

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

1 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Individual income quartiles

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.

Individual income quartiles

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, the highest income quartile held the largest share among residents aged 15 and over in Melbourne (C), accounting for 31.4%.

About this topic

Individual income quartiles group people aged 15 years and over into four evenly sized income ranges so the distribution of personal income can be compared objectively across areas and over time. The quartile method focuses on relative position in the income distribution rather than raw dollar brackets.

This topic is useful because direct income amounts are affected by inflation and wider economic change. Quartiles provide a clearer way to compare whether an area is becoming relatively lower, middle, or higher income over time.

Interpretation notes

- This is a derived distribution of personal income for people aged 15 years and over, with each quartile representing a quarter of the income distribution.
- Quartiles show relative position rather than fixed dollar brackets, which makes them more robust for comparisons over time.

Individual income quartiles

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

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Lowest group	29,283	22.9%	25.2%	37,089	33.3%	25.7%	-7,806	-10.4
Medium lowest	26,724	20.9%	23.2%	18,626	16.7%	22.8%	+8,098	+4.2
Medium highest	31,694	24.8%	24.8%	21,496	19.3%	24.6%	+10,198	+5.5
Highest group	40,175	31.4%	26.8%	34,013	30.6%	26.8%	+6,162	+0.8
Total persons aged 15+	127,876	100.0%	100.0%	111,224	100.0%	100.0%	+16,652	0.0

Data basis: usual residence.