

4 Income support payments

Introduction

This section includes details of selected pensions, benefits and allowances paid by the Department of Family and Community Services (DFACS) and selected pensions paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). The intention is to present data to indicate the proportion of the population in receipt of income support from the Commonwealth Government, to highlight variations in the distribution of this population across the State and to compare this distribution with other data in the atlas. Comparisons are made with data from 1989, published in the first edition of the atlas.

Explanatory notes

Data mapped

The pensions and benefits included in the analysis are listed in **Table 4.1**, which also shows the way in which the DFACS and DVA data were combined for mapping. Percentages were calculated on population figures representing as near as possible the ages applicable to the particular pensioner and beneficiary groups.

Details of those receiving the DVA service pension (Age) have been combined with those for the DFACS Age Pension and, similarly, details of recipients of the DVA Service Pension (Permanently Incapacitated) have been combined with those for the Disability Support Pension (DSP) paid by DFACS. People in receipt of the Veteran Disability pension (which includes the Totally and Permanently Incapacitated pension) were excluded from the analysis, as this pension is paid as compensation for service related incapacity, and is not regarded as an income support payment. Recipients of the War Widows pension were excluded on the same grounds.

In the case of the Sole Parent Pension, only females were mapped, as they comprise the majority of this pension group (93.6 per cent of all of such pensioners at 30 June 1996).

Data mapped for unemployment beneficiaries relate to Youth Training Allowance, the Newstart Allowance and the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP). The CDEP is a job creation scheme initiated in 1977 by Aboriginal communities to help remote, isolated Aboriginal communities develop an alternative to continued reliance on unemployment benefits. In 1985, the scheme was expanded to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in urban and rural areas. Under the scheme, members of participating communities, organisations or groups forgo individual unemployment benefits for a wages grant paid to the community. Each community decides on its own work program. The program may include projects such as road works, house repairs and maintenance, and the production of artefacts and activities in support of traditional lifestyle and culture. Although the CDEP data were only available at 30 June 1998, they have been included with the other data for unemployment beneficiaries, which have a reference date of 30 June 1996.

The proportion of children aged under 16 years and living in families receiving the Family Payment (when paid at greater than

the minimum rate¹) have been mapped as a percentage of all children aged under 16 years at the 1996 Census. Two groups of families are eligible for this payment. One includes families receiving one of the following income support payments: the DFACS Age, Disability Support and Sole Parent Pensions; Youth Training Allowance or Newstart Allowance; Sickness and Special Benefits; or the CDEP. These families are 'automatic' recipients of the Family Payment and account for three quarters (74.6 per cent) of families receiving this payment at June 1999. The other group includes families with a family member in the workforce, but with a low income. Payments such as the double orphan's pension and the Family Payment (minimum rate) and Family Tax Payment have been specifically excluded from this analysis, as families in receipt of such payments may also receive relatively high incomes. Details of the small number of children of DVA pensioners were not available.

Table 4.1: Income support payments mapped, 30 June 1996

Department of Family & Community Services (DFACS)	Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)	Denominator (percentage of the population)
Pensions	Pensions	Age group (years)
Age ¹	Service (Age) ²	Males 65 & over Females 60 & over
Disability Support	Service (PI) ³	Males 15-64 Females 15-59
Sole Parent ⁴	.. ⁵	Females 15-54
Labour market allowances		
Youth Training Allowance & Newstart Allowance ⁶	..	Males 15-64 Females 15-59
Children⁷	..	Population 0-14

¹Excludes wife pension, as recipients are under age-pensionable age. The small number of males under 65 years and females under 60 years of age receiving an Age Pension were also excluded from this analysis

²Includes wife/widow pension, as recipients are mainly of age-pensionable age

³Permanently Incapacitated: data for males aged 65 years and over and females aged 60 years and over were included with Age Pensions

⁴Details for males were excluded from the analysis

⁵DVA War Widows pensioners are excluded as this pension is primarily a compensation payment and not an income support payment

⁶Youth Training Allowance and Job Search Allowance are the unemployment benefit schemes: also includes people in Community Development Employment Programs at 30 June 1998

⁷Includes children (aged under 16 years) in families receiving a selected pension or benefit, or the Family Payment (greater than minimum rate): see text

⁸Excludes children of DVA pensioners as separate details were not available

Source: Compiled from data from DFACS and DVA

¹The Family Payment is designed to assist with the costs of bringing up children. Families with low incomes (around \$23,000 a year for families with two children at 30 June 1996) and those receiving an income support payment receive Family Payment at a rate above the minimum rate.

The data are collected by the postcode of the postal address of the recipient of the income support payment. In the majority of cases this is also the postcode of their usual residence. The postcode data were converted to Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) for mapping using a converter produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). This process is described in Appendix 1.2. In some instances, the number of people in receipt of a pension or benefit in a postcode exceeds the population in that postcode: this is particularly a problem with the Age Pension data. This is the case even when the pensioner/beneficiary data are compared with the population data by five year age group, separately for males and females. As a result the calculation of the proportion of the population in receipt of a particular pension or benefit type can produce percentages of greater than 100 per cent. Other percentages of less than 100 per cent may also be overstated.

The reason for this is not clear. It is unlikely to be the result of people claiming both a DFACS Age and a DVA Service Pension (Age), as checks are made each year to ensure that such events do not occur. While it is likely in part to be a result of faults in the process of allocating pensions data, and it would have been

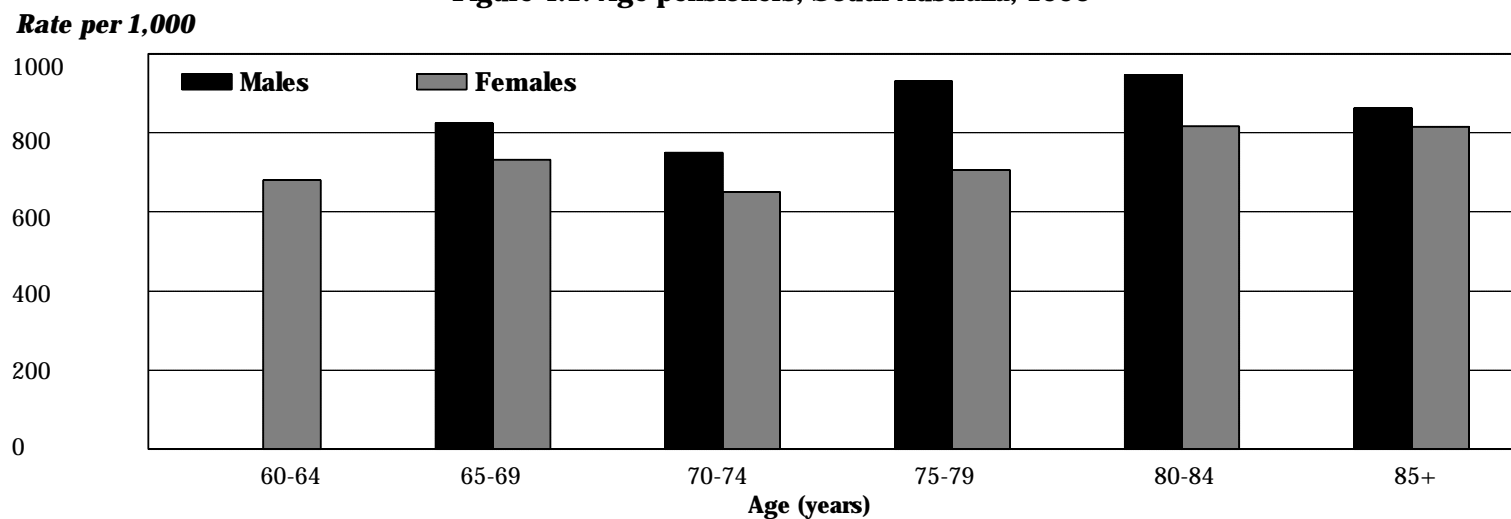
possible to scale all the percentages back to 100, or less than 100, this would have concealed the problem and would not have represented the data for the areas as estimated. Percentages in excess of 100 per cent are noted separately in the text. Although the other pension or benefit types analysed only rarely have such high proportions, it is not possible to say to what extent they may also be overstated.

Details of age and sex of recipients

The age and sex profiles of recipients of the Age and Disability Support Pensions and unemployment benefits and the age profiles of female sole parent pensioners are shown in the following charts.

Females can receive the Age Pension from age 60 years and males from age 65 years (**Figure 4.1**). Although the numbers of females receiving this pension are higher from 65 years of age, their rates are lower in all age groups. Rates for both males and females follow a pattern of a decline in the 70 to 74 year age group, then increasing over the next two age groups before declining for men and slowing for women.

Figure 4.1: Age pensioners, South Australia, 1996

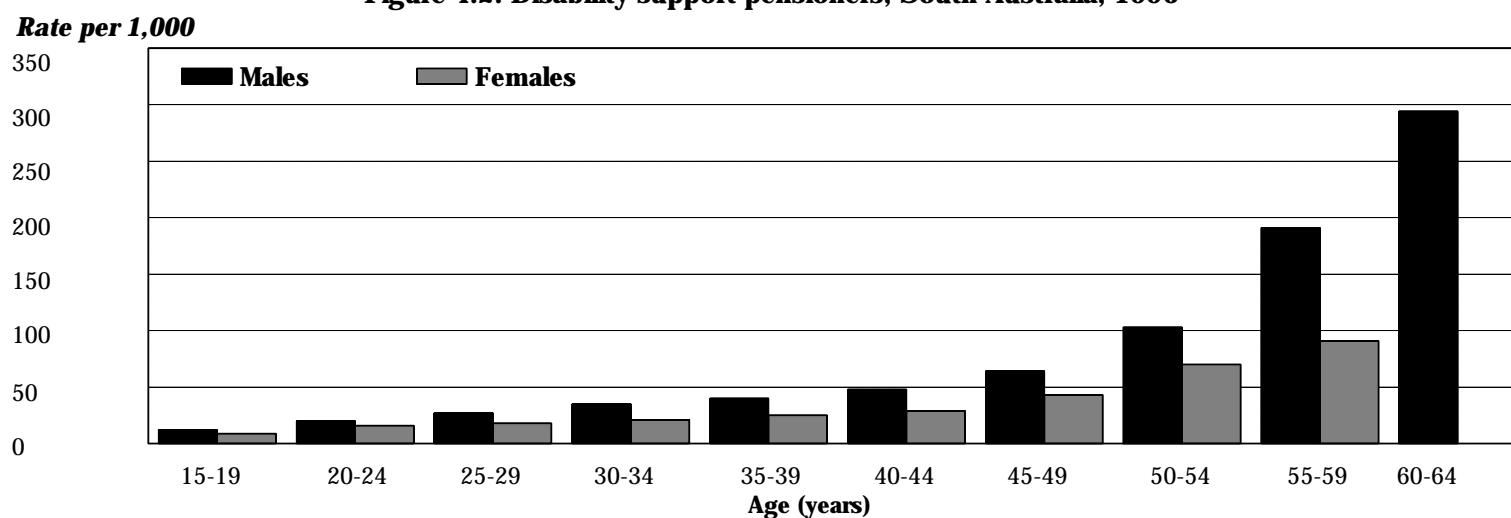


Source: Calculated on data supplied by DFACS (Age Pension) and DVA (Service Pension (Age))

Male rates are marginally higher in each age group under 40 years for those receiving the Disability Support Pension, with substantially higher rates at older ages (**Figure 4.2**). From age

60 years, females eligible for this pension are transferred to the Age Pension. The rates for both males and females grow steadily across the ages, most markedly from around 50 years of age.

