

ALBERTA
SOUTHWEST

CLARESHOLM

Community Overview

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Executive Summary

Claresholm is a small Alberta town with a population that has grown unevenly over time and, by 2025, reached its highest level in the series at 4,242. Beneath that recent growth, the town's social profile is shaped by long-running ageing. The median age rose steadily across the last three censuses to 56.8 in 2021, and the largest age groups were in the early senior years. Household patterns align with that older profile: one- and two-person households were the most common, one-person households increased, and couple families with children declined sharply. Population in private households changed little across the decade, suggesting that much of the town's recent growth sits alongside a fairly stable household base rather than a broad shift in everyday residential patterns.

Housing in Claresholm appears steady, low-density, and strongly oriented toward ownership. Single-detached homes dominated the dwelling stock and did not change between 2016 and 2021, while apartments and semi-detached units remained limited in number. Owners far outnumbered renters, and both groups grew only modestly, leaving the tenure mix largely intact. Median dwelling values moved very little through the 2010s before a modest rise to \$250,000 in 2021, which fits a market marked more by stability than by rapid escalation. Shelter costs were higher for owners than renters and rose faster over the period, though the gap remained fairly modest. Household incomes were spread across a broad range, but the largest concentrations sat in the middle-income brackets rather than at either extreme.

Claresholm's labour picture is more mixed. The employment rate declined steadily from 2011 to 2021, indicating a smaller share of the working-age population in work over time. At the same time, the local job base was highly concentrated in health care and social assistance by 2025, far ahead of other sectors, with retail trade and public administration forming the next tier. Among employed residents, sales and service occupations were the largest group, followed by trades and health occupations. The town also remained predominantly non-immigrant, though the immigrant population grew from 2016 to 2021. The broad impression is of a community that is growing again, but one defined more by older age structure, smaller households, and a stable housing profile than by rapid demographic or economic change.

Median Age

Claresholm’s median age reached 56.8 years in 2021, up from 54.1 in 2016 and 51.1 in 2011. The 5-year increase eased to 5.0% from 5.9% previously.

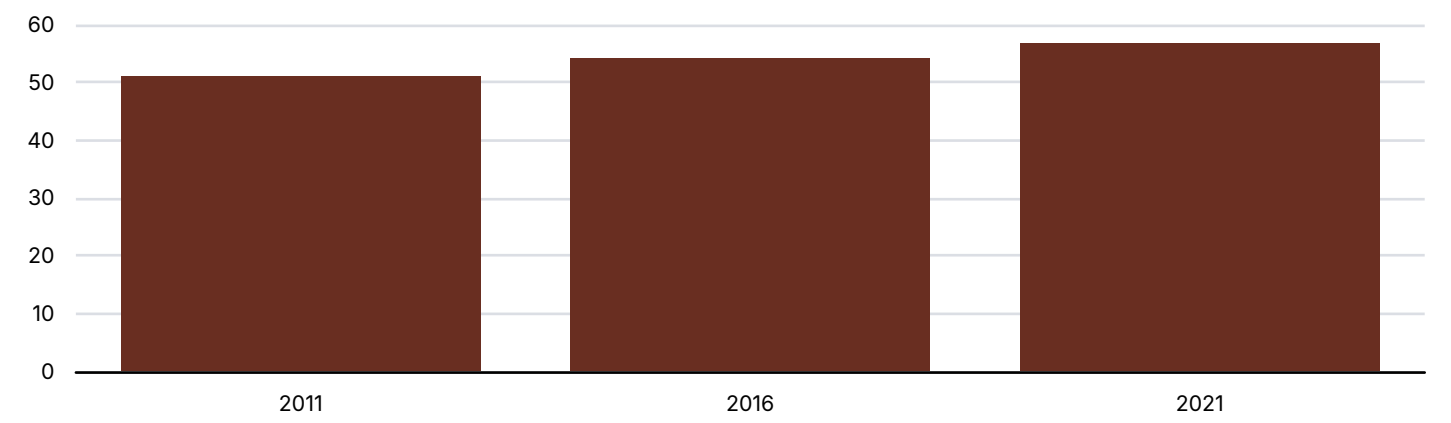


Figure 1.1: Shows the median age of residents. It helps indicate whether the population skews younger or older at the midpoint of the age distribution. (Claresholm, 2011-2021)¹

Claresholm’s median age has trended upward across the last three census points, showing a steadily older midpoint in the town’s population. The median age was 51.1 years in 2011, rose to 54.1 in 2016, and reached 56.8 in 2021. That represents a 3.0-year increase from 2011 to 2016 and another 2.7 years by 2021. The pace of change has been slightly slower in the most recent period, but the direction has remained consistent throughout. Taken together, the figures point to gradual ageing rather than short-term fluctuation.

Claresholm’s median age has remained high and continued to edge upward across the last three census points. In 2011, the median age was 51.1 years, rising to 54.1 in 2016 and 56.8 in 2021. That puts the town well above most nearby places in the dataset. By 2021, Claresholm was older than Nanton at 52.8 years, Stavely at 54.8 years, and Fort Macleod at 42.4 years. The recent 5-year change was 5.0%, after a 5.9% increase in the prior period. This pattern points to a population with a notably older age profile than many peers.

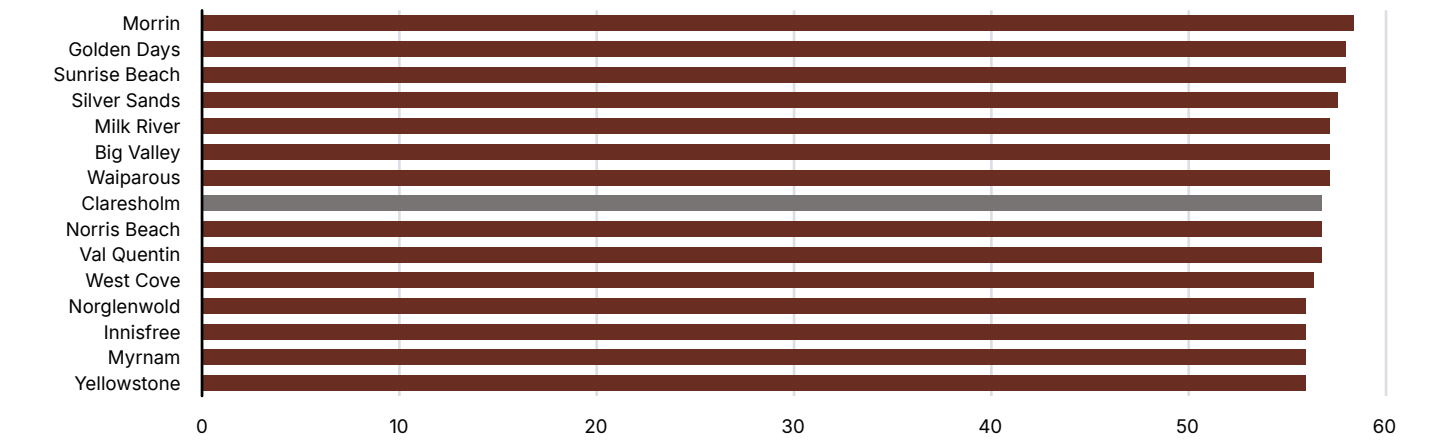


Figure 1.2: Comparison of Median Age with other locations (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Immigrant Status

Claresholm’s population was mainly non-immigrant in 2021, at 3,165 people, down 0.9% from 2016. Immigrants rose to 365, up 30.4%, while non-permanent residents fell to 10, down 66.7%.

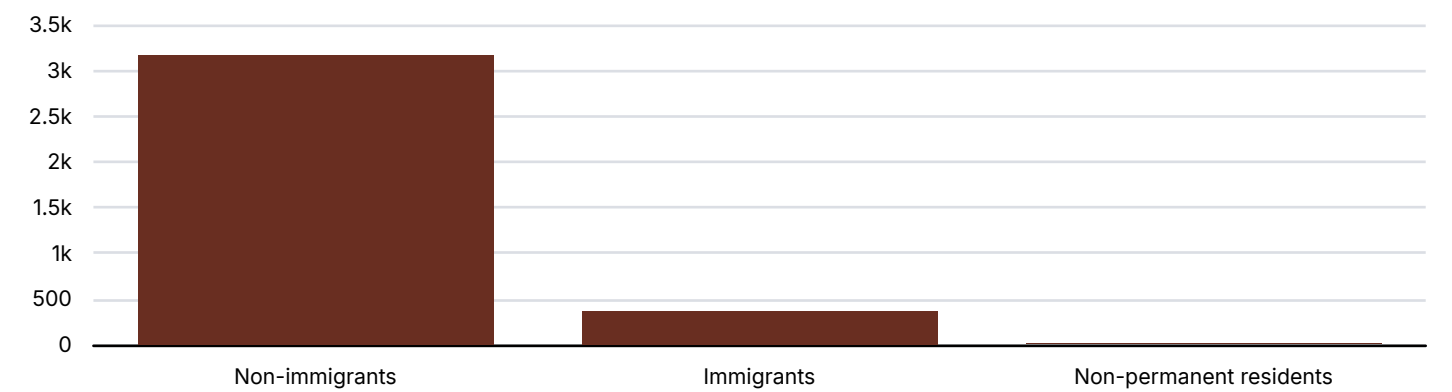


Figure 2.1: Shows whether residents are immigrants, non-permanent residents, or non-immigrants. It helps indicate the role of immigration in community growth and composition. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm’s population in private households, immigrant status in 2021 shows a small immigrant and non-permanent resident presence alongside a much larger non-immigrant population. There were 3,165 non-immigrants, 365 immigrants, and 10 non-permanent residents. The 5-year change points in different directions: non-immigrants edged down by 0.9%, immigrants rose by 30.4%, and non-permanent residents fell by 66.7%. The pattern suggests a modest shift in composition rather than a broad population break.

In 2021, Claresholm’s population in private households was dominated by non-immigrants, with 3,165 people, while 365 residents were immigrants and 10 were non-permanent residents. The immigrant count rose 30.4% over five years, alongside a slight 0.9% dip in non-immigrants and a sharp 66.7% decline in non-permanent residents. Compared with the larger base, immigration remains a smaller part of local population change.



Figure 2.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Immigrant Status - Non-immigrants (Claresholm)¹

Total Population

Claresholm’s population reached 4,242 in 2025, up 8.5% over five years. Growth accelerated from 4,121 in 2024 and 3,895 in 2021, following a small decline from 2017 to 2019.

