

Community report

Inner West (A)

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

AREA

Inner West (A)

COMPARISON

Greater Sydney

POPULATION

Persons

GENERATED

28 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

Inner West (A) | Greater Sydney comparison | Persons

Community report section 1 of 1

Key takeaway

In 2021, No religion was the most common religious affiliation among residents in Inner West (A), accounting for 49.7% (90,898 people). This share was higher than Greater Sydney (30.3%). Since 2016, the biggest change was in No religion, which increased by 17,332 people and 9.3 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

Inner West (A) - Total persons (Usual residence)

Category	2021			2016			Change	
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	pp
Inadequately described	958	0.5%	0.3%	1,158	0.6%	0.4%	-200	-0.1
Buddhism	6,059	3.3%	3.8%	6,563	3.6%	3.9%	-504	-0.3
Christianity, nfd	2,496	1.4%	2.5%	2,364	1.3%	2.2%	+132	+0.1
Anglican Church of Australia	10,577	5.8%	9.2%	12,985	7.1%	12.0%	-2,408	-1.3
Anglican Catholic Church	—	—	0.0%	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Anglican, nec	—	—	0.0%	3	0.0%	0.0%	—	—
Baptist	905	0.5%	1.2%	980	0.5%	1.2%	-75	0.0
Brethren	—	—	0.1%	8	0.0%	0.1%	—	—
Catholic, nfd	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	—	—
Western Catholic	36,438	19.9%	22.1%	39,799	21.9%	24.2%	-3,361	-2.0
Maronite Catholic	892	0.5%	0.8%	852	0.5%	0.7%	+40	0.0
Melkite Catholic	31	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	0.0%	+7	0.0

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Ukrainian Catholic	42	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Chaldean Catholic	–	–	0.2%	–	–	
Syro Malabar Catholic	7	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Catholic, nec	13	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Churches of Christ, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	
Churches of Christ (Conference)	37	0.0%	0.1%	55	0.0%	
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
International Church of Christ	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Jehovah's Witnesses	316	0.2%	0.2%	299	0.2%	
Latter-day Saints, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	67	0.0%	0.2%	107	0.1%	
Community of Christ	5	0.0%	0.0%	9	0.0%	
Lutheran	293	0.2%	0.2%	358	0.2%	
Oriental Orthodox, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Armenian Apostolic	46	0.0%	0.1%	45	0.0%	
Coptic Orthodox Church	192	0.1%	0.4%	207	0.1%	
Syrian Orthodox Church	49	0.0%	0.1%	73	0.0%	
Ethiopian Orthodox Church	12	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Oriental Orthodox, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Assyrian Apostolic, nfd	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Assyrian Church of the East	21	0.0%	0.2%	21	0.0%	
Ancient Church of the East	3	0.0%	0.0%	8	0.0%	
Assyrian Apostolic, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Eastern Orthodox, nfd	22	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Albanian Orthodox	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Antiochian Orthodox	170	0.1%	0.2%	135	0.1%	
Greek Orthodox	6,426	3.5%	2.3%	6,520	3.6%	
Macedonian Orthodox	371	0.2%	0.3%	346	0.2%	
Romanian Orthodox	28	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Russian Orthodox	243	0.1%	0.2%	232	0.1%	
Serbian Orthodox	408	0.2%	0.4%	387	0.2%	
Ukrainian Orthodox	25	0.0%	0.0%	30	0.0%	
Eastern Orthodox, nec	18	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Presbyterian and Reformed, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Presbyterian	1,791	1.0%	1.5%	2,334	1.3%	
Reformed	8	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Salvation Army	69	0.0%	0.1%	137	0.1%	
Seventh-day Adventist	117	0.1%	0.2%	165	0.1%	
Uniting Church	1,724	0.9%	1.5%	2,229	1.2%	
Pentecostal, nfd	523	0.3%	0.8%	723	0.4%	
Apostolic Church (Australia)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Australian Christian Churches (Assemblies of God)	49	0.0%	0.1%	37	0.0%	
C3 Church Global (Christian City Church)	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
International Network of Churches (Christian Outreach Centres)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
CRC International (Christian Revival Crusade)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sydney %
Foursquare Gospel Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Full Gospel Church of Australia (Full Gospel Church)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Revival Centres	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Rhema Family Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
United Pentecostal	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Acts 2 Alliance	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Revival Fellowship	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Victory Worship Centre	–	–	–	–	–	–
Worship Centre Network	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Pentecostal, nec	6	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Other Protestant, nfd	235	0.1%	0.2%	225	0.1%	–
Aboriginal Evangelical Missions	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Born Again Christian	13	0.0%	0.1%	39	0.0%	–
Christian and Missionary Alliance	14	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	–
Church of the Nazarene	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Congregational	6	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	–
Ethnic Evangelical Churches	40	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	–
Independent Evangelical Churches	5	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	–
Wesleyan Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Christian Community Churches of Australia	19	0.0%	0.0%	20	0.0%	–
Methodist, so described	85	0.0%	0.1%	141	0.1%	–
United Methodist Church	–	–	0.0%	–	–	–
Other Protestant, nec	3	0.0%	0.0%	4	0.0%	–