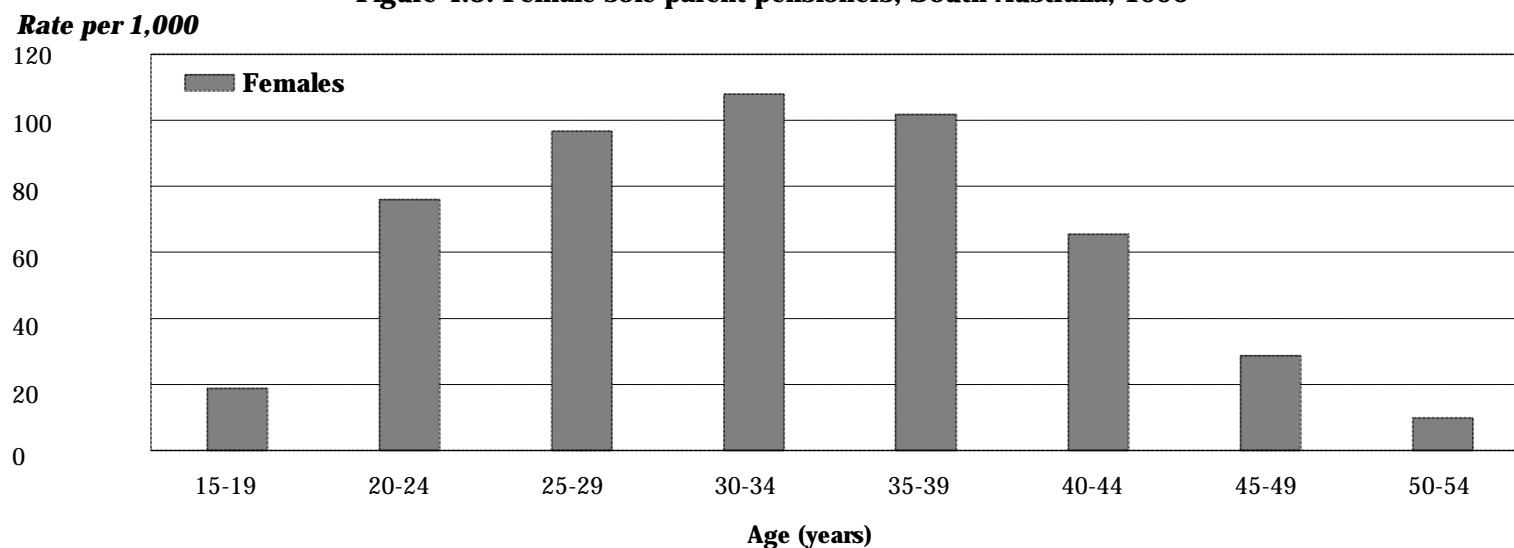
Figure 4.2: Disability support pensioners, South Australia, 1996



Source: Calculated on data supplied by DFACS (Disability Support Pension) and DVA (Service Pension (Permanently Incapacitated))

Age-specific rates for female sole parent pensioners reveal a near-normal distribution (in a statistical sense), with the highest rates in the 30 to 34 year age group (Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3: Female sole parent pensioners, South Australia, 1996

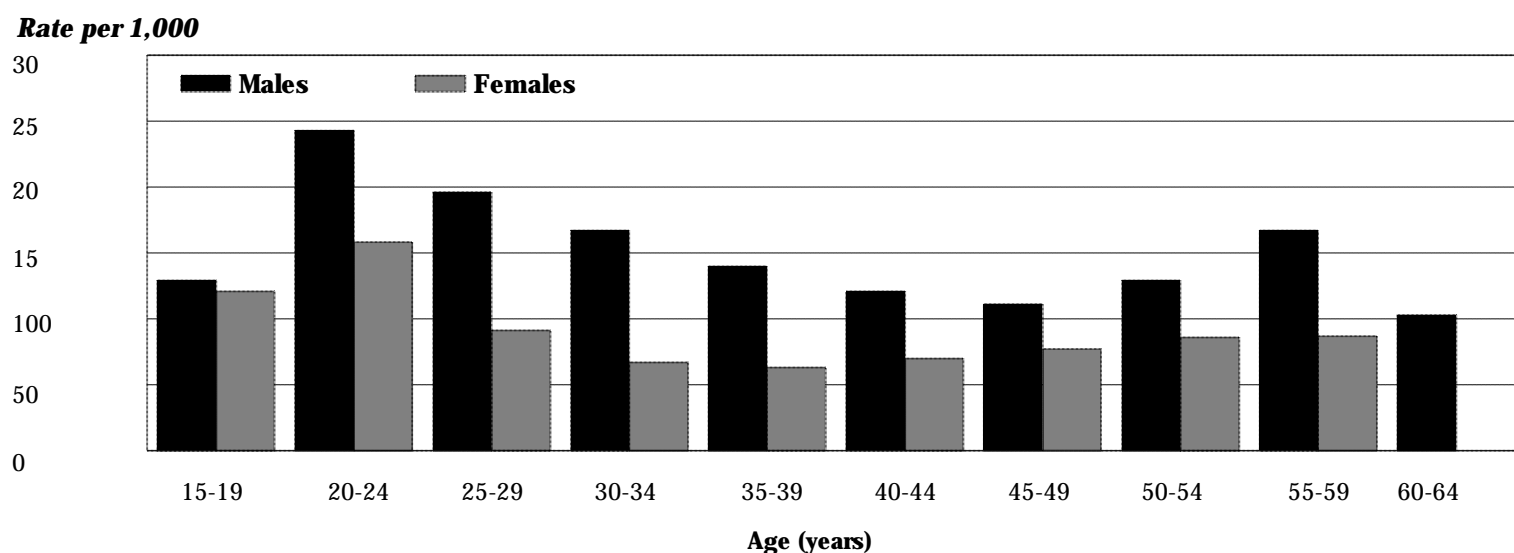


Source: Calculated on data supplied by DFACS

Both male and female unemployment rates are highest in the 20 to 24 year age group. For males they generally decline to the 45 to 49 year age groups, before increasing in the next two age groups: this increase is followed by a decline to their lowest level in the 60 to 64 year age group (Figure 4.4). Female rates are at

their lowest in the 30 to 34 and 35 to 39 year age groups, after which they increase slightly, through to the 50 to 54 and 55 to 59 year age groups.

Figure 4.4: Unemployment beneficiaries, South Australia, 1996



¹ Excludes people in the Community Development Employment Program

Source: Calculated on data supplied by DFACS (Youth Training and Newstart Allowances)

Age pensioners, 30 June 1996

Capital city comparison

People eligible for an Age Pension from the Department of Family and Community Services (DFACS), comprise females aged 60 years and over and males aged 65 years and over. The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) provides a service pension to eligible males at age 60 years and females at age 55 years. The data mapped are the sum of these pension types, referred to generally as age pensioners, expressed as a percentage of all females aged 60 years and over and all males aged 65 years and over at 30 June 1996.

The proportion of the population in receipt of an Age Pension declined in all capital cities between 1989 and 1996 (**Table 4.2**), although **Adelaide** remained as the capital city with the highest proportion. This decline has occurred because although there are now more people receiving the Age Pension than was the case in 1989, the population of pensionable age has increased at a faster rate. The largest declines were evident for **Darwin** (which became the capital base with the lowest proportion of its population on an Age Pension), **Hobart** and **Brisbane**, and the least for **Melbourne**.

Table 4.2: Age pensioners, capital cities
Per cent

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra ¹	All Capitals
1996	64.7	71.3	69.9	76.2	69.9	72.3	41.3	53.5	68.9
1989	69.8	72.2	79.0	82.6	76.8	81.7	64.4	58.6	73.7

¹Includes Queanbeyan (C)

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Problems with the data

The postcode based data show one SLA as having a proportion in excess of 100 per cent. This is clearly not accurate: the notes on page 80 include some possible reasons for this result.

The area in this category was East Torrens (634 age pensioners: 109.6 per cent of the population of pensionable age).

Adelaide

In 1989, there were 129,358 people receiving the Age Pension, 82.6 per cent of population of age-pensionable age. By 1996, the number had decreased to 127,990 and the proportion had fallen to 76.2 per cent.

The distribution across **Adelaide** was consistent with many of the variables of socioeconomic status mapped in Chapter 3 (**Map 4.1**).

Excluding East Torrens, the highest proportions were recorded in the SLAs of Munno Para and Thebarton, with percentages of 98.9 and 90.7 respectively.

Most of the remaining SLAs in the north and north-western regions were mapped in the second highest range. Those located in the north-west included Port Adelaide (85.9 per cent), Enfield [Part B] (82.1 per cent) and Hindmarsh and Woodville (81.7 per cent) and those situated in the north were Prospect (83.4 per cent), Tea Tree Gully (82.6 per cent) and Salisbury (81.5 per cent). The SLAs of Noarlunga (84.2 per cent), Payneham (80.5 per cent) and Marion (80.3 per cent) were also mapped in this range.

The lowest proportions were recorded in the City of Adelaide (47.0 per cent), Walkerville (51.1 per cent) and Burnside (56.7 per cent). Similarly low proportions were recorded in the southern and eastern areas of Stirling (63.1 per cent), Mitcham (65.3 per cent), Brighton (66.0 per cent), Unley (67.1 per cent) and Glenelg (68.1 per cent).

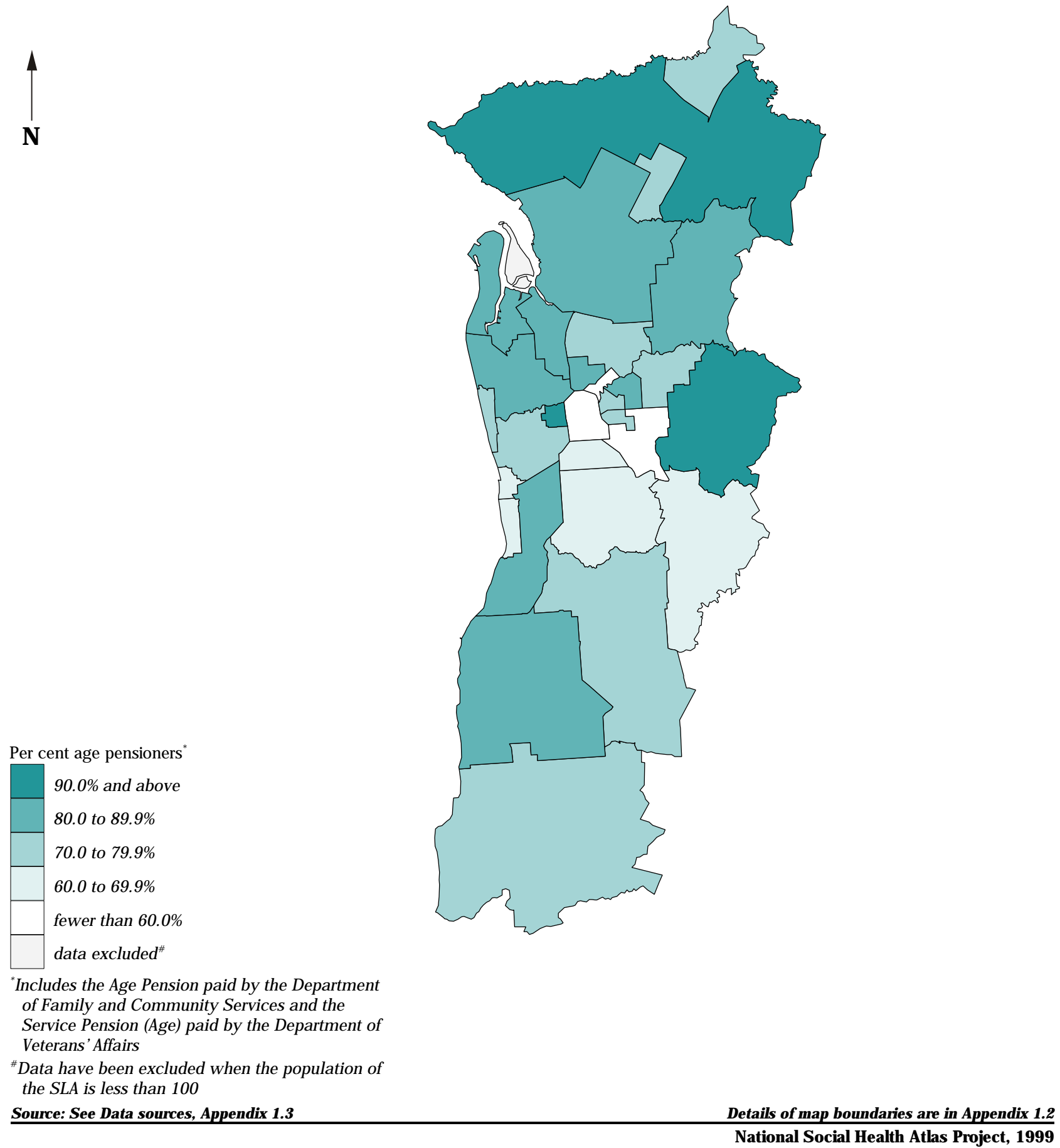
Residents of Hindmarsh and Woodville recorded the largest number of people receiving an Age Pension (14,421 people) in **Adelaide** in 1996. The larger northern and southern SLAs of Marion (11,624 people), Noarlunga (8,244 people), Salisbury (8,052 people) and Mitcham (7,512 people) also had relatively large numbers.

There were weak correlations at the SLA level with the indicators of socioeconomic disadvantage, the strongest being with the variable for early school leavers (0.48) and unskilled and semi-skilled workers (0.39). These results, together with the weak inverse correlation with the IRSD (-0.34), suggest the existence of an association at the SLA level between high proportions of age pensioners and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.1

Age Pensioners*, Adelaide, 1996

as a percentage of males aged 65 years and over and females aged 60 years and over in each Statistical Local Area



Age pensioners, 30 June 1996

State/Territory comparison

In 1989, there were 517,855 people living in the non-metropolitan areas of Australia who received an Age Pension: by 1996 this had increased to 539,312. Over this period, the proportion of the population in receipt of an Age Pension declined in all States and the Northern Territory (**Table 4.3**): the non-metropolitan areas of Tasmania had the highest proportion in both periods. This decline has occurred because although the number of people receiving the Age Pension was higher in 1996 than was the case in 1989, the population of pensionable age has increased at a faster rate. The largest declines were evident for the Northern Territory (with the lowest proportion in both periods), Western Australia and Queensland, and the least for South Australia.