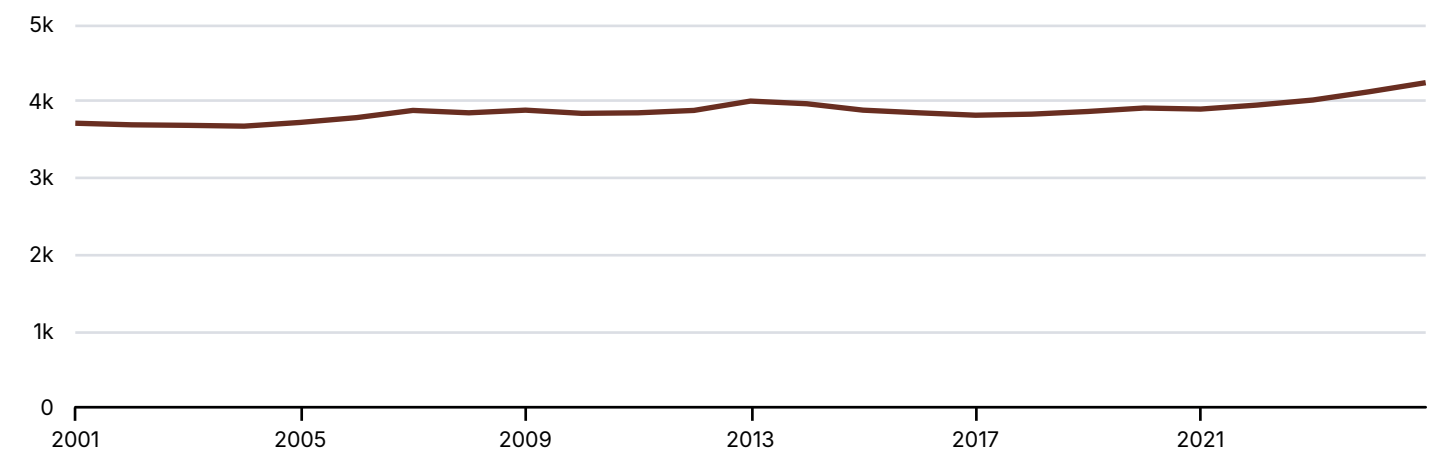


Figure 3.1: Shows the total number of people living in the area. It provides the basic population benchmark used across many other indicators. (Claresholm, 2001-2025)²

Claresholm’s total population shows a gradual long-term rise with a short mid-period dip. After easing from 3,710 people in 2001 to 3,674 in 2004, the population recovered to 4,000 in 2013, then slipped to 3,817 in 2017 before turning upward again. Growth strengthened in recent years, reaching 4,121 in 2024 and 4,242 in 2025, the highest point in the series.

Claresholm’s total population has edged upward over the past two decades, reaching 4,242 people in 2025 from 3,710 in 2001. The increase was uneven, with a dip in the late 2010s before stronger gains in recent years, including 4,121 in 2024. Regionally, Claresholm sits above Fort Macleod and Pincher Creek, but below Cardston County. It is larger than Nanton, and far above smaller nearby places such as Hill Spring and Cowley.

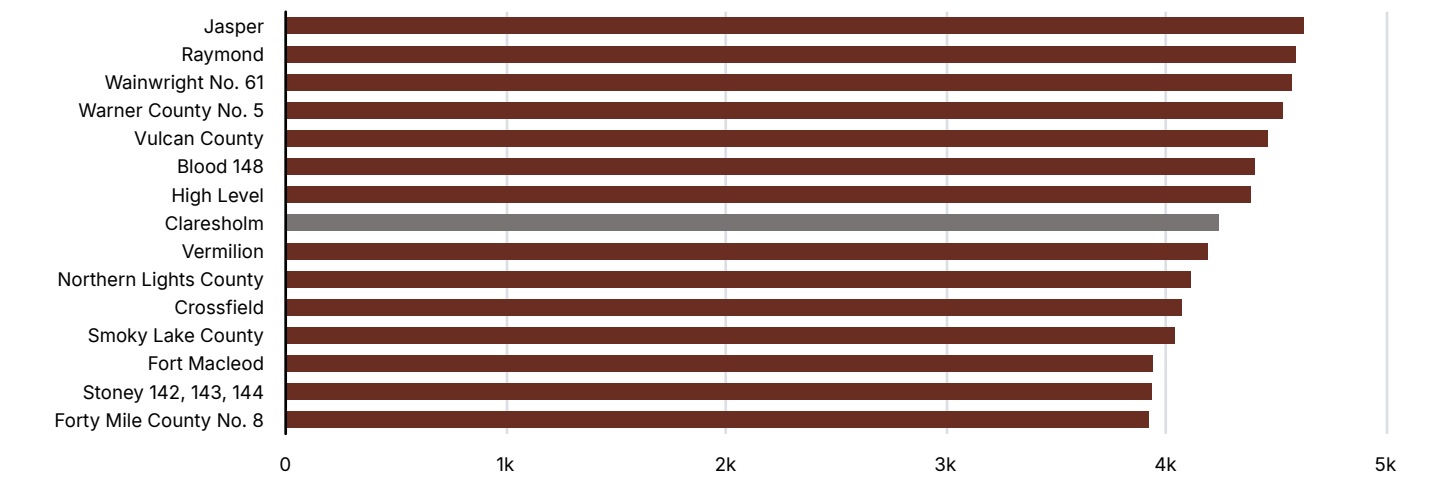


Figure 3.2: Comparison of Total Population with other locations (Claresholm, 2025)²

Median Dwelling Value

Claresholm’s median dwelling value reached \$250,000 in 2021, up 4.1% over five years. That followed a smaller 0.2% increase from 2011 to 2016, when it was \$239,808.

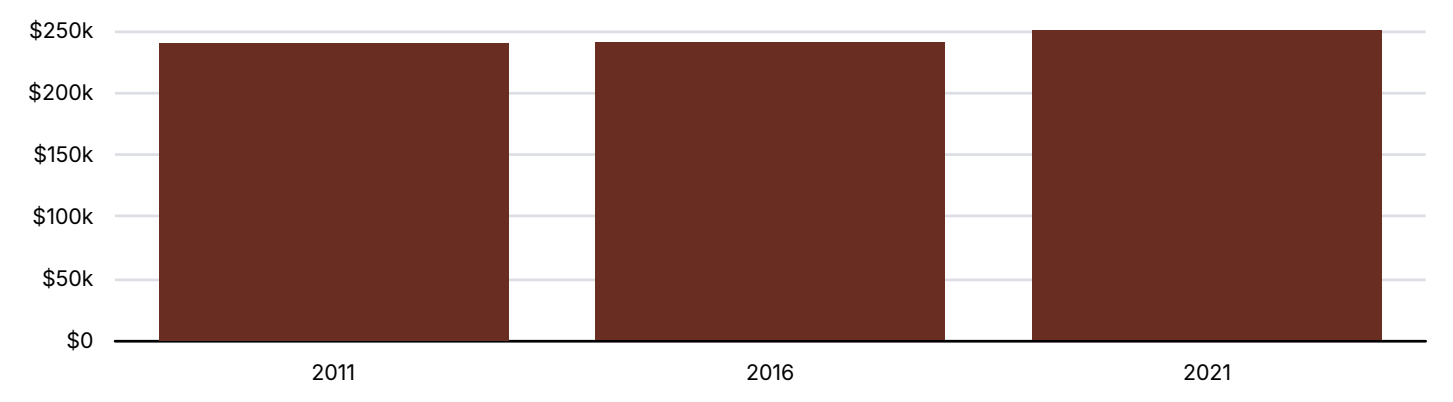


Figure 4.1: Shows the median value of residential dwellings. It helps indicate the typical price point in the local ownership housing market. (Claresholm, 2011-2021)¹

Claresholm’s median dwelling value changed little over the decade before moving higher in 2021. In 2011, the median was \$239,808, edging up to \$240,187 in 2016, a gain of 0.2%. By 2021, it had reached \$250,000, up 4.1% over five years. The pattern points to a largely stable local ownership housing market through the mid-2010s, followed by a modest increase by the latest census year.

Claresholm’s median dwelling value was \$250,000 in 2021 for owner households in non-farm, non-reserve private dwellings. That places it in the middle of the local comparison set, above Fort Macleod’s \$240,000 and below Nanton’s \$300,000. The town’s median value was \$239,808 in 2011 and \$240,187 in 2016, before rising to \$250,000 in 2021. That is a modest 4.1% increase over the latest five-year period. By comparison, nearby values ranged from \$150,000 in Cowley to \$400,000 in Pincher Creek No. 9. The pattern suggests relative stability in Claresholm’s ownership housing market, with only gradual upward movement rather than sharp swings.

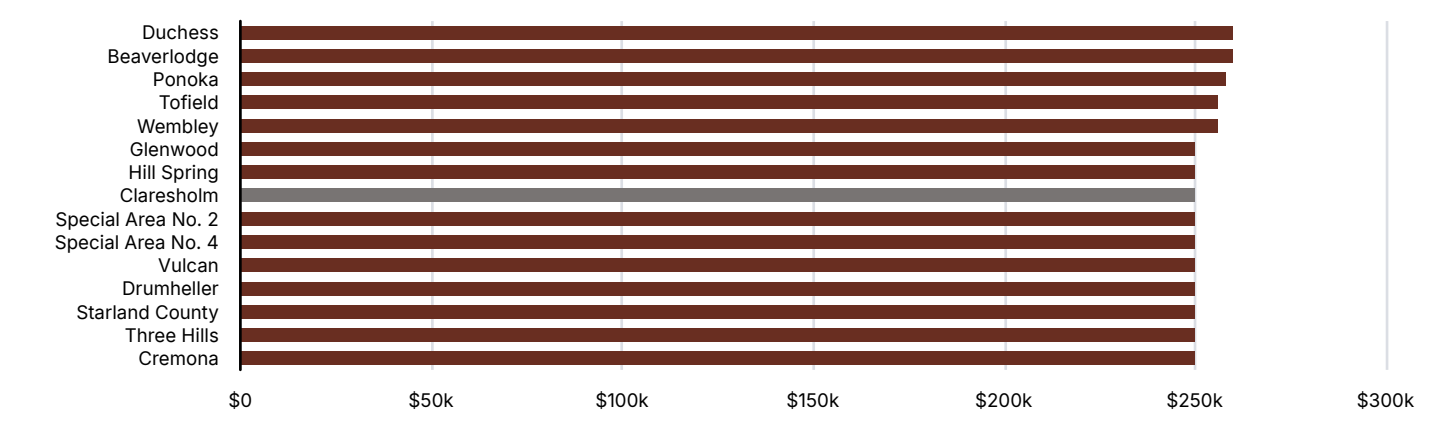


Figure 4.2: Comparison of Median Dwelling Value with other locations (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Household Type

One-person households were the largest group in Claresholm in 2021 at 630, up 13.5% from 2016. Couple-family households with children fell to 280, a 34.9% decline, while couple-family households without children were 585.

