

Measuring the Australian Night-Time Economy 2025

A project for the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors

July 2025



ABOUT THE DATA USED IN THIS REPORT

The Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM) have been commissioning this annual analysis to measure the size of the Australian Night-Time Economy (NTE) since 2012, with data available since 2009. The NTE is defined as economic activity occurring between 6pm and 6am and is split into Core, Non-Core and Supply sectors, with reports historically focusing on the Core NTE, comprising Food, Drink and Leisure & Entertainment (consumption) businesses. Last year the report’s remit was expanded to include retail (grocery and non-grocery) and accommodation (a sub-set of the Non-Core NTE), to reflect the growing diversity of NTE activities in Australian cities.

This report provides detailed economic performance data for the latest financial year for which official data is available (2023/24). The report also includes data and maps relating to opening hours and clustering of businesses, using a snapshot of business activity data from April 2025. Further detail on the methodology and data sources used in this document can be found in the Appendix. Economic data has been prepared for 88 Australian cities and is summarised in Table 5 on p117 of the Appendix.

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Clover Moore AO

Lord Mayor of Sydney
CCCLM Chair 2025

CCCLM Chair's foreword

A thriving night-time economy is vital to the social, cultural and economic health of Australia's capital cities. We need to ensure our cities continue to come alive after dark, supporting local businesses and enriching urban life.

This important sector not only fosters more dynamic and inclusive cities, it also delivers significant and crucial economic value, providing tens of thousands of jobs and driving tourism.

But our nightlife is facing significant challenges. The legacy of the Covid-19 pandemic continues to shape when and how people engage with cities after dark. Cost of living pressures, access to skilled workers, operational costs and shifting consumer behaviour are increasingly pressing issues.

As city councils juggle regulatory frameworks, infrastructure needs and community expectations to best shape successful night-time economies, we need to understand what support is working and where it is needed most.

Measuring the Australian Night-Time Economy 2025 provides a comprehensive overview of how night-life is evolving across Australia's capital cities. This significant report draws on business activity, employment trends and policy responses to offer a clear picture of both the strengths and the stress points of our night-time sectors.

There has been a welcome resurgence in some sectors of the night-time economy in our capital cities, with creative and performing arts businesses now exceeding pre-pandemic levels and sports and physical recreation venues on the rise, signalling an expansion of night-time offerings beyond food and drink. While weekends remain key for nightlife, in more than 50 per cent of cities analysed, Thursday was a new peak evening for the number of businesses open.

And while over 15,000 new jobs were created in 2023/24, this growth is not spread evenly across the sector. Food and drink venues, long the cornerstone of nightlife, have seen thousands of jobs disappear.

Across the country, city leaders are rethinking regulations, activating precincts, investing in programming, and upgrading infrastructure to support a more adaptive and resilient after-dark economy. But it is clear that the state and federal governments need to provide more cost-of-living relief, particularly around the affordability of housing and higher education, so that young people can work in and enjoy our bars, clubs and restaurants within our cities.

We understand the challenges we face but stand ready to meet those challenges head on. This report will help inform more local government efforts to keep our cities alive, connected and prosperous – well into the night.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics – the national provider of official government statistics.
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification – a method of classifying establishments to a standardised set of industries
Employment	The number of employees associated with the establishment(s). Elements of charts and infographics relating to employment throughout this report are coloured red.
Establishment(s)	Actively trading business(es) recorded in the Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register (ABSBR) as at 30 th June in each reporting year. Elements of charts and infographics relating to establishments throughout this report are coloured blue.
LGA	Local Government Area – the municipal geographic area of a local council.
Non-employing business	A business that holds an Australian Business Number (ABN) and is registered for Goods and Service Tax (GST) that does not employ any individuals outside of its directors or sole proprietors.
NTE	Night-Time Economy – economic activity which occurs at establishments primarily between the hours of 6pm and 6am. The NTE can be broken down into Core, Non-Core and Supply as per the table below. The focus of this report is the Core NTE.
SA2	Statistical Area 2 – An ABS geographic area classification defined using the Census of Population and Housing.
Turnover (\$m)	The sales and service income generated by the establishment(s), exclusive of goods and service tax (GST). Elements of charts and infographics relating to turnover throughout this report are coloured green.
Sector	Description
Core NTE	Economic activity occurring at establishments that provide services to leisure users – mainly between 6pm and 6am. The Core NTE is split into sub-sectors of Drink , Leisure & Entertainment and Food and then further sub-divided by specific activity types.
Food	Establishments primarily offering meals, snacks or other food services for on-site consumption, takeaway or delivery. This includes cafés, restaurants, and fast-food outlets.
Drink	Establishments focused on the sale and consumption of beverages, including pubs, bars, taverns, and liquor retailers
Entertainment	Venues and activities offering cultural, artistic, sporting or recreational experiences. This includes cinemas, live music venues, theatres, gaming venues, gyms, sporting and physical recreation centres, amusement and gaming venues, clubs, racing venues, and sex industry services.
Non-Core NTE	Economic activity occurring at establishments that may operate across the 24-hour day, some of which provide integral services to Core NTE leisure activities. These include public and private transport, hotels and other accommodation, retail services, policing, health, parking, and lighting.
Retail & Accommodation	A subset of Non-Core NTE establishments covering Retail (both Food and Retail/Other) and Accommodation. Please see Table 3 in the Appendix for more detail.
Supply NTE	Supply NTE establishments tend to operate during the day but are part of the Core NTE supply chain via the production or wholesaling of Food, Drink or Entertainment products for resale in leisure outlets.
Non-NTE	This refers to all the other economic activity within a defined geography that is outside the NTE definition.
Total Economy	This is the sum of all economic activity within a defined geography.

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Highlights from the report



133,680

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)

More night-time businesses
opened in 2023/24

Australia's Core night-time economy continued to grow, with 2% more venues trading:

- Cafés and restaurants led the way, adding 1,445 businesses.
- Australians gained 427 sports and physical recreation businesses.
- The number of pubs, taverns and bars decreased by 48 businesses.



1.1m

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)

Jobs are growing – but not all
industries are keeping pace

Almost 15,000 new jobs were added to the core night-time economy:

- Leisure & entertainment gained 25,030 employees.
- The number of Food jobs fell by 6,650, despite more venues opening.
- Pubs and liquor retailing continued the decline in employment, with the loss of 3,660 roles.



\$188bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)

Sales turnover is up – though
growth varies by industry

Core NTE Sales turnover continues to rise, with an 8% annual increase in 2023/24 (+\$14bn):

- The Food sub-sector performed well, with cafés and restaurants up \$6bn (+9%), and takeaway food services up \$2bn (+7%).
- Sports and physical recreation activities increased by \$2.3bn (+12%).
- Creative and performing arts activities saw a more modest increase of \$370m (+4%).

Top NTE insights in 2025

Australia's night-time economy continues to evolve. While key metrics like employment, and venue numbers are growing nationally, the data shows this growth is uneven. Shifts in consumer behaviour, trading patterns, and city-led initiatives are reshaping the night.

These are five insights from the data this year.

1

Leisure & entertainment has returned

- *Creative and performing arts businesses are on the rise, with employment in this sub-sector now above pre-pandemic levels.*
- *Sports and physical recreation venues are also growing, pointing to broader night-time offerings beyond hospitality.*

2

Weeknight trading leads the way

- *While weekends remain key for nightlife, in more than half of the 16 cities analysed, Thursday was the peak evening for the number of Core NTE businesses open – in many cases Wednesday is also popular for post-6pm trading*

3

More jobs, but not for everyone

- *More than 15,000 new jobs were created across the night-time economy in 2023/24.*
- *Leisure and entertainment saw strong growth, yet food and drink venue employment declined.*

4

Hospitality under pressure

- *Pubs, taverns and bars hit their highest employment in 2018 (118,440) but have since declined by 10,000 jobs (-8%).*
- *Employment in the Food sub-sector fell by 0.9% in 2023/24, with 6,650 fewer jobs across cafes, restaurants & takeaways.*

5

Councils are getting creative in supporting their NTEs

- *Cities are investing in the night through regulation reform, precinct activation, programming and infrastructure.*
- *These initiatives are helping precincts to adapt to new patterns of demand and use.*

The sixteen councils participating in this research are implementing a range of initiatives to support their NTEs:

Strategic vision & planning

Cities are embedding night-time priorities in long-term plans, with new 24-hour or night-time economy strategies underway in [Willoughby](#), [Penrith](#) and [Newcastle](#), for example.

Governance & coordination

Councils are strengthening coordination through advisory groups and leadership roles. [Canberra](#) has a dedicated minister, while [Brisbane](#) created a Nighttime Economy Advisory Group within Council's Small Business Roundtable group.

Public realm & place activation

Cities are enhancing streetscapes with lighting, seating, art and laneway upgrades. Improvements in [Darwin](#), [Maribyrnong](#) and [Launceston](#) create safer, more attractive environments for evening activity and local business.

Outdoor dining & hospitality

Footpath trading, parklets and dining deck trials extend hospitality offerings into the evening. Initiatives in [Sydney](#), [Moonee Valley](#), and [Perth](#) create more flexible and welcoming street-level experiences.

Transport & mobility

Transport initiatives include micromobility, loading zones and night parking incentives. Cities such as [Canberra](#), [Darwin](#), [Hornsby](#) and [Penrith](#) are improving access, and supporting movement after dark.

Business & industry support

Cities provide workshops, networking events and campaign partnerships. [Sydney's](#) Reboot series, [Canberra's](#) Artist Database and [Melbourne's](#) twilight trade initiative help businesses adapt to new trading patterns and reach evening audiences.

Grants & funding programs

Councils support their night-time economies through grants, sponsorships and in-kind contributions. For example, [Adelaide](#) and [Brisbane](#) funded events and activations, while [Parramatta](#) delivered a night-time creative economy grants program.

Events & festival activation

Evening events drive visitation and boost trade. Illuminate [Adelaide](#), [Parramatta](#) Lanes and [Melbourne's](#) Firelight Festival, are among many council-backed events and festivals animating precincts with music, food and performance.

Creative & cultural support

Councils support live performance and local creatives through festivals, fee reductions, artist databases and public art programs. For example, [Moonee Valley](#), [Hornsby](#), [Adelaide](#), [Hobart](#) and [Willoughby](#) actively nurture culture and creativity.

Marketing & destination promotion

Cities run campaigns to boost night-time visitation. [Melbourne's](#) "Only in the City", [Maribyrnong's](#) "Love Your West" and [Hobart's](#) "Hello Hobart" promote events, precincts and businesses throughout the year.

Safety & residential amenity

Lighting, cameras, planning and campaigns can support safer nights. [Perth's](#) "See it, Say it", [Newcastle's](#) noise standards, [Parramatta's](#) Late Night Trading and [Hornsby's](#) Special Entertainment Precinct trial all address safety and amenity.

Data & evaluation

Cities are investing in data collection to guide strategy. [Launceston's](#) business activity survey, and [Darwin](#) and [Hobart's](#) data dashboards provide effective performance tracking to ensure NTE initiatives are targeted and responsive to local needs.

Introduction

This report provides the latest insights into the state of, and the trends within, Australia's NTE.

Economic data is based on [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) data up to the 2023/24 financial year, providing consistent longitudinal tracking of [comparative NTE economic performance](#) at a local government, state/territory and national level.

This analysis is complemented by [data drawn from Google Maps](#) in April 2025, allowing [more granular analysis of business activity](#) – both geographically and temporally to support NTE policymaking at a local level.

The report begins with an overview of the trends in the economic performance of Australia's night-time industries, followed by a summary of trends in the states and territories. It then provides detailed analysis for each of the sixteen participating city councils*.

The analysis of change in this report serves as an invaluable resource for all stakeholders concerned with developing and implementing both established and emerging policy steps in the NTE agenda.

* If your council would like to take part in future iterations of this research, please contact CCCLM via nte@lordmayors.org.

In 2025, many CBD businesses are benefitting from targeted council investments in public space activation, safety, lighting and transport, helping to boost footfall and confidence after dark.

States and territories are stepping up their investment in night-time and 24-hour economies. For example:

- New South Wales Government continues to lead through the [Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner](#) and [Minister for Night Time Economy](#).
- The ACT Government has established a dedicated [Minister for the Night-Time Economy](#) portfolio to oversee a suite of NTE reforms.
- The Queensland Government appointed a [Night-Life Economy Commissioner](#) and [Expert panel](#) to revitalise its NTE.

At a national level, the [National Urban Policy](#) recognises the value of night-time activity as part of Australia's urban future, explicitly listing night-time economy revenue as a data point in its national performance framework and positioning vibrant, welcoming cities as central to achieving liveable, inclusive and economically productive urban places.



Businesses and consumer trends

Australia's NTE continues to operate within a complex and shifting [economic environment](#).

Many NTE businesses are feeling the pinch of rising costs and subdued household spending. While real wages are rising gradually, it is likely to be 2030 before workers regain their pre-pandemic [purchasing power](#). Although inflation is easing and interest rate cuts are anticipated later in 2025, [costs remain elevated](#) across the board - from energy, rent, and wages to insurance and ingredients.

Nearly one in ten Australian [hospitality and food services businesses closed](#) in the year to March 2025, reflecting broader pressures on sectors reliant on discretionary spending.

Despite this, cautious optimism remains. The [household saving ratio](#) increased to 3.8%, in the last quarter of 2024, suggesting that households may increase consumption as conditions stabilise.

Another challenge that the industry continues to face is a shortage of skilled workers. For example, the [priority skills](#) lists a shortage of Chefs in every state and territory, while over 6,500 [chef roles](#) were advertised nationally as of April 2025. This scarcity reflects persistent issues such as skill mismatches, low wages and challenging working conditions.

In addition to cost-of-living pressures and staff shortages, the hospitality sector is being shaped by increased digital engagement, as well as consumer preferences for wellness and sustainability.

Technology - particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI) - is playing a growing role in hospitality operations. It is estimated that 65% of restaurant [operators use AI](#) to assist with tasks such as marketing, customer service and data analytics. Furthermore, a strong online presence remains essential, with Australians using digital platforms such as [Google](#) and [social media](#) to discover where to eat, drink and go out. Consumer choices are also being shaped by user-generated content and paid [influencer](#) marketing.

Consumers are increasingly prioritising **health and wellbeing**. Many venues now offer non-alcoholic beverages and healthier menu options. [Non-alcoholic](#) beer now makes up 10% of all beer sales nationally, and non-alcoholic wine sales rose 15% in 2023, and the global [no- and low-alcohol drinks](#) market is projected to keep growing.

Experience-led venues continue to grow in popularity. Consumers are seeking immersive or personalised experiences - such as themed bars, live entertainment, or proximity to markets, galleries, or music events. Some businesses are also combining hospitality with other functions - for example, [co-working spaces](#) that double as cafés or event venues.

Consumers now expect venues to demonstrate **sustainable practices**, with many consumers favouring venues that minimise waste and environmental impact. Initiatives such as [End Food Waste Australia's](#) cafés and catering Sector Action Plans (SAPs) aim to help businesses halve food waste by 2030.

A [federal inquiry](#) into Australia's **live music sector** has found that the sector is under pressure from rising costs - including insurance, declining venue numbers, and changing audience behaviours. Young audiences are attending fewer events, and late ticket purchases are creating financial uncertainty. Market dominance by large corporations is limiting opportunities for local artists, prompting calls for reform.

The latest data, however, shows that Australia's live performance sector [bounced back](#) in 2023, surpassing pre-pandemic records in both attendance (30 million) and revenue (\$3.1 billion). Contemporary music remains the dominant force, accounting for nearly half of all ticket sales revenue and audience numbers, with strong growth also seen in comedy, musical theatre and festivals. The return of major international tours, such as Coldplay and Cirque du Soleil, helped fuel this resurgence, though ticket price increases also played a role in boosting revenue.

The State of Australia's Night-Time Economy

After a period of strong growth, the number of Core NTE establishments in Australia grew modestly between 2022/23 and 2023/24, increasing by just 1.8%. This was driven by growth in both the Food (+1,580 / +2.0%), and Leisure & Entertainment sector (+822 establishments / +2.0%), while Drink establishments remained relatively static (-7 / -0.1%).

Employment in the Core NTE rose by 15,020 (+1.4%) over the same period, reaching just over 1.1 million people. This compares to a 2% rise in total employment across Australia during the same period. Leisure & Entertainment recorded strong employment growth (+25,030 / +9%), reflecting a resurgence to pre-pandemic levels of audience-based and event-driven activity. In contrast, Food sector employment fell by 6,650 (-0.9%) despite the growth in business numbers. This suggests a shift in operating models, or ongoing workforce shortages.

Sales turnover across the Core NTE rose by \$14bn (+8%), led by a strong gain in the Food sub-sector and a recovery in Leisure & Entertainment (both +8%), while Drink sales turnover increased +5%.




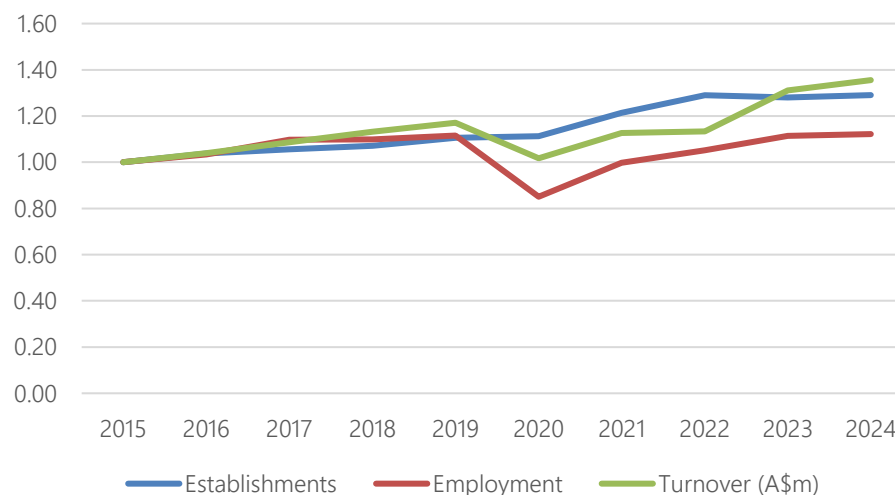
Measure	# Core NTE FY24 % Change FY23-24	% Total Economy
 Establishments	133,680 +2%	5%
 Employment	1,127,380 +1%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$188bn +8%	4%

Figure 1: Indexed trend in Core NTE (2015 = 1.0) across key metrics (inflation adjusted)



Sub-sectoral performance

Leisure & Entertainment

Establishments in Leisure & Entertainment grew by 2% between 2023 and 2024, adding 822 venues. Within this sub-sector, increases were seen across most categories, particularly sports and physical recreation (+4% / 427 businesses), and performing arts (+1.5% / +297 businesses). This expansion was reflected even more strongly in employment, which rose by 9% - an increase of 25,030 jobs.

Food













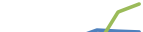
Food establishments rose by 2%, with a 3% increase in cafes and restaurants (+1,445 businesses) and an increase of 0.5% in takeaway food services (+135 businesses). Employment in the Food sub-sector fell by 0.9%, however, with 6,650 fewer jobs across the two categories.

Drink

The number of Drink establishments remained stable overall (-0.1% change), with a small rise in liquor retailing (+1.7% / +41 outlets) offset by a slight fall in pubs, bars and taverns (-0.7% / -48 venues). In contrast, employment in the Drink sub-sector declined by 3%, with notable losses across both liquor retailing (-4% / -720 jobs) and pubs, bars and taverns (-2% / -2,625 jobs), continuing a long-term downward trend since 2016.

Retail & Accommodation (Non-Core NTE)

Establishment numbers in retail and accommodation were relatively steady, while employment showed modest declines, falling by 3% in retail and 0.6% in accommodation.

				
Core NTE	Establishments FY24 (change FY23-24)	Employment FY24 (change FY23-24)	Sales turnover FY24 (change FY23-24)	Metric trend (FY18 to FY24)
 Drink	9,413 (-0.1%)	123,670 (-3%)	\$26,563m (+5%)	
 Leisure & Entertainment	42,232 (+2%)	289,910 (+9%)	\$58,452m (+8%)	
 Food	82,035 (+2%)	712,805 (-0.9%)	\$102,970m (+8%)	
Retail & Accommodation (subset of Non-Core NTE)				
 Retail	92,507 (+0.3%)	615,775 (-2.6%)	\$407,284m (+3%)	
 Accommodation	14,099 (-0.8%)	116,440 (-0.6%)	\$17,611m (+6%)	

After dark across Australia: *States & territories*

In 2023/24, all Australian states and territories recorded growth in Core NTE establishments. This marks a recovery in venue numbers following last year's plateau. The strongest growth was seen in the Australian Capital Territory (+4%) and South Australia (+3%), while Tasmania (+0.9%) saw a more modest increase.

Employment change was more varied between 2023 and 2024. Four jurisdictions recorded a fall in Core NTE employment. The Northern Territory saw the sharpest decline (-14% / -2,615 workers), followed by South Australia (-10%), the Australian Capital Territory (-8%), and Victoria (-1.1%). These losses were partially offset by gains in Tasmania (+18%), Queensland (+7%), Western Australia (+5%) and New South Wales (+1.9%).












Core NTE sales turnover rose in every state and territory. South Australia led, with +10% growth, while the Northern Territory saw the weakest growth (+3%).

Queensland showed the strongest overall performance, with growth in establishments, employment and sales turnover. Western

Australia also recorded growth, with establishments up 2%, employment rising by 5%, and sales turnover rising 8%, suggesting renewed Core NTE activity.

In contrast, Victoria added nearly 700 establishments (+1.8%) but saw a slight fall in employment (-1.1%), with Leisure and Entertainment jobs (+7%) offsetting losses in Food (-3%) and Drink (-4%). Similarly, the Australian Capital Territory experienced strong venue growth (+4%) but recorded an 8% drop in employment, following increases in 2023.

Notably, Tasmania recorded the highest percentage growth in Core NTE employment (+18%), and strong sales turnover (+9%), but stable establishment numbers (+0.9%). This indicates a rebound in night-time activity and staffing demand following the decreases experienced in 2022/23.

			
State	Establishments FY24 (change FY23-24)	Employment FY24 (change FY23-24)	Sales turnover FY24 (change FY23-24)
 NSW	45,230 (+1.6%)	316,970 (+1.9%)	\$56.4bn (+8%)
 VIC	39,566 (+1.8%)	295,035 (-1.1%)	\$47.7bn (+8%)
 QLD	23,540 (+2%)	238,525 (+7%)	\$37.6bn (+8%)
 WA	11,710 (+2%)	136,560 (+5%)	\$22.1bn (+8%)
 SA	7,841 (+3%)	68,540 (-10%)	\$12.6bn (+10%)
 TAS	2,582 (+0.9%)	23,010 (+18%)	\$3.8bn (+9%)
 ACT	2,300 (+4%)	32,205 (-8%)	\$4.7bn (+6%)
 NT	883 (+2%)	16,535 (-14%)	\$3.0bn (+3%)

After dark across Australia: *City snapshots*

Sixteen city Local Government Areas (LGAs) participated in this research in 2025.

An overview of key NTE findings for each of these city councils is provided to the right and overleaf. This is followed by a section for each city council that provides more detail.

If your council would like to take part, please contact CCCLM.

The 2023/24 data highlights significant variation in Core NTE trends, reflecting the differing size and structure of each local government area and the nature of their local economies. Brisbane had the largest Core NTE by establishments and employment (due to its large geography), followed by Sydney and Melbourne.

Establishment growth was led by Melbourne (+5%), Darwin, Canberra, and Penrith (all +4%). In contrast, Maribyrnong (-3%), Launceston and Adelaide (both -2%) recorded the largest declines in business numbers.

Employment growth was strongest in Hobart (+17%), Launceston (+9%), and Perth and Penrith (+8%), suggesting local expansion or revival. Several cities experienced steep declines in Core NTE employment, however, including Darwin (-14%), Adelaide (-13%), and Canberra (-8%).

Sales turnover growth varied across cities, with strong increases in Penrith (+13%), Melbourne (+11%), and Hobart (+10%), while Darwin and Launceston recorded smaller growth (+0.4% and +2% respectively). Sydney (\$6.1bn) and Brisbane (\$12.6bn) led total turnover, reflecting their large populations and business bases.

City LGA	Establishments		Employment (000s)		Sales Turnover (\$bn)		Population (000s)	
	2023/24	% Change 22/23-23/24	2023/24	% Change 22/23-23/24	2023/24	% Change 22/23-23/24	2023/24	% Change 22/23-23/24
Adelaide, SA	975	-2%	9.7	-13%	\$1.7	8%	29.1	4%
Brisbane, QLD	7,667	2%	80.9	7%	\$12.6	8%	1,355.6	2%
Canberra, ACT	2,300	4%	32.2	-8%	\$4.7	6%	473.9	2%
Darwin, NT	485	4%	4.7	-14%	\$0.9	0%	86.1	0%
Hobart, TAS	655	3%	7.1	17%	\$1.1	10%	56.0	0%
Hornsby, NSW	631	2%	3.4	1%	\$0.5	8%	154.8	1%
Launceston, TAS	355	-2%	2.3	9%	\$0.3	2%	71.6	0%
Maribyrnong, VIC	706	-3%	3.4	1%	\$0.5	9%	94.3	3%
Melbourne, VIC	3,107	5%	34.1	3%	\$4.8	11%	189.4	7%
Moonee Valley, VIC	789	-3%	4.7	-1%	\$0.7	7%	129.7	3%
Newcastle, NSW	1,079	-1%	14.5	1%	\$2.3	7%	176.9	2%
Parramatta, NSW	1,542	1%	8.8	1%	\$1.6	7%	275.0	2%
Penrith, NSW	745	4%	4.5	8%	\$0.6	13%	228.7	2%
Perth, WA	662	-1%	12.1	8%	\$1.7	9%	34.6	5%
Sydney, NSW	5,945	1%	36.4	1%	\$6.1	8%	237.3	3%
Willoughby, NSW	668	0%	3.7	-3%	\$0.6	6%	79.6	2%

Table 1: Core NTE metrics in the 16 participating LGAs in 2023/24

TRADING PATTERNS ACROSS CITIES

Night-time trading patterns from April 2025 show localised nuances across the cities, shaped by local demand and planning policy.

Evening (6pm-9pm) is when the highest number of Core NTE businesses are open at night. In nine of the sixteen cities, Thursday and Friday are the peak evenings for Core NTE trading activity, while in the remaining seven, Wednesday and Friday dominate.

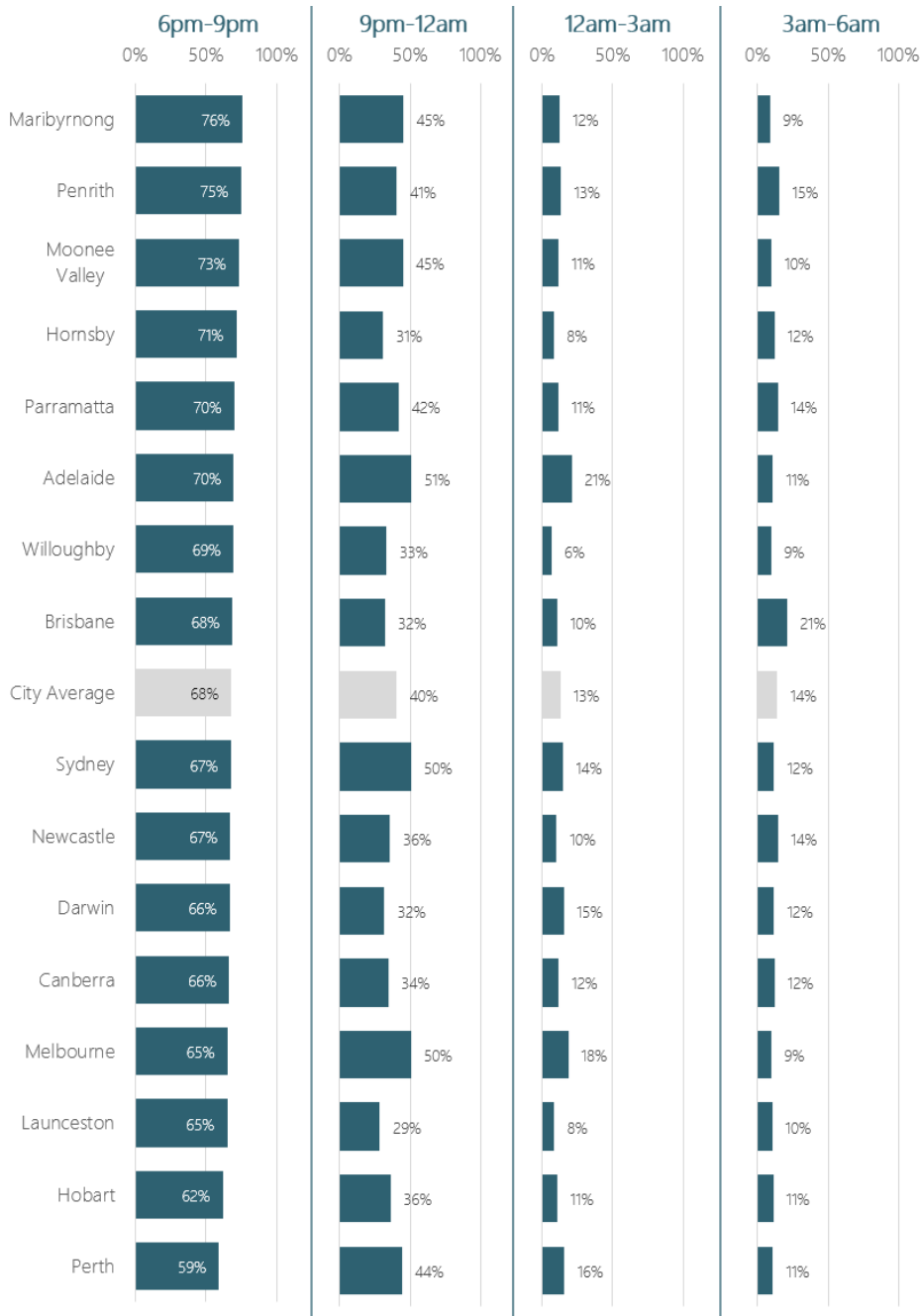
Early-night (9pm-midnight) Core NTE trading hours are most prevalent on Friday and Saturday nights across all cities. Melbourne, and Sydney have the highest proportion open during this period, with almost half trading on both nights.

Late-night (12am-3am) Core NTE trading hours are also most prevalent on Friday and Saturday nights. For example, one in five of Adelaide’s Core NTE businesses operate between midnight and 3am on Saturday. In most other cities, the proportion of Core NTE businesses trading after midnight is below 10%, with Launceston, Willoughby and Hobart showing the lowest levels.

Early-morning (3am-6am) economy activity is limited, but visible. Brisbane stands out, with 20% of Core NTE businesses commencing trade before 6am on weekdays. Penrith, Newcastle and Parramatta also show sustained early-morning activity, with 13-15% open before 6am. This period is dominated by cafés and gyms providing services to early risers and shift workers. While niche, this part of the 24-hour economy is increasingly relevant and merits policy attention.

Retail trading after dark varies across cities but is most prominent on Thursday and Friday evenings (6pm-9pm). In most locations, more than half of food retailers remain open during this period. Melbourne and Sydney have higher than average evening retail activity, with around a third of businesses operating in the evening. This drops substantially after 9pm.

Figure 2: Proportion of Core NTE businesses trading by time of night in each city



ADELAIDE

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Surrounded by world-famous wine regions, Adelaide is Australia's only city to be awarded Great Wine Capital of the World status. Renowned for its creative culture as Australia's festival city, Adelaide is a member of the UNESCO Creative Cities network and the first and only designated UNESCO City of Music in Australia.

