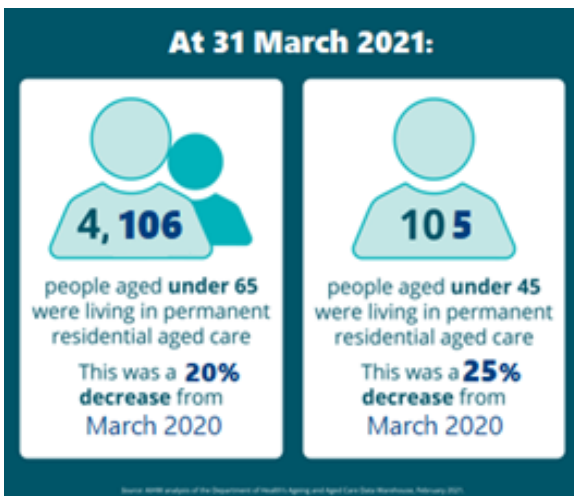




# Younger people residential aged care

The Australian Government is working to reduce the number of younger people (under the age of 65) going into residential aged care, and to help younger people who are already in residential aged care to move into age-appropriate accommodation with the supports they need.

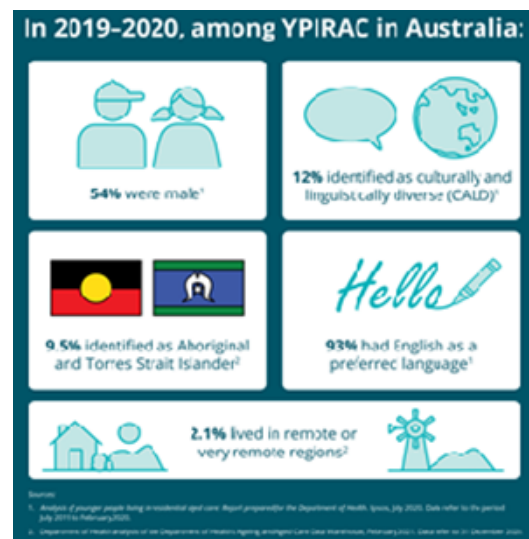
## How many younger people are there in residential aged care?



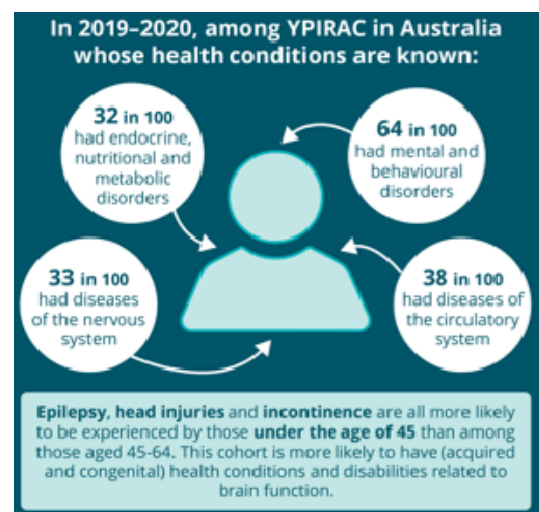
## Length of stay

The average length of stay for younger people who were living in residential aged care on 31 March 2021 was 4 years and 4 months.

## Who are YPIRAC?



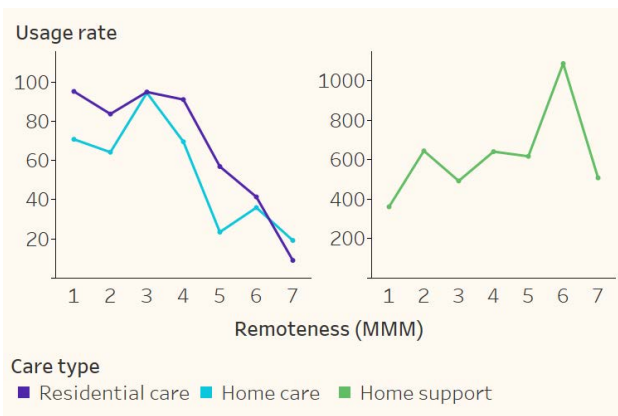
## Health conditions



## Remoteness

The proportion of people using aged care in the target population (that is, all people aged 65 years and over and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people aged 50-64 years) decreases as people live in increasingly remote areas. However, this is most obvious for high-care services (permanent residential care) and absent for basic support services (home support). This may be because people in remote areas need to move to access higher-level aged care services.

At 30 June 2020 the usage rate (number of people using an aged care service per 1,000 in the target population) of permanent residential aged care was highest in metropolitan areas (MM 1) and large rural towns (MM 3) (Figure 3). For example, people aged 85-89 in metropolitan areas had a usage rate of over 10 times that of people in very remote communities (11.1 compared to 1.0). During the 2019-20 financial year home support had the opposite trend, where the usage rate was lower in metropolitan areas (MM 1) than in remote communities (MM 6). For example, people aged 80-84 in remote communities had a usage rate nearly 3 times that of people in metropolitan areas (114.6 compared to 41.3 in metropolitan areas) (Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** Proportion of people in permanent residential aged care, by remoteness, 30 June 2020

Note: Location is based on the location of the service.  
MMM = Modified Monash Model.



© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2021

This product, excluding the AIHW and GEN logos, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 3.0 (CC BY 3.0) licence

(<<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/>>).

You may distribute, remix and build upon this work. However, you must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder of the work in compliance with our attribution policy available at <[www.aihw.gov.au/copyright/](http://www.aihw.gov.au/copyright/)>. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/>>.

## People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Australia's older population is culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD). Many overseas-born Australians face barriers in accessing and engaging with services that support wellbeing, although CALD Australians are by nature heterogeneous, and situations and needs vary greatly.

At 30 June 2020 (or during the 2019-20 financial year for home support) people using aged care services had languages other than English as their preferred language—9% in permanent residential aged care and 15% in both home support and home care. Across all aged care services, between 18-28% of people were born in non-English speaking countries.

## COVID-19 and people using aged care

Australia has faced significant challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 can be more serious for people who are vulnerable, including older Australians. This heightened risk prompted a specific response in the aged care sector. Approximately two-thirds of COVID-19-related deaths in Australia have occurred in people living in residential aged care facilities.

For further information related to older Australians and COVID-19, including access to advice and support resources, see the Australian Government's My Aged Care website. For more information regarding COVID-19 outbreaks in Australian residential aged care facilities, see the latest national snapshot.

## Where can I find out more?

### GEN Topic: People using aged care

<<https://www.gen-agedcaredata.gov.au/Topics/People-using-aged-care>>

### Report on the operation of the Aged Care Act 1997:

Department of Health 2020. 2019-20 Report on the operation of the Aged Care Act 1997. Accessed. Available at:

<<https://www.gen-agedcaredata.gov.au/resources/reports-and-publications/2020/november/2019%E2%80%9320-report-on-the-operation-of-the-aged-care-a>>

### Suggested citation

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2021. GEN fact sheet 2020-21 Younger people in residential aged care. Canberra: AIHW.

ISBN 978-1-76054-311-2

Any enquiries about copyright and/or this fact sheet should be directed to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, GPO Box 570, Canberra ACT 2601, Tel: (02) 6244 1000, Email: <[info@aihw.gov.au](mailto:info@aihw.gov.au)>

## Information and data on aged care in Australia

[GEN-agedcaredata.gov.au](http://GEN-agedcaredata.gov.au)

## Contact

GPO Box 570, Canberra, ACT 2601  
(02) 6244 1000 | [GEN@aihw.gov.au](mailto:GEN@aihw.gov.au)

