



Gold Coast City Council

# Biggera Waters Statistical Profile

## Introduction

This information is for Biggera Waters Statistical Local Area (SLA) in Gold Coast City. Unless otherwise stated, all data are from the Time Series Profile of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2001 Census of Population and Housing (taken on 7 August 2001), which counts both residents and domestic visitors to the SLA on Census night.

## Resident Population

The preliminary estimate of the resident population of Biggera Waters at 30 June 2002 was 5,385 people, an increase of 653 or 13.8% since 1997.

## Age

In 2001, the number of people aged under 15 years represented 14.7% of the population of Biggera Waters (up from 14.3% in 1991), lower than for Gold Coast City (19.3%). People aged 65 years and over represented 19.2% (down from 21.2% in 1991), higher than for Gold Coast City (15.2%) (Table 1).

Table 1. Age profile

Persons (excluding overseas visitors)

Age (years)	1991			1996			2001		
	Biggera Waters			GCC	Biggera Waters				
	%	%	%		Males	Females	Persons		
				%	No.	No.	No.		
0-4	4.8	4.8	5.2	6.1	149	150	299		
5-9	5.0	4.8	5.0	6.6	136	153	289		
10-14	4.5	5.4	4.5	6.6	134	123	257		
15-19	6.3	4.8	5.3	6.5	169	138	307		
20-24	9.0	8.6	7.1	6.5	206	200	406		
25-34	14.5	14.1	13.9	14.1	374	424	798		
35-44	12.6	12.5	12.9	14.4	381	359	740		
45-54	11.9	13.5	14.1	13.6	378	433	811		
55-64	10.4	11.3	12.9	10.4	359	382	741		
65-74	11.6	11.4	10.3	8.3	283	312	595		
75+	9.6	8.8	8.8	6.9	213	294	507		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2,782	2,968	5,750		

## Educational qualifications

In 2001, the proportion of people aged 15 years and over in Biggera Waters with a Bachelor degree or higher was 7.7% (up from 4.1% in 1991), lower than Gold Coast City (Table 2).

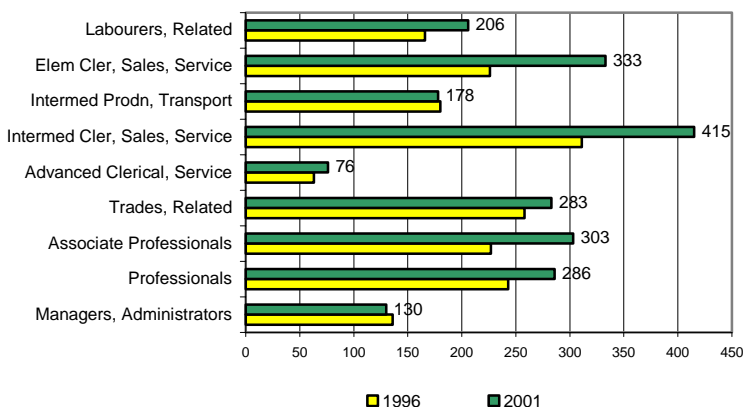
Table 2. Educational Qualifications

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Level of education	1991			1996			2001		
	Biggera Waters			GCC	Biggera Waters				
	%	%	%		No.	%			
Postgraduate Degree	0.4	0.3	0.6	27	1.0				
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	0.4	0.6	0.6	28	0.8				
Bachelor Degree	3.3	4.9	6.6	325	7.0				
Advanced Dip and Dip	4.3	5.2	5.0	246	5.8				
Trade Certificate	14.4	13.7	17.4	851	17.4				
Not stated	17.9	15.7	15.7	769	13.6				
Not applicable	59.2	59.6	54.2	2,658	54.5				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	4,904	100.0				

Figure 1. Occupation

Employed persons (excluding overseas visitors)



## Employment

The labour force in Biggera Waters in 2001 represented 53.0% of people aged 15 years and over (down from 55.0% in 1991), lower than for Gold Coast City (57.6%). From 1991 to 2001, part-time employment in Biggera Waters increased from 11.9% to 16.5% (Table 3). The unemployment rate\* decreased from 17.1% to 13.2%.