Table 4.3: Age pensioners, State/Territory
Per cent

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total ¹
1996									
Capital city	64.7	71.3	69.9	76.2	69.9	72.3	41.3	53.5 ²	68.9
Other major urban centres ³	79.8	82.7	56.2	..	..	..	..	..	71.5
Rest of State/Territory	68.3	74.3	62.1	75.1	60.8	77.6	37.3	- ⁴	68.1
Whole of State/Territory	67.7	72.5	64.3	75.9	67.5	75.4	39.1	55.4	68.9
1989									
Rest of State/Territory	80.3	76.0	77.6	75.7	76.6	85.6	65.9	- ⁴	78.2

¹Total for *Whole of State/Territory* includes 'Other Territories' (Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos Islands)

²Includes Queanbeyan (C)

³Includes Newcastle and Wollongong (NSW); Geelong (Vic); and Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville-Thuringowa (Qld)

⁴Data unreliable: included with ACT total

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Problems with the data

The data show a number of SLAs as having proportions in excess of 100 per cent. These are clearly not accurate: the notes on page 80 include some possible reasons for these results.

The areas in this category were Unincorporated Riverland (23 age pensioners; 752.0 per cent of the population of pensionable age); Browns Well (13; 144.4 per cent); Port Pirie (197; 122.9 per cent); Naracoorte (179; 104.4 per cent); Unincorporated Whyalla (50; 101.5 per cent); and Light (574; 100.5 per cent).

Rest of State

In 1989, there were 41,571 people in the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia receiving an Age Pension, 75.7 per cent of the population of age-pensionable age. By 1996, the number had risen to 43,703 but the proportion had fallen slightly to 75.1 per cent.

SLAs with high proportions of age pensioners were distributed throughout the southern half of the State, and in no notable pattern (**Map 4.2**). Relatively high proportions of age pensioners were recorded in Ridley-Truro (90.4 per cent), Peterborough (M) (88.1 per cent), Mount Gambier (88.0 per cent), Whyalla (87.3 per cent), Robertstown (86.7 per cent), Hallett (86.3 per cent), and Beachport (85.1 per cent).

Of the 27 SLAs mapped in the middle range (with percentages between 60 and 70) only 11 had more than 250 age pensioners. These included Millicent (68.6 per cent), Lacepede (66.8 per cent), Naracoorte (64.2 per cent) and Penola (60.2 per cent), all of which are located in the south-east; Gumeracha (68.5 per cent), Jamestown (68.3 per cent), Clare (67.8 per cent) and Mallala (64.8 per cent) situated in the lower north; Kingscote (66.2 per cent) on Kangaroo Island and Ceduna (64.2 per cent) on the Eyre Peninsula.

SLAs recording low levels of age pensioners were generally those located in the northern region of the State, and included Roxby Downs (6.1 per cent), Hawker (30.1 per cent), Unincorporated Flinders Rangers (33.0 per cent), Carrieton (33.3 per cent), Coober Pedy (38.4 per cent), Unincorporated Far North (44.1 per cent) and Peterborough (DC) (47.7 per cent). Port MacDonnell (33.0 per cent) and Lucindale (49.6 per cent) in the south-east, also had low levels of people receiving an Age Pension.

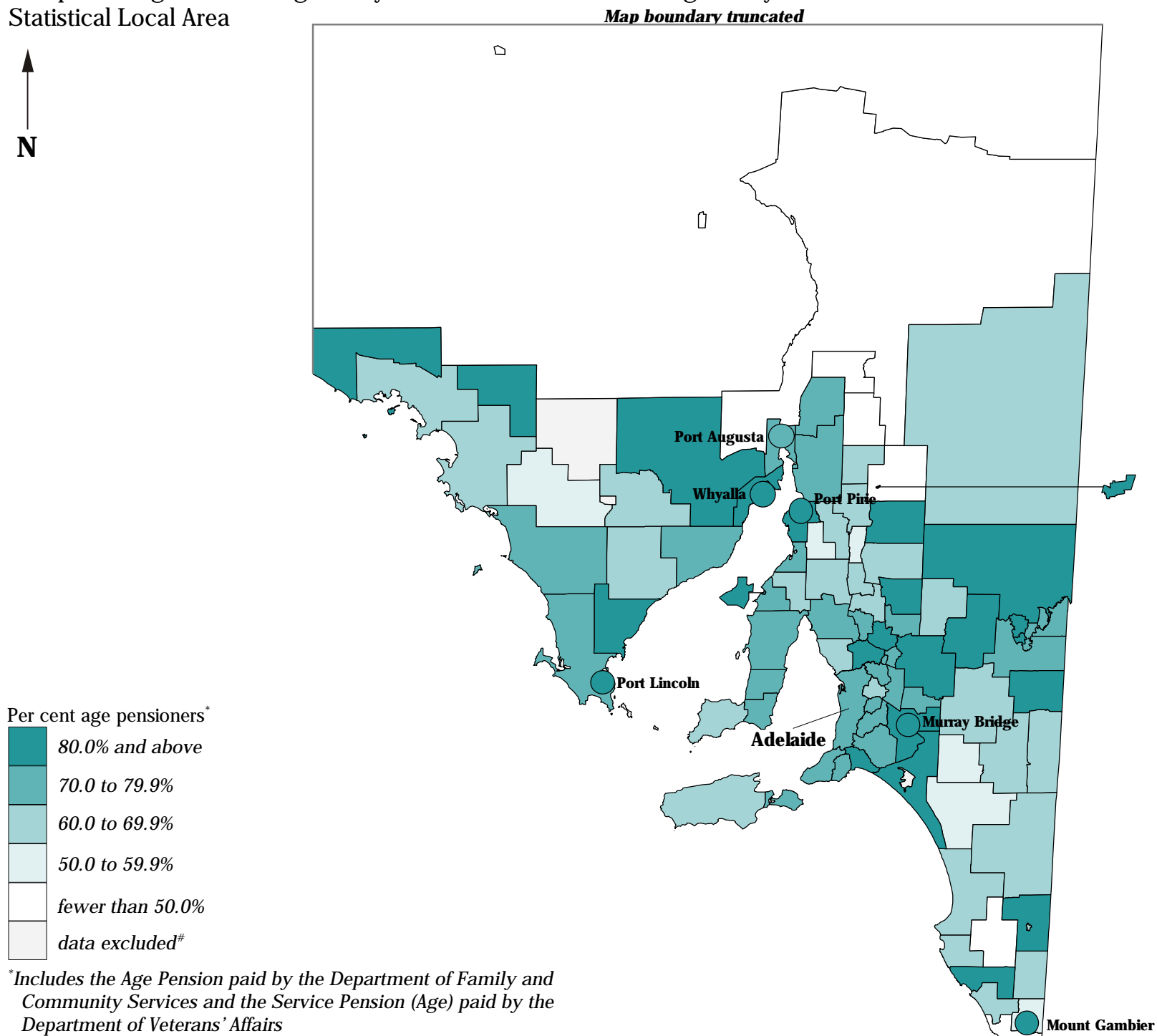
The towns of Mount Gambier (2,555 people), Whyalla (2,424 people), Murray Bridge (1,970 people), Port Pirie (1,951 people) and Port Lincoln (1,477) had the largest numbers of people receiving an Age Pension in the non-metropolitan areas. These towns also recorded proportions of above 80 per cent.

There was a correlation of substantial significance level at the SLA with the variable for the Indigenous population (0.71), and of meaningful significance with the variables for dwellings with no motor vehicle (0.63), single parent families (0.57) and early school leavers (0.53). These results, together with the weak inverse correlation with the IRSD (-0.34), suggest the existence of an association at the SLA level between high proportions of age pensioners and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.2

Age pensioners*, South Australia, 1996

as a percentage of males aged 65 years and over and females aged 60 years and over in each Statistical Local Area



Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Details of map boundaries are in Appendix 1.2

Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia



The proportion of the population of pensionable age in receipt of the Age Pension is similar across the first four ARIA categories, with the highest proportions in the Accessible (76.9 per cent) and Very Accessible (76.2 per cent) categories. There is a much lower proportion in the Very Remote category (53.3 per cent).

Source: Calculated on ARIA classification, DHAC
National Social Health Atlas Project, 1999

Disability support pensioners, 30 June 1996

Capital city comparison

People eligible for a Disability Support Pension, paid by the Department of Family and Community Services (DFACS), must be aged 16 years or over and have not reached age-pensionable age; be permanently blind or have a physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment level of 20 per cent or more and a continuing inability to work. Details of males under 65 years of age and females under 60 years of age receiving the DVA service pension (permanently incapacitated) have been combined with the Disability Support Pension data: details on people above these ages were included in the data for age pensioners.

The proportion of the population in the capital cities in receipt of the Disability Support Pension has increased considerably since 1989, rising from 2.6 per cent in 1989 to 3.9 per cent in 1996. High levels of unemployment have impacted significantly on the increase in the number of disability support pensioners (Centrelink 1997). This increase was evident in all capital cities, with the largest increases recorded in **Hobart, Adelaide, Sydney** and **Brisbane**. In both 1989 and 1996, **Hobart** and **Adelaide** had the largest proportions of disability support pensioners, while **Canberra** and **Darwin** had the lowest.

Table 4.4: Disability support pensioners, capital cities

	<i>Per cent</i>								
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra ¹	All Capitals
1996	3.8	3.7	4.1	5.1	3.9	5.6	3.1	2.2	3.9
1989	2.3	2.6	2.7	3.5	3.0	3.6	2.1	1.2	2.6

¹Includes Queanbeyan (C)

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Adelaide

The number of people in **Adelaide** receiving a Disability Support Pension increased substantially, from 23,617 people in 1989 to 34,193 people in 1996. Likewise the proportion increased, from 3.5 per cent in 1989 to 5.1 per cent in 1996.

The highest proportions of the eligible population receiving a Disability Support Pension were in the north and north-western SLAs of Enfield [Part B] (10.1 per cent), Thebarton (10.0 per cent), Elizabeth (9.5 per cent), Enfield [Part A] (9.2 per cent), Port Adelaide (7.7 per cent), Hindmarsh and Woodville (6.8 per cent), Munno Para (6.3 per cent) and West Torrens (6.1 per cent) (**Map 4.3**). The southern SLAs of Brighton (6.7 per cent) and Marion (5.4 per cent), and the eastern SLA of Payneham (5.5 per cent), were the only areas outside of the northern and western regions to record a proportion above the **Adelaide** average.

The higher socioeconomic status SLAs located to the east and south of the city had notably lower percentages, the lowest being in Stirling with 1.6 per cent of the eligible population receiving a Disability Support Pension. Happy Valley (1.8 per cent), Burnside and East Torrens (both with 2.6 per cent) were also mapped in the lowest range. Similarly low proportions were recorded in Tea Tree Gully (3.1 per cent), Mitcham (3.3 per cent), Kensington and Norwood (3.5 per cent) and Walkerville (3.6 per cent).

The largest numbers of disability support pensioners in 1996 were recorded in Salisbury (3,760 people), Hindmarsh and Woodville (3,595 people), Noarlunga (2,880 people), Enfield [Part A] (2,514 people) and Marion (2,448 people).

