

Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW 2015-16 activity report

21 August 2017

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Explanatory notes

Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW (CCNSW) is the statutory body with strategic and regulatory oversight of the interment industry and responsibility for administering the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2013*. CCNSW works closely with cemeteries and crematoria operators, including Crown trusts, local councils, private operators and community operators, to identify and respond to capacity and demand challenges through coordination of strategic land acquisition that focuses on priority areas of need.

Additional information about CCNSW is available at crownland.nsw.gov.au/crown_lands/cemeteries.

CCNSW maintains an up-to-date register of all cemeteries and crematoria in NSW, and provides analysis about industry activity and cemetery capacity and demand.

Information from the CCNSW Cemeteries and Crematoria Register may be accessed at crownland.nsw.gov.au/crown_lands/cemeteries/register.

The 2015–16 NSW cemeteries and crematoria activity information compiled in this report relies on three primary data inputs:

- the CCNSW Cemeteries and Crematoria Register, to identify facilities and contacts for sourcing of activity information
- cemetery operator activity survey information captured for the 2014–15 year, as provided by NSW operators in 2015
- cemetery operator activity survey information captured for the 2015–16 year, as provided by NSW operators in 2016.

NSW cemetery and crematoria operator activity information is collected by CCNSW in administration of the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2013*.

CCNSW relies upon the support and cooperation of operators in maintaining accurate facility and registration information, and in accessing timely annual activity information.

Activity survey information captured from NSW operators for 2015–16 includes information in respect of 1240 facilities, including 51 crematoria and 1189 cemeteries.

In May 2016 CCNSW published a *Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW 2014–15 Activity Report*, available from the CCNSW website (crownland.nsw.gov.au/crown_lands/cemeteries/planning-and-reporting). The report presents and analyses mortal remains interment, cremation and ash interment activity completed in NSW in 2014–15, and provides background, context, purpose, methodology and other information.



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The methodology detailed at Chapters 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 of the 2014–15 Activity Report is also the methodology applied in sourcing, analysis and presentation of 2014–15 and 2015–16 cemetery and crematoria activity information detailed in this document.

To avoid disclosure of individual operator activity information, data analysis and presentation is premised on bundling of activity information to NSW Government planning regions. Information on NSW Government planning regions and districts current as at June 2017 may be accessed from the Department of Planning & Environment at planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-Plans.

During 2016 the NSW Government commenced implementation of the Stronger Councils Stronger Communities initiative. As a consequence of changes to some local government area boundaries and some regional boundaries as part of that initiative, allocation of activity to the appropriate planning region for some facilities is not constant between periods 2014–15 and 2015–16.

Analysis of 2014–15 and 2015–16 activity as presented in tables 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 follows the convention of one decimal place being used in respect of activity percentages, and no decimal places in respect of facilities, with decimal point changes in activity types and volumes expected to be material, over time, to the volume of burial land required to meet the needs of the NSW community.



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Definitions

Ash disposition: a collective total that includes the number of ashes 'interred' in a cemetery, and the number of ashes scattered within a cemetery, in the reporting period.

Under NSW legislation, cemetery operators are not required to register the scattering of ashes within a cemetery. For activity reporting purposes, CCNSW asks that operators report the number of ashes scattered within the cemetery where the data is available, or to estimate the volume, where data is not available. Not all operators record or report on volumes of ashes scattered within cemetery grounds, and the number of ashes reported as scattered is considered substantively incomplete. The rate of 'ash disposition' includes interments of ashes (in a columbarium, niche wall or in the ground) and recorded scattering of ashes within a cemetery. The 'ash disposition rate' reflects net volumes of ashes interred and scattered in a region within the reporting period, compared with cremation services provided in the reporting period.

Burial: placing a casket or coffin into an earth grave, or into a vault (also known as interment).

Cremation: a process for the reduction of bodily remains by fire or heat, alkaline hydrolysis (aquamation) or by other means prescribed by the regulations.

Cremation rate: a calculation of the percentage of cremations proportional to the sum of cremations plus burials.

Grave occupancy rate: an inferred ongoing rate for the number of interments per grave plot, at the 'current rate' of second or subsequent interment. The figure is derived by dividing the number of burials completed in the term by the number of burials in new plots completed for the term. The figures must be used with caution for two key reasons:

- not all operator systems are configured to differentiate first and second burials, and therefore for some facilities data reported for second burials in an estimate only
- at the cemetery-specific level, as a cemetery facility nears exhaustion of capacity, only second or subsequent interments may be completed, and the apparent occupancy rate may provide an unreliable indication of average occupancy (e.g. exceed two per grave).

