



Department of State and
Regional Development

New South Wales Regional Labour Force Profiles

West Central Sydney Subregion

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MAPS

FIGURE 1: SYDNEY METROPOLITAN SUBREGIONS



NSW Department of Planning West Central Draft Subregional Strategy 2007/08

FIGURE 2: WEST CENTRAL SYDNEY METROPOLITAN SUBREGION

**WEST CENTRAL SUBREGION
STRUCTURE PLAN**

VILLAGE
GREENACRE, GUILDFORD, PADSTOW, PUNCHBOWL, TOONGABBIE, SOUTH WENTWORTHVILLE, PANANIA, YAGOONA, and part of CARLINGFORD. A strip of shops and surrounding residential area within a 5–10 minute walk and usually contain a small supermarket, hairdresser, take-away food shops and have between 2,100–5,500 dwellings. Small Villages and Neighbourhood Centres are shown in Figure 11 on pages 36 and 37.

NOTE: THE FUTURE ROLE OF LOCAL CENTRES IS TO BE DETERMINED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT OVER THE LIFE OF THE STRATEGY

METROPOLITAN ATTRACTOR
West Central has a number of tourism localities which are metropolitan-wide attractors for Sydney residents, and regional and international tourists.

NATIONAL PARKS AND REGIONAL PARKS
National and Regional parks in the subregion include Western Sydney Regional Park, Parramatta Regional Park, Lake Parramatta Reserve, Mirambeena Regional Park, Deepwater Regional Park, the Millennium and Bicentennial Parklands and the Georges River National Park.

FERRY WHARF/ROUTE
Ferries service the Parramatta River providing both local transport connections and tourism attractors for the subregion.

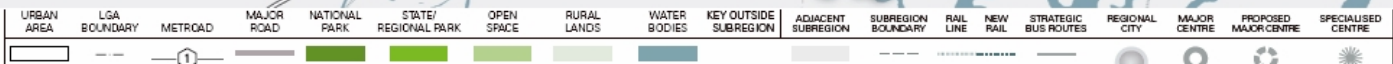
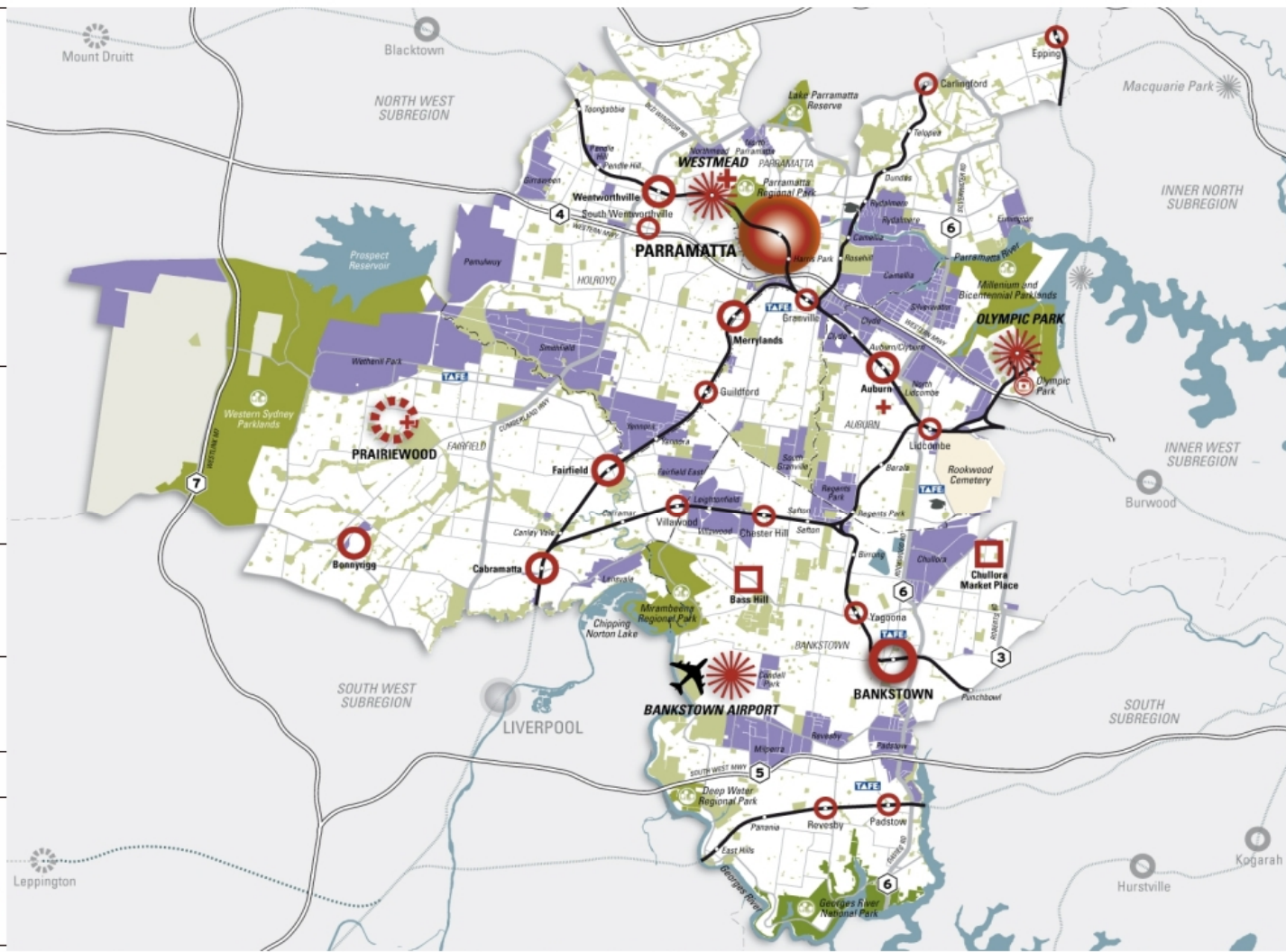
STRATEGIC BUS CORRIDORS
New direct and frequent bus services linking with Strategic Centres within and outside the subregion.

RAIL LINE: STATION

EMPLOYMENT LANDS
Traditional industrial areas and business and technology parks for higher order employment. They are vital to supporting the economy to service the city and incorporate light industries, heavy industry manufacturing, urban services, warehousing and logistics and high-tech based activities.

**WESTERN SYDNEY
EMPLOYMENT HUB**

SCALE
0 2km 4km



WEST CENTRAL TO 2031
95,500 new homes
61,000 new jobs
8 towns
8 villages
3 specialised centres
1 major centre
1 regional city

STRATEGIC CENTRES

REGIONAL CITY
PARRAMATTA
Regional Cities offer a full range of business, government, cultural, entertainment and recreational activities, taking advantage of their location as a focal point for regional transport and provide jobs closer to home for people living in their catchment.

SPECIALISED CENTRE
OLYMPIC PARK–RHODES, WESTMEAD, BANKSTOWN AIRPORT–MILPERRA
Areas containing major airports, ports, hospitals, universities, research and business activities. These perform a vital economic and employment role which generate metropolitan wide benefits.

