



Crowded Kensington – What the  
Australian 2021 Census shows

# Australian National Census 2021

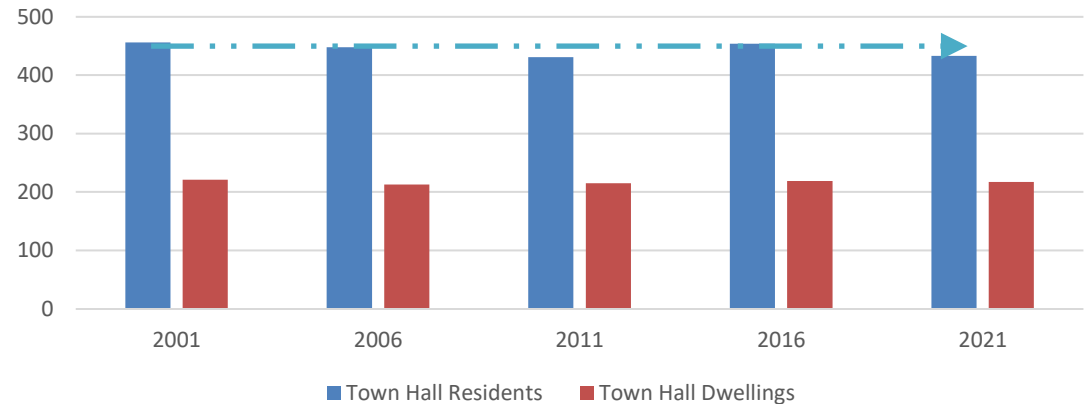
- Census data shows the number of citizens in the precinct
- Mapping data allows a density analysis of the area where people actually live
- Density calculations *must exclude* railways, toll ways, main roads, private businesses, drains, levee banks *indeed* any space not shared with residents.



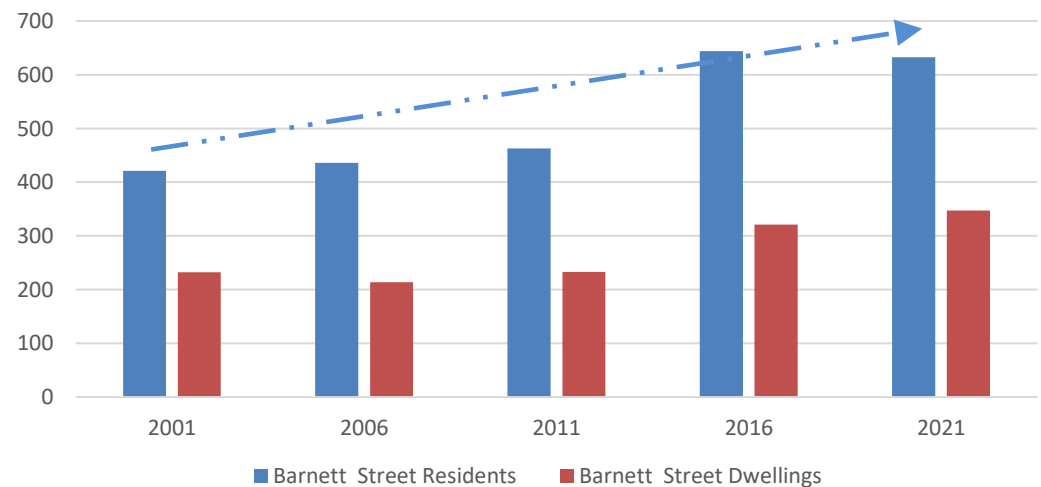
# Using the Australian 2021 Census to Look at Kensington

- Fine grained analysis of Kensington reveals a mixed picture of changing residential numbers.
- Some areas, such as the area surrounding the Town Hall this evening, show only stable densities over a 20-year period.
- Other areas, such as the area adjoining the Vision Australia site, have shown significant densification.
- This densification has taken place before the current building completion

