

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 Method of travel to 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.

Method of travel to work

Melbourne (C) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, working from home was the most common travel method among employed residents in Melbourne (C), accounting for 38.6% (34,843 people). This share was higher than Greater Melbourne (28.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in working from home, which increased by 32,192 people and 34.5 percentage points.

About this topic

Method of travel to work shows how employed residents usually got to work on Census day, including private vehicle, public transport, active travel, and working from home. It provides a snapshot of commuting behaviour rather than the full transport system.

This topic supports transport and infrastructure planning and helps show how residents access employment. The 2021 results need caution because many parts of Australia were affected by COVID-19 lockdowns, which increased working from home and reduced some other travel modes.

Interpretation notes

- Method of travel to work captures the journey to work on Census day, not a person's usual weekly travel pattern.
- It applies only to employed people and is most useful with place of work or car ownership when considering transport access.
- The 2021 Census occurred during COVID-19 restrictions in many places, so work-from-home and some travel modes need caution in trend comparisons.

Method of travel to work

Melbourne (C) – Employed persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Train	6,293	7.0%	3.6%	7,492	11.5%	11.5%	-1,199	-4.5
Bus	969	1.1%	0.8%	1,133	1.7%	1.5%	-164	-0.6
Tram	7,637	8.5%	0.8%	11,700	18.0%	2.4%	-4,063	-9.5
Ferry	11	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	0.0%	-5	0.0
Taxi/ride-share	342	0.4%	0.2%	254	0.4%	0.2%	+88	0.0
Car – as driver	13,059	14.5%	46.5%	13,476	20.7%	60.2%	-417	-6.2
Car – as passenger	1,111	1.2%	3.2%	1,165	1.8%	3.9%	-54	-0.6
Truck	48	0.1%	0.5%	40	0.1%	0.6%	+8	0.0
Motorbike	589	0.7%	0.2%	315	0.5%	0.4%	+274	+0.2
Bicycle	2,010	2.2%	0.7%	2,514	3.9%	1.4%	-504	-1.7
Walked only	10,935	12.1%	2.0%	17,074	26.2%	3.0%	-6,139	-14.1
Other	1,376	1.5%	1.0%	1,126	1.7%	1.2%	+250	-0.2

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Mel
Worked at home	34,843	38.6%	28.8%	2,651	4.1%	
Did not go to work	10,764	11.9%	11.2%	5,656	8.7%	
Not stated	355	0.4%	0.4%	536	0.8%	
Total employed persons aged 15+	90,342	100.0%	100.0%	65,148	100.0%	100.0%

Data basis: usual residence.