

Older people in Waverley (65+) – a snapshot



In 2011, the proportion of Waverley residents aged over 65 years was 12%, similar to Greater Sydney at 12.7%. Waverley's population aged over 85 years was 2.2% compared with 1.7% in Greater Sydney.

64.2% of residents over the age of 65 were born overseas, making Waverley's older population more culturally diverse than Waverley's overall population, and Greater Sydney where 50.7% of older residents were born overseas.

3.7% of Waverley's Indigenous population were aged over 65 years, whereas just 0.04% of the Indigenous population of Greater Sydney were aged over 65.

Workforce participation among the 65+ age group has significantly increased, from 11.3% in 2001 and 11.9% in 2006, to 16.56% in 2011. More than two fifths (41.8%) of Waverley's older population had completed year 12, a much larger percentage than for Greater Sydney at 28.3%.

53.33% of older people in Waverley earned <\$600 per week compared to 68.86% in Greater Sydney. 16.24% of older people in Waverley earned >\$1,000 per week compared to 9.49% in Greater Sydney.

Older renters are a vulnerable group in Waverley, affected by increasing rental costs in the area. 12.2% of all renters in Waverley were aged over 50 years old.

8.1% of residents over 65 occupied lone person households, which is similar to Greater Sydney (8%).

26.5% were widowed and 10.8% had never married, compared to 26.4% of widowers in Greater Sydney and 5.7% who never married.

Over a third (36.2%) of Waverley's population over 65 years provided unpaid assistance or support of some kind. 13.4% of this group reported volunteering, 12.3% provided childcare, and 10.5% provided assistance to a person with a disability.

Only 16.5% of Waverley's population over 65 years reported a need for assistance with self-care, communication or mobility, compared to 19.2% in Greater Sydney. The need for assistance increased significantly with age, with only 3.9% of 60-65 year olds reporting a need for assistance, compared to 42.8% of people aged over 85 years.

We value and support older people by...

providing a wide variety of social, cultural and recreational programs

planning for the future needs of people as they age

providing services that support people in their own home

making the public domain and open space safe and accessible for all to use

providing secure and affordable housing for long term residents on a low income

working with and funding local community services

providing information and referral services