ADELAIDE'S NTE AT A GLANCE



975

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



9,715

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$1.7bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



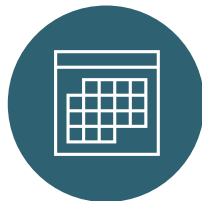
Food

The only Core NTE Sector with establishment growth (2023-2024)



70%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Friday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS ADELAIDE'S NTE LOCATED?

In the City of Adelaide in April 2025, clusters of Consumer-facing night-time business activity can be found trading in the evening (6pm – 9pm):

- Along Hindley Street, through Rundle Mall and along Rundle Street in the East End.
- Around Adelaide Central Market and Gouger Street
- Along Hutt Street; and
- Melbourne Street and O'Connell Street in North Adelaide.

Figure 3 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.

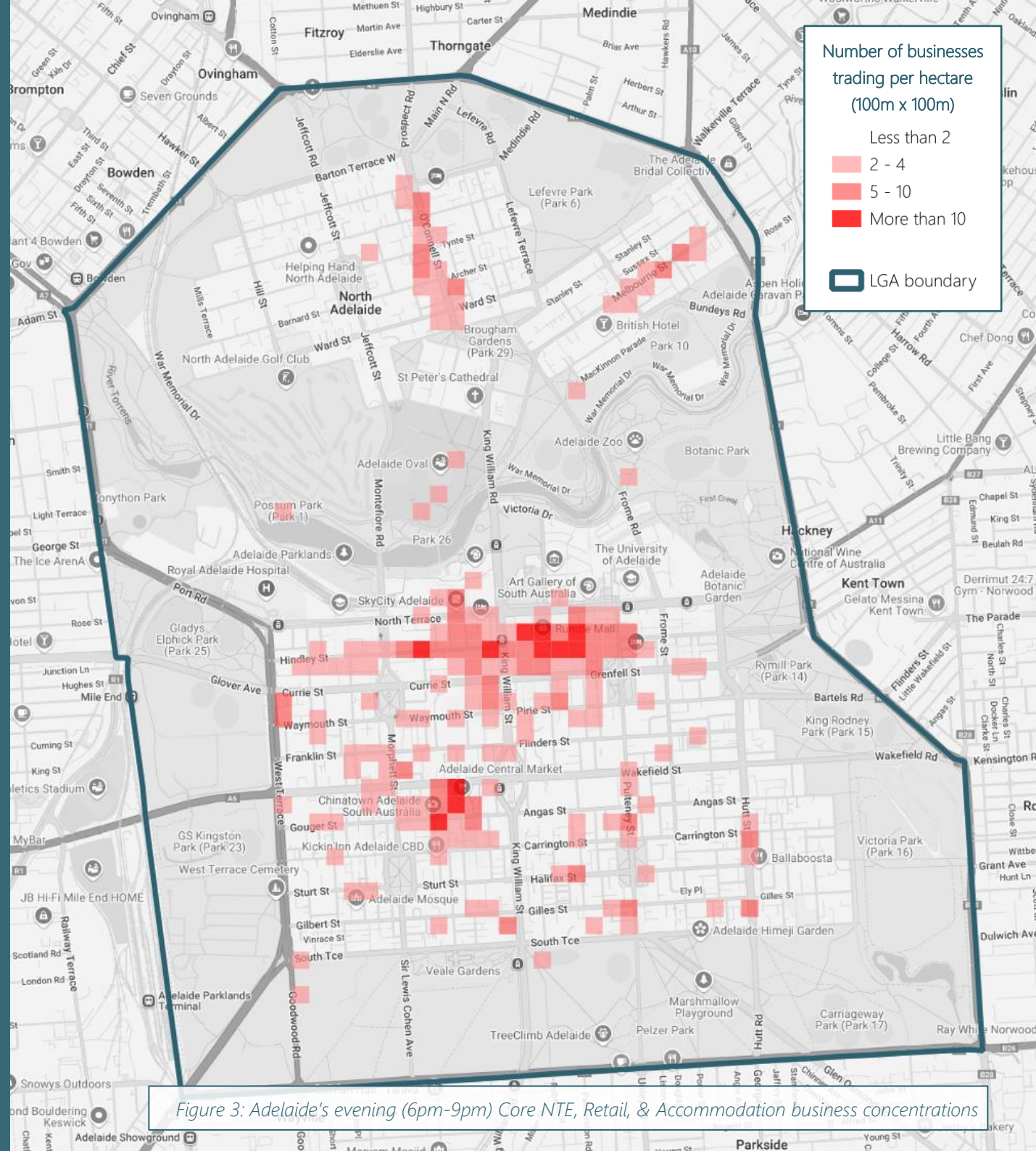


Figure 3: Adelaide's evening (6pm-9pm) Core NTE, Retail, & Accommodation business concentrations

ADELAIDE'S CITY INITIATIVES

As the cultural heart of South Australia, Adelaide continued to grow the city's night-time economy, through its strategic frameworks and initiatives which drive city visitation through the arts, entertainment and hospitality sectors.

The City of Adelaide (CoA) uncovered new opportunities in its night-time economy through its [Economic Development Strategy – a thriving economy for all](#), a Night Time Entertainment Economy Roundtable hosted by the Lord Mayor and Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA), and [City Plan – Adelaide 2036](#).

The CoA and its subsidiaries, the Adelaide Central Market Authority and AEDA, support growth of the city's night-time economy. Key initiatives include:

- **The Night Shift:** The Night Shift is an Australian Research Council project and partnership between the CoA and the Melbourne Centre for Cities, University of Melbourne. The research considers the role of workers in the early evening to early morning economy. Seventeen CoA City Operations Team members participated in the research in February 2024, sharing their experience of working in the night-time economy.

- **CUSP: The Pop-up Cabaret:** This series of cabaret performances reinforced messages of empowerment and safety on laneways and streets with outdoor dining. The 30-minute cabaret sessions, led by Jamie Alexandra Bucirde and designed in partnership with CoA, included live music, dance, as well as a fire performance. Held in June 2024, outside of Adelaide's peak festival season, local traders reported patrons being attracted to the area and staying longer.
- **Illuminate Adelaide:** This light, art, music and technology event was held in the CoA from 4-21 July 2023 and generated \$54 million in economic activity for the state, through free and ticketed events. A total of 201,675 tickets were sold, and 91% of attendees specifically visited the Adelaide CBD for the event, providing a [significant boost to Adelaide's NTE](#).
- More than \$1.9 million was invested through the City's **Events and Festivals Sponsorship Program** supporting 30 events and festivals held in the evening or incorporating an element of evening programming.
- **Adelaide Central Market** hosted a musician every Friday night in 2024 in partnership with Music SA, supporting late night shopping and enhancing the dining experience. The atmosphere was further lifted by themed

events such as Bastille Day, Chilli Crab Shack and Sauce Day.





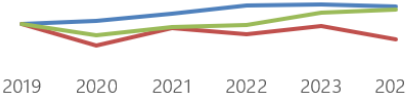





- **Winter Weekends:** This initiative paired fire pits, live music and local businesses in Adelaide's streets and laneways on Friday and Saturday nights from June to August. The 2023/24 program, delivered in partnership with over 40 hospitality businesses and more than 35 local musicians and artists, toured multiple city precincts, including Grote Street and the Adelaide Central Market Precinct.
- **East End Unleashed:** This street-based dining and entertainment event is held annually, closing Rundle Street to traffic on weekend evenings during Adelaide's February and March festival season. In 2023/24 the event footprint expanded to include a 'Garden Oasis' in Hindmarsh Square / Mukata, with 46 hospitality businesses extending their outdoor dining into the street.

ADELAIDE'S NTE PERFORMANCE

Adelaide's Core Night-Time Economy (NTE) contracted in 2024, with the number of establishments falling 1.9% to 975, down from 994 the previous year. Core NTE employment dropped sharply, down 13% to 9,715 - its lowest level since 2020 - reversing the post-pandemic recovery seen in 2023. The Core NTE now accounts for 8% of all businesses and 5% of total employment in Adelaide.

By sector, **Drink** venues recorded the steepest decline, with establishments down 10% (to 154) and employment falling 16% to 1,965. **Leisure & Entertainment** remained relatively stable, with a 4% drop in venues, which was offset by a 3% rise in employment, and gains in *sports and physical recreation activities*. **Food** businesses continue to dominate the Core NTE. While food establishment numbers held steady at 678, employment fell by 15% to 6,315.

These declines align with [reports of pressure on hospitality operators](#) navigating rising costs, reduced consumer spending, and tax burdens. Operators are adapting with smaller formats, leaner staffing and more cost-conscious offerings to stay afloat. Despite these challenges, Core NTE sales turnover in Adelaide rose by \$130m (+8%) in 2023/24, driven primarily by the Food sub-sector (+10%).

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	975	-1.9%	+1.8%	8%	5%
 Employment	9,715	-13%	+1.4%	10%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$1,699m	+8%	+8%	5%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	154	-10%	-0.1%	16%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	143	-4%	+2%	15%	32%
 Food	678	+0.6%	+2%	70%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	437	+3%	+0.3%	32%	35%
 Accommodation	80	-16%	-0.8%	5%	5%

ADELAIDE'S TRADING PATTERNS

In April 2025, a high proportion of Adelaide's businesses are trading after dark, especially on Friday evenings when 66% of Core NTE businesses and more than half of retail outlets are open between 6pm and 9pm – highlighting the potential of late night trading in the city.

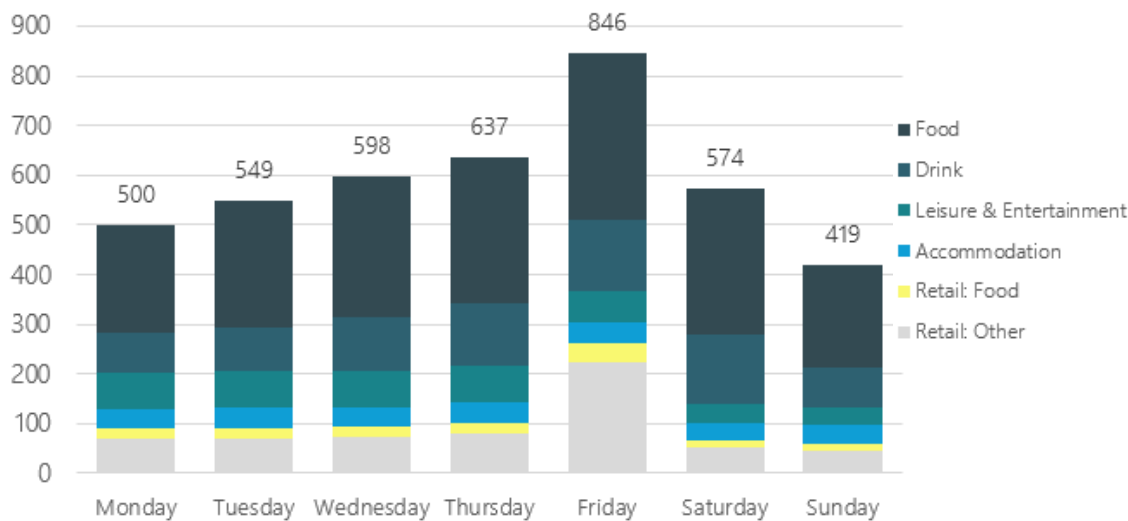
Nearly half of Core NTE businesses also trade through to midnight on Friday and Saturday nights.

Adelaide stands out for the proportion of businesses open after midnight on Friday and Saturday nights, with 18-20% of venues open between 12am and 3am, and nearly 10% trade through to 6am. This is one of the highest late-night trading profiles of any city included in the report.

Figure 4: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	45%	31%	9%	6%
	Tuesday	51%	34%	8%	6%
	Wednesday	57%	38%	10%	7%
	Thursday	60%	40%	10%	7%
	Friday	66%	48%	18%	9%
	Saturday	56%	49%	20%	9%
	Sunday	39%	29%	9%	6%
Retail	Monday	19%	10%	6%	6%
	Tuesday	19%	10%	6%	6%
	Wednesday	19%	10%	6%	6%
	Thursday	21%	11%	6%	6%
	Friday	54%	12%	7%	7%
	Saturday	13%	11%	7%	6%
	Sunday	12%	10%	6%	6%

Figure 5: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



BRISBANE QUEENSLAND



Brisbane is a diverse and vibrant city, with an extensive geographic footprint. Brisbane is on the runway to hosting the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and is focused on enabling the significant economic benefits the Games will provide to boost tourism and deliver health, volunteering and community benefits.

BRISBANE'S NTE AT A GLANCE



7,667

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



80,875

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$12.6bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



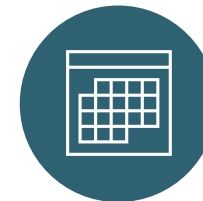
Food

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage establishment growth (2023-2024)



68%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS BRISBANE'S NTE LOCATED?

Brisbane City LGA covers a large geographic area – the equivalent of Greater Sydney or Melbourne – with many distinct clusters of night-time businesses.

In April 2025, there are key clusters of night-time business activity in the CBD, Fortitude Valley and the West End. Other key concentrations tend to be located around retail centres, including:

- Indooroopilly Shopping Centre,
- Mount Ommaney Centre,
- Westfield Chermside
- Westfield Carindale, and
- Westfield Mount Gravatt.

Figure 6 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#). See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.

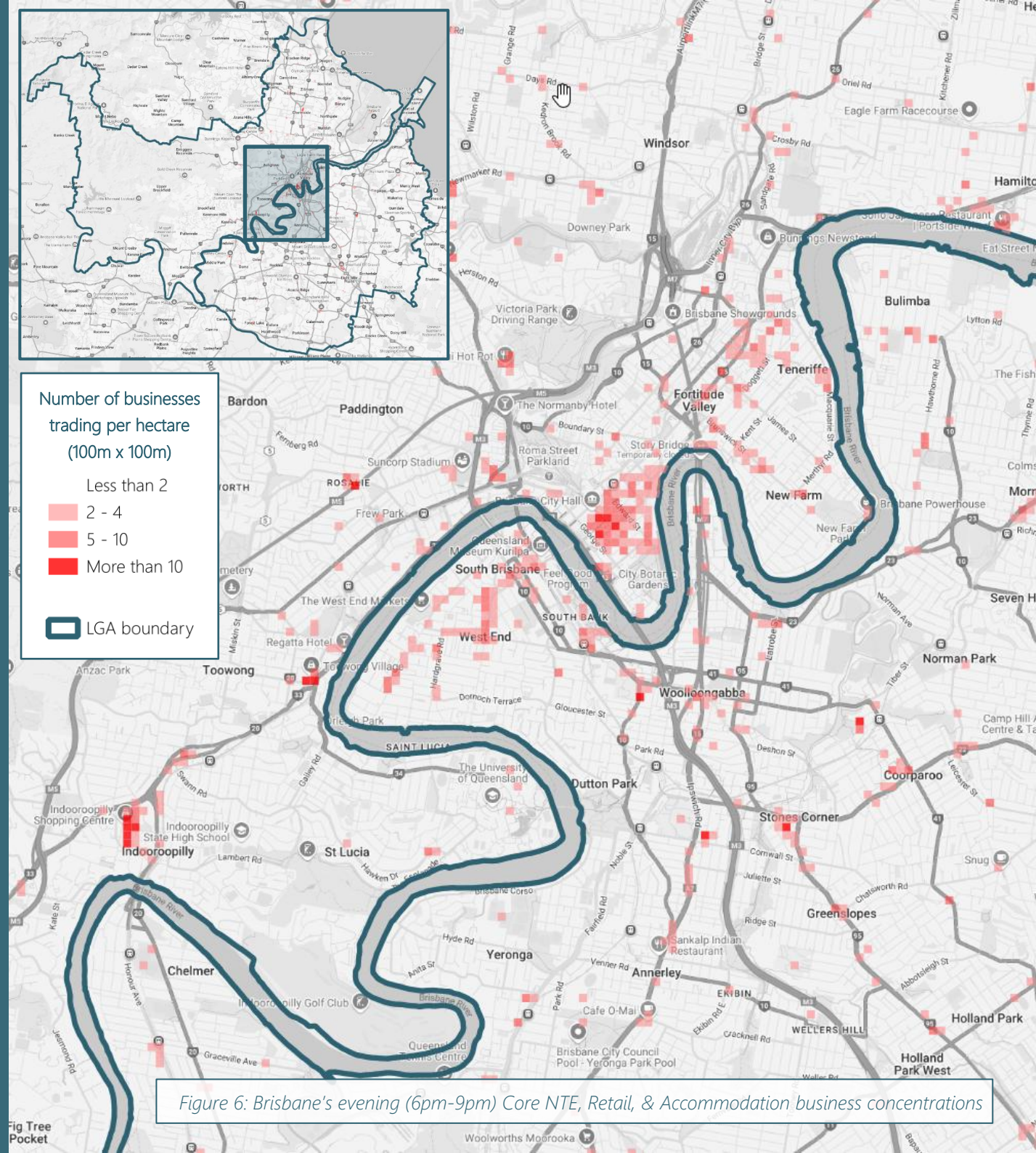


Figure 6: Brisbane's evening (6pm-9pm) Core NTE, Retail, & Accommodation business concentrations

BRISBANE'S CITY INITIATIVES

Brisbane City Council has been taking action to support Brisbane's night-time economy by delivering a number of initiatives supporting the key priorities of [Brisbane's Economic Development Plan 2031](#) to enrich Brisbane's lifestyle and build Brisbane's global reputation. This includes supporting a vibrant, creative economy within Brisbane's inner city and key cultural precincts and encouraging residents and visitors to discover the local lifestyle, businesses, places and experiences.

To deliver on its commitment to growing Brisbane's night-time economy, Brisbane City Council works to:

- Better understand community trends, needs and motivations for night-time activities, events and experiences.
- Understand challenges for business and partnership opportunities that could strengthen the Brisbane night-time economy.
- Identify opportunities that Council can consider facilitating, providing, partnering, funding, regulating and advocating toward a vibrant, diverse and sustainable night-time economy.

During 2023/24, Brisbane City Council continued to support the growth of Brisbane's night-time economy by delivering initiatives and promoting all that the city and suburbs have to offer after dark. Examples include:

- Establishing a **Nighttime Economy Advisory Group** within the Council's Small Business Roundtable, to exclusively prioritise the future of Brisbane's nighttime economy.
- Supporting **night-time events and activities** including Valley Fiesta and BrisAsia Festival and promoting these events through the What's On in Brisbane calendar.
- Delivering seasonal **campaigns, marketing initiatives and activations** to promote The City, including Dine BNE City, Latin Friday Nights at ReddACLiff Place and Friday Nights on the Green at Post Office Square.
- **Valley Malls marketing and activations** including Moon Festival, Lunar New Year, Brunswick Street Live and Eats, Beats and Treats.
- Activating the city and precincts with **creative lighting** and supporting the installation of bud lighting in street trees in business areas to create attractive night-time streetscapes.
- Delivering ongoing **safety initiatives** including Public Space Liaison Officers, safety audits, CitySafe camera network and restrictions for

shared e-scooters in the CBD and Fortitude Valley Safe Night precincts.

- Supporting local organisations and communities to **activate public spaces**, particularly through grant and festival funding.
- Encouraging suburban retail precincts to apply for **precinct promotion and activation** sponsorship to deliver events that support the night-time economy.
- Providing **discounted evening parking** rates at King George Square and Wickham Terrace car parks, with 123,722 vehicles using the evening discount rates in 2023/24.
- **Promoting things to do after dark** around Brisbane and tours such as the Brisbane Greeters' twilight tours.





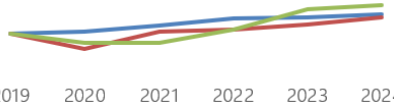





BRISBANE'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Brisbane's Core NTE comprised 7,667 establishments and 80,875 workers, reflecting solid annual growth: establishments rose by 2% and employment by 7% - well above the national average. **Food** dominated the Core NTE, accounting for 66% of establishments and more than 55,000 jobs. The Food sector grew by 3% in establishments and 5% in employment, with gains across both cafés and restaurants as well as takeaway services.

The **Leisure and Entertainment** sub-sector also performed strongly, growing by 1% in establishments and 12% in employment (+2,260 jobs). Key drivers included sports and recreation (+725 jobs) and creative and performing arts activities (+520 jobs). The **Drink** sub-sector, however, saw mixed results. Employment rose by 5%, but the number of Drink venues declined by 3%.

Core NTE sales turnover in Brisbane rose by \$917m (+8%) in 2023/24, driven by the Food sub-sector (particularly takeaway services, +11%), and sports and recreation (+10%) in the Leisure and Entertainment sub-sector.

Non-Core NTE sub-sectors remained stable, with **Retail** making up 28% and **Accommodation** 3% of the city's Non-Core NTE businesses. Both categories experienced only minimal year-on-year change in establishments, however, Accommodation employment increased by 8% and Retail employment increased by 16%.

Measure	FY24	City		National	
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	7,667	+2%	+1.8%	5%	5%
 Employment	80,875	+7%	+1.4%	10%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$12,565m	+8%	+8%	4%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	299	-3%	-0.1%	4%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	2,318	+0.7%	+2%	30%	32%
 Food	5,050	+3%	+2%	66%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	4,795	+0.2%	+0.3%	28%	35%
 Accommodation	483	-0.4%	-0.8%	3%	5%

BRISBANE'S TRADING PATTERNS

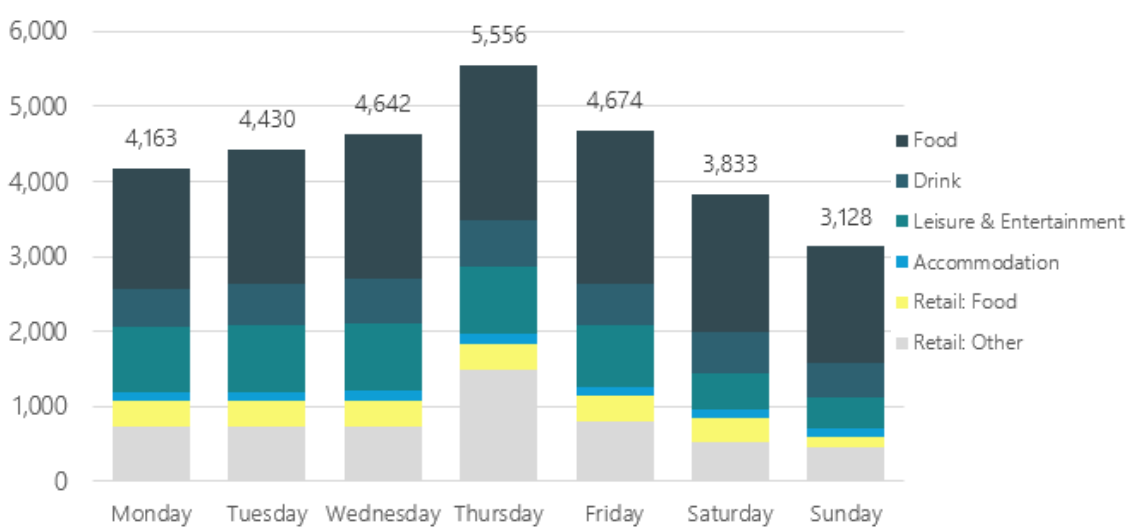
In April 2025, Brisbane maintains strong and consistent night-time trading, with the highest number of businesses open on Thursday nights. On that evening, 64% of Core NTE businesses are trading between 6pm and 9pm - more than in any other participating city on this day of the week. Nearly one-third stay open until midnight, and up to 10% trade through to 3am. Night-time retail openings also peak at 38% on Thursday evenings.

After-midnight weeknight openings are among the most consistent nationally.

Figure 7: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	52%	21%	8%	20%
	Tuesday	57%	23%	8%	20%
	Wednesday	61%	25%	9%	20%
	Thursday	64%	27%	9%	20%
	Friday	59%	30%	10%	20%
	Saturday	53%	30%	10%	12%
	Sunday	45%	22%	8%	10%
Retail	Monday	22%	8%	5%	6%
	Tuesday	22%	8%	5%	6%
	Wednesday	22%	8%	5%	6%
	Thursday	38%	8%	5%	6%
	Friday	23%	8%	5%	6%
	Saturday	17%	8%	5%	5%
	Sunday	12%	7%	5%	5%

Figure 8: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



CANBERRA ACT



The nation's capital, Canberra, is known for its cultural attractions and thriving food and wine scene. The inner-city corridor stretching from Acton, Civic and Braddon, Dickson and inner south suburbs like Kingston house most of the cafes, restaurants, bars and entertainment venues including theatres and cinemas.

CANBERRA'S NTE AT A GLANCE



2,300

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



32,205

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$4.7bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Food

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage establishment growth (2023-2024)



66%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Friday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS CANBERRA'S NTE LOCATED?

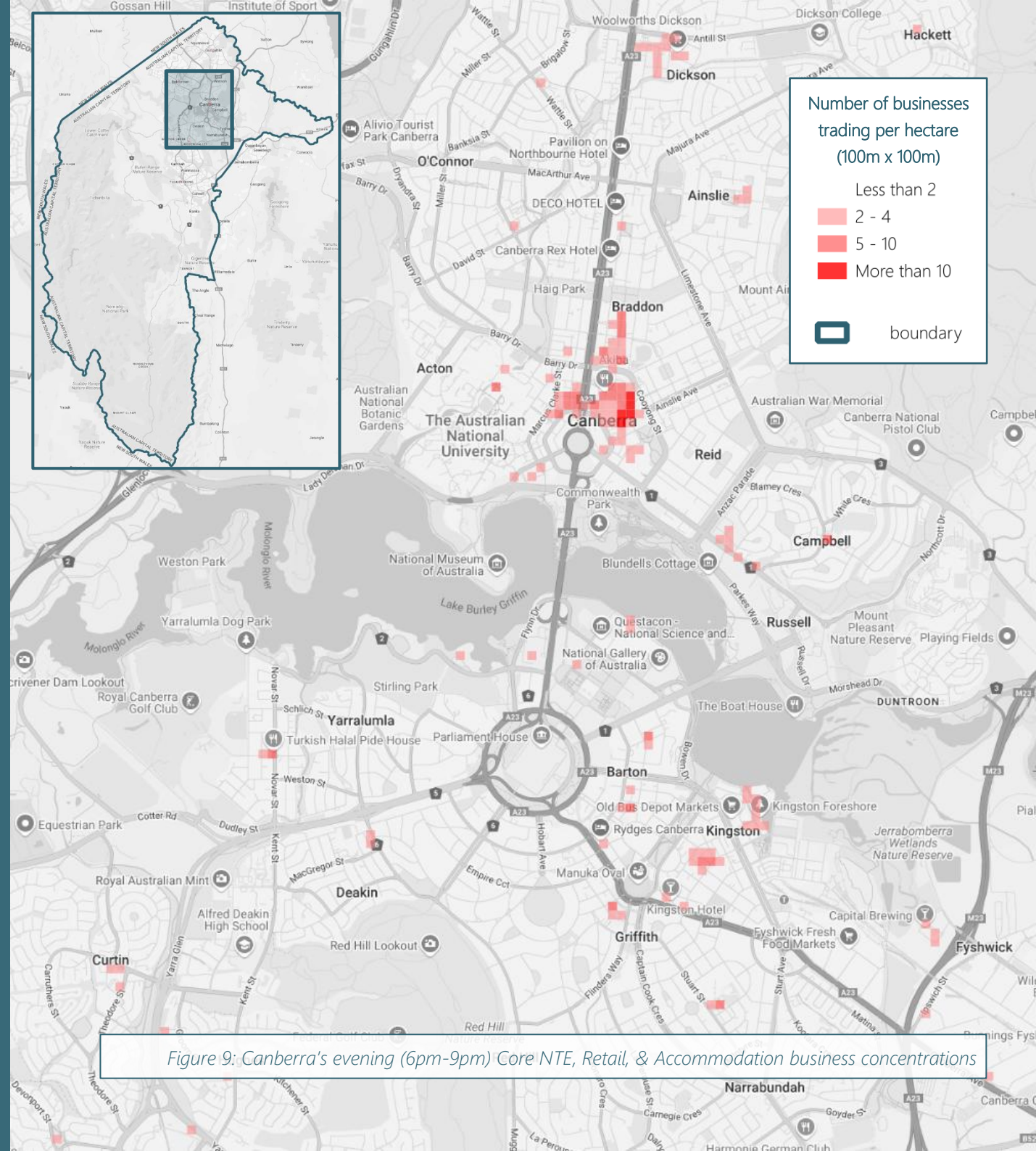
The Australian Capital Territory covers a vast geographic area – although most night-time business activity is located around Canberra.

In April 2025, there is strong clustering of evening-time (6pm-9pm) businesses around the city centre with other clusters located in:

- Belconnen,
- Gungahlin,
- Phillip (Woden),
- Griffith (Manuka), and
- Greenway (Tuggeranong).

Figure 9 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).

See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



CANBERRA'S CITY INITIATIVES

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government is delivering a comprehensive program of reforms to support a vibrant and inclusive night-time economy for Canberra businesses, creatives and the community. To that end, a dedicated [Minister for the Night-Time Economy](#) portfolio has been created to drive and oversee these reforms.

Between January to July 2024, the ACT Government introduced [amendments to the Liquor Act 2010](#) to reduce fees for smaller venues, and to support and incentivise businesses to stay open later, host events and showcase artists and creatives. Significant reforms included:

- Reducing annual liquor fees for small cafés and restaurants, micro-bars and micro-general licences;
- Automatically extending standard trading hours for smaller cafés and restaurants from 12am to 2am;
- Reducing annual liquor fees for eligible venues that showcase artists, musicians and other cultural activities;
- Increasing the number of free authorisations available in any 12-month period for licensed businesses to extend trading hours or change their floor plan for business-led (licensee) events or special events;

- Allowing for the declaration of a special event which automatically provides for extended trading hours for licensed venues covered by the declaration; and
- Providing for more business categories to supply liquor without a licence, where supply is ancillary to the service being provided.

In August 2024, the ACT Government introduced new fit-for-purpose [Noise Standards](#) for entertainment noise in the City Centre Entertainment Precinct to protect, nurture and future-proof entertainment venues and uses in Canberra's city centre. The design of the precinct includes a noisier core that supports a higher concentration of noise emitting entertainment venues and a surrounding frame that ensures entertainment uses are protected while also acting as a buffer that prevents the noise levels impacting areas adjacent to the precinct.

On 1 October 2024, the ACT Government introduced a 12-month trial for musicians to apply for [free loading zone permits](#) to load and unload music equipment. This reform protects and promotes live music and entertainment by removing barriers for musicians to perform at live venues through improving mobility and accessibility to performance spaces.

In 2025, the ACT Government continues to implement initiatives to support Canberra's musicians, artists and the venues that back them. In February 2025, the ACT Government invited Canberra artists to self-nominate to be included on a new [ACT Artist Database](#) to help connect businesses or individuals looking to engage local artists for paid opportunities. This initiative will increase new opportunities and income streams for local artists and increase creativity across Canberra.

CANBERRA'S NTE PERFORMANCE


In 2023/24, Canberra's Core NTE comprised 2,300 establishments and 32,205 workers. While the number of businesses increased by 4% - outperforming national growth - employment fell sharply, down 8% or 2,630 jobs. The **Food** sub-sector drove much of this decline, losing 1,760 jobs (-7%) even as the number of Food businesses rose by 5%. Cafés and restaurants were particularly affected, shedding 1,175 jobs.

Leisure and Entertainment saw a slight increase in establishments, rising by 2% to 534 businesses. However, employment in the sector fell by 9%, with a loss of 615 jobs. This decline was spread across several categories, but Clubs (Hospitality) saw the greatest decline (-385).

