

Community report

Sydney (C)

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

AREA

Sydney (C)

COMPARISON

Greater Sydney

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

7 April 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

Sydney (C) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

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Key takeaway

In 2021, Early career adults (25 to 34) was the most common category among residents in Sydney (C), accounting for 32.2% (68,109 people). This share was higher than Greater Sydney (15.5%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Young adults (18 to 24), which decreased by 10,050 people and 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

Sydney (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Early childhood (0 to 4)	7,461	3.5%	6.0%	6,978	3.3%	6.4%	+483	+0.2
Primary school age (5 to 11)	6,365	3.0%	8.8%	5,236	2.5%	8.8%	+1,129	+0.5
Secondary school age (12 to 17)	4,241	2.0%	7.1%	3,926	1.9%	6.9%	+315	+0.1
Young adults (18 to 24)	24,817	11.7%	8.8%	34,867	16.7%	9.6%	-10,050	-5.0
Early career adults (25 to 34)	68,109	32.2%	15.5%	68,880	33.1%	16.1%	-771	-0.9
Mid-life adults (35 to 49)	51,497	24.3%	21.5%	45,299	21.7%	21.1%	+6,198	+2.6
Pre-retirement adults (50 to 59)	20,404	9.6%	12.0%	18,847	9.0%	12.2%	+1,557	+0.6
Retirement transition (60 to 69)	15,064	7.1%	9.8%	13,549	6.5%	9.5%	+1,515	+0.6
Established seniors (70 to 84)	11,628	5.5%	8.7%	9,030	4.3%	7.5%	+2,598	+1.2
Advanced age (85 years and over)	2,037	1.0%	2.0%	1,794	0.9%	2.0%	+243	+0.1
Total	211,632	100.0%	100.0%	208,374	100.0%	100.0%	+3,258	0.0

Data basis: usual residence.