

Community report

Baw Baw (S)

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

AREA

Baw Baw (S)

COMPARISON

Regional Vic.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 March 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

Baw Baw (S) | 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 Baw Baw (S), accounting for 48.3% (27,796 people). This share was higher than Regional Vic. (44.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 10,852 people and 13.3 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

Baw Baw (S) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	263	0.5%	0.4%	236	0.5%	0.5%	+27	0.0
Buddhism	462	0.8%	0.9%	302	0.6%	0.8%	+160	+0.2
Christianity, nfd	1,623	2.8%	2.1%	1,490	3.1%	2.1%	+133	-0.3
Anglican Church of Australia	6,115	10.6%	9.8%	7,474	15.4%	13.3%	-1,359	-4.8
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	752	1.3%	1.2%	651	1.3%	1.3%	+101	0.0
Brethren	136	0.2%	0.1%	114	0.2%	0.1%	+22	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	9,559	16.6%	19.7%	9,683	20.0%	22.7%	-124	-3.4
Maronite Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Melkite Catholic	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Ukrainian Catholic	5	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Chaldean Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Syro Malabar Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Catholic, nec	14	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Churches of Christ, nfd	13	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	109	0.2%	0.2%	111	0.2%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Jehovah's Witnesses	260	0.5%	0.3%	213	0.4%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	113	0.2%	0.1%	86	0.2%	
Community of Christ	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Lutheran	133	0.2%	0.7%	150	0.3%	
Armenian Apostolic	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Coptic Orthodox Church	—	—	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	6	0.0%	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	5	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Greek Orthodox	195	0.3%	0.5%	135	0.3%	
Macedonian Orthodox	—	—	0.1%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Romanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	27	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.1%	
Serbian Orthodox	19	0.0%	0.1%	16	0.0%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Presbyterian	1,576	2.7%	2.2%	2,035	4.2%	
Reformed	22	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Salvation Army	132	0.2%	0.2%	222	0.5%	
Seventh-day Adventist	148	0.3%	0.2%	141	0.3%	
Uniting Church	2,053	3.6%	4.7%	2,482	5.1%	
Pentecostal, nfd	376	0.7%	0.7%	277	0.6%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	24	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	–	–	–	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	3	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Worship Centre Network	7	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Pentecostal, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Other Protestant, nfd	81	0.1%	0.1%	35	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	—	—	—	—	—	
Born Again Christian	17	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	—	—	—	—	—	
Church of the Nazarene	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Congregational	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Independent Evangelical Churches	145	0.3%	0.0%	—	—	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	11	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	213	0.4%	0.0%	306	0.6%	
Methodist, so described	62	0.1%	0.1%	51	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Protestant, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Christian, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	—	—	—	—	—	
Christadelphians	12	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Christian Science	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Gnostic Christians	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
New Apostolic Church	12	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Ratana (Maori)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Hinduism	221	0.4%	0.7%	107	0.2%	
Islam	192	0.3%	0.9%	83	0.2%	
Judaism	31	0.1%	0.1%	11	0.0%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Baha'i	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ancestor Veneration	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	8	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Druidism	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Paganism	51	0.1%	0.1%	48	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	23	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	14	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Sikhism	129	0.2%	0.4%	54	0.1%	
Spiritualism	27	0.0%	0.0%	36	0.1%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Rastafari	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Satanism	18	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Theosophy	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jainism	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Zoroastrianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Groups, nec	12	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	27,796	48.3%	44.9%	16,944	35.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	60	0.1%	0.1%	57	0.1%	
Atheism	110	0.2%	0.2%	70	0.1%	
Humanism	4	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Rationalism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Secular Beliefs, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Multi Faith	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
New Age	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	49	0.1%	0.1%	45	0.1%	
Theism	12	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	10	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Not stated	4,090	7.1%	7.7%	4,521	9.3%	
Total	57,608	100.0%	100.0%	48,479	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.