

Community report

Cairns (R)

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

AREA

Cairns (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

3 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Family blending

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.
- Enumerated topics describe where people or dwellings were counted on Census night.

Family blending

Cairns (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, intact families was the most common family type among couple families with children in Cairns (R), accounting for 82.4% (13,591 families). This share was similar to Regional Qld (82.6%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in step families, which increased by 765 families and 4.4 percentage points.

About this topic

Family blending classifies couple families with children according to whether the children are shared by both partners, from a previous relationship, or a mix of both. It applies only to couple families with children, not to all family types or all households.

This topic can help show patterns of repartnering and family complexity within an area. It should be interpreted with household type and households with children, because it is a specialised family-structure measure rather than a summary of all families.

Interpretation notes

- This derived family view applies only to couple families with children, not all families or all households.

- It classifies whether children are shared, step, or blended within the couple family, so it should not be compared directly with headline household totals.

Family blending

Cairns (R) – Total couples with children (Enumerated)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Intact Family	13,591	82.4%	82.6%	13,787	86.7%	86.3%	-196	-4.3
Step family	2,058	12.5%	11.8%	1,293	8.1%	8.0%	+765	+4.4
Blended family	734	4.4%	4.9%	709	4.5%	5.1%	+25	-0.1
Other couple family	105	0.6%	0.7%	105	0.7%	0.6%	0	-0.1
Total couples with children	16,499	100.0%	100.0%	15,895	100.0%	100.0%	+604	0.0

Data basis: enumerated.