

# Community report

## Cocos Islands

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

AREA

**Cocos Islands**

COMPARISON

**Other Territories**

POPULATION

**Persons**

GENERATED

**2 April 2026**

### Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

**01** Birthplace

### 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.

# Birthplace

Cocos Islands | Other Territories comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

## Key takeaway

In 2021, 7.6% (45) of people in Cocos Islands were born overseas, compared with 35.4% in Other Territories. A further 73.9% (436) of people were born in Australia.

## About this topic

Birthplace records the country in which a person was born. It is a core measure of migration history and cultural diversity and helps distinguish Australia-born and overseas-born populations.

This topic is useful for understanding settlement patterns and the likely language, service, and support needs of different communities. It should be interpreted together with ancestry, language used at home, and religion for a fuller view of cultural diversity.

## Interpretation notes

- Country of birth measures birthplace only; it does not capture ancestry, ethnicity, or current citizenship on its own.
- Use birthplace with ancestry and language when interpreting cultural background, because many cultural groups include both Australia-born and overseas-born people.

## Birthplace - Ranked by size

Cocos Islands - Overseas born (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Other Territories %	Count	%	Other Territories %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	–	–	0.1%	–	–	0.1%	–	–
Australia	436	73.9%	49.2%	–	–	47.2%	–	–
Norfolk Island	–	–	7.4%	–	–	8.5%	–	–
New Zealand	7	1.2%	7.4%	–	–	8.1%	–	–
Papua New Guinea	–	–	0.3%	–	–	0.4%	–	–
Vanuatu	–	–	0.3%	–	–	0.2%	–	–
Fiji	–	–	0.9%	–	–	1.2%	–	–
Niue	–	–	–	–	–	0.1%	–	–
Samoa	–	–	–	–	–	0.1%	–	–
Tonga	–	–	0.3%	–	–	0.1%	–	–
United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, nfd	–	–	0.1%	–	–	0.2%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Other Territories %	Count	%	Other Territ
England	8	1.4%	2.2%	–	–	
Scotland	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Ireland	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
France	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Germany	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Netherlands	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Switzerland	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Denmark	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Italy	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Malta	–	–	–	–	–	
Spain	–	–	–	–	–	
North Macedonia	–	–	–	–	–	
Serbia	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Egypt	–	–	–	–	–	
Sudan	–	–	0.6%	–	–	
Iran	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Iraq	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Lebanon	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Myanmar	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Thailand	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Vietnam	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Indonesia	–	–	0.4%	–	–	
Malaysia	24	4.1%	7.2%	–	–	
Philippines	–	–	1.3%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Other Territories %	Count	%	Other Territ
Singapore	3	0.5%	0.9%	–	–	
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Mongolia	–	–	–	–	–	
Taiwan	–	–	–	–	–	
Japan	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Bangladesh	–	–	–	–	–	
India	–	–	0.6%	–	–	
Pakistan	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Sri Lanka	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Afghanistan	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Canada	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
United States of America	–	–	0.4%	–	–	
Argentina	3	0.5%	0.1%	–	–	
Brazil	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Colombia	–	–	–	–	–	
Ghana	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Liberia	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Sierra Leone	–	–	–	–	–	
Burundi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Ethiopia	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Kenya	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
South Africa	–	–	0.3%	–	–	
Zimbabwe	–	–	0.3%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Other Territories %	Count	%	Other Territ
Not stated	109	18.5%	15.4%	–	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

Excludes countries of birth with fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.