

# Population Trends



CAPRICORN  
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# Population Trends

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## Observations

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region includes the Rockhampton Regional Council and the Livingstone Shire Council. It is part of the Central Queensland Region and its population accounts for almost half of the wider region's population.

The region's estimated resident population in 2021 was 121,436 persons.

This was 832 persons more than in 2020 and an extra 30,917 persons since 1991.

The Central Queensland Region has also grown by 57,297 persons since 1991 to 229,092 in 2021. Approximately half (54.0%) of this growth was in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton region.

There were 701 more males than females in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in 2021. The Central Queensland Region had 3,794 more males than females.

The proportion of Indigenous persons grew in both the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and the Central Queensland Region. The number of persons who came from non-English speaking background countries also increased.

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's population included higher proportions of older people than Central Queensland Region. The Central Queensland Region had a higher proportion of young working people than the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region.

NOTE: The Central Queensland Region is the Statistical Area Level 4 of Central Queensland which includes the local government areas of Banana, Central Highlands, Gladstone, Livingstone, Rockhampton and Woorabinda. Australia's most recent Census was held in August 2021 and included new questions. Data collected in the Census helps government, businesses and organisations to make informed decisions. The first ABS Census data releases were in June and October 2022 with a further release expected in March 2023.

### Disclaimer

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## Our Population – an introduction

### Statistics about the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and the Central Queensland Region

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region is part of the Central Queensland region, 620 kilometres north of Brisbane. European settlement in the area dates from the 1850s, with the Archer brothers arriving at the site of their future homestead, Gracemere, in 1855. With a subtropical climate, coastal and semi-rural communities and town living, it provides diverse lifestyle choices for its residents.

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region covers approximately 1.1 per cent of Queensland’s area while providing a home for 2.3 per cent of the state’s population.

When compared with the Central Queensland region, it houses over half of the wider region’s population (53.0%) on 15.6 per cent of the regional area and therefore has a higher population density.

Figure 1 Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland Population, Area and Density, 2021



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2021 and *Regional Population Growth, Australia*, cat. no. 3218.0.

Figure 2 Capricorn and Central Queensland



Source: Queensland Government, *Traffic and travel information: Fitzroy*, 2011

## Quick statistics

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a higher median age than the surrounding Central Queensland region. This was reflected in the smaller proportion of families with children and the higher proportion of families without children.

Median household incomes in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region were lower than the Central Queensland region, Queensland and Australia. Median monthly mortgage repayments were lower across the region and in Central Queensland compared to Queensland and Australia

There were fewer couple families with children in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region than Central Queensland and more couple families without children which can be an indicator of an ageing population.

**Table 1 In Brief – quick statistics about the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, Central Queensland, Queensland and Australia, 2021**

	Capricorn Region	Central Queensland Region	Queensland	Australia
<b>Median age (years)</b>	39	38	38	38
<b>Median weekly household income (\$)</b>	1,512	1,626	1,675	1,746
<b>Couple families with children (%)</b>	39.2	41.0	41.2	43.7
<b>Couple families without children<sup>1</sup> (%)</b>	40.8	40.5	40.3	38.8
<b>Medium and high density housing (%)</b>	10.8	11.3	24.2	26.8
<b>Households with a mortgage (%)</b>	35.7	34.5	34.4	35.0
<b>Median monthly mortgage repayment (\$)</b>	1,517	1,517	1,733	1,863
<b>Households renting (%)</b>	28.8	31.8	33.1	30.6
<b>Median weekly rent (\$)</b>	300	280	365	375
<b>Household where non-English language spoken (%)</b>	6.8	7.1	15.6	24.8
<b>Attending university or TAFE (%)</b>	14.4	13.0	21.3	23.3

Source: ABS Census of Housing and Population, 2021

## Population estimates

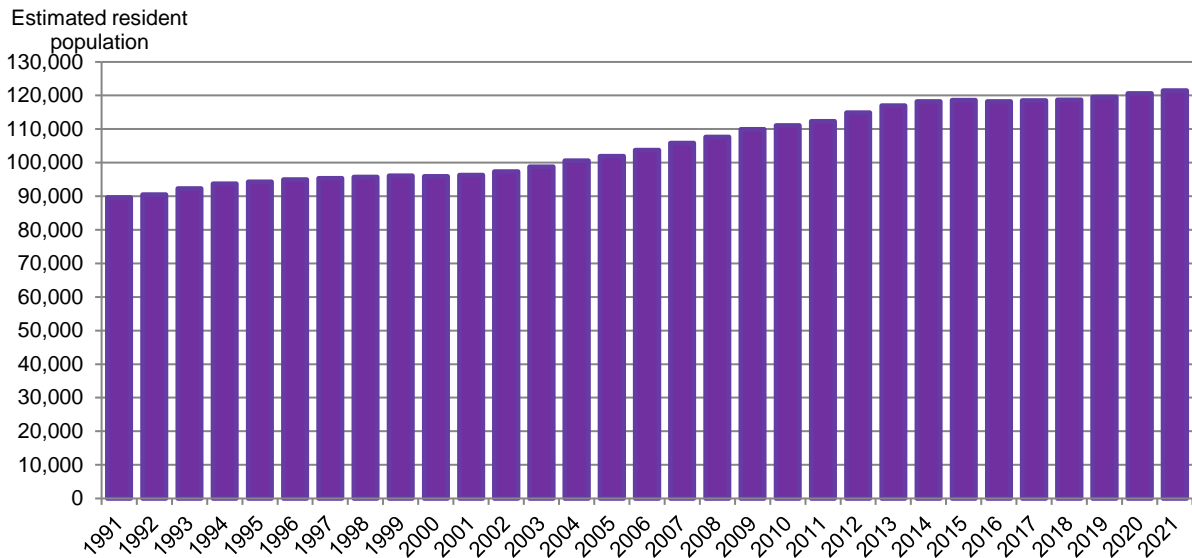
The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) produces the official estimate of the Australian population, called the Estimated Resident Population (ERP)<sup>1</sup>. It is based on the results of the Census and is updated each year. It includes births, deaths, migration and adjustments for the Census undercount and Australian residents who were temporarily overseas on Census night.

Between 1991 and 2021, the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a population increase of 35.4 per cent and a growth in the ERP from 89,668 persons in 1991 to 121,436 persons in 2021 (31,768 persons). Between 2020 and 2021, the ERP of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region increased by 832 people.

The four areas that have seen the highest increase in number of persons over the period from 1991 to 2021 were Yeppoon (10,858 persons), Gracemere (8,914), Norman Gardens (5,930) and Emu Park (4,025). Some of the growth in these areas could be explained by the sea change lifestyle that the region offers and by the fact that the region serves as a critical service centre for the Central Queensland Mining Industry.

While the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region experienced overall population increase between 2020 and 2021, six of the 19 Statistical Area Level 2s that comprise the region experienced declines, ranging from a loss of 10 people in Mount Morgan to 114 persons in The Range - Allenstown. Conversely, Yeppoon gained an extra 325 people while there were an additional 153 people in Parkhurst - Kawana.

**Figure 3 Estimated Resident Population, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 1991-2021**

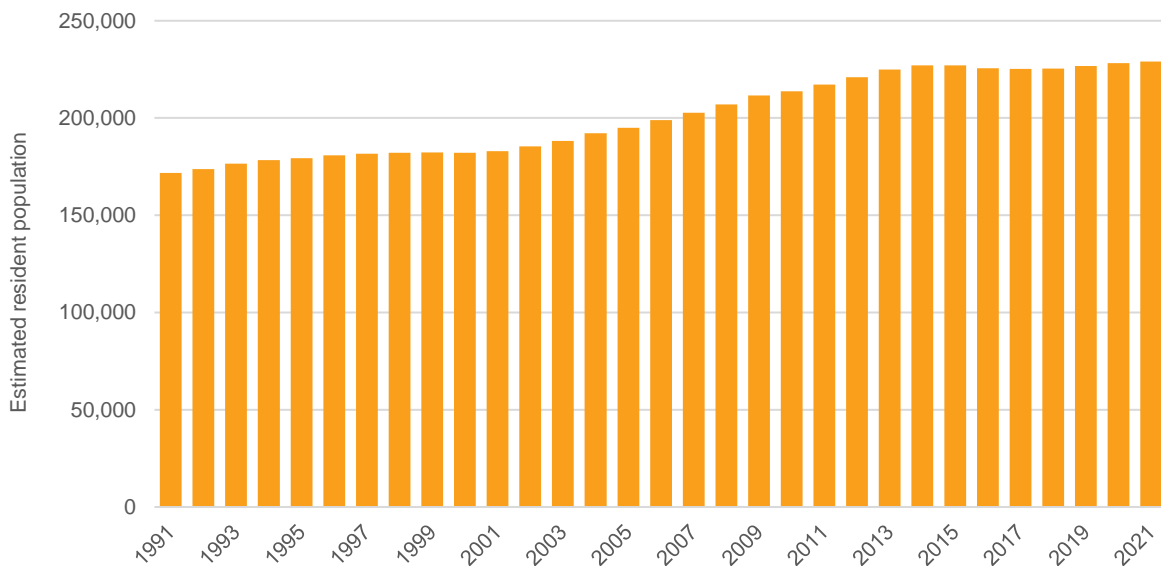


2021 figures are preliminary.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Regional Population Growth, Australia*, various editions, cat. no. 3218.0.

