Demographic Outlook
Why the sector faces systemic change

April 2024

Contents page

Introduction, background & scope

Following on from the work that The Demographics Group (TGP) completed for OzChild in November 2023, PeakCare approached TDG to complete a similar report that was specific to the Queensland foster carer market. Like OzChild, PeakCare recognises that a data driven evidence base is critical to good decision making and want to understand how Queensland's changing demographic and socio-economic landscape may impact the foster carer market.

In this report TDG has researched, extracted and analysed demographic and socio-economic variables that relate to the foster carer market and provided insight into how these variables have changed and are likely to continue to change into the future.

The report is segmented into three sections which are focused on big picture demographics, the hard criteria that must be met in order to becoming a foster carer in Queensland and the personas of a typical foster carer. Data is also provided for the Indigenous population where available.

The data in the report is based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) remoteness statistical boundaries which are particularly relevant to Queensland due to the geographic dispersion of the population. The main data source is the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including current and past Population and Housing Censuses. Where appropriate data is benchmarked against the national or Queensland average for context and comparative purposes.

Systemic Changes & Personas

PeakCare provided TDG with criteria that must be met in order to become a foster carer. This report aligns the criteria to demographic variables that are used as a proxy in this report and include:

- 21 years of age or older
- Spare bedroom (not critical in Queensland)
- Financially stable position
- Have time/be flexible to care for vulnerable children and young people
- Mentally, emotionally and physically fit to care

This report also contains insight into the 'personas' of a typical foster carer (primarily based on the persona profiles provided by OzChild). We have provided data and insight into these personas in this report by extracting, analysing and undertaking cross tabulation of data from the ABS Censuses. The analysis for the personas is geographically segmented based the remoteness boundaries and for each persona, provides the top 10 SA2s which contain the highest number and proportion of that persona.

Further to these insights, the report also contains additional demographic variables that relate to, and can be applied to, the different personas, together with the hard criteria, as outlined below:

- Population: current and forecast population and population change and distribution across Queensland

- Household and Family structure: size and composition of households including family structure

- Number of bedrooms: cross-tabulation of the number of bedrooms by age cohort to identify the number of households that have a spare bedroom by different stages of the lifecycle

- Financial stability: insight into mortgage repayments and how these have changed over time to provide insight into financial stability

- Workforce: employment trends towards to a knowledge worker economy and the identification of specific industries and occupations that relate directly to the personas, including healthcare workers, teachers, social services, hospitality & retail workers, part-time workers and those not in the workforce, to quantify the size of these markets

- Religious affiliation, volunteer, care giving & long-term health issues: insight into religious affiliation, volunteers, care giving and long-term health issues of the total population and as they relate to specific personas.

Report summary

At first glance, demographic data might suggest a great decade ahead for the recruitment of foster carers. After all, Queensland experiences very strong population growth in all age groups in the coming decade. The age cohort of foster children (0-17) grows at a much lower rate (+4 per cent) than the age cohort (18+) of potential foster carers (+17 per cent).
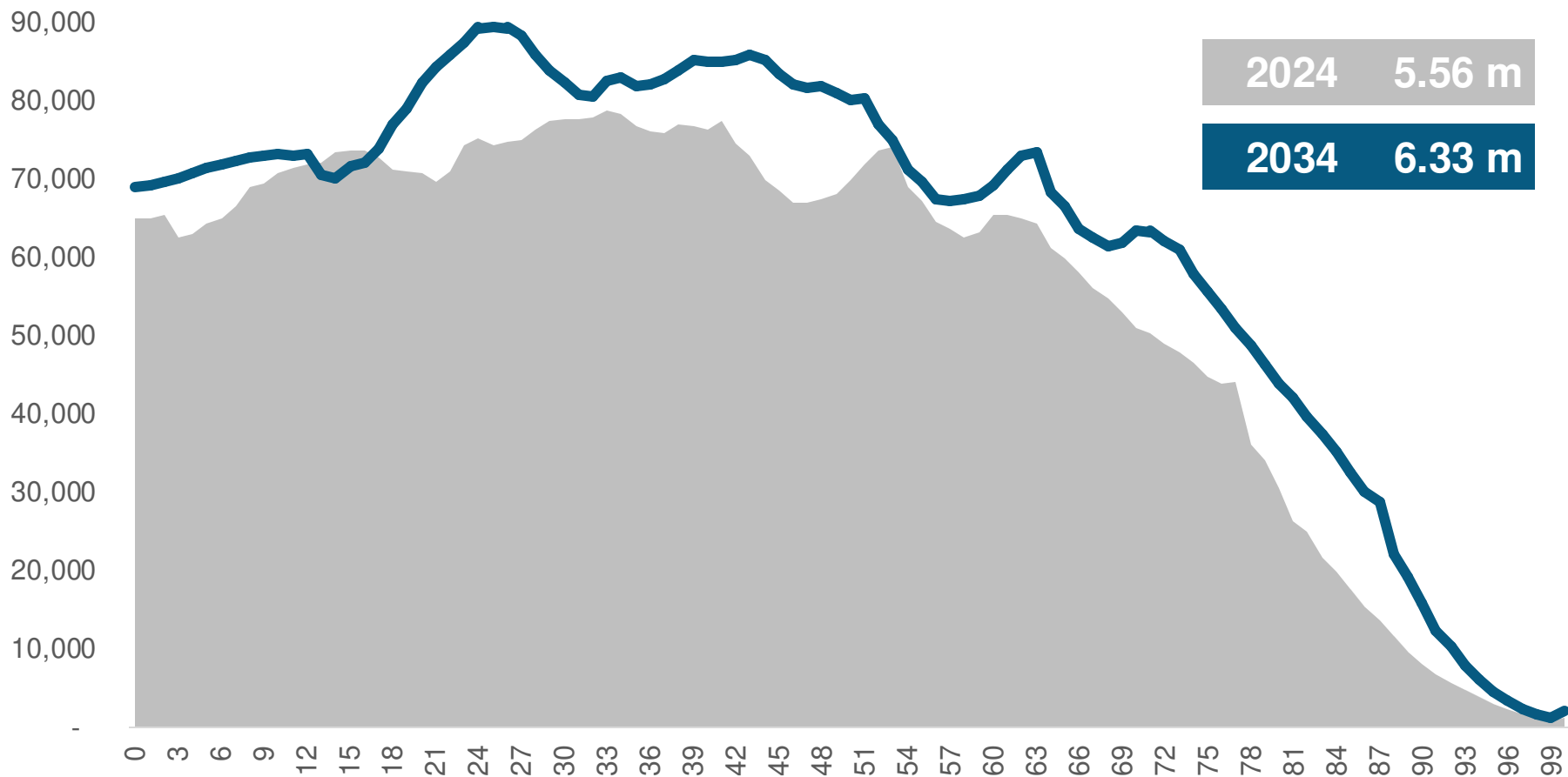
A closer look at demographic data unfortunately shows a different picture. Rising costs of living, changing social trends, fewer available spare bedrooms, generational value shifts, an increased geographical separation of potential foster carers and foster children, and a declining middle-class suggest a drying up of the pool of potential foster carers in Queensland.

In this environment, relying on old ways of recruiting foster carers is unlikely to be successful at the scale needed. Therefore, systemic reform is crucial. This could include professionalising and financing foster care differently or even exploring potential preventative measures.

The following pages show 55 slides explaining the demographic future of Queensland. A written narrative explaining how these pieces of data fit together and how this makes recruiting of faster carers harder in the coming decade is provided separately.

Systemic changes

By 2034 Qld will be bigger, more youthful, and older

| 2024 | 5.56 m |
| 2034 | 6.33 m |

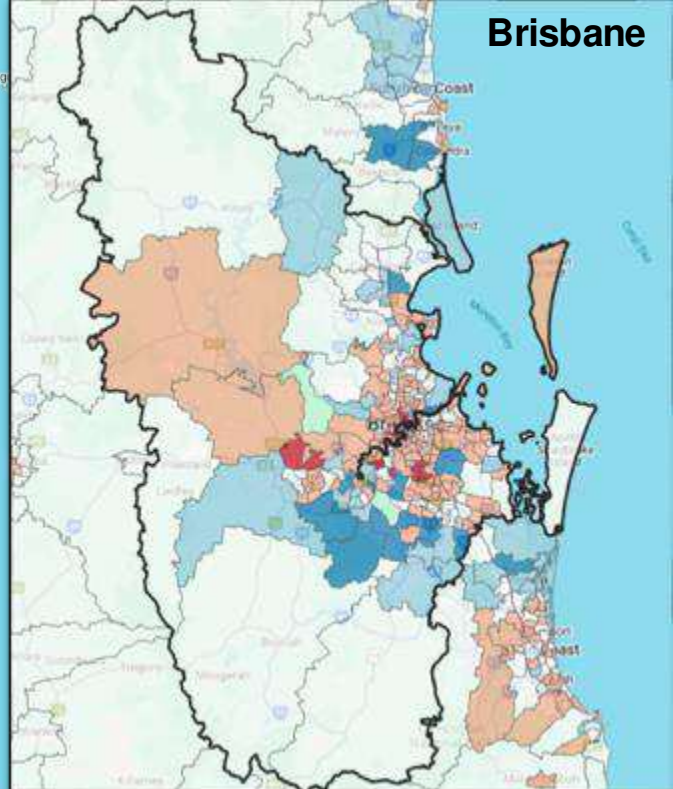Queensland population by age in 2024 and 2034; Centre for Population

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Lots of negative population growth at start of pandemic:

June 2020 to June 2021

Population change June 2020 to June 2021 by SA2; ABS

Queensland

Brisbane

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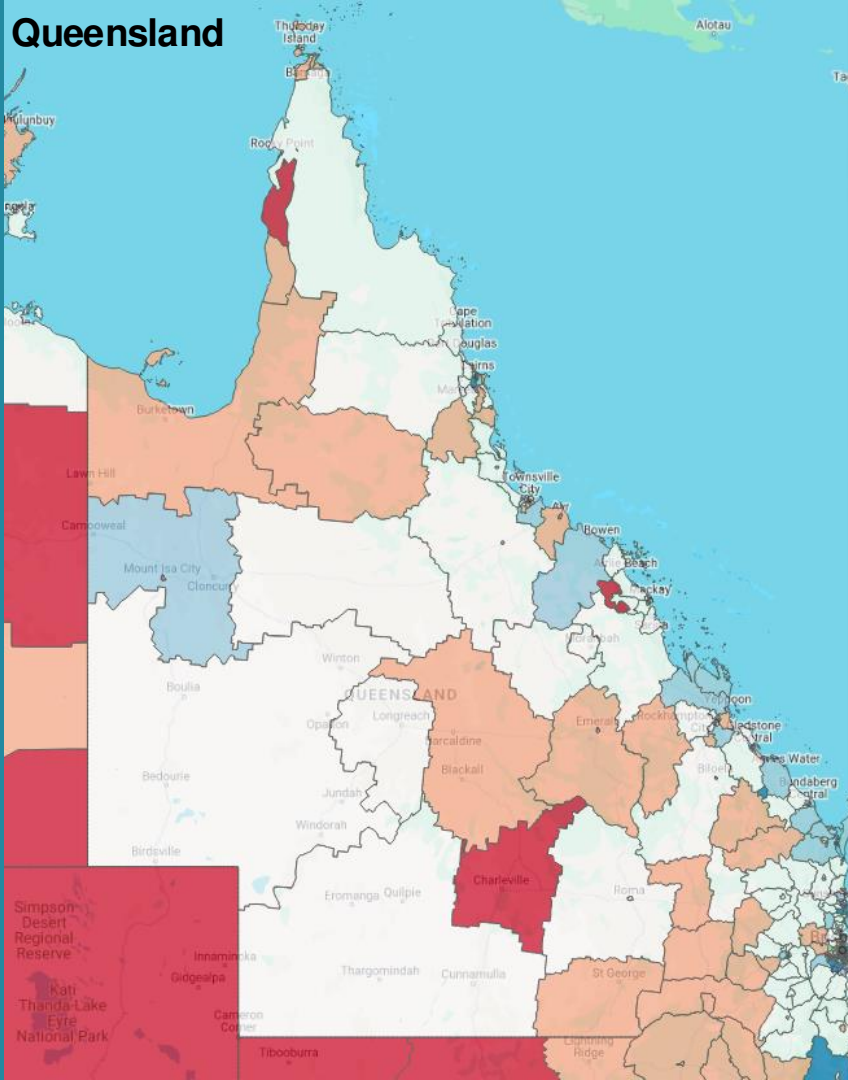
Less than 2%
-2% - 0%
0% - 2%
2% - 7%
More than 7%

Quick recovery of population growth during pandemic:

June 2021 to June 2022

Population change June 2021 to June 2022 by SA2; ABS

Queensland
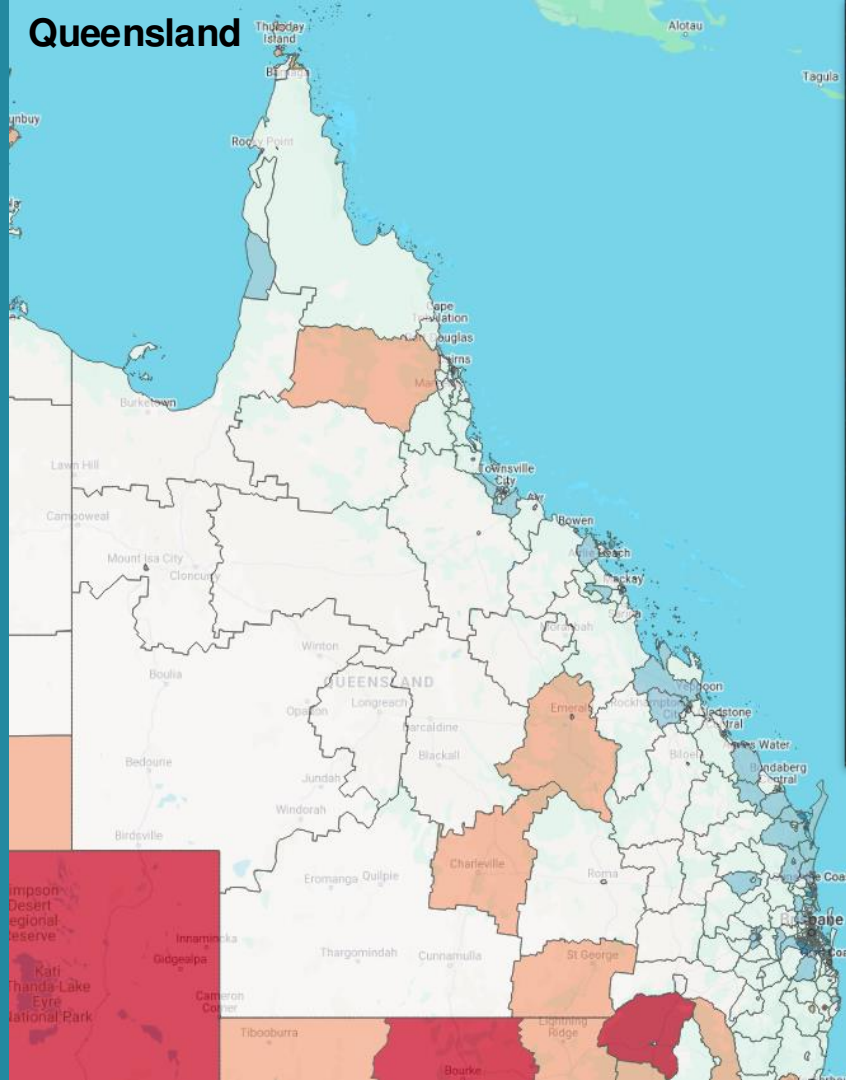
Brisbane

Less than 2%
-2% - 0%
0% - 2%
2% - 7%
More than 7%

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Queensland

Brisbane

Population now booms across the state:

June 2022 to June 2023

Population change June 2021 to June 2022 by SA2; ABS

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Less than 2%

-2% - 0%

0% - 2%

2% - 7%

More than 7%
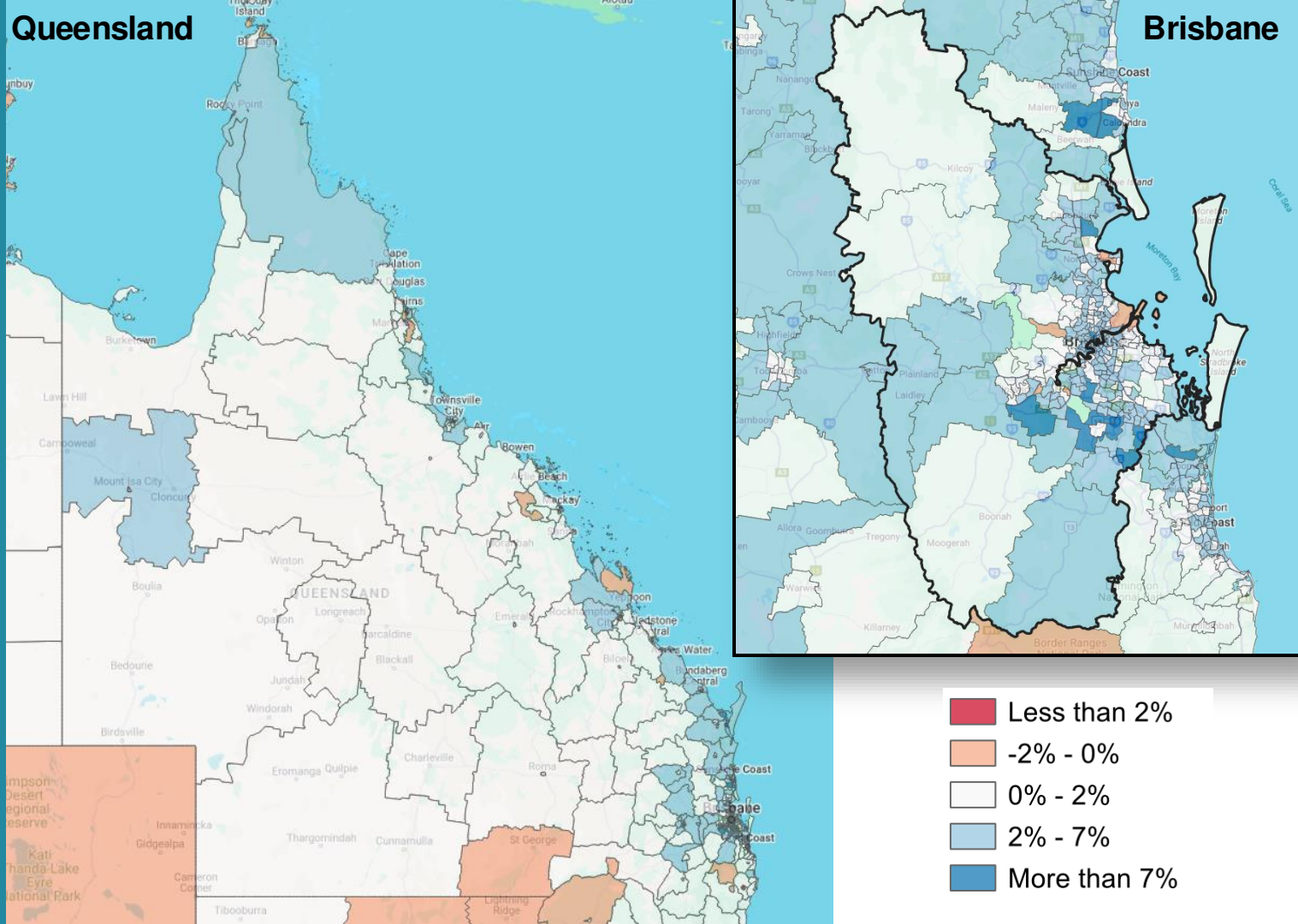
Remoteness regions of Queensland used in this report

Inner Regional Australia
Major Cities of Australia
Outer Regional Australia
Remote Australia
Very Remote Australia

Geography of Queensland as defined by remoteness regions (measured in SA2s)

