

Commissioners' Report

Appointment of the Electoral Districts Commissioners

The Electoral Districts Commissioners were appointed by Her Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir AC, under commission dated 17 October 2003, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912*. The Honourable Jerrold Cripps QC, an Acting Judge of the Supreme Court, was appointed as Chairman. Mr John Wasson, the Electoral Commissioner and Mr Warwick Watkins the Surveyor General were the other two Members. The appointment was up to 16 April 2004. As the Commissioners were unable to complete the report by 16 April 2004, Her Excellency the Governor, extended the Commissioners' appointment until 31 October 2004 and subsequently again up to 31 December 2004.

In March 2004, the Electoral Commissioner, the late Mr John Wasson resigned his Commission due to ill health. The redistribution was able to proceed as section 10 of the *Parliamentary Electorates & Elections Act 1912* provides that at all meetings of the Commission two Commissioners shall form a quorum. Following the appointment of the new Electoral Commissioner, Her Excellency the Governor commissioned Mr Colin Barry as Electoral Districts Commissioner on 4 August 2004.

Legislative Requirements for a Redistribution

Section 27 (1)(c) of the *Constitution Act 1902*, requires a redistribution of electoral boundaries after two elections have been conducted using the same electoral boundaries. The last redistribution occurred prior to the 1999 State Election, after which the Legislative Assembly was reduced from ninety nine to ninety three Districts.

If a redistribution had not been required in accordance with section 27, one would have been required under section 28A of the *Constitution Act 1902* which provides that a redistribution shall be made after one quarter of the number of electoral Districts has been malapportioned for a period of more than 2 months. More than a quarter of New South Wales seats were malapportioned (ie an electorate being more than 5% above or below the average number of electors) for a period of more than two months when the Commissioners were appointed.

Enrolment and Quotas

Section 28 of the *Constitution Act 1902* provides that, upon a distribution of New South Wales into electoral Districts, the boundaries of each proposed electorate shall be so determined that, at the time the distribution is made, the number of persons entitled to vote at a general election of Members of the Legislative Assembly in each proposed electoral District is equal to a quota from which the number of persons in each electoral District will not vary by more than ten percent (10%). Under this section, the quota is obtained by dividing the number of persons entitled at that time to vote at any general election in all the proposed electoral Districts by the number of the proposed electoral Districts at the time of the distribution (ninety three in this distribution).

Quotas are calculated by dividing the total current and predicted enrolments by the number of proposed electoral Districts. The redistribution is then conducted using both of these quotas, which have a tolerance of 10% and 3% respectively.

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is responsible for the preparation, maintenance and revision of electoral rolls. The AEC advised that the number of persons who were enrolled at the base date of 21 October 2003 was 4,276,695 (ie current enrolment).

Thus at the base date of 21 October 2003 with 4,276,695 electors, the maximum and minimum limits of the quota were 50,583 (+10%) and 41,387 (-10%) respectively (the quota being 45,985). At the future time of 29 April 2007 with predicted number of 4,496,018 electors, the maximum and minimum limits of the quota are 49,794 (+3%) and 46,894 (-3%) (the quota being 48,344).

Matters to Consider

Section 17A (1)(a) of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912*, requires the Commissioners to have regard to demographic trends within the State and, as far as practicable, endeavour to ensure on the basis of those trends that, at the relevant future time the number of electors enrolled in each District will be equal within a margin of allowance of three percent (3%) more or less of the average enrolment in electoral Districts at that future time.

Legislation also requires that relevant future demographic trends be considered by calculating the predicted number of electors at the relevant future time. The relevant future time is 29 April 2007, being four years after the return of the writs for the most recent election. The Australian Bureau of Statistics advised the Commissioners that the predicted number of electors would be 4,496,018.

Section 17A (1)(b) of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912*, requires the Commissioners to give due consideration in relation to each District to:

1. community of interest within the electoral District, including economic, social and regional interests;
2. means of communication and travel within the electoral District;
3. the physical features and area of the electoral District;
4. mountain and other natural boundaries; and
5. the boundaries of the existing electoral Districts.

Technical Support

The Surveyor General provided a spatial information system to support the Commissioners in their deliberations. The spatial information system, Electoral Districts Geographic Redistribution, (EDGR) comprises a seamless data base of NSW subdivided into 17 layers (roads, railways, rivers etc) with each electorate being built using the layer containing elector numbers based on Census Collector Districts (CCDs), as supplied by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. EDGR also contains algorithms for splitting CCDs where required.

