



People with disability

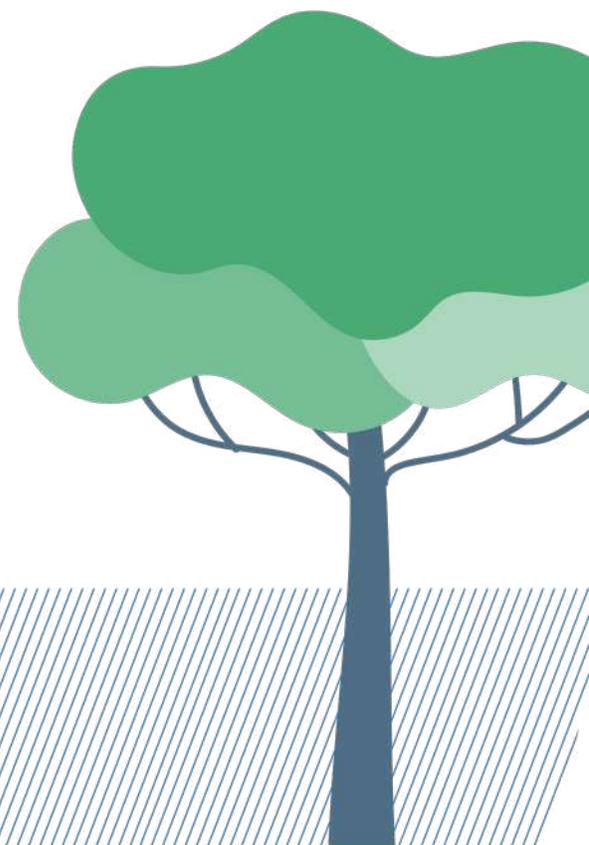
Communities of
Penrith City LGA



We recognise that the barriers people with disability encounter are not just about the individual or their differing abilities.

Disability arises as a result of the interaction between people living with visible and invisible impairments and the physical, attitudinal, communication, and social barriers they face in their environments.

Data used in this report is based off Australia Bureau of Statistics Census data (2021) in which a person reported their need for assistance based on a subjective assessment. People with disability statistics relate directly to need for assistance due to severe or profound disability.



Community wellbeing

People with disability are an important part of Penrith City LGA's diverse community. Residents with disability have unique strengths and challenges. They are:

Just as likely to recommend Penrith City LGA as a place to live.

More likely to feel their quality of life has remained the same or declined.

Less likely to be able to raise \$2,000 if needed in an emergency.

More likely to have difficulties meeting daily needs.

Less likely to feel supported by others (outside their home) in times of crisis.

**Who are our residents
who need assistance?**

Population

In Penrith City LGA, 18,815 carers provide unpaid assistance to a person with disability, long-term illness or old age. This represents 11% of the population aged 15+.