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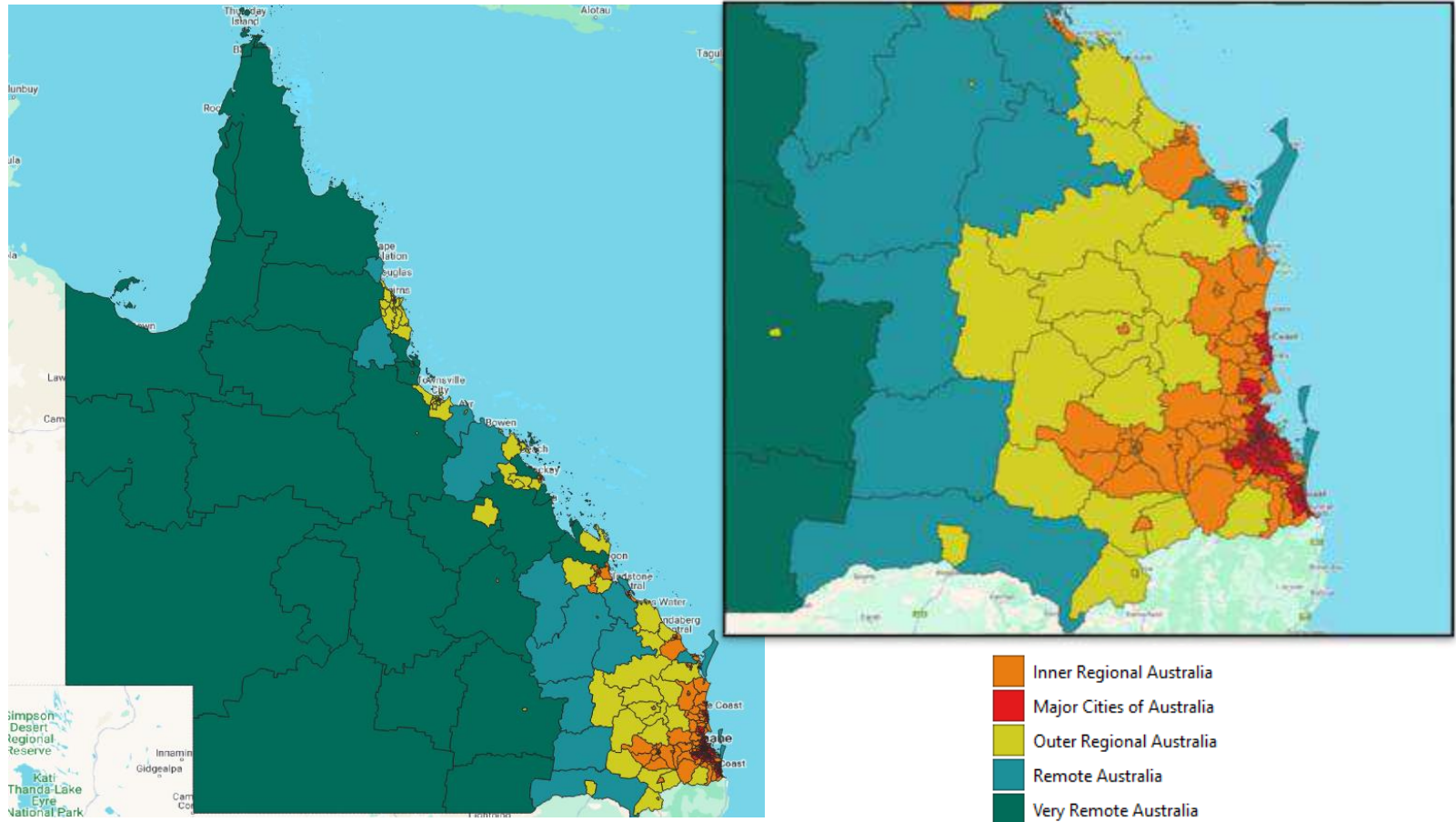
Qld continues to transform into a knowledge economy

Workforce in Queensland by skill level from Nov 1987 to Nov 2023; ABS data
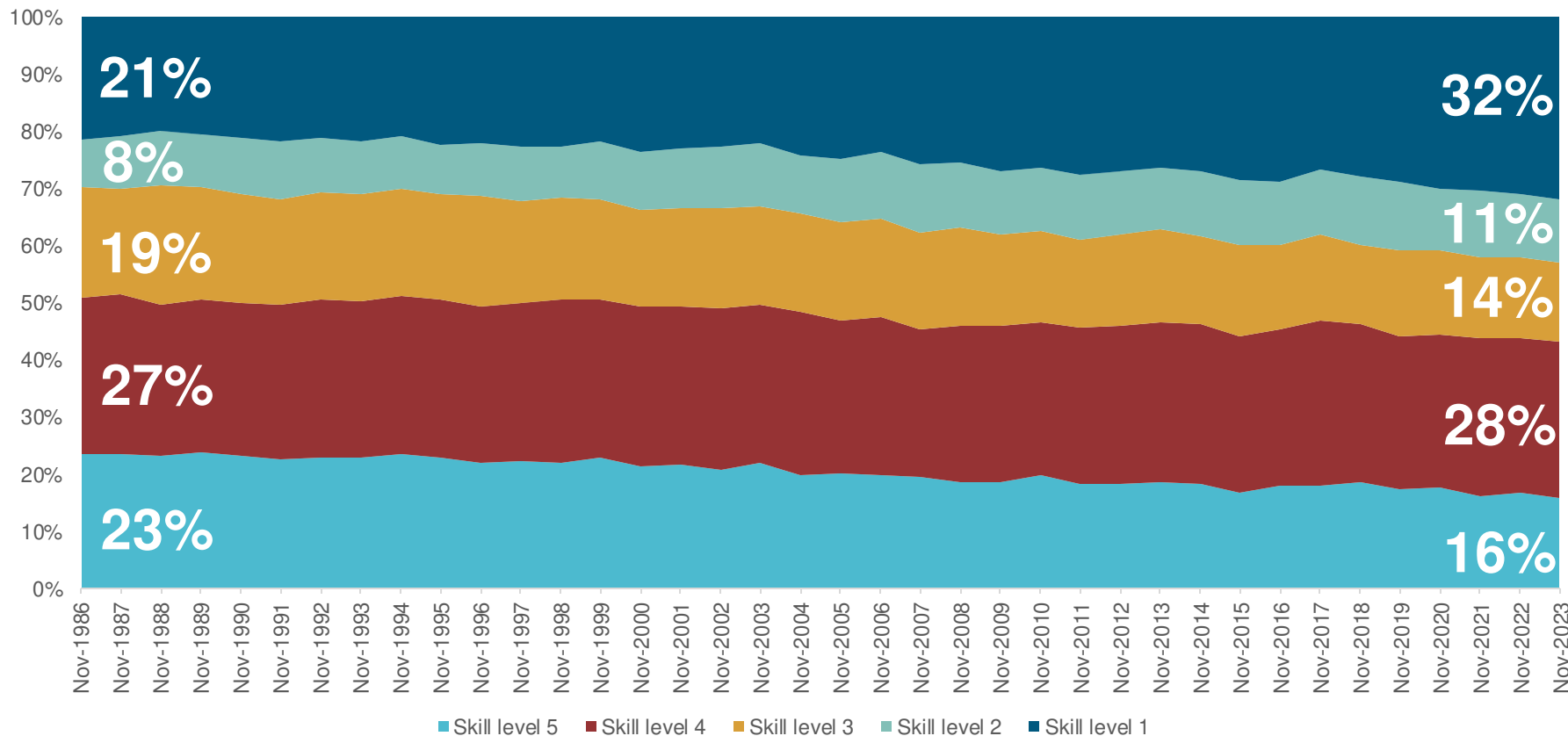
Skill level 3 (TAFE) jobs open the door to the middle-class
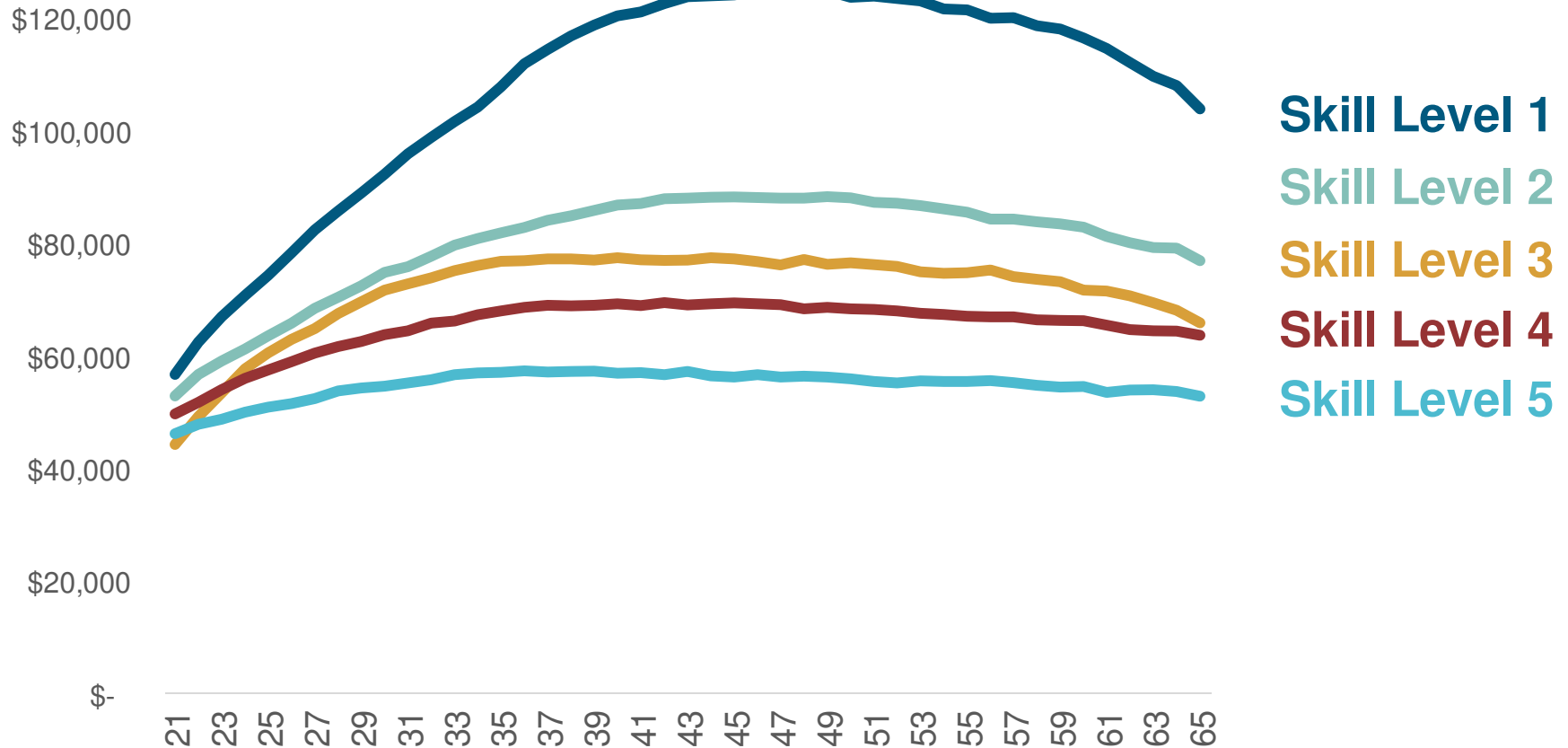
Median income for full-time employed workers in Australia by age and skill level; ABS Census 2021

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New values shape the foster parent age bracket in Qld

α	Z	Y	X	B	P
Gen Alpha	**Gen Z**	**Gen Y**	**Gen X**	**Boomers**	**Pre-Boom**
2018-2035	2000-2017	1982-1999	1964-1981	1946-1963	<1945
2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
7% of Pop	**23% of Pop**	**25% of Pop**	**22% of Pop**	**18% of Pop**	**5% of Pop**
0% of LF	**14% of LF**	**40% of LF**	**34% of LF**	**11% of LF**	**0% of LF**
2034	2034	2034	2034	2034	2034
19% of Pop	**24% of Pop**	**24% of Pop**	**19% of Pop**	**13% of Pop**	**1% of Pop**
2% of LF	**37% of LF**	**38% of LF**	**21% of LF**	**2% of LF**	**0% of LF**
They are only Babies!	**Education & Career**	**Workforce Majority**	**Leadership & Boards**	**Boards & Retirement**	**Retirement & Old Age**
Hyper-Educated Unknown	Politicized, Global Mindset	Work for Purpose, Procrastinators	Forgotten Gen, Work to Live	Hierarchical, Live to Work	WWII, Frugal & Resilient

Queensland's population (Pop) and labour force (LF) by generation (2024 & 2034)
Data sourced from the ABS and the Centre for Population

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Millennials (40s) most relevant growth cohort but hard to attract

Population change by age in Queensland 2014-24 and 2024-34; Centre for Population
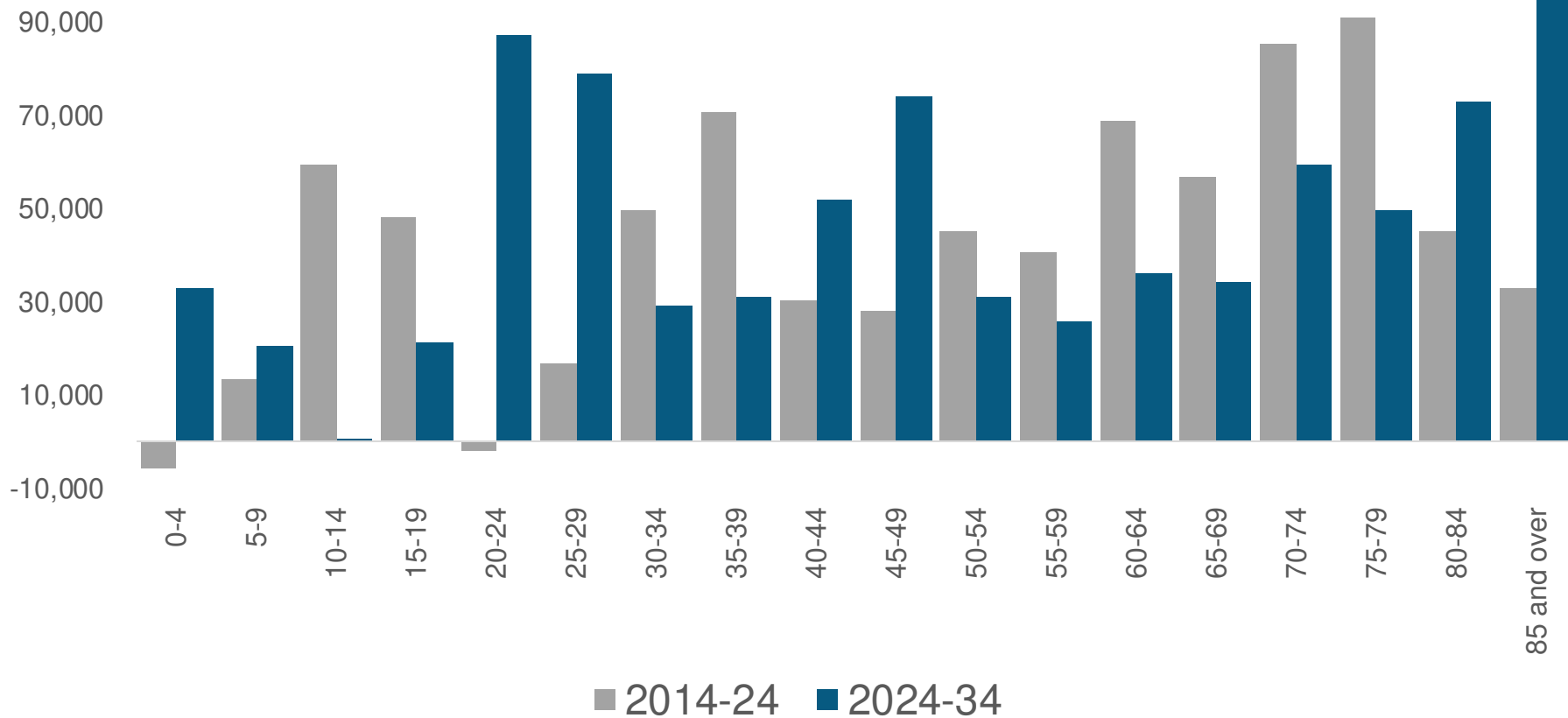
In the last decade Qld became more culturally diverse

Rank	Country of birth	Population 2011	
1	Australia	3,192,114	74%
2	New Zealand	192,028	4.4%
3	England	179,377	4.2%
4	South Africa	35,529	0.8%
5	**India**	**30,281**	**0.7%**
6	Philippines	29,469	0.7%
7	**China**	**27,052**	**0.6%**
8	Scotland	24,026	0.6%
9	Germany	21,059	0.5%
10	Vietnam	16,161	0.4%
	Total Qld	**4,320,769**	

Rank	Country of birth	Population 2021	
1	Australia	3,679,877	72%
2	New Zealand	208,591	4.1%
3	England	191,724	3.7%
4	**India**	**71,845**	**1.4%**
5	**China**	**55,709**	**1.1%**
6	Philippines	51,570	1.0%
7	South Africa	49,677	1.0%
8	Vietnam	24,430	0.5%
9	Scotland	22,826	0.4%
10	Germany	21,020	0.4%
	Total Qld	**5,144,201**	

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Ten most common countries of birth in Queensland in 2011 and 2021; ABS Census 2011 and 2021

More diverse language needs in Qld will be a challenge

Rank	Language spoken at home	Population 2011	
1	English	3,675,958	85%
2	**Mandarin**	**38,116**	**0.9%**
3	Cantonese	22,258	0.5%
4	Vietnamese	21,852	0.5%
5	Italian	21,711	0.5%
6	German	16,352	0.4%
7	Spanish	15,602	0.4%
8	Hindi	13,188	0.3%
9	Japanese	13,086	0.3%
10	Samoan	12,809	0.3%
	Total Qld	**4,320,769**	

Rank	Language spoken at home	Population 2021	
1	English	4,151,206	81%
2	**Mandarin**	**83,607**	**1.6%**
3	Vietnamese	31,370	0.6%
4	Punjabi	30,873	0.6%
5	Spanish	29,642	0.6%
6	Cantonese	27,437	0.5%
7	Korean	21,904	0.4%
8	Hindi	21,344	0.4%
9	Tagalog	20,603	0.4%
10	Italian	17,989	0.3%
	Total Qld	**5,144,201**	

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Ten most common languages spoken at home in Queensland in 2011 and 2021; ABS Census 2011 and 2021

More people experience mortgage stress

Employee households in Australia: Mortgage interest charges, annual movement (in %); ABS Living Cost Indexes

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Qld is less educated than the national average

Share of Qld population by age and indigenous status holding at least a BA+ degree; ABS Census 2011 and 2021
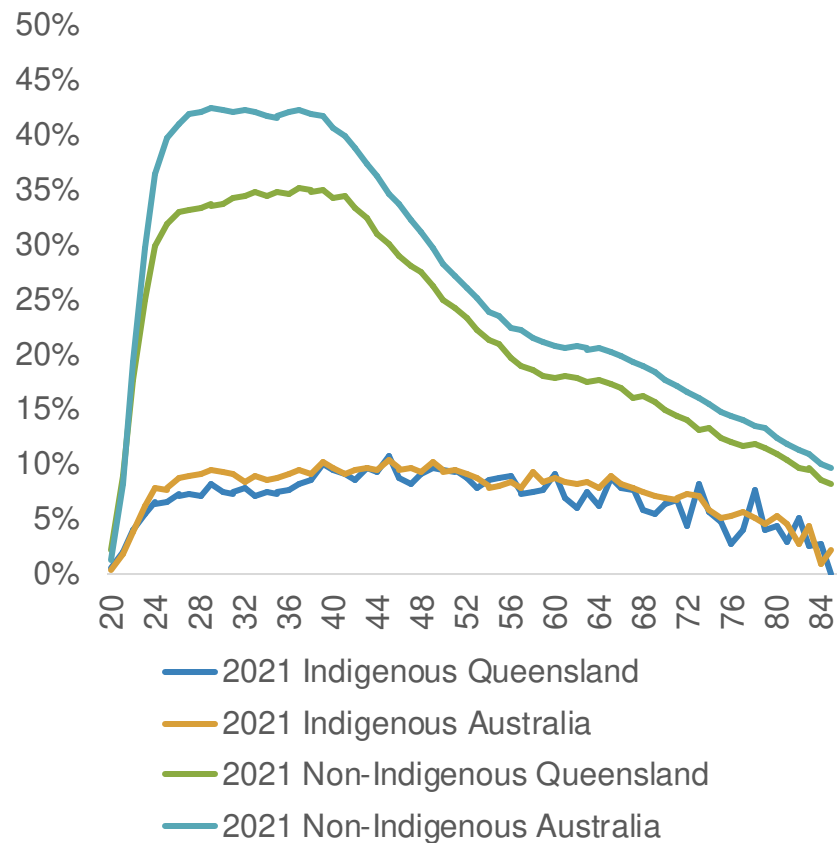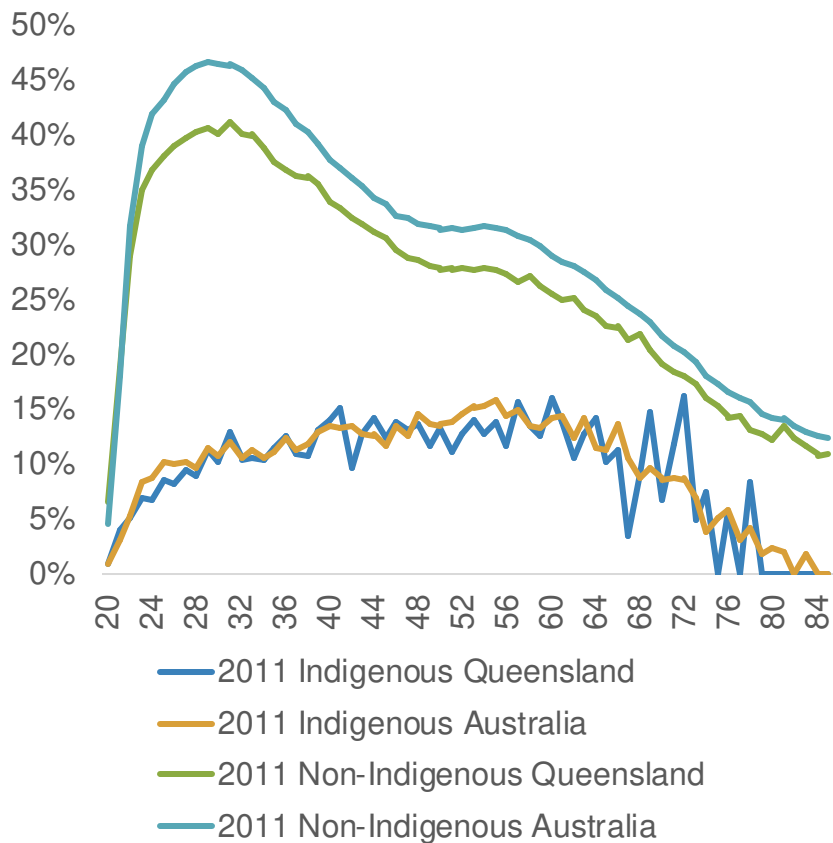
Folks in their 40s lose spare bedrooms to their own kids