EDGR was made available to the main registered Political Parties to enable them to prepare their submissions using a common spatial information system.

The Redistribution Process

The legislation requires the Commissioners to divide New South Wales into 93 electoral Districts. This being the same number of Districts as created at the last redistribution in 1998.

On 29 October 2003, the Commissioners published an official notice in the New South Wales Government Gazette and advertisements were placed in metropolitan, regional and local newspapers inviting suggestions in writing relating to the distribution of New South Wales into electoral Districts. Suggestions on the proposed boundaries were to be received by 28 November 2003 and comments on the suggestions lodged were received up to 12 December 2003.

Political parties, organisations and members of the public lodged forty three suggestions and fifty eight comments on the suggestions. The suggestions and comments focussed particularly on community interests, including economic, social and regional interests as well as means of communication and travel within the electoral Districts. Proposals were also made to rename some electoral Districts and helpful suggestions were made in respect of altering the electoral boundaries of Districts to accommodate the prescribed quota requirements. All suggestions and comments made were available on the website www.redistribution.seo.nsw.gov.au as well as at the office of the Electoral Districts Commissioners.

The proposed boundaries of electoral Districts and names were released on 4 August 2004. Notice of the proposed boundaries was published in the Government Gazette and in metropolitan, regional and local newspapers. The most significant changes to the present boundaries were:

- the seat of Lachlan was abolished;
- a new seat of Wollondilly and a substantially redrafted seat of Camden were created; and
- eleven electorates were renamed to better reflect community aspirations. (Note: the Commissioners later determined that the existing name Lake Macquarie be retained in lieu of the proposed name Morisset.)

Maps and a statement of the Commissioners' reasons for making the proposed alterations were made available to the public on the website, at their office on level 7, 207 Kent Street Sydney and for thirty days at the offices of Local Councils and Local Court Houses. Prior to the release of the proposed boundaries, the Commissioners wrote to the major political parties and to all those who had lodged a suggestion or comment advising that any further suggestions or objections to the proposals must be made within the prescribed timeframe of thirty days, i.e. 3 September 2004.

Two hundred and twenty four suggestions and objections to the proposed boundaries were received.

Public Hearings

On 15 September 2004, the Commissioners gave notice in writing to the major political parties and all those who had lodged a suggestion, comment or objection of their decision to hold a public hearing on the proposed boundaries (section 14 (5) of the *Parliamentary Electorates & Elections Act 1912*).

In accordance with the *Parliamentary Electorates & Elections Act 1912*, the Commissioners are not bound by the rules of evidence and may regulate the conduct of proceedings at an inquiry into any suggestion or objection as they consider appropriate.

The Commissioners gave notice that further written submissions, giving additional information on objections and suggestions could be made until 1 October 2004. Alternatively a formal oral presentation could be made at the hearings. The following schedule was prepared for the public hearings:

- Metropolitan regions (27 September);
- North Coast & Northern Tablelands (28 September);
- Illawarra & South Coast as well as the Central Coast region (29 September); and
- Far West, Central West and Riverina (30 September).

Political parties, organisations, and individuals who wished to appear before the Commissioners were asked to register prior to proceedings.

Twenty five additional written submissions were provided to the Commissioners including those tabled at the hearings. The hearings were held at Suite 2, Level 8, 345 George Street Sydney on 27 to 30 September inclusive and in accordance with the above schedule. The Commissioners considered all submissions made at the hearings.

The Commissioners determined that no person appearing at the hearings was to be cross examined as a witness. Interested groups and persons who wished to challenge statements made at the hearings could address their objections through the Commissioners. The Australian Labor Party, the Liberal Party and The Nationals were represented at the hearings. No legal counsel or solicitors appeared. At the hearings, the Parties called various Members of Parliament, Councillors, former Councillors and community residents to speak to their objections and suggestions in relevant electorates. The Mayors of Forbes Shire Council and Lake Macquarie City Council spoke on behalf of and in respect of their Local Government areas; and individuals with regard to a number of Metropolitan electorates. All the issues addressed during the five days of the hearings related to section 17A (1)(b) of the *Parliamentary Electorates & Elections Act 1912*.

Significant Alterations

Following the hearings, the Commissioners made alterations to thirty-four Districts and determined the names and boundaries of all electoral Districts. They were of the opinion that twenty-three Districts were significantly different to the proposed boundaries. The Districts were Bankstown, Baulkham Hills, Burrinjuck, Castle Hill, Charlestown, Dubbo, East Hills, Fairfield, Gosford, Granville, Keira, Lakemba, Lake Macquarie (formerly proposed Morisset), Myall Lakes, Northern Tablelands, Oxley, Port Macquarie, Swansea, Terrigal, The Entrance, Upper Hunter, Wollongong and Wyong.

