

Community report

Northern Beaches (A)

Prepared from Community Explorer topic selections for briefing, planning and reporting use.

AREA

Northern Beaches (A)

COMPARISON

Greater Sydney

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

1 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

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

Housing loan quartiles

Northern Beaches (A) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, the highest mortgage-repayment quartile held the largest share among households with a mortgage in Northern Beaches (A), accounting for 52.9%.

About this topic

Housing loan quartiles group households with a mortgage into four evenly sized repayment bands so mortgage costs can be compared more objectively across areas and over time. They describe the relative repayment profile of mortgaged households rather than fixed dollar amounts.

This topic is useful because direct repayment values are affected by inflation, interest rates, and housing market cycles. The 2021 Census occurred during a period of unusually low interest rates, so quartile comparisons are more informative than raw repayment levels alone.

Interpretation notes

- This is a derived repayment distribution for households with a mortgage, so quartiles show relative repayment position rather than fixed dollar bands.

- Quartiles are more useful than raw repayment ranges for comparing areas or years affected by different interest-rate settings.

- The 2021 distribution reflects a low-interest-rate period before the rate rises that began in May 2022.

Housing loan quartiles

Northern Beaches (A) – Households (Enumerated)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Lowest group	4,842	15.7%	18.9%	4,698	15.8%	19.8%	—	—
Medium lowest	3,849	12.5%	20.9%	4,195	14.1%	21.5%	—	—
Medium highest	5,830	18.9%	26.6%	6,040	20.3%	26.4%	—	—
Highest group	16,312	52.9%	33.6%	14,827	49.8%	32.3%	—	—
Total households with stated mortgage repayments	30,833	100.0%	100.0%	29,760	100.0%	100.0%	—	—

Data basis: enumerated.