Legend:
- **Have a spare bedroom** (dark blue)
- **No bedrooms needed or spare** (gold)
- **Extra bedroom needed** (red)

Categories (x-axis): 20-29 years, 30-39 years, 40-49 years, 50-59 years, 60-69 years, 70-79 years, 80-89 years

Y-axis: - , 500,000 , 1,000,000 , 1,500,000 , 2,000,000 , 2,500,000 , 3,000,000 , 3,500,000

Spare bedrooms in household by age of residents in Australia; Source: ABS Census

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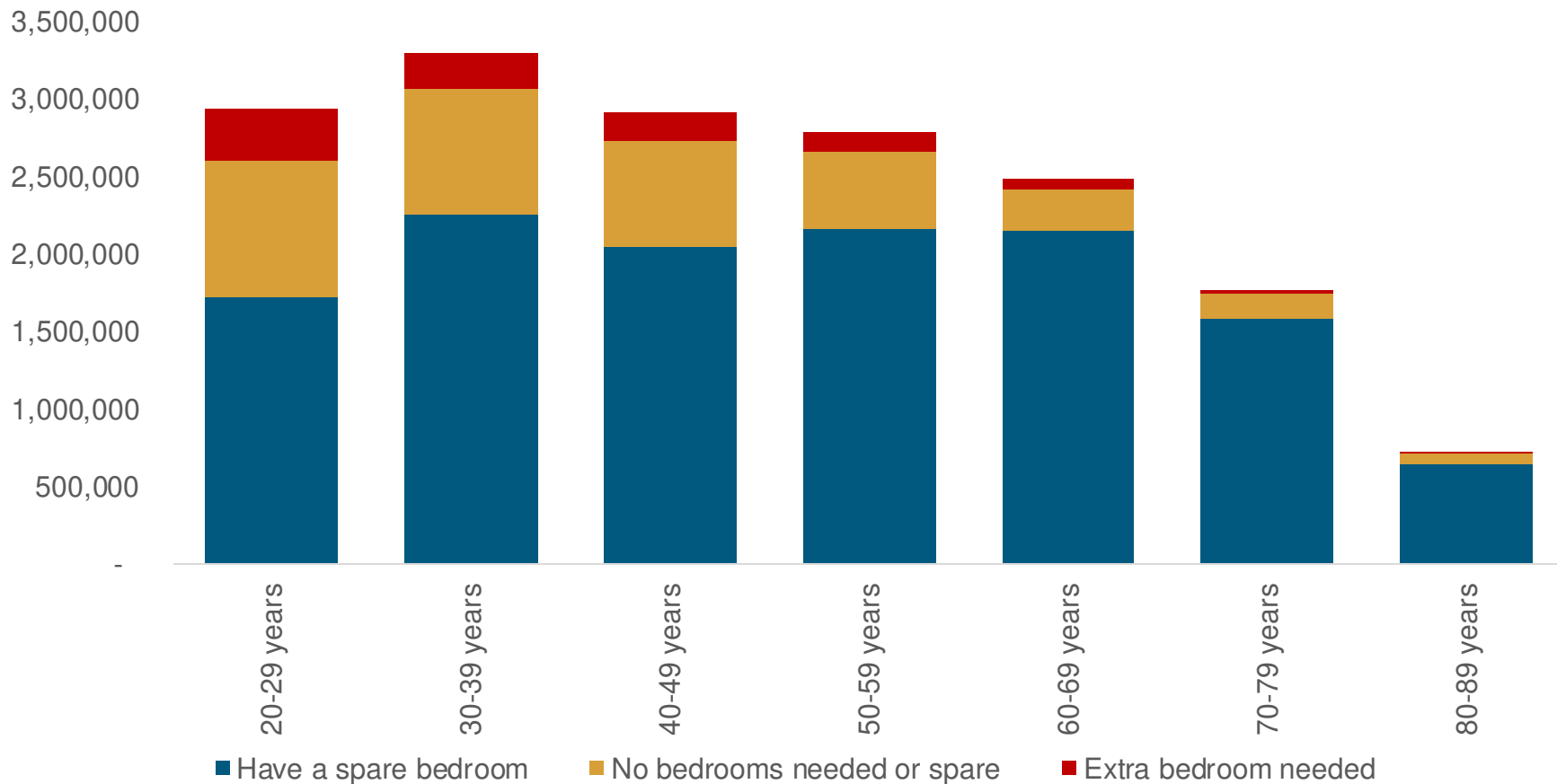
More women working: Not enough time to foster a child

Female labour force participation by age, Source: ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed
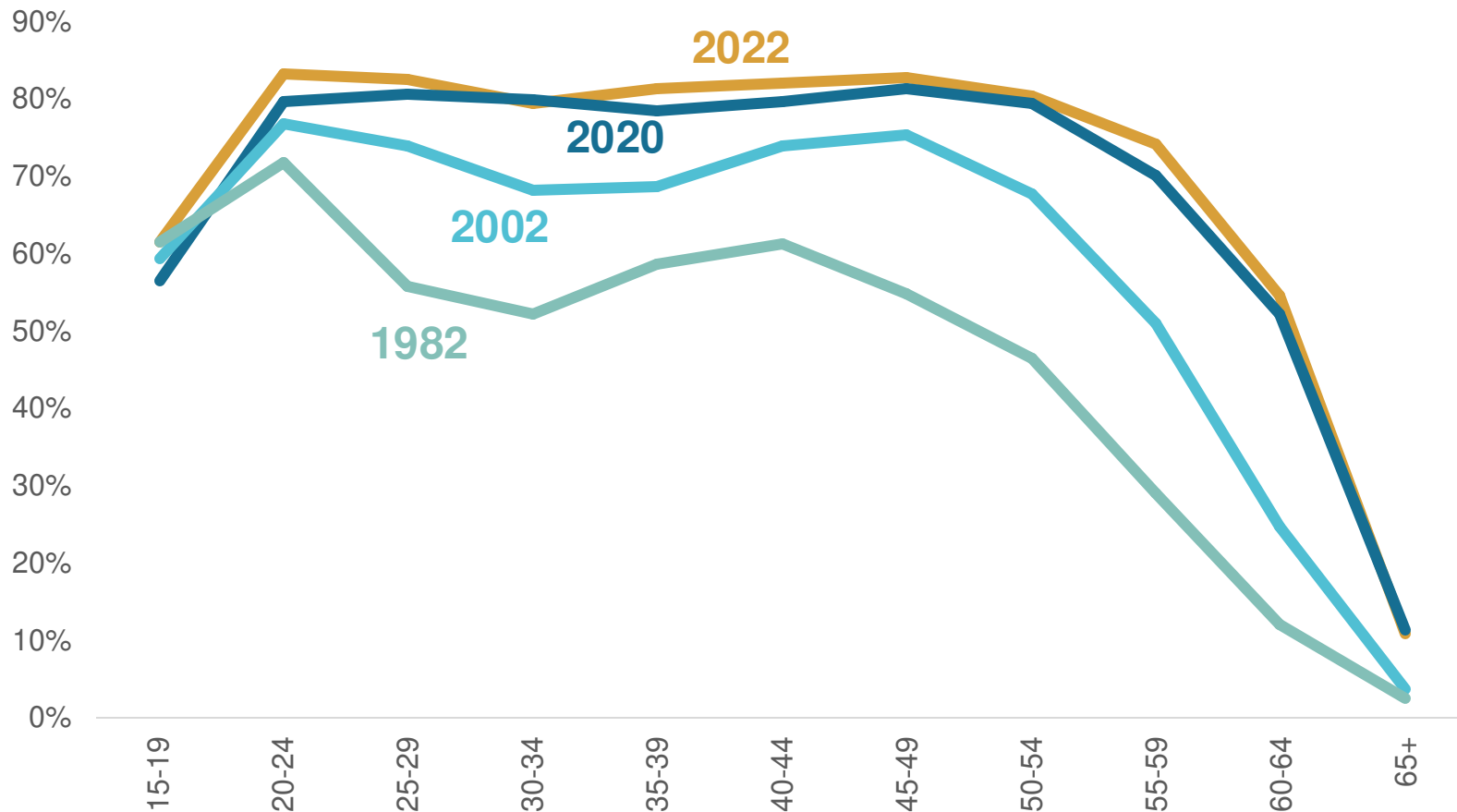
Poor health might limit number of older foster carers

Has one or more chronic health condition(s)   **Does not have a chronic health condition**   **Not stated**

Population with or without chronic health conditions by age in Queensland; ABS Census 2021

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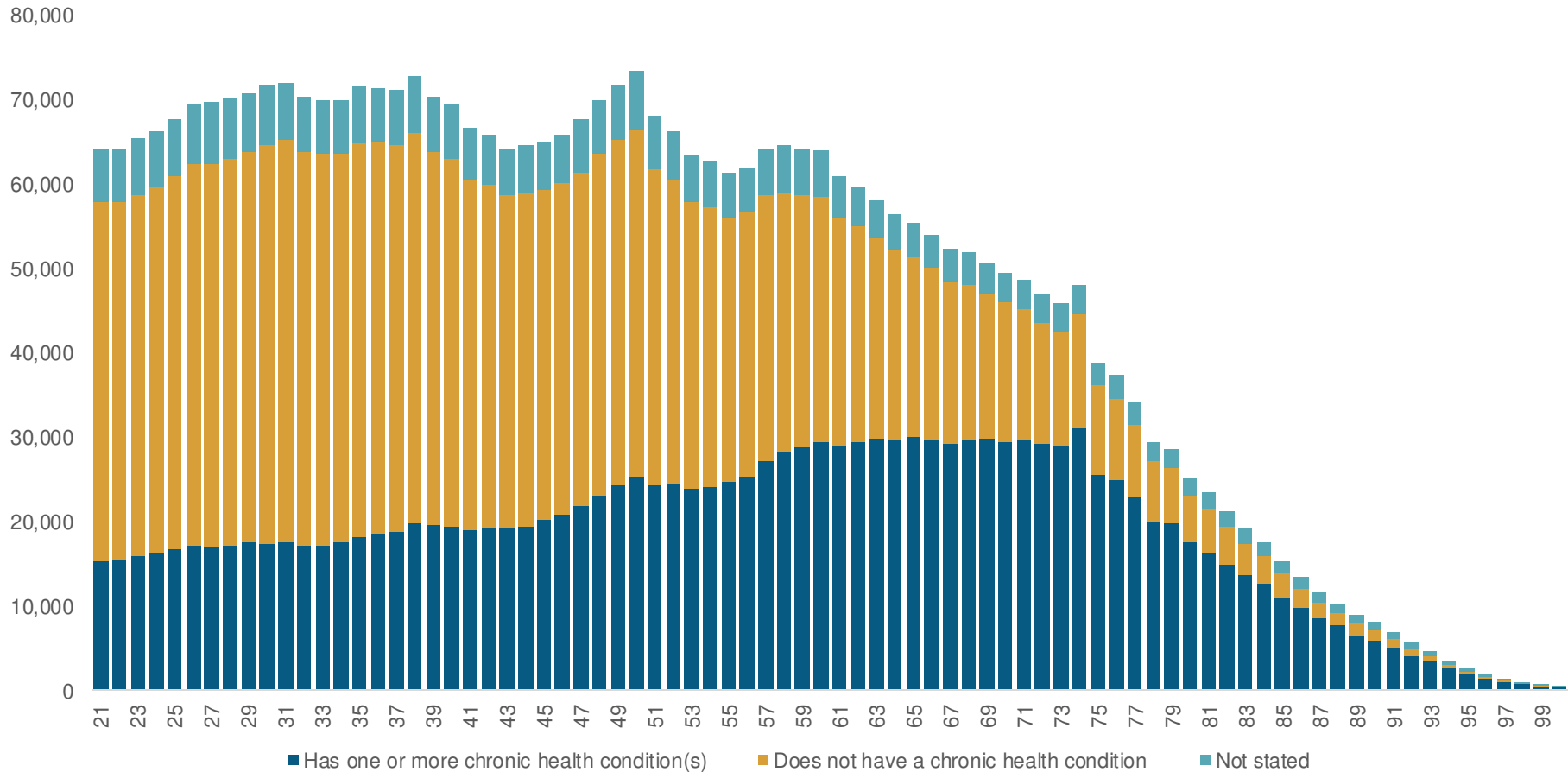
As people age chronic health conditions increase

Proportion of population with or without chronic health conditions by age in Queensland; ABS Census 2021

Legend: ■ Has one or more chronic health condition(s) ■ Does not have a chronic health condition
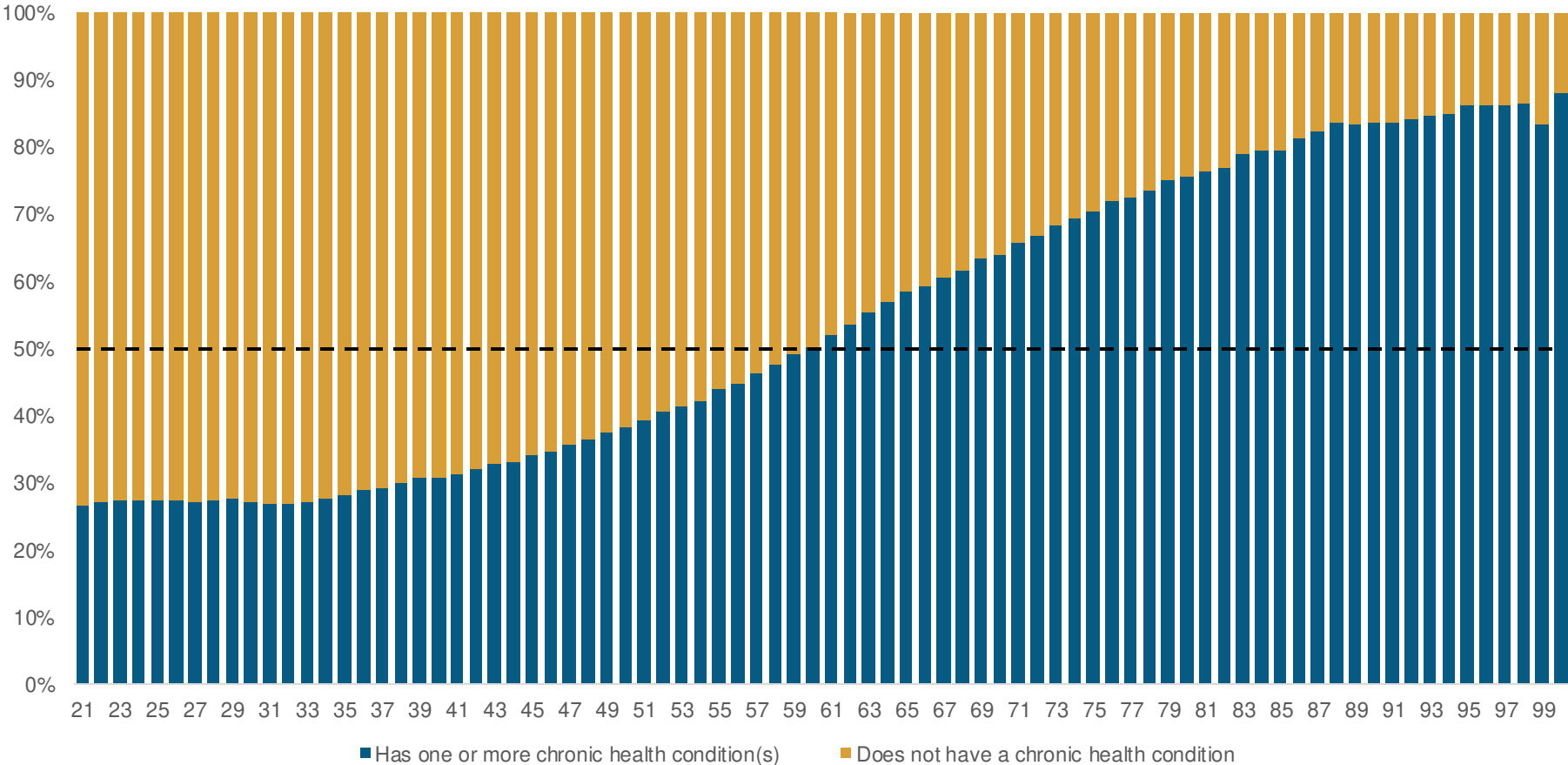
Deaths from smoking mirror lower smoking rates

Legend: 15-49 · 50-69 · 70+

Death rate from smoking per 100,000 population in Australia 1990-2019; IHME, Global Burden of Disease (2019)
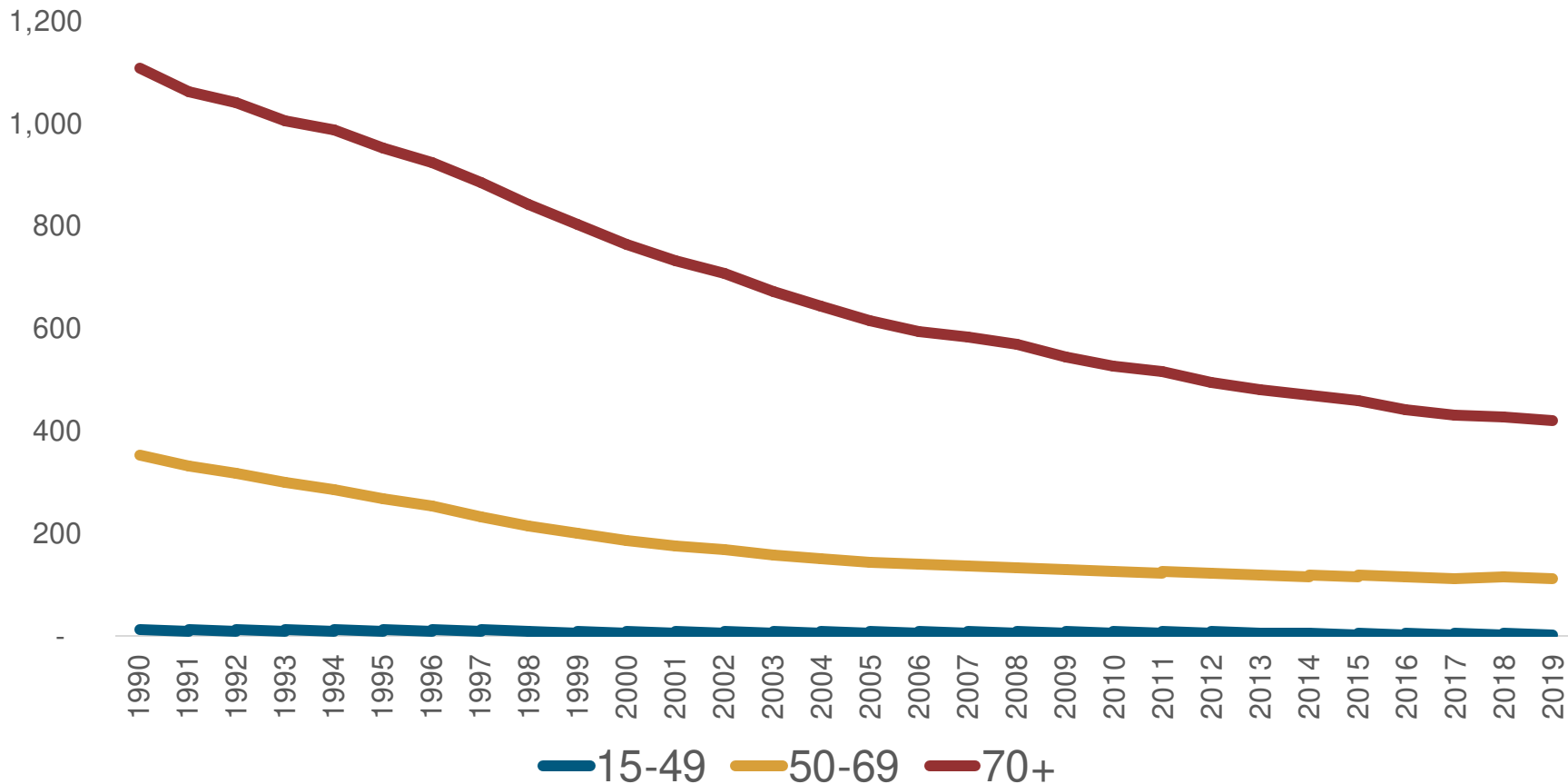
Fertility treatments rise in popularity