CCNSW considers that grave occupancy rate is of value at the regional level, where variations between facilities net out, and where facility-specific anomalies may be excluded from analysis. In specific cases where a single facility volume predominates, the apparent rate of grave occupancy may be deemed unreliable.

No. of Services: the total number of primary services performed, i.e. burial or cremation of human remains, these being the means of disposition of human remains as defined by the Public Health Regulation 2012. Ash interment, ash scattering and memorialisation are considered as secondary services (subsequent to cremation) in this context.

Second or subsequent burial: the burial of a second or subsequent casket or coffin into a single grave site.

Not all cemetery operators maintain systems which readily differentiate an interment as a 'second interment', so it is likely that aggregate data for regions and for NSW generally slightly under represents 'second interments', with some of these being reported as first interments where system constraints are in effect.

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (August 2017). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Industry or the user's independent advisor.



Table 1. NSW Operator Activity—Summary information to 2015–16

| Burials | 2014–15 | 2015-16 | as at 30 June 2017 | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Total No. of bodily remains interments | No. of interments | No. of interments | % variance | |
| Whole of NSW | 17833 | 18079 | 1.4% | |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 8730 | 9058 | 3.8% | |
| Rural & Regional NSW | 9103 | 9021 | -0.9% | |
| Central Coast, Hunter & Illawarra | 2497 | 2720 | 8.9% | |
| Cremations | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | | |
| No. of cremations | No. of cremations | No. of cremations | % variance | |
| Whole of NSW | 36112 | 36257 | 0.4% | |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 17208 | 17153 | -0.3% | |
| Rural & Regional NSW | 18904 | 19104 | 1.1% | |
| Central Coast, Hunter & Illawarra | 9269 | 9828 | 6.0% | |
| Cremation rate | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | | |
| Cremation rate for the term | % rate | % rate | % variance | |
| Whole of NSW | 66.9% | 66.7% | -0.3% | |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 66.3% | 65.4% | -1.4% | |
| Rural & Regional NSW | 67.5% | 67.9% | 0.6% | |
| Central Coast, Hunter & Illawarra | 78.8% | 78.3% | -0.6% | |
| Grave occupancy rate | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | | |
| Grave occupancy rate for the term | % rate | % rate | % variance | |
| Whole of NSW | 1.4 | 1.35 | -3.2% | |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 1.45 | 1.38 | -4.7% | |
| Rural & Regional NSW | 1.36 | 1.33 | -2.3% | |
| Central Coast, Hunter & Illawarra | 1.56 | 1.32 | -15.4% | |
| Ash interment / scattering | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | | |
| Total No. of ash interments or | No. of ashes | No. of ashes | % variance | |
| scatterings | | | | |
| Whole of NSW | 11738 | 11960 | 1.9% | |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 6444 | 6701 | 4.0% | |
| Rural & Regional NSW | 5294 | 5259 | -0.7% | |
| Central Coast, Hunter & Illawarra | 2851 | 2790 | -2.1% | |
| Ash interment rate | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | | |
| Ash interment & scattering rate for the term | % rate | % rate | % variance | |
| Whole of NSW | 32.5% | 33.0% | 1.5% | |
| | | | 4 50/ | |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 37.4% | 39.1% | 4.5% | |
| Metropolitan Sydney Rural & Regional NSW | 37.4% 28.0% | 39.1% 27.5% | -1.7% | |



Table 2. NSW operator activity—survey data 2014–15 (Data as at publication of 2014–15 activity report, May 2016)

Whole of NSW, burial and cremation volumes

| Service type | No. of services | % of services |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Total number of burials | 17883 | 33.1% |
| Total number of cremations | 36112 | 66.9% |
| Total number of services | 53995 | 100% |

Whole of NSW, number of cemetery operators

| Type of Operator | No. of operators |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Cemetery operators | 227 |
| Crematoria operators | 39 |
| | 266 |

Whole of NSW, number of cemeteries

| Cemeteries Status | No. of facilities |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Operational cemeteries | 851 |
| Closed cemeteries | 254 |
| | 1105 |