The Central Queensland region’s ERP increased by 920 persons between 2020 and 2021, to a total of 229,092 persons. Between 1991 and 2021, the ERP of Central Queensland increased by 57,297 persons, or almost twice the increase in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. This represents an increase of 33.4 per cent in the Central Queensland population over the period.

**Figure 4 Estimated Resident Population, Central Queensland, 1991-2021**



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Regional Population Growth, Australia*, various editions, cat. no. 3218.0.

## Age structure

Compared to Queensland, in 2021 the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a higher proportion of young persons aged 0 to 19 years and persons aged 55 to 69 years and 75 years and over. The region had a lower proportion of persons in the “working years” age groups between 20 and 54 years.

**Table 2 Age structure, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Queensland, 2021**

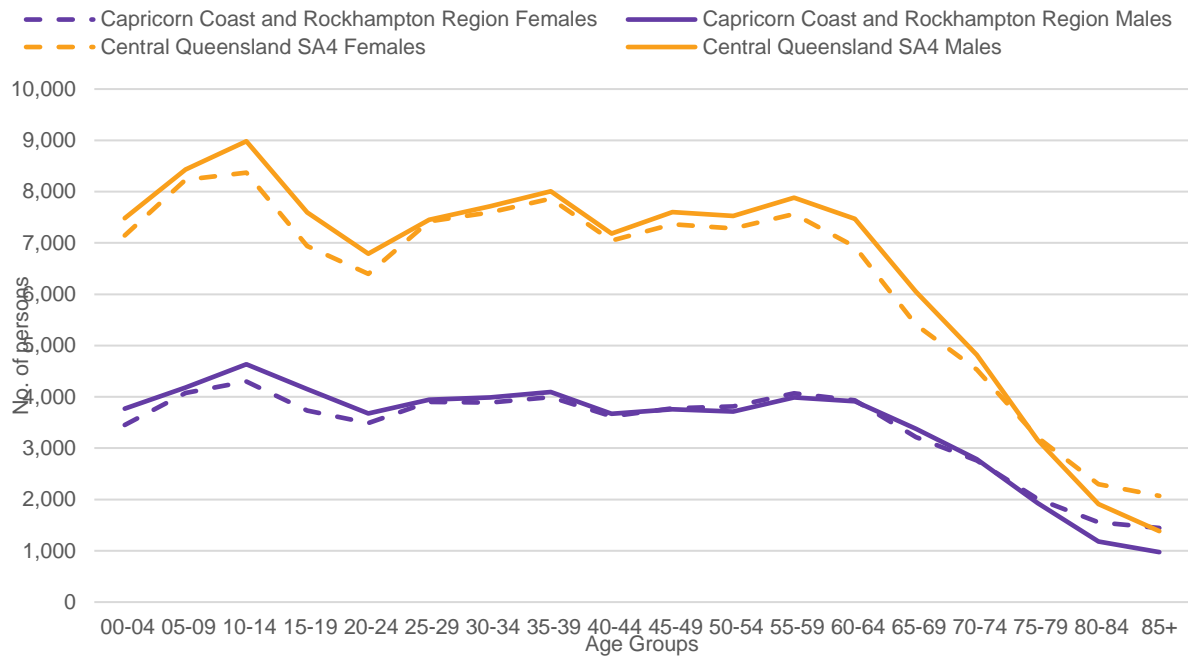
Age structure	Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region		Queensland	
	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	7,228	5.9	301,852	5.8
5-9	8,261	6.7	336,529	6.4
10-14	8,936	7.3	351,080	6.7
15-19	7,882	6.4	318,503	6.1
20-24	7,165	5.8	332,610	6.4
25-29	7,848	6.4	357,685	6.9
30-34	7,882	6.4	363,208	7.0
35-39	8,092	6.6	363,290	7.0
40-44	7,290	5.9	332,671	6.4
45-49	7,535	6.1	343,932	6.6
50-54	7,529	6.1	334,412	6.4
55-59	8,061	6.6	318,694	6.1
60-64	7,842	6.4	298,739	5.7
65-69	6,596	5.4	261,364	5.0
70-74	5,542	4.5	236,535	4.5
75-79	3,939	3.2	165,662	3.2
80-84	2,738	2.2	105,049	2.0
85+	2,419	2.0	95,838	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>122,785</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,217,653</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: ABS 3235.0, *Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia*

In Queensland in 2021, there were more females than males. The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton region and Central Queensland were not consistent with this pattern as both areas had higher numbers of male residents. Both the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland generally had more males than females under the age of 44 years, and fewer males than females over the age of 75 years.



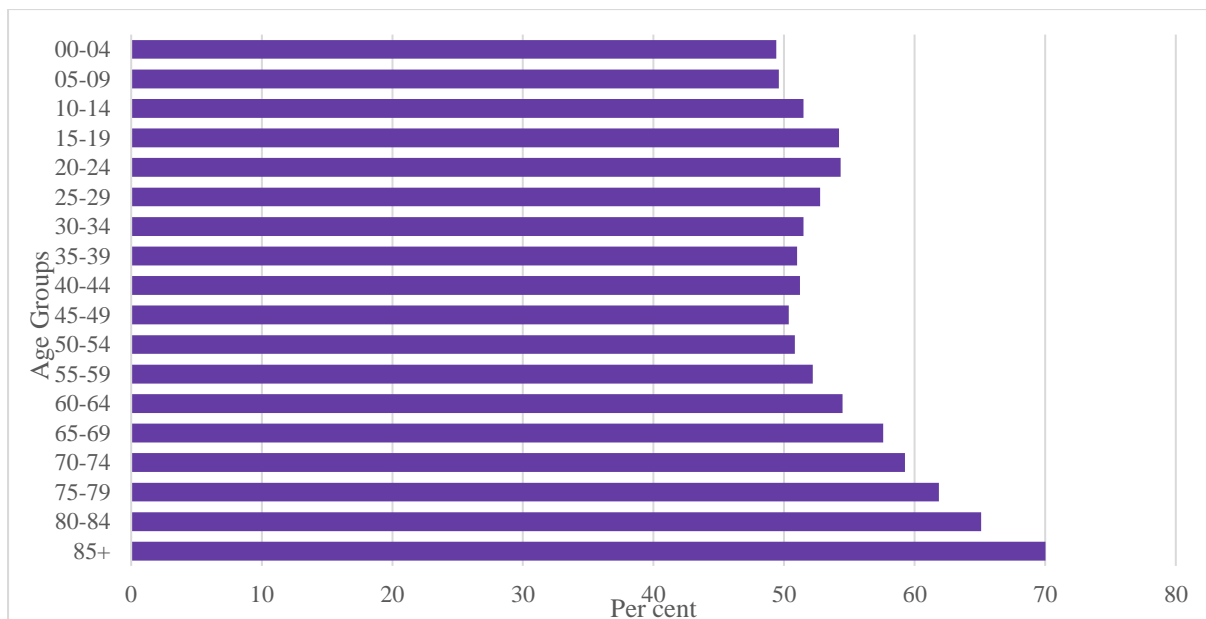
**Figure 5 Population by 5 year age groups and sex, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2021**



Source: ABS, 3235.0, *Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia*

While the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region housed over half of the Central Queensland region’s population (53.2 %) in 2021, this was not evenly distributed across the age groups. The Region had a higher proportion of the Central Queensland Region’s over 60s than its share of the population in general. As a person aged, it appeared they were more likely to reside in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a higher proportion of young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years, possibly reflecting the educational options in the region.

**Figure 6 Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 5 year age groups as a proportion of Central Queensland, 2021**



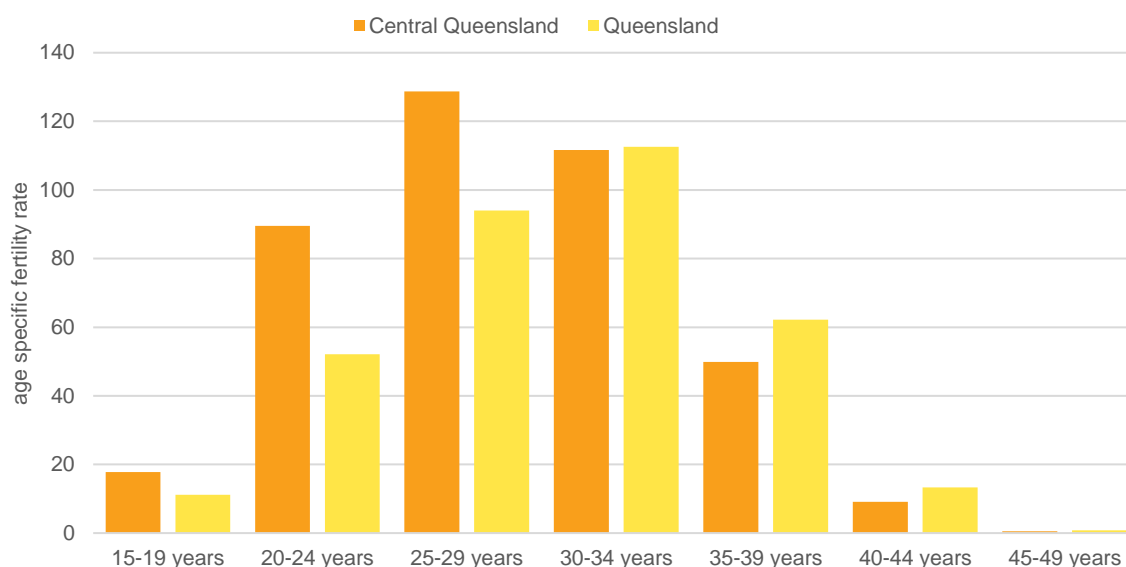
Source: ABS 3235.0, *Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia*

## Births

There were 1,602 births to Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region residents registered in 2021, an increase of 138 babies from the previous year. The total fertility rate for the Livingstone Shire was 2.03 and 1.99 in the Rockhampton Regional Council area. There were 3,097 births in the Central Queensland region in 2021, an increase of 198 babies from the previous year. The total fertility rate in the Central Queensland region was 2.04.

