

Community report

Sunshine Coast (R)

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

AREA

Sunshine Coast (R)

COMPARISON

Regional Qld

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Occupation of employment

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.

Occupation of employment

Sunshine Coast (R) | Regional Qld comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, Professionals was the most common occupation group among employed residents in Sunshine Coast (R), accounting for 21.1% (33,789 people). This share was higher than Regional Qld (18%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Professionals, which increased by 8,974 people and 2 percentage points.

About this topic

Occupation of employment classifies employed residents by the kind of work they do in their main job. It describes the roles, skills, and tasks people perform rather than the industry they work in.

This topic is useful for understanding the skill profile and socio-economic characteristics of the resident workforce. It is best interpreted with qualifications, individual income, and industry sector of employment.

Interpretation notes

- Occupation classifies the kind of work done in a person's main job, not the employer's industry.
- It applies to employed people aged 15 years and over, so it should be read with employment status when assessing labour market conditions.

Occupation of employment

Sunshine Coast (R) – Employed persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	pp
Total Occupation Managers	19,747	12.3%	12.4%	15,113	11.7%	12.4%	+4,634	+0.6
Total Occupation Professionals	33,789	21.1%	18.0%	24,815	19.1%	16.7%	+8,974	+2.0
Total Occupation Technicians And Trades Workers	24,290	15.2%	15.1%	20,976	16.2%	15.7%	+3,314	-1.0
Total Occupation Community And Personal Service Workers	21,525	13.4%	13.0%	15,682	12.1%	11.8%	+5,843	+1.3
Total Occupation Clerical And Administrative Workers	19,410	12.1%	11.8%	16,740	12.9%	12.5%	+2,670	-0.8
Total Occupation Sales Workers	15,288	9.5%	9.1%	14,425	11.1%	10.2%	+863	-1.6
Total Occupation Machinery Operators And Drivers	7,863	4.9%	7.3%	6,546	5.0%	7.6%	+1,317	-0.1
Total Occupation Labourers	15,619	9.7%	11.2%	13,400	10.3%	11.6%	+2,219	-0.6
Total Occupation Inadequately Described Not Stated	2,769	1.7%	2.0%	1,946	1.5%	1.6%	+823	+0.2

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Qld %	Count	%	Regional
Total	160,291	100.0%	100.0%	129,641	100.0%	100.0%

Data basis: usual residence.