

# RiVA Methodology & Data Sources

All data provided is static point data and does not currently update when new data becomes available. Data sources are provided below. Questions regarding any of the data should be directed to the agencies providing the source data.

## Local Community Service Organisations and community resources

Provided by [InfoXchange](#) health and welfare services directory. This data provides an indication of services in the target regions providing day-to-day community support who may also be able to provide support during and after disasters. Point-in-time data provided on **2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024** has been used and service information condensed to align with RiVA uses. For comprehensive and up-to-date service data, see Infoxchange Service Seeker, [www.serviceseeker.com.au](http://www.serviceseeker.com.au).

## Hazard Data

### NSW Bush Fire Prone Land

The bushfire prone land data has been created using NSW Local Council's bush fire prone maps and is designed to identify if your property is designated as bush fire prone.

Bush fire vegetation categories:

- Vegetation Category 1 consists of: > Areas of forest, woodlands, heaths (tall and short), forested wetlands and timber plantations.
- Vegetation Category 2 consists of: >Rainforests. >Lower risk vegetation parcels. These vegetation parcels represent a lower bush fire risk to surrounding development and consist of:
  - Remnant vegetation;
  - Land with ongoing land management practices that actively reduces bush fire risk.
- Vegetation Category 3 consists of: > Grasslands, freshwater wetlands, semi-arid woodlands, alpine complex and arid shrublands.
- Buffers are created based on the bushfire vegetation, with buffering distance being 100 metres for vegetation category 1 and 30 metres for vegetation category 2 and 3.

### [Australian Research Data Commons \(ARDC\)](#)

The data is provided by the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS),  
<https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/bush-fire-prone-land>.

### NSW Fire History up to 2023

NSW Fire history data; including bush fires and prescribed burns ranging from 1998 to 2022 with known duration.

NSW Government Spatial Collaboration Portal

<https://portal.spatial.nsw.gov.au/portal/home/item.html?id=bd8c560d64064d0f93f00f955f1dbe8b>

### Hot days above 35 degree C

Presents forecast additional days above 35 degrees by the year 2060. Represented by 10km grids in map.

Data provided by AdaptNSW <https://www.climatechange.environment.nsw.gov.au/projections-map>



## Flood Prone Areas

This spatial dataset identifies the land where development implications exist due to the risk of flood as designated by the relevant NSW environmental planning instrument (EPI).

**Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)** - The largest flood that could conceivably be expected to occur at a particular location, usually estimated from probable maximum precipitation. The PMF defines the maximum extent of flood prone land, that is, the floodplain.

<https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/media/2650/glossary.pdf>

**Note:** Flood data is not available for all LGAs.

**Flood Prone Land and Landslide Risk Area** data provided by NSW Environment & Heritage, on request.

## Geographies and estimation

The poverty profile is estimated for individual suburbs and localities represented by ABS Statistical Area 2 (SA2s) of NSW and is produced by University of Canberra's Spatial Microsimulation (SpatialMSM) estimates based on 2021 ABS Population and Housing Census and 2019/20 ABS Survey of Income and Housing. Areas with fewer than 30 people or unreliable estimate will not be shown (inadequate data).

## Calculating Poverty (Significant Economic Disadvantage)

People experience significant economic disadvantage when their household's disposable income (after paying tax) falls below a level considered adequate to achieve an acceptable standard of living.

For the purposes of this research, there are three elements to this calculation:

1. The threshold of middle or median incomes is used, with 50% below this threshold being the 'poverty line'. This method is widely used in national and international studies and measures living standards relative to those enjoyed by 'middle Australia' <sup>[1]</sup>.
2. Adjustments are made to this threshold to account for the number and age of people living in each household, known as the equivalence scale, given the impact of household size on the level of disposable income required to meet living costs.
3. Housing costs (such as rent, mortgage payments and water and property rates) are removed to allow for a fairer comparison of disposable income. This is because housing costs can vary significantly depending on location, size and whether a household owns their own home or is renting.

[1] Davidson P., Saunders P., Bradbury B. & Wong, M., 2018. 'Poverty in Australia 2018'. ACOSS/UNSW Poverty and Inequality Partnership Report No.2, Sydney: ACOSS. p.18

## Low income households

The research sought to disaggregate poverty rates by Indigenous status, for culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD) and by disability and caring status. However, estimating poverty rates for these groups by geographic area cannot be done using spatial microsimulation because of data limitations. Instead, rates of people in low-income households has been calculated directly from Census data. The measurement of people living in low-income household broadly follows the calculation of economic disadvantage rates but is based on available household income in the census, which is the equivalised gross household income.

