

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

4 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Households with children

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.

Households with children

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, households with children was the most common household life-stage group among households in Melbourne (C), accounting for 12.5% (9,638 households). This share was lower than Greater Melbourne (43.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in households with children, which increased by 1,626 households and 0.3 percentage points.

About this topic

Households with children groups households according to whether children are present and the life stage of those children. In this topic, life stage is based on the ages of the children in the household rather than the age of the parents.

This topic is useful for understanding likely demand for childcare, schools, youth services, and family housing. It should be read with household size, age structure, and dwelling type to build a fuller picture of family life in an area.

Interpretation notes

- This is a derived subset of households that classifies households by whether children are present and by the ages of those children.
- The life-stage labels describe the ages of children in the household, not the ages of parents or carers.

Households with children by life stage

Melbourne (C) – Households (Enumerated)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Couples with children	6,597	8.6%	33.1%	5,587	8.5%	33.5%	+1,010	+0.1
Couples with young children	4,788	6.2%	18.4%	3,929	6.0%	18.4%	+859	+0.2
Couples with mixed-age children	454	0.6%	4.3%	385	0.6%	4.3%	+69	0.0
Couples with older children	1,365	1.8%	10.7%	1,291	2.0%	11.1%	+74	-0.2
Single parents with children	3,041	4.0%	10.2%	2,425	3.7%	10.1%	+616	+0.3
Single parents with young children	1,145	1.5%	3.4%	826	1.3%	3.4%	+319	+0.2
Single parents with mixed-age children	221	0.3%	1.1%	193	0.3%	1.1%	+28	0.0
Single parents with older children	1,702	2.2%	5.9%	1,434	2.2%	5.9%	+268	0.0
Total households with children	9,638	12.5%	43.3%	8,012	12.2%	43.5%	+1,626	+0.3
Total households	76,969	100.0%	100.0%	65,795	100.0%	100.0%	+11,174	0.0

Data basis: enumerated.