Penrith City LGA residents who need assistance due to disability

2016 5.2% 10,152

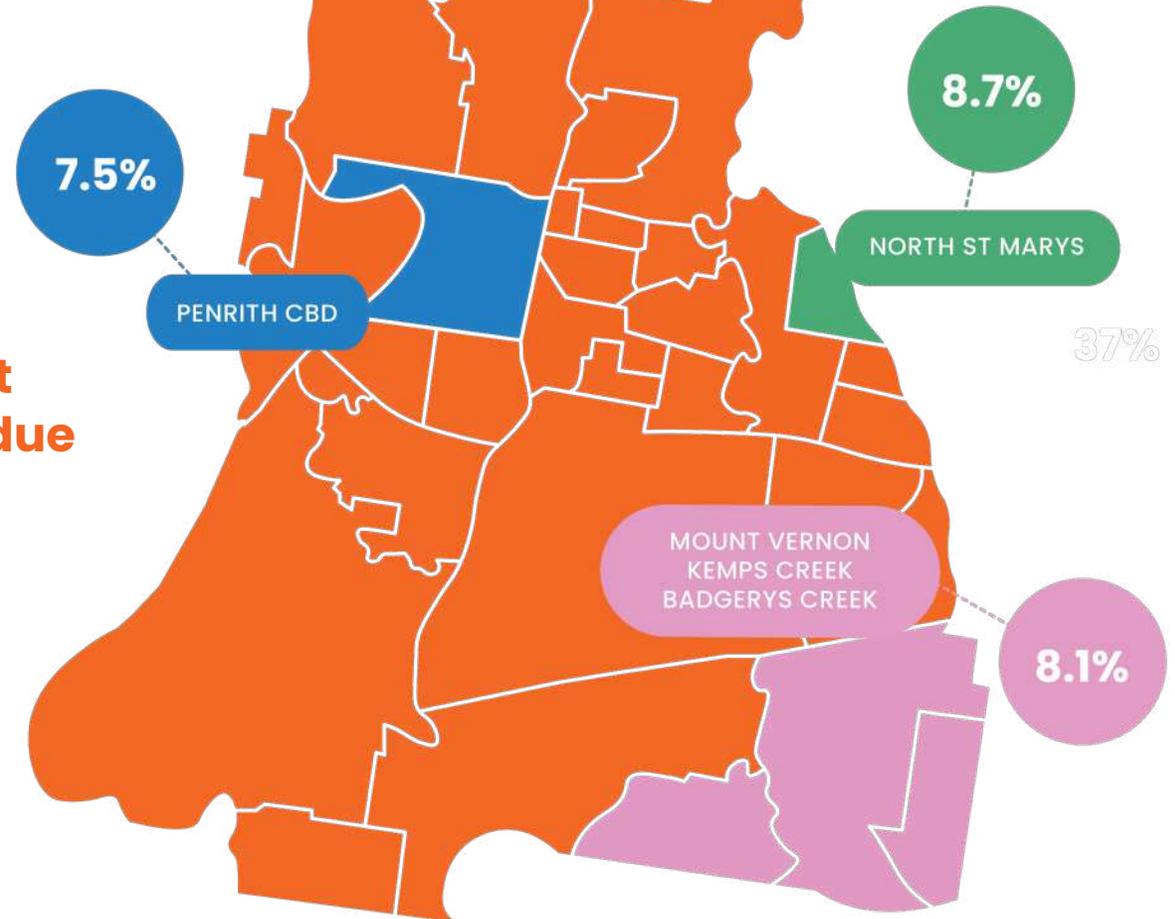
2021 5.5% 12,041



Location

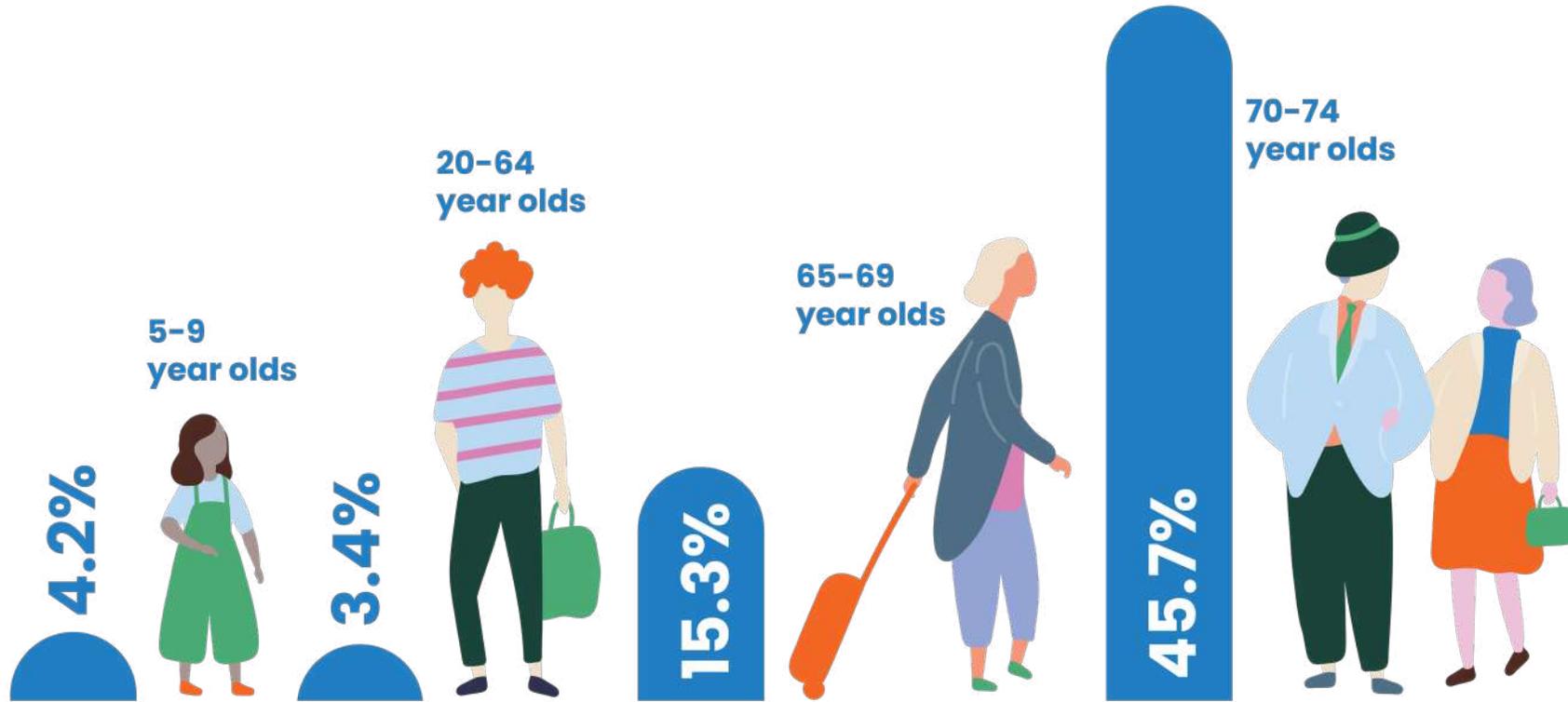
People with disability call every suburb of Penrith City LGA home.

