




2022 LACHLAN VALLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICE SURVEY


The survey asked people in the Lachlan, Forbes, and Parkes shires about their experiences with primary healthcare services.

GENERAL PRACTICE

86% of people saw a GP in last 12 months

45% it met my needs
55% it could improve

39%  travelled to another town to see a GP

76%  were unsatisfied with the wait time to access a GP

81% **SORRY, WE'RE CLOSED** needed a GP outside of working hours but could not access one

46% went to the ED
16% accessed telehealth

PRIVATE ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES

77% accessed private allied health services

65% it met my needs
35% it could improve

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

% of people surveyed who accessed these services

Aboriginal Health Worker	3%
Speech Pathologist	3%
Psychologist	5%
Exercise Physiologist	5%
Occupational Therapist	5%
Social Worker	5%
Podiatrist	7%
Dietitian	9%
Physiotherapist	21%
Nurse Practitioner	25%

People who visited an Aboriginal Health Worker, Nurse Practitioner, or Physiotherapist were the most likely to report that their needs were met.

TELEHEALTH

62% used telehealth in past 12 months

65% of these reported that it met their needs

35% said it could improve

PHARMACY & PATHOLOGY

75% accessed pharmacy and/or pathology services

75% it met my needs

25% it could improve

HEALTH PRIORITIES

- More GPs, GP-anaesthetists and GP-obstetricians
- Nurse to patient ratios improved
- Better access to GPs on day of need
- More mental health services
- Increased funding for healthcare
- Access to online healthcare

- Access to psychologists
- More consistency in doctors
- Better access to allied health services
- Reduced wait times



Written comments and concerns by respondents were grouped into three clear themes:

1

Not enough health workers to meet community needs

2

Opportunity to explore the use of telehealth

3

Cost of health services is a barrier to some people



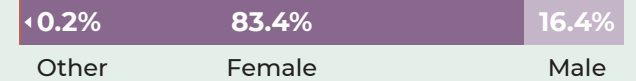
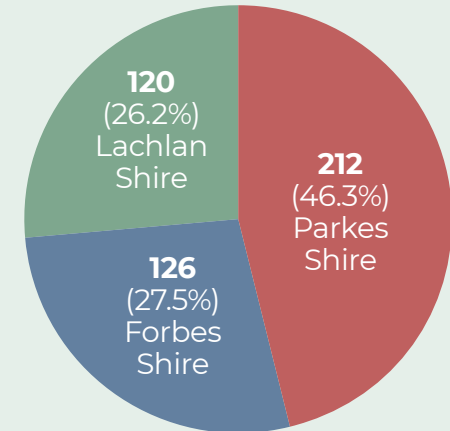
37%

of people did not know how to access some services



SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

458 SURVEY RESPONDENTS
(1% of eligible population)



8.5% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Age	Total	%
15-34	82	17.9%
35-54	161	35.2%
55-74	189	41.3%
75+	26	5.7%