Understanding liveability inequities across the suburbs of Burwood

Liveability Scorecard For the LGA of Burwood: 2021

Australian Urban Observatory

Acknowledgements

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Indicator data and maps can be accessed through the Australian Urban Observatory:

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NSW GOVERNMENT Sydney Local Health District

About this report

This Local Government Area (LGA) Liveability Scorecard has been prepared by the Australian Urban Observatory (AUO) in partnership with the Health Promotion Unit, Sydney Local Health District. It has been designed to understand the liveability of individual suburbs within an LGA and prioritise future actions and investments of interest to councils, community, urban planners, developers, and other decision makers to achieve healthier and more liveable places across an entire LGA.

The LGA Liveability Scorecard includes AUO indicators measuring overall liveability, walkability, social infrastructure, public transport, healthy food, alcohol, public open space, local employment and housing affordability[1]. For each indicator, suburb level results are compared to the LGA average to understand place-based liveability strengths and areas needing future prioritisation and action. All AUO indicators align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals[2].

The LGA Liveability Scorecards are aligned with a range of AUO scorecards including City Scorecards and Growth Area Scorecards developed by the AUO @ RMIT University based on 2021 indicator results.

More detailed neighbourhood, suburb, and Local Government Area results across Australian cities are available online at auo.org.au.

Summary for Burwood

Indicator	Brief Description	Value	Difference between LGA and Greater Sydney	
Liveability Index	Liveability Index	101.7	●	Similar*
Walkability Index	Walkability Index	3.2	▲	Better
Social Infrastructure Index	Social Infrastructure Index	9.0	▲	Better
Public Transport	Percentage living within 400m to regular public transport	91.2%	▲	Better
Food Environment	Average distance to closest healthy food outlet (super-market or greengrocer)	619.5m	▲	Better
Alcohol Environment	Average distance to closest off-license alcohol outlet	500.5m	▼	Worse
Public Open Space	Percentage living within 400m of public open space of 1.5 hectares	26.6%	▼	Worse
Local Employment	Percentage of employed peo-ple living and working in the same SA3	23.0%	▼	Worse
Housing Affordability	Percentage of households spending more than 30% of income on housing costs	46.9%	▼	Worse

* Similar = less than 10% difference between LGA and city average.

Please visit the Australian Urban Observatory at **auo.org.au** for more reports covering the liveability of Australia's 21 largest cities.

Liveability Index

Rationale

The economic, social, environmental and health co-benefits of urban liveability are recognised by all levels of government in Australia and globally [3]. Liveable communities are safe, socially cohesive, inclusive and environmentally sustainable [4]. They have affordable housing linked via public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure to employment, education, shops, services, public open space and social, cultural and recreational opportunities [3].

What we measured

The Liveability Index is underpinned by over a decade of research. It combines six domains of liveability found to be associated with health and wellbeing outcomes: walkability; access to social infrastructure; public transport; larger public open space; affordable housing; and local employment.

Results

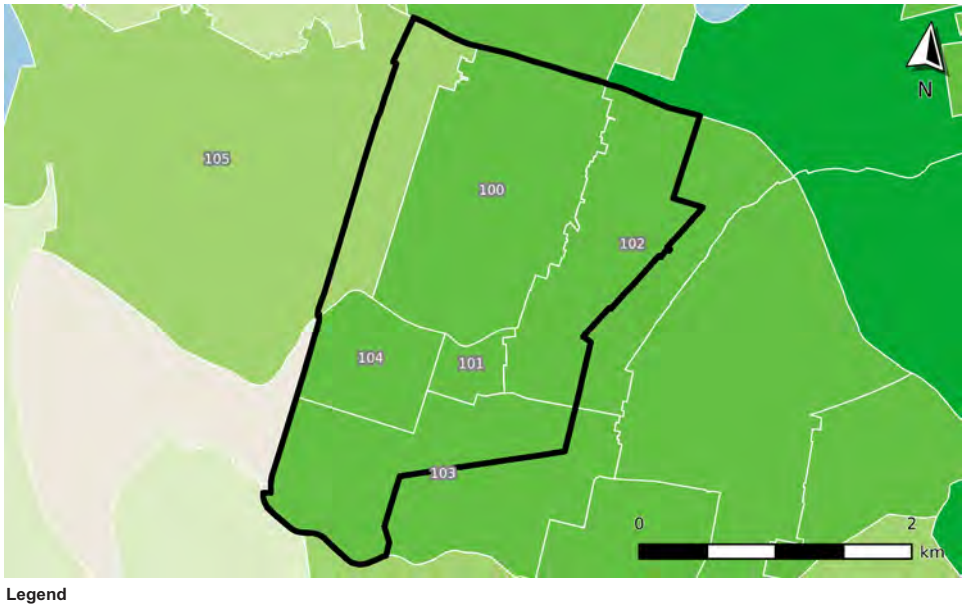
ID	Suburb	Value
104	Enfield	102.5
103	Croydon Park	101.9
101	Burwood Heights	101.6
102	Croydon	101.5
100	Burwood	101.4
105	Strathfield	100.4

