

Albury - East
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	17,800
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	101
Postcode (with largest population)	2640
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,395
Higher education (online only)	651
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,190
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	111



Broader region information (SA3)

Albury	
Population ⁸	67,000
Region size (sqkm)	5,597
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,853
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,283

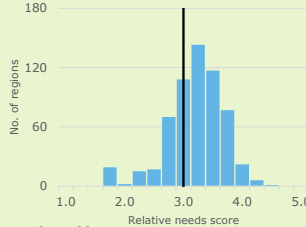
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Albury - East	Yes
Albury - North	No
Albury - South	No
Albury Surrounds	No
Lavington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

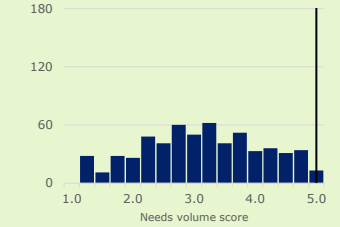
Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.9 **Needs volume score 5.0** **Overall needs score 3.5**

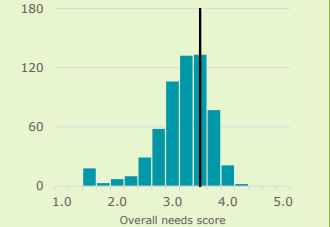
An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	3.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	17,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	17,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	90.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

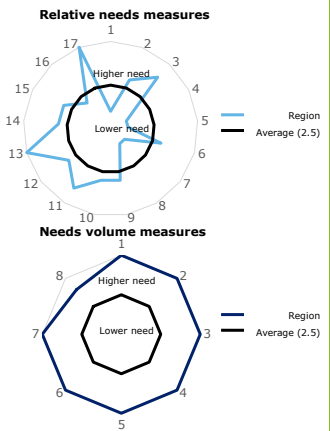
NEEDS MEASURES

The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		7.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		7%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		26%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	651
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		111
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	11,111
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		3.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2283
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		414
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	40,890
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.1%

Normalised values
Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Albury - North NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,500
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	24
Postcode (with largest population)	2640
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,395
Higher education (online only)	651
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	835
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	64



Broader region information (SA3)

Albury	
Population ⁸	67,000
Region size (sqkm)	5,597
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,853
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,283

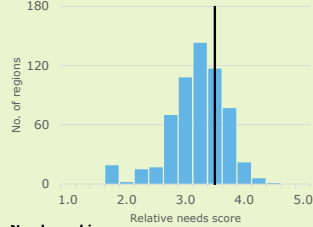
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Albury - East	No
Albury - North	Yes
Albury - South	No
Albury Surrounds	No
Lavington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



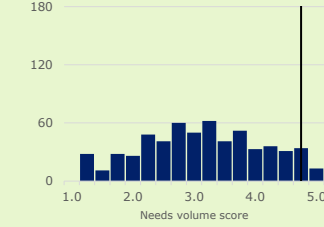
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

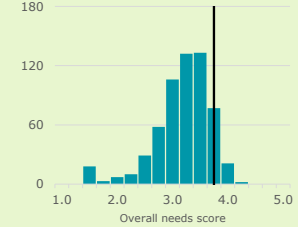
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

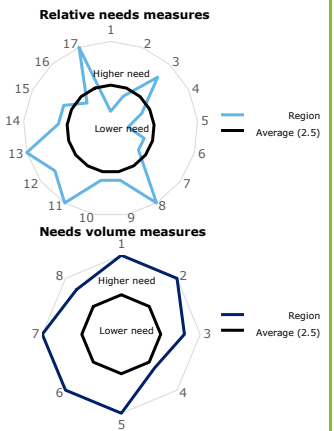
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		13.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	7%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	651
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	64
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,622
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2283
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	414
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	40,890
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Albury - South
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,500
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	48
Postcode (with largest population)	2640
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,395
Higher education (online only)	651
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	855
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	73



Broader region information (SA3)

Albury	
Population ⁸	67,000
Region size (sqkm)	5,597
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,853
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,283

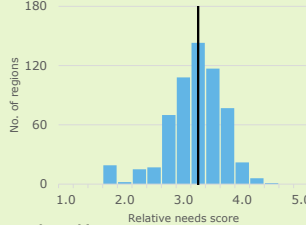
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Albury - East	No
Albury - North	No
Albury - South	Yes
Albury Surrounds	No
Lavington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

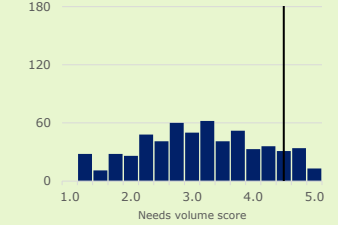
Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



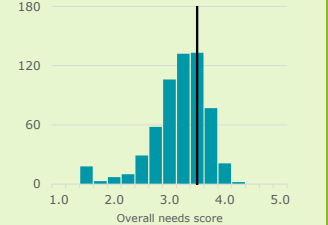
Needs volume score **4.3**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

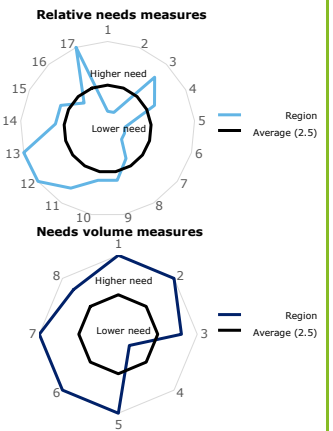
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Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		13.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	11%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		24%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		31%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	651
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		73
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,364
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2283
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		414
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	40,890
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
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3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Anna Bay NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information

Population	6,400
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	68
Postcode (with largest population)	2316
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	30

Education enrolments

Higher education (all)	209
Higher education (online only)	75
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	480
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	41



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Stephens

Population ⁸	61,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,072
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,036
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	743

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?⁹

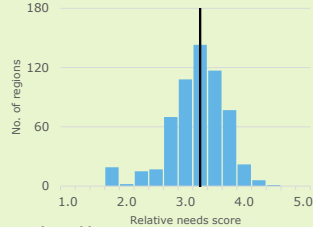
Anna Bay	Yes
Lemon Tree Passage - Taniila Bay	No
Nelson Bay Peninsula	No
Seaham - Woodville	No
Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest	No
Williamtown - Medowie - Karuah	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

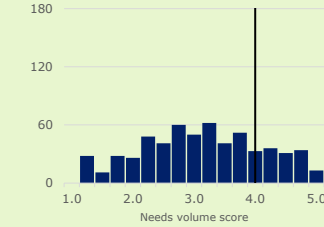
Relative needs score 3.2

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



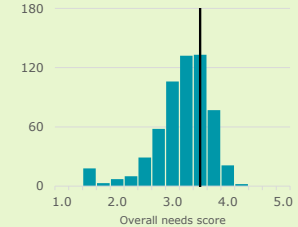
Needs volume score 4.0

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	30	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

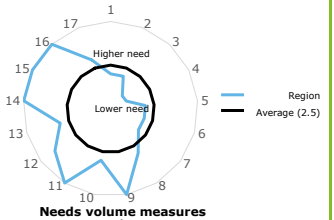
Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		21%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		67%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	25%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	69%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		62%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	75
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	41
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,514
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	2.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	743
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	403
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	33,995
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.2%

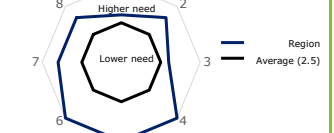
Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.

Relative needs measures



Needs volume measures



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Armidale Surrounds - North
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,500
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	6,098
Postcode (with largest population)	2365
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	31

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	78
Higher education (online only)	52
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	250
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	19



Broader region information (SA3)

Armidale	
Population ⁸	37,500
Region size (sqkm)	16,396
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,314
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

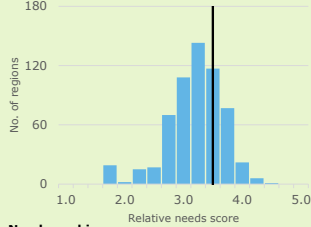
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Armidale	No
Armidale Surrounds - North	Yes
Armidale Surrounds - South	No
Walcha	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

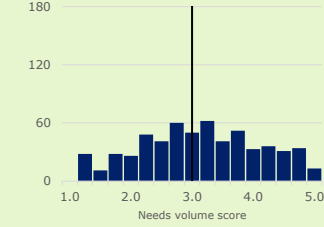
Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



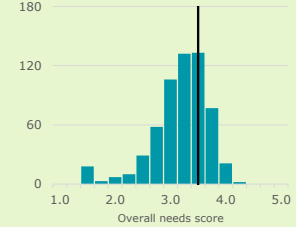
Needs volume score **3.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	31	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

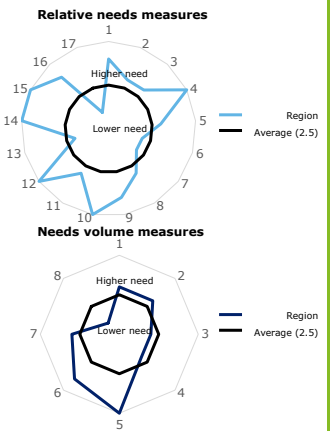
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	15%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	33%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		59%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	52
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	19
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	2,695
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	217
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	23,176
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Armidale Surrounds - South NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,900
Indigenous population	9%
Region size (sqkm)	3,280
Postcode (with largest population)	2358
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	27

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	125
Higher education (online only)	80
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	385
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	37



Broader region information (SA3)

Armidale	
Population ⁸	37,500
Region size (sqkm)	16,396
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,314
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

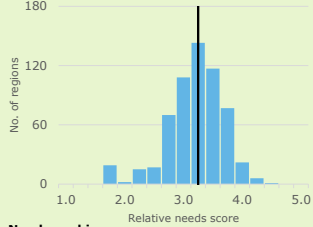
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Armidale	No
Armidale Surrounds - North	No
Armidale Surrounds - South	Yes
Walcha	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.0

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



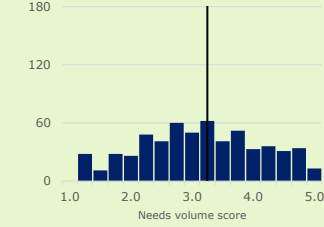
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

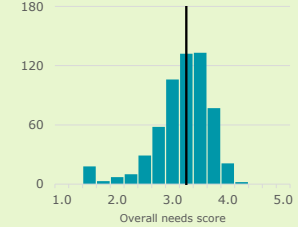
Needs volume score 3.2

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.1

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	27	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

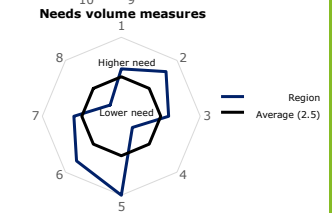
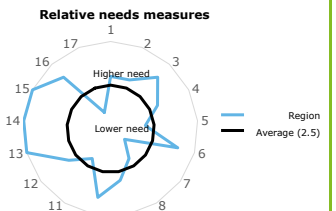
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		26%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	53%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		59%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	80
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	37
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,486
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	217
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,176
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

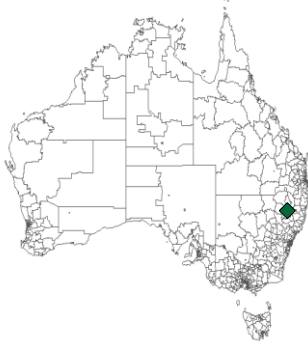
**Armidale
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	24,000
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	275
Postcode (with largest population)	2350
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,032
Higher education (online only)	831
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,585
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	141



Broader region information (SA3)

Armidale	
Population ⁸	37,500
Region size (sqkm)	16,396
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,314
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

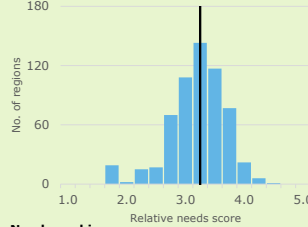
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Armidale	Yes
Armidale Surrounds - North	No
Armidale Surrounds - South	No
Walcha	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



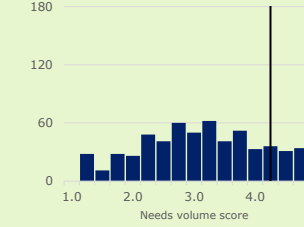
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

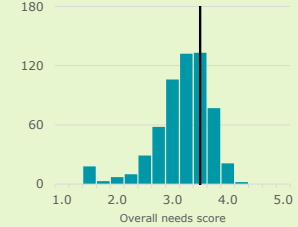
Needs volume score **4.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	24,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	24,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

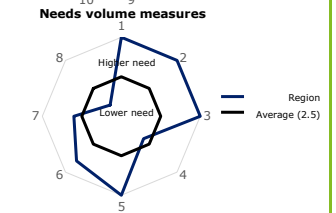
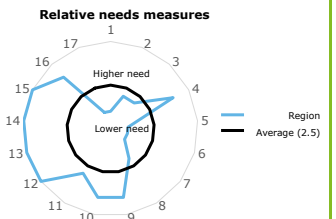
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		7.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		21%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		30%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		60%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		58%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	73%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	831
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		141
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	15,295
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		217
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,176
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

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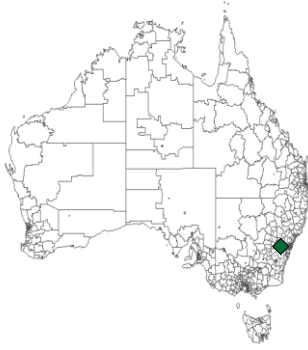
**Badgerys Creek
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	0
Indigenous population	NA
Region size (sqkm)	18
Postcode (with largest population)	2745
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	12

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	0



Broader region information (SA3)

Bringelly - Green Valley	
Population ⁸	0
Region size (sqkm)	292
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	0
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	0

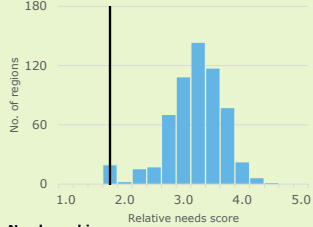
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Badgerys Creek	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **1.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



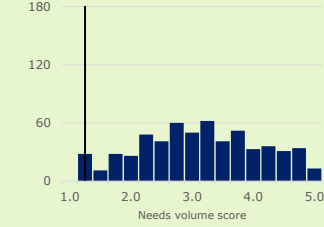
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 4 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

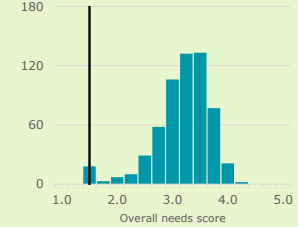
Needs volume score **1.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **1.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

4 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	0	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	0	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	0.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	0	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	12	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

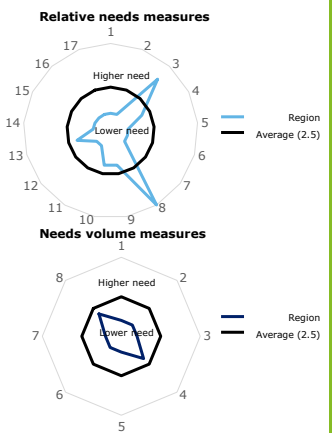
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		100%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		0
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		0%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	0
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	0
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Batemans Bay - South
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,900
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	31
Postcode (with largest population)	2536
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	88

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	332
Higher education (online only)	156
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	515
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	66



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

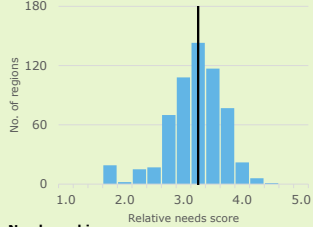
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	Yes
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



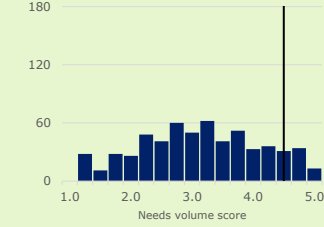
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 25 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

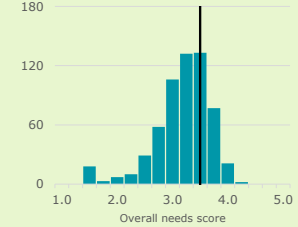
Needs volume score **4.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	88	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

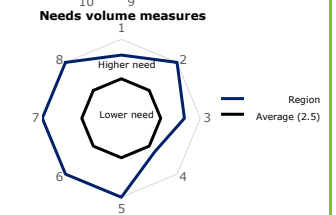
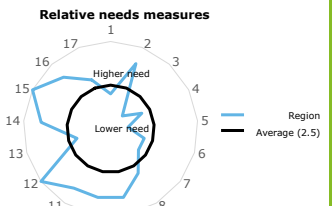
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		58%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		84%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		67%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	64%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	156
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	66
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,699
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Batemans Bay
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,600
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	64
Postcode (with largest population)	2536
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	80

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	332
Higher education (online only)	156
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	565
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	60



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

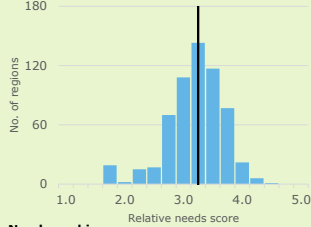
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Batemans Bay	Yes
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



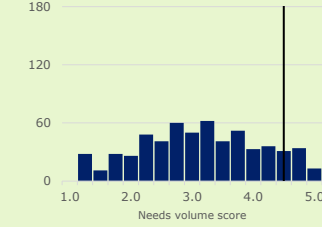
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 16 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

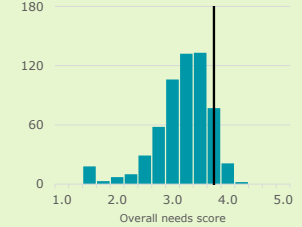
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	80	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

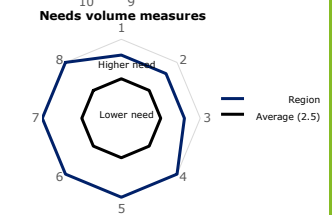
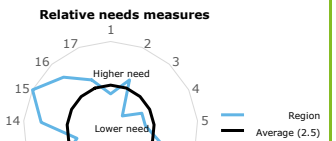
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		58%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		84%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		67%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	64%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	156
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	60
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,603
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Bathurst - East
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,300
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	94
Postcode (with largest population)	2795
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,696
Higher education (online only)	894
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	940
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	99



Broader region information (SA3)

Bathurst	
Population ⁸	49,100
Region size (sqkm)	6,984
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,170
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,727

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?

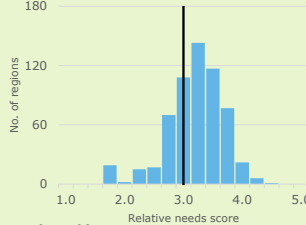
Bathurst - East	Yes
Bathurst - South	No
Bathurst - West	No
Bathurst Surrounds	No
Oberon	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



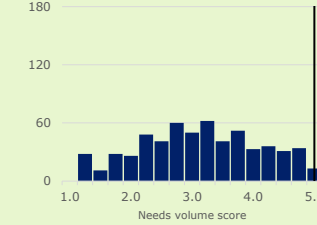
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

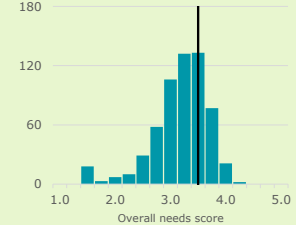
Needs volume score **4.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

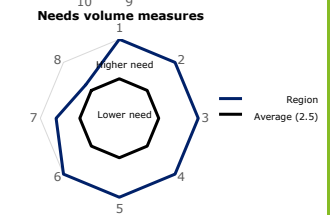
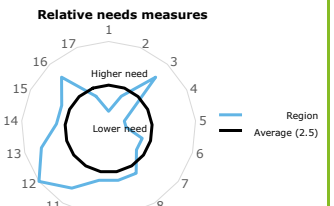
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		14.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	8%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		75%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	894
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	99
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,522
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2727
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	391
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,533
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Bathurst - South NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,800
Indigenous population	9%
Region size (sqkm)	37
Postcode (with largest population)	2795
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,696
Higher education (online only)	894
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	840
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	90



Broader region information (SA3)

Bathurst	
Population ⁸	49,100
Region size (sqkm)	6,984
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,170
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,727

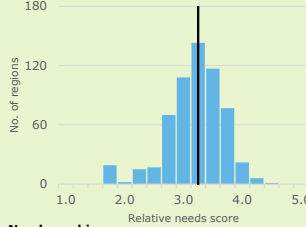
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Bathurst - East	No
Bathurst - South	Yes
Bathurst - West	No
Bathurst Surrounds	No
Oberon	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



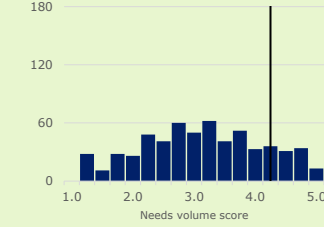
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

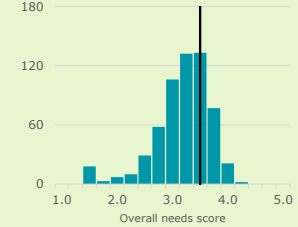
Needs volume score **4.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

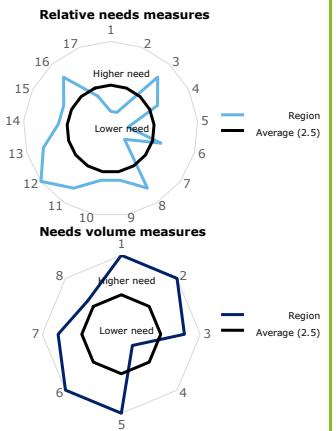
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		16.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	8%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		75%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	894
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	90
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,025
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	2727
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	391
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,533
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Bathurst - West
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	14,300
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	82
Postcode (with largest population)	2795
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,696
Higher education (online only)	894
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,015
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	110



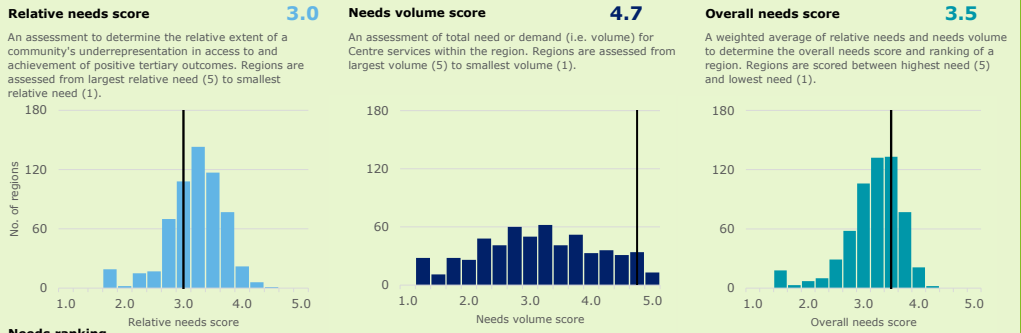
Broader region information (SA3)

Bathurst	
Population ⁸	49,100
Region size (sqkm)	6,984
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,170
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,727

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Bathurst - East	No
Bathurst - South	No
Bathurst - West	Yes
Bathurst Surrounds	No
Oberon	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	14,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	14,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

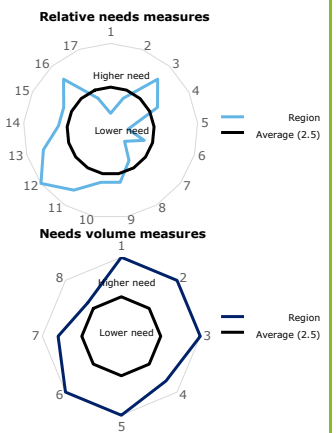
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		12.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	8%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		75%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	894
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		110
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	8,937
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2727
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		391
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,533
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Bathurst Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,900
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	3,798
Postcode (with largest population)	2787
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	4

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	435
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	42



Broader region information (SA3)

Bathurst	
Population ⁸	49,100
Region size (sqkm)	6,984
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,170
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,727

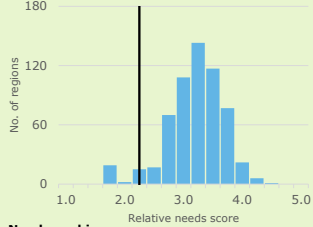
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bathurst - East	No
Bathurst - South	No
Bathurst - West	No
Bathurst Surrounds	Yes
Oberon	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



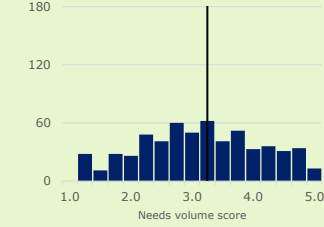
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

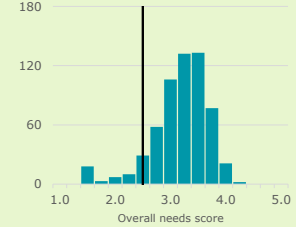
Needs volume score **3.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	4	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

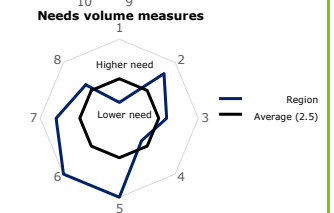
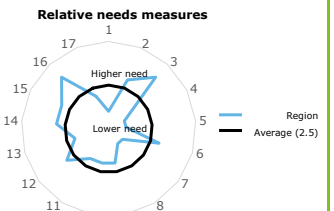
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	50%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		75%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	42
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,277
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2727
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	391
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,533
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Bega - Tathra NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,900
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	184
Postcode (with largest population)	2550
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	88

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	403
Higher education (online only)	199
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	505
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	60



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

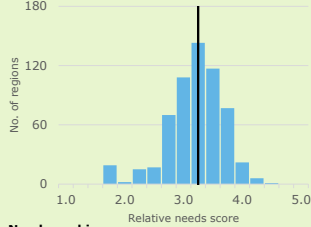
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	Yes
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



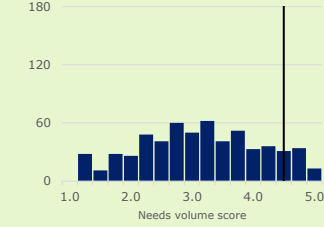
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 44 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

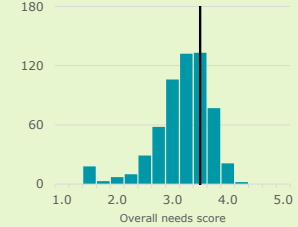
Needs volume score 4.4

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	88	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

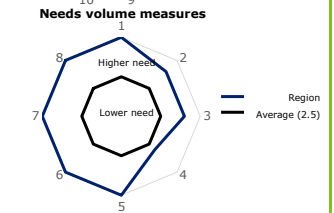
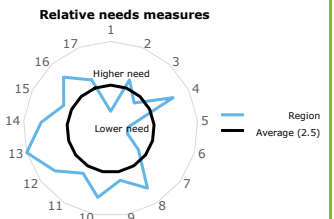
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		22%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		71%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	199
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	60
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,140
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Bega-Eden Hinterland
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,600
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	4,710
Postcode (with largest population)	2549
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	93

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	504
Higher education (online only)	243
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	520
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	64



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

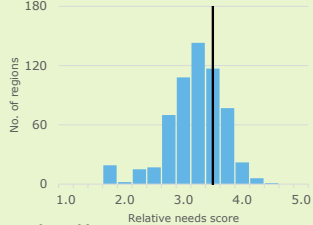
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	Yes
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



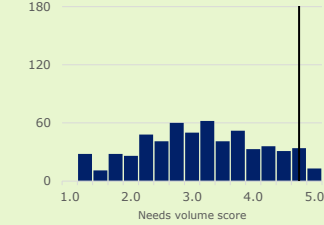
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 10 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

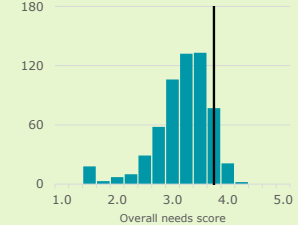
Needs volume score **4.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	93	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

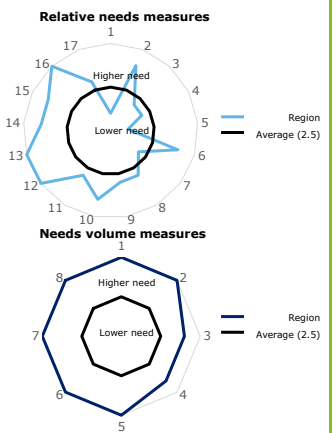
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		69%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	77%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	243
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		64
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,782
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Bilpin - Colo - St Albans
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	2,800
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	2,160
Postcode (with largest population)	2775
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	29

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	24
Higher education (online only)	7
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	190
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	19



Broader region information (SA3)

Hawkesbury	
Population ⁸	25,000
Region size (sqkm)	2,492
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,157
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	638

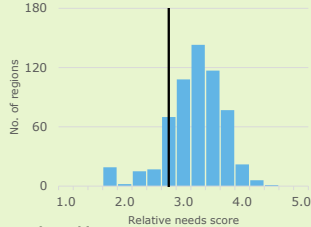
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Bilpin - Colo - St Albans	Yes
Kurrajong Heights - Ebenezer	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

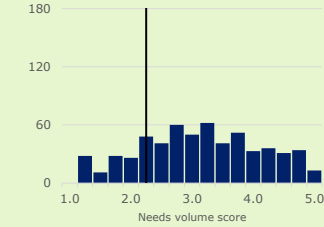
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



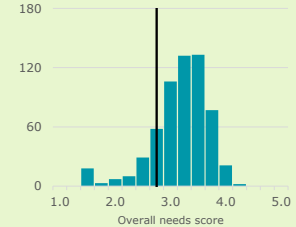
Needs volume score **2.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	2,800	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	2,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	29	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

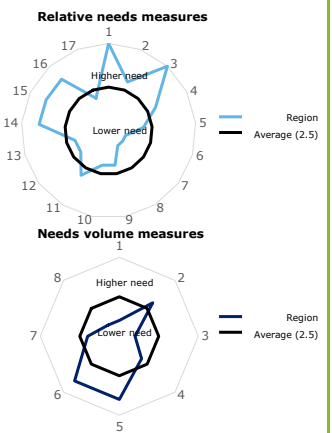
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		7%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		22%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		25%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		63%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		67%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	7
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		19
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,817
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	638
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	192
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	16,250
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Blackheath - Megalong Valley NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,800
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	139
Postcode (with largest population)	2785
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	7

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	204
Higher education (online only)	104
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	330
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	49



Broader region information (SA3)

Blue Mountains	
Population ⁸	5,800
Region size (sqkm)	942
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	204
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	104

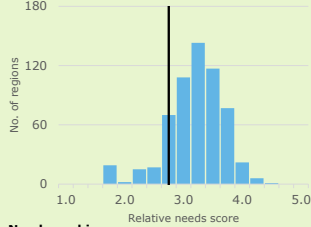
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blackheath - Megalong Valley	Yes
Blue Mountains - North	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

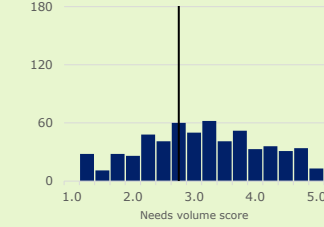
Relative needs score 2.5

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



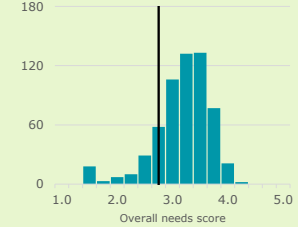
Needs volume score 2.6

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 2.6

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	92.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	7	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

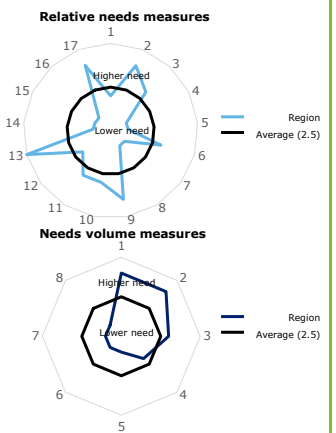
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		41%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	27%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		70%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		75%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	104
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		49
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,299
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	104
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		49
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	3,303
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-3.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Blayney
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,500
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	1,643
Postcode (with largest population)	2791
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	34

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	218
Higher education (online only)	137
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	480
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	43



Broader region information (SA3)

Orange	
Population ⁸	61,300
Region size (sqkm)	6,268
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	3,640
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,969

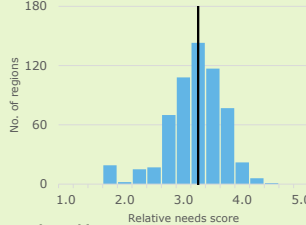
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blayney	Yes
Orange	No
Orange - North	No
Orange Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

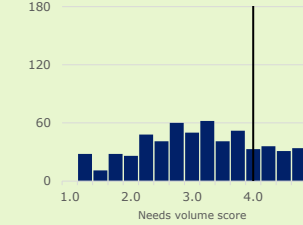
Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



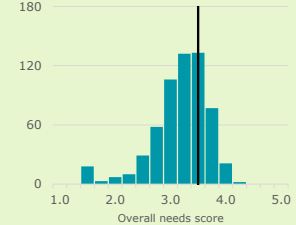
Needs volume score **3.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	34	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

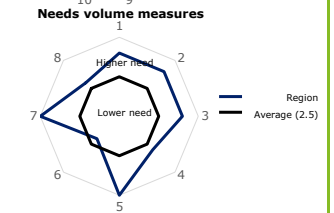
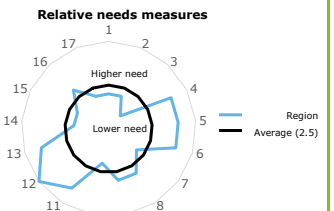
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	22%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	89%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	137
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		43
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,474
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1969
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	109
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	36,836
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Blue Mountains - North
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	0
Indigenous population	NA
Region size (sqkm)	595
Postcode (with largest population)	2758
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	17

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	0



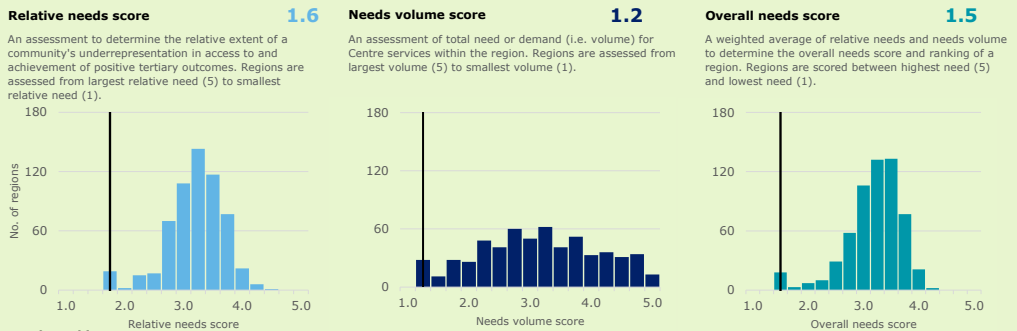
Broader region information (SA3)

Blue Mountains	
Population ⁸	5,800
Region size (sqkm)	942
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	204
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	104

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blackheath - Megalong Valley	No
Blue Mountains - North	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 4 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

4 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	0	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	0	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	0.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	0	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	17	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

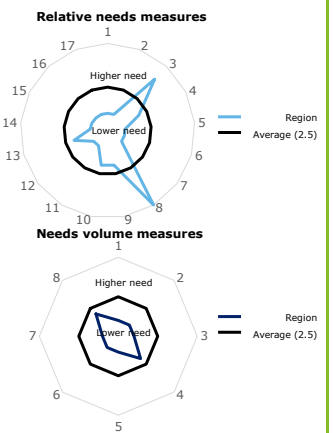
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		100%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		0
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	0%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	0
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	0
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	0
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Blue Mountains - South
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	0
Indigenous population	NA
Region size (sqkm)	2,457
Postcode (with largest population)	2787
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	32

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	0



Broader region information (SA3)

Blue Mountains - South	
Population ⁸	0
Region size (sqkm)	2,457
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	0
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	0

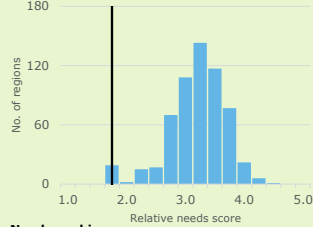
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blue Mountains - South	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 1.6

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



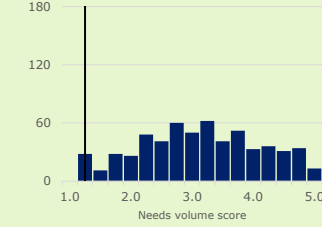
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 4 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