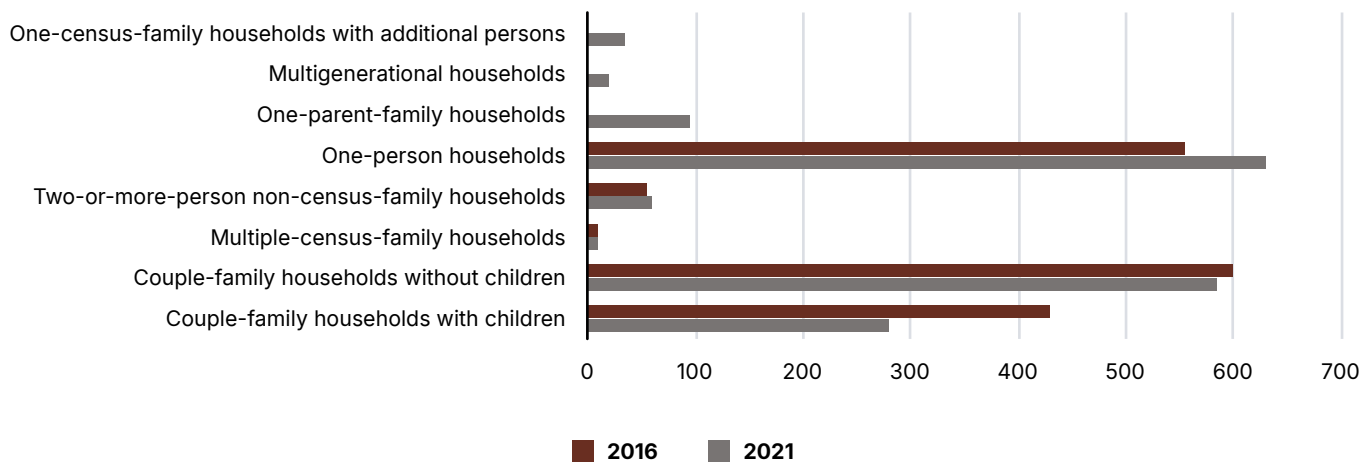
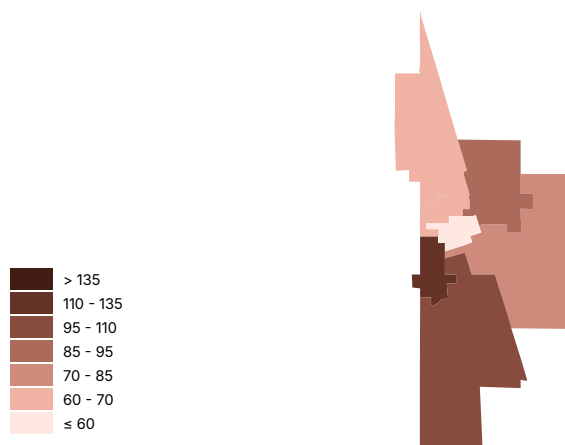


Figure 5.1: Shows the mix of household types, including one-person, family, and non-family households. It helps indicate how residents are organized across living arrangements. (Claresholm, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, Claresholm's household mix was led by one-person households, at 630, and couple-family households without children, at 585. The most notable change over five years was in couple-family households with children, which fell to 280, down 34.9%. By contrast, one-person households rose 13.5%, and two-or-more-person non-census-family households increased 9.1% to 60. Other household types were smaller, including 95 one-parent-family households and 20 multigenerational households. The pattern points to a shift toward smaller living arrangements and away from households with children.



Claresholm's private households in 2021 were led by one-person households, at 630, followed by couple-family households without children at 585. Couple-family households with children were smaller, at 280, and also showed the sharpest 5-year decline, down 34.9%. By contrast, one-person households rose 13.5% over the same period. The pattern suggests a household mix tilted toward smaller living arrangements, with family households without children remaining the other main component.

Figure 5.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Household Type - One-person households (Claresholm)¹

Dwelling Structure Type

Claresholm’s housing stock remained centered on single-detached houses, unchanged at 1,245 units from 2016 to 2021. Apartments in buildings with fewer than five storeys rose to 185, while semi-detached homes increased to 135.

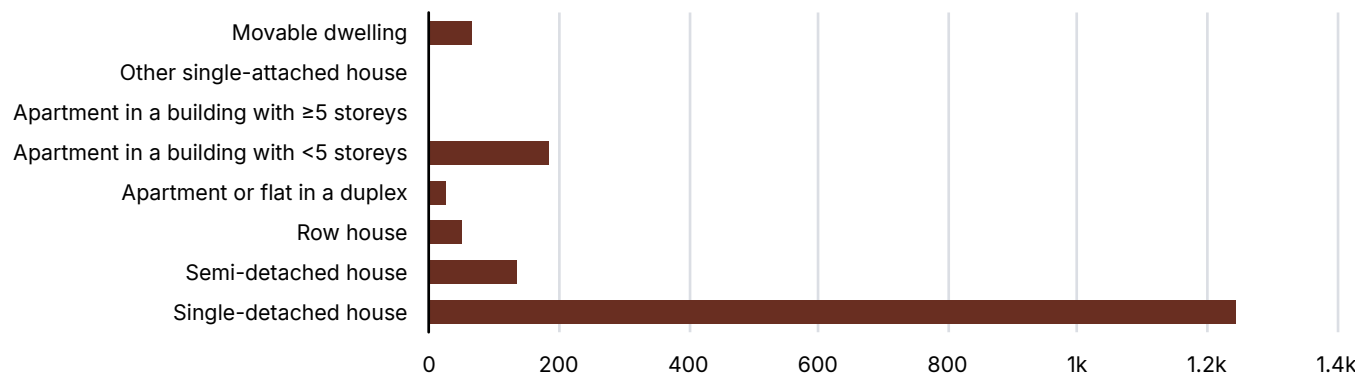


Figure 6.1: Shows the mix of dwelling structure types, such as detached homes, apartments, and other forms. It helps indicate the physical form of the housing stock. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Claresholm’s occupied private dwellings are dominated by single-detached houses, with 1,245 in 2021 and no change over the previous five years. Smaller housing forms make up a limited share of the stock: 185 apartments in buildings with fewer than five storeys, 135 semi-detached houses, 65 movable dwellings, and 50 row houses. Several types declined, including duplex apartments at 25 and high-rise apartments and other single-attached houses at zero, both down 100% over five years.

Claresholm’s occupied private dwellings in 2021 were dominated by single-detached houses, with 1,245 units. Apartments in buildings with fewer than five storeys formed the next largest group at 185, followed by semi-detached houses at 135 and movable dwellings at 65. Larger apartment forms were absent, and other single-attached houses were also at zero. The housing stock is therefore weighted toward low-density forms, with only limited growth in semi-detached and small-apartment types.



Figure 6.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Dwelling Structure Type - Single-detached house (Claresholm)¹

Housing Tenure

Owner households remained the largest tenure group in Claresholm in 2021 at 1,310, up 4.8% from 2016. Renter households also increased, but only to 400, leaving ownership far ahead.

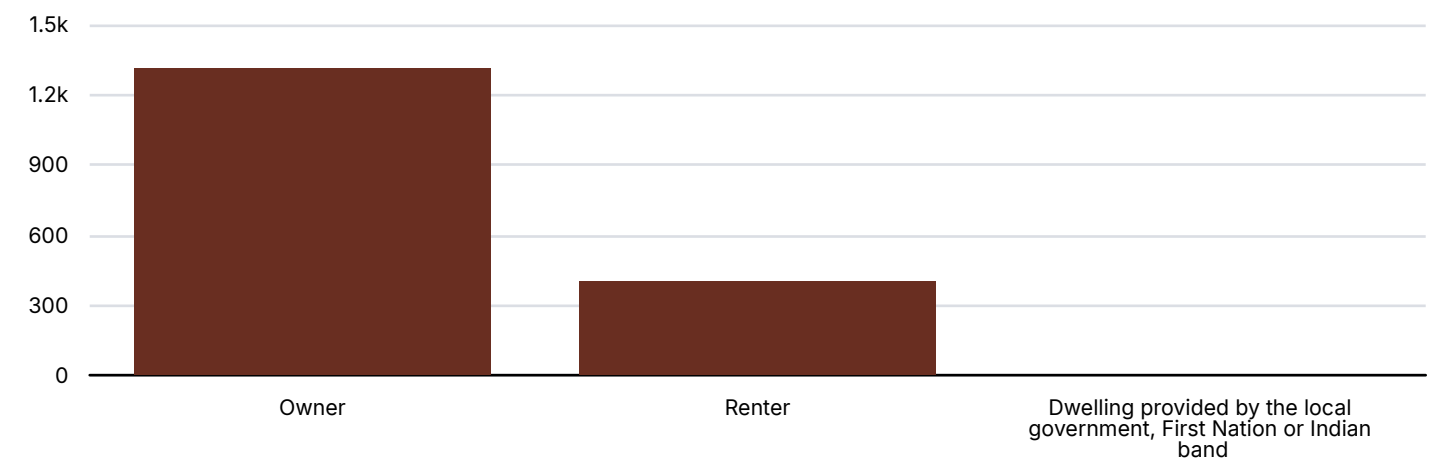


Figure 7.1: Shows whether households own or rent their homes. It helps indicate the balance between ownership and rental housing in the community. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm, housing tenure in 2021 was weighted toward ownership, with 1,310 owner households compared with 400 renter households among private households. Owner households also recorded a 4.8% five-year increase, while renter households rose by 1.3% over the same period. The remaining category, dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band, was absent, at 0 households. That pattern points to a community where ownership clearly dominates, while renting remains a smaller but present part of the housing mix. The growth figures suggest both tenures expanded, though ownership grew faster than renting.

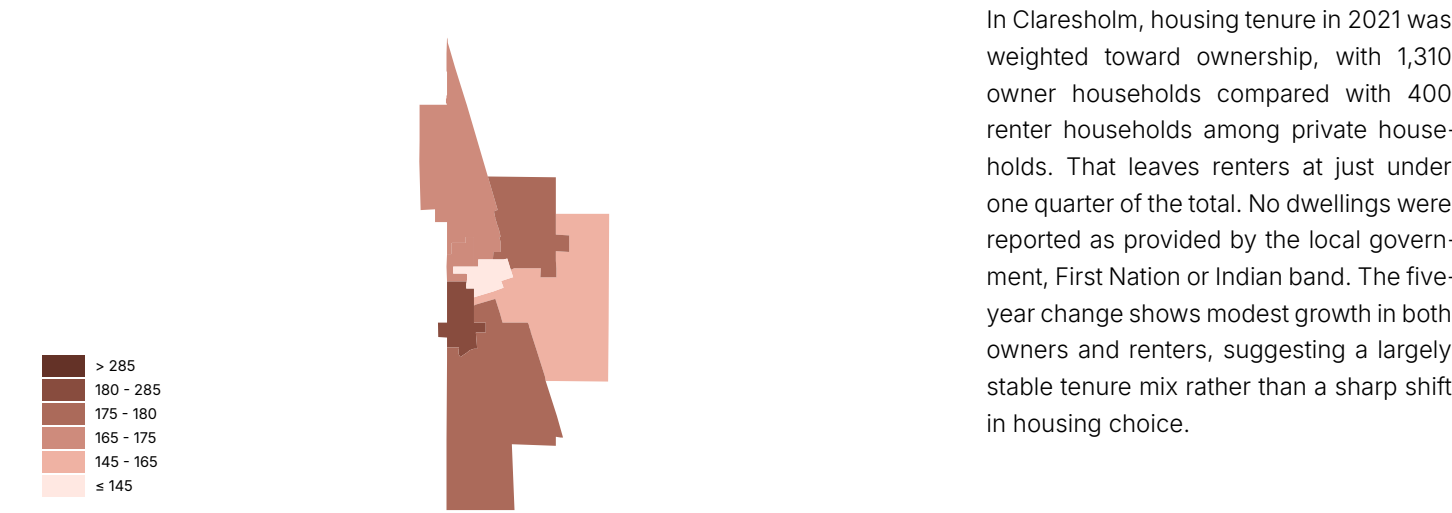


Figure 7.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Claresholm)¹

Household Total Income Groups

Claresholm's largest household income group remained \$60,000 to \$69,999 at 150 households in 2021, up 7.1% since 2016. The \$80,000 to \$89,999 group rose 75.0% to 140 households.