Figure 13: Women giving birth through ART as a percentage of all women giving birth, Australia, 2001–20
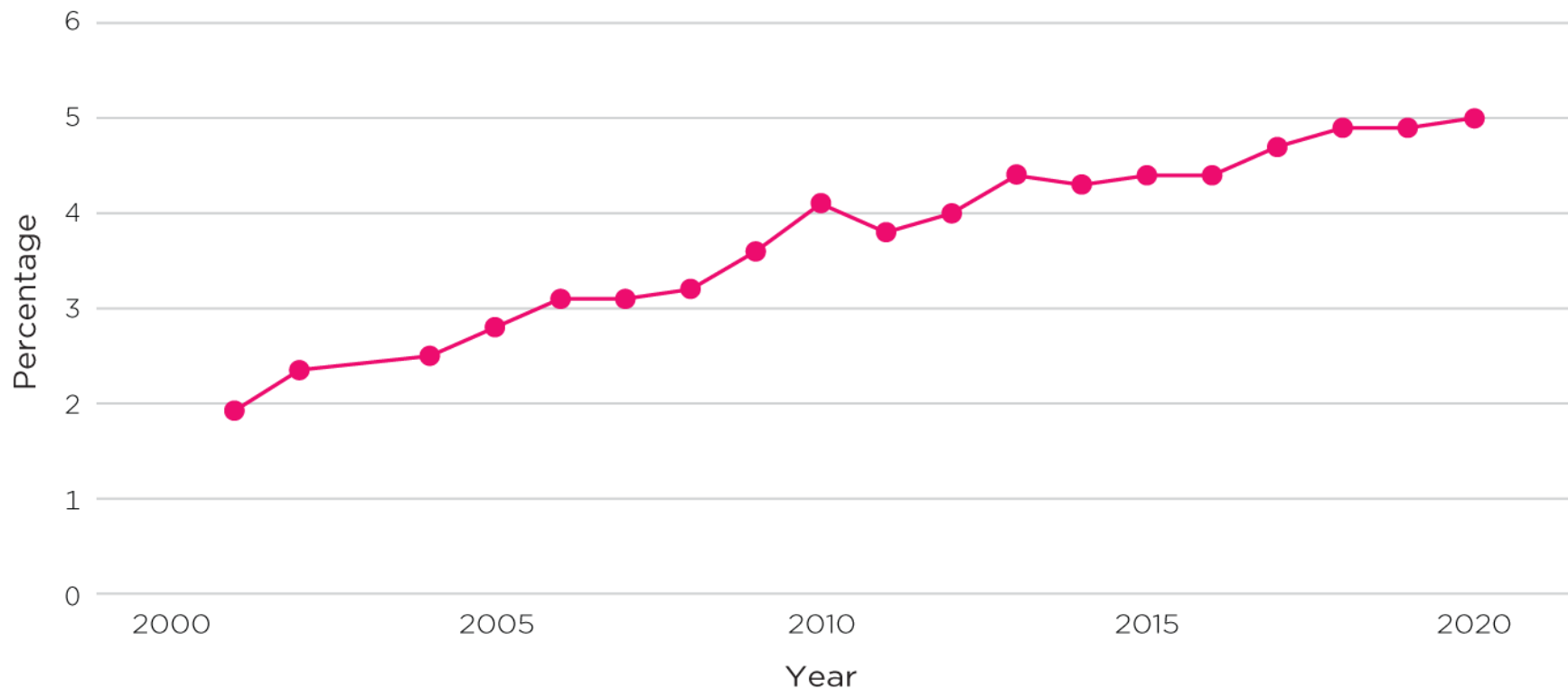
Indigenous Data

Australia became more accepting of minorities

Share of population by age self-identifying as Indigenous in Queensland; ABS Census 2011 & 2021

2011   2021
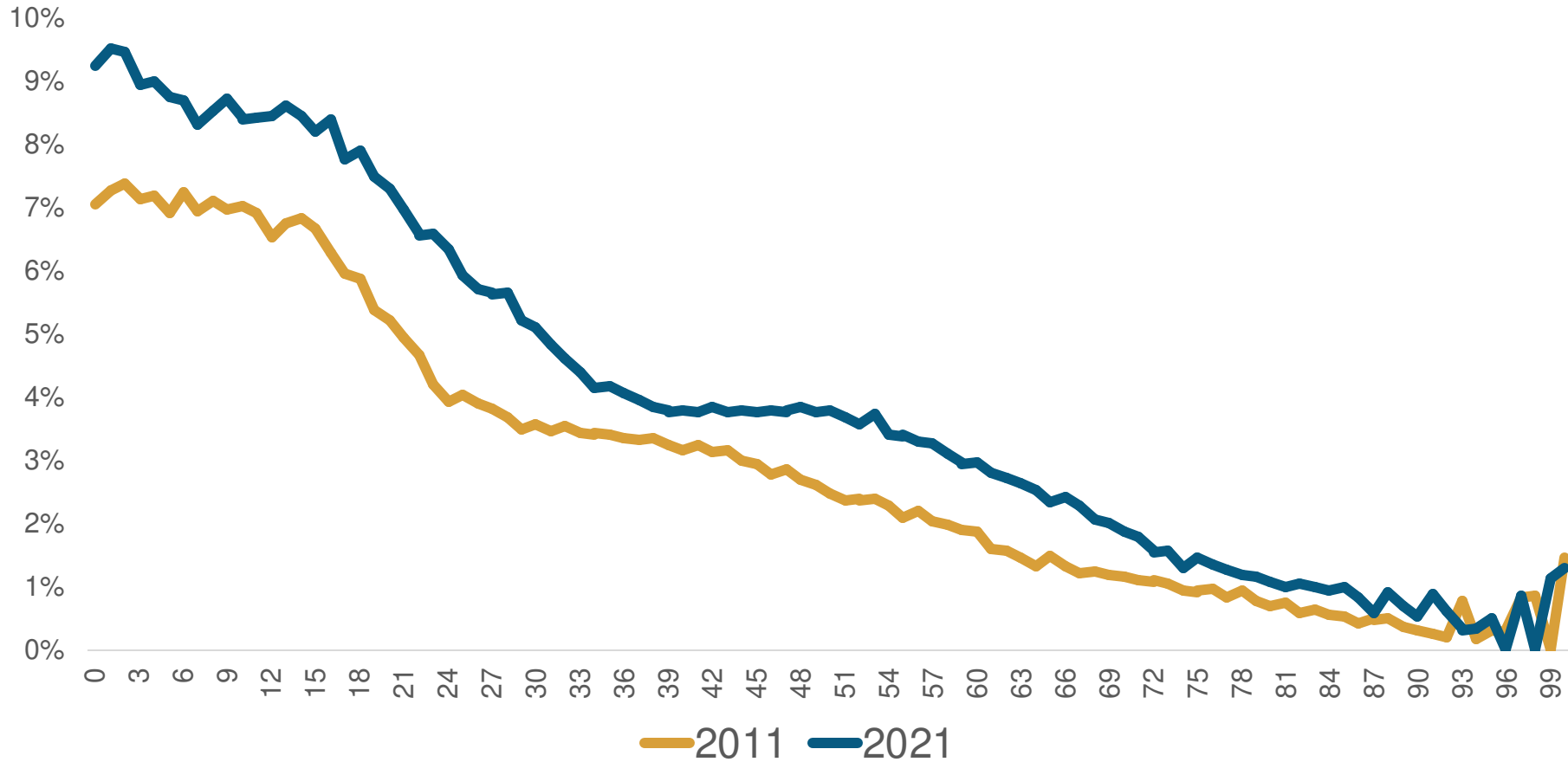
Pay gap: Indigenous people in Qld earn much less

Median income for all employed people by age and indigenous status in Queensland; ABS Census 2021
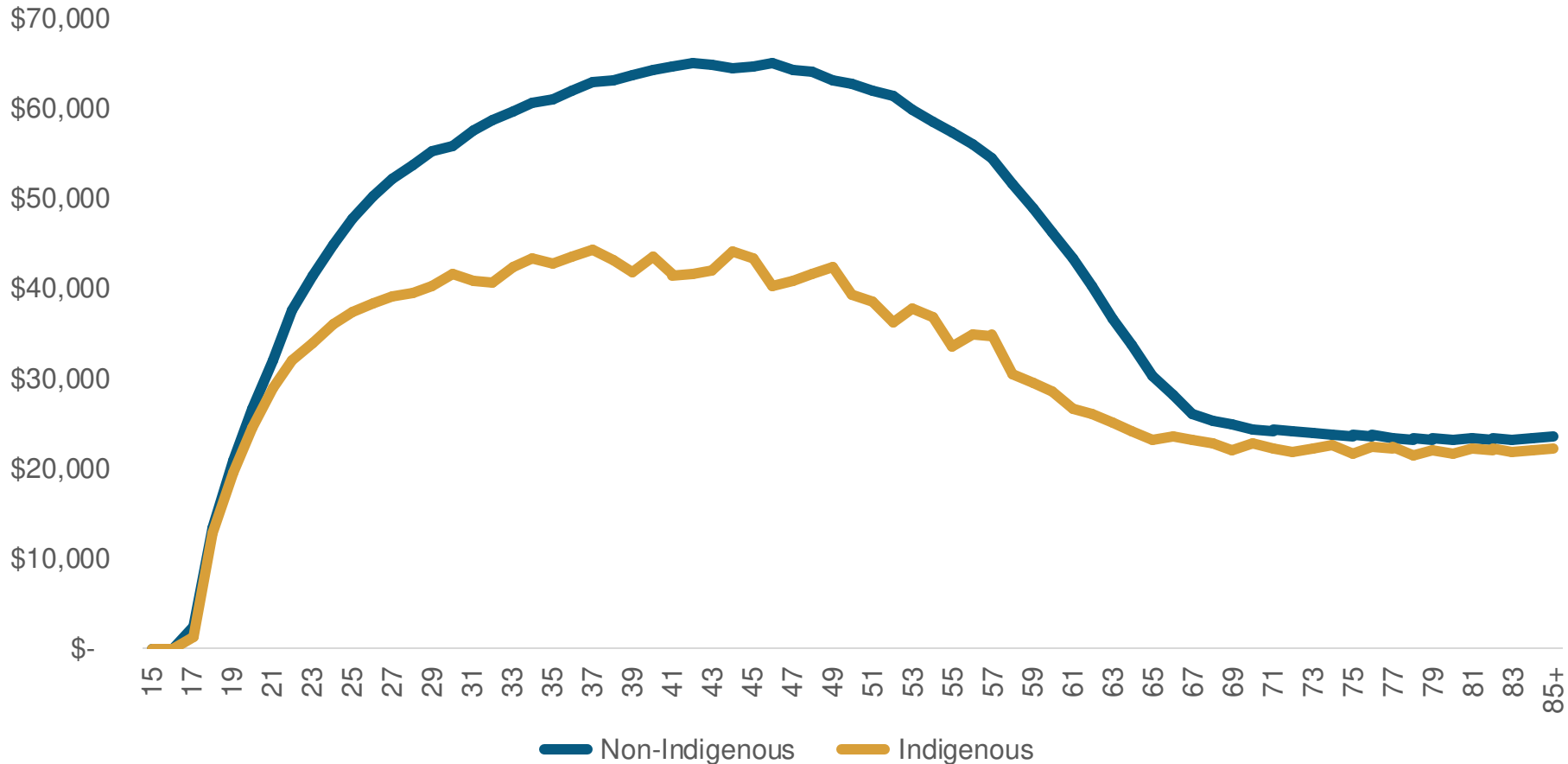
Indigenous population clusters in remote Queensland

Percentage population indigenous
- 0 - 3
- 3 - 10
- 10 - 30
- 30 - 50
- 50 - 100

Brisbane
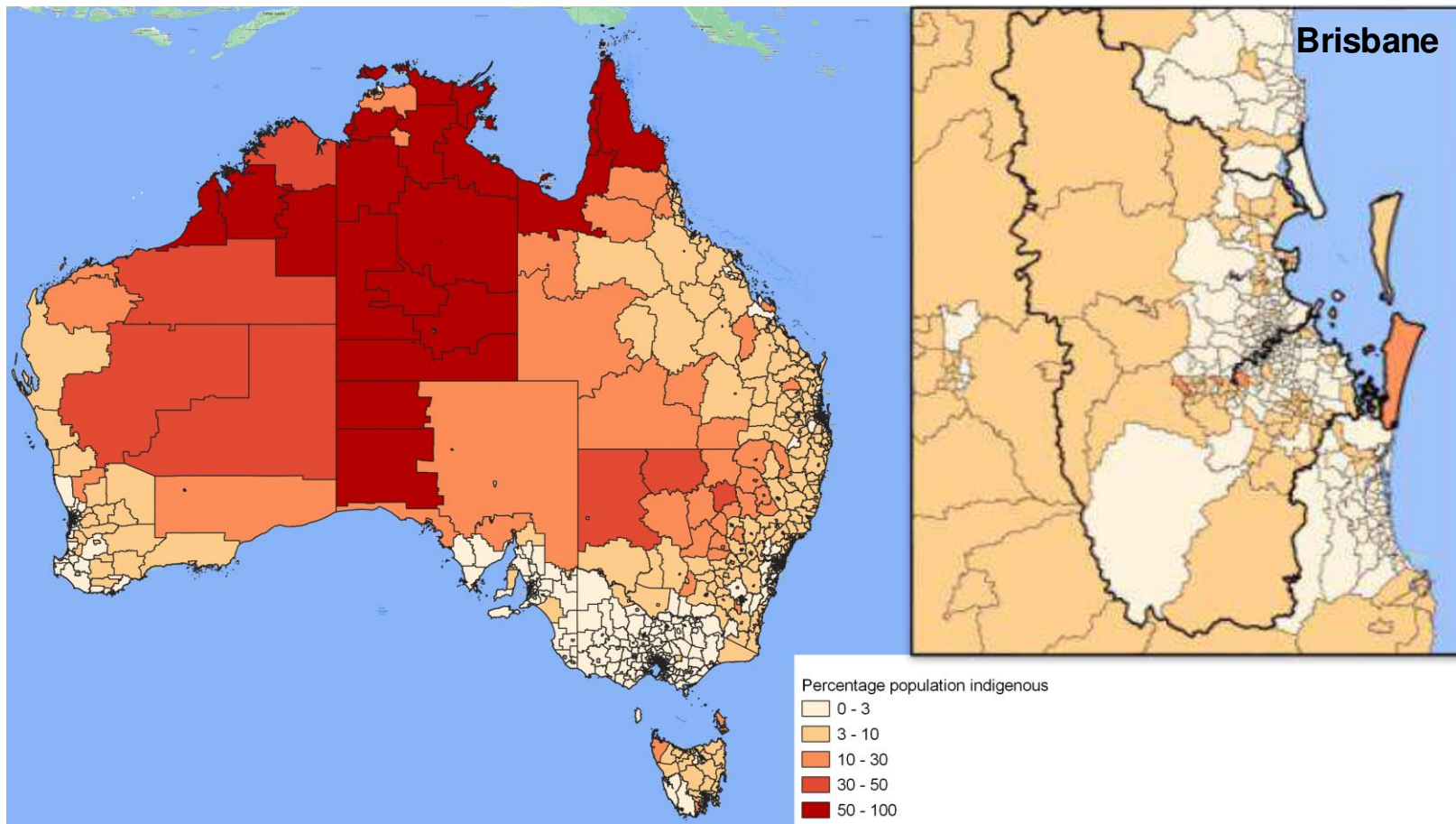
Share of the population by SA2 that self-identifies as Indigenous; ABS Census 2021

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Remote areas house (relatively) more Indigenous people

Legend: Major Cities, Inner Regional, Outer Regional, Remote, Very Remote

Share of population by age self-identifying as Indigenous in Queensland by remoteness area; ABS Census 2021

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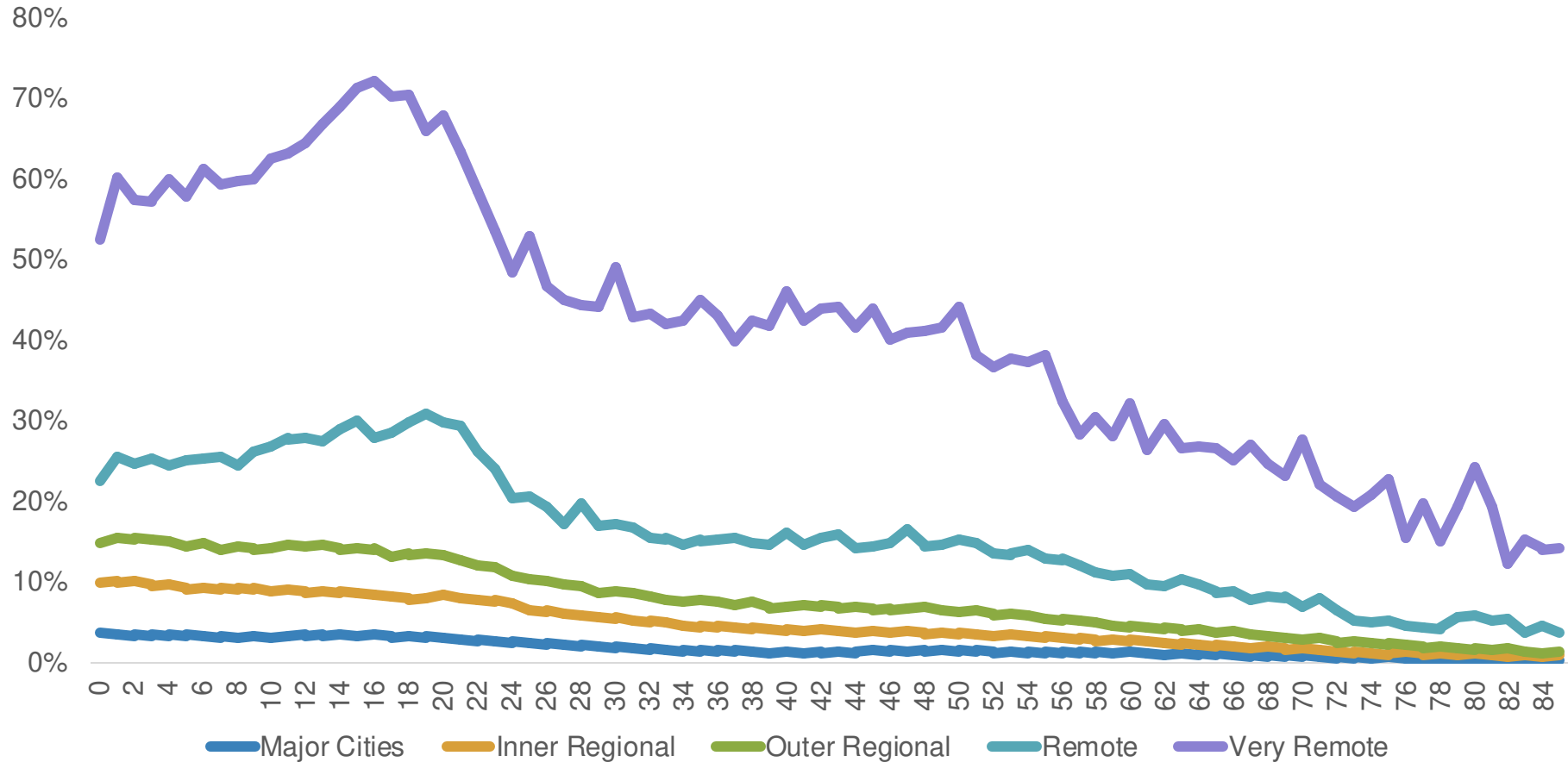
Urban non-indigenous and remote indigenous clusters

