

# Community report

## Wollongong (C)

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

AREA

**Wollongong (C)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**2 April 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Need for assistance

### 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.

# Need for assistance

Wollongong (C) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, 75–84 year olds was the most common age group among residents who needed assistance with core activities in Wollongong (C), accounting for 22.9% (3,049 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (18.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in 5–14 year olds, which increased by 381 people and 1.4 percentage points.

## About this topic

Need for assistance measures people who report needing help with self-care, body movement, or communication because of a disability, a long-term health condition, or older age. It is a high-needs indicator rather than a general measure of disability.

This topic is useful for planning accessible facilities, care services, respite, and support for carers. The measure is based on self-report in the Census, so it should be interpreted with care and read alongside unpaid care and other disability-related indicators.

## Interpretation notes

- The measure is self-reported and records need for help with core activities, so it is not a complete measure of disability prevalence.
- It applies to all persons and is strongest as an indicator of higher support need when read with unpaid care and ageing data.

## Need for assistance with core activities by age

Wollongong (C) – Persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
0-4	165	1.4%	1.6%	136	1.1%	1.3%	+29	+0.3
5-14	1,173	4.6%	5.2%	792	3.2%	3.8%	+381	+1.4
15-19	437	3.4%	4.2%	364	2.8%	3.2%	+73	+0.6
20-24	433	2.7%	3.4%	315	2.0%	2.6%	+118	+0.7
25-34	630	2.2%	2.6%	577	2.2%	2.4%	+53	0.0
35-44	720	2.7%	2.8%	695	2.7%	3.0%	+25	0.0
45-54	1,146	4.3%	4.2%	1,104	4.2%	4.4%	+42	+0.1
55-64	1,569	6.0%	6.0%	1,643	6.8%	6.2%	-74	-0.8
65-74	2,210	10.6%	9.1%	1,973	10.6%	8.7%	+237	0.0
75-84	3,049	22.9%	18.9%	2,786	23.2%	17.8%	+263	-0.3
85+	2,930	50.9%	46.5%	2,694	51.3%	43.8%	+236	-0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,458</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>13,082</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>+1,376</b>	<b>+0.3</b>

Data basis: usual residence.