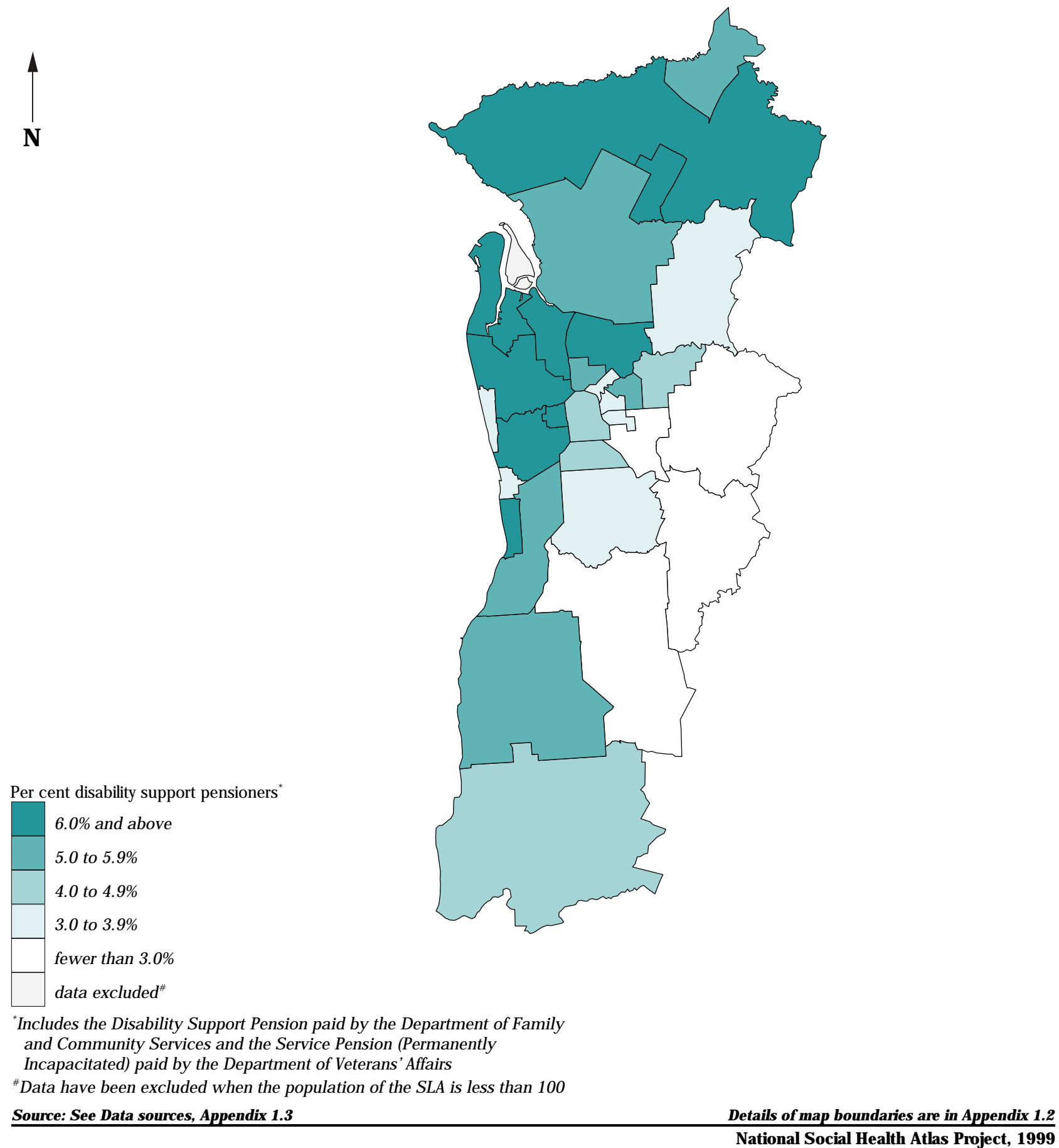
There were correlations of substantial significance at the small area level with the variables for low income families (0.89), unemployed people and the Indigenous population (both 0.85), dwellings rented from the State housing authority (0.78) and unskilled and semi-skilled workers (0.73).

Correlations of meaningful significance were recorded with the variables for single parent families (0.70), dwellings with no motor vehicle (0.67), early school leavers (0.65) and people born in predominantly non-English speaking countries (0.63 for those reporting poor proficiency in English, and 0.50 when resident for five years or more). These results, together with the inverse correlation of substantial significance with the IRSD (-0.87), indicate an association at the SLA level between high proportions of disability support pensioners and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.3

Disability support pensioners*, Adelaide, 1996

as a percentage of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 59 years in each Statistical Local Area



Disability support pensioners, 30 June 1996

State/Territory comparison

In 1996, the proportions of people in receipt of the Disability Support Pension (see previous text page for details of those included) were generally higher in the non-metropolitan areas than in the capital cities, with the exception of South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory. The average for the *Rest of State/Territory* areas was 5.0 per cent, with similar proportions recorded in Queensland (4.6 per cent), Victoria (4.9 per cent) and South Australia (5.0 per cent). The highest proportion was in Tasmania (6.2 per cent) and the lowest in the Northern Territory (2.7 per cent). Comparisons between 1989 and 1996 show an increase in the proportions across all States and Territories, with the largest increases evident in Tasmania, South Australia and New South Wales.

Table 4.5: Disability support pensioners, State/Territory
Per cent

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total ¹
1996									
Capital city	3.8	3.7	4.1	5.1	3.9	5.6	3.1	2.2 ²	3.9
Other major urban centres ³	6.1	4.7	3.9	..	..	..	..	..	5.1
Rest of State/Territory	5.7	4.9	4.6	5.0	3.7	6.2	2.7	— ⁴	5.0
Whole of State/Territory	4.5	4.0	4.2	5.1	3.8	6.0	2.8	2.1	4.3
1989									
Rest of State/Territory	3.9	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.7	2.2	— ⁴	3.4

¹Total for *Whole of State/Territory* includes 'Other Territories' (Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos Islands)

²Includes Queanbeyan (C)

³Includes Newcastle and Wollongong (NSW); Geelong (Vic); and Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville-Thuringowa (Qld)

⁴Data unreliable: included with ACT total

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Rest of State

In 1989, 8,017 people in the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia (3.3 per cent of the population aged between 15 to 64 years for males and 15 to 59 years for females) were receiving a Disability Support Pension. By 1996 the number had risen to 11,648, and the proportion had increased to 5.0 per cent.

Proportions of above 7.0 per cent were recorded in Wallaroo (12.8 per cent), Port Broughton (11.3 per cent), Minlaton (9.7 per cent), Northern Yorke Peninsula (8.5 per cent), Central Yorke Peninsula (7.9 per cent) and Yorketown (7.5 per cent) all of which were located on the Yorke Peninsula; Coober Pedy (11.3 per cent) situated in the far north; Unincorporated Whyalla (10.0 per cent) on the Eyre Peninsula; Peterborough (M) (9.8 per cent), Hallett (7.8 per cent), Port Pirie (7.5 per cent), Peterborough (DC) and Robertstown (both 7.3 per cent) located in the mid north; Mannum (8.5 per cent) and Morgan (7.2 per cent) situated in the Murray Lands; and Port Elliott and Goolwa and Victor Harbor (both 7.2 per cent) located on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

In total, 15 SLAs were mapped in the middle class interval, ranging from 4.0 per cent in Crystal Brook-Redhill to 4.8 per cent in Beachport.

As can be seen in **Map 4.4** the lowest proportions of people in receipt of a Disability Support Pension were found in two distinct areas: in the far north and in the south-east. Those located in the far north included Roxby Downs (0.2 per cent), Unincorporated Flinders Rangers (1.0 per cent), Hawker (1.6 per cent), Le Hunte (2.0 per cent) and Unincorporated Far North (2.4 per cent). Those situated in the south-east were Lucindale (1.4 per cent), Port MacDonnell (1.9 per cent), Mount Gambier (2.0 per cent) and Tatiara (2.2 per cent).

The town of Whyalla recorded the largest number of people receiving a Disability Support Pension in 1996, a total of 896 people. Relatively large numbers were also recorded in the towns of Mount Gambier (659 people), Port Pirie (646 people), Murray Bridge (633 people) and Port Augusta (582 people).

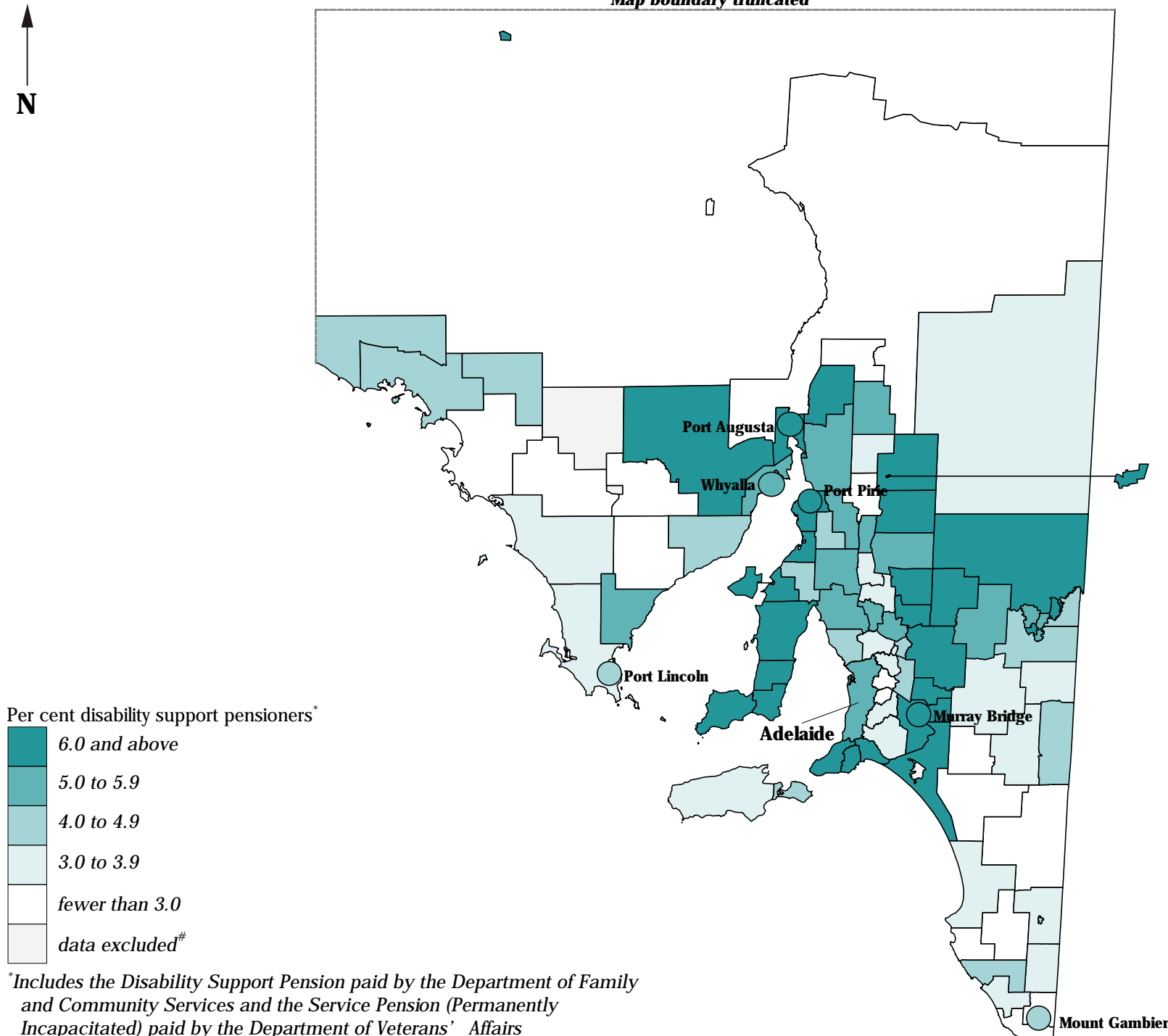
There was a correlation of substantial significance at the SLA level with the variable for low income families (0.74), and of meaningful significance with unemployed people (0.68), and people aged 65 years and over (0.50). There were also inverse correlations of meaningful significance with the variables for female labour force participation (-0.53) and high income families (-0.55). These results, together with the inverse correlation of meaningful significance with the IRSD (-0.72), indicate the existence of an association at the SLA level between high proportions of disability support pensioners and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.4

Disability support pensioners, South Australia, 1996

as a percentage of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 59 years in each Statistical Local Area

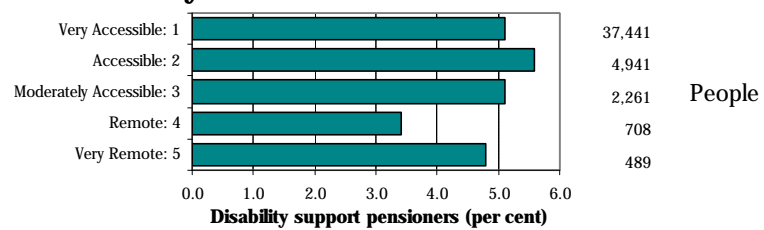
Map boundary truncated



Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Details of map boundaries are in Appendix 1.2

Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia



Access to services is of particular importance to people with a disability and is reflected in the graph adjacent. The proportion of the eligible population receiving a Disability Support Pension increases from 5.1 per cent in the Very Accessible category to 5.6 per cent in the Accessible category, before dropping away to 3.4 per cent in the Remote category. The higher proportion (4.8 per cent) in the Very Remote category is likely to reflect the distribution of the Indigenous population.

Source: Calculated on ARIA classification, DHAC

National Social Health Atlas Project, 1999

Female sole parent pensioners, 30 June 1996

Capital city comparison

People eligible for a Sole Parent Pension paid by the Department of Family and Community Services (DFACS) comprise female and male sole parents who have at least one child under 16 years of age (who meets certain qualifications, or attracts a child disability allowance). The majority (93.6 per cent) of sole parent pensioners at 30 June 1996 were females, of whom some eighty per cent were between the ages of 20 and 44 years. Only female sole parent pensioners have been mapped because they comprise such a large proportion of all sole parent pensioners.

