

# Community report

## Shellharbour (C)

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

AREA

**Shellharbour (C)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**1 April 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Family blending

### 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.

# Family blending

Shellharbour (C) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, intact families was the most common family type among couple families with children in Shellharbour (C), accounting for 81.9% (7,577 families). This share was lower than Regional NSW (83.2%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in step families, which increased by 415 families and 3.8 percentage points.

## About this topic

Family blending classifies couple families with children according to whether the children are shared by both partners, from a previous relationship, or a mix of both. It applies only to couple families with children, not to all family types or all households.

This topic can help show patterns of repartnering and family complexity within an area. It should be interpreted with household type and households with children, because it is a specialised family-structure measure rather than a summary of all families.

## Interpretation notes

- This derived family view applies only to couple families with children, not all families or all households.

- It classifies whether children are shared, step, or blended within the couple family, so it should not be compared directly with headline household totals.

## Family blending

Shellharbour (C) – Total couples with children (Enumerated)

| Category                           | 2021         |               |                | 2016         |               |                | Change      |            |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
|                                    | Count        | %             | Regional NSW % | Count        | %             | Regional NSW % | Count       | pp         |
| Intact Family                      | 7,577        | 81.9%         | 83.2%          | 7,313        | 85.7%         | 86.8%          | +264        | -3.8       |
| Step family                        | 1,113        | 12.0%         | 11.1%          | 698          | 8.2%          | 7.4%           | +415        | +3.8       |
| Blended family                     | 495          | 5.3%          | 4.8%           | 450          | 5.3%          | 4.9%           | +45         | 0.0        |
| Other couple family                | 72           | 0.8%          | 0.9%           | 76           | 0.9%          | 0.9%           | -4          | -0.1       |
| <b>Total couples with children</b> | <b>9,257</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b>  | <b>8,532</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b>  | <b>+725</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

Data basis: enumerated.