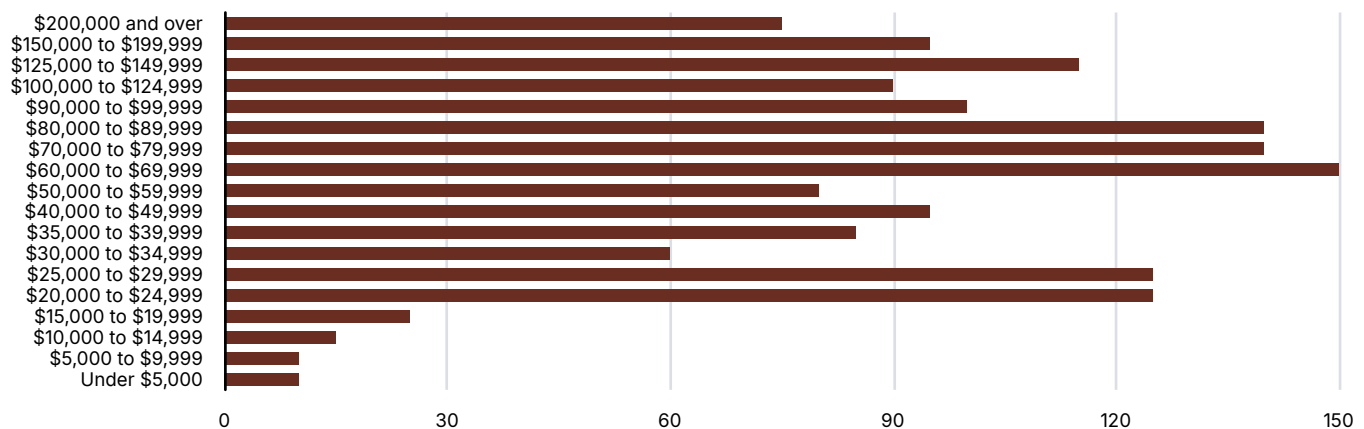
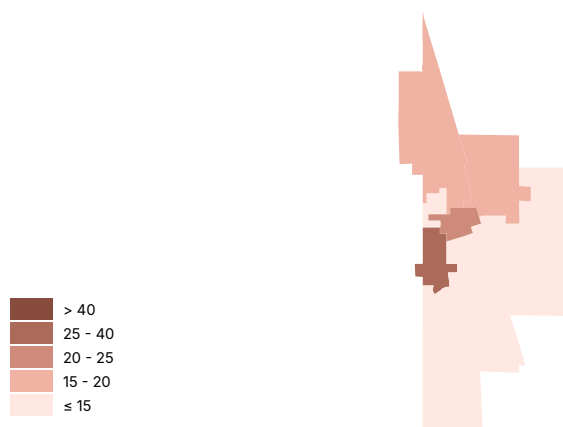


Figure 8.1: Shows households across total income groups. It helps indicate how household incomes are distributed from lower- to higher-income ranges. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Claresholm's household income distribution in 2021 spans a wide range, with the largest counts clustered in the middle-income bands. Among private households, the strongest groups are \$60,000 to \$69,999 and \$70,000 to \$79,999, at 150 and 140 households. Several lower-income categories are much smaller, including 10 households each in the under \$5,000 and \$5,000 to \$9,999 groups. Recent change is mixed. The \$80,000 to \$89,999 group rose by 75% over five years, while \$25,000 to \$29,999 increased by 66.7%. By contrast, \$15,000 to \$19,999 fell by 66.7%, and \$5,000 to \$9,999 declined by 50%. The pattern suggests a household income profile concentrated in mid-range earnings, with movement in both directions across lower and upper bands.



In 2021, Claresholm's private households were spread across a broad income range, with the largest counts in the middle and upper-middle brackets. The most common groups were \$60,000 to \$69,999 and \$70,000 to \$79,999, at 150 and 140 households, followed by \$80,000 to \$89,999 at 140. Smaller counts appeared at the lowest incomes, while 75 households were in the \$200,000 and over group.

Figure 8.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Income Group Household - \$60,000 to \$69,999 (Claresholm)¹

Average Shelter Costs

Claresholm’s owner shelter costs reached \$1,109 in 2021, up 16.5% from 2016. Renter costs were lower at \$948 and rose 5.8% over the same period, narrowing the gap to \$161.

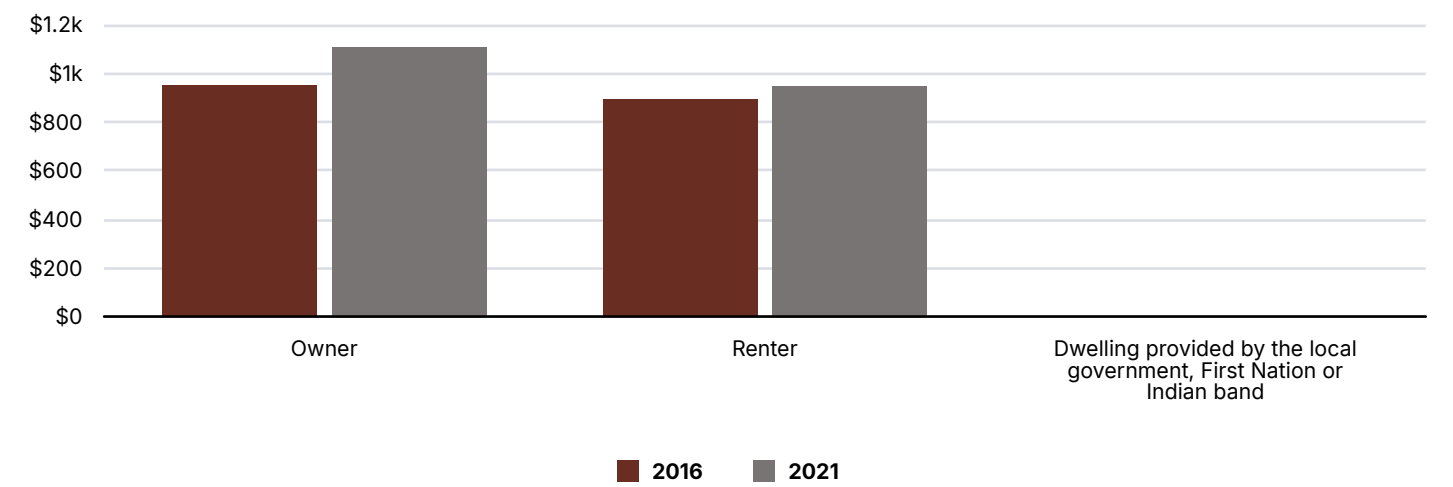


Figure 9.1: Shows the average monthly shelter costs paid by households. It helps indicate typical housing expenses faced by owners and renters. (Claresholm, 2016-2021)¹

In Claresholm, average monthly shelter costs in 2021 were higher for owners than for renters, within non-farm, non-reserve private dwellings. The figures point to a clear tenure gap in housing expenses. Owner households paid an average of \$1,109 per month, while renter households paid \$948. The owner figure also rose 16.5% over five years, compared with a 5.8% increase for renters. That difference suggests owner costs were both higher and growing faster than renter costs over the period. One tenure category, dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band, was recorded at \$0. Taken together, the data show a modest but persistent cost gap between owners and renters in Claresholm.



Claresholm's average monthly shelter costs in 2021 were higher for owners than for renters, with owner households paying \$1,109 and renter households \$948. Dwelling provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band was recorded at \$0. Among nearby areas in the dataset, owner costs ranged from \$930 to \$1,310 and renter costs from \$820 to \$1,120. Claresholm sits in the middle of that spread. The gap between owner and renter costs is modest, suggesting a fairly balanced housing-cost profile within the town's private dwellings.

Figure 9.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Claresholm)¹

Population in Private Households

Claresholm had 3,540 people in private households in 2021, up 1.0% from 2016. That followed a decline from 3,560 in 2011 to 3,505 in 2016, leaving the 2021 total near its earlier level.

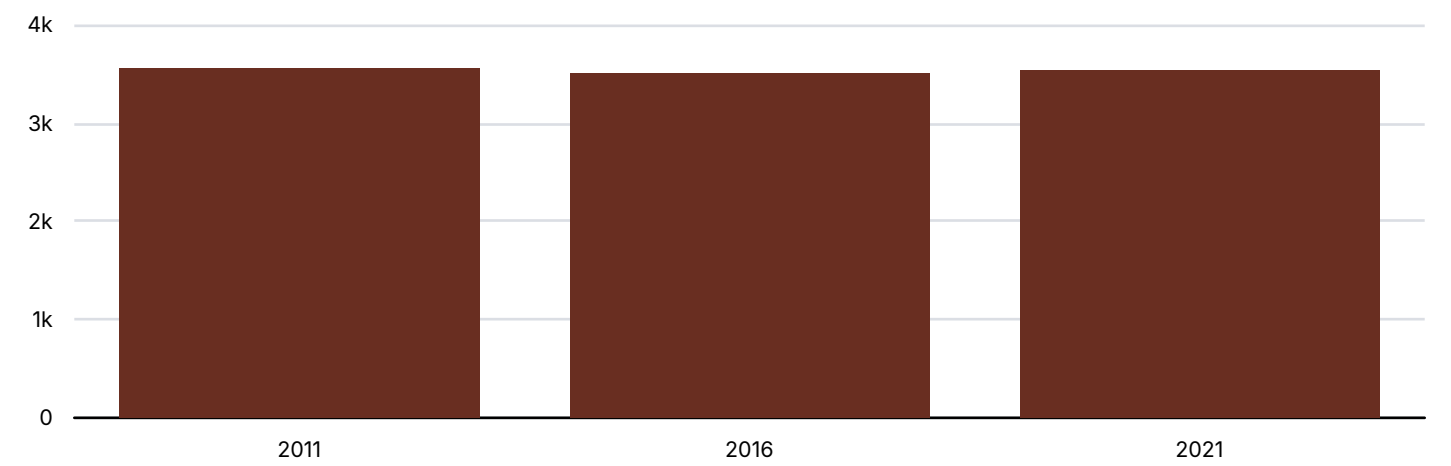
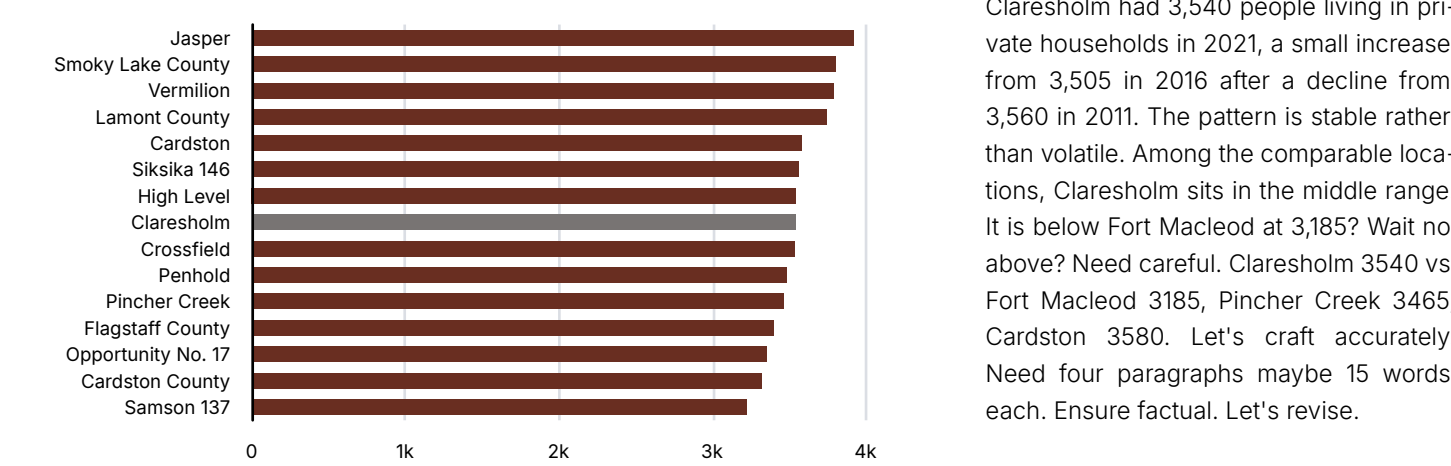


