

# ACT regional overview Developmental vulnerability by AEDC Community (region)

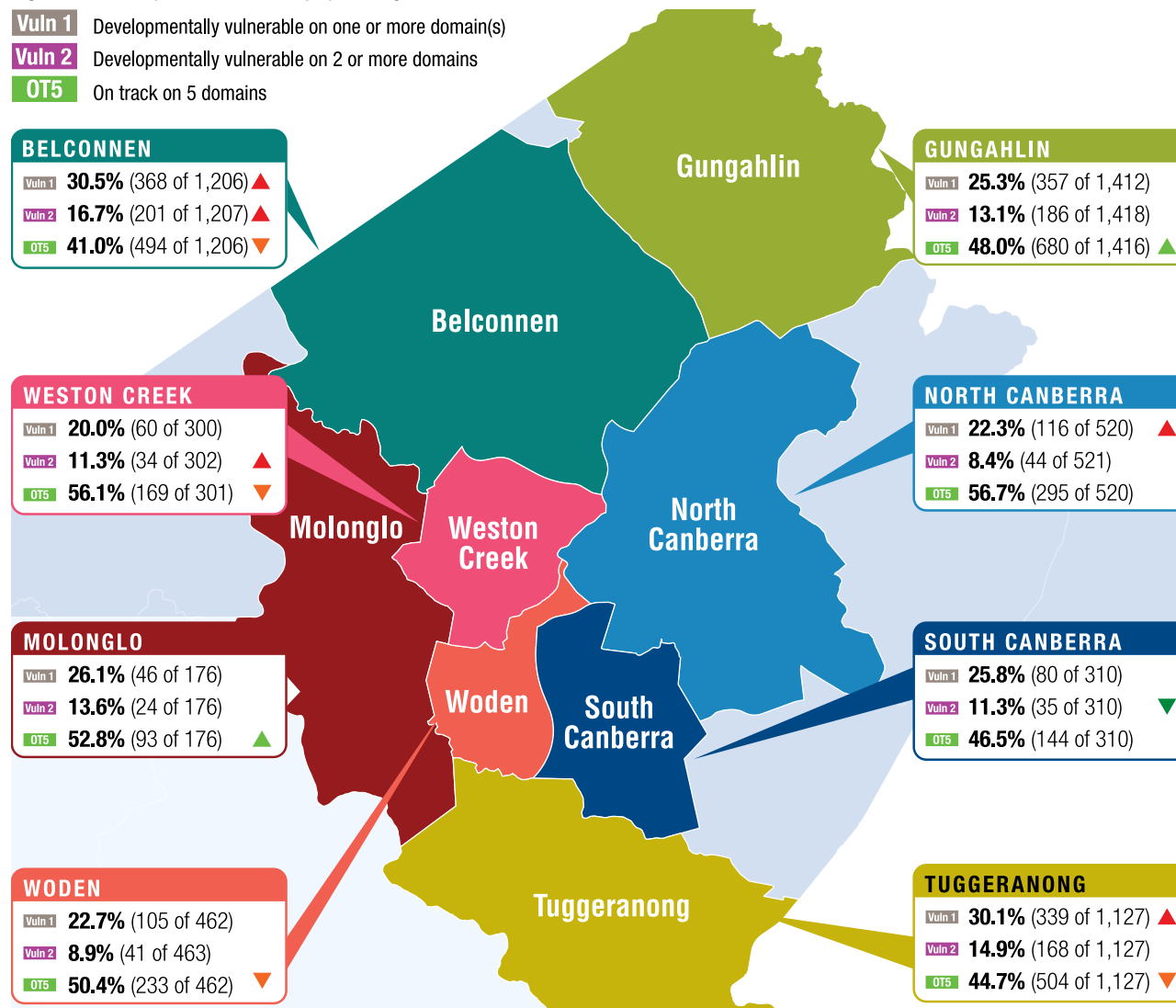
The AEDC reports data for 8 regions of the ACT: Belconnen, Gungahlin, Molonglo, North Canberra, South Canberra, Tuggeranong, Weston Creek and Woden.

AEDC publications refer to the ACT regions which are geographic areas, usually equivalent to a Local Government Area (LGA) as AEDC communities (e.g., on the AEDC website and national report). AEDC data is also collected for children living in the ACT but outside the 8 ACT regions in 'Regional ACT'. Due to small numbers, data for 'Regional ACT' is not provided in this report. The Molonglo region is still a developing area with the population expected to continue increasing across the next AEDC cycles. Further information on the local communities (suburbs or small area localities) within these ACT regions/AEDC communities can be found in community profiles and online maps from the AEDC website [www.aedc.gov.au](http://www.aedc.gov.au).

AEDC data show that Belconnen and Tuggeranong regions had the highest percentages of children developmentally vulnerable in 2021. In these regions, almost a third of children were developmentally vulnerable on one or more domain(s) and more than one in 7 were developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more domains (Figure 15).

The most populated regions of Belconnen, Tuggeranong and Gungahlin had the largest numbers of children developmentally vulnerable in 2021, with the majority of all children in the ACT who were developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more domains located in these 3 regions (Figure 15).

**Figure 15:** Developmental vulnerability by ACT region, 2021



Significance key for changes 2018 to 2021

▲ Significant increase (development worsening used for Vuln1, Vuln2, and vulnerable in domains)  
 ▼ Significant decrease (development improving used for Vuln1, Vuln2, and vulnerable in domains)

▲ Significant increase (development improving used for OT5, and on track in domains)  
 ▼ Significant decrease (development worsening used for OT5, and on track in domains)

The percentage of children who are developmentally vulnerable on one or more domain(s) has increased significantly in 2021 compared to 2018 in the Belconnen, North Canberra and Tuggeranong regions. Over the same time period, there was a significant increase in the percentage of children developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more domains in Belconnen, South Canberra and Weston Creek (Figure 15).

