

Demographic Analysis Reports: Young people

Prepared for Penrith City Council



March 2023

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1. Executive Summary

- ▣ The 12-24 age group includes two distinct stages: 12-17 year old secondary schoolers and 18-24 year old tertiary/independent individuals. Penrith City's 12-24 year old population grew by 2,500 people but decreased by 0.6% as a proportion of the total population.
- ▣ The areas with the highest 12-24 year old populations were Castlereagh-Agnes Banks (20.4%), Claremont Meadows(20.6%), and Leonay (19.9%).
- ▣ The majority of 12-17 and 18-24 year-olds were born in Australia, with top overseas birthplaces being India, New Zealand, and the Philippines. Aboriginal ancestry was more common among Penrith City's 12-24 year-olds than in Greater Sydney, and English was more commonly spoken at home.
- ▣ Younger age groups typically lived in family households, while 18-24 year-olds had begun forming their own households, sometimes in medium or high-density housing.
- ▣ Health statistics show that a larger proportion of 12-17 year-olds (4.6%) required assistance due to disability, while more 18-24 year-olds (25.1%) had at least one long-term health condition, with mental health being the most common (12.5%).
- ▣ Most 12-17 year-olds attended secondary school, whereas educational attendance for 18-24 year-olds was more diverse, with a larger proportion not attending any institution.
- ▣ Penrith City had higher rates of youth disengagement from education and employment, while a larger proportion of 18-24 year-olds participated in the labour force and were employed full-time.
- ▣ Median household incomes for 12-17 year-olds were 11% lower than Greater Sydney's, but almost identical for 18-24 year-olds. Both age groups undertook similar levels of unpaid domestic work compared to Greater Sydney but had higher volunteering rates.

2. Introduction

Young people in this instance describes 12-24-year-olds. That cohort includes young people in two different “life stages” – secondary schoolers (12-17-year-olds) and tertiary education/independent (18-24-year-olds). This report breaks up those two life stages.

In 2021, there were 16,990 12-17-year-olds and 20,190 18-24-year-olds in Penrith, representing 7.8% and 9.3% of the population, respectively. Since 2016, the 12-17-year-old cohort grew by 1,787 people and did not change in representative proportion, whereas the 18-24-year-old cohort increased by 734 people and decreased from 9.9% of the population, to 9.3% in 2021. The proportion of both cohorts was higher than in Greater Sydney, where 7.1% of the population was aged 12-17 years and 8.8% of the population aged 18-24 years.

3. Where are our young people?

The City of Penrith has a larger proportion 12-17 and 18-24 year olds than Greater Sydney. Within the City, the following suburbs had the most significant proportion of 12-17-year olds:

- ▣ Glenmore Park (9.8%)
- ▣ Claremont Meadows (9.8%)
- ▣ Mulgoa (9.7%)
- ▣ Leonay (9.6%)
- ▣ Castlereagh – Agnes Banks (9.4%)

Suburbs such as Berkshire Park, Penrith and Kingswood had the smallest proportions of 12-17-year-olds.

Within the City, the following suburbs had the largest proportion of 18-24-year olds:

- ▣ Orchard Hills (11.6%)
- ▣ Penrith (11.3%)
- ▣ Llandilo (11.2%)
- ▣ Mount Vernon - Kemps Creek - Badgerys Creek (11.1%)
- ▣ Regentville (10.8%)

Suburbs such as Castlereagh - Agnes Banks, Jordan Springs, Werrington Downs - Werrington County - Cambridge Gardens and Oxley Park, had the smallest proportions of 18-24-year-olds.

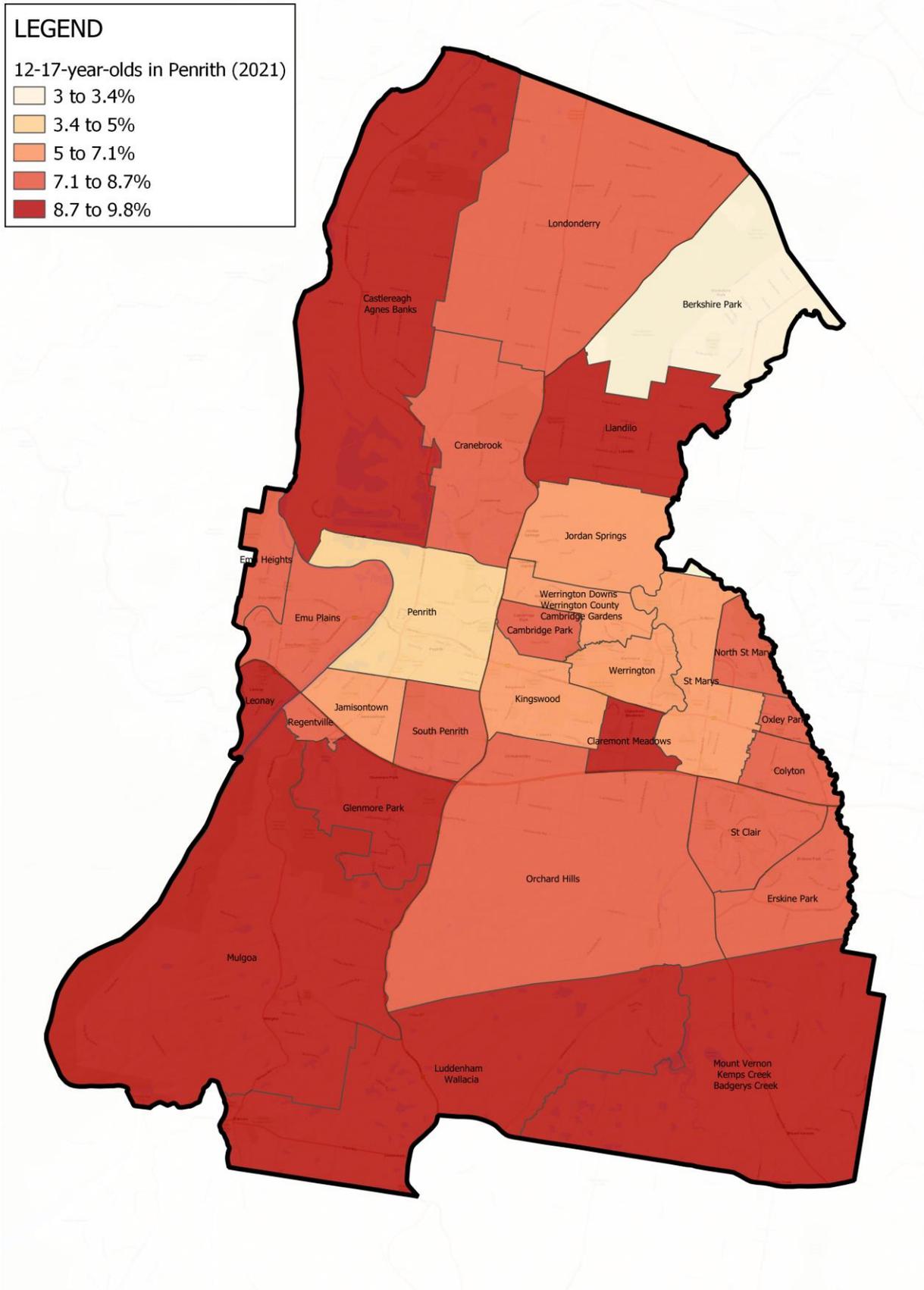
Over time, the proportion of 12-17-year-olds increased most in Leonay, North St Marys and Oxley Park, and decreased most in Llandilo, Orchard Hills and Berkshire Park.

The proportion of 18-24-year-olds in Penrith City increased most in Mulgoa, Llandilo and Penrith, and decreased most in Berkshire Park, Erskine Park and Oxley Park, since 2016.

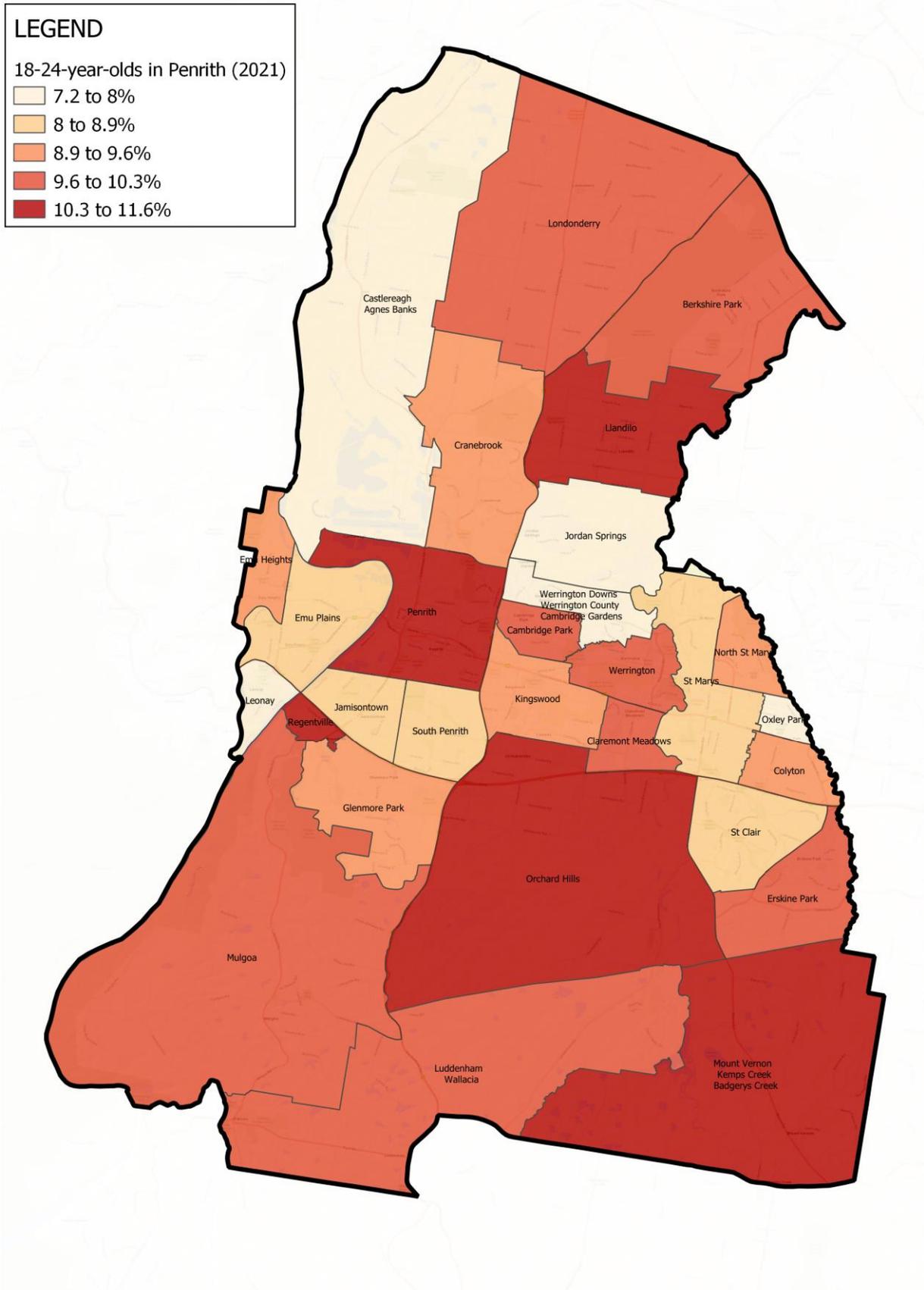
Area	12-17-yr olds (as % of total pop.)	18-24-yr olds (as % of total pop.)	Change in 12- 17-yr. olds, 2016-2021	Change in 18- 24-yr. olds, 2016-2021
Berkshire Park	3.4%	9.8%	-1.0%	1.8%
Cambridge Park	8.1%	11.2%	0.7%	1.8%
Castlereagh - Agnes Banks	9.4%	11.3%	0.8%	1.4%
Claremont Meadows	9.8%	10.8%	0.7%	1.1%
Colyton	8.2%	8.2%	0.2%	0.8%
Cranebrook	8.5%	9.8%	-0.4%	0.8%
Emu Heights	8.7%	8.7%	-0.4%	0.7%
Emu Plains	7.9%	9.9%	0.8%	0.6%
Erskine Park	8.4%	8.0%	-0.7%	0.4%
Glenmore Park	9.8%	8.4%	0.3%	0.3%
Jamisontown	6.4%	9.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%
Jordan Springs	7.1%	9.9%	0.6%	-0.1%
Kingswood	6.1%	11.6%	0.0%	-0.5%
Leonay	9.6%	10.3%	1.7%	-0.8%
Llandilo	9.3%	9.8%	-1.5%	-0.9%
Londonderry	8.4%	9.3%	0.0%	-1.0%
Luddenham - Wallacia	9.2%	9.4%	0.3%	-1.1%
Mount Vernon - Kemps Creek - Badgerys Creek	9.2%	9.6%	0.5%	-1.1%
Mulgoa	9.7%	7.9%	0.3%	-1.2%
North St Marys	8.6%	8.6%	1.6%	-1.4%
Orchard Hills	8.2%	9.4%	-1.3%	-1.4%
Oxley Park	7.9%	9.2%	1.5%	-1.4%
Penrith	5.0%	8.9%	-0.8%	-1.6%
Regentville	8.1%	11.1%	-0.5%	-1.7%
South Penrith	8.4%	7.6%	0.9%	-1.7%

Area	12-17-yr-olds (as % of total pop.)	18-24-yr-olds (as % of total pop.)	Change in 12- 17-yr. olds, 2016-2021	Change in 18- 24-yr. olds, 2016-2021
St Clair	8.1%	7.2%	-0.1%	-2.4%
St Marys	6.4%	7.9%	0.2%	-3.1%
Werrington	7.0%	10.2%	0.7%	-3.5%
Werrington Downs - Werrington County - Cambridge Gardens	7.1%	9.9%	0.0%	-4.0%
Penrith City	7.8%	9.3%	No change	-0.6%

12-24-year-olds in City of Penrith suburbs, 2016-2021



Spatial distribution of 12-17-year-olds in the City of Penrith (2021)



Spatial distribution of 18-24-year-olds in the City of Penrith (2021)

4. Who are our young people?

Knowing and acknowledging the cultural diversity of 12-24-year-olds in local government planning helps identify their specific needs and challenges, ensuring policies and services are inclusive and responsive to all community members. This can improve outcomes and reduce inequalities from an education and employment perspective.

4.1 Birthplace

In 2021, 86% of Penrith's 12-17 and 82% of Penrith's 18-24-year-olds were born in Australia. Of those born overseas, these are the most common overseas birthplaces:

12-17-year-olds:

- ▣ India (1.7%)
- ▣ New Zealand (1.6%)
- ▣ Philippines (1.2%)
- ▣ England (0.5%)
- ▣ Pakistan (0.4%)

18-24-year-olds:

- ▣ New Zealand (2.1%)
- ▣ India (1.7%)
- ▣ Philippines (1.6%)
- ▣ England (0.5%)
- ▣ Nepal (0.4%)

Compared to Greater Sydney's 12-17-year-olds, Penrith City had a larger proportion of people born in New Zealand and the Philippines and a smaller proportion born in England.

Similar to 12-17-year-olds, compared to Greater Sydney's 18-24-year-olds, Penrith City had a larger proportion of people born in New Zealand and the Philippines, and a smaller proportion born in Nepal, India or England.