MAJOR CENTRE (POTENTIAL)
BANKSTOWN
CABRAMATTA, FAIRFIELD, PRAIRIEWOOD
Major shopping and business centre serving the subregion with large shopping malls, specialist retail, medical services, taller office and residential buildings, council offices, central community facilities and a minimum of 8,000 jobs.

LOCAL CENTRES

TOWN CENTRE
MERRYLANDS, GRANVILLE, BONNYRIGG, AUBURN, CHESTER HILL, REVESBY, LIDCOMBE and part of EPPING
Towns have one or two supermarkets, community facilities, medical centres, schools and typically contain between 4,500 and 9,500 dwellings.

STAND ALONE SHOPPING CENTRE
CHULLORA MARKET PLACE, BASS HILL
Internalised, privately owned centres located away from other commercial areas, containing many of the attributes of a town but without housing or public open space—may have potential to become a traditional centre in the long-term.

ABOUT THIS PROFILE

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to better understand the skills and labour make-up of the West Central Metropolitan Subregion (the subregion) as part of the broad goal of achieving economic development objectives, such as attracting and retaining investment and fostering job growth.

State Plan priorities P1 (increased investment) and E3 (jobs closer to home) are supported by the contribution this profile makes to the evidence base for policy.

This profile outlines the labour force characteristics of the subregion. The subregion is made up of the following local government areas (LGAs):

- Bankstown
- Auburn
- Holroyd
- Parramatta
- Fairfield

The profile looks at the size of the labour force, skills, and labour availability and capacity in the subregion.

Data source

Data in this profile is sourced from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The Census provides the most accurate and detailed picture of the labour force.

The profile focuses on the labour characteristics of subregions, which usually take many years to change in essence. This iteration of the profile does not include information from the quarterly ABS Labour Force Survey, which is not always compatible with the subregions in this profile series and does not cover the range of labour market aspects available from the Census.

Reference period

All data in this profile refers to the position as at August 2006. Specifically, the 2006 Census was held on 8 August 2006 and labour data generally pertains to the 'last week' prior to Census night. The labour force status of a person is also derived by looking at whether work was sought in the 'last four weeks' prior to Census night.

Presentation of results

The profile compares labour force indicators in West Central to the Sydney average and indicates its position among Sydney metropolitan subregions.

The subregions covered in these profiles are consistent with the planning areas in the "City of Cities" Metropolitan Strategy, which sets out the framework and growth strategy for employment, transport, infrastructure and housing in Sydney. The metropolitan area of Sydney has been arranged into 11 subregions that combine local government areas with similar issues and challenges.

The profile looks at labour indicators in both proportional and absolute terms. For example, the profile provides data on both the unemployment rate and the number of unemployed people. West Central's position, relative to other Sydney subregions, is expressed in terms of quartiles (divisions of 25%). The first quartile represents a position in the top 25% of subregions and the fourth quartile represents a position in the bottom 25% of subregions. Quartile analysis allows for a top level understanding of how the subregion's labour force relates to the other subregions in Sydney.

Statistical tables of all regions by labour force characteristic are provided in the appendix to the report to allow readers to view and compare all subregions.

More information

The Census provides a rich dataset of demographic information. This profile is intended as an introduction to the labour force of the subregion and may point to specific areas of further investigation.

The profile is based on broad level data that is readily available in standard tables. More detailed data is available. Data can be provided at more detailed categories for items including industry, occupation, age and sex, which can focus analysis to a greater degree. Tables can also be customised to include different cross-tabulation of variables than those presented in standard tables.

Business Information Unit

Department of State and Regional Development
September 2008

GLOSSARY

Employed, worked part-time	Worked less than 35 hours in the last week.
Employed, worked full-time	Worked 35 hours or more in the last week
Field of Study – society and culture	Includes law and economics, as well as humanities disciplines.
Labour Force	Number of persons over 15 years who are either employed or are unemployed and looking for work.
Metropolitan Subregion	The composition of Sydney subregions is set out by the NSW Department of Planning. Further information on the subregions can be found in the publication <i>City of Cities – A Plan for Sydney’s Future</i> .
Participation Rate	Employed plus unemployed (labour force) as a proportion of the total population aged 15 plus.
Proportions, totals and “inadequately described/not stated” categories	Inadequately and not stated categories are excluded in the derivation of proportions. For example, the unemployment rate is derived as (number unemployed/number employed and employed) – the number of persons whose labour force status is not stated or inadequately described is excluded from the total labour force. Similarly, all totals in tables, unless indicated otherwise, exclude inadequately described and not stated figures.
Underutilisation (assumed)	A measure of potentially unused labour capacity. The number of underutilised persons is the sum of unemployed and part-time employed persons. It is assumed in this profile that all part-time employees are able and willing to work full-time. This assumption is necessary because it is not possible to readily identify part-time workers who are unable or unwilling to work more hours from standard Census tables.
Usual Residence/Place of employment	Most of the data in this profile is based on the usual residence of persons to reflect the labour available in the subregion. In contrast, data for place of work is based on the location of persons’ workplace. The different bases allow a comparison of the labour available in the subregion and the number of people who work in the subregion.
% pts	Percentage points. The simple difference between two percentage values, for example, the difference between 7.5% and 6.5% is 1% pt.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Size and composition

West Central Subregion (WCS) is a large subregion, making up almost 16% of the Sydney population over 15 years. The size of the labour force in WCS is in the top quartile of subregions in Sydney (ranked 3/11).

WCS has both the highest rate of unemployment of any subregion in Sydney, as well as the highest number of unemployed people.

Skills

The skill profile of the area is described in terms of industry and occupation of employment, educational attainment and field of study, and language proficiency.

WCS has the highest proportion of labourers among Sydney subregions, and is also in the top quartile for the concentration of technicians and trades workers, and machinery operators and drivers. Conversely, the subregion has the lowest concentration of managers, and the proportion of professionals is also in the lowest quartile.

In industry terms, WCS has particular concentration strengths in manufacturing and transport, postal and warehousing, and is also ranked in the top quartile for the proportion of people employed in wholesale and retail trade. WCS is under-represented in professional, scientific and technical services, rental, hiring and real estate services, arts and recreation services, and education and training.

Due its relatively large size, the number of people in most occupations and industries is in, or close to, the top quartile.

WCS is characterised by relatively lower levels of educational attainment than Sydney as a whole. WCS has the lowest proportion of people with a non-school qualification, including being in the lowest quartile for the proportion of people with a bachelor degree or higher.

However, WCS has the strongest representation of people who have completed an IT qualification, being ranked first for both the number and proportion of people with a qualification in information technology.

WCS has the highest proportion and number of people in Sydney who speak a non-English language and speak English well or very well. The proportion of people who speak a non-English language and speak English at least well is 19% pts higher than the Sydney average.