The Liveability Index score for residences across the LGA of Burwood is

101.7

This Liveability Index score is similar to the Greater Sydney average of 99.7.

Figure 1. Liveability Index scores for suburbs across the LGA of Burwood



Walkability

Rationale

Walkability measures the ease and safety of walking in an area. Neighbourhoods that have shops and services to walk to, small blocks, good street connectivity, and higher population density are more walkable [5]. Walkable neighbourhoods discourage driving and encourage active travel resulting in higher levels of walking and cycling. The benefits of a physically active life are well established in reducing chronic disease and maintaining health and wellbeing [6].

What we measured

Walkability for Transport is calculated as a composite index, with 0 being the national average, that includes access to daily living destinations (something to walk to), dwelling density (population needed to supply services and destinations), and street connectivity (a way to get there) within a reasonable walking distance of home. The higher the score above zero, the more walkable the area.

Results

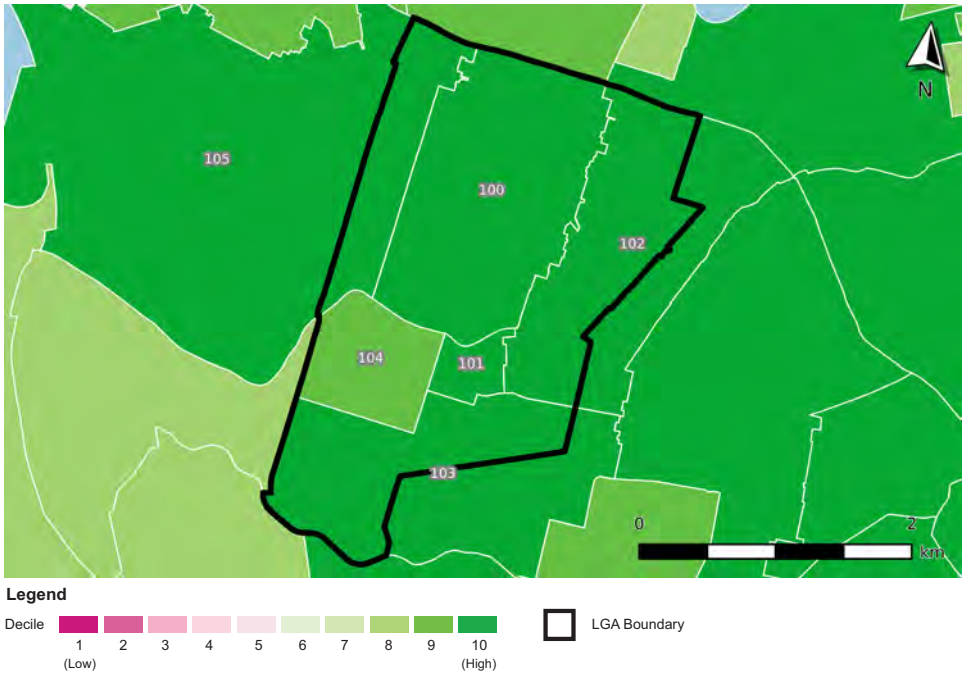
ID	Suburb	Value
100	Burwood	3.8
101	Burwood Heights	2.6
102	Croydon	2.6
103	Croydon Park	2.2
105	Strathfield	2.1
104	Enfield	1.7

The LGA of Burwood ranks

6th

within all LGAs in Greater Sydney for Walkability.