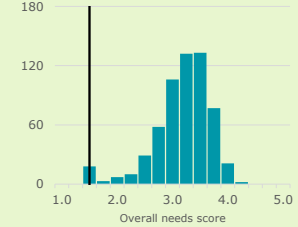
Needs volume score 1.2

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 1.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

4 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	0	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	0	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	0.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	0	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	32	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

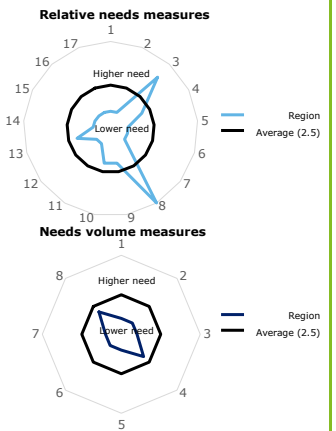
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		100%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		0
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		0%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	0
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	0
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Bombala
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	2,500
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	3,990
Postcode (with largest population)	2631
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	68

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	39
Higher education (online only)	20
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	125
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	20



Broader region information (SA3)

Snowy Mountains	
Population ⁸	20,700
Region size (sqkm)	14,285
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	759
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	421

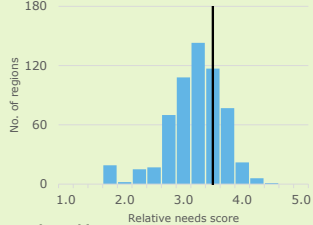
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bombala	Yes
Cooma	No
Cooma Surrounds	No
Jindabyne - Berridale	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

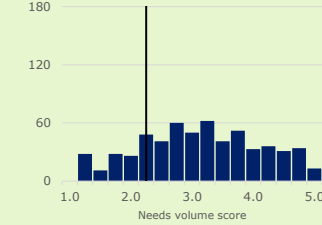
Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



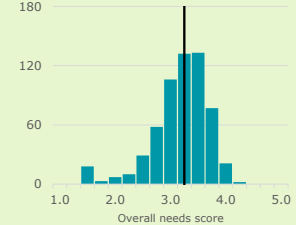
Needs volume score **2.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	2,500	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	2,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	68	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

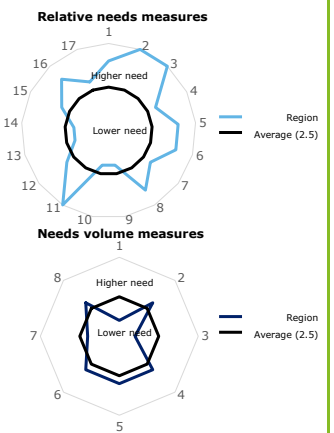
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		7%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	20
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		20
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,390
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	421
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		186
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,214
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.8%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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**Bourke - Brewarrina
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,400
Indigenous population	37%
Region size (sqkm)	56,842
Postcode (with largest population)	2839
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Very remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	291

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	64
Higher education (online only)	40
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	230
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	25



Broader region information (SA3)

Bourke - Cobar - Coonamble	
Population ⁸	21,600
Region size (sqkm)	162,762
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	416
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	255

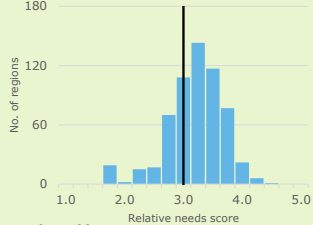
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Bourke - Brewarrina	Yes
Cobar	No
Coonamble	No
Nyngan - Warren	No
Walgett - Lightning Ridge	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.9

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



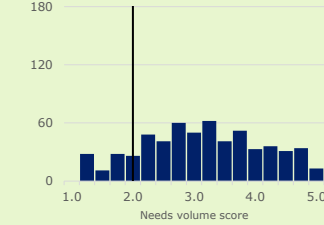
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

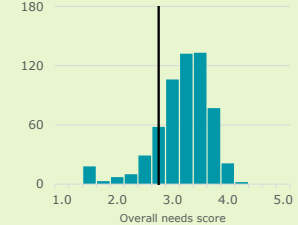
Needs volume score 2.0

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 2.6

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-3.0%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	3,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	78.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	291	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

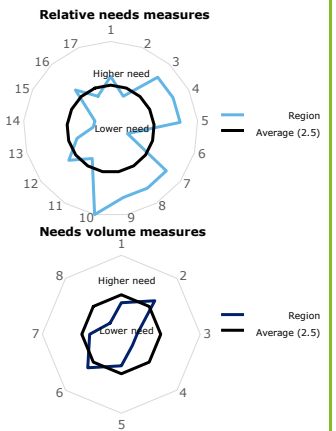
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		31%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	38%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	45%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		87%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	40
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	25
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,178
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-3.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	255
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	160
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,099
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-2.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Bowral NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	13,600
Indigenous population	1%
Region size (sqkm)	56
Postcode (with largest population)	2576
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	47

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	500
Higher education (online only)	158
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	585
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	76



Broader region information (SA3)

Southern Highlands	
Population ⁸	52,700
Region size (sqkm)	2,330
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,219
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	769

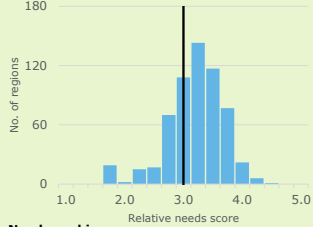
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bowral	Yes
Hill Top - Colo Vale	No
Mittagong	No
Moss Vale - Berrima	No
Robertson - Fitzroy Falls	No
Southern Highlands	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.9

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



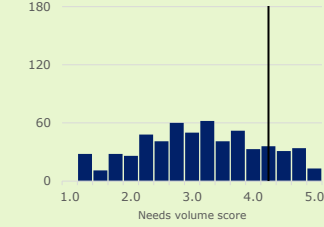
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 89 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

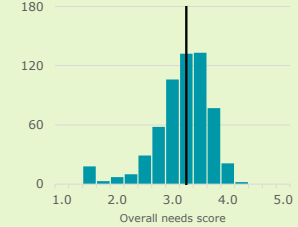
Needs volume score 4.1

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.2

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	13,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	13,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	91.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	47	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

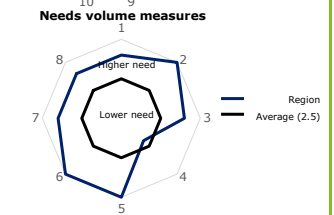
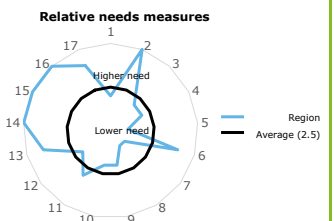
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		4%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		38%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		8
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		49%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		63%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		61%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	69%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		58%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	158
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		76
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,418
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	769
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		366
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	29,177
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Braidwood
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,300
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	3,418
Postcode (with largest population)	2622
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	62

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	110
Higher education (online only)	44
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	200
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	24



Broader region information (SA3)

Queanbeyan	
Population ⁸	20,900
Region size (sqkm)	6,511
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	442
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	188

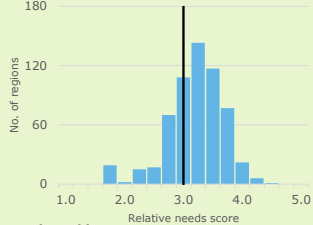
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Braidwood	Yes
Queanbeyan Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

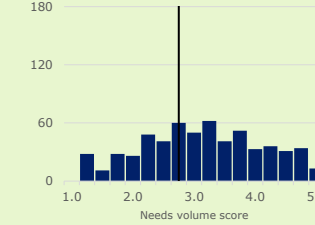
Relative needs score **2.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



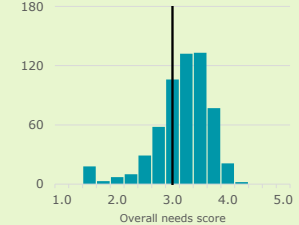
Needs volume score **2.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 195 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	62	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

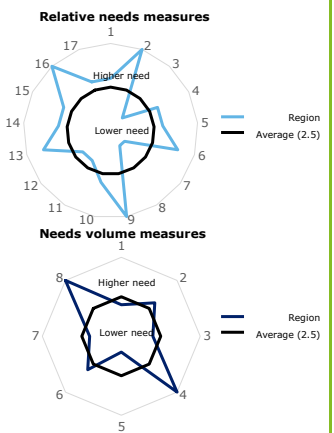
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		28%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		66%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		64%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		60%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	44
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		24
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,537
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	188
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		159
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,347
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Branxton - Greta - Pokolbin NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,800
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	392
Postcode (with largest population)	2334
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	46

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	359
Higher education (online only)	153
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,120
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	105



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Hunter	
Population ⁸	53,800
Region size (sqkm)	8,567
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,464
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

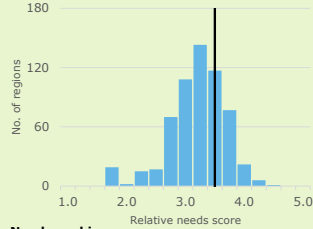
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Branxton - Greta - Pokolbin	Yes
Cessnock Surrounds	No
Dungog	No
Singleton	No
Singleton Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



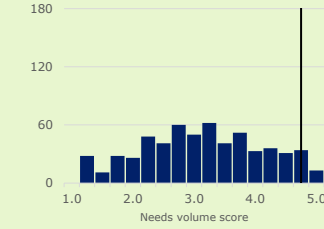
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 7 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

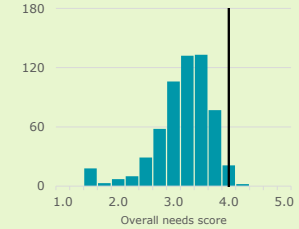
Needs volume score **4.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	4.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	46	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

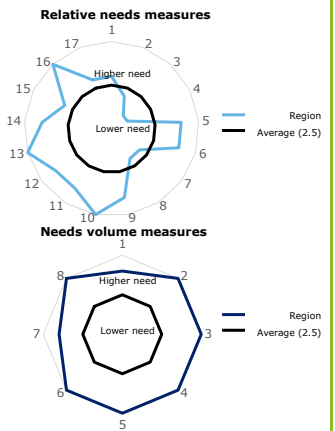
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-8%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		60%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	34%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	81%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	153
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		105
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	8,117
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		4.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		406
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	34,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		2.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

**Broken Hill
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	17,600
Indigenous population	10%
Region size (sqkm)	170
Postcode (with largest population)	2880
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	418
Higher education (online only)	308
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,295
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	143



Broader region information (SA3)

Broken Hill and Far West	
Population ⁸	19,900
Region size (sqkm)	146,855
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	439
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	325

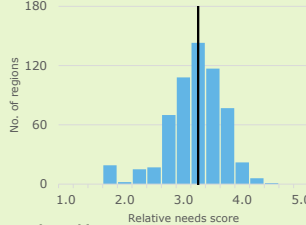
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Broken Hill	Yes
Far West	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



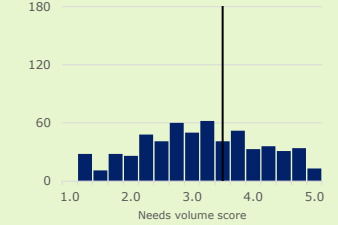
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

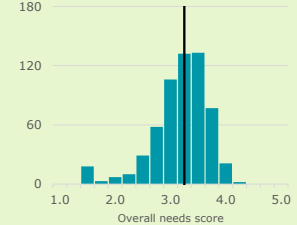
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	17,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	17,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	77.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

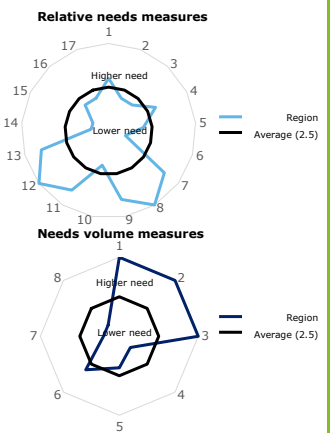
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	88%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	outcomes	92%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		77%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	308
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		143
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	10,506
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	325
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		150
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	11,923
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-1.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Broulee - Tomakin
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,800
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	24
Postcode (with largest population)	2537
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	96

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	285
Higher education (online only)	145
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	235
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	32



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

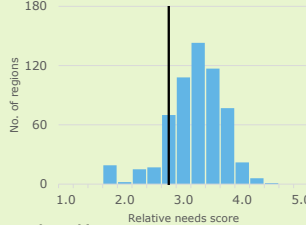
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	Yes
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

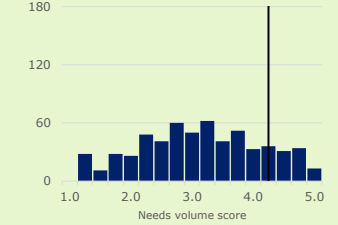
Relative needs score **2.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



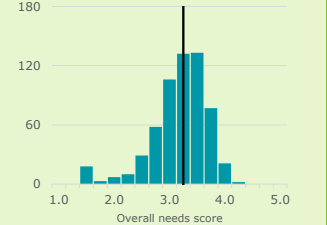
Needs volume score **4.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 135 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	96	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

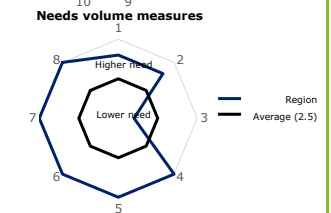
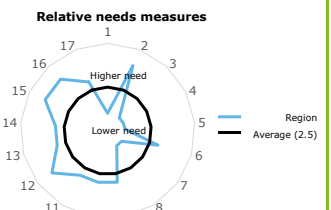
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		6.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-6%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	6%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		30%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		74%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	145
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	32
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,043
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	2.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Calga - Kulnura
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,700
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	768
Postcode (with largest population)	2083
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	15

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	94
Higher education (online only)	30
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	320
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	23



Broader region information (SA3)

Gosford	
Population ⁸	4,700
Region size (sqkm)	988
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	94
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	30

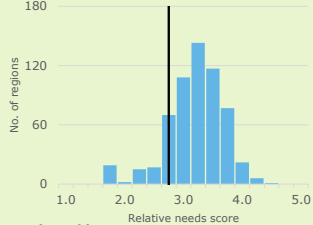
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Calga - Kulnura	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

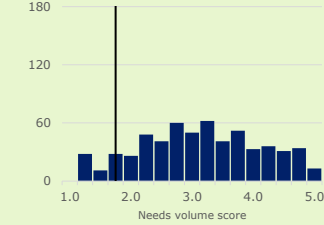
Relative needs score **2.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



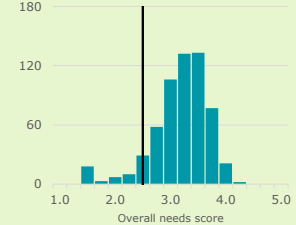
Needs volume score **1.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	15	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

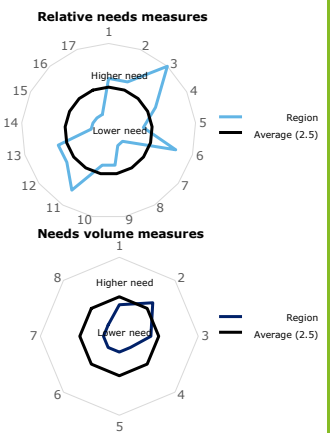
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		45%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	18%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		74%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	30
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	23
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,071
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	30
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	23
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	3,071
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024."

Casino Surrounds NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,400
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	3,950
Postcode (with largest population)	2469
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	46

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	107
Higher education (online only)	70
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	405
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	29



Broader region information (SA3)

Richmond Valley - Hinterland	
Population ⁸	71,900
Region size (sqkm)	7,391
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,173
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,162

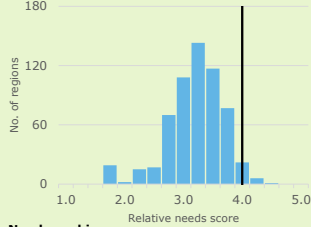
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Casino	No
Casino Surrounds	Yes
Goonellabah	No
Kyogle	No
Lismore	No
Lismore Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



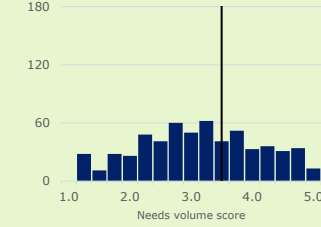
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 9 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

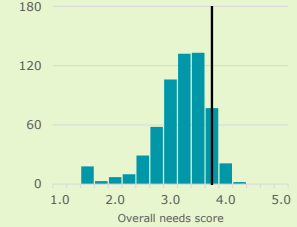
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	46	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

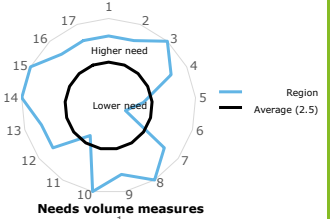
Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		21%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		58%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	38%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		50%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	70
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		29
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,412
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2162
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		419
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	43,194
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.3%

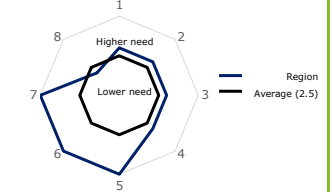
Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.

Relative needs measures



Needs volume measures



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Casino NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,300
Indigenous population	10%
Region size (sqkm)	139
Postcode (with largest population)	2470
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	25

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	322
Higher education (online only)	181
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	995
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	72



Broader region information (SA3)

Richmond Valley - Hinterland	
Population ⁸	71,900
Region size (sqkm)	7,391
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,173
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,162

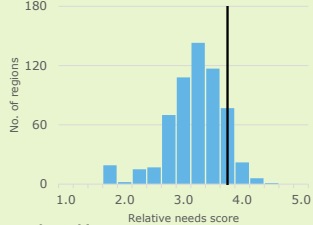
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Casino	Yes
Casino Surrounds	No
Goonellabah	No
Kyogle	No
Lismore	No
Lismore Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



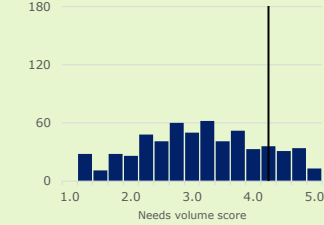
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

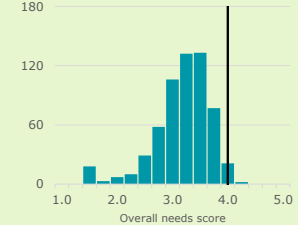
Needs volume score **4.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	79.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	25	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

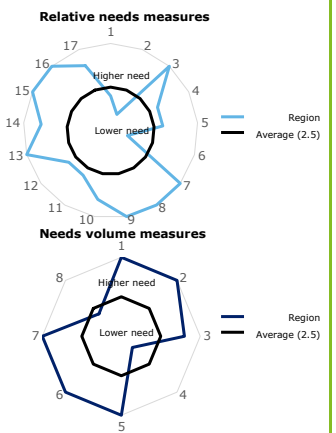
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		27%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		11%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		68%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	32%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		75%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		67%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		60%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	181
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		72
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,764
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2162
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		419
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	43,194
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Cessnock Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,100
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	1,570
Postcode (with largest population)	2325
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	28

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	709
Higher education (online only)	290
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	650
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	57



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Hunter	
Population ⁸	53,800
Region size (sqkm)	8,567
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,464
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

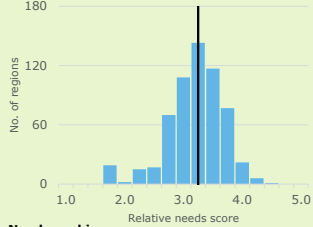
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Branxton - Greta - Pokolbin	No
Cessnock Surrounds	Yes
Dungog	No
Singleton	No
Singleton Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

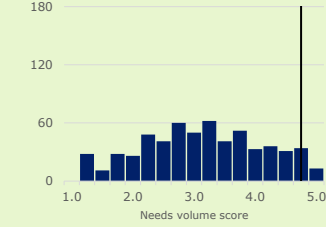
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



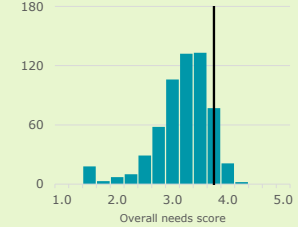
Needs volume score **4.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	28	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

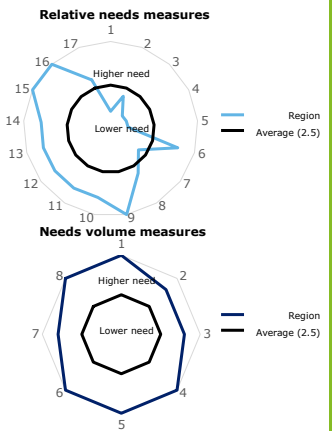
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		7.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		7%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		69%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	33%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		68%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		62%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	290
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		57
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,748
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		2.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		406
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	34,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		2.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Cobar NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information

Population	4,100
Indigenous population	15%
Region size (sqkm)	45,551
Postcode (with largest population)	2835
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	273

Education enrolments

Higher education (all)	65
Higher education (online only)	48
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	335
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	52



Broader region information (SA3)

Bourke - Cobar - Coonamble

Population ⁸	21,600
Region size (sqkm)	162,762
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	416
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	255

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?⁹

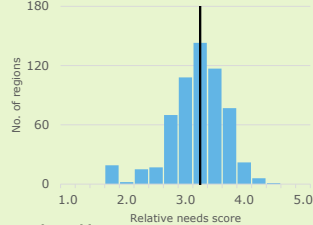
Bourke - Brewarrina	No
Cobar	Yes
Coonamble	No
Nyngan - Warren	No
Walgett - Lightning Ridge	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.2

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



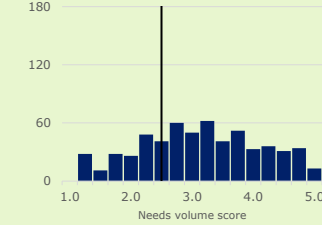
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

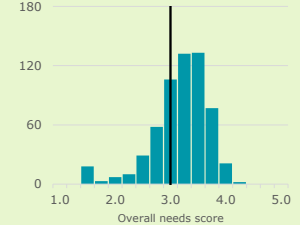
Needs volume score 2.3

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 2.9

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-2.7%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	4,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	273	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

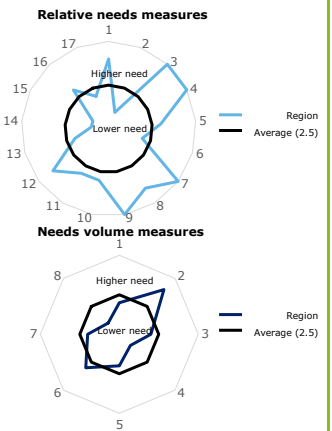
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	8%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		11%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		77%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	27%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		54%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	87%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	48
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		52
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,591
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-2.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	255
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		160
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,099
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-2.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Coffs Harbour
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	92,500
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	3,967
Postcode (with largest population)	2454
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,886
Higher education (online only)	1,183
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	6,565
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	545



Broader region information (SA3)

Coffs Harbour	
Population ⁸	92,500
Region size (sqkm)	3,967
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,886
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,183

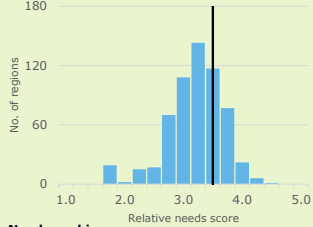
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bellingen	Yes
Coffs Harbour - North	Yes
Coffs Harbour - South	Yes
Coramba - Nana Glen - Bucca	Yes
Dorrigo	Yes
Korora - Emerald Beach	Yes
Sawtell - Boambee	Yes
Urunga	Yes
Woolgoolga - Arrawarra	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

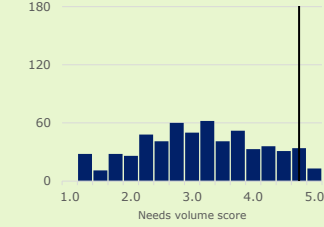
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



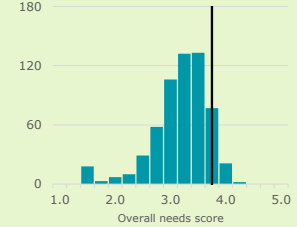
Needs volume score **4.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.8%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	92,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	92,500	50,000	No
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

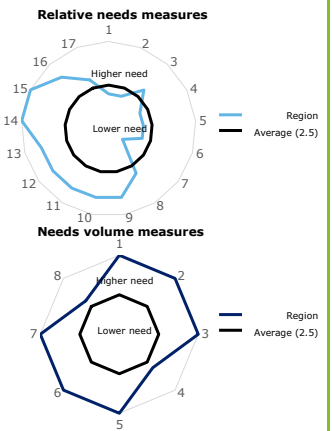
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		64%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	1183
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		545
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	54,302
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1183
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		545
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	54,302
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.8%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Condobolin NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,400
Indigenous population	17%
Region size (sqkm)	15,859
Postcode (with largest population)	2669
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	112

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	154
Higher education (online only)	71
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	405
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	50



Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope⁹

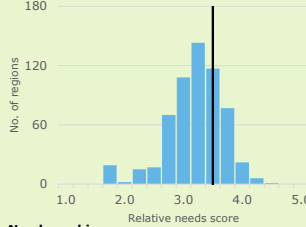
Condobolin	Yes
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	No
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

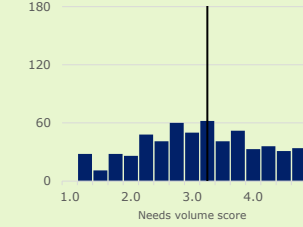
Relative needs score 3.4

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



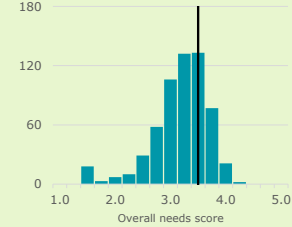
Needs volume score 3.2

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.3

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.0%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	6,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	112	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

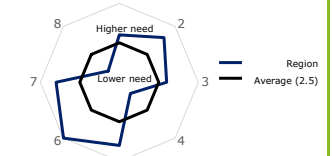
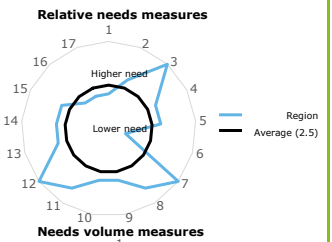
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		22%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	25%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	71
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	50
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,653
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Cooma Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,500
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	6,251
Postcode (with largest population)	2626
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	261
Higher education (online only)	142
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	185
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	17



Broader region information (SA3)

Snowy Mountains	
Population ⁸	20,700
Region size (sqkm)	14,285
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	759
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	421

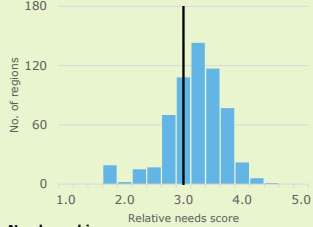
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bombala	No
Cooma	No
Cooma Surrounds	Yes
Jindabyne - Berridale	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

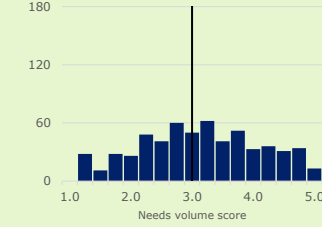
Relative needs score **2.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



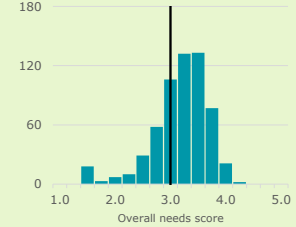
Needs volume score **2.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

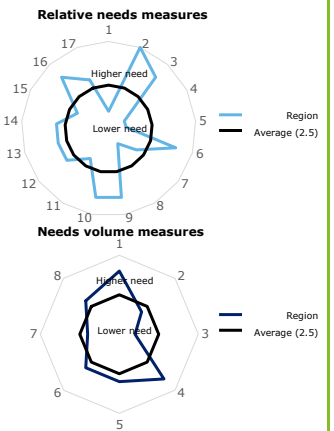
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		7.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		9%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		75%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	142
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		17
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,104
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	421
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		186
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,214
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.8%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Cooma
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,800
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	104
Postcode (with largest population)	2630
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	233
Higher education (online only)	127
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	520
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	65



Broader region information (SA3)

Snowy Mountains	
Population ⁸	20,700
Region size (sqkm)	14,285
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	759
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	421

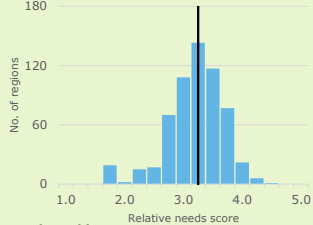
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bombala	No
Cooma	Yes
Cooma Surrounds	No
Jindabyne - Berridale	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



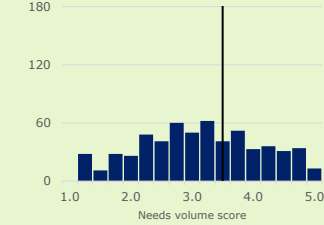
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

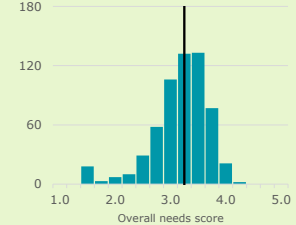
Needs volume score **3.3**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

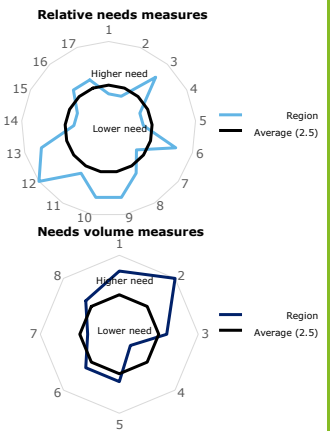
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		21%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	32%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		69%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	127
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	65
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,103
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	421
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	186
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,214
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.8%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Coonabarabran
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,900
Indigenous population	11%
Region size (sqkm)	10,474
Postcode (with largest population)	2357
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	118

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	154
Higher education (online only)	91
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	450
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	36



Broader region information (SA3)

Dubbo	
Population ⁸	74,100
Region size (sqkm)	29,738
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,805
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,059

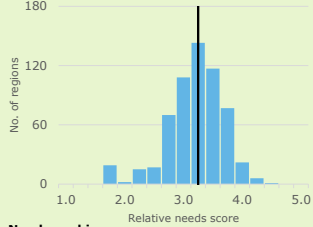
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Coonabarabran	Yes
Dubbo - East	No
Dubbo - South	No
Dubbo - West	No
Dubbo Surrounds	No
Gilgandra	No
Narromine	No
Wellington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



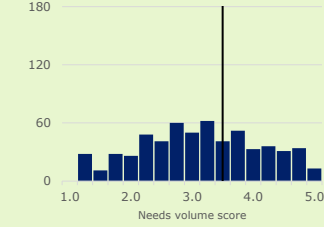
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 95 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

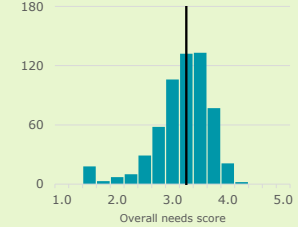
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	118	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

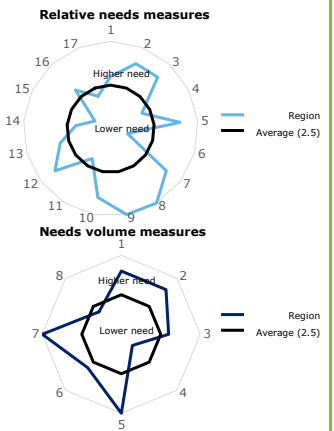
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		21%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		69%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		47%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	91
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		36
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,322
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1059
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		171
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	44,672
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Coonamble
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,900
Indigenous population	33%
Region size (sqkm)	12,142
Postcode (with largest population)	2828
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	146

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	81
Higher education (online only)	45
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	215
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	29



Broader region information (SA3)

Bourke - Cobarr - Coonamble	
Population ⁸	21,600
Region size (sqkm)	162,762
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	416
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	255

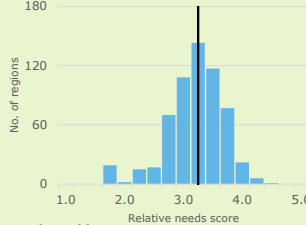
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bourke - Brewarrina	No
Cobarr	No
Coonamble	Yes
Nyngan - Warren	No
Walgett - Lightning Ridge	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

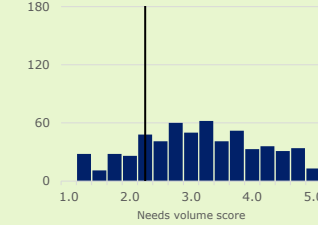
Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



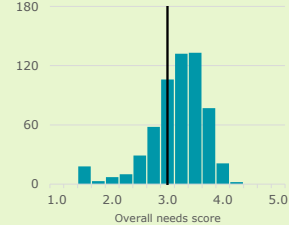
Needs volume score **2.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 202 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	80.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	146	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

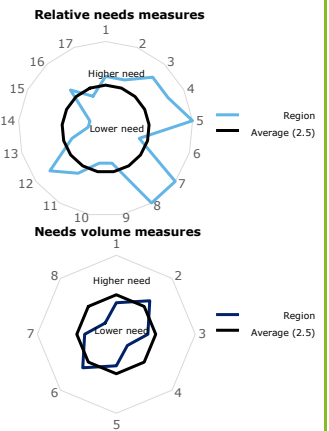
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		12%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	54%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		87%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	45
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	29
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,328
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	255
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	160
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,099
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-2.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Cootamundra NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,700
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	1,656
Postcode (with largest population)	2588
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	77

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	138
Higher education (online only)	77
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	455
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	43



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

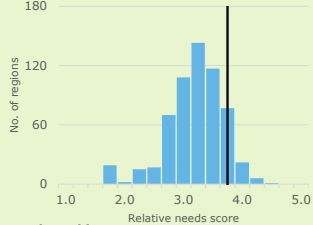
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	Yes
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



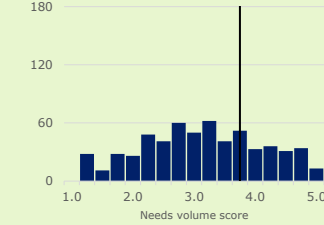
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 12 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

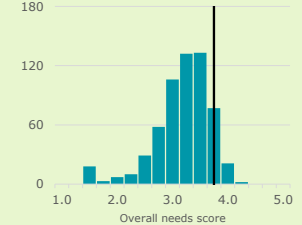
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	77	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

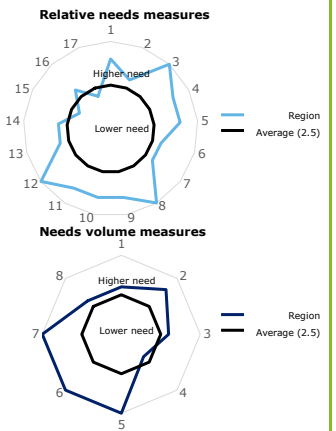
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		6%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		60%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	77
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		43
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,030
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Corowa Surrounds NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,300
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	4,495
Postcode (with largest population)	2643
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	70

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	96
Higher education (online only)	43
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	495
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	30



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Murray exc. Albury	
Population ⁸	43,400
Region size (sqkm)	28,232
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,141
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	530

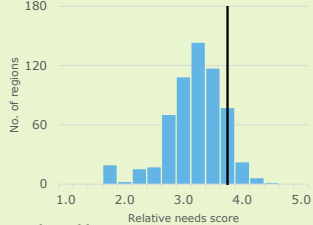
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Corowa	No
Corowa Surrounds	Yes
Deniliquin	No
Deniliquin Surrounds	No
Moama	No
Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



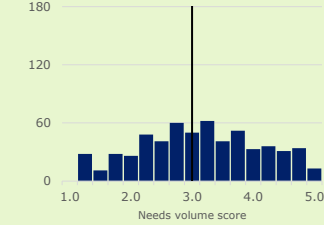
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 68 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

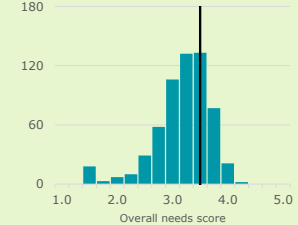
Needs volume score **3.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	70	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