Labour participation and capacity

WCS has the lowest participation rate in Sydney. The participation profile of the subregion includes a high proportion of full-time workers, and unemployed people looking for full-time work, compared to most other subregions. The low participation rate may be explained in part by the relatively high overseas-born and migrant population in the subregion, which is connected to above-average levels of structural unemployment, discouraged job-seekers or people otherwise not participating in the labour force.

The assumed underutilisation rate¹ in WCS is just above the Sydney average and the fourth highest among the eleven subregions. The subregion is not ranked as low for underutilisation as its unemployment rate would suggest due to its below-average concentration of part-time workers.

The number of full and part-time students in WCS - a measure of potential supply of skilled labour - is in the highest quartile of subregions in Sydney.

¹ See glossary

A: SIZE AND COMPOSITION

Population

The total population over 15 years of age in West Central Sydney (WCS) is 516,889, which is 15.6% of the total population of Sydney over 15 years. WCS is the second most populous metropolitan subregion in Sydney.

Size of the labour force

The size of the labour force is the total number of people over the age of 15 who are employed or unemployed and looking for work.

There are 136,541 people in the WCS labour force and this puts it in the top quartile of subregions in Sydney (rank 3/11).

Employment

The number of people who are working as a proportion of people who want or are able to work in WCS is 91.9%. The employment rate in WCS is 2.8% pts lower than the Sydney rate of 94.7% and is ranked the lowest among Sydney subregions (Table 1.1).

Table 1.1

	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% rank	Persons	Persons	Persons rank
Employed	91.9	94.7	11	256,665	1,903,525	3

There are 256,665 people employed in WCS, and this places it in the top quartile of subregions in regional NSW (rank 3/11).

Unemployment

The unemployment rate for WCS is 8.1%, which is 2.8% pts higher than the Sydney average of 5.3%. WCS has the highest unemployment rate in Sydney (Table 1.2).

Table 1.2

	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Unemployed	8.1	5.3	1	22,714	106,490	1

There are almost 23,000 unemployed people in WCS, which is the largest number of people of any subregion in Sydney.

The Subregion as a place of employment

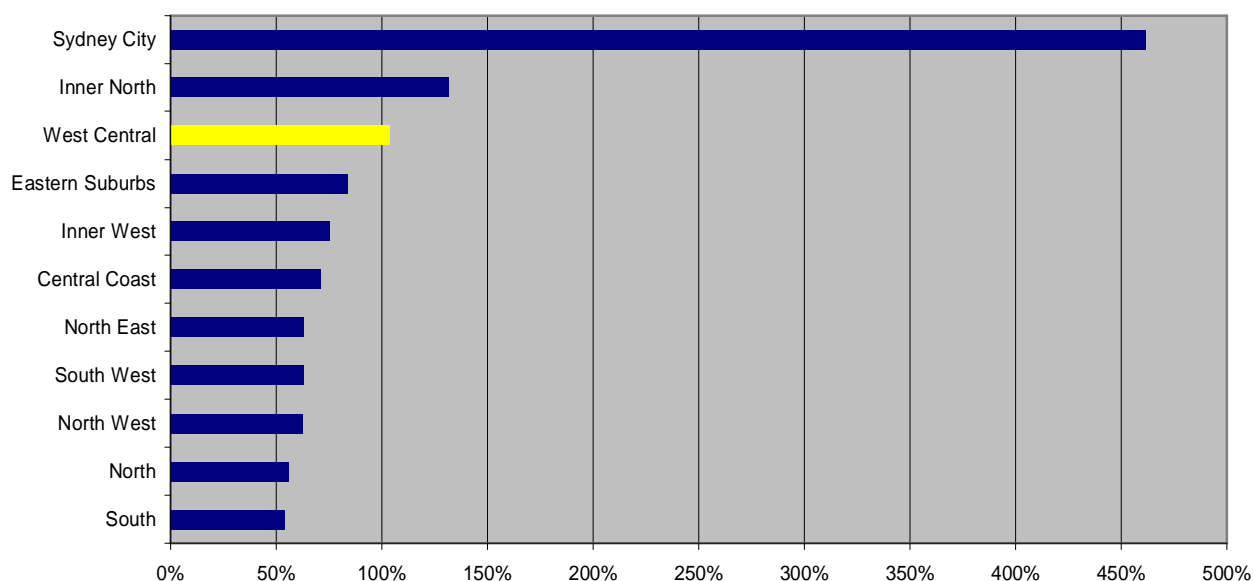
This section is based on a comparison of where people live and where people work. This comparison highlights whether a subregion draws workers from other subregions or supplies workers to other subregions. This profile does not include 'journey to work' data, which reveals exactly how many people in the subregion work outside the subregion. Nevertheless, this comparison provides useful information on the 'net trade' in employment between the subregion and external areas.

WCS is one of only three subregions in Sydney where the number of people who work in the subregion exceeds the number of employed people who usually reside in the subregion (Figure 1.3). WCS is ranked third for this characteristic, with the number of people who work in the subregion being about 4% larger than the number of employed people who usually live in the subregion. Overall, the subregion is a slight net importer of employed people.

The subregion’s employment drivers include the large business district of Parramatta, and the industrial and public health infrastructure in the subregion which draws workers from other areas.

Figure 1.3

Persons who work in the region as a proportion of employed persons who are usually resident in the region



Employment by occupation: place of work vs place of residence

WCS is a large net importer of managers, professionals, machinery operators and drivers, and clerical and administrative workers (Table 1.4, Figure 1.5).

The subregion is a significant net exporter of technicians and trade workers and labourers, reflecting the relatively large supply of these workers in the subregion and related socio-economic factors, including the relative affordability of housing in the subregion.

Table 1.4

Occupation	Work in WCS	Live in WCS	Difference	
			%	Persons
Managers	32,957	23,760	38.7	9,197
Professionals	49,829	43,578	14.3	6,251
Technicians and trades workers	35,797	39,596	-9.6	-3,799
Community and personal service workers	18,486	18,900	-2.2	-414
Clerical and administrative workers	49,580	44,591	11.2	4,989
Sales workers	23,967	24,585	-2.5	-618
Machinery operators and drivers	27,600	24,170	14.2	3,430
Labourers	24,548	30,286	-18.9	-5,738

Figure 1.5

Persons who work in the region as a proportion of usually resident employed persons

