

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 rental quartiles

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 rental quartiles

Cairns (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, the lowest rent quartile held the largest share among households renting their home in Cairns (R), accounting for 31.1%.

About this topic

Housing rental quartiles group renting households into four evenly sized rent bands so rental costs can be compared across places and across Census years. They show the relative rent profile of the renting population rather than fixed weekly rent brackets.

This topic is useful for comparing change over time because direct rent amounts are affected by inflation and broader market shifts. It is best read with household income and tenure when assessing rental affordability and housing stress.

Interpretation notes

- This is a derived rent distribution for renting households, so quartiles show relative rent position rather than fixed weekly rent bands.
- Quartiles are more useful than raw rent ranges for comparing rental profiles across areas or years.

Housing rental quartiles

Cairns (R) – Households (Enumerated)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Lowest group	6,349	31.1%	32.4%	6,371	30.1%	31.9%	–	–
Medium lowest	5,214	25.6%	22.2%	6,545	30.9%	27.0%	–	–
Medium highest	5,125	25.1%	21.0%	4,890	23.1%	21.3%	–	–
Highest group	3,706	18.2%	24.4%	3,384	16.0%	19.8%	–	–
Total households with stated rent	20,394	100.0%	100.0%	21,190	100.0%	100.0%	–	–

Data basis: enumerated.