In 1996, 5.5 per cent of the *All capitals* female population living in the capital cities and aged from 15 to 54 years were in receipt of the Sole Parent Pension (**Table 4.6**). Proportions varied little from the *All capitals* figure, ranging from 7.2 per cent in **Hobart** to 4.8 per cent in **Canberra**. Comparisons with the 1989 figures show that there has been an increase in the proportion of female sole parent pensioners, rising from 4.1 per cent. The largest increase was recorded in **Melbourne** (up by 47.1 per cent), with increases of around one third in all other capital cities excepting **Darwin** and **Hobart**.

Table 4.6: Female sole parent pensioners, capital cities
Per cent

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra ¹	All Capitals
1996	5.2	5.0	6.0	6.6	6.0	7.2	6.8	4.8	5.5
1989	4.0	3.4	4.6	5.1	4.6	6.2	6.3	3.7	4.1

¹Includes Queanbeyan (C)

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Adelaide

In 1989, there were 15,446 females in receipt of the Sole Parent Pension, representing 5.1 per cent of the female population aged between 15 and 59 years. By 1996 this figure had risen to 19,984 people and the proportion had increased to 6.6 per cent.

High proportions of female sole parent pensioners were generally recorded in **Adelaide's** northern and north-western areas (**Map 4.5**). Elizabeth, Enfield [Part B] and Munno Para had the highest proportions, of 15.0 per cent, 13.7 per cent and 10.5 per cent respectively. Other SLAs to record well above average rates included Enfield [Part A], Port Adelaide, Noarlunga, Salisbury and Gawler, where proportions were all above 8.0 per cent.

Just under one third of SLAs (30.0 per cent) recorded proportions of between 4.0 and 6.0 per cent. Brighton recorded 5.3 per cent, while 4.2 per cent of the female population in Henley and Grange were recipients of the Sole Parent Pension.

The SLA of Adelaide recorded the lowest proportion for this variable, with only 1.5 per cent of its female population aged between 15 and 59 years in this category. The inner and middle SLAs of Walkerville (2.7 per cent), Burnside (2.7 per cent), Unley (2.8 per cent), St Peters (3.0 per cent), Kensington and Norwood (3.2 per cent) and Mitcham (3.5 per cent); and the outer eastern SLAs of Stirling (3.2 per cent) and East Torrens (3.5 per cent) also recorded relatively low proportions of female sole parent pensioners.

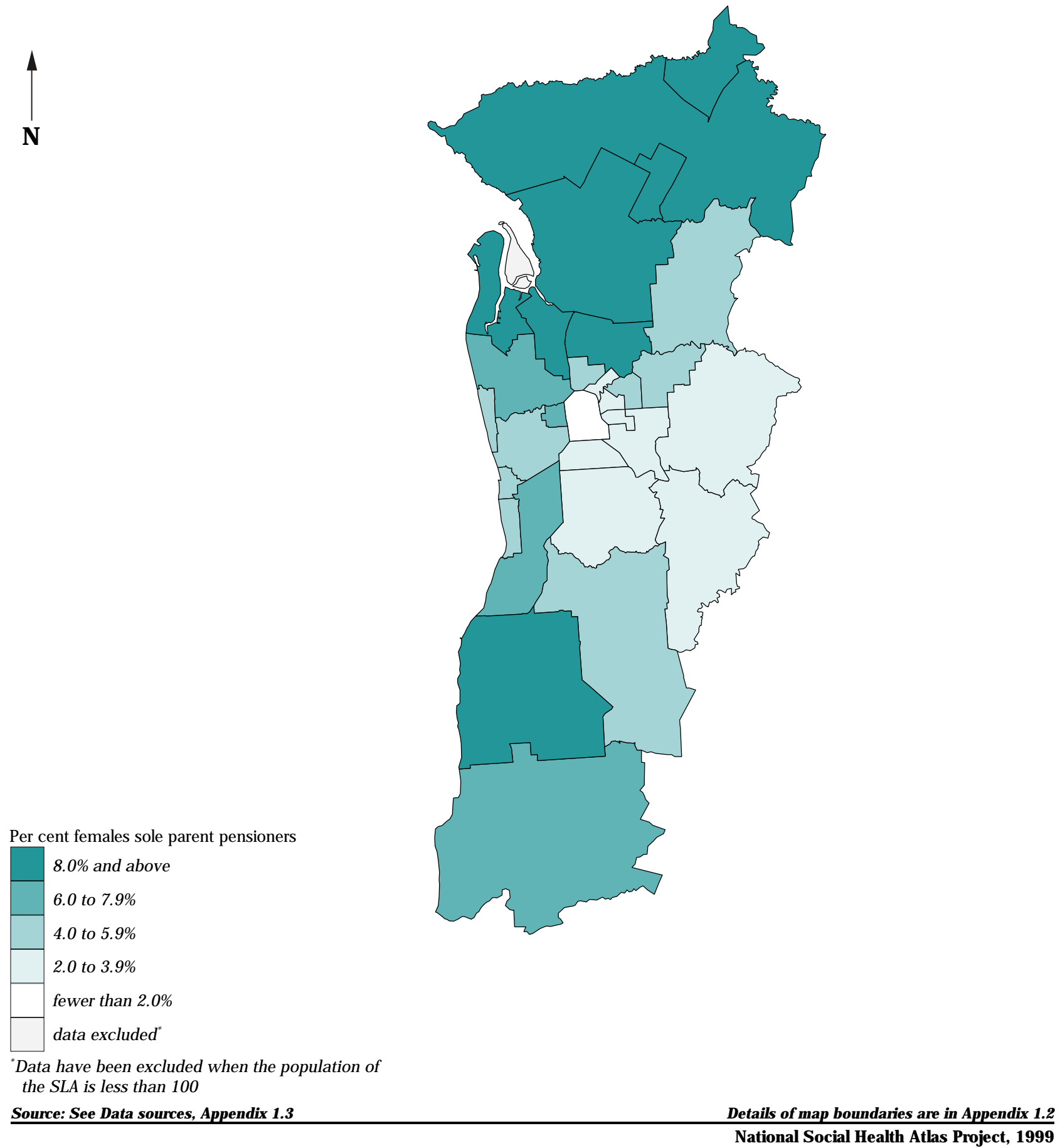
The large, outer northern and southern SLAs of Salisbury (2,921 people), Noarlunga (2,432 people) and Tree Tea Gully (1,410 people), had the largest numbers of female sole parent pensioners in **Adelaide**. The SLAs of Hindmarsh and Woodville (with 1,631 people), Marion (1,365 people), Enfield [Part A] (1,208 people), Munno Para (1,154 people) and Elizabeth (1,003 people) also recorded relatively large numbers.

There were correlations of substantial significance at the SLA level with the variables for unskilled and semi-skilled workers (0.97), early school leavers (0.91), low income families (0.90), unemployed people (0.89), single parent families (0.86), the Indigenous population (0.86), dwellings rented from the State housing authority (0.84) and children aged from 0 to 4 years (0.72). These results, together with the inverse correlation of substantial significance with the IRSD (-0.94), indicate an association at the SLA level between high proportions of female sole parent pensioners and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.5

Female sole parent pensioners, Adelaide, 1996

as a percentage of all females aged 15 to 54 years in each Statistical Local Area



Female sole parent pensioners, 30 June 1996

State/Territory comparison

In the non-metropolitan areas of Australia, 7.5 per cent of the female population aged from 15 to 54 years were in receipt of the Sole Parent Pension (defined on previous text page). Of the non-metropolitan areas, New South Wales had the highest proportion with 8.3 per cent of its population in this category, while South Australia had the lowest (6.7 per cent). **Table 4.7** indicates that the proportions of female sole parent pensioners have increased since 1989, with the exception of the Northern Territory where the percentage remained unchanged.

Table 4.7: Female sole parent pensioners, State/Territory
Per cent

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total ¹
1996									
Capital city	5.2	5.0	6.0	6.6	6.0	7.2	6.8	4.8 ²	5.5
Other major urban centres ³	7.5	7.3	7.4	..	..	..	..	..	7.4
Rest of State/Territory	8.3	6.8	7.2	6.7	7.1	7.2	7.6	— ⁴	7.5
Whole of State/Territory	6.2	5.5	6.7	6.6	6.3	7.2	7.2	4.7	6.2
1989									
Rest of State/Territory	6.4	4.8	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.6	7.6	— ⁴	5.6

¹Total for *Whole of State/Territory* includes 'Other Territories' (Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos Islands)

²Includes Queanbeyan (C)

³Includes Newcastle and Wollongong (NSW); Geelong (Vic); and Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville-Thuringowa (Qld)

⁴Data unreliable: included with ACT total

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Rest of State

The number of females (aged from 15 to 59 years) receiving the Sole Parent Pension in the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia increased from 5,491 in 1989 to 6,717 in 1996. Whilst this was equivalent to an additional 1,226 people, the percentage also increased, rising from 5.3 per cent to 6.7 per cent over this time period.

From **Map 4.6**, it can be seen that high proportions of female sole parent pensioners were distributed in a band extending across the middle of the State. These areas included Unincorporated Riverland (11.5 per cent), Peterborough (M) (11.1 per cent), Peterborough (DC) (11.0 per cent), Unincorporated West Coast (10.5 per cent), Hallett (10.1 per cent), Port Augusta (10.1 per cent), Unincorporated Whyalla (9.9 per cent), Whyalla (9.9 per cent), Ceduna (9.5 per cent), Port Pirie (9.3 per cent) and Pirie (8.5 per cent). Also mapped in the highest range were the SLAs of Port Lincoln (9.9 per cent), Meningie (9.2 per cent), Murray Bridge (9.1 per cent), Wallaroo (9.1 per cent), Port Elliot and Goolwa (8.1 per cent), Mount Gambier (C) (8.0 per cent) and Victor Harbor (8.0 per cent).

Just under one third (32.6 per cent) of the State's SLAs recorded proportions of female sole parent pensioners between 4.0 and 6.0 per cent. The highest proportion within this class interval was recorded in the SLAs of Jamestown (with 5.8 per cent of its female population in this category), while the lowest proportions were recorded in Unincorporated Pirie, Kingscote, Kanyaka-Quorn, Elliston and Browns Well (each with 4.1 per cent).

The lowest proportions, in SLAs with at least 10 females in receipt of the Sole Parent Pension, were recorded in south-eastern Port MacDonnell (1.7 per cent), Mount Gambier (DC) (1.8 per cent), Tatiara (2.8 per cent), Penola (3.9 per cent) and Naracoorte (DC) (3.9 per cent); on the Eyre Peninsula in the SLAs of Cleve (2.9 per cent), Tumby Bay and Franklin Harbor

(both 3.7 per cent), and Streaky Bay (3.9 per cent); and in the SLAs of Gumeracha (3.3 per cent), Yorketown (3.6 per cent) and Crystal Brook-Redhill (3.6 per cent).