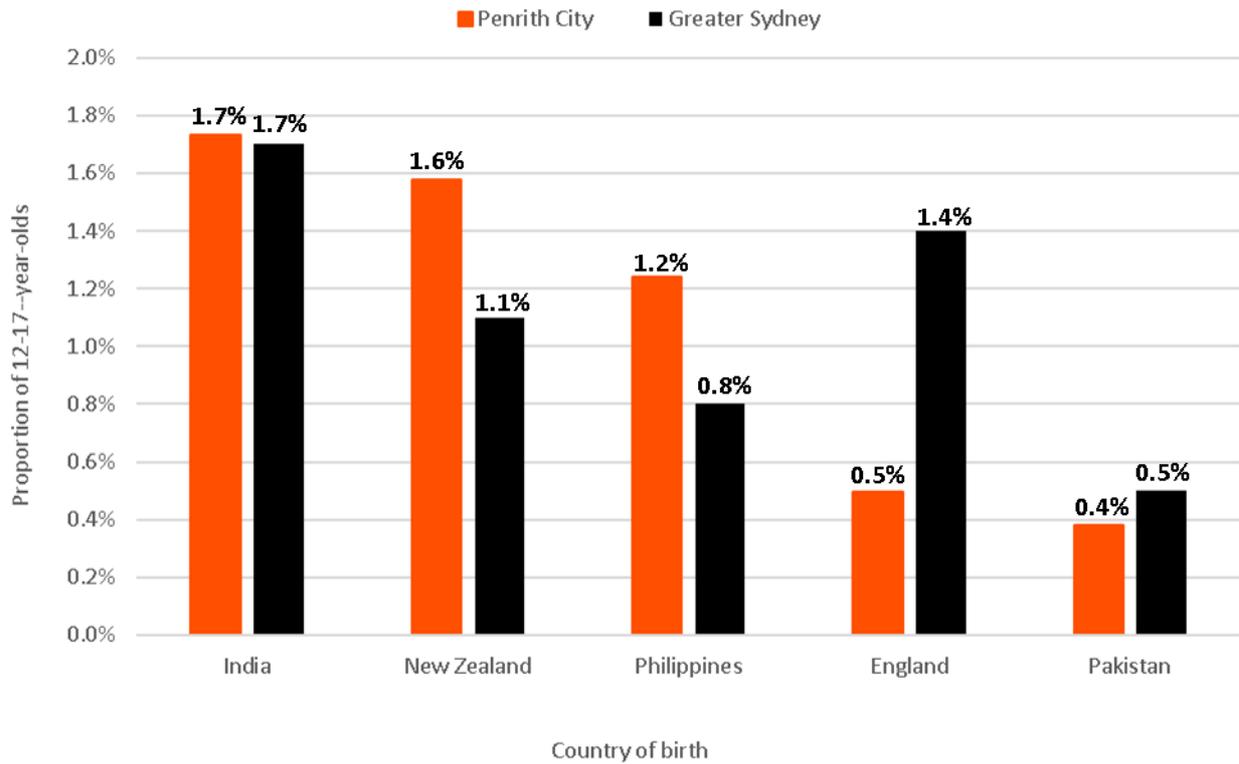
Since 2016, these changes occurred to the top birthplaces for Penrith's 12-24-year-olds:

12-17-year-olds:

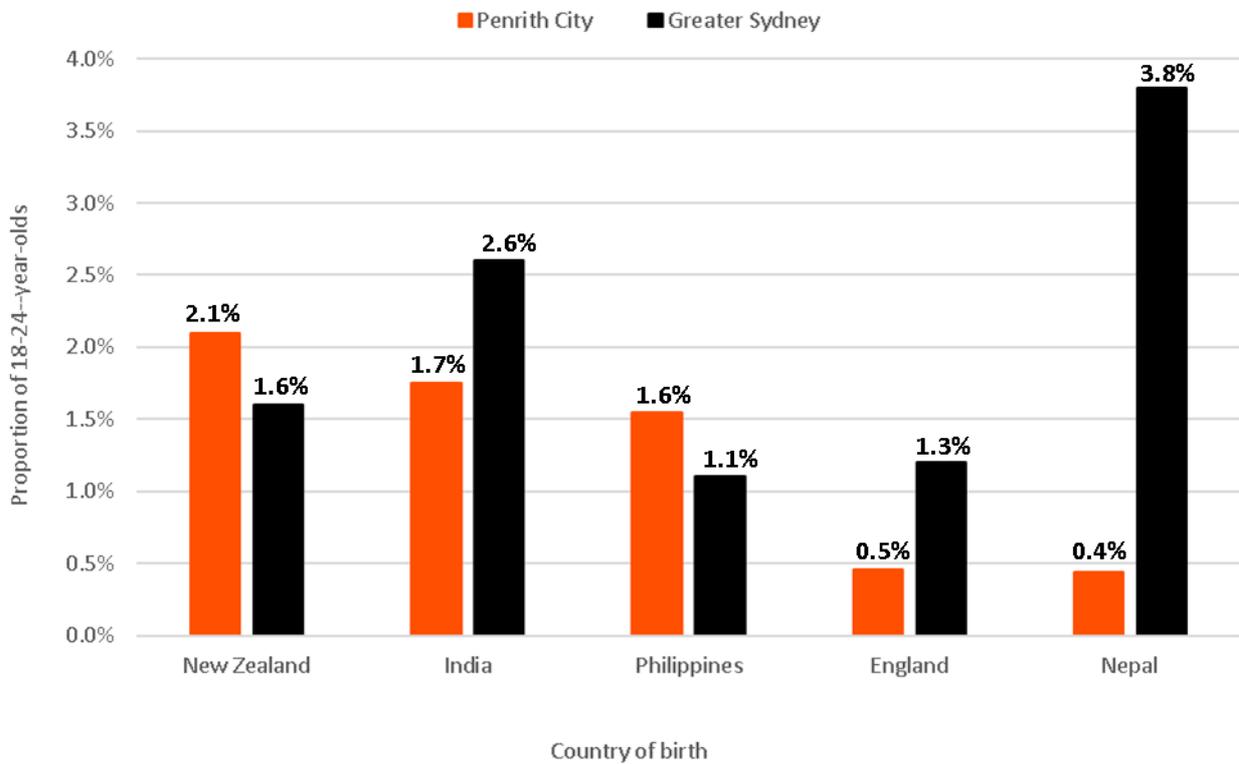
- ▣ Australia (-1.0%)
- ▣ India (+0.8%)
- ▣ New Zealand (no change)
- ▣ Philippines (+0.1%)
- ▣ England (no change)
- ▣ Pakistan (+0.2%)

18-24-year-olds:

- ▣ Australia (-0.7%)
- ▣ New Zealand (-0.2%)
- ▣ India (+0.6%)
- ▣ Philippines (+0.5%)
- ▣ England (-0.1%)
- ▣ Nepal (+0.2%)



Top 5 countries of birth for overseas born 12-17-year-olds in Penrith City (ex. Australia), 2021



Top 5 countries of birth for overseas born 18-24-year-olds in Penrith City (ex. Australia), 2021

4.2 Ancestry

Ancestry is a more subjective cultural diversity metric in that respondents (or parents) choose which ancestry they identify with. For example, there are several birthplaces, such as those of migrants who arrived in Australia post-World War II, which are declining in number but the ancestry numbers for those countries (e.g., Italy, Greece) and increasing as second and third-generation Australian residents identify with those ancestries. Ancestry is a multi-response question in the Census, so totals can add up to above 100%.

In 2021, these were the top ancestries of Penrith City's 12-24-year-olds:

12-17-year-olds

- ▣ Australian (42.7%)
- ▣ English (27.7%)
- ▣ Australian Aboriginal (7.5%)
- ▣ Irish (6.4%)
- ▣ Scottish (4.6%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▣ Australian (40.6%)
- ▣ English (29.9%)
- ▣ Irish (7.0%)
- ▣ Australian Aboriginal (6.9%)
- ▣ Scottish (5.4%)

Compared to Greater Sydney's 12-17-year-olds, Penrith City had a more significant proportion of Australian, English and Australian Aboriginal ancestries and similar proportions of people with Irish or Scottish ancestries.

A larger proportion of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds had Australian, English and Australian Aboriginal ancestry compared to the same age group across Greater Sydney.

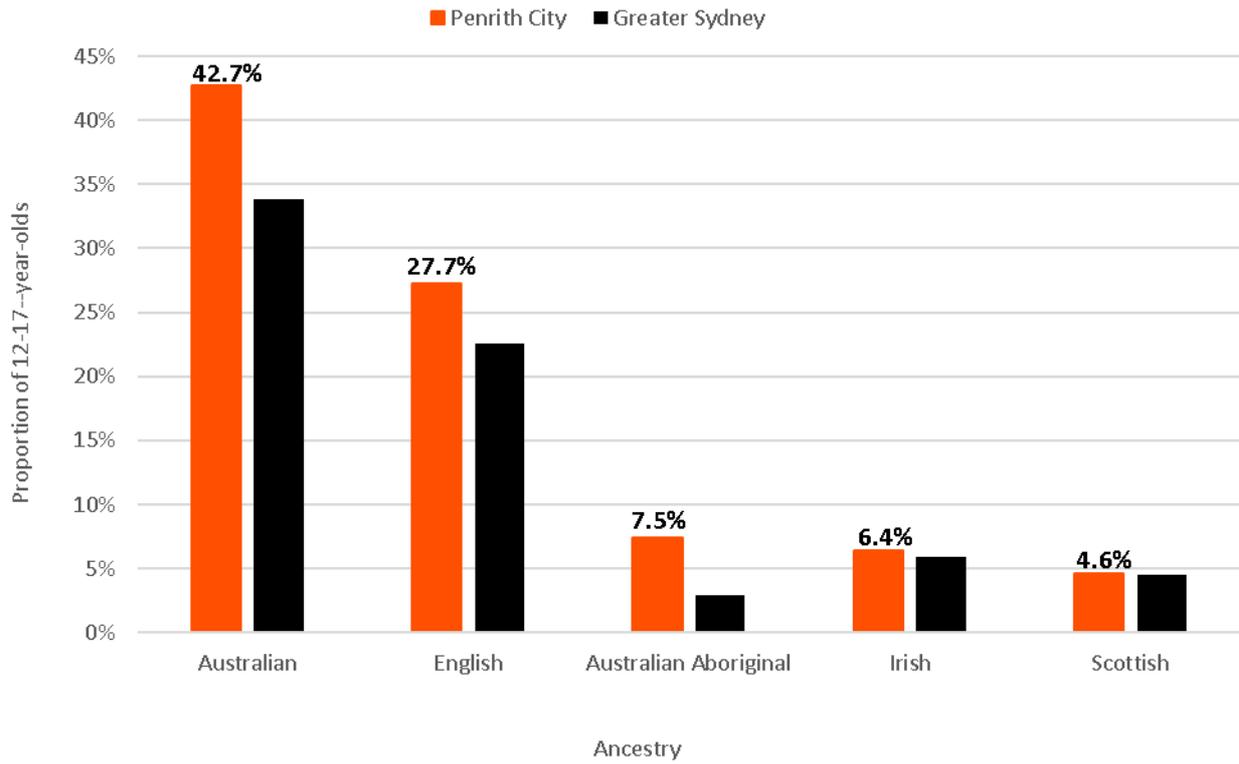
Since 2016, these changes occurred to the top birthplaces for Penrith's 12-24-year-olds:

12-17-year-olds

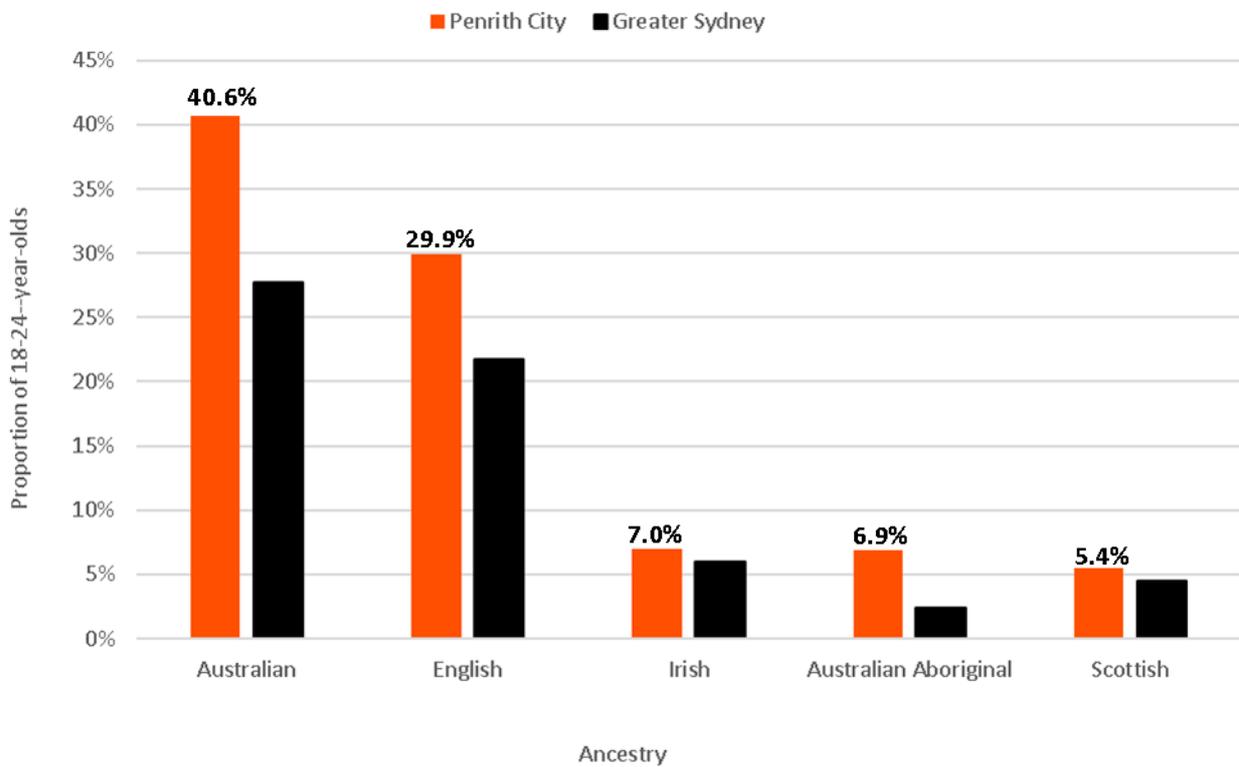
- ▣ Australian (-3.3%)
- ▣ English (-5.2%)
- ▣ Australian Aboriginal (+6.6%)
- ▣ Irish (-2.3%)
- ▣ Scottish (-1.6%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▣ Australian (-1.7%)
- ▣ English (-3.6%)
- ▣ Irish (-2.0%)
- ▣ Australian Aboriginal (+6.1%)
- ▣ Scottish (-0.8%)



Top 5 ancestries of 12-17-year-olds in Penrith City, 2021



Top 5 ancestries of 18-24-year-olds in Penrith City, 2021

4.3 Languages spoken

In 2021, 80% of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds and 79% of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds spoke English, by far the most commonly spoken language by 12-24-year-olds in the City. Other languages spoken include:

12-17-year-olds

▾	Arabic (1.9%)
▾	Punjabi (1.0%)
▾	Hindi (0.9%)
▾	Samoan (0.7%)
▾	Malayan (0.6%)

18-24-year-olds

▾	Arabic (1.8%)
▾	Tagalog (1.0%)
▾	Punjabi (1.0%)
▾	Samoan (0.9%)
▾	Hindi (0.8%)

Compared to Greater Sydney's 12-17-year-olds, Penrith City had a more significant proportion of people who spoke English, similar proportions that spoke Punjabi, Samoan or Malayan and a smaller proportion that spoke Arabic.