Figure 10.1: Shows the number of people living in private households. It helps indicate how much of the population lives in standard household settings rather than collective dwellings. (Claresholm, 2011-2021)¹

Claresholm’s population in private households was 3,560 people in 2011, slipped to 3,505 in 2016, and then edged up to 3,540 in 2021. The 2016 figure marked a 1.5% decline from 2011, followed by a 1.0% increase over the next five years. That leaves the 2021 total just 20 people below the 2011 level. The pattern is one of modest movement rather than sustained change, with a small recovery in the most recent period after a slight mid-decade dip. For a measure tied to standard household living, Claresholm’s counts appear broadly stable across the decade.



Claresholm had 3,540 people living in private households in 2021, a small increase from 3,505 in 2016 after a decline from 3,560 in 2011. The pattern is stable rather than volatile. Among the comparable locations, Claresholm sits in the middle range. It is below Fort Macleod at 3,185? Wait no above? Need careful. Claresholm 3540 vs Fort Macleod 3185, Pincher Creek 3465, Cardston 3580. Let's craft accurately. Need four paragraphs maybe 15 words each. Ensure factual. Let's revise.

Figure 10.2: Comparison of Population in Private Households with other locations (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Employment Rate

Claresholm’s employment rate was 47.2% in 2021, down from 51.3% in 2016 and 53.6% in 2011. The five-year decline was 8.0%, continuing a longer downward trend.

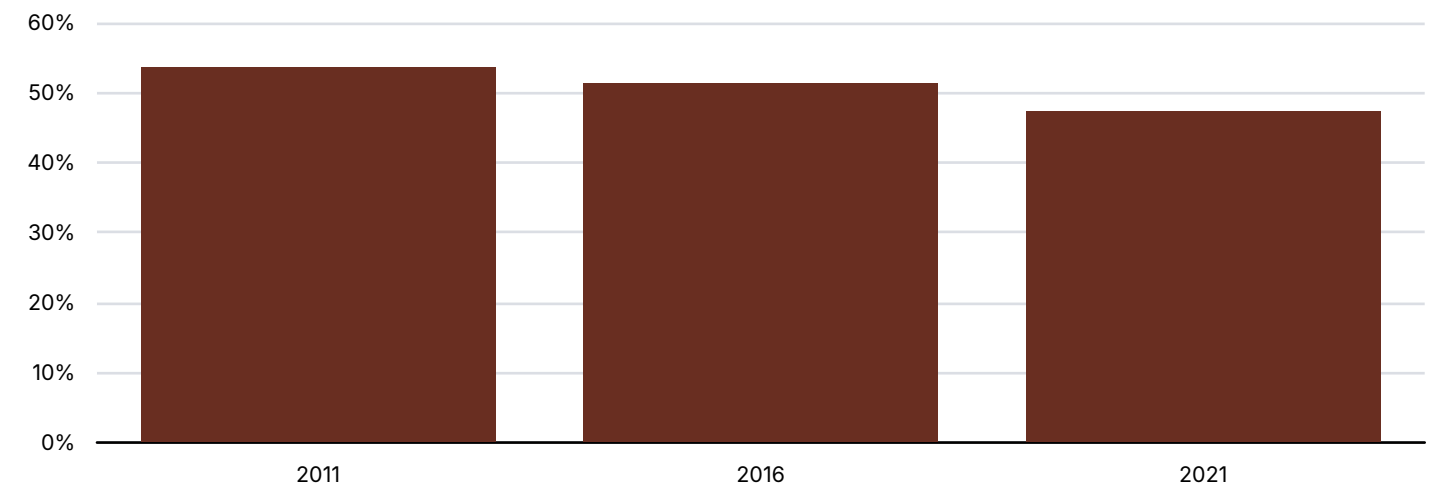
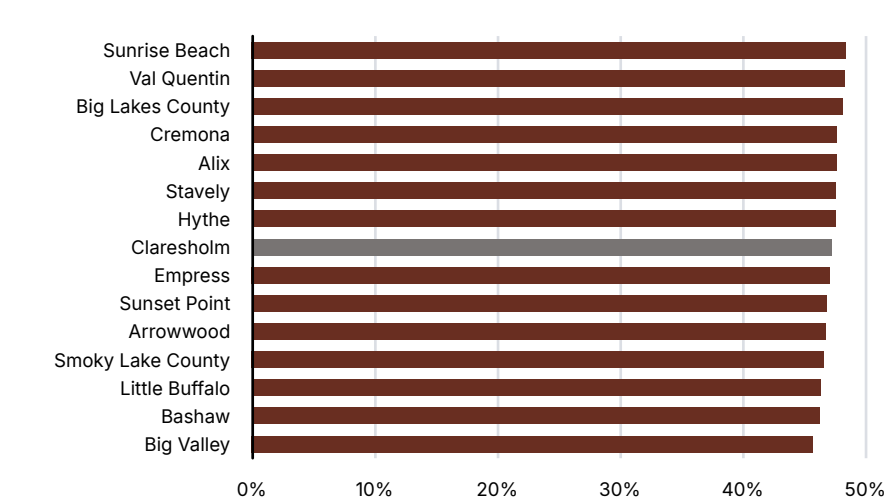


Figure 11.1: Shows the share of the working-age population that is employed. It helps indicate overall labour market health and how fully local talent is being used. (Claresholm, 2011-2021)¹

Claresholm’s employment rate trended downward across the available census years, pointing to a weaker share of the working-age population in employment over time. In 2011, the rate stood at 53.6%, then slipped to 51.3% in 2016 and 47.2% in 2021. The decline was gradual at first, then more pronounced. Between 2011 and 2016, the rate fell by 4.3 percentage points over five years, and it dropped another 8.0 points by 2021. Within the labour force aged 15 and over, the pattern shows a sustained loss of employment participation rather than a short-term fluctuation.



Claresholm’s employment rate was 47.2% in 2021, measured for the labour force aged 15 and over. The rate has eased steadily from 51.3% in 2016 and 53.6% in 2011. That puts Claresholm below several nearby places, including Nanton at 58.4% and Pincher Creek No. 9 at 61.6%. It is closer to Cardston at 50.5% and Fort Macleod at 51.5%. The pattern is one of gradual decline rather than sharp movement. Claresholm remains in the middle of the local range, but on the lower side. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile

Figure 11.2: Comparison of Employment Rate with other locations (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Household Size

In Claresholm, 2-person households remained the largest group at 690 in 2021. One-person households rose to 630, up 14.6% from 550 in 2016, while 4-person households fell to 135.

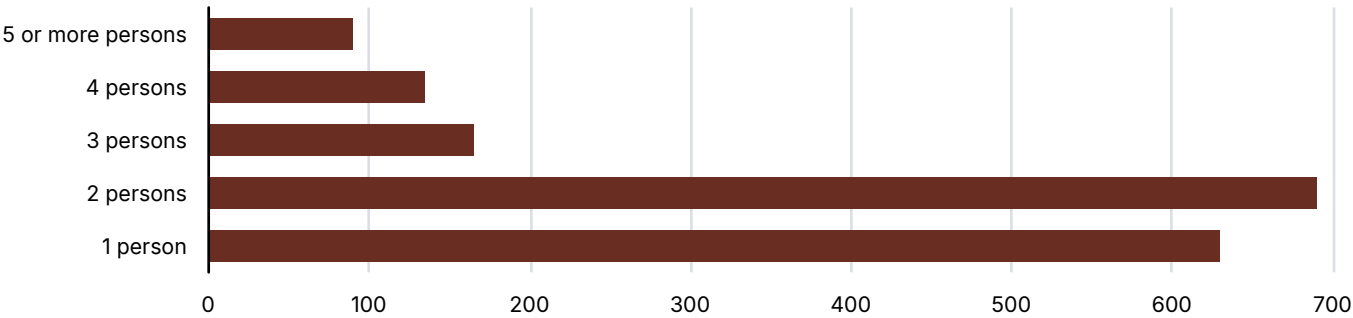


Figure 12.1: Shows the number of people living in households. It helps indicate common household arrangements and likely housing needs. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm, household size in 2021 was concentrated in smaller households, with 630 one-person households and 690 two-person households among private households. Three-person households accounted for 165 households, while four-person households numbered 135 and households with five or more persons totaled 90. The 5-year change was mixed. One-person households rose 14.6%, three-person households increased 3.1%, and four-person households fell 10.0%. Two-person and five-or-more-person households were unchanged. The pattern points to a household profile dominated by one- and two-person arrangements, with modest movement at the larger sizes.

In Claresholm, private households in 2021 were most commonly smaller ones, with 690 two-person households and 630 one-person households. Three-person households numbered 165, while four-person households were fewer at 135 and households of five or more totalled 90. The 5-year change suggests modest movement toward smaller living arrangements, led by a 14.6% increase in one-person households, alongside flat two-person and five-or-more households and a 10.0% decline in four-person households. The pattern points to a household profile centered on smaller sizes.



Figure 12.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Household Size - 2 persons (Claresholm)¹

Highest Education Level

Claresholm’s largest education group in 2021 was residents with a high school diploma or equivalency, at 960 people, up 104.3% from 2016. College credentials followed at 710 people, while bachelor’s degrees reached 255.

