistance, living in a lone person household by suburb (2016)**

Suburb	Lone person household		Total number of people with need for assistance
	Count	Percentage	
Agnes Banks*	0	0.0%	12
Badgerys Creek*	0	0.0%	0
Berkshire Park	11	17.7%	62
Caddens	3	2.4%	126
Cambridge Gardens	7	7.2%	97
Cambridge Park	40	11.0%	364
Castlereagh	3	7.1%	42
Claremont Meadows	8	5.3%	152
Colyton	49	9.3%	525
Cranebrook	63	8.4%	747
Emu Heights	10	7.9%	127
Emu Plains	59	10.6%	556
Erskine Park	8	3.7%	218
Glenmore Park	38	4.7%	803
Jamisontown	40	11.8%	340
Jordan Springs	3	2.4%	126
Kemps Creek*	6	7.0%	86
Kingswood	117	19.0%	615
Leonay	7	7.3%	96
Llandilo	4	6.1%	66
Londonderry	12	7.2%	167
Luddenham*	5	14.7%	34
Mount Vernon	0	0.0%	39
Mulgoa	4	5.7%	70
North St Marys	45	12.6%	358
Orchard Hills	5	5.8%	86
Oxley Park	22	13.5%	163
Penrith	248	22.0%	1,127
Regentville	8	25.0%	32
South Penrith	73	11.6%	628
St Clair	47	5.5%	848
St Marys	145	16.7%	870
Wallacia*	7	16.3%	43
Werrington	50	21.4%	234
Werrington County	16	9.0%	177
Werrington Downs	3	2.4%	125
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>10,153</b>
<b>Total GWS</b>	<b>14,182</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>129,058</b>
<b>Total NSW</b>	<b>58,053</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>402,049</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Asterix (\*) denotes suburbs that are shared between Penrith LGA and another LGA.



**Map 3: Penrith residents with core activity need for assistance, living in lone person household by suburb (2016)**



### 3.4 Language spoken at home

Of the 10,153 Penrith LGA residents in need of assistance in 2016, 2,299 spoke a language other than English at home (22.6%). Arabic was the language most likely spoken by the cohort (n=250), followed by Italian (n=180), Greek (n=151), and Maltese (n=140).

Compared to both GWS and NSW, Penrith LGA recorded a lower proportion of people who spoke a language other than English at home and needed assistance in core activities. In GWS, over half of people in need of assistance spoke a language other than English at home (52.0%), whereas 3 in 10 did state-wide (30.1%), compared to approximately 2 in 10 in Penrith LGA (22.6%).

The number of people living with disability who spoke a language other than English at home are outlined by Penrith LGA suburb in Table 6. Also listed in this table is the language other than English most spoken at home by people with need for assistance. As with tables discussed in prior sections, the percentages of people speaking a language other than English should be interpreted with care in several suburbs due to the low numbers of people in need of assistance in these locations.

#### Auslan and sign languages

Auslan, the Australian sign language, was spoken by approximately 47 Penrith LGA residents who had a need for assistance. Looking more broadly, a total of 141 people in the area spoke Auslan at home, indicating that approximately 94 people without disability spoke Auslan. This may include the family and friends of people who need assistance with core activities, disability support staff, or others. A further 37 Penrith LGA residents – both with or without a need for assistance – spoke a sign language other than Auslan, including Key Word Sign Australia and sign languages with no further definition.



**Table 6: Penrith residents with need for assistance, by suburb and language spoken at home (most common and Auslan) (2016)**

Suburb	Top language OTE spoken at home		Auslan	Total people with need for assistance, speaking language other than English at home	
	Language	Count		Count	Percentage
Agnes Banks*	NA	NA	0	0	0.0%
Badgerys Creek*	NA	NA	0	0	0.0%
Berkshire Park	Maltese	6	0	7	11.3%
Caddens	Arabic	4	0	15	11.9%
Cambridge Gardens	Cantonese	6	0	9	9.3%
Cambridge Park	Greek	8	4	58	15.9%
Castlereagh	Greek	5	0	10	23.8%
Claremont Meadows	Auslan	6	6	41	27.0%
Colyton	Arabic	22	0	156	29.7%
Cranebrook	Maltese	14	0	117	15.7%
Emu Heights	NA	NA	0	12	9.4%
Emu Plains	Croatian	11	0	65	11.7%
Erskine Park	Arabic	16	0	76	34.9%
Glenmore Park	Arabic	18	4	162	20.2%
Jamisontown	Italian	13	0	62	18.2%
Jordan Springs	Italian	6	4	38	30.2%
Kemps Creek*	Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	4	0	56	65.1%
Kingswood	Serbian	11	3	135	22.0%
Leonay	German	6	0	16	16.7%
Llandilo	Maltese	13	0	24	36.4%
Londonderry	Maltese	11	0	29	17.4%
Luddenham*	Italian	3	0	7	20.6%
Mount Vernon	Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	5	0	19	48.7%
Mulgoa	Italian	6	0	14	20.0%
North St Marys	Italian	9	0	78	21.8%
Orchard Hills	Italian	12	0	41	47.7%
Oxley Park	Arabic	9	0	58	35.6%
Penrith	Greek	16	0	209	18.5%
Regentville	Maltese	4	0	5	15.6%
South Penrith	Greek, Arabic, Italian (=)	10	0	90	14.3%
St Clair	Arabic	67	0	280	33.0%
St Marys	Arabic	33	7	305	35.1%
Wallacia*	NA	NA	0	3	7.0%
Werrington	Arabic	11	6	57	24.4%
Werrington County	Polish, Nepali (=)	4	0	20	11.3%
Werrington Downs	Spanish	6	0	20	16.0%
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	Arabic	250	47	2,299	22.6%
<b>Total GWS</b>	Arabic	15,675	303	67,106	52.0%
<b>Total NSW</b>	Arabic	18,947	836	120,915	30.1%

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Asterix (\*) denotes suburbs that are shared between Penrith LGA and another LGA. Suburbs listed with 'NA' indicated that no language other than English was spoken at home by people with need for assistance.



### 3.5 Labour force participation

People living with disability face additional barriers to participating in the labour force. Some people may be permanently unable to work due to their disability.<sup>20</sup> For those who seek work, their disability may limit the employment they can access, including the type of work and their available hours. Workplaces may lack accessible facilities.<sup>21</sup> Once in the labour force, people living with disabilities are more likely to earn a lower personal income, compared to people without disabilities.<sup>22</sup>

#### Employment

In Penrith LGA in 2016, 951 people with a core activity need for assistance were employed, representing 9.4% of this local cohort. This rate of people living with disability who were employed is higher in Penrith LGA (9.4%) than in GWS (7.1%) and NSW (7.3%), as shown in Table 7. The greatest numbers of these Penrith LGA residents who were disabled and employed lived in the suburbs of Cranebrook (n=94, 12.6%), Glenmore Park (n=92, 11.5%), and South Penrith (n=63, 10.0%).

#### Unemployment

Across Penrith LGA, 199 people with a core activity need for assistance were unemployed in 2016. In this data, unemployed means they were seeking work. The rate in Penrith LGA of people living with disability who were unemployed and seeking work (2.0%) was higher than the comparison rate in GWS (1.6%) and NSW (1.4%).

The suburbs with the greatest number of people living with disability who were unemployed were in Penrith (n=27, 2.4%), St Marys (n=24, 2.8%), Kingswood (n=16, 2.6%) and Glenmore Park (n=16, 2.0%). This is seen in Table 7 and Map 4.

#### Not in the labour force

With Penrith LGA observing a high percentage of people living with disability in either employment or unemployment, compared to GWS and NSW, it follows that Penrith LGA observed that a smaller proportion of people living with disability were not in the labour force (72.%), compared to both GWS (80.2%) and NSW (79.5%). Even so, the proportion of people who were not in the labour force was much higher for people living with disability (72.5%) than people without disability (20.8%) in Penrith LGA.

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<sup>20</sup> AIHW, 2020, 'People with disability in Australia', available at <https://bit.ly/3fG7llc>

<sup>21</sup> A Hogan, SM Kyaw-Myint, D Harris and H Denronden, 2012, 'Workforce Participation Barriers for People with Disability', *International Journal of Disability Management*, 7, pp. 1-9.

<sup>22</sup> AIHW, 2020, 'People with disability in Australia' available at <https://bit.ly/2RKp2YV>



**Table 7: Penrith residents, aged 15 years and older, by need for assistance, employment status, and suburb (2016)**

Suburb	People with need for assistance with core activities							People without need for assistance with core activities						
	Employed		Unemployed		Not in the labour force		Total	Employed		Unemployed		Not in the labour force		Total
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count
Agnes Banks*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	83.3%	12	241	54.9%	3	0.7%	82	18.7%	439
Badgerys Creek*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	6	66.7%	0	0.0%	3	33.3%	9
Berkshire Park	3	4.8%	0	0.0%	46	74.2%	62	549	55.2%	21	2.1%	216	21.7%	994
Caddens	3	2.4%	0	0.0%	115	91.3%	126	653	52.7%	59	4.8%	251	20.2%	1,240
Cambridge Gardens	14	14.4%	0	0.0%	68	70.1%	97	1,011	54.6%	51	2.8%	377	20.4%	1,852
Cambridge Park	32	8.8%	9	2.5%	248	68.1%	364	3,003	50.8%	200	3.4%	1,403	23.7%	5,909
Castlereagh	3	7.1%	0	0.0%	37	88.1%	42	572	55.5%	15	1.5%	235	22.8%	1,031
Claremont Meadows	19	12.5%	4	2.6%	89	58.6%	152	2,492	55.8%	132	3.0%	699	15.6%	4,468
Colyton	49	9.3%	8	1.5%	396	75.4%	525	3,552	48.2%	299	4.1%	1,924	26.1%	7,369
Cranebrook	94	12.6%	12	1.6%	493	66.0%	747	7,842	55.5%	407	2.9%	2,481	17.6%	14,131
Emu Heights	16	12.6%	3	2.4%	83	65.4%	127	1,788	58.3%	76	2.5%	543	17.7%	3,067
Emu Plains	44	7.9%	8	1.4%	442	79.5%	556	3,803	52.1%	170	2.3%	1,793	24.5%	7,305
Erskine Park	36	16.5%	3	1.4%	152	69.7%	218	3,589	60.4%	180	3.0%	980	16.5%	5,941
Glenmore Park	92	11.5%	16	2.0%	486	60.5%	803	12,417	58.4%	495	2.3%	3,070	14.4%	21,277
Jamisontown	24	7.1%	5	1.5%	272	80.0%	340	2592	54.0%	146	3.0%	1,046	21.8%	4,803
Jordan Springs	14	11.1%	5	4.0%	70	55.6%	126	2780	57.5%	110	2.3%	632	13.1%	4,834
Kemps Creek*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	49	57.0%	86	212	46.6%	16	3.5%	140	30.8%	455
Kingswood	56	9.1%	16	2.6%	456	74.1%	615	3849	48.7%	348	4.4%	1,967	24.9%	7,909
Leonay	11	11.5%	0	0.0%	65	67.7%	96	1243	54.4%	50	2.2%	479	21.0%	2,283
Llandilo	7	10.6%	0	0.0%	51	77.3%	66	754	52.3%	35	2.4%	311	21.6%	1,442
Londonderry	18	10.8%	0	0.0%	120	71.9%	167	1927	56.6%	69	2.0%	700	20.6%	3,403