A larger proportion of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds spoke English, compared to Greater Sydney, similar proportions spoke Tagalog or Punjabi and slightly lower proportions spoke Arabic or Hindi, compared to Greater Sydney's 18-24-year-olds.

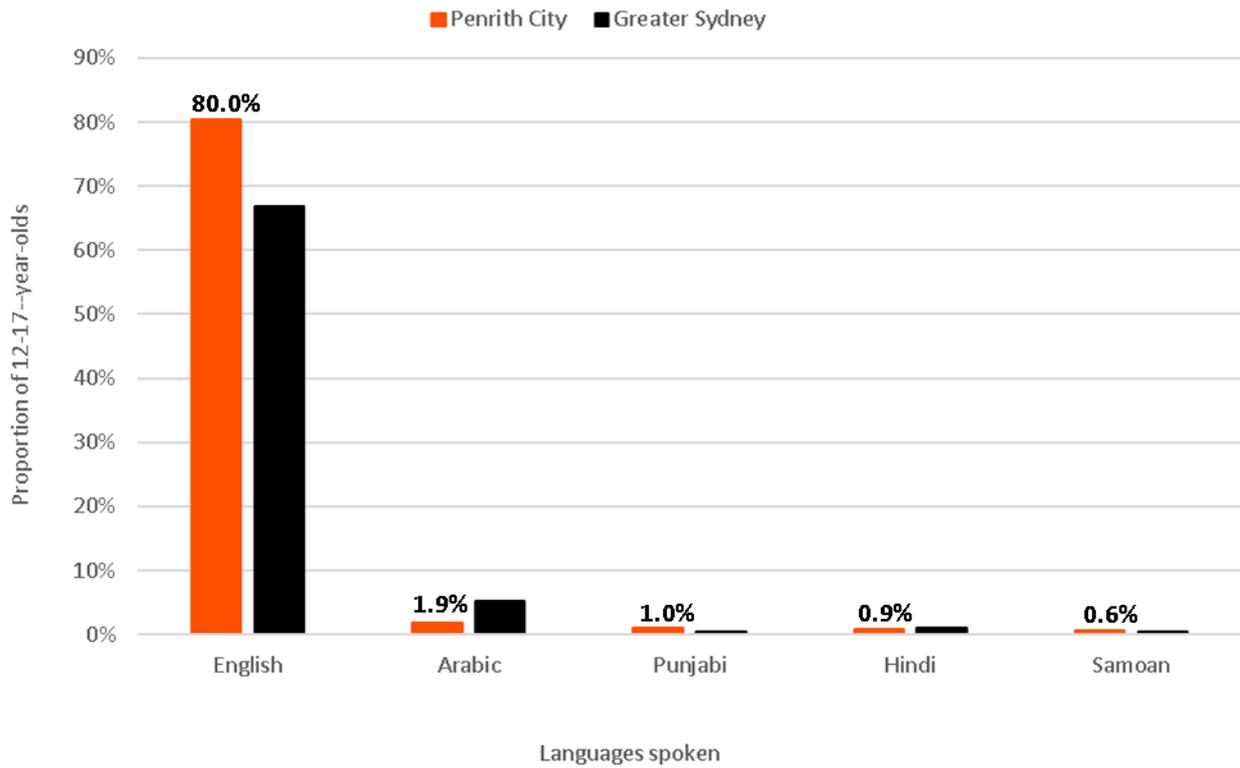
Since 2016, these changes occurred to the top 5 languages spoken by Penrith's 18-24-year-olds:

12-17-year-olds

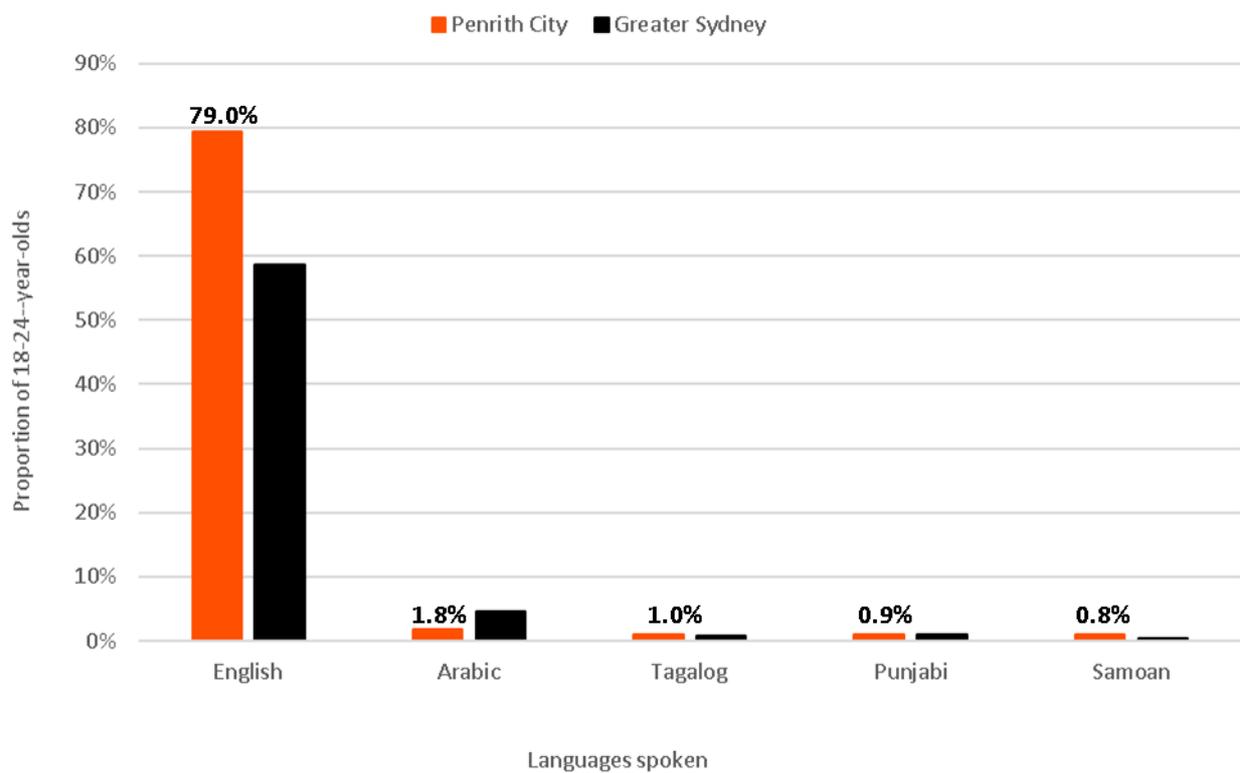
▾	English (-3.2%)
▾	Arabic (+0.2%)
▾	Punjabi (+0.5%)
▾	Hindi (+0.2%)
▾	Samoan (-0.1%)
▾	Malayan (+0.3%)

18-24-year-olds

▾	English (-1.2%)
▾	Arabic (-0.1%)
▾	Tagalog (+0.3%)
▾	Punjabi (+0.3%)
▾	Samoan (+0.1%)
▾	Hindi (-0.4%)



Top 5 languages spoken by 12-17-year-olds in Penrith City, 2021



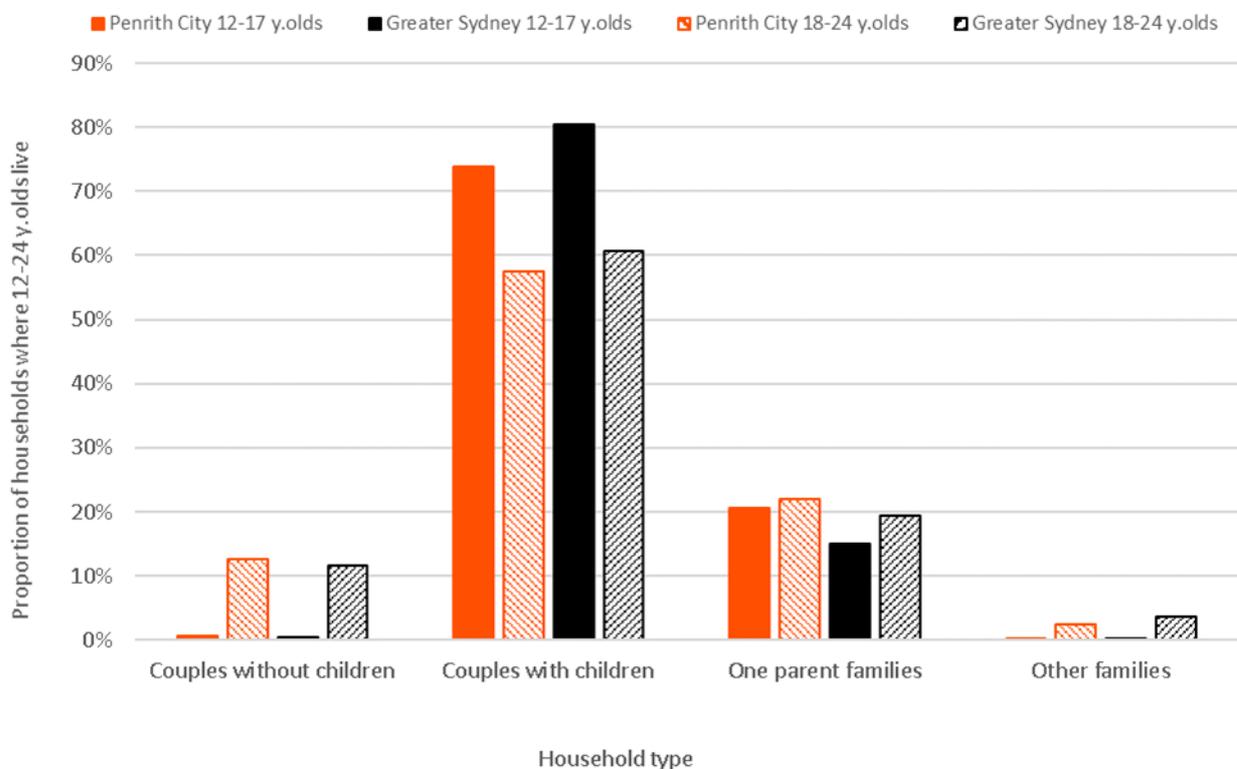
Top 5 languages spoken by 18-24-year-olds in Penrith City, 2021

5. How do our young people live?

5.1 Household composition

In 2021, 74% of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds and 58% of 18-24-year-olds lived as children in "couple family with children" households. One-parent families were home to 21% of 12-17-year-olds and 22% of 18-24-year-olds. While only 0.6% of 12-17-year-olds lived in a couple without children household, 13% of 18-24-year-olds lived independently as a couple, another example of the different life stages these two age groups represent.

In the 12-17-year-old age group, Penrith City has a larger proportion of residents living in one-parent families than Greater Sydney, and a lower proportion living in "couples with children" households. For 18-24-year-olds, Penrith City had a slightly more significant proportion living as couples without children and in one-parent families, and a smaller proportion living in couples with children households.



Composition of households where 12-24-year-olds live, Penrith City, 2021

Since 2016, these changes occurred to the household types which 12-24-year-olds lived in:

12-17-year-olds

- ▾ Couples without children (-0.4%)
- ▾ Couples with children (+4.2%)
- ▾ One parent families (-3.0%)
- ▾ Other families (-0.4%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▾ Couples without children (+2.3%)
- ▾ Couples with children (+3.7%)
- ▾ One parent families (+1.6%)
- ▾ Other families (no change)

5.2 Number of people in household

In 2021, 32% of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds and 24% of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds lived in four-person households. A smaller proportion of 12-27-year-olds (24%) lived in five-person households and 19% of 18-24-year-olds lived in three-person households (related to more one parent families at this age, see previous section).

The average household size for households where 12-17-year-olds lived was 3.94 persons per household, and for 18-24-year-olds, 3.33 persons per household.

Greater Sydney's 12-17-year-olds lived in slightly smaller households (3.87 persons per household) whereas 18-24-year-olds were similar to Penrith City (3.34 persons per household).

Since 2016, these changes occurred to the household sizes which pre-schoolers lived in. Households with 12-27-year-olds became slightly larger, while households with 18-24-year-olds became smaller:

12-17-year-olds

- ▾ One-person households (n/a)
- ▾ Two-person households (-0.1%)
- ▾ Three-person households (-0.2%)
- ▾ Four-person households (+/-0%)
- ▾ 5+ person households (-0.1%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▾ One-person households (+1.2%)
- ▾ Two-person households (+1.7%)
- ▾ Three-person households (+0.1%)
- ▾ Four-person households (-0.9%)
- ▾ 5+ person households (-1.3%)

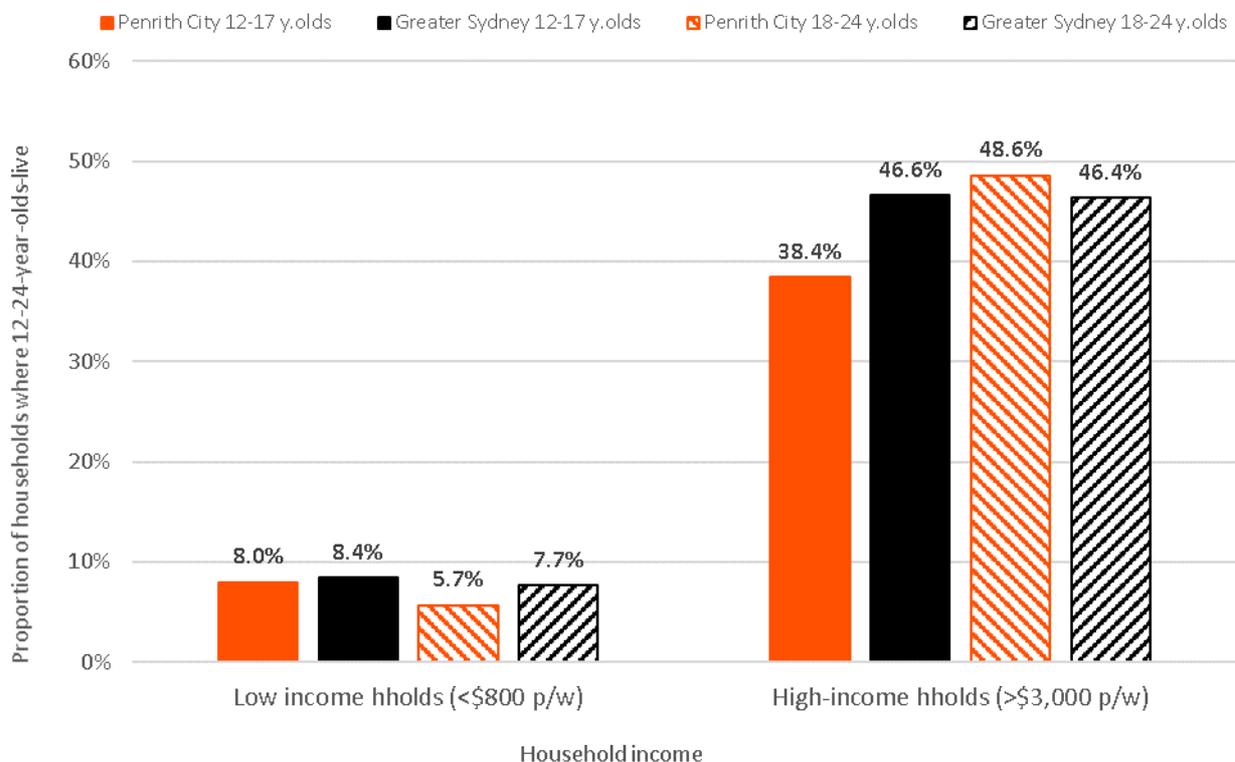
5.3 Household income

Households, where 12-17-year-olds reside, are generally lower than those of 18-24-year-olds in both Penrith City and Greater Sydney and could be related to different life stages of income earners or parents' employment status at that point of a household life cycle.

