

Community report

Ballarat (C)

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

AREA

Ballarat (C)

COMPARISON

Regional Vic.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

1 April 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Religion

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.

Religion

Ballarat (C) | Regional Vic. comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Ballarat (C), accounting for 47.5% (54,034 people). This share was higher than Regional Vic. (44.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 16,497 people and 10.6 percentage points.

About this topic

Religion records a person's stated religious affiliation, including no religion and not stated responses. It is a measure of cultural identity and belief rather than practice or participation.

This topic helps show the religious diversity of an area and can support planning for community facilities, faith-based services, and inclusive engagement. It is best interpreted with ancestry, birthplace, and language, which together provide a broader picture of cultural composition.

Interpretation notes

- This records stated religious affiliation, not attendance or level of religious practice.
- No religion and not stated are part of the overall picture, so interpretation should consider both affiliation and non-response.

Religion - Ranked by size

Ballarat (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	534	0.5%	0.4%	594	0.6%	0.5%	-60	-0.1
Buddhism	873	0.8%	0.9%	764	0.8%	0.8%	+109	0.0
Christianity, nfd	2,021	1.8%	2.1%	1,821	1.8%	2.1%	+200	0.0
Anglican Church of Australia	9,030	7.9%	9.8%	10,823	10.6%	13.3%	-1,793	-2.7
Anglican Catholic Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Anglican, nec	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Baptist	866	0.8%	1.2%	900	0.9%	1.3%	-34	-0.1
Brethren	242	0.2%	0.1%	195	0.2%	0.1%	+47	0.0
Catholic, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Western Catholic	24,223	21.3%	19.7%	24,720	24.3%	22.7%	-497	-3.0
Maronite Catholic	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	-3	0.0
Melkite Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Ukrainian Catholic	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	38	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Catholic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	55	0.0%	0.0%	114	0.1%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	745	0.7%	0.2%	840	0.8%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	290	0.3%	0.3%	264	0.3%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	113	0.1%	0.1%	132	0.1%	
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lutheran	471	0.4%	0.7%	549	0.5%	
Armenian Apostolic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic Orthodox Church	29	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	48	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Assyrian Church of the East	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Albanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Greek Orthodox	351	0.3%	0.5%	300	0.3%	
Macedonian Orthodox	17	0.0%	0.1%	17	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Romanian Orthodox	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	38	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Serbian Orthodox	50	0.0%	0.1%	28	0.0%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Presbyterian	2,154	1.9%	2.2%	2,790	2.7%	
Reformed	18	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Salvation Army	224	0.2%	0.2%	381	0.4%	
Seventh-day Adventist	185	0.2%	0.2%	161	0.2%	
Uniting Church	5,408	4.8%	4.7%	6,929	6.8%	
Pentecostal, nfd	731	0.6%	0.7%	580	0.6%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	21	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	–	–	–	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Centres	4	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
United Pentecostal	6	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nfd	83	0.1%	0.1%	64	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	–	–	–	
Born Again Christian	38	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	–	–	–	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Independent Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	26	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Methodist, so described	123	0.1%	0.1%	109	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	–	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	–	–	–	
Christadelphians	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gnostic Christians	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	3	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Ratana (Maori)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	17	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Hinduism	1,320	1.2%	0.7%	614	0.6%	
Islam	765	0.7%	0.9%	425	0.4%	
Judaism	56	0.0%	0.1%	45	0.0%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	21	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Baha'i	47	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Ancestor Veneration	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	11	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Druidism	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Paganism	147	0.1%	0.1%	92	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	73	0.1%	0.0%	57	0.1%	
Nature Religions, nec	33	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Sikhism	651	0.6%	0.4%	219	0.2%	
Spiritualism	42	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rastafari	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Satanism	43	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Theosophy	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Jainism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zoroastrianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Groups, nec	14	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	54,034	47.5%	44.9%	37,537	36.9%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	122	0.1%	0.1%	128	0.1%	
Atheism	188	0.2%	0.2%	155	0.2%	
Humanism	9	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Rationalism	10	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	11	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Multi Faith	18	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
New Age	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	131	0.1%	0.1%	93	0.1%	
Theism	30	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	22	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Not stated	6,788	6.0%	7.7%	8,637	8.5%	
Total	113,768	100.0%	100.0%	101,646	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.