

Community report

Cardinia (S)

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

AREA

Cardinia (S)

COMPARISON

Greater Melbourne

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

26 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

Cardinia (S) | Greater Melbourne comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Cardinia (S), accounting for 43.8% (51,788 people). This share was higher than Greater Melbourne (36.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 17,733 people and 7.6 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

Cardinia (S) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	548	0.5%	0.4%	520	0.6%	0.5%	+28	-0.1
Buddhism	2,743	2.3%	3.9%	1,408	1.5%	3.8%	+1,335	+0.8
Christianity, nfd	3,660	3.1%	2.7%	3,217	3.4%	2.6%	+443	-0.3
Anglican Church of Australia	9,143	7.7%	5.5%	11,674	12.4%	7.6%	-2,531	-4.7
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	2,212	1.9%	1.3%	1,742	1.9%	1.3%	+470	0.0
Brethren	91	0.1%	0.0%	48	0.1%	0.0%	+43	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	20,931	17.7%	20.5%	20,389	21.7%	23.2%	+542	-4.0
Maronite Catholic	–	–	0.1%	–	–	0.1%	–	–
Melkite Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Ukrainian Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Chaldean Catholic	7	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	–
Syro Malabar Catholic	26	0.0%	0.1%	5	0.0%	–
Catholic, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Churches of Christ, nfd	11	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	–
Churches of Christ (Conference)	177	0.1%	0.1%	111	0.1%	–
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Jehovah's Witnesses	250	0.2%	0.2%	251	0.3%	–
Latter-day Saints, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	363	0.3%	0.2%	330	0.4%	–
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Lutheran	269	0.2%	0.2%	348	0.4%	–
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Armenian Apostolic	16	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Coptic Orthodox Church	263	0.2%	0.2%	141	0.1%	–
Syrian Orthodox Church	59	0.0%	0.1%	18	0.0%	–
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	4	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	–
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Assyrian Church of the East	–	–	0.1%	–	–	–
Ancient Church of the East	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Albanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Antiochian Orthodox	18	0.0%	0.1%	7	0.0%	–
Greek Orthodox	833	0.7%	3.3%	634	0.7%	–
Macedonian Orthodox	36	0.0%	0.4%	16	0.0%	–
Romanian Orthodox	19	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	–
Russian Orthodox	133	0.1%	0.1%	125	0.1%	–
Serbian Orthodox	145	0.1%	0.3%	99	0.1%	–
Ukrainian Orthodox	6	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Eastern Orthodox, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Presbyterian	1,556	1.3%	1.1%	2,044	2.2%	–
Reformed	117	0.1%	0.0%	116	0.1%	–
Salvation Army	135	0.1%	0.1%	156	0.2%	–
Seventh-day Adventist	455	0.4%	0.2%	345	0.4%	–
Uniting Church	2,444	2.1%	1.7%	3,227	3.4%	–
Pentecostal, nfd	1,411	1.2%	0.8%	1,041	1.1%	–
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	67	0.1%	0.0%	105	0.1%	–
Bethesda Ministries International (Bethesda Churches)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Revival Centres	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	–
Rhema Family Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Acts 2 Alliance	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Christian Church in Australia	–	–	–	–	–	–
Pentecostal City Life Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Revival Fellowship	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Victory Worship Centre	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Other Protestant, nfd	163	0.1%	0.2%	77	0.1%	–
Born Again Christian	91	0.1%	0.1%	85	0.1%	–
Christian and Missionary Alliance	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Congregational	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	8	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	–
Independent Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Wesleyan Methodist Church	22	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Christian Community Churches of Australia	27	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	–
Methodist, so described	61	0.1%	0.1%	85	0.1%	–
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Other Protestant, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Christian, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Apostolic Church of Queensland	—	—	—	—	—	—
Christadelphians	16	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	—
Christian Science	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	—
Gnostic Christians	—	—	0.0%	5	0.0%	—
Liberal Catholic Church	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
New Apostolic Church	33	0.0%	0.0%	36	0.0%	—
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Ratana (Maori)	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	—
Religious Science	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Temple Society	—	—	0.0%	8	0.0%	—
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Christian, nec	21	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	—
Hinduism	3,238	2.7%	4.1%	1,135	1.2%	—
Islam	3,119	2.6%	5.3%	946	1.0%	—
Judaism	93	0.1%	0.9%	78	0.1%	—
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	14	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	—
Baha'i	19	0.0%	0.1%	21	0.0%	—
Ancestor Veneration	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Confucianism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—
Taoism	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Druse	39	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Shinto	6	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Tenrikyo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	–	–	–	–
Nature Religions, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Animism	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Druidism	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Paganism	94	0.1%	0.1%	59	0.1%	–
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	30	0.0%	0.0%	40	0.0%	–
Nature Religions, nec	20	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Sikhism	3,097	2.6%	1.7%	803	0.9%	–
Spiritualism	46	0.0%	0.0%	60	0.1%	–
Mandaean	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yezidi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Caodaism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Church of Scientology	8	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Eckankar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Rastafari	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Satanism	24	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	–
Theosophy	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	–
Jainism	34	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	–
Zoroastrianism	7	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %	Count	%	Greater Melbourne %
Religious Groups, nec	18	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	51,788	43.8%	36.9%	34,055	36.2%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	123	0.1%	0.1%	100	0.1%	
Atheism	169	0.1%	0.1%	182	0.2%	
Humanism	13	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Rationalism	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	8	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	11	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Multi Faith	12	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
New Age	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	138	0.1%	0.1%	97	0.1%	
Theism	20	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	12	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Not stated	7,348	6.2%	5.8%	7,718	8.2%	
Total	118,205	100.0%	100.0%	94,121	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.