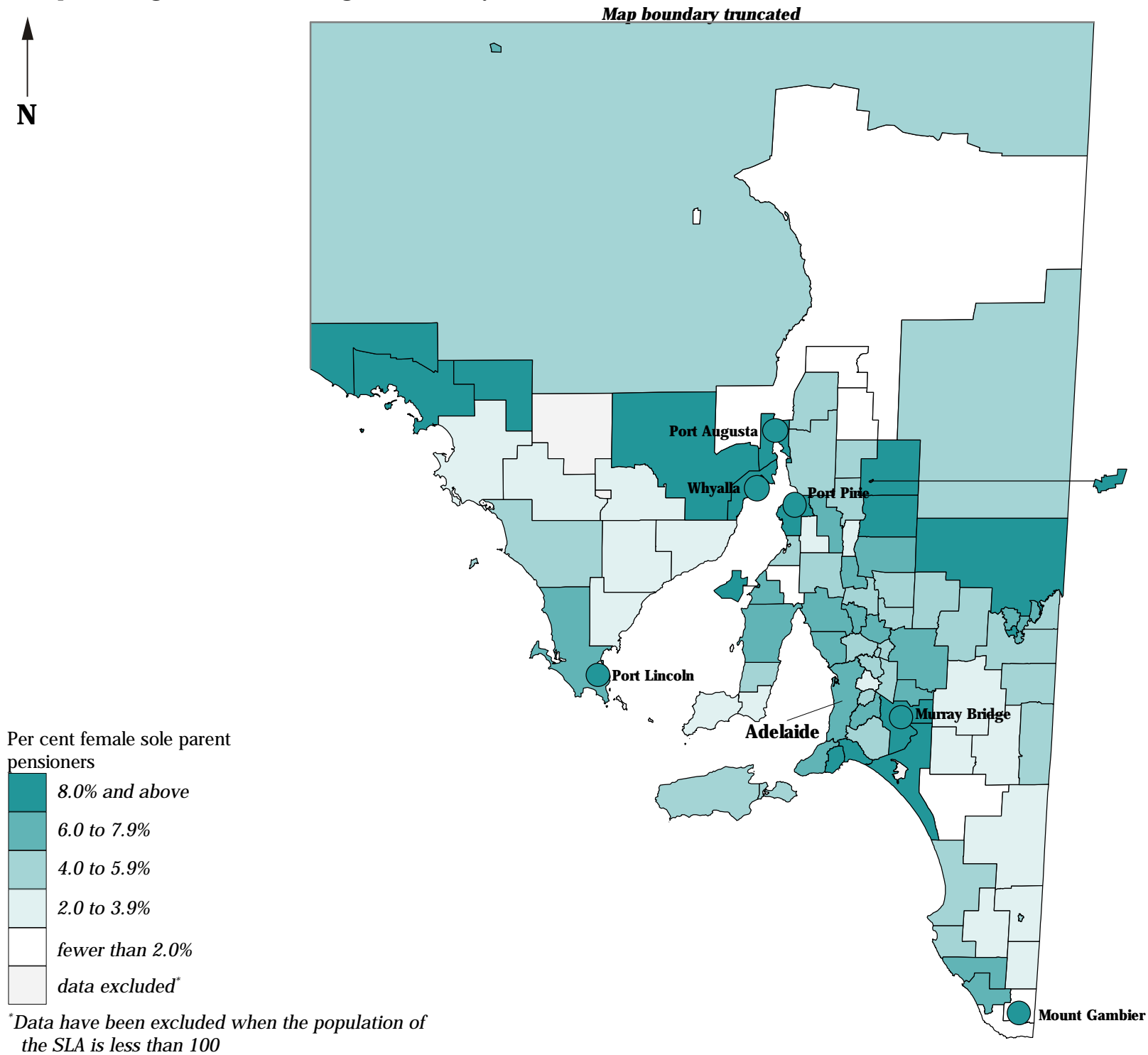
In 1996, the following towns recorded the largest numbers of female sole parent pensioners: Whyalla (with 643 female sole parent pensioners), Mount Gambier (503), Port Augusta (400), Murray Bridge (392), Port Pirie (355) and Port Lincoln (329).

There was a correlation of substantial significance with the variable for single parent families (0.73), and of meaningful significance with dwellings with no motor vehicle (0.60) and unemployed people (0.56). These results, together with the inverse correlation of substantial significance with the IRSD (-0.71), indicate an association at the SLA level between high proportions of female sole parent pensioners and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.6

Female sole parent pensioners, South Australia, 1996

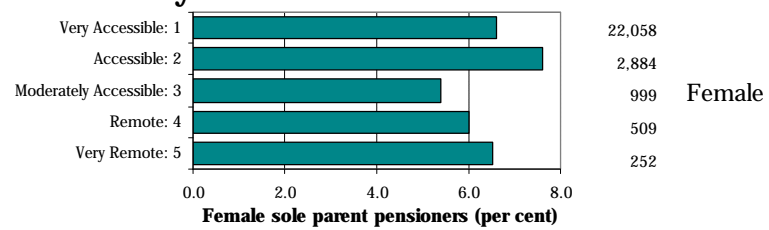
as a percentage of all females aged 15 to 54 years in each Statistical Local Area



Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Details of map boundaries are in Appendix 1.2

Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia



There are two separate gradients evident in the graph of female sole parent pensioners. The first is between the Very Accessible (6.6 per cent) and Accessible (7.6 per cent, the highest proportion) areas; and the second is from the Moderately Accessible (5.4 per cent, the lowest proportion) to the Very Remote (6.5 per cent) areas.

Source: Calculated on ARIA classification, DHAC
National Social Health Atlas Project, 1999

People receiving an unemployment benefit, 30 June 1996

Capital city comparison

People receiving an unemployment benefit, as described below, are shown as a percentage of the eligible population (of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 59 years), rather than as a percentage of the labour force as is usually the case. This approach has been adopted as the intention in this section is to examine the spatial pattern of distribution of income support payments.

The data mapped are the proportion of the population receiving 'unemployment benefits': it includes the Youth Training Allowance (YTA) and Newstart Allowance (NSA) paid by DFACS. The 792 residents of the capital cities and other major urban centres in the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) schemes in 1998 have also been included (see page 79 for details of the CDEP).

In 1996, 5.4 per cent of the eligible population, as defined above, were in receipt of an unemployment benefit, varying from 5.0 per cent in **Canberra** to 8.2 per cent in **Hobart**. Over the period from 1989 to 1996, the proportion of the population receiving an unemployment benefit has increased considerably across Australia and in each of the capital cities. The largest increase was evident in **Melbourne**, where the proportion increased from 1.9 per cent in 1989 to 6.9 per cent in 1996.

Table 4.8: People receiving an unemployment benefit, capital cities
Per cent

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra ¹	All Capitals
1996	5.4	6.9	6.6	8.0	6.2	8.2	7.5	5.0	5.4
1989	2.8	1.9	3.0	4.2	2.7	5.3	5.7	2.0	2.7

¹Includes Queanbeyan (C)

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Adelaide

In 1989, 4.2 per cent of the population in **Adelaide** (aged from 15 to 64 years for males and 15 to 59 years for females) were in receipt of an unemployment benefit. This proportion increased considerably to 8.0 per cent in 1996. Likewise, the numbers have risen from 28,594 people in 1989 to 53,531 people in 1996. This number includes 98 people in CDEP schemes in **Adelaide**.

The SLAs with the highest proportions of people receiving an unemployment benefit were generally located to the north and west of the city (**Map 4.7**). The highest of these were Enfield [Part B] (15.9 per cent), Elizabeth (14.6 per cent) and Thebarton (12.8 per cent). Relatively high proportions were also recorded in the northern SLAs of Enfield [Part A] (10.9 per cent), Munno Para (10.8 per cent) and Salisbury (9.2 per cent); the western SLAs of Port Adelaide (10.1 per cent) and Hindmarsh and Woodville (9.6 per cent); and in the southern areas of Noarlunga and Willunga (each with 9.2 per cent).

The SLA of Happy Valley had the lowest proportion, with 4.3 per cent of its population (of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 59 years) in receipt of unemployment benefits. Percentages of 5.0 per cent or lower were recorded in Burnside (4.4 per cent), Stirling (4.7 per cent), East Torrens (4.8 per cent) and Mitcham (4.9 per cent). With the exception of Gawler (7.8 per cent), Henley and Grange (7.2 per cent) and Tea Tree Gully (5.6 per cent), areas with below average proportions were recorded in the eastern and southern regions.

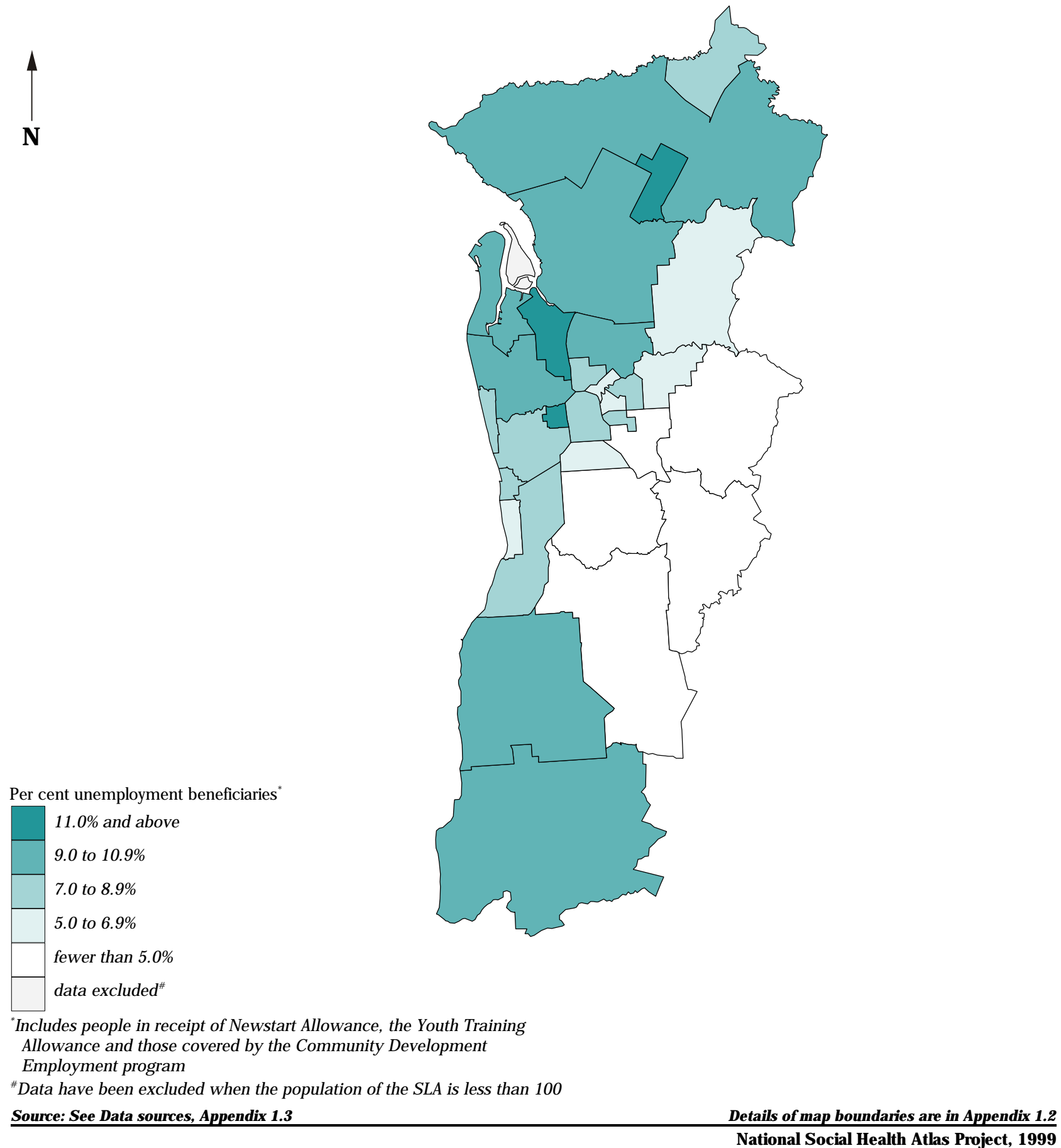
The largest number of people receiving an unemployment benefit was recorded in Salisbury, with 6,607 people in this category. Large numbers were also recorded in Noarlunga (5,346 people), Hindmarsh and Woodville (5,061 people), Tea Tree Gully (3,540 people) and Marion (3,226 people).

There were correlations of substantial significance at the SLA level with the variables for unemployed people (0.96), low income families (0.93), the Indigenous population (0.86), dwellings rented from the State housing authority (0.84), unskilled and semi-skilled workers (0.84), single parent families (0.81) and early school leavers (0.74). These results, together with the inverse correlation of substantial significance with the IRSD (-0.94), indicate an association at the SLA level between high proportions of the population in receipt of an unemployment benefit and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.7

Unemployment beneficiaries*, Adelaide, 1996

as a percentage of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 59 years in each Statistical Local Area



People receiving an unemployment benefit, 30 June 1996

State/Territory comparison

In 1996, the proportions of people in receipt of an unemployment benefit (see previous text page for details of programs included) in the *Rest of State/Territory* areas were higher than those recorded in the capital cities. The difference was most notable in the Northern Territory, where the proportion recorded in **Darwin** (7.5 per cent) was considerably lower than that recorded in the non-metropolitan area (17.2 per cent). Excluding the Northern Territory, the non-metropolitan proportions varied little from the *Whole of State/Territory* total, ranging from 7.8 per cent in Victoria to 9.2 per cent in Tasmania. The 24,316 residents of the non-metropolitan areas of Australia in Community Development Employment Program (CDEP) schemes in 1998 (see page 79 for details of the CDEP) have also been included.

Since 1989, the proportion of people receiving unemployment benefits in the areas outside of the major urban centres has increased markedly, rising from 4.9 per cent in 1989 to 8.8 per cent in 1996 (**Table 4.9**). This represented an additional 135,289 people in receipt of unemployment benefits, rising from 152,306 in 1989 to 287,595 in 1996.

Table 4.9: People receiving an unemployment benefit, State/Territory
Per cent

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total ¹
1996									
Capital city	5.4	6.9	6.6	8.0	6.2	8.2	7.5	5.0 ²	5.4
Other major urban centres ³	8.6	9.0	9.9	..	..	..	..	..	9.1
Rest of State/Territory	8.9	7.8	9.1	8.7	7.9	9.2	17.2	— ⁴	8.8
Whole of State/Territory	6.6	7.1	8.1	8.2	6.6	8.8	12.7	4.9	7.2
1989									
Rest of State/Territory	5.8	3.2	5.1	5.7	3.6	5.5	9.0	— ⁴	4.9

¹Total for *Whole of State/Territory* includes 'Other Territories' (Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos Islands)

²Includes Queanbeyan (C)

³Includes Newcastle and Wollongong (NSW); Geelong (Vic); and Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville-Thuringowa (Qld)

⁴Data unreliable: included with ACT total

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Rest of State

In the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia, 5.7 per cent of the population in 1989 (aged 15 to 64 years for males and 15 to 59 years for females) were receiving an unemployment benefit. By 1996 the proportion had risen to 8.7 per cent and the number of people had increased by almost fifty per cent, from 13,834 people in 1989 to 20,319 people in 1996.