\* Persons unemployed divided by persons in labour force

Table 3. Employment

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Labour force status	1991			1996			2001		
	Biggera Waters			GCC	Biggera Waters				
	%	%	%		No.	%			
Employed, working:									
Full time(a)	31.0	28.7	28.1	1,377	31.6				
Part time	11.9	14.5	16.5	809	18.8				
Not stated(b)	2.7	1.2	1.4	70	1.7				
Total employed.	45.6	44.4	46.0	2,256	52.0				
Unemployed, looking for:									
Full time work	7.4	7.3	5.4	265	4.1				
Part time work	2.0	1.3	1.6	78	1.5				
Total unemployed	9.4	8.6	7.0	343	5.6				
Total labour force	55.0	53.0	53.0	2,599	57.6				
Not in the labour force	41.7	44.3	38.8	1,904	36.7				
Not stated(c)	3.4	2.7	8.2	403	5.7				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	4,906	100.0				

(a) The definition of 'full-time' changed between the 1991 and 1996 Census

(b) Includes employed persons who did not state their hours worked

(c) Includes persons who did not state their labour force status

## Income

The median gross weekly individual income in Biggera Waters in 2001 was in the range \$300-\$399 (up from the \$40-\$79 range in 1991). In Biggera Waters, 8.4% of people aged 15 years and over received less than \$120 in 2001 (11.3% for Gold Coast City) and 6.2% received a high income of \$1,000 or more (7.3% for Gold Coast City) (Table 4).

Table 4. Income

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Weekly Individual Income	2001		
	Biggera Waters	GCC	
	%	No.	%
Negative-\$119	8.4	380	11.3
\$120-\$199	15.3	687	14.0
\$200-\$399	28.6	1,288	24.2
\$400-\$599	17.5	788	18.2
\$600-\$799	8.4	379	10.5
\$800-\$999	4.6	207	5.4
\$1000 or more	6.2	277	7.3
Not stated	11.0	493	9.1
Total	100.0	4,499	100.0

## Occupation

The main occupation in 2001 was Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers (415 people or 18.4% of employed people) followed by Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers (333 people or 14.8%) (Figure 1). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working as Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers and the biggest decrease was in Managers and Administrators.

# Biggera Waters Statistical Profile

## Place of birth

In 2001, 25.1% of the Biggera Waters population were overseas born, 16.4% in main English speaking countries and 8.7% in other countries. The proportion of overseas born people in Biggera Waters was higher than for Gold Coast City (24.4%) (Table 5).

**Table 5. Place of birth**  
Persons (excluding overseas visitors)

Place of birth	1991		1996		2001	
	Biggera Waters		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Australia	72.6	70.4	65.9	3,788	69.1	
MES(a)	17.2	15.5	16.4	942	15.2	
NMES(b)	6.4	7.8	8.7	499	9.2	
Not stated	3.8	6.3	9.1	522	6.5	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	5,751	100.0	

(a) Main English speaking countries: comprises United Kingdom, USA, Ireland, South Africa, New Zealand and Canada

(b) Non-Main English Speaking Countries: other than the MES countries

## Household types

In 2001, 28.2% of the population of Biggera Waters lived in a family comprising a couple with children (compared to 44.9% for Gold Coast City), and 28.2% lived in couple only households. The proportion of people in one parent families increased from 9.9% in 1991 to 14.3% in 2001, while the proportion of people living alone increased from 16.8% to 19.8% (Table 6).

**Table 6. Household types**  
Persons in family, group and lone person h/holds (excl overseas visitors)

Household type and Family type	1991 (a)		1996		2001 (b)	
	Biggera Waters		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
One family household:						
Couple with children	34.5	28.8	28.2	1,320	44.9	
Couple without children	28.2	26.8	28.2	1,319	23.1	
One parent family	9.9	14.5	14.3	670	12.9	
Other family	1.2	1.7	1.3	62	1.0	
Total	73.8	71.8	72.0	3,371	81.9	
Multi-family household	1.4	1.5	1.0	48	1.8	
Lone person household	16.8	19.5	19.8	926	10.7	
Group household	7.9	7.2	7.3	340	5.6	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	4,685	100.0	

(a) In 1991, 'Manufactured Home Estates' and 'Accommodation for the Retired or Aged (self-care)' have been excluded. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991.

(b) In 2001, Serviced Apartments and persons living in Serviced Apartments have been included. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991 and 1996.

## Tenure of dwellings

Of the 2,797 occupied private dwellings in Biggera Waters, 29.6% were fully owned (down from 38.8% in 1991), 10.9% were being purchased and 46.5% were being rented. Biggera Waters recorded higher proportions of dwellings being rented and lower proportions being purchased than Gold Coast City (Table 7).