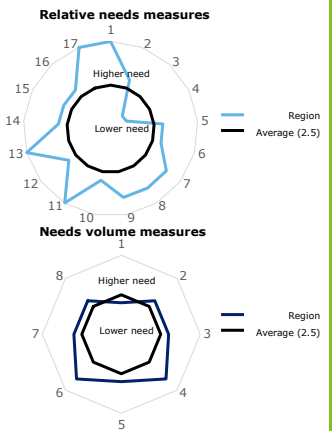
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		58%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	25%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		66%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		66%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		73%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	43
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	30
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	3,904
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	530
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	204
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	23,613
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Corowa
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,600
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	77
Postcode (with largest population)	2646
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	41

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	126
Higher education (online only)	59
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	425
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	25



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Murray exc. Albury	
Population ⁸	43,400
Region size (sqkm)	28,232
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,141
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	530

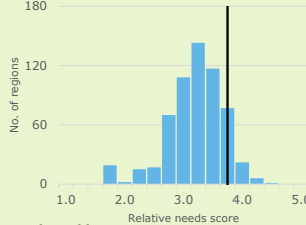
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Corowa	Yes
Corowa Surrounds	No
Deniliquin	No
Deniliquin Surrounds	No
Moama	No
Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



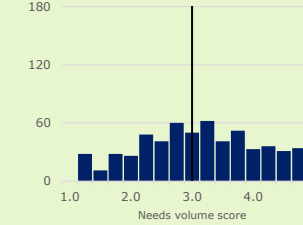
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 46 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

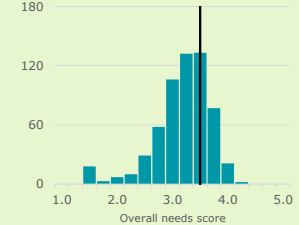
Needs volume score **2.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	41	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

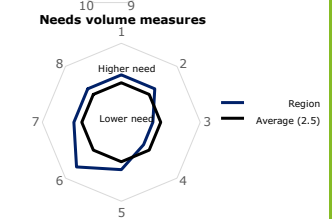
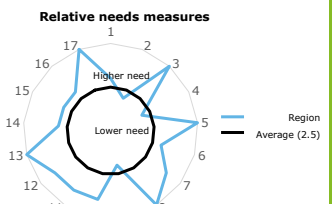
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		50%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		75%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		73%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	59
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		25
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,028
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	530
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		204
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,613
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Cowra Surrounds
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,700
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	3,037
Postcode (with largest population)	2793
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	6

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	90
Higher education (online only)	48
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	235
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	19



Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

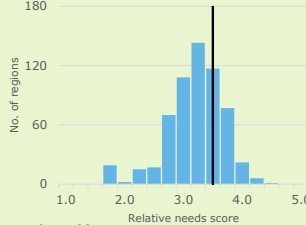
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Candobolin	No
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	Yes
Forbes	No
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

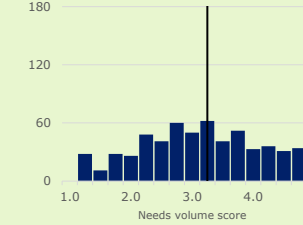
Relative needs score **3.4**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



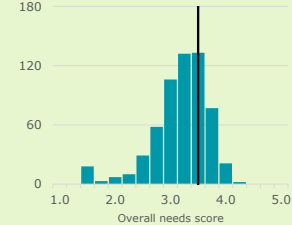
Needs volume score **3.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	6	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

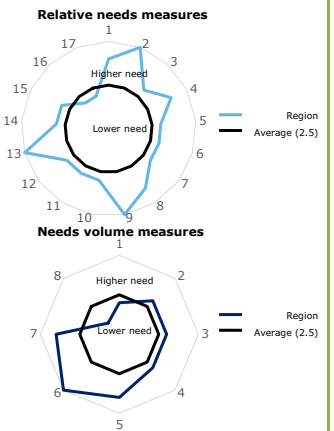
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		67%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	27%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		73%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	48
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		19
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,261
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

Cowra NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,300
Indigenous population	10%
Region size (sqkm)	242
Postcode (with largest population)	2794
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	172
Higher education (online only)	100
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	720
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	71



Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Condobolin	No
Cowra	Yes
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	No
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	No

Additional notes:

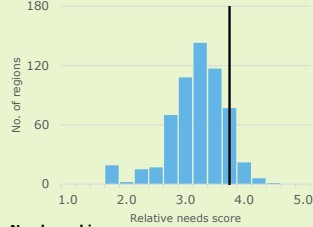
1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



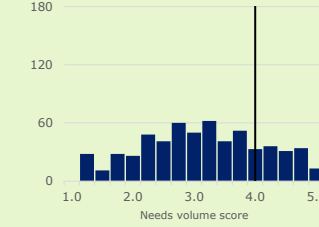
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

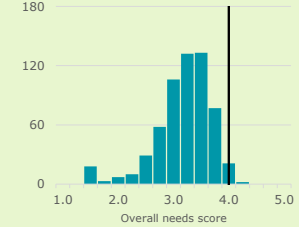
Needs volume score **3.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

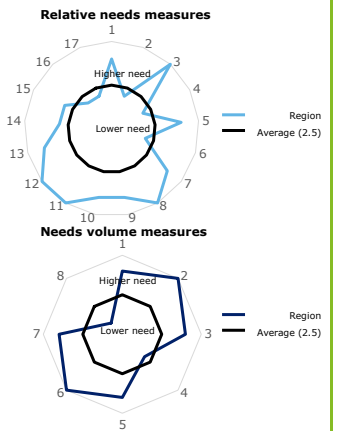
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	32%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		67%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	100
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		71
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,164
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



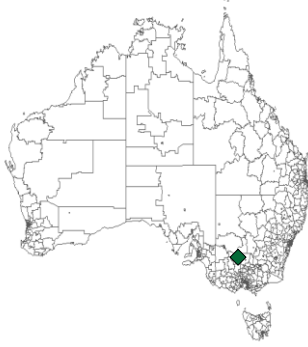
Deniliquin Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,800
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	18,338
Postcode (with largest population)	2710
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	100

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	252
Higher education (online only)	125
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	330
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	21



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Murray exc. Albury	
Population ⁸	43,400
Region size (sqkm)	28,232
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,141
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	530

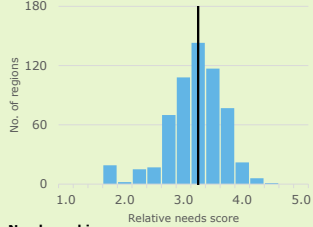
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Corowa	No
Corowa Surrounds	No
Deniliquin	No
Deniliquin Surrounds	Yes
Moama	No
Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



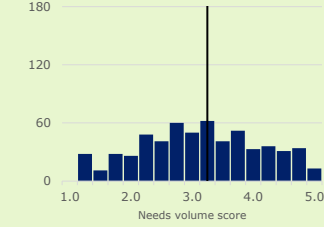
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 98 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

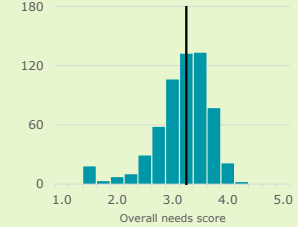
Needs volume score **3.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	100	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

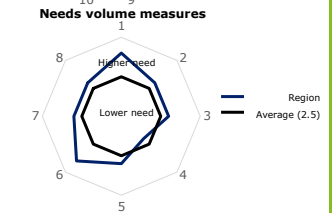
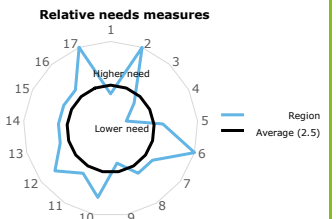
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		4%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		47%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		57%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		73%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	125
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		21
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,891
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	530
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		204
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,613
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Deniliquin
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,000
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	143
Postcode (with largest population)	2710
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	98

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	192
Higher education (online only)	102
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	600
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	47



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Murray exc. Albury	
Population ⁸	43,400
Region size (sqkm)	28,232
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,141
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	530

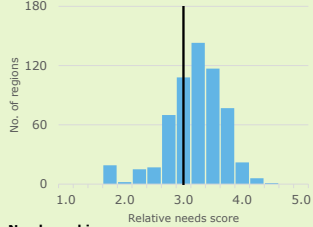
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Corowa	No
Corowa Surrounds	No
Deniliquin	Yes
Deniliquin Surrounds	No
Moama	No
Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



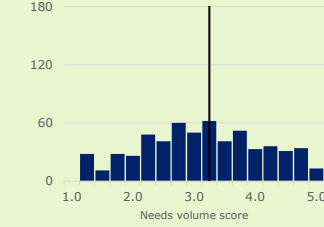
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

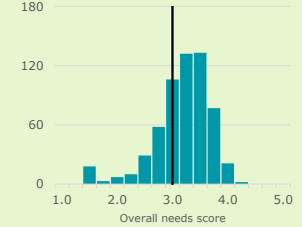
Needs volume score **3.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.0**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.1%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	7,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	80.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	98	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

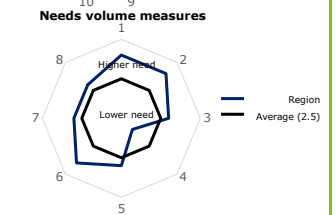
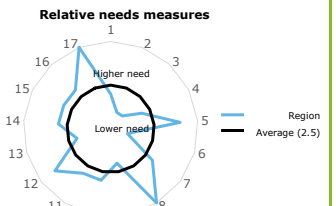
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		45%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	27%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		84%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		73%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	102
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		47
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,012
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	530
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		204
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,613
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Deua - Wadbilliga
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	0
Indigenous population	NA
Region size (sqkm)	2,782
Postcode (with largest population)	2545
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	57

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	0



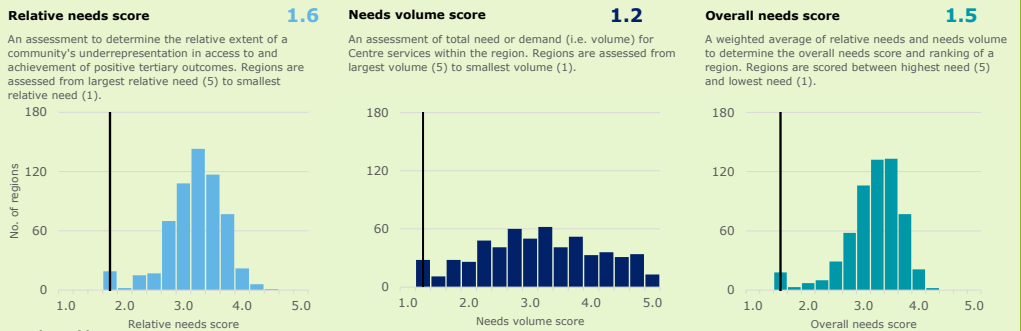
Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	Yes
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	0	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	0	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	0.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	0	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	57	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

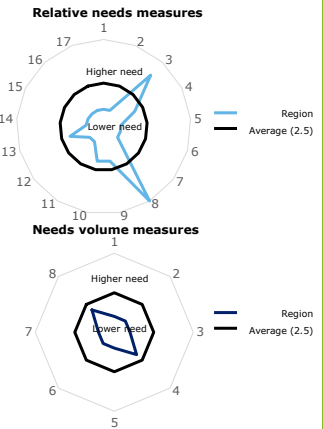
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)	Access and participation	100%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		100%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		0
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	0%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	0
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	Direct latent demand	0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	0
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	Indirect latent demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Dubbo - Custom
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	40,600
Indigenous population	16%
Region size (sqkm)	183
Postcode (with largest population)	2830
Region type ¹	Custom SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,210
Higher education (online only)	734
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	3,470
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	2



Broader region information (SA3)

Dubbo	
Population ⁸	74,100
Region size (sqkm)	29,738
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,805
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,059

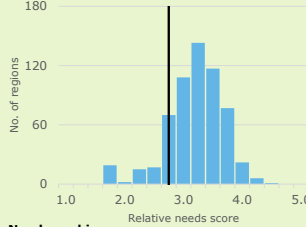
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Coonabarabran	No
Dubbo - East	Yes
Dubbo - South	Yes
Dubbo - West	Yes
Dubbo Surrounds	No
Gilgandra	No
Narromine	No
Wellington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

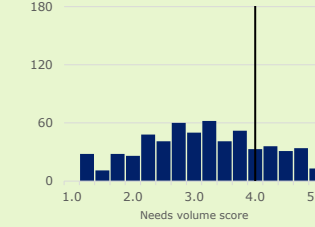
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



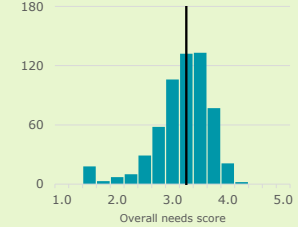
Needs volume score **4.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	40,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	40,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

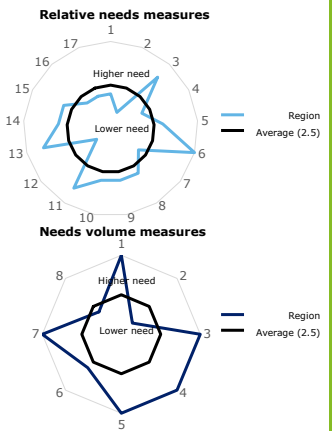
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		0%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		21%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		-5500%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	734
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		2
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	25,171
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1059
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		171
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	44,672
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

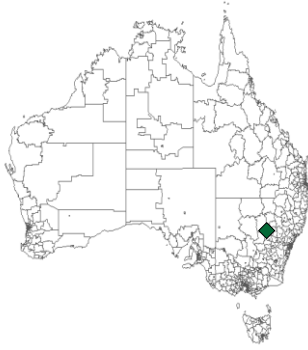
Dubbo Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,000
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	4,129
Postcode (with largest population)	2822
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	7

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	47
Higher education (online only)	31
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	185
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	23



Broader region information (SA3)

Dubbo	
Population ⁸	74,100
Region size (sqkm)	29,738
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,805
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,059

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Coonabarabran	No
Dubbo - East	No
Dubbo - South	No
Dubbo - West	No
Dubbo Surrounds	Yes
Gilgandra	No
Narromine	No
Wellington	No

Additional notes:

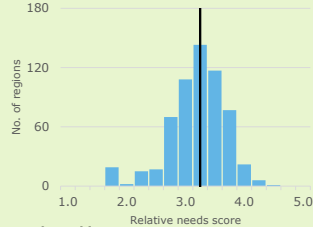
1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



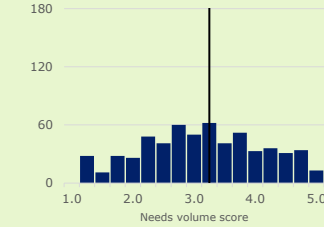
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

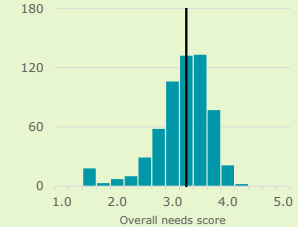
Needs volume score **3.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.8%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	7	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

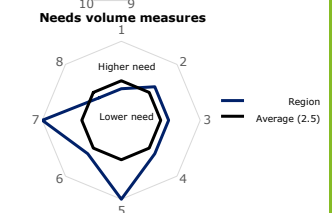
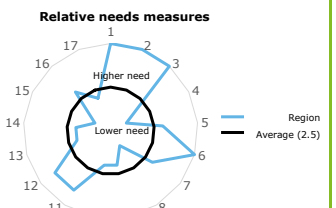
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		3%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		9%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		10%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	31
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		23
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,631
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1059
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		171
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	44,672
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Dungog NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,500
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	2,250
Postcode (with largest population)	2311
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	60

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	270
Higher education (online only)	111
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	650
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	58



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Hunter	
Population ⁸	53,800
Region size (sqkm)	8,567
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,464
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

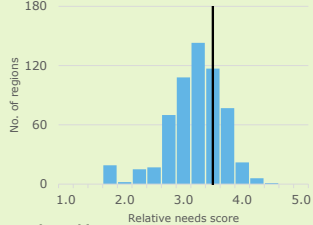
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Branxton - Greta - Pokolbin	No
Cessnock Surrounds	No
Dungog	Yes
Singleton	No
Singleton Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

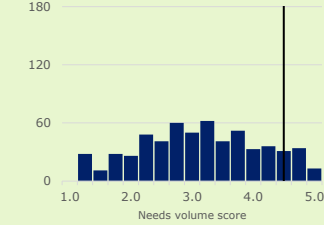
Relative needs score 3.3

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



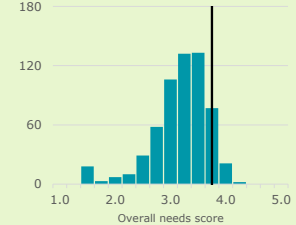
Needs volume score 4.3

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.6

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 20 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	60	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

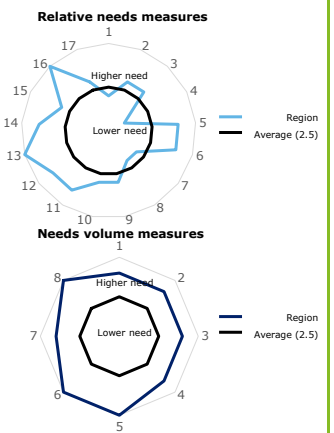
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		11%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		20%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	81%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	111
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		58
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,675
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		406
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	34,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		2.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Eden NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information

Population	3,400
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	95
Postcode (with largest population)	2551
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	109

Education enrolments

Higher education (all)	52
Higher education (online only)	20
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	205
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	24



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast

Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?⁹

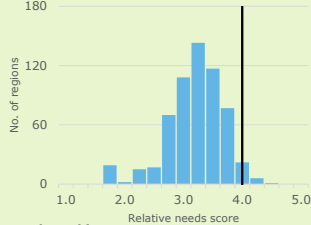
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	Yes
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

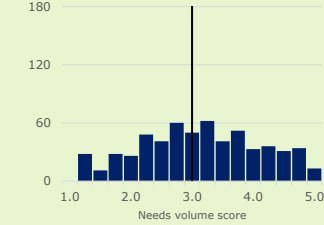
Relative needs score 3.8

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



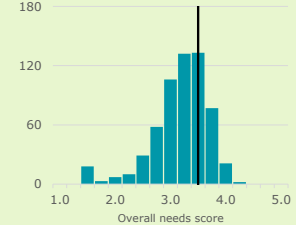
Needs volume score 2.9

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 37 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	80.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	109	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

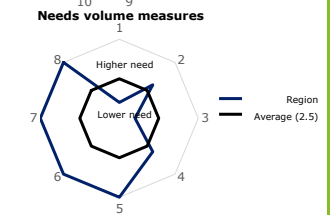
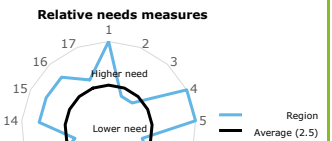
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	10%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	22%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	72%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		85%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	20
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	24
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,789
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Eurobodalla Hinterland
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,500
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	1,460
Postcode (with largest population)	2545
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	92

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	21
Higher education (online only)	11
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	165
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	14



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

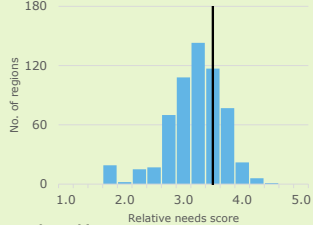
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	Yes
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

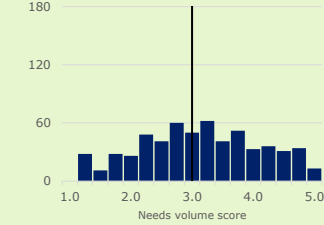
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



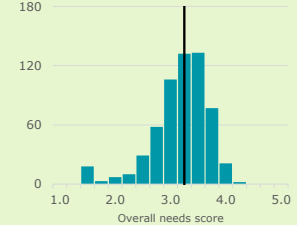
Needs volume score **2.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 99 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	92	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

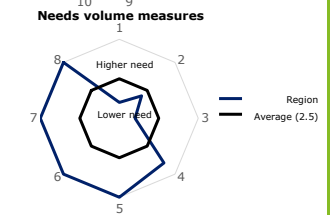
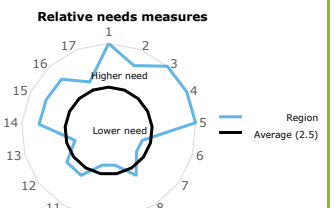
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		14%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	9%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		21%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	57%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	11
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	14
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,091
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Far West
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	2,300
Indigenous population	29%
Region size (sqkm)	146,685
Postcode (with largest population)	2836
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Very remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	152

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	21
Higher education (online only)	17
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	55
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	7



Broader region information (SA3)

Broken Hill and Far West	
Population ⁸	19,900
Region size (sqkm)	146,855
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	439
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	325

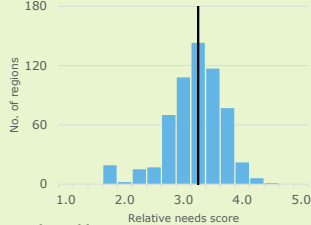
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Broken Hill	No
Far West	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



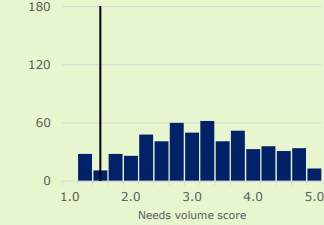
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

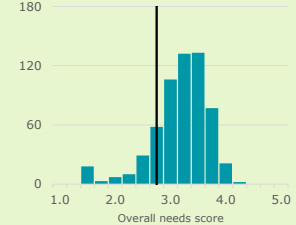
Needs volume score **1.3**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-2.0%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	2,300	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	2,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	73.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	152	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

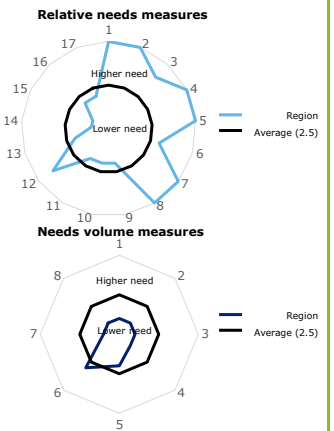
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		4%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	20%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	0%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		12%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	46%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		89%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	92%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	77%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	17
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		7
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,417
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-2.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	325
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		150
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	11,923
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-1.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

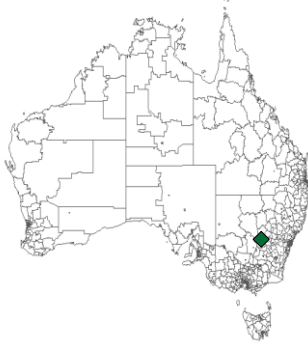
Forbes NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,000
Indigenous population	13%
Region size (sqkm)	4,598
Postcode (with largest population)	2806
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	41

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	247
Higher education (online only)	141
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	695
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	86



Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

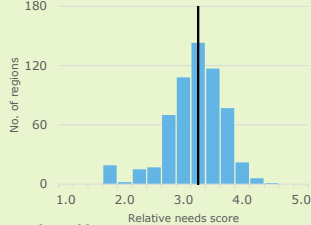
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Condobolin	No
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	Yes
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

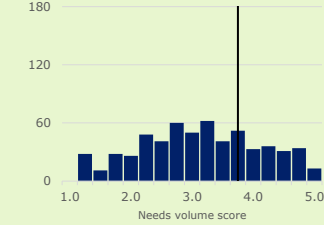
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



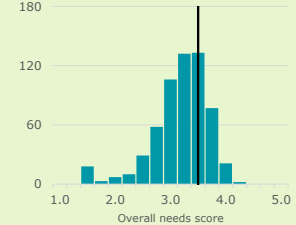
Needs volume score **3.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 69 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	41	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

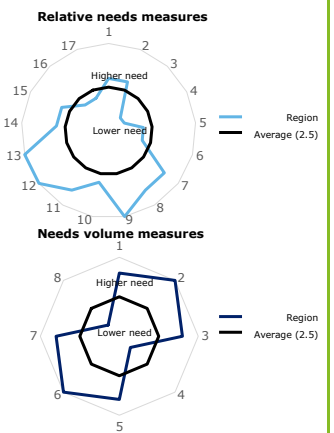
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		67%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	141
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	86
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,697
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

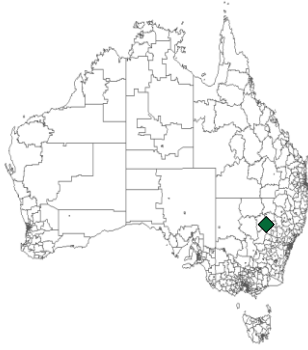
Gilgandra
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,400
Indigenous population	14%
Region size (sqkm)	5,393
Postcode (with largest population)	2817
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	70

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	67
Higher education (online only)	31
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	230
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	21



Broader region information (SA3)

Dubbo	
Population ⁸	74,100
Region size (sqkm)	29,738
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,805
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,059

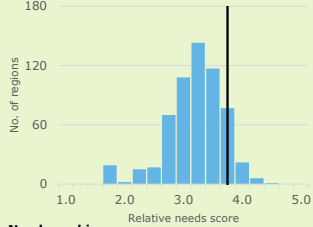
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Coonabarabran	No
Dubbo - East	No
Dubbo - South	No
Dubbo - West	No
Dubbo Surrounds	No
Gilgandra	Yes
Narromine	No
Wellington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



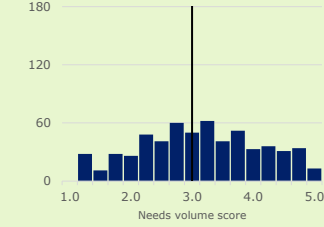
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 70 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

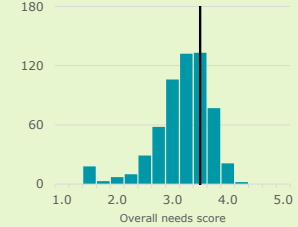
Needs volume score **2.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	79.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	70	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

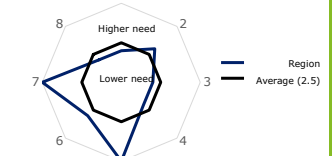
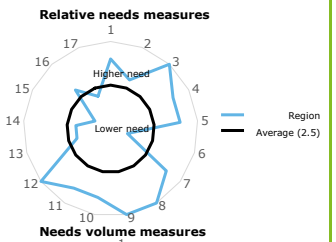
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		26%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		74%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	31
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	21
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,502
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1059
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	171
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	44,672
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Glen Innes NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,900
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	5,480
Postcode (with largest population)	2370
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	81

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	165
Higher education (online only)	107
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	570
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	68



Broader region information (SA3)

Inverell - Tenterfield	
Population ⁸	38,700
Region size (sqkm)	30,566
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	681
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	442

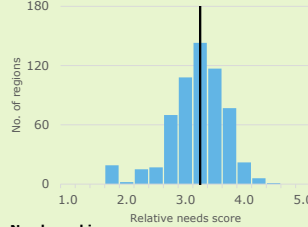
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Glen Innes	Yes
Inverell	No
Inverell Surrounds - East	No
Inverell Surrounds - West	No
Tenterfield	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



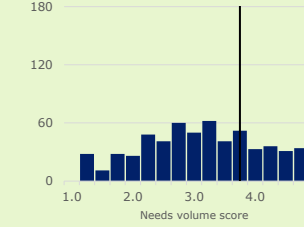
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 77 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

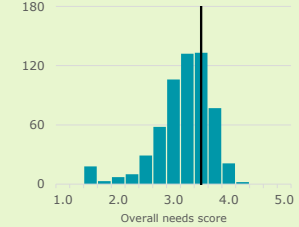
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	81	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

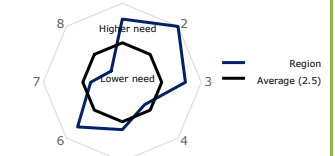
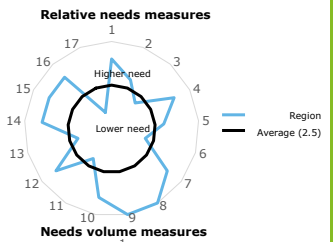
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	31%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	54%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		83%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	107
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	68
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,039
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	442
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	218
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	21,795
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

Goulburn Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	13,800
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	9,035
Postcode (with largest population)	2579
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	28

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	252
Higher education (online only)	117
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	845
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	93



Broader region information (SA3)

Goulburn - Mulwaree	
Population ⁸	38,400
Region size (sqkm)	9,100
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,049
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	526

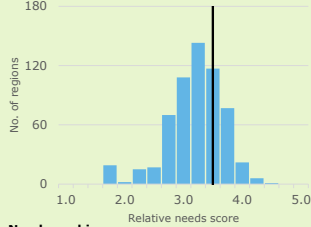
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Goulburn	No
Goulburn Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

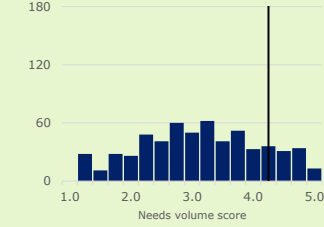
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



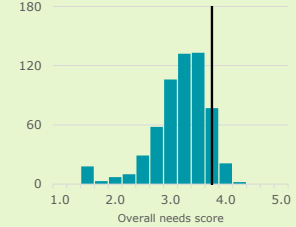
Needs volume score **4.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	13,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	13,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	28	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

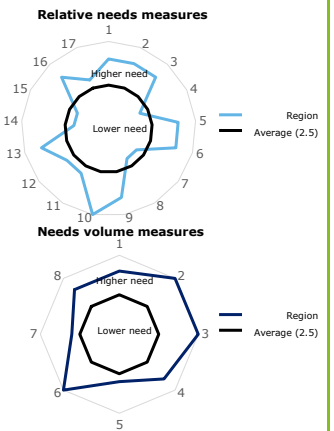
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		11%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		20%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		61%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	34%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		74%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		84%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	89%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	117
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		93
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	8,299
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	526
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		313
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,217
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

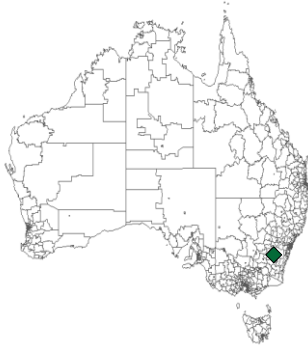
Goulburn
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	24,600
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	65
Postcode (with largest population)	2580
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	797
Higher education (online only)	409
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,920
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	220



Broader region information (SA3)

Goulburn - Mulwaree	
Population ⁸	38,400
Region size (sqkm)	9,100
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,049
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	526

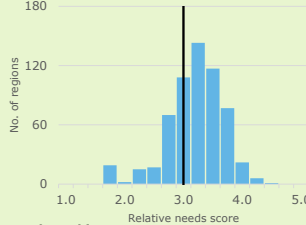
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Goulburn	Yes
Goulburn Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

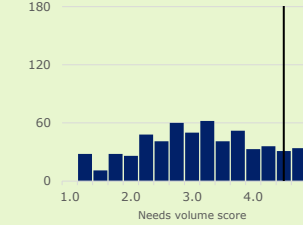
Relative needs score **2.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



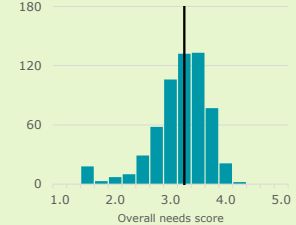
Needs volume score **4.3**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	24,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	24,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

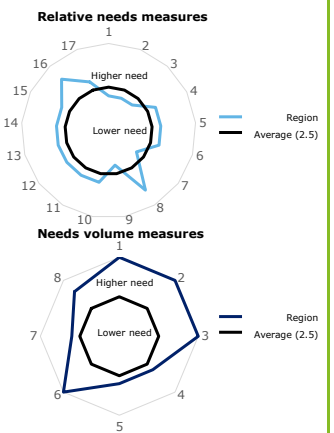
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		47%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		76%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	409
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	220
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	14,918
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	526
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	313
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,217
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

Grafton Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	16,900
Indigenous population	9%
Region size (sqkm)	8,446
Postcode (with largest population)	2460
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	750
Higher education (online only)	472
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,235
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	65



Broader region information (SA3)

Clarence Valley	
Population ⁸	53,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,263
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,816
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,130

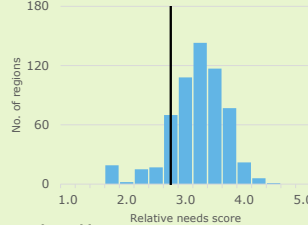
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Grafton	No
Grafton Surrounds	Yes
Maclean - Yamba - Iluka	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

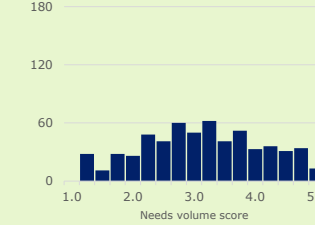
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



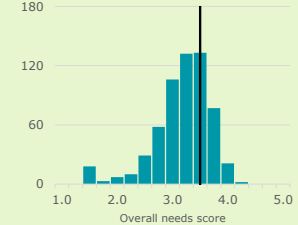
Needs volume score **4.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	16,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	16,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

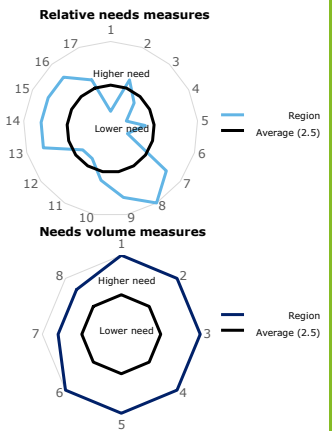
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		24%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		48%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		70%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		68%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	472
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		65
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	10,431
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1130
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		298
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,368
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Grafton NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	19,300
Indigenous population	10%
Region size (sqkm)	106
Postcode (with largest population)	2460
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	704
Higher education (online only)	448
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,525
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	115



Broader region information (SA3)

Clarence Valley	
Population ⁸	53,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,263
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,816
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,130

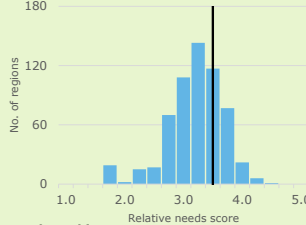
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Grafton	Yes
Grafton Surrounds	No
Maclean - Yamba - Iluka	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

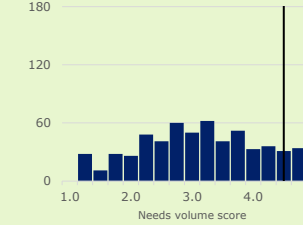
Relative needs score **3.4**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



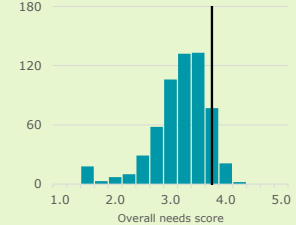
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	19,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	19,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

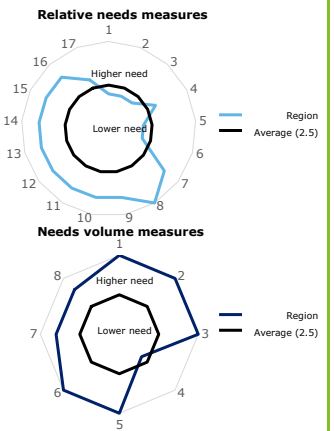
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	68%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	448
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	115
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	10,900
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1130
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	298
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,368
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Great Lakes
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	33,300
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	3,133
Postcode (with largest population)	2415
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	42

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	549
Higher education (online only)	249
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,935
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	187



Broader region information (SA3)

Great Lakes	
Population ⁸	33,300
Region size (sqkm)	3,133
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	549
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	249

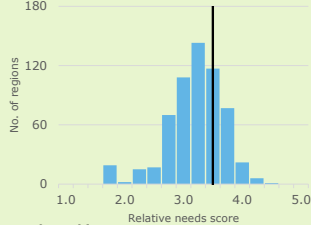
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Bulahdelah - Stroud	Yes
Forster	Yes
Forster-Tuncurry Surrounds	Yes
Tuncurry	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

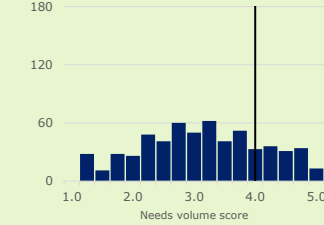
Relative needs score 3.3

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



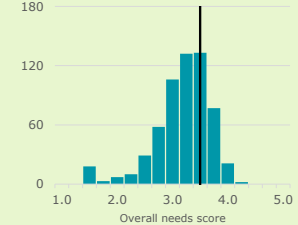
Needs volume score 3.9

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 40 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	33,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	33,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	42	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

