

# Community report

## Dorset (M)

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

AREA

**Dorset (M)**

COMPARISON

**Regional Tas.**

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

SECTION

01

Dorset (M) | Regional Tas. comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, 85+ year olds was the most common age group among residents who needed assistance with core activities in Dorset (M), accounting for 48.4% (105 people). This share was higher than Regional Tas. (45.1%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in 85+ year olds, which increased by 47 people and 14.9 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

Dorset (M) – Persons (Usual residence)

| Category     | 2021       |             |                 | 2016       |             |                 | Change      |             |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
|              | Count      | %           | Regional Tas. % | Count      | %           | Regional Tas. % | Count       | pp          |
| 0-4          | 4          | 1.3%        | 1.7%            | 10         | 3.2%        | 1.1%            | -6          | -1.9        |
| 5-14         | 48         | 6.0%        | 5.6%            | 14         | 1.7%        | 4.0%            | +34         | +4.3        |
| 15-19        | 11         | 3.2%        | 4.9%            | 11         | 3.2%        | 3.6%            | 0           | 0.0         |
| 20-24        | 13         | 4.3%        | 3.8%            | 9          | 2.8%        | 3.0%            | +4          | +1.5        |
| 25-34        | 27         | 3.9%        | 2.8%            | 17         | 2.8%        | 2.6%            | +10         | +1.1        |
| 35-44        | 17         | 2.6%        | 3.3%            | 7          | 1.1%        | 3.5%            | +10         | +1.5        |
| 45-54        | 39         | 4.8%        | 5.2%            | 38         | 4.4%        | 5.2%            | +1          | +0.4        |
| 55-64        | 72         | 6.3%        | 6.9%            | 89         | 8.1%        | 7.1%            | -17         | -1.8        |
| 65-74        | 89         | 8.9%        | 10.0%           | 75         | 8.1%        | 9.6%            | +14         | +0.8        |
| 75-84        | 96         | 18.1%       | 18.9%           | 75         | 15.8%       | 18.3%           | +21         | +2.3        |
| 85+          | 105        | 48.4%       | 45.1%           | 58         | 33.5%       | 46.2%           | +47         | +14.9       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>514</b> | <b>7.5%</b> | <b>7.3%</b>     | <b>399</b> | <b>6.0%</b> | <b>6.7%</b>     | <b>+115</b> | <b>+1.5</b> |

Data basis: usual residence.