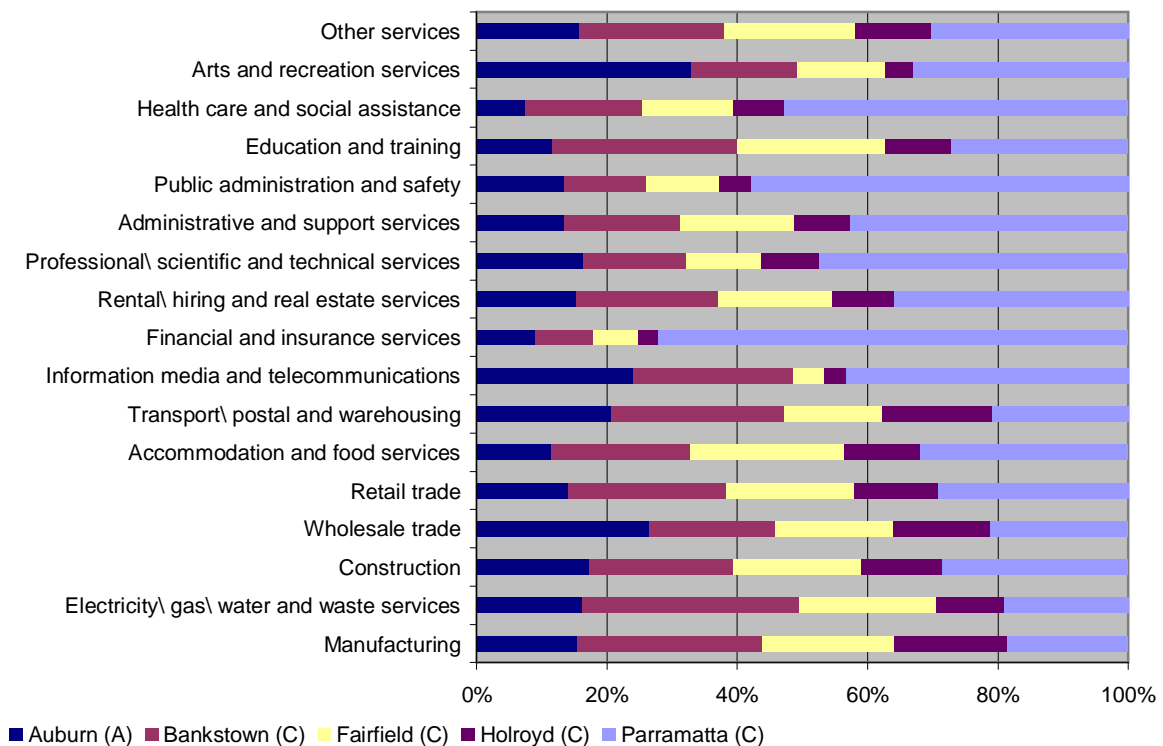


Place of employment by industry: LGAs within subregion

The Parramatta LGA is the business centre of the subregion. The Parramatta LGA dominates employment within the subregion in financial and insurance services, information media and telecommunications, professional, and scientific and technical services. Parramatta also has a large proportion of employment in health care and social assistance, and public administration and safety industries.

The other industries are more evenly distributed among the LGAs in the subregion. Bankstown has the largest share of employment in the manufacturing, utilities, and education and training, while Auburn leads employment in the wholesale industry.

Place of employment by industry: West Central LGAs



B: SKILLS

Employment by occupation

Clerical and administrative workers make up the largest occupation group resident in WCS, accounting for 17.9% of employed people by occupation. This is closely followed by professionals, who make up 17.5% of employed people by occupation and technicians and trade workers at 15.9% (Table 2.1).

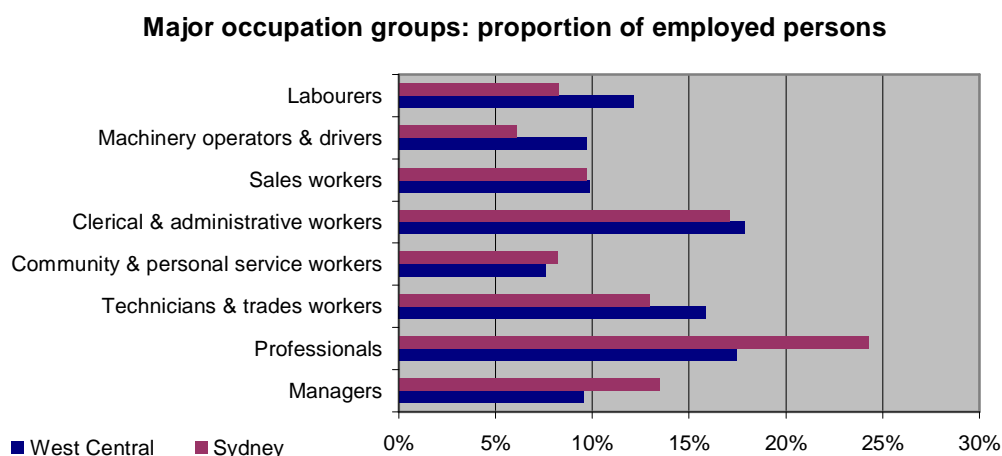
Table 2.1

Occupation	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Managers	9.5	13.5	11	23,760	250,976	4
Professionals	17.5	24.3	9	43,578	452,283	4
Technicians & trades workers	15.9	13.0	3	39,596	241,725	3
Community & personal service workers	7.6	8.2	8	18,900	152,711	3
Clerical & administrative workers	17.9	17.1	4	44,591	318,013	3
Sales workers	9.9	9.7	6	24,585	181,401	3
Machinery operators & drivers	9.7	6.1	2	24,170	113,669	2
Labourers	12.1	8.2	1	30,286	153,457	2

WCS has concentration strengths in technicians and trade workers, machinery operators and drivers and labourers, with each of these occupation groups having a location quotient above 1.2². WCS is in the top quartile for the proportion of employed people in these occupations.

While WCS has a relatively large number of managers and professionals, on account of its population size, it has a lower proportion of managers and professionals than the Sydney average, and is in the bottom quartile for the proportion of people in these occupations (Table 2.1, Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.2



Employment by industry

The industries with the largest proportion of workers living in WCS are manufacturing, retail trade, and health care and social assistance (Table 2.3).

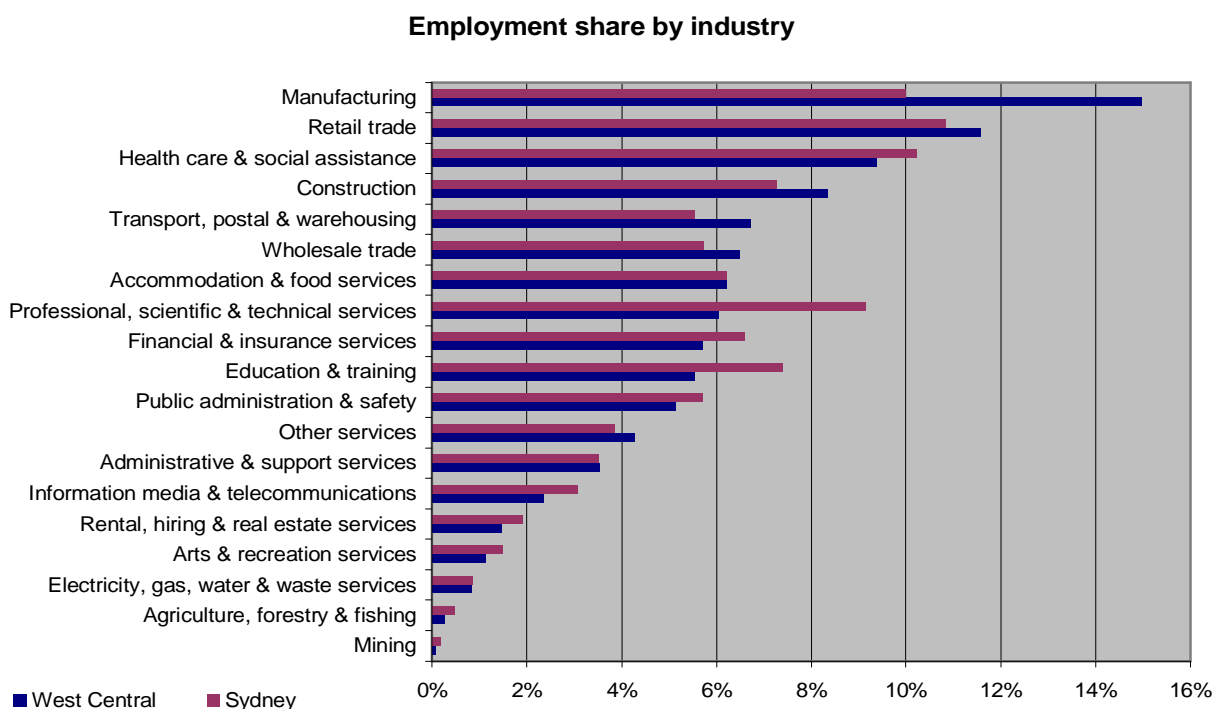
² The ratio of the proportion of the occupation in the subregion to the proportion of the same occupation in Greater Sydney.