These figures include 1,921 residents of the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia who were in CDEP schemes in 1998. The highest proportions were in Unincorporated West Coast (16.1 per cent of the population), Ceduna (14.4 per cent) and Unincorporated Far North (10.9 per cent); the largest numbers were in Port Augusta (493 people), Unincorporated Far North (466), Ceduna (327 people), Port Lincoln (135 people), Loxton (112 people) and Whyalla (111 people).

The SLAs in the far north generally had the highest proportions of unemployment beneficiaries (**Map 4.8**). The highest proportion was recorded in Unincorporated West Coast, where 23.0 per cent of the eligible population were in receipt of an unemployment benefit: over two thirds (16.1 per cent) were Indigenous Australians in CDEP schemes. Well above average proportions were also recorded in Ceduna (21.9 per cent), Unincorporated Far North (17.7 per cent), Peterborough (16.2 per cent), Port Augusta (16.2 per cent), Wallaroo (15.4 per cent), Hallett (13.9 per cent), Port Pirie (13.4 per cent), Port Lincoln (13.2 per cent) and Unincorporated Whyalla (13.1 per cent).

The largest number of SLAs was mapped in the second lowest range, with unemployment beneficiaries comprising between 5.0

per cent (in Cleve) and 6.8 per cent (in Streaky Bay, Morgan and Kapunda) of the eligible population.

The lowest proportion of unemployment beneficiaries, 1.3 per cent, was recorded for residents of Roxby Downs, followed by Lucindale (2.0 per cent), Tatiara (2.3 per cent) and Kimba (2.4 per cent). Relatively low percentages were also recorded in the south-eastern SLAs of Coonalpyn Downs (3.1 per cent), Naracoorte (DC) (3.4 per cent), Port MacDonnell, Naracoorte (M), Mount Gambier (DC) and Browns Well (all at 4.3 per cent) and Pinnaroo (4.5 per cent).

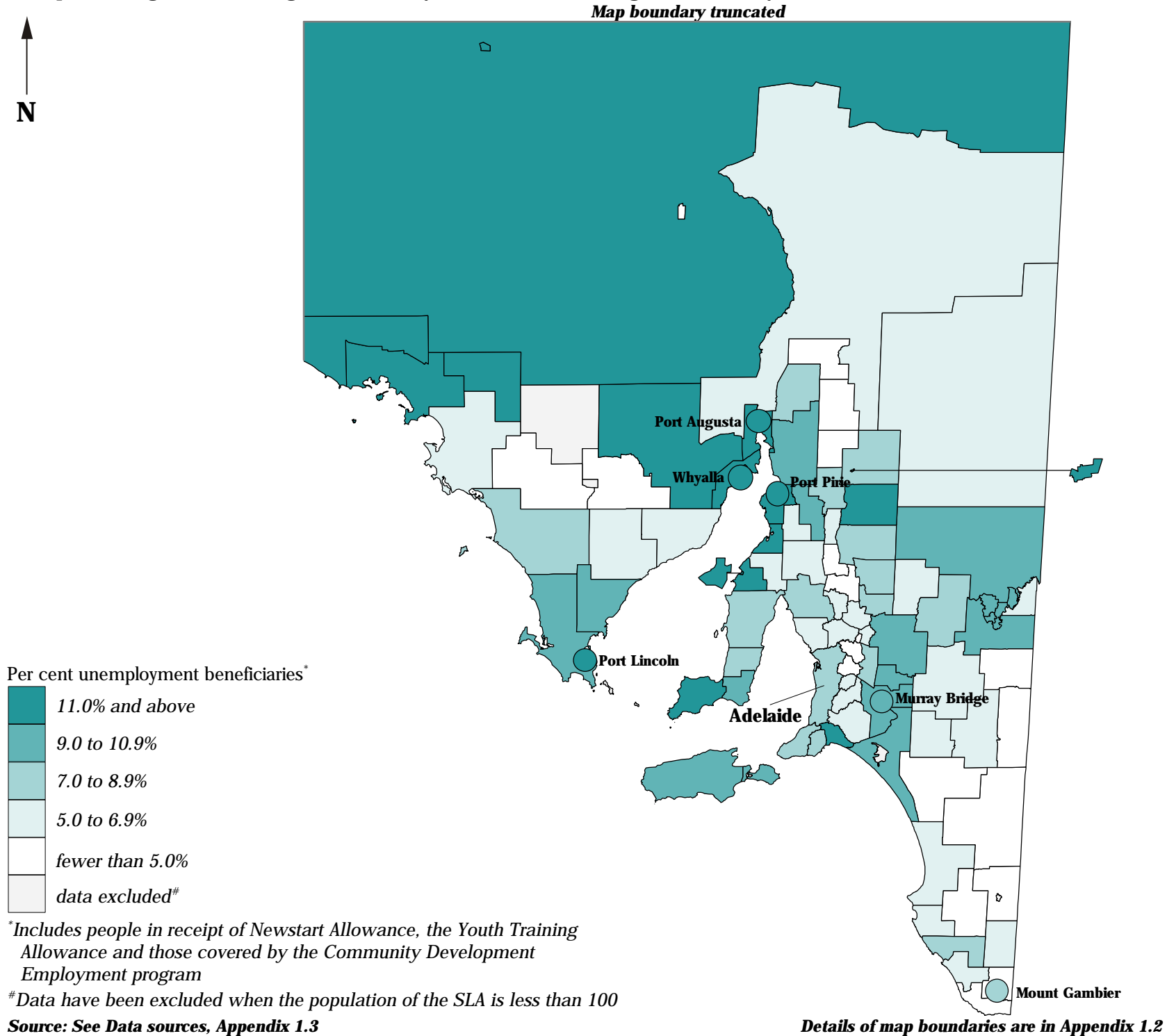
The largest numbers of people receiving an unemployment benefit (including those in CDEP schemes) were in the towns of Whyalla (1,687 people), Port Augusta (1,453 people), Port Pirie (1,153 people), Murray Bridge (1,014 people), Mount Gambier (987 people) and Port Lincoln (973 people).

There were correlations of meaningful significance at the SLA level with the variables for unemployed people (0.63) and single parent families (0.51) and of lesser significance with the other indicators of socioeconomic disadvantage. The strongest of the inverse correlations with the indicators of high socioeconomic status was with female labour force participation (-0.58). These results, together with the inverse correlation of substantial significance with the IRSD (-0.75), indicate an association at the SLA level between high proportions of the population in receipt of an unemployment benefit and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.8

Unemployment beneficiaries*, South Australia, 1996

as a percentage of males aged 15 to 64 years and females aged 15 to 59 years in each Statistical Local Area



Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia



The graph of the proportion of unemployment beneficiaries shows three distinct levels of ARIA categories. One comprises the Very Accessible (7.9 per cent of the eligible population receiving an unemployment benefit) and Moderately Accessible (7.3 per cent) areas; another includes the Accessible (9.6 per cent) and Remote (9.3 per cent) areas; and the third is the Very Remote category, with a much higher unemployment rate, of 16.6 per cent. The distribution of the Indigenous population is likely to have influenced the high proportion in the Very Remote areas.

Source: Calculated on ARIA classification, DHAC
National Social Health Atlas Project, 1999

Dependent children of selected pensioners and beneficiaries, 30 June 1996

Capital city comparison

Dependent children aged under 16 years and living in families receiving an income support payment or the family payment (at above the minimum rate) from the Department of Family and Community Services (DFACS) have been mapped as a percentage of all children aged under 16 years. Families included are those receiving the DFACS Age, Disability Support and Sole Parent Pensions; Youth Training or Newstart Allowances; sickness and special benefits; and the family allowance payment (the explanatory notes on page 79 contain more detail). Families receiving these pension and benefit types represent the majority of families reliant on government welfare payments for their main source of income, or with wage earners on low incomes.

In 1989, 24.3 per cent of children aged under 16 years (554,177 children) were living in families receiving income support (**Table 4.10**). By 1996, the proportion had increased to 39.2 per cent and the number had risen to just under one million (968,923 children). While the number of children has risen by a substantial 56.8 per cent, their proportion of the population aged under 16 years has risen by 61.3 per cent. This indicates that the growth in the proportion of children in this welfare dependent population is outstripping the growth of the total population of this age. This trend was evident across all capital cities, with the biggest increases occurring in **Melbourne** (almost double the 1989 proportion), **Canberra** and **Sydney** and the smallest in **Darwin** and **Hobart**. **Canberra** recorded the lowest proportion in both 1989 (17.7 per cent) and 1996 (28.1 per cent).

Table 4.10: Dependent children of selected pensioners and beneficiaries, capital cities
Per cent

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra ¹	All Capitals
1996	37.2	38.0	43.7	45.6	39.4	45.5	40.3	28.1	39.2
1989	23.2	20.0	30.2	31.2	26.4	34.7	29.9	17.7	24.3

¹Includes Queanbeyan (C)

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Adelaide

Both the number and proportion of dependent children aged under 16 years in **Adelaide** and living in families receiving an income support payment have increased since 1989. While the percentages rose from 31.2 per cent in 1989 to 45.6 per cent in 1996, the numbers have also increased substantially, from 64,241 in 1989 to 99,880 in 1996.

The distribution of dependent children in families receiving an income support payment was similar to that for the other variables mapped in this chapter. The highest proportions were recorded in northern and western SLAs, while those with the lowest proportions were distributed in the east and south-east of **Adelaide** (**Map 4.9**).

The SLAs of Enfield [Part B] (78.2 per cent) and Thebarton (60.1 per cent), located in the west; and Elizabeth (75.4 per cent), Enfield [Part A] (65.4 per cent) and Munno Para (60.7 per cent), situated north of the city were all mapped in the highest range. Proportions of above 50.0 per cent were also recorded in the northern and western SLAs of Salisbury (57.7 per cent), Port Adelaide (51.5 per cent) and Hindmarsh and Woodville (50.7 per cent).

SLAs with less than 30.0 per cent of children aged under 16 years living children in families receiving an income support payment were Walkerville (17.4 per cent), Burnside (18.6 per cent), the City of Adelaide (22.1 per cent), Unley (22.8 per cent), St Peters (23.2 per cent), Stirling (27.3 per cent) and Mitcham (27.4 per cent). Below average proportions outside of the southern or eastern areas were recorded in West Torrens (43.3 per cent), Tea Tree Gully (36.7 per cent), Prospect (34.7 per cent) and Henley and Grange (32.3 per cent).

