



Gold Coast City Council

# Carrara-Merrimac Statistical Profile

## Introduction

This information is for Carrara-Merrimac 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 Carrara-Merrimac at 30 June 2002 was 14,963 people, an increase of 2,651 or 21.5% since 1997.

## Age

In 2001, the number of people aged under 15 years represented 23.1% of the population of Carrara-Merrimac (down from 23.3% in 1991), higher than for Gold Coast City (19.3%). People aged 65 years and over represented 7.8% (down from 7.9% in 1991), lower than for Gold Coast City (15.2%) (Table 1).

Table 1. Age profile

Persons (excluding overseas visitors)

Age (years)	1991		1996		2001		
	Carrara-Merrimac			GCC	Carrara-Merrimac		
	%	%	%		Males	Females	Persons
				%	No.	No.	No.
0-4	8.1	8.7	7.8	6.1	586	529	1,115
5-9	7.5	7.9	7.7	6.6	555	548	1,103
10-14	7.7	7.4	7.5	6.6	529	539	1,068
15-19	7.5	6.5	7.6	6.5	592	488	1,080
20-24	6.3	7.8	7.0	6.5	463	529	992
25-34	17.7	18.0	16.1	14.1	1,079	1,219	2,298
35-44	17.0	15.7	16.0	14.4	1,084	1,191	2,275
45-54	12.1	12.7	13.6	13.6	950	991	1,941
55-64	8.2	7.6	8.8	10.4	655	605	1,260
65-74	5.7	5.4	4.6	8.3	331	324	655
75+	2.3	2.4	3.2	6.9	198	254	452
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	7,022	7,217	14,239

## Educational qualifications

In 2001, the proportion of people aged 15 years and over in Carrara-Merrimac with a Bachelor degree or higher was 8.0% (up from 3.7% in 1991), lower than Gold Coast City (Table 2).

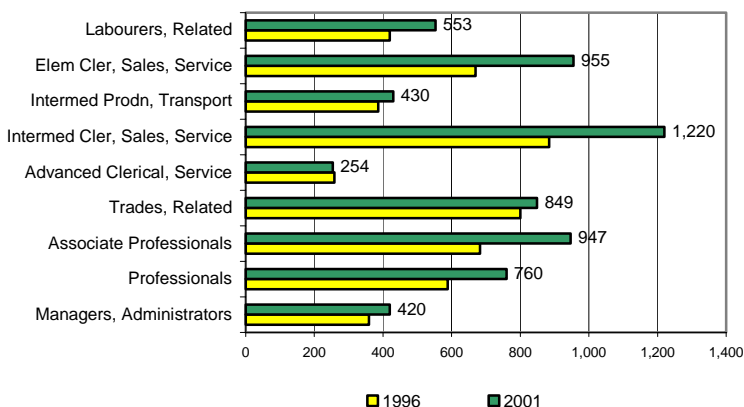
Table 2. Educational Qualifications

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Level of education	1991		1996		2001	
	Carrara-Merrimac			GCC	No.	%
	%	%	%			
Postgraduate Degree	0.2	0.5	0.8	88	1.0	
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	0.5	0.6	0.7	75	0.8	
Bachelor Degree	3.1	4.8	6.6	718	7.0	
Advanced Dip and Dip	4.3	5.5	5.8	633	5.8	
Trade Certificate	16.8	17.0	17.8	1,953	17.4	
Not stated	14.4	11.5	12.1	1,327	13.6	
Not applicable	60.8	60.1	56.2	6,160	54.5	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	10,954	100.0	

Figure 1. Occupation

Employed persons (excluding overseas visitors)



## Employment

The labour force in Carrara-Merrimac in 2001 represented 65.6% of people aged 15 years and over (up from 65.3% in 1991), higher than for Gold Coast City (57.6%). From 1991 to 2001, part-time employment in Carrara-Merrimac increased from 16.4% to 20.9% (Table 3). The unemployment rate\* decreased from 12.1% to 9.5%.

\* 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	
	Carrara-Merrimac			GCC	No.	%
	%	%	%			
Employed, working:						
Full time(a)	37.9	38.5	36.9	4,041	31.6	
Part time	16.4	19.5	20.9	2,285	18.8	
Not stated(b)	3.1	1.3	1.6	178	1.7	
Total employed.	57.4	59.3	59.4	6,504	52.0	
Unemployed, looking for:						
Full time work	6.6	6.5	4.5	494	4.1	
Part time work	1.3	1.6	1.7	190	1.5	
Total unemployed	7.9	8.0	6.2	684	5.6	
Total labour force	65.3	67.3	65.6	7,188	57.6	
Not in the labour force	31.5	30.7	29.4	3,225	36.7	
Not stated(c)	3.2	2.0	4.9	539	5.7	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	10,952	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 Carrara-Merrimac in 2001 was in the range \$300-\$399 (up from the \$80-\$119 range in 1991). In Carrara-Merrimac, 12.8% of people aged 15 years and over received less than \$120 in 2001 (11.3% for Gold Coast City) and 6.3% 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		
	Carrara-Merrimac	GCC	
	%	No.	
Negative-\$119	12.8	1,362	11.3
\$120-\$199	12.9	1,368	14.0
\$200-\$399	22.9	2,431	24.2
\$400-\$599	19.9	2,113	18.2
\$600-\$799	11.2	1,187	10.5
\$800-\$999	5.6	597	5.4
\$1000 or more	6.3	674	7.3
Not stated	8.4	892	9.1
Total	100.0	10,624	100.0

## Occupation

The main occupation in 2001 was Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers (1,220 people or 18.8% of employed people) followed by Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers (955 people or 14.7%) (Figure 1). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working as Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers and the biggest decrease was in Advanced Clerical and Service Workers.

