

Electoral Newsfile

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2006 Redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries

Final Boundaries for New South Wales

The boundaries and names for the 49 federal electoral divisions in New South Wales have been finalised by the augmented Electoral Commission for New South Wales. The determination was gazetted on 22 November 2006.

Redistribution process

On 2 December 2005 the Australian Electoral Commission directed the commencement of a redistribution of federal electoral boundaries in New South Wales. As a result of changes in population, New South Wales is entitled to 49 Members of the House of Representatives, one less than its previous entitlement. The redistribution process was outlined in *Electoral Newsfile No. 126*.

Following a public consultation process, the Redistribution Committee for New South Wales published its proposal for the names and boundaries of the 49 federal electoral divisions on 30 June 2006. It proposed that the divisions of Gwydir and Parkes in the rural northwest of the state be amalgamated. These were the two divisions with the lowest projected enrolment and the greatest variations from the State average. In making its proposal for the rest of the State, the Committee paid particular attention to transport and communication links. The Committee linked areas west of the Great Dividing Range with population centres in the east, thereby maintaining the number of divisions with major rural composition. The Redistribution Committee's full proposal is available on the AEC website, www.aec.gov.au.

The augmented Electoral Commission held public inquiries into objections to the proposed redistribution and, on 13 September 2006, announced its decision on the new boundaries and division names for New South Wales.

Names of divisions

The final determination resulted in the names of all divisions being retained except for the division of Gwydir, which was abolished.

Conclusion of redistribution process

The augmented Electoral Commission adopted the Redistribution Committee's proposed boundaries with some changes. These were as follows:

- the physical size of the proposed division of Parkes was reduced by yielding areas in the west to the divisions of Calare and Farrer;
- Raymond Terrace was moved from the division of Newcastle back into Paterson;
- part of the Central Business District of Parramatta was moved from Reid back into the division of Parramatta; and
- other minor boundary adjustments were made aimed at meeting concerns raised in objections and producing better defined boundaries.

The augmented Commission was of the opinion that its decision did not differ significantly from that of the Redistribution Committee and that a further objection period was therefore not necessary.

Outline maps of the final boundaries are included in this *Newsfile*. The full report of the augmented Electoral Commission for New South Wales is available on the

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AEC website, www.aec.gov.au. Copies can also be obtained from the AEC State Office in Sydney and the National Office in Canberra. Contact details are shown on page 8.

The new boundaries come into effect at the next general election.

What is a redistribution?

A redistribution is a redrawing of electoral boundaries. Redistributions occur periodically to ensure that there

are, as nearly as practicable, the same number of electors in each division within a State or Territory.

A quota is used to determine the number of divisions to which each State and Territory is entitled. At the time of a redistribution, the number of people enrolled in each new electoral division may not vary from the State/Territory average by more than 10 per cent. The boundaries are also drawn so that after three and a half years, the projected number of people enrolled in each division should not vary from the State/Territory average by more than 3.5 per cent.

Summary of movement of electors between divisions

Number of electors remaining in their existing division	3 598 819	83.53%
Number of electors transferred to another division	709 776	16.47%

Determination of quota at 2 December 2005

Number of Members of the House of Representatives to which New South Wales is entitled	49
Number of electors enrolled in New South Wales as at 2 December 2005	4 308 595
Quota for New South Wales	87 931
Permissible maximum number of electors in a division (quota + 10%)	96 724
Permissible minimum number of electors in a division (quota - 10%)	79 138

Enrolment projections at 31 May 2010

Projected number of electors in New South Wales as at 31 May 2010	4 581 939
Average enrolment for New South Wales projected to 31 May 2010	93 508
Permissible maximum number of electors in a division three and a half years after the redistribution (average enrolment projected to 31 May 2010 + 3.5%)	96 780
Permissible minimum number of electors in a division three and a half years after the redistribution (average enrolment projected to 31 May 2010 - 3.5%)	90 236

Summary of divisions

Division	Actual	Var A (%)	Projected	Var P (%)	Area (sq km)
Banks	88 339	0.46	92 563	-1.01	59
Barton	87 590	-0.39	92 639	-0.93	38
Bennelong	92 761	5.49	94 606	1.17	58
Berowra	87 981	0.06	91 494	-2.15	707
Blaxland	89 308	1.57	92 680	-0.89	58
Bradfield	89 049	1.27	93 419	-0.10	93
Calare	88 122	0.22	92 016	-1.60	237 325

