

Sydney



Infrastructure and economy

Education

Education became a proper focus for the colony from the 1870s when public schools began to form and schooling became compulsory. The population of Sydney is now highly educated. 90% of working age residents have completed some schooling and 57% have completed the highest level of school. 1,390,703 people were enrolled in an educational institution in 2011 with 45.1% of these attending school and 16.5% studying at a university. Undergraduate or postgraduate qualifications are held by 22.5% of working age Sydney residents and 40.2% of working age residents of the City of Sydney. The most common fields of tertiary qualification are commerce (22.8%), engineering (13.4%), society and culture (10.8%), health (7.8%), and education (6.6%).

There are six public universities based in Sydney: The [University of Sydney](#), [University of New South Wales](#), [University of Technology Sydney](#), [Macquarie University](#), [Western Sydney University](#), and [Australian Catholic University](#). Five public universities maintain secondary campuses in the city for both domestic and international students: the [University of Notre Dame Australia](#), [Central Queensland University](#), [Victoria University](#), [University of Wollongong](#), and [University of Newcastle](#). [Charles Sturt University](#) and [Southern Cross University](#), both public universities, operate secondary campuses only designated for international students. In addition, four public universities offer programmes in Sydney through third-party education providers: [University of the Sunshine Coast](#), [La Trobe University](#), [Federation University Australia](#) and [Charles Darwin University](#). 5.2% of residents of Sydney are attending a university.



Health

The first hospital in the new colony was a collection of tents at [The Rocks](#). Many of the convicts that survived the trip from England continued to suffer from [dysentery](#), [smallpox](#), [scurvy](#), and [typhoid](#). Healthcare facilities remained hopelessly inadequate despite the arrival of a prefabricated hospital with the [Second Fleet](#) and the construction of brand new hospitals at Parramatta, [Windsor](#), and [Liverpool](#) in the 1790s.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie arranged for the construction of [Sydney Hospital](#) and saw it completed in 1816. Parts of the facility have been repurposed for use as [Parliament House](#) but the hospital itself still operates to this day. The city's first emergency department was established at Sydney Hospital in 1870. Demand for emergency medical care increased from 1895 with the introduction of an ambulance service. The Sydney Hospital also housed Australia's first teaching facility for nurses, the Nightingale Wing, established with the input of [Florence Nightingale](#) in 1868.



An aerial photograph of the Sydney city skyline, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers and buildings along the waterfront. The water of the harbor is visible on the left side of the image. The text is overlaid on a dark blue semi-transparent box.

Researchers from [Loughborough University](#) have ranked Sydney amongst the top ten world cities that are highly integrated into the global economy. The Global Economic Power Index ranks Sydney number eleven in the world. The Global Cities Index recognises it as number fourteen in the world based on global engagement.

The prevailing economic theory in effect during early colonial days was [mercantilism](#), as it was throughout most of [Western Europe](#). The economy struggled at first due to difficulties in cultivating the land and the lack of a stable monetary system. Governor Lachlan Macquarie solved the second problem by creating [two coins](#) from every [Spanish silver dollar](#) in circulation. The economy was clearly [capitalist](#) in nature by the 1840s as the proportion of free settlers increased, the maritime and wool industries flourished, and the powers of the [East India Company](#) were curtailed.

Wheat, gold, and other minerals became additional export industries towards the end of the 1800s. Significant capital began to flow into the city from the 1870s to finance roads, railways, bridges, docks, courthouses, schools and hospitals. [Protectionist](#) policies after [federation](#) allowed for the creation of a manufacturing industry which became the city's largest employer by the 1920s. These same policies helped to relieve the effects of the Great Depression during which the unemployment rate in New South Wales reached as high as 32%. From the 1960s onwards Parramatta gained recognition as the city's second CBD and finance and tourism became major industries and sources of employment.

Sydney's nominal gross domestic product was AU\$400.9 billion and AU\$80,000 per capita in 2015. Its gross domestic product was AU\$337 billion in 2013, the largest in Australia. The Financial and Insurance Services industry accounts for 18.1% of gross product and is ahead of Professional Services with 9% and Manufacturing with 7.2%. In addition to Financial Services and Tourism, the Creative and Technology sectors are focus industries for the City of Sydney and represented 9% and 11% of its economic output in 2012.

A sunset scene over a body of water. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and dark blue. In the background, a bridge and a city skyline are visible. The text "thanks for attention" is overlaid on a white rectangular box in the center.

thanks for attention