Whole of NSW, cemeteries and crematoria by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of cemeteries (operational & closed) | % of total cemeteries | No. of cemeteries (operational) | % of operational cemeteries | No. of cemeteries (closed) | % of closed cemeteries | No. of crematoria | % of crematoria |
|------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Local government | 951 | 86.1% | 710 | 83.4% | 241 | 94.9% | 8 | 16% |
| Crown | 16 | 1.4% | 14 | 1.6% | 2 | 0.8% | 4 | 8% |
| Private | 20 | 1.8% | 19 | 2.2% | 1 | 0.4% | 37 | 76% |
| Church | 113 | 10.2% | 104 | 12.2% | 9 | 3.5% | 0 | N/A |
| Community | 5 | 0.5% | 4 | 0.5% | 1 | 0.4% | 0 | N/A |
| | 1105 | 100% | 851 | 100% | 254 | 100% | 49 | 100% |

Metropolitan Sydney, cemeteries and crematoria by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of cemeteries | % of total | No. of cemeteries | % of operational | No. of cemeteries | % of closed cemeteries | No. of crematoria | % of crematoria |
|------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | (operational & closed) | cemeteries | (operational) | cemeteries | (closed) | | | |
| Local government | 51 | 68% | 36 | 63% | 15 | 83% | 0 | N/A |
| Crown | 10 | 13% | 10 | 18% | 0 | 0% | 4 | 33% |
| Private | 7 | 9% | 7 | 12% | 0 | 0% | 8 | 67% |
| Church | 6 | 8% | 3 | 5% | 3 | 17% | 0 | N/A |
| Community | 1 | 1% | 1 | 2% | 0 | 0% | 0 | N/A |
| | 75 | 100% | 57 | 100% | 18 | 100% | 12 | 100% |

Whole of NSW, summary burial and cremation activity

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|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Planning region | No. of burials | No. of cremations | No. of services | Cremation rate | No. of second or | Grave occupancy | No. of ash | Ash disposition % |
| | | | | | subsequent burials | rate | interments | rate |
| | | | | | | | or scatterings | |
| Whole of NSW | 17833 | 36112 | 53945 | 66.9% | 5039 | 1.4 | 11738 | 32.5% |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 8730 | 17208 | 25938 | 66.3% | 2647 | 1.45 | 6444 | 37.4% |
| Rural and Regional NSW* | 9103 | 18904 | 28007 | 67.5% | 2392 | 1.36 | 5294 | 28.0% |
| Central Coast, Hunter and Illawarra | 2497 | 9269 | 11766 | 78.8% | 892 | 1.56 | 2851 | 30.8% |

^{*} i.e. all planning regions other than Metropolitan Sydney, including Central Coast, Far West, Hunter, Illawarra

^{**} Central Coast, Hunter and Illawarra therefore are a subset of rural and regional NSW



Table 2. NSW operator activity—survey data 2014–15 (continued)

Whole of NSW hurials and cremations by planning region

| Planning Region | No. of cemeteries* | No. of burials | % of NSW burials | No. of crematoria | No. of cremations | Cremation rate % | % of NSW cremations | No. of services (burials and cremations) | % of NSW services |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--|-------------------|
| Central Coast | 17 | 472 | 2.6% | 2 | 2405 | 83.6% | 6.7% | 2877 | 5.3% |
| Far West | 34 | 337 | 1.9% | 2 | 296 | 46.8% | 0.8% | 633 | 1.2% |
| Hunter | 130 | 1208 | 6.8% | 4 | 4431 | 78.6% | 12.3% | 5639 | 10.5% |
| Illawarra | 20 | 817 | 4.6% | 3 | 2433 | 74.9% | 6.7% | 3250 | 6.0% |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 57 | 8730 | 49.0% | 12 | 17208 | 66.3% | 47.7% | 25938 | 48.1% |
| Murray-Murrumbidgee | 113 | 1436 | 8.1% | 5 | 2493 | 63.5% | 6.9% | 3929 | 7.3% |
| New England–North West | 96 | 973 | 5.5% | 3 | 450 | 31.6% | 1.2% | 1423 | 2.6% |
| North Coast | 134 | 1415 | 7.9% | 10 | 4528 | 76.2% | 12.5% | 5943 | 11.0% |
| Orana & Central West | 147 | 1434 | 8.0% | 5 | 1067 | 42.7% | 3.0% | 2501 | 4.6% |
| South East & Tablelands | 101 | 1011 | 5.7% | 3 | 801 | 44.2% | 2.2% | 1812 | 3.4% |
| Unincorporated | 2 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0 | N/A | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| | 851 | 17833 | 100% | 49 | 36112 | 66.9% | 100% | 53945 | 100% |