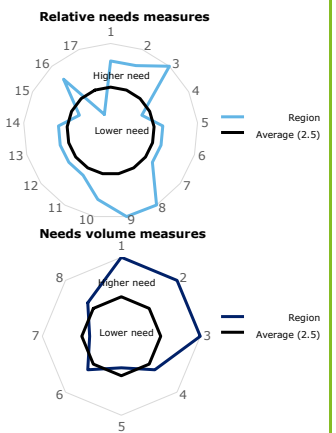
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	32%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		75%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		1%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	249
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		187
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	16,938
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	249
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		187
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	16,938
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.9%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Grenfell NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,600
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	3,294
Postcode (with largest population)	2721
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	60

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	85
Higher education (online only)	44
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	200
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	18



Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

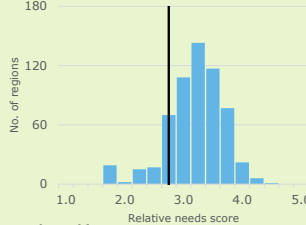
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Candobolin	No
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	No
Grenfell	Yes
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

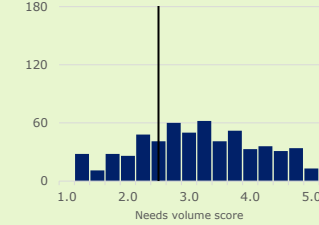
Relative needs score 2.6

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



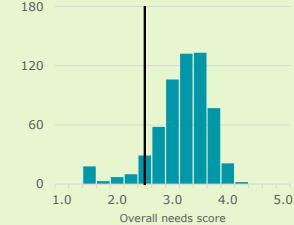
Needs volume score 2.3

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 2.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 220 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	60	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

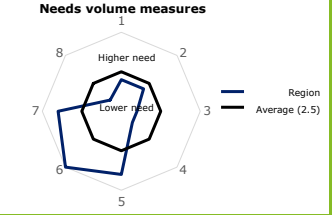
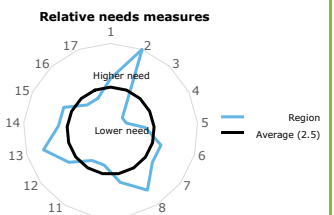
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-6%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	22%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		72%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	44
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		18
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,955
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Griffith (NSW) NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	20,600
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	56
Postcode (with largest population)	2680
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	571
Higher education (online only)	318
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,535
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	134



Broader region information (SA3)

Griffith - Murrumbidgee (West)	
Population ⁸	49,600
Region size (sqkm)	28,860
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,031
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	576

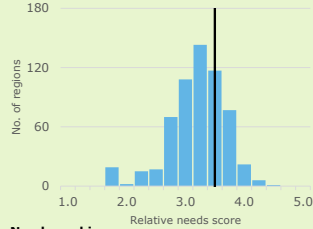
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Griffith (NSW)	Yes
Griffith Surrounds	No
Leeton	No
Narrandera	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



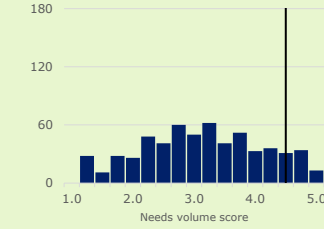
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

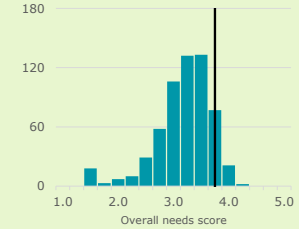
Needs volume score **4.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	20,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	20,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

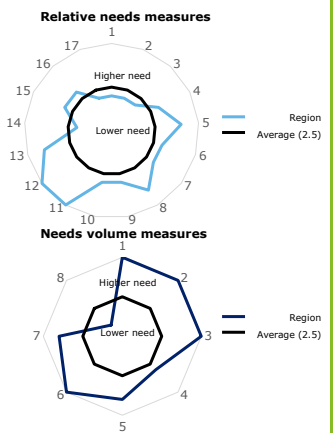
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		68%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		85%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		81%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		73%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	318
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		134
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	13,177
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	576
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		327
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,974
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Griffith Surrounds NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,800
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	23,020
Postcode (with largest population)	2675
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	55

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	115
Higher education (online only)	65
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	890
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	79



Broader region information (SA3)	
Griffith - Murrumbidgee (West)	
Population ⁸	49,600
Region size (sqkm)	28,860
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,031
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	576

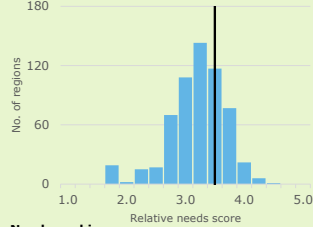
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Griffith (NSW)	No
Griffith Surrounds	Yes
Leeton	No
Narrandera	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.4**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



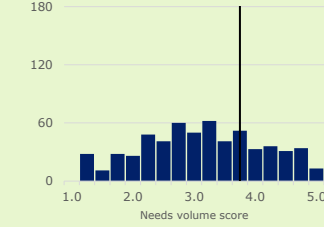
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 42 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

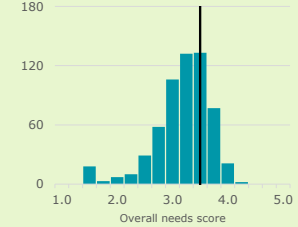
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	55	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

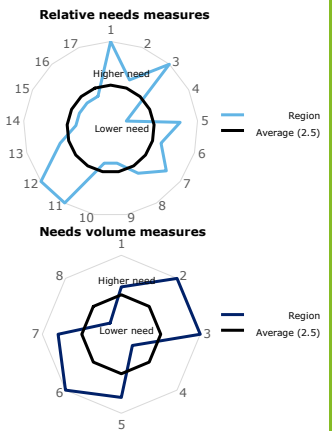
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		48%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	87%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	65
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	79
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	8,143
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	576
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	327
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	30,974
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Gundagai NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,700
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	2,363
Postcode (with largest population)	2722
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	67

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	57
Higher education (online only)	26
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	215
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	18



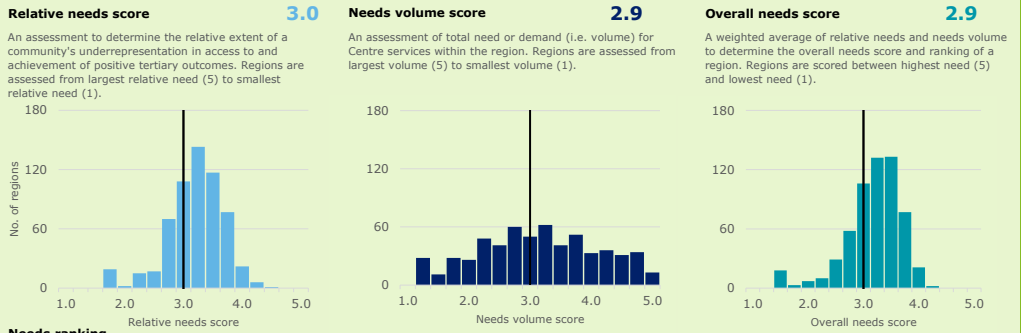
Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	Yes
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Ranked 157 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	67	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

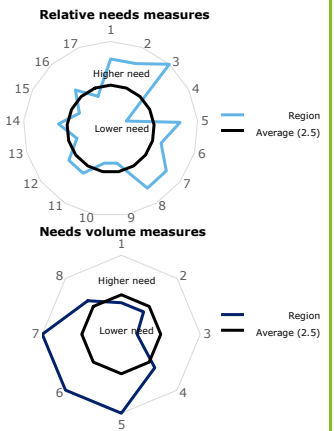
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		71%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	26
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		18
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,183
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Gunnedah Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,400
Indigenous population	11%
Region size (sqkm)	5,766
Postcode (with largest population)	2342
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	79

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	55
Higher education (online only)	35
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	270
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	20

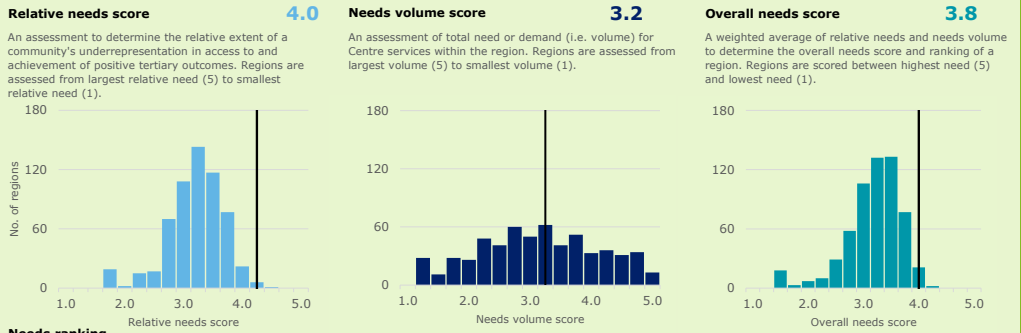


Broader region information (SA3)	
Tamworth - Gunnedah	
Population ⁸	84,600
Region size (sqkm)	20,155
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,996
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,246

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Gunnedah	No
Gunnedah Surrounds	Yes
Quirindi	No
Tamworth - East	No
Tamworth - North	No
Tamworth - West	No
Tamworth Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Ranked 6 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	79	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

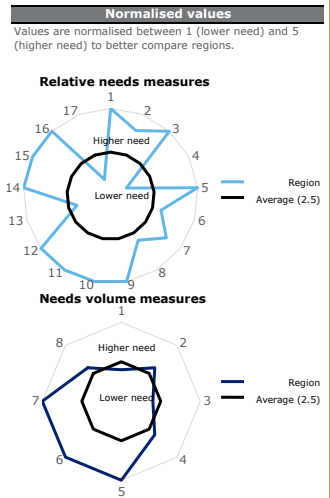
Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		6%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		71%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	52%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		66%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		86%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		64%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	35
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		20
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,671
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1246
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		538
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	50,387
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.5%



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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**Gunnedah
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,700
Indigenous population	17%
Region size (sqkm)	90
Postcode (with largest population)	2380
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	81

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	257
Higher education (online only)	167
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	950
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	84



Broader region information (SA3)

Tamworth - Gunnedah	
Population ⁸	84,600
Region size (sqkm)	20,155
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,996
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,246

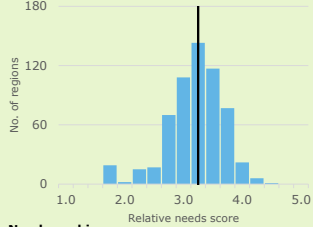
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Gunnedah	Yes
Gunnedah Surrounds	No
Quirindi	No
Tamworth - East	No
Tamworth - North	No
Tamworth - West	No
Tamworth Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

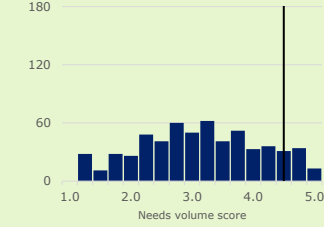
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



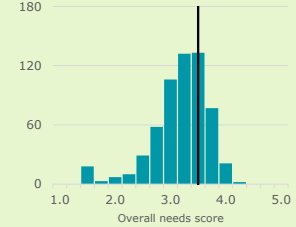
Needs volume score **4.3**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 27 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	81	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

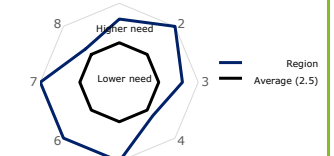
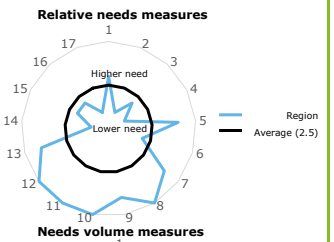
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	36%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		68%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		86%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		76%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	167
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		84
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,622
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1246
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		538
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	50,387
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Hay
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	2,900
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	13,923
Postcode (with largest population)	2711
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	124

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	53
Higher education (online only)	26
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	175
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	17



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Murray	
Population ⁸	6,600
Region size (sqkm)	63,968
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	118
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	59

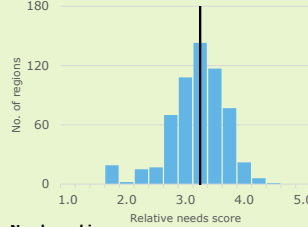
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Hay	Yes
Wentworth-Balranald Region	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



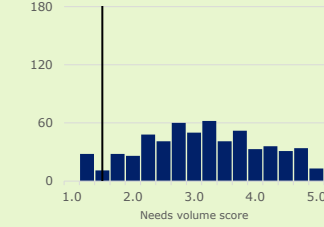
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

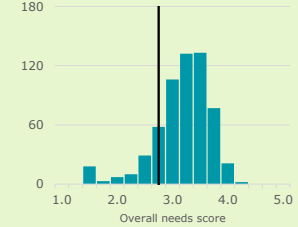
Needs volume score **1.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	2,900	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	2,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	80.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	124	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

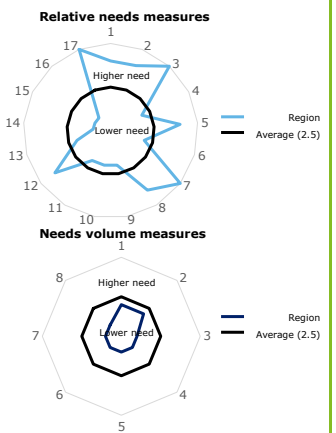
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		8%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		12%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	26
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	17
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,750
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	59
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	30
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	3,996
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Hill Top - Colo Vale
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,400
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	174
Postcode (with largest population)	2575
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	37

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	550
Higher education (online only)	182
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	510
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	53



Broader region information (SA3)

Southern Highlands	
Population ⁸	52,700
Region size (sqkm)	2,330
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,219
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	769

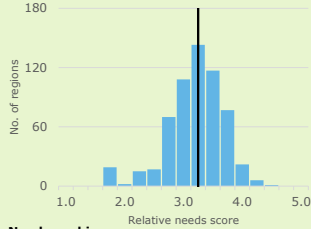
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bowral	No
Hill Top - Colo Vale	Yes
Mittagong	No
Moss Vale - Berrima	No
Robertson - Fitzroy Falls	No
Southern Highlands	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



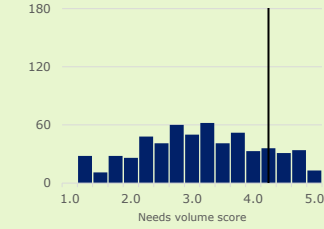
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

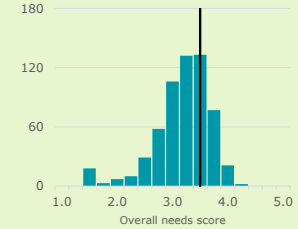
Needs volume score **4.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	37	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

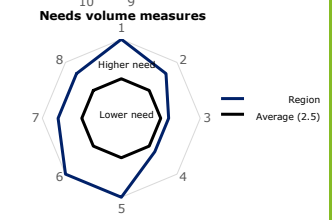
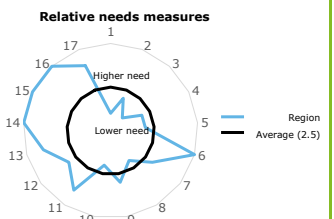
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		7.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		10%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	22%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		74%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		58%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	71%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	182
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		53
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,114
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	769
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		366
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	29,177
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Illawarra Catchment Reserve
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	0
Indigenous population	NA
Region size (sqkm)	744
Postcode (with largest population)	2500
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	17

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	0



Broader region information (SA3)

Illawarra Catchment Reserve	
Population ⁸	0
Region size (sqkm)	744
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	0
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	0

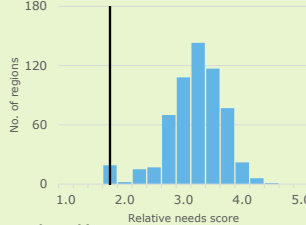
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Illawarra Catchment Reserve	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

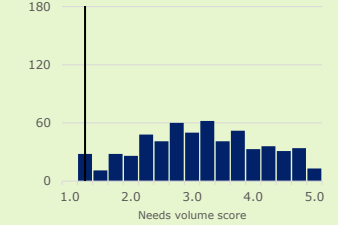
Relative needs score **1.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



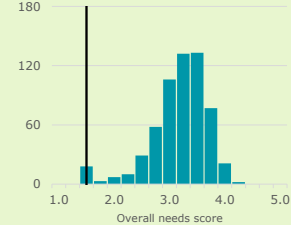
Needs volume score **1.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **1.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 4 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

4 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	0	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	0	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	0.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	0	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	17	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

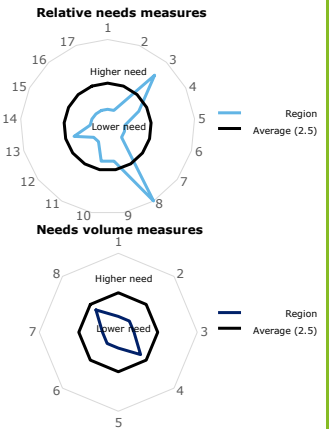
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		100%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		0
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	0%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	0
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	0
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	0
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	0
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Inverell Surrounds - East
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,200
Indigenous population	12%
Region size (sqkm)	9,271
Postcode (with largest population)	2359
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	125

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	29
Higher education (online only)	19
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	365
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	20



Broader region information (SA3)

Inverell - Tenterfield	
Population ⁸	38,700
Region size (sqkm)	30,566
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	681
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	442

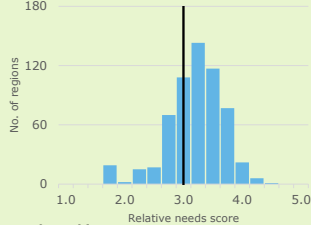
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Glen Innes	No
Inverell	No
Inverell Surrounds - East	Yes
Inverell Surrounds - West	No
Tenterfield	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



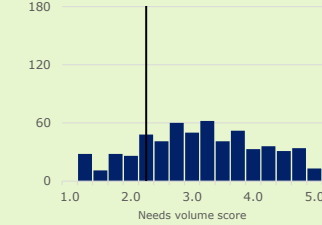
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 209 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

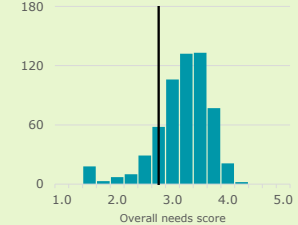
Needs volume score **2.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,200	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,200	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	78.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	125	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

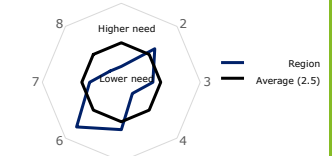
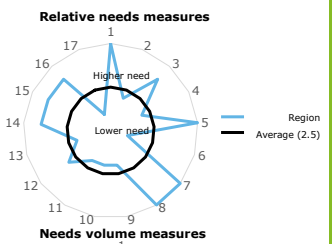
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	0%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		22%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		48%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		75%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	19
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		20
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,075
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	442
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		218
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	21,795
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Inverell Surrounds - West NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,700
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	8,284
Postcode (with largest population)	2401
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	80

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	120
Higher education (online only)	74
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	365
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	28



Broader region information (SA3)

Inverell - Tenterfield	
Population ⁸	38,700
Region size (sqkm)	30,566
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	681
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	442

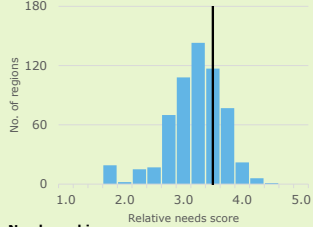
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Glen Innes	No
Inverell	No
Inverell Surrounds - East	No
Inverell Surrounds - West	Yes
Tenterfield	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

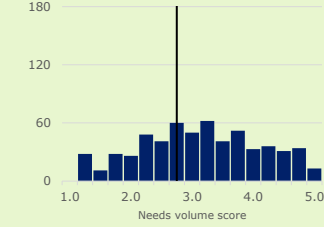
Relative needs score 3.4

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



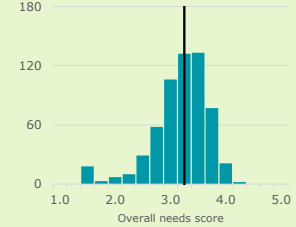
Needs volume score 2.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.1

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 114 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	79.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	80	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

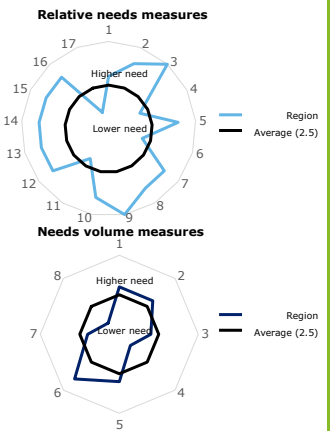
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		48%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	74
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	28
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	3,146
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	442
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	218
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	21,795
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

**Inverell
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,100
Indigenous population	11%
Region size (sqkm)	208
Postcode (with largest population)	2360
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	98

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	259
Higher education (online only)	173
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,130
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	78



Broader region information (SA3)

Inverell - Tenterfield	
Population ⁸	38,700
Region size (sqkm)	30,566
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	681
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	442

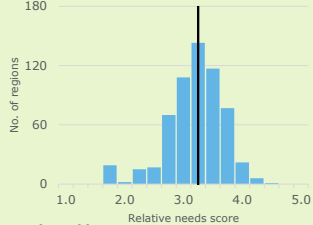
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Glen Innes	No
Inverell	Yes
Inverell Surrounds - East	No
Inverell Surrounds - West	No
Tenterfield	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



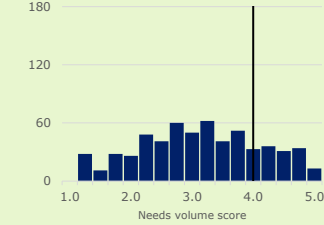
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 85 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

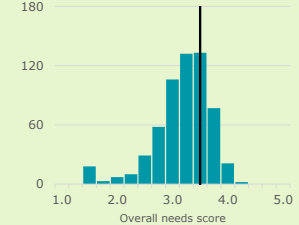
Needs volume score 3.8

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.3

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	98	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

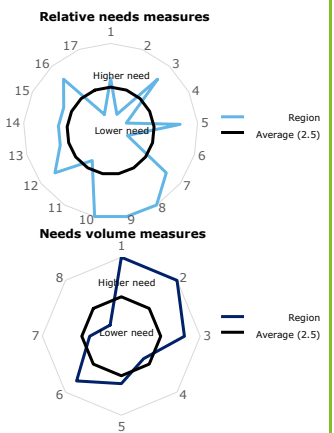
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		70%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	36%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		48%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	173
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	78
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	6,915
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	442
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	218
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	21,795
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Jilliby - Yarramalong
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,400
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	347
Postcode (with largest population)	2259
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	16

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	315
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	24



Broader region information (SA3)

Wyong	
Population ⁸	3,400
Region size (sqkm)	693
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	0
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	0

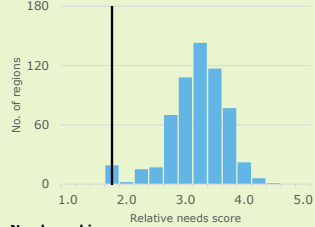
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Jilliby - Yarramalong	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

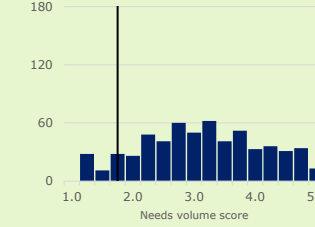
Relative needs score **1.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



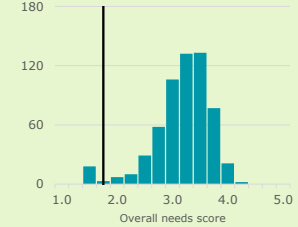
Needs volume score **1.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **1.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	16	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

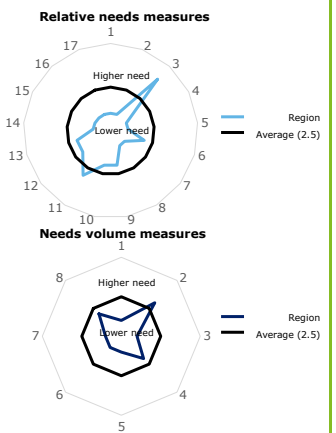
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		25%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		8
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		70%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		24
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,235
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		24
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	2,235
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Jindabyne - Berridale
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,000
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	3,940
Postcode (with largest population)	2624
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	53

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	226
Higher education (online only)	132
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	565
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	84



Broader region information (SA3)

Snowy Mountains	
Population ⁸	20,700
Region size (sqkm)	14,285
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	759
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	421

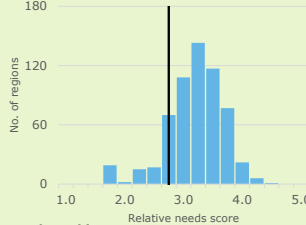
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bombala	No
Cooma	No
Cooma Surrounds	No
Jindabyne - Berridale	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

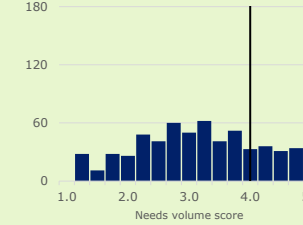
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



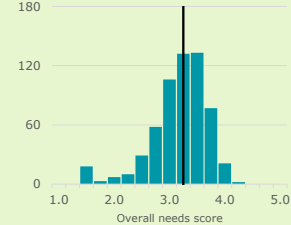
Needs volume score **4.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 133 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	93.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	53	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

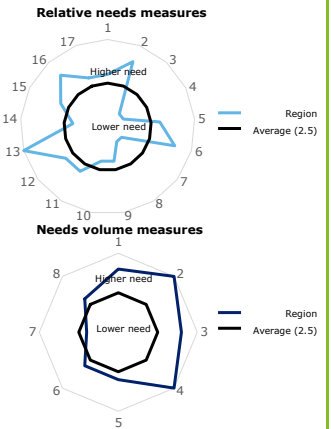
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-8%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		26%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		7
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		51%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	20%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		71%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	132
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		84
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,617
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		2.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	421
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		186
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,214
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.8%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

**Junee
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,400
Indigenous population	9%
Region size (sqkm)	1,971
Postcode (with largest population)	2663
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	38

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	105
Higher education (online only)	56
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	490
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	40



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

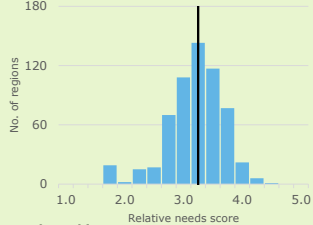
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	Yes
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



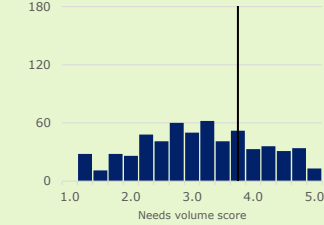
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

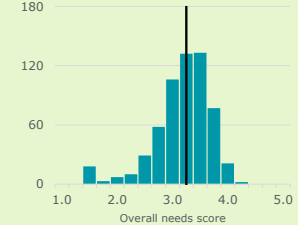
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	38	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

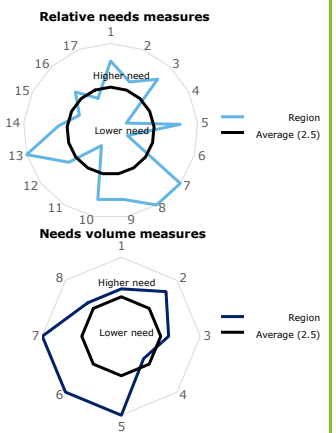
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		58%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	31%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		41%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		71%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	56
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		40
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,090
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021." Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Kempsey - Nambucca
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information

Population	51,200
Indigenous population	11%
Region size (sqkm)	5,339
Postcode (with largest population)	2440
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments

Higher education (all)	1,076
Higher education (online only)	598
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	3,625
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	278

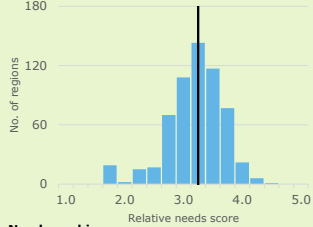


REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

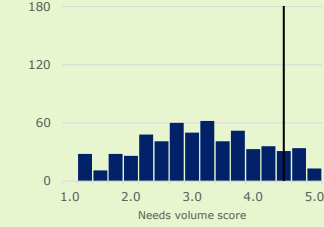
Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



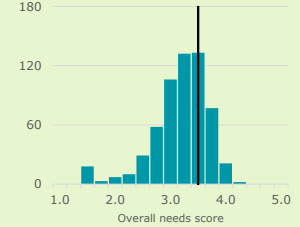
Needs volume score 4.4

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.4

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	51,200	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	51,200	50,000	No
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

Broader region information (SA3)

Kempsey - Nambucca

Population ⁸	51,200
Region size (sqkm)	5,339
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,076
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	598

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?⁹

Kempsey	Yes
Kempsey Surrounds	Yes
Macksville - Scotts Head	Yes
Nambucca Heads	Yes
Nambucca Heads Surrounds	Yes
South West Rocks	Yes

NEEDS MEASURES

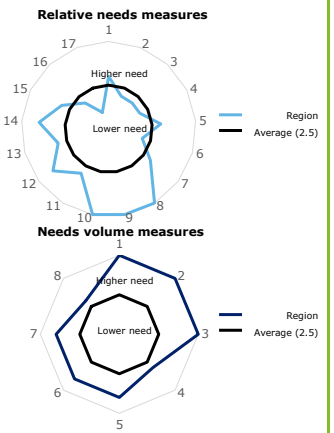
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		64%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	34%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	78%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		1%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	598
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	278
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	28,656
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	598
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	278
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	28,656
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.9%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Kiama - Shellharbour
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,100
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	391
Postcode (with largest population)	2534
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	29

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	262
Higher education (online only)	67
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	475
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	42



Broader region information (SA3)

Kiama - Shellharbour	
Population ⁸	8,100
Region size (sqkm)	391
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	262
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	67

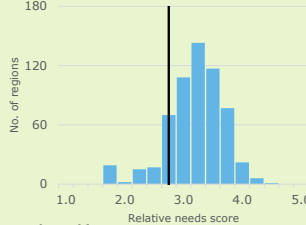
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Kiama Hinterland - Gerringong	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

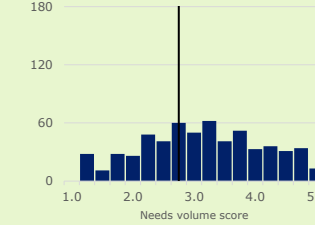
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



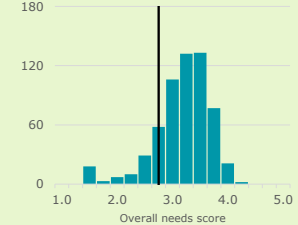
Needs volume score **2.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	90.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	29	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

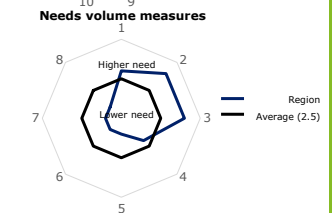
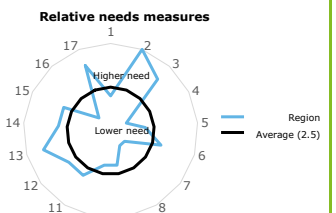
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		35%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		8
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		39%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	20%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		74%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	67
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	42
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,601
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	67
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	42
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	4,601
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Kurrajong Heights - Ebenezer NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	22,200
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	332
Postcode (with largest population)	2753
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,133
Higher education (online only)	631
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,545
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	173



Broader region information (SA3)

Hawkesbury	
Population ⁸	25,000
Region size (sqkm)	2,492
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,157
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	638

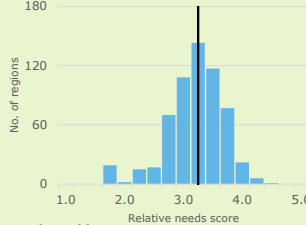
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bilpin - Colo - St Albans	No
Kurrajong Heights - Ebenezer	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

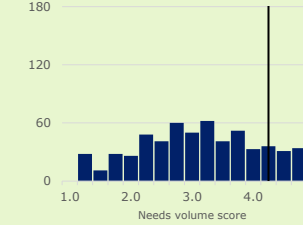
Relative needs score 3.2

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



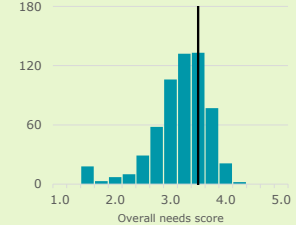
Needs volume score 4.0

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.4

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	22,200	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	22,200	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

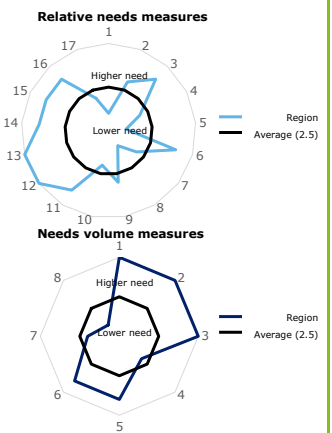
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		9.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	11%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		22%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		7
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		67%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	631
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	173
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	14,433
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	638
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	192
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	16,250
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Kyogle
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,600
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	1,980
Postcode (with largest population)	2474
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	46

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	158
Higher education (online only)	83
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	470
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	42



Broader region information (SA3)

Richmond Valley - Hinterland	
Population ⁸	71,900
Region size (sqkm)	7,391
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,173
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,162

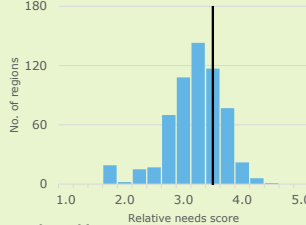
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Casino	No
Casino Surrounds	No
Goonellabah	No
Kyogle	Yes
Lismore	No
Lismore Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

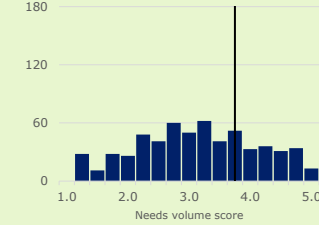
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



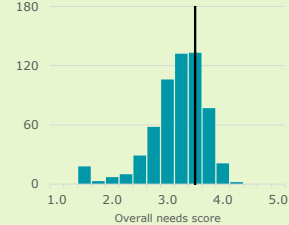
Needs volume score **3.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 62 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	46	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

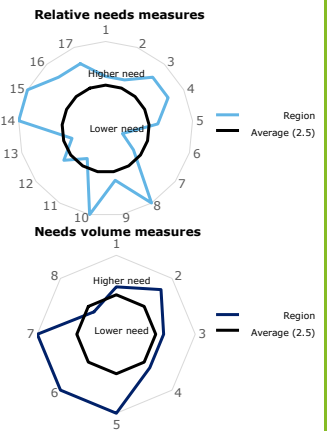
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		6%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		21%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	38%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		85%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	83
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		42
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,333
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2162
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		419
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	43,194
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Lavington
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	15,700
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	21
Postcode (with largest population)	2641
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	4

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	378
Higher education (online only)	196
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,300
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	98



Broader region information (SA3)

Albury	
Population ⁸	67,000
Region size (sqkm)	5,597
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,853
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,283

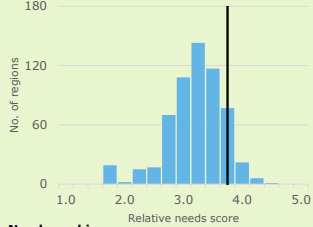
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Albury - East	No
Albury - North	No
Albury - South	No
Albury Surrounds	No
Lavington	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



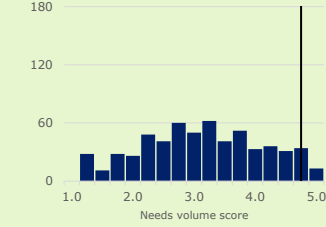
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

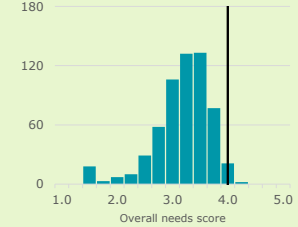
Needs volume score **4.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **4.0**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.8%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	15,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	15,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	4	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

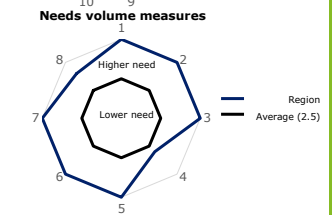
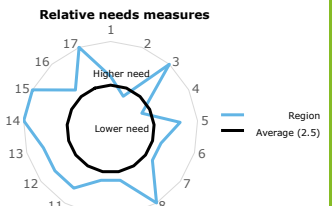
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		52%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		62%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	73%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	196
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		98
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	9,440
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2283
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		414
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	40,890
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Leeton NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,300
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	374
Postcode (with largest population)	2703
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	202
Higher education (online only)	113
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	700
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	65



Broader region information (SA3)

Griffith - Murrumbidgee (West)

Population ⁸	49,600
Region size (sqkm)	28,860
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,031
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	576

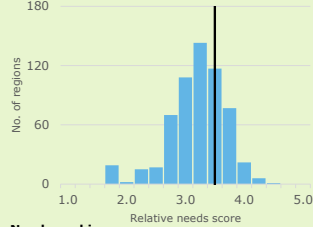
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Griffith (NSW)	No
Griffith Surrounds	No
Leeton	Yes
Narrandera	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



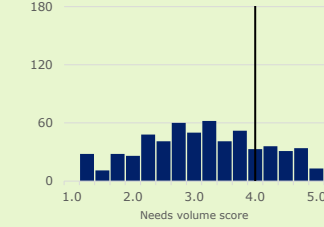
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

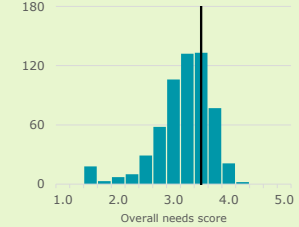
Needs volume score **3.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

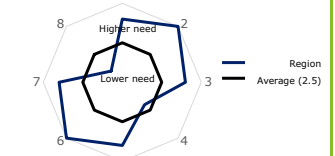
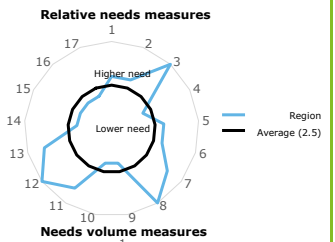
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		48%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	19%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	87%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	113
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		65
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,290
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	576
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		327
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,974
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping Study to Inform Future Locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Lemon Tree Passage - Tanilba Bay
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,900
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	30
Postcode (with largest population)	2319
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	30

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	144
Higher education (online only)	43
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	500
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	49



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Stephens	
Population ⁸	61,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,072
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,036
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	743

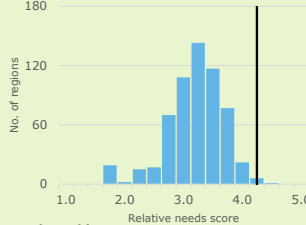
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Anna Bay	No
Lemon Tree Passage - Tanilba Bay	Yes
Nelson Bay Peninsula	No
Seaham - Woodville	No
Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest	No
Williamtown - Medowie - Karuah	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

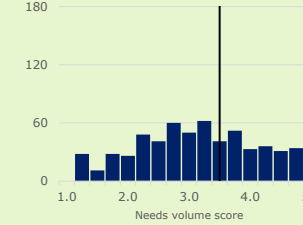
Relative needs score 4.0

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



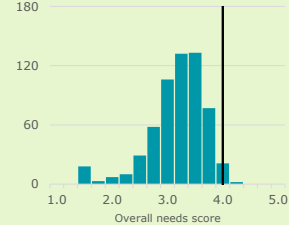
Needs volume score 3.4

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.8

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	30	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

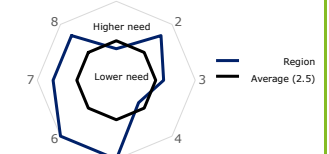
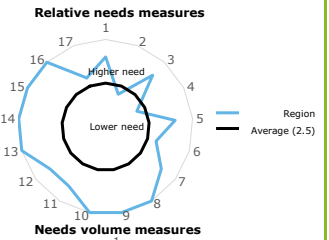
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		64%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	41%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		72%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		62%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	43
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	49
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	3,849
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	743
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	403
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	33,995
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Lismore - Goonellabah - Custom NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	28,800
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	89
Postcode (with largest population)	2480
Region type ¹	Custom SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,793
Higher education (online only)	914
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	2,260
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	183



Broader region information (SA3)

Richmond Valley - Hinterland	
Population ⁸	71,900
Region size (sqkm)	7,391
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,173
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,162

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Casino	No
Casino Surrounds	No
Goonellabah	Yes
Kyogle	No
Lismore	Yes
Lismore Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.2

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).