Figure 2. Walkability for transport across suburbs across the BurwoodLGA



Social Infrastructure

Rationale

Social infrastructure refers to essential community services and resources [7]. Ready access to a wide range of different types of social infrastructure is important for the creation and ongoing development of healthy communities. The availability of well-planned social infrastructure supports liveable communities by promoting increased physical activity [8], wellbeing [7], increased satisfaction with the local community [9], improving social interactions and mental health outcomes [10]. Social infrastructure is a key component of liveability.

What we measured

The Social Infrastructure Index includes access to 16 types of social infrastructure at various recommended distances from dwellings. It includes access to childcare facilities, community centres, libraries, aged care facilities, pharmacies, family and community healthcare, dentists and general practitioners, sporting facilities, swimming pools, outside school hours childcare, primary and secondary schools, museums or galleries, and cinemas and theatres.

Results

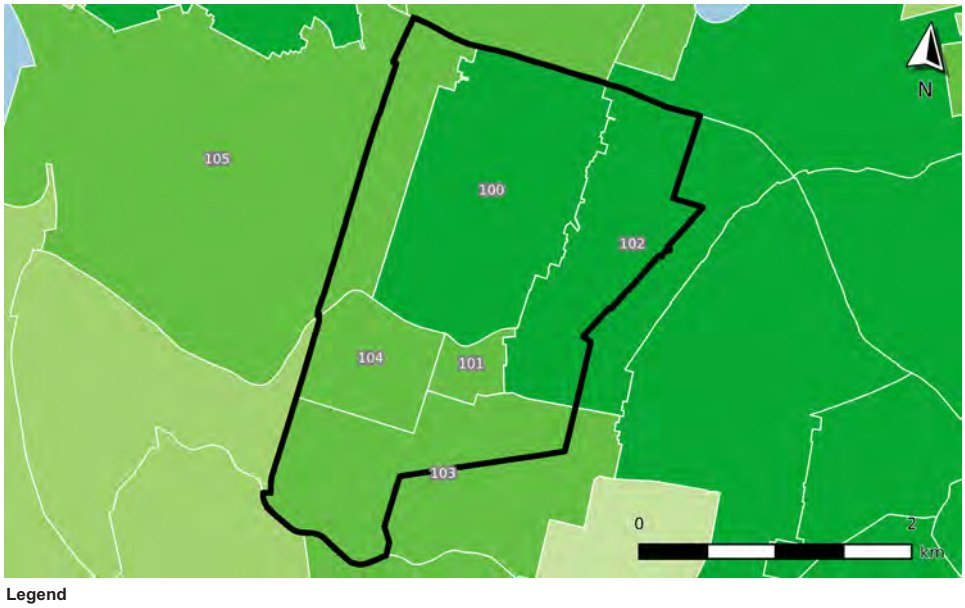
ID	Suburb	Value
102	Croydon	9.8
100	Burwood	9.5
101	Burwood Heights	8.2
105	Strathfield	8.2
104	Enfield	7.8
103	Croydon Park	7.5

The Social Infrastructure Index score for residences across the LGA of Burwood is

9.0 out of a total of 16.

In comparison, the score for Greater Sydney, on average, is 6.288.

Figure 3. Social Infrastructure Index results across suburbs of the LGA of Burwood.



Public Transport

Rationale

People living close to public transport are more likely to use it, less dependent on cars and more likely to achieve physical activity requirements [6]. Living within 400m of a public transport stop with a service every 30 minutes encourages more walking [11]. It supports sustainability and people with restricted mobility, including young people, older adults, people with disabilities and people who don't own cars to access services, education and jobs.

What we measured

We measured access to bus, train, and tram stops with an average service interval of no more than 30 minutes between the weekday hours of 7 am and 7 pm. Access was measured as the percentage of dwellings with a regular service within 400m of any of these stops based on a walkable road network distance.