Yeppoon and Gracemere SA2s had the highest number of births registered in 2020, both 212 babies, while Shoalwater Bay SA2 and Bouldercombe SA2 had the lowest, 0 and 24 babies respectively. The highest total fertility rate was 2.70 in Rockhampton Region - East SA2, followed by Emu Park SA2 with a total fertility rate of 2.58. The lowest total fertility rate was 1.62 in The Range - Allenstown SA2. The median age for mothers was 29.0 years in Central Queensland, compared to 30.8 year across Queensland.

**Figure 7 Total fertility rate by 5 year age groups, Central Queensland and Queensland, 2021**

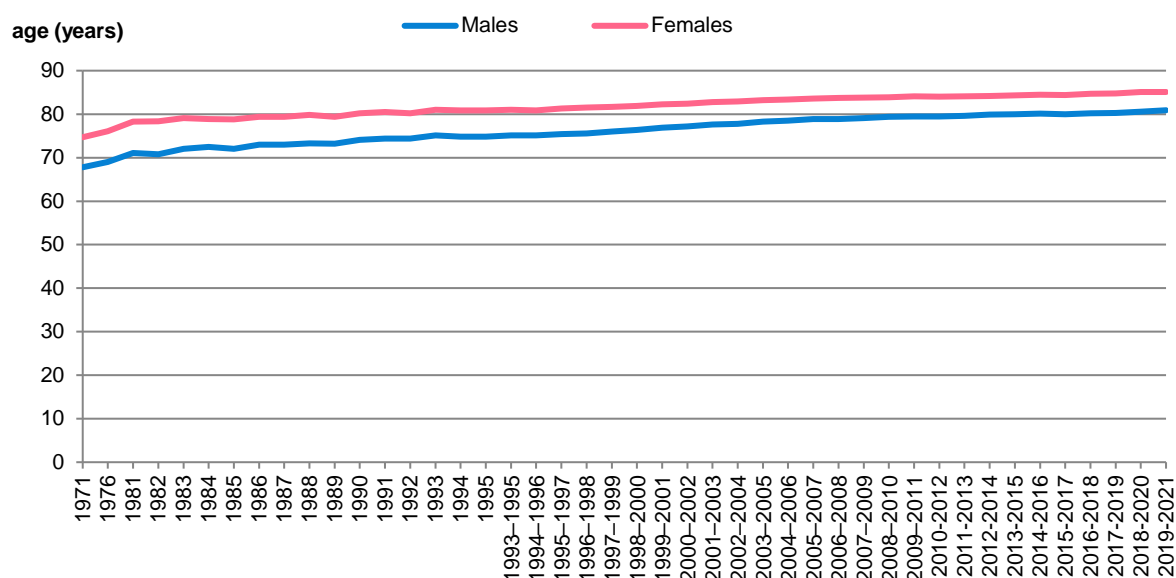


Source: ABS, *Births, Australia, 2021*, cat. no. 3301.0

## Life expectancy

Life expectancy is an indication of how many years a person might live. Improvements in life expectancy have been achieved through reductions in mortality with significant improvements over the past 30 years. Estimated life expectancy for males born in Queensland in 2019-2021 was 80.9 years and 85.1 years for females. Males born in the Central Queensland SA4 have a life expectancy of 79.6 years compared to 84.3 years for females.

Figure 8 Life expectancy at birth (years) by sex, Queensland, 1971 to 2019-2021



Source: ABS, *Australian Historical Population Statistics*, cat. no. 3105.0.65.001, 1881 to 2004-2006; *Life tables, Queensland*, cat. no. 3302.3.55.001, 2005-2007 onwards (Qld), 3302.0.55.001 – *Life Tables, States, Territories and Australia, 2019-2021*.

## Population projections

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's and Queensland's populations are projected to grow. Three scenarios are considered – high, medium and low growth with varying growth rate assumptions. Due to the lifestyle and employment opportunities available, growth is projected to continue.

The population increase is not uniformly dispersed across all age groups. As in Queensland, much of the growth in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region will be in the age groups over 65 years. Numbers of residents aged 65 years and over are projected to more than double by 2041 (136.1%) while the numbers of residents aged less than 15 years are projected to increase by 13.7 per cent. There is projected to be a decrease in the proportion of residents in the working age groups.

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region is projected to increase by more than 20,000 people in the decade to 2026 and again to 2041, to a total of 159,893 persons. The Region's population is projected to have more growth in the older age groups than in the younger, with 24,610 additional residents aged 65 years and over in comparison to 3,356 aged under 15 years. The narrowing of the base of the population pyramid indicates lowering birth rates while the increasing proportion at the top indicate improvements in health and life expectancies.

When compared with the population projections for the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, the Central Queensland Region is projected to continue to have higher numbers of younger and working age residents and less growth in the numbers of older persons. Increases in the working age groups are greater than those for older age groups. School age groups and younger people continue to be significant.

The shape of the Central Queensland population pyramid is losing the classic 'pyramid' shape with a significant increase in older persons and retention of strong numbers in the working age groups and younger people becoming more evenly distributed. This is likely to be a reflection of the residents attracted to the area for work – higher numbers of working age residents with children coming to the region as well as those now ageing in place.

Figure 9 Population projections pyramid, age by sex, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2016-2041

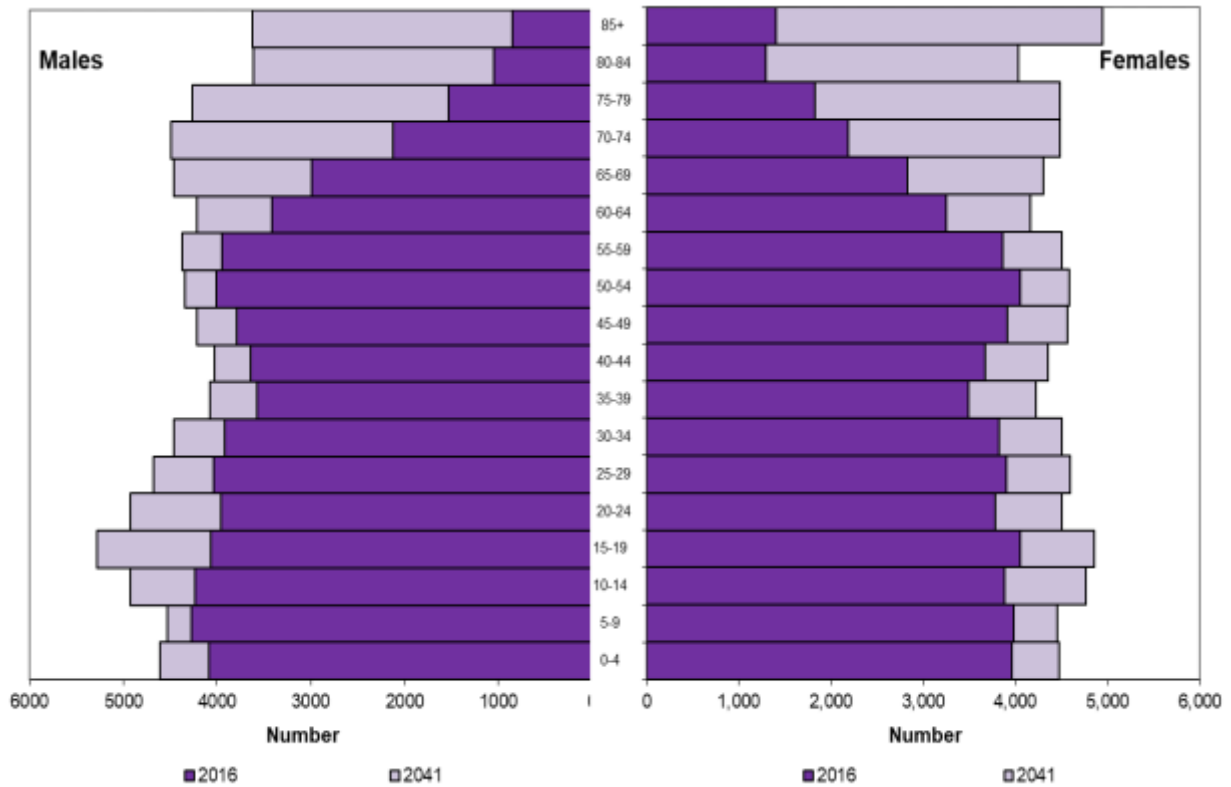
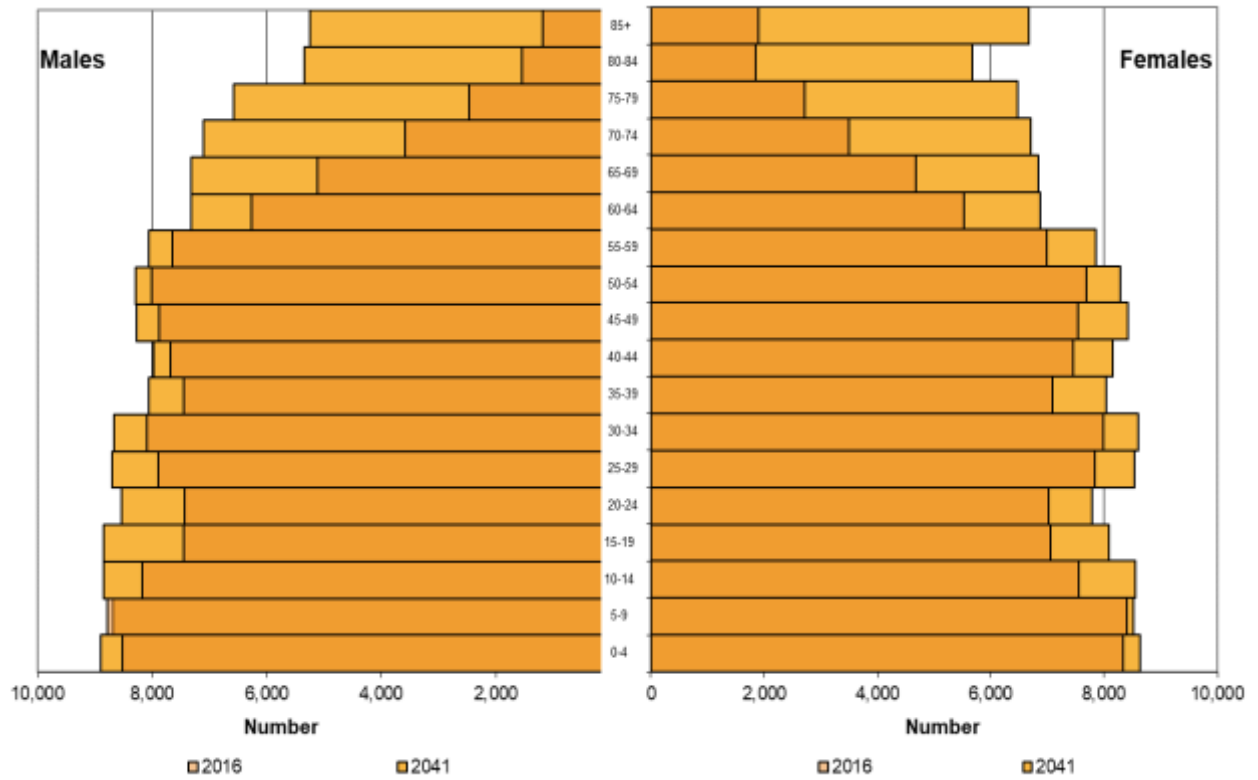