Needs volume score 4.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).

Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).

Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	28,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	28,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

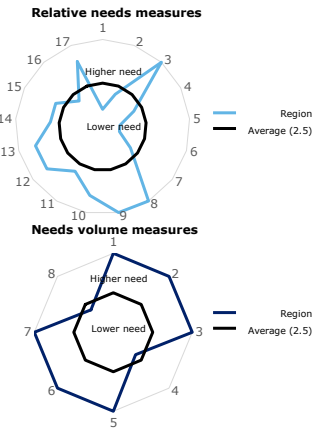
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		6.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		21%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	33%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	914
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		183
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	17,865
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2162
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		419
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	43,194
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Lismore Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	15,800
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	1,233
Postcode (with largest population)	2480
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,793
Higher education (online only)	914
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	985
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	93



Broader region information (SA3)

Richmond Valley - Hinterland	
Population ⁸	71,900
Region size (sqkm)	7,391
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	4,173
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,162

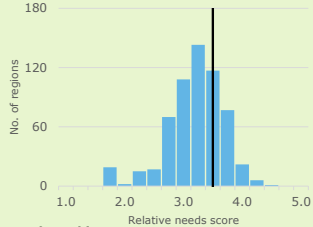
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Casino	No
Casino Surrounds	No
Goonellabah	No
Kyogle	No
Lismore	No
Lismore Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



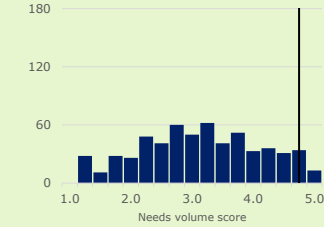
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

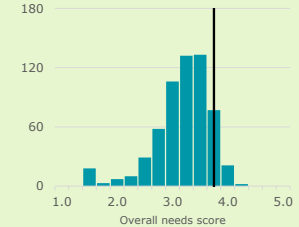
Needs volume score **4.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	15,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	15,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

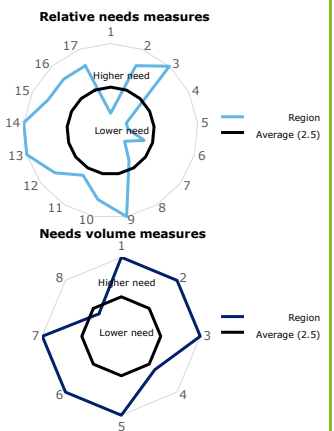
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		12.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	20%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		28%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	33%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	77%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	914
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		93
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	9,820
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	2162
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		419
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	43,194
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Lithgow Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,500
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	2,514
Postcode (with largest population)	2845
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	41

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	99
Higher education (online only)	55
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	580
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	52



Broader region information (SA3)

Lithgow - Mudgee	
Population ⁸	47,900
Region size (sqkm)	16,045
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,331
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	761

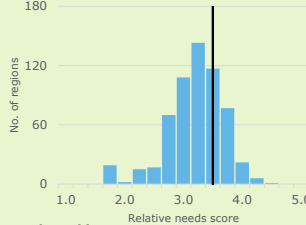
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Lithgow	No
Lithgow Surrounds	Yes
Mudgee	No
Mudgee Surrounds - East	No
Mudgee Surrounds - West	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

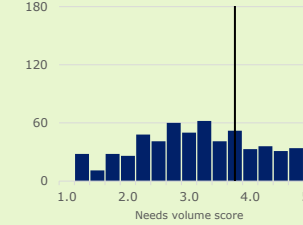
Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



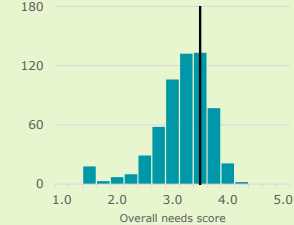
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 31 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	41	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

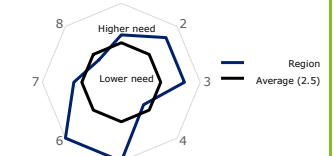
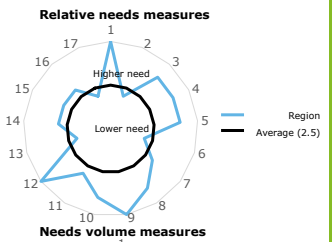
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		63%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		84%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	55
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		52
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,069
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	761
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		389
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	28,308
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Lithgow
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,400
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	120
Postcode (with largest population)	2790
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	30

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	353
Higher education (online only)	186
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	900
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	102



Broader region information (SA3)

Lithgow - Mudgee	
Population ⁸	47,900
Region size (sqkm)	16,045
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,331
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	761

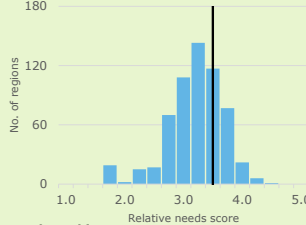
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Lithgow	Yes
Lithgow Surrounds	No
Mudgee	No
Mudgee Surrounds - East	No
Mudgee Surrounds - West	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

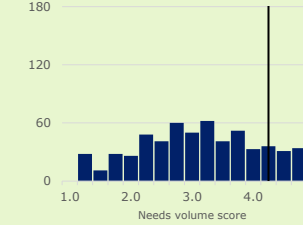
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



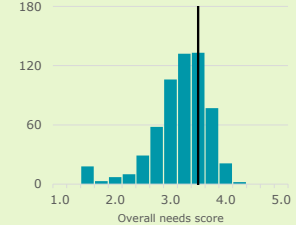
Needs volume score **4.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	30	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

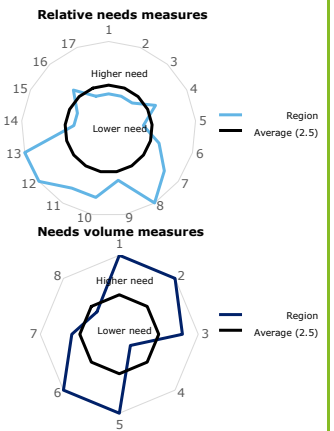
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		73%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	88%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	186
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	Direct current demand	102
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,229
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	Direct latent demand	-0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	761
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	389
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	28,308
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	Indirect latent demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Lord Howe Island
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	400
Indigenous population	1%
Region size (sqkm)	16
Postcode (with largest population)	2898
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Very remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	597

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	10
Higher education (online only)	6
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	10
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	2



Broader region information (SA3)

Lord Howe Island	
Population ⁸	400
Region size (sqkm)	16
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	10
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	6

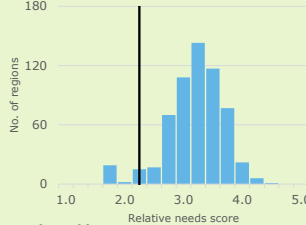
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Lord Howe Island	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

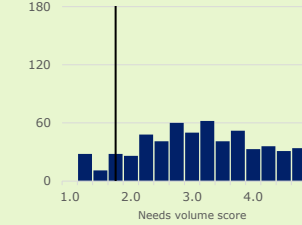
Relative needs score 2.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



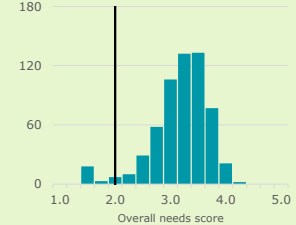
Needs volume score 1.6

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 1.9

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	400	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	94.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	597	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

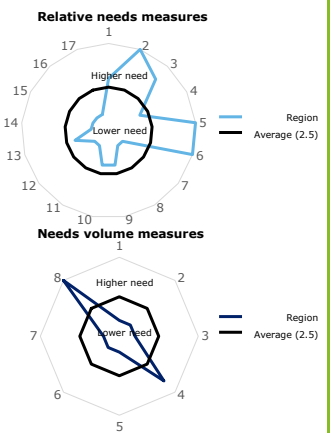
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		3%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	0%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		0%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		40%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		1%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	6
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		2
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	266
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	6
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		2
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	266
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Maclean - Yamba - Iluka
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	17,500
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	711
Postcode (with largest population)	2463
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	43

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	362
Higher education (online only)	210
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,010
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	118



Broader region information (SA3)

Clarence Valley	
Population ⁸	53,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,263
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,816
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,130

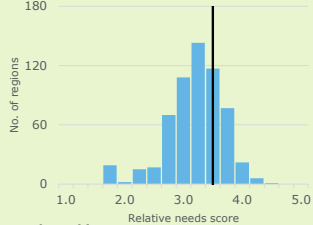
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Grafton	No
Grafton Surrounds	No
Maclean - Yamba - Iluka	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

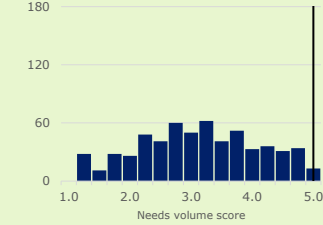
Relative needs score **3.4**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



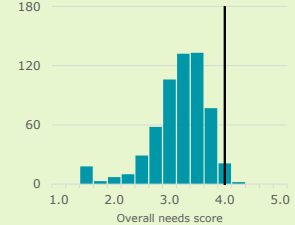
Needs volume score **4.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 4 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	17,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	17,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	43	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

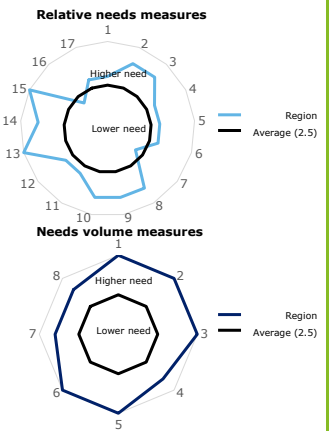
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		20%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	31%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		75%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	71%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		77%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	210
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	118
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	9,037
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	1130
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	298
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	30,368
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Merimbula - Tura Beach
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	11,500
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	97
Postcode (with largest population)	2548
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	99

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	258
Higher education (online only)	138
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	630
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	92



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

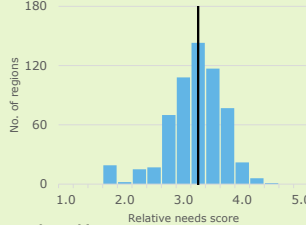
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	Yes
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



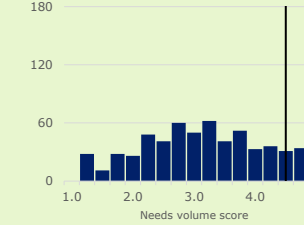
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 51 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

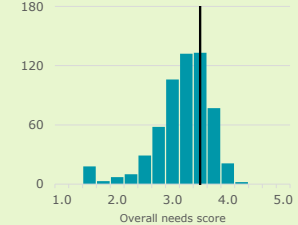
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	11,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	11,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	99	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

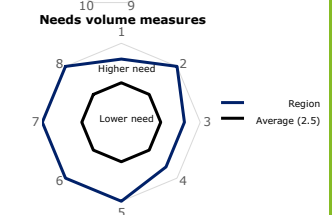
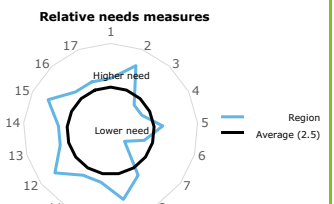
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		26%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	79%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	Transition and outcomes	70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	138
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	92
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,124
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Mittagong
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,900
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	74
Postcode (with largest population)	2575
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	40

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	550
Higher education (online only)	182
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	675
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	81



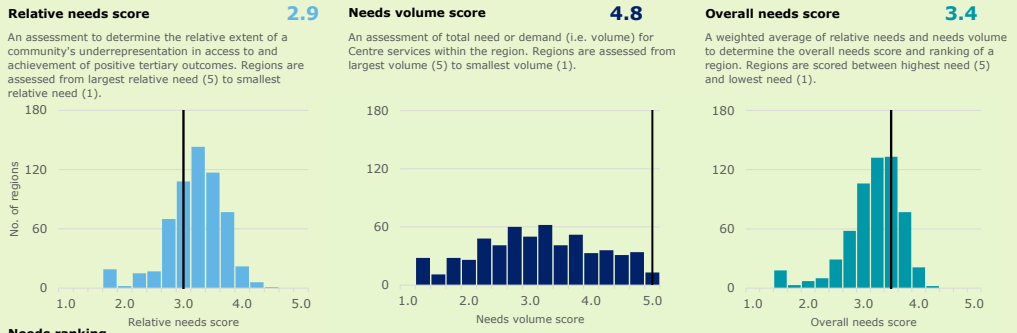
Broader region information (SA3)

Southern Highlands	
Population ⁸	52,700
Region size (sqkm)	2,330
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,219
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	769

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bowral	No
Hill Top - Colo Vale	No
Mittagong	Yes
Moss Vale - Berrima	No
Robertson - Fitzroy Falls	No
Southern Highlands	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	40	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

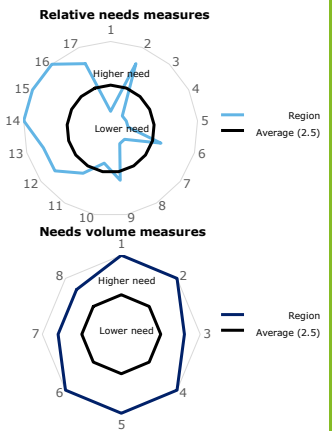
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		30%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	22%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		58%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	71%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	182
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		81
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,345
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		2.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	769
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		366
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	29,177
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Moama
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,900
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	167
Postcode (with largest population)	2731
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	65

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	128
Higher education (online only)	55
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	510
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	35



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Murray exc. Albury	
Population ⁸	43,400
Region size (sqkm)	28,232
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,141
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	530

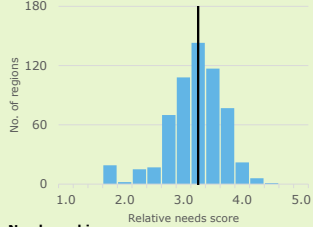
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Corowa	No
Corowa Surrounds	No
Deniliquin	No
Deniliquin Surrounds	No
Moama	Yes
Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

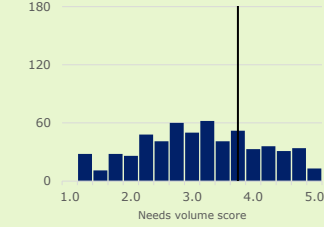
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



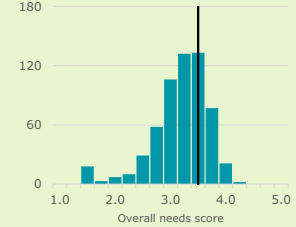
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 83 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	65	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

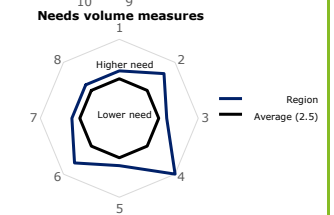
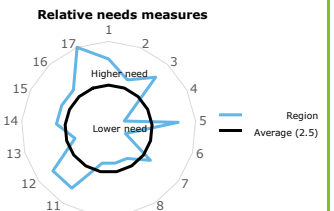
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		24%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		45%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	21%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		83%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		73%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	55
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		35
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,646
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		2.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	530
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		204
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,613
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Moree Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,400
Indigenous population	14%
Region size (sqkm)	19,807
Postcode (with largest population)	2398
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	28

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	95
Higher education (online only)	53
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	220
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	24



Broader region information (SA3)

Moree - Narrabri	
Population ⁸	24,700
Region size (sqkm)	32,023
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	547
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	350

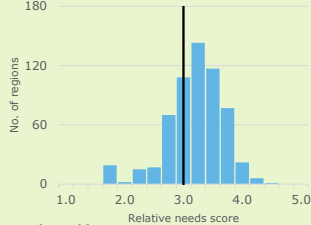
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Moree	No
Moree Surrounds	Yes
Narrabri	No
Narrabri Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

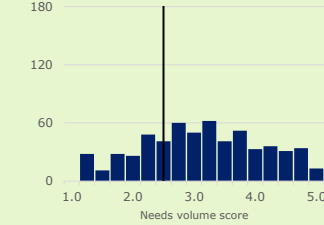
Relative needs score **2.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



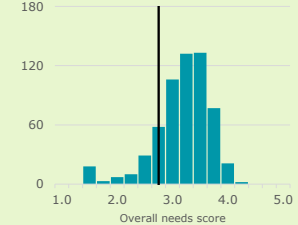
Needs volume score **2.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.1%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	5,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	28	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

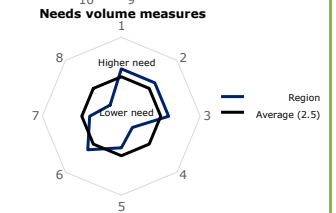
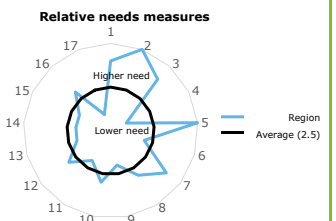
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		4%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		42%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	25%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		52%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		84%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	53
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	24
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,448
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	350
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	187
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	15,333
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Moree
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,800
Indigenous population	23%
Region size (sqkm)	69
Postcode (with largest population)	2400
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	205
Higher education (online only)	142
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	685
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	72



Broader region information (SA3)

Moree - Narrabri	
Population ⁸	24,700
Region size (sqkm)	32,023
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	547
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	350

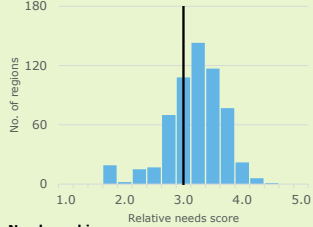
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Moree	Yes
Moree Surrounds	No
Narrabri	No
Narrabri Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



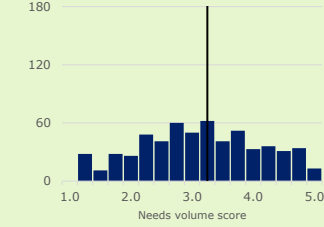
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

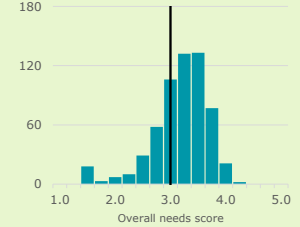
Needs volume score **3.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.0**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

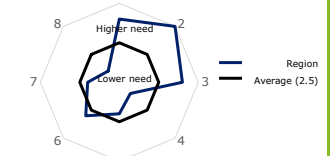
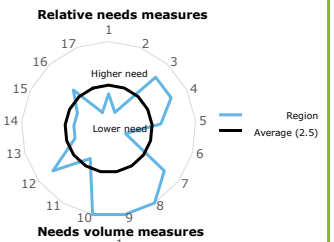
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		27%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	41%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		83%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		84%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	142
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	72
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,853
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	350
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	187
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	15,333
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Moruya - Tuross Head
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,600
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	165
Postcode (with largest population)	2537
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	94

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	285
Higher education (online only)	145
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	445
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	45



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

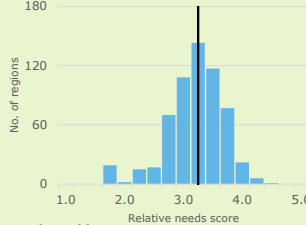
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	Yes
Narooma - Bermagui	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



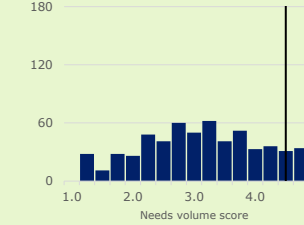
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 57 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

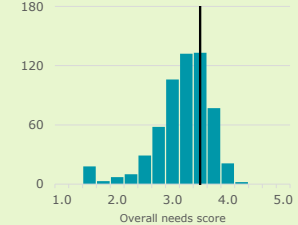
Needs volume score **4.3**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	94	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

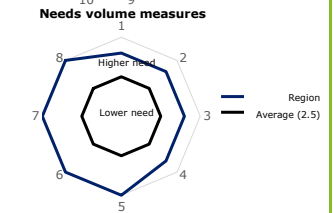
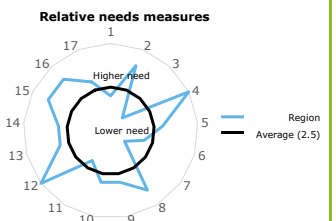
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-6%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		53%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		74%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	145
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		45
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,702
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Moss Vale - Berrima NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,600
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	118
Postcode (with largest population)	2577
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	52

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	460
Higher education (online only)	170
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	700
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	75



Broader region information (SA3)

Southern Highlands

Population ⁸	52,700
Region size (sqkm)	2,330
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,219
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	769

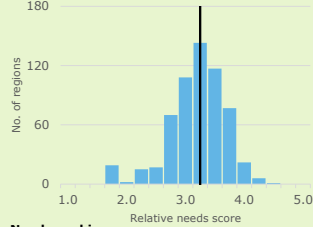
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bowral	No
Hill Top - Colo Vale	No
Mittagong	No
Moss Vale - Berrima	Yes
Robertson - Fitzroy Falls	No
Southern Highlands	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



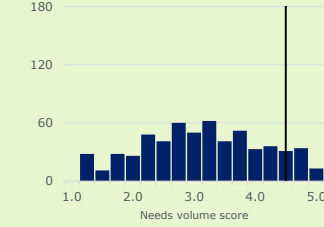
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 53 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

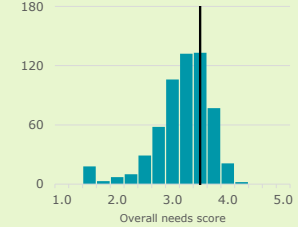
Needs volume score **4.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	52	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

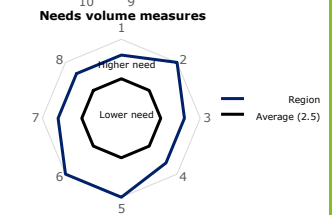
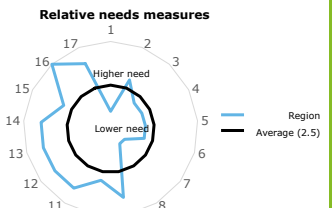
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		27%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		58%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	81%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	57%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	170
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		75
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,120
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	769
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		366
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	29,177
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Mudgee Surrounds - East NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,400
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	2,852
Postcode (with largest population)	2848
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	43

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	45
Higher education (online only)	26
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	190
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	22



Broader region information (SA3)

Lithgow - Mudgee	
Population ⁸	47,900
Region size (sqkm)	16,045
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,331
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	761

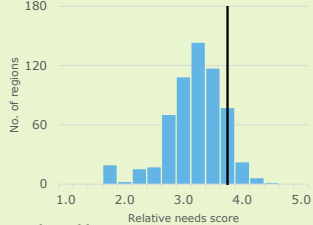
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Lithgow	No
Lithgow Surrounds	No
Mudgee	No
Mudgee Surrounds - East	Yes
Mudgee Surrounds - West	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

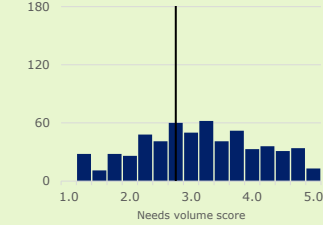
Relative needs score **3.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



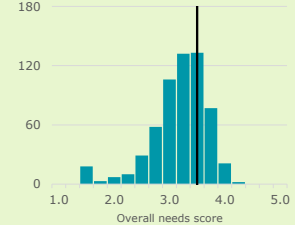
Needs volume score **2.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 75 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	78.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	43	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

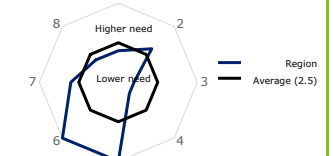
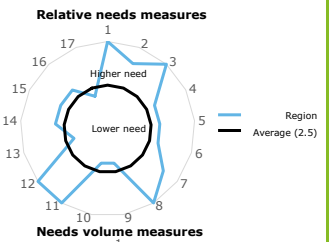
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	66%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	26
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	22
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	1,836
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	761
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	389
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	28,308
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Mudgee Surrounds - West
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	11,100
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	8,044
Postcode (with largest population)	2844
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	451
Higher education (online only)	265
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	760
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	76



Broader region information (SA3)

Lithgow - Mudgee	
Population ⁸	47,900
Region size (sqkm)	16,045
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,331
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	761

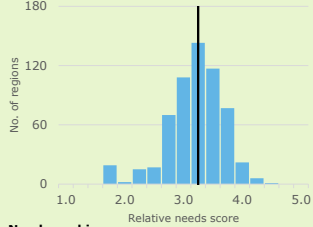
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Lithgow	No
Lithgow Surrounds	No
Mudgee	No
Mudgee Surrounds - East	No
Mudgee Surrounds - West	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



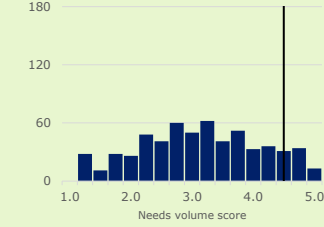
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

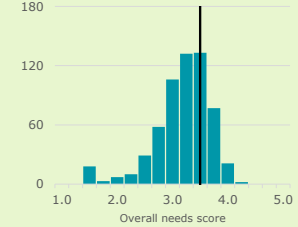
Needs volume score 4.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	11,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	11,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

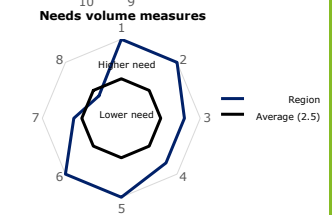
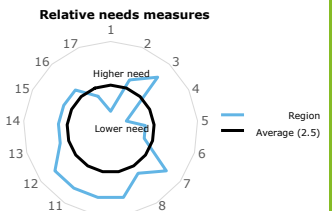
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	31%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	265
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	76
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,617
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	761
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	389
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	28,308
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Mudgee NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,600
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	66
Postcode (with largest population)	2850
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	383
Higher education (online only)	229
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,135
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	136



Broader region information (SA3)

Lithgow - Mudgee	
Population ⁸	47,900
Region size (sqkm)	16,045
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,331
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	761

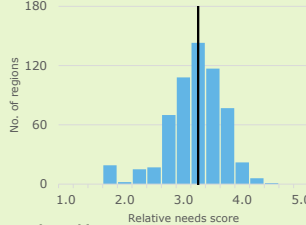
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Lithgow	No
Lithgow Surrounds	No
Mudgee	Yes
Mudgee Surrounds - East	No
Mudgee Surrounds - West	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

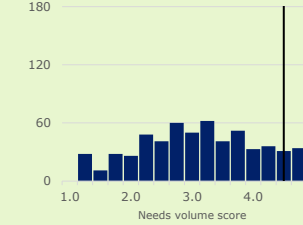
Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



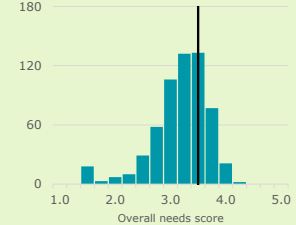
Needs volume score 4.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.5

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

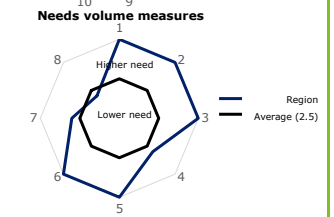
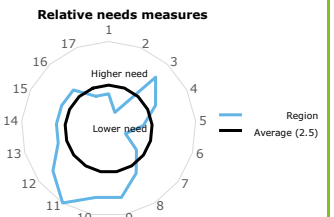
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	32%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	67%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	229
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	136
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,557
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	761
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	388
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	28,308
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Murwillumbah Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,400
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	908
Postcode (with largest population)	2484
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	32

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	620
Higher education (online only)	273
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	680
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	49



Broader region information (SA3)

Tweed Valley	
Population ⁸	19,900
Region size (sqkm)	1,308
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,215
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	532

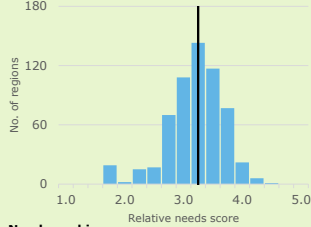
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Murwillumbah	No
Murwillumbah Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



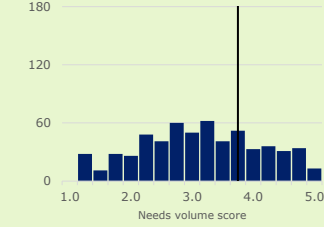
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

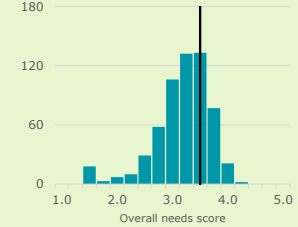
Needs volume score **3.7**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,400	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,400	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	32	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

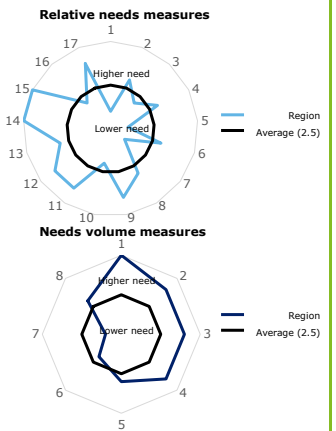
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		5.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	8%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		62%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	73%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	273
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	49
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	6,427
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	532
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	89
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	11,848
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Murwillumbah
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,500
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	24
Postcode (with largest population)	2484
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	23

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	595
Higher education (online only)	259
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	745
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	40



Broader region information (SA3)

Tweed Valley	
Population ⁸	19,900
Region size (sqkm)	1,308
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,215
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	532

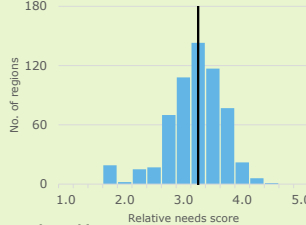
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Murwillumbah	Yes
Murwillumbah Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

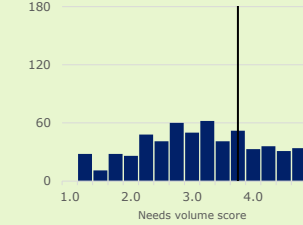
Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



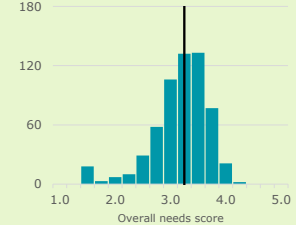
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	23	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

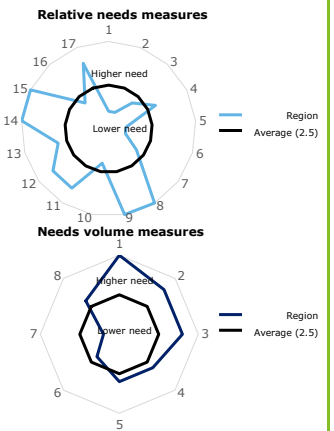
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		5.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	8%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		26%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		20%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		62%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	73%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	259
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		40
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,421
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	532
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		89
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	11,848
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

Muswellbrook Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,100
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	3,142
Postcode (with largest population)	2328
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	96

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	48
Higher education (online only)	24
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	285
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	19



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Hunter	
Population ⁸	30,600
Region size (sqkm)	11,472
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	841
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	432

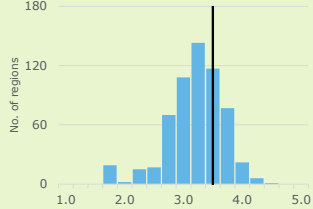
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Muswellbrook	No
Muswellbrook Surrounds	Yes
Score	No
Score Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

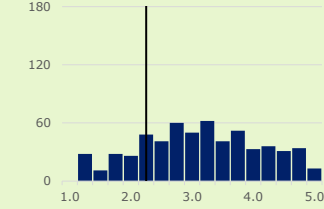
Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



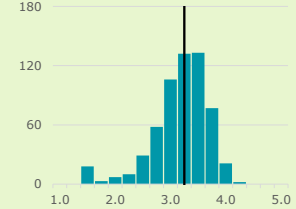
Needs volume score **2.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 126 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	96	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

