

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

3 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Households without 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 without children

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, total households without children was the most common household life-stage group among households in Melbourne (C), accounting for 77.1% (59,374 households). This share was higher than Greater Melbourne (51.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in total households without children, which increased by 12,407 households and 5.7 percentage points.

About this topic

Households without children includes couple-only households and lone person households, grouped by life stage. In this topic, life stage is based on the age of the household reference person rather than on the ages of all people in the dwelling.

This topic is useful for understanding the mix of younger adult, mid-life, and older households and the different housing and service needs they may have. It works best alongside household size, age structure, and dwelling type.

Interpretation notes

- This is a derived subset of couple-only and lone-person households, not a summary of all household types.

- The life-stage labels are based on the age of the household reference person, so they simplify the ages of everyone else in the household.

Households without children by life stage

Melbourne (C) – Households (Enumerated)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Couples without children	19,125	24.8%	23.5%	14,397	21.9%	22.9%	+4,728	+2.9
Lone person households	30,524	39.7%	23.7%	20,646	31.4%	22.0%	+9,878	+8.3
Young lone persons	22,015	28.6%	7.9%	14,577	22.2%	7.1%	+7,438	+6.4
Middle-aged lone persons	5,443	7.1%	7.0%	3,838	5.8%	6.8%	+1,605	+1.3
Older lone persons	3,068	4.0%	8.8%	2,232	3.4%	8.1%	+836	+0.6
Group households	9,725	12.6%	4.1%	11,924	18.1%	4.7%	-2,199	-5.5
Total households without children	59,374	77.1%	51.3%	46,967	71.4%	49.7%	+12,407	+5.7
Total households	76,969	100.0%	100.0%	65,795	100.0%	100.0%	+11,174	0.0

Data basis: enumerated.