The **Drink** sub-sector declined, with a slight fall in business numbers (-1%) and a 10% drop in employment (-255), driven primarily by job losses in pubs and taverns.

Despite the downturn in employment, Core NTE sales turnover in Canberra rose by \$253m (+6%) – albeit below the national average – led by spending in cafés and restaurants (+8%), and growth in sports and recreation activities (+9%).

Retail and **Accommodation** remained relatively steady in terms of business count. However, employment in both sub-sectors fell (-11% and -10% respectively).

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	2,300	+4%	+1.8%	6%	5%
 Employment	32,205	-8%	+1.4%	13%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$4,719m	+6%	+8%	6%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	128	-0.8%	-0.1%	6%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	534	+3%	+2%	23%	32%
 Food	1,638	+5%	+2%	71%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	1,080	+3%	+0.3%	29%	35%
 Accommodation	98	-4%	-0.8%	3%	5%

CANBERRA’S TRADING PATTERNS

In April 2025, Canberra shows consistent evening and late-night trading, with Friday emerging as the most active evening for the night-time economy.

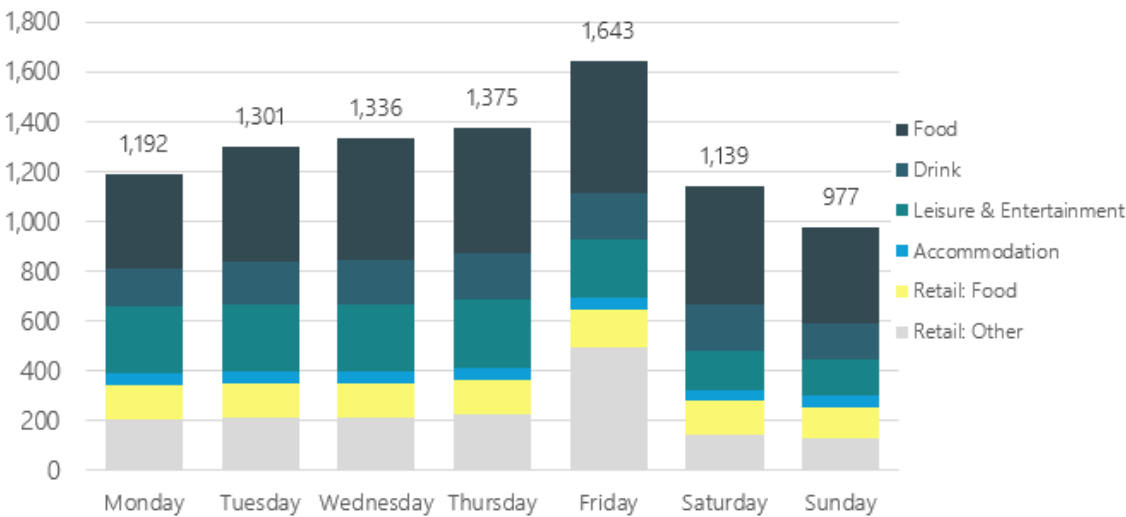
On that night, 60% of Core NTE businesses are open between 6pm and 9pm, with strong trading continuing through to midnight (33%) and into the early hours between both 12am–3am (10%) and 3am–6am (11%). This puts Canberra among the top cities for after-midnight availability. More than half (51%) of retail establishments in Canberra also open on Friday evenings - among the highest levels nationally.

Weeknight trading is reliable, with 58–62% of Core NTE businesses open between Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Canberra also maintains a strong number of businesses open at night throughout the week, particularly in food and leisure.

Figure 10: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	51%	22%	7%	10%
	Tuesday	58%	26%	8%	10%
	Wednesday	60%	28%	8%	11%
	Thursday	62%	30%	9%	11%
	Friday	60%	33%	10%	11%
	Saturday	52%	32%	11%	8%
	Sunday	44%	22%	7%	7%
Retail	Monday	27%	9%	4%	4%
	Tuesday	27%	10%	4%	4%
	Wednesday	27%	10%	4%	4%
	Thursday	28%	10%	4%	4%
	Friday	51%	9%	5%	5%
	Saturday	22%	9%	4%	4%
	Sunday	20%	9%	4%	4%

Figure 11: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



DARWIN NORTHERN TERRITORY



A multicultural and modern city, Darwin has been described as Australia's gateway to South East Asia. The Larrakia people, its traditional owners, form an important part of the city's community and culture. The Northern Territory's capital city is known for its warm nights, waterfront dining options, cultural festivals, and bustling night markets.

DARWIN'S NTE AT A GLANCE



485

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



4,745

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$857m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Drink

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage establishment growth (2023-2024)



66%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Friday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

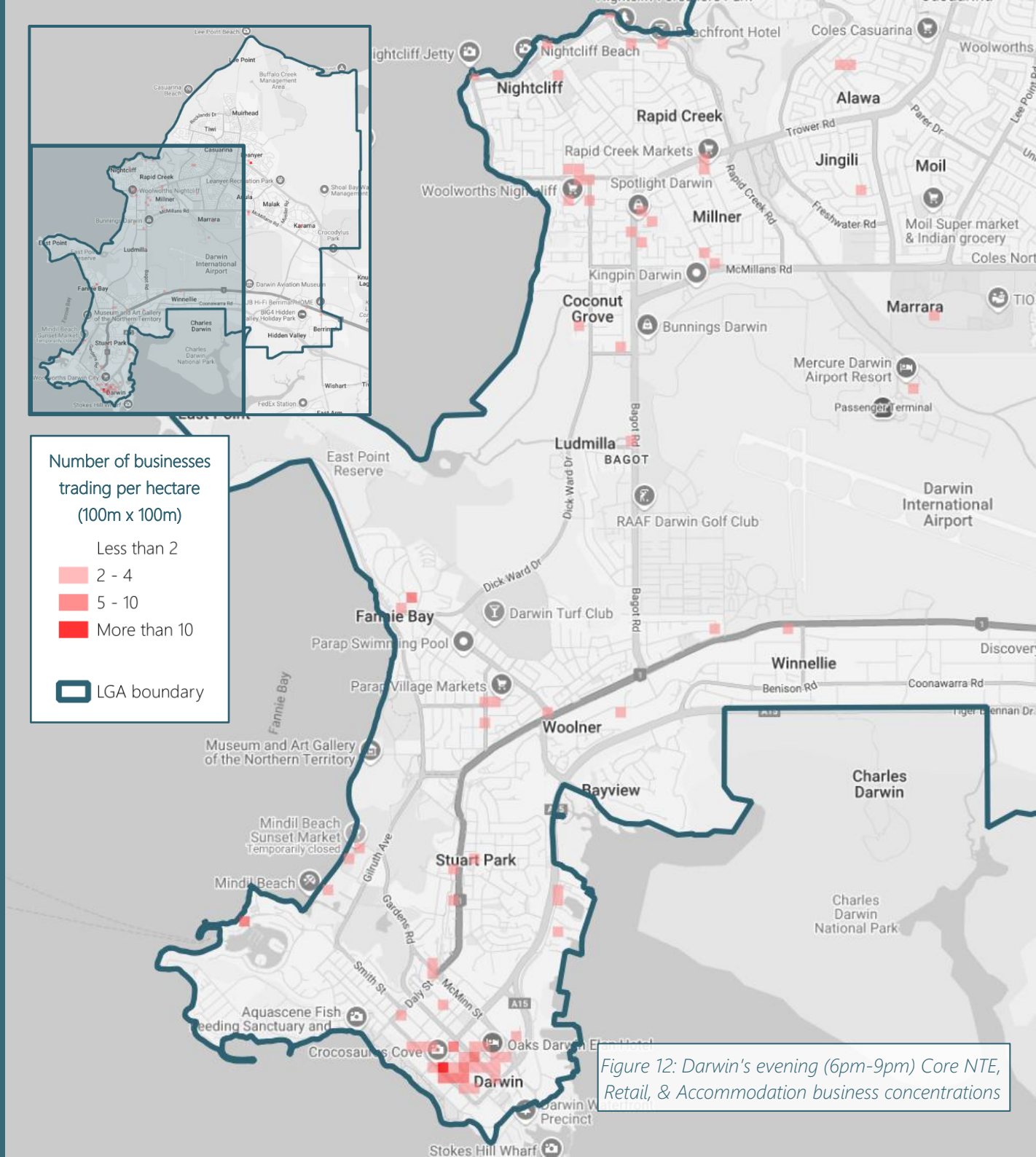
WHERE IS DARWIN'S NTE LOCATED?

In April 2025, most of Darwin's night-time businesses (6pm to 9pm) are clustered in the CBD, to the south of the LGA. Other small clusters of night-time business activity can be found:

- Dotted around Nightcliff, including Nightcliff Market on Progress Drive
- At the Hibiscus Shopping Centre in Leanyer.

Figure 12 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).

See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



DARWIN'S CITY INITIATIVES

Darwin, with its unique, tropical location, is a city that thrives when the sun eases down. It continues to enhance its night-time economy through strategic initiatives under the [2030 Economic Development Strategy](#) from which all strategic actions have a status of either completed or on-track (with less than 6% of deliverables requiring active monitoring). In 2023/24, the City of Darwin:

- Provided \$400,000 in sponsorship and in-kind support to exhibitions, festivals, and events, including the Darwin Fringe Festival, the Royal Darwin Show, the 2024 NT Writers' Festival, and the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, attracting more than 350,000 visitors and boosting the local economy by \$56 million.
- Opened the \$27 million Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre (72% funded by the City of Darwin) ahead of schedule in July 2024, activating the area throughout the day and into the evening.
- Launched the Laneways and Small Streets Action Plan in 2023 through the Darwin City Deal, in partnership with the Australian and Northern Territory governments, revitalising the city's network of laneways.
- Strengthened international relationships, with discussions about a friendship city agreement with Ho Chi Minh City and a new partnership with the City of Joetsu both advanced.
- Issued 203 (+29% year-on-year) comprehensive event permits and 306 (+36% year-on-year) small event permits for activities on City of Darwin land and expanded public Wi-Fi services to key recreational areas, including Mindil Beach and Anula.
- Achieved record participation in the Street Food Program, with 30 food vendors operating throughout the 2023/24 financial year with the most popular trading sites fully occupied every night.
- Hosted the award-winning Dragon Boat Festival, which welcomed over 100 delegates from sister and friendship cities, engaged 4,000 local participants, and reached 88 million people globally through broadcasts and online engagement.
- Brought the community together with over 13,000 attendees - more than 15% of Darwin's population - at the annual 'A Very Darwin Christmas' pageant and Christmas Tree lighting event.
- Upgraded 600 street and public lights to smart controllers, improving service efficiency and road user safety, while investing \$750,000 in footpath renewals to enhance accessibility.
- Introduced climate-neutral certified [Beam micromobility](#) vehicles in December 2023, generating \$1.9 million in rider-driven economic activity within four months.
- Commenced upgrading City of Darwin parking meters to a 4G pay-by-plate system, enhancing efficiency, safety, and performance used by more than 13,000 people (more than 15% of Darwin's population).

DARWIN'S NTE PERFORMANCE





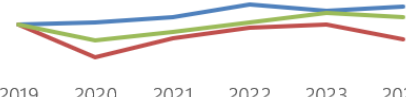





In 2023/24, Darwin's Core NTE comprised 485 establishments and 4,745 workers. While business numbers rose by 4% between 2022/23 and 2023/24, this was slightly ahead of the national average (+1.8%). However, employment declined by 14%, with a loss of 800 jobs - a stark contrast to national growth of +1.4%, and the relative steadiness of Darwin's wider employment (-1.5% / -880).

The number of **Food** sub-sector establishments saw a marginal increase; however, employment fell by 18%, particularly across cafés and restaurants (-385 jobs). **Leisure and Entertainment** saw strong growth in establishments (+11%, compared to +2% nationally), but still experienced a 10% drop in employment (-160 jobs), driven by creative and performing arts (-90).

The number of **Drink** sub-sector venues increased by 13% to 34, (against a slight national decline of -0.1%), but employment fell by 4%.

Core NTE sales turnover remained steady at \$857m, with small gains in Food and Drink, offset by small declines in leisure and entertainment activity.

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** made up 27% of all establishments. The number of businesses (+0.7%) remained and employment (+0.5%) remained steady over the period. **Accommodation** businesses also remained steady, but employment declined -16% (-235) between 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	485	+4%	+1.8%	6%	5%
 Employment	4,745	-14%	+1.4%	9%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$857m	+0.4%	+8%	4%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	34	+13%	-0.1%	7%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	150	+11%	+2%	31%	32%
 Food	301	+0.3%	+2%	62%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	282	+0.7%	+0.3%	27%	35%
 Accommodation	60	+1.7%	-0.8%	6%	5%

DARWIN’S TRADING PATTERNS

In April 2025, Thursday and Friday are Darwin’s most active trading nights, with 60% and 59% of Core NTE businesses trading between 6pm and 9pm, respectively. Darwin has 369 businesses open on Friday night – the highest volume of night trading during the week – with strong representation across food, drink and leisure sub-sectors.

Later trading remained strong on weekends. 31% of Core NTE businesses were open between 9pm and midnight on Friday, with 30% doing so on Saturday.

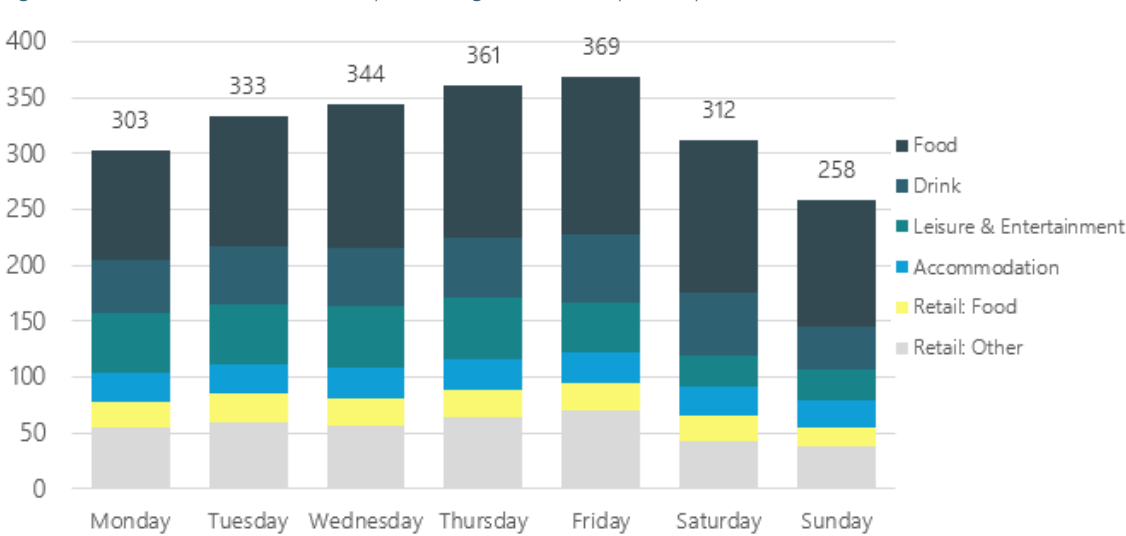
Darwin recorded some of the highest proportions of late-night (12am–3am) weekend trading among the cities, with 13-14% of businesses open into the early hours on both nights.

Retail activity at night was limited, but relatively consistent throughout the week. On Friday, 21% of retail businesses are open at some point between 6pm and 9pm.

Figure 13: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	48%	24%	9%	10%
	Tuesday	54%	25%	9%	9%
	Wednesday	57%	26%	9%	10%
	Thursday	60%	27%	10%	9%
	Friday	59%	31%	13%	10%
	Saturday	54%	30%	14%	8%
	Sunday	44%	25%	9%	7%
Retail	Monday	17%	8%	6%	6%
	Tuesday	19%	8%	6%	6%
	Wednesday	18%	8%	6%	6%
	Thursday	20%	8%	6%	6%
	Friday	21%	8%	6%	6%
	Saturday	15%	8%	6%	6%
	Sunday	12%	8%	6%	6%

Figure 14: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



HOBART TASMANIA



Hobart is a waterfront city with a rich history. Hobart is the capital of the island state of Tasmania. From Kunanyi/Mt Wellington to the Derwent River, the natural landscape shapes Hobart. Hobart has a reputation for excellent culinary experiences, local producers, arts and culture and playing host to iconic events.

HOBART'S NTE AT A GLANCE



655

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



7,115

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$1.1bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Leisure &
Entertainment

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage
establishment growth (2023-2024)



62%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am
at least one day per week (April 2025)



Friday

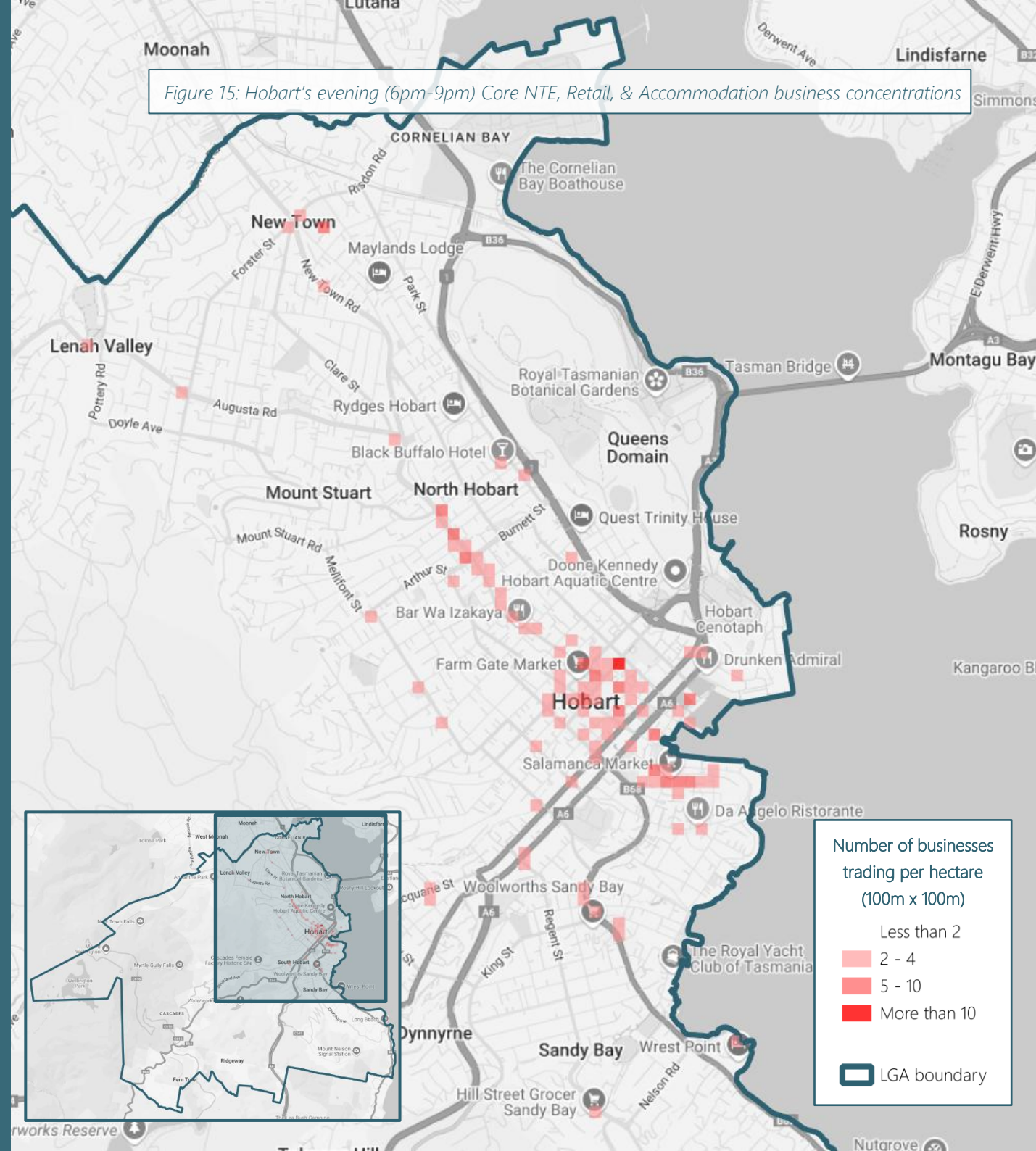
Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS HOBART'S NTE LOCATED?

While City of Hobart LGA is relatively large, in April 2025 most night-time businesses are located in the east of the LGA. There is a particularly strong concentration along the CBD and waterfront, as well as:

- Along Elizabeth Street in North Hobart,
- Around Salamanca Market,
- Across Sandy Bay retail centre, and
- Around New Town to the north.

Figure 15 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



HOBART'S CITY INITIATIVES

The night-time economy in Hobart contributes significantly to the economic performance of the City and has been identified as an area where the economic performance can continue to grow and provide opportunities for a diverse mix of contributing sectors. The City of Hobart is actively involved in supporting the growth of the night-time economy, through events, support campaigns, policy and land use planning and business support activities.

Hobart's night-time economy is centred around a number of precincts, including:

- The CBD and waterfront
- Along Elizabeth Street in North Hobart
- Around Salamanca Market
- Across the Sandy Bay retail centre, and
- Around New Town.

The City of Hobart supports many events and activities in these locations. Hobart plays host to major events such as [Dark Mofo](#), the [Australian Wooden Boat Festival](#), [Taste of Summer](#) and a diverse range of other events. These events to increase the diversity of night-time activities available to residents and visitors alike and showcase the range of experiences that make Hobart unique.

On a different scale, the City of Hobart supports events such as Franko Street Eats and the Twilight Market to encourage greater visitation to various parts of the city.

From a policy and land use planning perspective, the City of Hobart facilitated a live music trial in Salamanca to allow traders to offer amplified live music during specified times, helping to activate the precinct by offering a new entertainment option.

The [Central Hobart Plan](#) (Structure Plan) includes several actions designed to prioritise Central Hobart as the primary commercial, cultural, creative, political and administrative centre for Southern Tasmania and the state, including encouraging a mix of uses that contribute to the night-time economy. A growing night-time economy is emerging in Midtown, Hobart, with restaurants, bars, breweries and cafes being established along the Elizabeth Street spine.

The City of Hobart also supports night-time economy activities through [Hello Hobart](#), the City's primary business promotion platform. A range of campaigns throughout 2024 and early 2025 were designed to showcase a variety of events, new businesses offerings, and local precincts, across different seasons. The City also continues to promote self-guided tour experiences.

The City of Hobart continues to support the night-time economy through a range of roles:

- Setting the policy framework that supports commercial night-time economy activities;
- Incentivising activities through the provision of grants;
- Playing a leading role in facilitating or funding activations; and
- Cultivating a dynamic, safe and culturally rich environment that supports the night-time economy.

HOBART'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Hobart's Core NTE comprised 655 establishments and 7,115 workers. Business numbers grew by 3%, slightly above the national average, while employment surged by 17% - more than ten times the national growth rate (+1.4%) – recovering from declines experienced in the 2022/23 financial year.




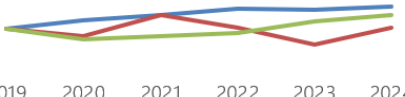





This jump was driven by strong gains in the **Food** sub-sector, which added 870 jobs (+20%), particularly in takeaway food and cafés. Food remains dominant, accounting for 67% of Core NTE establishments and almost three-quarters of Core NTE employment.

Sales turnover across the Core NTE rose by \$95m (+10%), driven by strong performance in the Food (+11%) and Leisure and Entertainment (+8%) sub-sectors.

Leisure and Entertainment made up 24% of Core NTE businesses (compared to 32% nationally) but grew by 6% in establishment numbers. Employment in this sub-sector rose by 9%. Creative and performing arts, and sports and physical recreation, and gambling activities performed well.

The **Drink** sub-sector remains small but active, with 61 venues and 785 workers. Employment in Drink establishments grew by 13%, despite modest venue growth (+5%).

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** and **Accommodation** made up 39% of businesses combined. While establishment numbers held steady, Accommodation jobs increased by 26%, while Retail employment declined by 5%.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	655	+3%	+1.8%	9%	5%
 Employment	7,115	+17%	+1.4%	13%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$1,078m	+10%	+8%	6%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	61	+5%	-0.1%	9%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	156	+6%	+2%	24%	32%
 Food	438	+1.2%	+2%	67%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	288	-3%	+0.3%	31%	35%
 Accommodation	79	+13%	-0.8%	8%	5%

HOBART’S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Friday night is Hobart’s busiest trading period, with 59% of Core NTE businesses open between 6pm and 9pm, and 35% remaining open through to midnight. Thursday and Saturday are also strong evenings, with over half of Core NTE venues trading early evening and 35% open until midnight on Saturday.

Late-night (12am-3am) trading is more limited, but 10% of businesses remain open during these hours on both Friday and Saturday nights - placing Hobart mid-range compared to other cities.

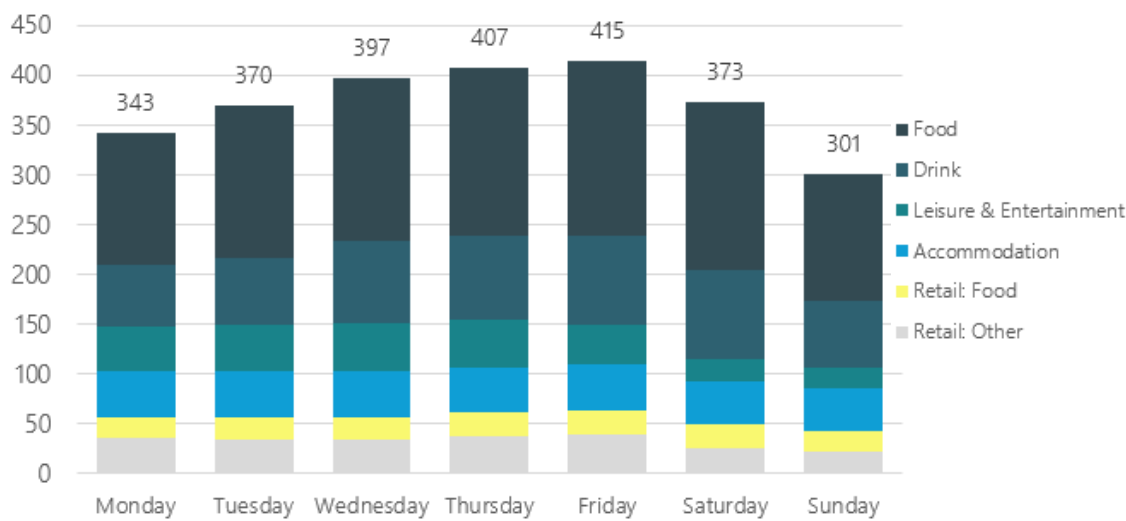
The early-hours economy (3am–6am) is smaller but still present, with 9% of Core NTE venues open during the early hours on Friday.

Retail businesses are far less active at night, with only 15% trading after 6pm on any day during the week - suggesting an opportunity to expand after-dark retail offerings.

Figure 16: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	46%	20%	5%	8%
	Tuesday	52%	22%	5%	8%
	Wednesday	57%	25%	5%	8%
	Thursday	58%	28%	6%	8%
	Friday	59%	35%	10%	9%
	Saturday	54%	35%	10%	7%
	Sunday	42%	20%	6%	5%
Retail	Monday	14%	5%	3%	3%
	Tuesday	14%	5%	3%	3%
	Wednesday	14%	5%	3%	3%
	Thursday	15%	5%	3%	3%
	Friday	15%	5%	3%	3%
	Saturday	11%	5%	3%	3%
	Sunday	10%	5%	3%	3%

Figure 17: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



HORNSBY

NEW SOUTH WALES



Poised for transformation, Hornsby is emerging as one of Greater Sydney's newest night-time destinations. Backed by Council's bold vision and supported by the NSW Government, Hornsby is building a vibrant town centre with live music, markets and outdoor dining, offering a unique mix of natural beauty, cultural life and growing connectivity across the region.

HORNSBY'S NTE AT A GLANCE



632

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



3,355

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$486m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



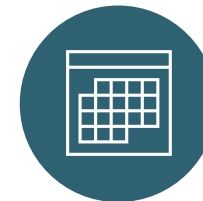
Drink

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage establishment growth (2023-2024)



71%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

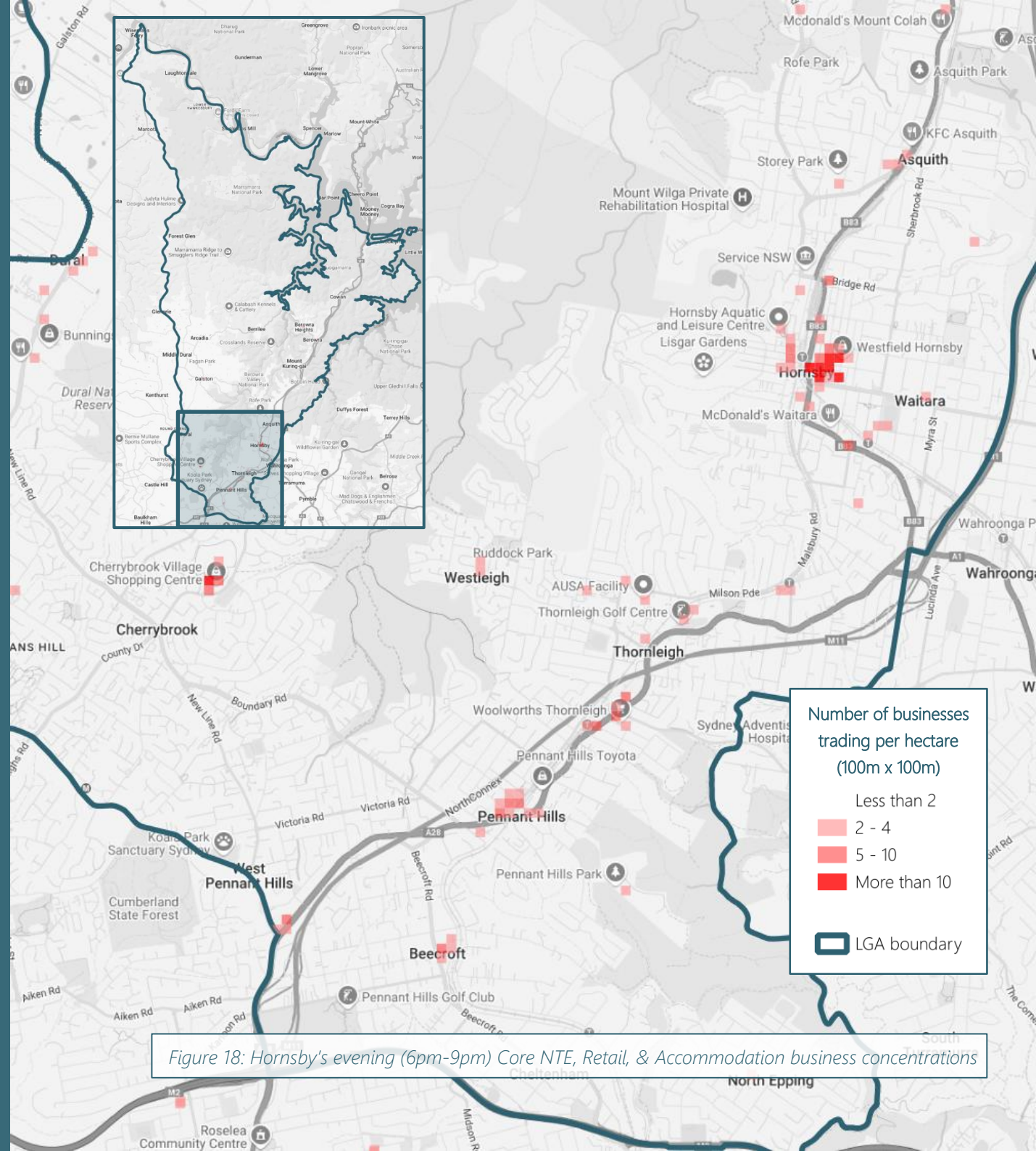
WHERE IS HORNSBY'S NTE LOCATED?