Results

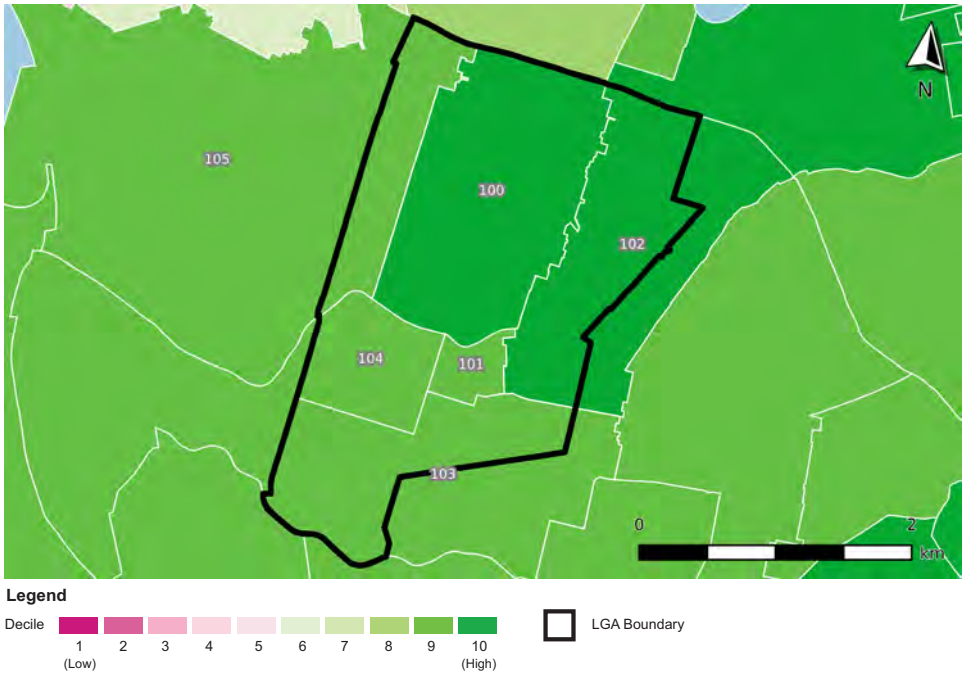
ID	Suburb	Value
102	Croydon	92.4%
100	Burwood	90.6%
103	Croydon Park	90.1%
104	Enfield	88.5%
101	Burwood Heights	86.3%
105	Strathfield	86.3%

The percentage of households across the LGA of Burwood with access to frequent public transport is

91.2%

This is better than the Greater Sydney average of 73.3%.

Figure 4. Access to Frequent Public Transport within 400m across the suburbs of the LGA of Burwood



Food

Rationale

Supermarkets support healthy eating and provide access to affordable fresh fruit and vegetables. People living within a short walk of a supermarket are more likely to walk or cycle instead of driving [6,12]. Increases in physical activity through active transport modes like walking and cycling, also reduce chronic disease risk and traffic congestion. In disadvantaged areas, living within 800m of a supermarket reduces the risk of overweight and obesity [13].

What we measured

We measured the average distance to a healthy food outlet (supermarket or greengrocer). Distances were calculated according to a pedestrian accessible road network.

Results

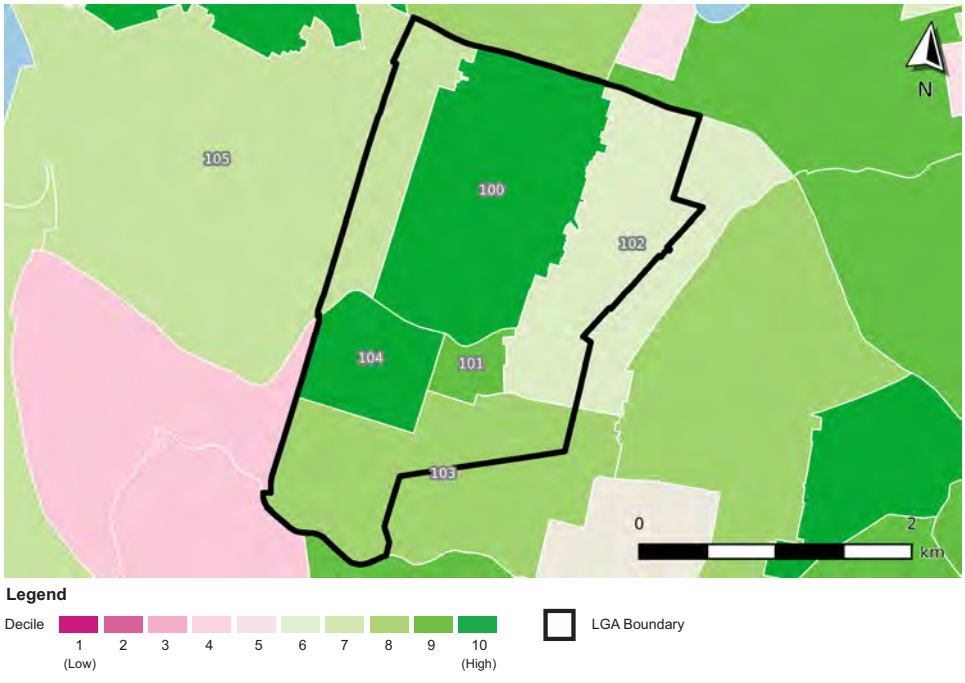
ID	Suburb	Value
100	Burwood	415.0m
104	Enfield	556.9m
101	Burwood Heights	703.1m
103	Croydon Park	828.5m
105	Strathfield	993.5m
102	Croydon	1115.0m

