

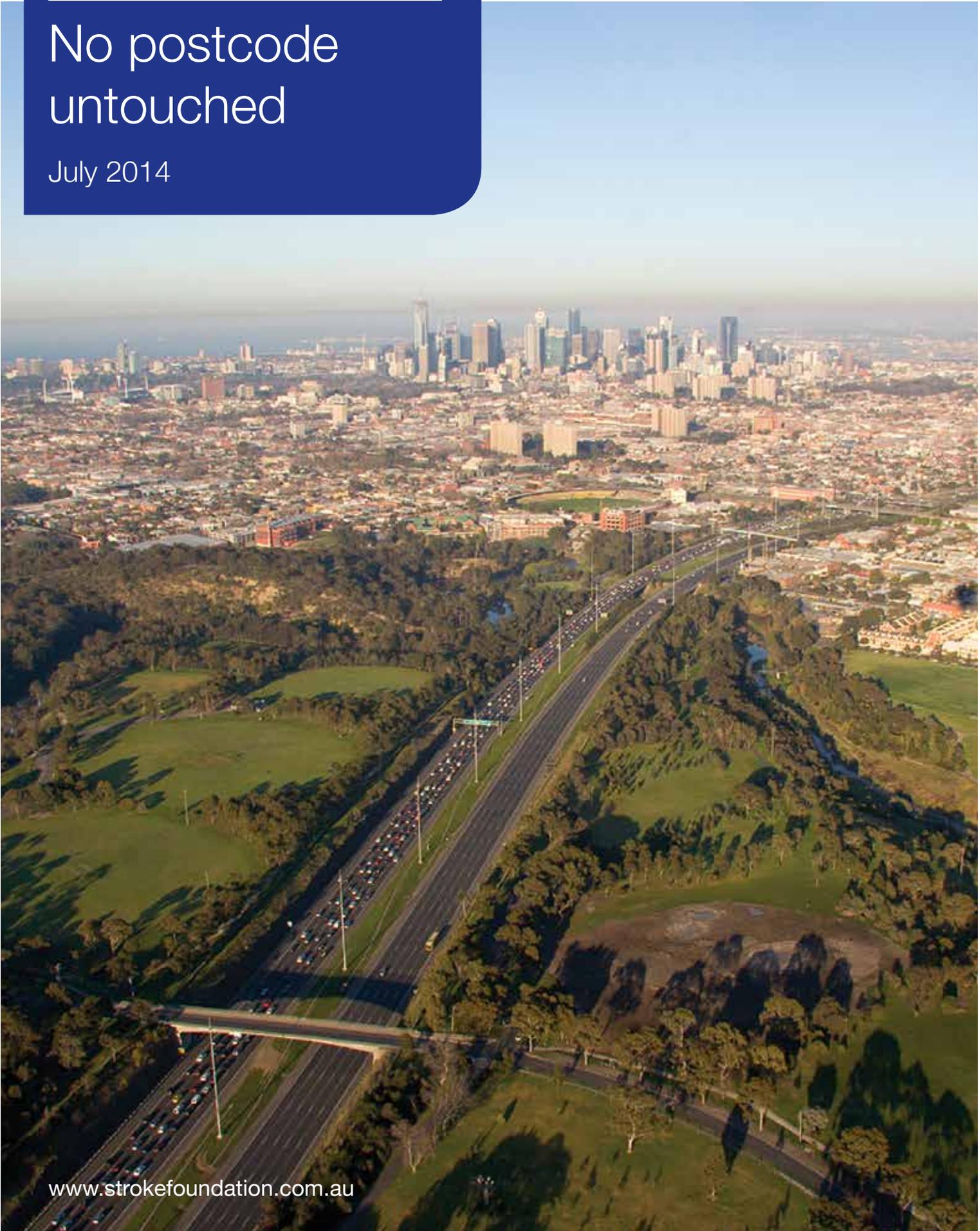


strokefoundation

Stroke in Australia

No postcode untouched

July 2014



www.strokefoundation.com.au

Stroke impact by federal electorate

In 2012, the National Stroke Foundation commissioned Deloitte Access Economics to estimate the national economic and social impact of stroke in Australia. Along with estimates of the number of strokes and number of survivors, the report also found stroke costs the Australian economy \$5 billion per year including \$3 billion in lost productivity.