Table 2.3

Industry	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	0.3	0.5	7	649	8,559	5
Mining	0.1	0.2	11	204	3,162	7
Manufacturing	15.0	10.0	2	36,969	184,993	2
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	0.8	0.9	5	2,055	15,939	3
Construction	8.3	7.3	5	20,599	134,629	3
Wholesale trade	6.5	5.7	2	16,052	105,842	2
Retail trade	11.6	10.8	2	28,578	200,291	3
Accommodation & food services	6.2	6.2	6	15,334	115,027	3
Transport, postal & warehousing	6.7	5.5	3	16,572	102,512	3
Information media & telecommunications	2.4	3.1	8	5,807	56,857	4
Financial & insurance services	5.7	6.6	8	14,110	122,164	4
Rental, hiring & real estate services	1.5	1.9	11	3,612	35,116	3
Professional, scientific & technical services	6.0	9.2	9	14,898	169,351	6
Administrative & support services	3.5	3.5	6	8,726	64,878	3
Public administration & safety	5.1	5.7	8	12,701	105,692	3
Education & training	5.5	7.4	11	13,665	136,623	3
Health care & social assistance	9.4	10.2	9	23,130	189,211	3
Arts & recreation services	1.1	1.5	11	2,751	27,698	4
Other services	4.3	3.9	1	10531	71302	3

WCS has particular concentrations in manufacturing and transport, postal and warehousing industries, and to a lesser extent in wholesale trade, retail trade, and other services (including automotive and machinery repair and maintenance). WCS is in the top quartile of Sydney subregions for all of these industries (Table 2.3, Figure 2.4).

Figure 2.4



WCS has a relatively low concentration of education and training, and professional, scientific and technical services industries, with the proportion in the subregion 2% pts below the Sydney average. In addition, in proportionate terms the following industries are also in the bottom quartile in WCS:

- Arts and recreation services
- Rental, hiring and real estate services
- Mining
- Healthcare and social assistance

In terms of absolute numbers, WCS is in the first or second quartile for the majority of occupations, reflecting its large size in comparison to the other subregions.

Despite its large size, WCS is only ranked 6/11 and 7/11 of subregions for the number of employed people in mining and professional, scientific and technical services respectively (Table 2.3).

Educational attainment

The proportion of people over 15 years of age in WCS that have attained a non-school qualification is 47.9%, which is 9.3% pts lower than for Sydney. WCS has the lowest proportion of people with non-school qualifications in Sydney (Table 2.5).

Table 2.5

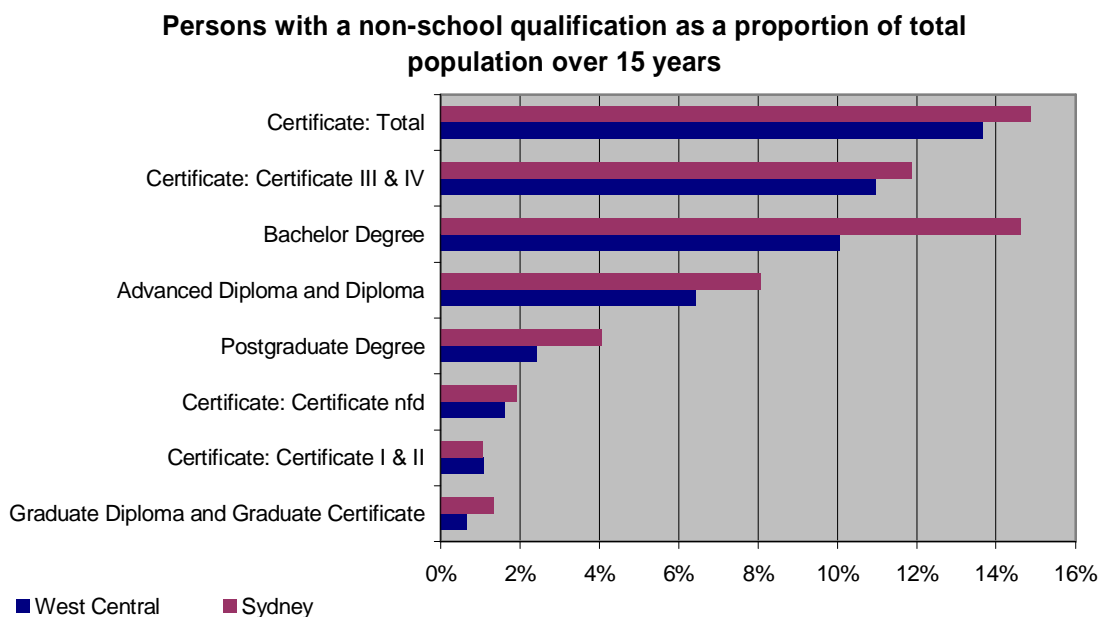
Qualification	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Postgraduate Degree	2.4	4.1	9	12,536	134,905	7
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	0.7	1.3	11	3,495	44,347	7
Bachelor Degree	10.1	14.6	9	52,031	484,227	4
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	6.4	8.1	11	33,182	267,647	3
Certificate: Total	13.7	14.9	6	70,649	493,123	3
Bachelor or Higher	13.2	20.0	9	68,062	663,479	4
Certificate or Diploma	20.1	23.0	7	103,831	760,770	3
Total non-school qualification ⁽¹⁾	47.9	57.3	11	247,830	1,897,509	3

(1) Includes non-stated and inadequately described

For example, the proportion of people in WCS whose highest qualification is a bachelor degree or higher is 13.2%, which is about 7% pts lower than the Sydney average, and places WCS in the lowest quartile (Figure 2.6).