In 2021, the median household income for households where 12-17-year-olds lived was \$2,532. By comparison in Greater Sydney, the median household income was 11% higher, \$2,817.

The median household income for households where 18-24-year-olds lived was \$2,831, 0.1% higher than the Greater Sydney median of \$2,828.

Low-income households, which are defined as those with \$800 of gross weekly income or less, accounted for 8.0% of Penrith City households where 12-17-year-olds lived and 5.7% of households where 18-24-year-olds lived. This was slightly lower than in Greater Sydney (8.4 and 8.7%, respectively). High-income households (>\$3,000 or more per week) accounted for 38% of 12-17 and 49% of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds. A smaller proportion of Penrith's 12-17-year-olds and a larger proportion of 18-24-year-olds lived in high-income households.



Proportion of 12-24-year-olds living in low and high-income households, Penrith City, 2021

5.4 Dwelling type

In 2021, most 12-24-year-olds in Penrith City lived in separate house dwellings. This is a reflection of the City’s built form/dwelling type mix, where 76% of all dwellings are separate houses and the type of dwellings where families with young children/young adults live. The breakdown of dwelling types where Penrith’s 12-24-year-olds live are:

12-17-year-olds

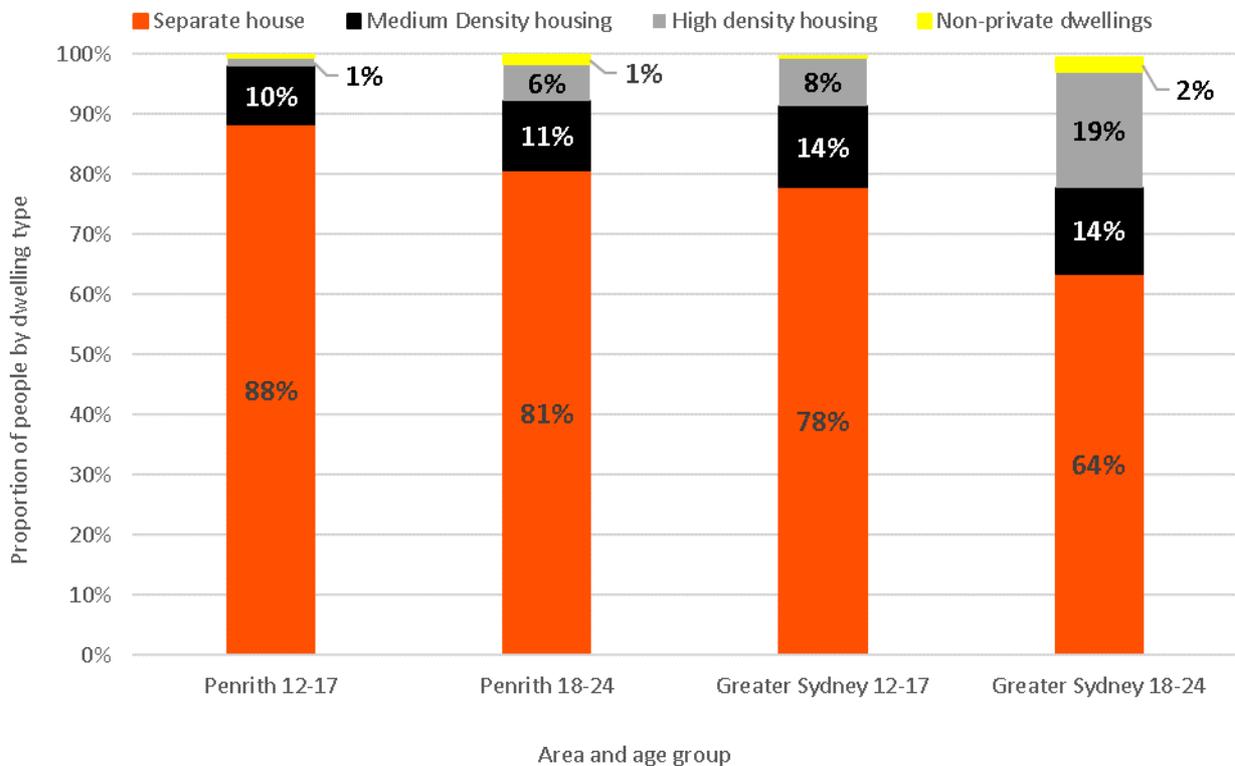
- ▣ Separate house (88%)
- ▣ Medium density (10%)
- ▣ High density (1%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▣ Separate house (81%)
- ▣ Medium density (11%)
- ▣ High density (6%)
- ▣ Non-private dwellings (1%)

While dwelling type characteristics are quite similar for 12-17 and 18-24-year-olds, more of the latter group live in high-density dwellings such as apartments and non-private dwellings, including university halls of residence, for example.

Compared to Greater Sydney, a larger proportion of Penrith’s 12-24-year-olds live in separate houses and a lower proportion live in medium or high-density dwellings.



Types of dwellings where 12-24-year-olds live, Penrith City, 2021

Since 2016, these changes occurred to the dwelling types where 12-24-year-olds lived. More younger people are living in medium and higher-density dwellings, and for 18-24-year-olds, there was a decrease in non-private dwelling living, perhaps related to Covid-19 and a reluctance of young people to live in student halls of residence.

12-17-year-olds

- ▾ Separate house (-1.5%)
- ▾ Medium density (+1.7%)
- ▾ High density (+0.4%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▾ Separate house (-2.7%)
- ▾ Medium density (+0.9%)
- ▾ High density (+3.2%)
- ▾ Non-private dwellings (-1.1%)

5.5 Tenure type

Most households where 18-24-year-olds lived were owned with a mortgage, suggesting younger families/households. More households where 18-24-year-olds live are owned outright, meaning some mature families paying off home loans by the time children reach this age cohort.

In 2021, the tenure type for households where 18-24-year-olds lived were:

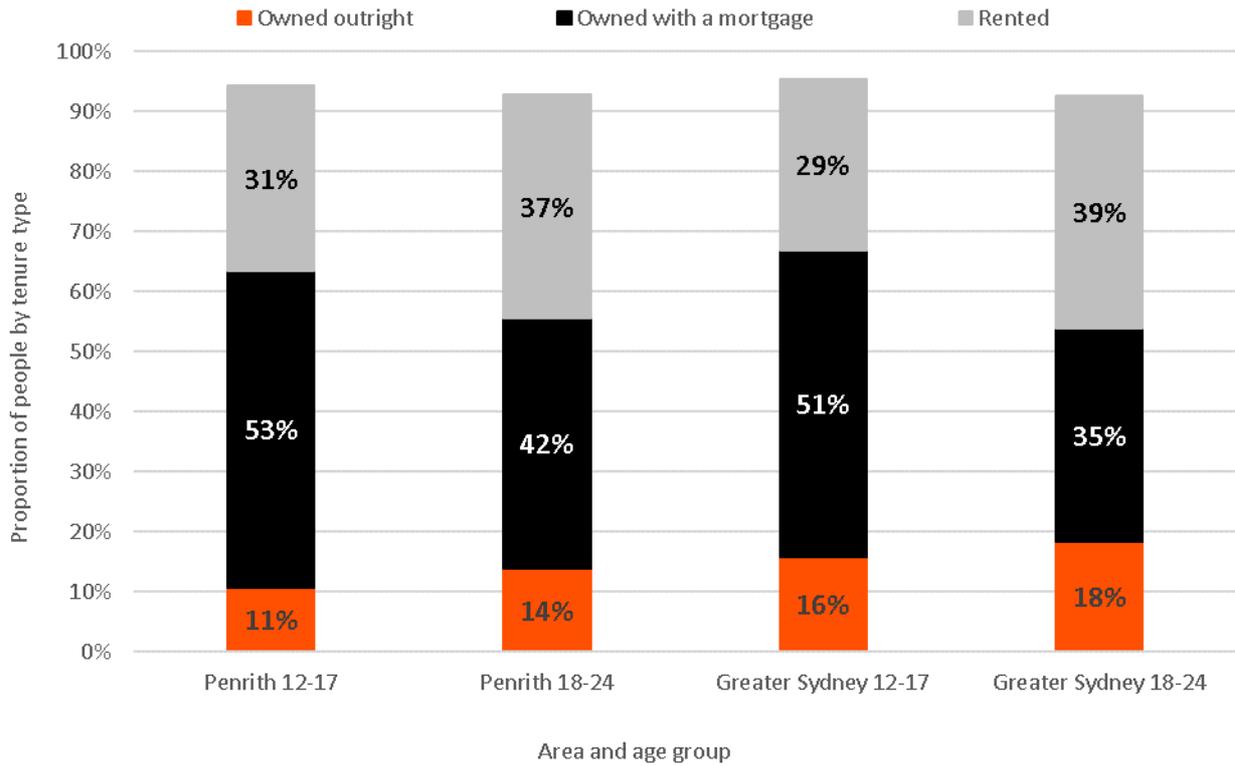
12-17-year-olds

- ▾ Owned outright (11%)
- ▾ Owned with a mortgage (53%)
- ▾ Rented (31%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▾ Owned outright (14%)
- ▾ Owned with a mortgage (42%)
- ▾ Rented (37%)

In Greater Sydney, the proportion of households owned outright was larger for both 12-17 and 18-24-year-olds. On the other hand, proportions of households owned with a mortgage were smaller, whereas rented households were at similar proportion for 12-14-year-olds as in Penrith City.



Tenure type of households where 12-24-year-olds live, Penrith City, 2021

Since 2016, these changes occurred to the tenure types of households where 12-24-year-olds lived. A decrease in outright ownership and an increase in rent tenure types occurred for both age cohorts but significantly more for the 18-24-year-old cohort, which includes young people of this age renting themselves.

12-17-year-olds

- ▮ Owned outright (-1.1%)
- ▮ Owned with a mortgage (-0.1%)
- ▮ Rented (+1.7%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▮ Owned outright (-1.9%)
- ▮ Owned with a mortgage (-0.9%)
- ▮ Rented (+4.9%)

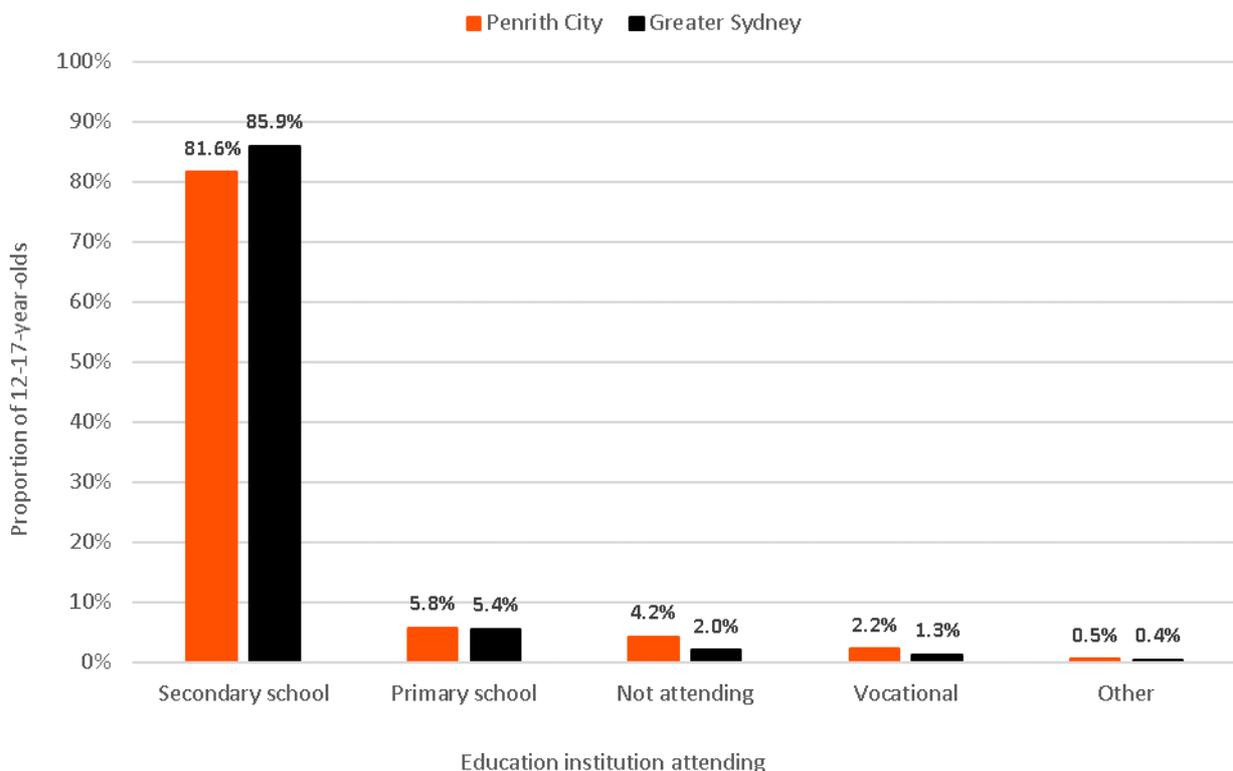
6. What do our young people do?

6.1 Educational institution attendance

Educational institution attendance for this age cohort includes 12-17-year-olds who attend secondary school during that life stage and 18-24-year-olds, who attend tertiary education institutions (University or Vocational/TAFE institutions), or complete studies and are employed.

In 2021, most Penrith City 12-17-year-olds attended secondary school (82%), with a smaller proportion still attending primary school (6%), comprised of the younger part of the 12-17-year-old cohort. In addition, a small proportion (4%) were not attending any educational institution.

Compared to Greater Sydney, Penrith City had a lower proportion of 12-17-year-olds who attended secondary school, a similar proportion who attended primary school and a slightly more significant proportion who were not attending any institution.



