

Community report

Canterbury-Bankstown (A)

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

AREA

Canterbury-Bankstown (A)

COMPARISON

Greater Sydney

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

6 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

Canterbury–Bankstown (A) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, Islam was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Canterbury–Bankstown (A), accounting for 23.6% (87,423 people). This share was higher than Greater Sydney (6.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Islam, which increased by 15,531 people and 2.8 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

Canterbury-Bankstown (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	770	0.2%	0.3%	778	0.2%	0.4%	-8	0.0
Buddhism	22,461	6.1%	3.8%	21,216	6.1%	3.9%	+1,245	0.0
Christianity, nfd	8,484	2.3%	2.5%	7,449	2.2%	2.2%	+1,035	+0.1
Anglican Church of Australia	14,836	4.0%	9.2%	19,579	5.7%	12.0%	-4,743	-1.7
Anglican Catholic Church	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Anglican, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Baptist	3,713	1.0%	1.2%	3,890	1.1%	1.2%	-177	-0.1
Brethren	21	0.0%	0.1%	23	0.0%	0.1%	-2	0.0
Catholic, nfd	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Western Catholic	67,293	18.1%	22.1%	70,639	20.4%	24.2%	-3,346	-2.3
Maronite Catholic	11,588	3.1%	0.8%	9,749	2.8%	0.7%	+1,839	+0.3
Melkite Catholic	648	0.2%	0.0%	520	0.2%	0.0%	+128	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Ukrainian Catholic	36	0.0%	0.0%	54	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	22	0.0%	0.2%	23	0.0%	
Syro Malabar Catholic	17	0.0%	0.0%	43	0.0%	
Catholic, nec	37	0.0%	0.0%	40	0.0%	
Churches of Christ, nfd	38	0.0%	0.0%	50	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	130	0.0%	0.1%	191	0.1%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	790	0.2%	0.2%	817	0.2%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	596	0.2%	0.2%	671	0.2%	
Community of Christ	6	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Lutheran	333	0.1%	0.2%	422	0.1%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	10	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Armenian Apostolic	100	0.0%	0.1%	116	0.0%	
Coptic Orthodox Church	2,198	0.6%	0.4%	1,923	0.6%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	399	0.1%	0.1%	390	0.1%	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	134	0.0%	0.0%	120	0.0%	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Assyrian Church of the East	88	0.0%	0.2%	100	0.0%	
Ancient Church of the East	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Assyrian Apostolic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	33	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Albanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Antiochian Orthodox	3,182	0.9%	0.2%	2,362	0.7%	
Greek Orthodox	24,397	6.6%	2.3%	24,445	7.1%	
Macedonian Orthodox	2,902	0.8%	0.3%	3,004	0.9%	
Romanian Orthodox	25	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	301	0.1%	0.2%	271	0.1%	
Serbian Orthodox	539	0.1%	0.4%	519	0.1%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	33	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	25	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	3,536	1.0%	1.5%	4,648	1.3%	
Reformed	20	0.0%	0.0%	39	0.0%	
Salvation Army	300	0.1%	0.1%	437	0.1%	
Seventh-day Adventist	513	0.1%	0.2%	544	0.2%	
Uniting Church	3,481	0.9%	1.5%	4,364	1.3%	
Pentecostal, nfd	2,001	0.5%	0.8%	2,396	0.7%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	207	0.1%	0.1%	215	0.1%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Revival Centres	7	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Rhema Family Church	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Victory Worship Centre	–	–	–	–	–	
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	28	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Other Protestant, nfd	500	0.1%	0.2%	366	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Born Again Christian	171	0.0%	0.1%	135	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	41	0.0%	0.0%	95	0.0%	
Church of the Nazarene	8	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Congregational	173	0.0%	0.0%	207	0.1%	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	195	0.1%	0.0%	183	0.1%	
Independent Evangelical Churches	100	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	25	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	19	0.0%	0.0%	46	0.0%	
Methodist, so described	268	0.1%	0.1%	313	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	146	0.0%	0.0%	137	0.0%	
Christian Science	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Gnostic Christians	19	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	13	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	4	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Ratana (Maori)	61	0.0%	0.0%	55	0.0%	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	–	–	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	76	0.0%	0.0%	96	0.0%	
Hinduism	7,892	2.1%	4.8%	6,578	1.9%	
Islam	87,423	23.6%	6.3%	71,892	20.8%	
Judaism	205	0.1%	0.7%	174	0.1%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	9	0.0%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Baha'i	86	0.0%	0.1%	88	0.0%	
Ancestor Veneration	13	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Confucianism	21	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Taoism	143	0.0%	0.0%	94	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Druse	450	0.1%	0.0%	378	0.1%	
Shinto	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Tenrikyo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Druidism	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Paganism	69	0.0%	0.0%	50	0.0%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	49	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	22	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Sikhism	928	0.3%	0.7%	1,065	0.3%	
Spiritualism	42	0.0%	0.0%	42	0.0%	
Mandaeen	27	0.0%	0.2%	32	0.0%	
Yezidi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Caodaism	84	0.0%	0.0%	64	0.0%	
Church of Scientology	34	0.0%	0.0%	50	0.0%	
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Rastafari	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Satanism	22	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Theosophy	6	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Jainism	22	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Zoroastrianism	22	0.0%	0.0%	43	0.0%	
Religious Groups, nec	48	0.0%	0.0%	59	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
No Religion, so described	64,750	17.5%	30.3%	51,798	15.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Agnosticism	275	0.1%	0.1%	237	0.1%	
Atheism	224	0.1%	0.1%	146	0.0%	
Humanism	10	0.0%	0.0%	52	0.0%	
Rationalism	6	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	24	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Multi Faith	44	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
New Age	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	145	0.0%	0.1%	123	0.0%	
Theism	40	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	16	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	54	0.0%	0.0%	50	0.0%	
Not stated	29,649	8.0%	6.2%	29,010	8.4%	
Total	371,020	100.0%	100.0%	346,327	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.