

A profile of older people in Australia



As in most developed countries, Australia's population is ageing. Understanding the characteristics and contributions to society of this growing community is increasingly important.

The results from the 2015 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers provides a profile of older people (those aged 65 years and over) in Australia.



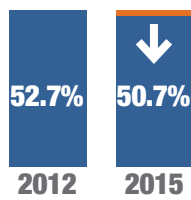
There were **3.5 million** Australians aged 65 years and over in **2015**



Most older people lived in **households**



1 in 20 older people lived in **residential care**¹



The proportion of older people with **disability decreased** in 2015



Over **1 in 3** older people **needed assistance**² with daily activities



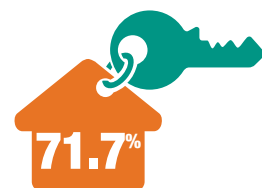
Most older people³ had their assistance needs² **fully** or **partly met**



Around **1 in 7** older people³ were participating in the **labour force**



Over **1 in 5** older people³ were involved in **voluntary activities**⁴



The majority of older people³ **owned their home** outright

¹ Includes hospitals, nursing homes, hostels or other health establishments where the resident had been, or was expected to be living there or in another health establishment for a period of three months or more.

² Needed assistance with at least one activity of daily living such as self care, communication or mobility.

³ Living in households.

⁴ Includes unpaid voluntary or community service activities both inside and outside the home in the previous three months.