<b>Luddenham*</b>	5	14.7%	0	0.0%	16	47.1%	34	605	57.5%	11	1.0%	168	16.0%	1,053
<b>Mount Vernon</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	32	82.1%	39	607	58.7%	16	1.5%	209	20.2%	1,034
<b>Mulgoa</b>	6	8.6%	3	4.3%	49	70.0%	70	899	53.3%	37	2.2%	388	23.0%	1,688
<b>North St Marys</b>	29	8.1%	11	3.1%	275	76.8%	358	1,306	40.9%	173	5.4%	947	29.7%	3,191
<b>Orchard Hills</b>	12	14.0%	0	0.0%	71	82.6%	86	984	58.5%	44	2.6%	385	22.9%	1,682
<b>Oxley Park</b>	16	9.8%	3	1.8%	122	74.8%	163	1,287	48.6%	126	4.8%	646	24.4%	2,649
<b>Penrith</b>	82	7.3%	27	2.4%	904	80.2%	1,127	5,618	50.7%	500	4.5%	2,943	26.5%	11,091
<b>Regentville</b>	5	15.6%	0	0.0%	26	81.3%	32	412	56.1%	18	2.5%	148	20.2%	734
<b>South Penrith</b>	63	10.0%	14	2.2%	452	72.0%	628	5,401	51.2%	305	2.9%	2,498	23.7%	10,544
<b>St Clair</b>	82	9.7%	14	1.7%	621	73.2%	848	10,056	56.0%	526	2.9%	3,482	19.4%	17,952
<b>St Marys</b>	62	7.1%	24	2.8%	613	70.5%	870	4,883	47.9%	485	4.8%	2,551	25.0%	10,193
<b>Wallacia*</b>	3	7.0%	0	0.0%	28	65.1%	43	595	55.0%	23	2.1%	249	23.0%	1,081
<b>Werrington</b>	28	12.0%	7	3.0%	173	73.9%	234	1,769	50.0%	171	4.8%	808	22.9%	3,536
<b>Werrington County</b>	16	9.0%	0	0.0%	131	74.0%	177	1,856	56.2%	80	2.4%	698	21.1%	3,303
<b>Werrington Downs</b>	17	13.6%	0	0.0%	90	72.0%	125	1,715	57.3%	84	2.8%	540	18.0%	2,992
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	951	9.4%	199	2.0%	7,359	72.5%	10,153	92,854	53.7%	5,472	3.2%	35,987	20.8%	172,903
<b>Total GWS</b>	9,175	7.1%	2,005	1.6%	103,508	80.2%	129,058	994,289	48.8%	75,104	3.7%	512,295	25.2%	2,036,950
<b>Total NSW</b>	29,269	7.3%	5,471	1.4%	319,775	79.5%	402,049	3,310,476	50.5%	217,140	3.3%	1,719,722	26.2%	6,558,728

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data.

No reliance should be placed on small cells. As such, greater reliance can be placed on the total column, even where rows do not add to the stated total. Totals also include responses where labour force status was 'not stated'. For data on people who did not state their need for assistance, see Appendix 4.



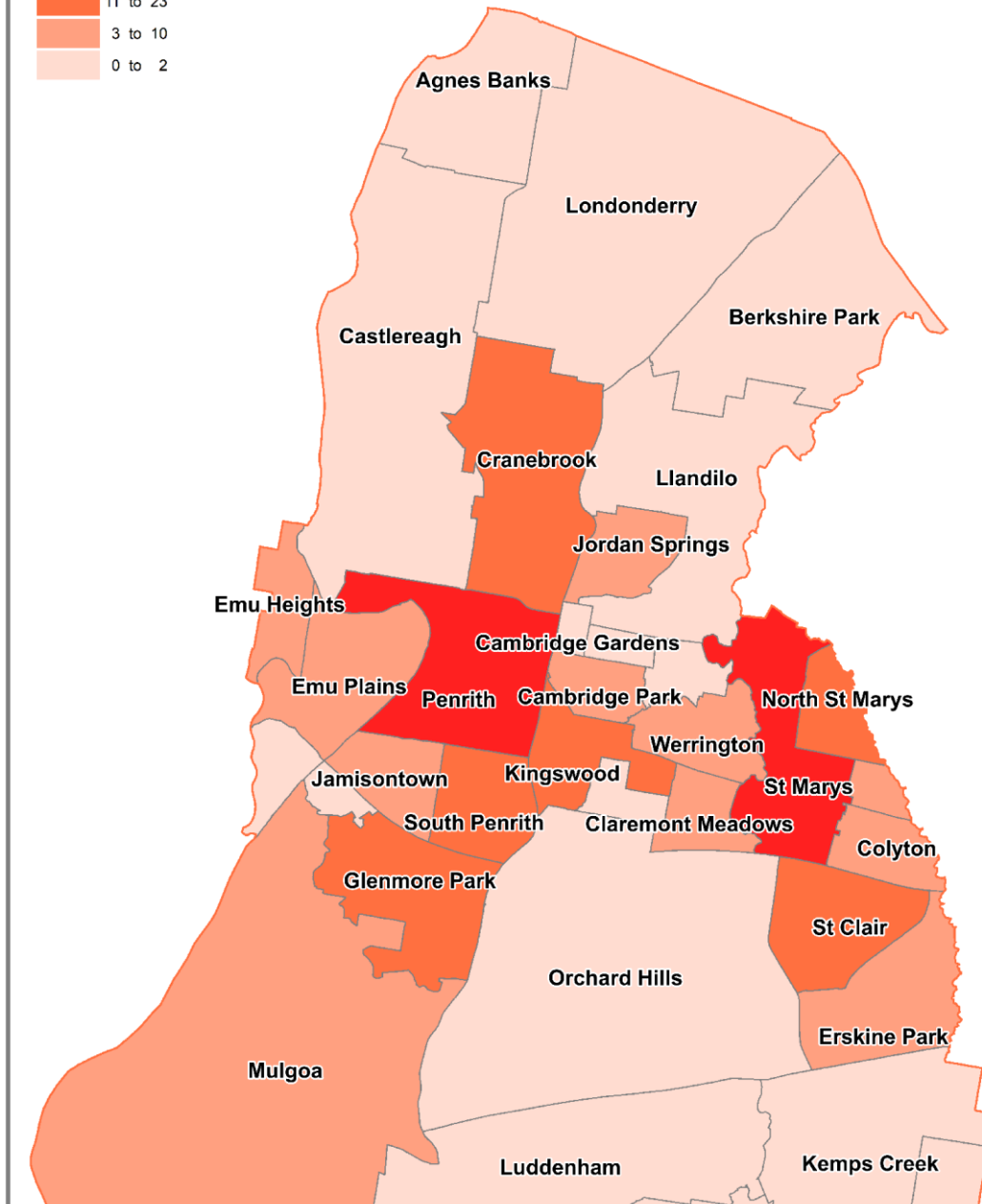
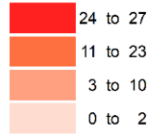


*Map 4: Penrith residents with core activity need for assistance, unemployed by suburb (2016)*



### Legend

Number of people with core activity need for assistance, unemployed



## 4. Further demographics

Examining further demographics of people with a core activity need for assistance in Penrith LGA sheds further light on experiences of disability in the area. In this section, data is presented on the following topics for people with a core activity need for assistance:

- education level
- housing tenure (including homelessness estimates)
- incidents of violence, including domestic and family violence
- educational institution attending.

### 4.1 Education level

A person's highest level of educational attainment is recorded in the ABS Census. In 2016, Penrith LGA residents with disability were less likely than people without disability to have a Certificate III or IV, Diploma, Bachelor, or postgraduate degree as their highest educational attainment.

People living with disability were more likely to have their highest level of educational attainment as secondary education, year 9 and below. The rate of people with a highest qualification of secondary education, year 10 and above is similar between those with disability (28.7%) and those without (30.1%). This is shown in Table 8.

#### Benchmarking

Comparing the highest level of educational attainment among people living with disability in Penrith, to GWS and NSW rates, situates the Penrith LGA in greater context. As seen in Table 9 and



Figure 4, people with a need for assistance in Penrith LGA were less likely to have a Bachelor degree as their highest qualification level (3.4%), compared to GWS (4.5%) and NSW (4.9%). Penrith LGA residents with disability were also less likely than the 2016 GWS and NSW rates to have a postgraduate qualification as their highest level of educational attainment. Considering the Penrith LGA (regardless of disability status) observed a comparatively lower rate of attainment for Bachelor degrees (7.5%) than GWS (11.4%) and NSW (13.1%), as well as postgraduate degrees (2.2% Penrith LGA, 4.1% GWS, 4.6% NSW), these rates are on trend with the LGA population.

Furthermore, clear differences can be observed between the highest level of educational attainment for people with a need for assistance, compared to people without a need for assistance (see Table 9). For example, a secondary education of Year 9 or below was the highest educational attainment for almost a quarter of Penrith LGA residents with a need for assistance in 2016 (23.6%) compared to 6.9% of people without a need for assistance. In contrast, the proportion of Penrith residents who had completed a Bachelor degree by 2016 was smaller for people with need for assistance (3.4%) compared to those without a need for assistance (8.2%). Similar can be said for people whose highest level of educational attainment was a Certificate III or IV, Advanced Diploma or Diploma, or Postgraduate Degree.

**Table 8: Penrith residents, by need for assistance and education level (2016)**

Highest level of educational attainment	People with need for assistance with core activities		People without need for assistance with core activities		Total*	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Secondary Education - Years 9 and below	2,393	23.6%	11,939	6.9%	14,539	7.4%
Secondary Education - Years 10 and above	2,914	28.7%	52,004	30.1%	55,580	28.3%
Certificate I & II Level	13	0.1%	144	0.1%	164	0.1%
Certificate III & IV Level	1,077	10.6%	28,851	16.7%	30,272	15.4%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	426	4.2%	12,435	7.2%	12,997	6.6%
Bachelor Degree Level	348	3.4%	14,251	8.2%	14,733	7.5%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	34	0.3%	1,553	0.9%	1,603	0.8%
Postgraduate Degree Level	68	0.7%	4,281	2.5%	4,382	2.2%
Not applicable	1,410	13.9%	37,685	21.8%	41,287	21.1%



<b>Not stated</b>	900	8.9%	4,938	2.9%	15,028	7.7%
<b>Supplementary Codes</b>	566	5.6%	4,812	2.8%	5,473	2.8%
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	10,153	100.0%	172,903	100.0%	196,064	100.0%

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. \*Total column includes responses where need for assistance with core activities was 'not stated'. As this table includes people of all ages, people with an educational attainment level that was 'not applicable' can include children who are not yet at the age to have completed an educational attainment.