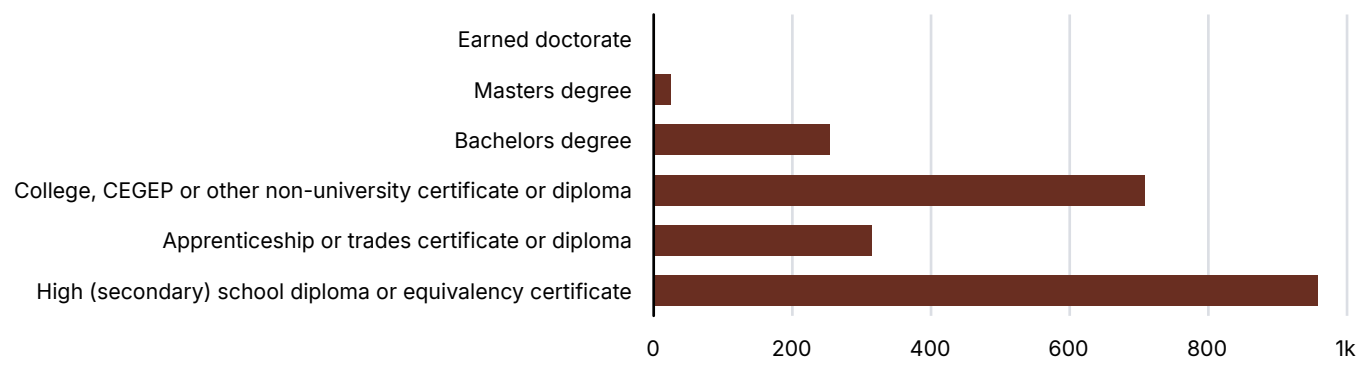


Figure 13.1: Shows the highest level of education completed by residents. It helps indicate the overall educational profile of the population. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm, the 2021 education profile is centered on completed high school and postsecondary certificates. High school diploma or equivalency was the largest category at 960 people, followed by college, CEGEP or other non-university certificates at 710 and apprenticeship or trades credentials at 315. Bachelor’s degrees accounted for 255 people, while 25 residents held a master’s degree and none reported an earned doctorate. The five-year changes point to growth in several credential levels, alongside declines at the upper end.

In Claresholm, the educational profile of residents age 15 and over is concentrated at the secondary and postsecondary certificate levels. In 2021, 960 people had a high school diploma or equivalency, and 710 had a college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma. Trades credentials accounted for 315 residents, while 255 held a bachelor’s degree. Higher credentials were less common: 25 residents had a master’s degree and none had an earned doctorate. Over five years, high school, college, and bachelor’s counts rose, while master’s and doctorate counts fell.



Figure 13.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Education Credential Ca - High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate (Claresholm)¹

Population Density

Claresholm’s population density was 362.1 people per square kilometre in 2021, down 22.3% over five years. It had been 465.9 in 2016 and 414.0 in 2011, showing a decline after earlier growth.

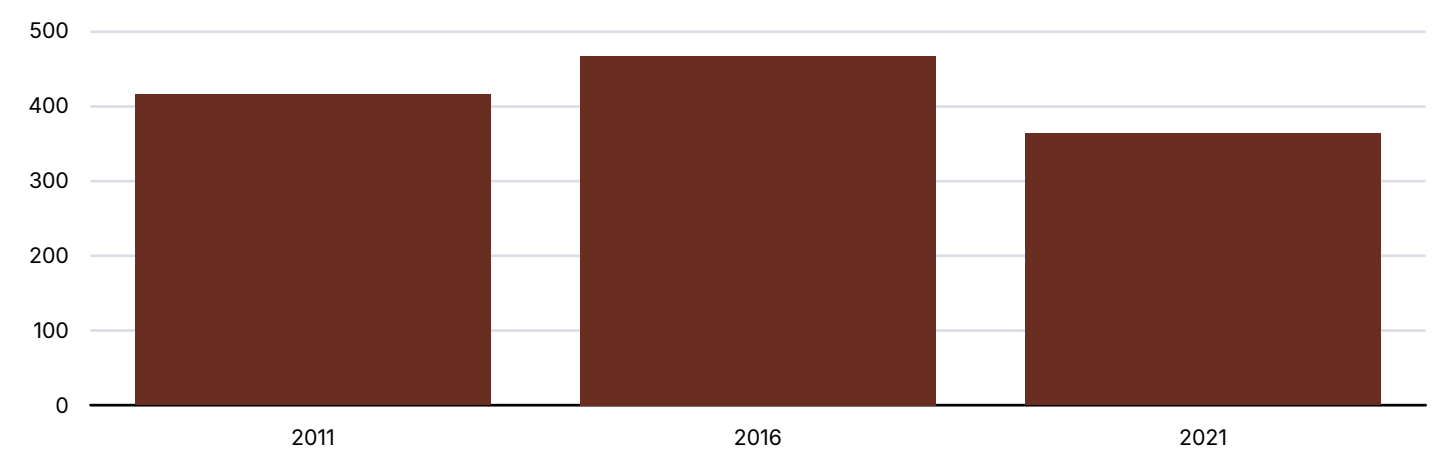
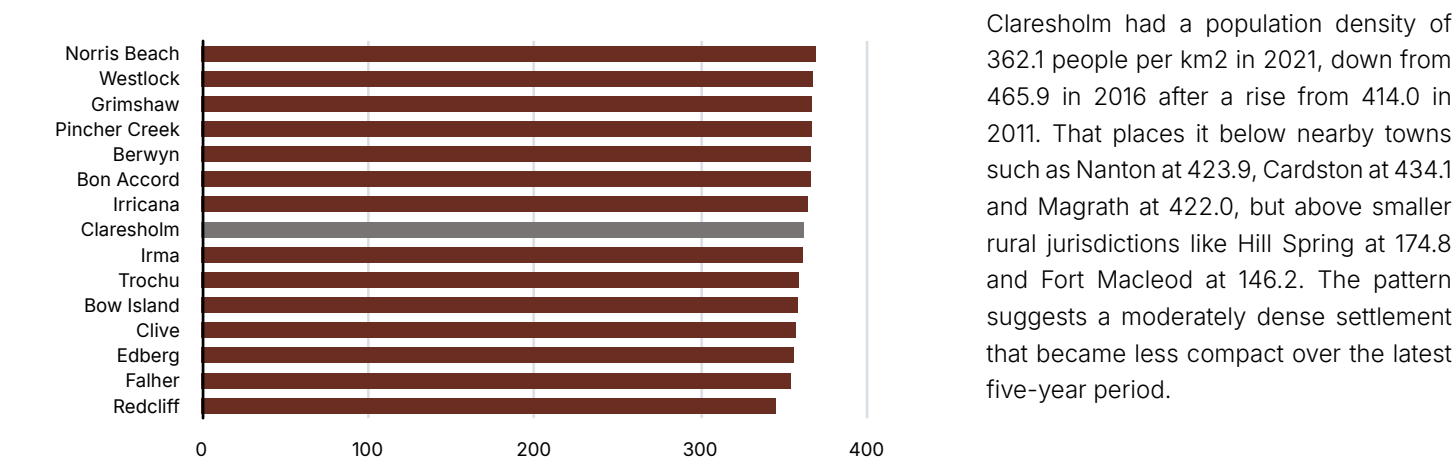


Figure 14.1: Shows how many people live per unit of land area. It helps indicate how compact or spread out the population is. (Claresholm, 2011-2021)¹

Claresholm’s population density has moved unevenly over the last decade, with a rise followed by a sharper decline. Measured for total population, the town had 414 people per km2 in 2011. By 2016, density had increased to 465.9 people per km2, a 12.5% five-year gain. In 2021, it fell to 362.1 people per km2, a 22.3% five-year decline. The 2021 figure is also below the 2011 level. The pattern points to a brief period of greater concentration followed by a more pronounced thinning out of population spread. Within the available data, the main story is the reversal between 2016 and 2021. For Claresholm, population density ended the period lower than it began.



Claresholm had a population density of 362.1 people per km2 in 2021, down from 465.9 in 2016 after a rise from 414.0 in 2011. That places it below nearby towns such as Nanton at 423.9, Cardston at 434.1 and Magrath at 422.0, but above smaller rural jurisdictions like Hill Spring at 174.8 and Fort Macleod at 146.2. The pattern suggests a moderately dense settlement that became less compact over the latest five-year period.

Figure 14.2: Comparison of Population Density with other locations (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Mother Tongue

English is the largest mother tongue in Claresholm at 3,325 people, up 1.4% over five years. Tagalog follows at 65, while Korean and Spanish each recorded 15, with Korean rising 200%.

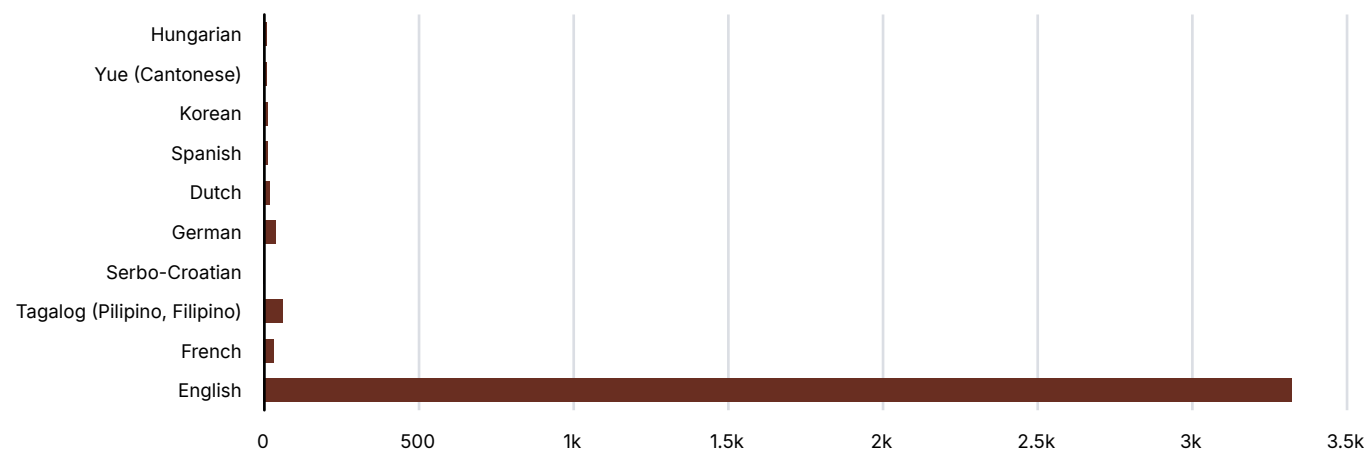
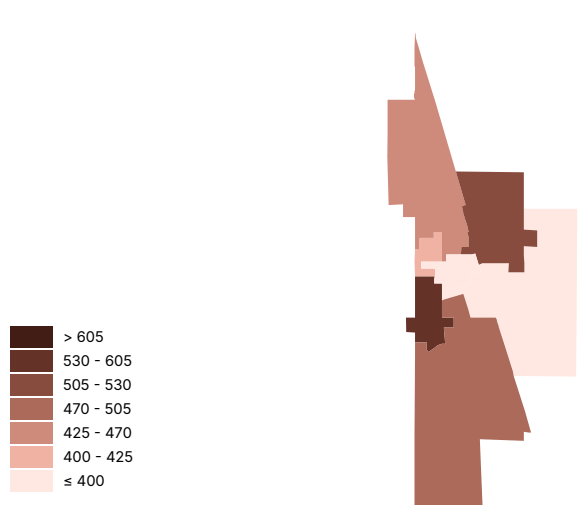


Figure 15.1: Shows the first language learned and still understood by residents. It helps indicate the linguistic roots of the population. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm, mother tongue is strongly concentrated in English. In 2021, 3,325 residents reported English as their first language, far ahead of every other language in the town. French was the next largest at 35 people, while Tagalog had 65 and German 40. The smaller language groups changed unevenly over the previous five years. Tagalog rose 44.4%, Spanish increased 50%, Korean grew 200%, and Yue doubled. By contrast, French fell 12.5%, German and Dutch each declined 20%, and Hungarian was unchanged. The pattern suggests a largely English-speaking community with a small but shifting multilingual minority.



