Living Learning Libraries cohort tables: 2022/23 statistics



Living Learning Libraries uses population-based peer cohorts for benchmarking, allowing easier comparisons among library services based on the populations of their communities.

The cohorts are defined as follows:

Cohort	Population
Rural Small	Up to 20,000
Urban Small	20,001 to 50,000
Urban Medium	50,001 to 150,000
Urban Large	150,001 and above

Cohorts are updated annually.

The 2022/23 cohorts are determined using the ABS population figures for June 2022.

For more information see https://pls.sl.nsw.gov.au/managing-my-library/standards-and-guidelines/living-learning-libraries

Cohort tables

This document contains the following tables:

- List of library services in 2022/2023 cohorts (alphabetical order)
- List of library services in 2022/2023 cohorts (by population)
- Councils in population cohorts
- Councils participating in regional library services and their cohorts (alphabetical order)
- Councils participating in regional library services and their cohorts (by regional library service)

List of library services in 2022/2023 cohorts (alphabetical order)

Library service	Population	Cohort
Albury City Libraries	56,598	Urban Medium
Armidale Regional	29,317	Urban Small
Balranald	2,198	Rural Small
Bathurst	44,074	Urban Small
Bayside	177,629	Urban Large
Bega Valley	35,972	Urban Small
Berrigan	8,657	Rural Small
Big Sky	19,801	Rural Small
Blacktown	410,419	Urban Large
Blue Mountains	77,905	Urban Medium
Bourke	2,350	Rural Small
Broken Hill	17,567	Rural Small
Burwood	40,747	Urban Small
Camden	127,637	Urban Medium
Campbelltown	180,231	Urban Large
Canada Bay	89,139	Urban Medium
Canterbury-Bankstown	371,726	Urban Large
Central Coast	348,930	Urban Large
Central Northern	98,700	Urban Medium
Central West	87,351	Urban Medium
Cessnock	65,780	Urban Medium
Clarence	67,799	Urban Medium
Cobar	4,052	Rural Small
Coffs Harbour	79,598	Urban Medium
Cumberland	237,129	Urban Large
Edward River	8,454	Rural Small
Eurobodalla	40,732	Urban Small
Fairfield	206,644	Urban Large
Georges River	153,055	Urban Large
Glen Innes Severn	8,935	Rural Small
Goulburn Mulwaree	32,394	Urban Small
Grenfell	3,604	Rural Small
Gunnedah	13,125	Rural Small
Hawkesbury	67,815	Urban Medium
Hills, The	199,056	Urban Large
Hilltops	19,228	Rural Small
Hornsby	151,713	Urban Large
Inner West	182,886	Urban Large
Inverell	17,943	Rural Small
Kempsey	31,118	Urban Small
Kiama	22,925	Urban Small
Ku-Ring-Gai	124,108	Urban Medium
Lachlan	6,131	Rural Small
Lake Macquarie	216,428	Urban Large
Lane Cove	53,444	Urban Medium
Lithgow	20,810	Urban Small
Liverpool	239,430	Urban Large
Macquarie	71,512	Urban Medium
Maitland	93,497	Urban Medium
Manana	₹50, 4 31	Orban Medium

List of library services in 2022/2023 cohorts (alphabetical order)

Library service	Population	Cohort
Midcoast	97,090	Urban Medium
Mid-Western	25,760	Urban Small
Mosman	28,100	Urban Small
Murray River	13,007	Rural Small
Muswellbrook	16,516	Rural Small
Nambucca	20,571	Urban Small
Newcastle	257,563	Urban Large
North Sydney	69,256	Urban Medium
North Western	13,155	Rural Small
Northern Beaches	263,090	Urban Large
Oberon	5,569	Rural Small
Parkes	14,342	Rural Small
Parramatta	259,878	Urban Large
Penrith	220,786	Urban Large
Port Macquarie-Hastings	88,145	Urban Medium
Queanbeyan-Palerang	64,189	Urban Medium
Randwick	135,742	Urban Medium
Richmond-Tweed	225,078	Urban Large
Richmond-Upper Clarence	33,089	Urban Small
Riverina	87,563	Urban Medium
Ryde	130,953	Urban Medium
Shellharbour	78,256	Urban Medium
Shoalhaven	109,418	Urban Medium
Singleton	25,075	Urban Small
Snowy Monaro	21,791	Urban Small
Strathfield	46,129	Urban Small
Sutherland	231,723	Urban Large
Sydney	217,748	Urban Large
Tenterfield	6,877	Rural Small
Upper Hunter Shire	14,292	Rural Small
Upper Lachlan	8,539	Rural Small
Wagga Wagga	68,227	Urban Medium
Waverley	69,218	Urban Medium
Wentworth	7,555	Rural Small
Western Riverina	41,907	Urban Small
Willoughby	75,409	Urban Medium
Wingecarribee	52,779	Urban Medium
Wollondilly	55,811	Urban Medium
Wollongong	216,290	Urban Large
Woollahra	53,487	Urban Medium
Yass Valley	17,377	Rural Small