State	Major Cities	Inner Regional	Outer Regional	Remote	Very Remote
New South Wales	2% 98%	7% 93%	10% 90%	19% 81%	37% 63%
Victoria	1% 99%	2% 98%	3% 97%	1% 99%	0% 100%
Queensland	3% 97%	6% 94%	9% 91%	19% 81%	42% 58%
Western Australia	2% 98%	3% 97%	6% 94%	13% 87%	35% 65%
South Australia	2% 98%	2% 98%	5% 95%	4% 96%	31% 69%
Tasmania	0% 100%	4% 96%	6% 94%	6% 94%	5% 95%
Australian Capital Territory	2% 98%	0% 100%	0% 100%	0% 100%	0% 100%
Northern Territory	0% 100%	0% 100%	11% 89%	34% 66%	78% 22%
Total	2% 98%	5% 95%	8% 92%	17% 83%	46% 54%

Note: all of ACT is classified as a Major City

Very remote indigenous workers record lowest income

Indigenous
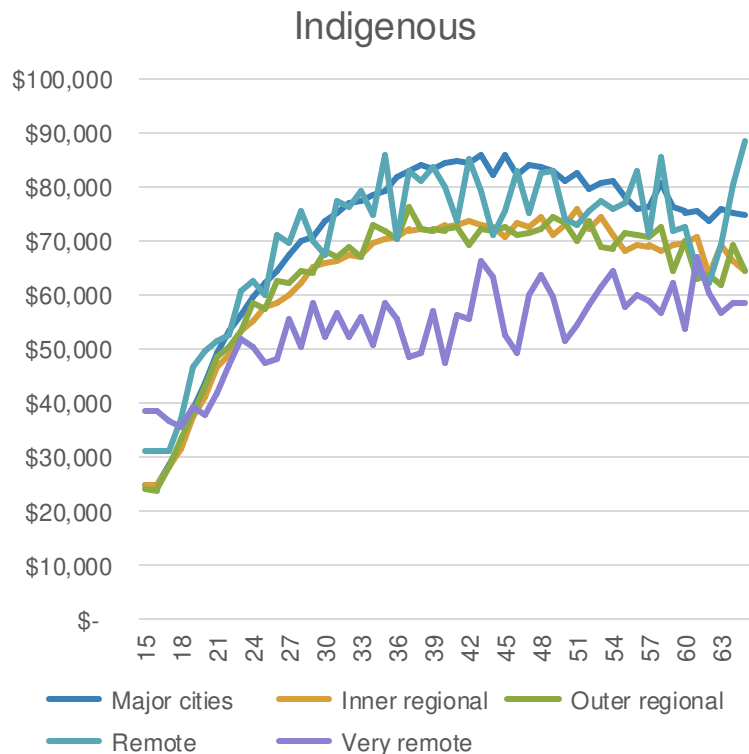
Non-Indigenous

Regional income gap (Major cities vs Very remote) for the Indigenous workforce is **34 per cent**.
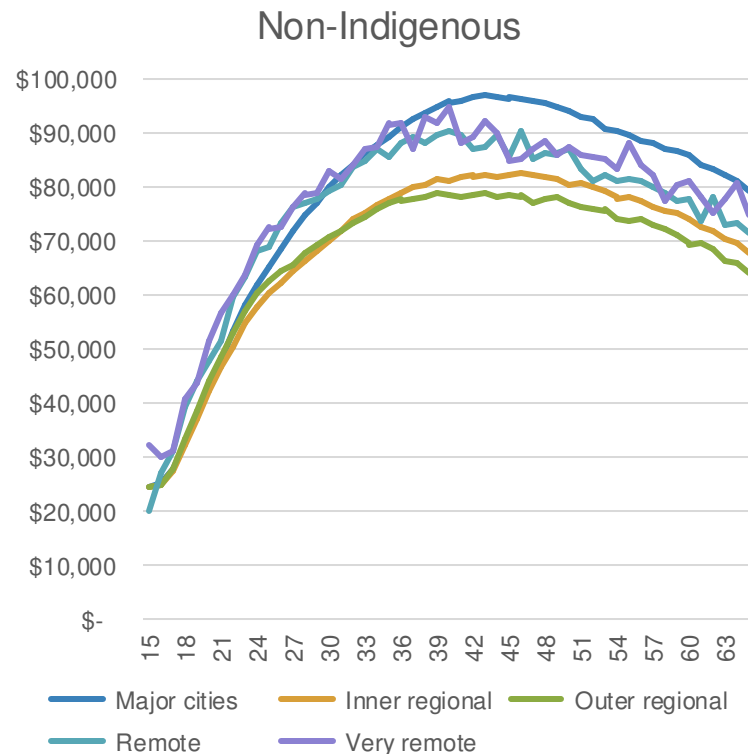
Regional income gap (Major cities vs Very remote) for the Non-indigenous workforce is **only 4 per cent**.

Median income by age, remoteness region and indigenous status; ABS Census 2021

Dramatic indigenous education gap drives income gap

Indigenous population

Non-indigenous population

Population with a BA+ degree by remoteness region, age, and indigenous status; ABS Census 2021

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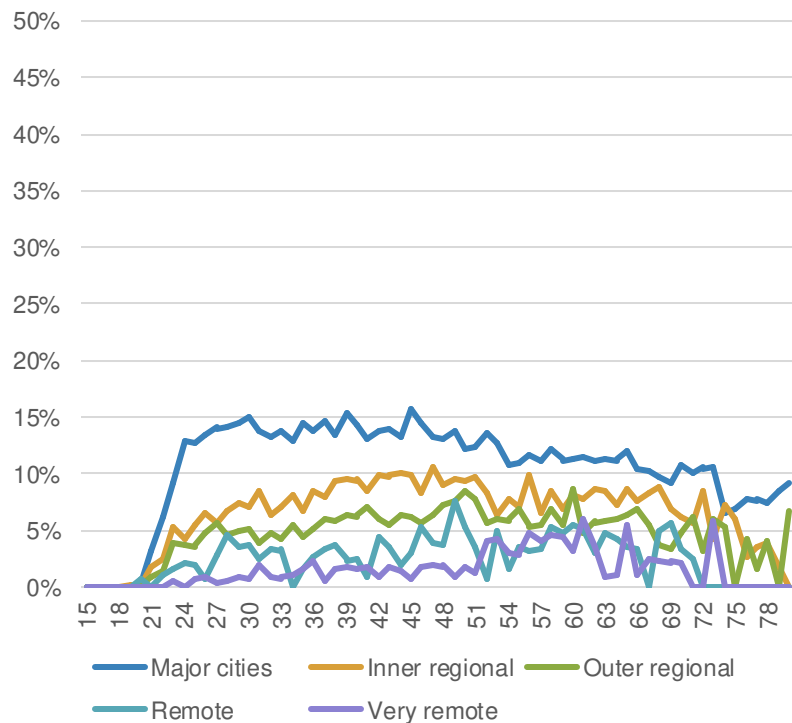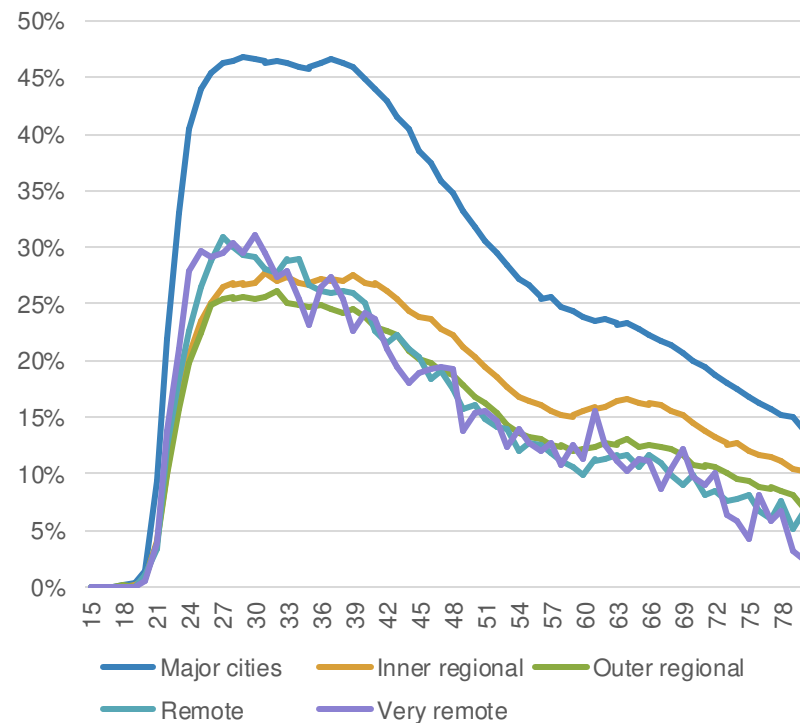
Australia added more welfare support workers
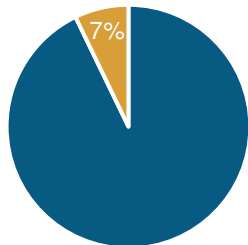
Australia recorded **50,206 welfare support workers** in 2011 of whom 7 per cent were indigenous.
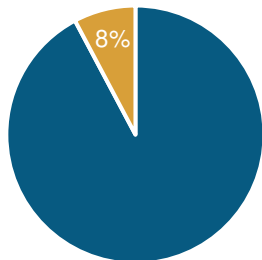
By 2021 Australia recorded **71,316 welfare support workers** of who 8 per cent were indigenous. This means the nation grew this occupation by 42 per cent in just a decade and managed to add indigenous workers at a faster rate.

7%

8%

Welfare support officers in Australia by indigenous status in 2011 and 2021; ABS Census 2011 & 2021

Indigenous children in foster care are overrepresented 4.5x

State	Indigenous children aged 0-17; as share of all children		Indigenous foster children aged 0-17; as share of all foster children	
Northern Territory	20,533	38%	355	89%
Tasmania	11,330	11%	149	27%
Queensland	95,054	9%	2,078	44%
New South Wales	109,711	7%	2,559	41%
Western Australia	33,797	6%	1,102	51%
South Australia	16,352	5%	553	31%
Australian Capital Territory	3,182	3%	59	26%
Victoria	24,619	2%	595	24%
Australia	**314,607**	**6%**	**7,450**	**40%**

The Census records some 18,500 children that are listed as "Foster Child". This is a significant undercount but still an interesting benchmark.
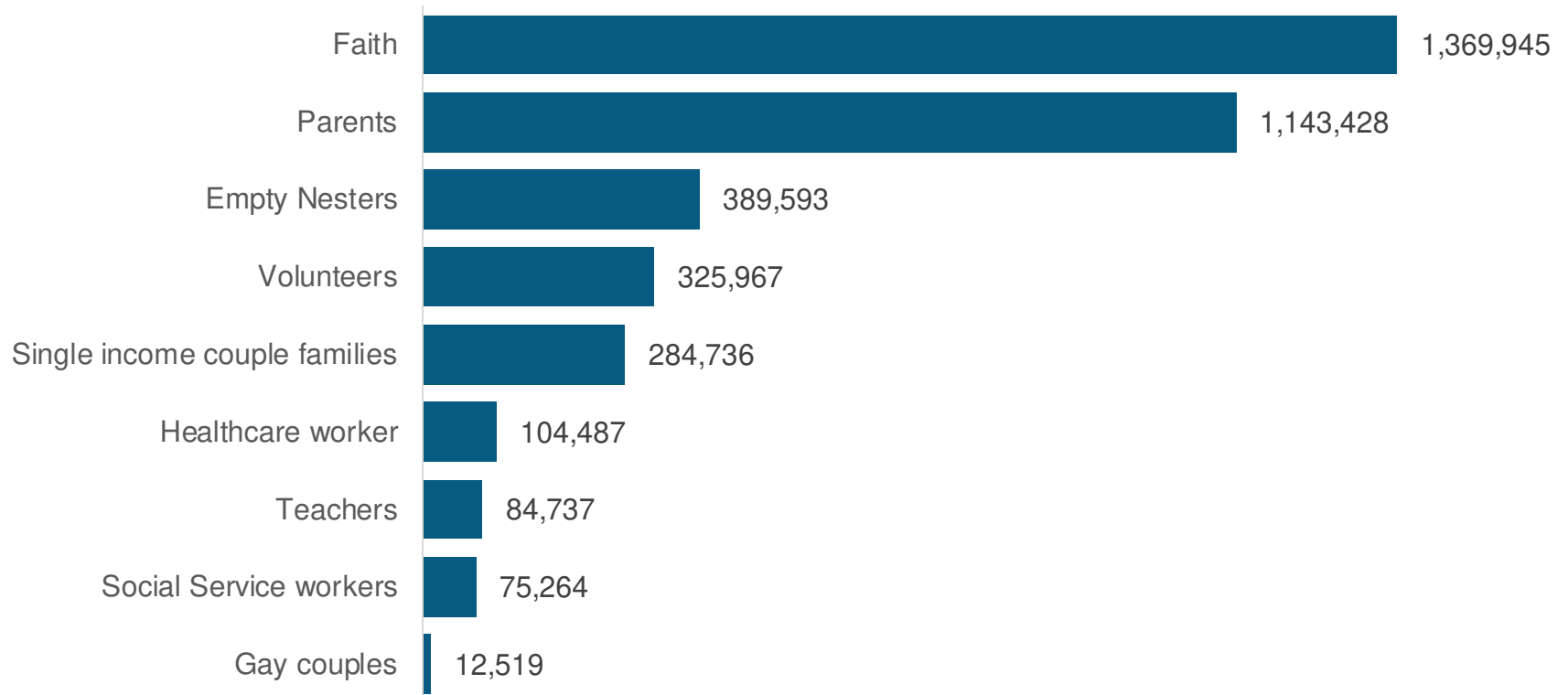
Indigenous children (ages 0-17) as share of total pop and as share of foster children by state; ABS Census 2021

Overview: Personas

Personas cluster in different broad geographies

Remoteness region	Population	Healthcare workers	Social service workers	Teachers	Single income couple families
Major Cities	67%	73%	67%	69%	72%
Inner Regional	18%	14%	19%	17%	16%
Outer Regional	13%	11%	13%	13%	11%
Remote	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Very Remote	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Total	**5,140,805**	**104,487**	**75,264**	**84,737**	**284,736**

Remoteness region	Gay couples	Empty Nesters	Parents	Faith	Volunteers
Major Cities	78%	60%	71%	66%	66%
Inner Regional	11%	25%	16%	19%	18%
Outer Regional	10%	14%	12%	13%	14%
Remote	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Very Remote	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Total	**12,519**	**389,593**	**1,143,428**	**1,369,945**	**325,967**

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Population distribution for the 9 personas in Queensland based on remoteness region; ABS Census 2021

The 9 personas differ in size significantly

Persona	Population
Faith	1,369,945
Parents	1,143,428
Empty Nesters	389,593
Volunteers	325,967
Single income couple families	284,736
Healthcare worker	104,487
Teachers	84,737
Social Service workers	75,264
Gay couples	12,519

The 9 personas by population size in Queensland; ABS Census 2021

Jobs continue to increase but are driven by particular industries

Nov 2013 - Nov 2023

Jobs grown:	+601,000
Jobs contracted:	-23,000
Net jobs added:	578,000

Industries (left to right): Healthcare & Social Assistance, Prof./Scientific/Tech., Education & Training, Construction, Accom. & Food, Public Admin & Safety, Transport/Postal/Warehouse, Financial & Insurance, Retail Trade, Agriculture/Forestry & Fishing, Admin & Support, Other Services, Arts & Recreation, Info Media & Telecoms, Electricity/Gas/Water & Waste, Wholesale Trade, Rental/Hiring & Real Estate, Mining, Manufacturing

Queensland is home to 2.8m jobs

Jobs ('000) added/lost by industry in Queensland between 2013 and 2023 ; ABS Labour Force Detailed

Healthcare workers

1. Healthcare workers

Distance from CBD	Healthcare workers		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	76,578	77%	1,204,547	70%
Inner Regional	14,615	15%	268,986	16%
Outer Regional	11,995	7%	219,308	13%
Remote	692	1%	16,819	1%
Very Remote	607	1%	14,175	1%
Total	**104,487**	**100%**	**1,723,835**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Newstead - Bowen Hills	933
2.	Coorparoo	734
3.	The Hills District	725
4.	Springfield Lakes	694
5.	Kedron - Gordon Park	638
6.	Burdell - Mount Low	595
7.	Murrumba Downs - Griffin	590
8.	Southport - North	586
9.	South Brisbane	575
10.	Annerley	567

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Douglas	17%
2.	Wurtulla - Birtinya	14%
3.	The Range - Allenstown	13%
4.	Whitfield - Edge Hill	13%
5.	Freshwater - Stratford	13%
6.	Middle Ridge	13%
7.	Toowoomba - East	12%
8.	Townsville City - North Ward	12%
9.	Windsor	11%
10.	Grange	11%

**Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries**

Healthcare workers

Workers between aged 25-49, employed in the Hospital, Medical & Other Health Care Services industries (2d level)

Healthcare workers closely mirror the general population distribution but cluster around centrally located medical facilities. This group will see strong growth in the coming decade

Queensland rejuvenated its healthcare workforce

Age profile of Health workers in Queensland in 2011 and 2021; Source: ABS Census
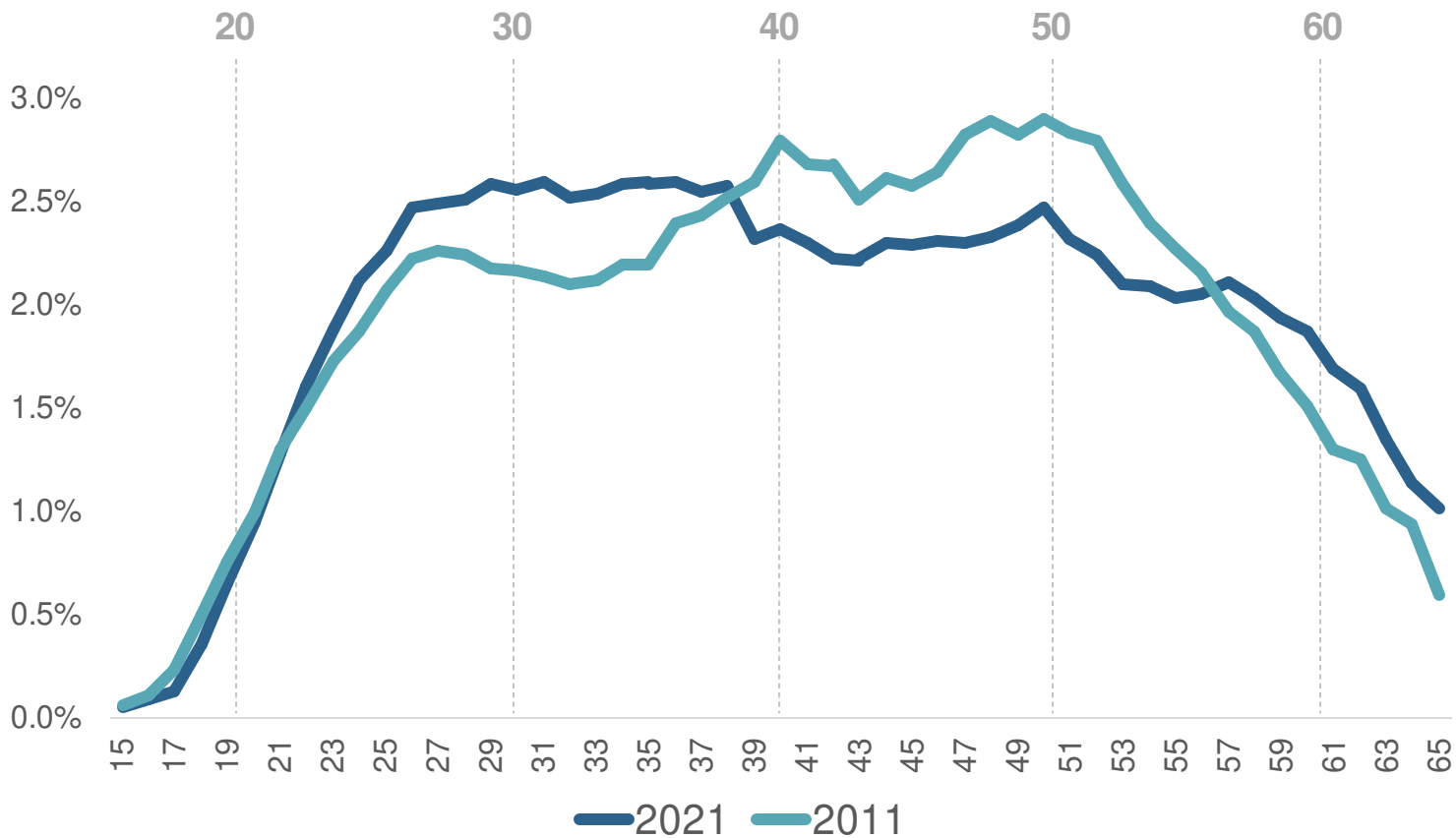
Social Service Workers

2. Social Service workers

Distance from CBD	Social Service workers		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	50,183	67%	1,806,637	68%
Inner Regional	14,638	19%	461,826	17%
Outer Regional	9,577	13%	352,596	13%
Remote	476	1%	26,013	1%
Very Remote	390	1%	22,382	1%
Total	**75,264**	**100%**	**2,669,454**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Redbank Plains	567
2.	Murrumba Downs - Griffin	486
3.	Nambour	479
4.	Kallangur	465
5.	Springfield Lakes	465
6.	North Lakes	451
7.	Caboolture - South	425
8.	Burdell - Mount Low	394
9.	Deception Bay	392
10.	Forest Lake - Ellen Grove	391

| Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Northern Peninsula	9%
2.	Palm Island	6%
3.	Svensson Heights - Norville	5%
4.	Darling Heights	5%
5.	Point Vernon	5%
6.	Yorkeys Knob - Machans Beach	5%
7.	Drayton - Harristown	5%
8.	Pialba - Eli Waters	5%
9.	Newtown (Qld)	5%
10.	Redbank Plains	5%

INSIGHTS

Social services workers are identified from the census data as persons employed in Social Assistance Services industry (2-digit level) between the ages of 25 and 64

Their geographic distribution is directly linked to the geographic distribution of the population.

