



Gold Coast City Council

# Palm Beach Statistical Profile

## Introduction

This information is for Palm 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 Palm Beach at 30 June 2002 was 13,543 people, an increase of 808 or 6.3% since 1997.

## Age

In 2001, the number of people aged under 15 years represented 15.5% of the population of Palm Beach (up from 15.1% in 1991), lower than for Gold Coast City (19.3%). People aged 65 years and over represented 23.7% (down from 24.5% 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		
	Palm Beach			GCC	Palm Beach				
	%	%	%		Males	Females	Persons		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.			
0-4	4.9	4.8	4.9	6.1	351	324	675		
5-9	4.4	4.8	4.8	6.6	329	330	659		
10-14	5.9	4.4	5.8	6.6	410	389	799		
15-19	6.3	5.4	5.3	6.5	398	334	732		
20-24	7.2	7.4	5.9	6.5	420	391	811		
25-34	12.9	11.7	12.9	14.1	923	857	1,780		
35-44	11.1	11.8	12.5	14.4	840	880	1,720		
45-54	10.0	11.5	12.7	13.6	866	877	1,743		
55-64	12.9	11.9	11.6	10.4	726	866	1,592		
65-74	16.4	16.4	13.0	8.3	798	994	1,792		
75+	8.1	9.9	10.7	6.9	680	793	1,473		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	6,741	7,035	13,776		

## Educational qualifications

In 2001, the proportion of people aged 15 years and over in Palm Beach with a Bachelor degree or higher was 7.3% (up from 3.1% in 1991), lower than Gold Coast City (Table 2).

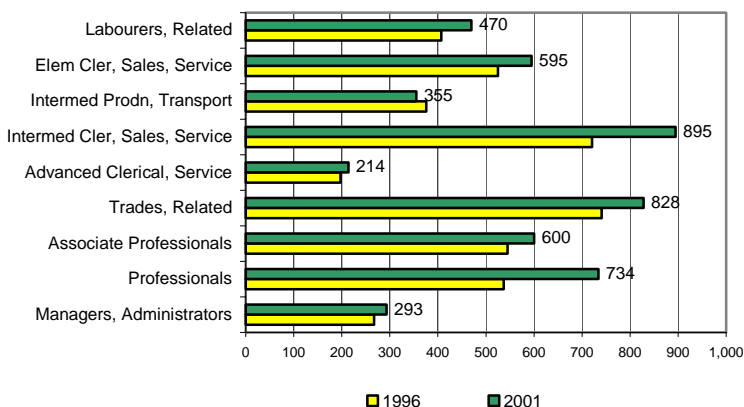
Table 2. Educational Qualifications

Persons aged 15 years and over (excluding overseas visitors)

Level of education	1991			1996			2001		
	Palm Beach			GCC	Palm Beach				
	%	%	%		No.	%			
Postgraduate Degree	0.1	0.3	0.7	79	1.0				
Grad Dip & Grad Cert	0.4	0.7	0.7	79	0.8				
Bachelor Degree	2.5	3.7	6.0	694	7.0				
Advanced Dip and Dip	3.8	4.1	5.2	604	5.8				
Trade Certificate	14.8	15.4	18.2	2,122	17.4				
Not stated	16.2	14.4	11.9	1,391	13.6				
Not applicable	62.2	61.4	57.3	6,674	54.5				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	11,643	100.0				

Figure 1. Occupation

Employed persons (excluding overseas visitors)



## Employment

The labour force in Palm Beach in 2001 represented 50.9% of people aged 15 years and over (up from 47.4% in 1991), lower than for Gold Coast City (57.6%). From 1991 to 2001, part-time employment in Palm Beach increased from 12.3% to 16.8% (Table 3). The unemployment rate\* decreased from 18.2% to 13.9%.

\* 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		
	Palm Beach			GCC	Palm Beach				
	%	%	%		No.	%			
Employed, working:									
Full time(a)	24.5	23.5	25.7	2,989	31.6				
Part time	12.3	13.9	16.8	1,953	18.8				
Not stated(b)	2.0	1.0	1.4	161	1.7				
Total employed.	38.8	38.4	43.8	5,103	52.0				
Unemployed, looking for:									
Full time work	7.2	7.0	5.4	631	4.1				
Part time work	1.4	1.2	1.6	191	1.5				
Total unemployed	8.6	8.1	7.1	822	5.6				
Total labour force	47.4	46.5	50.9	5,925	57.6				
Not in the labour force	50.4	50.8	45.5	5,292	36.7				
Not stated(c)	2.3	2.7	3.6	424	5.7				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	11,641	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 Palm Beach in 2001 was in the range \$300-\$399 (up from the \$40-\$79 range in 1991). In Palm Beach, 9.2% of people aged 15 years and over received less than \$120 in 2001 (11.3% for Gold Coast City) and 5.5% 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		
	Palm Beach		GCC
	%	No.	
Negative-\$119	9.2	976	11.3
\$120-\$199	17.7	1,885	14.0
\$200-\$399	29.8	3,162	24.2
\$400-\$599	17.3	1,838	18.2
\$600-\$799	9.0	955	10.5
\$800-\$999	4.8	513	5.4
\$1000 or more	5.5	584	7.3
Not stated	6.7	713	9.1
Total	100.0	10,626	100.0

## Occupation

The main occupation in 2001 was Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers (895 people or 17.5% of employed people) followed by Tradespersons and Related Workers (828 people or 16.2%) (Figure 1). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working as Professionals and the biggest decrease was in Intermediate Production and Transport Workers.