In 2014 the same firm was commissioned to produce a follow up report that zeroed in on the impact of stroke in Australian cities and towns.

The data shows how widespread the impact of stroke is in Australia and with this report we can see where the challenge to our health system is the greatest.

We know what stroke looks like in each Australian federal electorate with estimates of the number of strokes, the death rate as well as the number of stroke survivors. The data also shows us where the greatest numbers of Australians live with stroke risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, atrial fibrillation (irregular heartbeat, also known as AF) and physical inactivity.

This new data is a rich source for targeted public policy development. The data offers a clear view of the cities and towns where stroke is having its biggest impact, where the need for stroke survivor support is most acute and where the future stroke hotspots are located.

Even in the least impacted areas stroke is taking a toll with significant proportions of the population needing financial, emotional and physical support.

Stroke has been a national health priority since 1996 but in that time no national funded strategy to tackle it has ever been produced. As a result, Australia lacks a nationally consistent stroke care service to address widespread need.

Previous estimates show stroke survivor numbers will surge past 700,000 by 2032 if nothing is done to halt the growth. A \$5 billion price tag today will pale in comparison to the future cost burden, and this is not to mention the personal toll we know is so great.

Introduction

Every ten minutes someone in Australia suffers a stroke.

In one week – almost one thousand cases.

In 2014 alone – over 51,000.

All told nearly 12,000 people will die this year from stroke and two-thirds of those who survive will be disabled.

Almost 440,000 Australians currently live as a survivor of stroke and the number grows every day.

This is the story of stroke in Australia. It touches millions of lives in cities and towns from the country to the coast. The fact is stroke leaves no postcode untouched.

The national picture of stroke impact

51,000 strokes each year cost the Australian economy around \$5 billion including \$3 billion in lost productivity and \$1 billion in lost wages¹.

Almost 440,000 Australians now live with the effects of stroke and this number is predicted to rise rapidly². By 2032 it will reach over 700,000.¹

Two-thirds of stroke survivors require care each day¹ and the vast majority live with needs that are not being fully met³.

South Australia and Tasmania are the states with the highest stroke burden per head of population. In 2014 there will be 256 strokes in South Australia for every 100,000 residents - in Tasmania it will be 246. This compares with a national rate of 217.

These states also have the highest rates of stroke survivors per 100,000 people. In South Australia there are nearly 37,000 stroke survivors at a rate of 2,109 per 100,000 while Tasmania has 11,400 (2,110 per 100,000). Nationally there are 1,864 stroke survivors for every 100,000 – nearly 2% of the Australian population.

¹ Deloitte Access Economics 2013, The economic impact of stroke in Australia.

