

Riverina Wiradjuri Country



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Poverty & Demographics



Poverty Rate

12.72%

13.4%



Single Parent Families

16.4%

15.8%



Median Household Income

\$1,480

\$1,829

Housing and Financial Stress



70%

people are living in housing stress.¹

50%

have gone without meals because they were short of money.

90%

people living in social housing are living in poverty.

Health



41%

people delayed seeing a dentist because of the cost – **higher than anywhere else in NSW.**³

50%

people went without a prescribed medication due to costs.

330%

The number of residents who have delayed or avoided seeing a GP due to cost has increased over 330% since 2020.

Children and Young People



18.3%

children are living in poverty at a cost of \$1.5 billion.⁴

528

recorded young offenders in across the region; just over 2% of young offenders across regional NSW.⁶

14.6%

children are developmentally vulnerable in two or more domains.⁵

Local Challenges



Highest Increase

The Riverina has experienced the highest increase in people living in Poverty across NSW since 2016.

50.6

pokie machines in Deniliquin and surrounds for every 100 people. Significantly higher than the NSW average of 14.⁷

Key Issues

Local communities have highlighted housing affordability, mental health, AOD use and family violence as key issues.⁸

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. 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 Social Justice Stocktake 2025. Salvation Army. ⁹ SBS. (2023). Just 35 Per Cent of GP Clinics Bulk Bill New Patients. Here's How Your Area Compares. ¹⁰ 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.