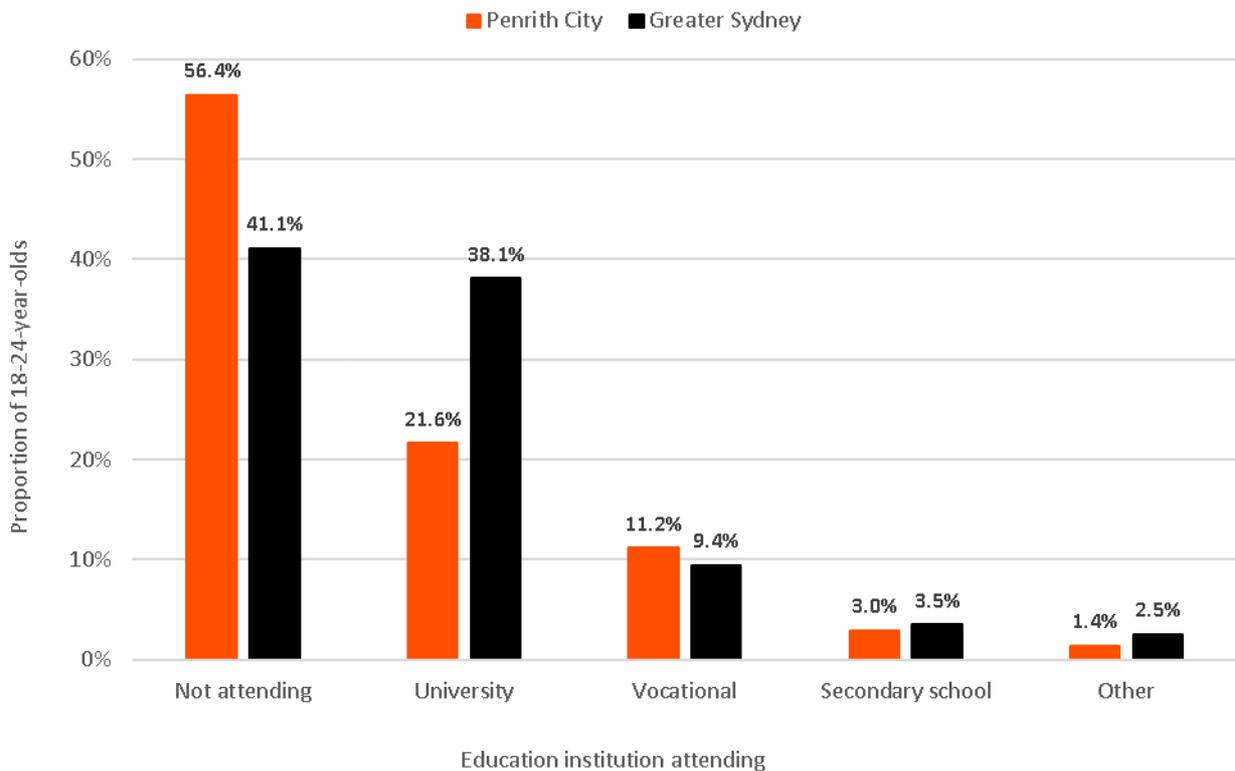
Educational institution attendance for Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, these changes occurred concerning educational institution attendance of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds:

- ▣ Primary school (+0.1%)
- ▣ Secondary school (-0.1%)
- ▣ Vocational (+0.3%)
- ▣ Not attending (+0.6%)
- ▣ Other (+0.1%)

In 2021, 56% of Penrith City’s 18-24-year-olds did not attend any educational institution. A further 22% attended a university, and 11% attended a Vocational institution/TAFE. Secondary school was attended by 3% of Penrith’s 18-24-year-olds.

A larger proportion of Greater Sydney’s 18-24-year-olds were attending a university (38%) and a smaller proportion was not attending an institution (41%). A slightly smaller proportion of Greater Sydney’s 18-24-year-olds attended a Vocational institution/TAFE.



Educational institution attendance for Penrith City’s 18-24-year-olds, 2021

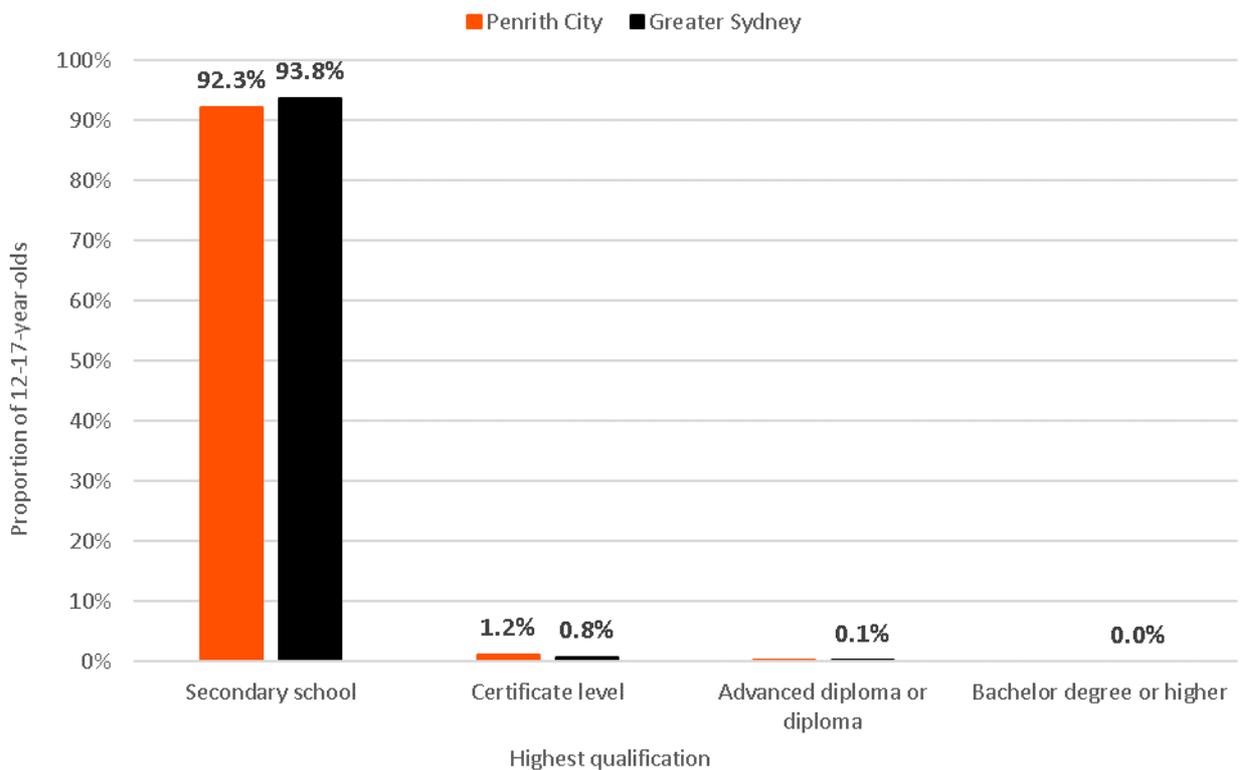
Since 2016, these changes occurred about educational institution attendance of Penrith City’s 18-24-year-olds:

- ▣ Not attending (-2.5%)
- ▣ University (+1.0%)
- ▣ Vocational (+2.3%)

6.2 Highest qualification

In 2021, 52% of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds were under 15 and not recorded in this data. A further 0.4% stated having no formal qualification obtained in this age group. Of those who did obtain a qualification, 92% had a secondary school qualification and 1.2% a Certificate I to IV level qualification.

Compared to Greater Sydney, Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds had fewer secondary school completers.



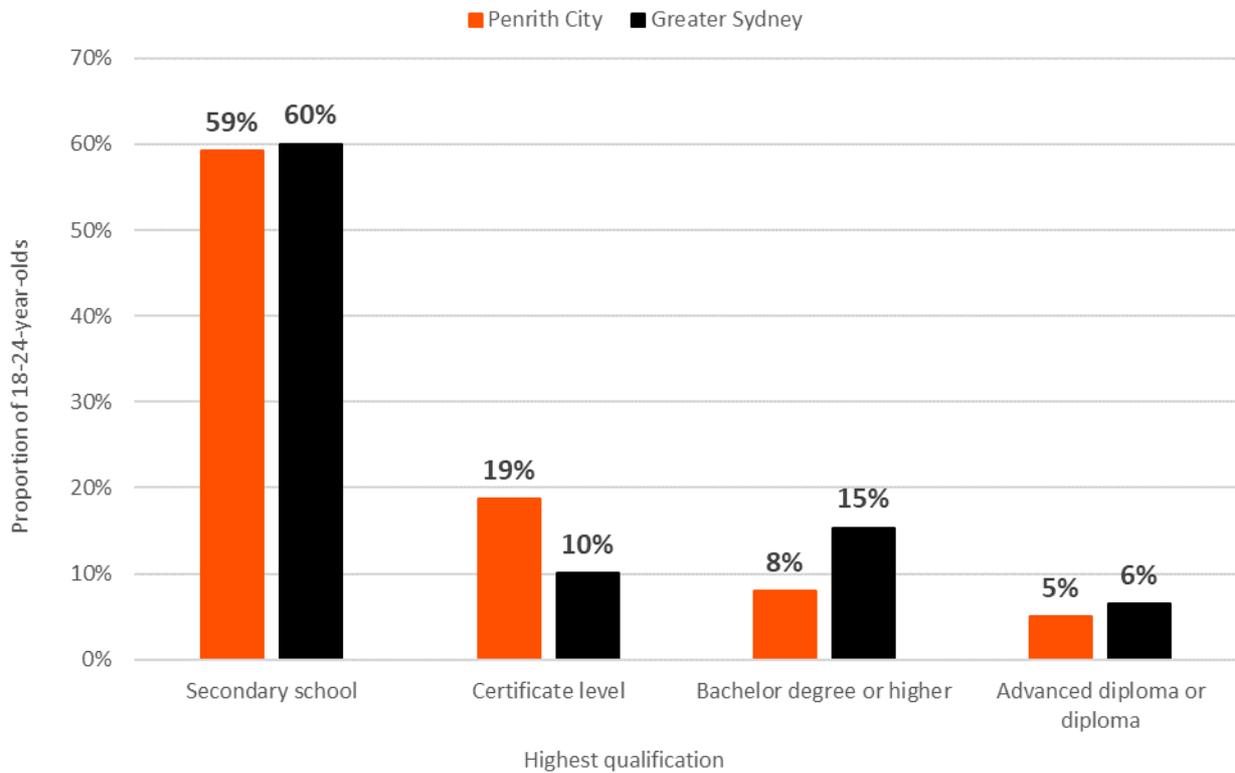
Highest qualification obtained for Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, these changes were recorded to the highest qualifications of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds:

- ▣ No qualification (+0.2%)
- ▣ Secondary school (+2.6%)
- ▣ Certificate level (-0.2%)

For Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds, a majority (59%) had secondary school as their highest qualification obtained. A smaller proportion (19%) had a Certificate I to IV level qualification, 8% had a Bachelor degree or higher, and 5% had an advanced diploma or diploma. Finally, 2% had no formal qualification.

Compared to Greater Sydney's 18-24-year-olds, Penrith City had a slightly lower proportion of 18-24-year-olds with a secondary school qualification, a notably larger proportion with a Certificate I to IV level qualification, a notably lower proportion with a Bachelor degree or higher and a slightly lower proportion with an Advanced diploma or diploma.



Highest qualification obtained for Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, these changes were recorded to the highest qualifications of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds:

- ▣ No qualification (+0.4%)
- ▣ Secondary school (+0.7%)
- ▣ Certificate level (+0.1%)
- ▣ Bachelor degree or higher (+1.1%)
- ▣ Advanced diploma or diploma (-0.7%)

6.3 Field of study

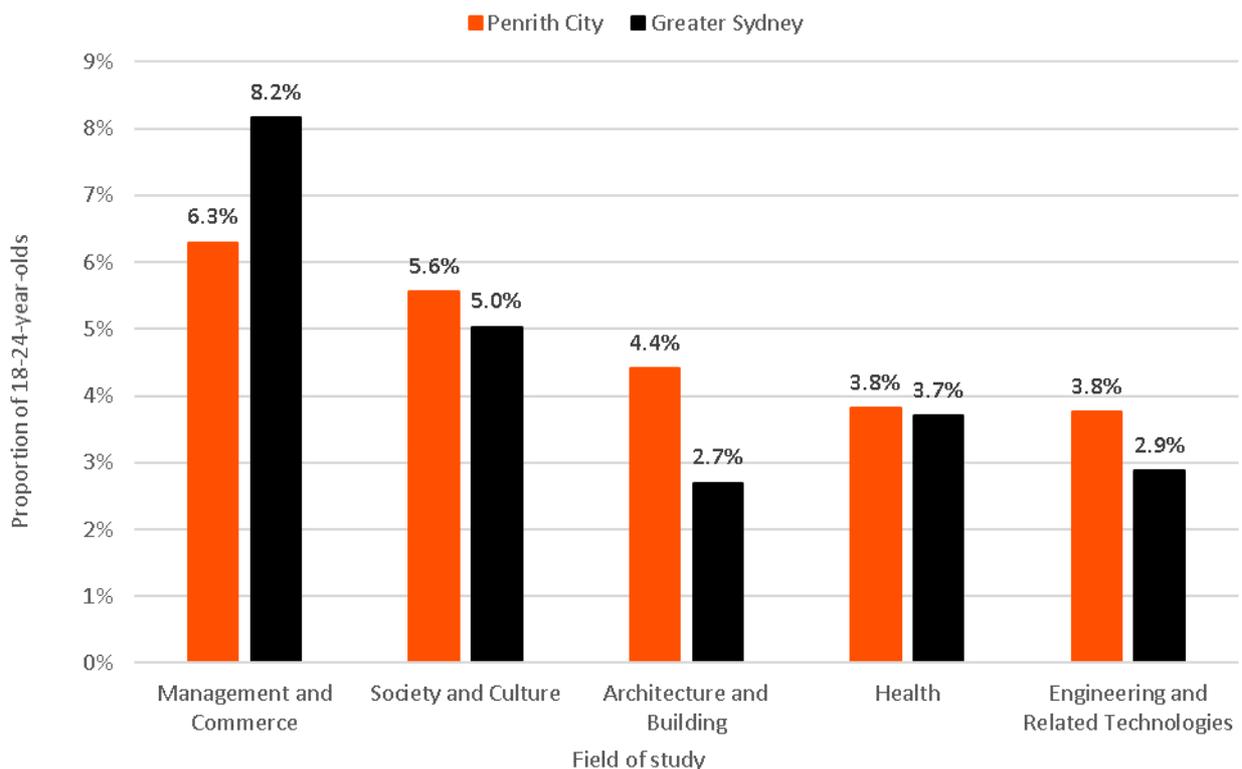
Field of study information describes the field of study of a person's highest completed non-school qualification. The data is more applicable to the 18-24-year cohort than to 12-17-years,

where 97% of Penrith City respondents to the “field of study” Census question were ineligible. This section will therefore assess 18-24-year-olds only.

In 2021, 43% of Penrith City’s 18-24-year-olds completed a non-school qualification. In Greater Sydney, this proportion was 42%. Of those Penrith City residents aged 18-24 years who completed a non-school qualification, the most common fields of study were:

- ▣ Management and Commerce (6.3%)
- ▣ Society and Culture (5.6%)
- ▣ Architecture and Building (4.4%)

Compared to Greater Sydney, more Penrith City 18-24-year-olds studied “Society and culture”, “Architecture and building” and “Engineering and related technologies” and fewer studied “Management and commerce”.