As required (section 14 (13) of the *Parliamentary Electorates & Elections Act 1912*), a notice was published in the Government Gazette and in newspapers circulating in the affected Districts giving notice that written objections to the proposed boundaries arising from the hearings may be lodged with the Commissioners by 29 October 2004. The determinations and maps were again available on the website. Ten objections to the determinations were received.

The Commissioners held a further hearing on 2 November 2004 to consider the ten objections. At the hearing, the Australian Labor Party spoke to their written objection to the boundaries of Terrigal, The Entrance and Gosford; Keira and Wollongong. The Liberal Party supported the ALP in relation to its proposals. The Nationals authorised the Liberal Party to speak on their behalf with regard to objections received to the determinations in relation to Oxley and Dubbo.

Following the hearing, the Commissioners finalised the names and boundaries of the ninety three electoral Districts.

Reasons for the Determination of Electoral Districts

The Commissioners in delineating the boundaries kept to current boundary configurations as a priority and as far as was appropriate. The boundaries were defined, where possible, to include whole Local Government areas and particular regard was given to the consideration of the concept of a community of interest. Close attention was also paid to following major roads, motorways, railways and significant geographic features where applicable so as to achieve clear boundaries. Whole waterbodies were contained within one electorate eg Tuggerah Lakes, formerly split between Wyong and the Entrance, now totally in Wyong; Lake Illawarra, formerly split between Wollongong and Illawarra, now in Shellharbour and Lake Macquarie, formerly split between Swansea and Lake Macquarie electorates, now contained within Lake Macquarie electorate.

While the Commissioners' analysis of the current (base date) and projected enrolment statistics showed an overall increase of 7% since the 1998 redistribution, it also showed a continuous decline in the number of electors in rural New South Wales. Electorates of Albury, Barwon and Murray-Darling have declined by 6%, 9%, and 12% on current enrolment respectively and by 7%, 12% and 17% on the predicted enrolment. Even electorates with major rural centres such as Bathurst, Orange, Dubbo and Wagga Wagga declined on average by 4% since the last redistribution.

The consequence of this decline was the need to abolish one electoral District (Lachlan) and make significant changes to the boundaries of other rural Districts. The effect of a declining population can be illustrated by noting that the determined electoral District of Albury has increased to over twice its size in order to bring it within the proposed quota. The large size of some electorates remains a concern for the Commissioners. The largest District, Murray-Darling, has been reduced in size by 26% from 344,642sq km to 250,338 sq km and is reciprocated by an increase in the adjoining District of Barwon which has increased in size from 116,930 sq km to 221,570 sq km.

The decline in rural electors is balanced by substantial growth in electors in the outer Sydney metropolitan area, the Central Coast, Far North coast and Illawarra regions. This again contributed to significant changes in the determined boundaries particularly for Tweed in the north, Gosford area in the Central Coast and The Hills and Camden areas in outer Sydney. The strong growth in the Camden area has presented an opportunity to create a new electorate to compensate for the abolition of the electoral District of Lachlan.

The Commissioners received some 224 suggestions and objections to their proposed boundaries, the majority of which were centred on the North Coast and Central Coast regions. Following the public hearings, major and minor changes were made to Districts. For example, Mangrove Mountain and McPherson State Forest were included in Gosford, Speers Point & Booleroo reinstated in Lake Macquarie and the whole of Bella Vista was included within the Electorate District of Baulkham Hills.

Whilst some significant and non significant changes to their proposals could be accommodated in their final determinations to better meet the community aspirations voiced, the Commissioners are concerned that the restrictive (3%) projected quota margin of allowance precluded them from delineating electorates which adequately address the criteria of section 17A (1) (b) of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912*. Consequently there were a number of submissions which the Commissioners could not further advance e.g. the inclusion of Murwillumbah in The Tweed or Wellington in Dubbo.

Recommendations for Legislative Change

The Commissioners make the following recommendations for legislative change.

Recommendation 1

- *Quota restrictions*

The first concerns the required quota margin of 3% on the predicted figures. As mentioned above, the Commissioners are of the opinion, that this quota is too restrictive to take into account strong growth electorates, especially given the demographic trends, considerations of communities of interest, existing infrastructure, geographic and other spatial information. Given the continued population shift from regional NSW to the coast and centres of major population, there will be increasing pressures in future redistributions to meet the criteria of section 17 A (1) (b) of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912*.