Hornsby Shire is one of the largest LGAs in Greater Sydney, covering a vast area. The majority of its night-time business activity, in April 2025, is located to the south of the shire, with a particularly strong concentration in Hornsby near the train station and the nearby Westfield retail centre.

Other clusters of night-time (6pm-9pm) businesses include:

- Pennant Hills, near the train station,
- Beecroft, along Hannah Street, and
- Cherrybrook Village Shopping Centre.

Figure 18 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



HORNSBY'S CITY INITIATIVES

[Hornsby Town Centre](#) is set to transform from a sleepy, retail precinct to a vibrant and active night-time hub. This change is predominantly driven by new re-zonings curated by Hornsby Shire Council and delivered by the NSW State Government through the [Transport Oriented Development Project](#).

As the residential population increases across the town centre, the future of the night-time economy in Hornsby Town Centre is set to transform into a dynamic and thriving precinct which is both bustling and prosperous during the day - with an eclectic and lively evening scene after dark.

The rollout of the Hornsby Town Centre Implementation Strategy outlines a comprehensive plan to enhance the town's appeal through the development of strategic place branding and marketing campaigns. These initiatives aim to leverage the benefits of new development and Hornsby's proximity to a superior transport network. They aim to attract new residents and visitors, creating a bustling atmosphere that supports local businesses and fosters economic growth.

The broader vision for Hornsby Town Centre is encapsulated in Council's [Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2021-2026](#), which outlines a plan for an active night-time economy - developing

a vibrant mix of outdoor dining, live music, markets and arts and cultural events which cater to all age groups and budgets.

Hornsby Town Centre could become a [special entertainment precinct](#). Staff are collaborating with the Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner and other stakeholders to explore this potential. By building strong business partnerships and supporting local entrepreneurs, Council aims to create a thriving ecosystem that encourages investment and innovation.

Collaboration with key stakeholders is fundamental to realising this vision. The implementation strategy emphasises the importance of developing a night-time economy strategy and building the capacity of the business community for night-time activations. This involves working closely with businesses, planners, and government agencies to ensure the necessary infrastructure is in place to support population growth and create a vibrant and welcoming community. The goal is for Hornsby Town Centre to be not only a great place to live and work, but also a destination to bring friends and family.

Council's upcoming events and activation strategy focuses on developing policies and streamlining existing regulations to facilitate events, festivals, markets, and other activations that bring the town centre to life.

Through strategic planning, stakeholder collaboration, and a commitment to enhancing the town's appeal, Hornsby Shire Council is poised to create a thriving night-time economy that attracts investment and benefits everyone.

HORNSBY'S NTE PERFORMANCE





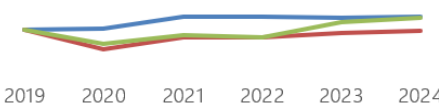





In 2023/24, Hornsby's Core NTE comprised 631 establishments and 3,355 workers. Business numbers increased by 1.6%, while employment rose by 1.2% - both slightly below the national average (+1.8% and +1.4% resp.).

Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$36m (+8%), with notable increases in spending across cafés and restaurants (+\$17m / +7%), takeaway food (+\$8m / +14%), and sports and physical recreation activities (+\$7m / +17%).

The **Food** sub-sector made up 61% of all Core NTE establishments and saw modest growth in both business numbers (+1.6%) and employment, despite a small fall in restaurant and café jobs (-80 / -3%).

Leisure and Entertainment accounted for 34% of Core NTE venues (slightly above the national average of 32%) and grew marginally in both businesses (+0.9%), with substantial growth in jobs (+11%). Strongest gains were seen in sports and recreation (+60) and creative and performing arts activities (+45). The **Drink** sub-sector grew by 9% in establishments, from 26 to 28, while employment remained flat.

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** and **Accommodation** together represented 28% of businesses. Retail employment fell by 9%, while Accommodation jobs increased by 3%, despite strong growth in establishment numbers.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	631	+1.6%	+1.8%	4%	5%
 Employment	3,355	+1.2%	+1.4%	6%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$486m	+8%	+8%	2%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	28	+8%	-0.1%	4%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	215	+0.9%	+2%	34%	32%
 Food	388	+1.6%	+2%	61%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	472	-1.0%	+0.3%	26%	35%
 Accommodation	31	+11%	-0.8%	2%	5%

HORNSBY'S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, a total of 553 businesses trade between 6pm and 6am on Thursday - more than any other night - making it Hornsby's most active evening overall. On Thursday nights, 67% of Core NTE businesses open between 6pm and 9pm, and 27% trading through to midnight. Friday (60%) and Wednesday (61%) also see strong early evening activity, showing a mid-week to weekend arc in demand.

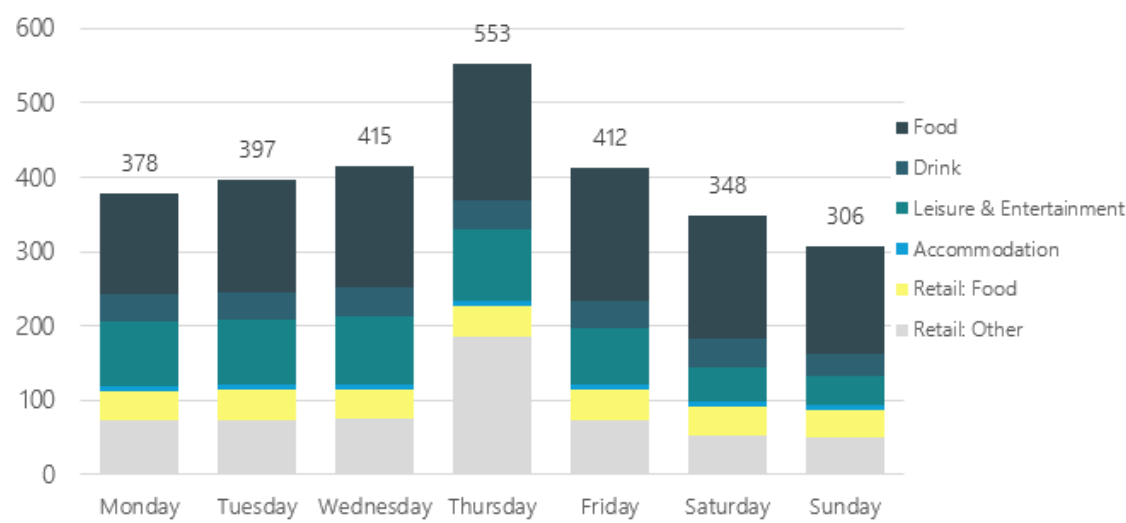
Late-night trading (12am–3am) is modest, with 7% of Core NTE businesses open on Friday and Saturday. The early-hours economy (3am–6am) is led by mid-week trading, with 10–11% of businesses open from Monday to Friday – catering to early morning risers.

Retail trading after dark is limited outside of Thursday, when 44% of retail businesses open between 6pm and 9pm. On other nights, evening retail activity ranges from 16% to 22%, with fewer than 9% of businesses open after 9pm on any day.

Figure 19: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	54%	21%	6%	10%
	Tuesday	58%	22%	6%	11%
	Wednesday	61%	24%	6%	10%
	Thursday	67%	27%	6%	11%
	Friday	60%	28%	7%	10%
	Saturday	53%	28%	7%	6%
	Sunday	46%	23%	6%	5%
Retail	Monday	21%	8%	4%	5%
	Tuesday	22%	8%	5%	5%
	Wednesday	22%	9%	5%	5%
	Thursday	44%	9%	5%	5%
	Friday	22%	8%	5%	5%
	Saturday	18%	8%	4%	5%
	Sunday	16%	8%	4%	5%

Figure 20: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



LAUNCESTON TASMANIA



Recognised as a UNESCO City of Gastronomy, Launceston is reimagining its city centre after dark. Strategic investment, outdoor dining initiatives and vibrant events are shaping a safe and welcoming night-time economy. With strong hospitality, creative programming and community engagement, Launceston is a regional leader in inclusive and sustainable night-time experiences.

LAUNCESTON'S NTE AT A GLANCE



355

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



2,255

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$348m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Food

Core NTE Sector with strongest percentage
employment growth (2023-2024)



65%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am
at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday / Friday

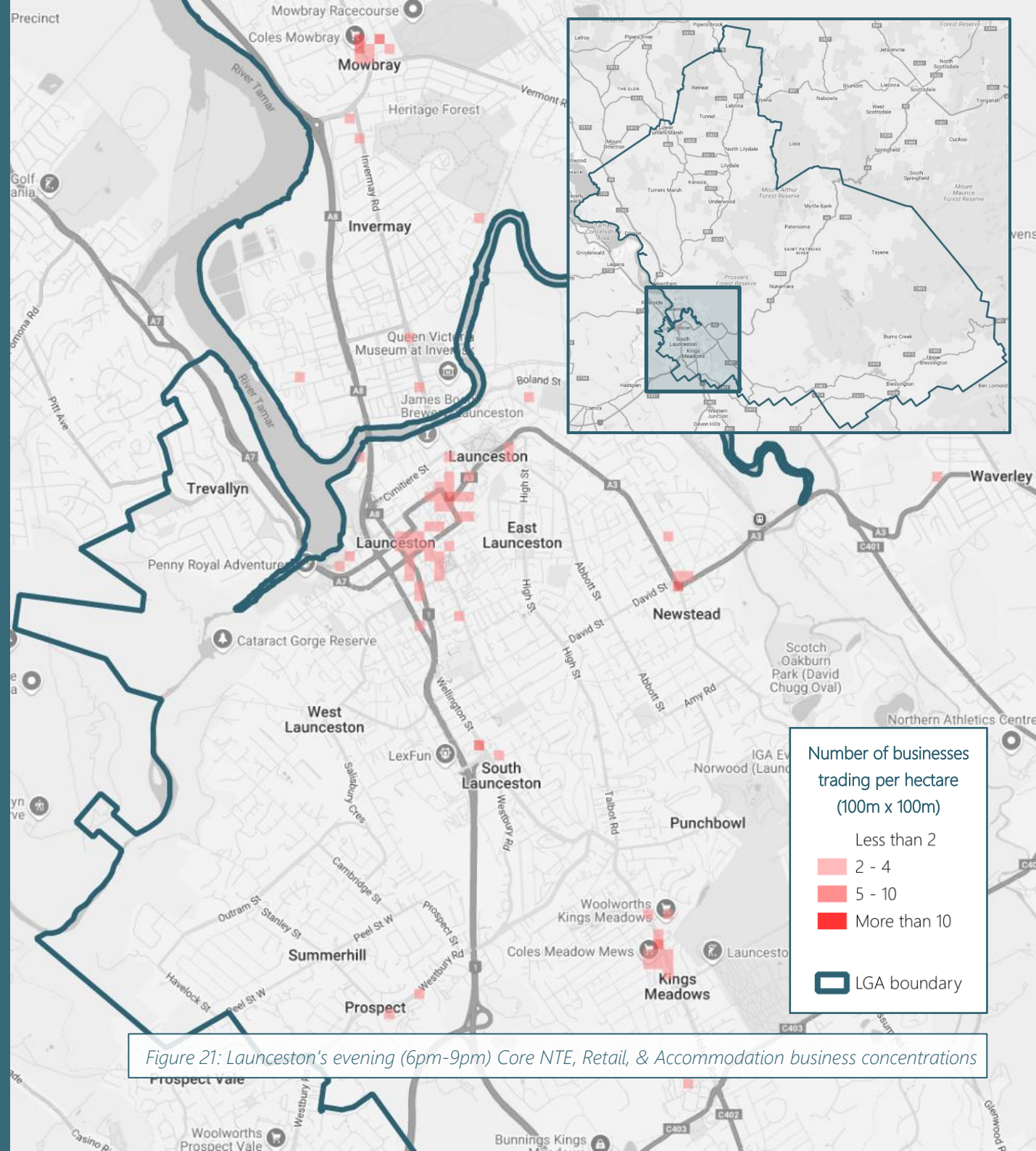
Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS LAUNCESTON'S NTE LOCATED?

The City of Launceston covers a large geographic area, with much of its night-time business activity occurring to the south west of the LGA. In April 2025, the CBD – particularly around George Street, Paterson Street and York Street hosts some of the strongest clusters of night-time businesses (particularly 6pm to 9pm). Other clusters include:

- Kings Meadows, along Hobart Road,
- Mowbray, along Invermay Road and Vermont Road, and
- A small pocket in Newstead near the Newstead Hotel on the corner of Elphin Road and Hoblers Bridge Road.

Figure 21 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



LAUNCESTON'S CITY INITIATIVES

Launceston's night-time economy plays an important role in the city's cultural and economic landscape, supported by strategic initiatives, business activity tracking, and community engagement. The city is enhancing its after-dark experience through planning, precinct activations, and events that contribute to a safe and vibrant night-time environment. With 1,200 businesses in the CBD, accounting for 20% of all businesses in the municipality, night-time trade is key to economic sustainability, with an estimated impact of over \$20 million annually.

The [Launceston City Heart Place Plan \(2024-2029\)](#) envisions a more connected and people-friendly city centre, focusing on public space improvements and extended evening activity. A key initiative, the George Street Dining Deck Trial (2024-25), is transforming parking spaces into outdoor dining areas to support hospitality and encourage businesses to extend trading hours. Another initiative, the Cameron Street Tree Planting, will enhance greenery, provide shade, and make public spaces more inviting. These efforts align with the city's goal of making Launceston more liveable, accessible, and thriving after dark.

The [Business Activity Survey](#) tracks Launceston's economic landscape, providing insights into business trends. A census is conducted annually via

an app, which also captures real-time business changes, including renovations and lease updates. The survey covers business composition, trading patterns, hospitality trends, and economic performance to inform policy and support local enterprises.

The app has been used to identify 229 hospitality, 292 retail, and 672 service businesses in the CBD, including 255 operating as part of the night-time economy and 60 offering on-street dining. This data improves business insights, ensuring city planning meets business and community needs.

The hospitality sector remains a key driver, with strong food, drink, and entertainment participation. Public space activations and outdoor dining have extended trading hours and boosted visitor engagement. Festive lighting, including Christmas tree and street illuminations, has further increased foot traffic and enhanced the CBD's evening atmosphere.

Launceston's annual events calendar continues to attract visitors and encourage night-time spending. Carols by Candlelight remains one of the city's most popular community events, drawing over 5,000 attendees to City Park. Seasonal festivals such as Winter Fest and Food & Wine Events activate key areas, bringing thousands of visitors and economic benefits to local businesses. The live music, arts, and entertainment scene is expanding, with greater

collaboration between venues and performers to create diverse cultural experiences.

Foot traffic and mobility data indicate that Launceston's night-time economy is experiencing sustained post-pandemic recovery, particularly in hospitality precincts. Investment in lighting, events, and placemaking continues to support long-term economic resilience, ensuring that Launceston remains a regional leader in after-dark experiences. Through business support, strategic planning, and cultural activations, the city is shaping a vibrant, safe, and economically sustainable night-time economy for residents and visitors alike.

LAUNCESTON'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Launceston's Core NTE comprised 355 establishments and 2,255 workers. While the number of venues declined by 3% - in contrast to national growth of 1.8% - employment rose by 9%, well ahead of the national average of 1.4%.





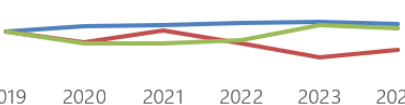





The **Food** sub-sector played a key role in this growth, with employment increasing by 13% (+180 jobs), largely across cafés and takeaway services (+130). Interestingly, this occurred despite a 3% drop in Food business numbers, indicating increased staffing in fewer venues.

Leisure and Entertainment accounted for 24% of Core NTE establishments - below the national average of 32% - and saw a modest rise in employment (+1.5% / +5), alongside a slight fall in venue numbers (-1.2%).

The **Drink** sub-sector saw a 3% drop in business numbers and flat employment.

Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$8m (+2%), with growth the Food sub-sector (+5%) offset by small declines in Drink (-3%) and Leisure and Entertainment (-2%).

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** employment fell by 3% coinciding with a 5% decline in businesses, while **Accommodation** remained steady despite a 21% (-12) decline in businesses.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	355	-3%	+1.8%	6%	5%
 Employment	2,255	+9%	+1.4%	8%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$348m	+2%	+8%	4%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	31	-3%	-0.1%	9%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	84	-1.2%	+2%	24%	32%
 Food	240	-3%	+2%	68%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	248	-5%	+0.3%	36%	35%
 Accommodation	45	-21%	-0.8%	7%	5%

LAUNCESTON’S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, 337 businesses are open on Thursday nights in Launceston, closely followed by Friday (335) and Wednesday (321), indicating a mid-to-late week peak in Launceston’s night-time economy.

On Thursday nights 60% of Core NTE businesses open between 6pm and 9pm, and 24% remaining open through to midnight.

Businesses tend to trade later into the night on Fridays and Saturdays, however, with 28% and 26% of Core NTE businesses open between 9pm and midnight on Friday and Saturday respectively.

Late-night trading (12am–3am) is limited but slightly higher on Friday and Saturday, when 7% of businesses continue trading into the early hours.

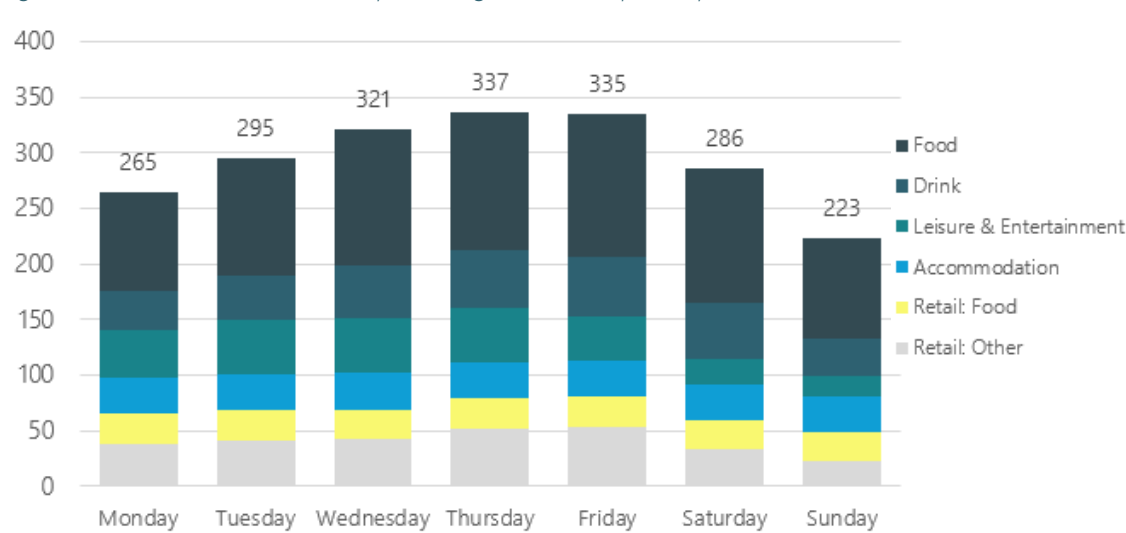
A small early-hours economy (3am–6am) is also present, peaking at 9% on Tuesday and Thursday – most likely catering for early risers.

Retail activity after-hours is subdued. Only 17% of retail businesses trade in the evening on Thursday and Friday, and fewer than 6% remain open after 9pm on any day of the week. This suggests room for growth in after-dark retail.

Figure 22: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm–6am)	Evening 6pm–9pm	Early-Night 9pm–12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am–3am	Early-hours 3am–6am
Core NTE	Monday	44%	18%	5%	8%
	Tuesday	52%	18%	5%	9%
	Wednesday	58%	22%	5%	8%
	Thursday	60%	24%	5%	9%
	Friday	59%	28%	7%	9%
	Saturday	53%	26%	7%	6%
	Sunday	39%	15%	5%	5%
Retail	Monday	14%	5%	3%	4%
	Tuesday	15%	5%	3%	4%
	Wednesday	15%	5%	3%	4%
	Thursday	17%	5%	3%	4%
	Friday	17%	5%	2%	3%
	Saturday	13%	6%	3%	3%
	Sunday	11%	5%	3%	2%

Figure 23: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



MARIBYRNONG VICTORIA



In the heart of Melbourne's Inner West, Maribyrnong City Council has an eclectic mixture of activity centres and boasts a diverse evening economy. From the hustle, bustle and colour of Footscray, to the quieter and cosier village vibes of Yarraville, Seddon and West Footscray, through to the powerful retail pull of Highpoint Shopping Centre, there is something on offer for everyone.

MARIBYRNONG'S NTE AT A GLANCE



706

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



3,390

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$461m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Leisure &
Entertainment

Core NTE Sector with largest employment growth
(2023-2024)



76%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am
at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS MARIBYRNONG'S NTE LOCATED?

In April 2025, there continues to be two strong clusters of night-time business activity in the City of Maribyrnong, namely:

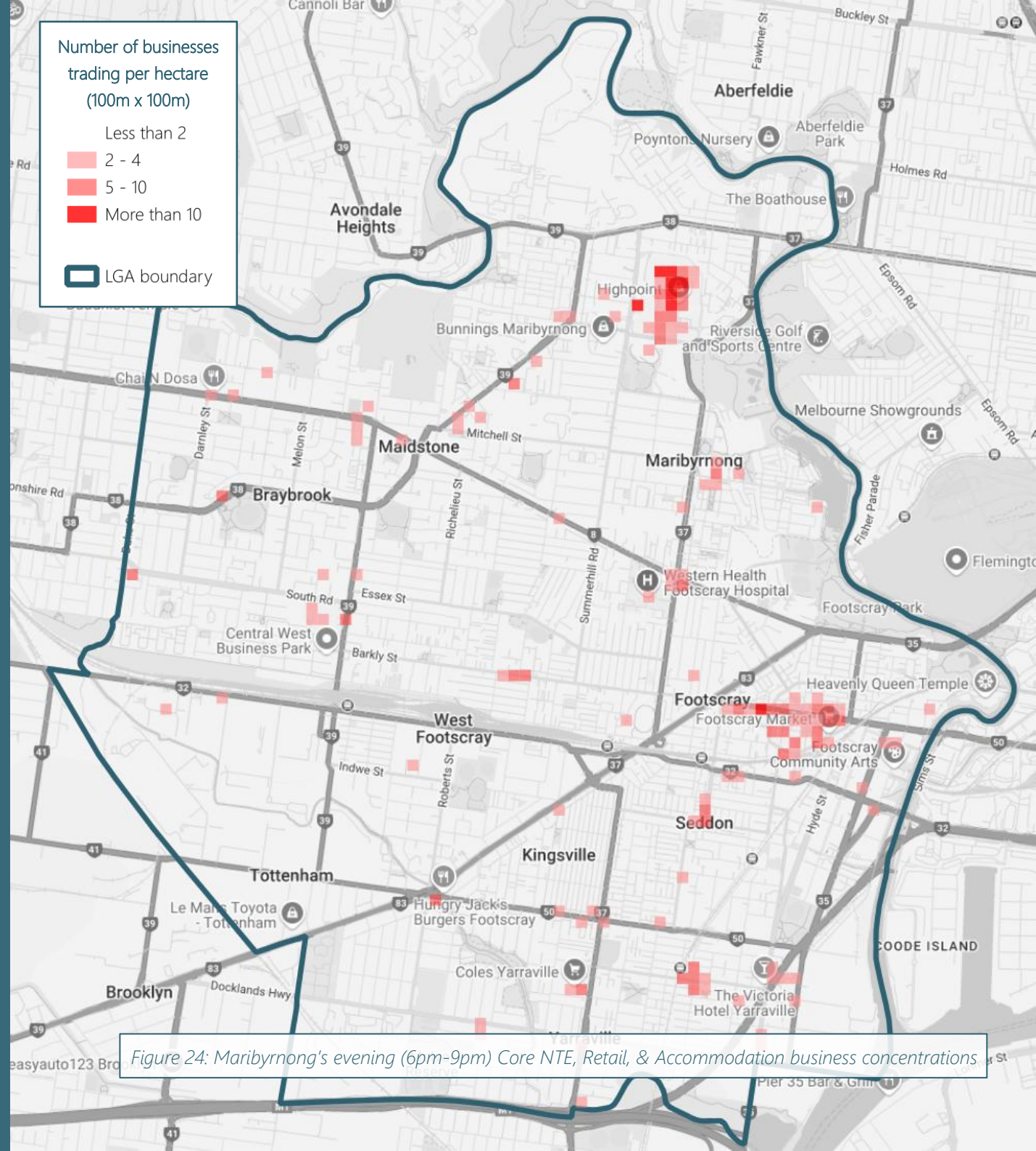
- Highpoint Shopping Centre to the north, and
- Along Barkly Street in Footscray to the east of the Princes Highway.

Other smaller clusters are located:

- Further along Barkly Street towards West Footscray,
- In Seddon at the intersection of Charles Street and Victoria Street, and
- Along Anderson Street, near Yarraville Station.

Figure 24 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).

See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



MARIBYRNONG'S CITY INITIATIVES

Maribyrnong City Council has a strong focus on supporting its evening economy through a range of initiatives.

The Council's [Love Your West](#) campaign has continued to promote the municipal's visitor economy assets, with a strong emphasis on the evening economy.

Council continues to support and empower local businesses and community groups to plan and deliver events, festivals and activations, many of which are focused on activating the city's business precincts in the evening. Funding and in-kind support are provided through two grants programs:

1. Signature Festivals and Activations Grants Program incorporating:
 - Signature Festivals (Biennial grants)
 - Place Based Initiatives (Annual grants)
2. Love Your West Grants Program incorporating:
 - Place-Based Initiatives (Quick Response grants)
 - Night Time Diversification (Quick Response grants)

In 2023/24 Maribyrnong City Council awarded \$369,500 for Signature Festivals and Activations Grants, and \$160,597 for Love Your West Grants. Over the four grant streams a total of 54 eligible

applications were received, with the requested total funds far surpassing available funding.

In addition to supporting these community-led activities, the Council also partners with a range of major Melbourne event organisers and neighbouring western region Councils to present activities in festivals such as the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, Midsumma Festival, Melbourne Fringe Festival and Melbourne International Jazz Festival.

The Council also delivers several signature events throughout the year with a strong focus on activating the evening economy. The annual highlight is the New Years Eve Fireworks event in Footscray Park, which attracted over 15,000 people in 2023.

The Council has also invested in improved streetscapes, with a strategic section of Ballarat Road in Yarraville permanently closed in 2023 and transformed into open space with public seating and tree plantings and spaces that can also be utilised by traders for outdoor dining.

In Footscray, similar capital works improvements were made for Byron Plaza with amenity improvements and permanent public seating installed that can be utilised by patrons from nearby take-away restaurants.

In 2023/24 the Council secured funding through the State Government's Building Safer

Communities Program to install new lighting infrastructure in [The Little Africa Precinct](#) in Footscray. Now installed, the lighting has improved the perception of safety, and a number of previously empty shopfronts have been turned into thriving community spaces. The Council regularly supports a range of evening space activations in the Precinct including community festivals, events, and significant cultural receptions.

Footscray's night-time economy also saw a boost in activity in late April 2024 with the opening of the Moon Dog Brewery's 'Wild West' establishment in the Footscray CBD in the old Franco Cozzo furniture showroom near the train station. This three-storey venue is licensed to accommodate up to 800 guests, and has become a drawcard that has brought new visitors into Footscray.

MARIBYRNONG'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Maribyrnong's Core NTE comprised 706 establishments and 3,390 workers. While the number of businesses fell by 3% - in contrast to national growth of 1.8% - employment rose by 1%, close to the national average.





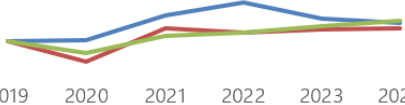





Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$38m (+9%) in 2023/24, driven by strong growth in the Food (+10%), and Drink (+13%) sub-sectors, while creative and performing arts also recorded solid growth (+9%).

The number of **Food** venues fell slightly (-1.4%), but employment held steady, supported by growth in cafés and restaurants (+4% / +70 jobs), despite a decline in takeaway food services (-60 jobs / -14%).

Leisure and Entertainment made up 34% of Core NTE venues. Business numbers declined by 6%, yet employment rose by 20 jobs (+3%). Growth was strongest in creative and performing arts activities, which added 30 jobs (+10%), while losses were recorded in clubs, amusement activities, and brothel keeping activity.

The **Drink** sub-sector saw a small loss in venues (-2%), and a small rise in employment (+3%).

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** and **Accommodation** accounted for 35% of all businesses. Retail employment declined by 9%, along with business numbers (-5%) - likely reflecting cost pressures. In contrast, Accommodation businesses (+44% / +4) and employment (+43%) rose sharply, suggesting growing visitor demand.

Measure	FY24	City		National	
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	706	-3%		+1.8%	8%5%
 Employment	3,390	+1.0%		+1.4%	9%8%
 Sales Turnover	\$461m	+9%		+8%	3%4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024		 <div> <div>Establishments</div> <div>Employment</div> <div>Turnover (A\$m)</div> </div>		
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	49	-2%		-0.1%	7%7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	242	-6%		+2%	34%32%
 Food	415	-1.4%		+2%	59%61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	480	-5%		+0.3%	34%35%
 Accommodation	13	+44%		-0.8%	1%5%

MARIBYRNONG'S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday is Maribyrnong’s busiest trading night, with 745 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. This is closely followed by Friday (728 businesses), suggesting strong end-of-week activity.

Core NTE trading is particularly high on these days, with 73% of businesses open between 6pm and 9pm on Thursday, and 72% on Friday.

Late trading is most prevalent at the weekend, with 43% of Core NTE businesses open between 9pm and midnight on Friday, and 41% on Saturday.

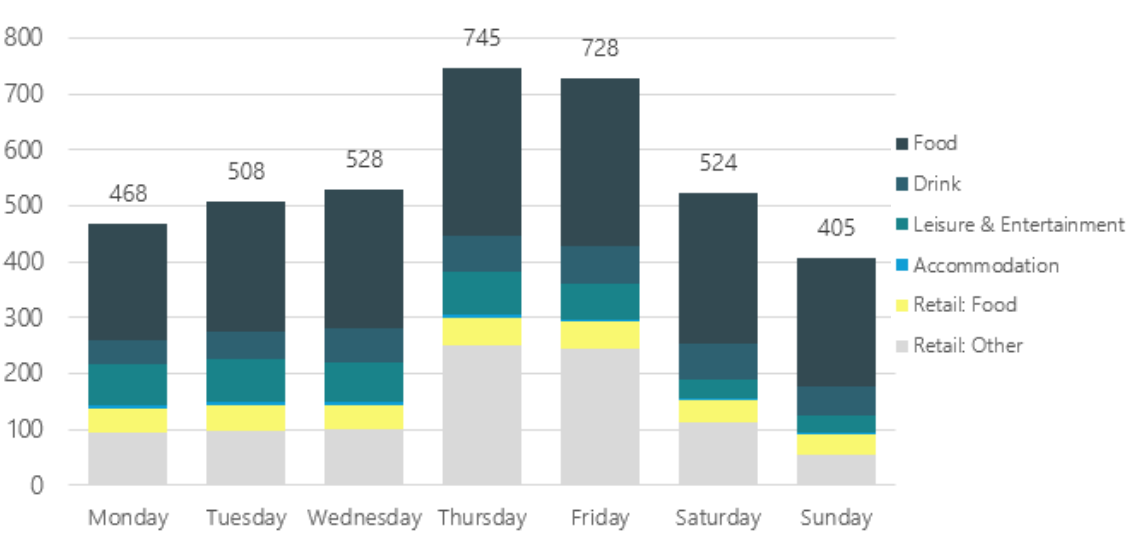
Late-night (12am-3am) and early-hours (3am–6am) trading is also strongest at the weekend. On both Friday and Saturday, 12% of Core NTE businesses stay open into the late night, with a further 5-7% operating into the early hours.

