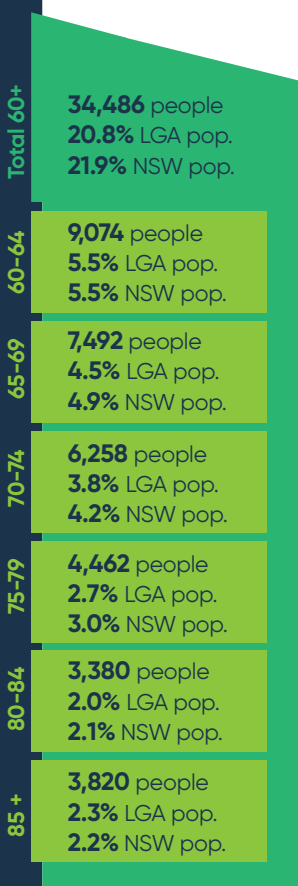


A snapshot of older people (over 60 years) in Newcastle



How many older people live in Newcastle?



12,014
by 2041

How many older people will there be in the future?

There will be a significant increase in older people over the age of 60 in the Newcastle LGA. By 2041, there will be an additional 12,014 people aged 60 and over, being a 36% increase on the 2016 population. The highest rates of increase will be in the 75 to 79 year age group (56%) and 80 to 84 years (52%)²

By 2030, people 65 years and over will form 18% of the total population (the same as NSW)³

In 2019, there were estimated to be 34,486 people aged 60 and over, being 21% of the total population (NSW=22%)¹

Total people in LGA
165,571

Age

Population



Where do older people live?



Median age

Median age for Newcastle SA3 = **36.7 years**



Health and disability

Beresfield - Hexham SA2 had the highest rates of heart, stroke and vascular disease and diabetes mellitus for older people, followed by Shortland-Jesmond SA2 and Lambton - New Lambton SA2.

Shortland-Jesmond SA2 had the highest rates of asthma for older people.⁸

There were **4,501** people **65 years and over** with a profound or severe disability in 2016 (19% of that age bracket, similar to NSW)

3,652 (or 81%) of these people lived in the community (ie not in an institution) (NSW = 78%)⁹

How many older people live alone?



55%

of people over 60 lived with a husband, wife or partner.

This decreased with age

↓61% **↓18%**

60-69 years 90+ years

28%

of people over 60 were the only person in their household.

This increased with age

↑22% **↑56%**

60-69 years 90+ years

5%

of people over 60 were a lone parent.

This generally increased with age

↑5% **↑12%**

60-69 years 90+ years

Income



Almost **17,000** people

received the Aged Care Pension in 2020

Two thirds of people over 65 years received the Aged Care Pension in 2020 (NSW=59%). The number and rate (68%) has declined since 2017 (NSW=63%)⁷

Only **16%** of people

have household income of more than \$2,000 per week

Only 16% of people aged 60 and over live in a household which has a household income of more than \$2,000 per week, half that of the 30% of all households. This rate declines with higher age brackets.

Volunteering

The rate of volunteering declined with age

↓21% **↓5%**

60-69 years 90+ years

Comparisons

18.5% **18.2%**

15+ years 60+ years

Institutional care



Almost **3,000** people over 60 years

(8%) lived in a 'non-private dwelling' (i.e. nursing home)

The proportion increased dramatically with age

↑4% **↑41%**

60-69 years 90+ years

62%

of these people lived in 'accommodation for the retired or aged (not self-contained)'

1 Reference: ABS Regional Population Estimates, 2020: data for Newcastle LGA

2 Reference: Population and household forecasts, 2016 to 2041, prepared by .id (informed decisions), May 2018.

3 Reference: Public Health Information Development Unit, Feb 2021: data for Newcastle LGA

4 Reference: ABS Regional Population Estimates, 2020: data for Newcastle SA3

5 Ibid

6 Note that 1,514 people over 60 lived in the Stockton-Fullerton Cove SA2, which is partly within Port Stephens LGA, and a high proportion of these could have been included in the above results.

7 Reference: Public Health Information Development Unit, Feb 2021: data for Newcastle LGA

8 Reference: ABS 2017-18 National Health Survey - modelled estimates

9 Reference: Public Health Information Development Unit, Feb 2021: data for Newcastle LGA

A summary sheet of 'A demographic profile of diverse communities within the City of Newcastle' Prepared by Jan Falding, May 2021

All references unless specified are: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census: data for occupied private dwellings in Newcastle SA3

SA = Statistical Area (geographical area used in Population Census)



Participation in work

Participation in the labour force for people in 2016 was

39%

of men in 60s

32%

of women in 60s

Fulltime workers

59%

of men in 60s

37%

of women in 60s

↓9%

of men in 70s

↓5%

of women in 70s

Part time workers

61%

of men in 70s

68%

of women in 70s

↓2%

of men in 80s

↓0.8%

of women in 80s