

Living arrangements in Bega Valley Shire

Most communities are about one-quarter children and three-quarters adults, with about two-thirds of adults living in couples. In Bega Valley in 2006, 25% of the residents at home were dependent children and 75% were adults, of whom 69% lived in couples. Of these couples, 16% were unmarried.

People living in couples, who made up 69% of Bega Valley Shire's adults, were most prevalent in Tura Beach (79% of adults), Pambula Beach (75%) and Bega valley (74%), and less common in Bega (63%), Eden (63%) and Merimbula (65%). Amongst couples, unmarried or de facto couples most commonly lived in Pambula, where they were one-fifth of couples, and in Bega and Bermagui.

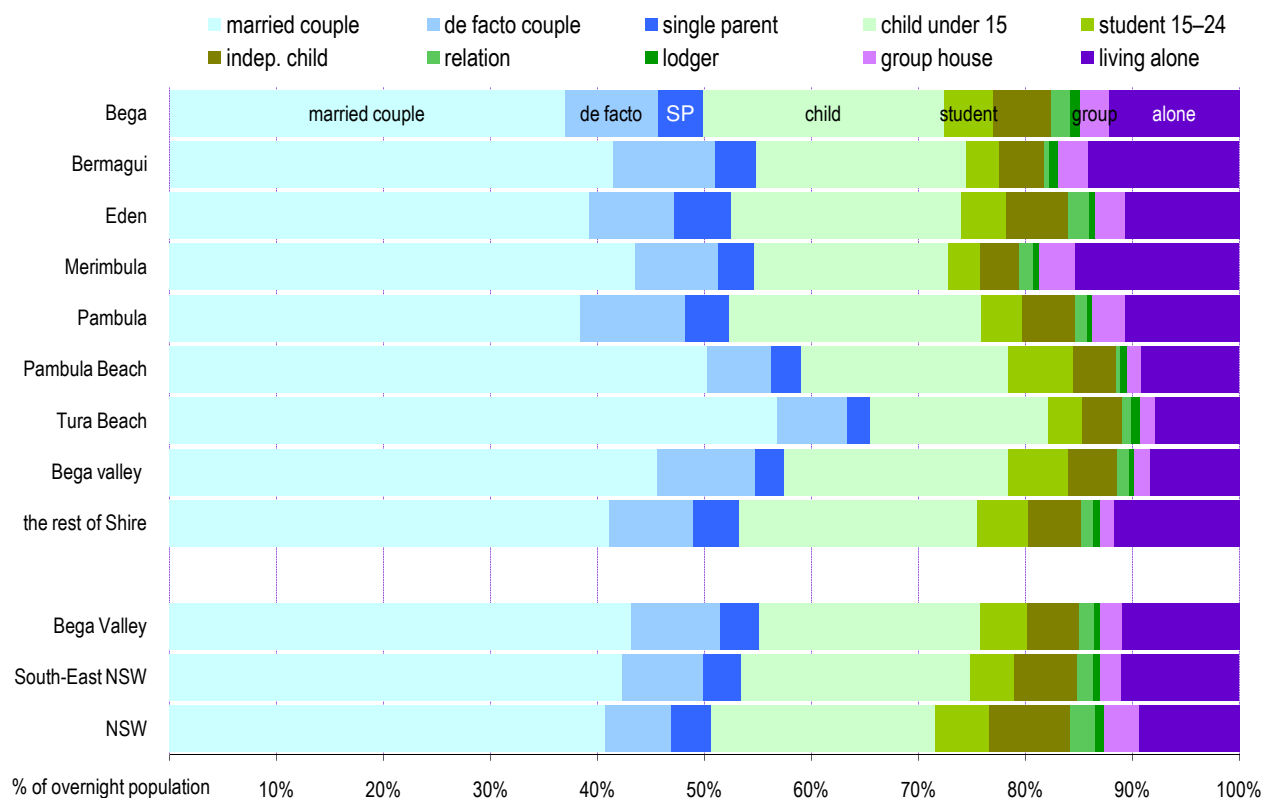
'Single' adults (those not living in a couple) make up 31% of adults and 23% of the residents. Singles lived in five main ways: as independent children, still with their family but no longer studying (5% of residents), alone (2%), as single parents (4%), in group or shared households (1%), or with another family as relatives or lodgers (1%). Single parents were most prevalent in Eden, the rest of Shire and Bega; people living alone in Merimbula, Pambula and Bermagui.

Single men and women tend to have different living arrangements. Single men are more likely to still be living at home in their twenties; in Bega Valley Shire, there were 2.1 men per woman still living as an independent child (ie with their parents when aged 18 to 24, but not a student), reaching 6.1 in Pambula and 2.5 in Pambula Beach. Single men are also more likely to live as lodgers (here there were 1.8 men per woman), or in group households (here, 1.2 men per woman, with higher concentrations in the rest of Shire at 2.2 and Pambula at 1.8 men per woman).

