

At what age are people admitted to aged care services?

The most common age at admission was 85–89 years for both men and women, followed by the 80–84 age group.

Women made up 60% of admissions into permanent residential aged care and home care services in 2018–19. Women tend to enter aged care services later in life than men and as such, a larger proportion of men admitted to aged care services were in younger age groups compared with women (Figure 3).

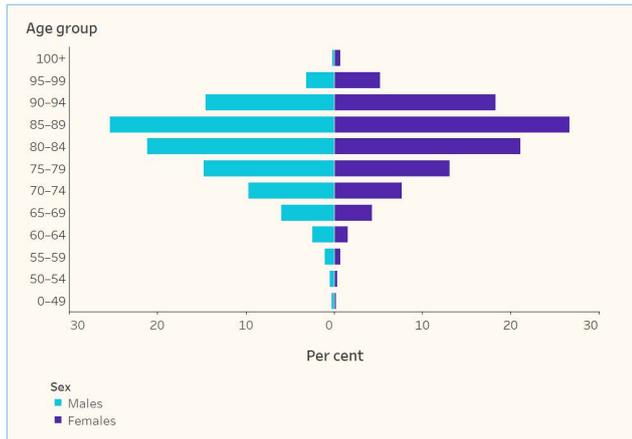


Figure 3: Age and sex of people who were admitted to residential care and home care, 2018–19

What are the characteristics of people entering aged care for the first time?

Admissions are the number of *entries* into a type of aged care over a period, rather than the number of people entering aged care. A person can be counted multiple times if they enter the same type of aged care more than once, however, a first admission can only be counted once for each person entering a type of aged care in their lifetime.

The most common age group of people entering permanent residential care for the first time was 85–89 years, accounting for around a quarter of first admissions. The most common age group of people entering home care for the first time was 80–84.

Nearly two-thirds of people entering aged care for the first time in 2018–19 were women for both permanent residential aged care (59%) and home care (62%).

The number of first admissions into permanent residential care has remained relatively steady over the past five years, from 61,600 in 2013–14 to 60,700 in 2018–19 (Figure 4). However, first admissions for home care have increased by 72% over the past five years, from 23,100 in 2014–15 to 40,000 in 2018–19.

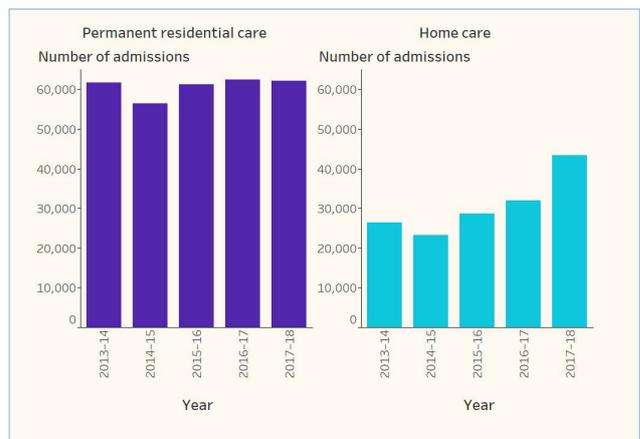


Figure 4: First admissions into aged care, by care type, 2013–14 to 2018–19

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