Areas with the highest needs for assistance due to disability include:



Age

As our residents age, disability rates increase.



Households

Consistent with the changing household types available in Penrith City LGA, there is an increase in people with disability living alone or in group homes.

- People with disability
- Change since 2016
- Penrith City LGA

Couples with children **35%**
3.4% ↓
35%

Couples without children **21%**
0.8% ↓
21%

One parent families **23%**
0.9% ↑
14%

Lone Person **15%**
8.3% ↑
21%

Group Households **5%**
2.9% ↑
3%



Birthplace

28%

of Penrith City LGA's residents who need assistance were born overseas.

Language

78%

of residents with disability speak English only.

The top three languages other than English are:

1.4%
Italian

2.5%
Arabic

1.3%
Maltese

Since 2016 the proportion of residents with disability who spoke a language other than English at home increased by 1%.



**How do Penrith
City LGA residents
who need
assistance live?**

Household tenure

Household tenure tells us that people living with disability are more likely to rent or own their homes without a mortgage compared to the rest of the population. However, people with disability are 12% less likely to have a mortgage.

● People with disability ● Penrith City LGA



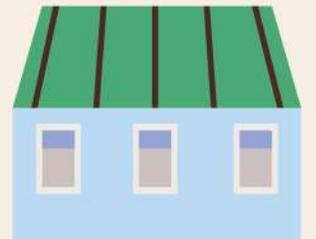
Of those renting:

Rented social housing

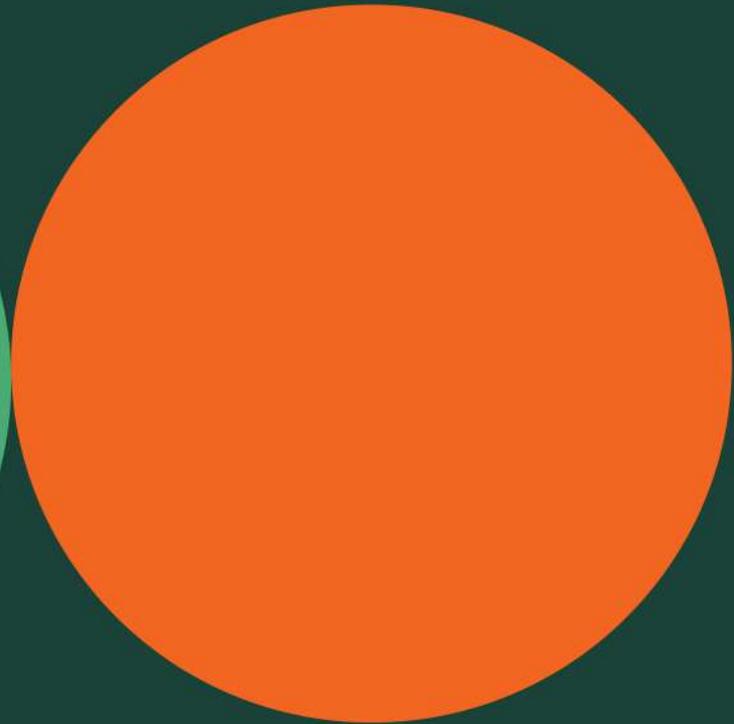
11%

Rented privately

25%



**What do our people
with a need for
assistance do?**



Education

Highest level of schooling

Residents with disability who have completed Year 12 as the highest level of schooling



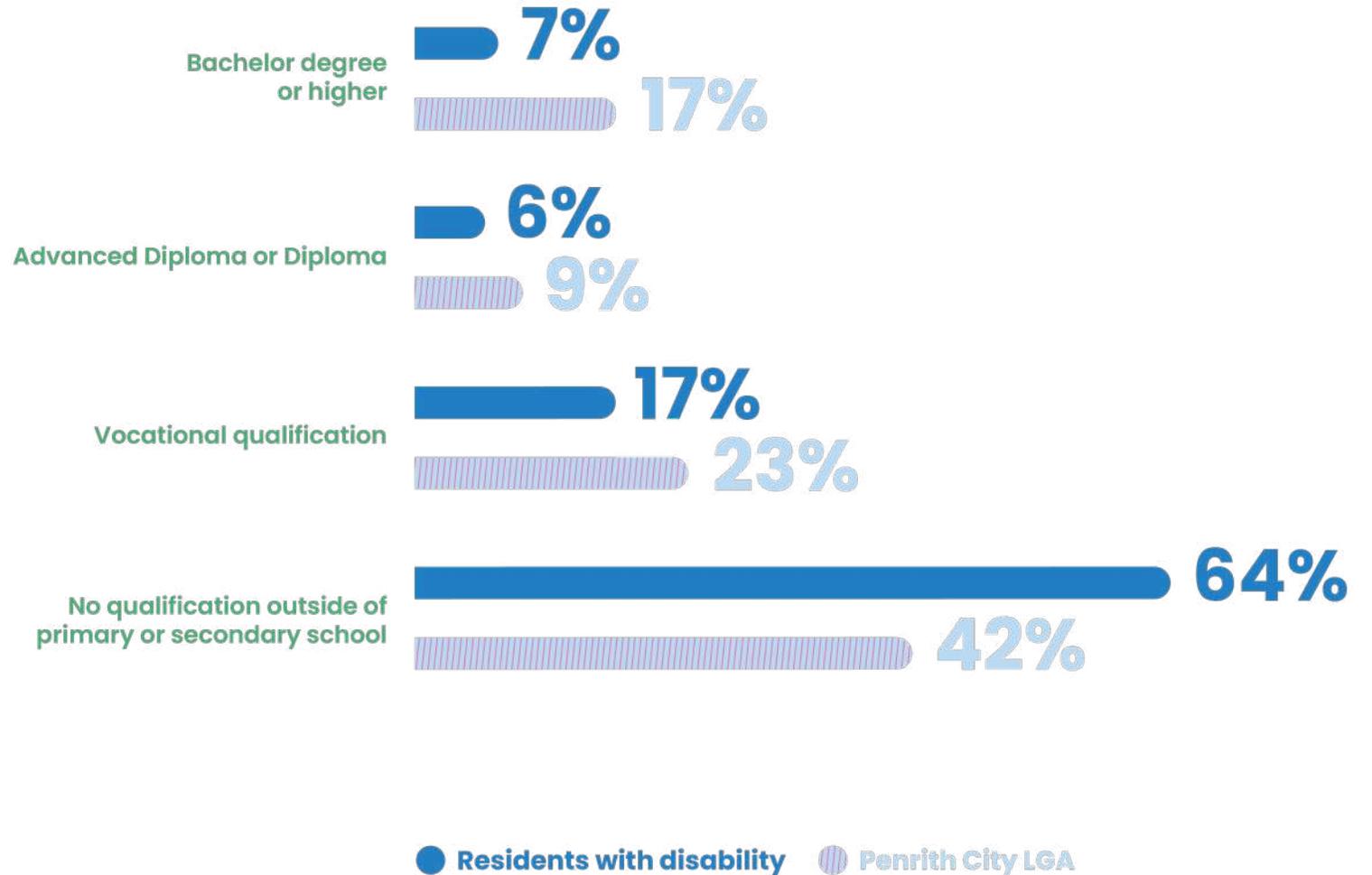
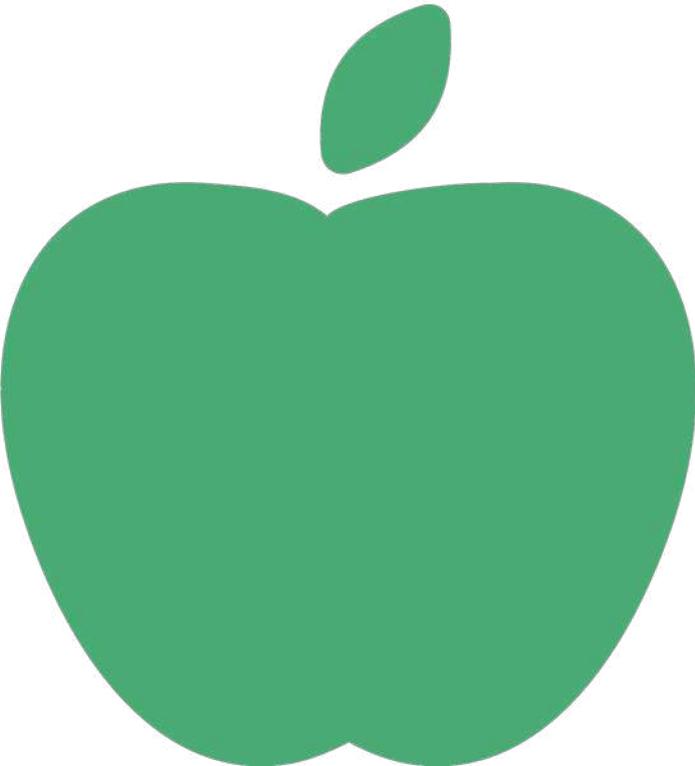
Rates of completion for highest level of schooling for people with a need for assistance due to disability have been increasing over time.