The average distance to a supermarket or greengrocer for residences in the Burwood LGA is

619.5 metres.

This is better than the Greater Sydney average of 1117.9 metres.

Figure 5. Distance to a supermarket or greengrocer for suburbs across the LGA of Burwood



Alcohol

Rationale

Increased access to alcohol has been linked to harmful alcohol consumption and alcohol-related violence [14,15]. Furthermore, alcohol outlets are more likely to be located in more disadvantaged areas [16]. For those living in disadvantaged areas where there are fewer alcohol outlets, there appears to be a protective affect with enhanced self-reported health [16].

What we measured

The average distance to off-license alcohol outlets which includes bottle shops and supermarkets where alcohol can be purchased and taken to another premise for consumption. Distances were calculated from individual dwellings using a pedestrian accessible road network.

Results

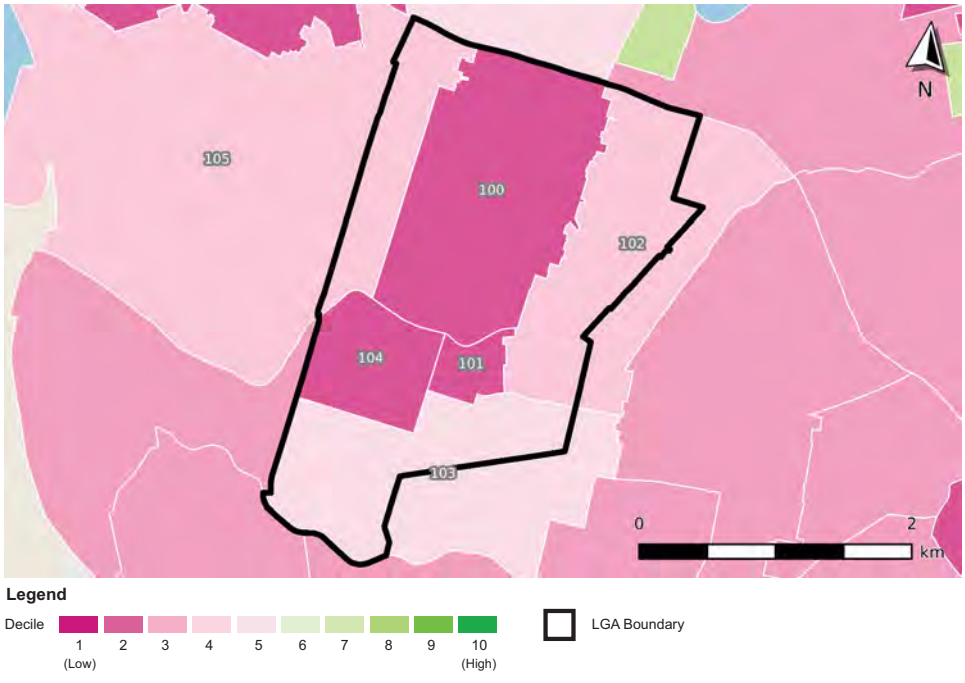
ID	Suburb	Value
103	Croydon Park	765.5m
102	Croydon	677.2m
105	Strathfield	609.2m
101	Burwood Heights	418.4m
104	Enfield	374.6m
100	Burwood	373.2m

The average distance to an off-license alcohol outlet across the suburbs of the LGA of Burwood is

500.5 metres.

