

Community report

Central Desert (R)

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

AREA

Central Desert (R)

COMPARISON

Regional NT

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

6 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Highest level of schooling

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.

Highest level of schooling

Central Desert (R) | Regional NT comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, Year 10 or Equivalent was the most common schooling level among residents aged 15 and over in Central Desert (R), accounting for 21.5% (564 people). This share was higher than Regional NT (19.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Year 8 or Below, which decreased by 392 people and 15.3 percentage points.

About this topic

Highest level of schooling shows the highest year of primary or secondary school completed by people aged 15 years and over. It describes school attainment rather than post-school qualifications.

This topic helps indicate educational attainment and can support analysis of access to employment, training, and services. It is best read with qualifications and other socio-economic indicators, because school completion alone does not show a person's full skill profile.

Interpretation notes

- This records the highest year of primary or secondary school completed by people aged 15 years and over.

- It is not a measure of post-school qualifications, so it should be read with non-school qualifications for full attainment.

Highest level of secondary schooling completed

Central Desert (R) – Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	pp
Year 8 Or Below	442	16.8%	8.5%	834	32.1%	10.5%	-392	-15.3
Year 9 Or Equivalent	328	12.5%	8.1%	266	10.2%	7.7%	+62	+2.3
Year 10 Or Equivalent	564	21.5%	19.8%	416	16.0%	18.5%	+148	+5.5
Year 11 Or Equivalent	292	11.1%	12.5%	215	8.3%	11.4%	+77	+2.8
Year 12 Or Equivalent	489	18.6%	36.8%	423	16.3%	31.6%	+66	+2.3
Did Not Go To School	187	7.1%	2.1%	150	5.8%	2.3%	+37	+1.3
Not Stated	327	12.4%	12.2%	294	11.3%	18.0%	+33	+1.1
Total	2,629	100.0%	100.0%	2,598	100.0%	100.0%	+31	0.0

Data basis: usual residence.