



Gold Coast City Council

Mermaid Beach Statistical Profile

Introduction

This information is for Mermaid Beach 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 Mermaid Beach at 30 June 2002 was 5,941 people, an increase of 744 or 14.3% since 1997.

Age

In 2001, the number of people aged under 15 years represented 12.7% of the population of Mermaid Beach (up from 10.6% in 1991), lower than for Gold Coast City (19.3%). People aged 65 years and over represented 15.9% (down from 22.4% in 1991), higher than for Gold Coast City (15.2%) (Table 1).

Employment

The labour force in Mermaid Beach in 2001 represented 61.6% of people aged 15 years and over (up from 55.3% in 1991), higher than for Gold Coast City (57.6%). From 1991 to 2001, part-time employment in Mermaid Beach increased from 13.0% to 20.1% (Table 3). The unemployment rate* decreased from 19.6% to 9.3%.

* Persons unemployed divided by persons in labour force

Table 1. Age profile

Persons (excluding overseas visitors)

Age (years)	1991			1996			2001		
	Mermaid Beach			GCC	Mermaid Beach				
	%	%	%		Males	Females	Persons		
				%	No.	No.	No.		
0-4	4.5	4.7	4.9	6.1	135	165	300		
5-9	3.0	2.8	4.4	6.6	136	136	272		
10-14	3.1	2.6	3.4	6.6	107	104	211		
15-19	6.5	5.2	5.6	6.5	174	173	347		
20-24	12.0	14.9	11.1	6.5	328	354	682		
25-34	17.6	19.8	21.3	14.1	674	637	1,311		
35-44	10.4	11.2	13.0	14.4	422	375	797		
45-54	9.6	10.0	11.7	13.6	348	369	717		
55-64	10.8	9.1	8.6	10.4	250	281	531		
65-74	13.5	10.8	8.1	8.3	238	260	498		
75+	8.9	9.0	7.8	6.9	204	275	479		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	3,016	3,129	6,145		

Table 3. Employment

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Labour force status	1991			1996			2001		
	Mermaid Beach			GCC	Mermaid Beach				
	%	%	%		No.	%			
Employed, working:									
Full time(a)	29.1	29.6	34.2	1,833	31.6				
Part time	13.0	17.4	20.1	1,075	18.8				
Not stated(b)	2.3	0.9	1.6	86	1.7				
Total employed.	44.4	47.9	55.9	2,994	52.0				
Unemployed, looking for:									
Full time work	9.3	7.8	4.6	249	4.1				
Part time work	1.5	1.7	1.1	59	1.5				
Total unemployed	10.8	9.5	5.7	308	5.6				
Total labour force	55.3	57.3	61.6	3,302	57.6				
Not in the labour force	40.5	36.4	30.8	1,651	36.7				
Not stated(c)	4.3	6.2	7.5	404	5.7				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	5,357	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

Educational qualifications

In 2001, the proportion of people aged 15 years and over in Mermaid Beach with a Bachelor degree or higher was 13.1% (up from 4.7% in 1991), higher than Gold Coast City (Table 2).

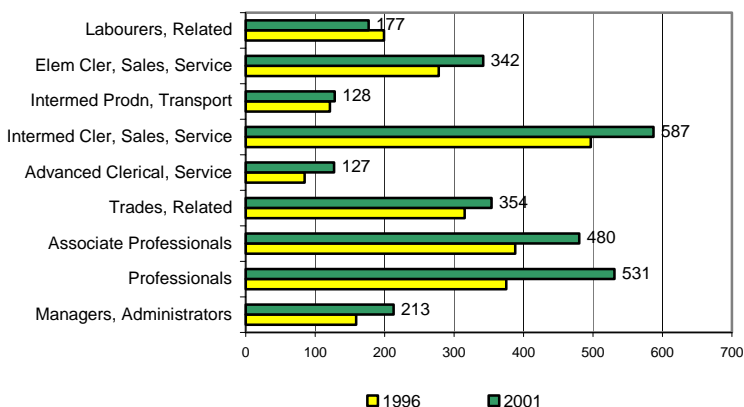
Table 2. Educational Qualifications

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Level of education	1991			1996			2001		
	Mermaid Beach			GCC	Mermaid Beach				
	%	%	%		No.	%			
Postgraduate Degree	0.4	0.8	1.4	75	1.0				
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	0.4	0.8	1.1	58	0.8				
Bachelor Degree	3.9	6.2	10.6	570	7.0				
Advanced Dip and Dip	4.6	5.5	6.9	368	5.8				
Trade Certificate	14.0	14.1	17.4	931	17.4				
Not stated	16.9	17.7	14.7	788	13.6				
Not applicable	59.8	54.9	48.0	2,573	54.5				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	5,363	100.0				

Figure 1. Occupation

Employed persons (excluding overseas visitors)



Income

The median gross weekly individual income in Mermaid Beach in 2001 was in the range \$400-\$499 (up from the \$80-\$119 range in 1991). In Mermaid Beach, 7.3% of people aged 15 years and over received less than \$120 in 2001 (11.3% for Gold Coast City) and 9.6% 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		
	Mermaid Beach		GCC
	%	No.	%
Negative-\$119	7.3	338	11.3
\$120-\$199	11.7	539	14.0
\$200-\$399	22.4	1,037	24.2
\$400-\$599	19.6	906	18.2
\$600-\$799	11.9	551	10.5
\$800-\$999	5.8	268	5.4
\$1000 or more	9.6	442	7.3
Not stated	11.7	541	9.1
Total	100.0	4,622	100.0

Occupation

The main occupation in 2001 was Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers (587 people or 19.6% of employed people) followed by Professionals (531 people or 17.7%) (Figure 1). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working as Professionals and the biggest decrease was in Labourers and Related Workers.