This is worse than the Greater Sydney average of 799.3 metres.

Figure 6. Distance to an off-license alcohol outlet across the suburbs of the LGA of Burwood



Public Open Space

Rationale

Public open space includes parks, open areas and places where people can congregate for active and passive recreation and enjoyment. Parks are one form of public open space that usually include grassed areas, gardens, and some green recreational space. Public open spaces support both the physical and mental health of people living nearby. Green public open spaces also support ecosystems, ecology and biodiversity of an area [17] and provide cooling effects mitigating urban heat island effects.

What we measured

Large Public Open Space was defined as urban parks greater than or equal to 1.5 hectares, since larger parks have been shown to support physical activity. Access was measured as the percentage of dwellings within 400m based on a walkable road network distance.

Results

ID	Suburb	Value
104	Enfield	67.8%
103	Croydon Park	43.0%
100	Burwood	32.9%
105	Strathfield	14.8%
102	Croydon	8.5%
101	Burwood Heights	5.5%

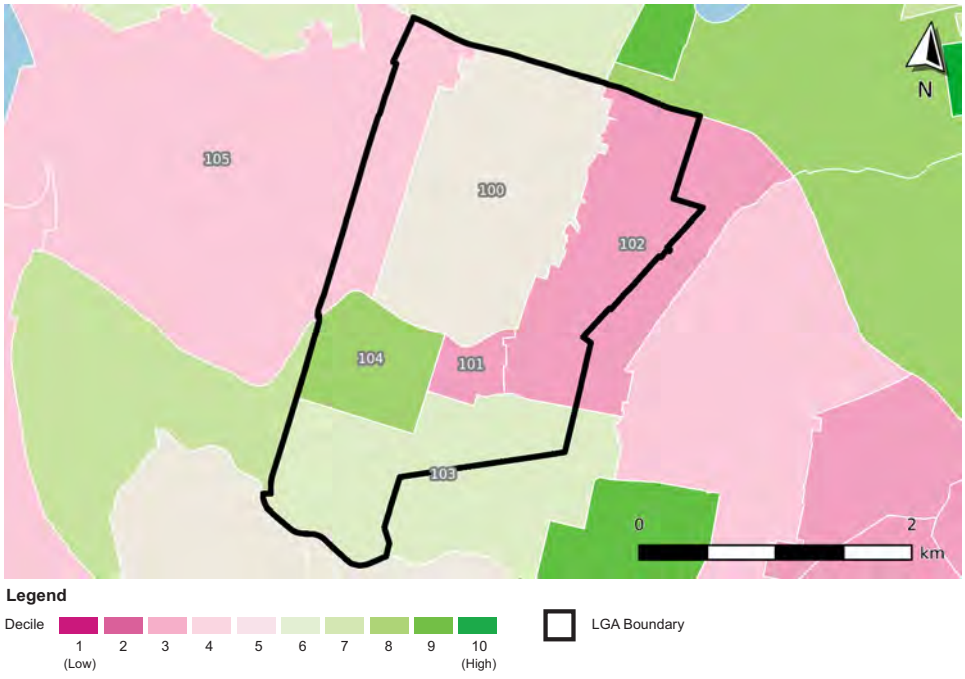
▼

The percentage of residences with access to Large Public Open Space within 400m across the LGA of Burwood is

26.6%

This is worse than the Greater Sydney average of 40.6%.

Figure 7. Access to large public open space within 400m across the suburbs of the LGA of Burwood



Employment

Rationale

Accessible employment is a social determinant of health, providing people with financial resources to support themselves and their families. Access to local employment reduces vehicle kilometres travelled, travel time and traffic congestion on city roads. It also increases the likelihood of people using active transport such as walking, cycling and public transport, and has been associated with improved self-reported health [18]. Access to local employment with shorter travel times has the potential to support work-life balance and is associated with a reduced risk of obesity [19].

What we measured

We measured access to local employment as the percentage of residents living in an Australian Bureau of Statistics' Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1), and working within the same Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3). On average, SA1 areas represent approximately 400 people while SA3 areas represent between 30,000 and 130,000 people.