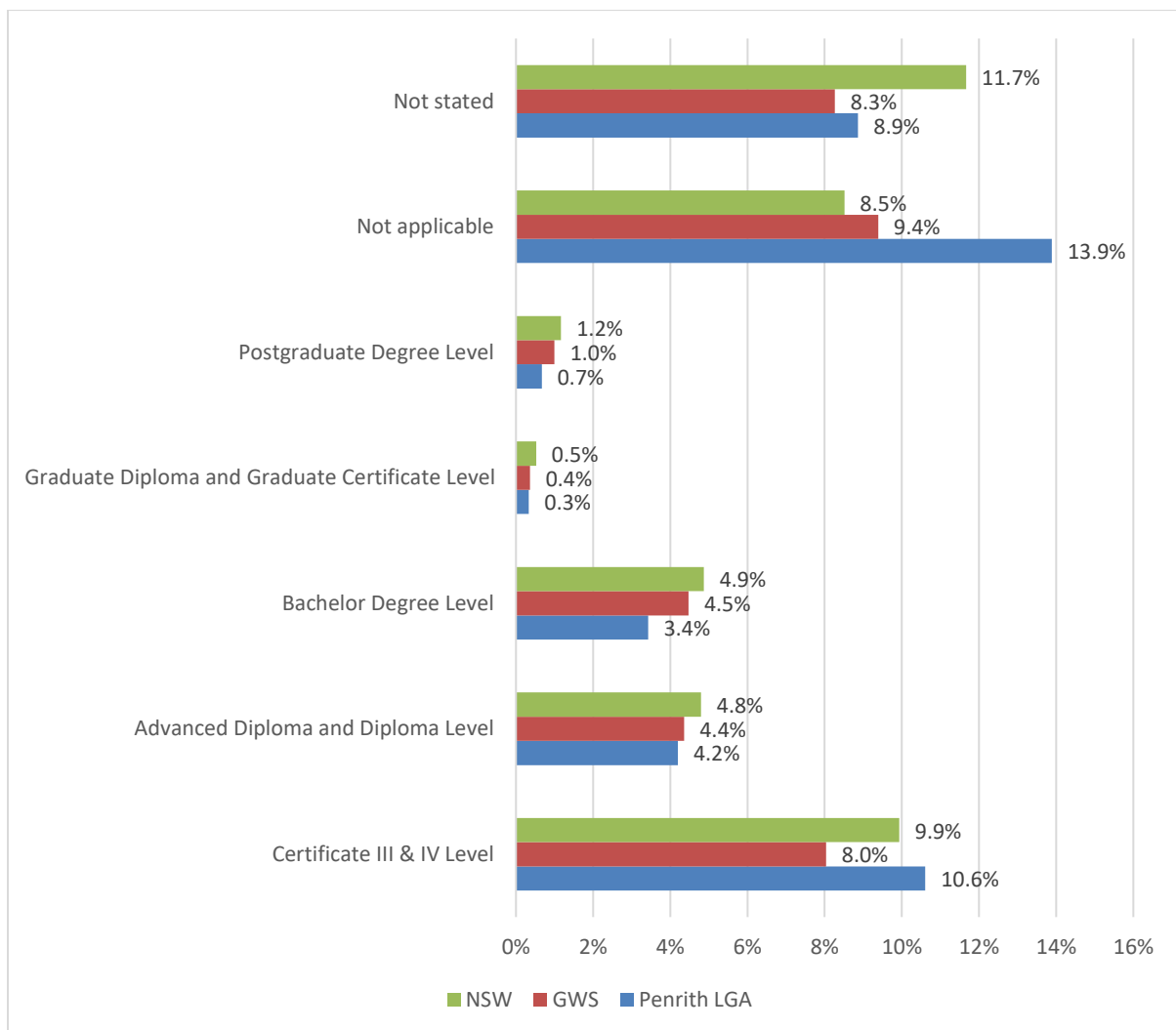
**Table 9: GWS and NSW residents, by need for assistance and education level (2016)**

Highest level of educational attainment	GWS						NSW					
	People with need for assistance		People without need for assistance		Total*		People with need for assistance		People without need for assistance		Total*	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Secondary Education - Years 9 and below	31,157	24.1%	131,334	6.4%	164,683	7.1%	93,842	23.3%	411,675	6.3%	513,205	6.9%
Secondary Education - Years 10 and above	36,998	28.7%	568,157	27.9%	612,842	26.6%	110,616	27.5%	1,701,395	25.9%	1,836,402	24.6%
Certificate I & II Level	177	0.1%	1,417	0.1%	1,618	0.1%	620	0.2%	4,974	0.1%	5,678	0.1%
Certificate III & IV Level	10,373	8.0%	235,775	11.6%	249,310	10.8%	39,945	9.9%	846,856	12.9%	899,053	12.0%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	5,624	4.4%	155,564	7.6%	162,998	7.1%	19,288	4.8%	517,311	7.9%	543,140	7.3%
Bachelor Degree Level	5,772	4.5%	255,845	12.6%	264,123	11.4%	19,582	4.9%	947,493	14.4%	976,885	13.1%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	470	0.4%	22,246	1.1%	22,911	1.0%	2,098	0.5%	100,234	1.5%	103,340	1.4%
Postgraduate Degree Level	1,288	1.0%	91,709	4.5%	93,786	4.1%	4,697	1.2%	336,694	5.1%	344,488	4.6%
Not applicable	12,114	9.4%	443,647	21.8%	482,999	20.9%	34,224	8.5%	1,272,227	19.4%	1,386,336	18.5%
Not stated	10,667	8.3%	56,975	2.8%	161,958	7.0%	46,908	11.7%	209,364	3.2%	627,465	8.4%
Supplementary Codes	14,416	11.2%	74,284	3.6%	89,958	3.9%	30,229	7.5%	210,506	3.2%	244,230	3.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>129,058</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,036,950</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,307,182</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>402,049</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6,558,728</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7,480,230</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: \*Total column includes responses where need for assistance with core activities was 'not stated'. As this table includes people of all ages, people with an educational attainment level that was 'not applicable' can include children who are not yet at the age to have completed an educational attainment.



**Figure 4: Highest level of educational attainment among people with need for assistance with core activities, comparison of Penrith LGA, GWS, and NSW (2016)**



Source: Based on ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: this figure excludes data where the highest level of educational attainment was categorised as 'not applicable', 'not stated', or 'supplementary codes' (the rates for which were comparable between the three regions).

Please see Appendix 5 and Appendix 6 for the full data.

## 4.2 Housing tenure

Of people with need for assistance in Penrith LGA, most lived in a home that was owned outright (n=3,297, 32.5%). Following this, people with need for assistance were most likely to live in a rental property (n=2,940, 29.0%) or a home owned with a mortgage (n=2,606, 25.7%).

Interestingly, the proportion of housing tenures among people living with disability was quite different to people without need for assistance. As seen in Table 10, people without disability were most likely to have been living in a home owned with a mortgage, representing almost half of the cohort (n=82,608, 47.9%). Compared to people living with disability, a similar rate of able-bodied people in Penrith LGA lived in a rental property (n=48,314, 28.0%) while a much smaller percentage of able-bodied people lived in a home owned outright (n=35,916, 20.8%, compared to 32.5% for people living with disability). These figures may be influenced by the high proportion of older people among people with need for assistance – an age group that is more likely to own their own home outright (see Appendix 7).

**Table 10: Penrith residents, by need for assistance and housing tenure (2016)**

Housing tenure	People with need for assistance with core activities		People without need for assistance with core activities		Total*	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Owned outright	3,297	32.5%	35,916	20.8%	39,992	20.4%
Owned with a mortgage	2,606	25.7%	82,608	47.9%	86,605	44.1%
Being purchased under a shared equity scheme	11	0.1%	104	0.1%	117	0.1%
Rented	2,940	29.0%	48,314	28.0%	52,391	26.7%
Being occupied rent-free	42	0.4%	775	0.4%	848	0.4%
Being occupied under a life tenure scheme	43	0.4%	166	0.1%	209	0.1%
Other tenure type	36	0.4%	463	0.3%	516	0.3%
Not stated	217	2.1%	3,153	1.8%	11,847	6.0%
Not applicable	960	9.5%	909	0.5%	3,758	1.9%
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>10,151</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>172,405</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>196,281</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Enumeration. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. \*Total column includes responses where need for assistance with core activities was 'not stated'.

## Benchmarking

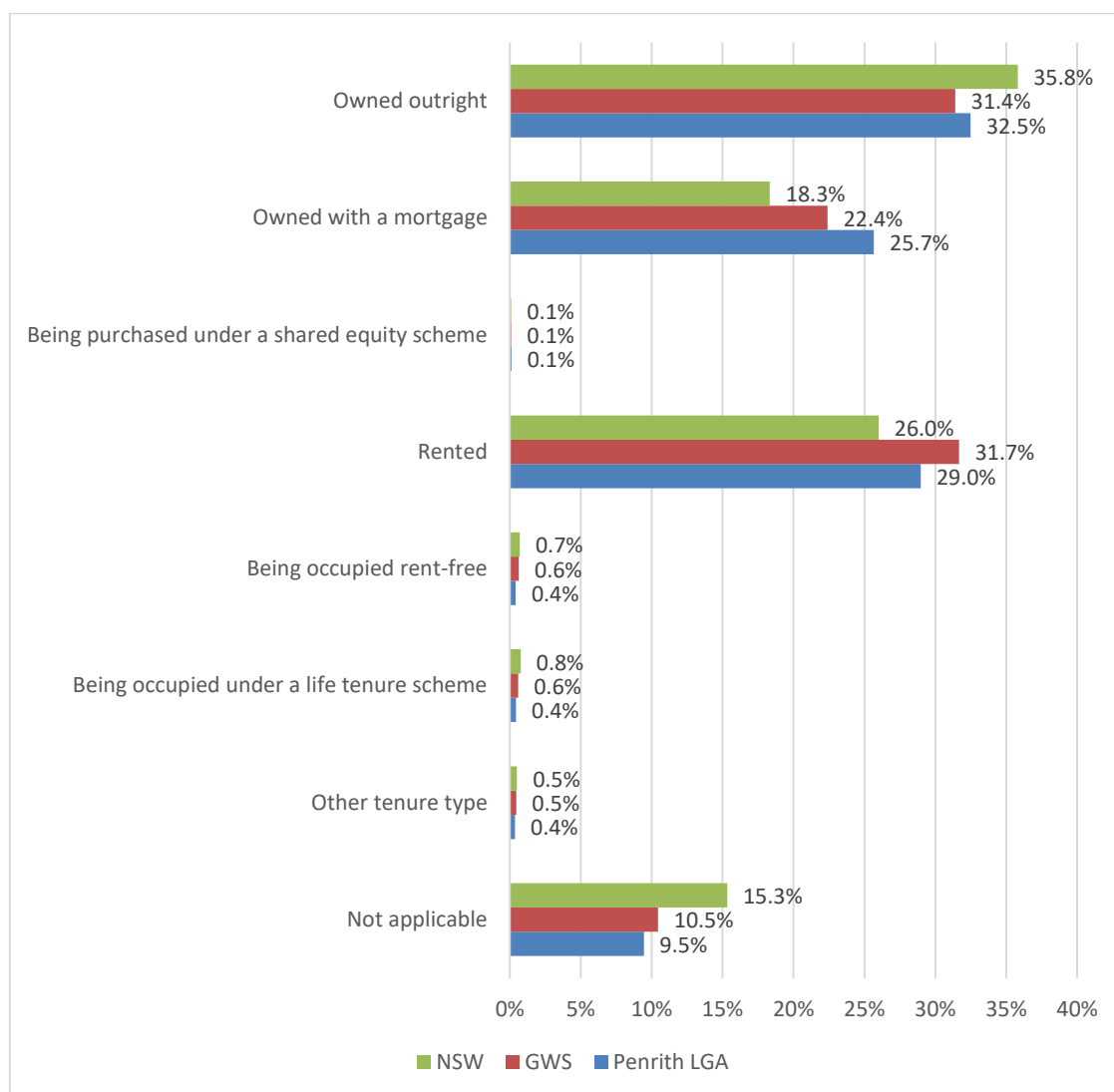
Comparing housing tenure rates in Penrith LGA to rates in GWS and NSW sheds further light on disability in Penrith LGA. As shown in Table 11 and Figure 5, a greater proportion of Penrith LGA residents with disability lived in a home owned with a mortgage (25.7%) compared to the GWS average (22.4%) and NSW average (18.3%). A greater proportion of people with a need for assistance in Penrith LGA lived in a rented property (29.0%) than





across NSW (26.0%). Finally, compared to the NSW rate of 35.8%, a smaller proportion (32.5%) of people living with disability in Penrith lived in a home that was owned outright.

**Figure 5: Housing tenure type for people with need for assistance with core activities, comparison of Penrith LGA, GWS, and NSW (2016)**



Source: Based on ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Enumeration. Please note: this figure excludes data where the housing tenure was categorised as 'not stated'. For each comparison region, the rate of this category was comparable.

