

Murray Region

Wiradjuri, Yorta Yorta, Wemba Wemba, Barapa Barapa and Mutthi Mutthi Country



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Poverty & Demographics



Poverty Rate

13.2%

13.4%



Single Parent Families

15.5%

15.8%



Median Household Income

\$1,341

\$1,829

Housing and Financial Stress



68%

people living in the Murray Region are living in housing stress.¹

46%

have gone without meals because they were short of money.

50%

people have been unable to pay a utility bill on time at least once.

Health



30%

1 in 5 people have waited over a month for public dental care. A 200% increase since 2020.²

50%

people in the region have gone without prescribed medication because of cost.

202%

The number of people delaying or avoiding seeing a specialist due to cost as more than tripled since 2020.

Children and Young People



16.9%

children are living in poverty at a cost of \$998 million.⁴

450

young offenders across the region in the last 12 months. 283 of those young people accessed diversion options.⁶

13.3%

children are developmentally vulnerable in two or more domains.⁵

Local Challenges



8th highest

The Edward River LGA was ranked 8th in NSW for DV incidents in 2024.⁸

15%

people identified finding it difficult to access government funded financial support, in compared to the NSW average of 9%.

23.7

The Murray has some of the highest number of pokie machines by population in the state incl. Moama LGA with 91.6 per 1000 people. NSW average is 14.⁷

¹ Impossible Choices: Decisions NSW families shouldn't have to make. Regional Snapshot. NSW Council of Social Service. Following statistics have come from the NCOSS Cost of Living report. ² Access Denied: Australians Locked Out of Quality Healthcare Patient Experience and Socioeconomic Disadvantage in NSW. NCOSS 2024/2024. ³ NSW Street Count results. NSW Government. ⁴ Lasting Impacts of Child Poverty. NCOSS. ⁵ Australian Early Development Census 2024. Data by SA4. ⁶ Trends in youth offending in NSW 2025. NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research ⁷ Liquor and Gaming NSW. Electronic Gaming Machines by SA2. ⁸ NSW Domestic Violence Quarterly Report. March 2025. NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research ⁹ Poverty rate is defined as 15.27% of households. Single parent families is defined as 18.5% of all families. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2022. 2021 Census Quickstats.