

Community report

Surf Coast (S)

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

AREA

Surf Coast (S)

COMPARISON

Regional Vic.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

30 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

Surf Coast (S) | Regional Vic. comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, bachelor degree or higher was the most common qualification level among residents aged 15 and over in Surf Coast (S), accounting for 33.6% (10,152 people). This share was higher than Regional Vic. (18.2%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in bachelor degree or higher, which increased by 3,848 people and 6.6 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

Surf Coast (S) – Persons aged 15+ (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	pp
Bachelor Or Higher Degree	10,152	33.6%	18.2%	6,304	27.0%	14.5%	+3,848	+6.6
Advanced Diploma Or Diploma	3,517	11.6%	9.3%	2,715	11.6%	8.5%	+802	0.0
Vocational	5,579	18.4%	22.4%	4,588	19.7%	22.0%	+991	-1.3
No Qualification	8,584	28.4%	40.4%	7,539	32.3%	42.8%	+1,045	-3.9
Not Stated	2,426	8.0%	9.7%	2,199	9.4%	12.2%	+227	-1.4
Total	30,258	100.0%	100.0%	23,345	100.0%	100.0%	+6,913	0.0

Data basis: usual residence.