Figure 10 Population projections pyramid, age by sex, Central Queensland, 2016-2041



Source: Queensland Treasury and Trade, *Queensland Government Population Projections, 2018 edition (medium series)*.

## Population characteristics

The 2021 ABS Census of Population and Housing results tell us about the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's population and households on Census night in 2021. It gives us information about the different groups of people who live here: voters, the Indigenous population, citizenship and so on. It helps us to see how these things have changed over time as the Census is generally conducted every 5 years.

**Table 3 Ancestry, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2016-2021**

	Capricorn		Central Queensland	
	2016	2021	2016	2021
Total Indigenous	7,482	9,219	12,672	16,477
Aboriginal	6,535	8,120	11,215	14,545
Torres Strait Islander	446	460	599	688
Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	498	646	862	1,251
Australian born	95,360	99,973	177,115	184,311
Born in ESB country	5,560	5,776	12,979	12,721
Born in NESB country	5,599	6,402	11,320	12,261
Speaks a language other than English at home	5,757	6,712	11,851	12,870

ESB = English-speaking background    NESB = non-English-speaking background

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011 and 2016

The actual numbers of Australian born residents in both Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland increased over the period from 2011 to 2021; however, there were proportionally less Australian born residents in Central Queensland. The proportion of residents born overseas in English-speaking background countries increased at a slower rate than those born in non-English-speaking background countries.

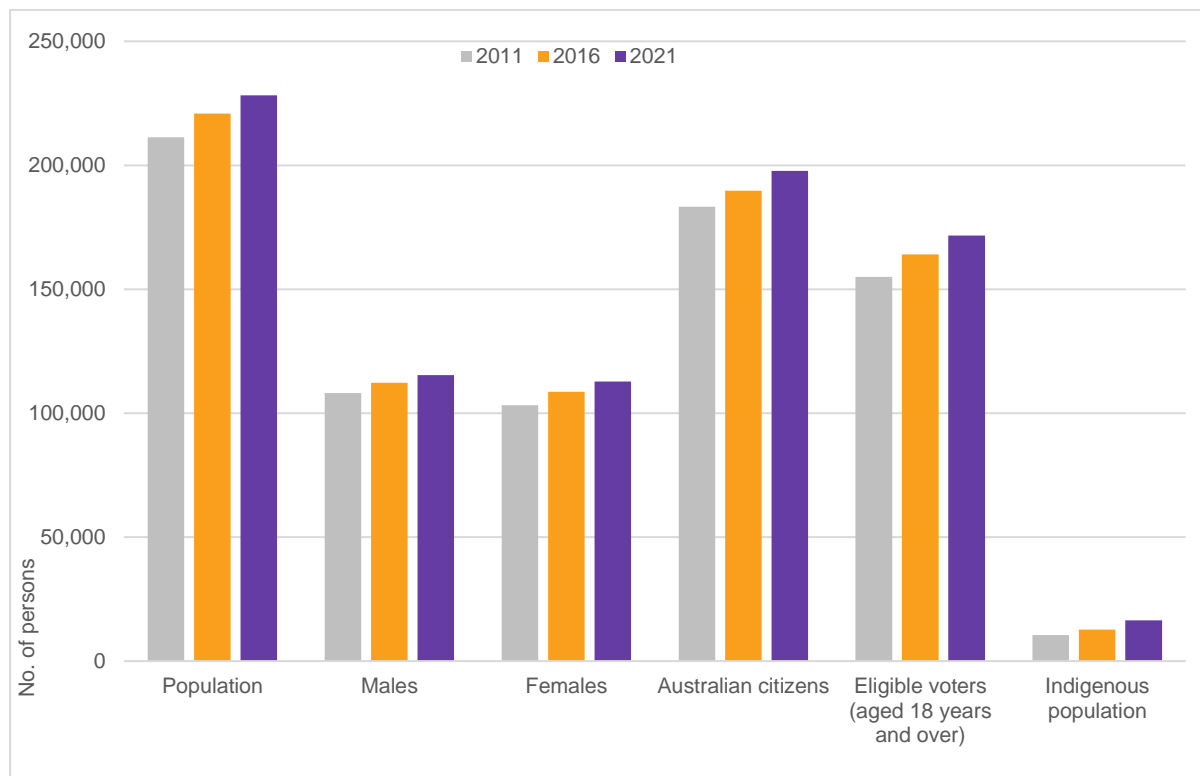
**Figure 11 Population characteristics, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2011-2021**



Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, Time Series Profile – T01*

The number of usual residents of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region increased by 12,018 people (11.0%) over the 10 year period from 2011 to 2021, with slightly more than half of these being female. More than four in five usual residents identified themselves as Australian citizens. There was a 24.7 per cent increase in the Indigenous population during the 10 year period, or an average annual increase of 2.5 per cent.

**Figure 12 Population characteristics, Central Queensland, 2011-2021**



Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, Time Series Profile – T01*

The usual residents of Central Queensland region increased by 16,903 people (8.0%) over the 10 year period from 2011 to 2021, with more than half of this increase occurring in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region. There was a greater increase in female residents than males. 86.6 per cent of usual residents in Central Queensland were Australian citizens. There was a 56.5 per cent increase in the Indigenous population during the 10 year period, or an average annual increase of 5.7 per cent.

### Indigenous persons

In the 2021 Census, 6.7 per cent of the population of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, a higher proportion than for the Central Queensland region (6.4%) or Queensland (4.6%). The median age of Indigenous persons in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region was 22 years in 2021, compared to 40 years for non-Indigenous persons.

Indigenous persons in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had a median individual and household income less than Indigenous persons in Queensland and non-Indigenous persons. The proportion of Indigenous persons who owned or were purchasing their home was higher in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region than for Central Queensland or Queensland but significantly less than the proportion of non-Indigenous persons.

The rate of disengagement from the school system (left school before year 11) for Indigenous persons was slightly higher than for non-Indigenous persons in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region but significantly higher than non-Indigenous persons in Queensland.

Participation in the labour force was lower for Indigenous persons than for non-Indigenous persons. Unemployment rates were significantly higher for Indigenous persons than non-Indigenous persons.

**Table 4 Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, Central Queensland and Queensland, 2021**

	Capricorn		Central Queensland		Queensland	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Median age (years)	22	40	21	39	23	22
Median individual weekly income (\$)	566	774	551	804	563	797
Median household weekly income (\$)	1,514	1,512	1,478	1,641	1,517	1,685
Dwellings owned / being purchased (%)	42.4	70.1	38.8	66.4	37.9	64.9
Persons over 15 years, left school before year 11 (%)	44.3	40.2	45.7	39.7	42.6	30.2
Labour force participation rate (%)	56.9	64.0	57.9	66.9	56.6	65.4
Unemployment rate (%)	13.5	4.7	15.0	4.9	13.3	5.1

Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (Indigenous) Profile*

## Children

The National Early Childhood Development Strategy, 'Investing in the Early Years' aims to ensure that children have the best start in life. The Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) is a measure of how young children are developing on five development domains including physical, social, emotional, language and general knowledge.

