

“young old” = 60–74 years
“mid old” = 75–84 years
“older old” = 85 years +

LGAs along the east coast have the oldest 65+ years structural ageing population in the state

in 2011, one in six Tasmanians were aged 65+; in 2020 there will be one in five aged 65+ years, and in 2030 it is projected that one in four Tasmanians will be aged 65 or more

just over 58% of Tasmanians aged 65+ years live under the poverty line

the majority of older Tasmanians aged 65+ years (73%) lived in private dwellings that were owned or being purchased in 2011

according to the ABS estimates of homeless and marginally housed Tasmanians there were **104 Tasmanians aged 65+ years who were homeless on census night**

goods and services that older people households spend proportionately less on include transport; clothing and footwear; and alcoholic beverages

the proportion spent on health and medical care increases with increasing age

the majority of older Tasmanians remain in their own home as they age

approximately 36% of people aged 65+ years received an aged care service in 2011-12 increasing to 80% of Tasmanians aged 80+ years

THE PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH NO CONSUMER DEBT WAS GREATER FOR ALL AGE GROUPS OVER 45 YEARS WITH A PEAK OF 96% FOR TASMANIANS AGED 75+ YEARS

difficulty in accessing service providers in the community was experienced by 28% of those aged 65–74 years and 23% of those aged 75+ years

in terms of structural ageing (the proportion of the population aged 65+ years) Tasmania is ageing the fastest of all Australian states and territories

Tasmanian male life expectancy is 78.3 years compared to the Australian average of 79.7 years

in 2011 local government areas with the highest proportion of the population aged 65+ years were Glamorgan/Spring Bay, Flinders, Tasman and Break O’Day

in 2012 older Tasmanians identified health and wellbeing; access to facilities and services; social connections, family and friendships; transport; housing and home maintenance as the most important issues as they age

factors for which older Tasmanians are more at risk than younger Tasmanians include poverty and financial hardship and poor literacy skills

in Tasmania in 2011, 21% of older people aged 65+ years were experiencing housing stress

12% of older Tasmanians aged 65+ years lived in rented private dwellings and 6% in non-private dwellings



45% OF OLDER TASMANIANS (65+ YEARS) WERE LESS LIKELY TO HAVE HOUSEHOLD INTERNET ACCESS THAN TASMANIANS UNDER 65 YEARS OF AGE (82%)

in 2011-2012 7% of Tasmanians aged 65+ years lived in a residential aged care facility – this number increased to 21% of Tasmanians aged 80+ years

Tasmanians are more reliant on motor vehicles than other Australians



the proportion of the Tasmanian population aged 65+ years who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is 1.2%

GLENORCHY AND LAUNCESTON WERE THE LGAs WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF OLDER PEOPLE LIVING IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS, EACH EXCEEDING 1,100 PEOPLE

the most common languages spoken by people with low english proficiency were Greek, Italian and Polish

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THE PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH NO CONSUMER DEBT INCREASED WITH AGE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS OVER 45 YEARS, WITH A PEAK OF 96% FOR TASMANIANS AGED 75+ YEARS

Census 2011: 1,797 (2.4%) older Tasmanians were living in retirement villages; 3,426 (4.6%) in nursing homes; and 799 (1.1%) in accommodation for the retired or aged



there were fewer homeless and marginally housed people aged 65–74 years and 75+ years than there were in any other age group

in 2011, 18% of Tasmanians needing assistance with core activities lived alone compared to 15% for Australia

the volunteering rate for young old Tasmanians (65–74 years) was higher at 27% than the 21% of those under 65 years who had volunteered in the past year

14,044 OLDER TASMANIANS HAVE A TAXI CONCESSION CARD FOR USE IN CONJUNCTION WITH PAPER VOUCHERS

LGAs along the west coast, along with Brighton, have the youngest structural ageing populations in Tasmania



nearly 28% of 60+ Tasmanians reported regularly participating in physical recreation three or more times per week

according to the ABS general social survey 2010: almost 21% of Tasmanians aged 55–64 years; 66% aged 65–74 years; and 81% aged 75+ years were living in households reliant on government pensions and allowances as the main source of income

more than 60% of all older Tasmanians in Tasmania live in one-family households

45% of people aged 75–84 years do not have private health insurance

59% of people aged 85+ years do not have private health insurance

for Tasmanians aged 75 years and over: 27% had undertaken voluntary work; 21% had cared for someone either aged or with a disability; and 23% had provided unpaid assistance to someone outside the household

44% of Tasmanians aged 65–74 years had undertaken voluntary work; 30% had cared for someone either aged or with a disability; and 46% had provided unpaid assistance to someone outside the household

5% of Tasmanians aged 65–74 years lived in a household without access to a motor vehicle; for those aged 85+ years the proportion increased to 35%

the labour force participation rate for Tasmanians aged 65+ years in 2011 was 9.1% compared to 11% for older Australians

industries in which large proportions of older employed Tasmanians worked in 2011 were agriculture, forestry and fishing, health care and social-assistance and retail trade

68% of 65–74 year olds and 63% of those aged 75+ years reported that they had attended at least one cultural or leisure venue in the previous year

60 cases of alleged elder abuse reported to the Advocacy Tasmania helpline over a three month period

in 2011, 14 of Tasmania's 29 LGAs had no older Tasmanian residents with poor english speaking skills

in 2010, people aged 65+ years comprised 2.6% of wage and salary earners in Tasmania

for Tasmanians aged 65+, the volunteering rate was 22%, compared to 20% at the national level

carers made up 14% of Tasmania's young old, 11% of the mid old and 6% of the older old

in 2011, 77% of Tasmanians had household internet access, compared to the national average of 81%

the transport access scheme has 24,464 current members over the age of 60 years

46,017 or 95% of Tasmanians aged 65 to 74 years currently hold a driver's licence, with the number decreasing to 3,899 or 37% of people aged 85+ years

41% of people aged 65–74 years do not have private health insurance

older employed Tasmanians were less likely to be employed by national, state or local government than those under 65 years of age and the great majority were employed in the private sector in 2011

Tasmanians aged 65-74 and 75-84 years were more likely to have a dial-up internet connection

in 2011 45% of Tasmanians aged 65+ years worked for more than 30 hours per week with over one third of these working in excess of 45 hours per week

at the time of the 2011 census 818 older Tasmanians (65+ years) were raising children under 15 years

– almost 30% of these older Tasmanians were raising the children on their own

TASMANIAN FEMALE LIFE EXPECTANCY IS 82.5 YEARS COMPARED TO THE AUSTRALIAN AVERAGE OF 84.2 YEARS

in Tasmania, students aged 65+ years studying at a university or other tertiary institution (161) outnumbered those studying at 'other' institutions (148), technical or further educational institutions (including tafe colleges) (69), or secondary schools (49)

in 2011-12 over 50% of Tasmanians aged 65+ years had arthritis; 45% had hypertensive disease; 25% had high cholesterol; nearly 14% had diabetes; and 8% had a stroke or other cerebrovascular disease

older Tasmanians aged 75 years or over were less likely to have experienced a personal stressor in the past year than any other age group

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COTA TAS Inc
"Westella"
181 Elizabeth St,
Hobart TAS 7000
P: (03) 6231 3265
E: admin@cotatas.org.au

For further data information and data sources please refer to the parent document – *Facing the Future – A Baseline Profile on Older Tasmanians*, produced by COTA 2013.

Copies of the full report are available at:

www.cotatas.org.au
www.dpac.tas.gov.au

FACING the FUTURE

A BASELINE PROFILE ON OLDER TASMANIANS