Women are generally much more likely than men to be living as a single parent. In Bega Valley Shire, there were 3.9 females per male among single parents, with higher proportions in Bega (6.6 women per man) and Pambula (6.6). There were only female single parents in Pambula Beach. People living alone also tend to be women; here, there were 1.1 females per male among those living alone, with single women most prevalent in Tura Beach (1.6 women per man) and Pambula (1.3).

Unbalanced numbers of men and women in unmarried couples is the only, albeit weak, indicator in Census data that a place may have gay or lesbian couples (though not equal numbers of both). Generally, there are slightly more women than men counted in couples on Census night because more men are away on trips. Here, there were excess males among unmarried couples in Pambula Beach, with 1.19 men per woman and Merimbula with 1.16 men per woman. Women outnumbered men noticeably in Eden, with 1.21 women per man and Tura Beach with 1.2.

Roles in households



Living arrangements	Proportion of residents living in each role										% adults* in couples	% not married couples
	married couple	de facto couple	single parent	child under 15	student 15-24	indep. child	relation	lodger	group house	living alone		
Bega	37%	9%	4%	23%	5%	5%	2%	1%	3%	12%	63%	19%
Bermagui	42%	9%	4%	20%	3%	4%	0%	1%	3%	14%	66%	19%
Eden	39%	8%	5%	21%	4%	6%	2%	1%	3%	11%	63%	17%
Merimbula	44%	8%	3%	18%	3%	4%	1%	1%	3%	15%	65%	15%
Pambula	38%	10%	4%	24%	4%	5%	1%	0%	3%	11%	66%	20%
Pambula Beach	50%	6%	3%	19%	6%	4%	0%	1%	1%	9%	75%	11%
Tura Beach	57%	6%	2%	17%	3%	4%	1%	1%	1%	8%	79%	10%
Bega valley	46%	9%	3%	21%	6%	5%	1%	1%	1%	8%	74%	17%
the rest of Shire	41%	8%	4%	22%	5%	5%	1%	1%	1%	12%	67%	16%
Bega Valley	43%	8%	4%	21%	4%	5%	1%	1%	2%	11%	69%	16%
South-East NSW	42%	8%	4%	21%	4%	6%	1%	1%	2%	11%	67%	15%
NSW	41%	6%	4%	21%	5%	8%	2%	1%	3%	9%	63%	13%
stnd deviation	6%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	3%	6%	4%

Adults not in couples are single parents, lone persons, relations or lodgers, people in group households, and independent children at home aged 18+. Table does not include residents away from home on Census night or those living in institutions (eg nursing homes, boarding schools, motels, hospitals).

Male / Female 2006	married couple	de facto couple	single parent	child <=15	student 15-24	indep. child	relation	lodger	group house	living alone	Aust'n visitor	Total
Bega	1.03 F:M	1.02 M:F	6.63 F:M	1.01 F:M	1.01 F:M	1.94 M:F	1.23 M:F	1.17 M:F	1.33 M:F	1.21 F:M	1.22 M:F	1.06 F:M
Bermagui	1.03 F:M	1.14 M:F	4.40 F:M	1.18 M:F	1.25 F:M	2.31 M:F	F	3.00 F:M	1.43 F:M	1.06 F:M	1.13 F:M	1.05 F:M
Eden	1.00 F:M	1.21 F:M	4.20 F:M	1.24 M:F	1.31 F:M	1.75 M:F	1.94 M:F	1.50 M:F	1.68 M:F	1.09 M:F	1.09 F:M	1.01 F:M
Merimbula	1.04 F:M	1.16 M:F	3.52 F:M	1.12 M:F	1.42 M:F	1.89 M:F	2.33 F:M	2.00 M:F	1.25 M:F	1.27 F:M	1.21 M:F	1.04 F:M
Pambula	1.01 M:F	=	6.56 F:M	1.15 M:F	1.74 F:M	6.14 M:F	1.50 F:M	=	1.83 M:F	1.28 F:M	1.69 F:M	1.04 F:M
Pambula Beach	=	1.19 M:F	F	1.51 M:F	1.12 M:F	2.50 M:F	F	M	2.00 F:M	1.04 F:M	1.33 F:M	1.02 M:F
Tura Beach	1.03 F:M	1.18 F:M	4.75 F:M	1.04 F:M	1.84 M:F	1.68 M:F	1.44 F:M	5.00 M:F	1.50 M:F	1.63 F:M	=	1.07 F:M
Bega valley	1.01 F:M	1.08 F:M	2.40 F:M	1.03 F:M	1.04 M:F	1.86 M:F	1.77 F:M	1.06 M:F	1.24 F:M	1.40 M:F	1.23 M:F	1.01 M:F
the rest of Shire	1.03 F:M	1.06 F:M	3.08 F:M	1.14 M:F	1.26 F:M	2.02 M:F	3.08 F:M	2.29 M:F	2.15 M:F	1.25 F:M	1.12 M:F	1.05 F:M
Bega Valley	1.01 F:M	1.04 F:M	3.94 F:M	1.05 M:F	1.04 F:M	2.06 M:F	1.26 F:M	1.78 M:F	1.20 M:F	1.08 F:M	1.04 F:M	1.03 F:M
South-East NSW	1.01 F:M	1.02 F:M	4.18 F:M	1.04 M:F	1.05 F:M	1.83 M:F	1.05 F:M	1.51 M:F	1.29 M:F	1.06 F:M	1.01 M:F	1.02 F:M
NSW	1.01 F:M	1.00 F:M	5.07 F:M	1.06 M:F	1.05 F:M	1.61 M:F	1.25 F:M	1.42 M:F	1.25 M:F	1.22 F:M	1.01 M:F	1.04 F:M

