

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

26 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Service age groups

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.

Service age groups

Northern Beaches (A) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49) was the most common category among residents in Northern Beaches (A), accounting for 21.2% (55,998 people). This share was lower than Greater Sydney (21.5%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Seniors (70 to 84), which increased by 4,841 people and 1.5 percentage points.

About this topic

Service age groups divide the population into broad life-stage bands such as children, young adults, working-age adults, and older people. The groupings are designed to reflect typical demand for age-based services and facilities rather than exact five-year cohorts.

This view is useful for planning childcare, schools, recreation, aged services, and other community infrastructure. It works best alongside five year age groups, household type, and dwelling data, which add more detail about who is living in an area and how needs may change over time.

Interpretation notes

- This is a derived grouping rather than a direct Census question, so the age bands are planning-oriented summaries built from standard age data.
- Percentages relate to the total population; use five year age groups when exact cohort detail matters.

Age structure - Service age groups

Northern Beaches (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	14,161	5.4%	6.0%	15,671	6.2%	6.4%	-1,510	-0.8
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	23,544	8.9%	8.8%	24,671	9.8%	8.8%	-1,127	-0.9
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	21,274	8.1%	7.1%	18,675	7.4%	6.9%	+2,599	+0.7
Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24)	19,769	7.5%	8.8%	17,794	7.0%	9.6%	+1,975	+0.5
Young workforce (25 to 34)	28,886	11.0%	15.5%	29,572	11.7%	16.1%	-686	-0.7
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	55,998	21.2%	21.5%	57,756	22.8%	21.1%	-1,758	-1.6
Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	36,998	14.0%	12.0%	33,200	13.1%	12.2%	+3,798	+0.9
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	27,517	10.4%	9.8%	25,258	10.0%	9.5%	+2,259	+0.4
Seniors (70 to 84)	28,177	10.7%	8.7%	23,336	9.2%	7.5%	+4,841	+1.5
Elderly aged (85 and over)	7,249	2.8%	2.0%	6,943	2.7%	2.0%	+306	+0.1

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Total	263,554	100.0%	100.0%	252,878	100.0%	100.0%

Data basis: usual residence.