In Claresholm, mother tongue in 2021 was strongly concentrated in English, with 3,325 people reporting it as their first language and still understood. Smaller groups included Tagalog at 65 people, German at 40, and French at 35. Recent change was mixed, with Tagalog rising 44.4% while German fell 20.0% and French declined 12.5%. This points to a largely English-speaking community with limited but changing linguistic diversity.

Figure 15.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Language - English (Claresholm)¹

Visible Minority

Filipino residents remained the largest visible minority group in Claresholm at 110 people in 2021, up 29.4% since 2016. Black residents grew fastest, rising from 10 to 30, while multiple visible minorities fell to zero.

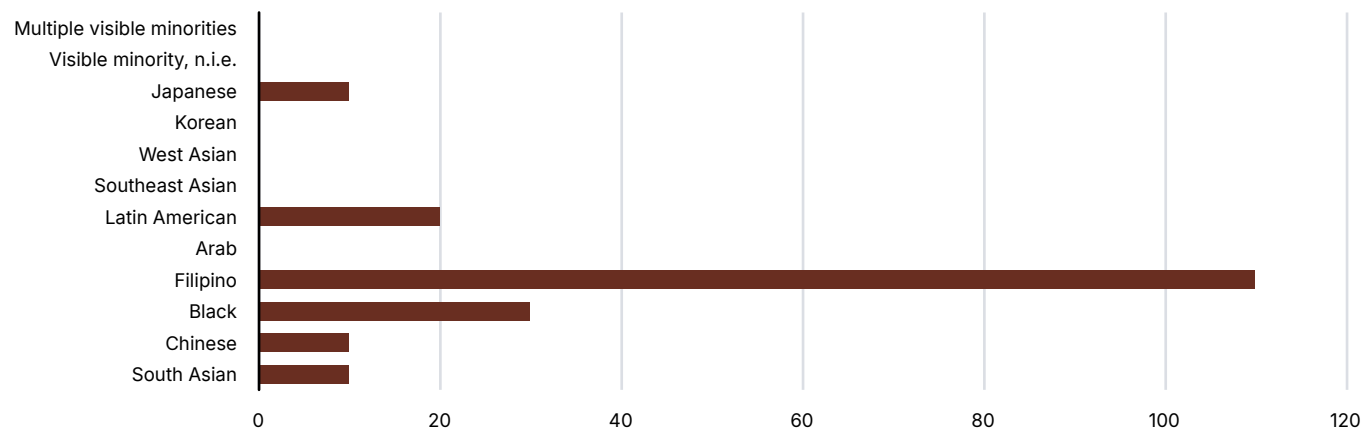
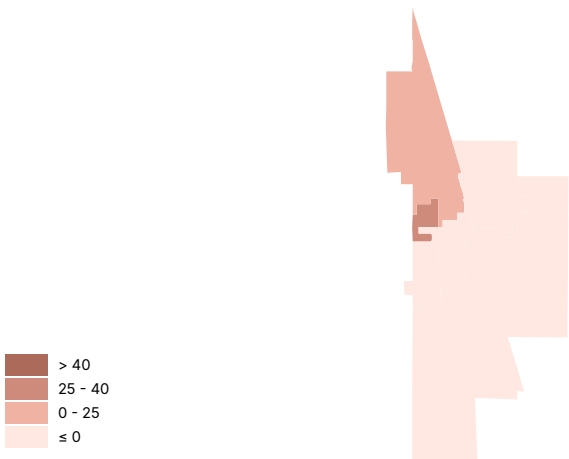


Figure 16.1: Shows residents who identify as belonging to visible minority groups. It helps indicate racialized population diversity in the community. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm, the visible minority population in 2021 was concentrated in a few groups, with Filipino residents forming the largest counted community at 110 people. Black residents numbered 30, while Latin American residents totaled 20. South Asian, Chinese, and Japanese residents were each recorded at 10 people. Several groups had no recorded population, including Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean, visible minority, n.i.e., and multiple visible minorities. Among the groups that did register counts, the five-year changes varied sharply. Black residents rose by 200%, and Latin American residents doubled. Filipino residents increased by 29.4%, while South Asian and Chinese residents declined by 50% and 33.3%, respectively. Japanese was unchanged.



In Claresholm, the visible minority population in 2021 was concentrated in a few groups rather than spread broadly across categories. Filipino residents accounted for 110 people, the largest count by far, while Black residents numbered 30 and Latin American residents 20. South Asian, Chinese and Japanese each had 10, and several groups were recorded at zero. The pattern points to limited but uneven diversity within the town's private-household population.

Figure 16.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Visible Minority - Filipino (Claresholm)¹

Age Groups

Claresholm’s largest age group in 2021 was 65 to 69 years with 360 people, while 80 to 84 years grew fastest over five years to 220 people, up 46.7%.

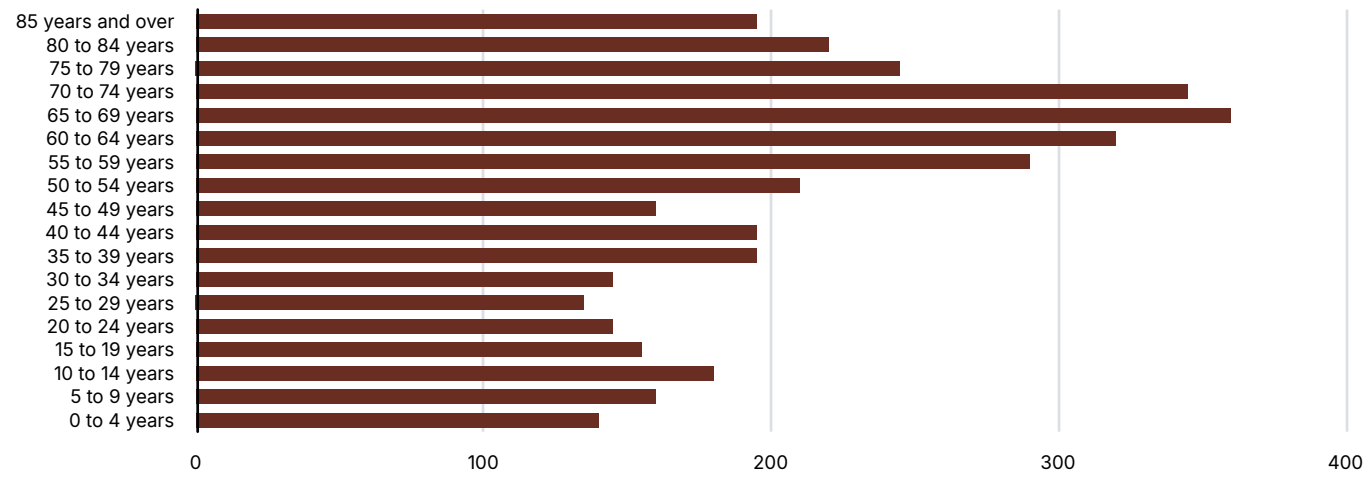


Figure 17.1: Shows how the population is distributed across age groups. It helps explain the community’s age structure and stage of life profile. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

Claresholm’s 2021 age profile shows a community weighted toward older residents, with the largest groups in the senior years. The 65 to 69 cohort is the biggest at 360 people, followed by ages 70 to 74 at 345 and 60 to 64 at 320. Several older groups also grew over five years, including ages 80 to 84, up 46.7%, and 10 to 14, up 28.6%. At the same time, many younger adult groups declined, such as 20 to 24 and 45 to 49. The pattern points to an age structure where middle and older ages are more prominent than younger working-age cohorts.

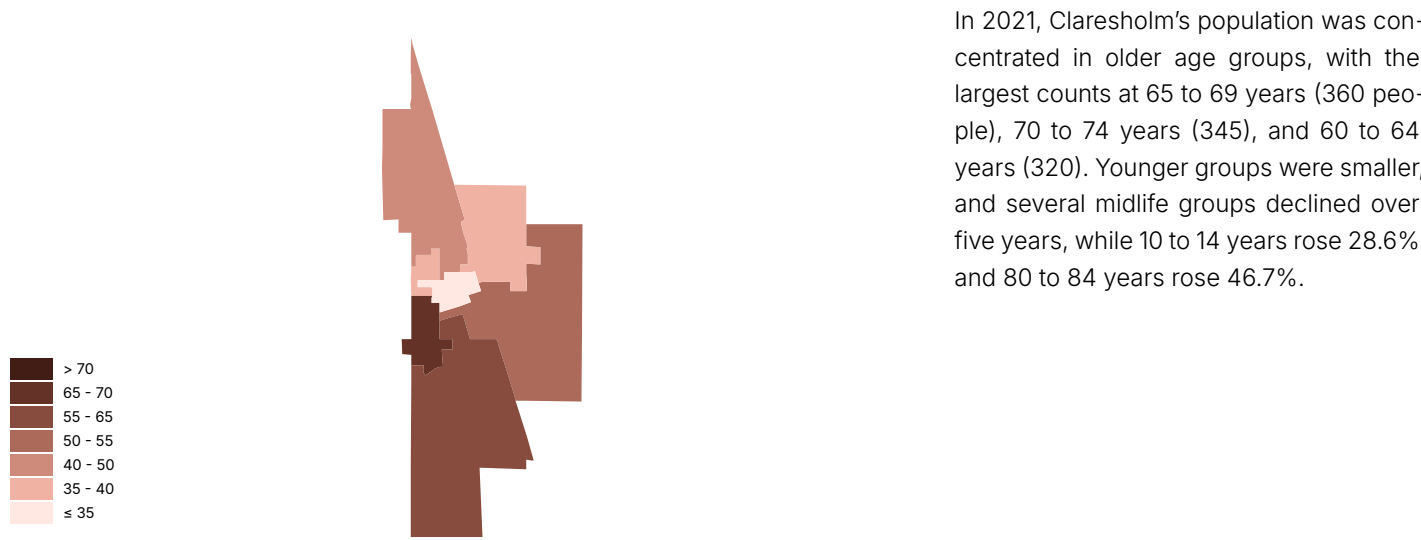


Figure 17.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Age Group - 65 to 69 years (Claresholm)¹

Family Type

Claresholm’s family mix was led by married couples without children, at 535 people in 2021, down 11.6% from 2016. Married couples with children fell faster, to 270 people, down 16.9%.