**Table 11: People in Penrith LGA, GWS, and NSW, by need for assistance and housing tenure (2016)**

Housing tenure	People with need for assistance with core activities						People without need for assistance with core activities					
	Penrith LGA		GWS		NSW		Penrith LGA		GWS		NSW	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Owned outright	3,297	32.5%	40,499	31.4%	143,674	35.8%	35,916	20.8%	453,496	22.3%	1,708,454	26.1%
Owned with a mortgage	2,606	25.7%	28,880	22.4%	73,570	18.3%	82,608	47.9%	884,636	43.5%	2,578,572	39.4%
Being purchased under a shared equity scheme	11	0.1%	133	0.1%	411	0.1%	104	0.1%	2,017	0.1%	5,525	0.1%
Rented	2,940	29.0%	40,848	31.7%	104,315	26.0%	48,314	28.0%	617,336	30.4%	1,930,443	29.5%
Being occupied rent-free	42	0.4%	822	0.6%	2,811	0.7%	775	0.4%	12,107	0.6%	54,495	0.8%
Being occupied under a life tenure scheme	43	0.4%	755	0.6%	3,042	0.8%	166	0.1%	4,011	0.2%	16,857	0.3%
Other tenure type	36	0.4%	589	0.5%	2,035	0.5%	463	0.3%	6,672	0.3%	24,177	0.4%
Not stated	217	2.1%	2,937	2.3%	9,879	2.5%	3,153	1.8%	40,981	2.0%	128,267	2.0%
Not applicable	960	9.5%	13,480	10.5%	61,496	15.3%	909	0.5%	11,193	0.6%	102,610	1.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,151</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>128,945</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>401,228</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>172,405</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,032,454</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6,549,396</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells.



## Homelessness

People living with disability face greater risks of entering homelessness. With factors such as access needs, comparatively lower incomes, and the additional costs of living with disability, affordable and accessible housing options can be limited.<sup>23</sup> People living with disability who are homeless may also experience a higher vulnerability within homelessness. As Homelessness Australia identifies:

*People with disabilities can face barriers in accessing homelessness services. Some issues include: not being aware services exist and not knowing how to reach services or how accessible they are. Information on services is usually available in printed format – meaning people with vision impairment may be unable to access it.<sup>24</sup>*

Further issues can include the accessibility of support facilities and specialist homelessness services. Actions may also be misinterpreted and people living with disability discriminated against, indicating the importance of accessibility – both physical and cultural – in homelessness support services.

According to ABS Homelessness estimates, which are performed on a Statistical Area 3 (SA3) scale rather than LGA boundaries, estimated that 885 people in the Penrith SA3 area were experiencing homelessness or marginal housing. Of these people, approximately 49 individuals (5.5%) needed assistance for core activities (see Table 12). People in Penrith SA3 who were disabled and homeless were most frequently living in supported accommodation for the homeless (n=26) or in other crowded dwellings (n=11).

The rates of homelessness among people living with disability in Penrith SA3 is comparable to the rates in the regions of GWS and NSW. Broadly speaking, the 2016 homelessness rate in GWS (1.4%) was slightly higher than the rate in Penrith SA3 (0.6%). Penrith SA3's homelessness rate was also slightly lower than the NSW rate (1.0%) (see Table 13).

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<sup>23</sup> People with Disability Australia 2019, 'Housing, Jobs and Transport', available at <https://bit.ly/3yADNOC>

<sup>24</sup> Homelessness Australia 2016, 'Homelessness and Disability', available at <https://bit.ly/2QMEG5s>



**Table 12: Penrith residents, by need for assistance and homelessness group (2016)**

Homelessness Operational Group	People with need for assistance with core activities		People without need for assistance with core activities		Total*	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Persons living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out	0	NA (counts too small)	14	1.9%	21	2.4%
Persons in supported accommodation for the homeless	26		156	21.7%	249	28.1%
Persons staying temporarily with other households	5		102	14.2%	105	11.9%
Persons living in boarding houses	0		12	1.7%	16	1.8%
Persons in other temporary lodgings	0		0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Persons living in 'severely' crowded dwellings	3		184	25.6%	195	22.0%
Persons living in other crowded dwellings	11		193	26.8%	221	25.0%
Persons in other improvised dwellings	0		40	5.6%	40	4.5%
Persons who are marginally housed in caravan parks	5		18	2.5%	26	2.9%
<b>Total Penrith SA3</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Based on ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Homelessness Estimates. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. As such, greater reliance can be placed on the total column, even where rows do not add to the stated total. Due to small numbers, percentages for people with need for assistance are excluded. \*Total column includes responses where need for assistance with core activities was 'not stated'.

**Table 13: Homelessness status and disability status, comparison of Penrith SA3, GWS, and NSW (2016)**

Homelessness status, disability status		Penrith SA3		GWS SA3s		NSW	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Homeless	Need assistance	49	0.0%	1,614	0.1%	3,582	0.0%
	Do not need assistance	719	0.5%	28,843	1.3%	64,348	0.9%
	Disability status not stated	113	0.1%	1,688	0.1%	7,033	0.1%
<b>Homeless, total</b>		<b>885</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>32,143</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>74,966</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Not homeless, total</b>		<b>138,382</b>	<b>99.4%</b>	<b>2,258,637</b>	<b>98.6%</b>	<b>7,394,070</b>	<b>99.0%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>139,268</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,290,785</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7,469,034</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Based on ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Homelessness Estimates.



### 4.3 Domestic and family violence

People living with disability are more likely than people without disability to experience domestic and family violence (DFV) than their peers. When accessing DFV support services, people living with disability may also face additional barriers. For example, staff may lack confidence and skills to support people with disabilities, facilities and information may be inaccessible, and policies and procedures may discriminate.<sup>25</sup>

Despite the prevalence of DFV among people living with disability, public data on DFV incidents perpetrated on people living with disability is limited. Due to confidentiality, NSW BOCSAR Statistics, which records only reported incidents of DFV on an LGA level, does not provide information on the victims' disability status. Furthermore, smaller areas equate to smaller incident counts, thus increasing the possibility of a reported incident or involved party being identifiable. As such, in the interest of upholding privacy while providing insight into violence perpetrated on people living with disability, this report adopts a different approach to estimate DFV among people living with disability in Penrith LGA.

The following analyses is performed in two stages. Firstly, the analysis outlines nationwide estimates of DFV and other violence among people living with disability or long-term health condition (LTHC). Secondly, estimated incident rates are applied to the number of people living with disability in Penrith LGA. While merely an estimate, this provides a general approximation of DFV and violence experienced by local residents with disability.

For further validity, a similar process is performed on NSW BOCSAR data. By examining the number of domestic assault incidents in Penrith LGA each month in the year of 2020 and applying this to the proportion of the local population with disability, we develop a localised estimate. Again, the picture formed is an approximation, however, each estimate serves to indicate the effect of violence and DFV on people living with disability in Penrith LGA.

#### Australia data

The ABS Partner Violence Statistics 2016 estimate that:

*...women (in Australia) who had a disability or a long-term health condition were more likely than women without a disability or a long-term health condition to have experienced partner violence in the last two years (3.9% compared with 2.2%). An*

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<sup>25</sup> NSW Department of Communities and Justice 2020, 'Building Access for Women with Disability, delivered by People with Disability Australia', available at <https://bit.ly/3fKflfr>; Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) 2020, 'Violence prevention and early intervention for mothers and children with a disability: Building promising practice, Key findings and future directions', *Research to Policy and Practice* 16, available at <https://bit.ly/2SpnIA2>



*estimated 113,700 women with a disability or long-term health condition experience partner violence in the last two years.<sup>26</sup>*

With this figure focussed on partner violence, this is only a part of the story. Violence can also occur between family members and is not limited to partner relationships. Incidents of domestic and family violence are estimated to be woefully underreported.

Nationwide statistics from the 2016 ABS Personal Safety Survey (PSS) provide some indication of what may be being experienced by people living with disability in Penrith LGA. For example, as shown in Table 14, an estimated 5.7% of people living with disability or long-term health condition had experienced an assault or threat of violence in the last 12 months. People with a disability or long-term health condition were also significantly more likely than people without a disability or long-term health condition to have experienced the following incidents:

- Emotional abuse by a partner (5.6% compared to 4.0%)
- Violence committed by a known person (4.5% compared to 3.4%)
- Sexual harassment (14.9% compared to 12.7%)
- Stalking (3.1% compared to 2.1%).

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<sup>26</sup> ABS 2020, Partner Violence – In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics, available at <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/focus-crime-and-justice-statistics/january-2020>



**Table 14: Experiences of violence by disability status and gender, Australia (2016)**

Experienced in the last 12 months	Incident	Male			Female			Total		
		Disability or LTHC	No disability or LTHC	Total Males	Disability or LTHC	No disability or LTHC	Total Females	Disability or LTHC	No disability or LTHC	Total
<b>Sexual violence</b>	Sexual assault or sexual threat	<sup>(a)</sup> 0.7%	<sup>(a)</sup> 0.9%	<sup>(a)</sup> 0.7%	2.2%	1.6%	1.8%	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%
<b>Physical violence</b>	Physical assault or physical threat	5.1%	5.5%	5.4%	4.8%	2.9%	3.5%	5.0%	4.2%	4.5%
<b>Any violence</b>	Assault or threat	5.6%	6.2%	6.0%	5.9%	4.3%	4.7%	5.7%	5.2%	5.4%
<b>Violence, by perpetrator type</b>	Stranger	*2.2%	3.4%	3.0%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	1.8%	2.2%	2.1%
	Known person (any)	4.1%	3.2%	3.5%	4.9%	3.5%	4.0%	*4.5%	3.4%	3.7%
	Known person (intimate partner, current or previous)	1.8%	1.0%	1.3%	3.0%	1.9%	2.3%	*2.4%	1.4%	1.8%
<b>Emotional abuse by a partner</b>	Current or previous partner	4.7%	3.8%	4.2%	6.3%	4.1%	4.8%	*5.6%	4.0%	4.5%
<b>Sexual harassment</b>	By a male or female	10.4%	8.7%	9.3%	*19.1%	16.5%	17.3%	*14.9%	12.7%	13.4%
<b>Stalking</b>	By a male or female	*2.5%	1.4%	1.7%	*3.7%	2.7%	3.1%	*3.1%	2.1%	2.4%

Source: ABS 2016 Personal Safety Survey, Disability and Violence – In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics, available at <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/focus-crime-and-justice-statistics/latest-release>. Please note: LTHC refers to long-term health condition. Asterix (\*) denotes that the difference between persons with disability or long-term health condition and those without was statistically significant. Rates marked with (a) denote that the estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.



## Estimates for Penrith LGA residents living with disability

Applying observed incident rates of DFV to people living with disability in Penrith LGA shows some indication of the experiences of violence in the LGA. In Table 15, the nationwide estimates of violence perpetrated on people with disabilities are applied to the Penrith LGA population. In doing so, it is possible to estimate the approximate number of Penrith residents with disability impacted by such incidents of violence. Importantly, it must be remembered that these are estimates, and in the absence of more detailed data, are intended to suggest what may be occurring in Penrith LGA.