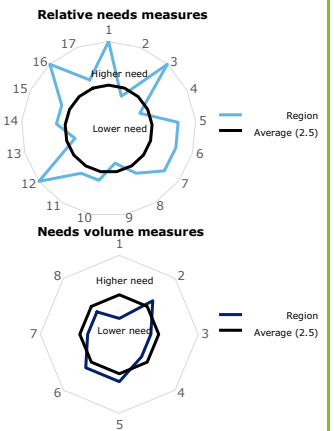
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		44%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	24
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	19
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,581
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	432
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	184
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	19,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

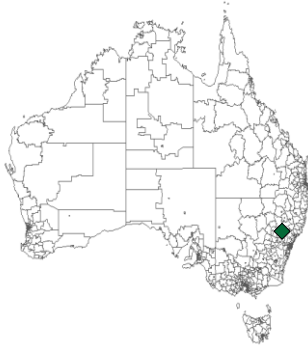
Muswellbrook
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,300
Indigenous population	13%
Region size (sqkm)	262
Postcode (with largest population)	2333
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	97

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	278
Higher education (online only)	146
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,240
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	84



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Hunter	
Population ⁸	30,600
Region size (sqkm)	11,472
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	841
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	432

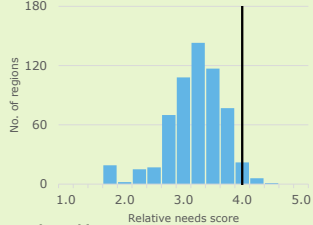
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Muswellbrook	Yes
Muswellbrook Surrounds	No
Score	No
Score Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

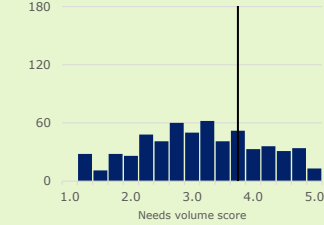
Relative needs score **3.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



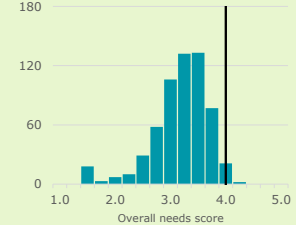
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 3 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	97	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

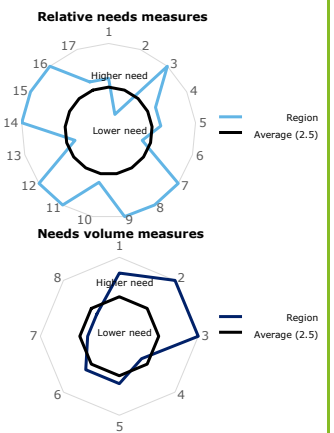
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		10%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		12%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		1
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		64%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	27%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	68%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		83%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	76%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	Transition and outcomes	63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	146
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	Direct latent demand	84
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,858
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	Direct latent demand	-0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	432
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	184
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	19,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	Indirect latent demand	0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Narooma - Bermagui NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,900
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	253
Postcode (with largest population)	2546
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	86

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	141
Higher education (online only)	87
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	465
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	68



Broader region information (SA3)

South Coast	
Population ⁸	76,700
Region size (sqkm)	9,864
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,613
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,300

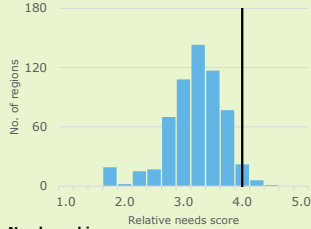
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Batemans Bay	No
Batemans Bay - South	No
Bega - Tathra	No
Bega-Eden Hinterland	No
Broulee - Tomakin	No
Deua - Wadbilliga	No
Eden	No
Eurobodalla Hinterland	No
Merimbula - Tura Beach	No
Moruya - Tuross Head	No
Narooma - Bermagui	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

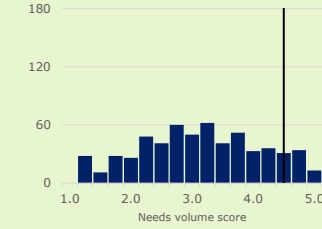
Relative needs score 3.8

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



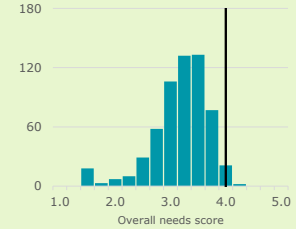
Needs volume score 4.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 4.0

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 1 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	86	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

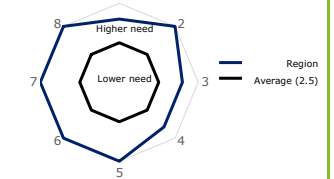
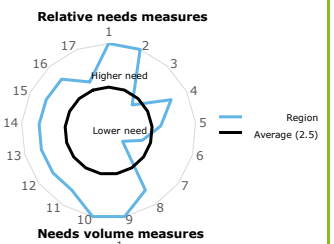
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		25%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		67%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	43%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	87
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	68
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,877
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1300
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	525
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	41,870
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

Narrabri Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,600
Indigenous population	14%
Region size (sqkm)	11,966
Postcode (with largest population)	2356
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	27

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	68
Higher education (online only)	35
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	240
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	25



Broader region information (SA3)

Moree - Narrabri	
Population ⁸	24,700
Region size (sqkm)	32,023
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	547
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	350

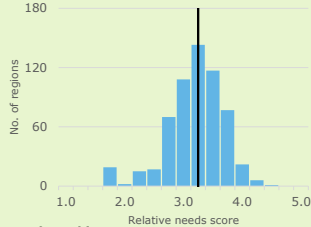
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Moree	No
Moree Surrounds	No
Narrabri	No
Narrabri Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



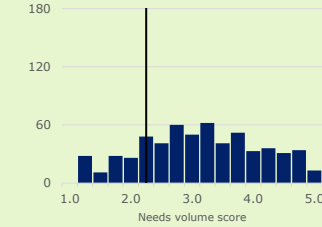
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

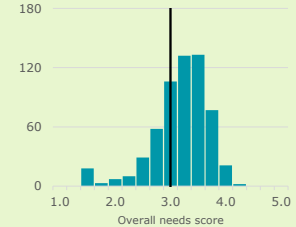
Needs volume score **2.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.1%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	4,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	27	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

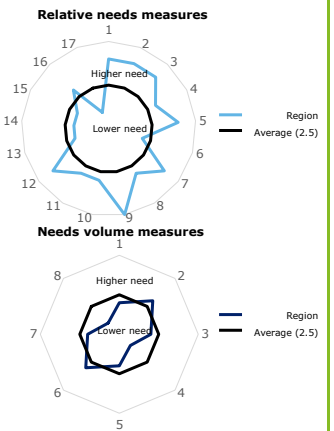
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		64%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		84%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	35
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	25
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	2,842
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	350
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	187
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	15,333
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Narrabri
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,900
Indigenous population	16%
Region size (sqkm)	180
Postcode (with largest population)	2390
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	179
Higher education (online only)	120
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	700
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	66



Broader region information (SA3)

Moree - Narrabri	
Population ⁸	24,700
Region size (sqkm)	32,023
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	547
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	350

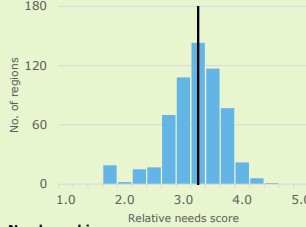
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Moree	No
Moree Surrounds	No
Narrabri	Yes
Narrabri Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



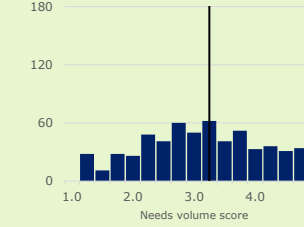
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

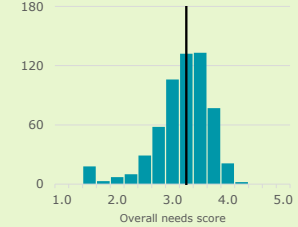
Needs volume score 3.0

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.1

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.1%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	6,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

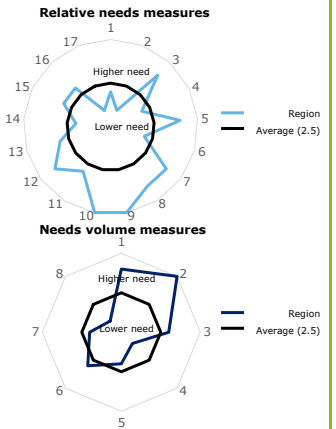
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		71%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	35%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		57%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	81%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	120
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	66
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,190
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	350
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	187
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	15,333
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-1.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Narrandera NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,900
Indigenous population	12%
Region size (sqkm)	5,409
Postcode (with largest population)	2665
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	25

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	143
Higher education (online only)	80
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	400
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	49



Broader region information (SA3)

Griffith - Murrumbidgee (West)	
Population ⁸	49,600
Region size (sqkm)	28,860
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,031
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	576

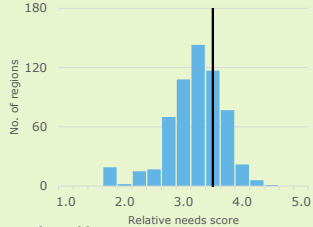
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Griffith (NSW)	No
Griffith Surrounds	No
Leeton	No
Narrandera	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

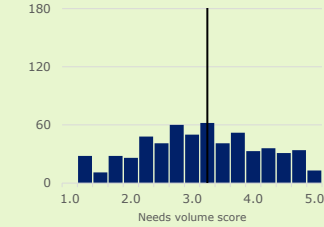
Relative needs score 3.3

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



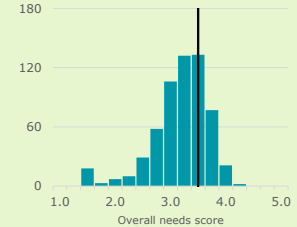
Needs volume score 3.2

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.3

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	79.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	25	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

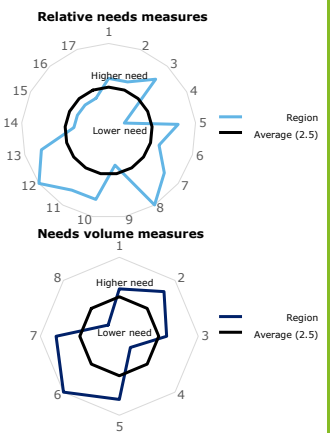
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		42%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		85%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	87%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	80
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	49
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	3,364
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	576
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	327
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	30,974
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

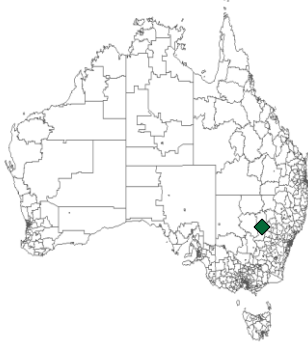
Narromine NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,500
Indigenous population	20%
Region size (sqkm)	5,956
Postcode (with largest population)	2821
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	55

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	146
Higher education (online only)	75
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	400
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	40



Broader region information (SA3)

Dubbo	
Population ⁸	74,100
Region size (sqkm)	29,738
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,805
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,059

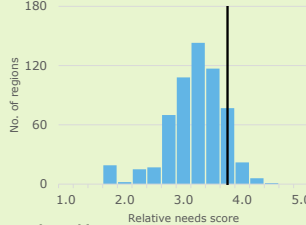
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Coonabarabran	No
Dubbo - East	No
Dubbo - South	No
Dubbo - West	No
Dubbo Surrounds	No
Gilgandra	No
Narromine	Yes
Wellington	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

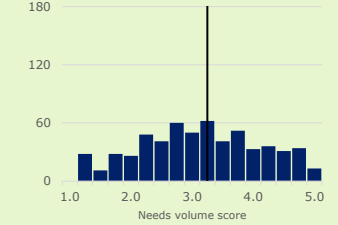
Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



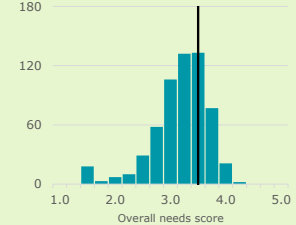
Needs volume score **3.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 54 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	55	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

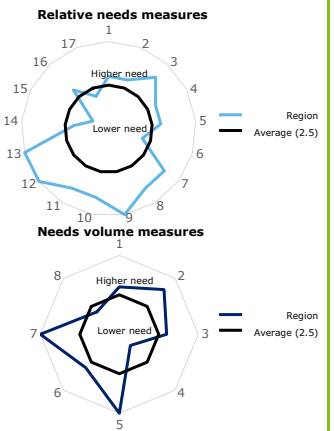
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		68%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	33%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	75
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		40
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,683
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1059
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		171
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	44,672
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Nelson Bay Peninsula NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	22,000
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	47
Postcode (with largest population)	2315
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	39

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	564
Higher education (online only)	195
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,320
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	136



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Stephens	
Population ⁸	61,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,072
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,036
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	743

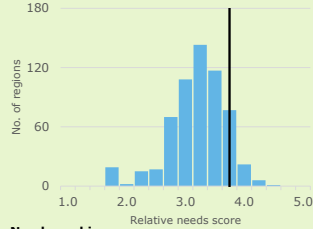
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Anna Bay	No
Lemon Tree Passage - Taniila Bay	No
Nelson Bay Peninsula	Yes
Seaham - Woodville	No
Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest	No
Williamtown - Medowie - Karuah	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



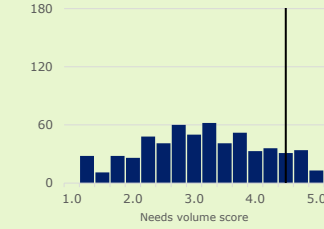
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

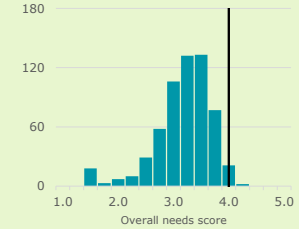
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	22,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	22,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	39	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

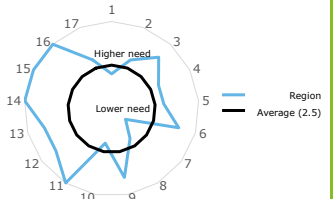
Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		62%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	67%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		77%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	195
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		136
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	11,451
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	743
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		403
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	33,995
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

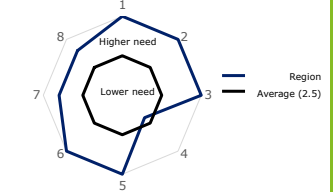
Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.

Relative needs measures



Needs volume measures



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Nyngan - Warren NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information

Population	4,600
Indigenous population	17%
Region size (sqkm)	21,216
Postcode (with largest population)	2824
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	171

Education enrolments

Higher education (all)	116
Higher education (online only)	60
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	340
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	30



Broader region information (SA3)

Bourke - Cobarr - Coonamble

Population ⁶	21,600
Region size (sqkm)	162,762
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	416
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	255

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?⁷

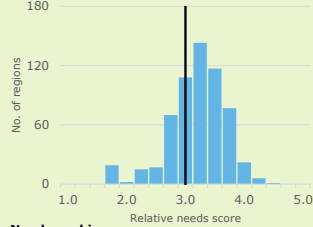
Bourke - Brewarrina	No
Cobar	No
Coonamble	No
Nyngan - Warren	Yes
Walgett - Lightning Ridge	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.8

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



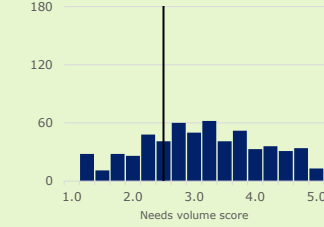
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

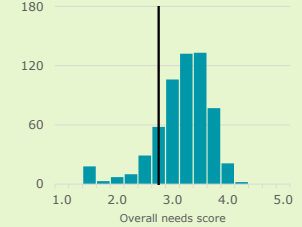
Needs volume score 2.3

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 2.6

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.8%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	4,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	171	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

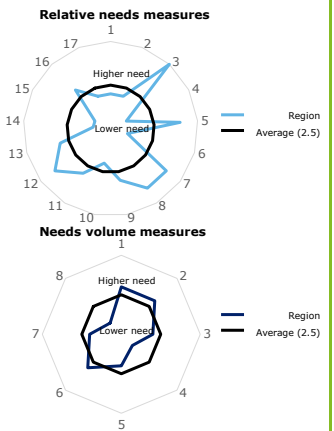
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		6%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		21%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	20%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		87%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	60
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	30
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,697
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	255
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	160
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,099
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-2.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

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Oberon NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information

Population	4,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	2,972
Postcode (with largest population)	2787
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	52

Education enrolments

Higher education (all)	82
Higher education (online only)	45
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	315
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	50



Broader region information (SA3)

Bathurst

Population ⁸	49,100
Region size (sqkm)	6,984
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,170
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	2,727

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?

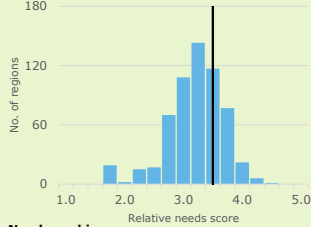
Bathurst - East	No
Bathurst - South	No
Bathurst - West	No
Bathurst Surrounds	No
Oberon	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.4

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



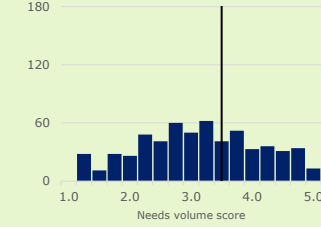
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 67 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

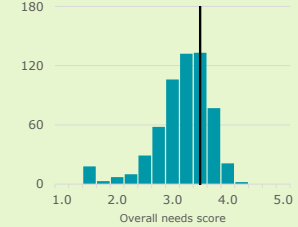
Needs volume score 3.3

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.4

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	52	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

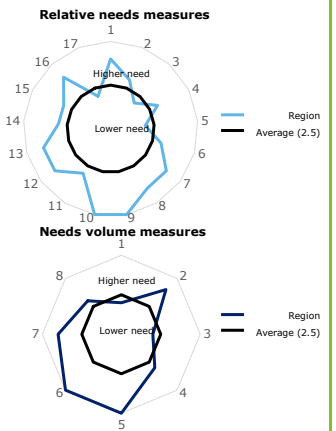
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		63%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	42%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		75%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	45
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	50
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,772
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	2727
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	391
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	30,533
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Orange - North
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	22,900
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	100
Postcode (with largest population)	2800
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,645
Higher education (online only)	881
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	45
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	6



Broader region information (SA3)

Orange	
Population ⁸	61,300
Region size (sqkm)	6,268
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	3,640
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,969

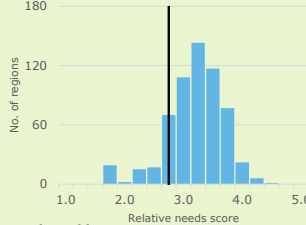
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blayney	No
Orange	No
Orange - North	Yes
Orange Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

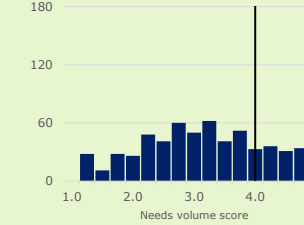
Relative needs score **2.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



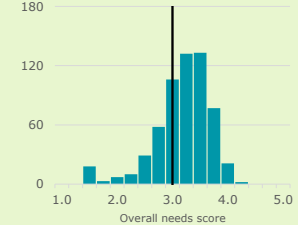
Needs volume score **3.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.9**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	22,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	22,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

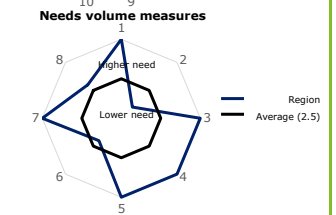
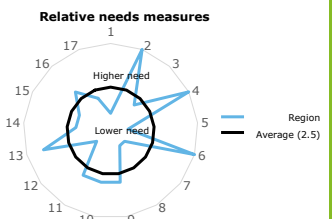
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		6.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		0%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		0%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	57%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		50%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	89%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	881
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	6
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	14,156
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	2.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1969
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	109
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	36,836
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Orange Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	11,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	4,480
Postcode (with largest population)	2864
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	28

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	132
Higher education (online only)	70
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	680
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	58



Broader region information (SA3)

Orange	
Population ⁸	61,300
Region size (sqkm)	6,268
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	3,640
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,969

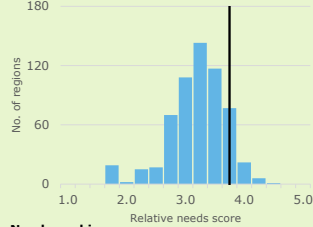
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blayney	No
Orange	No
Orange - North	No
Orange Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



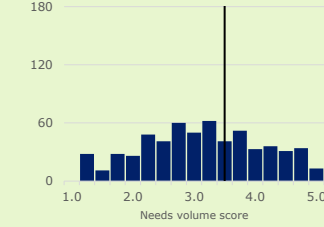
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

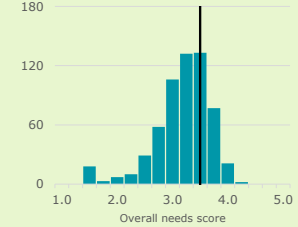
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	11,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	11,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	28	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

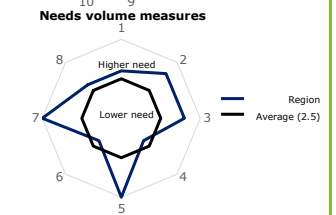
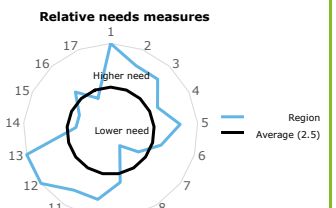
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		52%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		72%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	89%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	70
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		58
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,032
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1969
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		109
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	36,836
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

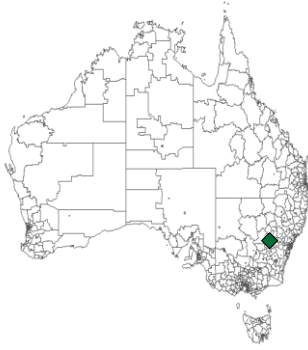
Orange
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	19,000
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	45
Postcode (with largest population)	2800
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,645
Higher education (online only)	881
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	3,135
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	2



Broader region information (SA3)

Orange	
Population ⁸	61,300
Region size (sqkm)	6,268
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	3,640
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,969

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Blayney	No
Orange	Yes
Orange - North	No
Orange Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.8

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).

Needs volume score 3.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).

Overall needs score 3.0

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).

Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	19,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	19,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

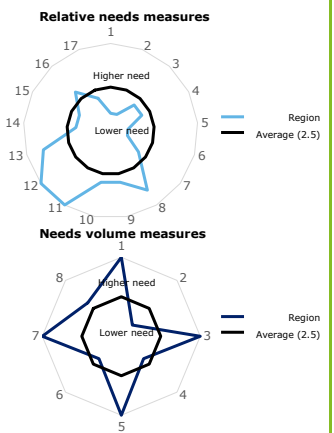
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		8.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	5%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		40%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		83%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	89%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	881
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		2
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	11,174
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1969
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		109
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	36,836
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Parkes (NSW)
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	10,900
Indigenous population	13%
Region size (sqkm)	235
Postcode (with largest population)	2870
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	260
Higher education (online only)	160
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	930
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	104



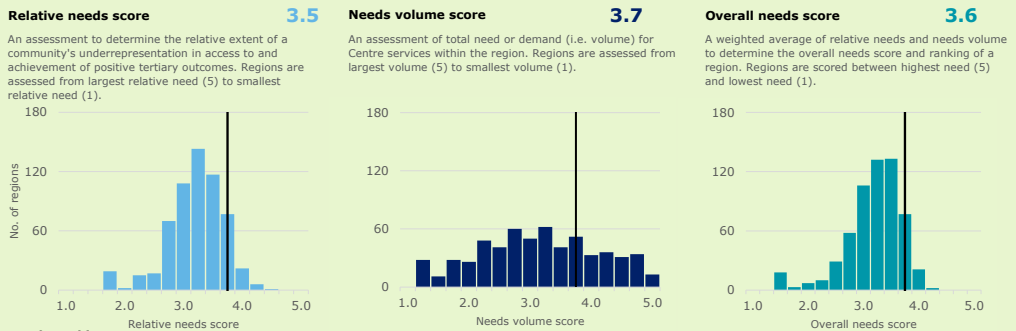
Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Condobolin	No
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	No
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	Yes
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	10,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	10,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

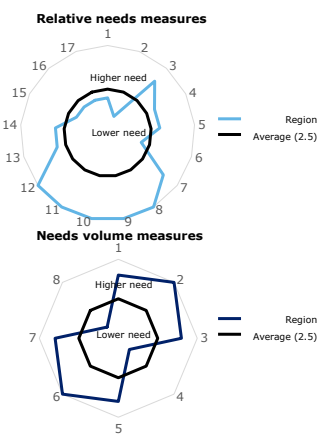
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		67%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	41%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		66%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		84%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	88%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		78%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	160
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		104
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,481
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Parkes Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,300
Indigenous population	14%
Region size (sqkm)	5,418
Postcode (with largest population)	2869
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	30

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	57
Higher education (online only)	34
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	165
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	19



Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

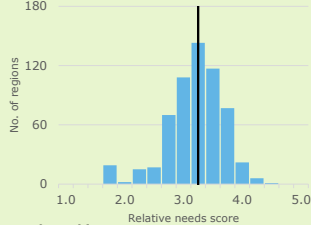
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Candobolin	No
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	No
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	Yes
West Wyalong	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

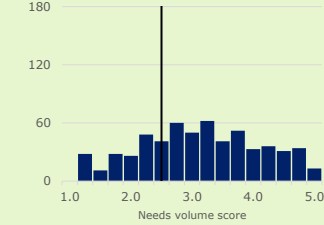
Relative needs score **3.1**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



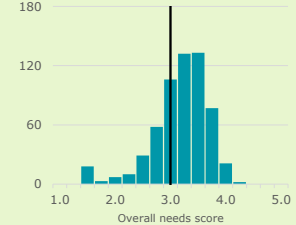
Needs volume score **2.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.9**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.4%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	3,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	80.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	30	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

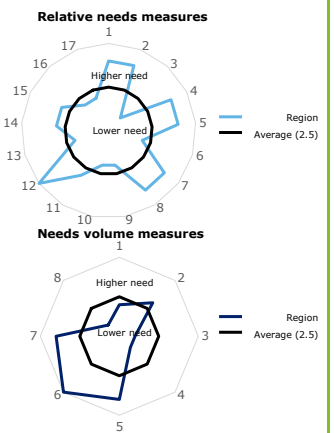
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.7%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	34
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		19
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	1,877
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-1.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Port Macquarie
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	86,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	3,688
Postcode (with largest population)	2439
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,849
Higher education (online only)	1,144
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	6,270
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	461



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Macquarie	
Population ⁸	86,800
Region size (sqkm)	3,688
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,849
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,144

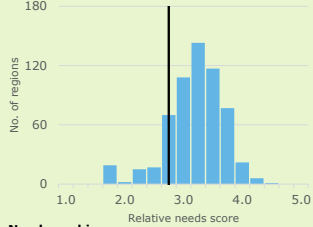
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Laurieton - Bonny Hills	Yes
Port Macquarie - East	Yes
Port Macquarie - South	Yes
Port Macquarie - West	Yes
Port Macquarie Surrounds	Yes
Wauchope	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



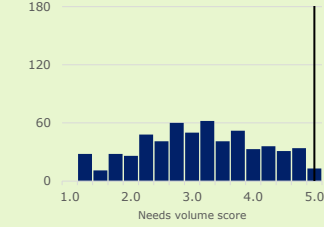
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

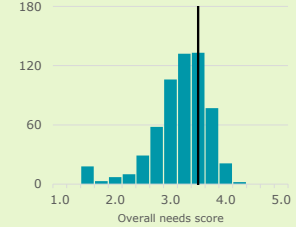
Needs volume score **4.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	86,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	86,800	50,000	No
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

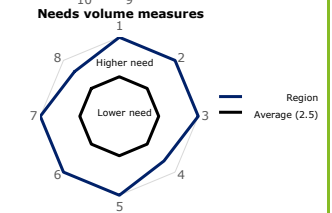
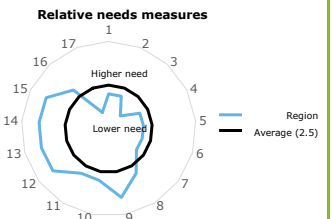
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		22%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		69%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	79%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		1%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	1144
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		461
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	47,623
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1144
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		461
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	47,623
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.3%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Queanbeyan Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	16,500
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	3,048
Postcode (with largest population)	2621
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	28

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	332
Higher education (online only)	144
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,355
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	135



Broader region information (SA3)

Queanbeyan	
Population ⁸	20,900
Region size (sqkm)	6,511
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	442
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	188

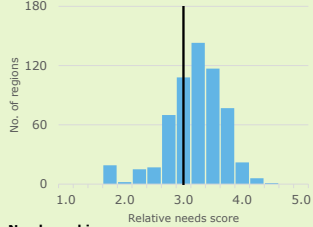
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Braidwood	No
Queanbeyan Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



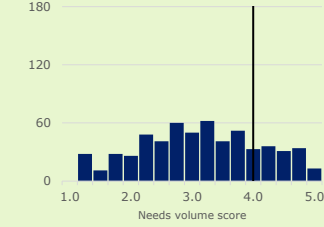
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

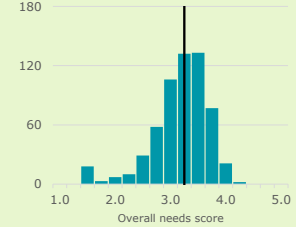
Needs volume score **3.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	16,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	16,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	92.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	28	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

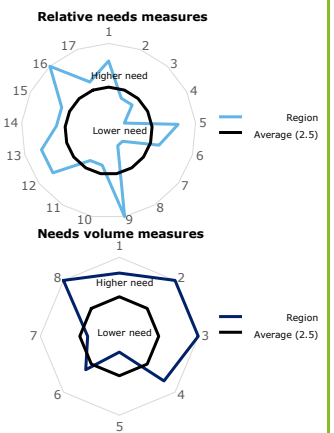
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		33%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		9
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		63%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		76%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	80%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	144
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		135
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	10,810
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	188
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		159
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,347
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Quirindi
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,600
Indigenous population	15%
Region size (sqkm)	5,078
Postcode (with largest population)	2339
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	127

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	126
Higher education (online only)	74
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	490
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	41



Broader region information (SA3)

Tamworth - Gunnedah	
Population ⁸	84,600
Region size (sqkm)	20,155
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,996
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,246

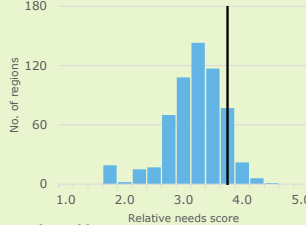
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Gunnedah	No
Gunnedah Surrounds	No
Quirindi	Yes
Tamworth - East	No
Tamworth - North	No
Tamworth - West	No
Tamworth Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

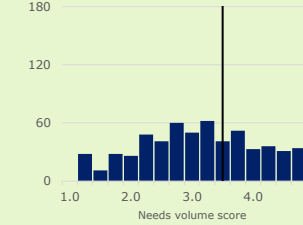
Relative needs score **3.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



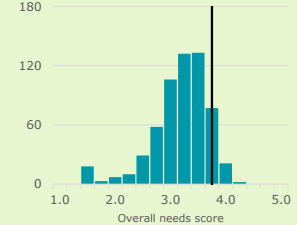
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 22 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	127	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

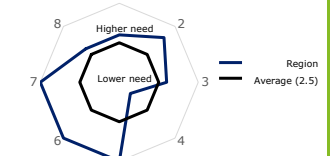
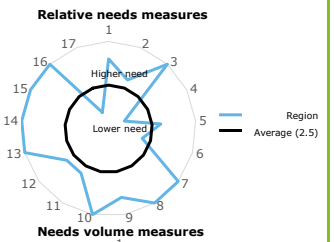
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		61%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	35%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		75%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		75%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		61%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		62%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	74
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		41
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,365
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1246
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		538
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	50,387
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Richmond Valley - Coastal NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	87,800
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	1,573
Postcode (with largest population)	2478
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	3,124
Higher education (online only)	1,198
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	5,495
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	635



Broader region information (SA3)

Richmond Valley - Coastal	
Population ⁸	87,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,573
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	3,124
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,198

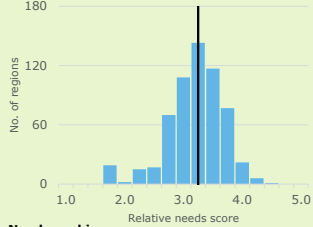
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Ballina	Yes
Ballina Surrounds	Yes
Bangalow	Yes
Brunswick Heads - Ocean Shores	Yes
Byron Bay	Yes
Evans Head	Yes
Lennox Head - Skennars Head	Yes
Mullumbimby	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



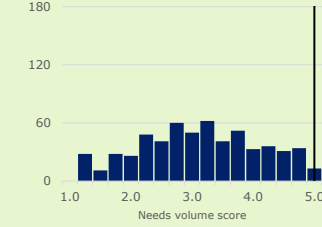
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

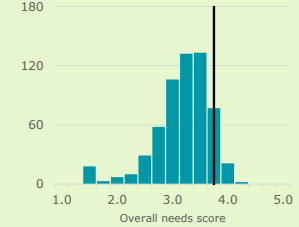
Needs volume score **5.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	87,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	87,800	50,000	No
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	90.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

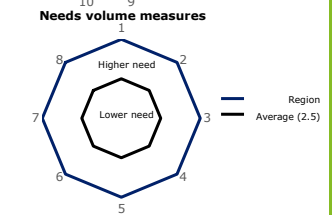
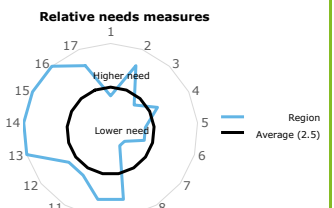
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		30%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		59%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		75%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		61%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	62%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	1198
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		635
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	52,860
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1198
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		635
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	52,860
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Robertson - Fitzroy Falls NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,800
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	498
Postcode (with largest population)	2527
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	46

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	245
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	29



Broader region information (SA3)

Southern Highlands

Population ⁸	52,700
Region size (sqkm)	2,330
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,219
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	769

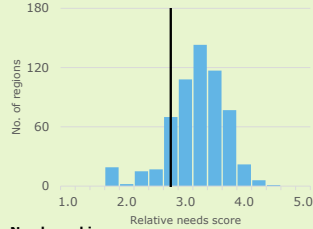
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bowral	No
Hill Top - Colo Vale	No
Mittagong	No
Moss Vale - Berrima	No
Robertson - Fitzroy Falls	Yes
Southern Highlands	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



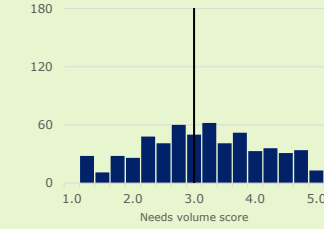
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 214 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

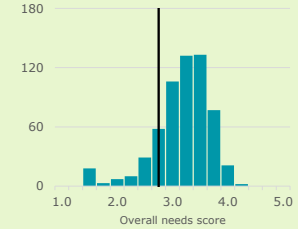
Needs volume score **3.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	91.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	46	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

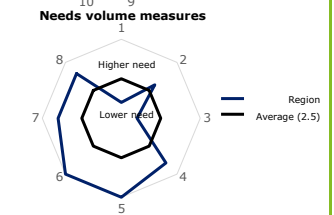
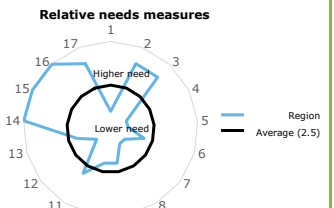
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		33%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		8
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	55%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		50%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	60%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	29
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,241
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	769
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	366
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	29,177
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Royal National Park NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	0
Indigenous population	NA
Region size (sqkm)	139
Postcode (with largest population)	2232
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	9

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	0



Broader region information (SA3)

Sutherland - Menai - Heathcote	
Population ⁸	0
Region size (sqkm)	240
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	0
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	0

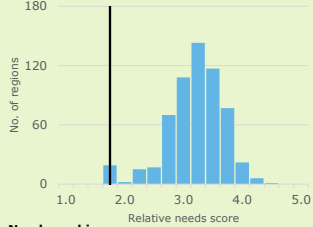
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Royal National Park	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **1.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



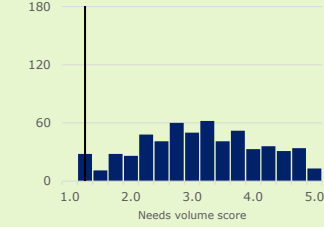
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 4 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