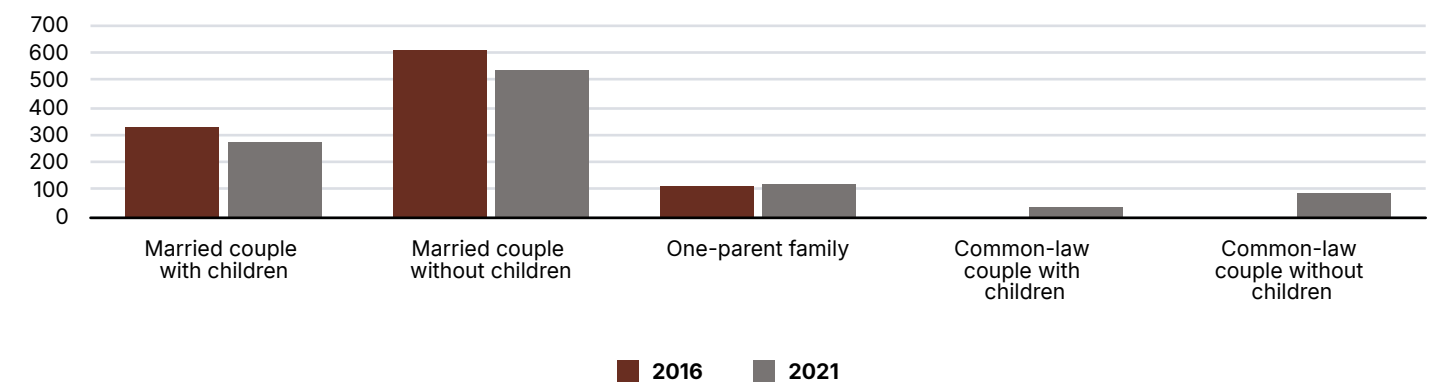


Figure 18.1: Shows the mix of family types, such as couple families and lone-parent families. It helps indicate the structure of family life in the community. (Claresholm, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, Claresholm’s census families were concentrated in couple-family households. Married couples without children were the largest group at 535 people, followed by married couples with children at 270. One-parent families accounted for 120 people, while common-law couples without children numbered 85 and common-law couples with children 35. Over five years, married couples with children fell 16.9% and married couples without children declined 11.6%, while one-parent families rose 9.1%. The mix shows a smaller family base with limited growth in lone-parent households.

In Claresholm, census families in private households were dominated by married couples without children in 2021, with 535 people, followed by married couples with children at 270. One-parent families accounted for 120 people, while common-law couples were smaller groups at 85 without children and 35 with children. Over five years, married couple families declined, while one-parent families grew. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile



Figure 18.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Family Type - Married couple without children (Claresholm)¹

Ethnic Origin

In Claresholm, English is the largest ethnic origin group at 1,130 people, down 3.0% over five years. German ranks next at 875, rising 27.7%, while Canadian falls to 400, a 56.5% decline.

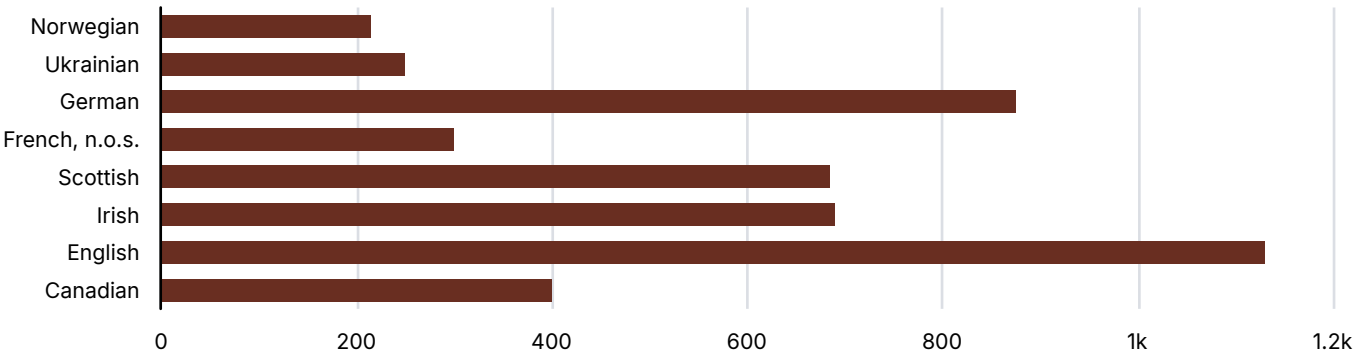


Figure 19.1: Shows the ethnic or cultural origins reported by residents. It helps indicate ancestry patterns and the community's cultural makeup. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In 2021, Claresholm's ethnic origin profile was led by English, Irish and Scottish origins, with 1,130, 690 and 685 people respectively. German origin was also notable at 875, while Canadian origin was reported by 400 residents. Recent change was mixed: Norwegian origin rose 34.4% over five years, German increased 27.7% and Ukrainian grew 13.6%, while Canadian origin fell 56.5% and Scottish declined 12.7%. The pattern points to a stable but shifting mix of ancestry claims.

Claresholm's reported ethnic origins in 2021 show a profile led by English, with 1,130 people, followed by German at 875 and Irish at 690. Scottish was close behind at 685, while Canadian was reported by 400 residents. Smaller but still notable counts included French, n.o.s. at 300, Ukrainian at 250, and Norwegian at 215. Recent five-year change varied sharply: German rose 27.7%, Ukrainian 13.6%, and Norwegian 34.4%, while Canadian fell 56.5% and Scottish declined 12.7%. The mix suggests a long-established ancestry pattern with some growing heritage groups alongside declines in others.



Figure 19.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Ethnic Origin - English (Claresholm)¹

Employment by Sector

Health care and social assistance remained Claresholm’s largest sector in 2025 with 1,780 people, despite a 1.6% annual decline. It still far exceeded retail trade at 282 and public administration at 240.

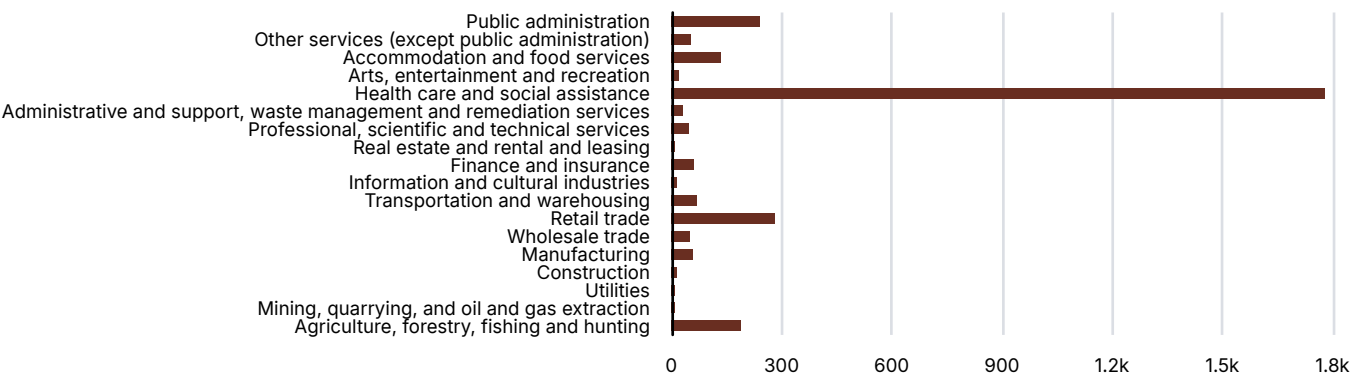


Figure 20.1: Shows how employment is distributed across industry sectors. It helps indicate which sectors account for the largest share of local jobs. (Claresholm, 2025)³

In 2025, Claresholm’s employment by sector was led by health care and social assistance, with 1,780 workers, far ahead of retail trade at 282 and public administration at 240. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting also remained important at 190. The recent pattern is mixed: health care was down 1.6% from a year earlier but up 808.2% over five years, while public administration rose 45.5% in one year and retail was essentially flat. This points to a job mix anchored by a few large sectors and marked by strong longer-term change.

In 2025, employment in Claresholm was concentrated in a few sectors, with health care and social assistance by far the largest at 1,780 people. Retail trade followed at 282, while public administration accounted for 240 and agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting for 190. Accommodation and food services employed 136. Several smaller sectors changed unevenly: public administration grew 45.5% over the year, while wholesale trade fell 52.3%. The pattern points to a local job base anchored by care services, retail, and public functions.



Figure 20.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Naics - Health care and social assistance (Claresholm)³

Employed Residents by Occupation

Sales and service occupations were the largest group in Claresholm in 2021 at 500 people, up 8.7% from 2016. Health occupations followed at 255, while legislative and senior management fell to 20 people, down 85.2%.

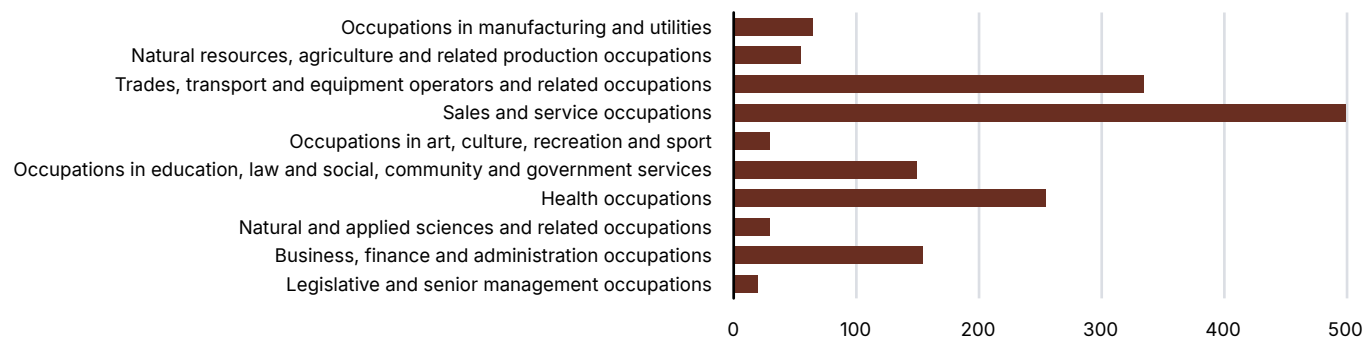


Figure 21.1: Shows the occupations held by employed residents. It helps indicate the community's skill mix and the kinds of work people do. (Claresholm, 2021)¹

In Claresholm's 2021 labour force aged 15 and over, employment was concentrated in sales and service occupations, which accounted for 500 people. Trades, transport and equipment operators followed with 335, and health occupations with 255. Business, finance and administration recorded 155. Most other groups were smaller, including education, law and social, community and government services at 150 and manufacturing and utilities at 65. Over five years, health occupations rose 24.4%, while legislative and senior management occupations fell 85.2%. Sales and service also increased, by 8.7%.

Claresholm's employed residents in 2021 were concentrated in sales and service work, with 500 people, followed by trades, transport and equipment operator occupations at 335 and health occupations at 255. Business, finance and administration accounted for 155, while education, law and social, community and government services reached 150. The mix suggests a labour force led by service and practical occupations rather than managerial or resource-heavy roles. Over five years, health grew by 24.4% and sales and service by 8.7%, while legislative and senior management fell by 85.2% and natural resources, agriculture and related production declined by 15.4%.



Figure 21.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Occupation - Sales and service occupations (Claresholm)¹

Data Sources

1. Statistics Canada, Census Profile. Published in Dec 15, 2022.
2. Statistics Canada, Population Estimates, Tables 17-10-0005-01, 17-10-0150-01, 17-10-0148-01, 17-10-0152-01, and 17-10-0155-01. Published in Jan 14, 2026.
3. Statistics Canada, Business Register; Localintel, Employment by Industry Estimates of Census Areas. Published in Mar 13, 2026.

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