There has been a significant decrease since 2018 in the percentage of children developmentally on track on 5 domains in the Belconnen, Tuggeranong, Weston Creek and Woden regions as compared to 2021. While

Gungahlin saw a significant increase across this time in the percentage of children developmentally on track on 5 domains (Figure 15).

The ACT Community Services Directorate (CSD) is planning to present further trend analysis of the ACT regions to ACT stakeholders, schools, ECECs and the community groups throughout the second half of 2022.

We will release a time series module in early 2023 covering detailed trend analysis within the ACT context developed in partnership with ACT stakeholders and the community, for more information or to be involved contact the ACT AEDC Coordinator at [aedc@act.gov.au](mailto:aedc@act.gov.au).



## A Village for Every Child Belconnen

### A Village for Every Child (A Village) is located in Belconnen (ACT).

A Village is an initiative that aims to identify issues facing young families and transform early childhood systems across Belconnen. The Village initiative is jointly funded and supported by the local community services sector and the ACT Government.

It is being approached collaboratively with families, communities, child and family support providers and government agencies to identify and address the issues facing families with young children.

By working together using a collective impact framework the community is stronger, more connected and better placed to meet the needs of children and families.

The percentage of children developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more domains in Belconnen has been steadily increasing across the last 3 AEDC cycles (2015: 12.1%, 2018: 14.3%, 2021: 16.7%).

It is hoped that by focussing collectively on supporting children and their families in this region that we will begin to reverse this trend.

# AEDC summary indicators

**Table 11** Summary indicators

Cat.	Sub-cat.	OT5										Vuln 1										Vuln 2									
		2009		2012		2015		2018		2021		2009		2012		2015		2018		2021		2009		2012		2015		2018		2021	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
ACT		2,127	50.8	2,332	50.6	2,556	49.5	2,667	48.7	2,615	▼47.3	927	22.2	1,010	22.0	1,161	22.5	1,350	24.6	1,474	▲26.7	456	10.9	454	9.8	531	10.3	680	12.4	735	▲13.3
Australia		125,130	50.7	146,362	53.6	155,238	54.2	162,440	55.4	157,436	▼54.8	58,036	23.6	59,933	22.0	62,960	22.0	63,448	21.7	63,264	▲22.0	29,227	11.8	29,543	10.8	31,754	11.1	32,434	11.0	32,718	▲11.4
Region	Belconnen	520	49.0	607	49.3	618	47.5	598	47.4	494	▼41.0	246	23.2	268	21.9	327	25.1	333	26.4	368	▲30.5	131	12.3	123	10.0	158	12.1	180	14.3	201	▲16.7
	Gungahlin	370	50.5	399	46.3	609	52.5	595	44.6	680	▲48.0	173	23.6	192	22.3	266	23.0	331	24.8	357	25.3	77	10.5	88	10.2	113	9.8	158	11.8	186	13.1
	Molonglo	-	-	-	-	17	58.6	49	43.8	93	▲52.8	-	-	-	-	6	20.7	23	20.5	46	26.1	-	-	-	-	4	13.8	14	12.5	24	13.6
	Nth Canberra	190	46.7	212	49.6	256	52.9	272	53.8	295	56.7	93	22.9	75	17.7	94	19.4	92	18.2	116	▲22.3	48	11.8	36	8.4	45	9.3	46	9.1	44	8.4
	Sth Canberra	131	58.0	163	62.7	145	55.1	132	45.7	144	46.5	28	12.4	52	20.2	52	19.8	82	28.4	80	25.8	15	6.6	28	10.8	20	7.6	46	15.9	35	▼11.3
	Tuggeranong	568	49.7	576	50.8	523	46.2	556	47.6	504	▼44.7	256	22.4	278	24.6	247	21.8	316	27.0	339	▲30.1	117	10.2	126	11.1	111	9.8	163	13.9	168	14.9
	Weston Ck	147	50.9	149	49.0	164	53.9	198	62.7	169	▼56.1	80	27.9	67	22.0	61	20.1	52	16.5	60	20.0	45	15.5	24	7.9	34	11.1	17	5.4	34	▲11.3
	Woden	215	58.9	222	58.0	221	45.8	264	54.3	233	▼50.4	65	17.8	77	20.2	106	22.0	118	24.3	105	22.7	30	8.2	29	7.6	44	9.1	54	11.1	41	8.9
Sex	Male	900	42.0	1,018	43.0	1,035	40.2	1,140	41.2	1,082	▼38.8	621	29.0	663	28.1	755	29.4	879	31.7	952	▲34.2	324	15.1	332	14.0	388	15.1	481	17.4	515	▲18.5
	Female	1,227	60.1	1,314	58.6	1,521	58.7	1,527	56.3	1,533	56.0	306	15.0	347	15.5	406	15.7	471	17.4	522	▲19.1	132	6.5	122	5.4	143	5.5	199	7.3	220	8.0

\* Molonglo: 2009 and 2012 data are not available due to it being a new region.

## Significance key for changes 2018 to 2021

- ▲ **Significant increase**  
(development worsening used for Vuln1, Vuln2, and vulnerable in domains)
- ▲ **Significant increase**  
(development improving used for OT5, and on track in domains)
- ▲ **Significant increase**  
(used for developmentally at risk)

- ▼ **Significant decrease**  
(development improving used for Vuln1, Vuln2, and vulnerable in domains)
- ▼ **Significant decrease**  
(development worsening used for OT5, and on track in domains)
- ▼ **Significant decrease**  
(used for developmentally at risk)

*Note* At risk significance symbols have not been colour coded as any changes should be interpreted in context with changes in the percentage of children who are vulnerable and on track.