

Community report

Port Macquarie-Hastings (A)

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

AREA

Port Macquarie-Hastings (A)

COMPARISON

Regional NSW

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Qualifications

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.

Qualifications

Port Macquarie–Hastings (A) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, no qualification was the most common qualification level among residents aged 15 and over in Port Macquarie–Hastings (A), accounting for 38.6% (28,164 people). This share was lower than Regional NSW (39.1%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in bachelor degree or higher, which increased by 3,588 people and 3.6 percentage points.

About this topic

Qualifications records the highest non-school qualification completed by people aged 15 years and over. It describes post-school educational attainment such as certificates, diplomas, and university degrees.

This topic is a key indicator of skill level and socio-economic opportunity within an area. It is most useful when read with employment status, occupation, and income, which show how qualifications relate to labour market outcomes.

Interpretation notes

- This topic uses highest completed non-school qualification, so incomplete study and current enrolment do not count as attained qualifications.

- It applies to people aged 15 years and over and should be read with schooling for the full education profile.

Highest qualification achieved

Port Macquarie–Hastings (A) – Persons aged 15+ (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Bachelor Or Higher Degree	12,377	17.0%	17.8%	8,789	13.4%	14.5%	+3,588	+3.6
Advanced Diploma Or Diploma	7,064	9.7%	8.7%	5,970	9.1%	8.2%	+1,094	+0.6
Vocational	19,035	26.1%	24.4%	16,283	24.9%	23.6%	+2,752	+1.2
No Qualification	28,164	38.6%	39.1%	26,551	40.6%	41.7%	+1,613	-2.0
Not Stated	6,265	8.6%	10.0%	7,848	12.0%	12.1%	-1,583	-3.4
Total	72,905	100.0%	100.0%	65,441	100.0%	100.0%	+7,464	0.0

Data basis: usual residence.