In Queensland, around 10 percent of children are developmentally vulnerable on each domain. The percentage of children in the communities in the Rockhampton who are developmentally vulnerable is higher than this and generally lower in the Livingstone area. There is a range of vulnerability for the suburbs within each community.

**Table 5 Summary of AEDI results, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region communities, 2021**

Community	Livingstone		Rockhampton		Queensland	
	On track	Developmentally vulnerable	On track	Developmentally vulnerable	On track	Developmentally vulnerable
Physical health and wellbeing	70.3	10.7	61.5	17.8	76.5	11.6
Social competence	75.7	8.4	60.4	17.6	74.0	10.6
Emotional maturity	76.0	8.4	59.6	16.8	74.1	10.0
Language and cognitive skills (school-based)	76.4	9.1	73.3	14.2	80.7	8.4
Communication skills and general knowledge	73.0	8.4	65.3	16.4	76.1	9.1

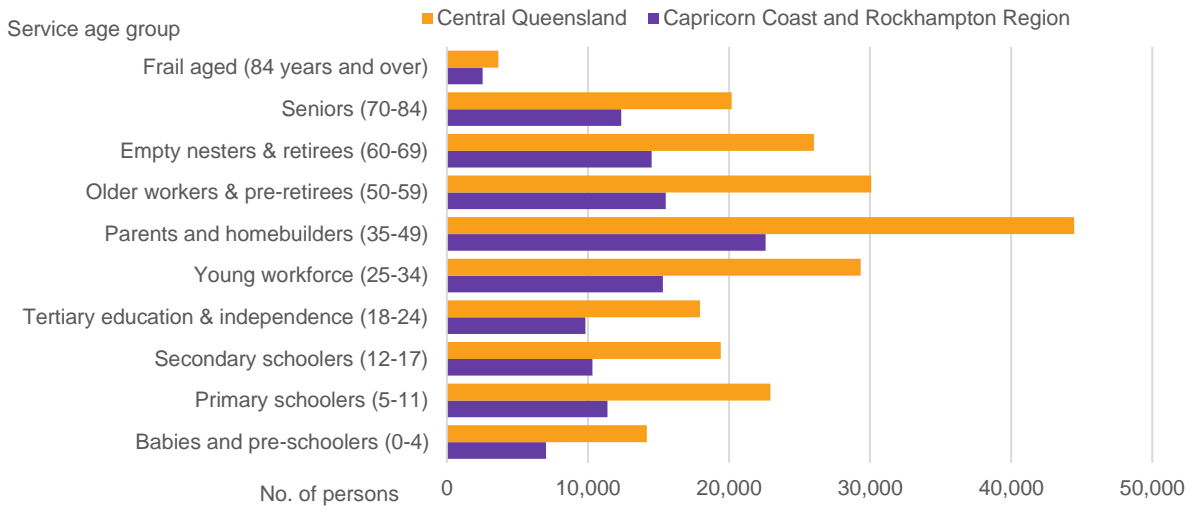
Source: Australian Early Development Index, various communities, 2022

### Service age groups

Identification of the age structure of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region provides information about the area – how many young people, how many workers and how many retirees for example. It assists those providing services to know what is needed and where to locate services.

Dividing the population into service age groups identifies the typical life stages and provides an indication of the demand for services and facilities in different areas as well as how that demand is changing.

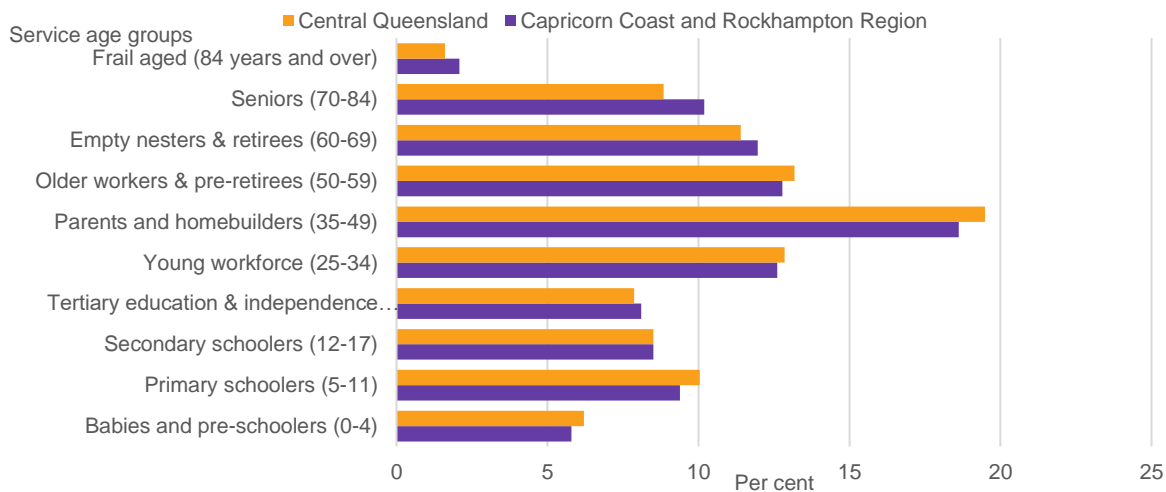
**Figure 13 Service age groups, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2021**



Source: ABS *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, General Community Profile, GO4*

While the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region generally had 53.2 per cent of the Central Queensland region’s population, some service age groups were more prominent in Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region than Central Queensland. The Central Queensland region, for example, was dominated by ‘parents and homebuilders’ with high numbers of primary school aged children. In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region there were similar numbers of residents aged under 17 years to those aged over 60 years; however, in Central Queensland, there were more younger residents than older residents. Therefore, the service needs of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region will differ to other parts of the region.

**Figure 14 Percentage of persons in service age groups, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2021**



Source: ABS *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, General Community Profile, GO4*



There was a higher proportion of people in the older groups (over 60 years) in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region in 2021 compared to Central Queensland. There was also a slightly higher proportion of people in the primary school and younger ages groups than in Central Queensland, most likely reflecting the composition of the workforce with parents and homebuilders being one of the largest service groups.

Overall, 23.7% of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's population were aged between 0 and 17, and 24.2% were aged 60 years and over, compared with 24.8% and 21.8% respectively for Central Queensland. When compared with Central Queensland, the major differences in region were:

- *Smaller* proportions of 'Babies and pre-schoolers' and 'Primary schoolers'
- *Smaller* proportions of 'Parents and homebuilders' and 'Older workers & pre-retirees'
- A *larger* proportion of 'Empty nesters and retirees', 'Seniors' and 'Frail aged'.

**Figure 15 Change in service age group proportions, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton and Central Queensland, 2016-21**



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2016 and 2021

The Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's population increased by 5,360 people (4.6%) or an average annual population change of 0.9 per cent for the period 2016 to 2021. The service age groups which experienced the greatest proportional increase between 2016 and 2021 were:

- 'Seniors' (+2,225)
- 'Empty nesters and retirees' (+1,867)
- 'Parents and homebuilders' (+905)

In the Central Queensland region, there have generally been greater increases in the proportion of older persons than younger age groups. Although 'primary schoolers' was an age group which experienced a large proportional increase, most of the larger increases in the region occurred in those aged over 60 years.

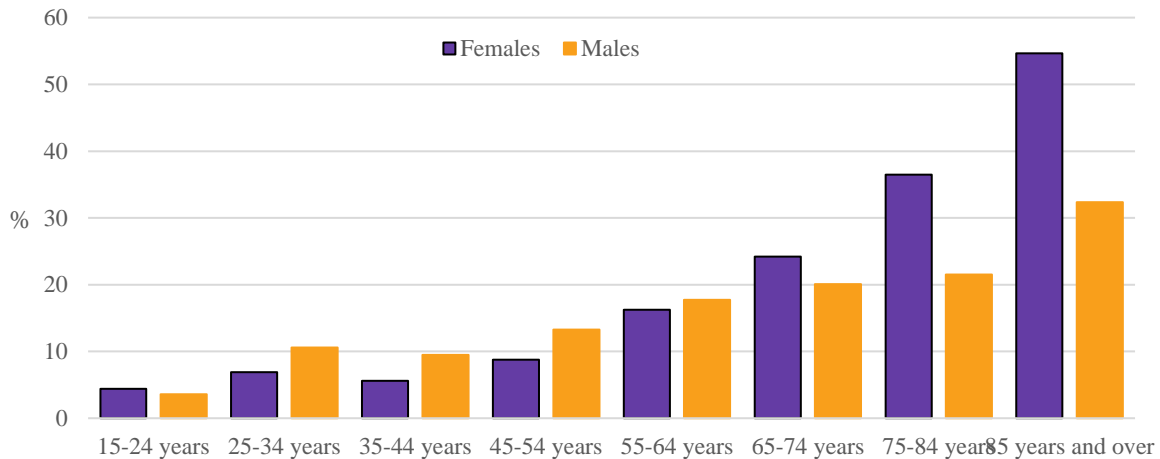
Both Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland have experienced net population growth in a number of service age groups.

### Lone person households

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region at the time of the 2021 Census, 22.6 per cent of people aged 55 years and older lived alone. Female residents over 55 years and older were more likely than males to live alone, 25.0 per cent compared to 20.0 per cent.

The proportion of older persons living alone in the community may provide an indicator of the potential need for assistance or support. The proportion of persons living alone increased with age.