Red (lighter) numbers for female majority, blue for male majority. M = all males; F = all females. '=' means equal number of both.

Residents living arrangements	number of residents, 2006											Total
	married couple	de facto couple	single parent	child <=15	student 15-24	indep. child	relation	lodger	group house	living alone	Aust'n visitor	
Bega	1,951	459	290	1,191	239	259	89	50	135	662	189	5,514
Bermagui	472	105	54	216	36	43	7	12	34	161	49	1,189
Eden	1,053	219	182	557	118	143	47	15	67	284	92	2,777
Merimbula	1,460	250	140	593	92	110	50	18	108	532	104	3,457
Pambula	476	122	68	286	52	50	15	6	34	139	43	1,291
Pambula Beach	300	35	25	108	36	21	3	3	9	55	14	609
Tura Beach	1,384	161	69	404	71	83	22	18	30	208	84	2,534
Bega valley	3,359	684	238	1,545	410	312	86	37	110	584	210	7,575
the rest of Shire	1,537	294	196	810	185	166	49	23	41	454	125	3,880
Bega Valley	11,999	2,335	1,256	5,698	1,229	1,223	380	161	540	3,092	892	28,805
South-East NSW	74,340	13,409	7,825	37,200	7,412	9,359	2,625	1,058	3,385	19,539	4,986	181,138
NSW	2,394,428	364,903	275,800	1,215,947	303,887	414,436	136,365	50,002	180,733	571,653	119,515	6,027,669

Data from 2006 Census Table B22 © ABS. Table does not include residents away from home on Census night or those living in institutions.

Male living arrangements	married couple	de facto couple	single parent	child <=15	student 15-24	indep. child	relation	lodger	group house	living alone	Aust'n visitor	Total males
Bega	963	232	38	593	119	171	49	27	77	299	104	2,672
Bermagui	232	56	10	117	16	30		3	14	78	23	579
Eden	526	99	35	308	51	91	31	9	42	148	44	1,384
Merimbula	715	134	31	313	54	72	15	12	60	234	57	1,697
Pambula	239	61	9	153	19	43	6	3	22	61	16	632
Pambula Beach	150	19		65	19	15		3	3	27	6	307
Tura Beach	682	74	12	198	46	52	9	15	18	79	42	1,227
Bega valley	1,671	329	70	761	209	203	31	19	49	341	116	3,799
the rest of Shire	756	143	48	432	82	111	12	16	28	202	66	1,896
Bega Valley	5,961	1,145	254	2,912	601	823	168	103	295	1,487	437	14,186
South-East NSW	36,937	6,636	1,511	18,958	3,623	6,049	1,283	636	1,909	9,483	2,506	89,531
NSW	1,189,015	182,427	45,462	624,589	148,350	255,828	60,665	29,375	100,330	257,137	59,995	2,953,173

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Female living arrangements	married couple	de facto couple	single parent	child <=15	student 15-24	indep. child	relation	lodger	group house	living alone	Aust'n visitor	Total males
Bega	988	227	252	598	120	88	40	23	58	363	85	2,842
Bermagui	240	49	44	99	20	13	7	9	20	83	26	610
Eden	527	120	147	249	67	52	16	6	25	136	48	1,393
Merimbula	745	116	109	280	38	38	35	6	48	298	47	1,760
Pambula	237	61	59	133	33	7	9	3	12	78	27	659
Pambula Beach	150	16	25	43	17	6	3		6	28	8	302
Tura Beach	702	87	57	206	25	31	13	3	12	129	42	1,307
Bega valley	1,688	355	168	784	201	109	55	18	61	243	94	3,776
the rest of Shire	781	151	148	378	103	55	37	7	13	252	59	1,984
Bega Valley	6,038	1,190	1,002	2,786	628	400	212	58	245	1,605	455	14,619
South-East NSW	37,403	6,773	6,314	18,242	3,789	3,310	1,342	422	1,476	10,056	2,480	91,607
NSW	1,205,413	182,476	230,338	591,358	155,537	158,608	75,700	20,627	80,403	314,516	59,520	3,074,496

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