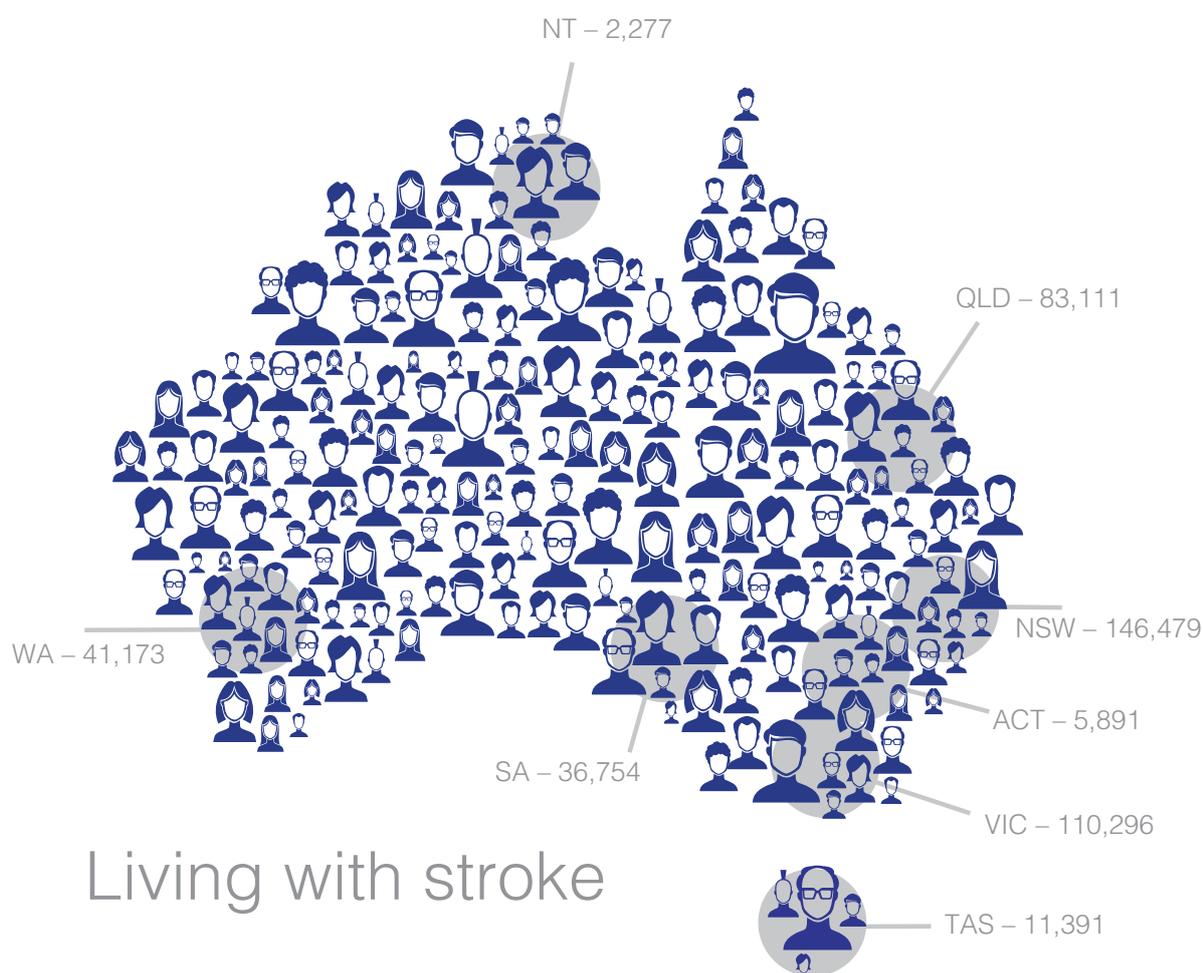
² Deloitte Access Economics 2014, Impact of stroke across Australia.

³ Andrew N, Kilkenny M, Purvis T, Naylor R, Cadilhac D. The Stroke Survivor and Carer Needs Assessment Survey. Melbourne: National Stroke Foundation, June 2013. (Unpublished)

The number of people living with stroke in Australia

State	Total Aus*	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT
Population	23,466,656	7,552,306	5,849,277	4,722,125	2,440,135	1,742,990	539,973	390,435	229,415
Number of strokes in 2014 (number per 100k people)	51,031 (217)	17,273 (229)	13,017 (223)	9,443 (200)	4,652 (191)	4,461 (256)	1,329 (246)	655 (168)	201 (88)
Number of stroke survivors in 2014 (number per 100k people)	437,372 (1,864)	146,479 (1,940)	110,296 (1,886)	83,111 (1,760)	41,173 (1,687)	36,754 (2109)	11,391 (2,110)	5,891 (1,509)	2,277 (993)
Number of deaths from stroke in 2014 (deaths per 100k people)	11,418 (49)	3,938 (52)	2,954 (51)	2,015 (43)	999 (41)	1,054 (60)	292 (54)	138 (35)	28 (12)

*Please note this is a sum of all federal electorate divisions and does not include estimates for 'migratory/offshore/shipping' and 'no usual abodes'. With these estimates included the total number of strokes in Australia is 51,199, estimated number of survivors in the community is 438,216 and total number of deaths from stroke is 11,673.



Living with stroke

The national picture of stroke risk

High blood pressure, atrial fibrillation (irregular heartbeat), high cholesterol and lack of physical activity are all risk factors for stroke.

4.1 million Australians have high blood pressure and it affects people more as they age. More than 40% of Australians over 65 are hypertensive and the Australian Health Survey revealed more than half of these people did not self-report their condition.

Around 434,000 Australians have an irregular heartbeat or atrial fibrillation (AF) that greatly increases their risk of stroke. Like high blood pressure, many people are unaware they suffer from AF and how serious this condition is. As a result too few people access lifesaving treatment.

6.1 million Australians live with high cholesterol. While increasing numbers are being treated for the condition there are still many people unaware of their elevated risk.