List of library services in 2022/2023 cohorts (by population)

Library service	Population	Cohort
Balranald	2,198	Rural Small
Berrigan	8,657	Rural Small
Big Sky	19,801	Rural Small
Bourke	2,350	Rural Small
Broken Hill	17,567	Rural Small
Cobar	4,052	Rural Small
Edward River	8,454	Rural Small
Glen Innes Severn	8,935	Rural Small
Grenfell	3,604	Rural Small
Gunnedah	13,125	Rural Small
Hilltops	19,228	Rural Small
Inverell	17,943	Rural Small
Lachlan	6,131	Rural Small
Murray River	13,007	Rural Small
Muswellbrook	16,516	Rural Small
North Western		Rural Small
Oberon	13,155 5,569	Rural Small
	·	Rural Small
Parkes	14,342	
Tenterfield	6,877	Rural Small
Upper Hunter Shire	14,292	Rural Small
Upper Lachlan	8,539	Rural Small
Wentworth	7,555	Rural Small
Yass Valley	17,377	Rural Small
Armidale Regional	29,317	Urban Small
Bathurst	44,074	Urban Small
Bega Valley	35,972	Urban Small
Burwood	40,747	Urban Small
Eurobodalla	40,732	Urban Small
Goulburn Mulwaree	32,394	Urban Small
Kempsey	31,118	Urban Small
Kiama	22,925	Urban Small
Lithgow	20,810	Urban Small
Mid-Western	25,760	Urban Small
Mosman	28,100	Urban Small
Nambucca	20,571	Urban Small
Richmond-Upper Claren		Urban Small
Singleton	25,075	Urban Small
Snowy Monaro	21,791	Urban Small
Strathfield	46,129	Urban Small
Western Riverina	41,907	Urban Small
Albury City Libraries	56,598	Urban Medium
Blue Mountains	77,905	Urban Medium
Camden	127,637	Urban Medium
Canada Bay	89,139	Urban Medium
Central Northern	98,700	Urban Medium
Central West	87,351	Urban Medium
Cessnock	65,780	Urban Medium
Clarence	67,799	Urban Medium
Coffs Harbour	79,598	Urban Medium
Hawkesbury	67,815	Urban Medium
Ku-Ring-Gai	124,108	Urban Medium
Lane Cove	53,444	Urban Medium
	55,117	S. Sail Woodall

4

List of library services in 2022/2023 cohorts (by population)

Library service	Population	Cohort
Macquarie	71,512	Urban Medium
Maitland	93,497	Urban Medium
Midcoast	97,090	Urban Medium
North Sydney	69,256	Urban Medium
Port Macquarie-Hastings	88,145	Urban Medium
Queanbeyan-Palerang	64,189	Urban Medium
Randwick	135,742	Urban Medium
Riverina	87,563	Urban Medium
Ryde	130,953	Urban Medium
Shellharbour	78,256	Urban Medium
Shoalhaven	109,418	Urban Medium
Wagga Wagga	68,227	Urban Medium
Waverley	69,218	Urban Medium
Willoughby	75,409	Urban Medium
Wingecarribee	52,779	Urban Medium
Wollondilly	55,811	Urban Medium
Woollahra	53,487	Urban Medium
Bayside	177,629	Urban Large
Blacktown	410,419	Urban Large
Campbelltown	180,231	Urban Large
Canterbury-Bankstown	371,726	Urban Large
Central Coast	348,930	Urban Large
Cumberland	237,129	Urban Large
Fairfield	206,644	Urban Large
Georges River	153,055	Urban Large
Hills, The	199,056	Urban Large
Hornsby	151,713	Urban Large
Inner West	182,886	Urban Large
Lake Macquarie	216,428	Urban Large
Liverpool	239,430	Urban Large
Newcastle	257,563	Urban Large
Northern Beaches	263,090	Urban Large
Parramatta	259,878	Urban Large
Penrith	220,786	Urban Large
Richmond-Tweed	225,078	Urban Large
Sutherland	231,723	Urban Large
Sydney	217,748	Urban Large
Wollongong	216,290	Urban Large