By way of comparison the Commissioners note the quota margins of allowance in other States are less restrictive eg Victoria and Tasmania use only one quota in their distribution process ie a tolerance of plus or minus 10% from the average divisional enrolment. Similarly Western Australia has a 15% tolerance and Northern Territory 20%. South Australia has a current and projected quota of 10%; Australian Capital Territory, a 10% current and 5% projected tolerance.

Whilst the Commissioners note that the *Commonwealth Electoral Act (1918)* stipulates a range of 3.5% above or below the average electorate enrolment at the projection time and current enrolments within 10% above or below the quota, there are fifty Commonwealth divisions in NSW, as compared to ninety three NSW Districts. Thus although the Commonwealth model appears similar to NSW, with the larger population base per electorate, the Commonwealth projected quota tolerance is less restrictive.

The Commissioners **recommend** that the NSW projected quota tolerance be changed to a 10% margin of allowance above or below the average electoral District enrolment at the projected time.

Recommendation 2

- *Display of maps*

The Commissioners note that in accordance with Schedule 1 of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Regulation 2001*, the Commissioners must make maps available for inspection at the offices of the Clerks of Local Courts for 30 days following the Gazettal of their proposals. Whilst the Commissioners met this requirement, they are of the opinion that members of the public would not normally access public information in a Court of Law. The Commissioners also forwarded the maps to offices of all Local Councils with a copy of the written text and advising of the next steps in the redistribution process. The legislation does not require the Commissioners to display maps at Council offices. The Commissioners are of the opinion that Local Councils are the most appropriate venues for such display of redistribution maps and material. Display of maps on the redistribution website should also be mandatory.

The Commissioners **recommend** that the above regulation be amended: that the requirement to display maps at Court Houses be repealed and replaced with "offices of Local Councils": and that the legislation should also require that digital maps be made available on the State Electoral Office website.

Recommendation 3

- *Registration of Maps*

The Commissioners have advised their determinations to the Governor for proclamation and for publication in the Government Gazette with a written description of the new electoral names and boundaries, i.e. the "metes and bounds". However, the redistribution spatial data is now captured and available more succinctly through the EDGR computer based system. The Commissioners are of the opinion that the cadastral, topographic, administrative and related spatial information and electoral boundary information should in future redistributions be provided in a digital format and produced in paper map form as required from this source.

Accordingly, maps of the Commissioners' determinations should be officially registered on the Register of Public Surveys (*Surveying Act 2002* Section 7). The Register is the responsibility of the Surveyor General and maintained through the Department of Lands. Once registered, the electorate maps would be stored digitally and be made available in a PDF format online through the NSW spatial information portal (www.maps.nsw.gov.au) and accessible on the NSW Electoral Commission and Department of Lands websites.

The Commissioners **recommend** that the "metes and bounds" description of their determinations be replaced by registered and digitally available maps on the Register of Public Surveys established and maintained by the Surveyor General and administered by the Department of Lands.

Recommendation 4

- *Tenure and meeting times of Commissioners*

The Commissioners recommend that consideration be given to a review of the tenure and meeting times of the Electoral Districts Commissioners.

At the Commonwealth level and in other States, the composition of the body responsible for undertaking a redistribution is also empowered to determine the timing of the redistribution.

The Victorian Electoral Boundaries Commission for example is appointed permanently under the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act 1982* and constituted as a body of three Commissioners. The Victorian Commission meets as often as it is considers necessary for carrying out its functions but at intervals of not more than two years. Prior to the 2004 redistribution, the NSW Electoral Districts Commissioners were appointed in 1997, 1990, and 1986 respectively to distribute the electoral Districts. This represents a considerable interval of time between Commissions.

Recommendation 5

- *Redistribution Process - clarification of legislative requirements*

(a) The Commissioners sought Crown Solicitor's advice regarding clarification of Section 14 (4) of the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912*. The Crown Solicitor advised that consideration by the Commissioners of any suggestion or objection including the holding of any public hearing must take place before the expiry of 60 days specified in Section 14 (4). Such consideration however does not include the determination of names and boundaries of electoral Districts.

The Commissioners **recommend** that the legislation be amended to provide that the public hearings must be finalised within the 60 day period. The Commissioners further recommend that they have discretion to extend the 60 day period by a further 10 days to accommodate any hearings that may require further deliberation.