Residents of South Australia and Tasmania again share in the greatest risk for stroke across all indicators. This

includes 19% of residents with high blood pressure, 27% with high cholesterol and 46% physically inactive. The numbers in other states are similarly high with blood pressure rates of 18% in NSW and VIC, and 17% in QLD and WA. Physical inactivity is also a nationwide issue with all states bar NT running between 45–46%.

Together these numbers show a significant proportion of the Australian population is living at risk of stroke and other chronic diseases. Many of these people live without awareness of their risk and are therefore powerless to take control.

In response, governments must do more to support the community to identify and manage their health risks. This includes raising personal awareness about dangerous risk factors and ensuring our primary care system is geared to provide the right expert advice and management support.

State	Total Aus	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT
Population	23,466,656	7,552,306	5,849,277	4,722,125	2,440,135	1,742,990	539,973	390,435	229,415
High blood pressure (% of population)	4,092,898 (17%)	1,338,239 (18%)	1,023,965 (18%)	802,200 (17%)	409,618 (17%)	323,625 (19%)	101,312 (19%)	62,590 (16%)	31,350 (14%)
Atrial fibrillation (% of population)	433,940 (2%)	145,987 (2%)	109,468 (2%)	81,991 (2%)	40,367 (2%)	36,934 (2%)	11,515 (2%)	5,660 (1%)	2,019 (1%)
High cholesterol	6,081,876 (26%)	1,965,337 (26%)	1,519,515 (26%)	1,209,283 (26%)	625,937 (26%)	463,397 (27%)	144,642 (27%)	99,079 (25%)	54,686 (24%)
Physical inactivity	10,617,164 (45%)	3,428,981 (45%)	2,666,866 (46%)	2,103,709 (45%)	1,090,820 (45%)	808,453 (46%)	248,135 (46%)	175,081 (45%)	95,118 (41%)

Stroke hot spots

National and state data is helpful, however we now have the ability to identify stroke hot spots at a local level. The number of strokes and the number of stroke survivors has been estimated by federal electorate area and we can see clearly stroke is having an impact right across the nation. By ranking electorates we can understand where the impact is greatest and whilst this can help with service planning and coordination so as to ensure all Australians are able to access quality stroke care, this analysis demonstrates the burden of stroke is significant in all parts of the country.

NSW is home to five of the country's top ten hot spots for numbers of stroke survivors and six of the top ten areas for number of strokes. The state is also ranked third in terms of state wide stroke burden. Almost the

entire NSW coast features in the top quarter of electorates for stroke burden with a stroke belt running from the Byron Bay electorate of Richmond through to the doorstep of inner Sydney electorates North Sydney and Warringah. The stroke belt picks up again on the other side of Sydney in the electorate of Throsby and runs south to the Victorian border.

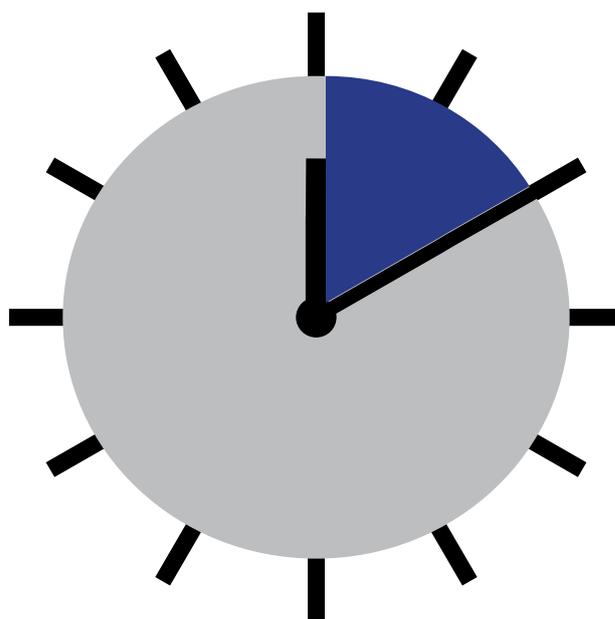
State borders are no barrier with vast tracts of regional Victoria represented in the top quarter of Australian electorates for stroke burden. The Mornington Peninsula electorate of Flinders ranks in the top five for number of strokes and number of stroke survivors.

The other significant hot spot is in South Australia where six of the state's eleven electorates feature in the top quarter for stroke burden. The electorates of Sturt, Boothby and Hindmarsh are in the top five for stroke burden nationally.