# Carrara-Merrimac Statistical Profile

## Place of birth

In 2001, 25.8% of the Carrara-Merrimac population were overseas born, 15.4% in main English speaking countries and 10.4% in other countries. The proportion of overseas born people in Carrara-Merrimac 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	
	Carrara-Merrimac		Carrara-Merrimac		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Australia	71.2	71.9	67.9	9,667	69.1	
MES(a)	17.0	15.4	15.4	2,189	15.2	
NMES(b)	9.9	9.6	10.4	1,479	9.2	
Not stated	2.0	3.1	6.4	907	6.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,242</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

(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, 50.8% of the population of Carrara-Merrimac lived in a family comprising a couple with children (compared to 44.9% for Gold Coast City), and 19.3% lived in couple only households. The proportion of people in one parent families increased from 7.2% in 1991 to 15.9% in 2001, while the proportion of people living alone increased from 4.5% to 7.0% (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)	
	Carrara-Merrimac		Carrara-Merrimac		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
One family household:						
Couple with children	61.9	53.9	50.8	6,565	44.9	
Couple without children	20.1	20.5	19.3	2,501	23.1	
One parent family	7.2	12.0	15.9	2,058	12.9	
Other family	0.4	0.8	0.6	83	1.0	
Total	89.6	87.1	86.7	11,207	81.9	
Multi-family household	2.0	1.9	1.5	188	1.8	
Lone person household	4.5	6.2	7.0	903	10.7	
Group household	3.8	4.7	4.9	628	5.6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,926</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

(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 5,120 occupied private dwellings in Carrara-Merrimac, 24.5% were fully owned (down from 35.5% in 1991), 28.9% were being purchased and 40.2% were being rented. Carrara-Merrimac recorded higher proportions of dwellings being rented and higher proportions being purchased than Gold Coast City (Table 7).

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

Tenure type	1991(a)		1996		2001(b)	
	Carrara-Merrimac		Carrara-Merrimac		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Fully owned	35.5	29.2	24.5	1,253	33.3	
Being purchased(c)	41.3	31.0	28.9	1,478	22.8	
Rented:						
State Housing Authority	0.3	1.0	1.2	61	2.5	
Other landlord type(c)	16.3	34.0	38.1	1,953	31.7	
Not stated	0.7	0.3	0.8	42	0.5	
Other Tenure type(c)	5.8	4.6	6.5	333	9.2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,120</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

(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 Carrara-Merrimac in 2001, 64.5% of all private dwellings were separate houses (down from 83.1% in 1991), 23.2% were semi-detached, row/terrace or townhouses (up from 0.8%), and 5.0% were flats, units or apartments (up from 1.8%). 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 Carrara-Merrimac declined from 2.9 people per occupied private dwelling in 1991 to 2.7 in 2001.

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

Dwelling Structure	1991(a)		1996		2001(b)	
	Carrara-Merrimac		Carrara-Merrimac		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Separate house	83.1	69.5	64.5	3,481	57.1	
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse	0.8	19.5	23.2	1,254	16.1	
Flat, unit or apartment:						
In 1 or 2 storey block	0.0	0.1	3.9	211	8.0	
In 3 or more storey block	1.4	0.9	0.7	39	15.3	
Attached to a house	0.4	0.2	0.4	19	0.3	
Total	1.8	1.2	5.0	269	23.6	
Other dwelling:						
Caravan, houseboat	14.0	8.9	6.5	353	1.5	
Improvised, tent etc	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.1	
Attached to a shop, office	0.1	0.1	0.1	3	0.2	
Total	14.1	9.0	6.6	356	1.7	
Not stated	0.2	0.8	0.7	37	1.6	

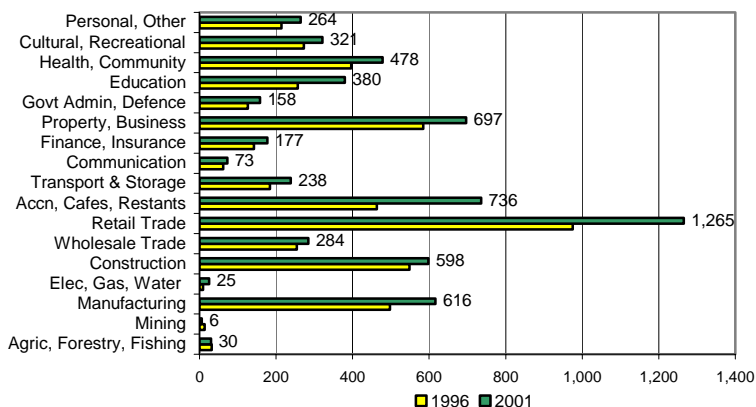
(a) In 1991, 'Manufactured Home Estates' and 'Accommodation for the Retired or Aged (self-care)' have been excluded. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991.

(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 (1,265 people or 19.5% of employed people) followed by Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants (736 people or 11.3%) (Figure 2). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working in Retail Trade and the biggest decrease was in Mining.

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



## Other population facts from the 2001 Census

	Carrara-Merrimac	GCC
Visitors from different SLA (No.) (a)	964	48,720
Lived at same address 5 years ago (%) (b)	35.5	38.5
Households with no motor vehicle (%) (a)	3.9	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