(b) The Commissioners are of the view that the terminology "determination" is misleading and needs clarification. Section 14 (12) *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* requires the Commissioners to "determine" the names and boundaries of the electoral Districts. However, the Commissioners under Section 14 (13) must then Gazette and publish "significantly different" changes to their original proposals and invite lodgement of further objections.

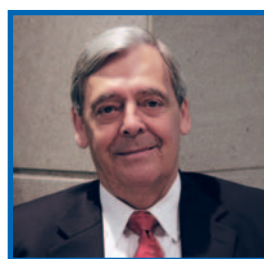
At this point, as the redistribution process may not be complete, the Commissioners recommend that "determination" only be used when the Commissioners finalise the names and boundaries and report them to the Governor for proclamation. Accordingly, it is considered that the Commissioners be required to "prepare and display preliminary boundaries" and that after the public hearings are complete they be required to "determine the boundaries".

(c) The Commissioner **recommend** that the number of hearings (i.e. hearing periods), irrespective of the number of individual hearings and locations per period, within the redistribution process be regulated in number and be limited to two.

Acknowledgments

The Commissioners wish to express their appreciation to the representatives of Political Parties, the numerous New South Wales Parliamentarians, Local Councils, organisations and individuals who submitted and gave their valuable time to present material for consideration by the Commissioners. The suggestions, comments and objections which were forwarded greatly assisted the Commissioners in their deliberations and in making their determinations.

The Commissioners greatly appreciate the dedication of the Executive Secretary, Ms Maret Hegh and the staff of the Surveyor General in the Department of Lands for their technical skill and contribution in the production of the detailed mapping and boundary descriptions. The dedicated work and skill of Project Manager, Mr Eamonn Clifford and GIS Systems Officer Ms Christine Hansford is acknowledged and much appreciated by the Commissioners.




 The Honourable Jerrold Sydney Cripps QC (Chairperson)




 Colin Barry (Electoral Commissioner)




 Warwick Arthur Watkins (Surveyor-General)

Electoral Districts Commissioners for New South Wales**Maret Hegh**

Secretary to the Electoral Districts Commissioners
 21 December 2004

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE ELECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION

Number of seats:	93
Current elector quota:	45,985 (at 21 October, 2003)
Predicted elector quota:	48,344 (at 29 April, 2007)

No. District	Current Electors	Difference from Quota	Predicted Electors	Difference from Quota
1 Albury	47,231	+2.7%	48,988	+1.3%
2 Auburn	42,884	-6.7%	47,765	-1.2%
3 Ballina	43,876	-4.6%	47,246	-2.3%
4 Balmain	46,886	+2.0%	49,240	+1.9%
5 Bankstown	45,091	-1.9%	47,409	-1.9%
6 Barwon	47,776	+3.9%	48,049	-0.6%
7 Bathurst	46,804	+1.8%	48,850	+1.0%
8 Baulkham Hills	46,867	+1.9%	49,207	+1.8%
9 Bega	45,594	-0.9%	48,977	+1.3%
10 Blacktown	45,431	-1.2%	48,087	-0.5%
11 Blue Mountains	46,228	+0.5%	49,007	+1.4%
12 Burrinjuck	46,905	+2.0%	48,158	-0.4%
13 Cabramatta	48,802	+6.1%	48,611	+0.6%
14 Camden	43,748	-4.9%	48,535	+0.4%
15 Campbelltown	44,667	-2.9%	48,169	-0.4%
16 Canterbury	48,603	+5.7%	48,581	+0.5%
17 Castle Hill	45,240	-1.6%	47,185	-2.4%
18 Cessnock	47,176	+2.6%	48,960	+1.3%
19 Charlestown	46,369	+0.8%	48,175	-0.3%
20 Clarence	46,321	+0.7%	48,074	-0.6%
21 Coffs Harbour	45,524	-1.0%	48,330	-0.0%
22 Coogee	46,797	+1.8%	48,774	+0.9%
23 Cronulla	46,286	+0.7%	48,069	-0.6%
24 Davidson	46,764	+1.7%	48,019	-0.7%
25 Drummoyne	43,976	-4.4%	47,966	-0.8%
26 Dubbo	47,738	+3.8%	49,272	+1.9%
27 East Hills	44,921	-2.3%	47,038	-2.7%
28 Epping	46,722	+1.6%	48,245	-0.2%
29 Fairfield	47,641	+3.6%	48,807	+1.0%
30 Gosford	47,048	+2.3%	49,544	+2.5%
31 Goulburn	45,494	-1.1%	48,449	+0.2%
32 Granville	45,492	-1.1%	48,889	+1.1%
33 Hawkesbury	43,478	-5.5%	47,253	-2.3%
34 Heathcote	46,172	+0.4%	48,368	+0.0%
35 Heffron	43,396	-5.6%	48,675	+0.7%
36 Hornsby	48,019	+4.4%	49,250	+1.9%
37 Keira	45,978	-0.0%	47,831	-1.1%
38 Kiama	45,371	-1.3%	48,620	+0.6%
39 Kogarah	46,461	+1.0%	48,753	+0.8%
40 Ku-ring-gai	45,649	-0.7%	48,652	+0.6%
41 Lake Macquarie	45,873	-0.2%	48,202	-0.3%
42 Lakemba	49,164	+6.9%	49,174	+1.7%
43 Lane Cove	46,048	+0.1%	48,035	-0.6%
44 Lismore	46,688	+1.5%	47,410	-1.9%

