



## **DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRANT**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**9 August 2017**

## **DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRANT – A SNAPSHOT OF ITS RESIDENTS, TOWNSHIPS AND COMMUNITIES**

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At a full Council meeting on Monday 7 August 2017, The District Council of Grant tabled a report providing an overview of data for the Council area, extracted from the 2016 Census of Population and Housing released on 27 June 2017.

The Census of Population and Housing provides a comprehensive picture of Australia's people, how they live and where they reside. The count is taken every five years and is managed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Council access and analyse census data in order to obtain the statistical information required for planning and delivering services to the community.

Overall, for the District, it's a good news story, with steady population growth, high levels of volunteerism, and a lower level of socio economic disadvantage.

Since the 2011 census the District Council of Grant has seen a population increase from 7856 to 8203 persons, representing a 4.4% growth, and of these 8203 persons, 55% are male and 45% are female. There has also been an increase of 51% in the number of people identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander since 2006.

The District has a fantastic volunteer community with 26% or a total of 1770 persons volunteering in the District, showing great community spirit and engagement.

People reporting as having 'no religion' is a growing trend nationally, and the residents of the District Council of Grant have followed this trend also, with a 41.5% increase in persons identifying as having 'no religious beliefs' over the past ten years since the 2006 census. Christianity is still the most popular religion with 59.2% of the resident population.

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The District Council of Grant residents have aged, with the median age rising from 39 to 44 over the past ten years. A rise in median age is usually due to a combination of greater life expectancy and/or decline fertility rates, and immigration to an area. Council has also seen a decline in average household size from 2.7 to 2.6 persons per household over the past ten years.

The median household family weekly income for the District is \$1,599 and 96.8% of renters and 93.2% of mortgage payer's identify that their payments are less than 30% of total household income.

Socio-economically, based on 2011 figures, The District Council is ranked as the area with a lower amount of disadvantage than the remainder of the Local Government Areas in the Limestone Coast Region, an index that takes into account various factors such as income, education and employment status.

The 'typical;' District Council of Grant resident can be described as:

- Age – 44
- Sex – Male
- Language Spoken at home – English
- Country of birth – Australia
- Highest Level of School Completed – Year 12 or Equivalent
- Relationship in the household – Husband in a registered marriage
- Number of motor vehicles – 2
- Average personal weekly income - \$1,000 - \$1,249
- Religious affiliation – No religion
- Unpaid domestic work – 5-14 hours per week

The final release for all census data is scheduled for 17 October 2017 and all ABS data can be found at [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au).

**END**

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