**Table 15: Estimated Penrith LGA residents with disability who experienced violence in the past 12 months (2016)**

Experienced in the last 12 months	Incident	Proportion, ABS <sup>(a)</sup>	Estimated Penrith residents affected <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>Sexual violence</b>	Sexual assault or sexual threat	1.4%	71
<b>Physical violence</b>	Physical assault or physical threat	5.0%	518
<b>Any violence</b>	Assault or threat	5.7%	569
<b>Violence, by perpetrator type</b>	Stranger	1.8%	223
	Known person (any)	*4.5%	416
	Known person (intimate partner, current or previous)	*2.4%	183
<b>Emotional abuse by a partner</b>	Current or previous partner	*5.6%	477
<b>Sexual harassment</b>	By a male or female	*14.9%	1,056
<b>Stalking</b>	By a male or female	*3.1%	254

Source: Based on a combination of (a) ABS Personal Safety Survey 2016 and (b) Australian Census 2016, Place of Usual Residence. The estimated Penrith residents affected is calculated by applying the ABS proportion rate of Australia by the number of people with a core activity need for assistance in Penrith LGA, according to the 2016 Census (total n=10,153). Please note: Asterix (\*) denotes where the difference between persons with disability or long-term health condition and those without is statistically significant.

As outlined in the above table, it is estimated that approximately 569 people with a need for assistance in Penrith LGA experienced sexual or physical violence in the 12 months prior to the 2016 ABS Personal Safety Survey. Over a thousand Penrith residents with a need for assistance are estimated to have experienced sexual harassment in this time. Violence by a known person is estimated to have been perpetrated on 416 people living with disability in Penrith LGA.

### NSW data

Evidently, applying the national rates of violence to the Penrith LGA population provides some indication of the potential prevalence of violence perpetrated on people living with disability in Penrith LGA. Just as the above analysis established Penrith estimates through nationwide figures, the following analysis applies the population of Penrith LGA residents

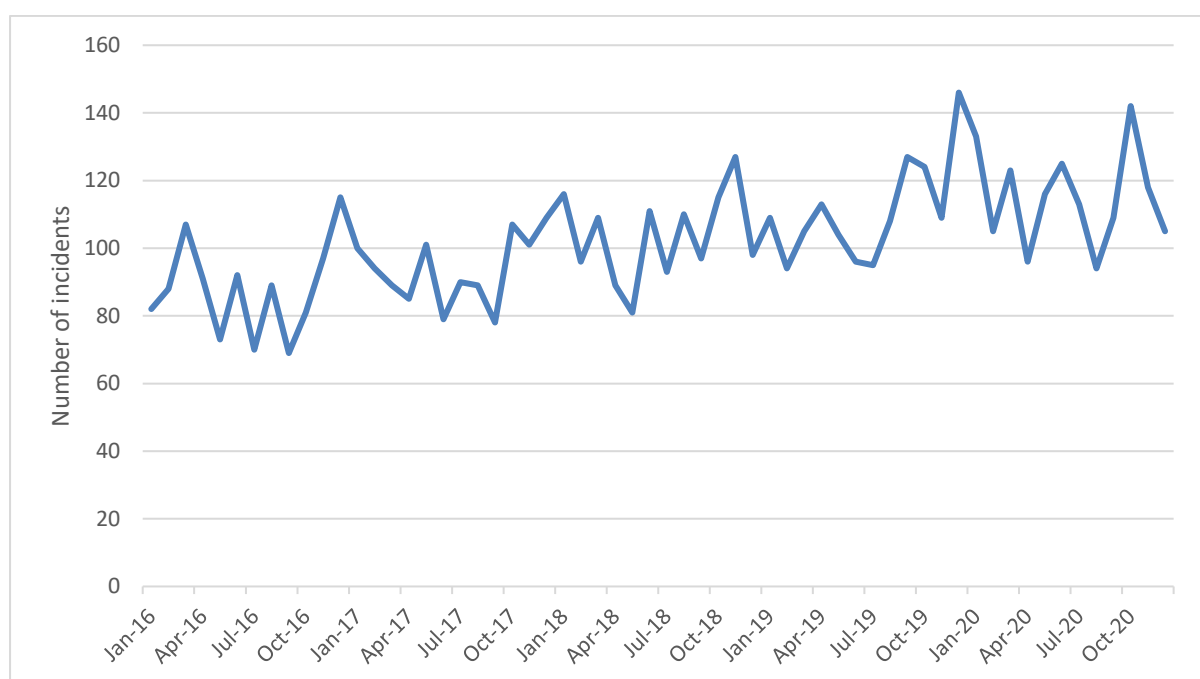




with disability to the LGA's BOCSAR figures. Doing so offers a further estimate of how many local reported incidents of crime may have involved a person with disability.

For the 2020 year, BOCSAR data ranked Penrith as the 28<sup>th</sup> highest LGA in NSW for the number and rate of reported domestic related assaults.<sup>27</sup> In 2020 alone, a total of 1,379 domestic violence related assault incidents were reported in Penrith LGA, representing a rate of 647.5 people affected per 100,000 of the population. In the 5 years between January 2016 and December 2020, an average of 102 domestic violence related assaults were reported each month in Penrith LGA. As shown in Figure 6, the number of DFV incidents peaked at 146 incidents in December 2019.

**Figure 6: Domestic violence related assaults, Penrith LGA (January 2016 to December 2020)**



Source: Based on BOCSAR 2021, Recorded criminal incident by month, LGA

### Estimates for Penrith LGA residents living with disability

BOCSAR, while offering crucial insight into DFV in Penrith LGA, does not provide information on the incidents of domestic assault that were perpetrated on a person with disability. To estimate this, the following analysis applies the number of DFV incidents reported in Penrith LGA via BOCSAR to the percentage of people living with disability in Penrith LGA. For example, if an average of 102 domestic assaults occurred monthly over the past five years (as established above) and approximately 5.2% of Penrith LGA residents had a disability, it

<sup>27</sup> NSW BOCSAR 2021, Domestic Violence Excel Table, available at <https://bit.ly/3wzAhSy>



may be estimated that approximately 5 people living with disability reported a domestic related assault in Penrith each month. For the 2020 year, where 1,379 domestic violence related assault incidents occurred in Penrith LGA, it is estimated that approximately 72 of these assaults were perpetrated on people living with disability.

### Limitations

Importantly, these numbers are simple estimates. However, they help to suggest of what may be happening in Penrith LGA. Furthermore, considering the underreporting of DFV and Penrith LGA's comparatively high prevalence of DFV, it is likely these figures of DFV among residents with disability are underestimated.

## 4.4 Educational institution

In 2016, approximately 1,997 people living in Penrith LGA with a core activity need for assistance were attending an education institution. This represented approximately 19.7% of the LGAs residents with disability. This means that people living with disability in Penrith LGA were more likely to be attending an education institution (19.7%) than the average GWS, NSW and Australia (15.3%, 15.6%, and 15.9% respectively). At the same time, Penrith LGA residents with disability were less likely to be attending an education institution than people without a disability (27.5%).

Through Census data, it is possible to view what type of institution people were attending in 2016. For example, as shown in Table 16, Penrith LGA residents with disability who were attending an educational institution were most likely attending a government Infants or Primary School (n=681) or a government Secondary School (n=343). Due to the nature of this data, is it not clear whether these schools were located within Penrith LGA or outside the area.

The Penrith suburbs where the greatest number of people living with disability attended an educational institution were Glenmore Park (n=243), St Clair (n=170) and Penrith (n=160). The total number of students in each suburb is seen in Table 17.

### Benchmarking

Table 17 demonstrates how Penrith LGA compares to GWS, NSW, and Australia. Evidently, more Penrith residents with disability were attending an infants or primary school (46.2%) compared to GWS (41.6%), NSW (32.2%) and nationwide rates (35.5%). Similar is true for preschool (8.2% in Penrith LGA). It is possible this indicates the high proportion of young people in Penrith LGA compared to GWS, NSW and Australia (where 6.8%, 5.0% and 4.4% of people living with disability were attending preschool, respectively).



**Table 16: People with core activity need for assistance, by education institution attending and Penrith LGA suburb (2016) (count)**

Suburb	Pre-school	Infants/ Primary - Government	Infants/ Primary - Catholic	Infants/ Primary - Other Non Government	Secondary – Government	Secondary – Catholic	Secondary - Other Non Government	Technical or Further Ed. Institution (including TAFE)	University or other Tertiary Institution	Other	Not stated
Agnes Banks*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Badgerys Creek*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Berkshire Park	5	6	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caddens	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Cambridge Gardens	4	9	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cambridge Park	8	28	7	4	19	7	4	3	6	0	15
Castlereagh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claremont Meadows	5	13	0	5	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Colyton	5	36	0	0	18	3	3	15	3	9	10
Cranebrook	12	69	13	3	37	11	3	10	7	5	14
Emu Heights	0	8	6	3	5	7	0	0	0	0	0
Emu Plains	9	25	10	0	16	0	6	6	0	0	11
Erskine Park	3	16	0	0	14	4	0	0	0	4	5
Glenmore Park	22	92	16	12	37	20	11	9	6	8	3
Jamisontown	7	22	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	10
Jordan Springs	3	18	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Kemps Creek*	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Kingswood	11	27	0	3	15	0	4	6	7	3	12
Leonay	3	6	3	0	6	0	6	0	0	0	0
Llandilo	0	6	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Londonderry	4	9	0	0	13	0	0	3	0	0	0
Luddenham*	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mount Vernon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mulgoa	0	4	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
North St Marys	4	28	0	0	13	0	0	4	3	5	6
Orchard Hills	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Oxley Park	0	10	3	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	3
Penrith	7	37	4	6	29	4	7	20	6	7	38
Regentville	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Penrith	9	43	10	0	27	8	3	7	0	9	14
St Clair	14	60	9	8	23	8	0	16	5	5	14
St Marys	6	45	0	0	24	9	0	13	6	3	37
Wallacia*	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Werrington	0	11	5	0	11	3	0	8	3	5	0
Werrington County	3	18	0	4	6	4	0	0	0	0	0
Werrington Downs	4	8	3	0	7	4	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>224</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Asterix (\*) denotes suburbs that are shared between Penrith LGA and another LGA.



*Table 17: People with core activity need for assistance, by education institution attending (grouped) and Penrith LGA suburb (2016)*

Suburb	Preschool		Infants/Primary		Secondary		University, Further Education, and Technical Institution		Other		Total
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Agnes Banks*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Badgerys Creek*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Berkshire Park	5	45.5%	6	54.5%	4	36.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	11
Caddens	0	0.0%	5	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8
Cambridge Gardens	4	20.0%	8	40.0%	8	40.0%	3	15.0%	0	0.0%	20
Cambridge Park	8	9.8%	34	41.5%	28	34.1%	8	9.8%	0	0.0%	96
Castlereagh	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3
Claremont Meadows	5	13.2%	24	63.2%	13	34.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	45
Colyton	5	5.6%	33	36.7%	24	26.7%	15	16.7%	9	10.0%	101
Cranebrook	12	6.9%	81	46.3%	57	32.6%	17	9.7%	5	2.9%	185
Emu Heights	0	0.0%	17	48.6%	9	25.7%	4	11.4%	0	0.0%	35
Emu Plains	9	13.0%	31	44.9%	18	26.1%	7	10.1%	0	0.0%	78
Erskine Park	3	7.3%	13	31.7%	17	41.5%	0	0.0%	4	9.8%	42
Glenmore Park	22	9.0%	122	50.0%	70	28.7%	20	8.2%	8	3.3%	243
Jamisontown	7	15.6%	22	48.9%	8	17.8%	0	0.0%	5	11.1%	54
Jordan Springs	3	9.4%	18	56.3%	8	25.0%	4	12.5%	0	0.0%	32
Kemps Creek*	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12
Kingswood	11	12.9%	37	43.5%	23	27.1%	15	17.6%	3	3.5%	101
Leonay	3	13.6%	11	50.0%	9	40.9%	5	22.7%	0	0.0%	25
Llandilo	0	0.0%	6	37.5%	5	31.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	16
Londonderry	4	12.1%	9	27.3%	11	33.3%	4	12.1%	0	0.0%	36
Luddenham*	0	0.0%	4	28.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	14
Mount Vernon	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3
Mulgoa	0	0.0%	7	53.8%	5	38.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12
North St Marys	4	7.7%	30	57.7%	18	34.6%	3	5.8%	5	9.6%	59
Orchard Hills	0	0.0%	4	40.0%	5	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13
Oxley Park	0	0.0%	11	50.0%	3	13.6%	5	22.7%	0	0.0%	28
Penrith	7	5.8%	49	40.5%	39	32.2%	22	18.2%	7	5.8%	160
Regentville	0	0.0%	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
South Penrith	9	8.1%	55	49.5%	32	28.8%	4	3.6%	9	8.1%	122
St Clair	14	9.4%	76	51.0%	40	26.8%	20	13.4%	5	3.4%	170
St Marys	6	5.7%	46	43.4%	33	31.1%	18	17.0%	3	2.8%	141
Wallacia*	0	0.0%	4	80.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5
Werrington	0	0.0%	20	46.5%	13	30.2%	6	14.0%	5	11.6%	46
Werrington County	3	8.3%	23	63.9%	6	16.7%	3	8.3%	0	0.0%	36
Werrington Downs	4	16.0%	15	60.0%	9	36.0%	3	12.0%	0	0.0%	28
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>47.2%</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>1,997</b>
<b>Total GWS</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>6,874</b>	<b>41.6%</b>	<b>4,791</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>1,356</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>1,356</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>19,810</b>
<b>Total NSW</b>	<b>3,149</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>20,172</b>	<b>32.2%</b>	<b>13,818</b>	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>7,295</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>2,896</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>62,696</b>
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>8,366</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>66,907</b>	<b>35.0%</b>	<b>43,080</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>21,409</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>11,414</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>191,132</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Total column includes people whose educational institution attending was 'not stated'. Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Due to small numbers, percentages must be interpreted with caution. Asterix (\*) denotes suburbs that are shared between Penrith LGA and another LGA.