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

Are social service workers getting too young to foster?

Age profile of Social Services Workers in Queensland 2011 and 2021; ABS Census
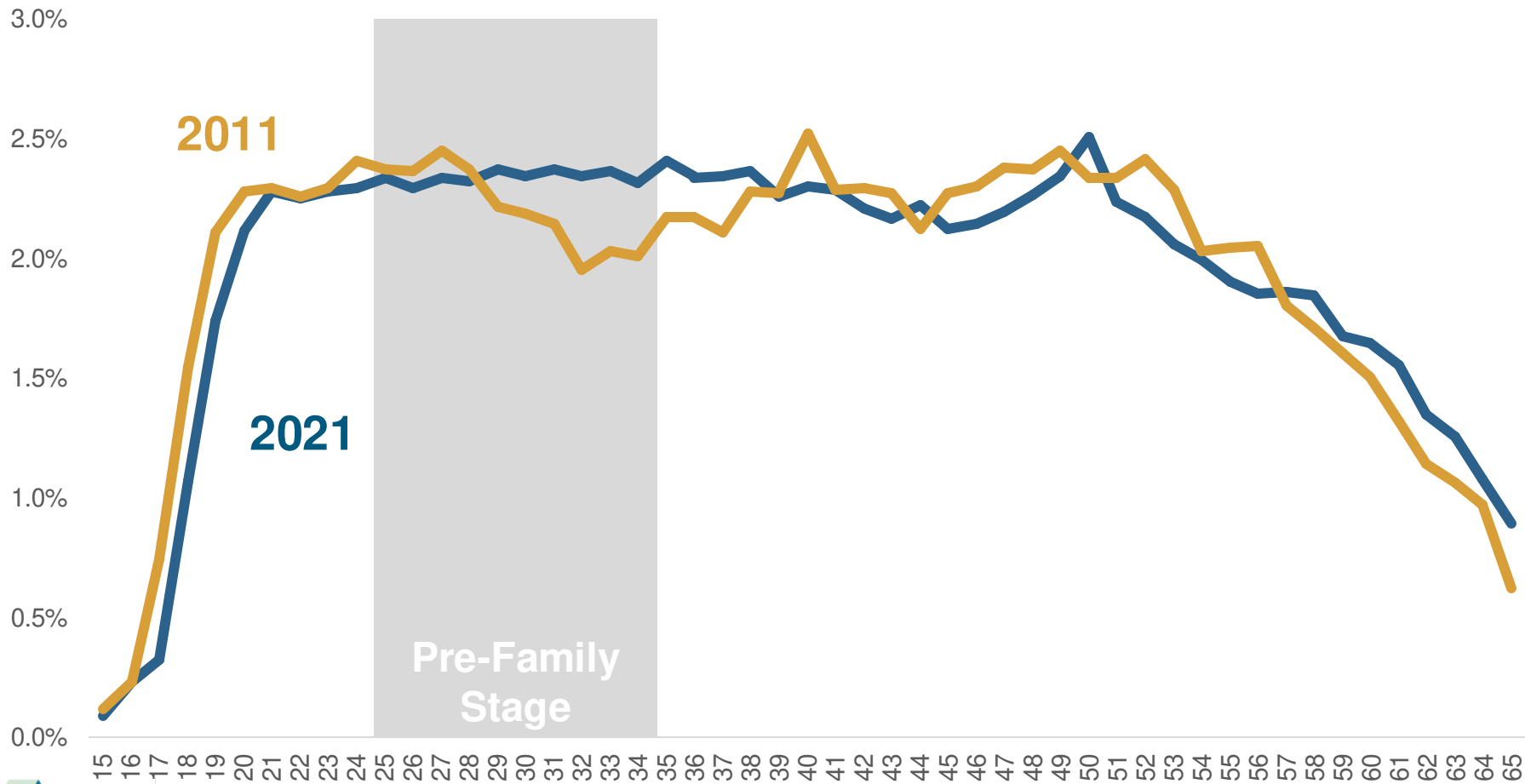
Teachers

3. Teachers

Distance from CBD	Teachers		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	58,404	69%	1,424,538	69%
Inner Regional	14,275	17%	330,457	16%
Outer Regional	10,702	13%	264,719	13%
Remote	705	1%	20,001	1%
Very Remote	651	1%	16,959	1%
Total	**84,737**	**100%**	**2,056,674**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	The Hills District	666
2.	Coorparoo	468
3.	Yeppoon	465
4.	The Gap	462
5.	Mudgeeraba - Bonogin	448
6.	Mount Gravatt	442
7.	Buderim - South	430
8.	North Lakes	429
9.	Springfield Lakes	417
10.	Redlynch	417

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Middle Ridge	7%
2.	Rangeville	7%
3.	Charters Towers	6%
4.	Toowoomba - East	6%
5.	Taringa	6%
6.	St Lucia	6%
7.	Kenmore	6%
8.	Bellbowrie - Moggill	6%
9.	Highfields	6%
10.	Redlynch	6%

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

INSIGHTS

Teachers are identified from the census data as Education Professionals (2-digit occupation level) between the ages of 25 and 59

Teachers' geographic distribution is directly linked to the geographic distribution of the population.

Education professionals in their 50s are worth targeting

2011

2021

Age profile of education professionals in Queensland; ABS Census 2011 & 2021

THE DEMOGRAPHICS GROUP
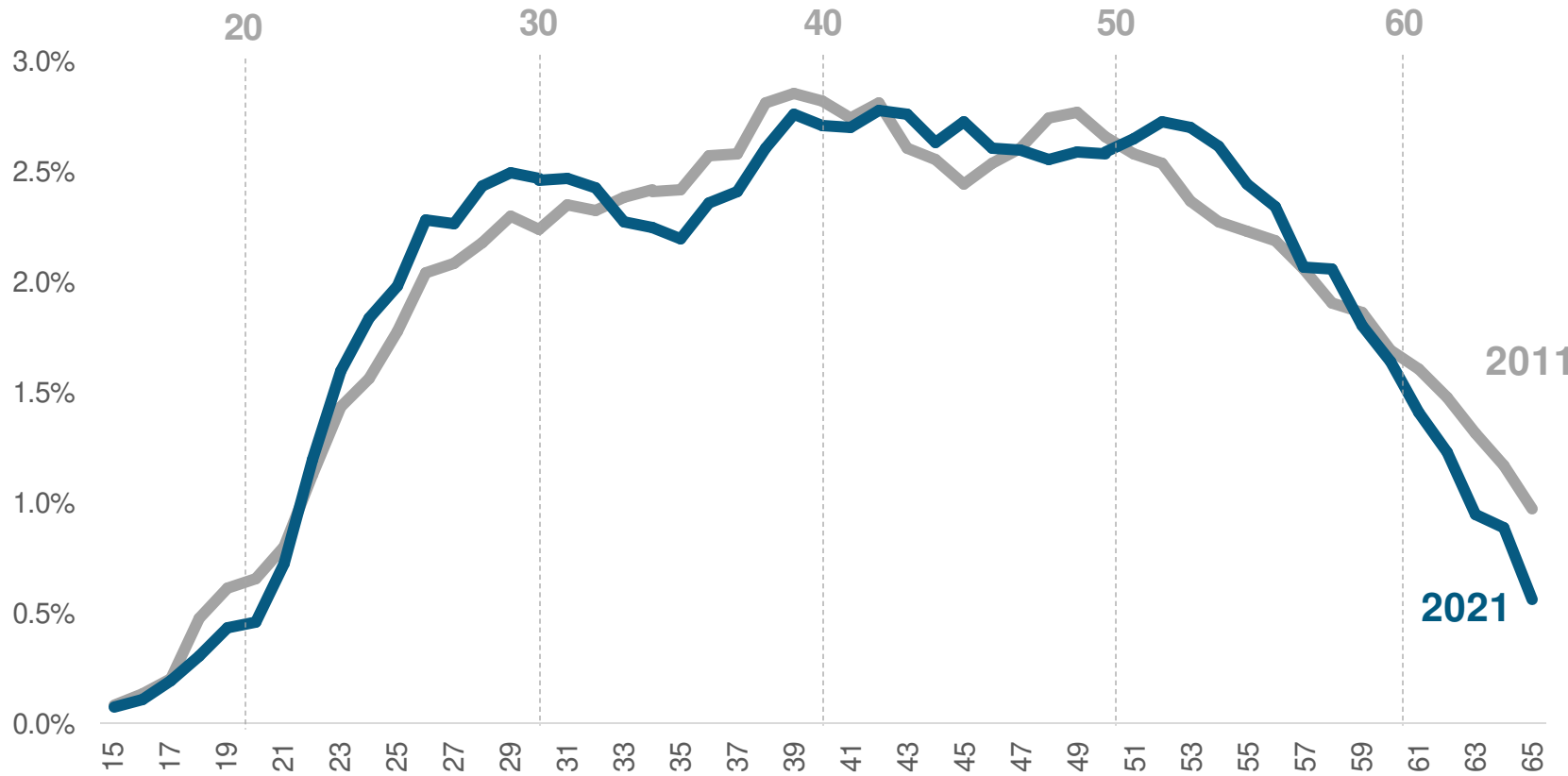
Same-sex Couples

4. Same-sex Couples

Distance from CBD	Same-sex couples		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	9,808	68%	1,132,501	78%
Inner Regional	1,399	17%	290,462	11%
Outer Regional	1,216	13%	220,867	10%
Remote	63	1%	15,702	1%
Very Remote	33	1%	13,433	0%
Total	**12,519**	**100%**	**1,672,965**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Newstead - Bowen Hills	227
2.	New Farm	160
3.	Morningside - Seven Hills	108
4.	West End	104
5.	Fortitude Valley	102
6.	Coorparoo	99
7.	The Hills District	92
8.	Nundah	92
9.	Trinity Beach - Smithfield	91
10.	Brisbane City	91

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Sandgate - Shorncliffe	4%
2.	New Farm	4%
3.	Caloundra Hinterland	4%
4.	Scarborough - Newport	3%
5.	Golden Beach - Pelican Waters	3%
6.	Karana Downs	3%
7.	Eagle Farm - Pinkenba	3%
8.	Northgate - Virginia	3%
9.	Grange	3%
10.	Bulimba	3%

INSIGHTS

Persons identifying as husband/wife/de facto partner in a relationship between the age of 25 and 39.

Same-sex attracted people tend to cluster in inner suburbs of our biggest cities to increase the size of the relevant dating pool.

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

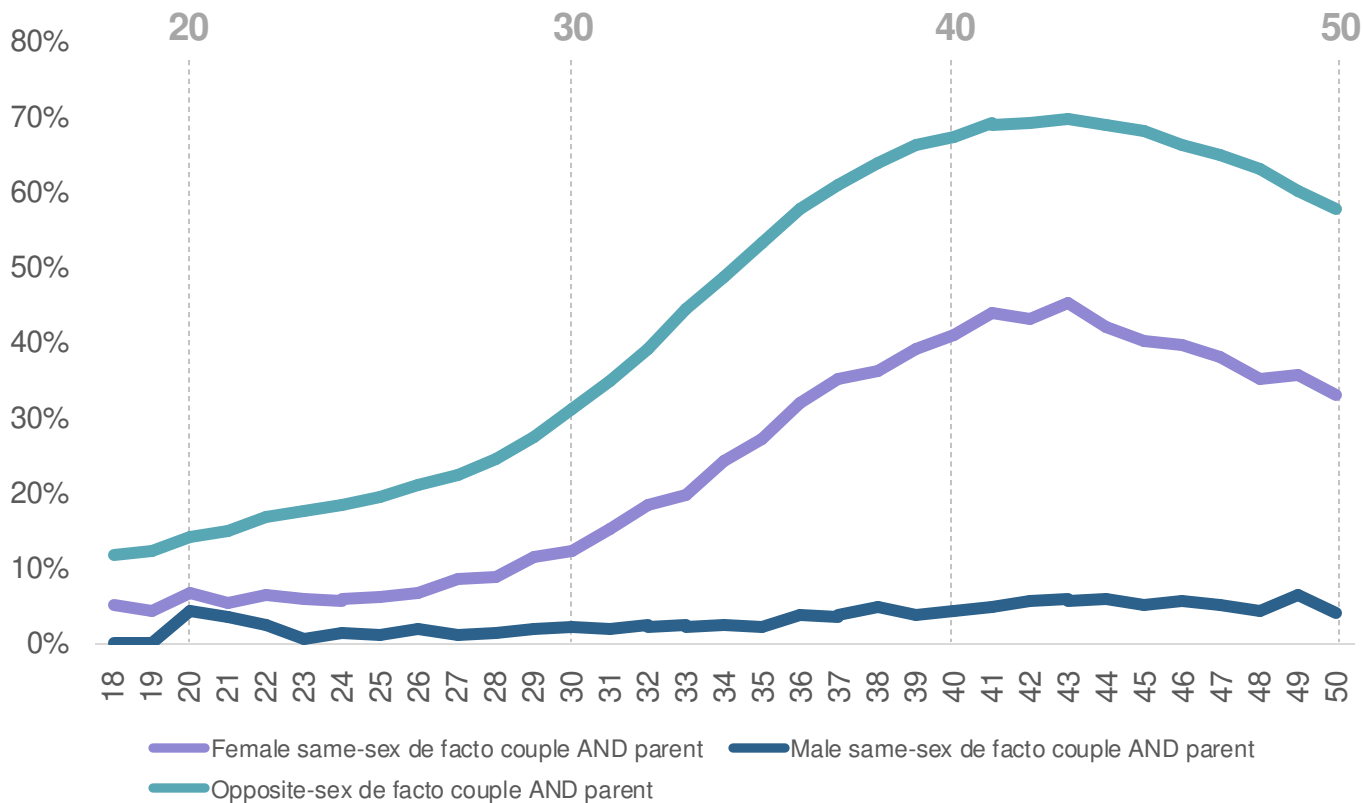# At least six per cent of Australians are same-sex attracted
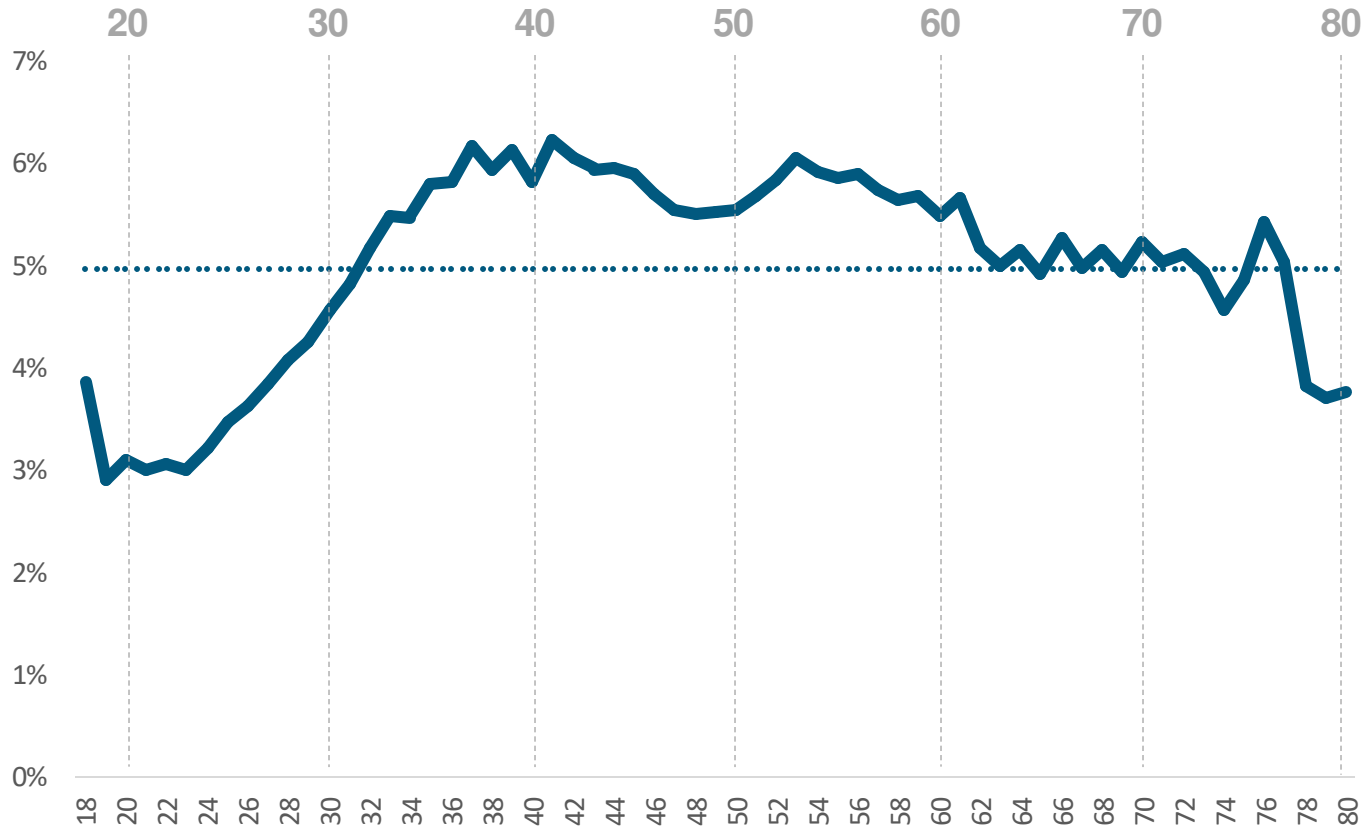
Same-sex couples as share of all de facto couples by age; Source: ABS Census 2021
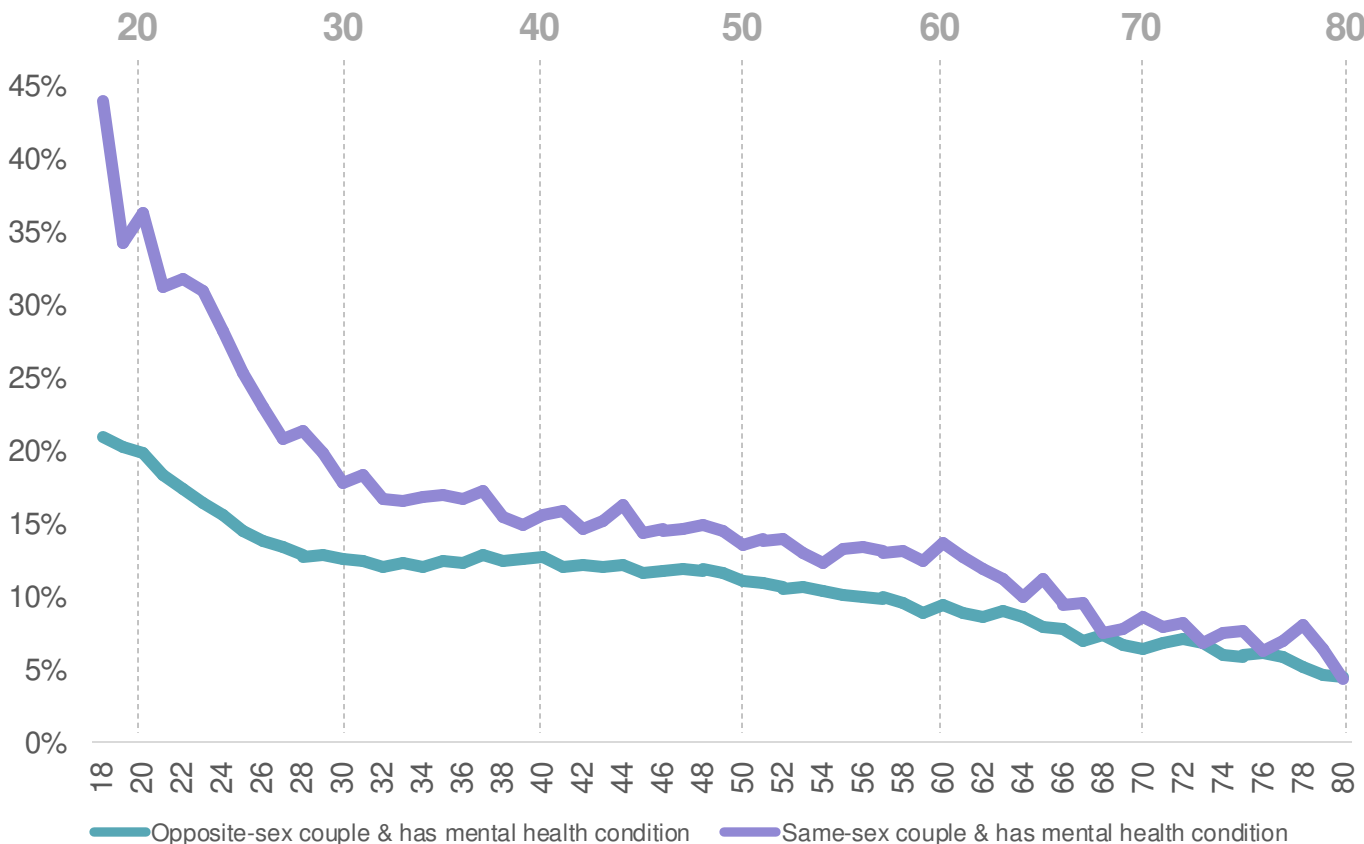
Recruiting same-sex couples? Millennials for the win!
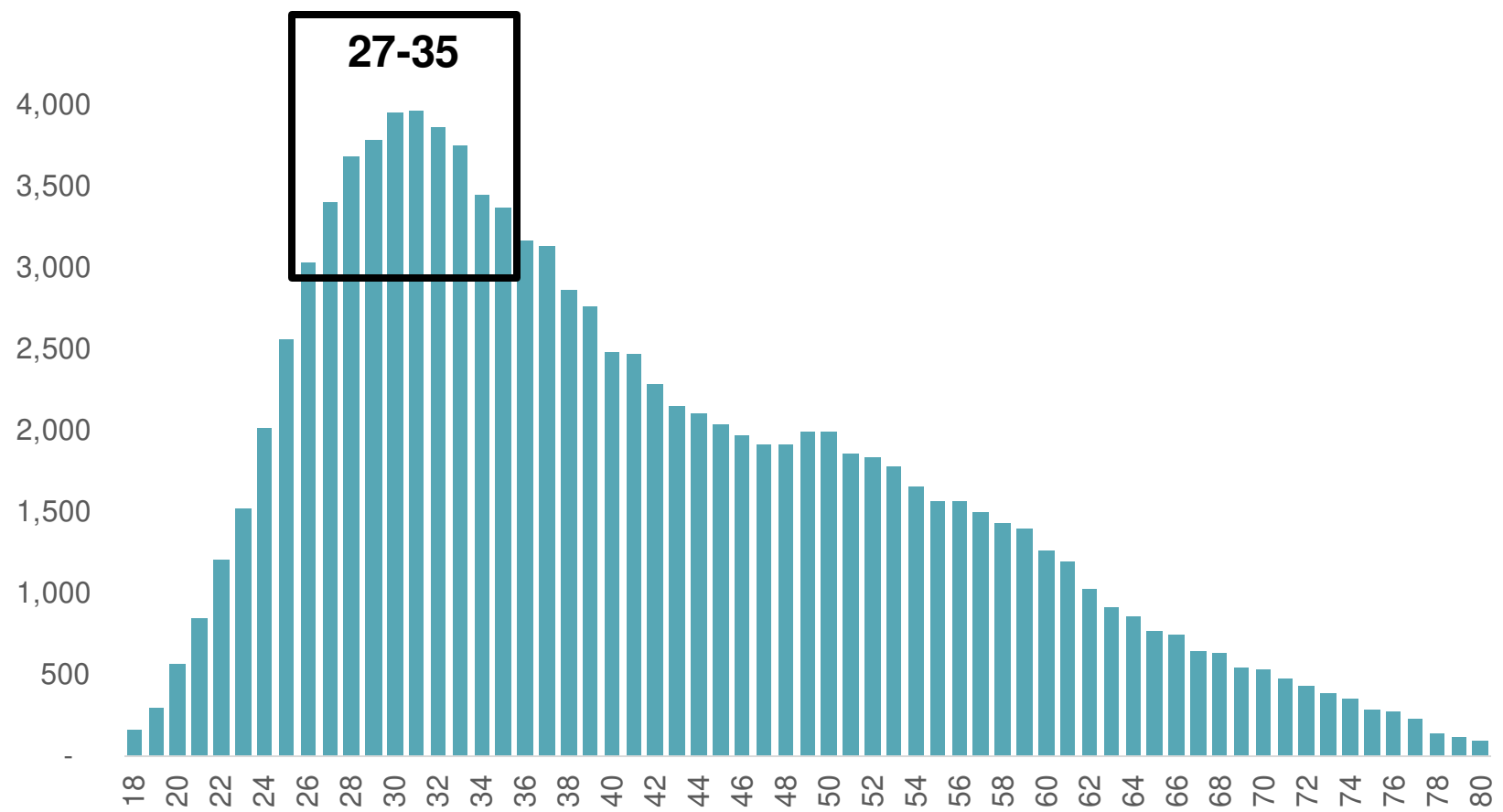
Number of people in same-sex de facto relationship by age; ABS Census 2021