Top 5 fields of study for Penrith City’s 18-24-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, the main changes to Penrith City’s fields of study for 18-24-year-olds were:

- ▣ Architecture and Building (+1.1%)
- ▣ Health (+1.1%)
- ▣ Engineering and related technologies (-0.8%)

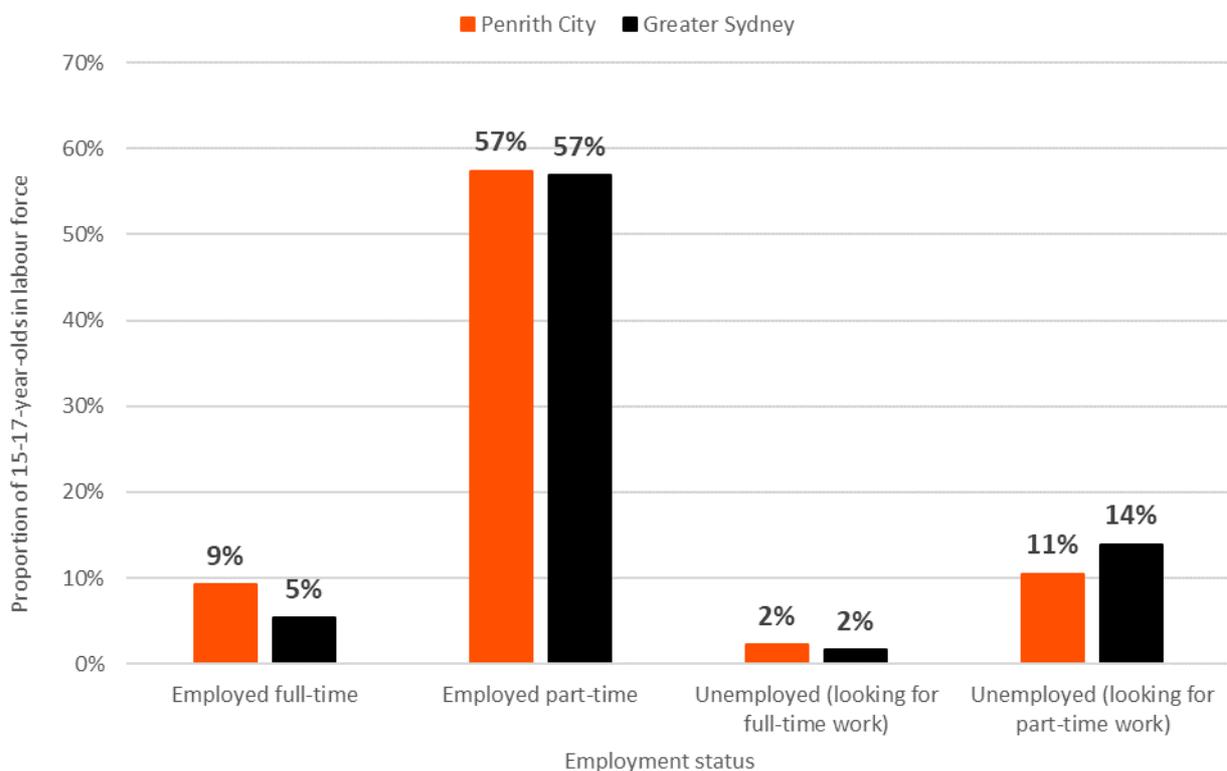
Management and commerce (-1.4%)

6.4 Employment status

Employment status in the labour force describes whether Penrith residents who are in the labour force are employed or unemployed. The labour force refers to people over 15 years who are employed or unemployed but looking for work. This information only applies to residents aged 15 and older, so the 12-17 group only refers to 15-17-year-olds. The 15-17 age cohort has a lower labour force participation rate (38%) than 18-24-year-olds (77%) as many younger residents still attend school.

In 2021, 38% of 15-17-year-olds were in the labour force, representing 2,961 Penrith City residents. Of those, 87% were employed, mostly in part-time arrangements, with 9% working full-time. 13% of Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds were unemployed, with 2% looking for full-time work and 11% looking for part-time work.

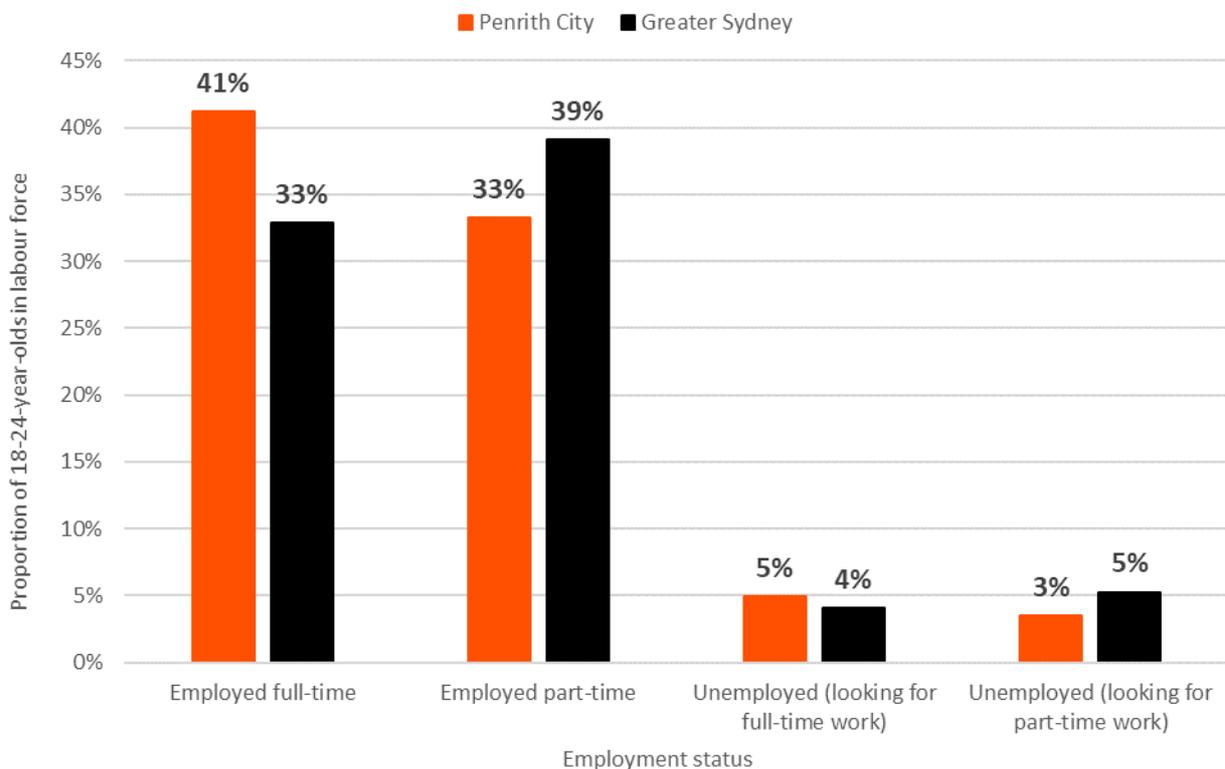
Compared to Greater Sydney, a larger proportion Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds in the labour force are employed (87% compared to 85% in Greater Sydney). A larger proportion of Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds were employed full-time (9% compared to 5%) and conversely, a larger proportion of Greater Sydney 15-17-year-olds were unemployed (15%).



Employment status of Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds, 2021

The employment characteristics of 18-24-year-olds are notably different from those of 15-17-year-olds as they move to the next life stage post-school. In 2021, 77% of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds were in the labour force, representing 14,679 people. Of those, 92% were employed, with a majority (41%) working full-time and 33% in part-time roles. Unemployed 18-24-year-olds represented 8% of the age cohort's labour force, with 5% looking for full-time work and 3% for part-time work).

Greater Sydney had a lower labour force participation rate of 18-24-year-olds than Penrith City (71% compared to 77% in Penrith). Of those, 91% were employed, but more commonly in part-time work, compared to Penrith City. As a result, the unemployment rate for Greater Sydney's 18-24-year-olds was 9%, with a slightly more significant proportion of unemployed residents looking for part-time work over full-time work.



Employment status of Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, the following changes occurred to the labour force and employment characteristics of Penrith City's 15-24-year-olds. The 2021 Census was conducted during Covid-19 pandemic, with economic impacts affecting Australia's employment. Labour force participation declines would be related to more people in both age cohorts remaining in education/study. For both groups, the proportion of people who were employed but away from work (not shown in the above chart) increased by 13-15%, indicating lockdowns on employment statistics.

15-17-year-olds

- ▾ Labour force participation (-4%)
- ▾ Employment rate (-5%)
- ▾ Full-time employment (-3%)

12-24-year-olds

- ▾ Labour force participation (-5%)
- ▾ Employment rate (+2%)
- ▾ Full-time employment (-10%)

6.5 Industries of employment

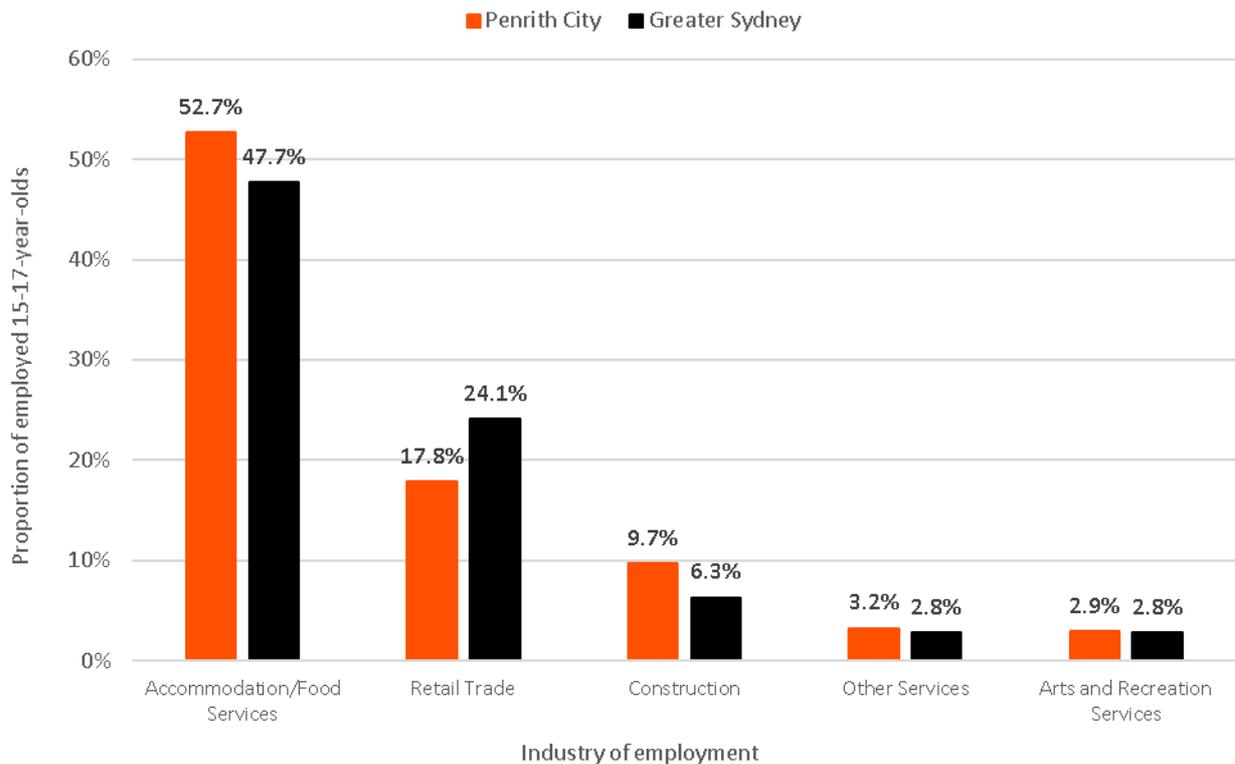
Industries of employment analysis also only includes residents aged 15 years and older. In 2021, the most common industries of employment for Penrith City’s 15-24-year-olds were:

15-17-year-olds

- ▾ Accommodation/Food services (53%)
- ▾ Retail Trade (18%)
- ▾ Construction (10%)
- ▾ Other services (3%)
- ▾ Arts and Recreation (3%)

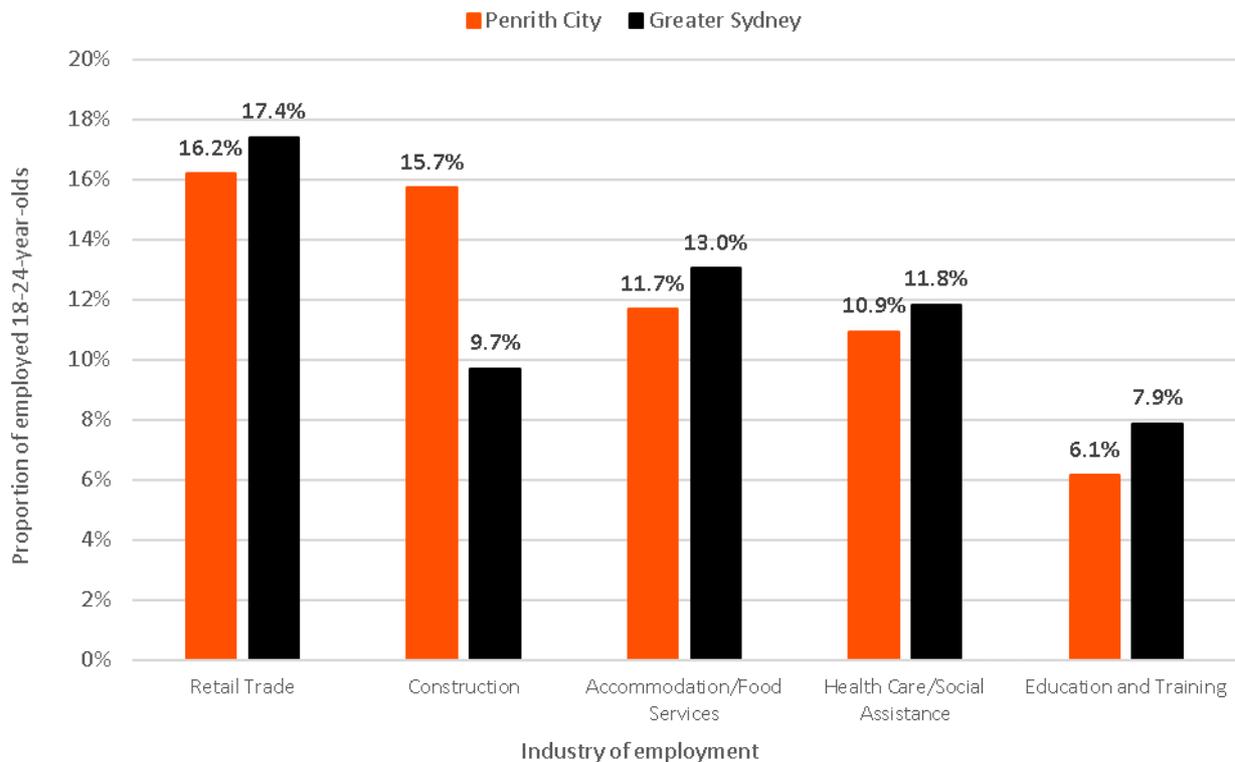
18-24-year-olds

- ▾ Retail Trade (16%)
- ▾ Construction (16%)
- ▾ Accommodation/Food Services (12%)
- ▾ Health Care/Social assistance (11%)
- ▾ Education and training (6%)



Top 5 industries of employment for Penrith City’s 15-17-year-olds

Compared to Greater Sydney's 15-17-year-olds, Penrith City has a more significant proportion of employed residents working in the Accommodation and Food Services and Construction industries and a smaller proportion employed in Retail Trade.



