

# Community report

## Coffs Harbour (C)

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

AREA

**Coffs Harbour (C)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**30 March 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Need for assistance

### 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.

# Need for assistance

Coffs Harbour (C) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, 75–84 year olds was the most common age group among residents who needed assistance with core activities in Coffs Harbour (C), accounting for 18.1% (1,037 people). This share was lower than Regional NSW (18.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in 85+ year olds, which increased by 255 people and 7 percentage points.

## About this topic

Need for assistance measures people who report needing help with self-care, body movement, or communication because of a disability, a long-term health condition, or older age. It is a high-needs indicator rather than a general measure of disability.

This topic is useful for planning accessible facilities, care services, respite, and support for carers. The measure is based on self-report in the Census, so it should be interpreted with care and read alongside unpaid care and other disability-related indicators.

## Interpretation notes

- The measure is self-reported and records need for help with core activities, so it is not a complete measure of disability prevalence.
- It applies to all persons and is strongest as an indicator of higher support need when read with unpaid care and ageing data.

## Need for assistance with core activities by age

Coffs Harbour (C) – Persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
0-4	66	1.6%	1.6%	42	1.0%	1.3%	+24	+0.6
5-14	499	5.0%	5.2%	358	3.8%	3.8%	+141	+1.2
15-19	198	4.4%	4.2%	160	3.7%	3.2%	+38	+0.7
20-24	127	3.5%	3.4%	114	3.1%	2.6%	+13	+0.4
25-34	243	2.8%	2.6%	230	3.0%	2.4%	+13	-0.2
35-44	294	3.2%	2.8%	280	3.4%	3.0%	+14	-0.2
45-54	387	3.9%	4.2%	472	4.9%	4.4%	-85	-1.0
55-64	656	6.2%	6.0%	657	6.1%	6.2%	-1	+0.1
65-74	883	8.7%	9.1%	650	7.6%	8.7%	+233	+1.1
75-84	1,037	18.1%	18.9%	795	16.6%	17.8%	+242	+1.5
85+	1,027	44.3%	46.5%	772	37.3%	43.8%	+255	+7.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,415</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>4,533</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>+882</b>	<b>+0.7</b>

Data basis: usual residence.