The proportion of 'not stated' results decreased by 3.6% since 2016, improving the overall understanding of participation in formal education.

Education

Highest qualification

While our residents with disability are less likely to have a qualification outside of school, when compared with the wider Penrith City LGA population, these rates have steadily increased since 2016.



Employment

12.3% of our residents with disability are in the labour force.

The top three industries are:

1

25%

Healthcare
and social
assistance



2

11%

Retail
Trade



3

10%

Construction



Income

Our residents with disability are earning significantly less per week than the general Penrith City LGA population. This is likely due to many people with disability being older in age and retired with lower sources of income. This can also be attributed to employment statuses and/or industries of employment.



**Median
weekly
income**

\$1,387

Residents
with disability

\$1,866

Penrith City LGA

Disengagement

Our residents with disability have high rates of disengagement from education and employment.

38%

of 15-24
year olds



Youth disengagement likely indicates a lack of access to employment and education facilities or a population in need of targeted services.

70%

of 25-54
year olds



were disengaged from the labour force.

95%

of 65+
year olds



were disengaged, often because they are retired.

People with disability are a valuable part of Penrith City LGA's diverse community.

5.5%

of all Penrith City LGA residents need assistance due to disability.



As our residents age, rates of disability increase.

People with disability are more likely to have a lower average household income than the overall population.



Almost all (93%) people with disability would recommend Penrith City LGA as a place to live, work and play.



More information

This community profile is part of a suite of resources. See Penrith City Council's [Community Profile](#) for more resources like this.

Note: Much of the content of this report has been sourced from .id – informed decisions. Some of the .id sourced content is a derivative of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data.

Note: Unless otherwise stated, data from 2021.