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Place of birth

In 2001, 21.1% of the Mermaid Beach population were overseas born, 12.7% in main English speaking countries and 8.4% in other countries. The proportion of overseas born people in Mermaid Beach was lower than for Gold Coast City (24.4%) (Table 5).

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

Place of birth	1991		1996		2001	
	Mermaid Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Australia	70.6	68.4	68.9	4,248	69.1	
MES(a)	16.1	14.5	12.7	785	15.2	
NMES(b)	7.9	8.1	8.4	515	9.2	
Not stated	5.4	8.9	10.0	617	6.5	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	6,165	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, 26.8% of the population of Mermaid Beach lived in a family comprising a couple with children (compared to 44.9% for Gold Coast City), and 23.2% lived in couple only households. The proportion of people in one parent families increased from 9.2% in 1991 to 11.0% in 2001, while the proportion of people living alone increased from 17.0% to 18.3% (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)	
	Mermaid Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
One family household:						
Couple with children	29.4	23.9	26.8	1,204	44.9	
Couple without children	22.9	22.4	23.2	1,043	23.1	
One parent family	9.2	8.6	11.0	494	12.9	
Other family	2.5	2.4	2.3	104	1.0	
Total	64.0	57.3	63.4	2,845	81.9	
Multi-family household	0.7	0.9	0.7	33	1.8	
Lone person household	17.0	18.5	18.3	823	10.7	
Group household	18.3	23.3	17.6	789	5.6	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	4,490	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 2,908 occupied private dwellings in Mermaid Beach, 23.1% were fully owned (down from 28.5% in 1991), 12.2% were being purchased and 49.0% were being rented. Mermaid Beach 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)	
	Mermaid Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Fully owned	28.5	25.9	23.1	672	33.3	
Being purchased(c)	7.4	10.2	12.2	354	22.8	
Rented:						
State Housing Authority	0.3	0.0	0.1	3	2.5	
Other landlord type(c)	50.7	50.2	48.1	1,400	31.7	
Not stated	1.8	0.2	0.7	21	0.5	
Other Tenure type(c)	11.3	13.5	15.7	458	9.2	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	2,908	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 Mermaid Beach in 2001, 24.9% of all private dwellings were separate houses (down from 32.2% in 1991), 14.3% were semi-detached, row/terrace or townhouses (up from 7.8%), and 59.4% were flats, units or apartments (up from 54.9%). 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 Mermaid Beach 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)	
	Mermaid Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Separate house	32.2	30.5	24.9	857	57.1	
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse	7.8	7.8	14.3	491	16.1	
Flat, unit or apartment:						
In 1 or 2 storey block	30.5	31.8	22.3	767	8.0	
In 3 or more storey block	23.8	26.3	36.8	1,265	15.3	
Attached to a house	0.6	0.4	0.2	7	0.3	
Total	54.9	58.6	59.4	2,039	23.6	
Other dwelling:						
Caravan, houseboat	3.8	0.0	0.0	0	1.5	
Improvised, tent etc	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.1	
Attached to a shop, office	0.7	0.6	0.6	19	0.2	
Total	4.5	0.6	0.6	19	1.7	
Not stated	0.7	2.5	0.8	29	1.6	

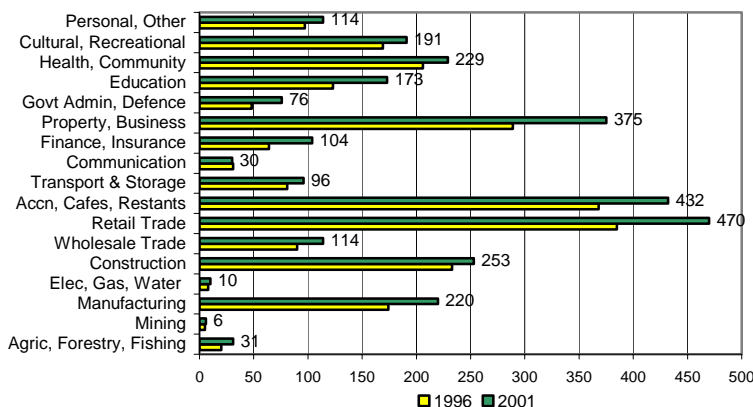
(a) In 1991, 'Manufactured Home Estates' and 'Accommodation for the Retired or Aged (self-care)' have been excluded. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991.

(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 (470 people or 15.7% of employed people) followed by Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants (432 people or 14.4%) (Figure 2). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working in Property and Business Services and the biggest decrease was in Communication Services.

Figure 2. Industry
Employed persons (excluding overseas visitors)



Other population facts from the 2001 Census

	Mermaid Beach	GCC
Visitors from different SLA (No.) (a)	1,536	48,720
Lived at same address 5 years ago (%) (b)	25.0	38.5
Households with no motor vehicle (%) (a)	13.5	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