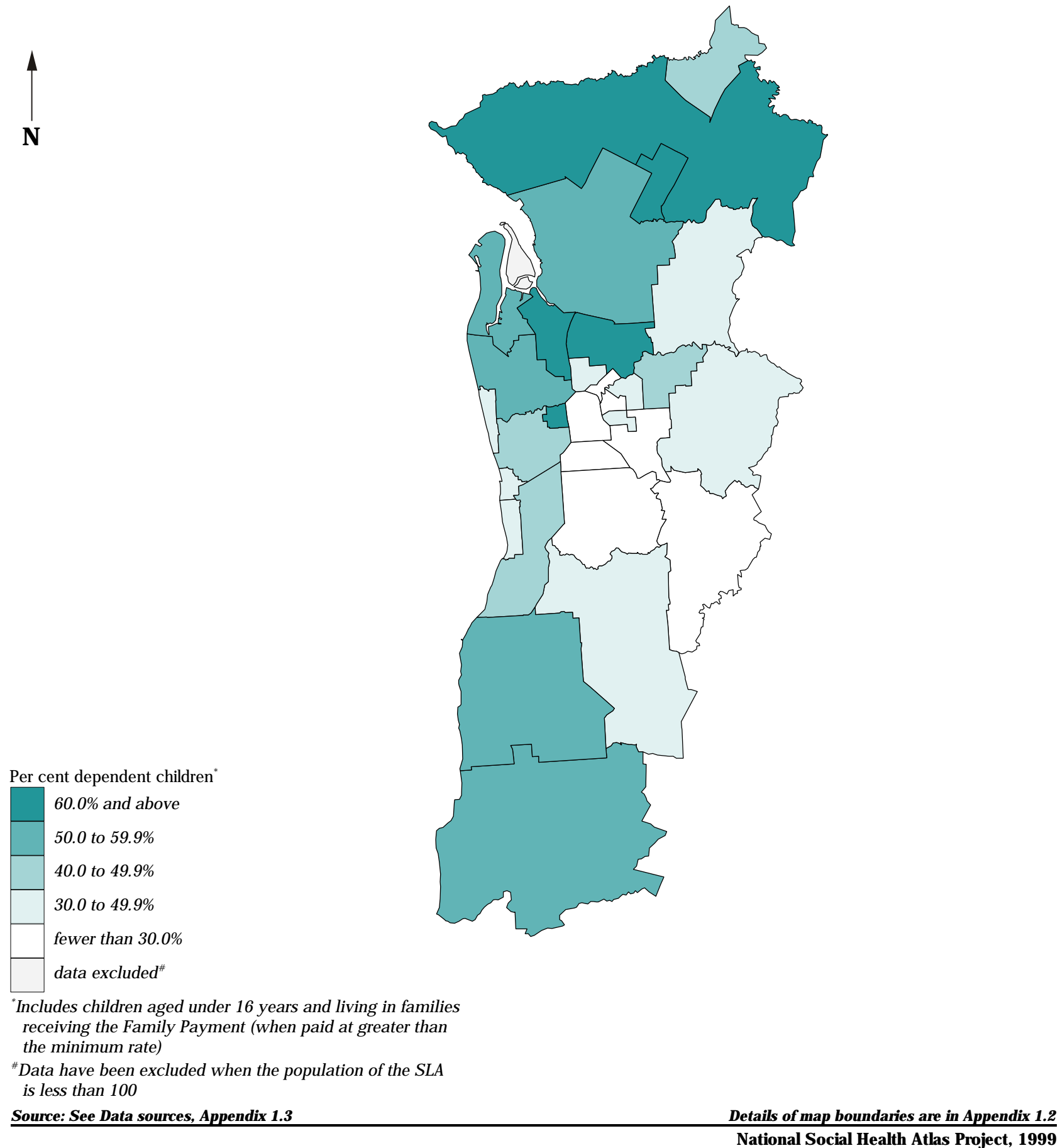
The largest numbers of dependent children in families receiving an income support payment in **Adelaide** were recorded in the SLAs of Salisbury (16,133 children), Noarlunga (12,148 children), Tea Tree Gully (7,996 children), Hindmarsh and Woodville (7,791 children), Munno Para (6,753 children) and Marion (6,107 children).

The correlation analysis showed there to be a strong association at the SLA level with many indicators of socioeconomic disadvantage. Positive correlations of substantial significance were recorded with the variables for unskilled and semi-skilled workers (0.96), low income families (0.93), early school leavers (0.91), unemployed people (0.90), Indigenous Australians (0.85), single parent families (0.84) and dwellings rented from the State housing authority (0.79), while inverse correlations were recorded with high income families (-0.95), managers and administrators, and professionals (-0.89) and female labour force participation (-0.87). The inverse correlation of substantial significance with the IRSD (-0.95) also indicates an association at the SLA level between high proportions of dependent children in families receiving an income support payment and socioeconomic disadvantage.

Map 4.9

Dependent children of selected pensioners and beneficiaries*, Adelaide, 1996

as a percentage of all children aged from 0 to 15 years in each Statistical Local Area



Dependent children of selected pensioners and beneficiaries, 30 June 1996

State Territory comparison

In 1996, 51.4 per cent of the population aged under 16 years and living outside of the major urban centres were living in families in receipt of an income support payment from the Department of Family and Community Services (see page 79 for further details). Proportions varied little across the non-metropolitan areas, with the highest recorded in New South Wales (54.1 per cent) and Tasmania (53.2 per cent) and the lowest in Western Australia (43.7 per cent) and Victoria (49.1 per cent).

Both the numbers and proportions have increased since 1989, rising from 37.8 per cent and 450,900 children in 1989 to 51.4 per cent and 686,689 children in 1996 (**Table 4.11**). The largest proportional increase was recorded in Victoria, where the 1996 figure was a 57.7 per cent increase from 1989. The overall increase from 37.8 per cent of the population aged under 16 years in 1989 to 51.4 per cent in 1996 represents a rise of 33.3 per cent, around half that of the increase for the capital cities (61.3 per cent).

Table 4.11: Dependent children of selected pensioners and beneficiaries, State/Territory
Per cent

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Total ¹
1996									
Capital city	37.2	38.0	43.7	45.6	39.4	45.5	40.3	28.1 ²	39.2
Other major urban centres ³	41.4	43.4	48.4	..	..	..	..	..	44.0
Rest of State/Territory	54.1	49.1	52.5	51.5	43.7	53.2	52.9	- ⁴	51.4
Whole of State/Territory	42.6	41.3	48.2	47.3	40.7	50.1	47.8	27.4	43.5
1989									
Rest of State/Territory	41.4	31.3	41.0	38.8	31.9	38.3	42.6	- ⁴	37.8

¹Total for *Whole of State/Territory* includes 'Other Territories' (Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos Islands)

²Includes Queanbeyan (C)

³Includes Newcastle and Wollongong (NSW); Geelong (Vic); and Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville-Thuringowa (Qld)

⁴Data unreliable: included with ACT total

Source: See Data sources, Appendix 1.3

Rest of State

In 1989, 34,835 children under 16 years of age in the non-metropolitan areas of South Australia were living in families receiving an income support payment (38.8 per cent of the population under 16 years of age). By 1996, both the number and proportion of children had increased substantially, to 48,545 children, 51.5 per cent of the eligible population.

The highest proportions of dependent children in families receiving an income support payment were recorded for: Unincorporated West Coast (81.4 per cent), Ceduna (72.9 per cent) and Elliston (68.7 per cent), situated in far west; and Unincorporated Pirie (79.2 per cent), Hallett (78.5 per cent), Peterborough (M) (70.3 per cent), Burra Burra (64.8 per cent), Robertstown (63.1 per cent), Wakefield Plains (62.4 per cent), and Spalding (61.9 per cent), all of which were located in the lower north. As can be seen from **Map 4.10**, high proportions were also recorded on the Yorke Peninsula in the SLAs of Wallaroo (66.3 per cent), Warooka (65.8 per cent), Northern Yorke Peninsula (63.4 per cent) and Minlaton (61.5 per cent).

Only nine SLAs were mapped in the middle range; these SLAs were Kingscote (54.6 per cent), Rocky River (54.5 per cent), Clare (54.2 per cent), Mount Remarkable (53.5 per cent), Lameroo (52.7 per cent), Loxton (51.1 per cent), Streaky Bay (50.4 per cent), Mount Gambier (C) (50.3 per cent) and Port Broughton (50.0 per cent).

SLAs with less than 45.0 per cent of children aged under 16 years living children in families receiving an income support payment were generally located either in the south-east or in the northern half of the State. The SLAs located in the north included Roxby Downs (4.3 per cent), Carrieton (15.4 per cent),

Unincorporated Flinders Rangers (22.0 per cent), Hawker (28.7 per cent), Orroroo (40.3 per cent), Le Hunte (41.2 per cent), Unincorporated Far North (41.3 per cent), Kimba (41.5 per cent) and Unincorporated Whyalla (44.3 per cent), while those in the south-east were Port MacDonnell (28.2 per cent), Mount Gambier (DC) (28.4 per cent), Millicent (41.2 per cent), Tatiara (42.3 per cent), Robe (42.8 per cent), Penola (42.9 per cent) and Naracoorte (DC) (44.0 per cent).

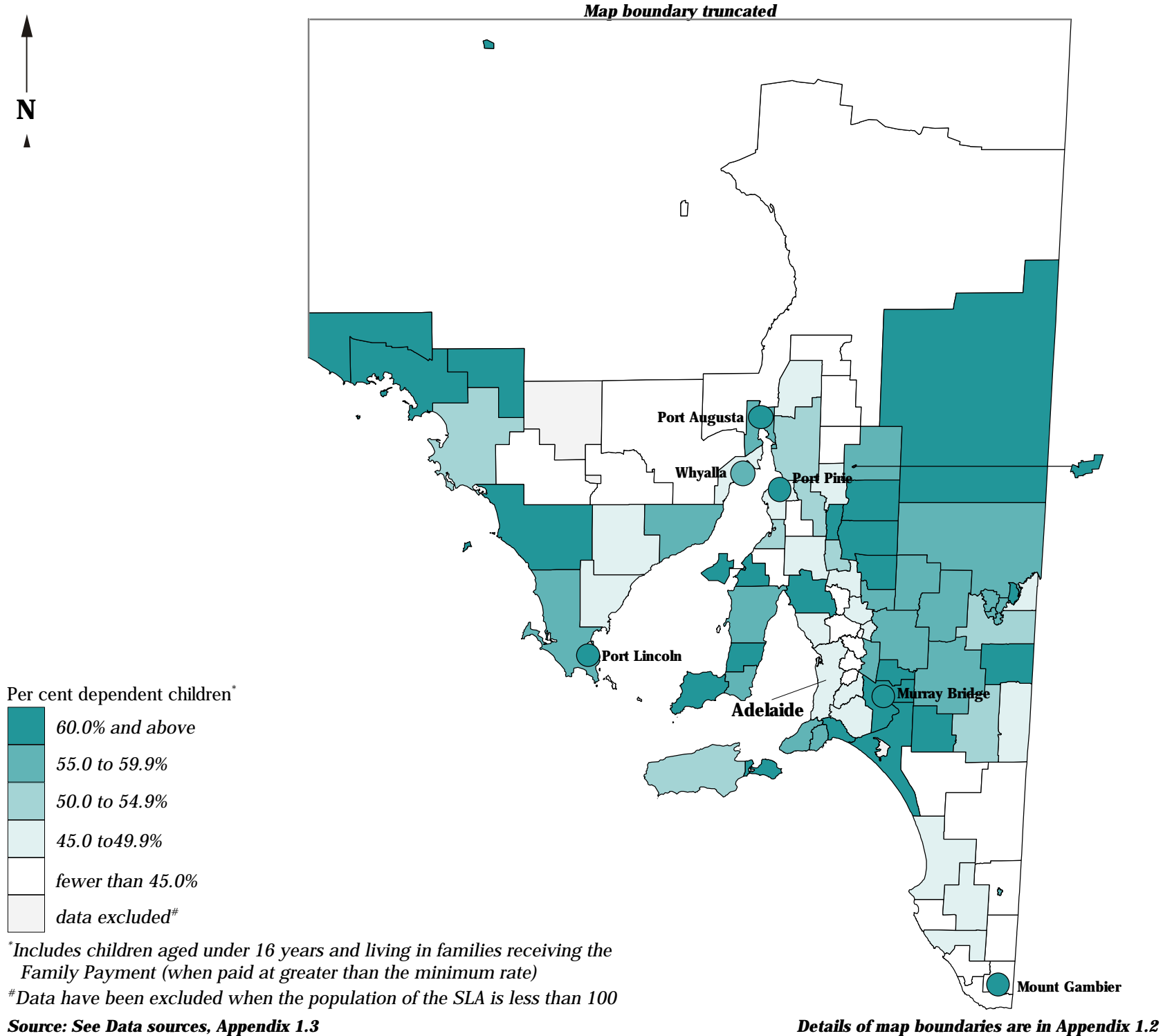
There were more than 1,500 dependent children in families receiving an income support payment in the towns of Whyalla (2,853 children), Mount Gambier (2,780 children), Murray Bridge (2,460 children), Port Augusta (2,022 children), Port Lincoln (1,831 children) and Port Pirie (1,773 children).

There was a correlation of meaningful significance at the SLA level with the variable for low income families (0.65) and an inverse correlation with high income families (-0.64). There were also correlations of lesser significance with the other indicators of socioeconomic disadvantage. These results, together with the weak inverse correlation with the IRSD (-0.49), suggest an association at the SLA level between high proportions of dependent children in families receiving an income support payment and socioeconomic disadvantage.

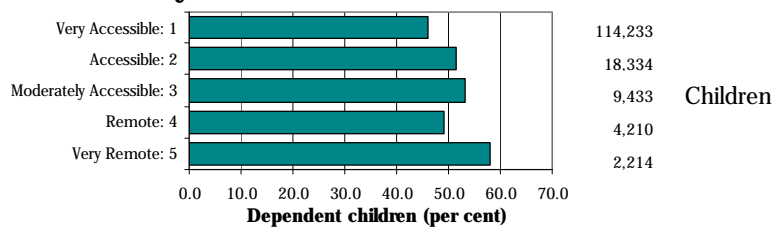
Map 4.10

Dependent children of selected pensioners and beneficiaries*, South Australia, 1996

as a percentage of all children aged from 0 to 15 years in each Statistical Local Area



Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia



The proportion of the population aged under 16 years living in families receiving an income support payment is high in all of the ARIA categories, ranging from 46.1 per cent in the Very Accessible category to 57.9 per cent in the Very Remote category. The numbers of children are relatively high in the remote categories.

Source: Calculated on ARIA classification, DHAC
 National Social Health Atlas Project, 1999

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