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Other Christian, nfd	–	–	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Apostolic Church of Queensland	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Christadelphians	16	0.0%	0.0%	24	0.0%	
Christian Science	6	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Gnostic Christians	15	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Liberal Catholic Church	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
New Apostolic Church	4	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
New Churches (Swedenborgian)	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Ratana (Maori)	3	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	
Religious Science	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	20	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Temple Society	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Grace Communion International (Worldwide Church of God)	4	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Other Christian, nec	16	0.0%	0.0%	31	0.0%	
Hinduism	3,751	2.1%	4.8%	4,410	2.4%	
Islam	2,497	1.4%	6.3%	2,534	1.4%	
Judaism	933	0.5%	0.7%	770	0.4%	
Australian Aboriginal Traditional Religions	46	0.0%	0.0%	34	0.0%	
Baha'i	71	0.0%	0.1%	63	0.0%	
Ancestor Veneration	8	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Confucianism	3	0.0%	0.0%	17	0.0%	
Taoism	74	0.0%	0.0%	89	0.0%	
Chinese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Druse	11	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Shinto	16	0.0%	0.0%	19	0.0%	
Sukyo Mahikari	3	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Tenrikyo	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Japanese Religions, nec	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Nature Religions, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	
Animism	19	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Druidism	10	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Paganism	148	0.1%	0.0%	104	0.1%	
Wiccan (Witchcraft)	58	0.0%	0.0%	29	0.0%	
Nature Religions, nec	24	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Sikhism	130	0.1%	0.7%	137	0.1%	
Spiritualism	55	0.0%	0.0%	64	0.0%	
Mandaeen	–	–	0.2%	5	0.0%	
Yezidi	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Caodaism	8	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.0%	
Church of Scientology	56	0.0%	0.0%	75	0.0%	
Eckankar	4	0.0%	0.0%	7	0.0%	
Rastafari	8	0.0%	0.0%	15	0.0%	
Satanism	80	0.0%	0.0%	28	0.0%	
Theosophy	10	0.0%	0.0%	3	0.0%	
Jainism	32	0.0%	0.0%	49	0.0%	
Zoroastrianism	24	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Religious Groups, nec	52	0.0%	0.0%	76	0.0%	

Category	2021			2016		
	Count	%	Greater Sydney %	Count	%	Greater Sy
Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs and No Religious Affiliation, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
No Religion, so described	90,898	49.7%	30.3%	73,566	40.4%	
Secular Beliefs, nfd	–	–	0.0%	–	–	
Agnosticism	680	0.4%	0.1%	495	0.3%	
Atheism	667	0.4%	0.1%	438	0.2%	
Humanism	38	0.0%	0.0%	107	0.1%	
Rationalism	9	0.0%	0.0%	14	0.0%	
Secular Beliefs, nec	9	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nfd	3	0.0%	0.0%	21	0.0%	
Multi Faith	55	0.0%	0.0%	55	0.0%	
New Age	11	0.0%	0.0%	12	0.0%	
Own Spiritual Beliefs	291	0.2%	0.1%	236	0.1%	
Theism	58	0.0%	0.0%	63	0.0%	
Unitarian Universalism	8	0.0%	0.0%	16	0.0%	
Other Spiritual Beliefs, nec	48	0.0%	0.0%	63	0.0%	
Not stated	9,916	5.4%	6.2%	18,387	10.1%	
Total	182,798	100.0%	100.0%	182,006	100.0%	100.0%

Excludes religions with fewer than 10 adherents.

Data basis: usual residence.