

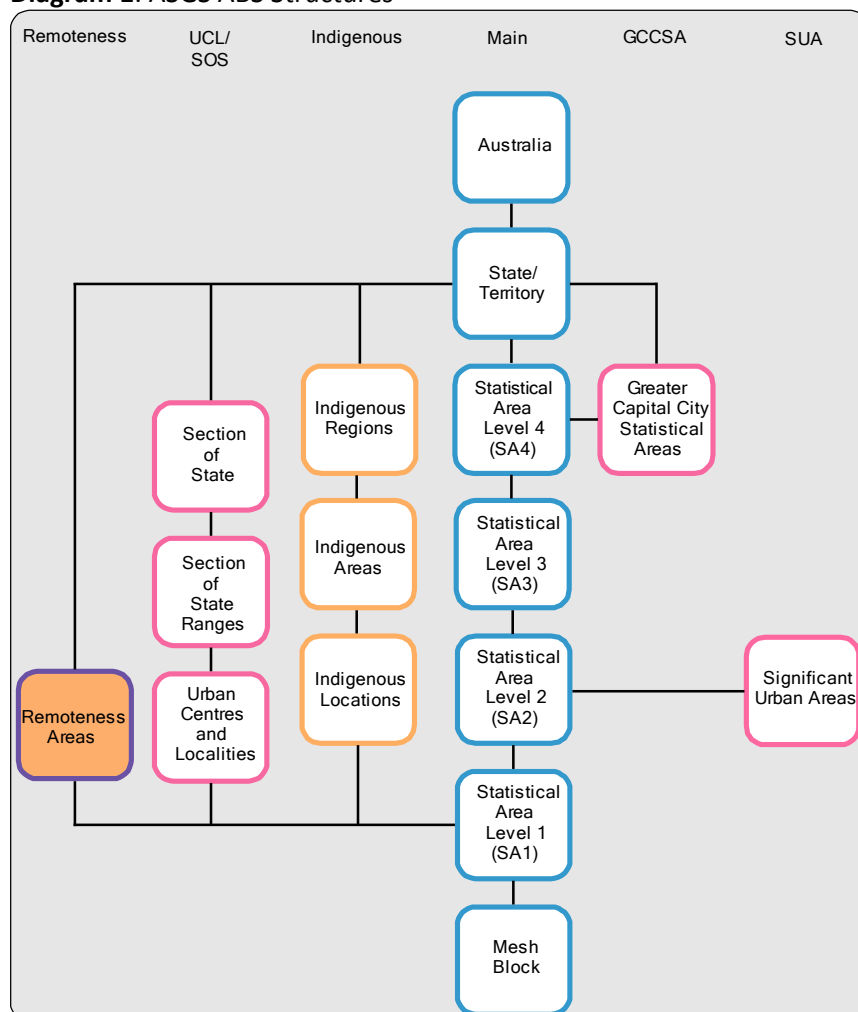
Remoteness Structure

What is the Remoteness Structure?

The Remoteness Structure is a geographic classification designed by the ABS. The purpose of the Remoteness Structure is to divide Australia into broad geographic regions that share common characteristics of remoteness for statistical purposes, for example, release of statistics for different Remoteness Areas (RAs). The Remoteness Structure is one of six definitions that form the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). Each structure is designed to suit different statistical purposes, with the Remoteness Structure being composed of RAs.

Diagram 1 illustrates how the Remoteness Structure relates to other ABS Structures.

Diagram 1: ASGS ABS Structures



How does the ABS design Remoteness Areas?

RAs are based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+) which is supplied to the ABS by the University of Adelaide. The index is supplied as a one kilometre grid covering all of Australia. Each grid point is allocated a value which is based on the measurement of road distances to service centres. The ASGS Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) are then overlayed onto the grid and an average score is calculated based upon the grid points that are contained within each SA1. The resulting average score determines which remoteness category is allocated to each SA1.

Table 1: 2011 Remoteness Areas of Australia

RA Category	RA Name	SA1 Average ARIA+ Value Ranges
0	Major Cities of Australia	0 to 0.2
1	Inner Regional Australia	greater than 0.2 and less than or equal to 2.4
2	Outer Regional Australia	greater than 2.4 and less than or equal to 5.92
3	Remote Australia	greater than 5.92 and less than or equal to 10.53
4	Very Remote Australia	greater than 10.53
5	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping	
9	No usual address	

Impact of using SA1s to design Remoteness Areas

For 2011 the Remoteness Areas have been built from whole SA1s, which contrasts with 2001 and 2006 Remoteness Areas which were built using whole Census Collection Districts (CCDs). However, the impact of this change in the base geography is considered to be minimal. This is due to there being no substantial change in the methodology used to define the Remoteness Areas. Therefore in most cases it is possible to make a valid comparison of the same Remoteness Area across Censuses. When undertaking such comparisons it should be noted that:

- Remoteness is dynamic. Remoteness generally declines over time as new services are built and the road network is improved.
- The regions from which they are built (CCDs in 2001 and 2006, and SA1s in 2011) also change with the underlying settlement pattern.

