

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

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

Ballina (A) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Ballina (A), accounting for 42.4% (19,604 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (37.4%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 6,981 people and 12.2 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

Ballina (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	185	0.4%	0.4%	266	0.6%	0.4%	-81	-0.2
Buddhism	491	1.1%	0.8%	506	1.2%	0.8%	-15	-0.1
Christianity, nfd	977	2.1%	2.2%	920	2.2%	2.2%	+57	-0.1
Anglican Church of Australia	6,929	15.0%	17.0%	7,963	19.1%	21.9%	-1,034	-4.1
Anglican Catholic Church	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Anglican, nec	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Baptist	525	1.1%	1.2%	506	1.2%	1.3%	+19	-0.1
Brethren	6	0.0%	0.1%	4	0.0%	0.1%	+2	0.0
Catholic, nfd	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Western Catholic	9,121	19.7%	21.0%	9,168	21.9%	23.8%	-47	-2.2
Maronite Catholic	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Melkite Catholic	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Catholic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	11	0.0%	0.1%	23	0.1%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	268	0.6%	0.4%	240	0.6%	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	51	0.1%	0.1%	58	0.1%	
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lutheran	117	0.3%	0.3%	112	0.3%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian Apostolic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic Orthodox Church	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Church of the East	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ancient Church of the East	–	–	–	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Greek Orthodox	83	0.2%	0.4%	87	0.2%	
Macedonian Orthodox	9	0.0%	0.3%	–	–	
Romanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian Orthodox	10	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Serbian Orthodox	12	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Ukrainian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	1,476	3.2%	2.6%	1,771	4.2%	
Reformed	8	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Free Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Salvation Army	73	0.2%	0.2%	92	0.2%	
Seventh-day Adventist	222	0.5%	0.4%	223	0.5%	
Uniting Church	1,476	3.2%	3.3%	1,809	4.3%	
Pentecostal, nfd	349	0.8%	0.7%	364	0.9%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	9	0.0%	0.0%	36	0.1%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	110	0.2%	0.1%	100	0.2%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	3	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christian Church in Australia	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nfd	24	0.1%	0.1%	22	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Born Again Christian	3	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	9	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Independent Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	31	0.1%	0.0%	32	0.1%	
Methodist, so described	39	0.1%	0.1%	39	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	30	0.1%	0.0%	42	0.1%	
Christian Science	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Gnostic Christians	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	10	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	10	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Hinduism	156	0.3%	0.7%	94	0.2%	
Islam	66	0.1%	0.7%	54	0.1%	
Judaism	64	0.1%	0.1%	50	0.1%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	25	0.1%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Baha'i	21	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.1%	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	8	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Animism	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Druidism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Paganism	22	0.0%	0.1%	18	0.0%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	19	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.1%	
Nature Religions, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Sikhism	96	0.2%	0.3%	45	0.1%	
Spiritualism	12	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yezidi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rastafari	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Satanism	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Theosophy	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Jainism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zoroastrianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Groups, nec	41	0.1%	0.0%	37	0.1%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	19,604	42.4%	37.4%	12,623	30.2%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	48	0.1%	0.1%	37	0.1%	
Atheism	63	0.1%	0.1%	71	0.2%	
Humanism	4	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Rationalism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Multi Faith	12	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
New Age	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	77	0.2%	0.1%	68	0.2%	
Theism	16	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	34	0.1%	0.0%	22	0.1%	
Not stated	3,149	6.8%	7.7%	4,035	9.7%	
Total	46,284	100.0%	100.0%	41,781	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.