## 5. NDIS participation

The National Disability Insurance Scheme, or NDIS, is an Australia-wide scheme that provides funding and assistance for people living with disability to access the support they require. As explained by the government agency responsible for the NDIS, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), “the NDIS gives all Australians peace of mind if they, their child or loved one is born with or acquires a permanent and significant disability, they will get the support they need”.<sup>28</sup> Support is provided in various forms, for example:

*The NDIS can provide all people with disability with information and connections to services in their communities such as doctors, sporting clubs, support groups, libraries and schools, as well as information about what support is provided by each state and territory government.*

At 31 December 2020, there were 8,098 active NDIS participants in the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District (LHD). Over half of these participants resided in Penrith LGA (n=4,732, 58.4%). Interestingly, when considering that the population of Penrith LGA represented a smaller proportion of the LHD population in the 2016 Census (54.7% of Nepean Blue Mountains LHD), NDIS participation may indicate a comparatively high demand for NDIS support in Penrith LGA than other LGAs in the district.

At a LHD level, the NDIA provide data to the public regarding the number of participants in each disability type. In the Nepean Blue Mountains LHD, Autism was the most common disability type supported through the NDIS on 31 December 2020 (n=3,045, 37.6% of participants). As seen in Table 18, support for Autism was most frequently delivered among the 7 to 14 year age group (n=1,613, 53.0% of participants with Autism).

The next most common disability type among NDIS participants was intellectual disability, with participants in this cohort representing 20.2% of the district’s NDIS participants. Nepean Blue Mountains residents with an intellectual disability who were participating in the NDIS were most frequently in the age groups of 7 to 14 years (n=323), 25 to 34 years (n=271) and 19 to 24 years (n=264).

NDIS participant data also shows how participant numbers differed by age group. For example, people under 15 years of age represented just under half of NDIS participants in Nepean Blue Mountains LHD in December 2020 (46.7%, see Table 18). Highlighting the demand and delivery of early intervention, this proportion reinforces the prevalent support needs for young people living with disability.

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<sup>28</sup> NDIA 2021, ‘What is the NDIS?’ available at <https://www.ndis.gov.au/understanding/what-ndis>



**Table 18: NDIS participants in Nepean Blue Mountains LHD, by type of disability (31 December 2020)**

Age group	Acquired Brain Injury (ABI)	Autism	Cerebral Palsy	Developmental delay	Global developmental delay	Hearing impairment	Intellectual disability	Multiple sclerosis
0 to 6 years	11	521	41	574	115	58	82	-
7 to 14 years	11	1,613	63	86	18	69	323	-
15 to 18 years	11	401	19	11	-	20	148	11
19 to 24 years	11	303	30	-	-	23	264	-
25 to 34 years	22	127	58	-	-	33	271	11
35 to 44 years	36	49	39	-	-	46	194	18
45 to 54 years	48	15	15	-	-	39	182	30
55 to 64 years	49	15	11	-	-	54	134	50
65+ years	12	11	11	-	-	19	40	17
<b>Total Nepean Blue Mountains</b>	196	3,045	278	661	133	361	1,638	120
<b>Total GWS LHDs*</b>	1,020	13,939	1,634	2,924	1,186	2,314	9,102	637
<b>Total NSW</b>	3,992	42,370	5,319	9,971	2,963	6,848	28,720	2,315

Source: NDIS Participant data, available at: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/explore-data>. Please note: No reliance should be placed on small cells. Low participant counts have been modified by the NDIS along with any related data to protect the privacy of the participants. The aggregated totals (of all disability groups) have not been modified.

Data in this table includes NDIS participants in all support classes. \*For the purpose of this table, GWS consists of three LHDs broadly located within the GWS region: Nepean Blue Mountains, Western Sydney, and South Western Sydney.



**Table 18: NDIS participants in Nepean Blue Mountains LHD, by type of disability (31 December 2020) (continued)**

Age group	Other	Other neuro-logical	Other physical	Other Sensory/ Speech	Psycho-social disability	Spinal Cord Injury	Stroke	Visual Impairment	Total, all disability groups	
									Count	%
0 to 6 years	11	11	11	11	-	-	-	11	1,426	17.6%
7 to 14 years	11	26	25	89	11	-	-	13	2,353	29.1%
15 to 18 years	11	13	11	11	11	11		14	648	8.0%
19 to 24 years	11	12	13	-	28	11	11	11	700	8.6%
25 to 34 years	11	27	22	11	89	11	11	11	673	8.3%
35 to 44 years	11	27	42	11	125	13	14	16	619	7.6%
45 to 54 years	11	58	49	-	163	16	15	23	664	8.2%
55 to 64 years	15	98	77	11	164	22	38	38	769	9.5%
65+ years	11	43	38	-	27	11	22	13	246	3.0%
<b>Total Nepean Blue Mountains</b>	42	314	284	105	607	68	100	146	8,098	100.0%
<b>Total GWS LHDs*</b>	215	1,659	1,686	327	3,277	374	695	928	41,917	-
<b>Total NSW</b>	663	5,997	5,482	1,122	12,881	1,648	2,269	2,842	135,402	-

Source: NDIS Participant data, available at: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/explore-data>. Please note: No reliance should be placed on small cells. Low participant counts have been modified by the NDIS along with any related data to protect the privacy of the participants. The aggregated totals (of all disability groups) have not been modified.

Data in this table includes NDIS participants in all support classes. \*For the purpose of this table, GWS consists of three LHDs broadly located within the GWS region: Nepean Blue Mountains, Western Sydney, and South Western Sydney.



## Benchmarking

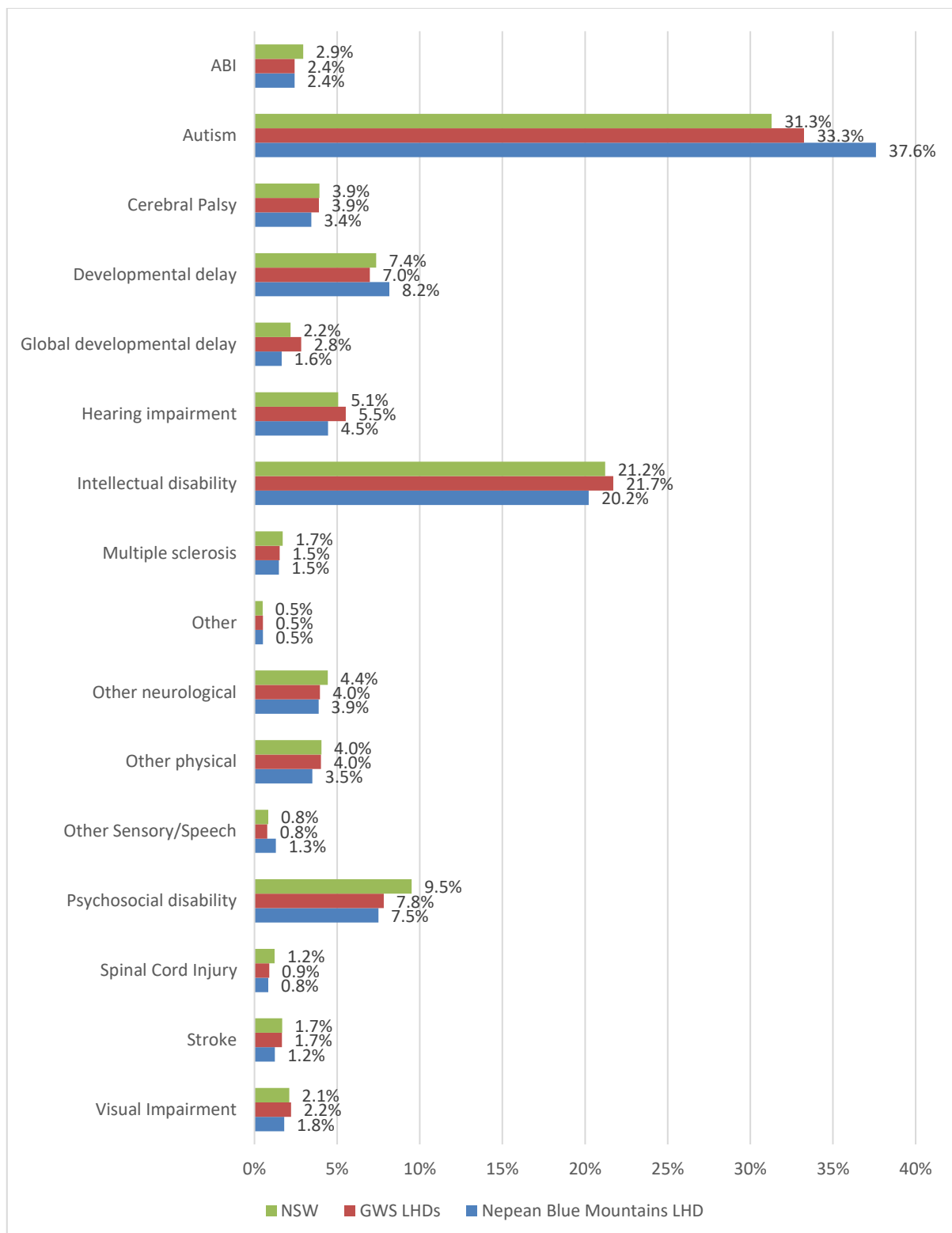
NDIS participants in the Nepean Blue Mountains LHD represented 19.3% of the NDIS participants in GWS and 6.0% of NSW participants. Figure 7 visualises the proportion of Nepean Blue Mountains residents who receive NDIS support for each disability type, compared within these broader districts.

As shown in Figure 7, a greater proportion of Nepean Blue Mountains residents were participating in the NDIS for Autism (37.5%) compared to GWS (33.3%) and NSW overall (31.3%). NDIS participation in the Nepean Blue Mountains LHD also saw a slightly higher proportion of participants with development delay (8.2%) compared to GWS (7.0%) and NSW (7.4%). Proportions of NDIS participants in the Nepean Blue Mountains LHD were slightly smaller than GWS and NSW for disability types such as global developmental delay, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, and psychosocial disability.