WCS is in the top quartile for the number of people holding a certificate or diploma (rank 3/11) and in the second quartile (rank 4/11) for the number of people holding a bachelor degree or higher.

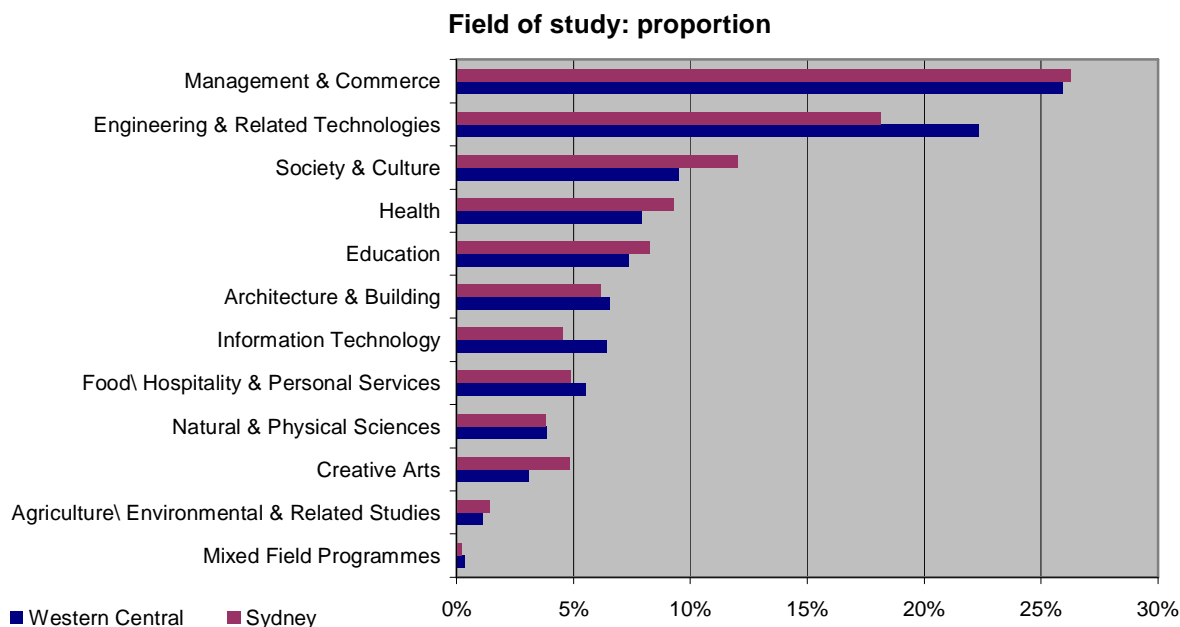
Figure 2.6



Study fields

Of those in the resident labour force who have undertaken education beyond school, the most popular field of study completed by residents of WCS is management and commerce, which accounts for almost 26% of all qualifications awarded, followed by engineering and related technologies with 22.3% (Figure 2.7, Table 2.8).

Figure 2.7



WCS is ranked first for the proportion of people with qualifications in information technology, with 6.4% of people (1.9% pts above the Sydney average) in the subregion in this category. WCS is also ranked in the first quartile for the proportion of people with qualifications in engineering and related technologies, and food, hospitality and personal services (Figure 2.7).

Table 2.8

Field of Study	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Natural & Physical Sciences	3.9	3.8	6	6,890	56,618	3
Information Technology	6.4	4.6	1	11,480	67,437	1
Engineering & Related Technologies	22.3	18.2	3	39,940	268,334	3
Architecture & Building	6.6	6.2	5	11,733	91,091	3
Agriculture\ Environmental & Related Studies	1.1	1.4	8	1,998	21,138	4
Health	7.9	9.3	10	14,139	137,701	3
Education	7.4	8.3	8	13,218	122,074	3
Management & Commerce	25.9	26.3	8	46,336	388,300	3
Society & Culture	9.5	12.1	9	16,968	178,193	5
Creative Arts	3.1	4.8	9	5,558	71,311	7
Food\ Hospitality & Personal Services	5.5	4.9	3	9,878	72,410	3
Mixed Field Programmes	0.4	0.2	1	647	3,118	1
Field of study inadequately described				2,901	23,647	
Field of study not stated				66,139	396,135	
Total				247,825	1,897,507	

WCS is ranked in the bottom quartile for the proportion of people with qualifications in health, society and culture, and creative arts.

Consistent with its size ranking, WCS is ranked in the top quartile for the number of people in nine out of twelve fields of study. This includes information technology, in which WCS has the highest number of people with qualifications among subregions.

Despite its size, WCS is in the third quartile (rank 7/11) for the number of people with qualifications in the creative arts.

School qualifications

Almost 70% of people in WCS have completed schooling to Year 10 or higher, which is almost 7% pts lower than the Sydney average. WCS is in the bottom quartile of subregions for the proportion of people with school qualifications to Year 10 or higher (Table 2.9).

The proportion of people in WCS who have completed schooling to Year 12 or equivalent is almost 6% pts below the Sydney average and in the third quartile (rank 8/11). By contrast, the proportion of people who have completed schooling to Year 10 or equivalent is just over 1% pt below the Sydney average and in the middle rank. This data suggests that a lower proportion of school students in WCS go on to complete Year 12 than the Sydney average, and is consistent with the data showing that WCS is closer to the Sydney average in terms of people with certificate qualifications than bachelor or higher qualifications (Table 2.9, Table 2.5).

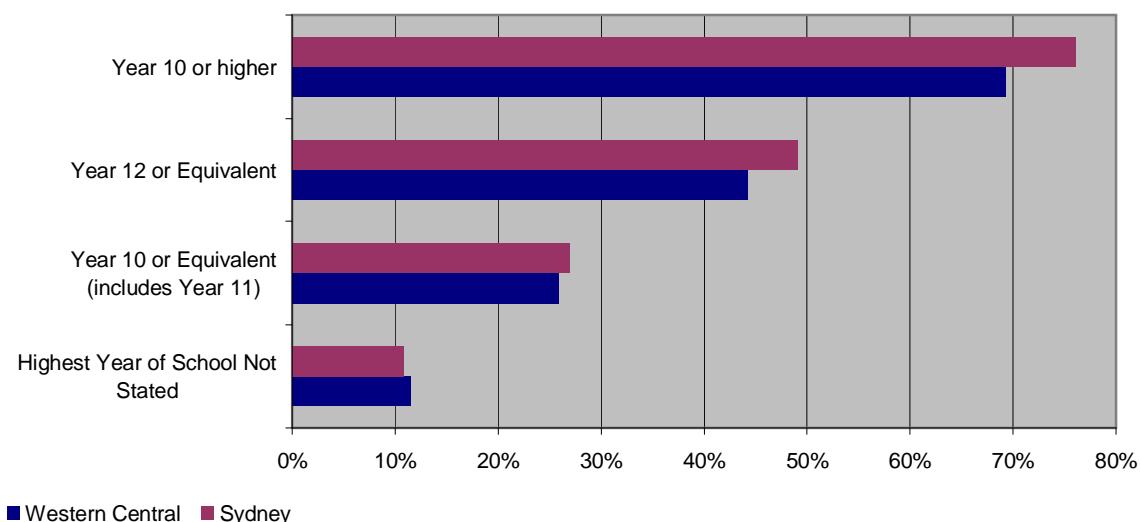
Table 2.9

School Qualification	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Year 10 or higher	69.3	76.1	10	358,180	2,523,109	3
Year 12 or Equivalent	43.4	49.1	8	224,523	1,628,362	3
Year 10 or Equivalent (includes Year 11)	25.9	27.0	6	133,657	894,747	3
Highest Year of School Not Stated	11.5	10.8	3	59,455	357,930	1

WCS is in the top quartile for the number of people with school qualifications, and for the number of people with qualifications to Year 10 or Year 12.