**Figure 16 Percentage of age group living alone by sex, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021**



Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021, General Community Profile – G27*

### Economic and material wellbeing

Without an adequate income that covers basic needs of housing and food, people experience increased stress. The income that is needed to cover these costs varies with the number of persons in a household. In the June quarter 2021 in households with one person working, a single person was defined as living in poverty if their income was less than \$579 per week whereas a couple with two children needed at least \$1,088 per week including housing.

In the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, almost one third (32.0%) of residents aged 15 years and over had a personal income of less than \$500 per week in 2021. Glenlee-Rockyview SA2 had the smallest proportion of persons in this category while Mount Morgan SA2 had the largest proportion of persons.

In 2021, 28.3 per cent of Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region households that were renting were paying more than 30 per cent of their income on rental housing costs while 8.4 per cent of households that were purchasing their home with a mortgage were paying more than 30 per cent of their income on mortgage costs. Mount Morgan SA2 residents were most likely to be paying a higher proportion of their income on rental costs, 38.0 per cent, followed by Emu Park SA2 (35.9%) and Rockhampton City SA2 (33.0%). Rockhampton Surrounds - East SA2 residents were most likely to be paying a higher proportion of their income on mortgage repayments, 13.5 per cent, followed by Bouldercombe SA2 (12.9%) and Emu Park SA2 (12.3%).

A significantly higher proportion of one parent families had incomes less than \$1000 per week than couple families. Mount Morgan SA2 had the highest proportion of families with incomes less than \$1000 while Glenlee-Rockyview SA2 had the lowest proportion.

**Table 6 Indicators of socio-economic status, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and its SA2s, 2021**

	Personal income (a) <\$500 per week (%)	Couple families with children, income (a) <\$1000 per week (%)	One parent families, income (a) <\$1000 per week (%)	Households with rental housing costs >30% of income (%)	Households with mortgage costs >30% of income (%)
	%				
Berserker	34.9	42.8	69.8	31.1	8.7
Bouldercombe	35.1	29.6	60.3	21.0	12.9
Emu Park	38.4	33.8	65.9	35.9	12.3
Frenchville - Mount Archer	28.3	23.2	56.1	31.1	6.9
Glenlee - Rockyview	22.0	14.5	41.7	14.5	7.6
Gracemere	31.4	32.7	66.8	26.3	7.1
Lakes Creek	32.8	36.0	65.6	26.9	8.8
Mount Morgan	47.4	56.1	67.3	38.0	8.4
Norman Gardens	29.2	23.1	54.9	22.7	6.8
Park Avenue	34.8	40.4	65.1	29.5	7.5
Parkhurst - Kawana	29.4	25.2	66.8	25.6	8.9
Rockhampton - West	31.9	26.8	55.7	24.9	7.5
Rockhampton City	36.8	41.0	72.3	33.0	11.2
Rockhampton Region - East	34.4	23.3	53.8	27.3	13.5
Rockhampton Region - North	32.1	28.3	53.2	13.4	12.0
Rockhampton Region - West	28.4	24.7	39.7	12.2	7.4
The Range - Allenstown	33.0	18.2	56.2	25.7	7.2
Yeppoon	31.5	21.0	57.9	31.1	8.6
<b>Capricorn Region</b>	32.0	27.2	61.3	28.3	8.4

(a) Persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS, *Census of population and housing, 2021*.

## Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA)<sup>1</sup>

The SEIFA is a product that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage based on information from the Census. The rankings provide a guide on how one area compares with another.

**Table 7 Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA)**

Acronym	Index	Summary
IRSD	Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Measures relative disadvantage. Includes, for example: low income, low educational attainment, unemployment, low rent, children in families with jobless parents etc
IRSAD	Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage	Includes both relative advantage and disadvantage measures (high values to low values). For example: high income, high mortgage, diploma qualification, professional occupations and unemployed, labourer occupations, no internet etc.
IER	Index of Economic Resources	Access to economic resources such as income, housing expenditure and assets. For example: large private dwellings, high mortgages, high incomes, high levels of dwelling ownership, low income and low rent etc.
IEO	Index of Education and Occupation	Level of education and occupation-related skills. For example: skilled occupations, diploma qualifications, tertiary education attendance, unemployed etc.

Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2011*, cat. no. 2033.0.55.001

<sup>1</sup> SEIFA data from the 2021 Census will be released in 2023

The IRSD values range from 120 to around 1200, with little difference in the scores of areas in the middle deciles. The IRSAD values range from 300 to around 1250. The IER values range from around 280 to around 1290. The IEO values range from around 530 to around 1380. If an area's indicators were all equal to the national average, its score would be 1000. Where an area has indicators of advantage, the score will increase. The score will decrease where there are indicators of disadvantage.

At the local government area level, the IRSD results rank Livingstone Shire at 62 and Rockhampton Regional Council at 38 out of 78. Weipa (T) is the highest ranked council area in Queensland.

**Table 8 Least disadvantaged local government areas in Queensland, 2016**

Local government area	Usual resident population	Score	Range of scores in area	Rank in Queensland (a)
Weipa (T)	3,905	1064	1026-1091	78
Brisbane (C)	1,131,155	1048	461-1170	77
Redland (C)	147,010	1027	712-1141	76
Gold Coast (C)	555,721	1018	720-1143	75
Isaac (R)	20,940	1017	861-1095	74
Sunshine Coast (R)	294,367	1014	682-1129	73
Noosa (S)	52,149	1014	829-1115	72
McKinlay (S)	796	1010	951-1095	71
Central Highlands (R)	27,999	1006	757-1104	70
Bulloo (S)	353	1003	1002-1003	69
Diamantina (S)	291	1002	1002-1002	68
Longreach (R)	3,660	999	947-1053	67
Banana (S)	14,319	997	710-1097	66
Moreton Bay (R)	425,302	996	607-1161	65
Maranoa (R)	12,666	996	836-1110	64
Barcaldine (R)	2,865	994	866-1065	63
Livingstone (S)	36,272	993	758-1113	62
Toowoomba (R)	160,779	989	747-1144	61
Townsville (C)	186,757	989	605-1153	60
Mount Isa (C)	18,671	988	649-1185	59
Mackay (R)	114,969	987	768-1120	58
Scenic Rim (R)	40,072	983	762-1121	57
Douglas (S)	11,714	981	485-1064	56
Barcoo (S)	267	980	980-980	55
Cairns (R)	156,901	980	570-1159	54
Gladstone (R)	61,640	978	769-1091	53
Richmond (S)	791	978	917-1038	52
Goondiwindi (R)	10,630	974	672-1137	51
Balonne (S)	4,377	973	853-1073	50
Rockhampton (R)	79,726	951	717-1153	38
<b>Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region</b>	116,000	947(b)	na	na

na = not available-

(a) High rank indicates least disadvantage

(b) Data for this area has been derived by aggregating Statistical Area Level 2s (QGSO).

Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2016*, cat. no. 2033.0.55.001

While the index score provides a measure of disadvantage for the local government areas, more information about disadvantaged areas is revealed at the SA2 and SA1 levels. Mount Morgan SA2 is the most disadvantaged SA2 in the local government area, followed by Rockhampton City SA2 and Berserker SA2. The Range-Allenstown SA2 is closest to the national average. Glenlee – Rockyview SA2 is the least disadvantaged SA2, followed by Frenchville – Mount Archer SA2.

Glenlee – Rockyview SA2 has the highest IER score in the local government area, followed by Rockhampton Region – West SA2 and Rockhampton Region – North SA2.

The Range – Allenstown SA2 has the highest IEO score, followed by Frenchville – Mount Archer SA2 and Glenlee – Rockyview SA2.

**Table 9 SEIFA scores for SA2s in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2016**

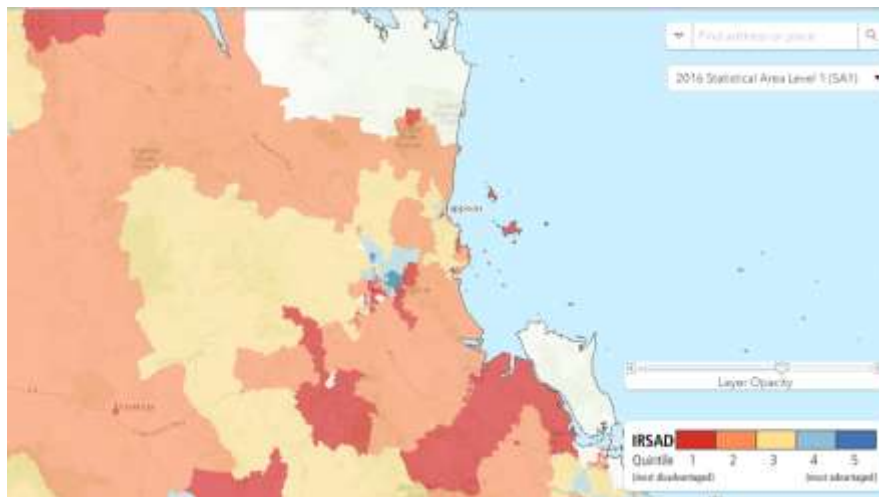
SA2	IRSD	IRSAD	IER	IEO
Berserker	877	863	876	861
Bouldercombe	968	944	1024	904
Emu Park	940	926	955	913
Frenchville - Mount Archer	1008	983	1001	962
Glenlee - Rockyview	1072	1043	1119	974
Gracemere	959	936	981	903
Lakes Creek	905	889	926	864
Mount Morgan	784	793	864	820
Norman Gardens	1005	993	1014	973
Park Avenue	926	899	918	890
Parkhurst - Kawana	955	935	960	917
Rockhampton - West	946	929	943	944
Rockhampton City	828	837	851	868
Rockhampton Region - East	985	964	1032	928
Rockhampton Region - North	986	967	1028	944
Rockhampton Region - West	1012	986	1064	940
Shoalwater Bay	na	na	na	na
The Range - Allenstown	995	993	969	1014
Yeppoon	994	976	1002	955
<b>Capricorn Region (a)</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>932</b>

Data for this area has been derived by aggregating Statistical Area Level 2s (QGSO).

