

Community report

Greater Bendigo (C)

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

AREA

Greater Bendigo (C)

COMPARISON

Regional Vic.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

30 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

Greater Bendigo (C) | Regional Vic. comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, English was the most common language used at home among residents in Greater Bendigo (C), accounting for 87.8% (106,692 people). This share was higher than Regional Vic. (86.4%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in English, which increased by 8,832 people, while its share fell by 0.8 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

Greater Bendigo (C) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	81	0.1%	0.1%	76	0.1%	0.1%	+5	0.0
Non-verbal, so described	82	0.1%	0.0%	87	0.1%	0.1%	-5	0.0
Swiss, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Cypriot, so described	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Creole, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
French Creole, nfd	14	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%	+8	0.0
Pidgin, nfd	—	—	0.0%	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Celtic, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—
Gaelic (Scotland)	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Irish	3	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	0.0%	-5	0.0
Welsh	—	—	0.0%	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Celtic, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	—	—	—

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %
English	106,692	87.8%	86.4%	97,860	88.6%	88.6%
German	124	0.1%	0.2%	130	0.1%	0.2%
Letzeburgish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Yiddish	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Dutch	73	0.1%	0.1%	61	0.1%	0.1%
Frisian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Afrikaans	98	0.1%	0.1%	66	0.1%	0.1%
Danish	4	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%
Icelandic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Norwegian	3	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	0.0%
Swedish	15	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	0.0%
Estonian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Finnish	8	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	0.0%
French	98	0.1%	0.1%	84	0.1%	0.1%
Greek	170	0.1%	0.2%	146	0.1%	0.2%
Iberian Romance, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Catalan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Portuguese	48	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	0.0%
Spanish	117	0.1%	0.2%	69	0.1%	0.2%
Italian	198	0.2%	0.5%	199	0.2%	0.5%
Maltese	36	0.0%	0.1%	30	0.0%	0.1%
Basque	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%
Latin	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Other Southern European Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern European Languages, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Latvian	3	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Lithuanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hungarian	22	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Belorussian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Russian	41	0.0%	0.1%	48	0.0%	
Ukrainian	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Bosnian	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bulgarian	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Croatian	44	0.0%	0.2%	31	0.0%	
Macedonian	11	0.0%	0.1%	10	0.0%	
Serbian	21	0.0%	0.1%	13	0.0%	
Slovene	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Czech	9	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Polish	25	0.0%	0.1%	23	0.0%	
Slovak	4	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Czechoslovakian, so described	–	–	–	–	–	
Albanian	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Romanian	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Romany	–	–	–	–	–	
Iranic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Kurdish	9	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Pashto	14	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Balochi	—	—	—	—	—	
Dari	80	0.1%	0.0%	69	0.1%	
Persian (excluding Dari)	48	0.0%	0.1%	32	0.0%	
Hazaraghi	51	0.0%	0.1%	32	0.0%	
Arabic	211	0.2%	0.2%	158	0.1%	
Hebrew	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	—	—	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Turkish	37	0.0%	0.1%	21	0.0%	
Azeri	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Uygur	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Uzbek	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Turkic, nec	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Armenian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Georgian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Southern Asian Languages, nfd	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Kannada	22	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Malayalam	495	0.4%	0.2%	197	0.2%	
Tamil	81	0.1%	0.1%	69	0.1%	
Telugu	70	0.1%	0.1%	41	0.0%	
Tulu	5	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Bengali	80	0.1%	0.0%	57	0.1%	
Gujarati	73	0.1%	0.1%	44	0.0%	
Hindi	214	0.2%	0.2%	184	0.2%	
Konkani	7	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Marathi	21	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Nepali	132	0.1%	0.1%	52	0.0%	
Punjabi	464	0.4%	0.5%	203	0.2%	
Sindhi	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Sinhalese	199	0.2%	0.1%	103	0.1%	
Urdu	135	0.1%	0.1%	70	0.1%	
Assamese	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Dhivehi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kashmiri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Oriya	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Fijian Hindustani	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Indo-Aryan, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Southern Asian Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese and Related Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Burmese	44	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Chin Haka	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Karen	1,597	1.3%	0.2%	870	0.8%	
Rohingya	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Zomi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Burmese and Related Languages, nec	20	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Hmong	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Khmer	23	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Vietnamese	176	0.1%	0.2%	96	0.1%	
Mon-Khmer, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Lao	9	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Thai	102	0.1%	0.1%	60	0.1%	
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bisaya	29	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Cebuano	20	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ilokano	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Indonesian	85	0.1%	0.1%	80	0.1%	
Malay	61	0.1%	0.1%	16	0.0%	