Retail activity is strongest on Thursday, when 48% of retail businesses trade in the evening, followed closely by Friday (46%). On all other days, fewer than a quarter of retail businesses stay open after 6pm.

Figure 25: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	54%	28%	7%	7%
	Tuesday	60%	30%	8%	7%
	Wednesday	63%	33%	8%	7%
	Thursday	73%	36%	9%	7%
	Friday	72%	43%	12%	7%
	Saturday	61%	41%	12%	5%
	Sunday	52%	30%	7%	4%
Retail	Monday	22%	9%	3%	5%
	Tuesday	22%	8%	3%	4%
	Wednesday	23%	9%	3%	5%
	Thursday	48%	10%	4%	5%
	Friday	46%	9%	4%	5%
	Saturday	24%	8%	3%	4%
	Sunday	14%	7%	3%	3%

Figure 26: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



MELBOURNE VICTORIA



Victoria's capital city is renowned for its laneways, arcades, coffee culture and extensive arts and cultural scene. The city is also known as Australia's sporting capital, hosting a wide array of key sporting events across the year. For the third consecutive year in 2024, the Economist Intelligence Unit ranked Melbourne as Australia's most liveable city.

MELBOURNE'S NTE AT A GLANCE



3,107

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



34,055

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$4.8bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



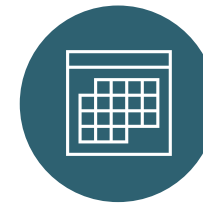
Drink

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage
employment growth (2023-2024)



65%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am
at least one day per week (April 2025)



Friday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS MELBOURNE'S NTE LOCATED?

In April 2025, City of Melbourne was home to a wide array of night-time businesses across the LGA.

The CBD is host to the greatest volume of night-time businesses with many areas hosting more than 5 businesses trading in the evening (6pm to 9pm) every 100m. Other key clusters in Melbourne include:

- Southbank,
- South Wharf
- Docklands and NewQuay,
- Lygon Street in Carlton,
- Errol Street in North Melbourne, and
- Macaulay Road near Kensington Station to the north west of the LGA.

Figure 27 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#). See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.

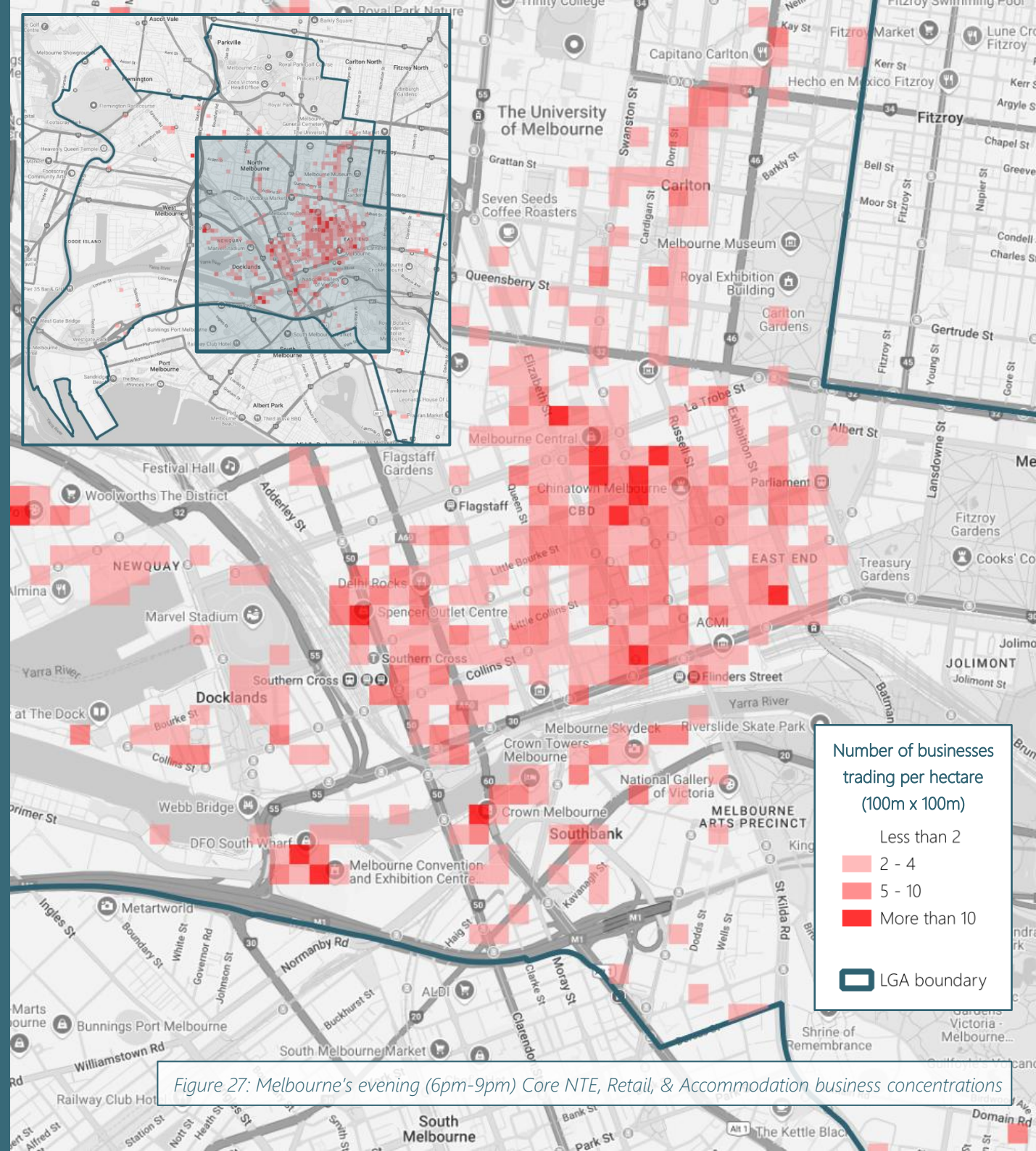


Figure 27: Melbourne's evening (6pm-9pm) Core NTE, Retail, & Accommodation business concentrations

MELBOURNE'S CITY INITIATIVES

In 2023/24, Melbourne strengthened its position as a bustling business hub and a vibrant night-time destination. The City of Melbourne focused on creating an inviting environment for workers, students, residents and visitors by facilitating a variety of events, activations and marketing campaigns. City of Melbourne events attracted 6.3 million visitors and generated nearly \$227 million in economic value, further cementing Melbourne's reputation as a premier destination for sports, arts and events. A particular emphasis was placed on enhancing the night-time economy, contributing significantly to the city's overall economic growth.

The City of Melbourne delivered six premier events throughout the year - Moomba, Firelight Festival, Now or Never, Melbourne Fashion Week, Christmas, and New Year's Eve - alongside more than 70 supported events through programs like the Events Partnership Program and City Revitalisation Event Support Program. Firelight Festival, held at the end of June in Docklands, attracted 90,000 attendees and featured a new attraction at Marvel Stadium – Firelight Labyrinth – with over 17,000 tickets sold. The inaugural Now or Never festival was a standout success, selling 40,000 tickets to over 70 events, attracting 150,000 visitors to the city and generating almost \$14 million in economic impact.

The [Dusk till Dawn](#) Activation Grants Program attracted over 500,000 visitors to the city after dark. The program funded 17 activations, including art and lighting installations, pop-up music and performances outdoors, and interactive public exhibitions, supporting twilight and night-time traders from May to December 2023.

The Only in the City campaign ran year-round with activity bursts in key months, contributing \$15 million in monthly visitor spending. The What's On website received 13 million sessions and drove 1.8 million business leads.

The draft Destination Management Plan, [Experience Melbourne 2028](#), was finalised and released for public consultation. This plan outlines a vision for Melbourne's visitor economy, providing strategic direction for the tourism sector to enhance its visitor offerings and overall experience.

The [Mainstreaming Twilight Trade Program](#) encouraged retail and personal service businesses in Melbourne to embrace twilight trading hours, aligning their operations with new patterns of peak visitation. This program, a collaboration between the City of Melbourne, the Australian Retailers Association (ARA), and the Victorian Government, ran from August 2023 to April 2024. The program resulted in an increase in foot traffic ranging from 8-13% and spending increases of 11-19% during the Live at Errol St activation period. Notably, the program won the Economic Development

Initiatives - Regions Over 15,000 Residents award at the 2024 National Economic Development Awards for Excellence, recognising its success in boosting local business and enhancing the city's night-time economy.

The City Economy Advisory Committee (CEAC) built on the work of the Night Time Economy Advisory Committee (NTEAC), which concluded its term on 30 June 2023. The CEAC informed the development of major Council proposals, projects, and initiatives impacting the city economy.

MELBOURNE'S NTE PERFORMANCE





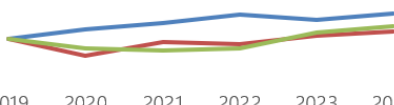





In 2023/24, Melbourne's Core NTE comprised 3,107 establishments, up 5% from the previous year, employing 34,055 workers - a 3% increase. Overall, the Core NTE added 138 establishments and 1,065 jobs year-on-year, reinforcing its economic importance to the city.

Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$460m (+11%), led by strong gains in cafés and restaurants (+333m / +13%), and creative and performing arts activities (+42m / +7%).

Melbourne's Core NTE now accounts for 10% of citywide employment, above the national average. The **Food** sub-sector is particularly strong, comprising 71% of establishments and 24,305 jobs. Growth was driven by a 6% rise in **Food** establishments and 1.5% increase in employment, particularly in cafés and restaurants.

Leisure and Entertainment venues rose marginally (+1.0%), with employment growth (+10%) strongest in creative and performing arts activities (+290 jobs). **Drink** venues rose 6% overall, with a notable 8% increase in pubs, taverns, and bars (+14 / +8%) and associated employment (+155 / +5%).

Retail and **Accommodation** made up 39% of Non-Core NTE businesses. Retail employment fell 7%, despite steady establishment numbers, likely reflecting ongoing cost pressures. Conversely, Accommodation employment rose 3%, suggesting modest growth in visitor demand.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	3,107	+5%	+1.8%	7%	5%
 Employment	34,055	+3%	+1.4%	10%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$4,800m	+11%	+8%	4%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	220	+6%	-0.1%	7%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	695	+1.0%	+2%	22%	32%
 Food	2,192	+6%	+2%	71%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	1,549	+1.9%	+0.3%	33%	35%
 Accommodation	307	+6%	-0.8%	6%	5%

MELBOURNE’S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Friday night is Melbourne’s busiest night, with 2,035 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Thursday (1,932) and Wednesday (1,815) also show high levels of activity, indicating a strong mid-to-late week economy.

Core NTE trading is strongest on Thursday and Friday evenings, when 62% of businesses are open between 6pm and 9pm. Nearly half of Core NTE venues remain open through to midnight on both nights (48%). Late-night trading (12am-3am) is also highest on these nights, with 17% of Core NTE businesses operating.

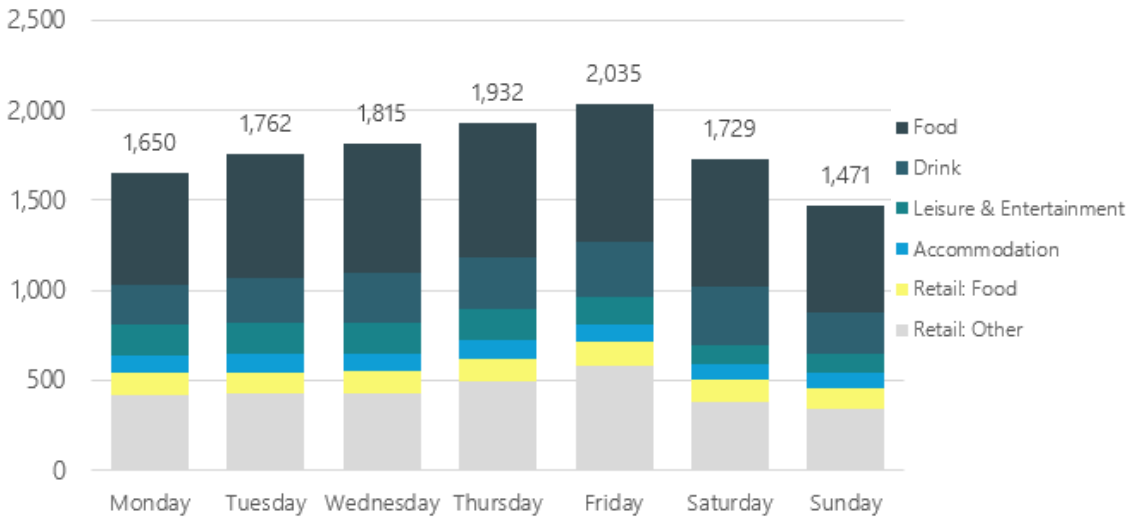
Retail trading is strongest on Friday evenings, when 50% of retail businesses open during 6pm-9pm and 20% continue through to midnight. Thursday is also active, with 44% of retail businesses open in the evening. On all other nights, between 32% and 39% of retail businesses open after 6pm

Across the week, Melbourne maintains one of the highest volumes of night-time business activity among all participating cities.

Figure 28: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	51%	34%	9%	6%
	Tuesday	57%	39%	9%	6%
	Wednesday	60%	42%	10%	6%
	Thursday	62%	44%	11%	7%
	Friday	62%	48%	17%	8%
	Saturday	57%	48%	17%	8%
	Sunday	47%	35%	9%	5%
Retail	Monday	39%	19%	10%	9%
	Tuesday	39%	19%	10%	9%
	Wednesday	39%	19%	10%	9%
	Thursday	44%	19%	10%	10%
	Friday	50%	20%	10%	10%
	Saturday	36%	20%	10%	10%
	Sunday	32%	18%	10%	9%

Figure 29: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



MOONEE VALLEY VICTORIA



Moonee Valley is activating its night-time economy through live music, evening festivals, and outdoor dining across vibrant precincts. With over 40 events, 30+ parklets, and strong partnerships with local traders and major festivals, the Council is fostering a connected, creative, and welcoming city that supports local business and brings communities together after dark.

MOONEE VALLEY'S NTE AT A GLANCE



789

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



4,720

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$686m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



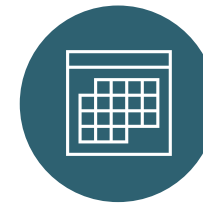
Drink

Core NTE Sector with strongest percentage establishment growth (2023-2024)



73%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

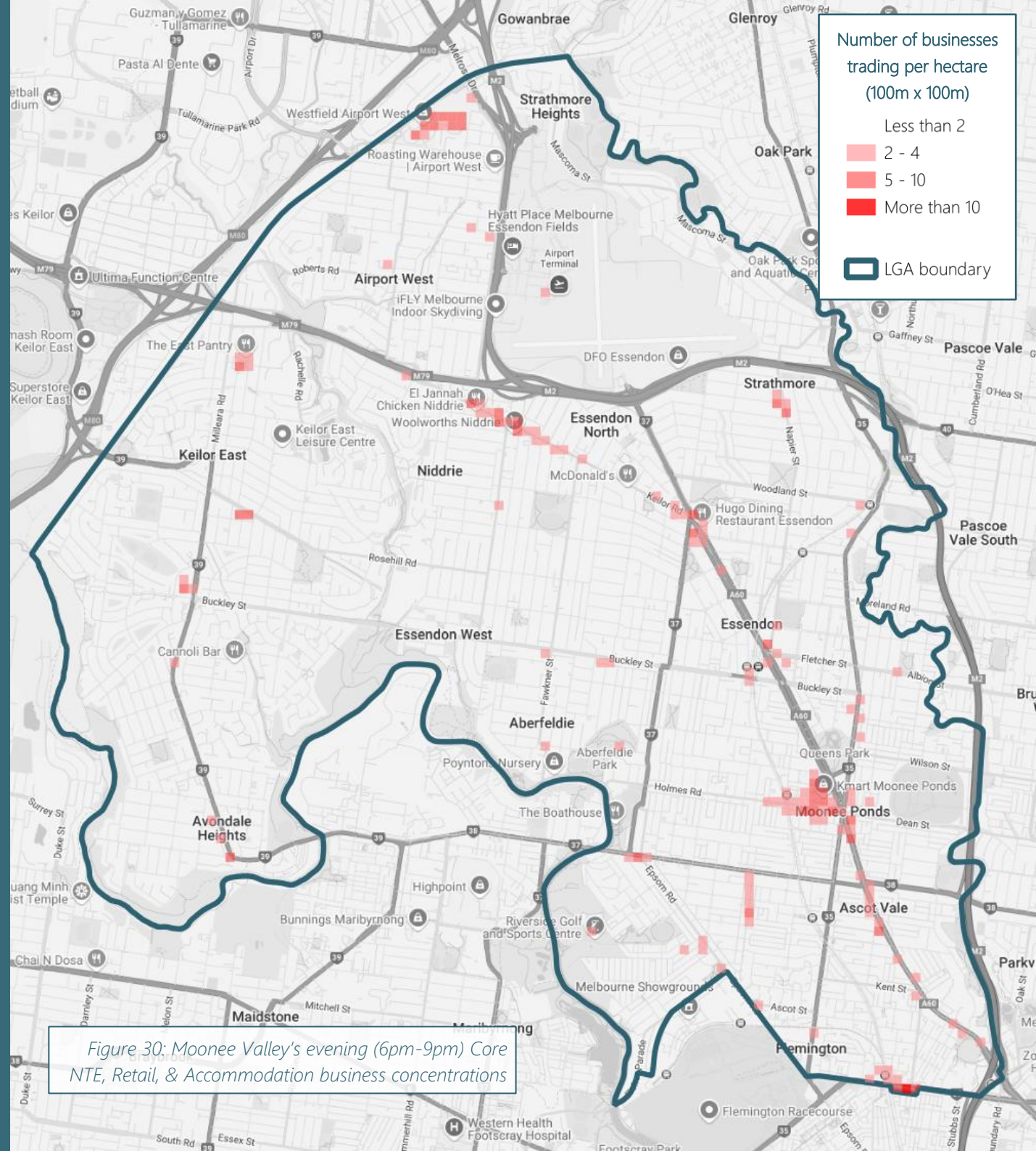
Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS MOONEE VALLEY'S NTE LOCATED?

The City of Moonee Valley located in Melbourne's inner suburbs stretches from Flemington in the south, through Moonee Ponds and Essendon up to Strathmore Heights. In April 2025, there are several clusters of night-time business activity across the LGA, including:

- Moonee Ponds business precinct,
- Flemington business precinct on Racecourse Road,
- Ascot Vale business precinct on Union Road
- The Westfield Airport West retail centre to the north,
- Essendon and Essendon North business areas, located on or near to Mount Alexander Road,
- Keilor Road, Niddrie, between Cooper Street & Matthews Avenue.

Figure 30 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



MOONEE VALLEY'S CITY INITIATIVES

The City of Moonee Valley has worked to support and grow the city's night-time economy during the 2023/24 financial year.

Some key initiatives have included:

Events & Festivals Program

Over \$1.1 million in Council funded events were delivered across the municipality. Over 40 events and festivals were programmed in the evening and supported local businesses. This included Moonee Valley Festival, Lincoln Park Twilight Concert, Valley Sounds, and Clock Tower Theatre Season.

Melbourne Food & Wine Festival – Westside Dining Crawls

The Council partnered with the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival to support Eat Drink Westside which involved progressive dinners in Moonee Ponds and Ascot Vale.

The Council has also worked closely with the Melbourne International Jazz Festival (MIJF) to host night performances in local venues as part of the broader "Jazz Westside" initiative. This collaboration has brought live jazz music to various night venues enhancing the local cultural scene and providing residents with accessible, high-quality entertainment.

Valley Sounds – Night Economy Initiative

The Valley Sounds program was delivered across 28 hospitality venues and was part of the Council's [Igniting Creativity Strategy](#). The live music initiative aimed to support Moonee Valley's vibrant and rapidly growing night economy. Free performances were programmed over 2-weeks in June at bars, restaurants, and venues.

Outdoor Dining Initiatives

Working with local businesses, the Council has supported a variety of business areas and their business communities including entertainment, food, hospitality, retail, and more. In addition to the above activations, the Council has broadened its [Footpath Trading Policy](#) to include Parklets and laneway activations. Council have temporarily closed a number of laneways for use by evening hospitality businesses and converted over 30 on-street parking spaces for parklet dining spaces.

Further to the above, Council continued to stimulate day and night trade with a street activation in Pin Oak Crescent, Flemington. This involved the use of 10 consecutive car park spaces for an extended dining and public footpath area that includes seating and greenery.

Trader Association Night-time initiatives

Council partners with our major Trader Associations to support night-time economy initiatives. This has included The Flemington Traders Bright Lights

Winter Nights event in Racecourse Road, Christmas Festival in Union Road, Ascot Vale and Centreway Carols, East Keilor. Other initiatives have included business workshops and networking events.

Capital improvements

The Council invested over \$1.5 million in the upgrade of streetscapes, including completion of the north-side of Keilor Road, Niddrie. Works included a new landscaped footpath with improved pedestrian safety and tree canopy that has provided a clean and consistent area for outdoor dining. In Moonee Ponds, similar capital improvements were undertaken in laneways which aimed to encourage pedestrian usage and creation of vibrant dining spaces in nearby to Puckle Street.

Council also completed the Moonee Valley Public Toilet Strategy in the 23/24 year with hours of toilet operation determined on a site-by-site basis to align with the hours a space is activated by people and to support the night-time use of business precincts.

In summary these night-time economy initiatives have come about through partnerships with local trader associations, Western Melbourne Tourism, local venues, and festival groups such as Melbourne Food & Wine.

MOONEE VALLEY'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Moonee Valley's Core NTE comprised 789 establishments, a 3% decrease from the previous year. Employment also declined by 1.3% to 4,720 workers.











The **Leisure and Entertainment** sub-sector grew slightly in terms of businesses (+2%), rising to 254 venues. This sub-sector employs 1,300 people - an increase of 85 jobs (+7%) on 2022/23. Growth was driven by creative and performing arts, and sports and physical recreation.

The **Drink** sub-sector experienced a 12% increase in venue numbers (+5) but employment in this category remained steady at 425 jobs.

The number of **Food** businesses fell by 7% (-35), largely due to a reduction in takeaway services (-18%). Food remains the largest sub-sector by far, accounting for 62% of Core NTE businesses and employing 2,995 people - down 145 jobs (-5%) from the previous year.

Despite this, Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$42m (+7%) in 2023/24. Leisure and Entertainment (+\$16m / +9%) and Drink (+\$9m / +9%) increased, as did cafes and restaurants (+\$22m / +7%), but takeaway declined (-\$5m / -7%).

Within the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** and **Accommodation** together accounted for 568 businesses (35% of the Non-Core NTE). Retail businesses rose (+6%), while Accommodation declined (-8%). Despite increases, Retail employment dropped by 0.7%, and Accommodation employment reduced by 1.3%, indicating potentially weaker demand or cost pressures.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National		
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy			
 Establishments	789	-3%	+1.8%	6%	5%		
 Employment	4,720	-1.3%	+1.4%	10%	8%		
 Sales Turnover	\$686m	+7%	+8%	4%	4%		
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024		 <div><div>Establishments</div><div>Employment</div><div>Turnover (A\$m)</div></div>				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE			
 Drink	48	+12%	-0.1%	6%	7%		
 Leisure & Entertainment	254	+2%	+2%	32%	32%		
 Food	487	-7%	+2%	62%	61%		
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE			
 Retail	544	+6%	+0.3%	34%	35%		
 Accommodation	24	-8%	-0.8%	1%	5%		

MOONEE VALLEY'S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday is Moonee Valley's busiest night, with 672 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Friday follows closely behind (661), suggesting a strong lead-in to the weekend. Wednesday (577) also sees high activity.

Core NTE trading is strongest from Wednesday through Friday, with 67% of businesses open between 6pm and 9pm on Wednesday, 70% on Thursday and 68% on Friday. A similar pattern continues into the late evening, with 36–42% of Core NTE businesses trading between 9pm and midnight on those nights.

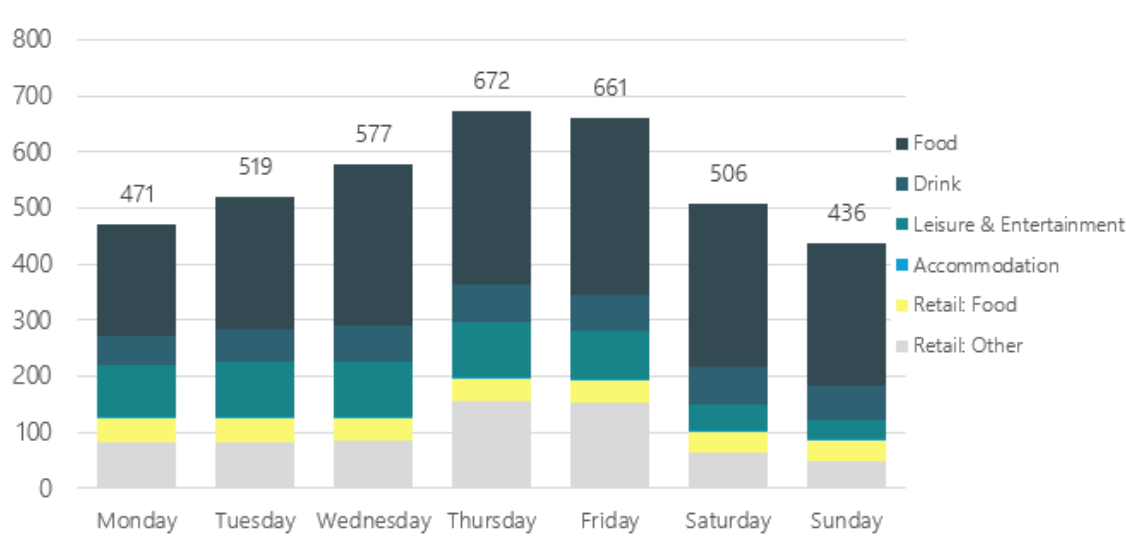
Late-night activity (12am–3am) is highest on Friday and Saturday, when 10% of Core NTE businesses remain open, and up to 9% continue trading into the early hours.

Retail businesses are more active on Thursday and Friday evenings, with 32% and 31% respectively trading after 6pm, though only 8% stay open past 9pm. On other days, fewer than one in five retail businesses operate in the evening, and late trading is minimal.

Figure 31: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm–6am)	Evening 6pm–9pm	Early-Night 9pm–12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am–3am	Early-hours 3am–6am
Core NTE	Monday	51%	26%	7%	9%
	Tuesday	58%	30%	7%	9%
	Wednesday	67%	34%	7%	9%
	Thursday	70%	36%	7%	8%
	Friday	68%	42%	10%	9%
	Saturday	60%	42%	10%	5%
	Sunday	52%	28%	6%	4%
Retail	Monday	20%	8%	3%	4%
	Tuesday	20%	8%	3%	4%
	Wednesday	20%	8%	3%	4%
	Thursday	32%	8%	3%	4%
	Friday	31%	8%	3%	4%
	Saturday	16%	8%	4%	3%
	Sunday	13%	7%	3%	3%

Figure 32: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



A large crowd of people is shown from behind, with their arms raised in the air, holding up smartphones to capture photos or videos. The scene is illuminated by bright, blue and white stage lights that create a dynamic, high-energy atmosphere. The background is filled with the silhouettes of many people and the intense glow of the stage lighting.

NEWCASTLE

NEW SOUTH WALES

The beating heart of the Hunter region, Newcastle blends the best of laid-back coastal life, with a city bustling with restaurants, events, and nightlife. Hubs like Honeysuckle and Darby Street host live music, theatre, and festivals, while many enjoy the local craft beer scene and evening waterfront strolls.

NEWCASTLE'S NTE AT A GLANCE



1,079

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



14,470

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$2.3bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Leisure &
Entertainment

Experienced strong employment growth
(2023-2024)



67%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am
at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

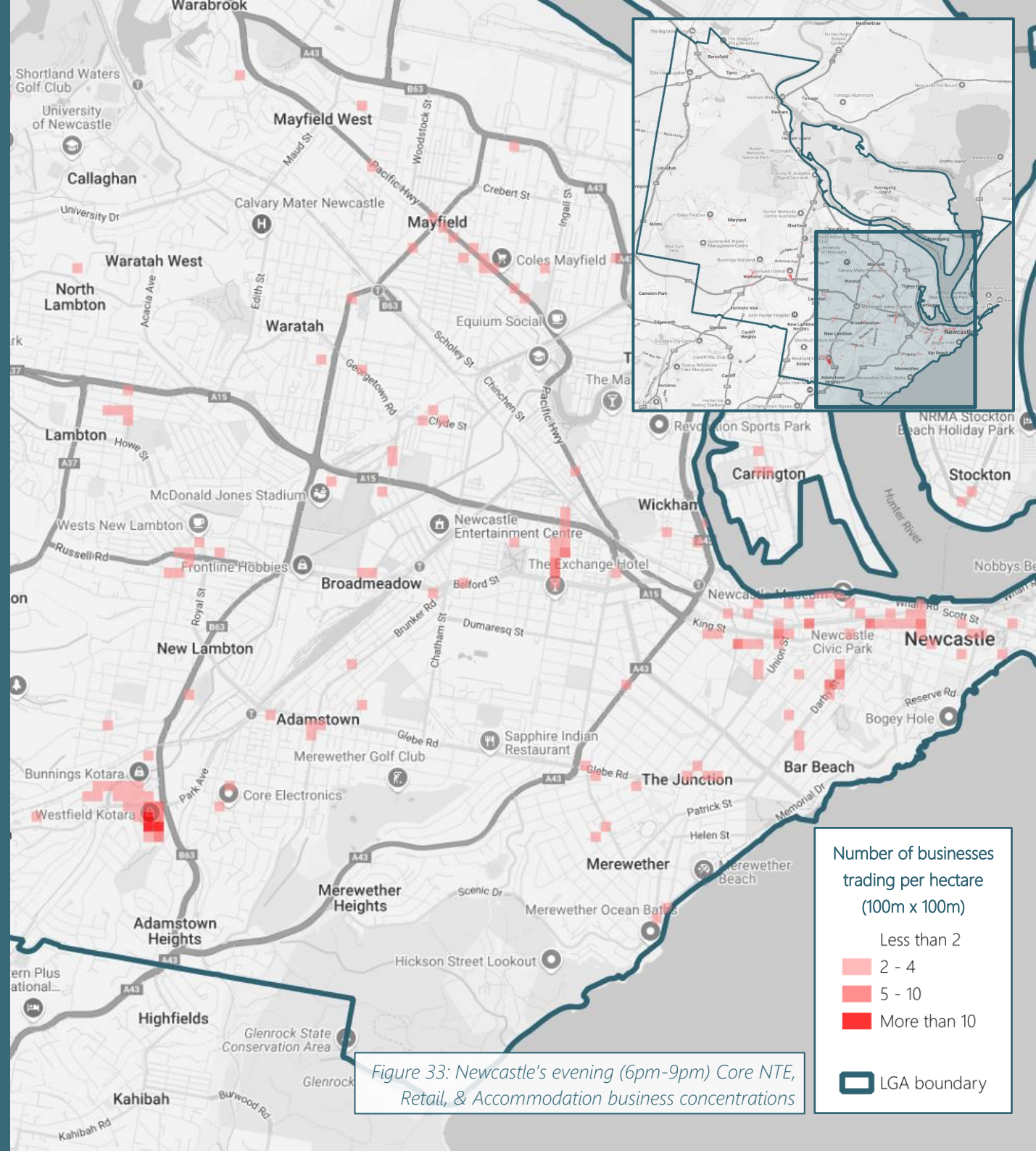
Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS NEWCASTLE'S NTE LOCATED?

