

Community report

Forbes (A)

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

AREA

Forbes (A)

COMPARISON

Regional NSW

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

31 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

Forbes (A) | Regional NSW comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

SECTION

01

Key takeaway

In 2021, Western Catholic was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Forbes (A), accounting for 31.8% (2,961 people). This share was higher than Regional NSW (21%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 885 people and 9.9 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

Forbes (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	16	0.2%	0.4%	31	0.3%	0.4%	-15	-0.1
Buddhism	34	0.4%	0.8%	29	0.3%	0.8%	+5	+0.1
Christianity, nfd	142	1.5%	2.2%	109	1.1%	2.2%	+33	+0.4
Anglican Church of Australia	1,935	20.8%	17.0%	2,370	24.7%	21.9%	-435	-3.9
Anglican Catholic Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Anglican, nec	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Baptist	141	1.5%	1.2%	181	1.9%	1.3%	-40	-0.4
Brethren	—	—	0.1%	6	0.1%	0.1%	—	—
Catholic, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Western Catholic	2,961	31.8%	21.0%	3,293	34.4%	23.8%	-332	-2.6
Maronite Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Melkite Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Ukrainian Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Chaldean Catholic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Syro Malabar Catholic	6	0.1%	0.0%	7	0.1%	
Catholic, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Churches of Christ, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
International Church of Christ	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Jehovah's Witnesses	26	0.3%	0.4%	17	0.2%	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Community of Christ	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Lutheran	35	0.4%	0.3%	37	0.4%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Armenian Apostolic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Coptic Orthodox Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Syrian Orthodox Church	—	—	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	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Greek Orthodox	14	0.2%	0.4%	19	0.2%	
Macedonian Orthodox	—	—	0.3%	—	—	
Romanian Orthodox	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Russian Orthodox	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Serbian Orthodox	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Ukrainian Orthodox	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Presbyterian	237	2.5%	2.6%	390	4.1%	
Reformed	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Free Reformed	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Salvation Army	28	0.3%	0.2%	33	0.3%	
Seventh-day Adventist	7	0.1%	0.4%	9	0.1%	
Uniting Church	426	4.6%	3.3%	458	4.8%	
Pentecostal, nfd	34	0.4%	0.7%	64	0.7%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	—	—	0.0%	12	0.1%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Foursquare Gospel Church	—	—	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	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Pentecostal, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Protestant, nfd	—	—	0.1%	3	0.0%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Born Again Christian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Church of the Nazarene	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Congregational	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Independent Evangelical Churches	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Methodist, so described	9	0.1%	0.1%	11	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Protestant, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Christian, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Christadelphians	—	—	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	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Ratana (Maori)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Religious Science	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Temple Society	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Christian, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Hinduism	28	0.3%	0.7%	15	0.2%	
Islam	6	0.1%	0.7%	15	0.2%	
Judaism	5	0.1%	0.1%	—	—	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	—	—	0.0%	8	0.1%	
Baha'i	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Confucianism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Taoism	—	—	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	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Paganism	3	0.0%	0.1%	3	0.0%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Nature Religions, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Sikhism	5	0.1%	0.3%	3	0.0%	
Spiritualism	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Mandaeen	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Yezidi	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Caodaism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Church of Scientology	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Eckankar	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Rastafari	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Satanism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Theosophy	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Jainism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Zoroastrianism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Religious Groups, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
No Religion, so described	2,367	25.4%	37.4%	1,482	15.5%	2
Secular Beliefs, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Agnosticism	—	—	0.1%	—	—	
Atheism	5	0.1%	0.1%	9	0.1%	
Humanism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional NSW %	Count	%	Regional
Rationalism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Secular Beliefs, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Multi Faith	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
New Age	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	—	—	0.1%	6	0.1%	
Theism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Unitarian Universalism	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Not stated	836	9.0%	7.7%	963	10.0%	
Total	9,310	100.0%	100.0%	9,586	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.