

Youth Strategy
Evidence snapshot

Wodonga is a growing regional city with a diverse and evolving population of young people. This snapshot highlights key data and insights that describe who Wodonga's young people are, what supports their wellbeing and where emerging pressures exist.

Who are Wodonga's young people?

7150

7150 young people aged 12 to 24 years lived in Wodonga in 2021, representing 16.5 per cent of the population.[1]

Wodonga's population is forecast to grow to 62,837 by 2046, with a forecast of 9213 of young people aged 12 to 24.[2]

402

402 young people aged 12 to 24 identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.[3]

Wodonga's youth population is increasingly culturally diverse:

- In 2021, 11.3 per cent of people in Wodonga were born overseas, compared with 12.4 per cent in Regional Victoria.[4]
- Residents speaking a language other than English at home increased by 28 per cent between 2016 and 2021.[5]

Education, work and transition

44.4%

Year 12 completion rates are lower than the Victorian average - 44.4 per cent in Wodonga compared to 59.5 per cent across Victoria.[6]

Transitions from school to further education, training or work remain a key pressure point for many young people.

> "Young people remain a significant part of Wodonga's community, even as population growth changes the city's age profile."

[1]id.community, City of Wodonga Community Profile Service Age Groups,
[2] id.community, City of Wodonga Community Profile and Population Forecast
[3]id.community, City of Wodonga Community Profile Service Age Groups
[4]Id.community, City of Wodonga Community Profile, Birthplace
[5]Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2022). 2021 Census data
[6]Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2022). 2021 Census data



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Families, housing and cost of living

12.7%

12.7 per cent of families are single parent families, higher than the regional Victorian average of 10.1 per cent.[7]

Overall Wodonga's community experiences greater socio-economic disadvantage than Regional Victoria, with a SEIFA score of 973.1 compared to 985 for Regional Victoria.[8]

7.9%

7.9 per cent of households experience housing stress with 7.9 per cent in mortgage stress and 22.1 per cent in rental stress).[9]

It is estimated that 837 households have an unmet need for affordable housing in Wodonga. This represents 5.1 per cent of all households compared to 4.5 per cent for Regional Victoria.

Safety, wellbeing and life experiences

2436.5

Family incident rate per 100,000 population was 2436.5 - higher than the Victorian average of 1458.8 (December 2025).[10]

In December 2025, there were 1112 family incidents in Wodonga[11] - an increase of 2.7 per cent from the previous year.

287

Of the total number of family incidents of known ages, there were 287 affected family members which were children and young people aged 0 to 24 years (December 2025).[12]

7.2 per cent of Wodonga residents require assistance with daily living.[13]

40%

Young people aged 16 to 24 experience the highest prevalence of mental health conditions.[14] 40 per cent reported a mental health condition in the previous 12 months.[15]

Suicide remains the leading cause of death for Australians aged 15 to 24.[16]

[7]id.community, City of Wodonga Community Profile
[8]id. community, City of Wodonga Community Profile and Social Atlas 2025
[9]id. community, City of Wodonga Housing Monitor
[10]Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, 2025
[11]Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, 2025
[12]Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, 2025
[13]ABS 2021 Census data
[14]Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2023
[15]Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2023
[16]Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2024