

Community report

Alice Springs (T)

Prepared from Community Explorer topic selections for briefing, planning and reporting use.

AREA

Alice Springs (T)

COMPARISON

Regional NT

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Language used at home

Sources and method

- Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 and, where available, 2016 comparison data.
- Percentages are calculated from the denominator supplied for each topic. Change (pp) is the 2021 percentage minus the 2016 percentage when the topic is comparable across years.
- Usual residence topics describe where people usually live, rather than where they were counted on Census night.

Language used at home

Alice Springs (T) | Regional NT comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Alice Springs (T), accounting for 68.3% (17,658 people). This share was higher than Regional NT (43%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 673 people, while its share fell by 0.3 percentage points.

About this topic

Language used at home shows which languages people speak in their home life and whether English or another language is used most often. It is a key indicator of cultural diversity and language retention within communities.

This topic is useful for planning communication, multicultural services, and local engagement. It should be analysed together with proficiency in English and birthplace, because language alone does not show migration history or support needs.

Interpretation notes

- The Census records the language used most often at home, so it does not capture every language a person can speak.
- Language used at home is not a measure of English proficiency, literacy, or migration history on its own.

Language used at home - Ranked by size

Alice Springs (T) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	73	0.3%	0.1%	19	0.1%	0.1%	+54	+0.2
Non-verbal, so described	43	0.2%	0.1%	52	0.2%	0.1%	-9	0.0
Swiss, so described	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%	-2	0.0
Creole, nfd	11	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	0.2%	0	0.0
French Creole, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–	–	–
Pidgin, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	0.1%	+1	0.0
Gaelic (Scotland)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Irish	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	0.0%	-5	0.0
Welsh	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–	–	–
English	17,658	68.3%	43.0%	16,985	68.6%	42.8%	+673	-0.3
German	96	0.4%	0.2%	119	0.5%	0.3%	-23	-0.1
Dutch	21	0.1%	0.1%	35	0.1%	0.1%	-14	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Afrikaans	74	0.3%	0.1%	70	0.3%	
Danish	14	0.1%	0.0%	15	0.1%	
Norwegian	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Swedish	14	0.1%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Estonian	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Finnish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
French	99	0.4%	0.2%	61	0.2%	
Greek	26	0.1%	0.1%	30	0.1%	
Portuguese	52	0.2%	0.1%	30	0.1%	
Spanish	129	0.5%	0.2%	65	0.3%	
Iberian Romance, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Italian	82	0.3%	0.1%	93	0.4%	
Maltese	–	–	–	–	–	
Lithuanian	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Hungarian	7	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Russian	26	0.1%	0.0%	15	0.1%	
Bosnian	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Croatian	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Macedonian	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Serbian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Czech	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Polish	13	0.1%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Romanian	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Pashto	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Dari	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Persian (excluding Dari)	14	0.1%	0.0%	18	0.1%	
Hazaraghi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Arabic	108	0.4%	0.2%	42	0.2%	
Hebrew	8	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Turkish	10	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Kannada	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Malayalam	439	1.7%	0.6%	405	1.6%	
Tamil	27	0.1%	0.1%	21	0.1%	
Telugu	35	0.1%	0.1%	26	0.1%	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	3	0.0%	—	—	—	
Bengali	33	0.1%	0.1%	20	0.1%	
Gujarati	41	0.2%	0.1%	31	0.1%	
Hindi	180	0.7%	0.3%	146	0.6%	
Konkani	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Marathi	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Nepali	223	0.9%	0.5%	59	0.2%	
Punjabi	412	1.6%	0.5%	167	0.7%	
Sinhalese	100	0.4%	0.2%	89	0.4%	
Urdu	87	0.3%	0.1%	57	0.2%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Dhivehi	5	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Fijian Hindustani	—	—	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	—	—	—	—	—	
Burmese	13	0.1%	0.0%	20	0.1%	
Khmer	14	0.1%	0.0%	20	0.1%	
Vietnamese	93	0.4%	0.3%	84	0.3%	
Lao	—	—	—	4	0.0%	
Thai	67	0.3%	0.2%	55	0.2%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Bisaya	28	0.1%	0.1%	19	0.1%	
Cebuano	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Ilokano	—	—	—	4	0.0%	
Indonesian	45	0.2%	0.1%	23	0.1%	
Malay	3	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Tetum	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Tagalog	286	1.1%	0.6%	228	0.9%	
Filipino	176	0.7%	0.3%	187	0.8%	
Balinese	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Chinese, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Cantonese	69	0.3%	0.1%	57	0.2%	
Hakka	3	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Mandarin	269	1.0%	0.5%	200	0.8%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Min Nan	5	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Japanese	39	0.2%	0.1%	54	0.2%	
Korean	48	0.2%	0.1%	42	0.2%	
Mongolian	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	51	0.2%	0.6%	230	0.9%	
Arnhem Land and Daly River Region Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anindilyakwa	3	0.0%	1.6%	–	–	
Maung	–	–	0.4%	–	–	
Ngan'gikurunggurr	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Nunggubuyu	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Rembarrnga	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Tiwi	–	–	2.1%	–	–	
Dalabon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iwaidja	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Jaminjung	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jawoyn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jingulu	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Kunbarlang	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Larrakiya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Malak Malak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mangarrayi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maringarr	–	–	–	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Marra	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Marrithiyel	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Murrinh Patha	–	–	2.3%	–	–	
Na-kara	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Ndjebbana (Gunavidji)	–	–	0.4%	–	–	