Results

ID	Suburb	Value
104	Enfield	28.1%
103	Croydon Park	26.4%
101	Burwood Heights	25.5%
102	Croydon	24.8%
100	Burwood	21.2%
105	Strathfield	21.0%

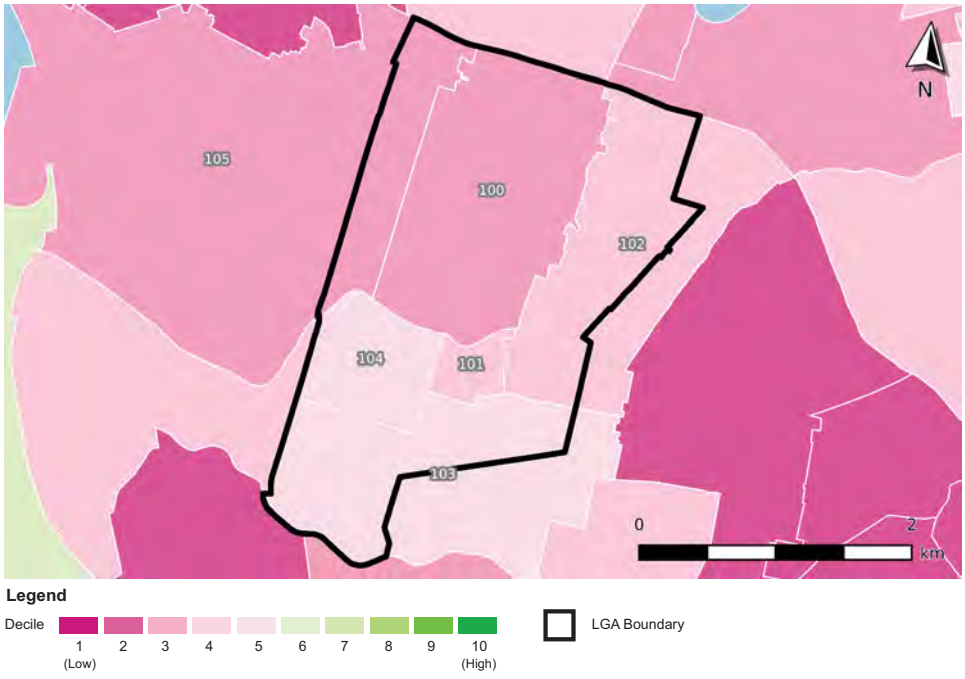
▼

The proportion of the population living and working locally in the LGA of Burwood is

23.0%

This is worse than the Greater Sydney average of 32.5% .

Figure 8. Proportion of the population living and working locally across the suburbs of the LGA of Burwood



Housing

Rationale

Housing is a key social determinant of health. Decent and affordable housing supports families by providing safe, stable, and healthy shelter. Affordable housing frees up family finances for use on healthcare and food, and supports physical and mental health and wellbeing. Housing affordability stress is associated with poorer self-reported health, higher community dissatisfaction, and residents feeling unsafe. Affordable housing frees up family finances for use on health care, food, education and recreation, and supports physical and mental health and wellbeing [20].

What we measured

Housing affordability was measured according to housing stress and represents any household spending more than 30% of their household income on housing costs.

