### Rockhampton Regional Council

#### Education institution attending

The share of Rockhampton's population attending educational institutions reflects the age structure of the population, as it is influenced by the number of children attending school; proximity to tertiary education, which can mean young adults leaving home to be nearer to educational facilities and; the degree to which people are seeking out educational opportunities in adulthood, especially in their late teens and early twenties.

This data is often combined with [Age Structure](service-age-groups?[QS]) to identify areas with significant university student populations.

[Learn more about planning education provision here.](https://blog.id.com.au/2016/location-analysis/education/planning-education-provision-in-a-rapidly-changing-australia/)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Education institution attending** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Rockhampton - Total persons (Usual residence)** | **2021** |  |  | **2016** |  |  | **Change** |
| **Type of institution** | **Number** | **%** | **Regional QLD %** | **Number** | **%** | **Regional QLD %** | **2016 to 2021** |
| Pre-school | 1,221 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 779 | 1.0 | 1.2 | +442 |
| Primary school | 7,118 | 8.7 | 8.0 | 7,053 | 8.8 | 8.5 | +65 |
| Primary - Government | 4,292 | 5.2 | 5.4 | 4,407 | 5.5 | 5.8 | -115 |
| Primary - Catholic | 1,933 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 1,805 | 2.3 | 1.6 | +128 |
| Primary - Independent | 893 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 841 | 1.1 | 1.1 | +52 |
| Secondary school | 6,038 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 5,585 | 7.0 | 6.3 | +453 |
| Secondary - Government | 2,682 | 3.3 | 4.1 | 2,353 | 3.0 | 3.9 | +329 |
| Secondary - Catholic | 2,129 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1,960 | 2.5 | 1.3 | +169 |
| Secondary - Independent | 1,227 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1,272 | 1.6 | 1.2 | -45 |
| TAFE/Vocational | 1,313 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 1,196 | 1.5 | 1.5 | +117 |
| University | 2,615 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 2,710 | 3.4 | 3.3 | -95 |
| Other | 708 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 605 | 0.8 | 0.7 | +103 |
| Not attending | 56,576 | 69.0 | 70.1 | 55,069 | 69.1 | 69.9 | +1,507 |
| Not stated | 6,373 | 7.8 | 7.5 | 6,731 | 8.4 | 8.7 | -358 |
| **Total** | **81,962** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **79,728** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **+2,234** |

Analysis of the share of the population attending educational institutions in Rockhampton in 2021 compared to Regional QLD shows that there was a higher proportion attending primary school, a higher proportion attending secondary school, and a similar proportion engaged in tertiary level education.

Overall, 8.7% of the population were attending primary school, 7.4% of the population were attending secondary institutions, and 4.8% were learning at a tertiary level, compared with 8.0%, 6.7% and 5.2% respectively for Regional QLD.

The major differences between the share of the population attending learning institutions in Rockhampton and Regional QLD were:

* A *larger* percentage of persons attending a Catholic secondary school (2.6% compared to 1.3%)
* A *smaller* percentage of persons not attending (69.0% compared to 70.1%)

From 2016 to 2021, Rockhampton's population increased by 2,234 people (+2.8%). This represents an average annual change of 0.55% per year over the period.

The largest changes in the number of persons attending education institutions in Rockhampton, between 2016 and 2021 were in those who nominated:

* Secondary school (+453 persons)
* Pre-school (+442 persons)
* Secondary - Government (+329 persons)
* Secondary - Catholic (+169 persons)