**Table 7. Tenure of dwellings**  
Occupied private dwellings

Tenure type	1991(a)		1996		2001(b)	
	Biggera Waters		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Fully owned	38.8	34.2	29.6	829	33.3	
Being purchased(c)	10.1	10.0	10.9	306	22.8	
Rented:						
State Housing Authority	1.1	3.6	3.8	107	2.5	
Other landlord type(c)	39.0	44.2	41.6	1,164	31.7	
Not stated	1.8	0.3	1.1	30	0.5	
Other Tenure type(c)	9.2	7.8	12.9	361	9.2	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	2,797	100.0	

(a) In 1991, 'Manufactured Home Estates' and 'Accommodation for the Retired or Aged (self-care)' have been excluded. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991.

(b) In 2001, Serviced apartments and persons living in Serviced apartments have been included. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991 and 1996

(c) There were changes in definition between the 1991 and 1996 Census.

## Dwellings

In Biggera Waters in 2001, 23.7% of all private dwellings were separate houses (down from 33.4% in 1991), 17.7% were semi-detached, row/terrace or townhouses (up from 13.6%), and 44.7% were flats, units or apartments (up from 39.8%). In Gold Coast City, 57.1% of dwellings were separate houses, 16.1% were semi-detached and 23.6% were flats (Table 8). The average household size in Biggera Waters declined from 2.1 people per occupied private dwelling in 1991 to 2.0 in 2001.

**Table 8. Dwellings**  
Private dwellings (occupied and unoccupied)

Dwelling Structure	1991(a)		1996		2001(b)	
	Biggera Waters		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Separate house	33.4	29.6	23.7	738	57.1	
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse	13.6	19.5	17.7	551	16.1	
Flat, unit or apartment:						
In 1 or 2 storey block	12.5	10.2	10.5	325	8.0	
In 3 or more storey block	27.2	28.6	34.2	1,062	15.3	
Attached to a house	0.1	0.5	0.1	3	0.3	
Total	39.8	39.2	44.7	1,390	23.6	
Other dwelling:						
Caravan, houseboat	12.0	9.0	10.2	318	1.5	
Improvised, tent etc	0.0	0.0	0.4	11	0.1	
Attached to a shop, office	0.2	0.1	0.1	3	0.2	
Total	12.3	9.1	10.7	332	1.7	
Not stated	0.9	2.6	3.1	97	1.6	

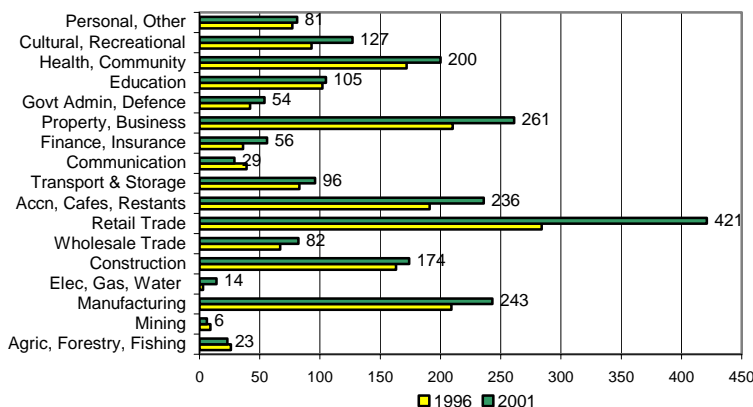
(a) In 1991, 'Manufactured Home Estates' and 'Accommodation for the Retired or Aged (self-care)' have been excluded. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991.

(b) In 2001, Serviced Apartments and persons living in Serviced Apartments have been included. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991 and 1996.

## Industry

The main industry of employment in 2001 was Retail Trade (421 people or 18.7% of employed people) followed by Property and Business Services (261 people or 11.6%) (Figure 2). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working in Retail Trade and the biggest decrease was in Communication Services.

**Figure 2. Industry**  
Employed persons (excluding overseas visitors)



## Other population facts from the 2001 Census

	Biggera Waters	GCC
Visitors from different SLA (No.) (a)	883	48,720
Lived at same address 5 years ago (%) (b)	33.9	38.5
Households with no motor vehicle (%) (a)	13.2	9.1

(a) Sourced from Basic Community Profile, ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing

(b) Sourced from Usual Residents Profile, ABS 2001 Census of Population and Housing

This profile was prepared by the Planning Information and Forecasting Unit, Department of Local Government and Planning, for Gold Coast City Council