Top 5 industries of employment for Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds

Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds are more commonly employed in the Construction industry than Greater Sydney 18-24-year-olds. Penrith City has a lower proportion of 18-24-year-olds employed in all other top five industries listed.

Since 2016, these changes were recorded for Penrith City's industries of employment for 15-24-year-olds. Changes in employment in industries such as retail trade, accommodation/food services or health care could, among other factors, be related to Covid-19 impacts.

15-17-year-olds

- ▾ Accommodation/Food services (+4%)
- ▾ Retail Trade (-3%)
- ▾ Construction (+0.2%)
- ▾ Other services (+0.7%)
- ▾ Arts and Recreation (-0.6%)

18-24-year-olds

- ▾ Retail Trade (-0.6%)
- ▾ Construction (+0.6%)
- ▾ Accommodation/Food services (-1.5%)
- ▾ Health Care/Social assistance (+2.4%)
- ▾ Education and training (+1.4%)

6.6 Occupations of employment

Occupations of employment for Penrith’s 15-17-year-olds and 18-24-year-olds differ. Younger residents are more likely to work in junior roles whereas 18-24-year-olds, especially with higher educational qualifications, would be employed in more senior roles.

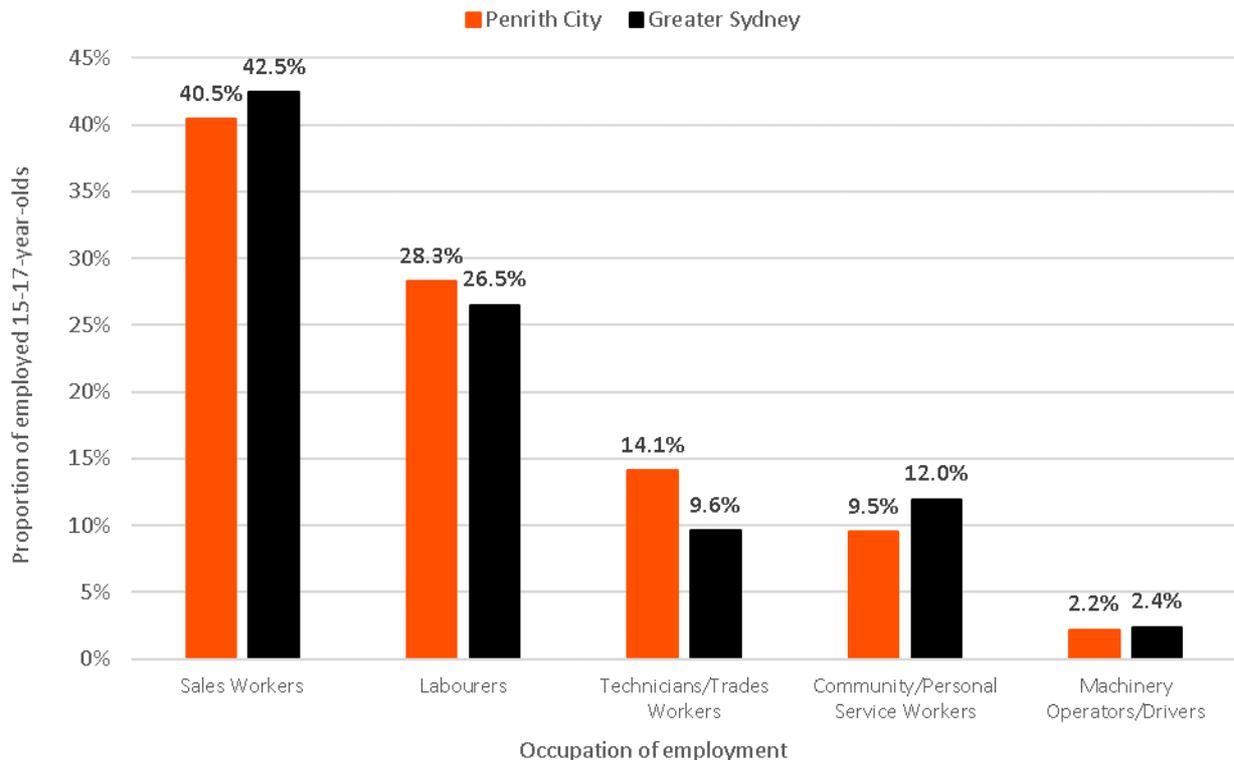
The top five occupations of employment for Penrith City’s employed 15-24-year-olds are:

15-17-year-olds

- ▮ Sales Workers (41%)
- ▮ Labourers (28%)
- ▮ Technicians/Trades Workers (14%)
- ▮ Community/Personal Services (10%)
- ▮ Machinery Operators/Drivers (2%)

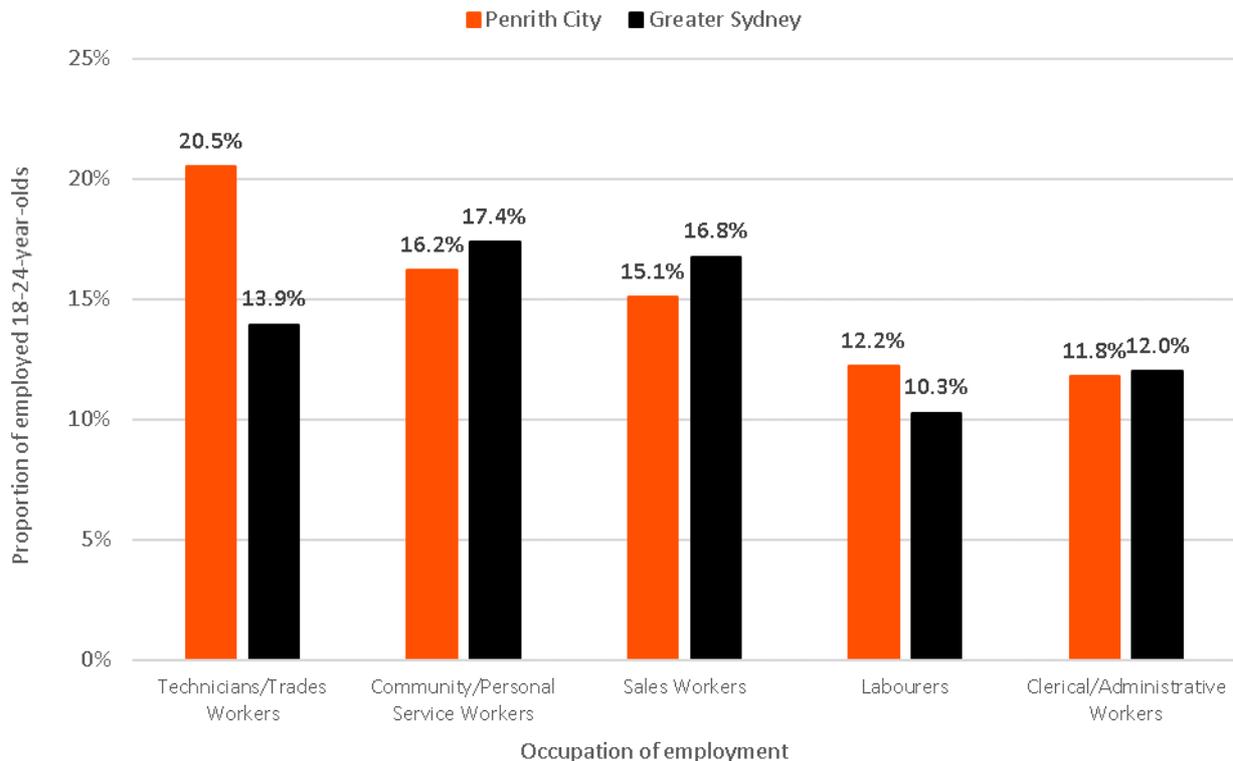
18-24-year-olds

- ▮ Technicians/Trades Workers (21%)
- ▮ Community/Personal Services (16%)
- ▮ Sales Workers (15%)
- ▮ Labourers (12%)
- ▮ Clerical/Administrative Workers (12%)



Top 5 occupations of employment for Penrith City’s 15-17-year-olds

Compared to Greater Sydney's 15-17-year-olds, Penrith City has a larger proportion who are employed as labourers or technicians/trades workers and a smaller proportion who are employed as sales workers or community/personal service workers.



Top 5 occupations of employment for Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds

A larger proportion of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds are employed as Technicians and Trades workers or labourers, than in Greater Sydney. On the other hand, a larger proportion of Greater Sydney's 18-24-year-olds are employed as community and personal service workers, sales workers or clerical and administrative workers.

Since 2016, these changes have been recorded for Penrith City's occupations of employment for 15-24-year-olds. Changes could, among other factors, be related to the economic impacts of Covid-19 on particular industries and occupations.

15-17-year-olds

- ▣ Sales workers (-3.2%)
- ▣ Labourers (+4.2%)
- ▣ Technicians/Trades Workers (+0.2%)
- ▣ Community/personal service workers (-1.2%)
- ▣ Machinery operators/drivers (+1.1)

18-24-year-olds

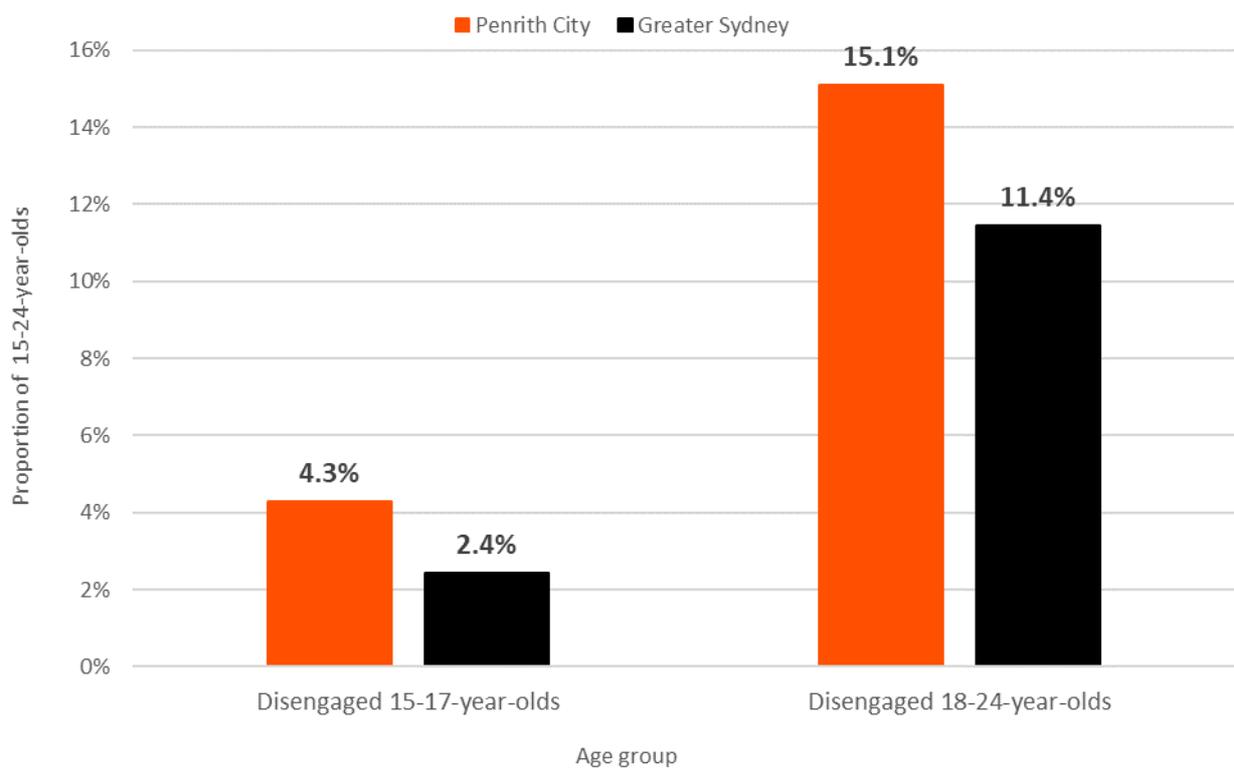
- ▣ Technicians/Trades Workers (no change)
- ▣ Community/personal service workers (+1.0%)
- ▣ Sales workers (-1.7%)
- ▣ Labourers (-0.3%)
- ▣ Clerical/administrative workers (-1.6%)

6.7 Youth Disengagement

Disengagement from education or employment in younger age groups can indicate a lack of access to employment or education facilities or a population in need of targeted services to assist them in gaining a foothold in society. People in this age group are generally expected to be starting out in life, either in employment or looking for work, in full-time study, or a combination of both.

In 2021, 4.3% of Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds were disengaged from education or employment, a figure higher than in Greater Sydney where 2.4% of all 15-17-year-olds were disengaged.

Disengagement was higher for 18-24-year-olds, likely as they move into the higher education/employment life stage. In 2021, 15% of Penrith City's 18-24-year-olds were disengaged from education or employment, a proportion higher than the 11% in Greater Sydney.



Disengaged 15-24-year-olds in Penrith City, 2021

Since 2016, youth disengagement in Penrith City increased as follows:

- Disengagement of 15-17-year-olds (+1.6%)
- Disengagement of 18-24-year-olds (+1.9%)

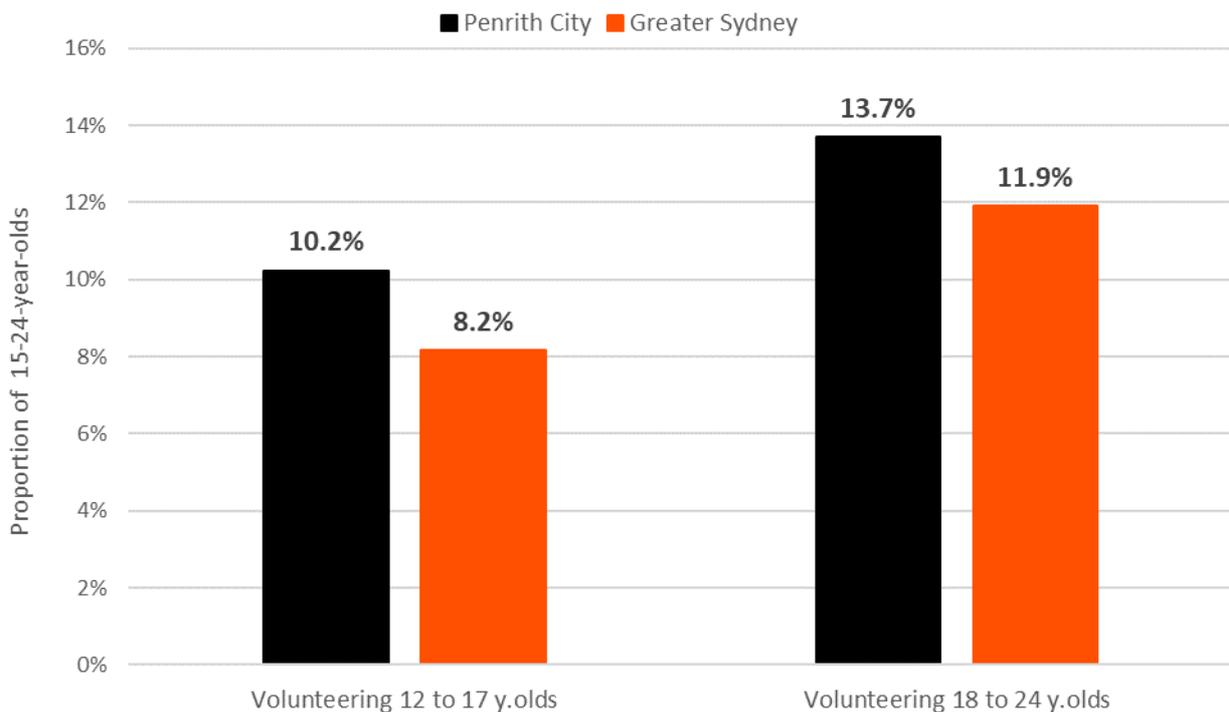
6.8 Unpaid work

Unpaid work refers to work which is undertaken by individuals without pay and includes domestic work of volunteering.