State Library of NSW 2024 5

NSW councils in population cohorts

Council	Population	Cohort
Albury		Urban Medium
Armidale		Urban Small
Ballina	·	Urban Small
Balranald		Rural Small
Bathurst	·	Urban Small
Bayside		Urban Large
Bega Valley		Urban Small
Bellingen	·	Rural Small
Berrigan	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Rural Small
Blacktown		Urban Large
Bland		Rural Small
Blayney	·	Rural Small
Blue Mountains		Urban Medium
Bogan	·	Rural Small
Bourke		Rural Small
Brewarrina	•	Rural Small
Broken Hill	·	Rural Small
Burwood	•	Urban Small
Byron		Urban Small
Cabonne		Rural Small
Camden		Urban Medium
Campbelltown	180,231	Urban Large
Canada Bay	89,139	Urban Medium
Canterbury-Bankstown		Urban Large
Carrathool		Rural Small
Central Coast		Urban Large
Central Darling		Rural Small
Cessnock	-	Urban Medium
Clarence Valley		Urban Medium
Cobar		Rural Small
Coffs Harbour		Urban Medium
Coolamon	•	Rural Small
Coonamble		Rural Small
Cootamundra-Gundagai		Rural Small
Cowra	12,690	
Cumberland		Urban Large
Dubbo		Urban Medium
Dungog		Rural Small
Edward River		Rural Small
Eurobodalla	40,732	Urban Small
Fairfield	·	Urban Large
Federation	12,852	Rural Small
Forbes	9,342	Rural Small
Georges River		Urban Large
Gilgandra	4,300	Rural Small
Glen Innes Severn		Rural Small
Goulburn Mulwaree	32,394	Urban Small
Greater Hume	11,238	Rural Small
Griffith	26,994	Urban Small
Gilliui	20,994	Ulbali Siliali

NSW councils in population cohorts

Gunnedah	13,125	Rural Small
Gwydir		Rural Small
Hawkesbury		Urban Medium
Hay	-	Rural Small
Hilltops		Rural Small
Hornsby		Urban Large
Hunters Hill		Rural Small
Inner West	182,886	
Inverell		Rural Small
Junee	·	Rural Small
Kempsey		Urban Small
Kiama		Urban Small
Ku-ring-gai		Urban Medium
Kyogle		Rural Small
Lachlan	6,131	Rural Small
Lake Macquarie	•	Urban Large
Lane Cove		Urban Small
Leeton		Rural Small
Lismore		Urban Small
Lithgow		Urban Small
Liverpool		Urban Large
Liverpool Plains		Rural Small
Lockhart	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Rural Small
Maitland		Urban Medium
Mid-Coast		Urban Medium
Mid-Western	25,760	
Moree Plains	12,850	
Mosman		Urban Small
Murray River		Rural Small
Murrumbidgee		Rural Small
Muswellbrook		Rural Small
Nambucca Valley	20,571	Urban Small
Narrabri	•	Rural Small
Narrandera		Rural Small
Narromine	•	Rural Small
Newcastle	171,316	Urban Large
North Sydney	69,256	Urban Medium
Northern Beaches	263,090	Urban Large
Oberon	5,569	Rural Small
Orange	43,906	Urban Small
Parkes	14,342	Rural Small
Parramatta	259,878	Urban Large
Penrith	220,786	Urban Large
Port Macquarie-Hastings	88,145	Urban Medium
Port Stephens	76,540	Urban Medium
Queanbeyan-Palerang	64,189	Urban Medium
Randwick	135,742	Urban Medium
Richmond Valley	23,671	Urban Small
Ryde	130,953	Urban Medium
Shellharbour	78,256	Urban Medium
SHEIIHAIDUUI	10,200	Orban Medium

NSW councils in population cohorts

Shoalhaven	109,418	Urban Medium
Singleton	25,075	Urban Small
Snowy Monaro	21,791	Urban Small
Snowy Valleys	14,884	Rural Small
Strathfield	46,129	Urban Small
Sutherland	231,723	Urban Large
Sydney	217,748	Urban Large
Tamworth	64,459	Urban Medium
Temora	5,993	Rural Small
Tenterfield	6,877	Rural Small
The Hills	199,056	Urban Large
Tweed	97,718	Urban Medium
Upper Hunter	14,292	Rural Small
Upper Lachlan	8,539	Rural Small
Uralla	5,980	Rural Small
Wagga Wagga	· ·	Urban Medium
Walcha	2,999	Rural Small
Walgett	5,513	Rural Small
Warren	2,577	Rural Small
Warrumbungle	9,244	Rural Small
Waverley	69,218	Urban Medium
Weddin	3,604	Rural Small
Wentworth	7,555	Rural Small
Willoughby	75,409	Urban Medium
Wingecarribee	52,779	Urban Medium
Wollondilly	55,811	Urban Medium
Wollongong		Urban Large
Woollahra	53,487	Urban Medium
Yass Valley	17,377	Rural Small