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Division	Actual	Var A (%)	Projected	Var P (%)	Area (sq km)
Charlton	87 768	-0.19	94 578	1.14	578
Chifley	88 304	0.42	94 709	1.28	76
Cook	90 039	2.40	94 269	0.81	164
Cowper	89 097	1.33	96 514	3.21	7 911
Cunningham	89 019	1.24	92 526	-1.05	496
Dobell	85 933	-2.27	94 262	0.81	886
Eden-Monaro	86 915	-1.16	93 941	0.46	37 619
Farrer	91 857	4.46	95 649	2.29	199 925
Fowler	85 969	-2.23	91 685	-1.95	247
Gilmore	83 932	-4.55	93 159	-0.37	5 529
Grayndler	91 269	3.80	91 567	-2.08	32
Greenway	81 882	-6.88	92 294	-1.30	2 886
Hughes	87 430	-0.57	92 489	-1.09	265
Hume	87 042	-1.01	93 074	-0.47	26 302
Hunter	86 102	-2.08	93 774	0.28	18 604
Kingsford Smith	92 714	5.44	95 627	2.27	60
Lindsay	87 110	-0.93	91 321	-2.34	269
Lowe	82 867	-5.76	91 279	-2.38	39
Lyne	83 055	-5.55	90 834	-2.86	9 039
Macarthur	80 209	-8.78	93 890	0.41	1 300
Mackellar	90 324	2.72	93 004	-0.54	210
Macquarie	91 621	4.20	95 690	2.33	12 084
Mitchell	81 786	-6.99	93 388	-0.13	129
Newcastle	90 318	2.71	95 690	2.33	335
New England	89 417	1.69	92 256	-1.34	58 463
North Sydney	89 087	1.31	92 484	-1.10	38
Page	90 018	2.37	94 557	1.12	16 091
Parkes	88 993	1.21	91 710	-1.92	107 108
Parramatta	91 942	4.56	95 621	2.26	63
Paterson	86 476	-1.65	95 935	2.59	9 373
Prospect	87 527	-0.46	93 037	-0.50	164
Reid	85 030	-3.30	92 667	-0.90	68
Richmond	85 240	-3.06	94 333	0.88	2 756
Riverina	89 396	1.67	94 179	0.72	42 201
Roberston	90 731	3.18	95 386	2.01	721
Shortland	90 067	2.43	94 490	1.05	182
Sydney	80 082	-8.93	90 459	-3.26	43
Throsby	85 578	-2.68	91 378	-2.28	485
Warringah	90 931	3.41	93 740	0.25	65
Watson	91 108	3.61	93 280	-0.24	37
Wentworth	95 467	8.57	96 209	2.89	30
Werriwa	85 793	-2.43	95 588	2.22	160
New South Wales	4 308 595		4 581 939		801 371

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Electoral Divisions of Calare, Cowper, Eden-Monaro, Farrer, Gilmore, Hume, Hunter, Lyne, New England, Page, Parkes, Paterson, Richmond and Riverina. The map is available in the [NSW Redistribution Final Report](#). [PDF 5,360kb]

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Electoral Divisions of Charlton, Dobell, Greenway, Macquarie, Newcastle, Robertson and Shortland.

The map is available in the [NSW Redistribution Final Report](#). [PDF 3,030kb]

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Electoral Divisions of Cook, Cunningham, Hughes, Macarthur, Throsby and Werriwa.
The map is available in the [NSW Redistribution Final Report](#). [PDF 5,370kb]

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Electoral Divisions of Banks, Barton, Bennelong, Berowa, Blaxland, Bradfield, Chifley, Fowler, Grayndler, Kingsford-Smith, Lindsay, Lowe, Mackellar, Mitchell, North Sydney, Parramatta, Prospect, Reid, Sydney, Warringah, Watson and Wentworth.

The map is available in the [NSW Redistribution Final Report](#). [PDF 2,600kb]

Steps in the 2006 New South Wales Redistribution Process

2 December 2005	Australian Electoral Commission directed the commencement of a redistribution in New South Wales. The quota of electors for each division was determined to be 87,931.
22 February 2006	Public suggestions and comments on public suggestions invited by Electoral Commissioner.
17 March 2006	Redistribution Committee for New South Wales appointed.
24 March 2006	Period for suggestions closed. The Redistribution Committee received 28 written suggestions from organisations and individuals.
7 April 2006	Period for comments on suggestions closed. The Redistribution Committee received 34 written comments on suggestions.
30 June 2006	Proposed redistribution published by Redistribution Committee and objections invited. Notice of the proposed redistribution was advertised in the <i>Commonwealth Gazette</i> on 30 June 2006, the <i>Sun Herald</i> and the <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> on 2 July 2006 and in regional newspapers from 4 July 2006.
28 July 2006	Period for objections to proposal closed. The Electoral Commission received 1,989 written objections to the redistribution proposal.
11 August 2006	Period for comments on objections closed. The Electoral Commission received 156 written comments on objections.
24 August 2006 and 25 August 2006	Public inquiries into objections held in Sydney and Narrabri by the augmented Electoral Commission for New South Wales.
13 September 2006	Public announcement by augmented Electoral Commission of its decision on final boundaries and names.
22 November 2006	The determination by the augmented Electoral Commission of final boundaries and names was gazetted.
30 November 2006	Report of the augmented Electoral Commission for New South Wales tabled in Commonwealth Parliament.

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