^{*} For 2014–15 data, this count is of operational cemeteries only

Metropolitan Sydney, burials and cremations by Sydney sub-region

| Metropolitan Sydney District | No. of cemeteries | No. of burials | % of Sydney burials | No. of crematoria | No. of cremations | Cremation rate % | % of Sydney cremations | No. of services (burials and | % of total Sydney |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | | buriais | Crematoria | Cremations | /6 | cremations | cremations) | services |
| Central | 4 | 736 | 8.4% | 1 | 1126 | 60.5% | 6.5% | 1862 | 7.2% |
| West Central | 10 | 4770 | 54.6% | 4 | 5679 | 54.3% | 33.0% | 10449 | 40.3% |
| North | 10 | 1224 | 14.0% | 2 | 5394 | 81.5% | 31.3% | 6618 | 25.5% |
| West | 22 | 388 | 4.4% | 2 | 1192 | 75.4% | 6.9% | 1580 | 6.1% |
| South West | 10 | 1039 | 11.9% | 1 | 1508 | 59.2% | 8.8% | 2547 | 9.8% |
| South | 1 | 573 | 6.6% | 2 | 2309 | 80.1% | 13.4% | 2882 | 11.1% |
| | 57 | 8730 | 100% | 12 | 17208 | 66.3% | 100% | 25938 | 100% |

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Table 2. NSW operator activity—survey data 2014–15 (continued)

Whole of NSW, burials by type and cemetery operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of interments of bodily remains in new perpetual interment sites | No. of interments of bodily remains in perpetual interment sites (one or more previous interments) | No. of interments of bodily remains in interment sites under renewable rights terms* | Total no. of interments | % of total interments | 2nd or subsequent burials as a % of total interments | Grave occupancy rate |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Local government | 6443 | 2225 | 57 | 8725 | 48.9% | 25.5% | 1.35 |
| Crown | 3951 | 2173 | 0 | 6124 | 34.3% | 35.5% | 1.55 |
| Private | 2218 | 627 | 13 | 2858 | 16.0% | 21.9% | 1.29 |
| Church & community | 112 | 14 | 0 | 126 | 0.7% | 11.1% | 1.13 |
| Community (N/A for 2014-15) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| · | 12724 | 5039 | 70 | 17833 | 100% | 28.3% | 1.40 |

^{* 2014–15} renewable rights interments data was included in interments total counts, but not separately itemised, in the CCNSW 2014–15 Activity Report

Metropolitan Sydney, burials by type and cemetery operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of interments of bodily remains in new perpetual interment sites | No. of interments of bodily remains in perpetual interment sites (one or more previous interments) | No. of interments of bodily remains in interment sites under renewable rights terms* | Total No. of interments | % of total interments | 2nd or subsequent burials as a % of total interments | Grave occupancy rate |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Local government | 615 | 213 | 57 | 885 | 10.1% | 24.1% | 1.44 |
| Crown | 3921 | 2061 | 0 | 5982 | 68.5% | 34.5% | 1.53 |
| Private | 1451 | 371 | 13 | 1835 | 21.0% | 20.2% | 1.26 |
| Church & community | 26 | 2 | 0 | 28 | 0.3% | 7.1% | 1.08 |
| Community (N/A for 2014-15) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| | 6013 | 2647 | 70 | 8730 | 100% | 30.3% | 1.45 |

^{* 2014–15} renewable rights interments data was included in interments total counts, but not separately itemised, in the CCNSW 2014–15 Activity Report



Table 2. NSW operator activity—survey data 2014–15 (continued)

Whole of NSW, cremations and ash interments by crematoria operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of cremations of bodily remains | % of total cremations | No. of interments of cremated remains* | No. of cremated remains scattered within grounds** | No. of ash dispositions*** | Ash disposition rate |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Local government | 3521 | 9.8% | 3033 | 46 | 3079 | 87.4% |
| Crown | 5387 | 14.9% | 2540 | 224 | 2764 | 51.3% |
| Private | 27204 | 75.3% | 5304 | 370 | 5674 | 20.9% |
| Church & community | 0 | 0.0% | 215 | 6 | 221 | N/A |
| | 36112 | 100% | 11092 | 646 | 11738 | 32.5% |