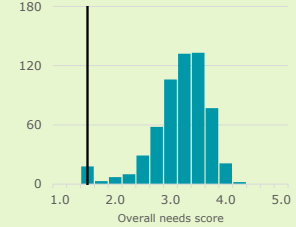
Needs volume score **1.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **1.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

4 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	0	3,000	No
Population size below maximum threshold	0	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	0.0%	75.0%	No
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	0	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	9	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

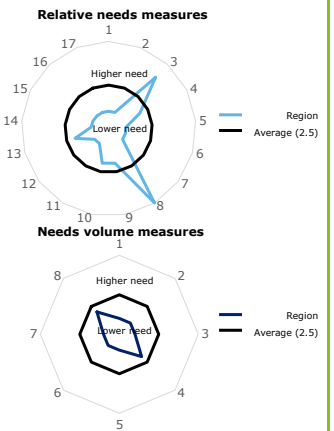
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		100%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		100%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		0
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		0%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		0%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		0%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	0
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	0
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		0
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	0
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

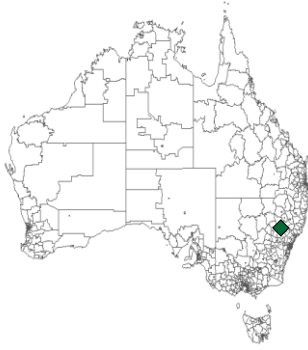
Score Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,200
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	7,949
Postcode (with largest population)	2329
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	122

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	311
Higher education (online only)	159
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	590
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	44



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Hunter	
Population ⁸	30,600
Region size (sqkm)	11,472
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	841
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	432

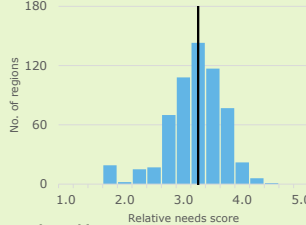
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Muswellbrook	No
Muswellbrook Surrounds	No
Score	No
Score Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

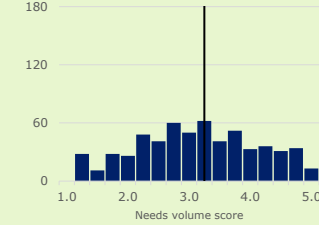
Relative needs score 3.2

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



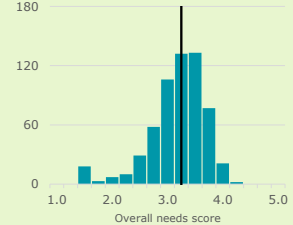
Needs volume score 3.2

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.2

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 106 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,200	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,200	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	122	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

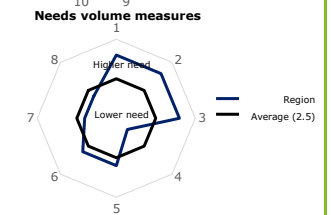
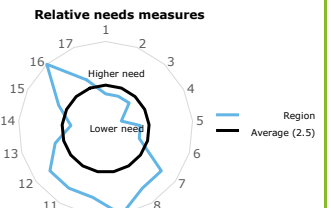
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		67%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		62%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	159
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		44
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,938
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	432
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		184
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	19,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

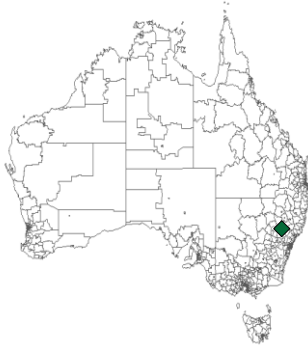
Score
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,000
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	119
Postcode (with largest population)	2337
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	122

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	204
Higher education (online only)	103
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	480
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	37



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Hunter	
Population ⁸	30,600
Region size (sqkm)	11,472
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	841
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	432

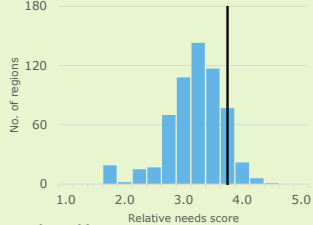
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Muswellbrook	No
Muswellbrook Surrounds	No
Score	Yes
Score Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



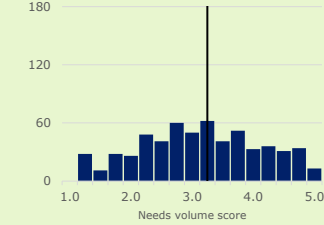
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 52 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

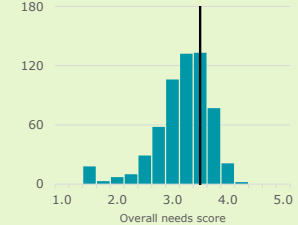
Needs volume score **3.2**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.5%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	122	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

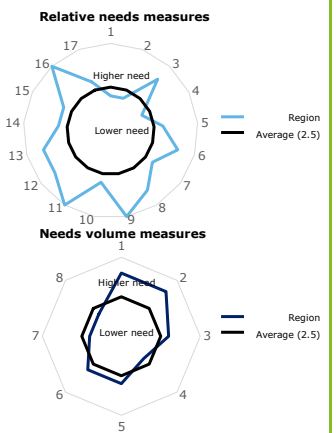
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.5%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		68%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		74%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	103
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		37
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,658
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	432
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		184
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	19,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Seaham - Woodville
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,700
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	247
Postcode (with largest population)	2320
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	25

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	0
Higher education (online only)	0
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	490
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	37



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Stephens	
Population ⁸	61,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,072
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,036
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	743

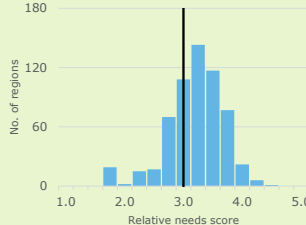
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Anna Bay	No
Lemon Tree Passage - Taniila Bay	No
Nelson Bay Peninsula	No
Seaham - Woodville	Yes
Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest	No
Williamtown - Medowie - Karuah	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

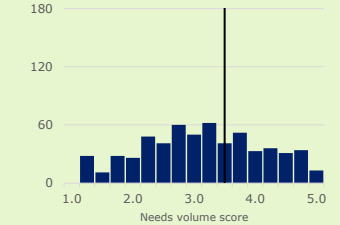
Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.9 **Needs volume score 3.3** **Overall needs score 3.0**

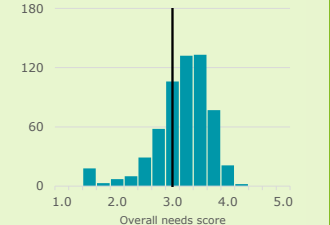
An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.8%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	89.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	25	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

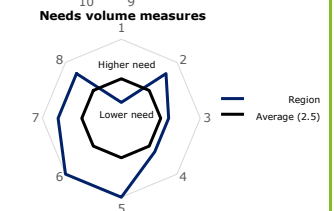
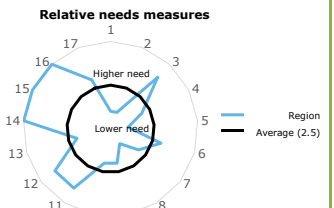
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		100.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	100%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		7
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		62%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	0
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	37
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,682
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	743
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	403
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	33,995
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

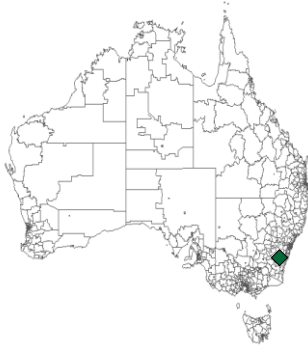
Shoalhaven
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	108,300
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	4,375
Postcode (with largest population)	2535
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,422
Higher education (online only)	391
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	6,920
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	726



Broader region information (SA3)

Shoalhaven	
Population ⁸	108,300
Region size (sqkm)	4,375
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,422
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	391

SA2 regions within broader SA3 In-scope?

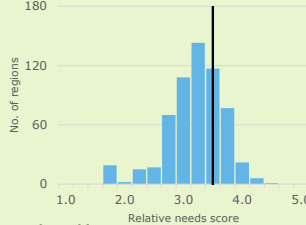
Berry - Kangaroo Valley	Yes
Callala Bay - Currarong	Yes
Culburra Beach	Yes
Ettrema - Sassafras - Budawang	Yes
Huskisson - Vincentia	Yes
North Nowra - Bomaderry	Yes
Nowra	Yes
St Georges Basin - Erowal Bay	Yes
Sussex Inlet - Berrara	Yes
Tomerong - Wandandian - Woollamia	Yes
Ulladulla	Yes
Ulladulla Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

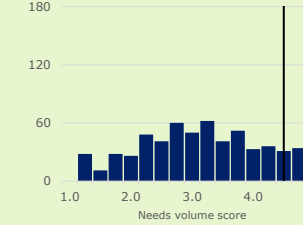
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



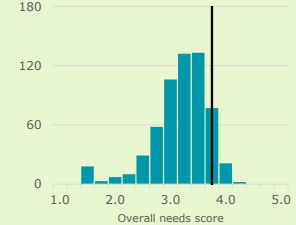
Needs volume score **4.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	108,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	108,300	50,000	No
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

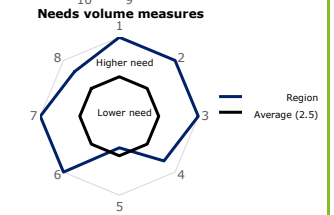
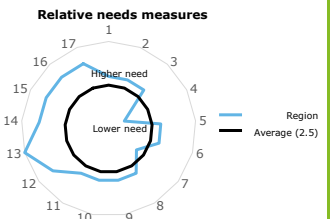
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		17%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		21%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		67%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	79%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	391
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		726
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	60,611
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	391
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		726
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,611
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

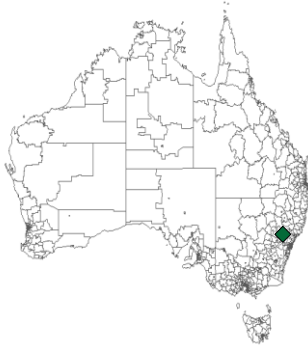
Singleton Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,300
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	4,067
Postcode (with largest population)	2330
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	65

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	563
Higher education (online only)	228
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	475
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	48



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Hunter	
Population ⁸	53,800
Region size (sqkm)	8,567
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,464
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

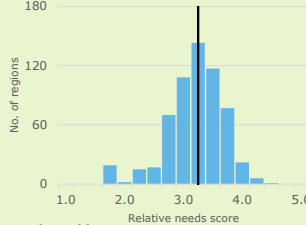
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Branxton - Greta - Pokolbin	No
Cessnock Surrounds	No
Dungog	No
Singleton	No
Singleton Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

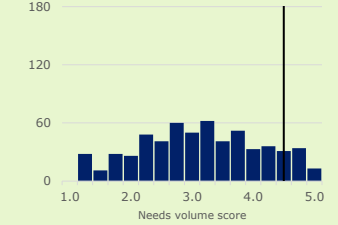
Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



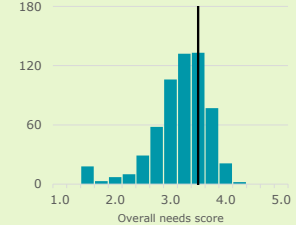
Needs volume score **4.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 59 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	65	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

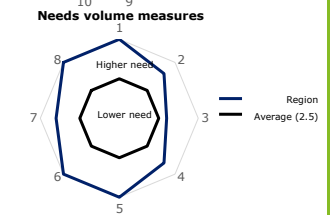
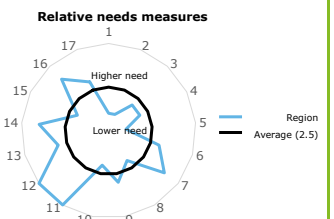
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		10.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		9%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		7%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		66%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		72%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	228
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		48
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,428
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		406
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	34,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		2.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

**Singleton
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	17,000
Indigenous population	9%
Region size (sqkm)	127
Postcode (with largest population)	2330
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	59

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	563
Higher education (online only)	228
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,625
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	138



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Hunter	
Population ⁸	53,800
Region size (sqkm)	8,567
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,464
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

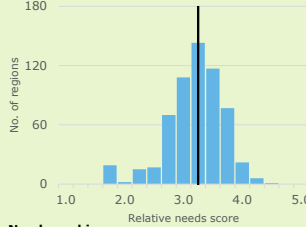
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Branxton - Greta - Pokolbin	No
Cessnock Surrounds	No
Dungog	No
Singleton	Yes
Singleton Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

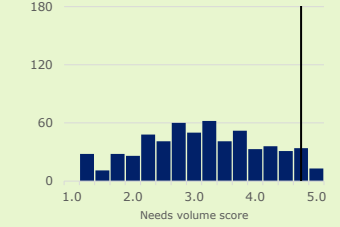
Relative needs score 3.1

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



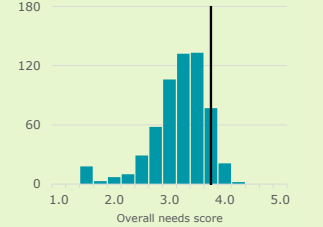
Needs volume score 4.7

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.6

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 17 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	17,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	17,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	86.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	59	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

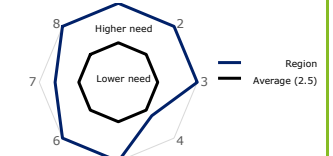
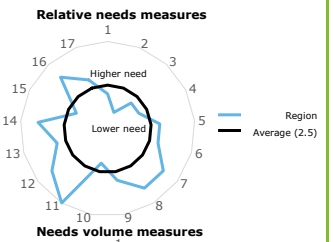
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		10%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		72%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	228
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		138
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	11,067
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		406
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	34,035
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		2.0%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled 'Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres' delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

Southern Highlands NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,300
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	1,410
Postcode (with largest population)	2578
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	58

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	159
Higher education (online only)	77
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	390
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	52



Broader region information (SA3)

Southern Highlands	
Population ⁸	52,700
Region size (sqkm)	2,330
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,219
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	769

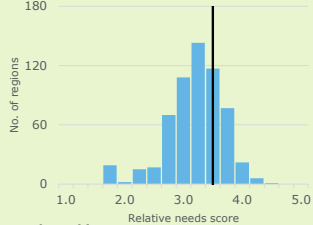
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Bowral	No
Hill Top - Colo Vale	No
Mittagong	No
Moss Vale - Berrima	No
Robertson - Fitzroy Falls	No
Southern Highlands	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.4**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



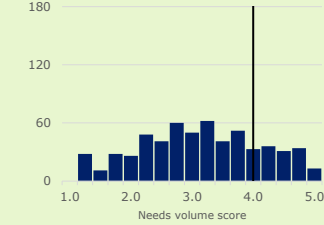
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 29 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

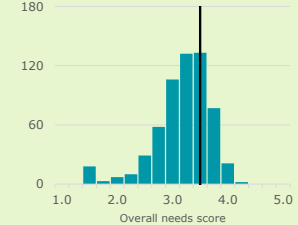
Needs volume score **3.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,300	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	91.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	58	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

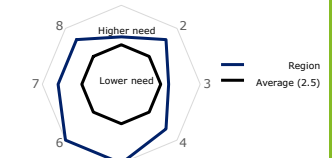
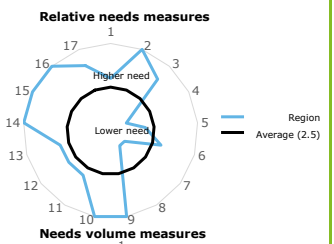
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-6%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		33%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		7
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		68%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	42%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		71%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		63%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		60%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	77
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		52
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,939
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	769
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		366
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	29,177
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

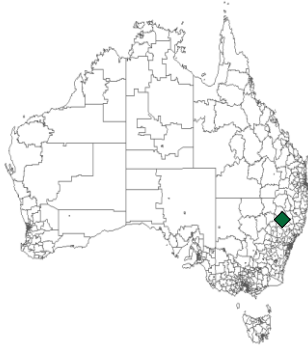
Tamworth - Custom
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	43,900
Indigenous population	14%
Region size (sqkm)	241
Postcode (with largest population)	2340
Region type ¹	Custom SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	98

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,374
Higher education (online only)	846
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	3,760
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	291



Broader region information (SA3)

Tamworth - Gunnedah	
Population ⁸	84,600
Region size (sqkm)	20,155
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,996
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,246

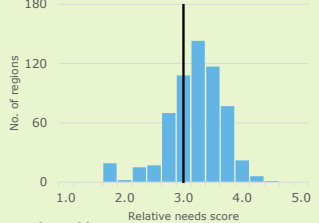
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Gunnedah	No
Gunnedah Surrounds	No
Quirindi	No
Tamworth - East	Yes
Tamworth - North	Yes
Tamworth - West	Yes
Tamworth Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.9**

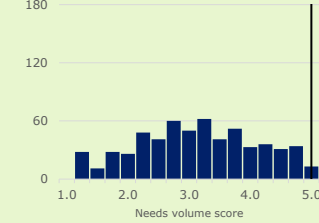
An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Ranked 60 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

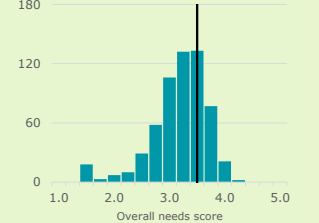
Needs volume score **4.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	43,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	43,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	98	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

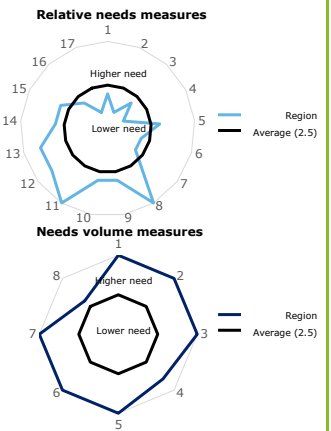
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-6%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		53%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		65%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		74%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	846
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		291
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	26,482
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1246
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		538
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	50,387
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

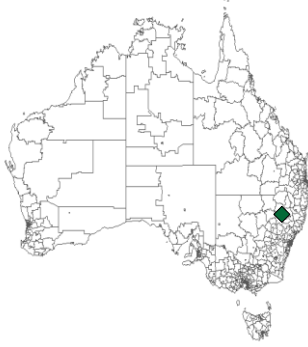
Tamworth Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	19,000
Indigenous population	10%
Region size (sqkm)	8,980
Postcode (with largest population)	2344
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	86

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	184
Higher education (online only)	124
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,245
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	102



Broader region information (SA3)

Tamworth - Gunnedah	
Population ⁸	84,600
Region size (sqkm)	20,155
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,996
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,246

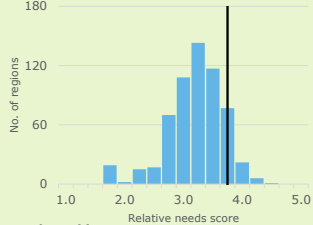
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Gunnedah	No
Gunnedah Surrounds	No
Quirindi	No
Tamworth - East	No
Tamworth - North	No
Tamworth - West	No
Tamworth Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

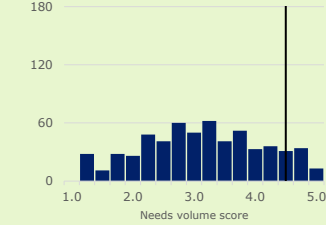
Relative needs score **3.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



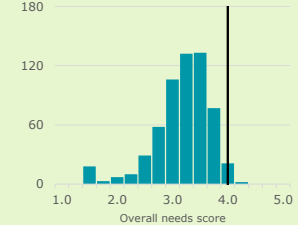
Needs volume score **4.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.9**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 2 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	19,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	19,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	86	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

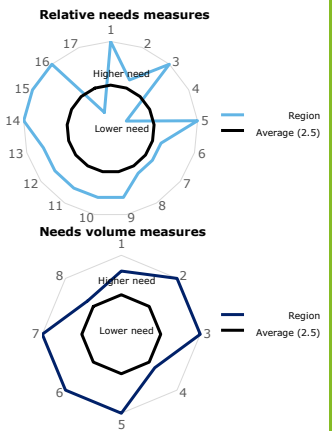
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		60%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		63%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	64%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		75%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	124
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		102
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	11,247
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1246
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		538
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	50,387
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Taree - Gloucester
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	57,300
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	6,675
Postcode (with largest population)	2422
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,155
Higher education (online only)	681
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	3,800
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	332



Broader region information (SA3)

Taree - Gloucester	
Population ⁸	57,300
Region size (sqkm)	6,675
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,155
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	681

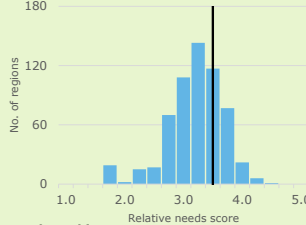
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Gloucester	Yes
Old Bar - Manning Point - Red Head	Yes
Taree	Yes
Taree Surrounds	Yes
Wingham	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

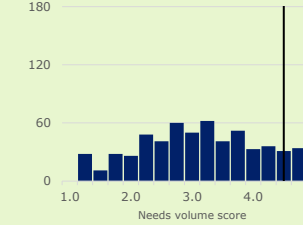
Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



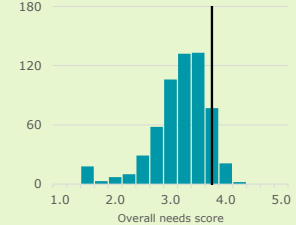
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 3 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

3 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.8%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	57,300	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	57,300	50,000	No
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

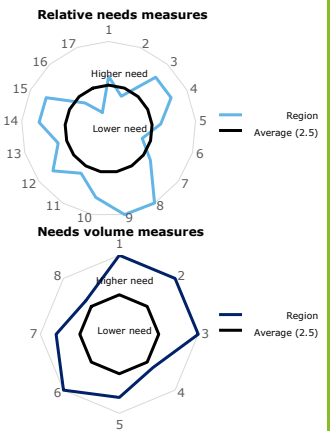
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		64%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	31%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	70%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		79%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		1%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	681
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		332
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	31,096
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	681
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		332
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,096
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.8%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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**Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	204
Postcode (with largest population)	2324
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	47

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	639
Higher education (online only)	230
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	205
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	26



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Stephens	
Population ⁸	61,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,072
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,036
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	743

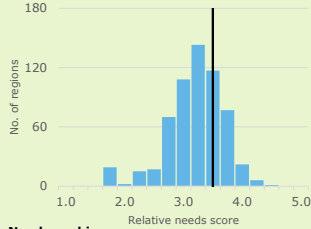
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Anna Bay	No
Lemon Tree Passage - Taniila Bay	No
Nelson Bay Peninsula	No
Seaham - Woodville	No
Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest	Yes
Williamtown - Medowie - Karuah	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



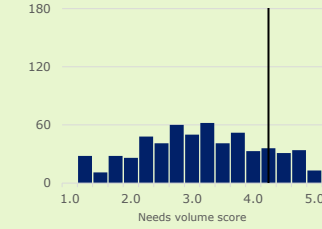
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 32 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

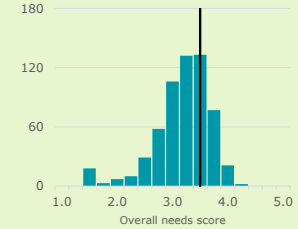
Needs volume score **4.1**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.5**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	2.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	47	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

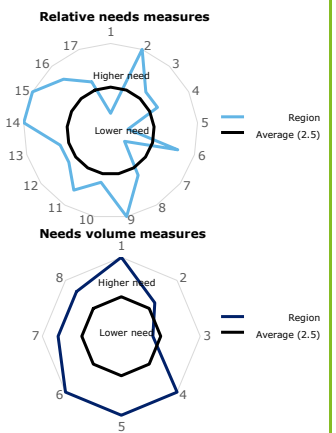
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		11.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		4%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	18%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		11%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		63%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		72%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		57%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	71%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	230
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	26
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	2,365
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	2.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	743
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	403
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	33,995
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Temora
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,600
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	3,434
Postcode (with largest population)	2665
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	76

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	154
Higher education (online only)	81
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	410
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	36



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

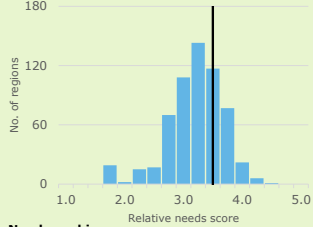
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	Yes
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



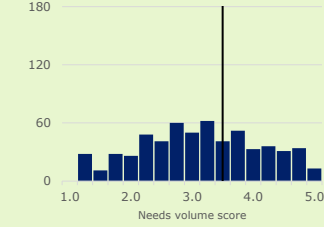
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 73 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

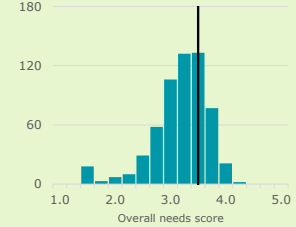
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	76	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

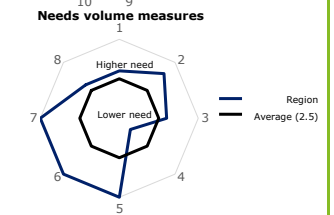
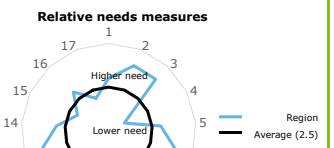
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		14%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		61%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	81
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		36
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,604
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Tenterfield
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,800
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	7,324
Postcode (with largest population)	2372
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	80

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	108
Higher education (online only)	69
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	425
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	24



Broader region information (SA3)

Inverell - Tenterfield	
Population ⁸	38,700
Region size (sqkm)	30,566
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	681
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	442

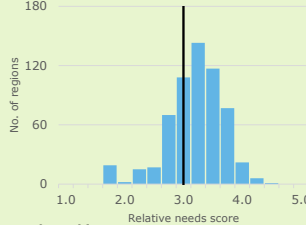
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Glen Innes	No
Inverell	No
Inverell Surrounds - East	No
Inverell Surrounds - West	No
Tenterfield	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **2.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



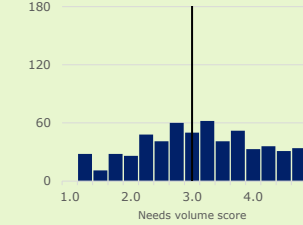
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 182 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

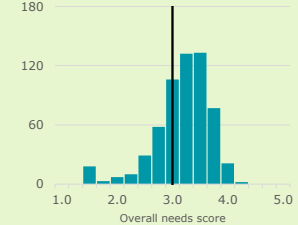
Needs volume score **3.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.9**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	80	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

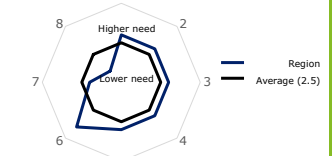
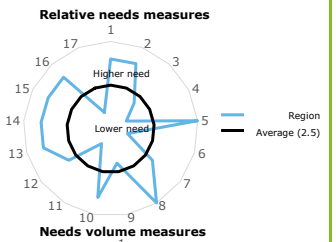
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		47%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	29%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		41%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		67%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	69
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		24
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,620
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	442
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		218
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	21,795
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	9,800
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	5,011
Postcode (with largest population)	2712
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	104

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	347
Higher education (online only)	146
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	550
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	46



Broader region information (SA3)

Upper Murray exc. Albury	
Population ⁸	43,400
Region size (sqkm)	28,232
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,141
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	530

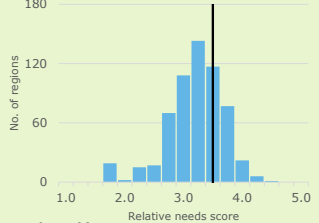
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Corowa	No
Corowa Surrounds	No
Deniliquin	No
Deniliquin Surrounds	No
Moama	No
Tocumwal - Finley - Jerilderie	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

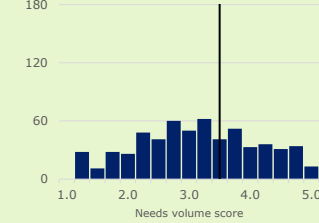
Relative needs score 3.3

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



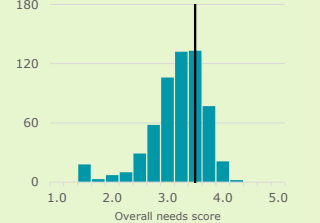
Needs volume score 3.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.3

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 74 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	9,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	9,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	80.8%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	104	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

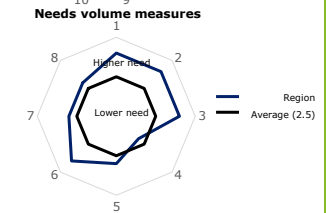
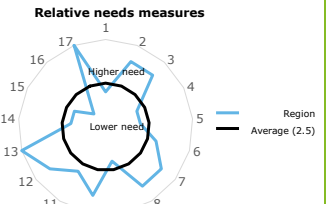
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		3.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		3%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		52%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	85%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		78%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	146
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		46
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,132
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	530
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		204
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	23,613
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

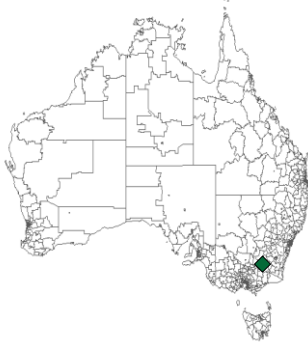
Tumbarumba
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,500
Indigenous population	6%
Region size (sqkm)	4,521
Postcode (with largest population)	2649
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	60

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	48
Higher education (online only)	28
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	225
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	22



Broader region information (SA3)

Tumut - Tumbarumba	
Population ⁸	14,900
Region size (sqkm)	9,175
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	398
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	236

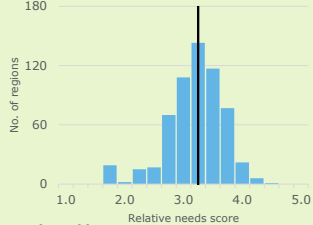
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Tumbarumba	Yes
Tumut	No
Tumut Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

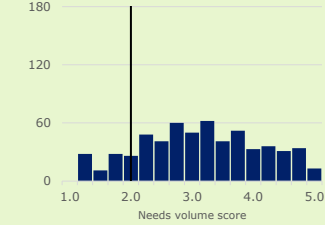
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



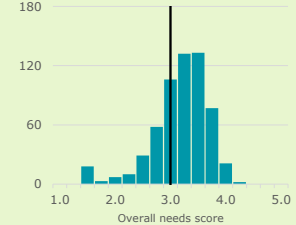
Needs volume score **2.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 188 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	60	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

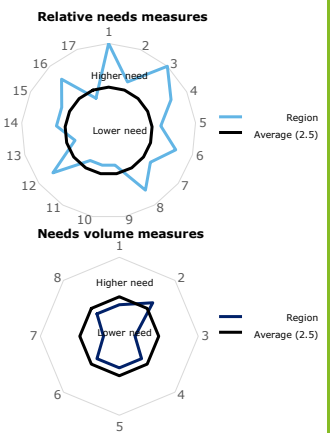
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		13%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	52%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		77%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	28
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	22
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,027
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	236
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	89
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	8,706
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

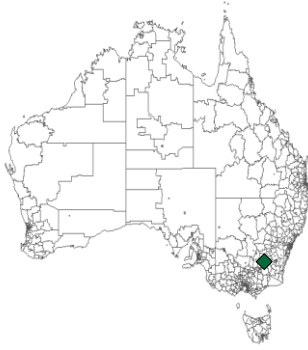
Tumut Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	4,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	4,614
Postcode (with largest population)	2720
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	69

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	204
Higher education (online only)	121
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	250
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	19



Broader region information (SA3)

Tumut - Tumbarumba	
Population ⁸	14,900
Region size (sqkm)	9,175
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	398
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	236

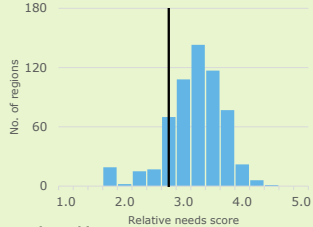
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Tumbarumba	No
Tumut	No
Tumut Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

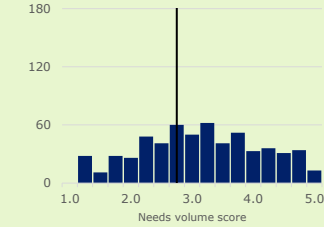
Relative needs score **2.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



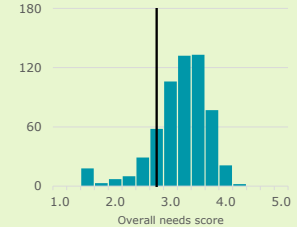
Needs volume score **2.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 216 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.0%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	4,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	4,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	69	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

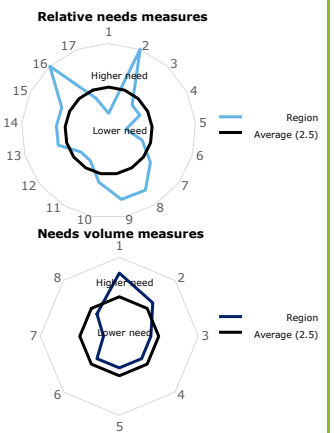
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		4.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	7%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	28%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		70%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		81%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	83%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		63%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	121
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	19
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	2,801
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.0%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	236
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	89
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	8,706
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Tumut
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,700
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	40
Postcode (with largest population)	2720
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	78

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	146
Higher education (online only)	87
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	460
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	48



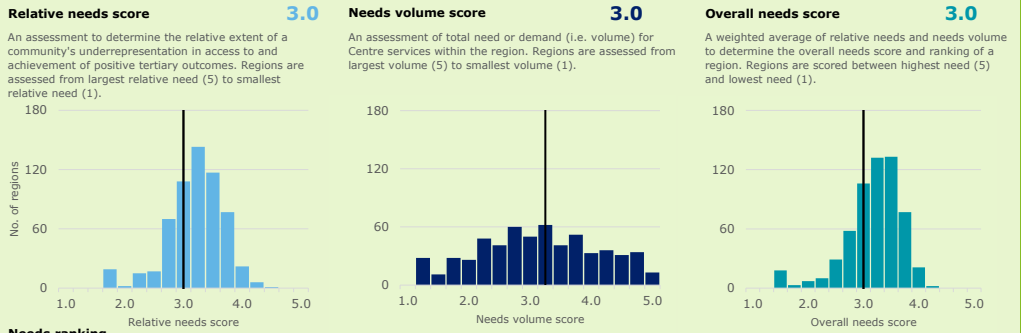
Broader region information (SA3)

Tumut - Tumbarumba	
Population ⁸	14,900
Region size (sqkm)	9,175
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	398
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	236

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Tumbarumba	No
Tumut	Yes
Tumut Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Ranked 146 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	78	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

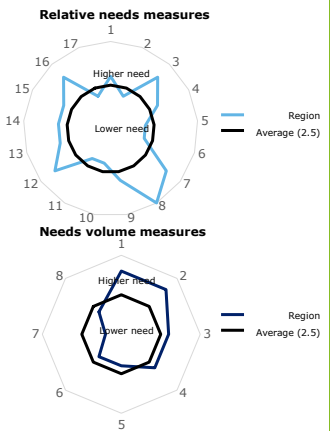
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		50%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		80%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		79%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		66%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	87
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		48
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,878
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	236
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		89
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	8,706
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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**Wagga Wagga - East
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	16,900
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	54
Postcode (with largest population)	2650
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	9

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,509
Higher education (online only)	1,314
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,195
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	104



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

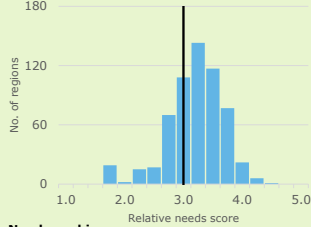
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	Yes
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

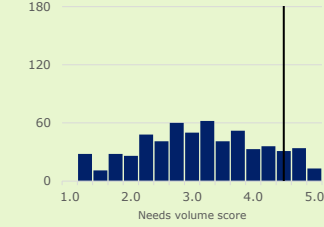
Relative needs score **2.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



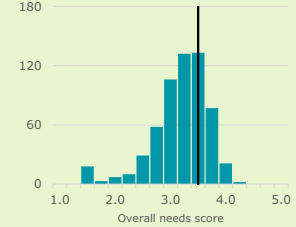
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	16,900	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	16,900	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	9	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