**Figure 7: Proportion of disability type among NDIS participants, comparison of Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District, GWS LHDs, and NSW (31 December 2020)**



Source: Based on NDIS participant data, available at: <https://data.ndis.gov.au/explore-data>.

## 6. Caring and unpaid assistance

Caring for people living with disability may be done by support workers or staff at supported accommodation. Although, assistance is often provided to a person with disability by an unpaid carer. Such an unpaid carer may be a family member, friend, or otherwise. A total of 17,493 Penrith LGA residents provided unpaid assistance to a person with disability in 2016. This cohort represented 8.9% of the LGA population (see Table 19).

When comparing age groups of five years, the greatest number of unpaid carers in Penrith LGA were aged between 55 and 59 years (n=2,032). People in this age group also had the highest rate of providing unpaid assistance to a person with disability, with approximately one in every six people in this age group providing unpaid care (16.9%). Regarding gender, unpaid carers were also more likely to be women (61.9%) than men (38.1%).

**Table 19: Penrith LGA residents providing unpaid assistance to a person with disability, by age group (2016)**

Age group	Number of people providing unpaid assistance	Total people	Percentage of people providing unpaid assistance
15-19 years	610	13,034	4.7%
20-24 years	826	14,119	5.9%
25-29 years	1,063	15,042	7.1%
30-34 years	1,496	15,255	9.8%
35-39 years	1,710	13,971	12.2%
40-44 years	1,778	13,485	13.2%
45-49 years	1,849	12,651	14.6%
50-54 years	1,915	12,086	15.8%
55-59 years	2,032	11,995	16.9%
60-64 years	1,659	10,222	16.2%
65-69 years	1,214	8,835	13.7%
70-74 years	657	5,625	11.7%
75-79 years	395	3,706	10.7%
80-84 years	204	2,422	8.4%
85-89 years	72	1,444	5.0%
90-94 years	20	694	2.9%
95+	4	171	2.3%
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>17,493</b>	<b>196,064</b>	<b>8.9%</b>
<b>Total GWS</b>	<b>213,979</b>	<b>2,307,182</b>	<b>9.3%</b>
<b>Total NSW</b>	<b>709,417</b>	<b>7,480,230</b>	<b>9.5%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. People aged under 15 years are categorised as not applicable in this indicator.



## 7. Conclusion

This Penrith Disability Snapshot report has outlined trends in disability, need for assistance, and caring through the most recently available ABS Census data, SDAC modelled estimates, NDIS participant data, and crime statistics from BOCSAR and the ABS Personal Safety Survey.

As the report alludes to, people living with disability in Penrith LGA live diverse and varying lives. While most people living with disability were older, female, and living in suburbs such as Penrith, St Marys and St Clair, Penrith LGA residents with disability live across the LGA and have differing ages, backgrounds, and experiences. A detailed outline of the key findings in this paper is provided below.

<b>Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10,153 Penrith residents required core activity assistance in 2016, representing 5.2% of the LGA population.</li> </ul>
<b>Age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2016, the age group with the greatest number of people living with disability in Penrith LGA was people aged between 65 and 69 years. The 80 to 84 year age group recorded the second highest number of people living with disability in Penrith LGA.</li> <li>There were 1,659 Penrith LGA residents under 18 years of age with disability in 2016. Of these, 221 were aged between 0 and 4 years.</li> </ul>
<b>Gender</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More female residents (n=5,258) than male residents (n=4,888) of Penrith LGA were living with a disability in 2016.</li> </ul>
<b>Degree of limitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the 2018 Survey of Ageing Disability and Carers, 15,150 people living with disability in Penrith LGA had a mild or moderate core activity limitation. 10,717 people had a severe or profound core activity limitation.</li> <li>In the 2018 SDAC, the number of Penrith LGA residents living with a disability (n=25,867) was more than twice the number of residents that needed core activity assistance at the time of the 2016 Census (n=10,153), likely reflecting the number of people with a mild or moderate degree of limitation (who are not included in the Census definition). The difference may also be influenced by the increase in Penrith LGA's population between 2016 and 2018.</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>552 people who were Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or both had a disability in 2016, representing approximately 7.1% of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.</li> <li>The age groups with the highest number of young Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people living with disability in Penrith LGA were 5-9 years (n=83) and 10-14 years (n=81)</li> </ul>
<b>Suburb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Penrith LGA suburbs with the highest number of total residents with disability were Penrith (n=1,127), St Marys (n=870), St Clair (n=848), Glenmore Park (n=803) and Cranebrook (n=747).</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2016, Penrith LGA residents who were aged 50 years or older and required assistance were most likely to live in Penrith (n=815), St Marys (n=589), St Clair (n=521), Glenmore Park (n=396) and Emu Plains (n=392).</li> <li>• The highest number of people between 18 and 49 years of age with need for assistance resided in Cranebrook (n=215), followed by Penrith (n=200), St Marys (n=189), Glenmore Park (n=175), St Clair (n=173) and Kingswood (n=145).</li> <li>• People under 18 years of age with need for assistance most frequently lived in Glenmore Park (n=225), Cranebrook (n=168), St Clair (n=150), Penrith (n=111) and South Penrith (n=102).</li> </ul>
<b>Lone person households</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,157 people living with disability lived in a lone person household in Penrith LGA in 2016. These people represented 11.4% of residents with a need for assistance.</li> <li>• The largest numbers of people with disability living in a lone person household lived in the suburbs of Penrith (n=248), St Marys (n=145) and Kingswood (n=117). In Werrington, approximately 21.4% (50 of 234) people living with disability lived in a lone person household.</li> </ul>
<b>Language</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,299 people living with disability spoke a language other than English at home, representing 22.6% of the LGA population with disability.</li> <li>• The most commonly spoken languages other than English among people living with disability in Penrith LGA were Arabic (n=250), followed by Italian (n=180), Greek (n=151) and Maltese (n=140).</li> <li>• Approximately 141 people spoke Auslan at home, with only 47 of these people identifying as needing core activity assistance. A further 37 people, with or without disability, spoke a sign language other than Auslan at home.</li> </ul>
<b>Labour force participation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2016, 951 Penrith LGA residents with disability were employed, representing 9.4% of the cohort.</li> <li>• 199 people, or 2.0% of Penrith LGA residents with disability, were unemployed and seeking work.</li> <li>• A smaller proportion of Penrith residents with disability were not in the labour force (72.2%) compared to GWS (80.2%) and NSW (79.5%).</li> </ul>
<b>Highest qualification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Among people living with disability in Penrith LGA, a secondary education (year 9 and below) was the most frequent highest level of educational attainment (n=2,393).</li> <li>• Approximately 450 people living with disability in Penrith LGA had a Bachelor degree (n=348), Graduate Diploma or Certificate (n=34), or postgraduate qualification (n=68)</li> </ul>
<b>Housing tenure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2016, people living with disability in Penrith LGA were most likely living in a home that was owned outright (n=3,297 or 32.5%), rented (n=2,940 or 29.0%) or owned with a mortgage (n=2,606 or 25.7%).</li> <li>• This means that the rate of living in a rented dwelling was similar for people with a core activity need for assistance (29.0%) and people without (28.0%).</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A greater proportion of Penrith LGA residents with disability lived in a home owned with a mortgage (25.7%) compared to the GWS rate (22.4%) and NSW rate (18.3%).</li> </ul>
<b>Homelessness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the estimated 885 people who were homeless or marginally housed in Penrith LGA 2016, approximately 49 had a core activity need for assistance.</li> <li>• People in Penrith who were homeless and living with disability were most often living in supported accommodation for the homeless (n=26) or other crowded dwellings (n=11).</li> </ul>
<b>Domestic and family violence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Australian statistics of experiences of violence, WESTIR estimate that approximately 569 people living with disability in Penrith LGA likely experienced sexual or physical violence in the 12 months prior to the ABS Personal Safety Survey in 2016.</li> <li>• Using BOCSAR statistics of reported incidents of domestic assaults in the Penrith LGA in 2020 (n=1,379), WESTIR estimate that approximately 72 incidents of domestic assault were perpetrated on people living with disability.</li> </ul>
<b>Educational institution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,997 Penrith LGA residents with disability were attending an educational institution in 2016.</li> <li>• They were most likely attending a government infants or primary school (n=681), or government secondary school (n=343).</li> <li>• Penrith saw a greater proportion of people living with disability attending an education institution (19.7%) than the rates in GWS (15.3%), NSW (15.6%) and Australia (15.9%).</li> <li>• The suburbs that were home to the greatest number of people living with disability attending an educational institution were Glenmore Park (n=243), St Clair (n=170) and Penrith (n=160).</li> </ul>
<b>NDIS participation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were 8,098 active NDIS participants of the National Disability Insurance Scheme living in the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District in December 2020. Over half of these participants resided in Penrith LGA (n=4,732, 58.4%).</li> </ul>
<b>Disability type</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of NDIS participants, the most common disability types receiving support were Autism (n=3,045), followed by Intellectual Disability (n=1,638) and psychosocial disabilities (n=607).</li> <li>• People under 15 years of age accounted for just under half of all NDIS participants within the LHD (46.7%).</li> </ul>
<b>Unpaid caring</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17,493 Penrith LGA residents provided unpaid caring in 2016.</li> <li>• Women were more likely to provide unpaid caring, representing 61.9% of unpaid carers.</li> <li>• The age group with the greatest number of unpaid carers was people aged between 55 and 59 years (n=2,032), representing 16.9% of unpaid carers in Penrith LGA.</li> </ul>



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**Appendix 1: Australian Census of Population and Housing, Questions used to capture data for 'Core Activity Need For Assistance' variable**

Question	Options
Does the person ever need someone to help with, or be with them for, self-care activities? For example: doing everyday activities such as eating, showering, dressing or toileting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, always</li> <li>• Yes, sometimes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>
Does the person ever need someone to help with, or be with them for, body movement activities? For example: getting out of bed, moving around at home or at places away from home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, always</li> <li>• Yes, sometimes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>
Does the person ever need someone to help with, or be with them for, communication activities? For example: understanding, or being understood by, others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes, always</li> <li>• Yes, sometimes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>
What are the reasons for the need for assistance or supervision shown in (the three questions above)? Mark all applicable reasons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No need for help or supervision</li> <li>• Short-term health condition (lasting less than six months)</li> <li>• Long-term health condition (lasting six months or more)</li> <li>• Disability (lasting six months or more)</li> <li>• Old or young age</li> <li>• Difficulty with English language</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>

Source: ABS 2017, 'Core Activity Need for Assistance (ASSNP)', Understanding the Census and Census Data, available at <https://bit.ly/2QcB3pi>



**Appendix 2: Penrith suburbs population (2016)**

Suburb	Population	Population as a percentage of Penrith LGA
Agnes Banks*	497	0.3%
Badgerys Creek*	17	0.0%
Berkshire Park	2,138	1.1%
Caddens	1,474	0.8%
Cambridge Gardens	2,017	1.0%
Cambridge Park	6,727	3.4%
Castlereagh	1,168	0.6%
Claremont Meadows	4,776	2.4%
Colyton	8,437	4.3%
Cranebrook	15,763	8.0%
Emu Heights	3,287	1.7%
Emu Plains	8,415	4.3%
Erskine Park	6,440	3.3%
Glenmore Park	23,002	11.7%
Jamisontown	5,498	2.8%
Jordan Springs	5,160	2.6%
Kemps Creek*	613	0.3%
Kingswood	9,301	4.7%
Leonay	2,517	1.3%
Llandilo	1,633	0.8%
Londonderry	3,904	2.0%
Luddenham*	1,150	0.6%
Mount Vernon	1,185	0.6%
Mulgoa	1,898	1.0%
North St Marys	3,922	2.0%
Orchard Hills	1,879	1.0%
Oxley Park	3,110	1.6%
Penrith	13,295	6.8%
Regentville	809	0.4%
South Penrith	11,788	6.0%
St Clair	19,895	10.1%
St Marys	12,201	6.2%
Wallacia*	1,221	0.6%
Werrington	4,027	2.1%
Werrington County	3,646	1.9%
Werrington Downs	3,249	1.7%
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>196,064</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Asterix (\*) denotes suburbs that are shared between Penrith LGA and another LGA.