Figure 2.10

School qualifications as a proportion of total population over 15 years



Languages

The proportion of people who speak another language and speak English well or very well in WCS is 41.1% (Table 2.11). WCS has the highest proportion of people in this category, nearly 18% above the Sydney average.

Table 2.11

Proficiency in spoken English	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Speaks English only	41.8	68.7	11	253,976	2,636,010	5
Speaks other language and speaks English well/very Well	44.2	25.5	1	268,851	977,380	1
Speaks other language and speaks English not well or not well at all	14.0	5.8	1	85,047	224,447	1
Speaks other language and speaks English total	58.2	31.3	1	353,898	1,201,827	1

The most popular languages spoken at home in WCS are Arabic, Chinese languages and Vietnamese. The next most popular group of languages are Italian, Spanish and Greek (Table 2.12).

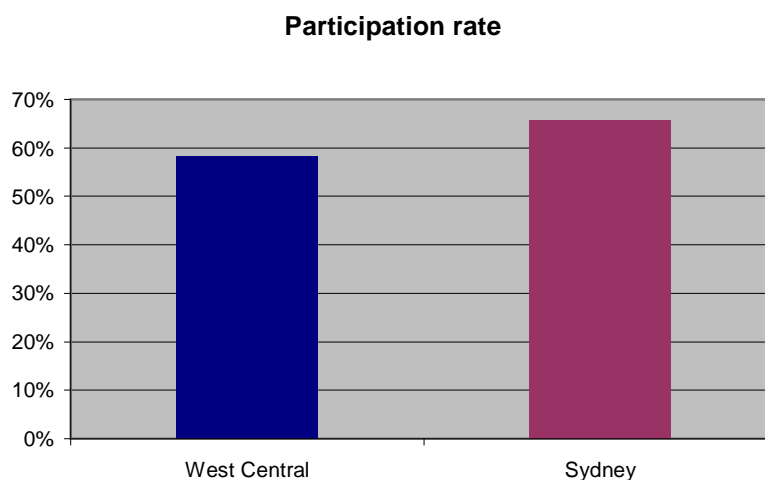
Table 2.12

Languages	Speaks English only	Speaks other language and speaks English			Not stated	Total
		Very well or well	Not well or not at all	Total		
Speaks other language:						
Arabic		64,887	13,515	78,402	1,141	79,543
Chinese languages		36,870	20,515	57,385	590	57,975
Cantonese		19,981	11,518	31,499	305	31,804
Mandarin		13,682	7,291	20,973	210	21,183
Vietnamese		29,312	18,765	48,077	537	48,614
Italian		11,892	2,350	14,242	145	14,387
Spanish		9,760	2,161	11,921	148	12,069
Greek		9,051	1,906	10,957	128	11,085
Hindi		7,321	449	7,770	90	7,860
Turkish		6,992	2,283	9,275	118	9,393
Iranic languages		5,261	2,256	7,517	233	7,750
Total (includes languages not shown and not stated)	253,977	268,851	85,047	353,898	45,555	653,430

C: LABOUR PARTICIPATION AND CAPACITY

Participation rate

The participation rate for WCS is 58.3%, which is 7.4% pts lower than the participation rate for Sydney. WCS has the lowest participation rate of all subregions in Sydney.



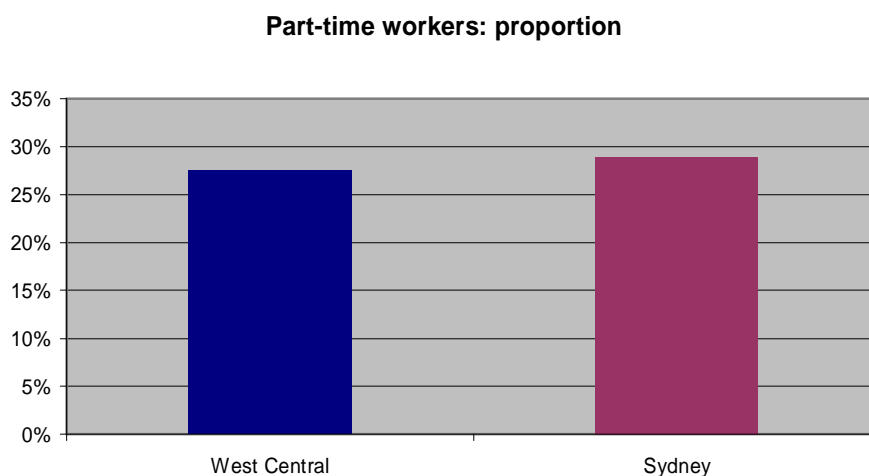
Part-time employment

The proportion of employed people who are working part-time in WCS is 27.5%, which is 1.4% pts lower than the Sydney average and puts the subregion in the third quartile (rank 7/11) for this indicator (Table 3.1, Figure 3.2).

Table 3.1

	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Part-time employment	27.5	29.0	7	65,518	516,784	3

Figure 3.2



In absolute terms, the number of part-time employed people in WCS is in the top quartile, indicative of the relative large labour force in the subregion.

Unemployed people: type of work sought

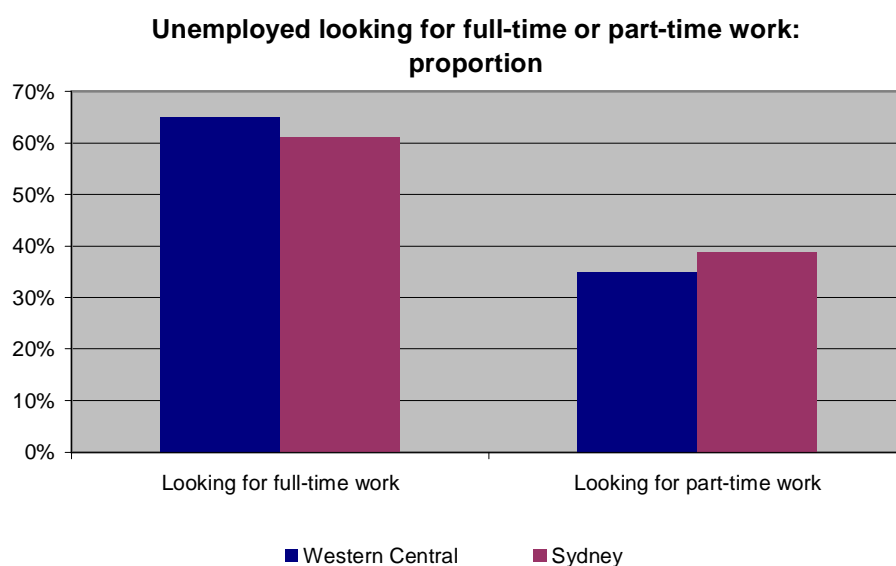
The proportion of unemployed people looking for full-time work in WCS is 65.0%, almost 4% pts above the proportion in Sydney (Figure 3.4). WCS is in the top quartile (rank 3/11) for the proportion of unemployed people looking for full-time work (Table 3.3).