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## Place of birth

In 2001, 16.6% of the Palm Beach population were overseas born, 11.7% in main English speaking countries and 4.9% in other countries. The proportion of overseas born people in Palm 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	
	Palm Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Australia	81.4	78.3	78.8	10,837	69.1	
MES(a)	11.8	11.9	11.7	1,608	15.2	
NMES(b)	4.8	4.9	4.9	678	9.2	
Not stated	2.1	4.9	4.6	635	6.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13,758</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, 33.4% of the population of Palm Beach lived in a family comprising a couple with children (compared to 44.9% for Gold Coast City), and 25.3% lived in couple only households. The proportion of people in one parent families increased from 11.3% in 1991 to 13.9% in 2001, while the proportion of people living alone increased from 13.4% to 18.1% (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)	
	Palm Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
One family household:						
Couple with children	37.6	32.6	33.4	3,969	44.9	
Couple without children	28.3	27.5	25.3	3,012	23.1	
One parent family	11.3	12.5	13.9	1,657	12.9	
Other family	1.4	1.4	1.4	166	1.0	
Total	78.7	74.0	74.0	8,804	81.9	
Multi-family household	1.6	1.2	1.3	151	1.8	
Lone person household	13.4	17.0	18.1	2,155	10.7	
Group household	6.3	7.8	6.6	789	5.6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,899</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 6,362 occupied private dwellings in Palm Beach, 39.8% were fully owned (down from 44.6% in 1991), 15.2% were being purchased and 38.2% were being rented. Palm 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)	
	Palm Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Fully owned	44.6	42.9	39.8	2,529	33.3	
Being purchased(c)	11.7	11.7	15.2	968	22.8	
Rented:						
State Housing Authority	2.0	3.1	3.4	217	2.5	
Other landlord type(c)	33.1	34.2	34.3	2,184	31.7	
Not stated	1.3	0.4	0.5	30	0.5	
Other Tenure type(c)	7.2	7.7	6.8	434	9.2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,362</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 Palm Beach in 2001, 46.3% of all private dwellings were separate houses (down from 49.4% in 1991), 10.8% were semi-detached, row/terrace or townhouses (up from 7.2%), and 37.1% were flats, units or apartments (up from 36.0%). 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 Palm Beach declined from 2.3 people per occupied private dwelling in 1991 to 2.1 in 2001.

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

Dwelling Structure	1991(a)		1996		2001(b)	
	Palm Beach		GCC		GCC	
	%	%	%	No.	%	%
Separate house	49.4	46.9	46.3	3,281	57.1	
Semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse	7.2	8.4	10.8	763	16.1	
Flat, unit or apartment:						
In 1 or 2 storey block	15.7	19.1	14.1	996	8.0	
In 3 or more storey block	20.1	16.8	22.5	1,597	15.3	
Attached to a house	0.2	0.3	0.5	34	0.3	
Total	36.0	36.1	37.1	2,627	23.6	
Other dwelling:						
Caravan, houseboat	6.2	5.9	4.9	345	1.5	
Improvised, tent etc	0.0	0.1	0.1	6	0.1	
Attached to a shop, office	0.4	0.3	0.5	32	0.2	
Total	6.6	6.2	5.4	383	1.7	
Not stated	0.8	2.4	0.4	31	1.6	

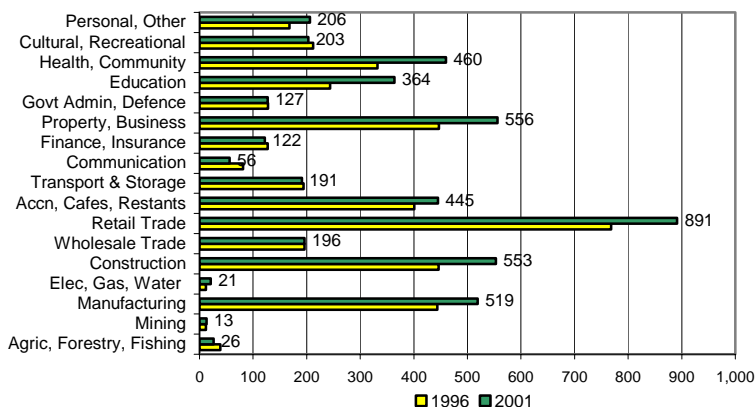
(a) In 1991, 'Manufactured Home Estates' and 'Accommodation for the Retired or Aged (self-care)' have been excluded. These dwellings were Non-private dwellings in 1991.

(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 (891 people or 17.5% of employed people) followed by Property and Business Services (556 people or 10.9%) (Figure 2). Since 1996, the biggest increase was recorded in the number of people working in Health and Community Services and the biggest decrease was in Communication Services.

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



## Other population facts from the 2001 Census

	Palm Beach	GCC
Visitors from different SLA (No.) (a)	1,910	48,720
Lived at same address 5 years ago (%) (b)	42.7	38.5
Households with no motor vehicle (%) (a)	13.0	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