

Annual Operator Activity Survey - 2018/19 as at 30 June 2019

1. Whole of NSW, burial and cremation volumes

Service type	No. of services	Percentage
Total number of burials	17955	31.3%
Total number of cremations	39391	68.7%
Total number of services	57346	100%

2. Whole of NSW, number of cemetery operators

Type of Operator	No. of operators
Cemetery operators	355
Crematoria operators	43
Total	398

3. Whole of NSW, number of cemeteries

Cemeteries Status	No. of facilities
Operational cemeteries	995
Closed cemeteries	418
Under development	1
Total	1414

4. 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 or inactive)	% of closed cemeteries	No. of crematoria (operational & closed)	% of crematoria
Local Government	1034	73%	692	70%	342	82%	7	12%
Crown	20	1%	13	1%	7	2%	4	7%
Private	30	2%	30	3%	0	0%	49	82%
Church	313	22%	248	25%	65	16%	0	0%
Community	17	1%	12	1%	5	1.2%	0	0%
Total	1414	100%	995	100%	419	100%	60	100%

5. 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	56	33.3%	37	29%	19	47.5%	0	0%
Crown	9	5.4%	9	7%	0	0%	4	31%
Private	7	4.2%	7	5%	0	0%	9	69%
Church	90	53.6%	73	57%	17	42.5%	0	0%
Community	4	2.4%	2	2%	2	5%	0	0%
Other	2	1.2%	0	0%	2	5%	0	0%
Total	168	100%	128	100%	40	100%	13	100%

6. Whole of NSW, summary burial and cremation activity

Planning Region	No. of burials	No. of cremations	No. of services	Cremation rate	No. of second or subsequent burials	Grave occupancy rate	No. of ash interments or scatterings	Ash disposition rate
Whole of NSW	17955	39391	57346	68.7%	4619	1.35	12181	30.92%
Metropolitan Sydney	9151	18141	27292	66.5%	2483	1.37	6928	38.19%
Rural and Regional NSW*	6141	11124	17265	64.4%	1540	1.33	2391	21.49%
Central Coast, Hunter and Illawarra	2663	10126	12789	79.2%	596	1.29	2862	28.26%

* ie, all planning regions other than Metropolitan Sydney, including Central Coast, Hunter and Illawarra-Shoalhaven

7. Whole of NSW, burials and cremations by planning region

Planning Region	No. of cemeteries (operational)	No. of burials	% of NSW burials	No. of crematoria (operational)	No. of cremations	Cremation rate %	% of NSW cremations	No. of services (burials and cremations)	% of NSW services
Central Coast	17	457	2.5%	2	2488	84.5%	6.3%	2945	5.1%
Far West	40	291	1.6%	2	272	48.3%	0.7%	563	1.0%
Hunter	183	1368	7.6%	7	5071	78.8%	12.9%	6439	11.2%
Illawarra-Shoalhaven	36	838	4.7%	4	2567	75.4%	6.5%	3405	5.9%
Metropolitan Sydney	128	9151	51.0%	13	18141	66.5%	46.1%	27292	47.6%
Riverina-Murray	118	1498	8.3%	8	4167	73.6%	10.6%	5665	9.9%
New England North West	97	811	4.5%	4	741	47.7%	1.9%	1552	2.7%
North Coast	99	1177	6.6%	11	4060	77.5%	10.3%	5237	9.1%
Central West and Orana	154	1403	7.8%	5	1114	44.3%	2.8%	2517	4.4%
South East and Tablelands	123	961	5.4%	3	770	44.5%	2.0%	1731	3.0%
Total	995	17955	100%	59	39391	N/A	100%	57346	100%

8. Metropolitan Sydney, burials and cremations by Sydney sub-region

Metropolitan Sydney District	No. of cemeteries (operational)	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	18	766	8.4%	1	1192	60.9%	6.6%	1958	7.2%
West Central	18	4878	53.3%	4	5447	52.8%	30.0%	10325	37.8%
North	17	1380	15.1%	2	5122	78.8%	28.2%	6502	23.8%
West	36	370	4.0%	2	1122	75.2%	6.2%	1492	5.5%
South West	32	1192	13.0%	2	3195	72.8%	17.6%	4387	16.1%
South	7	565	6.2%	2	2063	78.5%	11.4%	2628	9.6%
	128	9151	100%	13	18141	66.5%	100%	27292	100%

9. 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	6062	2150	69	8281	46.1%	12.0%	1.37
Crown	4173	2245	0	6418	35.7%	12.5%	1.54
Private	2786	159	3	2948	16.4%	0.9%	1.06
Church	145	45	0	190	1.1%	0.3%	1.31
Community	98	20	0	118	0.7%	0.1%	1.20
	13264	4619	72	17955	100%	25.7%	1.35

* Grave occupancy rate is an inferred ongoing rate for the no. of interments per grave plot, at the current rate of second 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, as 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 exceed 2 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.

10. 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	544	220	69	833	9.1%	2.4%	1.53
Crown	4050	2178	0	6228	68%	23.8%	1.54
Private	1915	64	3	1982	21.7%	0.7%	1.03
Church	46	17	0	63	0.7%	0.2%	1.37
Community	41	4	0	45	0.5%	0.0%	1.10
	6596	2483	72	9151	100%	27.1%	1.39

11. 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	1926	4.9%	3286	70	3356	174.2%
Crown	4928	12.5%	3214	956	4170	84.6%
Private	32537	82.6%	3668	257	3925	12.1%
Church	0	0%	701	15	716	0.0%
Community	0	0%	14	0	14	0.0%
	39391	100%	10883	1298	12181	30.9%

* Generally below ground, or in a niche wall or columbarium** ie, ashes interred or scattered within a cemetery

12. 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	8281	46.1%	1926	4.9%	10207	17.8%
Crown	6418	35.7%	4928	12.5%	11346	19.8%
Private	2948	16.4%	32537	82.6%	35485	61.9%
Church	190	1%	N/A	N/A	190	0.3%
Community	118	0.7%	N/A	N/A	118	0.2%
	17955	100%	39391	100%	57346	100%

13. 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	833	9.1%	0	N/A	833	3.1%
Crown	6228	68.1%	4928	27%	11156	40.9%
Private	1982	21.7%	13213	73%	15195	55.7%
Church	63	0.7%	0	N/A	63	0.2%
Community	45	0.5%	0	N/A	45	0.2%
	9151	100%	18141	100%	27292	100%

14. Whole of NSW, Local Government operated cemeteries, activity levels

LG Cemeteries	No. of facilities
>10 burials per year	187
<10 burials per year	505
Closed	342
Total LG cemeteries in NSW	1034
Average burials per cemetery	5.9