6.8.1 Volunteering

The level of volunteering can indicate the community's cohesiveness and how readily individuals can contribute to that community. Volunteering refers to whether an individual spent any time in the last 12 months volunteering for an organisation or group and only includes residents aged 15 years or older.

In 2021, 10.2% of Penrith City's 15-17-year-olds and 8.2% of the City's 18-24-year-olds volunteered. Compared to Greater Sydney, Penrith City had lower proportions of 15-17 and 18-24-year-olds who volunteered.



Volunteering rates by Penrith City's 12-17 and 18-24-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, volunteering rates have decreased across Australia. This is likely related to Covid-19 restrictions which stopped activities such as volunteering for groups or organisations from taking place. In Penrith City, these changes occurred since 2016:

- ▣ 12-17-year-old volunteers (-6.1%)
- ▣ 18-24-year-old volunteers (-4.5%)

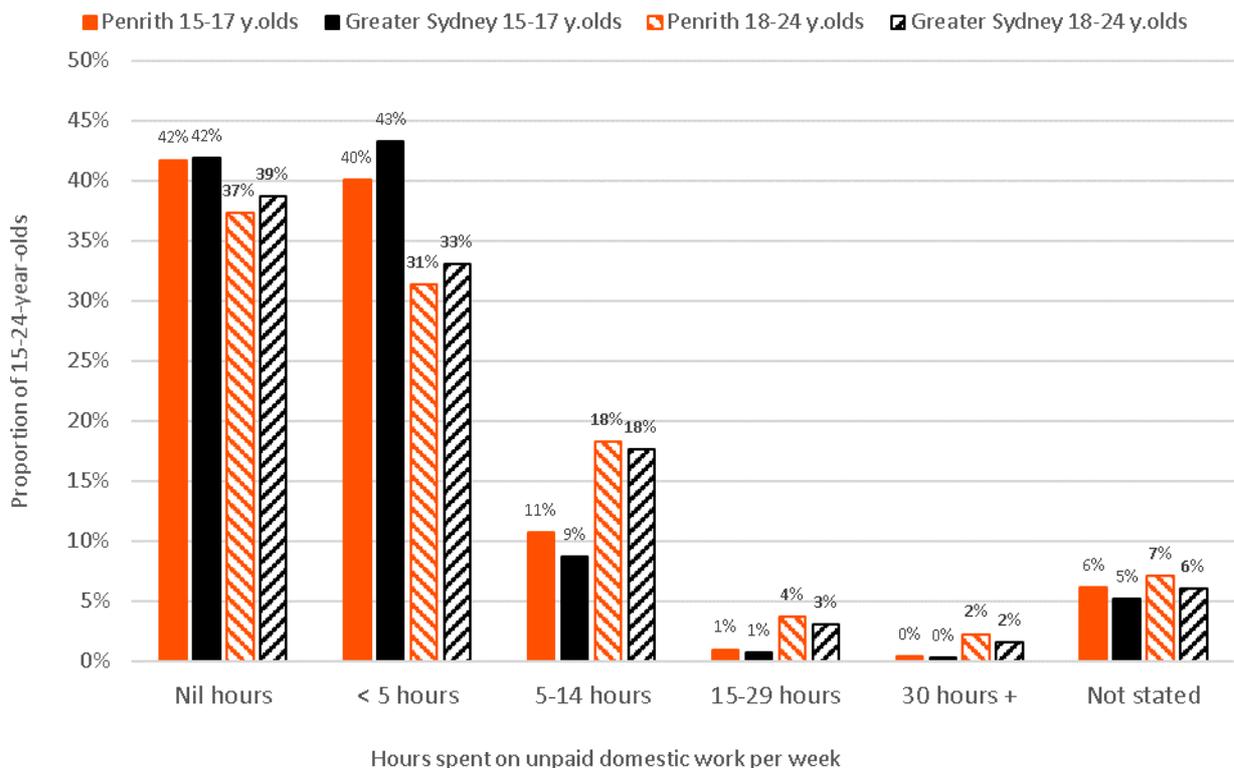
6.8.2 Unpaid work

Unpaid work information also only considers persons aged 15 years and over.

In 2021, 52% of Penrith City’s 15-17-year-olds undertook domestic work and 42% did no domestic work (with 6% not stating their domestic work). A larger proportion of 18-24-year-olds undertook domestic work in Penrith City (56%).

A slightly larger proportion of Greater Sydney’s 15-17-year-olds undertook domestic work (53%) compared to Penrith City (52%), and on the other hand, a slightly lower proportion of 18-24-year-olds undertook domestic (55% compared to 56% in Penrith City).

- ▣ More 15-17-year-olds did no domestic work or only up to 5 hours of domestic work (82%) compared to 18-24-year-olds (69%).
- ▣ More 18-24-year-olds undertook 5 or more hours of unpaid domestic work (24%) than 15-17-year-olds (12%).



Unpaid domestic work undertaken by Penrith City’s 15-24-year-olds, 2021

Since 2016, unpaid work statistics for Penrith City’s 15-24-year-olds changed as stated:

- ▣ Proportion of 15-17-year-olds undertaking unpaid domestic work (-1.4%)

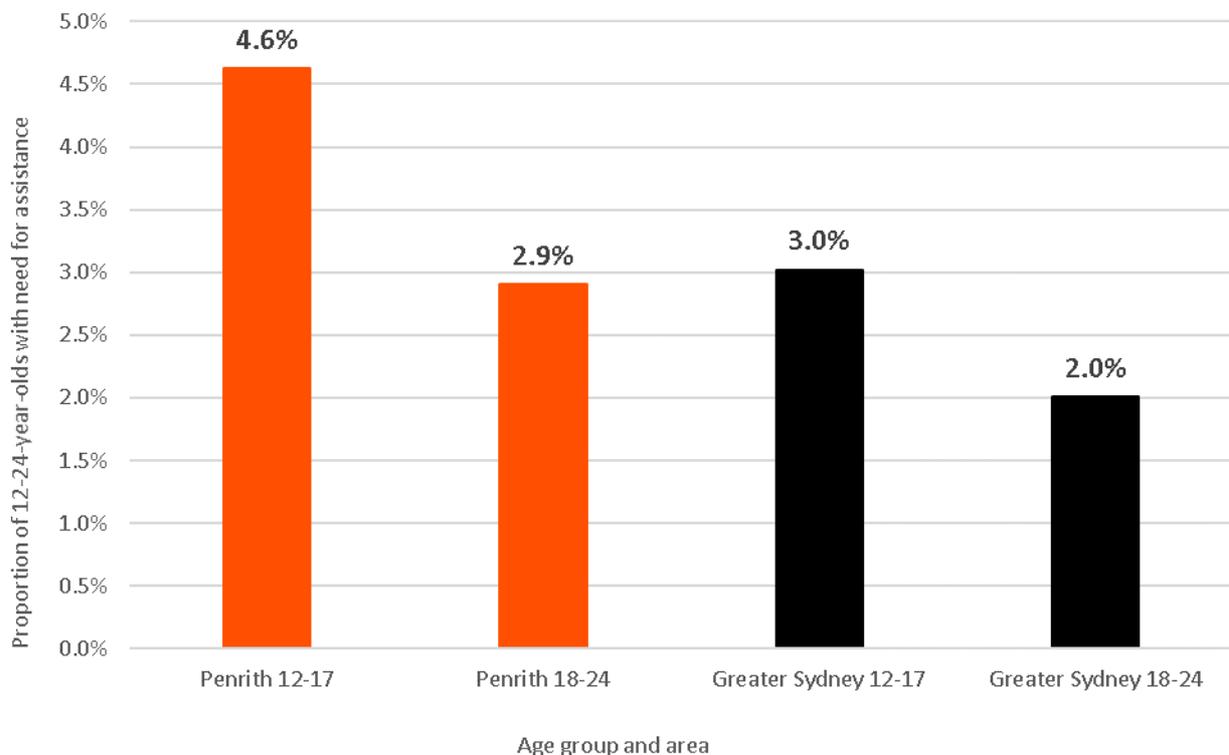
■ Proportion of 18-24-year-olds undertaking unpaid domestic work (-1.7%)

7. How are our young people?

7.1 Need for assistance

Disability and need for assistance are strongly correlated with age. Therefore, a lower proportion of young people had a need for assistance due to disability than the overall population. In 2021, 3.7% of Penrith's young people had a need for assistance, compared to 5.5% of the overall population. A larger proportion of 12-17-year-olds have a need for assistance (4.6%) than 18-24-year-olds (2.9%).

Compared to Greater Sydney, Penrith City had a larger proportion of 12-17 and 18-24-year-olds who needed assistance due to disability.



Need for assistance due to disability for 12-24-year-olds in Penrith City, 2021

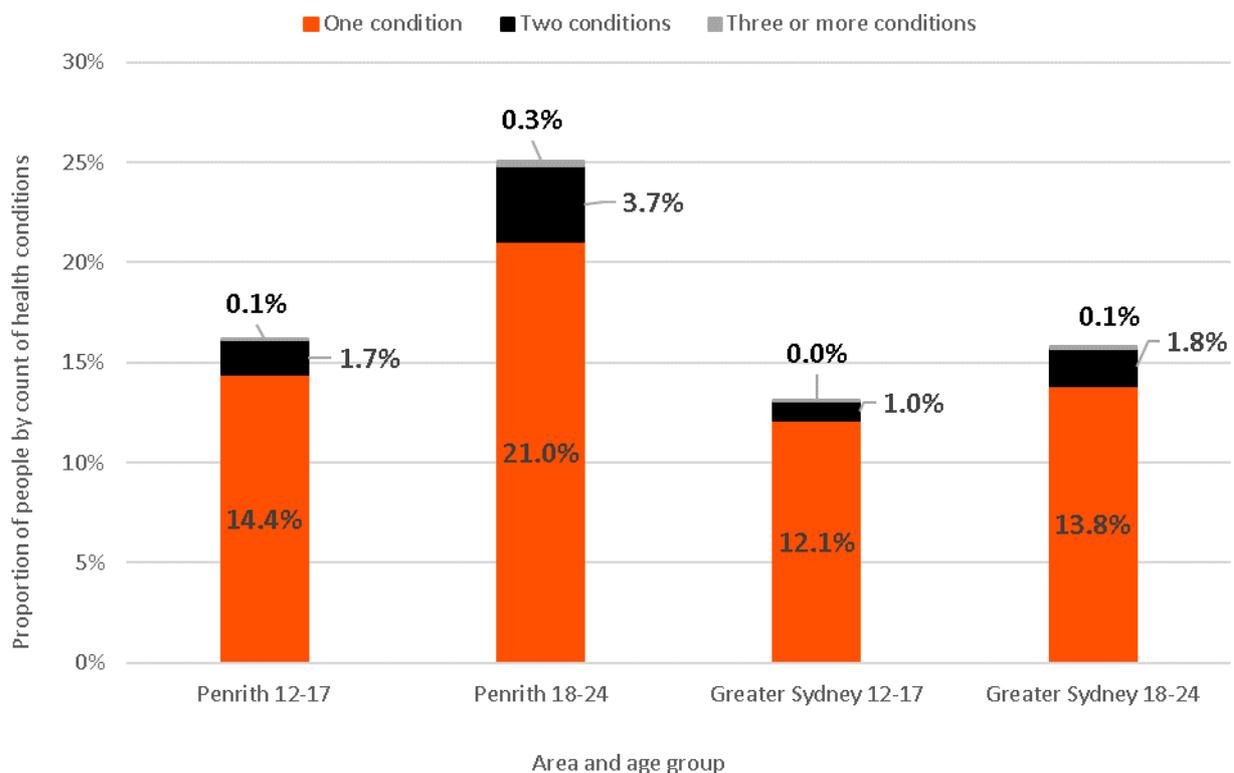
Since 2016, the proportion of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds with a need for assistance due to disability increased by 1% and for 18-24-year-olds, increased by 0.4%.

7.2 Long-term health conditions

Long-term health conditions are a new Census dataset, first collected in 2021. Long-term health conditions are defined as those an individual has had for 12 months or longer and which have been diagnosed by a doctor or medical professional.

In 2021, 75% of Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds and 82% of 18-24-year-olds had no long-term health conditions. Over 14% of 12-17-year-olds and 21% of 18-24-year-olds had one long-term health condition. The count of health conditions was higher for the older of the two age cohorts.

Compared to Greater Sydney, a larger proportion of Penrith City's 12-17 and 18-24-year-olds had at least one long-term health condition. For 18-24-year-olds, this difference is significant, with 7% more Penrith City residents having a long-term health condition than Greater Sydney residents of the same age.



Count of long-term health conditions for Penrith City's 12-24-year-olds, 2021

The most common long-term health condition for Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds was asthma (9.7%), followed by mental health. The prevalence in Penrith City's 12-17-year-olds was more significant for both of these conditions than Greater Sydney's. For 18-24-year-olds, mental health was the most common health condition (12.5%), followed by asthma (9.8%). Again, as with the younger cohort, both conditions were more prevalent in Penrith City than in Greater Sydney.

Condition	Penrith City		Greater Sydney	
	12-17-year-olds	18-24-year-olds	12-17-year-olds	18-24-year-olds
Asthma	9.7% (1,653 people)	9.8% (1,987 people)	8.0%	7.4%
Mental health condition	7.0% (1,189 people)	12.5% (2,526 people)	5.1%	9.0%
Other long-term health condition(s)	5.5% (929 people)	5.3% (1,073 people)	4.5%	4.4%
Diabetes	0.4% (76 people)	0.8% (154 people)	0.3%	0.5%
Arthritis	0.2% (37 people)	0.7% (139 people)	0.2%	0.4%

Top 5 most prevalent long-term health conditions for Penrith City's 12-24-year-olds, 2021

8. More reports in this series

Other age-related report is available in this series:

- ▾ Pre-school children
- ▾ Older population

Other reports included in the Demographic Analysis report series are:

- ▾ First Nations peoples
- ▾ Health and Disability
- ▾ Gender
- ▾ People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- ▾ Housing density
- ▾ Equity
- ▾ Social disadvantage
- ▾ Digital access
- ▾ Penrith City Local Government Area Demographic Summary

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