

# Community report

## Derby-West Kimberley (S)

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

AREA

**Derby-West Kimberley (S)**

COMPARISON

**Regional WA**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**1 April 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Employment status

### 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.

# Employment status

Derby–West Kimberley (S) | Regional WA comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, Employed was the most common category among residents aged 15 and over in Derby–West Kimberley (S), accounting for 94.3% (2,001 people). This share was lower than Regional WA (95.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Employed, which decreased by 323 people, while its share rose by 8.4 percentage points.

## About this topic

Employment status shows whether people aged 15 years and over are employed full-time or part-time, unemployed, or not in the labour force. It is one of the main Census indicators of labour market participation and economic engagement.

This topic is useful for understanding workforce participation, unemployment, and the broader socio-economic profile of an area. Results from 2021 should be read carefully because COVID-19 restrictions increased the number of people who were employed but away from work around Census time.

## Interpretation notes

- Labour force status is based on the week before Census night for people aged 15 years and over.

- In 2021, lockdown instructions could shift more people into 'employed, away from work', so over-time comparisons need care.

- The 'away from work' group also includes people who reported having a job but did not state hours worked.

## Labour force status

Derby-West Kimberley (S) – Persons aged 15+ (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional WA %	Count	%	Regional WA %	Count	pp
Employed	2,001	94.3%	95.8%	2,324	85.9%	93.6%	-323	+8.4
Employed full-time	1,389	65.4%	58.7%	1,669	61.7%	59.1%	-280	+3.7
Employed part-time	431	20.3%	29.7%	455	16.8%	27.8%	-24	+3.5
Employed, away from work	172	8.1%	7.4%	191	7.1%	6.7%	-19	+1.0
Unemployed (Unemployment rate)	129	6.1%	4.2%	385	14.2%	6.4%	-256	-8.1
Looking for full-time work	71	3.3%	2.4%	289	10.7%	4.3%	-218	-7.4
Looking for part-time work	54	2.5%	1.7%	103	3.8%	2.1%	-49	-1.3
<b>Total labour force</b>	<b>2,123</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,707</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-584</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Data basis: usual residence.