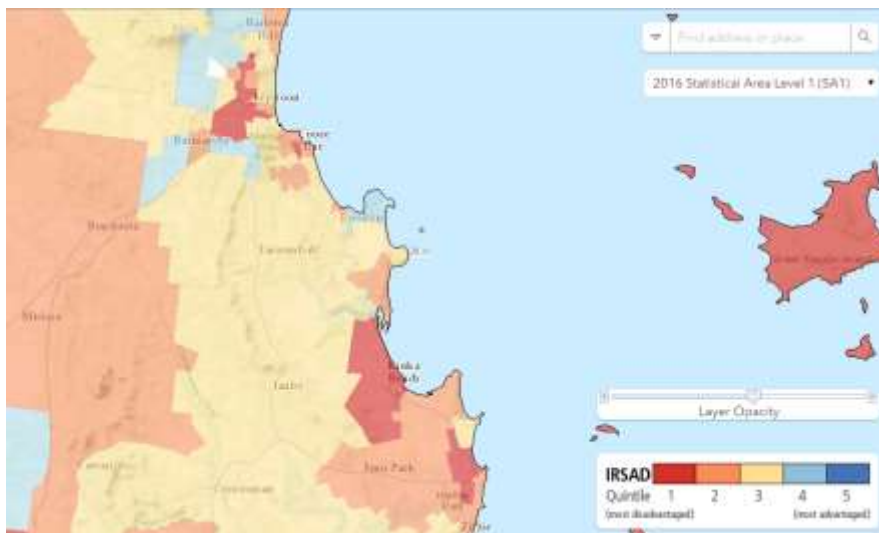
Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2016*, cat. no. 2033.0.55.001

In the maps showing the IRSD for SA1 in Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, the darker reds represent the areas of most disadvantage while blues represent the areas of most advantage. Due to small population counts, the area of Shoalwater Bay is not represented in the SEIFA. As can be seen on the maps, the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had areas of most disadvantage to least disadvantage.

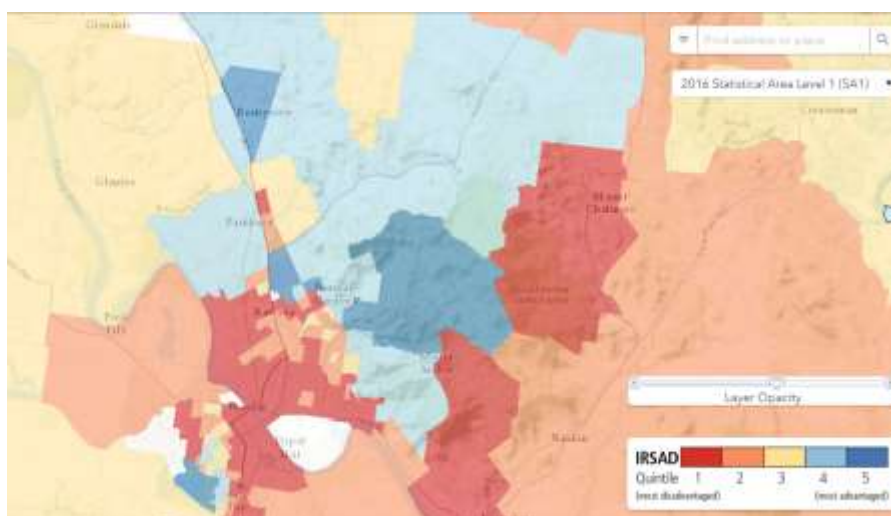
Figure 17 Index of socio-economic disadvantage in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2016



Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region



Capricorn Coast Statistical Area Level 1



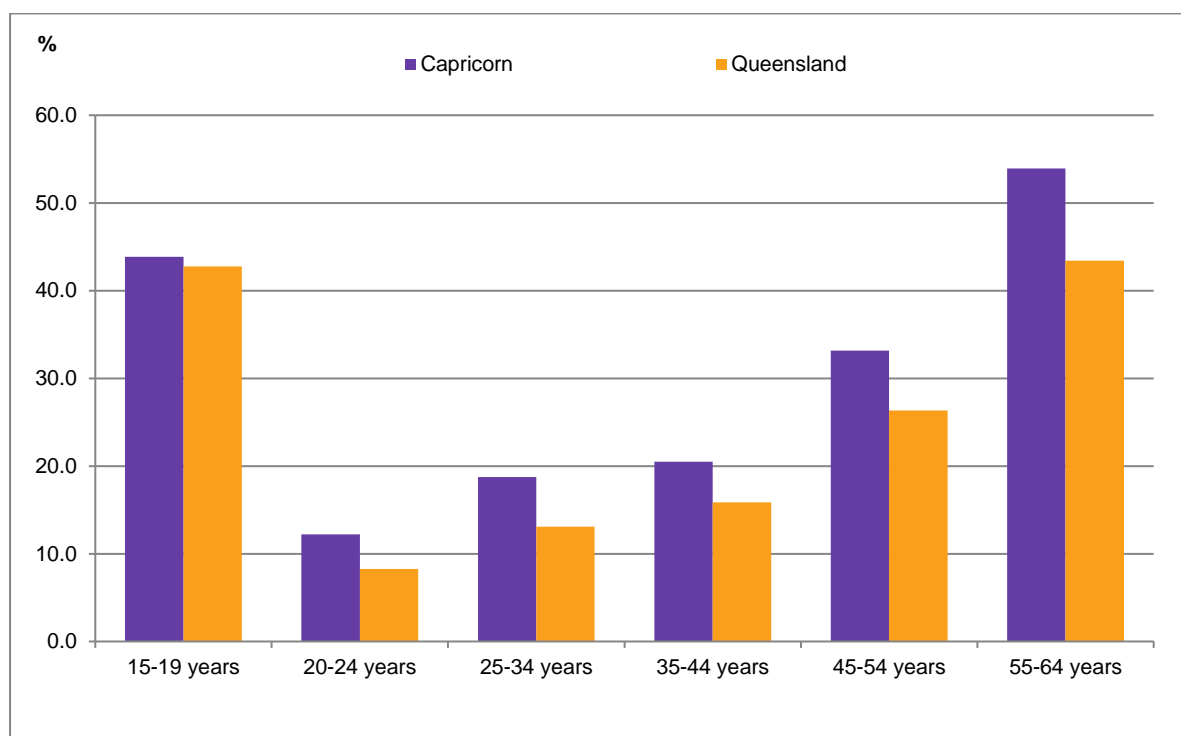
Rockhampton Region Statistical Area Level 1

Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2016*, cat. no. 2033.0.55.001

## Education

Educational outcomes are indicators for employment and income outcomes. People with low educational attainment generally experience higher levels of unemployment and socio-economic disadvantage.

**Figure 18 Highest year of schooling of Year 10 or below by working age groups (a), Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Queensland, 2021**



(a) Persons aged 15 to 19 years may not have completed higher levels of schooling due to age reasons rather than early school leaving.

Source: ABS, *Census of population and housing, 2021*

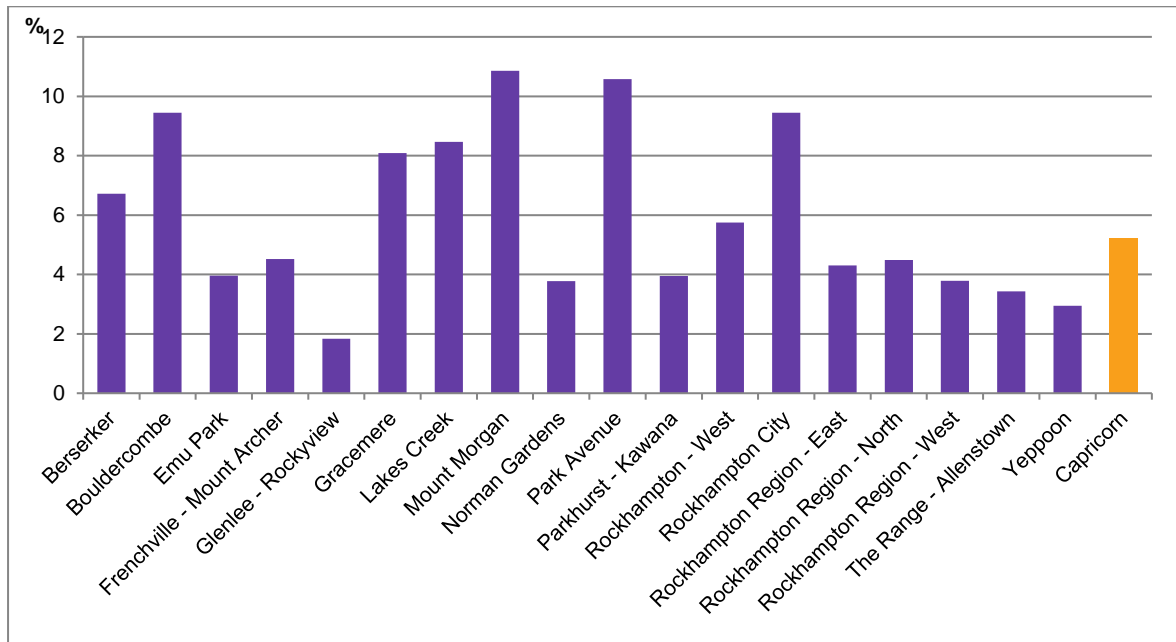
While persons aged 15 to 19 years are less likely to have completed their education, there was an increase with age in the percentage of persons in other age groups whose highest educational attainment was Year 10 or below. This is an indication of improved school retention rates in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region for younger age groups. Proportionally, more persons in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region completed only Year 10 or below in comparison to Queensland.

