City Compass
Community Explorer

COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT

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
30 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01   Household size

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.

- Enumerated topics describe where people or dwellings were counted on Census night.

Household size

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, 1 person was the most common household size among households in Melbourne (C), accounting for 43.1% (30,524 households). This share was higher than Greater Melbourne (24.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in 1 person, which increased by 9,878 households and 6.9 percentage points.

About this topic

Household size shows how many people live in each household. It is a basic but important measure of family life, dwelling use, and the way people share housing.

This topic helps indicate demand for different dwelling sizes and can reflect life-cycle patterns, cultural norms, and affordability pressures. It is best read with household type, age structure, and dwelling type, because changes in household size can happen for very different reasons.

Interpretation notes

– This counts the number of people usually resident in the dwelling, so it describes shared living arrangements rather than dwelling size.

– Household size should be read with bedrooms or dwelling structure before drawing conclusions about crowding or housing suitability.

Household size

Melbourne (C) – Households (Enumerated)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
1 person	30,524	43.1%	24.8%	20,646	36.2%	23.2%	+9,878	+6.9
2 persons	27,966	39.5%	31.3%	23,080	40.5%	31.4%	+4,886	-1.0
3 persons	7,659	10.8%	16.9%	8,016	14.1%	17.3%	-357	-3.3
4 persons	3,501	4.9%	17.2%	3,655	6.4%	17.6%	-154	-1.5
5 persons	781	1.1%	6.6%	1,094	1.9%	7.1%	-313	-0.8
6 or more persons	326	0.5%	3.2%	524	0.9%	3.5%	-198	-0.4
Total classifiable households	**70,760**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**57,012**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**+13,748**	**0.0**

Data basis: enumerated.