

Community report

Cessnock (C)

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

AREA

Cessnock (C)

COMPARISON

Regional NSW

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

30 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

Cessnock (C) | 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 Cessnock (C), accounting for 41.1% (26,127 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (37.4%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 11,791 people and 15.3 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

Cessnock (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	207	0.3%	0.4%	186	0.3%	0.4%	+21	0.0
Buddhism	371	0.6%	0.8%	320	0.6%	0.8%	+51	0.0
Christianity, nfd	1,066	1.7%	2.2%	945	1.7%	2.2%	+121	0.0
Anglican Church of Australia	12,223	19.2%	17.0%	14,715	26.5%	21.9%	-2,492	-7.3
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	706	1.1%	1.2%	622	1.1%	1.3%	+84	0.0
Brethren	3	0.0%	0.1%	9	0.0%	0.1%	-6	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	11,244	17.7%	21.0%	11,205	20.2%	23.8%	+39	-2.5
Maronite Catholic	12	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	+9	0.0
Melkite Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Catholic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	29	0.0%	0.1%	29	0.1%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	222	0.3%	0.4%	188	0.3%	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	137	0.2%	0.1%	176	0.3%	
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lutheran	84	0.1%	0.3%	71	0.1%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian Apostolic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Coptic Orthodox Church	7	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	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	9	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Greek Orthodox	107	0.2%	0.4%	76	0.1%	
Macedonian Orthodox	6	0.0%	0.3%	6	0.0%	
Romanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian Orthodox	20	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Serbian Orthodox	14	0.0%	0.1%	12	0.0%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	1,406	2.2%	2.6%	1,968	3.5%	
Reformed	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Free Reformed	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Salvation Army	198	0.3%	0.2%	305	0.5%	
Seventh-day Adventist	286	0.4%	0.4%	233	0.4%	
Uniting Church	2,323	3.7%	3.3%	2,994	5.4%	
Pentecostal, nfd	356	0.6%	0.7%	345	0.6%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	12	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.1%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	13	0.0%	0.1%	16	0.0%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Foursquare Gospel Church	7	0.0%	0.0%	7	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	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Pentecostal, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Protestant, nfd	54	0.1%	0.1%	28	0.1%	–
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Born Again Christian	23	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	–
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Congregational	101	0.2%	0.0%	106	0.2%	–
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Independent Evangelical Churches	4	0.0%	0.1%	10	0.0%	–
Wesleyan Methodist Church	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Christian Community Churches of Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Methodist, so described	144	0.2%	0.1%	140	0.3%	–
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Protestant, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Christadelphians	17	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	–
Christian Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Gnostic Christians	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	10	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Hinduism	205	0.3%	0.7%	125	0.2%	
Islam	112	0.2%	0.7%	69	0.1%	
Judaism	16	0.0%	0.1%	18	0.0%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	22	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Baha'i	7	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shinto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sukyo Mahikari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Druidism	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Paganism	71	0.1%	0.1%	60	0.1%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	24	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	5	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Sikhism	52	0.1%	0.3%	30	0.1%	
Spiritualism	16	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Mandaeen	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Yezidi	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Caodaism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Church of Scientology	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Eckankar	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Rastafari	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Satanism	23	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Theosophy	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Jainism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Zoroastrianism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Religious Groups, nec	—	—	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
No Religion, so described	26,127	41.1%	37.4%	14,336	25.8%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Agnosticism	65	0.1%	0.1%	41	0.1%	
Atheism	96	0.2%	0.1%	89	0.2%	
Humanism	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Rationalism	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Multi Faith	6	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
New Age	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	63	0.1%	0.1%	39	0.1%	
Theism	14	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	13	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Not stated	5,204	8.2%	7.7%	5,757	10.4%	
Total	63,625	100.0%	100.0%	55,563	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.