Recruiting same-sex couples? Bet on women!

Legend:
- Female same-sex de facto couple AND parent
- Male same-sex de facto couple AND parent
- Opposite-sex de facto couple AND parent

Share of population in a de facto relationship that is a parent by age; Source: ABS Census 2021

Young same-sex couples display poor mental health

Opposite-sex couple & has mental health condition
Same-sex couple & has mental health condition

Share of population by age that reports to have a chronic mental health condition; Source: ABS Census 2021

THE DEMOGRAPHICS GROUP

Empty Nesters

5. Empty Nesters

Distance from CBD	Empty nesters		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	232,057	60%	541,924	62%
Inner Regional	95,607	25%	193,761	22%
Outer Regional	55,888	14%	124,858	14%
Remote	3,198	1%	8,152	1%
Very Remote	2,843	1%	7,376	1%
Total	**389,593**	**100%**	**876,071**	**100%**

INSIGHTS

Persons who live in couple families with no children and are between the ages of 55 and 69.

Sea-changers and tree-changers: Empty nesters frequently choose to move to lifestyle destinations in inner regional Australia.

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Bribie Island	3578
2.	Noosa Hinterland	3106
3.	Gympie Surrounds	2734
4.	Bargara - Burnett Heads	2602
5.	Maroochydore - Kuluin	2247
6.	Beachmere - Sandstone Point	2191
7.	Yeppoon	2051
8.	Lockyer Valley - East	2035
9.	Golden Beach - Pelican Waters	1955
10.	Hope Island	1950

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Craignish - Dundowran Beach	61%
2.	Highfields	61%
3.	Golden Beach - Pelican Waters	59%
4.	Bribie Island	58%
5.	Cambooya - Wyreema	58%
6.	Booral - River Heads	58%
7.	Hope Island	57%
8.	Gowrie (Qld)	57%
9.	Burrum - Fraser	57%
10.	Boonah	56%

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

Retired empty nesters are a sizeable cohort to tap into

2021

2011

Pre-Family Stage

Retired & Healthy
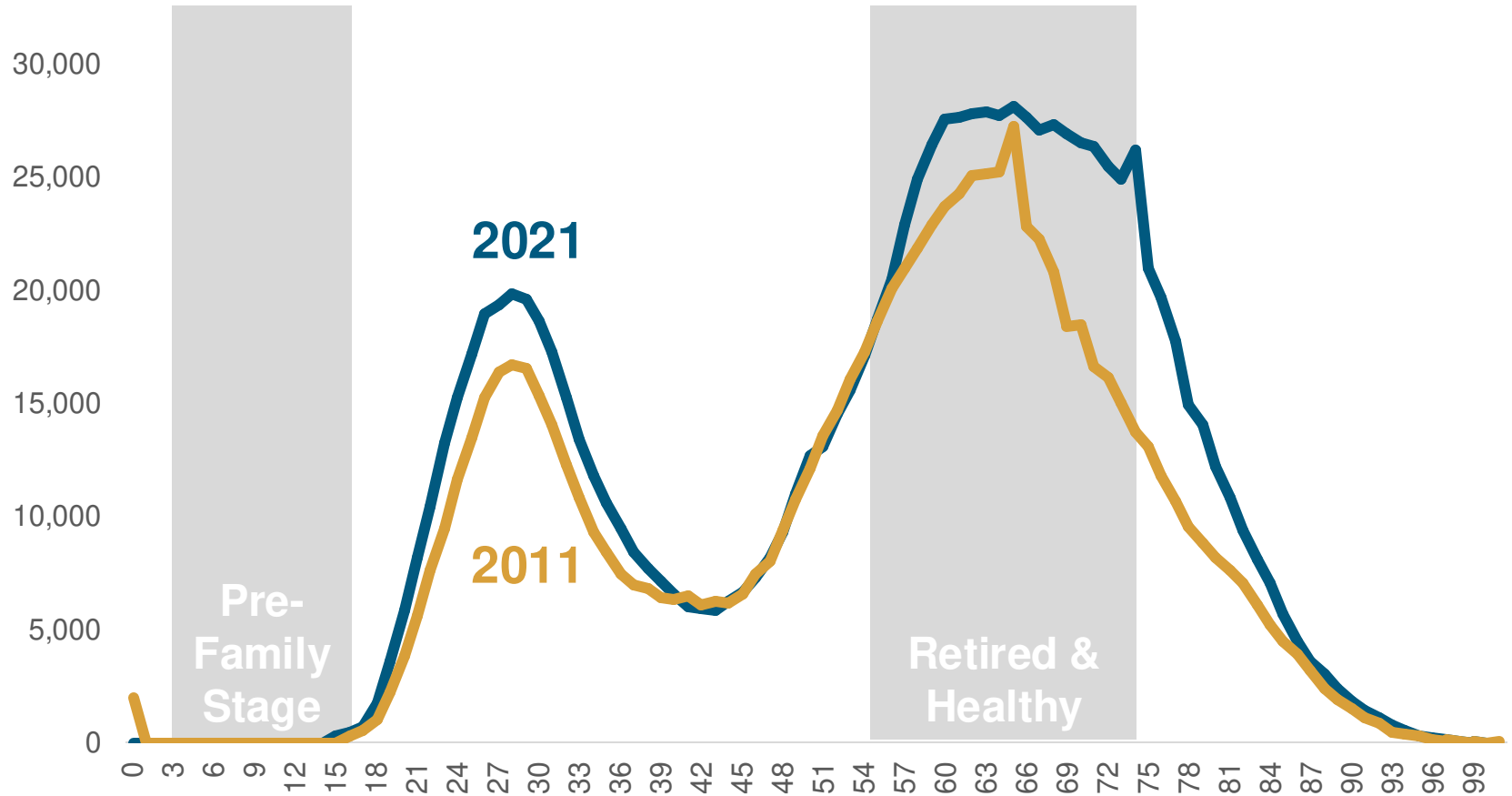
Queenslanders living in couple families with no children in 2011 and 2021; ABS Census

Parents

6. Parents

Distance from CBD	Parents		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	808,271	71%	1,624,106	68%
Inner Regional	184,222	16%	395,228	17%
Outer Regional	133,389	12%	309,634	13%
Remote	9,521	1%	23,152	1%
Very Remote	8,025	1%	19,817	1%
Total	**1,143,428**	**100%**	**2,371,937**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Springfield Lakes	7763
2.	North Lakes	7045
3.	The Hills District	6844
4.	Murrumba Downs - Griffin	6720
5.	Calamvale - Stretton	6626
6.	Narangba	6373
7.	Forest Lake - Ellen Grove	6161
8.	Cashmere	6113
9.	Redbank Plains	6020
10.	Upper Coomera - North	5818

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Fig Tree Pocket	74%
2.	Wakerley	73%
3.	Kenmore	69%
4.	Chapel Hill	69%
5.	Brookfield - Kenmore Hills	68%
6.	Augustine Heights - Brookwater	68%
7.	Eatons Hill	68%
8.	Bellbowrie - Moggill	68%
9.	The Gap	68%
10.	Pinjarra Hills - Pullenvale	67%

INSIGHTS

Persons identified as parents in Parent Indicator variable between the age of 25 and 59.

Parents are somewhat clustered in the major cities because this is where the majority of jobs are located.

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

Older parents shorten the foster care window

Median age of parents at birth in Australia by gender from 1934 to 2022; ABS Births Data
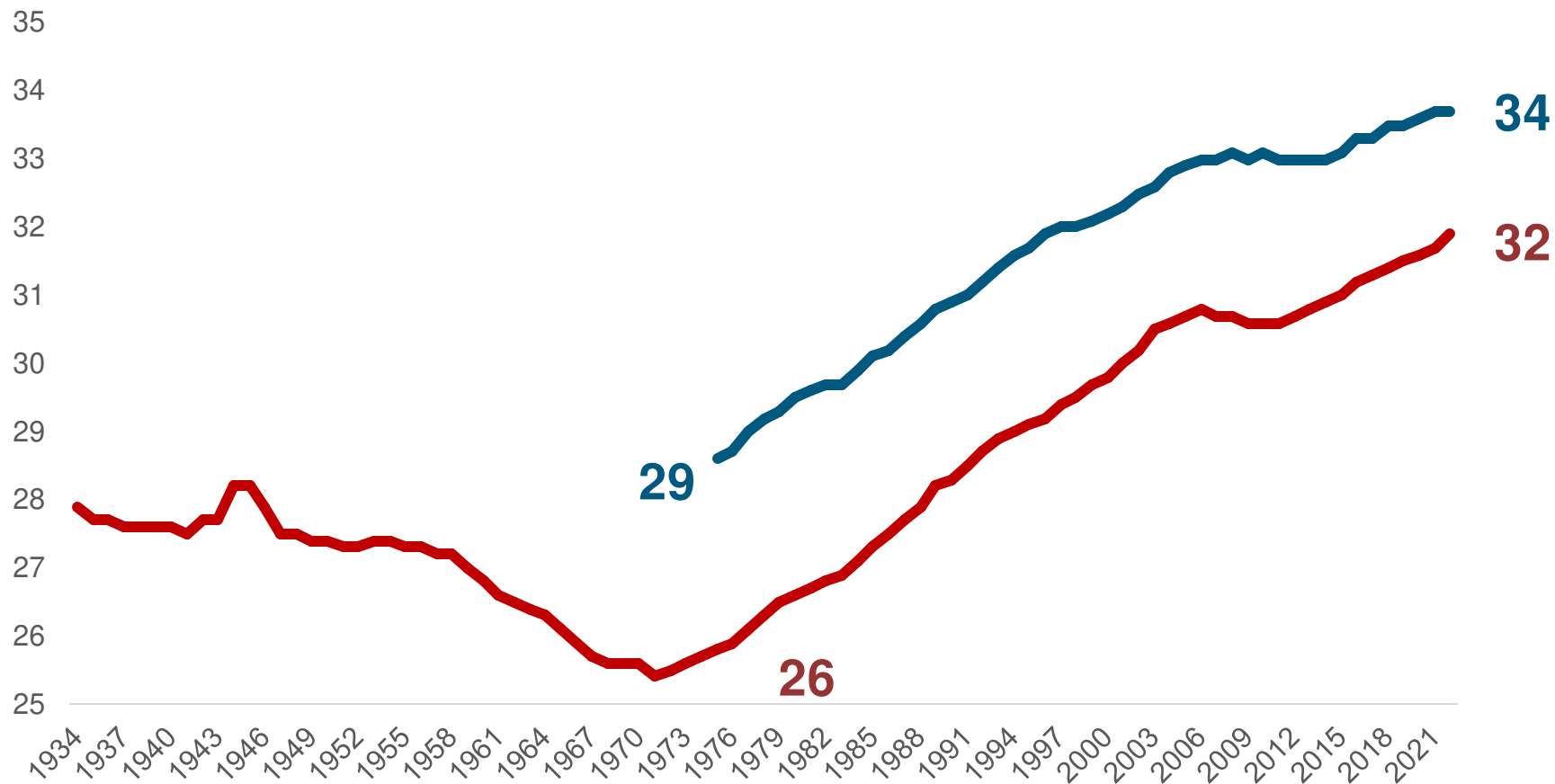
Faith

7. Faith

Distance from CBD	Persons with religious belief		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	901,401	66%	1,724,077	67%
Inner Regional	261,923	19%	472,066	18%
Outer Regional	180,026	13%	344,936	13%
Remote	13,644	1%	24,378	1%
Very Remote	12,951	1%	21,041	1%
Total	**1,369,945**	**100%**	**2,586,498**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Forest Lake - Ellen Grove	7056
2.	Calamvale - Stretton	6902
3.	Springfield Lakes	6861
4.	The Hills District	6460
5.	North Lakes	6386
6.	Murrumba Downs - Griffin	6372
7.	Inala - Richlands	6030
8.	Cashmere	6011
9.	Lockyer Valley - East	5793
10.	Redbank Plains	5666

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Yarrabah	84%
2.	Palm Island	78%
3.	Torres Strait Islands	78%
4.	Kowanyama - Pormpuraaw	75%
5.	Middle Ridge	72%
6.	Pallara - Willawong	72%
7.	Ayr	71%
8.	Eungella Hinterland	70%
9.	Kuraby	70%
10.	Pittsworth	70%

INSIGHTS

Persons with a religious belief between the ages of 30-69.

Believers' geographic distribution mirrors the geographic distribution of the population.