2011 Urban Centres and Localities that have changed Remoteness Area when compared to 2006

For 2011 there are 102 Urban Centres and Localities (UCLs) where the RA category has changed when compared to 2006. 49 UCLs have decreased in remoteness, whereas 53 UCLs have increased in remoteness. The complete lists of UCLs that have changed remoteness are in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2. The map below illustrates the differences in boundaries between RA 2006 and RA 2011.

Where can I find Remoteness Area Boundaries?

2011 Remoteness Area boundaries are available in Mapinfo Interchange and ESRI Shapefile formats and can be downloaded from the 'ABS Geography Publications' chapter of the ABS Statistical Geography website: <http://www.abs.gov.au/geography>

Alternatively, Remoteness Area digital boundaries are available through the 'Downloads' tab of the ASGS Remoteness Structure online publication: [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\): Volume 5 - Remoteness Structure, July 2011](#) (cat. no. 1270.0.55.005).

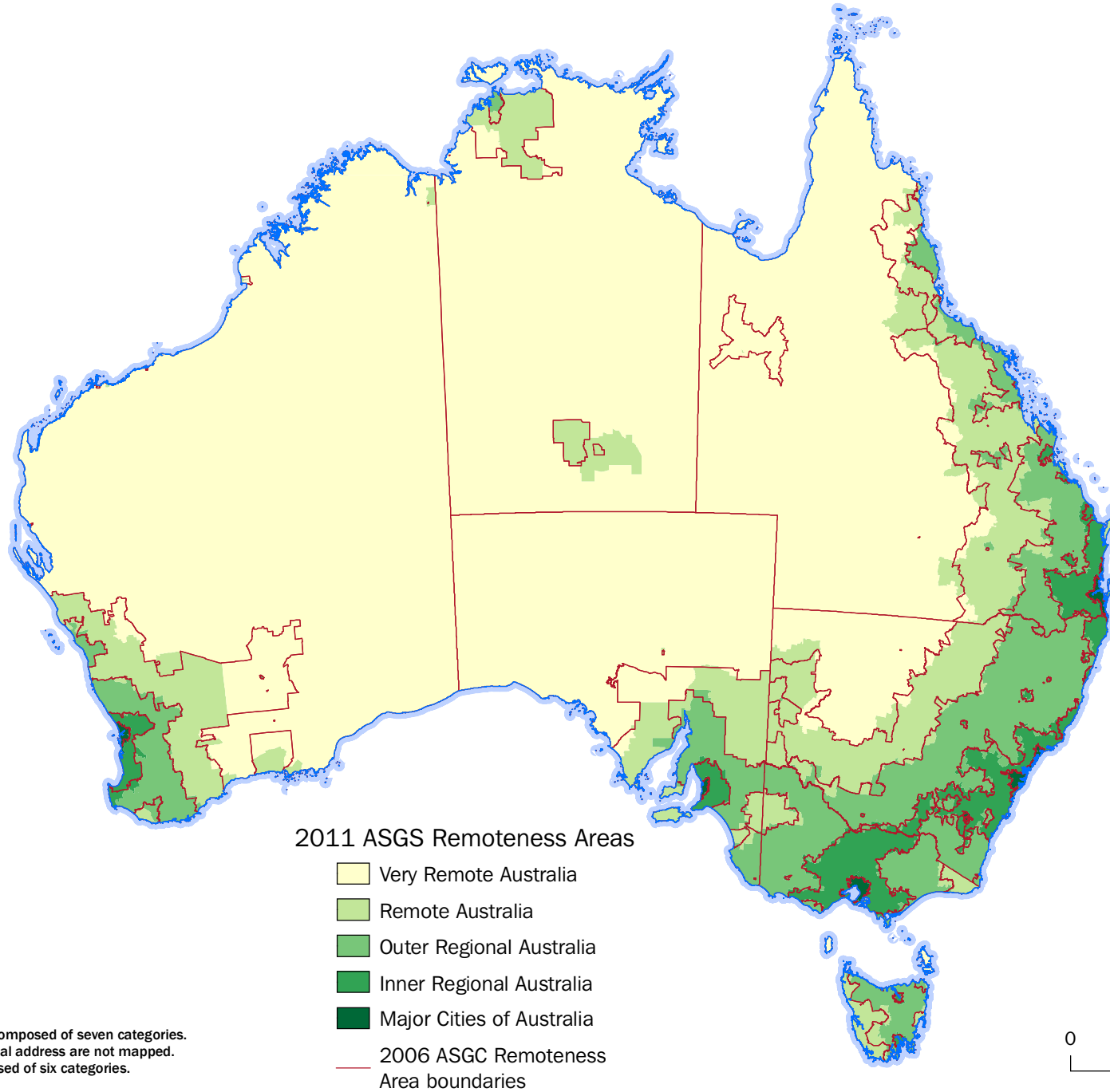
Where can I get further information?