In April 2025, the City of Newcastle's night-time businesses continue to be concentrated in the south east of the LGA, with key precincts including:

- The CBD,
- Darby Steet,
- Hunter Street,
- Honeysuckle Drive,
- The Junction,
- The Westfield Kotara retail centre and surrounding area,
- Hamilton, along Beaumont Street south of the station,
- Wallsend, along – and to the north of – Cowper Street, and
- Mayfield, south east from the Mayfield Hotel along the Pacific Highway.

Figure 33 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



NEWCASTLE'S CITY INITIATIVES

Newcastle's night-time economy encapsulates varied cultural and economic activity after dark. Newcastle acknowledges seven formal nightlife precincts across the city, each with a diverse local character and identity. These precincts include East End, Civic-CBD, West End, Hamilton, Darby Street, Honeysuckle, and Junction-Merewether.

Delivering outcomes from the [Newcastle After Dark Strategy](#), this year the City of Newcastle has facilitated various key initiatives to support night-time businesses and increase the vibrancy of the city's thriving local economy.

The Hawker Night Markets became a regular fixture on the Newcastle calendar funded by [Special Business Rates](#), through the [Hamilton Business Improvement Association](#). The family-friendly activations enabled local businesses and vendors to partner with the event to provide market stalls, food offerings, and entertainment.

The city's local hospitality workers participated in the night-of-all-nights during the Newcastle Bar Awards. The awards showcased the evolution of the industry, local bartenders, mixologists, brewers, and hospitality heroes, and their contribution to the night-time economy. The event was funded by the [Special Business Rates](#).

Beloved regular events such as West Best Bloc Fest returned thanks to support from the Special Business Rates. The festival celebrates its namesake block and saw performances from over 100 musicians across 12 stages. West Best Bloc Fest coincided with the City's premier cultural event, New Annual which saw over 33,000 additional visitors during the ten-day festival.

The largest single-day event in Newcastle's history attracted over 100,000 people as the Newcastle Williamtown Air Show flew into town. With increased visitation, the event generated a 20% increase in night-time expenditure for the city.

Newcastle City Centre's newest [Development Control Plan](#) was treated to an in-depth analysis focusing on aligning planning controls with best practices and the City's strategic night-time direction. Night-time precincts were acknowledged in the revised character area statements, and specific design criteria have been inserted to encourage developments to embrace and support the night-time economy such as strengthened noise attenuation criteria, enhanced pedestrian networks with creative lighting, and recommendations to increase shopfront and building illumination.

The City of Newcastle embarked on several ambitious civic construction projects during 2023/24 to enhance its ongoing urban revitalisation.

These included:

- The Newcastle Art Gallery expansion will add 1,600 square meters of exhibition space, a new cafe, retail, and creative spaces. This project will enhance cultural offerings in the Civic-CBD precinct.
- The Hunter Street Mall Revitalisation will introduce mixed-use buildings, restore historic facades, and expand this entertainment precinct fostering a more vibrant night-time economy.

Newcastle's commitment to enhancing its night-time economy remains strong. The city will continue delivering initiatives that make public spaces more walkable, attractive, and economically viable for businesses and residents. A new Night-Time Economy Strategy is set to be developed, ensuring Newcastle remains a leading destination for after-dark activity.

NEWCASTLE'S NTE PERFORMANCE

Newcastle's Core NTE saw modest employment growth in 2023/24, rising 1% to 14,470 jobs, despite a 1% fall in the number of establishments (1,079).





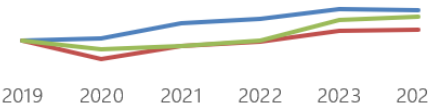





Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$157m (+7%) in 2023/24, driven by strong growth in cafés and restaurants (+\$109m / 12%), and sports and physical recreation activities (+\$25m + 17%).

The number of **Food** establishments declined by 1.5% to 598, and employment fell by 3% (-210 jobs). Cafés and restaurants experienced a small decline (-1%), but takeaway food services fell more sharply (-9%).

Leisure and Entertainment represents 34% of Core NTE businesses (367), with establishment numbers steady year-on-year (-0.3%). The sub-sector added 495 jobs (+11%), driven by a 9% (240 jobs) increase in creative and performing arts employment and notable growth in sports and recreation activities (+26% / 180 jobs) – contributing substantially to the Core NTE's overall performance.

The number of **Drink** establishments was relatively stable, while employment in this sub-sector fell by 7% - particularly in pubs, taverns and bars (-145 jobs / -8%).

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** and **Accommodation** establishment numbers declined and both experienced declines in employment of 8% between 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	1,079	-1.0%	+1.8%	7%	5%
 Employment	14,470	+0.9%	+1.4%	13%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$2,271m	+7%	+8%	5%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	114	-0.9%	-0.1%	11%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	367	-0.3%	+2%	34%	32%
 Food	598	-1.5%	+2%	55%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	535	-6%	+0.3%	28%	35%
 Accommodation	77	-13%	-0.8%	3%	5%

NEWCASTLE’S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday night is Newcastle’s busiest evening, with 887 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Friday (733) and Wednesday (729) also see high activity, indicating strong mid-to-late week trading.

Core NTE trading is strongest on Thursday, when 64% of businesses are open between 6pm and 9pm, and 30% continue trading through to midnight. Friday and Saturday nights follow closely, with 34% of Core NTE businesses open between 9pm and midnight on both days.

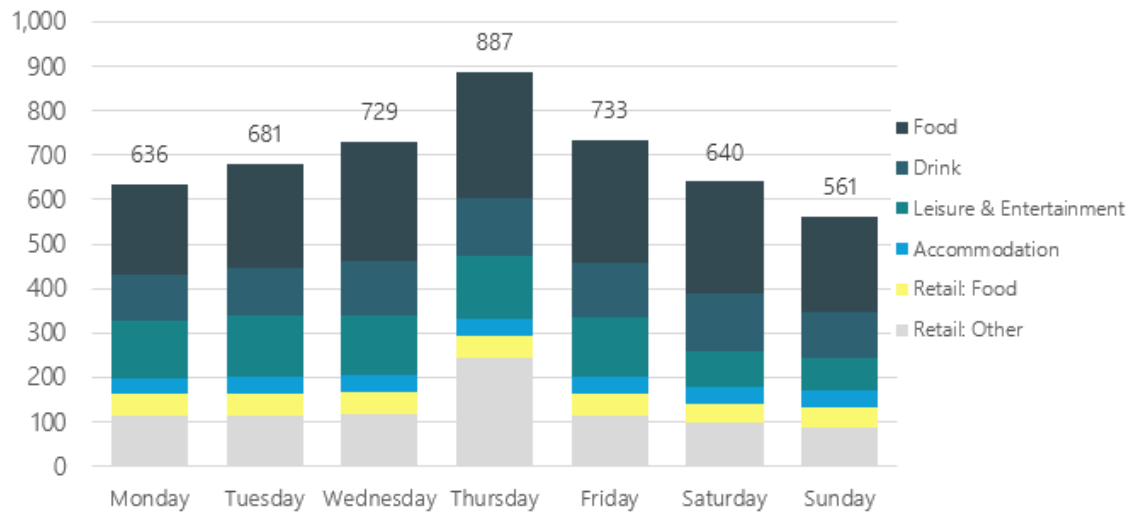
Newcastle records consistently high levels of early morning weekday activity, 13% of Core NTE businesses operating between 3am and 6am from Monday through Friday.

Retail activity is highest on Thursday, when 39% of retail businesses open during the evening. On all other days, fewer than a quarter of retail businesses open after 6pm, and fewer than 10% continue trading beyond 9pm.

Figure 34: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	50%	23%	6%	13%
	Tuesday	55%	25%	6%	13%
	Wednesday	60%	28%	7%	13%
	Thursday	64%	30%	8%	13%
	Friday	58%	34%	10%	13%
	Saturday	54%	34%	10%	7%
	Sunday	46%	24%	5%	6%
Retail	Monday	22%	10%	5%	5%
	Tuesday	22%	10%	5%	5%
	Wednesday	22%	10%	5%	6%
	Thursday	39%	10%	5%	5%
	Friday	22%	10%	6%	5%
	Saturday	19%	10%	6%	5%
	Sunday	18%	9%	4%	5%

Figure 35: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



PARRAMATTA NEW SOUTH WALES



Parramatta, the rising star of Greater Sydney, blends rich history with modern vibrancy. With its diverse dining scene, and burgeoning arts and culture offerings, Parramatta is rapidly becoming a must-visit destination. It is a city with a rich history and a diverse community, as well as world-class health, education and research institutions and a thriving commercial centre.

PARRAMATTA'S NTE AT A GLANCE



1,542

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



8,800

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$1.6bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Food

Core NTE Sector with largest establishment growth (2023-2024)



70%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS PARRAMATTA'S NTE LOCATED?

In the City of Parramatta in April 2025, clusters of night-time business activity can be found trading in the evening (6pm – 9pm) across the LGA. The Parramatta CBD has two particularly strong concentrations:

- South of the Parramatta Station in the Westfield Parramatta retail centre and surrounding area, and
- Along Church Street to the south of the Parramatta River.

Other clusters include:

- North Parramatta, along Church Street,
- Carlingford,
- Epping, near the station, and
- Sydney Olympic Park, near the station.

Figure 36 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#). See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.

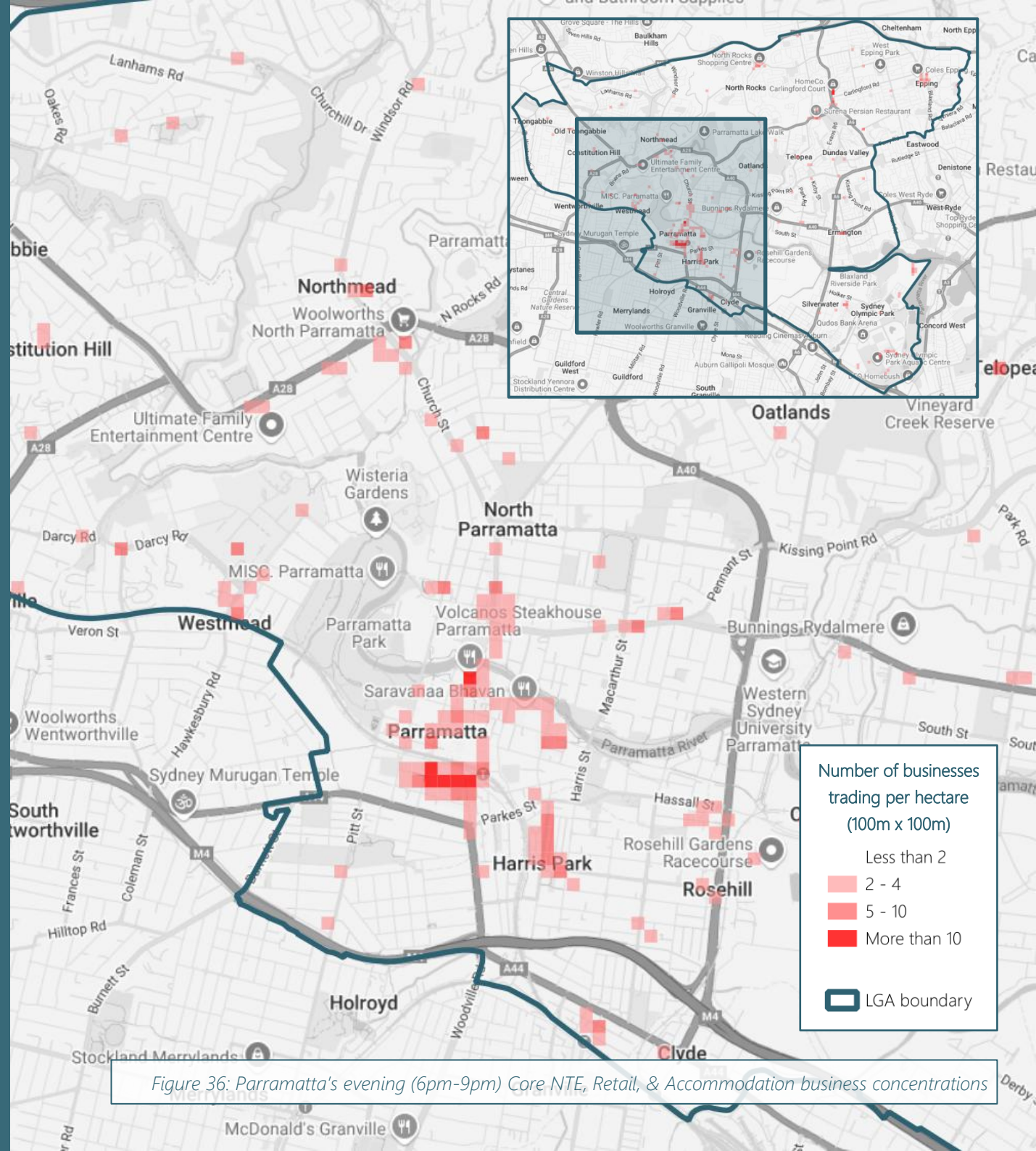


Figure 36: Parramatta's evening (6pm-9pm) Core NTE, Retail, & Accommodation business concentrations

PARRAMATTA'S CITY INITIATIVES

City of Parramatta continues to build on the city's unique and thriving night-time economy. The last 12 months have seen major pieces of infrastructure come online, and others continue to rapidly move towards completion. The [Parramatta Light](#) rail stage 1 was completed, opening access from Westmead through to Carlingford, while [Powerhouse Parramatta](#) continues its build overlooking the Parramatta River.

In August 2024, the City of Parramatta endorsed [Parramatta 2050](#). This long-term strategic vision identifies key moves and enablers to guide Parramatta in securing its position as a global city. A 24-Hour Parramatta CBD is foundational, and ensures the Parramatta CBD is the place to be day or night.

In 2024 The City of Parramatta [Late Night Trading Development Control Plan \(DCP\)](#) was officially endorsed, providing a framework and commitment to support businesses within the Parramatta CBD to apply for extended trading hours, taking the city a step further to a 24-Hour Parramatta.

[The Cultural Strategy](#) is on track to be released mid-2025, providing a cohesive vision for arts, cultural and creative practice, and participation in the city. It ensures the creative and cultural offerings of live music, festivals, and entertainment is a priority

within the Parramatta night-time, and 24-hour economy.

In January 2025, the [Night Time Creative Economy grants](#), opened for applications. This dedicated funding pool of \$50,000 enables Parramatta businesses to deliver creative programming such as live music, workshops, performance and entertainment across the LGA, and throughout the night.

The largest ever [Parramatta Lanes](#) street festival took place in October 2024 welcoming over 200,000 attendees. Over four nights the streets and rooftops, and parks came alive with food trucks, live music across multiple stages, art installations, and pop-up bars. This Lanes included "Powerhouse Lane" delivered in partnership with Powerhouse Parramatta and supported by a NSW Government Open Streets Grant.

The [Live Music Action plan](#) development is continuing, on track to be delivered, ready to support, and enable the Parramatta music sector, community and audiences, by late 2025.

PARRAMATTA'S NTE PERFORMANCE





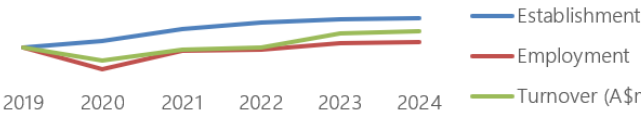





Parramatta's Core NTE saw modest growth in 2023/24, with Core NTE employment rising 1% to 8,800 and establishments increasing by 1% to 1,542. Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$96m (+7%), with cafés and restaurants (+\$73m), sports and physical recreation (+\$8m), and creative and performing arts (+\$7m) contributing most strongly to overall growth.

Food continues to be a particular strength in Parramatta, accounting for 77% of Core NTE businesses. The sub-sector saw a 2% increase in establishments in 2023/24. This was offset by a 2% drop in employment, largely due to a 5% fall in takeaway service jobs.

Leisure and Entertainment establishments fell slightly (-3%). Despite this, employment in the sub-sector grew by 8% (+215 jobs), driven by strong growth in creative and performing arts activities (+20%). Losses were recorded in clubs (hospitality) and brothel keeping businesses.

Drink venues made up just 3% of Core NTE businesses (46) and had a 2% rise in establishments (+1). Employment in this sub-sector, however, fell by 8%.

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** experienced 9% decline in employment, while establishments remained steady. **Accommodation** businesses increased by 16% (+10), but employment grew only slightly (+0.6%), indicating stable visitor activity.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	1,542	+1.0%	+1.8%	5%	5%
 Employment	8,800	+0.8%	+1.4%	7%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$1,558m	+7%	+8%	3%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	46	+2%	-0.1%	3%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	315	-3%	+2%	20%	32%
 Food	1,181	+2%	+2%	77%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	1,165	0%	+0.3%	31%	35%
 Accommodation	71	+16%	-0.8%	2%	5%

PARRAMATTA’S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday is Parramatta’s busiest trading night, with 1,149 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Wednesday (972) and Friday (943) also show strong levels of activity, indicating a busy mid-to-late week night-time economy.

Core NTE trading peaks on Thursday evening, when 68% of businesses are open between 6pm and 9pm, and 37% remain open through to midnight. Friday and Saturday follow closely, with 63% and 59% of Core NTE businesses open in the early evening, and nearly 40% trading through to midnight.

Late-night trading (12am–3am) is marginally stronger on Friday Saturday, with 11% of Core NTE businesses open.

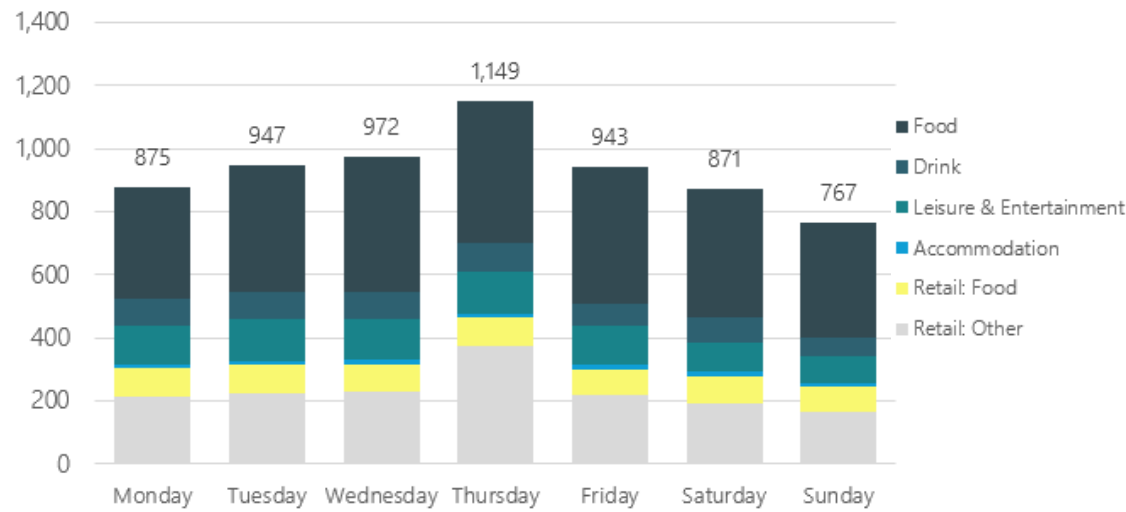
Early-hours trading (3am–6am) remains consistent at 13% from Monday to Friday, catering for early-morning risers.

Retail businesses are most active on Thursday, when almost half (47%) trade between 6pm and 9pm. On other days, between 25% and 32% of retail businesses open after 6pm, with post-9pm retail activity remaining below 15% throughout the week.

Figure 37: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm–6am)	Evening 6pm–9pm	Early-Night 9pm–12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am–3am	Early-hours 3am–6am
Core NTE	Monday	56%	31%	9%	13%
	Tuesday	62%	33%	9%	13%
	Wednesday	64%	35%	9%	13%
	Thursday	68%	37%	9%	13%
	Friday	63%	39%	11%	13%
	Saturday	59%	38%	11%	9%
	Sunday	53%	33%	8%	7%
Retail	Monday	31%	13%	6%	7%
	Tuesday	32%	13%	6%	7%
	Wednesday	32%	13%	6%	7%
	Thursday	47%	14%	6%	7%
	Friday	31%	14%	6%	7%
	Saturday	28%	13%	6%	6%
	Sunday	25%	12%	6%	6%

Figure 38: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



PENRITH

NEW SOUTH WALES



Penrith is not your usual destination. From nature, adventure and culture - our vibrant city is open to an array of opportunities. At Penrith, outdoor enthusiasts can revel in nature's bounty, knowledge seekers can expand their horizons at our historic and cultural gems, foodies can savour an array of flavours at our thriving dining and bar hubs, and fun family activities are just the beginning!

PENRITH'S NTE AT A GLANCE



745

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



4,525

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$647m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Drink

Core NTE Sector with largest percentage establishment growth (2023-2024)



75%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS PENRITH'S NTE LOCATED?

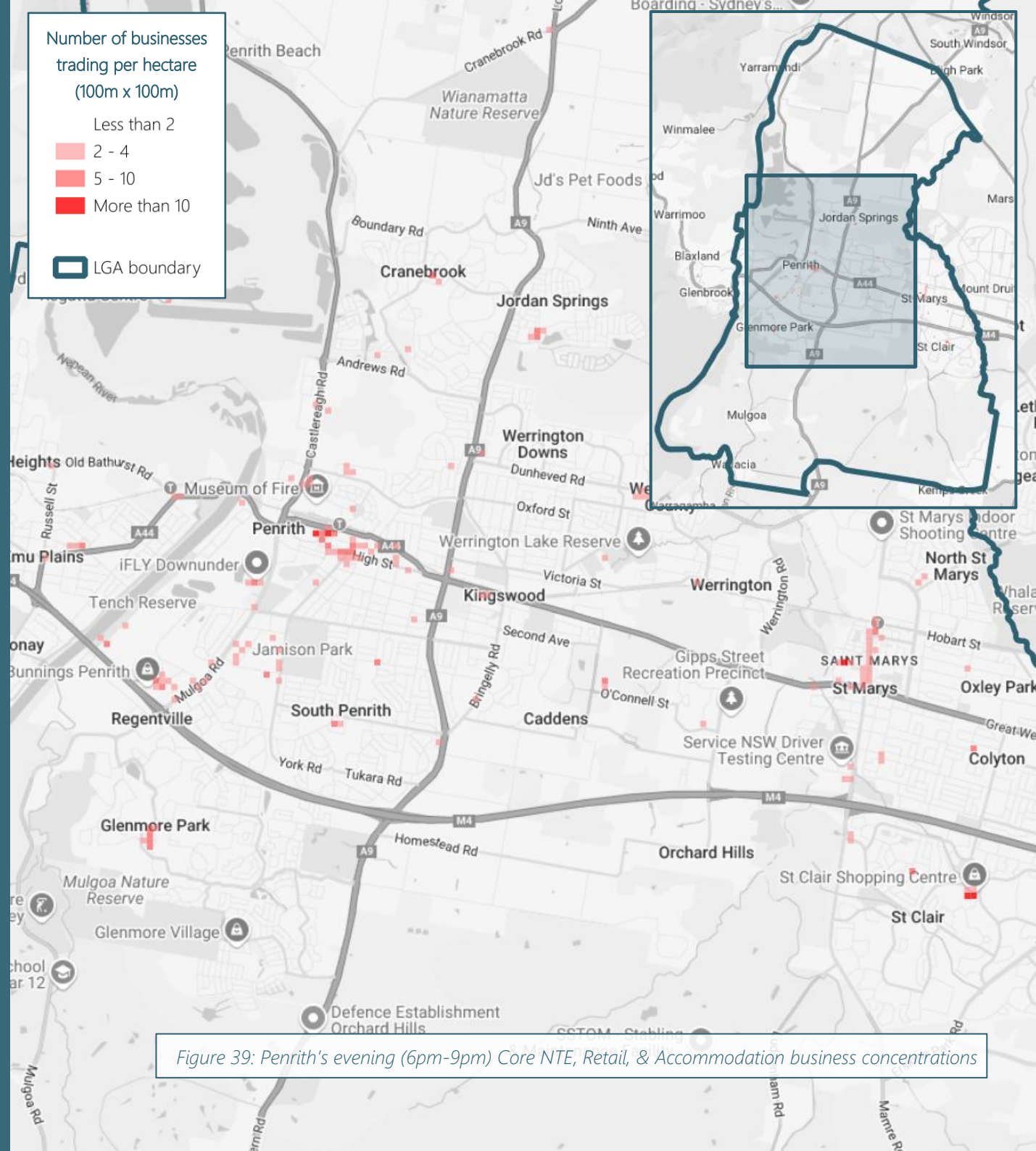
Penrith City LGA covers a large area but the majority of night-time business activity in April 2025 can be located across four key precincts:

- The Westfield Penrith retail centre, south of the Penrith station,
- High Street, Penrith City Centre,
- Queen Street, St Marys Town Centre, and
- Panthers Precinct, Penrith.

Other smaller clusters in the LGA include South Penrith, Glenmore Park and Werrington County.

Figure 39 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).

See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



PENRITH'S CITY INITIATIVES

Penrith City Council is committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and vibrant environment for all residents, with a focus on enhancing the 24-hour night-time economy. Recognising the importance of an active and vibrant night-time scene, Council has initiated several projects, events and placemaking initiatives to support this objective.

A key step taken is the commencement of a refreshed [OPEN Penrith and St Marys 24-hour Economy Strategy 2025-2029](#), building upon the previous 2015 Night Time Economy Study and Strategy.

The new strategy will encompass both Penrith and St Marys as key strategic centres in enhancing the 24-hour economy which aims to strengthen the economic and social vitality of these areas during the evening and night-time hours. Key strategic priorities include:

- Facilitating vibrant precincts through physical infrastructure and placemaking
- Fostering strong collaboration with stakeholders.
- Enhancing Penrith and St Marys reputation as late night destinations through marketing and promotion.
- Developing Penrith's Neon Grid through accessible transport within the 24-hour economy precinct.

Civic green

One of the landmark projects supporting this strategy is the construction of [St Marys Central Park](#). St Marys undergoing rapid and significant change and Council has recognised the importance of city-shaping infrastructure such as the Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport and Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport, with St Marys being the first Metro stop. Central Park will be the heart of St Marys Town Centre attracting residents and visitors to meet, socialise, dine, celebrate and enjoy active recreation. The \$21 million St Marys Central Park project is proudly funded through the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program, in partnership with Council. By providing a versatile and engaging environment that remains active both day and night, Central Park will enhance the social and economic vitality of Penrith.

Major events and activations

The Council and its City Centre Corporations have been actively involved in the delivery of several major events and activations. The annual flagship festival for Penrith is [Real Festival](#) which is a multiday event drawing a crowd of over 45,000. Other significant Council events include St Marys Lights Up, which attracts approximately 15,000 participants; Penrith Winter Solstice which attracts approximately 10,000 attendees; the St Marys Town Centre's Spring Festival which attracts

approximately 15,000 people; and the Penrith CBD Corporation's Magical Christmas Tree Lighting event, which draws approximately 10,000 visitors. These events not only boost local businesses but also enhance the cultural and social vitality of Penrith and St Marys, making it an attractive destination for evening activities. Additionally, well-loved community activation, [Penrith Producers](#) held in the Penrith City Centre continues to expand, showcasing the finest locally produced goods and enlivening the western end of the CBD. This initiative not only promotes local businesses but also attracts visitors to the area during the evening, thereby supporting the night-time economy.

Lighting upgrades

The Council has delivered major lighting and footpath upgrades on the [Nepean River Great River Walk](#). This enhancement facilitates greater safety and access to the River at night, encouraging more residents and visitors to enjoy the area after dark.

Through these initiatives, Penrith City Council is taking important steps towards creating a vibrant and thriving night-time economy, ensuring that Penrith remains an inviting and lively place for all residents and visitors during the evening hours.

PENRITH'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Penrith's Core NTE comprised 745 establishments and 4,525 workers. Business numbers grew by 4%, outpacing the national average, while employment rose by 8% - well above the national rate of 1.4%.





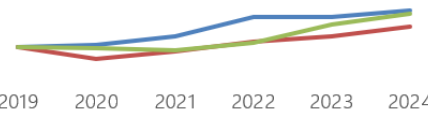





Core NTE sales turnover rose substantially by \$77m (+13%) in 2023/24, with the strongest gains recorded in cafes and restaurants (+\$30m / +11%), sports and physical recreation (+\$13m / 17%), and takeaway food services (+\$10m / 15%).

Food sub-sector establishments increased by 5% over the year. Employment in Food also rose (+2%), with particularly strong growth in takeaway food services jobs (+8%).

The most notable growth occurred in the **Drink** sub-sector, which increased from 27 to 37 establishments - a 37% rise, the largest percentage increase of any sub-sector and accompanied by an 18% increase in employment.

Leisure and Entertainment remained stable, with business numbers holding steady (-0.4%). Employment in this sub-sector increased by 16%, with particularly strong growth in amusement and other recreation activities (+25% / +60 jobs)

In the Non-Core NTE, **Retail** and **Accommodation** business numbers were largely unchanged since 2022/23. Accommodation employment remained stable, while Retail employment fell by 7% between 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	745	+4%	+1.8%	5%	5%
 Employment	4,525	+8%	+1.4%	7%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$647m	+13%	+8%	2%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	37	+37%	-0.1%	5%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	236	-0.4%	+2%	32%	32%
 Food	472	+5%	+2%	63%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	522	-0.8%	+0.3%	32%	35%
 Accommodation	29	+7%	-0.8%	2%	5%

PENRITH’S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday night is Penrith’s busiest, with 813 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Wednesday (634) and Friday (631) also see strong activity, suggesting a mid-to-late week peak in night-time trading.

Core NTE activity is highest on Thursday and Friday evenings, with 70% and 67% of businesses open between 6pm and 9pm respectively. Late trading is common on these nights too, with 38-39% of Core NTE venues open between 9pm and midnight, and 13% continuing after midnight.

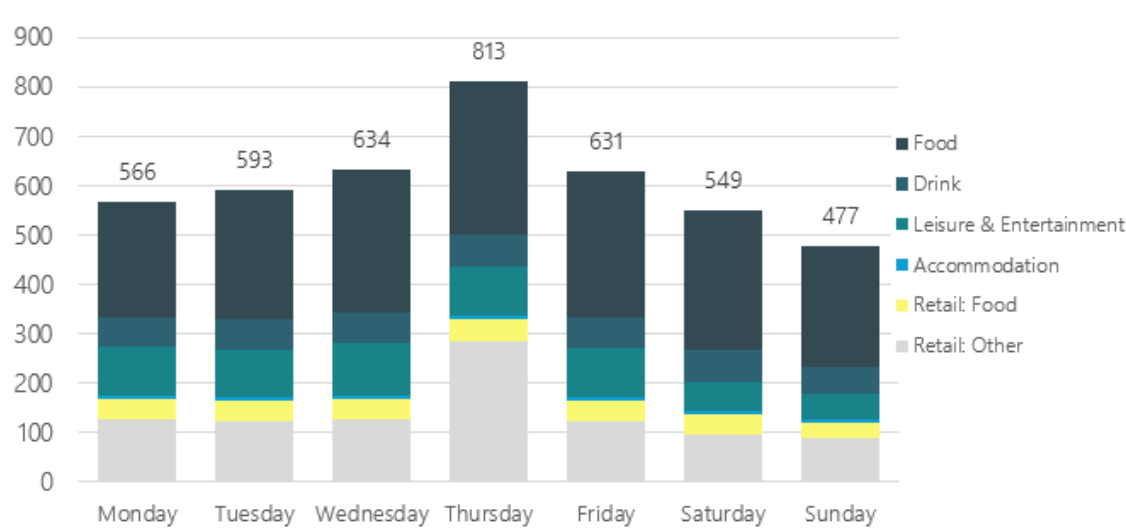
Penrith records high early-hours trading – particularly on weekdays - with 15% of Core NTE businesses open between 3am and 6am on Friday, and 14% across other weekdays, indicating a substantial early morning economy.

