

# Community report

## Ballina (A)

Prepared from Community Explorer topic selections for briefing, planning and reporting use.

AREA

**Ballina (A)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**7 April 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Service age groups

### Sources and method

- Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 and, where available, 2016 comparison data.
- Percentages are calculated from the denominator supplied for each topic. Change (pp) is the 2021 percentage minus the 2016 percentage when the topic is comparable across years.
- Usual residence topics describe where people usually live, rather than where they were counted on Census night.

# Service age groups

Ballina (A) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, Mid-life adults (35 to 49) was the most common category among residents in Ballina (A), accounting for 17.6% (8,150 people). This share was similar to Regional NSW (17.5%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Established seniors (70 to 84), which increased by 1,631 people and 2.2 percentage points.

## About this topic

Service age groups divide the population into broad life-stage bands such as children, young adults, working-age adults, and older people. The groupings are designed to reflect typical demand for age-based services and facilities rather than exact five-year cohorts.

This view is useful for planning childcare, schools, recreation, aged services, and other community infrastructure. It works best alongside five year age groups, household type, and dwelling data, which add more detail about who is living in an area and how needs may change over time.

## Interpretation notes

- This is a derived grouping rather than a direct Census question, so the age bands are planning-oriented summaries built from standard age data.
- Percentages relate to the total population; use five year age groups when exact cohort detail matters.

## Age structure - Service age groups

Ballina (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Early childhood (0 to 4)	2,202	4.8%	5.5%	2,069	5.0%	5.8%	+133	-0.2
Primary school age (5 to 11)	3,668	7.9%	8.6%	3,344	8.0%	8.9%	+324	-0.1
Secondary school age (12 to 17)	3,207	6.9%	7.4%	3,075	7.4%	7.3%	+132	-0.5
Young adults (18 to 24)	2,762	6.0%	7.6%	2,391	5.7%	7.9%	+371	+0.3
Early career adults (25 to 34)	4,264	9.2%	11.6%	3,575	8.6%	11.0%	+689	+0.6
Mid-life adults (35 to 49)	8,150	17.6%	17.5%	7,457	17.8%	18.0%	+693	-0.2
Pre-retirement adults (50 to 59)	6,138	13.3%	12.8%	6,184	14.8%	13.8%	-46	-1.5
Retirement transition (60 to 69)	6,875	14.9%	13.3%	6,366	15.2%	13.1%	+509	-0.3
Established seniors (70 to 84)	7,185	15.5%	13.0%	5,554	13.3%	11.4%	+1,631	+2.2
Advanced age (85 years and over)	1,844	4.0%	2.8%	1,758	4.2%	2.7%	+86	-0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,296</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>41,790</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>+4,506</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Data basis: usual residence.