More information on the ASGS and ABS Statistical Geography can be found by visiting the ABS website: <http://www.abs.gov.au/geography>

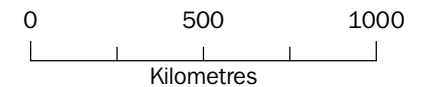
Any questions or comments can be emailed to geography@abs.gov.au

Comparison of Remoteness Structures

2006 & 2011 Remoteness Area boundaries



Note: The ASGS Remoteness Structure is composed of seven categories. Migratory - Offshore - Shipping and No usual address are not mapped. The ASGC Remoteness Structure is composed of six categories. Migratory is not mapped.
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Appendix 1. 2011 UCLs that have decreased in remoteness category when compared to 2006

UCL_CODE_2011	UCL_NAME_2011	RA_CODE_2006	RA_CODE_2011
122016	Binalong (L)	12	11
121019	Cobbitty (L)	11	10
122039	Coomba Park (L)	12	11
115061	Finley	12	11
115064	Freemans Reach	11	10
121052	Jilliby (L)	11	10
122091	Manning Point (L)	12	11
113014	Morisset - Cooranbong	11	10
122117	Patonga (L)	11	10
122141	Telegraph Point (L)	12	11
121118	Wallalong (L)	11	10
122168	Yarramundi (L)	11	10
215012	Blind Bight	21	20
222089	Rawson (L)	22	21
222102	Strathmerton (L)	22	21
214019	Wallan	21	20
321069	Logan Village (L)	31	30
313006	Nambour	31	30
315079	Palmwoods	31	30
315089	Samford Valley - Highvale	31	30
321096	Samford Village (L)	31	30
314018	Sandstone Point - Ningi	31	30
314019	Tamborine Mountain	31	30
321106	Texas (L)	33	32
321119	Woodgate (L)	32	31
422023	Hawker (L)	43	42
421030	One Tree Hill (L)	41	40
421036	Port Wakefield (L)	42	41
421041	Uraidla - Summertown (L)	41	40
521002	Augusta (L)	52	51
522001	Balingup (L)	52	51
521007	Boddington - Ranford (L)	52	51
515002	Bridgetown	52	51
521014	Cardup (L)	51	50
521018	Cowaramup (L)	52	51
515006	Dampier	54	53
521023	Gingin (L)	52	51
521024	Gnarabup - Prevelly (L)	52	51
521030	Kambalda East (L)	53	52
514003	Margaret River	52	51
521042	Mundijong (L)	51	50
522048	Point Samson (L)	54	53
521051	Roebourne (L)	54	53

522053	Upper Swan (L)	51	50
522054	Walpole (L)	53	52
522062	Wyalkatchem (L)	53	52
622001	Bagdad (L)	62	61
615005	Dodges Ferry - Lewisham	62	61
722028	Titjikala (L)	74	73

Note: (L) indicates a locality.

Appendix 2. 2011 UCLs that have increased in remoteness category when compared to 2006

UCL_CODE_2011	UCL_NAME_2011	RA_CODE_2006	RA_CODE_2011
121007	Berridale (L)	11	12
115025	Bourke	13	14
121012	Brewarrina (L)	13	14
122034	Cargo (L)	11	12
115095	Lake Cargelligo	12	13
121063	Lawrence (L)	11	12
122088	Lyndhurst (L)	11	12
121070	Medlow Bath (L)	10	11
122095	Menindee (L)	13	14
122097	Moonbi (L)	11	12
121083	Mulgoa (L)	10	11
121087	Nords Wharf (L)	10	11
122114	Oxford (L)	10	11
121100	Rylstone (L)	11	12
122133	Stanwell Tops (L)	10	11
115142	Uralla	11	12
115143	Urunga	11	12
121123	Wongarbon (L)	11	12
122164	Woodstock (L)	11	12
222004	Baw Baw Village (L)	21	22
222008	Beulah (L)	22	23
221010	Briagolong (L)	21	22
215053	Mortlake	21	22
221068	Tallangatta (L)	21	22
315017	Charleville	33	34
315018	Cherbourg	31	32
322137	Chillagoe (L)	33	34
322033	Dirranbandi (L)	33	34
322035	Duaringa (L)	32	33
322038	Erakala (L)	31	32
322041	Farleigh (L)	31	32
322055	Hideaway Bay - Dingo Beach (L)	32	33
322059	Injune (L)	33	34
315046	Jimboomba	30	31
322065	Lamb Island (L)	31	32
321077	Mitchell (L)	33	34
322087	Nebo (L)	32	33
315088	Russell Island	31	32
322121	Trebonne (L)	32	33
315098	Walkerston	31	32
321122	Yarraman (L)	31	32
422016	Clarendon (L)	40	41
412002	Mount Gambier	41	42

415047	Willunga	40	41
521016	Coolgardie (L)	53	54
521043	Norseman (L)	53	54
615010	Latrobe	61	62
621019	Richmond (L) (Tas.)	61	62
621020	Rosebery (L)	62	63
622038	Tullah (L)	62	63
722007	Batchelor (L)	72	73
722021	Naiiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) (L)	73	74
715008	Wadeye	73	74

Note: (L) indicates a locality.