

Community report

Dorset (M)

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

AREA

Dorset (M)

COMPARISON

Regional Tas.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 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

Dorset (M) | Regional Tas. comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Dorset (M), accounting for 90.6% (6,187 people). This share was higher than Regional Tas. (88.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 169 people, while its share fell by 0.6 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

Dorset (M) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	–	–	0.1%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Non-verbal, so described	–	–	0.0%	6	0.1%	0.1%	–	–
Swiss, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Creole, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Spanish Creole, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–	–	–
Pidgin, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Gaelic (Scotland)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Irish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Welsh	–	–	0.0%	7	0.1%	0.0%	–	–
English	6,187	90.6%	88.9%	6,018	91.2%	89.8%	+169	-0.6
German	8	0.1%	0.2%	17	0.3%	0.3%	-9	-0.2
Yiddish	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Dutch	8	0.1%	0.1%	5	0.1%	
Frisian	4	0.1%	0.0%	–	–	
Afrikaans	–	–	0.1%	3	0.0%	
Danish	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norwegian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swedish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Estonian	9	0.1%	0.0%	4	0.1%	
Finnish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
French	8	0.1%	0.1%	9	0.1%	
Greek	3	0.0%	0.1%	8	0.1%	
Portuguese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Spanish	3	0.0%	0.2%	7	0.1%	
Italian	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Maltese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Latvian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Lithuanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	–	–	0.1%	3	0.0%	
Ukrainian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bosnian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Croatian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Macedonian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Serbian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Slovene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Czech	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Polish	3	0.0%	0.1%	6	0.1%	
Slovak	4	0.1%	0.0%	–	–	
Albanian	–	–	–	–	–	
Romanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kurdish	–	–	–	–	–	
Pashto	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Dari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Persian (excluding Dari)	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Hazaraghi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Arabic	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Hebrew	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandaean (Mandaic)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Turkish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian	–	–	–	–	–	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kannada	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Malayalam	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Tamil	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Telugu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Bengali	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Gujarati	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Hindi	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Marathi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nepali	15	0.2%	0.9%	–	–	
Punjabi	8	0.1%	0.2%	3	0.0%	
Sindhi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sinhalese	5	0.1%	0.1%	–	–	
Urdu	24	0.4%	0.2%	–	–	
Assamese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indo-Aryan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zomi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Vietnamese	5	0.1%	0.1%	4	0.1%	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Lao	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Thai	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bisaya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cebuano	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilokano	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Indonesian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Malay	5	0.1%	0.0%	–	–	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tagalog	7	0.1%	0.1%	3	0.0%	
Filipino	11	0.2%	0.1%	–	–	
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Chinese, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Cantonese	3	0.0%	0.1%	5	0.1%	
Hakka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandarin	15	0.2%	0.6%	6	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Wu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Min Nan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Korean	–	–	0.1%	9	0.1%	
Tibetan	–	–	–	–	–	
Mongolian	–	–	–	–	–	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Warlpiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bardi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acholi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shona	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Swahili	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yoruba	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Amharic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bemba	–	–	–	–	–	
Dinka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Igbo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Luganda	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nuer	–	–	–	–	–	
Tigrinya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Madi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mandinka	–	–	–	–	–	
African Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	–	–	–	–	–	
Maori (New Zealand)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	–	–	–	–	–	
Samoan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tongan	–	–	0.1%	–	–	
Rotuman	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Bislama	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Norfolk-Pitcairn	–	–	–	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	–	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Tas. %	Count	%	Regiona
Invented Languages	–	–	–	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Auslan	3	0.0%	0.1%	–	–	
Key Word Sign Australia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	483	7.1%	5.6%	474	7.2%	
Total	6,827	100.0%	100.0%	6,600	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.