10 federal electorates with the highest number of stroke survivors living in the area

Rank	Electorate	Number of stroke survivors	Number of stroke survivors per 100,000 people	Location
1.	Hindmarsh, SA	3,944	2,486	Inner western Adelaide, SA
2.	Lyne, NSW	3,873	2,833	Mid-north coast of NSW including Port Macquarie
3.	Flinders, VIC	3,810	2,491	Southern Victoria, east of Melbourne, including Mornington Peninsula, the Bass Coast region and Phillip Island
4.	Sturt, SA	3,761	2,388	Eastern Adelaide, SA
5.	Gilmore, NSW	3,718	2,591	South eastern NSW including Berry, Bomaderry, Gerringong, Kangaroo Valley, Kiama, Milton, Minnamurra, Nowra, Shellharbour, Shell Cove, Sussex Inlet, Ulladulla and Warilla
6.	Boothby, SA	3,707	2,413	Southern Adelaide, SA
7.	Hinkler, QLD	3,655	2,539	Southern central QLD coast including the centres of Bundaberg, Bargara, Burrum Heads, Childers and Hervey Bay
8.	Richmond, NSW	3,599	2,464	North coast of NSW including Bangalow, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Kingscliff, Lennox Head, Mullumbimby, Murwillumbah, Nimbin, Ocean Shores, Pottsville, Suffolk Park and Tweed Heads
9.	Cowper, NSW	3,584	2,493	North coast of NSW including Bellingen, Bowraville, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo, Kempsey, Maclean, Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Sawtell, South West Rocks, Urunga and Woolgoolga
10.	Robertson, NSW	3,570	2,482	NSW Central coast to north of Sydney including Erina, Gosford, Terrigal and Woy Woy

IN AUSTRALIA
A STROKE
 HAPPENS EVERY
10
 MINUTES



10 federal electorates with the highest number of strokes estimated to occur in 2014.

Rank	Electorate	Number of strokes	Number of strokes per 100,000 people	Location
1.	Hindmarsh, SA	519	327	Inner western Adelaide, SA
2.	Lyne, NSW	479	350	Mid-north coast of NSW including Port Macquarie
3.	Sturt, SA	477	303	Eastern Adelaide, SA
4.	Boothby, SA	476	310	Southern Adelaide, SA
5.	Flinders, VIC	462	302	Southern Victoria, east of Melbourne including Mornington Peninsula, the Bass Coast region and Phillip Island
6.	Robertson, NSW	449	312	NSW Central coast to the north of Sydney including Erina, Gosford, Terrigal and Woy Woy
7.	Gilmore, NSW	446	311	South East NSW including Berry, Bomaderry, Gerringong, Kangaroo Valley, Kiama, Milton, Minnamurra, Nowra, Shellharbour, Shell Cove, Sussex Inlet, Ulladulla and Warilla
8.	Bradfield, NSW	440	280	North Sydney
9.	Page, NSW	439	313	North coast of NSW including Alstonville, Ballina, Casino, Evans Head, Grafton, Iluka, Kyogle, Lismore and Yamba
10.	Richmond, NSW	438	300	North coast of NSW including Bangalow, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Kingscliff, Lennox Head, Mullumbimby, Murwillumbah, Nimbin, Ocean Shores, Pottsville, Suffolk Park and Tweed Heads



All told nearly 12,000 people will die this year from stroke and two-thirds of those who survive will be disabled.



10 federal electorates with the highest number of deaths from stroke estimated to occur in 2014.

Rank	Electorate	Number of deaths from stroke	Deaths from stroke per 100,000 people	Location
1.	Hindmarsh, SA	136	86	Inner western Adelaide, SA
2.	Boothby, SA	123	80	Southern Adelaide, SA
3.	Sturt, SA	118	75	Eastern Adelaide, SA
4.	Bradfield, NSW	114	73	North Sydney, NSW
5.	Lyne, NSW	113	83	Mid-north coast of NSW including Port Macquarie
6.	Robertson, NSW	111	77	NSW Central coast to the north of Sydney including Erina, Gosford, Terrigal and Woy Woy
7.	Chisholm, VIC	111	67	Eastern Melbourne, VIC
8.	Goldstein, VIC	110	72	South eastern Melbourne, VIC
9.	Flinders, VIC	108	71	Southern Victoria, east of Melbourne including Mornington Peninsula, the Bass Coast region and Phillip Island
10.	Wills, VIC	106	63	Inner-north Melbourne, VIC