Retail trading is strongest on Thursday, when 43% of retail businesses are open between 6pm and 9pm. On all other nights, fewer than a quarter of retail businesses trade in the evening, and post-9pm retail trading activity remains very limited across the week.

Figure 40: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	57%	27%	9%	14%
	Tuesday	62%	29%	10%	14%
	Wednesday	67%	32%	10%	14%
	Thursday	70%	34%	11%	14%
	Friday	67%	39%	13%	15%
	Saturday	61%	38%	13%	9%
	Sunday	53%	28%	8%	7%
Retail	Monday	22%	8%	5%	6%
	Tuesday	21%	8%	5%	6%
	Wednesday	22%	8%	5%	6%
	Thursday	43%	8%	5%	6%
	Friday	21%	8%	5%	6%
	Saturday	17%	8%	4%	5%
	Sunday	15%	8%	5%	5%

Figure 41: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



PERTH

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Located on the banks of the picturesque Swan River, the City of Perth (Boorloo) is Western Australia's capital city. Known as the City of Light, the City prides itself on being a liveable, sustainable and prosperous City for its residents, businesses and visitors. Consistently ranking as one of the most liveable cities in the world, the City is home to more than 32,000 residents.

PERTH'S NTE AT A GLANCE



662

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



12,110

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$1.7bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Leisure &
Entertainment

The only Core NTE Sector with establishment
growth (2023-2024)



59%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am
at least one day per week (April 2025)



Friday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS PERTH'S NTE LOCATED?

In April 2025, the City of Perth's night-time business activity is particularly concentrated in and around:

- Northbridge, north of Roe Street up to Newcastle Street, and
- Perth CBD between St Georges Terrace and Wellington Street.

Other emerging pockets of night-time business activity include:

- Along Barrack Street,
- Along Adelaide Street and Hay Street in East Perth, and
- Elizabeth Quay.

Figure 42 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.

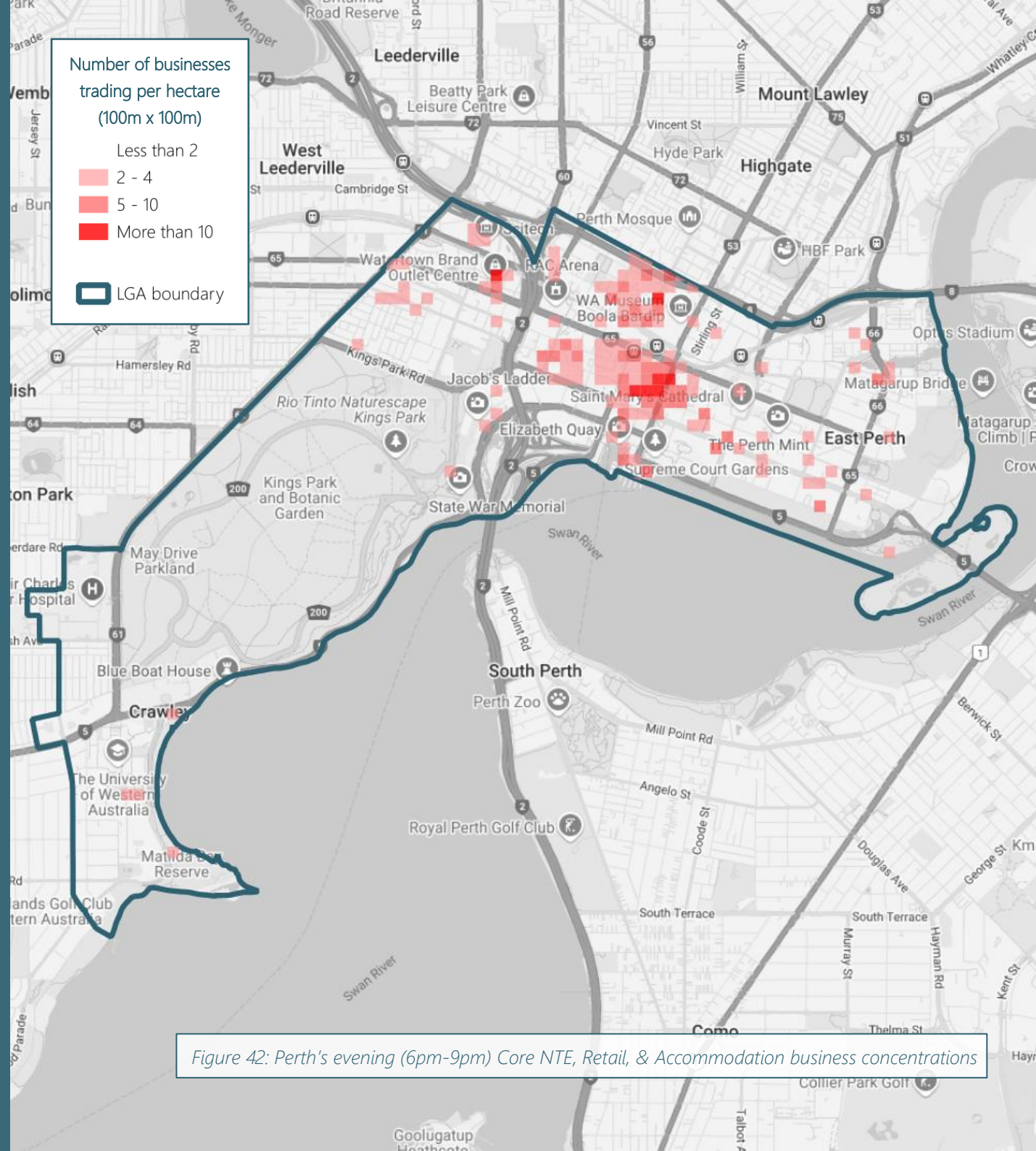


Figure 42: Perth's evening (6pm-9pm) Core NTE, Retail, & Accommodation business concentrations

PERTH'S CITY INITIATIVES

As Western Australia's capital, Perth is a growing city with a vibrant mix of culture, cuisine, and commerce that increasingly extends into the evening and night. With a strong focus on activating public spaces and boosting visitation, the City of Perth continues to invest in its night-time economy through strategic planning, partnerships, and precinct-based initiatives.

Businesses are well supported by the City of Perth, which has several levers at its disposal to encourage people to visit the city at night. These include:

Free night-time parking

Since 2022, the City of Perth has supported its night-time economy through parking incentives. While all car bays were previously free after 6pm, from 31 March 2025 a [\\$5 capped night parking](#) rate applies across City of Perth car parks. Free parking remains available in select on-street bays after 6pm, and visitors can still access three hours of free weekend parking at the Cultural Centre, His Majesty's, and Pier Street car parks. This initiative aims to attract people into the city after hours, encourage longer visits, and boost local spending in hospitality, retail and entertainment venues.

Safety improvements

The safety improvements across the City were supported by the ["See it, Say it"](#) campaign, which

encourages people to report antisocial and criminal behaviour.

Business Improvement Grants

The City of Perth's [Business Improvement Grant](#) program provides grants of \$5,000 to \$20,000 (matched by recipients) for initiatives such as alfresco dining areas, façade upgrades, creative lighting, rooftop activations, and acoustic treatments for live music venues. These improvements encourage longer visits, increase patronage, and activate underused spaces, especially during the evening. By prioritising public-facing enhancements that improve safety, atmosphere, and business viability, the program helps foster a more dynamic and attractive city centre at night

Major events

The City of Perth's 2024/25 Events Plan continues to bolster the night-time economy by delivering a carefully curated calendar of activations that drive visitation and spending after dark.

Flagship events such as the Christmas Lights Trail 2024 attracted 430,700 attendees, generating \$22.4 million in economic impact, with the event's large-scale lighting installations and festive entertainment activating the CBD and enhancing the sense of vibrancy and safety for visitors.

City of Light Show Series, including the New Year's Eve celebrations, brought 40,000 people into the

precinct and contributed \$9.5 million to the local economy, with roving performances, fireworks, and live entertainment extending dwell time and boosting trade.

The Twilight Food Market remains a permanent fixture in the City's event calendar, drawing over 50,000 people each season to Forrest Place and creating consistent Friday evening foot traffic that supports the CBD's retail core.

Across the 2024/25 event season, just under 700,000 people attended City-led events and activations, delivering nearly \$60 million in economic impact and reinforcing Perth's position as a vibrant destination for families and late-night crowds.

The City launched [Plateful Perth](#) in 2023 - a month-long dining campaign to encourage people to dine out in the City. The event will return in August 2025, bringing new flavours, curated menus, pop-up dining experiences, and promotions across Perth's hospitality venues to drive visitation and stimulate the night-time economy during the winter season.

PERTH'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Perth's Core NTE comprised 662 establishments and 12,110 workers. Despite a 1.5% fall in establishments, employment grew significantly - up 8%, or 930 jobs - well above the national average.





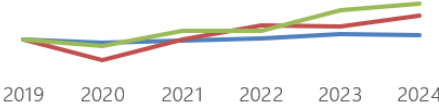





Food remains the dominant sub-sector, accounting for 69% of Core NTE establishments and 7,610 workers. The sector added 790 jobs (+12%) over the year, although the number of food venues declined slightly (-2%).

Leisure and Entertainment comprises 16% of establishments and saw a 6% rise in venues. The sub-sector's employment, however, fell by 6% (-110 jobs), with notable losses in gambling (-75 jobs) and sports and recreation (-65). Creative and performing arts was a bright spot within the sub-sector, gaining 65 jobs over the year.

The **Drink** sub-sector makes up 15% of establishments and recorded a 9% increase in employment (+245 jobs), despite a slight fall in venue numbers (-6% / -6).

Across the Core NTE, sales turnover in Perth rose by \$148m (+9%) in 2023/24, driven by strong increases in café and restaurant activity (+\$80m / 11%), pubs and bars (+\$30m / 8%), and creative and performing arts (+\$19m / 22%).

Retail made up 21% of Non-Core NTE establishments, while **Accommodation** represented 7%. While establishment numbers in both sub-sectors saw modest increases, accommodation employment increased (+14%), while retail employment decreased (-6%) between 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	662	-1.5%	+1.8%	5%	5%
 Employment	12,110	+8%	+1.4%	9%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$1,713m	+10%	+8%	3%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	102	-6%	-0.1%	15%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	104	+6%	+2%	16%	32%
 Food	456	-2%	+2%	69%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	283	+3%	+0.3%	21%	35%
 Accommodation	93	+2%	-0.8%	7%	5%

PERTH'S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Friday night is by far Perth’s busiest, with 677 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Thursday (522) and Wednesday (506) also show strong levels of activity.

Core NTE activity is strongest on Friday, when 56% of businesses are open between 6pm and 9pm, and 42% remain open through to midnight. Thursday and Saturday follow closely, with over half of Core NTE venues open early evening, and many trading beyond 9pm.

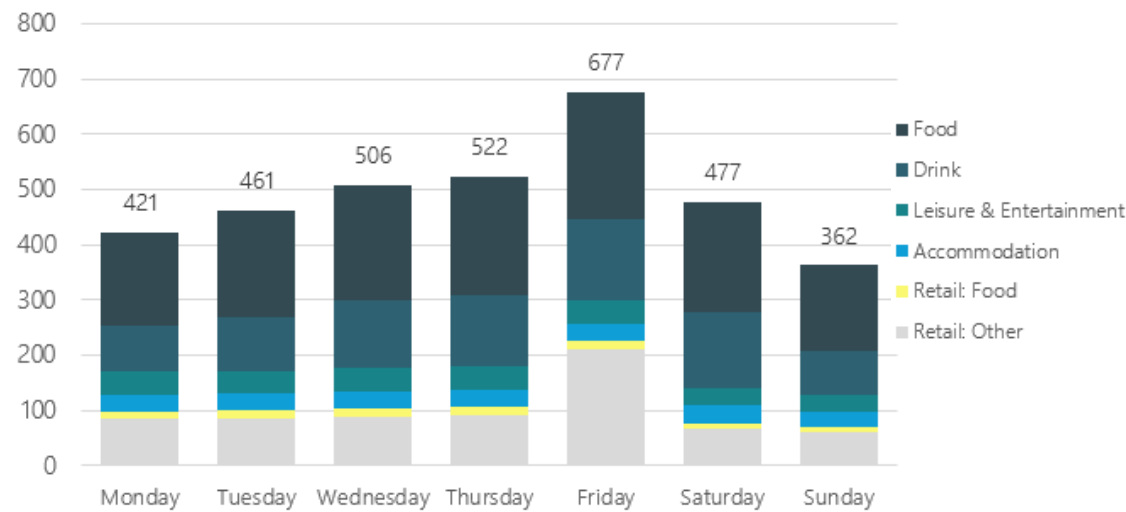
Late-night trading (12am-3am) is most active on Friday (13%) and Saturday (14%), with 9% and 8% of businesses respectively continuing through the early hours (3am-6am).

Retail activity peaks on Friday, when 47% of retail businesses open in the evening. On other nights, fewer than a quarter of retail businesses trade after 6pm, with late-night retail activity remaining limited throughout the week.

Figure 43: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	40%	23%	5%	6%
	Tuesday	45%	27%	5%	6%
	Wednesday	51%	31%	6%	6%
	Thursday	53%	34%	7%	6%
	Friday	56%	42%	13%	9%
	Saturday	50%	41%	14%	8%
	Sunday	37%	25%	6%	4%
Retail	Monday	21%	12%	8%	7%
	Tuesday	21%	12%	7%	7%
	Wednesday	21%	12%	8%	7%
	Thursday	22%	13%	7%	7%
	Friday	47%	14%	10%	8%
	Saturday	16%	13%	10%	8%
	Sunday	15%	11%	7%	6%

Figure 44: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



SYDNEY

NEW SOUTH WALES



A city that embraces the night, celebrates creativity and invites everyone to be part of the experience. Sydney continues to position itself as a global night-time city, with a commitment to a thriving night-time economy, cultural vibrancy and its global status. Sydney is a city that truly comes alive after dark.

SYDNEY'S NTE AT A GLANCE



5,945

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



36,350

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$6.1bn

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Food

The only Core NTE Sector with establishment growth (2023-2024)



67%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

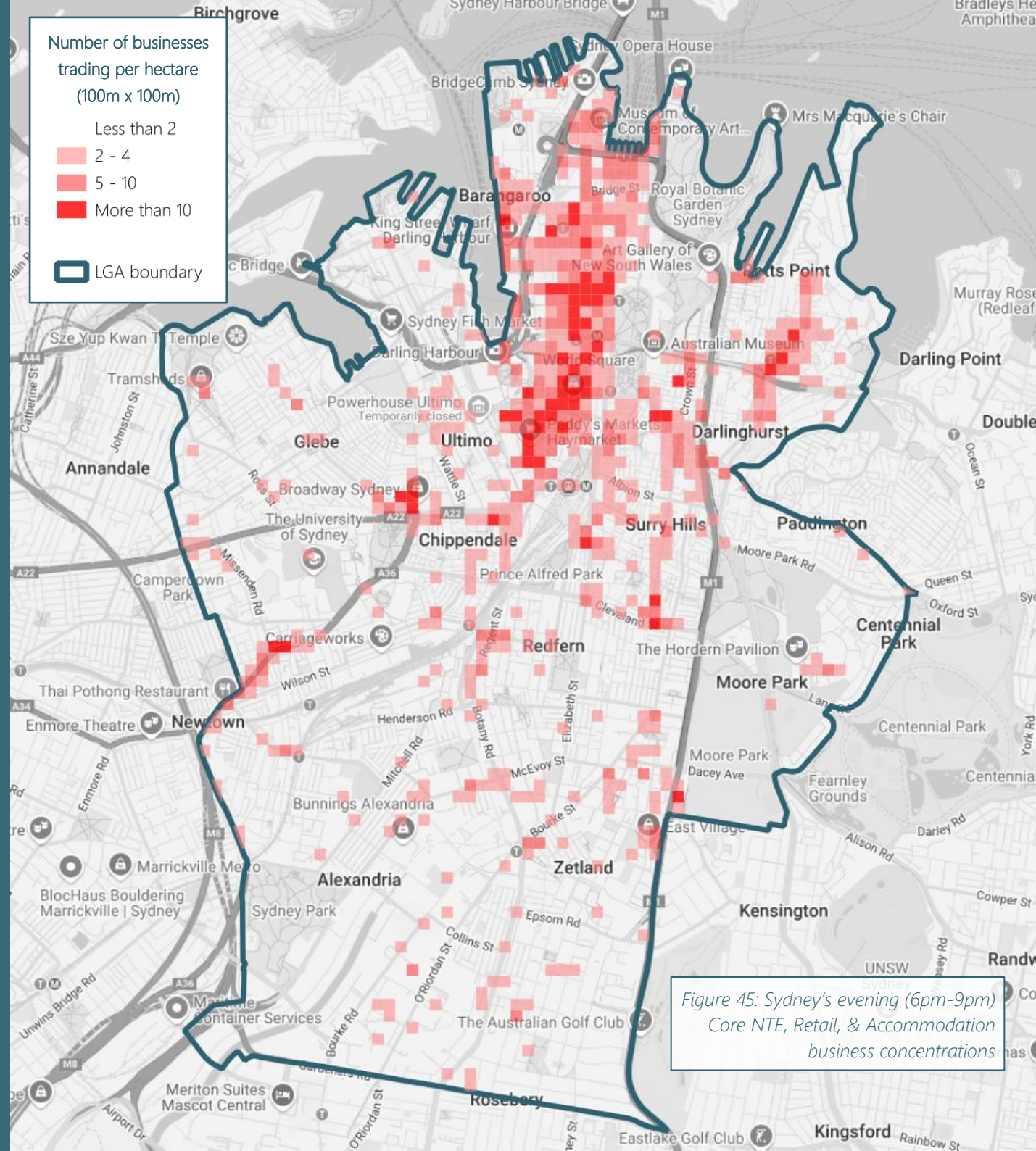
Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS SYDNEY'S NTE LOCATED?

The City of Sydney continues to host a large volume of night-time trading businesses in April 2025, particularly towards the north of the CBD, where strong public transport options are based. Particularly strong clusters include:

- The CBD, stretching from Haymarket and Central up to the Rocks and along Barangaroo
- Darlinghurst Road and Victoria Street in Kings Cross,
- Oxford Street, Darlinghurst
- Along King Street towards Newtown, and
- Broadway Sydney shopping mall.

Figure 45 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).
See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.



SYDNEY'S CITY INITIATIVES

The City of Sydney has been taking action to support Sydney's night-time economy by delivering initiatives aligned with our strategies including Sustainable Sydney 2030–2050. Continuing the Vision, the Economic Development Strategy 2025–2035 and the Cultural Strategy 2025–2035. This includes fostering a diverse, inclusive and vibrant economy across key cultural and nightlife precincts and encouraging residents and visitors to experience Sydney's night-time businesses, creative industries and unique local offerings.

During 2023/24, the City of Sydney focused on revitalising the night-time economy and promoting inclusive cultural and economic growth. Key initiatives included:

Support for the 24-hour economy

The City collaborated with local liquor accords, business chambers, and industry associations to engage with night-time businesses and provide tailored support. Businesses were encouraged to extend their trading hours, with 24-hour trading permitted in the city centre and later trading allowed for low-impact businesses along other main streets. These efforts responded to growing public interest in diverse late-night options, including cultural events and creative experiences.

Sydney Streets

The Sydney Streets program continued with thirteen events held throughout the year. The events have evolved into vibrant, community-focused celebrations for local neighbourhoods. The events bring local communities together, support local artists and provided an opportunity for local businesses to trade out into high streets.

Outdoor dining

To promote vibrant street life and local hospitality businesses, the City continued to support outdoor dining and has waived more than \$11 million in fees since November 2020. Through the outdoor dining program, more than 848 applications were approved. This included 181 requests to reallocate over 2,000m² of road space and 667 requests to reallocate over 9,000m² of footpath space.

Oxford Street Pride Charter

The City worked with Oxford Street businesses and the LGBTIQ+ community to co-design the Oxford Street Pride Charter, launched in June 2023. The Charter affirms the precinct's cultural significance and commits members to inclusivity and respect. Bespoke online diversity and inclusion training was developed for members to support staff awareness and promote inclusive business practices.

Grants and sponsorships

Over \$400,000 in cash funding was provided through the City's Grants and Sponsorship Program to support nightlife and local businesses. These grants formed part of a broader suite of business support programs designed to stimulate night-time activity and cultural vibrancy.

Business capacity building

The City delivered the 2024 Reboot webinar series for small businesses, creatives, and retailers. The free lunchtime sessions featured expert speakers and covered practical topics such as mastering social media, embracing AI, and building resilient business models.

These initiatives reflect the City's commitment to fostering a thriving and vibrant night-time economy and promoting a diverse array of creative and cultural celebrations for residents and visitors.

SYDNEY'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Sydney's Core NTE comprised 5,945 establishments and 36,350 workers. The number of Core NTE establishments (+0.8%) and employees (+0.7%) remained stable between June 2023 and June 2024.





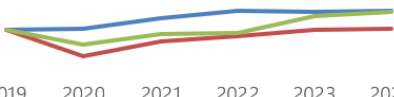





Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$472m (+8%) in 2023/24, led by growth in cafes restaurants (+\$276m / +9%), and creative and performing arts (+\$49m / +8%).

Food remains the dominant sub-sector, comprising 70% of Core NTE establishments and employing 21,825 people. While employment in Food fell by 3%, the number of food businesses increased slightly (+2%), with growth across both cafés and restaurants, as well as takeaway food services.

Leisure and Entertainment employment rose 15% (+1,155 jobs), surpassing pre-pandemic levels, while the number of establishments remained stable (-1%). Employment growth was led by creative and performing arts activities, which added 740 jobs (+22%).

In contrast, the **Drink** sub-sector saw a 3% drop in employment (due to job losses in pubs and clubs), while the number of businesses remained stable (-1%).

In 2023/24, Sydney's 2,740 **Retail** and 559 **Accommodation** establishments made up 38% of its Non-Core NTE, with marginal change from the previous year. Employment in both sectors, however, fell by -7% and -1.5% respectively.

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	5,945	+0.8%	+1.8%	10%	5%
 Employment	36,350	+0.7%	+1.4%	7%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$6,141m	+8%	+8%	4%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	722	-1.4%	-0.1%	12%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	1,057	-1.4%	+2%	18%	32%
 Food	4,166	+1.8%	+2%	70%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	2,740	+4%	+0.3%	32%	35%
 Accommodation	559	-2%	-0.8%	6%	5%

SYDNEY'S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday is Sydney's most active trading night, with 3,399 businesses open between 6pm and 6am. Friday (3,171) and Wednesday (3,088) also show high levels of activity.

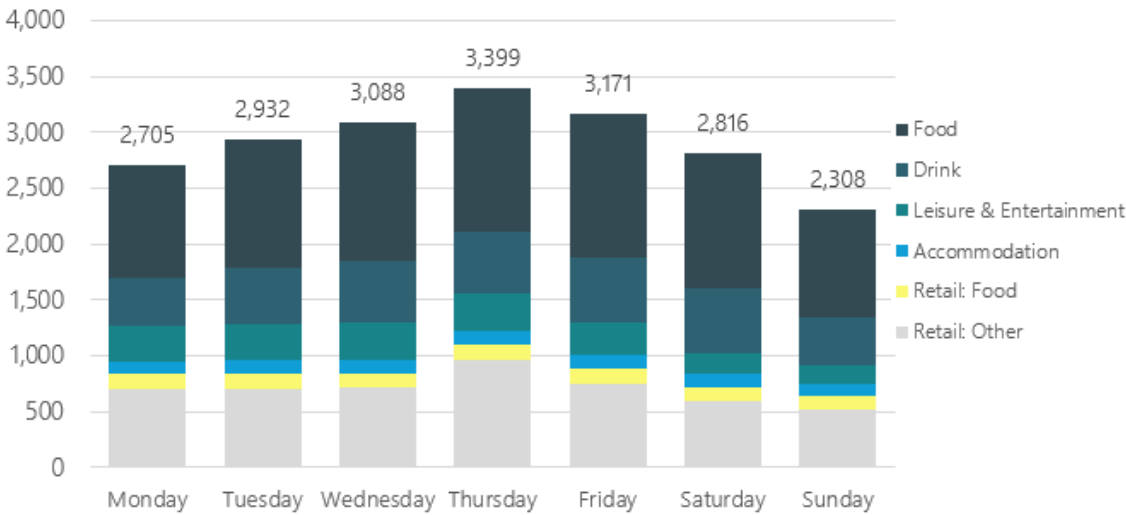
Core NTE trading is strongest from Wednesday through Saturday. On Thursday and Friday evenings, 65% and 64% of Core NTE businesses respectively are open between 6pm and 9pm, and nearly half trade through to midnight. Late-night trading peaks on Friday and Saturday, with 13% of Core NTE businesses open between midnight and 3am, and 10% and 8% respectively continuing into the early hours.

Retail activity is also highest on Thursday, when 46% of retail businesses trade in the evening, though only 15% remain open beyond 9pm. Evening retail activity declines at the weekend, with 30% and 26% of retail businesses trading after 6pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Figure 46: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	52%	33%	7%	9%
	Tuesday	59%	38%	8%	9%
	Wednesday	64%	42%	8%	9%
	Thursday	65%	44%	10%	9%
	Friday	64%	48%	13%	10%
	Saturday	59%	47%	13%	8%
	Sunday	47%	32%	7%	5%
Retail	Monday	35%	15%	7%	7%
	Tuesday	35%	15%	7%	7%
	Wednesday	35%	15%	7%	7%
	Thursday	46%	15%	7%	7%
	Friday	36%	16%	8%	7%
	Saturday	30%	15%	8%	7%
	Sunday	26%	14%	7%	7%

Figure 47: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



A photograph of a group of people dining in a rustic restaurant. In the foreground, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey knit top, is leaning over a wooden table, smiling and looking towards the left. She is holding a glass. To her left, another woman with blonde hair is also smiling and holding a glass. In the background, a man is visible. The table is set with plates, glasses, and a small vase of flowers. The restaurant has a warm, rustic atmosphere with wooden beams and a stone fireplace in the background.

WILLOUGHBY NEW SOUTH WALES

Located in Northern Sydney, Willoughby is anchored by the vibrant Chatswood CBD - the economic, cultural, and retail heart of the North Shore. Chatswood offers a family-friendly atmosphere, home to The Concourse performing arts centre, the Zenith Theatre, diverse shopping precincts, and a rich mix of multicultural restaurants, cafés, and entertainment venues.

WILLOUGHBY'S NTE AT A GLANCE



668

Core NTE Businesses (June 2024)



3,650

Core NTE Employment (June 2024)



\$550m

Core NTE Sales Turnover (2023/24)



Food

The only Core NTE Sector with establishment growth (2023-2024)



69%

% Core NTE trading 6pm-6am at least one day per week (April 2025)



Thursday

Night with most NTE business open (April 2025)

WHERE IS WILLOUGHBY'S NTE LOCATED?

In April 2025, the City of Willoughby's night-time business activity is particularly prominent in Chatswood Centre. This is driven by Westfield Chatswood and Chatswood Chase shopping centres as well as the Chatswood Interchange and the Mandarin Centre.

Other clusters in the LGA include:

- South of the intersection of Victoria Avenue and Penshurst Street,
- Artarmon, near the station,
- Willoughby, near the Bridgeview Hotel, and
- St Leonards to the south, near the station.

Figure 48 provides an overview of this activity, while a more detailed map can be viewed online [here](#).

See 'Using supplementary maps' (p113) for guidance.

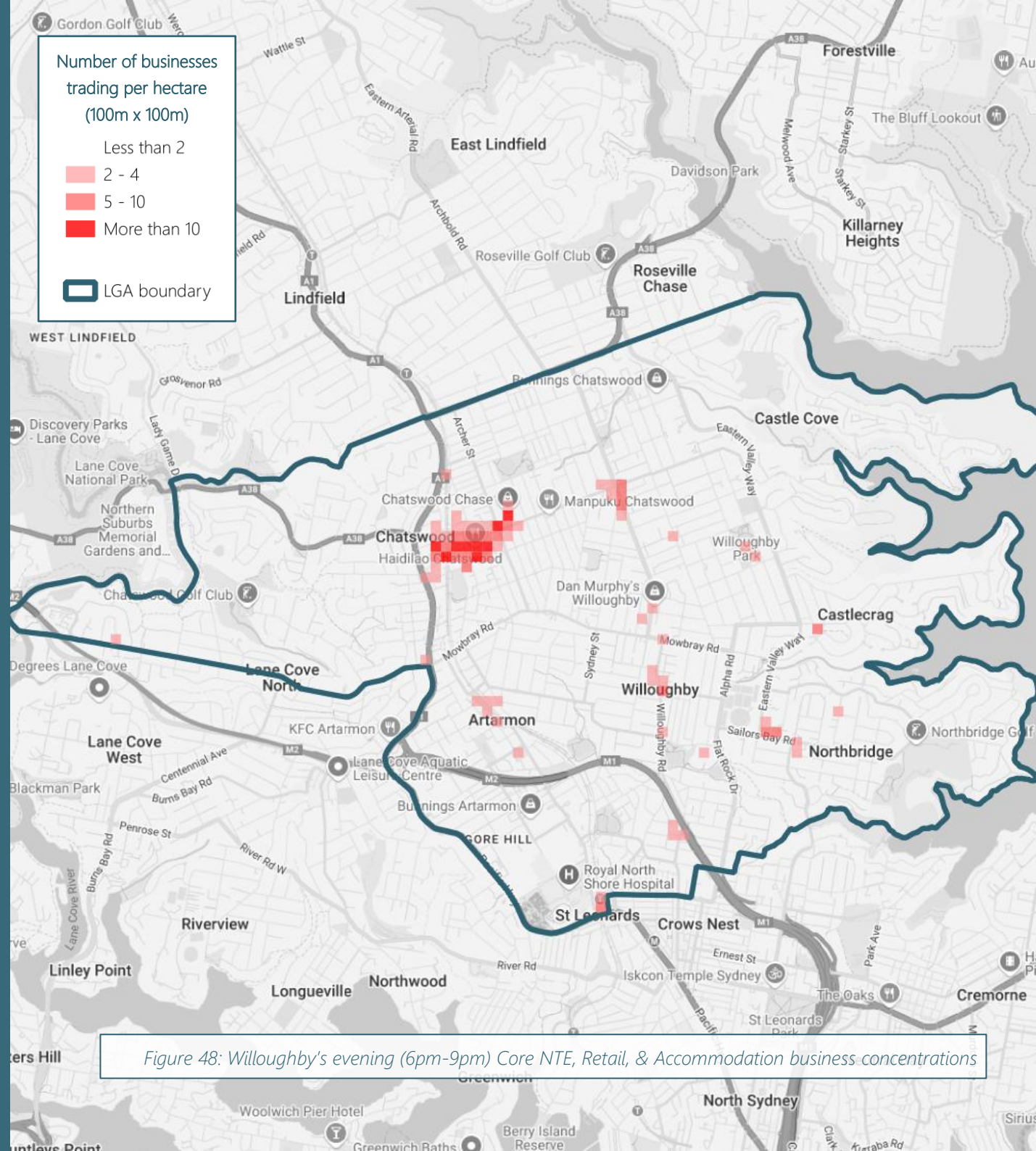


Figure 48: Willoughby's evening (6pm-9pm) Core NTE, Retail, & Accommodation business concentrations

WILLOUGHBY'S CITY INITIATIVES

The City of Willoughby is a culturally diverse local government area situated in Northern Sydney, 10km from the Sydney CBD. It is made up of distinct local centres and residential suburbs covering 23 square kilometres and has a population of over 79,000. With a gross regional product of \$13 billion, the area provided 71,834 jobs in 2024 and is home to over 13,000 local businesses.