By council

Council	Population	Cohort	Regional library service
Ballina		Urban Small	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Bellingen		Rural Small	Clarence Regional Library
Bland		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Blayney		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Bogan		Rural Small	North Western Library
Brewarrina		Rural Small	Big Sky Libraries
Byron		Urban Small	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Cabonne		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Carrathool		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Clarence Valley		Urban Medium	Clarence Regional Library
Coolamon		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Coonamble		Rural Small	North Western Library
Cootamundra-Gundagai		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Cowra		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Dubbo	·	Urban Medium	Macquarie Regional Library
Dungog		Rural Small	Newcastle Region Library
Federation	,	Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Forbes		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Gilgandra		Rural Small	North Western Library
Greater Hume		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Griffith		Urban Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Gwydir		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Hay		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Hilltops		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Hunters Hill		Rural Small	Lane Cove Library Service
Junee		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Kyogle		Rural Small	Richmond-Upper Clarence Regional Library
Lane Cove		Urban Small	Lane Cove Library Service
Leeton		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Lismore		Urban Small	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Liverpool Plains		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Lockhart		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Moree Plains		Rural Small	Big Sky Libraries
Murrumbidgee		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Narrabri		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Narrandera		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Narromine		Rural Small	Macquarie Regional Library
Newcastle		Urban Large	Newcastle Region Library
Orange		Urban Small	Central West Libraries
Port Stephens		Urban Medium	Newcastle Region Library
Richmond Valley		Urban Small	Richmond-Upper Clarence Regional Library
Snowy Valleys		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Tamworth		Urban Medium	Central Northern Regional Library
Temora		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Tweed		Urban Medium	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Uralla		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Walcha		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Walgett		Rural Small	Big Sky Libraries
Warren	2,577	Rural Small	North Western Library
Warrumbungle	9,244	Rural Small	Macquarie Regional Library
			1

By regional library service

Council	Population	Cohort	Regional library service
Brewarrina	-	Rural Small	Big Sky Libraries
Moree Plains		Rural Small	Big Sky Libraries
Walgett		Rural Small	Big Sky Libraries
Gwydir		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Liverpool Plains		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Narrabri		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Tamworth		Urban Medium	Central Northern Regional Library
Uralla		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Walcha		Rural Small	Central Northern Regional Library
Blayney		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Cabonne		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Cowra		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Forbes		Rural Small	Central West Libraries
Orange		Urban Small	Central West Libraries
Bellingen	·	Rural Small	Clarence Regional Library
Clarence Valley		Urban Medium	Clarence Regional Library
Hunters Hill		Rural Small	Lane Cove Library Service
Lane Cove		Urban Small	Lane Cove Library Service
Dubbo	·	Urban Medium	Macquarie Regional Library
Narromine		Rural Small	Macquarie Regional Library
Warrumbungle		Rural Small	Macquarie Regional Library
Dungog	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Rural Small	Newcastle Region Library
Newcastle		Urban Large	Newcastle Region Library
Port Stephens		Urban Medium	Newcastle Region Library
Bogan	·	Rural Small	North Western Library
Coonamble		Rural Small	North Western Library
Gilgandra		Rural Small	North Western Library
Warren		Rural Small	North Western Library
Ballina	·	Urban Small	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Byron		Urban Small	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Lismore		Urban Small	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Tweed		Urban Medium	Richmond-Tweed Regional Library
Kyogle		Rural Small	Richmond-Upper Clarence Regional Library
Richmond Valley		Urban Small	Richmond-Upper Clarence Regional Library
Bland	5,487	Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Coolamon		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Cootamundra-Gundagai		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Federation		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Greater Hume		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Hilltops		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Junee		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Leeton		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Lockhart		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Snowy Valleys		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Temora		Rural Small	Riverina Regional Library
Carrathool	·	Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Griffith		Urban Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Hay		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Murrumbidgee		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries
Narrandera		Rural Small	Western Riverina Libraries