Table 3.3

	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Looking for full-time work	65.0	61.1	3	14,767	65,112	1
Looking for part-time work	35.0	38.9	9	7,947	41,378	1

Conversely, WCS is in the bottom quartile for the proportion of unemployed people looking for part-time work (Table 3.3).

Figure 3.4



WCS has the highest number of people looking for full-time work and part-time work.

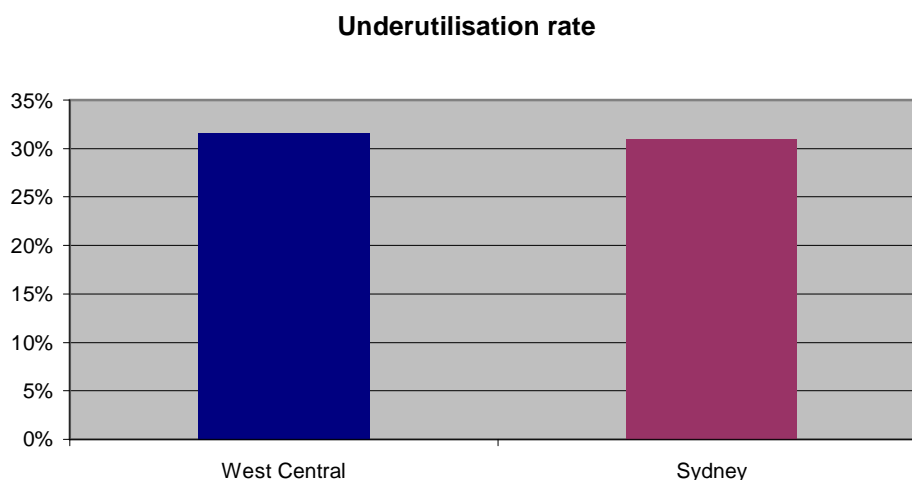
The indicators of participation rate, part-time employment and type of work sought build a picture of labour force participation. WCS has a low participation rate, but those who are in the labour force are relatively more likely to work full-time or be seeking full-time employment. This could be indicative of higher levels of structural unemployment, probably related to the large overseas-born and migrant population in the subregion and their capacity to secure full-time work.

Assumed underutilisation

Underutilisation can be defined as the sum of unemployed people and part-time workers who can work full-time. Part-time workers are defined as people employed less than 35 hours per week. It is not possible from Census data to readily exclude part-time workers who do not want to work full-time. It is therefore assumed that all part-time workers are able and willing to work full-time.

The assumed underutilisation rate in WCS is 31.6% (Figure 3.5), placing WCS in the second quartile (rank 4/11) of subregions.

Figure 3.5



The number of underutilised people in WCS is almost 90,000, placing WCS in the highest quartile (rank 3/11) in absolute terms (Table 3.6).

Table 3.6

	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Underutilisation	31.6	31.0	4	88,232	623,274	3

Hours worked by occupation: less than 25 hours

Overall, the proportion of workers employed for less than 25 hours per week in WCS (21.2%) is close to the Sydney average (22.5%).

Table 3.7

Occupation: worked less than 25 hours	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Managers	9.7	9.5	6	2,240	23,311	4
Professionals	15.8	18.3	10	6,745	81,396	6
Technicians & trades workers	13.3	12.9	9	5,054	30,272	3
Community & personal service workers	34.6	38.2	10	6,274	56,556	3
Clerical & administrative workers	20.8	24.8	10	9,089	77,406	3
Sales workers	41.8	41.6	4	9,891	73,404	3
Machinery operators and drivers	12.6	13.1	9	2,917	14,337	2
Labourers	29.6	34.0	10	8,575	50,264	2
Total	21.2	22.5		52,152	415,004	

WCS has a lower proportion of professionals, community and personal service workers, clerical and administrative workers and labourers working less than 25 hours than the Sydney average (Table 3.7). This may reflect the higher demand for these occupations in the subregion's 'employment catchment'.

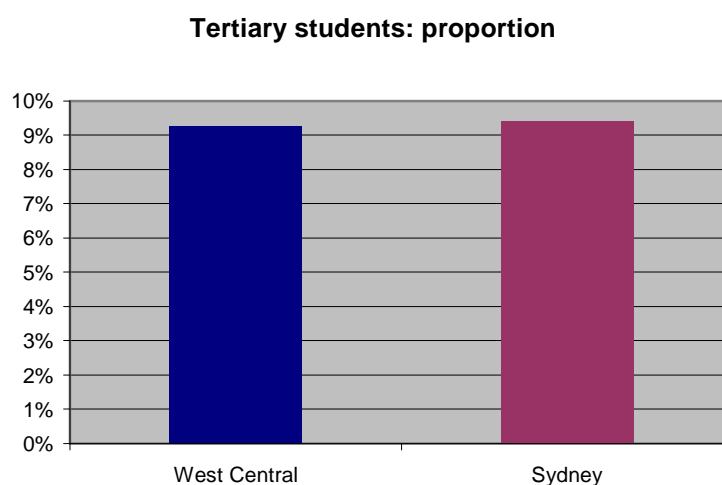
Six of the eight major occupation groups in WCS are in the top quartile for the number of people working less than 25 hours. This is a reflection of the size of the WCS subregion compared to the other subregions.

Students

The number of non-school students provides an indication of the pipeline of future tertiary educated employees that could be available from a subregion.

Census statistics on the full/part-time status of students by educational institution should be treated with caution. The type of educational institution attended was not stated for a large proportion of total students, and the full/part-time status of these students could not be assigned to the type of institution they were attending.

Figure 3.8



WCS is close to the average Sydney subregion for the number of tertiary students as a proportion of the population over 15 years (Figure 3.8). The subregion is ranked 9/11 for the proportion of part-time students, however, it is only 0.3% pts below the Sydney average (Table 3.9).

Table 3.9

Tertiary Students	WCS	Sydney	WCS	WCS	Sydney	WCS
	%	%	% Rank	Persons	Persons	Persons Rank
Part-time students	4.0	4.4	9	20,922	144,207	3
Full-time students	5.0	4.9	6	25,981	163,968	1
Total tertiary students	9.3	9.4	7	47,877	312,339	2

APPENDIX 1

Statistical tables: all subregions