Town Hall ABS Area Resident Numbers



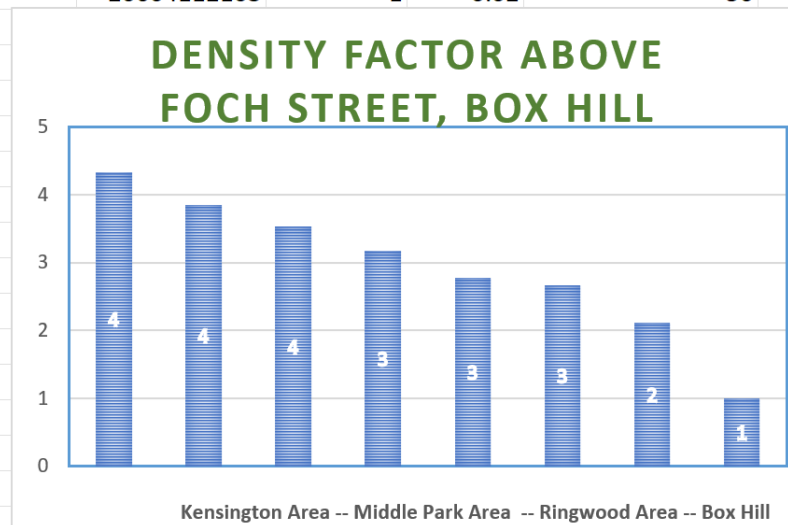
Barnett Street ABS Area Resident Numbers



# What Does 2021 Census Show?

- Kensington Precincts are 4 times the density of a Box Hill “Quarter Acre” Precinct

| Location                          | 2021 ABS Statistical Area | Residents | Area (ha) | Density (persons/hectare) | Density (persons/km <sup>2</sup> ) | Density Factor above Foch Street, Box Hill |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Kavanagh Street, South Melbourne  | 20604150924               | 400       | 0.29      | 1379                      | 137,931                            | 74                                         |
| Kensington Apt, Kensington (est ) | 20604112103               | 700       | 0.82      | 854                       | 85,366                             | 46                                         |
| Barnett Street Kensington         | 20604112103               | 633       | 7.8       | 81                        | 8,115                              | 4                                          |
| Hardiman Street Kensington        | 20604112102               | 433       | 6         | 72                        | 7,217                              | 4                                          |
| The Ridgeway Kensington           | 20604112116               | 330       | 5         | 66                        | 6,600                              | 4                                          |
| Finlay Street Albert Park         | 20605112804               | 445       | 7.5       | 59                        | 5,933                              | 3                                          |
| Page Street, Middle Park          | 20605112807               | 467       | 9         | 52                        | 5,189                              | 3                                          |
| 64 Barnett St (Kensington)        | 20604112103               | 1         | 0.02      | 50                        | 5,000                              | 3                                          |
| Ringwood Street, Ringwood         |                           |           |           |                           | 3,955                              | 2                                          |
| Foch Street, Box Hill South       |                           |           |           |                           | 1,871                              | 1                                          |



# Crowded Kensington – becomes Jam-Packed Kensington?

- Data analysis must state the assumptions before we can begin discussion
- What actually is “High Density”
- What is an unreasonable density given the actual or likely infrastructure?



21.02-2

Melbourne's growth

The MSS envisages the continued intensive growth in the municipality. The residential population of 53,200 in 2001 has grown by 85 per cent to 98,200 in 2011. By 2030, this could reach 177,000 people. ([ABS and COM City User forecasts](#))



# Defined Debate

- Galileo established the scientific principle of “valid data”
- Councillors must consider the impact of their voting patterns on current residents
- Do we *really* know the likely impacts of increasing population densities by factors of 5,10 or even 30 times?

( John Widmer – 2022 )

**Galileo Galilei** (Italian pronunciation: [ɡaliˈlɛːo ɡaliˈlɛi]; 15 February 1564<sup>[4]</sup> – 8 January 1642)<sup>[5]</sup> was an Italian physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher who played a major role in the Scientific Revolution. His achievements include improvements to the telescope and consequent

Galileo Galilei

