

Community report

Greater Geelong (C)

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

AREA

Greater Geelong (C)

COMPARISON

Regional Vic.

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

2 April 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

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

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Greater Geelong (C), accounting for 43.9% (118,999 people). This share was lower than Regional Vic. (44.9%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 40,509 people and 10.3 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

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

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	1,232	0.5%	0.4%	1,228	0.5%	0.5%	+4	0.0
Buddhism	2,777	1.0%	0.9%	2,359	1.0%	0.8%	+418	0.0
Christianity, nfd	6,637	2.4%	2.1%	5,957	2.6%	2.1%	+680	-0.2
Anglican Church of Australia	21,701	8.0%	9.8%	25,289	10.8%	13.3%	-3,588	-2.8
Anglican Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Anglican, nec	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Baptist	4,737	1.7%	1.2%	4,450	1.9%	1.3%	+287	-0.2
Brethren	166	0.1%	0.1%	168	0.1%	0.1%	-2	0.0
Catholic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	0.0%	–	–
Western Catholic	60,221	22.2%	19.7%	59,058	25.3%	22.7%	+1,163	-3.1
Maronite Catholic	25	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	0.0%	+6	0.0
Melkite Catholic	13	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	0.0%	+3	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Ukrainian Catholic	127	0.0%	0.0%	124	0.1%	
Chaldean Catholic	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	62	0.0%	0.0%	22	0.0%	
Catholic, nec	29	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	
Churches of Christ, nfd	21	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	329	0.1%	0.2%	350	0.1%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	739	0.3%	0.3%	624	0.3%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	266	0.1%	0.1%	270	0.1%	
Community of Christ	–	–	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Lutheran	1,619	0.6%	0.7%	1,846	0.8%	
Armenian Apostolic	8	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Coptic Orthodox Church	59	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	83	0.0%	0.0%	42	0.0%	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	5	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Assyrian Church of the East	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	12	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Albanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	14	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Greek Orthodox	2,243	0.8%	0.5%	1,934	0.8%	
Macedonian Orthodox	840	0.3%	0.1%	794	0.3%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Romanian Orthodox	11	0.0%	0.0%	11	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	291	0.1%	0.0%	243	0.1%	
Serbian Orthodox	634	0.2%	0.1%	606	0.3%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	60	0.0%	0.0%	59	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	–	–	–	
Presbyterian	4,888	1.8%	2.2%	6,333	2.7%	
Reformed	208	0.1%	0.0%	300	0.1%	
Salvation Army	480	0.2%	0.2%	557	0.2%	
Seventh-day Adventist	252	0.1%	0.2%	269	0.1%	
Uniting Church	9,906	3.7%	4.7%	12,065	5.2%	
Pentecostal, nfd	1,511	0.6%	0.7%	1,322	0.6%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	3	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	39	0.0%	0.0%	62	0.0%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	–	–	–	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	–	–	–	
Revival Centres	60	0.0%	0.0%	35	0.0%	
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Revival Fellowship	18	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Pentecostal, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Other Protestant, nfd	221	0.1%	0.1%	227	0.1%	
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	–	–	–	
Born Again Christian	100	0.0%	0.0%	82	0.0%	
Christian and Missionary Alliance	–	–	–	3	0.0%	
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Congregational	12	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Independent Evangelical Churches	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Wesleyan Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Christian Community Churches of Australia	6	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Methodist, so described	267	0.1%	0.1%	240	0.1%	
United Methodist Church	–	–	–	–	–	
Other Protestant, nec	–	–	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	–	–	–	
Christadelphians	27	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Christian Science	17	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Gnostic Christians	10	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	82	0.0%	0.0%	87	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Ratana (Maori)	4	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Religious Science	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	10	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	54	0.0%	0.0%	47	0.0%	
Hinduism	3,630	1.3%	0.7%	1,689	0.7%	
Islam	4,020	1.5%	0.9%	2,529	1.1%	
Judaism	170	0.1%	0.1%	103	0.0%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	19	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Baha'i	136	0.1%	0.0%	108	0.0%	
Ancestor Veneration	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Confucianism	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Taoism	42	0.0%	0.0%	49	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Druse	–	–	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Shinto	5	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Sukyo Mahikari	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Animism	8	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Druidism	7	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Paganism	210	0.1%	0.1%	124	0.1%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	93	0.0%	0.0%	82	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	30	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Sikhism	1,849	0.7%	0.4%	718	0.3%	
Spiritualism	81	0.0%	0.0%	76	0.0%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Caodaism	6	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Church of Scientology	18	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Eckankar	4	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Rastafari	9	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Satanism	63	0.0%	0.0%	33	0.0%	
Theosophy	11	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Jainism	29	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Zoroastrianism	9	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Religious Groups, nec	29	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
No Religion, so described	118,999	43.9%	44.9%	78,490	33.6%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	5	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	322	0.1%	0.1%	238	0.1%	
Atheism	444	0.2%	0.2%	363	0.2%	
Humanism	15	0.0%	0.0%	68	0.0%	
Rationalism	8	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	4	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	7	0.0%	0.0%	25	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Regional Vic. %	Count	%	Regiona
Multi Faith	37	0.0%	0.0%	26	0.0%	
New Age	16	0.0%	0.0%	13	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	321	0.1%	0.1%	241	0.1%	
Theism	54	0.0%	0.0%	42	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	11	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	57	0.0%	0.0%	66	0.0%	
Not stated	17,091	6.3%	7.7%	20,821	8.9%	
Total	271,035	100.0%	100.0%	233,428	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.