Chatswood CBD is regarded as the economic and cultural heart of Sydney's North Shore. It is a family-orientated destination, with [The Concourse](#) performing arts complex and the [Zenith Theatre](#), a diverse retail offering and array of multi-cultural restaurants, cafes and entertainment venues, a well-educated and skilled work force, and excellent and accessible transport options.

Alongside Chatswood CBD, the City of Willoughby includes a blend of retail, commercial, industrial, institutional, residential, and recreational districts.

Willoughby's local centres, including Artarmon, Naremburn, Northbridge, Willoughby Road, High Street, Penshurst Street North, Castlecrag, Castle Cove, Victoria Avenue and Mowbray Road offer a vibrant mix of restaurants, pubs, and craft breweries, perfect for dining out and socialising with friends and family.

Willoughby City Council's City Initiatives

Willoughby's [Economic Development Strategy](#) identifies six economic outcomes for the city:

- Facilitate the development of all businesses.
- Build and support a night-time economy.
- Create memorable food destinations.
- Attract visitors and promote local, destination-based tourism.
- Diversify the economy including creative and innovative industries.
- Facilitate the viability and vibrancy of Willoughby's village centres.

Willoughby City Council has been implementing its [Night Time Economy Strategy 2022-2028](#), approved in 2023, centring around the Chatswood CBD. It is working with the local business community to grow the local night-time economy, including increasing activities, events, jobs and the number of businesses operating in the evening.

The Council has developed a range of specific cultural initiatives and programs to contribute to a vibrant local night-time economy including:

- The [Chatswood Mall Market](#), which takes place weekly on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 9pm.
- Regular performances at The Concourse and Zenith Theatres throughout the year, including from the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra and Willoughby Theatre Company.

- Council's curated [Culture Bites](#) program which hosts events and activities throughout the year.
- Annual cultural festivals such as the expanding [Lunar New Year](#) and the [Emerge Festival](#), which showcases new and local talent
- The Public Art walk around Chatswood featuring newly installed murals, and art exhibitions at The Concourse.
- Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese Vegetarian, and Dessert [food trails](#) in Chatswood.





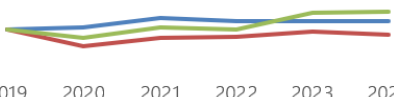





WILLOUGHBY'S NTE PERFORMANCE

In 2023/24, Willoughby's Core NTE comprised 668 establishments and 3,650 workers. Food dominated, making up 70% of establishments, followed by Leisure and Entertainment (26%) and Drink (4%). While the total number of establishments remained steady, employment declined by 3% - representing a loss of 130 jobs. Compared to national trends, Willoughby underperformed from 2022/23 to 2023/24 across businesses and employment.

Core NTE sales turnover rose by \$29m (+6%), primarily due to cafés and restaurants (+\$18m / +6%), takeaway services (+\$5m / +11%) and sports and physical recreation (+\$4m / +8%).

The **Food** sector saw the sharpest decline in employment, shedding 155 jobs (-6%), largely from cafés and restaurants – despite a modest increase in businesses. The **Drink** sector also saw a decline, with a 7% fall in establishments and a 12% drop in employment, mainly driven by a reduction in pubs, taverns and bars. In contrast, **Leisure and Entertainment** bucked the trend, with employment up 8% despite a 5% fall in venue numbers - driven by growth in sports and recreation.

Willoughby's **Retail** and **Accommodation** establishments made up 31% of its Non-Core NTE footprint. Retail declined in both establishments (-7%) and employment (-13%), while accommodation venues rose slightly, though employment still fell (-5%).

Measure	FY24	City	National	City	National
Core NTE overview		%Change FY23-24		% Total Economy	
 Establishments	668	-0.4%	+1.8%	5%	5%
 Employment	3,650	-3%	+1.4%	6%	8%
 Sales Turnover	\$550m	+6%	+8%	3%	4%
 Indexed trend	City Core NTE FY2019 to FY2024				
Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Core NTE	
 Drink	26	-7%	-0.1%	4%	7%
 Leisure & Entertainment	172	-5%	+2%	26%	32%
 Food	470	+1.7%	+2%	70%	61%
Non-Core NTE establishments		%Change FY23-24		% Non-Core NTE	
 Retail	428	-7%	+0.3%	29%	35%
 Accommodation	38	+6%	-0.8%	3%	5%

WILLOUGHBY'S TRADING PATTERNS

As of April 2025, Thursday is by far Willoughby's busiest night, with 456 businesses open between 6pm and 6am.

Core NTE activity peaks on Thursday, when 67% of businesses open between 6pm and 9pm, and 27% continue beyond 9pm. Friday and Saturday nights follow closely, with 60% and 55% of Core NTE businesses respectively trading in the early evening and around 30% open until midnight.

Late-night trading (12am-3am) is relatively low but steady across the week, with 3-6% of Core NTE businesses open.

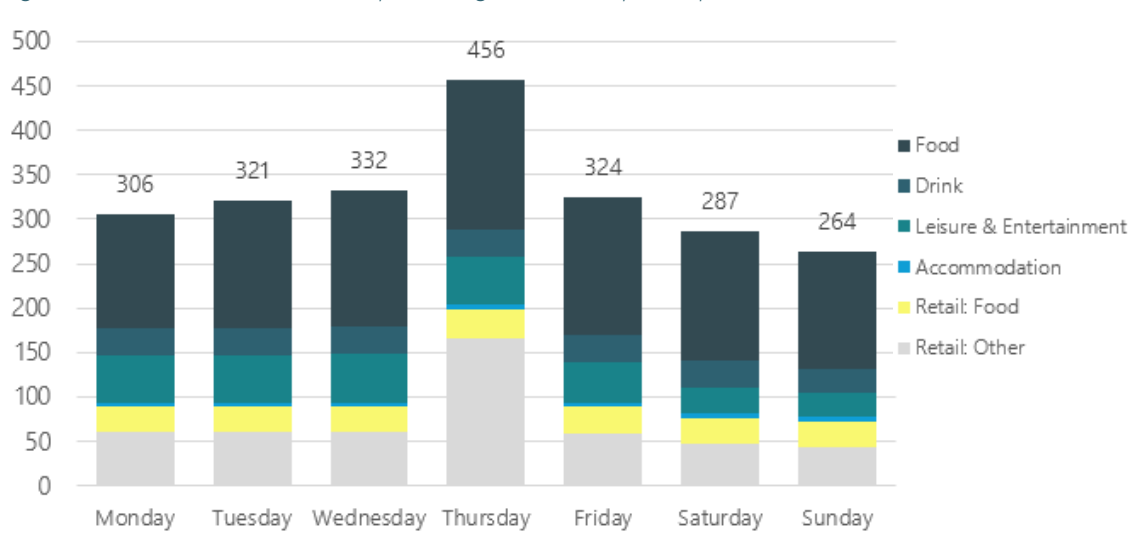
Early-hours activity (3am-6am) is highest on Monday through Thursday at 9% - likely catering to early risers.

Retail activity after 6pm is limited outside of Thursday, when 51% of retail businesses open between 6pm and 9pm. On other nights, fewer than a quarter of retail businesses trade after 6pm, and late-night retail activity remains low throughout the week.

Figure 49: Proportion of all **Core NTE** and **Retail** businesses open

Sector	Weekday (6pm-6am)	Evening 6pm-9pm	Early-Night 9pm-12am	→ Night rolls into next day →	
				Late-Night 12am-3am	Early-hours 3am-6am
Core NTE	Monday	56%	22%	5%	9%
	Tuesday	60%	26%	5%	9%
	Wednesday	63%	26%	4%	9%
	Thursday	67%	27%	5%	9%
	Friday	60%	31%	6%	9%
	Saturday	55%	30%	6%	5%
	Sunday	51%	23%	3%	4%
Retail	Monday	23%	9%	4%	4%
	Tuesday	23%	9%	4%	4%
	Wednesday	23%	9%	4%	4%
	Thursday	51%	9%	4%	4%
	Friday	23%	9%	4%	4%
	Saturday	19%	9%	3%	4%
	Sunday	18%	8%	3%	3%

Figure 50: Number of businesses open at night (at some point 6pm and 6am)



Appendix

Economic performance data

The data used in this report was acquired from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) via bespoke request to their Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits (CABEE), June 2020 to June 2024 datasetⁱ. Developed through a collaborative approach with the ABS, the bespoke request covers a selection of key ANZSICs for 88 of the most populous and economically active Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Australia. This dataset was analysed and modelled using additional ABS datasets including labour force dataⁱⁱ and industry sales and service incomeⁱⁱⁱ data (sales turnover).

In some cases, ANZSIC level data can be provided; in other cases, the numbers can be small. This can be problematic, because the ABS applies perturbation^{iv} techniques when dealing with smaller numbers to maintain confidentiality of businesses in the dataset, which may lead to large percentage swings when comparing between years.

Important notes / limitations of the CABEE dataset

The CABEE dataset captures actively trading establishments with an Australian Business Number (ABN) that are registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST) as of the 30th of June each year. Establishments

without an ABN or that are not registered for GST are excluded from the dataset.

Most establishments are counted as a single unit, at the location of their registered address, or at the address with the highest employment. Establishments operating from multiple locations (for example large cinema chains) may only be counted once. Conversely, establishments that have registered separate ABNs on account of their legal structures, may be counted multiple times. For larger businesses with complex and diverse legal structures, the ABS liaises directly with the businesses to determine [Type of Activity Units](#) – the ABS terminology for producing business or branch of a larger business.

Each establishment is classified to a single ANZSIC code based on the main source of industry value added (using sales of goods and services, wages and salaries or number of employees as a proxy), which is generally based on a description provided by the business. ANZSIC classifications may therefore not reflect all the activities carried out at an establishment, particularly where the establishment is counted as a single unit, but different activities are undertaken at different locations.

All employment and turnover estimates refer to the total employment and sales turnover in each specified

ANZSIC or sub-sector, and as a result includes both day and night-time activity. Ingenium Research is currently exploring opportunities to determine the temporal split of sales turnover and employment for future research. Please note also that sales turnover figures in this document reflect the nominal value and do not isolate or identify the impact of inflation into account, unless stated.

Inflation considerations

Prior to 2024, *Measuring the Australian NTE* has presented sales turnover figures in a *nominal* fashion. Since the COVID-19 pandemic and associated world events such as the war in Ukraine, costs of living have seen substantial increases across the globe. As a result, the analysis in this report since 2024 considers the impact of inflation on sales turnover figures to point to a *real* view of change.

Inflation impacts in this report are calculated using the [ABS Producer Price Indexes](#) Output measures, as this index reflects the actual increases in costs that businesses are facing, rather than what consumers are paying. When inflation adjusted figures are presented, historical sales turnover figures are rebased to 2023/24 prices.

ⁱ [ABS Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2020 to Jun 2024](#)

ⁱⁱ [ABS Labour Force, Australia](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ [ABS Australian Industry](#)

^{iv} The ABS CABEE explains the use of perturbation in the context of business counts. Additional information on the perturbation technique

is available in the Census of Population and Housing dataset ([ABS Catalogue 2011.0.55.001](#))

Trading patterns and clustering

To provide a more detailed view of where businesses are based and the times that establishments are operating, Ingenium Research utilised the Google Maps/Places API^v. This involved developing detailed geographic search criteria across each city to identify relevant night-time businesses to understand where they are clustering and then analysing their hours and days of trading. The results of these searches were dynamically geocoded to standard geographic boundaries (LGA, Postcode and SA2, SA1) and then presented as GIS maps and aggregated data tables to comply with Google’s terms of reference.

Trading pattern analysis demonstrates the proportion of all businesses in an area or sector that are operating at a specified point in time or day of the week. For the purposes of this report, analysis focused on businesses trading on at least one day of the week during the periods of 6pm-9pm, 9pm-12am, 12am-3am and 3am-6am.

Important notes / limitations of Google Places

Although Google's activity descriptors differ to ANZSICs, they align well. As a result, Google's activity descriptors have, where possible, been mapped to the ANZSIC categories comprising Core NTE and Non-Core NTE used in the economic performance analysis (refer to Tables 2, to 4 below) providing a consistent activity view. It is also important to note that Google stores multiple activities per establishment (up to twenty) and therefore

an establishment could map to multiple NTE sub-sectors based on information provided by the establishment. For example, a pub that offers food might classify itself as a 'pub' primarily, with a secondary activity of 'restaurant'. Like ABS CABEE, this analysis focuses only on the primary activity (e.g. pub) of the establishment.

It should be noted that only businesses with a web presence are captured via the Google Places API and as such, the results of the analysis process **should not be considered a census of business activity**. That being said, comparison with the ABS CABEE dataset suggests that Google establishment counts for the Core NTE and consumer facing Non-Core NTE activities are approximately 90% of CABEE business counts, representing an excellent sample of activity.

The results reflect the opening hours stored in Google at the time of analysis (April 2025) and may or may not be impacted by seasonality changes or other factors. Similarly, the accuracy of the data relies on business owners updating opening hours within their Google account in a timely and accurate manner.

Changes in 2025



In 2024, Google introduced a new version of its Places API, which provides a much greater detail on businesses and associated place types (business activity). This increased activity detail has led to reclassification of some venues between Drink and Food and some between Retail Food and Retail Other, leading to a shift in business counts and, in some cases, reducing the direct comparability between years for these sectors.

Using supplementary maps

In each city’s business clustering section, a link is provided to a supplementary map, which allows further interrogation of business clustering data (as of April 2025) across the hours of the night.

These maps are geospatial PDFs that show counts of Core NTE, Retail & Accommodation businesses trading by hectare within each LGA boundary. The default view shows the number of businesses trading between 6pm and 9pm and will be available by opening the file in an internet browser such as Google Chrome.

The maps also provide business counts at three other periods of the night (9pm-12am, 12am-3am and 3am-6am). To view these time periods and fully utilise these geospatial PDFs, it is necessary to download a copy of the file and open it in Adobe Acrobat.

Within Adobe Acrobat, there will be an icon ( or ) on the left or right hand side of the screen (depending on your version) that lets you access the different map layers. Once this icon has been clicked, you will be shown the different layers available. Simply unselect ‘6-9pm hectare counts’ and select another time period to see business clustering for that time period, e.g.

x

Layers

☐

6-9pm hectare counts

☒

9pm-12am hectare counts

☐

12am-3am hectare counts

☐

3am-6am hectare counts

^v This is based on data behind Google Maps (a free service for businesses), rather than paid-for Google Ads.

NTE definition

As noted in the Glossary of Terms, night-time economy activity is broken down into Core, Non-Core and Supply sectors. These NTE sectors are defined using the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) system, which are aligned with definitions used in previous work in the United Kingdom and New Zealand. The definition of the NTE was originally developed by TBR Ltd and MAKE Associates, using granular analysis of [Dun & Bradstreet](#) business data in 2008/9. This definition was adapted through the comparison of the United Kingdom's Standard Industrial Classifications (SICs) to Australia's ANZSICs for the [City of Sydney's 2011 Cost Benefit Analysis Study](#). It has been employed in the annual NTE research for CCCLM ever since.

A similar approach was adopted by the Greater London Authority (GLA) for the purpose of measuring London's NTE with equivalent data from the [United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#). The GLA's [analysis](#) utilised data from the ONS' Labour Force Survey to understand which industries have the highest proportion of employees working at night. This was used to select industries with a higher propensity of night-time workers and group them into similar activities (e.g. cultural and leisure). The GLA's analysis aligns well with the NTE ANZSICs shown below in Tables 2, 3 and 4.

Important note / limitations of the NTE definition

The ANZSIC codes used to define Core, Non-Core and Supply are provided below. It should be noted that temporal (24-hour) breakdown of economic activity is not recorded in official economic data sources. Therefore, ANZSICs have been selected based on businesses with a propensity to operate at night, but establishment counts may include some businesses that operate solely during, or for part of, the day. As such, employment and sales turnover figures may also include daytime activity. Looking beyond the Core NTE classifications, it is estimated that more than [four million](#) Australians work at night across a wide range of industries.

ANZSIC DEFINITIONS

Table 2: Core NTE ANZSIC definition

NTE Sub-Sector	ANZSIC	Description
Drink	4123 ^{vi}	Liquor Retailing
	4520	Pubs, Taverns & Bars
Leisure & Entertainment	5513 ^{vii}	Motion Picture Exhibition
	900	Creative & Performing Arts Activities
	911 ^{viii}	Sports & Physical Recreation Activities
	912	Horse & Dog Racing Activities
	913	Amusement & Other Recreation Activities
	920 ^{ix}	Gambling Activities
	4530	Clubs (Hospitality)
	9534	Brothel Keeping & Prostitution
Food	4511	Cafes & Restaurants
	4512	Takeaway Food Services

Table 3: Non-Core NTE ANZSIC definition

NTE Sub-Sector	ANZSIC	Description
Care	771	Public Order & Safety Services
	840	Hospitals
Arts Education	8212	Arts Education
Libraries & archives	601	Libraries & Archives
Design	692	Architectural, Engineering & Technical Services
Food	411	Supermarket & Grocery Stores
	4121	Fresh Meat, Fish & Poultry Retailing
	4122	Fruit & Vegetable Retailing
	4129	Other Specialised Food Retailing
Accommodation	4400	Accommodation*
Infrastructure	29	Waste Collection, Treatment & Disposal Services

^{vi} It should be noted that each state and territory has its own liquor licensing regulations/laws. As such, liquor retailing activity may be more likely to occur during the night in some states and territories than in others.

^{vii} This level of ANZSIC detail is not normally available at LGA level via ABS request due to small numbers that would not pass confidentiality rules. For City of Sydney, the Floor and Employment Survey in the original Sydney Cost Benefit Analysis work (2011) allowed further disaggregation of this ANZSIC 551 (Motion Picture and Video Activities) to arrive at Motion Picture Exhibition (ANZSIC 5513), i.e. cinemas, meaning this ANZSIC can still be presented separately for Sydney. For all other LGAs the wider grouping of Motion Picture and Video Activities (ANZSIC 551) is captured as a Supply NTE activity.

^{viii} ANZSIC 911 (Sports and Physical Recreation Activities) includes ANZSIC 9114 (Sports and Physical Recreation Administrative Service) and so could potentially over estimate night-time related activity within this industry. ANZSIC 9114 accounts for 5% of establishments within ANZSIC 911, although associated sales and employment may be higher.

^{ix} ANZSIC 920 (Gambling Activities) includes ANZSIC 9209 (Other Gambling Activities), which captures internet gambling operation and TAB operation, that may occur during the day.

NTE Sub-Sector	ANZSIC	Description
	751	Central Government Administration
	753	Local Government Administration
	772	Regulatory Services
	9531	Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Services
Other Education	8219	Adult, Community & Other Education not elsewhere classified
Promotion	694	Advertising Services
Research	695	Market Research & Statistical Services
Retail/Other	422	Electrical & Electronic Goods Retailing
	425	Clothing, Footwear & Personal Accessory Retailing
	426	Department Stores
	427	Pharmaceutical & Other Store Based Retailing
	4241	Sport & Camping Equipment Retailing
	4242	Entertainment Media Retailing
	4243	Toy & Game Retailing
	4244	Newspaper & Book Retailing
	4245	Marine Equipment Retailing
Sports Education	8211	Sports & Physical Recreation Instruction
Transport	472	Rail Passenger Transport
	482	Water Passenger Transport
	4621	Interurban & Rural Bus Transport
	4622	Urban Bus Transport (including Tramway)
	4623	Taxi & Other Road Transport
	9533	Parking Services

Table 4: Supply NTE ANZSIC definition

NTE Sub-Sector	ANZSIC	Description
Drink	12	Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing
	3606	Liquor & Tobacco Product Wholesaling
Entertainment	551	Motion Picture & Video Activities
	552	Sound Recording & Music Publishing
Food	11	Food Product Manufacturing
	4513	Catering Services

* This consists of businesses mainly engaged in providing accommodation for visitors, such as hotels, motels and similar units. Please note that this will not include all share accommodation such as Airbnb and Stayz.

Core NTE LGA rankings

Table 5: Core NTE Establishments in 2023/24 – part 1

Position	LGA Name	State	Core NTE Establishments	Per km ²	% Change 23-24
1	Brisbane City Council	QLD	7,667	5.7	2.1%
2	City of Sydney	NSW	5,945	222.7	0.8%
3	City of Gold Coast	QLD	4,183	3.1	1.2%
4	City of Melbourne	VIC	3,107	82.9	4.6%
5	Australian Capital Territory	ACT	2,300	1.0	4.1%
6	Inner West Council	NSW	1,835	52.1	-0.5%
7	City of Canterbury Bankstown	NSW	1,806	16.4	4.0%
8	Sunshine Coast Council	QLD	1,786	0.8	4.5%
9	Northern Beaches Council	NSW	1,748	6.9	-1.2%
10	Central Coast Council	NSW	1,545	0.9	-0.6%
11	City of Parramatta	NSW	1,542	18.4	1.0%
12	Yarra City Council	VIC	1,531	78.5	-1.8%
13	City of Casey	VIC	1,515	3.7	6.3%
14	City of Blacktown	NSW	1,497	6.3	9.1%
15	Port Phillip City Council	VIC	1,472	71.5	-0.8%
16	Wyndham City	VIC	1,429	2.6	8.7%
17	Moreton Bay Regional Council	QLD	1,371	0.7	4.7%
18	City of Monash	VIC	1,363	16.7	1.0%
19	City of Boroondara	VIC	1,355	22.5	1.1%
20	City of Merri-bek	VIC	1,338	26.2	3.9%
21	City of Greater Geelong	VIC	1,278	1.0	-2.1%
22	City of Stonnington	VIC	1,229	47.8	-0.5%
23	Cumberland Council	NSW	1,222	16.8	10.2%
24	Sutherland Shire Council	NSW	1,195	3.6	4.6%
25	City of Darebin	VIC	1,134	21.2	-1.3%
26	The Hills Shire Council	NSW	1,120	2.9	2.9%
27	City of Stirling	WA	1,105	10.6	6.6%
28	City of Newcastle	NSW	1,079	5.8	-1.0%
29	Hume City Council	VIC	1,076	2.1	8.9%
30	City of Whitehorse	VIC	1,048	16.3	3.7%
31	Wollongong City Council	NSW	1,038	1.5	1.7%
32	Bayside Council	NSW	1,032	20.4	-2.2%
33	Kingston City Council	VIC	1,028	11.2	0.1%
34	City of Greater Dandenong	VIC	994	7.7	6.4%
35	City of Adelaide	SA	975	62.5	-1.9%
36	City of Whittlesea	VIC	967	2.0	7.4%
37	Glen Eira City Council	VIC	959	24.8	-5.5%
38	Mornington Peninsula Shire	VIC	939	1.3	3.1%
39	Fairfield City Council	NSW	936	9.2	5.1%
40	Liverpool City Council	NSW	898	2.9	8.5%
41	City of Brimbank	VIC	882	7.1	5.1%
42	Georges River Council	NSW	873	22.8	2.0%
43	Randwick City Council	NSW	867	23.9	0.8%
44	City of Ryde	NSW	853	21.1	0.4%

Table 6: Core NTE Establishments in 2023/24 – part 2

Position	LGA Name	State	Core NTE Establishments	Per km ²	% Change 23-24
45	Manningham City Council	VIC	848	7.5	1.3%
46	Cairns Regional Council	QLD	830	0.5	0.7%
47	Moonee Valley City Council	VIC	789	18.3	-3.1%
48	Waverley Council	NSW	776	82.6	-1.1%
49	North Sydney Council	NSW	773	73.6	-0.8%
50	Bayside City Council	VIC	748	20.1	-1.3%
51	Penrith City Council	NSW	745	1.8	4.3%
52	Lake Macquarie City Council	NSW	724	1.1	3.0%
53	Maribyrnong City Council	VIC	706	22.6	-3.2%
54	Knox City Council	VIC	700	6.1	4.2%
55	Melton City Council	VIC	681	1.3	9.8%
56	Willoughby Council	NSW	668	29.8	-0.4%
57	City of Perth	WA	662	48.3	-1.5%
58	City of Hobart	TAS	655	8.4	2.7%
59	City of Ballarat	VIC	655	0.9	5.0%
60	Townsville City Council	QLD	638	0.2	-3.6%
61	Toowoomba Regional Council	QLD	636	0.0	4.6%
62	City of Canada Bay Council	NSW	631	31.7	-3.5%
63	Hornsby Shire Council	NSW	631	1.4	1.6%
64	City of Charles Sturt	SA	603	11.0	3.4%
65	Banyule City Council	VIC	597	9.6	-2.5%
66	Ku-ring-gai Council	NSW	594	7.0	0.3%
67	Woollahra Municipal Council	NSW	556	45.2	0.4%
68	Campbelltown City Council	NSW	548	1.8	-0.7%
69	City of Joondalup	WA	548	5.5	3.0%
70	Hobsons Bay City Council	VIC	536	8.3	0.0%
71	City of Frankston	VIC	511	3.9	-4.1%
72	City of Greater Bendigo	VIC	511	0.2	0.4%
73	City of Darwin	NT	485	4.4	4.3%
74	Maroondah City Council	VIC	467	7.6	-4.3%
75	Byron Shire	NSW	463	0.8	-2.7%
76	Port Macquarie-Hastings Council	NSW	405	0.1	3.1%
77	City of Launceston	TAS	355	0.3	-2.5%
78	Mackay Regional Council	QLD	340	0.0	5.3%
79	Hawkesbury City Council	NSW	336	0.1	3.7%
80	Burwood Council	NSW	328	46.2	2.5%
81	Nillumbik Shire Council	VIC	303	0.7	2.4%
82	Maitland City Council	NSW	298	0.8	3.8%
83	Albury City Council	NSW	275	0.9	5.4%
84	Port Stephens Council	NSW	272	0.3	4.2%
85	City of Mitcham	SA	269	3.6	0.7%
86	City of Burnside	SA	251	9.1	-0.4%
87	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council	NSW	241	0.0	6.6%
88	City of Wodonga	VIC	165	0.4	5.1%
89	Bathurst Regional Council	NSW	163	0.0	-2.4%

Sector breakdown by state / territory

Table 7: Core NTE by state/territory in 2023/24 with change from 2022/23 to 2023/24

State/Territory	Establishments			Employment			Turnover (\$m)		
	Number	% Change	23-24	Number	% Change	23-24	Number	% Change	23-24
New South Wales	45,230	↑	1.6%	316,970	↑	1.9%	\$56,404	↑	3.3%
Victoria	39,566	↑	1.8%	295,035	↓	-1.1%	\$47,661	↑	3.3%
Queensland	23,540	↑	2.0%	238,525	↑	6.8%	\$37,587	↑	2.7%
Western Australia	11,710	↑	2.0%	136,560	↑	5.0%	\$22,122	↑	2.7%
South Australia	7,841	↑	2.8%	68,540	↓	-9.9%	\$12,610	↑	4.5%
Tasmania	2,582	↑	0.9%	23,010	↑	17.9%	\$3,837	↑	4.0%
Australian Capital Territory	2,300	↑	4.1%	32,205	↓	-7.5%	\$4,719	↑	0.8%
Northern Territory	883	↑	2.3%	16,225	↓	-15.3%	\$3,045	↓	-2.1%
Australia	133,680	↑	1.8%	1,127,070	↑	1.3%	\$187,985	↑	3.1%

Source: Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics CABEE 2020-2024 dataset

Table 8: Food by state/territory in 2023/24 with change from 2022/23 to 2023/24

State/Territory	Establishments			Employment			Turnover (\$m)		
	Number	% Change	23-24	Number	% Change	23-24	Number	% Change	23-24
New South Wales	27,347	↑	1.8%	173,925	↓	-4.0%	\$28,725	↑	3.6%
Victoria	24,425	↑	1.6%	194,225	↓	-3.5%	\$25,930	↑	3.9%
Queensland	14,489	↑	2.4%	157,085	↑	4.7%	\$21,356	↑	2.4%
Western Australia	7,243	↑	2.4%	95,090	↑	10.1%	\$12,992	↑	3.9%
South Australia	4,759	↑	3.7%	42,945	↓	-14.8%	\$7,310	↑	5.3%
Tasmania	1,612	↓	-0.6%	16,580	↑	21.2%	\$2,183	↑	5.3%
Australian Capital Territory	1,638	↑	5.1%	23,990	↓	-6.8%	\$3,025	↑	1.8%
Northern Territory	517	↓	-2.3%	8,970	↓	-17.3%	\$1,449	↓	-2.5%
Australia	82,035	↑	2.0%	712,805	↓	-0.9%	\$102,970	↑	3.5%

Source: Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics CABEE 2020-2024 dataset

Table 9: Drink by state/territory in 2023/24 with change from 2022/23 to 2023/24

State/Territory	Establishments		Employment		Turnover (\$m)	
	Number	% Change 23-24	Number	% Change 23-24	Number	% Change 23-24
New South Wales	3,126	↓ -1.5%	36,490	↓ -5.9%	\$9,110	↑ 0.5%
Victoria	2,840	↑ 2.4%	28,020	↓ -4.2%	\$6,213	↑ 1.6%
Queensland	1,184	↓ -1.7%	22,445	↑ 3.4%	\$3,549	↓ -0.1%
Western Australia	997	↓ -1.3%	19,895	↑ 5.7%	\$4,086	↓ -0.6%
South Australia	844	↓ -0.1%	10,125	↓ -13.7%	\$2,308	↑ 3.3%
Tasmania	236	↑ 4.9%	2,845	↑ 13.8%	\$511	↓ -0.2%
Australian Capital Territory	128	↓ -0.8%	2,245	↓ -10.2%	\$406	↓ -3.9%
Northern Territory	57	↑ 3.6%	2,295	↓ -16.1%	\$381	↓ -1.4%
Australia	9,413	↓ -0.1%	124,360	↓ -2.9%	\$26,563	↑ 0.6%

Source: Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics CABEE 2020-2024 dataset

Table 10: Leisure & Entertainment by state/territory in 2023/24 with change from 2022/23 to 2023/24

State/Territory	Establishments		Employment		Turnover (\$m)	
	Number	% Change 23-24	Number	% Change 23-24	Number	% Change 23-24
New South Wales	14,757	↑ 1.9%	106,555	↑ 17.2%	\$18,569	↑ 4.2%
Victoria	12,301	↑ 1.9%	72,790	↑ 7.2%	\$15,518	↑ 2.9%
Queensland	7,867	↑ 2.0%	58,995	↑ 14.2%	\$12,682	↑ 4.1%
Western Australia	3,470	↑ 2.0%	21,580	↓ -13.4%	\$5,044	↑ 2.6%
South Australia	2,238	↑ 2.2%	15,475	↑ 11.0%	\$2,992	↑ 3.5%
Tasmania	734	↑ 3.2%	3,585	↑ 7.3%	\$1,143	↑ 3.8%
Australian Capital Territory	534	↑ 2.5%	5,970	↓ -9.3%	\$1,288	↑ 0.1%
Northern Territory	309	↑ 10.8%	4,960	↓ -10.9%	\$1,216	↓ -2.0%
Australia	42,232	↑ 2.0%	289,910	↑ 9.4%	\$58,452	↑ 3.4%

Source: Based on Australian Bureau of Statistics CABEE 2020-2024 dataset