Tetum	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Timorese	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Tagalog	240	0.2%	0.2%	149	0.1%	
Filipino	221	0.2%	0.2%	136	0.1%	
Acehnese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Balinese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Iban	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ilonggo (Hiligaynon)	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Javanese	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Pampangan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Southeast Asian Austronesian Languages, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Chinese, nfd	9	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Cantonese	158	0.1%	0.1%	126	0.1%	
Hakka	8	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Mandarin	570	0.5%	0.6%	482	0.4%	
Wu	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Min Nan	10	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Japanese	55	0.0%	0.1%	45	0.0%	
Korean	62	0.1%	0.0%	60	0.1%	
Tibetan	9	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Mongolian	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Other Eastern Asian Languages, nec	—	—	—	—	—	
Australian Indigenous Languages, nfd	12	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Tiwi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Dalabon	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Larrakiya	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Murrinh Patha	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Waanyi	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Yolngu Matha, nfd	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Kuku Yalanji	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—	
Yidiny	—	—	—	—	—	
Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole)	—	—	0.0%	—	—	
Jaru	—	—	0.0%	—	—	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Warlpiri	–	–	–	–	–	
Anmatyerr, nfd	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Arrernte, nec	–	–	–	–	–	
Pitjantjatjara	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wangkatha	–	–	–	–	–	
Yankunytjatjara	–	–	–	–	–	
Bardi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yawuru	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Adnymathanha	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bandjalang	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bidjara	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Gamilaraay	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kanai	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kriol	–	–	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Ngarrindjeri	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Nyungar	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Paakantyi	9	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Wajarri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wiradjuri	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Yorta Yorta	12	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Djabwurrung	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Wergaia	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Aboriginal English, so described	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Other Australian Indigenous Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
American Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Acholi	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Akan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Mauritian Creole	–	–	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Oromo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shona	45	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Somali	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Swahili	42	0.0%	0.1%	21	0.0%	
Yoruba	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Zulu	–	–	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Amharic	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bemba	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Dinka	66	0.1%	0.0%	23	0.0%	
Ewe	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ga	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Harari	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Hausa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Igbo	5	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Kikuyu	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Krio	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Luganda	10	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Luo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ndebele	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Nuer	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nyanja (Chichewa)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Shilluk	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tigrinya	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Tswana	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Xhosa	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bari	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Bassa	–	–	–	–	–	
Kinyarwanda (Rwanda)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Kirundi (Rundi)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Liberian (Liberian English)	–	–	–	–	–	
Madi	–	–	–	–	–	
Lingala	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
African Languages, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Fijian	30	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Gilbertese	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (Cook Island)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Maori (New Zealand)	11	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Nauruan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Niue	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Samoan	12	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Tongan	13	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Tokelauan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tuvaluan	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pacific Austronesian Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Bislama	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Norfolk-Pitcairn	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Solomon Islands Pijin	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Oceanian Pidgins and Creoles, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Motu (HiriMotu)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Tok Pisin (Neomelanesian)	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Papua New Guinea Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Invented Languages	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Auslan	139	0.1%	0.1%	82	0.1%	
Key Word Sign Australia	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Sign Languages, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Not stated	6,911	5.7%	6.5%	7,516	6.8%	
Total	121,464	100.0%	100.0%	110,477	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes languages spoken at home by fewer than 10 people.

Data basis: usual residence.