^{*} Generally below ground, or in a niche wall or columbarium

Whole of NSW, burials and cremations by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of burials | % of NSW burials | No. of cremations | % of NSW cremations | Total no. of services | % of NSW total services |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Local government | 8725 | 48.9% | 3521 | 9.8% | 12246 | 22.7% |
| Crown | 6124 | 34.3% | 5387 | 14.9% | 11511 | 21.3% |
| Private | 2858 | 16.0% | 27204 | 75.3% | 30062 | 55.7% |
| Church & community | 126 | 0.7% | 0 | N/A | 126 | 0.2% |
| | 17833 | 100% | 36112 | 100% | 53945 | 100% |

Metropolitan Sydney, burials and cremations by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of burials | % of Sydney burials | No. of cremations | % of Sydney cremations | Total no. of services | % of total Sydney services |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Local government | 896 | 10.3% | 0 | N/A | 896 | 3.5% |
| Crown | 5984 | 68.5% | 5387 | 31% | 11371 | 43.8% |
| Private | 1822 | 20.9% | 11821 | 69% | 13643 | 52.6% |
| Church & community | 28 | 0.3% | 0 | N/A | 28 | 0.1% |
| | 8730 | 100% | 17208 | 100% | 25938 | 100.0% |

Whole of NSW, Local Government operated cemeteries, activity levels

| LG Cemeteries | No. of facilities |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Operational & >10 burials per year | 187 |
| Operational & <10 burials per year | 531 |
| Closed | 226 |
| Burials per operational cemetery | 9.2 |

^{**} Ash scattering data is known to be incomplete. Cemetery operators in NSW are not required by the Cemeteries & Crematoria Act 2013 to register or record ash scatterings.

^{***} i.e. an aggregate total which includes ashes interred or scattered within a cemetery

Table 3. NSW Operator Activity—Survey data 2015–16 (data as at 30 June 2017)

Whole of NSW, burial and cremation volumes

| Service type | No. of services | % of services |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Total number of burials | 18079 | 33.3% |
| Total number of cremations | 36257 | 66.7% |
| Total number of services | 54336 | 100% |

Whole of NSW, number of cemetery operators

| Type of Operator | No. of operators |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Cemetery operators | 238 |
| Crematoria operators | 41 |
| | 279 |

Whole of NSW, number of cemeteries

| • | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Cemeteries Status | No. of facilities |
| Operational cemeteries | 899 |
| Closed cemeteries | 290 |
| | 1189 |

Whole of NSW, cemeteries and crematoria by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of cemeteries (operational & closed) | % of total cemeteries | No. of cemeteries (operational) | % of operational cemeteries | No. of cemeteries (closed) | % of closed cemeteries | No. of crematoria | % of crematoria |
|------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Local government | 967 | 81.3% | 711 | 79.1% | 256 | 88.3% | 8 | 16% |
| Crown | 20 | 1.7% | 14 | 1.6% | 6 | 2.1% | 4 | 8% |
| Private | 26 | 2.2% | 25 | 2.8% | 1 | 0.3% | 39 | 76% |
| Church | 169 | 14.2% | 143 | 15.9% | 26 | 9% | 0 | N/A |
| Community | 7 | 0.6% | 6 | 0.7% | 1 | 0.3% | 0 | N/A |
| · | 1189 | 100% | 899 | 100% | 290 | 100% | 51 | 100% |

Metropolitan Sydney, cemeteries and crematoria by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of cemeteries (operational & closed) | % of total cemeteries | No. of cemeteries (operational) | % of operational cemeteries | No. of cemeteries (closed) | % of closed cemeteries | No. of crematoria | % of crematoria |
|------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Local government | 52 | 60% | 37 | 55% | 15 | 75% | 0 | N/A |
| Crown | 9 | 10% | 9 | 13% | 0 | N/A | 4 | 33% |
| Private | 8 | 9% | 8 | 12% | 0 | N/A | 8 | 67% |
| Church | 16 | 18% | 11 | 16% | 5 | 25% | 0 | N/A |
| Community | 2 | 2% | 2 | 3% | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| | 87 | 100% | 67 | 100% | 20 | 100% | 12 | 100% |