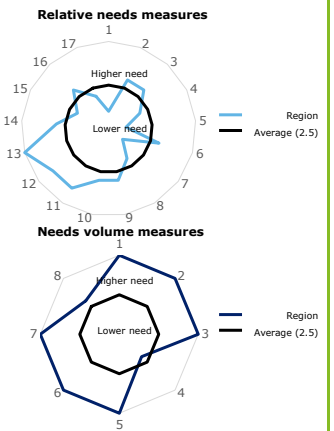
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		14.6%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		12%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		23%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	1314
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		104
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	10,123
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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**Wagga Wagga - North
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,600
Indigenous population	3%
Region size (sqkm)	54
Postcode (with largest population)	2678
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	0

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	27
Higher education (online only)	10
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	385
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	53



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

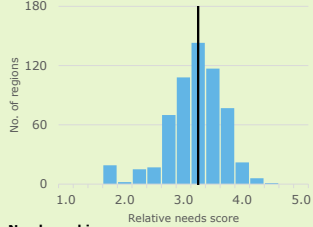
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	Yes
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.0**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



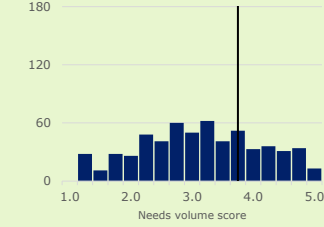
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

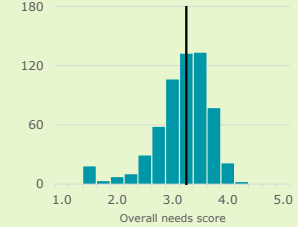
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	3.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	5,600	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,600	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	92.2%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	Yes	No	No
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	0	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

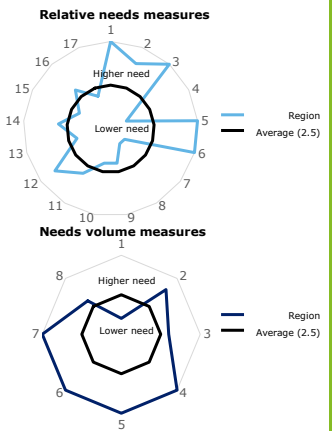
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		39%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		0%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		10%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		26%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		7
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		59%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	10
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		53
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,757
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		3.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Wagga Wagga - South
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	22,500
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	29
Postcode (with largest population)	2650
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	11

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	2,509
Higher education (online only)	1,314
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,850
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	163



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

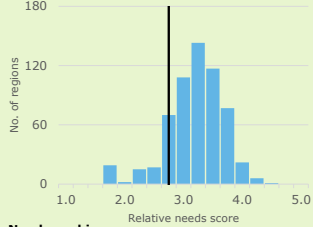
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	Yes
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

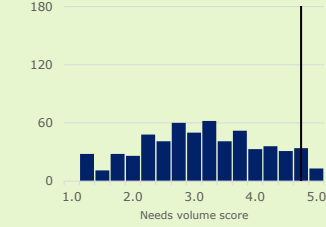
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



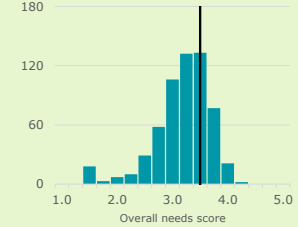
Needs volume score **4.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.3**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.9%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	22,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	22,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	84.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	11	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

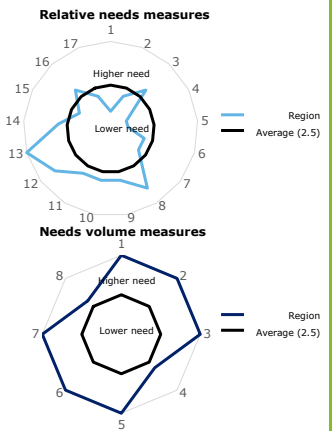
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		11.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	6%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		20%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	1314
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		163
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	14,043
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.9%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Wagga Wagga - West
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,000
Indigenous population	9%
Region size (sqkm)	55
Postcode (with largest population)	2661
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	11

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	11
Higher education (online only)	9
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,315
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	136



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

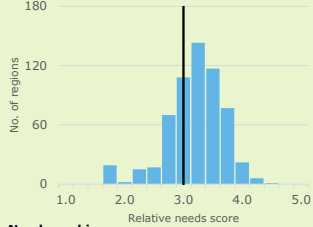
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	Yes
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 2.8

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



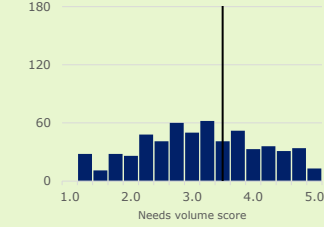
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 2 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

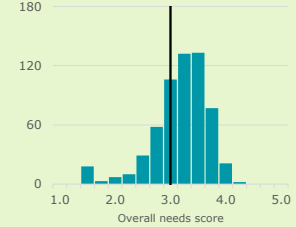
Needs volume score 3.5

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score 3.0

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

2 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.2%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	12,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	11	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

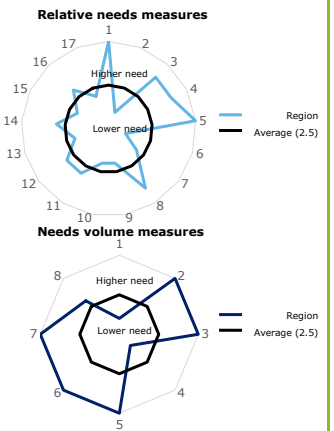
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		0.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		11%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	0%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		29%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		22%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		0%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	0%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	57%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		78%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	71%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	9
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		136
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	7,702
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-1.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Wagga Wagga Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	17,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	9,335
Postcode (with largest population)	2651
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	25

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	345
Higher education (online only)	194
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,220
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	121



Broader region information (SA3)

Wagga Wagga	
Population ⁸	99,200
Region size (sqkm)	18,951
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	5,855
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	3,081

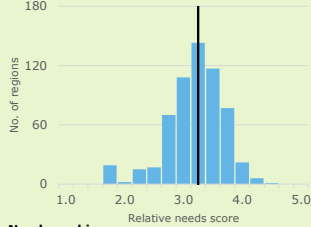
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Cootamundra	No
Gundagai	No
Junee	No
Temora	No
Wagga Wagga - East	No
Wagga Wagga - North	No
Wagga Wagga - South	No
Wagga Wagga - West	No
Wagga Wagga Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



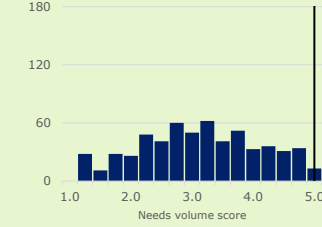
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

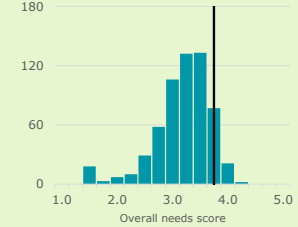
Needs volume score **4.9**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	3.1%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	17,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	17,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.4%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	25	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

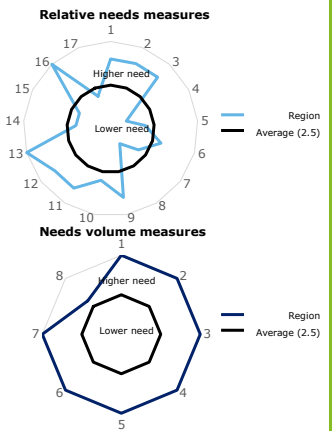
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		80%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		75%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	86%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		56%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	194
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		121
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	11,078
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		3.1%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	3081
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		714
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	60,610
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Walcha
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,100
Indigenous population	7%
Region size (sqkm)	6,743
Postcode (with largest population)	2354
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	74

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	79
Higher education (online only)	47
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	155
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	20



Broader region information (SA3)

Armidale	
Population ⁸	37,500
Region size (sqkm)	16,396
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,314
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,010

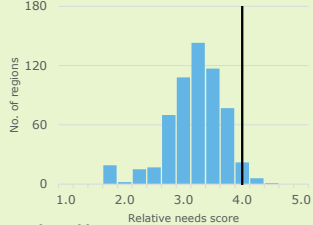
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Armidale	No
Armidale Surrounds - North	No
Armidale Surrounds - South	No
Walcha	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

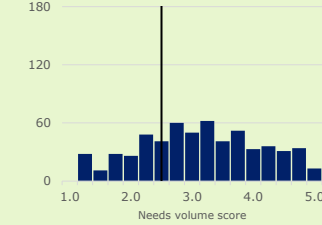
Relative needs score **3.8**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



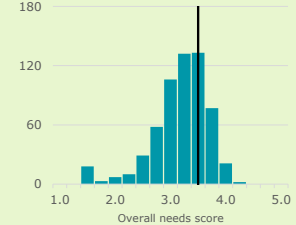
Needs volume score **2.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 66 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.7%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,100	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,100	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	74	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

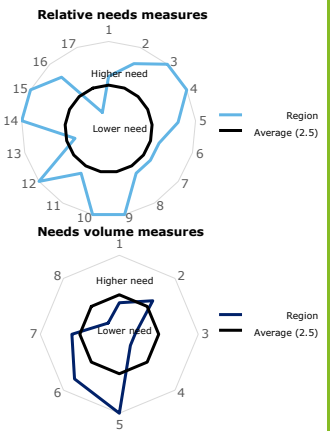
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.4%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		3%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	9%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		16%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		71%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	38%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	57%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		82%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		59%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	74%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	47
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	20
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent	1,700
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.7%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	1010
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	217
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent	23,176
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.4%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Walgett - Lightning Ridge
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,500
Indigenous population	23%
Region size (sqkm)	27,011
Postcode (with largest population)	2386
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Remote
Distance to nearest campus (km)	161

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	90
Higher education (online only)	62
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	265
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	24



Broader region information (SA3)

Bourke - Cobarr - Coonamble	
Population ⁸	21,600
Region size (sqkm)	162,762
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	416
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	255

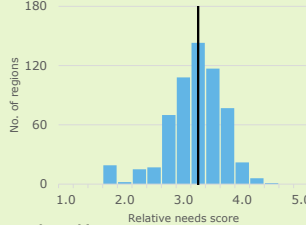
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bourke - Brewarrina	No
Cobar	No
Coonamble	No
Nyngan - Warren	No
Walgett - Lightning Ridge	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

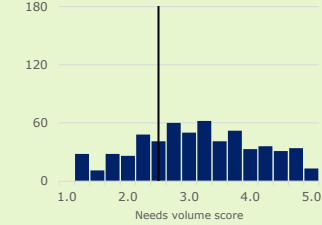
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



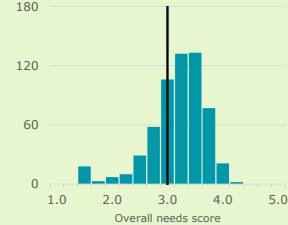
Needs volume score **2.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.0**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-2.2%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	5,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	78.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	161	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

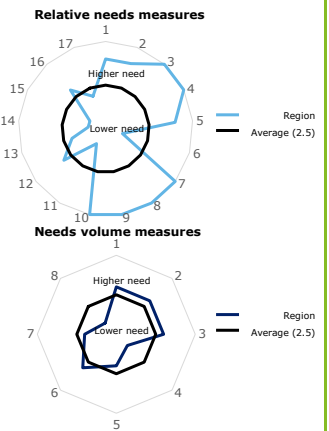
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		4%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	7%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		23%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		12%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		68%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	34%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		41%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		75%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	87%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)		91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		72%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	62
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		24
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,305
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-2.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	255
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		160
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	13,099
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-2.1%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

**Warragamba - Silverdale
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,000
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	64
Postcode (with largest population)	2752
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	16

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	166
Higher education (online only)	59
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	470
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	44



Broader region information (SA3)

Penrith	
Population ⁸	6,000
Region size (sqkm)	357
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	166
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	59

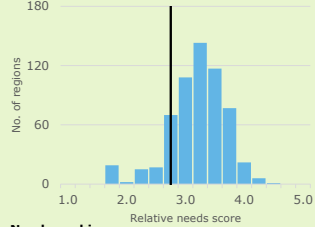
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Warragamba - Silverdale	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

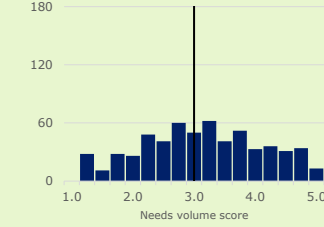
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



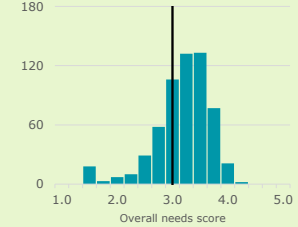
Needs volume score **3.0**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.8**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	3.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	16	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

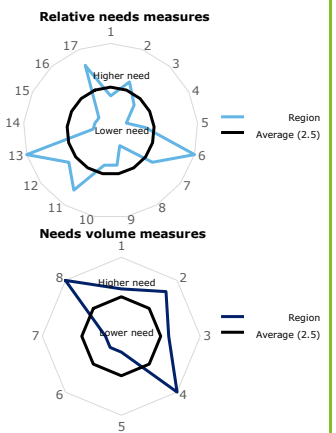
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-5%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		10%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		16%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		7
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		49%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	19%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		74%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		71%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	59
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	44
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,024
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	3.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	59
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	44
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	4,024
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	3.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.

**Wellington
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	8,800
Indigenous population	23%
Region size (sqkm)	3,603
Postcode (with largest population)	2818
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	55

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	181
Higher education (online only)	97
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	680
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	49



Broader region information (SA3)

Dubbo	
Population ⁸	74,100
Region size (sqkm)	29,738
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,805
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	1,059

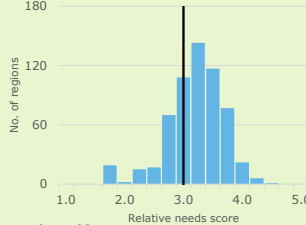
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Coonabarabran	No
Dubbo - East	No
Dubbo - South	No
Dubbo - West	No
Dubbo Surrounds	No
Gilgandra	No
Narromine	No
Wellington	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

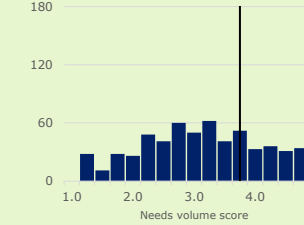
Relative needs score **2.9**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



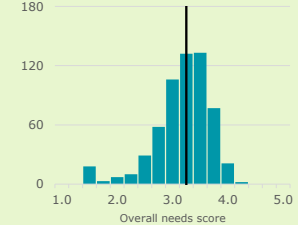
Needs volume score **3.6**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.1**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 122 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	8,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	8,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	81.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	55	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

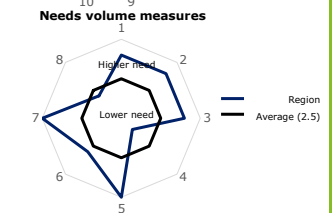
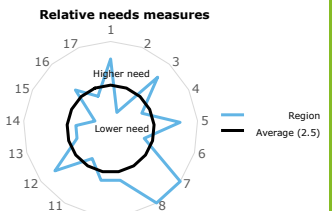
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.9%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	0%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		1%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		19%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	24%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		51%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		79%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		85%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		82%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	91%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		70%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	97
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		49
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	5,363
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-0.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	1059
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		171
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	44,672
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

*Original DAE note: "This dashboard is intended as an initial and preliminary assessment of the relative needs of a region for a Regional University Centre. It accompanies a report titled "Scoping study to inform future locations for Regional University Centres" delivered to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment on November 2021. * Department of Education Integrated Data Analytics team has updated data inputs, delivered to Regional Policy team June 2024.*

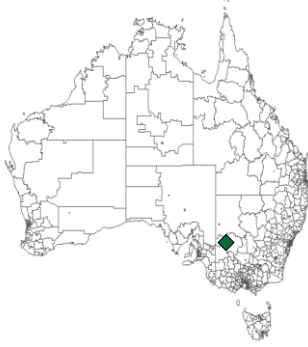
**Wentworth-Balranald Region
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	3,700
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	49,723
Postcode (with largest population)	2648
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	86

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	65
Higher education (online only)	33
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	205
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	13



Broader region information (SA3)

Lower Murray	
Population ⁸	6,600
Region size (sqkm)	63,968
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	118
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	59

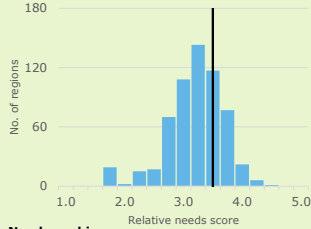
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Hay	No
Wentworth-Balranald Region	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.3**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



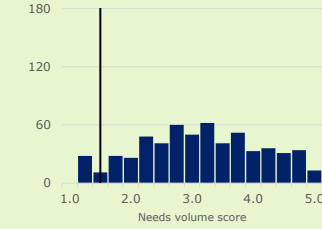
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 206 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

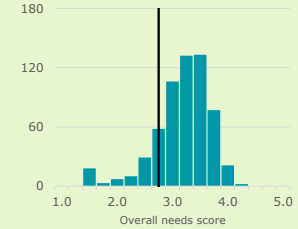
Needs volume score **1.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.7**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-0.4%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	3,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	3,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	79.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	86	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

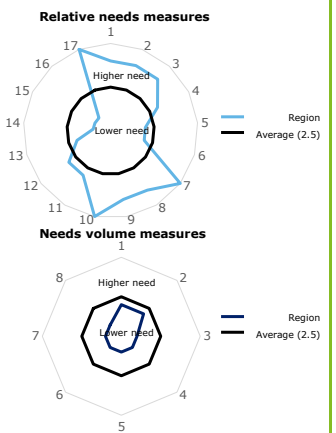
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		20%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		12%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	35%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		76%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		100%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		100%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	100%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		100%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		6%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	33
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	13
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	2,246
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	-0.4%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	59
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	30
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	3,996
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	-0.7%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

West Wyalong
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	5,500
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	8,317
Postcode (with largest population)	2668
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Outer regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	89

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	119
Higher education (online only)	62
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	335
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	33



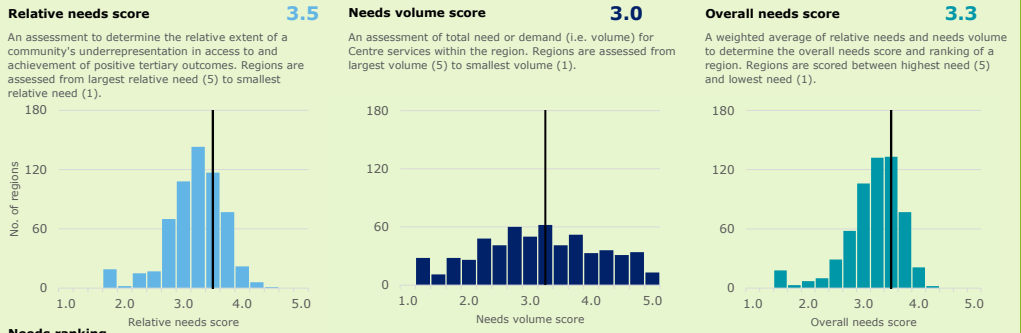
Broader region information (SA3)

Lachlan Valley	
Population ⁸	54,700
Region size (sqkm)	41,001
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,184
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	660

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹ ?
Candobolin	No
Cowra	No
Cowra Surrounds	No
Forbes	No
Grenfell	No
Parkes (NSW)	No
Parkes Surrounds	No
West Wyalong	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.



Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	-1.6%	-1.0%	No
Population size above minimum threshold	5,500	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	5,500	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	89	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

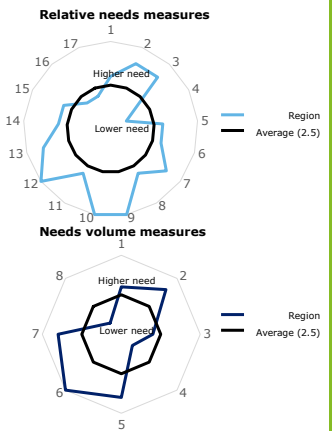
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.2%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		6%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		0%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-3%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		13%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		71%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	38%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		58%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		86%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		73%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		75%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		2%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	62
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		33
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,169
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		-1.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	660
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		400
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	31,257
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		-0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

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- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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Williamstown - Medowie - Karuah
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	15,000
Indigenous population	8%
Region size (sqkm)	365
Postcode (with largest population)	2318
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	26

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	480
Higher education (online only)	200
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	1,220
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	114



Broader region information (SA3)

Port Stephens	
Population ⁸	61,800
Region size (sqkm)	1,072
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	2,036
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	743

SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope ⁹
Anna Bay	No
Lemon Tree Passage - Taniila Bay	No
Nelson Bay Peninsula	No
Seaham - Woodville	No
Tea Gardens - Hawks Nest	No
Williamstown - Medowie - Karuah	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score 3.2

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).

Needs volume score 4.9

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).

Overall needs score 3.7

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).

Needs ranking
Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.
Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.8%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	15,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	15,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	85.6%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	26	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

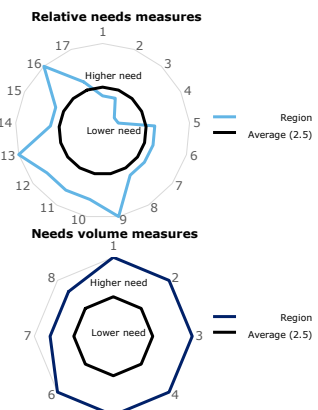
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		8%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-5%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		15%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		18%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		4
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		63%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	30%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		61%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		76%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		74%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		55%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	200
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		114
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	9,134
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.8%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	743
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		403
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	33,995
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		1.2%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

- Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
- Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
- Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
- Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
- Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
- Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
- Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
- SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
- This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

REGIONAL NEEDS DASHBOARD

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**Wollondilly
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	45,800
Indigenous population	4%
Region size (sqkm)	870
Postcode (with largest population)	2574
Region type ¹	SA3
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	14

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	1,031
Higher education (online only)	344
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	3,535
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	266



Broader region information (SA3)

Wollondilly	
Population ⁸	45,800
Region size (sqkm)	870
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,031
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	344

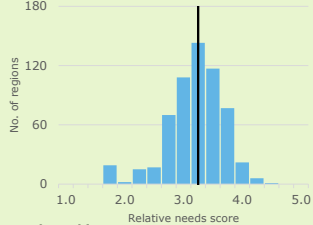
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Bargo	Yes
Douglas Park - Appin	Yes
Pictou - Tahmoor - Buxton	Yes
The Oaks - Oakdale	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

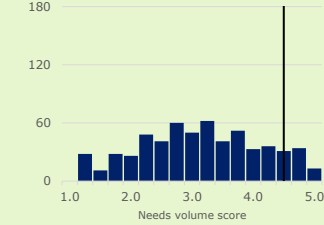
Relative needs score **3.2**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



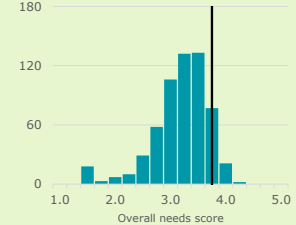
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Has no ranking with 1 readiness issue/s identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

1 initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.5%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	45,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	45,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	87.3%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	14	40	No

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

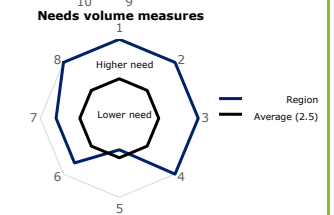
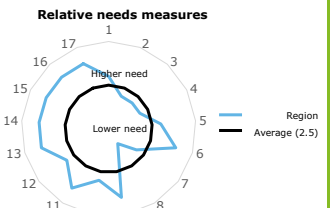
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		19%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		6
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		57%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	64%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		73%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	68%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	outcomes	78%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		4%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	344
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	266
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	28,611
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	1.5%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	344
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	266
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	28,611
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	1.5%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Yass Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	12,700
Indigenous population	2%
Region size (sqkm)	5,681
Postcode (with largest population)	2581
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	43

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	671
Higher education (online only)	216
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	700
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	84



Broader region information (SA3)

Young - Yass	
Population ⁸	38,200
Region size (sqkm)	12,136
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,548
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	574

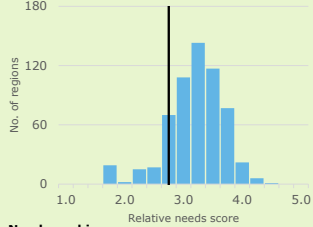
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Yass	No
Yass Surrounds	Yes
Young	No
Young Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

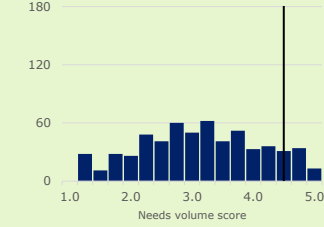
Relative needs score **2.6**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



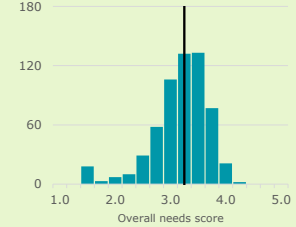
Needs volume score **4.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.2**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 104 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	1.3%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	12,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	12,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	91.9%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	43	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

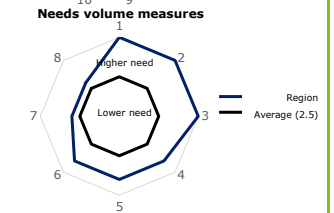
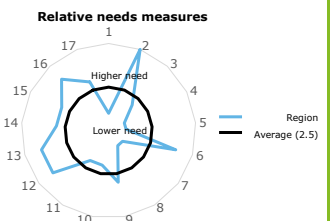
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		5.0%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-2%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		4%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		12%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		32%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		9
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		56%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		48%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		78%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	82%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		65%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	216
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		84
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	8,042
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		1.3%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	574
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		257
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	22,638
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Yass
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	6,800
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	100
Postcode (with largest population)	2582
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	48

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	508
Higher education (online only)	164
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	490
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	51



Broader region information (SA3)

Young - Yass	
Population ⁸	38,200
Region size (sqkm)	12,136
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,548
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	574

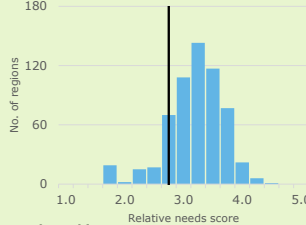
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Yass	Yes
Yass Surrounds	No
Young	No
Young Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

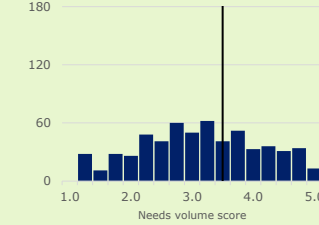
Relative needs score **2.7**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



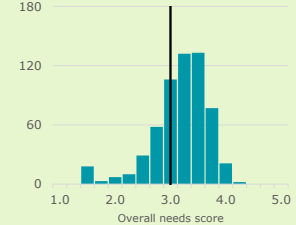
Needs volume score **3.5**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **2.9**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 158 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	6,800	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	6,800	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	88.1%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	48	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

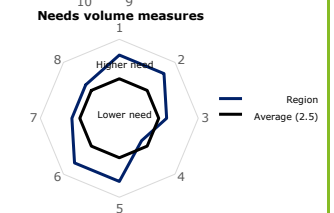
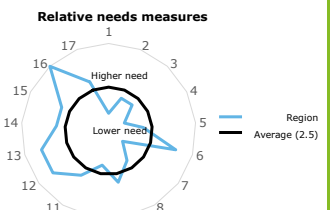
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		7.1%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-2%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		24%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		5
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		54%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	21%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	56%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		78%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		79%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		76%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	81%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	64%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	164
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	51
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	3,981
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	574
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	257
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	22,638
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

Young Surrounds
NSW

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	7,700
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	5,850
Postcode (with largest population)	2585
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	60

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	135
Higher education (online only)	63
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	425
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	46



Broader region information (SA3)

Young - Yass	
Population ⁸	38,200
Region size (sqkm)	12,136
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,548
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	574

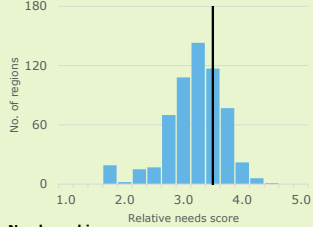
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Yass	No
Yass Surrounds	No
Young	No
Young Surrounds	Yes

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

Relative needs score **3.4**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



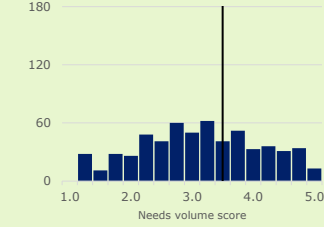
Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 63 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

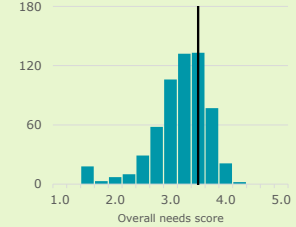
Needs volume score **3.4**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.4**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.6%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	7,700	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	7,700	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	82.7%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	60	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

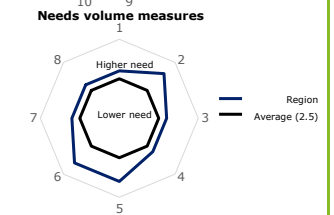
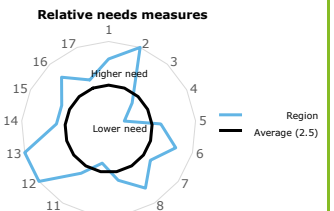
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		1.8%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		5%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		-1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	-4%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)		2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		14%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		17%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		3
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		53%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	23%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)		60%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		83%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		74%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)		68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current demand	63
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		46
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	4,353
4 Population growth (2017-2022)		0.6%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current demand	574
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)		257
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	22,638
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)		0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.

**Young
NSW**

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Demographic and other key contextual information related to the region, including the broader SA3 region.

Regional information	
Population	11,000
Indigenous population	5%
Region size (sqkm)	506
Postcode (with largest population)	2594
Region type ¹	SA2
ARIA measure	Inner regional
Distance to nearest campus (km)	65

Education enrolments	
Higher education (all)	234
Higher education (online only)	131
VET (Cert IV and above, all)	770
VET (Cert IV and above, online only)	76



Broader region information (SA3)

Young - Yass	
Population ⁸	38,200
Region size (sqkm)	12,136
HE enrolments (all) (2021)	1,548
HE enrolments (online only) (2021)	574

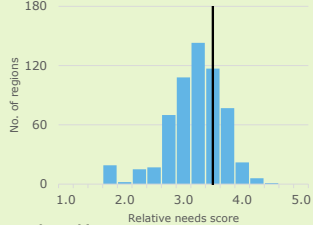
SA2 regions within broader SA3	In-scope? ⁹
Yass	No
Yass Surrounds	No
Young	Yes
Young Surrounds	No

REGIONAL NEEDS RESULTS

Summary of the key needs results, including the relative scoring of this region to all assessed regions. The overall score is a function of the 'relative needs' and 'needs volume' of a region. All regions receive an overall needs score, however, regions with an identified readiness threshold issue do not receive a ranking.

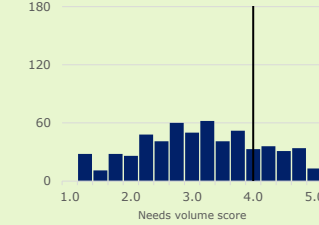
Relative needs score **3.5**

An assessment to determine the relative extent of a community's underrepresentation in access to and achievement of positive tertiary outcomes. Regions are assessed from largest relative need (5) to smallest relative need (1).



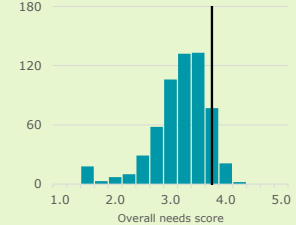
Needs volume score **3.8**

An assessment of total need or demand (i.e. volume) for Centre services within the region. Regions are assessed from largest volume (5) to smallest volume (1).



Overall needs score **3.6**

A weighted average of relative needs and needs volume to determine the overall needs score and ranking of a region. Regions are scored between highest need (5) and lowest need (1).



Needs ranking

Regions that do not have any readiness issues identified are then ranked by the overall needs score.

Ranked 19 of 235 regions with no readiness issues identified. Total number of regions is 597.

READINESS THRESHOLD

These factors inform the initial threshold considerations for the level of readiness for a community to establish a RUC, and the likelihood of success if a RUC is established.

No initial readiness issues identified

Measure	Value	Threshold ²	Met? ³
Population growth above minimum threshold	0.2%	-1.0%	Yes
Population size above minimum threshold	11,000	3,000	Yes
Population size below maximum threshold	11,000	50,000	Yes
Year 10 completions above minimum threshold	83.0%	75.0%	Yes
Existing RUC or university campus in region ⁴	No	No	Yes
Nearest campus above minimum distance threshold (km) ⁵	65	40	Yes

WEIGHTINGS

Weightings have been applied to the relative needs measures and overall needs scores.

Relative needs weightings ⁶	
Access and participation	40%
Retention and experience	40%
Transition and outcomes	20%

Overall needs weightings ⁷	
Relative needs	70%
Needs volume	30%

NEEDS MEASURES

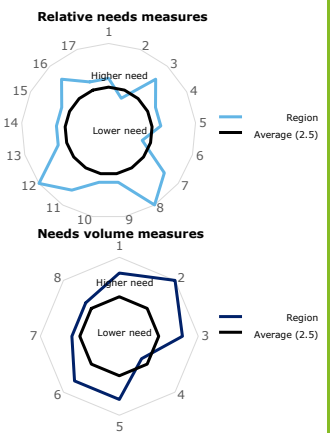
The specific measures used to determine the overall needs score and ranking. Values for each measure are normalised between 1 (lower need) to 5 (higher need) to support comparisons between regions and aggregating multiple measures. The radar charts (right) present the normalised values for each measure; scores below average (inside the black circle) represent lower levels of needs, whereas scores above average (outside the black circle) represent higher levels of need.

Relative needs measure	Theme	Value
1 Proportion of population enrolled in HE (2021)		2.3%
2 Proportion of population enrolled in VET (2021)		7%
3 Average growth in HE enrolments (2017-21)		1%
4 Average growth in VET enrolments (2017-21)	Access and participation	1%
5 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in HE (2021)	Access and participation	2%
6 Proportion of Indigenous population enrolled in VET (2021)		18%
7 Proportion of population with a tertiary qualification (2021)		15%
8 Level of disadvantage (SEIFA deciles, where 1 = most disadvantaged) (2021)		2
9 Proportion of HE students that complete within 3 years (2018 cohort)		55%
10 Proportion of HE students that unenrol within 4 years (2018 cohort)	Retention and experience	26%
11 Average VET completion rate (2017-19)	experience	62%
12 Average VET completion rate for Indigenous learners (2017-21)		81%
13 Proportion of HE graduates satisfied with overall experience (2017-21)		82%
14 Proportion of HE graduates gaining employment (2018-21)		77%
15 Proportion of HE graduates continuing further study (2018-21)	Transition and outcomes	84%
16 Proportion of HE graduating into relevant employment (2018-2021)	outcomes	68%
17 Average growth in higher skilled labour demand (2015-22)		3%

Needs volume measures	Theme	Value
1 Total HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Direct current	131
2 Total VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	76
3 Population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Direct latent demand	6,262
4 Population growth (2017-2022)	demand	0.2%
5 Broader SA3 HE enrolments (online) (2021)	Indirect current	574
6 Broader SA3 VET enrolments (Cert IV above and online) (2021)	demand	257
7 Broader SA3 population (aged 15-64) (2021)	Indirect latent demand	22,638
8 Broader SA3 population growth (2017-22)	demand	0.6%

Normalised values

Values are normalised between 1 (lower need) and 5 (higher need) to better compare regions.



Additional notes:

1. Region types are either 'SA2', 'Custom SA2' or 'SA3'. The different groupings are required to better reflect economic regions and compare geographic locations.
2. Threshold - the level set for each readiness threshold measure that a region must pass in order to be considered in-scope for a Centre.
3. Met? - Whether or not a region meets a readiness threshold.
4. Campus - an existing campus is defined as either being an existing RUC campus or a higher education institution that offers over 5 subjects and has more than 100 full time students.
5. Minimum distance - defined as the minimum distance in km between the region and an SA2 region with an existing university campus or RUC.
6. Relative needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to the combined score of relative needs measures corresponding to their relevant indicator.
7. Overall needs weightings - the weighting that is applied to all volume measures and all relative needs measures when calculating the overall needs score.
8. SA3 population - the population of the broader SA3 region, excluding any metropolitan sub-areas.
9. This table captures all the regions within the broader SA3 region (excluding any metropolitan sub-areas). 'In-scope' indicates whether a location is included in the dashboard analysis.