

Community report

Darwin (C)

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

AREA

Darwin (C)

COMPARISON

Greater Darwin

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

28 March 2026

Included sections

1 selected topic will be included in this report.

01 Language used at home

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.

Language used at home

Darwin (C) | Greater Darwin comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Darwin (C), accounting for 60.8% (48,953 people). This share was lower than Greater Darwin (66.7%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in Nepali, which increased by 1,439 people and 1.8 percentage points.

About this topic

Language used at home shows which languages people speak in their home life and whether English or another language is used most often. It is a key indicator of cultural diversity and language retention within communities.

This topic is useful for planning communication, multicultural services, and local engagement. It should be analysed together with proficiency in English and birthplace, because language alone does not show migration history or support needs.

Interpretation notes

- The Census records the language used most often at home, so it does not capture every language a person can speak.
- Language used at home is not a measure of English proficiency, literacy, or migration history on its own.

Language used at home - Ranked by size

Darwin (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	134	0.2%	0.1%	75	0.1%	0.1%	+59	+0.1
Non-verbal, so described	122	0.2%	0.1%	194	0.2%	0.2%	-72	0.0
Swiss, so described	4	0.0%	—	10	0.0%	0.0%	-6	0.0
Cypriot, so described	—	—	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Creole, nfd	56	0.1%	0.0%	38	0.0%	0.0%	+18	+0.1
French Creole, nfd	11	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Pidgin, nfd	26	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	0.0%	+6	0.0
Gaelic (Scotland)	5	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	-1	0.0
Irish	16	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	0.0%	+1	0.0
Welsh	11	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	0.0%	-3	0.0
English	48,953	60.8%	66.7%	49,108	62.4%	67.9%	-155	-1.6
German	331	0.4%	0.3%	405	0.5%	0.4%	-74	-0.1

