

Data Sheet 25 (DS 025)

Unemployment Rate

What are we monitoring?

Unemployment rate of Blue Mountains residents aged 15 years and over.

What is the trend?

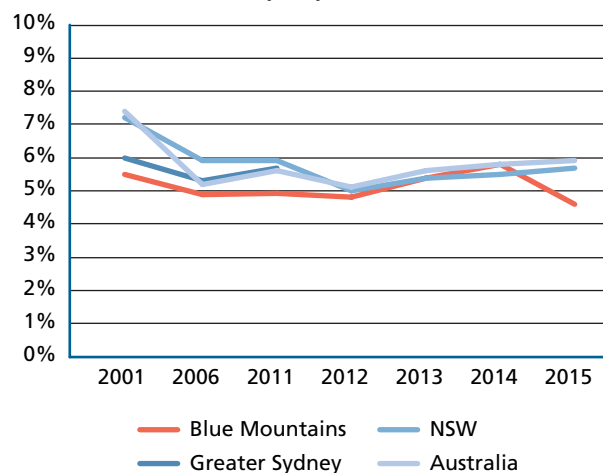
The unemployment rate in the Blue Mountains is generally lower than both the Australian and NSW average. During 2013 it reached the NSW average of 5.4%, and in 2014 it reached the Australian average of 5.8%, before falling well below both in 2015 to 4.6%.

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Unemployment can create individual and family poverty and carries a range of psychological and health risks. Ensuring unemployment remains low is important for the health of the Blue Mountains community and for the strength of the local economy.

The local unemployment rate provides information about the number of jobless people in the Blue Mountains. Tracking unemployment provides information about how well the Blue Mountains population is faring in terms of employment as compared to Sydney and the rest of NSW. It can also indicate the need for local training and employment programs.

Unemployment Rate – Blue Mountains, Greater Sydney, NSW and Australia



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Year	2001	2006	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Blue Mountains	5.5%	4.9%	4.9%	4.8%	5.4%	5.8%	4.6%
Greater Sydney	6.0%	5.3%	5.7%				
NSW	7.2%	5.9%	5.9%	5.0%	5.4%	5.5%	5.7%
Australia	7.4%	5.2%	5.6%	5.1%	5.6%	5.8%	5.9%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census Data 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 http://censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2011/communityprofile, Blue Mountains Economic Enterprise, Unemployment Data, March 2011–Sept 2015 <http://economicprofile.com.au/bluemountains/trends/unemployment#table>