No. District	Current Electors	Difference from Quota	Predicted Electors	Difference from Quota
45 Liverpool	44,639	-2.9%	47,241	-2.3%
46 Londonderry	45,607	-0.8%	48,678	+0.7%
47 Macquarie Fields	44,078	-4.1%	48,371	+0.1%
48 Maitland	45,092	-1.9%	48,357	+0.0%
49 Manly	45,469	-1.1%	47,711	-1.3%
50 Maroubra	46,462	+1.0%	49,154	+1.7%
51 Marrickville	48,034	+4.5%	49,139	+1.6%
52 Menai	45,829	-0.3%	48,152	-0.4%
53 Miranda	46,120	+0.3%	47,842	-1.0%
54 Monaro	43,608	-5.2%	46,979	-2.8%
55 Mount Druitt	43,152	-6.2%	47,041	-2.7%
56 Mulgoa	44,956	-2.2%	48,403	+0.1%
57 Murray - Darling	47,521	+3.3%	47,483	-1.8%
58 Murrumbidgee	47,544	+3.4%	49,117	+1.6%
59 Myall Lakes	46,642	+1.4%	49,063	+1.5%
60 Newcastle	46,521	+1.2%	48,120	-0.5%
61 North Shore	46,631	+1.4%	48,914	+1.2%
62 Northern Tablelands	48,759	+6.0%	48,890	+1.1%
63 Oatley	46,025	+0.1%	48,425	+0.2%
64 Orange	46,965	+2.1%	49,199	+1.8%
65 Oxley	45,207	-1.7%	47,116	-2.5%
66 Parramatta	44,535	-3.2%	48,483	+0.3%
67 Penrith	45,537	-1.0%	48,442	+0.2%
68 Pittwater	45,578	-0.9%	48,123	-0.5%
69 Port Macquarie*	43,668	-5.0%	47,545	-1.7%
70 Port Stephens	44,871	-2.4%	48,371	+0.1%
71 Riverstone	43,415	-5.6%	48,216	-0.3%
72 Rockdale	45,833	-0.3%	48,397	+0.1%
73 Ryde	45,976	-0.0%	48,379	+0.1%
74 Shellharbour	46,026	+0.1%	48,360	+0.0%
75 Smithfield	47,707	+3.7%	48,407	+0.1%
76 South Coast	44,989	-2.2%	48,874	+1.1%
77 Strathfield	45,397	-1.3%	47,772	-1.2%
78 Swansea	47,145	+2.5%	49,247	+1.9%
79 Sydney	45,760	-0.5%	48,999	+1.4%
80 Tamworth	47,415	+3.1%	48,457	+0.2%
81 Terrigal	45,651	-0.7%	48,326	-0.0%
82 The Entrance	44,870	-2.4%	47,407	-1.9%
83 Toongabbie	47,026	+2.3%	49,147	+1.7%
84 Tweed	43,046	-6.4%	47,416	-1.9%
85 Upper Hunter	47,180	+2.6%	48,369	+0.1%
86 Vacluse	47,591	+3.5%	49,054	+1.5%
87 Wagga Wagga	47,468	+3.2%	48,460	+0.2%
88 Wakehurst	47,484	+3.3%	49,071	+1.5%
89 Wallsend	45,828	-0.3%	47,350	-2.1%
90 Willoughby	46,113	+0.3%	48,508	+0.3%
91 Wollondilly	44,040	-4.2%	47,409	-1.9%
92 Wollongong	47,666	+3.7%	49,202	+1.8%
93 Wyong	44,820	-2.5%	47,934	-0.8%
Total		4,276,695		4,496,018

* includes Lord Howe Island