Stroke risk hot spots

The local hotspots for stroke risk are in very similar locations to those for stroke numbers. The New South Wales coast again features heavily with seven of the top ten locations for atrial fibrillation and six of the top ten for high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

The coastal Queensland electorates of Hinkler (Bundaberg/Hervey Bay) and Wide Bay (Maryborough to Noosa) are also risk hotspots. Both electorates feature in the top ten for blood pressure, Hinkler is a top ten hotspot for irregular heartbeat and Wide Bay residents have high levels of cholesterol. Of concern, the Victorian electorate of Flinders on the Mornington Peninsula and

Hindmarsh in central Adelaide are both significant hot spots for all risk factors.

Physical inactivity is also an important risk factor for stroke. Both Adelaide and Port Macquarie feature in the top ten hotspots for physical inactivity while electorates in Sydney, Melbourne, Melbourne Ports and Wentworth have the most physically inactive residents in Australia.

This result may reflect a high proportion of inner city office workers living sedentary lifestyles – a risk factor for chronic disease in older age.

Federal electorates with highest numbers of residents with high blood pressure

Rank	Electorate	Number of people with high blood pressure.	% of population with high blood pressure	Location
1.	Lyne, NSW	29,582	22	Mid-north coast of New South Wales including Port Macquarie
2.	Gilmore, NSW	29,602	21	SE NSW including Berry, Bomaderry, Gerringong, Kangaroo Valley, Kiama, Milton, Minnamurra, Nowra, Shellharbour, Shell Cove, Sussex Inlet, Ulladulla and Warilla
3.	Paterson, NSW	28,522	20	Mid-north coast of New South Wales including Anna Bay, Bulahdelah, Clarence Town, Dungog, Forster, Hawks Nest, Lemon Tree Passage, Medowie, Morpeth, Nelson Bay, Paterson, Raymond Terrace, Stroud, Tuncurry and parts of Nabiac, Thornton and East Maitland
4.	Cowper, NSW	29,258	20	NSW north coast; it includes the centres of Bellingen, Bowraville, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo, Kempsey, Maclean, Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Sawtell, South West Rocks, Urunga and Woolgoolga.
5.	Page, NSW	28,575	20	NSW north coast; it includes the centres of Alstonville, Ballina, Casino, Evans Head, Grafton, Iluka, Kyogle, Lismore and Yamba.
6.	Hinkler, QLD	29,259	20	Southern central QLD coast; it includes the centres of Bundaberg, Bargara, Burrum Heads, Childers and Hervey Bay
7.	Richmond, NSW	29,678	20	NSW north coast; it includes the towns of Bangalow, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Kingscliff, Lennox Head, Mullumbimby, Murwillumbah, Nimbin, Ocean Shores, Pottsville, Suffolk Park and Tweed Heads.
8.	Flinders, VIC	30,865	20	Southern Victoria, east of Melbourne, based on Mornington Peninsula and Bass Coast region including Phillip Island.
9.	Wide Bay, QLD	29,105	20	Southern eastern Queensland coast and hinterland; it includes the centres of Gympie, Maryborough, Murgon and Noosa Heads.
10.	Hindmarsh, SA	31,616	20	Inner western Adelaide, SA