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

The faithful are a shrinking cohort and increasingly diverse

	2011	2021	2011	2021	Change
Christianity	66%	44%	2,785,058	2,357,393	-15%
Islam	3%	4%	34,051	60,374	+77%
Hinduism	2%	4%	28,622	69,519	+143%
Buddhism	4%	4%	65,930	73,691	+12%
Judaism	1%	1%	4,460	4,825	+8%
Faith pool			2,918,121	2,565,802	-12%

	2011	2021	2011	2021	Change
No Religion	26%	44%	955,749	2,125,469	+122%
Total Population			4,332,675	5,156,110	+19%

Believers in Queensland in 2011 and 2021; ABS Census

Christianity lost its gravitational pull
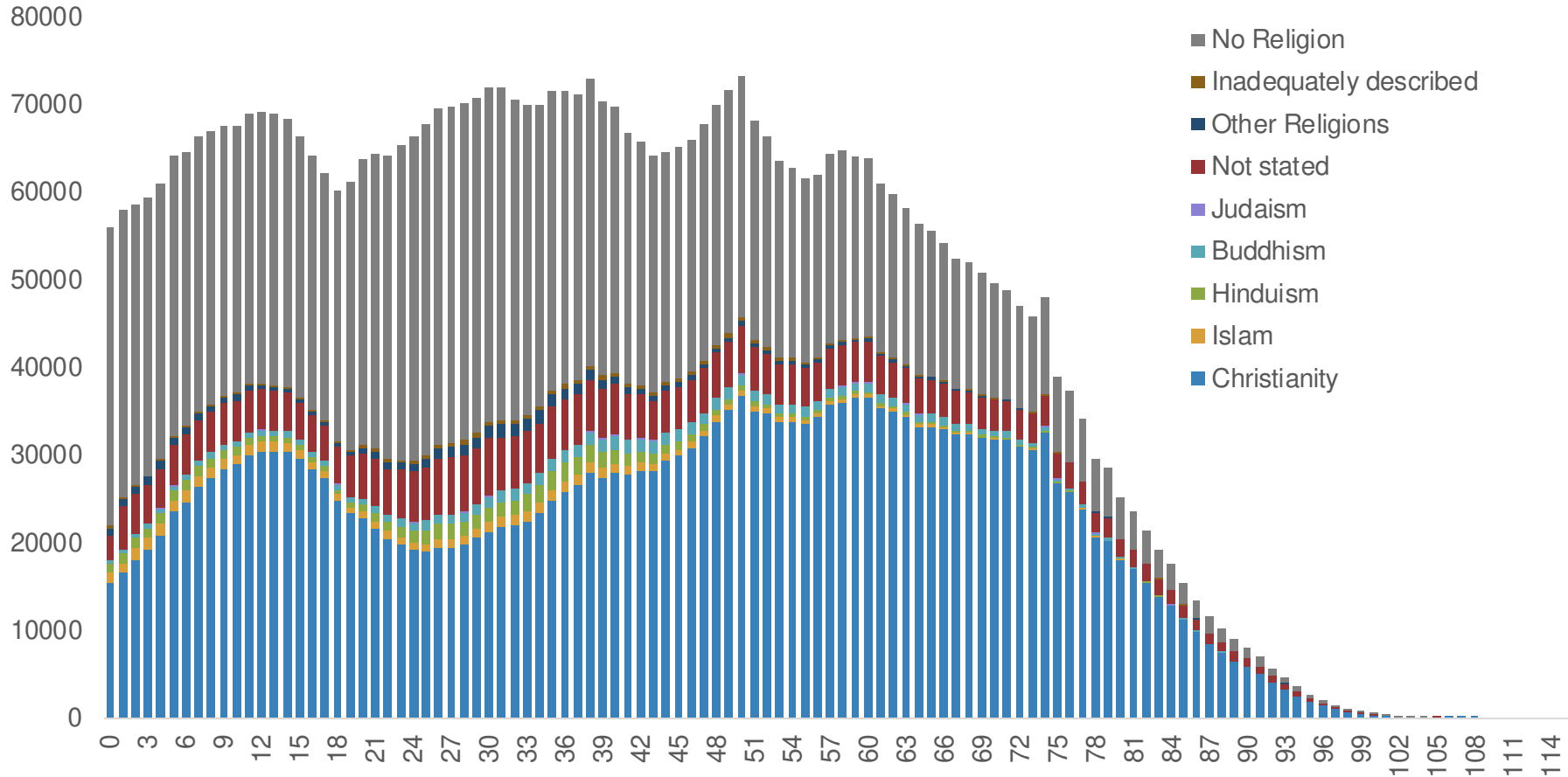
Population in Queensland by age and religious affiliation in 2021; ABS Census

Volunteers

8. Volunteers

Distance from CBD	Volunteers		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	214,044	66%	1,624,106	68%
Inner Regional	57,173	18%	395,228	17%
Outer Regional	46,515	14%	309,634	13%
Remote	4,037	1%	23,152	1%
Very Remote	4,198	1%	19,817	1%
Total	**325,967**	**100%**	**2,371,937**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	The Hills District	2007
2.	Coorparoo	1684
3.	The Gap	1639
4.	Noosa Hinterland	1571
5.	West End	1515
6.	Nambour	1508
7.	Ashgrove	1489
8.	Newstead - Bowen Hills	1484
9.	Gympie Surrounds	1396
10.	Cashmere	1372

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	The Hills District	17%
2.	Coorparoo	17%
3.	The Gap	22%
4.	Noosa Hinterland	16%
5.	West End	17%
6.	Nambour	15%
7.	Ashgrove	23%
8.	Newstead - Bowen Hills	12%
9.	Gympie Surrounds	16%
10.	Cashmere	14%
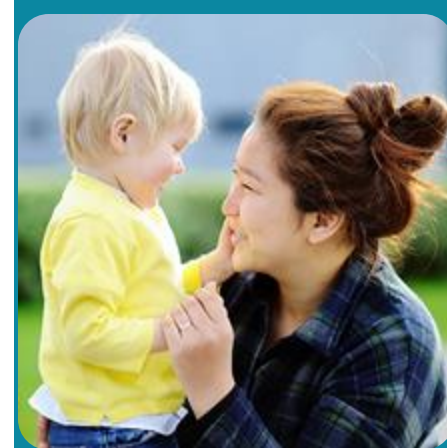
INSIGHTS

Persons who did unpaid volunteer work between the ages of 25-59.

Volunteers mirror the general population distribution.

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

Big growth in the volunteering spike age group (40s)

Legend: 2011, 2016, 2021
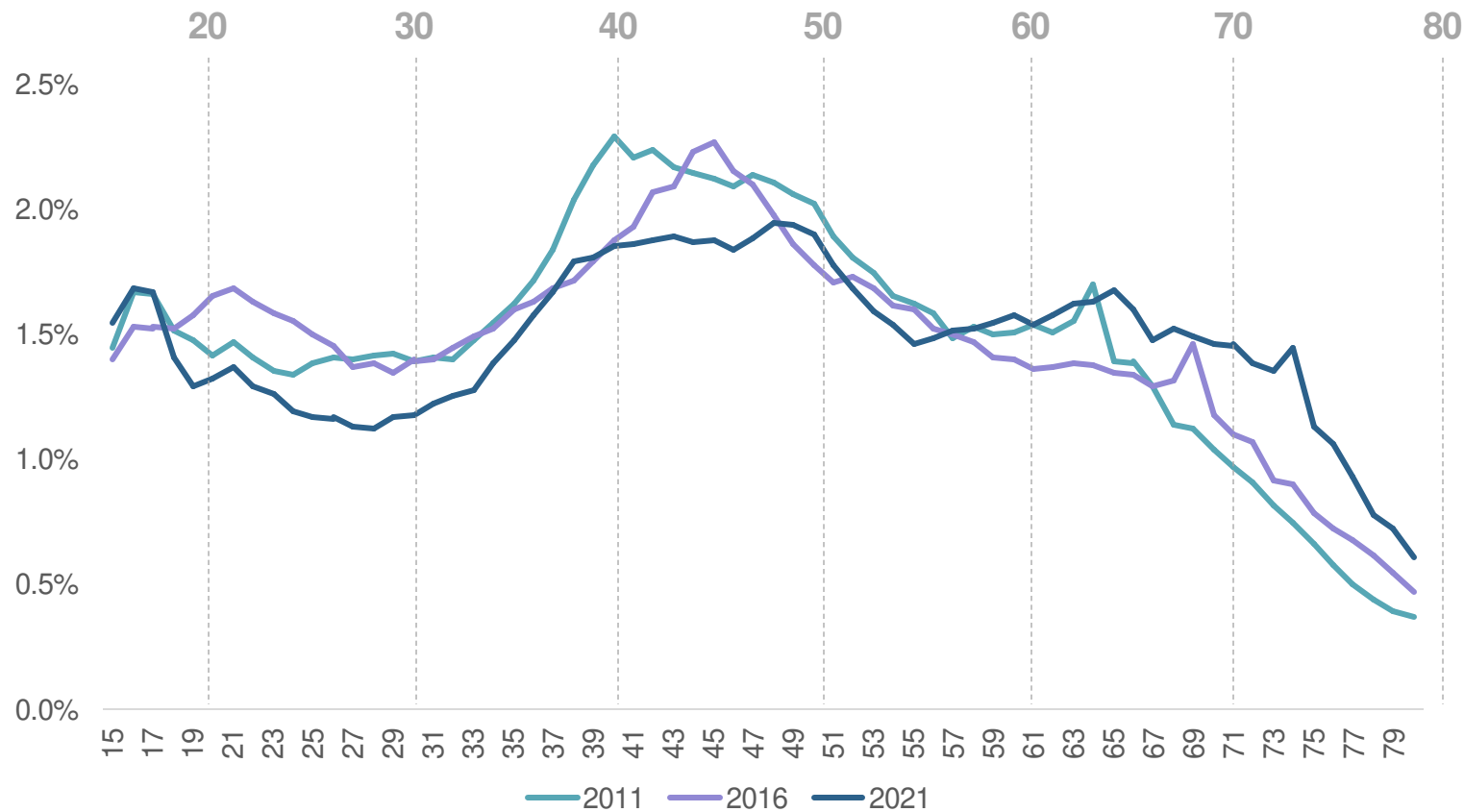
Age profile of Volunteers in Queensland 2011-2021; ABS Census

Australians do their fair share and are willing to help out

Share of population by age who volunteer or provide unpaid care; ABS Census 2021
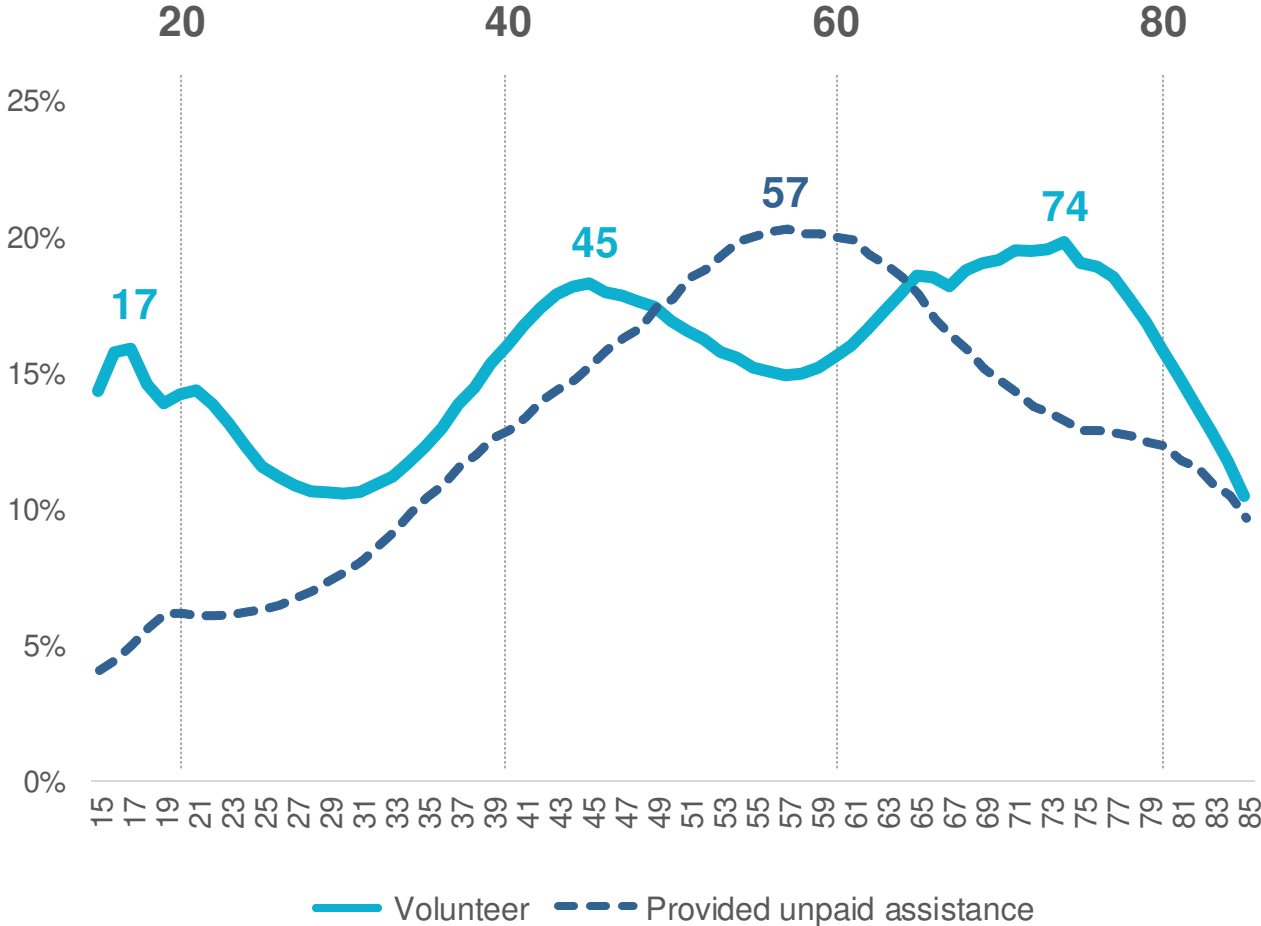
Single income couples

9. Single Income Couple Families

Distance from CBD	Healthcare workers		Total Queensland pop	
Major Cities	203,930	72%	1,624,106	68%
Inner Regional	46,147	16%	395,228	17%
Outer Regional	30,859	11%	309,634	13%
Remote	2,111	1%	23,152	1%
Very Remote	1,689	1%	19,817	1%
Total	**284,736**	**100%**	**2,371,937**	**100%**

Rank	Highest no. of persona	Count
1.	Calamvale - Stretton	2109
2.	Redbank Plains	1982
3.	Springfield Lakes	1928
4.	Forest Lake - Ellen Grove	1709
5.	North Lakes	1672
6.	Murrumba Downs - Griffin	1560
7.	Coomera	1464
8.	Inala - Richlands	1463
9.	Sunnybank Hills	1435
10.	Kallangur	1432

Rank	Highest share of persona	Share
1.	Barcaldine - Blackall	35%
2.	Far Central West	32%
3.	Roma Surrounds	31%
4.	Far South West	30%
5.	Croydon - Etheridge	29%
6.	Longreach	29%
7.	Northern Highlands	28%
8.	Balonne	26%
9.	Banana	26%
10.	Miles - Wandoan	25%

Healthcare workers

Workers between aged 25-49, employed in the Hospital, Medical & Other Health Care Services industries (2d level)

Healthcare workers closely mirror the general population distribution but cluster around centrally located medical facilities. This group will see strong growth in the coming decade

Data sourced from ABS Census 2021 based on SA2 boundaries

Who to target? Fewer traditional families, more couples, stable single parent families

Family compositions in Australia; ABS Census 1991-2021
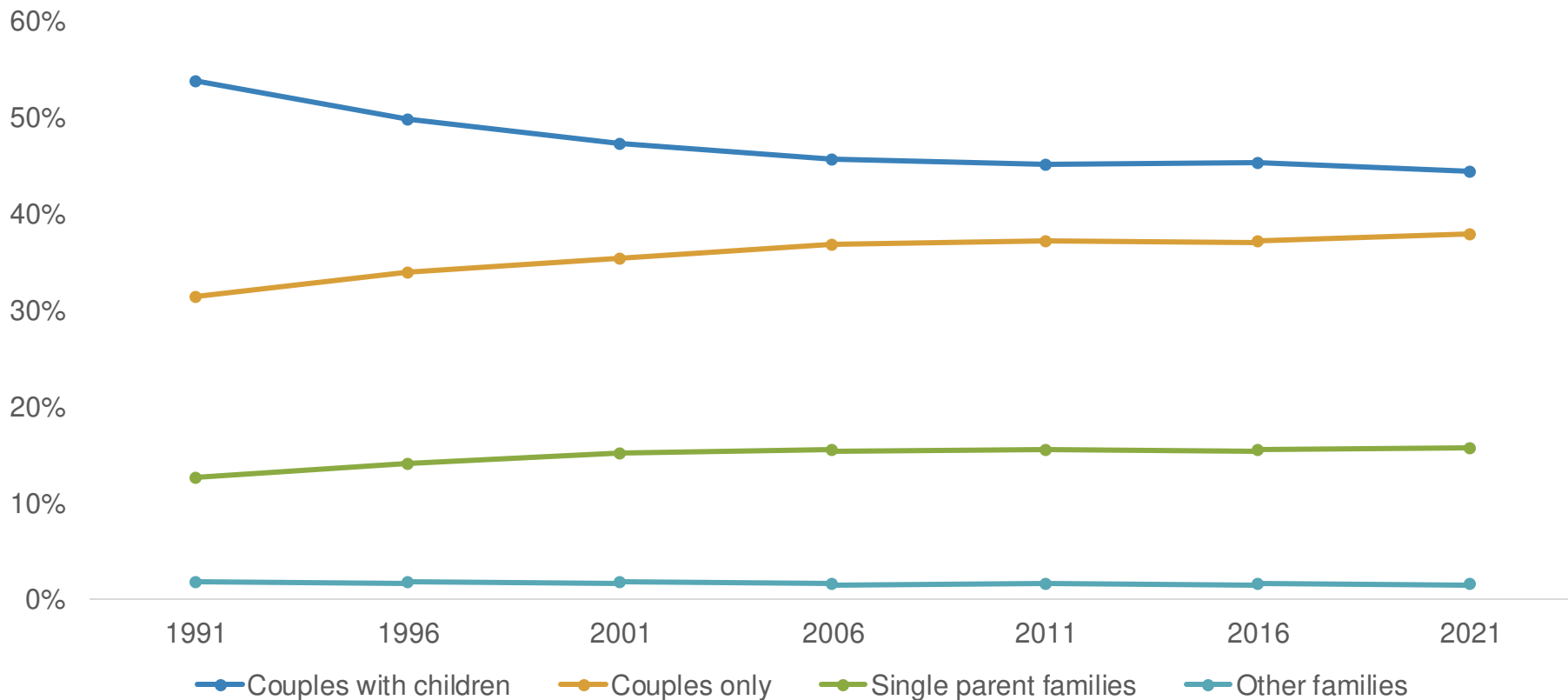
Could single person households act as foster carers?

Household compositions in Australia; ABS Census 1991 & 2021
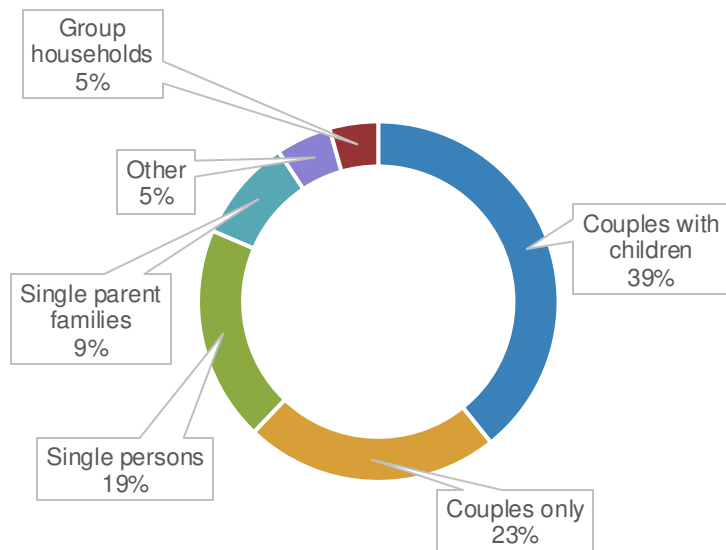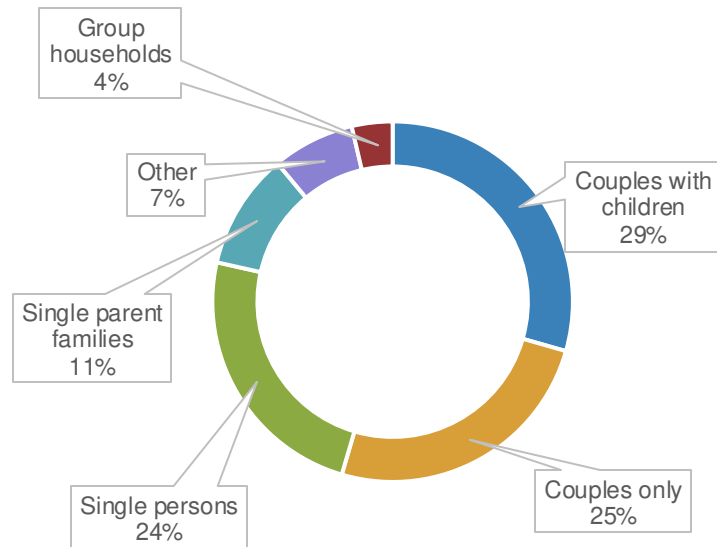
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