## Disengaged youth

Young people, aged 15 to 19 years, are considered 'disengaged' if they are not in education or employment. In Queensland in 2021, 4.5 per cent of persons aged 15 to 19 years were not attending school nor employed or looking for work. The proportions were higher in Central Queensland (5.0%) and Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region (5.2%). A higher proportion of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's young people were employed (52.0%) than in Queensland (47.9%) but less like to be attending school, 72.4 per cent compared to 78.5 per cent in Queensland.

Across the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, there were considerable differences in the proportions of disengaged youth. Mount Morgan SA2 had the highest proportion of disengaged youth (10.9%) while Glenlee-Rockyview SA2 had the lowest proportion (1.8%)

**Figure 19 Percentage of disengaged 15-19 year olds, SA2s in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021**

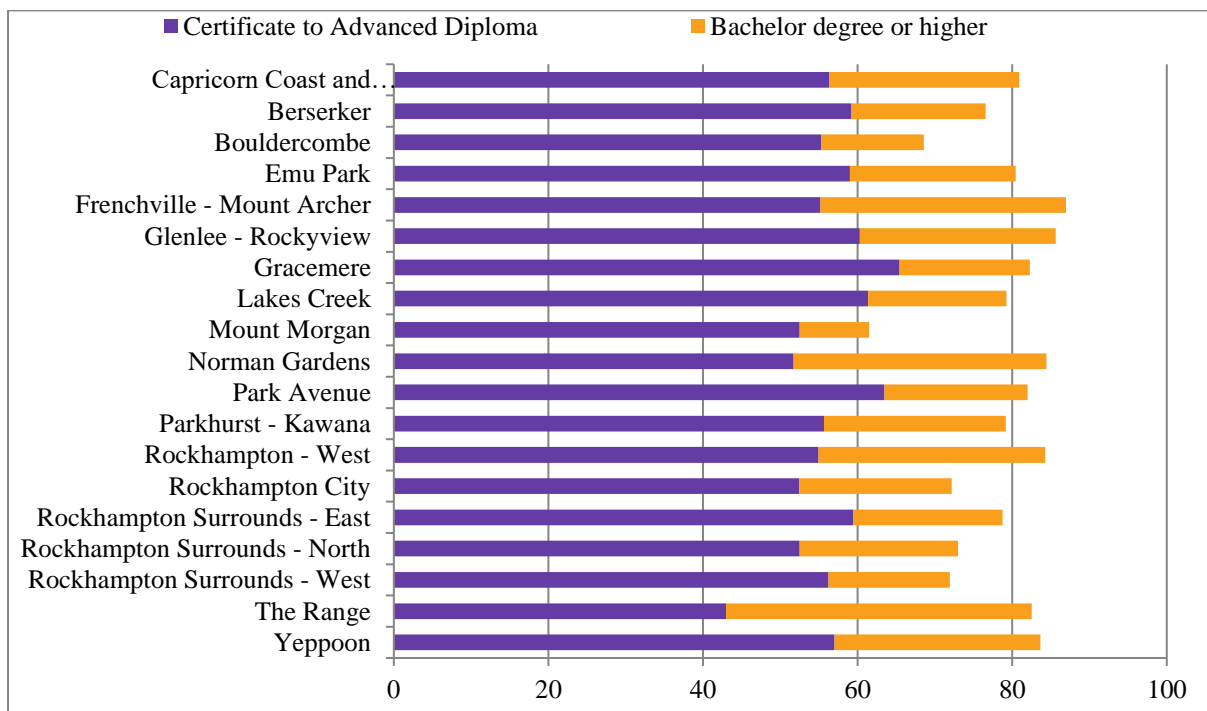


Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021*.

### Educational qualifications

The number of persons who have attained qualifications outside of secondary schooling is an indicator of an area’s socio-economic status. Almost one in five (19.1%) of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region’s residents with qualifications did not adequately describe or state their qualifications in the 2021 Census. Of those who did, Certificates to Advanced Diplomas were the most common form of non-school qualification identified by Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region residents.

**Figure 20 Percentage of persons with non-school qualifications, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region, 2021**



Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2021*.



## Transport

The Census records information about how persons aged 15 years and over travel to work and motor vehicle ownership.

### Method of travel to work

Employed persons in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region were more likely to drive to work than get there by any other means in 2021, with approximately seven out of ten persons (68.4%) travelling to work as a car driver. A further one in ten (12.4%) did not go to work in the week prior to Census, while 5.7 per cent worked at home.

A small proportion (4.3%) of the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region's employed persons used active transport, including public transport, walking and cycling, to get to work in the week prior to Census. This was a decrease of 1.2 percentage points from the 2016 Census.

### Motor vehicle ownership

Most households in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region had two or more vehicles (58.9%) in 2021. Conversely, 2,422 households or 5.5% had no motor vehicle, while one-third (33.8%) of households had one vehicle.

**Table 10 Percentage of motor vehicles per household, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and its SA2s, 2021**

	No vehicles	1 vehicle	2 vehicles	3 vehicles	4 or more vehicles	Total vehicles	Not stated	Total dwellings
Berserker	11.2	40.6	31.5	10.1	4.4	97.8	2.0	2,735
Bouldercombe	1.2	23.1	38.7	19.9	12.7	96.7	2.7	670
Emu Park	2.5	38.0	39.1	12.8	5.7	98.4	1.5	2,231
Frenchville - Mount Archer	5.7	33.1	39.6	13.8	6.5	98.9	1.3	3,417
Glenlee - Rockyview	0.5	13.6	39.0	24.8	21.1	98.8	1.0	1,400
Gracemere	2.9	31.8	39.7	15.0	8.9	98.2	1.6	4,137
Lakes Creek	5.9	36.1	35.2	13.9	7.3	98.1	1.7	1,813
Mount Morgan	9.4	42.3	27.8	11.0	5.7	96.5	3.9	1,168
Norman Gardens	4.5	35.5	40.3	12.4	6.3	98.9	1.2	3,811
Park Avenue	9.2	39.5	32.2	11.9	6.0	98.6	1.6	2,025
Parkhurst - Kawana	6.4	34.0	38.4	12.3	7.4	98.8	1.3	2,575
Rockhampton - West	7.2	40.4	34.5	10.5	5.6	98.4	1.8	2,396
Rockhampton City	12.2	43.7	28.9	8.8	3.9	97.4	2.6	1,323
Rockhampton Region - East	1.9	20.9	41.8	18.8	14.6	98.2	2.0	1,222
Rockhampton Region - North	1.4	18.7	39.5	21.2	17.2	97.9	2.2	1,451
Rockhampton Region - West	1.5	19.1	39.0	21.3	17.4	97.6	2.4	976
The Range - Allenstown	8.7	39.0	34.5	12.2	4.4	98.9	1.0	2,869
Yeppoon	4.8	33.1	39.3	13.9	6.8	97.9	2.1	7,473
<b>Capricorn Region</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>43,693</b>

Note: Shoalwater Bay SA2 not include due to low population count

Source: ABS, *Census of population and housing, 2021, General Community Profile – G34*

## Dwellings

In both the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, the total number of private dwellings increased between 2016 and 2021, 4.2% and 3.5% respectively.

The number of occupied private dwellings also increased, 6.5 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and 6.4 per cent in Central Queensland.

**Table 11 Dwellings, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2006-2021**

Private dwellings		2006	2011	2016	2021
Capricorn	Total private dwellings	42,234	43,792	47,498	49,473
	Occupied private dwellings	38,266	38,537	41,021	43,693
	Population	97,087	109,336	116,000	121,360
	Average household size	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Central Queensland	Private dwellings	79,532	83,994	92,098	95,330
	Occupied private dwellings	70,908	72,296	76,518	81,435
	Population	183,873	207,749	220,912	228,246
	Average household size	2.6	2.57	2.6	2.5

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2006, 2011, 2016 and 2021

'Non-private dwellings' provide a communal type of accommodation and can include hotels, motels, boarding housings, public hospitals (not psychiatric), childcare institutions and accommodation for the retired or aged (not self-contained). The number of non-private dwellings increased by 9.6 per cent during the five year period from 2006 to 2011 in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and 16.2 per cent in Central Queensland. The population in this type of accommodation decreased by almost 4.0 per cent in the Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and increased by 4.4 percent in Central Queensland during this period.

**Table 12 Non-private dwellings, Capricorn Coast and Rockhampton Region and Central Queensland, 2006-2011**

Non-private dwellings		2006	2011
Capricorn	Non-private dwellings	157	172
	Population in non private dwellings	6,049	5,809
Central Queensland	Non private dwellings	358	416
	Population in non-private dwellings	12,758	13,321

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011

<sup>i</sup> For more detailed explanations of the concept of ERP, please refer to the following ABS publications: Information Paper: Population Concepts, 2008 (cat. no. 3107.0.55.006) and Population Estimates: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2009 (cat. no. 3228.0.55.001).