Federal electorates with highest numbers of residents with high cholesterol

Rank	Electorate	Number of people with high cholesterol	% of population with high cholesterol	Location
1.	Lyne, NSW	38,199	28	Mid-north coast of New South Wales including Port Macquarie
2.	Richmond, NSW	40,593	28	NSW north coast; it includes the towns of Bangalow, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Kingscliff, Lennox Head, Mullumbimby, Murwillumbah, Nimbin, Ocean Shores, Pottsville, Suffolk Park and Tweed Heads.
3.	Wide Bay, QLD	40,270	28	Southern eastern Queensland coast and hinterland; it includes the centres of Gympie, Maryborough, Murgon and Noosa Heads.
4.	Eden-Monaro, NSW	40,399	28	New South Wales far south coast, the Snowy Mountains and tablelands; it includes the centres of Adaminaby, Batemans Bay, Bega, Berridale, Bodalla, Bombala, Braidwood, Bungendore, Captains Flat, Cooma, Dalmeny, Delegate, Eden, Jindabyne, Merimbula, Moruya, Narooma, Queanbeyan, Sutton and Tathra.
5.	Lyons, TAS	30,236	28	The greater part of rural Tasmania; it includes the towns of Beaconsfield, Bothwell, Bridgewater, Brighton, Campbell Town, Deloraine, Dodges Ferry, Evandale, Exeter, Gagebrook, Longford, Midway Point, New Norfolk, Perth, Port Sorell, St Helens, Sheffield, Sorell and Westbury.
6.	Mayo, SA	39,945	28	Adelaide Hills and the Fleurieu Peninsula; it includes the centres of Bridgewater, Crafers, Echunga, Gumeracha, Hahndorf, Langhorne Creek, Lobethal, Macclesfield, Mt Barker, Myponga, Oakbank, Stirling, Strathalbyn, Victor Harbor, Woodside and Yankalilla, and parts of Birdwood. It also includes Kangaroo Island.
7.	Cowper, NSW	39,550	28	NSW north coast; it includes the centres of Bellingen, Bowraville, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo, Kempsey, Maclean, Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Sawtell, South West Rocks, Urunga and Woolgoolga.
8.	Gilmore, NSW	39,350	27	SE NSW including Berry, Bomaderry, Gerringong, Kangaroo Valley, Kiama, Milton, Minnamurra, Nowra, Shellharbour, Shell Cove, Sussex Inlet, Ulladulla and Warilla
9.	Hindmarsh, SA	43,303	27	Inner western Adelaide, SA
10.	Flinders, VIC	41,726	27	Southern Victoria, east of Melbourne, based on Mornington Peninsula and Bass Coast region including Phillip Island.

Federal electorates with highest numbers of residents with atrial fibrillation (irregular heartbeat)

Rank	Electorate	Number of people with atrial fibrillation	% of population with atrial fibrillation	Location
1.	Lyne, NSW	4,038	3	Mid-north coast of New South Wales including Port Macquarie
2.	Gilmore, NSW	3,857	3	SE NSW including Berry, Bomaderry, Gerringong, Kangaroo Valley, Kiama, Milton, Minnamurra, Nowra, Shellharbour, Shell Cove, Sussex Inlet, Ulladulla and Warilla
3.	Hinkler, QLD	3,807	3	Southern central QLD coast; it includes the centres of Bundaberg, Bargara, Burrum Heads, Childers and Hervey Bay.
4.	Paterson, NSW	3,695	3	Mid-north coast of New South Wales; it includes the towns include Anna Bay, Bulahdelah, Clarence Town, Dungog, Forster, Hawks Nest, Lemon Tree Passage, Medowie, Morpeth, Nelson Bay, Paterson, Raymond Terrace, Stroud, Tuncurry and parts of Napiac, Thornton and East Maitland.
5.	Page, NSW	3,660	3	NSW north coast; it includes the centres of Alstonville, Ballina, Casino, Evans Head, Grafton, Iluka, Kyogle, Lismore and Yamba.
6.	Cowper, NSW	3,693	3	NSW north coast; it includes the centres of Bellingen, Bowraville, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo, Kempsey, Maclean, Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Sawtell, South West Rocks, Urunga and Woolgoolga.
7.	Flinders, VIC	3,912	3	Southern Victoria, east of Melbourne, based on Mornington Peninsula and Bass Coast region including Phillip Island.
8.	Robertson, NSW	3,641	3	New South Wales coast, to the north of Sydney; it includes the centres of Erina, Gosford, Terrigal and Woy Woy.
9.	Hindmarsh, SA	3,999	3	Inner western Adelaide, SA
10.	Richmond, NSW	3,675	3	North coast of NSW including Bangalow, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Kingscliff, Lennox Head, Mullumbimby, Murwillumbah, Nimbin, Ocean Shores, Pottsville, Suffolk Park and Tweed Heads