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater D
Dutch	77	0.1%	0.1%	109	0.1%	
Afrikaans	126	0.2%	0.2%	91	0.1%	
Danish	18	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Norwegian	10	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Swedish	25	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Estonian	26	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Finnish	25	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
French	294	0.4%	0.3%	369	0.5%	
Greek	2,690	3.3%	2.3%	2,791	3.5%	
Portuguese	429	0.5%	0.4%	382	0.5%	
Spanish	419	0.5%	0.4%	260	0.3%	
Iberian Romance, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Italian	418	0.5%	0.4%	479	0.6%	
Maltese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latin	–	–	–	–	–	
Latvian	12	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Lithuanian	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	33	0.0%	0.0%	47	0.1%	
Russian	91	0.1%	0.1%	81	0.1%	
Ukrainian	8	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Bosnian	17	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Bulgarian	15	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Croatian	15	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Macedonian	11	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater D
Serbian	34	0.0%	0.0%	48	0.1%	
Slovene	4	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Czech	17	0.0%	0.0%	27	0.0%	
Polish	60	0.1%	0.1%	69	0.1%	
Slovak	13	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Albanian	7	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Romanian	10	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Kurdish	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Pashto	21	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	
Dari	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Persian (excluding Dari)	65	0.1%	0.1%	99	0.1%	
Hazaraghi	13	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	
Arabic	198	0.2%	0.2%	216	0.3%	
Hebrew	10	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	–	–	–	5	0.0%	
Turkish	44	0.1%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	15	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Kannada	19	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Malayalam	936	1.2%	0.8%	716	0.9%	
Tamil	378	0.5%	0.3%	368	0.5%	
Telugu	188	0.2%	0.2%	115	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater Darwin %
Tulu	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Dravidian, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Indo-Aryan, nfd	—	—	—	7	0.0%	—
Bengali	542	0.7%	0.5%	312	0.4%	—
Gujarati	315	0.4%	0.3%	168	0.2%	—
Hindi	544	0.7%	0.5%	524	0.7%	—
Konkani	8	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	—
Marathi	48	0.1%	0.1%	41	0.1%	—
Nepali	2,401	3.0%	1.9%	962	1.2%	—
Punjabi	821	1.0%	0.8%	360	0.5%	—
Sindhi	23	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	—
Sinhalese	684	0.8%	0.6%	343	0.4%	—
Urdu	599	0.7%	0.5%	280	0.4%	—
Fijian Hindustani	13	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	—
Indo-Aryan, nec	11	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Other Southern Asian Languages	27	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	—
Burmese	111	0.1%	0.1%	128	0.2%	—
Chin Haka	16	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	—
Karen	38	0.0%	0.0%	38	0.0%	—
Rohingya	17	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	—
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Hmong	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—
Khmer	94	0.1%	0.1%	79	0.1%	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater Darwin %
Vietnamese	873	1.1%	0.9%	588	0.7%	
Mon	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lao	23	0.0%	0.0%	37	0.0%	
Thai	513	0.6%	0.6%	489	0.6%	
Tai, nec	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	109	0.1%	0.1%	6	0.0%	
Bisaya	116	0.1%	0.1%	88	0.1%	
Cebuano	59	0.1%	0.1%	47	0.1%	
Ilokano	12	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Indonesian	914	1.1%	0.8%	810	1.0%	
Malay	80	0.1%	0.1%	96	0.1%	
Tetum	188	0.2%	0.2%	158	0.2%	
Timorese	39	0.0%	0.0%	47	0.1%	
Tagalog	1,628	2.0%	1.8%	1,771	2.2%	
Filipino	1,107	1.4%	1.3%	1,168	1.5%	
Balinese	11	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	15	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Javanese	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chinese, nfd	25	0.0%	0.0%	41	0.1%	
Cantonese	626	0.8%	0.5%	587	0.7%	
Hakka	466	0.6%	0.4%	457	0.6%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater Darwin %
Mandarin	1,735	2.2%	1.5%	1,609	2.0%	
Min Nan	52	0.1%	0.0%	38	0.0%	
Japanese	136	0.2%	0.1%	316	0.4%	
Korean	183	0.2%	0.2%	214	0.3%	
Mongolian	15	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	57	0.1%	0.1%	140	0.2%	
Anindilyakwa	23	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Maung	5	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Ngan'ikurunggurr	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Nunggubuyu	3	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Tiwi	141	0.2%	0.1%	83	0.1%	
Iwaidja	15	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Jawoyn	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Jingulu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Larrakiya	7	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Malak Malak	–	–	–	–	–	
Maringarr	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Marrithiyel	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Murrinh Patha	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Ndjebbana (Gunavidji)	–	–	–	–	–	
Garrwa	4	0.0%	–	3	0.0%	
Yanyuwa	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater Darwin %
Gundjeihmi	–	–	–	–	–	–
Kune	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Kunwinjku	19	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	–
Mayali	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Burarran, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Burarra	19	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	–
Yolngu Matha, nfd	88	0.1%	0.1%	85	0.1%	–
Galpu	–	–	–	4	0.0%	–
Djambarrpuyngu	49	0.1%	0.0%	46	0.1%	–
Gupapuyngu	8	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	–
Ganalbingu	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Kuku Yalanji	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Koko–Bera	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Kuuk Thayorre	–	–	–	3	0.0%	–
Torres Strait Island Languages, nfd	14	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	–
Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	29	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	–
Bilinarra	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	–
Gurindji	10	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Gurindji Kriol	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Ngarinyman	13	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	–
Warlpiri	39	0.0%	0.0%	40	0.1%	–
Warumungu	12	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Alyawarr	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater Darwin %
Kaytetye	–	–	–	–	–	–
Anmatyerr, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Anmatyerr, nec	–	–	–	3	0.0%	–
Arrernte, nfd	19	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Eastern Arrernte	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Western Arrarnta	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Arrernte, nec	–	–	–	10	0.0%	–
Luritja	–	–	–	4	0.0%	–
Pitjantjatjara	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
Bardi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	–
Arabana	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Dhanggatti	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Gamilaraay	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Kriol	180	0.2%	0.2%	101	0.1%	–
Nyamal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Nyungar	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	–
Wajarri	–	–	–	6	0.0%	–
Wiradjuri	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	–
Aboriginal English, so described	29	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	15	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–
American Languages	–	–	–	4	0.0%	–
African Languages, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater D
Acholi	13	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Akan	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Mauritian Creole	12	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Oromo	10	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Shona	111	0.1%	0.2%	127	0.2%	
Somali	14	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Swahili	271	0.3%	0.3%	161	0.2%	
Yoruba	35	0.0%	0.1%	23	0.0%	
Zulu	6	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Amharic	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Bemba	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Dinka	12	0.0%	0.0%	63	0.1%	
Ewe	–	–	–	5	0.0%	
Hausa	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Igbo	41	0.1%	0.1%	29	0.0%	
Kikuyu	4	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Krio	–	–	–	8	0.0%	
Luganda	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	13	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Nuer	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tswana	6	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Xhosa	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	13	0.0%	0.0%	18	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater D
Bassa	–	–	–	5	0.0%	
Fulfulde	5	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Kirundi (Rundi)	11	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Madi	10	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Mandinka	–	–	–	6	0.0%	
Lingala	11	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
African Languages, nec	14	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	
Fijian	94	0.1%	0.1%	56	0.1%	
Gilbertese	9	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Maori (Cook Island)	15	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Maori (New Zealand)	61	0.1%	0.1%	39	0.0%	
Samoan	28	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Tongan	39	0.0%	0.0%	41	0.1%	
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Tuvaluan	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bislama	11	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Solomon Islands Pijin	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Kiwai	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Motu (HiriMotu)	11	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	19	0.0%	0.0%	32	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Darwin %	Count	%	Greater D
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	–	4	0.0%	
Sign Languages, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Auslan	67	0.1%	0.1%	31	0.0%	
Key Word Sign Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	6,882	8.5%	9.8%	8,551	10.9%	
Total	80,494	100.0%	100.0%	78,749	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.