Ngaliwurru	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Nungali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wambaya	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Wardaman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Garrwa	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Ngandi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Waanyi	–	–	–	–	–	
Wagiman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yanyuwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gundjeihmi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kune	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Kuninjku	–	–	0.5%	–	–	
Kunwinjku	–	–	1.6%	–	–	
Mayali	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Burarran, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burarra	5	0.0%	1.3%	–	–	
Gun-nartpa	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Gurr-goni	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Arnhem Land and Daly River Region Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	–	–	1.8%	3	0.0%	
Dhangu, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Galpu	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Golumala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangurri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhangu, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Dhay'yi, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Dhalwangu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhuwal, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djambarrpuyngu	–	–	4.3%	–	–	
Djapu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Daatiwuy	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Marrangu	–	–	–	–	–	
Liyagalawumirr	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liyagawumirr	–	–	–	–	–	
Dhuwal, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhuwala, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gumatj	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Gupapuyngu	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Guyamirrili	–	–	–	–	–	
Wubulkarra	–	–	–	–	–	
Djinang, nfd	–	–	0.1%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Wurlaki	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djinang, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djinba, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Ganalbingu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Djinba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Manyjalpingu	–	–	–	–	–	
Ritharrngu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wagilak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nhangu, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhuwaya	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Madarrpa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warramiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rirratjingu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Yolngu Matha, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuku Yalanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cape York Peninsula Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Meriam Mir	–	–	–	–	–	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bilinarra	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Gurindji	7	0.0%	0.6%	7	0.0%	
Gurindji Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Jaru	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Malngin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mudburra	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Ngarinyman	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Walmajarri	–	–	–	–	–	
Warlmanpa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warlpiri	274	1.1%	2.7%	177	0.7%	
Warumungu	6	0.0%	0.4%	9	0.0%	
Arandic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Alyawarr	64	0.2%	2.1%	42	0.2%	
Kaytetye	15	0.1%	0.1%	14	0.1%	
Anmatyerr, nfd	112	0.4%	0.2%	7	0.0%	
Central Anmatyerr	6	0.0%	0.5%	–	–	
Eastern Anmatyerr	23	0.1%	0.2%	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nec	–	–	–	52	0.2%	
Arrernte, nfd	468	1.8%	1.4%	75	0.3%	
Eastern Arrernte	105	0.4%	0.5%	54	0.2%	
Western Arrarnta	242	0.9%	1.0%	89	0.4%	
Arrernte, nec	–	–	–	251	1.0%	
Kukatja	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luritja	165	0.6%	1.4%	122	0.5%	
Martu Wangka	–	–	–	–	–	
Ngaanyatjarra	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Pintupi	9	0.0%	0.1%	5	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Pitjantjatjara	199	0.8%	1.1%	153	0.6%	
Yankunytjatjara	17	0.1%	0.3%	13	0.1%	
Gooniyandi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Miriwoong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ngarinyin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yawuru	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Adnymathanha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gamilaraay	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Kriol	3	0.0%	5.4%	8	0.0%	
Lardil	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Narungga	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyamal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Wajarri	–	–	–	–	–	
Wiradjuri	–	–	–	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	–	–	0.2%	3	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	12	0.0%	0.1%	3	0.0%	
African Languages, nfd	14	0.1%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Acholi	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Akan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mauritian Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Shona	93	0.4%	0.2%	103	0.4%	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	56	0.2%	0.1%	30	0.1%	
Yoruba	23	0.1%	0.0%	20	0.1%	
Zulu	11	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.1%	
Amharic	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Bemba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dinka	46	0.2%	0.1%	29	0.1%	
Igbo	12	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	37	0.1%	0.1%	34	0.1%	
Nuer	118	0.5%	0.1%	29	0.1%	
Tswana	–	–	–	–	–	
Anuak	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	9	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Madi	12	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mandinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nec	13	0.1%	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	34	0.1%	0.2%	22	0.1%	
Gilbertese	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Maori (Cook Island)	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (New Zealand)	60	0.2%	0.1%	45	0.2%	
Samoan	79	0.3%	0.1%	72	0.3%	
Tongan	46	0.2%	0.1%	29	0.1%	
Rotuman	4	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NT %	Count	%	Region
Tuvaluan	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	–	6	0.0%	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Norf'k–Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Solomon Islands Pijin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	3	0.0%	0.1%	12	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Auslan	10	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Key Word Sign Australia	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	1,917	7.4%	10.1%	3,076	12.4%	
Total	25,844	100.0%	100.0%	24,743	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.