Federal electorates with highest numbers of physically inactive residents

Rank	Electorate	Number of people physically inactive	% of population physically inactive	Location
1.	Sydney, NSW	96,895	49	City of Sydney and inner western suburbs
2.	Hindmarsh, SA	77,398	49	Inner western Adelaide, SA
3.	Melbourne Ports, VIC	79,064	48	Inner Melbourne, VIC
4.	Wentworth, NSW	84,745	48	Eastern Sydney, NSW
5.	Lyne, NSW	65,483	48	Mid-north coast of New South Wales including Port Macquarie
6.	Moncrieff, QLD	77,002	48	South-east Queensland, northern part of the Gold Coast and hinterland
7.	Melbourne, VIC	92,921	48	Inner Melbourne, Victoria
8.	Sturt, SA	75,075	48	Eastern Adelaide, SA
9.	Boothby, SA	73,184	48	Southern Adelaide, SA
10.	Perth, WA	75,649	47	North central and north-eastern Perth

Managing the challenge of stroke in Australia

On average almost 3,000 stroke survivors live within each of the 150 Australian federal electorates. Two-thirds of these 440,000 Australians have a disability resulting from their stroke and we know from previous work the vast majority have high levels of unmet need that delays and sometimes denies a good recovery⁴.

Similarly the 51,000 strokes that occur this year will impact cities and towns across Australia and data from the National Stroke Audit⁵ shows many of our hospitals do not have the resources or the systems to adequately cater for this demand.

On top of this the population risk profile suggests stroke will continue to be a problem unless more people are able to better manage their health.

Collectively this poses a significant challenge and when you consider the impact an ageing population will bring to bear it is clear the challenge must be tackled now.

Our nation agreed in 1996 stroke was a national health priority however coordinated and funded action has never

been realised.

It is possible to prevent stroke and reduce the burden it causes on Australian families, on our health system and on our economy.

It is possible to improve the quality of care provided in our hospitals and in doing so reduce the death and disability stroke currently causes.

It is possible for us to vastly improve the way we care for survivors of stroke so they can recover more quickly and resume productive lives.

All of these things are possible with modest investment and the human and economic benefits that result will be immense.

The time to tackle stroke is now.

⁴Andrew N, Kilkenny M, Purvis T, Naylor R, Cadillac D. The Stroke Survivor and Carer Needs Assessment Survey. Melbourne: National Stroke Foundation, June 2013. (Unpublished)

⁵National Stroke Foundation. National Stroke Audit – Acute Services Organisational Survey Report 2013. Melbourne, Australia.

About the report

Deloitte Access Economics was commissioned by the National Stroke Foundation to undertake analysis of stroke statistics and provide estimations, by federal electorate division, of the incidence, prevalence and mortality of stroke in 2014.

The analysis is presented in a report called *Impact of stroke across Australia* and it follows the firm's 2013 paper, *The economic impact of stroke in Australia*.

In the new report, incidence reflects the new cases of stroke in a given year whereas prevalence refers to the number of people living after a stroke (survivors) in a given year.

The rates (or proportions) for incidence, prevalence and mortality used in Deloitte Access Economics (2013) have been used again in this report to ensure consistency. Namely, incidence rates were taken from Thrift et al (2012) which was based on the North East Melbourne Stroke Incidence Study (NEMESIS). Prevalence rates were taken from the fourth Survey of Disability Ageing and Carers conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The Survey provides detailed information on the self-reported

prevalence of stroke, by age and gender. Mortality rates were derived from Begg et al (2007) and ABS (2012a), whereby for each age-gender cohort, the percentage of the population who had stroke and died from it was compared to the percentage of the population who did not have stroke but died from other causes. The difference between the two percentages is the relative risk of death from stroke and was again used in this report.

It has been assumed there have been no significant changes to stroke incidence, prevalence and mortality rates since these studies.

The number of people with common stroke risk factors was also considered; high blood pressure, atrial fibrillation, high blood cholesterol and physical inactivity. Prevalence rates for stroke risk factors were taken from the 2011–12 Australian Health Survey (ABS 2013) except atrial fibrillation, which referenced Deloitte Access Economics (2011). The prevalence rates were applied to ABS population projections for 2014 based on the 2011 Census.

Federal electorate stroke and stroke risk numbers are detailed in full on the National Stroke Foundation website www.strokefoundation.com.au/research/no-postcode-untouched and paint the clearest picture yet of the impact of stroke in Australian cities and towns. Please don't hesitate to contact National Stroke Foundation Director of Policy and Advocacy Rebecca Smith rsmith@strokefoundation.com.au with any queries about this report.

Contact us

National Stroke Foundation

National Office

Level 7, 461 Bourke Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

Phone: 03 9670 1000

Email: admin@strokefoundation.com.au

 www.facebook.com/strokefoundation

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