Whole of NSW, summary burial and cremation activity

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|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Planning Region | No. of burials | No. of cremations | No. of services | Cremation rate | No. of second or | Grave | No. of ash interments | Ash disposition |
| | | | | | subsequent burials | occupancy rate | or scatterings | % rate |
| Whole of NSW | 18079 | 36257 | 54336 | 66.7% | 4735 | 1.35 | 11960 | 33.0% |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 9058 | 17153 | 26211 | 65.4% | 2504 | 1.38 | 6701 | 39.1% |
| Rural and regional NSW* | 9021 | 19104 | 28125 | 67.9% | 2231 | 1.33 | 5259 | 27.5% |
| Central Coast, Hunter & Illawarra** | 2720 | 9828 | 12548 | 78.3% | 659 | 1.32 | 2790 | 28.4% |

^{*} i.e. all planning regions other than Metropolitan Sydney, including Central Coast, Hunter, Illawarra and the Far West

^{**} Central Coast, Hunter a Illawarra therefore are a subset of rural & regional NSW



Table 3. NSW Operator Activity—Survey data 2015–16 (continued)

Whole of NSW, burials and cremations by planning region

| Planning Region | No. of cemeteries* | No. of burials | % of NSW burials | No. of crematoria | No. of cremations | Cremation rate % | % of NSW cremations | No. of services (burials and cremations) | % of NSW services |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------|
| Central Coast | 17 | 463 | 2.6% | 2 | 2379 | 83.7% | 6.6% | 2842 | 5.2% |
| Far West | 35 | 311 | 1.7% | 2 | 152 | 32.8% | 0.4% | 463 | 0.9% |
| Hunter | 138 | 1087 | 6.0% | 4 | 4261 | 79.7% | 11.8% | 5348 | 9.8% |
| Illawarra | 24 | 841 | 4.7% | 3 | 2487 | 74.7% | 6.9% | 3328 | 6.1% |
| Metropolitan Sydney | 67 | 9058 | 50.1% | 12 | 17153 | 65.4% | 47.3% | 26211 | 48.2% |
| Murray-Murrumbidgee | 115 | 1496 | 8.3% | 5 | 2523 | 62.8% | 7.0% | 4019 | 7.4% |
| New England–North West | 97 | 864 | 4.8% | 4 | 737 | 46.0% | 2.0% | 1601 | 2.9% |
| North Coast | 136 | 1614 | 8.9% | 11 | 4575 | 73.9% | 12.6% | 6189 | 11.4% |
| Orana & Central West | 153 | 1412 | 7.8% | 5 | 1109 | 44.0% | 3.1% | 2521 | 4.6% |
| South East & Tablelands | 110 | 932 | 5.2% | 3 | 881 | 48.6% | 2.4% | 1813 | 3.3% |
| Unincorporated | 3 | 1 | 0.0% | 0 | 0 | N/A | N/A | 1 | 0.0% |
| | 895 | 18079 | 100% | 51 | 36257 | 66.7% | 100% | 54336 | 100% |

^{*} When comparing data between years; No. of cemeteries in 2014-15 data included operational cemeteries only

Metropolitan Sydney, burials and cremations by Sydney sub-region

| Metropolitan Sydney District | No. of cemeteries | No. of burials | % of Sydney burials | No. of crematoria | No. of cremations | Cremation rate % | % of Sydney cremations | No. of services (burials and cremations) | % of total Sydney services |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Central | 4 | 818 | 9.0% | 1 | 1156 | 58.6% | 6.7% | 1974 | 7.5% |
| West Central | 12 | 4621 | 51.0% | 4 | 5635 | 54.9% | 32.9% | 10256 | 39.1% |
| North | 11 | 1543 | 17.0% | 2 | 5437 | 77.9% | 31.7% | 6980 | 26.6% |
| West | 25 | 381 | 4.2% | 2 | 1071 | 73.8% | 6.2% | 1452 | 5.5% |
| South West | 14 | 1083 | 12.0% | 1 | 1555 | 58.9% | 9.1% | 2638 | 10.1% |
| South | 1 | 612 | 6.8% | 2 | 2299 | 79.0% | 13.4% | 2911 | 11.1% |
| | 67 | 9058 | 100% | 12 | 17153 | 65.4% | 100% | 26211 | 100% |



Table 3. NSW Operator Activity—Survey data 2015–16 (continued)

