

Community report

Melbourne (C)

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

AREA

Melbourne (C)

COMPARISON

Greater Melbourne

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Unpaid domestic work

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.

Unpaid domestic work

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, doing unpaid domestic work was the most common response among residents aged 15 and over in Melbourne (C), accounting for 60.3% (84,173 people). This share was lower than Greater Melbourne (66.6%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in between 5 And 14 Hours, which increased by 11,046 people and 6 percentage points.

About this topic

Unpaid domestic work measures how much time people aged 15 years and over spent doing housework for their household in the week before the Census. It helps show the distribution of unpaid labour that supports home and family life.

This topic is useful for understanding household roles, time pressures, and gender or life-stage differences in unpaid work. It is best read with household type, employment, and income, because the amount of unpaid domestic work can be shaped by family structure and the ability to outsource tasks.

Interpretation notes

- The hours refer to unpaid domestic work done for the person's household in the week before the Census.

- This topic does not measure childcare, disability care, or other unpaid help unless it falls within domestic work for the household.

Unpaid domestic work

Melbourne (C) – Persons aged 15+ (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Did Unpaid Domestic Work	84,173	60.3%	66.6%	73,434	57.7%	68.2%	+10,739	+2.6
Less Than 5 Hours	31,639	22.7%	20.4%	36,756	28.9%	24.5%	-5,117	-6.2
Between 5 And 14 Hours	37,972	27.2%	27.1%	26,926	21.2%	25.3%	+11,046	+6.0
Between 15 And 29 Hours	9,767	7.0%	11.3%	6,222	4.9%	10.5%	+3,545	+2.1
30 Hours Or More	4,795	3.4%	7.8%	3,530	2.8%	8.0%	+1,265	+0.6
Did No Unpaid Domestic Work	43,957	31.5%	27.9%	38,003	29.9%	24.1%	+5,954	+1.6
Not Stated	11,382	8.2%	5.5%	15,802	12.4%	7.7%	-4,420	-4.2
Total	139,515	100.0%	100.0%	127,232	100.0%	100.0%	+12,283	0.0

Data basis: usual residence.