



State of Australian Cities 2014 - 15

Sunshine Coast

Population and Settlement

- The population of Sunshine Coast grew by an average of 2.1% per annum from 265,622 in 2008 to 292,354 in 2013.
- The life expectancy for Sunshine Coast SA4 residents increased from 82.0 years in 2006 to 82.9 years in 2012.
- Of the major cities, Sunshine Coast had the highest proportion of population aged over 65, at 18.7%.
- The percentage of overweight or obese adults in Sunshine Coast decreased by 3.2 percentage points from 63.6% in 2007-08 to 60.4% in 2011-12.
- Sunshine Coast saw smoking rates decrease by 10.1 percentage points from 23.5% in 2001 to 13.4% in 2011-12.
- The percentage of adults in Sunshine Coast who met physical activity guidelines decreased by 6.7 percentage points between 2007-08 and 2011-12, to 51.0%.
- The percentage of households that owned their own home in Sunshine Coast (with or without a mortgage) remained stable from 2001 to 2011 at 65.6%.
- The average house price in Sunshine Coast rose from \$202,000 in 1999 to a peak of \$580,000 in 2010 before decreasing to \$535,000 in 2012.
- The percentage of multi-unit dwellings in Sunshine Coast fell 5.1 percentage points, from 32.1% in 2006 to 27.0% in 2011.

Economy & Human Capital and Labour

- The unemployment rate for Sunshine Coast dropped 4.3 percentage points from 11.5% in 2001 to 7.1% in 2011.
- Sunshine Coast saw one of the largest increases in labour force participation rates with a 3.2% increase from 55.3% in 2001 to 58.5% in 2011.
- Knowledge-intensive industries in Sunshine Coast increased their share of employment by 3.7 percentage points from 2006 to 2011.
- The proportion of people in Sunshine Coast with a vocational or higher education qualification rose by 14.0% from 49.6% in 2001 to 63.6% in 2011.
- Sunshine Coast residents with a Certificate III or above, or who were employed in a skilled occupation rose 12.5 percentage points from 47.9% in 2001 to 60.4% in 2011.
- The Sunshine Coast recorded an increase in young persons aged 15 to 24 'earning or learning' between 2001 and 2011 of 3.6 percentage points, to 68.1%.
- The average residential property price in the Sunshine Coast was falling in the period 2009 to 2013.