Results

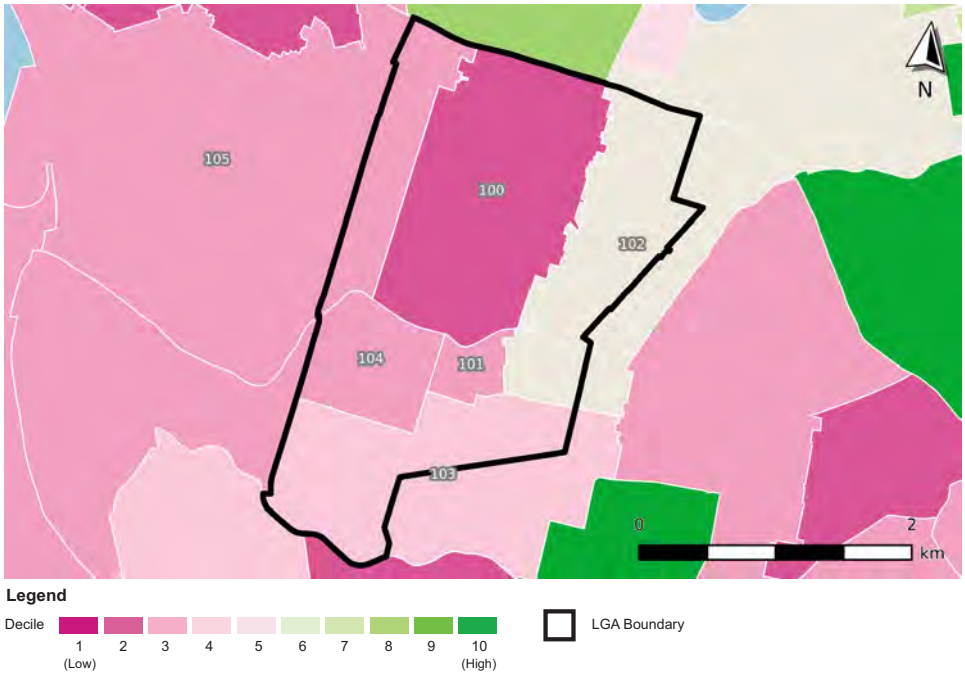
ID	Suburb	Value
102	Croydon	30.8%
103	Croydon Park	36.9%
104	Enfield	39.5%
101	Burwood Heights	41.4%
105	Strathfield	42.1%
100	Burwood	57.7%

The percentage of households across the LGA of Burwood spending more than 30% of income on housing is

46.9%

This is worse than the Greater Sydney average of 37.7% .

Figure 9. Percentage of households under housing stress across the suburbs of the LGA of Burwood



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Appendix (list of AUO measures available)

Walkability
Walkability - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Average distance to closest activity centre
Average dwelling density per hectare
Average street connectivity per square kilometre
Average number of daily living destinations present (0–3) within 1600 m
Walkability for Transport Index

Social Infrastructure
Social Infrastructure - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Health Infrastructure subdomain
Education Infrastructure subdomain
Community and Sport Infrastructure subdomain
Cultural Infrastructure subdomain
Average distance to closest GP clinic
Average distance to closest GP clinic with bulk-billing
Average distance to closest playground

Transport
Transport - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Average distance to closest public transport stop
Percentage of dwellings within 400 m of a bus stop
Average distance to closes train station
Average distance to closest bus stop with a regular 15-minute weekday service
Average distance to closest bus stop with a regular 30-minute weekday service
Average distance to closest bus stop with a regular 45-minute weekday service
Percentage of people aged 15 years and over using active transport to travel to work
Percentage of people aged 15 years and over using public transport to travel to work
Percentage of people aged 15 years and over using private vehicle/s to travel to work

Food
Food - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Percentage of dwellings without any food outlet within 3.2km
Percentage of dwellings within 1km of a supermarket
Average distance to closest fast food outlet

Alcohol
Alcohol - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Average number of on-licence alcohol outlets within 400m
Average number of off-licence alcohol outlet within 800m
Average distance to closest on-licence alcohol outlet
Average distance to closest off-licence alcohol outlet

Public Open Space
Public Open Space - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Average distance to closest public open space
Percentage of dwellings within 400 m or less of public open space
Average distance to closest public open space larger than 1.5 hectares
Percentage of dwellings within 400 m of public open space larger than 1.5 hectares
Percentage of dwellings within 400 m or less distance of any local park (> 0.4 to. <= 1 ha)
Percentage of dwellings within 800 m of less distance of any neighbourhood park (>1 ha to <= 5 ha)
Percentage of dwellings within 400 m of less distance of a neighbourhood recreation park (> 0.5 ha)
Average distance to closest public open space with a nearby public toilet (within 100 m)

Employment
Employment - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Percentage of employed persons living and working in the same SA3

Housing*
Housing - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)
Percentage of dwellings that are government owned or community housing
Percentage of households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
Percentage of rental households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
Percentage of mortgaged households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
Percentage of rental or mortgaged households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
Percentage of households spending more than 30% of household income on housing costs

*Additional specialist housing indicators available

ABS Demographics
People - Australian Urban Observatory (auo.org.au)


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