

# Community report

## Ballina (A)

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

AREA

**Ballina (A)**

COMPARISON

**Regional NSW**

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

Ballina (A) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Ballina (A), accounting for 89.8% (41,545 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (86.8%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 4,333 people and 0.6 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

Ballina (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	11	0.0%	0.1%	21	0.1%	0.0%	-10	-0.1
Non-verbal, so described	24	0.1%	0.1%	13	0.0%	0.1%	+11	+0.1
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
French Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Spanish Creole, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Celtic, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Irish	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	+5	0.0
Welsh	13	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Celtic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
English	41,545	89.8%	86.8%	37,212	89.2%	86.8%
German and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
German	167	0.4%	0.2%	143	0.3%	0.2%
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Dutch	89	0.2%	0.1%	75	0.2%	0.1%
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Afrikaans	47	0.1%	0.1%	55	0.1%	0.1%
Danish	14	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	0.0%
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Norwegian	18	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0.0%
Swedish	29	0.1%	0.0%	18	0.0%	0.0%
Scandinavian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Estonian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Finnish	15	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	0.0%
Finnish and Related Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	–
French	146	0.3%	0.1%	101	0.2%	0.1%
Greek	29	0.1%	0.2%	32	0.1%	0.1%
Catalan	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Portuguese	125	0.3%	0.1%	45	0.1%	0.1%
Spanish	163	0.4%	0.3%	104	0.2%	0.2%
Italian	151	0.3%	0.4%	139	0.3%	0.3%
Maltese	10	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Latin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latvian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lithuanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	19	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.1%	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	26	0.1%	0.1%	9	0.0%	
Ukrainian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bosnian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Croatian	11	0.0%	0.1%	19	0.0%	
Macedonian	5	0.0%	0.3%	–	–	
Serbian	5	0.0%	0.1%	7	0.0%	
Slovene	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Czech	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Polish	21	0.0%	0.1%	8	0.0%	
Slovak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Albanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Romanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Romany	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Other Eastern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Iranic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kurdish	–	–	0.1%	–	–	–
Pashto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Dari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Persian (excluding Dari)	22	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	–
Hazaraghi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Arabic	26	0.1%	0.3%	16	0.0%	–
Hebrew	14	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Turkish	7	0.0%	0.1%	16	0.0%	–
Azeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Turkmen	–	–	–	–	–	–
Uygur	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Uzbek	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Turkic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Armenian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Georgian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Kannada	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Malayalam	22	0.0%	0.2%	6	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Tamil	6	0.0%	0.1%	11	0.0%	
Telugu	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Tulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dravidian, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bengali	12	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Gujarati	12	0.0%	0.1%	8	0.0%	
Hindi	39	0.1%	0.1%	27	0.1%	
Konkani	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Marathi	6	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Nepali	27	0.1%	0.2%	7	0.0%	
Punjabi	108	0.2%	0.3%	49	0.1%	
Sindhi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sinhalese	6	0.0%	0.1%	11	0.0%	
Urdu	4	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Assamese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dhivehi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	–	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian Hindustani	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Burmese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Karen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rohingya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zomi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	14	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Vietnamese	48	0.1%	0.2%	37	0.1%	
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Lao	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Thai	130	0.3%	0.2%	58	0.1%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bisaya	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Cebuano	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilokano	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indonesian	25	0.1%	0.1%	22	0.1%	
Malay	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	–	–	–	
Tagalog	43	0.1%	0.2%	27	0.1%	
Filipino	31	0.1%	0.1%	17	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Acehnese	–	–	–	–	–	–
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Bikol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Javanese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Southeast Asian Languages	–	–	–	–	–	–
Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Chinese, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Cantonese	52	0.1%	0.2%	47	0.1%	–
Hakka	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Mandarin	69	0.1%	0.4%	74	0.2%	–
Wu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Min Nan	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Japanese	101	0.2%	0.1%	72	0.2%	–
Korean	22	0.0%	0.1%	21	0.1%	–
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tibetan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Mongolian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	–
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Anindilyakwa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tiwi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gudanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Murrinh Patha	–	–	–	–	–	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuku Yalanji	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kuuku–Ya'u	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jaru	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warumungu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luritja	–	–	–	–	–	
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangkatha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yankunytjatjara	–	–	–	–	–	
Bardi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bandjalang	37	0.1%	0.0%	–	–	
Dhanggatti	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Diyari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gamilaraay	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Githabul	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gumbaynggir	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kanai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Muruwari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ngarrindjeri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Paakantyi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wiradjuri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yindjibarndi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yorta Yorta	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dharawal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mauritian Creole	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Shona	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yoruba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Amharic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bemba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Harari	–	–	–	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Igbo	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luganda	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nuer	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigrinya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tswana	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Xhosa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Seychelles Creole	–	–	–	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Anuak	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bassa	–	–	–	–	–	
Dan (Gio-Dan)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fulfulde	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kirundi (Rundi)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krahn	–	–	–	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandinka	–	–	–	–	–	
Mann	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Moro (Nuba Moro)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Themne	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lingala	–	–	–	–	–	
African Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Fijian	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (New Zealand)	16	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Samoan	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Tongan	5	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Rotuman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Norf'k–Pitcairn	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Solomon Islands Pijin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Auslan	26	0.1%	0.1%	34	0.1%	
Key Word Sign Australia	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	2,554	5.5%	6.6%	2,992	7.2%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,288</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>41,733</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.