

Community report

Cocos Islands

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

AREA

Cocos Islands

COMPARISON

Other Territories

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

2 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Overseas arrivals

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.

Overseas arrivals

Cocos Islands | Other Territories comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, 1981 to 1990 was the most common arrival period among overseas-born residents in Cocos Islands, accounting for 21.6% (11 people). This share was higher than Other Territories (16.8%).

About this topic

Overseas arrivals groups the overseas-born population by the year they first arrived in Australia to live here for one year or more. It shows how recent or established migrant communities are within an area.

This topic only applies to people born overseas, not the total population. It is useful for understanding settlement trends and likely demand for newcomer services, and it is best read with birthplace, language used at home, and religion.

Interpretation notes

- This topic applies only to overseas-born people who first arrived to live in Australia for one year or more, not to the total population.
- Year of arrival is most useful with birthplace and language, because arrival timing alone does not show current support needs.

Overseas arrivals

Cocos Islands – Overseas born (Usual residence)

Category	2021 count	2021 %	Other Territories %
Arrived in 1960 or earlier	4	7.8%	2.6%
1961 to 1970	3	5.9%	6.6%
1971 to 1980	7	13.7%	14.1%
1981 to 1990	11	21.6%	16.8%
1991 to 2000	3	5.9%	7.2%
2001 to 2010	7	13.7%	12.2%
2011 to 2015	5	9.8%	9.3%
2016 to Aug 2021	3	5.9%	8.4%
Not stated	10	19.6%	22.3%
Total	51	100.0%	100.0%

Data basis: usual residence.