Whole of NSW, burials by type and cemetery operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of interments of bodily remains in new perpetual interment sites | No. of interments of bodily remains in perpetual interment sites (one or more previous interments) | No. of interments of bodily remains in interment sites under renewable rights terms* | Total no. of interments | % of total interments | 2nd or subsequent burials as a % of total interments | Grave occupancy rate |
|------------------|---|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Local government | 6183 | 2233 | 84 | 8500 | 47.0% | 26.3% | 1.37 |
| Crown | 4151 | 2305 | 0 | 6456 | 35.7% | 35.7% | 1.56 |
| Private | 2825 | 192 | 3 | 3020 | 16.7% | 6.4% | 1.07 |
| Church | 68 | 5 | 0 | 73 | 0.4% | 6.8% | 1.07 |
| Community | 30 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0.2% | N/A | 1.00 |
| | 13257 | 4735 | 87 | 18079 | 100% | 26.2% | 1.36 |

^{* 2014–15} renewable rights interments data was included in interments total counts, but not separately itemised, in the CCNSW 2014-15 Activity Report

Metropolitan Sydney, burials by type and cemetery operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of interments of bodily remains in new perpetual interment sites | No. of interments of bodily remains in perpetual interment sites (one or more previous interments) | No. of interments of bodily remains in interment sites under renewable rights terms* | Total no. of interments | % of total interments | 2nd or subsequent burials as a % of total interments | Grave occupancy rate |
|------------------|---|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Local government | 547 | 211 | 84 | 842 | 9.3% | 25.1% | 1.54 |
| Crown | 4079 | 2277 | 0 | 6356 | 70.2% | 35.8% | 1.56 |
| Private | 1818 | 14 | 3 | 1835 | 20.2% | 0.8% | 1.01 |
| Church | 8 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 0.1% | 20.0% | 1.25 |
| Community | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0.2% | N/A | 1.00 |
| | 6467 | 2504 | 87 | 9058 | 100% | 27.6% | 1.40 |

^{* 2014-15} renewable rights interments data was included in interments total counts, but not separately itemised, in the CCNSW 2014-15–Activity Report



Table 3. NSW Operator Activity—Survey data 2015–16 (continued)

Whole of NSW, cremations and ash interments by crematoria operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of cremations of bodily remains | % of total cremations | No. of interments of cremated remains* | No. of cremated remains scattered within grounds** | No. of ash dispositions*** | Ash disposition rate |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Local government | 3480 | 9.6% | 3400 | 55 | 3455 | 99.3% |
| Crown | 5292 | 14.6% | 3140 | 188 | 3328 | 62.9% |
| Private | 27485 | 75.8% | 4573 | 312 | 4885 | 17.8% |
| Church | 0 | 0.0% | 285 | 7 | 292 | N/A |
| | 36257 | 100% | 11398 | 562 | 11960 | 33.0% |

^{*} Generally below ground, or in a niche wall or columbarium

Whole of NSW, burials and cremations by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of burials | % of NSW burials | No. of cremations | % of NSW cremations | Total no. of services | % of NSW total services |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Local government | 8500 | 47.0% | 3480 | 9.6% | 11980 | 22.0% |
| Crown | 6456 | 35.7% | 5292 | 14.6% | 11748 | 21.6% |
| Private | 3020 | 16.7% | 27485 | 75.8% | 30505 | 56.1% |
| Community | 103 | 0.6% | 0 | N/A | 103 | 0.2% |
| | 18079 | 100% | 36257 | 100% | 54336 | 100% |

Metropolitan Sydney, burials and cremations by operator sector

| Operator sector | No. of burials | % of Sydney burials | No. of cremations | % of Sydney cremations | Total no. of services | % of total Sydney services |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Local government | 842 | 9.3% | 0 | N/A | 842 | 3.2% |
| Crown | 6231 | 68.8% | 5292 | 31% | 11523 | 44.0% |
| Private | 1960 | 21.6% | 11861 | 69% | 13821 | 52.7% |
| Community | 25 | 0.3% | 0 | N/A | 25 | 0.1% |
| | 9058 | 100% | 17153 | 100% | 26211 | 100.0% |

Whole of NSW, Local Government operated cemeteries, activity levels

| LG Cemeteries | No. of facilities |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Operational & >10 burials per year | 184 |
| Operational & <10 burials per year | 527 |
| Closed | 256 |
| Burials per operational cemetery | 8.8 |

^{**} Ash scattering data is known to be incomplete. Cemetery operators in NSW are not required by the Cemeteries & Crematoria Act 2013 to register or record ash scatterings.

^{***} i.e. an aggregate total which includes ashes interred or scattered within a cemetery