

# 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

**2 April 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Housing loan repayments

### 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.

# Housing loan repayments

Cairns (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, \$1,600–\$1,799 was the most common mortgage repayment band among households with a mortgage in Cairns (R), accounting for 11.8% (2,555 households). This share was higher than Regional Qld (9.8%).

## About this topic

Housing loan repayments show the monthly mortgage repayment amounts reported by households with a mortgage. They provide a snapshot of housing costs for owner-purchasing households.

This topic can help indicate repayment pressure and possible housing stress when read with household income, but raw repayment amounts are not directly comparable over time because of inflation, interest rate movements, and changing loan conditions. The 2021 data also predates the interest rate rises that began in May 2022, so it should be interpreted with care.

## Interpretation notes

- This topic applies only to households with a mortgage and records monthly repayments for the dwelling in which they were counted on Census night.
- Raw repayment amounts are not directly comparable over time because inflation, interest rates, and loan conditions change.
- The 2021 Census pre-dates the Reserve Bank rate rises that began in May 2022, so current repayment pressure may be higher than the Census snapshot suggests.

## Monthly housing loan repayments

Cairns (R) - Households (Enumerated)

Category	2021 count	2021 %	Regional Qld %
\$299 or less	897	4.1%	4.6%
\$300 - \$599	780	3.6%	4.1%
\$600 - \$999	2,202	10.2%	9.8%
\$1,000 - \$1,199	1,619	7.5%	7.4%
\$1,200 - \$1,399	2,408	11.1%	9.5%
\$1,400 - \$1,599	2,347	10.8%	8.8%
\$1,600-\$1,799	2,555	11.8%	9.8%
\$1,800 - \$1,999	1,599	7.4%	6.7%
\$2,000 - \$2,199	2,107	9.7%	10.0%
\$2,200 - \$2,399	731	3.4%	4.0%
\$2,400-\$2,599	413	1.9%	2.6%
\$2,600-\$2,999	1,065	4.9%	6.0%
\$3,000-\$3,999	1,053	4.9%	6.3%
\$4,000-\$4,999	352	1.6%	2.3%
\$5000 and over	272	1.3%	1.8%
Not stated	1,232	5.7%	6.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,632</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Data basis: enumerated.