**Appendix 3: Penrith residents, by suburb and age group (2016)**

Suburb	Minor (0-17 years)	Adult (18 to 49)	Adult older (50+)	Total people
Agnes Banks*	28.8%	39.6%	31.2%	100.0%
Badgerys Creek*	17.6%	52.9%	35.3%	100.0%
Berkshire Park	13.6%	63.9%	22.4%	100.0%
Caddens	23.9%	53.7%	22.3%	100.0%
Cambridge Gardens	25.2%	44.4%	30.4%	100.0%
Cambridge Park	24.9%	44.6%	30.6%	100.0%
Castlereagh	22.7%	39.0%	38.1%	100.0%
Claremont Meadows	30.0%	49.8%	20.1%	100.0%
Colyton	24.8%	45.1%	30.0%	100.0%
Cranebrook	27.7%	46.9%	25.4%	100.0%
Emu Heights	25.8%	45.0%	29.2%	100.0%
Emu Plains	22.8%	40.6%	36.7%	100.0%
Erskine Park	24.3%	46.4%	29.3%	100.0%
Glenmore Park	29.3%	47.7%	23.1%	100.0%
Jamisontown	23.0%	44.3%	32.7%	100.0%
Jordan Springs	29.7%	57.7%	12.6%	100.0%
Kemps Creek*	18.3%	33.9%	47.8%	100.0%
Kingswood	23.6%	47.3%	29.1%	100.0%
Leonay	25.1%	38.6%	36.3%	100.0%
Llandilo	27.6%	40.0%	32.6%	100.0%
Londonderry	23.7%	42.9%	33.3%	100.0%
Luddenham*	29.9%	44.1%	25.7%	100.0%
Mount Vernon	22.4%	45.1%	32.3%	100.0%
Mulgoa	24.1%	38.0%	38.1%	100.0%
North St Marys	25.4%	42.2%	32.5%	100.0%
Orchard Hills	20.6%	42.4%	37.0%	100.0%
Oxley Park	24.4%	47.6%	27.9%	100.0%
Penrith	19.5%	46.5%	34.0%	100.0%
Regentville	24.5%	45.4%	31.3%	100.0%
South Penrith	24.7%	42.1%	33.2%	100.0%
St Clair	25.0%	44.8%	30.1%	100.0%
St Marys	23.6%	47.1%	29.3%	100.0%
Wallacia*	22.7%	39.5%	37.5%	100.0%
Werrington	23.8%	50.0%	26.3%	100.0%
Werrington County	23.6%	43.7%	32.6%	100.0%
Werrington Downs	24.8%	44.0%	31.1%	100.0%
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>45.8%</b>	<b>29.2%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence.



**Appendix 4: Labour force participation, need for assistance not stated (2016)**

Suburb	People whose need for assistance with core activities was not stated						
	Employed		Unemployed		Not in the labour force		Total
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count
Agnes Banks*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	9.3%	43
Badgerys Creek*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3
Berkshire Park	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	994	92.0%	1,081
Caddens	4	3.7%	0	0.0%	6	5.6%	108
Cambridge Gardens	13	18.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	69
Cambridge Park	41	9.1%	4	0.9%	31	6.9%	450
Castlereagh	3	3.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	96
Claremont Meadows	22	14.0%	0	0.0%	8	5.1%	157
Colyton	43	7.9%	0	0.0%	48	8.8%	547
Cranebrook	88	10.0%	9	1.0%	59	6.7%	883
Emu Heights	20	20.0%	0	0.0%	22	22.0%	100
Emu Plains	39	7.0%	3	0.5%	250	44.8%	558
Erskine Park	45	16.9%	0	0.0%	14	5.2%	267
Glenmore Park	122	13.1%	6	0.6%	39	4.2%	929
Jamisontown	21	5.9%	0	0.0%	26	7.3%	355
Jordan Springs	28	14.2%	0	0.0%	3	1.5%	197
Kemps Creek*	3	4.2%	0	0.0%	11	15.3%	72
Kingswood	52	6.7%	4	0.5%	42	5.4%	772
Leonay	21	14.8%	0	0.0%	16	11.3%	142
Llandilo	11	8.5%	0	0.0%	5	3.9%	129
Londonderry	20	6.0%	5	1.5%	14	4.2%	331
Luddenham*	6	8.6%	0	0.0%	3	4.3%	70
Mount Vernon	12	10.7%	0	0.0%	8	7.1%	112
Mulgoa	15	10.8%	0	0.0%	7	5.0%	139
North St Marys	30	7.9%	4	1.1%	29	7.7%	378
Orchard Hills	12	11.4%	0	0.0%	11	10.5%	105
Oxley Park	19	6.4%	0	0.0%	10	3.4%	295
Penrith	62	5.8%	11	1.0%	103	9.6%	1,073
Regentville	7	14.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	50
South Penrith	53	8.5%	5	0.8%	43	6.9%	620
St Clair	114	10.4%	7	0.6%	93	8.5%	1,096
St Marys	60	5.3%	5	0.4%	57	5.0%	1,137
Wallacia*	8	7.8%	0	0.0%	3	2.9%	103
Werrington	19	7.3%	0	0.0%	12	4.6%	259
Werrington County	14	8.6%	0	0.0%	13	8.0%	162
Werrington Downs	18	14.3%	4	3.2%	3	2.4%	126
<b>Total Penrith LGA</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1,984</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>13,015</b>
<b>Total GWS</b>	<b>11,582</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>14,568</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>141,177</b>
<b>Total NSW</b>	<b>40,589</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>2,936</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>48,740</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>519,451</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells. Total also includes 'not stated/not applicable' responses, which are not listed in this table.



**Appendix 5: People in Penrith LGA, GWS, and NSW, by need for assistance and highest level of educational attainment (2016) (count)**

Highest level of educational attainment	People with need for assistance with core activities			People without need for assistance with core activities		
	Penrith LGA	GWS	NSW	Penrith LGA	GWS	NSW
Secondary Education - Years 9 and below	2,393	31,157	93,842	131,334	131,334	411,675
Secondary Education - Years 10 and above	2,914	36,998	110,616	568,157	568,157	1,701,395
Certificate I & II Level	13	177	620	1,417	1,417	4,974
Certificate III & IV Level	1,077	10,373	39,945	235,775	235,775	846,856
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	426	5,624	19,288	155,564	155,564	517,311
Bachelor Degree Level	348	5,772	19,582	255,845	255,845	947,493
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	34	470	2,098	22,246	22,246	100,234
Postgraduate Degree Level	68	1,288	4,697	91,709	91,709	336,694
Not applicable	1,410	12,114	34,224	443,647	443,647	1,272,227
Not stated	900	10,667	46,908	56,975	56,975	209,364
Supplementary Codes	566	14,416	30,229	74,284	74,284	210,506
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,153</b>	<b>129,058</b>	<b>402,049</b>	<b>2,036,950</b>	<b>2,036,950</b>	<b>6,558,728</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells.



**Appendix 6: People in Penrith LGA, GWS, and NSW, by need for assistance and highest level of educational attainment (2016) (percentage)**

Highest level of educational attainment	People with need for assistance with core activities			People without need for assistance with core activities		
	Penrith LGA	GWS	NSW	Penrith LGA	GWS	NSW
Secondary Education - Years 9 and below	23.6%	24.1%	23.3%	6.9%	6.4%	6.3%
Secondary Education - Years 10 and above	28.7%	28.7%	27.5%	30.1%	27.9%	25.9%
Certificate I & II Level	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Certificate III & IV Level	10.6%	8.0%	9.9%	16.7%	11.6%	12.9%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level	4.2%	4.4%	4.8%	7.2%	7.6%	7.9%
Bachelor Degree Level	3.4%	4.5%	4.9%	8.2%	12.6%	14.4%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.9%	1.1%	1.5%
Postgraduate Degree Level	0.7%	1.0%	1.2%	2.5%	4.5%	5.1%
Not applicable	13.9%	9.4%	8.5%	21.8%	21.8%	19.4%
Not stated	8.9%	8.3%	11.7%	2.9%	2.8%	3.2%
Supplementary Codes	5.6%	11.2%	7.5%	2.8%	3.6%	3.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Usual Residence. Please note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. No reliance should be placed on small cells.



**Appendix 7: People in Penrith LGA by age group and housing tenure type (2016)**

Age group	Owned outright	Owned with a mortgage	Being purchased under a shared equity scheme	Rented	Being occupied rent-free	Being occupied under a life tenure scheme	Other tenure type	Not stated	Not applicable	Total
0-4 years	2.2%	8.7%	5.1%	9.8%	8.5%	8.1%	6.0%	6.4%	1.8%	7.4%
5-9 years	2.7%	8.7%	6.0%	8.9%	9.0%	4.8%	7.0%	6.0%	0.4%	7.2%
10-14 years	3.4%	7.8%	11.1%	7.4%	7.1%	2.9%	7.2%	5.6%	0.7%	6.5%
15-19 years	4.4%	7.7%	0.0%	7.0%	4.5%	1.9%	8.1%	6.2%	5.5%	6.7%
20-24 years	5.7%	6.6%	3.4%	9.2%	6.8%	4.8%	7.2%	7.9%	10.2%	7.2%
25-29 years	4.4%	7.4%	7.7%	10.3%	9.1%	5.3%	7.2%	8.5%	9.3%	7.7%
30-34 years	3.5%	8.8%	4.3%	9.2%	9.7%	1.4%	7.8%	7.8%	9.6%	7.8%
35-39 years	3.2%	8.7%	6.0%	7.5%	5.8%	4.3%	8.1%	6.8%	8.6%	7.1%
40-44 years	4.0%	8.3%	6.0%	6.8%	6.8%	5.3%	9.7%	6.8%	6.4%	6.9%
45-49 years	4.8%	7.6%	0.0%	5.9%	4.4%	3.8%	5.0%	6.4%	4.8%	6.4%
50-54 years	6.6%	6.8%	4.3%	4.9%	5.4%	8.1%	5.2%	6.2%	3.4%	6.1%
55-59 years	9.8%	5.7%	6.8%	4.2%	4.6%	3.3%	5.2%	5.8%	2.6%	6.1%
60-64 years	11.6%	3.6%	14.5%	3.1%	5.3%	5.3%	3.5%	5.3%	2.4%	5.2%
65-69 years	12.8%	1.9%	10.3%	2.5%	3.7%	6.2%	4.3%	4.8%	3.2%	4.5%
70-74 years	8.9%	0.8%	7.7%	1.5%	2.8%	12.0%	3.3%	3.2%	4.1%	2.9%
75-79 years	5.7%	0.5%	0.0%	0.9%	3.3%	5.7%	3.7%	2.5%	4.5%	1.9%
80-84 years	3.5%	0.3%	6.0%	0.5%	1.9%	3.8%	0.6%	2.1%	6.4%	1.3%
85-89 years	1.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%	4.3%	0.6%	1.2%	7.3%	0.7%
90-94 years	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	1.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.5%	6.1%	0.4%
95-99 years	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	0.1%
100 years +	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, Place of Enumeration.





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